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FROM THE BOOKS
OF
Miss Emily V. Binney

A NEW
ENGLISH DICTIONARY
ON HISTORICAL PRINCIPLES.

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~~PART III. BATTER - BOZ.~~

New York
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A NEW
ENGLISH DICTIONARY
ON HISTORICAL PRINCIPLES;

FOUNDED MAINLY ON THE MATERIALS COLLECTED BY

The Philological Society.

EDITED BY

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SOMETIME PRESIDENT OF THE PHILOLOGICAL SOCIETY,

WITH THE ASSISTANCE OF MANY SCHOLARS AND MEN OF SCIENCE.

PART III. BATTER — BOZ.

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PREFATORY NOTE TO PART III.

THIS Part concludes BA-, and contains the whole of BE-, BI-, BL-, and BO-. It deals with 8765 words*, and includes a number of articles of special interest, and several of great difficulty. It is a characteristic of the letter B (shared only by some of the smaller letters further on in the alphabet) that it contains a comparatively small number of words derived from Latin or Greek, and a preponderating proportion of words of Teutonic origin, first of the native Old English stock, and secondly of the early accessions which this received from the kindred speech of the Norsemen. Hence this section includes many of the oldest words of the language, which are also among the most important, practically, of its living elements. Some of these have, during their long currency, branched out into vast ramifications of meaning, which it costs the lexicographer much labour to disentangle, and then taxes all his ingenuity to display in something like a lucid and intelligible arrangement. In illustration of this one need only refer to the verbs BE, BEAR, BEAT, BEND, BIND, BLESS, BLOW, BOW, the substantives BEAD, BED, BELL, BILL, BLADE, BOARD, BODY, BOND, BOOK, BOOT, BOW, BOWL, BOX, the adjectives BETTER, BEST, BIG, BLACK, BOLD, BOTH, all of which have come down to us from Old English or even Old Teutonic times. And these are reinforced by a considerable array of words from Old French, many of which, as BATTLE, BEAST, BEAUTY and its English family, BEEF, BILL, BLUE, BONNET, BORDER, BOSS, BOUND, BOWL², are now no less 'native', and of no less practical importance, than the Teutonic words; while others, as BELDAME, BELFRY, BE¹ER, BIAS, BIBLE, BOMB, BOTCH, BOWEL, have a history full of interest. This Part also contains the long list of words, chiefly verbs and their derivatives, compounded with the prefix BE-. These number, current and obsolete, nearly 1500; and, if all had been set forth in their alphabetical places as main words, they would have taken up more space than could well be allotted to them. It has seemed sufficient, therefore, that all those words (about 850) which appear to require separate treatment, whether on account of their meaning, long history, or frequent modern use, should be treated in their alphabetical order among other words; the remainder (nearly 600) of rare or single occurrence, trivial importance, or obvious meaning (e.g. *bebooted*, *bemuslined*, *beperiwigged*, *bebishop*, *becarpet*, *becobweb*, *bedirty*, *bedrizzle*, *beduchess*), being arranged in groups under the various uses of the prefix BE-, where each can be studied in connexion with other words of similar formation; each is also provided with at least one quotation, so as to show by whom and in what connexion it has been used.

In the Etymology much more original work has had to be done than in the two preceding parts. The B- words are full of problems which have baffled the efforts of all investigators: every one of these has received a fresh and independent investigation, in which assistance has been rendered by some of the first living philologists; and the result has been the discovery of new facts, or the elimination of old errors, in regard to many words. In addition to the words of Old English and Old French origin, and the numerous terms of more recent adoption, and more or less known source, as *beltane*, *blatant*, *bog*, *boomerang*, *boor*, *bosh*, *boycott*, this Part contains an extraordinary number of words of unknown or uncertain derivation. Many of these have no kin in other languages, but stand quite alone in English, and, it cannot be doubted, are more or less recent creations of English itself—instances of *onomatopoeia* in its true etymological sense of 'name-creation'. For B contains many illustrations of the fact that has of late years powerfully impressed itself upon philological students, that the creative period of language, the epoch of 'roots', has never come to an end. The 'origin of language' is not to be sought merely in a far-off Indo-European antiquity, or in a still earlier pre-Aryan yore-time; it is still in perennial process around us. A literary language, with its more accessible store of words already in use and sufficient for all ordinary requirements, its more permanent memories and traditions, its constant appeals to an authoritative precedent—'Where did you find that word? Is it in the Dictionary? Is it English at all? Can you cite it from any of the masters of English Prose?'—is hostile to word-creation. The new word is apt to die almost as soon as born, ashamed of its own newness, ashamed of the italics or inverted commas which apologize for its very existence, or question its legitimacy. But such is not the case with language in its natural state, where words are estimated simply as they serve their purpose of communicating the thought or feeling of the moment, and where memory, and tradition, and precedent are only contributories to the fulfilment of this function. The unwritten dialects, and, to some extent, even slang, and colloquial speech, approach in character to language in its natural state, aiming only at being expressive, and treating memory and precedent as

* Of these 8765 words, 5323 are *Main Words*, treated each in detail in a separate article; 1873 are *Combinations* or Compound Words, explained and illustrated in connexion with the main words which form their first elements; 1569 are *Subordinate* entries chiefly of distinct forms of words likely to be referred to by readers, here explained by a single word, and referred to the Main word to which they belong. Of the 5323 Main words, 3802 are in current use, 1379 are marked (+) as *Obsolete*, and only 142 as (||) *foreign* or imperfectly naturalized.

ministers, not as masters. In the local dialects, then, in slang, in colloquial use, new vocables and new expressions may at any time be abruptly brought forth to serve the needs of the moment, in accordance with feelings of inherent natural fitness, of imitative suggestiveness, or of subtle instinctive analogy with groups of words or parts of words already familiar. Some of these pass at length from colloquial, into epistolary, journalistic, and, finally, into general literary use, or from the colloquy of the novel into the literary composition of the novelist, and are registered in the dictionary as 'new words', the origin of which is searched for as vainly in the 'word-hoard' of Old English speech, or even the fullest vocabulary of Indo-European roots, as in a school-manual of Latin and Greek roots and affixes. The dialect Glossaries abound in words of this kind; and among those to be found in these pages, *bam*, *bamboozle*, *bang*, *bash*, *bilk*, *binge*, *birl*, *birsle*, *birr*, *blab*, *blabber*, *blad*, *blare*, *blash*, *blatter*, *blar*, *bleb*, *blight*, *blizzard*, *blob*, *blore*, *blot*, *blotch*, *blowse*, *blub*, *blubber*, *bludgeon*, *bluff*, *blunder*, *blunt*, *blur*, *blurt*, *bluster*, *bluther*, *blutter*, *bob* (in some senses), *bodge*, *bogus*, *boodle*, *boom* (in some senses), *bore*, *bosh*, *bother*, *bounce*, *box* (a blow), are words which cannot be traced to any ancient 'roots', but are, for the most part at least, examples of more or less recent word-creation.

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Bath	— Baz, Bea-	The Rev. ARTHUR P. FAYERS, Rawdon, near Leeds.
Beb	— Becatch	Mr. W. M. ROSSETTI, 5 Endsleigh Gardens, N.W.
Because	— Bedw-	Mr. G. L. APPERSON, 118 Alexandra Road, Wimbledon, S.W.
Birth	— Bitten	
Boo (all)		
Bow	— Bowingness	Dr. BRACKEBUSCH, The High School for Boys, Finchley Road, N.W.
Bee	— Behy-	
Bel	— Betrust-	Miss J. E. A. BROWN, Further Barton, near Cirencester.
Bo	— Bolster-	
Bic	— Big	Mr. E. GUNTHORPE, White House, Bramall Lane, Sheffield.
Biga	— Birt	The Rev. C. B. MOUNT, M.A., Norham Road, Oxford.
Bla	— Blame	

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KEY TO THE PRONUNCIATION.

I. CONSONANTS.

b, d, f, k, l, m, n, p, t, v, z have their usual values.

g as in *go* (gō).
h ... *ho!* (hō).
r ... *run* (rən), *terrier* (tə'ri:ə).
ɹ ... *her* (hə), *farther* (fɑ'ðə).
s ... *see* (si), *cess* (ses).
w ... *wen* (wen).
hw ... *when* (hwen).
y ... *yes* (yes).

þ as in *thin* (þin), *bathe* (bæþ).
ð ... *then* (ðen), *bathe* (bæð).
ʃ ... *shop* (ʃɒp), *dish* (dɪʃ).
tʃ ... *chop* (tʃɒp), *ditch* (dɪtʃ).
ʒ ... *vision* (vi'ʒən), *déjeuner* (de'ʒœne).
dʒ ... *judge* (dʒʌdʒ).
ŋ ... *singing* (sɪ'ŋɪŋ), *think* (þɪŋk).
ŋg ... *finger* (fɪŋgə).

(FOREIGN.)

ñ as in *French nasal, environ* (ahviroñ).
lʲ ... It. *seraglio* (serā'lʲo).
nʲ ... It. *signore* (sɪnʲo're).
x ... Ger. *ach* (ax), Sc. *loch* (lox, loxʷ).
xʲ ... Ger. *ich* (ixʲ), Sc. *nicht* (nɛxʲt).
ɣ ... Ger. *sagen* (zā'ɣən).
ɣʲ ... Ger. *legen, regnen* (lɛ'ɣɛn, rɛ'ɣnɛn).

II. VOWELS.

ORDINARY.

a as in *Fr. à la mode* (a la mōd').
ai ... *aye=yes* (ai), *Isaiah* (ə'zai'ä).
æ ... *man* (mæn).
ɑ ... *pass* (pas), *chant* (tʃant).
au ... *loud* (laud), *now* (nau).
ɒ ... *cut* (kʌt), *son* (sɒn).
e ... *yet* (yet), *ten* (ten).
ɛ ... *survey sb.* (sɜ'veɪ), *Fr. attaché* (ataʃe).
|| ɛ ... *Fr. chef* (ʃɛf).
ə ... *ever* (evə), *nation* (nə'ʃən).
əi ... *I, eye*, (əi), *bind* (baɪnd).
|| ɔ ... *Fr. eau de vie* (ə də vi').
i ... *sit* (sit), *mystic* (mɪstɪk).
i ... *Psyche* (sai'ki), *react* (ri'ækt).
o ... *achor* (ə'ko), *morality* (mɒrə'lɪti).
oi ... *oil* (oil), *boy* (boi).
o ... *hero* (hɪ'ro), *zoology* (zɒlɒdʒi).
o ... *what* (hwɒt), *watch* (wɒtʃ).
p, p* ... *got* (gɒt), *soft* (sɒft).
|| ɔ ... Ger. *Köln* (kœln).
|| ɔ ... *Fr. peu* (pø).
u ... *full* (ful), *book* (buk).
iu ... *duration* (diʊrə'ʃən).
u ... *unto* (vntu), *frugality* (fru-).
iu ... *Matthew* (mæ'tju), *virtue* (vɜ'tju).
|| ü ... Ger. *Müller* (mü'lɛr).
|| ü ... *Fr. dame* (dām).
• (see i*, ē*, ɔ*, ü*) } see p. xiv., note 3.
! , u (see ē!, ɔ!) }
* as in *able* (ə'b'l), *eaten* (i'tn) = voice-glide.

LONG.

ā as in *alms* (āmz), *bar* (bār).
ā ... *curl* (kūrl), *fur* (fūr).
ē (ē*) ... *there* (ðē), *pear, pare* (pē).
ē (ē!) ... *rein, rain* (rēn), *they* (ðē).
ē ... *Fr. faire* (fē).
ō ... *fir* (fūr), *fern* (fēr), *earth* (ār).
ī (i*) ... *bier* (biē), *clear* (kliē).
ī ... *thief* (þiē), *see* (siē).
ō (ō*) ... *boar, bore* (bō), *glory* (glō'ri).
ō (ō*) ... *so, sow* (sō), *soul* (sōl).
ō ... *walk* (wōk), *wart* (wōt).
ō ... *short* (ʃōt), *thorn* (þōrn).
|| ō ... *Fr. coeur* (kōr).
|| ō ... Ger. *Göthe* (gōtē), *Fr. jeûne* (ʒōn).
ū (ū*) ... *poor* (pūr), *moorish* (mūrɪʃ).
iū, iū ... *pure* (piūr), *lure* (liūr).
ū ... *two moons* (tū mūnz).
iū, iū ... *few* (fiū), *late* (liūt).
|| ū ... Ger. *grün* (grün), *Fr. jus* (ʒū).

OBSCURE.

ā as in *amceba* (ām'bə).
æ ... *accept* (æks'ɛpt), *maniac* (mā'niæk).
ǝ ... *datum* (dɛ'tɪtəm).
ě ... *moment* (mɔ'mɛnt), *several* (se'verəl).
ɛ ... *separate* (adj.) (se'pə'reɪt).
ə ... *added* (æ'dɛd), *entail* (ɛntə'ɪl).
ɪ ... *vanity* (væ'nɪti).
ɪ ... *remain* (rɛmɛ'n), *believe* (bɛlɪ'v).
ō ... *theory* (þi'ɔri).
ɔ ... *violet* (vai'ɔlɛt), *parody* (pæ'rɔdi).
ǝ ... *authority* (ɔ'pɔrɪti).
ǝ ... *connect* (kɔ'nekt), *amazon* (æ'mæzɔn).
iū, iū ... *verdure* (vɜ'ɔdiū), *measure* (me'ʒiū).
ɛ ... *altogether* (ɔltə'ge'ðə).
iū ... *circular* (sɜ'kɪlɔ'ɪlɔ).

* p the o in soft, of medial or doubtful length.

|| Only in foreign (or earlier English) words.

In the ETYMOLOGY,

OE. e, o, representing an earlier a, are distinguished as e, p (having the phonetic value of e and p, or q, above); as in *ende* from *andi* (OHG. *anti*, Goth. *andei-s*), *mann* from *mann*, *on* from *an*.

LIST OF ABBREVIATIONS, SIGNS, &c.

a. [in Etymol.] ... = adoption of, adopted from.	gen. = genitive.	pa. t. = past tense.
a (as a 1300) = ante, before.	gen. = general, -ly.	Path. = in Pathology.
absol., absol. = absolutely.	Geol. = in Geology.	Pers. = Persian.
abst. = abstract.	Geom. = in Geometry.	pers. = person, -al.
acc. = accusative.	Goth. = Gothic (= Moeso-Gothic).	pf. = perfect.
ad. [in Etymol.] ... = adaptation of.	Gr. = Greek.	Pg. = Portuguese.
adv., adv. = adverb.	Gram. = in Grammar.	Philol. = in Philology.
advb. = adverbial, -ly.	Heb. = Hebrew.	phonet. = phonetic, -ally.
AF., AFr. = Anglo-French.	Her. = in Heraldry.	phr. = phrase.
Anat. = in Anatomy.	Herb. = with herbalists.	Phren. = in Phrenology.
Antiq. = in Antiquities.	Hort. = in Horticulture.	Phys. = in Physiology.
aphet. = apbetic, apbhetized.	imp. = Imperative.	pl., pl. = plural.
app. = apparently.	impers. = impersonal.	poet. = poetic.
Arab. = Arabic.	impf. = imperfect.	pop. = popular, -ly.
Arch. = in Architecture.	ind. = Indicative.	ppl. a., ppl. adj. ... = participial adjective.
arch. = archaic.	indef. = indefinite.	pple. = participle.
Archæol. = in Archæology.	inf. = Infinitive.	Pr. = Provençal.
assoc. = association.	infl. = influenced.	prec. = preceding (word or article).
Astr. = in Astronomy.	int. = interjection.	pref. = prefix.
Astrol. = in Astrology.	intr. = intransitive.	prep. = preposition.
attrib. = attributive, -ly.	It. = Italian.	pres. = present.
bef. = before.	J., (J.) = Johnson (quotation from).	Prim. sign. = Primary signification.
Biol. = in Biology.	(Jam.) = in Jamieson, Scottish Dict.	priv. = privative.
Boh. = Bohemian.	(Jod.) = Jodrell (quoted from).	prob. = probably.
Bot. = in Botany.	L. = Latin.	pron. = pronoun.
Build. = in Building.	(L.) (in quotations) = Latham's edn. of Todd's	pronunc. = pronunciation.
c (as c 1300) = circa, about.	lang. language. [Johnson]	prop. = properly.
c. (as 13th c.) = century.	LG. = Low German.	Pros. = in Prosody.
Cat. = Catalan.	lit. = literal, -ly.	pr. pple. = present participle.
catachr. = catachrestically.	Lith. = Lithuanian.	Psych. = in Psychology.
Cf., cf. = confer, compare.	LXX. = Septuagint.	q.v. = quod vide, which see.
Chem. = in Chemistry.	Mal. = Malay.	(R.) = in Richardson's Dict.
cl. L. = classical Latin.	masc. (rarely m.) = masculine.	R. C. Ch. = Roman Catholic Church.
cogn. w. = cognate with.	Math. = in Mathematics.	refash. = refashioned, -ing.
collect. = collective, -ly.	ME. = Middle English.	refl., refl. = reflexive.
colloq. = colloquially.	Med. = in Medicine.	reg. = regular.
comb. = combined, -ing.	med. L. = mediæval Latin.	repr. = representative, representing.
Comb. = Combinations.	Mech. = in Mechanics.	Rhet. = in Rhetoric.
Comm. = in commercial usage.	Metaph. = in Metaphysics.	Rom. = Romanic, Romance.
comp. = compound, composition.	MHG. = Middle High German.	sb., sb. = substantive.
compl. = complement.	midl. = midland (dialect).	Sc. = Scotch.
Conch. = in Conchology.	Mil. = in military usage.	sc. = scilicet, understand or supply.
concr. = concretely.	Min. = in Mineralogy.	sing. = singular.
conj. = conjunction.	mod. = modern.	Skr. = Sanskrit.
cons. = consonant.	Mus. = in Music.	Slav. = Slavonic.
Const., Const. ... = Construction, construed	(N.) = Nares (quoted from).	Sp. = Spanish.
with.	n. of action. = noun of action.	sp. = spelling.
Cryst. = in Crystallography.	n. of agent. = noun of agent.	spec. = specifically.
(D.) = in Davies (Supp. Eng.	Nat. Hist. = in Natural History.	subj. = subject, subjunctive.
Glossary).	Naut. = in nautical language.	subord. cl. = subordinate clause.
Da. = Danish.	neut. (rarely n.) = neuter.	subseq. = subsequently.
dat. = dative.	NF., NFr. = Northern French.	subst. = substantively.
def. = definite.	N. O. = Natural Order.	suff. = suffix.
deriv. = derivative, -ation.	nom. = nominative.	superl. = superlative.
dial., dial. = dialect, -al.	north. = northern (dialect).	Surg. = in Surgery.
Dict. = Dictionary.	N. T. = New Testament.	Sw. = Swedish.
dim. = diminutive.	Numism. = in Numismatics.	s.w. = south western (dialect).
Du. = Dutch.	obj. = object.	T. (T.) = in Todd's Johnson.
Ecll. = in ecclesiastical usage.	Obs., obs., obs. = obsolete.	techn. = technical, -ly.
ellipt. = elliptical, -ly.	occas. = occasional, -ly.	Theol. = in Theology.
e. midl. = east midland (dialect).	OE. = Old English (= Anglo-	tr. = translation of.
Eng. = English.	Saxon).	trans. = transitive.
Ent. = in Entomology.	OF., OFr. = Old French.	transf. = transferred sense.
erron. = erroneous, -ly.	OFris. = Old Frisian.	Trig. = in Trigonometry.
esp., esp. = especially.	OHG. = Old High German.	Typog. = in Typography.
etym. = etymology.	OIr. = Old Irish.	ult. = ultimate, -ly.
euphem. = euphemistically.	ON. = Old Norse (Old Icelandic).	unkn. = unknown.
exc. = except.	ONF. = Old Northern French.	U.S. = United States.
f. [in Etymol.] ... = formed on.	Opt. = in Optics.	v., vb. = verb.
f. (in subordinate	Ornith. = in Ornithology.	v. str., or w. = verb strong, or weak.
entries) = form of.	OS. = Old Saxon.	vbl. sb. = verbal substantive.
fem. (rarely f.) ... = feminine.	OSl. = Old Slavonic.	var. = variant of.
fig. = figurative, -ly.	O.T. = Old Testament.	wd. = word.
F., Fr. = French.	O Teut. = Original Teutonic.	W Ger. = West Germanic.
freq. = frequently.	orig. = original, -ly.	w. midl. = west midland (dialect).
Fris. = Frisian.	Palæont. = in Palæontology.	WS. = West Saxon.
G., Ger. = German.	pa. pple. = passive or past participle.	(Y.) = in Col. Yule's Glossary.
Gael. = Gaelic.	pass. = passive, -ly.	Zool. = in Zoology.

† = obsolete.

|| = not naturalized.

In the quotations.

* sometimes points out the word illustrated.

In the list of Forms.

1 = before 1100.

2 = 12th c. (1100 to 1200).

3 = 13th c. (1200 to 1300).

5-7 = 15th to 17th century. (See General Explanations, p. ix.)

In the Etymol.

* indicates a word or form not actually found, but of which the existence is inferred.

:- = extant representative, or regular phonetic descendant of.

The Printing of a word in SMALL CAPITALS indicates that further information will be found under the word so referred to.

Axifugal (æk'si-fūgāl), *a.* [f. as prec. + *L. fug-ere* to fly + *-AL*.] = CENTRIFUGAL; in *axifugal force*: tendency to fly from the axis of rotation.

1740 STACK in *Phil. Trans.* XLII. 422 Suppose that God forms a Vortex cylindrical and fluid... its Points will have but an axifugal Force. 1881 in *Syd. Soc. Lex.*

Axil (æk'sil). *Bot.* [ad. *L. axilla*: see below; cf. mod. *F. axille*.] The upper angle between a leaf or petiole and the stem from which it springs; also that between a branch and the trunk.

1794 MARTYN *Rousseau's Bot.* v. 50 Branches which grow from their axils or axils. 1872 H. MACMILLAN *True Vine* v. 210 The buds of plants almost always grow in the axil.

Axile (æk'sil), *obs.* forms of AXILE, -TREE.

Axile (æk'sil), *a.* [f. as if ad. *L. *axil-is*, f. *axis*; cf. *L. civilis, hostilis*.] Belonging to the axis: *a. Bot.* Applied to an embryo having the same direction as the axis of the seed, or a placenta in the axis of the ovary.

1845 LINDLEY *Sch. Bot.* i. (1858) 16 If it [the placenta] grows from a centre which is connected with the sides of the ovary by disseminents... it is *axile*. 1890 BENTLEY *Bot.* 342 The embryo is said to be *axile*, or *axial* when it has the same direction as the axis of the seed. 1890 HOOKER *Stud. Flora* 314 Oxyria... embryo *axile*.

b. in *Phys.* *Axile bodies*: the touch corpuscles at the termination of the sensory nerves.

1859 TODD *Cycl. Anat. & Phys.* v. 503/2 Kolliker... prefers to call these bodies, axile corpuscles. 1881 MIVART *Cat. 22*.

|| **Axilla** (æk'sil-ä), *Pl.* -æ. [*L.* = armpit; dim. of **axula*, whence *ala*: cf. *AXLE*.] Common in late *L.* in form *ascella*.]

1. An armpit.

1616 A. READ *Body of Man* 152 The backe part of the shoulder top, called axilla. 1877 ROBERTS *Handbk. Med.* i. 113 The eruption appears on the... borders of the axillæ.

2. = AXIL.

1830 LINDLEY *Syst. Bot.* 247 Leaf-buds... in every axilla.

Axillar (æk'sil-är), *a.*; also 6 *assellere*. [a. *F. axillaire* of the axilla (see -AR), formerly *asselliere*, -aire (Cotgr.), ad. *L. *axillaris*, f. *axilla*, *F. asselle*: see prec.]

1. = AXILLARY 1.

1651 WITTIE tr. *Primrose's Pop. Err.* 295 The cephalick hath its beginning... in men always from the axillar veine. 1774 FORSTER *Hudson's Bay Birds* in *Phil. Trans.* LXII. 393 Shining black axillar feathers, or shoulder-knot.

2. = AXILLARY 2.

1831 MACGILLIVRAY tr. *Richard's Bot.* 185 Flowers are... axillar, when they spring from the axilla.

B. as *sb.* (cf. *F. asselliere*) An axillary vein.

1541 R. COPLAND *Guydon's Quest. Cyrurg.*, Veynes... two asselleres, two cubytalles, and two seynalles. 1790 HALE in *Phil. Trans.* XXXI. 9 Which Duct is... inserted by four Branches into each Axillar.

Axillary (æk'sil-är), *a.* [f. as prec.; see -ARY 2.]

1. Pertaining or adjacent to the armpit or shoulder.

1613 CROOKE *Body of Man* 977 The second (tacke of the backe) is called... the Axillary spondell. 1791 W. VAUGHAN *Princ. Anat.* i. 381 The Axillary artery. 1845 E. WILSON *Anat. Vade M.* 345 The axillary vein is formed by the union of the venæ comitis of the brachial artery with the basilic vein. 1871 DARWIN *Desc. Man* II. xv. 179 The white striae and spots on the axillary feathers.

2. *Bot.* Situated in, or growing from, the axil.

1786 REES *Encycl.*, *Axillary leaves*... grow out of the angles formed by the branches of the stem. 1830 LINDLEY *Nat. Syst. Bot.* Intro. 23 All Labiate have axillary cymes.

Axin (æk'sin). *Chem.* An oleaginous and waxy product, yielded by the large Mexican cochineal (*Coccus axinus*), and used as a soothing ointment.

Axinio *a.*, of axin, as in the fatty *axinic acid*.

1873 WATTS *Foetus Chem.* 698.

Axine (æk'sin), *a.* and *sb.* *Zool.* [f. *AXI*-s + *-INE*.] *A. adj.* Of or pertaining to the group of stags of which the Spotted Axis is the type.

B. sb. A member of this group.

1856 GRIFFITH *Cuvier's Anim.* K. IV. 116 The Axine Group. *Ibid.* The true Axines have horns of a similar form with the Russas.

Axiniform (æk'sinifōm), *a.* [f. *Gr. ἀξιν-η* ax + *-(I)FORM*.] Shaped like an ax-head.

1854 DANA *Crust.* II. 769 A broad axiniform process.

Axinite (æk'sinait). *Min.* [f. *Gr. ἀξιν-η* ax + *-ITE*.] A mineral belonging to Dana's epidote group of unisilicates, consisting chiefly of silica, alumina, lime, and iron, with broad acute-edged crystals somewhat resembling an ax-head.

1808 BOURNON in *Phil. Trans.* XCII. 203 note, Axinite, the thurmerstein of Werner. 1868 DANA *Min.* 298 Axinite admits of a high polish, but is deficient in delicacy of color.

Axinomancy (æk'sinōmānsi). [ad. *L. axinomantia*, a. *Gr. ἀξινόμαντεια*, f. *ἀξιν* ax + *μαντεια* divination.] Divination by means of an ax-head.

1601 HOLLAND *Pliny Gloss.*, *Axinomantie*, a kind of magicke divination by an ax head red hot. 1693 URQUHART *Rabelais* III. xxv. To have the truth... disclosed... by axinomancy: we want only a hatchet and a jet-stone to be laid together upon a fire of hot embers. 1870 *Archæol.* XLIII. 517.

Axiolite (æk'siolait). *Min.* [f. *L. axi-s* + *Gr. λίθος* stone: see -LITE.] (See quot.) **Axiolite**

(æk'siolitlik), *a.*, of or pertaining to axiolites.

1879 RUTLEY *Stud. Rocks* xi. 184 Termed axiolites by Zirkel... elongated lenticular and curved zones of brownish glass forming the envelope of a smaller corresponding mass

of paler vitreous matter, in which incipient crystallisation or fibrous structure trends at right angles to the inner surfaces of the envelope towards a longitudinal median line. *Ibid.* The axiolitic structure visible in a rhyolite.

Axiom (æk'si-om). Forms: 6-7 *axioma*, *axiome*, 5- *axiom*. [a. *F. axiome*, ad. *L. axiōma*, a. *Gr. ἀξίωμα* that which is thought worthy or fit, that which commends itself as self-evident, f. *ἀξιό-εω* to hold worthy, f. *ἀξιος* worthy.]

1. A proposition that commends itself to general acceptance; a well-established or universally-conceded principle; a maxim, rule, law.

1485 CAXTON *Paras & V. Prol.*, An axiom which in Latin expressed, *hoc crede quod tibi verum esse videtur*. 1579 LVLV *Euphues* (Arb.) 100 The Axiomes of Aristotle. 1604 DEKKER *Honest Wh. Wks.* 1873 II. 63 That's an Axiome, a Principle. 1651 HOBBS *Govt. & Soc.* i. § 2. 3 Which Axiom, though received by most, is yet certainly false. 1757 JOHN-SON *Ramb. No.* 175 F 1 The axioms of wisdom which recommend the ancient sages to veneration. 1837 J. HARRIS *Gr. Teacher* 380 The axiom known by the name of the golden rule. 1875 H. E. MANNING *Mission H. Ghost* II. 33 It is an axiom of the human reason that God is everywhere.

† *b.* Specially restricted by Bacon to: An empirical law, a generalization from experience. *Obs.*

1666 BACON *Sylva* § 2 Led by great Judgement, and some good Light of Axioms. 1607 RAWLEY in *Bacon's Ess.* (Arb.) Intro. 26 True Axioms must be drawne from plaine Experience, and not from doubtful. 1838 SW W. HAMILTON *Logic* xxvi. II. 47 Empirical rules (Bacon would call them axioms.)

† 2. *Logic.* A proposition (whether true or false).

1588 FRAUNCE *Laviers Log.* II. i. 86b, An axiom or proposition... hath two partes, the bande, and the partes bound. 1656 STANLEY *Hist. Philos.* viii. *Zeno* xx. 43 Universally negative axioms are those, which consist of an universal negative particle, and a Categorical; as, *no man walketh*. 1664 H. MORE *Myst. Iniq.* Apol. 533 Otherwise no man might dispute or pronounce a false Axiome. 1748 in BAILEY.

3. *Logic and Math.* 'A self-evident proposition, requiring no formal demonstration to prove its truth, but received and assented to as soon as mentioned' (Hutton).

a 1600 HOOKER (J.) Axioms, or principles more general, are such as this, that the greater good is to be chosen before the lesser. 1660 R. COKE *Justice Vind.* 16. 1785 REID *Int. Powers* i. ii. Nor are they necessary truths, as mathematical axioms are. 1807 BYRON *Hours Idlen.*, *College Exam.*, Happy the youth in Euclid's axioms tried. 1851 H. SPENCER *Soc. Stat.* II. ix. § 6 The axiom that the whole is greater than its part.

Axiomatic (æk'siōmæt'ik), *a.* [ad. *Gr. ἀξιοματικός*, f. *ἀξίωμα*: see prec. and -ATIC.]

1. Of the nature of an axiom or admitted first principle; self-evident; indisputably true.

1777 W. TAYLOR in *Monthly Rev.* XXII. 556 The axiomatic pillars of a new code of the law of nations. 1855 H. SPENCER *Psychol.* (1872) II. vi. viii. 95 These axiomatic truths are truths recognized by the simplest order of reasoning.

2. Characterized by axioms or admitted first principles; axiomatical.

1812 SIR H. DAVY *Chem. Philos.* 32 He gave an axiomatic form to the Science.

3. Full of maxims or pithy sentences, aphoristic.

1834 SOUTHEY *Doctor* (1862) 381 The most axiomatic of English Poets. 1855 I. TAYLOR *Spir. Despot.* III. 96 A people... rich in axiomatic good sense.

Axiomatical, *a.* [f. as prec. + *-AL*.]

† 1. *Logic.* Pertaining to, or of the nature of, a simple statement or proposition: cf. *AXIOM* 2. *Obs.*

1588 FRAUNCE *Laviers Log.* i. ii. 7 This is the first part of judgement in axioms, called axiomatical, determining only truth and falseness in propositions or axioms. 1679 T. GOODWIN *Wks.* (1864) VIII. 403 An application axiomatical, that he is mine.

2. Of or relating to axioms, maxims, or admitted first principles.

a 1676 WHITLOCK *Mann. Eng.* 109 (T.) To front his axiomatical experiments [the book of Aphorisms] with the grand miscarriages in the practice of most able physicians. 1751 BOLINGBROKE *Hum. Knowl.* i. (R.) Materials of axiomatical, scientific, and, in a word, of absolute real knowledge.

3. = AXIOMATIC 1.

1678 CUDWORTH *Intell. Syst.* i. v. 731 Axiomatical Truths. 1765 JOHNSON *Prof. Shaks. Wks.* 1816 II. 167 In his art there is no... axiomatical truth that regulates subordinate positions. 1869 *Eng. Mech.* 9 Apr. 62/1 Proving... that 'two and two make four,' or propositions equally as axiomatical.

4. = AXIOMATIC 3.

1738 OLDYS *Raleigh* (R.) That solid axiomatical vein, which is observable in other productions of Raleigh's muse.

Axiomatically, *adv.* [f. prec. + *-LY*.] In axiomatic manner: † *a.* (*Logic*) in the form of a simple proposition (*obs.*); *b.* as an axiom, as an admitted principle or self-evident truth.

1588 FRAUNCE *Laviers Log.* i. ii. 9 Placing them axiomatically, syllogistically, or methodically, we argue some other thing either by explication or confirmation. c 1643 *Maximes Unfold.* 46 Pronounced axiomatically for truth. 1840 THACKERAY *Paris Sk. Bk.* (1872) 99 'Society,' writes the Prince, axiomatically, 'contains in itself two principles.'

Axiopistical, *a.* ? *Obs.* [f. *Gr. ἀξιωματικός* trustworthy (f. *ἀξιος* worthy + *πίστις* to be trusted) + *-ICAL*.] Trustworthy.

1611 R. BADLEY *Panegy. V.* in *Coryat's Crudities*, His most Axiopistical Hodepory.

Axiopisty (æk'siōpisti), [ad. *Gr. ἀξιωματία*, f. *ἀξιωματικός*: see prec.] Trustworthiness. (In mod. Dicts.)

Axis¹ (æk'sis). *Pl.* axes (æk'siz). [a. *L. axis* axle, axle-tree, pivot, axis of the earth, heavens, etc., cogn. with OE. *eax*: see *AX sb.* 2] Used for various figurative and transferred senses of *AXLE*.]

1. Axis of rotation or revolution.

1. The axle of a wheel. ? *Obs.*

Wheel and axis, axis in peritrochio: the Wheel-and-Axle, one of the mechanical powers.

a 1619 FOTHERBY *Atheom.* II. xi. § 1 The weightines of the wheele doth settle it upon his Axis. 1725 BRADLEY *Fam. Dict.* s. v. *Windmill*, Like unto the Axis of a Cutlers Grind-Stone. 1796 HUTTON *Math. Dict.* I. 178 To construct an axis in peritrochio. 1881 INSON *Sc. & Art* I. 37 The wheel and axis may be considered as a kind of perpetual lever.

b. fig. The 'pivot' on which any matter turns.

1860 MOTLEY *Netherl.* (1868) I. v. 169 The axis of the revolt was the religious question.

2. *Phys.* *a.* A tooth or process on the second cervical vertebra, upon which the head is turned. *b.* The vertebra which has the process.

1694 SALMON tr. *Diemerbroeck's Anat.* IV. xii. (1714) 249 Axis... is a name which rather befits the former vertebra, whose tooth resembles an Axle. 1701 TAUVRY *Anat.* II. xvi. 268 This second Vertebra has an Apophysis call'd the Tooth... The Head and the first vertebra... are qualified to turn upon that Axis. 1815 *Encycl. Brit.* III. 289 Axis... the second vertebra of the neck; it hath a tooth which goes into the first vertebra and this tooth is by some called the axis. 1836 *Athenæum* No. 450. 419 The Atlas and Axis of the Ichthyosaurus are united.

3. The imaginary straight line about which a body (e.g. the earth or other planet) rotates; the prolongation of that of the earth on which the heavens appear to revolve.

(The ends of the axis are *poles*; thence the use of *axis* as a line from pole to pole, or from end to end: see III.)

1549 *Compl. Scot.* vi. 48 3e sal ymagyn anelyne that passis throught the spere lyk til ane extree of ane cart, callit axis-spere. 1635 N. CARPENTER *Geogr. Del.* i. iii. 67 The motion of an iron-wire or needle... upon his owne Axis. 1660 HOBBS *Physic* IV. xxvi. § 6. I. 428 The earth is so carried about the sun, as that its axis is thereby always kept parallel to itself. 1849 MRS. SOMERVILLE *Connex. Phys. Sc.*, There are at least three axes at right angles to each other round any one of which... the solid... will continue to revolve for ever.

† 4. *fig.* A central prop, which sustains any system (as Atlas was feigned to sustain the revolving heavens). *Obs.*

a 1616 BRAUM. & FL. *Valentin*. v. v. I have found out axis; You know he bears the empire. 1646 SIR T. BROWNE *Pseud. Ep.* 94 The Atlas or maine axis, which supported this opinion, was daily experience.

5. The geometrical line, by the revolution of a superficies about which, solids with circular section, as a globe, cylinder, cone, etc. are conceived to be generated.

(This is the *axis of revolution*; it coincides necessarily with the axis of symmetry; thence branch II.)

1571 DIGGES *Pantom.* III. iii. Qij b. The Axis or Altitude of the Cone. 1796 HUTTON *Math. Dict.* I. 177 If a semi-circle be moved round its diameter at rest, it will generate a sphere, whose axis is that diameter.

II. Axis of symmetrical arrangement. (Cf. 5.)

6. The straight line about which the parts of a body or system are symmetrically arranged.

Axis of a balance: the line upon which it turns. *Axis of oscillation* (of a pendulum, etc.): a horizontal line passing through the centre of the oscillation, and perpendicular to its plane (Hutton 1796). *Axis of polarization*: the central line round which the prismatic rings or curves are arranged. *Neutral axis* (of a girder): the line where there is neither compression nor tension (Brewster).

7. *Geom.* Any line in a regular figure which divides it into two symmetrical parts, e.g., which joins opposite angles or the centres of opposite sides; in a conic section, the line from the principal vertex or vertices, perpendicular to the tangent at that point; in a curve, a straight line which bisects a system of parallel chords (called *principal axis* when it cuts them at right angles).

Transverse axis (in the ellipse and hyperbola): that which passes through the two foci; *conjugate axis*, that which bisects the transverse one at right angles. The axes of an ellipse are also called *major* and *minor*.

1734 *Builder's Dict.*, *Axis* of a Conic Section, is a quiescent Right Line passing through the Middle of the Figure, and cutting all the Ordinates at Right Angles. 1796 HUTTON *Math. Dict.* I. 177 *Axis*... more generally... a right line conceived to be drawn from the vertex of a figure to the middle of the base. *Ibid.* The ellipse and hyperbola have each two axes; but the parabola has only one, and that infinite in length. *Ibid.* In curves of the second order, that diameter whose parallel ordinates are at right angles to it, when possible, is an Axis. 1849 MRS. SOMERVILLE *Connex. Phys. Sc.* xxi. 201 Cut longitudinally, that is, parallel to the axis of the prism. 1853 SIR J. HERSCHEL *Pop. Lect. Sc.* III. § 13 (1873) 106 The longer axes or longest dimensions of their orbits. 1879 THOMSON & TAIT *Nat. Phil.* I. 1 § 120.

8. *Crystallog.* An imaginary line drawn between the centres of opposite faces or edges, or the apices of opposite angles. (See quot.)

1817 R. JAMESON *Charac. Min.* 244 Three of the cleavages are equiangular and oblique-angular, in a common axis. 1869 ROSCOE *Elem. Chem.* 192 In order to classify... crystals, the existence of certain lines within the crystal called axes is supposed, round which the form can be symmetrically built up. 1876 GURNEY *Crystallog.* 30 The straight lines or directions in the crystal which are common to two or more symmetrical planes are called axes of symmetry.

9. *Optics. a.* A ray passing through the centre of the eye or of a lens, or falling perpendicularly on it; the line which passes through the centres of the lenses in a telescope; the straight line from the eye to the object of sight.

1701 *Tauvry Anat.* ii. vii. 205 To direct the two Optick axis's, in looking upon the same object. c 1790 *Imison Sch. Art* i. 196 If the axis of both eyes are not directed to the object, that object will appear double. 1831 *Brewster Optics* iv. 28 In all these lenses a line . . . passing through the centres of their curved surfaces, and perpendicular to their plane surfaces, is called the axis. 1855 *H. Spencer Psychol.* (1872) i. iii. x. 380 Due convergence of the visual axes. 1871 *J. Dicksee Perspective* 27 The axis of vision or line of direction is an imaginary line proceeding from the spectator to the perspective centre.

b. *Axis of incidence:* the line passing through the point of incidence perpendicularly to the refracting surface. *Axis of refraction:* the continuation of the same line through the refracting medium. *Axis of double refraction:* the line or direction on both sides of which double refraction takes place, but along which it does not exist.

1734 *Builder's Dict.*, *Axis* of Incidence, Refraction. 1796 *Hutton Math. Dict.* i. 178. 1831 *Brewster Optics* xvii. 147 An axis of double refraction . . . is not like the axis of the earth, a fixed line within the rhomb or crystal. It is only a fixed direction. 1836 *Athenæum* No. 448. 381 Like calcareous spar it has one axis of double refraction.

¶ In the three following the sense tends to pass into axis of growth or direction as in branch III.

10. *Phys. and Zool.* The central core of an organ or organism; the central skeleton or nervous cord; the central stem or core round which polypæ grow; the central column of a whorled shell.

1741 *Monro Anat. Bones* 54 The Powers that draw it towards the Axis of the Bone. 1830 *Edin. Encycl.* XIV. 599 In other species, the organs, which are not in pairs, are arranged round a central axis. 1866 *R. Tate Brit. Mollusks* iii. 44 The axis of the shell around which the whorls are coiled. 1873 *A. Funt Nerv. Syst.* ix. 257 The nervous matter contained in the cavity . . . is known as the cerebrospinal axis.

11. *Bot. a.* The central column of the inflorescence or other whorl of growth. b. The main stem and root.

1766 *Rees Encycl.*, *Axis* . . . a taper column placed in the centre of some flowers, or katkins, about which the other parts are disposed. 1835 *J. Comstock Yng. Botanist* 239 *Axis*, centre of vegetation, as the pith of vascular plants. 1835 *Penny Cycl.* III. 184 Each cluster of leaves is a small branch without perceptible axis. 1857 *Henfrey Bot.* § 42 The stem is the ascending portion of the axis. 1870 *Hooker Stud. Fl.* 232 Erica . . . Seeds attached to a central axis.

12. *Physiogr. and Geol.* A central ridge; the central line of a valley.

Anticlinal axis: the line along which two opposite planes of stratification meet in a ridge. *Synclinal axis:* the line along which they meet in a depression.

1830 *Lyell Princ. Geol.* i. 135 A line of volcanos . . . parallel to the axis of the older ridge. 1849 *Murchison Siluria* ii. (1867) 25 These round-backed hills . . . rise boldly from beneath the surrounding Silurian deposits, of which they form the axis. 1854 *F. BAKWELL Geol.* 4 The technical name given to such a centre of elevation is the 'anticlinal axis.'

III. A straight line from pole to pole (cf. 3), or from end to end, of any body.

13. *gen. e.g. Axis of the equator:* the polar diameter of the earth, which is also the axis of rotation; see 3. *Axis of the ecliptic, of the horizon:* a diameter of the sphere passing through these circles at right angles to their planes.

1796 *Hutton Math. Dict.*
14. *spec.* An imaginary line uniting the two poles of a magnet.

1664 *Power Exp. Philos.* iii. 158 If you divide the Magnet through a meridian, or Saw of a Segment, parallel to the Axis. 1832 *U. K. S. Nat. Philos.* II. *Magnetism* i. § 6 The straight line joining the two poles of a magnet is called its axis.

15. A main line of motion, growth, extension, direction.

1818 *W. Lawrence Nat. Hist. Man* i. ii. (1848) 99 Its axis (of the femur) coincides with the centre of gravity of the body. 1853 *Kane Grinnell Exp.* x. (1856) 75 The axis of Baffin's Bay . . . is from the north by east. *Ibid.* 76 The ice, after changing its original axis of drift. 1855 *Owen Skel. & Teeth* 6 In the direction of the bone's axis. 1867 *A. Barry Sir C. Barry* vii. 240 The principal axis of the building.

IV. *Axis* of reference.

16. *Analyt. Geom.* Each of the two intersecting straight lines, by reference to which the position of a certain point, the *locus*, is determined.

(Transf. from the geometrical treatment of conic sections.) 1855 *Todhunter Plane. Co-ord. Geom.*

V. *Comb. Axis-cylinder (or axis-band)*, see *quot.*; *attrib.*, as *axis-ligament*.

1839 *Todd Cycl. Anat. & Phys.* III. 592/1 A central substance of nervous matter . . . the axis-cylinder of Rosenthal. 1855 *H. Spencer Psychol.* (1872) i. i. 27 The central fibre, or axis-cylinder of a nerve tube. 1877 *Rosenthal Muscles & N.* 104 The axis-band, or axis-cylinder. 1877 *Burnett Ear* 72 In all its motion as a lever the hammer swings about this axis-ligament as a fixed point.

*Axis*² (æ'ksis). *Zool.* [L., an Indian quadruped mentioned by Pliny.] Name given by Buffon to an Indian deer (*Cervus axis*) known by sportsmen as the Hog-deer.

1601 *Holland Pliny* viii. xxi. I. 206 A wild beast named Axis, with a skin like a fawn. 1774 *Goldsm. Nat. Hist.* II. 72 The horns of the axis are round, like those of the stag. 1859 *Tennent Ceylon* I. ii. i. 157 The spotted axis troops in herds as numerous as the fallow deer in England.

Axised (æ'ksist), *a.* Possessing an axis.
1865 *Ruskin in Art. Trnsl.* No. 41. 129/2 A little spinning, askew-axised thing we call a planet.

† *Axle*¹. *Obs.* Forms: 1-2 *eaxl*, *exel*, 1-3 *exl*, 3 *axl*. [Common Teut.: OE. *eaxl*, fem., = ON. *axl* (pl. *axlir*), OHG. *ahsala*, MHG. *ahsel*, mod.G. *achsel*, OTeut. **ahslā*, from same root as **ahsā*: see *AX sb.²* Cogn. w. L. **axula*, *ala*.] The shoulder. c 1000 *Sax. Leechd.* II. 104 Weorþ ofer eaxe, oppe betweoh þeoh. c 1000 *Ag. Gosp.* Luke xv. 5 He hitt set on his ecla (*Hatton eaxe*) gebliende. c 1275 *Cott. Hom.* 245 He hit berð an his eaxla. 1205 *Lav.* 18032 Hengen an heore eaxe mucle wi-æxe.

*Axle*² (æ'ksl). Forms: 5-6 *axil*, 5-8 *axel*, 6-7 *axell*, 7 *axile*, 7- *axle*. For earlier forms in *comb.*, see *AXLE-TREE*. [Not in OE.; found in 13th c. in the compd. *axle-tree*, ON. *axul-tre* (synonymous with the native *AX-TREE*), f. ON. *axull* masc. = Goth. **ahsuls*, OTeut. **ahsulo*-, deriv. of *ahs-ā*; thence the simple *axle* has been since *AX sb.²*]

1. The centre-pin or spindle upon which a wheel revolves, or which revolves along with it.

a. In carriages, properly, the rounded and more slender ends of the axle-tree, or the pegs fastened into the ends of the axle-tree, on which the wheel actually revolves; but used to include the axle-tree or axle-bar, especially when this is of one piece with the axles proper, or when it revolves with the wheels.

1634 *Milton Comus* 96 The gilded car of day His glowing axle doth allay In the steep Atlantic stream. 1703 *Maundrell Journ. Jerus.* (1721) 77 It turn'd upon two hinges in the nature of Axels. 1799 *Turner Anglo-Sax.* (1828) I. v. 70 Chariots with scythes at the Axles. 1831 *J. Holland Manuf. Metals* I. 157 Iron axles are becoming almost as common as once they were rare. 1870 *Bryant Homer* II. xvi. 132 Full many a chief Fell under his own axle from the car. 1873 *Daily News* 12 Sept. 4/3 The axle of a truck in a coal train broke.

b. A central spindle of a wheel which revolves along with it, as in the mechanical power called *wheel-and-axle*, and its applications.

1730 *Desaguliers Axis in Peritrochio* in *Phil. Trans.* XXXVI. 226 When we pull the Rope PA, we make the Axle . . . to wind itself up upon the Rope HD. 1839 *U. K. S. Nat. Philos.* I. *Mechanics* ii. vi. § 50 A modification of the lever, called the axle in the wheel.

c. *fig.* (Cf. 'pivot'.)

1635 *Austin Medit.* 194 Since he . . . makes that the Axell for all his Commendations to Move on. 1641 *Milton Ch. Govt.* i. Wks. 1851, 98 All the moments . . . of humane occasions are mov'd to and fro as upon the axle of discipline.

† 2. The BEAM of a loom, on which the warp or woven fabric is wound. *Obs.*

1635 *Austin Medit.* 281 The wrought part [of a web] is fastned to, and wrapt up about the Axell.

† 3. The imaginary line about which a planet, or other body (or, in old cosmography, the heaven), revolves. Also, *poet.*, the pole, the sky or heaven (cf. *AXLE-TREE* 4 b). *Obs. exc. poet.* (Replaced by *AXIS*.)

1596 *Fitz-Geffrey Sir F. Drake* (1881) 20 None but old Atlas . . . Should under-prop the Axel of the west. 1635 *N. Carpenter Geogr. Del.* i. iii. 67 The magnetically wier . . . will . . . make a circumvolution about his owne Axell. a 1649 *Drum. of Hawth. Wks.* (1711) 29/1 Heaven's axle seems to bend. 1667 *Milton P. L.* viii. 165 The earth . . . With inoffensive pace that spinning sleeps On her soft Axle. 1773 *Young Last Day* i. 116 The blissful earth, who late At leisure on her axle roll'd in state. 1850 *Mrs. Browning Poet's Vow* i. xviii. Since earth on axle ran!

4. *Comb. and Attrib.* *Axle-bar*, an iron bar serving the purpose of an axletree; *axle-bearing* (see *quot.*); *axle-box*, in a locomotive engine or railway carriage, the box, usually of cast iron, within which the ends of the axles revolve; *axle-boxes*, the part of the frame in which the axle-box slides up and down as acted on by the springs; *axle-journal*, *axle-neck*, the polished end of the axle which revolves under the bearing in the axle-box; *axle-nail*, *axle-pin*, one of the two nails or pins used to fasten a cart to the axle-tree; *axle-shaft*, a driving shaft forming an extension of the axle of a wheel; † *axle-wood*, wood for axle-trees. See also *AXLE-TREE*.

1850 *Wearle Dict. Terms*, *Axle bearing* in locomotive engines, the gun-metal, or other metal bearing, under which the axle journal revolves [in the axle-box]. 1808 *Sir H. Stuart Planter's Guide* 258 Three stages strongly bolted to the crossbar, or axle-bed (as our workmen term it). 1871 *Daily News* 23 Feb. The wheels . . . sunk up to the axle-boxes. 1876 *Proc. Inst. Civ. Eng.* XLVI. 92 Ordinary grease axle-boxes weigh less than 3 cwt. the set. 1881 *Cassell's Techn. Educ.* No. 21. 174/1 The distance of the hind axle-flaps from collars will be regulated by the width of the body across. 1485 *Inv. in Ripon Ch. Acts* (1882) 373 Axlinayles, 4d. 1530 *Palsgr.* 196/1 Axlinayle, *cheuille daixevl*. 1593 *Fitz-Herb. Husb.* § 5 Lyn-pinnes of yren in the axiltre-endes.

ii. *axil-pynnes* of yren, or els of tough harde wodde. 1837 *Athenæum* No. 510. 565 Enabling the upright axle-shaft to turn the millstone without additional gear. 1870 *Alford in Life* (1873) 443, I am again down on the axle-springs and must be braced up. 1868 *Wills & Inv. N. C.* (1860) 208 Axlewayne nales. 1405 *Fabric Rolls York* (1858) 34 M.M. ascelwood empty 212. 6d. 1868 *MS. Acc. Bk. Vicars Choral, York*, Pro ii thousandes & di. axellwodde.

Axled (æ'ks'ld), *a.* [f. *AX sb.²* + -ED².]

Furnished with an axle. (Chiefly in *comb.*)

1657 *Ford Sun's Darling* v. i. (1811) 387 The waggoner might thaw His chariot, axled with Rhiphaean snow. 1793 *Huddesford Salmag.* ii. 32 Her coral-axled car. 1869 *Echo* 3 Dec. The crank-axled machine.

† *Axless*, *a.* *Obs. rare*¹. [f. *AX sb.²* + -LESS.] Without an axle or axles.

1598 *Sylvester Du Bartas* (1608) 770 To see that mighty mound Hingeless and axless turn so swiftly round.

† *Axle-tooth*. *Obs.* or *dial.* Forms: 5 *axyl-tothe*, 7 *axill*, *axel*; mod. *dial.* *axil*, *assal*, *assle-tooth*. [a. Da. *axel* (= ON. *jaxl*) molar tooth, grinder + *TOOTH*: cf. Da. *axel-land* axle-tooth.] A molar tooth, a grinder.

1483 *Cath. Angl.* 16 *Axyltothe, molaris, maxillaris*. 1607 *WALINGTON Opt. Glasse Humors* 76 To loose an axill tooth, or an eye. 1657 *Tomlinson Remou's Disp.* 211 His axle teeth and also his gums fell out. 1691 *RAY N. Countr. Wds.* Pref. Axeltooth, *dens molaris*. 1808 *JAMIESON Dict.*, *Asil*, *Asil-tooth*, the name given to the grinders, or *dentes molares*, those at the extremity of the jaw. 1875 *Lanc. Gloss.* (E. D. S.) Some co'n em wang an others assal-teeth.

Axle-tree (æ'ks'l'tri). Forms: 3-4 *axeltre*, 4-6 *axil*, *axyl*, 5 *axille*, *exil*, *exul*, *exyl*, 6 *assyl-tre*, *exeltree*, 6-7 *axell*, 7 *axol*, *axil*, 6-8 *axel*, 6- *axle-tree*. [ME. *axel-tre*, a. ON. *axul-tré*, f. *axull* *AXLE* + *tré* *TREE*, synonymous with the native *AX-TREE*. See *AXLE²*.]

(*Axle-tree*, being in earlier use than the simple *axle*, formerly included the sense of that word, and of *axis*. It is now restricted to sense 1, but *axle* is not kept quite distinct from it in use: see that word.)

1. The fixed bar or beam of wood, etc., on the rounded ends of which the opposite wheels of a carriage revolve. The original and only surviving sense. *Axle-tree arms:* the ends of the axle-tree which project beyond the wheels.

a 1500 *Cursor M.* 21268 Quat quele mai be . . . and quat axeltre [v. r. *axil tre*, *axiltre*]. 1481-90 *Howard Househ. Bks.* 211 Ij. hopis to the axiltre. 1523 *Fitzherb. Husb.* § 5 Lyn pinnes of yren in the axiltre endes. 1535 *COVERDALE 1 Kings* vii. 30 Foure brasen wheles with brasen axeltrees. 1649 *Blith Eng. Improv. Impr.* (1653) 167 The Beech . . . is very good Timber for . . . the Husbandman, for Axle-trees. 1755 *Mrs. Delany Diary* III. 349 No harm but to the axle-tree of their coach, which broke. 1794 *W. FELTON Carriages* (1801) I. 84 The arms of the axeltree, which are made round, but rather of a conical form. 1855 *MACAULAY Fredk. G.* 47 (They) drove shabby old carriages till the axle-trees gave way. 1868 *GRIFFITHS Artill. Man.* 112 Axle-tree arm.

† 2. The spindle or AXLE of any wheel; the 'axle' in the *Wheel-and-axle*. *Obs.*

a 1400 *MAUNDEV.* xvii. 181 A wheel, that turneth be his Axle Tree. 1530 *PALSGR.* 196/1 Axiltre, *axxelol*. 1659 *LEAK Water-wks.* 19 It shall make the Wheel F to turn half a turn by the Cord which is fastned to the Axletree of the said Wheel. 1664 *EVELYN Sylva* II. vi. (1776) 370 For the cogs of mills, posts to be set in moist ground, and Everlasting Axle-trees.

† b. *fig.* (Cf. *pivot*, *axis*.)

c 1600 *Revel. Goliath*, Their chaungeinge mynde on tickell axeltree, Is roid and tost about. 1646 *Unhappy Game Scotch & Eng.* 9 You make his will the very Axeltree upon which your argument turns. 1674 *MARVELL Iron. Transp.* n. 171 A necessity . . . which drove the great Iron nail thorough the Axle-tree of Nature.

† 3. A revolving or driving shaft. *Obs.*

1659 *LEAK Water-wks.* 18 A straight Axeltree of wood, a foot square, and 60-foot high.

† 4. = *AXIS*: a. The imaginary or geometrical line which forms the axis of revolution of any body, e.g. the earth, a planet, the heavens. *Obs.*

c 1400 *Epiph.* (Turnb. 1843) 113 The axyltre betwene the polys twayne. 1594 *BLUNDEVIL Exerc.* III. i. ii. 280 A right imaginative line, called of the Astronomers the Axletree of the world, about the which the world continually turneth like a Cart-wheeel. 1606 *SHAKS. Tr. & Cr.* I. iii. 65 Strong as the Axletree In which the Heavens ride. 1633 *P. FLETCHER Purp. Isl.* iv. viii. Most like the poles in heavens Axletrees.

† b. *poetically* (transl. L. *axis*): The pole of the heaven; the heaven, the sky. *Obs.*

1513 *DOUGLAS Æneis* vi. ix. 3 Hir rosy chariot the fresche Aurora Amydward of the heuynis assiltre Begouth for till wproll. 1666 *G. SANDYS Ovid's Met.* I. 7 And burne heauens Axeltree.

† c. The central line, e.g. the axis of vision.

1664 *WOTTON Archit.* (1672) 52 The Parts farthest from the Axel-tree, or middle Beam of the Eye.

Hence *Axletreed* a., furnished with an axle-tree.

1580 *Tusser Husb.* (1878) 36 Strong exiltred cart.

Ax-man, axo- (æ'ksmæn). [f. *AX sb.¹* + -MAN.]

1. One who uses an ax in his work; a woodman.

1809 *J. BARLOW Columb.* vi. 371 Scalpers, and ax-men rush from Erie's shore. 1878 *J. BULLER N. Zealand* i. ii. 28 They worked as ax-men, sawyers, etc.

2. A warrior armed with a battle-ax.

1808 *TYTLER Hist. Scot.* (1864) II. 218 Every axe-man who had neither spear nor bow.

Axode, early pa. t. of *ASK*.

Axoid (æ'ksoid). [f. *AX-18* + -OID.] A curve

generated by the revolution of a point round an advancing axis, e.g. the cycloid.

1296 *Catal. Sci. App. S. Kens.* No. 553 Conic axoids, with corresponding spheric roulettes and profiles.

Axolde-an, *a.* [f. *AXIS*, on imperfect analogy.]

= **AXIAL**.

1240 G. ELLIS *Anat.* 276 The occipito-axoidian ligament.

Axolotl (æks'ol'tl). *Zool.* [the Aztec name.] A batrachian reptile (*Siredon pisciforme*, family *Proteidae*) found in Mexican lakes, resembling the salamander in appearance, but, like all the *Proteidae*, retaining throughout life the gills of its young state.

1766 REES *Encycl.*, *Axolotl*... a singular fish found in the lake of Mexico. 1835 *Penny Cycl.* III. 187/1 Cuvier... was disposed to consider the axolotl as the tadpole of some of the larger species of American salamanders. 1855 OWEN *Skel. & Teeth* 28 The axolotl has 4 fingers and 5 toes.

Axonometry (æks'om'et'ri). [f. Gr. *ἀξων* (*áxōn*) axis + *μετρία* measurement: see -(O)METRY.] Measurement of axes.

1865 *Athenæum* No. 1960. 688/2 Fundamental proposition of axonometry.

Axonophyte (æks'om'f'ait). *Bot.* [f. as prec. + Gr. *φύτον* plant.] 'An amentaceous plant, the flowers of which surround a common axis.' *Syd. Soc. Lex.* 1881.

Axophyte (æks'om'f'ait). *Bot.* [f. Gr. *ἀξων* axis + *φύτον* plant.] A plant that has an axis or stem. 1257 HENFREY *Bot.* § 15 Higher plants exhibiting the co-existence of stem and leaf... are called Axophytes.

Axotomous (æks'ot'm's). *a.* *Min.* [f. as prec. + Gr. *τομή* cutting, stem of *τέμνω* to cut + -OUS.] Having a cleavage perpendicular to the axis.

1834 ALLAN *Min.* 145 Axotomous Augite Spar. 1850 ANSTED *Elem. Geol.* 204 Arsenical Pyrites... An axotomous variety.

Axe, obs. form of **ASK**.

† **Ax-seed**. *Herb. Obs.* [f. *AX* s.b.1 + SEED.] = **AX-FITCH**.

1569 [See **AX-FITCH**]. 1597 GERARD *Herbal* II. (1633) 1236 a. In English Ax seed, Ax wort, Ax-fitch, and Hatchet Fitch. 1611 CORNER, *Le Fer de cheval*, a kind of Axseed, or small Pulse, called Horse-shoe.

Axes, -sen, obs. pl. forms of **ASH** s.b.2

Ax-stone (æks'st'ōn). [f. *AX* s.b.1 + **STONE**.] A greenish variety of jade or nephrite, used, on account of its toughness, by some of the natives of South America, Polynesia, and other parts, for making their stone hatchets.

1811 FINKENTON *Petrol.* I. 348. 1816 CLEVELAND *Min.* 273.

Axt, obs. or dial. pa. t. of **ASK**.

† **Ax-tree**. *Obs.* exc. dial. Forms: 3 ax-tree, 4 extree, 4-6 extree, 4-7 axtree, 5 axtree, 6-7 axtree, ax-tree, 6- (Sc.) extree, sixtree. [f. *AX* s.b.2 + **TREE**, in its sense of *beam*; repr. an OE. **ax-trēow*. Cf. **AXLE-TREE** from ON.]

1. The **AXLE-TREE** of a wheel. (Still dial.) a 1230 *Juliana* 56 Pat axtree stod istraht... in te twa stane postles. 1288 Wyclif *Eccles.* xxxiii. 5 An extree able to turne aboute [1611 a rolling axtree]. c 1400 *Promp. Parv.* 145 Exultre, or ex tre. 1483 CAXTON *Gold. Leg.* 399/2 The one whele... fyl of fro the axtree. 1566 in *Invent.* (1815) 166 (JAM.) Two gross culverinis... mountit upon their stokis, quehuillis, and aixtrees. 1573 COOPER *Thesaur.*, *Ax*, an extree. 1617 *Janna Ling* 813 The ax tree... broken in the cart rut. 1675 HOBBS *Odys.* 80 They mount into the chariot... The axtree groaned under them. *Mod. Sc.* The wheels cam off the aixtree.

† 2. = **AXLE**. *Obs.*

1659 LEAK *Water-wks.* 10 If two Wheels are equal... and there be unequal Weights fastened to their Ax-trees.

† 3. = **AXIS**. *Obs.*

1430 *Lydg. Chron.* *Troy* i. iii. The sterres... Welche the axtree rounde aboute gone. 1551 RECORDE *Pathw. Knowl.* I. Def. A right line drawn crosse these figures... called an axe lyne, or axtree. 1603 DRAYTON *Bar. Warres* vi. v. Two stedfast Poles, Twixt which this All doth on the Axtree move. 1657 WRIGHT in *Phil. Trans.* LIII. 76 Two equal equidistant circles that have one common axtree.

Axunge (æks'undʒ). Also 6-8 **auxunge**, 7-8 (L.) **axungia**. [a. F. *axunge* (mod. *axonge*), ad. L. *axungia*, f. *axis* axle + *ung-ere* to grease.] The rich internal fat of the kidneys, etc., especially that of geese and pigs; goose-grease, lard; also gen. fat, grease. † **Axungiety** = prec. **Axungious** *a.*, lard-like, greasy. **Axungiousness** = **AXUNGE**.

1541 R. COPLAND *Guydon's Quest. Cyrurg.*, The one [maner of greas] is withoutforth next to the skynne, and that properly is called adeps or fatnes. And y^e other is inward and nyghe to the bely, and properly is called auxunge or fat grease. 1611 *Panegyrr. V.* in *Coryat's Crudities*, Where S. Nicolas knights [i. e. men who have been hanged] not long before Had dropt their fat axungia to the lee. 1661 LOVELL *Hist. Anim. & Min.* 271 The axunge of cart wheeles. 1754 SMELLIE *Midwif.* I. Intro. 36 Lubricated with oil or auxunge. 1875 *Ure Dict. Arts* 278 Axunge, hog's lard. 1599 A. M. Gabelkover's *Bk. Physic* 40/a Take the Axungietye of a Goose. 1811 45/1 Take the axungiousnes of a little boare-pigge. 1658 SIR T. BROWNE *Pseud. Ep.* III. xxvi. (1686) 139 An axungious and thicker part subsiding.

† **Axwort**. *Herb. Obs.* = **AX-SEED**.

1566 TURNER [see **AX-FITCH**]. 1591 PERCIVALL *Sp. Dict.*, *Encorvada*, Axwort, *Securidaca*.

Ayl, -tre, obs. forms of **AXLE**, -**TREE**.

Ay was formerly used indifferently with *ai-* in many words: e.g. *ayde*, *ayel*, *ayle*, *ayme*, *ayne*, Vol. I.

ayr, *ayre*, *ayle*, *ayther*, *ayver*. For such, see **AI**. It also interchanged frequently with **EI**, **EY**; and sometimes with **A**, **EA**, **E**.

Ay, *aye* (ā), *adv.* Forms: 3 a33, 3-4 a1, 5 e1, aoy, 6 a1o, 4- aye, 3- ay. [Early ME. *a33*, *ai*, *ei*: a. ON. *ei*, *ey*, cogn. with OE. *d* (-**daw*), ME. *o*, *oo*, OS. *eo*, OHG. *eo*, *io*, MHG. *ie*, mod.G. *je*, Goth. *aiw*, acc. of *aiws* 'age, eternity': -OTeut. **aiwo*-2, cogn. w. L. *æwum*. Cf. Gr. *del*, *alfei* 'ever', and *alfw*- 'age.' Preceded in Eng. by the native *d*, *o*, which also continued for several centuries as the southern form: the two were combined in the phrase 'for ay and oo.' Except in poetry, *ay* is still northern. The spelling fluctuates between *ay* and *aye*: the former is preferable on grounds of etymology, phonology, and analogy. The word rimes, in the literary speech, and in all the dialects, with the group *bay*, *day*, *gay*, *hay*, *may*, *way*. On the other hand, *aye* 'yes' does not rime with these, and should not be written *ay*. See **AYE**.]

1. a. Ever, always, continually; b. at all times, on all occasions. (Now only in Sc. and north. dial.)

c 1200 ORMIN 3212 Hiss drinnch was watert a33 occ a33. c 1220 *Hali Meid.* 21 Ah schulen weimeres lead ai mare in helle. c 1250 *Gen. & Ex.* 5 Luenen god and seruen him ay. c 1386 CHAUCER *Monkes T.* 197 An ydolaster was he ay. c 1400 *Apol. Loll.* 27 He dop ai po pingis pat plesun God. a 1440 *Sir Degrev.* 40 He bare the pyres aye. c 1440 *Sir Gowther* (1883) 260 Hythong ei behis syde. 1450 MYRC 452 Theioye pat lasteb ay. 1509 BARCLAY *Ship of Fools* (1570) 270 Flatterers ay speake fayrest when they lye. 1568 LEIGH *Armorie* Prel., But from the light aie shrowds her selfe aside. 1605 SHAKS. *Macb.* IV. i. 134 Let this pernicious houre Stand aye accursed in the Kalender! 1784 A. RAMSAY *Tea-T. Misc.* (1733) I. 3 Its sweets I'll ay remember. 1790 BURNS *Tam O'Shanter*, And ay the ale was growing better. 1826 J. WILSON *Noct. Ambr.* Wks. 1855 I. 252 They aye behaved generously to me.

† 2. with comparative degree. (Still in Sc.)

a 1225 *Metz. Hom.* 73 Ay the halyar that a man es, The mar lufes he meknes. 1393 LANGL. *P. Pl. C.* IV. 136 And ay be lenger ich lete be go 'be lasse treuthe ys with be. c 1400 *Apol. Loll.* 26 Ay be moo lusts pat bei haue here, ay be more schal ben per yenn. *Mod. Sc.* Things grew ay the langer, the waur [i. e. ever the longer, the worse].

3. Phrases: a. For ay: for ever, to all eternity. Also amplified, for ever and ay; in ME. for ay and o. (Only poet. in Eng.; in prose use in Sc.)

a 1300 *Cursor M.* 6218 Pat suld vs serue for euer and ai. c 1374 CHAUCER *Troilus* II. 1034 But that was infynyte for ay and oo. 1590 R. HARVEY *Pl. Perc.* 24 Where I for aie will make thy praises tarry. 1598 BARRET *Theor. Warres* Pref. 6 His trauels do deserue our prayse for ay. 1706 DE FOE *Jure Div.* Pref. 38 There let it ly for ever and for ay. 1838 Mrs. BROWNING *Rom. Ganges* xvi. The love will last for aye.

† b. In aye: for ever. *Obs.*

a 1300 E. E. Psalter lxii. 9 God oure helper in ai es he.

4. As *adj.* Eternal. *rare* -1.

1839 BAILEY *Festus* xxv. (1848) 313 Whose flowings forth are aye and infinite.

5. In *comb.* = Ever: a. with pples., as *ay-during*, *-living*, *-remaining*, *-running*, *-varied*, *AY-LASTING*; b. with adverbs, as *ay-forth*: ever onward. Also **AY-GREEN**.

1580 HOLLYBAND *Treas. Fr. Tong.* *Eternel*, euerlasting, ayduring. 1589 *Tri. Love & Fortune* III. in *Hazl. Dods.* VI. 192 Ay-during still thy woe. 1610 HOLLAND *Camden's Brit.* I. 386 Ay-living herba. 1608 SHAKS. *Per.* III. i. 63 Aye-remaining plants. 1857 EMERSON *Poems* to His aye-rolling orbit. 1610 HOLLAND *Camden's Brit.* I. 327 Springs ay-running by. 1649 DRUMMOND *Wks.* (1711) 30/2 Ay-varied bliss. a 1375 *Joseph Arim.* 126 Pat he nas god ay forp. 1375 BARBOUR *Brue* I. 14 That it last ay furth in memory.

Ay (ā), *int.* Forms: 3-5 ey, 5 ei, 7 eigh, 7-9 aye, 6- ay. [In the later *ay me!* adopted from, or influenced by, F. *ahi*, *ai*, *ahi*; cf. OF. *aymi*! It. *ahime*! Sp. *ay de mi*! The ME. *ey*, *ei* was probably a natural ejaculation; nothing similar is found in OE.: the MHG. and mod.G. *ei*! is probably of independent development; and though there is greater possibility of its being an adoption of OF. *ei*, this would almost certainly have given *ay*, *ai*, which are not found even as variants in ME. The modern northern dial. *ay!* *eh!* or *eigh!* (ē) is probably the ME. *ey!*, but may be merely the earlier *ai*, as OE. *wā* is now *wae* (= *wē*) in the north.]

1. = Ah! O! (Now the common northern exclamation of surprise, invocation, earnestness.)

1340 *Ayenb.* 105 Ey god, hou bet coupe wel al þane zang, hou he asolde vinde uayre notes. c 1386 CHAUCER *Parl.* 7. 453 Ey, Goddis precious dignite! 1693 W. ROBERTSON *Phrasel. Gen.* 890 Eigh you mock me. 1863 Mrs. TOOGOOD *Yorksh. Dial.*, Ay my word! I am glad to see you. 2. *Ay me!* = Alas! Ah me! — an ejaculation of regret, sorrow, pity.

1501 SPENSER *Virg. Gnat* 353 Ay me, that thanks so much should faile of meek. 1671 MILTON *Samson* 331 Ay me, another inward grief awak't. 1890 Mrs. BROWNING *Poems* II. 29 Ay me! how dread can look the Dead. 1866 TENNYSON *Tithonus*, Ay me! ay me! the woods decay and fall. b. *substantively*. The ejaculation as an expression of sorrow, etc.

1607 BEAUMONT *Wom. Hater* III. i. Draw Sonnets from the melting lovers brain; Ay-me's, and Elegies. 1633 T. ADAMS *Comm.* 2 Pet. i. 6 Aches and aye-me's are incident to intemperate houses.

Ay, variant of **AYE**, yes; obs. f. **ANY**.

Ay (e, obs. form of **EGG**, and **AWK**).

|| **Ayah** (ai-ā). Also in 8 **eyah**. [a. *āya*, *dyā* (in various Indian vernaculars), a. Pg. *aia* (= Sp. *aya*, It. *aja*) nurse, children's governess, fem. of *aio* (Sp. *ayo*, It. *ajo*) a tutor. Introduced by the Portuguese into India, where adopted in Anglo-Indian from the vernaculars.] A native Hindoo nurse or lady's maid.

1766 *India Gaz.* 12 Oct., *Eyah*... 5 Rupees a month. 1820 T. WILLIAMSON *E. Ind. Vade M.* I. 337 The female who attends a lady while she is dressing, etc. is called an *Ayah*. 1813 Mrs. SHERWOOD *Ayah & Lady* i. 7 This Lady paid her *Ayah* seven rupees per month. 1848 CHAMBERS *Alfred in Ind.* 18 *Ayahs*, or ladies'-maids, who take care of very young children. 1852 *Lond. Jral.* 9 Oct. 66 Ellen's *ayah* or native nurse who had accompanied her to England.

Ayal, variant of **AIEL**, *Obs.*, grandfather.

Ayder, -ur, obs. forms of **EITHER**.

Aye, *ay* (ai, ai), *interj.* (*adv.*), *sb.* Forms: 6-8 I, 7 al, 7-9 ey, 7- aye, ay. [Appears suddenly about 1575, and is exceedingly common about 1600; origin unknown. The suggestion that it is the same as **AY** *adv.* 'ever, always,' seems set aside by the fact that it was at first always written *I*, a spelling never found with **AY**. But it may have been a dialect form of that word, from some dialect in which it had passed through the senses of *always*, in *all* cases, to *by all means*, *certainly*, *yes* (cf. *aye but*, in sense 2 b; and the history of **ALGATE**), and so have been taken in literary English for a different word. It is less easy to see in it a phonetic variant or dialect form of *ya* 'yea, yes.' Spelt both *aye* and *ay*: the former is in accordance with parliamentary usage, and better on every ground. *Aye* and *eye* (which many identify in pronunciation, and which differ at most only in the 'broader' or more back sound of *eye*, are analogous diphthongal words usefully distinguished by their final *e* from the regular pronunciation of -ay, -ey, in *bay*, *day*, *gay*, *hay*, etc., and *bey*, *dey*, *grey*, *they*, *convey*, etc.: see **AY**.]

A. *int.* (*adv.*!) 1. As an affirmative response to a question: Yes; even so. Common dialectally, and in nautical language; the formal word used in voting 'yes' in the House of Commons; but not used for 'yes' in modern educated speech or writing, except as an archaism.

1576 *Tyde Taryeth no Man* in Collier's *E. E. Pop. Lit.* 12 If you say I, eyr, we will not say no. 1594 DRAYTON *Idea* 57 Nothing but No and I, and I and No. 1637 HEYWOOD *Royall King* II. iv. Me my Lord! *King*. Ey you my Lord. 1684 BUNYAN *Pilgr.* II. 124 Ai, ai, so I mean. 1711 J. GREENWOOD *Eng. Gram.* 159, I for *Yes*, is used in a hasty or merry way, as I Sir, I Sir. 1743 *Lond. & Country Brew.* IV. 284 Hye, says the Victualler, I believe I shall never stand it. 1823 BYRON *Island* II. xxi. 'Ey, ey!' quoth Ben, 'not new, but news enow'. 1828 LONGF. *M. Standish* IV. 33 The shouts of the mate, and the sailors 'Ay, ay, Sir'. 1838 *Masque of Pops* 53 The mate sprang forward and cried 'Aye, Aye!' 1880 *Daily News* 22 Feb. 2/3 *The Speaker*—I must put the question the House, as it stands, and the House must say 'Aye' or 'No'.

2. a. Indicating assent to a previous statement, and preliminary to a further or more forcible one.

1598 B. JONSON *Ev. Man in Hum.* I. i, I, so I do. 1670 R. COKE *Disc. Trade* 46, I, and the Law... Bars us of any future supply. 1714 ADDISON *Spect.* No. 568 P. 1 Ay, Answer that if you can, Sir. 1821 KEATS *Isabel* xxiv, To-day we purpose, ay, this hour we mount. 1826 DISRAELI *Viv. Grey* III. iv. 104 Once, ay twice. 1865 R. W. DALE *Jew. Temp.* xxi. (1877) 237 Aye, and we take the promises in their fullest and broadest meaning.

b. *Aye, but*... Indicating provisional assent to a statement for the sake of rebutting it.

1589 NASHE *Almond for Parr* 42, I, I, my maisters, you may mocke... but I warrant you, etc. 1640 J. DYKE *Worthy Commun.* 122, I; but you doe us wrong. 1666 DRAYTON *Wild Gallant* Wks. 1725 I. 94 He shall set thee forth I warrant thee. *Burr.* I, but where's the Money for this? 1875 H. E. MANNING *Mission H. Ghost* x. 282 Ay, but it was not only men who have so endured. We have known young girls... rise up with the courage of confessors.

B. as *sb.* An affirmative answer or vote; in *pl.* (elliptically) those who so vote.

1589 *Marprel. Epit.* B. iij, Here then is the puritans I... and M. doctors no. 1669 MARVELL *Corr.* 127 Wks. 1875 II. 289 The ayes proved 138 and the noes 120. 1772 *Junius Lett.* xlv. 238 A simple ay or no. 1851 H. T. MARTINEAU *Hist. Peace* (1877) III. iv. x. 69 The ayes were loud and multitudinous. 1857 TOULM. SMITH *Parish* 62 The whole number present... must range themselves, aye and no, on the two opposite sides of the room. 1880 *Daily News* 30 Mar. 4/7 If the Ayes have it, Mr. Marriott's hostile resolution will be rejected.

Aye, variant spelling of **AY** *adv.* ever.

A-year, *phrase* = in the year, per annum: see **A** *prep.* and **YEAR**.

Aye-aye (ai-ai). *Zool.* [a. F. *aye-aye*, a. Malagasy *ai-ay* (also dialectally *ahay*, *hahay*) 'supposed to receive its name from its peculiar cry.' Richardson *Malagasy Dict.*] A quadrumanous animal (*Cheiromys Madagascariensis*), nocturnal, squirrel-like, of the size of a cat, found only in Madagascar, where it was first noticed by Sonnerat,

c1775; it is classed with the Lemurs, but in many points approaches the Rodentia.

1781 PENNANT *Quadrupeds* (1792) II. 138 Aye-Aye [Squirrel], with broad ears. Inhabits Madagascar. takes its name from its cry. 1807 GRIFFITH *Cuvier's Anim. K.* III. 86 But one species of the Aye-Aye is known. 1866 *Lond. Rev.* 30 Aug. 198 The most interesting of recent acquisitions of the Zoological Society, is the Aye-Aye of Madagascar.

Ayelp (ā'yēlp), *adv. phr.* [A *prep.* + YELP.] On the yelp, yelping.

1855 BROWNING *Men & Wom.* I. 198 The Kennel's a-yelp. **Ayen**(e, *ayenst*, etc., obs. ff. AGAIN, -ST.

+ **Ayenbite**. *Obs.* [f. *ayen*, AGAIN + BITE; ME. translation of L. *remorsus*.] Remorse.

1340 *Ayend*. 1 þis boc is dan Michels of Northgate. þet haite Ayenbite of inwyte. 1876 M. COLLINS *Village Com.* II. ii. 17 That remorse, that ayenbite (to use good English), can only be felt by the spirit which has kinship to the Divinity.

Ayer(e, variant of AYRE v. *Obs.* to travel, march.

Ayer(e, aye(e), obs. ff. AIE, HEIR, AERIE.

Ayghe, variant of aye, AWE sb.¹

Ay-green (ē'grēn). *Herb.* [= Evergreen: see AY *adv.* 5.] The house-leek.

1360 TURNER *Herbal* II. 133 a. In English Housleke, and of some Singren, but it ought better to be called Aygrene. 1693 W. ROBERTSON *Phrascol. Gen.* 192 An Herb always green, called Ay-green, or Sea-green, Everlasting, House-leek. 1721 BAILEY, *Aygreen*. 1863 R. PRIOR *Plant-n.*, *Aygreen*... from its conspicuous tufts of evergreen leaves.

+ **Ayguous**, a. *Obs. rare* -1. [a. OF. *aiguoux* :-L. *aquos-us* watery, f. *agua* water.] Watery.

1341 R. COMLAND *Guydon's Quest. Cyrurg.*, The bladder is a receyver of ayguous superfluytees of the kyndees.

Ayhe(n, aye, obs. forms of AGAIN.

+ **Ayeld**, v. *Obs.* Forms: 1 *azioldan*, *azyldan*, 4 *ayild*, *ajeld*, 5 *ayelde*. [OE. *azioldan*, f. A-*pref.* 1 up + *gieldan* to YIELD, give.] To yield up.

a1000 *Soul's Complaint* 91 þæt þu ne scyle... riht azioldan. c1235 *Rembrun* 475 (Halliwell). Ayild the to this knight. c1280 *Sir Ferumb*. 244 'þef', saide he... 'ajeld þe, þov schalt dye.' c1450 *Paper Roll* in 3rd Rep. R. Comm. Hist. MSS. 280/1 To ayelde up... the seid towne of Anyoies.

+ **Ay-lasting**, a. *Obs.* Forms: 4 *ay*, *ai*, *ai-stand*(e, *ai*, *ay* lasting, 7 *aye-lasting*. [See AY *adv.* 5.] Everlasting. Hence **Ay-lastingly** *adv.*

c1340 HAMPOLE *Prase Tr.* (1866) 1 Ay-lastande saluacyone es hoped. c1340 *Alex. & Dind.* 70 Ailastange lif. c1400 *Apot. Loll.* 55 Ay lasting dep. 1603 FLORIO *Montaigne* III. vi. (1632) 506 Aye-lasting and commendable memory. c1400 *Apot. Loll.* 7 Ordeyning aylastingly þe contrary.

Ayl(e, obs. f. AIL, AISLE.

Aylyng, obs. f. AILING (here = injuring, damage).

c1400 *Destr. Troy* v. 1577 The strete by the sydes... Was archet full abilly for (=against) aylyng of shoures.

Ayme, obs. form of AIM.

Ayme, obs. way of writing AY ME! see AY *int.*

Aymer, obs. form of EMBER.

+ **Aymont**. *Obs. rare*. [a. OF. *aimant*, in Palsgr. *aymant*, cogn. with Pr. *ayman*, *aziman*, *adaman* -pop. L. *adimant-em*, for L. *adamant-em*.] = ADAMANT.

1340 *Ayend*. 187 Hy byep harde as an aymont.

Aynd, -ing, -less, Sc. forms of ANDE, etc.

+ **Ayne**, a. *Obs.*; but see EIGNE. [a. OF. *ainé*, earlier *ainsé*, *ainsné*, f. *ains* before + *né* born. As in some other words (e.g. *assign* sb.²), the final *e* became mute in Eng.] First-born, eldest, EIGNE.

1283 CAXTON *Gold. Leg.* 164/4 He that entred fyrst is called ayne and grete and he that cometh after shalbe called lasse. c1500 *Partenay* 1695 Ayne and eldeste.

+ **Ayness**. *Obs. Metaph.* [f. AY *adv.* + -NESS.] Everlastingness; applied as a special term to the 'second degree of eternity' possessed by angels and spirits.

1597 GOLDING *De Mornay* ix. (1617) 141 The measure of such things as haue a fixed and stable being, and yet haue also a certayne succession in their operations, of which sort are the understanding Spirits or Angels; and this is properly called Ayness.

Ayond, **ayont**, *prep., dial.* [f. A-*pref.* 2 + YOND; cf. *beyond*, and the double forms *afore*, *before*, etc. (*Ayont* is the mod. Scotch and north. Eng. dial. form.)] Beyond, on the other side of.

1724 A. RAMSAY *Tea-T. Misc.* (1733) I. 84 Down ayont the ingle he sat. 1803-49 MANGAN *Poems* (1850) 375 Ayond the gloom of thy sunken cell. 1826 J. WILSON *Noct. Ambr. Wks.* 1855 I. 145 The flock are ayont the knowes. 1837 MARRIAT *Dog Fiend* xix. I went out to the Nab buoy, and a mile ayont it. 1855 in *Whitby Glossary*.

Ayr(e, obs. form of AIR, EYRE, HEIR.

+ **Ayre**, **ayere**, v.¹ *Obs.* [a. OF. *erre-r*, 3 sing. pres. *cire*, earlier *edrar* (in St. Leger) :-L. *iterāre* to journey, proceed, march, f. *iter* journey. Cf. EYRE, EKRANT.] To march, proceed, make one's way; to move about (as opposed to remain still).

c1400 *Destr. Troy* xvii. 7502 þen Achilles cherfull, & his choise cosyng... Ayren vnto Ector angardly sore! c1440 *Morte Arth.* 455 There awes none alaynes to ayere appone nyghtys.

+ **Ayre**, v.² *Obs.* [variant of EAR.] To plough.

c1400 *Destr. Troy* 175 Ayre vp the erthe on ardagh wise.

Ayre, obs. bad form of YARE a. ready.

1c1475 *Sqr. loue Degre* 501 Anone the squyer made him ayre, And by hym selfe forth can he fare.

Ayre, -ie, -y, obs. forms of HEIR, AERIE.

Ayrer, variant of EYER.

Ayrshire (ē'ɪʃə), a. and sb. A breed of horned cattle named from the shire or county of Ayr in Scotland, and esteemed for dairy farming.

1826 *Farmer's Mag.* Nov. 412 Cattle, half-bred Shorthorns and Ayrshires.

Aysel, -ylle, early var. EISELL, *Obs.*, vinegar.

Ayth, obs. Sc. form of OATH.

Ayther, obs. form of EITHER.

+ **Ay-when**, *adv. Obs. rare*. [f. AY + WHEN; cf. next.] At every time, always.

c1485 *Digby Myst.* (1882) Mor. Wisd. 345 And ther-in I tempte hym ay when.

+ **Aywhere**, *adv. Obs.* Forms: 1 *ēghwær*, *ēghwær*, -hwer, *ēghwær*, 3 *aihwær*, *aihwær*, *eiwhær*, 4 *ayquær*(e, *aywhær*, 5 *aywhær*, 4-5 *aywhær*. [OE. *ēghwær*, for *ēghwær*, cogn. with OHG. *eoghwær*, f. *ē* ever + *ghwær* everywhere, 'ubique.' See YWHERE. Thus really the equivalent of *ever-where*, but in ME. phonetically reduced so as to look like a compound of AY 'ever' and WHERE; hence *ay-when*.] Everywhere.

c1000 *Ag. Gosp.* Mark xvi. 20 Hi ða farende *ēghwær* bodedon [*Lindisf.* *ēghwær*; *Rushw.* *ēghwær*]. c1200 *Trin. Coll. Hom.* 222 He þe godes wille doð *aihwær*. c1220 *Hali Meid.* 39 Te weane eiwhær passed þe winne. c1250 *Owl & Night.* 216 Ho had i-lorned wel *aihwær*. c1300 *K. Alis.* 6754 *Eghwær* by my weyes. c1325 *E. E. Allit. P. B.* 228 On vch syde of þe worlde *aywhær* i lyche. c1460 *Towneley Myst.* 115 To slepe *aywhær*. 1470 HARDING *Chron.* xcv. As myster was ay where.

Azalea (āzē'lā). *Bot.* Pl. -as. [a. mod. L. *azalea* (Linn.), a. Gr. *ἀζαλέα*, fem. of *ἀζαλός* dry; so named either from the dry soil in which it flourishes, or from its dry brittle wood.] A genus of shrubby plants (N.O. *Ericaceae*), natives of the northern hemisphere, growing in sandy soil, and blooming profusely, with showy and mostly fragrant flowers, pure white or yellow, or streaked and stained with crimson. The one British species (*A. procumbens*), found in the Scotch Highlands, is by some made a distinct genus, *Loiseleuria*.

1753 in CHAMBERS *Cycl. Supp.* 1803 J. ABERCROMBIE *Gard. Calend.* 605 Hardy kinds of flowering shrubs and trees... Such as roses, dog-woods, azaleas. 1881 BLACKMORE *Christowell* i. The white chalice of azalea.

Azarole (æzə'rōl). *Bot.* Forms: 7 *aseroll*, 8 *aserole*, 7-9 *azarole*. [a. F. *aserole* (written by Tournefort *azarole*), cogn. with Sp. *acerola*, *azarolla*, Pg. *aserola*, It. *asceruola*, ad. Arab. الزعرور, *as-zurūr*, applied to the same fruit.] The fruit of the Neapolitan Medlar, a species of hawthorn (*Crataegus azarolus*); also applied to the tree itself, sometimes called, after Fr., *Azerolier*.

1658 EVELYN *Fr. Gard.* (1675) 268 Cormes, services, azarolls, and the like. 1693 - *De la Quint. Compl. Gard.* 67 Quinces bear almost in the same manner with Raspberries, Azeroliers, and Pomegranates. - *ibid.* (Dict.) Azeroll-Trees, ar Garden-Haw-Trees, which are usually planted against Walls. 1725 BRADLEY *Fam. Dict.* s.v. The Azerole is indeed a kind of Medlar. 1864 MRS. WOOD *Treo. Hold* II. i. 1 Leaping a dwarf hedge of azaroles.

Azedarac (āzē'dārək). *Bot.* Also 8-9 *-ach*.

[a. F. *azedarac*, Sp. *acedarac*, a. Pers. آزاد درخت, *āzād dirakht* 'free (or noble) tree.' The tree and name were probably introduced into Spain and Sicily by the Arabs.]

1. A lofty tree (*Melia azedarach*), with bipinnate leaves and large bunches of fragrant lilac-coloured flowers, a native of the East Indies, but now common in Spain, Southern France, and South America. Also known as Bead-tree, Pride of India, False Sycamore, and Holy-tree.

1753 CHAMBERS *Cycl. Supp.*, *Azedarach*... the Bead-tree. 1854 Th. Ross *Humboldt's Trav.* II. xvi. 3 Paths bordered with azedaracs. 1876 *Masque of Poets* 30 Where clear-green chrysoberyl glows Beside azedarac in rows.

2. *Pharm.* The bark of the root of this tree used in medicine. 1853 in MAYNE.

Azime, variant of AZYME.

+ **Azimene**, a. *Astrol. Obs.* (See quot.)

1647 LILLY *Chr. Astrol.* xix. 118 Degrees lame and deficient (note, called by some Azimene degrees). 1676 PHILLIPS, *Azemen*. 1819 J. WILSON *Dict. Astrol.*, *Azimene* or Weak and Lame Degrees... when they ascend at a birth, render the native lame, blind, etc.

Azimuth (æz'imūth). Forms: 4-5 *asimut*, *asymut*, 4-7 *asymuth*, 6 *asumuth*, (7 *asimynth*, -moth), 6- *asimuth*. [a. F. *asimut*, cogn. with It. *asimutto*, Pg. *asimuth*, ad. Arab. السموت, *as-sumūt*, i. e. as = al the + *sumūt*, pl. of *sanit* way, direction, a direction or point of the compass or horizon, and the arc extending from it to the zenith. Cf. السمات *samt-al-rā'*: the direction or point over head, whence the term ZENITH. With the form *asimynth* cf. It. *azimynthi* (Florio).]

1. An arc of the heavens extending from the zenith to the horizon which it cuts at right angles; the quadrant of a great circle of the sphere passing

through the zenith and nadir, called an *asimuth-circle*.

c1391 CHAUCER *Astrol.* i. § 19 From this senyth... ther come a maner krokede strikes like to the claws of a coppe... kervyng ouerthwart the almkantaras. And these same strikes or diuisions ben cleped *azymuthz*. These *Azimutz* seruen to knowe the costes of the firmament. 1594 J. DAVIS *Seamans Secr.* II. (1607) 8 Circles of Azimuths, or vertical circles, are quarters of great circles, concurring together in the Zenith. 1598 SYLVESTER *Du Bartas* (1608) 299 The almycantharats, With th' *azimynths*. 1651 BIGGS *New Disp.* P. 157 Several *azimuths* meeting in the Zenith. 1796 HUTTON *Math. Dict.* I. 178/2 These *azimuths* are represented... on the globe by the quadrant of altitude. 1874 MOSELEY *Astrol.* ix. 45 If a great circle... be imagined to be drawn from the zenith... to the horizon, through any star... it is called the *azimuth circle* of that star.

2. The angular distance of any such circle from a given limit, e.g. a meridian. Hence, the *true azimuth* of a heavenly body is, the arc of the horizon intercepted between the north (or, in the Southern hemisphere, south) point of the horizon and the point where the great circle passing through the observed heavenly body cuts the horizon. Its *magnetic azimuth* is the arc intercepted between the magnetic meridian and this great circle.

Azimuth compass: a minutely divided mariner's compass, fitted with vertical sights, used for taking the magnetic azimuth of a heavenly body. *Azimuth dial*: one whose gnomon is perpendicular to the plane of the horizon. *Azimuth mirror*: an instrument placed on the glass cover of a mariner's compass and used for taking azimuths.

1666 CAPT. SMITH *Accid. Yng. Seamen* 36 Learne to observe... the Sunnes Azimuth and Almicanter. 1697 DAMPIER *Voy.* (1729) I. 531 The Azimuth Compass, an Instrument more peculiar to the Seamen of our Nation. 1768-9 FALCONER *Shipwr.* I. 740 The pilots now their azimuth attend. 1834 U. K. S. *Nat. Philos.* III. *Astrol.* xiii. 255/1 The true azimuth, compared with the magnetic azimuth, will give the deviation of the compass.

b. *In azimuth*: in a horizontal circular direction.

1831 BREWSTER *Optics* xiv. 123 If we turn the steel plate round in azimuth. 1879 G. PRESCOTT *Sp. Telephone* 269 The mirror is so mounted as to swing in azimuth.

3. *transf. and fig.* Horizontal angle, or direction; point of the compass.

1667 SIR R. MORAY in *Phil. Trans.* II. 477 Note also, at what Azimuth the Mark stands from the Gun. 1831 BREWSTER *Optics* xix. 167 Reflected from the second plate, at the azimuths 90° and 270°. 1860 MAURY *Phys. Geog.* Sea iv. § 245 Wind gauges... to show the inclination, as well as the Azimuth of the wind. 1867 CARLYLE *Remin.* II. 52 How he found his way thither I know not (perhaps in a cab, if quite lost in his azimuth).

Azimuthal (æz'imūthāl), a. [f. prec. + AL¹.]

1. Of or pertaining to the azimuth; used in taking azimuths.

1654 S. FOSTER (title) Elliptical, or Azimuthal Horolography. 1667 *Phil. Trans.* II. 435 The Suns Azimuthal Distance from the Meridian. 1702 WALLIS *ibid.* XXIII. 1110 The Azimuthal Points of the Horizon. 1841 BREWSTER *Mart.* Sc. III. iv. (1856) 216 A brass azimuthal quadrant.

2. In azimuth, in a horizontal circle. **Azimuthal error** (of a transit instrument): its deviation in azimuth from the plane of the meridian.

1863 *Cornh. Mag.* VII. 383 For azimuthal error, that is for the amount that the transit deviates from the north and south line. 1876 CHAMBERS *Astrol.* 668 By means of a screw a small azimuthal motion may be imparted. 1880 *Nature* XXI. 211 The azimuthal rotation of the clouds.

Azimuthally (cf. prec.), *adv.* [f. prec. + -LY².]

In azimuth, in a horizontal circle.

1867 DENISON *Astrol. without Math.* 313 Herschel's great telescope was set in a frame which also turned azimuthally.

Azo (æzo-). *Chem.* Short combining form of AZOTE, nitrogen. Used to form the names of:

1. *gen.* Compounds containing nitrogen, as **Azo-humilo**, nitrogenized humic (acid); **Azolitmin**, the principal colouring matter of limus; **Azoleic**, an acid formed by treating oleic with nitric acid.

2. *spec.* Substitution compounds in which nitrogen takes the place of another element, as in the **Azo-paraffins**, formed from the paraffins by substitution of 1 atom of nitrogen for 3 of hydrogen: e.g. *azo-methane* = hydrogen cyanide, *azo-ethane* = methyl cyanide, *azo-propane* = ethyl cyanide, etc.

3. *more particularly*. Compounds derived from the aromatic hydrocarbons, which contain nitrogen combined in a peculiar way, constituting the *azo-* and *diazo-* compounds, or *azo-* derivatives, e.g. *azobenzene*, *azotoluene*; *diazo-amidobenzene*, *diazobromide*; whence adjectives as *azobenzoic*, etc.

1881 DARWIN *Veg. Mould* v. 242 Some of the acids, which were called long ago azohumic, are enabled to dissolve colloidal silica in proportion to the nitrogen which they contain. 1863 WATTS *Dict. Chem.* III. 751 Azolitmin is a red-brown amorphous powder. 1880 CLEMENSHAW *Wurtz's Atom. The.* 219 Those very remarkable organic combinations known as *azo-* and *diazo-compounds*. 1880 FRISWELL in *Soc. Arts Jnrl.* 445 Known as the *azo-* yellows, oranges, and scarlets.

Azoic (āzō'ik), a. [f. Gr. *ἀζω-ος* (f. *δ* priv. + *ωζ* life) + -ic; cf. F. *azotique*.] Having no trace of life; in *Geol.*, containing no organic remains.

1854 PAGE *Text-bk. Geol.* 39 Azotic Period. 1873 W. THOMSON *Depths of Sea* iv. 192 The bottom of the Mediterranean at depths beyond a few hundred fathoms is nearly azotic.

Azonic (āzō'nik), a. [a. Gr. *ἀζωνικός* (better

ἀζωος, f. d. priv. + ζώνη belt, zone, region: see -ic.] Not confined to a zone or region, not local.

1795 T. TAYLOR *Apuleius* (1822) 325 This order is called, by the Chaldaean theologians, azonic. 1870 EMERSON *Soc. & Solit.* viii. 163 The 'azonic' and the 'aquatic Gods.'

Azology (æzoˈlɒdʒi). [f. Gr. ἀζωος lifeless + -λογία: see -LOGY.] The scientific study of inanimate nature.

1817 *Month. Mag.* XLIII. 20 With Perception he conjoined Zoology; with Retention, Azology.

Azorite (æˈzɔɪt). *Min.* [f. *Asores*, the islands where found + -ITE.] A white mineral crystallizing in minute octahedrons, occurring in albitic rock; according to Hayes, a columbate of lime.

1868 *DANA Min.* 761.

Azote (æˈzɔʊt). *Chem.* Also 8-9 azot. [a. F. *azote*, f. Gr. d. priv. + ζῆν = ζῆν to live, ζῶν life. Littré points out that this word (like *oxygene*) is not etymologically formed, since Gr. ἀζωος means 'ungirt.' The name given by Lavoisier, from its inability to support life, to the gas now known as nitrogen.

1791 E. DARWIN *Bot. Gard.* l. 73 note, Azote... combined with Calorique or heat, forms azotic gas... and composes two thirds of the atmosphere. 1791 HAMILTON *Berthollet's Dyeing* I. l. ii. i. Azot in its elastic form constitutes... phlogisticated gas. 1848 CARPENTER *Anim. Phys.* 25 Most plants require the element nitrogen or azote as one of the materials of their growth.

b. *fig.* 1850 McCOSK *Dir. Govt.* II. ii. (1874) 209 Unlike that air, all azote, of which the atmosphere breathes. 1865 W. PALGRAVE *Arabia* l. 149 The noxious Wahabee atmosphere, the purest azote of Mahometanism.

Hence: † **Azotane** [see -ANE 2 a], Davy's name for Chloride of Nitrogen. **Azotine** (æˈzɔɪn), a residuum of melted wool, rich in nitrogen, resulting from the action of superheated steam on mixed cotton and woollen rags. † **Azotite**, a salt of azotous acid, a nitrite. † **Azotous** (æˈzɔʊtəs), a., nitrous. † **Azoturet** (æˈzɔʊtjərət), a nitride.

Azotometer (æˈzɔʊtmɪtər), an apparatus for measuring the amount of nitrogen present.

1847 FARADAY *Chem. Manip.* xix. 501 Tube syringes... for the removal of azotane. 1884 *Manch. Exam.* 20 Oct. 7/1 The residue, which has received the name of azotine... is valuable on account of its nitrogen. 1884 SCOFFERN in *Orr's Circ. Sc. Chem.* 326 Hyponitrous acid, termed by Graham... azotous, or nitrous acid. 1819 CHILDREN *Chem. Anal.* 110 Azoturet of potassium or sodium, the compound formed by heating potassium or sodium in dry ammoniacal gas. 1876 *Catal. Sci. App. S. Kens.* No. 256 Improved Azotometer.

Azoth. *Alch.* Forms: 5 azot, 7 asoch, 7-9 asoth. [Corruption (ultimately) of Arab. الزئبق]

as-zūq; see ASSOQUE. Cf. F. *azoth*, Sp. *azogue*.] a. The alchemists' name for mercury, as the essential first principle of all metals. b. The universal remedy of Paracelsus. Also *fig.*

1477 NORTON *Ord. Alch.* v. in Ashm. (1652) 77 With Water of Azot to make *lac virginis*. 1620 B. JONSON *Alch.* II. iii. Your lato, azoch, zernich. 1655 T. VAUGHAN *Euphrates* 105 That glassie Azoth of Lullie. 1751 CHAMBERS *Cycl.* s.v., Paracelsus's azoth... is pretended to have been a preparation of gold, silver, and mercury. 1835 BROWNING *Paracels.* v. Wks. 1883 I. 123 Last, my good sword; ah, trusty Azoth, leapest Beneath thy master's grasp for the last time!

Azotic (æˈzɔtɪk), a. *Chem.* [f. AZOTE + -IC; cf. F. *azotique*.] Of, pertaining to, or chemically compounded with, azote. † **Azotic air** or **gas**: nitrogen. † **Azotic acid**: nitric acid. Also *fig.* deadening, dulling.

1791 HAMILTON *Berthollet's Dyeing* I. l. iii. 55 No change of colour takes place in azotic gas. 1866 W. TAYLOR in *Ann. Rev.* IV. 720 We steep their youth in ceaseless azotic confinement. 1830 LINDLEY *Nat. Syst. Bot.* 168 The presence of azotic products in the vegetable kingdom. 1868 DUNCAN *Insect W.* Intro. 12 A strong pungent odour analogous to that of azotic or nitric acid.

Azotize (æˈzɔtɪz), v. [f. AZOTE + -IZE.] To nitrogenize; hence, to deprive of oxygen, leaving nitrogen only. **Azotised** *ppl. a.*, nitrogenous, containing nitrogen.

1804 *Edin. Rev.* III. 421 What was formerly called... deoxygenating the system these writers term azotizing. 1819 BRANDE *Chem.*, Belonging to the class of azotized basic bodies... [are] tea and coffee. 1859 CARPENTER *Anim. Phys.* vii. The Kidneys... throw off the azotized compounds which result from the decomposition of the tissues.

|| **Asulejo** (apulˈeʝo). [Sp., f. *azul* blue, AZURE.] A kind of Dutch glazed tile painted in colours.

1854 SCOFFERN in *Orr's Circ. Sc. Chem.* 430 The *asulejos* or coloured tiles, found in the Alhambra. 1874 O'SHAUGHNESSY *Mus. & Moonlight* 36 The quaint rich *asulejos*, with their own Melodious manner of bright metaphor.

Azuline (æˈzɪlɪn). [f. Sp. *azul* blue + -INE; cf. *azurine*.] A particular shade of blue.

1864 G. GLADSTONE in *Reader* 8 Oct. 450/3 Solutions of chromium salts... litmus, azuline. 1883 M. HAWES in *Contemp. Rev.* 423 Shades of colour known by such names as... Magenta, Alexandra blue, azuline.

Azure (æˈzɜːr, æˈzɪr), sb. and a. Forms: 4 *azer*, 4-5 *asur(e)*, 5 *aser(e)*, *aserre*, 6 *asour*, *asur*, 7 *asur*, 5- *asurre*. [a. OF. *asur*, *asur* (11th c.), cogn. with Pr. *asur*, *asur*, Pg. *azul*, It. *azzurro*, *azuolo*, med. L. *asura*, *azzurum*, *azolum*, adaptations of Arabic (*al-lāzward*, a. Pers.

لازورد, *lāzward*, *lāzward*, lapis lazuli, blue colour. The initial l is absent in the Romance langs., apparently having been dropped along with Arabic article *al-*, or as if it were the article 'l'. It remains in med. Gr. λαζούριον, and med. L. *lazurius*, *lasur*, *lasulus*, lapis lazuli, literary forms taken directly from oriental authors or sources.]

1. The precious stone lapis lazuli.

c1325 E. E. Allit. P. B. 1411 Al in asure & ynde enaumayld. 1457 Bassynes ful bryzt of brende golde clere, Enaumayld with aser. c1374 CHAUCER *Troilus* III. 1321 A broche of golde and asure. c1435 Torr. *Portugal* 351 Ther gold and sylvyt was spred, And asur that was blew. 1509 BARCLAY *Ship of Fools* (1570) 169 This tombe was... set with precious stone, Alayde with asour. 1615 G. SANDYS *Trav.* 65 Richly gilded, and adorned with Azure, and Mossaicke workmanship. 1783 W. F. MARTYN *Geog. Mag.* I. 131 About Tauris, the mineral azure is also found.

2. A bright blue pigment or dye; ellipt. a fabric dyed of this colour. *A. of Almayne*: Prussian blue. (Ultramarine is made from powdered lapis lazuli.)

c1374 CHAUCER *Anel. & Arc.* 330 Your figure Before me stante Cloothed in Asure. 1430 LYDG. *Chron. Troy* I. ii. And gan forthwith with golde and asure paint. 1508 Arnold *Chron.* 169 Make an hole in a tree... doo in y^e hole good asure of almayne... and the frute shalbe blew colour. 1558 Act 5-6 *Edw. VI.* vi. § 11 All broad Plunkets, Azures, Blewes and other coloured Cloth. 1601 HOLLAND *Pliny* II. 484 Cæruleum or Azur, is a certaine sandy grit or powder. 1875 *URE Dict. Arts* I. 874 The darkest-coloured smalts, known as King's-blue or azure.

3. *Her.* The blue colour in coats of arms, represented in engraving by horizontal lines.

a1330 *Sire Degarré* 995 With the scheld of asur, And three bor heuedes ther in. 1429 Pol. *Poems* (1859) II. 142 Three flour-de-llys of gold, The fiele of asure. 1620 GWILLIM *Heraldry* I. iii. (1660) 19 Blew... in Blazon is termed Azure. 1751 CHAMBERS *Cycl.* *Azure*... signifies the blue colour in the coats of arms of all persons under the degree of a baron. 1838 Penny *Cycl.* XII. 143/2.

4. The clear blue colour of the unclouded sky, or of the sea reflecting it. (Originally, the deep intense blue of more southern latitudes.)

1481 CAXTON *Myrr.* II. viii. 81 The colour of Asure lyke unto the heuen when it is pure and clere. 1656 COWLEY *Davidis* II. Wks. I. 354 He cuts out a Silk Mantle from the Skies, Where the most sprightly Azure pleads the Eyes. 1725 POPE *Odys.* l. 408 Celestial azure brightening in her eyes. 1883 BYRON *Island* III. iii. The vast and sullen swell Of ocean's alpine azure.

5. The unclouded vault of heaven.

1667 MILTON P. L. l. 297 Not like those steps On Heavens Azure. 1738 GLOVER *Leonidas* III. 14 Mingling its majestic front With heav'n's bright azure. 1871 PALGRAVE *Lyr. Poems* 10 Above, the crystal azure, perfect, pale. b. *fig.* 1831 CARLYLE *Sart. Res.* II. ix. Borne aloft into the azure of Eternity. 1873 TYNDALL *Add. Brit. Assoc.*, When you and I, like streaks of morning cloud, shall have melted into the infinite azure of the past.

B. *adj.* 1. *Her.* Blue.

a1450 *Syr Eglamour* 1030 He bare, Aserre, a grype of golde. 1760 *Don Bellianis* 16 A Knight clothed in an azure armour. 1859 TENNYSON *Elaine* 181 Sir Lancelot's azure lions, crowned with gold.

2. Coloured like the unclouded sky; *orig.* of a deep intense blue, now usually of a soft clear bright blue, as is the sky of our more northern latitudes; sky-coloured, cerulean.

c1505 DUNBAR *Two Loves* xi. The hevynly aisur skyis licht. 1593 SHAKS. *Lucr.* 419 Her azure veins, her alabaster skin. a1666 BACON *Sylva* § 5 No Beast hath any fine Azure, or Carnation, or Green Haire. a1763 SHENSTONE *Odes* (1765) 110 The little halcyon's azure plume Was never half so blue. 1813 SCOTT *Trevelyan* II. xxvii. Slow the dark-fring'd eyelids fall, Curtaining the azure ball. 1819 SHELLEY *Ros. & Helen* 957 It was the azure time of June.

b. (Used, like L. *cæruleus*, as an epithet of sea- and river-deities and things belonging to them.)

1697 DRYDEN *Virg. Georg.* IV. 560 High o'er the Main in wat'ry Pomp he rides His azure Carr. 1725 POPE *Odys.* v. 426 An azure sister of the main.

3. a. *fig.* Like the unclouded sky; clear, cloudless.

1807 CARLYLE *Misc.* I. 36 Is not Klopstock, with... his azure purity... a man of taste? 1841 BREWSTER *Mart. Sc.* II. iv. (1856) 146 Those azure moments when the clouds broke from his mind.

b. *transf.* in *Jewellery* (see quot.)

1865 H. EMMANUEL *Diam. & Prec. Stones*, Sometimes... stones which are set open, or, to use the technical term, 'azur', have the interior of the setting enamelled or painted, to throw a tint of colour into the gem.

C. *Comb.*, as *azure-bice* (= bice), -blue, -circled; *azure-coloured*, -eyed, -veined; *azure-spar*, lazulite, *azure-stone*, the lapis lazuli, or lazulite.

a1500 E. E. *Misc.* (1855) 78 If thou wylt preve asure bice, if hit be good or badde. 1859 W. COLEMAN *Woodlands* (1862) 113 The pretty Azure-blue butterfly (*Polyommatus Argiolus*). 1879 TENNYSON *Lover's T.* 29 High over all the azure-circled earth. 1627 *Wardens' Acc.* in *Heath Grocers' Comp.* (1869) 426 Azure coloured clothes for the poore men's gowns. 1791 COWPER *Iliad* II. 539 Minerva azure-eyed advanced. 1867 TOMLINSON *Renon's Disp.* 417 The Azure-stone is most commonly in the gold mynes.

Azure, v. [f. *prec.*; cf. F. *azurer* (Cotgr.).] To paint, dye, or colour azure or bright blue. Hence *Azuring* *vbl. sb.*

1490-1497 [see AZURED]. 1656 W. MONTAGUE *Accompl. Wom.* 118 We azure wainscots, paint images, guild swords. 1791 HAMILTON *Berthollet's Dyeing* I. l. ii. i. The silks are... azured with river-water. 1833 *Blackw. Mag.* XXXIV. 540 She saffrons the hills, and azures the mountains. 1869

Eng. Mech. 2 July 340/2 Aniline colours have been employed... for the azuring of the surface of the paper.

Azurean (æziˈuːrɪən), a. *rare*. [f. AZURE a. +

-EAN (after *cerulean*).] = AZURE, AZUREOUS.

188a *Garden* 18 Mar. 188/3 The deep azurean blue Scilla.

Azured, *ppl. a.* *arch.* or *Obs.* [f. AZURE + -ED; cf. F. *azuré* (16th c.).] Coloured azure; = AZURE a. (in various senses): s. *ppl.*

1490 CAXTON *Encyclos* xv. 57 The blew cote of the heuens azured. 1527 FLEMING *Contn. Holinshed* III. 1335/2 Two banners of silke azured with the armes of Aniou.

b. *adj.*

156a LEIGH *Armorie* (1597) 128 In the shield, the azured field is resembled to the mightie loue. c1590 MARLOWE *Faust.* XIII. 100 In wanton Arethusas azur'd arms. 1604 E. G. D'Acosta's *Hist. Indies* v. xx. 384 Vpon the middist of the beard hee had a peece... of an azured stone. 1628 LENNARD *Charvon's Wisd.* I. xl. § 4 (1670) 146 The azured heaven... counterpointed with stars. 1833 I. TAYLOR *Fanat.* vii. 242 The deep azured night.

Azureous (æziˈuːrɪəs), a. *rare*. [f. AZURE + -EOUS.] Of a clear blue colour; azure.

Azurine (æziˈuːrɪn, -in), a. and sb. [a. F. *azurin* (Cotgr.); cf. It. *azzurino* (Florio 1598), med. L. *azurinus*: see -INE.]

A. *adj.* Blue, azure; according to Littré, pale blue, inclining to grey.

1600 HAKLUYT *Voy.* III. 37 (R.) They lay a color [on their wrists] which continueth dark azurine.

B. sb. The Blue Roach (*Leuciscus ceruleus*), distinguished by the slate-blue colour of its back. 183a YARRELL in *Trans. Linn. Soc.* XVII. 1. 8 From the prevailing blue colour of this fish I have been induced to call it the Azurine. 1873 STONEHENGE *Brit. Insects* I. v. i. 306 The Azurine is another fish only found in Lancashire.

Azurite (æziˈuːrɪt). *Min.* [f. AZURE + -ITE.]

1. Blue carbonate of copper, a valuable ore, closely allied to malachite.

1868 *DANA Min.* 715. 1873 WATTS *Fownes' Chem.* 398 Azurite occurs in large transparent crystals of the most intense blue.

† 2. Obsolete name of LAZULITE.

1816 R. JAMESON *Min.* I. 341.

† **Azurn**, a. *Obs.* *rare*! [app. f. AZURE sb. + -N as in *leathern*, *silvern*; but cf. F. *azurin*, It. *azzurino*.] = AZURE.

1634 MILTON *Comus* 893 Thick set with agate, and the azurn sheen Of turkis blue, and emerald green.

Asury (æˈzɜːrɪ, æˈzɪrɪ), a. [f. AZURE + -Y; cf. F. *azuré*.] Blue, bluish, tinted with soft clear blue.

1600 TOURNEUR *Transf. Met.* vii. The skie, whose hue was azurie. 1611 GWILLIM *Heraldry* III. vii. 116 The columbine is pleasing to the eye... in regard of the Azurie colour thereof. 1849 C. BRONTË *Shirley* xii. 171 Fleeces of white cloud fine as azury snow.

† **Asury**, sb. *Obs.* In 6 asure, 7 asurie. [† subst. use of *prec.*; perh. influenced by collectives in -BY, as *embroidery*.] Azure hue or colour.

1503 HAWES *Examp. Virtue* xiv. 86 Whan we were in the ayre of asure There dyd vs mete the noble Ierarchy. 1600 TOURNEUR *Transf. Met.* xxi. Encircled them with faire imbroderie Of sacred lights in ayre-clere asurie.

Azygos, *azygos* (æˈzɪɡəs), a. (and sb.) *Phys.* [(a. or) f. Gr. ἀζυγος unyoked, not a pair, f. d. priv. + ζυγόν yoke: see -OUS. Cf. mod. F. *azygos*.] A.

adj. Fellowless, unpaired: a technical epithet of organic parts not existing in pairs. B. sb. An organic part of this description.

1646 SIR T. BROWNE *Pseud. Ep.* 183 The Azygos, or vena sine pari. 1681 tr. *Willis Rem. Med. Wks.*, Azygos vein, is a branch of the upper trunk of the vena cava, arising on the right side. 1859 TODD *Cycl. Anat. & Phys.* V. 81/1 The pancreas is an azygos... organ. 1870 ROLLESTON *Anim. Life* Intro. 38 An azygos orifice in the abdominal walls.

Azygously, *adv.* [f. *prec.* + -LY 2.] In azygos manner; not in pairs, singly.

1854 *Orr's Circ. Sc. Org. Nat.* I. 73 The three... arteries... come off azygously—that is... not in pairs, but singly.

Azyme (æˈzɪm, -ɪm). Also 7 *asime*. [ad. L. *azymus* *adj.*, *azyma* sb. pl., a. Gr. ἀζυμος, -μα, f. d. priv. + ζυμν leaven. Cf. F. *azyme* *adj.*, *azymes* sb.] The Jewish passover cake of unleavened bread; also in pl. the feast of unleavened bread.

1398 TREVISA *Barth. de P. R.* xvii. lxviii. 644 Paast made onely of mele and of water hyghte Azima. 158a N. T. (Rhem.) 1 Cor. v. 7 Purge the old leaven, that you may be a new paste, as ye are azymes [WCLIF, therf; TINDALE, *Genev.* swete breed; 1611 unleavened]. — *Mark* xiv. 1 The Pasche vvas and the Azymes after two daies. 1651 *Ravleigh's Apparition* 206 Peculiar ceremonies, to wit... the use of their Azimes and the obligation of their first born.

Azyme (æˈzɪmɪt). [ad. L. *azymita*, ad. Gr. ἀζυμίτης, f. ἀζυμος: see *prec.* and -ITE. In F. *azymite*.] One who administers the Eucharist with unleavened bread; a name given by the Greek Church to members of the Roman Church, and to Armenians and Maronites.

1797-51 in CHAMBERS *Cycl.* 1830 TORREY *Neander's Ch. Hist.* VI. 418 The two parties called each other by the heretical names, Azymites and Prozymites.

Azymous (æˈzɪməs), a. [f. L. *azym-us*, a. Gr. ἀζυμος + -OUS.] Unleavened.

1797 CHAMBERS *Cycl.*, *Azymus*. 1763 *Dict. Arts & Sc.* I. 238/2 The Latin Church... maintain, that the bread in the mass ought to be azymous.

B.

B (bē). The second letter of the Roman alphabet, ancient and modern, corresponding, in position and power, to the Greek *Beta*, and Phoenician and Hebrew *Beth*, whence also its form is derived; representing the sonant labial mute, or lip-voice stop consonant. The plural has been written Bees, B's, Bs.

c 1000 *Ælfric Gram.* iii. (Zup. 6) þā cōre nixon consonantes synd gecwedenne mvtæ, þæt synd dumble. hi ne synd ná mid ealle dumble, ac hi habbað lytle clyppunge. þás ongyrnanð of him sylfum and geendjað on þám clyppendlicum stafum. b, c, d, e, f, g, h, i, j, k, l, m, n, o, p, q, r, s, t, u, v, w, x, y, z. 1871 *II.* 239 þis eire lernede first his a, bi, ce. 1588 *SHAKS.* *L. L. L.* v. ii. 42 Beateous as Incke. Faire as a text B. in a Coppie booke. 1610 *Chester's Tri.* (1844) Addr. 23 The chiefest part of this people-pleasing spectacle, consisted in three Bees, viz. Boyes, Beasts, and Bels. 1688 *BUNYAN* *Holy War* Advt., Witness my name, if Anagram'd to thee, The letters make, Nu hony in a B. 1876 *Daily News* 8 July 5/2 He pronounces his P's like B's.

2. Phrases relating to the letter. Not to know a B from a bull's foot, Not to know a B from a battle-dore: to be entirely illiterate.

1401 *Pol. Poems* II. 57, I know not an A from the wyndmyne, ne a B from a bole foot. 1609 *DEKKER Guls Horne-Bk.* 3 You shall not neede to buy booke, no, scorne to distinguish a B from a battle dore. 1660 *HOWELL Eng. Prov.* 16 He knoweth not a B. from a battle-door. 1846 *BRACKENRIDGE Mod. Chivalry* 43 There were members who scarcely knew B from a bulls-foot.

II. Used, like the other letters of the alphabet (see *A*, the letter), to indicate serial order, with the value of *second*, as quire B, the second 'quire' or sheet of a book, 'Horse Artillery, B Brigade, B and C Batteries, Woolwich;' (b., b.) the left-hand page or verso of a leaf, the second column of a page. The following uses are more special:

1. In *Music*: In England the 7th note of the scale of C major, which is called H in Germany, where B means the English B flat. B was the first note modified by a semitone in the musical scale, whence the signs b, originally a b with round bottom (= B b, Fr. *B rond*), and ♭, originally a b with square bottom (= B ♭, Fr. *B carré*), which since c 1620 have been applied as indicating 'flat' and 'natural' to all notes of the scale. A piece of music 'in B' has as its main scale that beginning with B.

[c 1450 *Burlesque* in *Rel. Ant.* I. 83 Every clarke. seythe that a-re gotha before be-my.] 1597 *MORLEY Introd. Mus.* 3 Every key hath but one cleife except b fa, b mi. 1731 *SWIFT Apollo Wks.* 1755 IV. i. 161 For he could reach to B in alt. 1873 *A. COLERIDGE Moscheles* I. 271 Mendelssohn.. played his charming Capriccio in B minor. 1879 *CURWEN Mus. Theory* 73 The fourth [note] in the key of F is B flat.

2. In *abstract reasoning, hypothetical argumentation, law*, etc., B is put for a second or another person or thing. (Cf. *A* II. 4.)

1797 *TOMLINS Law Dict.* s.v. *Agreement*, If a bond or note be given by A, the more effectually to enable B. to bring about a match, etc. 1870 *BOWEN Logic* 207 The two categorical formulas A is B, or A is not B. 1879 *BROWNING Dram. Lyrics Wks.* III. 92 A's book shall prop you up, B's shall cover you.

3. In *Algebra*: b. (see *A* II. 5.)

III. Abbreviations.

1. B. (*Music*) Bass, Basso. B. (*Chem.*) Boron. b, δ, born. B. (*in Academic degrees*) Bachelor, or its Latin equivalent *baccalaureus*, as B.A. (or A.B.) Bachelor of Arts; B.C.L. Bachelor of Civil Law; B.D. Bachelor of Divinity; B.L. Bachelor of Law, also (Fr.) *Bachelier-ès-lettres*; B.S. Bachelor of Surgery; B.Sc. Bachelor of Science; LL.B. (*Legum Baccalaureus*) Bachelor of Laws; M.B. Bachelor of Medicine. B. (b.) in *Cricket* 'Byes', b. bowled by. In other combinations as B.C. Before Christ. B.C. Bad character; a mark formerly set on a soldier on his expulsion from his regiment for gross misconduct; B. and S. Brandy-and-soda; B.V. (*Beata Virgo*) The Blessed Virgin.

2. B. or B. flat, a humorous euphemism for *bug* (*Cimex lectularius*).

1853 *DICKENS Househ. Words* XX. 326 A stout negro of the flat back tribe—known among comic writers as B flats. 1867 *Cornh. Mag.* Apr. 450 That little busy B. which invariably improves the darkness at the expense of every offering traveller. 1881 *T. HUGHES Rugby Tenn.* 58 An insect suspiciously like a British B. flat.

† *Ba*, v. *Obs. rare*. [Prob. a nursery or jocular word, imitating the action of the lips in an infant's kiss; but cf. OF. *ba-r*, *bee-r*, to open the mouth, gape.] To kiss, as a child. In the second quot. it seems to be used substantively for the action of kissing. (Cf. OF. *baie*, opening of the mouth.)

c 1386 *CHAUCER Wyf's Prol.* 433 How mekly lokith Wilkyn our sheep! Com ner, my spouse, let me ba thy cheke. a 1599 *SKELTON My darling dere* 9 With ba, ba, ba, and bas, bas, bas, She cheryshed hym both cheke and chyn.

Ba, early form of *Bo* a. *Obs. both*.

Baa (bā), v.; also 7-9 ba(e). [Formed in imitation of a sheep's or lamb's bleat; cf. Norm.F. *bai*, Cat. *be*, sheep.] To bleat.

a 1506 *SIDNEY (J.)* Like a lamb, whose dam away is set, He treble baas for help. 1607 *SHAKS. Cor.* II. i. 12 He's a

Lambe indeed, that baes like a Beare. 1765 *C. SMART Phadrus* (Bohn) III. xiv. 506 You little fool, why, how you ba! This goat is not your own mamma. 1877 *A. B. EDWARDS Up Nile* vi. 138 Our sacrificial sheep.. comes baaing in the rear.

Baa (bā), sb. Forms: 6-7 *bae*, *ba*, (7 *Sc. bae*), 7- *baa*, 9 (*reduplicated*) *ba-ba*. [f. prec. vb.] The cry of a sheep or lamb; a bleat.

1589 *Pappe w. Hatchet* (1844) 37 They have no propertie of sheepe but bae. c 1600 *Ever-Green* (1761) II. 58 With mony a Bae and Bleit. 1870 *Daily News* 11 Oct. We civic sheep have set up so loud a ba-ba that we have terrified the wolves. 1877 *BLACKIE Wise Men* 264 The snow-white lamb.. fills the solitude with tremulous bae.

b. *Comb.*, as *bae-waumenting*, -wailing; *baa* (h)-ling, a little lamb; *baa-lamb*, nursery equivalent of 'lamb.'

1580 *SIDNEY Arcadia* (1622) lxix. 77 Still for thy Dam with bae-waumenting crie. a 1649 *DRUMM. OF HAWTH. Poems Wks.* (1711) 4/s There bae-wailing strays A harmless lamb. 1854 *THACKERAY Newcomes* 2 Silly little knock-kneed baah-ling.

Baad, obs. f. *bade*, pa. t. of *BID*.

Baaing (bā'ing), vbl. sb. [f. *BAA* v. + -ING¹.] The crying or bleating of a sheep.

1834 *MARRIAT N. Forster* xxxi. The ba-aing and bleating. 1868 *MAX MÜLLER in Macm. Mag.* Nov. 57 Can we admit.. that those who imitate the baaing of the sheep name the animal?

Baaing, ppl. a. [f. as prec. + -ING².] Crying baa like a sheep; fig. noisily silly.

1818 *KEATS Endym.* III. 3 There are... who unpen Their baaing vanities to browse away The comfortable green and juicy hay from human pastures.

Baake, obs. form of *BAKE* v.

|| *Baal* (bā'āl). Pl. *Baalim*. [Heb. בַּעַל *ba'al* lord.] The chief male deity of the Phoenician and Canaanitish nations; hence, *transf.* false god.

1388 *WYCLIF Judg.* ii. 13 The sones of Yrael.. serueden to Baalym and Astarothe. 1535 *COVERDALE ibid.*, Serued Baal and Astarothe. 1609 *MILTON Ode Nativ.* xxii. Peor and Baalim Forsake their temples dim. 1835 *J. ANDERSON Disc. Elijah* App. 352 The title of Baal or Lord thus bestowed upon the objects of idolatry.

b. *attrib.* as in *Baal-priest*, -worship. 1831 *CARLYLE Sart. Res.* II. ix. There are True Priests, as well as Baal-Priests. 1863 *N. & Q.* 26 Sept. 251 Baal-worship prevailed in the pre-Christian era.

Baal, obs. form of *BAIL* v.

Baal-fire: see *BALE-FIRE*.

Baalish (bā'āl'ish), a. [f. prec. + -ISH.] Of or belonging to Baal; idolatrous. (In 17th c. applied opprobriously to the Roman Catholic worship; so with the three following.)

1690 *Ussiah & Jotham* 16 Mistaken zeal.. Made unfore-seeing Levites, Baalish Tools.

Baalism (bā'āl'izm), [f. *BAAL* + -ISM.] The worship of Baal; idolatry.

a 1665 *E. CHALONER Six Serms.* (1629) 38 Hath not superstition and Baalism infected.. our land? 1650 *FULLER Pisgah* IV. vii. 130 In the interim betwixt the Judges, Baalism was first brought into Israel. 1868 *MASSON in Macm. Mag.* Aug. 325 Baits to idolatry and Baalism.

Baalist (bā'āl'ist), [f. *BAAL* + -IST.] A worshipper of Baal; *transf.* a worshipper of false gods or idols, an idolater. (Opprobriously, = Romanist.) a 1603 *T. CARTWRIGHT Confut. Rhem. N. T.* (1618) 134 Baalists.. calling for fire to be sent. a 1618 *SYLVESTER Tobacco Batt.* 190 (D.) Tobacco's smoke-mists.. from the Iberian Baalists. 1642 *N. WARTON in Archæol.* XXXV. 332 (D.) Our soldiers could not forbear dauncing in the holie quire, whereat the Baalists were sore displeased.

Baalite (bā'āl'it), [f. *BAAL* + -ITE.] = prec. *Baalistical* (bā'āl'it'ikāl) a., of Baal or Baalites.

1639 *SANDERSON Serms.* II. 134 Elijah once said to the Baalites, etc. 1822 *KEATS Isabel* lvii. Those Baalites of pelf, Her brethren. 1659 *W. BROUGH Sacr. Princ.* 558 No Argument thus to fall to.. Baalistical Worship.

Baard, 'a sort of sea vessel or transport ship.' (*Old Records*.) Bailey 1721.

Baas, *Baate*, obs. forms of *BASE*, *BATE*.

† *Bab*, *Obs.* A former nursery word for *dad* or *papa*. [Cf. *BABA*; also It. *babbo* *papa*, *dad*.]

1598 *FLORIO, Pappa*.. the first word children vse, as with vs *dad* or *daddie* or *bab*.

Bab, earlier, and now dial. form of *BABE*.

Bab, dial. form of *BOB*, a bait for eels.

*Baba*¹ (ba'ba), an infantile variant of *pa'pa*, *papa*. Cf. *BAB*.

1863 *KINGSLEY Water-Bab.* 48 Sitting down and crying for his baba (though he never had any baba to cry for).

|| *Ba'ba*², [Fr.] A kind of light plum-cake.

c 1864 *FRANCATELLI Cook's Guide* 298 Particular care should be taken in baking the baba to prevent its acquiring a deep colour. 1868 *GOUFFE Cookery Bk.* (1869) 533 Butter a babamould, 6 inches in diameter.

Ba'bacoote, [ad. Malagasy *ba-bako-to*.] The largest species of lemur (*Lichanotus brevicaudatus*) found in Madagascar.

1880 *J. SIBREE Gt. African Isl.* xiv. 270 The.. Babacoote is believed by the Betanimena tribe to be an embodiment of the spirits of their ancestors.

† *Ba'ban*, *ba'bbon*. *Obs.* [Origin uncertain: apparently from infantile utterance. (The similar Celtic words are all late; some of them prob. from English.)] = *BABE*, *BABY*, 1, 2.

c 1230 *Ancre. R.* 234 Weope efter him, ase deð þet lutel baban [v.r. barn] efter his moder. 1570 *LEVINS Manip.* 163 Babbon, *pupus*.

† *Ba'bbart*, *Obs.* [Origin unknown: cf. *BOB* v., dialectally *bab*; the termination is prob. -ARD.] An old appellation for the hare.

c 1300 *Names of Hare in Rel. Ant.* I. 133 The stele-away, the momelart, The evele i-met, the habbart.

Babbelyinge, obs. form of *BABBLING*.

† *Ba'bbber-lipped*, a. *Obs.*; also 4 *babber-lipped*, 5 *babyrlyppyd*. [Origin of *babber* unknown; cf. prec., also *F. babine* lip of a horse, bear, etc., and see *blabber-lipped* (1485), *blabber-lipped*.] Having thick projecting lips.

1377 *LANGL. P. Pl.* B. v. 190 He was bitelbrowed and babberlipped also. c 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 20 Babbyrlyppyd, *labrosus*. 1607 *Lingua* III. vi. in *Hazl. Dods.* IX. 404 An old.. babber-lipped.. slave that, looking himself by chance in a glass, died for pure hate.

Babbie, *babby*, *Sc.* and north dial. f. *BABY*.

† *Ba'bbin*. *Obs.* [variant of *BAVIN*.] A faggot or bundle of brushwood.

1711 *E. WARD Quix.* I. 412 Sancho found another Cabbbin, And for his Pillow took a Babbbin. 1732 *Disc. Potatoes* 33 If broom can be had, babbins or faggots of that will do.

Ba'bbiting. [f. prec. + -ING¹.] A fitting of Babbitt-metal.

1880 *Libr. Univ. Knowl.* II. 79 The journals being so made that the babbitting may be readily renewed.

Babbitt-metal. [Also *Babbitt's metal*; f. name of the inventor.] A soft alloy of tin, antimony, and copper, used in journal-bearings, etc., to diminish friction.

1875 *URS Dict. Arts, Babbitt's Metal*.. composed of 25 parts of tin, 2 parts of antimony, and 1 part of copper.

Babbative (bæ'blätiv), [f. *BABBLE* v. + -ATIVE. Cf. *talkative*.] Given to babbling; prattling, prating, loquacious.

1583 *Philotimus* (Halliiv.) He was.. neither to bablative withe flattery, nor to whurst with morosie. a 1664 *Br. M. SMYTH Serms.* (1632) 265 Sad with the graue, babbative with praters. 1829 *SOUTHEY Sir T. More* (1831) I. 350 Professors of the arts babbative and scribbulative. 1838 *CARLYLE in Froude Life in Lond.* v. I. 139 Sterling particularly argumentative, babbative, and.. unpleasant.

Babble (bæ'b'l), v. Forms: 3-4 *babel*, 4-8 *-le*, 6 *-yl*, -il, 6- *babble*. [Cf. Du. and LG. *babbelen*, Ger. *pappelen* (*bappelen*), Da. *bable*, Icel. *babbla* (not known in OE., ON., OHG.); *F. babiller*, 15th c. in Littré; cf. also It. *babbolare* to play the baby. In some of these languages probably adopted from others; in none can its history be carried far back; as yet it is known in English as early as anywhere else. Probably formed (with frequentative suffix *-le*; cf. *prattle*) on the repeated syllabic *ba, ba*, one of the earliest articulate sounds made by infants, fitly used to express childish prattle. No direct connexion with *Babel* can be traced; though association with that may have affected the senses.]

I. *intransitive*.

1. To make imperfect attempts at speech, like a child; to utter inarticulate or indistinct sounds.

1362 *LANGL. P. Pl.* A. v. 8 And so I babilide [v.r. babilide, blaberde, blaberd] on my Beodes. 1534 *MORE Conf. agst. Trib.* II. Wks. 1187/2 They heard her tongue bable in her head.. after that the head was from the bodye. 1560 *Disob. Child* in *Hazl. Dods.* II. 295 When the child waxeth somewhat old, For meat and drink he begins to babble. 1607 *HIERON Wks.* I. 149 Nurses doe halfe chew the meate to the little ones, and doe babble with them in their owne stammering and vnperfitte language. 1842 *TENNYSON Dora* 132 And babbled for the golden seal, that hung From Allan's watch.

2. To talk childishly, to prattle; to talk incoherently or foolishly; to utter meaningless words.

1230 [see *BABBLING* ppl. a. 2]. 1503 *HAWES Examp. Virt.* vii. 102 For ye without wytt sholde alway bable. 1599 *SHAKS. Hen. V.* II. iii. 17 (Theobald), And a babled of greene fields. 1610 *Br. CARLETON Jurisd.* 248 As they bable in their decretals. 1799 *SHERIDAN Pizarro* I. 1, They only babble who practise not reflection. 1838 *DICKENS Nick. Nick.* I. 4 His reason went astray.. for he babbled, for a long time, about the generosity and goodness of his brother.

3. To talk excessively or inopportunistly; to chatter, prate.

c 1510 *BARCLAY Mirr. Good Mann.* (1570) Aj, Olde men which haue vsed in time passed to bable in barbarike language. 1560 *TINDALE Matt.* vi. 7 When ye praye, bable not moche, as the gentylis do. 1599 *SHAKS. Much Ado* III. iii. 36 For the Watch to babble and talke.. is not to be indured. 1663 *Br. PATRICK Farab. Pilgr.* 227 Ever chattering and babling as if they had obtained a patent for prating. 1847 *TENNYSON Princ.* III. 237 And let me tell you, girl, Howe'er you babble, great deeds cannot die.

4. *transf.* of streams, brooks, etc.; also of young

birds, and *spec.* of hounds that give tongue too loudly or without reason.

1399 *Pol. Poems* (1859) I. 395 The nedy nestlings . . babble with her billis. 1612 MARKHAM *Countr. Content.* II. iii. 22 If any young Hound will . . run babbling away without the scent. 1777 SIR W. JONES *Pal. Fort.* 27 Echo babbling by the mountain's side. 1812 COMBE (Dr. Syntax) *Pictur.* xxi. (D.) And when they babble in their din, I am a special whizzer-in. 1860 TENNYSON *Brook*, I bubble into eddying bays, I babble on the pebbles.

† 5. † To waver, oscillate, quiver. *Obs.* [Perhaps a distinct word.]

† 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 20/1 Bablyn, or waveryn, *Librillo.*

II. transitive.

6. To repeat or utter with meaningless iteration; to speak foolishly or incoherently; to prate.

1418 *Pol. Poems* (1859) II. 244 To babble the Bible day and night. 1548 COVERDALE *Erasm. Par. Rom. Prol.* Though he babble neuer so many thinges of fayth and good workes. 1651 WITTIE tr. *Primrose's Pop. Err.* IV. xlviii. 405 That which he babbles concerning the spirit of the World. 1847 BARNHAM *Ingol. Leg.* (1877) 232 Mere unmeaning talk her parch'd lips babbled now.

7. To reveal by talking or chattering. Cf. *blab*.

1568 J. HEYWOOD *Prov. & Epigr.* (1867) 96 Who heareth all, And all babbleth. 1795-1804 DISRAELI *Curr. Lit.* (1859) II. 338 The Queen . . impatiently babbled the plot. 1852 D. MITCHELL *Dream Life* 15 Griets too sacred to be babbled to the world.

Babble (bæ'b'l), *sb.* Forms: 5-6 *bable*, 6-*babble*. See *BIBBLE-BABBLE*. [f. the vb. Cf. F. *babil*, 15th c. in Littré.]

1. Inarticulate or imperfect speech, such as that of infants; prattle.

1668 R. LESTRANGE *Vis. Querc.* (1708) 5 The Conjuror granted my request, and the Spirit went on with his Bable. 1864 TENNYSON *En. Ard.* 607 The babes, their babbles. 1871 DARWIN *Desc. Man* II. 55 Man has an instinctive tendency to speak, as we see in the babble of our young children.

2. Idle, foolish, or unseasonable talk; prating. 1460 *Play Sacr.* 648 Avoide fealows, I loue not your bable. 1513 MORE *Rich. III* Wks. 57/1 Neither mute nor ful of bable. 1658 BRAMHALL *Consecr. Bps.* VI. 138 He had greater matters to trouble his head withall, then Mr. Holywoods bables. 1865 CARLYLE *Frederick. Gt. X.* xxi. ix. 182 A great deal of unwise bable on this subject.

3. Confused murmur, as of a stream. 1646 BEAUM. & FL. *Wit without M.* v. 164 This Sack has fill'd my head so full of bables, I am almost mad. 1870 MORRIS *Earthly Par.* II. iii. 13 Nought he seem'd to hear Save the brook's bable.

Babblement (bæ'b'l'mənt). [f. *BABBLE* v. + -MENT. Cf. mod. F. *babillement* (not in Cotgr.).]

1. Incoherent, imperfect, or idle talk; thoughtless or unseasonable chatter, babble.

1644 MILTON *Educ. Wks.* 1738 I. 136 Deluded all this while with ragged Notions and Babblements. 1834 CARLYLE *Fr. Rev.* II. iii. vii. 174 A spoken Word meaning a Thing, and not a Babblement meaning No-thing. 1860 TYNDALL *Glac.* I. § 23. 167 The babblement of streams.

2. Open-mouthed communication of news, secrets, etc.

1850 BLACKIE *Æschylus I.* 124 Lest some one hear, and, with swift babblement, Inform their ears who rule.

Babbler (bæ'blə). Also 6-8 *bablar*. [f. *BABBLE* v. + -ER. Cf. *babelard*.]

1. A foolish or idle talker, chatterer, prater.

1530 PALSGR. 196/1 Babler, *babillart*. 1535 COVERDALE *Eccles. x.* 11 A babler of his tongue. 1693 EVELYN *De la Quint. Compl. Gard.* I. 13. I do not like a great Babler, who talks of nothing but his Skill. 1781 COWPER *Expost.* 502 Babler of ancient fables. 1860 KINGSLEY *Misc.* II. 162 Englishmen are no babblers; they are a dumb, dogged people.

2. One who tells too freely what he knows; a prating gossip, a teller of secrets.

1850 HOLLYBRAND *Treas. Fr. Tong.* *Babillard*, a babler . . a little tattler. 1625 BACON *Ess.* (1874) 19 For who will open himself to a Blab or a Babler? 1781 COWPER *Friendship xvii*, Asperion is the babler's trade, To listen is to lend him aid. 1858 BYRON *Werner v.* i. We must have no third babblers thrust between us.

3. A hound that gives tongue too freely.

1738 BERKELEY *Alciphir* Wks. 1732 I. 169 You shall often see among the Dogs a loud Babler, with a bad Nose, lead the unskilful. 1735 SOMERVILLE *Chase* IV. 66 The vain Babblers shun, Ever loquacious, ever in the wrong.

4. Name given, on account of their harsh chattering note, to the Long-legged Thrushes.

1830 PENNY *Cycl.* s.v. *Merrulida*, Subfamily *Crateropodina*, Babbler. Legs remarkably long and strong, with the claws but slightly curved. 1873 TRISTRAM *Moss* xiii. 250 The bulbul, the bush babbler, the Moabit sparrow.

† **Babbler**. *Obs.* In 6 *babelary*, *bablarie*, -erie. [f. *BABBLE* v. + -RY; cf. F. *babillerie* in Cotgr.] Idle chatter, babble, prating.

1532 MORE *Confut. Tindale Wks.* 494/1 A longe babelary, parte to no purpose and parte plaine heresie. 1567 DRANT *Horace Epist.* II. ii. Hiv. He kills me with his bablarie. 1593 STUBBS *Motive Gd. Wks.* 115 Deceyve the world no longer with your bableries for filthy lucre sake.

† Confused with *BABERY* or *BAUBERY*.

1583 STUBBS *Anat. Abus. Mijb*, Wherin is painted some bablerie or other of imagery woork. *Ibid.* 222 Toyes, fantasies, and bableries.

Babbling (bæ'blɪŋ), *vbl. sb.* [f. *BABBLE* v.]

1. Incoherent talk, idle chatter, babblement.

1380 WYCLIF *Wks.* (1880) 190 Preiere of holy lif . . not of bablyng of lippis. 1535 COVERDALE *Prov. x.* 19 Where moch bablyng is, there must needs be offence. 1611 BIBLE

Prov. xxiii. 29 Who hath contentions? who hath babbling? 1869 FREEMAN *Norm. Conq.* (1876) III. xl. 17 All this prophetic talk was but the babbling of an old man.

2. *transf.* Cf. *BABBLE* v. 4.

1686 *Gentil. Recr.* I. 15 Babbling . . is when the hounds are too busy after they have found a good scent. 1736 SWIFT *Wks.* (1841) II. 131 The little church bells shall cease their babbings. 1837 HAWTHORNE *Amer. Note-Bks.* (1871) I. 59 No noise . . but the babbling of the stream.

† 3. † Wavering, oscillation. Cf. *BABBLE* v. 5.

† 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 20/1 Babelynge or wauerynge, *Vacillacio, librillacio*.

4. *attrib.*, as in *babbling-place*, -school, etc.

1650 SHERWOOD, A babbling place (where gossips meet), *caquetteiro*. 1653 MILTON *Hirelings Wks.* (1851) 387 Bred up for Divines in babbling Schools.

Babbling, *ppl. a.* [f. as prec. + -ING. 2.]

1. Making imperfect efforts at speech.

1579 TOMSON *Catwin's Serm. Tim.* 187/1 The Papists will pray in a mumbling and babbling sort. 1688 SCOTT *F. M. Perth* III. 85 The babbling cry of childhood.

2. Chattering, prating, foolishly talkative.

1530 *Anec. R.* 100 To babellende, and to spekefule ancren. 1588 SHAKS. *Tit. A.* IV. ii. 150 A long tongu'd babbling Gossip. 1735 POPE *Prolog. Sat.* 304 Such babbling blockheads. 1855 MILMAN *Lat. Chr.* (1864) II. iii. v. 71 His degradation was concealed from a babbling and censorious world.

3. *transf.* Cf. *BABBLE* v. 4.

1588 SHAKS. *Tit. A.* II. iii. 17 The babbling Echo mock's the Hounds. 1610 FLETCHER *Faithful Sheph.* III. i. Here never durst the babbling Cuckow spit. 1735 SOMERVILLE *Chase* I. 281 A lagging Line Of babbling Curs. 1814 WORDSW. *Wh. Doc* III. 257 The scorn Of babbling winds.

Babblingly, *adv.* [f. prec. + -LY. 2.] In a babbling manner, with babblement, chatteringly.

1603 T. CARTWRIGHT *Confut. Rhem. N. T.* (1618) 562 Irksomely and bablyngly repeated. 1868 C. S. [CALVERLEY] *Verses & Transl.* 157 Thou shalt be a royal fountain . . From yon cavernous mountain Thou breakest babblingly.

† **Babblish**, *a. Obs.* [f. *BABBLE* sb. + -ISH. 1.] Full of idle talk. **Babblishly**, *adv.*, babblingly.

1574 WHITGIFT *Defence* 262 (R.) Is this the reverence due to the scriptures, thus bablyshly to abuse them?

Babbly (bæ'bli), *a.* [f. as prec. + -Y. 1.] Full of babble, chattering, prating, garrulous.

1865 CARLYLE *Frederick. Gt. IV.* xii. vii. 177 'For the times are babbly [Ger. *geschwätzig*],' says Goethe, 'And then again the times are dumb.' 1868 — in *Froude's Life* (1882) I. 317 In his babbly way.

Babbon, variant of *BABAN*, *Obs.*, baby.

Babe (bæ'b). Also 5-7 *bab*. [Prob. a contraction of *BABAN*; cf. *Tom, Will, Gib, Hugh*, and similar pet-names. Now superseded in ordinary use by its own diminutive *BABY* (cf. *Tommy, Willie*, etc.), and retained chiefly as a literary and poetic word. *Babe*, and not *baby*, is used in the Bible.]

1. An infant, a young child.

1393 GOWER *Conf. I.* 290 How this babe all bloody cried. 1460 *Townley Myst.* 140 Alas, my bab, myn innocent. 1540 HYNDRE *Vivier Instr. Chr. Wom.* (1592) V. v. Blessed of God from his babes age. 1557 N. T. (Genev.) 1 John ii. 1 My babes, these things write I vnto you, that ye synne not. 1605 SHAKS. *Macb.* IV. i. 30 Finger of Birth-strangled Babe [rimed, drab, slab]. 1770 GOLDSM. *Des. Vill.* 381 And kiss'd her thoughtless babes with many a tear. 1807 CRABBE *Par. Reg.* I. (1810) 70 Recorded next a Babe of love I trace!

† 2. A doll, puppet; = *BABY* sb. 2. *Obs.*

1530 PALSGR. 196/1 Babe that children play with, *pouppee*. 1570 SPENSER *Sheph. Cal.* May 240 Bearing a truss of trifles . . As bells, and babes, and glasses in hys packe. 1595 SHAKS. *John* III. iv. 58, I should forget my sonne Or madly thinke a babe of clowts were he.

3. *fig.* A childish person; = *BABY* sb. 5. *Babes in Christ*: newly-made converts to Christianity.

1526 TINDALE *I Cor.* III. 1 As vnto carnall, even as it were vnto babes in Christ. 1588 A. KING *Canisius Catech.* 53 Wavering babes carried about with everie wind of doctrine. 1611 BIBLE *Transl. Pref.* 1 Hee was no babe, but a great cleare. 1771 WESLEY *Wks.* (1872) VI. 6 Even babes in Christ are in such a sense perfect.

4. *Comb. and Attrib.*; cf. *BABY* sb. B.

1647 H. MORE *Song of Soul* III. App. lxxxvi. A young babe-soul from thence to gain. 1826 SCOTT *Woodst.* xx. We, the babe-eaters, had too many acquaintances at Brentford. 1855 TENNYSON *Maud* II. i. 13 He came with the babe-faced lord. 1868 *People's Mag.* 1 Apr. 213 (*title of verses*) Babe-wisdom.

Babee, *obs. form* of *BABY*.

Babehood, *arch.* [f. *BABE* + -HOOD.] Infancy. 1548 UDALL, etc. *Erasm. Par. Pref.* 2 His minority of tendre babehood. *Ibid.* Luke II. (R.) The strengthlesse babehood of the body.

Babel (bæ'bel). [a. Heb. בָּבֶל *bābel*, Babylon; associated in Genesis with the idea of 'confusion,' but not referable to any known Semitic root; according to Prof. Sayce, for Assyrian *bāb-ilu* gate of God, or *bāb-ili* gate of the gods, the Assyrian rendering of the Accadian *Ca-dimtra* (see *Trans. Soc. Bibl. Archaeology* I. 198, 309).]

1. The city and tower, of which the attempted construction is described in *Genesis* ix, where the confusion of languages is said to have taken place; hence a. a lofty structure; b. a visionary scheme.

1382 WYCLIF *Gen.* xi. 9 Therfor was callid the name of it Babel, for there was confoundid the lippe of all the erthe. 1667 MILTON *P. L.* III. 468 And still with vain designe New Babel, where they wherewithall, would build. 1793 MAUNDRELL *Journ. Jerus.* (1721) 16 What remains of this mighty Babel . . is no more than twenty Foot high. 1711 STEELE

Spect. No. 167 p. 3 The fond Builder of Babels. 1847 TENNYSON *Princ.* IV. 59 Let be Their cancell'd Babels.

2. A scene of confusion; a confused assemblage. 1625 FLETCHER *Nt. Walker* (T.) All the chambers Are a mere babel, or another bedlam. 1703 MAUNDRELL *Journ. Jerus.* (1721) 48 A mere Babel of broken Walls. 1731 SWIFT *Repeal Test Act* (T.) The whole babel of sectaries joined against the church. 1860 G. MORRIS *Poems* 173 We are only two, dear brother, in this babel wide!

3. A confused turbulent medley of sounds.

1559 SKELTON *EL Rummyng* 387 A clatterynge and a babel Of folys fylly. 1863 KINGSLEY *Water Bab.* I. 32 Such a noise, row, hubbub, babel, shindy, hullabaloo. 1884 *Manch. Exam.* 16 Sept. 47 This confused and confusing babel of . . idle oburgations.

4. *Comb.*, mostly *attrib.*, in which *babel* approaches the character of an adj. (= 'confused, turbulent,' or 'lofty, huge'), as in *babel-confusion*, -sea, -sound, -tower; also *babel-builder*; *babel-scheme*, a visionary project.

1746 HERVEY *Medit.* (1818) 39 God from on high laughs at the 'Babel-builder. 1653 BAXTER *Chr. Concord* 101 Sion is not built by the 'Babel-confusions. 1729 SAVAGE *Wanderer* II. v. (D.) The traitors rear their 'Babel-schemes. 1853 KINGSLEY *Hypatia* v. (1879) 67 The 'Babel sea which weltered up and down every street. 1816 SOUTHEY *Poet's Pilgr.* I. Wks. X. 20 All disregard of the 'Babel sound. 1848 DICKENS *Dombey* (1870) I. vi. 99 'Babel towers of chimneys.

Babel, *obs. form* of *BAUBLE* and *BABBLE*.

† **Babelard**, *Obs.* [f. *BABBLE* v. + -ARD; prob. after F. *babillard*.] A babbler, chatterer.

1678 MRS. BEHN *Sir P. Fancy* I. i. 237 They [men] are the greatest Babelards in Nature.

Babelary, -ery: see *BABBLERY*, *BAUBLERY*.

† **Babelavante**, *Obs.* [connected with OF. *babeler* to make sorry jests, or with *BAUBLE*, q.v.]

1400 *Chester Plays* II. 34 Sir Cayphas, harken nowe to me, This babelavante of ur Kinge woulde be.

Babeldom (bæ'bel'dəm). [f. prec. + -DOM.] A state of things like that at Babel; noisy confusion.

1882 *Contemp. Rev.* Nov. 681 Reverence has few dedicated Temples in the Babeldom of nineteenth century England.

Babelet (bæ'blét). A tiny babe.

1867 J. MACGREGOR *Rob Roy on Baltic* 277 One of these babes carried in her arms a still smaller babelet.

Babelind, *obs. form* of *BABLING*.

† **Babelish**, *a. Obs.* [f. *BABEL* + -ISH.] Of the nature of a babel, noisily confused.

1605 *Camden's Rem.* (1636) 40 Brings the same to a Babelish confusion. 1656 BLOUNT *Glossogr.* s.v. *Babel*, Hence 'tis we use *babelish* for *confused*.

Babelism (bæ'beliz'm). [f. *BABEL* + -ISM.] Noisy confusion of speech; strange utterance.

1834 *Notices of Louth* 269 Hungry critics . . with their usual acrimony and Babelism. 1865 *Athenaeum* 15 July, They forthwith read what is presented to them, reproducing to a nicety . . all the queer Babelisms.

Babelize (bæ'beləiz), *v.* [f. *BABEL* + -IZE.] To make a babel of, bring to confusion.

1600 *Tourneur Transf. Met.* xi. Her high esteeme is of high heav'n despis'd; O see ere long her Babeliz'd. 1880 B. SOLYMS *Exp. Soudan*, To putrefy the language into several thieves' lingoes, to babelize literally.

† **Babery**, *Obs.* Also 4 *babeuwry*, -erie, 6 *baberie*. [perhaps orig. a spoken or written corruption of *babuwryrie*, *BABOONERY*; in later use f. *BABE*, *BABY* sb. 4.] Grotesque ornamentation in architecture and books; grotesque absurdity.

1384 CHAUCER *H. Fame* 1189 (Caxton) Many subtil compassynges, As babeuwryes [v.r. *baberies*, *rabewryes*, *rabewynnes*] and pynacles, ymageryes and tabernacles. 1400 *Desir. Troy* v. 1563 Ymagry over all . . Of festes and babery. 1580 SIDNEY *Arcad.* Verses x. 181 Trim bookes in velvet dight With golden leaves and painted baberie. 1613 SIR F. HOBY *Counter-snarle* 13 Thus might I stuffe much paper, with many like vnsauoury Baberies. 1678 PHILLIPS *App.*, *Baberies* (old word), anticq shapes, ridiculous forms of things. 1775 ASH, *Babery*, the finery with which children are delighted. *Baberies*, odd kind of antic words, silly things.

† **Babeship**, *Obs.* [f. *BABE* + -SHIP.] Infancy.

1548 UDALL *Erasm. Apoph.* 172 From his tendre babeship . . nousleed in the preceptes of philosophie. 1679 T. GOODWIN *Wks.* (1863) VII. 477 Out of their babeship.

Babewen, -ewyn(e), *obs. forms* of *BABOON*.

|| **Babiana** (bæbi'ā-nā, -ānā). *Bot.* [mod. L., f. Du. *Babianer*, given to the plants because their subterranean stems are eaten by baboons.] A South African genus of bulbo-tuberous *Iridaceae*, with handsome yellow, purple, or scarlet flowers.

1835 *Penny Cycl.* III. 226/1. 1882 *Garden* 27 May 358/3 Those strange Babianas which one so seldom sees in their beauty in our English gardens.

Babie, *Babil*, *obs. forms* of *BABY*, *BABBLE*.

|| **Babillard** (babil'ā'r, bæ'bilaud). [F., f. *babiller* to chatter: see -ARD. Cf. *BABELARD*, and *BABBLER* 4.] The CHATTERER, a small bird.

1802 in G. MONTAGU *Ornith. Dict.* (1833) 15. 1851 *Gardener's Chron.* 581 The Babillard, a little bird of passage.

Babingtonite (bæ'bɪŋtɒnɪt). *Min.* [named after Dr. Babington, physician and mineralogist: see -ITE.] A bisilicate of iron and lime, with manganese and magnesia, found in greenish-black crystals at Arendal in Norway, and elsewhere.

1837-68 DANA *Min.* 227.

† **Babion**, *Obs.* Also 6-7 -oun, 7 -an. [a. F. *babion* 'a babion or baboone' in Cotgr., 'a kind of

small monkey' in Littre, who takes it as distinct from *babouin* BABOON, and formed on 'a radical *bab* found in *babiole*'; cf. BAUBLE. It was apparently identified in Eng. with *baboon*, and seems also to be the immediate source of L.G. *bavian*, Du. *baviana*, G. *pavian*, baboon.] A baboon; an ape; applied in contempt to persons.

1599 B. JONSON *Cynthia's Rev.* i. i. Neither your . . satyr, nor your hyena, nor your baboon. 1610 — *Alch.* v. i. 14 For Baboons, or Puppets. 1605 DRAYTON *Man in Moore* 341 The nimble Baboon. 1607 — *Mooncalf* in *Agincourt*, etc. 173 Of all the rest that most resembled man, Was an o'r-worne ill-faoured Babian. 1624 MASSINGER *Parl. Love* iv. v. Farewell, babions.

Babiroussa, -russa (bābirū'sā). Zoology. Forms: 7 *barbiroussa*, 8-9 *babiroussa*, -rouessa, *babiroussa*, 9 *babiroussa*, -russa. [f. Malay *bābi* hog + *rūsa* deer; also in Fr. and mod.L.] A species of wild hog (*Babirussa alfurus*) found in the islands of Eastern Asia, the upper canine teeth of which, in the male, pierce the lip and grow upwards and backwards like horns; also called Hog-deer, Indian hog, Horned hog.

1696 W. MOUNTAGUE *Delights Holland* 85 Barbiroussa is half Hart, half Hog. 1774 GOLDSM. *Nat. Hist.* II. 112 The babiroussa is still more remote from the hog kind than the capibara. 1883 *Athenæum* 1 Dec. 706/3 A male and two female babiroussas . . from Celebes. 1883 *Illustr. Lond. News* 8 Sept. 243/2 We present a few sketches of the Babiroussa . . recently presented to the Society.

† **Babish**, v. Obs. Also 5-6 *babish* (e). [f. OF. *baubiss*-lengthened stem of *baubir* to mock, ridicule; cf. *babuse*, *babuise*, mockery. Perhaps influenced in use by *babish* adj.] To scoff at, scorn; to treat with contempt as mere children.

c. 1460 *Townley Myst.* 78 *Joseph*. They excused hir thus sothly . . And babished me that was old. 1548 UDALL, etc. *Erasm. Par. John* vii. The Pharisee had babished the simple people with fained and colde religion. 1549 OLDE *Erasm. Par.* i. Tim. ii. 15 We do not thus babyshe woman-kynde, as though we would exclude them from . . salvation. [Cf. Sc. 'Babish, To scoff, to gibe; to browbeat' Jam.]

Babish (bā'bis), a. arch. [f. BABE + -ISH.]

1. Of or befitting a babe; infantile, baby-like. 1550 MORE *Confut. Tindale* Wks. 593/2 Their deedes . . verie babishe and veniall. c. 1670 BUNYAN *Conf. Faith* Wks. 72 The actors herein have been counted babish Christians. 1845 SINGLETON *Virgil* II. 459 Her babish darts From tender hand she flung.

2. contemptuously. Babyish, childish, silly. 1553-57 FOXE *A. & M.* 1573/1 You babishe infantes and noddies. 1653 S. FISHER *Baby Bapt.* To Rdr. 2 Empty Answers, absolute Absurdities, Babish Bafflings. 1775 ASH, *Babish*, childish, trifling.

† **Babished**, a. Obs. rare-1. [Cf. BABISH v.] Made babyish or childishly silly.

1555-75 ASP. PARKER *Corr.* 109 What with my . . overmuch shamefastness, I am so babished in myself, that I cannot raise up my heart . . to utter in talk, etc.

† **Babishly**, adv. [f. BABISH a. + -LY².] In the manner of a babe or infant.

c. 1603 T. CARTWRIGHT *Confut. Rhem. N. T.* (1618) 147 Childishly and babishly deluded. 1625 USSHER *Answ. Jesuit* 493 Our Challenger . . will hardly find one Father . . that ever spake so babishly herein.

† **Babishness**. Obs. Babyishness. 1557 RECORDE *Whetst.* Y iij b. So were it plaine babishness, to couet euery morsell. c. 1603 T. CARTWRIGHT *Confut. Rhem. N. T.* (1618) Pref. 15 This babishness of translation.

† **Babism**. Obs. rare-1. [f. BABE + -ISM.] A childish practice.

1653 S. FISHER (title), *Baby-Baptism* meer Babism.

† **Bablatrice**, nonce-wd. ? Female babbler.

1595 LOCRIE 26 (Halli.) O you cockatrices and bablatrices That in the woods dwell.

Bable, obs. spelling of *BABBLE*, found also in all its derivatives: cf. prec. and next. Also obs. form of BAUBLE.

Babliaminy, nonce-wd. A babbler.

1608 MIDDLETON *Trick to Catch* iv. v. Wks. II. 84 Out, you babliaminy, you unfeathered, cremitted quean.

|| **Baboo** (bā'bu). [Hindi *bābū*.] orig. A Hindoo title of respect, answering to our *Mr.* or *Esquire*; hence, A native Hindoo gentleman; also (in Anglo-Indian use), a native clerk or official who writes English; sometimes applied disparagingly to a Hindoo or, more particularly, a Bengali, with a superficial English education. Hence *Baboodom*, -ism.

1788 *India Gaz.* 12 Oct. (*Subscription-list*), Cantoo Baboo . . 200 Sicca Rupees. 1823 HEBER *Indian Jnl.* 11 Oct. Some of the more wealthy baboos (the name of the native Hindoo gentleman answering to our *esquire*). 1854 STOCQUER *Brit. India* 120 The sircar, baboo, purvoo, or whatever he may be called, is the chancellor of the exchequer, and it is not unseldom . . that his master is his debtor. c. 1866 A. LYALL *Old Pindaree* I'd sooner be robbed by a tall man . . Than be fleeced by a sneaking Baboo. 18 . . *Pall Mall Gaz.* 18 July 11 Baboodom is making ready for its great protest against education or any other cess. c. 1879 ABERIGH-MACKAY 21 *Days in India* 49 However much we may desire to diffuse Babooism over the Empire.

Baboon (bābū'n). Forms: 4 *baboyne*, *babewyne*, 5 *babewyn*, -ewin, -ewen, -wyn, -wen, *baubyn*, 6 *babound*, *baboyne*, *babwyne*, 6-7 *baboune*, *baboune*, 6- *baboon*. [a. F. *babuin*

(13th c.), mod. *babouin*, or ad. med.L. *babewynus* (used in England 1295, see Du Cange), found also in the forms *babouinus*, *babouynus*, *babwynus* (some, if not all, of which are merely latinized from F. or Eng.); = It. *babuino*, Sp. *babuino*. French has also *babion*, treated by Littre as a distinct word, but in Eng. identified with *baboon*, and the source of L.G. *bavian*, Du. *baviana*, HG. *pavian*, baboon. The earlier history of the word is unknown.

Diez suggests connexion with F. *babine* the thick lip of a cow, dog, monkey, compared with dial. Ger. *bäppe* muzzle. Scheler, from its application also to children, refers it to same root as *babe* or It. *babbolo*, etc.; others compare med.L. *papio* (see PAPIOUN), a kind of wild dog mentioned by Jac. de Vitriaco, and Maundeville. Finally we may compare OF. *babau*, *babou*, *baboue*, *babouye*, a grimace, a 'mouth', *faire la baboue* 2, to make mouths at. According to Daunon (*Hist. Lit.* xvi. 39), in 13th c., med.L. *babuinare* meant 'to paint marginal figures in MSS.', and F. *babouin* was equivalent to *humorioso*; in the earliest known F. quotation in *Le Dit des xxiii manières de vilains* (13th c.), *li vilains babuins* is a simoleon or ninny, who gapes at the statues in front of Notre Dame while his purse is cut from behind. The original meaning, and the order of the senses, thus remain quite uncertain.]

† 1. A grotesque figure (perhaps of a *baboon* in sense 2) used in architecture or decorative work. [Cf. 1405 Test. Ebor. I. 317 Ciphus deauratus, coopertus . . de aquiliis, leonibus, coronis, et aliis babonibus.]

c. 1395 E. E. Allit. P. B. 1409 Lyfte logges per-ouer & on lofte coruen, Pared out of paper & poynted of golde, Brope babouynes abof, bestes an vnder. 1430 LYDG. *Chron. Troy* ii. xi. The corue knottes by craft of masonry, The freshe enbowing w' prytes ryght as lynes, And the housyng ful of babewines [printed backwines]. c. 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 20/1 Babewyn, or babewen (1409 *babwyn*, or *babwen*), *delippus*, *ipos*, *figmentum*, *chimera*. 1506 GREENE *Upst. Courtier* (1871) 38 Like a half face baubyn in brass. 1861 *Our Eng. Home* 72 Among the jewels of Edward II was a spice-plate 'enamelled with baboons.'

2. A member of one of the great divisions of the *Simiade* or Monkeys, distinguished by a long dog-like snout, large canine teeth or tusks, capacious cheek-pouches, and naked callosities on the buttocks; they are inhabitants of Africa, Southern Asia, and the adjacent islands.

c. 1400 MAUNDEV. xii. 238 Babewynes, Apes, Marmesettes, and othere dyverse bestes. 1481 CAXTON *Reynard* (Arb.) 98, I wende hit had be a mermoyse, a baubyn, or a mercattie. 1530 PALSGR. 106/1 Babwyne beest, *babwyn*. 1605 SHAKS. *Macb.* iv. i. 37 Coole it with a Baboones blood. 1774 GOLDSM. *Nat. Hist.* II. 354 The baboon . . is from three to four feet high. 1834 [See APP 2.] 1840 MACAULAY *Hist. Eng.* iv. I. 480 His forehead low as that of a baboon.

3. *fig.* as a term of abuse; cf. *ape*.

c. 1500 *Robin Hood* (Ritson) xi. 238 He then began to storm, Cries Fool, fanatic, baboon! 1596 NASHE *P. Penitence* E j b. Is it anie discredit for me, thou great babound . . to be censured by thee? 1658 WYLLIE *Brit. Rememb.* i. 977 Such Apes, and such Baboones, As Parasites, and impudent Buff-foones. 1678 WYCHERLEY *Pl. Dealer* ii. i. 25 No chattering, Baboons, instantly be gone.

4. Comb. baboon-bird; (see quot.)

1883 I. THURN *Indians of Guiana* 116 The bird (*Threnadus Militaris*) called in the colony baboon-bird from the resemblance of its deep note to the 'baboon.'

Baboonery (bābū'nēri). Also 4 *babwynrie*. [Cf. F. *babounerie* 'apishness, fopperie, foolerie' (Cotgr.), f. *babouin* : see prec. and -ERY.]

† 1. Grotesque ornamentation: cf. BABERY. Obs. 1383 WYCLIF *Wks.* i. (1880) 8 3if bei drawnen be peple . . by coryouste of gaye wyndownes . . peyntnyngis and babwynrie.

2. A collection or colony of baboons; cf. *rookery*. 1613 CHAPMAN *Masque Mid. Temp.* (D.) A vast, witherd and hollow tree, the bare receptacle of the Baboonerie.

3. Baboonish condition, conduct, or behaviour. c. 1848 MARRYAT *R. Reefer* xix. The improvement . . that baboonery had made toward manhood. 1857 *Nat. Mag.* II. 168 Oranges which he demolished in a style of the most perfect baboonery.

Baboonish (bābū'nif), a. [f. BABOON + -ISH¹.] Resembling a baboon; baboon-like.

1824 GALT *Rothelan* III. 277 The baboonish-looking visage of the Italian. 1824 MISS FERRIER *Inheritance* i. ii. (D.) A long, wrinkled, smirking, baboonish physiognomy.

† **Baboonize**, v. Obs. -o [f. BABOON + -IZE.]

1611 Cotgr. *Babounner*, to baboonize it; to play the monkey; to use apish or foolish tricks, or knaush pranks.

|| **Babouche** (bābū'sh). Also 7 *baboushe*, 9 *baboush*. [a. F. *babouche* (cf. Sp. *babucha*), a. Arab. بابوش *bābūsh*, ad. Pers. پاپوش *pāpōsh* a slipper, f. *pā* foot + *pōsh* covering, *pōshī-den* to cover. The change from *p* to *b* is seen also in *pasha*, *bashaw*.] A Turkish or Oriental slipper.

1695 MOTTEUX *St. Olon's Morocco* 90 They have Shooes, or rather Slippers, without Heel's, call'd Baboushes. 1863 (*Daily paper*), Boots of red leather . . encased in babouches of black leather.

Baboun(e, -ound, -oyn(e, obs. ff. BABOON.

Babtyrn, obs. form of BAPTISM.

|| **Babulina**. [fem. of mod.L. *babulinus* BABOON, = F. *babouine*.] A female baboon.

1882 *Pop. Sci. Monthly* XX. 398 An old babuina.

† **Baburd**. Obs. Sc. Also 6 *bawburd*. [a. F. *bābord*, adopted from Teutonic; cf. OE. *bæc-bord*, Ger. *bakbord*, Du. *bakbord*.] = LARBOARD.

[c. 1825 K. ELPHED Oros. i. i. § 20 Burgenda land was us on bæc-bord.] 1513 DOUGLAS *Æneis* v. iv. 20 Betwixt the rok

and Gyas schip On bawburd fast the innar way he leit slip. c. 1570 R. SEMMILL *Fleming Berge*, With steirburd, baburd, luf and lie. c. 1605 MONTGOMERIE *Poems* (1821) 238 On baburd syde, the whirling of the sand.

Babwen, -yn, -ynrie, obs. ff. BABOON, etc.

Baby (bā'bi), sb. Forms: 4-6 *babi*, 5 *babee*, 6 *babye*, 6-7 *babie*, 4- *baby*; 6-9 *dial. baby*. [A pet-form of *BABE* (see -Y⁴), which passed into familiar use, while *babe* remained as the dignified word (e.g. in Scripture) and is now chiefly poetic.]

1. An infant, a young child of either sex. (Formerly synonymous with *child*; now usually restricted to an infant 'in arms'.)

1377 LANGL. *P. Pl.* B. xvii. 94 With penaunce and passion of pat babi. 1393 GOWER *Conf.* I. 165 The yonge babies crieden alle. c. 1475 *Babes Book* 45 Yee Babees in housholde that done duelle. 1533 BELLEDENES *Livy* v. (1822) 438 We bere na armoure aganis babyis. 1611 SHAKS. *Wint.* 7. ii. i. 6 You'lle kisse me hard, and speake to me, as if I were a Baby still. 1771 FENNING *Eng. Dict.*, *Baby*, a young child, distinguished from 'babe', because that is applied to children who can both walk and speak, but this to those who can do neither. 1804 TENNYSON *En. Ard.* 194 Lightly rocking baby's cradle. 1805 DICKENS *Mut. Fr.* 3 'The fire that warmed you when you were a baby.'

† 2. A doll, puppet. Obs.

1558 HULOET, *Baby* or puppet for chyldren, *Pupa*. 1563 *Homilies, Idolatry* iii. (1844) 238 Puppets and babies for old fools in dotage. 1651 LILLY *Chas.* I (1774) 219 Whose father sold babies and such pedlary ware in Cheapside. 1712 STEELE *Spect.* No. 500 P 3 Little girls tutoring their Babies. 1721 POPE *Let. Blount* 3 Oct. Sober over her Sampler, or gay over a jointed Baby.

† 3. The small image of oneself reflected in the pupil of another's eye; hence to look babies. Obs.

1593 *Tell-trothe's N. Y. Gift* 39 That babe which lodges in womens eies. 1621 BURTON *Anat. Met.* iii. ii. vi. v. (1651) 576 They may kiss and coll, lye and look babies in one anothers eyes. 1678 MARVELL *Reh. Transp.* i. 66 Only to speculate his own Baby in their eyes. 1688 Mrs. BEHN *City Heiress* iii. i. Sigh'd, and lookt Babies in his gloating Eyes.

† 4. *pl.* Pictures in books; perh. orig. the ornamental tail-pieces and borders with cupids and grotesque figures interworked (cf. BABERY). Still in north dial.

1598 SYLVESTER *Du Bartas* (1621) 5 We gaze but on the babies and the cover, The gaudy flowers and edges painted over. 1618 HALES *Gold. Rem.* (1673) 11. 8 Provided that, in the Tables and Maps, there were no pictures and babies. 1645 FULLER *Hist. Camb.* (1840) 39 More pleased with babies in books than children are.

5. *fig.* (contemptuously) A foolish or childish fellow. To smell of the baby: to be childish.

1603 *Patient Grisail* 17 My brisk spangled baby will come into a stationer's shop. 1618 BRETON *Court. & Country* 19 (D.) So long in their horne booke that, doe what they can, they will smell of the Baby till they can not see to read. 1660 MILTON *Free Commonwealth*. Wks. (1851) 430 If we were aught els but Sluggards or Babies.

6. *transf.* The young of an animal; cf. B. i. a.

1823 G. ALLEN in *Knowledge* 18 Aug. 97/2 While he [the young hare] is still a baby.

7. *fig.* A (comparatively) tiny thing; cf. B. i. a. 1849 JEPHSON *Britannia* vii. 88 Turrets beside which the leaning tower of Pisa is a baby.

B. Comb. (in which *baby* approaches in use to an adj.)

1. General relations: a. appositive (hence = 'little, tiny'), as *baby-boy*, -figure (1606), -germ, -girl, -stream, (and of animals) *baby-bird*, -elephant, -snake; b. objective gen. with verbal sb. or pple., as *baby-eater*, -seller (1634), -worship, -farming; c. similitive, as *baby-blind* (1627), -mild; d. attrib. (of or befitting a baby), hence = 'infantine, innocent,' 'little, tiny,' 'babyish, silly,' as *baby age*, *brow* (1605), *dance*, *face*, *hand*, *mind*, *sole*, *talk*; e. attrib. (for a baby's use), as *baby-basket*, -clothes, -clouds, -linen, -things (1783); f. parasynthetic deriv., as *baby-faced*, -featured (1780).

1634 BAYNE *On Coloss.* 357 The 'baby age of the Church. 1824 Q. VICTORIA *More Leaves* 168 The 'baby-basket sent her . . when King James I. was born. 1864 KINGSLEY *Water Bab.* 279 An old song . . learnt when she was a little 'baby-bird. 1627 H. BURTON *Baiting Pop's Bull* 6 Filiall, or rather 'baby-blind obedience. 1605 SHAKS. *Macb.* iv. i. 88 Weares vpon his 'Baby-brow, the round And top of Souerainty. 1820 Mrs. BROWNING *Poems* II. 174 'Baby-browed And speechless Being. 1770 J. LOVE *Cricketer* 7 Leave the dissolving Song, the 'Baby Dance. 1848 KINGSLEY *Saint's Tragg.* i. l. 40 Worshippers of black cats, 'baby-eaters, and such like. 1864 *Reader* 14 May 626 The mind of a 'baby elephant. 1773 SWIFT *Cadenus & V. Wks.* 1755 III. n. 16 A 'baby face, no life, no air. 1823 A. DONNE in *Eng. Illust. Mag.* Nov. 79/2 That 'baby-faced beauty. 1780 COWPER *Progr. Error* 201 'Baby-featured, and of infant size. 1606 SHAKS. *Tr. & Cr.* i. iii. 345 The 'baby figure of the Gyant-masse Of things to come at large. 1842 TENNYSON *Talking Oak* xx, She gamboll'd on the greens, A 'baby-germ. 1871 M. COLLINS *Mry. & Merch.* i. l. 16 The Marchioness had a 'baby-girl. 1792 E. DARWIN *Bot. Gard.* n. 64 Feeds from its 'baby-hand . . The callow nestlings. A 1845 HOOD *Lycus Poems* (1858) 307 The leopard was . . 'baby-mild in its feature. 1784 COWPER *Tusk* v. 190 Infirmit 'baby-minds. 1634 J. HORNK *Janna Ling* 123 'Baby-sellers [nuggetvendi] boast and speak proudly. 1804 TENNYSON *Aylmer's F.* 186 Tender pink five-beaded 'baby-soles. 1864 *Realist* 15 June 5 Ravines from which Jumna, Indus, and Ganges, yet 'baby streams, gush. 1850 MARG. FULLER *Wm.* in 19th C. (1862) 311 To talk 'baby-talk and give shallow

accounts of deep things. 1783 AINSWORTH *Lat. Dict.*, "Baby things, *linamenta ad infantes recens natos involvendum*."

2. Special combinations: **baby-farmer**, one who takes in infants to nurse for payment, whence **baby-farming**, etc.; **baby-house**, a doll's house, also, a toy-house barometer or hygrometer from which little dolls issue to indicate changes of weather; **baby-jumper**, a hoop or frame suspended by an elastic attachment, so that a young child secured in it may exercise its limbs; **baby-like** *a.*, babyish, infantile, *adv.* as a baby does.

1824 *Chr. World* 10 July 513/3 "Baby-farming was vigorously denounced. 1750 H. WALPOLE *Lett. H. Mann* 218 II. 359 The Prince is building "baby-houses at Kew. 1779 MACKENZIE in *Mirror* No. 21 P. 2 The little Dutch barometers, known by the name of "Babyhouses. 1801 MAR. EDGEMORTH *Good Fr. Gov.* (1831) 107, I see neither .. dressed dolls, nor "baby-houses. 1803 *Edin. Rev.* II. 141 "Baby-like caprice. 1858 GEN. P. THOMPSON *Audi Alt.* I. xxx. 116 If a man sees his child gored to death .. does he say "baby-like, "O naughty oxen!"

Baby (bē'bi), *v.* [f. prec.] To treat as a baby. 1745 *Young Nt. Th.* VI. 521 It babies us with endless toys. 1865 MRS. WHITNEY *Gaydorthys* I. 240, I should like to be made much of, and tended—yes, babied.

Babydom, *rare*. [See -DOM.] = next.

1864 *Daily Tel.* 14 Sept., The young foal or filly must be raced in its babydom.

Babyhood (bē'bihud), [f. BABY *sb.* + -HOOD; cf. senses of *manhood*.] *a.* The period or condition of infancy. *b.* Babies collectively. *c.* Babyishness, childish folly.

1748 RICHARDSON *Clarissa* (1811) IV. 208 Had she not been known to be a female, they would not from babyhood have dressed her as such. 1860 MISS YONGE *Stokesley Secr.* iii. (1880) 262 An affront to all babyhood. 1860 GEN. P. THOMPSON *Audi Alt.* III. cxiv. 45 All the malevolence and babyhood of the country rush to display themselves.

Babyish (bē'biif), *a.* [f. BABY *sb.* + -ISH.] Childish, simple, silly.

1753 RICHARDSON *Grandison* (1820) I. xv. 96 To me she has a babyish look, especially when she smiles. 1868 G. DUFF *Pol. Surv.* (1868) 159 Too babyish to deserve even the semblance of consideration.

Babyishly, *adv.* [f. prec. + -LY.] In a babyish manner; childishly.

1860 *Rutledge* 29, I felt rather babyishly about it. 1884 J. GOLDSMITH *Himself Again* iii. 29 He felt, almost babyishly, that she might take him and make him what she wished him to be.

Babyishness, [f. as prec. + -NESS.] The quality of being babyish; childish silliness.

Babyism (bē'biizm), [f. BABY *sb.* + -ISM.]

1. Babyish condition, babyhood.

1836 J. DOWNES *Mt. Decem.* II. 232 Alas for the babyism of man, this thing of yesterday.

2. Babyishness; babyish phrase or action.

1837 *Blackw. Mag.* XLI. 280 The solemn littlenesses of Lord John Russell and the babyisms of Lord Morpeth. 1864 TENNYSON *Aylmer's F.* 539 Babyisms and dear diminutives.

Babyl, *obs.* form of BABBLE.

Babylon (bæ'bilən), *sb.* [a. L. *Babylōn*, Gr. *Βαβυλών*, Heb. *בָּבֶל* *Bābel*.] A magnificent city, once the capital of the Chaldean Empire; also, the mystical Babylon of the Apocalypse; whence, in modern times, applied polemically to Rome or the papal power, and rhetorically to any great and luxurious city.

1362 LANGL. *P. Pl.* A. vi. 8 Bethlehem and Babiloyne, I have ben in boþe. 1634 RAINBOW *Labour* (1635) 41 Thy great Babilons which thou hast built. 1823 BYRON *Juan* xi. xxi, The approach .. to mighty Babylon [= London].

+ Babylon, *v.* *Obs. rare*—1. [f. prec. *sb.*] To place or establish in a magnificent abode.

1633 F. GREVILLE *Calica* vi. xxxviii, In mortal seat of Calica's faire heart, To Babylon My selfe theredid intend.

Babylonian (bæ'bilōniən), *a.* and *sb.* [f. L. *Babyloni-us*, Gr. *Βαβυλωνίος* + -AN.]

A. adj. Of or belonging to Babylon; hence *fig.* *a.* huge, gigantic; *†b.* popish (*obs.*); *c.* (cf. *Rev.* xvii. 4) scarlet.

1633 GILLESPIE *Eng. Pop. Cerem.* n. vii. 28 The Babylonian baggage of Antichristian Ceremonies. 1790 BURKE *Fr. Rev.* 41 The confused jargon of their Babylonian pulpits. 1821 DE QUINCEY *Confess.* Wks. I. 131 No huge Babylonian centres of commerce towered into the clouds. 1848 DICKENS *Dombey* (1870) I. v. 89 A cocked hat and a Babylonian collar.

B. sb. An inhabitant of Babylon; hence *fig.* *†a.* papist (*obs.*), *b.* astrologer.

1864 *Brief Exam.* *** iii, We dwell not among the Babylonians and Chaldees. 1877 GILPIN *Dæmonol.* (1867) 192 For from good bishops .. they are become incurable Babylonians. 1795 SOUTHEY *Lett. Fr. Spain* (1799) 76 Here the Babylonian [= Romish Church] walks the street in full dress scarlet.

Babylonic (bæ'bilōnik), *a.* [ad. L. *Babylōnicus*.] = prec. *adj.*

1624 SELDEN *Titles Hon.* 154 After the Babylonique captiuitie. 1853 KANE *Grinnell Exp.* xlix. (1856) 467 The terraces of a Babylonian tower.

+ Babylonical, *a.* *Obs.* [f. as prec. + -AL.] Of or belonging to Babylon; hence *fig.* *a.* Romish, popish, *b.* Babel-like, disorderly, tumultuous.

1535 COVERDALE *Bible* Ded., Much bound .. to your grace for delivering us out of our old Babylonian captivity. 1547 *Homilies* I. x. i. (1850) 105 There reigneth all .. Babylonical confusion. 1597 J. PAYNE *Royal Exch.* 38 The Babylonical extermination by Cyrus.

+ Babylonically, *adv.* [f. prec. + -LY.] In a Babylonish manner; sumptuously, luxuriously.

1599 NASHKE *Lent. Stuffe* in *Harl. Misc.* VI. 162 He is attended upon most Babilonically.

Babylonish (bæ'bilōnif), *a.* [see -ISH.]

1. Of, belonging to, or made at Babylon.

1535 COVERDALE *Josh.* vii. 21 A costly Babilonish (WYCLIF, read) garment. 1738 WESLEY *Psalm* cxxxvii, Fast by the Babylonish Tide .. We dropt our weary Limbs. 1861 *Sat. Rev.* 21 Dec. 645 Babylonish bricks and Assyrian bulls.

2. *fig.* *†a.* Romish, popish (*obs.*); *b.* Babel-like, confused in language.

1590 BARROW in *Confer.* i. 10 The Antichristian yoke of these Babilonish Bishops. 1654 GAGE (*title*), A clear Vindication of the .. Parochial Ministers of England, from the .. injurious nickname of Babylonish. 1663 BUTLER *Hud.* i. i. 93 A Babylonish Dialect, which learned Pedants much affect. 1816 GILCHRIST *Philos. Etym.* 128 This is the kind of Babylonish lexicography of Johnson's Dictionary, which gives twenty-four meanings, or shadows of meaning, to the word *from*.

Babylonism, [f. as prec. + -ISM.]

1. *fig.* Popery. *Obs.*

1610 BR. HALL *Apol. Brownists* 129 They baptize the seed of them who are no members of any visible church. Mere Babylonism. 1645 [so in PAGITT *Heresiogr.* (1661) 73.]

2. A Babylonian word or phrase.

1853 DELITZSCH in *Athenæum* 25 Aug. 239/2 A good many such "Babylonisms" .. are now to be discovered in Aramaic.

Babylonize, *v. rare*. [f. as prec. + -IZE.] To make Babylonian. Hence Babylonized *ppl. a.*

1607 DEKKER *Wk. Babylon* Wks. 1873 II. 229 Fugitives Whose hearts are Babylonized. 1701 BEVERLEY *Apoc. Quest.* 24 The Babyloniz'd manners of the Jews of Old.

Babylolatry, *nomce-wd.* [f. BABY *sb.*; cf. *marolatry*; see -LATRY.]

1846 *Cham. Jm.* Feb. 129 Child-worship, or babylolatry.

Babyrouessa, -rouessa, *obs.* ff. BABIROUSSA.

Babysh (e, *obs.* form of BABISH.

Babyship (bē'biʃip), [f. BABY *sb.* + -SHIP.]

a. = BABYHOOD. *b.* The personality of a baby.

1617 in MINSHEU. 1628 HERRICK *Hesper.* (1844) II. 48 Is it a trespass, if we three Should wend along his babyship to see? 1693 W. ROBERTSON *Phrasol. Gen.* 193 Babyship or Infancy.

+ Bac, *obs. rare*—1. [App. a corrupt form. Cf. OE. *bæg* (ME. *bēg*, *beigh*) and ON. *baugr*, ring, armilla, etc.] A chaplet.

1300 in WRIGHT *Lyric P.* xxv. 70 That thou me havest ben so fr. Thy beak of thornes, thy nayles thre.

+ Bac (2) (bæk). [Fr.; see also BAC *sb.* 2.]

1. A flat-bottomed French ferry-boat; a ferry.

1672 COLES, *Bac*, a ferry. 1753 CHAMBERS *Cycl. Supp.*, *Bac*, in navigation, is used for a pram, or ferry-boat. 1867 in SMYTH *Sailor's Word-bk.* [Cf. 'St. Augustine's Back' at Bristol.]

2. In *Brewing and Distilling*: see BAC *sb.* 2.

Bac, *obs.* form of BACAL.

+ Bacalao (bakālāo). Also 6-7 bacalow, 8 baccalio, -alao, 9 bacallao. [a. Sp. *bacallao* cod-fish, according to early navigators the native name in Newfoundland or the adjacent mainland.] Cod-fish.

1555 R. EDEN *New World* III. vi. (1885) 161 Cabot him selfe named those landes *Bacallaos*, bycause that in the seas ther about he found so great multitudes of certeyne bigge fysshes .. which thinhabitanes caule *Bacallaos*. 1598 STOW *Surv.* (Strype 1754) II. v. xvii. 362/2 Merchants trading in Spain and Portugal [export] .. Pilchards, Salmon, Poor Jack or Bacalao. 1766 *Gentl. Mag.* 121 Fishing upon the banks of Newfoundland for baccalao. 1766 *Lond. Chron.* 14 Feb. 160 Large Baccalio and fine old Ling.

b. Bacalao-bird:

1865 GOSSE *Land & Sea* 44 Guillemots' eggs, in Newfoundland well known by the name of Bacalao-birds' eggs.

Bacare, *baccare*, variants of BACALARE.

+ Bacalaur, -or. *Obs. rare*. [ad. med. L. *baccalaurus*, corrupt form of *baccalarius* (see BACHELOR), with some imaginary reference to *bacca lauri*, the laurel berry.] = BACHELOR (Academic).

1661 RAY *Three Itin.* II. 159 Students .. of the third [year] they call baccalours [at Glasgow]. 1695 KENNETT *Par. Antiq.* ix. 619 John Barber, Baccalaur of both Laws.

Baccalaurean (bakālōrēan), *a.* [f. med. L. *baccalaure-us* + -AN.] Of or befitting a bachelor.

1845 *Bachel. Albany* (1854) 30 Precision and taste rigidly baccalaurean. 1849 J. BROWN *Horæ Subs.* Ser. I. 18 That quiet comfortable baccalaurean habitation.

Baccalaureate (bakālōrēat), [ad. med. L. *baccalaureātus*, f. *baccalaureus*; see prec. and -ATE.]

1. The University degree of bachelor.

1665-69 *Sc. Acts Chas. I.* (1814) V. 73 [JAM.] Degrees of baccalaureat, licentiat, and doctorat. 1708 C. MATHER *Magn. Chr.* iv. Introd. (1852) 25 The degrees of a baccalaureate and a doctorate in divinity.

2. = BACHELOR. (By Longfellow used *metri gratiā*, perh. with reference to *laureate*.)

1696 in PHILLIPS. 1868 LONGF. *Dante's Par.* xxiv. 46 [He] as baccalaureate arms himself.

3. *attrib.* quasi-*adj.* in *Baccalaureate-sermon*: a farewell discourse delivered to a graduating class in some American colleges.

1864 O. W. HOLMES *Soundings fr. Atl.* 72 A baccalaureate sermon of President Hopkins. 1884 *Nonconf.* 10 July 66/1 Baccalaureate sermons are now being preached by the most eminent clergymen.

Baccalio, *obs.* form of BACALAO.

+ Baccara, -at (bakārā). [a. F. *baccara*.] A

game at cards played for money between a banker and several punters.

1866 *Daily Tel.* 13 Jan. 5/2 Baccarat, bad luck, and bankruptcy. 1883 OUIDA *Wanda* I. 190 You must not steal: you may beggar your friend at baccara. 1884 *Law Times Rep.* 30 Aug. 808/2 Baccarat, being a game of cards other than a game of mere skill, was an 'unlawful game.'

Baccate (bæ'kæt), *a.* *Bot.* [ad. L. *baccātus*.]

1. Bearing berries; bacciferous, berried.

1836 in LOUDON *Encycl. Plants* Gloss.

2. Of the nature of a berry, berry-like.

1830 LINDLEY *Nat. Syst. Bot.* Introd. 31 The fruit of all Grossulaceæ is baccate.

Baccated, *ppl. a.* [f. L. *baccātus*, *baccātus*, set with pearls, f. *bacca* berry, pearl; see -ATE.]

1. Set with pearls. *Obs.* 1731 in BAILEY.

2. Berried, berry-bearing. 1731 in BAILEY.

Baccato (bæ'kætō), *comb.* form of BACCATE, as in *baccato-tuberculosis*, with berry-like tubercles.

1854 DANA *Crust.* i. 203 Carapax .. baccato-tuberculous.

Bacchanal (bæ'känäl), *a.* and *sb.* Forms: 6 bacochinal, 7 bacchinal, bacchanal(e, -nel, bacchenal, 6- bacchanal. [ad. L. *bacchānālis*, also *baccā-, bācā-*, f. *Bacchus*, Gr. *Βάκχος* god of wine.]

A. adj.

1. Of or pertaining to Bacchus or his worship. 1550 NICOLLS *Thucyd.* 50 (R.) Unto whom was yearly celebrated the feast bacchanal. 1789 BURNBY *Hist. Mus.* I. 61 Styles of Melopoeia; (1) the Dithyrambic or Bacchanal.

2. Indulging in drunken revelry; riotously drunken, roystering.

1711 SHAFESB. *Charac.* (1737) III. 364 A bacchinal nymph. 1768 FALCONER *To Dk. York* 144 Exulting with bacchanal rage. 1818 BYRON *Ch. Har.* iv. Ded., The bacchanal roar of the songs of exultation.

B. sb.

1. A priest or priestess, votary, or devotee of Bacchus; a Bacchant or Bacchante.

1590 SHAKS. *Mids. N. v.* i. 48 The riot of the tipsie Bacchanals. 1594 NASHKE *Unfort. Trav.* 85 Like a franticke Bacchinal, she stampet. 1853 ROBERTSON *Serm.* Ser. III. ix. 113 To them the bacchanal appeared a being half inspired.

2. A drunken reveller.

1812 BYRON *Ch. Har.* i. vi. And now Childe Harold .. from his fellow bacchanals would flee. 1841 H. SMITH *Moneyed Man* II. ix. 311, I detest myself, degraded bacchanal as I am.

3. (Usually *pl.*) A festival in honour of Bacchus. [L. *Bacchanalia*.]

1616 in BULLOKAR. 1636 HEALEY *Theophrast.* To Rdr., These were preparatives to those more solemn Bacchanals or Corivals [for Convivals]. 1705 STANHOPE *Paraphr.* III. 544 Intemperance and Excess in the Heathen Bacchanals was esteemed an Act of religious Joy.

4. An occasion of drunken revelry; an orgy.

1536 LATIMER *2nd Serm. bef. Convoc.* I. 52 The solemn and nocturnal bacchanals. 1673 *Lady's Call.* II. i. § 23 That a marriage-day is but a kind of bacchanal, a more licens'd avow'd revel. 1795 BURKE *Regic. Peace* IX. 118 At their debauches and bacchanals.

fig. 1860 SIR T. MARTIN *Horace* 110 Where mists and snows .. Hold reckless bacchanal.

5. A dance or song in honour of Bacchus.

1606 SHAKS. *Ant. & Cl.* II. vii. 110 Shall we daunce now the Egyptian Backenals? 1697 DRYDEN *Virg. Georg.* II. 693 Where Bacchanals are sung by Spartan Maids. 1780 COWPER *Table T.* 602 Genius danced a bacchanal.

6. A scene of revelry painted or sculptured.

1753 CHAMBERS *Cycl. Supp.*, *Bacchanalia*, *Bacchanals*, pictures or basso relievos, whereon the feast is represented, consisting chiefly of dancings, nudities, and the like. 1768 H. WALPOLE *Vertue's Anecd. Paint.* (1786) III. 32 A Bacchanal of .. naked boys, sitting on a tub, the wine running out.

+ Bacchanalia (bakčän'liä), *sb. pl.* [L., neut. pl. of *bacchānālis*; see prec. Formerly occas. treated in Eng. as sing., with pl. -as.]

1. The festival held in honour of Bacchus.

1753 CHAMBERS *Cycl. Supp.*, Tacitus gives an elegant description of the Bacchanalia. 1863 HAYDN *Dict. Dates* s.v., In Rome the Bacchanalia were suppressed, 186 b.c.

2. Drunken revelry; a tippling-bout, an orgy.

1633 MARMYON *Fine Comp.* II. iv, Drinks sack, and keeps his Bacchanalia. 1684 EVELYN *Mem.* (1857) II. 210 The squibs and bacchanalia of the Lord Mayor's Show. 1880 L. WALLACE *Ben-Hur* 283 The morning after the bacchanalia.

3. A drinking-song; cf. BACCHANAL *sb.* 5. *Obs.*

1681 EVELYN *Char. Eng.* Wks. (1805) 158 In taverns, chanting their dithyrambs and bestial bacchanalia.

4. = BACCHANAL 6. *Obs.*

1662 J. BARGRAVE *Pope Alex. VII.* (1867) 117 A bacchanalia piece, dug out of the temple of Bacchus.

Bacchanalian (bakčän'liän), *a.* and *sb.*; also 7 bacchan-, 8 bacchin-. [f. L. *bacchānāli-s*, BACCHANAL + -AN.]

A. adj.

1. Of, connected with, or relating to Bacchanals.

1623 *Paradox* in *Harl. Misc.* I. 267 Scarce sufficient to make a Bacchanalian sacrifice. 1623 COCKERAM, *Bacchanalian frowes*, Women-Bacchus-Priests. 1816 *Gentl. Mag.* LXXXVI. 4 An antique vase, with Bacchanalian masks.

2. Characterized by, connected with, or given to drunken revelry; riotously drunken, roystering.

1565 STOW *Chron.* (R.) Shamelesse drunken bacchanalian women. 1609 DEKKER *Gul's Hornet* (1812) 21 Or else, haunting taverns, desires to take the bacchanalian degree. 1750 JOHNSON *Rambl.* No. 71 ¶ 6 We are importuned by the bacchanalian writers to lay hold on the present hour. 1878 H. STANLEY *Dark Cont.* I. viii. 172 Began to chant in bacchanalian tones, a song that was tipsily discordant.

Baccarat glass?
1898, N. Y. *Even. Post*, Oct. 21,
At each of the four corners
of the [Balkan's Throne] in
[in Constantinople] for
candelabra in baccarat
glass are placed.

B. sb. A bacchanal, a drunken reveller, a tippler. 1677 ASHETON *Yrnl.* (1848) 50 All this morning we plaid the bacchanals. 1704 T. BROWN *To Eng. Lady Wks.* 1730 I. 66 Let Bacchanals. Hunt out champagne. 1870 ANDERSON *Missions Amer. Bd.* II. iv. 28 In all the disorder of a troop of bacchanals.

Bacchanalianism, Bacchanalism, bacchanalian practices, drunken revelry. **Bacchanalianly adv.,** with drunken revelry (in Webster 1864).

1855 *Scot. Rev.* 267 To lend the power of his genius to bacchanalianism. 1868 LADY WALLACE *Fredk. Gt.* II. 914 Four years of bacchanalism... which the Count had passed.

Bacchanalization (bæ'kænəlaɪzɪ'n). [f. next: see -ATION.] A turning into drunken revel.

1798 W. TAYLOR in *Month. Rev.* XXVII. 572 A bacchanalization of the eucharist.

Bacchanalize (bæ'kænəlaɪz), *v.* [a. F. *bacchanalizer* (Cotgr.): see BACCHANAL and -IZE.]

1. *intr.* To act as a bacchanal, indulge in revelry.

1656 BLOUNT *Glossogr.*, Bacchanalizer, to rage, play mad pranks, fare like mad men. 1851 S. JUDD *Margaret* II. ii. (1871) 196 Saints bacchanalizing.

2. *trans.* To turn into drunken revelry; cf. prec.

Bacchant (bæ'kænt), *sb.* (and *a.*) [ad. L. *Bacchant-ens*, *sb.* (in L. fem. only: see next) f. pr. ppl. of *bacchari*, ad. Gr. *Bakχa-iv* to celebrate with frenzied gestures the festival of Bacchus.]

A. sb. A priestess, priestess, or inspired votary of Bacchus; hence, a drunken reveller, roysterer.

1699 BOYER *Fr. Dict.* (1759), *Bacchante*, a Bacchant, a Priestess of Bacchus. 1774 *Westm. Mag.* II. 428 Bacchants reeling to the tipsy song. 1853 TRENCH *Proverbs* 134 The thyrus-bearers are many, but the bacchantes few.

B. as *adj.* Bacchus-worshipping, wine-loving.

1800 MOORE *Anacreon* iv. 15 Many a rose-lipped bacchant maid is culling clusters in their shade. 1811 BYRON *Juan* III. xliii. Over his shoulder, with a Bacchant air, Presented the overflowing cup.

Bacchante (bæ'kænt, bæ'kænt, bæ'kænt), *sb.* (and *a.*) [a. F. *bacchante*, ad. L. *Bacchantem*: see prec. The first pronunciation is after the Fr.; the third after It. (etc.) *baccante*, favoured perhaps by the fact that the plural (of both genders) is often *Bacchantes* (-æntɪz) after L.]

A. sb. A priestess or female votary of Bacchus.

1797 HOLCROFT in *Stolberg's Trav.* III. lxxvii. (ed. 2170) She capered with the intoxication of a Bacchante. 1811 L. HAWKINS *Cress & Gertr.* I. 313 Whether male or female, a bacchante, or a Silenus. 1847 LONGF. *Ev.* II. 2 To follow or guide the revel of frenzied Bacchantes.

B. attrib. as *adj.*: cf. BACCHANT.

1811 BYRON *Juan* IV. xcii. A Bacchante blooming visage. 1858 H. LEE *B. Godfrey* I. 283 Emmot laughed with her bacchante air.

Bacchantic (bæ'kæntik), *a.* [f. BACCHANT(-) + -IC.] Of or pertaining to the devotees of Bacchus.

1845 HIRST *Poems* 97 With Bacchantic figures glowing. 1876 N. AMER. REV. CXXVII. 53 Bacchantic dances.

Bacchar, baccar (bæ'kær). *Bot.* [a. L. *baccharis*, *bacc(h)aris* (also used in Eng.), a. Gr. *Bakχapis*, *Bakχapis* ('a Lydian word'), a plant with an aromatic root yielding oil.] A plant variously identified by botanists. (*Baccharis* is now applied to an American genus of *Compositæ*.)

1551 TURNER *Herbal* (1568) 57 a. Baccharis... in englishe sage of hierusalem. 1602 HOLLAND *Pliny* II. 85 Bacchar is named by some Rustick-Nard. 1616 SURFL. & MARKH. *Countr. Farm* 144 Against the colicke: take Asarum bacchar. 1753 CHAMBERS *Cycl. Suppl.*, *Baccharis*, *Bacchar*... commonly called ploverman's spikenard. 1855 SINGLETON *Virgil* I. 27 Her gadding ivies everywhere with baccaris, Shall earth unbosom. *Ibid.* 47 With baccar binding brow.

†Bacchation. *Obs.* -*o* [ad. L. *bacchation-em*, n. of action f. *bacchari*: see BACCHANT and -TION.] 'Riot, drunkenness.' Blount *Glossogr.* 1656.

†Bacchean, a. *Obs.* -*o* [f. L. *Bacchē-us*, a. Gr. *Bakχeios* + -AN.] 'Belonging to Bacchus, drunken, sottish.' Blount *Glossogr.* 1656.

Bacchian (bæ'kiæn), *a.* [f. L. *Bacchi-us*, a. Gr. *Bakχios* + -AN.] Having the attributes of Bacchus.

1850 LEITCH *Müller's Anc. Art* § 203 note, Antinous... is sometimes also represented as Bacchian, sitting on a panther.

Bacchic (bæ'kik), *a.* [ad. L. *Bacchicus*, a. Gr. *Bakχios* of Bacchus. Cf. F. *Bacchique*.]

1. Of or pertaining to Bacchus or his worship.

1669 GALE *Crt. Gentiles* I. II. iii. 30 The Bacchic Music was famous throughout Asia. 1736 STURKEY *Palaogr. Sacra* 39 (T.) The bacchic orgia were celebrated on the tops of hills. 1843 Mrs. H. GRAY *Sepul. Etruria* iv. 189 Gracefully twined with branches of bacchic ivy.

2. Inspired with the frenzy of a votary of Bacchus, frenzied; riotously drunken, roystering, jovial.

1699 BURNET *39 Art.* xxiii. (1700) 255 Women Priests... filled with a Bacchic Fury. 1865 MISS MULOCH *Chr. Mistake* 17 He... then broke into a broad, genial laugh, quite Bacchic. 1874 MAHAFFY *Soc. Life Greece* xi. 330 note, Like Bacchic maidens who draw milk and honey from the rivers.

†B. (*absol.* as) *sb.* A drinking-song. *Obs.*

1676 ETHEREDGE *Man of Mode* IV. i. (1684) 57 Let us have the new Bacchique. *O. Bell.* That's a hard word! What does it mean, Sir? *Med. A Catch*, or drinking Song.

†Bacchical, a. *Obs.* = prec.

1663 J. SPENCER *Prophecies* (1665) 78 They raised up a kind of Bacchical Enthusiasm.

†Bacchius (bæ'kɪʊs). [L., a. Gr. *Bakχeios* (sc.

wo's.) A metrical foot of three syllables, one short and two long.

1589 PUTTENHAM *Eng. Poetrie* (Arb.) 134 For your foote bacchius of a short and two long ye have... *renouncing, rē-pentance, enūring.* 1870 JEBB *Sophocles Electra* (ed. 2) 49/2 A bacchius (δὲ ἀμφαί) replacing the molossus.

†Bacchus (bæ'kɪʊs). [L., a. Gr. *Bakχos*.] The god of wine; hence, wine, intoxicating liquor. *Son of Bacchus*: a tippler.

1496 DUNBAR *Gold. Terge* 124 Bacus, the gladder of the table. 1640 WALLER *Batt. Summer Isl.* 17 The sweet palmettoes a new Bacchus yield. 1747 *Scheme Equiv. Men of War* 36 The more corpulent Sons of Bacchus... might have Easy-Chairs. 1853 BYRON *Island* II. xi, The palm... Within whose bosom infant Bacchus broods.

b. Comb. *Bacchus-bole*; *Bacchus-like*.

1795 BRADLEY *Fam. Dict.*, *Bacchus-Bole*, a Flower that is not tall, but a very full, large, broad-leav'd Flower, being of a sad light Purple. 1800 *Will's Recr. in Southey's Common-pl. Bk.* Ser. II. 314 They mean, then, Bacchus-like to feed.

Bacciferous (bæ'kɪfərəs), *a.* [f. L. *baccifer* (f. *bacca* berry + *-fer* bearing) + -OUS: cf. F. *baccifère*.] Berry-bearing, producing berries.

1661 in BLOUNT *Glossogr.* 1668 WILKINS *Real Char.* 96 Herbs... Bacciferous: whose seeds are included in a juicy pulpe. 1851 J. WILSON *Farming* 48 The potato... is a bacciferous herb.

Bacciform (bæ'kɪfɔrm), *a.* [ad. mod. L. *bacciformis*, f. *bacca* berry: see -FORM. Cf. F. *bacciforme*.] Berry-shaped. 1839 in HOOPER *Med. Dict.*

Baccivorous (bæ'kɪvərəs), *a.* [f. L. *bacca* berry + -VORUS devouring: cf. F. *baccivore*.] Berry-eating, living chiefly on berries.

1661 LOVELL *Hist. Anim. & Min.* Introd., Birds which are... baccivorous, as the Thrush. [In BAILEY, and mod. Dicts.]

Bacco, baccy, vulgar abbreviations of TOBACCO.

1833 MARRYAT *P. Simple* (1863) 9 'You must learn to chew baccy.' 1860 *ALL Y. Round* No. 57. 161 His wife has found his 'bacco-box.'

†Bace. *Obs.* [Cf. Sw. *bac* beating, flogging, baste to beat, flog, also Da. *bask* stripe, blow, *baste* to beat, strike, and mod. Sc. *bais* to beat, drub. (Jam.)] A blow; a drubbing.

a 1260 ROLLAND *Crt. Venus* iv. 678 Swyth pak... or your bak beir a bace.

Bace, Baecen, obs. forms of BASE, BAKEN.

Bacha, earlier form of *basha*, BASHAW.

Bachanal, etc., obs. forms of BACCHANAL, etc.

Bacharach (bæ'xæræx, bæ'kæræk). Also 7

Back-rac(k, -rag, Baccharach, Bachrag, -rach.

A town on the Rhine giving its name to a wine formerly much esteemed.

1660 FLETCH. & MASS. *Begg. Bush* v. ii, My fire-works and flap-dragons and good back-rag. 1666 BLOUNT *Glossogr.* s.v., Wines which are made there, and therefore called Back-rag or Bacharach; vulgarly, Rhensish wines. 1678 BUTLER *Hud.* III. iii. 300 Stoutly overcome With Bachrach. 1800 SCOTT *Abbot* xv, Bacharach, of the first vintage. 1851 LONGF. *Gold. Leg.* 171 A draught from the noble Bacharach cask.

Bachare, obs. form of BAKER.

†Bache. *Obs.* Also 3 bæch, bæcch(e, g, -bach, -batoh. [Origin doubtful. Possibly a dialect form of *bæch*, *betch*, answering to an OE. **bæcc*, = ON. *bekkr*, Eng. BECK: -Oteut. **bakjo-z*, cognate with OE. *bæce*: -Oteut. **baki-z*, brook, rivulet, stream. The transference of meaning from stream to stream-valley would be parallel to the north Eng. and Lowland Sc. use of -burn, -water, in proper names, for the whole river-vale or dale.]

The vale of a stream or rivulet.

a 1000 in Kemble *Cod. Dipl.* III. 380 Of 84m æcere in cerra bec [printed bec] of 84m bæce in pipan. 1a 1800 Notes to LAMMON III. 447 At Clent in Cu-bache [Lat. interp. *In Clent, in Convallie Bovina*]. 1805 LAV. 757 [He] ferde after an bache... wes þe wei holi & long; [1850] þe cleues weren stronge. *Ibid.* 2556 He bicom in a bache þe he haledeou. *Ibid.* 2177 Of dalen & of dūnen, & of bæcchen deopen. 1305 St. Kenelm 244 in E. E. P. (1862) 54 Coubache me clipede þis valeye & 3ut me doþ also: In Coubache þis holi bodi lay wel menie a 3er. *Ibid.* 289 Under þe þorn of Coubage. 1393 LANGLAND *P. Pl. C.* VIII. 159 Bote blostered forth as bestes, ouer bæches and hulls. 1494 FAYAN VI. clviii. 147 At Clent in Cowbach... which is to meane in Englysshe now vsyd, at Clent in Cow vale. 1884 J. AMPHLETT (in letter) The deep vale in which St. Kenelm's chapel is situated, is now called Clatterbach (-bach). In two other stream-vales, east of it, are fields called *Withy Batch*, and *Mare Batch*.

Bachelor (bæ'tʃələ), *forms:* 3-6 bachelor,

3-7 -iler, 4-5 -ilere, -iller, -illier, bachelor(e,

-elere, 5- -ylere, baculere, 5-6 bachelor, 6

batchellour, -elar, batchelaure, 6-7 batcheler,

-ellor, -eller, batohler, 7 bachelor, -elour, 7-8

batchelour, 8 batchellour, 5- bachelor. [a. OF.

bachelor = Pr. *bacalar*, It. *baccalare* = L. type **baccalaris*, of doubtful origin. The later F. *bachelier* is corrupted in the termination, as is the 16th c.

Eng. *bachelour*, *bachelor*: cf. ANCESTOR, and see -OR. The original meaning being uncertain, the sense-development is also doubtful.

Of med. L. *baccalaris* only a few late instances occur (in sense 1), which might be from the mod. langs. (see Du Cange, *Baccalaris*). It was, however, prob. connected with *baccalaris*, a division of land, of which the size and nature varied at different times, and with the adjectives *baccalaris*, *aria*, applied in 8th c. to rustics male and female who worked for

the colonus or tenant of a mansus. (See Deloche, *Cartulaire de Beaulieu* Introd. éclairc. xxii.) But the precise relation of *baccalaris* to these words, and its subsequent history are still uncertain. Still more doubtful is its derivation: *baccalaria* is with some probability referred to *bacca*, late L. and Romanic for *vacca* cow, through **baccalis* (cf. *ovilis* from *ovis* sheep), in which case it might be 'grazing farm,' and *baccalaris* one employed on it, the assistant of a *colonus* who had not a mansus of his own; Littre (without accounting for the sense) suggests Celtic *bacall* stick (a. L. *baculus*); the Welsh *bach* 'little' must be definitely discarded, its old Celtic form being *bicc-* or *becc-*, Irish *becc*. (Thurneysen.)

1. A young knight, not old enough, or having too few vassals, to display his own banner, and who therefore followed the banner of another; a novice in arms. [On this sense was founded the conjectural etymology of *Bas chevalier*.]

1297 R. GLOUC. 453 Syre jong bachelor... þow art strong & corageus. 1330 *Cursor M.* 8541 He was a borli bachelere, In al þat werld had he na pere. c 1386 CHAUCER *Sqrs.* T. 16 Yong, fresch, strong, and in Armes desirous, As any Bachelor [v. r. bachelier(e, -elere, -illier)] of al his hous. 1415 *Pol. Poems* (1859) II. 125 Passe we all now in fere, duke, erle, and bachelere. c 1500 *Partenay* 1925 This knight is A worthi baculere. 1543 LD. BERNERS *Froiss.* I. cclxiv. 390 Let sir Johan Chandos do his by himselfe, sythe he is but a bachelere. 1828 HALLAM *Mid. Ages* (1872) I. 195 Vavassors who obtained knighthood were commonly styled bachelors.

b. Hence, *Knight Bachelor*, a knight of the lowest but most ancient order; the full title of a gentleman who has been knighted (without belonging to any one of the specially named 'orders').

1609 tr. Sir T. Smith's *Commw. Eng.* 25 He [a banneret] being before a batcheler knight, is now of a higher degree. 1614 SELDEN *Titles Hom.* 336 These Knights... were anciently call'd Baccalari, or Bachelors. 1809 TOMLINS *Law Dict.*, *Knight-bachelor* a simple knight, and not knight-banneret, or knight of the bath. 1883 WHITAKER's *Alm.* 108 *Knights Bachelors*: a list of those Gentlemen (in number 278) who have received the honour of knighthood.

†2. A junior or inferior member, or 'yeoman,' of a trade-guild, or City Company. *Obs.*

(In London, their position and functions seem to have varied at different times, and in different Companies; in later times Bachelors were appointed only for ceremonial occasions, chiefly when one of the Company was chosen Lord Mayor, their duty being 'to serve in foynes and budge' on Lord Mayor's Day. So in Bye Laws of Grocers' Company of 1711.)

1390 *Archives of Grocers' Comp.* 76 Esliexuz Mestercdez Grocers Robert Peper et Herri Hatton Bachelers. 1427 in Heath *Grocers' Comp.* (1869) 5 Diuerse persones ikallyd Bachelers. 1533 WRIGHTESLEY *Chron.* (1875) I. 18 A barge also of Batchlers of the Majors crafte. 1691 BLOUNT *Law Dict.* s.v., Every Company of the Twelve, consists of a Master, two Wardens, the Livery, (which are Assistants in Matters of Council, or at the least, such as the Assistants are chosen out of) and the Bachelors, who are yet but in expectance of Dignity among them, and have their Function only in attendance upon the Master and Wardens. 1809 TOMLINS *Law Dict.* s.v., The *bachelors*, in other companies called the *yeomanry*.

3. One who has taken the first or lowest degree at a university, who is not yet a master of the Arts. (In this use, a woman may now be Bachelor of Arts, etc.)

(In this sense, latinized as *baccalaris*, subsequently altered by a pun or word-play to *baccalaris* as if connected with *bacca lauri* laurel berry, which has sometimes been gravely given as the 'etymology'.)

1361 LANGL. *P. Pl. A. Prolog.* go, I sauh þer Bisschops Bolde and Bachelers of diuyn. c 1386 CHAUCER *Frankl. T.* 308 His felawe... was that tyme a Bachelor of lawe. 1577 HARRISON *England* I. ii. iii. 79 They ascend higher unto the estate of bachelers of art after four years. 1614 SELDEN *Titles Hom.* 55 *Dominus* is now familiar for Sir to every Bachelor of Art in the Schools. 1673 RAY *Journ. Low C.* 18 Every Bachelor is called Doctissimus. 1843 SIR J. COLERIDGE in *Arnold's Life & Corr.* I. i. 9 Of the scholars several were bachelors.

†b. *transf.* An inexperienced person, a novice. *Obs.*

1604 T. WRIGHT *Passions Mind* iv. i. 114 Some men will dispute... about matters exceeding their capacite... I haue heard these batchellers hold talke... wilfully and obstinately in matters of Philosophie and Diuinitie.

4. An unmarried man (of marriageable age).

1386 CHAUCER *Merch. T.* 34 Bachelers [v. r. bacheliers, -elerys, -elers, -illiers] haue often payne and wo. c 1450 *Songs & Carols* (1847) 35 If thou be a bachelor, And bryngest hom a wyfe. 1547 J. HARRISON *Exhort. Scottes* 223 She was to olde a mayde for so yonge a bachelor. 1553 T. WILSON *Rhet.* 24 The synge lyfe of Bacheleraures. 1607 DEKKER *Northw. Hoe* iv. Wks. 1873 III. 53 His wife!... I haue heard him swaue he was a bachelor. 1750 JOHNSON *Rambl.* No. 18 ¶ 5 The unsettled, thoughtless condition of a bachelor. 1856 F. PAGET *Orlet Owlst.* 151 A series of bachelor-incumbents. 1875 WHITNEY *Life Lang.* ix. 156 Nursery... dialect, offensive to the ears of old bachelors.

b. *Bachelor's wife*: the ideal wife of which a bachelor theorizes or dreams.

1561 J. HEYWOOD *Prov. & Epigr.* (1867) 61 Bachelers wifes, and maidens children be well taught. 1706 VANBRUGH *Prov. Husb.* I. i, Ay! ay! Bachelors' wives, indeed, are finely governed. 1844 H. MILLER *Sch. & Schm.* (1858) 503 The 'bachelor's wife'... occupies a large place in our literature, as the mistress of all the poets who ever wrote on love without actually experiencing it.

†5. A maid, a single woman. *Obs. rare.*

1621 B. JONSON *Magnet. Lady* II. ii. He would keep you A bachelor still... And keep you not alone without a husband. But in a sickness.

6. Comb. *Bachelor-like a.*, like, or of the nature of, a bachelor; bachelor-room, a room occupied by a single man. (Also attrib. in 1 a and 4 above.)

1611 COTGR., *Bachelier*, Bachelorly, bachelor-like. 1844

W. IRVING *Braceb. Hall* II. 80 To talk in a very bachelor-like strain about the sex. 1865 W. STEWART *Footsteps Beh. Him* II. 46 Never had his bachelor-room looked so bare and cheerless.

Bachelor's or Bachelors' Buttons (*Herb.*): a name given to various flowers of round or button-like form; chiefly to certain cultivated double varieties of wild flowers. Orig. and commonly, the double variety of a common yellow buttercup, *Ranunculus acris*; also the Tansy. *White Bachelor's Buttons*: orig. a double-flowered white *Ranunculus* (*R. aconitifolius*); also Double White Campion (*Lychnis vespertina*), Double Sneezewort (*Achillea Ptarmica*), Double Feverfew (*Pyrethrum Parthenium*). *Red Bachelor's Buttons*: Double Red Campion (*Lychnis diurna*), some species of Scabious and of *Centaurea*, the Ragged Robin (*Lychnis Flos-cuculi*), etc. See Britten and Holland *Plant Names* (1878).

1576 LYTE *Dodons* 422 The double Goldcuppes are called Bachelors Buttons. 1592 GREENE *Upst. Courtier* (1871) 7 The bachelors buttons whose virtue is to make wanton maids weep. 1597 GERRARD *Herbal* (1623) 472 The similitude these flowers have to the jagged cloth buttons anciently worn... gave occasion... to call them Bachelors Buttons. 1669 PARKINSON *Paradis* v. 11 Bachelours' buttons, both white and red, are kinds of wilde Campions of a very double forme. 1872 OLIVER *Elem. Bot.* i. vii. 86 If you compare a Bachelor's Button with a wild Buttercup.

Bachelorhood. [f. prec. + -DOM.] The estate or body of bachelors collectively.

1881 ECHO 3 Dec. 2/4 This stronghold of bachelorhood. **Bachelorhood**. [f. as prec. + -HOOD.] The state or quality of a bachelor; unmarried state.

1833 LAMB *Elia* (1860) 425 The disengaged state of bachelorhood. 1835 THACKERAY *Newcomes* xl. (D.) A long easy life of bachelorhood.

Bachelorism (bæ'tʃələrɪz'm). [f. as prec. + -ISM.] A habit or peculiarity of a bachelor.

1805 W. IRVING *Salmag.* viii. (1860) 166 His character—fertile in... bachelorisms. 1866 J. KENNEDY *Swallow B.* 14 Chiding me roundly for certain waxing bachelorisms.

Bachelorize, *v. rare*. [f. as prec. + -IZE.] To take the degree of bachelor (of Arts, etc.). Hence **Bachelorizing** *vbl. sb.*

1742 JARVIS *Quix.* II. i. vii. (D.) I am a Salamanca bachelor of arts, and there is no bachelorizing beyond that.

Bachelorly (bæ'tʃələli), *a.* [f. as prec. + -LY.] Of, or of the nature of, a bachelor, bachelor-like.

1800 SIDNEY *Arctid.* III. 237 His brother... protesting his bachelorly [1598 bachelorly] intention. 1811 COTGR., *Bachelor*, bachelorly. 1823 C. WESTMACOTT *Points of Misery* 71 A set of stout bachelorly personages.

Bachelorship. [See -SHIP.]

1. The state of being a bachelor, *i.e.* unmarried. 1592 SHAKS. 1 *Hen. VI.* v. iv. 13 She was the first fruit of my Bachelor-ship. 1833 LAMB *Elia* (1860) 365, I lay down for a brief while my solitary bachelorship.

2. The state or position of a knight bachelor. 1611 COTGR., *Bachelorie*, a Bachelorship: the degree, estate, condition of an Esquire or Bachelor.

3. The standing of a Bachelor of Arts, etc. 1656 BR. HALL *Rem. Wks.* (1660) 8 The third year of my Bachelorship. 1859 MASSON *Milton* I. 116 Bachelorship terminating with the attainment of the M.A. degree.

4. Apprenticeship (see BACHELOR 3 b). *Obs.* 1611 COTGR., *Bachelorie*, bachelorship, prentishood.

5. **Bachelorly**, *sb. Obs.* Forms: 3 *bachelorrye*, 3-4 *bachelorie*, 4-*ilerie*, 4-5-*elrie*, 5 *bachelorly*, -*ellerye*, -*yllerie*, -*ye*, 5-7-*elery*, 7 *bachelorly*, -*ellrie*. [a. OF. *bachelorie* (still in Cotgr.), f. *bachelor* BACHELOR: see -RY.]

1. The quality of a young knight; prowess. 1597 R. GLOUC. 192 *pe knyghtes atyled hem aboute in eche syde*, In felde and in medys to preue her bachelorye. c. 1386 CHAUCER *Manc. T.* 21 This Phebus, that was flour of bachelorie.

2. Bachelors collectively: a. Young knights as a class or body. (Cf. *chivalry*.)

1597 R. GLOUC. 76 A fayr ost of hys bachelorie. c. 1330 *Arth. & Merl.* 4099 Her schal com a bachelorie Of the to hane cheualrie. 1480 CAXTON *Chron. Eng.* clxxx. 160 Kyng edward sent after al the bachyllerie of england [ed. 1:20 (f. 121 b) bachelorie]. 1656 FINNETT *For. Ambass.* 10 The Prince Palatine, attended by the Batchellrie of the Nobilitie.

b. A body of unmarried men. 1500 *Turnam. Tottenh.* xxv. in Percy's *Reliq.*, Whych of all thys bachelorie Were best worthy To wed hur. 1615 A. NICHOLES *Marriage* (1620) B. To the Youth and Batchelary of England, hote bloods at high Reuels.

Bachelorly *a.*: see BACHELORLY.

Bachinal, *obs. form* of BACCHANAL.

Bachle, earlier variant of Sc. BAUCLE *v.*

Bachshish, variant of BAKSHEESH.

5. **Bacil**. *Obs. rare*—1. [ad. L. *bacillum* or *bacillus* a small stick; see below.] A little stick.

1657 TOMLINSON *Renon's Disp.* 714 Made into Rolls and Bails of a fingers length.

Bacillary (bæ'siləri), *a.* [ad. mod.L. *bacillarius*, f. L. *bacillus* little rod. Cf. F. *baillaire*.] Of, pertaining to, or consisting of little rods.

1865 *Reader* No. 139. 242/3 The bacillary layer. 1874 M. COOKE *Fungi* 170 Numerous bacillary spermatozooids. 1875 H. WALTON *Dis. Eye* Intro. 27 External layer. Rods and cones. This is termed bacillary layer, or membrane Jacobi.

VOL. I.

Bacilliform (bäsi'lifɔrm), *a.* [ad. mod.L. *bacilliformis*, f. *bacillus*: see -FORM.] Rod-shaped.

1847-9 TODD *Cycl. Anat. & Phys.* IV. 4/1 Dividing... into a bacilliform or fusiform polypary.

|| **Bacillus** (bäsi'lɔs). *Nat. Hist.* Pl. bacilli. [late L. (in Isidore), 'little rod', dim. of *baculus*, variant of *baculum* rod, stick.] A genus of *Schizomycetæ*, microscopic vegetable organisms of the lowest grade among what were once called *Infusoria*. Separated from *Bacterium*, with which it agrees in its rod-like form, and characterized by its larger size and mode of reproduction. First described by Müller *ante* 1850; recently brought into note by the discovery of some of the species in the diseased tissues in Anthrax, and in Phthisis and other tubercular diseases.

1883 H. J. SLACK in *Knowledge* 1 June 322/1 Dr. B. Yeo estimates these bacilli as from a quarter to half a blood corpuscle in length. 1884 LANKESTER in *Pall Mall G.* 6 Oct. 2/4 The bacillus found in the lungs and expectorations of phthisical patients.

Bacin, bacinet, *obs. ff.* BASIN, BASINET.

Back (bak), *sb.* Forms: 1-3 *bæc*, 3-5 *bæc*, 4-6 *bak*, *bakke*, (4-5 *bake*, 6 *bakke*), 5-7 *backe*, 4-*back*. [Common Teut.: OE. *bæc* (neuter) is cogn. with OS. *bak*, OFris. *bek*, MDu. *bak*, LG. *bak*, ON. *bak*. — Otnout. **bako*-(m); not found in Gothic or OHG., and now lost in Du. exc. in derivatives, as *achterbaks*, *bakboord*. Cf. RIDGE.]

I. Original sense.

1. *properly*. The convex surface of the body of man and vertebrate animals which is adjacent to the spinal axis, and opposite to the belly and most of the special organs. It extends from the neck and shoulders to the extremity of the backbone. † *Back and side*: all over, completely (*obs.*).

c. 1500 *Ag. Ps.* cxxix. 3 Offer minum bæc bitere ongunning þa firefullan facen timbrinn. c. 1500 ORMIN 4776 Lende & lesske & shuldre & bac. c. 1340 *Gau. & Gr. Knt.* 143 Of bak & of breast al were his bodi sturne. c. 1400 *Rom. Rose* 7318 Til he be slayne, bak & side. c. 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 21/1 *Bakke*, *Dorrum*. c. 1440 *Generydes* 2155 Ther bakkes and ther belly were soo large. c. 1485 *Digby Myst.* (1882) i. 240, I shuld bete you bak and side. 1607 DRYDEN *Virg. Georg.* III. 650 A Snake... His Belly spotted, burnisht is his Back. 1712 BUDGELL *Spect.* No. 161 77 A Country Fellow that throws his Rival upon his Back. 1741 MONRO *Anat. Bones* 187 The... Vertebrae of the Back 1783-94 BLAKE *Song Innoc.*, *Chimney-Sw.* 6 Curled like a lamb's back. 1860 DICKENS *Uncomm. Trav.* xi. (1866) 72/1 He lies on the broad of his back, with his face turned up to the sky.

2. Viewed in reference to its position or functions, as: a. in man, the hinder surface of the body, that which is opposite to the front or face, and which is turned upon those who are left behind. (Hence many phrases: see VI.)

c. 885 K. ALFRED *Boeth.* II. 12 Da wendon hi me heora bæc. 1388 WYCLIF *Jer.* xviii. 17 Bac and not face y shal shewe to them. c. 1500 *Robin Hood* (Ritson) xv. 121 And there they turned them back to bak. c. 1552 LELAND in Keightley *Hist. Eng.* I. 429 Her faire yellow haire hung down pleyne byhynd her bak. 1597 DANIEL *Civ. Warres* II. x. Richard who lookt Fortune in the backe. 1607 SHAKS. *Timon* IV. iii. 397 Thy backe I prythee. 1611 — *Cymb.* v. iii. 6 The Army broken, And but the backes of Britaines seen. 1873 TRISTRAM *Moth* II. 19 At length we... turn our backs on the outskirts of civilization.

b. that part of the body which is the special recipient of clothing (as the belly is of food); often put for the whole body in this capacity.

Orig. because simple articles of clothing cover the back completely, but are either open, or merely fastened in front. c. 1300 *Cursor M.* 5130 Clathing bath for bac and bedd. c. 1375 WYCLIF *Serm.* Sel. Wks. 1869 I. 298 Cloping bob for her bedde and bak. 1549 LATIMER *Serm. bef. Edw. VI* (Arb.) 51 Borrow of thy two next neighbours, that is to say, of thy backe and thi belly. 1597 J. PAYNE *Royal Exch.* 14 Suche... as come to decaye... by the pryde of there backs. 1603 SHAKS. *Meas. for M.* III. ii. 23 What 'tis to cram a maw, or cloath a backe. 1840 R. DANA *Bef. the Mast* xix. 53 Without clothing to his back or shoes to his feet. 1866 TROLLOPE *Orley F.* I. 83 (Hoppe) It is from the backs and bellies of other people that savings are made with the greatest constancy.

c. the part of the body which bears burdens.

c. 950 *Lindisf. G. Matt.* xxiii. 4 Hia gebindas... byrðenna hefiga... in scyldrum vel bæccum monna. c. 1300 *Cursor M.* 3048 Hir sun a-pon hir bak sco bar. c. 1384 CHAUCER *H. Fame* 169 And tooke his fader Anchises And bare hym on hys bakke away. 1598 SHAKS. *Tit.* A. IV. iii. 48 Wrung with wrongs more then our 'backe can beare. 1613 — *Hen. VIII.* i. ii. 50 The Backe is Sacrifice to th' load. *Mod.* The back is fitted for the burden.

d. in animals, the upper surface opposite to that on which they walk, crawl, or rest: extended from vertebrates to other walking or creeping animals.

1583 *Sir Ferumb.* 794 Tak my gode stede... Set me be-for þe on is bak. c. 1500 *Sir Lancelott* 39 in Furniv. Percy *Folio* I. 86 Thy horsess bakes brake vnder them. 1647 WARD *Simp. Cobler* 36 They might have kept his back... had they not put him beyond his pace. 1735 SOMERVILLE *Chase* I. 376 High on their bent Backs erect their pointed Bristles stare. 1847 CARPENTER *Zool.* § 574 The lower side (of Flat-fish) is generally white, whilst the upper is brown; and the former is commonly (but erroneously) regarded as the belly of the fish, and the latter as its back. *Ibid.* § 723 The insects of this family swim on their backs.

II. *transf.* The surface of things analogous in position to the (human) back; the hinder side.

3. *gen.* That side or surface of any part of the body or of any object, which answers in position to the back; that opposite to the face or front, or side approached, contemplated, or exposed to view: *e.g.* the back of the head, of the leg; the back of a house, door, picture, bill, tablet, etc.

1686 BACON *Sylva* (J.) Trees set upon the backs of chimnies do ripen fruit sooner. 1777 SHERIDAN *Sch. Scandal* II. ii. He put his name at the back of a bill. 1850 LYTTON *My Novel* III. xiii. 138 At the back of the cottage... there are some fields. c. 1850 *Rudim. Nav.* (Weale) 94 Back of the post, the after-face of the stern-post. 1880 L. STEPHEN *Pope* IV. 92 A great part of the Iliad (Pope's) is written upon the backs of letters. 1883 *Pall Mall G.* 12 Dec. 2, 11,000 'back-to-back' houses in the older parts. *Mod.* Severely hurt about the back of the head.

4. *spec. a.* The convex or outer side of the hand, opposite to the palm. b. The under side of a leaf, which forms the outside before it unfolds. c. The convex part of a book, opposite to the opening of the leaves. d. The thick edge of a knife or other cutting instrument, opposite to the face, or cutting edge. Hence *back and edge*: everything, through everything, through thick and thin.

c. 1300 W. DE BIBLESW. in Wright *Voc.* 147 The bac of the hand, *la claye dehoris*. c. 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 21/2 Bakke of egge toole, *Ebiculum*. 1523 FITZGER. *Husb.* § 136 A grassyng knyfe an inche brode with a thycke backe. 1601 SHAKS. *Jul. C.* I. ii. 221 Being offer'd him, he put it by with the backe of his hand, thus. 1641 J. HOTHAM (in Long Parl.) in Southey *Commonpl. Bk.* Ser. II. (1849) 147 'Mr. Speaker; fall back, fall edge, I will go down and perform your commands.' 1716 MRS. BEHN *Dutch Lover* II. iii. I'll have no more to do with you back nor edge. 1789 LIGHT-FOOT *Fl. Scot.* II. 671 Fructifications in two rows upon the back of the pinnules. 1844 DICKENS *Mar. Chans.* xii. (C. D.) 137 As he drew the back of his hand across his lips. 1863 *Bookseller's Catal.* Fine copy, calf extra, full gilt backs, marbled edges. *Mod.* The back of the leaf is lighter in colour.

5. The side of any object away from the spectator, or spectators generally, the other or farther side.

At the back of: behind, on the farther side of; cf. 23. c. 1645 HOWELL *Lett.* (1650) II. 19 Turning by the back of Africa to the Cape of Mozambic. 1696 *London Gaz.* No. 3242/3 Yesterday appeared on the back of these Sands a Fleet. 1704 *Ibid.* No. 4060/5 Passing by the back of the Goodwin Sand. 1865 TYNDALL *Fragm. Sc. viii.* § 4. 181 A plate of copper against the back of which a steady sheet of flame is permitted to play.

† 6. Of time: The other side of, the time after. *Obs. or dial.*

1673 FLAMSTEED in Rigaud *Corr. Sci. Men* II. 162, I must be... your debtor till the back of Whitsuntide.

III. Parts of things having relation, or analogous in position, to the human back; the hinder part, rear, following.

† 7. *pl.* Clothes. *Obs.*

1341 *Mem. Rikon* (1882) I. 224 Unum indumentum quod dicitur Bak. c. 1350 *Will. Palerne* 2066 Alle his bakkes rente. 1377 LANGL. *P. Pl.* B. x. 362 Owre bakkes [glass pann] bat moth-eten be. c. 1386 CHAUCER *Chan. Yem. Prolog.* & T. 328 A bak to walken in by day light. 1393 LANGL. *P. Pl.* C. xiv. 72 Fynde beggars bred, bakkes for be colde.

† 8. Armour protecting the back; a back-plate.

1648 in Rushw. *Hist. Coll.* IV. II. 1411 He saw the King... in Naseby field having Back and Breast on. 1651 CROMWELL *Lett.* (Carl.) 26 July, It is desired we may have a thousand backs-and-breasts, and fifteen-hundred pots. 1695 BLACKMORE *Pr. Arth.* VII. 137 Some o'er brazen Backs, and Breastplates sweat.

b. *fig.* A defence, protection.

1686 W. DE BRITAIN *Hum. Prud.* vi. 29 Your own Innocency will be a Back of Steel unto you.

9. The hind part of a coat or other garment.

Mod. What is the material of the back of the vest?

10. The upright hind part of a chair, that supports the back of the sitter; and *gen.* the hinder portion of any structure.

1530 PALSGR. 106/1 Backe of a chymney, *contre cuer de la chyminee*. 1670 G. H. *Hist. Cardinals* I. III. 78 To sit down upon a chair without a back. 1716-8 LADY MONTAGUE *Lett.* I. x. 34 The archduchesses sat on chairs with backs without arms. 1855 MACAULAY *Hist. Eng.* IV. 520 The back of the chimney did not seem to be firmly fixed.

11. The rear of an armed force. *arch.*

1597 SHAKS. 2 *Hen. IV.* I. iii. 79 He leaves his backe vn-arm'd. 1737 WHISTON *Josephus' Antiq.* XII. viii. § 3 And fell upon the backs of their enemies.

† 12. A following; a body of followers or supporters; support, backing. *Obs.*

1566 KNOX *Hist. Ref. Wks.* 1846 I. 89 Without knowledge of any back or battell to follow. 1611 SPEED *Hist. G. Brit.* IX. xvi. (1632) 861 Scotland... was a special backe and second to King Henry. 1649 BR. GUTHRY *Mem.* (1702) 24 Those that were otherwise minded, would have stay'd with a thin Back. c. 1666 BAILLIE *Lett.* (1775) I. 217 (JAM.) So Mr. Pym and his back were removed.

IV. Surfaces or parts of things analogous to the back of animals.

13. *fig.* The surface of a river, the waves, etc., which bears floating burdens. (Cf. *bosom*.)

1610 SHAKS. *Temp.* II. i. 115, I saw him beate the surges vnder him, And ride vpon their backs. 1697 DRYDEN *Virg. Georg.* III. 555 Swift Rivers are with sudden Ice constrain'd; And studded Wheels are on its Back sustain'd. 1850 CLOUGH *Dipsychus* I. v. 107 We'll take the crested billows by their backs And shake them.

14. The ridge of a hill, of the nose (*obs.*).
 1615 CROOK *Body of Man* 613 The upper part of the Nose called *Dorsum* or the backe... the spine or ridge of the Nose. 1863 HAWTHORNE *Old Home* (1879) 169 We now rambled about on the broad back of the hill.
15. The convex surface of any thing bent.
 c1850 *Rudim. Nav.* (Weale) 96 Compass or curved timber, the outside of which is called the *Back*.
16. *Arch.* The upper surface or edge of any horizontal or oblique beam.
 1677 MOXON *Mech. Exerc.* (1703) 156 Back or Hip-molding. The backward Hips or Valley-Rafters in the way of an Angle. 1753 CHAMBERS *Cycl. Suppl.* s.v. Back of a hip, among builders, denotes the two planes on the outside of the hip, lying parallel with the adjoining side and end of the roof.
17. The keel and kelson of a ship.
 [1541 R. COPLAND *Guydon's Quest. Cyrrurg.*, The backe is lyke y^e kele of a shyp.] 1698 *Lon. Gaz.* No. 2779/3 A French Ship of 70 Guns... has broke her back. 1893 *Contemp. Rev.* Aug. 229 A stranded ship with her back broken.
- V. Technical uses. (*transf., fig., and elliptical.*)
18. *Leather-trade.* The thickest and best-tanned hides.
 1535 *Act 27 Hen. VIII.* xiv. § 5 Any leather called *backes* or sole leather. 1776 *Excise-bk.* in *Dorset County Chron.* 2 June (1881) Kinds of hides:—Sheep and lamb, butts and backs, calves and kippis. 1859 WORCESTER cites CRABB.
19. *Mining.* (See *quot.*)
 1807 HEADRICK *Arran* 45 Similar cracks are formed in stratified sandstone, called by the workmen, slips, cutters or backs. 1851 *Coal-trade Terms* Northumb. & Durham 4 *Back*—A diagonal parting in coal; a description of hitch, where the strata are not dislocated. 1875 *URR Dict. Arts* I. 280 Back in mining, that side of an inclined mineral lode which is nearest the surface of the ground. The back of a level is the ground between it and the level above.
20. *Jewellery.* (See *quot.*)
 1879 C. HIBBS in *Cassell's Techn. Educ.* IV. 349/2 'Back' which in Jewellers parlance means either the top or bottom side of the locket.
21. *Football.* One of the players stationed behind the 'forwards', *e.g.* 'half-back', 'three-quarter back'; the duty of the simple 'back' is to defend the goal.
 1880 *Daily Tel.* 20 Dec., One of the Northern three-quarter backs sustained an injury to his leg. 1884 *Punch* 8 March 113/1 To go into this fine manly game (of football) padded... is enough to rouse the ire of any old 'back' alive.
22. *Sporting.* The action of 'backing': see BACK v. 9.
 1899 'STONEHENGE' *Brit. Sports* 35 While his [the dog's] 'point' was perfection in beauty and rigidity, the 'back' was totally the reverse.
- VI. Phrases. (Chiefly from 2 a., also 2 c.)
23. With prepositions:
 a. *At the back of:* behind, close behind; with the pregnant senses of supporting, following, pursuing, chasing; cf. 5. b. *Behind the back of:* (*emphatic for*) behind; in the absence of, out of the sight, hearing, or knowledge of; *behind backs*, clandestinely. c. *† On (rarely of), upon back (obs.):* a back, back, backward. d. *On, upon the back of:* weighing upon as a burden or incubus; falling upon as an assailant. e. *On, upon the back (of):* (position) behind, in the rear (*obs.*): (motion) close behind. f. *To the back:* to the back-bone, all through.
 a. c1400 *Destr. Troy* v. 1202 Hade bir at his bake, and be bankes leuyt. c1430 *LYDG. Bochas* i. i. (1544) 2 b. At the back, folowed indigence. 1523 LD. BERNERS *Froiss.* I. ccxxxiii. 324 To thentent that they might haue wynter at their backes. 1593 SHAKS. 3 *Hen. VI.* ii. v. 133 Edward and Richard, like a brace of Grey-hounds... Are at our backes. 1597 — 2 *Hen. IV.* ii. iv. 334 You knew I was at your back, and spoke it on purpose. 1828 BYRON *Yuan* i. cxxxvii. Here's my master With more than half the city at his back. 1879 FROUDE *Cæsar* xii. 166 Cæsar had the people at his back.
 b. c1380 WYCLIF *Wks.* (1880) 281 You puttist bi self bi-hinde bi bake. 1599 SHAKS. *Rom. & Jul.* iv. i. 28 It will be of more price, Being spoke behind your backe, then to your face. 1711 ADDISON *Spect.* No. 12 P 2 The Mistress... scolds at the Servants as heartily before my Face as behind my Back. 1874 MAHAFFY *Soc. Life Greece* iii. 50 They will censure her behind backs. 1883 *Statist* 21 July, While they were maturing their scheme, the Government went behind their backs and concluded an agreement.
 c. c1000 *Ag. Gosp.* Matt. iv. 10 Gang þu on bac! c1400 *Destr. Troy* xiv. 5957 The battell on backe was borne to be se. *Ibid.* xv. 6520 And frusschet þere fos fer vppo backe. 1447 BOKENHAM *Seyntys* 59 She nevr of bak turnyde hyr vysaye.
 d. 1605 SHAKS. *Learn* i. iv. 42, I haue yeares on my backe forty eight. 1677 GILPIN *Damozel* (1867) 45 No sooner obtains he a commission against a child of God, but presently he is upon his back. 1776 GOUV. MORRIS in *Sparks Life & Writ.* (1832) I. 100 We shall have all the powers of Europe on our backs. 1832 HT. MARTINEAU *Ireland* vii. 118 Rather too much to have another [priest]... on their backs.
 e. 1605 in *Camden's Rem.* (1637) 195 On the backe, they make men seeme women. 1658 USSHER *Ann.* vi. 437 Upon the back of these came a thousand. 1663 BR. PATRICK *Parab. Pilgr.*, As soon as they had the house on their backs and were come into the open air. 1734 *Col. Records Penn.* III. 564 Several of the Inhabitants on the back of our Mountains. 1763 BURKE *Sp. E. India Bill* Wks. 1842 I. 203 Another reform has since come upon the back of the first. *Mod.* The child took the measles, and then on the back of that came scarlatina.
 f. 1588 SHAKS. *Tit. A.* iv. iii. 47 Mettall Marcus, steele to the very backe. 1705 HICKKRINGILL *Priest-Cr.* ii. vi. 57 Like little Laud, Mettle to the Back.

24. With verbs:

- a. *To break the back of:* (*fig.*) to overburden, crush; to finish the hardest part of (a task). b. *To get the back of:* to get behind, take in the rear. † c. *To give back (obs.):* to retreat, turn tail, run away. d. *To give one the back:* to turn away from, disregard him. e. *To give or make a back (at leap-frog, etc.):* to bend the body so as to present a surface which may be jumped over. f. *To put or set up the back:* to arch it as angry cats do; to put oneself or another into anger; to arouse. g. *To turn the back:* to turn away from facing, go away, flee; to turn the back upon: to turn definitely from, abandon, forsake.
 a. 1613 SHAKS. *Hen. VIII.* i. i. 84 Many Haue broke their backes with laying Mannors on 'em For this great Journey. b. 1653 HOLCROFT *Procopius*, John... compassed the Trachea, so that he got the Backes of the Enemy. c. a 1300 *Cursor M.* 2499 þe fue gaue bak to wine a-way. *Ibid.* 1390 He drou, soo held, þe tassell brak, þe mantel left, he gaue þe bak. c1400 *Destr. Troy* xxiii. 9474 Þai were bound to gyffe bake, & the bent leue. 1533 BELLENDENE *Lyvy* i. (1822) 50 Dredand... to be inclusit on every side... they gaif bakkis. 1591 SHAKS. *Two Gent.* v. iv. 126 Thurio giue bakke, or else embrace thy death. 1661 R. DAVENPORT *City Nt. Cap.* v. in Dods. (1780) XI. 358 Catch'd at thy word, thou giv'st back. 1873 AINSWORTH *Lat. Dict.* (Morell) s.v. *Back*, To give back, *Redem. referre*. d. a 1684 BR. M. SMYTH *Serm.* (1632) 24 They gaue him the back, and became apostates. 1688 BUNYAN *Holy War* 236 Emmanuel, their Prince, has given them the back. e. 1836 DICKENS *Pickw.* vii. 57 Stopping... as if he were 'making a back' for some beginner at leap-frog. 1848 THACKERAY *Van. Fair* III. 13 (Hoppe) The Major was giving a back to Georgy. f. 1728 VANBR. & CIBBER *Prov. Husb.* v. iii. 112 O Lud! how her back will be up then, when she meets me. 1845 DISRAELI *Sybil* (1863) 14 But the other great whig families... set up their backs against this claim of the Egremonts. 1864 *Sunday Mag.* I. 79 He goes his own way... if you put his back up. c1870 H. SPORFORD *Pilot's W. in Casquet Lit.* (1877) IV. 9/1 The... cat used to put up her back at the three. g. c1400 *Destr. Troy* iv. 1348 The Troiens... turnyt þe bake, fioddon in fere. 1597 SHAKS. 2 *Hen. IV.* i. i. 130 The shame Of those that turn'd their backes. 1605 — *Learn* i. i. 178 To turne thy hated backe Vpon our kindome. 1611 BIBLE i. Sam. x. 9 When he had turned his backe to go from Samuel. c1680 BEVERIDGE *Serm.* (1729) I. 99 If you turn your backs and refuse to... hearken. 1711 ADDISON *Spect.* No. 108 P 4 Sir Roger's Back was no sooner turned but honest Will began. 1866 G. MACDONALD *Ann. Q. Neighb.* xxx. (1878) 522, I never turned my back on my leader yet.
25. *complex.* a. *To be or lie on one's back:* to be laid up; to be afflicted; to lay any one on his back, to prostrate, floor, lay low. † b. *To have by the back:* to lay hold of, seize. † c. *To take the back upon oneself:* to flee. d. *With or having one's back at or to the wall:* hard-pressed, struggling against odds.
 a. 1655 GURNALL *Chr. in Arm.* v. (1669) 343/1 They never look up to Heaven, till God lays them on their back. 1841 CATLIN *N. Amer. Ind.* (1844) II. xiv. 80 Sick and very feeble, having been for several weeks upon my back. b. a 1555 RIDLEY *Wks.* 67 Else thou must be had by the back. 1597 MORLEY *Introd. Mus.* 146 Then brother I haue you by the backe. c. c1500 *Lancelot* 1488 It haith gart o thousand tak At onys apone them-self the bak. d. 1535 STEWART *Crom. Scot.* II. 73 That we may haif their bakis at the wall, Without defend that ar oure common fa. 1854 H. MILLER *Sch. & Schm.* 536, I ill liked to see him with his back to the wall.
- Back* (bæk), sb.² [prob. immediately a. Du. *bak* trough, tub, a. F. *bac* 'ferry boat, punt' (see BAC), also 'trough, basin, mash-tub,' in med.L. *bacuss*, *baccus*, ferry boat (11th c. in Du Cange); cf. also late L. *bacca* 'vas aquarium', Isidore; remoter origin uncertain.] A large shallow vessel (chiefly for liquids); a tub, trough, vat, cistern; *esp.* applied to those used by brewers, dyers, and picklers.
 1688 *Lon. Gaz.* No. 1684/4 To be Sold, six Backs, several Stills and Worms. 1737 MILLER *Gerl. Dict.* s.v. *Anil*, Backs or Vats of Stone-work, well cemented. 1791 HAMILTON *Berthollet's Dyeing* I. i. ii. 159 Long copper or wooden vessels, called troughs or backs. 1794 G. ADAMS *Nat. & Exp. Phil.* I. xi. 483 The gaseous atmosphere of a back of beer in fermentation. 1821 *Mem. R. Cecil* Introd. 8 His father had in this ground several large backs of water. 1828 SCOTT *Rob Roy* (1818) III. 13 (JAM.) Narrowly escaping breaking my shins over a turf back and a salting tub.
- Back* (bæk), a. [partly attributive use of BACK sb.¹ as in *back wall* = wall at the back; partly elliptical use of BACK *adv.*, as in *back rent* (cf. 'to be back with his rent'), *back years* (cf. 'for years back'); by no means distinctly separated from BACK-in *comb.*; cf. senses 1 and 2, with BACK-, 4, 5.]
- I. From the sb.
1. Situated behind or in the rear, or away from the front. Hence, a. sometimes with the inferred sense of 'distant, outlying, remote,' as in *back settlement, country*; b. often with that of 'inferior, mean, obscure,' as in *back slum*.
 c1490 *Adam Bel* 121 in Ritson's *Anc. P. P.* 10 William opened hys coverd wyndow That was in hys chambre on hys. 1535 COVERDALE *Ez.* xxxiii. 23 Thou shalt se my back partes, but my face shal not be sene. 1853 GOLDING *Calvin on Dent.* 58 When there is still some backe nooke behinde. 1863 *Ray Corr.* (1848) 134 A small flat back claw, or toe. 1703 *Lon. Gaz.* No. 3885/4 Lost... out of a back

- Shead, 4 peices of Crape. 1806 W. TAYLOR *Ann. Rev.* IV. 886 The Ohio should... have been made the back line of boundary. 1890 THACKERAY *Pendennis* vii. (1884) 65 A little morocco box, which... contained the Major's back teeth. 1870 LOWELL *Study Wind.* 3 A stilted plover with no back toe. *Mod.* The occupants of the back seats.
 a. 1681 *PENN. Acc. Pennsylv.* Wks. 1782 IV. 301 The back-lands being... richer, than those that lie by navigable rivers. 1759 FRANKLIN *Ess. Wks.* 1840 III. 420 To fall on the back settlements of Pennsylvania. 1783 GOUV. MORRIS in *Sparks Life & Writ.* (1832) I. 248 The back lands are as important in the eyes of some, as the fisheries. 1798 MAL-THUS *Popul.* (1817) I. 7 In the back settlements, where the sole employment is agriculture. 1882 *Macm. Mag.* XLVI. 70/2 Driven... into the backset of the back country.
 b. 1860 DICKENS *Uncomm. Trav.* x. (1866) 67/2 A back street in the neighbourhood of Walworth. 1865 *Athenæum* 28 Jan. 124/1 Imprisoned in the back slums of Westminster. † In this sense formerly compared BACKER, BACKERMOST, BACKMOST. Only the last is now in ordinary use.
2. Used to distinguish that one of two things (or sets of things) which lies behind the main or front one, and is more or less subsidiary to it. In this case it is more usual to use the hyphen: see BACK- 5.
 1535 COVERDALE *Kings* vii. 8 Y^e back couerte made betwene y^e house and the porche. 1598 GREENE *Conny-catch.* (1881) 59 The gentlewoman... brought him into a backe room. 1713 *Guardian* No. 8; The young poets are in the back room. 1768 STERNE *Sent. Journ.* (Ridg.) 319 Coming unexpectedly from a back parlour into the shop. 1812 L. HALL in *Examiner* 31 Aug. 551/2 Which he traced to the back kitchen. 1863 KINGSLEY *Water Bab.* I. 21 The back staircase from the Taj-mahal at Agra.
- II. From the *adv.*
3. In arrear, overdue; behindhand.
 1525 LD. BERNERS *Froiss.* II. ccvii. [ccxiii.] 639 To fynde syluer to mayntayne it withall, he founde out subtly a backe taylor. 1841 S. WARREN *Ten Thous. a Year* II. v. (Hoppe) Whether you have come to any arrangement with your late opponent concerning the back-rents.
 † 4. That holds one back. *Obs. rare.*
 1607 FELTHAM *Resolves* (1647) 66 Take away from him those back feares, that would speak him still to be fragile man.
 † 5. Turning or looking backward. *Obs. rare.*
 1633 P. FLETCHER *Purple Isl.* in Farr's *S. P.* 197 The false back Tartars... in flying ranks, oft backward turn.
 6. Coming back, returning.
 1868 B. LOSSING *The Hudson* 145 They generally descend the river at the close of May, when they are called Back Shad.
 7. Turned back, reversed, as in *back current, back smoke*; spelt backward, as in *back slang*.
 1857 J. WILSON *Chr. North* I. 137 That mysterious and infernal sort, called back-smoke.
- Back* (bæk), v. [f. BACK sb.¹]
- I. To line the back of, make a back to.
 † 1. To cover the back, clothe. *Obs.*
 1368 LANGL. *P. Pl.* A. xi. 185 To breke beggeris bred & bakken hem [v. r. bak hym, bacheim] with clopis.
 2. To put a back to, to line the back, or form the back part of.
 1793 SMEATON *Edystone L.* § 220 The ashler walls were backed... with rubble stone, or with bricks. 1884 *Law Times Rep.* LI. 230/2 That A. B. do back and cope a hundred rods of their wall. *Mod.* This book requires to be backed.
 3. To form the rear of, lie at the back of.
 1826 DISRAELI *Viv.* Grey iv. vi. 162 Its ruined castle backing the city. 1853 KANE *Grinnell Exp.* xxxi. (1856) 270 This beach is backed by rolling dunelike hills. 1876 HUXLEY *Physiogr.* 167 The chalk cliffs which back the beach.
- II. To support at the back. (Cf. BACK sb.¹ 12.)
4. To support or help mechanically, materially, a. of persons: *orig.* with physical force, hence with authority, money; to uphold, aid, second.
 1548 W. PATTEN *Exp. Scotl.* Arb. Garner III. 98 A troupe of Demi-lances to back them. 1594 GREENE *Orl. Fur.* (1599) 30 He backt the Prince of Cuba for my foe. c1605 ROWLEY *Birch. Merl.* iv. ii. 340 The Saxons which thou brought'st To back thy usurpations. 1654 BUNYAN *Pilgr.* II. 70 One, that... had taken upon him to back the Lions. 1868 FREEMAN *Norm. Conq.* (1876) II. x. 503 Demands which had been backed by an armed force. 1880 JEFFERIES *Hodge & M.* I. 79 The old uncle who had 'backed' him at the bank.
 b. of things. Also *fig.*
 1598 BARRET *Theor. Warres* v. i. 122 They [kingdoms] are strong by nature, when... backed with lakes, mountaines, etc. 1769 FALCONER *Dict. Marine* (1789) s.v., To Back an anchor, to carry out a small anchor... ahead of the large one... in order to support it, and prevent it from loosening. 1867 SMYTH *Sailor's Word-bk.* 65 To back a rope or chain; to put on a preventer, when it is thought likely to break from age or extra strain. 1876 GREEN *Short Hist.* ii. § 6 (1882) 91 The moral revolution... was backed by a religious revival.
 5. To support morally (by arguments, etc.).
 1612 T. TAYLOR *Comm. Titus* i. 9 (1619) 205 Which Godly course Augustine backeth. 1722 Dr. For *Moll. Fl.* (1840) 312 He backed his discourses with proper quotations of scripture. 1853 H. ROGERS *Ecl. Faith* 76 Authoritative teaching... backed by the performance of miracles?
 † 6. *refl.* To support or stay oneself. *Obs.*
 1642 ROGERS *Naaman* 189 Others... backe themselves with this, That your best Preachers are no better then they should be.
 7. To support one's opinions, judgements, etc., as to an undecided issue, by a wager or bet. *To back a horse:* to bet or stake money upon his winning a race; *to back the field:* to bet upon the aggregate of the horses in a race, against one in particular.
 1697 DRYDEN *Virg. Ecl.* iii. 44 Now back your Singing with an equal Stake. 1699 LUTTRELL *Brief Rel.* IV. 505 The

lord Wharton's horse Careless has beaten another back by the duke of Devon, etc. for £1000. 1817 BYRON *Beppo* xxvii. Most men (till by losing render'd sager) Will back their own opinions with a wager. 1835 MARRYAT *Jac. Faithf.* xxiii. So Some one backed me against another man in the ring for fifty pound a side.

8. To back up: to stand behind with intent to support or second, to uphold or support materially or morally; esp. in *Cricket* (of a fielder): To run behind another fielder in readiness to stop the ball if he should fail to do it; (of the batsman at the bowler's end): To start in readiness for a run; and similarly in other games.

1865 M. ARNOLD *Ess. Crit.* i. (1875) 32 Let us all stick to each other and back each other up. 1879 FROUDE *Cesar* xxi. 359 He prolonged Caesar's command, and backed him up in everything. 1883 ABP. BENSON in *Standard* 28 June 2/3 Varied appeals to strengthen and 'back up' their own long-continued efforts.

9. *Sporting*, of dogs: To follow the lead of a dog that 'points,' by falling into the same perfectly stiff or semi-cataleptic state.

1860 *Encycl. Brit.* XX. 220/1 A dog which backs another is not aware of the proximity of game at the time otherwise than by inference. 1875 'STONEHENGE' *Brit. Sports* i. i. iii. § 6. 69 Some very high-couraged dogs are very difficult to make 'back'; I have known many highly-bred ones in which the cataleptic condition was never fully developed.

III. To mount on the back of.

10. To mount, ride on (a horse); also, to break him in to the saddle. Also, *fig.* of the billows, etc. (Cf. *To breast the waves*).

1598 SHAKS. *Ven. & Ad. lxx.* The colt that's backed and burthened being young. 1596 — *Hen. IV.* ii. iii. 74 That Roane shall be my Throne. Well, I will backe him straight. 1600 FLETCHER & MASS. *Trag. Barnabell* v. iii. Back the raging waves to bring you profit. 1623 COCKERAM *Dict.* iii. s.v. *Bucephalus*. He would suffer none to backe him, but his Master. 1774 GOLDSM. *Nat. Hist.* i. i. i. (1862) 250 The French horses... must not be backed till they are eight years old. 1783 AINSWORTH *Lat. Dict.* (Morell). To back, or break a horse, *Equum domare*. 1801 SOUTHEY *Thalaba* iv. xxx. Could they have back'd the Dromedary then.

† 11. To cover (used of animals in copulation). 1608 ROWLAND *Moufflet's Theat. Ins.* 927 When as the female or she Asse would be backt.

IV. To write or print at the back of.

12. a. To countersign a warrant. b. To endorse a bill, or cheque. c. To print on the back (as well as the front).

1768 BLACKSTONE *Comm.* IV. 238 The warrant of a justice of the peace in one county... must be backed, that is, signed by a justice of the peace in another... before it can be executed there.

V. *trans.* To cause to move back, put back.

† 13. To draw back, withdraw. *Obs.* 1578 TIMME *Catvin on Gen.* 52 If he do but a little backe his hande, all things shall by and by perish, etc.

14. To set, lay, or incline back. 1846 ELLIS *Elgin Marb.* i. 27 Was scooped in, and backed against the rock.

b. To back a sail, a yard: to lay it aback; 'to brace the yard so that the wind may blow directly on the front of the sail, and thus retard the ship's course.' Also *absolutely*.

1707 *London Gaz.* No. 4380/3 The Firebrand... immediately backing her Foresail, drove off. 1822 CAPT. CARDEN in *Examiner* 4 Jan. (1813) 6/1 The enemy backed and came to the wind. 1828 MOORE *Meet. of Ships* iii. Then sails are backed, we nearer come. 1847 SIR J. ROSS *Voy. S. Pole* II. 168 By backing and filling the sails we endeavoured to avoid collision with the larger masses [of ice].

15. To push back, cause to move back or in the opposite direction.

1812 *Examiner* 24 Aug. 533/1 One... seized the horse by the nose, backed him. 1814 SOUTHEY *Roderick* xxv. And with sidelong step Backing Orelis, drew him to the ground. 1848 DICKENS *Domby* viii. Backing his chair a little.

b. *esp.* To propel in the opposite direction, by reversing the action; as, to back a locomotive engine, a boat; also, to back the oars, and, in same sense, to back water.

1769 FALCONER *Dict. Marine* (1789) s.v., *To back astern*... is to manage the oars in a direction contrary to the usual method, so as that the boat... shall retreat. 1823 F. COOPER *Pioneer* xxvii. 'Back water,' cried Natty, as the canoe glided over the place. 1830 MARRYAT *King's Own* xlv. Before the boats could be backed astern. 1837 — *Dog-Fiend* xv. The smugglers backed water to stop their way. 1867 SMYTH *Sailor's Wd.-bk.* 65 A sailing vessel is backed by means of the sails, a steamer by reversing the paddles or screw-propeller. *Back her!* The order directing the engineer to reverse the movement of the cranks, and urge the vessel astern. 1884 *Manch. Exam.* 18 Sept. 5/2 Then the train was backed.

VI. *intr.* (for *refl.*) To move, go, come back.

16. To move back, recede, retreat backward. 1486 *Bk. St. Albans*, *Hawking* B vj. The teretys serue to kepe hir from wyndyng whan she backes. 1853 KANE *Grinnell Exp.* xvi. (1856) 123 Backing into wider quarters. 1860 DICKENS *Uncomm. Trav.* v. (1866) 33/2 Backing into the fireplace. 1873 G. DAVIES *Mount. and Mere* xiv. 109 The big fish slowly backed out of sight.

17. To move in the reverse direction. Said of the wind when it changes in a direction opposite to the course of the sun. Opposed to *veer*.

1860 ADM. FITZ-ROY in *Merc. Mar. Mag.* VII. 40 The wind appeared to 'back,' or 'retrograde.' 1870 LOWELL *Study Wind.* 5 Did the wind back round or go about with the sun?

18. To back out: to move backward out of a place without turning; *fig.* to draw back cautiously or tacitly from an arrangement or situation, to retreat out of a difficulty.

1818 SCOTT *Rob Roy* viii. Determined that Morris should not back out of the scrape so easily. 1830 MARRYAT *King's Own* xxi. 'Sure your honour's in luck'... replied Barney, grinning, and backing out of the room. 1863 MRS. C. CLARKE *Shaks. Char.* ix. 226 Octavius backs out; his caution and reserve come to his rescue.

19. To back down: to descend as one does a ladder; to recede downward from a position taken up. Also *fig.*

1880 *St. James's Gaz.* 11 Oct., Unless the Government back down from their preparations at this point. 1884 *Harper's Mag.* June 66/2 Be firm, don't back down.

Back (*back*), *adv.* [Aphetic for *ABACK*, OE. *on bec* = into or in the rear. Not found bef. 14th c.; formerly with comparative *backer*, occas. *backermore*.]

I. In a direction to the rear.

1. *lit.* In the direction of one's back, or the back of any object in question; toward the rear; away from a forward position. Often with the vb. (*go, come*, etc.) omitted, esp. in the imperative. *Back with!* move back with, take or draw back.

a. 1300 *Cursor M.* 7255 Ga, Neyder forth ne 3eit on back. 1460 *Pol. Rel. & L. Poems* (1866) 55 With that a-noon I went me bakkerre. 1549 LATIMER *Ploughers* 17 No man y loketh bakke. 1562 J. HEYWOOD *Provs. & Epigr.* (1867) 158 The bore shall bakke first. 1590 R. HARVEY *Pl. Perc.* 9 Backe with that leg, Perceual. 1820 SCOTT *Lady of L.* ii. xxiv. Back, beardless boy! Back, minion! 1851 H. STEPHENS *Bk. of Farm* 691 Language to horses... *To step backward*—Back is the only word I can remember to have heard for this motion. 1860 MAURY *Phys. Geog. Sea* viii. § 378 This current which baffled and beat back this fleet.

2. Away from what is treated as the front; from the actual or ordinary position.

a. 1500 *Blount's Test.* in *Halliwig. Nng.* P. 12 To draw the bake fer out of their sight. 1611 *Bible Matt.* xxviii. 2 The angel of the Lord rolled back the stone. 1792 *Manchhausen's Trav.* xiv. 4 The crowds who were about me retreated back. 1816 J. WILSON *City of Plague* i. ii. 133 A blast... Drives me back from the grave. *Mod.* Try to force this bolt back.

3. Away from an engagement, promise, or undertaking.

1783 AINSWORTH *Lat. Dict.* (Morell) s.v. *Back*, To go back from his word, *Fidem violare*. 1855 MACAULAY *Hist. Eng.* IV. 701 Harley and Foley... promised, with an air of confidence... but soon went back from their word. *Mod.* I accepted his offer at once, lest he should draw back.

4. Into time past, backward in time.

1712 STEELE *Spect.* No. 153 P. 2 Able to look back on Youth with Satisfaction. 1712 — *ibid.* No. 484 P. 2 If we go back to the days of Solomon. 1748 RICHARDSON *Clarissa* (1811) VI. 95, I might have gone further back than that fatal seventh. 1854 MRS. JAMESON *Bk. of Th.* (1877) 123 In memory I can go back to a very early age.

II. In the reverse direction.

5. *lit.* In the opposite direction in space, so as to return to the place originally left. Often with vb. (*go*, etc.) omitted: cf. 1.

a. 1535 MOORE *Wks.* 6 (R). To pull him back into the voluptuous brode way. 1550 *Merry Mag.* *Jack Cade* x. 6 Removed our campe, and backe to Senocke went. c. 1590 MARLOWE *Faust.* v. 37 If thou deny it I will back to hell. 1596 SHAKS. *Merch.* V. ii. vii. 14, I will suruay the inscriptions backe againe. 1624 T. TAYLOR *Two Serms.* i. 21 Backe they will to Egypt in all haste. 1783 BURKE *Affairs Ind. Wks.* XI. 54 Send it back to Bengal for the purchase of Indian merchandise. 1854 MISS YONGE *Cameos* i. 216 Back came John in rage and fury.

6. In reversal of progress, so as to return to a former condition.

1535 COVERDALE *Jer.* xlv. a They wente backe to do sacrifice and worship vnto straunge goddes. 1752 JOHNSON *Ramb.* No. 204 P. 6 And then fall back to the common state of man. 1817 BYRON *Manfred* ii. ii. 78, I felt myself degraded back to them, and was all clay again. 1867 FREEMAN *Norm. Cong.* (1876) I. App. 749 The whole country fell back into heathenism.

7. In reversal of action or change of any kind, so as to restore former circumstances or relations; formerly expressed by *AGAIN*, which is still sometimes used, and often added.

1607 SHAKS. *Cor.* i. i. 149 All From me do backe recieve the Flowre of all. 1692 E. WALKER *Epictetus Mor.* (1737) xv. How is that lost that is but given back? 1752 JOHNSON *Ramb.* No. 193 P. 11 Three times I sent it to the printer, and three times I fetched it back. 1865 BARING-GOULD *Werewolves* v. 55 And transformed himself back again into his human shape. 1883 GILMOUR *Mongols* xvii. 203 Has any one among us died... and come back to life?

b. *ellipt.* (= come, received, put, etc. back.) To be back = F. *être de retour*.

1879 W. WARD *Philos. Theism* (1884) I. 386 My desire to be back comfortably in the warm house. *Mod.* How long have you been back? I must have them back some day.

8. In return, requital, repayment, retaliation. 1599 SHAKS. *Much Ado* iv. i. 20 What haue I to giue you back? 1601 — *Twelfth N.* iv. iii. 18 Take, and giue backe affayres, and their dispatch. 1831 CARLYLE *Serv. Res.* ii. i. With heavy penalty will it one day be required back. 1863 KINGSLEY *Water Bab.* viii. 326 She knew they would pay her back. *Mod.* Strongly tempted to answer back.

III. Of position.

9. In a position to the rear, or away from the front; at a point or distance behind.

c. 1300 in *O. E. Misc.* 228 He bad him stonde bac. 1473

WARKW. *Chron.* 22 And aftyre... it arose north-est, and so bakkerre and bakkerre. 1594 SHAKS. *Rich. III.* i. ii. 38 My Lord, stand backe, and let the Coffin passe. 1890 THACKERAY *Pendennis* xvi. (1884) 143 Mrs. Pendennis's visit... which we have recorded many pages back. *Mod.* The field lies back from the road. I left him back at the second milestone.

10. In a state of check to forward motion in space, to progress in condition, to production, exhibition, or declaration.

1535 COVERDALE 2 *Kings* iv. 24 Dryue forth, and keep me not bak. 1575-6 THYNNE in *Animadv.* Intro. 56 There is a huge stoon tied at my foote, whiche keepeth me backe. 1611 *Bible Num.* xxiv. 11 The Lord hath kept thee back from honour. 1855 MACAULAY *Hist. Eng.* III. 255 A nation... long kept back by a sterile soil and a severe climate. *Mod.* To keep back dispatches, main facts, essential particulars. To shade fruit trees, so as to keep the fruit back.

11. In time past; ago. Usually following a measure of time.

1796 SOUTHEY *Lett. Spain* (1799) 139 Dug up, a few years back, at Buenos Ayres. 1860 HAWTHORNE *Marble Faun* (1879) I. viii. 86 For months back. 1869 FREEMAN *Norm. Cong.* (1876) III. xi. 58 A house which, two generations back, had been ignoble. *Mod.* Far back in the Middle Ages.

12. Behind in condition, behind-hand, in arrear. 1875 *Chamb. Jnrl.* No. 133. 66 A dinnerless Sunday and a week back in their rent.

IV. *Phrases.*

13. † *Back and fore* (arch. or dial.), *back and forth*, *back and forward*: backwards and forwards, to and fro.

1653 URQUHART *Rabelais* i. xxiii. He would go back and fore along the foresaid rope. 1678 R. LESTRANGE *Seneca's Mor.* (1685) 4 All Material Benefits are tossed back and forward, and change their Master. 1839 *Amec. & Trad.* (Camd.) Young girls... dance over the candle back and forth. 1847 LE FANU *J. O'Brien* 199 Barristers... flitted back and forward through the passages. 1884 ROSE in *Harper's Mag.* Sept. 540/2, I will go back and forth every day.

14. *Back of*: back from, behind. (In U.S.)

1857 TOMES *Amer. in Japan* iii. 83 The country which stretches back of Shanghai. 1875 WHITNEY *Life Lang.* viii. 143 Another earlier designation of a more or less kindred conception lay back of it. 1875 SEARS *Serm. & Songs* 287 The home lies back of the Sunday School.

Back-in comb. is used in many relations, substantive, adjective, and adverbial (rarely verbal), often difficult to separate, and in various senses. In some of these the combination is very loose, the use of the hyphen being almost optional.

This is especially the case, when *back* is capable of being viewed as an adj., in which aspect the hyphen would not be used, e.g. *back-yard* or *back-yard*, *back-stroke* or *back-stroke*. As a rule, the use of the hyphen implies that the combination (in the case in point) has not the general and purely descriptive value of the two words, but is in some respect specialized or appropriated as a specific name.

A. General senses in combination.

I. from *BACK* sb.

1. *objective*. a. with pr. pple., forming adjectives, as *back-slapping*, *-wounding*. b. with vbl. sb., forming substantives, as *back-breaking*, *-scratching*. c. with agent-noun, as *back-scraper*, *-scratcher*.

1603 SHAKS. *Meas. for M.* iii. ii. 197 Back-wounding calumnie. 1777 TWINING in *Country Clergyman*. 1818 C. (1882) 50 A brisk, noisy, back-slapping new man. 1879 BENTHAM *Wks.* X. 168 Back-breaking which is the death of so many vessels. 1794 J. WOLCOTT (P. Pindar) *Rowd. for Oliver* Wks. II. 135 Chopsticks and backscrapers. 1804 SOUTHEY *Doctor* iv. (D.) A back-scraper, of which the hand was ivory. 1884 *Good Wds.* June 400/2 Having borne himself so lubberly over his 'back-scratching'.

2. *instrumental* and *locative*, with pples. and adjs., forming adjs., as *back-broken*, *back-aching*.

1603 J. DAVIES *Microcosm.* (1876) 16 (D.) An empires lode (Which weakness oft back-broken undergoes). 1837 *Athenaeum* No. 827. 874 The back-broken traveller... stretches from his camel. 1883 SWINBURNE *Casquettes* xvi. The strengths reluctant of waves back-bowed.

3. *attrib.* Of or pertaining to the back, used for or carried on the back, e.g. *back-ache*, *-cloth*, *-clout*, *-fin*; *back-basket*, *-burden*, *-dunt*, *-load*.

c. 1230 *Ancr. R.* 290 Gif him stronge bak duntis. 1377 LANGL. *P. Pl.* B. x. 362 Oure bakclapis (v. r. bakkes) bat moth-eten be. 1530 PALSGR. 196/1 Backburden, *portier*, *charge*. 1601 DENT *Pathw. Heaven* 79 Tooth-ache, head-ache, backe-ache, bone-ache. 1706 PHILLIPS, *Bray*, Back-clouts for young children. 1725 DE FOE *Voy. round World* (1840) 158 She came... with a great back-burden of roots. 1725 BAILEY *Erasm. Colloq.* (1877) 182 (D.) Return home with a backload of sanctimony. 1775 ADAIR *Amer. Ind.* 90 Large portable back-baskets. 1863 KINGSLEY *Water-Bab.* iv. 144 With their back-fins out of the water.

II. from *BACK* a.

4. *gen.* Lying at the back, in the rear, or behind; hinder; = *BACK* a. 1, and more commonly written as two words.

1581 MARBECK *Bk. of Notes* 86 Thou shalt see my Backe-partes, but my face shal not be seene. 1650 T. GOODWIN *Wks.* (1862) IV. 267 The back-parts of God, which we call his attributes. 1752 tr. *Gersaint's Rembrandt's Etch.* 29 The Back-view is the inner part of the Temple. 1753 HANWAY *Trav.* (1762) I. iii. xxxvii. 167 The back-part of this tent. 1772 MASKELYNE in *Phil. Trans.* LXII. 106 In the back-observation... the real upper-limb will appear the lowest. 1774 WHITE *ibid.* LXV. 273 The back-wall of William of Wickham's stables.

5. *esp.* Applied to a part of a house or building which lies behind, and is usually subsidiary to the front or main part bearing the name, as *back-*

building, a building behind forming an appendage to a main building, *back-chamber*, *court*, *-drawing-room*, *-garden*, *-house*, *-kitchen*, *-parlour*, *-yard*, etc.
 1535 COVERDALE *Ezek.* xlii. 1 The chambre that stode ouer agaynst the backbyldinge. a 1603 T. CARTWRIGHT *Confut. Rhem. N. T.* (1618) 724 The intercession by Angels lyeth (as they say) in the backhouse ditch. 1633 FORD *Love's Sacr.* i. ii. (1839) 77 I'll meet thee . . . in thy lady's back-lobby. 1653 URQUHART *Rabelais* i. iv. In every back-chamber or with-drawing room. 1679 BEDLOE *Popish Plot* Ep. a. Creeping into back-yards, and firing stacks of Bavin. 1709 STEELE *Tatler* No. 45 ¶ 1, I was let in at the Back-gate of a lovely House. 1710 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 4637/4 A well built Brick House, with a Back-house and other Buildings behind. 1759 STERNE *Tr. Shandy* (1802) l. 78 To drink a bottle of wine with my father . . . in the back-parlour. 1784 WESLEY *Wks.* (1872) XIII. 503 She heard a knocking at the back-kitchen door. 1854 MRS. GASKELL *North & S. i.* Curled up on the sofa in the back-drawing-room. 1866 R. BALLANTYNE *Lifeboat* 5 Mr. Crumps sat in a small back-office. 1878 BLACK *Green Past.* iii. 20 The back-parlour of a Ballinascroon public-house. 1882 PEBOBY *Eng. Journalism* xxiii. 186 The crowing of a cock in the back-yard of a suburban villa.

III. from BACK *adv.*

6. With *vsbs.*, forming compound verbs, as *back-try*, to try back or over again. *rare*.

1640-1 *Kirkcudbr. War-Comm. Min. Bk.* (1855) 83 The way . . . shall be tried and baktryed.

7. With *pres. pple.*, forming adjs., as *back-blowing*, *-coming*, *-driving*, *-glancing*, *-going*, *-looking*, *-lying*.

1566 TURNER *Herbal* ii. 97b, A repercuissive or back-drying medicine. 1615 W. HULL *Mirr. Maj.* 48 The soule is encombrd with foure back-pulling retentives. 1827 MAR. EDGEWORTH *Harrington* vi. Wks. IX. 45 With back-stepping curtsy. 1850 MRS. BROWNING *Poems* II. 347 Back-looking Memory. 1863 H. KINGSLEY *A. Elliot* i. x. 110 A long, low, back-lying house.

8. With *pa. pples.*, forming adjs. (chiefly poetic), as *back-drawn*, *-flung*, *-thrown*, *-turned*, etc.

1580 SIDNEY *Arcadia* (1622) 92 With shafts shot out from their back-turned bow. 1652 URQUHART *Jewel* Wks. (1834) 226 Tossed to and again, retorted, backreverted. 1850 MRS. BROWNING *Poems* II. 74 Back-thrown on the slippery coping-stone. 1863 BARNES *Rhymes Dorset Dial.* II. 28 A lookin up with back-flung head.

9. With *agent-nouns*, forming sbs., as *BACK-SLIDER*; *back-sitter*, one who sits back.

1883 in PAXTON HOOD *Scot. Char.* ii. 33 But a bauchle . . . in this world, and a backslider in the neist.

10. With *vbl. sbs.* forming sbs., as *BACK-SLIDING*, *back-coming*, *-drawing*, *-going*, *-looking*, *-slipping*, *-starting*, *-surging*, *-turning*, etc.

1535 COVERDALE *Jer.* iii. 22 So shal I heale youre bac-turnynges. 1540 — *Fruit. Less.* iii. Wks. 1844 l. 366 Such curious backlooking doth the Lord rebuke. 1590 SWINBURN *Testaments* 197 Of apostasie . . . that is to say, of back-starting from the Christian faith. 1600 ABBOT *Exp. Jonah* 523 That sigh which breatheth out sorrow, by a backe-breathing bringeth in joy. a 1605 SIR J. MELVIL *Mem.* (1683) 79 In her back-coming . . . the Earl of Bothwell rancountered her. 1663 BLAIR *Autobiog.* vi. (1848) 86 Approving my jealousy, but reproving my backdrawing. 1818 SCOTT *Rob Roy* xxxiv. A . . . hostage for my safe backcoming. 1858 R. CHAMBERS *Dom. Ann. Scotl.* i. 4 In all her back-surginges upon the ground she lost.

11. With *nouns of action*, forming sbs., as *back-caper*, *-come*, *-flow*, *-look*, *-march*, *-return*, *-step*, *-stretch*, *-sweep*, *-throw*.

1577 tr. *Bullinger's Decades* (1592) 314 At his back-returne into his country. 1599 SHAKS. *Hen. V.* v. Cho. 41 Till Harryes backe returne againe to France. 1606 *Ret. fr. Parnass.* ii. vi. The dog, seeing him practise his . . . back-caper. 1645 RUTHERFORD *Trial & Tri. Faith* (1845) 122 When the conscience hath gotten a back-throw with the hand of the Almighty. a 1718 PENN *Wks.* (1726) l. 454 We wish it be not the Beginning of a Back-march. 1854 GROTE *Greece* ii. lxxv. ix. 479 The back-march of Agesilaus. 1869 *Eng. Mech.* 31 Dec. 382½ The weight is by the back-throw from C to A restrained from lowering itself. 1884 *Health Exhib. Catal.* 72½ For the prevention of any back-flow of water or sewage.

12. With other *sbs.* a. expressing backward direction, as *back-bias*, *back-draught*: see B.

a 1617 BAYNE *On Eph.* (1658) 130 Youthful lusts . . . like a back-bias, did draw after themselves the understanding. 1642 ROGERS *Naaman* 550 He doth but put a back-bias upon thee; that he might weigh thy motion to himselfe.

b. expressing 'in the contrary direction,' return, as *back-cargo*, cargo brought on the return voyage, *back-carriage*, *-current*, *-fare*, *-freight*, *-tonnage*.

1657 COLVIL *Whigs Supplic.* (1751) 30 He treads the back-scent, brings a glove. 1721 C. KING *Brit. Merch.* i. 361 Sending any empty Ships . . . for the sake of Back-carriage. Corn has been often carry'd . . . for nothing, in consideration of Back-Tonnage. 1805 W. TAYLOR in *Ann. Rev.* III. 320 Our ships incur a loss of back-freight. 1833 TENNYSON *Poems* 36 The fish that everywhere In the backcurrent glanced and played. 1860 in *Merc. Mar. Mag.* VII. 57 It is not difficult to procure back cargo.

c. expressing reciprocation or reply, as *back-answer*, *-echo*, *back-word*.

1626 BACON *Sylva* § 247 You have many Back-Echo's to the Place where you stand. 1884 *Hull & E. C. Herald* 28 Feb. 6/6 The boy was a civil boy, and never gave a back answer.

d. expressing 'turned or performed backwards,' as *back-pater-noster*, *BACK-SLANG*.

IV. Parasynthetic derivatives, as *back-geared*, having back-gear; *BACK-HANDED*.

1881 *Mechanic* § 596 Lathe with back-geared head.

B. Special combinations (with quotations in alphabetical order):

Back-bar, a bar in the chimney to hang a vessel on (Ash); **back-box**, in *Printing*, a box on top of the upper case, usually appropriated to small capitals (Craig); **back-breaker**, the leader of a gang of farm-labourers; † **back-carry sb.** = **BACK-BEAR**; **back-casing**, in *Mining*, a temporary shaft-lining of bricks, in front of which the permanent lining is built; **back-cauter** (see quot.); **back-chain**, a chain that passes over a cart-saddle to support the shafts of a cart; † **back-chair**, a chair with a back; **back-clamp v.** in *Wrestling* (see quot.); **back-click**, a trick in wrestling; **back-draught**, a draught of air backward, a hood for producing this in a fire; **back-filling**, the filling in again of earth which has been removed, the earth so filled in; **back-flap**, **-fold** (= **back-shutter**); **back-front**, the ground in an etching or engraving; **back-harrow** (see **HARROW**); **back-heart**, the dorsal heart or large blood-vessel of insects and other arthropoda; **back-heel sb.**, a trick in wrestling; **back-heel v.**, to throw by a back-heel; † **back-hood**, hiding behind cover; **back-jamb**, a wing of a house projecting behind; **back-light**, a light coming from behind or falling upon the hinder part (Worcester 1859); **back-lining**, in *Arch.*, the piece of a sash-frame parallel to the pulley piece and next to the jamb on either side (Gwilt 1842); **back-links**, the links in a parallel motion which connect the air-pump rod to the beam (Weale *Dict. Terms* 1849); **back-look**, a trick in wrestling; **back-nails**, 'nails made with flat shanks, so as to hold fast, and not to open the grain of the wood' (James *Mil. Dict.* 1816); **back-overman**, in *Coal Mining*, an overman who has the immediate inspection of the workings and workmen during the *back-shift*; **back-painting** (see quot.); **back-pater-noster**, the Lord's prayer repeated backward as a charm, *fig.* a muttered curse or imprecation, **back-pressure**, in the steam-engine, the resistance of the atmosphere or waste steam to the piston; † **back-reckoning**, a reckoning for past transactions or misdeeds; **back-rest**, a guide attached to the slide-rest of a turning-lathe, and placed in contact with the work to steady it; **back-rope** (of a horse) = **BACK-BAND**; **Naut.**, a rope leading inboard from the martingale; see also quot. 1860; **back-scene**, the background of a stage scene; **back-shaft**, part of a cotton-spinning machine; **back-shift**, in *Coal Mining*, the second shift or set of hewers for the day; **back-shutter**, the part of a shutter which folds up behind; **back-skin**, in *Mining*, a leather covering worn by miners in wet workings; **back-spang** (*Sc.*), a trick or legal quirk, by which one takes advantage of another, after a bargain has been adjusted (*Jam.*); **back-speed**, in *Mech.*, the second speed-gear of a lathe; † **back-stand**, backing, support; **back-step**, a step back; the retrograde movement without changing front (James *Mil. Dict.* 1816); **back-stop**, in *Cricket* = **LONG-STOP**; **back-striking**, in *Agriculture*, a mode of ploughing in which the earth once turned is simply thrown back again; **back-string**, a string at the back, *e.g.* at the back of a child's pinafore; **back-sweep** (see quot.); **back-swimmer**, one that swims on his back; the hemipterous insect *Notonecta* which swims on the surface of pools; **back-tack** (*Sc. Law*), a kind of deed by which the mortgagee of land gives a lease of it to the mortgagor on condition of payment of rent till redeemed (Buchanan); † **back-timber** (*humorously* for) clothing; † **back-trade**, backward course; † **back-trick**, † a caper backwards in dancing; **back-winter**, a return of winter after its regular time; **back-worm**, a disease incident to hawks; **back-word** (in *Lanc.*), withdrawal from a promise or from an accepted invitation, also *dial.* a contradiction, rude answer; **back-wort** (*Herb.*), old name for the Comfrey (*Symphytum officinale*).

1867 *People's Mag.* May 314½ He selects one of his gang as 'back-breaker.' 1611 COTGER, *Cautere dorsal*, the 'back cauter' or, that kinde of knife-like cauter, which cuts but on th' one side. 1649 Bury *Wills* (1850) 221 Vnto my daughter Martha two wrought 'backchaires. 1713 PARKYNS *Inn-Play* (1727) 43 When your Adversary 'Back-clamps you, which is when he claps his Heel in your Ham. 1867 *Standard* Apr. Graham threw his antagonist first by a 'back click.' 1869 *Eng. Mech.* 24 Dec. 344½ A hood or 'back draught' is applied over the fire. 1851 *Jrnl. R. Agric. Soc.* XII. i. 158 The windows . . . finished with bound shutters and 'back-folds. 1753 tr. *Gervaint's Rembrandt's Etch.* 59 The 'Back-front or Ground is generally foul. 1883 *Longm. Mag.* May 49 A jointed animal . . . with a 'back-heart, a nervous system below, and a digestive tube. 1881 *Sportsman's Year Bk.* 314 Cowan scored with a very neat 'back heel. 1883

Standard 24 Mar. 3/7 J. Hodgson 'back-heeled J. Wilson. c 1450 HENRYSON *Mor. Fab.* 34 Hee played 'back-hood behind from beast to beast. 1852 M. SCOTT *Tom Cringle* xviii. (1850) 506 A very handsome dining room situated in what I believe is called a 'back-jamb, a sort of outrigger to the house. 1713 PARKYNS *Inn-Play* (1727) 53 Stand with that Toe out and Leg bent, over which he intends to take the Buttock, or 'Back-lock. 1876 *Daily News* 28 Sept. 4/4 The death of a 'back overman, two miners, and a driver. 1753 CHAMBERS *Cycl. Suppl.*, 'Back-painting, the art of pasting of prints and other designs on glass. 1815 *Encycl. Brit.* III. 309 'Back-painting, the method of painting mezzotinto prints, pasted on glass, with oil colours. a 1575 ASP. PARKER *Corr.* 158 Prayers, for the Queen's Majesty's prosperity and continuance; where others say their 'back pater-nosters for her in corners. 1665 *Paston Lett.* 522 ll. 224 Thou comyst in with many 'bak rekenynges. 1633 Bp. HALL *Hard Texts* 142 Thou callest me to a 'backe-reckoning for the very sins of my youth. 1711 in *Lond. Gaz.* No. 4868/4 A white Spot on the middle of his Back made by the chafing of a 'back Rope. 1840 R. DANA *Bef. Mast.* xxxv. 129 Tackle [was] got upon the martingale 'backrope. c 1860 H. STUART *Seaman's Catech.* 57 The cat is hooked, by means of the 'back-rope, to the ring of the anchor. 1817 BYRON *Beppo* xli. Much like the 'back scene of a play. 1879 J. ROBERTSON in *Cassell's Techn. Educ.* IV. 396½ Between the roller-beam and the creels the 'back-shaft extends to each end of the mule. 1823 P. NICHOLSON *Pract. Build.* 218 'Back-shutters or 'Back-flaps, Additional breadths tinger to the front shutters. 1548 HALL *Chron.* (1809) 425 Lyle avayleth outward Warre, except there be a stedfast 'Back-stande at home. 1566 J. HEYWOOD *Prov. & Epigr.* (1867) 203 If one 'backstep be as much as foresteps three. 1844 BAKER in *Jrnl. R. Agric. Soc.* V. i. 32 The land . . . is ploughed as the work proceeds by what is termed 'back-striking. 1785 COWPER *Task* iv. 227 Misses, at whose age their mothers wore The 'backstiving, and the bib. c 1850 *Kudim. Nav.* (Weale) 120 The top-timber sweep, or 'back sweep, is that which forms the hollow of the top-timber. 1866 *Athenaeum* No. 1830. 660 The 'backswimmer . . . has . . . the faculty of entangling air in the hairs of its body. a 1656 Bp. HALL *Rem. Wks.* (1660) 159 Excesse in diet and clothes, in belly-cheer, and 'back-timber. 1640 *Lawfulnesse Exp. into Eng.* 4 He hath followed the 'back trade of our defection . . . The Lord therefore is still on the 'back trade. 1601 SHAKS. *Twel. N.* i. iii. 131 I haue the 'backe-tricke, simply as strong as any man in Illyria. 1599 NASHE *Leut. Stuffe* 13 This and euery towne hath his 'backewinters or frostes that nippe it in the blade. 1649 SELDEN *Laws of Eng.* ii. xl. (1739) 174 Yet like a dead Calm in a hot Spring, treasured up in store sad distempers against a 'back-Winter. a 1682 SIR T. BROWNE *Tracts* 115 That obstinate disease of the Filander or 'Back-worm. 1598 FLORIO, *Consolida magiore*, the herbe Comfrie, Knit-backe or 'backwoort.

† **Backare, baccare, interj. phr. Obs.** [Origin doubtful; perhaps for *back there!* or *back-er* (= farther back); Nares says the allusion is to an ignorant man who affected to speak Latin, in accordance with which Webster makes the word trisyllabic.] Back! stand back! give place!

a 1553 UDALL *Roister D.* (Arb.) 16 Ah sir, Backare quod Mortimer to his sowe. 1592 LYLIV *Mydas* i. ii. 10 The masculine gender is more worthy than the feminine, therefore Licio—backare. 1596 SHAKS. *Tom. Shr.* ii. i. 72 Let vs that are poore petitioners speake too. Baccare, you are meruaylous forward. 1660 in HOWELL *Eng. Prov.* (as in 1553).

Backband (bækbænd). [f. *BACK sb.* + *BAND.*] A broad leather strap, or iron chain, passing over the cart-saddle or pad on the back of a horse, and serving to keep up the shafts of a vehicle.

1593 FITZHERB. *Husb.* § 5 A cart sadel, bakbandes, and belybandes. 1797 BRADLEY *Fam. Dict.* s. v. *Cart*, The Thill hooks and back-band which hold the sides of the Cart up to the horse. 1848 THOMPSON in *Jrnl. R. Agric. Soc.* IX. ii. 403 The shafts should be fixed at such a height by means of the back-band, that, etc.

† **Backbear, sb. Obs.** [f. *BACK sb.* + *c + BEAR v.*] In *Forest Laws*: The act of carrying on the back venison killed illegally. (Cf. next.)

1598 MANWOOD *Laws of Forest* xviii. § 9 (1615) 134½ Backe beare is, where any man hath slaine a wild beast . . . and is found carrying away of the same. 1667 E. CHAMBERLAYNE *St. Gt. Brit.* i. iii. vi. (1743) 186 Taken either at dog-draw . . . back-bear, or bloodyhand. 1866 *Chamb. Jrnl.* 261.

† **Backberend, adj. (pr. pple.) Obs.** In 3-inde, 6-9-and, 7-end, 8-ind. [OE. *bæc-berende*, f. *bæc* back + *berende*, pr. pple. of *beran* to BEAR: see prec.] Bearing on the back: an OE. combination, long retained as a law-term to describe a thief caught in the act of thus carrying off stolen property. Sometimes modernized as *back-bearing*.

1292 BRITTON l. xxx. § 6 Acun laroun ou robbeour seisi de soen larcyn handhabynde et bacberinde. c 1550 SIR J. BALFOUR *Practicks* (1754) 37 Theives tane and apprehend in manifest theft, sic as hand-havand and back-berind. 1641 *Termes de la Ley* 36b, Backberind, theefe. 1822 *Edin. Rev.* XXXVI. 295 If the offender could be taken back-bearing. 1828 SCOTT *F. M. Perth* iv. Our hand-habend, our back-berand, and our blood-suits.

Backbite (bækbait), *v.* Forms: 2-5 *bac-*, *bakbite*, 4-6 *bakbyte*, 5-6 *bag-*, *bakko-*, *bac-byte*, *backbyte*, 6-7 *backebite*, 4- *backbite*. *Pa. t.* 4 *bac-*, *bakbate*; 4 *bacbitide*, *bakbited*, 5 *bacbyted*. *Pa. pple.* 5-6 *bakbyttyn*, *-byten*, 7- *backbitten*; 4-6 *bacbyted*, 6 *bak-*, *backe-*, 6-7 *backbited*. [f. *BACK adv.* + *BITE v.*, i.e. to bite one on, or behind, his back.]

To detract from the character of, to slander, traduce, speak ill of: a. a person absent.

c 1175 [see *BACKBITING vbl. sb.*] a 1300 *E. E. Psalter* xxxviii. 20 Pat yheldes ivels for godes bac-bate [Vulg. *detrahebant*]

me. 1393 GOWER *Conf.* I. 411 Is none so good, that he ne passeth betwene his teeth and is backbited. 1496 *Dives & Paup.* (W. de W.) vii. ii. 278/2 Mary the syster of Moses backbited her brother. 1520 *Myrr. Our Ladye* Introd. 47 Why hast thou bakkyten my handmayde adjugyng hir to be powde? 1609 HOLLAND *Amm. Marcell.* xvii. ix. 91 With countemulous tearmes traduced and backbitten. 1791 *Wesley Husb. & Wives* iii. 7 Wks. 1811 IX. 67 To backbite an enemy is sin; how much more to backbite one's own yoke-fellow. 1851 *HELPS Comp. Solit.* iii. (1874) 31 People will backbite one another to any extent rather than not be amused.

† b. an institution, action, character, etc. *Obs.*
1388 WYCLIF *James* iv. 11 He that bakbitith his brother bakbitith the lawe. 1596 SPENSER *F. Q.* i. iv. 32 The verse of famous poets witt He does backbite. 1608 DEKKER *Satirom.* Wks. 1873 I. 209 Doe not back-bite her beauties.

c. absolutely or intr.
1377 LANGL. *P. Pl.* B. ii. 80 To bakbite and to bosten and bere fals witness. 1597 SHAKS. *2 Hen. IV.* v. i. 36 Vse his men well Dauid, for they are arrant knaves, and will back-bite. 1841 *LANE Arab. Nts.* III. 613 Backbite not, lest thou be backbitten.

† **Backbite**, *sb.* *Obs.* [f. *prec.*] Backbiting.
1598 *Stow Survey* (Strype 1754) I. iii. vi. 593/2 A stay to weake, a staff to poor, Without Backbite or pride.

† **Backbiter** (bæk'bɔɪtə). *Forms:* see the vb. [f. *BACKBITE* v. + -ER.] One who backbites; a slanderer or secret calumniator.

1386 *Chaucer Pers. T.* p. 422 The bakbitur wol torne al thilke goodnes up-so-doun. 1440 *Prompt. Parv.* 21/2 Bakkebytere, *Detractor.* 1509 *BARCLAY Ship of Fools* (1570) p. iv, Backbiters which good liuers diffame. 1607 *Sp. without Doors* in *Rushw. Hist. Coll.* (1659) I. 492 Diogenes being asked what beast bit sorest, answered, Of wilde beasts, the Back-biter; of tame, the Flatterer. 1859 TENNYSON *Vivien* 673 Face-flatterers and backbiters are the same.

b. (*word-play*) A biter, or striker, on the back.
1608 *TOURNEUR Rev. Trag.* II. ii. 58 Sword thou wast neuer a back-biter yet.

† **Backbiting** (bæk'bɔɪtɪŋ), *vbl. sb.* *Forms:* 2-3 -bitunge, 4 -bytyng, -bityng, -bytyng, 5 -bytyng, -bityng, -bityng, -bytyng, 5 -bityng. [f. as *prec.* + -ING.] The action of detracting, slandering, or speaking ill of one behind his back.

1175 *Cott. Hom.* 205 Cursunge, backbitunge and fikelunge. 1303 R. BRUNNE *Handl. Synne* 3544 No custumable bakbytyng God forzeueþ. 1350 *Ayres the Welle* in *Babees Bk.* (1868) 357 Be ware of bakbytyng, y the rede. 1685 *Gracian's Courtier's Oracle* 45 There is great difference betwixt censure and backbiting. For the one is grounded upon indifference, and the other upon malice. 1865 *TROLLOPE Orley F.* lviii. 420 Not given to backbiting.

† **Backbiting**, *ppl. a.* [f. as *prec.* + -ING.] That slanders or speaks ill of the absent.

1388 WYCLIF *Pt. c.* 5 The backbitende priuelli to his nezhebor. 1520 *Tusser Husb.* (1878) 190 Backbiting talk that flatterer blabs know wily how to blenge. 1873 *Miss Broughton Nancy* II. 280 Am I to have a backbiting wife?

† **Backbitingly**, *adv.* *Obs.* [f. *prec.* + -LY.] In a backbiting manner; slanderously.

1520 *BARET Adv.* B. 22 Backbitingly, or slaundersously.
† **Backblow** (bæk'bləʊ). *Obs.* [f. *BACK sb.* and *adv.* + *BLOW sb.*]

1. A blow struck at the back or from behind.

1644 *FULLER Holy & Prof. St.* II. xix. (b) 127 A premeditated back-blown in cold blood is base. 1857 *Househ. Words* 12 Sept. 245 Outwitted him at his own game of backblows.

2. *fig.* (Cf. *AFTER-CLAP*.)
1649 *DRUMM. of HAWTH. Jan.* III. Wks. 55 So many backblows of fortune. 1705 *STANHOPE Paraphr.* II. 456 That Reflexion fell upon his Mind with this terrible back-blow.

† **Back-board** (bæk'bɔɪd). [f. *BACK sb.*]
† 1. = *LARBOARD*. Only in OE.: see *BABORD*.

2. A board placed at, or forming, the back of anything, e.g. of a picture, a cart, a boat.

1761 *Brit. Mag.* II. 613 Artfully concealed behind the back-board of Perrot's picture. 1769 *FALCONER Mar. Dict.*, *Back-board*, a piece of board of a semicircular figure, placed transversely in the after-part of a boat, and serving the passengers to recline against. 1877 *Tinsley's Mag.* Aug. 220 Wife and family in the ramshackle tax-cart, the little ones 'creening' over the back-board.

3. A board attached to the rim of a water-wheel to prevent the water from running off the floats into the interior of the wheel.

1864 WEBSTER cites NICHOLSON.
4. A board held or strapped across the back to straighten the figure.

1794-1801 E. DARWIN *Zoom* III. 143 Methods of confining or directing the growth of young people... such as back-boards. 1801 *MAR. EDGEWORTH Fr. Governess* (1831) 176 Her person had undergone all the tortures of back-boards, collars, stocks, dumb-bells. 1880 J. SOUTH *Househ. Surg.* (ed. 4) 332 Another abominable contrivance called a back-board... by which the girl's arms were trussed behind her, in much the same way as the wings of a roast fowl.

5. 'That part of the lathe which is sustained by the four legs, and which sustains the pillars that support the puppet-bar.' Weale *Dict. Terms* 1849.

† **Backboard**, *v.* [f. *prec.*] To subject to the use of a backboard.

1855 *THACKERAY Newcomes* II. 146 If they have been lectured, and learning, and back-boarded, and practising. 1881 *MISS BRADDON Asph.* I. 144 Governessed, and preached-at, and back-boarded.

† **Back-bond** (bæk'bɔnd). *Sc. Law.* [f. *BACK adv.* + *BOND*.] A document by which a party receiving or holding a title, *ex facie* absolute, ac-

knowledges that he really holds in trust for a specified purpose, and binds himself to convey or account to the true owner after that purpose is served. The true owner is usually the grantor of the absolute deed, hence the term *back-bond* is applied to the explanatory document executed by the grantee.

a 1645 *Acts Chas. I* (1814) V. 283 (JAM.) The dispositione... was cancellate:—and the provest productit the bakband, q^lk was also cancelled. 1645 RUTHERFORD *Tryal & Tri.* *Faith* (1845) 246 He who is ransomed by Christ... is under a back-bond, or a re-obligation of love, service, and obedience. 1867 A. M. BELL *Conveyanc.* 1079 A heritable security... may also be constituted in the form of an absolute disposition qualified by a backbond.

† **Backbone** (bæk'bɔn). *Forms:* 3 baebon, 4 bakbon, bakebon, 5 bakbone, 4-7 backebone, 6-—backbone. (In 5-7 often two words; still sometimes hyphenated.) [f. *BACK sb.* + *BONE*.]

1. The vertebral column, the spine. *To the backbone*: thoroughly, completely.

a 1300 W. DE BIBLESW. in Wright *Voc.* 146 Bacbon, *Leichine*. a 1400 *Leg. Rood* 190 Pe cros behind his bakbon Pat he polud deth uppon. 1523 FITZGER. *Husb.* (1534) F iv b, He wyll eate soo moche, that his sydes wyll stande as hygh as his backe bone. 1647 J. HALL *Poems* 89 How many back-bones nourisht have Crawling Serpents in the grave? 1849 W. IRVING *Crayon Misc.* 165 It struck a buffalo... broke its back-bone. 1864 *DK. MANCH. Crit. Soc. Elis.* to Anne II. 107 Harry was English to the backbone.

2. *transf.* A main support or axis, or chief substantial part; e.g. the backbone of a bicycle; the chief mountain-range or water-shed of a country.

1684 T. BURNET *The Earth* I. 142 The Appennines strike through Italy... the back-bone of that country. 1865 TYLOR *Early Hist. Man.* vii. 162 The Cordilleras, or backbone of America. 1879 A. GALLETT in *Cassell's Techn. Educ.* IV. 390/2 The 'back-bone' of the chenille... is composed of several strong cotton threads.

3. *fig.* The main or important element; mainstay.

1849 *CODDEN Speeches* 64, I speak to the clothiers... the backbone and muscle of the clothing district of England. 1871 *EARLE Philol. Eng. Tong.* § 313 We are now come to the backbone of our subject. 1884 J. BENT in *Macm. Mag.* Oct. 429/2 A secret society which was the backbone of Panhellenism.

4. Strength of character, stability of purpose, resoluteness, sturdiness, firmness.

1865 *Sat. Rev.* 18 Feb. 195 A great man he... could never have been... for his character was destitute of backbone. 1884 *Pall Mall G.* 23 Feb. 5 [This] has completely taken the backbone out of the discount market.

† **Backboned**, *ppl. a.* [f. *prec.* + -ED: cf. L. *vertebratus*.] Having a backbone; vertebrate.

1860 *Lewis in Cornh. Mag.* I. 291 They are all backboned; they have all an internal skeleton. 1881 *MIVART Cat* 451 The Cat then is one of the group of backboned animals.

† **Backboneless**, *a.* [f. as *prec.* + -LESS.] Destitute of backbone or strength of character. Hence *Backbonelessness*.

1884 *Standard* 3 Mar. 3/6 Backbonelessness and apathy.

† **Backcast** (bæk'kast). *north dial.* [f. *BACK adv.* + *CAST sb.*] A throw back; a reverse.

1818 *SCOTT Hrt. Midl.* li. She got a sair back-cast wi' the slaughter o' her husband. 1864 *ATKINSON Whithy Gloss.* s. v., A 'backcast' in an illness; a relapse.

† **Back-cast** (bæk'kast), *ppl. a.* [f. *BACK adv.* + *CAST pple.*] Cast or thrown backwards.

1580 *SIDNEY Arcadia* (1622) 272 With many a backe-cast looke. 1647 H. MORE *Song of Soul* II. Apr. lxxxviii, Back-cast tayls (of comets) turn'd to our Evening-eye. 1821 JOANNA BAILLIE *Met. Leg.*, *Lady G. B.* li. 3 Which to her back-cast thoughts could bring The scenes of other days.

† **Back-door** (bæk'dɔə). [f. *BACK a.* + *DOOR*.]

1. A door at the back of a building or enclosure, as opposed to the *front-door*; a secondary or private entrance.

1530 *PALSGR.* 106/1 Backe dore, *huns de derriere*. 1535 *COVERDALE Judg.* iii. 23 Ehud gat him out at the backe dore. 1712 *ARBUOTHNOT John Bull* (1727) 58 He would stand at the door... to keep off the duns, till John got out at the back-door. 1857 *HEAVYSEGE Saul.* (1869) 106 They shall sneak in at Gibeah's back-door.

2. *fig.*; also *attrib.* = Unworthily secret, clandestine.

1611 *SHAKS. Cymb.* v. iii. 45 Haing found the backe doore open Of the vnguarded hearts. 1700 J. LAW *Counc. Trade* (1751) 276 Their back-door to let in mischief. 1805 T. JEFFERSON *Writ.* (1830) IV. 46 Our back-door counselors.

† **Backe**, earlier f. *BAT* (the winged mammal).

† **Backed** (bækt). *Forms:* 5 backyd, 6 backt (*Sc. bakkit*), 6-—backed. [f. *BACK sb.* and *v.* + -ED.]

1. *adj.* Provided with a back, having a back, background, or backing; used particularly in composition, e.g. *broad-backed*, *pig-backed*, *hog-backed*.

1398 *TREVISA Barth. De P. R.* xii. xiii. (1495) 422 Scabbyd horses and sore backyd. 1530 *PALSGR.* 42/2 This sworde is well backed. 1608 *SHAKS. Ham.* iii. ii. 397 It is back'd like a Weazell. 1670 G. H. *Hist. Cardinals* i. iii. 78 Upon a back'd chair. 1716 *Lond. Gas.* No. 5395/4 One gray Nagge... somewhat Pigg-backed. 1863 *KINGSLEY Water Bab.* ii. 48 Whitebeam with its great silver-backed leaves.

2. *ppl.* and *a.* Supported at the back, seconded, abetted; backed on; mounted, broken in to the saddle; endorsed, printed on the back; moved or laid back. (See the verb.)

1529 *Pappe w. Hatchet* (1844) 15 Art thou so backt that

none dare blade it with thee? c 1590 *BURELL Queen's Entry*, Far better bakkit nor ane laird. 1611 *SHAKS. Cymb.* v. i. 427 Great Jupiter, upon his Eagle back'd. 1698 *RAY Dissol. World* Pref. (1732) 12 Well back'd by Divine Authority. 1725 *BRADLEY Fam. Dict.* s. v. *Rot*, Take the Horse, if he be about four Years old and back'd. 1846 *Print. Appar. for Amateurs* 42 When the paper is backed or has two impressions.

† **Backen** (bæk'n), *v.* [f. *BACK* + -EN²; cf. *lessen*.]
1. *trans.* To put, keep, or throw back; to throw behind, retard (in progress). *Rare in mod. lit.*

1649 *BLITH Eng. Improv. Impr.* (1653) 160 Yet will it so backen them that thou mayst lose a full half years growth in them. 1750 A. HILL *Wks.* (1753) IV. 361 His breast will be inflated, and majestically backen'd. 1843 *FABER All for Jesus* 55 A false doctrine... backens devotion. 1871 *NAPHEYS Prev. & Cure Dis.* III. iv. 720 Very hot vinegar applied... to a boil... will sometimes 'backen' it.

† 2. *intr.* To move or draw back. *Obs.*

1748 [See *BACKENING vbl. sb.*]

† **Back-end** (bæk'eɪnd). [f. *BACK a.* + *END*, in the sense of either extremity. Cf. *FORE-END*.]

1. Of things with two ends: The hinder or rear end.

a 1617 *HIERON Wks.* II. 114 To put their sinnes into the backe end of the Wallet. 1675 *WYCHERLEY Pl. Dealer* II. i. (1735) 37 At the Back-end of a Lord's coach.

2. The later part or 'latter end' of a season; (absolutely) of the year: The late autumn, the 'fall.'

1800 *Blackw. Mag.* Oct. 3 (JAM.) When you did us the honour to stop a day or two last back-end. 1860 W. WHITE *Wrekin* 43 In his opinion the 'back-end' was the best fishing season.

† **Backening** (bæk'niŋ), *vbl. sb.* [f. *BACKEN* + -ING¹.] The action of moving or drawing back.

1748 *THOMPSON Cast. Indol.* II. xlii, With back'ning shunn'd his touch, for well he knew its power.

† **Backening**, *ppl. a.* [f. as *prec.* + -ING².]

Keeping back, retarding (vegetables, crops, etc.). 1781 *BARKER in Phil. Trans.* LXXI. 353 The first three weeks of April were cold, backening, and often frosty. 1794 — LXXXIV. 175 A very backening season.

† **Backer** (bæk'kə), *sb.* [f. *BACK v.* + -ER¹.] He who or that which backs.

1. A supporter; esp. one who bets on a horse or event; one who supports by money or credit.

1593 *BABINGTON Commandm.* 380 A backer to beare out my foule oppressions. 1838 *DICKENS Nick. Nick.* I. 7 When fortune is low and backers scarce. 1850 *LYTTON My Novel* IX. ix. 86 'Take any odds against him that his backers may give,' said L'Estrange.

2. *Arch.* 'A narrow slate put on the back of a broad square-headed slate when the slates begin to get narrow.' P. Nicholson *Pract. Builder* 1823.

† 3. *Arith.* The rule of three reversed. Cf. *ADVANCE* 3. *Obs.* But perhaps *backer* is here the adj., q. v.

1543 *RECORDE, etc. Cr. Arts* (1640) 180 That the greater the third summe is above the first, the lesser the fourth summe is beneath the second: and this rule therefore you may call the Backer or Reverse Rule.

† **Backer**, *sb.* [f. *BACK sb.* + -ER¹.] A porter, carrier, or unloader.

'In common use in the docks.' J. M. Cowper.

† **Backer**, *obs.* form of *BAKER*.

† **Backer**, *backey*, vulgar contr. of *TOBACCO*.

1863 H. KINGSLEY *A. Elliot* xxi, Bits of backer pipe.

† **Backer**, *a. compar.* *Obs.* [f. *BACK a.*] Farther back, hinder, posterior.

1564 *Three 15th C. Chron.* (1886) 130 Backer parts. 1575 *TURBERVILLE Falconrie* 310 Deplume hir head behinde in the backer part. 1607 *TOISELL Four-f. Beasts* 492 A hole bored in the backer part of his crooked horn. 1621 *QUARLES Argalus & P.* (1678) 87 Her dishevell'd hair... Hung loosely down, and vail'd the backer part.

† **Backermore**, *adv.* *Obs.* In 5 *bakker*-more. [See *BACK adv.* 1.] Farther back; more to the rear.

† **Backermost**, *a. superl.* *Obs.* or *dial.* [f. *BACK a.*; late formation on type of *hindermost*, *innermost*: see -*MOST*.] By-form of *BACKMOST*.

1669 *Churchm. Acc.* in *Archæol.* XXXV. 449 (D.) In the gallery at Hampton in the backermost seat. 1699 in *Phil. Trans.* XXI. 287 Some of the backermost part of which [house] is an ancient Roman building.

† **Backet** (bæk'et). *Sc.* [a. *F. baquet*, dim. of *bac*, *BACK sb.* 2.] A shallow wooden trough used for carrying ashes, coals, mortar, salt, etc.

1780 *BURNS Capt. Grose* vi, Parrich-pats, and auld saut-buckets. 1823 *TENNANT Cdl. Beaton* 154 Seeking buckets and mason's auld duds.

† **Backfall** (bæk'fɔl). [f. *BACK adv.* and *sb.*]

Hence *Backfalled* *ppl. a.*
† 1. A 'grace' in old English music; see *quot.*

1676 *MACC Musicks Mon.* i. xiv. 90 To make a Back-fall Right, you are always to strike the Precedent Letter... instead of that Letter, which is to be Back-fall'd with your Right Hand. 1876 *GROVE Dict. Mus.* I. 43 The smooth graces... include the Plain-beat or Rise, the Backfall, the Double Backfall.

2. A fall or throw on the back in wrestling.

Often *fig.*

1838-9 *Hood's Own* 3 No wrestler... ever received half so many back-falls as I. 1852 *DICKENS Bleak Ho.* xxv, He will throw him an argumentative back-fall presently.

3. A lever in the coupler of an organ.

1880 E. HOPKINS in *Grove Dict. Mus.* II. 606/2 This coupler is always worked by a pedal, on pressing which the

backfalls descend into position. 1881 C. EDWARDS *Organs* 71 Backfalls are usually made of mahogany.

† **Backfaller**. *Obs.* [f. BACK *adv.* + FALL *v.* + -ER¹.] One who falls back (*fig.*), a renegade.

1845 JOYE *Exp. Dan.* xi. (R.) Onias with many lyke backfallers from God fled into Egypte.

Backfriend (bæk'frɛnd). [f. BACK *sb.* or *adv.* Perh. orig. a friend who 'kept back,' and did not come forward to assist, and so was no real friend.]

† 1. A pretended or false friend; an enemy who pretends friendship; a secret or unavowed enemy. *Obs.*

1478 SIR J. PASTON in *Letts*. 692 III. 40, I harde somewhat by hym off a bakke frende off yowr. 1574 T. NEWTON *Health Mag.* 75 Corrupte and unpure Ayre is unto all age a greate backefriende and enemye. 1611 SPED *Hist. Gt. Brit.* ix. xv. 772 Westmorland thought it safest to checke the Scots as the neerer and continuall backefriends. 1684 T. BURNET *Th. Earth* II. 180 As S. Jerome was an open enemy to this doctrine, so Eusebius was a back friend to it. 1725 WODROW *Corr.* (1843) III. 108 My back friend, Mr. Bruce, has now another and heavier author to deal with than I, Bishop Burnet. 1837 SOUTHEY *Life & Corr.* (1850) V. 321 But I have had backfriends... as well as enemies.

2. A friend who stands at one's back, a backer.

1599 NASHE *Lent Stufte* (1871) 77 Faithful confederates and back-friends. 1833 SCOTT *Quentin D.* vi, I had in case of the worst a stout back-friend in this uncle of mine.

3. (*dial.*) A hangnail.

1864 N. & Q. Ser. III. V. 251 The troublesome splinters of skin which are often formed near the roots of the nails are called stepmother's blessings... back-friends.

Backgame (bæk'gɛm). [f. BACK *adv.*]

1. BACKGAMMON; a 'game' at backgammon.

1718 CIBBER *Non-juror* I, A Coquet's Play with a serious Lover, is like a Back-game at Tables, all open at first. 1753 in Mrs. Barbauld *Richardson* (1804) III. 68, I must now as they say at Tables, endeavour to play a good back game.

2. Chess.

1800 HOYLE'S *Games* 132 As his king may retire to his bishop's square, the second Back-game will show how to proceed in this case.

3. A return-game.

Backgammon (bæk'gæmən). Also in 7 bag-gammon. [Apparently = back-game, back-play (ME. *gamen* game, play, still in 15th c.), 'because the pieces are (in certain circumstances) taken up and obliged to go back, that is re-enter at the table.' Always called TABLES till the 17th c. Compare the prec. word; also the following early mention of tables along with dice, as a *kueade gemen* (Kentish for *gamen*), a wicked *gamen* or game: 1340 *Ayenb.* 45 Kueade gemenes, ase byebþe gemenes of des, and of tables.

(The unsatisfactory point is the want of 16th c. quotations for *gamen*, which may however have survived dialectally. Cf. also the analogous *after-game* in 'after-game at Irish,' a game of similar nature. For other suggestions as to derivation, see Wedgwood, and Skeat.)

1. A game played on a board consisting of two tables (usually united by a hinge), with draught-men whose moves are determined by throws of the dice.

c 1645 HOWELL *Letts*. (1650) II. 105 Though you have learnt to play at Baggammon, you must not forget Irish, which is a more serious and solid game. 1676 D'UNFREV *Mad. Fickle* I. i, I won 300 guineys of him t'other night at Back-gammon. 1698 BUTLER *Hud.* III. II. 1062 The Hang-man, Was like to lurch you at Back-Gammon. 1771 SMOLLETT *Humph. Cl.* (1815) 142 And play at billiards, cards, or back-gammon. 1814 SCOTT in Lockhart *Life* (1839) IV. 355 In the evening Backgammon and cards are in great request.

2. *spec.* (See quot.)

1883 BOYS' *Own Bk.* 620 There are three kinds of victory—one the winning the *hit*, the second the winning the *gammon*, and the third winning a *backgammon*. If the winner has borne all his men off before the loser has carried all his men to his own table, it is a *backgammon*, and held equal to three hits or games.

3. *attrib.*, as in *backgammon board*, *table*.

1780 Mrs. Piozzi *Journ. France* II. 371 A backgammon table preserved behind the high altar. 1820 BYRON *Yuan* v. x, Like a backgammon board the place was dotted With whites and blacks.

Backgammon, *v.* [f. the *sb.*; cf. quot. 1678 in 1.] To defeat at backgammon, or by winning a backgammon.

1793 *Ann. Reg.* 246 At length he by death is back gammoned.

Background (bæk'graund). [f. BACK *a.*]

1. The ground or surface lying at the back of or behind the chief objects of contemplation, which occupy the foreground. (Formerly, the part of the stage in a theatre remote from the audience.)

1672 WYCHERLEY *Love in Wood* III. II, Ranger retires to the background. 1799 SHERIDAN *Pizarro* I. I. (1883) 182 Elvira walks about pensively in the background. 1824 MISS MITFORD *Village Ser.* I. (1863) 109 The low cottage in the background.

b. *esp.* as represented in any of the Arts of Design.

1758 tr. *Cervant's Etch. Rembrandt* 94 The Background is always faint, the Aqua-fortis having failed. 1847 L.D. LINDSAY *Chr. Art* I. 114 The backgrounds are either architectural in the Byzantine style, or mountainous.

c. *fig.*

1824 STANLEY *Sinai & Pal.* Intro. 28 Egypt... is the background of the whole history of the Israelites. 1858 HAWTHORNE *Fr. & It. Fruts* I. 160 A statelier dome... shining on the background of the night of Time.

2. A less prominent position, where an object is not readily noticed; retirement, obscurity.

1779 SHERIDAN *Critic* III. I. (1883) 177 Keep your madness in the background. 1849 MACAULAY *Hist. Eng.* II. 253 Political friends thought it best... that he should remain in the background. 1876 GREEN *Short Hist.* iv. § 2 (1882) 174 This... may have helped to throw into the background its [Parliament's] character as a supreme Court of appeal.

Background, *v.* To form a background to.

1843 Mrs. BROWNING *Letts. R. Home* I. 70 Where there is no reserve of character to background it [shyness].

† **Back-guard**. *Obs.* [Cf. BACK-WARD.]

Rear-guard.

c 1470 HENRY WALLACE IX. 745 To follow thaim a bakgard for to be.

Back-hair (bæk'hɛr). [f. BACK *a.*] The

long hair at the back of a woman's head.

1836 *Athenæum* No. 447. 358 Their back hair underneath combed upwards. 1837 DICKENS *Pickw.* xxii, Busily engaged in brushing what ladies call their 'back-hair.'

† **Back-half**. *Obs.* Forms: 5 bac-, bak-, 5-6

baeke-, 6 backhalf(e). [f. BACK *a.* + HALF.] Back

side, back part, rear.

1408 WYCLIF *Gen.* xix. 6 (MS. Fairfax 2) Loth 3ede out to hem on the backhalf. a 1450 *Knt. de la Tour* (1868) 59 The thief that comithe in atte dore on the bakke half. 1575 LANEHAM *Letts.* 52 Too Athlants ioined together a backhalf.

b. *adverbially*: Backward.

1470 HARDING *Chron.* Pref. 6 Thus sette he me all bak-half on the tayle.

Back-hand (bæk'hænd), *sb.* [f. BACK *adv.*]

1. The hand turned backwards in making a stroke, as (at Tennis) in taking balls at the left hand, by stretching the right across the body, hence the left-hand 'play' or 'court' in the game. Hence *fig.*

1657 DISBROWE in Burton *Diary* (1828) II. 48 It reflects upon the Long Parliament by the back-hand... So I desire the preamble may be laid aside. c 1706 VANBRUGH *Mistake* v. 1, I desire the honour to keep your back hand myself. *Lopez (servant to Don L.)* 'Tis very kind indeed. Pray, sir, have you ne'er a servant with you could hold a racket for me too? a 1757 CIBBER *Careless Husband* IV. (D.) That's odds at tennis, my lord... I'll endeavour to keep your back-hand a little. 1844 SCOTT *St. Roman's* xix, As if I had picked you out of the whole of St. James's coffee-house to hold my back-hand.

2. Handwriting with the letters sloped backwards. *Mod. newspaper*. Other letters produced were written by Street in his back-hand.

B. *attrib.*, as *adj.* = BACK-HANDED.

1695 BACKMORE *Pr. Arth.* x. 781 With a back hand Blow.

Back-hand, *v.* To take a BACKHANDER 3.

1837 G. LAWRENCE *Guy Livingstone* viii. 72 Livingstone, if you begin back-handing already, you will never be able to hold that great raking chestnut.

Back-handed (bæk'hændəd), *a.* [f. prec. *sb.*]

1. With the back of the hand.

1813 L. HUNT in *Examiner* 15 Mar. 162/1 A back-handed pat on the cheek. 1836 MACREADY *Remin.* II. 23 A back-handed slap across the face.

2. Directed backwards, or with the hand or arm crossing the body (*i.e.* for a right-handed man from left to right), as a sword-cut; sloping backwards, as handwriting.

3. *fig.* + a. Keeping back one's hand, backward, remiss; b. Indirect, like a back-handed sword-cut.

1817 GODWIN *Manderley* II. 180 (D.) Modesty... is often the most beggarly and back-handed friend that merit can have. 1818 SCOTT *Rob Roy* xxvi, Rob might get a back-handed lick at him. 1865 DICKENS *Mut. Fr.* xii, Having given her this back-handed reminder.

Hence **Back-handedness**. 1859 in WORCESTER.

Back-hander. [f. as prec. + -ER¹.]

1. A blow with the back of the hand.

1836 MARRIAT *Midsh. Easy* (1864) II 'Go away Sarah,' said Johnny with a backhander. 1881 E. J. WORBOISE *Sissie* xxii, A heavy backhander by way of punishment.

b. *fig.*

1866 WHYTE-MELVILLE *Inside Bar* x. (ed. 12) 363 This was obviously a back-hander at James. 1880 *World* 21 Aug. 7 The Lieutenant-General got a prompt backhander when he asked for a return of the contributions.

2. An extra glass of wine out of turn, the bottle being passed back.

1854 THACKERAY *Newcomes* II. 48, I will take a backhander, as Clive don't seem to drink.

Back-head (bæk'hɛd). [f. BACK *a.* + HEAD.]

a. False hair worn at the back of the head; chignon.

b. Back part of the head.

1731 *Genl. Mag.* I. 531 Dresses youthfully, wears back-heads. 1754 RICHARDSON *Grandison* vii. 223 (D.) Her pale pink lustring and back-head. 1836 A. WALKER *Beauty Wom.* 381 If the forehead be not large in proportion to the backhead.

Backhouse, *obs.* f. BAKEHOUSE: see also BACK-5.

Backing (bæk'kin), *vb.* *sb.* [f. BACK *v.* + -ING¹.]

1. The action of the vb. BACK in various senses.

1. The action of supporting at the back.

1596 SHAKS. *1 Hen. IV.* II. iv. 165 Call you that backing of your friends? a plague vpon such backing! 1633 AMES *Agt. Cerem.* II. 281 For the backing of the former consequence, this reason was added. 1875 HELPS *Anim. & Mast.* v. 133 My ready backing of my friend.

2. The mounting of a horse; the breaking in of a colt to the saddle.

1607 TOPSELL *Four-f. Beasts* 240 It is good to use your horse to backing both saddled and bare. 1783 AINSWORTH *Lat. Dict.* (Morell), The backing of a horse, *equi domitura*.

3. The action of putting or moving back; a throwing back in progress; retardation.

1649 BLITH *Eng. Improv. Impr.* II. (1653) 10 A great part of that land lyeth as it were drowned... it overcomes not that backing many times till near Midsummer.

4. Motion in a backward direction, *esp.* of the wind in a direction opposed to the sun's.

1686 PLOT *Staffordsh.* 25 Who foretold them by the Winds backing to the Sun, i.e. opposing its course. 1875 BEDFORD *Sailor's Pocket Bk.* iv. 91 From West to South-West, South, and South-East, the change is called backing. 1884 INGER-SOLL in *Harper's Mag.* 876/2 Rivers would be able to dispose of their water in the full season without its backing up.

5. *techn.* a. *Printing*, 'Perfecting' a sheet already printed on one side, by printing it on the other. b. *Bookbinding*, Preparing the back of a book with glue, etc. before putting on the cover.

1846 *Printing Appar. Amateurs* 42 When a second impression was added at the back, which is called backing, or working the reiteration.

6. a. *Backing-down*: withdrawal, shirking. b.

Backing-off: unwinding silk or cotton. c. *Backing-up* in Cricket, etc.: see BACK v. 8.

1851 L. GORDON *Art Fgnl. Illust. Catal.* vi. * 2/3 This operation of undoing the coil is called the backing-off. 1883 *Harper's Mag.* Aug. 465/1 There's to be no backing down.

II. Collective appellation of that which backs, or forms a back, rear, or hinder part.

7. Support, succour; a body of supporters.

1818 SCOTT *Rob Roy* viii, A quarter whence assuredly he expected no backing. 1880 *Times* 11 Dec. 9 It is promoted by what appears to be a solid backing of landowners.

8. Anything used to form a back, or line the back.

1793 SWEATON *Edystone L.* § 221 Not only flat backing, but Furbeck ashler in rough courses, from those quarries. 1867 SMYTH *Sailor's Word-Bk.*, Backing, the timber behind the armour-plates of a ship. 1884 F. CRAWFORD *Rom. Singer* I. 219 A great pier-glass was cracked... and the metallic backing seemed to be scaling off.

9. = BACK *sb.* 16.

1823 P. NICHOLSON *Pract. Build.* 225 The Backing of a Hip is the angle made on its upper edge to range with the two sides or planes of the roof between which it is placed.

10. (*dial.*) Bank, embankment.

1863 *Lancashire Fests* 3 A pretty weaver lass... seated herself on the 'backing.' 1865 B. BRIERLEY *Irkdale* I. 136 A younger person stands upon the garden 'backing.'

11. *Backings*: refuse of wool or flax, or what is left after dressing it; in the manufacture of flax, properly, the tow that is thrown off by the second hackling. (Jamieson.)

c 1795 *Aberd. Statist. Acc.* XIX. 207 (Jam.) The waft was spun by old women, and that only from backings or nails.

Backing (bæk'kin), *ppl. a.* [f. BACK *v.* + -ING².]

That backs, or moves backward.

1863 THORNBURY *Turner* I. 268 In the foreground Turner has put a backing waggon with kicking horses.

Back-lash (bæk'klæʃ). *Mech.* The jarring reaction or striking back of a wheel or set of connected wheels in a piece of mechanism, when the motion is not uniform or when sudden pressure is applied. **Back-lashing** (in same sense).

1863 N. Brit. Rev. May 257 Throughout the machine, in such a case, there is too much back-lash. 1883 *Fisheries Exhib. Catal.* 33 Steering Gear... whereby the steersman is relieved from the danger of back-lash on the wheel. 1883 *Century Mag.* 381 To prevent the reel from back-lashing.

Backless (bæk'kləs), *a.* [f. BACK *sb.* + -LESS.]

Without a back, having no back.

1827 SOUTHEY *Letts.* (1856) IV. 79 A car (which must not have been backless). 1880 *Harper's Mag.* LXIV. 786 Narrow backless benches.

Backlet, *dial.* [f. BACK *sb.* + -LET, dim. suffix.]

A back yard. (Chiefly in s.w.)

1724 *Lond. Gas.* 6253/3 A Dwelling-House, with a Backlet and Garden thereto belonging. 1884 *West. Morn. News* 28 June 4/7 The backlet... was... under the power of the flames.

Backlings, -ins, *adv.* north. *dial.* [f. OE.

baecling (f. *baec*, BACK + -ling) with adverbial genitive -s.] Back, backwards.

[c 975 *Rusku. Gosp.* John vi. 66 Monize žegnas his from foerdun on bæcling.] 1765 BURNS *Wks.* III. 254 Backlings comin... She grew mair bright.

Back-log (bæk'log). [f. BACK *a.*] A large

log placed at the back of the fire. (Chiefly in U.S.)

1684 I. MATHER *Illustr. Provid.* v. 115 The spit... came down with the point foremost, and stuck in the back-log. 1883 HOWELLS in *Longm. Mag.* I. 49 A back-log big enough to smoulder... for days. 1883 Mrs. ROLLINS *New Eng. Bygones* 63 Brightened by a roaring backlog.

† **Backman**. *Obs. rare.* [f. BACK *sb.* 12.] A

follower, retainer, attendant.

c 1550 *Sang again Ladies in Maitland Poems*, The lairds and ladies ryde of the town For feir of hungerie bakmen.

Backmost (bæk'məʊst), *a., superl.* [f. BACK *a.*;

a late formation after the type of *foremost*, *hindmost*; see -MOST. Cf. BACKERMOST.] Most to the back, hindmost; the opposite of *foremost*.

1780 A. MONRO *Compar. Anat.* 98 The four backmost teeth. 1874 FARRAR *Christ* II. xlii. 95 Though now the axe was uplifted, nay, though it was at its backmost poise.

Back-piece (bæk'pi:s). [f. BACK *sb.* or *a.*]

1. A piece of armour protecting the back. Also *fig.* 1866 LUPTON *Thous. Notable Th.* (1675) 289 If you match the lady to Scotland, you are sure to have a stout Back-piece. 1607 DEKKER *Wh. Babylon* Wks. 1873 II. 274 The hollow backe-piece of a rustie Armour. 1865 PARKMAN

Huguenots ix. (1875) 150 Gourgues took the lead, in breast-plate and back-piece.

2. The piece which forms the back of anything.
1838 *Workwoman's Guide* vi. 173 Making a slipper by merely sewing on a front to a sole, and leaving it without any back-piece. 1851 *Art Jnrl. Catal. Gt. Exhib.* 16/2 In the centre of the back-piece (of a side-board) is a medallion.

Back-plate (bæk'plæt). [*f.* BACK *sb.* or *a.*]

1. A plate of armour for the back.

1656 TRAPP *Exp. Eph.* vi. 14 No mention of a back-plate because the Christian soldier should never fly. 1830 SCOTT *Monast.* xxxv. Armed with cuirass and back-plate. 1859 TODD *Cycl. Anat. & Phys.* V. 170/x The Mud Tortoise has a sacrum soldered to the back-plate.

2. A plate placed at or forming the back.

1772 WOLLASTON in *Phil. Trans.* LXIII. 78 The cock is fastened to the back-plate of the clock itself.

Backrao(k, -rag, obs. forms of BACHARACH.

† **Back-racket.** *Obs.* [*f.* BACK *adv.*] The return of a ball in tennis; *fig.* a counter-charge, 'tu quoque.'

1608 MIDDLETON *Trick to Catch* iv. i. He plays at back-racket with me. 1658 FRATLY *Transubst.* 3 Bandle the teames of Schismatike and Heretike... the Sorbonists to the Jesuites, and the Jesuites by back-racket to the Sorbonists.

Backs (of leather): see BACK *sb.* 18.

Back-set (bæk'set), *sb.* [*f.* BACK *adv.*]

1. A setting back; a reverse, check, relapse. (*Of Sc. origin.*)

1721 WODROW *Hist.* II. 555 (JAM.) The people of God have got many backsets one after another. 1836 CALHOUN *Wks.* II. 170 It would give a back set, and might... endanger their ultimate success. 1883 *American V.* 373 A backset which some good judges pronounced fatal.

2. An eddy or counter-current.

1882 *Harper's Mag.* LXV. 612 The backset caused by the overflow. 1883 *Fortn. Rev.* July 119 The back-set of some deeper-flowing stream.

Backset, v. [*f.* as prec. + SET *v.*]

† 1. To set upon in the rear. *Obs.*

1573 ANDERSON *Exp. Benedictus* 71 b (T.) The Israelites... [were] backset with Pharaoh's whole power.

2. (in U.S.) To re-plough in the autumn prairie-land ploughed for the first time in the spring.

1883 *Lisbon (Dakota) Star* Sept. Contracts for large or small areas of backsetting or stubble plowing. 1884 *Ibid.* 10 Oct. Farmers are engaged in plowing and backsetting.

Back-settler. [*f.* back settle-ment: see BACK *a.*

1 b.] One who lives in the back settlements of a colony or new country; a settler in the back-woods. 1809 SOUTHEY in *Q. Rev.* II. 322 Individual wickedness on the part of the traders and back-settlers. 1809 *Sir T. More* (1831) II. 190 What to the American back-settler seems the perfection of high independence.

Backsheesh, variant of BAKSHEESH.

Back-shop (bæk'shɒp). [*f.* BACK *a.* and *sb.*]

A small and usually private shop behind the main one; a secret place of business.

1583 GOLDING *Calvin on Deut.* cxxii. 751 When we keepe such Backeshops, it is a token that our heart is not rid quite and cleane. 1682 N. O. Boileau's *Lutrin* III. 47 Here a Bookseller in his back-shop slept.

Backside. Forms: 5-6 bak-, bakesyde, 6 bak-, 7 backeside, 6- backside. [*f.* BACK *a.*

Now pronounced as two words, exc. in sense 3 (and 2 dialectally).]

1. The hinder or back part; the back, the rear.

1489 CAXTON *Faytes of A.* i. xxiii. 72 That on the bakside of the bataylle they be not enuahysshed. 1571 DIGGES *Pantom.* i. xxviii. The backside of your instrument. 1641 HINDS *J. Bruen* xli. 147 Came out at the backside of his leg. 1728 NEWTON *Chronol. Amended* 10 Scythians from the backside of the Euxine Sea. 1858 HAWTHORNE *Fr. & H. Jnrls.* (1872) I. 36 The worst back-side lanes.

† 2. The back premises, back yard, out-buildings, attached to a dwelling; also, the privy. Now *dial.*

1541 *Act 33 Hen. VIII.* xxxvi. Houses, with the curtilage backside and garden adjoining. 1630 LORD *Banians & Perrees* 79 Administering food to a young Kid in his Fathers backside. 1704 SWIFT *T. Tub Wks.* 1768 I. 150 An authentic phrase for demanding the way to the back-side. 1804 R. ANDERSON *Cumberl. Ball.* 79 The witch weyfe begg'd in our backseyde.

3. (bæk'sid) The posteriors or rump.

c. 1500 *Robin Hood* (Ritson) II. iv. 236 With an arrowe so broad, He shott him into the backe-syde. 1651 H. MORE *Sec. Lash Alas.* To Rdr., As if his senses lay all in his backside, and had left his brains destitute. 1713 ADDISON *Guardian* No. 156 (1756) II. 288 A poor ant... with her head downwards, and her backside upwards. 1807 *Gentl. Mag.* XCII. ii. 522 He shall fall on his back-side.

† 4. The under surface of a leaf; the reverse side or 'back' of a document, page, book, etc.; cf. BACK *sb.* 3, 4. *Obs.*

1547 *Act 1 Edu. VI.* v. 5 Indorsed and written on the Back-side of the said Licence. 1566 TURNER *Herbal* II. 86 b. Upon the bak syde they [Hartstongue leaves] haue as it wer smal wormes hanging on. 1709 STRYPE *Ann. Ref.* I. viii. 116 On the backside of this paper are writ these words. 1720 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 5910/5 Lost... a Pocket-Book... writ on the backside John Bennett.

† 5. *fig.* The reverse or wrong side; the opposite. 1645 MILTON *Colast. Wks.* (1851) 377 To endorse him on the back-side of posterity, not a golden, but a brazen Asse. 1655 CONGREVE *Love for L.* IV. xix, Just the very backside of Truth.

Backsight (bæk'sait). [*f.* BACK *adv.*]

a. In *Surveying*, a 'sight' or reading taken

backwards, or towards the point of starting. b. The sight of a rifle nearer the stock.

1860 *All Y. Round* No. 71. 501 The back or elevating sight. 1867 MARSH in *N. Y. Nation* 9 May 373 A backsight is a sight or reading taken backwards; that is, in a direction opposite to that in which the levelling party is proceeding. 1880 *Times* 18 Oct. 4/3 In using the rifle a native rarely avails himself... of the backsight.

Back-slang (bæk'slæŋ). [*f.* BACK *adv.*] A kind of slang in which every word is pronounced backwards; as *ymnep* for *penny*.

1860 in *Modern Slang* 256. 1862 WHEATLEY *Anagrams* 141 Back Slang... is formed by the costermongers upon anagrammatical principles; thus *look* is *cool*.

† **Backslidden** (bækslɪd'n), *pp. a.* [*f.* pa. pple. of next.] That has relapsed (into sin).

1871 TYRMAN *Wesley* III. 410 Three weeks after he [Wesley] was at backslidden Stroud.

Backslide (bækslɪd), *v.* [*f.* BACK *adv.* + SLIDE *v.* (In this and its derivatives, the stress varies between ' and ')] To slide back, in a figurative sense; to fall away from attained excellence, esp. of religious faith and practice; to relapse.

1581 J. BELLE *Haddon's Answ. Osorius* 503 The onely righteousnesse of Fayth, from whence they were back-slyden. 1641 MILTON *Ch. Discip.* I. Wks. (1851) 2 To back-slide... into the Jewish beggary of old cast rudiments. 1835 MARRIAT *Jac. Faith* xxi. Did not I... backslide into intemperance and folly?

† **Backslide, sb.** [*f.* prec. vb.] Backsliding, apostatizing, falling away.

1566 WARNER *Alb. Eng.* III. xix. (1597) 88 The back-slide of our hellesse friends, the down-fall of our state.

Backslider. [*f.* as prec. + -ER¹.] One who backslides or falls away from an adopted course, esp. of religious faith or practice; an apostate, renegade.

1581 SAVILE *Tacitus' Hist.* I. (R.) A traitor and backslider to him. 1772 PRIESTLEY *Inst. Relig.* (1782) II. 306 A backslider... is worse than one who had never known the right way. 1873 HOLLAND *A. Bonnic.* viii. 141 The backsliders are returning to their first love.

Backsliding, vbl. sb. [*f.* as prec. + -ING¹.]

The action of a backslider, falling away, apostasy. 1552 KNOX *Faithf. Admon.* 76 (R.) Neither yet doubting, nor backsliding, can utterly destroy and quench the faith of God's elect. 1659 MILTON *Rapt. Commw.* Wks. (1851) 401 To confess in public their backsliding from the good Old Cause. 1866 TROUBLOP *Bellon Est.* II. 22 Clerical admonitions for Sunday backslidings.

Backsliding, ppl. a. [*f.* as prec. + -ING².] Falling away from the faith, relapsing into sin, apostate; also *lit.* sliding or slipping back.

1611 BIBLE *Hosea* iv. 16 Israel slideth backe, as a back-sliding heifer. 1816 SCOTT *Old Mort.* viii. A backsliding pastor, that has... forsaken the strict path. 1869 PHILLIPS *Vesuv.* iv. 131 Wading up the loose and backsliding slope Hence Backslidingness. 1864 in WEBSTER.

Back-spear, -spear, v. Sc. [*f.* BACK *adv.* + SPEAR, to question.] To re-examine, cross-examine. **Back-spearer**, cross-examiner.

a. 1689 CLELAND *Poems* (1697) 101 (JAM.) Several times affronted by slye back-spearers, and accounted An empty rogue. 1796 J. RAMSEY in Lockhart *Scott* (1839) I. 348 It is however easier to backspier you. 1860 RAMSAY *Remin.* I. 111 'I winna be back-spiered noo, Polly Fullerton.'

† **Back-staff.** *Obs.* [*f.* BACK *sb.*] A peculiar kind of quadrant formerly used in taking altitudes at sea, so called because the observer turned his back to the sun.

1607 CAPT. SMITH *Seaman's Gram.* xv. 73 A Crosse staffe, a Backstaffe, an Astrolabe. 1696 in PHILLIPS; in mod. Dicts.

Backstairs (bæk'stɔɪs). [*f.* BACK *a.*]

1. Stairs at the back of a house; a secondary staircase.

1654 EARL ORRERY *Parthen.* (1676) 547 To lead him down a back-stairs. 1655 MRQ. WORC. *Cent. Inv.* xlviii. With Back-stairs... convenient to Servants to pass up and down. 1863 H. KINGSLEY *A. Elliot* I. x. 114 'So I hits myself down the back-stairs with a tray-full of glasses.'

2. *esp.* The private stairs in a palace, used for other than state visitors.

1607 ORD. R. *Househ.* (1790) 343 All access must bee... neither by back stayres or private doores. 1682 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 1764/4 Whoever brings him to her Royal Highnesses Back-stairs, shall have a Guinea Reward. 1884 *19th Cent.* Jan. 29 A page of the back stairs of the royal palace.

b. *fig.* A secret disingenuous method of approach. 1641 SIR E. DERING *Sp. on Relig.* xi. 40, I hope we are not going up the back-stairs to Socinianisme.

c. *esp. attrib.* Of, pertaining to, or employing underhand intrigue at court. (*Occas. backstair.*)

1697 VANBRUGH *Relapse* II. A backstair minister. 1770 BURKE *Pres. Discont.* Wks. 1842 I. 131 A backstairs influence and clandestine government. 1838 L. STEPHEN *Swift* 110 The back-stairs plots by which the administration of his friends was hampered.

Backstale (*Promp. Parv.* 21/2) = BACKWARD.

Backstay (bæk'stɔɪ). [*f.* BACK *a.* or *sb.*]

1. *Naut.* (often *pl.*) Long ropes, slanting a little abaft, extending from the upper mast-heads to both sides or to the 'channels' of the ship, where they are fastened to *backstay-plates*; they serve to second the shrouds in supporting the masts under a press of sail. *Backstay-stools*: small 'channels'

fixed abaft the principal ones for receiving the backstays. Cf. ABACKSTAYS, ASTAYS.

1606 CAPT. SMITH *Accid. Yng. Seamen* 29 The ships at stayes, at backe-stayes. 1607 — *Seaman's Gram.* ix. 42 He will lay her by the lee, the staies, or backestaies, that is, when all the sailes... are not kept full... they fall upon the masts and shrouds, so that the ship goes a drift upon her broad side. 1709 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 4521/2 Our Shrouds and Back-stays cut to pieces. 1833 MARRIAT *P. Simple* (1863) 115 The captain of the maintop reports the breast backstay much chafed.

2. *gen.* A stay or support at the back; e.g. in *Printing*, a leather strap used to check the carriage of a printing-press.

1864 STEPHENS in *N. & Q. V.* 313 England's shield, ally, and backstay Is the Scandia whence she issued. 1879 *Carriage Build.* in *Cassell's Techn. Educ.* I. IV. 175/2 The wheel-iron, bed-clip, and back-stay being in one.

Backster (bæk'stɔɪ). A flat piece of wood or cork, strapped on the feet for walking over loose beach.

1867 in SMYTH *Sailor's Word-bk.* 1884 H. HEWLETT in *19th Century* Aug. 329 Along the coast of Pevensy Bay one may meet peasants with flat pieces of wood called 'backsters,' fastened to the soles of their boots.

Backster, obs. form of BAXTER, baker.

Back-stitch (bæk'stɪtʃ). [*f.* BACK *adv.*] A method of sewing in which, for every new stitch, the needle enters behind, and comes out in front of, the end of the previous one. Hence *Backstitch v.*, to sew in this way.

1611 COTGR., *Arriere-point*, a backe-stitch. *Arriere-point*, backe-stitched. 1640 J. TAYLOR (Water P.) *Praise Needle*, Whip-stitch, Back-stitch, and the Cross-stitch. 1790 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 5868/9 A piece of Holland Back-stitched with a Heart. 1841 THACKERAY *Comic Tales* II. 152 The younger ones learned the principles of back-stitch, cross-stitch, bob-stitch.

Backstone: see BAKESTONE.

† **Backstress.** *Obs.* [A double feminine form; *f.* *backster* (= BAXTER) + -ESS: cf. *sempstress*, *songstress*.] A female baker, a woman who bakes bread. 1519 HORMAN *Vulg.* 153 A baker or backstress muste be well ware: that a... pyle of wodde be nat nere the fyre.

Back-stroke (bæk'strɔʊk). [*f.* BACK *adv.*]

a. A blow or stroke in return, a recoil; b. a back-handed stroke.

1674 FAIRFAX *Bulk & Selv.* 96 The backstroke will be sure to give him a knocker. 1753 MISS COLLIER *Art Torment.* 167 Then may you lie snug, and... play her a most noble backstroke. 1796 EMERSON *Ess.* Ser. I. iii. 90 This back-stroke, this kick of the gun.

Back-sword (bæk'sɔɪd). *arch.* [*f.* BACK *sb.*]

1. A sword with only one cutting edge. 1611 COTGR., *Badelaire*, a short and broad back sword. 1645 *Sacr. Decretal* 24 St. Paul's Back-sword at his side. c. 1750 BOLINGBROKE *Pol. Tracts* 214 The backsword of Justice which cuts only on one side.

2. A stick with a basket-hilt used instead of a sword in fencing, a single-stick; hence b. fencing exercise with it.

1699 FARQUHAR *Love & Bottle* II. (1728) 30 I'm much in love with fencing, but, I think, backsword is the best play. 1747 J. GODFREY *Sc. Defence Pref.*, I have purchased my knowledge in the Back-Sword with many a broken head. 3. A fencer with back-sword or single-stick.

1672 DAVENANT *Siege Rhodes* (1673) 5 To the back-swords of London. 1779 SHERIDAN *St. Patrick's Day* I. ii. 295 A sturdy fellow... and the best back-sword in the country.

Back-swording = BACK-SWORD 2 b. **Back-swordman** = BACK-SWORD 3.

1597 SHAKS. 2 *Hen. IV.* III. ii. 70, I knew him a good Back-Sword-man. 1857 HUGHES *Tom Brown* II. The great times for back-swording came round once a-year. *Ibid.* A famous back-sword man.

† **Back-ward, sb. Obs.** Rear-guard, rear-ward. 1205 LAY. 23814 Pat wes þa bac-ward (1250 bac-ward). 1580 HOLLYBAND *Treas. Fr. Tong.*, Donner sur la queue d'une armee, to fall vpon the backe ward of an armie.

Backward (bæk'wɔɪd), *adv., a., sb.* Forms: 4-6 bak-, bac-, backward(e, 5 bakeward, 6 baec-ward(e, (*Sc.* bakwart), 6-7 backward, 6- backward. [*orig.* aphetic form of ABACK-WARD; but subseq. referred directly to BACK: see -WARD. Primarily *abackward* differed from *aback*, in expressing direction rather than completed motion; and this still to some extent distinguishes *backward* from *back*.] *A. adv.*

1. Towards one's back, or the back of anything. 1. Of motion: In the direction of one's back or of that to which one's back is turned, as *to lean, bend, fall, push, be pushed* backward.

1330 R. BRUNNE *Chron.* 190 He smote him in the helm, bakward he bare his stroupe. 1398 TREVISIA *Barth. De P. R.* XIII. xxvi. (1499) 456 By vyolente puttyng of aye bakward the body of the byrde meuyth forwarde. c. 1400 *Destr. Troy* xv. 6636 Bold men bakward borne of hor-horses. 1535 COVERDALE 1 *Sam.* iv. 18 He fell downe bakward from the seate... and brake his neck. 1697 DRYDEN *Virg.* *Georg.* III. 174 Clouds of Sand arise, Spurn'd, and cast backward on the Follower's Eyes. 1797 HOLCROFT *Stolberg's Trav.* II. ix. 362 Short horns bent backward. 1813 *Examiner* 29 Mar. 207/1 The bending of the back bone, backward and forward. 1833 *Regul. Instr. Cavalry* I. 22 Bending backward or forward is not to be permitted.

b. With verbs of continuous motion, as *go, walk, ride*, this passes from simple direction, into a

description of the constant position of the body in relation to the varying direction of motion; = With the back foremost, with the face to the rear.

a 1300 *Cursor M.* 2012 A mantil on his nec he tok & bakward 300, als sais pe bok. 1388 WYCLIF *Gen.* ix. 23 Sem and Jafeth . . . jeden bakward. 1561 *Calvin's 4 Godlye Serms.* iv. Like kicking and resty horses, more ready to go bakward than forward. 1600 SHAKS. *Ham.* ii. ii. 206 If like a Crab you could go bakward. 1796 VANBR. & CIBBER *Prov. Husb.* i. i. (1735) 30 Doll puked a little with riding bakward. 1848 J. H. NEWMAN *Par. Serms.* V. viii. 124 We walk to heaven bakward. 1850 LYTTON *My Novel* ii. xii. He turned sharply round . . . and, with his arm still folded on his breast, he walked bakward, as if not to lose the view.

c. To go bakward: to retire for a necessary purpose (hence said of the action). *Obs.*

1748 SMOLLETT *Rod. Rand.* (1804) I. xi. 59 My companion's bowels being disordered he got up in order to go bakward. 1771 J. S. Le Dran's *Obs. Surg.* 185 The Patient . . . went bakward immediately. *Ibid.* 210 No Discharge bakward.

† 2. Of position: With the back towards the front, the company, centre of attention, etc. *Obs.*

c 1460 *Bk. Curstasey in Babees Bk.* (1868) 302 Ne bacwarde sittande gyt no3t by cupe.

† 3. Of position: Toward the back or rear of a place; away from the front. *arch.* or *Obs.*; commonly *back*, to the back, at the back.

c 1460 *Towneleye Myst.* 204 Whi stand ye so bakward? 1673 WYCHERLEY *Gentl. Danc. M.* i. i. (1735) 12 You know my Chamber is bakward, and has a door into the Gallery. 1715 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 5328/4 A small Scar lying bakward under one of his Jaws. 1716-8 LADY MONTAGUE *Lett.* 36 I. 137 The women's apartments are always built bakward, removed from sight. 1799 DESAGULIERS in *Phil. Trans.* XXXVI. 202 If the Pulley be set bakwarder still. 1812 *Examiner* 19 Oct. 671/2 Some injury is also done bakward.

II. Towards what is behind in position or course.

4. In the direction which, so far as concerns one's general or ordinary position, is behind one, or from which one is moving, e.g. to look, turn the head bakward. *arch.*; commonly *back*, behind. (This connects the present section with I.)

c 1386 CHAUCER *Man of L.* T. 764 Sche loketh bakward to the lond. 1388 WYCLIF *John* xx. 14 Sche turnede bakward, and sai thes stondeing. a 1575 PILKINGTON *Exp. Nehemiah* iv. Wks. (1842) 406 Let us . . . not look bakward but go on forth. 1611 BIBLE *Gen.* ix. 23 Shem and Iaphet . . . went bakward (= i. b.). and their faces were bakward. 1695 L.D. PRESTON *Boeth.* iii. 157 That he his Eyes shant bakward cast. 1798 YOUNG *Love Fame* I. (1757) 84 Men should press forward in fame's glorious chase; Nobles look bakward, and so lose the race. 1855 BROWNING in *Sat. Rev.* No. 4. 69 Whom else could I dare look bakward for?

5. In the direction from which one has come, towards the place of starting, in the opposite direction from that in which one has advanced.

Not properly used of persons, animals, etc., where it would be ambiguous; e.g. a ball may roll bakward, a stream flow bakward, but a man after proceeding so far will begin to walk back or in the opposite direction, not bakward, unless in sense i. b. But see b.

c 1374 CHAUCER *Troilus* iv. 1525 And thou Simois . . . Returne bakward to thy well. 1517 TORKINGTON *Pilgr.* (1884) 57 We . . . sumtyme sealyd bakward, sumtyme forward. *Ibid.* 63 We made Sayle bakward j C myle. 1535 COVERDALE 2 *Esdras* xvi. 16 Like as an arrowe . . . returneth not bakward. 1589 A. MUNDAY in *Arb. Eng. Garner* (1877) I. 206 Straightway suspected the matter; and returned bakward. 1673 DRYDEN *Assignat.* v. iv. Wks. 1883 IV. 464 Like some impetuous flood, which mastered once, With double force bends bakward. 1804 *Chron. Scot. Poetry* iv. Intro. 37 The hope . . . of the Angli began to melt and flow bakward. 1807 KEBLE *Chr. Year*, 1st *Sund. Christmas* iii, Bakward force the waves of Time.

b. Bakward and forward: to and fro; also fig. of vacillation, uncertain speech, etc.

1581 FULKE in *Confer.* iii. (1584) Yij b. Euen nowe, you denied . . . and now you graunt it: you go bakward and forward. 1680 LUTTRELL *Brief Rel.* (1857) I. 57 Goeing bakward and forward in his accusation. a 1711 KEN *Hymnotheo* Poet. Wks. 1721 III. 274 The Serpent wand' his Carcase . . . Bakward and forward. 1795 BURNET *Omn. Time* (1766) II. 234 The boy went bakward and forward in his story. 1793 SWEATON *Edystone L.* § 237 Carried bakward and forward in the yaws of vice. 1833 MACAULAY *Mahon's War Success.* Ess. (1848) II. 93 Imputations . . . utterly unfounded . . . were hurled bakward and forward by the political disputants. 1878 HUXLEY *Physiogr.* 2 This regular bakward-and-forward movement of the great mass of water.

6. In the direction of retreat. (Commonly *back*.)

† To go bakward: to recede, retreat; to relapse, backslide (*obs.*).

1388 WYCLIF *Psa.* xl. 14 Be thei turned al bakward. c 1400 *Rom. Rose* 5024 The joy that is eterne, Fro which go bakward Youthe her made. 1535 COVERDALE *Isa.* i. 4 They have prouoked the holy one of Israel unto anger, and are gone bakward. 1611 *Ibid.* Let them be driuen bakward, and put to shame. 1667 MILTON *P. L.* i. 223 The flames Drivn bakward slope their pointing spires. 1801 BYRON *Sardan.* iii. l. 324 They are beaten bakward from the palace.

7. fig. Towards a worse state, implying retrogression, check, etc. (More commonly *back*.)

1583 STANYHURST *Aeneis* ii. (Arb.) 55 Al things goe bakward. 1601 SHAKS. *All's Well* i. i. 233 The fad skye . . . doth bakward pull Our slow designs. a 1700 DRYDEN (J.) The work went bakward, and the more he strove T'advance the suit, the further from her love. 1776 ADAM SMITH *Wealth Nat.* I. i. ix. 95 It is a common . . . opinion that France is going bakward.

8. Of time: a. Towards the past; b. In the past. (*arch.*; commonly *back*.)

1568 PILKINGTON *Haggues* ii. Wks. (1842) 176 He bids them look bakward . . . whole forty years. 1605 BACON *Adv.*

Learn. i. v. § 1 By a computation bakward from ourselves. 1605 BURGESS *Pers. Tithes* 55 This Statute extendeth to 40 yeares bakward. 1691 J. H[ALE] *Acc. New Invent.* 31 For any number of years bakward. 1871 SMILES *Character* xi. (1876) 305 It glorifies the present by the light it casts bakward.

III. In the reverse direction or order. [Arising out of 5.]

9. In a direction opposite to the normal one, the reverse way; from end to beginning.

a 1520 MYRR. *Our Ladye* 205 Eva turned bacwarde spell-yth aue. 1588 SHAKS. *L. L. L.* v. i. 50 What is Ab speld bakward with the horn on his head? 1674 PLAYFORD *Skill Mus.* ii. 104 The first Note must be plaied with the bow drawn bakward. 1839 BAILEY *Festus* (1848) 195 Rites forbid and bakward-jabbered prayers. 1851 MAYHEW *Lond. Labour* I. 23 The root of the costermonger tongue . . . is to give the words spelt bakward.

b. fig. The wrong way, perversely.

1558 LYNDESAI *Pafyngo* 706 Deuotely saye . . . The auld Placebo bakwart. 1599 SHAKS. *Much Ado* iii. i. 61, I neuer yet saw man . . . how rarely featur'd, But she would spell him bakward.

10. Phrase: To ring bells bakward: to ring them beginning with the bass bell, in order to give alarm of fire or invasion, or express dismay. c 1500 *Adam Bel* 346 in *Hazl. E. P. P.* II. 153 There was many an oute home in Carlyll blownen, And the belles bacwarde did they ringe. 1590 R. HARVEY *Plaine Perc.* 2, I heare the bells ring bakward, and the fire runne forward. 1651 CLEVELAND *Rebel Scot* 5 Ring the Bells bakward; I am all on fire. 1679 WILD *Letter* 11 [They] talk'd of Bells and Bonfires; but none . . . durst begin, for fear they should . . . when the Parliament meet, be forced to ring the Bells bakward. a 1839 SCOTT *Bonnie Dundee*, The bells are rung bakward, the drums they are beat.

† 11. Contrariwise, e converso, vice versa. *Obs.*

1607 Bp. ANDREWES *Serm.* IV. 10 All that 'rise against,' are 'enemies,' but not bakward. For enemies may be such as stand on even ground.

B. *adj.* [attrib. (often elliptical) use of the *adv.*; but analogous to *adjs.* in -WARD of OE. origin.]

1. Directed to the back or rear.

1558 HULOET, Bakwarde, *recurvus* . . . *retrosum*. 1697 DRYDEN *Virg. Georg.* iii. 48 With bakward Bows the Parthians shall be there. 1883 *Proper Pride* ii. 145 Many regretful bakward glances. 1883 LOOMIS *Treat. Astron.* 18 The forward motion of a boat . . . gives to the banks an appearance of bakward motion. 1860 J. YOUNG *Prov. Reason* 45 The last, dim . . . point in the bakward stretch of the reason.

2. Directed in the opposite way; of or pertaining to return.

1604 SHAKS. *Oth.* i. iii. 38 Their bakward course. 1800 KEATS *Hyperion* i. 154 With bakward footing through the shade. 1870 BRYANT *Homer* I. iii. 81 And takes the bakward way with trembling limbs. 1884 *Gl. W. Ry. Time Tables* July 87 Available for Two Calendar Months for completion of the forward and bakward journeys.

3. Done in the reverse way or order; reversed.

1795 POPE *Odys.* ii. 124 The bakward labours of her faithless hand. 1796 GAY *Fables* i. xxiii. 17 She mumbles forth her bakward prayers. 1878 TAIT & STEWART *Unseen Univ.* vii. § 230 When the bakward process has reached this germ.

† 4. Perverse, unfavourable. *Obs.*

1583 STANYHURST *Aeneis* i. (Arb.) 18 Still crost with destenye bakward. a 1605 SIR J. MELVIL *Mem.* (1683) 5 Who was so glad as he, to return with this bakward answer?

† 5. Placed towards or at the back or rear. *Obs.*

1610 SHAKS. *Temp.* ii. ii. 95 His forward voyce now is to speake well of his friend; his bakward voyce, is to viter foule speeches. 1677 MOXON *Mech. Exerc.* (1703) 156 The bakward Hips . . . in the way of an Angle for the back part of a Building. 1751 JOHNSON *Rambl.* No. 171 § 9 A lodging in the bakward garret of a mean house. 1819 CRABBE *T. of Hall* vii. 572 'He . . . lodges here—he has the bakward rooms.'

6. Turning or hanging back from action; disinclined to advance or make advances; reluctant, averse, unwilling, loath, chary; shy, bashful.

1599 SHAKS. *Hen. V.* iv. iii. 72 Perish the man, whose mind is bakward now. 1673 CRADOCK *Knoul. & Pract.* i. ii. § 2 Prone to evil, and bakward to good. c 1680 BEVERIDGE *Serm.* (1799) II. 510 Take pains with your bakward hearts to bring them to it. 1704 SWIFT *T. Tub* xi. Wks. 1760 I. 123 The females were nothing bakwarder in beholding. 1768 H. WALPOLE *Vertue's Anecd. Paint.* (1786) II. 77 The nobility were not bakward with presents of the same nature. 1788 PRIESTLEY *Corrupt. Chr.* I. l. 13 The apostles were never bakward to combat other Jewish prejudices. 1806 DISRAELI *Viv. Grey* i. l. 2 Percy Metcalfe . . . was quite as bakward as Vivian; indeed, bakwarder.

7. Behindhand in respect of time or progress, late.

1693 LUTTRELL *Brief Rel.* (1857) III. 15 Which will occasion the French to be 6 weeks bakwarder in their preparations. 1777 HUME *Ess. & Treat.* II. 43 A very bakward scholar. 1845 FORD *Handbk. Spain* § 1. 21 The inns of Spain are in that bakward state in which those of Sicily are. 1871 MARKBY *Elem. Law* § 530 The law is here certainly in a bakward condition. 1883 tr. *Renan's Recoll. Youth* 24 If a child was bakward in learning to walk.

b. esp. of the season or crops.

1616 SURFL. & MARKH. *Countr. Farm* 28 The yeare will proue bakward. 1789 Mrs. PIOZZI *Journ.* France I. 8 Harvest . . . is extremely bakward this year. 1812 *Examiner* 5 Oct. 629/2 Turnips, a fair crop, although bakward. 1836 *Athenaeum* No. 440. 241 The season though somewhat bakward promises an abundant harvest.

8. Reaching into the past.

c 1650 *Select. Harl. Misc.* (1793) 401 A tax bakward, to be paid over again. 1795 POPE *Odys.* iii. 122 Far as thy mind thro' bakward time can see. 1812 BYRON *Ch. Har.* ii. xxiv. Each bakward year.

C. *sb.* [The *adj.* or *adv.* used absolutely.]

† 1. *lit.* The hinder part of the body. *Obs.*

1627 MASSINGER *Gl. Dh. Flor.* ii. i. I should Have kissed her bakward.

2. *poet.* The past portion (of time).

1610 SHAKS. *Temp.* i. ii. 50 What see'st thou else In the dark bakward and abisme of Time? 1870 LOWELL *Study Wind.* 91 One volume of contemporary memoirs . . . will throw more light into the dark bakward of time than, etc.

† 3. *Backward*, v. *Obs.* [f. BACKWARD a. Cf. to forward.] To put or keep back, delay, retard.

1594 PLAT *Jewell-ho.* iii. 3 Whereby he did greatly bakward the tree in his bearing. 1643 *Declar. Lords & Comm.* 16 Nov. 4 To hinder or bakward the said former undertakings. a 1660 HAMMOND *Serm.* xv. (R.) One that doth so clog and trash, so disadvantage and bakward us.

Backwardation (bakward'z-jon). [f. prec. vb. + -ATION (after sbs. from vbs. of Latin origin as retard-ation).] *Stock Exchange* term for a percentage paid by a seller of stock for the privilege of keeping back or delaying its delivery till the following account or to any other future day agreed upon.

1850 KEYSER *Law Stock Exch.* The term Backwardation is employed when stock is more in demand than money, and a premium is given to obtain the loan of stock against its value in money. a 1860 C. FENN *Eng. & For. Funds* (1883) 127 Backwardation is paid by the speculator for the fall, or the Bear, in order to postpone delivery until the following account. 1880 *Society* 3 Sept. 16 The Bear a good contango loves, The Bull a bakwardation. 1883 *Pall Mall* G. 11 Sept. 9/2 At the opening 4 bakwardation to 4 contango was charged.

† **Backwardization**. *Obs.* = prec.

1865 in *Public Opin.* 18 Nov. 541/2 'Backwardization' expresses . . . the sum which a seller pays for not being obliged to deliver the shares at the time before agreed upon, but carry them over to the following account.

Backwardly, *adv.* [f. BACKWARD a. + -LY².]

1. In a bakward direction.

1558 HULOET, Bowed bakwardlye, *recurvus*.

† 2. Again, over again. *Obs.*

1558 HULOET, Bakwardlye . . . *recurvus*. 1557 N. T. (Genev.) *Gal.* iv. 9 Whervnto . . . ye wil be in bondage bakwardly.

† 3. Perversely. *Obs.*

a 1586 *Answe. Cartwright* 35 How bakwardly doeth he deale in this matter? 1607 SHAKS. *Timon* iii. iii. 18 Does he thinke so bakwardly of me now.

4. Reluctantly, unwillingly, sluggishly.

1580 SIDNEY *Arcadia* i. (J.) Though they do fly, yet bakwardly do go with proud aspect. 1783 AINSWORTH *Lit. Dict.* (Morell), Bakwardly, *Otiose, negligent, remiss*. 1860 RAWLINSON tr. *Herodotus* viii. lxxxv. IV. 330 A few only followed the advice of Themistocles, to fight bakwardly.

Backwardness. [f. as prec. + -NESS.]

1. The state of being behindhand in progress or preparation.

a 1588 ABP. SANDYS *Serm.* (1841) 424 Where there is bakwardness in knowledge. 1608 EARLE *Microcosm.*, *Rare Preacher* 3 His bakwardness in the University. 1683 SIR W. TEMPLE *Mem.* 1672-9 Wks. 1731 I. 417 By their Forwardness, and the great Bakwardness of some of the Allies. 1858 FROUDE *Hist. Eng.* III. xiv. 254 The bakwardness of the English in engineering skill. 1876 FAWCETT *Pol. Econ.* i. v. 63 The poverty and bakwardness of India.

b. The bakward state of the season, or crops.

1684 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 1928/1 Put off, by reason of the bakwardness of the season. 1719 LONDON & WISE *Compl. Gard.* 164 Causes of the Forwardness or Bakwardness of Maturity in all manner of Fruits. 1808 STEUART *Planter's Guide* 323 In regard to Bakwardness in Trees.

2. Reluctance, disinclination; slowness of conception or action, sluggishness; bashfulness.

1597 T. PAYNE *Royal Exch.* 14 Cowldines and bakwardnes in religion. 1604 A. WOTTON *Runne fr. Rome* 5 To beare with my slownes and bakwardnes. a 1665 J. GOODWIN *Filled w. the Spirit* (1867) 62 Bakwardness or indisposition unto the things exhorted. 1669 PEPYS *Diary* 3 Jan., I, out of my natural bakwardness, did hang off, which vexed her. 1748 SMOLLETT *Rod. Rand.* (1804) 254 Which operation I having performed with some bakwardness, she put it on. 1787 T. JEFFERSON *Writ.* (1859) II. 149 The bakwardness of the States to bring money into the public treasury. 1872 FREEMAN *Norm. Cong.* IV. xviii. 141 Without any suspicion of bakwardness or disloyalty.

Backwards (bakwardz), *adv.* (and a.). Also

6 *bacwardes*, *Sc. bacwartis*. [f. BACKWARD with *advb. genitive* -s; cf. OE. *hāmweardes*: see -WARDS.]

A. = BACKWARD *adv.* in its various senses.

1513 DOUGLAS *Aeneis* viii. ii. 46 The strene bacwartis vp, flawis soft and styll. 1535 COVERDALE *John* xviii. 6 They wente bacwardes and fell to the grounde. 1606 SIR G. GOOSCAPPE i. iv. in *Old Pl.* (1884) III. 25, I will preferre thee bakwards (as many friends do) and leave thy friends worse then they found them. 1664 POWER *Exp. Philos.* i. 2 The joynts of his hinder legs . . . bend bakwards. 1704 STEELE *Lying Lover* iv. (1747) 60 She lies bakwards, and you can't so much as see her Chamber Window. 1708 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 4432/6 [They] went into the same Coach, the Bride sitting bakwards. 1715 *Ibid.* No. 5323/1 To ply forwards and bakwards . . . on the Coasts of Calabria. 1716 *Ibid.* No. 5446/9 A house . . . with the Gardens . . . and four small Tenements bakwards. 1773 J. S. Le Dran's *Obs. Surg.* (ed. 4) 164 The Patient being pressed to go bakwards, went behind his Tent. 1833 *Regul. Instr. Cavalry* i. 24 At the words *On the Right, bakwards Wheel*, the man on the right of the rank faces to his left. 1858 W. IRVING *Washington* V. 68 He walked me bakwards and forwards . . . for half an hour. 1872 FREEMAN *Norm. Cong.* IV. xx. 456 Brihtric having been translated bakwards to the less important Abbey of Burton.

† B. = BACKWARD *a.* Obs. rare.

1857 Br. COSIN *Corr.* (1869) I. 119 Slack or backwards in doing his . . . dutie. 1883 CAVE *Ecclesiastical* 481 Nor were . . . his Party backwards to blow up the Coals.

Backwash (bæk'wɒʃ), *sb.* [f. BACK *adv.*] The motion of a receding wave; a backward current. 1876 MISS BRADDON *J. Haggard's D.* I. 23 Or else the backwash would draw him into its vortex. 1884 *Chr. World* 9 Oct. 757/1 The tremendous backwash of popular enthusiasm.

Backwash, *v.* [cf. prec. *sb.*]

1. To affect with backwash (a boat *e.g.*, with that from the oars of a boat in front).

1882 *Standard* 16 Sept. 3/6 Backwashing both bow and stroke side of the Thames boat.

2. To clean the oil from wool after combing. Hence **Backwasher**, **Backwashing** *vbl. sb.*

1875 *ASH*, **Backwashed**, Cleaned from the oil after combing. 1882 *Standard* 20 Dec. 2/2 A backwasher of Van mohair . . . The back-washing machine at which the back-washer mentioned above had worked.

Backwater (bæk'wɔ:tə), [f. BACK *a.* or *adv.*]

† 1. Water flowing in from behind. Obs.

1877 *TRAVIS* *Higden* (Rolls Ser.) I. 57 Strenge of ryures and bakwaters (*impetus fluminum a tergo labentium*) dry-up (or) be see Euxinum alway in bon cours. 1877 *HARRISON* *Descr. Brit. xii*, Sundrie small creeks void of backwater.

2. Water dammed back in the channel of a swollen or obstructed river (or mill-race), or that has overflowed into shallow lagoons near it.

1869 H. BURTON *Babel no Bethel* Ep. Ded., A continually current, that so merrily driues the Popish mills about, and sets ours in a back water or float. 1899 J. ROBERTSON *Agric. Perth* 366 To free their land from the back-water, when Loch-Lubnaig is overcharged in the rainy season.

3. An artificial accumulation of water dammed back for any purpose.

1892 A. YOUNG *Trav. France* 77 An artificial back-water, capable . . . of sweeping out the harbour's mouth clean from all obstructions. 1861 *SMILES* *Engineers* II. 68 By means of sluices, supplied by an artificial backwater.

4. A piece of water without current, lying more or less parallel to a river, and fed from it at the lower end by a back-flow.

1863 *KINGSLEY* *Water Bab.* iii. 107 The great withy pollard which hangs over the backwater. 1879 *TAUNT* *Map Thames* 21/2 In some of the backwaters are fine Pike. *Mod.* The back-waters of the Amazon are of enormous extent.

Fig. 1879 *FARRAR* *St. Paul* II. 20 Paul found there on his arrival a strange backwater of religious opinion.

5. A creek or arm of the sea, parallel to the coast, separated by a narrow strip of land from the open sea, with which it communicates by barred outlets.

1867 in *SMYTH* *Sailor's Word-bk.*

6. A backward current of water.

1830 *LYELL* *Princ. Geol.* I. 271 The current . . . is a back-water, wherein the tide . . . runs nine hours towards the north, and only three towards the south. 1840 *CARLYLE* *Heroes* I. (1858) 198 A kind of backwater, or eddying swirl.

7. The swell of the sea thrown back from contact with a solid body, *esp.* from the paddles of steamboats; hence, the loss of power occasioned by it in steamboats. Also *attrib.*

1858 *POE* *A. G. Pym* Wks. 1864 IV. 83 Those which came from the larboard, being what are called back-water seas. 1865 J. WYLD *in Circ. Sc.* I. 370/2 The back-water cast from the paddles or screw.

Back-way (bæk'wɛɪ), [f. BACK *a.*] A way at the back, or leading to the back, of any place; hence, an indirect, roundabout way, a by-path.

1877 *HOLINSHED* *Chron.* I. 38/2 The entries, the backwaies, and the whole situation thereof. 1660 *BOND* *Scut. Reg.* 10 Death . . . still will have, A thousand backways to the grave. 1709 J. STEVENS *Quevedo's Com. Wks.* 74 He should come in the back-way . . . and open the Garden Door. 1866 G. MACDONALD *Ann. Q. Neighb.* ii. (1878) 21, I would not creep out the back way.

Backwoods (bæk'wɒdz), [f. BACK *a.*] Wild, uncleared forest-land; *e.g.* that of North America. 1834 *Chambers' Jnl.* III. 40 Your widely-circulated Journal having even reached these backwoods. 1859 *MERIVALE* *Rom. Emp.* (1865) IV. xxxix. 389 The latest conquests of Rome annexed the backwoods of Gaul.

b. attrib. Also *backwood*.

1822 J. FLINT *Lett. Amer.* 207 His live-stock soon becomes much more numerous than that of his back-wood predecessor. 1863 *Pilgr. over Prairies* II. 107 Enjoying ourselves in the approved backwoods fashion.

Backwoodsman, [f. prec. + -MAN.] A settler in the backwoods; so *backwoodsman*.

1816 in *PICKERING* *Vocab. U. S.* 1818 *COBBETT* *Resid. U. S.* 1821 305 The habitual disregard of comfort of an American back-woodsman. 1831 *CARLYLE* *Sart. Res.* II. viii. 208 An American Backwoodsman, who had to fell unpenetrated forests. 1884 *HIGGINSON* in *Harper's Mag.* July 281/1 A plain backwoodsman . . . smoking her corn-cob pipe.

Backwoodsy, *a. none-ud.* [f. as prec. + -Y.] Of the nature of the backwoods.

1862 B. TAYLOR *Home & Abr.* II. 72 Wild and backwoodsly as the place appeared.

Bacon (bæ'kən), *Forms:* 4 bacoun, 4-5 bakoun, 5 bacon, 5-6 bakon, 6 baken, 5- bacon. [a. OF. *bacon*, -un (= *Fr. bacon*, med.L. *bacon-em*), a. OHG. *bahho*, *bacho*, MHG. *bache*, *backe*, buttock, ham, side of bacon: -OTeut. **bakon-*, cogn. w. **bako-*, BACK *sb.*; cf. ODu. *baken* bacon.]

1. The back and sides of the pig, 'cured' by VOL. I.

salting, drying, etc. Formerly also the fresh flesh now called *pork*.

c. 1330 *Poem temp. Edw. II.*, 388 in *Pol. Songs* 341 For beof ne for bakoun . . . Unnethe wolde eny do a char. 1377 *LANG.* *P. Pl. B. v.* 194 As a bondman of his bacoun his berde was bidraueled. c. 1386 *CHAUCER* *Wyt's Prol.* 217 The bacoun was nought fet for hem . . . That som men fecche in Essex at Donmowe. c. 1460 *FORTESCUE* *Ab. & Lim. Mon.* (1714) 73 In Fraunce, the People salten bot littil meate, except their Bacon. 1523 *FITZHERB.* *Husb.* § 121 Her (a sow's) body . . . wyll be as good baken as a hogge. 1600 *VENNER* *Via Recta* iii. 53 Bacon is not good for them that haue weake stomachs. 1781 *GIBBON* *Decl. & F.* II. xxxi. 181 A regular allowance of bacon was distributed to the poorer citizens.

† 2. The carcase of a pig; rarely a live pig. Obs. c. 1380 *Sir Ferumb.* 2696 Wyt grys, & gees, & capouns . . . Wip motoun, & bef & bakouns. 1449-52 in *Strype* *Cranmer* App. xlix. 137 Ye are like for to be taken, And quartered like a baker. 1603 *Kyd* *Span. Trag.* (T.) A young bacon, Or a fine little smooth horse-colt. 1768 *PENNAUT* *Zool.* I. 17 The carcasses of . . . 80 beeves, 600 bacons, and 600 muttons.

3. *transf.* The blubber of a whale. ? Obs.

1718 *Phil. Trans.* XXVII. 446 The Fat of a Whale, which we call Bacon, and out of which we boil the Train-Oyl.

† 4. A rustic, a clown, a 'chaw-bacon.' Obs. (Referring, like many of the compounds, to the fact of swine's flesh being the meat chiefly consumed by the rural population of England.)

1596 *SHAKS.* *1 Hen. IV.* ii. 93 On Bacons, on, what ye knaues? Yong men must lue.

5. Phrases: a. *To save one's bacon*: to escape injury to one's body, to keep oneself from harm. b. *To sell one's bacon*, i. e. one's flesh or body.

1691 *Weesils* i. 5 No, they'll conclude I do't to save my Bacon. 1693 in *Catal.* (fictitious) *Bks. in Harl. Misc.* (1745) V. 269/2 In dubiis tutor pars: Or, the broad Way to save a Man's Bacon, and damn his Soul. 1822 *COMBE* (Dr. Syntax) *Pictur.* vi. 22 But as he ran to save his bacon, By hat and wig he was forsaken. 1825 *CARLYLE* *Schiller* iii. (1845) 163 To the Kaiser, therefore, I sold my bacon, And by him good charge of the whole is taken.

6. *Comb. and Attrib.*, as *bacon-curer*, -*factor*, -*merchant*, *bacon-flitch*, -*ham*, -*pot*, -*rack*, -*rind*.

Bacon-brains, a clownish blockhead; **bacon-fac'd** (d), having a fat sleek face; **bacon-farced** *a.*, stuffed with bacon; **bacon-fed** *a.*, fed on bacon. rustic, clownish; **bacon-hog**, -*pig*, one specially fattened for making bacon; † **bacon-man**, a curer of, or dealer in, bacon; † **bacon-picker**, opprobrious name for a glutton; † **bacon-slicer**, a rustic. a. 1634 *RANDOLPH* *Annu. B. Jonson* Poems (1668) 56 Their 'bacon-brains have such a tast, As more delights in mast. 1684 *OTWAY* *Atheist* i. A broad shining, pufft, 'Bacon-face, like a Cherubim. 1731 *Pol. Ballads* (1860) II. 223 He opulent grew, As 'bacon-face Jew. c. 1600 *DAY* *Begg. Bed-nell* Gr. (1881) 37 I'de hang this 'Bacon-fac'd slave orethwart his shanks. 1646 G. DANIEL *Poems* Wks. 1878 I. 45 A Pheasant, 'bacon-farced. 1596 *SHAKS.* *1 Hen. IV.* ii. 89 'Bacon-fed Knaues . . . downe with them. 1462 *Test. Ebor.* (1855) II. 261 'Bacon-flicks, beffe-flicks. 1796 *STEDMAN* *Suri-nam* II. xviii. 57 Provided with a 'bacon ham, hung-beef, fowls, etc. 1709 *KENNETH* *Erasm. Moriae* Enc. 17 (D.) As lusty as so many 'bacon-hogs or sucking calves. 1707 *Lord. Gas.* No. 434/4 Whitefield Miller, late of Oxford, 'Bacon-man.

1653 *URQUHART* *Rabelais* i. Prol. A certaine gulligut Fryer and true 'bacon-picker. 1833 *MARRYAT* *P. Simple* (1863) 195 His 'bacon pigs, his porkers, his breeding sows. 1769 G. WHITE *Selborne* (1851) 209 She saves the scummings of her 'bacon-pot (to make rush-lights). 1826 *MISS* *Mitford* *Village* II. (1863) 446 The fully stored 'bacon-rack. 1666 *Wily Beguiled* in *Hazl. Dods.* IX. 244 Whose eyes do shine, Like 'bacon-rine. 1820 *HOLLYBAND* *Treas. Fr. Tong.*, *Cocotte de lord*, a 'Bacon skin. 1653 *URQUHART* *Rabelais* i. xv. Account me a very clounch, and 'bacon-slicer of Brene.

Bacon *v.* (*Cath. Angl.*), † for *baton*, *BATTEN*.

Baconer (bæ'kənə), [f. prec. + -ER.] A pig fit for being made into bacon.

1824 *Australasian* 8 Nov. 880/2 Baconers and porkers.

Baconian (bæ'kō'nian), *a.* and *sb.* [f. Lord Bacon, philosopher of the 17th c. + -IAN.] *A. adj.*

Of or pertaining to Lord Bacon, or to the experimental and inductive system of natural philosophy taught by him. *B. sb.* An adherent of that system. **Baconianism**, the Baconian philosophy. **Baconic** *a.*, **Baconist** = **BACONIAN** *a.* and *sb.*

1812 *SIR H. DAVY* *Chem. Philos.* 32 In the spirit of the Baconian School, multiplying instances and cautiously making inductions. 1869 *Daily News* 26 Jan. The scholastics and not the Baconians of their science. a. 1866 J. GROTE *Exam. Util. Philos.* xvii. (1870) 264 The distinction between intuitiveness and inductiveness, pre-Baconianism, and Baconianism. 1834 *Edin. Rev.* LIX. 32 A sort of Baconic nomenclature. 1876 *BANCROFT* *Hist. U. S.* II. xxi. 7 The party of Baconists had obtained great influence.

Baconize (bæ'kənəiz), *v.* [f. BACON + -IZE.] To make into bacon; to smoke, *lit.* and *fig.*

a. 1843 *SOUTHEY* *Non-descripts* iv. Wks. III. 65 Pigs were made for man . . . born to be brawn'd And baconized. 1864 *BURRITT* *Walk* 309 Magnipotent chimneys . . . puff their black breathings into the . . . sky above, baconising its countenance.

Bacony (bæ'kəni), *a.* [f. BACON + -Y.] Bacon-like, fatty; *spec.* in a state of fatty degeneration.

1876 *KINGSTET* *Anim. Chem.* 107 Diseases of the liver, the best known being so called degeneration, or bacony liver.

Bacostare, obs. form of *BAXTER*, female baker.

Bacterial (bæktē'riāl), *a.* *Biol.* [f. BACTERIUM + -IAL.] Of or pertaining to bacteria.

1871 *TYNDALL* *Fragm. Sc.* II. xiii. 327 Innocent of bacterial

life. 1879 *M. CONWAY* *Demonol.* II. iv. xix. 211 The bacterial demon of modern science.

Bacterian, *a.* *Biol.* [f. as prec. + -AN.] = prec.

1876 *tr. Wagner's Gen. Pathol.* 342 Bacterian formation.

Bacteric (bæktē'rik), *a.* *Biol.* [f. as prec. + -IC.] = prec.

1873 *LISTER* in *Nature* 10 July 212/1 Contact of a moist surface is sure to lead to Bacteric development.

Bactericidal (bæktē'risi:dāl), *a.* *Biol.* [f. BACTERIUM + L. -cida slayer + -AL.] Destructive to bacteria.

1876 *TYNDALL* in *10th Cent. Mar.* 506 The bactericidal effects which his theory ascribes to pressure. 1881 - *Float. M. Air* 48 All bactericidal media are therefore anti-septic.

|| **Bacteridium** (bæktē'ridiəm), [mod.L., f. BACTERIUM + Gr. -idiōn dim. ending; cf. *antheridium*.] Davaine's name for a genus of minute organisms allied to the bacilli and bacteria.

1876 *tr. Wagner's Gen. Pathol.* 104 Davaine found bacteridia also in two examples of malignant pustule in men.

Bacteriology (bæktē'ri:plōdʒi), [f. as prec.: see -LOGY.] The scientific study of bacteria. **Bacteriologist**, a student of bacteriology. **Bacteri-oscopy**, microscopic investigation of bacteria.

1884 *Athenæum* 30 Aug. 281/2 In Germany it has become a separate study under the name of bacteriology.

Bacteritic (bæktē'ritik), *a.* *Med.* [f. next; see -ITIS, -ITIC.] Characterized by the (morbid) presence of bacteria.

1866 A. FLINT *Princ. Med.* 86 Bacteritic endocarditis.

|| **Bacterium** (bæktē'riəm), *Pl.* -a; rarely anglicized as *bactery*. [mod.L., ad. Gr. *βακτηριον*, dim. of *βακτρον* stick, staff.] A genus of *Schizomycetes*, microscopic unicellular rod-shaped vegetable organisms, various species of which are found in all decomposing animal and vegetable liquids.

1847-9 *TODD* *Cycl. Anat. & Phys.* IV. 6/1 In Bacterium, the contraction is weaker. 1854 J. HOGG *Microsc.* II. i. (1867) 295 What part do the fungi, or bacteria, play in the production of . . . cancer? 1884 *Health Exhib. Catal.* 155/1 Imperishable Yeast . . . and Models of Yeast and Bacteries.

Bacteroid (bæktē'roid), *a.* [f. prec.: see -OID; *bacterioid* would be a better form.] Of the nature of, or allied to, the bacteria.

1855 *GARROD* *Mat. Med.* 143 A decided antiseptic, arresting the development of bacteroid organisms.

† **Bacul**, *Obs.* [ad. L. *baculum*.] Staff, crozier.

c. 1449 *PECOCK* *Repr.* III. xvi. 386 Chalice, mytir, bacul.

Bacule, variant of *BASCULE*.

Baculere, obs. form of *BACHELOR*.

Baculine (bæ'kju:lɪn), *a.* [f. L. *baculum*, -us rod, stick + -INE.] Of or pertaining to the rod, or to punishment by caning or flogging.

1710 *HUME* *Sacr. Success.* (1716) 227 This baculine objection being fairly encounter'd. 1858 *THACKERAY* *Virginians* I. v. 38 The baculine method was a common mode of argument.

Baculite (bæ'kju:lɪt), *Palæont.* [f. as prec. + -ITE.] A genus of fossil cephalopods, with chambered cylindrical shells.

1822 *PARKINSON* *Fossil Org. Rem.* 166 Baculites, A multi-locular straight, or slightly bent, cylindrical, or slightly conical shell. 1841 H. MILLER *O. R. Sandst.* viii. 171 The belemnites, baculites, turritules, of the Cretaceous group.

Baculometry (bæ'kju:lɪp'mɛtri), [f. as prec. + Gr. -μετρία: see -METRY.] The Art of measuring accessible or inaccessible Distances, or Lines, by the help of one or more Staves. Phillips 1706.

Bacun, **Bacynet**, obs. ff. *BACON*, -KEN, *BASINET*.

Bad (bæd), *a.* (and *sb.*) Also 4-6 *badd(e)*. [ME. *badde* appears in end of 13th c., rare till end of 14th: see below. Regularly compared *badder*, *baddest*, from 14th to 18th c. (in *De Foe* 1721), though *Shakspeare* has only the modern substitutes *worse*, *worst*, taken over from *evil*, *ill*, after *bad* came to be = *evil*.

Prof. Zupitza, with great probability, sees in *bad-de* (2 syll.) the ME. repr. of OE. *bæddel* 'homo utriusque generis, hermaphrodita,' doubtless like Gr. *ἀνδρόγυνος*, and the derivative *bædling* 'effeminate fellow, womanish man, *μαλακός*, applied contemptuously; assuming a later adjectival use, as in *yrming*, *wrecca*, and loss of final *l* as in *mycel*, *muche*, *lytel*, *lyte*, *wencl*, *wenche*. This perfectly suits the ME. form and sense, and accounts satisfactorily for the want of early written examples. And it is free from the many historical and phonetic difficulties of the derivation proposed by Sarrazin (*Engl. Studien* VI. 91, VIII. 66), who, comparing the etymology of *madde*, *mad*, earlier *amade*: -OE. *gemædd* (see *AMAD*), would refer *badde* to OE. *gebædd*, 'forced, oppressed,' with a sense-development parallel to that of L. *captivus*, 'taken by force, enslaved, captive,' It. *cattivo*, F. *chétif*, 'miserable, wretched, despicable, worthless.' No other suggestion yet offered is of any importance; the Celtic words sometimes compared are out of the question.]

I. In a privative sense: Not good.

1. Of defective quality or worth, 'of no good'; below par, poor, worthless, 'wretched,' 'miserable'; that one does not *think much* (or anything) of.

1897 R. GLOUC. 108 Wat is vs to lete his badde kyng Go bus o liue as a schade, þat nys worþ noping? c. 1350 *Will. Palerne* 5024 Of here atir for to telle to badde is my witte.

c. 1386 *CHAUCER* *Monk's T.* 430 [In prison] Mete and drynke he hadde . . . it was ful poure and badde. 1393 *GOWER* *Conf.* II. 47 Her sadel eke was wonder badde. c. 1440 *Prompt. Parv.* 20/2 Badde, or nowght worthe, *invalidus*.

a 1553 UDALL *Roister D.* v. ii. Better a bad scuse then none.
1732 POPE *Horace Sat.* ii. ii. 63 Nor stops, for one bad cork,
his butler's pay. 1873 BLACK *Pr. Thule* xxiv. 413 Sometimes
they sent him a letter; but he was a bad correspondent.

b. *Bad air*: corrupt, vitiated air, which cannot
sustain healthy respiration. *Bad coin*: debased,
false coin. *Bad debts*: debts that cannot be real-
ized. *Bad food*: food deficient in nourishment. *To*
go bad: to decay. *With bad grace*: unwillingly.

1393 LANGL. *P. Pl. C.* xviii. 73 Men may lykne letterid
men... to a badde penny. 1622 MALYNES *Ans. Law Merch.*
124 If any bad debts should be made thereby. 1798 MALTHUS
Popul. (1878) 68 Children perished... from bad nourishment.
1832 LANDER *Exp. Niger* III. xvii. 44 Our people set about
loading the canoe... but with bad grace. 1855 MACAULAY
Hist. Eng. IV. xxi. The misery caused in a single year by
bad crowns and bad shillings. 1866 CRUMP *Banking* xi. 244
As the price of the article increases, so do the bad debts
increase. 1884 *St. James's Gaz.* 17 Oct. 3/2 The suffering
that comes from bad food, bad air, bad clothing. 1884 *Daily*
News 25 Dec. 3/4 It 'goes bad' more readily than... cooked
butcher's meat.

2. Incorrect, faulty. *Bad shot*: a wrong guess.
1688 *Land. Gaz.* No. 2309/4 He speaks but bad English.
1767 FORDYCE *Serm. Yng. Wom.* i. i. 25 They learn... to
speak bad French. 1845 KINGLAKE *Eothen* viii. 137, I
secretly smiled at this last prophecy as a 'bad shot.' 1849
MACAULAY *Hist. Eng.* II. 110 Some bad translations of
Bossuet's works. *Mod. slang*, Oh! that's very bad form!

3. *Law*. Not valid.
1883 SIR W. BRETT *Law Rep.* XI. *Queen's B.* 561 The
claim is bad. 1884 *Law Times Rep.* 12 Apr. 194/1 Such a
defence was bad... and could not be sustained.

4. Lacking good or favourable qualities; unfor-
tunate, unfavourable; that one does not like.

1393 GOWER *Conf. I.* 88 They despise The good fortune
as the badde. c. 1245 in *E. E. P.* (1862) 139 My chawncys ys
bad, I trow that fortune be my fo. 1602 WARNER *Alb.*
Eng. xii. lxxii. 298 He shall participate my best, that must
my badder plight. 1664 H. MORE *Myst. Iniq.* 540 It will
bring in a Principle of badder consequence. 1671 MILTON
P. R. iv. 1 Perplexed and troubled at his bad success. 1751
JORTIN *Serm.* (1771) IV. i. 23 This is humility, but it is so
only in a bad sense. 1883 *Manch. Exam.* 20 Nov. 5/5 A
bad pre-eminence as the hotbeds of pulmonary diseases.

II. In a positive sense: Evil, ill, noxious.

5. Morally depraved; immoral, wicked, vicious.
(The first quot. may have sense 1: 'wretched caitiffs'.)
a 1300 *Cursor M.* 1801 Pui greued þan þaa caitiffs badd.
1393 GOWER *Conf. I.* 106 One Thelous... whiche al was bad;
A fals knight. c. 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 20/a Bad, or wykyde,
Malus. 1599 SANDYS *Europa Spec.* (1632) 125 The baddest
man among the Cardinals is chosen to be Pope. 1609 BELL
Theoph. & Remig. 2 Badder life and wickeder dealing was
neuer more frequent. 1767 FORDYCE *Serm. Yng. Wom.* II.
viii. 13 Young people... are often corrupted by bad books.
1849 MACAULAY *Hist. Eng.* II. 50 Discreet counsellors im-
plored the royal brothers not to countenance this bad man.

6. Causing inconvenience, displeasure, or pain;
unpleasant, offensive, disagreeable; troublesome,
painful. *Bad blood*: harsh, angry feeling.

1515 BARCLAY *Ecloques*, Bad is the colour, the savor badder
is. 1622 R. HAWKINS *Voy. S. Sea* 54 The... bad entreatie
which the negros gave them. 1794 NELSON in *Nicolas Disph.*
I. 412 Had not the weather been so bad. 1825 *Bra. Yonah-*
than I. 74 If there be any bad blood in a fellow, he will show
it. 1855 MACAULAY *Hist. Eng.* III. 38 The old soldiers of
James were generally in a very bad temper. 1869 Hazlitt's
Eng. Prov., Bad words make a woman worse. 1873 SKEAT
in *Piers Pl.* (C.) Pref. 32, It is too bad to suppose that, etc.

7. Causing injury to health; injurious, hurtful,
noxious, dangerous, pernicious. *Const. for.*

1653 A. WILSON *Jas. I.* Pref. 4 To remove the accretion
of bad Humours. a 1719 ADDISON (J.) Reading was bad for
his eyes. 1855 MACAULAY *Hist. Eng.* IV. 723 He had just
had a bad fall in hunting. 1861 FLOR. NIGHTINGALE *Nurs-*
ing 56 The old four-post bed with curtains is bad, whether
for sick or well.

8. In ill health, suffering from disease or injury,
in pain.

1748 RICHARDSON *Clarissa* (1811) IV. 259 Still very bad
with my Gout. 1763 MRS. HARRIS in *Priv. Lett.* 1st *Ld.*
Malmesbury I. 90 She was so bad yesterday that she could
not open her mouth. 1840 R. DANA *Bef. the Mast* xxxii.
122 One of our watch was laid up... by a bad hand.

B. quasi-sb.

1. *absol.* That which is bad; bad condition, qua-
lity, etc.

1591 SHAKS. *Two Gent.* ii. vi. 13 T'exchange the bad for
better. 1670 G. H. *Hist. Cardinals* II. iii. 182 A capacity
of penetrating into the good and bad of an affair. 1816
WORDSW. *Sonn. Liberty* II. xvi. So bad proceeded propa-
gating worse.

b. *To the bad*: a. to a bad condition, to ruin;
b. to the wrong side of the account, in deficit.

1816 'Quiz' *Grand Master* viii. 25 I've really to the bad
Some thousand of rupees to add. 1864 T. TROLLOPE *Lindisf.*
Chase I. 46 (He) went, as the common saying expressively
phrases it—to the bad. 1884 *Pall Mall G.* 6 Feb. 4 He was
between £70 and £80 to the bad.

2. *sb.* (with *pl.*) A bad thing, quality, etc.;
rarely, a bad person. (Not in ordinary speech.)

1592 LYLIV *Mydas* v. ii. 57 An inventory of all Motto's
moveable baddes and goods. 1596 WARNER *Alb. Eng.* III.
xiv. 65 That of two bads, for better choyse he backe againe
did goe. 1602 *Ibid.* x. lvii. (1612) 252 For Popes be impu-
dent, and bads their blessings neuer mis. 1869 RUSKIN *Q. of*
Air § 125 But, as there is this true relation between money
and 'goods', or good things, so there is a false relation be-
tween money and 'bads', or bad things.

† *C. quasi-adv.*; = *BADLY*. *Obs.*

1611 BROUGHTON *Requie Agreem.* 78 Our minde holdeth

all badder then we can speake. 1681 GLANVILL *Sadducismus*
ii. Pref., Haunted almost as bad as Mr. Mompesson's house.

D. *Comb.*, as *bad-boding*, *-hearted*, *-looking*.

1594 GREENE *Fr. Bacon* (1861) 171 Fond Ate, doomer of bad-
boding fates. 1594 SHAKS. *Rich.* III. iv. iv. 122 Bett'ring
thy losse, makes the bad causer worse. 1807 SCOTT in *Lock-*
hart Life (1839) IX. 128 He was generous and far from bad-
hearted. 1863 MISS WHATELY *Ragged Life* vii. 55 They
were not a bad-looking circle.

† *Bad, badde, sb.* *Obs. rare.* ? A cat.

c. 1350 *Alexander* (ed. Stevenson) 1763 As ratons or ruse
myse in a rowme chambre, About in beddis or in bernys,
bare baddis [v. r. baddez] ere nane. [Cf. Halliwell, 'BAD',
A rural game played with a bad-stick... It probably re-
sembled the game of cat.' Cf. also *Sc. badrans*, *BAUDRONS*.]

Bad, badd, obs. forms of *BAD*, *BODE*.

Badder, obs. comparative of *BAD*.

Badderlocks. *Sc.* [perh. for *Balderlocks*, f.
BALDER (M. J. Berkeley in *Treas. Bot.*).] A sea-
weed (*Alaria esculenta*), 'the best of all the escul-
lent Algae when eaten raw.'

1795 LACHTFOOT *Fl. Scot.* 938 Eatable Fucus: Badderlocks.
1830 *Edin. Encycl.* III. 442 The great tangle... and the
badderlocks, or hen weed.

Baddish (bæd'ish), *a.* [f. *BAD* a. + *-ISH*.] Rather
bad, indifferent, inferior, poor.

1755 E. MOORE *World* No. 154 To see the Country-wife,
a baddish sort of a play. 1767 Fox in *Mem. & Corr.* I. 44,
I can get two actors for him, one goodish and one baddish.
1865 CARLYLE *Fredk. Gt. VI.* xvi. vi. 190 A gadding... female,
with whom poor Uncle had a baddish life.

Bæddishness. [f. *prec.* + *-NESS*.] Baddish
quality or condition; indifference, inferiority.

1824 W. IRVING *T. Trav.* II. 144 The bæddishness of the
crops.

Bade, *pa. t.* of *BID* v.; *obs. f.* *BODE* *sb.* and *v.*

† *Badeen*, *a.* *Obs. rare*—1. [a. *F. badin*, *-ine*,
derivative of *Pr. bad-ar*:—late *L. badāre* to gape.
Badin was in earlier usage 'silly', as if 'gaping'.
Cf. *BADINAGE*.] Frivolous, jesting.

1625 F. SPENCE *Medici* 453 A dialogue compleatly boufon,
waggish, and badeen, between the head and the cap.

† *Badelar*. *Obs. rare*—1. [a. *F. badelaire*.] A
short broad sword curved like a scimitar.

1603 URQUHART *Rabelais* III. Prol., Cutlasses, Badelars.

† *Bædelyng*. *Obs.* [for *paddling*: see quot.
1603.] An early term for 'a brood' of ducks.

1826 *Bk. St. Albans* F v j a, A bædelyng of Dokis. [1603
HOLLAND *Plutarch's Mor.* 344 Dolphins... strive to be dous-
ing, badling, and diving together with them.]

Badge (bædʒ), *sb.* Forms: 4-7 *bage*, 5-7
bagge, 7 *badg*, 5- *badge*. [First in *ME.*: also in
15th c. Anglo-Lat. *bagia*, *bagea*, from the vernacular
word. Also *OF. bage*: a single instance in Gode-
froy, of date 1465. Of unknown origin. See con-
jectures in Mätzner, Wedgwood, Müller, Skeat.]

1. A distinctive device, emblem, or mark, used
originally to identify a knight or distinguish his
followers (= *cognizance* in *Her.*), and now worn as
a sign of office or licensed employment, as a token
of membership in some society, etc., etc.

c. 1350 *Alexander* (St.) 4180 [The fire] binds on tend lowe
trappour of stede... Bages and baners it blesmychid. c. 1440
Promp. Parv. 20/a Bage, or bagge of armys, *Banidum*.
? c. 1450 *MS. Lincoln A. I.* 17 ff. 141 (Halliwell) He beris of
golde a seemly sighte, His bagges are sabyle ylkane.
1485 CAXTON *Paris & V.* (1868) 8 Came to the lystes with
their bagges and tokens. 1530 FALSGR., *Badge* of a gentyl-
man—*la deuse dung seigneur*. 1537-73 *Diurn. Occurr.*
(1833) 158 My lord regentis armes and bage. 1618 ROW-
LANDS *Sacr. Mem.* 50 The Crosse, which Christians for their
badge do weare. 1678 *Trans. Crt. Spain* 131 To wear a
badg that they may beg alms. 1800 COLQUHOUN *Comm.*
Thames xl. 328 They have their names and numbers on a
metal badge. 1879 DIXON *Windsor* II. xv. 161 She tore
the Lancastrian badges from her clothes.

2. *gen.* A distinguishing 'sign', emblem, token, or
symbol of any kind: a. *transf.* of things material.

1526 TINDALE *Acts* xxviii. 11 Whose badge was Castor
and Pollux. 1597 SHAKS. *2 Hen. IV.* iv. iii. 113 The Liuer
white, and pale; which is the Badge of Pusillanimitie, and
Cowardize. 1705 *Land. Gaz.* No. 4140/4 The Badges or
Marks put on Houses Insured by the Friendly Society.
1774 J. BRYANT *Mythol.* I. 62 A brazier of live coals carried
before him as a badge of his office. 1872 FREEMAN *Norm.*
Conq. IV. xviii. 104 The fortresses, the special badges of
foreign rule.

b. *fig.* of things immaterial.

1590 *More Supplic. Soules* Wks. 314/1 The deuils badge...
y^e badge we meane of malice & of a very deadli deuillish
hate. 1596 SHAKS. *Merch. V.* i. l. 111 For suffrance is the
badge of all our Tribe. 1719 W. WOOD *Surv. Trade* 295
Monopolies, the Badges of a slavish People. 1868 M.
PATTISON *Academ. Org.* § 6. 237 The degrees have become
social badges. 1875 STUBBS *Const. Hist.* I. vii. 167 The
possession of land has become the badge of freedom.

3. *Naval Arch.* (See quot.)

1769 in *FALCONER Dict. Marine*. c. 1850 Rudim. *Nav.*
(Weale) 94 BADGE, a sort of ornament fixed on the quarters
of small vessels near the stern, containing either a sash for
the convenience of the cabin, or the representation of it.
1867 SMYTH *Sailor's Word-bk.* s.v., Quarter badges, false
quarter-galleries in imitation of frigate-built ships.

4. *Comb.*, as *badge-ticket*; *badge-man*, one who
wears a badge, a licensed beggar or almsman.

1790 BURKE *Rev. Wks.* V. 352 No man ever... will
glory in belonging to the Chequer No. 71, or to any other
badge-ticket. 1809 CRABBE *Tables* 16 With thickest coat of
Badge-man's blue.

Badge (bædʒ), *v.* 1 [f. *prec. sb.*] *trans.* To
mark with, or distinguish by, a badge.

1380 WYCLIF *Sol. Wks.* (1871) III. 60 Pus þei ben baggid
wip signes of hypocrysie. 1590 [see *BADGED*]. 1777 SWIFT *Wks.*
(1761) III. 336 Badging the original poet of every parish,
who begged in the streets. 1880 *Daily Tel.* 28 Oct., A
hymn... numbered and badged by the Local Board of
Works.

† *Badge*, *v.* 2 *Obs.* Also in 6 *bagge*. [Origin
unknown; app. the source of *badger* sb. 1 (though
it may have been a back-formation from that
word taken as an agent-noun). Fuller derived it
from *L. bāfulāre* to carry (as if a cant contraction
baj, cf. the modern *soo*, *cab*, etc.), but evidence is
required before this can be admitted for the 15th c.]
To deal as a badger; to hawk for sale; to buy
up (provisions) for the purpose of selling again
elsewhere; hence, to regrade.

1552 Bp. HOOPER in Strype's *Cranmer* App. 135 The Statute
of Regrators is so usid, that in many quarters of these
partes it will do little good: and in some parts, where as
licence by the Justices will not be grauntid, the people are
mouche offendid, that they shuld not, as wel as other, bagge
as they were wound to do. [Cf. *BADGER* 1, quot. 1552.] 1605
J. DAVIES *Humour's Heav.* on *E.* (1876) 37 Some others fol-
lowed her [i.e. Fortune] by badging land. 1612 in *North*
Riding Rec. (1884) I. 240 Marm. Foxton of Brompton (pre-
sented) for badging of butter. 1700 R. GOUGH *Hist. Myddle*
115 His imployment was buying corne in one market towne
and selling it in another, which is called badging. 1799-72
JACOB *Law Dict.*, *Kidder*, one that badges, or carries corn,
dead victual, or other merchandize up and down to sell.

Badge *v.* 3, variant of *BAG* *v.* 2

Badged (bædʒd), *pp. a.* [f. *BADGE* *v.* 1 + *-ED*.]
Distinguished or marked by a badge.

1599 MARSTON *Scot. Villanie* II. vii. 209 A cart? a tumbrell?
no a badged coach. 1605 SHAKS. *Macb.* II. iii. 107 Their
Hands and Faces were all badg'd with blood. 1851 SALA
Tw. round Clock 95 Maledicted by the badged Jehus.

Badgeless (bædʒləs), *a.* [f. *BADGE* *sb.* + *-LESS*.]
Without badge or cognizance.

1599 Bp. HALL *Sat.* iv. v. 38 To get some badge-less blew
upon his backe. 1855 SINGLETON *Virgil* II. 466 Afoot with
naked falchion, and unawed With badgeless huckler.

Badger (bædʒə), *sb.* 1 Forms: 5 *bager*, 7
(?) *bodger*, *budger*, 5- *badger*. [See *BADGE* *v.* 2,
and note below.]

One who buys corn and other commodities and
carries them elsewhere to sell; an itinerant dealer
who acts as a middleman between producer (far-
mer, fisherman, etc.) and consumer; a cadger,
hawker, or huckster. Still common in the dialects.

By Act 5 and 6 Edw. VI. c. 14 § 7 Badgers were required
to be licensed by the Justices (the origin of the hawker's
licence). Among the commodities in which they are said
to have dealt are named corn (especially), fish, butter, and
cheese. They were obnoxious to the charge of *regrating*,
and hence the word is in some 17th c. vocabularies, e.g.
Robertson's *Phrasol. Gen.* (1906), explained as 'an ingrosser,
a forebuyer, or forestaller of the market, one that buyeth
corn and other provisions beforehand.'

a 1500 *Office of Mayor of Bristol* in *E. E. Gilds* 424 The
baggers, such as bryngeth whete to towne, as wele in trowys,
as otherwyse, by lande and by watir. 1552 *Act* 5-6 Edw. VI.,
xiv. § 7 The Buying of any Corn, Fish, Butter, or Cheese,
by any such Badger, Lader, Kidder or Carrier, as shall bee
assigned and allowed to that office or doing by three Jus-
tices of peace. 1566 *Act* 5 *Eliz.* xii. Badgers of Corn, and
Drovers of Cattle, to be licensed. 1587 FLEMING *Contn.*
Holmesd. III. 588/2 No badger, baker, brewer, or purueior,
to buie graine, vntill an houre after the full market begin.
1610 HOLLAND *Camden's Brit.* I. 555 All the inhabitants be
as it were a kind of hucksters, or badgers. 1641 *BEST*
Farm. Bks. (1856) 101 The badgers come farre, many of
them; whearefore their desire is to buy soone, that they
may be goinge betimes, for feare of beinge nighted. 1674
RAY *N. Countr. Wds.*, *Badger*, such as buy Corn, or other
Commodities in one place, and carry them to another. 1695
KENNETT *Par. Antiq. Gloss.* s.v. *Cart-body*, *Badger*, *Budger*,
or *Bodger*, i.e. a carrier or retailer of Bodges or bags of
corn. 1788 W. MARSHALL *E. Yorksh.*, *Badger*, a huckster.
1825 BRITTON *Beauties of Wilts.*, *Badger*, a corn-dealer.
1858 *Ladies Brev. Hollow* II. iv. 68 'Our Butter fetches a
penny a pound more than other people's from the badger.'
1863 ATKINSON *Whitby Gloss.*, *Badger*, a huckster; a man
who goes about the country with ass and panniers, to buy
up butter, eggs, and fruit, which he will sell at a near
market-town; and before shops were common in every vil-
lage, he dealt in needles, thread, trimmings, and the like,
for which he was open to exchange. [Also in the following
Glossaries of E. D.S.: *Sunderdale* (Meal-seller), *Huddersf.*,
Mid. Yorksh., *Cumb.* (Flour or corn-dealer; also pedlar,
huckster), *Worcester*, *N. Lancash.* (Travelling huckster or
dealer, cadger), *Lancash.* (Keeper of small provision shop).]

[*Note.* Conjectures as to the derivation, and possible con-
nexion with next word, depend greatly upon the original
meaning. On the assumption that this was 'corn-merchant',
bager, *badger*, has been identified with obs. *F. bladier*, 'a
Marchant or Ingrosser of corne', Cotgr. (properly Provencal
= *OF. blaiier*, *blayer*); but this is phonetically inadmissible.
If, however, we assume *bager* to represent a *ME. *blager*,
with 1 unaccountably lost, this might represent an *OF.*
**blaagier*, f. *blange* (*blange*, *bladage*) harvest, corn-supply;
feudal due paid in corn, f. *ble*, *bled* in med. *L. bladum*
corn, wheat. (See H. NICOL *Proc. Philol. Soc.* 19 Dec. 1879.)
But no such links between *F. blange* and *Eng. bager* are
found either in *F.* or *Eng.*; so that there is positively no
evidence connecting *badger* with any deriv. of *F. ble*. And
indeed a consideration of the whole (46) quotations which
we have for the word leads to the conviction that the
bager, *badger*, had no essential connexion with corn, any
more than the *lader*, *kidder*, or *carrier*, named along with
him in the statutes, proclamations and law-books. At

present it is most in accordance with the facts to take *badger* as the agent-noun from *BADGE* v.]

Badger (bædʒə), *sb.* Also 6 *bageard*, 6-7 *badgerd*. [Only mod. Eng.: of doubtful origin. Prob. (as E. Müller suggests) from *BADGE* *sb.* + -ARD, in reference to the white mark borne like a badge on its forehead: cf. for the sense BAUSON and BALL *sb.* 3, for the formation BALLARD.]

Most etymologists have assumed the identity of this with the prec. word, citing the presumed analogy of the mod. F. name of the quadruped, *blaireau*, in 15th c. *blereau*, taken as a dim. of *blair*, meaning 'little corn-merchant or corn-hoarder', an appellation arising out of popular notions of the habits of the animal, 'which, it is said, makes away with much buck-wheat' (Littre). But this derivation seems to be erroneous. No OF. *blair*, representing a L. *bladarius*, from *bladarius*, is found. And it seems certain that OF. *blairiau* (12-13th c.), later *blereau*, *blaireau*, in Flanders *blairiau*, *blairiau*, in Normandy *blérel*, *blérel*, compared with OF. *blair*, *blaire* 'the bald-coot', mod. F. dial. (Flanders, Picardy) *blair*, *blaire*, (Normandy) *blérel*, must be referred to MDu. and Flem. *blair* 'bald', MDu. *blare*, Flem. *blare*, Du. *blaar* 'a white spot on the forehead of an animal'. *Blairiau* thus corresponds exactly to *bauson*, and its analogy strongly favours the derivation of *badger* from *badger*.

1. A plantigrade quadruped (*Meles vulgaris*), intermediate between the weasels and the bears, found in Europe and Middle Asia; it is a nocturnal, hibernating animal, feeding on small mammals, game, eggs, fruit, and roots, and digging for itself a burrow, which it defends fiercely against attack, biting and maiming dogs with its powerful jaws. Earlier names were *brock*, and *bauson*; also *gray*. The Indian and North American species differ but slightly from the European.

1533 FITZHERB. *Hush.* 71 A *bauson* or a *badger*. 1534 MORE *Compt. agst. Trib.* 11. Wks. 1183/2 *Bageard*. 1598 SYLVESTER *Du Barts* (1608) 514 As the self-swelling *Badgerd*... First at the entry of his barrow fights. 1720 SWIFT *Apollon to Dean Wks.* 1755 IV. 1. 20 *Grey* as a *badger*. 1741 *Compt. Fam.-Piece* 11. 1. 298 A *Badger* is known by several Names, as a *Gray*, a *Brock*, a *Boreson* or *Bauson*; the young ones are called *Pigs*; the Male is called the *Boar*, and the Female the *Sow*. 1877 COUES *Fur Anim.* 1. 2 The cruel sport which *Badgers* have afforded from time immemorial. [See also 5.]

Fig. 1644 FULLER *Holy & Prof. St.* 11. viii. 80 Erasmus was a *badger* in his jeeres, where he did bite he would make his teeth meet.

b. *erron.* applied to the beaver and otter. 1591 PERCIVALL *Sp. Dict.*, *Biivaro*, a *badger* or *brocke*, *Fiber*, *castor*. 1601 CHESTER *Love's Mart.* cxvii, The *watvie Badger*.

c. *Cape- or Rock-badger*: the daman (*Hyrax Capensis*). *Honey-badger*: the ratel (*Atellus melivorus*). *Badger* (in Australia): the wombat. 1844 GRIFFITH *Cuvier* III. 429 Dutch Colonists... call the Cape Hyrax, *Klip daasie*, or the *Rock Badger*. 1861 HULME *Moguin-Tandon* 11. iii. 122 The *Daman* of the Cape... commonly called *Badger* of the Rocks. 1870 NICHOLSON *Zool.* (1880) 661 The *Wombat*, often called 'by the colonists the 'badger'.

2. (in U.S.) Nickname of natives or inhabitants of Wisconsin.

1856 EMERSON *Eng. Traits* iv. 54 Our 'Hoosiers,' 'Suckers,' and 'Badgers,' of the American woods.

3. a. An artificial fly (for angling); b. a brush (for painting or shaving) made of badgers' hair. 1707 *Best Angling* 107 The late *Badger*... Dubbed with the fur off a black badger's skin.

4. Slang phr. To *overdraw one's badger* (in humorous reference to *badger-drawing*; see 5): to overdraw one's banking account.

a 1845 HOOD *Kilmansiege* (D.) His checks no longer drew the cash, because... He had overdrawn his *badger*.

5. *Comb.* *Badger-baiting*, *-drawing*, the cruel sport of setting dogs to draw out a badger from its (artificial) hole, e.g. a barrel; hence *badger-baiter*; *badger-dog* (= Ger. *dachshund*), a long-bodied short-legged dog used in drawing a badger from its earth; *badger-fly* (= *BADGER* 3 a); *badger-legged a.*, having legs of unequal length, as the badger was vulgarly supposed to have; *badger-like a.* and *adv.*, like or in the manner of a badger.

1818 SCOTT *Rob Roy* xiii, Go and see what is become of the 'badger-baiters. 1801 STRUTT *Sports & Past.* 111. vii. § 19 'Badger-baiting. In order to give the better effect to this diversion, a hole is dug in the ground for the retreat of the animal; and the dogs run at him singly in succession. 1864 *Reader* No. 85. 200/1 The pug, the bulldog, and the 'badger-dog. 1838 DICKENS *O. Twist* (1850) 155/2 Young lords went to see cockfighting and 'badger-drawing. 1707 *Best Angling* 105 The 'Badger Fly... is an excellent killer. a 1704 R. LESTRANGE (J.) His body crooked all over, big-bellied, 'badger-legged. 1656 *Artif. Handsom.* 60 Poor Vulcanists, who ballance the inequality of their heels, or 'badger legs, by the... help of the shoemaker. 1651 CLEVELAND *Poems* 34 Come keen Iambicks, with your *Badgers* feet, And 'Badger-like, bite till your teeth do meet.

Badger (bædʒə), *v.* [f. prec. *sb.*]

1. To make a badger of, bait like a badger; hence, to subject (one who cannot escape from it) to persistent worry or persecution; to pester, tease.

1704 O'KEEFE *Wild Oats* 1. i. At home, abroad... you will still *badger* me! 1855 WOOD *Amec. Anim.* Life 238, A 'brock'... led such a persecuted life, that to 'badger' a man came to be the strongest possible term for irritating, perse-

cuting, and injuring him in every way. 186a *Sat. Rev.* 8 Feb. 154 The coarse expedients by which the Old Bailey advocate *badgers* and confuses a nervous witness.

2. *dial.* [f. *BADGER* *sb.* 1] 'To barter; to banter over a bargain; to beat down in price.'

1875 in *Whitby Gloss.*; also in *Gloss. of Manley & Corringham* (Lincolnsh.).

Badgered (bædʒərd), *pp.* a. [f. prec. + -ED.] Persistently worried, persecuted, or pestered.

1794 J. WOLCOTT (P. Pindar) *Rowl. for Oliver Wks.* II. 163 Therefore I tremble for his *badger'd* bacon. 1850 THACKERAY *Pendennis Wks.* 1869 IV. 59 I'm so pressed and *badgered*, I don't know where to turn.

Badgerer (bædʒərə), [f. as prec. + -ER 1.]

1. A dog used for badger-baiting; a badger-dog. 1876 BLACKMORE *Cripps* 111. xvii. 288 The loss of her finest *badgerer*.

2. *dial.* 'A cheapener.' [See *BADGER* v. 2.]

1875 in *Whitby Gloss.*

Badgering, *vbl. sb.* [f. as prec. + -ING 1.]

1. Persistent worrying, persecution.

1796 BURKE *Let. to Lawrence* 16 Dec., He would rather be defeated on the Rhine or Po than suffer a *badgering* every day in the House of Commons. 1840 DICKENS *Barn. Rudge* (1866) I. xiii. 59 The constant *badgering* and worrying of his venerable parent.

2. Acting as 'badger'; still *dial.* beating down the cost.

1844 *Act 7 & 8 Vic.* xxiv. Preamble, Statutes... prohibiting... *badgering*, forestalling, etc. 1875 in *Whitby Gloss.*

Badgerly (bædʒəli), *a.* [f. *BADGER* *sb.* + -LY 1.]

Badger-like; hence, greyish-haired, elderly.

1753 RICHARDSON *Grandison* (1781) V. xliii. 273 When I see those *badgerly* virgins fond of a parrot, a squirrel, a monkey.

† **Badgie, bagy, bawgy**, *Obs.* [See *BADGE* *sb.* and cf. Anglo-Lat. *bagia*.] = *BADGE*. (Chiefly Scotch.)

1286 *Bk. St. Albans* Heraldry Bija, Theys *bastardis* shall adde more *bagy* to his armys or take a way a *bagy* of armys. 1513 DOUGLAS *Æneis* 11. viii. (vii.) 55 His schynynge scheild, with his *bagy* tuik he. 1666 in *Q. Mary's Bedroom*, *Edinb. Castle*, under *Arms of Jas. VI.*, Lord Jesu Chryst... Preserve the Birth quha his *Badgie* heir is borne. 1866 FERNE *Blaz. Gentrie* 205 Of fesse *Bagie*, fesse *Target* and fesse *Sentally*.

Badging (bædʒɪŋ), *vbl. sb.* [f. *BADGE* v. 1 + -ING 1.]

The action of marking with a badge.

1764 BURN *Poor Laws* 119 *Badging* of the poor, we see, is much more ancient.

Badging, *pp.* a. That gives a badge or token.

c 1600 *Timon* i. iv, I come to thee a *badging* messenger: Our Lord Gelasimus from the Goulde Hill Sends thee a cloake, a signe of his good will.

† **Badiaga** (badyā-gā, badiā-gā). [Russ. *badya-ga* 'river-sponge'.] A species of alga, the powder of which is used to take away the livid marks of bruises.

1753 in CHAMBERS *Cycl. Supp.* 1853 in MAYNE *Exp. Lex.*

† **Badian** (bā-dian). [a. F. *badiane*, a. Pers. and Urdū بادیان *badyān* fennel, anise.] The Chinese or Star Anise: see ANISE 3.

1847 CRAIG *Badiane*. 1864 WEBSTER, *Badian*.

Badigeon (badi-dʒən). [a. F. *badigeon*, of unknown etymol.] a. A mixture of plaster and free-

stone ground together, used by sculptors for repairing defects in their stone, and by builders for giving common plaster the appearance of stone. b. A mixture of sawdust and glue used by joiners for filling up holes in woodwork.

1753 in CHAMBERS *Cycl. Supp.*

† **Badinage** (badi-nāʒ, bædineʒ). [a. F. *badinage*, f. *badiner* (see below) and -AGE.] Light trifling raillery or humorous banter.

1668 in PHILLIPS. 1740 CIBBER *Apol.* (1756) II. 74 The frivolous charms or playful *badinage* of a king's mistress.

1880 DISRAELI *Endym.* xxvii, Men destined to the highest places should beware of *badinage*.

Badinage, *v.* [f. prec. *sb.*] To banter playfully. To *badinage* away: to get rid of by *badinage*.

1861 *All Y. Round* 13 July 383 To scoff away attacks, to *badinage* away reforms. 1876 BLACK *Green Past.* iv. 34 She has *badinaged* him into the peerage.

† **Badiner**, *v.* *Obs.* [a. F. *badiner*, f. *badin* silly, frivolous, jesting: see *BADERN*. Irreg. adopted in inf. form.] To talk jestingly and frivolously, to banter.

1697 VANBRUGH *Relapse* iv. ii, I don't know how... to pass my time; would Lovelace were here to *badiner* a little.

† **Badinerie** (badi-nəri). [Fr., f. *badiner*; see prec.] *Badinage*, raillery, banter.

1712 SHENSTONE *Wks. & Lett.* II. 240 The fund of sensible discourse is limited; that of jest and *badinerie* is infinite.

† **Badineux** (badi-nö-r). *Obs.* [Fr. (not in Littre) n. of agent f. *badiner*; see above.] One who indulges in *badinage* or raillery.

1734 POPE *Let. Swift* 19 Dec., Rebuke him for it... as a *badineux*, if you think that more effectual.

† **Badling**, *Obs.* [OE. *bædling*, f. *bæddel* a womanish fellow (see *BAD*) + -ING 3.] An effeminate or womanish man.

a 1000 in Wülker *Pocab.* 391 *Effeminati, molles, bædlingas*.

a 1600 Pinkerton *S. P.* (1792) III. 125 (JAM.) A wreath to were a nobill scarlet gounne, A *badlyng*, furring parillit wele with sable.

Badly (bædli), *adv.*; in 3-4 *baddeliche*. [f. *BAD* a. + -LY 2.]

1. In a manner below the proper standard; poorly, insufficiently, defectively.

1377 LANGL. *P. Pl.* B. xv. 498 Yuel y-clothed... *Badly* y-bedded. 1393 *Ibid.* C. v. 55 He is bold to borwe... and *baddeliche* he payep. 1838 DICKENS *O. Twist* (1850) 199/1 A mean and *badly*-furnished apartment. 1856 KANE *Arct. Exp.* II. iv. 50 We are so *badly* off for strong arms.

2. Unfortunately, unluckily, unsuccessfully.

1597 R. GLOUC. 566 So longe hom spedde *baddeliche*. 1595 SHAKS. *John* v. iii. 2 How goes the day with vs? *Hub.* *Badly*, I feare. 1883 *Law Times* 20 Oct. 407/2 A great improvement upon the former rules... which worked *badly*.

3. Incorrectly, faultily.

1836-9 TODD *Cycl. Anat.* II. 783/2 *Badly*-formed bones.

1849 RUSKIN *Sev. Lamps* ii. § 14 So great a painter... would never paint *badly* enough to deceive. *Mod.* He speaks English very *badly*.

4. Immorally, wickedly, viciously, improperly.

c 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 20/2 *Badly* or *wykkydly*, *Male*, *iniqué*.

1580 SIDNEY *Arcadia* (1622) 176 *Badly*-diligent ministers, who often cloyed our eares with her prayes. 160a WARNER *Alb. Eng.* ix, xlvii. 218 Labouring their Mischiefs farre and neere, Whilst Eccho and Narcissus are more *badly* busie heere. 1879 E. DAVIDSON in *Cassell's Techn. Educ.* I. 202/2 Indolent, irregular, and *badly*-conducted pupils.

5. So as to cause pain, danger, disgrace, or harm of any kind; cruelly, unkindly, dangerously, noxiously, disagreeably, etc.

1799 E. STANLEY in Duncan *Nelson* (1806) 112 The French behaved very *badly* to them. 1828 SOUTHEY in *Q. Rev.* XXXVIII. 207 One of the Indian chiefs was *badly* wounded.

1884 *Manch. Exam.* 21 May 4/7 The Lancashire County Eleven were *badly* beaten.

6. *collog.* with 'need, want' = Much, greatly.

Mod. I wanted to see you very *badly*.

7. *dial.* quasi-adj. Unwell, indisposed, in ill health.

1783 AINSWORTH *Lat. Dict.* (Morell), *Badly*, *Malt se habens*.

1821 MRS. WHEELER *Westmrd. Dial.* 45, I wur terrible feard a meaakin mesel *badly* agayn.

† **Badmash, budmash** (bædməʃ). [Pers. and Urdū, f. Pers. *bād* evil + Arab. *mā'ash* means of livelihood.] One following evil courses; a 'bad character,' rascal.

1843 in SKIPWITH *Magistr. Guide* (Calcutta) 17. 1866 SIR T. SEATON *Cadet to Col.* II. 66 Only the 'Badmashes' are flogged. 1870 KAYE *Hist. Sepoy War* II. v. 294 A rising of the 'Badmashes' of the city.

Badminton (bædminton). [Named from the Duke of Beaufort's country seat.]

1. A cooling summer drink; see quot.

1853 WHYTE-MELVILLE *Digby Gr.* ix, 'Badminton,' that grateful compound of mingled cald, sugar, and soda-water. 1870 DISRAELI *Lothair* xxx. (D.) Soothed or stimulated by fragrant cheroots or beakers of *Badminton*.

2. A game resembling lawn-tennis, played with shuttle-cocks instead of balls.

1874 *Daily News* 25 Mar. 5 Played a game at *Badminton* with two ladies.

Badness (bædnəs). [f. *BAD* a. + -NESS.]

1. Inferior or deficient quality; poor condition; incorrectness, faultiness; invalidity.

1539 *Househ. Ord.* in Thynne *Animadv.* Introd. 34 To make relation thereof at the Greencloth of the *badnesse* of the stuff. 1611 BIBLE *Gen.* xli. 19 Kine... leaner fleshed, such as I neuer saw in all the land of Egypt for *badnesse*. 1757 BURKE *Abridgm. Eng. Hist.* Wks. X. 506 The clergy also took advantage of the *badness* of his title. 1835 CORBETT *Rur. Rides* 8 Nothing can more strongly prove the *badness* of the times. 1884 LD. BLACKBURN in *Law Rep.* IX. Appeal 620 The supposed *badness* of the plea.

2. Evil quality or condition; wickedness, depravity; dangerousness, noxiousness, adverseness.

1377 LANGL. *P. Pl.* B. xii. 49 *pe* bewte of hir body in *badnesse* (v. r. *baddenesse*) she dispended. 1605 SHAKS. *Lear* iii. v. 9 A reprobable *badnesse* in himselfe. 1748 RICHARDSON *Clarissa* (1811) I. xxvii. 189 Vilely suspicious... from the *badness* of his own heart. *Mod.* Forced to retreat by the *badness* of the weather.

† **Badot**, *a.* *Obs. rare* -1. [ad. F. *badaut* gaping fool, idler, f. Pr. *badar* to gape.] Silly.

1653 URQUHART *Rabelais* i. xvii, So sottish, so *badot*.

Badrans, var. BAUDRONS, Sc. name for cat.

Bæ, Sc. form of BAA.

Bæ, in OE. and EE. words; see BA-.

Bætyl (bæ'til). *rare*. [ad. L. *bætylus*, a. Gr. *Baitulos*.] A sacred meteoric stone.

Baff, *sb.* Sc. [Possibly a. OF. *baffe* a blow with the back of the hand; but perh. simply imitative of the sound.] A blow with anything flat or soft, e.g. the palm of the hand, a soft ball, etc.

a 1800 in R. Jamieson's *Pop. Ballads* II. 382 (JAM.) His back they loundert... *baff* for *baff*. 1814 SCOTT *Wav.* lxxi, For fear some dare-the-de'il should tak a *baff* at them. 1854 H. MILLER *Sch. & Schm.* (1858) 11 A cannon-ball would but play *baff* on you.

† **Baff**, *v.* *Obs.* [Possibly from LG. and Du. *baffen* with same meaning; but probably directly imitative: cf. *yaff*, and dialectal *bough*, *buff*.]

To bark or yelp as a dog; also *transf.* of persons.

c 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 20 *Baffyn* as howndys, *Baulo*, *baffo*, *latro*. 1570 LEVINS *Manip.* 10 To *baffe*, as a dog, *latrare*. 1599 NASHE *Leit. Stuffe* 37 Therewith outstep the stalled foreman... and *baff* in his face. Biefe, Biefe, Biefe.

To say neither *buff* nor *baff*: see *BUFF*.

1542 UDAL *Erasm. Apoph.* 11 (Who) beeyng of him bidden good spede, saied to hym again neither *buff* ne *baff*. 1549 LATIMER *Serm. bef. Edu.* VI. 196 When he should have comforted Christ he was aslepe, not once *buffe* nor *baffe* to him.

Baff-end. (See quot.)

1821 *Coal-tr. Terms* Northumbld. & Durh. *Baff-end*.—A piece of wood, 15 or 18 inches long, 5 or 6 inches broad, and from 1 to 2 inches thick, used for driving behind cribs or tubbing, to bring them to their proper position in a pit.

† **Baffing**, *vbl. sb. Obs.* [f. *BAFF* v. + -ING¹.] Barking; also fig.

1401 *Pol. Poems* (1859) II. 53 Bot wel I wot thi baffing .. may not menuse this seint. c1440 *Promp. Parv.* 20 Baf-fyng or bawlyng of howndys. *Baulatus*, *baffatus*.

Baffle (bæ'f'l), *v.* Forms: 6 *baffull*, 7 *baffol*, -oul, -ul, -il(l), -el, 6-9 *baffle*. [Etymology, and even immediate source, uncertain. Quoted in 1548 as *Scotch*, and in 1570 used by a Scotchman. Hence, naturally to be compared with *Sc. bauchle*, found in senses 1-3, from a century earlier, but itself of uncertain derivation. On the other hand we have *F. beffler* (Cotgr.) 'to deceive, mocke, or gull with faire words,' etc. (cf. sense 4), and *ba-fouer*, in Cotgr. *baffouer*, 'to hoodwinke; to deceive; to besmeare; also to baffle, abuse, reuile, disgrace, handle basely in tearmes, give reproach-ful words of or vnto.' Of these, *beffler* (in *Kabelais* 1533-53) is easily referred to OF. *befe*, *befle* mockery, *beffer* to mock, *beferie* quibbling, deceit, = It. *beffa*, Sp. *befa*, OSP. and Pr. *bafu*, mockery, banter, It. *beffare*, Sp. *befar*, Pr. *bafar*, to mock, deride (which M. Paul Meyer would derive from Pr. *baf*! interjection expressing disdain), with which words also (though less securely) *Diez* and others connect *hafouer*, cited first from Montaigne, 1588-92. It is possible that two or even three distinct words are confused under *baffle*.]

I. To disgrace. [Cf. *Sc. BAUCHLE*, *F. bafouer*.] †1. To subject to public disgrace or infamy; *spec.* to disgrace a perjured knight with infamy. *Obs.*

1548 *HALL Chron.* (1809) 559 He was content that the Scottes shoulde Baffull hym, which is a great reproache among the Scottes, and is used when a man is openly perjured, and then they make of him an Image paynted re-verted with hys heles upward, with hys name wonderynge cryenge and blowing out of hym with hornes. 1570 in *Churchyard Chippes* (1817) 127, I will baffull your good name, sounde with the trumpet your dishonour, and paint your pictor with the heeles vpward, and beate it in despyght of yourselfe. 1596 SPENSER *F. Q.* vi. vii. 27 He by the heeles him hung upon a tree And bafful'd so, that all which passed by The picture of his punishment might see. [See also v. iii. 37.] 1613 BEAUM. & FL. *Hon. Man's Fort.* III. i. Have his disgrace talk for Tobacco shops, His picture bafful'd. 1660 *Gentl. Call.* v. 71 A Maxime among the Swordmen, That he that has once been baffled, is ever after an incompetent Challenger.

†2. *gen.* To disgrace, treat with contumely. *Obs.* 1599 NASHE *P. Penitence* 17 b, Should we .. borrow all out of others .. our names should be bafful on euerie Booke-sellers stall. 1609 BP. *HALL Dissuas. Popery* (1627) 642 A religion that baffoules all temporall princes, making them stand bare-foot at their great bishops gate. 1693 SHADWELL *Volunteers* IV. i. This confounded beau .. will tell all the town what men he baffes.

†3. To speak to or of in terms of contempt; to vilify, 'run down.' *Obs.*

1674 MARVELL *Rev. Transp.* II. 291 You run down and Baffle that serious business of Regeneration.

II. To cheat, juggle, bewilder, confound, foil. [Cf. *F. beffler* and *bafouer*.]

†4. To hoodwinke, gull, cheat. *Obs.*

c1590 GREENE *Fr. Bacon* v. 83 But friends are men, and love can baffle lords. 1609 ARMIN *Ital. Taylor* (1880) 178 Such deedes must haue a reach of wit To baffill such as he. 1649 MILTON *Eikon*. 163 The Scots would not be baff'd with the pretence of a Coronation Oath. 1653 — *Hirelings* Wks. (1851) 360 They cry out Sacrilege, that Men will not be gull'd and baff'd .. by giving credit to frivolous Pretences of divine Right. 1726 DE FOE *Hist. Devil* II. viii. (1840) 292 He had not a mind to cheat or baffle the poor man.

†5. *intr.* To juggle, shuffle, quibble. *Obs.*

1696 TRAPP *Exp. Matt.* xxv. 11 Trifling and baffing with Christ. a1677 BARROW *Wks* III. 180 (T.) To what purpose can it be to juggle and baffle for a time? a1733 NORTH *Life Guilford* (1808) II. 78 (D.) The vexatious side baffed before the master, as long as he could, upon trifles.

†b. To baffle out or away (trans.). *Obs.*

1643 MILTON *Divorce* Introd. Wks. (1851) 12 To have eluded and baff'd out all Faith and chastity from the marriagebed. 1653 W. MEWE in *Hartlib Ref. Commu. Bees* 47 Relicks of his goodness, whereof we have baffled away the better part.

†6. *trans.* To bewilder, confuse, confound. *Obs.*

1649 G. DANIEL *Trinarch*, *Hen. V.* 364 Let the rude Noyse of Bells enchant Dull Ears, And Bon-fires baffle Eyes. 1699 R. LESTRANGE *Josephus' Wars* I. xx. (1733) 605 And does not despair of baffling the Truth with a Trick. a1704 T. BROWN *Oxf. Scholars* Wks. 1730 I. 12 Their understandings have been so baffled with phrases and distinctions.

†7. To confound, bring to confusion, bring to nought. *Obs.*

1649 MILTON *Eikon*. xxvii. 511 Whose sole word and will shall baffle .. what all the wisdom of a Parliament hath bin deliberately framing. 1709 STEELE & ADD. *Tatler* No. 160 ¶15 To baffle Reproach with Silence. 1812 CHABBE *Parting Hour* 224 A wish so strong, it baffled his repose.

†8. To defeat anyone in his efforts; to frustrate or confound his plans, to foil: a. a person.

1675 TRAHERNE *Chr. Ethics* xxi. 338 He is baffled from the acquisition of the most great and beautiful things. 1722

WOLLASTON *Relig. Nat.* v. 81 Both the beginnings and the ends of things .. all conspire to baffle us. 1753 HOGARTH *Anal. Beauty* v. 24 An old cunning one has baffled, and out-run the dogs. 1883 FROUDE *Short Stud.* IV. I. x. 111 Baffled by a problem which he has done his best to solve.

b. actions, faculties, efforts, plans.

1692 BENTLEY *Boyle Lect.* 15 Whose Stolidity can baffle all Arguments. 1751 JOHNSON *Rambl.* No. 177 ¶8 How fatally human sagacity was sometimes baffled. 1781 J. MOORE *View Soc. It.* I. 1. 4. A rapidity which baffles all description. 1849 MACAULAY *Hist. Eng.* II. 164 To baffle curiosity by dry and guarded answers. 1868 FREEMAN *Norm. Cong.* (1896) II. vii. 107 The murderer baffled pursuit.

c. Often said of the wind and weather defeating the efforts of a ship to advance.

1748 ANSON *Voy.* II. ix. 224 We were baffled for near a month .. with tempestuous weather. 1833 MARRYAT *P. Simple* (1863) 102 If the wind does not baffle us, we shall weather. 1860 MAURY *Phys. Geog.* Sea viii. §378 This current which baffled and beat back this fleet.

†9. To baffle out of: to do out of by baffing (in various senses); to cheat, juggle, shuffle, confuse, cajole, manoeuvre (one) out of anything. *Obs.*

1652 NEEDHAM *tr. Selden's Mare Cl.* 467 So bold as to .. endeavour to baffle him out of his Rights. 1673 *Lady's Call.* I. v. §20. 38 He .. whom the fear of suffering can baffle out of anything he thinks just and honest. 1695 *Parl. Dissolved by Death Pcess Orange!* 54 They were baffled and bantered out of their Design. 1748 RICHARDSON *Clarissa* (1811) II. xxv. 258 Parents will not be baffled out of their children by impudent gentlemen.

III. 10. *intr.* To struggle ineffectually; to move, act, or exert oneself in a futile manner. (In north. dial. MAFFLE.)

1860 *Times* 27 Feb. The ill-fated ship was seen baffing with a gale from the N.W. 1865 CARLYLE *Frederic* Gt. IV. 103 Let the Pandours baffle about.

Baffle (bæ'f'l), *sb.* [f. prec. vb.]

†1. Disgrace, affront. *Obs.*

c1645 HOWELL *Lett.* (1726) II. xiv. You will be free from all baffles and affronts. 1692 BP. *ELY Answ. Touchstone* A iij. It sculkt and durst not show its head, till they imagined that Baffle was forgot.

†2. A shuffle; quibbling, trifling. *Obs.*

1783 AINSWORTH *Lat. Dict.* (Morell), A baffle, *Nuga*. It is all a baffle, *Mera nuga sunt*.

†3. Confusion, discomfiture, check. *Obs.*

1668 EARLE *Microcosm*. lxiv. 138 Other men's modesty .. rescues him many times from a baffle. 1670 COTTON *Experi-ment* II. viii. 372 After this baffle her Army had receiv'd. a1745 SWIFT *Wks.* (1841) II. 72 That slight baffle it received at its first appearance in public.

4. The state of one who is baffled or bewildered.

1843 FOSTER in *Life & Corr.* (1846) II. 458, I remained in a kind of baffle between that perfectly preserved image, and his actual appearance.

5. = *BAFFLER*. Also attrib.

1881 *Echo* 12 Dec. 6/1 There is a fire-brick 'baffle' above, on which the hot air is discharged. 1882 *Nature* XXV. 220 A kind of baffle plate hung at the back of the grate.

† **Baffle**, *sb.* [? for *Sc. BAUCHLE*.] ? A worn-out horse.

1639 T. DE GREY *Compl. Horsem.* 4 Iades and baffles, un-useful and unprofitable.

Baffled (bæ'f'ld), *ppl. a.* [f. *BAFFLE* v. + -ED.]

†1. Disgraced, dishonoured. *Obs.*

1671 MILTON *Samson* 1237 Go, baffled coward. 1828 SCOTT *F. M. Perth* III. 202 Every worthy knight would hold you a baffled, forsworn catiff.

2. Confounded, discomfited, checked or foiled.

a1659 CLEVELAND *Gen. Poems* (1677) 14 Till baffled Poetry hangs down the head. 1693 *Apol. Clergy Scot.* 14 This baffled and hypocritical Sham. 1732 LEDIARD *Seths* II. x. 440 To baffled reason love disdains to yield. 1860 ELLICOTT *Life our Lord* iii. 114 The baffled Tempter departs.

Bafflement (bæ'f'lmēt), [f. *BAFFLE* v. + -MENT.]

The action of baffling or fact of being baffled; frustration, defeat in aim or endeavour.

1841 *Blackw. Mag.* XLIX. 462 The constant bafflement all their attempts meet with. 1874 BLACKIE *Self-Cult.* 77 Associated in his mind with bafflement and defeat.

Baffler (bæ'flā), [f. as prec. + -ER¹.] He who or that which baffles.

†1. A juggler, trickster; a trifier. *Obs.*

1606 HOLLAND *Sueton.* 72 Fortune tellers, iuglers, and Bafflers. a1677 BARROW *Serm.* (1687) I. xiv. 198 To deal seriously, which to yield too much respect to such a baffler.

2. He who or that which bewilders, confounds, defeats effort, or foils purposes.

1677 PLOT *Oxfordsh.* 42 Experience, that great baffler of speculation. 1702 BAYNARD *Cold Baths* II. (1709) 367 That Baffler of our Profession, the Gout. 1877 M. ARNOLD *Emped.* on *Etna* I. ii. Bafflers of our own prayers.

3. A contrivance used in stoves and furnaces, for interrupting the natural course of the heated air, and causing it to pass in another direction.

1861 RANKINE *Steam Eng.* 261 Large boiler flues are sometimes provided with bafflers; that is, projecting partitions which compel the hot gases to take a circuitous course.

Baffing, *vbl. sb.* [f. *BAFFLE* v. + -ING¹.]

†1. Treatment with insult or contumely. *Obs.*

1602 WARNER *Alb. Eng.* xiii. lxxvii. (1612) 320 The baffing of those Gods themselves, in those ribaldious plaies. 1600 DEKKER *Dreame* (1860) 14 That face .. put vp spettings, bafflings, buffetings.

†2. Quibbling; trifling. *Obs.*

1653 S. FISHER *Baby Bapt.* To Rdr. 2 Absolute Absurdities, Babish Baffings.

3. Discomfiture of endeavour, aim, purpose, etc.

1689 *Advant. Pres. Settlement* 13 The absolute baffing of

that Dispensing Power. 1860 PUSEY *Min. Proph.* 489 A like baffing of hope.

Baffing, *ppl. a.* [f. as prec. + -ING².]

1. Bewildering; that defeats skill or endeavour. 1783 AINSWORTH *Lat. Dict.* (Morell), Baffing, *Decipiens*, *deludens*. 1817 MOORE *Lalla R.* (1824) 220 Baffing spells. 1875 WHITNEY *Life Lang.* ix. 166 His task .. is .. difficult and baffing.

2. *Naut.* Of winds: That blow about and make straight sailing impracticable; shifting, variable.

1772-34 COOK *Voy.* (1790) V. 1860 We had baffing light airs, but the wind soon settled at S. 1823 BYRON *Island* II. xxi. I saw her in the doldrums; for the wind was light and baffing. 1854 G. RICHARDSON *Univ. Code* v. 798 = Have you had baffing winds?

Baffingly, *adv.* [f. prec. + -LY².] In a baffing manner; confusingly.

1879 R. STEVENSON *Trav. Cruennes* 190 Objects .. grew indistinct and melted baffingly into each other.

Baffingness. [f. as prec. + -NESS.] Baffing quality. 1864 in WEBSTER.

Baft. Also 6 *boffeta*, 6-8 *bafta*, 9 *baftah* [Prob. a. Pers. *بافت* *baft*, wrought, woven.]

A kind of coarse and cheap (generally cotton) fabric, originally of oriental manufacture, but now made in Great Britain for export, especially to Africa.

1598 W. PHILLIPS *Linschoten's Trav.* Ind. 18 Cotton Linen of various sorts .. Boffetas. 1612 PURCHAS *Pilgr.* I. 347 Baftas or white Callicos. 1722 *Land. Gaz.* No. 6097/7 A Parcel of .. Pelongs, Cuttanees, chequer'd Bafts, Nillae, etc. 1779 FORREST *Voy. N. Guinea* 106 They purchase blue and red baftas from the Chinese. 1845 STROUVER *Handbk. Brit. India* (1854) 195 Some silk manufactories here [Bhagulpore] .. produce a coarse stuff, called baftah. 1876 R. BURTON *Gorilla* L. I. 155 Blue baft from which the stiffening has been washed out.

Baft (baft), *adv.* and *prep.* Forms: 1 *bæsttan*, *bæsttan*, -on, -en, 1-3 *bæste*, 2 *biesten*, *bæste*,

3 *biešten*, *biaften*, (*bafften*), *baften*, *bæste*, *bæste*, 4 *baft*, 7 *be-aft*, 3-4, 7-9 *baft*. [OE. *bæsttan*, f. *be* by, at + *æftan* = Goth. *aftana* behind. Cf. AFT.]

A. *adv.*

1. Of place: Behind, in the rear; in later usage only *nautical*: Astern, aft, abaft, *arch.*

c1805 K. ELFRID *Oras.* I. x. §3 Micel ðas heres ðe mid hieie bæsttan wæs. 1205 LAY. 26927 þa weoren heo biuoren, and Bruttes biaften. a1300 E. E. *Psalter* lxxviii. 66 He smate his faas in baft. c1325 E. E. *Allit. P.* C. 148 þe but ber to hit baft þat braste alle her gere. 1687 *Land. Gaz.* No. 2272/4 Long Hatches from Fore and baft. 1759 *Land. Mag.* XXXVIII. 32 The powder room .. was baft. 1837 MARRYAT *Dog-Friend* xiii. 'Are they all forward?' .. 'Yes .. not one soul baft.'

†2. Of time: After. *Obs. rare.*

1205 LAY. 31946 Hit ilomp inne frimdrægen, feor her biešten.

†B. *prep.* [orig. the adv. with dative of reference.] Behind, to the rear of. *Obs.*

a800 O. E. *Chron.* an. 755 þæs cyninges becnas þe him be æftan wærun [*Land*, bæsttan] .. þa men þe he æftan him læfde ær [*Land*, be æfton]. c1000 *Ag. Gosp.* Matt. xvi. 23 Gang bæsttan me, Satanas! c1160 *Halton G.* ibid., Gange beste me. c1200 ORMIN 14688 Tacc þær an shep bæsttan þin bacc. 1205 LAY. 26957 Richer and Beduer wenden heom bæste. c1250 *Gen. & Ex.* 1333 Biaften bak he sæg a siclep. c1400 *Beryn* 1576 Euery man .. tofore the Shipp & baft.

† **Bafts**, *adv.* *Obs.* In 5 *baftys*. [f. *BAFT* *adv.*, with adverbial genitive -s, -es.] Behind.

c1400 *Cov. Myst.* 180 Lete no barne beleve on bete baftys.

Bag (bæg), *sb.* Forms: 3-7 *bagge*, 6-7 *bagg*,

4- *bag*. [Early ME. *bagge*: cf. ON. *baggi* 'bag, pack, bundle' (not elsewhere in Teutonic); also OF. *bague*, Pr. *bagua* baggage, med.L. *bagga* chest, sack. The Eng. was possibly from the ON.; but the source of this, as well as of the Romanic words, is unknown; the Celtic derivation suggested by *Diez* is not tenable: Gaelic *bag* is from English. Of connexion with Teutonic **bagi*-s, Goth. *balgs*, OE. *bēlg*, *bælg*, whence BELLY, BELLOW, and the cogn. Celtic *bolg*, *balg*, there is no evidence.]

I. General sense.

1. A receptacle made of some flexible material closed in on all sides except at the top (where also it generally can be closed); a pouch, a small sack.

c1230 *Anscr. R.* 168 Hit is beggares rihte uorte beren bagge on bac; & burgeises for to beren purces. *Ibid.*, Trusseaus, & purses, baggen, & packes. 1302 LANGL. *P. Pl.* A. Prol. 41 Til heor Bagges and heore Balies weren [bratful] I-crommet. c1440 *Promp. Parv.* 21 Bagge, or poke: *Saccutus*. 1513 *Bk. Keruyng* in *Babees Bk.* 267 Hauie fyue or syxe bagges for your ypoctas to renne in, & .. basyns to stande vnder your bagges. 1535 COVERDALE *1 Sam.* xvii. 40 And put them in the shepardes bagge which he had. 1622 R. HAWKINS *Voy. S. Sea* (1847) 80 Any man that putteth himself into the enemies port, had need of Argus eyes, and the wind in a bagge. 1666 BACON *Sylva* §6 Passing it through a woollen bagge. 1653 WALTON *Angler* 138 He would usually take three or four worms out of his bag. 1666 FULLER *Worthies* (1811) II. 579 (D.) Our English by-word to express such betwixt whom there is apparent odds of strength, 'He is able to put him up in a Bagge.' 1864 TENNYSON *En. Ard.* 63 The younger people .. with bag and basket .. went nutting.

b. *Green bag*, *blue bag*: a barrister's brief-bag.

1772 ARBUTHNOT *John Bull* (1755) 29 You will carry a green bag yourself, rather than we shall make an end of our law-suit. 1788 in G. ROSE *Diaries* (1860) I. 96 Mr. Pitt had resolved .. to take his blue bag, and return to the bar.

2. With various substantives defining its purpose,

the two words being hyphenated, as *air-, bread-, cloak-, game-, mail-, money-, post-, soot-, travelling-*. See also *CARPET-BAG*, *NOSE-BAG*, *WIND-BAG*.
 1711 ADDISON *Spect.* No. 3 p. 8 The Hill of Money Bags, and the Heaps of Money. 1711 STEELE *ibid.* No. 132 p. 1 His Cloak-bag was fixed in the Seat of the Coach. 1716 in *Lond. Gaz.* No. 5411/4 Pistol-Bags of grey Cloth. 1788 A. MONRO *Compar. Anat.* 60 The construction and dilatation of the air-bag. 1814 MOORE *Post Bag* 284 The honour and delight of first ransacking the Post Bag. 1836 MARRYAT *Midsh. Easy* xii, There's nothing about bread bags in the articles of war, sir. 1837 CARLYLE *Fr. Rev.* III. iv. v. 234 Our 'redoubts of cotton-bags' are taken. 1868 GRIFFITHS *Artill. Man.* 220 Three feeds in the corn-bag. 1863 KINGSLEY *Water-Bab.* i. 18 Not if it's in the bottom of the soot-bag. 1883 *Fisheries Exhib. Catal.* 217 Travelling-bags... steamer bags, tourists' bags, railroad bags, pic-nic bags, dress-suit bags, hand bags, shopping bags, brief bags.

II. Specific uses.

3. = Money-bag, purse.

1393 GOWER *Conf.* II. 284 Be so the bagge and he [the avarous] accorden, Him reccheth nought what men recorden Of him. 1530 PALMER 196/2 Bagge, a purse. 1572 *Lament. Lady Scot.* in *Scot. Poems* 16th C. (1801) II. 249 Gift sum sect know that they have geir or bagges. 1596 Bp. BARLOW *Three Serms.* i. 120 Laying the payment... upon their parentes bagges. 1611 BIBLE *John* xii. 6 Because he was a thief, and had the bag. 1633 Bp. HALL *Hard Texts* 230 A wealthy foole doth in vain hope by all his bagges to purchase wisdom. 1765 TUCKER *Lt. Nat.* II. 519 The covetous man likes to count over his bags.

4. *poet.* in *pl.* Bagpipes. *Obs.* Cf. *pipes*.

1275 MAPES *Body & Soul* 50 This pipers that this bagges blew. 1790 SCOTS SONGS II. 36 Then to his bags he flew w' speed, About the drone he twisted.

5. A small silken pouch to contain the back-hair of a wig; cf. BAG-WIG.

1708 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 3864/4 A short man... wears a Peruke ty'd up in a Bag. 1793 T. JEFFERSON *Writ.* (1830) IV. 487 It was understood... that gentlemen should be dressed in bags. 1806 A. DUNCAN *Nelson's Fun.* 13 Two attendants... in full mourning dress, with black gowns, swords, and bags. 1865 CARLYLE *Fredk. Gt.* II. vi. vii. 213 He cannot... change the graceful French bag into the strict Prussian queue in a moment.

6. A measure of quantity for produce, varying according to the nature of the commodity.

1679 BEDLOE *Pepish Plot* 15 Removing some Bagges of Hopps. 1751 CHAMBERS *Cycl.* s. v. A bag of almonds... is about 3 hundred weight. 1843 *Morn. Chron.* 22 Nov. 5/2 Potatoes... There are three bushels to the bag.

7. = Mail-bag, post-bag; mail.

1708 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 3814/4 Write by Ormskirk Bag. 1781 COWPER *Lett.* 23 May, The boy has lost the bag in which your letter must have been. 1814 MOORE *Post Bag* 283 The Bag from which the following Letters are selected.

8. *Med.* A kind of poultice. *Obs.*

1753 CHAMBERS *Cycl. Suppl.* Bag... a kind of fomentation... of proper ingredients, inclosed in a bag.

9. *Sporting.* = Game-bag; hence, the contents of a game-bag, the quantity of fish or game however large (embracing e.g. elephants and buffaloes) killed at one time; the produce of a hunting, fishing, or shooting expedition.

1486 Bk. *St. Albans* Bii, Ye most take a partrich in yowre bagge. 1530 PALMER 196/2 A fauconner's bagge, gibissière. 1803 SPEKE *Discov. Nile* 36 'The bags' we made counted two brindled gnus, four water-boc, one pallah-boc, and one pig. 1865 RUSKIN *Sesame* i. 84 The chance of a brace or two of game less in your own bag in a day's shooting. 1867 F. FRANCIS *Angling* i. (1880) 29 The artist in roach-fishing alone will make a fair bag on an indifferent day.

1881 SIR W. HARCOURT *Sp. Glasgow* 26 Oct., Lord Salisbury and Sir S. Northcote... had a rattling day at Newcastle and Beverley—but I ask myself what is their bag?

III. Transferred senses; bag-like objects.

10. An udder, a dug.

1579 SPENSER *Sheph. Cal.* Feb. 81 Thy Ewes, that wont to have blownen bags. 1648 H. MORE *Pre-exist. Soul* xlvii. (D.) Those wicked Hags... whose writhled bags Foul fiends oft suck. 1697 DRYDEN *Virg. Eclog.* ix. 41 So may thy Cows their burden'd Bags distend. 1784 TWAMLEY *Dairy.* ing 97 Cows with good bags. 1825 EMERSON *Eng. Traits* v. 99 The cow is sacrificed to her bag, the ox to his surloin.

11. A sac (in the body of animal) containing honey, poison, etc. (Chiefly fig.)

1529 LATIMER *Serm.* (1844) 20 Yet there may remain a bag of rusty malice, 20 years old, in thy neighbour's bosom. 1590 SHAKS. *Mid. N.* III. i. 171 The honie-bags steale from the humble Bees. a 1700 DRYDEN (J.) The swelling poison of the several sects Shall burst its bag. 1818 BYRON *Juan* i. cxciv, Hived in our bosoms like the bag of the bee. 1837 CARLYLE *Fr. Rev.* II. i. iv. 33 While sting and poison-bag were left.

12. A baggy place, a fold.

1572 MASCAL *Govt. Cattle* (1627) 160 Bagge, is in the weekes of the horse mouth.

13. *pl.* The stomach, entrails. (*North dial.* and *Sc.*)

14. *Coal-Min.* A cavity filled with gas or water. a 1733 NORTH *Life Guilford* (1808) I. 286 (D.) An account of a bag of water, which was broke in his greatest colliery. 1851 *Coal-tr. Terms Northumbld. & Durk.*, Bag of Gas, a cavity found occasionally in fiery seams of coal, containing highly condensed gas.

15. *Naut.* 'Bag of the Head-rails, the lowest part... or that part which forms the sweep of the rail.' Smyth *Sailor's Word-bk.* 1867.

16. *fig.* Clothes that hang loosely about the wearer; (*vulgarly*) trousers.

1860 SMILES *Self-Help* vii. 180 He... only appears stout because he puts himself into those bags (trousers).

IV. Phrases.

17. *Bag of bones*: an emaciated living being. *The whole bag of tricks*: every expedient, everything (in allusion to the fable of 'the Fox and the Cat'). *In the bottom of the bag*: remaining as a last resource or expedient.

1659 REYNOLDS in *Burton Diary* (1828) IV. 447 If this be done, which is in the bottom of the bag, and must be done, we shall... be able to buoy up our reputation. 1838 DICKENS *O. Twist* iv. 64 There, get down stairs, little bag o' bones. 1848 KINGSLEY *Saint's Trag.* iv. iii. 204, I am almost ashamed to punish A bag of skin and bones.

18. † *To turn to bag and wallet*: to become a beggar. *To give (one) the bag to hold*: to engage any one while taking the opportunity to slip away, to leave in the lurch. *To give the bag to*: to leave without warning (*obs.*); also in mod. dial., to dismiss (a servant, etc.) [Cf. *To give the SACK*]. *To let the cat out of the bag*: to disclose the secret. *To empty the bag* (*Fr. vider le sac*): to tell the whole story, finish the discussion.

1592 GREENE *Upst. Courtier* in *Hart. Misc.* (Malh.) II. 236 To give your masters the bagge. 1599 HAKLUYT *Voy.* II. i. 161 The turning to bag and wallet of the infinite number of the poore people imployed in clothing. 1607 DEKKER & WEBSTER *Westw. Hoe* iv. ii. Wks. 1873 II. 340, I fear our oares haue giuen us the bag. 1647 *Speedy Hue & Cry* i. He being sometime an Apprentice on London bridge... gave his Master the bag. 1760 *Lond. Mag.* XXXIX. 224 We could have wished that the author... had not let the cat out of the bag. 1793 T. JEFFERSON *Writ.* (1859) IV. 7 She will leave Spain the bag to hold. 1823 SCOTT *Peveril* vii, She gave me the bag to hold, and was smuggling in a corner with a rich old Puritan.

19. *Bag and baggage*: orig. a military phrase denoting all the property of an army collectively, and of the soldiers individually; hence the phrase, originally said to the credit of an army or general, *to march out (with) bag and baggage* (= *Fr. vie et bagues sauvées*), i.e. with all belongings saved, without surrender of anything; to make an honourable retreat. Now used depreciatively to express the absolute character of any one's departure: to clear out completely, 'a good riddance too!' *The bag and baggage policy*: see last two quotes.

1422 RYMER *Federa* X. 206/2 (De salvo conductu) Cum armaturis... bonis... bogeis, bagagis. 1545 Ld. BERNERS *Prots.* II. xxiii, 59 We haue with vs all our bagges and baggages... that we haue wonne... by armes. *Ibid.* I. cccxx. 497 So all the men of warre within departed with bag and baggage. 1544 *Chron. Grey Friars* (1852) 47 The kynge gave them alle their lyffes and parydynd them to goo with bagge and bagges. 1580 NORTH *Plutarch* (1676) 922 To go safely with bag and baggage, never to return. 1600 SHAKS. *A. Y.* L. III. ii. 170 Let vs make an honorable retriit, though not with bagge and baggage, yet with scrip and scrippage. 1600 MIDDLETON *Witch* (1778) 35 To kick this fellow... And send him downe stayres with his bag and baggage. 1667 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 163/2 Upon honorable conditions, marching off with Bag and Baggage, Drums beating, Colors flying. 1741 RICHARDSON *Pamela* II. 34 Bag and Baggage, said she, I'm glad you're going. 1870 SPURGEON *Treas. Dav.* Ps. cxix. 115 The king sent them packing bag and baggage. 1876 GLADSTONE *Bulgarian Horrors* 61 The Turks... their Zapieh and their Mudirs... their Kaimakams and their Pashas, one and all, bag and baggage, shall, I hope, clear out from the province they have desolated and profaned. 1882 *Daily News* 28 May 5/6 Cites the famous Bulgarian pamphlet, recognising the bag-and-baggage policy as evidence that Mr. Gladstone will never be a party to restoring Turkish authority.

V. Comb. and Attrib.

1. General relations: a. attrib., as *bag-fox*; b. objective, as *bag-bearer*, *bag-bearing*, *maker*, *making*; c. similitative and parasyntetic, as *bag-bedded*, *-cheeked*, *-like*, *-shaped*.

1598 ROWLANDS *Betrav. Christ* 24 Apostle once, increasing Christ's eleuen, Bagbearer, to the charge of purse assigned. 1853 KANE *Grinnell Exp.* xxix (1856) 254 A night upon the ice, tented and bag-bedded. 1839 CARLYLE *Chartism* viii. 166 A plain, bag-cheeked... Lancashire Man. 1849 TODD *Cycl. Anat. & Phys.* IV. 1020/2 That skinny and bag-like part of its mouth which is under the jaw. 1870 *Pall Mall G.* 15 Aug. 12 Flat moors... on which bagmaking becomes sheer business, and you have a tame monotony of sport. 1836 TODD *Cycl. Anat. & Phys.* II. 909/1 A dilated bag-shaped crop.

2. Special combinations: *Bag-fox*, a fox brought alive in a bag to be turned out before the hounds; † *bag-granado*, a grenade enclosed in a bag; *bag-muff*, a muff containing a pouch which serves as a bag; *bag-net*, a bag-shaped net for catching fish, insects, etc.; *bag-rod*, a fishing-rod which can be taken to pieces and carried in a case; *bag-sleeve*, a sleeve tight at the wrist and baggy above; *bag-wolf* (cf. *bag-fox*).

1741 *Compl. Fam. Piece* II. i. 296 Sometimes he is reserved alive, and hunted another Day, which is called a 'Bag-Fox.' 1814 C. MATTHEWS *Mem.* II. 319 They turned out a 'bag-fox' and we had a good run of three miles. 1638-48 G. DANIEL *Eclog.* v. 238 These 'Bag-Granadoes' lie Still to Advantage Garrisons' Revolt. 1884 *Gt's Own P.* 29 Nov. 138/2 The useful 'bag' muff appears in... great varieties. 1777 TRAVIS in *Pennant Zool.* IV. 12 Our fishermen use a 'bag-net' fixed to an iron hoop. 1848 HARDY in *Proc. Berw. Nat. Club* II. vi. 321 A 'bag-net', which... secured the beetles. 1877 BEST *Angling* 11 These 'bag-rods'... go up in a small compass. 1844 R. HART *Antiq. Norfolk* xxii. 69 A sort of

*bag-sleeve, tight at the wrist. 1868 M. NAPIER *Life Ld. Dundee* II. 151 No more *bag-wolves to afford such sport.

Bag (bæg), *v.* 1 [f. the sb.]

1. *intr.* To swell out as a bag, to bulge; *Naut.* to drop away from the direct course, to sag.

1440 *Promp. Parv.* 21 Baggyn, or bocyn owte, *Tumec.* 1650 FULLER *Pisgah* II. x. 211 A corner of Ephraim, which baggeth into the south. 1657 S. PURCHAS *Pol. Flying Lus.* 142 Sometimes one side of the ear is good corn, and the other bags... and... will be smutty. 1676 R. WISEMAN (J.) The skin... bagged, and had a porringer full of matter in it. a 1848 MARRYAT *R. Reefer* xxxv, He was bagging to leeward, like a... barge laden with a hay-stack.

b. To hang loosely like clothes that are too big. 1824 W. IRVING *T. Trav.* I. 265 Coat, which bagged loosely about him. 1859 I. TAYLOR *Logic in Theol.* 205 Dingy embroidered trappings... seen bagging upon the wooden effigies.

† 2. *intr.* To be pregnant. (*Also to be bagged.*)

a 1400 [see BAGGED]. 1530 PALSGR. 442/2, I bagge, as a doe dothe that is with faune... Se howe yonder doe is bagged. 1589 WARNER *Alb. Eng.* vi. xxx. (1597) 148 Wel, Venus shortly bagged, and ere long was Cupid bread. 1603 HOLLAND *Plutarch's Mor.* 597 (R.) The females, or does... will conceive and be bagged. 1616 [see BAGGED].

3. *trans.* To cause to swell or bulge; to cram full.

1583 STANVHURST *Aeneis* II. (Arb.) 51 Thee mischeuous engyn, Ful bagd with weapons. 1600 *Ecl. Proc. Durh.*, *Newcastle-on-T.*, The chest... was bagd up with monye. a 1656 Bp. HALL *Fall of Pride* Wks. II. 408 (T.) How doth an unweelcome dropsie bagge up the eyes. 1757 SMEATON in *Phil. Trans.* L. 204 Almost all the lights [= windows] in the church, tho' not broke were bagged outward.

4. *trans.* To put into a bag or bags. *To bag up*: to put up in a bag; to shut or store up generally.

1573 TUSSEER *Husb.* (1878) 139 Good husbandrie baggeth vp gold in his chest. 1577 HOLINSHED *England* III. viii. 54 They [saffron chives] are dried and pressed into cakes, and then bagged up. 1711 *Act in Lond. Gaz.* No. 4874/1 The precise Day... on which... they shall Bag... their Hops. 1798 W. HUTTON *Autobiog.* 12, I undressed, bagged up my things in decent order, and prepared for rest. 1870 LOWELL *Study Wind.* i Stopping... to bag a specimen.

5. To put game killed into a bag; also, to kill game (without reference to the bag).

1814 *Month. Mag.* XXXVII. 228 To allow the royal sportsman to bag more birds than himself. 1844 HAWKER *Instr. Yng. Sportsmen* 148 To bag a dozen head of game without missing. 1859 JEPHSON *Brittany* ix. 150 My friend thus bagged two wolves.

6. *colloq.* To seize, catch, take possession of, steal.

1818 MOORE *Fudge Fam. Paris* vi, Who can help to bag a few, When Sidmouth wants a death or two. 1824 BYRON *Juan* xvi. lxiii, The constable... Had bagg'd this poacher upon Nature's manor. 1857 HUGHES *Tom Brown* II. iii. 268 The idea of being led up to the Doctor... for bagging fowls. 1861 MAX MÜLLER *Chifs* (1880) II. xxiv. 243 A stray story may thus be bagged in the West-end of London.

Bag, *v.* 2; also 7 *bagge*, 9 *badge*. [Origin not ascertained: cf. *BATCH*.] To cut corn, pease, or beans, with a bagging or badging hook: see quot. 1865.

a 1697 AUBREY *Wills.* MS. R. Soc. 123 (Halliiv.) They cannot mowe it with a scythe, but they cutt it with such a hooke as they doe bagge pease with. 1830 *Edin. Encycl.* XIV. 234 They [beans] are bagged like wheat. 1865 *Gard. & Farmer's Vade M.* II. 123 The corn is either mown, or reaped, or bagged. In 'bagging,' as it is called, a heavy hook is used: a wisp of straw is cut first and doubled up, or a stick is used instead, held in the left hand, and with the right the heavy hook is driven against the corn close to the ground, and so, by successive strokes, the corn is cut, perhaps a foot deep, up against the standing crop; the wisp or stick in the left hand serving to guide it to a standing place. 1877 E. WARBURTON *Poems* 23 Sweet to see corn-fields badged, and wheatsheaf bound.

|| **Bagasse** (bægəs'). [a. *F. bagasse*, ad. *Sp. bagazo*, husks of olives, grapes, etc., after pressing; perh. a variant of *bagage* 'lumber, trash' (Minshew), with augmentative suffix *-azo*: cf. *BAGGAGE* 4.] The refuse products in sugar-making, whether from the cane or from beet.

1854 in *URR Dict. Arts.* 1881 HEDGES *Sug. Canes* 23 On the opposite side of the mill is another apron, for conveying the Bagasse. 1882 *Contemp. Rev.* Sept. 360.

Bagasse-burner, a furnace for consuming bagasse.

1883 *Century Mag.* Jan. 391 The huge, square, red brick bagasse-burner, into which the residuum of crushed sugar-cane passes.

Bagatelle (bægätel). Forms: 7 *bagatell*, *bagatelle*, *bagatello*, 7-8 *bagatel*, 8- *bagatelle*. [a. *F. bagatelle*, ad. *It. bagatella*, a dim. form which Diez attaches to *Parnesan bagata* a little property, prob. from *baga*: see *BAGGAGE*. With *bagatello*, cf. *-ADO suff.* 2. Formerly quite naturalized in sense 1, now scarcely so; sense 2 is purely Eng. in origin and use.]

1. A trifle, a thing of no value or importance.

c 1645 HOWELL *Lett.* II. xxi, Your trifles and bagatels are ill bestowed upon me. 1658 J. ROBINSON *Endoxa* i. 4 Every particular thing... even unto the smallest bagatello's. 1659 GAUDEN *Tears Ch.* 102 (D.) To please themselves with toys and bagatelloes. 1679 MRS. BEHN *Feigned Court.* II. i, Ah Bagatelles, Seignior, Bagatelles. a 1733 NORTH *Exam.* II. v. p. 100 He makes a meer Bagatel of it. 1786 T. JEFFERSON *Writ.* 1859 I. 566 As to the satisfaction for slaves carried off, it is a bagatelle. 1872 BAKER *Nile Trib.* iv. 53 The bonâ fide tax is a bagatelle to the amounts squeezed from him by the... soldiery.

b. A piece of verse or music in a light style.

1807 *Cent. Mag.* XCII. II. 618 The best amatory and pastoral bagatelles in our language. 1880 GROVE *Dict.*

Mus., Bagatelle, a short piece of pianoforte music in a light style.

† *c. attrib.* or as *adj.* Trifling, trumpery. *Obs.*
1637 *Bastwick Litany* i. 17 All which they have . . . overthrown with their bagatelle invention.

2. A game played on a table having a semi-circular end at which are nine holes. The balls used are struck from the opposite end of the board with a cue. The name is sometimes applied to a modified form of billiards known also as *semi-billiards*.

1819 *P. O. Lond. Direct.* 343 Thurston, John . . . Billiard Table and Bagatelle Manufacturer. 1854 *MAYHEW Lond. Labour* III. 298 They have cards and bagatelle to keep them.

b. attrib. as *bagatelle-ball*, *-board*, *-room*.

1837 *DICKENS Pickw.* xiv. A bagatelle-board on the first floor. 1854 *MAYHEW Lond. Labour* II. 19 The numbered sockets in a bagatelle-board. 1863 *H. KINGSLEY A. Elliot* II. xvii. 235 Austin went on knocking the bagatelle-balls about.

Bagge, bagger, *obs.* forms of **BADGE**, **BADGER**.

Bagful (*bægful*). [*f. BAG sb. + -FUL*.] As much as a bag will contain.

c1305 *St. Swithin* 57 in *E. E. P.* (1862) 45 Mid a baggeful of eiren : a woman per com. 1581 *J. BELL Haddon's Ansv.* *Osor.* 7 Love us with a bagge full of love. 1856 *KANE Arch. Exp.* II. vii. 84 Six half-bushel bagfuls of frozen water.

Baggage (*bægɜdʒ*). Forms : 5-6 *bagage*, 6 *bagguage*, *baggage*, (*badgage*), *bagige*, 5- *bag-gage*. [*a. OF. bagage* (15th c. in *Littre*) 'property packed up for carriage' (= *Pr. bagatge*, *Sp. bagage*), *f. baguer* 'to tie up, bind, truss up,' or *f. the cogn. sb. bagues*, i.e. 'bundles, packs' (used, much earlier, in the same sense as the collective *bagage*), *pl. of bague* = *Pr. bagua*, *It. and late L. бага*; *cf. BAG*. Sense 4, not in *Fr.*, is found in *Sp. bagage*; 6 and 7 have been referred by various etymologists to *F. bagasse* (= *Pr. baguassa*, *Sp. bagasa*, *It. bagascia*), with which they coincide in sense; but no formal connexion has been traced; they also arise naturally enough out of those that precede, and seem really to be senses of this word, at most influenced in use by the *F. bagasse*. The latter is itself of uncertain origin. See *Littre*.]

Commonly *collective* in senses 1-4 (formerly *occas. with pl.*); in senses 5-7 an ordinary *sb.* with *pl.*

1. The collection of property in packages that one takes along with him on a journey; portable property; luggage. (Now rarely used in Great Britain for ordinary 'luggage' carried in the hand or taken with one by public conveyance; but the regular term in U.S.)

c1430 *Pol. Rel. & L. Poems* (1866) 18 To gete hem Bagage, put hem sylfe in pree. c1450 *Chaucer's Dream* Wks. (Bell) 101 Was left not one, Horse, male, trusse, ne bagage. 1530 *PALSGR.* 106/2 *Bagage*, *baguaise*. 1578 *T. N. tr. Cong. W.* India 33 Indians . . . to serve and to carry bagage. 1703 *MAUNDRELL Journ. Ternu.* (1732) 11 Arrived with all our Baggage on the other side of the River. 1766 *GOLDSM. Vic. W.* xx. Mrs. Arnold politely offered to send . . . for my son's bagage. 1883 *P. PEMBER in Harper's Mag.* Dec. 110/1 Keep a sharp look out on your bagage.

2. *spec.* The portable equipment of an army; = *L. impedimenta*.

1280 *CAXTON Faytes of A. I.* xiii. 34 Baggage and fardel-lages must be taken. 1523 *LD. BERNER'S Froiss.* I. xviii. 26 They of Heynaulte (sent back) their harneys and baggages by water. 1591 *GARRARD Art Warre* 13 Borne of the Boyes amongst other Baggage. 1650 *FULLER Pisgah* II. xi. 232 Two hundred . . . foot being faint stayed with the bagage. 1701 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 3717/1 Their Artillery and heavy Baggage have passed likewise. 1820 *WELLINGTON in Gurw. Disp.* V. 515 The baggage of the British army is always an embarrassment.

b. The baggage-train of an army, and the men guarding it.

1603 *KNOLES Hist. Turkes*, Turning the head of their baggages toward the fort. 1611 *BIBLE Judith* vii. 2 Twelue thousand horsemen, beside the baggage, and other men that were aloft.

c. Bag and baggage: see *BAG* 19.

† 3. *fig.* Encumbrances, burdensome matters. *Obs.*
1607 *BACON Riches, Ess.* (Arb.) 230, I cannot call Riches better, then the Baggage of Vertue. 1757 *SMOLLETT Rerisal* I. viii. (1777) 160, I . . . never burden my brain with unnecessary baggage.

† 4. Rubbish, refuse, dirt. *Obs.*

1540 *CHALONER Erasm. Moria Enc.* A iv. Nettles, Thistles . . . or suche lyke bagage grow. 1576 *GASCOIGNE Steele Glos* (Arb.) 79 When brewers put no bagage in their beere. 1587 *GOLDING De Mornay* xviii. (1617) 318 Dust, Coales, Ashes and such other bagage. 1645 *WARD Sermon bef. Ho. Commons* 31 It runs out in weeds and bagage. 1661 *HICKERINGILL Jamaica* 88 A mere Glut, Like loathed Baggage to the nauseous Gut.

† *b.* Purulent or corrupt matter, pus. *Obs.*

1576 *NEWTON Lemnie's Complex.* 118 (D.) Naughty bagage and hurtfull phlegme. 1610 *BARROUGH Physick* v. vi. (1639) 278 The abscession being already come to suppuration . . . if the matter or any other bagage therein contained, be not discussed, etc.

† *c.* A trifle, a trashy article. *Obs.*

1579 *TOMSON Calvin's Sermon* Tim. 205/2 May decke her selfe simply . . . neither haue these little trifling bagages.

† *d.* *fig.* Spoken or written trash, rubbish, 'rot.'

1538 *BALE Thre Lawes* 1716 And shall thys bagage put by the word of God? 1545 *ASCHAM Toxoph.* (Arb.) 83 A Boke . . . wherin he . . . settes oute much ruffaffe, pelfery,

trumpery, bagage, and beggerie ware. 1579 *FULKE Heskyn's Parl.* 240 To read such beastly bagage.

† *e.* *fig.* Dregs, offscouring, riff-raff. *Obs.*

1603 *H. CROSSER Vertues Commu.* (1878) 117 The very scum, rascallitie, and bagage of the people.

† *f.* Contemptuously applied after the Reformation to the rites and accessories of Roman Catholic worship. *Obs.*

1549 *OLDR Erasm. Par. Eph.* Prol. Ciiij. This Popsyhe bagage of dumme ceremonies. 1566 *KNOX Hist. Ref. Wks.* 1846, l. 101 Pilgrimage, pardonis, and otheris sic bagage. 1566 *LINCOLNSH. Ch. Furn.* 88 Vestments, Copes, albes, Tunacles and all other such baggages were defaced. 1579 *TOMSON Calvin's Sermon* Tim. 85/1 They come with their deuotions, as to heare a masse, to do their bagage. 1587 *FLEMING Contn. Holinshed* III. 1368/1 With their halowed baggages from Rome to poison the senses.

† 5. A worthless or vile fellow. *Obs.*

1594 *CAREW Huarde's Exam. Wits* (1616) 209 They might soundly sleepe on his eyes, although by nature he were a bagage. 1601 *HOLLAND Pliny* I. 111 Catamites and shameful baggages that king Alexander the Great left there.

6. A worthless good-for-nothing woman; a woman of disreputable or immoral life, a strumpet.

1596 *SHAKS. Tam. Shr.* Induct. i. 3 Yare a bagage, the Slies are no Rogues. 1601 *R. JOHNSON Kingd. & Commu.* 81 Every common soldior carrying with him his she-bagage. 1611 *COTGR., Bagasse*, a Baggage, Queane. 1693 *W. ROBERTSON Phrasol. Gen.* 197 A bagage, or Souldier's Punk, *Scartum Castrense*. 1723 *STEELE Spect.* No. 450, ¶ 5 That Wife dying, I took another, but both proved to be idle Baggages. 1850 *MRS. STOWE Uncle Tom's C.* xii. He only swore the gal was a bagage, and that he was devilish unlucky. 1851 *THACKERAY Eng. Hum.* ii. (1858) 68 She was a disreputable, daring, laughing, painted French bagage, that Comic Muse.

7. Used familiarly or playfully of any young woman, especially in conjunction with *artful*, *cunning*, *sly*, *perit*, *saucy*, *silly*, etc. (*cf. wench, minx, hussy, gipsy, rogue*, etc.)

1674 *DAVENANT Wits* (1673) 182 The Baggages About you are able to earn their own living. 1687 *CONGREVE Old Batch.* I. iii. I believe the Baggage loves me. 1715 *ADDISON Drummer* II. i. Here comes Abigail. I must tease the bagage. 1766 *GOLDSM. Vic. W.* xxviii. Tell them they are two arant little baggages. 1822 *W. IRVING Braceb. Hall* iii. 24 She has an orphan niece, a pretty, soft-hearted bagage.

† *B. adj.* (from *attrib.* use of the *sb.* in sense 4; *cf. trumpery*.) *Obs.*

† 1. Rubbishy, refuse. *Obs.*

1548 *UDALL Erasm. Par. N. T.* Pref. 10 The trashe and bagage stuf . . . this man hath sifted out. 1640 *J. DYKE Worthy Commu.* 203 Thistles, nettles, and such like bagage trash.

† 2. Trashy, worthless, beggarly, trumpery, despicable; *cf. A 4. Obs.*

1553 *BRENDE Q. Curtius* B b vj. In respect wherof the spoiles of the Percians were but vile, and bagage. 1580 *NORTH Plutarch* (1676) 458 Hyccara, a bagage Village of the barbarous People. 1586 *J. HOOKER Giral. Irel.* in *Holinsh.* II. 151/1 So addicted to poperie and that bagage religion. 1605 *A. WOTTON Ansv. Pop. Articles* 121 God . . . is crused vp together into the compasse [of] a bagage wafer cake. 1625 *Boys Wks.* (1630) 183 We may not . . . breake God's net, because there are some bagage fish.

† 3. Of persons: Morally worthless, good-for-nothing, vile, 'scurvy.' *Obs.*

1580 *NORTH Plutarch* (1676) 1003 This bagage fellow Burrus. 1590 *WYRTLEY Armorie* 147 His bagage mind to craft was whole disposed. 1666 *SHIRLEY Maid's Rev.* iv. ii. That bagage Ambitious girl, Berinthia. 1668 *ROLLE Abidgem.* 56 Si home dit a . . . in Town-Clark. Thou art a bribing Knave, a bagage Knave, a dissembling Knave. Action gist. 1670 *HACKETT Abp. Williams* II. 123 (D.) [He] had nothing to do with that bagage woman.

† 4. Purulent, nasty, corrupt. *Obs.*

1576 *NEWTON Lemnie's Complex.* (1633) 177 Affected with this bagage phlegme and distilling humour. 1597 *GERARD Herbal* (1633) 665 [It] draweth forth much bagage flegme.

C. Comb. and Attrib.

1. Obvious combinations, chiefly *attrib.*, from the *sb.* in senses 1 and 2, as *baggage-animal*, *-cart*, *-elephant*, *-horse*, *-man*, *-necessaries*, *-train*, *-wagon*. Also *baggage-bound* *adj.*

1554 *GROTE Greece* II. lxix. IX. 44 Many baggage-animals perished of hunger. 1749 *FIELDING Tom Jones* VII. xi. (1840) 95 The portmanteau . . . being put up into the baggage-cart. 1844 *Edin. Rev.* XLI. 35, I amused myself with looking at a baggage-elephant. 1640-1 *Kirkcudor. War-Comm. Min. Bk.* (1855) 143 The Committee ordaines that Roger Oliver, baggage man of Ironegray, be answerable for the baggage horsis thairof. 1820 *SCOTT Monast.* xxxv. The pedlar was . . . accommodated with the use of a baggage horse. 1791 *BOSWELL Johnson* (1831) III. 13 Intrusted to a fellow to be delivered to our baggage-man. 1863 *KINGLAKE Crimea* II. 245 The baggage-train accompanying our forces. 1869 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 2423/4 A Train of Artillery and a good number of Baggage-Wagons. 1867 *Record Supp.* 7 Aug., The saddled donkeys, camels baggage-bound.

2. Special *comb.*: **Baggage-check**, a ticket for luggage on American railways; **baggage-man** or **-master**, one who has charge of the baggage of an army, or of the luggage on American railways; **baggage-room**, a luggage-office; **baggage-smasher**, American nickname for a railway-porter.

18 . . . Smith *Sup. Court Rep.* I. 522 A passenger having lost her baggage check. 1815 *WELLINGTON in Gurw. Disp.* X. 349 An Assistant Baggage Master to each division. 1883 *AGNES CRANE in Leis. Ho.* 282/1 The baggage-masters leapt from their wide doors. 1883 *Longman's Mag.* July 285 The wretched little booking-office, and the baggage-room. 1880 *New Virginians* I. 37 Called 'baggage-smashers.'

1883 *Pall Mall G.* 14 June, The Saratoga trunks are hurled recklessly by the 'baggage-smashers' on to the deck.

Bagged (*bægɜdʒd*), *pp. a. nonce-wd.* [*f. as though from a vb. to bagage*.] Packed up.

1821 *BYRON in Moore Life* (1866) 528 They were all sealed and bagged so as to have made it a month's work to get at them again.

† **Baggagely**, *a. Obs.* [*f. BAGGAGE + -LY*.] Rubbishy, worthless.

1573 *TUSSER Husb.* (1878) 35 No storing of pasture with baggedlie tit. 1823 *GOLDING Calvin on Dent.* xcix. 613 The things . . . are baggagely trifles.

Baggager (*bægɜdʒaɪ*). [*f. BAGGAGE + -ER*.] One who carries or has charge of baggage.

1614 *RALEIGH Hist. World* III. (1736) 93 The Victuallers and baggagers [of the Army]. 1850 *W. GREGORY Egypt & Tunis* II. 214 Leaving the tents and baggagers to follow.

† **Baggagery**. *Obs. rare*. [*f. BAGGAGE (cf. the sb. (sense 4) and the adj.) + -RY*: *cf. savagery*.] Worthless rabble; the offscourings of society.

1580 *NASHE Mart. Months Minde* 26 Men of the best sorte (an vnfit match for these of the basest baggagerie).

Baggammun, *obs.* form of **BACKGAMMON**.

Baggard, *obs.* form of **BOGGART**.

† **Bagge**, *v. Obs. rare*. [Origin not ascertained: *cf. BAGGINGLY*. From the ambiguous value of *ME. gg*, we do not know whether to pronounce *bagge* or *bag*.] To look askew, or obliquely; to leer, ogle, or glance aside; *cf. ASQUINT* 2 c.

1369 *CHAUCER Bk. Duchesse* 623 The trayteresse false and ful of gyle . . . That baggeth foule and loketh fayre. c1380 *WYCLIF Sermon* Sel. Wks. 1869, l. 191 Men bat . . . reulen hem bi be firste reule, bat bei baggen not perfo.

Bagge, *obs.* form of **BAG** and **BADGE**.

Bagged (*bægɜd*), *pp. a.* [*f. BAG v. + -ED*.]

† 1. Big with young; pregnant. *Obs.*

a1400 *Sir Perc.* 717 The mere was bagged with fole. 1500 *WHITTINTON Vulg.* (1527) 6 b, An hare bagged [*gravid*] maye not awaye. 1616 *SURFL. & MARKH. Countr. Farm* 697 The female being bagd.

2. Enclosed in, or as in, a bag; encysted.

1574 *J. JONES Bathes Buckstone* 152 a. Matter, cluddered, lompod or bagged, in any principall member. 1655 *GUR-NALL Chr. in Arm.* iv. § 2 (1669) 425/1 The venom that is baggd in his heart. 1824 *MRS. GASKELL North & S.* xv, Right under the bagged-up chandelier.

3. Hanging in bags, hanging slack so as to drop in a curve.

1618 *HOLYDAY Juvenal* (1673) 188 Baggd cheeks, with wrinkles deep and wide. 1858 *CARLYLE Fredk. Gl.* I. III. v. 171 Cheeks somewhat bagged and wrinkly. 1867 *F. FRANCIS Angling* II. (1880) 69 Without leaving any bagged or slack line.

4. Provided with bags.

1861 *SALA Two round Clock* 182 Here they come, bagged and bundled, and gesticulating and jabbering.

5. Having bags or udders.

1884 *Kendal Merc.* 26 Sept. 4/7 Their once famous . . . and well-bagged cows.

Bagger. [*f. BAG v. + -ER*.] One who encloses in bags; *spec.* a miser (*obs.*).

1740 *Collect. Sir T. Scot* 32 in *Peck Cromwell*, He spent, and lookt for no reward, He cold not play the bagger.

† **Baggie** (*bæggi*). *Sc.* [*f. BAG sb. + -ie* = *Y4*.] A Scotch diminutive of **BAG**; the stomach.

1707 *BURNS To Auld Mare Maggie*, A guid New-year I wish thee, Maggie! Oae, there's a ripp to thy auld baggie.

† **Baggie**. *Obs. Sc.* [*a. F. baguier*, *f. baguier* ring.] A jewel-case.

1576 *Inventories* 265 (JAM.) A baggie contening xiii ringis.

Baggily (*bægili*), *adv.* [*f. BAGGY a. + -LY*.] In a loose or baggy way.

1861 *GROUNOW Remin.* I. 113 Black coats . . . baggily made.

Bagginess (*bægini:s*). [*f. as prec. + -NESS*.]

The state of being baggy, loose, or inflated.

1860 *MASSON in Macm. Mag.* May 3 What bagginess of phraseology round what slender shanks of meaning. 1882 *Nat. Baptist* XVIII. 6 A bagginess about the trousers.

Bagging (*bæggin*), *vbl. sb.* [*f. BAG v. + -ING*.] The action of the verb *bag* in different senses.

† *a.* Becoming pregnant. *Obs.* 1611 in *COTGR.*

b. Bulging; hanging in slack folds.

1608 *TYSON in Phil. Trans.* XX. 130 The pouching or bagging out at both Extreams. 1879 *KUTLEY Stud. Rocks* III. 13 Partial flexure or bagging down of strata.

c. Packing in bags or sacks.

1711 *Act 9 Anne in Lond. Gaz.* No. 4874/2 Notice as to such Hops . . . twenty four Hours before every Days bagging of the same. 1737 *MILLER Gard. Dict.* s. v. *Lupulus*, The common Method of Bagging [Hops] is as follows.

Bagging, *vbl. sb.* Also **badging**. [*f. BAG v. + -ING*.] A particular mode of reaping pease, beans, and sometimes wheat: see the quotations.

1677 *Plot Oxfordsh.* 256 The Work-man taking a hook in each hand, cuts them with that in his right hand, and rolls them up . . . with that in his left, which they call bagging of Peas. 1830 *Edin. Encycl.* XIV. 234 Reaped . . . with a large toothless hook, in the manner called bagging. 1842 *BRANDE Dict. Art & Sc.*, *Bagging*, reaping corn or pulse with a hook . . . separating the straw or haulm from the root by chopping instead of by a drawing cut. 1851 *H. STEPHENS Bk. of Farm* 4494 Reaping with the sickle is executed in England in a manner technically named bagging.

Comb. bagging-hook, badging-hook: the broad hook or sickle thus used; also called **bagging-bill**.

Bagging, *sb.* *dial.* [*? orig. a vbl. sb. expressing the act of carrying food in a bag, or transf.*

from a horse's feed carried in a bag.] Used in the northern counties of England for food eaten between regular meals; now, esp. in Lancashire, an afternoon meal, 'afternoon tea' in a substantial form.

1750 J. COLLIER in *Lanc. Gloss.* (E. D. S.), Hoo'll naw cum agen till baggin' time. 1850 BAWFORD *ibid.*, In the afternoon, oatcake and cheese or butter, or oatcake and buttermilk, sufficed for bagging. 1851 in *Cumberland Gloss.* 1863 E. WAUGH *Lanc. Songs* 20 'Th' baggin' were ready, an' o' lookin' sweet. 1879 in *Temple-Bar Mag.* Jan. 4 'Baggin' is not only lunch, but any accidental meal coming between two regular ones.

b. *Comb.*, as *bagging-time*.

1835 *Ure Philos. Mansf.* 387 Thirst must be quenched with tea at bagging-time. 1884 *Pall Mall G.* 11 Sept. 4/2.

Bagging (bæ'gin), *sb.* 2. [f. BAG *sb.* 1 + -ING 1; cf. *sacking, touelling, wrapping*.] Coarse woven fabric out of which bags are made.

1732 *Acc. Workhouses* 124 The spinning and weaving of hop bagging. 1834 Ht. MARTINEAU *Demerara* vi. 78 Making the bagging and packages for our coffee at home. 1873 *Echo* 19 May 4/3 Paper made from old jute bagging.

b. *attrib. or adj.*; and in *comb.*, as *bagging-factory*. 1732 *Acc. Workhouses* 165 The wool is sorted two ways, viz. into fine and bagging. 1850 Mrs. STOWE *Uncle Tom's C.* ii. 10 Hired out by his master to work in a bagging-factory.

Bagging, *ppl. a.* [f. BAG *v.* 1 + -ING 2.] Bulging out, hanging in loose bag-like folds.

1598 FLORIO, *Sacchi*, a kind of socke... or bagging shoe used in old time. 1607 DRYDEN *Virg. Eclog.* ii. 53 They drein two bagging Udders every day. 1876 Bosw. SMITH *Carthage* 434 Jews with their bagging pantaloons.

† **Baggingly**, *adv.* *Obs.* [f. *bagging*, *pr. pple.* of BAGGE *v.*: the original Fr. so rendered in the quot. is *en lorgnoyant* 'leering, ogling, with a side glance': whence the explanation here given of this word and the vb.] With a side glance, with a leer or ogle.

c. 1400 *Rom. Rose* 292 Envie... Hadde a wonderful loking; For she ne lokide but awrie. Or overthart, alle baggingly.

Baggit (bæ'git). [f. *baggit*, *Sc. form* of BAGGED (sense 1): cf. Holland *Pliny* (1634) I. 303, of conies.] A salmon that has just spawned.

1848 W. & R. CHAMBERS *Information* 1. 687 Adult fish having spawned... are then termed kelts; the male fish is sometimes also called a kipper, and the female a shedder or baggit. 1863 H. C. FENNEL *Angler-nat.* 267 Kippers, and Baggitis—names by which they are frequently mentioned in Acts of Parliament. 1875 'STONEHENGE' *Brit. Sports* i. v. iv. § 9 Baggit generally descend the stream... when hooked.

Baggonet, *obs.* or vulgar form of BAYONET.

Baggy (bæ'gi), *a.* [f. BAG *sb.* + -Y.]

1. Puffed or bulging out, hanging in loose folds.

1831 CARLYLE *Life* II. ix. 219 With wrinkle, even baggy, face. 1858 HAWTHORNE *Fr. & It. Truls.* (1872) I. 22 Red, baggy trousers. 1868 *Lessons Mid. Age* 123 A baggy cotton umbrella.

2. *fig.* Of language: Inflated, verbose.

1866 *Pall Mall G.* 15 Dec. The Professor's diction was verbose, and—if we may use a homely figure—baggy.

3. *Baggy-minnow*, or simply *baggie* (in South of Scotland): the minnow.

1808 JAMIESON, *Baggie*, sometimes *bag-minnow*. 1827 J. WILSON *Noct. Amer. Wks.* 1855 II. 388 Some had a 'the appearance o' bein' baggy menons.

Baghouse, *obs.* form of BAKEHOUSE.

Bagige-kite, *obs.* form of BAGGAGE-KITE.

Baglap; see BALLUP.

† **Bagle**. *Obs.* Forms: 4 *bagelle*, *baghel*, 6 *bagle*. [a. ON. *bagall*, ad. L. *baculum*, -us, staff, rod.] The staff or crosier of a bishop.

1330 R. BRUNNE *Chron.* 282 A hard wele telle, bat bagelle & belle be filchid & fled. [in *Recorde Gr. Artes* (1575) 307 The baghel and the belle.] 1544 *Recorde Gr. Artes* (1575) 314 Crooking in the little fynger, like the head of a bishops bagle. 1557 PHAER *Ened.* vii. Tj. And held in hand his bagle rod (Note—A bagle staf whom prelates that time did use).

Bagman (bæ'gmæn). Also *bagsman*. [f. BAG *sb.* + MAN.]

1. One who carries a bag.

1531 *Burnar's Bk. Durh.* (1844) 98 Willelmus Potter, bagman [a waged officer of the convent], per annum xii.

2. *spec.* A commercial traveller, whose business it is to show samples and solicit orders on behalf of manufacturers, etc. (Somewhat depreciatory.)

1765 GOLDSM. *Ess.* i. The bag-man... was telling a better story. 1808 J. WOLCOTT (P. Pindar) *Peep R. Acad. Wks.* 1812 V. 360 The Bag-men as they travel by. 1815 T. PEACOCK *Headl. Hall* 2 In later days when commercial bagmen began to scour the country. 1865 *Daily Tel.* 13 Dec. 5/4 A traveller—I mean a bagman, not a tourist—arriving with his samples at a provincial town.

3. In sporting slang: A bag-fox.

1875 'STONEHENGE' *Brit. Sports* i. ii. iv. § 5 If... wild cubs cannot be found, a bagman or two must be obtained.

Bagnard, *obs.* corrupt form of BAGNIO.

† **Bagne** (ban'y). [Mod.F. adaptation of It. *bagno* or Sp. *baño* in this special sense, in which F. *bain* is not used.] = BAGNIO 2.

1863 KINGLAKE *Crimea* i. xiv. 314 They may be in the... bagnes of Rochefort. 1866 *Stanford Merc.* 24 Aug., The Emperor... granted free pardons... to... prisoners... in the bagnes, houses of correction, or penal establishments.

Bagnio (bæ'nyo). Forms: 6 *banio*, 7 *bagno*, *bagneo*, *bannia*, -ier, -iard, *bagnard*, 7-9 *bagnio*. [a. It. *bagno* = L. *balneum* bath. Cf. BALNEO.]

† 1. A bath, a bathing-house; esp. one with hot baths, vapour-baths, and appliances for sweating, cupping, and other operations. (No longer applied to any such place in Britain, the nearest approach to which is the modern *Turkish Bath*; but applied as an alien word to the baths of Italian or Turkish cities.)

1615 G. SANDYS *Travels* 12 Upon the Castle Hill there is a Bannia... containing several roomes one hotter than another. 1644 MASSINGER *Renegado* i. ii. At the public bagnios or the mosques. 1653 GREAVES *Seraglio* 7 Dining rooms, Bagno's [marginal note. Bathes or hot-houses; it must be pronounced Bannios]. 1682 *London Gaz.* No. 1686/4 The Royal Bagnio is now in very good Order. 1683 TRYON *Way to Health* 324 Their Chambers are in the next degree to Bagno's or Hot-Houses. 1695 CONGREVE *Love for Love* i. xiv. I have a Beau in a Bagnio, Cupping for a Complexion, and Sweating for a Shape. 1719 DE FOE *Cruise* (1858) 601 Just as they heat the bagnios in England. 1774 GOLDSM. *Nat. Hist.* (1862) i. vi. v. 480 The beavers make two apertures... one is a passage to their bagnio. 1830 MAIR *Tyro's Dict.* 376 *Sudatorium*, a bagnio or hot house, to sweat in.

2. An oriental prison, a place of detention for slaves, a penal establishment.

(So in It. and Sp., and F. *bague*. The origin of this use of the word is doubtful: see conjectures in Chambers *Cycl.* 1751 and Littré.)

1599 HAKLUYT *Voy.* II. i. 186 The king sent... to the Bano; (this Bano is the prison wheras all the captives lay at night). c. 1645 HOWELL *Lett.* (1650) l. 42 A slave in the banner at Algier. 1660-1 PAPVS *Diary* 8 Feb., Stories of Algiers and the... slaves there... How they are all, at night, called into their master's Bagnard. 1687 RYCAUT *Hist. Turks* II. App. 5 A prison and Bannard of Slaves. 1728 MORGAN *Algiers* II. iv. 268 He sent him to his Bagnio, among the rest of his Slaves. 1847 DISRAELI *Tancred* vi. v. To be sent to the bagnio or the galleys.

3. A brothel, a house of prostitution. (Cf. similar application of STEW.)

1644 MASSINGER *Parl. Love* II. ii. To be sold to a brothel Or a common bagnio. 1747 HODLEY *Susp. Husb.* II. iv. (1756) 27 Carry her to a Bagnio, and there you may lodge with her. 1851 THACKERAY *Eng. Hum.* v. (1858) 243 How the prodigious drinks and sports at the bagnio. 1862 WRIGHT *Dom. Mann.* 491 They were soon used to such an extent for illicit intrigues, that the name of a hothouse or bagnio became equivalent to that of a brothel.

† 4. = BATH in *Chemistry*. Also *attrib.*

1696 E. SMITH in *Phil. Trans.* XIX. 229 Two hundred Drams Calcined at a Bagnio Fire.

Bagnolians, *sb. pl.* *Ecc. Hist.* Also in L. form || *Bagnolenses*. [f. *Bagnoles* in Languedoc, where they originated.] A sect of heretics in the 8th century, who rejected the Old and part of the New Testament, and held generally the doctrines of the Manicheans.

1727-31 in CHAMBERS *Cycl.* 1847 in CRAIG; and mod. Dicts.

Bagonet, *obs.* or vulgar form of BAYONET.

Bagpipe (bæ'gpip), *sb.* Forms: 4-7 *baggepipe*, 5-6 *-pype*, *bagpype*, 7 *bagge-pipe*, 6-*bag-pipe*, *bagpipe*. [f. BAG *sb.* 1 + PIPE.]

1. A musical instrument of great antiquity and wide diffusion, consisting of an air-tight wind-bag and one or more reed-pipes into which the air is pressed by the performer.

Formerly a favourite rural English musical instrument; now chiefly used in the Scottish Highlands and in Ireland. The modern Highland bagpipe consists of a greased leathern bag, covered with flannel, inflated by blowing into a valved mouth-tube, and having three *drones* or bass pipes, and a *chanter* for the tenor or treble.

c. 1386 CHAUCER *Prolog.* 565 A baggepipe wel coude he blowe and sounne. 1483 *Cath. Angl.* 17 Baggypp, *panduca*. 1530 PALSGR. 106/2 Bagge pype, *cornemuse*. 1557 Tottell's *Misc.* (Arb.) 107 And baggypp, solace of the rurall bride. 1579 SPENSER *Sheph. Cal. Apr.* 3 Or is thy Baggypp broke, that soundes so sweete? 1596 SHAKS. *1 Hen. IV.* i. ii. 86 As Melancholly as... a Louers Lute... or the Drone of a Lincolshire Baggypp. c. 1645 MS. *Bodl.* No. 30. 16 b. If they heare the baggypp then the beares are coming. 1638 HEYWOOD *Witches Lanc.* III. i. Wks. 1874 IV. 217 No Witchcraft can take hold of a Lancashire Bag-pipe. 1678 OTWAY *Friendship in F.* 30 A Scotch Song! I hate it worse then a Scotch Bagpipe. 1864 ENGEL *Mus. Anc. Nat.* 78 The bag-pipe is also very universal throughout Asia.

b. Now often used in *plural*, esp. in Scotland.

a. 1613 OVERBURY *A Wife* (1638) 175 Don Quixotes Water-mills are still Scotch Bagpipes to him. 1683 TRYON *Way to Health* 654 Bag-Pipes are under the dominion of Venus & Mars... This sort of Musick is sometimes used in Wars. 1763-5 CHURCHILL *Proph. Famine* Poems I. 110 With mickle art, could on the bag pipes play. 1876 GRANT *Burgh Sch. Scot.* II. 380 Discouraging laments upon the Bagpipes.

† 2. A retort shaped like a bagpipe. *Obs.*

1558 WARDE *Alexis Secr.* (1568) 14 b. Put it into a croke necked viole of glasse which distillars call a Bagpipe.

3. Applied to the organ of sound of an insect. 1833 BREWSTER *Nat. Magic* ix. 233 The Cicade or locusts in North America appear... to be furnished with a bagpipe on which they play a variety of notes.

4. *fig. a.* An inflated and senseless talker, a wind-bag. b. A long-winded monotonous speaker.

1603 H. CROSE *Vertues Commu.* (1878) 103 The Seruing-man, the Image of sloath, the bagge-pipe of vanitie, like a windie Instrument, soundeth nothing but prophanesne. 1850 CARLYLE *Latet-d. Pamph.* v. (1872) 169 Such parliamentary bagpipes I myself have heard play tunes. 1884 *Chr. World* 19 June 463/4 Two fresh sermons a week... from the one poor droning theological bagpipe.

5. *Comb.*, as *bagpipeless*, without bagpipes; *bagpipe-like*, like a bagpipe.

1618 D. BELCHIER *Hans Beere-pot* E iv, Or Bagge-pype-like, not speake before thou art full. 1812 W. TENNANT *Anster Fair* iv. lxvi. The poor pipers bagpipeless they saw.

Bagpipe, *v. Naut.* [f. the *sb.*, in reference to the shape assumed by the sail.] (See quot.)

1769 FALCONER *Dict. Marine* (1789) v., To bagpipe the mizen is to lay it aback, by bringing the sheet to the mizen-shrouds.

Bagpiper (bæ'gpip:pa). [f. *prec.* + -ER 1.] One who plays on a bagpipe; commonly called a *piper*.

c. 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 21 Baggepyper, *panducarius*. c. 1570 THYNNER *Pride & Lowl.* (1841) 53 Where nought else but a bagge piper is to see. 1596 SHAKS. *Merch. V.* i. 53 Laugh like Parrats at a bag-piper. 1800 WORDSW. *Michael* 52 Like the noise Of bagpipers on distant Highland hills.

Bagpiping, *vbl. sb.* [as from a vb. *to bagpipe* + -ING 1.] The action of playing on a bagpipe.

1594 MORLEY *Madrigalls* i. E. iij b. Who comes heere: with bagpiping and drumming. 1882 MASSON in *Macm. Mag.* XLV. 238 That fortnight of feasting, processionings, huzzaings, and bagpipings.

† **Bagpudding**. *Obs.* [f. BAG *sb.* 1 + PUDDING.]

1. A pudding boiled in a bag.

1508 in FLORIO. 1600 HEYWOOD *Edu.* IV. Wks. 1874 I 47 Thou shalt be welcome to beef and bacon, and perhaps a bag-pudding. 1641 W. CARTWRIGHT *Ordinary* II. i. A solemn son of Bagpudding and Pottage. 1817 SCOTT *Rob Roy* vi, To make room for the beef and the bagpuddings.

† 2. *fig.* 1 Clown. *Obs.* (Cf. *jackpudding*.)

1608 DAY *Hum. out of Br.* II. i. (1881) 25 Farewell, sweet heart.—God a mercy, bagpudding.

Bag-reef (bæ'gri:f). *Naut.* (See quot.)

1867 SMYTH *Sailor's Word-bk.*, Bag-reef, a fourth or lower reef of fore-and-aft sails, often used in the royal navy. Bag-reef of topsails, first reef (of five in American navy); a short reef, usually taken in to prevent a large sail from bagging when on a wind.

† **Bague**. *Obs.* [a. F. *bague*, in med.L. *baga*, of uncertain origin.] A ring, a brooch.

1475 CAXTON *Jason* 106 Medea toke alle the most richest Jewels and bagues portatif.

Baguette (bæ'get). [a. F. *baguette* (a small rod or wand; in *Arch.* (as in Eng.) ad. It. *bacchetta* little rod, dim. of *bacchio* = L. *baculum* staff.) A small moulding of semicircular section, of the astragal species.

1727-31 CHAMBERS *Cycl.*, Baguette, in architecture, a little round moulding less than an astragal. According to M. le Clerc, when the baguette is enriched with ornaments, it changes its name, and is called *chaplet*. 1842 GUILT *Encycl. Archit.* III. i. 684 The astragal is also known by the names of bead and baguette.

Bag-wig (bæ'giwig). (Also as two words.) A wig fashionable in the 18th century, the back-hair of which was enclosed in an ornamental bag.

1717 Mrs. CENTLIVRE *Bold Stroke* III. i. Now must Bag Wig and Bus'ness come in Play; A Thirty-Thousand-Pound Girl leads the Way. 1766 ANSTY *Bath Guide* x. 60 Bag-wig, and lac'd Ruffles, and black Solitaire. 1850 W. IRVING *Goldsm.* xxv. 252 Walking the Strand in grand array with bag-wig and sword.

Hence *Bag-wigged*, *a.*, wearing a bag-wig.

1775 SHERRIDAN *St. Patr. Day* II. iv. (1883) 236 Pig-tailed lawyers and bag-wigged attorneys.

† **Bag-wood**. *Obs.* [Apparently f. BAG *v.* 2 + WOOD.] Small branches of trees, twigs, etc. such as could be lopped off with a bagging hook or bill, used for fuel.

1525 in *Bodmin Registers* (1827-38) 103 To have their burden wood to bear and carry away upon their backs, of lot, crop, hook, and bag wood. (See *N. & Q.* Ser. i. II. 204.)

Bah (bā), *int.* [Prob. after mod.F. *bah!* in same sense.] An exclamation expressive of contempt.

[1600 DEKKER *Gentle Craft* Wks. I. 40 Away she flung... nor said bih nor bah.] 1817 BYRON *Beppo* xxxii, Dreading the deep damnation of his 'bah!' 1848 KINGSLLEY *Saint's Trag.* III. iii, Bah! priest! What can this Marpurg-madness do for me?

2. Used as a vb. [Cf. to *pooh-pooh*, etc.]

1838 DICKENS *Old C. Shop* (C. D. ed.) 33 Mr. Richard... is Bah!d for his pains.

|| **Bahar**, *barr(e)* (bāhā:). [Arab. *bahār*.]

A measure of weight used in parts of India and China, varying in value in different places from 223 to 625 lbs. 1753 in CHAMBERS *Cycl. Supp.*

|| **Bahut**. *Obs.* [a. F. *bahutte*.] A dress for masquerading, a domino.

1764 Miss BERRY *Jrnl. & Corr.* I. 76 Put on our bahuts and went... to the Florentine Theatre.

† **Baiardour**. *Obs.* [AF. = OF. *baiardeur*, a mason's labourer, who helps to carry the *baiard*, mod.F. *bayart*, *baiart*, or large hand-barrow with six handles on which building stones are carried. Erroneously connected in the Dictionaries with L. *bajulātor*, and explained from Phillips (1706) onward, as 'a carrier or bearer of any weight or burden.' Perhaps never used in Eng.: cf. BAYARD 2.] P. BLESSENSIS *Contin. Hist. Croyland* 120 Duos incisores... et duos baiardours servituros ad caragiung petræ.

Baid, north. f. BODE *sb.*; pa. t. of BIDE *v.*

Baie, *Baies*, *obs.* f. BAY *sb.* and *a.*, BAIZE.

Baight, *baigt* (e), *obs.* forms of BAIT, BAIN.

|| **Baignoire** (ben'war, -wā). [F.; lit. 'a vessel for bathing in,' f. *baigner* to bathe; also as

in Eng.] A box at the theatre on the same level as the stalls.

1873 BROWNING *Red Cott. Night-C.* 984 Should one display One's robe a trifle o'er the baignoire-edge. 1883 *Harper's Mag.* Nov. 884/1 The twelve baignoires... are left at the disposal of the manager.

Baik, obs. f. **BAKE**; var. **BECK v. Obs.**

Baikalite (bɔɪˈkälɪt). *Min.* [f. *Baikal*, lake in Siberia + -ITE.] A dark dingy green variety of **SAHLITE**. (Dana.)

1794 KIRWAN *Min.* I. 509. 1843 HUMBLE *Dict. Geol.*

Baikerinite. *Min.* A viscid substance with balsamic odour and taste like that of wood-tar. (Dana.)

Baikerite. *Min.* A wax-like mixture found near Lake Baikal consisting chiefly of ozocerite and baikerinite. (Dana.)

Baiki. *Sc.* A piece of curved wood used in fastening cows to the stake; in some places (according to Jamieson) the stake itself.

1598 D. FERGUSON *Sc. Prov.* (1785) 8 (JAM.) Better haud loose, nor bound to an ill baiki. 1851 H. STEPHENS *Bk. of Farm* 1131 Cows are bound to a stake in the stall... One method of binding is with the baiki... flat to the neck of the cow.

Bail (bɔɪl), *sb.* 1 Also 5 **bayl**, **baill**, 5-7 **bayle**, 6-7 **bayl**, **bale**, **baile**. [In senses 1 and 2, a. OF. *baill* 'power, custody, jurisdiction,' and 'delivery,' n. of action f. *baillier*, in its senses of 'take charge of, guard, control,' and 'hand over, deliver' (see **BAIL v.**). The remaining senses are peculiarly English, and their development not quite certain. But from the Latin phrase *tradere in ballium alicui*, found 1259, and the AF. *lesser en bail* (1331), it seems that *bail* was originally related to sense 1, and meant the 'custody or charge' (i.e. of the surety); cf. also the equivalent *mainprise*, *manucaplio*. But it must soon have been associated in meaning with sense 2, and the AF. *baillier* to deliver (chattels), since already in 16th c. it was explained as 'the delivery or handing over of the accused to his surety,' whence transferred to the security in consideration of which he was so delivered, and finally to the surety himself who became or gave security for his reappearance in court when called for judgment. There is nothing approaching these senses in Fr., while, on the other hand, the Fr. sense 'lease' is not in English.

Fr. *bail*, the n. of action, must be carefully distinguished from *bail* 'governor, ruler, tutor, guardian' (= Pr. *baile*, Sp. *baile*, Pg. *baile*, It. *baile*, *balio* = L. *bajulus*), never adopted in English (though sometimes erroneously stated to be the direct source of sense 6). *Bail* = *bajulus* was the primary word; thence the vb. *baillier* = *bajulare*; thence again the n. of action *bail* formed in French, and adopted in English. (The word is discussed by COKE 4th Inst. 178.)

† 1. Charge, custody, jurisdiction, power. *Obs.*

1400 *Cov. Myst.* (1841) 292 His body is undyr your bayle. 1470 HARDING *Chron.* xxviii. In battail grete hir tooke and putte in bail. 1489 CAXTON *Faytes of A.* i. xv. 39 So grete a thyng as is the bayll and charge of the noblesse. 1596 SPENSER *F. Q.* vii. vi. 49 Faunus, now within their baile.

† 2. A handing over, delivery; giving. *Obs.* [perh. not in Eng.; but cf. 4.]

1292 BRITTON II. ix. § 3 Cum acun bail de seysine deit estre fet. (When any livery of seisin is to be made.)

† 3. The charge or friendly custody of a person who otherwise might be kept in prison, upon security given that he shall be forthcoming at a time and place assigned. *Obs.* (But the phrase *admitted to bail*, formerly *let to bail*, originated in this sense, though subsequently otherwise analysed.)

1259 *Provisions of Barons* (Stubbs *Sel. Chart.* 396) Quod hii quibus traditur in ballium eum habeant coram iustitiis. 1331 *Act 5 Edw. III.* viii. Et ont este par les ditz Mare-scaux lessez en bail. (transl. Pulton: And by the Marshallles of the Kings Bench have been let to baile.) 1581 LANBARDE *Firren* iii. ii. (1602) 333 That no Iustice, nor Iustices of peace, should let to bayle any person contrary to the said statute. 1649 SELDEN *Laws of Eng.* i. xxxvi. (1739) 53 Admitted to Bail if the offences were bailable. 1809 TOMLINS *Law Dict.* s.v. To admit any to bail who ought not by law to be admitted is punishable by fine.

† 4. Temporary delivery or release from imprisonment, on finding sureties or security to appear for trial; also, release, in a more general sense. *Obs.*

1466 *Mann. & Househ. Exp.* 169 Robard Henengham became sewer to my mastyr for the bayle of on Willyam Valenden of Manytre that was in the castell of Colchestre. 1509 BARCLAY *Ship of Fooles* (1570) 4 There shall be no bayle nor treating of mainprise. 1542 *Act 34 & 35 Hen. VIII.* xxvii. § 50 The Prenotarie to haue... for the bayle of euery person of felony, twelve pence. 1598 ROWLANDS *Betray. Christ* 16 More dead then Lazarus in his stinking graue. When he deatheis vout till fift daies baile indured. 1642 *Declar. Lords & Comm.* 22 Dec. 6 To some common Goale, there to remaine without Bayle or Mainprise. 1768 BLACKSTONE *Comm.* IV. 294 The nature of bail is... a delivery, or bailment, of a person to his sureties, upon their giving (together with himself) sufficient security for his appearance.

5. Security given for the release of a prisoner from imprisonment, pending his trial.

1331 *Act 5 Edw. III.* viii. Et ne les soeffrent nulle part aler walkerants ne par bail ne sanz bail. 1495 *Act 11 Hen. VII.* vii. They [shall]... be put to sufficient bail. 1580

Stow Chron. Hen. VIII an. 1540 (R.) Giuing liberty to... his prisoners to go under bail. 1605 VERSTEGAN *Dec. Intell.* x. (1628) 328 Putting in bayl to be freed or protected for the time from prison. 1607 HEYWOOD *Wom. Kilde* Wks. 1874 II. 130, I am not free, I go but under baile. 1671 F. PHILLIPS *Reg. Necess.* 288 They ought not to be released until they... give Bayl to appear, and answer the action. 1691 WOOD *Ath. Oxon.* II. 146 He had his liberty upon bayle of 40000l. 1713 SWIFT *Cadenus & V.* Wks. 1755 III. ii. 30 That both parties Shou'd... appear, and save their bail. 1748 MIDDLETON *Cicero* I. iii. 193 A miserable, needy crew, who had... forfeited their bails. 1862 TROLLOPE *Orley F.* xiii. 98 His client... was prepared with bail to any amount.

b. *fig.* Security, surety, guarantee.

1593 H. SMITH *Serm.* (1637) 350 Death would take no baile, we are all tenants at will and we must leave... at a day's, at an hours warning. 1666 BERNARD *Isle of Man* (1627) 81 None being sufficient to lay in bayle to answer God for the sin. 1645 MILTON *Tetrach.* Wks. 1738 I. 251 Doubtless this man hath bail enough to be no Adulterer.

c. To give leg bail (jocular): to be beholden to one's own legs for escape, to run away.

1775 ADAMS *Amer. Ind.* 277, I had concluded to use no chivalry, but give them leg-bail instead of it, by... making for a deep swamp. 1841 MARRYAT *Poacher* xxii. Given them leg bail, I'll swear.

6. The person or persons who procure the release of a prisoner from the custody of the officer arresting him, or from prison, by becoming surety for his appearance in court for trial.

The bail now becomes answerable with his money, but formerly he might have to give his own person as security, whence the phrase to be or become bail, i.e. security, as opposed to give or put in bail of sense 5.

1593 SHAKS. 2 *Hen. VI.* v. i. 111 Sirrah, call in my sonne to be my bale. 120 The sonnes of Yorke shall be their Fathers baile. 1644 MILTON *Areop.* (Arb.) 56 His bayl and surety. 1649 SELDEN *Laws of Eng.* i. xxxvi. (1739) 53 If the party bailed made default... his bail suffered as Principal. 1676 D'URFEE *Mad. Fickle* v. iii. (1677) 65 Well, leave em with me, I'll be Bail for their appearance to morrow. 1869 J. MARTINEAU *Ess.* II. 112 [He] must stand bail for himself in the court of truth.

fig. 1800 BYRON *Yuan v. xcix*, I won't be bail for anything beyond. 1850 THACKERAY *Pendennis* xxx. (1884) 292 Ye'll spend it like a man of spirit—I'll go bail for that.

7. In consequence of the transition of meaning in senses 3-6, many phrases are current which are not easily analysed.

To say that the magistrate *bails* the prisoner (see **BAIL v.** 2) is now somewhat old-fashioned. Generally, the magistrate *admits bail*, *admits to bail*, *allows bail*, or (occasionally) *holds to bail*, or *takes bail*. I have also seen *grants bail*. The regular phrase of the Statute-book is, I think, 'the magistrate may admit him to bail.' In 45 Geo. III. c. 92, the magistrate also *takes bail*, the prisoner *gives bail*. *Bail* is also *offered* by the prisoner, and may be *refused* by the magistrate; on the day appointed his bail *surrender*, *render*, *bring in*, or *produce him* in court, or the accused *surrenders to his bail*. In the latter phrase, there is a notion of his delivering himself up in discharge of the recognizances into which he himself, as well as his sureties, has entered, for his appearance. This idea also colours the later use of *hold to bail*, *admit to bail*. (F. W. Maitland.)

7. *Comb.* **Bail-bond**, the bond or security entered into by a bail; **bail-piece**: (see quot.).

1709 *Act 7 Anne* in *Land. Gas.* No. 4538/1 All Bail Bonds given by the said Ambassador, are utterly Null and Void. 1815 SCOTT *Guy M.* lii. Where shall we find one to draw the bail-bond? 1768 BLACKSTONE *Comm.* III. 291 Which recognizance is transmitted to the court in a slip of parchment intituled a bail piece.

Bail, *sb.* 2 Forms: 5 **beyl**, **bayl**, 5-7 **bayle**, 7 **baile**, 7-**bail**, (8-9 *erron. bale*). [ME. *beyl*, prob. a. ON. *beygla*, Da. *bøile*, Sw. *bögel*, *bygel*, bending, ring, hoop, guard of a sword-handle, etc.; cf. also ON. *beyla* hump, swelling (Vigf.); all from ON. *beygja* = OE. *bēgan*, *bīgan*, to bend, bow. There may even have been an OE. **bezel*, *bygel*; cf. LG. *bögel* in same sense.]

1. A hoop or ring; a half-hoop for supporting the cover of a wagon or cradle, the tilt of a boat, etc.

1447 BOKENHAM *Seyntys* 120 My right hand arayid... Wyth a precyous beyl of gold hath he. 1494 *Ord. R. Househ.* 127 Two cradlebands of crimson velvet and a bayle... for the same. 1509 *Privy Purse Exp. Hen. VIII* (1827) 11 To the same watermen for fowre bayles for the said barge. 1669 WORLIDGE *Syst. Agric.* (1681) 216 Two small round Hoops or Arches... like unto the two end-Hoops or Bails of a Carriers Wagon, or a Tilt-boat. 1748 (ed. 4) DE FOE, etc. *Tour Gt. Brit.* I. 143 (D.) An act of Parliament passed in 1736-7... prohibits close Decks and Bails nailed down in the Wherries. 1884 *W. Sussex Gas.* 25 Sept. A capital large rick cloth, with bail.

2. The hoop-handle of a kettle or similar vessel.

1463 *Bury Wills* (1850) 23 A littell chafour with a beyl and a lyd. 1607 TOPSELL *Serpents* 767 About the same vessel (caldron or kettle)... binde this... to the handle or bayl thereof. 1742 PAYNE *Phil. Trans.* KLI. 823 A Handle or Bale... by which it may be hung or held up. 1865 E. BURRITT *Walk* 460 The old-fashioned bails of our brass-kettles. 1866 HOWELLS *Venet. Life* 36 A small pot of glazed earthenware having an earthen bale.

Bail, bayle (bɔɪl), *sb.* 3 Forms: 3-6 **baile**, 4 **baile**, 4-6 **bail**, **bayle**, 6 **bayl**, **bayll**, 9 **bayle** (sense 2), **bail**, **bale** (sense 4). [ME., a. OF. *baill* and *baile*, *baile* in same sense, of doubtful origin; perh. verbal sbs. f. *baillier* to enclose, shut (1321 in Godef.), unless indeed they are the source of that word: see **BAIL v.** 3 Cf. also next, and **BAILY**.]

It is phonetically possible that *bail*, *baile*, represent L. *baculum*, pl. *bacula*, sticks, in the sense of 'stakes, palisade,' but historical evidence of such a development of sense is wanting.]

1. *pl.* Outer line of fortification, formed of stakes; palisades, barriers.

1523 LD. BERNERS *Froiss.* I. xxxviii. 52 The heynows conquered by force the baylles. *Ibid.* xlvii. 66 A lytell skir-myssh before the bayles. *Ibid.* 67 They rode in good order, and came to the bayles. 1795 SOUTHEY *Joan of Arc* viii. 150 O'er the bayle, The bayle now leuell'd by victorious France, The assailants pass'd.

2. The wall of the outer court of a feudal castle; extended to each of the successive walls which separate the courts. Hence, sometimes used for the courts themselves. See **BAILY**.

1300 *Cursor M.* 10023 Pe baile midelmast o thre, Bitakens wel hir chastite... Nam o bail it hat for bi For it hir heild als in baili. 1320 *Cast. Loe* 687 Seppe beop bre Bayles wip-alle So feir i-dint w' strong walle. 1450 *Mertin* vii. 113 That thei wolde ley siege environ the baile. 1570-87 HOLINSHED *Scot. Chron.* (1806) II. 368 The lord Fleming... fled out by the postern gate, at the neither baile. 1813 HOGG *Queen's Wake* 253 Both bayle and keep rang with the din.

† 3. *pl.* The bulwarks of a boat. *Obs.*

1577 HOLINSHED *Chron.* III. 921/2 His barge... with yeomen standing vpon the bails. 1558-1603 NICHOLS *Progr. Q. Elis.* II. 285 One of the watermen... being the second man next unto the bales of the said barge.

4. A bar or pole to separate horses standing in an open stable; a *swinging bail* is hung at one end from the manger, and at the other from the ceiling. 1844 *Regul. & Ord. Army* 351 When the horse is deposited in the hold... it is the duty of the ship's carpenter to fix the bails which are to secure him. 1851 *Ord. & Regul. R. Engineers* xix. 96 Battery Stables... 70 Bail Stalls... 9 ft. by 5 ft. 1850 'STONEHENGE' *Rural Sports* 583 With bales horses can be stowed much more thickly than with traveses. 1877 *— Horse* xiii. 205 A Gangway-Bail is... a strong piece of oak which is dropped into a mortice in the stall-post at one end, and into another made in the wall opposite.

5. (In Australia): A framework for securing the head of a cow while she is milked.

1885 E. A. PETHERICK in *letter*: The cows are taken to the bails, which may be in the open air, in a shed, or in stalls as in a stable.

Bail, *sb.* 4 [Godefroy says 'In the arrondissement of Vervains and of Avesnes, *bail* is the name of a horizontal piece of wood fixed upon two stakes.' This is exactly the cricket bail of the last century: the origin of the Fr. is uncertain; perh. identical with the preceding word; scarcely an independent repr. of L. *baculum*.]

† 1. A cross bar. *Obs.*

1575 TURBERVILLE *Booke of Falconrie* 358 Set them upon some perche, or bayle of wood that they maye by that meanes the better keepe their feathers unbroken, and eschue the dragging of their traines upon the ground.

2. In *Cricket*, name of each of the two pieces of wood laid across the tops of the three stumps which form the wicket.

(The bails are at present made 4 inches long, turned and shaped on the lathe; but originally the wicket consisted of a single bail, two feet long, laid across two stumps.)

1770 J. LOVE *Cricket* 19 The *Bail*, and mangled *Stumps* bestrew the Field. 1799 in *Hoyle's Games* (1803) 301 The striker is out if the bail is bowled off. 1813 *Sports of Child-hood* Cricket 22 The Wicket consists of two pieces of wood fixed upright, and kept together by another piece, which is laid across the top and is called a Bail. 1833 STRUTT *Sports & Past.* (Hone) 106 Of late years the wicket consists of three stumps and two bails. 1861 WHYTE-MELVILLE *Trib.* 167 My bails fly upwards; and... I am disagreeably conscious of being 'bowled out.'

† **Bail**, *sb.* 5 *Naut. Obs.* Forms: 5 **beyle**, 7 **baile**, 8 **bail**. [In earlier form *baile*, a. F. *baile* (in nautical language) a bucket, a pail, prob. = late L. *bacula*, dim. of *baca*, *bacca*, **BACK sb.** 2] A bucket or shallow tub used on board ship, esp. for emptying out water; any small vessel used to bail the water out of a boat.

1466 *Mann. & Househ. Exp.* 211 My master paid to Perse berebreyer for vij beyles for the spyngas vijd. 1778-84 COOK *Voy.* (1790) I. 157 The gentlemen likewise saw the bail of a canoe... made of a human skull. 1867 SWYTH *Sailor's Word-bk.*, *Bayle*, an old term for bucket.

Bail (bɔɪl), *v.* 1 Forms: 5-7 **bayl**(e), 6 **bale**, **baal**, 6-7 **baile**, 6-**bail**. [a. OF. *baillier*, *baillier*, *bailler* (= Pr. *baillar*): = L. *bajulare* 'to bear a burden, to carry,' afterwards 'to carry on, manage, rule,' and 'to be guardian or tutor,' whence *baillier* ranged in OF. from 'bear, carry, handle, treat, manage, conduct, govern, control, rule, take charge of, guard,' to 'take hold of, receive, take, take away,' and 'hand over, deliver, give.' From the last of these arose the Anglo-French legal sense of 'deliver,' narrowed down in use to 'deliver on trust on certain conditions.' Sense 2 is probably immediately from **BAIL sb.** 1 3, 4, as if short for 'let to bail, admit to bail,' but clearly influenced by AF. *bailler* in sense 1, so as to make 'deliver' or 'liberate' at length the leading idea. Hence extended from the act of the magistrate to that of the surety, and used in various transferred senses.]

I. Immediately from F. *baillier*.

1. 'To deliver (goods) in trust, upon a contract expressed or implied that the trust shall be faithfully executed on the part of the bailee.' Blackstone. [See **BAILMENT**, **BAILOR**, **BAILLEE**.]

[c. 1300 Year-bk. *Edw. II*, 270 A tort luy detient viij escritz, les queux il luy baille a rebailier a sa volonte.] 1768 BLACKSTONE *Comm. II*, 452 If cloth be delivered, or (in our legal dialect) bailed, to a tailor to make a suit of cloaths.

II. Immediately from BAIL sb.1

2. To admit to bail, to liberate on bail; to release (a person) from immediate arrest or imprisonment, on security being given by one or more sureties that the person so released shall be duly presented for trial. Said of the magistrate. *arch.*

1548 *HALL Chron.* Hen. VIII an. 14 (R.) Al the other, if they would be bayled, to fynde sureties for their truth and allegaunce. 1555 *Act 24 Mary x.* § 1 (1632) Such Justices as have authority to baile any prisoner brought before them. 1641 *Termes de la Ley* 35 b. Upon the Bonds of these Sureties he is bailed, that is to say, set at liberty, untill the day appointed for his appearance. 1715 *BURNET Own Time III* (R.) Jeffries was bolder, so he bailed him. 1771 *Junius Lett.* lxx. 328 You have bailed a man, whom the lord mayor of London had refused to bail. 1837 *HALLAM Const. Hist.* (1876) II. viii. 3 Charles... told them he was content the prisoners should be bailed.

† b. fig. and gen. To liberate from imprisonment.

1581 *STUDLEY Seneca's Herc. Cletus* 216 b. Hath heil no power to hold thy sprite. Or else hath Pluto baalde thee out? 1590 *GREENE Conny Catch.* II. 31 Sirra see if your picklocks will serue the turne to baile you hence. 1600 S. NICHOLSON *Acolastus* (1876) 27 It's hard to bayle imprisoned thoughts againe.

3. To procure the liberation of (any one) from prison or arrest, by becoming bail or security for him. (To bail out implies that he is already in prison.) Also fig.

1587 *FLEMING Contn. Holinshed III.* 353/1 A woman... whom the same Bruistard had bailed out of Bridewell. 1588 *SHAKS. Tit. A.* II. iii. 299 Thou shalt not baile them, see thou follow me. 1644 *FULLER Holy & Prof. St.* I. iv. 11 The dearest Husband cannot baile his wife when death awaits her. 1791 *BOSWELL Johnson* (1831) I. 233, I shall have my old friend to bail out of the round-house. a 1832 *MACKINTOSH Revol.* of 1688 Wks. 1846 II. 281 Twenty-eight peers were prepared to bail them, if bail should be required. 1859 *MRS. GASKELL Round the Sofa* 58, I offer to bail the fellow out, and to be responsible for his appearance at the sessions.

4. fig. To be security or pledge for; to secure, guarantee, protect.

1587 *Myrr. Mag. Madan* xii. 4 Grace and prudence bayles our careful bandes. 1600 *SANDERSON Serm.* I. 166 This stranger, this Lot, hath bayled you hitherto, and given you protection. a 1609 *OSBORN Q. Ellis.* (1673) 464 Let the Proverb *As sure as Check* bayl me from the least suspicion of hyperboly.

Bail, v.2 1 Obs. [f. *BAIL sb.2*] To hoop, gird. 1548 [see *BAIL sb.1*, a. 1.] 1594 *NASHE Unfort. Trav.* 59 Close soldered, and baile about with yron.

Bail, v.3 Also 6 bale. [App. ad. OF. *baillier* to enclose, shut, of doubtful source: immediately related to *bail*, *baille*, *BAIL sb.3*, though it is not yet certain which is derived from the other; if the vb. be the source, it may be perh. only another sense of *baillier*, to have charge of, control, guard, etc.: see *BAIL v.1*]

1. To confine. *rare.*
c 1600 *SHAKS. Sonnets* No. 133 Prison my heart in thy steele bosomes warde, But then my friends heart let my poore heart bale, Who ere keepes me, let my heart be his garde. 1652 *SIR W. HAMILLTON Disc.* 303 The infinite spirit does not bail itself under proportion and number.

2. To bail up (in Australia): a. To secure the head of a cow in a 'bail' while she is milked; b. (said of bushrangers) To 'stick up' and disarm travellers in order to rob them without resistance; also, *intr.* To surrender without resistance, disarm oneself by throwing up the arms. [The identity of this with a. is disputed.]

1880 *Melbourne Argus* 22 July 1/7 We were bailed up by an armed man on horseback. — in *Leisure Ho.* (1885) 197 'Bail up! Throw up your arms, I'm Ned Kelly!' *Mod.* (from E. A. Petherick) 'Have you bailed up the cows?' 'Yes, they're bailed up.'

Bail, v.4 Also 5-7 baile, bayle, (7-9 bale). [f. *BAIL sb.3*] Now often less correctly BALE, q.v. To lade or throw water out of a boat, etc., with buckets (formerly called bails), pails, basins, or other vessels. a. To bail the water (out).

1613 *PURCHAS Pilgr.* ix. xiv. 911 They bailed and pumped two thousand tuns and yet were ten foot deepe. 1622 *R. HAWKINS Voy. S. Sea* 226 In clearing and bailing the water. 1644 *CAPT. SMITH Virginia v.* 174 Buckets, to baile out the water. 1829 *MARRYAT F. Mildmay* xi, One [man] to bail the water out.

b. To bail the boat (out).
1840 *R. DANA Bef. Mast* xviii. 50 By the help of a small bucket and our hats we bailed her out. 1841 *CATLIN N. Amer. Ind.* (1844) II. xlviii. 111 Ladies to bail them out.

c. *absol.*
1604 *CAPT. SMITH Virginia v.* 174 Bailing and pumping three daies and three nights without intermission. 1682 *SIR J. BERRY in Lond. Gas.* No. 1720/7 Still working with the Pumps and Bailing, but to no purpose.

† **Bailable**, a.1 Obs. In 5-6 baleable. [a. OF. *bailable* f. *bailler* in sense of 'deliver:'] Capable of being delivered, deliverable.

1502 *ARNOLD Chron.* (1811) 121 If these oure presentis lettres patentis... be not baleable.

Bailable (bē'lāb'l), a.2; also 6-7 baleable, bayl(e-). [f. *BAIL v.1* and *sb.1* + -ABLE.]

1. Of persons: Entitled to be released on bail.

1554 *Act 1-2 Mary xiii.* § 3 Any person or persons... being bayleable by the law. 1600 *BERNARD Isle of Man* (1627) 76 To send him to Gaole, if he be not bailable. 1796 *MORSE Amer. Geog.* I. 561 All persons shall be bailable, unless for capital offences.

2. Of an offence or process: Admitting of bail.

1649 *SELDEN Laws of Eng.* I. xxxvi. (1739) 53 He was... admitted to Bail if the offences were bailable. 1817 *JAS. MILL Brit. India* II. v. vi. 572 A capias was granted, with a bailable clause. 1859 *L.D. J. CAMPBELL in Ellis Law Rep.* II. 114 Directed only against bailable process.

Bailage (bē'lēdʒ). Also 9 balliage, balliage. [f. *BAIL v.1*, or AF. *baillier* to deliver: perh. there was an AF. **baillage* or med.L. **balliagium* in this sense.] A duty upon delivery of goods.

1753 *CHAMBERS Cycl. Suppl.* s.v., Water *Bailage* or *Bailage*, is an ancient duty received by the City of London, for all goods and merchandises brought into or carried out of the port. 1800 *COLQUHOUN Comm. Thames* xi. 332 Of *Bailage*, or Delivery of Goods. 1809 *R. LANGFORD Introd. Trade* 129 *Bailage*, duty paid on goods to the City of London.

¶ See also *BAILLIAGE*.

† **Bail-dock, baile-dock.** Obs. [f. *BAIL sb.3* barrier: see *DOCK*.] At the Old Bailey, London, (formerly) 'a small room taken from one of the corners of the court, and left open at the top; in which, during the trials, are put some of the male-factors.' *Scots Mag.* 1753 XV. 42/1.

1644 *HEYWOOD Gunaik* II. 159 The sessions is dissolved, the bench and baile-dock cleared. 1662 *ELLWOOD Autobiog.* (1767) 148 Away I was taken and thrust into the Bail-dock to my other Friends who had been called before me. 1690 *PENN Truth Rescued* 8, I was commanded to the Baile-Dock for Turbulency and Impertinency. 1716 *Lond. Gas.* No. 5399/3 James Goodman, made his Escape, by leaping over the Spikes of the Bail-Dock and the Rails at the Sessions House in the Old-Bailey. 1823 *LAMB Elia* (1860) 72, I remember Penn before his accusers, and Fox in the bail-dock.

† **Baile, bayle, int.** Obs. [Perh. imperative of Fr. *bailler* in sense 'Deliver (blows)'] But cf. *bailler sa foi*, in *Littre*.] A call to combatants to engage.

a 1599 *SKELTON Agst. Garnesche* 31 Baile, baile at you bothe, frantike folyes! c 1530 *L.D. BERNERS Arth. Lyf. Bryt.* 364 Than harodes began to crye: knights, do your best! go togyder, bayle! bayle! Than began the tournay.

Bailed (bē'ld), ppl. a.1 [f. *BAIL v.1* + -ED.] Released on bail.

1552 *HULOT, Bayled*, or lette to bayle, *Vadimonio obstrictus*. 1664 *BUTLER Hud.* II. iii. 73 Like a Bail'd and Main-priz'd Lover, Although at large I am bound over.

Bailed (bē'ld), ppl. a.2 [f. *BAIL v.2* + -ED.] Hooped (and covered) as a wagon.

1548 *HALL Chron.* (1809) 801 Then came the Quene in a litter of white clothe of golde not covered nor Bayled. 1598 *Stow Survey* xli. (1603) 436 A close cart, bayled over.

Bailee (bē'lē). Law. Also 6 bailly, 7 baylee. [f. *BAIL v.1* + -EE.] One to whom goods are committed in trust for a specific purpose.

1528 *PERKINS Prof. Bk.* II. § 140 (1642) 62 If... afterwards the Bailly deliver the Obligation to whom it was made. 1613 *SIR H. FINCH Law* (1636) 180 The baylement of goods to employ, is, when the Bailee hath the things themselves to vse to anothers profit. 1875 *POSTE Gains* III. 423 These contracts... all imply a delivery from the bailor to the bailee and a redelivery from the bailee to the bailor.

Bailer, [f. *BAIL v.4* + -ER.] He who or that which bails water out; a man employed to bail out a ship; a utensil used for this purpose, a machine constructed to lift and throw out water from a pit, etc.

1883 *KINGSTON Paddy Finn* xv. 190 There was no bailer; but I had seized my hat. 1883 *Century Mag.* July 330/1 The 'sand-pump' and 'bailer', employed to take up and hoist out the pulverized rock and water. 1883 *Elia* New 15 Sept. 2/7 (Shipping), [Ship] Hardwick... half full of water. Bailleurs have been employed.

Bailer, 2. Cricket. [f. *BAIL sb.4* + -ER.] A ball so bowled as to hit the bails.

1881 *Daily News* 29 June 2/6 (Cricket), A fine bailer from Studd beat Peake when 246 had been made. 1882 *Daily Tel.* 27 May, A bailer from Jones just managed to destroy his chance.

Bailey (bē'li). Forms: 3 balli, 4 bayly, -lie, -lye, baylye, bailly, baly, 4-5 baillie, 4-6 bailly, baillie, 9 bailey. [a ME. variant of *bayle*, *BAIL sb.3*: possibly from the med.L. form *balium*, *ballium*; cf. *Vetus Ballium* = Old Bailey, Du Cange. Not in Fr. It coincides in its spellings with *BAILLIE*, with which it was probably confused.]

1. The external wall enclosing the outer court, and forming the first line of defence, of a feudal castle; and, in a wider sense, any of the circuits of walls or defences which surrounded the keep.

a 1300 *Cursor M.* 10023 Pe midmast bailly of be pre Bitokeneþ wel hir chastite. Name of bailly hit hap for bi For hit [hir] helde euer in bailly [v.r. baylye, bayly]. *Ibid.* 10034 Þere stonden þre baylies wipoute þat wel kepen þat castel From arwe shet & quarel. c 1325 *E. E. Allit. P. A.* 1022 As queh I blusched vpon þat baly, So ferly þer-of watz þe failure. 1851 *TURNER Dom. Archit.* I. i. 16 The more recent habitation reared within its enclosures or baileys.

2. In later writers: The outer court or base court of a feudal castle; also, either of the two (or three courts) formed by the spaces between the circuits of walls or defences. Hence *outer bailey*, *inner bailey*. 1845 *Gloss. Goth. Archit.* I. 37 Bailey was a name given to

the courts of a castle formed by the spaces between the circuits of walls or defences which surrounded the keep. 1851 *TURNER Dom. Archit.* I. i. 17 The royal apartments were not in the keep, but in the court-yard, or bailey. 1862 *Luck of Ladyrmede* I. 93 The entrance-gate... led into a narrow outer bailey.

3. (Retained in proper names: e.g. the *Old Bailey* in London, the seat of the Central Criminal Court, so called from the ancient *bailey* or *ballium* of the city wall between Lud Gate and New Gate, within which it was situated.)

1570 *Piththy Note to Papists* (Collier) 15 The Draile, wheron he lay fast bound in midst olde bailey street. 1587 *FLEMING Contn. Holinshed III.* 357/1 At a sessions holden in the justice hall in the old baillie of London. 1865 *Morn. Star* 5 July, The phrase, 'Old Bailey style', is an ordinary *façon de parler*, and is well understood to mean... a certain license of vituperation which has been supposed, rightly or wrongly, to characterise its proceedings.

Bailey, obs. variant of *BAILIE*.

Bailiery, -iary, variants of *BAILAGE*, -iery.

Bailie (bē'li). Forms: 3 baili, -ie, 3-4 baili, 3-7 bayly, 4 bayli, bayely, 4-5 baylle, 4-6 bayle, bailye, 4-8 bailly, 5 baillhey, 5-6 baly, 5-7 bayley, 6 baylay, baillye, 7 baylie, 7-8 baillie, bailey, 4-9 bailly, 6- baillie. [ME. *bailli*, a. OF. *bailli* (13th c.), later form of *baillis*, *baillif*, *BAILIFF*, q.v.] Another form of the word *BAILIFF*, with which it was formerly interchangeable; now obsolete in England, but retained in a special sense in Scotland.

† 1. = *BAILIFF* 1. Obs.

1297 *R. GLOUC.* 129 To be baylys of þe toun hastiliche heo wende. a 1300 *Cursor M.* 5008 Par vs tok þe heil baili [v.r. bailly, bayli, baill]. *Ibid.* 9558 He ne had neuer sa gret envie, Als þis man for to be baillie [v.r. bayly]. 1483 *CAXTON Gold. Leg.* 306/1 Mayres, Sheruees, baylies, and suche other lasse offyces. 1494 *FABIAN Hen. III.* an. 1266 (R.) Y^e bayilly of the castell of Wyndesore. 1501 *Plumpton Corr.* 159 The baylay of Byngham Vapentake. 1529 *CANUINER in Pocock Rec. Ref.* I. 75 Being advised by the baly of Dover so to do. 1530 *Proper Dyalog* (1863) 39 Euery secular lorde... is Gods bayly. 1598 *HAKLUYT Voy.* I. 129 Sent to the Sherife of Sudsex, to the Maior and Communaltie of the Citie of Winchester, to the Bailly of Southampton, the Bailly of Lenne, the Bailly of Kent. 1662 *FULLER Worthies* II. 129 At Ashby De La Zouch... where his Father under the Earl of Huntingdon, was Governour or Baly of the Town. *Humorously*. 1652 *BROME Jov. Crew* I. 364 Then up rise Randal, Bayley of the Beggars.

2. In Scotland. † a. formerly, The chief magistrate of a barony or part of a county, having functions equivalent to those of a sheriff. Obs.

1375 *BARBOUR Bruce* I. 190 Schyrtreffys and baillheys maid he then. 1425 *Acts Yas. I.* (1597) § 63 The Kingis Baillie, or a Depute of the towne. 1624 *Row Hist. Kirk* (1842) 87 For other civil and criminal jurisdictions, the heretabie baillies might supplie that part. 1754 *ERSKINE Princ. Sc. Law* (1809) 38 Where lands, not erected into a regality, fell into the King's hands, he appointed a baillie over them, whose jurisdiction was equal to that of a sheriff.

b. now, A municipal magistrate corresponding to the English alderman.

1484 *CAXTON Chynualry* 23 Kynges and prynces which make prouostes and baillies of other persones than of knyghtes. 1558 *Instr. of Sasine in Annals of Hawick* 331 In the hands of Adam Cessfurde, one of ye baillies of Hawick. 1609 *SKENE Reg. Mag.* 128 At the first head Court after Michaelmes, the Baillies should be chosen. 1796 *MORSE Amer. Geog.* II. 162 Edinburgh is governed by a lord provost, four baillies. 1818 *SCOTT Rob Roy* xxix, I am a free burgess and a magistrate o' Glasgow; Nicol Jarvie is my name, I am a baillie, be praised for the honour.

† 3. = *BAILIFF* 2. Obs. (or dial.)

c 1340 *Cursor M.* (Trin.) 12914 As baillly [Cott. bedel] gob bifore Iustise. c 1386 *CHAUCER Freres* 7. 92 'Artow than a bayly?' 'Ye', quod he. c 1460 *Trumly Myst.* 17 A mekilie myschaunce And the baylies us take. 1548 *BRINKLOW Complaint* vii. (1874) 21 Euery man is a bayly to attache a felon. c 1600 *NORDEN Spec. Brit.* Cornw. (1728) 73 A libertye when the Shirifes Baylye can not arreste. 1668 *SHADWELL Sullen* Lon. III. Wks. 1720 I. 63 Worse than a Bayley, that arrests in the Inns of Court. [In Scotland, constables specially employed in carrying out the Tweed Fisheries Acts are called Water-baillies.]

fig. 1621 *QUARLES Argalus & P.* (1678) 120 Natures pale-fac'd Bailew now distrains His blood.

† 4. = *BAILIFF* 3. Obs.

c 1375 *WYCLIF Serm.* Sel. Wks. 1869 I. 24 Þis baillly [Luke xvi. 1] was worldly wyse. 1483 *CAXTON Gold. Leg.* 41/3 That Eleazar the sone of my baillly be myn heyr. 1523 *FITZGER. Husb.* § 134 If thou haue any wode to sell... cause thy bayly... to do it for the. 1602 *FULBECKE and Pt. Parall.* 45 A baillie is he to whom a speciall charge of procuring a mans profite, and the valuable increase of his wealth is committed. 1661 *PERVY Diary* 19 July, Agreeing with Hauker to have a care of my business in my absence... to be our bayly. 1668 *SHADWELL Sgr. Alsatia* II. i. 43 A very pretty fellow for a gentleman's bailey. 1730 *SWIFT Panegyric. Dean Misc.* (1735) V. 137 You merit new Employments daily: Our Thatcher, Ditcher, Gard'ner, Bailew.

5. **Baillie-errant** = bailiff-errant: see *BAILIFF* 4. 1528 *TINDALE Obad. Chr. Man* Wks. I. 204 The sheriffs, baillie-errants, constables, and such like officers.

Baillie, variant of *BAILLIE*, Obs., jurisdiction, and of *BAILLEY*, court-wall of a castle.

Baillier, -ary (bē'li-ēri, bē'li-ri). Obs. exc. *Hist.* Forms: 7-9 baillerie, -ery, baylerie, bayliary, 7-8 bailliarly, 8 bailliarly, -ery, 8-9 baillierly. [In 17th c. *baillerie*, a. F. **baillerie* office of the *bailli* or *BAILLE*.] The jurisdiction of a baillie;

esp., in Scotland, before the abolition of hereditary jurisdictions, a district administered by a bailie instead of by a sheriff.

1455 *Acts Jas. I* (1507) § 67 That ilk Schireffe giue open bidding to the people of his Bailliarie. 1609 *SKENE Reg. Maj.* 161 Within their houses, lands, bounds, or Bailleries. 1639 *SPORTSWOOD Hist. Ch. Scot.* vi. (1677) 286 Proclamations sent to the Sheriffsdoms of Edinburgh, Haddington, Linlithgow, and to the Bailleries of Kyle and Cunningham. a 1649 *DRUMM. OF HAWTH. Jas. I.* Wks. (1711) 24 The baylerie of Aberbrothock. 1679 *Proclam. Edinb.* 4 May, Bayliffs of Regalities and Bailleries. 1708 *Proclam.* 11 July in *Lond. Gaz.* No. 4456/1 We Require . . . Baillies of Bailleries. 1754 *ERSKINE Princ. Sc. Law* (1809) 38 By the late jurisdiction act, 20 Geo. II. c. 43, all heritable regalities and bailleries, and all such heritable sheriff-ships and stewardries, as were only parts of a shire, are dissolved.

Bailieship (bā'il-i-ship). Forms: 4- bailly-, baili-, bayely-, baili-, bealie-, bayly-, bailie-, -ship, -shyppe. [f. BAILIE + -SHIP: see also BAILIFFSHIP.]

† 1. Stewardship. *lit.* and *fig.* Obs.

1375 *WYCLIF Sermon*. Sel. Wks. 1860 I. 22 A rekenynge of bi baillyship. 1539 *HERVET Xenophon's Househ.* (1768) 58 What proffyte shulde we haue by his baylyshyppe? 1582 *N. T. (Rhem.) Luke xvi.* 2 Render account of thy baillyship: for now thou canst no more be bailie.

2. The office of a bailie or (*obs.*) a bailiff.

1479 *Plumpton Cor.* 27 The office of the baillyship of Sesey. 1589 *Wills & Inv. N. C.* (1800) 166 With all my ryght of the baillyship of Carham. 1602 *FULBECKE 2nd Pt. Parall.* 45 More agreeable to our lawe especially in this matter of baillyship.

3. The district under a bailie or bailiff.

1502 *ARNOLD Chron.* (1811) 212 Them which out of his baylyship comen as marchauntis. 1581 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 1598/2 The Baylyship of Drenthe, which is a part of the Province of Groningen.

Bailiff (bā'il-iff). Forms: 3-5 bailiff, 3-7 bailif, 4 balyf, 5 baillyve, 6 bailiff, bailiffe, bailiffe, balyfe, -yve, -ive, baylyff, bailiefe, 6-7 bayliffe, bayliffe, 7 bailiffe, bailive, bayliffe, 7-8 bayliff, 6- bailiff. [ME. *bailiff*, a. OF. *bailiff*, obj. case of *baillis* (12th c.):—late L. *bajulivus*, prop. an adj. f. *bajulus*, originally 'carrier,' afterwards 'carrier on, manager, administrator.' (See BAIL v.1 and cf. *bajulāre* under BAIL v.1 *Bajulivus* thus meant '(one) having the nature or character of a *bajulus*.' In med.L. *ballivus*, *ballivus*, *balivus*, from the F. and Eng. words.)]

1. One charged with public administrative authority in a certain district. a. In England, formerly applied to the king's officers generally, including sheriffs, mayors, etc. nominated by him, but especially to the chief officer of a hundred; still the title of the chief magistrate of various towns, as the *High-bailiff of Westminster*, and of the keeper of some of the royal castles, as the *Bailiff of Dover Castle*.

1297 *R. GLOUC.* 473 That ple solde be ibrogt Bioure the king and is bailiff. a 1300 *Cursor M.* 6445 Ietro him gaf counsaile vnder bailiffes (v. r. bailis, bayles, bailies) ham to sette. 1480 *CAXTON Chron. Eng.* ccxli. 213 The quene sent in hast to the Bailiffs of wynchestre. 1691 *WOOD Ath. Oxon.* II. 1200 His father . . . was then Bailive of Hemlingford hundred. 1757 *BURKE Abridgm. Eng. Hist.* Wks. X. 343 The bailiffs of hundreds, and tithings, and boroughs, with their people. 1835 *Penny Cycl.* III. 290/1 The sheriff is called the King's bailiff, and his county is his bailiwick. 1873 *STUBBS Const. Hist.* I. v. 102 The *gerefa*, who becomes after the Conquest the bailiff of the hundred. *Ibid.* III. xxi. 561 In those towns in which there was no mayor, the presidency of the local courts remained with the bailiffs.

fig. 1655 *FULLER Hist. Camb.* (1840) 105 Down comes the bailiff of Bedford (so the country-people commonly call the overflowing of the river Ouse), attended . . . with many servants . . . and breaks down all their paper-banks.

b. Used as the English form of the title of various foreign magistrates; e.g. the French *bailli*, and German *Landvogt*; also of the *bailly* or first civil officer in the Channel Islands, and formerly also of the Sc. BAILIE.

1681 *Act (Scot.) Lond. Gaz.* No. 1649/2 Sheriffs, Stewards, Bailiffs of Royalty and Regality. 1693 *Apol. Clergy Scot.* 23 One of the Magistrates of Glasgow . . . made a Bailiff by the Archbishop. 1694 *FALLIE Jersey v.* 129 Bailiff and Jurats of the said Isle for the time being. 1753 *HANWAY Trav.* (1762) II. i. iv. 22 The great bailiff of the district, of which there are . . . about twenty five in the hanoverian dominions. 1825 *MILMAN Lat. Chr.* (1864) V. ix. vii. 366 Henry while yet Bailiff of the Empire, during the captivity of Baldwin. 1860 *MOTLEY Netherl.* (1868) I. iii. 77 De Griyse formerly bailiff of Bruges. 1862 *ANSTED Channel Isl.* iv. xxiii. 524 The Bailiff or Judge, is the first civil officer in each island. 1864 *KIRK Chas. Bold* I. ii. 492 A royal envoy, the bailiff of Lyons.

2. An officer of justice under a sheriff, who executes writs and processes, distrains, and arrests; a warrant officer, pursuivant, or catchpoll.

1377 *LANGL P. Pl. B.* II. 59 Shireues and here clerkes, Bedelies and Bailiffes. 1538 *BALD Three Lawes* 1613 Ther somenars and ther scribes . . . With balyues and catchpolls. 1588 *FRANCIS Lawyers Log.* i. xix. 67 Returned by the Shireife and warned by his bayliffe. 1611 *SHAKS Wint. T.* iv. iii. 102 He hath bene since an Ape-beater, then a Prozesse-seruer (a Bayliffe). 1712 *STEELE Spect.* No. 330 P. 3, I was arrested and conveyed . . . to a Bayliff's house. 1863 *BURTON Sk. Hunter* 326 A bailiff making an inventory of goods on which he has taken execution.

fig. a 1656 *Br. Hall Rem. Wks.* (1660) 22 The conscience is but God's Bailiff.

3. The agent of the lord of a manor, who collects his rents, etc.; the steward of a landholder, who manages his estate; one who superintends the husbandry of a farm for its owner or tenant.

1531 *ELYOT Gov. III.* xx. 1574 tr. *Littleton's Tenures* 172, Which they shall delyver unto the stewarde or bayliffe. 1677 *Janna Ling.* 526 The bailiffe gathereth-in harvest into the barne. 1678 *R. LESTRANGE Seneca's Mor.* (1702) 420 My Bayliff told me 'twas none of his Fault. 1848 *KINGSLEY Saint's Trag.* III. ii. 156 Here's Father January taken a lease of March month, and put in Jack Frost for bailiff. 1866 *Geo. ELIOT F. Holt* (1868) 36 I'm going over one of the farms . . . with the bailiff.

4. Comb., as *bailiff-haunted*; † *bailiff-errant* (see *quot.*); *bailiff-peers*, assessors of the bailiff of a town. See also BUM-BAILIFF.

1612 *DAVIES Why Ireland, etc.* (1787) 201 The under-sheriffs and bayliffs errant are better guides and spies. 1641 *Termes de la Ley* 35 Bayliffes Errant are those that the Sherife maketh and appointeth to go about the County to execute Writs, to summon the county, Sessions, assises and such like. 1707 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 4338/1 The humble Address of the Bailiff, Recorder . . . Bailiff-Peers, Town Clerk, and Burgesses of Wenlock. 1822 *J. & H. SMITH Ref. Addr.*, *Cui bono* ix, The bailiff-haunted throng.

Bailiffy, rare. Also 7 *bailiffery*. [f. prec. + -RY. Cf. BAILIERY.] The office or jurisdiction of a bailiff, or bailie; a BAILIERY.

1598 *Stow Surv.* (Strype 1754) II. v. xxvii. 474/1 The Sheriffs Aldermen and Serjeants by authority of their Bailiffy. 1708 *CHAMBERLAYNE St. Gl. Brit.* II. i. ii. (1743) 306 Hereditary bailiffs of the king's Bailiffy (anglicized for *bailies* and *bailiery*).

Bailiffship (bā'il-i-ship). [f. as prec. + -SHIP.] The office of bailiff.

1651 *W. CARTWRIGHT Ordinary* in Dods. O. P. X. 258 Let me now begin My bailiff-ship. 1863 *CHEVRON in N. & Q. Ser. III.* 111. 185 The bailiff-ship or ministration of justice.

† **Bailiffwick**. Obs. [f. as prec. + -WICK.]

1. The district under the jurisdiction of a bailiff. 1709 *STRYPE Ann. Ref. I.* xxvi. 312 In case the sheriff . . . return, that the party . . . could not be found within his bailiff-wick. 1766 in *Entick London IV.* 319 Proclaimed . . . throughout the whole bailiff-wick.

2. The office of a bailiff; = BAILIFFSHIP.

1599 *Act 1 Hen. VIII.* xix. § 6 Bailiffwikes or Baillyshyps of the Maners of Multon and Skirkebekys. 1570 *Act 13 Eliz.* iv. § 13 His . . . office of Sheriffwicke, Escheatorship or Bayliffwicke.

3. Stewardship. 1605 *ANST. Supp. Disc. Rom. Doctr.* 25 Popes and Princes must render account of their Bailiffwicke.

Bailing, *vbl. sb.* [f. BAIL v.1 + -ING¹.] A releasing on bail.

1542-3 *Act 34 & 35 Hen. VIII.* xxvii. § 50 For the appareance and baylynge of common maynprise, two pens. 1608 in *Rushw. Hist. Coll.* (1659) I. 529 Bailing is a grace or favor of a Court of Justice.

Bailing, *vbl. sb.* 2 [f. BAIL v.4 + -ING¹.] The lading or scooping of water out of a boat.

1682 *SIR J. BERRY in Lond. Gaz.* No. 1720/7 All our Pumps and Materials for bailing. 1748 *ANSON Voy.* i. iii. 24 With four pumps and bailing he could not free her.

† **Baillic**. Obs. [f. BAILIE + -IC, OE. *ric* rule, dominion.] = BAILLIWICK.

1570 *LEVINS Manib.* 121 There be dyuers other that ende in *ricke* or *wicke*, signifying offices which have their latine in *atus*, or in *ura*: as . . . A Baylyric *villicatus*, a Bayly-wick *villicatura*.

† **Bailivate**. Obs. [ad. med.L. *ballivātus*, *ballivātus*, f. *ballivus*, f. F. *bailiff*; see -ATE¹.] The office of a bailiff, bailiffship.

1721 *STRYPE Eccl. Mem.* III. iii. 30 With the bailivate of the town of Eltham.

Bailive, -ry, obs. forms of BAILIFF, -RY.

Bailiwick (bā'il-i-wik). Forms: 5-9 bayly-, bally-, bayli-, baili-, bali-, bailly-, bayl-, baylie-, baly-, bailly-, bailli-, -weke, -wyke, -wick(e), -wik(e) (more than 20 forms). [f. BAILIE + -WICK: see also BAILIFFWICK.]

1. A district or place under the jurisdiction of a bailie or bailiff. Used in *Eng. Hist.* as a general term including *sheriffdom*; and applied to foreign towns or districts under a *vogt* or *bailli*.

1460 *FORTESCUE Abs. & Lim. Mon.* (1714) 123 A mean Bayliff may do more in his Bayly-weke. 1574 tr. *Littleton's Tenures* 51 a, By the othe of xii true men of hys bayliwike. 1596 *SPENSER State Irecl. Wks.* (1862) 553/2 The sheriffe of the shire, whose peculiar office it is to walke up and downe his bayli-wicke. 1678 *T. JONES Heart & Right Ser.* 88 Our British Isles, which never were within the diocess or bayliwike of Rome. 1759 *B. MARTIN Nat. Hist. Eng.* II. 355 A fair Bailiwick and Town corporate. 1760 *MORSE Amer. Geog.* II. 305 Berne. This Canton contains 72 bailiwicks. 1862 *ANSTED Channel Isl.* iv. xxiii. 519 Guernsey, Alderney, and Sark, together with Herm . . . composing the Bailiwick of Guernsey. 1884 *Law Rep. Chanc. Div. XXV.* 341 The sheriff . . . made a return . . . that Mr. S. had no lay fee within his bailiwick.

2. The office or jurisdiction of a bailie or a bailiff. (Now only *Hist.*)

1494 *FABIAN VII.* 528 The office of ballywyke. a 1649 *DRUMM. OF HAWTH. Jas. V.* Wks. (1711) 88 A suit . . . about the ballywikk of Jedburgh-forrest. 1687 *N. JOHNSTON Assur. Abbey Lands* 69 Other Ecclesiastical Benefices, Provost-ships, Baly-wicks, Commendams, Canon-ships, etc. 1875 *STUBBS Const. Hist.* II. xvii. 557 No gift of land, franchise . . . or bailiwick should be made.

† 3. Stewardship. (Cf. BAILIESHIP.) Obs.

1550 *CROWLEY Epigr.* 1257 Christe shall saie at the laste daye, Geve accounts of your baliwicks. 1601 *DENT Pathw. Heaven* (1603) 171 To give an account of our bailywicks.

4. Comb. *bailiwick-town*, a town under the jurisdiction of a bailiff; the chief town of a hundred. 1675 *Ogilby Brit.* 172 Hexham . . . is at present a well-built Bailiwick Town. 1724 *DE FOE, etc. Tour Gt. Brit.* (1769) 111. 241 The Bailiwick-town of Hexham.

Baille, obs. form of BAIL in various senses.

Bailiery, obs. form of BAILIERY.

Bailliage (bā'il-i-iedg). Forms: 6 bayly-, 6-7 bali-, 7 baili-, bayli-, bailly-, 8- bail-, bail-, bailliage. [a. F. *bailliage* (= Pr. *bailiag*, Sp. *bailliage*), f. *baili*: see BAILIFF and -AGE. Made in med.L. *baill(i)agium*, *bailiaticum*, but answering to a L. type **bajulivātium*.]

1. The jurisdiction or district of a bailiff; formerly sometimes applied to an English bailiwick, but now only to that of a French or Swiss *bailli*, or other foreign prefecture.

1513 *EARL WORC. in Strype Eccl. Mem.* I. i. 5 This town . . . and all the bayliage should have no resort . . . but to the Archbishop of Canterbury. 1525 *LD. BERNERS Froiss.* II. cci. [cxviii.] 615 The hole duchy of Acquytayne . . . baylyages, sygnories, and wasselages. 1599 *HAKLUYT Voy.* II. 80 The first baliage or priore that should be vacant. 1680 *Relig. Dutch iv.* 38 Divonne, in the Bailliage of Gex. 1777 *HOWARD Prisons Eng.* (1780) 87 The other prison for the bailliage, contains nineteen chambers. 1792 *BURKE App. Whigs Wks.* VI. 231 The several orders, in their several baillages . . . were the 'people' of France. 1822 *Athenaeum* 30 Dec. 896/2 The twelve peers of the castle had . . . appeal in some cases from the sovereign bailliage.

¶ See also BAILIAGE.

† **Baillie**, *bailly*. Obs. Forms: 3-4 baillie, baillie, balye, 4 baili-, y, baillie, bayly(e, beylie, 4-5 baly, baillie, 5 baillie, baylye, 4-8 baillie. [ME. *baillie*, a. OF. *baillie* (= Pr. *bailia*, It. *balia*):—late L. *bajulīa*, f. *bajulus* officer, bailiff (It. *bailo*, *balio*, Pr. *baile*, OF. *baill*), with Romanic *-ia* of office. In med.L. *ballia*, *ballia*, *ballia*, *ballia*, *ballia*, from the modern langs. In Eng. the old spellings are mixed up confusedly with those of BAILIE (F. *bailli*) and BAILEY (F. *baillie*).]

1. The jurisdiction, authority, charge, or office of a BAILIE or BAILIFF, in the original sense; jurisdiction or charge committed to an officer, delegated authority; stewardship.

1305 *Fall & Passion* 22 in E. E. P. (1862) 13 God 3af him a gret maistre . . . of paradis al be balye. 1330 *R. BRUNNE Chron.* 280 Pise tuo had baly of his londes tuye. 1388 *WYCLIF Luke xvi.* 2 3elde reckynnyng of thi bailli, for thou mygite not now be bailli. c 1400 *Garnetyn* 709 Now is thy brother scherrene, and hath the baillie. 1553-57 *FOXE A. & M.* I. 623/1 Then it shall be said to us . . . yeld reckoning of thy baillie. 1738 *Hist. Crt. Excheq.* i. 3 There were two Sorts of Jurisdictions, the Fieffal and Baillie . . . This was the ordinary Jurisdiction which from the Baillies in Normandy was here delivered over to the Sheriff in every County which thence was called his Bailiwick.

2. *gen.* Jurisdiction, authority, control, charge.

a 1300 *Cursor M.* 9551 Dis ilk king . . . A seruand had in his baill (v. r. bayly, bailli). c 1380 *Sir Ferrum.* 4335 He hauch on ys baylye x. housas knyghtes . . . To don al at ys wille. c 1400 *Rom. Rose* 4302 Whanne Jelousie Hadde Bealacol in his baillie. c 1450 *Mertyn* vii. 111 His seal, whiche that Vilfn hath yet in his keypyng in his baillie. c 1460 *Towneley Myst.* 207 Thou art here in our baly withouten any grace of skap. 1475 *CAXTON Jason* 60 b, Whan the quene Ysiphile sawe that she had Jason in her baylye.

3. The district under the jurisdiction of a BAILIFF or BAILIE; a bailiwick.

1292 *BRITTON* i. ii. § 9 Aylours qe en sa baillie (Elsewhere than in his bailiwick.). c 1314 *Guy Warrm.* 249 Wold God . . . That he were here in mi beylie. c 1325 *E. E. Allit. P. A.* 315 Pou schal won in his baylye. 1330 *R. BRUNNE Chron.* 61 Pe duke Siward had taken in his baillie Machog.

Bailiwaige, obs. form of BAILIAGE.

1685 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 1996/3 Certain Bailiwaiges belonging to them that border upon the French Territories.

Bailment (bā'il-i-mēt). [a. OF. *bailement*, f. *bailler* to bail, give, deliver.]

1. Delivery, handing over, or giving for a specific purpose; according to Blackstone, delivery in trust, upon a contract expressed or implied, that the trust shall be faithfully executed on the part of the bailee.

1602 *FULBECKE 1st Pt. Parall.* Introd. viij, To treat of borrowing and lending, and of the bailement or delivery of goods and chattels. 1624 *Termes de la Ley* 39 Bailment is a diliuerie of things . . . to another, sometimes to be delivered backe to the bailor . . . sometimes to the use of the Bailee. 1768 *BLACKSTONE Comm.* II. 452. 1809 *R. LANGFORD Introd. Trade* 129 Bailment, goods delivered in trust for the fulfilment of an agreement. 1875 *POSTE Gains* II. 423 Deposit, loan for use, pawn or pledge, letting and hiring, and mandate, are grouped together in English law under the head of Bailments.

2. The action of bailing a prisoner or person accused. Also the record of the same.

1554 *Act 1 & 2 Mary* xiii. § 3 (An Act touching Bailment of Persons) . . . At the Time of the said Bailment or Mainprise. 1581 *LAMBARDE Eiren.* III. ii. (1588) 338 The booke of the *Norman Customes* calleth Bailment a live prison. 1619 *DALTON Countr. Just.* cxiv, Bailment . . . is the saving or delivery of a man out of prison, before that he hath satisfied the law. 1628 *King's Letter* in *Rushw.* (1659) I. 560 Our

Judges shall proceed to the Deliverance or Bailment of the Prisoner. 1772 *Junius Lett.* lxviii. 340 The business touching bailment of prisoners. 1826 *Act Geo. IV.* lxiv. § 3 [The magistrate is to] subscribe all examinations, informations, bailments, and recognizances. 1876 *Fox Bourne Locke* l. i. 5. || **Baillo** (bai'lo). Rarely baille. [It. *baillo* (also *balio* = Pg. *bailio*, Sp. *bayle*, *baile*, Pr., F. *baile*, OF. *bail*):—L. *bajulus*, orig. 'carrier, bearer of burdens,' subseq. 'tutor, governor, administrator, magistrate, bailiff'; in med.L. also *bailus*, *balius*. See *BAIL sb.* and *BAILIFF*.] The title of the Venetian 'Resident' at the Ottoman Porte.

1682 *Wheeler Journ. Greece* l. i. A Baillo, or Ambassador from the State of Venice, was to part for Constantinople. 1705 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 4139/4 Their Baillo or Resident at the Ottoman Porte. 1832 tr. *Sismondi's Ital. Rep.* xi. 254 A baille, who was to be . . . its ambassador there, and the judge of all the Venetian subjects in the Levant.

Bailor (bail'or). *Lav.* [f. *BAIL v.* + -OR; cf. *baile*.] One who delivers goods, etc. to another for a specific purpose.

1602 *Fulbecke and Pt. Parrell* 31 The bailor shall not anie way be charged by virtue of this bond. 1604 [see *BAILMENT*]. 1830 *Edin. Encycl.* III. 207 In bailment there is a special qualified property transferred from the bailor to the bailee, together with the possession. 1845 *Law Rep., Com. Bench* l. 672 (*marq.*) A bailee of goods for hire, by selling them, determines the bailment, and the bailor may maintain trover against the purchaser.

Bailsman (bail'smæn). [f. *bail's*, gen. of *BAIL sb.* + MAN.] One who gives bail for another; a bail.

1862 *Troullope Orley F.* xiii. 97 To act as one of the bailsmen for his mother's appearance at the trial. 1875 *Stubbs Const. Hist.* III. xx. 425 For each of them manucaptors or bailsmen were provided.

Baily, obs. form of *BAILIE*, *BAILLEY*, *BAILLIE*.

† **Bain** (bain), *a. (sb.)* and *adv.* Obs. exc. *dial.* Forms: 4-5 *bayn*, 5 *beyn*, 5-6 *bayne*, 6-9 *baine*, 6-7 *bain*. [a. ON. *beinn* straight, direct; also, ready to serve, hospitable.]

A. adj. 1. Ready, willing, inclined.

c. 1325 *E. E. Allit. P. C.* 136 So bayn we pay bope two, his bone for to wyrk. c. 1440 *Morte Arth.* (Roxb.) 104 To batayle be ye bayne. 1513 *Douglas Æneis* III. ii. 58 To seik your ald modir mak you bane. c. 1550 *Turke & Gowin* 109 In Furniv. *Percy Folio* l. 94, I will be att thy bidding baine. 1674 *RAY N. Countr. Wds.* 4 *Bain*, Willing, Forward.

2. Supple, lithe, limber. c. 1440 *Prov. Parv.* 29 Beyn or plyaunte, *Flexibillis*. 1565 *Golding Ovid's Met.* III. (1593) 77 And wantonly they with . . . among the waves their bodies baine and lyth. 1674 *RAY S. & E. Countr. Wds.* 59 *Bain*, Lithe, limber-joynted.

3. Direct; near, short. *north. dial.* [Cf. ON. *'beinnstr vegr'* straightest, shortest way, 'Vigfusson'.] 1864 *ATKINSON Whitby Gloss., Banest*, nearest, 'That way 's the banest.' 1864 T. CLARK in *Kendal Merc.* 30 Jan. (*Westm. dial.*), A swind mi ways t' banest geat over t' fell.

B. quasi-sb. A ready or willing one. c. 1460 *Towneley Myst.* 82 He has bene sene agane, The buxumnes of his bane [*respexit amicitiam ancillae suae*].

C. as adv. 1. Readily, willingly.

c. 1325 *E. E. Allit. P. B.* 1511 Ful bayn birlen bise oper. c. 1450 *Gaw. & Gologras* l. vi. The berne besely and lene blenkit hym about. 1513 *Douglas Æneis* v. Prolog. 58 Byand byssely, and bane [*v. r. bayne*], bue, beuir, & bice.

2. Conveniently near, 'handy.' *north. dial.* ? a 1700 *Ant. Poems, Ball.*, etc. (1846) 215 Bane ta Claapan town-gate lived an odd Yorkshire tike. 1844 *Craven Dial.* i. 11 We're vara bane tot' beck.

† **Bain**, *sb.* Obs. Forms: 5-6 *baygne*, 5-7 *bayne*, *baine*, 6-7 *bane*, *bain*. [a. F. *bain* (= Pr. *banh*, It. *bagno*, Sp. *baño*):—L. *balneum* bath.]

1. A quantity of water or other liquid placed in a suitable receptacle, in which one may bathe.

1475 *CAXTON Jason* 105 b, His lady . . . had made redy a right fayr baygne. 1594 *CAREW Huaris's Exam. Wits* xv. (1596) 284 The baygne must consist of water fresh and warme. 1614 *CHAPMAN Odys.* x. 567 My men, In Circes house, were all, in several bain, Studiously sweeten'd. a 1641 *Br. Mountagu Acts & Mon.* 306 [They] had caused a bane of warmed oyle to be provided for him.

1563 *Merr. for Mag.* Induct. lxvii, And bathed him in the bayne Of his sonnes blud before the altare slayne.

b. The vessel in which this water is held.

1491 *CAXTON Vitas Patr.* (W. de W.) II. 273 a/1 He axed of hym yf he had ony bayne wherin he myghte wasshe hym. 1523 *Ld. Berners Froiss.* I. ccciv. 702 The cradell wherein the erle was kept . . . and a fayre bayne wherein he was wont to be bayned. 1543 *RECORDE Gr. Arts* (1640) 400 He chanced to enter into a Baine full of water to wash him.

c. abstractly. An act of bathing, a bath.

1493 *CAXTON Esop.* 2 b, Charyng hym to kepe them tyl he . . . returned for his bayne. 1563 B. GOODE *Eglogs* (Arb.) 116 Pryncely Nymphes accompanied Diana in her Baynes.

2. A room or building fitted up for bathing, having hot baths, etc.; a public bath; = *BAGNIO* l.

1494 *FABIAN v. cxxv.* 106 When he came out of his stewe or bayne. 1530 *PALGR.* 182 *Vns estuere*, a hote house or a bayne. 1540 *HYRDE Vives' Instr. Chr. Wom.* (1592) U iij, That rude and uncomly manner . . . that men and their wives shal wash both together in one bane. 1606 *HOLLAND Sueton.* 216 He passed through a crosse lane to the Baines for to bath. 1693 W. ROBERTSON *Phrasook Gen.* 197 Bain or Bath, *Balnewm*.

3. A spring of hot or medicinal water.

1538 *LELAND Itin.* II. 66 The Colour of the Water of the Baynes is as it were a depe Blew Se Water. 1610 *HOLLAND Camdens Brit.* l. 557 Buxton, that of great name shal be

for hote and holsome baine. 1655 *DIGGES Compl. Ambass.* 136 Gone to Arragon, to certain Baynes there, for her health. 4. in *pl.* Stews; = *BAGNIO sb.* 3.

1541 *ELYOT Image Gov.* (1549) 6 In common baines and bordell houses. 1599 *Br. Hall Sat.* vi. l. 27 As pure as olde Labulla from the baynes.

5. *Chem.* An apparatus for heating through the medium of water, sand, etc., more gradually than by direct exposure to fire. Cf. *BATH*.

1477 *NORTON Ord. Alch.* v. in Ashm. (1652) 62 Baines maie helpe and cause also destruction. 1657 W. COLES *Adam in Eden* xxvii, It has been bathed well in the bain or stove.

6. *Comb.*, as *bain-keeper*.

1569 J. SANFORD *Agrippa's Van. Artes* 107 b, Likewise Barbars, Bainekeepers, and Shepherdess. 1603 *HOLLAND Plutarch's Mor.* 174 (R.) Taking no pleasure nor delight in the world . . . no more than the bain-keeper's poor asse.

† **Bain**, *v.* Obs. Forms: 5 *baygne*, 5-6 *bayn*(e), 7 *baigne*, 6-7 *bain*(e). [a. F. *baigne-r* (= Pr. *banhar*, Sp. *bañar*, It. *bagnare*):—L. *balneā-re*, f. *balneum* bath.]

1. *trans.* and *refl.* To bathe or wash; to drench.

1398 *TREvisa Barth. De P. R. vi.* x. (1495) 195 The mydwyte . . . baynyth hym with salte and hony to comforte his lymmes. 1474 *CAXTON Chesse* II. iv. 32 Whan the knyghtes ben maad they ben bayned or bathed. 1577 *HANMER Anc. Eccl. Hist.* (1610) 50 John the Apostle . . . to baine himself, entred into a bath. 1602 *CAREW Cornwall* 108 b, To baigne them . . . with a worse perfume.

b. fig. or rhetorically.

1491 *CAXTON Vitas Patr.* (W. de W.) l. lxvi. 115 a/2 His body was alle bayned and bydewed in teres and water. 1557 *EARL SURREY in Tottell's Misc.* (Arb.) 5 Salt teares doe bayne my brest. a 1658 J. VICARS in *Farr's S. P.* (1848) 124 Haile-stones he rained, And with feirce flames of fire them bained.

2. *intr.* (for *refl.*) To bathe oneself. *lit.* and *fig.*

1483 *CAXTON Gold. Leg.* 164/4 Ne neuer rasour touched his heed ne he neuer bayned. c. 1500 *Love song* in *Halliwell's Mor.* 174 (R.) In gladnesse I swym and baine. 1573 *TWYNE Æneid.* XI. K k f b, The launce . . . in virgins blood doth bayne.

Bain, obs. form of *BANE*; *north. dial.* f. *BONE*.

† **Bained**, *baynyd*, *a. Obs.* [a. OF. *baien*, *bayen*, *bain*, *bayn*; altered to the form of an Eng. pa. pple.] Of peas and beans: Burst, split.

c. 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 21/1 Baynyd, as benys or pesyn, *fresus*.

† **Bainilla**, *Obs.* rare⁻¹. [Early form of *VA-NILLA*; cf. Pg. *bainilha*.]

1601 *WORLDGE Treat. Cider* 178 Some compound with it . . . Orjuela, Bainilla, Sapoyall, Orange-flower-water.

† **Baining**, *obl. sb.* [f. *BAIN v.* + -ING¹.] Bathing.

1598 *PAYNELL Salerne Regim.* Y ij b, Eschewe . . . laborious baynyng.

† **Bainly**, *adv.* Obs. [f. *BAIN a.* + -LY².] Readily, willingly; at once.

c. 1400 *Desir. Troy* XIX. 8082 Then Breisaid, the bright, bainly onswart. c. 1460 *Towneley Myst.* 164 And to thare bydyng baynly bow.

† **Bain-marie** (bain'mari). [F.; ad. L. *balneum Mariæ* (14th c.), lit. 'the bath of Mary,' so called, Littré thinks, from the gentleness of this method of heating.] (See quot.)

c. 1822 *KITCHENER Cook's Oracle* 398 'Bain-Marie' is a flat vessel containing boiling water; you put all your steepans into the water, and keep that water always very hot, but it must not boil. 1875 *URE Dict. Arts* l. 280 Bain-marie, a vessel of water in which saucepans, etc. are placed to warm food, or to prepare it and some pharmaceutical preparations.

Bair, obs. form of *BARE*, *BOAR*, *BORR*.

† **Bairam** (bair'am, bair'ram). Forms: 6 *beyram*, 7 *bairan*, 8 *bajram*, *bayram*, 6- *bairam*. [Turk. *bairām*, *beirām*, Pers. *بیرام* *bairām*.] The name

of two Mohammedan festivals—the *Lesser Bairam*, lasting three days, which follows the fast of Ramadan, and the *Greater Bairam*, seventy days later, lasting four days.

1599 *HAKLUYT Voy. II.* l. 196 The Turkes Beyram . . . one of their chiefest feastes. 1607 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 2291/2 Their Lesser Bairam . . . falls out about the middle of October. 1813 *BYRON Giaour* viii, To-night the Bairam feast's begun.

Bairn (bē'm, in Sc. bē'm). Forms: *a.* 1-3 *bearn*, 2-3 *bern*, *bearn*, (4 *byern*), 7 *berne*, *bearn*.

β. 1-9 *barn* (3 *barrn*, *barin*, 4 *baron*), 4-7 *barne*.

γ. 5-9 *bairn*. [Common Teutonic: OE. *bearn* = OFris. *bern*, OS. OHG., MHG., Goth., ON., Da., Sw. *barn*, (MDu. *baren*):—OTeut. **barno-*(m), f. *ber-*an to bear. Lost in G. and Du.; also in southern Eng., where the modern repr. of OE. *bearn* would have been *bern* (cf. *fern*) or *barn* (cf. *arn*, *warn*).

In fact, *berne* survived in the south to 1300, *barn* still survives in northern English, and was used by Shakespeare; *bairn* is the Scotch form (cf. *fairn*, *airm*, *wairn*), occasionally used in literary English since 1700. It is doubtful whether the *berne*, *bearn* of some 17th c. Eng. writers was a survival of the early southern form, or a variant spelling of *bairn*. The pl. *bern* in Ormin is the ON. *börn*, hence it is probable that the northern singular *barn* is as much of ON. as of OE. origin.]

A child; a son or daughter. (Expressing relationship, rather than age.)

a. *Beowulf* 1063 Beowulf mæpelode, bearn Ecgþeowes. c. 1000 *Ag. Gosp.* Matt. v. 35 Dæc ge sin eowres Fæder bearn.

c. 1160 *Halton G. ibid.*, Eowres Fader bearn. a 1200 *Trin. Coll. Hom.* 131 Alle þe bernas . . . þe ben boren of wifes bosem. c. 1230 *Ancre R.* 272 Recabes sunen . . . helle bearnes. c. 1300 *Wright Lyric P.* xviii. 58 Sute Ihesu, berne best. 1621 B. JONSON *Gipsies Metam.*, Have care of your bearns. 1621 *BURTON Anat. Mel.* III. ii. v. v, Many fair lovely bernas to you betide. a 1688 *DK. BUCKM. Pump Parl. Wks.* 1705 II. 99 Our Bearnas and Wives.

β. 830 in *Thorpe Diplom.* 465 His barna sue huelc sue lifes sie. c. 1200 *ORMIN* 8039 Herode king let slæn þa little barnness. *Ibid.* 6808 Þatt wærenn Nobess þinne barn. a 1275 *Prov. Alfred* 589 in *O. E. Misc.* 135 Þu ard mi barn dere. 1330 R. BRUNNE *Chron.* 310 To se hir and hir barn. c. 1340 *Cursor M.* 904 (Fairf.) In sorow þou sal bi barnys bere [*v. r.* bernas, childer, children]. a 1400 *Cov. Myst.* (1841) 182 Alas, ywhy was my baron born. c. 1480 *Anturs of Arth.* xviii. 6 That blisfulle barn in Bedeleme was born. 1577 *HARRISON England* II. v. 108 To this daie, even the common sort doo call their male children *barne* here in England, especiallie in the north countrie. 1611 *SHAKS. Wint. T.* III. ii. 70 Mercy on's, a Barne? A very pretty barne; A boy, or a Child I wonder? 1687 *DE LA PRYME Diary* (1869) 11 No one scarce believes that she [the queen] is really with barn. 1711 J. GREENWOOD *Eng. Gram.* 276 Bearn, Barn, a Son, or Offspring (a Word common with the Scotch, and our North-Countrymen). 1864 *TENNYSON North. Farmer* 6 Bessy Marris's barne! tha knaws she laaid it to me.

γ. 1513-75 *Diurn. Occurr.* (1833) 67 Efter them was ane cart with certane bairnes. 1549 *Compl. Scot.* xv. 123 It is fors to me & vyf and bayrns to drynk vattir. a 1605 *MONTGOMERIE Poems* (1821) 18 Burnt bairn with fyre the danger dreidis. a 1666 *BEAUM. & FL. Love's Cure* III. i, Has he not well provided for the bairn? 1703 *PENN in Pa. Hist. Mem.* IX. 241, I wish . . . I had it for one of my poor bairns. 1714 *SWIFT Corr. Wks.* 1841 II. 527, I wish I could return your compliments as to my wife and bairns. 1857 H. REED *Lect. Brit. Poets* x. II. 25 That deep dark-eyed Scottish bairn was Robert Burns. 1867 *FREEMAN Norm. Cong.* (1876) I. vi. 483 Harthacnut too . . . was at least a kingly bairn.

Comb. (all *north. dial.*) *Bairn-dole*, child's portion; *bairn-like a.*, child-like, *adv.* in child-like manner; † *bairn-part*, child's portion; *bairn(s)-bed*, womb; † *bairn-site*, anxiety about children; *bairn's-play*, child's play; *bairn's-maid*, -woman, nurse-maid, nurse.

1828 *TRENCH Parables* xxiv. (1877) 393 The portion of goods that falleth to me; his 'bairndole,' as they would call it in Yorkshire. c. 1425 *WYNTOUN Cron.* ix. xx. 111 That suld noucht han been done 'bairnelike. 1533 *Wills & Inv. N. C.* (1860) 112 That my sonne and . . . my doughter have their 'barne partes of my goodes. 1549 *Compl. Scot.* 67 Anevomans 'bayrnis bed [*printed* bed]. 1863 *Provinc. Danby* s. v., She's got a swelling on the 'bairn bed. a 1300 *Cursor M.* 11625 Ne haf yee for me na barn-site. 1863 *Reader* 8 Apr. 386 Who was 'bairn's-maid to a daughter of the great philosopher. 1637 *RUTHERFORD Lett.* 88 (1862) I. 226 To make it a matter of 'bairn's play. 1823 *GALT Entail* I. i. 2 Who, in her youth, was 'bairnswoman to his son.

Hence (*north. dial.*) *Bairnie*, little child; *Bairnish a.*, childish; *Bairnishness*.

† *Bairnheid*, *Obs.* or *north. dial.* [f. *BAIRN* + *HEAD*, -HOOD.]

1. Childhood, infancy.

a 1300 *Cursor M.* 166 Mani a dede þat iesu did in his barnheide. 1393 *LANGL. P. Pl. C.* xix. 136 Bold in his barnheide. c. 1425 *WYNTOUN Cron.* v. i. 119 Hys Barneheide Was passy, and enterdy in Manheide. 1588 A. KING *Canisius' Catech.* 38 Euer from my bairnheide.

† 2. Childishness. *Obs.*

c. 1505 *DUNBAR To King* x, Sic barneheid biddis my brydill renye.

Bairnless, *a. Sc.* and *north. dial.* Childless.

a 1300 *Cursor M.* 7086 Barnles was his moder lang.

Bairnliness, *Sc.* and *north. dial.* [f. next + -NESS.] Childishness.

1838 *Blackw. Mag.* XLIII. 270 Driven to the bairnliness of supping peas with a spoon. 1863 *GROART Small Sins* Pref. 9 Laborious ingenuity or childishness (*note*, perhaps our vernacular 'bairnliness' better expresses the thing).

Bairnly, *a. Sc.* and *north. dial.* [f. *BAIRN* + -LY¹.] 1. Childish.

1533 *BELLENDENE Liory* l. (1822) 100 Thair insolent and bairnelie contenciuon. 1663 *BLAIR Autobiog.* l. i, I used my bairnly endeavour. 1837 R. NICOLL *Poems* (1843) 80, I hac left them now for ever, But, to greet would bairnly be.

2. Child-like, in childhood.

1603 *Philotus* xc, The las bot bairnlie is and young. *Ibid.*, A bairnelie lasse lyke me, Mair meit his oy nor wyte to be.

† **Bairnly**, *adv.* Obs. [f. as prec. + -LY².]

1483 *Cath. Angl.* 22/2 Barnely, *infantusque, pueriliter*.

Bairn-team, *north. dial.* Forms: 1 *bearn-*, 3 *bern-*, *barn-team*, -tem, *beren-tem*, 4 *barn-*, *barne-teem*, 4-5 *barn(e)-tem*(e), 4-6 -*tyeme*, 5 -*teame*, 7 *bairn-teeme*, 8 -*time*, 9 -*teem*; see also *BARN-TEAM*. [f. *BAIRN* + *TEAM*.] Brood of children, offspring, family; posterity.

c. 885 *K. ALFRED Oros.* l. xiv. 1 Fulumlease æt hiora bearn-teamum. c. 1200 *Hali Meid.* 31 In bredes wone brede ti barn-team. c. 1250 *Gen. & Ex.* 3747 Chore was ti bearn-team.

c. 1300 *Cursor M.* 4828 We ar all a man barn-teame [*Fairf. MS.* an monnes barn-teame]. a 1400 *Relig. Pieces fr. Thornt.* MS. 57 Þe firste of his foule barnetyem. c. 1460 *Towneley Myst.* 212 Wepe nothyng for me Bot for 3oure self and 3oure barn-teame. 1513 *Douglas Æneis* X. lii. 134 Bair at a birth . . . that barnetye miserabil. 1637 *RUTHERFORD Lett.* 105 (1862) I. 266 The fair flock and blessed bairn-teame of the first-born. 1786 *BURNS A Dream* ix, Thae bonnie bairn-teame, Heav'n has lent. 1855 *Whitby Gloss.*, *Bairn-teems*, troops of children.

† **Baisemain**, *Obs.* [Fr., f. *baise-r* to kiss + *main* hand.] A kiss of the hands: in *pl.* compliments, respects.

[1596 SPENSER *F. Q.* III. i. 56 Every Knight . . . Gan choose his dame with *baisiement* gay.] 1656 in BLOUNT *Glossogr.* 1707 FARQUHAR *Beaux' Strat.* III. ii. 25 Do my Baisements to the gentleman, and tell him I will . . . wait on him immediately. 1748 SMOLLETT *Rod. Rand.* xlv. (1804) 318 Do the doctor's baise-mains to the lady, and squire her hither.

† **Baisement.** *Obs. rare*—[corrupt f. *prec.*; but cf. *F. baisement* (Cotgr.), f. *baiser*.] = *prec.*

c 1654 FLECKNOE *Trav.* 18 My most humble Baisements, I beseech you, to the Lady Marquess.

† **Baisier.** *Obs.* [a. OF. *baisier* (mod. *baiser*) to kiss, inf. used subst.] A kiss, a kissing.

c 1450 *Merlin* xx. 323 Hit is the baisiers, yef to the lady it please. 1475 CAXTON *Jason* 99 b. And their began there amorous baisiers or kyssinges.

Baisk, variant of **BASK** a. *Obs.* bitter.

Baisse, variant of **BASK** v. and **BASH** v.

Bait (bē't), *z*¹ Forms: 3 bēyt-on, beyte-n, 4-6 bayt, baite, 4-7 bayte, 5-6 beyt, 6 baight, 6-7 bate, 4- bait. [ME. *bejsten*, *beyten*, a. ON. *beita* to cause to bite (= OE. *bētan*, OHG., MHG. *beizen*, Goth. **bailjan*), causal of *bīta* to BITE; but in branch III prob. directly from BAIT sb.¹: cf. OE. *būtian*, f. *būt* bait. With branch I cf. OF. *beter*, also from ON.]

I. To cause to bite other creatures.

† 1. *trans.* To set on (a dog) to bite or worry. (Cf. the similar construction in BATE v.¹)

c 1350 *Will. Palerne* II. 16 he herd had wip him an hound . . . For to bayte on his bestes wanne bai to brode went.

† b. *fig.* To set on, incite, exasperate. Cf. ABAIT. c 1370 *Wyclif De Off. Past. Wks.* (1880) 437 Prelatis . . . baytyn a parışhen ajenus þe persoun.

2. To set on dogs to bite and worry (an animal, such as the bear, boar, bull, badger, etc., usually chained or confined for this purpose), to attack with dogs for sport; formerly, also, to hunt or chase with dogs.

a 1300 *Havelok* 1840 And shoten on him, so don on bere Dogges . . . Thanne men doth the bere beyte. c 1325 *E. E. Allit. P.* B. 55 My boles & my borez am bayted & slayne. c 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 20 Beyton wyth howndys, berys, bolys, or other lyke, *canibus agitare*. 1503 SHAKS. 2 *Ilen. VI.* v. i. 148 Are these thy Beares? Wee'l bate thy Beares to death. 1606 HOLLAND *Sueton.* 120 There was a wild bore put fourth into the open shew-place for to be baited. 1801 STRUTT *Sports & Past.* III. vi. 217 The cruel diversion of baiting a horse with dogs.

b. *fig.* To cause (a person) to be molested, harassed, or persecuted (*with*).

1644 FULLER *Holy & Prof. St.* I. iii. 9 Such husbands as bait the mistris with her maids. 1655 *Trial Col. Pennud.* dock in Howell *St. Trials* (1816) V. 775 Sir, you have put me in a bear's skin, and now you will bait me with a witness.

c. (in sense of 4, but retaining some idea of intermediate agency, as in *prec.*)

1555 *Fardie Facions* II. xi. 250 Thei reulle him, and baite him with shames and reproche. 1659 GODFREY in Burton's *Diary* (1828) IV. 347 It was a breach of privilege to bait you with those interrogations. 1770 JOHNSON in *Boswell* (1831) IV. 124, I will not be baited with *what* and *why*.

3. To attack with endeavour to bite and tear, as dogs attack a chained or confined animal (cf. 2).

1553-87 FOXE *A. & M.* (1596) 43/b Attalus . . . was baited of the beasts. 1596 SPENSER *F. Q.* I. xii. 35 As chained beare whom cruell dogs doe bait. *Mod.* They set on several dogs to bait the badger.

b. *absol.*

c 1430 *Hymns to Virg.* (1867) 77 Helle houndis berken and baite. 1547 BOORDE *Introd. Knowl.* 187 Kur dogges. For men shyns they wyl ly in wayte; It is a good sport to se them so to bayte. 1735 SOMERVILLE *Chase* IV. 332 Raving he foams, and howls, and barks, and bates.

4. *fig.* To persecute or harass with persistent attacks (a person more or less unable to escape); to worry or torment in an exasperating manner, esp. from a wanton or malicious desire to inflict pain.

c 1200 *Ormin* 1071 Þise Puplicaness . . . durstenn beytenn menn Fort æpelike gillte. c 1400 *Rom. Rose* 1612 Folk of grettest wit Ben soone caught heere & awayted; Withouthen respite ben they baited. 1635 R. BOLTON *Conf. Aff. Cons.* 173 God must let loose his Lawe, Sinne, Conscience, and Satan to bate us. 1751 JOHNSON *Rambl.* No. 176 ¶ 4 The diversion of baiting an author has the sanction of all ages. 1834 MACAULAY *Pitt. Ess.* (1854) I. 301 The new Secretary of State had been so unmercifully baited by the Paymaster of the Forces.

† b. *intr.* with *at* (in same sense). *Obs.*

1579 TOMSON *Calvin's Serm. Tim.* 956/b Why are they so alwayes bayting at me? 1607 DEKKER *Knt's Conjur.* (1842) 38 Bayted at by whole kennels of yelping watermen. 1679 *Hist. Jettser* 9 The Fathers all this while were baiting at him.

II. To cause a creature to bite for its own refreshment; to feed.

5. *trans.* To give food and drink to (a horse or other beast), esp. when upon a journey; to feed.

1375 BARBOUR *Bruce* XIII. 589 Than lichtit thai . . . Till bayt thar hors. c 1400 MAUNDEV. xxii. 243 While that [he] reste him, And bayte his shomedarie or his hors. 1506 SPENSER *F. Q.* I. i. 32 The sunne . . . At night doth baite his steedes the ocean waves among. 1607 *Cress D'Aunoy's Trav.* (1706) 47 And stop at the Bank of some River, where the Mule-Drivers bate their Mules. 1799 J. ROBERTSON *Agric. Perth* 200 You have this second crop of clover . . . to bait your cows. 1858 THACKERAY *Virginians* x. 79 Whilst their horses were baited, they entered the public room.

6. (*refl.* and *intr.*) Said of horses or other beasts: To take food, to feed, esp. at a stage of a journey.

c 1386 CHAUCER *Sir Thopas* 202 By him baytith his destrer Of herbes fyne and goode. 1394 *P. Pl. Crede* 375 Pey ben digne as dich water pat dogges in bayteþ. c 1435 *Torr. Portugal* 1566 Unbrydelid his stede And let hym bayte hym on the ground. 1523 FITZHERB. *Husb.* § 22 In lodynge of hey or corne, the cattel is alwaye eatynge or beytynge. 1832 B'NESS BUNSEN in *Hare Life* I. ix. 384 An osteria . . . at which our horses were to bait.

7. *intr.* Of travellers: To stop at an inn, orig. to feed the horses, but later also to rest and refresh themselves; hence, to make a brief stay or sojourn.

1375 BARBOUR *Bruce* XIII. 599 A litill quible thai baitit thar. 1475 CAXTON *Jason* 37 b. They cam for to bayte in the logging wher her frende Jason had logged. 1577 HOLINSHED *Chron.* II. 16/2 The cause or den wherein saint Paule is said to have baited or sojourned. 1659-60 *Perry's Diary* 24 Feb., At Puckeridge we baited, where we had a loin of mutton fried. 1777 SHERIDAN *Trips Scarb.* I. ii. To bait here a few days longer, to recover the fatigue of his journey. 1874 MOTLEY *Barnveld* I. iv. 179 They set forth on their journey—stopping in the middle of the day to bait.

b. *fig.*

1639 FULLER *Holy War* III. xxix. (1840) 170 A prince . . . only baiteth at learning, and maketh not his profession to lodge in. 1671 MILTON *Samson* 1538 For evil news rides post, while good news baits. 1823 LAMB *Elia* Ser. I. xxi. (1865) 165 Trace it (the sentiment) baiting at this town, stopping to refresh at t'other village.

† 8. *intr.* (and *refl.*) To feed, take nourishment.

c 1386 CHAUCER *Man of L's T.* 368 On many a sory meel now may she bayte. a 1400 *Sir Perc.* 187 A tryppe of gayte [= goats], With mylke of thame for to bayte To hir lyves gode. 1633 P. FLETCHER *Purple Isl.* VIII. xiv. So fisher waits To bait himself with fish, his hook And fish with baits.

† b. *fig.* of the eyes: To feast.

c 1374 CHAUCER *Troilus* I. 193 If knyght or squyer . . . lete his eyen bayte On eny woman. 1634 G. FLETCHER *Christ's Vict.* II. v. If he stood still, their eyes upon him baited.

III. To provide with a bait, offer a bait to [Prob. a later independent formation on the sb.]

9. *trans.* To furnish (a hook, trap) with a bait.

a 1300 *Cursor M.* 13285 Quiles bai pair lines war baitand. 1398 TREVISA *Barth. De P. R.* XVIII. cxv. (1495) 856 Fysshie hokys ben bayted wyth suche wormes in stede of bayte. 1556 J. HEYWOOD *Spider & F.* lxix. 43 This trap . . . for spiders is baited. 1663 BUTLER *Hud.* I. i. 384 Cheese or Bacon . . . To bait a Mouse-trap. 1745 POPE *Odys.* IV. 499 My absent mates . . . Bait the barbd steel. *fig.* 1548 UDALL, etc. *Erasm. Par. Matt.* IV. 8 (R.) His hooke bayted with y^e enticement of wayne glory. 1726 DE FOE *Hist. Devil* II. vi. (1840) 251 He baited his hook with the city of Milan. 1800 SCOTT *Monast.* xxii. Baited thy tongue with falsehood.

b. *absol.* (*lit.* and *fig.*)

1773 CHAMBERS *Cycl. Supp.* s.v., For cod they bait with herrings. 1863 MRS. CLARKE *Shaks. Char.* ix. 218 She therefore baited for, and caught her prey.

10. To lay (a place) with bait, so as to attract the prey.

1663 *Althorp MS.* in Simpkinson *Washingtons* Introd. 44 The ratcatcher for a coter's wages for baiting the house. 1665 BOYLE *Occas. Refl.* IV. xiv. He had liberally Baited the place over-night with Corn, as well as Worms. 1867 F. FRANCIS *Angling* I. (1880) 33 When once the place has been baited.

11. To offer bait to; to allure, entice, tempt.

1590 SHAKS. *Com. Err.* II. i. 94 Doe they gay vestments his affections baite? 1596 *Merch. V.* III. i. 55 His flesh, what's that good for? *Shy.* To baite fish withall. 1865 DIXON *Holy Land* I. 173 Just as the harvests of Kent and Mercia used to bait the Saxon vikings.

Bait, v.² *Falconry.* See better spelling, BATE v.¹

Bait (bē't), sb.¹ Forms: 4-6 bayte, 5 beyt, 5-6 bayt, 6 beyte, 6-7 baight, 6-8 baite, 5- bait. [Partly a. ON. *beit* (neut.) pasture, *beita* (fem.) food, esp. as used to entice a prey, cogn. w. OE. *bāt* f. food, MHG. *beis* n., *beise* f. hunting; in part directly f. BAIT v.¹]

I. Food used to entice a prey.

1. An attractive morsel of food placed on a hook or in a trap, in order to allure fish or other animals to seize it and be thereby captured.

a 1300 *Cursor M.* 16931 þe bait apon þe hok. a 1325 *Metr. Hom.* 12 Als fisce es tan wit bait and hoc. 1444 *Pol. Poems* (1859) II. 219 Bosard with botirflies makith beytis for a crane. a 1639 BRETON in Farr's *S. P.* (1845) I. 182 Wherein as hook within the Baight . . . Some hidden poyson lurking lyes. 1653 WALTON *Angler* 53 Let your bait fall gently upon the water. 1836 HOR. SMITH *Tin Trump.* (1876) 49 Bait—one animal impaled upon a hook, in order to torture a second for the amusement of a third.

b. Worms, fish, etc., to be used for this purpose. 1496 *Bk. St. Albans* Fishing 7 How ye shall make your baytes brede where ye shall fynde them: and how ye shall kepe them. 1653 WALTON *Angler* To Rdr. 7 With advise how to make the Fly, and keep the live baits. 1799 G. SMITH *Laboratory* II. 267 Some trouble . . . to keep the bait alive.

2. *fig.* An enticement, allurements, temptation.

c 1400 *MS. Cantab.* Fl. II. 38. [46/2] 54/2 Thys worlde ys but the fendys beyte. 1460 *Pol. Rel. & L. Poems* (1866) 155 My body I made hyr hertys baite. 1573 TUSSEER *Husb.* (1878) 179 A doore without locke, is a baite for a knave. 1745 DE FOE *Eng. Tradesm.* I. vi. 36 The profits of trade are baits to the avaricious shopkeeper. 1849 MACAULAY *Hist. Eng.* I. 246 He considered titles and great offices as baits which could allure none but fools.

3. *Comb.* and *attrib.*, as *bait-can*, *gatherer*, *kettle*.

1799 G. SMITH *Laboratory* II. 267 By frequently dipping your bait-kettle in the water. 1842 JOHNSON in *Proc. Bern.* *Nat. Club* II. x. 36 The bait-gatherer, for picking them from the rocks . . . has 8d. per day.

II. Food generally.

† 4. Food, refreshment; esp. a feed for horses, or

slight repast for travellers, upon a journey. Still *dial.* light refreshment taken between meals.

1570 LEVINS *Manip.* 1003 Bayt, *refrigerium, refectio*. 1573 TUSSEER *Husb.* (1878) 203 O thou fit bait for wormes! 1661 LOVELL *Hist. Anim. Min.* Introd., When they [serpents] devour any great baite, they contract themselves. 1706 E. WARD *Hud. Rediv.* I. xii. 24 Could (if she 'ad had her Will) have eat The Saddle Stuffing for a Bait. 1741 RICHARDSON *Pamela* (1824) I. xxxii. 56 Stopping for a little bait to the horses. 1851 *Coal-tr. Terms Northumbld. & Durh.* Bait, provision taken by a pitman to his work. 1883 *Harper's Mag.* Apr. 655/1 Afternoon 'bait,' or lunch [in Sussex].

5. A halt for refreshment in the course of a journey; a stoppage for rest. *Welsh* or *Scotch* bait: allowing a horse to stand still a few minutes at the top of a hill (see Fuller *Worthies* IV. 7).

1579 LVLV *Euphues* (Arb.) 250 This merry winde will immediately bring vs to an easie bayte. 1594 NASHE *Unfort. Trav.* 12 To haue gone to heaven without a bait. 1633 P. FLETCHER *Elia* I. xlii. Heav'nly fires . . . Whose motion is their bait, whose rest is restless giring. 1809 PINKNEY *Trav. France* 80 They make a stage of thirty miles without a bait.

† 6. *fig.* a. Refreshment; a lawyer's 'refreshment.'

b. A hasty meal like a traveller's, a snack. *Obs.*

a. 1579 LVLV *Euphues* (Arb.) 198 A pleasant companion is a bait in a journey. 1603 FLORIO *Montaigne* II. xii. (1632) 310 Have you paid him [the Lawyer] well, have you given him a good baite or fee?

b. 1666 FULLER *Worthies* (1840) II. 507 He rather took a bait than made a meal at the inns of court, whilst he studied the laws therein. 1666 EVELYN *Diary* (1827) IV. 175, I now and then get a bait at philosophy.

7. *Comb.* and *attrib.*, as *bait-land* (see *quot.*); *bait-poke*, a bag for holding a miner's 'bait.'

1745 DE FOE *Voy. round World* (1840) 122 A bait-land, or port of refreshment. 1863 ROBSON's *Bards of Time* 271 And queer things behind them like pitmen's bait pokes.

III. The act of setting dogs to worry other animals; baiting; also (*obs.*) chasing with dogs.

[c 1340 *Gaw. & Gr. Knt.* 1461 Pen, brayn-wod for bate, on burnez he [the boar] rasez.] c 1450 HENRYSON *Mor. Fab.* 67 At the next bayte in faith yee shall bee slaine. 1570 LEVINS *Manip.* 1003 Bayt of a beare, *ursi prelium*. Bayt of a bul, *tauri venatio*.

Bait, variant of BATE, BEAT; *obs.* form of BOAT.

Baited (bē'ted), *pp.* a. [f. BAIT v.¹ + -ED.]

1. Worried by dogs; *fig.* harassed, tormented.

1720 SWIFT *Run on Bank.* Wks. 1755 IV. i. 24 A baited banker thus desponds. *Mod.* Furious as a baited bull.

2. Furnished with a bait; *fig.* rendered alluring or enticing, attractive.

c 1600 *Rob. Hood* (Ritson) xvi. 44 Others cast in their baited hooks. a 1650 CRASHAW *Delights Muses* (1858) 122 With baited smiles if he display his fawning cheeks. 1768-9 FALCONER *Shipwr.* II. 72 The crew . . . spread the baited snare. 1840 R. DANA *Be. Mast* v. 12 We caught one or two with a baited hook.

Baiter (bē'tar), [f. BAIT v.¹ + -ER.] One

who baits or worries; *fig.* a tormenter, a 'tease.' 1611 COTGR. *Vannour* . . . also a chider, schooler, bayter. a 1845 HOOD *Storm at Hastings* xxv. Jagged billows rearing up . . . Like ragged roaring bears against the baiter.

Baith, northern form of BOTH.

† **Baitho**, v. *Obs. rare.* [Cf. ON. *beitha* to ask, beg.] To grant; to agree, consent.

c 1300 in Wright *Lyric P.* 27 þat bayeþ me mi bone. c 1340 *Gaw. & Gr. Knt.* 327, I schal baiþen by bone þat þou boden habbes. *Ibid.* 1404 þat bayþen in þe morn To fylle þe same forwardz þat þay byfore maden. *Ibid.* 1840 Lettez be your bisnesse, for I bayþe hit yow neuer to graunte.

Baiting (bē'tin), *vbl. sb.* [f. BAIT v.¹ + -ING.]

1. The action of setting on dogs to worry a chained or confined animal; formerly, also, the hunting or chasing of wild animals with dogs. Often in *comb.*: see BADGER, BEAR, BULL.

c 1300 *K. Allit.* 199 Of lions chase, of beore baiting. c 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 29 Beytyng of bestys wyth howndys, *Exagitacio*. 1589 PUTTENHAM *Eng. Poetrie* I. xvii. In those great Amphitheatres, were exhibited . . . their baitings of wild beasts. 1768 BOSWELL *Corsica* (ed. 2) 318, I have seen a Corsican in the very heat of a baiting . . . drive off the dogs.

b. *fig.* The action of worrying and harassing; persistent annoyance, persecution, torment.

1303 R. BRUNNE *Handl. Synne* 10895 He shal hem chastyse wyþ smert speche, Wyþ small baytinges and nat wyþ wreche. a 1643 H. BURTON (*title*) The Baiting of the Pope's Bvll. a 1859 MACAULAY *Hist. Eng.* V. 243 Mortified and intimidated by the baiting of the last session.

c. *attrib.*, as in *baiting-house*, *-place*, *-stake*.

1593 SHAKS. 2 *Hen. VI.* v. i. 150 Wee'l bate thy Bears to death . . . If thou dar'st bring them to the baiting place. 1609 *Pol. Ballads* (1860) II. 3 (*title*), Rome in an Uproar; or, the Pope's Bulls brought to the baiting-stake.

2. The action of giving food to horses, or of taking wayside refreshment, upon a journey.

c 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 29 Beytyng of horse, *Fabulacio*. 1513 MORE *Rich.* III. (1641) 355 Never resting nor themselves refreshing, except the bayting of their horses. 1655 W. MEWE in Hartlib *Ref. Commun.* Bess 47 Travellers, that have benighted themselves by their frolick baitings. 1884 *Harper's Mag.* Oct. 728/2 Hay . . . for the baiting of the horses.

b. The place at which, or occasion when, a halt is made for refreshment on a journey.

1475 CAXTON *Jason* 37 b. Quene Myrto . . . taried than not longe at that bayting. 1753 RICHARDSON *Grandison* (1781) I. iv. 14 Mr. Fenwick attended us to our first baiting.

c. *attrib.*, as in *baiting-place*, *-season*, *-town*.

1514 BARCLAY *Cyt. & Uplondysm.* Introd. (1847) 15 The Court is the bayting place of hell. 1610 HOLLAND *Camden's Brit.* I. 509 The next stations and baiting townes. a 1639

WHATLEY *Prototypes* i. iv. (1640) 47 This [world] is a baiting-place and not a place of habitation. 1872 JENKINSON *Wide Eng. Lakes* (1879) 55 The Wool-Pack Inn, a snug little baiting-place.

3. The action of furnishing (a hook, trap, etc.), or of strewing a fishing-ground, with bait.

1653 WALTON *Angler* 153 This direction for the baiting your ledger hook. 1867 F. FRANCIS *Angling* ii. (1880) 71 To repeat the baitings . . . two or three times.

b. attrib., as in *baiting-needle*, -*place*.

1708 *Proclam.* in *Lond. Gas.* No. 4452/2 So as to Annoy the Haling of Sayns in the usual Baiting Places. 1875 'STONEHENGE' *Brit. Sports* i. v. iii. § 10 The gimp is passed under a good broad strip of skin with the baiting-needle.

† **Baiting**, ppl. a. Obs. rare. [f. *BAIT* v. + -ING².] That baits: worrying; enticing, attractive.

1855 Q. ELIZ. in *Four C. Eng. Lett.* 29 Some enemies . . . shall loose much travel, with making frustrat thar baiting stratagems. 1863 SIR G. MACKENZIE *Relig. Stoic* xv. (1658) 137 Far more baiting, seeing it appeared with all the charms.

Baitless (bā'tlēs), a. rare. [f. *BAIT* sb. + -LESS.] Without food, without refreshment.

1600 ROWLANDS *Let. Humours Blood* 47 To trauaile so long baitlesse, sure 'tis much.

Baise (bā'z), sb. Forms: 6-8 *bayes*, 7 *baies*, *bease*, *bays* (e, 7-9 *bays*, 7- *baise*). [a. F. *baies* (1570 in Godefroy, 'les bayes et sarges'), pl. fem. used subst. of adj. *bai*:—L. *badius* chestnut-coloured, *BAI*; so named probably from its original colour. The same material is called in It. *bajetta* (Florio 1598), Sp. *bayeta*, Du. *baai*, Da. *bai*, Sw. *boi*. The plural form of the adopted word was soon misunderstood, and treated as a collective sing. (occas. with pl. *bayes*), whence the spelling *bayse*, *baize*, rare bef. 1800, but now quite established; the etymological sing. *BAI* is, however, also found.]

1. A coarse woollen stuff, having a long nap, now used chiefly for linings, coverings, curtains, etc., in warmer countries for articles of clothing, e. g. shirts, petticoats, ponchos; it was formerly, when made of finer and lighter texture, used as a clothing material in Britain also.

1570 in *Beck Drapers' Dict.* 17 Blewe and blacke bayse. 1580 HARRISON *England* i. li. v. 132 The wares they carrie out of the realme are . . . bayes, bustian, mockadoes, etc. 1635 N. R. CAMDEN'S *Hist. Elia* i. 101 Those light stuffs which they call Bayes and Sayes. 1667 PERVIS *Diary* (1879) IV. 250 A cloak of Colchester bayze. 1712 ARBUTHNOT *John Bull* (1755) 9 The price of broad cloth, wool and bayeses. 1732 *Acc. Workhouses* 51, 70 yards of red bays . . . for under petticoats. 1801 FELTON *Carriages* i. 220 'The Well of a Carriage is lined with linen or baize. 1882 *Beck Drapers' Dict.* 14 Bays, bayze, baize . . . was first introduced here in 1561.

b. attrib.

1634 BREKETON *Trav.* (1844) 52 He sat up in bed, and was in a thin bease waistcoat. 1837 HAWTHORNE *Twice-told T.* (1851) II. vi. 90 Fishermen, in red baize shirts.

2. A curtain, table-cover, etc. of baize.

1862 *Lond. Rev.* 30 Aug. 193 The great baize will soon fall down. 1880 BROWNING *Dram. Idylls, Clive* 103 Cocky fancied that a clerk must feel Quite sufficient honor in bending over one green baize.

3. attrib., as in *baize-factor*.

1566 *Ann. Reg.* 532 A baize factor has presented the Mayor of Colchester . . . a rich gold chain. 1852 DICKENS *Black H.* xvi. § 1 Gentlemen of the green baize road, who could discourse from personal experience of foreign galleys and home treadmills.

Baize, v. [f. prec. sb.] To cover or line with baize. Hence *Baized* ppl. a., *Baising* vbl. sb.

1830 MISS MITFORD *Village Ser.* iv. (1863) 250 Baising the door of the library; and new painting the hall. 1882 J. BAKER *Hist. Scarboro'* 160 Pews . . . being baized or cushioned.

Bajan, -on, variants of *BEJAN*.

Bajardour: see *BAIARDOUR*.

|| **Bajocco** (ba'jɔkko). Pl. *bajoccohi* (-'ɔkhi). In 6 Englished as *byok*, *baiook*. [It., f. *bajo* brown.] A small Italian copper coin (now obsolete) worth about a halfpenny.

1547 BOORDE *Introd. Knowl.* 179 In bras they haue kateryns and byokes, and denares. 1590 MUNDAY *Eng. Rom. Life* in *Harl. Misc.* (1809) II. 202 Supping so well as I coude with . . . one quatraine bestowed in ricoot . . . a baioc in bread. 1860 *All Y. Round* No. 70, 475 Vellum-bound books, at five baiocchi—twopence halfpenny. 1864 *Leeds Merc.* 11 Mar., And left the priest without a single bajocco.

|| **Bajri** (bād'grī). Also *bajree*, -*oree*, -*uree*, -*ury*, -*ra*. The name in Indian vernaculars of various kinds of grain (e. g. *Penicillaria spicata*, *Panicum vulgare*) extensively grown in India.

1813 J. FORBES *Orient. Mem.* i. 194 Bajeree, natchee, and some inferior grains. 1864 *Daily Tel.* 15 Aug., A good crop of bajri. 1884 *Health Exhib. Catal. Pref.* 43 Samples of bajra and jowar, the chief grain foods.

† **Bajulate**, v. Obs. rare. [f. *bājulāt*- ppl. stem of *bājulāre* to carry, f. *bājulus* porter.] To carry (a heavy burden), to carry as a *BADGER* sb. 1 1613 R. C. *Table Alph.*, *Bajulate* [printed *bainbate*], beare, or carry like a porter. 1862 FULLER *Worthies* III. 97 Which [roads], if mended, Higgles would mount, as bajulating them [i. e. provisions] to London.

Bak, obs. sp. of *BAC*, *BACK*, q. v.

Bak, earlier form of *BAT* sb. winged mammal.

Bak (e, obs. form of *BACK*.

† **Bakbred** (e, north. dial. Also 5 *baobrede*,

7 *bagbread*. [f. *BAKE* v. + *BRED*, flat board.] A board on which bread is made, a paste-board; = *BAKEBOARD*.

1483 *Cath. Ang.* 17 *Bacbrede*, *vbi* *bakebrede*. *Bakbrede*: *rotabulum et cetera*; *vbi* a mulydyngborde. 1625-6 *Inv. R. Hay* in *Reg. Dean & Ch. Yrk.*, One kneidinge kitt, a bag-bread, and a spittle. 1875 *Lanc. Gloss.* *Bak-brede*. In South of Scotl. *ba'brede*, *boubred*, *boubret*: see Jamieson.]

Bake (bē'k), v. Forms: 1 *bacan*, 3-5 *bake* (n, 5-yn, 6 *baake*, 7 *baque*, 4- *bake*. Pa. i. 1-4 *bōc*, 4 *booc*, book, *bakide*, 5 *boke*, (6 *Sc.* *buik*, *beuk*.) 5- *baked*. Pa. ppl. 1 *bacen*, 2-7 *baken*, 4 *baake*, 4-5 *bacoun*, *ybaake*, *ibake*, 4-6 *bake*, 5 *bakun*, (6 *Sc.* *baokin*, *baikin*, *baykin*, *ybaik*), 6 *bakt*, 6- *baked*. [Common Teutonic: OE. *bac-an* = OHG. *bach-an*, *pach-an*, MHG. *bachen*, ON., Sw. *baka*, Da. *bage*; also, OHG. *bacchan*, MHG. and G. *backen*, MDu. *backen*, Du. *bakken*, OS. *bakken*. OTeut. !**bak-an* (perh., as Paul thinks, in present stem *bakka-*, by assimilation of a suffix, f from *bak-and*), cogn. w. Gr. *φάγειν* to roast, parch, toast, pointing to an Aryan *bhāg-*. Originally a strong vb.; the str. pa. t. survived to c. 1400, and is still used dialectally; the str. pa. ppl. *baken* occurs five times in the Bible of 1611 as against two examples of *baked*, and is still in reg. use in the north. The weak pa. t. *baked* appeared before 1400; the weak pa. ppl. in 16th c., and is alone found in Shakspeare.]

1. *trans.* To cook by dry heat acting by conduction, and not by radiation, hence either in a closed place (oven, ashes, etc.), or on a heated surface (bakestone, griddle, live coals); primarily used of preparing bread, then of potatoes, apples, the flesh of animals. (Thus, in the primary sense, distinguished from *roast*: but in transferred uses they are not sharply separated.) Often *absolutely*.

c. 1000 ÆLFRIC *Ex.* xii. 39 Hi bōcon þæt melu. — *Leu.* xvi. 26 Fīf bacap on anum ofene. c. 1200 ORMIN 992 Bull-tedd bratt batt bakenn was in ofne. 1322 WYCLIF i. Sam. xlviii. 24 She . . . boke (booc, boc) ther looves. 1388 — *Ista.* xlv. 15 He brente and bakide looues. 1392 GOWER *Conf.* II. 208 A capon in that one was bake. 1398 TREVISIA *Barth.* De P. R. xvii. lxxvii. (1495) 643 Some brede is bake vnder ashen. 1513 DOUGLAS *Æneis* i. iv. 40 The cornes . . . Thai grand, and syne boult at the fire. 1530 PALSGR. 442/1, I baake a batche of breed in an oven. . . . I haue you baked your breed yet. 1598 SHAKS. *Merry W.* i. iv. 101, I wash, ring, brew, bake, scower . . . make the bed, and doe all my selfe. 1611 BIBLE *Leu.* vi. 17 It shall not be baked with leauen. — *Ista.* xlv. 19, I haue baked bread vpon the coales. 1668 SMOLLETT *Humph. Cl.* Let. 8 June, My bread is . . . baked in my own oven. 1836 DICKENS *Pickwick* xlv. We haue half a leg of mutton, baked, at a quarter before three. 1855 ELIZA ACTON *Mod. Cookery* ii. 55 To bake fish, a gentle oven may be used.

b. *fig.* To ripen with heat.

1607 DRYDEN *Virg.*, *Georg.* ii. 754 The Vine her liquid Harvest yields, Bak'd in the Sun-shine.

† c. *fig.* To prepare, make ready. Obs.

1460 in *Pol. R.* & *L. Poems* (1866) 194 When þou doest thus, there bale þou bakeste.

2. *trans.* To harden by heat: a. in a (brick) kiln.

1388 WYCLIF *Gen.* xi. 3 Make we tiel stonys, and bake we tho with fier. 1868 J. MARYAT *Pottery Gloss.* s. v. *Kiln*, The furnaces employed to fire or bake pottery.

b. as the sun hardens the ground.

1607 DRYDEN *Virg.*, *Georg.* iv. 618 The Sun . . . bak'd the Mud. 1821 BYRON *Heav. & Earth* iii. 189 When the hot sun hath baked the reeking soil into a world,

† To harden as frost does.

1572 B. GOOGE *Heresbach's Husb.* (1586) 52 b, The cold of the Winter doth bake and season the ground. 1610 SHAKS. *Temp.* i. ii. 256 Th' earth When it is bak'd with frost.

† 4. To form into a cake or mass; to cake. Obs.

c. 1460 *Bk. Curtyse* in *Babes Bk.* (1868) 303 An apys mow men sayne he makes, þat brede and fleshe in hys cheke bakes. 1592 SHAKS. *Rom. & Jul.* i. iv. 89 That very Mab that . . . bakes the Elk-locks in foule sluttish haire. a 1631 DONNE *Serm.* xii. 117 The old dirt is still baked on my hands. 1684 tr. *Bonet's Merc. Compit.* 1. 8 If the root of the Tongue and the Windpipe, haue any glutinous stuff baked to them.

5. *intr.* (for *refl.*) To undergo the process of baking; to become firm or hard with heat.

1605 SHAKS. *Mach.* iv. i. 13 Fillet of a Fenny Snake, In the Cauldron boyle and bake. 1755 in JOHNSON. 1876 GREEN *Short Hist.* i. § 5 The cakes which were baking on the hearth. *Mod.* These apples do not bake well. How the London Clay bakes in the sun!

6. Phrases and proverbs: To *bake one's bread*: to 'do for' one. *As they brew, so let them bake*: as they begin, so let them proceed. *Only half-baked*: (colloq.) deficient in sense; half-witted.

c. 1380 *Sir Ferrum.* 577 For euer my bred had be bake: myn lyf dawes had be tynt. 1599 PORTER *Angry Wom.* *Abingd.* (1841) 82 Euen as they brew, so let them bake. 1675 COTTON *Scott. Scott.* 150, I should do very imprudently . . . Either to meddle or to make: But as they brew, so let 'um bake. 1864 N. & Q. Ser. III. VI. 494/2 He is only half-baked, put in with the bread and taken out with the cakes.

7. *Comb.*, in which *bake*, in sense of vbl. sb. *baking*, is used attrib., as *bake-kettle*, -*oven*, -*pan*, -*shop*. Also *BAKE-BOARD*, -*HOUSE*, -*STONE*, *BAK-BRED*, q. v. c. 1000 ÆLFRIC *Gloss.* (Zup.) 316 *Pistrinum*, *bacern*. 1579 LANGHAM *Gard. Health* (1633) 529 Bake them vnder a

bake-pan of earth. 1840 R. DANA *Ref. Mast* xxxv. 133 Tin bake-pans and other notions. 1880 N. BISHOP *Sneak-Bax* 317, I . . . built a fire in my bake-kettle. 1883 *Harper's Mag.* Mar. 504/2 A few old men trudge about their bake-ovens. 1872 MARK TWAIN *Innoc. Abr.* xxxi. 240 There are the bake-shops.

Bake, sb. [f. the vb.] 1. in *Sc.* A biscuit.

1707 BURNS *Holy Fair* xviii, Here's crying out for bakes and gills. 1823 GALT *Entail* xciii, We can divide the bakes.

2. 'The act, process, or result, of baking.'

(Webster.)

Bake, earlier form of *BAKEN* ppl. a.

Bakeboard. Also 6 *backbord*, -*board*, 9 -*buird* (all in north. dial., to which the word is confined.) [f. *BAKE* v. + *BOARD*.] A board on which dough is kneaded and rolled out in making bread; a paste-board.

1662 *Richmond. Wills* (1853) 156 Item iij chayres, stoles, and cardstocks, iij' . . . backbords, xij'. 1563 *Wills & Inv.* N. C. (1835) 169 A kneadinge bassyn, a knoppe, a gelfatte, a backbourde. 1808 *Cambrian Ball.* liv. 122 As flat as a back-buird. 1870 in HALLIWELL.

Baked (bē'kt), ppl. a. [pa. ppl. of *BAKE*: see -ED; for earlier forms see *BAKEN*.]

1. Cooked by dry heat.

1611 BIBLE i. *Chron.* xxiii. 29 That which is baked in the panne. 1660 VENNOR *Via Recta* vii. 111 Baked Peares are much wholesomer then raw. 1875 *Chamb. Jnl.* No. 133. 66 The baked-potato men are doing a good trade.

2. Dried or fired in a (brick) kiln.

1545 JOYE *Exp. Daniel* ii. 31 Golde, syluer, latine, yerne and bakt potte erth. 1609 BIBLE (Douay) *Ista.* xvi. 7 Walles of baqued bricke. 1858 BIRCH *Anc. Pottery* *Introd.* 5 Remains of baked earthenware. 1869 RAWLINSON *Five Mon.* I. v, The sun-dried bricks haue even more variety of size than the baked ones.

3. Hardened or caked by heat (or otherwise).

1615 LATHAM *Falconry* (1633) 64 Their grease . . . will lie baked blew to their sides. 1828 W. ELLIS *Via. Madagascar* viii. 206 The soil . . . is hard-baked reddish earth.

† 4. Baked meat, pastry: see *BAKE-MEAT*. Obs.

Bakehouse (bē'k,haus). Forms: 1 f. *bāchūs*, 4-6 *bakhows* (e, 5 *bakkehouse*, 5-6 *bachous*, 6 *backhouse* (e, *backhouse*, (*Sc.* *baghouse*), 4- *bakehouse*). [OE. *bæc*, from *bacan* to *BAKE* + *hūs* *HOUSE*.] A building or apartment in which bread is made, having an oven for baking it. Also, one in which loaf-sugar is made.

a 1400 *Gloss.* in Wright's *Voc.* 178 *Bakehouse*, *pistrinum*. c. 1420 *Pallad.* on *Husb.* l. 1144 Thi bakhouse therwith all thou maist auance. c. 1440 *Prompt. Parv.* 21/2 *Bakhouse*, or bakynge howse. 1502 ARNOLD *Chron.* 93 Ye shal kepe noo bachous. 1524 WRIOTHESLEY *Chron.* (1875) i. 14 One Pickeringe, sometyme of the Kings bakhouse. 1606 HOLLAND *Suelon*. 141 The very jades which serued mils and backe-houses. 1624 MASSINGER *Parl. Love* iv. v, Live to be the talk Of the conduit and the bakehouse. 1697 *Lond. Gas.* No. 3313/4 To be Lett, either for a Brew-house . . . or for a Sugar Bake House. 1862 *Lond. Rev.* 16 Aug. 140 The temperature of a bakehouse ranges from about 75 to upwards of 80 degrees.

† **Bake-meat**. Obs. [f. *bake* = *BAKEN* pa. ppl.; also *baken meat*, *baked meat*.] Pastry, a pie.

c. 1386 CHAUCER *Prolog.* 343 Withoute bake mete was never his hous. c. 1420 *Liber Cocorum* (1862) 55 Bakyn mete . . . And most daynté, come byhynde. c. 1460 J. RUSSELL *Bk. Nurture* in *Babes Bk.* (1868) 146 Almanere bakemetes þat byn good and hoot, Open hem aboue þe brym of þe coffyn cote. 1530 PALSGR. 196/2 Bake meate, *uande en paste*. 1602 SHAKS. *Ham.* i. ii. 180 The Funerall Bakt-meats Did coldly furnish forth the Marriage Tables. 1611 BIBLE *Gen.* xl. 17 All manner of bakemetes for Pharaoh. 1624 MASSINGER *Renegado* v. v, To carry This bake-meat to Vitelli. a 1700 *White Devil* in Dodds. *O. P.* VI. 312 (N.) As if a man Should know what fowl is coffin'd in a bak'd meat Afere it is cut up.

Baken (bē'k'n), ppl. a. arch. Earlier forms, *bake*, *ybaake*, etc.: see under *BAKE* v. [strong pa. ppl. of *BAKE* v.: see -EN. Now superseded by *BAKED* in literary Eng., but still in north. dial.]

1. Baked, as bread or meat.

c. 1325 *Cant. de L.* 3613 Ne eete off flesch, baken ne brede. 1340 *Ayeb.* 112 Bread tuies ybaake huermide he astoreþ his ssip. 1382 WYCLIF *Leu.* ii. 4 He shal offre baake sacrifice. c. 1420 *Liber Cocorum* (1862) 54 Bakun turbut and swamon ibake. 1552 J. HEYWOOD *Prover. & Epigr.* (1867) 37 Boylede beefe and bake mutton. 1611 BIBLE i. *Kings* xix. 6 A cake bakten on the coales. *Mod. Sc.* New-baken bread.

2. Baked in a kiln; hardened, dried.

c. 1385 CHAUCER *L. G. W.* 709 Wallis . . . of harde tilis wel I bake. 1513 DOUGLAS *Æneis* xi. xl. 47 The shaft was sad and sound and weil ybaik. 1544 PHAER *Regim.* (1560) Iij b, Baken or dryed as clay is in the fourneis. 1549 *Compl. Scot.* vi. 46 Ane of the tabilis vas of baikyn stane, and the tothir . . . of onbaykyn stane.

† 3. Baken meat, pastry: see *BAKE-MEAT*. Obs.

Baken, obs. form of *BACON*.

Baker (bē'kər). Forms: 1 *bæcere*, 3-5 *bakere*, 4 *bachare*, 5-7 *baoker*, 4- *baker*. [OE. *bæcere*, f. *bacan* to *bake* + -ER; cogn. with ON. *bakari*, Sw. *bagare*, Da. *bagere*, OHG. *bacher*; OS. *bakkeri*, Du. *bakker*, G. *bäcker*:—OTeut. **bak*(ē)-*ar*-jo-z.]

1. One who bakes; *spec.* one whose business it is to make bread.

a 1000 ÆLFRIC *Collogny* Q. 5, Sume cypmenn, sume sce-wyrthan, sealteras, bæceras. Q. 54, Hwæt seaxt þu, bæcere? c. 1300 *Men Lif* 16 in *E. E. P.* (1862) 155 Hail be 3e bakere?

wij 3ur louis smale. c 1300 *Relig. Songs* vii. 35 Alle theos false chepmen, the feond heom wule habbe, Bachares and brueres. 1466 *Mann. & Househ. Exp.* 211 To. the bakers wyffe, for v. menues borde. c 1500 *ARNOLD Chron.* (1811) 9 That bakers or myllars stelyng paste or mele be drawn vpon an hyrdel. 1598 *Stow Survey* (1633) 208 A Pillorie, for the punishment of Bakers, offending in the assise of bread. 1602 *SHAKS. Ham.* iv. v. 42 They say the Owle was a Bakers daughter. 1604 *DEKKER Honest Wh.* Wks. 1873 II. 122 Are not Bakers armes the scales of Iustice? yet is not their bread light? 1768 *SMOLLETT Humph.* Cl. Let. 8 June, The miller or the baker is obliged to poison them and their families, in order to live by his profession. 1847 *KINGLAKE Eothen* xvii, The very first baker of bread that ever lived must have done his work exactly as the Arab does at this day.

2. 'A small portable tin oven in which baking is performed.' In U.S. (Webster.)

3. An artificial salmon fly in angling.

1867 F. FRANCIS *Angling* x. (1880) 345 The Baker is another good general fly.

4. *Proverbs.* (As to the Pillory see 1598 in 1.)

1562 J. HEYWOOD *Prov. & Epigr.* (1867) 47, I feare we parte not yete, Quoth the baker to the pylorie. 1660 *HOWELL Eng. Prov.* 11 He take no leave of you, quoth the Baker to the Pillory. 1857 N. & Q. 21 Mar., Pull Devil, Pull Baker, in England's the cry.

5. *Comb.*, as baker-foot, -legs, -knees, baker's knee, names of deformities of the lower extremities incident to bakers; baker-legged, -kneed, a., having these deformities; baker's itch, a species of tetter or psoriasis to which the hands of bakers and cooks are liable; baker's salt, an appellation of commercial carbonate of ammonia, used instead of yeast in pastry and bread.

1611 *COTGR., Jarretier.* Baker-legd, that goes in at the knees. 1652 *GAUL Magastrom.* 186 Baker-kneed signifies effeminate. 1656 *Du Gard Gate Lat. Unt.* § 292 Hee that is baker-legged, rub's his knees against one another. 1656 *Artif. Handsom.* (1662) 79 The unhandsome warpings of bow Leggs and baker Feet. 1699 *Lady Alimony* v. v. in Hazl. *Dods.* XIV. 361 His puny baker-legs. 1784 J. BARRY *Lect. Art* ii. (1848) 94 Knocked or baker knees. 1871 *Figure Training* 39 Baker's knee, as it is called, or an inclining inwards of the right knee-joint until it closely resembles the right side of a letter K, is the almost certain penalty of habitually bearing any burden of bulk in the right hand.

6. *Baker's dozen*: thirteen. (See last quot.) 1599 J. COOKE *Tu Quoque* in *Dods.* O. P. (1780) VII. 49 Mine's a Baker's dozen: Master Bubble, tell your money. 1611 in *FLORIO.* 1733 *FIRLIND Quix.* iii. vi, I dare swear there were a good round baker's dozen at least. 1850 *RILEY Liber Abus* Prov. 68 These dealers. [Hucksters] on purchasing their bread from the bakers, were privileged by law to receive thirteen batches for twelve, and this would seem to have been the extent of their profits. Hence the expression, still in use, 'A baker's dozen.'

Bakermom, condition of a baker. *Baker-ship*, skill as a baker.

1883 *Pall Mall G.* 28 Apr. 3/1 The first baker... was about to produce a card to prove his bakerdom and respectability.

Bakeress (bā'kə-rēs). *rare.* [f. BAKER + -ESS; cf. *baxter* and *backstress*.] A female baker.

1837 *CARLYLE Fr. Rev.* I. vii. xi. 352 The Baker, the Bakeress, and Baker's Boy. 1872 *Vagab. Jack* i. in *Casquet Lit.*, I have a perfect recollection of the pretty bakeress.

Bakerly, a. and adv. [f. BAKER + -LY².] Baker-like; after the manner of a baker.

1593 *Pass. Morrice* 82 Spindle shankte, or bakerly kneed.

Bakery (bā'kəri). [f. BAKER + -Y; see -ERY.]

1. Baker's work; the craft or business of the baker. 1545 *Jove Exp. Dan.* xii. (R.) Daniel saw his feet to be made and bakt but of britel baktery. 1765 *SMOLLETT Trav.* 186 The butchery and the bakery which they farm at so much a year.

2. A place for making bread; the whole establishment of a baker.

1857 *ELIZA Acton Eng. Bread-Bk.* 40 Converting the small bakeries, conducted on the old system, into mechanical bakeries. 1872 *YEATS Techn. Hist. Comm.* 126 Public bakeries were established in 1276.

Bakestone. Commonly in dialect form 6-bak-, backstone. [f. BAKE v. + STONE.] A flat stone or slate on which cakes are baked in the oven; a plate of iron used for the same purpose.

1531 *Lanc. Wills* (1857) I. 113 One backstone and one spetill. 1575 *Richmond Wills* (1853) 255, i backstone, iij". j. yron speite... j little broile yron. 1818 in *E. Burt's Lett.* N. Scotl. I. 246 Poured out upon the bake-stone like a pancake. 1865 *MRS. STRETTON Queen of C.* 150 A backstone cake out of the oven. 1869 *BLACKMORE Lorna D.* xix. (D.) Here's to the oats with the backstone on the board!

Bakestre, obs. form of BAXTER, female baker.

Bakey, bakie (bā'ki, bæ'ki). *Sc.* Also *bai-kie*. [dim. of BAK sb.²; or ad. F. *baquet*; cf. BAKET.] A square wooden vessel for carrying coals, etc. Hence *Bakieful*.

1826 J. WILSON *Noct. Ambr.* Wks. 1855 I. 174 The bakieful's o' ashes. 1837 *Blackw. Mag.* XLI. 414 The chamber-maid... swept them all away in her bakiey.

Baking (bā'kin), *vbl. sb.* [f. BAKE v. + -ING¹.]

1. The action of the verb BAKE; the process of preparing bread; the hardening or 'firing' of earthenware.

1398 *TREVISIA Barth. De P. R.* xvii. lxvii. (1495) 643 Brede is made of mele by medlyng of water and bakynge of fyre. 1477 *NORTON Ord. Alch.* v. (Ashm. 1652) 55 In Bakinge, and Brewynge, and other Crafts all. 1622 *HEYLIN Cosmog.* in Sir T. Blount *Nat. Hist.* (1693) 138 The Boyling and Baking

of Sugar. 1847 *KINGLAKE Eothen* xvii, Principles of bread-baking... sanctioned by the experience of ages. 1868 J. MARRYAT *Pottery Gloss.* s.v. *Kiln*, The only colours... which will endure the extreme heat of the first baking.

2. The product of this action; the bread baked at a time, a batch.

c 1440 *Prompt. Parv.* 21/2 Bakynge (or bahche), *pistura*. 1598 *FLORIO, Fornata*, an oven full, or a batche of bread, a baking. 1860 *MISS VONCE Stokesley Secr.* xiii. (1880) 306 Susan with... her plate of bakings.

3. *Comb.* and *Attrib.*, as *baking craft, hours; baking-dish, -house, -iron, -oven, -plate*; *Baking-powder*, a powder used in baking as a substitute for yeast, through the effervescence of which carbonic acid is diffused through the dough.

1398 *TREVISIA Barth. De P. R.* xvii. lxvii. (1495) 643 By bakynge crafte brede is made. c 1440 *Prompt. Parv.* 21/2 Bakynge howse, *panificium*. 1563 *Thersites in Old Plays* (1848) 41 The backster of Balockburye with her baking pele. 1601 *HOLLAND Pliny* I. 567 Plautus... maketh mention of... a baking pan. 1863 *Scotsman* 16 Mar., To enter bakehouses during baking hours. 1884 *Health Exhib. Catal.* 120/2 Patent Hot-Air Continuous Baking Oven, with Travelling Baking Plate.

Baking, *ppl. a.* [f. as prec. + -ING².] That bakes; hot enough to bake. Hence *Bakingly* adv.

1865 F. PARKMAN *Champlain* ix. (1875) 302 The fierce sun fell on the bald, baking rock. 1882 *RUSSELL in Macm. Mag.* XLVI. 133/1 Under the 'baking sun.' 1867 *MISS BROUGHTON Not Wisely* I. 18 Too bakingly hot for a long walk. 1880 *MISS FOTHERGILL Wellfields* I. iii, The sun shone bakingly upon the round stones.

Bakken, bakker, -more: see BACK-.

Bakoun, obs. form of BACON.

Baksheesh, bakhshish (bæ'kʃɪʃ). *Forms:* 7 *bacsheese*, 8 *buxie*, *backsishe*, *bacshish*, 9 *bach-*, *bachshish*, *ba(o)kshesh*, *bu(o)kshish*, *-sheesh*, *buxees*, *bakhshish*. [Pers. بخشش]

bakhshish present, f. *bakhshi-dan* to give; now used in Arabic, Turkish, and Urdu.] Oriental term for: A gratuity, present of money, 'tip.'

[1665 *PURCHAS Pilgrimes* II. 1340 Who... would prostitute her selfe to any man Bacsheese (as they say in the Arabick tongue) that is gratis freely.] 1755-60 *IVES* 51 (Col. Yule) Buxie money. 1775 R. CHANDLER *Trav. Asia Min.* viii. 1825 A demand of bac-shish, a reward or present; which term, from its frequent use, was already become very familiar to us. 1781 *GENL. MAG.* 113 The Bacshishe, or money to drink. 1814 *MRS. SHERWOOD Henry & Bearer* 29 And gave Boosy... four rupees, buckshish. 1854 W. ARNOLD *Oakfield* I. 239 The relieved bearers... most unceremoniously demanded bux. 1865 *MISS WHATELY Ragged Life Egypt* x. 84 Asking loudly for baksheesh. 1872 *Times* 20 Apr., Fresh baksheesh to the unworthy minions of the harem.

Baksheesh, v. [f. prec.] To give a present of money to; to bribe, 'tip.' Also *absol.* quasi-intr.

1882 *Macm. Mag.* XLVI. 167 The higher grades... were reserved for those who baksheeshed the highest. 1884 *GEN. GORDON in Pall Mall G.* 6 May 12/1 You would... make terms with Mahdi by making me baksheesh Mahdi.

Bakster, obs. f. BAXTER, female baker.

Bakstone, obs. and dial. f. BAKESTONE.

Bakt, obs. f. BAKED.

Bal. [a. Cornish *bal* 'collection of mines.' Also 6-7 ball. A mine. *Attrib.*, as in *bal-girl*, -work.

c 1600 *NORDEN Spec. Brit. Comw.* (1728) 45 Godolphyn ball. 1678 *Phil. Trans.* XII. 951 Godolphyn Ball is the most famous of all the Balls or Mines in Cornwall. 1822 *Ann. Reg.* 52/1 Bal girls, as the girls are called who work about the mines. 1851 *KINGSLEY Yeast* xiii. 252 He could not stand the bal work.

Bal, obs. f. BALL and BAL sb. fire.

Balaam (bā'lām).

1. Name of the prophet whose history is narrated in *Numbers* xxii-xxiv, used connotatively. Hence: *Balaam* v., to make a Balaam of. *Balaamite*, one who follows religion for the sake of gain; whence *Balaamitical* a.

1648 *MILTON Observ. Art. Peace* Wks. (1851) 571 God... hath so dispos'd the mouth of these Balaams, that coming to Curse, they have stumbled into a kind of Blessing. 1598 T. BASTARD *Chrestoleros* (1880) 87 Bala-ming his patron which did him this wrong, Am not I thine asse which have seru'd thee thus long. 1559 *Hist. Est. Scot. in Wodr. Soc. Misc.* 73 The Bishop of St. Andrewes, with his Balamites, came to St. Giles Kirk. 1561 *DAUS tr. Bullinger on Apoc.* (1573) 36b, Maintaining the Nicolaitan or Balaamitical doctrine.

2. (In journalistic slang) Trumpery paragraphs reserved to fill up the columns of a newspaper or magazine. *Balaam-box* (or -basket), a receptacle for such matter; in U. S. printing-offices, a place in which stereotype paragraphs are kept for similar use.

1826 *SCOTT Mal. Malagr.* iii. 3 How much Balaam (speaking technically) I have edged out of your valuable paper. 1839 *LOCKHART Scott* lxx. (1842) 622 *Balaam* is the cant name for asinine paragraphs about monstrous productions of nature and the like, kept standing in type to be used whenever the real news of the day leave an awkward space that must be filled up somehow. 1861 A. K. H. B. *Recr. Country P.* Ser. II. 59 Rubbishing articles which are at present consigned to the Balaam-box. 1873 F. HALL *Mod. Eng.* 17 Consigned, by the editor, to his balaam-basket.

Balace, obs. form of BALAS (ruby).

Balachong (bæ'lætʃŋ). Also 7 *balachaun*. 9 *balichung*. [a. Malay *bālachdn*.] A condiment

for rice, much used in China, consisting of putrid shrimps or small fishes pounded up with salt and spices, and then dried.

1697 *DAMPIER in Southey Comm. pl. Bk. Ser. II.* (1849) 602 Balachaun is a composition of a strong savour, yet a very delightful dish to the Tonquinese. 1854 *STOQUELER Brit. India* 279 Rice... is rendered savoury by the addition of salt, ngapee, or balachoung. 1864 in *WEBSTER*.

Balade, -adde, obs. ff. BALLAD, BALLADE.

Balladine (bæ'lādīn). Also 6-7 *balladin* (e, 7 *baladyne*. [a. F. *baladin*, -ine, f. *ballade* dancing-song: see BALLAD.]

† 1. A theatrical dancer; a mountebank, buffoon.

1599 *Basilikon Doron* (1603) 127 Delight not to keepe... in your company, comedians or balladines. 1605 *BACON Adv. Learn.* II. xv. § 1 Tricks of Tumblers, Funambules, Baladynes. 1676 *ETHEREDGE Man of Mode* II. 1. 19 (1684) Their best Balladins, who are now practising a famous Ballat.

2. A female public dancer. *rare.*

1863 *BROWNING In Balcony* II, The first breathing woman's cheek, First dancer's, gipsy's, or street baladine's.

† 3. A ballad-maker or singer. Cf. BALLADIÉR.

1604 *HIERON Wks.* I. 551 Dddiij, Meeting with our common aduersary... in the fashion of a Rimer or Balladine.

† *Balan*. Obs. [a. OF. *balin*, *ballin*: see Godef.] A strong stuff made of tow.

1340 *Alexander* (Stev.) 4851 In bole and in balan buskes he his fotez. [L. *fecit sibi subalares lineas*.]

Balance (bæ'lāns), *sb.* *Forms:* 4-5 *balauoe*, 5 *belans*, *belauoe*, -noe, 5-6 *ballaunce*, 6 *balanias*, -es, 6-8 *ballance*, 7 *bilans*, 3- *balance*. [a. Fr. *balance* (= Sp. *balanza*, Pr. *balansa*, It. *bilancia*): -late L. **bilancia* a pair of scales, f. cl. L. *bilanx*, *bilanx-em*, adj. (in *libra bilanx*) 'two-scaled,' f. bi- twice + *lanx* flat plate, scale.]

I. Literal senses.

1. An apparatus for weighing, consisting of a beam poised so as to move freely on a central pivot, with a scale pan at each end.

[c 1275 in *Liber Abus* I. 226 Deit estre peise par balaunce le Roy. 1297 *Lib. Custum.* 107 (Probatio Tronæ) Silvester de Farnham custos balancie Domini Regis.]

c 1350 *Will. Palerne* 947 Wel y mondeste whider þe balaunce bowes. c 1386 *CHAUCER Monkes* T. 508 And in a balaunce weyen eche mountaine. c 1450 in *Wright's Voc.* 227 *Bilanx*, belans. 1494 *Act* 11 *Hen. VII.* iv, In every City... should be a common Balance, with common Weights. 1573 *BIBLE* (Bishops') *Prov.* xvi. 11 A true weight and balaunce are the Lordes iudgement. 1635 N. CARPENTER *Geog. Del.* i. ii. 31 The Bilanz or Balance. 1771 *JANINUS Lett.* lii. 266 We incline the balance... by lessening the weight in one scale. 1881 N. T. (Revised) *Rev.* vi. 5 He had a balance in his hand (1611 a pair of balances).

† 2. *sing.* One scale of a balance; *pl.* 'scales.'

a. with *pl. balances*. Obs. or dial.

1388 *WYCLIF Ps.* lxxii. 9 The sones of men ben liers in balancis. a 1450 *Knt. de la Tour* (1868) 65 Alle her good dedes in the same balaunce... and alle her evelle dedes in that other balaunce. 1596 *SPENSER F. Q.* v. ii. 35 Weighed out in ballaunces. 1611 *BIBLE Rev.* vi. 5 A paire of balances in his hand. 1645 *DIGBY Nat. Bodies* iii. (1658) 19 Take a pinte of air; and weigh it against a pinte of water, and you will see the ballance of the last go down a main.

† b. The plural was sometimes *balance*. (Partly due to final -s, -ce, partly to confusion of sense.) Obs.

c 1430 *LYDG. Min. Poems* 141 Weyed in balaunce. 1596 *SHAKS. Merch. V.* iv. 1. 255 Am there balaunce here to weigh the flesh? 1655 *FULLER Ch. Hist.* II. i. § 61. 138 In one Hand... a Red Rose, in the other a pair of Balance.

† 3. A flat dish resembling a scale; *L. lanx*. Obs.

1513 *DOUGLAS Æneis* xii. iv. 142 Syne furth of platis or ballancis belieu, Wyth pasit flesh plenist the altaris.

4. a. One of the zodiacal constellations (more commonly called *Libra*). b. The seventh sign of the Zodiac ♎, into which the sun enters at the autumnal equinox.

In the time of Hipparchus, B.C. 130, the sign corresponded with the constellation, whence the name; but owing to the precession of the equinoxes, its first point is now far in the west of the constellation *Virgo*.

1488 *CAXTON Chast. Goddess Chyld.* 19 A planete that men call libra that is as moche to say as a balaunce. c 1500 *Almanak* (for 1386) 2 Saturn es exalted in þe 20 gre of þe Balaunce. 1697 *DRYDEN Virg. Georg.* I. 46 And seated near the Balance, poise the Days. 1831 *CARLYLE Sart. Res.* II. i, The celestial Balance.

5. By recent extension: Any apparatus used in weighing, whether acting by leverage, or by the resistance of a spring.

1829 U. K. S. *Nat. Philos.* I. *Mech.* II. v. § 45 The Danish balance is a steel-yard. 1832 — II. *Electr.* iv. § 74 The most perfect electrometer for measuring very small quantities of electricity, is... the torsion balance.

6. *Watchmaking*, A mechanical contrivance which regulates the speed of a clock or watch.

1660 *BOYLE New Exp. Phys. Mech.* xxvii. 206 The noise made by the balance. 1797 *Pope Bathos* 114 In clock-making one artist makes the balance, another the spring. 1884 F. BRITTON *Watch & Clockm.* 15 Gold balances are preferable to steel.

† b. A pendulum. Obs. *rare.*

1647 H. MORE *Song of Soul Notes* 152/2 The nearer you place the lead to the centre, the swifter the balance moves.

7. *Naut.* The operation or result of reefing with a BALANCE-BEEF: see 22.

1762-3 *FALCONER Shipwr.* II. 1387 The head, with doubling canvas fenced around, In balance near the lofty peak they bound. 1769 — *Dict. Marine* (1789) s.v., The balance of the mizen is thus performed.

¶ Confused with BALLAST. (Cf. also BALLACE.)
 1548 UDALL, etc. *Erasm. Par. John* 5 No otherwise than the balance dothe staye the shippes in tyme of tempest.
 1656 BLOUNT *Glossogr.*, Balasse, ballast, or balance.

II. Figurative senses.

8. The metaphorical balance of justice, reason, opinion, by which actions and principles are weighed or estimated.

1384 CHAUCER *Mother of God* 20 The fende... will pluk at the balance To wey vs down. 1573 *Scot. Poems* 16th C. (1801) II. 297 Beir equal ballanis baith to riche and puiir.
 1590 SHAKS. *Mids. N. v.* 324 A Moth will turne the balance, which Piramus which Thisby is the better. 1732 POPE *Ess. Man* I. 121 Snatch from his hands the balance and the rod, Rejuge his justice, be the God of God! 1854 TUPPER *Proverb. Philos.* 288 Who... poised in the balances of order the power to attract and to repel!

† b. One scale of the balance. Obs.

1593 SHAKS. *Rich. II.* III. iv. 87 But in the Balance of great Bullingbrooke, Besides himselfe, are all the English Peeres.
 1635 QUARLES *Embl.* I. iv. (1718) 17 Put in the triple crown Thy balance will not draw: thy balance will not down.

9. The wavering balance of Fortune or chance, in which issues hang in suspense.

1390 *Syr Bevis* 1559 Almost is lif was in balaunce. a 1400 OCEVLE *De Reg. Princ.* 60 Best is I strive nat Ageyn the peys of fortunes balaunce. 1577 HOLLINSHED *Chron.* I. 34/2 The victorie depended long in doubtfull balance. 1612 WOODALL *Surge. Mate* Wks. (1653) 24 Mens lives hang in the balance. 1718 POPE *Iliad* xxii. 271 Jove lifts the golden balances, that show The fates of mortal men.

† 10. Hence: a. Subjective uncertainty; hesitation, wavering, doubt. Obs.

1597 R. GLOUC. 200 Huit were syker al, wyboute balance.
 1340 *Aenb.* 30 Hy byeth in grete balance of hyre helpe of zaulc. 1483 CAXTON *G. de la Tour* G viij b, As they were in such balances theyr childe deyed. 1683 TEMPLE *Mem. Wks.* 1731 I. 439 Our Counsels at Court were so in balance, between the Desires of living at least fair with France, and the Fears of too much displeasing the Parliaments.

† b. Objective uncertainty or suspense; risk, hazard.

1330 R. BRUNNE *Chron.* 156 Ten thousand mark & mo, bat now er in balance. 1386 CHAUCER *Chan. Yem. Prof.* & T. 58, I dar lay in balance Al that I have in my possessioun.
 a 1450 *Knt. de la Tour* (1868) 56 A woman putteth her worshipec in balance to ansuere and speke to moche. 1593 Ld. BERNERS *Froiss.* I. cccxiii. 478 For the loue of me ye haue put in balance your landes. 1685 BURNET *tr. More's Utop.* 129 On whom... they cast the chief Balance of the War.

11. Power to decide or determine; authoritative control.

1393 GOWER *Conf. III.* 381 There is a state... Above all other on erthe here, Which hath the londe in his balance.
 1579 FENTON *Guicciard.* (1599) Ep. Ded., God hath... put into your hands the ballance of power. 1760 ROBERTSON *Hist. Scot.* I. (1831) 75 Henry VIII. of England held the balance with less delicacy, but with a stronger hand.

III. That which balances, or produces equilibrium.

12. A weight put into one scale to equal the preponderating weight in the other, and produce equilibrium; a counterpoise. Hence fig. a thing of equal influence, importance, or value; a counter-consideration, set-off, match.

1601 SHAKS. *All's Well* II. iii. 183 To whom I promise A counterpoise: If not to thy estate, A balance more repeat.
 1699 NEVILLE in Burton's *Diary* (1828) IV. 25 You give them salaries to be your balance. 1723 WODROW *Corr.* (1843) III. 75 A sweet balance, yea, an overbalance, in sweet counterpoise with God. 1876 GREEN *Short Hist.* VII. § 6 (1882) 404 If France... had ceased to be a balance to Spain, she found a new balance in Flanders.

IV. A balanced condition.

13. A condition in which two (or more) opposing forces balance each other; equilibrium: a. of things ponderable.

1713 DERHAM *Phys. Theol.* 14 note, Such Alterations in the æquipoise or balance of the Atmosphere. 1876 GEO. ELIOT *Coll. Breakf. P.* 283 The balance of the planets and the sun.

b. of things imponderable.

1624 SIR T. BROWNE *Relig. Med.* II. § 1. 136 Where I find their actions in balance with my Country-men's, I honour them. a 1718 PENN *Tracts* Wks. 1726 I. 693 Two Degrees of Cold, to two of Heat, make a Poyze in Elements, and a Balance in Nature. 1869 J. MARTINEAU *Ess.* II. 110 The perfect balance of the two elements of consciousness.

c. Balance of power (in Europe): such an adjustment of power among sovereign states that no single state is in a position to interfere with the independence of the rest; international equilibrium. [See 1579 in 11: balance of power.]

1677 YARRANTON *Eng. Impr.* To Reader, Great danger might ensue in breaking the Balance of Europe. 1701 in *Lond. Gaz.* No. 3758/7 Your Glorious Design of Re-establishing a just Balance of Power in Europe. 1761 CHURCHILL *Night Poems* I. 88 Europe's balance hangs upon his tongue. 1864 STANLEY *Jew. Ch.* (1877) I. xl. 204 The battle of Lutzen which determined the balance of power between Roman Catholicism and Protestantism in Germany.

14. General harmony between the parts of anything, springing from the observance of just proportion and relation; esp. in the Arts of Design.

1732 POPE *Ess. Man* II. 120 These mix'd with art... Make and maintain the balance of the mind. 1856 RUSKIN *Mod. Paint.* III. i. viii, In all perfectly beautiful objects, there is found the opposition of one part to another, and a reciprocal balance. 1883—*Art of England* I. 11 Absolutely faithful balances of colour and shade. 1884 *Sat. Rev.* 14 June 778/1 She has in no way attempted to alter the balance of the characters [in a play].

15. Stability or steadiness due to the equilibrium prevailing between all the forces of any system.

a. Physical equipoise, perfectly balanced action.
 1667 MILTON *P. L.* I. 349 In even balance down they light.
 1840 DICKENS *Old C. Shop* xxiii, Swayed himself to and fro to preserve his balance. 1859 HELPS *Friends in C.* Ser. II. II. viii. 167 But lost his own balance and fell out of the boat.
 b. Equipoise of mind, character, or feelings; equanimity, mental composure, sanity.

1856 KANE *Arct. Exp.* I. xvi. 198 If my mind had retained its balance. 1876 MOZLEY *Univ. Sermon* xvi. 266 A strong moral character... keeps its balance, and is not carried away by the love of human praise.

V. The turn of the balance.

16. The preponderating weight; the net result of estimating conflicting principles, forces, etc.

1747 CHIFFERLEY *Lett.* 121 I. 327 This pleasure will increase so that the balance will be greatly to your advantage. 1844 Ld. BROUGHAM *Brit. Const.* xv. (1862) 219 The balance of evidence appears in favour of the due execution. 1856 FROUDE *Hist. Eng.* (1858) I. iii. 267 In Germany... the balance of unjust interference lay on the imperial side.

VI. The adjustment of accounts.

17. The process of finding the difference, if any, between the Dr. and Cr. sides of an account, or set of accounts; the exhibition of this process in a tabular form; the result so ascertained or exhibited.

1588 MELLIS *Briefe Instr.* Fviii b, The balance of your booke is to be understood, a lease of paper disposed and made in length and crossed in the middes, etc. Yf the summes of money, of Debitor and Creditor bee like, than is your balance well. 1668 PEYVS *Diary* 30 Sept., I have also made up... my monthly balance and find that... I am worth £680. 1727 ARBUTHNOT *John Bull* 90 John... brought in Frog debitor to him upon the balance, £3382 12s. 1882 *Daily Tel.* 4 May, £160,000 has been taken out on balance for export.

b. esp. To strike a balance: to determine the exact difference, if any, between the two sides of an account or set of accounts. *lit.* and *fig.*

1638 WILKINS *New World* I, Those rewards and punishments by which... the balance of good and evil in this life is to be struck. 1874 BLACKIE *Self-Cult.* 87 Not to run long accounts, but to strike clear balances at certain set seasons.

c. gen. A comparative reckoning. rare.

1719 W. WOOD *Surv. Trade* 67 This Nation gained upon a Balance of the Ships taken from us, and the Captures we made of the Enemy. 1861 PYCROFT *Agony P.* xliii. 364 The blessings of the Langley Cottage, whether greater or less upon the balance, were of a kind not known at Langley Hall.

d. Balance of trade: the estimation of the difference of value between the commercial exports and imports of a country; the difference itself, as it is in favour of, or against, the country.

1668 CHILD *Disc. Trade* (1694) 164 The Balance of Trade... is to be taken by a strict scrutiny of what proportion the value of the Commodities exported out of this Kingdom bear, to those imported. 1721 C. KING *Brit. Merch.* II. 12 Portugal pays us a Million every Year upon the Balance of Trade. 1830 *Edinb. Encycl.* IV. 370 The exploded doctrine of a balance of trade. 1879 FAWCETT *Free Trade & Prot.* 18 Granting bounties on exports... with a view of creating a favourable balance of trade.

18. An equality between the total of the two sides of an account, when added up, after making all entries on both sides. Cf. 13.

165. PEYVS *Diary* (1879) IV. 139, I do bring my accounts to a very near balance. 1881 GLADSTONE in *Times* 8 Oct. 6/4 While we exported £8,860,000, we imported £8,509,000. That is very nearly a balance.

19. The difference between the Dr. and Cr. sides of an account, or set of accounts.

1622 MALYNES *Anc. Law-Merch.* 370 Take all the remainders of the Accounts by Debitor and Creditor, which is the balance of the Booke. 1819 J. GREIG *Rep. Acc. Edin.* 7 The balance shews the increase of the City's debts. 1866 CRUMP *Banking* iii. 76 Such arrangements may continue for years without the balance ever being a credit-balance.

b. Balance (of indebtedness): the difference between the total amounts which two persons, societies, or nations mutually owe each other.

1786 BURKE *Art. agst. Hastings* xv. § 1 The enormous balances and remissions on that settlement arose from a general collusion between the farmers and collectors. 1818 BYRON *Juan* I. clxvii, We... draw the accounts of evil, And find a deuced balance with the devil. 1866 CRUMP *Banking* vii. 157 The fundamental principle, upon which the price of bills rests in the 'balance of indebtedness.'

20. a. Balance (in hand): the sum of money remaining over after realizing all assets and discharging all liabilities. b. Balance (due): the sum still outstanding on an account.

1720 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 5842/4 A Bill for the Balance of his Victualling Account. 1761 HUME *Hist. Eng.* I. viii. 175 He required him... to pay the balance due. 1768 SMOLLETT *Humph. Cl.* Let. 3 Oct., Thou hadst indeed paid me 'scot and lot'; and even left a balance in my hands. 1808 TYTLER *Hist. Scot.* (1864) I. 221 The large balance of the ransom which still remained unpaid. 1876 HAMERTON *Intell. Life* II. i. 44 A delightful balance at his bankers.

21. Comm. slang: The remainder, the rest.

1864 in WEBSTER. 1875 *Blackw. Mag.* Apr. 443 Balance, long familiar to American ears, is becoming so to ours. In an account of a ship on fire we read 'Those saved remained the balance of the night watching the burning wreck.' 1883 P. FITZGERALD *Recr. Lit. Man* 170 Every one is away shooting or riding; a balance of the ladies is left.

22. Comb. balance-beam, the beam of a balance, also the beam keeping a drawbridge balanced aloft;

balance-bob (see quot.); balance-fish, the hammer-headed shark (*Squalus sygna*); balance-frame (see quot.); balance-knife, a table-knife of which the handle is made sufficiently heavy to keep the blade from touching the cloth; balance-man, one who acts as an equipoise and preserves the balance; balance-master, -mistress, a posture-maker, tumbler, 'equilibrist'; balance-reef, the closest reef of a lower fore-and-aft sail, making it nearly triangular, used to steady the ship in stormy weather, whence balance-reefed; balance-seat, a mode of riding in which the body is balanced in the saddle without support from the stirrups; balance-sheet, a tabular statement of assets and liabilities, showing the character and amount of the balance; balance-step (= GOOSE-STEP); balance-wise *adv.*, in the manner of a balance; balance-yard, the beam of a balance. Also balance-holder, -maker, etc., and many attrib. combinations in *Watchmaking* (see 4), as balance-arc, -cock, -spring, -staff, -wheel (also *fig.*).

1813 SCOTT *Triermain* I. xv. The 'balance-beams obey'd the blast, And down the trembling drawbridge cast. c 1865 J. WYLD in *Circ. Sc.* I. 404/1 Excess of weight... may... damage the 'balance-beam. 1881 RAYMOND *Mining Gloss.*, 'Balance-bob, a heavy lever ballasted at one end, and attached at the other to the pump-rod, the weight of which it thus helps to carry. 1883-4 ROBINSON in *Phil. Trans.* XXIX. 479 The Zygæna or 'Balance Fish, as large as the Saw Fish. 1815 *Encycl. Brit.* XI. 107 Hammer-headed shark, or 'balance-fish. c 1850 Rudim. Nav. 9 'Balance frames, those frames, or bends of timber, of the same capacity or area, which are equally distant from the centre of gravity. 1880 MUIRHEAD *Gains* II. § 107 What has been said about witnesses applies equally to the 'balance-holder. 1833 J. HOLLAND *Manuf. Metal* II. 14 The fabrication of what are called 'balance knives. 1811 COTGER, *Balan-cier*, a 'balance-maker. 1808 STEUART *Planter's G.* 251 Sending up a couple of 'Balancemen to the top; who... serve as movable makeweights. 1753 HOGARTH *Anal. Beauty* xv. 210 The 'balance-master's attention to a single point, in order to preserve his balance. 1801 STRUTT *Sp. & Past.* III. v. (1845) 235 Tymbesteres, or 'balance-mistresses. 1840 R. DANA *Def. Mast* v. 10 Under close-reefed topsails, 'balance-reefed trysail. 1873 *Daily News* 21 May 5/6 That patent hernia-producing institution, the 'balance-seat. 1849 COBDEN *Speeches* 4 The 'balance-sheets of our merchants and manufacturers have been equally adverse. 1853 (13 Oct.) BRIGHT *Peace, Sp.* (1876) 462 If a 'balance-sheet could be shown of what Algeria has cost France. 1833 *Regul. Instr. Cavalry* I. 16 The 'balance step in double time. 1884 F. BRITTON *Watch & Clockm.* 246 The 'balance spring has then to be unpinned every time the 'balance staff is removed. 1690 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 2550/4 A Silver 'Balance-Watch. 1655 *Mro. Wors. Cent. Inv.* xx, How to bring up water 'Balance-wise. 1669 *Phil. Trans.* IV. 937 Watches, which instead of a 'Balance-wheel are regulated by a Pendulum. 1863 Mrs. C. CLARKE *Skats. Char.* viii. 212 Fabian... is the 'balance-wheel between the other two, to keep them in check. 1810 COLERIDGE *Friend* (1865) 35 The other scale... seemed full up to the very 'balance-yard.

Balance (bæl'æns), v. [a. f. *balancer*, f. *balancer* sb. (Like the sb., in certain senses confused with *ballast*.)]

I. To place or weigh in the scales. Chiefly *fig.*
 1. *trans.* To weigh (a matter); to estimate the two aspects or sides of anything; to ponder.

1694 R. LESTRANGE *Fables* cccv. 436 We Weigh and Balance things before we pronounce them to be either Good or Evil. 1775 SHERIDAN *Rivals* III. i. Weighing and balancing what you were pleased to mention. 1827 TENNYSON *Princ.* III. 149 She balanced this a little, And told me she would answer us to-day.

2. To weigh two things, considerations, etc., against each other, so as to ascertain which preponderates. 1596 SPENSER *F. Q.* v. ii. 31 Then would he ballance heaven and hell together. 1609 R. HILL *Pathw. Piety* II. 137 Christ... is balanced with Barabbas, and thought lighter than a murderer. 1736 BUTLER *Anal.* I. iii. 47 To weigh and balance Pleasures and Uneasinesses. 1875 GRINDON *Life* I. i Truth... is determined by balancing probabilities. 1883 GILMOUR *Mongols* xviii. 216 His good and bad actions are balanced against each other.

3. To counterbalance or counterpoise one thing by, with, or against another.

1624 Ld. KENSINGTON in *Ellis Orig. Lett.* I. 301 III. 173 That the honor of the Prince... might be dearer to her than to be balanced with that which, etc. 1625 BACON *Ess.* (1862) 154 Another means to curb them, is to Balance them by others, as Proud as they. 1850 RUSKIN *Mod. Paint.* III. § 1. viii, A mass of subdued colour may be balanced by a point of a powerful one. 1860 PUSEY *Min. Proph.* 47 The self-same wisdom which balanced Egypt against Assyria. 1884 *American* VII. 345 To balance asymmetrically-placed entrance-doors with lobsided windows.

4. To bring to or keep in equilibrium.

1634 HARRINGTON *Castara* 47 That Kings, to ballance true content, shall say: Would they were great as we, we blest as they. 1738 POPE *Epil. Sat.* I. 60 Did not the sneer of more impartial men At sense and virtue balance all again. 1810 COLERIDGE *Friend* (1865) 81 On which it may fix its attention, and thus balance its own energies. 1853 BRIMLEY *Ess.* 282 [The painter] may fail to balance his masses.

5. To steady (a body under the influence of opposing forces); to poise, keep steady or erect.

1840 DICKENS *Old C. Shop* xiii, Strong men... balancing chests of drawers... upon their heads. 1875 BUCKLAND *Log. Bk.* 54 Sculptors are sometimes obliged to use a species of tail in balancing their statues.

b. *refl.* and *intr.* To keep oneself in equilibrium.

1833 *Regul. Instr. Cavalry* i. 15 The Instructor will... make the recruit balance upon the left foot. 1866 HOWELLS *Venet. Life* iv. 58 Balanced herself half over the balcony-rail.

6. To steady, give (mental) balance or ballast to. 1685 BAXTER *Paraphr. N. T.* i. Tim. iii. 6 Young, raw Christians... have had less time to learn the great things which should balance them. (See BALANCED *ppl. a.* 3.)

II. To act as things in the opposite scales of a balance; *lit.* and *fig.*

7. *trans.* To equal in weight, counterpoise, neutralize the weight of. Also *absol.* to balance (each other).

a 1797 NEWTON (J.) The attraction of the glass is balanced... by the contrary attraction of the liquor. 1878 HUXLEY *Physiogr.* 91 The column of water... balances the atmospheric pressure. *Mod.* Do these scales balance?

8. *Hence*: To compensate, neutralize the effect of, make up for.

a 1593 MARLOWE *Dido* iii. iv. I saw no King like thee, Whose golden crown might balance my content. 1655 FULLER *Ch. Hist.* vi. ii. § 57 III. 292 Wherefore, to balance the Protestants, the Jesuits were set on foot. 1786 BUTLER *Serm. Rolls Chap.* v. 90 So many things... balance the sorrow of it. 1837 J. H. NEWMAN *Par. Serm.* i. xxiv. 358 Our duties balance each other. 1870 MORRIS *Earthly Par.* i. i. 384 And weariness was balanced with delight.

9. *intr.* To act as a counterpoise, be equal (*with*).

1579 BEARD *Theat. Gods Judgm.* (1612) 530 Could such a punishment balance with his so... great offences?

III. To oscillate like the beam of a balance.

10. *intr.* To waver, deliberate, hesitate. Cf. I.

1655 EARL ORRERY *Parthen.* (1676) 628 Her great danger... invited my assistance, which, without balancing, I ran to pay her. 1753 RICHARDSON *Grandison* (1781) II. xxvi. 246 He had... no very strong aspirations after matrimony, and had balanced about it a good while. 1825 R. WARD *Tremaine* i. v. 37 Mrs. Belson balanced some time upon this, as any good mother would. 1850 MERIVALE *Rom. Emp.* (1865) I. ix. 373 The same disposition to balance and temporize... wrecked his fortunes as a statesman.

II. Of partners in dancing: To move to and fro in converse directions like the arms of a balance, to set to a partner.

1775 SHERIDAN *Rivals* iii. iv. (1883) 113, I must rub up my balancing, and chasing, and boring. 1859 in WORCESTER.

12. *trans.* To sway backwards and forwards.

1798 POPE *Dunc.* iii. 200 Tuning his voice and balancing his hands.

IV. Of an account. *lit.* and *fig.*

13. *trans.* To add up the debit and credit sides of an account or set of accounts, and ascertain the difference, if any, between their respective amounts.

1588 MELLIS *Briefe Instr.* Evij, At your viages returne... balance vp the books. 1724 SWIFT *Drapier's Lett.* Wks. 1755 V. ii. 130 To compute and balance my gain and my loss. 1796 BURKE *Corr.* (1844) IV. 383 Thus we balance the account;—defeat and dishonour abroad; oppression at home. a 1824 TENNYSON *Audley Cr.* 43 'Oh! who would cast and balance at a desk?'

14. To make such entries in an account or set of accounts as make the two sides equal; to produce an equality in the total amounts of the debit and credit entries of a set of accounts.

b. In this sense, also, accounts are said (*intr.*) to balance (i.e. themselves); or an entry is said to balance the account, or balance an opposite entry.

1622 MALVINES *Anc. Law-Merch.* 371 And if he had beene a loser by the Account of profit and losse, then must he make his Capitall Debtor, and the said Account Creditor, to balance the matter. 1675 GREGORY in Rigaud *Corr. Sci. Men* II. 276, I cannot perceive how the balance balance the book. 1748 ANSON *Voy.* iii. viii. 373 The happy crisis which was to balance the account of all their past calamities. 1876 JEVONS *Prin. Pol. Econ.* 52 To make the profits of the successful business balance the losses of the unfortunate ones.

15. *Hence*: To settle (an account) by paying an amount due, to clear off a liability.

1740 CIBBER *Apol.* (1756) I. 142 The end of the season, when dues to balance came too thick upon 'em. 1877 H. PAGE *De Quincey* II. xvi. 20 A cheque for £30, to balance his account.

V. 18. *Naut.* To reef with a balance-reef, so as to steady the ship in bad weather: see BALANCE *sb.* 22. Perhaps originally ballast.

[Cf. 1667 DAMPIER *Voy.* (1729) I. 414 We furl'd our Main-sail, and ballasted our Mizzen.] 1762-9 FALCONER *Shipbur.* ii. 460 The balanced mizen, rending to the head. 1769 — *Dict. Marine* (1789), s.v., A boom main-sail is balanced, after all its reefs are taken in, by rolling up... the aftmost lower corner.

¶ 17. To ballast. *Obs. rare.* Cf. BALANCE *sb.* 7 ¶.

1863 STUBBS *Anat. Abus.* (1836) 202 There is no ship so balanced with massie matter as their heads are fraught with all kinde of boudie songes. [Cf. 1769 FALCONER *Dict. Marine* (1789) *Upper-work*... that part of a ship which is above the surface of the water when she is properly balanced for a sea-voyage.]

Balanceable (bæ'lænsə'b'l), *a.* [f. prec. + -ABLE.] Capable of being balanced.

1667 WATERHOUSE *Fire Lond.* 3 Great successes... which they judge no otherwise balanceable than by this spoil.

Balanced (bæ'lænst), *ppl. a.* [f. as prec. + -ED.]

1. *lit.* Poised; so arranged, placed, or adjusted with a counterpoise, as to remain in equilibrium. 1611 COTGR., *Balanc'd*, Balanced, weighed, poised. 1667 MILTON *P. L.* iv. 1000 The pendulous round Earth with ballanc'd Aire in counterpoise. 1814 SCOTT *Ld. of Isles* iii.

xv. Loose crags... chance-poised and balanced, lay. 1869 *Daily News* 12 June, The Cerberus has a balanced rudder. 2. Having the opposed parts or tendencies so adjusted as to produce equilibrium or equality.

1592 DANIEL *Compl. Rosam.* (1717) 47 Thus stood I balanced equally precise, Till my frail Flesh did weigh me down to Sin. 1797 SWIFT *Balance Eur.* Wks. 1755 III. ii. 128 Now Europe's balanc'd, neither side prevails. 1870 JEBB *Sophocles' Electra* Introd. 10 Contending and almost balanced claims. 1877 RUSKIN *Larus Fesole* i. ii, Every system is imperfect which pays more than a balanced and equitable attention to any one of the three skills.

3. Well arranged or disposed; stable in character by due proportion of parts.

1624 QUARLES *Sion's Sonn.* (1717) 349 The ruby portals of thy balanc'd words Send forth a welcome relish. 1836 J. GILBERT *Chr. Atomem.* iii. (1852) 60 Neither can it... operate with any weight upon a justly balanced mind. 1878 T. SINCLAIR *Mount* 83 The birth of a balanced artist.

4. *Logic.* (See quot.)

1849 ARP. THOMSON *Larus Th.* § 71 The middle [term] is said to be balanced when it is distributed in both premisses alike. The extremes of the conclusion are balanced when both alike are distributed. 1870 BOWEN *Logic* viii. 258 Moods... balanced as respects both Terms and Propositions.

Balancement (bæ'lænsmənt), *rare.* [f. as prec. + -MENT.] The action of balancing; a balanced condition; equilibrium, equipoise.

1862 R. PATTERSON *Ess. Hist. & A.* 322 Sacrificing a complete balancement of parts for the sake of obtaining variety.

Balancer (bæ'lænsə), [f. as prec. + -ER; cf. AF. *balancer*, OF. *balancier*.]

1. One who weighs with a balance. *Obs. rare.*

[1309 *Hustings Rolls Lond.* No. 38. 102 Ralph le Balancer, Pepperer. 1320 *Ibid.* No. 49. 1 Le Balancer.] 1413 LYDG. *Pylgr. Soule* i. xxiv. (1839) 37 Neyeng toward the balancer... she said to the balancer; How is it in our party? 1611 COTGR., *Balancer*, a balancer; a weigher of things in a balance.

2. One who balances himself in difficult positions; a tumbler, acrobat.

c 1520 COCKE *Lorelles B.* 10 Balancers, tynne casters, and skryueners. 1765 REID *Int. Powers* iv. iv, The feats of balancers and rope dancers. 1841 DE QUINCEY *Rhet.* (1860) 355 Posture-maker or balancer.

3. One who keeps things in equilibrium, or maintains the balance of power.

1731 A. HILL *Adv. Poets* xxxi, Balancers of State. 1795 *Scotts Mag.* LVII. 884/2 A republican balancer of Europe, which the new republic would be.

4. Something which helps to preserve the balance; spec. the knobbed filaments (*halteres* or *poisers*), which in two-winged flies replace the posterior wings, a name given (in F.) by Réaumur from their resemblance to the balancer used in coining.

1753 CHAMBERS *Cycl. Suppl.*, *Balancers*... under the wings of the two-winged flies. 1854 OWEN in *Circ. Sc. Org.* Nat. II. 56/1 In the long-bodied... abdominal fishes, the ventrals... subserve the office of accessory balancers. 1863 WOOD *Illustr. Nat. Hist.* III. 554 The... halteres or balancers... are the only vestiges of the hinder pair of wings.

Balancing (bæ'lænsɪŋ), *vbl. sb.* [f. BALANCE *v.* + -ING.] The action of the vb. BALANCE.

1. *lit.* Weighing, poising; acrobatic posturing.

1590 SANDOVS *Europe Spec.* (1632) 162 The Arts of Alchymy and Balancing. 1674 N. FAIRFAX *Bulk & Selv.* 76 The wheels and springs or ballancings of Nature. 1801 STRUTT *Sports & Past.* iii. v. 190 Tumbling, and balancing... exhibited by the gleemen. 1883 PAYN *Thicker than W.* I. 181 Beginning to lose confidence in his balancing pole upon this very high rope.

2. *fig.* Pondering, consideration, critical comparison.

1666 TILLOTSON *Rule Faith* ii. iii. § 10 Exact balancing of every particular word. 1739 HUME *Hum. Nat.* ii. ii. (1874) I. 330 Objections and replies, and balancing of arguments.

3. Hesitation between opposing considerations; uncertainty.

1598 BACON *Faction, Ess.* (Arb.) 80 When Matters haue stucke long in balancing. 1817 FOSTER *Life & Corr.* (1846) I. cv. 465, I am in a great state of doubt and balancing. 1884 *Harper's Mag.* Jan. 189/1 Balancings between Torquay and Madeira.

4. The placing of one thing over against another as in a balance, compensation; reduction to equilibrium, proportionate adjustment.

1612 TRAVERS *Supplic.* in Hooker *Ecc. Pol.* II. 656 So unequal a balancing of faults and punishments. 1647 W. BROWNE *Poet.* ¶ iii § 4, Knowing not how to reward an action that was beyond all balancing. 1860 MILL *Rep. Govt.* (1865) 87/2 This balancing of evil by evil. 1884 *Pall Mall G.* 23 Feb. 4/1 There was [no] finer balancing of mental and moral gifts than in Mr. Cobden.

5. Comparison, or equalization, of the credit and debit totals of an account.

1668 WILKINS *Real Char.* ii. i. § 5. 41 Balancing, Evening of Accounts. 1721 C. KING *Brit. Merch.* II. 10 By such a Balancing of Accounts. 1803 *Edin. Rev.* II. 16 The balancing system.

6. Oscillation about a position of equilibrium.

1868 LOCKYER *Heavens* 457 A top... undergoes also a balancing of its axis of figure or rotation, analogous to the oscillations of the Earth.

Balancing, *ppl. a.* [f. as prec. + -ING².]

1. Weighing, pondering; hesitating.

1850 MAURICE *Mor. & Met. Phil.* vii. § 5. 228 Cicero... had a singularly equitable, balancing, compromising nature.

2. Producing equilibrium, compensating.

1645 W. GOODE *Publ. Spir.* A ij b, That Balancing providence of our most wise God. 1849 RUSKIN *Sev. Lamps*

iv. § 26 Buildings are generally bad which have large balancing features at the extremities. 1854 H. MILLER *Sch. & Schm.* iii. (1857) 42 Though there were... no trees, there were some balancing advantages.

3. Acrobatic.

1801 STRUTT *Sports & Past.* iii. v. 190 Tumbling and balancing women.

|| **Balandra** (bælændrə), [Sp.; cf. BILANDER.] A small coasting vessel.

1845 DARWIN *Voy. Nat.* vii. (1873) 134 A balandra, or one-masted vessel of about a hundred tons' burden.

Balanid (bæ'lānid), *Zool.* [f. BALAN-US + -ID.] A member of the *Balanidae* or Acorn-shells.

1836 TODD *Cycl. Anat. & Phys.* I. 685/1 The shells of the Balanids present several striking peculiarities of structure.

Balaniferous (bælānifərəs), *a.* [f. L. *balanus* acorn + -(i)FEROUS; cf. F. *balanifère*.] Acorn-bearing.

1881 in *Syd. Soc. Lex.*

Balanite (bæ'lānait), [ad. L. *balanites*, a. Gr. *βαλανίτης* acorn-shaped, f. *βάλανος* acorn.]

1. A kind of precious stone. *Obs.*

1598 SYLVESTER *De Barys* (1608) 162 Beset with Bal'nites, rubies, chrysolites. [1601 HOLLAND *Pliny* xxxvii. x. II. 625 As for the stone Balanites, there be two kinds... of a greenish colour, and resembling Corinth brasse. 1753 CHAMBERS *Cycl. Suppl.*, Some think the *balanites* to have been the *lapis judaicus*.]

2. A fossil balanid.

1835 KIRBY *Hab. & Inst. Anim.* xiii, The second Order of Cirripedes consists of the Balanites or Acorn-barnacles.

Balanoid (bæ'lānoid), *a.* and *sb.* [ad. Gr. *βαλανοειδής*, f. *βάλανος* acorn: see -OID.] *A. adj.* Acorn-shaped. *B. sb.* An acorn-shell or balanid.

1869 NICHOLSON *Zool.* (1880) xxxi. 201 The Balanoids are shallow-water forms. 1881 in *Syd. Soc. Lex.*

† **Balant**, *a. Obs.* [ad. L. *bālāntem*, pr. pple. of *bālāre* to bleat.] Bleating, baaing.

1702 C. MATHER *Magn. Christi* vii. App. (1852) 620 The balant and latrant noises of that sort of people.

|| **Balanus** (bæ'lānds), [L., a. Gr. *βάλανος* acorn.] = ACORN-SHELL.

1707-41 in CHAMBERS *Cycl.* 1839 RIDDILL in *Proc. Bernv. Nat. Club* I. vii. 197 May and June... when the young Balani are most numerous.

Balas (bæ'lās), *Forms*: 5- *balas*; also 5 *balase*, -ase, -ase, -is, -eys, 6 *balas*, -ays, *ballasas*, -ais, 6-8 *balasse*, 6-9 *ballas*, *ballas*, 7-ase, -eys, *balais*, (balloet). [a. OF. *balais*, *balai*, cogn. with Pr. *balays*, *balach*, It. *balascio*, Sp. *balaz*, med. L. *balascus* (Marco Polo), *balascius*, -astius, ad. Arab.

بلخش *balakhsh*, f. Pers. بدخشان *Badakhshān*, the district near Samarcand where they are found.] A delicate rose-red variety of the spinel ruby.

1414 *Test. Ebor.* (1836) I. 363 Unum annulum de auro, cum uno balase. 1493 JAS. I. *King's Q.* ii. xxvii, Grette balas lemyng as the fyre. 1439 E. E. Wills (1882) 118 My Noych with my Balays. 1494 FABYAN vii. 540 Dyamantys, rubyes and balassys. 1577 HOLINSHED *Chron.* III. 801/1 A great bauderike about his necke of great balasses. 1877 W. JONES *Finger-ring* L. 247 Sapphires, balasses, diamonds.

b. Now usually *balas-ruby*.

1596 DANETT *Comines Hist. Fr.* (1614) 279 Fowerteene Rubies ballais. 1611 COTGR., *Ballas*, a balleys Ruby. 1623 JAS. I. in *Four C. Eng. Lett.* 46 The collar of great ballest rubies. 1822 SCOTT *Nigel* v. A carcanet of large balas rubies. 1874 WESTROFF *Proc. Stones* 18 The balas ruby is of a delicate rose-pink colour, showing a blue tint when looked through.

Balase, -ase, *sb.* and *v.*, intermediate forms due to confusion of BALANCE and BALLAST.

1609 BIBLE (Douay) *Exek.* xlv. 11 According to the measure of a core shal be the equal ballasing of them. 1656 BLOUNT *Glossogr.*, *Balasse*, *ballast* or *ballance*... anything of weight laid in the bottom of Ships to make them go upright.

Balastre, *balastriar*: see BALIST-.

† **Balatron**, -oon. *Obs. rare.* [ad. L. *balatron-em* (= *blatironem*) babbler, prater, buffoon.]

A buffoon, a contemptible fellow.

1603 COCKERAM, *Balatron*, a rascally base knave. 1678 MRS. BEHN *Sir P. Fancy* v. i. 303 The affront this Balatron has offer'd me.

Balatronik (bælātrɒnik), *a.* [f. L. *balatron-em* (see prec.) + -IC.] Of or pertaining to buffoons.

1883 SALA *Illustr. Lond. News* 10 Nov. 451 Students of the Balatronik dialect who... keep... an interleaved copy of the Slang Dictionary.

|| **Balausta** (bālō'stā), *Bot.* [mod. L. (Linn.); cf. next.] The fruit of the pomegranate.

1849 in BRANDE *Dict. Art & Sc.* 1870 BENTLEY *Bot.* 315 The Balausta is an inferior, many-celled, many-seeded, indehiscent fruit, with a tough pericarp.

Balaustine (bālō'stin), *Also* 7 *balaustin*, 8 -ian. [ad. Gr. *βαλαύστιον* (in same sense), or subst. use of an adj. formed from it.] The red rose-like flower of the wild pomegranate, which, when dried, is used in medicine as an astringent.

1671 SALMON *Syn. Med.* iii. lxxxii. 716 Decoction of Balaustins. 1728 LEWIS in *Phil. Trans.* XXXV. 490 Astringent Drugs, as Galls, Oak-Leaves and Balaustians. 1757 WALKER *ibid.* L. 121 A tincture of balaustine-flowers. 1839 in HOOPER *Med. Dict.*

† **Balausty**, *Obs.* Also 6 *balasty*. [ad. L. *balautium*, a. Gr. *βαλαύστιον*] = *prec.*

1541 R. COPLAND *Gwydon's Quest. Cyrrurg.*, A playster of Bolarmynnye, galles, balasty, and other that staunche

blode. 1678 WOODALL *Surg. Mate Wks.* (1653) 181 Balauties, which are flowers of Pomegranats.

Balayne, Balays, obs. ff. **BALLEN, BALAS** (ruby).

Balbutiate (bælbūtī'et), *v.*; also (badly) **balbutinate**. [*f. L. balbuti-re* to stammer + -ATE³; cf. *F. balbutier*.] To stammer or stutter.

1731 in BAILEY; and in mod. Dicts.

Balbutient (bælbūtī'ent), *a.* [*ad. L. balbutient-em*: see *prec.*] Stammering, stuttering.

1648 H. MORE *Song of Soul* III. iii. xxiv, I have with tongue balbutient Prattled to th' weaker ear. 1678 CUDWORTH *Intell. Syst. l.* iv. § 18, 316 Speech... that is but imperfect, balbutient and inarticulate.

|| **Balbuties** (bælbūtī'iz). *Med.* [*mod. L., f. balbutire*.] Stammering, stuttering; lisping.

1655 CULPEPPER *Riverius v.* iv. 127 Balbuties, a kind of Stammering, which keepeth men from pronouncing of the Letter R. 1659 WORCESTER, *Balbuties*, stammering; vicious pronunciation, in which *b* and *t* are substituted for other consonants.

† **Balcon.** *Obs. rare*—1. [*f. F., Sp., or Pr. balcon* = *It. balcone*: see *BALCONY*.] = *BALCONY*.

1635 J. HAYWARD *Banish'd Virg.* 142 Lights in all their balcon. 1665 PEPYS *Diary*, 1 June, We... stood in the balcon.

Balconette (bælkōn'et). [*f. BALCONY* + -ETTE.] A miniature balcony.

1876 T. HARDY *Hand Ethelb.* II. xlviii. 273 A timber-built cottage, having ornamental barge-boards, balconettes, and porch.

Balconied (bæ'lkōnid), *ppl. a.* [*f. next* + -ED².] Furnished with a balcony or balconies.

a 1733 NORTH *Exam.* III. vii. 86 The House was double balconied in Front. 1869 Mrs. WHITNEY *Hitherto* xlv, That pleasant, high, balconied room.

Balcony (bæ'lkōni). *Forms*: 7 *balcone*, -ona, -onie, -ones, *belcony*, -ey, *belloony*, -ey, 7-*balcony*. [*a. It. balcone* (= *F., Pr., Sp. balcon*, *Pg. balcão*), formed with augmentative suffix -one from *It. balco*, *palco*, scaffold, *a. OHG. balcho*, *palcho* (= *mod. G. balken*, *Eng. balk*) a beam. Till c 1825 the pronunc. was regularly bæl'kō'ni; but bæ'lkōni (once in Swift), 'which,' said Samuel Rogers, 'makes me sick,' is now established.]

1. A kind of platform projecting from the wall of a house or room, supported by pillars, brackets, or consoles, and enclosed by a balustrade.

1618 HOLYDAY *Yvoneal* 223 It was properly a balcone, and so the building it self did jerry out. 1633 G. HERBERT *World* ii. in *Temple* 76 Then Pleasure came, who liking not the fashion, began to make Balcones, Terraces. 1640 BROME *Sparagus Card.* III. iv. 159 Squinting up at Windowes and Balconies. 1727 SWIFT *Tom Clinch Misc.* (1735) V. 145 The Maids to the Doors and the Balconies ran, And said, lackaday! he's a proper young Man. 1783 COWPER *Gilpin* 142 At Edmonton his loving wife from the balcony spied Her tender husband. 1817 BYRON *Beppo* xi, And like so many Venuses of Titian's They look when leaning over the balcony, Or step'd from out a picture by Giorgione. 1832 TENNYSON *Mariana* in *S. viii*, Backward the lattice-blind she flung, and lean'd upon the balcony. 1845 BROWNING *Fl. Ductus* § 15, 505 To breathe the fresh air from the Balcony. *Fig.* 1650 B. *Discollim.* 2 First to the Title... Next to the Balcony or Preamble.

2. The similar structure at the stern of large ships. 1666 PEPYS *Diary* (1879) IV. 143 A very good ship, but with galleries quite round the stern like a balcone. c 1850 *Rudim. Nav.* (Weale) 94 *Balcony*, the gallery in the stern of large ships.

3. In theatres: † *a. formerly*, A stage-box. *b. now*, (generally) The open part above the dress circle, between that and the 'gallery.' In Music Halls and other public buildings, variously applied, according to structure.

1718 Rem. *Rochester* 106 Fairly in public he plays out his Game, Betimes bespeaks Balconies. 1883 *Harper's Mag.* Nov. 88 1/2 The three tiers of boxes and the balcony of which the auditorium consists.

4. *attrib.*, as in *balcony-chamber*, -door, -window. 1635 Althorp MS. in *Simpkinson Washingtons* Introd. 70 Tymber for the balconia doores. 1636 LAUD in *4th Rep. Com. Hist. MSS.* (1874) 153 1/2 A balconee window and a staircase. 1800 COLERIDGE *Piccolomini* i. vi, Why was the balcony-chamber countermanded?

Bald (bɔld), *a.* *Forms*: 3-5 *balledo*, 4-5 *balled*, -yd, -id, -it, 5 *belde*, *bellyde*, 5-7 *balde*, 6 *baulde*, 7 *bal'd*, *ball'd*, 8-9 *Sc. beld*, 6-*bald*. [*ME. balled*, of uncertain origin; in sense 1, apparently a *ppl. form* from *BALL v.* or *sb.*, with the sense of 'protuberant or rounded like a ball,' whence possibly 'smooth,' and, as applied to the head, 'hairless.' But the analogy of many words for 'bald' in various langs., in which the sense arises out of that of 'shining, white,' or esp. that of 'having a white patch on the forehead,' as in 'bald-faced stag,' 'bald-coot,' with the actual appearance of this sense in *BALL sb.* 2, strongly favours the idea that *ME. bald* was a derivative of the latter (cf. also *BALLARD*), which is with evident propriety referred to Welsh *bâl*, as explained under sense 5. The chief difficulty is the rarity of the simple *ball*, and lack of early instances to prove its Eng. use before the appearance of *bald-ed*. For the termination, Sievers compares OE. -ede (OS. -odi) used esp. of bodily

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defects, as in *heal-ede* ruptured, *hofer-ede* hunch-backed, etc.

Cf. the analogy of MDu. *blaer* 'bald' and *blare*, Du. *blaar* 'white patch on the forehead' of a horse, etc.; also of MHG. *blas* 'bald,' earlier 'shining,' and *blasse* 'white patch on the forehead'; also of Du. *bles* 'bald' and *blesse*; and see *blas* in Grimm; also Wedgwood and Skeat. Cf. also Gr. *φαλαρός* 'bald,' lit. 'white- or shining-pated.' There seems little ground for the suggestion of Kluge that *balled* represents a lost OE. **balled* = *barlod*, Goth. **baslōps*, from OTeut. *bas-as* *BARE*.]

I. *Literal senses.*

† 1. Rotund, of full habit, corpulent. *Obs.*

1297 R. GLOUC. 377 Syppe bycke man he was. Gret womede & ballede. *Ibid.* 429 Ballede he was, & bycke of breste, of body vat also. [*Cf. also BOLLED*.]

2. Having no hair on some part of the head where it would naturally grow; hairless.

c 1386 CHAUCER *Prolog.* 198 His heed was ballid, and schon as any glas. 1387 TREVISIA *Hyden* Rolls Ser. III. 285 A balled fortop [*recalva fronte*]. 1398 — *Barth. De P. R. v.* iv. (1495) 108 The forreste partye of the heede wexyth soone balde. 1474 CAXTON *Chesse* 55 Julius Cesar was ballyd wherof he had displaisir. 1483 *Cath. Angl.* 27 To make belde (*v. r.* bellyde), *decalure*. 1500 SHAKS. *Com. Err.* II. ii. 70 The plaine bald pate of Father time himselfe. 1691 *London Gas.* No. 2724 1/4 Wears his own Hair ball'd on the fore part of his Head. 1794 BURNS *J. Anderson*, But now your brow is beld, John. 1870 GEO. ELIOT *Middlem.* I. v. Dreadful to see the skin of his bald head moving about.

b. fig. esp. in reference to the necessity of 'seizing time by the forelock.'

c 1590 MARLOWE *Jew of M. v.* ii, Begin betimes; Occasion's bald behind; Slip not thine opportunity. 1606 DEKKER *Ser. Sins* VI. (Arb.) 40 Thy Inhabitants Shaue their Consciences so close, that in the end they growe balde, and bring forth no goodnesse. 1663 BR. PATRICK *Parab. Pilgr.* 259 They let those opportunities grow old... and suffer them to be bald before they mind to apprehend them.

3. Without hair (feathers, etc.) on other parts of the body than the head.

c 1340 *Cursor M.* (Fairf.) 3490 Pe first was bornē [Esau] was rughe of hare. Pe toper childe was ballede [*Cott. smeth*, *Gott. sleight*, *Trin. sleight*] and bare. 1607 TORSELL *Four-f. Beasts* 407 Beavers... have been found bald on the back. 1640 W. HODGSON *Div. Cosmog.* 97 Eagles moult off their feathers, and so become bald. 1771 BARRINGTON in *Phil. Trans.* LXII. 6, 1... do not find that their [Rabbits'] ears are balder than those of a Hare.

4. *transf.* Without the usual or natural covering (in various senses): *a.* Of trees, mountains, etc.: Leafless, treeless, barren, bare. *b.* Of cloth: Napless. *c.* Of wheat, grain, etc.: Awntless, beardless. † *d.* Of persons: Bare-headed. *e.* Of eyes: Lidless, staring.

1600 SHAKS. *A. Y. L.* IV. iii. 106 An old Oake, whose bows were moss'd with age, And high top bald with drie antiquitie. 1607 — *Cor.* IV. v. 206 The Senators... stand bald before him. 1610 — *Temp.* IV. 238 Now Ikerin you are like to lose your haire, & growe a bald Ierkin. 1642 FULLER *Holy & Prof. St.* III. vii. 166 Where a place is bald of wood. c 1800 COLERIDGE *Chamouni*, Thy bald, awful head, O sovran Blanc! 1809 J. BARLOW *Columb.* III. 414 The bald eyes [of a dead tiger] glare, the paws depend below. 1876 TENNYSON *Q. Mary* I. i. 7 Fray'd I the knees, and out at elbow, and bald of the back.

5. Streaked or marked with white. [*Cf. Welsh ceyffyl* *bâl* a horse with a white streak or mark on the face (*F. cheval belle-face*), where *bâl* may be an adj., or a *sb.* construed as a genitive.]

1594 BARNFIELD *Aff. Sheph.* I. xviii, I have a pie-bald Cur to hunt the Hare. 1690 *London Gas.* No. 2575 1/4 A black Mare with 3 white Feet, and a bald Face. 1711 *Ibid.* No. 4848 1/4 Strayed... a black bald Gelding.

II. *Figurative.* (*Cf. SLIGHT a. and G. blasse*.)

6. Bare or destitute of meaning or force; lacking in pregnant import or vividness of description; meagre, trivial, platy.

1568 LANGE *P. Pl. A.* XI. 41 And Bringeb forþ Ballede Resouns. 1581 J. BELL *Haddon's Answ. Osor.* 428 b, What a bald devise is this of the man? 1593 NASHE *Christ's T.* 63 b, Had rather heare a iarring black-sant, then one of theyr balde sermons. 1791 BOSWELL *Johnson* 8 Apr. 1775, Tom Davies repeated, in a very bald manner, the story of Dr. Johnson's first repartee to me. 1817 COLERIDGE *Biog. Lit.* 224 The meaning dwindles into some bald truism.

7. Bare or destitute of ornament and grace; unadorned, meagrely simple: *a.* of literary style.

1589 NASHE *Anat. Absurd.* 22 Bald affected eloquence. 1693 W. ROBERTSON *Phrascol. Gen.* 136 Translated word for word... into bald Latine. 1851 BRIMLEY *Ess.* 123 To translate into bald prose those high-coloured and nobly musical passages of the Prelude.

b. of works of art, buildings, etc.

1805 LD. COCKBURN *Mem.* 286 In towns the great modern object has... been... to reduce everthing to the dulllest and baldest uniformity. 1850 TENNYSON *In Mem.* vii, Thro' the drizzling rain On the bald street breaks the blank day.

8. Undisguised, palpable, evident.

1854 G. ARBOTT *Napoleon* II. xviii. 343 Admitted, in all its bald baseness. 1870 LOWELL *Among Bks.* Ser. II. (1873) 314 A bald egotism which is quite above and beyond selfishness.

III. *Comb.*, chiefly parasynthetic deriv., as *bald-crowned* (sense 2), *bald-faced*, -nosed (sense 5). See also *BALD-COOT*, -HEAD, -PATE, -RIB, and *bald BUZ-ZARD*, *EAGLE*, *KITE*, *LOCUST*, etc.

1677 *London Gas.* No. 1237 1/4 A sorrel Mare... bald-faced, and but one eye. 1809 *Ibid.* 2503 1/4 A brown Gelding... bald Nosed. 1716 *Ibid.* 5494 1/4 A... well-set Man, bald-crowned.

† **Bald** (bɔld). *v.* *Obs.* [*f. prec. sb.*] To make bald, deprive of hair. *lit.* and *fig.*

1608 FULBECKE *Pandects* 78 In Germany they vse to cut off the heare of an adulteresse... I have seenne some of them balded here in Englande. 1608 FELTHAM *Resolves* I. iv. (1647) 9 While... Winter bald's the shag-hair'd wood.

Bald, early and north. form of **BOLD**.

Baldachin, -quin (bæ'ldækin). *Forms*: 6-8 *baldakin* (e), 7 *balduquino*, 7-9 *baldacchino*, 8-9 *baldachin*, 9-*chine*, -*chino*, *baldachin*: see also *BAUDEKIN*. [*a. F., Sp. baldachin*, *It. baldacchino*, in *med. L. baldakinus*, -*ekinus*, *baudakinus*, -*ekinus*, *f. Baldacco*, *It. form of Bagdad*, the city in Asia where the material was made. Cf. the earlier *BAUDEKIN*, through *OF. baudekin*, -*quin*, usual in sense 1. The *It. form baldacchino* is also used.]

1. A rich embroidered stuff, originally woven with woof of silk and warp of gold thread; rich brocade. 1598 HAKLUYT *Voy.* I. 54 They weare Jackets... of buckram, skarlet, or Baldakines. 1753 CHAMBERS *Cycl. Suppl.*, *Baldachin*, or Baldakin, or Baldekin, popularly Baudekin... a rich kind of cloth. 1880 YULE in *Birdwood Ind. Arts* II. 71 Rich silk and gold brocades were called Baldachini, or in English, Baudekins.

2. A structure in the form of a canopy, either supported on columns, suspended from the roof, or projecting from the wall, placed above an altar, throne, or door-way; so called as having been originally of the material described in *prec. sense*.

1645 EVELYN *Mem.* (1857) I. 110 The room... having a state or balduquino of crimson velvet. *Ibid.* 145 An elevated throne, and a baldacchino, or canopy of state... over it. 1648 THACKERAY *Van. Fair* xviii, The baldachin of St. Peter's. 1850 BROWNING *Christm. Eve*, Heave loftier yet the baldachin. 1876 LADY HERBERT *Tr. Habner's Trav.* I. xii. 182 Heavy clouds shroud the tops of the mountains as with a baldachino.

† **Baldare.** *Obs. rare*—1. [*Cf. dial. balder vb.* 'to use coarse language' Halliwell, and *Du. balder-en* to roar, thunder: see also *BALDERDASH*.] *Din*, uproarious noise.

1593 STANYHURST *Aeneis* IV. 108 Their brayns vnquicted with this baldare be buzing [*ea cura quietos sollicitat*].

Bald-coot. Also (*metri gratia*) **baldicoot**. Popular name for the Coot (*Fulica atra*), from its pure white wide frontal plate, destitute of feathers. Used *fig.* and contemptuously as = **BALD-HEAD**.

a 1300 W. DE BIBLESW. in *Wright's Voc.* 165 *Une blarye* (*glossed*) a balled cote. 1616 BRAUM. & FL. *Knt. Malta* I. i, Unfledge them of their... perriwigs, and they appear like bald-cootes, in the nest. 1806 in G. MONTAGU *Ornith. Dict.* 1833 BYRON *Yvan* XIV. lxxxiii, The bald-coot bully, Alexander. 1848 KINGSLEY *Saint's Trag.* III. iv. 176 Your princesses, that... demean themselves to hob and nob with these black baldicoots [*i.e. monks with shaven crowns*].

Balden (bɔld'n), *v.* [*f. BALD a. + -EN*.] *a. trans.* To make bald. *b. intr.* To become bald. Hence *Baldening ppl. a.*

1883 MISS BROUGHTON *Belinda* II. iii. 117 Old, sparse, colourless hair, thriftily drawn across the baldening crown.

Balder, -ur. [*ON. Baldr*, cogn. w. OE. *baldor*, *baldor* hero, prince, *f. bald*: see *BOLD*.] Name of a Scandinavian deity, occurring in certain plant-names: — *Balder-herb* (*Amaranthus hypochondriacus*); *Balder Brae*, *Balder's Brae*, *Baldeyebrow* [*ON. Baldrs-brá*] (*Anthemis Cotula*). See also *BALDMONEY* and *BADDERLOCKS*. 1552 HULOET, *Baldr herb*. 1770 BR. PERCY *Mallet's N. Antig.* (Bohn) 417 Thou may'st have some idea of the beauty of his hair when I tell thee that the whitest of all plants is called Baldr's brow.

Balderdash (bɔldərdæʃ), *sb.* [*Etymology unknown*: see below.]

† 1. Frothy or frothy liquid. *Obs.*

1596 NASHE *Saffron Walden* To Rdr. 11 Two blunderkins, having their brayns stuff with nought but balder-dash. 1599 — *Lent. Stuffe* 8 They would no more... have their heads washed with his bubbly spume or barbers balderdash.

† 2. A jumbled mixture of liquors, *e.g.* of milk and beer, and wine, brandy and mineral waters. *Obs.* 1611 CHAPMAN *May-day* III. Dram. Wks. 1873 II. 374 S'fyt winesucker, what have you fild vs heere? balderdash? 1669 B. JONSON *New Inn* I. ii, Beer or butter-milk, mingled together... It is against my free-hold... To drink such balder-dash. 1637 J. TAYLOR (Water P.) *Drink & Wale* (Worc.), Beer, by a mixture of wine hath lost both name and nature, and is called balderdash. 1693 W. ROBERTSON *Phrascol. Gen.* 108 Balderdash; of drink; *Mixta Potio*.

b. attrib. 1641 HEYWOOD *Reader, here you'll*, etc. 6 Where sope hath fay'd without, Balderdash wines within will worke no doubt. 1680 *Revenge* v. 68 Balderdash Wine.

3. *transf.* A senseless jumble of words; nonsense, trash, spoken or written.

1674 MARVELL *Rel. Transp.* II. 243 Did ever Divine rattle out such prophane Balderdash! 1721 AMHERST *Terra Fil.* 257 Trap's second-brew'd balderdash runs thus: Pyrrhus tells you, etc. 1812 *Edin. Rev.* XX. 419 The balderdash which men must talk at popular meetings. 1849 MACAULAY *Hist. Eng.* I. 351, I am almost ashamed to quote such nauseous balderdash. 1854 THACKERAY *Newcomers* I. 10 To defile the ears of young boys with this wicked balderdash. 1865 CARLYLE *Fredk. Gt.* II. VII. v. 287 No end of florid inflated tautologic ornamental balderdash.

4. *dial.* Filthy, obscene language or writing.

[*Cf. 1849 and 1854 in 3.*]

[From the evidence at present, the inference is that the current sense was transferred from 1 or 2, either with the notion of 'frothy talk,' or of 'a senseless farrago' or 'jumble of words.' Most etymologists have however assumed 3 to be the original sense, and sought its explanation in the

obvious similarity of *balder* to dial. *balder* 'to use coarse language,' Du. *balderen* 'to roar, thunder,' Norwegian *baldra*, Icel. *baldrast*, *ballvast* 'to make a clatter,' and of *-dash* to the vb. *dash* in various senses. The Welsh *balddor*, *balddor* 'idle noisy talk, chatter,' has also been adduced. Malone conjectured a reference to 'the froth and foam made by barbers in *dashing* their balls backward and forward in hot water.' Other conjectures may be found in Wedgwood, Skeat, and E. Müller. Cf. also BALDUCTUM.]

Balderdash, *v.* [f. prec. sb.] To make a jumbled mixture of (liquors); to mix with inferior ingredients, to adulterate.

1674 in D'URFEY *Pills* (1872) III. 304 When Thames was balderdashed with Tweed. 1730 MANDEVILLE *Hypochond.* Dis. 279 (L.) Wine or brandy... balderdashed with two or three sorts of simple waters. 1771 SMOLLETT *Humph. Cl.* (1815) 143 Wine... a vile, unpalatable, and pernicious sophistication, balderdashed with cider, corn-spirit, and the juice of sloes.

fig. 1714 MILBOURNE *Traitor's Rev.* Pref., Was ever God's word so balderdash'd? 1821 W. IRVING in Warner *Life* (1882) 136 A fostered growth of poetry and romance, and balderdash with false sentiment.

Bald-head, [f. BALD *a.*] One who has a bald head; also *attrib.*; *transf.* a kind of pigeon.

1535 COVERDALE 2 *Kings* II. 23 Come vp here thou balde heade [WYCLIF, ballard]. 1820 KEATS *Lamia* II. 245 The bald-head philosopher. 1821 BYRON *Foscari* III. I. 244 Held in the bondage of ten bald-heads. 1867 TEGTMEIER *Pigeons* XI. 123 A pair of common Tumblers... such as Bald-heads.

Bald-headed, *a.* = BALD *a.*

1580 HOLLYBAND *Treas. Fr. Tong.*, *Chawce par devant*, baldheaded. 1632 MASSINGER *City Mad.* IV. II. Thy proper and bald-headed coachman. 1863 KEMBLE *Resid. Georgia* 68 A magnificent bald-headed eagle.

Baldish (bō'ldi), *a.* [f. BALD *a.* + -ISH.] Somewhat or a little bald.

1833 in *Byron's Wks.* (1846) 742/1 The Emperor Alexander was baldish. 1876 H. JAMES *Europeans* I. III. 93 He has a baldish head.

Baldly (bō'ldli), *adv.* [f. BALD *a.* + -LY².] In a bald manner; meagrely; nakedly.

1603 HOLLAND *Plutarch's Mor.* 1057 (R.) They do allegorize but very baldly. 1863 KINGLAKE *Crimea* (1877) II. xiv. 236 They did not state baldly what they had ascertained.

Baldmoney (bō'ldmōni). *Herb.* Forms: 4 baldmoin, 5 -moin, 6 baldmoyne, 7 baldmone, 8 -momy, baldmone, 8 baldmonie, 6-baldmone. [Etymol. unknown; the early forms point to a Fr. **baldmoin* (*e*); with the termination cf. *agrimony*, *F. aigremoine*; but this hardly answers to *L. valde bona*, a plant mentioned in the Great Herbal; see Prior *Names of Plants*. The modern explanation *Balder's money* is a baseless conjecture.]

† 1. Gentian, of various species. *Obs.*
1593 GOWER *Conf.* I. 99 Loke, how a seke man for his hele Taketh baldmoin with canele. c. 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 22/1 Baldmoin (*v. r.* baldmoy, baldmone), *Genciana*. 1597 GERARD *Herbal* II. c. 4 (1633) 352 Gentian is named in English Felwort Gentian; Bitterwort; Baldmoyne, and Baldmoney. 1863 MISS YONGE *Chr. Names* II. II. 209.

2. An umbelliferous plant (*Meum athamanticum*), with yellowish flowers, the root of which is eaten in the Scottish Highlands as a carminative.

1598 FLORIO, *Meo*... the herbe spignell, mew, beare-woort or baldmone. 1690 RAY *Synop. Stirp.* Spignell or Mew. In Westmorland... it is known to all the Country People by the name of *Bald-Money*, or (as they pronounce it) *Baud-Money*. 1861 MISS PRATT *Flower. Pl.* III. 49 Mew or Bald-money... is pleasantly and powerfully aromatic.

Baldness, [f. BALD *a.* + -NESS.]

1. Absence or loss of hair, *esp.* from the head.

1382a WYCLIF *Dest.* xiv. 1 3e shulen not kut, ne make ballidnes [1388 ballidnes, 1535 COVERD. baldnesse]. 1398 TREVISIA *Barth. De P. R.* vi. xxi, 3if mete is to skarse, it... breded fallynge of heer and ballidnesse. a. 1448 note to R. GLOUC. 482 The harme of ballidnesse. 1608 TOPSELL *Serpents* 674 The thinnesse, smoothesse, and baldnesse, of the skin [of Chameleons]. 1705 SWIFT *Salamand.* And there corrupting to a wound, Spreads leprosy and baldness round. 1850 THACKERAY *Pendennis* xiv. (1884) 443 Baldness is busy with his crown.

fig. 1382a WYCLIF *Jer.* xviii. 5 Ther cam ballidnesse vp on Gasam. 1788 BURKE *Sp. W. Hastings* Wks. XIII. 221 Conquest may cover its baldness with its own laurels.

2. *transf.* Lack of natural covering; *e. g.* the bareness of an unwooded country.

1863 BARING-GOULD *Iceland* 103 The baldness of the land... made it impossible to get under cover.

3. *fig.* Meagre simplicity or poverty of style; lack of ornament; bareness, nakedness.

1774 WARTON *Eng. Poetry* (1840) III. xli. 5 Borde has all the baldness of allusion and barbarity of versification belonging to Skelton. 1844 STANLEY *Arnold* I. iv. 186 From the baldness of his earlier works to the vigorous English of his mature age. 1876 P. BAYNE *Purit. Rev.* III. 87 The harshness and baldness of Puritan worship.

Bald-pate, [f. BALD *a.*] One who has a bald head; *transf.* a kind of duck, and pigeon.

1601 DENT *Pathw. Heaven* 131 Mocked Elisha... calling him bald-head, bald-pate. 1865 E. NOEL *Richter's Flower Pieces* (1871) I. v. 141 But had solicited the bald-pates in vain. 1883 *Century Mag.* XXVI. 925 Mallard, baldpate, and wood-duck.

b. *attrib. quasi-adj.* = BALD *a.* (in various senses).

1578 LYTE *Dodoens* 405 Osmunde baldepate or Pylde Osmunde. c. 1590 MARLOWE *Faust.* vii. 48 A troop of Bald-pate friars. 1683 SOAME & DRYDEN *Art of Poetry* (T.) Nor perriwig with snow the baldpate woods. 1807 MONTGOMERY *Pelican* I. II. 244 Swarms... Cover'd the bald-pate reef.

Bald-pated, *a.* = prec.; whence **Bald-patedness**.

1603 SHAKS. *Meas. for M.* v. i. 357 You bald-pated lying rascal. 1606 DAY *Isle of Gulls* IV. v. This same baldpated oak. 1818 SCOTT *Rob Roy* xxxi. A forked, uncased, bald-pated, beggarly-looking scare-crow. 1821 COTGR., *Chauvett*, Bauldnesse, bauld-patednesse.

Bald-rib (bō'ldrib). [f. BALD *a.*] A joint of pork cut from nearer the rump than the spare-rib, so called 'because the bones thereof are made bald and bare of flesh' (Minsheu). Humorously used of: A lean bony person.

1598 FLORIO, *Pancetta*... a bald-rib of porke. 1621 MIDDLETON *Mayor of Q.* III. III. Thou art such a spiny baldrib. 1674 in D'URFEY *Pills* (1872) III. 300 His trenchant Blade... ran thro' the monster's Bald-rib. 1828 SOUTHEY *To A. Cunningham* Wks. III. 316 Baldrib, griskin, chine, or chop.

Baldric (bō'ldrik). Forms: 3 baudry, 4 bauderyk, bawdrik, 5 bawderyke, 5-6 -derick(e), -dryk(e), 5-7 baudrick(e), 5-9 bawdriok, 6 bauderike, -like, bawdrikke, baudrick(e), baldricke, (baldrege), 6-7 baudricke, bawdrike, 7 bautricke, baldericche, balledricke, 7-9 baldrick, 9 baudrick, 8- baldric. [Identical in sense with old MHG. *balderich*, *palderich* (Schade); also with OF. *baldrei*, *baudrei* (in later F. *baudroy*), and with med. L. *baldringus*. The origin and history of the word are alike obscure: the first part is usually referred to L. *balteus* or its Teutonic adaptations (OHG. *balz*, Eng. *belt*); but none of these satisfactorily account for *bald-*. The mutual relations of the forms in the different langs. are also uncertain: the early Eng. *baudry* was evidently from OF.; for the relation in which *bauderyk*, *bawdrik*, stands to the MHG. forms, evidence is wanting.]

1. A belt or girdle, usually of leather and richly ornamented, worn pendent from one shoulder across the breast and under the opposite arm, and used to support the wearer's sword, bugle, etc.

c. 1300 K. *Alis.* 468 Y wolde... sette heom on hyghe hors. And yuen stele and baudry, As men don the kynges amy. c. 1340 *Gaw. & Gr. Knt.* 2486 As a bauderyk, bounden bi his syde. c. 1386 CHAUCER *Prolog.* 116 An horn he bar, the bawdrik was of grene. c. 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 27 Bawderyke, *Sirophius*. 1534 MORE *On the Passion* Wks. 1272/2 A beaureward with his syluer buttene bawdrike. 1596 SPENSER *F. Q.* I. vii. 29 Athwart his brest a baldrick brave he ware. 1718 POPE *Iliad* III. 415 A radiant baldric, o'er his shoulder ty'd, Sustained the sword. 1823 TENNYSON *L. Shalott* III. II. And from his blazon'd baldric slung A mighty silver bugle hung. 1843 LYTTON *Last Bar.* II. i. Buckle my baldrick. fig. 1879 FARRAR *St. Paul* II. 508 Let spiritual truth be their baldric or binding girdle (*Eph.* vi. 14).

b. The strap of a shield, by which it was hung round the neck.

c. 1340 *Gaw. & Gr. Knt.* 621 He braydes hit [pe schelde] by pe bauderyk, aboute pe hals kestes.

2. *fig.* The zodiac, viewed as a gem-studded belt. 1596 SPENSER *F. Q.* v. i. 11 Those twelve signes which nightly we do see The heavens bright-shining baudricke to enhance. 1621 QUARLES *Esther* (1717) 128 Astrea... in the shining Baudricke takes her Seat.

3. A chain for the neck, necklace. *Obs.*

1530 PALSGR. 196/2 Baldricke for a ladyes necke, *Carcan.* 1577 HOLINSHED *Chron.* III. 801/1 A great bauderike about his necke, of balasses. 1824 PLANCHÉ *Brit. Costume* 154 A baldrick of gold about his neck, trailing down behind him.

4. The leather-gear with its appurtenances, by which the clapper of a church bell was suspended. *Obs.* 1428 *Eng. Ch. Furniture* (1866) 180 Pro j baudryk, vjd. 1520 in *Nichols Churchw. Acc.* (1797) 309 A Baldrege to the second bele. 1618 in *N. & Q.* I. (1851) III. 435/1 For mendine of y^r baldericke for y^e fowre bell, vid. 1693 W. ROBERTSON *Pharsal* Gen. 216 A Bawdricke of a Bell-clapper. 1742 in BAILEY. [Not in J.]

5. Comb. baldric-wise *adv.*

1590 PEELE *Polyhymn.* (1829) II. 202 Rich bandialier, That baldrick-wise he ware. 1622 F. MARKHAM *Bk. War* I. ix. 34 About his body, Baurtricke-wise, from the left shoulder and vnder the right arme.

† **Balductum**, -ta. *Obs.* Also 6 balductum, -ducketome. [med. L. *balducta* 'pressed milk,' curd. Said in Du Cange to be 'quasi valde ducta'; which looks like 'popular etymology.']

1. A posset, hot milk curdled with ale or wine.

c. 1450 in Wright *Voc.* (W.) 1567 *Balducta*, a crudde, a poshet. 1789 *Lactatum*, *balductum*, a poset. 1483 *Cath. Angl.* 288/1 A posset, *balducta*.

2. *fig.* A farrago of words; trash, balderdash. 1593 G. HARVEY *Pierce's Super.* 139 The staled duden or absurddest balductum that they or their mates can invent. 1617 COLLINS *Ed. Bp.* *Ely* II. viii. 295 Will this balductum neuer be left?

3. *attrib. quasi-adj.* Trashy, rubbishy.

1577 HOLINSHED *Chron.* II. 29/2 The Irish doubtlesse repose a great affiance in this balductum dreame. 1583 STANVHURST *Eneis* Ded. (Arb.) 10 Their rude rythming and balductome ballads. 1596 HARRINGTON *Ulysses upon Ajax*, Besides, what balductum play is not full of them?

† **Bale**, *a.* *Obs.* Forms: 1 balu, bealu, def. balewe, bealwe, 2-3 bali, 3 balu, beali, bal, 3-5 bale. [Common Teut.; = Goth. *balus* (in compds., as *balwa-wesi* wickedness, *balujan* to plague, torment, *balwesi* torment) = -O. Teut. **balu-oz*.]

1. Actively evil, deadly, dire, pernicious, destructive, fatal, cruel, tormenting.

Beowulf 1958 Nearwe beforon balwon bendum. a. 1000 *Cadmon's Satan* (Gr.) 484 Swā inc se balewa hēt. c. 1175 *Coll. Hom.* 281 Pa buffetes and ta bali dunties þat tu poledest. 1205 LAY. 5943 To-brokeñ mid þeon balu fehte. c. 1220 *St. Mark.* 13 Tu... me wið bale bondes bitterliche bindest. c. 1225 E. E. *Allit.* P. B. 1243 So biten with þe bale hunger. c. 1400 *Dest.* *Troy* IV. 1388 Bannet worthe the bale tyme þat ho borne was.

2. *subjectively*, Sorrowing, mournful, woful.

c. 1220 *Leg. St. Kath.* 2367 Nalde 3e nawt bringe me forð toward blisse wið se bale bere. c. 1400 *Dest.* *Troy* VI. 2681 Ho brast out with a birre from hir bale bert.

Bale (bāl), *sb.* Forms: 1 balu, bealu, bealo, *gen.* beal(o)wes, *pl.* beal(e)wu, 3 balu, bælu, balw, ballu, baluw, balluw, baleu, balwe, 3-bale, (4 bal, baal, 5 baal, bayle, 5-6 Sc. baill, bayle, 7 baile). [Common Teut.: OE. *balu*, *bealu* (*gen.* *bealu-es*) = OS. and OFris. *balu*, OHG. *balu*, ON. *böl* = -O. Teut. **balu-o(m)*, the neuter of the prec. adjective; cf. *evil*, *ill*, *good*, as sbs. Almost confined to poetry from OE. downwards; in ME. it seems to have derived fresh vitality from the ON. *böl* (pronounced *bpl*), whence also its alliterative use with *bote* 'remedy, relief,' and *bete* 'to relieve.' More of English origin, perhaps, is its alliterative opposition to *bliss*. Marked obsolete in dictionaries soon after 1600, and rare thence to the present century, when its undefined vague sense of evil has made it a favourite word with the poets.]

I. Senses.

1. Evil, especially considered in its active operation, as destroying, blasting, injuring, hurting, paining, tormenting; fatal, dire, or malign, quality or influence; woe, mischief, harm, injury; in earlier use often = death, infliction of death.

a. 1000 *Cadmon's Satan* (Gr.) 682 Bealwes gäst (=the devil). a. 1000 *Agg.* Pt. lix. 2 Me wið blodhrowes weres bealuwe gehæle. 1076 O. E. *Chron.*, *Pæ* was þæt bryd ealo, þæt was manega manna bealo. 1205 LAY. 1455 Balu com on ueste. *Ibid.* 5016 Whet wult þu balwe menge? 1330 R. BRUNNE *Chron.* 74 Pe Komyn had his bale, his lif was lightly sold. 1340 HAMPOLE *Pr. Consc.* 6103 That day [of doom], þe day of bale and of bitternes. c. 1340 *Alex.* & *Dind.* 163 þi bestus of bale þat bi þe water ferde. c. 1440 *Gesta Rom.* (1879) 188, I am worthi al this bale, for I tolde to the woman al my counsell. 1579 SPENSER *Sheph. Cal.* Nov. 84 The flourer... buried long in Winters bale. 1647 CLEVELAND *Smectry.* Caligula, whose pride was Mankinds Baile. 1748 THOMSON *Cast. Indol.* I. i, Withouten that would come an heavier bale. 1870 BRYANT *Homer* I. II. 75 Tidings of bale she brought.

b. Evil-speaking, abuse.

c. 1220 *Leg. St. Kath.* 551 Ha tukes ure godes to balewe & to bismere.

2. Evil in its passive aspect; physical suffering, torment, pain, woe.

c. 1250 *Gen. & Ex.* 68 Deuel dwale, Ðat made ilc sorge, and eueric bale. a. 1300 *Cursor M.* 19379 Pat neuer for na bale ne buud. c. 1325 E. E. *Allit.* P. A. 477 & lyued in penance... With bodily bale hym blysse to bywe. 1393 LANGL. P. *PL.* C. xxi. 34 And bringe adoun 'bale and dep for euer. c. 1460 *Frere & Boy* in *Ritson Anc. P.* P. 35 God that... dranke both eysell and gall, Brynge vs out of bale. 1575 CHURCHYARD *Chippes* (1817) 211 Borne vnto bale, and subiect to debate. c. 1824 CAMPBELL *Phragm. Oratorio* 37 The bitterness of my bale. 1834 SOUTHEY *Doctor* (1862) 35 Death... calls up a soul from bale, to give an account of his own sufferings.

3. Mental suffering; misery, sorrow, grief.

c. 1325 E. E. *Allit.* P. A. 373 My breste in bale bot bolne & bele. c. 1400 *Melayne* 576 For bale hym thought he brynt. c. 1425 *Ser. Sages* (P.) 258 He that tolde hire that tale, Brought him in mykil bale. 1596 SPENSER *F. Q.* I. ix. 29 Our feeble harts Embost with bale, and bitter byting griefe. 1616 BULLOKAR, *Bale* (Now out of vse), Sorrow, great miserie. 1847 DISRAELI *Tancred* II. i. (1871) 55 Relieve my spirit from the bale that bows it down.

II. Phrases and locutions:

4. To work, bale, brew bale: to make mischief, prepare woe or misery.

c. 1200 *Trin. Coll. Hom.* 257 Bale to breðwe. 1330 R. BRUNNE *Chron.* 55 How falsnes brewes bale with him, and many mo. c. 1400 *Judicium* (1822) 11 Your baill now brewys. c. 1460 in *Pol. Rel. & L. Poems* (1866) 144 Whan þou doest thus, there bale þou bakeste. *Ibid.* 100 V am worse than wode Myn owne bale for to brew. 1594 NASHE *Unfort. Trav.* 37 To work hir bale.

5. Opposed alliteratively to *bliss*, *blithe*.

c. 1325 E. E. *Allit.* P. A. 373 My blysse, my bale 3e han ben boþe. c. 1400 *St. Alexius* (Trin.) 140 Hire blesse turnde to Bale. c. 1450 HENRYSON *Mor. Fables* 19 Be blith in baill, for that is best remead. c. 1470 HENRY WALLACE IV. 337 Now lyght, now sadd, now blissful, now in baill. 1576 GASCOIGNE *Princely Pleas.* (1821) 33 And turn your present bliss to after bales. 1598 YONG *Diana* 440 That still deducts my life in blisselesse bale. 1797 COLERIDGE *Christabel* I, Her face resigned to bliss or bale. 1876 LOWELL *Poet. Wks.* (1879) 468/2 Was it a comet or star; Omen of blessing or bale?

6. Opposed to *boot* (ME. *bote*) 'relief, remedy,' and *bete* vb. 'to relieve, mend.' So in Icel., *ból og bót* 'bale and boot,' *bólva bættr* 'boots of bales.'

c. 1275 *Luue Ron* 125 in O. E. *Misc.* 97 Par-inne is vich balewes bôte. a. 1300 *Cursor M.* 44 Quedur þai be worthi or bale or bote. *Ibid.* 105 All vr balis for to bete. 1393 LANGL. P. *PL.* C. xxi. 208 Hit is a bottles bale. c. 1420 *Sir Amadace* IV, That myzte not bete my bale! c. 1460 J. RUSSELL *Bk. Nurture in Babes Bk.* (1863) 183 Than brynge hym to his bed, his bales there to bete. c. 1460 *Towneley Myst.* 28 Thank we that fire, Beytter of bayle. 1488 *Cherry Chase* in *Maidment Scot. Bal.* (1861) I. 80 Ihesue Crist our ballys bete

And to the blys ys bryng. 1496 *Dives & Panp.* (W. de W.) n. xix. 157/2 The holy ghost . . . is bote of euery bale. 1568 J. Heywood *Prov. & Epigr.* (1867) 52 This rather bryngeth bale then boote. 1565 J. HALL *Hist. Expost.* 34 Oure boote mixed wyth bale. 1867 G. MACDONALD *Poems* 144 Where he had found Boot for every bale.

1. *Proverbs.* Cf. Icel. *þegar bál er hæst er bót næst* 'when bale is highest boot is highest,' etc.

a 1290 *Owl & Night*. 687 Hwón þe bale is alre hecst Þonne is þe bote alre necst. a 1300 *Cursor M.* 4775 Quen þe bal ys alder hext þen sum time ys bote next. c 1330 *Florice & Bl.* 858 After bale hem com bote. 1393 *LANG.* P. Pl. C. v. 88 Betere ys þat bote 'bale a-doun bryng. Than bale be ybete' and bote neuere þe betere. c 1400 *Test. Lovis* II. (1560) 288 b/i When bale is greatest then is bote a nie bore. c 1430 *Syr Gener.* 3238 Afre bale euer cometh bote. 1568 J. Heywood *Prov. & Epigr.* (1867) 38 Comferte your selfe with this old text . . . when bale is hekest, boote is next. a 1600 *Sir Aldingar* 117 in Furniv. *Percy Folio* I. 171 When Bale is at hyst, boote is at next. 1890 *MORRIS Earthly Par.* II. iii. 524 Bettered is bale by bale that follows it, The saw saith.

8. *Comb.* † *Bale-sithe* [OE. *bealu-sið*, f. *sið* expedition, adventure, fortune, lot], death, destruction; evil-doing, mischief; evil fortune, calamity. † *Bale-stour* [stour tumult, battle], fatal struggle, death-throe. The OE. poetical compounds were very numerous, e.g. *bealu-craeft* magic art, *bealu-ded* sin, *bealu-rdp* deadly rope, *bealu-spell* fatal news, *bealu-panc* malicious thought. a 1000 *Cædmon's Ex.* (Gr.) 5 After bealuside. c 1175 *Lamb Hom.* 185 Al imengd wip bealwsið and wip bitteresse. c 1200 *Saloman & Sat.* (1848) 236 Þat he ne solde þe upbreidin of þine bealesipes. 1205 *LAV.* 567 Iwenden toward Brutun to his bale-siðe. *Ibid.* 651 & abat his bale-siðes. c 1220 *St. Markar.* 23 Lif þat a lested buten bealusid. c 1325 *E. E. Allit.* P. C. 426 Bed me bilyue my bale stour, & bryng me on ende.

Bale (bæl), sb. 2. Forms: 1 bæl, 4- bale; (Sc. 4 balle, 5 belle, 6 baill, bele, 8 beal, 5- baill). [Comm. Teut., though known only in OE. *bæl* and ON. *bál* great fire, blazing pile, funeral pyre:—O Teut. *bál-o(m)*, cogn. with Skr. *bhālas* lustre, Gr. *phalós* shining, bright. In ME. and mod.E. almost exclusively northern, and aff. from ON. *bál* rather than OE. *bæl*, which would have given mod. *beal*, *beel*. By later writers much mixed up with the preceding word: see 3. Cf. also *BALE-FIRE*.]

† 1. *gen.* A great consuming fire, a conflagration; a blazing pile, a bonfire. *Obs.*

a 1000 *Beowulf* 4633 Befangen bæle and bronde. 1375 *Barbour Bruce* xvii. 619 Thai flaggatis byrmand in a baill. c 1400 *Anturs of Arth.* xv. i. brenne as a belle. 1557 in *Tottell's Misc.* (Arb.) 266 Such heat. As Priamus towne felt not more flame, when did the bale begin. a 1600 *Christis Kirk* Gr. xxiii. And brane-wode brynt in baillis. [An immense bonfire of faggots and boughs, formerly (until c 1840) kindled annually in November on the village green of Denholm in Roxburghshire, was called the *Bale* or *Bona-bale*.]

2. *spec.* a. A funeral pile or pyre. (Long obs., but used by W. Morris.)

a 1000 *Beowulf* 2223 Bets beado-rinca wæs on bælg gearu. c 1394 *P. Pl. Crede* 667 To brenne the body In a bale of fir. 1876 *MORRIS Sigurd* iii. 305 Far out in the people's meadows they raise a bale on high. . . and thereon shall the mighty lie.

b. A signal- or beacon-fire. (*Scotch.*) arch. 1455 *Act. 12 Jas. II* (1597) § 48 The quhiliks . . . sal make taikenings be bailes burning & fire. Ane Baile, is warning of their cumminge . . . twa bailes togidder at anis, they are cumming in deed. 1513 *DOUGLAS Æneis* II. vi. (v.) 13 The taknyng or the baill [v. r. bele] of fire. 1535 *STEWART Cron.* Scot. II. 151 Richt mony fyre and baillis gart burne brycht; And mony blast gart blaw of buglis horne. 1805 *SCOTT Last Minstr.* iii. xxvii. On Penchryst glows a bale of fire, And three are kindling on Priethaughswire.

3. *fig.* Sometimes confused with *BALE sb. 1*

1568 *LAUDER Lament.* 81 My breist in baill it dois comure. 1596 *SPENSER F. Q.* I. ix. 16 He strove to cloak his inward bale And hide the smoke that did his fire display.

Bale (bæl), sb. 3. Forms: 4- bale (6 balle, 6-8 ball), 7 bayl, 7-8 baill. [ME. *bale*, perh. a. OF. *bale*, *balle*, = Pr. and Sp. *bala*, It. *balla*, *palla*, med.L. *bala*, *balla*, 'ball' and 'rounded package', generally taken to be an adoption of OHG. *balla*, *palla*, ball (BALL sb. 1); though some refer it to Gr. *πάλλα* ball. But the Eng. word may be immediately from Flemish *bale* (mod.Du. *baal*) 'bale', itself adopted from F. or other Romanic lang. *Bale* and *ball* have from the first been distinct in Eng., though *ball* (for F. *balle*) is occasional in this sense in 17-18th c.]

1. A large bundle or package of merchandise, originally of more or less rounded shape; now, *spec.* a package closely pressed, done up in canvas or other wrapping, and tightly corded or hooped with copper or iron, for transportation.

c 1325 *E. E. Allit.* P. C. 57 Busy ouer-borde bale to kest. c 1380 *Sir Ferumb.* 4201 Þay fude sakkis, & trossede males, To Charyotes þay drowen þe grete bales. a 1400 *Cov. Myst.* 210 Of spicery the growyth many an C. baly. 1540 *Act 32 Hen. VIII.* xiii. A bale of saies of vi. fote high. 1695 *W. Lowndes Amendm. Sitt. Coins* 6 The Merchants . . . concealed the Parcels in Bails of Cloth. 1755 *Mem. Capt. P. Drake* II. iii. 59 Putting the Bails on board. 1765 *TUCKER Lt. Nat.* II. 416 Known to put false marks upon their bales. 1850 *TENNISON In Mem.* xiii. As tho' they brought but merchants' bales.

2. (Used with more or less precision as a measure of quantity.)

1508 *ARNOLDS Chron.* (1811) 206 A balle bokrom conteyneth lx. pecis. . . a balle fustian conteyneth xlv. half peces. 1740 *Mem. Turkey* in *Hanway Trav.* (1762) I. i. viii. 40 A reduction of their Custom . . . to thirty dollars the bale of twenty pieces. 1753 *CHAMBERS Cycl. Supp.* s.v. A bale or ballon of crown paper . . . consists of 14 reams. 1863 (30 June) *BRIGHT Amer.*, Sp. (1876) 138 To grow one thousand bales of cotton a year. 1880 *W. WHITELEY Diary & Alm.* 82 Bale of coffee (Mocha) = 2 to 2½ cwt.

3. *Comb.*, as *bale-goods*, merchandise in bales: as opposed to *case-goods*.

1694 *Land. Gaz.* No. 3032/3 Bound with Glass and Bale Goods . . . for *Bourdeaux*. 1790 *BRATSON Nav. & Mil. Mem.* I. 217 Her cargo consisted of cordage and bale goods.

† 4. The set of dice for any special game, formerly usually three. *Obs.*

1481-90 *Howard Househ. Bks.* 327 Paid to Jeffery for a bale of dysse iiiij. 1577 *HOLINSHED Chron.* III. 848/2 Diuerse bales of dice, and . . . certeine paires of cards. 1576 *Richmond. Wills* (1853) 277, liij ball of dyce, ix d. 1614 J. COOKE *Tu Quoque* in *Dodsl.* VII. 50 (N.) A pox upon these dice! give's a fresh bale. 1623 *ROWLEY Woman never vexed* II. i. in *Hazl. Dodsl.* XXI. 121 Give's a bale of dice! [They play at 'Passage' and throw] Two treys and an ace, Two quatres and a trey. 1680 *COTTON Compl. Gamester* in *Singer Play. Cards* 336 They [loaded dice] are sold in many places about the town; price current . . . eight shillings, whereas an ordinary bale is sold for sixpence. 1828 *SCOTT Nigel* xxiii. The Captain, taking a bale of dice from the sleeve of his coat.

† 5. † A bolus, a pill = BALL sb. 1 11. *Obs.*

1576 *BAKER Gerner's Jewell Health* 183 b. I gave . . . to a melancholy person . . . five graynes . . . in a bale or dose.

† *Bale*, v. 1. *Obs. rare*—[a. OF. *baler* (since 16th c. *baller*) to dance (= Pr. *balare*, It. *ballare*, Sp., Pg. *bailar*):—late L. (Isidore) *ballare* to dance. Some think the L. formed from Gr. *βαλλίζω* to dance, some f. *balla* BALL sb. 1, on the alleged ground that, in the Middle Ages, tennis was accompanied with dancing and song.] To dance.

a 1300 *Cursor M.* 12138 His broþer doghter . . . Com þaim be-for al for to bale, Baled wel and tumber wit-al.

Bale (bæl), v. 2 [f. BALL sb. 3] To make up

into a bale or bales.

1760 *GOLDSM. Cit. W. v.* These goods are baled up and con-

signed to a factor abroad. 1879 *T. ESCOTT England* I. 224 The

cotton itself has been . . . baled, and sent down to the seaport.

Bale (bæl), v. 3 [Erroneous spelling of BAIL v. 4,

q.v.] To lade or throw water out of a boat or ship with buckets (formerly called *bails*) or other vessels. *Const.* to bale the water out, bale the boat

(out). To bale up: to scoop up. See BAIL v. 4

[1607 *CAPT. SMITH Seaman's Gram.* vi. 27 To baile or cast out the water.] 1694 *Ibid.* i. xvi. 75 To Bale, to lade Water out of the Ships Hold with Buckets, or the like. 1748 *ANSON Voy.* III. v. 342 In baling out the water. 1833 *MARRYAT Perc.* Keene xvi. Let's bale the boat out first. 1884 *Graphic* 23 Aug. 190/2 Herrings . . . in such surprising quantities that they can be baled up with a basket.

Bale, obs. spelling of BAIL sb. and v.; improperly for BAIL sb. 2 handle; and obs. f. BELY.

† *Baleare*, a. *Obs.* [f. L. *Baleāris*] = *BALEARIC*. Hence *Baleārian* a. and sb., and *Baleario* (bæljærik), a. [L. *Baleāric-us*], of or pertaining to, sb. a native of, the islands Majorca, Minorca, Iviça, etc. (called by the Romans *Baleares insule*), in the Mediterranean Sea. *Balearic Crane*: the Crowned Crane.

1576 *LAMBARDE Peramb. Kent* (1862) 299 The Iles named Baleares. 1601 *HOLLAND Pliny* I. 60 The two Baleare Islands. 1618 *BOLTON Florus* III. vi. (1636) 191 The Tuscan Sea . . . [and] the Balearian. 1661 *LOVELL Hist. Anim. & Min.* Intro. . . The Crane, balearick or japonian. 1807 *ROBINSON Archæol. Græca* IV. iv. 348 The Achæians . . . are thought by some to have excelled the Balearians.

Baled (bæld), ppl. a. [f. *BALE* v. 2 + -ED.] Packed or made into bales.

1865 *Morning Star* 24 Apr. The baled cotton.

Baleen (bæl'n). Forms: 4-6 baleyne, 4-5 balayn(e), 4-6 balene, 5-ien, 6 ballane, ballen, 7 balene, 8- baleen. [ME. *baleyne*, -ayne, a. OF. *baleine*, -aine whale, whalebone:—L. *balæna* whale.]

† 1. A whale. *Obs.*

1387 *TREVISIA Higden* (Rolls Ser.) I. xli. Baleynes, grete fishes as hit were of whales kynde. c 1450 in *Wright's Voc.* (W.) 704 *Balena*, a balene. c 1480 *CAXTON Ovid's Met.* xii. xv. Balaynes or whales, dolphins, mermaydes . . . and alle other fyshes. 1578 *BOSSWELL Armorie* II. 65 Balene is a fishe greate and huge. 1601 *HOLLAND Pliny* I. 238 From the forehead, in the Balænes.

2. ?The fish called Sea-bream: 'perhaps from its supposed habit, mentioned by Pliny, of accompanying the *balæna* or whale' (Riley *Gloss.* to *Lib. Custum.* 785/1).

c 1185 *NECKAM* in *Wright's Voc.* 97 *Musculus*, baleyne. 1494 *FABIAN* vii. 586 For the firste course.—Brawne and mustarde. Dedellys in burneux. Frument with balien. Pyke in erbage. 1598 *Stow Survey* (Strype 1754) II. v. xxvi. 461/2 An hundred better Balenes of the same year salted for 16s., that is 2d. per pound.

3. Whalebone. Also attrib. or as adj.

(The meaning is uncertain in some early quotations.) c 1325 *Cœur de L.* 2982 Off balayn, both scheeld & targe. 1513 *DOUGLAS Æneis* vii. xiii. 68 A ballen [v. r. balen] pavis coueris thair left sydis. 1543 *LD. BERNERS Froiss.* I. cccxcix. 734 Gantlettres of steele and baleyne. 1535 *STEWART Cron.* Scot. III. 453 Cors-bowis of ballane that war gude. 1708 *J. CHAMBERLAYNE St. Gt. Brit.* II. l. iii. (1743) 331 Great whales of the Baleen, or whale bone kind. 1884 *MEYRICK Anc. Armour Gloss.* 1836 *Todd Cycl. Anat. & Phys.* 573/2 At

each side of their [i.e. whales'] palate grow, transversely, horny plates, named baleen. *Ibid.* The base of each baleen-plate. 1874 *WOOD Nat. Hist.* 142 When first born, the young whale is without the baleen.

Bale-fire (bæl'fɪr). Forms: 1 bæl-fyr, 5- bale-; also Sc. 5 bayle-, 6 baill-, bald-, 6-9 baill-, 8 beal-, 9 bele-, beal-, baal-, baal-fire. [Found in OE. poetry: then not till the 14th c.; and till lately confined to Scotch. Not in Johnson, nor in Todd 1818. Compd. of *BALE* sb. 2 + *FIRE*; the former part was apparently at times confused with *BALE* sb. 1: cf. *balowe-fire* 'fatal or evil fire' already in 15th c., and the use of *bale-fire* by various modern writers as if = 'lurid, ghastly fire.' Antiquaries, with theories of Celtic or Canaanitish idolatry, have written *beal*, *Baal-fire*: cf. *BEITANE*.]

1. A great fire in the open air, a blazing pile or heap kindled to consume anything. In OE. *spec.* the fire of a funeral pile.

a 1000 *Beowulf* 6278 Ongunnon þá on boorge bæl-fyra mæst . . . weccan. c 1400 *Malayne* 488 Thay tuke þe grete lordes with Ire, And brynte þam in þat bale fire. c 1470 *HENRY Wallace* iv. 718 Bot thou tell in bayle fire sall thou de. 1535 *STEWART Cron.* Scot. I. 355 In ane baill fyre thair brint it all in as. 1549 *Compl. Scot.* vi. 42 As plutois paleis hed been birmand in ane bald fyre. 1818 *BYRON Ch. Har.* I. xxxviii. The fires of death, The bale-fires flash on high. 1823 *HOGG Queen's Wake* 83 They set ane bele-fire him about, And they burnit him skin and bone. 1884 *FARRAR Early Chr.* II. 190 The horrible illumination flung by the bale-fires of martyrdom upon the palace and gardens of the Beast.

2. A great fire kindled as a signal; a beacon-fire. (Only 19th c.: apparently first used by Sir W. Scott. The contemporary name was simply *bale*.)

1805 *SCOTT Last Minstr.* iv. i. Sweet Teviot! on thy silver tide The glaring bale-fires blaze no more. 1824 *MISS YONGE Cameos* II. xx. 220 The baill fire announced the appearance of the enemy. 1861 *Black's Guide Sussex* 536 Crowborough was one of the beacon stations . . . where the bale-fire was lighted.

3. Any great fire, a bonfire, *feu de joie*.

1800-24 *CAMPBELL O'Connor's Child* vii. Beal-fires for your jubilee Upon a thousand mountains glow'd. 1850 *MERRIVALE Rom. Emp.* (1865) III. xxiii. 62 He caused the city to be illuminated with torches and balefires. 1852 *D. MOIR Burns Fest. Wks.* II. 7 Stir the beal-fire, wave the banner, Bid the thundering cannon sound.

4. † Associated with *BALE* sb. 1

1855 *MOTLEY Dutch Rep.* vi. i. (1866) 774 The focus of discord . . . from whence radiated . . . the bale-fires of murderous licence and savage anarchy. 1878 *SPURGEON Treas. Dav.* Ps. lxxvii. 17 With blue bale-fires revealing the innermost caverns of the hungry sea.

Baleful (bæl'fʊl), a. Forms: 1 bealu-, bealo-full, 2-3 balufull, 3 baluhful, 3-5 balful(l, 4 ballefull, 3- baleful(l. [OE. *bealu-full*, f. *bealu* *BALE* sb. 1 + *FULL*. Until recent times almost exclusively poetic; still chiefly literary.]

1. Full of malign, deadly, or noxious influence; pernicious, destructive, noxious, injurious, mischievous, malignant: a. *physically* or *generally*.

a 1000 *Crist* (Grein) 259 Se bealofulla [= the devil] hyneþ heardlice. c 1220 *St. Markar.* 10 To beoren me into his balefule hole. 1230 *ANCR. R.* 114 So baluhful & so bitter! c 1400 *Destr. Troy* i. 167 These balful bestes were . . . full flaumond of fyre. 1592 *SHAKS. Rom. & Jul.* II. iii. 8 Baleful weedes, and precious luiced flowers. 1676 *Black Prince* in *Harl. Misc.* (1793) 51 Great flocks of ravens, and other baleful birds of prey. 1712 *SWIFT Wond. Proph.* Wks. 1755 III. i. 173 This baleful dog-star. 1800-24 *CAMPBELL To Sir F. Burdett* v. His hate is baleful, but his love is worse. 1862 *RAWLINSON Anc. Mon.* I. i. 32 The baleful simoon sweeps across the entire tract.

b. *morally*.

c 1175 *Lamb. Hom.* 215 Tend mine heorte and uorberm al þat is baluful þer inne. c 1300 *Lay-Folks Mass-Bk.* B. 404 þat may lese alle baleful bandes. 1589 *GREENE Menaph.* (Arb.) 22 The balefull laborinth of despair. 1597 *LOK* in *Farr's S. P.* (1845) I. 138 Through baleful lust of gold. 1751 *SMOLLETT Per. Pic.* (1779) III. lxxxi. 109 O baleful Envy! thou self-tormenting fiend. 1863 *W. PHILLIPS Speeches* xvi. 362 The potent and baleful prejudice of color.

2. *subjectively*: a. Full of pain or suffering, painful. *Obs.*

c 1200 *Trin. Coll. Hom.* 181 On þisse liue we beð on balfulle swinche for adames gulte. 1579 *SPENSER Sheph. Cal. Jan.* Such stormie stoures do broede my baleful smart.

b. Unhappy, wretched, miserable; distressed, sorrowful, mournful. *arch.*

c 1325 *E. E. Allit.* P. C. 979 þe baleful burde [Lot's wife], þat neuer bode kepæd. c 1400 *Anturs of Arth.* xlii. The balefulle birde bled on his blode. 1535 *STEWART Cron.* Scot. I. 124 The youting, youting, and the balful beir Tha maid. 1596 *DRAVTON Legends* iii. 24 That Baleful sounds immovably do st breathe. 1812 *J. WILSON Isle of Palms* I. 533 Baleful spirits barr'd from realms of bliss.

Balefully (bæl'fʊli), adv. [f. *prec.* + -LY.]

In a baleful manner: a. Injuriously, hurtfully; b. Miserably, painfully, sadly.

c 1350 *Will. Palerne* 3950 I balfuli here-bi-fore was brout al bi-nepe. *Ibid.* 84 So balfully he grinneþ. c 1400 *Destr. Troy* xxix. 11983 The burgh . . . balfully distroyet. 1838 *CARLYLE Misc.* (1857) IV. 173 And hurry him balefully into Night! 1842 *WHITLOCK Compl. Bk. Trades* 438 Which laws . . . operated balefully upon the superiority of the articles.

Balefulness. [f. *prec.* + -NESS.] Baleful quality or condition: a. Hurtfulness; b. Distress, sadness.

1592 *WYRLY Armorie* 145 Contenting ioy chnged into bale-

fulnes. 1596 SPENSER *F.Q.* II. xii. 83 Their blisse be turn'd to balefulness. 1866 *Lond. Rev.* 10 Mar. 276/1 Forms of balefulness which defy the most ingenious apologist of physical science.

Baleless, *a. arch.* [OE. *bealulēas*, *f. bealu* BALE *sb.* + *-LESS*.] Harmless, innocent.

a 1000 *Gnom. V. Ex.* (Gr.) 39 Bealulēas heorte. 1065 *O. E. Chron., Elegy Edw. Conf.* (MS. C.), Wæs a blide-mod bealuleas kyng (D. bealeas). c 1325 *E. E. Allit. P. C.* 227 Pay in balelez blod þer blenden her handez. 1869 FREEMAN *Norm. Cong.* (1876) III. 30 Looked back to the happy days of the baleless king.

Baler. He who or that which bales; a scoop for baling out water. See **BAILER**.

1875 BEDFORD *Sailor's Pocket Bk.* vi. 236 Any boat using propelling power, such as oars, balers, to be disqualified.

Balery, *obs.* form of **BAILERY**.

Bales, *-ess*, *obs.* *ff.* **BALAS** (ruby) and **BELLOWS**.

Balesse, *-est*, *obs.* *ff.* **BALLAST**.

Balester, variant of **BALISTER**.

† **Balet** (te). *Obs.* [a. OF. *balette*, *ballète*, *-ette*, dim. of *bale*, *balie*: see *-ETTE*.] A small bale.

1453 in *Heath Grocers' Comp.* (1869) 421 Greynes, 1 balet, y^e C xijd. . . Woode, y^e balet ijd. 1540 *Act 32 Hen. VIII.* xiv, Accompting . . . whole bales, or . . . xvi. demi balettes for a tunne.

Baleu, erroneous form of **BALAS** (ruby).

1653 URQUHART *Rabelais* i. viii. A perfect baleu [ed. 1737 (Ozell.) baleu] rubie. *Ibid.* i. lvi, Carbuncles, rubies, baleu.

† **Baleys**, *sb.* *Obs.* Forms: 3-5 *baleis*, 4-5 *baleys*, 5 *ballys*, *baleese*, 6 *balye*. [a. OF. *baleis*, nom. sing. (or acc. pl.) of *balei* (mod. *balai*) besom, broom. As early OF. had sing. nom. *baleis*, while later OF. had sing. *balei*, pl. *baleis*, it is difficult to say from which of these the final -s in Eng. was derived. The quasi-collective sense of 'birch' points to the pl.] A rod; also a bundle of twigs used in flogging, a 'birch,' a scourge.

a 1259 MATT. PARIS *Chron.* (1880) V. 324 Ferens in manu virgam quam vulgariter baleis appellamus. c 1315 SHOREHAM 47 Ine the temple, sweete Ihesus . . . makede a baleys, And bet out . . . Tho that bougte and sealde. 1377 LANGL. *P. Pl.* B. xii. 12 With þise bitter baleyses God beteth his dere children. c 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 537 3erde, baleys, *virga*. 1475 *Bk. Noblesse* (1860) 54 To be betyn nakid withe baleese and sharpe roddis. c 1485 *Digby Myst.* (1882) III. 735 Thys hard balye on þi bottokys xall byte! 1517 TORKINGTON *Pilgr.* (1884) 3 He had a balye in hys hond.

Baleys, *v.* *Obs.* exc. *dial.* [f. the *sb.*] To birch, to flog.

1377 LANGL. *P. Pl.* B. v. 175 Balesced on þe bar ers ' and no breche bitwene. 1879 *Shropsh. Gloss.*, *Baleise*, to beat, to flog, to whip; also *Bellise*.

Baleys, *obs.* form of **BALAS** (ruby).

† **Balgh**, *a.* *Obs.* Forms: 4 *balþe*, *balowe*, 5 *balheu*, *balwe*. [Cf. OE. *beþg* bag, belly.]

1. Round, rounded; swelling.

c 1340 *Alexander* (Stev.) 4923 Balgh brade in þe brest . . . & on the bely sklendi. c 1340 *Gaw. & Gr. Knt.* 2172 A balþe berg bi a bonke. *Ibid.* 2032 Vpon his balþe haupchez. c 1430 *Cher. Assigne* 316 Balowe tymbre & bygge.

2. Smooth.

c 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 22 Balhew, or pleyn [1499 *balwe* or playne], *Planus*.

Baliage, **Balie**, *obs.* *ff.* **BAILLIAGE**, **BAILLIE**.

† **Balin**. *Obs.* [irregular a. L. *balin*, in Pliny, acc. of *balis*, a. Gr. *βάλλας*.] An unknown plant, supposed to have wonderful medicinal virtues.

1546 LANGLEY *Pol. Verg. De Invent.* i. xvii. 30a, Slain by the virtue of an herbe called Balin. 1609 HEYWOOD *Bryt. Troy* iv. xi, Hauing th' herbe Balin in his wounds infusd, Restores his life.

Baling (*bā'ling*), *vbl. sb.* 1 [f. BALE *v.* + *-ING* 1.] The process of packing in bales.

1761 GOLDSM. *Cit. W. civil*, The methods of baling them up. 1879 T. ESCOTT *Engl.* i. 147 The baling and casing of goods.

Baling, *vbl. sb.* 2 Also (properly) 6-8 *bailing*. The emptying of water from a boat or other vessel.

1856 KANE *Art. Exp.* II. xxix. 286 So unseaworthy as to require constant baling.

† **Balinger** (*bā'lingdʒar*). *Obs.* exc. *Hist.* Forms: 4-6 *balynger*, -ingar, 5-*gere*, *balangar*, -yngar, -engere, *ballenger*, -unger, *balyner*, 5-6 *bal-lynger*, 5-8 *balenger*, 6 *balengar*, -anger, *bal-lyngare*, -ingere, -ingar, 7-*anger*, -inger, 6-9 -enger, 5-*balinger*. [a. AF. *balengier* (Froissart), *ballenjer* (in Du Cange), = OF. *baleinier*, a whale-ship, *f. baleine* whale; afterwards employed generically: so It. *baleniera* 'kind of light pinnacle'.]

A small and light sea-going vessel, apparently a kind of sloop, much used in the 15th and 16th centuries; according to Adm. Smyth, without forecastle. Its nature was already forgotten in 1670, when Blount could only infer the meaning of the word from old statutes; but the term is commonly used by modern historians in referring to the naval affairs of those times.

1391 in *MS. Reg. Test. Ebor.* i. 67 (Rob. de Rillington of Scarbro' leaves to Wm. Percy) dimidiatemet nostri balingar. 1400 HENRY IV. *Brief in Rymer Federa* VIII. 147 Aliquam Navem, Bargeam, sive Balingeram, de Guerra Armata.

c 1400 *Petit. in Parv.* 2 *Hen. IV.* xxii, Pur faire certaines Barges & Balingers. a 1428 *Hen. V.* in *Ellis Orig. Lett.* III. 31 i. 72 Our grete shippes, carrakes, barges and balingers. 1475 CAXTON *Jason* 108 Foure hilt shippes at facon of balingers. 1595 LD. BERNERS *Froiss.* II. xlv.

158 They knewe by theyr balengers that the armye of Eng- lande was comynge. 1531-2 *Act 23 Hen. VIII.* v. § 2 The common passages of shippes balengers and botes. 1598 Stow *Survey* (Strype 1754) i. xiii. 57/1 By means whereof Boats and Ballengers were hindered in their passages.

1622 CALLIS *Stat. Scowrs* (1647) 34 A Port is a harbor and safe arrival for ships, boats, and ballengers of burthen. 1670 BLOUNT *Law Dict.*, *Balenger*, Seems to have been a kind of Barge or Water-vessel, by the Statute 28 H. 6. cap. 5.

1865 W. MILLER *Jott. Kent* 45 In the year 1401 . . . the barges with eighty, and the balengers with forty men.

fig. c 1502 *Joseph Arim.* (Pynson) 425 Hayle! myghty balynger, charged with plenty!

b. Comb. *baling-master* (cf. *ship-master*).

1463 *Mann. & H. Exp.* 194 John More my balynger master.

Balisse, *-ist*, *obs.* forms of **BALLAST**.

† **Balister**¹, *-ester*. *Obs.* [a. OF. *balestier*: = L. *ballistarius*, late L. *balestarius* arbalester; cf. *BALLISTIER*.] An arbalester, a crossbow-man.

1429 CAXTON *Faytes of A.* i. xliii. 71 Gonners, balesters, and archers. 1613 T. GODWIN *Rom. Antig.* (1658) 263 Near unto which standeth the cunning balister.

† **Balister**². *Obs.* rare-¹. [a. OF. *balestre*: = L. *ballistra* (late L. *balestra* arbalest), variant of *BALLISTA*.] An arbalest, a crossbow.

1697 BLOUNT *Anc. Tenures* 92 (T.) Thread, to make a false string for the king's balister or crossbow.

† **Balistraria** (*baleistraria*). *Arch.* [med. L., properly fem. of adj. *ballistrarius*; see next.]

a. A cruciform aperture in the walls of a fort- ress, through which arbalesters discharged their weapons. b. A room in which arbalests were kept.

1845 in *Gloss. Gothic Arch.* i. 38.

† **Balistrer**. *Obs.* rare. In 6 *balastriar*. [a. OF. *balestrier*: = L. *ballistrarius*; cf. med. L. *balestrarius*.] An arbalestrier, a crossbow-man.

1440 SHIRLEY *Dotte K. James* (1818) 23 Ane heghe yn- strument of tymbre, upon which balastriers and bowyers usyn to hong there . . . bowes.

† See also **BALLIST** for modern derivatives from L.

Balival (*bā'livāl*), a. [f. med. L. *balivus*, *ball-*, *baill*, f. F. *baillif*: = late L. *bajulivus* (see *BAILIFF*)]

+ *-AL*. Of or pertaining to a 'bailiff' or his office.

1854 LONGSTAFFE *Hist. Darlington* II. i. 93 Dickon-kists . . . constituted an estate of the balival family of Barnes.

Baliwick (*o*, *obs.* form of *BAILIWIKE*).

† **Balize** (*bālīz*). [F. *balise* = Sp. *baliza*; of un- certain origin.] A kind of beacon erected at sea, consisting of a pole surmounted by some object, such as a small barrel.

1847 in CRAIG.

Balk, **bauk** (*bōk*), *sb.* Forms: 1 *balos*, *balo*, 3-7 *balke*, 5-7 *bauke*, 6 *balcke*, 7-9 *bauk* (*north. dial.* *baulk*, *bauk*), 3- *balk*. [Common

Teutonic, presenting several variant stems, with partial differentiation of sense: OE. *balca* ridge, bank = OFris. *balca*, OS. *balco*, MDu. *balke*, *bal*, Du. *balk*, OHG. *balcho*, *balco*, MHG. *balke*, G.

balken, 'beam, trabs', also OE. *bolca* 'gangway of a ship', and ON. *bjalk* (Sw. *bjälke*, *bielke*, Da. *bjelke*) 'beam', corresponding respectively to an OTeut. ablaut-series **balkon-*, **bolkon-*, **belkon-*; also ON. *bálkr*, *bólkr*, 'beam, bar, partition, division, OSw. *balker*, *bolker*, Sw. *balk* 'beam, balk, partition, section of a law': = OTeut. **balku-*.

OE. *bale* 'porca' (see 3), is either an error for *balca*, or = ON. *bálkr*. The relation of OE. *bale* 'cover- ing (flooring)' is doubtful. The original sense was 'perh. 'bar'; cf. L. *suf-fla(g)men*, from Aryan

**bhalg-*, *bhlag-*. The OE. *balca* (*bale*) and ON. *bálkr* appear to be combined in the ME; whether the latter distinguished *balke* and *balk*, the evidence does not show. *Balk* is the analogous spelling: cf. *stalk*, *talk*, *walk*, etc.; but *bauk* is frequent, and in Billiards (sense 9) the prevailing spelling.]

1. A ridge generally, a dividing ridge; a bar.

† 1. A ridge, heap, or mound upon the ground; e.g. a grave-mound. *Obs.*

c 885 R. ALFRED *Boeth.* xvi. § 2 Þa het he hi bindan, and on balcan lægan. c 1325 E. E. *Allit. Poems* A. 62 My body on balcan þer bod in sweuen.

† 2. A dividing ridge (of land); an isthmus; a bar of sand, etc. *Obs.*

1538 LELAND *Itin.* v. 16 A little Balk of Sand cast up, the wich at low waters prohibith the Se to cum about. 1565 GOLDING *Ovid's Met.* vi. (1593) 140 The narrow balke at which two seas do meete at hand. *Ibid.* vii. 164 The balke that makes the strait divorce between the seas Ionian and Aegean. 1633 P. FLETCHER *Purple Isl.* iv. xi, A border- city these two coasts removing; Which, like a balk . . . Dis- parts the terms of anger and of loving.

II. A ridge left in ploughing; a miss, slip.

3. A ridge between two furrows (L. *porca*), or a strip of ground left unploughed as a boundary line between two ploughed portions.

c 1000 *Ælfric Gloss.* in Wright *Voc.* (W.) 147 *Porca*, *balc*. a 1300 W. DE BIBLESW. in Wright *Voc.* 159 *Vert choral*, a grene balke. 1393 LANGL. *P. Pl.* C. ix. 114 Dykers and deluers diggeden vp þe balkes. 1483 *Cath. Angl.* 19/1 Balke betwux twa furris; *crebr.* o, *porca*. 1566 BULLEYN *Bk. Simples* 16 b, Every mere and balke is full of it (Scabios) in June. 1563 *Homilies* II. *Rogat. Week* iv. (1859) 498 How covetous men nowe a dayes plow vp so nigh the common balkes and walks. 1576 GASCOIGNE *Steele Glas* (Arb.) 78

Earing vp the balks that part their bounds. 1604 BRETON *Pass. Sheph.* 13 The merrie countie lad, Who upon a faire greene balk May at pleasure sit and walke. 1785 A. RAM- SAY *Gent. Sheph.* v. iii, Last night I met him on a balk, Where yellow corn was growing. 1799 J. ROBERTSON *Agric. Perth* 196 These eastern boundaries (balks) are wearing fast out. 1821 CLARE *Vill. Ministr.* II. 104 He takes his rambles . . . Down narrow balks that intersect the fields.

4. A ridge or piece left unploughed by accident or carelessness; a piece missed in ploughing. (Often in phrase to make a balk or balks.)

c 1420 *Pallad. on Husb.* II. 15 The balke, that thai calle, unered lande And overheled, beholde that there be noon. c 1430 *Lydg. Bochas*, vii. viii b (1554) 172 Making no balkes, y^e plough was truly hold. 1523 FITZGER. *Husb.* § 7 If he goo to the ploughe, and loke backwarde, he seeth not, whether the plough . . . make a balke. 1647 FULLER *Good Tk. in Worst T.* Observ. xvi, The husbandman may dart forth an ejaculation, and not make a balk the more. a 1703 BURKITT *On N. T.* Luke ix. 62 He that ploughs must keep on, and make no balks. 1840 *Penny Cycl.* XVIII. 277/2 The leaving of balks is a great fault, and is owing to . . . the ploughman not holding his plough upright.

b. Hence fig., esp. in To make a balk of good ground: to waste or throw away a good chance.

1605 CAMDEN *Rem.* (1637) 302 Make hay while sunne shines. Make not a balke of good ground. 1640 FULLER *Joseph's Coat* (1867) 35 The rich Corinthians, in not inviting the poor, made balks of good ground. a 1654 BROME *New Acad.* III. i, Your plow makes vile baukes of my money. 1857 BOHN's *Handbk. Prov.* 69 Make not balks of good ground.

† 5. fig. A slip, mistake, a blunder. To make a balk: to blunder, go wrong. *Obs.*

c 1430 *Hymns to Virg.* (1867) 92 Þous a 3ong man make a balke, 3it take to þi mynde *reuertere*. 1661 ANNAND *Panem Quotid.* 18 They . . . make such bauks in their prayer. 1717 TUNWAY in *Ellis Orig. Lett.* II. 435 IV, 311 Bentley's bauks and blunders about the king's reception.

† 6. fig. An omission, an exception. *Obs.* or *dial.*

1596 SPENSER *F. Q.* vi. xi. 16 They fall to strokes . . . Not sparing wight, ne leaving any balke. 1666 BUNYAN *Grace Ab.* p. 315 But then I have asked why they made bauks? why they did salute the most handsome and let the ill favoured go? 1775 J. COLLIER *Tim Bobbin* 60 I'r so keen bit'n I made no bauks at o hay seed.

III. A ridge in one's path; A stumbling-block, check; a term in billiards.

† 7. A ridge in the way, over which one may stumble; a stumbling-block, obstacle. *Obs.*

1549 LATIMER *Serm. bef. Edw. VI* (1869) 36 He wold not walke in by-walkes, where are many balkes. 1566 STERN- HOLD & H. *Ps.* xviii. 35 So that my feete shall neuer slip, Nor stumble at a balke. 1747 HOOSON *Miner's Dict.* N.J., How many Bauks and Obstructions . . . happen by the way.

8. fig. a. A hindrance, check, or defeat.

1660 T. M. *Hist. Indef.* iv. 78 As a balk to which the Committee of safety declared . . . that they had transmitted a great part of a form of government, etc. a 1716 SOUTH *Serm.* VI. 311 (T.) There cannot be a greater balk to the tempter. 1725 DE FOE *Voy. round World* (1840) 341 This was a balk to them and put a damp to their new projects. 1823 LAMB *Elia* Ser. i. xxi. (1865) 162 It would be some balk to the spirit of conversation if you knew.

b. A disappointment.

1733 SWIFT *Wks.* (1745) VIII. 122 Poor Tom has got a plaguy balk. 1742 RICHARDSON *Pamela* (1824) I. viii. 244, It was a great balk to her, that you did not comply with my request.

9. *transf.* The part of a billiard table behind a transverse line (the 'balk-line') near one end, within the D or half-circle of which a player whose ball is in hand must place it to make his stroke.

(As, in billiards, such player must play out from balk, and can strike only indirectly at a ball lying within it, the original sense of the term was perhaps that of 'check'.)

1800 HOYLE's *Games* 250 When the striker's and the red ball are within the balk, he is not obliged to pass the ball. 1839 E. KENTFIELD *Billiards* 3 At the lower end of the table . . . is a line technically termed the Balk Line. 1874 WYTHE- MELVILLE *Uncle John* ix, She strung to begin—won—and put her ball in balk.

b. To make a balk: to bring one's own and the red ball within the balk, when the opponent's ball is in hand.

1839 E. KENTFIELD *Billiards* 24 Directions for making what are termed balks.

IV. A beam of wood.

10. A roughly squared beam of timber; some- times used technically to designate Baltic timber, which is roughly dressed before shipment.

c 1300 *Cursor M.* 8783 Þe balk þat mast þe werk suld bind þai soght, and noþer-quar cuth find. c 1386 CHAUCER *Reeves Prol.* 66 He can wel in myn eye see a stalke, But in his owne he can nought seen a balke. 1483 *Cath. Angl.* 19/1 Balke of a howse, *trabs*. 1662 *Perry's Diary* 23 June, Deales, spars, and bulks. 1666 *Lond. Gas.* No. 35 14 Laden with Oaken and Firr Balks. 1677 MOXON *Mech. Exerc.* (1703) 157 Bauk, a piece of Fir unsilt, from four to ten inches square. 1734 *Builder's Dict.*, *Balks* . . . so some call great pieces of Timber coming from beyond Seas by Floats. 1793 SKEATON *Edystone L.* § 38 A course of squared oak balks. 1881 *Mechanic* § 136 The strongest timber obtainable . . . is that which is sawn out of bauks. 1884 *Timber Tr. Jnrl.* 14 June 417/3 Danzig fir balks.

11. A tie-beam of a house, stretching from wall to wall. In old one-storey houses these were often exposed and used for hanging or placing articles on, or laid with boards so as to form a loft, called 'the balks.' Now chiefly *north.*

a 1300 W. DE BIBLESW. in Wright *Voc.* 170 *Les traves* (gloss *balkes*). c 1386 CHAUCER *Miller's T.* 440 Laddres thre To clymben by the ronges . . . Unto the tubbes hangyng

in the balkes. 1535 COVERDALE *Zeph.* ii. 14 Foulles shal synge in the wyndowes and rauens shal syt vpon the balkes. 1565 GOLDING *Ovid's Met.* viii. (1593) 202 A flich of restie bacon from the balke made blacke with smoke. 1641 BEST *Farm. Bks.* (1856) 53 When wee have brought up the farre roomstead as high as the balke. 1691 RAY *N. Countr. Wds.* 5 The Balk or Bawlk, the Summer-beam or Dorman. 1760 MICKLE *Nae Luck about the Hoose.* There's twa fat hens upon the bawlk. 1837 CARLYLE *Fr. Rev.* ii. 1. xii. (D.) The stiffest balk bends more or less; all joists creak.

12. A cross-beam or bar in a chimney or kiln.

1438 Test. *Ebor.* (1855) II. 23 Unum instrumentum ferreum in camino aulæ, vocatum balk. 1a 1600 *Felon Sow of Rokeby.* The sew was in the kiln hole down As they were on the balke aboon.

13. The beam of a balance. *Obs.* exc. *dial.*

1399 *Fabric Rolls Yk. Minstr.* in *Lin. Gloss.* (E. D. S.), I balke ferri cum les scales et ponderibus. 1571 *Wills & Ino. N. C.* (1855) II. 364 Payre of great skales wth y^r balk. 1671 FLAVEL *Fount. Life* iv. 10 The Balk of a Balance, to weigh Christ's excellency. 1854 H. MILLER *Sch. & Schm.* xxiii. (1858) 509 To give . . . his customers 'the cast of the bawlk.' *S. Proverb.* The young lamb comes as often to the bawlk as the auld ewe.

14. Comb. †balk-line, †a line hanging from the cross-beams; †balk-staff, a quarter-staff; balk-yard, a timber-yard.

c 1400 *Beryn* 153 He berith a Bal[k]staff quod the toon, and els a rakis ende. 1506 in *Blomefield Norfolk V.* 1670 A new balk-line to the star, and rysing star, viijth. 1664 *Cotton Scarron.* i. (1715) 10 Balk-Staves and Cudgels, Pikes and Truncheons. 1674 RAY *N. Countr. Wds.* 4 Balk-staff, a Quarter-staff, a great Staff like a Pole or Beam. 1823 *Let. in Polwhele Trad. & Recoll.* (1826) II. 770 Straying into a balk-yard fell over a beam of timber.

V. In fishing. [The connexion of 16 with the other senses is doubtful.]

15. *dial.* A set of stout stakes surrounded by netting or wicker work for catching fish.

1836 SIR G. HEAD *Home Tour* 430, I observed some fish 'balks' on the sands. The fish are taken on the sand within the balk at low water.

16. The stout rope at the top of fishing-nets by which they are fastened one to another in a 'fleet.' (In *Cornw. balch.*)

1847 H. MILLER *First Impr.* i. 3 Away from wave-top to wave-top, like the cork bawlk of a fisherman's net afloat on the swell. 1880 E. *Cornw. Gloss.* (E. D. S.), *Balch*, a stout cord used for the head-line of a fishing net.

Balk (bōk), *v.* 1. Forms: 6 *balok*, 6-7 *balke*, 7 *bauke*, *bawk*, 8 *bauk*, 6-9 *bauk*, 4- *balk*. [*f. prec. sb.*]

1. †1. *trans.* (and *absol.*) To make balks in ploughing; to plough up in ridges. *Obs.*

1393 *Gower Conf.* III. 296 But so well halt no man the plough, That he ne balketh other while. c 1400 *Pallad. on Husb.* l. 184 To till a felde man must have diligence, And balk it not. 1503 STANYHURST *Æneis* i. (Arb.) 22 With forck King Neptune is ayding. He balketh the quicksands, and fluds dooth mollefy. 1621 *Cottgr. Assiloner*, to baulke, or plow up in baulkes. [a 1640 JACOBSON *Creed* xi. cxxxix. Wks. XI. 203 Whilst we labour to plough up your hearts . . . we must not balk that saying of St. John.]

II. 2. *trans.* To miss or omit intentionally. †a. *lit.* To pass by (a place), to avoid in passing; to shun.

1484 *Paston Lett.* 859 III. 279 Mastyer Balei . . would not have balkyd this pore loggeying to Norwyche wardes. 1612-5 Bp. HALL *Contempl. N. T.* iv. iii. 173 Jericho was in his way from Galilee to Jerusalem: he balks it not, though it were outwardly cursed. 1684 LADY R. RUSSELL *Lett.* l. xv. 43, I hope you will not balk Torridget, if I am here. a 1733 *NORTH Exam.* ii. iv. p. 94 Going to Lord Clarendon . . baulking the Secretary. 1763 AINSWORTH *Lat. Dict.* (Morell) s.v. *Balk*, I will not balk your house.

b. *fig.* To pass over, overlook, refrain from noticing (what comes in one's way); to shirk, ignore.

c 1400 *Promp. Parv.* 22 Balkyn, or ouerskyppyn, omitto. 1584 FLEETWOOD in *Ellis Orig. Lett.* ii. 216 III. 90 As for my Lo. Maior . . I am dryven every day to bawlk hym and his doynyes. 1640 Bp. HALL *Epic.* i. § 11. 39, I may not baulke two pregnant testimonies of the Fathers. 1656 SANDERSON *Serm.* II. 160 The spying of motives in our brother's eye, and baulking of beams in our own. 1684 *Cont. Foxe's A. & M.* III. 900 The Bayliff would fain have baulked him, As if he had not seen him. 1743 RICHARDSON *Pamela* III. 42 Let me tell you, (nor will I balk it) my Brother . . will want one Apology for his Conduct. 1848 L. HUNT *Jar. of Honey Pref.* 4 No topic is baulked if it come uppermost.

c. To refuse (anything offered or that comes in course, e.g. food or drink).

1587 TURBERV. *Trag.* T. (1837) 230 And balke your bed for shame. 1619 FLETCHER *M. Thomas* i. i. 386 A bait you cannot balk Sir. 1649 BLITH *Eng. Improv. Impr.* (1653) 183 If the stalk grow big, cattell will balk it. a 1784 JOHNSON in *Boswell* (1831) I. 236, I never . . balked an invitation out to dinner. 1810 CRABBE *Borough* xvi, He took them all and never balk'd his glass.

d. To avoid (a duty or responsibility).

1631 PRESTON *Effect. Faith* 146 Thou must not balke the way of Religion, because of the troubles thou meetest. a 1707 BEVERIDGE *Priv. Th.* II. 103 Not that we should run ourselves into danger, but that we should baulk no Duty to avoid it. 1785 COWPER *Tirocin.* 257 Such an age as ours baulks no expence.

e. To let slip, fail to use, seize, keep, reach, etc.

1601 SHAKS. *Twel. N.* III. ii. 26 This was look't for at your hand, and this was baulkt. 1697 DRYDEN *Virg. Georg.* Ded. If I balk'd this opportunity. 1744 A. RAMSAY *Tea-t. Misc.* (1733) I. 2 This point of a 'his wishes He wadna with set speeches bawlk. 1826 HOR. SMITH *Gai. & Grav.* in *Casquet*

of *Lit.* I. 326/2 My adviser insisted upon my not baulking my luck.

3. *intr.* To stop short as at an obstacle, to pull up, swerve. *Esp.* of a horse: To jib, refuse to go on, or to leap, to shy; also of the rider, and of any one on foot, refusing a leap.

1481 CAXTON *Reynard* (Arb.) 32 Isegrym balked and sayde, ye make moche a doo, sir Tybert. 1596 SPENSER *F. Q.* IV. x. 25 Ne ever ought but of their true loves talkt, Ne ever for rebuke or blame of any balkt. 1722 DE FOE *Moll. Fl.* (1840) 78 If he balked, I knew I was undone. 1756 C. LUCAS *Ess. Waters* III. 340 No man, that drinks water, baulks at a pint . . in the day. 1843 LEVER *J. Hinton* xxv, Burke . . suddenly swerved his horse round, and affecting to baulk, cantered back. 1862 *Melbourne Leader* 5 July, His horse balked at a leap, and threw him.

† b. To lie out of the way. *Obs.*

1591 SPENSER *M. Hubberd* 268 Labour that did from his liking balke.

† 4. *trans.* To miss by error or inadvertence. *Obs.*

1579 SPENSER *Sheph. Cal.* Sept. 93 They . . balk the right way, and strayen abroad. 1659 FELTHAM *Low Countr.* (1677) 46 You cannot baulk your Road without the hazard of drowning. 1710 PALMER *Proverbs* 6 Young dogs . . balk the true game to play every scent.

III. 5. *trans.* To place a balk in the way of. a.

To check, hinder, thwart (a person or his action).

1509 WARNER *Alb. Eng.* VI. XXXI. (1612) 153, I sometimes proferted kindnesse . . but . . was balked with a blush. 1625 SWAN *Spec. M. v.* § 2 (1643) 105 The King . . must not be balked in his late proceedings. 1706 DE FOE *Hist. Devil* i. xi. (1840) 155 An enemy who is balked and defeated, but not overcome. 1821 BYRON *Two Fosc.* i. i. They shall not balk my entrance. 1825 PRISCOTT *Philip II.* I. ii. xiii. 292 The sturdy cavalier was not to be balked in his purpose.

b. To check (feelings, or a person in his feelings).

1682 DRYDEN *Rel. Laici* 212 Nor doth it balk my charity to find The Egyptian Bishop of another mind. 1746 Ld. MALMESBURY *Lett.* I. 37 Lord Talbot was not much balked with this rebuke. 1855 Ht. MARTINEAU *Autobiog.* I. 92 My home affections . . all the stronger for having been repressed and balked.

c. To disappoint (expectations, or any one in his expectations).

1590 MARLOWE *Edu. II.* II. v. We . . must not come so near to balk their lips. 1652 BROME *You. Crew* II. 389 May your Store Never decay, nor balk the Poor. 1795 POPE *Odyss.* x. 135 Balk'd of his prey, the yelling monster flies. 1854 THACKERAY *Newcome* I. 286 Balk yourself of the pleasure of bullying. 1873 SPENSER *Stud. Sociol.* vii. 161 Time after time our hopes are balked.

d. To frustrate, foil, render unsuccessful.

1635 QUARLES *Emblems* III. xiv. (1718) 182 To balk those ills which present joys bewray. 1727 SWIFT *Censure Misc.* (1735) V. 104 The most effectual Way to balk Their Malice, is—to let them talk. 1848 KINGSLEY *Saint's Trag.* II. v. 90 With which we try to balk the curse of Eve.

† 6. *trans.* and *absol.* To meet arguments with objections; to quibble, chop logic, bandy words.

1596 SPENSER *F. Q.* III. ii. 12 Her list in stryful termes with him to balke. 1596 SHAKS. *Tam. Shrew* i. i. 34 Balke Lodgicke with acquaintance that you haue. 1653 MANTON *Exp. James* III. 2 Wks. IV. 227 They do not divide and balk with God.

Balk, *v.* 2. † *Obs.* [prob. a. Du. *balk-en* to bray, bawl, shout, cogn. with OE. *bælcen* to shout, vociferate (which would itself have given *balkh*.)] To signify to fishing-boats the direction taken by the shoals of herrings or pilchards, as seen from heights overlooking the sea; done at first by bawling or shouting, subsequently by signals. See **BALKER** 2.

1603 Act 1 *Gas.* I, xxiii, To wache for the saide Fishe, and to balke, hue, conde, direct, and guide the Fishermen which shall be vpon the saide Sea and Sea Coasts for the takinge of the saide Fishe.

Balked (bōkt), *pp.* a. [*f. BALK v. 1 + -ED.*]

† 1. Ridged, ribbed. *Obs.*

1597 GERARDE *Herbal* II. cxc. (1633) 607 Streaked or balked as it were with sundry stiffe streakes or ribbes running along every leafe.

† 2. ? Heaped up; piled in a heap. *Obs.*

1596 SHAKS. *1 Hen. IV.* i. l. 69 Two and twenty Knights Balk'd in their owne blood did Sir Walter see.

3. Checked, foiled; disappointed.

1704 STEELE *Tend. Husb.* i. v. I came up to be married, I don't care to go down and look baulk'd. 1848 THACKERAY *Van. Fair* xxxv. (1866) 294 Pang of balked affection.

† **Balkening**, *pp.* a. *Obs.* [as if *pr. pple.* of a verb *balken*.] Rising in a ridge.

1538 LELAND *Itin.* IV. 126 A Towne . . standing somewhat clymynge on the side of a small balkening Ground.

Balker 1. [*f. BALK v. 1 + -ER.* 1.] One who balks; one who makes balks, or frequents them.

1549 LATIMER *Serm. bef. Edu. VI.* (Arb.) 30 They walke not directly and plainly, but delight in balkes, and stubble way. Let vs no more desyre to be bawkers [printed bankers]. 1763 AINSWORTH *Lat. Dict.* (Morell), *Balker*, *imporcator*.

Balker 2. [*f. BALK v. 2 + -ER.* 1.] A man stationed on an eminence by the shore to signal to fishing-boats the direction taken by the shoals of herring or pilchards; a huer, hoover, or conder.

1602 CAREW *Cornwall* 32 b, Directed in their worke by a Balker, or Huer who standeth on the Cliffe side, and from thence, best discerneth the quantitie and course of the Pilcherd. 1603 Act 1 *Gas.* I, xxiii, Diuers persons . . called Balcors, Huors, Condors, Directors or Guidors . . have vsed to watch and attend vpon the high Hilles and Grounds neere adioyning to the Sea Coasts for the giving Notice to the Fishermen. 1754 T. GARDNER *Hist. Dunwich* 163 A Conder . . whereon the Balkers stood to notify, by Signals of Boughs . . the Direction of the Herring Shoales. 1841 *Blackw.*

Mag. L. 152 Let them be our quarry men, our falcons . . our bawkers,—'herrings ahead, ho!'

Balking, *vbl. sb.* 1. [*f. BALK v. 1 + -ING.* 1.] The action of BALK *v.* 1 in various senses.

1549 LATIMER *Serm. bef. Edu. VI.* (Arb.) 36 Amongest many balkinges, is much stumbling. 1649 BLITH *Eng. Improv. Impr.* (1653) 182 It is my constant cry to my own Husbandmen to take heed of Plough-balking and Harrow balking, but now I say in a more especial manner, take heed of Seed-balking. 1783 AINSWORTH *Lat. Dict.* (Morell), *Balking*, *imporcacio*, [also] *omissio*, *pratermissio*. 1875 B. TAYLOR *Faust* I. iv. 71 Fall to and show no timid balking.

† **Balking**, *vbl. sb.* 2. ? *Obs.* [*f. BALK v. 2 + -ING.* 1.] The guiding of fishing-boats by shouting or signalling from a height.

1603 Act 1 *Gas.* I, xxiii, For watching of the saide Fishe, or for balking, huinge, condinge, directinge or guidinge of the saide Fishermen in their Boates.

Balking, *pp.* a. [*f. BALK v. 1 + -ING.* 2.] That balks; checking; shying.

Mod. Balking circumstances; a balking horse.

Balkingly, *adv.* [*f. prec. + -LY.* 2.] In such a manner as to balk.

† **Balkish**, *a. Obs.* [*f. BALK sb. + -ISH.* 1.] Characterized by balks or ridges; uneven, rough.

1577 STANYHURST in *Æneis* (Arb.) Introd. 12 That my penne shoulde walke . . in that craggie and balkish way.

Balky (bōki), *a.* [*f. BALK sb. + -Y.* 1.] Given to balking (as a horse).

1856 OLMSTED *Slave States* 197 Advice how to cure a balky horse: 'Sell him, my lord.' 1873 W. MAYO *Never Again* xxiii. 291 Making a balky Cressus step up to his collar.

Balky, *obs. form of BULKY.*

Ball (bōl), *sb.* 1. Forms: 3-7 *bal*, 4-6 *balle*, 6 *baule*, *bawle*, 5- *ball*. [*ME. bal* (inflected *ball-e*, -es), a. ON. *bōllr* (pron. bōllr; cf. OSW. *boller*, Sw. *bäll*) : -Otent. **ballu-s*, (whence probably MHG. *bal*, *ball-es*, MDu. *bal*). Cogn. with OHG. *ballo*, *pallo*, MHG. *balle* : -Otent. **ballon* (wk. masc.), and OHG. *ballā*, *pallā*, MHG. *balle* : -Otent. **ballōn* (wk. fem.). No OE. representative of any of these is known. (The answering forms in OE. would have been **beallu*, -a, -e: cf. *bealluc*, BALLOCK.) If *ball* was native in Teutonic, it may have been cognate with L. *folli* in sense of a 'thing blown up or inflated.' In the later ME. spelling *balle*, the word coincided graphically with F. *balle* 'ball' and 'bale,' which has hence been erroneously assumed to be its source. Cf. **BALE** sb. 3.]

I. A globe or globular body.

1. *generally.*

a 1300 *Fragm.* 89 in Wright *Pop. Sc.* 134 As me mai bi a candle-i-seo, that is besides a balle, That seveh list on hire halvendel. c 1340 *Cursor M.* (Fairf.) 521 His heued ys rouned as a balle. 1340 *Ayeneb.* 179 Pe byef . . braup pauer little bal in-to be hondes prote bet he ne seel nyst berke. c 1386 CHAUCER *Knts. T.* 1756 He rolleth vnder foot as dooth a bal. 1398 TREVISIA *Barth. de P. R.* xvi. lxxx. (1495) 579 Wyth balles of leed men assaye depnesse. 1576 LYTE *Dodoens* 167 Turned into a round heauie baule. 1626 BACON *Sylva* § 696 The Wormes with many feet which round themselves into Balls. 1716-8 LADY MONTAGUE *Lett.* 38 l. 150 The . . tents . . are adorned on the top with guilded balls. 1844 LANDOR *Imag. Conv.* xvii. Wks. 1846 I. 107 A ball must strike the earth before it can rebound. 1821 BLAKEY *Free Will* 151 To attend to them all at one time as jugglers do with their balls. 1876 MRS. H. WOOD *Pomeroy Ab.* 242 A short, stout ball of a woman.

2. *spec.* Any planetary or celestial body, *esp.* the earth, 'the globe.' Now always with qualification, 'terrestrial,' 'earthly,' etc.

a 1300 *Fragm.* 255 in Wright *Pop. Sc.* 137 Urthe is amide the see a lute bal and round. 1548 UDALL, etc. *Erasm. Par. Acts* xvii. 24 (R.) The heavenly balles and circles aboue. 1593 SHAKS. *Rich. II.* III. ii. 41 From vnder this Terrestrial Ball. 1697 DRYDEN *Virg. Eclog.* vi. 52 This goodly Ball. 1712 ADDISON *Spect.* No. 465 What, though in solemn silence all Move round the dark terrestrial ball. 1717 POPE *Elgy Unfort. Lady* 35 If eternal Justice rules the ball. 1834 TENNYSON *Two Voices* 35 No compound of this earthly ball.

† 3. The golden 'orb' borne together with the sceptre as the emblem of sovereignty. *Obs.*

c 1485 *Digby Myst.* (1882) (Mor. Wisd.) i. Arg't. In his left hand a ball of gold with a crosse per-vpon. 1599 SHAKS. *Hen. V.* i. 277 The Scepter, and the Ball, the Sword, the Mace, the Crowne Imperiall. 1622 BACON *Hen. VII.* 149 A young Man, that . . ought to hold in his hand the Ball of a Kingdom. 1715 POPE *Ep. Miss Blount*, Thus vanish sceptres, coronets, and balls.

4. A globular body to play with, which is thrown, kicked, knocked, or batted about, in various games, as hand-ball, foot-ball, tennis, golf, cricket, croquet, billiards, etc. It varies greatly in size and material according to the game.

(This was perhaps the earliest sense in English.) 1205 LAV. 24703 Summe heo driuen balles wide 3eond þa felde. c 1300 *Seyn Sag.* (W.) 2004 With that bal togider they plaid. c 1340 *Cursor M.* (Fairf.) 13139 His broþer doghter . . come playand hir wip a bal. 1483 *Cath. Angl.* 191/1 Balle, *pila*. 1530 FALSGR. 196/2 Ball to play at tennis with—*esteyf*. 1568 J. HEYWOOD *Prov. & Epigr.* (1867) 35 Thou hast striken the ball, vnder the lyne. 1599 SHAKS. *Hen. V.* i. ii. 261 When we haue matcht our Rackets to these Balles. 1611 BIBLE *Isa.* xxiii. 18 He will surely . . toss thee like a ball. 1721 BAILEY, *Cricket*, a sort of Play with Bats and a Ball. 1807 CRABBE *Village* i. Wks. 1823 l. 16 The flying ball, The bat, the wicket, were his labours all. 1857

HUGHES *Tom Brown* II. 58½ The ball flies off his bat to all parts of the field.

See also BILLIARD-, CRICKET-, FOOT-BALL, etc.

b. A game played with a ball; also an annual contest at hand-ball, played on a holiday in most of the towns and villages on the Scottish Border.

c. 1390 *Life of Cuthbert* in Strutt *Sports & Past.* II. iii. He playde atte balle with the Children that his fellows were. 1598 *Stow Survey* 68 After dinner all the youths goe into the fieldes to play at the ball. 1675 *Cotton Scoffer Scott* 50 To play at Cat, at Trap, or Ball. 1831 *Proc. Berw. Nat. Club* I. 45 (Article) The game of Ball as played in Dunse on Fastern's Eve. 1847 *Tennyson Princess* III. 199 Quoits, tennis, ball—no games?

c. A throw, toss, or 'delivery' of the ball in certain games, esp. in *Cricket*, the particulars of its course and effect being included in the notion. *No ball* in *Cricket*, one unfairly bowled; *wide ball*, one not properly within the batsman's reach.

1283 *Cath. Angl.* 19 *Balle. alipatus. qui iaculatur pilam.* 1773 *Gentl. Mag.* Nov. 568 The modern way Of blocking every ball at play. 1839 *Miss Mitford Village* (1848) I. 177 That brilliant hitter . . . gained eight from two successive balls. 1837 *Dickens Pickwick*, vii. He blocked the doubtful balls, missed the bad ones, took the good ones. 1850 *Cricket Manual* 54 The names of the bowlers who bowl 'wide balls' or 'no balls' . . . to be placed on the score.

5. A missile (originally always spherical, now also conical or cylindrical with convex top) projected from an engine of war, in early times from catapults and crossbows, and now from cannons, muskets, pistols, and other fire-arms. In artillery, a solid as distinguished from a hollow projectile; these are of iron, but formerly were often of stone; the balls fired from small-arms are also called *bullets*, and are made of lead.

1387 *Trevisa Higden* Rolls Ser. I. 297 þe men of bat lond . . . vseþe balle and alblastres. 1588 *Ord. King's Fleet* in *Harl. Misc.* (1810) I. 118 The artillery . . . being all charged with their balls. 1599 *Shaks. Hen. V.* v. ii. 17 The fatal Balls of murdering Basilisks. a 1631 *Donne Epigr.* (1652) 100 Threatening balls in showres of murder fly. 1667 *Milton P. L.* VI. 518 Mineral and Stone . . . to found their Engines and their Balls Of missive ruin. 1698 *Diary Siege Lymerick* 28 March out with their Arms, Baggage, Drums beating, Ball in Mouth . . . Colours flying. 1778 *Lady Montagu Lett.* 49 II. 58 Tombs of fine marble . . . daily lessened by the prodigious balls that the Turks make from them for their cannon. 1818 *Examiner* 19 Oct. 659½ More than 600,000 balls and shells. 1828 *W. Ellis Vis. Madagascar* xii. 330 A round stone, like a large cannon-ball.

b. collectively.

1584 *Sanders* in Arb. *Garner* II. 16 The King had discharged three shots without ball. 1730 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 4702½ The Powder, small Ball, and small Arms remaining in the Garrisons. 1849 *Macaulay Hist. Eng.* I. 479 A body of troops . . . was ordered to load with ball.

6. *Pyrotechny* and *Mil.* A globular case or shell filled with combustibles, intended to set buildings on fire, or to give light, smoke, etc.; e.g. *fire-balls*, *smoke-balls*, *stink-balls*.

1753 *Chambers Cycl. Supp.* s. v. Smoak, or dark Balls . . . fill the air with smoak, and . . . prevent discoveries. Sky Balls . . . bursting like rockets, afford a spectacle of decoration.

7. A globular body of wood, ivory, or other substance, used in voting by BALLOT (q. v.), each voter being provided with one black and one white. Hence to *black-ball*, q. v.

1580 *North Plutarch* (1656) 927 The Judges . . . would never take their balls to ballot against him. 1600 *Reliq. Wotton* (1672) 309 In the first Ballotation . . . the Balls were equal. a 1700 *Dryden* (J.) For ev'ry number'd captive put a ball Into an urn: three only black be there. The rest, all white, are safe. 1709 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 4543½ They took a Boy to draw the Balls. 1884 *C. Dickens Dict. Lond.* 25½ One black ball in three excludes.

+ 8. In the phrase *ball in the hood*, applied in grim humour to the head (partly *fig.* from 4). *Obs.*

c. 1300 *K. Alis.* 648½ Mony of his knyghtis gode Loren theoballes in heore hode. c. 1325 *Cœur de L.* 4523 Men of armes the swerdes outbreyde; Balles out of hoodes, soone they playde. c. 1460 *Towneley Myst.* 17, I shrew this balle under thi hode. c. 1500 *Rob. Hood* (Ritson) i. 1454 He ne shall lese his hede, That is the best ball in his hode.

9. *Ball of the eye*: a. orig. the 'apple' or pupil; b. now, the eye itself within the lids and socket.

c. 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 21 Balle of þe ye, *Pupilla*. 1530 *Palsgr.* 196½ *Ball*, of the eye, *La prunelle de loyl.* 1577 *tr. Bullinger's Decades* (1592) 157 The balles of his eyes shall see nought but darkness. 1596 *Shaks. Merch. V.* III. ii. 117. 1671 *Milton Samson* 94 Such a tender ball as the eye. 1709 *Steele Tatler* No. 145 P 2 The Balls of Sight are so form'd, that one Man's Eyes are Spectacles to another to read his Heart with. 1808 *Scott Marm.* II. xxii. Raising his sightless balls to heaven. 1870 *Bryant Homer* XIV. II. 71 Him Peneleus smote . . . In the eye's socket, forcing out the ball.

II. A globular or rounded mass of material.

10. A globular or rounded mass of any substance. a. *gens.* (cf. SNOWBALL).

1205 *Lav.* 17443 Nu 3e majen heom habben swulche ve-derene ballas. c. 1385 *Chaucer L. G. W.* 2003 Ballis . . . Of wax and tow. 1588 *Shaks. L. L. L.* III. i. 199 With two pitch balls stucke in her face for eyes. 1648 *Herrick Hesper.* Wks. 1869 II. 328 Balls of cowslips, daisie rings. 1783 *Ainsworth Lat. Dict.* A musk ball, or sweet ball, *Pastillus*. 1875 *Buckland Log-Bk.* 204 A living ball of Crabs.

b. *spec.* A spherical piece of soap. (Not now used specifically).

1593 *Nashe Christ's T.* (1613) 25 As a Barber wasteth his Ball in the water. 1611 *Bible Susanna* i. 17 Then she said

to her maids, bring me oil & washinge balls. 1624 *Fletcher Rule a Wife* III. l. 286 Balls . . . to wash out your stains. 1783 *Ainsworth Lat. Dict.* (Morell), *Masticæ pile.* soap-balls, washing-balls.

c. A globular mass formed by winding thread, a clew or clue. *L. glomus.*

1574 *J. Jones Baith Buckstone* 12 b. The wind baule, or yarne ball. 1841 *Marryat Poacher* xv. You had a ball of twine. 1884 *Black in Harper's Mag.* May 95½ She got her knitting-needles and a ball of wool.

11. *Med.* A bolus; medicine in the form of a ball or large pill. Now only in *Veterinary Medicine*.

1576 *Earl Oxford Love Quest.* in Fuller *Worthies* rv. (1872) 58 His bitter ball is sugred blisse. 1730 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 5831½ The Cordial Horse-Balls, at 4s. per Pound. 1753 *Chambers Cycl. Supp.* s. v. We meet with balls for the tooth-ach. 1877 *Stonehouse Horse* xxxii. 58½ Medicine may be given to the horse . . . in the solid form as a ball.

12. (from *F. balle*) A rounded package, a *BALE*.

1583 *J. Newbery* in Arb. *Garner* III. 172 Hath sent you in the Emanuel a ball of Nutmegs. 1633 *Urquhart Rabelais* i. xxxvii. Seven balls of bullets [*sept balles de boulets*] at a dozen the ball. 1796 *Morse Amer. Geog.* II. 389 Fifteen balls of rosemary, the ball weighing 750 pounds.

III. Objects or parts with rounded outline.

13. A kind of small cushion, leather-covered or formed of composition, used by printers for inking the type. Now superseded by the roller.

1611 *Cotgr., Pompette d'imprimeur*, a Printers Pumpet-ball . . . wherewith hee beates, or layes Inke on, the Formes. 1753 *Chambers Cycl. Supp.* Ball among Printers a kind of wooden tunnel stuffed with wool, contained in a cover of sheep's skin . . . with which the ink is applied. 1844 *J. Johnson Typogr.* II. 53½ About the year 1815, composition balls were introduced at Weybridge. 1870 *Edin. Encycl.* XIII. 46 When the printing balls are applied, the ink is received by the oiled parts of the stone.

14. A spherical or rounded part of various machines; e.g. *the ball of a harrow*; *of a cart-wheel* (the nave or hub); *of a pendulum* (the bob).

1641 *Best Farm. Bks.* (1856) 107 These rammers are made of old everings, harrowe balls, or such like things as have holes. 1693 *W. Robertson Phrasol. Gen.* 199 The ball of a Cart-wheel; *arbuscula*.

15. Any rounded protuberant part of the body; now chiefly applied to those at the base of the thumb and great toe; formerly, also a callosity on the hand or foot.

1283 *Cath. Angl.* 10½ A Balle of þe hand or of fote, *callus*. 1530 *Palsgr.* 106½ Ball of the cheke, *pommeau de la joue*. 1547 *Act. 1. Ed. VI.* III. § 2 Such Slave, or loiterer to be marked on the . . . ball of the cheeke with an hot iron. 1586 *Warner Alb. Eng.* IV. xxi. 97 Beating Balles, her vained breasts. 1754 *Carte Hist. Eng.* III. 542 The women painted about the eyes and the Balls of the cheeks with an azure colour. 1833 *Regul. Instr. Cavalry* I. 14 The recruit brings the ball of the right foot to the left heel. 1875 *Buckland Log-Bk.* 22 Large muscle which forms the ball of the thumb.

16. The central hollow of the palm of the hand or sole of the foot (*obs.*); the central part of an animal's foot.

1601 *Dent Path-w. Heaven* 242 Some men . . . will easilie feele the lightest feather . . . laide vpon the ball of their hands. 1615 *Latham Falconry* (1633) 133 The pinne groweth in the bales of the feet of vnquiet Hawkes. 1677 *Moxon Mech. Exerc.* (1703) 120 They . . . hold one end of it down with the Ball of the Foot. 1753 *Chambers Cycl. Supp.* s. v. Ball of the foot of a dog is the prominent part of the middle of the foot. 1783 *Ainsworth Lat. Dict.* (Morell), Ball of the hand, *Palma*. Ball of the foot, *Planta pedis*.

17. *Ball of a pillar* in *Arch.*: the scotia, a hollow moulding between the fillets in the base of a pillar or column.

1783 *Ainsworth Lat. Dict.*, Ball of a pillar, *scotia*.

IV. Phrases and phraseological combinations.

18. *fig.* from games, football, tennis, etc.:—To catch or take the ball before the bound: to anticipate an opportunity. To have the ball at one's foot or before one: to have a thing in one's power.

To keep the ball up or rolling: to keep the conversation or an undertaking from flagging. To take up the ball: to take one's turn in conversation, etc. The ball is with you: it is your turn.

1589 *Puttenham Eng. Poesie* III. xix. We do preuent them . . . and do catch the ball (as they are wont to say) before it come to the ground. c. 1645 *Howell Lett.* IV. ix. It concerns you not to be over-hasty herein, not to take the Ball before the Bound. c. 1661 *Papers on Alterat. Prayer-Bk.* 24 You have the ball before you, and have the wind and sun, and the power of contending without controll. 1781 *Bentham to G. Wilson* Wks. 1843 X. 104, I put a word in now and then to keep the ball up. c. 1800 *Ld. Auckland Corr.* (1862) III. 416 We have the ball at our feet, and if the Government will allow us . . . the rebellion will be crushed. 1809 *Wellington in Gurw. Disp.* V. 365 If the Spaniards had not lost two armies lately, we should keep up the ball for another year. 1876 *Geo. Eliot Coll. Breakf. P.* 345 Louder Rosencranz took up the ball.

19. *Ball and Socket* (joint): a joint formed of a ball or rounded extremity partly enclosed in a cup or socket, which thus has great freedom of play combined with strength.

1669 *Boyle Cont. New Exper.* I. xxii. 74 This travelling Baroscope being furnished at its upper end with a very good Ball and Socket. 1741 *Monro Anat.* 42 *Enarthrosis*, or the Ball and Socket . . . when a large Head is received into a deep Cavity. 1809 *Home in Phil. Trans.* XCIX. 182 There is a regular ball and socket joint between every two vertebrae. 1863 *Mrs. C. Clarke Shaks. Char.* 159 By . . . im-

penetrable assurance, and a ball-and-socket morality. 1870 *Rolleston Anim. Life* 33 Ball and socket articulation.

20. *Three (golden) balls*: the sign of a pawnbroker; supposed by some to be derived from the ensign of the wealthy Medici family.

a 1845 *Hood Pawnshop Watch* ix. I've gone to a dance for my supper; And now I must go to Three Balls! 1861 *Sala Two round Clock* 180 The brethren of the three golden balls.

V. *Comb.* 21. General combinations, mostly attrib. (in various senses), as *ball-alley*, *court*, *firing*, *green*, *ground*, *play*, *player*, *practice*; also the adjs. *ball-proof*, *-piled*, *-shaped*.

1865 *Englishm. Mag.* Oct. 313 Ball-alleys and racquet-courts were the exception. 1877 *Plot Oxfordsh.* 17 The Ball-Court at Corpus Christi Coll. 1721 *Amherst Terre Fil.* 179 The old ball-court, where I have had many a game at fives. 1833 *Regul. Instr. Cavalry* I. 31 Ball Firing . . . at a target. 1657 *Colvill Whigs Supplic.* (1751) 19 Making a ball-green on his chin; As trees do sometime in a wood. 1884 *Harper's Mag.* Jan. 207½ Sites for ball-grounds and race-tracks. c. 1830 *Annc. R.* 218 10e uorne zeres nis hit bute bal-pleuwe. 1855 *Longf. Hiaw.* xi. 62 Skilled . . . in the play of quoits and ball-play. 1629 *Sanderson Serm.* I. 7 As ball-players with the ball. When the ball is once up, they labour to keep it up. 1818 *Scott Rob. Roy* xxxi, A regimental target set up for ball practice. 1854 *Owen in Circ. Sc. II.* 45½ The ball-proof character of the skin. 1812 *Byron Ch. Har.* I. li. The ball-piled pyramid. 1884 *J. Colborne With Hicks Pasha* 241 Round ball-shaped boxes.

22. Special combinations: *ball-bearing* (s, a mechanical contrivance for lessening friction by means of small loose metal balls, used for the bearings of axles; + *ball-bellows*, a hollow metal ball formerly used for producing a steam blast; *ball-cartridge*, a gun- or pistol-cartridge containing a bullet; *ball-clay*, very adhesive clay, as that brought up in lumps sticking to a ship's anchor; *ball-cook*, a self-regulating cistern-tap turned off and on by the rising or falling of a hollow ball floating on the surface of the liquid; *ball-drawer*, an instrument for extracting balls from fire-arms; *ball-flower* (*Arch.*), an ornament like a ball enclosed within three or four petals of a flower, often inserted in a hollow moulding; *ball-mine*, a kind of iron-ore found in rounded lumps or nodules; *ball-stamp*, an American ore-crushing machine; *ball-stock*, the stock or handle of a printer's ball; *ball-stone*, a rounded lump of ironstone or limestone; *ball-tap* (= *ball-cock*); *ball-thistle*, the Globe Thistle, also a species of Echinops; *ball-valve*, a valve opened or closed by the rising or falling of a ball which exactly fits a cup-shaped opening in the seat; + *ball-vein*, a kind of iron ore in nodules formerly worked in Sussex; *ball-weed*, *knapweed* (*Centaurea nigra*).

1863 *Knowledge* 3 Aug. 76½ Three machines . . . with *ball-bearings. 1634 *T. Johnson tr. Parey's Chirurg.* xi. (1678) 276 *Ball-bellows . . . made of Brass in form of a Pear, with a very small hole in their lesser ends. 1803 *Ld. Colchester Diary & Corr.* I. 451 A quantity of pikes, of *ball-cartridges and of combustibles. 1833 *Marryat P. Simple* (1863) 399 The captain . . . ordered the marines to load with *ball-cartridge. 1811 *Agric. Surv. Arrah.* 4 (JAM.) If steril and adhesive, it is sometimes termed strong as *ball-clay. c. 1850 *Knight's Pract. Dict. Mech.* I. 558 A house-service pipe provided with a *ball-cock, etc. 1844 *Regul. & Ord. Army* 96 One *Ball-drawer to each Rifle. 1845 *Archaeol. Jnrl.* I. 100 The Chapel in Marten's tower with its *ball-flower moulding. 1868 *Archaeol.* XXXIX. 182 The *ball-flower pattern . . . carries down the building 10 late as 1340. 1709 in *Phil. Trans.* XXIII. 1072 A sort of Iron Stone, akin to that which they call in Staffordshire Ballmine. 1881 *Raymond Mining Gloss.*, *Ball-Stamp, a stamp for crushing rock, operated directly by steam power. 1849 *Murchison Siluria* vi. 116 The *ballstones . . . being more crystalline than the nodules. 1597 *Gerard Herball* II. cccclxxviii. (1633) 1152 *Carduus eriocephalus* . . . is called in English, Globe Thistle, and *Ball-Thistle. 1839 *Tonn Cycl. Anat. & Phys.* III. 631½ A mechanical office somewhat on the principle of the *ball-valve. 1753 *Chambers Cycl. Supp.*, *Ball-vein, a name given by the miners in Sussex to a sort of iron ore.

Ball (bōl), sb. 2 [a. *F. bal* (= *Pr. bal*, It. *ballo* dancing), f. *bal-er*, *ball-er* to dance: see *BALE* v. 1. (In Chapman and Shirley's *Ball* (see sense 2) there was some punning reference to a golden ball worn by the presiding lady: see Gifford's note.)]

+ 1. A dance or dancing. *Obs.*

1523 *H. Cogan Pinto's Voy.* lxxix. 321 All of them together . . . danced a Ball to the tune of two Harps and a Viol.

2. A social assembly for the purpose of dancing; phrases, *To give a ball*, *go to a ball*; also, to open the ball, (*fig.*) to commence operations.

1638-9 *Chapman & Shirley Ball* IV. iii, l. Some malice has corrupted your opinion of what we call the Ball. W. Your dancing business? 1649 *Jer. Taylor Gt. Exemp.* II. Add. xii. 93 Avoid carnivals and balls . . . the perdition of precious hours. 1679 *Fenn Addit. Prov.* 19 They had got a Calf of Gold, and were Dancing about it. But it was a Dismal Ball, and they paid dear for their Junket. 1718 *Steele Spect.* No. 466 P 3 On Thursday next, I make a Ball for my Daughter. 1779 *J. Moore View Soc. Fr.* 175 Count Finkenstien gave a great dinner and ball. 1812 *Byron Waltz* xiii. note, Waltz and the battle of Austerlitz are . . . said to have opened the ball together. 1841 *Anderson Creol.* vi. 63 Miss Fairfield . . . was the first lady handed out to 'open the ball'. 1863 *Mary Howitt P. Bremer's Greece* I. v. 146, I was very willing to see a royal ball at Athens.

3. With limiting attribute, a. descriptive, as

† *ball-mask* (= *F. bal-masqué*), *ball-royal*, *calico*, *dignity*, *fancy*, *masking-ball*; *b.* indicating the object or occasion, as *archery*, *charity*, *race-ball*.
 1672 DRYDEN *Marr. à la Mode* Prol., A masking ball, to recommend our play. 1770 WILKES *Corr.* (1805) IV. 36 You did not mention particularly about the ball-mask. 1833 MARRYAT *P. Simple* (1863) 228 A dignity ball is a ball given by the most consequential of their coloured people. a 1847 Mrs. SHERWOOD *Lady of Manor* V. xxix. 70 It was the first dress-ball I had attended. 1849 SOUTHEY *Common-pl. Bk.* Ser. II. 327 As great a performer in a ball-royal as himself. 1876 GEO. ELIOT *Dan. Der.* II. xi. The archery ball... was not an escapement for youthful high spirits.

4. *attrib.*, as *ball-dancing*, *-day*, *-dress*, *-room*.
 1712 STEELE *Spect.* No. 431 P. 3, I then nibbled all the red wax of our last Ball-Tickets. 1728 J. ESSEX (*title*) *Dancing-Master*... the manner of performing all steps in Ball-Dancing. 1751 SMOLLETT *Per. Pic.* (1779) III. lxxvi. 26 The careful matron... on the ball-day feigned herself extremely ill. 1752 JOHNSON *Ramb.* 201 P. 8 The play-house, the ball-room, or the card-table. 1875 HELEN MATHERS *Comin' thro' Rye* II. vii. How many yards of stuff an orthodox ample ball dress requires. 1875 *Ibid.* II. ix. Ball-room conversation is never expected to be very wise, is it?

† *Ball*, *sb.* 3. *Obs.* [prob. *f.* Celtic: cf. Welsh *bâl* *sb.* or *fadj.*, in *ceffyl bâl* 'a horse having a white streak on the forehead', Breton *bal* 'a white mark on an animal's face', Ir. and Gael. *bal* *spot*, *mark*.]
 1. A white streak or spot; ? a bald place.

1523 FITZHERB. *Husb.* § 73 The .ii. properties of a bauson [*i.e.* *badger*]. The fyrste is, to haue a whyte rase or a ball in the forehead; the seconde, to haue a whyte fote.

2. ? A white-faced horse; hence, a horse's name. 1573 TUSSEAR *Husb.* 185 Be wise who first doth teach thy child that Art. Least homelie breaker mar fine ambling ball.

Ball (*bōl*), *v.* 1 [*f.* BALL *sb.* 1].

1. *trans.* To round or swell out (the cheeks, etc.). 1593 NASHE *Christ's T.* (1613) 41 The mayden-Moone... shall haue her crimson cheeks (as they would burst) round balled out with blood.

2. To make (snow, etc.) into a ball; to wind (thread) into a ball.

1658 A. FOX *tr. Wurts' Surg.* II. xxv. 157 Ball the bones together with your hands, as a snow-ball is made. 1856 KANE *Art. Ex.* II. ix. 95 Brooks balls off twine.

3. *intr.* To gather (itself) into a ball.

1713 LOND. & COUNTRY *Brev.* I. (1742) 26 Stirring it [malt] all the while... that it may not ball. 1814 SOUTHEY *Lett.* (1856) II. 342 In clogs... snow balls under the wooden sole. 1880 BLACKMORE *M. Auerley* xi. The snow would... ball wherever any softness was.

4. *a. trans.* To clog, *b. intr.* to become clogged, with balls (of snow, etc.).

1808 WEBSTER *s. v.* We say, the horse balls. 1863 J. BROWN *Horse Surg.* 74 The pony stumbled through the... snow... getting its feet balled.

Ball, *v.* 2 ? *Obs.* rare -1. [*f.* BALL *sb.* 1, sense 4.] To play at ball.

1681 *Trial S. Colledge* 37 When I came, he was balling.

† *Ball*, *v.* 3 *Obs.* [*f.* BALL *sb.* 1] *intr.* To strike, thump, shower blows.

c 1400 *Beryn* 1026 And stert up in a wood rage, and ballid on his crown.

Ball (*bōl*), *v.* 4 [*f.* BALL *sb.* 2; cf. BALE *v.* 1] *intr.* To take part in a ball.

1855 *Harper's Mag.* April 821:1 It is the temperature that sets people dancing and balling.

Ballade, *obs.* form of BALLAST.

Ballade (*bælād*). Forms: 4-6 *balade*, 5 *ba-laade*, -*adde*, 6 *balat* (*e*), -*ette*, *ballat*, -*att*, -*ed*, -*ete*, -*ette*, -*ytte*, 6-7 *ballet*, *ballade*, 7- (*Sc.*) *ballant*, 6- *ballad*. [*ME. balade*, a. OF. *balade* (mod. *ballade*) dancing-song, ad. Fr. *balada* dance, dancing-song, *f. balar* :-late L. *ballāre* to dance: cf. BALE *v.* 1 In 16th and 17th c. the termination -*ad* was commonly changed into the more familiar -*at* (*e*, -*et* (cf. *salad*, *sallet*), and this in Sc. further corrupted to -*ant*. Cf. BALLETER, the adoption of which has probably tended to restore the spelling *ballad*. The primitive meaning of *dance* was in Pr. and It., but the word was adopted in Fr. and Eng. only in transferred senses. See also BALLADE.]

† 1. A song intended as the accompaniment to a dance; the tune to which the song is sung. *Obs.*

c 1500 DUNBAR *Gold. Targe* 129 And sang ballettis with mighty notis clere: Ladyes to dance full sobirly assayit. 1545 ASCHAM *Toxoph.* (Arb.) 39 These balades and roundes, these galiardes, pauntes and daunces. 1549 OLDE *Erasm.* *Par. Eph.* v. 19 That can stirre vs, not to wanton dauncynges or folysh ballettes. 1597 MORLEY *Introd. Mus.* 180 An other kind... of Ballets, commonlie called *fa las*... deuised to be daunced to voices. a 1616 B. JONSON *Love Rest*. 12 Unlesse we should come in like a Morrice-dance, and whistle our ballat our selves.

2. A light, simple song of any kind; now *spec.* a sentimental or romantic composition of two or more verses, each of which is sung to the same melody, the musical accompaniment being strictly subordinate to the air.

1492 in Michelet *Scot. Lang.* 218 For the singyn of a ballat to the King. c 1500 *Mayd Emlyn in Poet. Tracts* (1842) 16 We do nought togyder, But prycked balades syngye. 1521 *State Papers Hen. VIII.* I. 10 Mr. Almoner, in hys sermone, brought in the balates off 'Passe tyme with goodde compaignye,' and 'I love unlovydye.' 1568 BIBLE (Bishops') *title*, The Ballet of Ballades of Solomon. 1569 PUTTENHAM *Eng. Poetrie* I. xx, Bal-lades of praise called *Encomia*. 1664-5 *Ferri's Diary* 2 Jan.,

I occasioned much mirth by a ballet I brought with me, made from the seamen at sea to their ladies in town [*i.e.* Ld. Dorset's 'To all you Ladies']. 1770 GOLDSM. *Des. Vil.* 244 No more the woodman's ballad shall prevail. 1855 TENNYSON *Maud*. I. v. i. She is singing an air that is known to me, A passionate ballad gallant and gay.

† 3. A popular song; often *spec.* one celebrating or scurrilously attacking persons or institutions. (The 'ballad' in this and prec. sense was often printed as a broadsheet.) *Obs.*

1556 *Chron. Grey Friars* (1852) 57 Many ballyttes made of dyvers partys agayne the blyssyd sacrament. 1597 SHAKS. 2 *Hen. IV.* iv. iii. 52, I will haue it in a particular Ballad, with my owne Picture on the top of it. 1602 *Ret. fr. Par-nass.* I. ii. (Arb.) 10 Who makes a ballet for an ale-house doore. 1704 A. FLETCHER (of Saltoun) *Acct. Conversation* 9 Tempted to all manner of Lewdness by infamous Ballads sung in every corner of the Streets... I know a very wise man that believed that if a man were permitted to make all the Ballads, he need not care who should make the Laws of a Nation. 1727 SWIFT *Fourth. Acct. Curll Wks.* 1755 III. 1. 160 Resolved, That a ballad be made against Mr. Pope. 1782 BURNES *Hist. Mus.* II. iv. 343 *note*, The English Ballad has long been... confined to a low species of Song. 1825 J. WILSON *Noct. Ambr. Wks.* I. 2 A beuk of old ballants as yellow as the cowslips.

† 4. A proverbial saying, usually in form of a couplet; a *posy*. (Cf. L. *cantilena*.) *Obs.*

1528 MORE *Heresies* I. Wks. 177/1 Than haue we well walked after the balade: The further I goo the more beynde. 1566 J. HEYWOOD *Prov. & Epigr.* (1867) 54 Spend, and god shall send... saith tholde ballet. 1601 SHAKS. *All's Well* I. iii. 63 For I the Ballad will repeat, which men full true shall finde, your marriage comes by destinie, your Cuckow sings by kinde.

5. A simple spirited poem in short stanzas, originally a 'ballad' in sense 3, in which some popular story is graphically narrated. (This sense is essentially modern: with Milton, Addison, and even Johnson, the idea of song was present.)

1670 MILTON *Hist. Eng. v. Wks.* (1851) 226 The song... (for... he refus'd not the authority of Ballads for want of better). 1712 ADDISON *Spect.* No. 70 P. 3 The old Song of Chevy-Chase is the favourite Ballad of the common People of England. 1751 JOHNSON *Ramb.* No. 177 P. 9 Cantilenus turned all his thoughts upon old ballads... He offered to shew me a copy of the Children in the Wood. 1783 COWPER *Lett.* 3 Aug. The ballad is a species of poetry, I believe, peculiar to this country... simplicity and ease are its proper characteristics. 1817 COLERIDGE *Sibyl. Leaves*, The Bard... who made The grand old ballad of Sir Patrick Spence. 1858 LONGF. *Children*, Ye are better than all the ballads That ever were sung or said; For ye are our living poems, And all the rest are dead. 1870 SWINBURNE *Ess. & Stud.* (1875) 85 The highest form of ballad requires from a poet at once narrative power, lyrical, and dramatic. 1872 BUCKLE *Misc. Wks.* I. 161 All history is at first poetry, *i.e.* ballads.

6. *Comb.* a. *attrib.*, as *ballad-form*, *-measure*, *-poetry*, *-rime* (1447), *-stuff*, *-tune*; b. *objective gen.* with *vbl.* or *agent-noun*, as *ballad-making* (1505), *-singing*, *ballad-maker* (1586), *-reciter*, *-singer*, *-writer*, BALLAD-MONGER. Also *ballad-faroe*, *-opera*, a play into which popular songs are introduced; *ballad-wise adv.*, in the manner of a ballad, in song.

1707 SIR J. HAWKINS *Johnson* 198 (Jon.) An impatience for similes and *ballad-farces. 1865 M. ARNOLD *Ess. Crit.* (1875) 210 A *ballad-form which has more rapidity and grace. 1866 WEBER *Eng. Poetrie* (Arb.) 36 The vncountable rabble of ryming *Ballad-makers. 1875 SCOTT *Guy M.* xli. The devil take all ballads, and *ballad-makers, and ballad-singers! c 1505 DUNBAR *Lament for Makaris* 60 Fra *balat making et trigde. 1773 JONSON *Reg. v. Wks.* 1816 X. 218 We owe to Gay the *Ballad-Opera. 1863 BURTON *Bk. Hunter* 300 That delightful department of literature, our *ballad poetry. 1447 BOKENHAM *Scyntys* 60, What best pleys me I haue as I can declaryd in latyn In *balaade ryme. 1707 LOND. *Gaz.* No. 4370/4 Israel Sewell... a professyd *Ballad-singer. 1831 CARLYLE *Sart. Res.* II. ii. *Ballad-singers brayed, Auctioneers grew hoarse. 1599 MARSTON *Scot. Villanie* 194 Then hence base *ballad stuffe. 1569 PUTTENHAM *Eng. Poetrie* (Arb.) 165 This was done in *ballade wise... and was song very sweetly. 1846 WRIGHT *Ess. Mid. Ages* II. xvii. 200 The *ballad-writers of after-times.

Ballad, *v.* ? *Obs.* Forms: 6-7 *ballat*, 7 *balett*, 8 *ballet*, 7- *ballad*. [*f.* prec. *sb.*; cf. OF. *balader*.]

1. *intr.* To write or compose ballads.

1592 G. HARVEY *Four Lett.* 5 But who... like Elderton for ballating, Greene for pamphletting? c 1600 DONNE *Juvenilia* I. (1633) B, Enuious Libellers ballad against them [women].

2. *trans.* To make (a person) the subject of ballads, or popular songs, especially scurrilous ones.

1606 SHAKS. *Ant. & Cl.* v. ii. 216 And scald Rimers [will] Ballad vs out a Tune. 1636 HEYWOOD *Challenge* II. i. Wks. 1874 V. 23, I shall be Ballated, Sung up and downe by minstrels. 1721 SOUTHEY *Disappointment*. III. i. 107 Stag'd to the crowd... Nay, ballated about the streets in rhyme.

Ballade (*bælād*). Also 4-6 *balade*. [An earlier (also mod.F.) spelling and pronunciation of BALLAD, now used as a technical term. (In 14-15th c. *balade*; in 16th also *ballade*, but then pronounced *ballad*); see above.]

1. *a. strictly*, A poem consisting of one or more terns, or triplets of seven- or (afterwards) eight-lined stanzas each ending with the same line as refrain, and (usually) an envoy; *e.g.* Chaucer's *Complaynt of Venus*, *To his Purse*, etc. b. A poem divided into stanzas of equal length, usually of

seven or eight lines. † *c. occas.* One of these stanzas (*obs.*).

c 1385 CHAUCER *L. G. W.* 270 This balade [of 3 seven-lined stanzas] may ful wel y-sungen be... by my lady free. c 1430 LYDG. *Chichev. & Byc.* in Dodsl. XII. 333 An ymage in poete wise seyeng these iii balades [7-lined stanzas]. c 1430 SHIRLEY in Chaucer's *Min. P.* 412 A balade [*Complaynt of Venus*] translated out of frenshe in to englishe by Chaucier Geoffrey. 1509 BARCLAY *Ship of Fools* (1871) II. 2 My balade bare of frute and eloquence. 1882 *Ch. Q. Rev.* 374 Where Mr. Swinburne chooses to bind himself by the strict laws of... the ballade.

2. *abstr. or collect.* Poetry of this form.

c 1385 CHAUCER *L. G. W.* 539 That ilke tyme thou made 'hid Absolon thy tresses' in balade. 1470 HARDING *Chron.* Proem iv, Into balade I wyll it now translate. 1555 *Fardle Facions* II. xi. 248 The victories of their forefathers and elders, thei put into Balade. 1587 GASCOIGNE *Instr. making Verse* § 14 A man may write Balade in a staffe of five lines every line contayning eight or six sillables.

3. *Ballade royal*: stanzas of seven or (afterwards) eight lines of ten syllables; called also *rime* or *rhythm royal*.

The name originated in the fact that King James I of Scotland composed the *King's Quair* 1423, in 7-line stanzas of structure *a b a b b c c*. The *Ballad Royal* of James I of England had an additional *b* line between the two in *c*.

1483 CAXTON *Cato* 2 Ful craftly hath made it in balade ryal. 1494 FAYAN *Vil.* 406, I haue therfore set them out in balade ryal. 1525 JAMES I. *Ess. Poetrie* (Arb.) 67 This kynde of verse following, callit Ballat Royal.

Ballader (*bælādər*). Also 6 *balletter*, 7 *-ater*, *-adder*. [*f.* BALLAD *v.* or *sb.* + *-ER*.] A writer of ballads or (*obs.*) of scurrilous verses.

1529 NASHE *Almond for P. Ded.* 3 A man cannot haue a bout with a Balletter... but hee shall be in daunger of a further displeasure. 1637 HEYWOOD *Pleas. Dial.* 283 A base and infamous Balladder, who disperst a scandalous ryming Libell. 1876 SIMPSON *Sch. Shaks.* I. 134 As balladers and dramatists agree in representing his case.

Balladic (*bælādik*), *a.* [*f.* BALLAD *sb.* + *-IC*.] Of the nature of, or pertaining to, ballads.

† *Balladical a.* *Obs.* = prec.

1615 A. STAFFORD *Heav. Dogge* To Rdr. 18 To read Ballads, and books Balladical. 1865 *Sat. Rev.* 19 Aug. 245/1 Spirit-stirring verse, lyric or balladic. 1881 *Blackw. Mag.* Mar., The Spenserian blank verse and balladic aspirants.

† *Balladier*, *Obs.* [*f.* BALLAD *sb.* + *-IER*. App. not in Fr.] A street ballad-singer.

1637 *Dedic. V.* in *Randolph's Poems* (1875) 504 They had tried the balladier's or fiddler's trade. 1651 BIGGS *New Disp.* § 256 Loose stage-player, Balladier, or blind harper.

Balladin(e), variant of BALADINE.

Ballading (*bælādɪŋ*), *vbl. sb.* [*f.* BALLAD *v.* + *-ING*.] The writing or composition of ballads.

1600 ROWLANDS *Lett. Humours Blood* xv. 21 Amorous Austin spendes much Ballating, In rimeing Letters. 1670 F. BUSHBY *Marcellia* Prol. A iij b, With Ballading I think shee mad is grown.

Ballading, *ppl. a.* [*f.* as prec. + *-ING*.] That writes or composes ballads.

1599 NASHE *Saffron Walden* 99 Deloney, the balletting Silke-weaver. a 1637 B. JONSON *Masques* (T.) A whining, ballading lover.

Balladism (*bælādɪz'm*). [*f.* BALLAD *sb.* + *-ISM*.] The characteristic quality of ballads.

1866 PALGRAVE in *Forth. Rev.* 15 June 301 The more complete balladism, if I may use the word, of Lady A. Lindsay's 'Auld Robin Gray.'

Balladist (*bælādɪst*). [*f.* as prec. + *-IST*.] A maker of ballads; a ballader.

1858 BAILLY *Age* 193 Whereon for rollicking balladist to declaim. 1883 *St. James's Gaz.* 9 Feb. 6 Such are the epithets which the balladists love to heap upon him.

Balladise (*bælādɪz*), *v.* [*f.* as prec. + *-IZE*.]

a. *intr.* To make ballads. b. *trans.* To make into a ballad, turn into ballad form. Hence *Balladised*, *Balladising ppl. a.*

1598 MUNDAY & CHETTEL *Earl Huntingdon* in Hazl. *Dodsl.* (1874) VIII. 258 Muddy slaves, whose balladising rhymes With words unpolish'd show their brutish thoughts. 1834 SOUTHEY *Lett.* (1856) IV. 384 If I can succeed in balladising this exploit, you shall have the song. 1879 J. P. COLLIER *Hist. Dram. Poetry* I. 107 *note*, A balladised Eskdale tradition.

Balladling, *nonce-wd.* A little ballad.

1798 SOUTHEY in Robbards' *Mem. W. Taylor* I. 240 Some tolerable balladlings, and some tolerable stories.

Ballad-monger (*bælādɪmŋŋər*). [See *-MONGER*.] One who deals in ballads: a. used contemptuously by Shakspeare, and by others in imitation, for: Ballad-maker.

1596 SHAKS. 1 *Hen IV.* III. i. 130, I had rather be a Kitten, and cry mew, Then one of these same Meeter Ballad-mongers. 1796 J. WARTON *Ess. Pope* (1782) I. vii. 356 Villon was merely a pert and insipid ballad monger. 1809 BYRON *Bards & Rev.* xii. Behold the ballad-monger Southey rise!

b. A seller of ballads.

1643 URQUHART *Rabelais* I. ix, An old paulyr book... sold by the hawking Pedlars and Balladmongers. 1874 MOTLEY *Barneveld* II. xviii. 252 All the ballad-mongers and broadsheet vendors of the town.

Hence *Ballad-mongering vbl. sb.*

1809 BYRON *Bards & Rev.* Arg. (MS.), The poet... revileth Walter Scott for... ballad-mongering.

Balladry (*bælādri*). Also 6 *ballettry*, *-adrie*, 7 *-atry*. [*f.* BALLAD *sb.* + *-RY*.] Ballad poetry; composition in the ballad style. (Formerly often *depreciative*; cf. BALLAD *sb.* 3.)

1598 E. GILPIN *Skial.* (1878) 6 Such massacre's made of thy balladry. 1631 BRATHWAIT *Whimsies* 138 An obscene vein of balladry which makes the wenches of the greene laugh. a 1695 PURCELL *Anthems* Pref. (T.) The levity and balladry of our neighbours. 1849 *Blackw. Mag.* LXV. 455 Torturing himself to unite old balladry with modern sentiment.

Ballan (bæ'læn). *Zool.* A fish: a variety of Wrasse (*Labrus maculatus*).

1769 PENNANT *Brit. Zool.* III. 343 Ballan .. is a kind of Wrasse, sent from Scarborough. 1839 *Penny Cycl.* XIII. 261/1 The Ballan Wrasse .. is about eighteen inches long, of a red colour above, pale orange beneath.

Ballarag, obs. form of **BULLTRAG**.

† **Ballard**¹. *Obs.* [app. f. BALL sb.3 + -ARD. Cf. BALD.] A bald-headed person.

1738 WYCLIF 2 *Kings* ii. 23 And scorneden to hym seying, Stye up, ballard! 1785 CAXTON *Trevisa's Higden* i. xxv. 25 One sayde to Julius .. *Salve calve*, that is hayll balard.

† **Ballard**². *Obs.* A kind of musical instrument. 1645 PURCHAS *Pilgrims* ii. 1573 Their ballards are a foot above ground, hollow vnder, with some seventeen Keyes on the top, on which the Player strikes .. with two strikes a foot long, with balls fastned on the end.

† **Ballart**. *rare* -1. *Obs.* appellation of the hare; of unknown meaning and origin.

c 1300 *Names of Hare in Rel. Ant.* i. 133 The wei-betere, the ballart. The go-bi-dish, the soillart.

Ballast (bæ'læst), *sb.* Forms: 6-8 *balast*, 6-7 *ballace*, 6 *ballasse*, -esse, *balast*, -ist, 7 *ballasse*, -ase, *ballasse*, -ais, 7 *ballast*. [Now found in most of the European langs.; Sw. *Da.*, Fris. *Du.*, L.G. (whence Ger., Russ., Fr.) *ballast*. Origin doubtful: the oldest form is possibly OSw. and ODa. *barlast* (before 1400, and regularly in 15th c.), f. *bar* bare + *last* load, with the sense of 'bare, naked, or mere load or weight,' i.e. lading which is mere load, lading for the sake of weight merely. Thence *ballast*, with *ll* for *rl* by assimilation, already in 15th c. Sw. and Da., whence in Eng. soon after 1500. The later Da. *bag-last* 'back-load,' *Du.* (17th c.) *balg-last* 'belly-load,' were corrupted by 'popular etymology.' The final *t* was lost in Flem. *ballas*, and the 16-17th c. Eng. *ballace*, -as (first in the vb, where *ballast* was plausibly analysed as *ballast-ed*.) Contact of sense further often confused *ballace* and *BALLANCE*.

(The form *ballast* also occurs before 1400 in L.G., and is taken as the original by Schiller and Lübben, who explain it from *bal* bad (= *BALE* a.) as *bad lading* 'schlechte Schiffsfracht, die man nur ladet um dem Schiffe den nöthigen Tiefgang zu geben.' If this is well founded, *barlast* would rank with *bag-*, *balg-last*, as a popular perversion.)

1. Gravel, sand, stones, iron, lead, or any heavy material, placed in the hold of a ship, in order to sink her to such a depth as to prevent her from capsizing when under sail or in motion.

1530 PALSER 106/2 *Ballast* of a shyppe, *lestage*. 1536 *Act 27 Hen. VIII.* xviii. *Ballast* for shippes. 1588 C. WATSON *Polib.* 49 b. And cast their ballasse over borde. 1610 HOLLAND *Camilien's Brit.* i. 712 Cobblestones for ballais. 1697 DRYDEN *Virg. Georg.* iv. 285 With sandy Ballast Sailors trim the Boat. 1718 STEELE *Fish-pool* 180 *Ballast* must be used to sink her down to the center of motion. 1835 MACAULAY *Hist. Eng.* III. 727 The gravel which was the ballast of their smack.

2. In *ballast*: a. (also on the ballast) in the hold. b. Of ships: Laden with ballast only. c. Of materials: In the capacity of ballast.

1592 NASHE *P. Penitence* (ed. 2) 9 Hee will to the sea .. and lyes in brine in Balist, and is lamentable sicke. c 1630 RISSON *Serv.* *Devon* § 272 Ninety were sick on the ballast. 1691 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 2631/3 Merchant-men bound in Ballast from Havre de Grace. 1815 SCOTT *Guy R.* v. Smuggler, when his guns are in ballast .. pirate, when he gets them mounted. 1866 ROGERS *Agric. & Prices* i. xviii. 423 Sea-coal was taken in ballast. 1878 *Daily News* 26 Sept. 2/3 When in ballast the Bywell Castle draws 12 feet aft.

3. *fig.* That which tends to give stability in morals or politics, to steady the mind or feelings, etc.

1612 BACON *Vain-glory, Ess.* (Arb.) 464 Solid and sober natures, have more of the ballast, then of the saile. 1670 WALTON *Lives* ii. 100 Having to his great Wit added the ballast of Learning. 1720 SWIFT *Fates Clergyman*. Wks. 1755 II. ii. 25 It wants the ballast of those, whom the world calls moderate men. 1854 L.D. COCKBURN *Jeffrey* i. 342 Delay is often the ballast of sound legislation.

† 4. *transf.* Load, burden, freight. *Obs.*

1600 QUARLES *Jonah* Poems (1717) 54 Go to Niniveh .. behold the Ballast And burthen of her bulk, is nought but sin. 1631 MASSINGER *Believe* as iv. iii. What would you have, sir? *Ber.* My ballast [i.e. some food] about me; I shall nere sayle well els. 1646 J. HALL *Poems* i. 15 Shall not I congeal to see Doris the Ballast of thine arms?

5. Gravel, broken stone, slag, or other material, similar to that employed as ballast in ships, used to form the bed of a railroad, in which the sleepers are fixed. Also recently applied to burnt clay used for the same purpose, or as a substratum for new roads, etc.

1837 [see *BALLASTING* vbl. sb.] 1847 in CRAIG. 1860 *Engineer* 30 Mar. 207/2 A joint sleeper .. laid in the ballast beneath the rail joints. 1876 ROUTLEDGE *Discov.* 63 The permanent way is formed first of ballast. 1881 *Mechanic* § 1098 When the soil is clayey it may be converted into ballast .. a usefull material for making roads. *Mod.* A path made with 'burnt ballast.'

6. *Comb.* a. objective with vbl. sb. or agent-

noun, as *ballast-getter*, -*heaver*; b. attrib., as *ballast-bag*, -*boat*, -*engine*, -*lighter*, -*train*, -*wagon*. Also *ballast-man*, one employed in supplying ballast to ships; *ballast-office*, one controlling the supply of ballast to ships; *ballast-ports*, square holes cut in the sides of merchantmen for taking in ballast; *ballast-shovel*, 'a round-mouthed shovel' (Raymond *Mining Gloss.* 1881).

1755 *Gentl. Mag.* XXV. 445 *Ballast-boats and lighters. 1804 *Times* 13 Jan. A load was attached to the 'ballast-engine. 1839 DICKENS *O. Twist* (1850) 267/1 Labourers of the lowest class, 'ballast-heavers, coal-whippers. 1803 *Ann. Reg.* 399/1 A 'ballast-lighter' .. struck the side of the ship. 1715 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 5347/3 Abuses committed by the 'Ballastmen upon the .. Thames. 1598 *Stow Survey* (1754) II. v. xviii. 389/2 Deptford strand .. where their 'Ballast office is also kept. 1835 *Penny Cycl.* III. 330/2 *Ballast-office Corporation, Dublin, or, more correctly, the Corporation for Preserving and Improving the Port of Dublin. 1864 *Times* 24 Dec. He was in the hinder portion of the 'ballast train. 1848 *Athenium* 5 Aug. 773 A train of huge iron shovels or 'ballast-waggons, as they are called.

Ballast (bæ'læst), *v.* Forms: 6 *balasse*, -esse, -isse, 6-7 *balasse*, *ballasse*, -ase, -ase, 7 *balast*, *ballisse*, -ise, -aise, 7- *ballast*. [f. prec. sb.]

1. *trans.* To furnish (a ship) with ballast; to render (her) steady under sail by a sufficient weight in the hold.

1538 LELAND *Itin.* i. 52 The Shipes were ballised with great coble stone. 1604 DRAYTON *Owle* 78 To ballast Ships for steddinesse in winde. 1655 TUCKNEY *Good Day Impr.* 34 So much burden would serve to ballast the ship, more would sink it. 1866 KINGSLEY *Herrew.* v. 114 They ballasted their ship with pebbles.

2. *transf.* To steady (generally).

1596 FITZ-GERFREY *Sir F. Drake* (1881) 54 Constant stabilitie ballasted her [i.e. Fortune's] feete. 1601 HOLLAND *Pliny* x. xxiii. Cranes .. ballaise themselves with stones in their feet, that they fle more steadie.

3. *fig.* To steady mentally or morally.

c 1600 *Pharisaisme & Chr.* 35 Ballace your wavering hearts with the sound truth of godlinesse. 1655 GURNALL *Chr. in Arm.* xi. § 1. (1669) 11/1 If he be not well ballast with humility, a little gust .. will tople him into this sin. 1798 A. YOUNG *Trav. France* 547 Mature deliberation is wanted to ballast the impetuosity of the people.

† 4. To freight, load (with cargo). *Obs.*

1590 SHAKS. *Com. Err.* iii. ii. 140 Who sent whole Armadoes of Carrects to be ballast at her nose. 1622 CALLIS *Stat. Sewers* i. I lanchted forth my Ship .. furnish'd and ballist with Merchandize. 1666 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 93/1 Four ships well laden and ballasted with Goods.

5. *transf.* and *fig.* To load, burden, weight, weigh down. *arch.*

1666 DRANT *Wail. Jerem.* Kvj. He ballasde me with balefull bitternes. 1592 NASHE *P. Penitence* 14 A wolfe being about to deuoure a horse doth balist his belly with earth, that he may hang the heavier vpon him. 1630 BRATHWAIT *Eng. Gentl.* (1641) 299 Their conceits are ever ballasted with harshnesse. 1816 SCOTT *Old Mort.* ix. These yellow rascals must serve to ballast my purse a little longer.

6. To fill in or form with ballast (the bed of a railroad, etc.); cf. *BALLAST* sb. 5.

1864 in WEBSTER. 1881 *Chicago Times* 4 June. Laying down steel rails and liberally ballasting the whole line.

† Confused with *BALLANCE* v. See *BALLANCE* sb. 7. 1611 SPEDD *Hist. Gt. Brit.* vi. iv. 55 The cause for Tribute was ballized betwixt them. 1697 DAMPIER *Voy.* (1729) I. 414 We furl'd our Main-sail, and ballasted our Mizzen.

Ballastage (bæ'læstædʒ), [f. *BALLAST* sb. + -AGE.] Toll paid for the privilege of taking ballast.

1601 T. H[ALL] *Acc. New Invent.* 95 The Right of the Ballastage .. belongs to the Admiral. 1759 *Ann. Reg.* 97/2 Better regulation of lastage and Ballastage in the Thames.

Ballasted (bæ'læstəd), *pp. a.* [f. *BALLAST* v. + -ED.] Furnished with ballast; rendered steady or stable.

1550 HULOET, *Balessed, saburratus*. 1586 BRIGHT *Melanch.* xxxv. 195 They be well ballaced with knowledge of the Scriptures. c 1645 HOWELL *Lett.* (1650) II. 32 Those that have their heads lightly ballasted. a 1797 H. WALPOLE *Mem. Geo. III* (1845) I. xxi. 305 The poor young man's head .. was by no means ballasted by a good heart.

Ballaster. [f. as prec. + -ER¹.] One who supplies ships with ballast.

1659 *Commons Yrnl.* VII. 740 (D.) The office of ballaster, and of Lading .. and Ballasting of ships and vessels.

Ballasting (bæ'læstɪŋ), *vbl. sb.* [f. *BALLAST* v. + -ING¹.] The action or process of supplying with ballast; *concr.* and *fig.* = *BALLAST* sb.

1536 *Act 27 Hen. VIII.* xviii. The office and ordering of and for ballasting for shippes. 1769 FALCONER *Dict. Marine* (1789). *Lestage*, the ballasting of a ship, or furnishing her with ballast. 1827 *Athenium* 21 Jan. 52/1 Fir planks .. bedded on ballasting, which is loose gravel. 1881 *Daily Tel.* 8 Apr. If he have the smallest possible ballasting of common sense.

Ballat, -ry, obs. forms or *BALLAD*. -BY.

Ballatoon (bæ'lætʊn). A heavy luggage-boat used on Russian rivers for the transport of timber.

1828 in WEBSTER.

† **Balle**, *sb.* *Obs.* [perh. f. the L. *bal-are* to beat; cf. *BAA*. But cf. also *BALL* sb.3] A name formerly applied to a sheep.

c 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 22/1 Balle, schepys name, *ballator*.

a. Formed into a ball. [f. *BALL* v.1 and sb.1 + -ED.]

b. Formed into a ball. [f. *BALL* v.1 and sb.1 + -ED.]

c. Formed into a ball. [f. *BALL* v.1 and sb.1 + -ED.]

d. Formed into a ball. [f. *BALL* v.1 and sb.1 + -ED.]

e. Formed into a ball. [f. *BALL* v.1 and sb.1 + -ED.]

f. Formed into a ball. [f. *BALL* v.1 and sb.1 + -ED.]

g. Formed into a ball. [f. *BALL* v.1 and sb.1 + -ED.]

h. Formed into a ball. [f. *BALL* v.1 and sb.1 + -ED.]

i. Formed into a ball. [f. *BALL* v.1 and sb.1 + -ED.]

j. Formed into a ball. [f. *BALL* v.1 and sb.1 + -ED.]

k. Formed into a ball. [f. *BALL* v.1 and sb.1 + -ED.]

l. Formed into a ball. [f. *BALL* v.1 and sb.1 + -ED.]

m. Formed into a ball. [f. *BALL* v.1 and sb.1 + -ED.]

n. Formed into a ball. [f. *BALL* v.1 and sb.1 + -ED.]

o. Formed into a ball. [f. *BALL* v.1 and sb.1 + -ED.]

p. Formed into a ball. [f. *BALL* v.1 and sb.1 + -ED.]

q. Formed into a ball. [f. *BALL* v.1 and sb.1 + -ED.]

r. Formed into a ball. [f. *BALL* v.1 and sb.1 + -ED.]

s. Formed into a ball. [f. *BALL* v.1 and sb.1 + -ED.]

t. Formed into a ball. [f. *BALL* v.1 and sb.1 + -ED.]

u. Formed into a ball. [f. *BALL* v.1 and sb.1 + -ED.]

v. Formed into a ball. [f. *BALL* v.1 and sb.1 + -ED.]

w. Formed into a ball. [f. *BALL* v.1 and sb.1 + -ED.]

x. Formed into a ball. [f. *BALL* v.1 and sb.1 + -ED.]

y. Formed into a ball. [f. *BALL* v.1 and sb.1 + -ED.]

z. Formed into a ball. [f. *BALL* v.1 and sb.1 + -ED.]

1591 PERCIVALL *Sp. Dict.*, *Desterronada tierra*, clods of earth broken, balled ground, or rolled ground. 1759 MARTIN *Nat. Hist.* II. 112 When ball'd it is laid on Hurdles to dry. 1851 L. GORDON in *Art Yrnl. Illust. Cat.* vii * * / After the yarn had been made into a balled warp. 1875 BROWNING *Aristoph. Apol.* 103 The balled fist broke brow like thunderbolt.

Balled, obs. form of *BALD*.

Ballenger, -inger, variants of *BALINGER*.

Baller (bɔːlɪ), [f. *BALL* v.1 and sb.2 + -ER¹.]

1. One who forms anything into balls.

1865 ELIZA METEYARD *Wedgwood* i. 232 The weighing of clay at the baller's scales.

† 2. One who takes part in a ball for dancing.

1668 PERYS *Diary* 30 May, Here I first understood .. the meaning of the Company that lately were called 'Ballers.'

|| **Ballerina** (bællərɪnə). Pl. *ballerine* (as It.); also -inas. [It., fem. of *ballerino*.] A female dancer, a ballet-girl.

1792 A. YOUNG *Trav. France* 216 The *ballarini*, or female dancers, have the same fury of motion. 1815 BYRON in Moore *Life* 289 A row among our ballerinas. 1878 in Grove *Dict. Music* i. 131 The first professional ballerina of note .. was Mlle. Lafontaine. *Ibid.* 132 These eminent ballerine.

|| **Ballet** (bæˈle, rarely bæˈlɛt). Forms: *ballette*, -et, -at, 7-9 *ballette*, 8- *ballet*. [a. F. *ballet*, dim. of *bal* dance: see *BALL* sb.2. In 17th c. the forms were confused with those of *BALLAD*.]

1. A theatrical representation, consisting of dancing and pantomime, originally employed to illustrate dramatically the costumes and manners of other nations, but now for the most part regarded as an artistic exhibition of skill in dancing.

1667 DRYDEN *Ess. Dram. Poesie* Wks. 1725 I. 54 Not a Ballet or Masque, but a play. 1676 ETHERIDGE *Man of Mode* ii. l. (1684) 19 [The Russian] Balladins .. are Now practising a famous Ballet, which will Be suddenly danc'd at the Bear-Garden. 1773 *Gentl. Mag.* XLIII. 479 One of the ballets of the opera at Palermo, is a representation of Vauxhall Gardens. a 1845 HOOD *Vauxhall* vii, Time's ripe for the Ballet, Like bees they all rally. 1865 *Lew Times Rep.* 377 A ballet of action has a plot, a ballet of divertissement has none.

† 2. *gen.* A dance. *Obs.*

1782 S. ROGERS *Ital. Song* 14 The ballet danced in twilight glade. 1829 SCOTT *Demonol.* i. 20 The daily persecution of this domestic ballet.

3. *attrib.*, as *ballet-dancer*, -*girl*, -*music*; *ballet-master*, -*mistress*, one who arranges and directs the dancing of the ballet.

1836 Q. Rev. No. 111. 87 Daughter of a worn-out ballet-dancer. 1848 THACKERAY *Van. Fair* liii. (1853) 443 Your mother, the ballet girl. 1835 *Penny Cycl.* III. 331/2 A composer of good ballet-music is carefully attentive to locality and to nationality. 1823 BYRON *Yvan* xiv. xxxviii, Danced .. Not like a ballet-master in the van Of his drill'd nymphs. 1871 *Echo* 4 Nov. Ballet-mistress at the Grand Opera.

Ballet (bæˈlɛt), *sb.* 2. [f. *BALL* sb.1 + -ET, dim. suffix; cf. OF. *ballette*.] A little ball, esp. in *Her.* 1727-51 CHAMBERS *Cycl.* *Balls* or *Ballets* .. make a frequent bearing in coats of arms .. (they are called) *pomies* when vert, *pellets* or *agresses* when sable, *oranges* when tanne.

Ballet, *v.* [f. *BALLET* sb.1.] To express by ballet-action or pantomime.

1851 MAYHEW *Lond. Labour* III. 155 (Hoppe) Old man picks up Simpkin, and ballets to him that he's very sorry .. He ballets to her: 'Will you come down here and dance!'

Ballet, -ette, obs. forms of *BALLAD*.

Balling (bɔːlɪŋ), *vbl. sb.* 1. [f. *BALL* v.1 + -ING¹.]

1. Formation into a ball or balls; occas. *attrib.*, as in *balling-machine* (for winding twine), -*furnace*.

1713 *Lond. & Country Brew.* ii. (1743) 135 This Mixing of the Malt .. will prevent its Balling, or Gathering together in Heaps. 1869 *Eng. Mech.* 31 Dec. 387/2 Engravings of a 1 lb. and 1 lb. balling machine. 1881 RAYMOND *Mining Gloss.*, *Balling*, the aggregation of iron in the puddling .. process into balls or lumps.

2. The throwing of (snow-) balls.

1865 G. MACDONALD *A. Forbes* xvi. 64 The balling ceased, that Annie .. might pass in safety.

† **Balling**, *vbl. sb.* 2. [f. *BALL* v.2 + -ING¹.]

Frequenting of balls, dancing.

1634-46 Row *Hist. Kirk.* (1842) 172 She .. is to be admonished for night-waking, balling, etc. 1676 W. Row *Suppl. Blair's Autobiogr.* x. (1848) 226 There was balling and dancing till near day.

† **Ballised**, *pp. a.* [for *pallised* (cf. *palsy*), 15th c., = *pallisadoed*], ad. F. *pallisé* surrounded with pales.] Enclosed with a railing or balustrade.

1624 WOTTON *Archit.* (1672) 46 Palladio .. leaveth this Terrace uncovered in the middle, and ballised about. — in *Reliq. Wotton*. (1651) 245 Certain ballised out-standings to satisfy curiosity of sight.

Ballist (bæˈlɪst), *rare.* Also 4-7 *balist*. [ad. L. *ballista*: see next.] = next.

1328 WYCLIF 1 *Macc.* vi. 20 Thei maden ballists, an instrument for to cast shaftis and stoomys [1388] arblastis; 1609 *Downy*, ballists. 1600 HOLLAND *Livy* xxiv. xl. 537 Catapults and Ballists .. provided for the assault of the citie. 1861 LEWIN *Jerus.* 87 On the side of Judas were mines and ballists and desperate sallies.

|| **Ballista** (bæˈlɪstə). Also 6-9 *balista*. Pl. *ballistae*, occas. *ballistas*. [L., f. (ultimately) Gr. *βάλλειν* to throw. The spelling with *ll* is etymologically preferable.] An ancient military engine, resembling a bow stretched with cords and thongs,

used to hurl stones and other missiles; in med.L. also loosely for: Arbalest.

1598 GRENEWAY *Tacitus Ann.* xv. ii. 224 Beating off the Barbarians with stones and spears out of Balistas and other engines. 1765 TUCKER *Lt. Nat.* II. 673 Who batters not with the balista and catapulte. 1808 LANDOR *Imag. Conv.* (1846) 460 The sublimity which he attains who is hurled into the air from a ballista. 1848 MISS YONGE *Cameos* xxiv. 185 Often himself aiming a ballista at the walls.

Ballistic (bāl'istik), *a.* [f. prec. + -ic.] Of or pertaining to the throwing of missiles; projectile. 1775 in ASH. 1854 *Blackw. Mag.* LXXV. 530 The term... *mangonel* was generally applicable to ballistic engines. 1879 *Cassell's Techn. Educ.* I. 194 Increasing the ballistic power of our weapons.

Ballistic pendulum: an instrument for determining the relative velocity of projectiles.

1776 HUTTON in *Phil. Trans.* LXVIII. 54 This large ballistic pendulum, after being struck by the ball. 1879 THOMSON & TAIT *Nat. Phil.* I. i. § 298 Robins' Ballistic Pendulum, a massive cylindrical block of wood cased in a cylindrical sheath of iron closed at one end and moveable about a horizontal axis.

Ballistics, *sb. pl.* [f. prec.; cf. *athletics*, *acoustics*, etc., and *f. balistique*.] 'The art of throwing heavy bodies' (Chambers *Cycl. Supp.* 1753); the science of projectiles.

† **Ballistier**. *Obs. rare.* In 7 ballistier. [ad. L. *ballistarius*, f. *BALLISTA*.] A soldier who worked or discharged a ballista.

1609 HOLLAND *Amm. Marcol.* xvi. ii. 53 Men of arms and ballistiers (*Ballistarii*), unmet souldiers to protect... their ruler. *Ibid.* 221 The ballistier himself.

¶ See also **BALISTER**, etc.

|| **Ballium** (bæl'iūm), [med.L., app. f. *F. bail*.] = **BAIL** *sb.* 2, and **BAILEY**.

1798 N. DRAKE *Lit. Hours* (1820) III. lix. 323 And where the ballium rear'd its strength, And where its turrets rose. 1810 MISS PORTER *Scot. Chiefs* 121 Just as the whole of Wallace's men had leaped the wall, the inner ballium gate burst open. 1813 SCOTT *Trictrm.* III. ix. A banner'd Castle, keep and tower... And barbian and ballium vast.

Ballock. *Obs.* in polite use. Forms: 1 *beal-luo*, 4 *ballok*, 4-5 *ballokke*, -oke, 5 *balluk*, -uo, *balok*, -ook, 6 *ballooke*, 6 *ballock*. [Prob. a deriv. of Teut. *ball-* (see *BALL sb.* 1), of which the OE. repr. would be **beall-u*, -a, or -e.] A testicle.

c. 1000 *Gloss.* in Wright *Voc.* (W.) 1265 *Testiculi*, beallucas. 1384 WYCLIF *Lev.* xxii. 24 Al beeste that... kitt and taken away the ballockes is. 1486 *Bk. St. Albans*, Hawking Cviij, Geue hir the ballockye [1496 ballockes] of a Buc. 1579 BAKER *Guydon's Quest.* *Cyruurg.* 33. 1782-1800 in BAILEY. Not in J.

† *b.* *Comb.* (all obs.): *ballock-cod*, the scrotum; *ballock* (s)-*grass* (also *hare's* and *sweet ballocks*), popular name of several species of orchis, from the shape of the tubers; *ballock-hafted a.*, with a ball(ock)-shaped handle; *ballock-knife*, ? one worn at the girdle (cf. L. *clunāculum*, f. *clūnis*); *ballock-stone* = *BALLOCK*; *ballock-wort*, orchis. c. 1450 in Wright *Voc.* (W.) 1599 *Omembrana*, balluc cod. 1677 *Piga*, ballock code. 1568 TURNER *Herbal* II. 128 b, Whyt satyrion... or in other more vnmanerly speche, hares ballockes. 1576 LYTE *Dodoens* 222 Some call them Sweet Ballocks. 1655 MOUFFE & BENN. *Health's Impr.* (1746) 313 Ballock's-grass, or Satyrion. 1438 *Test. Ebor.* (1855) 63 Unum dagar ballockhefted. 1377 LANGL. *P. Pl.* B. xv. 121 A ballok-knyf With botones ouergylte. c. 1450 *Towneley Myst.* 236, I have byrsten both my balok stones, So fast hied I hedyr. c. 1450 in Wright *Voc.* (W.) 1609 *Saturia*, ballockwort.

Balloon, *ballong*, var. of *BALLOON sb.* 2.

† **Ballon**. *Obs. rare* -1. [a. *F. balon* 'a little ball or packe' (Cotgr.), f. *bale*, *balle*, *BALE sb.* 3.] 1753 CHAMBERS *Cycl. Supp.* s.v. *Bale*, A bale or ballon of paper... consists of 14 reams.

Balloon (bālū'n), *sb.* 1 Forms: 6 *ballone*, *balonne*, 6-7 *baloun(e)*, 7 *balone*, -oone, *balloone*, 8-9 *ballon*, 8- *balloon*. [ad. It. *ballone* 'great ball, football' (Florio 1598), augmentative of *balla BALL sb.* 1 Cf. *F. ballon* (16th c.), which *Balloon* subseq. followed in its senses.]

† 1. A large inflated ball of strong double leather, struck to and fro by the arm defended by a bracer of wood. *Obs.*

1598 FLORIO, *Ballone*, a great ball, a ballone to play at with braces, a football. 1606 T. H. CAUSSIN's *Holy Cr.* 234 Windblowne Balones... tossed this way and that way, sometime with the foote, sometime with the hand. 1801 STRUTT *Sports & Past.* II. iii. 88 The balloon or wind-ball resembled the follis of the Romans.

† 2. The game played with this ball. *Obs.*

1800 NORTH *Plutarch* (1656) 960 He would play at Tennis, and at the Ballone. 1636 RANDOLPH in *Ann. Dubrensis* (1877) 19 Foote-ball with vs, may be with them Balone. 1664 FULLER *Worthies* II. 137 Being challenged by an Italian Gentleman to play at Baloun. 1800 SCOTT *Monast.* xxi, The winning party at that wondrous match at balloon.

† 3. *Pyrotechny*. 'A ball of pasteboard, stuffed with combustible matter, which, when fired [from a mortar], mounts to a considerable height in the air, and then bursts into bright sparks of fire resembling stars.' J. Also *attrib.* in *balloon-wheel*. *Obs.* (Now called *shell* or *bomb*.)

1634 J. BATE *Myst. Nat. & Art* II. 83 How to make

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Balloones, also the Morter Peece to discharge them... Into this Balloone you may put Rockets, Serpents, Starres, Fiends, Petards. 1688 in *Ellis Orig. Lett.* II. 344 IV. 112 Several thousands of Balloons that are to be shot into the air. 1753 *Publ. Advertiser* 24 Sept. 3/4 Order of Firing... (2) Sky-rockets... (4) Two Air-Balloons... (13) Two Balloons... (19) A large Balloon Wheel which throws out of eight Boxes, Stars and Serpents.

4. *Arch.* A round ball or globe placed on the top of a pillar, pier, etc., to crown it.

1656 in *Blount Glossogr.* 1753 CHAMBERS *Cycl. Supp.* s.v., A balloon is to be proportioned to the magnitude, and altitude of the body. 1875 GUILT *Archit.*, *Balloon*... the same name is given to the balls on the top of cathedrals, as at... St. Paul's in London.

5. *Chem.* A large globose glass vessel, with one or more short necks, used to receive the products of distillation, etc.

1757-51 CHAMBERS *Cycl.*, *Balloon* or *Ballon*. 1783 PRIESTLEY in *Phil. Trans.* LXXXIII. 417 Interposing a large glass balloon between the retort and the recipient for the air. 1854 SCOFFERN in *Orr's Circ. Sc. Chem.* 160 Let it pass through a glass balloon.

6. An air-tight envelope of paper, silk, or similar material, usually globose or pear-shaped, which, when inflated with light gas, rises in the air, and will carry with it a considerable weight; to large balloons a car strong enough to carry human beings can be attached, and hence they are used for observing atmospheric phenomena, for military reconnoitring, and, though with little success at present, as a means of travelling through the air.

1783 *Europ. Mag.* IV. 272 Monsieur de Montgolfiers Air Balloon. 1783 COWPER *Lett.* 29 Sept., What is your opinion of these air balloons? I am quite charmed with the discovery. 1785 PRIESTLEY in *Phil. Trans.* LXXXV. 207 Filling balloons with the lightest inflammable air. 1803 WORDSW. *Blind Highl. Boy* xxxiv, The bravest traveller in balloon mounting as if to reach the Moon. 1831 LARDNER *Pneumat.* vii. 339 The step from fire balloons to balloons filled with gas... was now easy and obvious.

7. *fig.* Anything inflated, empty, and hollow.

1821 BYRON *Parentel. Address*, Borne in the vast balloon of Busby's song. 1829 CARLYLE *Misc.* (1857) I. 272 The hollow balloon of popular applause.

8. *Horticulture:* a. A method of training fruit-trees in which the branches are curved from a height of six or seven feet down to the ground, forming the shape of a balloon. b. A balloon-shaped trellis for training plants upon.

1834 PENNY *Cycl.* II. 191/1 A mode of managing apple-trees called Balloon training. 1881 *Gard. Chron.* XVI. 336 Plants that have been trained on balloons twenty years ago, are treated in the same way still.

9. The balloon-shaped outline containing words represented in comic engravings as issuing from the mouth of a person.

10. *Comb.* a. objective with *vbl. sb.* or agent-noun, as *balloon-driver*, -*flying*; b. similitive, as *balloon-cap*, -*foresail*, -*sleeve*. Also *balloon-brasser* (cf. *F. brassart* 'the wooden cuff or bracer worn by Balloone-players', Cotgr. 1611); *balloon-flash* (see *quot.*); *balloonful*, as much as a balloon will hold; *balloon-like a.*, like a balloon, immoderately swollen or puffed up.

1650 WELDON *Crt. K. James* (1817) 47 Lifting up his hand over his head with a 'Balloon brasser. 1760-6 J. WOLCOTT (P. Pindar) *Odes R. Acad.* Wks. 1704 f. 116 A 'balloon cap, a shawl, a muff. 1838 *Lett.* in H. Turner *Astra Castra* 403 That... safest 'balloon-driver in the world... Mr. Green. 1834 GRIFFITH *Cuvier's Anim. K.* X. 579 From the faculty they (the Diodontes) possess of distending their bodies with air, these fishes have received the vulgar name of... 'balloon-fish. 1867 SMYTH *Sailor's Wd.-bk.*, *Balloon-fish*, a plectognathous fish, covered with spines. 1837 CARLYLE *Fr. Rev.* I. III. viii. 130 A Golden or Paper Age of Hope; with its horse-racings, 'balloon flyings, etc. 1883 *Times* 27 Aug. 8/2 With 'balloon foresails and flying jibs. 1883 *St. James's Gaz.* 5 May, A 'balloonful of lofty aims... and soaring ideas. 1861 A. WYNTER *Soc. Bees* 120 The dominant 'balloon-like tumour. 1879 Geo. Eliot *Theo. Such* 96 His added originalities... and 'balloon-like conclusions. 1860 *All Y. Round* 477 By the help of 'balloon sleeves and peg-tops.

Hence **Balloonation**, ballooning, **Balloonism**, **Balloonomania** (all used by Horace Walpole). Also the nonce-words: **Balloonacy** (with word-play on *lunacy*), mania for ballooning. **Balloonatic a.** and *sb.* (cf. *lunatic*), (one who is) balloon-mad. **Balloonical a.**, connected with balloons, aeronautical. **Balloonicism**, a technical phrase in ballooning.

1864 *Daily Tel.* 19 Feb., We live in an age of ballooning. 1882 *West. Daily Press* 27 Mar. 3/1 A sharp epidemic of ballooning. 1865 *Daily Tel.* 22 Nov. 5/3 That Nadar, the balloonatic, has sold his balloon. 1882 *Moonshine* V. 163 Another balloonatic attempt to cross the Channel. 1764 in *Athenaeum* (1865) No. 1968. 78/3 'Balloonation', as it was called. 1851 *Househ. Wds.* 25 Oct. 103 The four hundred and eighty-ninth year of his ballooning age; having made that number of ascents. 1838 *Lett.* in H. Turner *Astra C.* 399 How could I have avoided the perpetration of a few balloonisms?

|| **Balloon**, *balloen*, *sb.* 2 Also 7 *balon*, 8 *ballong*, *baloen*. A Siamese state-barge, upwards of a hundred feet long, and richly decorated.

1633 H. COGAN *Pinto's Voy.* xi. (1663) 35 With a Galley, five Poists, two Catures, 20 Balons and 300 men. 1753 CHAMBERS *Cycl. Supp.*, *Balloon*, or *Baloen*... The balloons

are a kind of brigantine, managed with oars. 1755 CAPT. R. JACKSON in *Dalrymple Orient. Rept.* I. 195 The Burmas has now Eighty Balloons, none of which [has] great Guns. 1867 SMYTH *Sailor's Wd.-bk.*, *Balloon*.

Balloon (bālū'n), [f. *BALLOON sb.* 1]

1. *trans.* To carry up in, or as in, a balloon.

1792 T. TWINING in *Country Clergyman*. 18th C. (1882) 163 I... never yet seemed so ballooned and above the globe as in ascending this great hill. 1808 G. COLMAN *Br. Grins*, *Reckoning with Time* vi, Thy pinions next Ballooned me from the schools to town.

2. *intr.* To ascend in a balloon. (*trans.*; cf. *race*.)

1821 [see *BALLOONING vbl. sb.*]. 1881 *Echo* 3/4 An American balloonist has offered to 'balloon' anybody in the United States. 1882 *Standard* 2 Feb. 5/7 Whose wife was afterwards killed whilst Ballooning.

3. *intr.* To swell or puff out like a balloon.

1841 ORDERSON *Crool.* ix. 99 *En bon point* that... ballooned to dimensions which... filled her arm chair. 1872 *Cornh. Mag.* June 708 His red gown ballooning behind him.

Balloonier (bālū'n-er), [f. *BALLOON* + *-ER*.]

1. One who makes balloon ascents; an aeronaut. 1864 *Athenaeum* No. 1932. 631/3 The Godards, practised ballooniers. 1882 MATT. WILLIAMS *Sc. in Short Chap.* xxvi. 219 Not a mere sensational balloonier.

2. *Naut.* A balloon-like sail.

1883 *Times* 27 Aug. 8/2 The Marjorie [had] her balloonier aloft. 1884 *Field* 24 May 722 Tara put up her balloonier.

Balloonery, -nry. [f. as prec. + *-RY*.] The management of balloons; aeronautics.

1849 WORCESTER *cites Q. Rev.*

† **Balloonier**. *Obs. rare* -1. [ad. It. *balloniere*.] A maker of balloons (i.e. those used for arm-play).

1598 FLORIO, *Confiatoio*, a squirt of brass that Ballooniers use to blowe their ballones full of winde.

Balloonning (bālū'n-ing), *vbl. sb.* [f. *BALLOON v.* + *-ING*.] The science and practice of ascending in and making use of balloons; aeronautics.

1821 C. MATHEWS *Mem.* III. viii. 178 A very learned dissertation on ballooning. 1870 *Pall Mall G.* 7 Sept. 4 Military ballooning. 1877 BLACKIE *Wise Men* 343 Helmless ballooning in the pathless air.

Balloonning, *ppl. a.* [f. as prec. + *-ING*.]

Soaring, swelling, or puffed out, like a balloon.

1875 EMERSON *Lett. & Soc. Aims* i. 16 A grand pair of ballooning wings. 1876 T. SINCLAIR *Mount* 33 Gas-brained, ballooning, wandering men.

Balloonist. [f. as prec. + *-IST*.] An aeronaut.

1828 [see *AIR-BALLOONIST*]. 1870 *Standard* 7 Dec., The balloonists had a narrow escape of being carried out into the Atlantic.

Ballot (bæl'lot), *sb.* 1 [ad. It. *ballotta* 'a rounde bullet... a voice or lot' (Florio 1598), dim. of *balla BALL sb.* 1: see *-OT*. Cf. *F. ballotte*, 16th c. (now *arch.*). The early instances refer to Venice.]

1. A small ball used for secret voting; hence, by extension, a ticket, paper, etc. so used.

1549 THOMAS *Hist. Italie* (1561) 79 Boxes, into which, if he wyl, he may let fall his ballot, that no man can perceiue hym. 1660 MILTON *Free Commw. Wks.* (1851) 438 To convey each Man his bean or ballot in the Box. 1710 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 4646/1 Elected by a great Majority of the Ballots. 1864 *Even. Standard* 2 Nov., The voting was not very general, only 25,000 ballots being polled altogether.

2. The method or system of secret voting, originally by means of small balls placed in an urn or box; an application of this mode of voting; also the whole number of votes thus recorded.

1549 THOMAS *Hist. Italie* 77 A trial of theyr sentences by Ballot. 1681 NEVILLE *Plato Rediv.* 78 The Doctrine of the Ballot which is our [the Venetians'] chief excellency. 1742 MIDDLETON *Cicero* I. II. 153 Not by an open vote, but by a kind of ballot, or little tickets of wood distributed to the Citizens. 1781 GIBBON *Decl. & F.* III. lxx. 793 The sense of the majority was decided by a secret ballot. 1840 MACAULAY *Clive, Ess.* (1854) II. 529 Sullivan wished to try the result of a ballot. 1880 M'CARTHY *Owen Times* IV. lix. 309 No reform had seemed more unlikely than the adoption of the ballot.

3. A method of drawing lots by taking out small balls, etc., from a box; hence *gen.* lot-drawing.

a 1680 BUTLER *Rem.* (1759) I. 81 To put it to the Chance, and try, I th' Ballot of a Box and Dye, Whether his Money be his own. 1757 LIND *Lett. Navy* II. 98 Where there are more officers qualified to sit at a court martial, that they may be chose by ballot. 1786 *Act 26 Geo. III.*, c. 24 The Number of Men... to be chosen by Ballot out of the List returned. 1815 WELLINGTON in *Gurw. Disp.* XII. 430 Difficulties... in consequence of the ballot for the militia.

4. *Comb.* **ballot-box**, a box in which voting ballots are deposited, or from which, in drawing lots, small balls are taken out; also *fig.* the ballot, secret voting; **ballot-man**, an advocate of secret voting; **ballot-paper**, the voting-paper used in secret voting.

a 1680 BUTLER *Rem.* (1759) I. 23 Some held no Way so orthodox To try it, as the Ballot-Box. 1821 DIXON *W. Penn.* xvii. (1872) 146 Representatives were to be elected... by the ballot-box. 1859 GEN. P. THOMPSON *Audi. Alt.* II. c. 91 To hunt a Chartist or a Ballot-man. 1865 *Cornh. Mag.* XI. 115 The ballot-papers of the electors were collected in a bucket.

Ballot, *sb.* 2 [a. *F. ballot*, dim. of *balle BALE sb.* 2 Cf. *BALET*.] A small bale, of 70 to 120 lbs.

1865 *Times* 13 Feb., The bulk of the... bales and ballots brought forward had to be withdrawn. *Mod. Alpaca* and Peruvian wools come in ballots.

Ballot (bæl'lot), *v.* 1 Also 7 *ballat*, -et, *balet*, 7-8 *balot*: see *BALLOTING vbl. sb.* Pples. *ballotted*, -ing. [a. It. *ballott-are* 'to choose, to cast or

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draw lots with bullets' (Florio 1598); *f. ballotta*: see *BALLOT* *sb.*¹ Cf. *F. ballotter*, 16th c.]

†1. *trans.* To vote, for approval, selection or rejection, upon (a proposed resolution, candidate, etc.), by depositing small balls in an urn or box, or by some other secret method. *Obs.*

1549 *Thomas Hist. Italie* (1561) 77 This privilege, to have his only opinion ballotted, no man hath but he [the Doge]. 1618 *Wotton in Reliq.* (1685) 262 None of the Competitors arriving to a sufficient number of Balls, they fell to ballote some others. 1691 *Wood Ath. Oxon.* II. 439 This Gang had a Balloting-box and balloted how things should be carried.

2. *intr.* To give a secret vote (*for, against*).

1580 *North Plutarch* (1656) 927 The Judges... would never take their bails to ballot against him. a 1797 *BURKE Sp. Short. Parl. Wks.* X. 89 The Electors shall ballot; the Members of Parliament also shall decide by ballot. c 1810 *Rose in Byron's Wks.* (1846) 230/2 Balloting now for merit, now for hunger.

b. To ballot for: to select (a body of officials, etc.), elect or reject (an individual candidate), by secret voting. Often with *indirect passive*; cf. 4.

1695 *LUTTRELL Brief. Rel.* III. 164 The two houses ballotted for a committee... to take Sir Thomas Cooks examination. 1773 *JOHNSON in Boswell* 30 Apr., I was this evening to be ballotted for as candidate for admission into that society. 1869 *Daily News* 17 Dec., Twelve candidates for the fellowship were proposed and ordered to be ballotted for.

3. *trans.* To select by the drawing of lots (e.g. conscripts for military service).

1785 *COWPER Task* IV. 623 The clown... Is ballotted, and trembles at the news. 1837 *CARLYLE Fr. Rev.* III. I. i. 15 Peasants... who will not be ballotted for Soldiers.

4. To ballot for: to select by lot, draw lots for.

1786 *Act 26 Geo. III.* cvii. § 24 *marg.*, To appoint what Number of Men shall serve... who are to be ballotted for. 1884 *Manch. Exam.* 21 Mar. 5/4 Mr. Slagg intends to ballot for another day for his resolution.

† *Ballot*, *v.* 2 *Obs. rare*. In 7 balot. [a. *F. ballotte-r*, *f. ballotte* small ball.] To toss about like a ball, drive hither and thither.

1680 *Nation's Int. Pretensions Dk. York* 4 That we be not again Ballotted into a Field of Blood.

Ballotade (bæl'öt-ä-d). [a. *F. ballotade*, *f. ballotte*: see *prec.* and *-ADE*.] A kind of leap in which a managed horse bends his four legs without jerking out the hind ones.

1727-51 in *CHAMBERS*. 1815 *Encycl. Brit.* III. 355.

Ballotage. [a. *F. ballotage*, *f. ballotte*: see *-AGE*.] In France, the second ballot, to decide between the two candidates who have come nearest to obtaining the legal majority.

1869 *Daily News* 9 Dec., M. Glais-Bizoin at the ballotage of yesterday was elected. 1883 *Leeds Merc.* 26 Sept. 2 He was absolutely nowhere on the ballotage.

† **Ballotant**. *Obs. rare*—1. [a. *F. ballotant*, *pr. pple. of ballotte*.] A voter by ballot.

1656 *J. HARRINGTON Oceana* (1700) 93 The number of the Ballotants at either Urn.

† **Ballotation**. *Obs.* [*f. BALLOT* *v.* (or its *F.* or *It.* equivalent) + *-ATION*.] Voting by ballot.

1680 *Reliq. Wotton*. (1679) 309 In the first Ballotation, the Balls were equal. 1877 *Govt. Venice* 39 Every man speaks *pro* or *con* as he thinks fit; and afterwards they proceed to Ballotation.

† **Ballote**. *Herb. Obs.* [a. *F. ballote* or *It. ballotte*, ad. *L. ballōtē*, a. *Gr. βαλλωτή*.] The Black Stinking Horehound (*Ballota nigra*).

1551 *TURNER Herbal* F j b, Ballote hath foursquare stalkes. 1700 *PETIVER in Phil. Trans.* XXII. 609 The leaves of this plant... resemble our Ballote or stinking Horehound.

Ballotted, *pple.* a. [*BALLOT* *v.* + *-ED*.] Selected by ballot or lot.

1843 *CARLYLE Past & Pr.* 298 Plainly a ballotted soldier. **Balloteer** (bæl'öt-ē-er). [*f. BALLOT* *sb.*¹ + *-ER*.] An advocate of the ballot.

1867 *Examiner* 19 Jan. 36 We are balloteers, but we cannot countenance a charge so unjust.

Balloter (bæl'öt-er). [*f. BALLOT* *v.*¹ + *-ER*¹.] A voter by ballot.

1757 *FORSTER in Phil. Trans.* L. 460 The number of balloters. 1758 *BRACKENRIDGE ibid.* 471 The electors or balloters are the fencible men.

Ballotically, *adv. nonce-wd.* In reference to the ballot.

c 1848 *SYD. SMITH Ballot Wks.* 1859 II. 316/1 How has any father, ballotically speaking, a right to control the votes of his family?

† **Ballotin**. *Obs. nonce-wd.* [*f. BALLOT*.] An officer in charge of a ballot-box.

1656 *J. HARRINGTON Oceana* (1700) 116 Whereupon eight Ballotins or Pages... take eight of the Boxes. *Ibid.* The Ballotins having thus gathered the Suffrages.

Balloting (bæl'öt-ŭŋ), *vbl. sb.* [*f. BALLOT* *v.*¹.] 1. Voting by ballot or by some secret method.

1549 *THOMAS Hist. Italie* (1561) 77 Many have reported, that the Duke in balloting should have two voices. 1704 *ADDISON Italy* (1733) 87 They decide all by Baloting. 1870 *Daily News* 23 Nov., In 182 electoral colleges a second balloting will be necessary.

2. Selection by lot, drawing of lots.

a 1618 *RALEIGH Remains* (1644) 56 To elect Magistrates... by Lot or Balloting. 1699 *Def. Vind. Chas. I.* 25 We must go to balloting for the Controversie, and take the Papers as they arise. 1773 *Gentl. Mag.* XLIII. 51 That no constable... should have any authority in balloting of soldiers. 1873 *Daily News* 25 Aug., At the close of balloting for places.

3. *attrib.*, as in *balloting-book*, *-box*, *-glass*.

1622 in *Heath Grocers' Comp.* (1869) 100 To trie the sayde election by the ballotinge box. 1677 *VARRANTON Eng. Impr.* 34 Each Freeholder drops into the Baletting Box one Bowle... And for chusing of Parliamentmen and all public Votes in Corporations, it were happy it were so. 1700 *LUTTRELL Brief. Rel.* IV. 628 Each member put into the balloting glasse [a] list of 13 commissioners. 1797 *Ann. Reg.* 2/1 The balloting books... they carried away in triumph.

Ballotist (bæl'öt-ist). [*f. BALLOT* *sb.*¹ + *-IST*.] A professed advocate of the ballot.

1837 *SYD. SMITH Wks.* 771 Votes, sheltered (as the ballotists suppose) from intimidation.

|| **Ballottement** (bäl'tmēt). *Med.* [*Fr.*, *f. ballotte*: see *BALLOT* *v.*².] A mode of diagnosing pregnancy, in which, upon a sudden push with the finger on the front of the uterus, the fetus is felt to move away and return again.

1839 *HOOPER Med. Dict.* 242. 1861 *TANNER Pregn.* II. 43.

† **Ballow**, *sb.*¹ [Only in the *Shaksp.* Folio of 1623, and subseq. editions, in loc. cit., where the Quartos have *batter*, and *bat* (stick, rough walking-stick); besides which, *batton*, *batoun*, 'stick, cudgel' obs. *f. BATON* (q.v.) is a probable emendation. Bailey (1742) has 'Ballow, a pole, a long stick, quarter-staff, etc. *Shaksp.*' (quoted by Halliwell as 'Northern'); but no such word seems to exist, or to have any etymological justification.]

1605 *SHAKS. Lear* IV. vi. 247 Ice try whither your Costard, or my Ballow be the harder. [Cf. 1675 *COTTON Scoffer Scoff* 44 With my Battoon I'll bang his sconce.]

Ballow (bæl'ow), *sb.*² 'Deep water inside a shoal or bar.' Smyth *Sailor's Word-bk.* 1867.

† **Ballow**, *a. Obs. rare*—1. Etymol. and meaning uncertain. A marginal note to Drayton says 'Gaunt.' But cf. *BALGH* *a.*

1612 *DRAYTON Poly-ob.* Song III. 40 The ballow Nag outstrips the winds in chase.

† **Ballup**. *Obs. exc. dial.* [prob. the same as *bag-lap*, in *Compl. Scotl.* vi. 66.] 'The front or flap of the small-clothes.' Halliwell. (Common in north. dial.)

c 1600 *Rob. Hood* (Ritson) xxiii. 58 Then he put on the old mans breeks, Was patch'd from ballup to side.

Balluster, *obs. form of BALUSTER.*

Ballytte, *obs. form of BALLAD.*

Balm (bām), *sb.* Forms: 3 *basme*, 3-5 *bame*, (4 *basme*), 4-7 *bawm* (e, 4-8 *baume*, 4-9 *baum*, 5 *bawme*, 5-5 *bawme*, 5-7 *bawme*, *balme*, 7 *baum*, 6-*baum*. [*ME. basme*, *bame*, a. *OF. basme*, later *bāme* (= *Pr. basme*, *It. balsamo*) := *L. balsamum*: see *BALSAM*, -*UM*. Also, *ME. basme*, *basme*, a. *OF.* (13th c.) *basme*, *basme*, literary or semi-literary refinements of *basme*, *bāme*, influenced by *L. bal-*: whence also come the Eng. spellings *balsme*, *baum* (e, *bawm* (e), through which the *ME. baum* (e, *baum* (e), has been gradually altered to *balm*.]

I. The aromatic resinous product.

1. An aromatic substance, consisting of resin mixed with volatile oils, exuding naturally from various trees of the genus *Balsamodendron*, and much prized for its fragrance and medicinal properties. (Cf. *BALSAM* I b.)

c 1200 *Hali Meid.* 13 Swote smirles... bat is icleopet basme. 1340 *HAMPOLE Pr. Com.* 652 Of herbes and tres, springes baum ful gude. c 1400 *MAUNDEVE* v. 52 Fyn Bawme is more hevy tways, than is the Bawme that is sophisticated. *Ibid.* xxvii. 276 Brenne the vesselle... fulle of Bawme, for to zeven gode smelle. 1494 *FABYAN* vi. clvi. 145 He sent to hym also tentis of ryche sylke & baume natural. 1569 *T. GALE Antidot.* II. 35 This oyle hath al the vertues of true Bawme. 1697 *DRYDEN Virg. Georg.* II. 165 Balm slowly trickles through the bleeding Veins Of happy Shrubs, in Idumean Plains. a 1842 *TENNYSON St. S. Stylites* 208 Spikenard, and balm, and frankincense.

† 2. An aromatic preparation for embalming the dead. *Obs.*

c 1340 *Cursor M.* (Laud MS.) 11503 A bawme of wonder bytternes That dedmen with anyointed is. 1480 *CAXTON Chron. Eng.* ccxliii. 284 Kyng Henry... closed it [the body of King Richard] in a fayre cheste with dyuerse specyeres and baumes. 1618 [See *BALMER* I.]

3. Fragrant oil or ointment used for anointing.

1447 *BOKENHAM Sermyts* 138 Wyth swete bawm she anyointed had be. 1593 *SHAKS. Rich. II.* III. ii. 55 Not all the water in the rough rude Sea Can wash the Bawme from an anyointed King. 1623 *FAVINE Theat. Hom.* II. xiii. 254 The holy Virole or Bottell, full of Bawme.

4. *fig.* Aromatic fragrance, agreeable perfume.

1483 *CAXTON Gold. Leg.* 220/3 She had sothly the bame of good odour... in conversation. 1570 *HOLINSHED Scot. Chron.* I. 26 The proverbe... that the sow reckes not of balm. 1728 *THOMSON Spring* 733 When nought but balm is breathing thro' the woods. 1866 *B. TAYLOR Poems of Orient* 158, I love the palm, With his leaves of beauty, his fruit of balm.

5. Aromatic ointment used for soothing pain or healing wounds; = *BALSAM* *sb.* 2. *arch.*

1393 *GOWER Conf.* III. 315 This maister hath her every jointe With... balsme anyointed. 1486 *Bk. St. Albans, Hawk-Ing* A liij, Anoynt the soore with bawme. 1563 *T. GALE Antidot.* II. 34 The Bawme wherewith greene and freshe wounds are speedily cured. 1671 *MILTON Samson* 186 As Balm to fester'd wounds.

6. *transf.* or *fig.* A healing, soothing, or softly restorative, agency or influence.

1549 *Bk. Com. Prayer* Ps. cxli. 5 Let not their precious balms break my head. 1594 *SHAKS. Rich. III.* I. ii. 13 Loe, in these windowes... I powre the helpelesse Balme of my poore eyes. 1643 *N. LOCKYER (title)* Baulme for Bleeding England and Ireland. 1667 *MILTON P. L.* II. 402 The soft delicious Air... Shall breath her balme. 1755 *YOUNG Centaur* iv. Wks. 1757 IV. 208 There is a sovereign balm in prayer. 1807 *CRABBE Library* 57 See here the balms that passion's wounds assuage. 1870 *BRYANT Homer* VII. I. 235 They laid them down to rest, And so received the balm of sleep.

7. *Comb. and Attrib.*, as *balm-breathing*, *-dew*, *-liquor*, *-shrub*, *-tree*, *-word*; also *balm-like* *adj.*; *balm-shed*, the season when balm is distilled.

1595 *LODGE Fig for Momus* v, To guide the Sages of *balm-breathing East. 1830 *TENNYSON Talking Oak* 268 Balm-dews to bathe thy feet. 1569 *SPENSER Sonn.* ix, With *Balmlike odor did perfume the aire. c 1570 *Scot. Poems* 16th C. (1801) II. 304 In rotting bosses no *balm liquor lyes. 1840 *BROWNING Sordello* vi. 445 Why grudge you having gained... The brakes at *balm-shed. 1840 *CARLYLE Heroes* II. 74 Odoriferous *balm-shrubs. 1601 *HOLLAND Pliny* XVII. xxxii, The *balm tree can abide no other place but lury. 1871 *MACDUFF Mem. Patmos* vi. 75 What *balm-words for the martyred disciples.

II. 8. A tree yielding balm; these trees belong to the genus *Balsamodendron*, N.O. *Amyridaceae*, and are found in Asia and northern Africa.

1397 *TREvisa Higden* Rolls Ser. I. 107 Ludea is riche... of baume [*L. balsamis*], of olyues, of pomegranet. c 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 27/1 Bawme, tre, *balsamus*. a 1520 *Myrr.* Our Ladye 285 Bawme ys a tree and all that ys therein ys vertuous. 1606 *BACON New Atl.* (1658) 25 The Crosier of Balm-wood, the Pastoral Staff of Cedar. 1835 *Penny Cycl.* III. 345/1 The bark of the above-mentioned species of balm.

III. 9. Name of some fragrant garden herbs (N.O. *Labiatae*); the chief are Balm Gentle or Balm-mint (*Melissa officinalis*) and Bastard Balm (*Melittis melissophyllum*). Also Field Balm (*Calamintha Nepeta*).

c 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 27 Bawme, herbe... *melissa*. 1551 *TURNER Herbal* D liij, The comon baume... is but a bast-tard kynde, and the true bawme... may be called in English, bawme gentle. 1600 *CHAPMAN Odys.* v. 97 With sweet balm-gentle, and blue violets hid. 1773 *PETIVER in Phil. Trans.* XXVIII. 195 Our common Garden Baulm. 1813 *C. MARSHALL Garden.* xvi. (ed. 5) 263 Balm is either plain or variegated.

b. *attrib.* in domestic or medicinal preparations, as *balm-tea*, *-water*, *-wine*; and parasynthetic deriv., as *balm-leaved*. Balm-mint = *BALSAM-MINT*.

1752 *MRS. DELANY Autobiog.* (1861) III. 131 Whey at 7 this morning and baume tea at 10. 1861 *DELAMER Kitch. Gard.* 122 Balm-tea is a sudorific and febrifuge in high repute amongst village doctresses. 1712 *tr. Pomet's Hist. Drugs* I. 73 Distill'd from White-Wine, Rose or Balm-Water. 1826 *SCOTT Antiq.* vi, 'Would you take any thing? — a glass of balm wine?' 1861 *MISS PRATT Flower. Pl.* IV. 118 Balm-leaved Figwort. 1562 *TURNER Herbal* II. 140 a, A kinde of mint that is called in English baum mynte.

IV. **Balm of Gilead**: see also *BALSAM*.

10. (Also *Balm of Mecca*.) A gold-coloured oleo-resin exuded from the tree *Balsamodendron Gileadense*, or perhaps *B. Opobalsamum*, formerly much esteemed as an antiseptic and vulnerary. b. A factitious or 'quack' imitation of this. c. *American B. of G.*: a resin obtained from the *Erica carana*.

(*Balsamodendron* probably yields the βάλαμον, *balsamum*, of the ancients. The term 'balm of Gilead' is modern, and like the botanical specific name *Gileadense*, originated in the assumption that this is the substance mentioned in the Bible as found in Gilead, and called in the English translation 'balm.' But the Heb. word גִּלְעָד rendered 'balm' was not identified with βάλαμον, *balsamum* by the LXX or Vulgate, which render it ῥητιν, *resina*, resin. 'Balm' began with Coverdale.)

1535 *COVERDALE Gen.* xxxvii. 25 Ismaelites comyng from Gilead with... spices, balme [Wycl. swete gumme, PURVEY rosyn], and myrrer. 1560 *BIBLE* (Geneva) Jer. viii. 22 Is there no balm [Wycl. gumme, rosyn; COVERDALE, triacle] at Gilead? Is there no Physician there? 1703 *MUNDRELL Journ. Jerus.* (1721) 86 This Oyl they take inwardly... preferring it before Balm of Gilead. 1719 *LADY MONTAGUE Lett.* 42 II. 9 As to the balm of Mecca, I will certainly send you some. 1822 *Examiner* 30 Nov. 765/1 The sale of the Balm of Gilead has not been quite so extensive.

11. The evergreen shrub *Dracocephalum canariense* (*Treas. Bot.*); in quot. perhaps common Balm. 1767 *WATSON in Phil. Trans.* LVII. 443, I saw even the plant, usually called Balm of Gilead... flourishing without shelter [in or near London].

12. *attrib.* in *Balm of Gilead shrub*. Balm of Gilead fir: the N. American species yielding Canada Balsam.

1769 *SIR J. HILL Fam. Herbal*, *Balm of Gilead Shrub*... grows to five or six feet high. 1833 *Penny Cycl.* I. 30/1 The Balm of Gilead Fir... found... in the coldest parts of North America.

Balm (bām), *v. arch.* Forms: 4-5 *bame*, 4-6 *bawme*, (5 *boum*), 5-6 *balme*, (balmbe), 6 *baum*, 7-*baum*. [app. *f. BALM* *sb.*; but cf. *OF. enbasmer* (12th c.), also *balsamer* to embalm, *balsmer* to breathe perfume.]

1. *trans.* To embalm. *arch.*

c 1300 *K. Alis.* 4671 Theo body was bawmed, and leyed in a schryne. c 1400 *Anturs Arth.* xiv, Quyl the body be boumet and brozte on a bere. 1611 *SPEED Hist. Gt. Brit.* ix. xxiv. (1632) 1161 Shee bawming it [the head], sent it to her Holy Father. 1845 *KINGLAKE Eothen* vi. 95 May have been a live king just after the Flood, but has since lain bawmed in spice.

† 2. To anoint with fragrant, soothing, or cleansing oil or other liquid. *Obs.*

1398 TREVISIA Barth. *De P. R.* vii. xxi. (1495) 238 The sore place shall be bamyd wyth oyle of roses. 1486 *Bk. St. Albans, Hawking*, A.vj. (The hawk) fetchith moysture lyk oyle at her tayle, and bamyth her fete. 1596 SHAKS. *Tam. Shr. Induct.* 48 Balmie his foule head in warme distilled waters. 1600 CHAPMAN *Odyss.* iv. 60 Where handmaids... Bath'd, balm'd them.

† b. To mix or impregnate with balm. *Obs.*

1530 PALSGR. 444/2 When a medicyn is bawmed it hath a stronge savour.

† c. To smear with something resinous or sticky; also rarely, to smear on (the sticky material). *Obs.* or *dial.*

1388 WYCLIF *John* ix. 6 He... leyde, or bawmede, the cley on his ygen. 1388 — *Ex. ii.* 3 Sche bawmede (1388 glewede) it with tar and pitch. 1398 TREVISIA Barth. *De P. R.* xii. iv. Some (bees) bryngeþ. þinges þat ben sumdel gleymy and glewy, and bawmed þerwith þe hyue. 1857 WRIGHT *Provinc. Dict.* He bawmed and slawmed it all over mortar and wash.

3. To soothe, alleviate (pain, sorrow, etc.). *arch.*

a 1400 *Chester Pl.* 165 Myrre... is beste to balmbe his thoo.

1605 SHAKS. *Leas. iii.* vi. 105 This rest might yet have balm'd thy broken senses. 1877 M. ARNOLD *Poems* I. 203 Only death can balm thy woe.

Balm-apple: see *Balsam-apple* in *BALSAM* sb. 10.

Balm-cricket: [earlier *baum-cricket*, app. a mistranslation of *G. baum-grille*, 'tree-cricket,' by confusion with *ME. baum* BALSAM. (Taken by Tennyson, he tells us, from Dalzel.)] The cicada.

1793 BAILEY, *Cicada*, the Baum-cricket, a genus of four-winged insects. 1793 AINSWORTH *Lit. Dict.* ii. *Cicada*, a sauterelle, or, according to others, a balm-cricket. 1797 DALZEL *Analec. Maj.* II. 187 (note on Theoc. *Idyll* i. 148) *Terræ, Cicada* veterum... *Cicada orni* Linn., Angl. the Balm Cricket. 1833 TENNYSON *Dirge* vii. The balm-cricket carols clear in the green that folds thy grave.

† **Balmer**¹. *Obs. rare*—1. [f. BALSAM + -ER¹.]

(He who or) that which embalms.

a 1618 RALEIGH *Rem.* (1644) 256 Bloud must be my Bodies only Balmer. No other Balm will there be given.

† **Balmer**². *Obs. rare*—1. 'Apparently some kind of coloured cloth.' Halliwell.

a 1400 *Chester Plays* 172 Princes, prelates of price Barones in balmer and byse.

Balmify (bā'mifai), v. [f. BALMY a. + -FY = L. -ficare to make.] To render balmy.

1733 CHEYNE *Eng. Malady* 306 (L.) The fluids have been entirely sweetened and balmified.

Balmily (bā'mili), adv. [f. BALMY a. + -LY².]

In a balmy manner.

1847 in CRAIG. 1861 *Temple Bar* II. 476 The wind... was breathing balmily.

Balminess. [f. as prec. + -NESS.] The state or quality of being balmy.

1733 CHEYNE *Eng. Malady* i. § 2 The Blood declines from its due Fluidity and Balminess [cf. BALSAM 4]. 1862 GOULBURN *Pers. Relig.* III. (1873) 199 A delicious balminess in the air.

Balming (bā'min), vbl. sb. [f. BALM v. + -ING¹.]

The action a. of embalming, b. of anointing with balm, c. of soothing.

1582 N. T. (Rhem.) *John* xii. *marc.* The deuout offices of balming and anointing the dead bodies. 1600 CHAPMAN *Odyss.* xviii. (R.) Forbear to speake Of baths, or balmings.

1844 DICKENS *Mar. Chus.* (C. D. ed.) 202 Hearts want binding and spirits want balming when people die.

Balmoral (bālmōrāl). [name of Queen Victoria's residence in Scotland.] Used as a specific name of: a. A variety of Scotch cap. b. A kind of figured woollen petticoat. c. A kind of boot lacing in front.

1864 LOCKER *Lond. Lyrics* (1876) 43, I know that when they walk in grass, she wears Balmorals. 1867 F. LUDLOW *Brace of Boys* 263 A skirt of garnet silk looped up over a pretty Balmoral. 1867 *Summer L. Goldthwaite's Life* 77 Rosetted slippers instead of heavy Balmoral Boots.

Balmy (bā'mi), a. [f. BALM sb. + -Y¹.]

1. Yielding or producing balm.

1667 MILTON *P. L.* v. 24 What drops the Myrrhe, and what the balmie Reed. 1742 COLLINS *Ecolg.* i. 49 The balmy shrub for you shall love our shore.

† 2. Of the consistency of balm; resinous. *Obs.*

1782 MONRO *Anat.* 14 The marrow is... oily and balmy in middle age.

3. Delicately and deliciously fragrant.

c 1300 DUNBAR *Gold. Targe* 97 Ewiry blome... Opnyt & spred thair balmy leues. 1604 SHAKS. *Oth.* v. ii. 16 Ile smell thee on the Tree. Oh Balmy breath. 1794 BURNS *Wks.* IV. 313 Like a baumy kiss. 1844 MISS MITFORD *Village Ser.* I. (1863) 85 Under the shade of those balmy firs.

4. fig. Deliciously soft and soothing.

1604 SHAKS. *Oth.* ii. ii. 259 To haue their Balmy slumbers wak'd with strife. 1749 YOUNG *Nt. Th.* i. 1 Tir'd Nature's sweet restorer, balmy Sleep! 1857 HEAVYSEGE *Saul* (1869) 161 The balmy sense of fault forgiven.

5. Of wind, air, weather, etc. (combining senses 3 and 4): Deliciously mild, fragrant, and soothing.

1704 POPE *Winter* 48 The balmy zephyrs. 1850 TENNYSON *In Mem.* xvii. And balmy drops... Slide from the bosom of the stars. 1867 MISS BRADDON *R. Godwin* II. v. 73 When the August weather was brightest and balmiest.

6. Of healing virtue, medicinally soothing.

1746 COLLINS *Ode to Pity*. With balmy hands his wounds to bind. 1796 BURKE *Regic. Peace* Wks. 1842 II. 318 To assuage his bruised dignity with half a yard square of balmy diplomatick diachylon. 1866 E. IRVING *Babylon* II. 391 The cure for a disease, is to send... balmy medicines.

† **Balne**. *Obs.* 5-7; also 6 bawne. [ad. L. *balneum* bath.] A (warm) bath: see BALSAM.

1471 RIPLEY *Comp. Alch.* in Ashm. (1652) v. 149 Wyth hete of Balne, or ells of our Dounghyll. 1570 LEVINS *Manif.* 44 Bawne, bath. 1605 TIMME *Quersil.* III. 168 Conuenient digestions in the heate of balne Mary.

Balneal (bælniāl), a. [f. L. *balneum* + -AL¹.] Of or pertaining to a (warm) bath, or to bathing.

c 1645 HOWELL *Lett.* (1650) I. 292 Others attribute this balneal heat unto the sun. 1883 *Athenæum* 22 Sept. 363/1 The balneal usages of the local Romans.

Balneary (bælniəri). [ad. L. *balnearius*. in cl. L. only in pl. *balnearia*, from adj. *balnearius* belonging to the *balneum* bath.] A bath or bathing-place; a medicinal spring.

1646 SIR T. BROWNE *Pseud. Ep.* vi. vii. 309 The Balnearies or bathing places. 1864 R. BURTON *Dahome* II. 298 A raised earth rim for a balneary.

Balneation (bælniē'jən). ? *Obs.* [n. of action f. med. L. *balneare* to bathe: see -ATION.] Bathing.

1646 SIR T. BROWNE *Pseud. Ep.* ii. vi. 101 Balneations, washings, and fomentations. 1856 in Blount *Glossogr.*; and in mod. Dicts.

† **Balneatory**, a. *Obs.*— [ad. L. *balneātorius*, f. *balneātor* bath-keeper: see -ORY.] 'Of or pertaining to a bath' Bailey 1731.

† **Balneo**. *Obs.* Latinized spelling of BAGNIO 1, 2. See also BALSAM.

1650 GAUDEN *Tears* Ch. 351 The Balneo and Theatres of free Cities. 1702 W. J. Bryn's *Voy. Levant* x. 36 The Balneo of the Slaves belonging to the Grand Signior.

Balneography (bælni'grāfi). [f. L. *balneum* bath + Gr. -γραφία writing.] A description of, or treatise upon, baths. **Balneology** [see -LOGY], scientific medical study of bathing and medicinal springs. **Balneological** (bælni'ɔlədʒikəl), a. of or pertaining to balneology. **Balneotherapy** (-pē'rāpi) [Gr. *θεραπεία* medical treatment], treatment of disease by baths or medicinal springs.

1879 *Nature* 9 Oct. 551/2 Balneological works, treating of the European mineral springs. 1883 *Harper's Mag.* June 122/1 The physician who has... experience in balneology.

† **Balneum** (bælni'əm). [L. = bath.]

1. A bath or bathing.

1652 FRENCH *Yorksh. Spa* iv. 45 Water is used... first by way of Balneum, or bathing the whole body. *Ibid.* 49 A cold Balneum.

2. *Alch., Chem., and Cookery* (short for the fuller *Balneum Mariæ*, *erron. Mari*): = BAIN MARIE. (The L. ablative *balneo*, occurring after 'in,' was occas. taken as the name of the vessel.)

1471 RIPLEY *Comp. Alch.* in Ashm. (1652) Ep. 116 Then in Balneo of Mary together let them be circulat. 1594 PLAT *Jewell-Ho.* II. 23 You must haue a large Balneo, wherein you may place sixe or eight glasse bodies at once. 1641 FRENCH *Distill.* I. (1651) 14 A Balneum as hot as ashes. *Ibid.* iv. 96 Digest them in a temperate Balneo. 1796 MRS. GLASS *Cookery* xxv. 378 Distil them in a glass still, *balneum Mariæ*. 1811 HOOPER *Med. Dict.*, *Balneum Mariæ*, *Balneum Mariæ*, a warm water bath.

Baloe (-oone, -oune, obs. ff. BALLOON. **Balotted:** see BALLOT v².

† **Balow**, **baloo**, *interj.* and *sb.* *Obs.* [Apparently a nursery utterance, and probably without derivation: it varied with *balililow*, and *baw lu la law*. According to Jamieson 'supposed to be part of an old Fr. lullaby, *Bas le loup!*, or *bas, là le loup!* ('down! there the wolf'), but this is a mere conjecture without any known historical basis.]

A. *interj.* An utterance used in lulling to sleep. a 1744 *Lady A. Bothwell's Lament* in *Tea-t. Misc.* (1733) II. 130 Balow my boy, ly still and sleep. It grieues me sore to hear thee weep.

B. *sb.* A. A lullaby. b. A song and tune containing this word.

1611 BEAUM. & FL. *Knt. of Burning Pestle* II. (Boucher) You musicians play Baloo. 1619 Z. BOYD *L. Battell* 308 (JAM.) Lulled with Sathan's 'balowes'. 1794 RITSON *Scot. Songs*, *Ex.* 109 (JAM.) The editor... pretends that... there are two 'balowes', as they are stiled, the first, 'The balow Allan', the second 'Palmer's Balow'... commonly called Lady Bothwell's Lament.

† **Balowe-fire**. *Obs.* In form = 'Fatal or destroying fire,' f. BAILE a. or BALE sb.¹; but used in the sense of BALE-FIRE 1, q.v.

c 1430 *Cher. Assigne* 233 *pe zondere* is my qwene' betrice she hette, In *pe zondere balowe fyre* 'is buskedde to brenne. *Ibid.* 344 Brente here in *pe balowe fyre* alle to browne askes. [cf. 1855 *Whitby Glass*, *Bally-bleeze* [Balow-blaze], a bonfire.]

Balrag, obs. form of BULLYRAG.

|| **Balsa** (bælsā). Also 8 balsa. [Sp. 'a boat.' Minshew 1623.] A raft, or fishing-boat, used chiefly on the Pacific coasts of South America.

1778 ROBERTSON *Hist. Amer.* II. vii. 320 Where the rivers became deep... they are passed in Balsa, or floats. 1850 PRESCOTT *Peru* II. 3 To transport the commander's baggage and the military stores on some of the Indian balsa.

Balsam (bōlsām), sb. Forms: 1 balsam, balsam, balsams; 6-7 balsome, 7-um, -ame, 7-8 -om, 7- balsam. [ad. L. *balsamum*: see below. Found already in OE. as *balsam*, *balsam* (neut.), and *balsama*, -e, wk. f. m. or f.; then not till c 1600, the general popular sense having been meanwhile supplied by *basmie*, *baume* from F. (see

BALM), and the more specific sense, from the Renaissance, by the L. *balsamum* unchanged, and occasionally by It. *balsamo*: see these words.]

1. The aromatic resinous product.

a. An aromatic vegetable juice; = BALM sb. 1.

c 1000 *Sax. Leechd.* II. lxiv. *Dis* is balzaman smyring wip eallum untrumnessum. *Ibid.* Cruc on þam heafde... sceal on balzame beon. 1624 CAPT. SMITH *Virginia* II. 26 A very cleare and odoriferous Gumme... which some called Balsom. a 1711 KEN *Blandina* Wks. 1721 IV. 526 The Trees... In od'rous Balsam bleed away. 1878 YEATS *Growth Comm.* 16 Gems, spices, and balsams brought from India and Arabia.

b. specifically: *True Balsam*, or *Balsam of Mecca*, the earliest known sort, is BALM OF GILEAD, q.v. The discovery of America brought knowledge of many other natural balsams or oleo-resins, e.g. *Balsam of Acouchi*, of *Copaiba*, of *Peru*, of *Tolu*, all used medicinally, and *Canada Balsam*, from the Balm of Gilead Fir, used also in mounting objects for the microscope.

1672 SALMON *Syn. Med.* III. xxxiii. 444 Balsamum verum, the true Balsam... is the chief of the Oyls and Balsams in the world. *Ibid.* Balsam of Tolu... hath the same virtue with the former. 1711 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 5939/6 Six Pots of Balsam of Mecca. 1771 J. S. Le Dran's *Observ. Surg.* 43 Slips of... Linen, moistened with Balsam of Peru. 1830 LINDLEY *Nat. Syst. Bot.* 127 Balsam of Acouchi is produced by *Iceia acuchina*. 1831 BREWSTER *Optics* xxi. 191 Cementing upon it a plate of glass with Canada Balsam.

2. An aromatic oily or resinous medicinal preparation, usually for external application, for healing wounds or soothing pain.

1579 LANGHAM *Garl. Health* (1633) 582 A balsam, take oile oliue one pint, S. Johns wort, Betony, Centory, & Selseheale, ana one handfull. 1612 WOODALL *Surg. Mate* Wks. (1653) 34 This unguent is a sure Balsam for wounds of any sort. 1671 SALMON *Syn. Med.* III. xxxix. 490 Balsams... are made of Oyl, Butter, Fat, Suet, Gums, Rosins, and other things which will mix or melt. 1790 GAY *Poems* (1745) I. 120 His pills, his balsams and his Ague-spells. 1864 SKEAT *Uhländ's Poems* 236 Ah! no balsam e'er shall heal him.

b. specifically, of various substances dissolved in oil or turpentine, as *Balsam of Aniseed*, of *Saturn* (see quot.), of *Steel*, of *Sulphur*.

1694 *Phil. Trans.* XVIII. 200 Balsam of Sulphur... made with Oyl of Turpentine and Brimstone. 1797-51 CHAMBERS *Cycl.*, *Balsam of Saturn* is a salt, or sugar of lead, dissolved in oil or spirit of turpentine. 1828 IMISON *Sc. & Art.* II. 128 Fixed oils dissolve sulphur and then form Balsams.

3. fig. A healing, soothing agent or agency.

1607 SHAKS. *Timon* III. v. 10 Is this the Balsome, that the vsuring Senat Powres into Captaines wounds? 1621 BURTON *Anat. Mel.* III. iv. II. iii. (1651) 698 No saluation, no balsome for their diseased souls. a 1764 LLOYD *To G. Colman* Poet. Wks. 1774 I. 109 From friendship's source the balsam flows. 1884 TENNYSON *Becket* 24 Was not the people's blessing... a balsam to thy blood?

† 4. *transf.* in *Alch.* A healthful preservative essence, of oily and softly penetrative nature, conceived by Paracelsus to exist in all organic bodies. Cf. BALSAM 3. *Obs.*

1643 SIR T. BROWNE *Relig. Med.* I. § 43 Radicall balsome, or vitall sulphur of the parts. 1658 A. Fox *Wurtz Surg.* I. vi. 25 The humidity of the natural balsum, which always like a chrysal lyeth on the wound. 1733 CHEYNE *Eng. Malady* II. iii. § 1. 137 The Blood is returned to its due Degree of Thinness, Fluidity, and Balsam. 1753 CHAMBERS *Cycl. Supp.* s.v., Internal balsam... called also *glisten nature*.

† 5. = BALM sb. 2; fig. a preservative. *Obs.*

1658 SIR T. BROWNE *Hydriot.* iv. (1736) 43 Noble Acts which are the Balsom of our Memories. 1753 CHAMBERS *Cycl. Supp.* s.v., Dead Balsam... of myrrh and aloes... for drying and absorbing the humours of dead bodies.

6. *Chem.* Compounds, insoluble in water, consisting of resins mixed with volatile oils. Formerly only those oleo-resinous compounds which contained benzoic acid were called balsams: the Fr. *baume* has this limited meaning.

1673 GREW *Anat. Roots* III. § 21 A curious Balsame of a Citrine Colour... I call it a Balsame; because it will not dissolve in water. 1819 CHILDREN *Chem. Anat.* 296 Resinous matters which afford benzoic acid when heated... one of the chief characteristics by which balsams are distinguished from resins.

7. *attrib.*, as in *balsam-fir*, -oil, -poplar, -tree.

1601 HOLLAND *Pliny* XXIII. iv. The Balsame oile, called Balm, is of all others most pretious. 1625 BLACKMORE *Pr. Arth.* II. 147 The fragrant Balsom-Tree distills around Her healing Riches. 1865 PARKMAN *Champlain* xii. (1875) 342 The spruce, hemlock, balsam-fir, or pine. 1886 *Garden* 14 Jan. 15/2 The Balsam Poplar and the Lombardy grow rapidly near water.

II. 8. A tree yielding balsam: see BALM sb. 8.

c 1000 *ELFRIC Gloss.* in Wright *Voc.* (W.) 139 *Carpo balsami*, balsames blæd. *Opobalsamum*, balsames tear. 1651 JER. TAYLOR *Course Sermon* I. i. 7 Falling like the tears of the balsam of Iudea. 1876 HARLEY *Mal. Med.* 629 Balsam of Tolu, a lofty evergreen tree.

III. 9. A flowering plant, of the genus *Impatiens*, distinguished by its hooded and spurred coloured sepals, and thick succulent stem. Usually applied to *Impatiens Balsamina*, an ornamental garden flower producing under culture variegated double blossoms; sometimes also to the yellow-flowered *I. Noli-tangere*, found wild in Britain.

1741 *Compl. Fam.-Pice* II. iii. 379 Female Balsams, Larkspurs, Convolvulus. 1794 MARTYN *Rousseau's Bot.* xxvi. 407 A wild species called Yellow Balsam and also by the

familiar names of Quick-in-hand and Touch-me-not. 1884 *U. P. Mag.* Apr. 149 The stand of balsams in the windows.

10. Balsam Apple (or *Balm Apple*): a. properly, name of species of *Momordica* (*M. Balsamina*, *M. Charantia*), gourd-like plants with highly coloured fruits or 'apples,' also called *Apple of Jerusalem*, and 'Male' Balsam Apple; b. absurdly, given also to the common garden Balsam ('Female' Balsam Apple) because both were called by early herbalists *Balsamina*: see BALSAMINE. Balsam-mint, Balsamint (or *Balsam-tansy*): ALECOOT or Costmary (*Tanacetum Balsamita*).

1576 LYTE *Dodoens* 441 The one is called the Male Balsam, or Balm apple. The other is called the female Balsam apple. 1597 GERARDE *Herbal* II. lxx. (1633) 364 Balm apple or apple of Hierusalem grows but in hot countries. 1598 FLORIO, *Caranza*, the herb called the Balsam apple. 1611 COTGR., *Balsamine*, the balsam apple (whose oyle doth close up wounds like Balm). 1795 BRADLEY *Fam. Dict.* s.v., Balm, or Balsam-Apple (Female), a Plant... a Foot and a half high, of a reddish Colour at the Bottom, etc.

17000 *ELPHIC Gloss.* in Wright *Voc.* (W.) 136 *Sisymbrium*, balsamite. 1576 LYTE *Dodoens* 250 Balsammyte flourish in July and August. 1607 TOPSELL *Four-f. Beasts* 419 The herb called Balsamint or Costmary. 1865 *Intell. Observ.* No. 26. 466 Balsam-tansy acted still more powerfully.

† **B.** as *adj.* Balmly, deliciously fragrant.

1621 BURTON *Anat. Mel.* III. II. IV. 1. 530 She will adventure all her estate... for a Nectarean, a balsome kiss alone.

Balsam (bō'sām), *v.* [f. BALSAM *sb.*]

1. To anoint or impregnate with balsam; to perfume; to heal, salve.

1666 WHARTON *Wks.* (1683) 398 Tranquillity succeeds our Brutish Wars, Balsams our Wounds. a 1670 HACKET *Adp. Williams* I. (1693) 57 The Gifts of our young... Age are very sweet, when they are Balsam'd with Discretion. 1800 MOORE *Anacreon* lvi. 18 To balsam every mortal woe!

2. *intr.* (for *refl.*) To anoint oneself with balsam.

1846 *Sismond's Lit. Europe* II. xxxviii. 520 To bathe and balsam in the streams of joy.

3. *trans.* To embalm. *rare.*

1855 MOTLEY *Dutch Rep.* (1861) I. 222 [He] fell down dead... We have had him balsamed and sent home.

† **Balsamate**, *a. Obs. rare*—[ad. med. L. *balsamatus*, pa. pple. of *balsamāre*; cf. late OF. *balsamē*.] Embalmed.

1470 HARDING *Chron.* xcv. xvii. He made his ymage of laton... In whiche he put his body balsomate.

Balsamation (bō'sām'ē-jōn, bæl-). [n. of action f. med. L. *balsamāre*: see *prec.*] The process of embalming or preserving from putrefaction.

1681 *Phil. Collect.* XII. 104 An Universal Balsamation, or Conservation of all things Animal, or Vegetable. 1753 CHAMBERS *Cycl. Suppl.*, *Balsamation*... the act or art of embalming dead bodies.

Balsamed (bō'sāmd'), *pp. a.* [f. BALSAM + -ED.] Covered with balsam.

1854 J. HOGG *Microsc.* I. iii. (1867) 212 The specimen being placed on the balsamed surface.

Balsamic (bō'sā-mik, bæl-), *a. and sb.* [f. Gr. *βάλσαμον* = BALSAM + -IC.] *A. adj.*

1. Of the nature of, or yielding, balsam.

1676 GREW *Anat. Flowers* II. II. § 10 A Gummy or Balsamick Juicy. a 1711 KEN *Hymnotheo* Wks. 1721 III. 228 Gilead, on whose od'rous Top, Balsamick Gums, like liquid Amber, drop. 1805 *Edin. Rev.* VI. 411 Some balsamic pine.

2. Having the delicate aromatic fragrance of balsam; deliciously fragrant, balmy.

1714 STEELE *Solomon's Song*, Breathes thro' the Air a soft Balsamic Scent. 1773 LONGF. *Monk. Casal. Mag.* xxiii. The sweet Balsamic exhalations of the pine.

3. Having the healing properties of balsam; soothing, restorative, health-giving.

1605 TIMME *Quersit.* I. xi. 48 The universal balsamick medicine. 1717 LADY MONTAGU *Lett.* 47 II. 39 Very balsamic for disordered heads. 1793 T. BEDDOES *Lett. Darwin* 72 The supposition that the sweet breath of the cow is healing and balsamic. 1855 MACAULAY *Hist. Eng.* III. 479 The balsamic virtues of the royal hand.

4. Of, pertaining to, or full of, the subtle healthful influence or 'radical balsam' conceived of by alchemists; cf. BALSAM *sb.* 4.

1644 DIGBY *Nat. Bodies* xxiii. § 8. 212 With three sortes of rieurs or brookes, to runne through him... the one of a gentle balsamike oyle. 1686 GOAD *Celest. Bod.* II. ix. 284 The proper Preservative, some would call it the Balsamick Spirit, of the Fruit is dislodged by the Cold. 1733 CHRYNE *Eng. Malady* II. i. § 2. 113 To make the Juices [of the Body] soft, sweet, and balsamick.

5. *fig.* Soothing, healing, gently restorative, balmy.

1667 *Decay Chr. Piety* xvii. § 15. 357 Nor are those wounds ever like to close, till our zeal grow more balsamick. 1753 JOHNSON *Rambl.* No. 202 § 3 Sleep that sheds his balsamick anodynes only on the cottage. 1870 DELITZSCH in Spurgeon *Treas. Dav.* Ps. c. 3 Balsamic consolation.

6. Intended to hold balsam.

1818 J. HOBHOUSE *Hist. Illustr.* 557 The little balsamic vase called 'Lecythus,' an unknown utensil of clay.

B. sb. A soothing or healing medicine or application. Cf. BALM *sb.* 5, BALSAM *sb.* 2.

1713 *Land. & Country Brew.* I. (1742) 68 Harvest-Men... stand most in Need of the greatest Balsamics. 1756 NUGENT *Gr. Tour* II. 423 This herb is reckoned such a sovereign balsamic, as to cure wounds almost with a touch. 1881 *Philadelphia Record* No. 3443. 3 This Balsamic had been brought before the Therapeutical Society.

† **Balsamical**, *a. Obs.* [f. *prec.* + -AL.] = *prec.*

1605 TIMME *Quersit.* II. vi. 129 His balsamical vertue, or radical balsam. 1677 HALE *Prim. Orig. Man.* I. i. 30 The

Balsamical humour of my Blood. 1695 WESTMACOTT *Script. Herb.* 147 The Tops and Twigs of these resinous Plants... emit Balsamical Effluvia.

Balsamically, *adv.* [f. *prec.* + -LY².] After the manner of a balsam.

† **Balsamicness**, *Obs. rare.* [f. BALSAMIC + -NESS.] The quality of being balsamic; fragrant.

1737 MILLER *Gard. Dict.* s.v. *Vitis*, This Wine has a Body, a Tartness, a Headiness, a Balsamickness or Perfume.

Balsamiferous (bō'sāmi-fēr-əs, bæl-), *a.* [f. L. *balsam-um* BALSAM + -(-I)FEROUS.] Yielding or producing balsam.

1683-4 ROBINSON in *Phil. Trans.* XXIX. 475 Balsamiferous, Gumiferous, and Saccharine Plants. 1864 WEBSTER, *Balsamodendron*, a genus of balsamiferous plants.

† **Balsamine**, *Bot. Obs.* [a. F. *balsamine*, ad. Gr. *βάλσαμιν* balsam-plant, f. *βάλσαμον*: see BALSAM *sb.* and -INE.] Book name for: a. BALSAM APPLE; b. the plant Balsam (*Impatiens Balsamina*). Fuchsius had distinguished these as *Balsamine mas*, and *B. femina*.

1544 FUCHSIUS *Hist. Stirpium*, Duo Balsamines genera damus. Primam, quam nos certioris discriminis gratia marem fecimus... Alteram, quam feminam nominavimus.] 1576 LYTE *Dodoens* 441 By the name of Balsamine, you must now understand two sorts of apples... The one is called the Male Balsam, or Balm apple. 1794 MARTYN *Rousseau's Bot.* xxvi. 407 True Balsam, or more properly Balsamine.

Balsamint, -mynt: see BALSAM *sb.* 10.

† **Balsamitic**, *a. Obs. rare.* In 7 balsamittique. [ad. med. L. *balsamitic-us*, f. *balsamum*: see -ITIC.] = BALSAMIC. Hence Balsamitiveness.

1667 WATERHOUSE *Fire Lond.* 39 Corrosion coming into the room of Balsamittiveness.

Balsamize, *v.* 1 Obs. [ad. med. L. *balsamizā-re*, f. *balsamum*: see -IZE.] To render balsamic.

1748 *Lond. Mag.* 362 To balsamize the blood.

† **Balsamum**, *Obs.* [a. It. *balsamo*: = L. *balsamum*.] = BALSAM, BALRAMUM.

1594 GREENE *Look. Glasse* (1861) 124 Fetch balsamo, the kind preserve of life.

Balsamous, *a. ? Obs.* [f. L. *balsam-um* + -OUS.] = BALSAMIC.

1684 tr. *Bonell's Merc. Compt.* III. 76 A Cephalick balsamous liniment. 1766 STERNE *Tr. Shandy* V. xxxvi. 125 The radical moisture is... an oily and balsamous substance.

|| **Balsamum**, *Obs.* [a. L. *balsamum*, a. Gr. *βάλσαμον* the balsam-tree, and its resin (prob. f. Semitic: cf. Heb. *בַּשֶּׂם* *besem*, *bāsām*, 'spice'; though the LXX never render this word by *βάλσαμον*, nor the Vulg. by *balsamum*, words which do not occur in these versions. Occas. used in OE. in the general sense of BALM, and in regular use from c1400 to 17th c., in the specific senses, in which BALSAM is now substituted.]

1. An aromatic resinous vegetable juice; = BALM *sb.* I, BALSAM *sb.* I.

c 885 K. ÆLFRED *Beda* III. viii. (Bosw.), Hæddern ða balsamum on wære. 1590 MARLOWE and Pt. *Tamburl.* IV. II. An ointment... distilled from the purest balsamum. 1636 FEATLY *Clavis Myst.* viii. 100 To discern a sented poyson from Balsamum.

2. = BALM *sb.* 2-5.

c 1400 *Destr. Troy* XXI. 8776 A prise oymntment of bayme and of balsamum. 1590 SHAKS. *Com. Err.* IV. i. 89, I have bought The Oyle, the Balsamum, and Aqua-vitæ. a 1653 G. DANIEL *Idyll* III. 113 To plaister o're These Vicers with a Balsamum. *fig.* 1601 CHESTER *Love's Mart.* lxxxviii. Heart-curing Balsamum. a 1631 DONNE *Serm.* xli. 410 The Balsamum of this kisse.

3. *Alch.* = BALSAM *sb.* 4.

a 1621 DONNE *Serm.* xxxii. 213 Everything hath in it... a natural Balsamum; which if any wound or hurt which that Creature hath received be kept clean from Extrinsique putrefaction, will heal of itself. 1650 FRENCH *Chym. Dict.*, *Balsamum* is a substance of bodies preserving things from putrefaction.

4. A tree yielding balm or balsam; = BALSAM *sb.* 8.

1398 TREVISIA *Barth. De P. R.* XVII. xviii. (1495) 614 The bowes of Balsamum ben softly kytte wyth a knyfe of boon.

5. *attrib.*, as in *balsamum-tree* (= *prec.*).

1603 SIR C. HEYDON *Jwd. Astrol.* xxii. 485 The Viper delightheth in the shadow of the Balsamum tree.

Balsamy (bō'sāmi), *a.* [f. BALSAM *sb.* + -Y¹.] Balsam-like in aromatic fragrance, balmy.

1687 FLOYER *Touch-st. Med.* I. 267 The Herb smells Balsamy. 1880 MISS BIRD *Japan* I. 357 The trees flung their balsamy aromatic scent... upon the air.

Balsome, -um, *obs.* forms of BALSAM.

Balstone, corrupt form of BAUSON.

Balter, *v. Obs. exc. dial.* Also 7 baulter, 8-9 *dial.* bauter. [prob. from ON; cf. Da. *baltre*, *boltre* to wallow, welter, tumble. See also BOULTER. The connexion between senses 1 and 2 and the others is not clear, but it may be either through the notion of *tumbling* (the hair), or of *weltering*.]

† 1. *intr.* To tumble about, to dance clumsily.

c 1325 E. E. *Allit. P.* B. 103 Þay ben boþe blynde & balter-ande cruppeleþ. *Ibid.* C. 450 Blyþe of his wodbynde he balteres þer vnder]. c 1440 *Morte Arth.* (Roxb.) 66 He [the bear] baltreþ, he blyreþ, He braundyschte thereafter. a 1500 *Coleridge Sow.* I. 302 (JAM.) Sum trottit... Sum balterit.

2. *trans.* (See *quot.*) *dial.*

1873 *Whitby Gloss.* (E. D. S.), *Bauter*, to tread in a clownish manner, as an ox does the grass.

3. *trans.* To tangle, 'mat' (the hair).

1693 W. ROBERTSON *Phrasol. Gen.* 216 To baulter one's hair, *complicare crines*. 1879 *Shroph. Gloss.* (E. D. S.), *Bautered*, tangled, unkempt; said of hair.

4. *trans.* To clot or clog with anything sticky.

1601 HOLLAND *Pliny* XXIX. ii. Filthy excrements hanging to sheeps tails... baltered together into round pills or bals. [See BALTER *sb.*]

5. *intr.* (for *refl.*) To form tangled knots or clots, to stick together by coagulation.

1601 HOLLAND *Pliny* XII. xvii. It [a goat's beard] baltereth and cluttereth into knots and balls.

Balter, *sb. dial.* [f. *prec.* vb.] A clot, a coagulated lump.

Mod. Northampton dial. Batter is said to be baltered when the flour is not all mixed, but hangs together in small dry lumps which are called balters.

Baltimore (bō'ltimōr-). Also Baltimore-bird, -oriole. [See *quot.*; Lord Baltimore was formerly proprietor of Maryland.] A bird (*Icterus Baltimore*) of the Starling family, found throughout North America.

1730 MORTIMER in *Phil. Trans.* XXVI. 432 The Baltimore Bird hath its Name from being of the same Colour with Lord Baltimore's Coat of Arms. 1823 A. WILSON *Baltimore Bird* Wks. 279 The orange, black-capped Baltimore is seen. 1868 WOOD *Homes without H.* xiii. 239 The Baltimore Oriole... coloured with orange and black in bold contrast.

Baluster (bæ'lūstər), *Forms:* 7- baluster;

also 7 ballester, 7-8 balluster, -aster, -ister,

balister. See also BANISTER. [a. F. *balustre* masc.

'baluster', 16th c. ad. It. *balaustra* in same sense;

so named from It. *balaustra*, *balaustra* (F. *balauste*,

balustre fem., in Cotgrave 1611), in Florio *bal-*

austra 'the blossom of the wild pomegranate' (L.

balaustrum, a. Gr. *βαλυστριον* in same sense), on

account of the resemblance of a baluster to the

double-curving calyx-tube of this flower. In

English, corrupted already in 17th c. to *barrerster*,

-ister, *bannister*, *BANISTER*, which last is now, in

sense 3, the prevailing form.]

1. A short pillar or column, of circular section, and curving outline (properly, double-curved), slender above and swelling below into an elliptical or pear-shaped bulge; usually applied in a series called a *balustrade*.

1608 CAREW *Cornwall* 107 a. Planché ouer and rayled about with ballisters. 1611 Cotgr., *Balusters*, Ballisters; little, round, and short pillars, ranked on the outside of Cloisters, Terraces, Galleries, etc. 1697 *Cress D'Annoy's Trav. Spain* (1706) 125 Her Bed-Head was adorned with four Rows of little Copper Ballisters. 1716-8 LADY MONTAGUE *Lett.* 37 I. 153 Marble galleries... with marble balusters. 1879 SIR G. SCOTT *Lect. Archit.* II. 37 What are called baluster columns, or short pillars, turned in a lathe, not unlike Elizabethan balusters, bulging in the middle.

b. A similar pillar used in a window.

1844 F. PALKEY *Ch. Restorers* 5 Belfry windows, each of two lights, separated by a baluster shaft. 1861 PARKER *Goth. Archit.* (1874) 319 *Baluster*, in windows, a small pillar swelling in the middle.

2. A slender upright post or pillar of any shape supporting a rail; in *pl.* a railing or balustrade.

1663 *Flagellum* or O. *Cromwell* (1672) 189 Environed with Rails and Ballasters four square covered with Velvet. 1688 WHEELER *Journ. Greece* II. 204 An Area with Balusters or Rails about it. 1795 tr. *Dupin's Eccl. Hist.* 1718 c. I. v. 102 The Sanctuary was a Place in the Choir... separated by Balusters. 1787 BECKFORD *Italy* (1834) II. 326 Enriched with balusters of rich bronze.

3. (Usually in *pl.*) The upright posts or rails which support the handrail, and guard the side, of a staircase; often applied to the whole structure of uprights and handrail. Now more usually *BANISTER*(s), *q. v.*

1753 *World* 22 Nov., The Bedlamites leap'd over the Balisters of the Staircase. 1883 P. NICHOLSON *Pract. Build.* 200 Balusters are vertical pieces fixed on the steps for supporting the hand-rail. 1853 *Ch. Anchester* I. 42 A staircase... of a rich brown colour... so also were the balusters.

4. *collect. sing.* A balustrade, or protective railing.

arch.

1644 EVELYN *Mem.* (1857) I. 67 A border of freestone... with a rail and baluster of pure white marble. 1670 LASSELS *Voy. Italy* II. 29 A continual baluster, or row of rayles. a 1720 SHEFFIELD (Dk. Buckhm.) *Wks.* (1753) II. 221 These stairs... are so very easy, there is no need of leaning on the iron baluster. 1795 NUGENT *Gr. Tour* I. 116 The choir is separated from the body of the church by a balister.

5. *Class. Arch.* 'The lateral part of the volute of an Ionic capital.' Gwilt.

Balustered, *pp. a.*; also 7 ballis-, balustrad, [f. *prec.* + -ED².] Furnished with, or enclosed by, balusters.

1644 EVELYN *Mem.* (1819) I. 45 The upper terrace... with double declivities, arched and baluster'd. 1655 F. G. *Scudery's Artamenes* VIII. II. 106 We passed through a long ascent rayled and balustrad. 1691 WOOD *Ath. Oxon.* I. 1859 A black Marble balustrad.

Balustrade (bæ'lūstrād'), [a. F. *balustrade*, f. *balustre* BALUSTER, after It. *balaustrata*, Sp. *balaustrada*.] A row of balusters, surmounted by a rail or coping, forming an ornamental parapet or barrier along the edge of a terrace, balcony, etc.

1644 EVELYN *Mem.* (1857) I. 96 A terrace at each side having rustic uncut balustrades. 1749 LADY MONTAGUE *Lett.* 48 III.

82 The magnificent bath . . . circled by a marble balustrade. 1800 KEATS *St. Agnes* xxii, Her faltering hand upon the balustrade, Old Angela was feeling for the stair. 1870 F. Wilson *Ch. Lindisf.* 102 The altar rail is a turned balustrade. *fig.* 1809 SCOTT *Anne of G. ii.* 'My arm,' she said, 'is but a slight balustrade.'

Balustraded (bæl'istrædéd), *pp. a.*; also 8 -ated. [*f. prec. + -ED*.] Furnished with a balustrade. 1774 PENNANT *Tour Scot. i* Galleries . . . open and balustrated in front. 1876 BLACKMORE *Cripps* II. viii. 130 The balustraded gallery.

Balustrading. [*f. as prec. + -ING*]; cf. *railing*.] Balustrade-work.

1880 L. WALLACE *Ben-hur* IV. v. The lines of division were guarded by low balustrading, broken by massive pedestals. **Baly**(e), **Balyf**(e), -yve, obs. forms of BAILEY, BAILIE, BAILIFF.

Balyngar, obs. form of BALINGER.

Balsa, variant of BALSAM.

Balsan. Obs. [*f. r.*; cf. BAUSON.]. (See quot.) 1660 HOWELL *Dict.*, Balsan, or a horse that hath four white feet, [*It.*] *cavallo balsano*, [*Fr.*] *cheval balsan*.

Balsarine (bæls'ærin). A light dress-fabric of mixed cotton and wool.

1864 WEBSTER cites SIMMONDS.

Bam (bæm), *v. slang*. Also 8 bamb. [Of the same age as BAMBOOZLE, of which it appears to be either an abbreviation (cf. the *Tatler* No. 230 on *phizz*, *hipps*, *mobb*, *pozz*, *rep*, 'and many more' 'Refinements of Twenty Years past'), or else the source of its first syllable.]

trans. To hoax, practise on the credulity of, deceive, impose upon, cozen.

1738 SWIFT *Polite Conv. i* Wks. (1755) XI. 214 Her ladyship was plausibly bamb'd. 1747 GARRICK *Miss in Teens* II. i, I'll break a lamp, bully a constable, bam a justice, or bilk a box-keeper, with any man. *a* 1777 FOOTE (in Webster), Some conspiracy . . . to bam, to chouse me out of my money. 1830 MARRYAT *King's Own* xlix, Now you're bamming me—don't attempt to put such stories off on your old granny.

b. absol. or intr. To hoax, impose upon the credulous.

1707 CIBBER *Double Gallant* I. ii. (1736) 19 'Pray, Sir, what is't you do understand?' *Sound.* 'Bite, Bam, and the best of the Lay, old Boy.' 1825 R. WARD *Tremaine* III. xxi. 379, I should say Rector was bamming. 1859 G. MASSEY in *Sat. Rev.* 5 Mar., Our greatest of men is Harlequin Pam, 'The Times' says so, and 'the Times' cannot bam!

Bam, *sb. slang*. [*f. prec. vb.*] A story intended to impose upon the credulous; a hoax or imposition.

1764 FOOTE *Orators* I. i, He is all upon his fun; he lecture! why, 'tis all but a bam. 1825 SCOTT *Guy R.* III. iii, Humble efforts at jocularly chiefly confined to what were then called bites and bams, since denominated hoaxes and quizes.

Bambino (bambi'no). [*It.*, dim. of *bambolo*], the same root is found in L. *bambalio* dolt, blockhead, Gr. βαμβάλειν, βαμβάλειν to stammer. A child, a baby; *spec.* an image of the infant Jesus in swaddling-clothes, exhibited at Christmas in churches in Italy.

1761 STERNE *Tr. Shandy* (1802) III. xiv. 302 When a state- orator has . . . hid his bambino in his mantle so cunningly. 1863 GEO. ELIOT *Romola* xxxiii, I'll bring you some breakfast, and show you the bambino. 1866 HOWELLS *Venet. Life* xvii. 258 A hideous Bambino, and a Madonna in crinoline.

Bambocciade. [*ad. f. bambocciade*, *It.* *bambocciata*, *f. bamboccio* child, simpleton, puppet (*f. bambò*, see *prec.*), given as nickname to the painter Peter de Laer.] A painting of rustic and grotesque scenes, especially from low life.

1868 in CHAMBERS *Encycl.*

Bamboo (bæmbū) Forms: 6 bambus, 6-7 bambo (?-os), 7 pambou, bambou, bambouse, bambow, 7-8 bamboe, 7-9 bambu, 8- bambos. [Original source doubtful: now in Malay (Central Sumatra), Sundanese, and Javanese (W. and Central Java) *bambu*; but some consider it an introduced word there, and take the original to be Canarese *bāmbū* or *banwu*. The native word in the Concan, in 16th c., was represented by the Portuguese as *mambu*, still found after 1600. Cf. Du. *bamboes* (= -ūs), G. *bambus*, Fr. *bambou*, It., Sp. and Pg. *bambú*, mod.L. *bambūsa*; the forms *bambus*, -bous, -bouse, come through Du., which seems to have been the European lang. in which the word first appeared with initial *b*; the final *s* in Du., etc. is not explained.]

1. A genus of giant-grasses (genus *Bambusa*), numerous species of which are common throughout the tropics. Also the stem of any of these used as a stick, or as material.

1563 GARCIA DE ORTA *Simples e Drogas* 194 Aquellas canas daquela arvore chamam os Indios, onde nasce, *mambu*. (The canes of that tree the Indians where it grows call *mambu*.) 1598 W. PHILLIPS *Linschoten's Trav. Ind.* (1864) 174 A thicke Reed, as big as a mans legge, which is called *Bambus*. 1599 HAKLUYT *Voy. II. i* 258 The houses are made of Canes which they call *Bambos*. 1662 GERBIER *Princ.* 3 *Bambouses*, as they call the Poles to which they tye a Woollen Hammac to lye in. 1671 Phil. *Trans.* VI. 3010 Very artificial boats . . . made of large Canes, called *Bambu*. 1681 R. KNOX *Hist. Ceylon* 37 The ends of the *Bambu* . . . are largely tipped with silver. 1687 A. LOVELL *Thevenot's*

Trav. III. i. xxxi. 54 The pambous that serve for palanquins. 1697 DAMPIER *Voy.* (1729) III. i. 324 Bamboes grow here but too plentifully. 1748 ANSON *Voy.* III. v. 341 Mast, yard, boom and outriggers, are all made of bamboo. *a* 1826 HEBER *Even. Walk Bengal*, Beneath the bamboo's arched bough. 1878 OLIVER *Elem. Bot.* II. 281 The light, hollow, jointed stems of the Bamboo. [1884 *Athenaeum* 26 Apr. 539/1 The palms and bambusas of a sub-tropical garden.]

2. *attrib.*, as *bamboo cane*, *reed*; esp. when used as a material, as *bamboo-basket*, *-book*, *-cane*; also parasynthetic deriv., as *bamboo-coloured*, *-walled*. *Bamboo-coolie*, one that carries loads suspended on bamboos.

1685 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 2099/4 A small Bambo Cane, with a black Head. 1737 G. SMITH *Curr. Relat.* I. i. 66 Twisted together with Bambo's Reeds. *Ibid.* III. 390 A Bambo Cane, which was about 18 or 20 Foot long. 1796 STEDMAN *Surinam*. I. ix. Another followed behind with a bamboo-rattan. 1800 WELLINGTON in *Gurw. Disp.* I. 79 Carriage for the tents [will not be required] excepting a few bamboo coolies. 1828 W. ELLIS *Vit. Madagascar* iv. 108 Low cane or bamboo-walled cottages. 1862 MAYHEW *Crim. Prisons* 62 The player on the bamboo-flute. 1877 TIELE *Hist. Relig.* 36 The Bamboo-books supply many details about him.

Bamboo, *v.* [*f. prec. sb.*] To beat or 'cane' with a bamboo. Hence *Bamboozing vbl. sb.*

1816 'Quiz', *Grand Master* viii. 213 Or else they wou'd Get most confoundedly bambooz'd. 1828 J. M'LEOD *Voy. Alceste* II. (1820) 42 One [Chinese] pickpocket . . . received a very severe bamboozing. *a* 1845 SYN. SMITH quoted in *Non-conf.* V. 266 Wellington bamboos his followers, and Peel bamboozles them.

Bamboozle (bæmbūz'l), *v.*; also 8 bamboozle. [Appears about 1700; mentioned in the *Tatler* No. 230 (on 'the continual Corruption of our English Tongue') among other slang terms (*bunter*, *put*, *kidney*, *sham*, *mob*, *bubble*, *bully*, etc.) recently invented or brought into vogue. Prob. therefore of cant origin; the statement that it is a Gipsy word wants proof. Cf. the similar *bom*, *bumbaze*, in Sc. writers since c1725, and BAM.]

1. *trans.* To deceive by trickery, hoax, cozen, impose upon.

1703 CIBBER *She won't*, etc. II. i. (1736) 34 Sham Proofs, that they propos'd to bamboozle me with. 1710 SWIFT *Tatler* No. 230 P. 7 Certain Words invented by some pretty Fellows, such as Banter, Bamboozle, Country Put . . . some of which are now struggling for the vogue. 1847 BARRIAM *St. Cuthb.* in *Inglol. Leg.* (1877) 217 It's supposed by this trick he bamboozled Old Nick.

b. absol. or intr. To practise trickery.

1703 CIBBER *She won't*, etc. IV. i. The old Rogue . . . knows how to Bamboozle. 1866 G. MACDONALD *Ann. Q. Neighb.* ix. 143 You wouldn't even bamboozle a little at a bazaar.

2. To mystify, perplex, confound.

1718 ARBUTHNOT *John Bull* (1755) 89 After Nic. had bamboozled John a while about the 18,000 and the 28,000. 1854 Mrs. GASKELL *North & S.* xl. He fairly bamboozles me. He is two chaps.

3. To bamboozle away: to get rid of by bamboozling. To bamboozle into: to persuade to a belief or course of action by bamboozling. To bamboozle out of: to take away (something) trickily from (a person). Cf. ARGUE *v.* 8, 9.

1716 ROWE *Biter* I. i. 19 You intend to bamboozle me out of a Beef Stake. 1728 EARBERRY *tr. Burnet's St. Dead* I. 89 The Gnosticks bamboozled away all the Corporeal resurrection. 1876 BLACK *Green Past.* xli. 326 Who has bamboozled himself into the erroneous belief that, etc.

Bamboozle, *sb.* [*f. prec.*] Bamboozling.

1703 CIBBER *She won't*, etc. IV. i. (1736) 53 I'll have a touch of the Bamboozle with him. 1861 *Sat. Rev.* 16 Feb. 6/2 Government by bamboozle always presents considerable advantages at first sight.

Bamboozled, *pp. a.* [*f. prec. vb. + -ED*.] Deceived or mystified by trickery, hoaxed, cozened. 1866 *Sixpenny Mag.* Jan. 372/2 His daughter . . . fled back to her bamboozled parent.

Bamboozlement (bæmbūz'lment). [*f. as prec. + -MENT*.] The action or process of bamboozling; tricky deception or mystification.

1855 *Scot. Rev.* 188 Washington Irving . . . exercises . . . his rare powers of bamboozlement and laughter-stirring. 1865 *Morn. Star* 19 June, Attempting our bamboozlement when the facts are patent to everybody.

Bamboozler (bæmbūz'lər). [*f. as prec. + -ER*.] One who hoaxes or mystifies by trickery.

1718 ARBUTHNOT *John Bull* (1755) 58 Fellows, they call banterers and bamboozlers, that play such tricks.

Bamboozling, *vbl. sb.* = BAMBOOZLEMENT.

1709 STEELE *Tatler* No. 31 P. 7 Sir, I perceive this is to you all bamboozling . . . All this good language was lost upon him. 1811 J. & H. SMITH *Reject. Addr.* v. (1873) 35 The dramatic bamboozling they have hitherto laboured under.

Bambosh, *slang*. [*App. f. BAM + BOSH*.] Deceptive humbug.

1865 *Day of Rest* Oct. 585 I was deaf to all that bambosh.

Bambusa: see BAMBOO.

Bame, obs. form of BALM.

Ban (bæn), *v.* Forms: 1 *banna-n*, *bonna-n*, 3 *banni-en*, *bonni-en*, *banni*, 3-5 *banne-n*, *yn*, 3-7 *banne*, 4-5 *bann*, (6 *bawn*), 4- *ban*. Inflections: see below. [OE. *bannan*, pa. t. *bēon*, pa. pple. *bannan*, to summon (also *aban* and *gebannan* to proclaim, summon) = OFris. *banna*, *bonna* (pa. t. *bēn*, *bante*) to proclaim, command,

OHG. *bannan*, MHG. and MDu. *bannen*, ON. *banna* (pa. t. *bannaða*) to prohibit, interdict, curse, Sw. *banna* to reprove, chide, *bannas* to curse, Da. *bande* to curse, execrate:—OTeut. **bannan* 'to proclaim under penalty, or with a threat,' perhaps orig. merely 'to proclaim, publicly announce', *f. root ba-*, cogn. w. Gr. *φα-*, L. *fa-*, speak. In OE. (as in OHG., OS., and MHG.) a strong verb; but with weak pa. t. and pple. *banned*, already in Layamon. Sense 1 is from OE.; the other senses, first in north. dial., are probably from ON. Cf. BAN *sb.*, which may also have re-acted on the verb.]

I. To summon. [from OE.]

† 1. *trans.* To summon by proclamation. (Chiefly, in early use, to arms.) *Obs.*

a 1000 CYNEWULF *Riddles* II. in Sweet *Reader* 180 Hwílum ic to hilde hléofre bonne wítgeleðan. 1028 O. E. *Chron.*, Hét se cýning bannan út here. 1205 LAY. 8054 Þe king lette blawen & bonnien [1250 banni] his ferden. *c* 1250 *Gen. & Ex.* 3213 Pharaon bannede vt his here. *c* 1380 *Sir Ferumb.* 5424 Aȝen ys broȝer wende he faste . . . Wip opre þat he gan banne.

† b. To call forth, call for (things). *Obs.*

1205 LAY. 22288 Heo ruokeden burnen, bonneden helmes. *Ibid.* 27132 Summe bonneden wepenen. *c* 1325 E. E. *Allit. P.* B. 629, I shall . . . brynge a morsel of bred to banne your herte.

II. To curse, anathematize, interdict. [from ON., and med.L. *bannum*.]

2. To curse, imprecate damnation upon. *arch.*

a 1275 *Prov. Alfred* 141 in O. E. *Misc.* 129 He sal banne þat wist þat him first tyste. 1375 BARBOUR *Brave* xv. 536 Quhen wiffis vald thar childir ban, Thai wald . . . Beteche thame to the blak dowglass. 1460 *Pol. Rel. & L. Poems* 180 And some men ban the, & some men blesse. *a* 1555 LATIMER *Serm. & Rem.* (1845) 302 They will curse and ban . . . even into the deep pit of hell, all that gainsay their appetite. 1607 HEYWOOD *Fayre Mayde* Wks. II. 72 Banne my starres. 1611 QUARLES *Div. Poems*, *Esther* xvii, Another bannes the night his sonnes were borne. 1718 MOTTEUX *Quix.* (1733) I. 165 Sancho . . . bann'd his Master to the bottomless Pit. 1827 HOOD *Hero & L.* xxi, And bans his labour like a hopeless slave. 1868 MORRIS *Jason* II. 110 Ever she blessed the old and banned the new.

† b. with *subord. cl.* *Obs.*

c 1350 *Will. Paternus* 1644, I may banne þat I was born. 1393 GOWER *Conf.* II. 96, I curse and banne that Ever sleep was made for eye. 1557 TOTTILL'S *Misc.* (Arb.) 191 And now they banne that they were borne.

3. *intr.* To curse, utter curses. *arch.*

a 1300 *Cursor M.* 12050 To teche him . . . not to bann. 1583 STUBBS *Anat. Abus.* 72 Then fell she to swear . . . and banne. 1609 DAVIES in *Farr's S. P.* (1848) 183 Like a fiend, he bann'd with his breath. 1673 SHADWELL *Epsom Wells* II. Wks. 1720 II. 221 Ay, now you ban and curse, you wretch. 1762 CHURCHILL *Ghost* II. Poems I. 209 Then shall He ban at Heaven's decrees. 1800 BYRON *Morg. Mag.* xxxv, Yet harsh and haughty, as he lay he bann'd.

4. *trans.* and *absol.* To chide, address with angry and maledictory language. *dial.*

1340 HAMPOLE *Pr. Consc.* 3485 When þou bannes any man, In whom þou syndes na gilt to ban. *c* 1400 *Dest. Troy* xii. 4935 Neuer buerne will vs blame, ne ban for our dede. 1577 *tr. Bullinger's Decades* (1592) 132 Bitter speeches, wherewith we vse to curse and ban our neighbors. 1794 in *Burns Wks.* IV. 176 Even though she bans and scalds a wee. 1816 SCOTT *Antiq.* xxvi, And scald and ban wi' ilka wife that will scald and ban wi' her.

5. To pronounce an ecclesiastical curse upon, to anathematize. *arch.*

1303 R. BRUNNE *Handl. Synne* 9176 Þe prest hem bannede. *c* 1400 *Apol. Loll.* 26 Þei . . . bannun him, or puttun him out of comyn, or haldun him cursid. 1470 HARDING *Chron.* lxxxvii, The Church also may banne full sore those struies. 1483 *Cath. Angl.* 20 Banne, *anathematizare*. 1814 SCOTT *Ld. Isles* II. xxviii, Bans all who aid thee in the strife. 1874 HOLLAND *Mistr. Manse* ix. 155 As rose the priest with power to bless and right to ban.

6. To interdict, proscribe, prohibit: *a.* a thing.

1816 BYRON *Pris. Chillon* i, To whom the goodly earth and air Are bann'd and barr'd. 1832 LYTTON *Eug. Aram* v. vii, The sublime and shaded mysteries that are banned mortality. 1865 LECKY *Ration.* (1878) II. 41 The religion of the immense majority . . . was banned and proscribed.

b. a person.

1848 KINGSLEY *Saint's Trag.* III. ii. 185 No foe Can ban us from that rest. 1863 W. STORV *Roba di Roma* xv. 320 He banned them from the city. 1874 BLACKIE *Self-Cult.* 86 You may . . . ban yourself from voluntarily marching into it.

Ban (bæn), *sb.* Forms: 3- *ban*; 3-7 *banne*, 4-6 *bane*, 9 *bann*. [Partly *a.* OF. *bann*, with influence of med.L. *bannum*; partly from BAN *v.* Ultimately all these go back to the same source; F. *ban* 'proclamation, publication, summons, prescription, outlawry, banishment, assemblage of military vassals' was:—late L. *bannum*, *ad. Teut.* (OHG., MHG., OS., OFris., MDu.) *bann*, *ban*, *sb.* 'proclamation commanding or forbidding under threat or penalty,' *f. bann-an* to BAN. The simple *sb. bann* does not appear in OE., which had however *gebann*, rare ME. *IBAN* 'proclamation, edict, f. the deriv. *gebannan*. The ON. *bann* 'excommunication, interdict, prohibition, curse,' seems too late to have been the source of the Eng. But, as OE. had the *vb. bannan*, *ban* from OF. easily assumed the position of its *vbl. sb.*, and the two words, with the med.L. *bannum*, -us, in its various legal and

ecclesiastical uses, subseq. re-acted upon each other, so that the development of sense is complicated.]

I. Authoritative proclamation, and attached senses, from Fr.

1. A public proclamation or edict; a summons by public proclamation. Chiefly, in early use, a summons to arms.

1297 R. GLOUC. 188 Per come to þys rounde table, as he sende ys ban, Aunsel kyng of Scotland, and al so Vryan. c. 1325 E. E. Allit. P. B. 1361 Baltazar þurȝ Babiloyne his banne gart crye. c. 1350 Will. Palerne 2252 Þe bane is so maked. c. 1400 in Eng. Gilds. 359 To w[h]eche selynge lat crye þe ban þorgh þe town. c. 1450 LONELICH Graill. lii. 761 That 3e a bane dyde crye thorw-owt þoure lond. . . Atte the brigge to iusten with a knyght. (1641 *Termes de la Ley* 37 b. Bans is common and ordinary amongst the Feudists, and signifies a proclamation, or any publike notice.)

2. a. In feudal usage: The gathering of the (French) king's vassals for war; the whole body of vassals so assembled, or liable to be summoned; originally, the same as *arrière-ban*: in the 16th c. French usage created a distinction between *ban* and *arrière-ban*, for which see the latter word.

b. In actual use: In the French military system, the *ban* is the younger and more effective part of the population liable to serve in the militia or national guard, the *arrière-ban* the reserve, consisting of the older citizens; in the Prussian system, the first and second *bans* are the two divisions of the Landwehr.

a. c. 1250 Owl & Night. 390 Ich folgi than aȝte manne, An flo bi nist in hore banne. 1591 UNTON *Corr.* (1847) 54 He hath sente abroad to assemble his van and arriere van. 1671 CROWNE *Juliana* i. 8 The Ban and the Arrierban are met arm'd in the field to choose a king. 1683 TEMPLE *Mem.* Wks. 1731 I. 392 France was at such a Pinch . . . that they call'd their Ban and Arriere Ban, the assembling whereof had been long diss'd, and in a manner antiquated. 1818 HALLAM *Mid. Ages* ii. 11, The ban was sometimes convoked, that is, the possessors of the fiefs were called upon for military services. 1874 BOUTELL *Arms & Arm.* vii. 98 The act of calling together the vassals in armed array, was entitled 'convoking the ban.'

b. 1813 *Examiner* 18 Jan. 38/1 The 100 cohorts of the first Ban of the National Guards. 1866 CORNH. *Mag.* Nov. 555 The term of service [in Prussian Army] was fixed at twenty years, three of which were to be passed in the ranks of the regular army, two in the reserve, eight in the Landwehr of the first ban, and seven in that of the second ban.

3. Sentence of banishment; whence 'to keep,' or 'break his ban.' (A Gallicism.)

1873 BURTON *Hist. Scot.* v. 1811. 236 Arran, hearing alarming rumours, broke his ban at Kinniel and hurried to Court.

II. Proclamation of marriage: in this sense always in *pl.*, now spelt BANNS, q. v.

III. Anathematization, curse.

4. A formal ecclesiastical denunciation; anathema, interdict, excommunication.

1482 CAXTON *Reynard* (Arb.) 43, I stonde a cursed and am in the popes banne. 1638 PENIT. *Conf.* vii. (1657) 115 The third Ban is upon those that affirm the Confession of all sins . . . to be impossible. 1814 SCOTT *Ld. Isles* ii. xxiv. A wretch, beneath the ban Of Pope and Church. 1860 R. VAUGHAN *Mystics* i. 164 Strasburg, and all the states which adhere to Louis, are placed under the ban.

b. *fig. or transf.*

1790 BURKE *Fr. Rev.* Wks. V. 45 All of whom this arch-pontiff of the 'rights of men' puts into the sweeping clause of ban and anathema.

5. *gen.* A curse, having, or supposed to have, supernatural sanction, and baleful influence.

1602 SHAKS. *Ham.* iii. ii. 260 With Hecats Ban, thrice blasted, thrice infected. 1822 BYRON *Werner* ii. i. 84 A prodigal son, beneath his father's ban. 1829 SCOTT *Demonol.* i. 41 The negro pines to death who is laid under the ban of an Obi woman. 1874 H. REYNOLDS *John Bapt.* iii. § 4. 221 The land might be smitten by the ban which once fell upon the Canaanites.

6. An imprecation of a curse, an execration or malediction expressing anger.

1506 SPENSER *F. Q.* iii. vii. 39 With blasphemous bannes. 1605 SHAKS. *Learn.* ii. iii. 19 Sometimes with Lunaticke bans, sometime with Praiers. 1783-94 W. BLAKE *Songs of Exp.* London 7 In every ban, The mind-forged manacles I hear. 1879 LOWELL *Poet. Wks.* 381/2 With many a ban the fisherman Had stumbled o'er and spurned it.

IV. Denunciation, prohibition.

7. A formal and authoritative prohibition; a prohibitory command or edict, an interdict.

1667 MILTON *P. L.* ix. 925 To taste it under banne to touch. 1845 R. HAMILTON *Pop. Educ.* vi. 126 Bring back the age when Revelation was proscribed. Once more set the ban upon it. 1872 FREEMAN *Norm. Cong.* (1876) iv. xviii. 291 The teaching which put a ban on the flesh of the horse as the food of Christian men. *Ibid.* v. xxiv. 489 The ban against the tournament was fruitless.

8. A proclamation issued against any one by the civil power; sentence of outlawry; esp. 'Ban of the (Holy Roman) Empire.'

c. 1674 CLARENDON *Hist. Reb. I.* i. (1702) 14 The Prince Electour . . . had . . . incurred the Ban of the Empire in an Imperial Dyet. 1708 *London Gaz.* No. 4451/1 To Day the Duke of Mantua was put to the Ban of the Empire. 1820 COLERIDGE *Friend* (1865) 82 Charles V had pronounced the ban upon him [Luther] and limited his safe convoy to one and twenty days. 1827 HALLAM *Const. Hist.* (1876) iii. xviii. 403 The Presbyterians . . . were under the ban of the law. 1832 Ht. MARTINEAU *Ireland* v. 80 Under ban for turning his late dwelling.

9. *fig.* Practical denunciation, prohibition, or outlawry, not formally pronounced, as that of society or public opinion.

1839 HALLAM *Hist. Lit.* iv. ii. § 21 Still under the ban of an orthodox clergy. 1859 MILL *Liberty* ii. 58 Opinions which are under the ban of society. 1863 KEMBLE *Resid. Georgia* 11 Free from the chain . . . of slavery; but they are not the less under a ban. 1869 J. MARTINEAU *Ess.* ii. 77 What are the objects upon which . . . the ban of morality is set?

1. *Ban* (bæn), *sb.* 2. [Pers. بان *bān* lord, master, keeper; brought into Europe by the Avars who ruled in Slavonic countries subject to Hungary.] The name given to the governor or viceroy of certain military districts in Hungary, Slavonia, and Croatia, who takes the command in time of war.

Hence: *Banate*, *Bannat*, the district under the jurisdiction of a ban, as the Hungarian Banate, the Banate of Croatia; *Banai* a., of or pertaining to a ban; *sb.* a Banate.

1614 SELDEN *Titles Hon.* 381 The Hungarian Bans . . . are Presidents or Governors of some Kingdoms belonging to that Kingdom, as Dalmatia, Croatia, Slavonia, Serbia and others. 1689 *London Gaz.* No. 2224/2 The Ban of Croatia had . . . drawn together the Imperial Troops . . . to oppose their design. 1804 CAMPBELL *Turk. Lady*, On Transylvania's Banat When the Crescent shone afar. 1832 tr. *Simond's Ital. Repub.* xi. 255 The Kingdom of Bosnia, and the bannat of Slavonia. 1855 PENNYCYCL. iii. 359/2 The Banat Frontier was formed in the course of the year 1696. 1860 R. D. in *Vac. Tour* 107 Numerous dukes, princes, and bans . . . exercised sway in the country now called Serbia.

Banai (bæ'nai, bæ'nai), a.; also 8-9 *bannal*. [a. F. *banal*, in Cotgr. *bannal*, f. *ban*:-med.L. *bannum*:- see BAN *sb.* 1, and -AL.]

1. Of or belonging to compulsory feudal service.

1753 CHAMBERS *Cycl. Snpp.* *Bannal-Mill*, a kind of feudal service, whereby the tenants of a certain district are obliged to carry their corn to be ground at a certain mill, and to be baked at a certain oven for the benefit of the lord. 1864 SIR F. PALGRAVE *Norm. & Eng.* iv. 281 A bannal-oven of which the lord enjoyed the monopoly.

2. (From the intermediate sense of, Open to the use of all the community): Commonplace, common, trite; trivial, petty.

1833 *Athenaeum* No. 504. 453 These *bannales* personages are 'much of a muchness.' 1864 N. & Q. Ser. iii. vi. 480 Facetious fools . . . set up the banal laugh. 1868 BROWNING *Ring & Bk.* x. 820 You must show the warrant, just The banal scrap, Clerk's scribble. 1883 R. BURTON & CAM. *Gold Coast* i. iii. 54 Prizes were banal as medals after a modern war.

Banality (bænæl'iti). [ad. F. *banalité*, f. *banal*: see prec. and -ALITY.]

1. Anything trite or trivial; a commonplace.

1861 SALA *Two round Clock* 244 That he is getting old, or that he looks remarkably young, or some equally relevant banalities. 1871 BROWNING *Balanst.* 1514 The decent praise, the due regret, And each banality prescribed of old.

2. Commonplace character, triteness, triviality.

1876 DOWDEN *Stud. Lit.* 304 The banality of these poetic sorrows and aspirations. 1881 SAINTSBURY in *Academy* 5 Feb. 92/3 Bewitched by the absence of banality in his work.

Banana (bā'nā-nā). Also 7 *bonana*, *bonano*. [a. Pg. or Sp. *banana* (the fruit), *banano* (the tree), given by De Orta (1563) and Pigafetta, as the native name in Guinea (Congo).]

1. A tree (*Musa sapientum*) cultivated largely in tropical and subtropical climates, especially in the islands of the Atlantic and Pacific; it grows to a height of 20 feet, and has its stem marked with purple spots and streaks.

1697 DAMPIER *Voy.* (1729) i. 316 The Bonano Tree is exactly like the Plantain. 1810 SOUTHEY *Kehama* xlv. v. That, like the broad banana growing, Raised their long wrinkled leaves of purple hue. 1830 LINDLEY *Nat. Syst. Bot.* 270 The young shoots of the Banana are eaten as a delicate vegetable.

2. The fruit of this tree, growing in clusters of angular, finger-like berries, containing within their rind a luscious and highly nutritious pulp.

1563 GARCIA DE ORTA *Simples & Drogues* 93 b, Tambem ha estes figos em Guiné, chamam he bananass. 1597 HARTWELL *Pigafetta's Congo in Coll. Trav.* (1745) II. 553 Other fruits there are, termed Banana, which we verily think to be the Muses of Egypt and Soria. 1613 PURCHAS *Pilgr.* i. v. xvi. 452 Amboyne bringeth forth . . . Coquos, Bonana's . . . and other fruits. 1796 STEDMAN *Surinam* i. ix. 205 Refreshed with . . . plantains, bananas, oranges. 1823 BYRON *Island* iv. viii. The ripe banana from the mellow hill.

3. *attrib.*, as in *banana-leaf*, *-tree* (see sense 1); *banana-bird*, a gregarious West Indian bird (*Xanthornus icterus*), belonging to the Starling family.

1845 DARWIN *Voy. Nat.* xviii. It rained very heavily, but the good thatch of banana-leaves kept us dry.

Banar, obsolete form of *BANNER*.

Banusic (bāng'sik), a. rare. [ad. Gr. βαρυσικός of or for mechanics, f. βαρύς working by fire, mechanical, f. βαῦρος furnace, forge.] Merely mechanical, proper to a mechanic.

1876 GROTE *Eth. Fragm.* vi. 227 Alleged that the teaching music as a manual art was banusic and degrading.

Banbury. A town in Oxfordshire, England, formerly noted for the number and zeal of its Puritan inhabitants, still for its cakes.

a. 1535 LATIMER *Serm. & Rem.* (1845) II. 299 (D.) Their laws, customs, ceremonies, and Banbury glosses. 1598 SHAKS. *Merry W.* i. i. 130 Bar. (to Slender) You Banbery Cheese. 1601 PASQUIL & KATH. iii. 178 Put off your clothes, and you

are like a Banbery cheese, Nothing but paring. 1614 B. JONSON *Barth. Fair* i. The reverend elder, you told me of, your Markbury man. 1615 MARKHAM *Eng. Housew.* ii. ii. (1668) 100 To make Banbury Cakes. a. 1648 MARRIAT R. *Refeer* xiii. Had they not trustingly eschewed banbury-cakes. 1863 SALA *Capt. Dang.* i. i. 15, I did ever hate your sanctimonious Banbury-man.

1. *Banc* (bæŋk). *Law*. [AF. *banc*, 'bench': see BANK *sb.*] Bench; in phrase *in banc* = in BANCO.

1727-51 CHAMBERS *Cycl. s.v.*, King's Banc, or Bench. 1863 COX *Inst. Eng. Govt.* ii. ix. 526 Disposed of in each court when sitting in banc (in banco) that is, by several of the justices sitting together.

Banche, 'to snatch' (Levins *Manip.* 12).

Banck, -ier, obs. forms of BANK, BANKER.

Bancket, -cquet, obs. forms of BANQUET.

1. *Banco* (bæŋkə), a. [It. = bank.] A term used to indicate the bank money of account in certain places, as distinguished from the current money or *currency*, when the latter had been depreciated from the earlier value retained by bankers in calculating exchanges with foreign countries. Thus at Hamburg, while the current mark was worth 1s. 1½d., the mark *banco* was valued at 1s. 5½d. sterling.

1753 HANWAY *Trav.* (1762) I. vii. lxxxviii. 407 Exchange . . . 290 grosch per pound flemish banco. 1759 CHESTERF. *Left.* 350 IV. 158 The Specie, Banco, Usances, Agio. 1809 R. LANGFORD *Introd. Trade* 28 Three Thousand Banco Marks [at Hamburg].

2. *Banco* (bæŋkə), *sb.* *Law*. [L., abl. of *bancus* bench: see BANK *sb.* 2, and cf. BANCO.] In L. phr. *in banco* = on the bench: applied to sittings of a Superior Court of Common Law as a full court, as distinguished from the sittings of the judges at Nisi Prius, or on circuit.

1768 [see BANK *sb.* 2]. 1863 [see BANK.]

Bancour, *bancqwer*, variants of BANKER 1.

Band (bænd), *sb.* 1. Also 4-5 *bande*. [ME. *band*, *bond*, a. ON. *band* neut. (Da. *baand*, Sw. *band*) = OS. OFris. *band*, OHG. *bant*, *pant*:-OTeut. **bando*-(m), f. *band*-stem of *bind-an* to BIND. Not in Gothic, nor in OE., which had only the cogn. *bend* fem.:-OTeut. **bandjō*:- see BEND *sb.* 1 which survived in ME. alongside of *banil*, *bond*. *Band* and *bond* were at first merely phonetic variants (cf. *land*, *lond*, *stand*, *stond*, *man*, *mon*, etc.), but are now largely differentiated in use, *bond* being usual in branch II, in which *band* is archaic or obsolete. Cf. BAND 2, which in mod. use is treated as identical with this.]

I. *literally*, That with or by which a person or thing is bound.

1. Anything with which one's body or limbs are bound, in restraint of personal liberty; a shackle, chain, fetter, manacle. *arch.*

c. 1200 ORMIN 1821 Herode . . . band him with irene band. a. 1300 CURSOR M. 7170 Sampson . . . gaf a braide . . . þat alle þe bandis of him brast. c. 1460 *Towneley Myst.* 217 A bande . . . to bynde his hande. 1531 ROBINSON tr. *Moré's Utop.* 121 These sortes of bondemen they kepe . . . in bands. 1590 MARLOWE *Edw. III.* iii. i. Must I fall, and die in bands? 1611 BIBLE Acts xvi. 26 The doores were opened, and euery ones bands were loosed. 1833 TENNYSON *Poems* 5 To chain with chains, and bind with bands That island queen.

† b. *abstr.* Confinement, imprisonment, custody. a. 1300 CURSOR M. 4437 Þat oper in prisun war or band. *Ibid.* 5802, I wil þaim bring vte of his band. c. 1430 *Hyuns Virg.* (1867) 52 Þat sauade my sone fro bittir bande!

† c. *Our Lady's bands*: 'confinement' at childbirth, accouchement. *Obs.* (cf. BEND.)

1495 *Festival* in Strype *Ecc. Mem.* i. ii. App. xxxvii. 99. Pray . . . for al women which be in our Ladies bands.

2. A string with which any loose thing is bound.

a. The tie of straw with which sheaves are bound, a rope of hay used by the hay-binder, and *gen.* a rope or string of straw, rushes, or similar material.

c. 1325 *Metr. Hom.* 146 Gaderes the darnel first in bande 1523 FITZGER. *Husb.* § 28 And with his rake and his syckle, taketh vp the barley or otes, and layth them vpon the bande. 1598 SHAKS. *Ven. & Ad.* xxxviii. Her arms infold him like a band. 1832 Ht. MARTINEAU *Life in Wilds* iii. 38 She tied the twigs . . . with bands of rushes. 1864 ATKINSON *Whitby Gloss.*, *Band*, a rope or string. 'It is not worth a band's end.'

b. *Book-binding*. Name of the cords or straps crossing the back of a book, by attachment to which the quires or sheets are 'bound' together.

1759 BOYER *Fr. Dict.*, A band (for a Book), *nerf ficelle cousue au dos d'un Livre*. 1879 CASSELL'S *Techn. Educ.* IV. 40 The bands are pieces of strong string or cord, which are fastened perpendicularly at fixed distances on a frame rising at the edge of a board, on which the sheets of paper are placed one by one.

3. The hinges of a door or gate; *esp.* long strips of iron extending across the surface by which it is hung on the crooks.

a. 1300 CURSOR M. 19306 Þe prisun dors [he] left als he fand, Noifer he brak ne barr ne band. 1483 *Cath. Angl.* 19 Bande of a dure, *vertebra*. 1565 RICHMOND *Wills* (1853) 178, Iiij iron bandes for a doore. 1571 in *Mem. Rip.* (1882) I. 309 Lockes, keyes, and bandes of yron. 1864 ATKINSON *Whitby Gloss.*, *Bands*, 'a pair o' bands,' a couple of hinges.

4. A connecting piece, by which the parts of a complex thing are held firmly together.

a 1300 *Cursor M.* 1671 First binde wele wip balk and bandes. 1483 *Cath. Engl.* 19 Bande of a howse; lacunar . . . lorummentum. 1523 FITZHERB. *Hush.* § 3 The sharebeame, the which is the keye and the chiefe bande of all the plough. 1593 SHAKS. *Rich. II.* ii. 11. 71 Who gently would dissolue the bands of life. 1611 *Bible Col. xi.* 19 All the body by ioynts and bands . . . knit together. 1697 CAPT. SMITH *Seaman's Gram.* ii. 14 Clamps, middle bands and sleepers . . . for binding within. 1881 C. EDWARDS *Organs* 41 The use of this band is for the insertion of the wind trunk or trunks.

5. A string, strap, or chain, by which a child or animal is held in hand, led, or tied up. *lit.* and *fig.* a 1300 *Cursor M.* 14969 A morder ass yee sal þar find, And yee hir sal vn-do vte of hir band. 1413 *LYDG. Pylgr. Soule* v. ix. (1483) 100 As an bound that tyed is with a band. 1690 W. WALKER *Idiom. Anglo-Lat.* 519 He hath the world in a band. 1738 C. WESLEY *Hymn*, 'When to the Temple' iii, And lead with Bands of Love.

† 6. *Logic.* The copula. *Obs. rare.*

1288 *FRANCOIS Laviere Log.* ii. i. 86 b. An axiome [i.e. proposition] hath two partes, the bande, and the partes bound. 1668 T. SPENCER *Logic* 160 A simple Axiome is that, the band whereof is a Verbe.

II. *figuratively.* A moral, spiritual, or legal bond of restraint or union: a BOND.

7. *fig.* (from 1): The 'shackles' of sin or vice, the 'chains' of sleep, the 'fetters' of formula, etc.

c 1200 *ORMIN* 14778 He wolde lessenn hemm ut þe widdomess bandess. a 1300 *E. E. Psalter* lvii. 3 He sent fra heven, lesed me of band. 1340 *HAMPOLE Pr. Consc.* 3207 Bunden faste With bandes of syn. 1549 *Bk. Com. Prayer*, 24 Sund. Trin., Delyuered from the bandes of all those synnes which by our frailtye we haue committed. 1725 *POPE Odys.* xx. 68 The downy bands of sleep. 1881 *Daily News* 21 Jan. 5/1 Loosening himself from the bands of formula.

8. An obligation by which action is checked or restrained, or persons reciprocally bound to each other; a tie, restraint, bond.

a 1300 *Cursor M.* 13710 Pis womman þe band [v. r. bond] has broken of hir spousal. 1375 *BARBOUR Bruce* i. 267 Wedding is the hardest band That any man may tak on hand. 1591 *SPENSER Ruins of Time* Ded., With howe straight bandes of duetie I was tied to him. 1600 SHAKS. *A. Y. L.* v. iv. 136 To ioyne in Hymens bands. 1725 *POPE Odys.* ix. 563 Thy barrous breach of hospitable bands. 1768 *HUME Hist. Eng.* (1806) IV. lxxv. 774 Few . . . were attached . . . by any other band than that of inclination. 1823 *LAMB Elia* Ser. ii. xix. (1865) 369 Having worn the nuptial bands, longer than her friend. 1896 *DOVE Logic Chr. Faith* v. i. § 2. 293 The immortal bands of obligation to himself.

9. A uniting or cementing force or influence by which a union of any kind is maintained; a pledge. *arch.*; now BOND.

1483 *Cath. Engl.* 19 Bande of luffe, sedus, pignus. 1569 J. ROGERS *Gl. Godly Love* 186 Children is the very sure band of love. 1625 *BACON Unity in Relig.* Ess. (Arb.) 423 Religion being the chiefe Band of humane Society. 1796 *MORSE Amer. Geog.* I. 318 Fear . . . continued to operate as a band of political union.

10. An agreement, or promise, binding on him who makes it. *arch.*; now BOND.

a 1400 *Sir Degrev.* 957 He hath gylt us by band An c pownd worth of land. 1470 *HARDING Chron.* cxx. i. False . . . of his band Whiche to the kynge he made. 1535 *STEWART Cron. Scot.* II. 253 How Arthur his aith and band had brokin. c 1600 G. WILKINS *Mis. Enf. Marriage* v. in *Dodsl.* (1780) v. 106 From this your oath and band . . . you have run. 1752 *CARTE Hist. Eng.* III. 436 He signed a Band, that . . . he would beir all concerned in it harmless. 1814 *SCOTT Ld. of Isles* iv. xiv. To fulfil our father's band, I proffer'd all I could.

11. Security given; a deed legally executed, binding on him who delivers it. *arch.*; now BOND.

1521 *State Papers Hen. VIII.* i. 27 The provision and bande to be made for your indemnity. 1580 *LYLV Exphues* (Arb.) 229 Enter not into bands, no not for thy best friends. 1596 SHAKS. *1 Hen. IV.* iii. 157 The end of Life cancels all Bands. 1642 *FULLER Holy & Prof.* St. v. xliii. 409 This property of an honest man, that his word is as good as his band. 1784 A. RAMSAY *Treat. Misc.* (1733) II. 122 There's meikle good love in bands and bags. 1818 *SCOTT Hrt. Midd.* xxvi. Deil a wadset, heritable band, or burden.

† b. Security, pledge. *Obs.*

1596 *SPENSER F. Q.* vi. l. 31 He sent to her his basenet as a faithful band.

† 12. A covenant, a league. *Sc. Obs.*

1452 *EARL DOUGLAS* in *Tytler Hist. Scot.* (1864) II. 387 That I shall make na band na ligg in tyme coming. 1513-75 *Diurn. Occurr.* (1833) 273 To make ane band and confederation with the Queene of Ingland. 1649 *BR. GUTHRY Mem.* (1702) 76 A Band found to be amongst a Number of Noblemen, wherein they had combin'd to oppose, etc. 1873 *BURTON Hist. Scot.* V. lvii. 178 The 'band' for the murder produced by Balfour in a green box.

III. *abstractly.* Binding quality, or bound state.

† 13. Binding quality or power. *Obs.*

1516 *SURFL. & MARKH. Countr. Farm* 576 The meale hath not so good a band, neither yet is it altogether so clammie. a 1619 *DONNE Biathan.* (1644) 143 This obligation . . . is of stronger hold, and of straighter band.

† 14. A state of union or connexion. *Obs.*

1621 *RUTHERFORD Lett.* 18 (1862) I. 77 Give them grace . . . to take band with the fair chief Cornerstone. *Ibid.* 131 Keep band with the cornerstone.

IV. 15. *Comb.* Band-stone, a stone that passes through a wall from side to side, and thus binds the structure together, used especially in dry-stone walls in the north.

Band (bænd) *sb.*² In 4-7 bande [Late ME. *bande*, a. F. *bande* 'flat strip or strap, fascia, edge,

side'; in OF. also *bende* = Pr. and It. *banda*, Lomb. *binda*, a. OHG. *bindā* = O'Fut. **bindōn*, from *bind-* to bind: thus ultimately cognate with BAND *sb.*¹, with which, since the loss of final -e, it has been formally identical in English. The variant BEND, from the earlier OF. *bende*, is retained in Heraldry.

(Although OF. *bende* would of itself give a later *bende*, the F. and It. forms suggest that both *banda* and *benda* may have existed from the first in Romanic: see next word.)

I. *Of shape and function.*

1. A strip of any material flat and thin, used to bind together, clasp, or gird.

a. A hoop or fillet for putting round anything. 1483 *Cath. Engl.* 19 Bande of a carte, *crusta, crustola*. 1733 *CHAMBERS Cycl. Supp.* *Band*, in matters of artillery . . . a hoop of iron used about the carriage of a gun.

b. *Bands of a saddle*: two pieces of iron nailed upon the bows to hold them in their proper place. 1733 *CHAMBERS Cycl. Supp.* s.v., Besides the two great bands, the fore-bow has a small one, called the wither-band.

2. *esp.* A flat strip of a flexible substance (e.g. any fabric, leather, india-rubber, paper), used to bind round an object.

1611 *COTGR.* *Bande*, a band: properly a long and narrow peece of any stuffe. c 1800 *Mrs. HUNTER* in 1001 *Gems of Song* (1883) 87 My mother bids me bind my hair With bands of rosy hue. *Mod.* A roll of paper secured by an elastic band.

3. A flat strip or strap of the above description, forming part of, or used to confine, a dress at the waist, neck, wrists, etc., or to encircle and confine a cap, hat, or other article of apparel.

1552 *HULOET*, *Bande* or lace of a cappe or hatte, *spira*, 1562 J. HEYWOOD *Prov. & Epigr.* (1867) 207 Headband. smockbande. 1599 *THYNNIE Animadv.* (1865) 21 A bande aboute oure cappes, sette with golde Buttons. 1611 *BIBLE Eccles.* vi. 30 Her bands are purple lace. 1841 *CATLIN N. Amer. Ind.* II. lv. 198 His hat-band of silver lace. 1843 *HOOD Shirt* iii, Seam and gusset, and band, Band, and gusset, and seam. 1882 *Mag. Art* V. 339 Full bodices with bands high up round the waists.

4. *spec. a.* The neck-band or collar of a shirt, orig. used to make it fit closely round the neck, afterwards expanded ornamentally. Hence, in 16th and 17th century, a collar or ruff worn round the neck by man or woman.

1568 *BIBLE* (Bishops) *Ex.* xxxix. 23 With a band round about the collar that it should not rent. 1591 *FLORIO Sec. Frutes* 5 With what band will you have it? With a falling band. 1600 H. FITZGERFERRY *Notes fr. Blackfryers*, Hee is of England by his yellow Band. c 1605 *Poems on Costume* (1849) 112 With laces long and broad, As now are women's bands. 1632 *SHERWOOD Eng. Fr. Dict.*, Band (for the necke). *Collet.* A falling band, *Rabat.* A ruffe band, *Frise.* 1635 *BREXTON Trav.* (1844) 103 Young maids . . . some with broad thin shag ruffs . . . others with half bands. 1712 *STEELE Spect.* No. 264 ¶ 2 A Taylor's Widow, who washes and can clear-starch his Bands. 1755 *SMOLLETT Quix.* v. ii. i, His band was collegian, neither starched nor laced.

b. The development of a falling collar into a pair of strips (now called *bands*) hanging down in front, as part of a conventional dress, clerical, legal, or academical.

a 1700 *SEDLER Sonn. Wks.* 1722 I. 12 That fix Salvation to Short Band and Hair. c 1760 *GRAY Candidate*, Divinity heard . . . She stroked up her belly, and stroked down her band. 1779 *JOHNSON Pope, L. P.* (1787) IV. 60 In a clergyman's gown, but with a lawyer's band. 1807 *CRABBE Par. Reg.* iii. 867 Careless was he of surplice, hood, and band. 1822 *NARES s.v.*, What was within these forty years called a band at the Universities, is now called a pair of bands. 1866 G. MACDONALD *Ann. Q. Neighb.* viii. (1878) 231 With my surplice and bands.

5. A strip of linen, or the like, to swathe the body or any part of it; a bandage.

1568 *BIBLE* (Bishops) *Job* xxxviii. 9, I made darkness as his swadling band. 1582 N. T. (Rhem.) *John* xi. 44 Dead, bound feete and bandes with winding bandes. 1599 SHAKS. *Hen. V.* v. ii. Cho., Henry the Sixt, in Infant Bands. 1703 *TATE Paraphr. Luke* ii, All meanly wrapt in swathing bands And in a manger laid. 1751 *CHAMBERS Cycl. s.v.*, A band, or roller, when applied, becomes a bandage.

6. *Naut.* 'A slip of canvas stitched across a sail to strengthen the parts most liable to pressure.'

1769 *FALCONER Dict. Marine* (1789), Reef-band, a piece of canvas, sewed across the sail, to strengthen it in the place where the eyelet-holes of the reefs are formed. 1860 *Merc. Mar. Mag.* VII. 114 Whip up the sail to the reef band.

7. *Mech.* A flat strap, belt, or other connexion, passing round two wheels or shafts, by which motion is communicated from the one to the other.

1705 *HAUKSBEE in Phil. Trans.* XXV. 2166 The small wheel which the Band surrounds from the great one. 1801 *BLOOMFIELD Rural T.* (1802) 3 She straight slip'd off the Wall, and Band. 1860 *ALL Y. Round* No. 57. 162 The flying bands, the rattle of two hundred looms.

II. *Of shape only, without any binding function.*

† 8. A side or flitch (of bacon). [The earliest use in Eng. . . f. OF. *bande* side.]

c 1394 *P. Pl. Crede* 763 And wip þe bandes [v. r. randes] of bakun his baly for to fillen. [1611 *COTGR.*, *Bande de larde*, a flitch or side of bacon.]

9. Anything having the shape or appearance of a band in sense 1; esp. a flat surface with parallel sides, and of more or less breadth, running across or around an object.

1823 P. NICHOLSON *Pract. Build.* 581 Bande or Band; a narrow flat surface, having its face in a vertical plane.

1836-9 *TODD Cycl. Anat. & Phys.* II. 621/1 The bands spring from . . . the apical part of the left ventricle. 1861 *PARKER Introd. Goth. Archit.* (1874) 319 Band, a ring round a shaft, as if to bind it to the larger pillar. 1879 H. PHILLIPS *Add. Notes Coins* 3 Upon a band in centre extending from side to side of the medal is the sign Aquarius. 1881 *Syd. Soc. Lex.*, *Band, flattened*, the cylinder-axis of white nerve fibre.

10. A more or less broad stripe, distinguished by colour or aspect from the surface which it crosses; hence, a particular portion, space, or region of a certain breadth crossing a surface.

1470-85 *MALORY Arthur* i. xiv. With bandys of grene, and therupon gold. 1494 *FABIAN* vii. 423 lakettys or cotys of demy partye of yolowe and grene, with a bande of whyte caste ouerthwarte. 1831 *BREWSTER Optics* x. 86 Halfway between A and B is a group of seven or eight (lines), forming together a dark band. 1833 *LYELL Princ. Geol.* III. 228 The arenaceous strata do not form one continuous band around the margin of the basin. 1857 *LIVINGSTONE Trav.* xxiv. 472 We came upon another broad band of the same flower. 1865 *GEIKIE Scen. & Geol. Scot.* xi. 297 Successive bands of dark rock and grassy slope. 1876 *GEO. ELIOT Dan. Der.* II. xxiii. 89 The . . . sunshine . . . came . . . through the windows in slanting bands of brightness.

b. *Bands*: a fault in flannel and serge cloth, when, from the uneven shrinking of defective weft, tight inelastic stripes occur here and there across the piece.

11. a. *Ent.* A transverse stripe of any colour, also called *fascia*; b. *Bot.* A space between any two elevated lines or ribs on the fruit of umbelliferous plants; also called *vitta*.

1841 E. NEWMAN *Hist. Brit. Ins.* iii. ii. 175 A fillet is a longitudinal stripe, and a band or fascia is a transverse one.

12. *Geol.* A stratum with a band-like section.

1837 *Penny Cycl.* VII. 285/2 Layers of what the miners call band . . . very thin beds of clay-slate. 1839 *MURCHISON Silur. Syst.* i. xxxv. 472 A band of iron ore. 1858 *GEIKIE Hist. Boulder* x. 198 A mass of hard yellow calcareous shale, known to the workmen as 'bands'.

III. *Comb.* as band-maker, -reel, -wimble; also band-like, -shaped adj. Band-case = BAND-BOX; band-collar (cf. 4 above); band-fish, a fish of the genus *Cepola*, belonging to the ribbon-shaped family of the order *Acanthopteri*; band-pulley, a flat-faced wheel, fixed on a shaft and driven by a band; band-saw, an endless saw, consisting of a steel belt with a serrated edge running with great speed over wheels; band-string, a string for fastening bands (see above, 4), in the 17th c. ornamented with tassels, etc (see *Fairholt Costume* 423); band-wheel, a wheel to which motion is communicated by a band running over it. Also BANDBOX, q.v.

1635 T. CRANLEY *Amanda* xliii, Within a 'Band-case lies thy Ruffe. 1800 *SCOTT Abbot* iv, A speck of soot upon his 'band-collar. 1836 *YARRELL Brit. Fishes* I. 224 Red 'Band-fish, Snakefish, Ribandfish = *Cepola rubescens*. 1839 *TODD Cycl. Anat. & Phys.* III. 769/2 A 'band-like commissure. 1599 B. JONSON *Cynthia's Rev.* v. iv, This is called the solemn 'band-string. 1689 *SELDEN Table T.* 85 If a man . . . twirls his 'Bandstrings. 1691 *WOOD Ath. Oxon.* II. 556 He [wore] snakebone 'bandstrings (or bandstrings with very large tassels). 1816 *SCOTT Antiq.* ix, W' mony a button and a 'bandstring about it. 1407 *Test. Elor* (1836) I. 347, j. mortas-wymbyll, j. 'band-wymbyll, j. hoke, ii. planes.

Band (bænd), *sb.*³; also 5-6 bande. [Late 15th c. *bande*, a. F. *bande* = Pr., Sp., It. *banda*, app. adopted from Teutonic (cf. OHG. *bant*, OS. *ON. band*: see BAND *sb.*¹; also Goth. *bandi*: see BEND *sb.*¹). The word received in Romanic a new development of sense, not found in Teutonic, with which it has since been taken back, not only into Eng., but also into Ger. (*bande*) and Du. (*bende*, formerly *bande*); the adoption being facilitated by its obvious connexion with the native words. In Eng., where the pre-existing BAND *sb.*¹, was synonymous with *bend*, the present word was, by confusion with these, also often written *bend*. So also in mod. Du. *bende* for *bande*, by assoc. with a native *bende*: see BEND *sb.*¹

The actual history of *banda* in this sense, and its relation to the Teutonic forms, are not without uncertainty, owing to our ignorance at present of its age, and to the fact that It., Sp., Pg. *banda*, F. *bande*, are found also as synonyms of *benda*, *bende* 'fascia' (which, except in It., they have now indeed superseded), while conversely Littré's earliest example of *bande* 'troop' is spelt *bende*, thus showing at least form-association between the two words. And some actually identify them: Du Cange says that the company of soldiers formed by Alfonso of Castille was called a *banda*, from the red *banda* or ribbon worn by them as a sash; and the new ed. of the *Vocab. della Crusca* explains *banda* as 'Company of soldiers, because originally distinguished by a *banda* or band of cloth of a certain colour.' But Littré refers *banda*, *bande* 'troop' to late L. *bandum* BANNER; and Du Cange shows med. L. *bandus* in sense both of 'fascia', and of 'company of men collected under a certain leader or banner', thus associating all three notions. Whatever the original source, it is evident that the popular feeling associated *benda*, *banda*, 'fascia', stripe, sash, scarf, ribbon, 'banda', 'company, troop', and *bandum* 'banner'.

1. An organized company; a troop. Said of armed men, also of robbers, assassins, etc.

1490 *CAXTON Encyclos* lv. 152 Mesasup wyth a goodde bande of folke. 1568 *BIBLE* (Bishops) 2 *Kings* xxiv. 2 Bands of the Chaldees, and bandes of the Syrians. 1598 *BARNET Theor. Warres* i. i. 5 Trayned companies, and selected bandes. 1667 *MILTON P. L.* II. 997 Her victorious Bands. 1822 *BYRON Werner* iv. i. 301 The 'black bands' who still

Ravage the frontier. 1826 SOUTHEY *Lett. C. Butler* 499 A whole band of robbers were converted. 1860 PUSEY *Min. Prop.* 330 Small bands, unable to resist in the open field.

b. Trained or train-band: see TRAIN-BAND.

2. A confederation of persons having a common purpose.

1557 N. T. (Genev.) *Ep.* *iii. The traitorous bande. 1778 WESLEY *Wks.* (1872) I. 92 That the persons so meeting be divided into several bands, or little companies. 1879 FURNIVALL in *New Shaks. Soc. Rep.* 11 The band of English men and women whose bond of oneness is 'to do honour to Shakspeare'.

3. A company of persons or animals in movement. 1601 SHAKS. *All's Well* iv. i. 16 He must thinke vs some band of strangers. 1611 BIBLE *Gen.* xxxii. 7 Hee diuided the .. camels into two bands. 1725 POPE *Odys.* xxii. 521 The matron-train with all the virgin-band. 1770 GOLDSM. *Des. Vill.* 401 Downward they move, a melancholy band. 1876 GREEN *Short Hist.* iv. § 6 The little band of fugitives.

4. A company of musicians; the company of musicians attached to a regiment of the Army.

1660-3 *Warrant Bk.* iv. 316 George Hudson and Davies Mell to give orders for the band of Musicians. *Ibid.* 384 His Majesty's Band of Violins. 1766 ENTICK *London* IV. 446 The entertainment consists of a fine band of music. 1812 J. WILSON *Isle of Palms* iv. 442 The music bands both near and far are playing. 1832 *Regul. Instr. Cavalry* iii. 58 The Band .. plays whilst the Regiment is passing. 1845 E. HOLMES *Masart* 6 Pieces which it seems were daily performed .. by a band on the fortifications.

† 5. *fig.* A group of things. *Obs.*

1690 LOCKE *Hum. Und.* iii. iii. Those Things we .. have ranked into Bands, under distinct Names or Ensigns.

6. Band of Hope, a name given (first about 1847) to associations of young people who pledge themselves to total abstinence from the use of intoxicating liquors.

1847 J. TUNNICLIFF *Temperance song*, 'Come, all dear children', The Band of Hope shall be our name, the Temperance star our guide. 1876 *Temp. Record* 17 Jan. 32½ Thus we find, in every city, town, and hamlet, Bands of Hope, and Senior Bands of Hope.

7. Comb., as band-brother, -roll, -society. Band-master, the leader of a band of musicians, whence band-mastered *pp.* a.; band-stand, a platform or other structure for the use of a band of musicians.

1748 *Observ. Methodist* 20 Give my dear Love to my dear Band Brethren. 1858 W. ELLIS *Viz. Madagascar* xiii. 359 The 'bandmaster of one of the English regiments. 1865 RUSKIN *Sesame* 110 A large species of marsh mosquito .. melodious, 'band-mastered, trumpeting in the summer air. 1893 W. ROBERTSON *Phrasol. Gen.* 200 A 'bandroll or Muster-roll. 1742 *Observ. Methodists* 20 Forming them into 'Band Societies. 1859 J. LANG *Wand. India* 256 On the parade ground and at the 'band stand. 1879 *Spectator* 7 June 719 Co-operating in labour, which the late Prof. Clifford used to speak of .. as 'band-work.

Band (bænd), *sb.* * [Of uncertain origin: it may be conjecturally connected either with BAND *sb.* 2, or with BANDE=bound, bourne, as separating two valleys or gills; the Welsh *bant* 'height' has also been compared.]

A ridge of a hill; commonly applied in the English Lake district to a long ridge-like hill of minor height, or to a long narrow sloping offshoot from a higher hill or mountain.

1513 DOUGLAS *Aeneis* xl. x. 63 Him self ascendis the hie band of the hyll. 1865 PEACOCK *Gloss. Lonsdale Dial.*, *Band*, the summit of a minor hill, as 'Swirl band,' Tilberthwaite fell. 1872 JENKINSON *Eng. Lakes* (1879) 23 The vale head of Langdale is divided by the Band into the Mickleden and Oxendale glens.

Band (bænd), *v.* 1 [a. F. *bande-r*, f. *bande* BAND *sb.* 1 and 2, the senses of which run together in the verb. *Perh.* partly derived from the Eng. *sbs.*]

1. *trans.* To bind or fasten with a band or bands. 1488-1852 [see BANDED I.]

† 2. a. To furnish with a band, to bind (a garment). b. To cover with a band or bandage. *Obs.*

1530 PALSGR. 443/1 I bande a garment or a maser, or any suche lyke. Bände your jacket, it shall be stronger. 1700 DRYDEN (J.) His eyes were banded over. 1855 *Bookseller* 5 Mar. (*Adv.*) Prospectuses folded, banded, and stamped for Post.

3. To mark with bands or stripes.

1853 KANE *Grinnell Exp.* xxviii. (1856) 230 An opalescent purple, that banded the entire horizon. 1876 HUXLEY *Physiogr.* xix. 328 Each of these halves is banded round by a number of circles.

4. To join or form into a band or company; to unite, confederate, league: a. *trans.* and *refl.*

1530 PALSGR. 443/1 He bandeth hymselfe with your enemyes. 1581 J. BELL *Haddon's Answ. Osor.* A ij. Bandyng .. all his knowledge and skill agaynst the professed doctrine of our Religion. a 1593 H. SMITH *Wks.* (1867) II. 184 The rulers band themselves against him. 1667 MILTON *P. L.* v. 714 What multitudes Were banded to oppose his high Decree. 1876 GREEN *Short Hist.* ii. § 6.1 Everywhere .. men banded themselves together for prayer.

b. *intr.*

1530 PALSGR. 443/1 He bandeth with them that wyll forsake hym, when he hath most nede. 1596 SPENSER *F. Q.* I. iv. 36 Huge routs of people did about them band. 1611 BIBLE *Acts* xxiii. 12 Centuries of the Jews banded together. 1845 R. HAMILTON *Pop. Educ.* vi. 118 The enemies of Sabbath school instruction are too scattered to band, too imbecile to argue.

† Band, *v.* 2 *Obs.* [either a. F. *bander*, or shortened form of BANDY *v.*; cf. the *pa.* *pples.*

banded, banded, of similar sound.] = BANDY *v.* in various senses.

1580 HOLLYBAND *Treas. Fr. Tong.*, *Prebender en un tripot*, to band in the tennice. 1596 SPENSER *F. Q.* III. ii. 41 Swete love such lewdnes bands from his faire companee. 1613 W. BROWNE *Brit. Past.* I. iv. He .. Had heapes of fire-brands banded at his face. 1616 BEAUM. & FL. *Cust. Countr.* vi. Adverse fortune Banded us from one hazard to another. 1641 SHIRLEY *Cardinal* v. iii. Thus banded out o' the world by a woman's plot! 1672 DRYDEN *Comp. Granada* I. i. (1725) 36 Though they band and jar.

† Band(e), *Obs.* [var. of *bonde*, a ME. form of BOUND *sb.*] = BOUND, limit.

c 1420 *Avow. Arth.* iii. None so hardi Durste bide in his bandus. 1470 HARDING *Chron.* x. vii. To let hym passe and ride Frely, where so they would withouten bande. 1470-85 MALORY *Arthur* II. xvii. Thow passyst thy bandes to come this waye. 1523 LD. BERNERS *Froiss.* I. cxxxii. 321 They haue .. done many an yuell dede in the bandes of Tholous.

Bandage (bændedʒ), *sb.* [a. F. *bandage*, f. *bande* BAND *sb.* 2: see -AGE. Orig. a term of surgery.]

1. *Surg.* A strip or band of woven material used to bind up a wound, sore, or fractured limb.

1599 A. M. Gabelhauer's *Bk. Physic* 185½ On the syde of the Rupture, ther must be sowede a little bandage. 1725 POPE *Odys.* xix. 535 With bandage firm Ulysses' knee they bound. 1748 SMOLLETT *Rod. Rand.* xxviii. We reduced the fracture, dressed the wound, applied the eighteen-tailed bandage. 1850 MRS. STOWE *Uncle Tom's C.* xvii. There, there—let me fix this bandage.

b. *abst.* = BANDAGING *vbl.* *sb.* 1.

1790 *London Gaz.* No. 5901/3 Lectures in Osteology, Bandage, etc.

2. A strip of any flexible material used for binding or covering up, *esp.* for blindfolding the eyes.

1715 GARTH *Clarendon* (R.) Justice [shall] need no bandage for her eyes. 1799 G. SMITH *Laborat.* I. 15 Glue them together with a bandage of paper. 1813 SHELLEY *Q. Mab.* 190 Like bandages of straw Beneath a wakened giant's strength. *fig.* 1750 SHENSTONE *Ode Indol.* 12 Ah! gentle Sloth! indulgent spread The same soft bandage o'er my mind. 1862 MAURICE *Mor. & Met. Phil.* IV. v. § 66 Tie the controversy with bandages of argument.

3. A band or strip of material used to bind together and strengthen any structure. *arch.*

1766 ENTICK *London* IV. 205 A channel cut into the bandage of Portland-stone. 1842 GWILT *Encycl. Archit.* Gloss. *Bandages*, the rings or chains of iron inserted in the corners of a stone wall, which act as a tie on the walls to keep them together.

Bandage (bændedʒ), *v.* [f. *prec.* *sb.*] To tie or bind up with a bandage. *lit.* and *fig.*

1774 GOLDSM. *Nat. Hist.* II. xi. (JOD.) Their artificial deformities of .. bandaging the feet. 1831 CARLYLE *Sart. Res.* III. i. So banded, and hampered, and hemmed in .. with thousand requisitions. 1873 E. MUNRO *Nursing* iv. 159 To bandage a part well.

Bandaged, *pp.* a. [f. *prec.* + -ED.] Bound or tied up with a bandage.

1855 MACAULAY *Hist. Eng.* III. 636 Managing the bridle with a bandaged arm. 1879 BARING-GOULD *German* I. 391 The bandaged boy in blind-man's-buff.

Bandager (bændedʒə), [f. as *prec.* + -ER.] One who bandages (wounds).

1851 H. C. ROBINSON *Diary* II. 295 His skill as a bandager. *Bandaging*, *vbl.* *sb.* [f. as *prec.* + -ING.]

1. The action or art of applying bandages.

1835 *Penny Cycl.* III. 365½ Courses of lectures on bandaging. 1898 HT. MARTINEAU *West. Trav.* I. 206 Whether the bandaging of his ankle gave him pain.

2. *concr.* Material for bandages.

1819 *Pantolog.* s.v. *Surgery*, Adhesive plaster with proper bandaging is to be used.

Bandagist (bændedʒist), [f. BANDAGE *sb.* + -IST; cf. F. *bandagiste*.] A maker of bandages.

1859 WORCESTER cites DUNGLISON. 1871 T. SMITH in *Syst. Surg.* V. 506 The instrument-maker or bandagist.

† Bandalore. A toy containing a coiled spring, which caused it, when thrown down, to rise again to the hand, by the winding up of the string by which it was held.

1824 MISS MITFORD *Village Ser.* I. (1863) 198 A gone-by toy, called a bandalore. 1864 *Athenaeum* 10 Sept. 339½ Our Iron Duke .. in Dublin playing with a Bandalore, now an obsolete toy.

Bandanna, -ana (bændæ-nä). Also 8 band-danno. [cf. Hindustani *bāndhnā* 'a mode of dyeing in which the cloth is tied in different places, to prevent the parts from receiving the dye' (Shakspear *Dict.*); prob. adopted first in Pg.] A richly coloured silk handkerchief, with spots left white or yellow by the process described above. The name is now applied to cotton handkerchiefs also, and the pattern is produced by chemical agency.

1752 in J. Long *Bengal* (1870) 31 Plain taffaties, ordinary bandannoes, and chappas. 1854 THACKERAY *Newcomes* I. 39 Waving his yellow bandanna. 1875 MISS BIRD *Hawaii* 124 Many had tied bandanas in a graceful knot over the left shoulder.

attrib. 1824 *Ann. Reg.* 140½ Bandana handkerchiefs. 1843 CARLYLE *Past & Pr.* (1858) 285 Beautiful bandana webs.

Bandbox (bændbɒks). Also 7-8 ban-box. [f. BAND *sb.* 2 + BOX.] A slight box of card-board or very thin chip covered with paper, for collars, caps, hats, and millinery; originally made for the 'bands' or ruffs of the 17th c.

1631 T. POWELL *Tom All Trades* 173 Carrying the Band-

box under their apron. 1633 ROWLEY *Match at Midn.* IV. in *Dodsl.* (1780) VII. 413 Enter Maid with a band-box. *Constable.* How, now! where ha' you been? .. Maid. For my mistress's ruff, at her sempstress'. 1712 ADDISON *Spect.* No. 311 P. 1, I. .. do not suffer a Ban-box to be carried into her Room before it has been searched. 1720 GAY *Poems* (1745) I. 189 With empty ban-box she delights to range. 1758 J. S. Le Dran's *Observ. Surg.* (1771) 340 Such Wood as they make Bandboxes .. with. 1829 HELPS *Friends in C. Ser.* II. II. viii. 148 A thing .. to be chiefly kept in a bandbox.

b. *attrib.* *Bandbox thing*: (cf. *prec.* *quot.*)

1774 *Westm. Mag.* II. 454 The good man .. turned the eye of contempt upon the Band-box Thing, and .. said, 'I believe 'tis a Doll.' a 1852 MOORE *Country Dance & Quad.* xiii. 51 A band-box thing, all art and lace, Down from her nose-tip to her shoe-tie.

Bandboxical (bændbɒksikəl), *a. colloq.* [f. *prec.*, after words from Gr., as *paradoxical*.] Having the appearance or size of a bandbox.

1707 BECKFORD *Italy* (1834) II. 175 Cooped up in a close, bandboxical apartment. 1873 MISS BRADDON *Str. & Pilgr.* III. i. 240 Square bandboxical rooms.

|| Bandeau (bændō), *Pl.* -eaux. [Fr.: -OF. *bandel*, dim. form from *bande* BAND *sb.* 2; cf. BANDORE 2.]

a. A narrow band or fillet worn by women to bind the hair, or as part of a head-dress. b. A bandage for the eyes.

c 1790 MISS BURNBY *Diary* (1842) I. 98 (D.) That bandeau .. was worn by every woman at court. 1847 MRS. SHERWOOD *Lady of Manor* III. xxi. 277 Just make up this bandeau for my hair. 1858 C. MATHEWS *Autobiog.* (1899) I. In a laced night-cap with sky-blue bandeau. 1861 GEN. P. THOMPSON *Autobiog.* III. cxi. 175 The Chancellor of the Exchequer, as Paul Louis said of fortune, sees under his bandeau.

Banded (bændəd), *pp.* a. [f. BAND *v.* + -ED.]

1. Bound or fastened with, or as if with, a band.

1488 *Invent.* in Tylor *Hist. Scot.* (1864) II. 391 A bandit list like a gardeviant. 1813 SCOTT *Rokeby* III. xxiv. These iron-banded chests to gain. 1852 TUPPER *Prov. Philos.* 409 One fortuitous grain might dislocate the banded universe.

2. Furnished with a band (or bands); in *Her.* with a band differing in colour from the garb.

1707 PORY *Heraldry* 151 Three Blackamoors' Heads in Profile .. banded Argent and Gules. 1823 P. NICHOLSON *Pract. Build.* 581 Banded column, a column encircled with Bands, or annular rustics. 1837 MARRYAT *Dog-Fiend* vii. A .. gold-banded cocked hat. 1855 TENNYSON *Maud* I. viii. The snowy-banded .. Delicate-banded priest.

3. Marked with bands or stripes.

a 1842 TENNYSON *Eleanore*, The yellow-banded bees. 1876 PAGE *Adv. Text-bk. Geol.* xvii. 310 This banded appearance of a lias cliff.

4. Confederated, leagued, allied.

1601 BP. BARLOW *Serm. Paulus Crosse* 6r This conspiciue thus banded. 1667 MILTON *P. L.* VI. 85 The banded Powers of Satan. 1855 MACAULAY *Hist. Eng.* IV. 274 The poet addressed himself to the banded enemies of France.

† Bandel, bandle. *Obs.* [a. OF. *bandele*, -elle, dim. of *bande* BAND *sb.* 2: a swaddling-band.

1598 FLORIO, *Fasciola*, a little bandle, a little swaddling clout. 1603 — *Montaigne* II. xii. (1632) 253 The bandles and swatches about our children. *Ibid.* 299 Four [gods] to a childe, as protectors of his bandels, of his drinke, etc.

Bandellet (bændələt). Also 7 bandellette. [a. F. *bandellette*, dim. of OF. *bandele* little band. Cf. BANDELET.] A small band, streak, or fillet; in *Arch.* a small flat moulding, encompassing a column.

1647 W. BROWNE *Poet.* 99 The fairest Princess that hath ever worn the sacred Bandellette of the Incas. 1656 in PHILLIPS. 1751 EARL ORRERY *On Swift* 89 (T.) The longer he wore the diadem, the bandelset still became more tight and irksome. 1863 R. HILL *Jamaica Seas.* Notes 194 The fish .. is roseate in colour, varied with bandelsets.

Bandier (bændiə), *arch.* [f. BAND *v.* + -ER.]

One who bands or leagues; a confederate.

1563 *Myrr. Mag.*, *Somerset* xxiv. Theyr banders to elect. 1591 PERCIVALL *Span. Dict.*, *Bandolero*, a bander, he that followeth a faction. 1649 BP. GUTHRY *Memo.* (1702) 77 So many of the Banders as happen'd to be at home .. were cited to appear. 1820 SCOTT *Abbot* xx. The lords who have become banders in the west.

|| Banderilla (banderi'lā). [Sp., dim. of *bandera* BANNER.] A little dart, ornamented with a banderole, which dexterous bull-fighters stick into the neck and shoulders of the bull; also *fig.*

|| Banderillero (banderi'ljéro) [with agential suffix -ero], the bull-fighter who uses banderillas.

1864 DR. MANCH. *Crt. & Soc. Eliz. to Anne* I. 24 The ladies danced with picadors and banderilleros. 1865 *Pall Mall G.* 23 Nov. 3 He will begin to see the barb of the banderilla under its paper disguise.

Bandrol(e), bandrol, bannerol (bænd-röl, -döl, bændröl). Forms: 6 banerol, banaroll, bannerall, 7 bandroul(e), -role, -roll, banroll, bannerolle, 7-9 banneroll, 8 banner-roll, 6-banederol, banneroll, 9 bannerolle, banderolle, (bandarole), bandrol. [a. F. *banderole* (15th c. *banerolle*, 16th c. *banderolle*), dim. of *bandière*, *bannière*, BANNER, probably after It. *banderuola*, dim. of *bandiera* BANNER.]

1. A long narrow flag, with cleft end, flying from the mast-heads of ships, carried in battle, etc.

1562 LEIGH *Armory* 189 Any Banner, Standard, Banaroll. 1612 DRAYTON *Poly-olb.* xxii. (1748) 342 Let them in the field be by their band-rouls known. 1681 *Disc. Tanger* 16 Cayland .. sent his Treasurer with a White Bandrol, offering terms of Peace. 1808 SCOTT *Marm.* IV. xxxviii. Scroll, pennon, pensil, bandrol, there O'er the pavilions flew. 1870 *Standard*

5 Dec., Disarmed a colour serjeant... and seized on the bannerol he carried.

2. A small ornamental streamer, *e.g.* that attached to the lance of a knight; in *Her.* one hanging down from the crook of a crossier, and folding over the staff.

1596 SPENSER *F. Q.* vi. vii. 26 To despoyle of knightly bannerall. 1615 G. SANDYS *Trav.* 124 Thousands of Pilgrims... every one with his bannerol in his hand. 1809 W. IRVING *Granada* (1850) 21 The... lances bore gay bandaroles. 1848 LYTTON *Harold* iii. 212 The lance with its pointed banderol. 1851 S. JUDD *Margaret* xvii. (1871) 149 Her hair streamed bandrols in the wind.

b. 'The little fringed silk flag that hangs on a trumpet.' J.

1587 FLEMING *Contn. Holinshed* III. 490/1 Trumpeters... sounding their trumpets most roiallie, their bannerols displayed.

3. A ribbon-like scroll bearing a device or inscription.

1622 F. MARKHAM *Bk. Warre* II. ix. 74 His Colors... are euermore contained in the Band-rolle vpon which his Crest standeth. 1875 FORTNUM *Maids* iii. 30 Portraits of ladies with a ribbon or banderole on which the name is inscribed.

4. Arch. A flat band with an inscription, used in decorating buildings of the Renaissance period.

5. A banner about a yard square, borne at the funerals of great men, and placed over the tomb. [See BANNEROL.]

Bandicoot (bændikūt). Also 9-icoote, -yooot. [corruption of Telugu *pandi-kokku*, lit. 'pig-rat' (Col. Yule).]

1. A large Indian rat (*Mus malabaricus* or *gigan-teus*), as big as a cat, and very destructive. (Wrongly used in quot. 1789 for the Musk-rat.)

1790 MUNRO *Narrat.* 32 The Bandicoot, or musk rat, is another troublesome animal... from its offensive smell. 1813 J. FORBES *Orient. Mem.* III. 41 Bandicoote rat[s] frequently undermine ware houses and destroy every kind of merchandise. 1860 TENNENT *Ceylon* I. 150 Another favourite article of food with the coolies is the pig-rat or Bandicoot.

2. A genus of insectivorous Australian marsupials (*Parameles*), somewhat resembling the above.

1831 TYRMAN & BENN. *Voy. & Trav.* II. xxxvi. 149 The dogs also worried a bandy-coot... an animal... with a head and tail resembling those of a rat, and a pouch under the belly for the reception of its young. 1839 TODD *Cycl. Anat. & Phys.* III. 260/2 Marsupials commonly known in Australia by the name of Bandicoots.

Banded (bændid), *ppl. a.* [f. BANDY *v.* + -ED.] Tossed to and fro. *lit.* and *fig.*

1663 BUTLER *Hud.* I. II. 55 Whipp'd Tops and bandy'd Balls, The learned hold are Animals. 1851 SIR F. PALGRAVE *Norm. & Eng. l.* 202 How cruel then, such banded terms as 'base servility.'

Bandiness (bændinēs), [f. BANDY *a.* + -NESS.] The quality of being bandy-legged or crooked.

1840 DICKENS *Old C. Shop* xxxvi. If... any moral twist or bandiness could be found, Miss Sally Brass's nurse was alone to blame.

Banding (bænding), *vbl. sb. 1* [f. BAND *v. 1*.]

1. Combining, joining in parties or factions; leaguings, confederation.

1575 CHURCHYARD *Chippes* (1817) 190 Great banding then, began in Borough towne. 1645 HOWELL *Lett.* (1650) I. 316 There being divers bandings, and factions at court. 1792 BURKE *Lett. Langrishe* Wks. VI. 358 As little do I relish any bandings or associations for procuring it. 1860 GEN. P. THOMPSON *Audi Alt.* III. cvii. 20 The banding of man with man keeps down felonious action.

2. Formation of, or marking with, bands or stripes. **Banding-plane**: a plane used for cutting out grooves and inlaying strings and bands in straight and circular work.

1859 in WORCESTER. 1862 DANA *Man. Geol.* 651 Its banding the stream with colder and warmer waters.

† **Banding**, *vbl. sb. 2* *Obs.* [f. BAND *v. 2* + -ING¹.] = **BANDYING**.

1529 GREENE *Menaphon* (Arb.) 45 There was a banding of such looks. 1611 SPEED *Hist. Gt. Brit.* IX. xxiv. 138 Fortune... made him a Ball for her banding. 1645 HOWELL *Lett.* (1650) I. 327 The... bandings of opinions we had lately at Gresham college.

Banding, *ppl. a.* [f. BAND *v. 1* + -ING².] Confederate, leaguings.

1602 W. WATSON *Decacord.* 62 This banding impudencie of the Jesuits.

Bandit (bændit). Pl. banditti, bændits. Forms: 6-7 bandetto, 7 bandite, -ditto, -dyto, -diti, 7-8 -ditty, -dito, 7- bandit. Pl. a. 6- deti, 7- ditie, 7-8 -diti, -ditty, -dity, 7- ditti; β. 6-7 dettos, 7- ditos, -ditoes, -detties, -dities, 7-8 -ditties, 7- dits. [a. It. *bandito* 'proclaimed, proscribed,' in pl. *banditi* sb. 'outlaws,' pa. *ppl.* of *bandire* = med.L. *bannire* to proclaim, proscribe: see BAN *sb.* and *v.*, and cf. BANISH. Early spellings, as well as the current pl. *banditti*, were apparently corrupted by form-assoc. with DITTO, It. *detto*, pl. *detti*. The It. sing. *bandito* is not now used in Eng.: *bandit* is also mod.F. But the pl. *banditti* (for It. *banditi*) is more used than *bandits*, esp. in reference to an organized band of robbers; in which sense it has also been used as a collective sing.; in 17th c. this was taken as an individual sing., with pl. -is, -ies.]

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lit. One who is proscribed or outlawed; hence, a lawless desperate marauder, a brigand: usually applied to members of the organized gangs which infest the mountainous districts of Italy, Sicily, Spain, Greece, and Turkey.

[*Bandetto* in first quot. may be attrib. sb. or ppl. adj.] 1593 SHAKS. 2 *Hen. VI.* IV. i. 135 A Romane Sworder, and Bandetto slaue. 1594 NASHE *Unfort. Trav.* 57 The Bandettos... are certayne outlaws that lie betwixt Rome and Naples. 1608 LIFE T. CROMWELL II. i. 95 The banditti do you call them? I am sure we call them plain thieves in England. 1611 CORVAT *Crudities* 117 The Bandits... are the murdering robbers upon the Alpes. 1688 LOND. GAZ. No. 2310/3 He had lived as a Banditti in Anatolia. 1713 STEELE *Englishm.* No. 13. 84 The Examiner is no more a Tory... than a Banditto is a Soldier. 1719 D'URFEY *Pills* (1872) II. 292 Each conquering great Commander, And mighty Alexander, Were Banditties too. 1800 COLQUHOUN *Comm. Thames* vi. 240 A set of lawless Banditti infested the River. 1840 HOOD *Up Rhine* 191 Why, every Baron in the land was a bandit. 1876 GREEN *Short Hist.* v. § 1. 224 The routed soldiery turned into free companies of bandits.

b. *collective sing.* A company of bandits.

1706 DR FOR *Jure Div.* II. 15 He form'd the First Banditty of the Age. 1799 WELLINGTON in OWEN *Disp.* 146 In which province an adventurer had assembled a banditti. 1826 SCOTT *Woodst.* v. 195 Deer-stealers... are ever a desperate banditti.

c. *attrib.*; and in *comb.*, as *bandit-haunted*.

[Cf. 1593 in 1.] 1854 J. ASBOTT *Napoleon* I. xii. 208 Fierce banditti bands. 1855 MILMAN *Lat. Chr.* (1864) V. ix. ii. 229 Wild Bohemians and bandit soldiers. 1859 TENNYSON *Enid* 879 Bandit-haunted holds.

† **Bandit**, *v. Obs.* [f. It. *bandito* proscribed: see *prec.*] To proscribe, banish, outlaw.

1611 CORVAT *Crudities* 287 All light gold is bandited, that is, banished out of the Citie [Venice]. 1654 S. S. *Secretaries Stud.* 204 A Noble man... long since Bandited by the State, for murdering a Gentleman.

Bandie (bændi). [ad. Irish *bannlamh* cubit, f. *bann* measure + *lamh* hand, arm.] An Irish measure of two feet in length.

1662 in COCKERAM. 1679 PETTY *Pol. Anat.* (1691) 98 Seventeen Bandies make a Man's Suit, and twelve make a Cloak. [Still in 1865 used in Brandon, co. Cork.]

Bandie, var. **BANDIE**, *Obs.*, swaddling-band.

Bandless (bændlēs), *a.* [f. BAND *sb.* + -LESS.] Without a band (in various senses); whence **Bandlessly** *adv.*, **Bandlessness**.

1660 HEXHAM *Dutch Dict.*, *Bondeloes*, Bandlesse or Unbound. 1862 TIMES, Epsom Downs. bandless, niggerless.

Bandlet (bændlēt), *a.* [f. BAND *sb.* + -LET; or syncopated from **BANDELET**.] A small band, fillet, or streak; in *Arch.* = **BANDELET**.

1727-51 in CHAMBERS *Cycl.* 1850 MRS. JAMESON *Leg. Monast. Ord.* (1863) 170 Two bars or bandlets gules. 1883 PIAZZI SMYTH in *Observat.* No. 83. 81 The bandlets of lines in this mysterious a band. 1883 BIRCH *Assyr. Antiq.* 50 His hair is covered with a broad bandlet.

|| **Bando**, *Obs.* [a. It. (and Sp.) *bando* = med.L. *bannum BAN*.] A public proclamation.

1598 BARRET *Theor. Warres* IV. i. 118 The Commaunds, lawes, and bandos of the high Generall. 1648 SHIRLEY *Sisters* v. ii. The last bando—'He that can bring Frapolo, the chief bandit... Shall have free pardon.

Bandog (bændogg). Forms: 5-7 band-dogge, 5 bande doge, bon-, bonde dogge, 6 band-dogg, 6-7 band-dog, bandogge, 7 band-dogg, 6- band-dog, bandog. [f. BAND *sb.* 6 = fastening + DOG] *orig.* A dog tied or chained up, either to guard a house, or on account of its ferocity; hence *gen.* a mastiff, bloodhound.

1445 in WRIGHT'S *Voc.* 187 *Molosus*, band-dogge. c. 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 43 Bondogge (1499 bonde dogge), *Molosus*. c. 1560 *Thersites* in HAZL. *Dodsl.* I. 399 The bandog Cerberus from hell he bare away. 1577 HARRISON *England* III. vii. 44 The mastiffe, tie dog, or bandog, so called because manie of them are tied up in chaines... for dooing hurt abroad. 1669 ETHEREDGE *Love in Tub* IV. iii. As fierce as a Band-dog, that has newly broke his chain. 1813 SCOTT *Rokeby* v. xxxvi. As the bull, at bay, Tosses the band-dogs from his way.

b. *fig.*; also in *phr.* To speak bandog and Bedlam: i. e. furiously and madly.

1600 DEKKER *Gentle Craft* Wks. 1873 I. 19 O master, is it you that speak bandog and Bedlam this morning? 1610 *Chester's Pri.*, *Envie* 12 Thou envious Bandogge, speake and doe thy worst. 1645 USSHER *Body of Div.* (1647) 376 Letting loose Satan, his band-dog, to... molest the godly. 1809 SCOTT *Anne of G.* (1833) I. 133 He was usually spoken of as the bandog of Burgundy, or the Alsatian mastiff.

c. *attributive* or *appositive*.

1616 BEAUM. & FL. *Wit without M.* v. i. Bitten with bandog-fleas. 1669 H. BURTON *Babel* no *Beth.* Ep. Ded. 9 All the band-dog heresies of hell were let loose.

Bandoleer, -ier (bændolē-). Forms: 6 bandollier, -dileare, 6-7 bande-, 7 bandileer(e), -leir, -lier, bandlier, bandoolleer(e), -leir, -lier, 8 bandaleer, 6-9 bandalier, 7-9 bandeliler, 7- bandoleer, -ler. Also, 7 bandileero, -illero, -aliero. [a. F. *bandonillere* (Cotgr. 1611), mod. *bandoulère*; from It. *bandoliera*, or Sp. *bandolera*, f. *bandola*, dim. of *banda* BAND. With the forms in -ero, cf. -ADO².]

† 1. A broad belt, worn over the shoulder and across the breast, by which a wallet might be suspended at the side. *Obs.*

a. 1577 GASCOIGNE *Flowers, Herbs, etc.* (1587) 186 As Ban-

dolliers for who in mountains dwelles. a. 1606 MIDDLETON *Black Bk. Wks.* V. 517, I threw mine arms, like a scarf or bandileer, cross the lieutenants melancholy bosom. 1634 HEYWOOD *Witches of Lanc.* II. Wks. 1874 IV. 201, I have... this my bandileer of bottles, to fill to night. 1767 DUCAREL *Anglo-Norm. Antiq.* 47 Their surplices covered with Bandaleer's of flowers.

transf. or *fig.* 1598 SYLVESTER *Du Bartas* (1608) 370 Three thousand times the sun Hath gallopt round Heaven's golden bandeleer.

2. *esp.* A belt of this kind worn by soldiers; orig. it helped to support the musket, and had also attached twelve little cases, each containing a charge for the musket; later, a shoulder-belt fitted with little loops, in which cartridges are suspended.

1596 *Union Invent.* 3 Six musketts with bandileares. 1622 F. MARKHAM *Bk. Warre* I. ix. 3 To this Bandiliere shall bee fastened by long double strings, that they may with more ease be brought to the mouth of the musquet, one large priming charge... and at least twelve other charges. 1672 CHAS. II. *Warrant* 2 Apr., One matchlocke musquet, with a collar of bandaliero. 1768 STERNE *Sent. Journ.* (1774) I. 321 A rusty old sword, and a bandoleer. 1828 SCOTT *Leg. Montrose* II, A bandelier containing his charges of ammunition. 1884 *Daily News* 20 Feb. 5/6 Mounted infantry... in... Khaki helmets, puggarees, bandoliers.

3. By transference: in *sing.* One of the cases or boxes containing a charge for the musket; hence used in *pl.* as = *prec.*

1611 COTGR., *Bandovilliers*, a musketiers bandooleers; or charges like little boxes, hanging at a belt about his necke. 1644 CAPT. SMITH *Virginia* IV. 160 Master Argent had put his Bandileir of powder in his hat. a. 1659 CLEVELAND *Wks.* 30 Like Cartrages, or Linnen Bandiliere Exhausted of their Sulphurous Contents. 1728 FIELDING *Love in Masques* Wks. 1775 I. 76 Get down my broad-sword and bandoliers. 1828 SCOTT *Hrt. Midl.* xii, 'He was in his bandoliers to hae joined the ungracious Highlanders in 1715.'

Bandoline (bændolin). [? f. *band* or *bandeau*.] A gummy preparation for fixing the hair.

1661 DELAMER *Kitch. Gard.* 162 The boiled pips [of Quince] make the glutinous preparation called bandoline. 1876 HARLEY *Mat. Med.* 361 Used for jellies and soups... and as bandoline for keeping the hair in form.

Hence **Bandolined** *ppl. a.*

1856 SCOT. REV. IV. 119 A moustache—turning up at the ends in two points well bandolined together.

† **Bandon**, -oun, *sb. Obs.* Forms: 3 bandun, baundune, 3-5 bandom, 3-7 bandon, 4 baundoun, 4-5 baundon, 4-6 bandoun(e), 5 bandum. 5-6 bandone. [a. OF. *bandon*, *bandun* 'public proclamation, ban, jurisdiction, authority, disposal, discretion, license' = Pr. *bandon*, f. (through a deriv. form **bando -ōnem*) late L. *bando-um* = *bann-um* 'public proclamation, edict, interdict,' ad. Teut. *bann*: see BAN *sb. 1* There was a confusion in Romanic between *bannum* and *bandum*: Du Cange shows *bannum* for *bandum*, *BANNER*, as well as *bandum* for *bannum* 'edict'; cf. BANISH, BANDIT, BANNER, BANDEROLE. (There is no etymological connexion in Teutonic between *bann*, *bann-an*, and *bandwa* token, *bandujan* to signify.)]

Jurisdiction, authority, dominion, control; power of disposal, full discretion, or authority to deal with. To be in or at any one's bandon: to be under his control, at his disposal, will, or pleasure. To have a thing in one's bandon: at one's full or free disposal.

c. 1230 *Ancr. R.* 338 Pe terme is ine Godes honden: and nout i pine baundune [earlier MS. bandun]. a. 1300 *Cursor M.* 9013 Pe man scoo has in hir bandom. c. 1300 K. *Alis.* 3180 The emperour, and his barouns, Yeildith heom to thy baundouns. c. 1470 HENRY WALLACE XI. 1376, I thoctt haif maid Ingland at his baundoun. 1483 CAXTON *G. de la Tour* E vij, The kyng... gafe hym baundon ouer all the goodes. 1535 STEWART *Crom. Scot.* III. 181 Wnder his bandoun think I neur to be. 1611 COTGR., *Abandon*, bandon... full libertie for others to use a thing.

Hence the F. and ME. *phr.* a *bando(u)n*, in control, at one's disposal; also, at one's own free will, freely, unrestrainedly; whence the vb. *abandonn-er* = *mettre à bandon*: see **ABANDON**.

† **Bandon**, *v. 1* *Obs.* [aphetic f. **ABANDON** *v.*]

1. To have under control, subdue: = **ABANDON** *v. 1*. c. 1450 HENRYSON *Mor. Fab.* 80 For all the beastes before that bandoned beene Will shute vpon my beastes with yre.

2. *refl.* To give oneself up; = **ABANDON** *v. 4*.

a. 1300 *Cursor M.* 14906 He wil him bandun [v. r. baundoun] nu par-till [to death] Ful freli wit his aun wil.

3. To forsake; = **ABANDON** *v. 8*.

1507 TURBERV. *Trag. T.* (1837) 53 Forgo thy solenne walks, bandon Classic wood.

4. To banish; = **ABANDON** *v. 11*.

1598 WYRLEY *Armorie* 108 Thoughts, griefes, sad cares, are bandon(ed) then away.

† **Bandon**, *v. 2* *Obs. rare*—¹. [? for *banden*; cf. BAND *sb.* 2 10 b, BANDY *a. 1*.] Of cloth: To shrink unevenly, so that tight inelastic 'bands' occur here and there across the piece.

1552 *Act* 5 & 6 *Edw. VI.* 6 § 1 (Ruffhead) When the clothes so made, be put in the water to trye them, they rise out... in some place narrower than some, beside such cockling, bandoning, and divers... notable Faults.

† **Bandonly**, *adv. Obs. rare*—¹. [aphetic f. **ABANDONLY**.] Recklessly, daringly.

12470 HENRY Wallace v. 886 How that so bandounly, Wallace abaid ner hand thar chawaly.

Bandore¹ (bændōr, bændōr). Also 6 bandurion, 6-7-dora. [ad. Sp. or Pg.; the Romanic forms show much phonetic perversion: Sp. *bandurria*, *bandola*, Pg. *bandurra*, Fr. *mandore*, formerly *mandole*, It. *mandola*, *pandora*, *pandura*; all repr. L. *pandura*, *pandurium*, a. Gr. *πανδούρα*, *πανδύρις*, a musical instrument. Hence also, by further corruption, BANJO.] A musical instrument resembling a guitar or lute, with three, four, or six wire strings, used as a bass to the cittern.

1566 GASCOIGNE *Jocasta* (1848) 133 A dolefull and straunge noyse of violles, Cythren, Bandurion. 1591 PERCIVALL *Span. Dict.*, *Vihuela*, a bandore. 1606 BACON *Sylva* § 146 A Bandora, Orpharion, or Cittern, which have likewise Wirestrings. 1689 SHADWELL *Bury-Fair* III. Wks. 1720 IV. 161 The best musick in England...shawm and bandore. 1883 J. HAWTHORNE in *Harper's Mag.* Nov. 933/2, I would lightly touch the strings of my bandore.

attrib. 1607 HEYWOOD *Fayre Mayde Exch.* Wks. 1874 II. 20 What's her haire? faith two Bandora wiares.

† **Bandore**². Obs. [corruption of F. *bandeau* 'anciennement, coiffure des veuves' (Littre).] A widow's head-dress.

1712 W. KING *Ovid's Ars Am.* 142 Our grandmothers, they tell us, wore Their fardingale and their Bandore. 1719 D'URFEE *Pills* (1872) II. 11 The buxom Widow, with Bandore and Peak.

Bandrol(e), -roll, var. BANDEROLE.

Bandsman (bændsmæn). a. A member of a band or company; esp. of a band of musicians. b. (see quot.)

1842 CUNNINGHAM *My Native Vale* vi. I...joy'd to see the bandsmen smile. 1864 *Even. Standard* 29 Oct., The colours having to be given into the custody of the bandsmen alone. 1884 *Weekly Times* 5 Sept. 3/3 Along with them a bandsman from the steamer.

b. 1852 TOMLINSON *Encycl.* I. 392/2 The next class of miners...are the...bandsmen or bondsmen, from the circumstance of their working in connexion with the *band* or flat rope by which the coal, etc. is hoisted.

Bandster (bændstər). [f. BAND sb.¹ + -STER; cf. *malster*.] One who binds sheaves after reapers.

a 1794 in *Ritson Scot. Songs* II. 3 (JAM.) The bandsters are runkled, lyart, and grey. 1863 TOM TAYLOR *Pict. in Wds.* ix, Onward press the shearers, The bandsters come behind.

|| **Bandurria**. [Sp.] = BANDORE¹.

1842 LONGF. *Sp. Stud.* I. ii, We play the bandurria.

Bandy (bændi), v. Also 6-7 bandie. [The origin of this and of BANDY sb.¹ is very obscure. Cf. F. *bander* 'to bandie at Tennis' Cotgr.; perhaps f. *bande* side. With Branch II. cf. F. *bander*, in *se bander contre*, 'to bandy or oppose himself against, with his whole power; or to joine in league with others against' (Cotgr.), also Sp. *bandear* 'to bandy, to follow a faction, to help a side, to become factious' (Minsheu), It. *bandare* 'to side or bandy' (Florio). Cf. also BAND v.¹: but while these answer in sense, no satisfactory explanation of the terminal -ie, -y presents itself.]

I. 1. *trans.* To throw or strike (a ball) to and fro, as in the games of tennis and bandy. (Mostly with figurative reference.)

1577 HOLINSHED *Chron.* III. 1077/2 Kingdoms...be no halles for me to bandie. 1592 NASHE *P. Penitence* 15 b, 'They may make Ruffians hall of Hell: and there bandy halles of Brimstone at one anothers head. 1678 CUDWORTH *Intell. Syst.* 845 Had we no Mastery at all over our Thoughts, but they were all like Tennis Balls, Banded, and Struck upon us, as it were by Rackets from without. 1842 W. GROVE *Corr. Phys. Forces* 20 A ball of caoutchouc, banded about. 1860 TENNYSON *Via. Sin* iv, xi, To be the ball of Time, Banded by the hands of fools.

b. *absol.*

1612 WEBSTER *Vittoria Cor.* (N.) While he had been bandying at tennis He might have...struck His soul into the hazard. 1699 COLES *Eng. Lat. Dict.*, To bandy at Tennis, *reticulo peltare*.

c. *intr.* To bound like a ball struck or driven.

1648 R. WHITE tr. *Digby's Powd. Symp.* (1660) 20 Untill she bandies...upon another solid body, and so she continueth to make new boundings here and there.

† 2. To toss, drive, or throw aside or away. Obs. 1591 TROUB. *Raigne K. John* (1611) 69 If Arthurs death be dismall to be heard, Bandie the newes for rumors of untruth: He liues my Lord. a 1593 MARLOWE *Lust's Dom.* i. iv, The Cardinal, would bandy me away from Spain. 1667 H. MORE *Div. Dial.* i. § 8 (1713) 17 If the Earth had been banded out of one Vortex into another.

3. To toss from side to side, like a tennis-ball.

1596 SPENSER *State Ireld.* Wks. (1862) 531/2 And from one hand to another doe bandie the service like a tennis-ball. 1650 FULLER *Pisgah* II. ix. 190 Those Lepers...banded betwixt two deaths of the famine and the sword. 1712 BLACKMORE *Creation* II. (1736) 47 What vigorous arm...Bandies the mighty globe still to and fro? 1864 GILBERT & CHURCHILL *Dolom. Mis.*, The path...was banded from side to side on rough bridges.

4. To toss or pass from one to another, in a circle or group; to toss about.

1600 DEKKER *Fortun.* Wks. I. 143 Now he's bandyed by the seas in scorn, From wave to wave. 1675 CROWNE *Calisto* I. i. 8 Hark, how they bandy praise and flattery round! 1878 DICKENS *Nick. Nick.* xxx, The stories they invent...and bandy from mouth to mouth!

b. (Often emphasized by *about*.)

1597 DRAYTON *Mortimer.* 17 But fortune...straight begins to bandy him about. 1748 ANSON *Voy.* II. ii. 130 Thus was this unhappy vessel bandied about within a few leagues of her intended harbour. 1847 BARNHAM *Ingol. Leg.* (1877) 234 Banded about thus from pillar to post. 1872 BLACK *Adv. Phaeton* xxxi. 416 Sharp words were being bandied about. 1885 SIR J. PEARSON *Law Times Rep.* LII. (N. S.) 183/1 Suitors being bandied about from one court to another.

5. To discuss from mouth to mouth. Cf. 4 b.

1642 *View of Print. Book int. Observ.* 40 To debate and bandy the principles of Government. 1692 WAGSTAFFE *Vind. Carol.* i. 18 A Bill was preferred...touching Monopolies, and was strongly bandied on both sides. 1768 H. WALPOLE *Hist. Doubts* 40 His own legitimacy, which was too much connected with that of his brothers to be tossed and bandied about before the multitude. 1850 W. IRVING *Goldsm.* xxix. 289 Your name is...frequently bandied at table among us.

b. *absol.* or *intr.*

1603 FLORIO *Montaigne* (1634) 191 Lucretius, may Philosophie and bandie at his pleasure.

6. To give and take (blows, words, reproaches, compliments, etc.); to exchange. To bandy words = to argue pertinaciously, wrangle.

1590 GREENE *Menaph.* (Arb.) 45 It little fits in this company to bandie taunts of love. 1598 GREENWY *Tacitus Ann.* vi. viii. 134 Rushing in courageously to bandy strokes. 1677 GORT. *Venice* 271 When they had bandied Arguments at home, they went to fight their Enemies abroad. 1828 SCOTT *F. M. Perth* iv, Bandy not words, but begone. 1855 MORLEY *Dutch Rep.* I. 27 Bandyng blows in the thickest of the fight.

b. *with* (and recently *against*) a person.

1593 NASHE *Christ's T.* (1613) 79 His Backe bandieth colours with the Sunne. 1605 SHAKS. *Lea* i. iv. 92 Do you bandy looks with me, you Rascal! 1767 JOHNSON in *Boswell* (1831) II. 36 It was not for me to bandy civilities with my sovereign. 1847 L. HUNT *Men. Wom.* & Bks. II. xi. 280 The leaders...banded against one another the foulest charges. 1880 DIXON *Windsor* III. vii. 69 She could not bandy words with insolent pages.

c. one thing for another.

1593 SHAKS. 3 *Hen. VI.* i. iv. 49, I will not bandie with thee word for word, But buckler with three blowes. 1603 DRAYTON *Hermio. Ep.* xiv. 45 To bandy Woe for Woe and Teare for Teare.

II.

† 7. To band together, league, confederate: a. *trans.* and *refl.* (cf. F. *se bander*.)

1597 *Prayers in Liturg. Q. Elis.* (1847) 676 Our enemies...conspire and bandy themselves against us. 1632 C. HUGHES *Saints Louse* 38 All the kings of the earth bandy themselves to fight with him. 1656 TRAPP *Exp. Rev.* ix. 5 Antichrist and his actuaries bandy and bend all their forces to destroy souls. 1659 J. HARRINGTON *Lawgiving* (1700) 397 Korah, Dathan, and Abiram...bandy'd themselves against Moses. 1818 SCOTT *Br. Lamm.* iii, Here is his son already bandying and making a faction.

b. *intr.*

1633 G. HERBERT *Humil.* iv. in *Temple* 62 Joyntly bandying, They drive them soon away. 1673 *Lady's Call.* II. iii. 818 The servants...bandy into leagues and parties. 1755 CARTE *Hist. Eng.* IV. i. 116 If he bandied to remove his ather's servants. 1798 JORTIN *Erasm.* I. 192 Giddy and ignorant young men...had bandied together in a body, calling themselves Trojans.

8. *intr.* To contend, strive, fight. (Cf. Cotgr. 'Se *bander contre*, to bandie, or oppose himselfe against'.)

1588 SHAKS. *Tit. A.* I. i. 313 A Valliant sonne in-law...One, fit to bandy with thy lawlesse Sonnes. 1643 MILTON *Divorce* II. xxi. Wks. (1851) 122 That Law may bandy with nature, and traverse her sage motions, was an error. 1660 — *Free Commu.* Wks. 1738 I. 594 Neither did the People of Rome bandy with their Senate while any of the Tarquins liv'd. 1705 HICKERINGILL *Priest-cr.* I. (1721) 55 Let them bandy against one another till I part them.

Bandy (bændi), sb.¹ [App. f. the vb.; but the origin of sense 5, and the order of the senses are quite uncertain.]

I. † 1. A particular way of playing at tennis, the nature of which is not now known. It does not appear from the quotations whether *bandy* was the same as *check*, i. e. the modern 'cramped game' of 'touch no walls.' Obs.

1578 T. N. tr. *Conq. W. India* 179 They play not at chases, but at bandie or at Check, that is, if the ball touch the wall, it looseth. 1607 *Lingua* II. v. in *Hazl. Dodsl.* IX. 381 The shooting stars...Are nothing but the balls they lose at bandy.

† 2. A stroke with a racket, a ball so struck; a 'return' at tennis. Obs.

1598 MARSTON *Met. Pigm.* Im. i. 141 Straight with loud mouth (a bandy Sir) he cries. 1627 DRAYTON *Agincourt* (1748) 4 They such racket shall in Paris see When over line such bandies I shall drive, As that, before the set be fully done, France may perhaps into the hazard run. 1655 J. COTGRAVE *Wit's Interpr.* 7 A bandie ho! the people crie, And so the ball takes flight.

† 3. *fig.* Obs.

1602 DEKKER *Satirom.* Wks. I. 243 Take this bandy with the racket of patience. 1604 EDMONDS *Observ. Caesar's Comm.* 21 Their factions...caused one partie to bring in Ariouistus...and the other partie, the Romaines to make good their bandy. 1638 FORD *Fancies* v. iii. (1811) 210 Not wronged me?...this is the bandy of a patience Beyond all sufferance.

II. 4. A game, also called *bandy-ball*, in which a small ball is driven to and fro over the ground, with bent club sticks, by two sides of players; the same as HOCKEY.

1693 D'URFEE *Yorksh. Heiress*, The prettiest fellow At

bandy once and cricket. 1796 SOUTHEY *Lett. Spain* (1799) 133 A royal recreation similar to what boys call Bandy in England. 1822 W. IRVING *Braceb. Hall* II. 64 Bandy-ball, trapball, wrestling, leaping. 1860 GEO. ELIOT *Mill on Floss* I. 77 She's only a girl—she can't play at bandy.

5. A club bent or curved at its lower end, used for striking the ball in this game.

1609 T. ADAMS *Medit. Creed* Wks. 1861 III. 122 The mathematician (will not) lend his engines for wasters and bandies. 1681 R. KNOX *Hist. Ceylon* 50 All which...carry staves in their hands like to Bandyes, the crooked end uppermost. 1850 *Cricketer's Man.* 24 Sending it with blows of their bandies, whizzing through the air.

Bandy (bændi), sb.² [a. Telugu *bandi*, Tamil *vandi*.] A carriage, bullock-carriage, buggy, or cart, used in India.

1761 *Madras Courier* 29 Sept., To be sold, an elegant new and fashionable Bandy, with copper pannels, lined with Morocco leather. 1800 SIR T. MUNRO *Life* I. 243 No wheel carriages...not even a buffalo-bandy. 1854 STOCQUER *Handbk. Brit. India* 103 A buggy being a one-horse vehicle...at Madras they call it a bandy.

Bandy (bændi), a. [see the senses.]

1. Of legs: Curved laterally with the concavity inward. [perh. attrib. use of BANDY sb.¹ 'hockey-stick'.] Also used briefly for *bandy-legged*.

1607 SHADWELL *Jovenal* x. 441 No Noble Youth with Bandy-leggs. 1797 SWIFT *Wom. Mind* Wks. 1755 IV. 1. 85 Nor makes a scruple to expose Your bandy leg, or crooked nose. 1783-94 BLAKE *Songs Innoc.* *Little Pagan*, 12 Dame Lurch...Would not have bandy children. 1815 SCOTT *Guy M.* xxix, A little mongrel cur, with bandy legs.

Hence *Bandy-legged*, a.

1688 *Lon. Gas.* No. 2392/4 A Bandy-legged splafooted elderly Man. 1849 W. IRVING *Crayon Misc.* 233 Short and bandy-legged...his little legs curving like a pair of parentheses below his kilt.

2. Marked with bands; cf. BAND sb.² 10 b. [f. BAND sb.² + -Y¹.]

1552 Act 5-6 Ed. VI, vi. § 27 Cloth...either pursie, bandie, squally by warpe or woufe. 1601 Act 43 Elis. x. § 1 Clothes...squally, cockling, bandy, light and notably faulty.

3. Full of bands. [f. BAND sb.³ 4 + -Y¹.]

1852 DICKENS *Lett.* I. 279 Not quite a place to my taste, being too bandy (I mean musical, no reference to its legs).

Bandyng (bændiŋ), vbl. sb. [f. BANDY v. + -ING¹.] The action of the vb. BANDY: a. Tossing to and fro, exchange (of blows, words, etc.).

b. Contentious argument, disputation. c. Contention, strife. † d. Confederation, league.

1591 SHAKS. *Rom. & Jul.* III. i. 92 The prince expressly hath Forbidden bandying in Verona streets. 1662 SUTCLIFFE *Orig. Sac.* III. iv. § 15 (L.) The bandyngs of this controversie. 1689 HICKERINGILL *Modest Inq.* II. 17 What Combination? What Bandyng against it? 1719 SWIFT *10 Yng. Clergym.* Wks. 1755 II. i. 19 The perpetual bandying of factions among us. 1822 SCOTT *Nigel* xi, Where there is such bandying of private feuds and public factions.

Bandyng, ppl. a. [f. as prec. + -ING².] That bandies, tosses to and fro, disputes, etc.: see the vb.

1665 GLANVILLE *Septs. Sci.* I. 14 All the bandying attempts of resolution. 1677 MARVELL *Growth Popery* 6 The crew of bandying Cardinals.

Bane (bēn), sb.¹ Forms: 1 *ba-na*, *bona*, 2-4 *bone*, (4 *ban*, *bon*, 5 *boyn*, 6 *baene*), 3- *bane*; 5-6 *bayn* (e, 6-7 *baïn* (e). [Common Teut.: OE. *ba-na*, *bō-na* = OFris. *bona*, OS., OHG. *banō*, MHG. *bane*, *ban*, ON. *bani*, Sw., Da. *bane*, 'death, murder': — *O Teut. *banon*-wk. masc. Cogn. w. Goth. *banja*, ON., OE. *bēn* — *O Teut. **banjō*- (str. fem.) wound; also with Gr. *φόνος*, *φονή*, murder, slaughter, *φονεύς* killer, murderer.]

† 1. A slayer or murderer; one who causes the death or destruction of another. Obs.

Beowulf 3491 Bona swide neah...fyrrenum sceoteð. a 800 O. E. Chron. an. 755 Hie næfre his banan folgian noldon. 1205 LAY. 5806 3e beoð ure berenne bone. a 1300 *Cursor* M. 7634 Philistiens sal be his ban. c 1385 CHAUCER *L. G. W.* 2147 He overcom this beste & was his ban. a 1400 *Sir Perc.* 1338 Who that may his bon be, Salle hafe this kyngdome and me. c 1460 *Towneley Myst.* 17 *Caym*, I sloghe my brother...I pray the...To ryn away with the bayn. 1513 MORE *Rich. III.* Wks. 51/2 The brother hath bene the brothers bane. 1588 SHAKS. *Tit. A.* v. iii. 73 Let Rome herselfe be bane vnto herselfe. 1682 *Yorksh. Diaries* (Surtees) II. 303 The Jury found the horse the bane. 1691 BLOUNT *Law Dict.* s.v., I will be the Bane of him, is a common saying. [1861 H. RILEY tr. *Liber Alb.* 86 The horse aforesaid, which had been the bane of the said boy.]

† 2. That which causes death, or destroys life.

a 1000 *Beowulf* 4413 Hilde mecās...tō bonan wurdon. c 1230 *Amc.* R. 222 One pinge bet...is baub soule bone, & wei to deadlich sunne. c 1385 CHAUCER *Knts.* T. 239, I was hurt right now thurgh myn yhe Into myn herte, that wol my bane be. c 1400 *Ywaine & Gau.* 1854 The water sone had bene my bane. 1647 H. MORE *Song of Soul* II. App. xcvi, Brimstone thick and clouds of fiery bain.

b. *esp.* Poison. Now only *fig.*, and referred to 4. Also in *comb.*, in names of poisonous plants or substances, as DOGBANE, HENBANE, LEOPARD'S BANE, RAT'S BANE, WOLF'S BANE, etc., q. v.

1398 TREvisa *Barth. De P. R. v.* xx. (1495) 208 Henbane is mannis bane. c 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 22 Bane, or poysoun. 1573 TUSSEY *Husb.* (1878) 172 Bane for the rats. 1586 WARNER *Alb. Eng.* II. viii. 33 To the baene therein He mixed somewhat of his blood. 1624 CHAPMAN *Odys.* I. 404 Bane to poison his sharp arrows heads. 1684 tr. *Bonnet's Merc. Compit.* III. 111 Medicines...taken inwardly against Banes and Poisons. 1713 ADDISON *Cato* v. i, My bane and antidote are both before me. 1735 SOMERVILLE *Chase* IV.

331 The Dog whose fatal Bite convey'd th' infectious Bane.
1865 MAURICE *Mor. & Met. Phil.* IV. vii. § 87 In which Spinoza offers at once the bane and the antidote.

† 3. Murder, death, destruction: in later usage chiefly in phrases, *catch, fetch, get, receive, take one's bane* = 'catch one's death,' in which it passes into 2. (See esp. quot. 1655). *Obs.*

c 1375 *Cott. Hom.* 243 Ne cepes hi of hus gold ne selfer but ure bane. c 1374 CHAUCER *Troilus* v. 602 For which the folk of Thebes caught hire bane. c 1400 *Ysaie & Gov.* 826 Thai ne myght hire thair lord bane. 1594 GREENE *Look Glasse* (1861) 131 'Twere best you did, for fear you catch your bane. 1605 SHAKS. *Mach.* v. iii. 60 I will not be afraid of Death and Bane, Till Birname Forrest come to Dunsinane. 1655 FULLER *Ch. Hist.* ix. IV. 402 The two Judges... getting their banes there, died few days after.

4. That which causes ruin, or is pernicious to well-being; the agent or instrument of ruin or woe, the 'curse.' (Now the ordinary sense.)

1577 HARRISON *England* ii. xxi. 333 Inconstancy... a bane unto all natures. 1596 BR. BARLOW *Three Serms.* i. 117 Cardes and Dice, the verie baine of any familie. 1655 FULLER *Ch. Hist.* ii. iii. § 37 I. 275 Bold Beggars are the Bane of the best Bounty. 1674 MARVELL *Rel. Transp.* ii. 135 The great bane and scandal of the Church. 1700 STEELE *Tatler* No. 9 ¶ 2 Those Rogues, the Bane to all excellent Performances, the Imitators. 1797 BURKE *Corr.* (1844) III. 186 Theoretic plans of constitution have been the bane of France. 1853 C. BRONTË *Villette* xxiv. (1876) 378 She who had been the bane of his life. 1858 HOLLAND *Ticom's Lett.* vii. 132 Selfishness is the bane of all life.

5. Ruin, fatal mischief; woful or hapless fate; harm, woe. Chiefly poetical.

c 1400 *Judicium* (1822) 2 For dedes that I haue done... I must abide my boyn. 1594 GREENE *Look Glasse* (1861) 117 That sweet boy that wrought bright Venus bane. 1633 G. HERBERT *Forerunners* iv. in *Temple* 171 Hath some fond lover tid'd thee to thy bane? 1866 KINGSLEY *Herew.* Prel. 3 He finds out... for his weal and his bane that, etc.

6. A disease in sheep, the 'rot.'

1859 in WORCESTER.

7. Comb., as *bane-touch*.

1649 SELDEN *Latus of Eng.* i. xxxvii. (1739) 56 Men being weary of such bane-touches, the Clergy that cried it up, their successors cried it down.

† **Bane**, sb.² *Obs.* [See BAN, BANNS.] A proclamation of a marriage; a prelude of a play. In the latter sense more freq. in pl. *banes*, now BANNS. c 1400 *Promp. Parv.* 22 Bane of a play (1499 or marriage), *Banna*, coragium (1499 *preludium*). 1483 *Cath. Angl.* 20 Bane (v. r. Bayne) of a play; *preludium*, *proludium*.

Bane, v. arch. Also *banin*, (bæn). [f. BANE sb.¹] 1. *trans.* To kill: said esp. of poison. *Obs.*

1596 LYTE *Dodens* 426 Aconit that baneth, or killeth Panthers. 1599 WARNER *Alb. Eng.* v. xxv. (1612) 119 Poysned by a Monke, that bend himselfe, that Iohn might dye. 1596 SHAKS. *Merch. V.* iv. i. 46 If my house be troubled with a Rat, And I... giue ten thousand Ducates To haue it baid?

2. To harm, hurt, injure, poison: a. physically.

1597 TURBERV. *Dispraye Wom.* (R.) Hidden hookes... To bane thee when thou bite. 1615 LATHAM *Falconry* (1633) 102 Surfeited in their bodies, and also banded in their liuers. a 1623 G. HERBERT *Country Parson* v. (T.) If a shepherd knew not which grass will bane, or which not. 1667 *Phil. Trans.* II. 526 The Smoak... will bane them. 1827 KEBLE *Chr. Year* 5th Sund. Easter, For what shall heal, when holy water banes?

b. morally or socially.

1601 DENT *Pathw. Heaven* 71 Couetousnesse... baneth our Gentlemen. 1643 BURROUGHS *Exp. Hosea* iv. (1652) 61 To be poisonous to them to have baned their soules.

Bane, obs. form of BAIN adv. readily, and BONE.

Baneberry (bæ'nberi). [f. BANE, poison + BERRY.] The fruit of a plant *Actæa spicata* (N.O. *Ranunculaceæ*); also the plant itself, otherwise called Herb Christopher.

1735 *Gentl. Mag.* XXV. 492 Bane-berries, are poisonous in a very high degree. 1853 LINDLEY *Veg. K.* 427 The black berries of the *Bane-Berry*... are poisonous.

† **Baned**, ppl. a. *Obs.* [f. BANE v. + -ED.] Ruined, destroyed; injured, hurt.

1568 T. HOWELL *Arb. Amittie* (1879) 67 To bruse my baned bones. 1578 T. PROCTER *Gorg. Gallery* I. 4 My Baned limmes. 1639 FULLER *Holy War* iii. xii. The voyage of these two kings... baned with mutual discord and emulation.

Baneful (bæ'nful), a. [f. BANE sb.¹ + -FUL.]

1. Life-destroying; poisonous.

a 1593 H. SMITH *Wks.* (1867) II. 475 The old serpent's baneful breath. 1598 SYLVESTER *Du Bartas* i. iii. (1641) 27 The banefull Aconite. 1697 DRYDEN *Virg. Eclog.* iii. 124 The Nightly Wolf is banefull to the Fold. 1791 COWPER *Iliad* xxii. 107 Herbs Of baneful juice. c 1854 STANLEY *Sinai & Pal.* vii. (1858) 290 No living creature could survive the baneful atmosphere which hung upon its waters.

2. Destructive to well-being, pernicious, injurious.

1579 SPENSER *Sheph. Cal.* Aug. 173 Helpe me ye banefull byrds. 1596 MARLOWE *1st Pt. Tamburl.* v. ii. A sight... banefull to their soules. 1770 GOLDSM. *Des. Vill.* 311 To see ten thousand banefull arts combined. 1838 HT. MARTINEAU *Ireland* I. 4 Very banefull superstition. 1868 FREEMAN *Norm. Cong.* (1876) II. x. 503 Whose results... would prove most banefull, if not ruinous, to the country.

Banefully, adv. [f. prec. + -LY.] In a hurtful or pernicious manner.

1865 *Reader* 2 Sept. 253½ Which... influenced banefully... the fortunes of Prince Charlie.

Banefulness. [f. as prec. + -NESS.] The quality of being baneful; hurtfulness.

Baner, rare⁻¹. [f. BANE v. + -ER.] He who or that which kills, poisons, destroys, or ruins.

1598 SYLVESTER *Du Bartas* i. vi. 359 Dying himself, kills with his bane his Baner.

Banewort (bæ'nwort). [f. BANE poison + WORT, OE. *wyrt*, plant, herb.] a. *gen.* Any poisonous plant (*dial.*). b. *spec.* The Lesser Spearwort (*Ranunculus Flammula*), reputed to poison sheep. c. The Deadly Nightshade.

a. 1864 *Whitby Gloss.* s.v., It's some mak o' banewort. b. 1598 LYTE *Dodens* 425 Called in some places of Englande *Sperworte*, it may be also called Banewort. 1597 GERARDE *Herbal* ii. cccxxx. (1633) 962 Speare, Crowfoot, and Bane wort because it is dangerous and deadly for sheep. 1635 SWAN *Spec. M.* (1670) 219 Spear-wort, or Bane-wort, is an herb which if it be taken inwardly is deadly.

c. [HALLIWELL cites SKINNER.] 1861 MISS PRATT *Flower Pl.* IV. 72 Dwale, or Deadly Nightshade... Early English botanists called it Bane-wort.

Bang (bæŋ), v. Also 6 *bangue*. [First in 16th c.; perh. previously in north. *dial.* from Scand. Cf. ON. *bang*, OSw. *bang*, to hammer; also LG. *bangen*, *bangeln* to strike, beat, Ger. *bengel* cudgel.]

1. *trans.* To strike violently with a resounding blow; to thump, thrash.

1c 1550 *Rob. Hood* (Ritson) ix. 95 Either yield to me the daie, Or I will bang thy back and sides. 1570 LEVINS *Manip.* 133 To bangue, *fustigare*. 1593 NASHE 4 *Lett. Confut.* 37 A bigge fat lusty wench it is, and hath an arme like an Amazon, and will bang the abominably if euer she catch thee. 1675 COTTON *Scoffer* 44 With my Battoon I'll bang his scone. 1794 BURNS *Wks.* 133 Oh aye my wife she dang me, And aft my wife did bang me. 1847 TENNYSON *Princ.* v. 494 Like an iron-clanging anvil bang'd With hammers.

2. Hence, in various const., expressing: a. violent action producing loud noise, as *To bang off* (a gun, music on a piano, etc.), and esp. *To bang* (a door) = to shut it violently, to slam; or b. to drive or knock with violence.

a. 1767 BECKFORD *Italy* II. 136 A most complicated sonata, banged off on the chimnes. 1814 SCOTT *Waver.* III. 238 Two unlucky red-coats... banged off a gun at him. 1816 MISS AUSTEN *Emma* I. i. 5 She always turns the lock of the door the right way and never bangs it. 1878 BLACK *Green Past.* xxxiv. 277 The door was banged to.

b. 1877 *Daily News* 1 Nov. 6/1 This is now being banged into the heads that have planned... this campaign.

3. *intr.* To strike violently or noisily; to bump or thump. Of a door: To close with a loud report, to slam.

1713 *Guardian* No. 143 (1756) II. 234 It banged against his calf and jarred upon his right heel. 1860 W. COLLINS *Wom. While* i. vii. 31 Taking great pains not to let the doors bang. 1883 V. STUART *Egypt* 302 Our boats were banging against the sides of the Era, making sleep impossible.

4. Hence: To make a violent noise, e.g. by the discharge of fire-arms.

1840 R. DANA *Bef. Mast* xxxvi. 136 The watch on deck were banging away at the guns every few minutes.

II. 5. *trans.* To beat violently, knock about; to thrash or drub, defeat, worst. *lit. and fig.*

1604 SHAKS. *Oth.* ii. i. 21 The desperate Tempest hath so bang'd the Turkes, That their designement halts. 1651 LILLY *Chas. I* (1774) 246 He was presently after well banged by Essex. 1784 COWPER *Wks.* (1876) 183 You are a clergyman, and I have banged your order. 1816 SCOTT *Old Mort.* 80 It's not easy to bang the soldier with his bandoleers.

† b. *To bang it out or about*: to come to blows, fight it out. *Obs.*

c 1600 *Rob. Hood* (Ritson) xvii. 85 With a but of sack we will bang it about, To see who wins the day. 1862 HAYLIN *Cosmog.* i. (1682) 282 If any two were displeased, they expected no law, but bang'd it out bravely.

c. *Comm.* To beat down, overwhelm.

1884 *Marten & Christoph. Monthly Circ.* 31 Mar., Speculators for the fall are as usual taking the opportunity to bang the market by heavy sales.

6. *colloq.* To 'beat', surpass, excel, outdo.

1808 *Cumbrian Ball.* iv. 13 Cocker Wully lap baw-k-heet... But Tamer in her stockin feet, She bang'd him out and out. 1837 DICKENS in *Life* ii. i. 34 The next Pickwick will bang all the others. *Mod. Sc.* That bangs a 'I'er met wi'. *Irish Prov.* This bangs Bannagher.

III. 7. *intr. (dial.)* To throw oneself or spring with a sudden impetuous movement, to dash, to bounce.

1795 H. MACNEILL *Will & Jean*, Up he bang'd; and, sair afflicted, Sad and silent took the road. 1813 *Examiner* 18 Jan. 43/1 The mob... called out, 'Bang up lads, in with you.' 1813 MAR. EDGEWORTH *Patron* II. xxx. 257 English Clay left his D. T. O... and banged down to Clay-hall.

b. *trans.* To throw with sudden violence.

1768 ROSS *Helenore* 143 (JAM.) Then I'll bang out my beggar dish.

IV. 8. The verb stem is used adverbially with other verbs, esp. *come, go*, in the senses of: a. with a violent blow or shock; b. with a sudden and violent clap or explosive noise; c. all of a sudden (*tout d'un coup*), suddenly and abruptly, all at once, as in 'to cut a thing bang off.'

a. 1841 MARRYAT *Poacher* xxviii, We came bang against one another. 1842 SIR T. MARTIN in *Fraser's Mag.* Dec., Bang went my haunch against an... angle of my bed.

b. 1855 O. W. HOLMES *Poems* 139 Bang went the magazine! 1855 BROWNING *Up in Villa Wks.* 1863 I. 53 Bang, whang, whang goes the drum. 1882 O'DONOVAN *Merv* I. 311 Bang, came another blank shot.

c. 1795 H. MACNEILL *Will & Jean* i, Bang! cam in Mat Smith and his brither. *Mod. (Scotchman loquatur)* 'Ye canna be in London an hour, when bang goes saxpence!'

9. *Comb.* with sb. as obj., *bang-beggar*, a strong staff (Sc.), a constable or beadle (*dial.*); † *bang-pitoher*, a drunkard; *bang-straw* (*dial.*), a threshers.

1865 E. WAUGH *Barrel Org.* 29 Owd Pudge, th' bang-beggar, coom runnin' into th' pew. 1839 J. CLARKE *Parasol*. 102 A notable bang-pitcher, *Silenus aller*.

Bang, v.² [f. BANG sb.²] To cut (the front hair) square across, so that it ends abruptly.

1882 *Century Mag.* XXV. 192 He was bareheaded, his hair banged even with his eyebrows in front. 1883 *Harper's Mag.* Mar. 492/2 They wear their... hair 'banged' low over their foreheads.

Bang (bæŋ), sb.¹ [f. BANG v.¹; cf. ON. *bang*, OSw. *bang* a hammering, Da. *bank* a beating.]

1. A heavy resounding blow, a thump.

1c 1550 *Rob. Hood* (Ritson) vi. 79 All the wood rang at every bang. 1570 LEVINS *Manip.* 133 Bangue, *fustis*. 1598 FLORIO, *Sergiosone*, a bang or rap given upon the necke. 1601 SHAKS. *Jul. C.* iii. iii. 20 You'll beare me a bang for that I feare. 1663 BUTLER *Hud.* i. ii. 831 With many a stiff thwack, many a bang, Hard Crab-tree and old Iron rang. a 1845 *Hood Lay Real Life* vii, Many a bitter bang I bore.

† b. A drubbing, defeat. *Obs. rare.*

1644 SIR G. RADCLIFFE in *Carte's Collect.* (1735) 329 After a shrewd bang Prince Rupert is recruiting gallantly.

2. A sudden, violent or explosive noise; e.g. the report of fire-arms.

1855 THACKERAY *Newcomes* II. 58 (L.) The steps of a fine belozenged carriage were let down with a bang. 1884 J. COLBORNE *Hicks Pasha* 160 The sharp bang of a section of howitzers.

3. A sudden impetuous movement; impetus, go.

c 1774 C. KEITH *Farmer's Ha'*, As he was working lang and strang, And fallowin' wi' pith and bang. 1870 J. KAYE *Seyon War* II. vi. iv. 554 An unwonted amount of confidence and bang.

Bang (bæŋ), sb.² [= hair cut 'bang' off; cf. BANG-TAIL.] The front hair cut square across the forehead. (Orig. in U.S.) Hence *Banged ppl. a.*

1880 HOWELLS *Undisc. Country* viii. 113 His hair cut in front like a young lady's bang. 1880 *Even Stand.* 3 Apr. 4/4 The present style of banged girl.

Bang sb.³, obs. form of BHANG, Indian hemp.

Banger (bæŋə), [f. BANG v.¹ + -ER.] He who or that which bangs; *slang*, an astounding lie, a 'thumper.'

1814 G. HANGER *Sporting* (on fly-leaf), A Sportsman entire—who says nay, tells a banger.

Banging (bæŋŋ), vbl. sb. [f. BANG v.¹ + -ING.] The action of striking violently and noisily.

1647 WHARTON *Irel. War Wks.* (1683) 256 There shall be much banging and slashing amongst Men. 1709 STEELE *Tatler* No. 70 ¶ 4 So neither is banging a Cushion Oratory. 1853 KANE *Grinnell Exp.* xliii. (1856) 402 We have been nearly three hours subjected to this banging.

Banging, ppl. a. [f. BANG v.¹ + -ING.] Dealing violent blows, striking violently and noisily; *fig. (colloq.)* overwhelming, 'thumping.'

1560 *Disob. Child* in *Hazl. Dods* II. 282 What banging, what cursing, Long-tongue, is with thee. 1596 NASHE *Saffron Walden* X ij b, The banging things... which I can picke out... are these. 1816 HOLYDAY *Juvenal* 185 Then th' axe their chariot-wheels with banging stroak Splits out. 1864 ARCHD. DENISON in *Daily Tel.* 31 Aug., They could win it with a great banging majority.

Bangla, obs. form of BUNGALOW.

† **Bangle**, v. *Obs.* or *dial.* [Etymol. unknown.]

1. Orig. of hawks: To beat about, flutter aimlessly, in the air, instead of making direct for the quarry. See *BANGLING* ppl. a.

2. *To bangle (away)*: to fritter away, squander.

1621 BURTON *Anat. Mel.* i. ii. iii. x. (1651) 107 We bangle away our best days, befool out our times. 1636 W. SAMSON *Vow Breaker* (N.) Thy titles are so bangled with thy debts. 1658 *Whole Duty Man* xvi. § 18 (1684) 134 If we wilfully bangle away this so precious Legacy. [In *Lanc.* (Halliwell).]

3. *intr.* To flap, bang loosely.

1622 T. STROUGHTON *Chr. Sacr.* xii. 166 Hats... broad brimmed... banging about the eares of men, and hiding their faces. 1878 HALLIWELL s.v., A bangled hat means one bent down or slouched.

4. *dial.* To beat down (e.g. corn by wind or rain).

5. *Bangle(d) ear*, one hanging loosely or flapping, like a spaniel's; hence *Bangle-eared* ppl. adj.

1567 DRANT *Horace Epist.* i. xviii. Filij, A sight of bangle eared houndes. 1647 WARD *Simp. Cobler* (1843) 90, I hold him prudent that in these fastidious times will helpe... bangled ears, with pretty quicke pluckes. 1725 BRADLEY *Fam. Dict.*, *Bangle-Ears*, an Imperfection in a Horse. [In *mod. Dicts.*]

Bangle (bæŋg'l). [a. Hind. *bangrī*, *bangrī*, orig. a coloured glass ring worn on the wrist by women.] A ring-bracelet or anklet.

1767 *Archæol.* VIII. 256 (D.) The ankles and wrists ornamented with large rings or bangles. 1798 GREVILLE in *Phil. Trans.* LXXXVIII. 405 The venders of glass bangles. 1830 MARRYAT *King's Own* xlii, The women... wear... gold bangles upon their arms and legs.

Bangled (bæŋg'ld), ppl. a. [f. prec. + -ED.] Wearing or adorned with bangles.

1864 SALA in *Daily Tel.* 10 June, Clad in Tyrian purple, bangled and braided. 1884 *Harper's Mag.* Sept. 530/2 Gold-bangled sleeve.

† **Bangling**, vbl. sb. *Obs.* [f. BANGLE v. + -ING.] Petty, frivolous contention; squabbling.

1612 T. JAMES *Jesuits Downed*, 68 What banglings had he with Creswell. 1661 MOLLE *Camerar. Ltv. Libr.* iii. xi. 186 Hauling llied in marriage without... banging and strife.

† **Bangling**, *ppl. a. Obs.* [f. as prec. + -ING².] That bangles: see **BANGLE** *v.*, and prec. word.
1615 *Curry-c. for Coxec. l.* 46 My Master. hath met with a bangling Sophister. 1633 T. NASH *Quaternio* 19 One good hawke (is to be preferred) before ten bangling buzzards. 1639 S. WARD *Serm.* 83 (D.) No bangling hawk, but with a high flier will mend her pitch.

† **Bangster**. *Obs. or dial.* Also 6 bangister, -elater, 7 -ester. [f. **BANG** *v.* + -STER: cf. *banger*.] 1. A burly violent fellow; a bully, a braggart. 1570 *Leg. Bp. St. Andrews in Scot. Poems* 16th C. (1801) 11. 326 Proud ambitious bangsters. 1651 CALDERWOOD *Hist. Kirk* (1843) 11. 516 My lord, mak us quite of thir Matchievelian and bangster lords. 1766 ROSS *Helene* 89 (JAM.) That yet have bangsters on their boddom set.

2. One who beats his opponents; a victor, winner. 1800 SCOTT *Abbot* xix, If the Pope's champions are to be bangsters in our very changehouses. 1824 — *St. Roman's* 1. 183 (D.) You are so certain of being the bangster, so very certain I mean of sweeping stakes.

† **Bangstry**. *Obs. rare-1.* [f. prec. + -Y.] The action of a bangster; masterful violence. 1594 *Acts James VI* (1597) § 217 Persones wrangouslie intrusing themselves in the rowmes and possessions of vtheris be bangstrie and force.

Bang-tail. [cf. **BANG** *v.* 8 c.] A (horse's) tail, of which the hair is allowed to grow to a considerable length and then cut horizontally across so as to form a flat even tassel-like end; hence **Bang-tailed** *ppl. a.*

1870 *Daily News* 19 July 6 A good mare with a bang tail. 1861 HUGHES *Tom Brown at Oxf.* vi. (D.) 'These bang-tailed little sinners any good?' said Drysdale, throwing some cock-a-bondies across the table.

Bangue, variant of **BHANG**; obs. f. **BANG**.

Bang-up, *adj. phr. slang*; also **bangsed-up**. [as if *bang* or *close up* to a line. Cf. *slap-up*.] Quite up to the mark, stylish, in the pink of fashion.

1812 H. & J. SMITH *Rej. Addr.* (1833) 163 Dance a bang-up theatrical cotillion. 1821 COMBE (Dr. Syntax) *Wife* v. (D.) Thus banged-up, sweeten'd, and clean shav'd. 1843 LEVER *J. Hinton* vii. 43 His spotted neckcloth knotted in bang-up mode.

Banian (bæ'niän). Forms: 6 **baniane**, 7 **bannyan**, 7-8 **bannian**, 8-9 **banyan**, 7- **banian**. [a. Pg. *banian*, prob. a. Arab. *banyān* (16th c.), ad. Gujarātī *vāṇiyo* man of the trading caste, f. Skr. *vāṇij* merchant. 'The terminal nasal may be taken from the plural form *vāṇiyan*' (Col. Yule).] 1. A Hindoo trader, especially one from the province of Guzerat ('many of which have for ages been settled in Arabian ports, and known by this name'—Col. Yule); sometimes applied by early writers to all Hindoos in Western India.

1599 HAKLUYT *Voy.* II. 1. 310 A Baniane... one of the Indians inhabiting the country of Cambaia. 1634 SIR T. HERBERT *Trav.* 37 The Bannians are tawny in complexion, are craftie, faire spoken, exquisite Merchants and superstitious. 1676 *Phil. Trans.* XI. 752 The religion of the Banians not permitting them to eat any thing that hath had life. 1845 STOCQUEREL *Handbk. Brit. Ind.* (1854) 23 Bhysses, or Banians, are the trading class.

2. In Bengal applied to: A native broker attached to a house of business, or a person similarly employed by a private gentleman; now usually called *sircar*.

1687 A. LOVELL *Thruenot's Trav.* III. i. xxxii. 55 Every one hath his banian in the Indies. 1783 BURKE *Sp. E. Ind. Bill* Wks. 1842 1. 293 Mr. Hastings's banian was, after this auction, found possessed of territories, etc. 1845 STOCQUEREL *Handbk. Brit. Ind.* (1854) 40 Banians or dubashes (a species of broker to the European houses).

3. A loose gown, jacket, or shirt of flannel, worn in India. (Originally *attrib.* from sense 1.)

1775 in *Harl. Misc.* VIII. 297 (D.) I have lost nothing by it but a banyan shirt, a corner of my quilt, and my bible singed. 1779 GRAVES *Spir. Quix.* xi. iv. (D.) His banyan with silver clasp wrapt round His shrinking paunch. 1845 STOCQUEREL *Handbk. Brit. Ind.* (1854) 315 Even in the low country a light flannel banian (jacket or shirt) is of service.

4. *attrib.* (in reference to the Banians' abstinence from flesh and sacred estimation of animal life): **Banian-day** (*Naut.*), one on which no meat is served out; **Banian-hospital**, one for animals.

1748 SMOLLETT *Rod. Rand.* xxv. (D.) On Mondays, Wednesdays, and Fridays the ship's company had no allowance of meat, and... these meagre days were called banyan days. 1823 LAMB *Elia* Ser. i. iii. (1865) 19 We had three banyan to four meat days in the week. 1813 J. FORBES *Orient. Mem.* III. 129 A banian-hospital... where he saw a number of sick oxen, camels, and horses.

5. **Banian- or Banyan-tree**, now often simply **Banyan**: the Indian Fig Tree (*Ficus religiosa* or *indica*) a remarkable East Indian tree, the branches of which drop shoots to the ground, that take root and support their parent branches; extending in this way, one tree will often cover a large expanse of ground. [*Banian Tree*, *Banians' Tree*, *Tree of the Banians*, was originally a local appellation given by Europeans to an individual tree of this species growing near Gombroon on the Persian Gulf, under which the *Banians*, or Hindu traders settled in that port, had built a little pagoda; thence it was extended to others, and

finally taken as the English name of the species. It is not so called in any Indian language.]

1634 SIR T. HERBERT *Trav.* II. (1638) 122 A Tree or rather twenty Trees, the boughs rooting and springing up a whole akter together) . . . named by us the Bannyan Tree, from their adorning and adoring it with ribbons and streamers of varicoloured Taffata. 1650 tr. Tavernier I. 255 Near to the city of Ormus was a Bannians tree. [1687 A. LOVELL *Thruenot's Trav.* III. i. xiv. 25 The war-tree . . . called the tree of banians.] 1791 NEWTE *Tour Eng. & Scot.* 416 The Banian tree of India, the most stupendous effort of vegetable nature. 1827 LIVINGSTONE *Trav.* xii. 212 Most . . . send down roots from their branches like the banian. 1860 GOSSE *Rom. Nat. Hist.* 133 The banyan, or sacred fig of India.

Baning (bæ'niŋ), *vbl. sb.* [f. **BANE** *v.* + -ING¹.] Poisoning.

1530 TINDALE *Exod. Prol.*, Then God sendeth his curses among them, as hunger, dearth, murrain, baning, pestilence.

Banio, obs. form of **BAGNIO**.

Banish (bæ'niʃ), *v.* Forms: 4 **banyse**, -isshe, 4-6 -ysahe, 5 **bannysshe**, 6 -ysahe, -ish, **banysh**(e), -yoh, 4- **banish**. [a. OF. *banis-* lengthened stem of *banir* (mod. *bannir*) :—late L. *banire*, f. *bannum* proclamation: see **BAN**.] 1. *orig.* To put to the ban, 'proclaim' as an outlaw, to outlaw. *Obs.* [See **BANISHED**.] 2. To condemn (a person) by public edict or sentence to leave the country; to exile, expatriate: a. with *from*, out of.

1375 BARBOUR *Bruc* iv. 522 We are out of our cuntre Banyst. 1485 CAXTON *Chas. Gl.* 13 Whom . . . her uncle banyssed fro hys contrey. 1530 PALSGR. 443/2 The kyng hath banyssed hym out of his realm. 1610 SHAKS. *Temp.* i. ii. 266 Sycorax. . . from Argier Thou know'st was banish'd. 1848 tr. *Gieseler's Ch. Hist.* II. ii. 109 They had been banished from Rome.

b. with *double obj.* (of person and place).

1494 FABYAN *i.* ii. 9 He was banyssed the Countre. 1674 HICKMAN *Hist. Quinquart.* 36 Godescalk was banished Germany. 1796 MORSE *Amer. Geog.* II. 295 He that shall be convicted there of is to be banished the kingdom.

c. *simply*.

1395 CHAUCER *L. G. W.* 1863 That Tarquyny shulde ybanyschid be there-fore. 1651 HOBBS *Leviath.* II. xxi. 110 Banished an Aristides, for his reputation of Justice. 1879 FROUDE *Cæsar* xv. 227 Clodius had banished Cicerō.

3. *gen.* To send or drive away, expel, dismiss imperatively (a person). Const. as in prec.

1450 *Compl. Loveres* l. xlii. Though I be banyssed out of her syght. 1548 UDALL, etc. *Erasm. Par. Matt.* xii. 43 (R.) Beyng banyssed from his olde hospital, he walketh in dry and barren places. 1591 SHAKS. *Two Gent.* III. i. 171 To die, is to be banisht from my selfe. 1593 — *a Hen. VI.* II. i. 107, I banish her my Bed. 1732 PORR *Mor. Ess.* III. 330 Banish'd the doctor, and expell'd the friend. 1826 DISRAELI *Viv. Grey* VII. ix. 438 Who had they dared to imitate him. . . would have been banished society.

4. To drive away, expel, dismiss (a thing).

1460 *Pol. Rel. & L. Poems* (1866) 78 Sithe al manere of Justice and pyte is banishd out of a ladies entente. 1596 SHAKS. *Tam. Shr.* Induct. ii. 34 Banish hence these abiect lowlie dreames. 1637 MILTON *Comus* 413 And gladly banish squint suspicion. 1743 RICHARDSON *Pamela* III. 263 Industry would have been banish'd the Earth. 1871 MARKBY *Elem. Law* § 202 Try to recall an absent thought or to banish a present one.

† 5. To clear out, empty. Cf. **AVOID** *v.* *Obs.*

1494 FABYAN *vi.* clxvii. 133 [They] banyssed that cytie as they had doon the other. 1573 TUSSEY *Husb.* (1878) 17 To banish house of blasphemie, least crosses crosse vnluckelie.

Banished (bæ'niʃt), *ppl. a.* Also 4 (*Sc.*) **banyst**, 6 -elst. [f. prec. + -ED.]

† 1. Outlawed, put to the ban. *Banished man*: an outlaw, a bandit. *Obs.*

[c. 1300 *Sir Benes* 4129 This forbannuste man Is come the land agan.] 1398 TREVISIA *Barth. De P. R.* XIV. li. (1495) A deserte is the lodges of banyssht men and of theues. 1591 SHAKS. *Two Gent.* v. iv. 152 These banish'd men, that I haue kept withall. 1617 MORYSON *Itin.* i. ii. 104 These banished men lurking upon the confines of the Popes state. . . make excursions. . . to doe robberies.

2. Exiled, expatriated; driven away, dismissed.

1578 *Chr. Prayers in Priv. Prayers* (1851) 514 Whensoever this banished and wayfaring soul of mine shall depart hence. 1582-8 *Hist. Jas. VI* (1804) 274 The uthertwa cheefe baneist lords. 1611 BIBLE 2 Sam. xiv. 13 The King doeth not fetch home againe his banished. 1727 POPE *Eliza* 52 Some banish'd lover, or some captive maid. 1855 MACAULAY *Hist. Eng.* IV. 421 Who had heroically laid down his life for the banished King.

Banisher (bæ'niʃə), [f. as prec. + -ER¹.] He who or that which banishes or drives away.

1450 HENRYSON *Test. Cres.* (R.) Faire Phebus . . . banisher of night. 1607 SHAKS. *Cor.* IV. v. 89 To be full quit of those my Banishers. 1729 M. BROWNE *Piscat. Eclog.* Ded. (1773) 10 Solitude, soft Banisher of care. 1834 CARLYLE *Fr. Rev.* i. l. 1. 6 Maupeou, the banisher of Parlements.

Banishing, *vbl. sb.* [f. as prec.] = next.

1523 LD. BERNERS *Froiss.* I. viii. 7 The kynge. . . defended euery persone, on payne of banysshing. . . that none shulde . . . go. 1641 PRYNNE *Prelates Tyranny* 177 The banishing and exiling of Freemen out of their native country.

Banishment (bæ'niʃmənt), [f. as prec. + -MENT.]

1. The action of authoritatively expelling from the country; a state of exile; expatriation.

1507 *Bk. Gd. Mann.* (W. de W.) B iij. For he . . . hadde kepte hym from banysshment. 1607 SHAKS. *Cor.* IV. iii. 22 The Nobles receyue so to heart, the Banishment of that worthy Coriolanus. 1776 GIBSON *Decl. & F.* I. xvi. 402 A sentence of banishment was pronounced. 1855 MERIVALE *Rom. Emp.*

(1875) IV. xxxviii. 333 Some exiles contrived to avoid going to their places of banishment.

2. *gen.* The action of peremptorily sending away; a state of enforced absence; dismissal.

1535 COVERDALE *Ps.* CXK. 5 Wo is me y^e my banishment endureth so longe. a 1744 POPE in *Lady Montague's Lett.* 23 l. 70, I wish. . . you might pass to your banishment by the most pleasant way. 1832 HT. MARTINEAU *Elia* of *Gar.* ii. 23 Their banishment was a sign that dinner was ready.

Banister (bæ'nistə), Also **bannister**. [corruption of **BALUSTER**, q. v.; though condemned by Nicholson as 'improper,' by Stuart (*Dict. Archit.* 1830) and Gwilt as 'vulgar,' the term had already taken literary rank, and has now acquired general acceptance.] Usually in *pl.*: Slender upright posts or rails, esp. those guarding the side of a staircase, and supporting the handrail; often applied to the whole structure of uprights and handrail.

1667 PRIMATT *City & C. Build.* 66 Posts, Rails, Bannisters. 1677 MOXON *Mech. Exerc.* (1703) 165 A pair of Stairs. . . with Walls and Railes and Bannisters. 1765 H. WALPOLE *Otranto* v. (1798) 81 The uppermost bannister of the great stairs. 1766 ENTICK *London* IV. 63 A neat altar-piece, inclosed with rails and banisters. 1775 SHERIDAN *Rivals* II. i. He comes down stairs . . . thumping the banisters all the way. 1860 W. COLLINS *Wom. White* 490 He held fast by the banisters, as he descended the stairs.

b. *collect. sing.* = Banisters; cf. **BALUSTER** 4.

1851 MAYHEW *Lon. Labour* 344 Going down your staircase, I should be all right so long as I touched the bannister.

Banjo (bæ'ndʒo). Also (earlier) **banjore**, **banjer**. [A corruption of **BANDORE**, through Negro slave pronunciation, *banjōre*, *banjō*.] A stringed musical instrument, played with the fingers, having a head and neck like a guitar, and a body like a tambourine; a modification of the bandore.

[1764 GRAINGER *Sugar-Cane* iv. To the wild banshaw's melancholy sound.] c 1790 DIBDIN *Sea-songs* (title), The Negro and his Banjer. 1801 MAR. EDGEWORTH *Belinda* II. xviii. 7 'What is this, mamma!—It is not a guitar, is it?' 'No, my dear, it is called a banjore; it is an African instrument, of which the negroes are particularly fond.' a 1845 *Negro Melodies* (in Bartlett's) Dey dance all night to de ole banjo, Wid a cornstalk fiddle, and a shoe-string bow. 1846 *Punch* 26 Sept. 126 The music-master of the regiment has been sent with a cornet-a-piston and a banjo to play to Queen Pomare. 1847 *Ibid.* 27 Feb. 94 The present is the age of bones and banjos.

b. *attrib.*, as in *banjo-player*, -playing.

1847 *Punch* 27 Feb. 94 Bone and banjo minstrels. 1865 *Sat. Rev.* 4 Feb. 134/1 A converted banjo-player. *Ibid.*, Banjo-playing being . . . a negro form of fetish-worship.

Banjoist (bæ'ndʒoɪst), [f. prec. + -IST.] One who plays a banjo.

1880 *Daily Tel.* 23 Dec., Songs sentimental and comic. . . arranged by Ballantine (banjoist). 1884 *Sat. Rev.* 7 June 740/2 The place of the stately Interlocutor . . . was filled by the banjoist.

Bank (bæŋk), *sb.* 1 Forms: (1 ? **banca**), 3-7 **banke**, (3 *Orm.* **bannke**), 4 **bonc**, **bonkk**(e), 4-5 **bonk**(e), (5 **bunk**(e)), 4-6 **bonk**, 6 **banco**, **banok**(e), 3- **bank**. [ME. *banke*, prob. a. Old Norse **banke*, **banki* = Old Icelandic *bakki* ridge, eminence, bank of clouds, of a river, chasm, etc. (whence Da. *bakke*, Sw. *backe*, hillock, hill, rising ground, ascent, acclivity):—O Teut. **bankom*; cogn. with O Teut. **banki-s*, see **BANK**² and **BENCH**; the primary sense of *bank* being probably 'shelf,' natural or artificial, of earth, rock, sand, or wood. The OE. repr. of *banki*, *bakki*, would be **banca*, **bonca*: a compound *hō(h)banca* in sense of 'heel-bench, couch' actually occurs once in a vocabulary, but this may be, as the sense suggests, one of the class of weak compounds from strong sbs. (cf. *andaga* from *dæg*); in any case the senses of ME. *banke*, as well as its first appearance in the northern dialect, point to its Scandinavian source.]

1. A raised shelf or ridge of ground, etc.

1. A portion of the surface of the ground raised or thrown up into a ridge or shelf; a lengthened mound with steeply sloping sides. Hence, One side or slope of such a ridge or mound. Now chiefly in *hedge-bank*.

c 1200 ORMIN 9210 Whærse iss all unnsmeþe get þurh bannkess & þurh græfess. 1377 LANGL. *P. Pl.* B. v. 521 But flustreden forth as bestes ouer bankes and hilles. a 1400 *Cov. Myst.* 170 Downe I ley me upone this banke. 1590 SHAKS. *Mids. N.* II. i. 249, I know a banke where the wilde time blowes. *Ibid.* II. ii. 40 Finde you out a bed, For I vpon this banke will rest my head. 1596 SPENSER *F. Q.* II. iii. 6 Sitting ydle on a sunny banck. 1807 CRABBE *Par. Reg.* II. 170 Toted by each bank and trifled at each stile. 1862 BARNES *Rhymes Dorset Dial.* I. 22 Yellow cowslip-banks.

† 2. A high ground, height, hill, fell. *Obs. exc. in north. dial.*

c 1325 E. E. *Allit. P.* A. 906 Bydez here by þys blysful bonc. c 1340 *Gau. & Gr. Knt.* 14 On mony bonkke, ful brode Bretayn he settez. c 1400 *Antars Arth.* iv, To beker at the barrens, in bonkes so bare.

b. Hence: The slope or acclivity of a hill, a hillside, a brae; a 'hanger.' Still common in the north; cf. *up-bank* = up-hill.

1368 LANGL. *P. Pl.* A. Pro. 8 To reste vnder a brod banke bi a bourne syde. a 1400 *Death & Life* (Warton) x, And as she

c. 9. Iceland, 294) says that is Oriental for a gourd, gives an instance of a banjo in of a gourd.

came by the bankes, the boughes . . lowted to that ladye, and layd forth their branches. 1549 *Compl. Scot.* vi. 37 There was ane grene banc ful of rammel grene treis. 1570 LEVINS *Manib.* 124 Banke of an hill, *proclitatus*. 1631 Stow *Chron.* 1088 Two hills their euen Bankes doe somewhat seeme to stretch. 1808 ANDERSON *Borrowdale Johnnie*, It tuk me nine days and six hours comin up-bank. 1816 Miss AUSTEN *Emma* iii. vi. 309 A bank of considerable abruptness & grandeur. 1875 J. A. H. MURRAY *Thos. of Ervedowne* 2 Thomas, lying on Huntley Banks, sees the lady riding by. 1879 *Shropsh. Gloss.* (E. D. S.), *Bank*, a sloping height.

† 3. An artificial earthwork, an embankment, *esp.* for military use. *Obs.*

1535 COVERDALE 2 *Sam.* xx. 15 Beseged him . . and made a banke aboute the cite. 1559 HULOET, *Banckes* defensyue againste subundation called Seabankes or Seadickes. 1601 HOLLAND *Pliny* (1634) I. 59 Fenced on the East-side with the bank or rampier of Tarquinus. 1611 Bible 2 *Sam.* xx. 15 They cast vp a banke against the city. 1611 An ant-hill. *Obs.*

1667 E. KING in *Phil. Trans.* II. 425 If either of the other two sorts be put into the black Ants Bank. 1747 GOULD *Eng. Ants* 76 We suppose a Bank of Hill Ants to amount . . to six Thousand.

5. A shelving elevation in the sea or the bed of a river, rising to or near the surface, composed of sand, mud, gravel, etc. Also a bed of oysters, mussels, or the like.

1605 SHAKS. *Macb.* i. vii. 7 But here, vpon this Banke and Schoole of time, Wee'd jumpe the life to come. 1696 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 3221/4 Near the Banks of Dunkirk. 1700 *Ibid.* No. 3842/4 Fish from the Bank of Newfoundland. 1719 De Fox *Crusoe* (1858) 437 The Banks (so they call the place where they catch the fish). 1851 LONGF. *Gold. Leg.* v. ad fin., No danger of bank or breaker. 1861 HULME tr. *Moguin-Tandon* m. iii. li. 86 Oysters . . in vast numbers, forming what are termed Oyster banks.

6. A long flat-topped mass: e.g. of cloud or mist stretching above the horizon, of piled-up ice or snow, etc.

1616 BACON *Charge* 4 (T.) A bank of clouds in the north or west. 1840 R. DANA *Bef. Mast* xxxi. 113 On the star-board bow was a bank of mist. 1848 KINGSLEY *Saint's Trug.* iv. 201 A long dim formless fog-bank creeping low. 1860 FITZ-ROY in *Merc. Mar. Mag.* VII. 342 The first indications of daylight are seen above a bank of clouds.

7. Mining. a. 'The face of the coal at which miners are working.' b. 'An ore-deposit or coal-bed worked by surface excavations or drifts above water-level.' Raymond *Mining Gloss.* 1881.

1861 *Chamb. Jnl.* Apr. 216 The work is continued in one set until the bank is pierced through, and the next strait set is reached.

II. A bordering slope.

8. The shelving or sloping margin of a river or stream; the ground bordering upon a river.

c. 1300 *K. Alis.* 3495 That he no sank, Til he com to the water bank. 1330 R. BRUNNE *Chron.* 241 Ouer þe water . . fro bank to bank. 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 23 Banke of watyr, *Keipha*. 1601 SHAKS. *Jul. C.* i. 1. 50 Tyber trembled vnder her banks. 1635 N. CARPENTER *Geog. Del.* ii. ix. 160 Some riuers ouerflow their banks at some certayne times. 1703 MAUNDRELL *Journ. Jerus.* (1732) 82 This second bank [of the Jordan] is beset with Bushes and Trees. 1860 TYNDALL *Glac.* i. § 17. 120 The left bank of the glacier. 1878 HUXLEY *Physiogr.* 5 Geographers have agreed to call that bank which lies upon your right side as you go down towards the sea the right bank.

b. *fig.*

1576 FLEMING tr. *Caius Dogs* in Arb. *Garner* III. 257 Within the banks of his remembrance. 1641 FULLER *Holy & Prof. St.* i. xi. 33 Liberality should as well have banks as a stream. 1665 GLANVILLE *Septs. Sci. Addr.* 13 Like a mighty deluge . . beat down all the Banks of Laws, Vertue, and Sobriety.

† 9. The sea-coast or shore. *Obs.*

c. 1350 *Will. Palerne* 2717 Þe riche cite. . vpon þe see bonke. 1387 TREVISIA *Hiden Rolls Ser.* VII. 135 He sette ones . . his chayer in þe banke of þe see. 1400 *Destr. Troy* vii. 2807 Brode sailes vp braid; bonkis þai leuyt. a. 1470 TIP-TOFT *Caesar* iii. (1530) 4 The open playne banke of Brytayne. 1535 STEWART *Cron. Scot.* II. 437 Fra the West se bank. 1592 SHAKS. 2 *Hen. VI.* iii. li. 83 And twice by aukward winde from Englands banke Droue backe againe.

10. A raised or rising edge or margin of a pond, lake, pit, road, railway cutting, or other hollow place; in *Mining*, the surface of the ground at the pit-mouth, or top of the shaft.

1330 R. BRUNNE *Chron.* 182 The dikes were fulle wide with bankis hie without. 1400 *Destr. Troy* xxxii. 12664 When þe prinse was past to þe pit bothum, þe buernes on þe bonk bet hym with stonys. 1667 MILTON *P. L.* iv. 262 The fringed Bank [of a lake]. 1722 WOLLASTON *Relig. Nat.* ix. 206 Daisies on the banks of the road. 1881 RAYMOND *Mining Gloss.*, *Bank*, the ground at the top of a shaft. Ores are brought 'to bank,' i.e. 'to grass.'

† 11. *spec.* (from 8) The south side of the Thames opposite London [also called *Bankside*], and the brothel-quarter located there (suppressed in 1546). 1536 *Remed. Sedition* 21 As moche shame for an honest man to come out of a tauerne. . as it is here to come from the banke. 1548 CROWLEY in *Strype Eccl. Mem.* II. i. xvii. 142 Sisters of the Bank, the stumbling-blocks of all frail youth. 1598 STOW *Survey* (1633) 448 On this Banke was sometime the *Bordello* or Stewes.

III. *Comb.*, chiefly *attrib.*, as *Bank cross* (*Herb.*), the Hedge-mustard (*Sisymbrium officinale*); *bank-engine*, the engine at a pit's mouth; *bank-fence*, one consisting of a bank of earth; *bank-fish*, cod from Newfoundland-bank, whence *bank-fishing*, *fishery*; *bank-harbour*, one protected

by banks of mud, sand, etc.; *bank-head*, a pit's mouth (see 10); *bank-high* a., swollen up to the banks; *bank-hook*, a large fishing-hook, baited, and attached by a line to the bank of a stream; *bank-jug*, the Willow Warbler, or Willow Wren; *bank-manager*, the superintendent at a pit's mouth; *bank-martin*, -swallow, the Sand-martin; *bank-smack*, a Newfoundland fishing smack.

1863 *Prior Plant-n.* 14 **Bank cress*, from its growth in hedge banks. 1666 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 79/2 Three prizes, one with *Bankfish. 1705 *Ibid.* No. 4103/4 Newfoundland *Bank-Fish . . equal to the North-Sea Cod. 1882 *Standard* 5 Sept. 4/6 The accumulations on the 'bank head' are lower than is usual, and all the collieries are full of orders. 1882 *Daily Tel.* 28 Oct. 2/4 Streams everywhere are 'bank high, and flooded. 1884 *Yorksh. Post* 9 Jan., A bank manager in London or Liverpool was a very different personage from a 'bank manager in Staffordshire or the mining regions generally, where he has to superintend the operations at the pit's mouth. 1774 G. WHITE *Selborne* lix, The 'bank-martin' frequents a round and regular hole in the sand or earth. 1655 MOUTFRET & BENN. *Health's Impr.* (1746) 188 Be they either House-Swallows, or *Bank-Swallows. 1883 *Fisheries Exhib. Catal.* 355 The fishery is carried on . . in larger vessels, called 'bank-smacks.'

Bank (bæŋk), *sb.* 2 Forms: (1) *banca*, 3 *bonck*, *baunk*, 5-6 *banck*, 6-7 *banke*, 6-*bank*. [*ME. baunk, banck*, apparently a. OF. *banc* 'bench' (= Pr. *banc*, It., Sp., Pg. *banco*):—late L. *banco* bench, 'scamnum', ad. Teut. *bank, banc* (OS., MHG., MDu. *banc*, OHG. *banch*, G., Du. *bank*):—O. Teut. **banki-s* BENCH; cognate with BANK *sb.* 1.—O. Teut. **bankon-*. If however OE. *hō(h)banca* 'heel-bench, couch, sofa', was really a compound of an OE. **banca* (see prec.), the ME. word might be the lineal descendant of that, subsequently identified with the Fr. *banc*. The true native equivalent is BENCH:—OE. *benc*.]

† 1. A long seat for several to sit on, a bench, or form; a platform or stage to speak from. *Obs.* (Cf. *mountebank*.)

[a. 1050 in Wright *Voc.* (W.) /280 *Sponda*, *hobanca*.] 1205 LAV. 25185 Pa spac Angel þe king . . And stod uppen ane boncke [1250 vp on benche]. 1257 in Pocock *Rec. Ref.* I. xxvi. 54 There was prepared a bancke with quyssons and carpets. 1605 B. JONSON *Volp.* ii. ii. (1616) 467 Fellowes, to mount a banke! Did your instructor . . neuer discourse to you Of the Italian mountebanks? 1661 HEYLIN *Hist. Ref.* II. iii. 69 Twelve Levites standing on the bank or stage. a. 1680 BUTLER *Rem.* (1759) II. 59 A State-Quack, that mounts his Bank in some obscure Nook, and vapours what Cures he could do on the Body politic.

2. A seat of justice; = BENCH. *Bank Royal*: King's Bench. *Common Bank*: Common Pleas. (Cf. also *Banco sb.*) *arch.* or *Obs.*

1275 *Act 3 Edw. I.* xlv, Les Justices al Baunk le Roi & Justices de Baunk a Westm. c. 1450 *Pol. Poems* (1859) II. 228 Fewe can ascape hit of the bank riale. 1649 SELDEN *Laws of Eng.* i. lxvii. (1730) 163 Tryals in the common Bank, or other Courts at Westminster. 1657 HOWELL *Londinop.* 368 The Courts and Benches, or Banks of Justices. 1700 TYRRELL *Hist. Eng.* II. 1109 General days in Bank in real Actions. 1768 BLACKSTONE *Comm.* III. 277 Days in bank, *dies in banco*, days of appearance in the court of common pleas.

3. The bench occupied by the rowers of each oar in a galley. (So in Fr., It., Ger.)

1599 HAKLUYT *Voy.* II. i. 169 The gally had . . at every banke or oare seuen men to rowe. 1687 B. RANDOLPH *Archipel.* 54 Every time that they tugg the oar they rise with their bodies, and fall back on the banks. 1728 MORGAN *Algiers* II. ii. 224 Their Galeot (which had but eighteen Banks on a side). 1855 SINGLETON *Virgil* I. 384 Awake, My men, and take your seats upon the banks.

4. *catachr.* A rank or tier of oars; used chiefly in reference to the ancient galleys, which had several tiers one above another.

1614 RALEIGH *Hist. World* II. v. i. § 6. 296 One of the Carthaginian Gallies, of five banks. 1622 HEYLIN *Cosmogr.* iv. (1682) 86 Gallies, with two banks of Oars upon a side. 1797 HOLCROFT *Stolberg's Trav.* IV. xci. 67 Dionysius supplied his gallies with five banks of rowers. 1807 ROBINSON *Archæol. Græc.* iv. xiii. 387 Several orders or banks of oars, which . . being fixed at the back of each other, ascended gradually in the manner of stairs. 1866 KINGSLEY *Herrew.* v. 114 Each ship had double banks for twelve oars a side.

5. A row of keys on an organ.

1884 *Harper's Mag.* July 272/1 What an organist would call a 'bank' of ivory keys.

† 6. A shelf. (Cf. *G. b. b. b. b. b.*) *Obs. rare.*

1577 HELLOWES *Guevara's Ep.* 125 A banke of olde bookes.

7. A bench or table used in various trades; *esp.* in *Printing*, the table on which the sheets are laid before or after printing. (Cf. It. *banco*.)

1565 *Act 3 Eliz.* xi. § 4 The same Cap [shall] be first well scoured and closed, upon the Bank. 1867 *N. & Q.* 30 Nov. 432 When a man is about to work a block of stone, he places it upon a stool or stout table . . termed a 'bank.'

8. a. The floor of a glass-melting furnace. b. A pottery.

1880 CH. MASON *Forty Shires* 156 Each manufactory [of pottery] is called a 'bank.'

9. A creel for holding rows of bobbins of cotton.

Bank (bæŋk), *sb.* 3 Forms: 5-7 *banke*, 6 *bancke*, 7 *banque*, *banok*, 7-*bank*. [*Early mod. E. banke*, a. F. *banque*, ad. It. *banca* fem., used side by side, and in same sense, with *banco* masc.;

ad. Teut. *bank, banc*, bench: see prec. word. The double form and gender in Romanic, cf. It., Sp., Pg. *banco, banca*, Pr. *banc, banca*, F. *banc, banche*, are apparently original (see med. L. *banco, banca*, in Du Cange), and due to the double gender of the German: OHG. *der, diu banch*, MHG. *der, die banc*, early mod. and dial. G. *der, die bank*. The original meaning 'shelf, bench' (see BANK 1 and 2, and BENCH) was extended in It. to that of 'tradesman's stall, counter, money-changer's table, *mensa argentaria*, τράπεζα', whence 'money-shop, bank,' a use of the word which passed, with the trade of banking, from Italy into other countries. In this sense, It. uses both *banco* and *banca*, Sp. and Pg. the masc. *banco*; but in F. the It. fem. *banca* was adapted as *banque*, whence Eng. *banke, bank*. The word is thus ultimately identical with BENCH and BANK 2, and cognate with BANK 1.

(Although, in It., *monte* 'mount, heap, amount, stock,' was used in some of the senses of 'bank,' the notion that the name *banco, banca*, originated in a German rendering of *monte* is erroneous: G. *bank* had no such sense as 'mount, heap,' only that of 'bench, shelf.' Rather is it the fact, that in the development of banking, the *banco* of the money-changer, and the *monte* or 'joint-stock capital' were at length combined, and *bank* applied in Eng. to both.)

I. A money-dealer's table, counter, or shop.

† 1. The table or counter of a money-changer or dealer in money. *Obs. exc. Hist.*

1567 JEWEL *Def. Apol.* (1611) 462 Christ overthrew the Exchangers bankes, meaning thereby, that there may be no coine in the Church, but only Spirituall. 1584 FENNER *Def. Ministers* (1587) 98 Christ overthrew the exchangers bankes. 1598 FLORIO, *Banco*, a bench, a marchants banke, or counting house, a counter. 1611 COTGRA., *Banque*, a banke, where money is let out to use: or lent, or returned by exchange: also, the table whereon such money is told. 1846 ARNOLD *Hist. Rome* II. xxvii. 72 These established their banks or tables in the forum, like ordinary bankers.

† 2. The shop, office, or place of business of a money-dealer. (Cf. BANKER 2 i a, b.) Now merged in 7 a.

1474 CAXTON *Cheese* III. iv, There was a . . changeour . . A man cam to hym and sayd and affermyd that he had de-lyueryd in to his banke v hundred floyns of gold to kepe. 1556 TINDALE *Luke* xix. 23 Wherefore then gavest not thou my money into the banke [Gr. τράπεζα; WYCLIF, borde; COVERDALE, exchange Banke]? 1558 HULOET, Bancke of exchange, *Argentaria*. 1649 JER. *Taylor's Gt. Exemp.* II. xi. 21 Exchangers of Money made the temple to be the market and the banke.

II. An amount or stock of money.

† 3. A sum of money, an amount (It. *monte*); a 'pile.' (Cf. 'mounts of coin' in last quot.) *Obs.*

1515 BARCLAY *Eglogs* i. (1570) A v/3 Where shall I . . some little banke procure, That from the bagge and staffe mine age may be sure. 1654 BROME *Jov. Crev.* i. Wks. 358 Cash; which added Unto your former Bank, makes up in all Twelve thousand and odd pounds. 1715 BURNET *Omn Time* (1766) II. 146 He had got a great bank of money to be prepared. 1758 J. BLAKE *Mar. Syst.* 68 The . . payments will constitute a bank, or nest egg. (Cf. c. 1645 HOWELL *Let.* (1753) 128 And bring in Mounts of Coin His Minis to feed, And Banquers (traffics chief supporters) breed.)

† b. *esp.* A sum to draw upon. *Obs.*

1641 FULLER *Holy & Prof. St.* III. xxiv. 225 S. Paul finds a constant bank for Ministers Maintenance lockt up in a Ceremonial Law. 1665 S. BING in Ellis *Orig. Lett.* II. 310 IV. 24 To extend your charity to the outrunning the bank you honoured me with.

† c. A batch of paper-money. *Obs. (exc. Hist.)*

1878 F. WALKER *Money* xv. 319 In 1738 a Bank of £100,000 was issued with new provisions for securing the interest of the mortgages.

4. In games of hazard, the amount or pile of money which the player who plays against all the others, e.g. the proprietor of the gaming-table, has before him.

c. 1720 POPE *Basset-T.* 78 When Kings, Queens, Knaves, are set in decent rank: Expos'd in glorious heaps the tempting Bank. c. 1750 H. WALPOLE in *Harper's Mag.* July (1884) 258/1 He saw neither the bank nor his own cards. 1850 THACKERAY *Pendennis* lvi. (1884) 548 He had seen his friend . . lose eighteen thousand at a sitting, and break the bank three nights running at Paris. 1865 TYLOR *Early Hist. Man.* vii. 175 It is certainly playing against the bank.

† 5. An amount made up by the contributions of many; a joint stock or capital. *Obs.*

1625 BACON *Usury, Ess.* (Arb.) 545 Let it be no Banke or Common Stocke, but every Man be Master of his owne Money. c. 1645 HOWELL *Let.* (1650) II. 11 They advance trade whosoever they com; with the banks of money. 1790 BURKE *Fr. Rev.* 129 The stock in each man is small, and . . individuals would do better to avail themselves of the general bank and capital of nations and of ages.

† 6. An amount so contributed for lending to the poor; a loan-bank; whence the modern pawn-broker's establishment (Fr. *mont de pitié*). *Obs.*

1622 MALYNES *Anc. Law Merch.* II. xiii. 335 In Italie there are *Montes pietatis*, that is to say, Mounts or Banks of Charity, places where great summes of money are by legacies given for reliefe of the poore, to borrow vpon pawns. 1646 BENBRIDGE *Vsura Accom.* 3 For their [the poor's] rescue may be collected *Mons pietatis, sine charitat*, a Banke of piety or charity. . a certaine summe of money, or things . . which is laid up for the reliefe of the poore, either by one rich man, or by many. 1659 TORRIANO *Dict.*, *Monte di pietà*, a publick stock or bank maintained for the relief of the poor, where pawns may be taken. 1663 GER-

HER CONNELL Eja, A Bank of Loane in that part of the Suburbs of this great City.

fig. 1649 JER. TAYLOR Gl. Exemp. II. ix. 110 The talent which God hath intrusted to us in the banks of nature and grace. *1704 E. ARWAKER Embass. Heav.* ix. Is not thy Bank of Blessings yet dismay'd, To Lend, where so unthankfully Repaid?

III. (Ordinary modern sense.)

7. An establishment for the custody of money received from, or on behalf of, its customers. Its essential duty is the payment of the orders given on it by the customers; its profits arise mainly from the investment of the money left unused by them.

a. Banks (in England) may be divided into—

a. *Private Banks*, carried on by one or more (in Great Britain not exceeding ten) persons in partnership. Cf. sense 2 above.

b. *Joint-Stock Banks*, of which the capital is subscribed by a large number of shareholders. (Cf. sense 5 above.) Of these the greatest is—

c. *The Bank of England*, shortly 'The Bank,' a corporation of subscribers and contributors to a capital sum of £1,200,000, to whom a charter was granted in 1694 (by the name or style of 'the Governor and Company of the B. of E.'), on condition of their lending that sum to the Government, with certain privileges now no longer existing, or maintained only for the benefit of the State. Its duties are to manage the service of the public debt, to receive and account for the revenue when collected, and to provide and attend to the automatically regulated issue of legal tender notes. Its banking business is of the same nature as that of the other joint-stock or private banks, its chief customer being the Government.

(Cf. 1526 in 2. 1548 UDALL, etc. *Erasm. Par. Luke* xix. 23 Haue deliuered forth my money to the keepers of the banke. *c. 1590 MARLOWE Jew of M.* iv. i. In Florence, Venice, Antwerp. Have I debts owing; and Great sums of money lying in the banco.] *1622 MALYNES Anc. Law Merch.* i. xx. 131 A Banke is properly a collection of all the ready money of some Kingdome, into the hands of some persons licensed thereunto by publicke authority. *1734 tr. Rollin's Anc. Hist.* (1827) III. vii. § 10. 344 The bank of all Greece which he had sent for from Delos. *1849 SAXE Poems, Times* 372 Always abundance of gold in the Banks. *1850 MERIVALE Rom. Emp.* (1865) III. xxx. 397 The temples of the ancient world were the banks in which private possessors deposited their most precious effects. *1876 B. PRICE Currency & B.* 102, I defined a bank to be an institution for the transfer of debts.

a. *1694 (title)* Brief account of the intended Bank of England. *1700 SWIFT Irish Manuf. Wks.* 1761 III. 14, I cannot forbear saying one word upon a thing they call a bank, which I hear is projecting in this town. *1808 TAYLOR Money Syst. Eng.* 138 The Bank of England had parted with six or eight millions of gold at the current mint price. *1834 GILBART Hist. Bank.* 95 The number of private country banks, and branches of private banks, in England and Wales is 638. *1881 H. H. GIBBS Double Standard* 69 The result would really be... that the Bank would always hold both Silver and Gold bullion.

b. *Bank of deposit*, a bank that receives lodgements of money. *Bank of issue or circulation*, a bank which issues its own notes or promises to pay; in Great Britain a bank to which the right of issue was continued by the Acts of 1844-45. *Branch bank*, a branch-office of a bank, established to give banking facilities to a locality at a distance from the head-office. *Savings-bank*, a bank of which the express object is to take charge of the savings of the poorer classes, or of small sums of money.

1834 GILBART Hist. Bank. 109 The establishment of branch banks may be considered as the effect of the formation of joint-stock banks. *Ibid.* 123 Similar accusations may be as justly advanced against banks of deposit as against banks of circulation. *1863 HAYDN Dict. Dates* 67 The branch banks of the Bank of England in the chief towns of the kingdom... have all been formed since 1828.

c. fig.

1642 ROGERS Naaman 543 As affliction is a furnace, so is it a banque: Job had twice as much after he had lost all as before. *a. 1716 LOUTH (J.) Pardons and indulgences*... out of the common bank and treasury of the church.

† d. *In bank*: in a bank or the bank, at one's bankers'. Also fig.: in store. *Obs.*

1563 Homilies II. xi. 1. (1850) 387 He which sheweth mercy to the poore doth lay his money in banke to the Lord. *1622 MALYNES Anc. Law Merch.* II. xi. 335 The payments by Assignement in Banke without handling of moneys. *1646 EVANCE Noble Order* 13 The benefits... in hand, besides the blessings that are in banck. *1753 WHITEFIELD in Scots Mag.* May 214/1 The young man has the balance in bank.

8. *Comb.*: a. attrib. or obj. genitive, as *bank-accountant*, *-building*, *-charter*, *-clerk*, *-coffer*, *-counter*, *-director*, *-manager*, *-master* (obs.).

c. *1618 FLETCHER Pilgr.* i. 51 Rogues and Beggars have got the trick now to become Bankmasters. *1803 Edin. Rev.* II. 103 The bank-coffers are drained of gold. *1828 TAYLOR Money Syst. Eng.* 193 That the bank directors be required to pay their notes on demand in gold at the market price. *1834 GILBART Hist. Bank.* 30 In 1708 the Bank charter was extended or renewed until the expiration of twelve months. *1854 H. MILLER Sch. & Schm.* (1858) 526 Behind the bank-counter. *1860 TROLLOPE Framley P.* xlii. 151 The bank manager from Barchester.

b. *Special combinations*:

Bank annuities, a technical term for certain British government funds; usually, the Consolidated 3 per cent. Annuities, or 'consols'; *bank-cheque*, a cheque or order to pay issued upon

a bank; *bank-circulation*, a name applied to receipts given by the Bank of England to contributors to the loan made to the Government in 1751, which circulated as paper currency; *bank-court*, the weekly meeting of the Governor and Directors of the Bank of England, or other joint-stock bank; *also*, the general court of proprietors; *bank-credit*, a credit opened for any person by a correspondent of a bank, to enable the former to draw for the amount; *bank-money* (cf. *BANCO a.*); *also*, money in the bank; *bank-paper*, bank-notes in circulation; bills of exchange accepted by a banker; *bank-parlour*, the court-room of the Bank of England; the room in which a banker or bank-manager does business with borrowers; *bank-post*, a kind of writing-paper used for foreign correspondence; *bank-rate*, the rate per cent. per annum fixed from time to time by the Bank of England, at which the company is prepared to discount bills of exchange having not more than 95 days to run; *bank-receipt*, formerly, a receipt given by the Bank of England on its formation, for money deposited to be drawn against; *now*, an acknowledgement given by a banker for money deposited on a current account; *bank-stock*, the capital stock of the Bank of England, being the aggregate of the shares therein owned by the various proprietors; its original amount was £1,200,000; it is now £14,553,000; *bank-token*, a token issued by a bank to serve for payments, on its responsibility, during a scarcity of silver coin; *bankward a. and adv.*, towards the bank. See also *BANK-BILL*, *-BOOK*, *-HOLIDAY*, *-NOTE*.

1803 JEFFERSON in Harper's Mag. Mar. (1885) 541/2. I enclose you a 'bank-check for twenty-two and a half dollars. *1753 Scots Mag.* May 269/1 'Bank-circulation 21. 155. prem. *1834 GILBART Hist. Bank.* 38 In 1751, in order to raise the sum promised to be lent to the Government, the bank established what was called 'Bank Circulation.' *1752 HUME Balance of Trade, Ess.* (1817) I. 318 An invention of this kind, which was fallen upon some years ago by the banks of Edinburgh... called a 'Bank-Credit.' *1876 HEALY Throghprast.* 79 He, that boasts upon the Exchange, that he hath store of 'banke money. *1753 HANWAY Trav.* (1762) II. i. iii. 17 A ducat which passes for seven marks current, is worth but six 'bank money. *Ibid.* vii. 35 He sells his 'bank-money for current money. *1790 BURKE Fr. Rev. Wks.* V. 411 They imagine that our flourishing state in England is owing to that 'bank-paper, and not the 'bank-paper to the flourishing condition of our commerce. *1884 Lisbon (Dakota) Clipper* 30 Oct. 1/3 The caution which has prevailed... in 'bank parlors is not at all relaxed. *1879 Cassell's Techn. Educ.* III. 397 The ordinary Saxe paper will answer very well, as will also. 'Bank-post. *1876 FAWCETT Pol. Econ.* III. vi. 361 The 'Bank-rate of discount, is the measure, at any particular time, of the value of money. *1703 Lond. Gaz.* No. 3902/4 A 'Bank Receipt... promising to be accountable to John Radhams for 4 Notes for 50l. each. *1705 HICKERINGILL Priest-cr.* I. (1721) 9 The Market Price varies as does the 'Bank Stock. *1710 ADDISON Tatler* No. 243 ¶ 6 How went 'Bank-Stock to Day at Change? *1878 Examiner* 21 Sept. 607/2 Convicted of uttering 32. 'Bank-tokens, knowing them to be false. *1865 Pall Mall G.* 13 Nov. 3 In the full tide of one's 'bank-ward voyage.

Bank (bæŋk), v. 1 [f. *BANK sb. 1*]

I. 1. *trans.* To form a bank to; to border, edge, hem in as a bank.

1590 GREENE Newer too Late (1600) 23 A silent streame... Banket about with choyce of flowers. *1797 THOMSON Summer* 660 Burning sands, that bank the shrubby vales. *1801 SOUTHEY Thalaba* v. xxii. A ridge of rocks that bank'd its side.

† 2. *intr.* To border upon. *Obs.*

1598 Stow Surv. vii. (1603) 68 The next Tower or Castle, banketing [sic] also on the river of Thames. *Ibid.* xxxviii. (1603) 336 This Castle banketh on the River Thames.

3. *trans.* To confine within a bank. Also fig.

1622 CALLIS Stat. Sewers (1647) 70 Kept and preserved by banking and new fencing in. *1662 FULLER Worthies* (1840) III. 388 The prince and people... Both being bank'd in their respective station. *1883 Eng. Illust. Mag.* Nov. 75/1 The river is banked high on either side.

4. *Watchmaking*: a. *trans.* To confine the movements of the escapement, which is the function of the two banking-pins in a watch. b. *intr.* To impinge against the banking-pins; said of the escapement (or of the watch).

1765 LUDLAM in Phil. Trans. LV. 207 The brass pin... is for the other arm of the beam to bank against. *1884 F. BRITTEN Watch & Clockm.* 20 The escapement may be banked through the spring. *Ibid.* 74 If the watch persistently banks, it is an indication that the balance is too light.

II. 1. 5. To coast, to skirt. *Obs.*

1595 SHAKS. John v. ii. 104, I haue bank'd their Townes? 6. To bring ashore, to land.

1873 G. DAVIES Mount. & Mere ii. 11 Scarcely giving a flap of the tail till they were banked.

7. To shelter under a bank.

1865 W. WHITE E. Eng. I. 110 As decoy men say, they are then comfortably banked.

III. 8. *trans.* To heap or pile up.

1833 HT. MARTINEAU Charmed Sea iv. 59 They had banked up the snow. *1872 BLACK Adv. Phæton* xxiii. 317 The clouds had got reft up in great billows of vapour.

9. *intr.* (for *reft*.) To rise up into banks.

1870 Daily News 28 Dec., The smoke... was still banking

up in large clouds. *1883 BLACK in Harper's Mag.* Dec. 69/2 Clouds begin to bank up.

10. To make up a fire, by covering it with a heap of fuel so pressed down that it will remain a long time burning slowly.

1860 Merc. Mar. Mag. VII. 330 The fires had been banked. *1865 DICKENS Mut. Fr.* ii. 277 Fire carefully banked up with damp cinders.

11. To bank out: to empty out (coal as drawn from the pit) into a heap.

1851 in Coal-tr. Terms Northumbld. & Durh. 6.

Bank, v. 2 [f. *BANK sb. 3*]

1. *intr.* To keep a bank, act as a banker. (Chiefly in ppl. adj. and vbl. sb., as in *banking-house*, etc.)

1797-51 CHAMBERS Cycl. *Banker*, a person who banks, that is, negotiates and trafficks in money.

2. *intr.* To deposit money or keep an account with a banker.

1832 HT. MARTINEAU Berkeley i. l. 4 A man who brings a splendid capital, and will, no doubt, bank with us at D—. *1880 HOWELLS Undisc. Country* vi. 103 You'll have to bank with me to the extent of tickets home.

3. *trans.* To deposit in a bank. Also, to convert into current money, 'realize.'

1864 SALA in Daily Tel. 11 Oct., Those who have... banked their greenbacks. *1868 Daily News* 2 Sept., If parliament were to bank this whole estate.

4. *intr.* To form a 'bank' at a gaming-table; to play against all comers.

1826 DISRAELI Viv. Grey v. xiii. 239 The plan will be for two to bank against the table.

Bankable, a. [f. *BANK sb. 3* or *v. 2*] Receivable at a bank, as in 'bankable securities.'

† *Bankage*, *Obs.* [f. *BANK sb. 1* + *-AGE*.] A landing duty.

1577 HARRISON England II. v. 113 His Prædia... were tributes, tolles, portage, bankage, stackage, and such like.

Bank-bill. [See *BANK sb. 3* and *BILL*.] a.

Formerly, and still sometimes in the provinces, and in U. S., synonymous with *BANK-NOTE*. b. A bill drawn by one bank upon another, payable at a future date, or on demand; synonymous with *banker's draft*. † c. (*Sealed*) *Bank Bill*: a form of bill or note, bearing interest, issued by the Bank of England at its foundation, but long since discontinued. d. *Bank Post Bill*: a bill, usually at seven days' sight, issued by the Bank of England for convenience of transmission through the post.

1696 Lond. Gaz. No. 3166/4 A Bank Bill for 100l. with Interest at 2d. a day. *Ibid.* No. 3234/4 Bank Seal Bills, payable with Interest at the Rate of 6 per Cent. per Annum. *1709 STURLETT Tatler* No. 26 ¶ 9 If I have not left... Bank Bills for 200l. *1711 Lond. Gaz.* No. 4875/4 Lost. a Sealed Bank Bill of 100l. at 6 per Cent. *1752 HUME Ess. & Treat.* (1777) I. 336 To stuff the nation with this fine commodity of bank-bills and chequer-notes. *1809 R. LANGFORD Introd. Trade* 130 Bank bill, a note on the bank, which being accepted by a cashier, will be paid when due. *1812 Examiner* 28 Dec. 820/2 The amount of Bank of England Notes and Bank Post Bills now in circulation. *1863 HAYDN Dict. Dates* 67 Bank bills were paid in silver, 1745. The first bank post-bills were issued 1754. *1876 SYMONDS Shelley* 85 The... story of his having once constructed a boat out of a bank-post bill.

Bank-book. [See *BANK sb. 3*] a. One of the books in which the transactions of a bank are entered. b. A book furnished by a banker to each customer, containing a transcript of his account in the Bank Ledger, also called *Pass-book*. (In both senses *Banker's Book* is also used.)

1714 in Lond. Gaz. No. 5266/10 Lost... Mr. Salamon of Moses Pereira's Bank Book. *1753 HANWAY Trav.* (1762) II. i. vii. 35 To see that his accounts agree with those of the bank books. *1884 Harper's Mag.* June 28/2 I've left you my bank-book.

Banked (bæŋkt), ppl. a. [f. *BANK sb. 1* or *v. 1*]

1. Having a bank or banks.

1623 BINGHAM Xenophon 108 A hollow-bank'd brooke. *1649 BLITH Eng. Improv. Impr.* (1652) 11 One acre plain or banked. *1881 EDITH COXON Basil Plant* II. 24 The banked hedge skirting the field.

2. Heaped, piled up; esp. in *Banked up*, said also of a fire when covered up with fresh fuel so as to burn away but slowly.

1567 DRANT Horace's Epist. Bvj. Ritche in banqued golde. *1868 H. LEE B. Godfrey* lviii. 327 Banked-up... clouds.

† *Banker*¹. *Obs.* 4-7; also 3 *bancoour*, *banquer* (e, bankewere, bankqwer, banwher, 6 *bankwarre*, *bankard*, *bynker*. [a. AF. **banquer*, **banker* = ONF. *bankier*, *banquier*, *banquier*, f. *ban* bench.] A covering, generally of tapestry, for a bench or chair.

1311 Chart. Finchall (1837) App. 4, liij banker. *1395 E. E. Wills* (1882) 5 An Halle, with docere, costers and bankers. *c. 1410 LOVE Bonavent. Mirr.* xv. (Gibbs MS.) 38 On be bare grounde, flor bare hadde he neyther banker ne cuschyne. *c. 1420 Anturs Arth.* xxxv. 2 With beddus brauderit o brode, and bankers y-dypte. *c. 1450 HOLLAND Houlat* xix. 9 Braid burdis and benkis, ourbeld with bancours of gold. *1483 Cath. Angl.* 20 Bankqwer, Bankewere, bancarium, dorsorium. *c. 1485 E. E. Misc.* (1855) 4 The dosers alle of camaca, The bankers alle of taffeta. *1502 ARNOLD Chron.* (1817) 244 The hangyng bankers and cussyons in my halles. *1534 Lincolush. Ch. Furn.* 186 A olde bankard made of an olde carpett. *1541 Lanc. Wills* (1857) I. 126, Ij formes with ij bankers. *1574 Richmond. Wills* (1853) 248 A hawlinge, a

byrker of wannes, and ij fox skynnes. 1660 *Act 12 Chas. II.* iv. Sched. Bankers of Verdure, the dozen pieces, ivl.

Banker² (bæ'ŋkər). Also 6 bankor, 7 banoker, banquer, 7-8 banquier. [f. BANK sb.3 + -ER, after F. *banquier*, freq. used in Eng. in 17th c.]

1. The keeper or manager of a BANK sb.3
† a. orig. A money-changer; then, one who dealt in bills of exchange, giving drafts and making remittances. *Obs.*

1534 MORE *On the Passion Wks.* 1385/2 In the temple, he had overthrown the bankers tables. 1597 PERCIVALL *Span. Dict.*, Banquero, a banker, an exchanger of money, Argentarius. 1644 HEYWOOD *Gunaik* vi. 271 One Philippus, a banker, or one that dealt in the exchange of money. c. 1654 FLECKNOE *Trav.* 103 in Southey *Comm. Pl. Bk.* Ser. II. (1849) 328 Our English money, current with much adoe in neighbouring countries... but farther off you must go to Bankiers of your own nation, or none will take it of your hands. 1683 PETTUS *Fleta Min.* II. 91 Monyers... lately called Bankers.

† b. *subseq.* One who also received money in deposit, and lent it upon interest, acting as an intermediary between borrowers and lenders. *Obs.*

1553 UDALL *Roister D. I. i.* (Arb.) 11 Truly of all men he is my chiefest banker, both for meate and money. 1611 COTGR., *Argentier*... a Banker, one that lendeth, or exchangeth, money for gain. 1611 SPEED *Hist. Gl. Brit.* ix. xii. § 64 To embogge himselfe in the Bankers and Usurers Booke. 1660 STANLEY *Hist. Philos.* (1701) 291/1 He deposited some money in the hands of a Bankier. 1670 MARVELL *Corr.* 166 (1875) II. 356 Voted that... all money in the hand of bankers shall pay 15s. per 100l. 1757 BURKE *Abridg. Eng. Hist. Wks.* X. 234 The provinces (of Rome) were overrun by publicans... confiscators, usurers, bankers.

Hence (in its beginnings not separable from the prec.): c. *mod.* The proprietor or one of the proprietors of a private bank; the manager or one of the managing body of a joint-stock bank; in pl. a joint-stock banking company.

Bankers' Books, Books of Account, etc., extracts from which are admissible as evidence in a British Court of Law under 'The Bankers' Books Evidence Act, 1876.' *Banker's Book* also = *Bank Pass-book*.

1670-1 *Act 22 Chas. II.* in Blount *Law Dict.* s.v., Whereas several persons, Goldsmiths and others, by taking or borrowing great sums of money, and lending out the same again, for extraordinary hire and profit, have gained and acquired to themselves the reputation and name of Bankers. 1671 DRYDEN *Even. Love Epil.*, And Banquier-like, each day Accept new Bills, and he must break, or pay. 1757 SWIFT *State Ircl. Wks.* 1761 III. 174 The daily increase of bankers, who may be a necessary evil in a trading country, but so ruinous in ours. 1761 *Gentl. Mag.* XXXI. 601 Imposed on a young man, a banker's clerk. 1766 BURKE *Regic. Peace* i. Wks. VIII. 153 There were not... twelve bankers shops at that time out of London. 1843 DICKENS *Chr. Carol* 18 Scrooge took his melancholy dinner... and beguiled the rest of the evening with his banker's-book. 1898 LD. ST. LEONARDS *Handy-bk. Prof. Law* vii. 42 You... deposit your money at a private banker's, or in the Bank of England. 1866 CRUMP *Banking* 79 As money rises in value, the balances in the hands of bankers decrease.

2. Applied to a contributor to a *Mons Pietatis*: see BANK sb.3 6.

1646 BENBRIDGE *Usura Accom.* 11 Neither Banke nor Bankers (as I may call the Contributors) can conceive they suffer any losse by... lending to the poor freely: because what they even give... is lent in Usury to the Lord.

3. One who keeps the 'bank' in a gambling house: the dealer, in some games of chance.

1826 HOR. SMITH *Gai. & Grav.* in *Casquet Lit.* 1877 I. 325/1 Each banker was provided with a râteau, or rake. 1850 BOHN *Handbk. Games* 328 Commerce... After determining the deal, the dealer, styled also the banker, shuffles the pack. *Ibid.* 342 *Rouge et noir*... To form the game, it is necessary that there should be a banker, or *tailleur* (Dealer), who represents him, and players, the number of whom is unlimited. 1884 *Law Times Rep.* 30 Aug. 809/2 Each banker pays 1 per cent. and the punters 5s. each.

Banker³ (bæ'ŋkər). [f. BANK sb.1 + -ER.]

1. [Cf. F. *banquier* in same sense.] A ship employed in cod-fishing on the Bank of Newfoundland.

1666 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 107/1 Who in Cruising, lighted upon a French Banker which he took. 1710 *Ibid.* No. 4712/3 A French Banker of fourteen Guns, laden with Fish, arrived there from Newfoundland. 1769 in FALCONER *Dict. Marine*.

2. A labourer who makes banks of earth, ditches, etc. (Chiefly used in the eastern counties of England.)

1795 *Gentl. Mag.* 632 In the few countries the labourers are denominated bankers. a 1811 in *Times* 25 Aug. (1870) 4/6 A poor man, a witness in court, said in answer to the same question [What he was?] 'a banker.' The Judge... remarked, 'We cannot have any absurdity.' 1873 PRACOCK in *N. & Q.* Ser. IV. XII. 274 Some 'bankers' who were engaged in widening a drain.

3. *Hunting*. A horse which can jump on and off field banks too large to be cleared. (Cf. *fencer*.)

Generally with qualification, as 'In following the hounds in Devonshire, you must ride a good banker.'

4. (in *Australia*). A river full to the brim.

Banker⁴. [f. BANK sb.2 bench; in senses a, b, perh. a perversion of It. *banco* a (statuary's) bench.]

a. A wooden bench used in bricklaying for dressing bricks. b. A stone bench used by masons for hewing on. c. A local name for a pile of Purbeck stone from the quarry.

1677 MOXON *Mech. Exerc.* (1703) 246 A Banker, to cut the Bricks upon, which is a piece of Timber about six foot long... fixt... about three foot high from the Floor. 1793 SMEATON *Edystone L.* § 167 note. A Banker in a mason's yard is a square stone of a suitable size, made use of as a work bench.

1832 CARLYLE *Remin.* (1881) I. 46 The Master-builder... once laid a shilling on his 'banker.' 1881 *Daily News* 5 Sept. 6/3 The immense masses of stone called 'bankers' that line Swanage shore. 1885 *Harper's Mag.* Jan. 244/1 The stone... has to be removed from the 'bankers' in carts.

Bankerdom (bæ'ŋkərdəm). [see -DOM.] The class or body of bankers; the banking interest.

1863 DICEY *Federal St.* I. 170 The *Herald*, supported by the bankerdom of the North.

Bankeress (bæ'ŋkərəs). *nonce-wd.* [see -ESS.] A female banker; a banker's wife.

1854 THACKERAY *Newcomes* I. xxiv. 229, I dined there a couple of months ago, and the bankeress said something about you. 1883 *American V.* 200 The late Countess of Jersey was only received on sufferance in some houses in Vienna, because she was a bankeress.

† **Bankering**, *vbl. sb.* *Obs.* [f. BANKER²; cf. *carpentering*.] Occupation as a banker, banking. 1668 CHILD *Disc. Trade* (1694) 51 Before this way of private banking came up.

Banket, *-etter*, etc.: see BANQUET.

Bank-full, *a.* Full to the bank or brink.

1581 J. FALKNER in *Eng. Mech.* 4 Feb. (1870) 500/2 The same water in the morning before was bankfull. 1637 RUTHERFORD *Lett.* 169 (1862) I. 397 A little of God would make my soul bankfull. 1865 MILTON & CHEADLE *N.W. Passage* 275 This river was... bank full with glacier water.

Bank holiday. [See BANK sb.3 and HOLIDAY.] A day on which banks are legally closed, so as to afford a holiday to those employed in them. (Bills payable on these days are paid on the following day.)

Certain Saints' days and anniversaries, to the number in all of about 33 days per annum, were kept as Holidays at the Bank of England. In 1834 these holidays were reduced to Good Friday, the 1st of May, 1st of November, and Christmas Day. By Sir John Lubbock's Act, passed in 1871, the following bank-holidays were constituted in Great Britain: *In England and Ireland*, Easter Monday, Whit Monday, the first Monday in August, the 26th of December (Boxing Day); *in Scotland*, New Year's Day, the first Monday in May, the first Monday in August, Christmas Day. When any of these days falls on Sunday, the Monday following is the bank-holiday.

1871 *Act 34 Vict.* xvii. (title) An Act to make provision for Bank Holidays. 1879 JEFFERIES *Wild Life* in S. C. 103 These two main fairs are the Bank Holidays of rural life.

Banking (bæ'ŋkɪŋ), *vbl. sb.* [Several distinct formations, from BANK in various senses.]

1. The business of a banker; the keeping or management of a bank.

1735 BERKELEY *Querist* (L.) Banking brings no treasure into the kingdom. 1834 GILBERT *Hist. Banking* 9 So early as the year 1349... banking was carried on by the drapers of Barcelona. 1883 H. MACLEOD *Banking* vi. § 3 The very essence of 'Banking' is to receive money as a Mutuum.

b. *attrib.*

1779 ARNOT *Hist. Edin.* iv. iv. (1816) 411 Those abuses which had crept into the banking business. 1809 R. LANGFORD *Introduct. Trade* 20 Without regard to banking hours. 1861 GOSCHEN *For. Exch.* 33 The primary cause which makes England the great banking centre of the world. 1881 BUILDERS 8 Oct. (*Advt.*), Solid Mahogany Banking Counter.

2. The construction of banks or embankments.

1753 CHAMBERS *Cycl. Suppl.* s.v., With respect to the water which is to be kept out, this is called banking. 1818 CONBETT *Resid. U. S.* (1822) 181 Banking, hedging, they know nothing about. They have no idea of the use of a bill-hook.

3. Embankment.

1853 KANE *Grinnell Exp.* xxxv. (1856) 321, I observed one spot where the banking remained.

4. Fishing on the Newfoundland (or other) Bank.

1845 SIR J. PARK *Mar. Insur.* I. ii. 100 § 2 Upon their arrival, ships are... employed in banking. 1848 ARNOULD *Mar. Insur.* (1866) I. v. 273 After their arrival at Newfoundland, engaged for some time in fishing (called banking).

5. In *Watchmaking*: Limitation of the motion of the balance, by the banking-pins or -screw.

1870 *Eng. Mech.* 7 Jan. 403/1 It consists in placing the banking pins at the tail of the lever. 1879 *Cassell's Techn. Educ.* IV. 386/2 In this escapement it is necessary to limit the motion of the balance to one half turn, measured from its repose, which is technically called 'banking.' 1884 F. BRITTEN *Watch and Clockm.* 29 [The] Banking Screw [is]... an adjustable screw in the chronometer escapement.

6. *Banking-ground* (in U. S. *lumber-trade*): a place where logs are brought to a river bank.

1880 *Lumberman's Gaz.* 28 Jan., The banking ground is about 125 feet above the bed of the river.

Banking, *vbl. a.* [f. BANK v. + -ING².] That keeps a bank or follows the profession of a banker. 1641 MILTON *Ch. Discip.* II. Wks. (1851) 65 That banking den of thieves. 1677 YARRANTON *Eng. Impr.* 18 Any of the banking Goldsmiths or Merchants.

Banking-house. A house in which banking operations are carried on; a mercantile firm engaged in banking or some branch of it.

1809 R. LANGFORD *Introduct. Trade* 129, *Banking-house*, a receptacle for people's money for commercial purposes. 1816 *Gentl. Mag.* LXXXVI. i. 97 Became a partner in the banking-house of Down, Thornton, and Free. 1855 MACAULAY *Hist. Eng.* IV. 490 The days when there was not a single banking house in the city of London. 1879 ESCOTT *England* I. 233 The difference existing between the two classes of business—a banking house and a bank.

Bankless (bæ'ŋkləs), *a.* [f. BANK sb.1 + -LESS.] Having no banks or borders.

1612 J. DAVIES *Mud's Sacr.* 15 (D.) For thou of beauty art the bankless Sea. 1869 RUSKIN *Q. of Air* § 143 Lost... amidst bankless, boundless marsh.

Bankman, *obs. form* of BANKSMAN.

Bank-note. [See BANK sb.3, and NOTE.] A promissory note given by a banker: *formerly*, one payable at a fixed date and to a specified person; *now*, one payable to bearer on demand, and intended to circulate as money.

(Their issue is now regulated by Act 7 & 8 Vict. cap. 32.) 1695 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 3046/4 A Bank Note for 17l. 2s. 4d. payable to Philip Wheake. 1714 *Ibid.* No. 5239/3 Lost... 10 Bank Circulation Notes... none of them payable for several Months. *Ibid.* No. 5271/4 Four Circular Bank Notes for 100l. each, all payable to Mr. Pope... or Bearer, with Interest. 1789 WOLCOTT (P. Pindar) *Wks.* (1812) II. 116 So prudent, numbers each bank-note and jewel. 1812 *Examiner* 28 Sept. 622/2 What is a bank note but a promise to pay the bearer a certain quantity of gold? 1870 BOWEN *Logic* ix. 274 Money may mean either specie, or bank-notes, or currency consisting of a mixture of these two. *fig.* 1890 CARLYLE *Letter-d. Pamph.* v. 9 If speech is the banknote for an inward capital of culture.

Bankrupt (bæ'ŋkrʌpt), *sb.* Forms: 6 banke rota, bankkrupt(e), bankkerout, banquerowpte, banqueroute, 6-7 bankkrout, banque, banqrout(e), banke-, bankrout(e), bankrupt, 7 bankorout, bank-, banquerupt, (bankrup, banker-up), 6- bankrupt. [In 16th c. *banke rota*, *banqueroute*, a. It. *banca rotta* (Florio), and its F. adaptation *banqueroute* (in Cotgr. *banqueroute*), with the second part subsequently assimilated to the equivalent L. *ruptus*, as in *abrupt*, etc. The It. *banca rotta* is literally 'bank broken,' or 'bench broken.' The transference of sense from the fact to the agent (in sense 2) is peculiar to Eng.: cf. BANKRUPT *a.* and med. L. *ruptus*. According to Johnson 'it is said' that when an Italian money-changer became insolvent, 'his bench was broke.' But *rotta*, *rotta* is also 'wrecked' (used of a ship); and *fig.* 'discomfited, defeated, interrupted, stopped.' Cf. the familiar use of *break*=become insolvent, *broken* insolvent; also med. L. *ruptura* failure, *ruptus* broken man, bankrupt, 'creditorum fraudator, aut decolor, qui dissolvit argentariam et foro cedit' in Du Cange, who has an example dated 1334.]

† 1 The wreck or break-up of a trader's business in consequence of his failure to pay his creditors; or (in early use) his shutting up or desertion of his place of business without payment of his liabilities. Chiefly in the phrase 'to make bankroute' or 'bankrupt' (Fr. *faire banqueroute*, 1536). Afterwards called *bankrupting*, *bankruptism*, *bankruptcy*, *bankruptship*, and now BANKRUPTCY, q. v. *Obs.*

1539 *State Papers Hen. VIII.* I. 609 With danger to make banke rota. 1543 *Act 34 Hen. VIII.* iv. (title) An Act against suche persons as do make bankrupt. 1566 BULLEYN *Bk. Simples* in *Babes Bk.* (1868) 241 Vtelyr vndone, and cast either into miserable pouterie, prisment, bankroute, &c. 1663 GERBIER *Counsel* Ejb, Trade strengthened, increased, and many Bankrouts prevented. 1684 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 1980/4 Empowered by the Commissioners of Bankrupt. 1712 ARBUTHNOT *John Bull* (1755) 35 A statute of bankrupt.

2. A merchant, trader, or other person, whose property and effects, on his becoming insolvent, are administered and distributed for the benefit of all his creditors, under that system of statutory regulations called the Bankrupt or Bankruptcy Laws. As these laws (which began in England with Acts 34 and 35 Henry VIII, c. 4) were originally directed against fraudulent traders, who absconded with the property of their creditors, or eluded the attempts of creditors to get at them, the earlier senses were: † a. in *Law*. 'A trader who secretes himself, or does certain other acts tending to defraud his creditors.' Blackstone.

† b. *popularly*. One who has brought himself into debt by reckless expenditure or riotous living; a fugitive from his creditors, a broken man in sanctuary or outlawry. (In these senses the bankrupt was a criminal.)

1533 MORE *Apol.* xxi. Wks. 881/2 Suche bancke roughtes... which when they have wasted and missepent their own, woulde than be very faine... robbe spirituall and temporall to. 1548 HALL *Chron. Hen. VII* an. 11. 37 Some Banqueroutes, some false Englyshe sanctuary men, some Theues. 1580 BARET *Abv.* B 140 One that hath riotously wasted his substance, a banqueroute, *Decroctor*. 1593 R. HARVEY *Philad.*, By gathering more bankrupts & ruffians to his side. 1613 R. C. *Table Alph.*, Bankerupt, bankrout, waster. 1614 RALEIGH *Hist. World* iv. vii. § 1. 533 Upon instigation of some desperate bankrouts... they made an uproar. 1678 MARVELL *Corr.* 358 Wks. II. 628 A Generall Bill... to find a more effectually way for discovering of the Estates of Bankrouts. 1709 STEELE *Tatler* No. 44 p. 6 He can no more live here than if he were a downright Bankrupt.

By gradual extension of sense, and modifications of the statutes of bankruptcy:

† c. in *Law*. Also, a trader, who did certain acts which had the effect of defeating his creditors of their property, without reference to any intention on his part.

d. in *Mod. Law*. Any trader or other person insolvent, who, on the petition of a creditor or creditors, or on his own petition, to the Bankruptcy Court, is declared or adjudged bankrupt, and his estates administered as stated above. Formerly only a trader could be made a *bankrupt*; other

persons became insolvent; in U.S. the legal distinction between the two was abolished in 1841, and in England in 1869; it had long before disappeared in popular use. 1707 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 4335/4 A Commission of Bankrupt being awarded against John Oliver... and he being declared a Bankrupt. 1718 *Free-thinker* No. 86. 215 A Friend of mine... had lately the Misfortune to become a Bankrupt. 1869 *Act 32-3 Victoria* lxxi. 76 A single creditor... of not less than fifty pounds, may present a petition to the Court, praying that the debtor be adjudged a bankrupt.

3. popularly. An insolvent debtor; one who is unable to meet his liabilities, whether he is in the Bankruptcy Court or not.

1580 *SIDNEY Arcadia* vi. 503 Shall my means help to make up a bankrupt in his estate. 1596 *SHAKS. Merch. V.* iv. i. 122 To cut the forfeiture from that bankrupt there.

† 2. To play the bankrupt: to become insolvent, to fail to pay one's debts; often, to play false with the money of others, and fig. to prove false to a trust of any kind. *Obs.*

1577 *HOLINSHED Chron.* III. 812/2 Jerome Bonuise, which had plaid bankrupt, and was conueied out of the realm for debt. 1580 *Ord. Prayer in Liturg. Serv. Q. Eliz.* (1847) 573 Till he have gotten great sums of money in his hand, that he may play the Bankeroute, to the undoing of such as trust him. 1614 *SYLVESTER Bethulia* III. 70 And with th' Almighty playing banque-rout, With greater Rage his law they persecute. 1623 *BACON Wks.* (1834) XII. 448 These modern languages will, at one time or other, play the bankrupts with books. 1643 *HORN & ROE. Gate Lang. Und.* § 865 Hee is constrained to breake (play the bankrupt), and to borrow of one and pay another. c1660 *J. HARRINGTON Epigr. in Singer Playing Cards* 254 The last game now in use is Bankerout, Which will be plaid at still, I stand in doubt, Until *Lavolta* turn the wheel of time.

3. transf. One hopelessly in debt; one who has lost all his means, and is without resources.

1586 *T. B. La Primaud. Fr. Acad.* (1594) 206 Perceiving themselves to be brought to the estate of bankrupts, as we commonly saie. 1594 *DRAYTON Idea* 41 All is Thine which hath been due to Me, And I a Bankrupt, quite undone by Thee. 1600 *CRESS. Essex in Ellis Orig. Lett.* i. 237 III. 57 To reckon my self a bankrupt till I have yeelded you some demonstrative testimonie. c1600 *Z. Boyd Zion's Flowers* (1855) 49 He who in sloath doth like a Dor-Mouse sleepe, Shall at the last sure prove a Banker-up.

b. fig. (cf. BANKRUPT a. 2.)

1579 *LYLY Euphues* (Arb.) 141 Not only unthrifths of their money but bankerouts of good manners.

4. attrib., as in bankrupt law, system; also bankruptlike adj.

1668 *ROLLE Abridgem.* I. 47 Thou art a bankruptlike knave. 1809 *R. LANGFORD Intro. Trade* 116 The bankrupt laws in England do not extend to Scotland.

Bankrupt, v. Forms: 6 bankerowt-on, 6-7 banke-, bankrout(e), banquerout, 7 bankroute, bankrupt, -rumpit. [App. f. the sb. (in sense 1); orig. short for 'to make bankrupt': the trans. sense is later, and perh. favoured by the analogy of *disrupt*, etc. Not in It. or Fr.]

† 1. To become bankrupt, to fail, to 'break'; = the early phrase 'to make bankrupt' (Often in the sense of fraudulent failure: see BANKRUPT sb. 1.)

1554 *HULOET, Bankerowten*, or make bankerowte, or bankrupte. 1570 *LEVINS Manip.* 229 To bankerout, *fidem fallere*. 1608 *CHAPMAN Byron's Conspir.* Plays 1873 II. 234 He that winnes Empire with the losse of faith, Out-buies it: and will bank-route. 1689 [see BANKRUPTING vbl. sb.]

2. trans. To make or render (any one) bankrupt; to make insolvent.

1616 *BEAUM. & FL. Laws Candy* III. i. He... will be bankrupt so much the sooner. 1650 *WILSON Crit. & Char. Jas. I.* 58 If they had already impoverished the Kingdom; by the union, they would bankrupt it. 1805 *Times* 31 July, There is some fear of bankrupting the Treasury. 1881 *Daily News* 17 Sept. 207 A bad season or two inevitably bankrupts the tenant.

† 3. To reduce to beggary, beggar, exhaust the resources of. *lit. and fig. Obs.*

1588 *SHAKS. L. L. L. i. 27* Make rich the ribs, but bankrupt the wits. 1593 *NASHE Christ's T.* (1613) 64, I should bankrupt them all in description. 1650 *FULLER Pisgah* II. ix. § 44 Seven hundred Queens... were able to bankrupt the Land of Ophir. a1650 *CLEVELAND On a Fly* 16 In this single Death of thee Th' hast bankrupt all Antiquity. c1700 *Gentl. Instruct.* (1732) 480 He is bankrupt of Patience, Money and Grace. 1748 *RICHARDSON Clarissa* (1811) VII. 258 Art thou sure that the making good of such a vow will not totally bankrupt thee?

Bankrupt, a. Forms: 6-7 bankerupt, bancke-, banquerout(e), banke-, bankrout, 7 banekrowt, -rout, -rupt, banquerupt, 6- bankrupt. [Connected in origin with the sb. in sense 2, and, like that, peculiar to Eng. It may be the short pa. pple. of the vb. to BANKRUPT, influenced also by *L. rupt-us* broken.]

1. Under legal process because of insolvency; unable to pay debts; insolvent. For the historical development of the senses, see BANKRUPT sb. 2.

1570 *LEVINS Manip.* 228 Bankerout, *fidisfragus, are alieno oppressus*. 1580 *BARET Adv. B* 130 He is banqueroute, *il est fait banqueroute*. 1592 *No-body & Some-b.* (1878) 283 To make that Nobody bankrupt, make him flee his Country, and be never heard of more. 1631 *R. KNEVER Rhodon & I.* II. iii. A bankrupt Tenant... That flies by night from an unprofitable Farme. 1730 *Pol. Ballads* (1860) 73 The bankrupt nation to restore, And pay the millions lent. 1848 *THACKERAY Van. Fair* xviii, Breaking the heart of that ruined bankrupt man.

2. fig. (various aspects of the bankrupt.)

† a. Discredited, having forfeited all credit. *Obs.* 1566 *T. STAPLETON Ret. Untr. Jewel*, For farder Credit off your Worde, you will stande (I feare) for banqueroute. 1601 *CORNWALLYES Ess.* II. xliii. (1631) 208 To be out of fashion, is to bee banquerupt. 1612 *W. PARKES Curtaine-Dr.* (1876) 3 Vertue is bankerout, dares not shew his face.

b. At the end of one's resources, exhausted.

1589 *NASHE Almond for P. 92*, Your banquerout inuention, cleane out at the elbowes. 1591 *SHAKS. Two Gent.* II. iv. 42, I shall make your wit bankrupt. 1623 *L. DYGES in Shaks. C. Praise*, Untill our bankrout Stage be sped. 1740 *SMOLLETT Regicide* II. v. (1777) 35 What recompence (thus bankrupt as I am) I shall speak my grateful soul! 1775 *SHERIDAN Rivals* v. i. 147, I am bankrupt in gratitude!

c. Stript bare, bereft, destitute of, or now wanting in (a property or quality formerly present, or that ought to be present).

1589 *NASHE in Greene Menaph.* (Arb.) 17 Those idiots... that have made Art bankrupt of her ornaments. 1651 *Reliq. Wotton* 474 Yet am I not so bankrupt of intelligence, but that I have heard of those rural passages. 1681 *DRYDEN Abs. & Achit.* I. 168 Bankrupt of life, yet prodigal of ease. 1848 *H. ROGERS Ess.* I. vi. 318 A man intellectually poverty-stricken, bankrupt in all science and argument.

Bankruptcy (bæŋkrŋpsɪ). Also 8-sie. [f. BANKRUPT + -cy, prob. on the analogy of *insolvency*, but with -t erroneously retained in spelling, instead of being merged in the suffix -cy = -tie, -tia. The sense was orig. expressed by the simple bankrupt (F. *la banqueroute*): on the application of this to the person involved (F. *le banqueroutier*), the fact was successively termed *bankrupting*, *bankruptism*, *bankrupture*, *bankruptship*, and finally, c1700, *bankruptcy*.]

1. The state of being bankrupt; the fact of becoming bankrupt.

1700 *J. LAW Conc. Trade* (1751) Intro. 14 By wilful fraud or bankruptie of councillors of trade. 1718 *STEELE Spect.* No. 428 P. 2 That most dreadful of all human Conditions, the Case of Bankruptcy. 1753 *HANWAY Trav.* (1762) II. i. viii. 39 The state might thus be reduced to bankruptcy. 1776 *ADAM SMITH W. N. L.* I. i. x. 116 Bankruptcies are most frequent in the most hazardous trades. 1848 *THACKERAY Van. Fair* xviii, His bills were protested: his act of bankruptcy formal. 1875 *POSTER Gains* III. 342 Roman law never established any distinction between traders and non-traders, in other words, between bankruptcy and insolvency.

b. attrib., as Bankruptcy Court, laws, etc.

1864 *Derby Merc.* 7 Dec. The Bankruptcy Court officials. 1883 *Law Times* 20 Oct. 408/1 The object of a bankruptcy law... should be the economical and honest distribution of a bankrupt's estate.

2. fig. Utter wreck, ruin, or loss of (any good quality).

1701 *Brit. Mag.* II. 441 They dread a bankruptcy of head and sense. 1797 *BURKE Corr.* IV. 433 A general bankruptcy of reputation in both parties. 1853 *A. MORRIS Business* v. 104 The greatest bankruptcy is not of fortune but of faith.

Bankrupted, ppl. a. [f. BANKRUPT v. + -ED.]

Rendered bankrupt, reduced to bankruptcy.

1668 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 273/2 The Sieur Tillier... being lately bankrupted, and fled. 1882 *Century Mag.* 379/1 Property... bought of a bankrupted owner.

† **Bankrupting, vbl. sb.** [f. BANKRUPT v. + -ING.] The becoming or being bankrupt; an earlier term for BANKRUPTCY.

1577 *NORTHBRIDGE Dicing* (1843) 119 It is a doore and window into-pouertie, bankrupting. 1689 *Def. Liberty agt. Tyrants* 144 Can the bankrupting of one of the Obligees quit the rest of their ingagement?

† **Bankruptism.** *Obs.* [see -ISM.] An earlier term for BANKRUPTCY.

1606 *DEKKER Sev. Sins* I. (Arb.) 18 How deadly... an enemy to the State this Politick Bankruptisme hath bin. 1630 *J. TAYLOR (Water P.) Wks.* III. 66/1 He is in danger of breaking or bankruptisme.

† **Bankruptly, a.** *Obs.* [f. BANKRUPT sb. + -LY.] Like or befitting a bankrupt.

1613 *PURCHAS Pilgr.* I. iv. vii. 330 Bankruptly shifts, be- seeming only the Merchants of Babylon. 1668 *ROLLE Abridgem.* I. 47 Thou art a bankruptly Knave.

† **Bankruptship.** *Obs. rare* -1. [see -SHIP.] An earlier term for BANKRUPTCY.

1606 *EARL MONM. Adot. Parnass.* 359 The most important Bankruptship... that ever happened in the memory of man.

† **Bankrupture.** *Obs. rare.* [f. BANKRUPT v. + -URE.] An earlier term for BANKRUPTCY.

1617 *COLLINS Def. Bp. Ely* II. ix. 367 Bankruptures of religion. 1622 *MASSE Aleman's Gwaman D'Al.* I. 7 In what Consistory... hath Bankrupture bene... condemned for a Sinne?

|| **Bankshall.** Forms: 7 bankesall, 7-8 bank-sall, 7-9 banksoll, 8 banosshall, 8- banksaul, 7- bankshall. [A word now common from India to China: in Malay *bāngsal* shed, storehouse, porch, but prob. orig. Bengali *baṅśālā* 'hall of trade,' or perh. Skr. *bhāṇḍasālā* storehouse or magazine. (Col. Yule.)] a. A warehouse. b. The office of a Harbour Master or other port authority.

1673 *FRYER E. Ind. & Persia* 27 (Y.) Their Bank Solls, or Custom House Keys, where they land. 1688 *Camd. Soc. Misc.* (1881) 38 Who was come down to the bankshall, or point of sand going into the river (Hooghly). 1727 *A. HAMILTON Acc. E. Indies* II. 6 (Y.) Above it is the Dutch Bankshall, a Place where their ships ride. 1873 *J. FORBES Orient. Mem.* IV. 109 (Y.) A large banksaul or warehouse at Mirzapore for the reception of pepper and sandalwood. 1880 *Frml. Ind. Archipelago* IV. 182 Bankshall, the name

given by Europeans to the office of the Master Attendant, or Intendant of a Port. It is most probably taken from the Malay word *Bāngsal*, a shed, an outhouse.

Banksia (bæŋksiə). [Named after Sir Joseph Banks.] A genus of Australian shrubs, with umbellate flowers, cultivated as ornamental shrubs in Europe.

1803 *MALTHUS Popul.* I. iii. (1806) I. 34 The flowers of the different banksias. 1873 *DAWSON Earth & Man* viii. 200 Trees now confined to Australia... as the banksias. 1881 *BLACKMORE Christowell* v, Bars of sunshine chequered by some Banksian sprays.

Bank-side. [f. BANK sb. 1.]

1. The sloping side of a bank.

1596 *SPENSER State Irel. Wks.* 1805 VIII. 367 They can prettily shroud themselves under a bush or bankside. 1834 *Infant Hymnings* 20 They are nestling together... In the hedge-row, the bank-side, or under the eaves.

2. The margin of sea (*obs.*), lake, or river.

a 1618 *RALPH Lett. in Rem.* (1661) 238 When he came to the bank-side to Land. 1625 *K. LONG tr. Barclay's Argenis* IV. xx. 313 Being landed at the bank-side of the Lake. 1669 *WORLDING Syst. Agric.* (1681) 254 This Net is either thrown off from the Bank-side, or from a Boat. 1867 *Times* 7 Oct. Puts his hand into the water by the bankside.

† b. Name of the side of the Thames at South-wark opposite to London. (cf. BANK sb. 1. 11.) *Obs.*

1599 *B. JONSON Ev. Man out of Hum.* v. v, Some cunning woman here o' the Bank-side. 1633 *MASSINGER New Way* IV. ii, You lodged upon the Bankside. 1721 *STRYPE Eccl. Mem.* II. i. xvii. 142 The Bank-side where the Stews were.

Bankman (bæŋksmæn). Also 6-7 bank-man. [f. BANK sb. 1 + MAN.] An over-looker above ground at a coal-mine, a 'bank-manager.'

1598 *Wills & Inv. N. C.* II. (1860) 335 Who haith served me as a bankman, at those pittes. 1604 *MS. Eccl. Proc. Durk.*, James Carre, then bankeman of the said cole pittes. 1851 *Coal-tr. Terms Northumbld. & Durk.* 6 The bankman's wages are about 4s. per day. 1862 *Chamb. Jmrl.* 215 Repulsed by the bankman of the nearest pit.

Bankvar, *obs. form of BANKER* 1.

1498 *Acc. in C. Innes Scot. Mid. Ages* viii. (1860) 244 A bankvar cost 18 d. the ell, 16 ells long.

Banky, a. *Obs. or dial.* [f. BANK sb. 1 + -y.] Full of banks, ridgy; of or pertaining to a bank; inclined like a bank or hill side; hilly.

1610 *MARKHAM Masterp.* II. liii. 304 Vpon a hard and stony ground, and after vpon a banky ground. 1649 *BLITH Eng. Improv. Impr.* (1653) Ded. Old mossy, rushy, bankie pasture lands. 1710 *PHILIPS Pastoral* vi. 5 And here below, the Banky Shore along, Your Heifers graze. 1729 *M. BROWN Piscat. Eclog.* ix. (1773) 124 The banky shelter. [1853 *ATKINSON Provenc. Danc.*, There's a vast o' banky land iv it. 'T' rood to Whithy's sair an' banky.]

Bannat(e): see BAN sb. 2.

Banne, *obs. form of BAWN.*

Banned (bænd), *ppl. a.* [f. BAN v. + -ED.]

a. Cursed. b. Prohibited, forbidden.

1340 *Alex. & Dind.* 808 To bale were 3e... bore for bannede werkus. 1592 *CHETTEL Kind-Harts Dr.* (1841) 46 You fare as the fox, the more band the better hap. 1596 *SPENSER Hymne Heav. Love* 184 Free that was thrall, and blessed that was band. 1860 *All Y. Round* No. 68. 421 The banned languages waxed stronger.

† **Banneour.** *Obs.* Forms: a. 3 baneur, 4 baneour(e), banieur, 5 baneouere, 4-5 banyour(e), banyer(e); β. 5-6 baner(e), 5 baneer. [(a.) ME. *baneur*, -*our*, a. AF. *baneour* = OF. *bancoir*: late L. **bannādor-em*; also (β.) ME. *banere*, a. OF. *bandre*, nom. case of the same word: late L. **bannātor*; f. *bannum*, bandum standard: see BANNER.] A banner-bearer, a standard-bearer.

a. 1297 *R. GLOUC.* 361 And slou anon a Englysse man, jat a baner bere, And esone anoper baneur, & be pryde almost al so. a 1300 *Cursor M.* 12723 Sant iohn com als baneur [v.r. banour, banerere]. 1377 *LANGL. P. Pl.* B. xv. 428 Go bifore As a good baneoure. c 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 23 Banyowre or bannerberere, *Vexillarius*.

β. 1403 in *Eulogium Hist.* (1863) III. 397 Procede, signifier; quod est dictu: 'anauant baner.' c 1440 *Generydes* 2055 His sonne ser Abell he was baneur. *Ibid.* 2128 Of his batell he made hym Banere. 1513 *DOUGLAS Ensis* (1710) IV. ProL 180 Ware na baneris for to perys mo.

¶ In OF. or AF. sometimes used in sense of *banneret*, with fem. *baneress* banneret's wife; so in Anglo-Lat. *baneris*; whence later writers occasionally put *banneret* for *banecour*: see BANNERET 3.

1297 [see BANNERET 1 a.] a 1300 *LANGTOFT in Excerpta Hist.* (1830) I. (Godef.) Li count, et li baneour, et ses bachelers. CHRIST. de Piz. (Godef.) Plusieurs autres contesses, baneresses, dames, et damoiselles. 1485 *Instrum. conv. Ord. Brit.* in Du Cange s.v. *Bannerettes*, Comites, Barones, Banerii, Baccalarii.

Banner (bæŋnər), sb. 1. Forms: 3-5 baner(e), 5-6 banor, 6 bannar, 4- banner. [a. OF. *baner*, *baniere* (= Pr. *banieira*, *bandieira*, Sp. *bandera*, Pg. *bandeira*, It. *bandiera*), on L. type **bandāria*, f. late L. *bandum*, *bannum* standard, 'vexillum quod bandum appellat' (Paul. Diac. c 775), f. Goth. *bandwa*, *bandwō* 'signum,' sign, token, perh. from same root as *band* and *bind*. In Romanic confused with *bannum* BAN.]

1. prop. A piece of stout taffeta, or other cloth, attached by one side to the upper part of a long pole or staff, and used as the standard of an emperor, king, lord, or knight, under (or after) which he and his men marched to war, and which served as their

rallying-point in battle; hence, that of a country, nation, army, or company. Phrases: *To join the banner of, follow the banner of.* In the literal sense, now chiefly historical; in poetry and elevated prose, applied to the *standard or flag* of a country; common in figurative expressions.

Heraldically, a banner means a square or quadrangular flag, displaying the arms of the person in whose honour it is borne, and varying in size from that of an emperor, six feet square, to that of a knight banneret, three feet square. In this sense we still commonly speak of the banners of the Knights of the Garter, in St. George's Chapel, Windsor.

c 1230 Ancr. R. 300 Schrif. is gunfaneur, & bereð her þe banere biuore alle Godes ferde. *1277 R. Glouc.* 51 The burgeis . . arede tueie baners, & wende hom worth larmed. *c 1300 Cursor M.* (Fairf.) 12013 As baner borne be-for þe king. *1306 CHAUCER's Knts. T.* 1552 In thy temple I wol my baner hongre. *1374 tr. Littleton's Tenures* 33b. To beare the kynges banner. *1603 SHAKS. Macb.* v. v. 1 Hang out our Banners on the outward walls. The Cry is still, they come. *1611 BIBLE Sol. Song* vi. 4 Terrible as an armie with banners. *1769 JUNIUS Lett.* xxv. 163 To fight under the banners of their enemies. *1809 J. BARLOW Columb.* i. 2, I sing the Mariner who first unfurled An eastern banner o'er the western world. *1845 MACAULAY Armada.* Our glorious *semper cadens*, the banner of our pride! The freshening breeze of eve unfurled that banner's massy fold. *18 . . .* KEY, 'Tis the star-spangled banner! Oh long may it wave O'er the land of the free, and the home of the brave! *1864 CURTIS Sch. Hist. Eng.* 121 A number joined the banner of a Scotch knight named Wallace. *1864 BOUTELL Heraldry Hist. & Pop.* xviii. 288 Banners were in use in the middle ages at sea, as well as on land.

b. in fig. expressions referring to moral struggles. *c 1280 Wyclif Sel. Wks.* 1871 III. 308 Þe baner of Crist on þe croos. *1552 Bapt. Infants in Bk. Com. Prayer.* Manfully to fight vnder his banner agaynste sinne, the world, and the deuil. *1847 YEOWELL Anc. Brit. Ch.* ii. 12 Planted the banner of the cross upon the ruins of heathenism.

c. in fig. reference to the protection symbolized by a national flag floating over a place.

c 1400 MAUNDEV. xxv. 26 The Banere of Jesu Christ is alle weyes displayed . . to the help of his trewe lovyng servauntes. *1564 HAWARD Entrep.* To Rdr., The boldyler, under the banner of hys protection. *1722 SEWELL Hist. Quakers* (1795) i. iv. 272 Thy . . banner was over my head.

d. (Attributed fig. to things.) *c 1282 B. CORNWALL Sicil. Story.* Autumn iv, Already have the elements unfurled their banners. *a 1250 J. PERCIVAL Eagle.* Where wide the storms their banners fling.

2. An ensign or flag bearing some device, borne in a procession, religious, civic, or political, for purposes of symbolism or display. (Sometimes specifically restricted to an ensign other than an ordinary flag, e.g. one extended in a frame, one attached by its upper edge or supported by two staves, so as to remain open.)

Of these the earliest were the religious banners, usually those of patron saints, which were often carried to battle, and there served as banners in sense 1. The banners of guilds and city companies, also partook of both characters.

c 1305 St. Edmund 351 in *E. P.* (1862) 80 Þis holi man alle Prechede a dai at Oxenford . . In alle hallowe church 3erd : in þe norþ side Mid þe baners at vnderne. *1552-66* [see BANNER-CLOTH below in 6]. *1796 TINDAL Rapin's Engl.* (1757) II. 207 A mast, on the top of which they placed a silver piz with a consecrated host, and the banners of St. Peter and St. John of Beverly, to serve as an ensign. *1751 CHAMBERS Cycl. s.v.* The French retain the denomination banner, in speaking of ecclesiastical processions; where the people, having each a cross on, march under a banner, representing the church militant. *c 1280 LONGF. Excelsior.* A banner with the strange device, Excelsior. *1806 KANE Arct. Expl.* i. xvi. 101 A little Masonic banner hanging from a tent-pole. *1876 C. DICKENS Dict. Lond.* 154/1 [Lord Mayor's Show] The streaming flags and banners give unwonted life and colour to the dingy scene.

b. fig. Anything displayed as a profession of principles.

1581 HAMMER (title) The Jesuites Banner, Displaying their original and successe. *1611 BIBLE Ps. lx. 4* Thou hast given a banner to them that feare thee; that it may bee displayed. *1884 Contemp. Rev.* Mar. 325 Dynamite has become . . the banner of the extreme revolutionary party.

† 3. transf. The company or 'side' ranged under a particular banner. *Obs. exc. Hist.*

1330 R. BRUNNE Chron. 242 He went to play a wile with 40 of his banere. *Ibid.* 306 Þei were cuer in wehere . . Whilk was best banere, with þat side forto hold. *1288 J. HOBHOUSE Hist. Illustr.* (ed. 2) 543 The Count of Campania . . has contrived that three banners of horse should leave his party by stealth.

† 4. = BANDEROLE 2 b. Obs. rare. *1599 SHAKS. Hen. V.* iv. ii. 60, I will the Banner from a Trumpet take, And vse it for my hasty.

5. Bot. The vexillum of a papilionaceous flower. *1794 MARTYN Rousseau's Bot.* iii. 35 A large petal, covering the others and occupying the upper part of the corolla . . the standard or banner. *1880 GRAY Bot. Text-bk.* 398.

6. Comb. as banner-cloth, pole, rag, staff; also banner-like, shaped, fashioned, adjs. Banner-bearer, standard-bearer, ensign; banner-cry, a cry summoning men to join a banner, a slogan; banner-screen, a fire-screen hung by its upper edge (cf. 2); bannerless *a.*, without a banner; bannerwise *adv.*, after the manner of a banner.

c 1440 Promp. Parv. 23 Bannowre, or bannerberere, *Vexillarius.* *1602-5* SIR J. MELVIL *Mem.* (1735) 21 Eleven 'Banner-bearers went up to the Breach. *1847 Nation. Cycl.* II. 819 Distinguished persons were . . attended by a 'banner-bearer. *1552 Invent. Ch. Goods in Norf. Archael.* (1865) VII. 52 Item two lentes 'Banner clothes valued at viij^s. Vol. I.

1566 Eng. Ch. Furniture (1866) 33 Item iij 'banner clothes sold to Gilbert Grene one of the churchwardens . . who defaced them. *1835 Penny Cycl.* III. 407 The 'banner-cloth [of St. Cuthbert, at Durham] was a yard broad and five quarters deep . . of red velvet, on both sides most sumptuously embroidered and wrought with flowers of green silk and gold. *1810 SCOTT Lady of L.* vi. xvii, The 'banner-cry of hell. *1832 WEEVER Anc. Fun. Mon.* 847 The 'Banner-fashioned Shield. *c 1850 J. JESSE Last of Roses* III. 5 (L.) Your heir Rides forth alone, and 'bannerless. *1566 Eng. Ch. Furniture* (1866) 110 Item, a crosse, a staffe, and iij 'banner-poles . . defaced by the . . churchwardens. *1880 BROWNING Dram. Idylls, Clive* 58 Sockets made for 'banner-poles. *1875 B. TAYLOR Faust* iv. ii. 11. 249 The 'banner-rags of standards flutter. *1566 Eng. Ch. Furniture* (1866) 65 Item, banners, 'banner staves, and crosse staves. *1815 Wordsw. W. Doe* vi, The 'banner-staff was in his hand. *1864 Soc. Sc. Rev.* 84 Able to execute a 'banner screen with any lady in the land. *1884 O'DONOVAN Merv* xx. 221 A piece of tattered linen, floating 'bannerwise at its extremity.

Banner (bæ'nɛr), *sb.* 2 [f. BAN *v.* + -ER.] One who bans or curses.

c 1440 Promp. Parv. 22 Bannare or cursere, *Imprecator* *1283 Cath. Angl.* 20 Banner, *denotator.* *1548 CRANMER Catech.* 23 Devilish swerers, banners and cursers. *1607 Guide Agst. Witches* ii. ii. 95 Bitter banners and cursers.

Banner, *v.* [f. BANNER *sb.* 1.]

1. To furnish with a banner, decorate with banners. *1809 J. BARLOW Columb.* v. 269 High bannering bright the air. *1870 Daily News* 10 Oct., The city . . is thickly bannered. *1874 HOLLAND Mistr. Manse* ii. 119 Who with silken parasol, Bannered the army that she led.

† 2. intr. To raise a banner or standard (against). *1588 J. HARVEY Discours. Probl.* 46 That the Turk should adventure, or dare to banner, against them who, etc.

Bannered (bæ'nɛrd), *pp. a.* [f. BANNER *sb.* 1 or *v.* + -ED.]

1. Furnished with a banner or banners. *1667 MILTON P. L.* ii. 883 A Bannerd Host, Under spread Ensigns marching. *1810 SCOTT Lady of L.* ii. viii, Bothwell's bannered hall.

2. Borne or blazoned on a banner.

1810 SCOTT Lady of L. ii. xvi, Sir Roderick's bannered pine. *1816 W. TAYLOR in Month. Mag.* xli. 526 Three lions passant banner'd they expand.

† Bannerer. *Obs. exc. Hist.* Also 4-6 bannerer (e, 5-6 banarar, 5 banerrere. [a. AF. *baner* = OF. *banerier*, f. *banière* BANNER.]

1. One who carries a banner, a standard-bearer. *c 1340 Cursor M.* (Trin.) 12723 Ion as banerere of honour Coom þo bifore oure sauour. *a 1400 Octavian* 1604 Yonge Octavian . . Was banerrere of that batayle. *1483 CAXTON Gold. Leg.* 300/a One of the Banerers . . took the Banere and stode amonge them. *1598 Stow Surv.* vii. (1603) 63 His heires . . are chief Banerers of London. *1881 A. MACGEORGE Flags* 34 The bearer of a banner, or bannerer as he was called.

fig. *1397 TREVISIA Higden* Rolls Ser. VII. 93 He þat was i-made chief baner of þis doynde deied in þe myddes of þe drynkynge. *2. = BANNERET.* (Cf. BANNEUR 2, BANNERET 3.)

1242 CAXTON Chynvalry 69 A knyt banerere whiche has under hym many knyghtes.

Banneret (bæ'nɛrɛt). Forms: 3-6 baneret, 5-6 banret, 4-6 (Sc.) banrent, 7 bannerent, banarite), 4- banneret; *pl.* 4-6 -ettes, -ettes. [ME. *baneret*, a. OF. *baneret*, f. *banrière*, with early ending of pa. pple. :-L. *altus*; *lit.* 'bannered.']

1. a. Originally, a knight able and entitled to bring a company of vassals into the field under his own banner, and who ranked next to a baron and above other knights: in this sense commonly used substantively, as a title of rank or dignity, and contrasted with *knight*, though sometimes with *bachelor*. *b.* Subsequently, the title and rank were conferred for valiant deeds done in the king's presence on the field of battle (perhaps, also, on other occasions or for other grounds), and, with the decay of the feudal system, came to constitute merely a rank or order of knighthood: in this use occur both *banneret* and *knight-banneret*, the latter opposed to *knight-bachelor*. On the institution of the order of baronets in 1611, precedence was given to these over all bannerets 'except such as were made in the field, under the banner, the king being present,' and after this the order of knights-bannerets was allowed to die out.

Note. The original sense was mainly French; 'in England there were few tenants bringing any considerable number of men who were not of the rank of the barons' (*Penny Cycl.*); the first recorded instance of use *b.* is in the 15th year of Edward III, when John de Copeland was made a banneret for his capture of King David Bruce at Neville's Cross. In the claim of Baronets to precedence (in 1612) it is said 'there are not Bannerets now in being and peradventure never shall be'; and although the title has been claimed for certain persons knighted since that day, heraldic authorities do not admit the validity of the claim. See the matter discussed in Nicolas' *Hist. Knighthood* (1842) i. pp. xxii-xxiii. In later times an explanation of the name was sought either in its being conferred on the field 'under the banner,' or in the alleged fact that at its bestowal the knight's pennon was symbolically cut square to banner shape.

1297 R. GLOUC. 551 Seue baners also, that aye Sir Simond were. & þe oþer banerets, & knyghtes mani oþer. *1375 HARBOUR BRUCE* xi. 529 Thre baneritts of full mekill mycht War capitanys of all that rout. [1388 *Act 5 Rich. II.* ii. § 4 Berthelet] Duke, erle, baron, baneret, knyght of the shyre. *c 1440 Morte Arth.* 1424 The banerettes bolde, and bachelor noble. *1480 CAXTON Chron. Eng.* cxcvii. 176 Many

other barons and banerettes. *c 1538 LYNDESAY Justing Watson & B.* 7 Monie ane knicht, barroun and banrent. *1611 GWILLIM Heraldry* vi. vii. 270 Nobles . . of which rancke a Banneret or (as some call them) a Baronet is the lowest. *1641 Termes de la Ley* 37 Bannerets were anciently called by Summons to the Court of Parliament.

b. *1548 W. PATTEN Exp. Scoll.* in Arb. Garner III. 147 Sir Ralph Sadler, Sir Francis Byran, Sir Ralph Vane . . These Knights were made Bannerets. *1603 SEGAR Hon. Mtl. & Civ.* ii. x. § 3, I suppose the Scots doe call a Knight of this creation a Banneret, for having his Banner rent. *1605 CAMDEN Rem.* (1637) 271 Sir Richard Croftes, who was made Banneret at the battell of Stoke. *1611 COTGR. s.v.*, A Banneret or Knight banneret . . a title (the priuiledge whereof was to haue a banner of his own for his people to march and serue under) given by the Kings of France to such as had ten vassals, and means to maintaine a troupe of horse; or vnto any gentleman that had valiantly carryed himselfe in two royal battels. *1655 GURNALL Chr. in Arm.* i. 5 For which he came out of the Field God's Banarite. *1863 HAYDN Dict. Dates* 69 A Banneret, a dignity . . disused from the reign of Charles I., but revived by George III. in the person of Sir William Erskine in 1764.

c. Knight Banneret.

1475 Bk. Noblesse 14 And many other knyghtis and gentiles . . of which were taken and sleine . . iij. knyghtis banerettis. *1523 LD. BERNERS Froiss.* i. xx. 29 A knyght banerett, and vii. other knyghtis, of the realme of Scotland. *1577 HARRISON England* ii. v. 127 An order of knyghts called knyghts Bannerets, who are made in the field with the ceremonie of cutting awaie the point of his penant of armes, and making it as it were a banner. *1635 tr. Camdens Hist. Elis.* III. (1688) 401 Sir Ralph Sadleir . . the last Knyht Banneret of England. *1768 BLACKSTONE Comm.* i. 404 Next follows a knight banneret; who indeed by statutes 5 Ric. II. st. 2. c. 4 . . is ranked next after barons. *1834 Penny Cycl.* III. 409 The dignity conferred on Captain, now Sir Henry Trollope, was understood to be that of a knight banneret.

2. A title borne by certain officers in some of the Swiss cantons and Italian republics.

1669 BURNET Tracts (1689) i. 14 The Chief Magistrates are two Advoyers . . After them, there are the four Bannerets, who answer to the Tribunes of the People in Rome. *1708 Lond. Gaz.* No. 4428/14 Banneret Willading is chosen Avoyer. *1832 Sismondi's Ital. Rep.* viii. 176 The senators and bannerets of Rome.

3. Confused with BANNERER. (See BANNEUR.)

1494 FABYAN vi. ccxvii. 236 A baner, or banerett, called Thiller, a Norman. *1809 HEATH Grocers' Comp.* (1869) 3 The Lord Fitzwalter hereditary chasteillain banneret or standard-bearer of London.

Banneret, *v. rare* -1. [f. the *sb.*] *trans.* To create a banneret.

1662 FULLER Worthies i. 464 (D.) Amongst the thirteen then banneretted in the King's Army.

Bannerette (bæ'nɛrɛt). Also 3 banerett, 4-baneret. [a. OF. *banerete*, *banerette*, dim. of *banrière* BANNER: see -ETTE.] A small banner.

c 1300 K. Alis. 5236 Many banere and banerett Was on pavyloun y-sett. *1601 SHAKS. All's Well* ii. iii. 213 The scarffes, and the bannerets, about thee. *1865 Morn. Star* 24 Feb., Over the pulpit was suspended a banneret with the arms of the Cardinal. *1884 Daily News* 13 Oct. 2/3 A bannerette having on one side a portrait of the Prime Minister.

Bannerman. *Sc. arch.* [f. BANNER *sb.* 1 + MAN.] A standard-bearer, an ensign.

1 a 1500 Batt. Harlaw xxvii, The kingis chief bannerman was he. *1536 BELLENDENE Cron. Scot.* (1821) II. 283 He espyit his banerman . . trimbland. *1818 SCOTT Hrt. Midl.* xxx, The renowned Daniel Cameron, our last blessed bannerman.

Bannerol (bæ'nɛrɔl, -öl). A variant form of BANDEROLE (q.v.), found in all senses, and regularly used in that of: A banner about a yard square, borne at the funerals of great men, and placed over the tomb.

1548 HALL Chron. Hen. V. an. 10, CCC persons holdyng long torches, and lordes bearyng baners, banerols and penons. *1605 CAMDEN Rem.* (1637) 206 King Oswald had a banneroll of gold and purple . . set over his tombe. *1690 F. SANDFORD Funeral Dh. Albemarle* (1722) 28 The ten Bannerols were offered by Pairs. *1721 Lond. Gaz.* No. 5930/2 Six Banner-Rolls being carried on the Sides of the Horse by six Gentlemen. *1852 Gentl. Mag.* CXXII. ii. 592 Bannerols are banners of increased width, so made in order to display . . the most distinguished alliances from which the deceased was descended.

Bannimus. *Obs.* [L.; = 'We banish': 1st pers. pl. pres. ind. of *bannire*; cf. *mittimus*.] = BANITION.

1654 GAYTON Fest. Notes ii. vi. 61 The Neglect, the Go-by, the Bannimus from the Table. *1797-51 CHAMBERS Cycl.*, *Bannimus*, the form of expulsion of any member from the university of Oxford by affixing the sentence up in some public place, as a denunciation or promulgation of it.

Banning (bæ'niŋ), *vbl. sb.* [f. BAN *v.* + -ING.]

a. Cursing. *b.* Prohibition.

a 1300 Cursor M. 11954 Yur sun . . Wit his banning has slan vr child. *1566 STUDLEY Seneca's Medea, Trag.* (1581) 120 That my bitter bannings may with mischief most abounde. *1818 SCOTT Rob Roy* xxxix, Ower bad for blessing, and ower gude for banning.

Banning, *pp. a.* That bans, cursing.

1566 WARNER Alb. Eng. III. xviii. (1597) 82 Whome the Priests the Druides invade With banning words. *1591 SHAKS. 1 Hen. VI.* v. iii. 42 Fell banning Hagge!

† Bannition (bæ'niʃən). *Obs.* [ad. med. L. *bannitiōnem*, n. of action f. *bannire* to BAN, BANISH.] Banishment, expulsion, esp. from a university.

a 1644 LAUD Rem. II. 191 (T.) To send him out of the university too by bannition. *1758 Vinerian Stat.* in Blackstone *Comm.* i. 29 Such misbehaviour as shall amount to bannition by the university statutes.

Bannock (bæ'nɒk). Forms: 1 bannuo, 5

-ok, 7 -ack, 6 -ock, (9 Sc. banno', banna, dim. bannockie). [a. Gael. *bannach*, fad. L. *pānī-cium* f. *pānis* bread.]

1. The name, in Scotland and north of England, of a form in which home-made bread is made; usually unleavened, of large size, round or oval form, and flattish, without being as thin as 'scon' or oat-cake. In Scotland, bannocks are usually of barley- or pease-meal, but may be of wheaten flour; in some parts a large fruit cake or bun of the same shape is called a *currant-bannock*. In north of England the name is sometimes given to oat- or haver-bread, when made thicker and softer than an oat-cake; but local usage varies. (Cf. the dialect glossaries).

1000 *Gloss* in Haupt Zeitsch. IX. 463 *Bucellam semipennam*, healfne bannock. 1483 *Cath. Angl.* 20 Bannock, *foecius, panis subcinericius*. 1562 *TURNER Herbal* II. 33 a, Somthing rysing in bignes toward the middes, as a little cake or bannock... which is hastily baked upon y^e harth. 1630 J. TAYLOR (Water P.) *Wks.* I. 78/2 Or Oaten cakes or Bannocks, as in North Britaine. 1663 in Spalding *Troub. Chas.* I (1829) 114 Baked good bannocks at the fire. 1674 RAY N. *Countr. Wds.* 5 Tharcakes, the same with Bannocks, viz. Cakes made of Oat-meal... without Yeast or Leaven. 1724 A. RAMSAY *Tea-t. Misc.* (1733) II. 167 She gies us white bannocks. 1818 SCOTT *Hrt. Midl.* viii. To procure butter-milk and pease-bannocks. 1860 *All Y. Round* No. 45. 440 Barley bannocks and oat cake long remained the staff of life in villages in Scotland. [1870 R. CHAMBERS *Pop. Rhymes* *Scott.* 86 'Welcome, welcome, wee bannockie!' — 87 And that was the end o' the banna.]

† 2. 'A small quantity of meal [sufficient to make a bannock] due to the servants of a mill by those grinding their corns or thirled thereto, ordinarily termed in charters of mills the sequels.' Spottiswoode's *MS. Law Dict.* in Jamieson. *Obs.*

1773 *ERSKINE Inst. Sc. Law* II. ix. § 19 (JAM.) The sequels... pass by the name of knaveship... bannock, and lock.

3. *Comb.* (all Sc.), as *bannock-fed*, -*shaped*; *bannock-fluke* (also *bannet*), the turbot; *bannock-stick*, a wooden roller for rolling out bannocks; *bannock-stone* = *BAKESTONE*.

1844 in *Proc. Berw. Nat. Club* II. xii. 102 The folk are bannock-fed. 1816 SCOTT *Antiq.* xi. Caller haddocks and whittings—a bannock-fluke and a cock-paddle. 1724 A. RAMSAY *Tea-t. Misc.* (1733) II. 181 Bakkbread and a bannock-stane. a 1800 HOGG *Jacobite Relics* (1819) I. 118 (JAM.) A bassie and a bannock-stick.

Banns (bænz), *sb. pl.* Forms: 5 *bane* (*sing.*), 5-7 *banes*, 6 *banes*, 6-7 *banies*, 6 *bannes*, 6- *bans*, *banna*. [The same word as BAN *sb.* 1 'proclamation', in a specific use, in which it was from some cause regularly pronounced with long *a* from 15th to 17th c. The Prayer-book of 1549 has exceptionally *bannes*, that of 1552 *bannes* and *banes*, all edd. from 1559 to 1661 *banes*, from 1662 onward *banns*, after med. L. *bannum*, used, as well as F. *ban*, in same sense. The singular occurs in 15th c.; the plural only is found after.]

1. Proclamation or public notice given in church of an intended marriage, in order that those who know of any impediment thereto may have opportunity of lodging objections. Phrases: to *bid* (*obs.*), *ask*, *publish*, *put up the banns*.

[1198-1216 *Decret. Gregorii* iv. xviii. vi. Quando banna secundum consuetudinem in ecclesiis edebantur. a 1328 *Concil. Provinc. Cantuar.* (Wilkins) II. 554 Contractibus matrimonialibus absque bannorum editione prehabita initis.] c 1400 *Promp. Parv.* 22 Bane of a pley (1499 or marriage), *Banna, prelium.* c 1530 LD. BERNERS *Arth. Lyt. Bryt.* (1814) 402 The byshop... there dydde axe the banes betwene them. 1549 *Bk. Com. Prayer* Matrim., The bannes must be asked three several Soondaies. 1596 SHAKS. *Tam. Shr.* II. i. 181 He craue the day When I shall aske the banes, and when he married. 1599 Bp. HALL *Sat.* IV. i. 124 Go bid the banies and point the bridal day. 1642 FULLER *Holy & Prof. St.* I. ix. 24 Seeing that heaven did ask the banes, why should earth forbid them? 1662 *Bk. Com. Prayer* Matrim., The Banns of all that are to be married together must be published. [So in 1885.] 1694 FALLE *Jersey* v. 142 The Banes shall be asked three Sundays successively. 1700 GAY *Poems* (1745) I. 252 Our bans thrice bid! 1863 HAYDN *Dict. Dates* 69 The present custom of asking banns... introduced into the Gallican church about A. D. 1210.

b. To forbid the banns: to make a formal objection to the intended marriage. Also *fig.*

1590 LVLV *Euphues* (Arb.) 51 Had not Euphues... forbidden the banes of Matrimony. 1596 SPENSER *P. O.* I. xii. 36 The late forbidden banes. a 1617 HIERON *Wks.* II. 472 If any man can forbid this Banes. 1709 STREKE *Tatler* No. 105 ¶ 4 The Parents of his Mistress forbad the Banes. a 1778 PITT (*on coalition of Fox and North*), I know of a just and lawful impediment; and in the name of the public weal, I forbid the banns. 1809 SOUTHEY *O. Newman* II. Wks. X. 286 Should loyalty forbid the banns.

† 2. Proclamation or prologue of a play. 1440 [see 1]. 1483 *Cath. Angl.* 20 Bane (Bayn) of a play, *prelium, prolium.* 1600 *Chester Plays*, The Banes which are read before the beginning of the playes. c 1609 D. ROGERS in *Digby Myst.* *Intro.* (1882) 19 A man... published the tyme and the matter of y^e playes in breife, which was called 'y^e readings of the banes.' 1884 SYMONDS *Shaks. Predecess.* III. 105 The Banes, or proclamation which introduced them to the public.

Bannut. *dial.* Forms: 5 *bannenote*, 6 *banocke*, 9 *bannet*, 7- *bannut*. [f. *ban*, *banne*,

of unknown meaning + *nut*.] A walnut; but in an early vocabulary applied to the filbert.

c 1450 in Wülcker *Voc.* 1629 *Aulana*, bannenote-tre. 1542 BOORDE *Dyetary* xxi. 283 The walnut and the banocke be of one operacyon. 1821 SOUTHEY *Life & Corr.* (1849) I. 54 The boys were employed also to squall at the bannets, that is, to throw at his walnuts. 1879 in *Shropsh. Gloss.* (E. D. S.), Bannut.

Banquet (bæŋkwet), *sb.* 1 Forms: 5 *bankat*, 5-6 *-ett(e)*, 6 *bancket*, -ette, -it, *banquet*, -ett, 6-7 *banquet*, 6- *banquet*. [a. F. *banquet* (15th c. in Littré), dim. of *banc* bench, corresponding to It. *banchetto*, dim. of *banco* 'table'; cf. *table*, *board*, in sense of 'meals'. The development of sense in It. has yet to be investigated: possibly sense 2, or 3, will prove to have preceded 1.]

1. A feast, a sumptuous entertainment of food and drink; now usually a ceremonial or state feast, followed by speeches.

1483 CAXTON *Gold. Leg.* 246/2 He there bayned and made bankettis in etyng and drynyng. 1502 ARNOLD *Chron.* (1811) *Intro.* 47 There the Kinge helde ryal iustis, turnais, and bankettis. 1555 *Fardle Facions* I. iv. 48 In banquettes of honour... they serue in rawe flesh very finely minced. 1604 T. WRIGHT *Passions* v. § 2. 163 Deprive great banketts of musike, and the feast is not intire. 1721 *Pore Temp. Fame* 382 Ours is the place at banquetts, balls and plays. 1849 MACAULAY *Hist. Eng.* III. The halls of the great companies were enlivened by many sumptuous banquetts. 1885 *Daily News* 4 June 6/8 Last evening the Lord Mayor... gave a banquet to her Majesty's Judges.

b. *transf.* and *fig.*; sometimes *ironical*.

c 1495 DUNBAR *Twa Mariit Wom.* 430 To furnyse a bankat [*v. r.* bankat] In Venus chalmere. 1542 ELYOT (*title*) The Bankette of Sapience. 1580 SIDNEY *Arcadia* III. 280 Had trayned out the Princesses to their banquet of miserie. 1613 R. C. *Table Alph.*, Pittance, short banquet. 1791-1824 D'ISRAELI *Cur. Lit.* (1866) 16 Thus a single point, by the hand of a skilful artist, may become a varied banquet.

c. Applied to the Eucharist or Lord's Supper.

1663 *Homilies* II. *Sacram.* II. (1859) 449 O heavenly banquet, then so used. 1597 HOOKER *Eccle. Pol.* v. lxviii. § 11 Christ assisting this heavenly banquet with his personal presence.

† 2. A slight repast between meals. Sometimes called *running banquet*. (Often *transf.* and *fig.*, as in *prec. sense*.) *Obs.*

1509 FISHER *Wks.* I. 294 Eschewynge bankettes, re-soupers, jconcyres betwyxe meles. 1552 HULOET, Banquet before supper, *Antecanium*. 1613 SHAKS. *Hen. VIII.* III. iv. 69 Besides the running Banquet of two Beales [*i. e.* a whipping] that is to come. 1620 VENNER *Via Recta* v. 91 At banquetts betwene meales, when the stomache is empty. 1657 JORDAN *Walks Islng.* *Prol.* A Play of Walks, or you may please to rank it, With that which Ladies love, A running Banquet.

3. A course of sweetmeats, fruit, and wine, served either as a separate entertainment, or as a continuation of the principal meal, but in the latter case usually in a different room; a dessert. *Obs.* in *gen. use*; but cf. 'cake and wine banquet' in Scotland, 'fruit banquet' in northern counties.

1523 LD. BERNERS *Froiss.* I. ccciii. He gaue dyners, suppers, and banketes to ladies and damosels. 1598 COGAN *Haven Health* ccxii. (1612) 191 Yea, and after supper for feare lest they be not full gorged, to haue a delicate banquet, with abundance of wine. 1610 BARROUGH *Physick* III. xxx. (1639) 151 Let his banquet be Almonds. 1703 *London Gaz.* No. 3943/4 A Ball, which... ended in a very handsome Banquet of Sweetmeats.

† b. A sweetmeat, a dainty dish; *collect.* sweetmeats, dessert.

1534 LD. BERNERS *Gold. Bk. M. Aurel* (1546) D liii. To inuent newe maner of meates and bankettes. 1681 *London Gaz.* No. 1623/4 Four Tables, covered with high Pyramids of all sorts of Banquet. a 1700 SEDLEY *Poems* Wks. 1722 I. 36 Some with full Cups, with Banquets some attend.

† 4. A wine-drinking carousal. *Obs.*

1535 COVERDALE *1 Macc.* xvi. 15 Where he made them a banquet (Gr. *σώρον*). 1552 HULOET, Banquet called a rere banquet or drynyngke, *repositum*. 1603 HOLLAND *Plutarch's St.* 612 A banquet, where they shall be put to quaffe and carrouse in their turne. 1719 YOUNG *Busiris* I. i. (1757) 19 The drunken banquet.

5. *attrib.*, as in *banquet-beagle*, -*chamber*, -*hall*, etc. 1535 COVERDALE *Eccles.* vii. 2 It is better to go into a house of mournyng, then into a banquet house. 1599 B. JONSON *Ev. Man out of Hum.* *Dram. Pers.* A good feast-hound, or banquet-beagle, that will scent you out a supper some three miles off. 1837 LYTTON *E. Maltrav.* v. viii. The lamps are dead in the banquet-room of yesterday. 1854 TUPPER *Prov. Philos.* 385 The grave, that dismal banquet-hall. See also BANQUETTE.

Banquet, *sb.* 2 *Horsemanship*. [a. F. *banquet* in same sense: see Littré.] See *quot.*

1753 CHAMBERS *Cycl. Supp.* s.v., Banquet in the manege, denotes that small part of the branch of a bridle under the eye. *Ibid.* *Banquet-line*, an imaginary line drawn by the bit-makers along the banquet, in forging a bit.

Banquet (bæŋkwet), *v.*; also 6-7 *banket*. *Pples.* *banqueted*, -*ing*. [a. F. *banquet*-*r*, f. *banquet*; see *prec.*]

1. *trans.* To entertain at a banquet or banquetts; to provide a banquet for, to feast, regale.

c 1538 LYNDESAY *Sqr. Meldrum* 854 They banketted him fra hand to hand. 1594 NASH *Unfort. Trav.* 32 Not a dogge... but shall bee banketted with Rhenish wine and sturgeon. a 1797 H. WALPOLE *Mem. Geo.* II. I. 370 Being banquetted much on the road. c 1840 LYTTON *Devereux* vi. ii. As an oak banqueteth the destroying worm.

fig. 1676 D'URFEE *Mad. Fickle* v. i. (1677) 52 Happythe Man that takes delight In Banquetting the Sences.

2. *intr.* To take part in a banquet or banquetts; to regale oneself; to feast, carouse. *Const. on.*

1514 BARCLAY *Cyt. & Uplondysm.* 30 To Baccus they banquet. 1573 TUSSEY *Husb.* (1878) 68 At Christmas we banquet, the rich with the poore. 1725 POPE *Odys.* x. 662 A vulgar soul Born but to banquet, and to drain the bowl. 1855 SINGLETON *Virgil* I. 144 Ere that banquetted a godless race On butchered steers.

fig. 1588 SHAKS. *L. L. L.* I. i. 25 The minde shall banquet, though the body pine. 1751 JOHNSON *Rambl.* No. 162 ¶ 11 Thrasybulus had banquetted on flattery. 1857 HEAVYSEGE *Saul* (1869) 172 To banquet on the sounds.

† 3. To take a BANQUET (in senses 2 and 3). *Obs.* 1564 P. MOORE *Hope Health* II. ii. 22 Let them eschue... drinking or banquetting betwene meales. c 1800 GIFFORD in *Southey Comm.-pl. Bk.* Ser. II. (1849) 323 The common place of banquetting, or of eating the dessert.

† **Banquetant.** *Obs.* *rare*—1. [a. F. *banquetant*, pr. pple. of *banqueter*.] = BANQUETER 1. 1615 CHAPMAN *Odys.* xx. 280 Are there not beside Other great banquetants?

Banquetteer (bæŋkwetjē), = BANQUETER 2.

1821 *Blackw. Mag.* IX. 322 Then canst thou image forth each banquetteer. 1824 BYRON *Juan* xvi. viii. The Banquetteers had dropp'd off one by one.

Banquetter (bæŋkwetjē), [f. BANQUET *v.* + -*er* 1; cf. F. *banquetteur*.]

† 1. The giver of a banquet; a host, entertainer.

1542 UDALL *Erasm. Apoph.* 189a, The feaster or banquetter plaied... the niggarde. 1637 GILLESPIE *Eng.-Pop. Cerem.* III. v. 86 He is our loving and kinde Banquetter.

2. A guest at a banquet, a feaster; a reveller.

1549 LATIMER *Serm. bef. Edu.* VI. ii. (Arb.) 62 Blessed is the Lande where... Kynges be no banquetters. 1617 *Janus Ling.* 506 Inordinate banquetters cram themselves in cellars. 1624 HEYWOOD *Gunaik.* II. 65 All such banquetters be either musical or learned. 1801 SOUTHEY *Thalaba* VI. xxvii. With earnest eyes the banquetters Fed on the sight impure.

¶ Used for: Broker, trafficker, BANKER 2.

1534 WHITTINTON *Tullies Offices* I. 18, I aske no golde... nor gyue me no banquettes in warre, but men of armes. 1552 HULOET, Banquetter, or he that kepeth a bank of money.

Banqueting, *vbl. sb.* [f. as *prec.* + -ING 1.]

1. Giving of banquetts (*obs.*); indulgence in luxurious entertainment, feasting, carousal.

1535 COVERDALE *Job* i. 5 When they had passed over the tyme of their banquettinge rounde aboute. 1582 N. T. (Rhem.) 1 *Pet.* iv. 3 Excesse of wine, banquettings, potations. 1611 *ibid.*, Excesse of wine, reuellings, banquettings (Gr. *σώρον*). 1801 SOUTHEY *Thalaba* IX. xxxi. I have seen the Gouls Fight for the dainty at their banquetting.

2. *attrib.* 8. in general sense.

1563 *Homilies* II. viii. ii. (1859) 350 This feast is now prepared in God's banquetting-house, the church. 1570-87 HOLMES *Scot. Chron.* I. 365 Such banquetting chere as was used amongst his people. 1656 COWLEY *Davidis* III. (1669) 112 Citron... was most used for banquetting Beds and Tables. 1814 SCOTT *Wav.* xx. Ere Waverley entered the banquetting hall. 1854 GROTE *Greece* II. lxxvii. X. 117 Phyllidas now conducted the pretended women into the banquetting-room.

† b. in reference to BANQUET *v.* 3, *sb.* 2, 3. *Obs.*

1586 COGAN *Haven Health* cxv. (1636) 116 To preserve Berberies whole, for a banquetting dish. 1610 BARROUGH *Physick* III. vii. (1639) 109 Let their banquetting meates be Pistacium, Almonds. c 1645 HOWELL *Lett.* I. v. ix, Philosophy should be your substantial food, Poetry your banquetting-stuff. a 1699 LADY HALKETT *Autobiog.* (1875) 12, I must come out by the Banquetting howse in the garden.

¶ **Banquette** (bæŋkē), [Fr., ad. It. *banchetta*, dim. of *banca* 'bench, shelf'. Formerly anglicized as *banket*, -*quet*.]

1. A raised way running along the inside of a rampart or parapet, or bottom of a trench, on which soldiers stand to fire at the enemy.

1659 *Sheretogenbosh* 19 We began to make... Trenches with double bankets or feet benches. 1782 P. BRUCE *Mem.* I. 28 Six officers... sitting in a row on the banquet, had their legs all shot off. 1877 KINGLAKE *Crimea* IV. xiii. 311 Korniloff mounted the banquette at the projecting angle of the bastion.

2. The footway of a bridge, or other thoroughfare, when raised above the carriage-way.

1842 in GILWIT. 1848 BARTLETT *Dict. Amer.*, *Banquette*, the name for a side-walk in some of our Southern cities.

3. The long low bench behind the driver in a French 'diligence' or omnibus.

1859 *All Y. Round* No. 33. 151 A peasant in blue blouse, who was in the banquette with me.

† **Bannet.** *Obs.* Scotch form of BANNERET.

Bansel, *dial.* variant of BENSEL.

Banshee (bæŋʃi). Forms: 8 *banshi*, -*shea*, 9-*shie*, *banshie*, -*shee*. [A phonetic spelling of Ir. *bean sídhe*:—Oir. *ben sídhe* 'female, or woman, of the fairies or elves'.] A supernatural being supposed by the peasantry of Ireland and the Scottish Highlands to wail under the windows of a house where one of the inmates is about to die. Certain families of rank were reputed to have a special 'family spirit' of this kind.

1771 PENNANT *Tour Scot.* 24 Aug. (1769), The cries and shrieks of Benshi, or the Fairies wife. 1810 SCOTT *Lady of L.* III. vii. The fatal Ben-shie's boading scream. 1829 — *De-monol.* x. 348 The distinction of a banshie is only allowed to families of the pure Milesian stock. 1876 MISS BRADDON *J. Haggard's D.* II. 67 As if she had heard the family banshee shrieking at her.

Banskin (= *barm-skin*); see BARM *sb.* 1 3.

Banstickle (bænstik'l). 5-; also 5 baynstikille, (bafynstikylle), beynstekle, banstykyl, 6-8 banstickle. [prob. repr. an OE. *bānsticels, f. bān bone + sticels prick, sting; cf. G. *stachelfisch*.] Name of the Three-spined Stickleback.

c 1450 HENRYSON *Mor. Fab.* 65, I can neither fish with huke nor net. To take ane banstickle. 1483 *Cath. Angl.* 17 Bafynstikylle (v. r. Baynstikille); *gamerus, asparagus*. 1554 HULOET, Banstickle, *frachida*. 1611 COTGR., *Espinocle*, banstickle, or stickleback. 1707 *Best Angling* 61 The common Prickleback, Sharpling or Banstickle. 1857 *WRIGHT Provinc. Dict.*, Banstickle, the Stickleback. In Wiltshire it is called a *banticle*.

Bant v.: see BANTING.

Bantam (bæntām). [Supposed to be named from Bantam in the north-west of Java, whence perhaps the fowls were imported to Europe, though, according to Crawford, originally from Japan.]

1. A small variety of the domestic fowl, most breeds of which have feathered legs: the cocks are spirited fighters.

1749 *Mrs. DELANY Autobiog.* (1861) II. 518 We fed all the bantams, guinea-fowl, pheasants. 1866 *BARNES Rhymes Dorset Dial.* I. 184 Knock'd the bantam cock right down.

b. fig. in reference to small size or 'cockiness'. 1782 WOLCOTT (P. Pindar) *Ode R. Acad. Wks.* 1812 I. 27 And struts the veriest Bantam-cock of paint. 1837 *DICKENS Pickw.* 469 'Do you always smoke arter you goes to bed, old cock?' 'Yes, I does, young bantam.' 1863 *BURTON Bk. Hunter* 59 Those pretty little pets, the Elzevir classics, a sort of literary bantams.

2. *Bantam-work*: 'a kind of Indian painting, and carving on wood, resembling Japan-work, only more gay.' Chambers *Cycl. Supp.* 1753.

† **Bantel**, -ele, -elle. *Obs.* 1. 'A post, pillar.' c 1325 *E. E. Allit. P.* A. 991 With bantelez twelue on basyng boun. *Ibid.* 1016 Pe wal abot be bantels bent. *Ibid.* B. 1459 Enbened vnder batelment with bantelles quoynt.

Banter (bæntar), sb. [Of unknown etymology: it is doubtful whether the vb. or sb. was the earlier; existing evidence is in favour of the vb. The sb. was treated as slang in 1688: Swift, in the *Apology* to his *Tale of a Tub* (1710), says that it 'was first borrowed from the bullies in White Friars, then fell among the footmen, and at last retired to the pedants'; in *Tatler* No. 230, he classes it with *bamboozle*, *country put*, and *kidney*, as a word 'invented by some pretty Fellows' and 'now struggling for the Vogue.' But the vb. was then nearly 40 years old.]

1690 *LOCKE Hum. Und.* III. ix. § 7 He that first brought the word *Banter* in use, put together as he thought fit, those Ideas he made it stand for. 1720 *SWIFT Tatler* No. 230 ¶ 7, I have done my utmost for some years past to stop the Progress of *Mobb* and *Banter*. 1722 *WODROW Corr.* (1843) II. 659 Such plain raillery, that unless I should learn banter and Billingsgate, which I still thought below a historian, there is no answering it.

1. Wanton nonsense talked in ridicule of a subject or person; hence, humorous ridicule generally; now usually, good-humoured raillery, pleasantry.

1702 *Eng. Theophrast.* 232 The ordinary reasons of War and Peace, are very little better than Banter and Paradox. 1705 S. WHATELY in *Perry Hist. Coll. Amer. Col. Ch.* I. 172, I know no better way of answering bombast, than by banter. 1720 *SWIFT T. Tub* (1760) Apol. 11 Peter's Banter (as he calls it in his *Alsatia* phrase) upon transubstantiation. 1844 *DICKENS Mar. Chuz.* (C. D. ed.) 249 She took it for banter, and giggled excessively. 1880 L. STEPHEN *Pope* v. 113 Gay had an illimitable flow of good-tempered banter.

2. An instance of such ridicule, a merry jest. *arch.* 1700 *Ch. Eng. Loyalty* in *Somers Tracts* II. 562 'Tis such a jest, such a Banter, to say, we did take up Arms, but we did not kill him: Bless us, kill our King, we would not have hurt a Hair of his Head! 1759 *DILWORTH Pope* 80 Satires on the nobility of both sexes, banter upon good authors. 1822 W. IRVING *Braceb. Hall* xvii. 147 The general had received all her approaches with a banter.

† 3. A matter of ridicule or jest. *Obs.* 1719 *D'URFEE Pills* (1872) I. 167 Your zeal's a Banter to all men of Sense.

4. (in U. S.) A challenge to a race, shooting-match, etc. 1848 in *BARTLETT Dict. Amer.*

Banter (bæntar), v. [See prec.]

1. *trans.* To make fun of (a person); to hold up to ridicule, 'roast'; to jest at, rally, 'chaff.' Now usually of good-humoured raillery.

1676 *D'URFEE Mad. Fickle* v. i. (1679) 50 Banter him, banter him, Toby. 'Tis a conceited old Scarah, and will yield us excellent sport. 1741 *RICHARDSON Pamela* (1824) I. 112 You delight to banter your poor servant, said I. 1824 W. IRVING *T. Trav.* I. 91 Hag-ridden by my own fancy all night, and then bantered on my haggard looks the next day. 1865 *CARLYLE Fredk. Gt.* IX. xx. vi. 116 Poor Quintus was bantered about it, all his life after, by this merciless King.

† 2. To ridicule, make a jest of (a thing). *Obs.* 1704 W. PERRY *Hist. Coll. Amer. Col. Ch.* I. 180 Turns his Pulpit to a Stage, And banter's reformation. 1754 *CHATHAM Lett. Nephew* iv. 24 If they banter your regularity, order, and love of study, banter in return their neglect of them.

3. To impose upon (a person), originally in jest; to delude, cheat, trick, bamboozle. *arch.*

a 1688 *VILLIERS* (Dk. Buckhm.) *Conf.* (1775) 174 'Tis impossible, that all my senses should be banter'd and cheated. 1750 *Select. Harl. Misc.* (1793) 561 There was no bantering the commissioners named in the bill, because they knew them to be men of sense, honour, and courage. 1722 *DE FOE Moll. FL.* (1840) 60 We diverted ourselves with banter-

ing several poor scholars, with hopes of being at least his lordship's chaplain. 1815 *SCOTT Guy R.* II, Somebody had been bantering him with an imposition.

4. *To banter out of*: to do out of by banter. 1687 *T. BROWN Saints in Up.* Wks. 1730 I. 74 To banter folks out of their senses. 1721 *AMHERST Terra Fil.* xxxvii. 195 We will not be banter'd out of it by false parallels.

5. *absol.* or *intr.* (in prec. senses.)

1688 *SHADWELL Sgr. Alsatia* i. i. 15 He shall cut a sham, or banter with the best wit or poet of em all. 1707 *FARQUHAR Beaux' Strat.* v. iii. 63 He fights, loves, and banter's, all in a Breath. 1865 *GROTH Plato* I. vii. 291 His homely vein of illustration seemed to favour the supposition that he was bantering.

6. (in U. S.) To challenge, defy, to a race, match, etc. 1848 in *BARTLETT Dict. Amer.*

Banteree (bæntəri). [f. prec. + -EE.] One who is bantered.

1823 *Blackw. Mag.* XIII. 269 Fixing the attention of the banteree . . . and amusing the company with his perplexity.

Banterer (bæntərə). [f. as prec. + -ER.]

1. One who turns things into ridicule; later, one who indulges in good-humoured jest or raillery.

1678 *WOOD Life* 6 Sept. (D.) The banterers of Oxford (a set of scholars so called, some M.A.), who make it their employment to talk at a venture, lye and prate what nonsense they please; if they see a man talk seriously, they talk floridly nonsense, and care not what he says. 1691 *Ath. Oxon.* I. 834 He being a reputed Banterer, I could never believe him. 1692 *E. WALKER Epictetus Mor.* lxvii, Amongst rude Ignorants . . . To talk of Precepts, Maxims, and of Rules, is to be laugh'd at, thought a Banterer. 1706 *COLLIER Refl. Ridic.* 130 Profess'd Banterers chuse rather to disoblige their best Friends, than to lose the opportunity of speaking their Jest. 1847 H. GREVILLE *Leaves fr. Diary* 205 Amusing, but too much of a banterer to please me.

2. One who imposes on, or bamboozles. *arch.*

1709 *STERLE Tatler* No. 12 ¶ Gamsters, banterers, biters . . . are, in their several species, the modern men of wit. 1712 *ARBUTHNOT John Bull* (1727) 58 A sort of fellows, they call banterers and bamboozlers, that play such tricks. 1849 *MACAULAY Hist. Eng.* I. iii. 369 An excellent subject for the operations of swindlers and banterers.

Bantering (bæntəriŋ), *vbl. sb.* [f. as prec. + -ING.] Raillery, jesting, banter, 'chaff.'

1720 *SWIFT T. Tub* Apol. (R.), If this bantering, as they call it, be so despicable. 1857 *LIVINGSTONE Trav.* ix. 183 The audience acquiesce in this bantering and enforce silence.

Bantering, *ppl. a.* [f. as prec. + -ING.] Jest, chaffing; bamboozling (*arch.*).

1691 *WOOD Ath. Oxon.* I. 893 He . . . delighted to please himself in a juvenile and bantering way. 1709 *BERKELEY The Vision* § 135 A question downright bantering and unintelligible. 1879 *FARRAR St. Paul* 703 His bantering answer to St. Paul's appeal.

Banteringly, *adv.* [f. prec. + -LY.] In a bantering, jesting manner.

1863 *Mrs. C. CLARKE Shaks. Char.* x. 258 Lavatch banteringly replies to his lady. 1883 *Harper's Mag.* Oct. 702/1 'Perhaps you intend to embark for Australia?' she added, banteringly.

Bantery (bæntəri), *a.* [f. *BANTER sb.* + -Y.] Full of banter or 'chaff.'

1805 *CARLYLE Fredk. Gt.* IV. II. iii. 54 Its wit is very copious, but slashy, bantery. 1867 *Remin.* II. 51 Cooing, bantery, lovingly quizzical.

Banting (bæntiŋ). Name of a London cabinet-maker, whose method of reducing corpulence by avoiding fat, starch, and sugar in food, was published and much discussed in the year 1864. Hence **Bantingism**, **Bantingise** v., and **Banting** being humorously treated as a *vbl. sb.*, the *vb.* to Bant.

1864 *Reader No.* 91. 392/1 A few observations on Bantingism. 1864 *Times* 12 Aug. 4 The Classics seemed to have undergone a successful course of Banting. 1865 *Pall Mall G.* 12 June 9 If he is . . . gouty, obese, and nervous, we strongly recommend him to 'bant.' 1881 *Echo* 24 June, There are fewer persons 'Bantingised' in America than in England. 1883 *Knowledge* 27 July 49/2 Bantingism excludes beer, butter, and sugar.

Bantling (bæntliŋ). [possibly f. *BAND*, swathe + -LING; but considered by Mahn, with greater probability, a corruption of Ger. *bänkling* bastard f. *bank* bench, i.e. 'a child begotten on a bench, and not in the marriage-bed'; cf. *BASTARD*.] A young or small child, a brat. (Often used depreciatively, and formerly as a synonym of *bastard*.)

1593 *DRAYTON Eclog.* vii. 102 Lovely Venus . . . Smiling to see her wanton Bantlings game. 1635 *QUARLES Emblems* II. viii. (1718) 93 See how the dancing bells turn round . . . To please my bantling! 1796 *Connoisseur* No. 123 (1774) IV. 142 Their base-born bantlings. 1791 *WOLCOTT (P. Pindar) Rights Kings* Wks. 1812 II. 389 We whip a bantling when it kicks and cries. 1809 W. IRVING *Knickerb.* (1861) 48 A tender virgin, accidentally and unaccountably enriched with a bantling. 1831 *COLERIDGE Table T.* 24 July, Some real new-born bantling.

Fig. 1679 R. W. O. *Cromwell's Ghost* 1 Vices like these, you know were heretofore The only grateful Bantlings. 1808 *Byron Let. Becher* Wks. (1846) 402/1 The interest you have taken in me and my poetical bantlings. 1864 *TENNISON Boadicea*, Lo their precious Roman bantling, lo the colony Camulodune.

Banwurt, -wyr, *obs. ff.* Bone-wort.

Banxring (bæŋksriŋ). [a. Javanese *bangsring* (Horsfield), native name of the species.] A genus of small insectivorous animals (*Tupaia*) approaching the squirrel in appearance and arboreal habits, found in Java, Sumatra, and adjoining

islands; properly the name belongs only to the Javanese species (*T. Javanica*) discovered by Horsfield about 1806, the Sumatran species being called *tupai*.

1824 *HORSFIELD Zool. Res. Java* v. *Tupaia*, The Bangsring fell under my observation during an early period of my researches in Java. 1847 *CARPENTER Zool.* § 179 The *banxring*, a remarkable animal of which only three species are known. 1869 *NICHOLSON Zool.* (1880) 770 'Banxring' or 'squirrel-shrews' of . . . the Malay Archipelago.

Banyan (bæniān). A variant of *BANIAN*; now the prevailing spelling used for the *Baniam* or *Banyan Tree*. See *BANIAN* 5.

Baobab (bā'obæb). Also 7 bahobab, boabab. First mentioned by Prosper Alpinus *Hist. Nat. Egypti* (Venice 1592), ch. xvii, *De Bahobab*, who speaks of the use of its fruit 'in Ethiopia': apparently, therefore, the name belongs to some central African lang. A tree (*Adansonia digitata*), also called 'Monkey-bread,' and Ethiopian Sour Gourd, with a stem of enormous thickness, found from Senegambia and Abyssinia to Lake Ngami, and long naturalized in Ceylon and some parts of India; considered by Humboldt to be 'the oldest organic monument of our planet.' The fibres of the bark are used for ropes and cloth.

1640 *PARKINSON Theat. Bot.* 1632 This [Ethiopian Sowre Gourd] is very like to be . . . the Bahobab of Alpinus. 1681 R. KNOX *Ceylon* in *Arb. Garner* I. 441 There was also a baobab tree growing just by the fort. 1797 *HOLCROFT Stolberg's Trav.* IV. xciv. 310 The African tree called *Barbab* [sic], described . . . by Adanson. 1857 *LIVINGSTONE Trav.* xxviii. 573 We spent a night at a baobab, which was hollow and would hold twenty men inside. 1866 A. BROWN in *Treas. Bot.* 18 The fibre [of the bark] is so strong as to give rise to a common saying in Bengal: 'As secure as an elephant bound with a baobab rope.'

Baon, *obs. form* of *BAWN*.

Bap (bæp). *Sc.* [Etymol. unknown.] A small loaf or 'roll' of bakers' bread, made of various sizes and shapes in different parts of Scotland.

1513-75 *Diurn. Occurr.* (1833) 301 Bappis of nyne for xijd. 1724 A. RAMSAY *Ta-t. Misc.* I. 91 Sowens and farles and Baps. c 1800 *Mrs. LYON* in *Ramsay Remin.* (1870) Introd. 13 Are ye for your burial baps round or square?

Baphomet (bæ'fomet). [a. F. *Baphomet*; cf. *Pr. Bafomet*, *OSP. Mafomat*.] a. A form of the name Mahomet used by mediaeval writers. b. Alleged name of the idol which the Templars were accused of worshipping. (According to l'Abbé Constant, quoted by Littré, this word was cabalistically formed by writing backward *tem. o. h. p. ab.*, abbreviation of *templi omnium hominum pacis abbas*, 'abbot' or 'father of the temple of peace of all men.') Hence *Baphometic a.*

1818 *HALLAM Mid. Ages* (1872) I. 140 Baphomet is a secret word ascribed to the Templars. 1855 *MILMAN Lat. Chr.* VII. xii. ii. 278 The great stress . . . in the condemnation of the templars is laid on the worship of Baphomet. The talismans, bowls, symbols, are even called Baphometic. 1831 *CARLYLE Sart. Res.* II. vii, My Spiritual New-birth, or Baphometic Fire-baptism.

Baptism (bæptiz'm). Forms: a. 3-5 *bapteme*, 3-6 *baptem*, -im, 3-7 -ime, 4-6 *baptyne*, (6 *babtym*); β. 4-7 *baptisme*, 5-6 *baptisme*, *batesme*, 6-7 *baptysme*, 7- *baptism*. [ME. *bapteme*, a. OF. *baptisme*, *baptême* (also *batesme*, *batême*), semi-popular adaptations of L. *baptismus*, a. Gr. *βαπτισμός*, n. of action f. *βαπτίζω* to BAPTIZE. In 16th c. assimilated to the L. and Gr.]

1. The action or ceremony of baptizing; immersion of a person in water, or application of water by pouring or sprinkling, as a religious rite, symbolical of moral or spiritual purification or regeneration, and, as a Christian ordinance, betokening initiation into the Church. *Name of baptism*: see *BAPTISMAL* name.

(With possessive and objective genitive; e.g. 'John's baptism,' that administered by John, 'the jailer's baptism,' that received by the jailer.)

a. a 1300 *Cursor M.* 12726 In his hali Ion time Was lagh bigun neu of baptim. c 1325 *E. E. Allit. P.* A. 626 In þe water of baptem þay dyssepte. 1382 *WYCLIF Matt.* iii. 7 Seeynge many of Pharisees . . . comynge to his bapteme. 1494 *FABIAN VI. clv.* 143 After he had clothed them with the mantell of baptem. 1521 *FISHER Wks.* I. 334 The sacramente of bapteme. 1589 *Marpel. Epit.* (1843) 28 For baptem doth not contain the perfection of religion.

β. 1377 *LANGEL P. Pl.* B. xviii. 375 Bretheren in blode & in bapteme. 1429 *CAXTON Faytes of A.* III. xxi. 219 A madde man . . . may not receyue batesme. 1508 *MORE Herresyes* i. Wks. 167/1 *Ipsm audite* saide the father at the tyme of his bapteme. 1608 *COKE On Litt.* 32, The purchaser be named by the name of baptism and his surname. 1651 *HOBBS Leviath.* (1839) 499 Baptism is the sacrament of allegiance of them that are to be received into the kingdom of God. 1851 *ROBERTSON Serm.* Ser. iv. (1863) I. 25 Christian Baptism . . . on God's part is an authoritative revelation of his Paternity; on man's part it is an acceptance of God's covenant.

2. fig. (in various senses; cf. *BAPTIZE* v. 2.) Also applied to the death by violence, or 'baptism of blood,' of unbaptized martyrs, and to the ceremony of blessing and naming church bells and ships. (Cf. *Du Cange Campanas Baptisari*.)

1382 *WYCLIF Luke* xii. 50 Sothli I haue to be baptisid with

baptism. 1595 ASP. SANDYS *Serm.* (1841) 19 They upon their foundation have builded the baptism of bells and ships. 1648 HERRICK *Hesper.* (1869) 100 Those maiden showers Which by the peep of day do strew A baptise o'er the flowers. 1860 EBERSHEIM *Kurt's Ch. Hist.* I. § 54 The baptism of blood in martyrdom. *Mod.* A severe baptism of suffering.

Baptismal (bæpti'zmal), *a.* [ad. med. L. *baptismalis*: see BAPTISM and -AL.] Of, pertaining to, or connected with baptism. Also *ellipt.* = *Baptismal name*, the personal or 'Christian' name given at baptism.

1641 J. JACKSON *True Evang.* T. iii. 175 His Baptismal Laver (was) awaited by a Dove. 1651 BAXTER *Inst. Bapt.* 293 This Doctrine of Baptismal Regeneration. a 1711 KEN *Hymnol. Wks.* 1721 III. 106 Thy Mercy I invoke, For my Baptismal Vow so often broke. 1869 FREEMAN *Norm. Cong.* (1876) III. xii. 138 Geoffrey also changed his baptismal name. 1872 DE MORGAN *Budg. Paradi.* 120 Mr. Andrew Theophilus Smith, or some such unlikely pair of baptismals.

Baptismally, *adv.* [f. prec. + -LY.] In a baptismal manner, by baptism.

1850 MRS. BROWNING *Pet Name Poems* II. 384 Names acquired baptismally. 1861 R. MONTGOMERY *Gleams on Font* 30 Vital... is the germ Baptismally by grace implanted there.

Baptist (bæptist), *a.* [OF. *baptiste*, ad. L. *baptista*, ad. Gr. βαπτιστής, n. of agent f. βαπτίζω to BAPTIZE.]

1. One who baptizes; *esp.* as applied to John, the forerunner of Jesus Christ. *Baptist's day*: the 24th of June.

c 1200 *Trin. Coll. Hom.* 131 Seint iohan baptiste was bihauded. c 1330 *Anct. R.* 160 Sein Johan... was Godes baptiste. c 1400 *Rom. Rose* 7000 Gret wodes everichon, I lete hem to the Baptist Johan. 1529 WARNER *Alb. Eng.* v. xxiv. (1597) 121 At Baptis-day with Ale and cakes bout bonfires neighbors stood. 1815 SCOTT *Ld. Isles* vi. iv, Ere John the Baptist's eve. 1871 [see BAPTIZE]. 1879 FARRAR *St. Paul* 463 Disciples of the Baptist.

2. One who immerses himself, or is immersed. *rare.* 1775 ABRAHAM *Amer. Ind.* 296 The Baptist, or dipped person, came out... good-humoured after his purification. c 1811 FUSSELL *Lect. Art* iv. (1848) 457 Varied groups of baptists, immersing themselves.

3. A member of that Protestant religious body which holds that baptism ought to be administered only to believers, and by immersion; at first and till present century, called, by opponents ANA-BAPTISTS. [Perhaps this use originated in the early names, Baptized Believers, Churches, etc. Cf. *baptist(e)* early pa. pple. of BAPTIZE.]

1654 (title) *The Humble... Vindication*... [of] several of the Baptized Churches in this Nation. 1654 W. BRITTEN (title) *The Moderate Baptist*. 1674 J. MEAD (title) *A brief account of passages between Quakers and Baptists*. 1852 MOORE *Cherries*, Methodists, of birds the aptest... And that water-fowl the Baptist. 1860 EADIE *Ecl. Cycl.* s.v., A conspiracy... in 1661... brought forth from the Baptists another disavowal of Anabaptist principles. [See ANABAPTIST 3.]

b. *attrib. quasi-adj.* 1717 (title) *Rules of the Particular Baptist Fund*. 1766 ENTICK *London* IV. 309 At the Boar's-head... is a Baptist meeting. 1847 *Nation. Cycl.* II. 827 Persons who do not embrace the Baptist tenet.

Baptist(e), earlier form of BATISTE.

† **Baptiste**. *Obs. rare*—1. Baptism.

1460 *Lybeaus Disc.* 212 Thorgh helpe of Cryst, That in the flome tok baptyste.

Baptistry, baptistry (bæptistəri, bæptistři). Also 5 baptystore, baptystorye, 7 baptistorey. [a. OF. *baptisterie*, mod. *baptistère*, ad. L. *baptisterium*, a. Gr. βαπτιστήριον bathing-place, baptistry, f. βαπτίζω to BAPTIZE. *Baptistorey* represented a med. L. modification, *baptizatorium*.]

1. That part of a church (or, in early times, a separate building contiguous to the church), in which the rite of baptism is administered.

1460 in *Pol. Rel. & L. Poems* (1866) 138 The baptystore there he founde. 1485 CAXTON *Chas. Gt.* 19 He dyd do... compose baptystories & fientes convenably. 1579 FULKE *Confut. Sanders* 675 The image... painted in the Baptistry. 1636 PRYNNE *Unbish. Tim. & Tit.* (1661) 54 To enter into the Baptistry. 1840 BARHAM *Ingol. Leg.* 308 They've searched the aisles and Baptistry. 1849 FREEMAN *Archit.* 161 The round sepulchral chapel and the polygonal baptistry.

2. In modern Baptist places of worship, a receptacle containing water for the baptismal rite.

1835 *Penny Cycl.* III. 416/t. 1853 WAYLAND *Mem. Judson* II. v. 187 Leading into the Maulmain baptistry the pious captain of the Ramsay.

3. = BAPTISM. (So OF. *baptisterie*, and med. L.) 1851 MRS. BROWNING *Casa Guidi* 19 Having tried the tank Of the church-waters used for baptistry.

Baptistic (bæptistik), *a.* [ad. Gr. βαπτιστικός, f. βαπτίζω to BAPTIZE.] = BAPTIST 3 b.

1884 *Ch. Times* 413/t. The Baptistic craze of immersionism. *Ibid.* The Baptistic organs.

† **Baptistical**, *a.* *Obs. rare.* [f. as prec. + -AL.] Of or belonging to baptism.

1658 BRAMHALL *Schism Guarded* 205, *Abrenuncio, Credo*, this baptistical profession, which he ignorantly laugheth at.

Baptizable (bæpti'zəb'l), *a.* [f. BAPTIZE v. + -ABLE.] Capable of, or fit for, baptism.

1659 GAUDEN *Tears of Ch.* 284 (D). The condition limiting persons baptizable, which is actual believing. 1685 BAXTER *Paraphr. N. T.* Matt. xxviii. Meerly to consent to learn of Christ, makes one a baptizable disciple.

† **Baptization**. *Obs.* [ad. L. *baptizatio*-em, n. of action f. *baptizare* to BAPTIZE] = BAPTISM.

1470 HARDING *Chron.* II. vii. By his baptismization Whiche Ioseph gaue vnto Aruigarus. 1651 JER. TAYLOR *Clerus Dom.* 23 Their baptismizations were null. 1704 HEARNE *Duct. Hist.* I. 229 A Baptization or Washing away of all Pollution. **Baptizatory**: see BAPTISTERY.

Baptize (bæptai'z), *v.* Forms: 3-4 baptis, 4-12, 4-5 baptize, 6 baptize, 3-9 baptise, 3-baptise. *Obs. pa. pple.* 3-6 baptist(e, 4-est(e). [a. F. *baptise-r*, -izer (11th c.), ad. L. *baptisā-re*, ad. Gr. βαπτίζω 'to immerse, bathe, wash, drench,' in Christian use appropriated to the religious rite, f. βαπτειν to dip, plunge, bathe.]

1. *trans.* To immerse in water, or pour or sprinkle water upon, as a means of ceremonial purification, or in token of initiation into a religious society, especially into the Christian Church; to christen.

1297 R. GLOUC. 86 He was ybaptized here. a 1300 *Cursor M.* 12654 Pe time þat he on cristen lai suld baptist be. *Ibid.* 12897 Selcut was to thinc... þe clerc to baptis þe prist. 1480 CAXTON *Chron. Eng.* IV. (1520) 28/2 Oure lord Jhesu cryst at 30 yere of age was baptysed. 1651 T. NORTON *Calvin's Inst.* IV. 105 The very worde of Baptizing signifieth to dippe. 1667 MILTON *P. L.* XII. 442 Them who shall belevee, Baptizing in the profuent streame. 1833 CRUZE *Eusebius* VI. xliii. 266 Baptized by aspersion.

b. *absol.* To administer the rite of baptism.

c 1235 E. E. *Allit. P.* A. 817 Per as baptysed þe goude saynt Ion. 1670 G. H. *Hist. Cardinals* I. III. 68 The Bishop Ordains, the Priest Baptizes.

2. *fig.* (in various shades of meaning, in reference to initiation, spiritual agency, etc.) Cf. BAPTISM 2.

1385 WYCLIF *Acts* I. 5 3e schulen be baptysid in the Hooly Gost. 1651 C. CARTWRIGHT *Relig. Il.* 62 Is not God able to baptize Infants with his Spirit? 1655 BAXTER *Quakers' Catech.* 23 You would have us baptize our Bels to make them spirituall. 1858 O. W. HOLMES *Aut. Break.* T. xi, Sorrow had baptised her. 1861 EMMA TOKE *Innoc. Day in Hymns* A. & M. No. 54, 'Baptized in their own blood. 1865 *Cornh. Mag.* Oct. 451 A view which every day baptizes into fresh beauty.

3. With allusion to an important part of the ceremony of baptizing or christening infants or heathens: To give a name to, name, denominate.

[c 1450 *Merlin* v. 91 Antor made the childe to be baptised, and cleped hym Arthur.] 1549 *Compl. Scot.* 4 Historiographours hes baptist hym to be ane of the principal of al the nyne noblis. 1592 SHAKS. *Rom. & Jul.* II. ii. 50 He be new baptiz'd; Henceforth I neuer will be Romeo. 1604 T. WRIGHT *Passions* Pref., This... honestie, other Nations baptize with the Name of Simplicitie. 1838 J. GRANT *Sk. in Lond.* (1860) 306 Chalk-and-water, which, for the purpose of sale, was baptised milk.

† **Baptize, -ise, -is, sb.** *Obs. rare.* [f. prec. vb.] Baptism.

a 1300 *Cursor M.* 12754 In water baptised he al þaa þat com til him baptis [v.r. baptize] to ta. 1460 *Lybeaus Disc.* 1360 I schall for thys baptise Ryght well quyte thy servyse.

Baptized, *pp. a.* [f. as prec. + -ED.] Subjected to the rite of baptism; †vulgarily, watered, diluted (*obs.*).

1636 HEALEY *Theophrast.* 46 He wil give his best friends his baptised wine. 1687 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 2252/4 The Congregations of Baptized Believers. 1831 CARLYLE *Sart. Res.* II. viii. The fire-baptised soul.

Baptizee (bæptai'zi), *rare.* [f. as prec. + -EE.] A recipient of baptism, a baptized person.

1871 E. NOEL tr. *Richter's Flower Pieces* II. 68 For the baptist to touch the head of the baptizee with the water.

Baptizement (bæptai'zment), *rare.* [f. as prec. + -MENT; cf. OF. *baptisement*.] The action of baptizing; baptism.

1818 J. HOBHOUSE *Hist. Illustr.* 90 The fountain springing up for the baptizement of his jailer.

Baptizer (bæptai'zi), [f. as prec. + -ER.] One who baptizes; occas. used of John the Baptist.

1483 *Cath. Angl.* 20/1 A baptizer, baptista. 1548 UDALL, etc. *Erasm. Par. Matt.* III. 14 Did refuse the office of a baptizer. 1645 PACITT *Heresiogr.* (1661) 40 The Baptizer and the party baptized go both into the Rivers. 1865 *Gentl. Mag.* CCXVIII. 84 The Baptizer signified that he was not worthy to have been even the forerunner of the Saviour.

Baptizing, *vbl. sb.* [f. as prec. + -ING.] The action or ceremony of baptism.

1297 R. GLOUC. 86 He bi com in hys baptizing hol of ys wo. a 1300 *Cursor M.* 171 Þere shul 3e here... Siben of Iones baptizing. 1653 MILTON *Hirelings* Wks. (1851) 362 How ill had it becom'd John the Baptist to demand Fees for his baptizing. 1880 *New Virginians* II. 234 The nigger baptizings have been always held at such distances.

Baptizing, *pp. a.* That baptizes.

1671 MILTON *P. R.* I. 328 Our new baptizing Prophet. 1675 BAXTER *Cath. Theol.* II. XI. 249 Every Baptizing Minister prerequireth the profession of it.

Baque, obsolete form of BAKE.

|| **Baquet** (bake). [Fr., dim. of *bac* BACK sb. 2; cf. BACKET.] A small tub or trough.

1785 *Longue* No. 99. 417 From the baquet rise those enchanted rods by which the magnetic virtue... is transmitted. [Mesmer employed a baquet filled with water in his magnetic experiments.]

Bar (bār), *sb.* Forms: 2-7 barre, 3-7 barr, 5-bar. [ME. *barre*, a. OF. *barre* (= Pr., It., Sp., Pg. *barra*): late L. *barra* of unknown origin. The Celtic derivation accepted by Diez is now discredited; OIr. *barr* 'bushy top,' and its cognates,

in no way suit the sense; Welsh *bar* 'bar' is from Eng., and Breton *barren* 'bar' from Fr. (The development of sense had to a great extent taken place before the word was adopted in English.)]

1. A piece of any material long in proportion to its thickness or width.

* *Of shape only.*

1. *gen.* A straight piece of wood, metal, or other rigid material, long in proportion to its thickness.

1388 WYCLIF *Num.* IV. 10 Thei schulen putte in barris [1388 beryng staves]. 1690 W. WALKER *Idiom. Anglo-Lat.* 38 To beat down the statute [1 statue] with bars. 1753 CHAMBERS *Cycl. Supp.*, *Bar*, among printers, denotes a piece of iron... whereby the screw of the press is turned in printing. 1815 SCOTT *Guy R.* IV. A pallet-bed was placed close to the bar of iron. 1860 H. STUART *Seaman's Catech.* 11 On the barrel [of a rifle] is the... sliding bar. 1881 C. EDWARDS *Organs* 50 The sound-bars are glued in place. 1881 RAYMOND *Mining Gloss.*, *Bar*, a drilling or tamping-rod.

fig. 1388 WYCLIF *Isa.* xxvii. 1 The Lord schal visite in his hard swerd... on leuyathan, serpent, a barre [1388 a leuour.] 1684 CHARNOCK *Attrib. God* II. 6 Leviathan is here called a bar-serpent... as mighty men are called bars in Scripture.

2. *spec. a.* A thick rod of iron or wood used in a trial of strength, the players contending which of them could throw or pitch it farthest; the distance thrown was measured in lengths of the bar. Hence in *obs. fig. phrases.*

1531 ELYOT *Gov. l.* xvi. Throwing the heuy stone or barre playing at tenyse. 1600 ROWLANDS *Let. Humours* Blood iv. 64 To pitch the barre, or to shoote off a gunne. 1715 PRIOR *Alma* I. 311 While John for ninepins does declare, And Roger loves to pitch the bar. 1801 STURTT *Sports & Past.* Intro. 13 To amuse himself in archery, casting of the bar, wrestling.

fig. 1647 CLEVELAND *Char. Lond.* *Diurn.* 5 First, Stamford slew him: then Waller outkilled that halfe a Barre. 1718 ADDISON *Spect.* No. 538 ¶ 5, I did not disbelieve... but yet I thought some in the company had been endeavouring who should pitch the bar farthest. a 1733 NORTH *Lives* II. 37 The objectors... outdo, many bars, all that themselves found fault with. 1742 RICHARDSON *Pamela* III. 324 Here's a mere Baby... outdoes 'em by a Bar's Length.

† b. An iron bar used in breaking criminals on the wheel. *Obs.*

1577 HARRISON *England* II. xi. 223 We have use neither of the wheele nor of the barre.

3. A narrow four-sided block of metal or material as manufactured, e.g. of iron or soap; an ingot of precious metal. Cf. *bar-iron* in IV.

1595 T. MAYNARD *Drake's Voy.* (1849) 18 We got here twenty barres of silver. 1753 CHAMBERS *Cycl. Supp.*, *Bars* of Iron are made of the metal of the sows and pigs, as they come from the furnaces. 1755 JOHNSON, *Bar*, in African traffic, is used for a denomination of price; payment being formerly made to the Negroes almost wholly in iron bars. 1833 MARRVAT *P. Simple* iv, Four cakes of Windsor, and two bars of yellow for washing. 1876 HUMPHREY *Coin Collect. Man.* II. 9 Bars form a sort of transition stage between the weighed money and true coins.

† 4. An ornamental transverse band on a girdle, saddle, etc.; *subseq.* an ornamental boss of any shape. Also, a girdle or band. *Obs.*

c 1340 *Gaw. & Gr. Knt.* 162 Boþe þe barres of his belt & oþer blyþe stones. c 1385 CHAUCER *L. G. W.* 1200 With sadyll rede embrowderyd with delyte, Of gold the barres vpp enboid high. c 1400 *Rom. Rose* 1103 The barres were of gold ful fyne, Upon a tyssu of satyne. c 1400 *Destr. Troy* xxxiii. 13019 Orestes... comaundet, Bare to the barre bryng him his moder. 1433 *Test. Ebor.* (1855) II. 48 Unam zonam ornatam cum octo barres. c 1440 *Prompt. Parv.* 24 Barre of a gyrdylle, or oþer harneys, stipe. 1562 J. HEYWOOD *Prov. & Epigr.* (1867) 179 The barres of mens breeches haue such strong stitching.

b. A small slip of silver fixed transversely below the clasp of a medal, as an additional mark of distinction.

1864 BOUTELL *Heraldry Hist. & Pop.* xx. 353 A Bar is attached to the ribbon for every act of such gallantry as would have won the Cross. 1885 *Standard* 2 Mar. 3/5 He affixed the medals and bars to the breasts of the... recipients.

5. A straight strip or stripe, narrow in proportion to its length, a broad line; e.g. of colour.

c 1440 in *Househ. Ord.* (1790) 460 Lay orethwart him [a roast pig] one barre of silver foile, and another of golde. 1609 C. BUTLER *Fem. Mon.* I. (1623) B ij, In each joynt a golden Barre in stead of those three whitish rings which other Bees haue. 1806 WORDSW. *Sonn. Liberty*, *Ode* 28 A blue bar of solid cloud Across the setting sun. 1878 GURNEY *Crystallog.* 10 The bar or line drawn over the 2 denotes, etc.

fig. 1865 CARLYLE *Fredk. Gt.* VII. XVIII. ii. 122 The brightest triumph has a bar of black in it.

6. *Her.* An honourable ordinary, formed (like the fess) by two parallel lines drawn horizontally across the shield, and including not more than its fifth part. *Bar sinister*: in popular, but erroneous phrase, the heraldic sign of illegitimacy; see BATON, BEND, (*sinister*). *Bar-gemel*: a double bar, or small bars placed in couplets.

1592 WYRLEY *Armorie* 97 Sir Lewis Harcourt came, Two golden bars that bare in field of guls. 1610 GWILLIM *Heraldry* II. vi. (1660) 70 A Barre is... drawne overthwart the Esccheon... it containeth the fifth part of the Field. *Ibid.* 91 Termed in Blazon Barres Gemelles of the Latine word *Gemellus*, which signifieth a Twin. 1727-51 CHAMBERS *Cycl.* s.v., The bar may be placed in any part of the field. 1823 SCOTT *Quentin D.* II. xviii. 358 My bar sinister may never be surmounted by the coronet of Croze.

7. *Farriery. a.* (usually *pl.*) The transverse ridged divisions of a horse's palate; below those

which lie between the molar and canine teeth the bar of the bit is inserted. b. The recurved ends of the wall or crust of a horse's hoof, meeting at an acute angle in the centre of the sole.

1617 MARKHAM *Caval.* II. 52 It giueth libertie to the tongue, offendeth not the barres, and keepeth the mouth in tendresse. 1725 BRADLEY *Fam. Dict.* s.v. *Yellow*. After they have blooded the Horse . . . in the third Bar, on the palate of the Mouth. 1831 YOUATT *Horse* xviii. (1872) 398 Smiths . . . too often habitually pursue . . . the injurious practice of removing the bars [of the hoof]. 1884 E. ANDERSON *Horse-ship* I. v. 17 The curb bit should . . . take a bearing upon the bare bars of the mouth.

* *Of shape and confining purpose.*

8. *esp.* A stake or rod of iron or wood used to fasten a gate, door, hatch, etc.

1175 *Lamb. Hom.* 131 He . . . tobrec pa irene barren of helle. 1325 E. E. *Allit.* P. B. 884 Steken þe jates stonharde wyth stalworth barrez. 1388 WYCLIF *Ex.* xxvi. 26 Fyve barris of trees . . . to holde togidere the tablis. 1420 OCCLEVE *De Reg. Princ.* 1104 And up is broke lok, haspe, barre, and pynne. 1535 COVERDALE *Judg.* xvi. 3 Toke holde on both y^e syde portes of y^e gate . . . and lifte them out with the barres. 1667 MILTON *P. L.* II. 877 And every Bolt and Bar . . . with ease Unfast'ns. 1867 SMYTH *Sailor's Word-bk.* Hatch-bars, flat iron bars to lock over the hatches.

9. A straight, strong rod of iron or wood fixed across any way of ingress or egress, or forming part of a fence, gate, grating, or the like.

1386 CHAUCER *Knts.* 7. 219 Thurgh a wyndow thikke of many a barre Of Iren. 1440 *Prompt. Parv.* 24 Barre abowte a graue or awter. 1658 LOVELEIGH *To Allikea* Stone walls do not a prison make, Nor iron bars a cage. 1711 ADDISON *Spect.* No. 57 ¶ 3 She . . . makes nothing of leaping over a six-bar gate. 1818 SCOTT *Rob Roy* xxii. Like a fine horse brought up to the leaping-bar. 1883 *Harper's Mag.* Sept. 491/1 The cows lowing at the pasture bars.

10. One of the series of iron rods fixed in the front of a grate or bottom of a boiler furnace to prevent the fuel from falling out.

1677 MOXON *Mech. Exerc.* (1703) 13 A course sort of Iron . . . fit for Fire-bars. 1866 G. MACDONALD *Ann. Q. Neighb.* xxix. (1878) 547 Thrust it between the bars, pushing it in fiercely with the poker.

11. A transverse piece of wood making fast the head of a wine-cask. (If a cask is lying horizontal, wine is drawn from 'below the bar,' when it is more than half empty.)

1520 WHITTINTON *Vulg.* 13 b, This wyne drynketh lowe or under the barre, *Hoc vinum languescit.* 1576 LAMBARDE *Peramb. Kent* (1826) 385 All the emptie hogsheds . . . and (for size tunne of wine) so many as should be drunke under the barre. 1611 COTGR., *Empeigner le bout d'une douve*, to pin the barre of a peece of cask.

12. That which confines, encloses, limits, or obstructs, with no special reference to shape.

* *A material barrier.*

12. *gen.* A material structure, forming a secure enclosure, or obstructing entry or egress; a barrier.

1325 E. E. *Allit.* P. B. 963 Þe grete barrez of þe abyne he barst vp. 1388 WYCLIF *Jonah* II. 7 The barris of erthe clousiden me togidere. 1667 MILTON *P. L.* x. 417 With rebounding surge the barrs assaild. 1700 DRYDEN *Pal. & Arc.* 1024 In equal fight From out the bars to force his opposite. 1867 SMYTH *Sailor's Word-bk.* Bar, a boom formed of huge trees or spars lashed together, moored transversely across a port. 1872 BROWNING *Fifteen* cxlii. That caverned passage . . . a grim Bar-sinister, soon blocks abrupt your path.

13. *spec.* A barrier closing the entrance into a city, formed originally of 'posts, rails, and a chain.' Afterwards applied to the gate by which these were replaced, as in *Temple-bar*, and the Bars or gates of York, etc.

1220 *Leg. St. Kath.* 2348 Bihefden hire utewið þe barren of þe burh. 1410 E. E. *Wills* (1822) 16 The Church of seynt Clementis wythoutyn Templebar. 1490 CAXTON *Enyeidos* lvi. 153 Slaughter made bothe of men and of horses by fore the barres of the towne. 1645 PACITT *Hercules* (1647) 35 A house without the Barres at Algate. 1661 RAY *N. Countr.* *Wds.* 6 *Bar*, a Gate of a City, as Bootham Bar, Monkbar . . . in the City of York. 1843 *Penny Cycl.* s.v. *York*. There are four principal gates, or bars, as they are usually called.

b. A toll-house gate or barrier; cf. *TOLL-BAR*.

1540 *Act 32 Hen. VIII.* xvii. § 1 The said lane called Graies Inne Lane, from Holborne bars northward. 1813 *Examiner* 19 Apr. 243/1 The only light . . . was that shed by the toll-bar lamp, and . . . the bar is at a distance of about 150 yards.

† c. A hurdle. *Obs.*

1641 H. BEST *Farm. Bks.* (1856) 15 The seconde thinge belonging to a barre is spelles . . . the third thinge belonging to a barre is a dagger.

† 14. A defensive barrier, a bulwark. *Obs.*

1603 FLORIO *Montaigne* I. xviii. (1632) 154 Having so many Cities, Townes, Holds, Castles, and Barres for his securitie. 1618 BOLTON *Florus* IV. ii. (1636) 284 Utica . . . the other maine fort or barre of Africa.

15. A bank of sand, silt, etc., across the mouth of a river or harbour, which obstructs navigation.

1586 J. HOOKER *Girald. Irel.* in *Holinsh.* II. 16/2 The port or haven of Dublin is a barred haven, and great ships . . . doo lie in a certeine rode without the barre. 1621 QUARLES *Argalus & P.* (1678) 81 Our Pinnace is past o'er The Bar, and rides before the Maiden-tower. 1790 *Land. Gaz.* No. 3821/1 Three Ships were lost upon the Bar. 1868 G. DUFF *Pol. Surv.* 100 Rivers which are, as usual in Japan, obstructed by a dangerous bar.

b. See *bar-diggings* in 30.

1862 R. MAYNE *Brit. Columbia* 65 Bars . . . all those places where gold is found and worked, on a river's bank, are called by that name.

16. *Mus.* 'A vertical line drawn across the stave to divide a musical composition into portions of equal duration, and to indicate the periodical recurrence of the accent' (F. Taylor in *Grove Dict. Mus.*); also, the portion contained between two such lines, technically called the 'measure.' *Double bar*: two parallel vertical lines, marking the close of a strain or section.

1665 C. SIMPSON *Princ. Mus.* 25 Distinguished by Strokes crossing the Lines, which . . . are called Bars. 1674 PLAYFORD *Skill Mus.* I. xi. 35 Bars are of two sorts, single and double. The single Bars serve to divide the Time, according to the Measure of the Semibreve. The double Bars are set to divide the several Strains or Stanzaes of the Songs and Lessons. 1779 SHERIDAN *Critic* II. i. Will you play a few bars? 1795 MASON *Ch. Music* I. 13 One note in every bar should be accented. 1881 MACFARREN *Counterp.* 19 To continue a note for two bars or more is not melody.

17. in pl. *Bars*: the game of 'prisoner's base' or 'chevy.' The players, after choosing sides, occupy two camps or enclosures, and any player leaving his enclosure is chased by one of the opposite side, and, if caught, made a prisoner. Still in *north. dial.*

1400 *MS. Cott. Cleop.* D. ix. 156 b, Þe children curnen at þe bars. 1450 MVRAC 336 Bal and bares and suche play Out of chyrcheporte put away. 1611 COTGR., *Barres*, the play at Bace or Prison Bars. 1795 Aikin *Evenings at H.* xvii. 276 At cricket, law, and prison-bars, He bore away the bell. 1801 STRUTT *Sports & Past.* II. ii. 71 A rustic game called base or bars, and in some places prisoners' bars.

* *An immaterial barrier.*

18. *Law.* A plea or objection of force sufficient to arrest entirely an action or claim at law.

1405 *Act a Hen. VII.* xxiv. § 1 A sufficient barre of the seid atteynce. 1528 PERKINS *Prof. Bk.* v. § 410 Such assignment shall not be a barre in a 'Scire Facias.' 1599 SHAKS. *Hen. V.* I. ii. 42 Pharamond, The founder of this Law and Female Barre. 1641 *Termes de la Ley* 37 b, Barre is when the defendant in any action pleadeth a plea which is a sufficient answer, and that destroyeth the action of the plaintiff for ever. 1879 *Cassell's Techn. Educ.* IV. 91/1 It is no bar to the validity of a patent.

19. *fig.* An obstruction, obstacle; a barrier.

1531 *Dial. Latus Eng.* II. xlix. (1638) 153 This warranty is no barre in conscience, though it be a Barre in the law. 1649 BR. REYNOLDS *Serm. Hosea* iii. 40 The special barre and obstacle that keeps men from Christ. 1713 ADDISON *Cato* I. ii. His baffled arms, and ruined caes, Are bars to my ambition. 1786 BURKE *Penal Laws* Wks. VI. 272 Thereby fixing a permanent bar against any relief. 1877 L. MORRIS *Epic of Hades* II. 92 Nature . . . has set this bar Betwixt success and failure.

20. Phrases: † *To make bar of*: to stop short at.

† *By the bar*: by means of the very obstacle interposed. *In bar of* (rarely *to*): as a sufficient reason or plea (against), to prevent.

1550 MARLOWE *Jew of M.* I. ii. In extremity We ought to make bar of no policy. 1609 HOLLAND *Amm. Marcel.* xxv. ix. 279 By the barre, as one would say, whereof they continued . . . without taking any harme. 1715 BURNET *Owen Time* (1766) II. 92 Their protestation was only in bar to the Lords doing anything besides the trial. 1827 HALLAM *Const. Hist.* (1876) II. xii. 414 Danby . . . pleaded a pardon secretly obtained from the King, in bar of the prosecution. 1842 H. E. MANNING *Serm.* (1848) I. xiv. 205 These are the habits of life which are pleaded in bar of the daily worship of God.

† 21. A kind of false die, on which certain numbers are prevented from turning up. See *BARRED (dice)*.

1545 ASCHAM *Toxoph.* (Arb.) 55 Certayne termes . . . appropriate to theyr playing; wherby they wyl drawe a mannes money, but paye none, whiche they cal barres. 1592 *No-body & Some-b.* 1517 Those Demi-bars . . . Those bar Sizesces. 1753 CHAMBERS *Cycl. Suppl.* *Bar Dice*, a species of false dice, so formed that they will not easily lie on certain sides.

III. A rail or barrier acquiring from its use special technical significance; the space it encloses.

* *In a court of justice.*

22. The barrier or wooden rail marking off the immediate precinct of the judge's seat, at which prisoners are stationed for arraignment, trial, or sentence.

a 1400 *Cov. Myst.* 314 Brynge forth to the barre that art to be dempt. 1480 CAXTON *Chron. Eng.* VII. (1520) 102/2 He was ledde to barre before the kinges justyces. 1613 SHAKS. *Hen. VIII.* II. i. 12 The great Duke Came to the Bar; where, to his accusations He pleaded still not guilty. 1845 DISRAELI *Sybil* 266 Hurried like a criminal to the bar of a police-office.

b. *fig.* A tribunal, e.g. that of reason, public opinion, conscience.

1375 WYCLIF *Serm.* Sel. Wks. 1871 II. 186 Ech man mote nedis stonde at þe barre bifore Crist. 1594 SHAKS. *Rich. III.* v. iii. 199 All seuerall sinnes, all vs'd in each degree, Throng all to th' Barre, crying all, Guilty, Guilty. 1665 GLANVILLE *Septs. Sci.* xiv. 88 When self is at the bar, the sentence is not like to be impartial. 1724 WATTS *Logic* II. iii. § 4 (1822) 236 Calling all the principles of our younger years to the bar of maturer reason. 1837 CARLYLE *Fr. Rev.* I. i. iv. 24 The Judgment-bar of the Most High God.

23. This barrier, as the place at which all the business of the court was transacted, soon became synonymous with: Court; *esp.* in phr. *At (the) bar*: in court, in open court. *Trial at bar*: a trial before the full court in which the action or indictment is brought; in England, the Queen's Bench Division.

1330 in *Pol. Songs* 339 Countours in benche that stondeh at the barre, Theih wolen bigile the. 1393 LANGL. *P. I.* C. I. 160 Seriauntes hij semede 'pat seruen atte barre. 1460 CAPGRAVE *Chron.* 222 This jere [1362] was ordeyned that

alle plees at the barre schuld be in Englisch tunge. 1550 CROWLEY *Last Trump.* 911 Thou wilt stand at a barre ballyng. 1696 COWLEY *Pind. Odes* Wks. I. 228 Thou neither great . . . at th' Exchange shalt be, nor at the wrangling Bar. 1689 *Trial Bk.*, We are very desirous it should be tried at Bar. 1803 J. MARSHALL *Const. Opin.* (1839) 2 These principles have been very ably argued at the bar. 1866 *N. & Q.* Ser. III. IX. 449/2 The first instance of a trial at bar has just occurred at Melbourne.

b. A (particular) court of law, *esp.* in the phr. *To practise at (such a) bar*. [Compare 25-26.]

1550 [see 25]. 1583 STUBBS *Anat. Abus.* II. 16 Notwithstanding that they [lawyers] can be present but at one barre at once, yet will they take diuers fees of sundry clients to speake for them at three or foure places in one day. 1723 *Land. Gaz.* No. 6211/2 They went to the Exchequer Bar. 1841 ANDERSON *Creol.* xiv. 152 Who was . . . expected out to practise at the Barbados bar. 1844 LD. BROUGHAM *Brit. Const.* xix. § 6 (1862) 360, I have practised at the bar of the House of Lords.

* *In the Inns of Court.*

† 24. A barrier or partition separating the seats of the benchers or readers from the rest of the hall, to which students, after they had attained a certain standing, were 'called' from the body of the hall, for the purpose of taking a principal part in the mootings or exercises of the house. *Obs.* See *BARRISTER*. Hence the phrases:—*To be called to the bar*: to be admitted a barrister. † *To cast over the bar*: to deprive of the status of a barrister, to disbar; *gen.* to reject.

After 1600, when utter-barristers, as well as sergeants and apprentices-at-law were allowed to plead in the law-courts, *bar* in these phrases seems to have been popularly assumed to mean the bar in a court of justice, outside of which ordinary barristers appear to plead, while King's Counsel and Sergeants-at-Law have places within it. Hence the mod. phrase *To be called within the bar*: to be appointed King's (or Queen's) Counsel.

1545 [See *BARRISTER*]. 1574 N. BACON *Order of Council* [regulating proc. of Inns of Court] in *Penny Cycl.* III. 504 That none be called to the utter bar but by the ordinary council of the House . . . in term time. 1608 and *Pt. Def. Reas. Refus. Subscr.* 160 His note that Zanchy maketh no doubt . . . maie be caste over the barre. 1625 K. LONG tr. *Barclay's Argenis* III. xxii. 221 If any Clyent bribeth . . . the Lawier that receiveth, shall be cast over the Barre. 1650 B. *Discollim.* 48, I was call'd to the Barre six yeares agoe. 1701 LUTTRELL *Brit. Rel.* (1857) V. 69 A Yorkshire attorney . . . had his gown pulled off, and he thrown over the bar, for disobeying the rules of that court. 1768 BLACKSTONE *Comm.* III. xxviii. These [barristers having patents of precedence] . . . rank promiscuously with the king's counsel, and together with them sit within the bar of the respective courts. 1864 TENNYSON *Aylmer's F.* 59 A year or two before Call'd to the bar. 1885 *Law Jmrl.* 13 June 364/ That his Royal Highness Prince Albert Victor of Wales be called to the degree of the Utter Bar.

25. The whole body of barristers, or *spec.* the barristers practising in a particular court, circuit, or country. (Cf. 23 b).

1550 *Ord. Judges* in *Dugdale Orig. Jurid.* (1671) 310 That an exhortation should be given to the utter Bar that none should come to any Bar at Westminster . . . under ten years continuance. 1695 *Pol. Ballads* (1860) II. 50 The Bar, the Pulpit and the Press nefariously combine. 1864 *Times* 4 Nov., The dinner to be given by the English Bar to M. Berryer.

26. *abstractly* (combining 23 and 24): Occupation as counsel in a court of justice; the profession of a barrister.

1632 MASS. & FIELD *Fatal Downy* I. ii Your fees are boundless at the bar. 1709 STEELE & ADD. *Tatler* No. 101 ¶ 1 A Lawyer, who leaves the Bar for Chamber-Practice. 1770 LANGHORNE *Plutarch* (1879) II. 586/2 He cultivated oratory, most particularly that of the bar. 1879 FROUDE *Cæsar* viii. 84 He chose the bar for his profession.

* *In legislative assemblies.*

27. The rail or barrier dividing from the body of the house a space near the door, to which non-members may be admitted for business purposes.

a 1577 SIR T. SMITH *Commw. Eng.* II. ii, They [the Commons] coming all with him [the Speaker] to a bar which is at the nether end of the upper house. 1790 BURKE *Fr. Rev.* 349 Giving an account of his government at the bar of the same assembly. 1849 MACAULAY *Hist. Eng.* I. 520 The people of Bristol . . . sent up a deputation which was heard at the bar of the Commons.

* *In an inn, or other place of refreshment.*

28. A barrier or counter, over which drink (or food) is served out to customers, in an inn, hotel, or tavern, and hence, in a coffee-house, at a railway-station, etc.; also, the space behind this barrier, and sometimes the whole apartment containing it.

1592 GREENE *Art Conny Catch.* III. 20 He was acquainted with one of the seruants . . . of whom he could haue two pennyworth of Rose-water for a peny . . . wherefore he would step to the barre vnto him. 1601 SHAKS. *Twel. N.* I. iii. 74 Bring your hand to th' Buttry barre, and let it drinke. 1712 ADDISON *Spect.* No. 403 ¶ 9, [I] laid down my Penny at the Bar . . . and made the best of my way to Cheapside. 1835 MARRYAT *Jac. Faith.* xii, He sees the girl in the bar. 1837 HAWTHORNE *Amer. Note-bks.* (1871) L. 42 A bottle of champagne was quaffed at the bar.

IV. *Comb. and Attrib.*

29. General relations, chiefly attrib.; (a.) in sense 1, as *bar-lock*, *-magnet*; (b.) in senses 23-26,

as *bar-anecdote*, -*oratory*; and *esp.* (c.) in sense 28, as *bar-board*, -*boy*, -*tender*, -*window*; *bar-room*, -*parlour*, *BARMAID*, -*MAN*.

a. 1831 J. HOLLAND *Manuf. Metal* I. 118 The new bar-suspension-bridge. 1860 TYNDALL *Glac.* I. § 40. 141 The exact polar arrangement of an ordinary bar-magnet. 1875 'STONEHENGE' *Brit. Sports* I. i. xi. § 1 The back-acted lock does not speak so well as the old bar-lock.

b. 1755 CARTE *Hist. Eng.* IV. 330 The habitual chicanes of bar-oratory. 1820 (*title*) Cut and Come again, or Humorous Bar Anecdotes.

c. 1631 HEYWOOD *Maid of West Wks.* 1874 II. 276 The next Vintage I hope to be Barre-boy. 1723 Mrs. CENTLIVRE *Gotham Elect.* I. 158 Zome that like your Port Wines still, but very few... as my Bar-board can witness. 1857 HUGHES *Tom Brown* I. iv. The red curtains of the bar-window. 1884 *Fortn. Rev.* Mar. 389 A bar-tender in... this low groggery.

30. Special combinations: *Bar-boat*, one marking the position of a bar (sense 15); *bar-boy*, a boy employed to fix and clean the fire-bars of a locomotive engine; *bar-button*, one in the shape of a bar; *bar-outer*, a shearing machine for cutting metallic bars into lengths; *bar-diggings* (see quot.); *bar-fee* (see quot.); † *bar-gate*, a barrier-gate; also *fig.* (cf. sense 14); *bar-frame*, the frame which supports the metallic bars of a furnace; *bar-gemel* (see 6); *bar-gown*, a lawyer's gown, *fig.* a lawyer; *bar-iron*, iron wrought into malleable bars; *bar-keeper*, one who keeps or manages a bar for refreshments, who keeps a toll-bar, or keeps guard at a barrier; *bar-parlour*, a small room adjoining the bar of a public-house; *bar-pin* (see sense 11); *bar-post*, the post which receives the ends of movable bars used instead of a gate; *bar-room*, the public room containing the bar in a tavern or hotel, a tap-room; *bar-share* plough, one with a bar extending backward from the point of the share; *bar-shear* (= *bar-outer*); *bar-shoe*, a horse-shoe with a bar across the hinder part to protect the tender frog of the heel; *bar-shot*, a double shot consisting of two half cannon-balls joined by an iron bar, used in sea-warfare to injure masts and rigging; *bar-silver*, silver in bars (cf. 3); so *bar-tin*; *bar-traoery* (see quot.); *bar-way*, a passage into a field, closed by movable horizontal bars fitted into vertical posts; *bar-ways*, -*wise adv.*, in the manner of a bar.

1857 C. GRIBBLE in *Merc. Mar. Mag.* (1858) V. 4 The 'Bar-boat on the S.W. Bar. 1881 M. REYNOLDS *Engine Driv.* 7 A 'bar-boy' has to creep through the fire-hole door of the engine... to arrange the fire-bars, etc. 1885 *Lond. Gas.* No. 2072/4 And 'bar Buttons on the Coat sleeves. 1881 RAYMOND *Mining Gloss.* 'Bar-diggings, gold-washing claims located on the bars (shallows) of a stream. 1841 *Termes de la Ley* 38 'Barre-fee is a fee of twenty pence, which every prisoner acquitted of Felony pays to the Gaoler. 1800 HOLLAND *Livry* VI. ix. 222 Those two townes stood even against Hetruria, as it were the very keies and 'bar-gates (claustra) from thence. 1831 WEEVER *Ant. Fun. Mon.* 574 Valiantly defending... the 'Barre-yates and entrance into the Towne. 1864 BUTLER *Hud.* II. iii. 16 Others believe no Voice 't an Organ; So sweet as Lawyer's in his 'Bar-gown. 1881 N. O. *Boileau's Lutrin* I. 4 Troops of 'Bar-gowns rang'd under her Banner. 1877 YARRANTON *Eng. Improv.* 57 Infinite quantities of Raw Iron... with 'Bar Iron and Wire. 1860 H. STUART *Seaman's Catech.* 59 The best 'bar-iron is obtained from Sweden. 1712 STEELE *Spect.* No. 534 P. 5, I am... 'bar-keeper of a coffee-house. 1748 SMOLLETT *Rod. Rand.* xxiv. (1804) 160 She... was hired in the quality of 'bar-keeper. 1818 SCOTT *Hrt. Midl.* xxi. Securing, through his interest with the 'bar-keepers and macers, a seat for Deans. 1883 *Harper's Mag.* 820/2 The firm of 'barkeepers. 1876 E. JENKINS *Queen's H.* 4 To hold meetings in the 'bar-parlour and the coffee-room. 1611 COTGR., *Empeigne*, the 'barre-pinnes of a peece of caske. 1809 KENDALL *Trav.* III. lxxx. 231 The 'bar-room of a public-house is what in England is called a tap-room. 1844 DICKENS *Mar. Chms.* xvi. Major Pawkins proposed an adjournment to a neighbouring 'bar-room. 1831 Miss MITFORD *Village Ser.* v. (1863) 343 Colman thinks it's only a prick... and advises one of his 'bar shoes. 1831 YOUTT *Horse* xx. (1872) 437 A 'bar-shoe is the common shoe with the heels carried round to meet each other, thus forming a bar. 1756 *Gentl. Mag.* XXVI. 506 The great quantity of 'bar-shot... which the French fired in upon us, tore our sails. 1746 HANWAY *Trav.* (1762) I. v. lxxiii. 336 A quantity of 'bar tin. 1861 PARKER *Goth. Archit.* (1874) 319 'Bar-tracery, window-tracery which distinguishes Gothic work, resembling more a bar of iron twisted into various forms than stone. 1572 BOSSEWELL *Armorie* II. 130 A Bores head... betwene two darts 'barwaies. 1864 BOUTELL *Heraldry Hist. & Pop.* vii. 33 A Riband crossing the shield 'bar-wise.

† *Bar*, sb.² *Obs. rare.* [a. OF. *bar*, *ber* (also *bars*, *bers*) :- late L. *bāro* (also *bārus*), from the acc. of which, *bārōnem*, came OF. *baron* BARON.] By-form of BARON.

1897 R. GLOUC. 544 Ech bar him... out of toune drou. *Bar*, sb.³ [a. F. *bar* 'the fish called a Base' (Cotgr.).] A large acanthopterygious European fish (*Sciæna aquila*), also known as the *maigre*. 1724 De Foe, etc. *Tour Gt. Brit.* (1769) III. 341 [In Jersey is found] the Bar, an exquisite Fish, sometimes two feet in length. 1863 *Life in Norm.* I. 166, I sold them all, except one nice bar and a brill.

Bar sb.⁴ (= G. *berg*): see BARMSTER, BARMOTE. *Bar* (bār), v. Forms: 4-7 *bare*, *barre*, 7 *barr*, 4- *bar*. Pa. t. and pple. *barred* (bārd), 5-6

bard. [ME. *barre-n*, a. OF. *barre-r* (12th c. in Littré), f. *barre* BAR sb.¹]

I. To make fast, fasten in, or out, with bars.

1. *trans.* To make fast (a door, etc.) by a bar or bars fixed across it; to fasten up or close (a place) with bars.

a. 1300 *Cursus M.* 2788 Faste be dores gon he bare. c. 1400 *Destr. Troy* xiv. 6018 The Troiens... tymyt the gates, Barret hom bigly with barres of yrne. 1530 PALSGR. 444/1 He hath barred his wyndowes with yron in stede of lattices. 1593 SHAKS. *Rich. II.* I. i. 180 A Jewell in a ten times barr'd vp Chest. 1611 BIBLE *Neh.* vii. 3 Shut the doores and barre them. 1769 FALCONER *Dict. Marine* (1780) *Barre les ports*... to bar in the gun-ports of a ship. 1876 GRANT *Burgh Sch.* II. v. 187 The scholars... barred the School against the master. *fig.* 1633 P. FLETCHER *Purple Isl.* I. xvii. Their hearts with lead, with steel their sense is barr'd. c. 1750 SHENSTONE *Ruin'd Ab.* 169 Heard... Heaven's decree With unremitting vengeance bar the skies. 1813 SCOTT *Rokeby* II. xi. Hearts... as marble hard, 'Gainst faith, and love, and pity barred.

† b. To surround with a barrier or fence. *Obs.*

c. 1430 *Syr Tryam.* 1183 To the felde they fard, The place was barryd and dyght.

2. To fasten in, shut up, or confine securely (a person or thing) by means of bars. Also *transf.* and *fig.*

c. 1460 *Towneley Myst.* 28, I was never bard ere... In sich an oostre as this. 1586 WARNER *Alb. Eng.* IV. xxii. (1597) 100 And bar him vp in walles. 1661 R. DAVENPORT *City Nt.* Cap II. in Dodsl. O. P. (1780) XI. 297, I lock'd him Into my heart, and double-barr'd him there With reason and opinion. 1851 Ht. MARTINEAU *Hist. Peace* (1877) III. IV. xii. 100 Some peasants barred themselves into the yard of a cottage. 1875 B. TAYLOR *Faust* II. iii. II. 127 Efficient bolts they are; The greatest wealth they safely bar!

b. To bar to: to shut out with a bar or bars.

c. 1600 Z. BOYD *Zion's Flowers* (1855) 32 Yee grace barre out, and vanitie bolt in. 1680 ALLEN *Peace & Unity* 73 Sins... for which the Scripture doth expressly bar Men out of the Kingdom of Heaven. 1798 G. MACDONALD *Phantastes* iii. 17 Their crowded stems barred the sunlight out. [See BARRING *vb.* sb.]

3. To close or obstruct (a way of approach) by some barrier; to block up, make impassable.

1596 SPENSER *F. Q.* I. viii. 13 With his bodie bard the way atwixt them twaine. 1673 TEMPLE *Ess. Irel. Wks.* 1731 I. 120 The Haven of Dublin is barr'd to that degree, as very much to obstruct the Trade of the City. 1855 KINGSLEY *Heroes* II. 213 Sciron... had barred the path with stones. 1876 GREEN *Short Hist.* I. § 6 (1882) 49 The two forts with which the king barred the river. *fig.* 1751 JOHNSON *Rambl.* No. 165 ¶ 2 The passes of the intellect are barred against her by prejudice and passion.

4. To obstruct, stop, or prevent (a person's progress, or a person in his progress).

1578 THYNNES *Let. in Animadu.* Introd. 59 Since I ame... barred bodely to appoche your presence. 1588 SHAKS. *Tit. A.* I. i. 291 What villaine Boy, bar'st me my way in Rome? 1613 - *Hen. VIII.* III. ii. 17 If you cannot Barre his access to th' king. 1634 PRESTON *New Cont.* 25 Moses... [was] barred from coming into the land of Canaan. 1812 BYRON *Ch. Har.* II. lxxxix. Combined marauders half-way barred egress. 1878 B. TAYLOR *Denkation* II. iv. 82 Bar with fire and steel her entrance.

5. *Law.* a. To arrest or stop (a person) by ground of legal objection from enforcing some claim.

1531 *Dial. Laws Eng.* II. xlix. (1638) 153 Such a warranty shall barre the heire. 1677 YARRANTON *Eng. Improv.* 15 Shall be a good Title to the Party Registering... and shall Barre all persons whatsoever. 1726 AVLIFFE *Parerg.* 158 Such Excommunication... shall not disable or bar his Adversary from his action. 1858 Ld. ST. LEONARDS *Handy-bk. Prop. Law* xxiii. 182 For 20 years' possession by a third person will bar both you and them.

b. To stay or arrest (an action); to exclude or prevent the advancement of (a plea, claim, right.)

1552 HULOET, Barre an accion, *eximere actionem*. 1595 SHAKS. *John* II. i. 192 A Will, that barres the title of thy sonne. 1628 COKE *On Litt.* 372 b. If Tenant in taile... bee attainted of high treason, the estate taile is barred, and the Land is forfeited to the King. 1854 LADY LYTON *Bek. Scenes* II. ii. § 12. 222 Settling a nominal sum on her to bar dower. 1884 *Law Rep. Chanc. Div.* XXVII. 530 The Plaintiff's right to set [the deed] aside is barred by laches.

6. To hinder, exclude, keep back, prevent, prohibit (a person) from; to deprive or debar of.

1551 WILSON *Logike* Ep. A ij b. From the which they have bene heretofore barred by tongues unacquainted. 1579 A. M[UNDAY] in Arb. *Garner* I. 207 Not to be barred of his enterprise. 1668 CHILD *Disc. Trade* (1694) 118, I know not why any should be barred from trading to those places. 1678 R. LESTRANGE *Seneca's Mor.* (1702) 275 A Disease... bars us of some Pleasures, but procures us others. 1864 TENNYSON *Aylmer's F.* 505 Last from her own home-circle of the poor They barr'd her. 1870 BRYANT *Homer* xvi. II. 120 Lest the enemy seize our ships, and we be barred of our return.

b. with double object. *arch.*

1577 HANMER *Ant. Eccl. Hist.* (1619) 174 He goeth about to barre us our liberty of meeting. 1597 SHAKS. *2 Hen. IV.* II. iv. 110, I will barre no honest man my house. 1692 R. LESTRANGE *Josephus' Answ.* *Apion* II. (1733) 867 If they had, they would never have barr'd themselves the Comfort. 1855 SINGLETON *Virgil* I. 328 For Fates Bar Helenus the knowledge of the rest.

† c. with inf. phrase. *Obs.*

c. 1555 HARRISFIELD *Divorce Hen.* VIII (1878) 224 Is there anything here that barreth those that be under the patriarch of Alexandria... to appeal to the see apostolic? 1622 DEKKER *Virg. Mart.* II. I. Wks. 1873 IV. 25 She will not bar yeomen sprats to harm their swinge.

d. absolutely

1583 STANYHURST *Aeneis* I. (Arb.) 34 For to shakhands frendly fear bars. 1624 BEDELL *Lett.* iv. 73 Errours... deadly, and such as barre from saluation.

7. To stop, hinder, prevent, prohibit (an action or event).

1559 *Myrr. Mag., Dh. Clarence* lvi. 7 Yll dedes our destinies may barre. 1595 SPENSER *Sonn.* xlv, Orpheus with his harp theyr strife did bar. 1697 DRYDEN *Virg. Georg.* I. 600 Ridgy Roofs... can scarce avail To barr the Ruin of the rattling Hail. 1822 T. TAYLOR *Apuleius' Gold.* Ass vi. 132 Having barred the barking of the dog by... the remaining sop. 1865 TYLOR *Early Hist. Man.* xiii. 363 They bar marriage in the female line.

8. To exclude from consideration, set aside.

1481-90 [see BARRING *prep.*] 1596 SHAKS. *Merrh.* V. II. ii. 208 Nay but I barre to night, you shall not gage me By what we doe to night. 1648 HERRICK *Hesper.* I. 255 When next thou do'st invite, barre state, And give me meate. 1718 *Free-thinker* No. 95. 287, I once more bar all Widowers. 1809 SYD. SMITH *Wks.* (1859) I. 176/1 We bar, in this discussion, any objection which proceeds, etc.

9. To take exception to, object to.

1611 BEAUM & FL. *Philaster* II. 25 Good Prince, be not bawdy, nor do not brag; these two I bar. 1808 WOLCOTT (P. Pindar) *One more Peep* Wks. 1812 V. 355 They call these a fine China jar: But this I humbly beg to bar.

† b. To bar the dice: to declare the throw void. Cf. F. *barrer* 'annoncer, quand les dés sortent du cornet, qu'on annule le coup' (Littré). *Obs.* See also BARRED (*dic.*).

1673 DRYDEN *Amboyna* II. i. He would have whip'd it up, as his own Fees... but that his Lord bar'd the Dice, and reckon'd it to him for a part of his Board Wages.

II. To mark with or make into bars.

10. To mark with a bar or bars, e.g. with stripes of colour, the 'bar' in music, etc. Cf. BARRED.

c. 1340 [see BARRED]. c. 1430 *Syr Genet.* 5636 His shelde was... Barred of asure and of sable. c. 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 24 Barren harness, *stipo*. 1789 BURNBY *Hist. Mus.* I. i. 7 Some of the letters were also barred... in order to change their symbolical import. 1821 KEATS *Lamia* 50 Eyed like a peacock, and all crimson barr'd. 1878 GURNEY *Crystallog.* 12 When either *k* or *l* is barred.

11. To make into bars.

1712 *Act 10 Anne in Lond. Gaz.* No. 5022/2 All gilt and silver Wire, and Bars... and all... Utensils for barring or drawing such Wire.

12. To bar a vein in Farriery: to disengage the vein of a horse, and tie it above and below a portion which is to be operated upon.

1753 CHAMBERS *Cycl. Supp.* App. s. v., When horses have got traverse mules, or kided heels... it is common to bar a vein.

Bar (bār), *prep.* [f. BAR *v.*, either in imperative, or simple stem; prob. after *except*, *save*: cf. BARRING, *excepting*, *saving*.] Excluding from consideration, excepting, except, save, but for.

[Cf. 1648 in BAR *v.* 8.] 1714 MACDONALD *Fab. Bees* (1725) I. 306 Charity-boys, that swear and curse, and bar the cloaths, are as much blackguard as ever Tower-hill... produced. 1727 SWIFT *To Sheridan* Wks. 1745 VIII. 348 I intended to be with you at Michaelmas, bar impossibilities. 1870 *Standard* 14 Dec., This sortie, bar miracles, has decided the fate of Paris.

Bar, obs. abbreviation of BARONET; now *Bart.*

1720 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 5066/8 Sir Joseph Hodges, *Bar.*

Bar, obs. or dial. f. BEAR *barley*, and of BOAR.

Bar, obs. pa. t. of BEAR *v.* and BORE *v.*

Baracan, -*couta*, var. *BARRACAN*, -*ouda*.

|| *Baragouin* (baragwēn, -gwin). Also 7-9

barr-. [a. F. *baragouin*, f. Breton *bara* bread + *gwin* wine (Littré), or *gwen* white, in reference to the astonishment of Breton soldiers at the sight of white bread (Roulin in Littré *Supp.*); used by the French of any outlandish language or unintelligible speech.] Language so altered in sound or sense as to become generally unintelligible; jargon, 'double-Dutch.' Hence *Baragouin*ish a.

a. 1613 OVERBURY *Charac. Lawyer* Wks. (1856) 84 He thinks no language worth knowing but his Baragouin. 1801 W. TAYLOR in *Month. Mag.* XI. 646 The baragouin of a professional lawyer. — *ibid.* XII. 99 The parliamentary use of the word [*committee*] is anomalous; it there means the collective body of persons... and, in that baragouin sense, is accented on the second syllable. 1860 *All Y. Round* No. 46. 461 Some horrible patois and baragouin of his own.

Baraigne, -*ane*, *Barail*, obs. ff. BARREN, -*EL*.

Baralipson (bæräliptōn). *Logic*. [A mnemonic vocable invented by the Scholastic philosophers, and used first in med.L.] A term constructed to represent by its first three vowels, etc. the first indirect mood of the first figure of syllogisms, in which the two premisses are universal affirmatives, and the conclusion a particular affirmative.

1653 URQUHART *Rabelais* I. xvii. After they had well argued pro and con, they concluded in Baralipson, that they should send the oldest. 1660 EARL ROSCOM. *Poems* 36 Apollo starts... At the rude rumbling Baralipson makes. † *Barane*. *Obs.* [f. BAR-IUM + -ANE 2a.] Davy's proposed systematic name for chloride of barium.

1812 SIR H. DAVY *Chem. Philos.* 342.

† *Bara-picklet*. *Obs.* In 7 *barrapyclid*. [ad. Welsh *bara* pygylid 'pitchy bread,' perh. in reference to its colour.] (See quot.)

1611 COTGR., *Popelins*, soft cakes made of fine flower, kneaded with milke, etc... like our Welsh Barrapyclids. 1687 HOLME *Armorie* III. iii. 86 Barra Pickled, a light Bread made in round Cakes. 1704 *Dict. Rust. et Urb.*

Bara-picklet, is Bread made of fine Flower, and knead up with Barm. [So 1852 in BRANDE.]

Baraque, obs. form of BARRACK.

† **Bararag**, *Obs.* A vocable invented to represent the sound of a trumpet; cf. *tantara*.
1523 SKELTON *Carl. Laurel*, Eolus, your trumpet... That bararag bloweth in every martial war. *Ibid.* To blow bararag till both his eyes stare.

Barat, -er, etc., obs. ff. BARRAT, -ER, etc.

|| **Barathrum** (bærätröm). [L., a. Gr. *βάρητρον*.] A pit, gulf. Hence: a. A deep pit at Athens, into which criminals condemned to death were thrown. b. (earlier in Eng.) The abyss, hell. c. An insatiable extortioner or glutton (so in It.).
a. 1849 GROTE *Greece* II. xxxix. V. 69 Aristides himself is reported to have said, 'If the Athenians were wise, they would cast both of us into the barathrum.' 1874 MAHAFFY *Soc. Life Greece* viii. 251 Had the body been... cast into the barathrum.

b. 1500 *Treat. Galaunt* in Furniv. *Ballads* I. 449 Trysed to barathrum, tossed in fere. 1607 DEKKER *Knis. Conjur.* 19 He flung away in a furie, and leapt into Barathrum.
c. 1609 *Man in Moone* (1849) 27 A bottomlesse Barathrum, a merciless mone-monger. 1633 MASSINGER *New Way* III. ii. You barathrum of the shambles!

|| **Barato**, *Obs.* [Sp., adj. 'cheap'; sb. as in Eng.] A portion of a gamester's winnings given 'for luck' to the by-standers.

1622 *MASSE Aleman's Guzman D'Alf.* I. 147 And, though I were no Gamester, yet I might receive Barato as a stander by. *Ibid.* II. 175, I get the money, but gave it almost all away in barato to the standers by.

Barb (bärb), sb.¹ Also 4-7 barbe. [a. F. *barbe*; -L. *barba* beard. Sense 8 is not cited in Fr.; cf. however OF. '*seetes barbees*' in Godef., and mod.F. *barbillion*. The appearance of the senses in Eng. did not correspond with their original development in Fr.]

1. A beard, or analogous appendage.

† || 1. The beard of a man. *Obs. rare.*

c. 1450 *Martin* vii. 117 A gode knight and yonge, of prime barbe. 1688 HOLME *Armorie* II. xvii. 392 The Barbe, or Beard, is all the hair of the higher and lower lips, with Cheeks and Chin.

2. A similar appendage in various animals; e. g. feathers under the beak of a hawk (*obs.*), the wattles of a cock (*obs.*), a slender fleshy appendage hanging from the corners of the mouth of some fishes, such as the barbel and fishing-frog.

1486 *Bk. St. Albans* B. j. The federis vnder the beke be calde the barbe federis. 1601 HOLLAND *Pliny* II. 389 The nailes, and clawes of cocks... their barbs & spurs. 1688 HOLME *Armorie* II. xiv. 384 The Barb, Lob, or Beard, is any long skinny substance that proceeds from the Fish Snout or Nose. 1863 H. PENNELL *Angler-nat.* 119 The barbs or beards... are given to the fish to assist it in feeling its way in deep, and... dark waters.

3. Part of a woman's head-dress, still sometimes worn by nuns, consisting of a piece of white plaited linen, passed over or under the chin, and reaching midway to the waist.

c. 1374 CHAUCER *Troilus* II. 61 Do wey your barbe, and shew your face bare. c. 1450 E. E. *Poems* (1862) 147 Vowre barbe, your wympylle and your vayle. 1599-47 in *Planché Brit. Costume* (1832) 232 These estates are to wear the barbe under their throats. 1750 BALLARD *Mem. Learned Ladies* 16 Wearing of barbes at funerals over the chin and under the same. 1851 AGN. STRICKLAND *Queens Scot.* II. 10 Wearing white weeds and barbe.

4. *Veter. Surg.* in pl. Folds of the mucous membrane under the tongue of horses and cattle, protecting the orifices of the ducts of the submaxillary glands; the disease caused by their inflammation.

1523 FITZHERB. *Husb.* § 82 The barbes be lyttell pappes in a horse mouth, and lette hym to byte. 1572 MASCALL *Govt. Cattle* (1627) 72. 1670 MARKHAM *Masterp.* II. xxxi. 265. 1721 BAILEY, *Barbes*, a Disease in black Cattle and Horses, known by two Paps under their Tongue. 1831 YOUATT *Horse* x. (1872) 233 The farriers call these swellings *barbs* or *paps*; and as soon as they discover them, mistaking the effect of disease for the cause of it, they set to work to cut them close off.

5. *Her.* A sepal (pl. the calyx) of a flower.

1572 BOSSEWELL *Armorie* II. 127 The Barbes of thys floure... abide alwaies of their proper coloure, which is greene.

6. One of the lateral filaments or processes from the shaft of a feather, which bear the barbs.

1836 TODD *Cycl. Anat. & Phys.* I. 350 The vane [of the feather] consists of barbs and barbs. 1870 ROLLESTON *Anim. Life* Intro. 55 The *Ratitæ* have the barbs of their feathers disconnected.

7. Little roughnesses or ridges produced in the course of metal-working, e. g. by coiners and engravers; bur.

1842 WHITTOCK *Bk. Trades* 214 The scraper... for rubbing off the burr or 'barb' raised by the graver on the copper plate.

II. A recurved process. (The earliest sense in Eng.)

8. A sharp process curving back from the point of a piercing weapon (e. g. an arrow or spear, which have two, a fish-hook, which has one), rendering its extraction from a wound, etc. more difficult.

c. 1340 *Gaw. & Gr. Knt.* 1457 Haled to hym of her areweze, hitten hym oft; Bot... be barbez of his browe bite non wolde. 1544 ASCHAM *Toxoph.* (Arb.) 135 Two manner of arrowe heades... The one... hauyng two poyntes or barbes looking backward. 1769 FALCONER *Dict. Marine* (1789) Gjb, A rag-bolt is retained in it's situation by... barbs.

1791 COWPER *Iliad* xi. 624 Skill'd in medicine, and to free The inherent barb. 1867 F. FRANCIS *Angling* iv. (1880) 112 Give it a pull so as to embed the barb.

Fig. 1777 SHERIDAN *Sch. Scandal* I. i. 238 The malice of a good thing is the barb that makes it stick. 1875 B. TAYLOR *Faust* I. i. 11. 3 Remove the burning barbs of his remorse.

9. *Bot.* A hooked hair.

1864 in WEBSTER. 1880 GRAY *Bot. Text-bk.* 398 Barb, a bristle or stout hair, which is hooked or double-hooked, or retroversely appendaged at the tip.

III. [Cf. OF. *barde* ax, Ger. *barde* ax, ON. *barða*.]

† 10. The edge of an ax. *Obs. rare.*

c. 1340 *Gaw. & Gr. Knt.* 2310 He lyfetes lytly his lome, & let hit doun fayre, With þe barbe of þe bitte bi þe bare nek. † **Barb**, sb.² *Obs.* [Corrupted from BARD²; perhaps confused with prec.] A covering for the breast and flanks of a war-horse, originally protective, but sometimes merely ornamental.

1566 PAINTER *Pal. Pleas.* I. 50 Had furnished the horses of the chariot with brasen barbes. 1596 SPENSER *F. Q.* II. ii. 11 His lofty steed with golden sell And goodly gorgeous barbes. 1611 SPEED *Hist. Gl. Brit.* ix. vii. 64 Great horse, whereof seaun-score had barbes, and caparisons armed with yron. 1630 HAYWARD *Edw. VI.* 32 Their horses were naked without any barbs.

Barb (bärb), sb.³ [a. F. *barbe*, f. *Barbarie*. (Also called a BARBARY.)] *Occas. attrib.*

1. A horse of the breed imported from Barbary and Morocco, noted for great speed and endurance.

1636 HEALEY *Theophrast.* xxiii. 82 Barbes, Jennets, and other horses of price. 1735 SOMERVILLE *Chase* III. 387 He reins his docile Barb with manly Grace. 1796 SCOTT *Will. & Helen* xxiii. Upon my black barb steed. 1823 LOCKHART *Sp. Ball.*, *Calaynos* xxi. Loudly... his mailed barb did neigh.

2. A fancy variety of pigeon, of black or dun colour, originally introduced from Barbary.

1725 BRADLEY *Fam. Dict.* s.v. *Pigeon*. Many sorts of pigeons, such as... nuns, tumbler, Barbs. 1859 DARWIN *Orig. Spec.* I. 16 The barb... instead of a long beak, has a very short and broad one. *Ibid.* 19 Mongrel barb-fantails.

Barb (bärb), v. [a. F. *barber*-r (Cotgr.); cf. OF. *barbier*; f. *barbe* beard.]

1. To shave or trim the beard of (a person). *Obs. in general use.*

1587 TURBERV. *Trag.* T. (1837) 53 Doe barbe that boisterous beard. 1615 A. STAFFORD *Heav. Dogge* 64, I will stare my headman in the face with as much confidence as if he came to barbe mee. 1663 COWLEY *Cutter Coleman* St. II. v. 11. 824 Neat Gentlemen... tho' never wash'd nor barb'd. 1693 W. ROBERTSON *Phrasol.* Gen. 206 To Barb... *Tondere*. 1864 *Daily Tel.* 15 Feb., Where you can be shaved, or 'barbed', as the locution is, shampooed, tittivated, curled.

b. *absol.* or *intr.* (for *refl.*)

1583 STUBBS *Anat. Abus.* II. 50 Their noble science of barbing. 1665 PEPSY *Diary* 27 Nov., Sat talking, and I barbing against to-morrow.

2. *transf.* in various senses: a. To clip (wool, cloth, coin, etc.). b. To mow (grass, etc.). c. To file off the burr or rough edges of metal-work.

† d. The specific term for carving a lobster.

1483 *Act 1 Rich. III.* viii. Pream. Great quantitie of Wolls... which been barbed and clacked. 1598 *Bk. Kervyn in Babes* Bk. (1868) 265 Barbe that lopster. 1535 *Act 27 Hen. VIII.* xiii. § 1 They [cloths] must be newly dressed, barbed, shorne. 1601 HOLLAND *Pliny* xvii. xxiii. The small sprigs must fitsoons be barbed (as it were) and shaven clean off. 1610 B. JONSON *Alch.* I. i. (1616) 608 I'll bring... thy necke Within a nooze, for laundring gold, and barbing it. 1650 BENVOLUS *Theoph.* xii. ii. 236 The Mower, who. Wieldeth the crooked Sythe... To barb the flowrie Tresses of the verdant plains. 1863 SALA *Capt. Dang.* II. vii. 226 Gambling bullies... throwing their Highmen, or barbing gold.

† 3. *fig.* a. To give a trimming or dressing to.

b. To clip, cut back. *Obs.*

1614 RALEIGH *Hist. World* v. vi. § 2 Justine having recovered forces lighted on Tiberius and barbed him after the same fashion. 1657 TRAPP *Comm. Esther* I. 2 Vices may be barbed or benumbed, not mastered.

4. To furnish (an arrow, hook, etc.) with barbs.

1611 [see BARBED 4]. 1667 MILTON *P. L.* vi. 546 Ratling storm of Arrows barbed with fire. 1759 MASON *Caractacus* (R.) Haste, Evelina, barb my knotty spear. 1832 HT. MARTINEAU *Life in Wilds* v. 68, I will shew you how the natives barb them [arrows].

Fig. 1777 SHERIDAN *Sch. Scandal* Portr. 232 She barbs with wit those darts too keen before. 1810 SOUTHEY *Kehama* x. xx. Flowers... With their petals barb'd the dart.

5. To pierce with, or as with, a barb. *rare.*

1803 MISS PORTER *Thaddeus* ix. It is your wretchedness that barbs me to the heart.

† **Barbable**, a. *Obs.*— [f. BARB sb.² + -ABLE.]

1611 Cotgr., *Barbable*, barbable; fit, or able to beare a barbed furniture, or armor.

Barbacan, variant of BARBICAN.

Barbacue, obs. form of BARBECUE.

Barbadoes (baibā'douz). Name of a British island in the West Indies, believed to be derived from Pg. *las barbadas* 'bearded,' epithet applied by the Portuguese to the Indian fig-trees growing there; whence formerly 'the Barbadoes.' Hence: **Barbadoes-cherry**, the tart fruit, resembling a cherry, of the *Malpighia urens*. **Barbadoes leg**, a form of elephantiasis incident to hot climates. **Barbadoes nuts**, the seeds or fruit, used as a purgative, of the *Jatropha Curcas*, or *Curcas purgans*, growing in S. America. **Barbadoes pride**, a beautiful plant (*Poinciana pulcherrima*) used for fences in tropical lands. **Barbadoes tar**, a kind

of greenish petroleum. **Barbadoes-water**, a cordial flavoured with orange- and lemon-peel. Also † **Barbadoes v.**, to transport (convicts) to Barbadoes (*obs.*).

1858 W. ELLIS *Vis. Madagascar* iv. 95 The greatest rarity to me was a fruit called Barbadoes cherry. 1849 TODD *Cycl. Anat. & Phys.* IV. 1097/1 The enlargement of the extremities commonly known by the name of Barbadoes leg. 1885 LADY BRASSY *In Trades* 323 Among the flowers may be mentioned... acacias, Barbadoes pride. 1698 CONGREVE *Way of World* iv. v. I banish... all aniseed, cinnamon, citron and Barbadoes-waters. 1655 W. GOUGE in *Thurloe State Papers* (1742) III. 495 The prisoners of the Tower shall, 'tis said, be Barbadoez'd. 1845 CARLYLE *Cromwell* (1871) IV. 115 Be barbadoezed or worse.

Barbal (bārbāl), a. [f. L. *barb-a* beard + -AL¹.] Of or belonging to the beard.

1650 BULWER *Anthropomet.* Pref., 'Tis the neather lip's especial grace To fall down to the lowest barbal place. 1828 *Blackw. Mag.* XXIV. 615 Hoarfying my barbal extremity.

† **Barbar**, a. and sb. *Obs.* Forms: 4-8 barbar, 6-our, -ir, 8-are. [a. F. *barbare* (14th c. in Littre), ad. L. *barbarus* BARBAROUS. In 16th c. occasionally in L. form; now superseded by *barbarian* and *barbarous*.]

A. sb. = BARBARIAN. (In later use Scotch.)

1382 WYCLIF *1 Cor.* xiv. 11, I schal be to him, to whom I schal speke, a barbar. c. 1590 A. HUME *Epist. G. Moncrief*, The Barbar rude of Thrace or Tartarie. a. 1639 SPOTTISWOOD *Hist. Ch. Scot.* i. (1677) 5 Goths, Vandals, Franks, and other Barbars. 1723 M'WARD *Contend. Faith* 349 (JAM.) Blood shed by these barbars and burriers.

β. in Latin form *barbarus*.

1530 *Compend. olde Treat.* (1863) 52 Barbarus is he that vnderstandyth not y^e he readeth in his mother tonge. 1549 COVERDALE *Exasm. Par. Col.* iii. 11 Neither Gentile nor Jewe... Barbarus or Sithian, bonde or free.

B. adj. = BARBAROUS.

1535 STEWART *Crom. Scot.* II. 10 To execute sic barbour lawes agane. 1549 *Compl. Scot.* Prolog. 16 Till excuse my barbir agrest terms. 1584 HUDSON *Judith* II. (1613) 354 (D.) The barbare yock of Moab. a. 1726 VANEGUGH *False Fr.* III. i. (1730) 125 Barbare Jacinta cast your eyes On your poor Lopez e'er he dies.

Barbara (bārbārā). *Logic.* [A Latin word (= barbarous things), taken as a mnemonic term, for its three a's: 'A' indicating a universal affirmative proposition.] A term designating the first mood of the first figure of syllogisms. A syllogism in *Barbara* is one of which both the major and minor premisses, and the conclusion, are universal affirmatives: thus, all animals are mortal; all men are animals; ∴ all men are mortal.

1529 *Marprel. Epit.* E. iij. b. The moode answereth unto Colarent, elder daughter to Barbara. 1837-8 SIR W. HAMILTON *Logic* xxii. (1866) I. 444 The unsatisfactory reduction by the logicians of Bocardo to Barbara by an apagogical exposition. 1880 VERN. *Lex Stud.* 18th. C. Italy vi. 247 Attempts to turn him into an... ordinary youth by means of teachers, colleges, logical barbaras and barbarisms.

Barbaresque (bārbāresk), a. and sb. [modern a. F. *barbaresque* (= It. *barbaresco*) belonging to Barbary; cf. also Pg. *barbarisco* barbarous. See BARBAR and -ESQUE, and cf. BARBARY.]

A. adj. 1. Of or pertaining to Barbary in Africa. 1824 GALT *Rothelan* III. 158 A red Barbaresque night-cap. 1881 *Times* 18 Apr. 4/1 That France should not be permitted to increase her Barbaresque possessions.

2. Barbarous in style, esp. in reference to art. [Cf. *picturesque*.]

1823 DE QUINCY *Language* (1860) 124 Barbarism... generates its own barbaresque standards of taste. 1857 *Sketches Wks.* VI. 159 Architecture... barbaresque—rich in decoration, at times colossal in proportions, but unsymmetrical. 1859 MASSON *Brit. Novelists* iv. 220 The... outstanding barbaresque and primitive in English society.

B. sb. A native of Barbary.

1804 T. JEFFERSON *Writ.* (1830) IV. 21 Our interests against the Barbaresques. 1862 LUDLOW *Hist. U. S.* 74 Any [peace] concluded... by a Christian power with the Barbaresques.

Barbarian (baibē'riān), sb. and a. Also 6-len. [a. F. *barbarien* (16th c.), f. F. *barbarie* or L. *barbaria* (see BARBARY), on L. type **barbariānus*; cf. OF. *chrestien*—L. *christianus*. See -AN, -IAN. For sense-development see BARBAROUS.]

A. sb. 1. *etymologically*, A foreigner, one whose language and customs differ from the speaker's.

1549 *Compl. Scot.* xiii. 106 Euere nation reputis ythers nations to be barbariens, quhen there tua natours and complexions ar contrar til vtheris [i. e. each other]. 1611 BIBLE *1 Cor.* xiv. 11, I shall be vnto him that speaketh, a Barbarian, and he that speaketh shal be a Barbarian vnto me. 1807 HARE *Gnoses* (1859) 325 A barbarian is a person who does not talk as we talk, or dress as we dress, or eat as we eat; in short, who is so audacious as not to follow our practice in all the trivialities of manners. 1862 *Macm. Mag.* Nov. 58 Ovid... laments that in his exile at Tomi he, the polished citizen, is a barbarian to all his neighbours.

2. *Hist.* a. One not a Greek. b. One living outside the pale of the Roman empire and its civilization, applied especially to the northern nations that overthrew them. c. One outside the pale of Christian civilization. d. With the Italians of the Renaissance: One of a nation outside of Italy.

1604 SHAKS. *Oth.* I. iii. 363 A fraile vow, betwixt an erring Barbarian [cf. sense 5] and a super-subtle Venetian. 1609

Cor. iii. l. 238, I would they were Barbarians...not Romans. 1668 HOBBS *Thucyd.* 9 The Athenians...expecting the coming of the Barbarian. 1660 STANLEY *Hist. Philos.* (1701) 307/2 Of Men some are Grecians, some Barbarians. 1846 ARNOLD *Hist. Rome* II. xi. 364 The inhabitants of the left or eastern bank of the Rhone were...no longer to be considered barbarians, but were become Romans both in their customs and in their language. 1863 MAYOR in *Ascham's Scholium*. 242 Christoph. Longueil of Malines, the one 'barbarian' to whom the Italians allowed the title of 'Ciceronian.'

3. A rude, wild, uncivilized person.

1613 R. C. *Table Alph.*, Barbarian, a rude person. 1697 DRYDEN *Virg. Georg.* iii. 588 Skins of Beasts, the rude Barbarians wear. 1730 THOMSON *Autumn* 57 The sad barbarian, roving, mixed With beasts of prey. 1861 STANLEY *East. Ch.* xii. (1869) 381 The strange barbarian (Peter the Great) sought to evade the eagerness of our national curiosity. 1876 J. H. NEWMAN *Hist. Sk.* I. l. i. 12 Nature herself fights, and conquers for the barbarian.

b. Sometimes distinguished from *savage* (perh. with a glance at 2).

1825 ARNOLD *Life & Corr.* (1844) I. vii. 408, I believe with you that savages could never civilize themselves, but barbarians I think might. 1851 D. WILSON *Prek. Ann.* II. iii. viii. 487 Still a barbarian, but had ceased to be a savage.

c. Applied by the Chinese contemptuously to foreigners.

1858 in *Merc. Mar. Mag.* V. 302 The character 'I' ('barbarian') not to be applied to the British Government, or to British subjects, in any Chinese official document.

4. An uncultured person, or one who has no sympathy with literary culture.

1763 HUME *Hist. Eng.* (1806) IV. lxii. 664 Cromwell, though himself a barbarian, was not insensible to literary merit. 1863 tr. *Let. Erasmus in Ascham's Scholium*. 245 At Oxford...when a young scholar, lectured in Greek with much success, a barbarian began in an address to the people to rave against Greek learning. 1873 M. ARNOLD *Lit. & Dogma* 1, I have myself called our aristocratic class Barbarians which is the contrary of Hellenes...because...for reading and thinking they have in general no great turn.

† 5. A native of Barbary. [See BARBARY.] Obs.

1578 MASCALL *Plant. & Graff.* Ep. The Greeks for Greece, the Barbarians for Barbary, the Italian for Italie. 1823 PLAT *New Exper.* (1594) 22 The Barbarians doe make a bright and orient crimson colour therewith upon leather. 1709 *Lond. Gas.* No. 457/2 The Governor of Otranto marched...against the Barbarians.

† b. A Barbary horse. Obs.

1850 BLUNDEVILLE *Horsemanship* i. (1609) 4 Those horses which we commonly call Barbarians, do come out of the king of Tunis land.

B. *adj.*

1. Applied by nations, generally depreciatively, to foreigners; thus at various times and with various speakers or writers: non-Hellenic, non-Roman (*most usual*), non-Christian.

1549 *Compl. Scot.* (1801) 259 Mair lyik til barbarien pepil, nor...to cristyn pepil. 1666 SHAKS. *Tr. & Cr.* II. i. 51 Bought and sold...like a Barbarian slau. 1715 POPE *Mor. Ess.* v. 13 Barbarian blindness, Christian zeal conspire. 1817 COLEBROOKE *Algebra* Introd. 82 Several other terms of the art...are not Sanscrit, but, apparently, barbarian. 1847 HALLAM *Hist. Lit.* I. i. § 2.2 Establishment of the barbarian nations on the ruins of the Roman empire. 1862 *Macm. Mag.* Nov. 58 The announcement to one of the comedies of Plautus taken from the Greek, that 'Philemo wrote what Plautus has adapted to the barbarian tongue'—i. e. Latin.

2. Uncivilized, rude, savage, barbarous.

1591 SPENSER *Ruins Rome* 416 Till that Barbarian hands it quite did spill. 1700 DRYDEN *Cymon & Iph.* 125 His broad barbarian sound. 1788 PAINE *Let. Abbt Raynet* (1791) 45 This was not the condition of the barbarian world. Then the wants of men were few. 1859 DARWIN *Orig. Spec.* I. (1873) 13 Geologists believe that barbarian man existed at an enormously remote period.

† 3. Of or belonging to Barbary. Obs.

1577 HARRISON *England* II. vii. (1877) 168 The Morisco gowns, the Barbarian sleeves. 1605 *Play Stucley in Sch. Shaks.* (1878) 254 We mount her back...As we do use to serve Barbarian horse. 1699 in *Misc. Cur.* (1708) III. 381 The Mauritanian or Barbary Moor.

Barbarianism. [f. prec. + -ISM.] The state or condition of a barbarian (in various senses).

1855 MILMAN *Lat. Chr.* (1864) II. iv. § 1. 169 Adapted to the youthful barbarianism of the state of society, and to the Oriental character. 1864 *Reader* No. 87. 255/1 A very paragon of prosy barbarianism.

Barbarianize, v. [f. as prec. + -IZE.] To make barbarian, barbarize. Hence *Barbarianized ppl. a.* 1856 OLSTED *Slave States* 523 South Carolina must...either be democratized or barbarianized. 1885 *Pall Mall G.* 11 Apr. 5/1 Fanciful chronicle of a barbarianized England.

Barbaric (bā'barik), a. and sb. Forms: 4 barbarik, 5 -yke, 6 -like. [a. OF. *barbarique* (15th c.) of barbarous kind, in Wyclif perh. direct ad. L. *barbaricus*, a. Gr. *βάρβαρος* like a foreigner, f. *βάρβαρος* foreign, rude. See BARBAROUS and -IC.] A. *adj.*

1. = BARBAROUS 3, BARBARIAN a. 2.

1490 CANTON *Eneydos* viii. 36 The peple barbaryke in whom they were subcombed. c. 1510 BARCLAY *Mirr. Gd. Mann.* (1570) F iii. A barbarike vilayne to play the oratour. 1513 *St. Werburge* (1848) 108 Barbarike nations full of crudelite. a. 1837 COLEBROOKE *Relig. & Philos. Hindus* (1858) 201 Correct language and barbaric dialects. 1855 PRESCOTT *Philip II* (1857) I. l. i. 2 The barbaric empires of Mexico and Peru.

2. Pertaining or proper to barbarians or their art; in the characteristic style of barbarians, as opposed to that of civilized countries or ages.

1667 MILTON P. L. II. i. Barbaric Pearl and Gold. 1711 POPE *Temp. Fame* 94 With diamond flaming, and Barbaric gold. 1813 SCOTT *Treism.* III. xx. Each maiden's short barbaric vest. 1857 S. OSBORN *Quedah* xvi. 212 Heavy guns, mounted on very barbaric carriages. 1873 BLACK *Pr. Thule* xviii. 284 Barbaric splendour of decoration.

3. = BARBAROUS 1, 2; BARBARIAN a. 1.

1849 GROTE *Greece* II. xlviii. VI. 167 Sending envoys to the Persian King and not to other barbaric powers. 1855 MILMAN *Lat. Chr.* (1864) II. iii. vii. 154 An inestimable present to a patrician, or an ex-consul, or a barbaric king.

† B. sb. A barbarian. Obs. rare.

1388 WYCLIF 1 Cor. xiv. 11 Y schal be to hym, to whom Y schal speke, a barbarik; and he...to me, schal be a barbarik.

C. Comb., as barbaric-speaking.

1849 GROTE *Greece* II. ii. 354 Those many barbaric-speaking nations whom Herodotus believed to have changed their language and passed into Hellenes.

† Barbarical, a. Obs. [f. L. *barbaricus* (see prec.) + -AL¹.] = prec. in sense 2.

1553 T. WATSON in Crowley *Sophistr.* Watson I. (1569) 179 This barbarical violence.

Barbarically, adv. [f. prec. + -LY².] In barbaric fashion or style; after the fashion of the uncivilized, illiterate, or unpolished.

1832 *Tour Germ. Prince* II. iii. 36 Nothing can be...more barbarically elegant than these grotesque...ornaments. 1852 THORNBURY *Turner* I. 29 Barbarically ignorant of any art but that of portraiture. 1898 P. BAYNE *Purit. Rev.* v. 183 Barbarically unclean in their persons.

Barbarie, obs. form of BARBARY.

† Barbarious, a. Obs. [f. BARBARY, F. *barbarie*, or L. *barbar*, -ia, -ies + -OUS.] = BARBAROUS.

1570 HOLINSHED *Scot. Chron.* I. 25 Barbarious and miserable creatures. 1633 T. STAFFORD *Pac. Hib.* xvii. (1821) 663 The barbarious tyranny hee exercised upon his owne Countrymen. 1762 GOLDSM. *Cit. W.* xi. Barbarious nations.

† Barbarousness. Obs. [f. prec. + -NESS.] = BARBAROUSNESS.

1570 ASCHAM *Scholem.* I. (Arb.) 28 In the best Scholes of England barbarousnesse is bred up so in yong wittes. *Ibid.* 149 To rayle vpon poore England, objecting both extreme beggerie and mere barbarousnesse unto it. 1599 SANDYS *Europe Spec.* (1637) 243 Who striveth by all means to plant barbarousnesse among them [the Muscovites].

Barbarism (bā'barizm), a. [a. F. *barbarisme* 13th c., ad. L. *barbarismus*, a. Gr. *βάρβαρισμός* 'foreign mode of speech,' f. *βάρβαρος* -ειν to (behave or) speak like a foreigner. The extension from language to social condition (= F. *barbarie*, L. *barbaria*, -ies) is exclusively English.]

1. The use of words or expressions not in accordance with the classical standard of a language, especially such as are of foreign origin; orig. the mixing of foreign words or phrases in Latin or Greek; hence, rudeness or unpolished condition of language.

1579 LVLV *Euphues* (Arb.) 131 Affected with their barbarism. 1613 R. C. *Table Alph.*, Barbarism, rudeness, a corrupt forme of writing or speaking. 1660 STANLEY *Hist. Philos.* (1701) 307/1 Amongst the faults of Speech is Barbarism. 1670 COTTON *Espermon* I. i. 16 The French Tongue, which then first began to purge it self from the Barbarism of past Ages.

b. A foreign or non-classical word or idiom.

1589 *Marprel Epit.* G j b, I would not haue you claime all the skill, in Barbarismes and Solecismes vnto your self. 1636 BAKER *Balaac's Lett.* (1654) III. 135 He smells a Barbarism, or an incongruity seven miles off. 1754 JOHNSON *Ramb.* No. 194 ¶ 7 Every fashionable barbarism of the present winter. 1801 W. TAYLOR in *Month. Mag.* XII. 223 A barbarism, then, is a fault of style originating in rudeness and ignorance; but a solecism is a fault of style originating in affectation and over-refinement.

2. Barbarous social or intellectual condition; absence of culture; uncivilized ignorance and rudeness. (The proper opposite of *civilization*.)

1584 POWELL *Lloyd's Cambria* 388 Withdraw any people from civility to Barbarism. 1612 DAVIES *Why Ireland, etc.* (1787) 2 Have risen from barbarism to civility. 1665 GLANVILL *Scops. Sci.* 79 After Barbarism had overrun Rome and Athens. c. 1854 STANLEY *Sinai & Pal.* iii. (1858) 161 The imperceptible boundary between civilisation and barbarism.

b. A trait or characteristic of such a condition.

c. 1645 HOWELL *Letts.* (1650) II. 52 Plundering and other barbarismes that reign now abroad. 1860 GEN. P. THOMPSON *Audi Alt.* III. cxiv. 45 All obsolete barbarisms are coming back upon us. 1871 *Daily News* 15 Dec. The open gas flames...are as much a barbarism in the view of sanitary science.

† 3. Barbarous cruelty; BARBARIY. Obs.

1603 FLORIO *Montaigne* (1634) 393 Some spice of that barbarism (death by torture). 1611 SPEED *Hist. Gt. Brit.* ix. xiv. (1632) 767 So exquisite a barbarism, as Richards en-famishment. 1665 MANLEY *Grotius Low-C. Wars* 715 Ignominiously tormented and murdered, which in the Salvages, was but ignorance; but in the Spaniards, perfect Barbarism.

Barbarity (bā'bariti). In 6 -itie. [f. L. *barbarus* BARBAROUS + -ITY: not in L. or F.]

† 1. = BARBARISM 2. Obs. or arch. (The earliest sense, taking place of the earlier *barbarie*, and now in its turn superseded by *barbarism*.)

1570 LEVINS *Manip.* 100 Barbarite, barbaries. 1604 JAS. I. *Counterbl.* (Arb.) 99 From base corruption and barbarity. 1668 SIDNEY *On Govt.* iii. § 13 (1704) 279 That wretched Barbarity in which the Romans found our Ancestors. 1773 JOHNSON *Letts.* 81 I. 161 A nation just rising from barbarity. 1819 R. CHAPMAN *Jas. V.* 89 At this time...barbarity and ignorance had not overspread Scotland.

2. Barbarous or savage cruelty, such as is alien to civilization; inhumanity. (The usual sense.)

1685 *Gracian's Courtier's Oracle* 197 The barbarity whereof will be more supportable than the fierce and haughty humour of these men. 1725 DE FOE *Voy. round World* (1840) 183 With breach of faith, with cruelty and barbarity. 1796 MORSE *Amer. Geog.* I. 95 When defenceless women...and even babes, are made the victims of their shocking barbarity. 1884 *Pall Mall G.* 16 Aug. 2/1, I have seen some cases of horrible barbarity.

b. with pl. An act of barbarous cruelty.

1718 POPE *Iliad* xxiv. 263 Oh! might I...these barbarities repay! a 1731 ATTERBURY *Serm. Martyrd.* Chas. I. (R.) He had borne lesser barbarities. 1876 J. H. NEWMAN *Hist. Sk.* I. i. 3 These two extraordinary men rivalled or exceeded Attila in their wholesale barbarities.

3. Of language: = BARBARISM 1, and 1 b. ? Obs.

1706 tr. *Dupin's Eccl. Hist.* 16th C. II. v. 39 He always uses Latine Terms and avoids Barbarity. 1797 SWIFT *Eng. Tongue* Wks. 1755 II. i. 129 To quit their simplicity of style for affected refinements...which ended by degrees in many barbarities. 1796 PEGGE *Anonymous* (1809) 471 We have our monstrous, prodigious, vast, shocking, devilish, at every turn: are we not driving towards barbarity?

4. Barbarism of style in art. b. with pl. An instance of want of artistic culture.

1644 EVELYN *Mem.* (1857) I. 107 When architecture was but newly recovered from the Gothic barbarity. 1860 TYNDALL *Glac.* I. § 27. 215 To shame by the beauty of her structures the comparative barbarities of Art. 1879 MISS BRADDON *Vixen* I. i. 21 The oak panelling was painted white, a barbarity on the part of...the West End decorators.

Barbarization (bā'barīzā'jən). [f. next + -ATION: cf. *civilization*.] a. The action of making barbarous. b. Barbarized state.

1822 W. TAYLOR in *Month. Mag.* LIII. 103 The misery...and barbarization of the boorish classes. 1854 *Blackw. Mag.* LXXXVI. 143 The...barbarisation of the academic Latin. 1866 HOWELLS *Venet. Life* (1883) II. xvi. 36 The barbarisation of the Italian continent by...civil wars.

Barbarize (bā'barīz), v.; also -ise. [In Milton's use (sense 1), ad. Gr. *βάρβαρι-ειν* to (behave or) speak like a barbarian, and in the other senses, the suffix has its modern transitive force as in *civil-ize*, as if f. L. *barbar-us* + -IZE.]

1. *intr.* To speak or write like a barbarian; to violate the laws of Latin or Greek grammar.

1644 MILTON *Educ.* (1883) 5 The ill habit...of wretched barbarizing against the Latin and Greek idiom. 1651 BARKSDALE *Nympha Lib.* (1816) 2 If she barbarise, like boys at school. 1801 W. TAYLOR in *Month. Mag.* XII. 223 To barbarize in language.

2. *trans.* To render barbarous.

1648 JOS. BEAUMONT *Psyche* xv. xlix. (T.) Barbarized by a mutual war. 1796 BURKE *Letts.* Noble Lord Wks. VIII. 18 The hideous changes which have since barbarized France. 1807 G. CHALMERS *Caledonia* I. II vi. 307 To distract, and barbarize the Irish. 1868 BUSHNELL *Serm. living Subj.* 33 If we choose to let our hearts be barbarized.

b. To corrupt or alter (language) from any classical standard or type (or what is so considered).

1798 MORGAN *Algers* I. iv. 144 Darje was no other than Gregorio, tho' somewhat barbarized. 1791-1824 D'ISRAELI *Cwr. Lit.* (1858) III. 30 The French revolutionists...almost barbarized the pure French of the Augustan age of their literature. 1871 FREEMAN *Hist. Ess.* Ser. I. vi. 130 The names of the most famous European cities are mutilated or barbarized.

3. *intr.* To grow barbarous, fall into barbarism.

1824 *Blackw. Mag.* XV. 594 The Irish character...appears to be rapidly barbarizing. 1871 LOWELL *Study Wind.* in *Casquet Lit.* I. 394/1, I felt myself sensibly barbarizing.

Barbarized, ppl. a. [f. prec. + -ED.] Made barbarous; reduced to barbarism.

1602 CAMPION *Art Eng. Poetrie in Ascham's Scholium* (1863) 261 In those lack-learning times, and in barbarized Italy, began that vulgar and easie kind of Poetrie...which we abusively call Rime and Meeter. 1839 THIRLWALL *Greece* VI. xlix. 169 A barbarized colony of Cumæ.

Barbarizing, vbl. sb. [f. as prec. + -ING¹.] The action or process of making barbarous.

1861 MAX MÜLLER *Lect. Sc. Lang.* Ser. I. v. (1864) 202 The same barbarizing has affected all other Roman dialects.

Barbarizing, ppl. a. [f. as prec. + -ING².]

a. Acting or speaking as barbarians. b. Reducing to barbarism. c. Becoming barbarous.

1662 FULLER *Worthies* (1840) I. 203 These barbarizing English were...endeared to the interest of Ireland. 1809 SOUTHEY in *O. Rev.* I. 288 Barbarous and barbarizing warfare. 1855 MILMAN *Lat. Chr.* (1864) IX. xiv. iii. 99 The barbarizing Augustan historian. 1859 KINGSLEY *Misc.* II. 194 A stationary, if not a barbarizing system of society. 1874 MAHAFFY *Soc. Life Greece* i. 5 Disintegrating and barbarizing forces.

Barbarocracy. [f. Gr. *βάρβαρος* + -κρατία: see -CRACY.] Government or rule by barbarians, as that of Italy by the German emperors.

1866 FELTON *Anc. & Mod. Greece* II. xi. 486 Better fitted to live under a constitution than under a barbarocracy.

Barbarous (bā'baras), a. [f. L. *barbar-us*, a. Gr. *βάρβαρος* + -OUS: preceded in use by the simple BARBAR², without suffix. The Gr. word had probably a primary reference to speech, and is compared with L. *balbus* stammering. The sense-development in ancient times was (with the Greeks) 'foreign, non-Hellenic,' later 'outlandish, rude, brutal'; (with the Romans) 'not Latin nor Greek,' then 'pertaining to those outside the Roman empire'; hence 'uncivilized, uncultured,' and later

'non-Christian,' whence 'Saracen, heathen'; and generally 'savage, rude, savagely cruel, inhuman.' The later uses occur first in Eng., the L. and Gr. senses appearing only in translators or historians.]

1. Of language: *a. orig.* Not Greek; *subseq.* not Greek nor Latin; *hence*, not classical or pure (Latin or Greek), abounding in 'barbarisms.' Hence, b. Unpolished, without literary culture; pertaining to an illiterate people.

1536 *Pilgr. Perf.* (W. de W. 1531) 2 My wytte is grosse . . and my tonge very barbare. 1538 *STARKEY England* 193 To see al our law . . wryten in this barrouse langage [i.e. old French]. 1547 *BOORDE Intrad. Knowl.* 221 Barrouse Latin doth alter from trew Latine. 1550 *ASCHAM Scholem.* (1865) 71 Avoiding barrouse ryming. 1560 *DYMON Treas. Treas.* (1843) 47 Barrouse for the Latyn but cyuill for the sence. 1611 *COTGR.* *Narquois*, the gibbridge, or barrouse langage used among them (Gipsies). 1618 *BINSLEY Lud. Lit.* 2. (1627) 147 Will still write false Latine, barrouse phrase. 1751 *JOHNSON Rambl.* No. 169 ¶ 6 From which [Latin] . . the present European tongues are nothing more than barrouse degenerations. 1768 *REID Aristot. Log.* iv. ii. 74 The mystery contained in the vowels of those barbarous words [*Barbara, Celarent*, etc.]. 1791 *COWPER Iliad* ii. 1063 The Carians, people of a barbarous speech. 1857 *RUSKIN Pol. Econ. Art* 9 A wholly barbarous use of the word, barbarous in a double sense, for it is not English, and it is bad Greek.

2. Of people: Speaking a foreign language, foreign, outlandish; *orig.* non-Hellenic; *then*, not Roman, living outside the Roman Empire; *sometimes*, not Christian, heathen. (Often with a glance at sense 3.)

1544 *UDALL Apoph.* 285 a, Bearyng rewle among the Barbarous, that is to weete, the Portugalles. 1543 *TRAHERON Vign's Wks.* Gloss. The barbarous auctours vse alcohol . . for moost fyne poudre. 1611 *BIBLE Transl. Pref.* 4 The Scythian counted the Athenian, whom he did not vnderstand, barbarous. — *Acts* xxviii. 2 The barbarous people shewed vs no little kindness. 1713 *POPE Windsor For.* 365 Let barb'rous Ganges arm a servile train.

3. Uncultured, uncivilized, unpolished; rude, rough, wild, savage. (Said of men, their manners, customs, products.) The usual opposite of *civilized*.

1538 *STARKEY England* 117 A gret rudenes and a barrouse custume usyd with us. 1579 *GOLDING De Mornay* viii. 96 Let vs come to Lawes, for eten the barbarousest people had of them. 1601 *SHAKS. Twel. N.* iv. i. 52 Barbarous Causes, Where manners nere were preach'd. 1635 *N. CARPENTER Geog. Del.* ii. xiii. 214 A barbarous and viciuall place. 1658 *FLECKNOE Epigr.* 67 Would tame fierce lions, and civilize barbarousest savages. 1780 *HARRIS Philol. Eng.* (1841) 514 Italy at the beginning of her history was barbarous. 1840 *CARLYLE Heroes* ii. 105 An uncultured semi-barbarous son of Nature.

4. Savage in infliction of cruelty, cruelly harsh.

1538 *STARKEY England* iv. 107 Tyrannys and Barbarus pnyncys. 1588 *SHAKS. Tit. A.* i. i. 378 Thou art a Romaine, be not barbarous. 1600 *Z. BOYD Zions Flowers* (1855) 154 This barbarous villaine did no mercy show. 1660 *Rh. Com. Prayer* K. Chas. Mart., A constant meek suffering of all barbarous indignities. 1749 *FIELDING Tom Jones* xviii. xii. It would be barbarous to part Tom and the girl. 1876 *MOZLEY Univ. Serm.* v. 111 The barbarous aspect of war.

5. Like the speech of barbarians; harsh-sounding, rudely or coarsely noisy.

1552 *MILTON Sonn.* xii. A barbarous noise environs me Of owls and cuckoos, asses, apes, and dogs. 1667 — *P. L.* vii. 32 The barbarous dissonance Of Bacchus and his Revellers. 1785 *DE FOE Voy. round World* (1840) 253 Innumerable rills . . making a very loud and unpleasant sound. 1856 *OLMSTED Slave States* 24 The music was wild and barbarous.

† 6. = BARBARIC 2. *Obs.*

1700 *DRYDEN Pal. & Arc.* iii. 65 The trappings of his horse emboss'd with barbarous gold.

Barbarously (bā'ibārsli), *adv.* [f. prec. + -LY 2.] In a barbarous manner: *a.* as to speech.

1531 *ELYOT Gov. l. xiii.* Whiche . . speake the most barbarously that they can imagine. 1589 *PUTTENHAM Eng. Poetrie* (Arb.) 257 The foulest vice in language is to speake barbarously. 1667 *DRYDEN Ess. Dram. Poety* in Arb. *Garner* III. 563 New languages . . barbarously mingled with the Latin. 1855 *LIDDELL & SCOTT Gr. Lex.*, βαρβαρῶς, to speak Greek barbarously.

b. as to social or intellectual condition, culture, or art.

1552 *MILTON Sonn.* xii. A barbarous noise environs me Of owls and cuckoos, asses, apes, and dogs. 1667 — *P. L.* vii. 32 The barbarous dissonance Of Bacchus and his Revellers. 1785 *DE FOE Voy. round World* (1840) 253 Innumerable rills . . making a very loud and unpleasant sound. 1856 *OLMSTED Slave States* 24 The music was wild and barbarous.

† 6. = BARBARIC 2. *Obs.*

1611 *BIBLE 2 Macc.* xv. 2 O destroy not so cruelly and barbarously. 1718 *ADDISON Spect.* No. 483 ¶ 2 Her mother used one of her nieces very barbarously. 1800 *COLERIDGE To Wedgwood Jan.*, It is most barbarously cold.

Barbarousness (bā'ibārsnēs), [f. as prec. + -NESS.] The quality of being barbarous; the degree of barbarism or barbarity: *a.* in language.

1548 *COVERDALE Erasim. Par.* 2 Cor. xi. 6 He confesseth his rudenes and barbarousnes in langage. 1564 *HAWARD Entrop.* To Rdr., The barbarousnesse . . of thys our Englyshe tounge. 1861 *WRIGHT Ess. Archæol.* II. xxiii. 257 The barbarousness of monkish Latin.

b. in behaviour, condition, culture, or art.

1549 *LATIMER Serm. bef. Edu.* VI, v. (Arb.) 140 That wyl brynge the Realme into a verye barbarousnes and vtter decaye of learmynge. 1761 *HUME Hist. Eng.* I. vi. 147 From the barbarousness of the country. 1866 *Sat. Rev.* 3 Mar. 256/1 A substantial resemblance . . between the barbarousness of different periods.

c. in cruelty; = BARBARITY 2.

1548 *UDALL, etc., Erasim. Par. Mark* v. 4 Cruell barbarousnesse of certain nations. 1680 *MORDEN Geog. Rect.* 460 Its Piracies . . and its Barbarousness to its captives.

Barbary (bā'ibāri). Forms: 4 *barberie*, 5 *barbre*, *barbarie*, -ye, 6 *barbery*, 5-*barbary*. [I. a. OF. *barbarie*, ad. L. *barbaria*, *barbariēs*, 'land of barbarians, barbarism,' f. *barbar-us* BARBAROUS. In II. ult. f. Arab. *بربر* *Barbar*, *Berber*, applied

by the Arab geographers from ancient times to the natives of N. Africa, west and south of Egypt. According to some native lexicographers, of native origin, f. Arab. *barbara* 'to talk noisily and confusedly' (which is not derived from Gr. *βάρβαρος*); according to others, a foreign word, African, Egyptian, or perh. from Greek. The actual relations (if any) of the Arabic and Gr. words cannot be settled; but in European langs. *Barbaria*, *Barbarie*, *Barbary*, have from the first been treated as identical with L. *barbaria*, Byzantine Gr. *βαρβαρία* land of barbarians: see sense 1.]

I. Barbarous nationality, state, or speech.

† 1. Foreign nationality; *esp.* non-Christian, i.e. Saracen or pagan nationality; heathenism. *concr.* Non-Christian lands. Also *attrib.* = Paynim. *Obs.* a 1300 *E. E. Psalter* cxiv. 1 In oute-gate of Irael, Oute of Egypt . . Of the folke of barbarie. c 1386 *CHAUCER Man of L.* T. 183 Allas, vnto the Barbre nacion I moste goon. 1432-50 *tr. Higden* (1865) I. 323 Wytilandia is . . inhabitid with peple of barbre worschippene ydoles. 1480 *CAXTON Chron. Eng.* cxxxviii. 263 His fame . . come in to hethnes and barbraye. 1513 *DOUGLAS Æneis* xi. xv. 23 Hys hosing schane of wark of Barbary. 1609 *GAULIE Pract. The.* 39 Not in the Barbary onely of a barbarous World, but in the Greece also of a gracious Church.

† 2. Barbarity, barbarism, barbarousness. *Obs.*

1564 *BECON Flower Godly Pr.* (1844) 42 Nothing but cruel barbary and lion-like fierceness. a 1571 *JEWELL Serm. bef. Queen* (1583). Come to such ignorance and barbarie. 1635 *SKIDMORE in F. Lee Valid. Anglic. Ord.* (1869) 84 Through tyrannical subjection and mere barbary of their inhabitants.

† 3. Uncultivated speech, as opposed to a classical language or classic diction. Also *attrib.* *Obs.*

1509 *HAWES Past. Pleas.* 38 The langage rude . . The barbary tongue. *Ibid.* 48 Tolde wyth tongue of barbary. In rude manner. 1608 *TOURNEUR Rev. Trag.* iv. ii. 107 Their common talke is nothing but Barbary Latin.

II. as proper name.

4. The Saracen countries along the north coast of Africa. (The only surviving sense.)

1566 *SHAKS. Merch. V.* iii. ii. 272 From Lishon, Barbary, and India. 1781 *GIBSON Decl. & F. li.* Has justly settled as a local denomination (Barbary) along the northern coast of Africa. 1843 *MACAULAY Addison, Ess.* (1874) 701 The Polity and Religion of Barbary.

b. attrib., *esp.* Barbary ape, gum, hen, horse.

1507 *SHAKS. 2 Hen. IV.* ii. 108 Hee will not swagger with a Barbary Henne. 1607 *TORSSELL Four-f. Beasts* 227 Which the common people call Barbary Horses. 1611 *MARKHAM Countr. Content* i. v. The Barbary Faulcon, the Merlin and the Hobby. 1774 *GOLDSM. Nat. Hist.* (1862) II. iii. vi. 75 They [the Guinea-hen] are by some called the Barbary-hen. 1849 *BROWNING Solit. Sp. Cloister Poems* II. 269 As 'twere a Barbary Corsair's. 1875 *USE Dict. Arts I.* 289 Barbary Gum, sometimes called *Morocco gum*, the product of the *Acacia gummiifera*, imported from Tripoli, etc. *Mod.* The only quadrumanous animal found in Europe is the Barbary Ape, of which a colony exists on the rock of Gibraltar.

c. ellipt. † A Barbary horse, a barb. *Obs.* Also, A kind of fancy pigeon. Cf. *BARB sb.*

1609 *B. JOHNSON Sil. Wom.* iv. i. Be seen o' your Barbary often. 1653 *J. HALL Paradoxes* 145 That could outrun a Hart or a Barbary. 1834 *R. MUDIE Feath. Tribes Brit.* I. 74. † **Barbary** 1. [a. OF. *barbarin*, -ine, ad. late L. **barbarin-us*, f. *barbar-us* (taken substantively). Displaced in Eng. by *barbarian*.]

138a *WYCLIF Rom.* i. 14 To Grekis and barbaryns, or *hethene men* . . I am detour. 1483 *Leg. Rood* (1871) 155 Constantyn came with a grette multitude of barbaryns. † **Barbaryn** (e). *Obs. rare.* [f. med. L. *barbar-is* BARBERRY + -INE.] = BARBERRY.

c 1400 *MAUNDEV.* ii. 14 Oure Lord [was] . . crowned eft with a whyte Thorn, that men clepeth Barbarynes [Fr. *berberis*]. c 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 21 Barbaryn frute, *Barbeum*. Barbaryn tre, *Barbaris*.

Barbastel (le) (bā'ibāstēl, bā'ibāstēl). [a. F. *barbastelle*, It. *barbastello* (Florio 1611).] A bat of a dark brown colour (*Plecotus barbastellus*), found in France and Germany.

1791 *SMELLIE Buffon's Nat. Hist.* IV. 323 The sixth species I call Barbastelle, from the Italian word *barbastello*, which also signifies a bat. 1813 *BINGLEY Anim. Biog.* I. 110 The Barbastelle Bat is somewhat larger than the two first species. 1847 *CRAIG, Barbastel Bat*.

Barbate (bā'ibētt), *a.* [ad. L. *barbātus* bearded, f. *barba* beard.] Bearded; in *Bot.* and *Zool.* furnished with a small hairy tuft or tufts.

1853 *E. HAMILTON Flora Homæop.* 217 Common Mullein . . The filaments . . barbate. 1856-8 *W. CLARK Van der Hoeven's Zool.* I. 318 *Scatophaga*. [Head barbate beneath.]

† **Barbated**, *a.* *Obs. rare.* [f. as prec. + -ED.] *a.* Barbated, as an arrow. *b.* Bearded, barbate.

1780 *T. WARTON Hist. Kiddington* 63 (T.), A dart uncommonly barbated. 1808 *Rees Cycl.*, *Barbated Leaf*, is a leaf terminated by a bunch of strong hairs.

† **Barbatulous**, *a.* *Obs.* [f. L. *barbātul-us*, dim. of *barbātus*.] Having but a small beard.

c 1600 *Timon* i. ii. (1842) 9 Old men will be ashamed to be overcome in counsaile . . by one that is barbatulous.

|| **Barbe**. [Fr., ad. It. and Rumansch *barba* (= med. L. *barba*, also *barbas*, *barbanus*) uncle, lit. 'the bearded.'] Respectful title given by the Vaudois to their teachers.

1710 in *Dupin's Eccl. Hist.* 16th C. I. iii. 367 The Barbes . . have not the courage to own their Doctrine avowedly. 1838 *G. FABER Inquiry* 530 The Barbs who visited them from Apulia. *Ibid.* 338 Barbes.

Barbecue (bā'ibfkiūd), *sb.* Forms: 7 *barbecu*, 7-8 *borbecu*, 8 *barbique*, 7-9 *barbaque*, 8-*barbecue*, (9 *babracot*). [ad. Sp. *barbacoa*, a. Haitian *barbacoda* (E. B. Tylor) 'a framework of sticks set upon posts'; evidently the same as the *babracot* (? a French spelling) of the Indians of Guiana, mentioned by Im Thurn. (The alleged Fr. *barbe à queue* 'beard to tail,' is an absurd conjecture suggested merely by the sound of the word.)]

1. A rude wooden framework, used in America for sleeping on, and for supporting above a fire meat that is to be smoked or dried.

1607 *DAMPIER Voy.* (1699) I. 20 And lay there all night, upon our Borbecu's, or frames of Sticks, raised about 3 foot from the Ground. *Ibid.* I. 86 His Couch or Barbecu of Sticks. 1879 *BODDAM-WHEATHAM Roraima* xiv. 155 For preservation, a barbecue is erected, and the fish are smoked over a fire. 1883 *Im Thurn Indians of Guiana* ii. 47 Fires, above which were babracots loaded with beef. — 2. a 148 *A babracot* is a stage of green sticks built over a fire on which the meat is laid.

2. An iron frame for broiling very large joints.

1736 *BAILEY Househ. Dict.* 347 When the belly side is . . steady upon the gridiron or barbecue, pour into the belly of the hog, etc.

3. A hog, ox, or other animal broiled or roasted whole; see also quot. 1861, and BARBECUE v. 2.

1764 *FOOTE Patron* i. i. (1774) 6, I am invited to dinner on a barbicu. 1805 *Schuyllkill Fishing Co. in Bibliographer* Dec. (1881) 251 A fine barbecue with spiced sauce. 1861 *TYLOR Anahac* iv. 95 A kid that had been cooked in a hole in the ground, with embers upon it. . . This is called a 'barbacoa'—a barbecue.

4. (in U. S.) A large social entertainment, usually in the open air, at which animals are roasted whole, and other provisions liberally supplied.

1809 *W. IRVING Knickerbo.* iv. ix. (1849) 240 Engaged in a great 'barbecue,' a kind of festivity or carouse much practised in Maryland. 1884 *Boston (Mass.) Tral.* 27 Oct. 2/3 At the Brooklyn barbecue, which Governor Cleveland recently attended, 5000 kegs of beer were dispensed.

5. An open floor on which coffee-beans, etc. may be spread out to dry.

1855 *KINGSLEY Westw. Ho!* xix. (D.), The barbecu or terrace of white plaster, which ran all round the front. 1883 *Cassell's Mag.* Aug. 528/1 The [coffee-beans] are carried to the 'barbecue,' an open space paved with cement or asphalt, where they are spread on matting . . to dry. 1885 *LADY BRASSEY In Trades* 235 A barbecue is the name given, in Jamaica, to the house which contains the threshing-floor and apparatus for drying the coffee.

Barbecue (bā'ibfkiūd), *v.* Forms: 7-9 *barbacue*, -iou(e), 8-*ikew*, 8-*barbecue*. [f. prec. sb.]

1. To dry or cure (flesh, etc.) by exposure upon a barbecue; see the sb. (senses 1 and 5).

1661 *HICKERINGILL Jamaica* 76 Some are slain, And their flesh forthwith Barbacud'd and eat. 1775 *ADAIR Amer. Ind.* 408 They cut them [pompions] into . . slices, which they barbecue, or dry with a slow heat. 1794 *STEDMAN Surinam* (1813) I. xv. 406 They use little or no salt, but barbecue their game and fish in the smoke. 1829 [see BARBECUE 1].

2. To broil or roast (an animal) whole; *e. g.* to spit a hog to the backbone, fill the belly with wine and stuffing, and cook it on a huge gridiron, basting with wine. Sometimes, to cook (a joint) with the same accessories. See also BARBECUE sb. 3.

1690 *Mrs. BEHN Widow R.* ii. iv. 356 Let's barbicu this fat rogue. 1708 *C. MATHER Magn. Christi* vii. vi. (1852) 556 When they came to see the bodies of so many of their countrymen terribly barbicew'd. 1769 *Mrs. RAFFALD Eng. Househpr.* (1778) 111 To barbecue a Leg of Pork. 1823 *LAMB Roast Pig, Elia* (1867) 163 Barbecue your whole hogs to your palate.

Barbecued (bā'ibfkiūd), *pp. a.* [f. prec. + -ED.] 1. Dried or cured by exposure on a barbecue.

1737 *WESLEY Wks.* (1872) I. 44 A little barbecued bear's flesh, (that is, dried in the sun). 1839 *W. IRVING Wolfert's R.* (1855) 221 Loaded with barbecued meat.

2. Broiled or roasted whole.

1734 *POPE Horace's Sat.* ii. ii. 26 Send me, Gods! a whole Hog barbecu'd! 1807 *Mrs. DORSET Peacock at H.*, A barbecued mouse was prepared for the owl. 1847 *BARMAN Incol. Leg.* (1877) 209 The barbecu'd sucking-pig 's crisp'd to a turn.

Barbecuing, *vbl. sb.* [f. as prec. + -ING 1.] The action or process of the vb. BARBECUE.

1716 *Wodrow Corr.* (1843) II. 150 When these diabolical operations were gone through, they finished all by barbicewing of the gentleman! 1794 *STEDMAN Surinam* (1813) I. 261 The barbecuing consists in laying the fish upon twigs of wood above the fire, where, by the smoke, they dry.

Barbecue, *v.* and *pp. a.*; also 9 *babracot*, -ed.] Variants of BARBACUE, -D.

1667 *CLAYTON in Phil. Trans.* XLI. 160 A Piece of Venison barbecuted, that is, wrapped up in leaves, and roasted in the Embers. 1743 *DR. RICHMOND ibid.* XLII. 511 He then laid it quite open like . . a Barbacuted Pig to be broiled. 1883 *Im Thurn Indians of Guiana* xi. 248 The meat and most of the fish is smoked or babracoted.

Barbed (bā'bd), *ppl. a.* [f. BARB *v.*, *sb.* + -ED.]
 † 1. Bearded. *Obs. rare.*

1693 W. ROBERTSON *Phrasol. Gen.* 206 Barbed (i.e. *Barbam habens*), *Barbatus*.

† 2. Wearing a BARB (sense 3). *Obs.*

1586 SKELTON *Magnyf.* 1000 Barbyd lyke a nonne. 1601 W. PARRY *Sherley's Trav.* (1863) 16 Their women are... very faire, barbed every where.

3. *Her.* Having a calyx 'coloured proper.'

1611 GWILLIM *Heraldry* III. ix. 120 A rose gules Barbed and Seeded. 1864 BOUTELL *Heraldry Hist. & Pop.* xi. 70 The term *barbed* denotes the small green leaves, the points of which appear about an heraldic rose.

4. Furnished with a barb or barbs.

1611 BIBLE *Job* xli. 7 Canst thou fill his skinne with barbed yrons? 1718 POPE *Odyss.* iv. 499 Bait the barb'd steel. 1870 BRYANT *Homer* I. viii. 251 Eight barbed shafts I sent.

Barbed (bā'bd, bā'ibēd), *ppl. a.* [f. BARB *sb.* + -ED.] Of a horse: Armed or caparisoned with a barb or bard; properly BARDED.

1599 HAWES *Past. Pleas.* xxvii. lvii. My fayre barbed stede. a 1618 RALEIGH *Prerog. Parl.* (1628) 27 Many Earles could bring into the field a thousand Barbed horses. a 1711 KEN *Edmund Wks.* 1721 II. 84 As a barb'd Steed in Fight, who nothing fears. 1814 SCOTT *Ld. Isles* vi. xxiii. Or what may their short swords avail, 'Gainst barbed horse and shirts of mail?

† **Barbed-cat.** *Obs.* A military engine; see quot.

1489 CAXTON *Faytes of A. n.* xxix. I vj b. For to make a werrely holde that men calle a barbed catte, and a bewfayr that shal have ix. fadome of lengthe and two of brede, and the said catte six fadome of lengthe and two of brede.

Barbel (bā'ibēl). *Forms:* 4-5 *barbell* (e, 5-6 -byl), 6-7 -bil(l), 6-8 -ble, 7 -bell, 6- *barbel*. [a. OF. *barbel* (13th c. in Littré), mod. *barbeau* 'barbel,' and 'little beard':—late L. *barbellus*, dim. of *barbus* barbel (the fish), f. *barba* beard. Cf. It. *barbolo* the fish.]

1. A large European fresh-water fish (*Barbus vulgaris*) of the Carp tribe, deriving its name from the fleshy filaments which hang from its mouth.

c 1380 CHAUCER *Ballade* Add. MS. 16156 B. M., Pat Barbell had swolowed boye, hooke and lace. 1496 *Bl. St. Albans, Fysshynge* (1810) 26 The barbyll is a swete fysshe, but it is a greasy meete and a peryllous for mannys body. 1558 *Act 1 Eliz.* xvii. § 1 No person... shall take... any Barbel not being in Length twelve Inches. 1570 LEVINS *Manip.* 139 A barble, fish, *barbo*, *onit*. 1611 CORIAT *Cruelities* 477 Great abundance of good fishes... especially the delicate barblis. 1867 F. FRANCIS *Angling* i. (1880) 50 The barbel, so named from the barbs or wattles that depend from the side of the mouth.

2. A fleshy filament hanging from the corners of the mouth of some fishes, e.g. of the barbel.

1601 HOLLAND *Pliny* I. 261 Her little hornes or Barblis which she [the sea-Frog] hath bearing forth vnder her eies. 1698 *Phil. Trans.* XX. 91 Those Barbles which... the Conger is never without. 1880 GUNTHER *Fishes* 37 Barblis... if developed and movable, are sensitive organs of touch.

3. A variety of house-pigeon. ? *Obs. rare.*

1741 *Compl. Fam. Piece* III. 512 The Barbel has a red Eye, a short Tail, and a Bill like a Bulfinch.

† 4. Part of a helmet protecting the chin (= OF. *barbier*, *-iere*).

c 1334 *Guy Warr.* (1840) 160 His barbel first adoun he deth, Withouten colour his neb he seth.

† **Barbeled, -bled**, *ppl. a.* *Obs.* [f. OF. *barbell* barbed + -ED.] Barbed, having recurved points. 1375 BARBOUR *Bruce* VIII. 57 With arrowes barbylt braid. c 1480 CAXTON *Ovid's Met.* xii. xii. He smote hym fleynge with an arrowe barbeled.

Barbellate (bā'ibēlāt), *a.* [f. mod.L. *barbell-a*, dim. of *barbula* little beard + -ATE.] Furnished with *barbellæ* or short stiff hairs: specific epithet of the pappus in some Composite plants.

1847 in CRAIG.

Barbelled, -eled (bā'ibēld), *ppl. a.* [f. BARBEL + -ED.] Furnished with barbels.

1883 *Harper's Mag.* Dec. 106/2 The tall and barbelled dorsal fins were out of water.

Barbelling, -eling (bā'ibēlin), *vbl. sb.* [f. as prec. + -ING; cf. *shrimping*.] Fishing for barbel.

1867 F. FRANCIS *Angling* III. 76 As set forth in barbelling.

Barbellulate (barbe-liūlēt), *a.* [f. mod.L. *barbellula*, dim. of *barbella*: see BARBELLATE.] Furnished with *barbellulæ* or minute conical spines; specific epithet of the pappus in some Composite plants.

1847 in CRAIG.

Barber (bā'ibai), *sb.* *Forms:* 4-7 *barbour*, -or, 5 -ore, -ur, 6 -oure, 6-7 -ar, 4- *barber*. [ME. *barbour*, a. AF. *barbour*, OF. *barbeor*:—L. type *barbator-em*. *Barber*, rare bef. 1500, is partly due to substitution of -er for earlier -our, partly to F. *barbier* (= It. *barbiere*):—L. type **barbārius*; both f. *barba* beard.]

1. A man, or more rarely a woman, whose business it is to shave or trim the beards, and cut and dress the hair, of customers. (Now largely replaced by *hairdresser*.)

Formerly the barber was also a regular practitioner in surgery and dentistry. The Company of Barber-surgeons was incorporated by Edward IV. in 1461; under Henry VIII. the title was altered to 'Company of Barbers and Surgeons,' and barbers were restricted to the practice of dentistry; in 1745 they were divided into two distinct corporations.

c 1380 *Sir Tristr.* i. lxiii. A barbour was redi there. c 1370 *Robt. Sicily* 54 They broght a barber hym before. 1380 WYCLIF *Judg.* xvi. 19 She clepide the barbour, and he shoofe seven heoris of hym. c 1450 in Wright *Voc.* (W.) 1692 *Hec tonatrix*, a barbor. 1474 CAXTON *Chesse* 74 For fere and doubte of the barbours he made his daughters to lerne shauie. 1594 PLAT *Smell-ho.* III. 74 If your teeth be verie scale, let som expert Barber first take off the scales. 1604 CAPT. SMITH *Virginia* II. 30 For Barbers they vse their women. a 1605 *Boys Wks.* (1629) 59 Like Barbars, who cut all other except themselves. 1722 *De Foe Mem.* *Cavalier* (1840) 14 No surgeon to be had but a sorry country barber. 1837 THIRLWALL *Greece* IV. xxvii. 1 He took his seat in a barber's shop. 1841 DICKENS *Humph. Clock* 295, I would suggest that *barbers* is not exactly the kind of language which is agreeable and soothing to our feelings... I believe there is such a word in the dictionary as *hair-dressers*.

b. *fig.* One who clips or cuts short; a curtailer.

1609 B. JONSON *Sil. Wom.* III. ii. Wks. (1616) 554 An excellent barber of prayers.

2. *attrib.*, as in *barber fee*, -shop, -surgeon (see prec.), -surgery; † *barber-monger*, a constant frequenter of the barber's shop, a fop.

c 1380 WYCLIF *Sel. Wks.* (1871) III. 282 Money for barbour fees. 1579 FULKE *Heshins* *Parl.* 30 Alehouses and Barber-shops. 1605 SHAKS. *Learn* II. ii. 36 You whoreson Cullyenly Barber-monger, draw. 1607 CAPT. SMITH *Seaman's Gram.* VIII. 34 A certificate from Barber Chirurgions Hall of his sufficiency. 1645 MILTON *Colast.* Wks. (1851) 358 And like an able text man slits it into fowr, that hee may the better come at it with his Barber Surgery. 1684 tr. *Bonell's Merc. Compt.* III. 62 Eased by this common Barber-Surgeon's remedy. 1872 MARK TWAIN *Innoc. Abr.* xii. 82 We hunted for a barber-shop.

3. Special combinations and locutions: *Barber's basin*, a round metal dish with a broad edge having a semicircular opening for the neck, so as to allow the chin to reach into the bowl (still sometimes used as a barber's sign). *Barber's block*, a rounded block on which wigs are made and displayed. *Barber's chair*, the chair common to all his customers, *fig.* a drab, strumpet (*obs.*). *Barber's knife*, a razor (*obs.*). *Barber's music*, harsh, discordant music, like that formerly produced by customers waiting their turn in a barber's shop, where a musical instrument was provided for their amusement. *Barber's pole*, a pole painted spirally with red and white stripes, used as a barber's sign.

1755 SMOLLETT *Quix.* I. 191 That helmet... which looks for all the world like a barber's basin. 1836 HOR. SMITH *Tin Trump.* (1876) 192 A barber's block for supporting wigs. 1601 SHAKS. *Al's Well* II. ii. 16 Like a Barbers chair that fits all buttocks. 1601 BURTON *Anat. Mel.* III. iv. i. iii. (1651) 665 A notorious strumpet as common as a barbers chair. 1708 MOTTEUX *Rabelais' Pantagr. Prognost.* v. Bonarobas, Barbers chairs, Hedge-whores. 1660 *Pepys Diary* 5 June My Lord called for the lieutenant's cittern, and with two candlesticks, with money in them, for symbols, we made barber's music. 1840 LD. BRAYBROOKE *Pepys* v. 221 Decker also mentions a 'barber's cittern' for every serving-man to play upon. 1684 *London Gaz.* No. 1977/4 To be sold in York Building... over against the Barbers Pole.

Barber (bā'ibai), *v. rare.* [f. prec. *sb.*] *trans.* To dress the beard and hair of, to trim. Also *fig.* 1606 SHAKS. *Ant. & Cl.* II. ii. 229 Our Courteous Anthony... Being barber'd ten times o're goes to the Feast. 1816 J. GILCHRIST *Philos. Etym.* 145 Great grammarians... capable of mending our standard compositions, and of barbering them into the fashion.

Barberess (bā'iborēs), ? *Obs. rare.* [f. BARBER *sb.* + -ESS.] A female barber.

1611 CORGR. *Barbiere*, a barbaresse; a woman, or she Barber. 1660 *Hexham Dutch Dict.*, *Barbierster*, a Woman barber, or a Barbesse. [In mod. Dicts.]

Barbering, *vbl. sb.* [f. BARBER *v.* + -ING.]

The art or work of a barber; shaving, hairdressing. 1660 in *Select. Harl. Misc.* (1793) 380 The King was pleased to take notice of Richard's good barbering. 1860 SMILES *Self-Help* II. 29 Wigs were worn... an important part of the barbering business.

Barberish (bā'iborish), *a.*; in 5 *barborysh*.

[f. BARBER + -ISH.] Of or belonging to a barber.

c 1440 *Prompt. Parv.* 24/1 Barborysh hous, *barbitondium*.

† **Barberly**, *adv.* *Obs. rare*—[f. BARBER *sb.* + -LY.] With a barber's methods, by shaving.

1573 TUSSEY *Husb.* (1878) 111 That barberlic handled... thou hast finish thy cure.

Barberry, berberry (bā'ibēri, bā'ibēri). *Forms:* 5 *barbere*, 6-7 *barbery*, -berie, -berrie, 6-8 *berbery*, 6-9 *barbary*, 9 *berberry*, 8- *barberry*. [ad. med.L. *barbaris* (in *Prompt. Parv.*), *berberis*, F. *berberis*, 16th c. *berbere*, Sp. *berberis*, It. *berberi*, of unknown origin and history. (An Arabic *barbāris*, sometimes cited, is a transcription of the Latin employed by Arabian botanists; there is no such word in native dictionaries, Arabic or Persian. Cf. the earlier BARBARYNE.)

1. A shrub (*Berberis vulgaris*) found native in Europe and N. America, with spiny shoots, and pendulous racemes of small yellow flowers, succeeded by oblong, red, sharply acid berries; the bark yields a bright yellow dye. Also the genus *Berberis*, of which several American species are cultivated as ornamental shrubs in Europe.

c 1400 *Anturs Arth.* vi. Vndur a lefe sale Of box and of barbere. 1578 LYTT *Dodons* 684 The leaves and fruite of

Barberies are of complexion colde. 1725 BRADLEY *Fam. Dict.*, *Berberis*, or *Barberry-bush*. 1830 LINDLEY *Nat. Syst. Bot.* 31 The spines of the common *Berberis* are a curious state of leaf, in which the parenchyma is displaced, and the ribs have become indurated. 1872 OLIVER *Elem. Bot.* II. 131 In most of the species of *Berberis* the terminal leaflet only is developed.

2. The berry of this tree.

1533 *Elvot Cast. Helth* (1541) 58 Digestyves of Choler: Endyve, Lettyse... Berberies. 1605 *Althorp MS.* in *Simpkinson Washingtons* *Introd.* 62 Lumpie sugar for conserve of barberries. 1796 MRS. GLASSE *Cookery* v. 79 Garnish with barberries and lemon. 1864 H. AINSWORTH *Tower Lond.* 85 A piquant sauce of oiled butter and barberries.

3. *attrib.*, as in *barberry-bush*, -tree, etc.

1578 LYTT *Dodons* 684 With the greene leaues of the Barberie bush they make sawce to eate with meates. 1814 SIR H. DAVY *Agric. Chem.* 266 The popular notion amongst farmers, that a barberry tree in the neighbourhood of a field of wheat often produces the mildew. 1830 STONEHOUSE *Asholme* 353 An old barberry tree. 1855 LONGF. *Hiaw.* *Introd.* 103 The tangled barberry-bushes hang their tufts of crimson berries.

Barberrying, *vbl. sb.* Gathering barberries.

1859 THOREAU *Let.* (1865) 182, I am off a-barberrying.

Barbery (bā'ibori). Also 5 (*barborery*), 6

barbary. [a. F. *barberie* (15th c. in Godefroy), f. *barbier* barber.]

† 1. A barber's shop. *Obs.*

[c 1440 *Prompt. Parv.* 24/1 Barborery, or barbouris hous.]

2. The barber's art or craft; shaving.

1540 *Act 32 Hen. VIII.* xlii. § 1 Offences... against the good order of barbery or surgery. 1697 *View Penal Laws* 28 Neither shall any Chirurgion there use Barbery or Shaving. 1867 *Pall Mall G.* 21 Feb. 4 Tonsor... was a master in barbery.

† **Barbet**¹. *Obs.* [a. F. *barbette*, OF. *barbete*, dim. of *barbe* beard.]

1. A small beard or (?) barbel. *rare.*

1606 HOLLAND *Sueton.* 114 *marg.*, Being skaly and having a couple of barbets.

2. = BARB *sb.* 3.

c 1380 *Pol. Songs.* 154 The bout and the barbet wyth frountel shule feye.

Barbet² (bā'ibēt). [a. F. *barbet*, prob. OF. *barbet* *ppl. adj.* = *barbu* 'bearded'.]

1. A little dog with long curly hair, a poodle.

1780 COXE *Russ. Disc.* 236 Hounds, grey-hounds, barbets. 1797 BECKFORD *Italy* (1834) II. 297 Fleeces... as silky as the hair of a barbet. 1801 HEL. WILLIAMS *St. Fr. Rep.* II. xxxvi. Amidst those piles of corpses... was a little barbet-dog.

† 2. A name given by Keaumur and others to a worm covered with tufts of white filaments, which feeds on aphides. *Obs.*

1753 in CHAMBERS *Cycl. Supp.*

3. A family of birds, found in warm countries, distinguished by a short conical bill, with tufts of bristles at its base. (In F. *barbu*.)

1844 BURCHELL *Trav.* I. 318 Little noisy barbet, which the Hottentots call *Hout Kapper* (wood cutter). 1880 WALLACE *Isl. Life* II. 27 Barbets are gaily-coloured fruit-eating birds.

|| **Barbette** (barbe't), *sb.* [Fr., dim. of *barbe* beard; see -ETTE.] A platform or mound of earth within a fortification, on which guns are raised so that they can be fired over the parapet. *Guns en barbette*, *barbette gun* or *battery*: those so mounted as to fire over the parapet; similarly in ironclad ships (see quot. 1876). Hence *attrib.*, as in *barbette-cruiser*, -turret.

1772 SMITH *Mil. Guide*, When the parapet of a work is only of such a height that the guns may fire over it without being obliged to make embrasures, it is said the guns fire en Barbet. 1822 BYRON *Yuan* VII. xii. Two batteries... Casemated one, and t'other 'a barbette'. 1872 C. KING *Sierra Nev.* VII. 151 A huge slab pointed out like a barbette gun. 1876 *Daily News* 5 May 6/1 A 'barbette' battery... is a battery of guns exposed on the upper deck, but enclosed in a fixed turret, which only partially... protects the guns and the gunners. 1884 *Pall Mall G.* 2 Dec. 2/2 A twin-screw barbette cruiser.

† **Barbette**, *v. Obs. rare*—[a. OF. *barbete-r*, -etter (= mod.F. *barboter*). Cf. It. *barbottare* to stammer, mumble, *balbottare* to stammer, L. *balbūtire* to stammer.] To make inarticulate sounds, to mutter.

c 1480 CAXTON *Ovid's Met.* XIV. iii. When they wene to speke they barbette w⁴ gronyng voyes.

Barbican (bā'ibikān). *Forms:* 3- *barbioan*; 3 *barbyoon*, *berbikan*, 4 -oan, *barbygan*, 4-6 -oan(e, 5 *barbakane*, 5-7 -oane, 6 *barbioane*, 7 -oon. [a. F. *barbacane*, in 12th c. *barbaquenne* (= Pr., Sp. *barbacana*, Pg. *barbação*, It. *barbacane*), of uncertain origin, perh. from Arab. or Pers.: *barbār khānah* is a possible Pers. combination, meaning 'house on the wall,' but examples of its actual use are wanting. Devic suggests Arab. *barbakh* canal or channel through which water flows, whence the sense 'loop-hole' might come. Littré gives as one sense in F., 'ouverture longue et étroite pour l'écoulement des eaux,' but sense 1 seems to be the earliest in OF. also. Col. Yule suggests Arab.-Pers. *bāb-khānah* 'gate-house,' the regular name in the east for a towered gateway; but it is not easy to derive from this the Romanic forms in *bar*-.]

1. An outer fortification or defence to a city or castle, esp. a double tower erected over a gate or bridge; often made strong and lofty, and serving as a watch-tower.

1300 W. DE BIBLES. in Wright *Voc.* 130 Barbycons, *antemuralia*. a 1300 *Cursor M.* 10033 Pe berbikans [v. r. barbycans, -icans] seuen þat es a-bute, þat standes thre bailles wit-vte. . . er þe seuen virtus. c 1300 *Cast. Lome* 697 Seue berbicans þer beop i-wrouht. . . And euerichon hap þat and tour. 1494 *FABIAN VII* 363 The Erle. . . made bulwerkes and barbycans arwene the Toure and the cytie. 1596 SPENSER *F. Q.* II. ix. 25 Within the barbian a porter sate. 1633 T. STAFFORD *Pac. Hib.* II. (1821) 520 The Barbican whereof being a stone wall of sixteen foot in height. 1821 SCOTT *Kenilw.* xxv. The usual entrance. . . over which he had erected a gate-house, or barbian.

fig. 1828 SCOTT *F. M. Perth* iv. Dawn seemed to abstain longer than usual from occupying her eastern barbian.

b. Retained as name of a street in London. 1632 MASSINGER *City Mad.* II. i. A Barbican broker will furnish me with outside. 1656 BLOUNT *Glossogr.* s. v. Hence Barbican by Red-cross-street in London.

† 2. A temporary wooden tower or bulwark.

1489 CAXTON *Faytes of A.* II. xiv. 118 Barbicanes of symble shal be made fast to the batlementes. *Ibid.* xxxviii. 161 In the gretttest vesselles of werre men make towris and barbianes

† 3. A loophole in the wall of a castle or city, through which missiles might be discharged. *Obs.* 1600 HOLLAND *Livy* xxiv. xxxv. 532 He caused certayne barbianes or loopeholes, almost a cubit deep. . . to be pierced through the wals.

Barbicanage. [ad. med.L. *barbicanāgium*, f. prec.: see -AGE.] Tribute paid for the construction and maintenance of barbicans.

[*Monast. Angl.* I. 976 De kaagiao, muragio, paagio, Barbicanagio.] 1691 BLOUNT *Law Dict.*, Barbicanage, Money given to the maintenance of a Barbican, or Watch-Tower. *Carta* 17 Ed. 3. 1749 *Hist. Windsor* 120 Free from payment of Toll. . . Paviage Barbicanage.

Barbicle (bā'bisel). [ad. It. and mod.L. *barbicella*, dim. of *barba* beard; cf. L. *pedicellus* PEDICEL, dim. of *pediculus*, f. *pes* foot.] One of the minute hooked filaments which serve to interlock the barbules of a bird's feathers.

1869 GILLMORE *Rept. & Birds* introd. 186 The barbules themselves frequently throw out filaments. . . called barbicles. 1874 COUES *Birds N. W.* 270 The fine barbules and barbicles.

Barbigerous (bā'bidžeros), a. [f. L. *barbiger* (f. *barba* beard + *ger* bearing) + -OUS.] Bearded. 1731 in BAILEY. 1881 *Syd. Soc. Lex.*, *Barbigerous* . . . applied to petals that are hairy all over.

Barbing (bā'binj), *vbl. sb.* 1. [f. *BARB* v. + -ING 1.]

† 1. Shaving, hairdressing; clipping. *Obs.* 1485 *Act. 1 Hen. VII.* x. 7 The Wollie shuld be as it was shorne. . . withoute any sortyng, barbyng or clakkyng. 1581 SAVILE *Tacitus Hist.* (1591) 215 Suffred his yellow haire to growe long without barbing. 1650 BULWER *Anthropomet.* II. 40 The Abantes. . . were the first that used this kind of barbing. 1797-51 CHAMBERS *Cycl.*, *Barbing* is sometimes used in ancient statutes for sheering.

attrib. 1639 DENTON in *Verney Papers* (1853) 236 Untill you send me a paire of barbinge sissers. 2. Furnishing with barbs.

Barbing, *vbl. sb.* 2. [f. *BARB* sb. 2 + -ING 1.] = BARBING.

1799 SCOTT *Sheph. T. in Lockhart* (1839) II. 35 In every stall. . . Stood a steed in barbing bright.

Barbing, *ppl. a.* [f. *BARB* v. + -ING 2.] a. Shaving; stripping bare. b. Furnishing with barbs. 1630 J. TAYLOR (Water P.) *Wks.* III. 28 As barbing Autumn robe the trees of leues.

Barbiraousa, obsolete form of BABIROUSSA.

† **Barbit**. *Obs. rare* -1. [ad. L. *barbitus*, Gr. *βάρβιτος* lyre.] = BARBITON. (In quot. attrib.)

1624 Heywood *Gunaik*. 389 No Barbit number suits this tragick season.

† **Barbitist**. *Obs.* Also 7 *barbatist*. [ad. L. *barbitista*, ad. Gr. *βάρβιτοῦχος*, f. *βάρβιτος*: see -IST.] A player on the barbiton.

1656 BLOUNT *Glossogr.*, *Barbitist*, a Lutinist. 1693 W. ROBERTSON *Phrasol. Gen.* 209 A Barbatist or player on the Lute.

|| **Barbiton**, -os (bā'bitŏn, -ps). [L. *barbiton*, -os, a. Gr. *βάρβιτοῦχος*, -os.] A many-stringed musical instrument; a kind of lyre or lute.

1545 ASCHAM *Toxoph.* (Arb.) 39 All manner of pypes, barbitons, sambukes. . . be condemned of Aristotle. 1753 CHAMBERS *Cycl. Suppl.* s. v. The barbitos is said to have differed from the lyre and cithara. 1845 LYTTON *Zanoni* I. i. His barbiton, as the learned Mersennus tells us to call all the varieties of the great viol family.

Barble (bā'bl). Also 5 *barbul*, -ulle. [ad. It. *barbola* :—L. *barbula*, dim. of *barba* beard.] = BARB sb. 1 4.

c 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 241/1 Barbulle, sekene of the mowthe. c 1595 MONTGOMERIE in Watson's *Coll.* III. 13 (Jam.) The Botch, and the Barbles. 1607 TORSSELL *Four-f. Beasts* 283 The Barbles or paps underneath the tongue. 1753 CHAMBERS *Cycl. Suppl.*, *Barbles* in the manege, knots of superfluous flesh growing in the channels of a horse's mouth.

Barble, obsolete form of BARBEL.

Barbless (bā'bləs), a. Unbarbed.

1881 *Daily News* 9 Feb. 5/2 Varieties of fish hooks. . . the flint and barbless bone articles of Esquimaux.

Barborery, -orysh: see BARBERY, BARBERISH.

† **Barbose**, a. *Obs. rare* -1. [f. L. *barba*: see -OSE.] ?Bearded.

1756 M. DAVIES *Ath. Brit.* III. 7 More like Verbose and Barbose, or Morose Catechists. . . than well educated Scholars.

† **Barbot**. *Obs. rare* -1. [a. OF. *barbote*, -oute, -ouste (= It. *balbotta*, *barbotta*, med.L. *barbota*), considered by Jal a contraction of *barca-botta*, *barque-botte*, barrel-boat, from its appearance; Du Cange compares med.L. *barbuta* a kind of helmet.] A small vessel or sloop, having its deck protected by an arched covering of leather.

1579 FENTON *Gucciard*, ix. (1599) 397 With the losse of two fustes, two barbots, and . . fourtie smaller vessels.

Barbotine (bā'botin). [a. F. *barbotine*, f. *barboter* to work noisily with the bill in water or mud (as a duck, etc.).] A thin creamy mixture of kaolin clay used to ornament pottery.

1865 ELIZA METEYARD *Wedgwood* II. 123 The edging and letters in relief. . . being formed in yellow barbotine or slip. 1883 *Standard* 15 May 1/2 (*Adv.*) Lessons daily in Painting on glass, china, and barbotine.

Barbott (cf. F. *barbotte*), variant of BURBOT.

Barbre, obsolete form of BARBARY.

|| **Barbula** (bā'biulā). [L., dim. *barba* beard.]

1. A small beard; see quot. ?*Obs.*

1688 HOLME *Armory* II. xvii. 392 The Barbula or pick-adivant, or the little tuft of hair just under the middle of the lower Lip.

2. The inner row of fringes or teeth in the peristome of such mosses as *Tortula*. *Treas. Bot.* 1866.

Barbule (bā'biul). [ad. L. *barbula*; see prec.]

1. = BARBEL 2. (So in med.L.)

1848 S. MAUNDER *Treas. Nat. Hist. Gloss.*, Barbules, filamentous appendages. . . attached to the mouths of certain fishes. 1874 BAKER *Nile Tribut.* ix. 146 This fish has four long barbules in the upper jaw.

2. One of the series of pointed, and sometimes serrated or hooked, processes, fringing the barbs of a feather, and filling up the space between them.

1825 TODD *Cycl. Anat. & Phys.* I. 350/2 The barbules are given off from either side of the barbs. 1869 GILLMORE *Rept. & Birds* introd. 185 These smaller filaments are the barbules, by means of which the barbs are retained in position.

3. *Bot.* = BARBULA 2. 1881 in *Syd. Soc. Lex.*

Barbulye, *v. Sc. arch.* In 6 *barbouille*, *barbulisje*. [a. F. *barbouiller* (= Sp. *barbular*, It. *barbugliare*) to besmear, speak confusedly; see Littré and Scheler.] To confuse, muddle, disorder.

c 1572 MONTGOMERIE *Cherry & Slae*, Everything apperit twae to my barbulyeit brain. 1888 A. KING *Canisius Catech.* 113 Gif y^e sacrament of order be ouerthrauin y^e ecclesiastical offices wald be barbouille and confused.

Barbulye, *sb. Sc. arch.* [f. prec. vb.] Confusion, perplexity, quandary.

1820 HOGG *Winter T.* II. 41 (JAM.), I—stude—swutheryng what it avyit me neiste to doo in thilke barbulye.

|| **Barca** (bā'rika). [It.; see BARK sb. 2.] A boat, skiff, barge.

1866 HOWELLS *Venet. Life* iv. 54 Drift along in the scarcely moving barcas. 1883 F. PEARD *Contradictions* I. 29 A barca with serenaders was slowly approaching.

|| **Barca-longa**. *Obs.* Also 7 *barqua*, 7-8 *barco-longo*. [Pg. or Osp.; lit. 'long barge.'] 'A large Spanish fishing-boat, navigated with lug-sails, and having two or three masts. . . common in the Mediterranean.' Falconer *Dict. Marine* 1789.

1681 *Lond. Gas.* 1608/1 With a Sloop and a Barqua-Longa. 1691 *Ibid.* No. 2708/1 The French. . . have only one Barco Longo. . . left. 1768 MORE in *Phil. Trans.* LII. 451 The self-same barcalonga, or xebeck. 1790 BEATSON *Nav. & Mil. Mem.* I. 335 Sent Captain Veale in a barcalonga, attended by two feluccas, to attempt to destroy them.

Barcarole, -olle (bā'kārōl). [In sense 1 ad. It. *barcaruolo* boatman; in sense 2 a. F. *barcarolle*, It. *barcaruola*, boatman's song; f. BARCA.]

1. An Italian boatman. [1611 Panegyrr. V. in *Coryat's Crudities*, The Barcaruolo appetite His Gondola directed right Unto a female Elle.] 1824 BADHAM *Helient.* 200 We. . . ordered our barcaroles to pull for the tonnarò.

2. A song sung by Venetian *barcaruoli* as they row their gondolas; a song or piece of music composed in imitation or reminiscence of such songs.

1779 in Waring *Dict. Mus.* 1819 MOORE *Venet. Air* II, When maidens sing sweet barcarolles. 1850 Mrs. BROWNING *Work & Cont.* Poems I. 336 The woman singeth. . . A pleasant chant, ballad or barcarolle. 1866 CORNH. *Mag.* Nov. 564 With a song full of dole, A forlorn barcarole, As my gondola glides.

Barcary, another form of BARBARY.

† **Barcelona**. *Obs.* [Name of a town in Spain, with manufacture of silk.] A handkerchief or neckerchief of soft twilled silk.

1795 WOLCOTT (P. Pindar) *Dinah Wks.* 1812 IV. 187 Now on this handkerchief, so starch and white, Was pinn'd a Barcelona, black and tight. c 1816 Mrs. SHERWOOD *Stories Ch. Catech.* xiv. 117 She pulled out a Barcelona handkerchief. 1833 *The Amulet* 224 With. . . a silk Barcelona round his neck, like any gentleman.

|| **Barcone**. [It., augmentative of BARCA.] A vessel used for freight in the Mediterranean. (Webster has an Anglicized form *barcon*.)

1847 CRAIG, *Barcone*.

Bard (bārd), *sb.* 1 5-; also 6-7 (*Sc.*) *baird*, 6 *barth*, 6-7 *bardh*. [a. Gael. and Ir. *bàrd* :—OCelt. **bardo*-s poet-singer, minstrel (whence Gr. *Βάρδος*,

L. *bardus*, as alien words, 'bardus Gallice cantor appellatur, qui virorum fortium laudes canit,' Festus). In Eng. originally only an alien word from the mod. Celtic vernaculars, i.e. in Scotland *bard*, *baird* from Gaelic, in England *barth*, *bardh* from Welsh *bardd*, and *bard* from Irish, employed as in contemporary Celtic usage; first naturalized in Scotland, and then by no means appreciative in its use (see sense 2); afterwards, under the influence of the *Bápros*, *bardus* of the classical writers, adopted in Eng. literature as a historical and poetic term.]

1. An ancient Celtic order of minstrel-poets, whose primary function appears to have been to compose and sing (usually to the harp) verses celebrating the achievements of chiefs and warriors, and who committed to verse historical and traditional facts, religious precepts, laws, genealogies, etc. Still the word for 'poet' in modern Celtic languages; and in Welsh *spec.* A poet or versifier who has been recognized at the Eisteddfod.

c 1450 HOLLAND *Houlate*, Sa come the Ruke with a rerd, and a rane roch, A bard out of Irland, with Banachadee! 1538 LELAND *Itin.* V. 15 Peraventure Llieuys Morganne the Barth was deceived in this. 1584 POWEL *Lloyd's Cambria* 15 This word *Bardh* signified such as had knowledge of things to come. 1594 SHAKS. *Rich.* III. iv. ii. 109 A bard of Ireland told me once, I should not live long after I saw Richmond. 1596 SPENSER *St. Irel.* (J.), There is amongst the Irish a kind of people called *bards*, which are to them instead of poets: whose profession is to set forth the praises or dispraises of men in their poems or rhyme. 1610 HOLLAND *Canden's Brit.* I. 421 The funeral song or Dump of a most ancient British Bard. [*Note*, Poet.] 1615 *Val. Welshm.* (1663) Aiv b., Call with your silver tones, that reverend Bardh. 1627 MAY *Lucan* I. (R.) You bards securely sung your elegies [*judistic carmina Bardh*]. 1780 BURKE *Sp. Econ. Ref.* Wks. III. 261 The invasion of King Edward and the massacre of the bards. 1879 MACLEAR *Celts* II. 18 The Druidic order included. . . the Bards or 'Glee-men.'

2. In early Lowland Scotch used for: A strolling musician or minstrel (into which the Celtic *bard* had degenerated, and against whom many laws were enacted); in 16th c. a term of contempt, but idealized by Scott by association with 4.

1449 *Act. 6 Jas. II* (1597) § 22 Gif there be onie that makis them fullis and are bairdes, or vthers sic like rinnars about. 1457 *Ibid.* § 80 Sornares, bairdes, maister-full beggers, or feinjiet fuiles. 1490 *Kenneth's Stat.* in Sir J. Balfour's *Practicks* 680 All vagabundis, fulis, bairdis, scudlaris, and siclike idill pepill, sall be brint on the cheek. c 1505 DUNBAR *Flying* 49 Irsche brybour baird, wyle beggar with thy brattis! 1609 SKENE *Rej. Mag.* 135 Feinized foolies, bairdes, rynnars about. . . after sundrie punishments, may be hanged. 1805 SCOTT *Last Minstr.* introd., The last of all the bards was he Who sung of Border chivalry.

3. Applied to the early versifying minstrels or poets of other nations, before the use of writing, as the Old English *gleeman*, Scandinavian *scald*, etc.

1603 COCKERAM, *Bardus*, ancient Poets. 1763 J. BROWN *Poetry & Mus.* iv. 41 After a certain Period of Civilization, the complex Character of Legislator and Bard would separate. 1775 T. WARTON *Eng. Poetry* I. Diss. i. 34 Various Islandic odes. . . which were sung by the Scandinavian bards. 1855 MILMAN *Lat. Chr.* II. iv. iv. 283 A Teutonic literature has begun; the German bards have become Christian poets.

4. *poet.* A lyric or epic poet, a 'singer'; a poet generally. [Chiefly after Lucan; quot. 1627 in 1.]

1606 SHAKS. *Ant. & Cl.* III. ii. 16 Hoo, Hearts, Tongues, Figure, Scribes, Bards, Poets, cannot Thinke speake, cast write, sing, number: hoo, His loue to Anthony.] 1667 MILTON *P. L.* vii. 34 That wild rout that tore the Thracian bard in Rhodope. 1704 POPE *Messiah* 37 The Saviour comes, by ancient bards foretold. 1769 GARRICK *Song Wks.* 1785 II. 427 For the bard of all bards was a Warwickshire Bard. 1809 BYRON (*title*) English Bards and Scotch Reviewers. 1834 CUNNINGHAM *Burns* (1850) 154/2 The character of the Ayrshire bard. 1881 (*title*) The Bard of Avon Birthday Text-book compiled from Shakespeare's Plays and Poems.

5. *Comb.*, as *bard-craft*, *bard-like*.

1763 J. BROWN *Poetry & Mus.* ix. 168 The first great Bard-like Character we meet with [in China] is Confucius. 1808 SCOTT *Marm.* introd. 213 The keener rush of blood That throbs through bard in bard-like mood. 1820 T. MITCHELL *Aristoph.* I. 205 Ye verse-smiths and bard-mechanicians. 1840 BROWNING *Sordello* II, 312 Forswearing bard-craft.

Bard, *sb.* 2 *Obs. exc. Hist.* Also 5-6 *barde*. [a. F. *barde* horse-armour, also 'a long saddle for an ass or mule of canvas' (Cotgr.); cf. It. *barda* horse-armour, also pack-saddle, and F. *bardelle* pack-saddle. These, and the existence of a dial. F. *aubarde*, seem to identify the word with Sp. and Pg. *albarda* pack-saddle, referred by Devic to Arab. *البردة al-bardasah*, i.e. *al* the + *bar-dasah* 'stuffed pack-saddle for ass or mule' (Boethor), 'covering placed over the back of a beast to alleviate the pressure of a pack-saddle' (Freytag). Whether the Fr. sense 'defensive armour for a horse' arose out of this is doubtful. Diez has compared ON. *bard* the beak of a ship, *barði* a beaked ship, a 'ram', also (poet.) a shield. Also erroneously called BARB, q.v.]

1. (Usually *pl.*) A protective covering for the breast and flanks of a war-horse, made of metal

plates, or of leather set with metal spikes or bosses, but sometimes (e.g. in tournaments) merely ornamental, and made of velvet or other rich stuff.

1480 CAXTON *Chron. Eng.* vii. (1520) 82/2 Stedes... trapped with yron bardes. 1577 HOLINSHED *Chron.* III. 803/1 [The] bardes of their horses white velvet. 1611 G.WILLIAM *Heraldry* iv. xv. 232 The Shafron, the Cranet, and the Bard. 1797-51 CHAMBERS *Cycl.* s. v. The barde is an armour of iron or leather, wherewith the neck, breast, and shoulders of the horse are covered. 1830 JAMES *Darney* xix. We shall find bardes, if we want them.

2. *pl.* Armour composed of metal plates, formerly worn by men-at-arms.

1551 EDWARD VI. *Lit. Rem.* (1858) II. 375 Men of armes... some with sleeves and hauf cotes, some with bardes and staves. 1570 HOLINSHED *Chron.* II. 129 A gentleman trimlie trapped with bardes of steele. 1603 FLORIO *Montaigne* II. ix. (1632) 225 A compleat French man at armes, with all his bardes.

3. *Comb. bard-wise adv.*, as if with bardes.

1577 HOLINSHED *Chron.* III. 801/2 The kings spare horse trapped bardwise, with harness broded with bullion gold.

¶ By confusion (or misprint) for BARB sb.¹ 4.

1633 *Consid. Dissolv. Cr.* Chancery 24 To cure the Mal-lender, Farses, Trunchions, Bardes... in a horse.

Bard (bārd), sb.³ [a. F. *barde*, in same sense, transferred from the armour *barde*; see prec.]

A thin slice of bacon used to cover a fowl, etc.

1795 BRADLEY *Fam. Dict.* s. v. *Neats Tongue*, Bardes or thin Slices of Bacon... Having covered the Tongues with other Beef-Stakes and Bacon Bardes. 1736 BAILEY *Househ. Dict.*, Bardes, broad slices of Bacon, with which pullets, capons, etc. are sometimes covered before they are roasted.

Bard (bārd), v.¹; also 6 baird, bayrd. [a. F. *barde-r* (15th c.), f. *barde* BARD sb.² and 3.]

1. To arm or caparison (a horse or man) with bardes. (Chiefly in pa. pple.; cf. BARDED.)

a 1521 *Helyas* in THOMAS E. E. *Pr. Rom.* (1858) III. 83 A good and mighty courser well barded and trapped. 1609 HOLLAND *Xenoph. Cyrop.* (1632) 71 To unloose the horses... to bridle them... also to bard them. 1805 SCOTT *Last Minstr.* i. xxix. Scarce half the charger's neck was seen; For he was barded from counter to tail. 1845 BLACKW. *Mag.* LVIII. 775 The gallant bay charger barded with steel.

2. To cover (a fowl, etc.) with slices of bacon.

1665 MOUTFET & BENN *Health's Impr.* (1746) 117 Whether roast Meat be best... larded, barded, scorched or basted. 1884 PHILLIS BROWNE in *Girl's Own P.* June 491/2 Cooks who are afraid to lard the breasts of game or poultry frequently content themselves with barding the same.

† **Bard**, v.² *Obs.* [app. due to confusion of BARD v. and BEARD.] To clip; = BARB v. 2.

1641 *Termes de la Ley* 61 To bard or beard wool, is to cut the head and neck from the other part of the Fleece. 1693 W. ROBERTSON *Phrasol. Gen.* 207 To Bard, or beard wool, *extremitates vellorum tondere*.

† **Bard**, *ppl. a. Obs.* [short for BARDED; perh. influenced by BARRED.] = BARDED 1, 2, BARBED 2.

1581 STYWARD *Martial Discip.* II. 127 The armed men, as well bard as light. 1609 HOLLAND *Amm. Marcel* XVI. x. 63 On bard horses [*cataphracti equites*]... harnessed all over with good corselets, and bard about (*cincti*) with guards of steele. 1607 DRAYTON *Agincourt* (1631) 11 Rich Sables for the Light-horse and the Bard.

† **Bardan** (e. *Obs. rare*. [a. F. *bardane* 'the Clote, burr-dock, or great burr; the noisome, and stinking vermine, called, a Punie' (Cotgr.)]

1. The burdock.

c 1250 in Wright *Voc. (W.)* /557 *Lappa*, bardane, clote.

2. A bug.

1572 BOSSEWELL *Armorie* II. 52 All his body is roughe and sharpe, as the bodie of a Bardan.

† **Bardash**, *Obs.* Also 6 bardass 6-7 bardasso, 7 -assa, -achio. [a. F. *bardache*, cogn. with It. *bardascia*, Sp. *bardajo*, -axo; perh. ad. Arab. *بردج* *bardaj* slave.] A catamite, 'cinædus.'

1548 THOMAS *Ital. Dict.*, *Zanzeri*, bardasses. 1600 O. E. *Repl. Libel* I. II. 43 Publicly maintaining bardassas and concubines. 1633 URQUHART *Rabelais* III. xxv. Bardachio that thou art! 1781 MRS. CENTLIVRE *Plat. Lady Epil.* 190 With your false Calves, Bardash, and Favrites.

Hence **Bardashing**, *vbl. sb. Obs.*

1678 BUTLER *Hud.* III. i. 278 Raptures of Platonick Lashing, And chaste Contemplative Bardashing.

Barded (bārdéd), *ppl. a.* [f. BARD v. + -ED.] Armed, caparisoned, or covered with bardes.

1501 DOUGLAS *Pal. Hon.* I. xlvii. A bardit curser stout and bald. 1535 COVERDALE *Joel* II. 4 They are to loke vpon like bayrded horses. 1596 DANETT *Comines' Hist. Fr.* (1614) 298 Two thousand men of armes barded. 1795 SOUTHEY *Joan of Arc* VI. 300 A man-at-arms upon a barded steed. 1880 DISRAELI *Endym.* lix. 267 The bells of a barded mule announced the Jester.

¶ By confusion or misprint for BARBED.

1598 SYLVESTER *Du Bartas* I. v. 41/3 If the Scolopendra have suckt-in The sowr-sweet morsell with the barded Pin.

† **Bardelle** (le. *Obs. rare*. [a. F. *bardelle* (= It. *bardella*): see BARD sb.²] A pack-saddle.

1603 FLORIO *Montaigne* I. xlviii. (1632) 158 There is nothing accounted more base... than to use saddles or bardells. 1753 CHAMBERS *Cycl. Suppl.*, *Bardelle*... denotes a saddle made in form of a great saddle, but only of cloth stuffed with straw, and tied tight down with packthread, without either leather, wood or iron.

Bardesanist (barde'sanist). [ad. med. L. *Bar-desanista*.] A member of the heretical sect founded in the 2nd century by Bardesanes, of Edessa in Mesopotamia, who, in addition to Manichæan

views of good and evil, held that primeval man had an ethereal body, which was through sin enclosed in a gross carnal one, and that redemption consists in being divested of the latter and restored to the former. Hence **Bardesianism**.

1674 HICKMAN *Hist. Quinquart.* 18 This matter of Manicheism and Bardesianism. 1751 in CHAMBERS *Cycl.*

Bardess (bārdēs), *rare*. [f. BARD sb.¹ + -ESS.] A female bard, a poetess.

1822 *Blackw. Mag.* XII. 657 'The Living Bardesses of Britain.' 1879 *Fam. Her.* 22 Nov. 55/1 Her daughter was a 'Bardess.'

Bardian (bārd'ian), a. [f. BARD sb.¹ + -IAN.] Of or belonging to bardes.

1654 GAULE *Magistrom.* 338 Their bardian odes.

Bardic (bārd'ik), a. [f. as prec. + -IC.] Of, pertaining to, or of the character of, bardes.

1775 T. WARTON *Eng. Poetry* I. Diss. i. 51 note, An argument of the bardic institution being fetched from the east. 1803 W. TAYLOR in *Ann. Rev.* I. 261 The druidic or bardic order among the Cimbri. 1876 GREEN *Short Hist.* IV. § 1 160 The court of Llewellyn was crowded with bardic singers.

Barding (bārd'ing), *vbl. sb.* [f. BARD v.¹ or sb.² + -ING.] Warlike or ornamental covering of a horse.

1536 BELLENDENE *Cron. Scot.* 25 (JAM.) Bellis that hang on their bardynys. 1834 PLANCHÉ *Brit. Costume* 144 The bardings of his horse... are similarly blazoned.

Bardish (bārd'ish), a. [f. BARD sb.¹ + -ISH.]

1. Of or belonging to bardes. (Rather depreciatory.)

1612 SELDEN in Drayton *Poly-olb.* A ij, Incredible reports, and Bardish impostures. a 1790 T. WARTON *Poems* 78 (JOD.) One of the bardish traditions about Stonehenge.

† 2. *Sc. Rude, insolent*; cf. BARDY. *Obs.*

a 1662 R. BAILLIE *Lett.* (1775) I. 311 (JAM.) The rest of that day (was)... mispent with the alteration of that bardish man Mr. D. Dogleish.

Bardism (bārd'izm), [f. as prec. + -ISM.] The system, doctrine, or principles of bardes.

1776 M. DAVIES *Ath. Brit.* II. 191 Welsh poetick Bardism is best cultivated in the Ionicks of Merionethshire. 1803 *Reader* No. 30. 75 That native Bardism which had been part and parcel of the aboriginal Druidism.

† **Bardist**, *Obs. rare*. [f. as prec. + -IST.] An adherent or follower of the bardes.

1838 J. HARVEY *Discours. Probl.* 84 Neither Persian Magician... nor French Druyde or Bardist.

Bardlet (bārd'let), [See -LET.] = next.

1807 *Athenæum* No. 2062. 587/2 The gossamer conceits of our bardlet. 1883 R. NOEL in *Contemp. Rev.* Nov. 716 That the Universe is... 'a suck and a sell'... is... the encouraging strain of our latest bardlets.

Bardling (bārd'ling), [f. as prec. + -LING.] A young or inexperienced poet; a poetaster.

1813 G. COLMAN *Br. Grins. Vagaries Vind.* liv. The bardling who in afternoons Warbles his published lays to melting tunes. 1858 BAILEY *Age* 64 So woe to you young bardlings scant of brains.

|| **Bardocucullus**, *Obs.* [L.] A Gallic peasant's woollen cloak, with a hood or cowl, worn also by monks. Hence **Bardocucullated** (= F. *bardocucullé*), wearing a cowed cloak.

1601 CORYAT *Cruddities* 225 A Bardocucullus, that is, a Shepherd's ragged and weather-beaten cloake. 1708 MOTTEUX *Rabelais* v. iii. These monkhawks whom you see bardocucullated with a Bag.

Bardship, [f. BARD sb.¹ + -SHIP.] The office, dignity, or personality of a bard; cf. *lordship*.

1707 BURNS *Border Tour* (Globe) 569 The Captain... showed a particular respect to my bardship. 1811 BYRON *Hints from Hor.* 478 Boys shall hunt your bardship up and down.

Bardy (bārd'i), a. *Sc.* [Origin uncertain; perh. f. BARD sb.¹ sense 2.] Bold-faced, defiant; audacious, pert. Hence **Bardily adv.**, **Bardiness**.

1788 R. GALLOWAY *Poems* 202 (JAM.) Shun the pert and bardy dame, Whose words run swiftly void of sense. *Ibid.* 64 They, bardily, and hardily, Fac'd home or foreign foe.

1806 J. WILSON *Noct. Ambr.* Wks. 1855 I. 118 Haudin up the... chin of him in a maist bardy and impertinent manner.

Bare (bær), a., *adv.*, sb. Forms: 1 bær, 3 bar, 4-5 baar (5-8 *Sc. bair*), 2- bare. [Common Teut.: OE. *bær* (= OS., OHG., MHG. *bar*, MDu. *baer*, G. and Dp. *baar*, ON. *berr*, Da., Sw. *bar*):= OTeut. **haz-oz*, cogn. w. Lith. *basas*, OSlav. *bošū* barefoot; Aryan **bhos-ōs*. The original short vowel is lengthened in mod. Eng., Du., and Ger.]

A. *adj.* 1. Without covering.

1. Of the body or its parts: Unclothed, naked, nude. a 1000 *Cadmon's Gen.* (Grein) 783 Bare hie gesāwon heora lichoman. 1297 R. GLOUC. 514 Manie in hor bare fless hom late croici vate. 1386 CHAUCER *Knts.* T. 900 On hir bare knees adoun they falle. 1400 *Destr. Troy* xxx. 1269 Fouden bare in his bed. 1596 SHAKS. *Merch.* V. iv. i. 252 Lay bare your bosome. 1611 BIBLE *Isa.* xlvii. 2 Make bare the legge, vncover the thigh. 1713 STEELE *Englishm.* No. 1. 2 He filled my Hat... and then put it upon my bare Head. 1843 *Arab. Nts.* (Rtdg.) 229 Robbers, who stripped him as bare as my hand.

b. Stripped to the shirt or other under-garment; cf. *naked*, Gr. *γυμνός*.

1330 R. BRUNNE *Chron.* 161 Bare in serke and breke Isaac oway fled. 1866 KINGSLEY *Herew.* xiv. 181 You bid him go and fight in his bare shirt.

† c. *Bare eye*: cf. 'naked eye.' *Obs.*

1664 POWER *Exp. Philos.* I. 18 Whose whole bulk to the bare eye is quite indiscernible. 1790 IMISON *Sch. Art.* I. 263 Holds his finger... between his bare eye and an object.

2. With the head uncovered. *arch.* = BARE-HEADED.

c 1386 CHAUCER *Prolog.* 685 Dischevele, sauf his cappe, he rood al bare. 1506 SHAKS. *Merch.* V. II. ix. 44 How many then should couer that stand bare? 1633 G. HERBERT *Ch. Porch.* lxviii. When once thy foot enters the church, be bare. a 1674 CLARENDON *Hist. Reb.* III. xvi. 594 They all stood bare, whilst the Heraulds proclaim'd the King.

3. *fig.* Unconcealed, undisguised, open to view.

c 950 *Lindisf. Gosp.* Matt. v. 46 Ah ne & bær-sunnigzō dīs doas? 1506 LINDALE *Heb.* iv. 13 All thynges are naked and bare unto the eyes off hym. 1671 MILTON *Samson* 902 Bare in thy guilt how foul must thou appear! 1781 COWPER *Charity* 494 He hides behind a magisterial air His own offences, and strips others bare. 1807 KEBLE *Chr. Y.* 4 S. Lent xii. Bare to the rude world's withering view.

4. Of natural objects, as earth, heavens, trees: Without such covering as they have at other times,

e.g. without vegetation, clouds, bark, foliage, etc.

c 885 K. ÆLFRED *Booth.* xxxiv. § 10 Summa on clufum, summe on barum sonum. c 1175 *Lamb. Hom.* 181 Durh ane godliese wude in-to ane bare feld. a 1300 *Cursor M.* 1321 Branches... o bark al bare. 1593 FITZGER. *Serv.* xxv. (1539) 54 They wyll ate the grounde moste barest. 1611 BIBLE *Joel* I. 7 He hath... laked my figge tree: he hath made it cleane bare. 1700 *Land. Gaz.* No. 5827/1 The Country between the two Armies being eaten bare. 1806 WORDSW. *Ode Immort.* 13 The Moon doth with delight Look round her when the heavens are bare. 1866 STANLEY *Jew. Ch.* (1877) I. II. 22 Hills which are now bare were then covered with forest.

5. Of persons and animals: Stripped of a natural covering; deprived of hair, wool, flesh, etc.; bald.

a 1300 *Cursor M.* 5165 His heued it was all bar for eild. 1387 TREVISA *Higden* I. 115 Golgotha is to menyngye a bar scole. c 1450 HENRYSON *Tale of Dog* 112 The Scheip... Nakit and bair, syne to the feild couth pas. 1501 SHAKS. *Two Gent.* iv. i. 36 The bare scalpe of Robin Hoodes fat Fryer. 1703-94 BLAKE *Chimney-sv.* 7 When your head's bare, You know that the soot cannot spoil your white hair.

6. Wanting appropriate covering, equipment, or array; unfurnished, uncovered.

c 1200 *Trin. Coll. Hom.* 139 Bare corb to bedde, and hard ston to bolstre. c 1420 *Sir Amadace* xiv. For his mete he wold not spare, Burdes in the halle were neuyr bare. c 1600 *Rob. Hood* (Ritson) xvi. 44 When others cast in their bated hooks, The bare lines into the sea cast he. 1607 TOPSELL *Four-f. Beasts* 240 It is good to use your horse to backing both saddled and bare. 1728 SEWEL *Hist. Quakers* (1795) I. iv. 254 Fain to lie upon the bare boards. 1810 SCOTT *Lady of L.* I. xi. Nor were these earth-born Castles bare, Nor lacked they many a banner fair.

b. Without armour or weapons, unarmed. ? *Obs.* 1205 LAV. 17346 pa Irise weoren bare. c 1340 *Gaw. & Gr. Knt.* 277 If you craue batayl bare, Here faylez you not to fyzt. 1549 CHEKE *Hurt. Sedit.* (1641) 25 Yee... hewed him bare, whom yee could not hurt armed. 1604 SHAKS. *Oth.* I. iii. 175 Men do their broken Weapons rather vse, Then their bare hands.

c. Of cloth: Napless, threadbare. Of weapons: Unsheathed. *Bare poles* in *Naut.*: masts with no sails set.

[c 1386 CHAUCER *Prolog.* 260 With thredbare cope, as is a poure scolere.] 1483 *Act 1 Rich.* III. viii. Pream., Course Clothes... bare of Threde. 1591 SHAKS. *Two Gent.* II. iv. 45 Their bare Lueries. 1604 — *Oth.* v. i. 3 Weare thy good Rapier bare. 1753 CHAMBERS *Cycl. Suppl.* s. v. A cloth is said to be bare or naked, when the nap is too short. 1780 COXE *Russ. Disc.* 130 Drove 24 hours under bare poles. 1855 TENNYSON *Lt. Brigade*, Flash'd all their sabres bare.

II. Stripped of surroundings, contents, property.

† 7. Defenceless, unprotected, deserted. *Obs.*

1297 R. GLOUC. 388 Pe wule hii were in Normandye & Engeland so bare. c 1400 *Destr. Troy* iv. 1320 So bare leuyt, Vmfolding with his fōs pat he ne fle might. 1551 EDW. VI. *Lit. Rem.* (1858) II. 353 If he found a bare company... to set upon them.

† 8. Laid waste, desolate. *Obs.*

c 1305 *St. Edm. King* 90 in E. E. P. (1862) 87 Robbede al pat he fond & makede pane toun bar. c 1374 CHAUCER *Anel. & Arc.* 62 So desolate dothe Thebes and so bare. 1593 SHAKS. *Lycr.* 1741 Like a late-sack'd islapd... Bare and unpeopled. 1648 MILTON *Sonn.* viii. To save the Athenian walls from ruin bare.

9. Without possessions, destitute, indigent, needy; scantily furnished. *Const. of, rarely in:* see b.

1205 LAV. 3420 Pat ich bare site, wunnen biræued. c 1280 *Sarniun* 44 in E. E. P. (1862) 5 He nel nozt leue his eir al bare. c 1480 *Childe Bristow* 554 in Hazl. E. P. P. (1864) 131 First was riche and sitten bare. 1538 BAILE *Three Lawes* 1084 As bare as Job. 1755 SMOLLETT *Quix.* (1803) I. 233 Bare I was born, and bare I remain. 1807 KEBLE *Chr. Y.* Sexages. ix. Yet mercy hath not left us bare.

b. c 1220 *Bestiary* 144 in O. E. Misc. 5 Danne ðe neddre is... bare of his brest alter. c 1380 *Sir Ferriumb.* 1361 Of blisse y am al bare. 1628 SIR T. BROWNE *Hydriot.* i. (1736) 16 We are bare in Historical Particulars. 1865 CARLYLE *Fredk. Gt.* III. ix. vii. 127 Old Father Margraf... does always keep us frightfully bare in money. 1883 *Ch. Times* 9 Nov. 813/2 Lutheranism is more bare of the attribute of saintliness than any other creed held by a large body of Christians.

10. Destitute or defective in various other respects: a. Without contents, empty.

1390 LANGL. *Rich. Redeless* IV. 21 No ping y-laste but the bare baggis. a 1700 DRYDEN (J.) A bare treasury. *Nursery Rime, Mother Hubbard*, When she got there the cupboard was bare.

† b. Poor in quality, paltry, worthless. *Obs.*

1390 LANGL. *Rich. Redeless* IV. 70 So blynde and so ballid and bare was þe reson. c 1400 *Destr. Troy* vi. 2502 Soche bargens are bytter, bar hafe a bare end. 1598 SHAKS. *Ven. & Ad.* 188 What bare excuses maketh thou to be gone. 1596 — *Hen. IV.* III. II. 13 Such poore, such bare... attempts.

c. Without literary or artistic effect; bald, meagre, unadorned.

c1400 *Destr. Troy* Prol. 74 Cornelius translated it . . . but he brought it so breff, and so bare leuyt, þat no lede might have lykynge to loke þerappon. 1597 *MORLEY Introd. Mus.* 84 In long resting the harmonie seemeth bare. 1798 *FERRIAR Eng. Hist. in Illustr. Sterne* 248 The bare line of general narration is so happily ornamented.

† d. Simple, without luxury; unpolished, rude.

1583 *STUBBS Anat. Abs.* ii. 72 Better it is to have bare feeding than none at all. c1596 *SPENSER (J.)* Yet was their manners then but bare and plain. 1603 *KNOLLES Hist. Turks* (1621) 76 This bare Northern people [the Tartars].

† e. Bare wind in Naut.: one too much ahead to fill the sails well; scant. *Obs.*

1582 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 1744/4 This morning sailed the whole Fleet . . . with a bare Wind at N.W. and by N. 1691 *Ibid.* No. 2671/4 Having but a bare Wind, and little of it. 1694 *LUTTRELL Brief Rel.* III. 320 The whole fleet was out of sight, with a bare wind at North.

III. Without anything of the nature of addition.

II. Without addition, mere, simple; — and nothing else, — only. Bare contract in Law: an unconditional promise or surrender.

c1800 *Moral Ode* 137 in *Lamb. Hom.* 167 Heide he bon þer enne dei oðer twa bare tide. c1315 *SHOREHAM* 35 Man moze issued be Thorþ bare repentance. 1393 *GOWER Conf.* II. 286, I set it at no more accompt, Than wolde a bare straw amount. 1577 *HAMMER Anc. Eccl. Hist.* (1619) 104 They taught Christ to be . . . but a bare Man. 1633 *G. HERBERT Love Unkn.* 40 in *Temple* 122 Many drunk bare wine. 1641 *Termes de la Ley* 211 Bare contract, or naked promise, is where a man bargaineth or selleth his lands, or goods . . . and there is no recompence appointed to him for the doing thereof . . . This is a naked contract, and voyd in Law. 1697 *Cress D'Annoy's Trav.* (1706) 109 Who can do you hurt by bare looking on you. 1711 *ADDISON Spect.* No. 69, Nature indeed furnishes us with the bare Necessaries of Life. 1769 *JUNIUS Lett.* xiii. 56 A bare contradiction will have no weight. 1844 *LD. BROUGHAM Brit. Const.* xix. § 6 (1862) 373 A bare majority of seven to five.

† 12. From the idea of completeness in itself; sheer, absolute, very, actual. *Obs.*

1505 *LAV.* 20876 Ich habbe hine idriuen: to þan bare dæde. a1330 *Sire Degarri* 561 Thei he be the bare qued, He schal a-doune. c1400 *Destr. Troy* xxiv. 9682 With strong battell & brem till the bare night. *Ibid.* 10805 Born to be burgh in the bare tyme, Honorable Ector in armes to helpe.

IV. Comb. a. specially bare-arse, dial. name of the Little Grebe; to go on bare-board, to play without a stake on the gaming-table; bare-bone, a lean, skinny person; bare-man, obs. term in *Sc. Law* for a bankrupt or 'broken' man.

b. adjs. formed by bare qualifying a sb., as bare-breech, -leg, -limb, bare-weight (also adv.: see 11), BARE-FOOT, -HEAD, equivalent in sense to c. para-synthetic adjs. formed on prec. + -ED, as bare-armed, (having the arms bare), bare-breeched, -chested, legged, -throated, -walled. d. ppl. adjs. in which bare acts as a verbal complement, as bare-bitten, -eaten, -gnawed, -worn.

a. 1645 *FULLER Ch. Hist.* vi. 3 III. 493 To vye ready silver with the King of Spain, when he . . . was fain to go on bare-board. 1596 *SHAKS. 1 Hen. IV.* iv. 358 Heere comes leane Jacke, heere comes bare-bone. 1581 *Acts Jas. VI* (1597) § 110 To bound out bare-men and vagabounds, to the attempting of sik foul. en. ornaments. 1609 *SKENE Reg. Maj.* Table 66 Bairman . . . is he quha makes cession of his gudes and geir to his creditours. a1763 *SHENSTONE Ess. Wks.* (1765) 172 A Miser, if honest, can be only honest bare-weight. 1801 *HAN. MORE Wks.* VIII. 248 Such bare-weight protestants prudently condition for retaining the Popish doctrine of indulgences.

b. 1505 [see BAREFOOT]. 1483 *Cath. Angl.* 21/1 Barlege, incaligatus. 1577 *STANHYST Descr. Ire.* in *Holinsh.* VI. 51 Such barebrech brats as swarme in the English pale. 1583 — *Aeneid* 137 Baerlym swartye Pyramon. 1587 *Cens. Loyall Subj.* (Collier) 25 Bareleg and barefoot they wandred.

c. c1350 *Will. Palerne* 1767 A barlegged bold boie. 1562 *J. HEYWOOD Prov. & Epigr.* (1867) 16 To beg a breeche of a bare arst man. 1580 *North Plutarch* (1676) 289 He would go out bare-necked to the waste. 1595 *SHAKS. John* v. ii. 177 In his fore-head sits A bare-rib'd death. 1647 *R. STAPYLTON Juvenal* 209 Then must bare-finger'd (=ringless) Pollio beg or fast. 1814 *SCOTT Wat.* xv. Four bare-legged dairy-maids. 1868 — *F. M. Perth* vi. These bare-breeched Dunneiwassals. 1873 *SYMONDS Grk. Poets* xii. 403 Stately maidens and bare-chested youths.

d. 1577 tr. *Bullinger's Decades* Pref., Ministers . . . bare bitten of their Patrons. 1603 *FLORIO Montaigne* i. xxvii. (1632) 96 A subject, common, bare-worne, and wyer-drawne. 1605 *SHAKS. Lear* v. iii. 122 By Treasons tooth bare-gnawne. 1697 *MAY Lucan* ix. 7 On their bare-eaten ground. 1770 *GOLDSM. Des. Vill.* 308 Ev'n the bareworn common is denied.

B. adv. [cf. Sw. *bara* only, Ger. *baar*.]

† 1. Thoroughly, completely. (Cf. A 12.) *Obs. rare.* c1340 *Gaw. & Gr. Knt.* 465 3et breued watz hit ful bare, A meruayl among þo menne.

2. With numeral adjs.: No more than, at most; scarcely, BARELY. *arch. or Obs.*

c1325 *E. E. Allit. P. B.* 1573 Out-taken bare two & þenne he þe pryde. 1597 *J. PAYNE Royal Exch.* 46 Errors . . . of bare 80 yerres continuans. 1678 *OTWAY Friendsh. in F.* 24 As hot-headed with my bare two Bottles, as a drunken Prentice. 1786 *Lond. Gaz.* 5410/4 Weighs bare ten Grains.

† C. sb. [the adj. used absol.] *Obs.*

† 1. A naked part of the body; the bare skin. c1300 *St. Brandan* 612 And heled al aboute his bodi, nas ther no bar on him belived. c1400 *Destr. Troy* xiv. 5821 Hit shot þrough . . . þe shire maille, to be bare of þe body. 1506 *TINDALE Mark* xiv. 51 Cloothed in linnen apoun the

bare. 1611 *BEAUM & FL. King & No K.* ii. 45 If ever I touch'd any bare of her.

fig. c1600 *MARSTON* (in Webster), You have touched the very bare of truth.

† 2. A bare space or place. *Obs.*

1683-4 *St. Frost* (1844) *Introd.* 19 Her [Thames'] watry green [shou'd] be turn'd into a bare. 1706 *PHILLIPS, Bare*, a Place without Grass, made smooth to Bowl in.

Bare (bē-), v. [OE. *barian (in *abarian*), f. *bar* BARE a.; cf. also *berian*, ON. *bera*, OHG. *barōn*.]

1. trans. To make or lay bare, uncover, open to view; to unsheathe (a weapon).

a1000 *Beowulf* 2482 Benc-þelu beredon. a1300 *Cursor M.* 1878 Þorow a fowel . . . may we know if þe erp barid be. c1400 *Pallad. on Husb.* iv. 14 The pith to bare is not thaire kynde. 1601 *SHAKS. Jul. C.* i. iii. 49 And thus vnbarid . . . Hauē bar'd my Bosome to the Thunder-stone. a1725 *POPE Odys.* xix. 526 His tusks . . . the sinewy fibres tore. And bar'd the bone. 1896 *GREEN Short Hist.* iv. § 5 (1882) 197 Earl Warrenne bare a rusty sword. 1884 *TENNYSON Becket* 133 He bows, he bares his head.

2. fig. To disclose, reveal, make manifest.

[c1000 *ÆLFRIC Joshua* ii. 20 Gif ðu abarast ðre spræc.] c1250 *Gen. & Ex.* 1912 His fader he it gan vn-hillen & bare. c1325 *E. E. Allit. P. B.* 1149 Pat watz bared in Babyloyn. a1625 *BROME City Wit* iv. ii. To fall out and bare one anothers secrets. 1764 *GOLDSM. Trav.* 390 Tear off reserve, and bare my swelling heart. 1822 *B. CORNWALL Julian Apost.* They did bare the secrets of the grave.

3. To strip, divest. *Const. of, from.*

c1440 *HVLTON Scala Perf.* (W. de W. 1494) ii. xx, Vp'tyll a soule can . . . baren [bareyn 1533] hym from all the good dedes that he dooth. 1443 *HEN. VI* in *Ellis Orig. Lett.* iii. 34 I. 80 Werres . . . haue bared vs gretely of tresore. 1563 *SACKVILLE Myrr. Mag. Induct.* 2 With blustering blastes had al ybared the treen. 1857 *LIVINGSTONE Trav.* xix. 367 He quite bared his garden in feeding us. 1858 *J. MARTINEAU Stud. Chr.* 42 Stripped of every disguise, and bared of all that is conventional.

Bare, obs. form of BOAR, BEAR.

Bareback (bē-ɪbæk), a., adv. = BARE-BACKED 2.

b. As adv. with noun of action.

1562 *J. HEYWOOD Prov. & Epigr.* (1867) 24 Where saddles lacke Better ride on a pad, than on the horse bare backe. *Mod.* The renowned bareback rider.

Bare-backed (bē-ɪbækt), a. [see BARE a. 6.]

1. With the back bare.

1831 *CARLYLE Sart. Res.* iii. vii. Some barefooted, some almost bare-backed.

2. esp. Of a horse: Without saddle, unsaddled; also with ride as adv.

1668 *LE GAYS tr. Barclay's Argenis* 123 A Horse . . . not bare-backed . . . but with those trappings which the kings there did vse. 1854 *J. STEPHENS Centr. Amer.* 277 Mounted on a bare-backed horse.

|| Bareca, -ka (bar-čā). [a. Sp. *barca*, *barrica*; cf. *BARRICO*.] A small cask or keg, a BREAKER. 1773 in *Hawkesworth Voy. X.* 439 Barecas, or small casks which are filled at the head. 1867 *SMYTH Sailor's Word-bk.*, *Baraka*. 1875 *BEDFORD Sailor's Pocket-bk.* v. 155 A Bareca for Beacon should be fitted as a buoy.

Bared (bē-ɪd), ppl. a. [f. BARE v. + -ED.]

1. Made bare, exposed to view, naked, nude.

a1300 [see BARE v. 1.] 1552 *HULOET, Bared, nudatus*. 1583 *BABINGTON Commandm.* (1590) 432 As good Sem and Japheth did to their bared father. 1824 *TENNYSON Enone* 137 Her clear and bared limbs.

2. Stripped, denuded, cleared of covering.

1380 *WYCLIF Num.* xx. 19 Bi the beryd weye [Vulg. *via trita*] he shulen goon. 1579 *SPENSER Sheph. Cal.* Feb. 112 His bared boughes were beaten with stormes. 1825 *WATER-TON Wander.* i. i. 88 A rood or two of bared ground.

Barefaced (bē-ɪfɛst), a. (in use sometimes approaching an adv.; cf. BAREFOOT, -ED).

1. With the face uncovered: hence a. with no hair on the face, beardless, whiskerless, also fig.; b. without mask or vizard.

1590 *SHAKS. Mids. N.* i. ii. 100 Some of your French Crownes haue no haire at all, and then you will play bare-fac'd. 1602 — *Ham.* iv. v. 164 They bore him bare fac'd on the Beer. a1762 *LADY MONTAGUE Lett.* xcii. 151 The . . . ball, to which he has invited a few bare-faced, and the whole town en masque. 1865 *BLACKMORE Lorna D.* vii. 37 Under the foot of a barefaced hill. 1883 *HARPER's Mag.* Feb. 485/2 Though others be by whiskers graced, A lawyer can't be too barefaced [cf. 3 a].

2. Unconcealed, undisguised, avowed, open. *arch.*

1605 *SHAKS. Macb.* iii. i. 119 Though I could with bare-fac'd power sweep him from my sight. 1607 *R. LESTRANGE Answ. Diss.* 1, I have liv'd Open and Barefaced . . . I will not dye in a Disguise. 1766 tr. *Beccaria's Ess. Crimes* xx. (1793) 77 The assaults of barefaced and open tyranny.

3. Hence by gradual pejoration: Audacious, impudent, shameless: a. of persons, b. of actions, etc.

a. a1674 *CLARENDON Hist. Reb.* (1704) III. xiii. 365 They barefaced own'd all that the Commissioners had propounded. 1700 *OZELL Vertot's Rom. Rep.* II. xiii. 260 That Cæsar was invading the Public Liberty, barefaced. 1838 *DICKENS O. Twist* iii. 'Of all the artful and designing orphans . . . you are one of the most bare-facedest.'

b. 1712 *ADDISON Spect.* No. 458 P. 7 Hypocrisy is not so pernicious as bare-faced Irreligion. 1850 *MRS. STOWE Uncle Tom's C.* xx. 207 Indignant at the barefaced lie.

Barefacedly, adv. [f. prec. + -LY 2.] In a barefaced manner; openly, shamelessly.

1684 *BURNET tr. More's Utop.* 56 In Courts . . . a man must bare-facely approve of the worst Councils. 1865 *CARLYLE Fredk. Gt.* IV. xii. xi. 244 Barefacedly unjust.

Barefacedness, [f. as prec. + -NESS.] Openness, effrontery, shamelessness.

a1674 *CLARENDON Hist. Reb.* I. ii. 117 They resorted . . . to Mass . . . with the same Barefacedness. 1825 *COBBETT Rur. Rider* 427 The barefacedness of the lie.

Barefoot (bē-ɪfʊt), a. and adv. Rarely 5-6 barefeet (pl.). [OE. *bærfōt*, early ME. *barfot*; cf. ON. *bærfætt* adj., LG. *barfēt*, G. *barfuss*. See BARE a. IV.] With the feet bare or naked, without shoes or stockings on: a. as adj., passing (with verbs of motion) into b. adv.

a. c1000 *Peccat. Med.* (Bosw.) *Bærfōt, nudipes*. 1205 *LAV.* 8843 Sone he dude hine bar-fot [1250 barefoot]. a1300 *Cursor M.* 6072 Lok þat þai be scod ilkan . . . and barfote nan. 1592 *SHAKS. Rom. & Jul.* v. ii. 5 Going to find a barefoote Brother out. 1670 *Hist. Jeter* 28 The Covent of the Bare-foot Friars. 1816 *J. HOBHOUSE Hist. Illustr.* 253 The Emperor . . . undertook a barefoot pilgrimage to Mount Gar-ganis. 1870 *LOWELL Study Wind.* 43 Burns, whose barefoot Muse got the color in her cheeks by vigorous exercise in all weathers.

b. c1320 *Ancre. R.* 420 Ine sumer . . . to gon and sitten barfoot. c1386 *CHAUCER Frankl. T.* 349 Thy Temple in Delphos wol I barefoot seke. 1483 *CAXTON Gold. Leg.* 249/2 Blessid chylidren . . . haue gone upon the coles brennyng barefeet. 1562 *J. HEYWOOD Prov. & Epigr.* (1867) 37 Who waitth for dead men shoen, shall go long barefoote. 1602 *SOUTH 12 Serm.* (1697) I. 40 He that thinks to expiate a sin by going barefoot, does the Penance of a Goose. 1856 *FRAUDS Hist. Eng.* I. 81 Henry walked barefoot through the streets.

Bare-footed, a. [f. prec. + -ED.] = prec., and more frequently used by recent writers.

a. c1350 *LD. BERNERS Arth. Lyt. Bryt.* (1814) 268 Chanons, preestes, and clarkes . . . all barefooted. 1598 *HAKLUYT Voy.* I. 109 Wee stode . . . bare-footed and bare-headed. 1670 *G. H. Hist. Cardinals* i. ii. 46 The Preacher was a bare-footed Franciscan. 1824 *Q. VICTORIA More Leaves* 123 Picturesque barefooted lasses.

b. 1780 *COKE Russ. Disc.* 104 The greatest part go bare-footed. 1847 *LONGF. Ev.* ii. i. Thus did that poor soul wander . . . Bleeding, barefooted over the shards and thorns.

|| Barege (bare'z). [Fr.; from *Barèges* or *Barège*, a village in the Hautes Pyrénées, France.]

1. A light, silky dress-fabric, resembling gauze, originally made at Barèges.

1851 *Times* 4 Apr. 11/2 Barege shawls and silks. 1864 *Linnet's Trial* i. iii. iv. 258 Miss Carr wore a slate-coloured barege.

2. A mineral water obtained at Barèges. Hence Barégin(e), a glairy organic substance found in many mineral waters after exposure to the air.

1811 *HOOPER Med. Dict.*, *Barege* waters are remarkable for a very smooth soapy feel. 1863 *WATTS Dict. Chem.* I. 500 Baregin is in the moist state a transparent, gelatinous, nearly colourless substance . . . When dried, it forms a horny mass.

Barehead (bē-ɪhɛd), a. and adv. *arch.* = next.

c1320 *Song Merc.* 75 in *E. E. P.* (1862) 120 Barehead and barefoot gan I go. c1485 *Digby Myst.* (1882) iii. 147 Stond bare hed, ye beggars! 1622 *ROWLANDS Good News* 25 Barehead curtesie doth entertaine My worship with What lacke you. 1854 *Blackw. Mag.* LX XVI. 424 He was obliged, barehead, to seek pardon from the injured party.

Bare-headed (bē-ɪhɛdɛd), a. and adv. [f. prec. : see BARE a. IV; cf. barefoot(ed).] With the head uncovered, esp. as a token of respect. Hence Bare-headedness.

c1350 *LD. BERNERS Arth. Lyt. Bryt.* (1814) 288 He was fayre & gracuous, and he was bare hedyd. 1601 *WEEVER Mirr. Mart.*, *Sir J. Oldcastle* Ded., I was contented he should stand bare-headed to these churlish times. 1709 *STEELE Tatler* No. 39 P. 1 You shall see an Earl walk bare-headed to the Son of the meanest Artificer. 1822 *SCOTT Nigel* iii, I was a bare-headed girl at the time. a1696 *Br. Hall Rem.* 237 (L.) Bareheadedness was in Corinth . . . a token of honour.

† Barehide. *Obs.* Also 5-6 barhide, 7 bearehide. 1 A hide with the hair removed, or one undressed.

c1450 in *Wülcker Voc.* /567 *Barusia*, barhyde. /575 *Co-risterium*, barhyde. 1552 *Act* 5 & 6 *Edu. VI.* xv. § 2 Leather Pots, Tankards, Barhides, or any other Wares of Leather. 1611 *FLORIO, Spassaconerta*, a great hide to couer cartes, in Court we call them beare-hides. 1689 *Ord. R. Househ.* 304 For trunks, chests, hampers, barehides . . . and also for little carts.

Bareish, variant spelling of BARISH a.

Barel, obs. form of BARREL.

Barely (bē-ɪli), adv. [f. BARE a. + -LY 2.]

1. Nakedly, without covering, nudely.

1483 *Cath. Angl.* 21/1 Barely, vbi nakedly. 1570 *LEVINS Manip.* /101 Barely, nude. 1601 *SHAKS. All's Well* iv. ii. 18 You barely leaue our thornes to prick our selues.

2. Openly, without disguise or concealment, clearly, plainly.

c1950 *Lindisf. Gosp.* John xvi. 29 Nu . . . bærlice ðu spræces. 1352 *MINOT Poems* iii. (1795) 38 Thaire leders may thai barely ban. a1670 *HACKET Cent. Serm.* (1675) 549 Here is the Resurrection of our Saviour barely and positively affirmed. 1875 *STUBBS Const. Hist.* II. xvii. 604 When the question is put barely before them they avoid committing themselves.

† 3. Without qualification or reserve, unconditionally; wholly, completely; absolutely, positively. *Obs.* c1340 *Gaw. & Gr. Knt.* 548, I am bound to be bur barely to morme, To seche þe gome of þe grene. c1400 *Destr. Troy* xxix. 12090 He besit hym barly þe burde forto seche. *Ibid.* xxv. 10132 A space for his spilt men spedely to graue, And bryng hom to berynes, barly no more. c1425 *WYNTOUN Cron.* vii. v. 125 Bot (=unless) barly þat þe Patrowne Suld gyve. hys Presentatowne.

4. Merely, simply, only. *arch.*

1577 *HAMMER Anc. Eccl. Hist.* (1619) 526 Not barely in word, but truly in deed. 1622 *NORRIS Hieracles* 89 Goodness of action does not consist barely in not sinning. 1712

c 1460 *Towneley Myst.* 313 Of this kyrkchaterars here ar

a mence. Of bargainers and okerars and lufars of symonee. 1558 HULOET, Bargayner, or bargayne maker. 1638 SHEKWOOD, A bargainer, barguignard. 1658 in Burton *Diary* (1828) III. 221 It would come better from another House, than from us, that are bargainers for the people. 1848 THACKERAY *Van Fair* xvii. The sight of the comfortable old house, ransacked by brokers and bargainers. 1857 MISS WINKWORTH *Tauler's Life* 123 Knowing how full the world is of such bargainers with God, among monks and nuns.

† 2. = BARGAINOR. Obs.

1608 COKE *On Litt.* 218a. The state is not reuested in the Bargainer before a re-entry.

† 3. (Sc.) A quarreller, wrangler, bully. Obs. c 1500 DUNBAR *Dance* 34 Bostaris, braggaris, and barganers. All bodin in feir of weir.

Bargaining, *vbl. sb.* [f. BARGAIN v. + -ING¹.]

1. Trafficking, trading, buying and selling. 1401 *Pol. Poems* (1859) II. 77 3e built your house with beggery, bargenyng and robbery. 1526 TINDALE *Thess.* iii. 6 And defraude his brother in bargenyng. 1797 W. MATHER *Yng. Man's Comp.* 396 By Bartering, is meant Goods for Goods. By Bargaining, is understood Money for Goods. 1788 BURNS *Lett.* 26 May, Extremely fortunate in all my buyings and bargainings.

2. Discussion of the terms of a purchase or contract; chaffering, haggling; negotiation.

1669 MARVELL *To Mayor of Hull* Wks. I. 122 A Bill .. against .. bargaining for elections to Parliament. 1707 T. JEFFERSON *Writ.* (1859) II. 154, I do not understand bargaining, nor possess the dexterity requisite for the purpose. 1876 FAWCETT *Pol. Econ.* II. ix. 249 The word bargaining implies an antagonism of interest.

† 3. (Sc.) Wrangling, contest, struggle, fighting. 1375 BARBOUR *Bruce* l. 306 Bar trawlays, and barganyngis. 1513 DOUGLAS *Eneis* l. v. 61 Eneas with hideos barganyng, In Itale thrawart peple sail down thyrng.

Bargainor (bā:rgenr¹). *Law.* [f. as prec. + -OR.] The person making an agreement of bargain and sale of real property; the seller.

1608 FULBECKE *1st Pt. Paroll* 13 The bargainor should leuie a fine to the bargainee. 1768 BLACKSTONE *Comm.* II. 338 A real contract, whereby the bargainor for some pecuniary consideration bargains and sells, that is, contracts to convey, the land to the bargainee. 1876 DIGBY *Real Prop.* vi. 294 The bargainor was in the view of the Chancellor the bare legal owner.

Bargander, obs. form of BARGANDER.

Bargaret, variant of BARGERET.

Barge (bārdz), *sb.* Forms: 4- barge, 4-7 berge, (7 barg). [a. OF. *barge* (= Pr. *barga*, c 1180, med.L. *barga*), of which the L. type might be either *barga* or **bārika*. Diez favours the latter, taking it as a possible derivative of L. *bāris*, Gr. *Bāpis*, a kind of boat used on the Nile, an Egyptian word (Coptic *bari* a little pleasure-boat); but there is no evidence that this word was ever used in the West. As to *barga* see BARK sb.2

If *barge* was, as seems certain, the same as *barca*, BARK sb.3, it was originally a ship's boat, used as a lighter, etc.; in OF., 13th c., we still find 'la barge de la nef' (Littre); cf. senses 2-4. But, as with *barca*, the name was extended to a boat or small ship with sails; and this was the first use in English: see sense 1. After the introduction (by Caxton) of *barque*, *barke* from 15th c. Fr., that word took the place of *barge*, which, after 1600, is found in the sense of 'ship' only in translators or historians. The modern senses revert more nearly to that of the original *barca*.]

† 1. A small sea-going vessel with sails: used specifically for one next in size above the BALINGER, and generally as = Ship, vessel (in which use it is now superseded by BARK.) Obs. (except when historians reproduce it in the specific sense.)

a 1300 *Cursor M.* 24840 Pat ilke waw til obir it west, And bremli to þa barge best. c 1300 K. *Alis*. 852 Mid heore atire, schipes and barge They gan money for to charge. c 1386 CHAUCER *Prolog.* 410 His barge cycled was the Maude-layne. c 1400 *Destr. Troy* xxx. 12406 Relikes of troy, Pat he [Antenor] brought in his barge to the bare yle. a 1422 HEN. V in Ellis *Orig. Lett.* III. 31 l. 72 Owt grete shippes, carrakes, barges, and balyngers. c 1440 LONELICH *Graill* xxxv. 112 Alle the sees .. that schepis or barges inne mown go. 1568 LD. SEMPLE *Fleming Bark*, I have a little Fleming Barge. 1654 NEEDHAM *U. Selden's Mare* CL 301 Two Ships, two Barges and two Ballingers armed and fitted for war. 1875 STUBBS *Const. Hist.* III. 128 (transl. *Rot. Parl.* an. 1442) Each ship attended by a barge of eighty men, and a balynger of forty; also four 'spynges' of twenty-five men.

† 2. fig. (cf. bark, ship.) Obs.

1566 SKELTON *Magnyf.* 38 But yf reason be regent and ruler of your barge. c 1550 *New Notbroune Mayd* 166 in Hazl. *E. P. P.* III. 8 In Sathans barge, Emparynge his good name. a 1577 GASCOIGNE *Wks.* (1587) 181, I seemed to swim in goodluckes barge. 1663 SIR G. MACKENZIE *Reliq.* *Stoic* xx. (1685) 160 To stay still in the barge of the Church.

3. A flat-bottomed freight-boat, chiefly for canal-

and river-navigation, either with or without sails:

in the latter case also called a *lighter*; in the

former, as in the Thames barges, generally dandy-

rigged, having one important mast.

1480 CAXTON *Chron. Eng.* VII. (1520) 91 b/l Bargees and

botes and great plankes. 1494 FABYAN VII. 388 A brydge

made of bargeis [and] plankys to haue passed a water. 1570

LEVINS *Manip.* 131 Barge, cimba, remulcus. 1627 CAPT.

SMITH *Seaman's Gram.* A ij, The Barge by graue Amocles

was compos'd. 1725 DE FOE *Voy. round World* (1840) 324

Floats, like flat-bottomed barges. 1769 FALCONER *Dict.*

Marine (1789), *Barge*, is also the name of a flat-bottomed

vessel of burthen, for lading and discharging ships. 1842

TENNISON *Lady of Shalott* III. By the margin, willow-veil'd,

Slide the heavy barges trail'd. 1846 GROTE *Greece* (1862) II.

xx. 504 The merchandise was put into barges.

† 3. *vaguely*, A rowing boat; esp. a ferry-boat. (Used to render L. *linter*.) Obs.

1470-85 MALORY *Arthur* l. xxv, Go ye into yonder barge, and row your self unto the swerd. 1567 DRANT *Horace* *Epist.* l. xviii. Fv, The Oste deuydes their bargies [linteres]. 1601 HOLLAND *Pliny* l. 74 Vpon the riuier Alpheus, there is passage by water in barges.

4. *spec.* The second boat of a man of war; a long narrow boat, generally with not less than ten oars, for the use of the chief officers.

1530 PALSGR. 460/1, I dare borde hym with my rowe barge. a 1618 RALEIGH *Apol.* 5, I had taken my Barge and gone a shoare. 1769 FALCONER *Dict. Marine* (1789) Fiv, A barge properly never rows less than ten [oars]. 1773 BROWNIGG in *Phil. Trans.* LXIV. 457 We went from the Centaur with the long-boat and barge. 1860 H. STUART *Seaman's Catech.* 9 Barges are .. kept in order to carry distinguished persons when embarking or disembarking. 1863 CORNH. *Mag.* Feb., One of the larger boats, i. e. launch, barge, or pinnace.

5. A large vessel propelled by oars (or towed), generally much ornamented, and used on state occasions; an ornamental house-boat.

(The College 'Barges' at Oxford are ornamental house-boats, now permanently moored, and used as dressing- and sitting-rooms for university men on the river.)

1526 COGAN *Haven Health* l. (1612) 3 Sitting in a boate or barge which is rowed. 1606 SHAKS. *Ant. & Cl.* II. ii. 196 The Barge she sat in, like a burnisht Throne, Burnt on the water. 1682 *London Gas.* No. 1724/4 His Majesty passed by here in his barge. 1722 *London Gas.* No. 6107/3 The .. Lord Mayor .. proceeded in the City Barge. 1840 MACAULAY *Hist. Eng.* I. 303 Who knew no more of winds and waves than could be learned in a gilded barge between Whitehall Stairs and Hampton Court. 1882 MURRAY *Berks* etc. 196 The walk by the Isis is bordered by the College barges.

6. (in U.S.) 'A double-decked passenger and freight vessel, without sails or power, and towed by a steamboat.' Webster.

7. *Comb.*, chiefly attrib., as *barge-builder*, *cushion-house*, *walk*, *woman*; and the adjs. *barge-like*, *-laden*. See also BARGEMAN, -MASTER.

1685 *London Gas.* No. 2023/4 They lie now in a Barge-House .. at Lambeth. 1773 *Gentl. Mag.* XLIII. 144 Who lo!l'd on barge-cushions at ease. 1850 MERIVALE *Rom. Emp.* (1865) III. xxviii. 322 His bargelike vessels thronged .. the mouth of the inlet. 1880 BLACKMORE *M. Auerley* II. vii. 121 A jetty, a quay, and a barge-walk. 1864 *Daily Tel.* 6 Aug., A barge woman .. seized the prisoner by the collar.

Barge, *v.* [f. prec. sb.]

† 1. phr. *To barge it*: to journey by barge. Obs. 1590 NASHE *Lent. Stuffe in Harl. Misc.* VI. 151 (D.) Whole tribes of males and females trotted, barged it thither.

2. *trans.* To carry by barge. 1649 BLITH *Eng. Improv. Impr.* (1653) 88 Were there a River to Barge it [soil] up and down. 1825 *Harper's Mag.* May 873/2 Of coals. 750,000 tons are .. annually .. barged.

Barge-board (bārdz, bōrd). [See next.] A board, often ornamental, running along the edge of the gable of a house, to conceal the barge-couples, and prevent rain from driving in under the projecting barge-course.

1833 LONDON *Cottage Archit.* 212 The roof .. having barge boards against the west gable. *Ibid.* 422 Pierced openings in the verge board. 1845 *Gloss. Gothic Archit.* I. 42 Barge-board, Berge-board, Verge-board, or Parge-board. 1876 T. HARDY *Hand Ethelb.* II. xlviii. 273 A timber-built cottage, having ornamental barge-boards, balconettes, and porch.

Barge-couple. [With *barge*- in this, the prec., and next, cf. med.L. *bargus*, a kind of galleys = cl. L. *furca*: Du Cange. The modern conjecture that it is a corruption of *verge* seems to be without any historical ground.] (See quotations.) 1564 LEIGH *Armory* 115 A Cheuron is made of Carpenters and is the highest part of y^e house. Carpenters call it at this day, the barge couples. 1621 GWILLIM *Heraldry* II. vi. (1660) 68 A paire of Barge couples or Rafters, such as Carpenters doe set on the highest part of the house, for bearing of the roof there of. 1845 GWILT *Archit.*, *Barge couples*, two beams mortised and tenoned together for the purpose of increasing the strength of a building.

Barge-course (bārdz, kōrs). [See prec.] A portion of the roof of a house carried slightly beyond the wall at the gable-end, and made up underneath with mortar, to keep out rain, etc.

1668 LEYBOURN *Plaff. Purch.* 109 The Barge Courses .. must be struck with Lime and hair Mortar. 1797 BRADLEY *Fam. Dict.*, *Barge-Course*. 1825 *Penny Cycl.* III. 450/1 Barge-boards .. are often attached to the gables of old English houses, fixed near the extremity of the barge-course.

Bargee (bārdzr¹). [f. BARGE sb. + -EE. (The suffix is used irregularly.)] A bargeman.

1666 PERYS *Diary* (1879) VI. 89 Spent the evening on the water, making sport with the Westerne bargees. 1831 HONE *Year Bk.* 672 A great sum is gained by the 'bargees' (bargemen, Eton phraseology). 1861 HUGHES *T. Brown Oxf.* xxxiii, A man who sets up for a country gentleman with the tongue of a Thames bargee. 1873 G. DAVIES *Mount. & Mere* xviii. 155 The bargees, who navigate barges laden with fragrant hay or corn up the stream.

Bargeman (bārdzmæn). [f. BARGE + MAN.] A man who has charge of a barge; one of the crew or rowers of a barge.

1465 *Mann. & Househ. Exp.* 207 Gaff to the Kenges bargeman, xx d. c 1510 COCKE *Lorelles B.* 11 Bargemen, whery rowers, and dysers. 1596 SPENSER *F. Q.* VII. vii. 35 And backward yode as bargemen wont to fare. 1681 R. LE-STRANGE (title) Dialogue between Sam the Ferriman of Datchet; Will, Waterman of London, and Tom, a Barge-man of Oxford. 1797 NELSON in *Duncan Life* (1806) 43

William Fearney, one of my bargemen. 1810 SCOTT *Lady of L.* III. xii, So rapidly the bargemen row.

Bargemaster (bā:rdgmā:stər). The master or owner of a barge.

1648 *Clarendon St. Papers* II. App. 47 The bargemaster looking down into the barge. 1710 *London Gaz.* No. 4742/4 William Burley, of Oxford, Bargemaster. 1768 BLACKSTONE *Comm.* III. 164 There is also in law an implied contract with .. a common carrier or bargemaster, to be answerable for the goods he carries.

† **Bargenet** (te). Also 6 bargynet, -inet. [? erron. form.] = BARGERET.

1531 ELVOT *Gov.* l. xx. (1883) l. 230 We haue nowe base daunes bargettes. 1572 GASCOIGNE *100 Flourres* (1576) 223 Mistresse, and I (because I haue seene the French manner of dauncing) will eftsones entreat you to daunce a Barynet. 1600 *England's Helicon* (title) The Bargetin of Antimachus.

† **Barger**. Obs. rare-1. [f. BARGE sb. + -ER¹.] A bargeman or bargemaster.

1602 CAREW *Cornwall* 108 b, Who .. (like the Campellians in the North, and the London Barges) forslow not to baigne them .. with a worse perfume then Jugurth found fault with in the dungeon.

† **Bargeret**. Obs. Also 5-7 bargaret. [a. F. *bergerette*, f. *berger* shepherd.] A pastoral or rustic song and dance.

c 1400 *Floure & Leafe* 348 Sing right womanly A bargaret in prauing the daisie. 1566 PAINTER *Pal. Pleas.* 154 b, I will make ye daunce sutch a bloudy bargeret. 1616 BUT-LOKAR, *Bargaret*, a kind of dance.

Barge-stone. [see BARGE-COUPLE.] In plural: Stones forming the sloping or stepped line of a gable.

1833 LONDON *Cottage Archit.* 101 Stones placed on a wall .. as an abutment of the barge stones.

† **Barget**. Obs. rare. [a. OF. *bargette*, dim. of *barge*: see BARGE and -ET.] A small barge.

1470-85 MALORY *Arthur* XVIII. xix, Let me be putte within a barget .. and that my barget be couerd with blak samyte. 1486 Bk. *St. Albans*, Her. A ij, lafeth made first Barget and ther in he made a balle. 1867 in SMYTH *Sailor's Word-bk.*

† **Bargh** (bārf). *dial.* Also barf, baugh, barugh. [mod. northern form of BARROW, ME. *bergh*, OE. *beorh*, *beorg*, mount, hill; perh. influenced by ON. *bjarg* rock-face, precipice. In sense 3 app. influenced by Ger. *berg*-mining-.]

1. A detached low ridge or hill.

1823 W. BUCKLAND *Reliq. Diluv.* 209 Similar ridges, known locally [in Yorkshire] by the name of barfs. 1855 WHITBY *Gloss.* s.v., Langbarugh in Cleveland.

2. The steep face of a hill; a road up it.

1674 RAY *N. Countr. Wds.*, *Bargh*, a Horseway up a steep hill. *Yorkshire*.

† 3. A mine. Obs. Cf. BARMSTER, BARMOTE.

1693 W. ROBERTSON *Phrasol. Gen.* 207 A Bargh, i. e. a mine, whereout of metals are digged.

† **Bargham**. Obs. exc. *dial.* Forms: 5 bargham, barwam, berhom; also in mod. dial., barfame (*Durh.*), barfan (*Yorksh.*), bariham, barkham (*Lauc.*), baughwan (*north, Grose*), brauchin (*Cumberl.*), breeham (*Scotch*), bar-kum (*Craven*). [? f. OE. *beorg-an* to protect + HAME, q.v.] The collar of a working horse. c 1475 in Wülcker *Voc. 811* *Epicia*, berhom. 1483 *Cath. Angl.*, Bargham, Barwam, *epiphium*. 1824 *Craven Dial.* i. 6 They welcted cart ower .. an brack th' barkum.

Barghest (bā:rgest). Also barghaist, -guet, -ghost, -gest, -gaist. [perh. ad. Ger. *berg-geist* mountain-demon, gnome; but by Scott referred to Ger. *bahre* bier, hearse, and by others to Ger. *bär* bear, with reference to its alleged form.] A goblin, fabled to appear in the form of a large dog, with various horrible characteristics, and to portend imminent death or misfortune. 1732 *Gentl. Mag.* Oct., The demon of Tidworth, the black dog of Winchester, and the bar-guest of York. 1818 SCOTT *Rob Roy* l. 223 (D.) He .. needed not to care 'for ghaist or barghaist, devil or dobbie'. 1849 W. IRVING *Braceb. Hall* 359 The village had its barguest, or bar-ghost. 1871 E. PEACOCK *Rail Skirlaugh* II. 111 Tales about bargests.

† **Bar-goose**. Obs. [App. a contraction of *bar-nacle-goose*.] The barnacle-goose: see BARNACLE 2. 1598 SYLVESTER *Du Bartas* II. iv. l. (1633) 201/2 The (Trees-brood) Bar-geese, mid th' Hebridian wave .. their far-flown wings do wave. 1647 N. WARD *Simp. Cobler* 25 Such garbes, as .. transclout them into gant bar-geese, ill-shapen shotten shell-fish, Egyptian Hieroglyphicks.

Bari- (bē:ri), comb. form of BARIUM; = HAVING barium in chemical composition.

1880 *Athenaeum* 13 Nov. 645/2 The Bari-Sulphates of Iron.

† **Baria**. *Chem.* Obs. Also barya. [f. BA-

RIUM; cf. *strontia*, f. *strontium*.] = BARYTA.

1812 SIR H. DAVY *Chem. Philos.* 340 The only well known

combination of barium, with oxygen, is baryta or baria.

1819 *CHILDREN Chem. Anal.* 443 One atom of barium + one

atom of oxygen, forms one atom of barya.

Baric (bē:rik), a.1 *Chem.* [f. BAR-IUM + -IC.]

Of barium; containing barium in composition.

1869 *Eng. Mech.* 12 Nov. 213/3 Preparing baric cyanide.

Bario (bē:rik), a.2 [f. Gr. *Bāp-os* weight + -IC.]

Of or pertaining to weight, esp. that of the air as

indicated by the barometer; barometric.

1881 *Times* 11 Mar., A continuation of the baric rise in

most parts of our islands.

Baricado, Barico; see **BARR.**

Barilla (bā-rī-lā, bā-rī-lā). Forms: 7 *bariglia*, *barrilla*, 8 *berilla*, *barillia*, *barrilla*, -*ilha*, 8-*barilla*. [a. Sp. *barrilla*.]

1. A maritime plant (*Salsola Soda*) which grows extensively in Spain, Sicily, and the Canary Islands. [Cf. 1748 in 2. 1764 HEBERDEN in *Phil. Trans.* LV. 58 The fossil alkali... which is procured from the Spanish barilla. 1884 *Pall Mall G.* 10 Oct. 11/2 Precipitous sides... clothed with barilla and scattered pines.]

2. a. An impure alkali produced by burning the dried plants of the preceding and allied species; formerly imported in large quantities, and used in the manufacture of soda, soap, and glass. b. Also applied to impure alkali made from kelp.

1622 MALYNE *Ant. Law-Merch.* 81 The Commodities of Spaine and Portugal, are... Anchoues, Bay-berries, Bariglia. 1705 *London Gaz.* No. 4096/2 Laden with Wine, Malaga-Soap, and Berilla. 1748 *Phil. Trans.* XLIII. 71 The Salt of Glass-wort (called in England Barilla). 1748 *Ibid.* XLV. 561 This kind of Pot-ash is commonly called Barilla, from an Herb of the same Name in Spain that produces it. 1863 WATTS *Dict. Chem.* I. 500 Kelp, a still more impure alkali... is sometimes called *British barilla*.

Barillet (bā-rī-lēt). [a. F. *barillet*, dim. of *baril* BARREL: see -ET.] A little barrel or cask; 'the barrel of a watch; the funnel of a sucking-pump' (Crabbe in Worcester).

Barin, obs. form of **BAIRN**.

Baring (bē-riŋ), *vbl. sb.* [f. *BARE* v. + -ING.]

1. The action of laying bare or uncovering; the removal of something so as to leave a bare place.

1601 SHAKS. *All's Well* iv. i. 53 Or the baring of my beard. 1753 CHAMBERS *Cycl. Supp.*, *Baring of trees*... the taking away some of the earth over the roots. 1847 JEFFREY in *Ld. Cockburn Life* II. Let. 187 These barings of the heart should not be shown except to one's other self.

2. *concr.* That which is removed in this process; the superficial covering, the top soil.

1871 S. SHARP in *Archaeol.* XLIII. 120 (D.) The baring, as it is called by the quarrymen, consists not only of the natural surface soil, but also of the upper soft bed of ferruginous rock. 1873 *Archaeol.* XLV. 466 Bodies... buried... in pits sunk in the baring.

Bar-iron: see **BAR** sb. 1 30.

Barish (bē-riŋ), *a.*; also 7-9 *bareish*. [f. *BARE* a. + -ISH.] Somewhat bare; thinly covered.

1661 LOVELL *Hist. Anim. & Min.* Introd. The tail is... bareish in those that are rough. 1865 CARLYLE *Frederick G.* viii. iii. River Elbe sweeping through it, banks barish.

Barita, earlier form of **BARYTA**.

Barite (bē-ri-tē), *Min.* [f. *BAR-IUM* + -ITE.] Dana's systematic name for the mineral **BARYTES**.

Bariter, obs. form of **BARRATER**, -OR.

Baritone, variant of **BARYTONE**.

Barium (bē-ri-ūm), *Chem.* Rarely (and obs.) *baryum*. [f. *BAR-YTA*, -YTES + -IUM; cf. *soda*, *sodium*. Davy purposely discarded the second syllable of *baryta*, as in his proposed *aluminium* from *alumina*, and *magnium* from *magnesia*.] A white metallic element, not found native, but as the basis of the alkaline earth *baryta*. First separated by Sir H. Davy in 1808.

1808 Sir H. Davy in *Phil. Trans.* XCVIII. 346, I shall venture to denominate the metals from the alkaline earths, barium, strontium, calcium, and magnium. 1819 [See **BARIA**]. 1873 WATTS *Formes Chem.* 357 Barium occurs as sulphate and carbonate, forming the veinstone in many lead mines. *attrib.* 1869 ROSCOE *Chem.* 221 Barium compounds occur somewhat more widely dispersed than those of strontium.

Bark (bārk), *sb.* 1 Forms: 4- *bark*; also 4 *baro*, 4-7 *barke*, 6 *baroke*, 7 *barque*. [a. Scand. *bark* (ON. *börkr*, Sw. *Da. bark*):=O Teut. **barku-s*.]

1. The rind or outer sheath of the trunk and branches of trees, formed of tissue parallel with the wood. See quot. 1866.

a 1300 *Cursor M.* 1321 Branches... o bark al bare. c 1400 MAUNDEY, xvii. 189 Men hewen the Trees... till that the Bark be parted. 1535 COVERDALE *Joel* i. 7 They shall pyl of the barkes of my fygetrees. 1642 FULLER *Holy & Prof.* St. iv. xliii. 304 He is no friend to the tree, that strips it of the bark. 1675 GREW *Anat. Trunks* i. ii. § 1 The Trunk... hath Three general Parts... the Barque, the Wood, and the Pith. 1866 *Treas. Bot.* 123 The only true bark is that of Exogens. In Endogens, False Bark, also called Cortical Integument, stands in place of bark.

b. That used as a material in dyeing, tanning, etc., or its bruised residue, 'spent bark', 'tan'.

1565 *Act 8 Eliz.* xi. § 3 No Person... shall dye... black, any Cap, with Bark or Swarf. 1594 PLAT *Yewell* ho. i. 12 Men which tan the hides of beasts... take y^e barkes of Oake. 1716 *London Gaz.* No. 5393/4 Bark is worth 2s. a Cart-Load. *Mod.* The street opposite the sick man's house was laid with bark. c. A sort or piece of bark.

1647 W. BROWNE *Poet.* ii. 116 Two great chaines of rootes and black barks he had about his neck.

† 2. The rind, husk, or shell of fruit and grains.

1377 LANGL. *P. Pl. B.* xi. 251 On a walnut with-oute is a bitter barke. c 1440 *Gesta Rom.* lvi. 419 The ape wil gladly ete the kynnelle of the note... but when he sauours the soure barke, etc. 1586 COGAN *Haven Health* (1636) 34 A good handfull of Oaten barke. 1661 LOVELL *Hist. Anim. & Min.* 22 Wine in which the barks of a sweet pomegranat are.

† 3. *gen.* An outer covering or husk; esp. a superficial crust or incrustation. *Obs. exc. dial.*

1601 HOLLAND *Pliny* I. 45 In the lake Velinus... if wood

be thrown in, it is couered over with a stony barke. 1725 POPE *Odys.* xiii. 457 O'er thy smooth skin a bark of wrinkles spread. 1878 HALLIWELL *Dict.*, *Bark*, the tartar deposited by bottled wine or other liquor encrusting the bottle.

4. *dial.* and *slang.* The (human) skin.

a 1758 A. RAMSAY *Poems* (1844) 88 And dang the bark Aff's shin. 1876 *Fam. Herald* 2 Dec. 80/1 With the 'bark' all off his shins from a blow with a hockey stick.

5. *fig.* Envelopment; outer covering; outside, external part. *arch.*

c 1374 CHAUCER *Troilus* iv. 201 Yboundyn in the blakke barke of care. c 1400 *Rom. Rose* 7173 The bark and rynde, That makith the entenciouns blynde. 1587 GOLDING *De Mornay* xxv. 379 Such a Lawgiuer, as not onely had power ouer the barke of man. 1641 J. JACKSON *True Evang.* T. i. 68 The Jews... stick in the barke, and expound the text to be fulfilled to the very letter of it.

6. *phr.* To go (etc.) between the bark and the tree.

1562 J. HEYWOOD *Prov. & Epigr.* (1867) 47 It were a foly for mee, To put my hande betweene the barke and the tree... Betweene you. 1600 HOLLAND *Livy* xxvi. v. 921 To deale roundly and simply with no side, but to go between the bark and the tree. 1648 ROGERS *Naaman* 303 So audacious as to go betweene barke and tree, breeding suspicions... betweene man and wife. 1804 MAR. EDGEWORTH *Mod. Griselda* Wks. 1832 V. 299 An instigator of quarrels between man and wife, or, according to the plebeian but expressive apophthegm, one who would come between the bark and the tree. [Cf. HALLIWELL *Dict.* s.v., 'Between the bark and the wood', a well-adjusted bargain, where neither party has the advantage.]

7. *specifically in Med.* (also *Jesuits'* or *Peruvian Bark*): The bark of various species of the Cinchona tree, from which quinine is procured, formerly ground into powder and taken as a febrifuge.

1704 WATTS *Life of Souls*, When bark and steel play well their game To save our sinking breath. 1719 D'URFEY *Pills* (1872) II. 344 Your Jesuits' Bark had proved a golden Bough. 1790 COOK'S *Voy.* VI. 2241 That excellent medicine, Peruvian bark. 1852 THACKERAY *Esmond* iii. viii (1876) 393 I have known a woman preach Jesuit's bark. *fig.* 1790 BOSWELL *Johnson* (1811) I. 195 In no writings whatever can be found more bark and steel for the mind.

8. *north. dial.* A candle-box. (See quot.)

1878 HALLIWELL *Dict.*, *Bark*, a cylindrical receptacle for candles; a candle-box. *North.* At first it was only a piece of bark nailed up against the wall.

9. *Comb.* General relations: a. attrib. or objective, as in *bark-cloth*, *-dust*, *-mill*, *-puller*, *-string*, *-vat*, *-water*, *-wose*. b. instrumental or limitative, as in *bark-bared*, *-feeder*, *-formed*, *-lanned*, *-tanning*.

a. c 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 24 Barkarys barkewatyr, naucea 1483 *Cath. Angl.* 22/1 Barke duste or wose, frumium, pipiana. 1565 *Wills & Inv. N. C.* (1835) 307, XI barke fatts xliij. vjs. viiij. 1773 BARNARD in *Phil. Trans.* LXIII. 218 The bark-pullers... were... alarmed by the shaking. 1854 J. STEPHENS *Centr. Amer.* 13 Tied together with bark-strings. 1880 MISS BIRD *Japan* II. 82 A skin or bark-cloth vest. 1885 *Harper's Mag.* Jan. 276/1 Most tanners... grind it in a bark-mill.

b. † 1712 J. MORTIMER (J.) Excoriated and bark-bared trees. 1818 *Art Preserv.* *Fest* 112 The ancient system of bark tanning. 1858 W. ELLIS *Vid. Madagascar* ii. 25 These bark-formed boards were laid side by side. 1859 DARWIN *Orig. Spec.* iv. (1878) 66 We see leaf-eating insects green, and bark-feeders mottled grey. 1883 *Pall Mall G.* 5 July 5/2 Bark-tanned goods.

10. Special combinations: *bark-bed*, a hot-bed made of spent bark from a tannery; *bark-bound* a., hindered in growth by excessive tightness of the bark; † *bark-oo-bill* (Ger. *kubel*), a bark-vat; *bark-galling* (see quot.); *bark-heat*, that of a bark-bed; *bark-house*, one in which bark is stored, a tan-house; *bark-louse*, a kind of aphid infesting the trunks of trees; *bark-pit*, a pit filled with bark and water in which hides are steeped in tanning; *bark-stove*, a glazed structure placed over a bark-bed; *bark-tree*, English name of the Cinchona; *bark-worm* (= *bark-louse*).

1732 MILLER *Gard. Kal.* (1775) 70 The Coffee-trees... are placed in the 'bark-bed'. 1615 W. LAWSON *Orch. & Gard.* vi. xliii. (1668) 42 'Bark-bound, a disease in trees. 1673 GREW *Anat. Roots* ii. § 2 Therefore are the Roots of many Herbs, 'Barque-bound, as well as the Trunks of Trees. c 1550 Sir J. BALFOUR *Practicks* 588 The sythe of thair 'bark cobill. 1742 BAILEY, 'Bark-galling is when trees are galled by being bound to stakes. 1781 COWPER *To Mrs. Hill* 19 Feb. I shall... keep them (seeds)... in a 'bark heat. 1483 *Cath. Angl.* 22/1 'Barkhouse, frumitorium. 1541 *Lanc. Wills* I. 81 In y^e 'barkhouse fyve dikar... tanned. 1732 MILLER *Gard. Kal.* (1775) 159 Exotic plants... especially those in the 'bark-stove. 1783 DAVIDSON in *Phil. Trans.* LXXIV. 455 (article) 'Bark-Tree. 1852 TH. ROSS *Humboldt's Trav.* I. ii. 59 note, The orange 'bark-tree (*Cinchona lancifolia*)... the red 'bark-tree (*C. oblongifolia*). 1655 MOUFFE & BENN. *Health's Impr.* (1746) 188 Titmice feed... upon Caterpillars, 'Bark-Worms and Flies. 1787 BENT *Angling* 19 'Bark-worm or Ashgrub, found under the bark of an oak, ash, or beech.

Bark, barque (bārk), *sb.* 2 Forms: 5-7 *barke*, 5- *barque*, 6- *bark*. [a. F. *barque*, 15th c. ad. Pr., Sp., or It. *barca*:=-L. *barca* (in Paulinus Nolanus c 400). Not in OFr., where the word used was *barge*.

Barge and *bark* are probably identical in origin, and possibly from Celtic; Thurneysen shows that OIr. *barc* (a fem. a-stem) may, if native, represent an original **barga*, with dialectal by-form **barca*, which would satisfactorily account at once for OF. *barge*, and the common Romanic *barca*. Diez takes *barca* as an early syncope variant of the conjectural **bārīca*, mentioned under **BARGE**, but as *barca* occurs c 400 and **bārīca* not at all, this is improbable.

As to the original meaning, Isidore, c 640, says '*Barca* est, quae cuncta navis commercia ad litus portat. Hanc navis in pelago propter nimias undas suo suscipit gremio.' So Florio (1598) explains It. *barca* as 'a barke, boate, wherrie, or lighter'; ed. 1611 has 'any kinde of Barke, Barge, or Boate'; Minsheu (1623) explains Sp. *barca* as 'a great boat, a barke, a skiffe, a hoarse boat'; and Cotgr. (1611) has Fr. *barque* 'a barque, little ship, great boat.' Cf. *BARCK* sb. 2-4. The *barca* was thus apparently, originally, a large ship's boat, used as a lighter; on the Mediterranean, the name continued to be applied to an open boat, even while extended to a small vessel with sails; the latter was the sense with which the word was taken from French into English, and which it still retains both in general and specific use; but in the end of 16th c., the more primitive sense of 'large rowing boat, barge', was reintroduced from the languages of the Mediterranean.]

1. A small ship; in earlier times, a general term for all sailing vessels of small size, e.g. fishing-smacks, xebecs, pinnaces; in modern use, applied poetically or rhetorically to any sailing vessel, 'our gallant bark'; = **BARGE** 1.

1475 CAXTON *Jason* 104 Some sayd that Iason was rentred in to the barque. 1494 FAVIAN vii. cxxlv. 286 Flemynges: the whiche shippyd them in smalle caruyles and barkys. 1552 HULOET, Barke or little shyppe, *lembus*. 1585 *Act 27 Eliz.* ii. § 9 Every Owner and Master of any Ship, Bark or Boat. 1596 SHAKS. *Merch.* V. ii. vi. 15 The skarfed barke puts from her native bay. 1625 K. LONG tr. *Barclay's Argenis* II. x. 93 A Pirate's Bark, well trimmed and rigged against storms. 1667 MILTON *P. L.* II. 288 Whose Bark... Or Pinnace, anchors in a craggy Bay. a 1687 PETTY *Pol. Arith.* iii. (1691) 59 Seamen... do sometimes Sail in small Barkes, sometimes in midling Ships, and sometimes in great Vessels of Defence. 1718 POPE *Iliad* i. 182 We launch a bark to plough the watery plains. 1769 FALCONER *Dict. Marine* (1789), *Bark*, a general name given to small ships. 1851 DIXON *W. Penn* xvii. (1872) 142 Who had crossed the Atlantic in their barks.

b. *fig.* (Cf. *ship, vessel*.)

1605 BACON *Adv. Learn.* II. 70 Many other barques of knowledge haue bene cast away. c 1600 K. WHITE *Lett.* (1837) 323 The poor bark of mortality. 1821 SHELLEY *Adonais* iv, My spirit's bark is driven, Far from the shore.

2. A rowing boat; formerly a large flat boat, a barge; now only poetically and vaguely; cf. sense 1. 1598 BARRET *Theor. Warres* v. iv. 136 One cart to cary a bridge bark (i.e. for constructing a bridge). 1611 COTGR., *Barque*, a barke, little ship, great boat. 1715 *London Gaz.* No. 5384/7 A Distribution was made among the Fleet of the Barks for landing the Infantry and the Shallops for towing those Barks. 1796 C. LUCAS *Est. Waters* II. 63 Let him not send us to sea... in an open barque, and without a pilot. 1790 COWPER *Iliad* i. 174 A bark with lusty rowers well supplied. 1813 SCOTT *Rokeby* II. xxii, The... swain May lightly row his bark to shore.

3. *spec.* A sailing vessel of particular rig; in 17th c. sometimes applied to the *barca-longa* of the Mediterranean; now to a three-masted vessel with fore- and main-masts square-rigged, and mizen-mast 'fore-and-aft' rigged: till recent times a comparatively small vessel; now there are many of 3,000 to 5,000 tons, nearly all the larger steamers being *barks*. (In this sense frequently spelt *barque* by way of distinction.)

1601 HOLLAND *Pliny* I. 190 The Cyrenians made frigates; the Phoenicians the bark, the Rhodians the Pinace and Brigantine. 1628 HOBBS *Thucyd.* (1822) 23 You had want of long barks against the *Æginetez*. 1687 *London Gaz.* No. 2228/1 Four Gallies, 4 Gallies, 2 Barques, and some other Vessels are fitting here. *Ibid.* No. 2248/1 The Bark that attends these Gallies is laden with Ammunition... and has likewise on board 30 Soldiers. 1722 *Ibid.* No. 6096/1 A French Snow or Bark... The said Snow had two Masts, and is of the Burthen of 50 or 60 Tons. 1769 FALCONER *Dict. Marine* (1789), *Bark*... is peculiarly appropriated by seamen to those which carry three masts without a mizen top-sail. *Ibid.*, *Pinasse*, a square-masted vessel, called in England a bark. 1771 *Phil. Trans.* LXI. 422 On board the *Endeavour* Bark, in a Voyage round the World. 1840 MARRYAT *Olla Podrida* (Ridg.) 331 It was not the brig, but a bark. 1856 KANE *Art. Exp.* II. xxix. 292 A steamer and a barque passed up.

4. *Comb.*, as † *bark-man*, a bargeman, a lighter-man; *bark-rigged* a., rigged like a barque.

1599 HAKLUYT *Voy.* II. i. 227 When they are laden, the Barke-Men thrust the boate with her lading into the streame. 1858 *Merc. Mar. Mag.* V. 243 The Ava was... barque-rigged.

Bark (bārk), *sb.* 3 [f. *BAR* v. 1]

1. The sharp explosive cry uttered by dogs; the similar sound made by other animals, e.g. foxes and squirrels.

1562 J. HEYWOOD *Prov. & Epigr.* (1867) 56 At euery dogs barke, seeme not to awake. 1796 SOUTHEY *Occas. Pieces* vii. Wks. II. 231 From many a day-dream has thy short quick bark Recall'd my wandering soul. 1875 WHITNEY *Life Lang.* i. 3 The dog's bark and howl signify... very different things.

2. *transf.* or *fig.*; e.g. the sound of cannon-firing; *collog.* a cough.

1871 *Echo* 9 Jan. 5/1 The deep bark of our monster war-dogs. *Mod.* What a desperate bark you have! Try some jububes.

b. contrasted with *bite*, esp. in phr. *His bark is worse than his bite*: his angry words, threats, etc. are worse than the actual performance.

1663 *Lauderd. Papers* (1884) I. 131 It... is intended that that letter shall be a great bark if not a bite. 1842 DE QUINCEY *Cicero* Wks. VI. 184 The bark of electioneering mobs is worse than their bite.

Bark (bārk), *v.* 1 Forms: 1 *beork-an*, 3 *beork-*

en, *borke-n*, *berke-n*, 3-5 *berke*, 4 (*breke*), 5-7 *barke*, 6 *berake*, 5- *bark*. *Pa. l.* 1 *bearo*, *pl. baroon*, 4-5 *burke*, *borke*; *berkyd*, 5- *barked*. *Pa. pple.* 1 *borcen*, 5- *barked*. [OE. *beorcan*, str. vb., repr. an earlier *berc-an*, **berk-an*; cogn. w. OE. *borcian* 'to bark', and ON. *berkja*, weak vb. 'to bark, to bluster.' Believed by some to be, in its origin, a variant of *BREAK*, OE. *brecan*:—O Teut. **brek-an*; but if so, the differentiation must have taken place in prehistoric times. Cf. relation of *L. fragor* crackling noise, clamour, with *frag-*, *frangere* to break.]

1. *intr.* To utter a sharp explosive cry. (Orig. of dogs, hence of other animals, and *spec.* of foxes at rutting-time.) Const. at (*on*, *upon*, *against*, obs.). c. 885 K. *Ælfred Gregory's Past.* xv. 89 Dumb hundas ne mægon beorcan. c. 1000 *Ælfric Gram.* xxii. (Zup.) 129 Hund byrth. 1205 LAY. 21340 Beorkeð [1250 *borkeð*] his hundas. c. 1330 *Kyng of Tars* 398 Ther stod hir bifore An hundred hundas blake, And borken on hire lasse and more. c. 1350 *Will. Palerne* 47 He koured lowe, to bi-hold . . whi his hund berkyd. c. 1400 *Chron. Vilod.* 222 Pe whelpus . . Burke fast at þe kyng. 1596 SPENSER *Astrophel* Egl. 76 Wolues do howle and barke. 1610 SHAKS. *Temp.* i. ii. 383 Harke, harke, bough wawgh: the watch-dogges barke. 1611 GWILLIM *Heraldry* iii. xiv. (1660) 166 You shall say a Fox Barketh. 1709 STEELE *Tatler* No. 115 ¶ 9 All the little Dogs in the Street . . barked at him. 1877 BRYANT *Among Trees* 76 And the brisk squirrel . . barks with childish glee. 2. *fig.* To speak or cry out in a tone or temper that suggests the bark of a dog. To bark against (or at) the moon: to clamour or agitate to no effect. To bark up the wrong tree (in U. S.): to make a mistake in one's object of pursuit or the means taken to attain it.

c. 1230 *Ancr. R.* 122 Gif þu berkest aȝein þu ert hundes kunnes. 1307 TREvisa *Higden* (Rolls Ser.) VII. 443 Þey . . dorste nouȝt berke [v. r. breke] for drede of oon man. 1349 *Compl. Scot.* xvi. 139 ȝe cry & berkis ilk ane contrar vihrs. a. 1555 LATIMER *Serm. & Rem.* (1845) 320 It is the scripture and not the translation, that ye bark against. 1655 HEYWOOD *Fort. by Land* i. i. Wks. 1874 VI. 370 He hath such honourable friends to guard him, We should in that but bark against the moon. 1763 CHURCHILL *Apol.* Poems I. 68 Though Mimics bark, and Envy split her cheek. 1855 HALIBURTON *Hum. Nat.* 124 in Bartlett *Dict. Amer.*, If you think to run a rig on me, you have made a mistake in the child, and barked up the wrong tree.

3. *mod. colloq.* To cough. 4. *trans.* To bark at. *Obs. rare.* c. 1200 *Sax. Leechd.* i. 170 Gyf hwa þas wyrte mid him hafað . . ne mæz he fram hundum beon borken. 5. *trans.* or with *subord. cl.* (also *bark out*, *forth*): To utter or give forth with a bark; to break out with, burst forth with. *Obs.*

c. 1440 *Morte Arth.* 1351 He berkes myche boste. 1553-57 FOXE *A. & M.* 403 The abominable heresie . . which impudently barketh that the ministers of the holy altars may and ought to use wives lawfully. 1586 T. B. *La Primaud. Fr. Acad.* (1594) 212 New imaginations and conceits . . which they continually barke forth. 1591 SPENSER *Virg. Gnat* 346 Cerberus, whose many mouths doo bay And barke out flames. 1644 SIR E. DERING *Prop. Sacr.* C. iij. Others bark the Counter-tenour.

Bark (bārk), *v.* 2 [f. BARK *sb.* 1; cf. Sw. *barka*, Da. *berke*, to tan.]

1. *intr.* (with *over*) To form a bark. c. 1340 *Cursor M.* (Fairf.) 11824 And wiþ skratting he toke þe skurf, he barked ouer as a turf. 2. *trans.* To treat with bark, steep in an infusion of bark; to tan.

1430 [See BARKED 2]. c. 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 25 Barkyn lethyr, *frumio, tanno.* 1503-4 *Act 19 Hen. VII.* xix. Pream., Whedder the ledder be sufficiently tanned and barked. 1565 *Wills & Inv.* N. C. (1835) 244 One hyde y^e had to barke for me. 1609 SKENE *Reg. Maj.* 152 They buy leather & barks it. 1865 *Knowledge's Mag.* Boys Nov. 687 A cellar . . used for the purpose of barking the nets of the fishermen.

3. To strip off the bark from (a tree); to cut off a complete circle of bark from it, so as to kill it.

1545 *Act 37 Hen. VIII.* vi. § 4 If any Person . . unlawfully bark any Apple-trees. 1601 HOLLAND *Pliny* I. 541 If trees be barked round about, they will die. 1796 C. MARSHALL *Garden.* (1813) 429 Mice . . are apt to bark and to kill young trees. 1877 BROWNING *La Saisias* 373 Barked the bole, and broke the bough.

b. *fig.* 1603 SHAKS. *Meas. for M.* iii. i. 72 Would barke your honor from that trunk you beare, And leaue you naked.

c. *transf.* To scrape or rub off the skin (*esp.* from the shins and joints); to graze, abrade.

1850 B. TAYLOR *Eldorado* xvii. (1862) 171 Barking my hand on the rough bark of a branchless pine. 1880 BESANT & RICE *Scanny Side* xxvii. 227 He had barked his elbows, broken his shins.

4. To enclose with or as with bark; to encrust. 1633 T. ADAMS *Exp.* 2 *Pet.* ii. 19 (1865) 544/2 Those an-chorites that have barked up themselves in hollow trees.

1814 CARY *Dante* go From head to foot A tetter bark'd them round. 1840 DE QUINCEY *Style* Wks. XI. 177 Some scaly leprosy . . barking and hide-binding . . the elastic flesh.

5. To bark (a squirrel, etc.): see *quot.*

[1828 AUDUBON *Ornithol.* I. 204 A common way of killing squirrels is . . to strike with the ball the bark of the tree immediately beneath the squirrel; the concussion produced by which kills the animal instantly without mutilating it.] 1865 SALA in *Daily Tel.* 29 May, Fellows that with their heavy barrels and small-bores can 'bark a squirrel.'

† **Bark**, *v.* 3 *Obs. rare.* [f. BARK *sb.* 2; cf. OF. VOL. I.]

barquer to convey in a barge or bark.] To embark.

1599 WYRLEY *Armorie* 36 Which valiant Earle Plantagenet namde At Hampton barkt, at Burdeux doth arive.

† **Barkary**. *Obs.* Also *barcary*. [ad. med. L. *barcarium*, *bercarium*, *berquarium* (Spelman), *bercaria*, *berquaria* (Du Cange), for *berbicaria* sheepfold, f. *berbica* sheep = cl. L. *berbex*, *vervex* wether; hence cogn. with F. *bergerie*.] A 'sheep-cote,' a 'sheep-fold' (Spelman). (By some erroneously referred to BARK *sb.* 1, and said to be 'a tan-house'.)

1594 CROMPTON *Jurisd.* 192 Houses or barcaries. 1598 MANWOOD *Lawes Forest* § 2 (1615) 75 Within the Regard of any Forest, no man may build any houses or barkaries. 1607 COWELL *Interpr.*, *Barkarie* is a heath house. 2. Some call it a Tanne-house. 1641 *Termes de la Ley* (1708) 74 Barkary signifies a farm-house as it seems.

Barked (bākt), *ppl. a.* [f. BARK *v.* 2 or *sb.* 1]

1. Covered with, or having, a bark; encrusted. c. 1505 DUNBAR *Flying* 202 Ane caprowsy barkit all with sweet. 1559 HULOET, Barked or ryled, *corticatus*. 1568 T. HOWELL *Arb. Amilie* (1879) 32 Flinted stones and barked tree. 1868 GEO. ELIOT *F. Holt* 8 The thick-barked stems.

2. Tanned. *Obs.* c. 1430 LYDG. *Min. Poems* 53 As barkid ledir his face is schynnyng. 1569 *Wills & Inv.* N. C. (1835) 308 For a barked hide ijs. vjd. 1a 1800 in Aytoun *Ballads Scot.* (1858) II. 376 Auld she is . . And tough like barked leather.

3. Stripped of its bark; *transf.* having the skin grazed or scraped off.

1611 COTGR., *Pelard*, a round, and pilled, or barked stick. 1854 *Gard. Chron.* 660 Leaving barked trees standing. 1884 *Harper's Mag.* Jan. 305/2 A 'barked' shin.

Barken (bārk'n), *v.* Sc. [f. BARK *sb.* 1 + -EN 2.]

1. *trans.* To dry up (any sticky daubing) into a hardened crust or bark; to cover or stiffen by this process.

1512-1887 [See BARKENED]. 1855 *Blackw. Mag.* LXXI. 739 Even at breakfast your trout are spoiled. They are barked with oatmeal. 1861 READE *Cloister & H.* xxiv. (D.) A shrewd frost that barked the blood on my wounds.

2. *intr.* To dry and become a hardened crust. 1856 *Blackw. Mag.* XIX. 400 He will barken into bedimmed and shrivelled scalliness. 1859 SCOTT *Guy M.* xxiii. Let the blood barken upon the cut—that saves plaster.

Barkened, *ppl. a.* [f. *prec.* + -ED.]

1. Dried into a hardened incrustation, encrusted with a sticky daubing which has dried on. 1513 DOUGLAS *Æneis* ii. vi. (v) 41 Witht barknit bluide, and puldir. 1857 *Wilson Nact. Ambr.* Wks. 1855 I. 305 Lyvin a' barkened wi' blood in his coffin.

2. Tanned. Cf. BARKED 2.

1818 SCOTT *Hrt. Midl.* v. Effie used to help me to tumble the bundles o' barkened leather up and down.

Barkentine, variant of BARQUENTINE.

Barker (bārk'ər), *sb.* 1 Also 4 *berkere*, 5 -ar. [f. BARK *v.* 1 + -ER 1.]

1. One who or that which barks; a dog. 1393 LANGL. *P. Pl. C.* x. 260 Thyne berkeres ben al blynde. c. 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 32 Berkar, as a dogge, *latrator*. 1855 SINGLETON *Virgil* II. 276 Monster gods of every creed, Barker Anubis, too, 'gainst Neptune . . ranged.

2. *fig.* A noisy assailant; also, an auction-room or shop tout.

1483 CAXTON *Gold. Leg.* 273/4 Whiche sometime had ben a barker, bytter and blynde, ayenst the lettres. 1581 J. BELL *Haddon's Answ. Osor.* 81 b. Neither Jerome Osorius nor any other braulyn barker can . . molest him. 1677 COLLINS *Def. Bp. Ely* Ep. Ded. 8 The aduersaries and barkers against Souerainty. 1822 HAZLITT *Men & Mann.* Ser. II. xi. (1869) 232 As shopmen and barkers tease you to buy goods. 1862 HELPS *Organiz. Daily Life* 123 A review which I delight in . . because it always barks on the other side to the great barker.

3. The Spotted Redshank (*Totanus fuscus*). 1802 G. MONTAGU *Ornith. Dict.* 21 [In Leicestershire.]

4. *slang.* A pistol; *occas.* a cannon. 1815 SCOTT *Guy M.* xxiii. They are never without barkers and slanders. 1842 F. COOPER *Jack o' Lan.* I. 151 Four more cannonades, with two barkers for ard.

Barker (bārk'ər), *sb.* 2 Forms: 5 *barkere*, *barkar*, *bercar*, 5- *barker*. [f. BARK *v.* 2 + -ER 1.]

1. A tanner. *Obs.*

1408 *Test. Ebor.* (1836) I. 289 Lego uxori Ricardi Skyrtyn-bek, barkar, j. togam. c. 1470 *King & Barker* 127 in Ritson's *Ant. P. P.* 65 Ther ovr kyng and the barker partyd feyr a twyn. 1479 *Paston Lett.* 839 III. 253 An endenture of the bercars. 1503-4 *Act 19 Hen. VII.* xix. That no Tanner nor Barker put no maner of hyde nor Lether to sale. 1609 SKENE *Reg. Maj.* 131 Of Barkers within Bvrg.

2. One who strips off bark from trees. 1611 COTGR., *Escorcenr*, a barker of trees. 1829 E. JESSE *Jrnl. Natur.* 56 Our barkers go on rapidly with their work. *transf.* 1645 MILTON *Colast.* Wks. (1847) 230/1 Infested . . with bawling whippets and shin barkers.

Barker's mill. [Named from the inventor Dr. Barker, about the end of the 17th cent.] A mechanical contrivance for producing rotary motion, consisting of a hollow vertical revolving axis with two (or more) horizontal arms fitted into its lower end; water, admitted at the top of the central tube, fills that and the arms, and by its discharge through lateral apertures near the ends of the latter causes the whole machine to revolve in the direction opposite to that of the discharge, the moving power being the excess of hydrostatic

pressure on the sides of the arms opposite to the openings, aided by centrifugal force.

Barkey (bā'ki), [f. BARK *sb.* 2 + -Y = -Y 4.] *colloq.* A little bark.

1847 BARHAM *Ingol. Leg.* (1877) 87 'Hookers,' barkeys and craft. 1867 in SMYTH *Sailor's Word-bk.*

Barking (bā'king), *vbl. sb.* 1 [f. BARK *v.* 1]

1. The utterance of a dog's sharp explosive cry. c. 1300 K. *Alis.* 4966 From the brest to the grounde Men by ben, abouen houndes. Berkyng of houndes hy habbe. 1684 BURNET tr. *More's Utop.* 122 What pleasure . . in hearing the barking and howling of Dogs! 1792 SOUTHEY *Occas. Pieces* iii. Wks. II. 222 His barkings loud and quick.

b. *transf.* Harsh coughing. 1813 *Examiner* 1 Feb. 75/1 The play went on, amidst croaking, squeaking, barking.

2. *fig.* Angry or assailing outcry. 1540 OLDE *Erasm. Par.* 1st *Tim.* iv. 11 Feare not any mens barkings. 1857 RUSKIN *Pol. Econ. Art* 35 To launch out into sudden barking at the first faults you see.

Barking, *vbl. sb.* 2 [f. BARK *v.* 2 + -ING 1.]

1. Steeping in an infusion of bark; tanning. c. 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 25 Barkynge of lethyr, *fruncio*. 1865 *Intell. Observ.* No. 38. 107 [The] Barking the nets of the fishermen.

2. The action of stripping off bark from trees; the cutting away of a ring of bark, so as to kill the tree, otherwise called *ring-barking*. *Barking-irons*: tools used for this purpose.

1545 *Act 37 Hen. VIII.* vi. § 1 Barking of Apple-trees. 1773 BARNARD in *Phil. Trans.* LXIII. 218 Directing the falling and barking of a large quantity of timber. 1878 P. BAYNE *Parit. Rev.* iii. 71 In order to blight and kill a whole forest . . it is not necessary to fell every tree, but only . . to perform the operation of barking. 1884 *Australasian* 8 Nov. 875/1 In ring-barking a belt of bark about a foot in width is taken off the tree.

Barking, *ppl. a.* 1 [f. BARK *v.* 1 + -ING 2.]

1. Uttering barks; 'giving tongue,' yelping. 1552 HULOET s.v. *Addition*, A barking dogge. 1842 TENNYSON *Day Dream* 136 Barking dogs and crowing cocks.

2. *transf.* Uttering harsh, rough, or angry sounds, like a dog's barking; harsh-sounding.

1589 PUTTENHAM *Eng. Poetie* (1869) 258 The rude and barking language of the Africans. c. 1800 KIRKE WHITE *Christm. Day* 36 He had words To soothe the barking waves.

b. **Barking-bird**, the *Pteroptochus Tarnu*, of Chiloe, so named from its voice; *barking-iron* (*slang*), a pistol.

1845 DARWIN *Voy. Nat.* xiii. (1873) 288 An allied species is called by the natives 'Guidguid,' and by the English the barking-bird. 1847 LE FANU *T. O'Brien* 63 Put up your barking-iron, and no more noise.

3. *fig.* Raising clamorous outcry, noisily aggressive. 1599 MARSTON *Scot. Villanie* ii. vii. 205, I stop thy curish barking chops. 1641 MILTON *Ch. Discip.* II. Wks. (1851) 40 His barking curses, and Excommunications. 1845 FORD *Handbk. Spain* i. 21 Bread and salt can appease the way-farer's barking stomach.

Barking, *ppl. a.* 2 [f. BARK *v.* 2 + -ING 2.] That 'barks'; following the trade of a tanner.

c. 1600 *Rob. Hood* (Ritson) xxxv. 39 Barking tanner's sons. **Barkingly**, *adv.* [f. BARKING *ppl. a.* 1 + -LY 2.]

In a barking manner. 1606 SYLVESTER *Imposture* 248 From the Pulpit barkingly he rings Bold blasphemies against the King of Kings. 1624 HEYWOOD *Gunaik.* 361 A woman barkingly clamorous.

Barkless (bārk'less), *a.* [f. BARK *sb.* 1 + -LESS.] Devoid or stripped of bark.

1604 DRAYTON *Moses* (R.) The trees all barkless nakedly are left. 1819 BYRON *Manfred* i. ii. 67 Blasted pines . . barkless, branchless.

Barkum, dial. form of BARGHAM, horse-collar.

Barky (bā'ki), *a.* [f. BARK *sb.* 1 + -Y 1.]

1. Covered with bark. 1590 SHAKS. *Mids. N. iv.* I. 48 The female luy so Enrings the barky fingers of the Elme. 1656 DU GARD *Gale Lat. Unl.* § 83 A stringtie root, a barkie stock. 1870 BRYANT *Homer* II. xvi. 153 Woods of beech and ash and barky cornel. *fig.* 1604 BRETTON *Pass. Sheph.* (1876) 6 Trees their barky silence breake, Cracke yet though they can not speake.

2. Of the nature of bark. 1835 BROWNING *Parac.* IV. 141 The barky scurf of leprosy.

Barlady: see BYRLADY: By our Lady!

† **Barla-fumble**. *Sc. Obs.* Also *-fummil*. [of. BARLEY *interj. phr.*; the second element is doubtful.] A call for a truce by one who has fallen in wrestling or play; improperly for: Fall, tumble.

a. 1550 *Christis Kirk Gr.* xvi. Quhile he cryed barlafummil, I am slane. 1697 COLVIL *Whigs Supplic.* (1751) 110 When coach-men drinks and horses stumble, It's hard to miss a barla-fumble.

Barley (bā'li). Forms: 1-2 *berlio*, 3 *barlio*, *barliis*, 4 *barlykke*, *barlioh* (e, *barli*, 4-8 *barly*, 5 *berley*, *berlik*, 6-7 *barlie*, -lye, 8 *Sc. barlic* (k, 4- *barley*. [OE. *berlic*, of doubtful composition: *ber-* seems to point to O Teut. **baros*, **bariz*, 'barley,' the latter of which gave OE. *bere* (see *BEAR sb.* 2) with *g* as proper umlaut of *a*; the suffix is evidently -lic (see -LY 1), as if *barlic* meant at first, not *hordeum*, but *hordeaceus*.

Barlic first appears attrib. or as *adj.* in the name *Barlic-croft*; cf. also BARLEY-CORN. The notion that *lic* is the word *lith* 'leek,' as in OE. *garlic*, ME. *garleek*, *garlike*, now *garlic*, is phonetically out of the question. In *bar-* can the vowel *a* (for earlier *o*), instead of *e*, be due to early syncope, *barr*:—*barr*, *barn*, from *baros*, *baris*?

Cf. ON. *barr*, North Fris. *bar*, *bar*. (But ON. *barlak*, in an Orcadian document, is prob. adopted from OE.) The *Ruskuw. Gloss.* has also *barreflor* for *berreflor*, and late charters *baridin* for *beretidin*.
 966 *Cod. Dipl.* VI. 79 *Barlice* croft. c. 1200 ORMIN 15511 He fedde fiffusennde menn Wipf life *barlii lafess. (Cf. other attrib. instances under B.)

1. A hardy awned cereal (genus *Hordeum*), cultivated in all parts of the world; used partly as food, and largely (in Britain and the United States, mainly) in the preparation of malt liquors and spirits. a. The plant.

1303 R. BRUNNE *Handl. Synne* 10111 Whete corne wyl nat prykke, As otes down, or barleykke. 138a WYCLIF *Ex. ix.* 31 The flax thanne and barlich [1388 barli] was hurt. 1398 TREVISA *Barth. De P. R.* xvii. cxv. Bohe barley and bere is calde ordeum. 1483 *Cath. Angl.* 22 Barly, ordeum. 1523 FITZHERB. *Husb.* § 28 Barley and otes be moste commonly mowen. 1610 SHAKS. *Temp.* iv. i. 61 Thy rich Leas Of Wheate, Rye, Barley. 1795 *Scots Mag.* LVII. 544/1 The barleys are universally a great crop. 1878 OLIVER *Elem. Bot.* n. 279 Barley is considered to have been the first Cereal brought under cultivation.

b. The grain. *French, Pearl, Pot barley*; see quot.

1214 O. E. *Chron.* Man sælde . . . þæt bæric þæt is þre sed lepas to six scillingas. c. 1250 *Bestiary* 291 in O. E. *Misc.* 10 De mīre suned ðe barlic, ðanne 3e fīnt te wete. 1363 LANGOL. *P. Pl.* A. v. 133, I bouhte hire Barly [v. r. barliche]; heo breuh hit to sulle. c. 1440 *Partonope* 3760 Brede made of barley or ellis of ote. 1523 FITZHERB. *Husb.* § 13 That is the worste barley, and foure London bushels are sufficient for an acre. 1769 SIR J. HILL *Pam. Herb.* (1780) 72 French barley is skinned, and has the ends ground off; the pearl barley is reduced by a longer grinding to a little round white lump. 1857 ELIZA ACTON *Eng. Bread-Bk.* 73 Pot barley is barley of which the outer husk has been removed by mill-stones; it is used for making broth.

2. *transf.*

1884 F. BRITTEN *Watch & Clockm.* 29 Barleys. [are] the little projections formed by the operation of engine-turning.

B. *Comb. and Attrib.* (In 14-17th c. commonly *barli*, *barly*.)

1. General relations: a. objective with vbl. or agent-noun, as *barley-buyer*, *-sower*, *-sowing*; b. instrumental with passive pple., as *barley-fed* (1851); c. simple attrib. as, (of the plant) *barley-crop*, *-earth*, *-eddis*, *-ground* (1523), *-field*, *-harvest*, *-rick*, *-seed*; (of the grain) *barley-bran*, *-chaff*, *-flour*, *-groats*, *-meal* (1388); d. attrib. of material (= made of or with), as *barley-bread*, *-bun*, *-cake*, *-crust*, *-gruel*, *-loaf* (1200), *-pudding*, *-scon.* 1599 HAKLUYT *Voy.* II. ii. 80 *Barley-branne the llanders doe vse in stead of salt. c. 1320 *Seign. Sag.* 1573 *Barli-bred he et for gode. 1840 CARLYLE *Heroes* ii. 111 His [Mahomet's] . . . common diet was *barley-bread and water. 1552 HULOET, *Barly bunne gentleman . . . suche ryche niggardes as lyue wyth barly breade, or otherwise hardlye. 1393 GOWER *Conf.* III. 216 Me thought I sigh a *barly-cake. 1846 GROTE *Greece* II. i. 11. 297 His diet of sweet chestnuts, *barly-cakes and pork. 1865 *Derby Merc.* 25 Jan. The straw of a *barley crop. 1669 WORLIDGE *Syst. Agric.* (1681) 247 Places for this sport, especially on the *Barley-eddishes. 1851 KINGSLEY *Yeast* xi. 202 Your *barly-fed hares. 1863 MISS WHATELY *Ragged Life Egypt* xix. 187 *Barly-fields irrigated by a sacchia. 1600 VENNER *Via Recta* i. 18 If . . . *Barly flower and Rie flower . . . be added. 1523 FITZHERB. *Husb.* § 10 Thou shalt sow . . . thy beanes vpon the *barly gronde. 1769 MRS. RAFFALD *Eng. Housekpr.* (1778) 315 To make *Barly Gruel. 1612 BIBLE *Ruth* i. 22 The beginning of *barly harvest. 1535 COVERDALE *Judg.* vii. 13 A baken *barlye lofe came rollinge downe. 1488 *Act. Audl.* 147 (JAM.) Fifty quarters of *berlik-malt. 1600 VENNER *Via Recta* ii. 39 Beere . . . made of *Barly malt alone. 138a WYCLIF *Num.* v. 15 A mesure . . . of *barli meele. 1599 HAKLUYT *Voy.* II. ii. 4 Their bread was made of *barly meale and goates milke. 1800 SCOTT *Monast.* viii. The *barly-scones, which . . . were so good.

2. Special combinations: *Barley-bigg*, *bigg* or *beare*, a coarse variety of barley; *barley-bird*, name given locally to various birds appearing about the time of barley-sowing, as the wryneck, siskin, greenfinch, and sometimes the nightingale; *barley-bree*, *-broth*, strong ale; *barley-candy* (= *barley-sugar*); *barley-cracker*, a machine or appliance for cracking barley; *barley-cream* (= *barley-milk*); *barley-hat* (cf. *BARLEY-CAP*, *-HOOD*); *barley-hummeller*, a machine for separating barley from the awns; *barley-island*, an ale-house; *barley-lepe*, a leap or basket for holding barley; *barley-man*, one who received an allowance in barley, *hordearius*; *barley-milk*, a decoction or gruel of barley or barley-meal; *barley-mood* = *BARLEY-HOOD*; *barley-mow*, a stack of barley; *barley-sele* (*obs.* or *dial.*), the season for sowing barley; *barley-sick a.*, intoxicated; *barley-straw*, (*fig.*) a trifle; *barley-sugar*, a confection, usually in twisted sticks, made from sugar, formerly by boiling in a decoction of barley; *barley-wine*, a Greek wine or beer prepared from barley. Also *BARLEY-CAP*, *-CORN*, *-HOOD*, *-WATER*, *q. v.*

1552 HULOET, *Barly bygge. *Vide* beerecorne. 1625 MARKHAM *Farew. Husb.* 135 *Barly-big, or beare Barly. 1768 PENNANT *Zool.* II. 310 In Sussex it [the Siskin] is called the *barly-bird. 1863 *Yng. England* Aug. 127 In the Isle of Wight the bird commonly called the *barly-bird is the wryneck. 1786 BURNS *Scotch Drink* xiii. How easy can the *barly-bree Cement the quarrel! 1593 *Bacchus Bountie* in *Harl. Misc.* (1809) II. 273 The *barly-broath

about all other, did beare away the bell, and . . . neither grape nor berry might be compared to the maiestie of the malt. 1884 BLACK *Jud. Shaks.* xxxi. A cupful of *barly-broth will do thee no harm. 1883 *Harper's Mag.*, Jan. 277/1 *Barly-candy statuettes. 1813 VANCOUVER *Agric. Devon* 131 The motion is communicated by a belt to the *barly-cracker. 1694 WESTMACOTT *Script. Herb.* 17 Pisan was a meat of the Antients which we now call *Barly-Cream. c. 1500 *Blowbolds Test.* in *Hazl. E. P. P.* I. 105 They that be manly in drunkenesse for to fyte, Whan one ther hede is sett a *barly-hate. 1851 *Househ. Wds.* III. 358 The chaff-cutter, the *barly-hummeller. a 1640 DAY *Peregr. Schol.* (1881) 72 Going to take in fresh water at the *Barlie Island. c. 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 25 *Barly lepe, to kepe yn corne, *camera*. 1601 HOLLAND *Pliny* I. 561 Sword-fencers, who vpon their allowance or pension giuen them in barley, were called *Hordearii*, (*i.* *Barly-men). 1607 TOPSELL *Four-f. Beasts* 303 *Barly milk, or juyce called of the old Writers *Cremor Pisanus*. 1790 MORRISON *Poems* 151 (JAM.) Hame the husband comes just roarin' fu': Nor can she please him in his *barlic mood. c. 1732 GAY (J.) Whenever by yon *barly-mow I pass. c. 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 25 *Barly-sele, *tempus ordeacionis*, a 1721 PAIOR *Turtle & Sp. (R.)* She . . . could plead the law, And quarrel for a *barly-straw. 1830 LINDLEY *Nat. Syst. Bot.* 303 *Barly-straw melts into a glass of a topaz yellow colour. 1712 tr. *Pomet's Hist. Drugs* I. 55 *Barly-Sugar is made either of white Sugar or brown. 1883 *Knowledge* 6 July 3/2 *Barly-sugar . . . was prepared by boiling down ordinary sugar in a decoction of pearl barley. 1852 GROTE *Greece* II. lxx. IX. 144 A sort of *barly-wine or beer in tubs, with the grains of barley on the surface.

Barley, interj. *Sc. and north. dial.* [perh. a corruption of *F. parlez*, *Eng. parley*.] *Parley*, truce, quarter; 'a term used in the games of children, when a truce is demanded' (Jamieson).

1814 SCOTT *Wav.* xlii. A proper lad o' his quarters, that will not cry barley in a brulzie.

Barley-break (*bā'li; brā'lik*). Forms: 6 *barle-breyke*, *barla-breik*, 7 *barly-breake*, *-brake*, *barley*, *barlibreake*, 7-8 *barlibreak*, *barley-brake*, *-break*, 9 *Sc. barley-brack*. [Of uncertain etymology; the first part has been explained from the prec. word, also from the grain *barley*, because played in a corn-field, or in a stack-yard (Jam.); the second from *break* as explained below.] An old country game, varying in different parts, but somewhat resembling *Prisoner's Bars*, originally played by six persons (three of each sex) in couples; one couple, being left in a middle den termed 'hell,' had to catch the others, who were allowed to separate or 'break' when hard pressed, and thus to change partners, but had when caught to take their turn as catchers. (See poetical description by Sidney in *Arcadia* i. *Lamon's song*, and *Suckling* in *Poems* (1646) 24.) In Scotland, according to Jamieson, one person had to catch the rest of the company, each of these as taken assisting their captor.

1557 MACHYV *Diary* (1848) 132 Master parsun . . . entryd into helle, and thered at the barle breyke with alle the wyffe of the sam parryche. a 1581 A. SCOTT *On May*, Sum rynnys at barla breikis lyk ramnis. 1608 ARMIN *Nest Ninn.* (1842) 56 Like a girl at barley brake, leauing the last couple in hell, away she gads, and neuer looks behinde her. 1794 SOUTHEY *Wat Tyler* i. Wks. II. 24 Since we were boys together And play'd at barly-brake. 1837 NICOLL *Poems* (1843) 81 At barly-bracks, we laughin' chased ilk kimmer we could see.

† *Barley-cap*. *Obs.* [f. *BARLEY*, as source of malt liquor: cf. *BARLEY-HOOD*.] In phr. *To have on or wear a barley-cap*: to be tipsy; hence *barley-cap* = tippler.

1598 E. GILPIN *Skial.* (1878) 67 Some weeuil, mault-worme, *barly-cap*. 1611 COTGR., *Forbeu.* pot-shotten, whose fudling or barley Cap is on. 1679 O. HEYWOOD in *Yorksh. Diaries* (Surt.) II. 262 He never wore a cap, unlesse it was a barley-cap.

Barley-corn (*bā'li; kō'rn*). [See *CORN*.]

1. = *BARLEY* (the plant or grain). 138a WYCLIF 2 *Sam.* xiv. 30 The feedle of Ioab beside my feedle haunyng barli corn [1388 ripe barli]. c. 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 25/1 Barly corne, ordeum. 1836 THIRLWALL *Greece* II. xiv. 196 The juice of the vine or the barleycorn.

b. Personified as *John Barleycorn*: esp. as the grain from which malt liquor is made.

c. 1600 (title) in *Pepysian Library*, A pleasant new ballad . . . of the bloody murder of Sir John Barleycorn. 17. . . *John Barleycorn* in *Percy's Reliques*, John Barleycorn has got a beard like any other man. 1786 BURNS *Scotch Drink* iii, John Barleycorn, Thou king o' grain.

2. A grain of barley.

1888 GREENE *Perimedes* 15 Preferre not a Barly-corne before a precious Jewell. 1612 WOODALL *Surg. Mate* Wks. (1653) 25 A full barley corne will well serve, or a good wheat corne. 1824 MISS MITFORD *Village Ser.* i. (1863) 83 A bantam-cock . . . turning so scornfully from the barley-corns which Annie is flinging towards him.

3. The length of a grain of barley taken as a measure, $\frac{1}{2}$ of an inch; formerly also $\frac{1}{4}$ of an inch. 1607 RECORDE *Gr. Arts* 326 It is ordained that 3 Barly Cornes dry and round, shall make vp the measure of an inch. 1611 COTGR., *Grain* . . . a Barlie-corne, or the fourth part of an ynch. 1688 HOLME *Armory* iii. iii. 136 Barly Corn, is the length of 4 Poppy seeds, and 3 Corns make an Inch. 1793 SHELVOCKE *Artillery* i. 76 The Barly-corn (the fourth part of an Inch) is subdivided into 5 Poppy Seeds. 1873 MISS BROUGHTON *Nancy* I. 21 If father . . . move his head one barley-corn, we are all dead men.

4. *Building*. 'A little cavity between the mouldings of joiners' work . . . made with a kind of plane of the same name.' Chambers *Cycl. Supp.* 1753.

Barley-hood. [f. *BARLEY* (used for 'malt liquor') + *-HOOD*, suffix of condition; perh. with some reference to *hood* 'covering for the head': cf. *barley-hat* in *BARLEY B* 2.] A fit of drunkenness, or of ill humour or temper, brought on by drinking.

a 1509 SKELTON *El. Rummyng* 372 And as she was drynkynge, She fylt in a wyntyng wyth a barlyhood. 1725 A. RAMSAY *Gent. Sheph.* i. ii. In his barlickhoods, ne'er stick To lend his loving wife a loundering lick. 1805 A. SCOTT *Poems* 51 (JAM.) Whan e'er they take their barlyhoods, And heat of fancy fires their bludes.

Barley-water. [f. *BARLEY*.] A drink, made by the decoction of pearl barley, used as a demulcent. † *Strong barley-water*: ale.

c. 1320 *Seign. Sag.* 1574 Barly-water, that was i-sode. 1580 HOLLYBAND *Treas. Fr. Tong.* *Orgemonde*, Barlye water, *Tysant*. 1625 HART *Anat. Ur.* i. v. 46 The women . . . are not so busie . . . with the strong barley water as our British women. 1684 ORWAY *Atheist Prol.*, And Barly-water Whey-fac'd Beau's write Satyrs. 1875 H. WOOD *Therap.* (1879) 581 Barly-water is used as a nutritious, demulcent drink in fevers.

† *Barling* (*bā'lin*). *Obs.* [a. Sw. *bäriling* pole, f. *bära* to bear.] A pole.

1611 *Rates* 2 (JAM.) Barlings, or fire-poles the hundreth—*xxl.* 1732 DE FOE, etc. *Tour Ct. Brit.* (1769) I. 64 Fir-Timber, Oaken Planks, Baulks, Barlings, Spars, Oars.

† *Barm*, *sb.* *Obs.* exc. in *comb.* Forms: 1-2 *bearm*, 3 *beerm*, *berm*, 4-5 *barme*, 1- *barm*. [Common Teut.; with OE. *barm* (WSax. *bearm*) cf. OS. OFris. OHG., Sw., Da. *barm*, ON. *barmr*, Goth. *barms*:—OTeut. **barmo-s*, f. *ber-an* to bear. The early southern ME. *berm* represented the Saxon *bearm*; *barm* was the Anglian form.]

1. A bosom, a lap.

c. 950 *Lindisf. Gosp.* Luke vi. 38 Hia sellað on barm iuer. c. 1000 *Ag. Gosp.* *ibid.*, Hix syllað on eowerne bearm. c. 1160 *Halton Gosp.* John i. 18 On hys fader bearme. 1205 LAY. 30261 He nom his lauerdes hefd . . . in his bearm he hit laide. c. 1230 *Ancre. R.* 212 Þe slowe lið and slepeð iðe deofles berme, ase his deore deorling. a 1225 *Lay le Freine* 201 Sche yaf it souke opon hir barm. c. 1410 LOVE *Bonavent. Mirr.* vi. (Gibbs MS.) Swetly klyppynge and kyssynge leyde hym in hier barme [1510 (Pynson) barme; 1530 (W. de W.) lappe]. c. 1460 *Towneley Myst.* 59 Hald thy hand soyn in thy barme, And as a lepre it shal be lyke. 1513 DOUGLAS *Æneis* xii. Prol. 76 Zephyrus comfortabill inspiration For till ressaue law in hyr barm (soun).

2. Edge, brim, 'breast', 'brow'. *rare*. (So in ON.) c. 1340 *Alexander* (Stev.) 4811 þan come þai blespand till a barme' of a brent lawe.

3. *Comb.* *barm-cloth*, † *barm-hatre* (*obs.*), an apron; *barm-fel*, *barm-skin* (*dial.*), a leather apron. Cf. *BARVEL*.

c. 1000 *Ælfric Gloss.* in *Wright Voc.* (W.) 127 *Mappula*, bearmclād. c. 1300 *Men Liff* xv. in *E. P.* (1862) 155 Fair bep þur barmhatres. c. 1350 *Sat. Blacksmiths* in *Rel. Ant.* I. 240 Of a bole hyde ben here barmfellys. a 1386 CHAUCER *Millers T.* 50 A barm-cloth eek as whit as morne mylk. c. 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 25/1 Barnyskyn (1409 barne skyn), *melotes*. 1594 NASHE *Unfort. Trav.* 16 An Elephantines eares that hanges on his shoulders like a countrie huswieses baskin [sic]. 1775 J. COLLIER *Tim Bobbin* 20 Hal . . . had his knuckus lapt in his barm-skin. 1857 WRIGHT *Provings. Dict.* s. v., Her smock's as dirty and greasy as a barmskin. 1870 MORRIS *Earthly Par.* II. iii. 80 His mother o'er her barm-cloth wide Gazed forward.

Barm (*bā'm*), *sb.* Forms: 1 *beorma*, 3 *beorme*, *berme*, 4-5 *berme* (e, 5) 7 *barme*, (7) *birme*, 7- *barm*. [OE. *beorma*; prob. common Teut. (—**bermon-*), though early cognates are wanting; cf. Da. *bärme*, Sw. *barma*, Fris. *berme*, *barm*, I.G. *borne*, *barme*, *barm*, mod.G. *bärme*.]

1. The froth that forms on the top of fermenting malt liquors, which is used to leaven bread, and to cause fermentation in other liquors; yeast, leaven. c. 1000 *Ag. Gosp.* Matt. xiii. 33 Heofena rice is gelic beor man. c. 1200 ORMIN 996 Bræd All beorff wipputenn berme. c. 1386 CHAUCER *Chan. Yem. Prol.* 4 T. 260 Alum, glas, berme, wort. c. 1420 *Liber Cocorum* 30 With eggis and flour in batere þou make, Put berme þerto. 1601 HOLLAND *Pliny* II. 145 The froth or barme . . . [has] a property to keepe the skin faire and cleare in womens faces. 1688 in *Phil. Trans.* XVIII. 130 His Brains worked like Birme in an Ale-Fat. 1816 SCOTT *Antiq.* xi, The sea was working like barm.

b. *transf.* or *fig.* Ferment, fermenting agent. c. 1580 MONTGOMERIE *To R. Hudson*, This barme and blaidry buists up all my bees. 1666 G. HARVEY *Morb. Angl.* iv. 48, I assert the gall to be the barm or ferment of the venal blood. 1828 LANDOR *Imag. Conv.* (1846) II. 174 Milton's dough . . . is never the lighter for the barm he kneads up with it.

† 2. The froth or 'head' of beer when poured out. c. 1275 *Sermun* in *O. E. Misc.* 188 Loze heo holdet hore galun, mid berme [v. r. beorme] heo hine fullþe. c. 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 32 Berme of ale or other lyke, *spuma*. 1483 *Cath. Angl.* 22/1 Barme, *spuma*.

3. *attrib.*, as in *barm-froth*, *barm-fly*.

1606 Wily *Beguidel* Prol. in *Hazl. Dodol.* IX. 223 That barm-froth poet. 1676 COTTON *Angler* li. 335 Another Dun called the Barm-fly from its yeasty colour.

Barm, *v.* *Obs.* or *arch.* [f. prec. sb.]

1. To mix with yeast; to leaven, ferment. [c. 975 *Ruskuw. Gosp.* Matt. xiii. 33 Oþæt gebeoromad wæs all.] 1615 CROOKE *Body of Man* 245 The seed it selfe . . . is so houen and barmed as it were with spirits. 1616 SURFL.

& MARKH. *Countr. Farm* 589 Your best ale must be barned as soon as it is cold.

2. To rise in froth or fermentation.

c1440 *Prompt. Parv.* 32/2 Bermyn, or spurgyn as ale, spumo. 1822 *Provost* ii. 16 It set men's minds a barning and working.

Barmaid (bā'māid). [f. BAR sb. 1 28.] A female who sells food and drink at the bar of a tavern or hotel. Hence **Barmaidenly** a. (*nonce-wd.*)

1772 *GOLDSM. Stoops to Cony*. Epil., Th' unblushing Barmaid at a country inn. 1837 *DICKENS Pickw.* (1847) 9/2 The bar-maid had positively refused to draw him any more liquor. 1882 *Daily News* 8 June 5 Bar-maidenly in their conception of polished badinage.

Barman (bā'mān). [f. BAR sb. 1]

† 1. A pleader at the bar; a barrister. *Obs.*

1657 *REEVE God's Plea* 8 Oh rare Pleader! there is not such a Barre-man to be found.

2. One who prepares bars, e.g. of metal for the manufacture of wire.

1724 *MANDEVILLE Fab. Bees* (1725) I. 249 The silver-spinner, the flatter, the wire-drawer, the bar-man, and the refiner.

3. A man who serves at the bar of a public-house, etc. Cf. BAR sb. 1 28.

1837 *DUNCUMB Brit. Emigrant's Adv.* 76 He instantly called for the bar-man and taxed him with the imposition. 1865 E. CLAYTON *Cruel Fort* II. 165 Two barmaids commenced a most vigorous flirtation with the young bar-man.

Barmaster (bā'māstā). Also 7 barge-, 7-8 bergh-, 8 barch-. [Formerly *bargmaster*, ad. Ger. *bergmeister*, f. *berg*-mining.] A local judge amongst miners: see quot.

1664 *FULLER Worthies* I. 229 The Barge-Master keeps his two great Courts twice a year in Barge-Moot Hall... to decide Controversies, and punish offences betwixt Miners. 1721 *BAILEY, Bargh-master*, the Surveyor of a Mine. 1747 *HOOSON Miner's Dict.* s.v. *Bill*, By the Assistance of the Barmaster. 1875 *UNK Dict. Arts* I. 202 *Barm-master*, in Derbyshire, the authority to whom all disputes in lead-mining are referred. He has charge of the standard 'dish' or measure used in measuring the ore.

Barmbrack (bā'mbræk). *Anglo-Irish*. [corruption of Ir. *bairigen breac* speckled cake (Wh. Stokes).] A currant-bun.

1876 *MISS YONGE Yng. Stepmother* 317 A great barmbrack from Biddy. 1882 *FLORA SHAW Cast. Blair* 189 The number of buns and barm-bracks had to be calculated.

Barmecidal (bā'msəidāl). a. [f. next + -AL.] Like the Barmecide's feast; imaginarily satisfying or sumptuous; unreal, illusory.

a1845 *HOOD Twilights* xiv, Having thro' one delighted sense, at least, Enjoy'd a sort of Barmecidal feast. 1845 *MOZLEY Blanco White, Ess.* (1878) II. 115 To reason simply on the superficies is a Barmecidal proceeding.

Barmecide (bā'mfəsid). *Patronymic* of a family of princes ruling at Bagdad just before Haroun-al-Raschid, concerning one of whom the story is told in the Arabian Nights, that he put a succession of empty dishes before a beggar, pretending that they contained a sumptuous repast—a fiction which the beggar humorously accepted. Hence, one who offers imaginary food or illusory benefits. Often *attrib.*

1713 *Guardian* No. 162 The Barmecide was sitting at his table that seemed ready covered for an entertainment. 1842 *DICKENS Amer. Notes* (1850) 81/1 It is a Barmecide Feast; a pleasant field for the imagination to rove in. 1854 *THACKERAY Newcomes* II. 103 My dear Barmecide friend. 1863 *Reader* II. 506 Sharing the boundless hospitality of a Barmecide.

Barming (bā'miŋ). *Sc.* rare. [f. BARM v.] The formation of barn on a fermenting liquor; fig. the accruing of interest upon money.

1823 *GALT Entail* I. xx. 169 Father... ordained me to have a hundred a year out of the barming of his lying money.

Barmkin (bā'mkin). *north. arch.* Forms: 4 barmeken, (5) barmekynch, 6 barmekyn, -kin, barmekine, 5- barmkin. [Perh. f. Teut. *barm* (ON. *barmr* brim, border, edge, wing of castle; cf. BERM). The second syllable may be the dim. suffix -KIN, though the meaning hardly suits. Possibly a corruption of, or confused with, BARBICAN.]

The battlement of the outer fortification of a castle; the outer fortification, or barbican; a turret or watch tower on the outer wall.

c1340 *Alexander* (Stev.) 1301 Balaan in þe barmeken sa bitterly fȳtis. a1440 *Sir Degrev.* 375 At the barmekynch he abad, And lordelych doune lyght. c1470 *HENRY Wallace* viii. 1067 Fehew him self... Throuch all the fyr can on the barmkyn lycht. 1513 *DOUGLAS Æneis* xii. x. 64 Thame quhilke on the barmkin heid remanis. 1577 *HOLINSHED Chron.* III. 874/2 Ouerthrow eightene towers of stone, with all their barmekines. a1821 J. LEYDEN *Ld. Soulls* v, And he call'd on a page, who was witty and sage, To go to the barmkin high.

Barmote (bā'mōt). Also 7 barge-, 7-8 bargh-, 8 barmoot, 7-8 berghmote. [Earlier *barghmote*, f. Ger. *berg*-mining + *MOTE*, assembly, court; cf. *barmaster*.] A local court amongst miners: see quot.

1653 *MANLOVE Lead Mines* 14 Sute for oar must be in Barghmoot court. 1732 *DE FOE, &c. Tour Gt. Brit.* (1769) III. 78 The Barmoot Court, kept at Wirksworth, to judge Controversies among the Miners, and adjust subterranean Quarrels and Disputes. 1747 *HOOSON Miner's Dict.* s.v. *Bill*, The meanest Labourer may recover his due Wages at

the Barmote-court. 1882 *RAYMOND Mining Gloss.*, *Barmote* (Derb.), a mining court.

† **Barm-team**. *Obs.* Also *berem-tem*, *barmete*. A corruption of BAIRN-TEAM. (Perh. due to confusion with BARM sb. 1, bosom, lap.)

c1250 *Gen. & Ex.* 3903 Al ðat berem-tem. c1315 *SHOREHAM* 58 He hedde y-brouȝt forthe his bearm-team Wythoute senne i-smaked. c1430 *Cher. Assigne* v. 103 And hadde moche rewthe That swyche a barmete as y' shulde so betyde. c1440 *Bone Flor.* 10 Antenowre was of that barmete-teme.

Barmy (bā'mi). a. [f. BARM sb. 2 + Y.]

1. Of, full of, or covered with barm; frothing.

1535 *LYNDSEY Sat. Three Estates*, Gud barmie aill. 1601

B. JONSON *Poetast.* v. iii, That putt-up lump of barmy froth.

c1817 *HOGG Tales* II. 256 Like barmy beer in corked bottles.

2. fig. Full of ferment, excitedly active, flighty.

1600 *Ret. fr. Parnass.* I. ii. (Arb.) 9 Such barmy heads will

alwaies be working. a1605 *MONTGOMERIE Poems* (1821) 49

Hope puts that hast into your heid, Quhilk boy's your barmy brain.

1765 *BURNS Wks.* III. 85 Just now I've taen the fit o' rhyme, My barmie noddle's working prime.

3. Comb. barmy-brained a., flighty; barmy-froth, (fig.) a flighty, empty-headed fellow.

1599 *MARSTON Sco. Villanie* 166 Each odde puise of the

Lawyers Inne, Each barmy-froth, that last day did beginne

To read his little. 1824 *SCOTT St. Ronan's* xxxii, Cork-

headed barmy-brained gowks!

Barn (bām), sb. Forms: 1 bere-ern (bæren), 1-2 berern, 1-4 beren, 1-6 bern, 3 bernn, 4-6 berne, (5) beern, beyrne, bæerne), 5-7 barne, 7- barn. [OE. *berē-ern* lit. 'barley-place', f. *berē* barley + *ern*, place, closet, store-room; reduced already in OE. to *berern*, *beren*, *bern*, whence ME. *bern*, mod. *barn*.]

1. A covered building for the storage of grain; and, in wider usage, of hay, straw, flax, and other produce of the earth.

c890 *Lindisf. Gosp.* Luke xii. 24 Dæm ne is hordern ne ber-ern. c975 *Aethelw. G. ibid.*, Bere-ern. c1000 *Ag. G. ibid.*, Nabbað hys heddern ne bern. c1200 *ORMIN* 10486 Sam-

menn alle þe cene corn & don itt inn his berne. c1200 *Ber-*

tiary 263 *O. E. Misc.* 9 Ne bi 3e (=she) nowt de barlic beren

abuten. c1305 *CHAUCER Wks.* T. 15 Throper and berne, shepnes

and dayeries. c1475 in *Wright Voc.* 274 *Orim*, beyrne.

1489 *CANTON Faytes* of A. II. xxiv. 138 A grete

barne within the said forest. 1593 *FITZGER. Husb.* § 26

(Rye) mowen... taketh more rowme in the barne than shorne

corne dothe. 1595 *ROBINSON tr. More's Utop.* 160 Come or

graine... in the rich men's berne. 1610 *SHAKS. Temp.* iv. i.

Barnes, and Garners, neuer empty. 1697 *DRYDEN Virg.*

Georg. I. 74 And bursts the crowded Barns, with more than

promis'd Gains. 1800 *WORDSW. Sonn.* *Dutton* xiii, One

small hamlet... Clustering with barn and byre, and spouting

mill. 1872 *JERKINSON Eng. Lakes* 24 The (Grasmere) island

has a clump of firs and a grey barn upon it.

fig. a1500 *MYRR. Our Ladye* 211 Augels myghte gather

them in to euerlastyng barnes.

b. Applied to: A barn-like building for worship.

a1721 *Prior To F. Shepherd*, So at pure barn of Loud

Non-con, Where with my grannam I have gone.

2. Comb. and *Attrib.*, as barn barley, -builder,

form, -loft, -sweepings; also barn-burner, nick-

name of the radical section of the Democratic

party in U. S.; barn-cellar, a room under a barn,

generally used as a cow-house; barn-floor, the

floor of a barn, hence what is there stored; barn-

ful, as much as a barn will contain; barn-gallon,

a measure containing two imperial gallons, used in

the milk-trade; barn-like a., like, or like that of,

a barn; barn(s)man, a labourer in a barn, a

thresher; barn-owl, a British bird of prey (*Strix*

flammea), also called White, Church, and Screech

Owl; barn-ahovel, one used for corn; barn-

stormer, applied depreciatively to a strolling

player; whence barn-storming; barn-swallow,

the common house-swallow; barnward adv., to-

wards the barn; barn-yard, the enclosure round

a barn, a farm-yard.

1880 *JEFFERIES Gt. Estate* 152 *Barn barley... i.e. that

which had been stored in a barn. a1610 *BABINGTON Wks.*

(1622) 218 That rich *Barn-builder in the Gospell. a1848

N. Y. Tribune in *Bartlett Dict. Amer.* 23 This school of

Democrats was termed *Barnburners, in allusion to the

story of an old Dutchman, who relieved himself of rats by

burning down his barns which they infested,—just like

exterminating all banks and corporations, to root out the

abuses connected therewith. 1842 *T. PARKER in Weiss Life*

& *Corr.* I. 184 A bull... tied up in the corner of the *barn-

cellar. 1611 *BIBLE 2 Kings* vi. 27 Whence shall I helpe thee I

out of the *barn floor? 1863 *KINGSLEY Water-Bab.* vii.

272 Her decks were swept as clean as a *barn floor. 1847

YEOWELL Anc. Brit. Ch. xii. 129 Very old Welsh Churches

are of the *barn form. a1619 *FOTHERBY Atheom.* ii. viii. § 4

Not by the bushell... but by the whole *Barnfull. 1662

GERBIER Princ. (1665) 36 Those *Barn-like Roofs of many

Noble Persons Palaces. 1835 *BECKFORD Recoll.* 174 The

*barn-like saloon on their ground-floor. 1837 *CARLYLE Fr.*

Rev. III. iv. v. 235 In cellars, *barn-lofts, in caves. c1800

A. CARLYLE *Autobiog.* (1860) 25, I took him for a griever or

*barnman; 1861 *SMILES Engineers* II. 112 A sufficient

number of *barnsmen for thrashing straw. 1874 *RAY Eng.*

Birds 83 The common *Barn-owl or White Owl, *Aluco*

minor. 1845 *DARWIN Voy. Nat.* xvii. (1852) 378 The short-

eared and white *barn-owls of Europe. 1446 *Wills &*

Inv. N. C. I. (1835) 95 Whetridell... hopper, *barnshoile.

1884 *Pall Mall G.* 6 June 5/1 If this be *barn-storming,

Betterton and Garrick were *barn-stormers. 1851 *D. WILSON*

Preh. Ann. Scot. (1863) I. 416 Less skill than... the common

*barn-swallow displays in the construction of its nest. 1840

CARLYLE Heroes ii. 96 Chaff, chopped straw, *barn-sweep-

ings. 1884 *ROE in Harper's Mag.* July 247/2 The horses' heads were turned *barnward. 1513-75 *Diurn. Occurr.* (1833) 49 Thay brunt tua *barny-yairdis in Nether Keith. 1850 *Mrs. STOWE Uncle Tom's C.* vii. 49 A *barn-yard belonging to a large farming establishment.

† **Barn**, v. *Obs.* [f. the sb.] To house or store in a barn; to garner. Often *fig.*

1593 *SHAKS. Lear.* cxxiii, And useless barns the harvest of his wits. 1647 *FULLER Good Th. in Worsh. T.* (1841) 210 Whose censures often barn up the chaff, and burn up the grain. 1702 C. MATHER *Magn. Chr.* III. iii. (1852) 559 To plant and dress, and barn and beat their corn.

Barn(e), obsolete form of BAIRN.

Barnabite (bā'nābait). [f. *Barnab-as* name of the apostle: see -ITE.] A member of the religious order 'thus called from the church of St. Barnabas at Milan' (*Chambers Cycl.* 1751).

1706 *Dupin's Eccl. Hist.* 16th C. II. iv. xi. 450 The Founders of the Order of Barnabites... were instructed by a Famous Preacher, one Serasino, who advised them to read St. Paul constantly, from whence they were called *Clerks of St. Paul*.

Barnaby (bā'nābi). [a. F. *Barnabé*, ad. L.

Barnabas.] By-form of the name Barnabas;

whence *Barnaby-day*, *Barnaby bright*, or long

Barnaby, St. Barnabas' Day, the 11th of June, in

Old Style reckoned the 'longest day'; *Barnaby-*

thistle, the *Centaurea solstitialis*, so named from

its flowering about the 11th of June.

1595 *SPENSER Epithal.* 266 This day the sunne is in his chiefest hight, With Barnaby the bright. 1645 G. DANIEL *Poems Wks.* 1878 II. 49 This short December day, It would spin out, to make my Readers say, Long Barnabie was never halfe so gay. 1650 *FULLER Pisgah* II. xii. 255 Staying the Sun in Gibeon... This was the Barnaby day of the whole world. 1670 *EACHARD Cont. Clergy* 32 Barnaby-bright would be much too short for him to tell you all that he could say. 1804 *SCOTT Last Minstr.* iv. iv, It was but last St. Barna-bright They sieged him a whole summer night. 1898 *FLORIO, Calcatrappa*, Star-thistle, or Saint Barnabae's thistle.

Barnacle (bā'nāk'l), sb. 1. Forms: a. 2 ber-nac, 5 bernak(e), bernag. β. 4-6 bernacle, 5 barnakylle, -alle, byrnacle, (6) barnecke, bur-nacle), 7-8 barnicle, 9 bernicle, 4- barnacle. [ME. *bernak*, a. OF. *bernac* 'camus'; of which *bernacle* seems to be a dim. form: cf. OF. *bernicles* in Joinville c1275, in sense of the instrument of torture (sense 2) as used by the Saracens, for which Marsh has suggested an oriental origin, comparing Pers. *baran-dan* to compress, squeeze, *baranjah kar-dan* to inflict torture. But, so far as evidence goes, I was the earliest sense, and of western origin. The sense of 'spectacles' seems to arise naturally enough from the others, but has been treated by some as distinct, and referred to OF. *bericelle* (since 15th c. *bericelle* 'eye-glass,' originally 'beryl':—late L. **bericulus*, dim. of *berillus*, *beryllus*: it is not easy to trace any phonetic connexion between this and *barnacles*, even though the mod.F. dialect of Berry has *berniques* 'spectacles.')

1. A kind of powerful bit or twitch for the mouth of horse or ass, used to restrain a restive animal; later, *spec.* an instrument consisting of two branches joined by a hinge, placed on the nose of a horse, if he has to be coerced into quietness when being shod or surgically operated upon.

a. [c1200 *NECKAM De Utililibus* in *Wright Voc.* 100 *Camum* (*bernac*) vel capistrum (*chevestre*) sponte pretereo.] c1440 *Prompt. Parv.* 33 *Bernak* for horse (1499 *bernakill*).

chamus. 1468 *Medulla Gram.* in *Cath. Angl.* 22 *Chamus*,

a bernag for a hors. a1500 in *Wülcker Voc.* 1572 *Chamus*, a

bernake.

β. 1382 *WYCLIF Prov.* xxvi. 3 A scourge to an hors, and a

bernacle to an asse. 1387 *TREVISA Higden* Rolls Ser. I. 353

Pey dryueþ hir hors wiþ a chambre jerde [*virgum cameratam*]

in þe ouer ende in stede of barnacles. 1483 *Cath. Angl.* 22/1

Barnakylle, Byrnacle, Barnakalle, *camus*. 1560 *LEIGH Ar-*

morie (1597) 104 Barnacle... is the chiefest instrument that

the smith hath, to make the vntamed horse gentle. 1607

TOWSE Four. f. Beasts 251 Barnacles... put upon the

Horses nose, to restrain his tenacious fury from biting,

and kicking. 1774 *GOLDSM. Nat. Hist.* I. I. (1862) I. 245 note

The horse... being caught by the nose in barnacles. 1831

YOUTT Horse xxii. (1872) 457 The barnacles are the handles

of the pincers placed over and enclosing the muzzle.

2. An instrument of torture applied in a similar

way. Also *fig.*

(1382 *WYCLIF 2 Kings* xix. 28, I schal putten a cercle in

thyn noos thrillis and a bernacle [COVERDALE, brydle bitt;

1611 *bridge*] in thi lippis. 1625 tr. *Gonsalvius's Sp. Inquis.*

145 Clapped a Barnacle vpon his tongue, which remained

there vntill the fire had consumed it. 1679 *Hist. Jettzer*

naole, 6- barnacle, (7 barnicle, 9 bernicle). [ME. *bernecke*, *berneke*, identical with OF. *bernaque*, med.L. *bernaca*, *berneka*. (Other F. forms *bernache*, *barnache*; Pg. *bernaca*, *-acha*, *-icha*, Sp. *bernache*; med.L. also *barnaces*, *bernesta*, *barneta*, perhaps bad spellings). With the *β*. forms cf. med. or mod.L. *ternicla*, *-ecela*, *-acula*, and mod.F. *bernicle*, *barnacle*. Ulterior history unknown.

The earliest attainable forms (omitting *barbates* in Albertus Magnus and *barliates* in Vincentius Bellovacensis, which seem too far off) are the Eng. *bernecke*, Anglo-Lat. *bernaca* (Giraldus Camb. c.1175), *barneta*, *berneca* (Gervase of Tilbury c.1211), *berneka* (Vincent. Bellovac. 1200-1250). If English, this could only be *bare-neck* or *bear-neck*, of which the application is not evident. The history of this word is involved in an extraordinary growth of popular mythology, traced back as far as the 11th or 12th c. by Prof. Max Müller, *Lect. Sc. Lang.* (ed. 7) II. 583-604. It is there suggested that *bernacula* might be a variant of **bernicula*, a possible dim. of *perna* 'a kind of shell-fish,' afterwards confused with **bernicula*, a supposed aphetic form of **hibernicula*, which might be applied to the barnacle-geese from its being found in *Hibernia*. Others seek the source of the primitive *bernaca* in Celtic, comparing Gaelic *bairneach*, Welsh *brenig*, limpets. But as all the evidence shows that the name was originally applied to the bird which had the marvellous origin, not to the shell which, according to some, produced it, conjectures assuming the contrary seem to be beside the mark. The form *bernacle*, it will be seen, is not found before 15th c., and *bernacula* seems to be only its modern Lat. adaptation. If med.L. *berneka*, *bernicla*, are earlier, they are suspiciously like erroneous forms of *bernecha*, *bernicka*. No connexion with *BARNACLE sb.* can be traced: *bernac* was masc., *bernaque*, *-ache* fem., in Fr.]

1. A species of wild goose (*Anas leucopsis*) nearly allied to the Brent Goose, found in the arctic seas (where alone it breeds), and visiting the British coasts in winter.

This bird, of which the breeding-place was long unknown, was formerly believed to be produced out of the fruit of a tree growing by the sea-shore, or itself to grow upon the tree attached by its bill (whence also called *Tree Goose*), or to be produced out of a shell which grew upon this tree, or was engendered as a kind of 'mushroom' or spume from the corruption or rotting of timber in the water.

a. a 1207 NECKAM in *Promp. Parv.* 32 De ave que vulgo dicitur bernecke. 1307 TREvisa *Higden* Rolls Ser. I. 335 per beep bernakes foules liche to wyldye gees: kynde bryngþ hem forþ wonderliche out of trees. c.1400 MAUNDEV. xxvi. 264 Of the Bernakes. In oure Contree weren Trees that beren a Fruyt, that becomen Briddes fleeynge. c.1440 [see β].

β. c.1440 *Promp. Parv.* 32 Barnakylle byrde (v. r. bernack, bernak), *bernacus*, *bernita*, *bernites*. 1480 CAXTON *Trevisa's Descr. Brit.* 48 Ther ben bernacles, fowles lyke to wyldye ghees, whiche growen wonderly vpon trees. *Ibid.* (1520) 2/2 Men of relygion eet barnacles upon fastynge dayes bycause they ben not engendred with flesche. 1598 SYLVESTER *Du Bartas* l. vi. (1641) 58/2 So rotten planks of broken ships do change to Barnacles. 'Twas first a green tree, then a broken hull, Lately a Mushroom, now a flying Gull. 1599 HAKLUYT *Voy.* II. i. 63 There stand certayne trees vpon the shore of the Irish sea, bearing fruit like unto a gourd, which . . . doe fall into the water, and become birds called Bernacles. 1653 WALTON *Angler* 189 The Barnacles and young Goslings bred by the Sun's heat and the rotten planks of an old Ship, and hatched of trees. 1674 RAY *Water Fowls* 95 The Bernacle, *Bernicla*. 1678 SIR R. MURRAY in *Phil. Trans.* XII. 926 Multitudes of little Shells; having within them little Birds perfectly shap'd, supposed to be Barnacles. 1694 FALLÉ *Jersey* ii. 74 Bernacles. . . are only seen about the Sea, and in very cold Weather. 1774 GOLDSM. *Nat. Hist.* III. 279 The Barnacle not . . . bred from a shell sticking to ships' bottoms. 1853 *Spring in Lapland* 362 The bent goose and the bernicle . . . breed either in Spitzbergen or East Finland. 1870 *Pall Mall G.* 12 Oct. 12 The barnacle is supposed by simple people to be developed out of the fishy parasite of the same name.

b. In this sense now often *Bernacle Goose*, to distinguish it from sense 2.

1768 PENNANT *Zool.* (1812) II. 237 The Bernacle Goose. 1848 C. JOHNS *Week at Lizard* 333 Bernicle Goose. 1882 *Proc. Bern. Nat. Club* IX. 552 Bernacle Geese have been very abundant.

2. English name of the pedunculate genus of Cirripedes, which attach themselves to objects floating in the water, especially to the bottoms of ships, by a long fleshy foot-stalk. Sometimes used to include sessile Cirripedes: see ACORN-SHELL.

(This was the 'shell-fish' out of which the Barnacle Goose was supposed to be produced, the long feathery cirri protruded from the valves suggesting the notion of plumage. Giraldus Cambrensis had himself seen more than a thousand of them 'conchyliis testis incluse,' hanging from one piece of timber on the shore.)

a. 1581 CAMPHON *Hist. Irei.* iii. (1633) 10 Barnacles, thousands at once, are noted along the shoares to hang by the beakes about the edges of putrified timber. . . which in processe taking lively heate of the Sunne, become water-foules. 1598 FLORIO, *Anitra*. . . the bird that breeds of a barnicle hanging vpon old ships. 1673 RAY *Journ. Low C.* 290 These Tortoises . . . had two great bunches of those they call Bernacle-shells sticking . . . to his back. 1678 BUTLER *Hud.* III. ii. 655 As barnacles turn Soland geese In th' islands of the Orcaades. 1769 FALCONER *Dict. Marine* (1789) *Cravan*, a barnacle, a small shell-fish . . . which fastens to a ship's bottom in a long voyage. 1859 DARWIN *Orig. Spec.* xiv. (1873) 389 Cuvier did not perceive that a barnacle was a crustacean.

3. fig. A companion or follower that sticks close, and will not be dismissed; a constant attendant.

1607 DEKKER *Northw. Hoe* III. Wks. 1873 III. 39 He cashiered all my young barnicles. 1868 MISS BRADDON *Trail Serp.* i. 7 Slopper found him a species of barnacle rather difficult to shake off,

† b. Perhaps in this sense used as the cant term for a decoy swindler: see QUOTE, and cf. BARNARD.

1591 GREENE *Disc. Cosenage* (1859) 23 Thus doth the Verser and the Setter feign a kind friendship to the Cony. . . As thus they sit tipling, comes the Barnacle and thrusts open the doore. . . steps backe again: and very mannerly saith I cry you mercy Gentlemen, I thought a friend of mine had bin heere. [See the whole passage.] 1608 DEKKER *Belman Lond.* Wks. 1885 III. 131 He that . . . before counterfetted the drunken Bernard is now sober and called the Barnacle.

† 4. One who speaks through his nose. *Obs. rare.* 1591 PERCIVALL *Sp. Dict.*, *Gango*, a barnacle, one that speaketh through the nose, *Chenolopez*. [*Chenolopez* in Pliny, a species of goose.]

Barnacle, v. ¹ [f. BARNACLE sb. ¹] *trans.* To apply a barnacle to (a horse).

1861 S. JUDG *Margaret* II. viii. (1871) 281 They banged him and barnacled him . . . and the more they did, the more he wouldn't stir.

Barnacle (bā'nāk'l), v. ² [f. BARNACLE sb. ²] *trans.* To affix with persistent attachment.

1803 W. STORY *Roba di R.* II. 34 This uncouth structure . . . is barnacled upon the ruins of the once splendid portico. 1865 Mrs. WHITNEY *Gayworthys* xxiv. 236 He barnacled himself to Gershom, now, and shipped with him always.

Barnacled (bā'nāk'ld), *pp. a.* a. Covered with barnacles. b. *colloq.* Wearing spectacles.

1691 T. HALE *Acc. New Invent.* 80 Cleaned with . . . Scrapers, if barnicled. 1878 R. STEVENSON *Inland Voy.* 6 A gleam of spectacles. For though handsome lads, they were all (in the Scotch phrase) barnacled. 1884 *Blackw. Mag.* Oct. 523 My barnacled barque Drags . . . heavily on.

† **Barnage**, *obs.* [f. *barn*, variant of BAIRN + -AGE.] Childhood, infancy.

c.1325 E. E. ALLIT. *P. B.* 517 Ay hatz ben & wyl be 3et fro her barnage. c.1375 BARBOUR *Troy-bk.* II. 2405 Norysede hime ine his barnage. 1523 DOUGLAS *Æneis* v. Prol. 25 Oaha lauchis nocht . . . in his barnage.

Barnage, *obs.* f. BARONAGE.

† **Barnard**, *obs.* Also 7 *bernard*. [app. a variant of BEBNER, one who waited with a relay of hounds to intercept a hunted animal.] The member of a gang of swindlers who acts as a decoy; a lurking scoundrel, a sharper. Cf. BARNACLE sb. ² 3 b.

1532 *Dice Play* (1850) 37 Another oily theft . . . is the barnards law: which, to be exactly practised asketh four persons at least, each of them to play a long several part by himself. 1564 BULLEYN in *Babes Bk.* (1868) 242 With a Barnards blowe, luryng in some lane, wodde, or hill top. 1591 GREENE *Disc. Cosenage* (1859) 8 Four persons were required . . . the Taker up, the Verser, the Barnard, and the Rutter. *Ibid.* Wks. 1885 X. 10 Comes in the Barnard stumbling into your companie, like some aged Farmer of the Countrey . . . and is so careless of his money, that out he throweth some fortie Angels on the boards end. 1608 DEKKER *Belman Lond.* Wks. 1885 III. 126 The Barnard . . . counterfeits many parts in one, and is now a drunken man, anon in another humour . . . only to blind the Cosen . . . the more easily to beguile him. [See the whole of the interesting descriptions in these works.]

Barn-door. [f. BARN sb.] The large door of a barn. (Applied humorously to a target too large to be easily missed, and, in *Cricket*, to a player that blocks every ball.)

1547 J. HEYWOOD *Four Ps* in *Dodsl. O. P.* (1780) I. 87 Bendynge his browes as brode as barne-dures. 1632 MILTON *L'Allegro* 51 While the cock . . . to the stack or the barn-door, Stoutly struts his dames before. 1679 'TOM TICKLE-FOOT' *Trials of Wakeman* 9 My Old Master Cloyd would have been hanged before he would have missed such a Barn-dore. 1847 LONGF. *Ev.* i. ii. 50 Heavily closed, with a jarring sound, the valves of the barn-doors.

attrib. Reared at the barn-door.

c.1685 in *Dk. Buckhm's Wks.* 1705 II. 48 She . . . slew a Barn-door Fowl with her own Hands. 1783 WOLCOTT (P. Pindar) *Ode to R. Acad.* i. Wks. I. 50 Plump as barn-door chicken. 1815 SCOTT *Guy M.* xlv. Our barn-door chuckies.

† **Barné**, *Sc. obs.* [a. OF. *barne*, (earlier *barnes*, *barne*):—late L. *barōnātus*, f. *barōn-em*: see BARON and -ATE.] Assembly or body of barons, baronage.

1375 BARBOUR *Bruce* II. 50 The king . . . with his barne, Sat in till his parliament. c.1375 — *St. Baptista* 499 Scho gert þe kinge Assemble hale his barne, þat landis held of hyme.

† **Barne**, *obs.* A kind of fish.

1602 CAREW *Cornwall* 30 a. Of round fish there are Brit, Barne, &c. *Ibid.* 34 b. For bait they use Barne, Pilchard, and Lugges.

Barne, *obs.* f. BAIRN, BARN, BURN.

Barnekin, *-kynch*: see BARMKIN.

Barney, *slang and techn.* a. Humbug, cheating. b. A prize-fight. c. *Mining* (see quot.).

1865 B. BRIERLEY *Irkdale* II. 19. I won thee i' fair powell one loss an' no barney. 1881 RAYMOND *Mining Gloss.*, *Barney*, a small car attached to a rope and used to push cars up a slope or inclined plane. 1882 *Even. News* 2 Sept. 1/6 Blackguardly barneys called Boxing Competitions.

Barnhardtite (bā'nhart'it). *Min.* [named from Barnhardt's Land, N. Carolina, where found: see -ITE.] A sulphide of iron and copper, of bronze-yellow colour with grayish-black streak.

1837-68 DANA *Min.* 67.

Barnhede, *-less*, *obs.* ff. BAIRNHOD, *-LESS*.

Barnish, *-ish*, *-ysh*, *obs.* ff. BURNISH.

Barnless (bā'nless), *a.* Void of barns.

1883 *American* VI. 317 The barnless plains of Montana.

Barnnecks: see BEVERNEKX.

Barnumize (bā'nəmōiz), *v.* [f. *Barnum*, name of a pushing American show-proprietor + -IZE.]

To exhibit with a lavish display of puffing advertisements. **Barnumism**, exaggerated advertising or display, boastful 'tall talk.'

1851 W. B. HODGSON in *Life* vi. (1883) 87 Barnumised and puffed as Napoleon has been, he is not popular. 1852 *Blackw. Mag.* LXXII. 307 Barnumizing the prodigy through Europe. 1862 *Daily Tel.* 20 Oct., It is Barnumism that prompts clergymen to tell their flocks that they must fight the Confederates till Hell freezes, and then fight them on the ice.

Barogram (bæ'rōgrām). [f. next, after *telegraph*.] The record traced by a barograph.

1824 *Leeds Merc.* 24 Mar. 8/5 The barograms obtained from some sixteen observatories.

Barograph (bæ'rōgrāf). [f. Gr. *Baro*-s weight + *-γραφος* -writing, -writer; cf. *telegraph*.] A barometer constructed on the aneroid principle, actuating mechanism which records automatically the variations in atmospheric pressure.

1865 *Reader* 9 Sept. 291/3 The self-recording barograph continues in operation. 1884 *Weekly Scotsman* 9 Feb. 4/1 A barometric chart—secured by means of the barograph.

Baroko, *-oco* (bārō'kō). *Logic*. A mnemonic word, representing by its vowels the fourth mood of the second figure of syllogisms, in which the premisses are a universal affirmative and particular negative, and the conclusion a particular negative.

1581 FULKE in *Confer.* III. (1584) Pijb, It is neither in mode nor figure. *Fulke*. It is in Baroko. 1838 SIR W. HAMILTON *Logic* xxiii. I. 443 Bocardo, which . . . with Baroco . . . was the opprobrium of the scholastic system of reduction. 1870 BOWEN *Logic* 204 Baroko and Bokardo have been stumbling-blocks to the logicians.

† **Barolite**. [f. Gr. *Baro*-s weight + *λίθος* stone: see -LITE.] *Obs.* synonym of WITHERITE.

1794 KIRWAN *Min.* I. 134 Barolite, or aerated Barytes.

Barology (bārōlōdʒi). [f. Gr. *Baro*-s weight + *-λογία* discourse.] The scientific study of weight. 1829 in WORCESTER. 1863 *MILL Comte* 39 Physics. . . divided by M. Comte into five departments: Barology, or the science of weights; Thermology, etc.

Baromacrometer (bæ'rō,mækrō'mē'tar). [f. Gr. *Baro*-s weight + *μακρός* length + *μέτρον* measure.] An instrument for ascertaining the weight and length of new-born infants. 1847 in CRAIG.

Barometer (bārō'mē'tar). Also 7 *barrim*. [f. Gr. *Baro*-s weight + *μέτρον* measure.]

An instrument for determining the weight or pressure of the atmosphere, and hence for judging of probable changes in the weather, ascertaining the height of an ascent, etc.

(The common barometer is a straight glass tube, 34 inches long and closed at the top, filled with mercury, and inverted in an open cup of the same liquid. The *siphon barometer* is a curved tube, with the mercury in the shorter limb exposed to the air; it is adapted as the *wheel barometer* found in ordinary weather-glasses by putting on the mercury in the shorter limb a float with a cord attached, which passes over a pulley, and as the float rises or falls, moves the indicating hand. For very exact readings a lofty tube filled with glycerine is sometimes used. See also ANEROID.)

1665-6 *Phil. Trans.* I. 153 A Barometer or Baroscope first made publick by that Noble Searcher of Nature, Mr. Boyle. 1672 PETTY *Pol. Anat.* (1691) 48 Changes in the Air . . . known by the Instrument call'd the Barrimeter. 1723 Mrs. CENTLIVRE *Gamester* i. 1, Your fob, like a Barometer, shews the temper of your heart, as that does the weather. 1813 SIR R. WILSON *Diary* II. 278 The Lutzen impression has made the bone of my left leg quite a barometer. [See ANEROID.] *fig.* 1752 HUME *Pol. Disc.* iv. 73 Interest is the true barometer of the State. 1807 HARE *Guests* Ser. i. (1873) 154 Languages are the barometers of national thought and character. 1870 MISS BRIDGMAN *R. Lynne* I. xi. 173 The barometer of Mr. Selwyn's temper stood at stormy.

b. *Barometer-gauge*: an appliance resembling a barometer, attached to the receiver of an air-pump to indicate the rarity of the air within.

1783 CAVALLIO in *Phil. Trans.* LXXIII. 449 A long barometer-gage was adapted to the pump by means of a bent brass tube.

Barometric (bæ'rō'mē'trik), *a.* [f. prec. + -IC; cf. Gr. *μετρικός* of measuring.] Of the nature of, pertaining to, or indicated by a barometer.

1802 REES *Cycl.* s.v. *Barometer*. The difference of the barometric heights. 1807 FARADAY *Chem. Manip.* xv. 378 The mean height or barometric pressure. 1831 LARDNER *Pneumat.* iv. 253 The column of mercury sustained in the barometric tube. 1854 SCOFFERN in *Ort's Circ. Sc. Chem.* 313 The barometric weather-glass is supplied with a dial index. 1884 F. BRITTON *Watch & Clockm.* 29 Barometric Error . . . the alteration in the timekeeping of a clock due to changes in the density of the atmosphere.

Barometrical, *a.* [f. as prec. + -ICAL.] = prec. 1665-6 BOYLE in *Phil. Trans.* I. 181 Barometrical Observations (as for brevities sake I use to call them). 1773 DERHAM *Phys. Theol.* 17 note, Barometrical and Thermometrical Instruments. 1751 JOHNSON *Ramb.* No. 117 P. 9 A complete treatise of barometrical pneumatology. 1874 HARTWIG *Aerial W.* i. 5 The range of barometrical variations.

Barometrically, *adv.* [f. prec. + -LY.] By means of a barometrical observation.

1777 SHUCKBURGH in *Phil. Trans.* LXVII. 554 This gives for the height barometrically, 2748.9 ft. 1817 *Edin. Rev.* XXVIII. 180 Heights barometrically ascertained.

Barometrograph (bæ'rō'mē'trōgrāf). [f. Gr. *Baro*-s weight + *μέτρον* measure + *-γραφος* -writing, -writer.] = BAROGRAPH. 1847 in CRAIG.

Barometrography (-mē'trōgrāfi). [f. as prec.

+ Gr. *-γραφία* description.] The department of science which treats of the barometer.

Barometry (bār'ōmētrī). [f. BAROMETER; cf. Gr. *-μετρία* measurement.] The art or science of barometric observation.

1713 SWIFT *Eleg. Partridge Wks.* 1755 III. ii. 81 A scrap of parchment hung by geometry (A great refinement in barometry) Can, like the stars, foretell the weather. 1884 GURNEY & MYERS in *19th Cent.* 85 Further light on the path and barometry of the psychical storms.

Barometz (bār'ōmēts). [App. an erroneous adaptation of Russ. *baranets* (dimin. of *baran* ram) applied to species of Club-moss, *Lycopodium*.] A spurious natural-history specimen, consisting of the creeping root-stock and frond-stalks of a woolly fern (*Cibotium barometz*) turned upside down; formerly represented as a creature half-animal and half-plant, and called the Scythian Lamb (already referred to by Maundeville, ch. xxvi. p. 264).

1793 E. DARWIN *Bot. Gard.* i. 279 Waves, gentle Barometz, thy golden hair. 1835 *Penny Cycl.* III. 485/2.

Baron (bār'ōn). Forms: 2-4 barun, 4 barune, baroune, 4-6 baroun, -own, 5 baroone, barrown, 6 barroun, barne, 7 barron, 3- baron. [Early ME. *barun*, -oun, a. OF. *barun*, -on, acc. of *ber* (= Pr. *bar*, acc. *barōn*, *barō*, Sp. *varon*, Pg. *varão*, It. *barone*):—late L. *barō*, -ōnem, of which the ordinary sense was 'man' (interchanging in Salic Law with *homo*), esp. in relation to some one else, as when we say 'the king's man,' passing on one side into 'servant, vassal,' on another into 'man as opposed to slave, freeman,' also as opposed to wife 'husband,' as opposed to female 'male.' Isidore explains *Mercenarii*, as 'qui serviunt accepta mercede, iidem et barones Graeco nomine, quod sint fortes in laboribus,' (connecting it with *barōs*); Cornutus (on Persius *Sat.* v.) explains *barones* (to which he attributes a Gaulish origin) as 'servos militum, qui utique stultissimi sunt, servos videlicet stultorum.' This seems to point to the cl. L. *barō*, -ōnem 'simpleton, blockhead, dunce'; but there is nothing else to show whether this is the same word as *barō* 'man.' The laws of the Alemanni have in the same sense *barus*: if this were the original form, *barō* would be an augmentative.

The ulterior origin is unknown. It has been conjecturally referred to a Celtic **bar* 'hero' (which seems a figment); OHG. *bero*:—OTeut. **beron*, 'bearer, carrier'; a hypothetical Teut. **bar*, with same sense; OE. *beorn*, 'warrior, brave, hero'; and Teut. *bar* 'bairn, child'; of which some are purely hypothetical, and others fail to explain the form or sense, or both.]

1. *Hist.* Originally, one who held, by military or other honourable service, from the king or other superior; afterwards restricted to the former or *king's barons*, and at length mostly applied to the greater of these (the *Great Barons*) who personally attended the Great Council, or, from the time of Henry III, were summoned by writ to Parliament; hence, a lord of Parliament, a noble, a peer.

Historically, all who held directly from the king were *barons by tenure*, such of these as were summoned to Parliament were *barons by writ*.

c. 1200 *Trin. Coll. Hom.* 177 De wraðde of kinges and of barones bringen on þe folkes heorte grette stormes. 1205 LAY. 5319 Elches barunes sune. c. 1275 in O.E. *Misc.* 92 Seynt Thomas was biscope and barunes him quolde. 1297 R. GLOUC. 511 The barons sende to the king Philip of France, That he hom sende socour. c. 1300 *Cursor M.* 13028 Iohn... come right to herods hame Bifor his barounes euerilkane. 1393 LANGL. *P. Pl.* C. vii. 123 Thus beggers and barouns at debat aren ofte. 1485 CAXTON *Chas. Gt.* 144 The Admirall is wyth hys pryncypal barons at souper. 1577 HARRISON *England* ii. v. (1877) 107 The baron is such a free lord as hath a lordship or baronie, whereof he beareth his name. 1596 SHAKS. 1 *Hen. IV.* iii. 66 The Lords and Barons of the Realme. 1603 DRAYTON (*title*) The Barons War. 1614 SELDEN *Titles Hon.* 274 Which makes me think that, before Henry III., as well Barons of Earls as the King's Barons came to Parliament. 1641 MILTON *Ch. Govt.* Wks. (1851) 131 Cling fast to your Pontificall Sees... quit yourselves like Barons. 1768 BLACKSTONE *Comm.* I. i. xii. 310 A baron's is the most general and universal title of nobility. 1782 PRIESTLEY *Corrupt. Chr.* II. x. 259 [Bishops] though churchmen... actually were barons. 1799 J. ROBERTSON *Agric. Perth.* 40 A proprietor holding immediately of the crown, and having his lands either erected or confirmed by the king into a free barony... is the only person, in strict law, denominated a baron. 1835 *Penny Cycl.* III. 487/1 Lesser Barons, or Barons of the Barons. *Ibid.* 489/2 Burford in Shropshire is also called a barony, and its former lords... were called, in instruments of authority, barons of Burford, but had never summons to parliament nor privileges of peerage. 1863 COX *Inst. Eng. Govt.* i. vii. 65 The council of the king was a council of barons. 1876 FREEMAN *Norm. Cong.* V. xxiv. 412 The Barons of England, a name made dear to us by the great struggle of the thirteenth century.

2. A specific order or rank, being the lowest grade of nobility.

From the earliest period we find *baron* distinguished from *earl*, as the designation of an untitled military tenant; the name may be considered to have itself become a title, as distinct from a description of feudal relationship or of parliamentary privilege, with the creation of barons by patent, which began in the reign of Richard II.

a. 1200 *Trin. Coll. Hom.* 35 Ne to kinge .ne to eorle .ne to barun. 1280 *Signs bef. Judgm.* in E. E. P. (1862) 10 Boþe kniȝt and barun . erl . and king. 1377 LANGL. *P. Pl.* B. xiii. 165 Neyther emperour ne emperesse, erl, kyng, ne baroun. c. 1500 *Lancelot* 1684 Thi dukis, erlis, and thi gret baronis, Thi pur knyghtis, and thi bachleris. a. 1674 CLARENDON *Hist. Reb.* I. i. 10 In a short time... he was made a Baron. 1690 TEMPLE *Heroic Virt.* Wks. 1731 I. 218 By Barons are now meant in England, such as are created by Patent, and thereby called to the House of Lords. 1790 BURKE *Fr. Rev.* Wks. V. 44 A sermon from... a noble earl, or baron bold. 1884 *Lond. Gaz.* 4 Nov., The Queen has been pleased to direct letters patent to be passed under the Great Seal, granting the dignity of a Baron of the United Kingdom and Ireland unto the undermentioned persons.

† 3. Anciently applied to the freemen of London, York, and some other places, who were homagers of the king, bound to suit and service; applied till the 18th c. to the freemen of the Cinque Ports, who had the feudal service of bearing the canopy over the head of the sovereign on the day of coronation; and, till the Reform Bill of 1832, to the burgesses returned by these ports to Parliament. *Obs.*

[a. 1259 MATT. PARIS (in Spelman) Londoniensis quos... Barones consuevimus appellare.] 1598 HAKLUYT *Voy.* I. 17 Writs... directed... to the Bailiffs of Hastings, Hith, Rumeney, Douer, and Sandwich, commanding them, that they should cause twenty and four of their Barons (for so their Burgesses, or townsmen, and the citizens of London likewise, were wont to be termed) to appear. 1613 SHAKS. *Hen. VIII.* iv. i. 48 They that beare The Cloath of Honour over her, are four Barons Of the Cinque-Ports. 1641 *Harl. Misc.* (Malh.) V. 49 They choose the knights and citizens, and burgesses, or barons, for so the citizens were anciently called; and the cinque-ports retain that name to this day. 1700 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 3804/1 Then the Queen... under a Canopy born by twelve Barons of the Cinque-Ports. 1753 CHAMBERS *Cycl. Supp.* s.v., Barons of the cinque ports, are members of the house of commons elected by the five ports, two for each port. 1861 *Times* 29 Aug., 'Baron' in London and in the Cinque Ports was but another name for 'freeman.'

4. Title of the judges of the Court of Exchequer (the president being the *Chief Baron*). (As to origin of this, see quot. 1751.)

[1330 *Pipe Roll* 31 *Hen. I.* Barones Scaccarii.] 1377 LANGL. *P. Pl.* B. iii. 319 Al shal be but one Courte, and one baroun be iustice. 1502 ARNOLD *Chron.* 41 The Treasurer and Barnes and other Ministers of the cheker. 1556 *Chron. Grey Friars* (1852) 71 They were the commysioners,—the lorde cheffe barne, doctor Olyver, &c. 1751 CHAMBERS *Cycl.* s.v., Barons of the exchequer... are called *Barons*, because Barons of the realm were used to be employed in that office. 1827 HALLAM *Const. Hist.* (1896) II. xi. 360 The barons of the exchequer... were to issue process. 1884 *Oliver and Boyd's Almanac* 541 IRELAND... Her Majesty's Court of Appeal, the Lord Chancellor, the Lord Chief Justice... the Lord Chief Baron of the Exchequer.

5. *Law and Her.* (conjoined with *feme*, *femme*): Husband.

[1292 BRITTON II. iii. § 6 Ne femmes esposus sauntz lour barouns.] 1594 PARSONS *Conf. Success.* II. iv. 92 If a baron match with a femme that is an inheretrix. 1612 GWILLIM *Hereditary v.* i. 254 The bearing of the Armes of the Femme by the Baron after issue received by her. 1676 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 1332/4 Baron and Feme in the first six coats quartered. 1845 STEPHEN *Law of Eng.* II. 238 Husband and wife, or, as most of our elder law books call them, baron and feme. 1862 BURTON *Bk. Hunter* II. 132 Baron and feme we call husband and wife, and coverture we term marriage.

6. As a foreign title (giving no rank or privileges in Britain).

e.g. Baron Rothschild, Baron de Worms.

7. In foreign use applied in respect or honour to any man, also to Christ and the saints.

a. 1300 *Cursor M.* 16876 Ioseph, þat god barune. 1534 LD. BERNERS *Gold. Bk. M. Aurel.* (1546) C.v. Comode Calcedonien, an ancient baron whiche expounded to hym Homer. 1867 LONGF. *Dante's Parad.* xxv. 17 Look, look! behold the Baron [St. James of Compostella], for whom below Galicia is frequented.

8. *Baron of Beef* [of unknown origin; possibly a distinct word]: a joint consisting of two sirloins left uncut at the backbone.

1755 in JOHNSON (quoted from some earlier Dict.), *Baron of Beef* is when the two sirloins are not cut asunder, but joined together by the end of the backbone. 1822 KITCHENER *Cook's Orac.* Introd., The Baron of Beef was another favorite and substantial support of Old English Hospitality. a. 1859 L. HUNT *Rob. Hood* iv. xvi. A bishop was a baron of beef With cut and come again. 1864 *Times* 24 Dec., On Thursday the Royal 'baron of beef' was roasted, under the superintendence of Mr. Godfrey, the Queen's cook.

9. *Comb. baron-bailie* (Sc.), a bailie or magistrate appointed by the lord-superior in a burgh of barony. Hence *baron-bailie-court*, *baron-court*, the court of justice held by a baron in his barony. (See also COURT-BARON.)

1753 *Stewart's Trial App.* 145, I intend... to hold a Baron-bailie-court on the estate of Ardsheil. 1813 N. CARLISLE *Topogr. Dict. Scot.* II. The Baron-Bailie Court of Macleod, the Chief, is the only Court of Justice in the Parish. 1818 SCOTT *Hrt. Midd.* xxvii. There was a Baron Court to be held at Loanhead that day, and... he was acquainted with the baron-bailie.

Baron, obs. form of BARN, BAIRN.

† **Baronady**. *Obs.* [f. BARON: the origin of the suffix does not appear.]

1. The dignity or rank of baron.

1596 FERNE *Blas. Gentrie* Ep. Ded., Some that were honored with the dignity of Baronady.

2. The body of barons collectively.

1587 FLEMING *Contm. Holinshed* III. 1362/1 How stoutlie

the kings & the baronadie of England... haue so repelled the popes usurpations.

Baronage (bār'ōnēdʒ). Forms: 3-6 barnage, 4 barunage, barunnage, 6 barnag, barronage, 4- baronage. [ME. *barnage*, a. OF. *barnage*, *barnage*:—L. type **bārōnāticum*, f. *barōn-em*, but actually latinized in Middle Ages *barnagium*, *baronagium*, whence *baronage* and mod. F. *baronnage*.]

1. The body of barons collectively; the great vassals of the Crown; the nobles, lords, peerage.

a. 1300 *Floriz & Bl.* 639 After his barnage he hab isend. a. 1300 *Cursor M.* 4649 Al þat barunage, less and mare. *Ibid.* 8016 Bath to þe and to þi barnage. c. 1400 *Rom. Rose* 5815 The baronage to councei went. c. 1400 *Chron. Viled.* 269 With all hurte faderes holle barnage. 1535 STEWART *Crom. Scot.* II. 86 All oure barnage into bandone brocht. 1589 WARNER *Alb. Eng.* v. xxv. (1597) 123 Ciuill wars betwixt the King and Baronnage. 1649 SELDEN *Law of Eng.* i. lviii. (1739) 109 The Judges in this Court were the Baronage of England. 1738 *Hist. Cr. Excheq.* i. 5 The greatest Part of the Baronage was summoned to Parliament. 1845 MACAULAY *Hist. Eng.* IV. 317 That authority which had belonged to the baronage of England ever since the foundation of the monarchy. 1876 *Green Short Hist.* ii. § 4 (1882) 71 The most turbulent baronage in Christendom.

b. *fig.* applied to: The angels.

1340 *Ayemb.* 58 Beuore god and al þe baronage of heuene.

c. *ellipt.* A list of the barons; a book containing such a list with historical and other particulars; a 'Peerage.'

† 2. The domain of a baron; a barony. *Obs.*

1475 *Bk. Noblesse* (1860) 55 The gouernance of... a roiaume, dukedom, erledom, barnage, or seignourie. 1480 CAXTON *Chron. Eng.* cii. 84 The saxons helden the Countees, baronages, lordshippes... in maner as the britons byfore tyme had compaced hem.

3. The dignity or rank of a baron.

1614 SELDEN *Titles Hon.* (1614) 290 All Dignities above Baron is included in the Baronage. 1642 W. BIRD *Mag. Hon.* 94 The dignity of Baronage unto them descended by women.

† 4. The relation of a baron to his lord superior; homage. *Obs.*

1671 F. PHILLIPS *Reg. Necess.* 436 By the Bond of his homage or Baronage to do all things as his Baron... to be his Liege-man, and more extraordinary Subject.

† 5. (see quot.) *Obs.*

1698 PHILLIPS, *Baronage*, a Tax, or Subsidy of Aid, to be levied for the King out the Precincts of Baronies.

Baroness (bār'ōnēs). Forms: 5 baronesse, baronyes, -es, -esse, baronnesse, 6- baroness. [a. OF. *baronesse*, -onnesse, in med. L. *baronissa*: see BARON and -ESS.] a. The wife of a baron. b. A lady holding a baronial title 'in her own right.'

c. 1400 *Chron. Viled.* 116 Bothe erlys and baronesse and ladyes clere. c. 1400 in Wright *Voc.* 194/2 *Baronissa*, baronyes. 1483 CAXTON *G. de la Tour* I v b, The example of a baronnesse or wyf of a baron. 1529 *Act 21 Hen. VIII.* xiii. § 28 Any Duchess, Marquess, Countess, Viscountess, or Baroness. 1695 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 3059/1 Assistants of the Chief Mourner were two Dutchesse, twelve Countesses, and four Baronesses. 1822 BYRON *Werner* iv. i. 65 He is to espouse the gentle Baroness. 1884 *Harper's Mag.* July 260/2 A baroness in her own right.

Baronet (bār'ōnēt), sb. Forms: 4 baronete, 5-6 -ette, 6 barronett, 5- baronet. [dim. of BARON: see -ET.]

† 1. *orig.* A word meaning young, little, or lesser baron, found as a title from the 14th c. According to Spenser (*State of Ireland*) originally applied to gentlemen, not barons by tenure, summoned to the House of Lords by Edward III; perhaps to the heirs of barons summoned by writ in their fathers' life-time. Applied in Ireland to the holder of a small barony. Often used as synonymous with BANNERET. *Obs.*

a. 1400 *Chester Pl.* 172 All that heare be sette, Barrones, burges and baronete. c. 1460 *Launfal* 56 No nother man was yn halle ysette, But he wer prelat, other baronete. c. 1475 in Wright *Voc.* 262 *Barunculus*, baronet. 1523 LD. BERNERS *Proiss.* I. liii. 75 He departed fro Gaunt with vii. erles of his contrey, viii. prelates, xxviii. baronettes [F. *vingt-huit bannerets*], ii. C. knyghtes. 1596 SPENSER *State Irel.* (J.) The which barrons, they say, were not afterwards lordes but only barronettes, as sundry of them doe yet retayne the name. 1617 MORVSON *Itin.* iii. iii. 157 Thomastowne, and the ancient City Rheban, now a poore Village with a Castle, yet of old giuing the title of Baronet. 1662 FULLER *Worthies* i. 111 Ancient Baronets... promiscuously blended with Bannerets, (Sir Ralph Fane in a Patent passed unto him, is expressly term'd a Baronet).

2. *now*, A titled order, the lowest that is hereditary, ranking next below a baron, having precedence of all orders of knighthood, except that of the Garter. A baronet is a commoner, the principle of the order being 'to give rank, precedence, and title without privilege.'

They consist of *Baronets of England* (now of *Great Britain*) instituted in 1611, to raise money for the settlement of Ulster by the fees paid for the dignity; *Baronets of Scotland* (or of *Nova Scotia*) instituted 1625 for the encouragement of the planting and settling of Nova Scotia; *Baronets of Ireland* instituted 1619. Of the two latter there have been no new creations since 1707 and 1801 respectively.

1614 SELDEN *Titles Hon.* 355 Baronet became a new erected distinct Title vnder our present Soueraigne. 1702 J. CHAMBERLAYNE *St. Gl. Brit.* i. iii. iv. (1743) 169 The next degree to Barons, are Baronets, which is the lowest degree of Honour that is Hereditary. 1751 CHAMBERS *Cycl.* s.v.,

Both a baronet and his eldest son, being of full age, may claim knighthood. 1785 *BURKE Nab. Arcot's Debts* Wks. IV. 195 The prosecutor of the worthy baronet. 1806 *DISRAELI* *Mr. Grey* II. xii. 58 Baronets with blood older than the creation. 1855 *MACAULAY Hist. Eng.* xix. (L.) A decided majority of... rustic baronets and squires.

3. *Baronet's hand*: the 'bloody hand,' or hand gules in a field argent (the arms of Ulster), granted by James I to English baronets to be borne on a canton or in an escutcheon on their shield, in allusion to the purpose for which the order was instituted.

1710 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 4654/3 Two Salts, Ermine and Baronets Hand, 1 Saucapan.

Baronet (bæ'rōnēt), *v.* Pa. t. and pple. -etēd. [f. prec. sb.; cf. *to knight*.] *trans.* To raise to the rank of baronet. (Mostly in *passive*.)

1773 *NORTH Exam.* III. vii. 73 He had deserved to have been Baronetted. 1819 *SOUTHEY Lett.* (1856) III. 116, I have long expected that Scott would be baronetted. 1871 *M. COLLINS Two Plunges* III. viii. 210 The unfortunate gentlemen whom I notice as being knighted or baronetted.

Baronetage (bæ'rōnētēdʒ). [f. *BARONET* sb. + -AGE: cf. *baronage*.] 1. The rank of baronet.

1760 *T. HUTCHINSON Hist. Col. Mass.* i. (1765) 128 He obtained also a grant of a baronetage of Nova-Scotia. 1818 *Blackw. Mag.* III. 711 Baronetages have been conferred on them.

2. The order of baronets, the body of baronets collectively.

1876 *Echo* 6 Dec. 1/6 This family is of great antiquity, and in point of precedence the second in the baronetage. 1882 *Standard* 30 Dec. 2/4 In the Baronetage the following deaths have taken place.

b. A list of the order of baronets; a book giving such a list with historical and other particulars.

1720 *A. COLLINS (title-p.)* The Baronetage of England, being an Historical and Genealogical Account of Baronets. c. 1815 *MISS AUSTEN Persuas.* (1833) I. i. 215 Sir Walter Elliot... for his own amusement, never took up any book but the Baronetage. (*Titles of Annals*) Burke's Peerage and Baronetage; Debrett's Baronetage with Knightage.

Baronetcy (bæ'rōnētsi). [f. as prec. + -CY.] A baronet's position or rank; a baronet's patent.

1812 *Examiner* 23 Nov. 745/1 The advancement of the Proprietor... to a Baronetcy. 1845 *DISRAELI Sybil* (1863) 87 A baronetcy has become the distinction of the middle class... some of our tradesmen; brewers, or people of that class. 1879 *BURKE Peerage and Bar.* Pref. Note, The false assumption of baronetries still continues.

Baroneted (bæ'rōnētēd), *pp.* a. Raised to the rank of baronet.

1873 *Echo* 14 Oct. 4/3 The baroneted chief magistrate.

Baronetess (bæ'rōnētēs), *rare*. [f. as prec. + -ESS.] The wife of a baronet.

1652 *BROME Damselle* i. ii. My Daughter here, that was, But now a Baronetesse in Reversion. 1876 *F. WILLIAMS Midl. Railw.* 453 The ghost of one Lady Bolles, a 'baronetess,' the only one ever made. [A sense due only to popular error.]

Baronethood. [f. as prec. + -HOOD.] The degree or rank of baronet; baronetcy.

1869 *Pall Mall G.* 18 Dec. 2 What is necessary to become a knight... How may a baronethood be achieved?

Baronetical, *a.* [f. as prec. + -ICAL.] Of or pertaining to baronets.

1863 *BURKE Viciss. Fam.* III. 5 The old Baronetical family of Piers. 1883 *Illustr. Lond. News*, A scion of the baronetical family of Mostyn of Falacre.

Baronetship (bæ'rōnētʃɪp). = *BARONETCY*.

1661 *MORGAN Sp. Gentry* IV. ii. 37 John Newton... on whom the Baronetship is entailed.

Baronial (bārōniāl), *a.* [f. *BARONY* + -IAL.] Of or pertaining to a baron or the barons; befitting the rank of a baron.

1767 *LD. LYTTELTON Hist. Hen. II.* Intro. (T.) The policy to which he subjected other baronial possessions. 1837 *HOWITT Rur. Life* i. iii. (1862) 20 Some splendid baronial Castle, as Warwick, Alnwick, or Raby. 1863 *Cox Inst. Eng. Govt.* i. vii. 63 The bishops of the new sees... never had any estate by baronial tenure.

Baronism, *rare*. [f. *BARON* sb. + -ISM.] The baronial system, feudalism.

1884 *Harper's Mag.* Aug. 422/2 The spirit of Norman baronism... and the spirit of Anglo-Saxon freedom.

Baronist, *rare*. [see -IST; cf. *royalist*.] An adherent of the Barons' party.

1611 *SPEED Hist. Gr. Brit.*, A faithlesse Baronist.

Baronise, *v. rare*. [see -IZE.] *trans.* To make or create (any one) a baron.

1611 *BARREY Ram Alley* III. in Dodsley *O. P. V.* 469 Didst thou not swear thou shouldst be baroniz'd? [cf. 439, I stand in hope To be created baron.]

Baronette (bæ'rōnēt). [mod.F., dim. of *baronne* baroness.] A little baroness, a baron's daughter; sometimes used for the wife of a baronet. 1861 *TROLLOPE Barchester T.* 290 A leash of baronets with their baronettes.

Barony (bæ'rōni). ? *Obs.* Forms: 5 *barunrie*, 6 *onrie*, *barronry*, 5- *barony*. [f. *BARON* + -RY; cf. late OF. *baronnerie*, in same senses.]

1. The domain of a baron; a barony.

c. 1449 *PECOCK Repr.* III. xviii. 400 Lordships of barunries. 1483 *Cath. Angl.* 22/1 Barony (v. r. *Barony*), *baronia*. ? 1530 *Dial. betw. Gent. & Husb.* 136 (D.) Many noble baronies & eridomes, With esquires landes & knightes fees. 1607

HIERON Wks. I. 102 When a great man carries the name of his barony. 1736 *J. M'URK Hist. Glasgow* (1830) 182 Minister of the barony church of Glasgow.

2. The rank or dignity of baron.

1712 *Earles Chester* 43 in *Furniv. Percy Folio* I. 274 Robert fitz Norman... in whose heyre[s] that Barony succession had 226 yeeres. 1648 *PRYNNE Plea for Lords C.* By virtue of their Peerage, Baronies, and Offices.

3. The body of barons; the barons collectively.

1653 *A. WILSON Jas. I.* 187 Gentlemen, who had procured those Titles, to perch above the English Barony.

Baronship. [see -SHIP.] The office or position of a baron; *c. g.* of Baron of the Exchequer.

1874 *Daily News* 17 Feb. 3/6 The Chief Baronship of the Court of Exchequer.

Barony (bæ'rōni). Forms: 3-7 *baronie*, 4 *barnye*, 4-5 *baronye*, 5- *barony*. [a. OF. *baronie*; -late L. **baronia*; see *BARON* and -Y. Cf. *BARNÉ*.]

1. The domain of a baron: *a. strictly*.

1297 *R. GLOUC.* 479 He 3ef him & is eirs the noble baronie. 1340 *Ayeb.* 38 Pet. nimeþ be cites, þe casteles, þe londres, þe baronyes. 1470-85 *MALORY Arthur* (1816) II. 413 King Arthur gave unto every each of them a barony of lands.

1614 *SELDEN Titles Hon.* 274 Lands and Mannors... of sufficient revenue and qualitie to make what was accounted a Barony, which was xiii. Knights Fees, and a Third part.

1649 *MILTON Eikon.* iv. Wks. (1851) 364 The People, that drove the Bishops out of their Baronies. 1860 *FORSTER Grand Remonstr.* 29 A baron claimed his barony not as a lord... but as a proprietor. 1876 *FREEMAN Norm. Cong.* V. xxiv. 417 To say that the Bishops sit in Parliament simply because they hold baronies runs counter to all the facts of our history.

b. In Ireland: A division of a county; see *quot.*

1596 *SPENSER State Irel.* (T.) That in every county or barony they should keep another able schoolmaster. 1607 *DAVIES 1st Let. Earl Salisb.* (1787) 229 The county of Monaghan was divided into five baronies. 1672 *PETTY Pol. Anat.* (1691) 326 In Ireland... an head constable for each barony or hundred, being 252. 1752 *CARTE Hist. Eng.* III. 577 Baronies, into which the Irish counties are divided as the English are into hundreds. 1873 *Gen. Rep. Census Eng.* IV. 181 The Barones appear to have been formed successively on the submission of the Irish chiefs... the territory of each constituting a barony.

c. In Scotland: A large freehold estate or manor, even though the proprietor is a simple commoner.

1843 *OLIVER & Boyd's Almanac* 473 Incorporated Trades of the Barony of Calton [Edinburgh]. 1854 *H. MILLER Sch. & Schm.* v. 97 The proprietor of the Barony, who lived at a distance, and had no dwelling upon the land. *Mod.* The best farm in the whole barony.

2. The body of barons collectively, the baronage. *Obs.* (Cf. *BARNÉ*.)

1297 *R. GLOUC.* 535 The Erl of Gloucestre Richard deide tho, Tho was the baronie wel in the more wo. c. 1300 *Becket* 1105 The King and all his Baronie: and his Bischops echon. c. 1450 *Mervin* vi. 106 Alle the baronye come to the mynster. 1596 *DRAYTON Leg.* iii. 445 The bold Barony.

3. The rank or dignity of baron; the office of Baron of the Exchequer; baronship.

1768 *H. WALPOLE Remin.* vii. 52 A barony, a red riband, and a good place for her brother. 1868 *Daily News* 6 July, The lowest order in the English peerage—a barony. 1885 *Law Times* 14 Mar. 347/2 The abolition of the Chief Justiceship of the Common Pleas, and the Chief Barony.

4. The tenure by which a baron held of his superior; military or other 'honourable' tenure.

1863 *Cox Inst. Eng. Govt.* i. vii. 63 William the Conqueror changed the spiritual tenure of frankalmoin or free alms... into the feudal tenure by barony.

Baroque (bārōk), *a.* and *sb.* [a. F. *baroque* adj., ad. Pg. *barroco*, Sp. *barrueco*, rough or imperfect pearl; of uncertain origin.]

In earlier Sp., *Minshew* 1623 has 'berruca, berruga a wart' (evidently L. *verruca*), also 'berruoco a hillocke, a wart,' 'berruodl a place full of hillocks'; *mod. Pg.* has besides *barroco* 'rough or Scotch pearl,' *barroca* 'a gutter made by a water-flood' *Vieyra*, 'uneven stony ground' (*Diez*), which native etymologists refer to Arab. *قُرْج* *burqah*, pl. of *burqah* 'hard earth mixed with stones, pebbly place' (*Freitag*). *Diez* has also suggested confusion of the ending with *roca*, *rocca* rock: the forms in *a, ue*, cannot come directly from L. *verruca*. *Littre's* suggestion that the word is identical with the logical term *baroko* seems to rest on no historical evidence; yet form-association with that may have influenced the later Eng. and Fr. use.]

A. adj. Irregularly shaped; whimsical, grotesque, odd. ('Originally a jeweller's term, soon much extended in sense.' *Brachet*.)

1851 *SIR F. PALGRAVE Norm. & Eng.* I. Intro. 44 Which rendered every name and thing connected with the mediæval periods baroque or absurd. 1867 *HOWELLS Ital. Journ.* 77 The building... coldly classic or frantically baroque. 1882 *A. B. HOPE Brandreth's* I. i. 3 Studded with baroque pearls.

B. sb. Grotesque or whimsical ornamentation.

1879 *BARING-GOULD Germany* II. 358 French baroque was too much under Palladian influence to be other than formal.

Baroscope (bæ'rōskōp). [f. Gr. *βάρο-s* weight + -σκοπος -observing, -observer.]

1. An instrument for indicating variations in the density of the atmosphere; a kind of barometer.

(The Statical Baroscope or Barometer of Boyle consisted of a large glass bubble exactly balanced by a small brass weight; increased density of the atmosphere giving greater support to the bubble, but not sensibly affecting the brass weight, the rise or fall of the former corresponded to that of the mercury in a barometer.)

1665 *Phil. Trans.* I. 31 A Baroscope, or an Instrument to shew all the Minute Variations in the Pressure of the Air. 1675 *Phil. Trans.* X. 490 That useful instrument the Baroscope, telling the changes of the weather beforehand. 1751 *CHAM-*

BERS Cycl. s.v. *Barometer*, The baroscope... in strictness, being a machine that barely shews an alteration in the weight of the atmosphere... To measure how much that difference is... is the business of the barometer.

2. An instrument designed, when placed under the air-pump, to show that bodies in air lose as much weight as that of the air they displace.

1881 in *Syd. Soc. Lex.*

Baroscopic (bæ'rōskōpik), *a.* [f. prec. + -IC.] Pertaining to or indicated by the baroscope.

Baroscopical, *a.* = prec.

1665-6 *Phil. Trans.* I. 182 That some Inquisitive men would make Baroscopical Observations. 1847 in *CRAIG*.

† **Barose-lenite**. *Min. Obs.* [f. *BAR-YTES* + *SELENITE*; see *quot.*] Native sulphate of barium; now called *BARITE* or *BARYTES*.

1766 *Phil. Trans.* LXXVI. 130 The solution of acetous baro-selenite (that is, ponderous earth dissolved in distilled vinegar). 1811 *PINKERTON Petral.* II. 138 Mr. Kirwan calls this kind of barytes, *baroselenite*; because it resembles selenite, or gypsum crystallised in plates.

Barouche (bārūʃ). [ad. dial. Ger. *barutsche* (also *birutsche*), ad. Sp. *barrocho* or It. *baroccio*, properly *biroccio* 'chariot,' orig. 'two-wheeled car,' f. L. *birōtus* 'two-wheeled,' perhaps assimilated in its ending to *carroccio* 'chariot' (*Diez*). The Eng. *barouche* assumes, in spelling and pronunciation, a French form, but no such word exists in F. (exc. as taken from Eng.)]

A four-wheeled carriage with a half-head behind which can be raised or let down at pleasure, having a seat in front for the driver, and seats inside for two couples to sit facing each other.

[1805 *MRS. R. TRENCH Rem.* (1862) 172, I saw a birutsche to-day, which the baroness has bought for 150 louis. It... has no resemblance to an English carriage.] 1813 *Examiner* 29 Mar. 198/2 Escorted to our Exchange in a barouche and six. 1815 *MISS AUSTEN Emma* (1870) II. xiv. 233 Their barouche-landau... holds four perfectly. 1854 *THACKERAY Newcomes* I. 62 Great dowager barouches roll along emblazoned with coronets.

Barouchet (bæ'rūʃe). [f. prec. + -ET; as if of French origin.] A kind of light barouche.

1859 in *WORCESTER*.

[*Barowe, triturare*. *Levins Mani.* (1570/181.)]

Bar-post: see *BAR* sb. 1 30.

Barque (bārk). Variant of *BAR* sb. 2

Barquentine, bark- (bārkēntīn). Also 7

-enteen, 9 -antine. [f. *BAR* sb. 2 on the analogy of *BRIGANTINE*; or perh. an assimilated form of Sp. *bergantine* 'small ship, brigantine' (*Minshew*).]

A small bark; *spec.* in mod. use: A vessel somewhat similar to a bark, having the fore-mast square-rigged, and the main- and mizen-masts fore-and-aft-rigged.

1693 *Col. Rec. Penn.* I. 379 Having Sailed from Barbadoes in the barkentine Ann. 1867 *SMYTH Sailor's Wd.-bk.*, *Bar-kantine* or *Barguantine*, a name applied on the great lakes of North America to a vessel, etc. 1881 *Leeds Merc.* 5 Feb. 2/6 Landed... from the barquentine Girl of Devon.

† **Barr**, *v. Obs.* [variant of *BARY* v. (= F. *barrier*, L. *barrire*).] *intr.* To utter the peculiar cry of an elephant. Hence *BARRING* *vbl. sb.*

1653 *URQUHART Rabelais* III. xiii. (1737) II. 303 The bawling of mastiffs... bawling of elephants. *Ibid.* note, An elephant, which out of reverence for the pope his master would barr and bend the knee.

Barr, *obs.* form of *BAR*.

Barrable (bārābl), *a.* [f. *BAR* v. + -ABLE.] Capable of being barred or legally stayed.

1788 *J. POWELL Devices* (1827) II. 576 The legacies... being barrable by a recovery. 1875 *POSTE Gains* III. 406 An action might be brought, but was barrable by an exception pleading the *senatusconsult*.

Barracado, *obs.* form of *BARRICADO*.

† **Barracan**. *Obs.* (exc. as alien.) Also 9

baracan. [a. F. *barracan*, *baragant* (*Cotgr.*), mod. *bouracan* (= Pr. *barracan*, It. *baracane*, Sp. *bar-ragan*, Pg. *barregana*), a. Arab. *بركان* *barrakān*,

or *burrukān* (*Dozy*), camlet, a cloak of camlet,

f. Pers. *برک* *barak* 'a blanket or garment of camel's hair.']

A fabric: orig. coarse camlet; still in Spain 'a sort of water-proof cloth of coarse wool or goat's hair,' also 'the name of a coarse black woollen garment still used in Morocco' (*Marsh*). Vaguely employed by European writers (see *Du Cange barracanus*): in some passages taken as 'a fine cloth of silk or other delicate material.' See also *BAR-RAGAN*.

1638 *Lanc. Wills* III. 206 My petticoate of barracan. 1821 *BYRON Juan* III. lxx, The striped white gauze barracan that bound her.

† **Barrace** (bæ'rās). *Obs.* exc. *Hist.* Forms: 4-6

barres, -as, 5 -ais, -eys, (6 *barrowie*), 5-9 *bar-raos*. [a. OF. *barras*, f. *barre* bar.]

1. A barrier or outwork in front of a fortress.

c. 1375 *BARBOUR Bruce* IV. 65 Ysche that wald And bargane at the barras [v. r. *barrais*] hald. 1380 *SIR PERCEVAL* 4679 Panne come þe Sarraziz out And defendede þe barres al about.

c 1470 *HENRY Wallace* ix. 830 Off hewyn temyr in haist he gert thaim tak . . . and a stark barres mak. 1483 *Cath. Angl.* 23 A Barras, antemurale. 1490 *CAXTON Eneydos* xxxv. 124 Rounde aboute this place he dyd make diche and barreys for to defende himselfe.

2. The bar of a tribunal; = *BAR sb.* 22. *rare.*
1499 *Plimpton Corr.* 142 This day was new barresses made in Westmynster hall, and thether was brought Therle of Warwek, and arrened.

3. A hindrance, obstruction, delay. *rare.*
1480 *CAXTON Ovid's Met.* xiii. iv. But I, whyche wel knowe this barras and whilis, toke w^t me armes for squyres.

4. The enclosure within which knightly encounters took place; the lists.

1523 *DOUGLAS Æneis* xii. xiv. 10 Bot we debat suld this barres wythin, With wappynnis kene. 1536 *BELLENDENE Cron. Scot.* (1821) II. 261 Quhen thir thevis war enterit in barras, quhare thay suld have fouchtin. 1568 *A. SCOTT New Y. Gift to Quene*, With scheild and speir To fecht in barrowis. 1808 *JAMIESON s.v.*, We still speak of 'a cock in a barrace,' in allusion to a cock-pit. 1888 *SCOTT F. M. Perth* xiii. Will justify this cartel in knightly weapons within the barrace.

5. Hence (perh. confused with *BARRAT*): Hostility, contention, strife.

c 1470 *HENRY Wallace* ii. 238 Me think we suld in barrat (v. r. barrace) mak thaim bow. 1603 *Philotus* ccliii. Is this ane pleasant godlie lyfe, To be in barrace, sturt and stryfe.

Barrack (bæ'ræk), *sb.* Forms: 7-8 *barraque*, 7 *barack*, 8- *barrack*. [a. F. *baraque*, ad. It. *baracca* or Sp. *barraca* 'a souldier's tent, or a booth, or such like thing made of the sayle of a shippe, or such like stuffe' (Minshew 1617). Of uncertain origin: Diez thinks from *barra* bar, comparing, for the form, *trabacca* from *trab-* beam. Others have tried to find an Arabic or Celtic source. Marsh has shown that the word occurs early in Sp. and Catalan.]

[1429 *Ord. in Privilegia Valentim* in Marsh *Wedgwood s.v.*, Concedimus vobis . . . habentibus barraquas sive patuas aut loca determinata ad edificandum, etc. a 1276 *Conq. Valencia* ibid., Barraques de tapits e vanoues. 1611 *ESCALANO Hist. Valencia* 1271 Barraças y choças de pescadores.]

1. A temporary hut or cabin; e. g. for the use of soldiers during a siege, etc. Still in *north. dial.*

1686 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 2107/2 The Houses ruined . . . are not yet rebuilt, so that greatest part of the Garrison is still lodged in Barraques. 1706 *PHILLIPS, Barrack* or *Barraque*, a Hut like a little Cottage for Soldiers to lodge in a Camp, when they have no tents. 1799 *SWIFT Grand Quest.* Wks. 1755 IV. l. 103 To dispose of it to the best bidder, For a barrack or malt-house. 1761 *GIBSON Dict. & F.* III. vi. 367 He lodged in a miserable hut or barrack. 1854 *H. MILLER Sch. & Schm.* (1858) 192 These barracks or bothies are almost always of the most miserable description.

b. 'A straw-thatched roof supported by four posts, capable of being raised or lowered at pleasure, under which hay is kept.' *Bartlett Dict. Amer.* 1848.

2. A set of buildings erected or used as a place of lodgement or residence for troops.

a. usually in *pl.* (collective), sometimes improperly treated as a *sing.*

1697 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 3314/3 An Estimate of the Charge of Building a Cittadel at Limericke; and of Barracks to be made for the Soldiers. 1760 *WESLEY in Fryd.* 21 July (1827) III. 11, I preached near the barracks. 1879 *JENKINSON Guide I. Wight* 43 Barracks were also erected, and the place was considered of military importance. 1884 *Harper's Mag.* Nov. 813/1 The college building had been seized for a barracks.

b. sometimes in *sing.*

1698 *Par. Reg. Drypool, Hull*, 21 Dec. [Baptism of] Jane, Daughter of Hugh Scot, Gentleman, Officer in the Barwick. 1699 *Ibid.* 2 Nov., Officer at the Berwick. 1774 *T. WARTON Hist. Eng. Poetry* lxii. (1840) III. 404 He . . . lived to see his cathedral converted into a barrack. 1845 *DISRAELI Sybil* (1853) 27 His own idea of a profession being limited to a barrack in a London park.

c. *transf.* 1883 *EARL CAIRNS in Chr. Commw.* 834/3 The children were not massed together in great barracks, but were broken up into small detachments.

3. *attrib.*, as in *barrack-life*, *-room*, *-yard*; **barrack-master**, an officer who superintends soldiers' barracks; whence *barrack-master-general*, an appointment abolished in 1806.

a 1745 *SWIFT Lett.* (R.) An Irishman, who pretended to be barrack-master-general of Ireland. 1844 *Regul. & Ord. Army* 233 Barrack-Masters being expressly enjoined . . . to confine the issues of Bedding, Furniture, Utensils, and Stores to such only as, etc. *Ibid.* 236 The Officer of the Day is to visit the Barrack-Rooms to see that they are properly cleaned. 1854 *H. MILLER Sch. & Schm.* (1858) 186 Somewhat dismayed by this specimen of barrack-life. 1863 *KINGLAKE Crimea* II. 436 Here on the bloody slope of Alma no less than in the barrack-yard at home.

Barrack (bæ'ræk), *v.* [f. prec. *sb.*]

1. *trans.* To provide barracks for; to locate in barracks.

1701 *LUTTRELL Brief Rel.* V. 101 Prince Eugene has demanded . . . 30,000 plank for barracking his troops. 1878 *Echo* 1 Oct. 4 When men are not barracked, when military service implies . . . nothing but home defence.

2. *intr.* To lodge in barracks.

1834 *H. MILLER Scenes & Leg.* xxxii. (1857) 478 A small recruiting party barracked in one of the neighbouring lanes.

Barracade (bæ'rækād), [f. Du. *baars* = bare, napless + *kled* cloth.] 'A home-made woollen blanket without nap.' *Bartlett Dict. Amer.* 1848.

Barracoon (bæ'rākūn), [a. Sp. *barracoon* (?), augmentative f. *barraca*: see *BARRACK sb.* and

-OON.] A rough barrack, set of sheds, or enclosure, in which negro-slaves (originally), convicts, etc., are temporarily detained. Also *fig.*

1851 *T. PARKER Wks.* VII. 290 The chain . . . visible on the necks of the judges as they entered the Bastille of Boston—the Barracoon of Boston! 1861 *Du Chaillu's Equat. Afr.* xi. 141, I made a visit to the barracoons, or slave-pens. 1868 *MÉRIVALE Rom. Emp.* (1865) VIII. lxviii. 358 The empire became no more than an ergastulum or barracoon on a vast scale.

Barracuda, -coota, -coute (bæ'rākū-dā, -ūtā). Also 7 -coutha, 8 *bara-*. [! Sp.] A large and voracious fish (*Sphyræna barracuda*) of the Perch family, from six to ten feet in length, found in the seas of the West Indies.

1678 *PHILLIPS, Barracootha*. 1734 *MORTIMER in Phil. Trans.* XXXVIII. 315 The Barracuda. The Flesh of this Fish is very unwholesome. 1779 *COOK Voy.* (1790) I. 155 Breams, barracootas, gurnard. 1830 *MARRYAT King's Own* xiii. With the . . . rapidity of a barracoota. 1885 *LADY BRASSEY In Trades* 331 The Barracuda is . . . sometimes . . . good to eat and of excellent flavour, and at others malignantly poisonous.

|| **Barrad** (bæ'rād). [a. Ir. *bairéud*, *bairread*, ad. F. *barrette*: see *BARRET*.] (See quot.)

1824 *PLANCHÉ Brit. Costume* 371 The barrad, or Irish conical cap. 1862 *BROWNIE Canham Alice* 19 With the tall barrad or conical cap upon their heads.

Barragan, -on. [a. Sp. *barragan*: see *BARRAOAN*, of which this is a modern revival, in the Spanish form, for trade purposes.] (See quot.)

1787 *G. WHITE Selborne* v. 14 Barragons, a genteel corded stuff, much in vogue at that time for summer wear. 1840 *L. foot Fryd.* 4 July 1/2 A great Stock of Fustians, in Beavertees, Moleskins, Barragans.

Barrage (bæ'rédz). [a. F. *barrage*, f. *barre* *BAR sb.* 1: see -AGE.] The action of barring; the formation of an artificial bar in a river or water-course, to increase the depth of water; the artificial bar thus formed, *esp.* those in the Nile.

1850 *W. GREGORY Egypt* in 1855-6 I. 64 Useless barrages that obstruct, and do not benefit. 1865 *Daily Tel.* 8 Dec. 5/1 The execution of the barrage of the Nile. 1868 *J. MACGREGOR Voy. Alone* 88 The vast locks, barrages, quays.

Barragouin: see *BARAGOUIN*.

|| **Barranca** (bæ'ræŋkā). [Sp., used in U.S.] A deep ravine with precipitous sides.

1848 in *BARTLETT Dict. Amer.* 1850 *PRESCOTT Mexico* I. 399 Over a deep barranca, or ravine, they crossed.

Barrand, -ant, obs. forms of *BARREN*.

Barrandite (bæ'rændsīt). *Min.* [Named (in 1867) after Barrande, a Bohemian geologist: see -ITE.] A phosphate of alumina and iron occurring in spheroidal concretions at Cerhovic in Bohemia.

1868 *DANA Min.* 574.

† **Barras**¹. *Obs.* 'A coarse linen fabric originally imported from Holland.' *Drapers' Dict.* 1640 *Charter Lond.* in *Beck Drapers' Dict.* 13 Dutch Barras. 1714 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 5240/3 Buckrams, Barras and Silesia Neckcloths.

|| **Barras**² (barā, bæ'rās). [Fr., f. *barre* *BAR sb.* 1, from its appearance on the tree.] The resin which exudes from wounds made in the bark of fir-trees. 1847 in *CRAIG*.

Barras, obs. form of *BARBACE*.

† **Barrat**. *Obs.* Forms: 3-5 *baret*, 4 -ete, 4-5 -ette, -ett, -at, 5 -ate, -eyt, *barret*, -ette, 5-6 *barrat*. [a. OF. *barat* (nom. *baras*) masc. (= It. *baratto*, OSP. *barato*, Pr. *barat*), also OF. *barate* fem. (= OSP. Cat., Pr. *barata*) 'deceit, fraud, confusion, trouble, embarrassment.' Of doubtful origin: the final -at of OF., and It. -atto, indicate an original a in position, as -att-, -apt- (Godef. has a 14th c. spelling *barapf*). The original sense in Romanic seems to have been 'traffic, commerce, dealing' (P. Meyer). Diez, Scheler, and E. Müller favour a possible derivation from Gr. *παράρειν* 'to practise, do business, deal,' as to which see their works. Chevallet and Stokes compare OIr. *mrath*, later *brath*, OBreton *brat*, later *brad*, Welsh *brad* 'betrayal, treachery,' as the possible source of the Fr. and thence of the other Romanic forms. Sense 3 cannot be separated from ON. *barðtta* 'fight, contest, strife, (in deriv.) trouble,' which appears to have concurrently or independently influenced the Eng. word.]

1. Deception, fraud, fraudulent dealing.
[1298 *BRITTON* iv. iii. § 3 Par extorsion . . . par barat et par contek.] 1340 *Ayenb.* 35 Barat, ualshedes and alle gyles. c 1400 *MAUNDEV.* xxvii. 272 Thei sette not be no Barettes . . . Cawteles, Disceytes. 1485 *CAXTON Chas. Gt.* 231 Doon in good entent and euyte and without barat. 1503 *Sheph. Kal.* xlii. A Person with a short neck, is full of fraude, [of] barate, of deception.

2. Trouble, distress, sorrow, grief, pain.

c 1320 *Ancre. R.* 414 'Marthe, Marthe,' cweð he, 'hu ert ine muchele baret.' c 1325 *Metr. Hom.* 124 Baret sal he thol and wa. c 1400 *Epiph.* (Turn. 1843) 1797 Then saw he hym in gret baret; And in a fyr to the navyle y-seytt. 1552 *LYNDESAV Dreame* 851 Quo sal beir of our barrat the blame? 3. Contention, strife, quarrel, fighting.

c 1300 *Behet* 703 The King him makede wroth ynou3; that so ofte in baret was. 1330 *R. BRUNNE Chron.* 99 Whan þis

barette was ent. c 1340 *Gaw. & Gr. Knt.* 21 Bolde bredden þer-inne, baret þat lofden. 1406 *Dives & Paup.* (W. de W.) ix. xiv. 366 Whiche in fyght & baret lesc theyr eyen, theyr feet, theyr hondes.

† **Barrat**, *v.* *Obs. rare*—1. [f. *BARRAT sb.* (in sense 3), or perh. f. *BARRATOR*; but cf. OF. *barater*, OSP., Pg., Cat., Pr. *baratar*, It. *barattare* to exchange, to cheat, deceive (after sense 1 of the *sb.*)] To quarrel, strive, brawl. Hence *Bar-rating vbl. sb.*

1600 *Pory Leo Africa* III. 134 To see how they will barret and scould one at another. 1635 *F. WHITE Sabbath Ep.* Ded. 7 Senators. . . with their barking, barranting, and libelling, haue brought . . . their venerable calling into much contempt.

Barrateen, -ine. *Obs.* Also *bara-*. Some kind of woven fabric.

1689 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 2438/4 A New black Barratine Mantua and Petticoat. 1745 *Lond. Mag.* 403 Baratees [*sic*], and other Francfort Commodities. 1761 *Brit. Mag.* II. 117 Thick barrateen curtains were close drawn round the bed.

Barrator, -er (bæ'rātōr). Forms: 5-6 *baratour*, 5-8 *barretor*, 5 *baratoure*, -atowre, -atur, -itur, -iter, *barratoure*, 6 *baratter*, -ater, -ator, -ettour, -etour, *barratur*, 6-7 *barretour*, 6-8 -eter, 7-8 -etter, 7-9 -ettor, 6- *barrator*, -er. [a. AF. **baratour* = OF. *barator*, -ecur (= It. *barattatore*, Pr. *baratador*) fraudulent dealer, cheat, trickster, f. *barat*: see *BARRAT v.* Notwithstanding the derivation of the form from OF., the sense of 'fighter, quarreller' (see *BARRAT sb.* 3) is much more prominent in this word; the most usual sense, III, intimately blends the two ideas.]

I. [from AF. *baratour*.] One who deals fraudulently in his business or office.

1. A person who buys or sells ecclesiastical preferment, a simoniac or simonist (*obs.*); one who buys or sells offices of state.

1427 *Acts 7as. I* (Scot.) § 106 (1597) The King forbiddis, that onie of his lieges send onie expenses till ony barrator, that is now out-with the Realme. 1867 *Longf. Dante's Inf.* xxi. 41 *note*, A Barrator, in Dante's use of the word, is . . . one who sells justice, office, or employment. Benvenuto says . . . Bontura was an arch-barrator.

2. A judge who takes bribes.

1864 *WEBSTER* cites *BURRILL*. 1867 [see prec.] 1884 *J. SIBBALD Dante's Inf.* xxii. 52 *note*, The barrators took toll of the administration of justice.

3. A ship's master who commits *BARRATRY* (3).

1847 in *CRAIG*.

II. [from *BARRAT sb.* 3, ON. *barðtta*.]

† 4. One who fights; *esp.* a hired bully. *Obs.*
a 1400 *Sir Perc.* 263 Kay the bolde baratour. 1460 *CARVERE Chron.* 264 The Kyng . . . sent into Chestershire for barretours . . . that thei schuld com and have the keyping of his body. 1577 *HOLINSHED Chron.* II. 538 Such barretours as used to take monie to beat any man, and againe would not sticke to take monie of him whom they had so beaten, to beat him that first hired them to beat the other. 1583 *STANYHURST Æneis* I. (Arb.) 33 Hee sees with baretours Troy wals inuironed.

† 5. A quarrelsome person; one given to brawl-ing and riot; a rowdy. *Obs.*

c 1440 *Prompt. Parv.* 23 Baratorwe, pugnaz, rixosus, jur-gosus. a 1450 *Knt. de la Tour* xxxvii. 53 Theues, usurers, bariters, ouerthwarteres. 1508 *ARNOLD Chron.* 90 Yf ther be ony comon ryator, barratur, or ony comon nyght walkers wythout light. 1662 *FULLER Worthies* II. 199 Wild Barretters who delight in brawls and blows. 1714 *SCROGGES Courts-leet* 9 All comon Barretors, Scolds, and other Breakers of the Peace.

fig. (of winds). 1883 *STANYHURST Æneis* I. (Arb.) 22 Dare ye loe, curst baretours . . . Too raise such raks iaks on seas?

III. (Combining II. and I.)

6. *Law* and *gen.* One who vexatiously raises, or incites to, litigation; a mover or maintainer of law-suits; one who from maliciousness, or for the sake of gain, raises discord between neighbours.

The action of a barrator consists, says Coke (*On Litt.* 368) ' (1) in disturbance of the Peace; (2) in taking or keeping of possessions of Lands in controversie, not only by force, but also by subtiltie and a deceit, and most commonly in suppression of truth and right; (3) by false inuentions, and sowing of calumniation, rumors, and reports, etc.'

c 1430 *LYDO Bochas* i. xii. (1554) 26 a, Simples which that cannot vary May neuer accord with a baratur. c 1440 *Prompt. Parv.* 115 Debate maker, or baratur, incutor. 1591 *LAMBARDE Arch.* (1635) 188 No Sheriffe or Steward . . . shall suffer any Barretor, or maintainer of Quarrels, in their Countrie Courts, or other Courts. 1648 *FULLER Holy & Prof. St.* II. xiii. 183 A Barreter is a horseleach that onely sucks the corrupted blood of the law. He trades onely in tricks and quirks. 1770 *LANGHORNE Plutarch* (1789) II. 800/1 Those public barretters, who . . . make it their business to form impeachments. 1809 *TOMLINS Law Dict.* s.v., A common solicitor, who solicits suits, is a common barrator. 1855 *MACAULAY Fredk. Gt.* 80 The true wisdom of the great powers was to attack, not each other, but this common barrator.

† 7. *transf.* of things. *Obs.*

1644 *Br. MOUNTAGU Gagg* 146 'Mine' and 'thine' are the common barretters of the world. 1691 *TYRON Wisdom's Dict.* 89 Intemperance . . . is the Common Barreter that dis-quiets private Families.

Barratorship. [see -SHIP.] = *BARRATRY*.

1884 *J. SIBBALD Dante's Inf.* xxii. 52 As servant next to Thiebault, righteous King, I set myself to ply barratorship.

† **Barratous**, *a.* *Obs.* In 5 *baratous*, -atous, 6 -atows. [a. OF. *barateus*, f. *barat*: see *BARRAT sb.* and -OUS.] Contentious, quarrelsome.

1430 *LYDG. Chron. Troy* ii. xv, To his seruantes ful in-patient, And baraytous where that so euer he went. 1496 *Dives & Paup.* (W. de W.) ii. xiii. 123 Yf the lorde be fell cruell and baratous. 1523 *SKELTON Carl. Laurel* 673 Preservative. Ageynst all baratows broisours. 1598 G. HARVEY *Pierces Super.* 97 The world is too-full of litigious, and barratous pennes.

† **Barratress.** *Obs. rare.*—1 In 6 bara- [a. OF. *barateresse*, fem. of *barateur*, BARRATOR: see -ESS.] A female fighter, amazon, virago.

1583 STANYHURST *Æneis* i. (Arb.) 34 A barateresse, daring with men, thogh a mayd, to be buckling.

† **Barratring.** *ppl. a. Obs. rare.*—1 [cf. BARRATR-Y, and BARRAT-V.] Practising barratry.

1716 M. DAVIES *Ath. Brit.* (1716) *Crit. Hist.* 18 Such as are but Barratring and Champetring Solicitors in Learning.

Barratrous (bærrātrūs), *a.* [f. BARRATR-Y + -OUS.] In *Marine Law*: Of the nature of barratry, fraudulent. **Barratrously** *adv.*, by barratry.

1842 SIR J. PARK *Syst. Mar. Insur.* i. v. 189 Where a ship and cargo was barratrously taken out of her course . . . by the barratrous act of the crew. 1848 ARNOULD *Mar. Insur.* (1866) II. iii. ii. 713 No act can be barratrous to which the owners have . . . been consenting parties. 1883 *Law Rep. Appeal* VIII. 394 A barratrously caused seizure.

Barratry (bærrātri). *Forms*: 5-7 barrattrie, 7 barratrie, 7-8 barratry, 8 barratry, 6- barratry. [a. OF. *baraterie*, *barterie* (= Pr. *barataria*), f. *barat*: see BARRAT and -ERY, -RY.]

1. The purchase or sale of ecclesiastical preferment, or of offices of state.

1497 *Acts Jas. I* (Scot.) § 106 (1597) That na Clerkes . . . passe out of the Realme, bot gif he . . . mak faith . . . that he do no barratry. 1507 *Acts Jas. VI* (1597) § 2 That name of our said Sovereines subjects . . . desire title or right of the said Bishop of Rome . . . to any thing within this Realme, vnder the paines of Barratry. 1639 SPOTTISWOOD *Hist. Ch. Scot.* v. (1677) 270 Against whom the sentence of Barratry had been pronounced. 1705 HICKERINGILL *Priest-cr.* i. (1721) 63 Twenty four Articles to prove Barratry . . . against me. 1867 LONGE *Daniel's Inf.* xxii. 52, I set me to practise barratry.

2. (*Sc. Law*.) The acceptance of bribes by a judge. 1773 ERSKINE *Inst. Laws Scot.* (1838) 1091 Corruption of Judges, *Crimen repetundarum*, Baratry, Theftote.

3. *Marine Law*. Fraud, or gross and criminal negligence, on the part of the master or mariners of a ship, to the prejudice of the owners, and without their consent; e.g. dishonestly sinking, deserting, or running away with the ship, or embezzling the cargo.

(The risk of *barratry* is usually excluded in bills of lading from the liabilities of the shipowner to the shipper or consignee of goods, and is undertaken by underwriters in policies of marine insurance.)

1622 MALYNES *Anc. Law-Merch.* 155 Barratrye of the Master and Mariners can hardly be avoided, but by a prudent care to know them. 1755 MAGENS *Insurances* i. 75 The Insurers were obliged to answer for the Barratry of the Master. 1865 J. LEES *Laws Brit. Ship.* (ed. 9) 140 Barratry . . . includes whatever is a cheat, or fraud, or fraudulent act of the captain or crew to the injury of the owner.

4. The offence of habitually exciting quarrels, or moving or maintaining law-suits; vexatious persistence in, or incitement to, litigation.

1645 *Ord. Lords & Com. Sacram.* 6 Legally attainted of Barratry. 1670 HACKET *Abb. Williams* ii. (1693) 171 Inhibiting the Corinthians very sharply for their . . . common Barratry, in going to Law one with another. 1768 BLACKSTONE *Comm.* IV. 133 Common barratry is the offence of frequently exciting and stirring up suits and quarrels between his majesty's subjects. 1835 *Penny Cycl.* III. 495/2 A single act cannot amount to barratry.

Barre, obsolete form of BAR.

Barred (bārd), *ppl. a.*; also 5 barrid, 6-7 bard(e). [f. BAR *v.* and *sb.* 1 + -ED.]

I. 1. Secured, enclosed, or shut with bars.

1593 SHAKS. *Rich. II.* i. i. 180 A ten times barr'd vp chest. 1611 *Bible Song. Sol.* iv. 12 A garden inclosed [margin, barred] is my sister. 1800 SCOTT *Abbot* xix. The close-barred portal. 1862 THORNBURY *Turner* II. 228 Turner was notoriously a barred-up man, a man who would come to the threshold of his mind . . . but would by no means open the door.

II. Having, or furnished with, a bar or bars.

2. *generally*.

a 1571 JEWEL *Serm. bef. Queen* (1583) The Egyptians had mighty chariots, straked and barred with yron. 1712 STEELE *Spect.* No. 474 ¶ 2 Five-barred gates. 1825 SCOTT *Talism.* i. His barred helmet of steel.

3. Ornamented with bars (see BAR *sb.* 1 4); striped, streaked.

c 1340 *Gaw. & Gr. Knt.* 159 Silk bordes, barred ful ryche. c 1386 CHAUCER *Miller T.* 49 A seint she wered barred all of silk. 1387 TREVISIA *Higden Rolls* Ser. VI. 297 Clerks dede away barred gurdelles. 1459 *Test. Ebor.* (1855) II. 235 Meam . . . Cristenynge-gyrdill barred through-out. 1552 *Eng. Ch. Furniture* (1866) 221 One of black velvet and an other of barde silke. 1572 BOSSEWELL *Armorie* II. 31 b, Armes may in diuerse wise be Barred, and the firste maner is playne and streyghte. 1797 BEWICK *Birds* i. 9 The feathers on the thighs are . . . pure white; those of the tail are barred.

4. Of harbours: Obstructed by a BAR *sb.* 1 15.

1552 T. BARNABE in *Ellis Orig. Lett.* II. 11. 108 In all France be barde havens. 1647 FULLER *Gd. Th. in Worre T.* (1841) 132 Barred havens, choked up with the envious sands. 1796 MORSE *Amer. Geog.* i. 427 Its decline is attributed to a barred harbour and shoal rivers. 1858 *Merc. Mar. Mag.* V. 48 The river forms a barred harbour.

† 5. **Barred dice** (cf. BAR *sb.* 1 21): see quot. *Obs.* 1532 *Dice Play* (1850) 24 Lo, here . . . a well-favoured die,

that seemeth good and square, yet is the forehead longer on the cater & tray than any other way . . . Such be also called bard cater tres, because, commonly, the longer end will, of his own sway, draw downwards, and turn up to the eye side, sinke, deuis or ace. 1604 DEKKER *Honest Wh. Wks.* 1873 II. 145 She suffred your tongue, like a bard Cater tra, to runne all this while.

6. *Mus.* Marked off by bars: see BAR *sb.* 1 16.

1883 SIR H. OAKELEY *Bible Psalter* Pref. 6 To hesitate . . . just before the barred or strict time commences.

† For BARD *ppl. a.* = BARDED.

1612 DRAYTON *Polyolb.* xii. 206 Armed cap-à-pie upon their barred horse.

Barrel (bærēl), *sb.* *Forms*: 4 barayl, 4-5 barele, 4-6 -ell(e), 4-7 -el, 5 barylle, 5-6 barrelle, 6 beryll, 6-7 barrell, 7- barrell. [a. F. *baril* (12th c. in Littré) = Pr., Pg., Sp. *barril*, It. *barile*, med.L. *barile*, *barillus*, *barulilis* (9th c.); cf. also *barrale* 'a cask, a measure of liquids' Du Cange: of unknown origin; Diez thinks possibly a deriv. of *barra*, BAR *sb.* 1 The Celtic words (Welsh *baril*, Gael. *baraill*, Ir. *bairile*, Manx *barrel*) sometimes cited as the source, are all from English.]

I. A cask.

1. A cylindrical wooden vessel, generally bulging in the middle and of greater length than breadth, formed of curved staves bound together by hoops, and having flat ends or heads; a cask.

c 1305 *Ysaie* 23 in E. E. P. (1862) 107 He seze a barayl . . . per inne hi dide his liper child: and amide be see hit caste. 1485 CAXTON *Chas. Gt.* 60 Two barylles . . . ful of bawme. 1591 SHAKS. *1 Hen. VI.* v. iv. 57 Place barrells of pitch vpon the fatal stake. 1604 T. WRIGHT *Passions* v. 226 Diogenes . . . satte in his philosophical barrell. 1734 SWIFT *Drapier's Lett.* Wks. 1841 II. 2 This Wood . . . sends over a great many barrells of those halpence to Cork. 1855 MACAULAY *Hist. Eng.* III. 401 A barrel of Colchester oysters, his favourite dainties.

b. With various substantives defining its specific use, as *beer-, brandy-, fire-, herring-, sugar-, tar-, thunder-, treacle-barrel*.

1753 CHAMBERS *Cycl. Suppl.* *Fire Barrells* are casks of divers capacities, filled with bombs, grenades, etc. . . These are sometimes also called thundering barrells. 1815 SCOTT *Guy R.* xlviii. If they burn the Custom-house . . . we'll lunt like a tar-barrell a' thegither. 1818 — *Rob Roy* xxvii. He wadna, for a' the herring-barrells in Glasgow. 1837 CARLYLE *Fr. Rev.* i. ii. I. 9 Their pasteboard coulissses, thunder-barrells, their kettles, fiddles. *Ibid.* iii. i. III. 146 Groceries enough: sugar-barrells rolled forth into the street. 1841 MARRYAT *Poacher* xxiii. The beer barrel being empty.

2. Used as a measure of capacity both for liquids and dry goods, varying with the commodity.

1379 *MS. Records Grocers' Comp.* 28 a, Reseyns corences i barrel. 1382 WYCLIF *Luke* xvi. 6 An hundred bareils of oyle. 1500 ARNOULD *Chron.* (1811) 246 The barrell of soep, xxx galones. The barrell of aell, xxxii galones. The barrell of beer, xxxvi galones. 1672 PETTY *Pol. Anat.* (1691) 21 Corn was then at 50s. per Barrel. 1712 *Act to Anne in Lond. Gas.* No. 5012/1 A Barrel of Soap is to contain 256 pound. 1749 REYNARDSON in *Phil. Trans.* XLVI. 57, 36 Gallons . . . were to be reckoned as a Barrel of Beer, and 32 such Gallons a Barrel of Ale. 1862 F. GRIFFITHS *Artill. Man.* 92 Whole Barrells [of gunpowder] contain 100 lb.

3. By metonymy: The contents of a barrel; intoxicating liquor. Cf. 'the bottle.'

c 1300 *K. Alis.* 28 For they no haveth no joye . . . Bote in the gutte, and the barrel. 1798 W. HUTTON *Fam. Hutton* 104 When in liquor he was good-natured. His children knew his weak side, and omitted to ask a favour till the barrel worked.

b. (*in U. S. political slang*): Money for use in a political campaign, esp. for corrupt purposes.

1884 *Boston (Mass.) Herald* 18 Sept. There is a plenty of evidence that the head of Mr. Lodge's barrel has already been knocked in. 1884 *Savannah News* Aug. It would be much better for General Butler if he would turn one of his barrels over to the Democratic campaign committee.

† 4. *abst.* Brand, quality, sort. See HERRING.

1542 UGALL *Erasm. Apoph.* 165 b, Two feloes beeyng lyke fladrics, and neither barrel better hearyng, accused either other. 1579 GOSSON *Sch. Abuse* 32 Therefore of both barrells, I judge Cookies and Painters the better hearing. 1659 GAUDEN *Tears Ch.* 245 (D.) There meaneest comrades, which are of the same bran and barrell with themselves. 1789 H. WALPOLE *Corr.* (1820) IV. 490 (D.) A committee of those Amazons stopped the Duke of Orleans, who, to use their style, I believe is not a barrel the better hearing.

II. Things cylindrical or shaped like a barrel.

5. A revolving cylinder or drum, round which a chain or rope is wound, in various machines and appliances; e.g. that of a capstan, jack, wheel, windlass. Hence b. the cylindrical box, containing the main-spring of a watch, round which the chain is wound; c. the revolving cylinder of a musical box, barrel-organ, etc., in which are fixed the pins that strike the keys.

c 1500 *Coke Lorrelles B.* 12 Some pulde at the beryll . . . Some howysed the mayne sayle. 1611 COTGR., The barrell of a windlesse, *Moulinet*. 1753 CHAMBERS *Cycl. Suppl.* *Barrel* of a jack is the cylindrical part whereon the line is wound. 1769 FALCONER *Dict. Marine* (1789), *Drosse* . . . the tiller-ropes . . . wound about the barrel of a ship's wheel. c 1850 *Rudim. Nav.* (Weale) 94 *Barrel*, the main piece of a capstan or steering-wheel.

b. 1753 CHAMBERS *Cycl. Suppl.* *Barrell* of a clock is a cylindrical part, about which the string is wound. 1824 F. BRITTEN *Watch & Clockm.* 31 [A] Barrel hook . . . [is] a pin in the barrel to which the mainspring is attached; Barrel Hollow . . . [is] the sink cut in the top plate of a watch to give

freedom to the barrel; Barrel Cover . . . [is] a lid that snaps into a rebate in the barrel.

c. 1659 LEAK *Water-wks.* 32 Make the Musical Barrel to turn . . . and the Pins that are put upon the said Barrel, shall touch the keys. 1876 EMERSON *Ess.* Ser. II. ii. 98 The revolving barrel of the music-box.

6. A (usually hollow) cylinder forming part of various objects; esp. b. one forming the trunk or body, e.g. of a pump, engine-boiler, bell, feather.

1797 BRADLEY *Fam. Dict.*, *Curry-Comb* . . . consists of these Parts, 1. The Barrel or Back of the Comb. 1874 BOUTELL *Arms & Arm.* ix. 173 The barrel (*fusée*), which is the hilt itself, adapted to be grasped by the hand. 1881 RAYMOND *Mining Gloss.*, *Barrel*, a piece of small pipe inserted in the end of a cartridge to carry the *squib* to the powder.

b. 1659 LEAK *Water-wks.* 17 If the Water be not high enough between the top of the Barrel and the Bucket. 1836 TODD *Cycl. Anat. & Phys.* I. 350/1 All feathers are composed of a quill or barrel. 1872 ELLACOMBE *Bells of Ch.* i. 4 The various parts of a bell may be described as the body or barrel, etc. 1882 *Law Rep. Appeal* IX. 429 The trunk or barrel of the tree. 1884 *Leis. Ha. Sept.* 533/2 Three lengths of cylinder, firmly riveted together, form what is called the barrel of the boiler [of a locomotive engine].

7. The metal tube of a gun, through which the bullet or shot is discharged. Hence in *single-barrel*, *double-barrel*, etc., of the whole weapon.

a 1648 DIGBY (J.) Take the barrel of a long gun perfectly bored. 1705 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 4140/3 We also took 10 Pieces of Cannon, 8 whereof were treble Barrells. 1858 W. ELLIS *Vis. Madagascar* iv. 96 The long tin barrel of a painted gun.

8. The belly and loins of a horse, ox, etc.

1703 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 3948/4 A dun Gelding . . . with a round Barrel. 1855 SINGLETON *Virgil* I. 151 Lofty is his neck, And elegant his head, his barrel short. 1880 BRET HARTE *Jeff. Briggs* ii. His legs clasping the barrel of his horse.

9. *Phys.* The cavity of the ear situated within the membrane of the tympanum.

1706 in PHILLIPS.

10. *Comb. a.* objective, as *barrel-forgery*, *-maker*; b. attrib. (simply), as *barrel-barricade*, *-board*, *-form*, *-frame*, *-head*; (= packed in barrels), as *barrel-butter*, *-figs*, *-soap*; c. simulative, as *barrel-belly*, *-churn*, *-shaped*. See also 5 c.

1837 CARLYLE *Fr. Rev.* v. v. 1. 225 Cram the earth in 'barrel-barricades. 1861 T. NORTON *Catkins' Inst.* Pref. The ydell and 'barrell bealies of monks. 1865 *Act 8 Eliz.* ix. § 2 Coopers might have bought a Thousand of 'Barrel-boards for twelve Shillings. 1866 VENNER *Via Recta* vii. 116 Dry or 'barrell figs. 1790 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 5873/4 William Thomas, late of White-Chappel, 'Barrell Forger. 1874 PARKER *Ill. Goth. Archit.* i. iii. 80 The earliest Norman Vaults are . . . of the 'barrell form. 1856 KANE *Art. Exp.* i. xxix. 386 A magnificent hut of 'barrell-frames. 1883 *Glasg. Weekly Her.* 1 Sept. 4/2 Herring fishery . . . finds profitable labour for 'barrellmakers. 1869 NICHOLSON *Zool.* (1880) xxiv. 241 A free-swimming, 'barrel-shaped ciliated body. 1710 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 4674/7 English 'Barrel Soap for 48s. a Barrel.

11. Special combinations: *barrel-amalgamation* (see quot.); *barrel-bellied*, *-stomached a.*, having a well-rounded belly; *barrel-bird*, dial. name of the Long-tailed Tit; *barrel-bulk*, a measure used in estimating capacity (e.g. of a vessel for freight) equal to five cubic feet; *barrel-campaign* (*in U. S.*), a political contest in which bribery is lavishly employed; *barrel-drain*, a cylindrical brick drain; *barrel-fever*, disease produced by immoderate drinking; *barrelful*, as much as a barrel will hold; *barrel-head*, (either) flat end of a barrel; *barrel-like a.*, resembling a barrel; *barrel-pen*, one with a split cylindrical shank, which can be fitted on a wooden holder; *barrel-sewer* (cf. *barrel-drain*); *barrel-vault*, one with a simple semi-cylindrical roof, whence *barrel-vaulted*; *barrel-work* (see quot.) See also BARREL-ORGAN.

1881 RAYMOND *Mining Gloss.*, *Barrel-amalgamation*, the amalgamation of silver ores by revolution in wooden barrels with quicksilver, etc. 1697 DRYDEN *Virg. Georg.* iii. 126 The Colt, that for a Stallion is design'd . . . Sharp-headed, 'Barrel-belly'd. 1895 J. GRANT *Bl. Dragon* xli. His 'barrel-bellied charger. 1895 *Cornh. Mag.* July 36 The rustic . . . call[s] the long-tailed tit . . . the 'barrel-bird, from its making a long moss and lichen-woven nest. 1884 *Boston (Mass.) Jnrl.* 1 Nov. 1 We are accustomed to 'barrel' campaigns here. Nobody supposes this district to be Democratic, but the Democrats suppose upon carrying it with money. 1823 P. NICHOLSON *Pract. Build. Price-bk.* 117 The contents of gun-'barrel drains. 1386 CHAUCER *Wife's Prol.* 301 Thus saistow, 'olde barrel ful of lies. 1436 *Pol. Poems* (1859) II. 169 To drinke a 'barelle fulle Of gode berkyne. 1865 *Rtldg's Mag. Boys* Nov. 680 Another 'barrel-full of air is removed. 1840 CARLYLE *Heroes* vi. 352 Who cannot do without standing on 'barrel-heads, to spout. 1884 *Littell's Living Age* No. 2077, 90 Your . . . 'barrel-stomached . . . Chinese porker. 1849 FREEMAN *Archit.* 252 'Barrel-vaults prevail throughout the . . . building. 1851 TURNER *Dom. Archit.* i. vi. 214 The passage . . . is 'barrel vaulted. 1881 RAYMOND *Mining Gloss.*, *Barrel-work* (Lake Sup.), native copper occurring in pieces of a size to be sorted out by hand in sufficient purity for smelting without mechanical concentration.

Barrel (bærēl), *v.* [f. prec. *sb.*]

1. *trans.* To put, pack, store up, or stow away, in a barrel or barrels.

1466 *Mann. & Househ. Exp.* 210 My mastyr sent to the kervelle iij. oxsen barrelede. c 1525 MORE *De Quat. Noviss.* 74/1 Iseland louthen no butter till it bee long barreled. 1604 *DONNE Devotions* 43 (T.) That perverse man, that barreled himself in a tub. 1769 FALCONER *Dict. Marine* (1789) *Caqueurs*, sailors appointed to cure and barrel the herring.

1865 CARLYLE *Fredk. Gl.* III. viii. v. 34 Show him how . . the beer [is] drawn off, barrelled.

b. often emphasized with *up*. Cf. next.
1631 SPEDD *Prosp. World* 30 Much provision . . barrelled up for longer keeping. 1796 MRS. GLASSE *Cookery* xxii. 347 Barrel it up, with two or three spoonfuls of good yeast.
2. *gen.* To store up.

1599 *Pappe w. Hatchet* B ij, If Martin haue not barrelede vp all rakehell words. 1649 MILTON *Eikon* xvi. Wks. (1851) 456 All benefit and use of Scripture, as to public prayer, should be deny'd us, except what was barrelled up in a Common-prayer Book. 1746 HERVEY *Medit.* (1818) 101 The tendrils of the cucumber . . barrel up for his use, the most cooling juices of the soil.

3. To barrel off: to transfer into barrels.
1796 J. LLOYD in W. Thompson *R. N. Advoc.* (1757) 50 These . . Grotts were barrel'd off.

† **Barrelet**, *Obs.* Also 7 *barrelet*. [f. BARREL sb. + *-ET*: cf. BARILLET.] A little barrel or cask.
1611 COTGR., *Hambour*, a kind of barrelet or firkin. 1699 EVELYN *Acetaria* (1799) 176 Range them in the Jarr or Barrelet with Herbs and Spice.

† **Barrel-ferrier**, *-ar*, *-or*. *Obs.* [f. BARREL + *OF. ferriere* a long-necked bottle or jar carried on journeys.] A vessel (either cask, jar, or leather bottle) in which water or wine was carried on horseback on a journey or military expedition.

1375 BARBOUR *Bruce* xv. 39 The Barrell-feraris [v. r. feris, ferraris] that war thar Cumrayd thame fast that rydand war. c 1445 WYNTOUN *Cron.* viii. xxxviii. 53 Ane [hors] a payr of Coil Crelis bare . . De toþir Barrell ferraris twa, Full of wattyrr. c 1440 MORTE *Arth.* 2715 Barrell ferraris they brochede and broghte theme the wyne. 1480 CAXTON *Cron.* Eng. ccv. 186 They lere sylle v. barrell ferraris [ed. 1500 barrells ferrous] with siluer.

Barrelled, *-eled* (bær'el'd), *pp. a.* [f. BARREL + *-ED*.]

1. Packed or stored in barrels; stowed away or enclosed in a barrel.

1494 Act 11 Hen. VII, xxiii, No Merchant . . should sell . . any barrelled Fish, except, etc. 1563 WILLS & INO. *N. C.* (1855) 210, Item, xxviii stone of barreled butter. 1603 DAVIES *Microcosm.* (1875) 83 The barreled Cynick hee. 1727 SWIFT *Modest Prop.* Wks. 1755 II. ii. 66 Our exportation of barreled beef. 1840 GUILT *Archil.* § 2259 Barreled bolts are those in which the whole length of the bolt is enclosed in a continued cylindrical barrel.

fig. 1599 MARSTON *Sco. Villanie* i. iv. 188 Retayling others wit long barreled, To glib some great mans eares.

2. Shaped like a barrel.
1853 KANE *Grinnell Exp.* xlv. (1856) 414 A great barreled arch went back into a cavern.

3. Having a barrel or barrels; chiefly in *comb.*, as *round-, long-, single-, double-barrelled*. Cf. BARREL sb. 8, 9.

1704 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 3984/4 A dark Mouse colour'd Mare, round Barrel'd. 1721 *Ibid.* No. 4888/4 Large limb'd, but small barrel'd. 1818 SCOTT *Rob Roy* xxx, The . . long-barrelled guns of several mountaineers. 1883 ROE in *Harper's Mag.* Dec. 45/2 A double-barrelled shot-gun.

Barrelling, *-eling* (bær'el'ing), *vbl. sb.* [f. BARREL v. + *-ING*.] The action or process of packing or storing in barrels.

1570 Act 13 Eliz. xi. § 3 Uprightness and Truth in the Barrelling of such Fish. 1753 CHAMBERS *Cycl. Supp.* s.v., Barrelling of herring imports the cutting off their heads.

Barrel-organ (bær'el'ôrgan). [f. BARREL sb. 6 c.] A musical instrument of the organ type, the keys of which are mechanically acted on by a revolving barrel or cylinder studded with metal pins. (Occas. attrib.) **Barrel-organist**, one who plays such an instrument.

1778 A. WALKER *Specification of Patent* No. 1020 The Celestina . . is also made to be played by a pricked barrel, as the hand or barrel organ. 1796 MONTH. *Rev.* XX. 400 A barrel-organ . . would do the business much more to his satisfaction than the fingers of a man of genius. 1870 LOWELL *Among my Bks.* ii. (1873) 326 The barrel-organ style which had been reigning. 1866 HOWELLS *Venet. Life* ii. 28 Habitually came a barrel-organist and ground before the barracks.

Barren (bær'en), *a.* and *sb.* Forms: 3 *barain*, *-aigne*, 4 *barain*, *-en*, 4-5 *baraine*, *-eyn* (e, 5 *-ane*, 4-6 *ayn* (e, *barreynne*, *-ayne* (5 *berhain*), 6 *baraine*, (*barune*, *baryn*), *barreine*, *-ayn*, (*Sr. barrane*, *-and*, *-ant*), 6-7 *barraine*, (*-barren*. Compared *barrener*, *-est*. [a. OF. **barain*, *brahain*, *brehaing*, in fem. *baraine*, *braaigne*, *barhaine*, *barahaine*, *braaigne*, *brahaigne*, *brehaigne*, of uncertain origin and original form: assuming this to be *barain*, Diez suggests derivation from *bar* 'man, male' (L. type **bār-āneus*), as if 'male-like, not producing offspring, sterile,' which suits the sense well; but there seems to be good reason for taking *brahain* as the original type, whence *bréhain*, and *brahain*, *barain*; the latter was the Anglo-Norman form. (The Breton *bré-chagn* is certainly from Fr.: Thurneysen.)]

A. adj. I. Literal senses. Oppos. to *fertile*.
1. Of a woman: Bearing no children; without issue, childless.

c 1200 *Trin. Coll. Hom.* 133 Þe wimman was barrage [?baraigne], swo þat heo ne mihte for unkinde hauen no child. c 1230 *Ancr. R.* 158 Al were he, þurh miracle, of barain iboren. a 1300 *Cursor M.* 16655 Þe baraigne blisced sal man call. c 1340 *Ibid.* (Fair.) 2600 Sare . . sayde til abraham . . I am barren (*Cotton* gold). *Ibid.* (Trin.) 12257 Þe bareyn [*Cotton* vnfruitand] shal hir fruyt fynde. 1483 CAXTON *G.* VCL. I.

de la Tour F. vij b, Fenenna scorned . . Anna and called her berhain. 1536 BELLEDENE *Cron. Scot. Prol.*, The barrant wyfe Appeiris yung. 1590 SHAKS. *Mids. N.* i. i. 72 In shady Cloister mew'd, To liue a barren sister all your life. 1751 JORTIN *Serm.* (1771) I. ii. 22 His wife Sarah being barren.

2. Of animals: Not bearing, not pregnant at the usual season.

c 1340 *Gaw. & Gr. Knt.* 1320 To hunt . . at hyndez barayne. c 1400 *Yvaine & Gau.* 2027 Sone he met a barayn da. 1653 WALTON *Angler* 84 So there be some barren Trouts, that are good in Winter. 1725 POPE *Odys.* x. 622 A barren cow, the stateliest of the isle. 1882 *Somerset Co. Gaz.* 18 Mar. (*Advt.*), Cow and calf, barreners, barren heifers.

b. Of male animals: Sterile, castrated.

1617 MINSHEU *Ductor* 872 A boare hogge made a barren hogge . . a libd or gelded hogge, *porcus castratus*.

3. Of trees or plants: Without fruit or seed. (Sometimes specifically, as in *Barren Strawberry*, a strawberry-like plant bearing only a dry seed.)

c 1386 CHAUCER *Knts. T.* 1119 Knotty knarry bareyn trees olde. 1580 HOLLYBAND *Treas. Fr. Tong.* *Aveneron*, barren oates. 1597 GERARD *Herbal* cxxviii § 3-397 Barren Welde hath a thicke wooddie roote. 1776 ADAM SMITH *W. N. I.* i. xi. 256 Rise in the real price of barren timber, in consequence of the improvement of land. 1861 MISS PRATT *Flower Pl.* I. 9 Flowers . . which have stamens only, are said to be barren. 1878 B. TAYLOR *Deukalion* i. ii. 23 The barren bough hung apples to the sun.

4. Of land: Producing little or no vegetation; not fertile, sterile, unproductive, bare. So of mines, etc.

1377 LANGL. *P. Pl. B.* viii. 106 Ne no lond tylte But al bareyn be. c 1420 *Pallad. on Husb.* i. 169 In barcine lande to sette or foster vynes. 1513 DOUGLAS *Æneis* vii. Prol. 41 Bewtie was lost, and barrand schew the landis. 1551 TURNER *Herbal* (1568) F ij a, Gotes bearde in barune places hath but a short stalke. 1614 RALPHIGH *Hist. World* ii. 349 Land . . exceeding stony and barraine. 1776 ADAM SMITH *W. N. I.* i. xi. 249 The most fertile mine then known may be more barren than any that was wrought before the discovery of America. 1848 MILL *Pol. Econ.* ii. ii. § 5 One of the barrenest soils in the world.

5. Void of vital germs.

1871 TYNDALL *Fragm. Sc.* II. xiii. 333 An infusion found to be barren by six months' exposure to motile air.

II. Figurative senses.

6. Bare of intellectual wealth, destitute of attraction or interest, poor, meagre, jejune, arid, dry.

1587 TREVISA *Hidden Rolis* Ser. I. 11, I . . dradde, after so noble spekers . . to putte forth my bareyn speche. 1430 LDG. *Chron. Tray.* v. v. Thy wyf was to barayne. 1549 OLDK. *Erasm. Par. Eph.* Prol. E ij, The kyngs maiesties playne Englyshe subiectes vnderstande none other but theyr owne native barayne tongue. 1598 BARRETT *Thear. Warres* Pref. 5 Discourses . . not so baraine, but you may reape some good fruit from them. 1710 V. KNOX *Ess.* (1819) i. xlvii. 260 The barrenest periods of English literature. 1845 GROTE *Greece* i. iv. (1862) i. 79 A list of barren names fills up the interval.

7. Unproductive of results; fruitless, unprofitable.

1549 COVERDALE *Erasm. Par.* i. Cor. xv. 10, I suffered not hys grace in me to be either idle or baraine. 1665 BOYLE *Occas. Refl.* (1675) Pref. 12 Who may chance to have either Barrenner Fancy's, or more unpractis'd Pens, than even I had. 1682 DRYDEN *Obs. & Achit.* 297 Barren Praise . . that Gaudy Flow'r, Fair only to the sight. 1753 CHAMBERS *Cycl. Supp.* s.v., Barren money is used, in the civil law, for that which is not put out to interest. 1779 J. MOORE *View Soc. Fr.* (1789) i. viii. 55 They could shed a few barren tears at a tragedy. 1877 MOZLEY *Univ. Serm.* i. 12 A barren and unrepaid attachment, a wasted affection.

8. Of persons: Mentally unproductive; unresponsive, dull, yielding no mental fruit.

1590 SHAKS. *Mids. N.* iii. ii. 13 The shallowest thick-skin of that barren sort. 1600—HAML. iii. ii. 46 Will themselves laugh, to set on some quantity of barren Spectators to laugh too. 1779 JOHNSON *L. P.*, *Philips* Wks. II. 291 He was in company silent and barren. 1866 CARLYLE *Remin.* (1881) i. 324 The stupidest and barrenest of living mortals.

9. *Const.* in all prec. senses with *of*.

c 1375 WYCLIF *Serm.* Sel. Wks. 1869 II. 278 þou . . þat art barayne of gostly children. 1413 LDG. *Pygrr. Soule* iv. xx, Of ioye am I barayne. 1547 BOORDE *Introd. Knoul.* 198 These countreys be baryn of wine and corne. 1633 BR. HALL *Hard Texts* 374 Have I been barren of my favours to you? 1710 STEELE *Tatler* No. 196 P 5 Hearts barren of Kindness. 1856 FROUDE *Hist. Eng.* (1858) i. ii. 154 The league with France . . had been barren of results.

III. *Comb.* in parasynthetic deriv., as *barren-brained*, *-spirited*, *-witted*, *-wombed*; and complementary, as *barren-beaten*.

1597 DRAYTON *Mortimer*. 117 Renewe this wearie barren-wombed earth. 1601 SHAKS. *Jul. C.* iv. i. 36 A barren spirited Fellow. 1798 SOUTHEY *Lett.* (1856) I. 58 A barren-brained blockhead. 1830 TENNYSON *Elaine* 161 He left the barren-beaten thoroughfare. 1870 EMERSON *Soc. & Solit.* ix. 187 What a barren-witted pate is mine!

B. sb. [the adj. used *absol.*]

† 1. A barren woman or animal. *Obs.* [Cf. 1230 and 1340 in A 1.] c 1420 *Anturs Arth.* iv, Vndur boes thay byde . . To beker at the barrenes.

† 2. Specific term for a drove of mules. *Obs.*

1486 Bk. *St. Albans* F v j a, A Baren of Mulis.

3. A tract of barren land; *spec.* applied in N. America to: a. elevated plains on which grow small trees and shrubs, but no timber, classed as *oak-barrens*, *pine-barrens*, etc., according to the trees growing on them; b. in Kentucky, to certain really fertile tracts in the carboniferous limestone formation; c. in Nova Scotia and New Brunswick (see quot. 1879).

1784 T. JEFFERSON in Sparks *Corr. Amer. Rev.* (1853) IV. 63 A mountainous barren which can never be inhabited. 1850 LVELL *2nd Visit U. S.* II. 12, I had sometimes to put up with rough quarters in the pine-barrens. 1859 KINGSLEY *Life* II. 100 (D.) To have the sewage conveyed . . to fertilize the barrens of Surrey and Berkshire. 1877 J. ALLEN *Amer. Bison* 460 The so-called Barrens of Kentucky, the southward extension of the Wabash prairies. 1879 LD. DUNRAVEN in *19th Cent.* July 54 A barren . . means in Nova Scotia and New Brunswick an open marshy space in the forest, sometimes so soft as to be almost impassable, at other times composed of good solid hard peat.

† **Barren**, *v. Obs.*; also 6 *barrain* *-ayn*. [f. prec. adj.] To make barren, unfruitful, or sterile; to exhaust or impoverish (land); = BARRENIZE.

1581 A. ANDRESON *Serm. Paulus Crosse* 69 So to barren the soyle rounde aboute them. 1593 NASHK *Christ's T.* (1613) 160 Barrayning their wombes by drugs. 1649 BLITH *Eng. Improv. Impr.* ii. (1653) 13 And this I charge as a great prejudice, and may be as a barrenning the land. 1725 BRADLEY *Fam. Dict.* s.v. *Stock Gilly*, They may be set again in the same Earth, after . . mixing Sand therewith to Barren it.

Barrener (bær'rénar), [f. as prec. + *-ER*.] A cow not in calf for the year.

1882 [see BARREN a. 2].

† **Barrenhood**, *Obs.* Forms: 4 *bareynheed*, 5 *baraynhede*. [f. as prec. + *-HOOD*.] = BARRENNESS.

c 1380 WYCLIF *Sel. Wks.* (1871) III. 13 My Lorde . . was sorry for my bareynheed. 1498 DIVES & PAUP. (W. de W.) i. xxv. 61/2 Wydowehede and baraynhede shall come to the bothe in one daye.

† **Barrenize**, *v. Obs.* [f. as prec. + *-IZE*; cf. *fertilize*.] To make barren or sterile; = BARREN v.

1649 BLITH *Eng. Improv. Impr.* (1653) 187 Not to barrenize Land, but to better or fatten it. 1725 BRADLEY *Fam. Dict.*, *Sainfoin* . . does considerably meliorate and not barrenize the land on which it grows.

Barrenly (bær'rénli), *adv.* [f. as prec. + *-LY*.] In a barren manner; without offspring, produce, or result; meagrely, scantily.

1550 HULOET, *Barrenlye, steriltter*. 1561 J. HEYWOOD *Prov. & Epigr.* (1867) 50 Though your pasture looke barrenly. c 1600 SHAKS. *Sonn.* xi, Let those whom nature hath not made for store . . barrenly perish. 1625 USSHER *Answ. Jesuit* 472 Yet haue they onely barrenly adorned this temporal life. 1877 BLACKIE *Wise Men* 36 Barrenly increase Mere itch of knowledge.

Barrenness (bær'rén'nés), *Forms*: 4 *barynes*, 4-5 *bareynes* (se, 5 *-ines*, *-aynesse*, 6 *barrenes*, *barraynesse*, *-ennis*, *-ennes*, 7 *-ennesse*, *-eness*, 7- *barrenness*. [f. as prec. + *-NESS*.]

1. Incapacity for child-bearing; sterility as regards offspring. The opposite of *fertility*.

1381 WYCLIF *Isa.* xlvii. 9 Comen shal to thee . . bareynesse and widowed. a 1400 *Cor. Myst.* 75 My barynes he may amend. 1526 TINDALE *Rom.* iv. 19 Nor yet considered he . . the barrenes of Sara. 1615 BR. HALL *Contempl. N. T.* i. i, Among the Jewes, barrenness was . . a reproach. 1856 FROUDE *Hist. Eng.* II. 141 Providence had not pronounced against the marriage by a sentence of barrenness.

2. Unproductiveness or sterility of the earth; hence, dearth, scarcity, famine.

1388 WYCLIF *Gen.* xxvi. 1 Hungur roos on the lond aftr thilke bareynesse. 1480 CAXTON *Chron. Eng.* cckxii. 247 For defaute of rayne ther was grete barines of corn. 1590 SHAKS. *Com. Err.* iii. ii. 123 Where Scotland? *Dro.* I found it by the barrenness, hard in the palme of the hand. 1611 BIBLE *Ps.* cvii. 34 A fruitful land into barrenness. 1866 J. MURPHY *Comm. Ex.* xvi. 4 The very barrenness of the wilderness gave way to the bountiful hand of the Lord.

3. *fig.* Unproductiveness; hence, poverty of supply, lack of fullness or copiousness, barrenness, scantiness, meagreness, poverty.

1586 THYNNE in *Animadv.* Introd. 70 Carping at my barrenes in writing, because I omit manie things. a 1617 HIERON *Wks.* II. 337 Such a generall barrenness in mens hearts . . that they know not what to say upon such occasions. a 1797 H. WALPOLE *Mem. Geo. II* (1847) i. iv. 94 Great hesitation in his elocution, and a barrenness of expression. 1879 FROUDE *Cesar* xvii. 286 The barrenness of practical results.

4. Lack of intellectual capacity; mental poverty, slowness, dullness.

1550 HULOET, *Barrennes* properlye of capacite, *segnities*. 1599 THYNNE *Animadv.* 2 The barrenness of my feble skyl. 1750 JOHNSON *Rambl.* No. 19 P 8 The barrenness of his fellow students forced him . . into other company. 1837 WHEWELL *Hist. Induct. Sc.* (1857) i. 238 The prevalent feebleness and barrenness of intellect.

5. 'Aridity, want of emotion or sensibility.' J. a 1667 JER. TAYLOR (J.) The greatest saints sometimes are fervent and sometimes feel a barrenness of devotion.

† **Barreny**, *Obs.* In 4-5 *bareynye*. [a. OF. *barainete*, (also *brehennete*, *brehaignete*), f. *baraine*: see BARREN a. and *-TY*: cf. *sovereignty*.] = prec.

1381 WYCLIF *Gen.* xxvi. 1 Thilke bareynete that felle in the daies of Abraham. — a *Kings* ii. 21 There schal be no more in hem deth ne bareynete. c 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 2 Bareynete, *sterilitas*.

Barrenwort (bær'rénwɔrt), *Herb.* [f. BARREN a. + *WOBT*.] English name of the genus *Epidemium*, esp. of *Epidemium alpinum* (N.O. *Berberidaceae*), a low plant, with creeping rhizomes and long-stalked tri-ternate leaves.

1597 GERARD *Herbal* cxxiii. 389, I have thought good to call it Barren wort in English . . because . . being drunke it is an enemie to conception. 1769 SIR J. HILL *Fam. Herbal* (1789) 78 Barren-wort . . grows in woods, and has beautiful purple and yellow flowers. 1882 *Garden* 22 Apr. 284/1 When well grown these Barrenworts are very fine plants.

Barrer (bā'rar). [*f. BAR v. + -ER¹.*] One who bars.

1865 J. D. HARDY in *Athenaeum* No. 1981. 501/2 Sends prompt word to the batters-out.

Barrer (e, obs. form of BARRIER.

Barres, -es, obs. *f. BARRACE*; obs. *pl. of BAR sb.¹* + **Barret**¹. Obs. rare.¹ [*f. BAR sb.¹ + -ET*; cf. *F. barrette*.] A little bar.

1577 HOLINSHED *Chron.* III. 1256/2 The field of ten barrets silver and azure.

Barret² (bær'et). Also *q. baret, barrette*. [*a. F. barrette (= Pr. barreta, berreta, It. berretta, Sp. birreta)*; see BIRETTA.] A little flat cap; esp. the BIRETTA, worn by Roman Catholic clerics.

1828 SCOTT *F. M. Perik* ii. The steel caps, barrets, and plumes, of squires, archers, and men-at-arms. 1845 E. HOLMES *Mosart* 66 The Cardinal taking his baret from his head. 1870 DISRAELI *Lothair* viii. 32 Waving, as he spoke... his pink barrette. 1880 J. HAWTHORNE *E. Quentin* I. 159 A kind of scarlet barret-cap surmounted the heavy black coil of her hair.

Barret, var. **BARRAT**, Obs., strife, distress.

Barricade (bær'ik'ad). Also *8 barricadoe*. [*a. F. barricade, or assimilation of the earlier BARRICADO to the F. form.*]

1. An obstruction hastily erected across a path or street to stop an enemy's advance; = BARRICADO I.

1642 S. HARCOURT in *Macm. Mag.* XLV. 290 They had cast up a travers or barricade. 1670 COTTON *Espernon* I. ii. 72 All the world has heard of the Barricades of Paris. 1816 SCOTT *Old Mort.* 182 They... forced the barricade, killing and wounding several of the defenders. 1850 TENNYSON *In Mem. cxvii.* Tho' thrice again the red fool-fury of the Seine should pile her barricades with dead.

2. *transf. and fig.* Any barrier blocking up or obstructing passage.

a 1735 DERHAM (J.). There must be such a barricade, as would greatly annoy or absolutely stop the currents of the atmosphere. 1742 MIDDLETON *Cicero* I. iii. 201 He had broken through that barricade of Nobility. 1853 KANE *Grinnell Exp.* xxxiii. (1856) 285 A uniform curve... abutted on each side by a barricade of rubbish.

3. *Naut.* = BARRICADO 4.

1769 FALCONER *Dict. Marine* s.v. *Abast*. The barricade stands abast the main-mast. 1867 in *SMYTH Sailor's Word-bk.*

4. *Comb., as barricade-work.*

1867 *Times* 29 Aug. The hands that were so ready at barricade-work have forgot their cunning.

Barricade, *v.* [*f. prec., or a. F. barricade-r.*]

1. *trans.* To block (a passage) with a barricade. 1592 *No-body & Some-b.* (1878) 328 Man the Court gates, barricade all the streets. 1649 CROMWELL *Lett.* (Carl.) lxxx. Having burnt the gates, which our men barricaded up with stones. 1776 C. LEE in *Sparks Corr. Amer. Rev.* I. 159 To barricade all the streets. 1875 BRYCE *Holy Rom. Emp.* xvi. 287 Frederick barricaded the bridge over the Tiber.

2. *transf. and fig.* To block, bar, obstruct, render impassable.

a 1677 MANTON in *Spurgeon Treas. Dav. Ps.* cxix. 77 The way is barricaded and shut up by our sins. 1714 GAY *Trivia* iii. 30 And the mixt hurry barricades the Street. 1718 J. CHAMBERLAYNE *Relig. Philos.* I. xiii. § 16 To stop the Way... and barricade it against Flies. 1883 FROUDE *Short Stud.* IV. ii. iv. 208 The folios in the library bore marks of having been used to barricade the windows.

2. To shut in or defend with or as with a barricade. *lit. and fig.*

1657 *Devine Lower* 98 Barricade mee with these Bulwarks against myne enemies. 1790 BRATTON *Nat. & Mil. Mem.* I. 310 The revolvers barricaded themselves in some streets. 1802 PALEY *Nat. Theol.* viii. (1819) 102 To barricade the joint on both sides by a continuation of... the bone over it. 1885 *Standard* 11 Apr. 4/8 The settlers are barricaded in the railway station.

Barricaded, *ppl. a.* [*f. prec. + -ED.*] Obstructed, closed, or defended by a barricade.

1603 FLORIO *Montaigne* (1634) 349 Barricaded and armed houses. 1701 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 3759/7 Our Men found the Streets... Barricaded.

Barricader. [*f. as prec. + -ER¹.*] One who barricades.

1880 J. COLQUHOUN *Moor & Loch* I. 129 This was not difficult, as the barricaders in front would give me the signal.

Barricading, *vbl. sb.* [*f. as prec. + -ING¹.*] A blocking or defending with a barricade.

1697 *Cless D'Aunoy's Trav.* (1706) 125 She caused the Key to be taken out of the Door, and that to be bolted. I enquired the Reason of this Barricading. 1837 CARLYLE *Fr. Rev.* vii. x. I. 341 Barricading serves not to fly fast.

Barricading, *ppl. a.* [*f. as prec. + -ING².*] That constructs barricades.

1880 CARLYLE *Latter-d. Pamph.* Wks. VIII. 19, I will become a nomadic Chactaw rather, a barricading Sansculotte.

Barricado (bær'ik'ad), *sb.* Forms: 6-7 **bar-racado**, **baricado**. (7 **baracadowe**, 8 **barricadoe**), 6- **barricado**. *Pl. -oes, -os.* [*ad. F. barricade or Sp. barricada (see -ADO), f. F. barrique or Sp. barrica* a cask, the first street *barricades* in Paris being composed of casks filled with earth, paving stones, etc. (Littre: cf. *quots.* 1590-98, 1602, 1743). Now usually BARRICADE in ordinary prose.]

1. A hastily formed rampart of barrels, wagons, timber, stones, household furniture, or any other materials readily available, thrown up to obstruct the advance of an enemy.

1590 FOXE's *A. & M.* (1684) III. 934 Soon after the day of the Barricadoes (*la journée des barricades*, in Paris, 1588)

the Judges of Chastellat adjudged them to be hanged. 1598 FLORIO, *Baricata*, *Barricada*, a baricado or fortification with barrels, timber and earth. 1602 WARNER *Alb. Eng.* x. lviii. 257 Till the Barricados Feast, when Guize vn-vizard was. 1603 HOLLAND *Plutarch's Mor.* 160 He fortified himselfe, not with barres and barricadoes. 1607 SIR R. COTTON in *Rushw. Hist. Coll.* I. 467 To block them up by Land, and... to make a Barricado cross the Channel. 1690 COTTON *Espernon* III. xi. 541 Making great Barricados upon all the Avenues. 1743 TINDAL *Rapin's Hist. Eng.* xvii. (1757) VII. 513 The barricadoes of Paris (*note*, What occasioned this name was, that the streets were blocked with *Barriques*, i.e. Hogsheads). 1854 J. STEPHENS *Centr. Amer.* (1854) 252 A barricado constructed with trunks of trees.

2. *transf. and fig.* Any barrier or obstruction to passage.

1611 SHAKS. *Wint. T.* I. ii. 204 No Barricado for a Belly. 1656 HOBBS *Liberty*, etc. (1841) 394 As if the needle... were free to point either towards the north or towards the south, because there is not a barricado in its way to hinder it. 1693 LUTTRELL *Brief Rel.* III. 156 Many were drowned in the river, which proved a barricado to the French.

3. A natural frontier or boundary line. Obs.

1644 MILTON *Jus Pop.* 50 Few Nations have prospered when their pride had transported them beyond their native Barricados.

4. *Naut.*; see *quots.* Now usually BARRICADE.

1673 TEONGE *Diary* (1825) 52 Wee are fortifying our long-boat with barcadowes. 1769 FALCONER *Dict. Marine* (1789), *Barricados*, a strong wooden rail, supported by... stanchions, and extending, as a fence, across the foremost part of the quarter-deck. 1804 NELSON in *Nicolas Disp.* (1846) VI. 282 If her barricado could be nearly all taken away she would be much better for the service.

Barricado (bær'ik'ad), *v.* Forms: 7 **baricado**, **-acado**, **barricadoe**, **-ocado**, 6- **barricado**. [*f. prec. sb.*]

1. *trans.* To close or block (a passage) with (or as with) a barricade. (Formerly often with *up*.)

1611 CORVAT *Crudities* 16 Another... with... cart and horse barricado, and stopped the passage of the gate. a 1649 DRUMM. or HAWTH. *Jas. V. Wks.* (1711) 88 Barricado'd some lanes with carts and other impediments. 1682 BUNYAN *Holy War* 117 They shut up Ear-gate, they barricado'd it up. 1755 SMOLLETT *Quix.* IV. 134 Barricado the streets with woolpacks! 1796 MORSE *Amer. Geog.* I. 139 Vast shoals of ice which barricadoed that part of the coast.

2. To fortify or defend (a place) with or as with barricades. Also *fig.*

1601 SHAKS. *All's Well* I. i. 123 Man is enemy to virginity, how may we barricado it against him? 1678 TEONGE *Diary* (1825) 260 Wee... barcadou our quarter deck with an old cable, to keepe off small shott. 1836 MARRVAT *Midsh. Easy* (1863) 221 The house was barricado'd as well as circumstances would permit. 1857 FRASER'S *Mag.* LVI. 276 The birds had not only barricadoed the nest, but the bush itself.

3. *trans. and refl.* To enclose (a person) with a barricade; to shut up, bar in securely. *lit. and fig.*

1598 E. GILPIN *Shial.* (1878) 36 Be Barricadode in the peoples loue. 1633 T. STAFFORD *Pac. Hib.* viii. (1821) 569 They barricadode themselves with barrells of earth. 1652 L. S. *People's Liberty* xiii. 34 They are so barcadodded by the Law of God against all opposition. 1719 DE FOE *Crusoe* 46, I barricado'd myself round with the chests. 1816 SCOTT *Old Mort.* (1830-2) II. xxvi. 270 [They] barricadode themselves in the centre of the city.

4. To shut up, debar, preclude from. *lit. and fig.* 1611 SPEED *Hist. Gt. Brit.* ix. xii. 88 As if he meant to barricado them from flying. 1635 BRATHWAITE *Acad. Pr.* II. 58 Which barcadod mine care from inclining to any ones opinion but mine owne.

Barricadod, *ppl. a.* [*f. prec. + -ED.*] Closed or defended with a barricade. *lit. and fig.*

1611 HEYWOOD *Gold. Age* II. i. Wks. 1874 III. 24 The Iron bar'd dore... The Barricadod gates. 1682 N. O. *Boileau's Lutrin* IV. 166 Could never pierce their Barricadod Ears. a 1721 KEN *Edmund Wks.* 1721 II. 300 A Surcoat reaching to his Knees he wore, With Scales of Steel all barricadod o're. 1809 W. IRVING *Knickerb.* vii. xi. (1849) 839 They found the castle strongly barricadod.

Barrico (bær'iko). *Pl. -oes.* [*ad. Sp. barrica* cask, barrel, keg, *f. f. barra* bar; cf. *BARECA*.] A keg, a small cask or barrel.

1607 *Relat. Disc. River in Capt. Smith's Wks.* Introd. 54 There issued out of the hart of the tree the quantity of two barriques of liquor. 1606 SMITH *Accid. Yng. Seamen* 5 The Cowper is... to staue or repaire the buckets, Baricoes, Cans. 1840 MARRVAT *Poor Jack* x. We had... only a barrico of water.

Barrier (bær'iar), *sb.* Forms: 4 **barer**, 4-5 **barrere**, 4-6 **barrer**, 5 **barreere**, **barryzer**, 5-6 **baryer**, 6 **baryer**, **-ier**, **-iar**, 6- **barrier**. [*ME. barrere*, a. *AF. barrere*, *OF. barrière* (= *Pr.*, *It. barriera*, *Sp.*, *med.L. barrera*) :- late *L. barraria*, *f. barra* BAR. Subsequently influenced by continental *Fr.* spelling.]

1. *gen.* A fence or material obstruction of any kind erected (or serving) to bar the advance of persons or things, or to prevent access to a place.

a. *orig.* A palisade or stockade erected to bar the way of an enemy, or defend a gate or passage; an external defence.

c 1325 E. E. *Allit. P. B.* 1239 He brek þe bareres as bylyue, & þe burz after. c 1380 *Sir Ferumh.* 4668 Enfachoun ys to þe 3eate y-come... And at þe barers he hym sette. c 1425 WYNTOUN *Cron.* ix. vii. 70 At þe Barreris he faucht sa welle. c 1430 LYDG. *Stor. Thebes* III. (R.) Barbicans and bulwerkes... Barreres, chaines, and ditches. c 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 24 Barrere, or barreere (*v. r. barryzer*), *barraria*, *bar-rus*. 1490 CAXTON *Encydoes* IV. 152 Camilla and Mesapus rode all armed... vnto the barryers. 1523 LD. BERNERS *Froiss.* I. xxxviii. 52 He cast hymselfe bytwene the barrers

and the gate. 1721 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 5928/6 The outer Barrier of that Place.

fig. 1713 *Young Last Day* III. 124 Who burst the barriers of my peaceful grave?

b. *transf.* A fortress or fortified town which commands the entrance into a country; a 'bulwark.'

1600 HOLLAND *Livy* IX. xxxii. 337 b. Which citie [Sutrium]... was (as a man would say) the verie Barriers [*claustra*] of all Heturia. 1709 [cf. O]. 1726-8 LADY MONTAGUE *Lett.* I. xxvii. 86 Belgrade was formerly the barrier of Hungary.

† c. A fortified frontier; a frontier generally; *spec.* a name formerly given to a district which commanded the frontier of the Netherlands. Obs.

1709 ADDISON *Tatler* No. 20 ¶ 10 The Dutch are to have for their Barriers, Newport, Berg, St. Vinoc... Lille. 1713 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 5180/2 The Frontier-Places of the Dutch-Barrier. 1775 ADAIR *Amer. Ind.* 463 Without allowing them any militia, even on their barriers. 1835 *Penny Cycl.* III. 502 The Treaty of the Barrier is an instance of a similar species of political adjustment.

d. A fence, or railing, to prevent access to any reserved place.

1570 B. GOOGE *Pop. Kingd.* IV. (1880) 51 b. With tapers all the people come, and at the barriers stay, Where downe upon their knees they fall, and night and day they pray. *Mod.* Strong barriers were erected at each end of the street.

e. Applied to the *carcer* or starting-place in the ancient race-course.

1600 HOLLAND *Livy* VIII. xx. 295 The Barriers [*carceres*], from whence the horses and their chariots are let forth. 1656 COWLEY *Pind. Odes* Wks. 1710 I. 203 How swiftly [has he] run, And born the Noble Prize away, Whilst other Youths yet at the Barrier stay? 1880 LEWIS & SHORT *Lat. Dict.*, *Carcer*, the barrier or starting-place in the race-course.

f. In continental towns: The gate at which custom duties are collected.

1825 T. JEFFERSON *Autobiog.* I. 86 The oppressions of the tithes... the gabelles, the farms and the barriers. [*a 1847 Mrs. SHERWOOD Lady of Manor* I. iv. 96 Versailles is distant about ten miles from the barriers of Paris.] *attrib.* 1804 *Edin. Rev.* IV. 47 The barrier duties.

g. *Coal-mining.* 'A breadth of coal left against an adjoining royalty, for security against casualty arising from water or foul air.'

1851 *Coal-tr. Terms Northumbld.* & *Durh.* 6 Barriers are left of various thicknesses... varying... from 10 to 50 yards.

2. *spec. in pl.* The palisades enclosing the ground where a tournament, tilting, or other martial contest or exhibition was held; the lists. Also, a low railing or fence running down the centre of the lists on opposite sides of which, and in opposite directions the combatants rode, reaching their lances across.

1581 J. BELL *Haddon's Answ. Osor.* 79 To challenge me unto the Barriers. *Ibid.* 82 One champion is taken from the Barriers. 1817 SCOTT *Vanhoe* viii. At length the barriers were opened, and five knights advanced slowly into the area.

† b. Hence, the expression *To fight at barriers*, and *Barriers* as the name of a martial exercise in 15th and 16th centuries. Obs. exc. *Hist.*

1494 FABYAN an. 1546 (R.) Challengours... at tilt, barriers and turney. 1532 *Act 24 Hen. VIII.* xiii. Iustes, tourneys, barriers... or other martial feates. 1583 GOLDING *Calvin on Deut.* xii. 67 Like the Game of the Barriers wherein he that winneth today looseth tomorrow. 1608 MIDDLETON *Fam. Love* III. vi. Wks. II. 159 To see my gallants play at barriers with scourge-sticks. 1616 BULLOKAR, *Barriers*, a warlike exercise of men fighting together with short swords, and within some appointed compass. 1625 FLETCHER *Noble Gentl.* II. I. 32 You shall not see a mask or Barriers Or tilting or a solemn christning. 1625 BACON *Masques*, *Ess.* (Arb.) 540 For Iustes, and Tourneys, and Barriers; The Glories of them, are chiefly in the chariots, wherein the Challengers make their Entry. 1636 RANDOLPH in *Ann. Dubrensis* (1877) 19 What is the Barriers, but a Courtly way Of our more dourne-right sport, the Cudgell-play? 1650 BR. HALL *Balm of Gilead* 104 [He] puts him upon Tiltings, and Barriers, and publique Duels. 1839 KEIGHTLEY *Hist. Eng.* I. 445 He frequently fought at barriers. *fig.* 1622 WITHER in *Farr's S. P.* (1848) 219 These long-gowned warriors, Who play at Westminster, unarmed, at barriers. a 1680 BUTLER *Rem.* (1759) I. 220 As he, who fought at Barriers with Salmassius Engag'd with nothing but his Stile and Phrases.

3. Any natural obstacle which stops or obstructs passage, defends from foes, prevents access, or produces separation; a separating boundary-line.

1703 MAUNDRELL *Journ. Jerus.* (1732) 32 In order to pass this Barrier, we turned up on the left hand. a 1744 POPE (J.) An ocean flows, Around our realm, a barrier from the foes. 1747 in *Col. Rec. Penn.* V. 152 The Colonies of New Jersey and Pennsylvania will have but a very thin Barrier between them. c 1854 STANLEY *Sinai & Pal.* iii. (1858) 174 This plain was encompassed with a barrier of heights. 1855 PRESCOTT *Philip II.* I. ii. vi. 207 No mountain barrier lay between France and Flanders.

4. Anything immaterial that stops advance hostile or friendly, that defends from attack, prevents intercourse or union, or keeps separate and apart.

1702 POPE *Thebais* 20 Fix, O Muse! the barrier of thy song at (Edipus). 1715 BURNET *Oven Time* an. 1685 (R.) The tests stood as a barrier to defend us from popery. 1742 *Young Mt. Th.* III. 733 A good man, and an angel! these between How thin the barrier? 1776 GIBSON *Decl. & F.* I. 60 Every barrier of the Roman constitution had been levelled by the vast ambition of the dictator. 1797 GODWIN *Enquirer* II. xii. 480 He... erects a barrier between himself and his reader. 1832 HT. MARTINEAU *Ireland* 128 The barrier which they believed to separate the rich and the poor in Ireland. 1855 MOTLEY *Dutch Rep.* II. ii. (1866) 138 All

history shows how feeble are barriers of paper or lamb skin against the torrent of . . . despotism. 1883 GILMOUR *Mongols* xvii. 207 Felt to be barriers to the acceptance of Christianity.

Barrier, *as in barrier fen*. *Comb.*, as *barrier-like*, *net*. Also *barrier-aot* (see quot.); *barrier-gate*, a heavy gate closing the opening through a barrier; *barrier-pillar*, *barrier-roof* (see quot.); *barrier-treaty*, a treaty fixing the frontier of a country, esp. the 'Treaty of the Barriers' between Germany, Great Britain, and Holland, signed at Antwerp 15 November 1715.

1868 CHAMBERS *Encycl.* I. 712 **Barrier Act**, an act of the General Assembly of the Church of Scotland, 8th January 1697, intended as a barrier against innovations, and a hindrance to hasty legislation. 1855 SINGLETON *Virgil* I. 215 To cross the barrier fen. 1833 MARRYAT *P. Simple* (1863) 159 When we had crossed the moat, we found a barrier-gate locked. 1845 DARWIN *Voy. Nat.* xx. There is a simplicity in the barrier-like beach. 1884 D. WATT in S. Dawson *Handbk. Canada* 279 The barrier-nets and weirs of pale-faces. 1881 RAYMOND *Mining Gloss.*, **Barrier-pillars**, pillars of coal, larger than ordinary, left at intervals to prevent too extensive crushing when the ground comes to be robbed. 1805 FLINDERS in *Phil. Trans.* XCVI. 252 Amongst the barrier reefs. 1853 DE LA BECHE *Geol. Observ.* xi. 181 The Great Barrier Reef, extending off the east coast of Australia for about 1100 miles, with a mean breadth of about 30 miles. 1877 GREEN *Phys. Geol.* iv. § 3. 136 A mighty wall of coral rock, separated from the land by a deep and broad channel, and bounded on the seaward side by a face almost vertical and of enormous height. Such a reef is called a Barrier reef. 1912 LUTTRELL *Brief Rel.* VI. 719 The barrier treaty made by the lord Townsend with the states general. 1804 GEO. III. in G. ROSE *Diaries* (1860) II. 177 He considered the Barrier Treaty as a very effectual one . . . for preserving the balance of power in Europe.

Barrier (bæ'ri:), *v.* [*f. prec. sb.*] To close or shut with a barrier. Commonly with *off*, *in*.

1776 C. LEE in SPARKS *Corr. Amer. Rev.* (1853) I. 153, I shall barrier the principal streets. 1869 *Daily News* 2 July. A space was barriered off by ropes. 1879 F. MALLESON in *Litt. Clergy* 51 The mountain tarn barriered in by its stupendous crags.

Barriered, *pp. l. a.* [*f. prec. + -ED*.] Furnished with or confined by a barrier or barriers.

1846 RUSKIN *Mod. Paint.* I. ii. i. vii. § 5. 76 A weak, rippling, bound and barriered water.

† **Barriquet**, *Obs.* Also *barriquet*. [*dim. f. BARRICO*, or *F. barrique* cask. (The French would be *barriquelette*.)] A small cask, a firkin.

1611 COTGR., *Barrot*, a ferkin or barriquet. *Fillette*, a firkin, barriquet, small wine vessel.

Barring (bæ'riŋ), *vbl. sb.* [*f. BAR v. + -ING*.] The action of the *vb. BAR*: *a.* Fastening up, in, or out, with a bar or bars. *b.* Exclusion, prohibition. *c.* Marking or ornamentation with bars.

1386 CHAUCER *Pers. T.* p. 343 The cost of embrownyng the degise, endentyng, baryng . . . and semblable wast of clooth. 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 24 Baryng of dorys, *re-pagualio*. Baryng of harneys, *stipacio*. 1638 *Penit. Conf.* iii. (1657) 32 The exclusion and barring of haynous offenders from the assembly of Christians. 1874 CHAPPELL *Hist. Mus.* I. viii. 166 When bars were first introduced, they were mere measures of time, therefore old barring is not to be followed implicitly. 1875 POSTER *Gains* iii. 448 The barring of any subsequent suit.

d. Barring-out: a mode of schoolboy rebellion, when they shut the schoolroom or house against the master, and refuse to admit him until their demands are conceded.

1728 SWIFT *Jrnl. Mod. Lady Wks.* 1755 III. ii. 194 Not school-boys at a barring-out Rais'd ever such incessant rout. 1847 TENNYSON *Princ. Concl.* 66 Revolts, republics, revolutions, most no graver than a schoolboys' barring-out. 1876 GRANT *Burgh. Sch. Scot.* ii. v. 188 Another barring-out in the high School of Edinburgh, ended more tragically.

e. attrib., as in *Barring engine*: small auxiliary engine for starting large mill engines; so called from the employment of a crow-bar to move a fly-wheel round for a portion of a revolution, and assist in setting the engine going.

1825 *Engineer* 22 May New Patent Barring Engine.

Barring, *pp. l. a.* [*f. as prec. + -ING*.] Fastening up, in, or out; restraining, prohibitive.

1597 DRANT *Horace Ars P. A. v.* Vnbearded youth, at last rid from the Tutors barring charge.

Barring (bæ'riŋ), *prep.* [absolute use of *pr. pple.* of *BAR v.* 8: cf. similar use of *saving*, *excepting*; also *notwithstanding*, *pending*, *during*.] Excluding from consideration, leaving out of account, omitting, excepting, except.

1481-90 *Howard Housch. Bks.* 283, vj¹¹. yardes, barin one pese, of linnen cloth. 1656 H. MORE *Antid. Ath.* iii. ix. (1712) 169 It is allow'd . . . to a Christian, barring the wrong done to Religion, to make use of the help and advice of the Devil. 1762 tr. *Dukamel's Husb.* i. viii. 38 Barring it's being so near the stable. 1793 *Gouv. Morris in Sparks Life & Writ.* (1832) II. 281 That immense army (barring accidents) will be completed. 1845 DE QUINCEY *Coleridge Wks.* XII. 86 Nobody else, barring the author, knew.

Barring, *vbl. sb.* *Obs.* cry of elephant: see *BARR*.

|| **Barringtonia**, *Bot.* [named after the Hon. D. Barrington.] A genus of flowering trees, found in parts of India, Australia, America, and Africa.

1871 MATTHEW *Travancore* 100 The Barringtonia, with its pendulous racemes of lovely pink tassels.

Barrister (bæ'rista:). Forms: 6-7 *barester*, 6-8 *barrester*, 7 *barraster*, 7- *barrister*. [*f.*

BAR sb.1 (or *F. barre* or *med. L. barra*): the rest of the word is obscure, being formerly written *-ester*, *-aster*, but now *-ister*, *perh.* after words like *chorister*, *sophister*, but there is no trace of an earlier **barrist*, like *chorist*, *sophist*; Spelman cites 16th c. *L. barrasterius* (probably formed from the Eng.).]

A student of the law, who, having been called to the bar, has the privilege of practising as advocate in the superior courts of law. The formal title is *barrister-at-law*; the equivalent designation in Scotland is *advocate*.

The name originated in the ancient internal arrangements of the Inns of Court: see quot. 1545 *infra*, and *BAR sb. 24*. But by 1600, it was currently associated with the bar of the courts of justice, at which utter-barristers had before that date secured the right to plead, formerly possessed only by sergeants and apprentices-at-law.

1545 T. DENTON, N. BACON, and R. CARV, *Return to Hen. VIII. of State of Inns of Court* (in *Waterhouse Comment. on Fortescue* 1663, 544) The whole company and fellowship of learners is divided . . . into three . . . degrees: . . . *Benchers*, or as they call them in some of the houses, *Readers*, *Utter-Barristers*, and *Inner-Barristers*. *Utter-Barristers* are such, that for their learning and continuance, are called by the Readers to plead and argue in the said house doubtful cases and questions . . . and are called *Utter-Barristers* for that they, when they argue the said Motes, sit uttermost on the formes which are called the Bar, and this degree is the chiefest . . . in the house, next the Benchers. All the residue of learners are called *Inner-Barristers*, which are the youngest men. 1570 *Pride & Lowl.* (1841) 70 Therefore beseech I . . . Barristers, or how so ye be termed, To Judgeth it after your wisdom. 1603 HOLLAND *Plutarch's Mor.* 167 Expert Advocates or Barristers . . . to plead for us. 1613 OVERBURY *A Wife* (1638) 176 The velvet breeches he was first made Barrister in. 1616 BULLOKAR, *Barrister*, he that is allowed to plead causes at the barre. 1674 CLARENDON *Hist. Reb. I.* iii. 158 William Pryn, a Barrister of Lincoln's Inn. 1722 T. WOOD *Inst. Laws Eng.* (1763) 465 A Barrister (heretofore called an Apprentice of the Law) is a counsellor learned in the Law . . . admitted to plead without the Bar. 1795 *London Gaz.* No. 6380/14 Joshua Ireland . . . Barrister at Law. 1768 BLACKSTONE *Comm.* III. 26 Of advocates, or counsel, there are two species or degrees; barristers, and sergeants. 1836 HOR. SMITH *Tin Trump.* (1876) 52 All briefless barristers will please to consider themselves excepted.

b. Inner, Utter, Vacation barrister (all *obs.*): see quot. and cf. 1545 above. *Revising barrister*: one appointed to revise the lists of persons qualified to vote for Members of Parliament.

1547 in Dugdale *Orig. Jurid.* (1671) 148 The Masters commons are ferder divided into three Companies; that is to say, no Utter-Barristers, Utter-Barristers, and Benchers. 1584 *Wills & Inv. N. C.* (1860) 105 So long as he remayneth at th'ins of courte, vntyll he be utter baster. 1607 COWELL *Interpr. s.v. Utter-Barristers*, A barrister newly called is to attend the six next long Vacations the Exercise of the House . . . and is therefore for those three years called a Vacation Barrister. And they are called utter Barristers, i. Pleaders without the Bar to distinguish them from Benchers . . . who are sometimes admitted to plead within the Bar. 1835 *Penny Cycl.* III. 503 Students of the law under the degree of utter barristers, took their places nearer to the centre of the hall and farther from the bar, and from this manner of distribution appear to have been called inner barristers.

Barrister, *obs. f. BALUSTER, BANISTER*. 1664 FULLER *Worthies* III. 11 A leaden Tarras, with Railes, and Barristers. 1666 GERBIER *Princ.* (1665) 15 To spare charges of Railes, Barristers and Pedestals. 1663 - *Counsel* 60 All Barristers at one penny an inch.

Barristerial (bæ'risti:ri:), *a.* [*f. prec. after ministerial*.] Of or pertaining to a barrister.

1839 *Blackw. Mag.* XLVI. 32 The youthful aspirant for barristerial honours. 1864 KINGSLEY *What does Newman mean?* 41 Great literary, and even barristerial ability.

Barristership, [*f. BARRISTER + -SHIP*.] The position of a barrister.

1839 *Blackw. Mag.* XLVI. 32 Barristers . . . eat their tedious way to a . . . revising barristership. 1864 *Spectator* 1421 Here . . . is a writer thrusting his barristership on our notice.

Barristration, *notice-wd.* [*f. after ministration, registration*.] The action of a barrister.

1837 *Syd. Smith Let. Singleton Wks.* 1859 II. 284/1 The one thing wanting to sublimary happiness—the great principle of Commission, and six years Barristration.

Barrow (bæ'rou), *sb.1* Forms: 1 *biorz*, 1-3 *beors*, 1-2 *beorh*, 2 *beoruh*, 3 *berh3*, *borew*, 4 *ber3*, *bergh*, *beru3*, *beruh*, *berw*, (*borw*, *bor3*, *borgh*, *burgh*), 6 *barow*, (*7 barrouh*), 6- *barrow*. See also *BARGH*, *BURROW*. [*Com. Teut.*: OE. *beorg* (:-*berg*) = OS. OHG. *berg*, MDu. *berch*, Ger., Du. *berg*, Goth. **bairgs* :- OTeut. **bergo-z*, all masc.; cf. ON. *berg* and *bjarg* (neut.) 'rock.' Cogn. with OSlav. *brǣgŭ* mountain, height, OIr. *brígh* mountain, Skr. *br̥hant*, Zend *barezant* high :- Aryan **bhergh* height. In Eng. literature, the word went out of use before 1400, but was preserved, in special senses, in the north. dial. *bargh*, *barf*, and south-western *barrow*; the latter has since been taken back into archaeological and general use from the 'barrows' of Salisbury Plain, etc.]

† 1. A mountain, mount, hill, or hillock. (Applied, as the date becomes later, to lower eminences.)

1895 K. ALFRED *Oros.* i. l. § 12 Pa. beorgas þe mon hæf Alpis. 1000 *Ag. Gosp.* Luke iii. 5 Ælc munt and beorh byð genyðroed. 1150 in Wright *Loc.* 92 Hul uel beoruh. 1205 LAY. 12311 Vnder ane berh3e. 12084 Segges vnder beorgen [1250 borewe] mid hornen, mid hunden. 1340

Gaw. & Gr. Knt. 2172 A bal3 ber3, bi a bonke. 1393 LANGE. P. Pl. C. viii. 227 Thenne shalt þou blenche at a bergh [v. r. berwe, borw, bor3, borgh], ber-no-fals-wytnesse. 1378 LYTTE *Dodoms* 36 Sterrewurte groweth vpon small hillockes, barrowes, or knappes. 1606 FULLER *Worthies* i. 212 Planted on a little Barrough within Randoome-shot of the Enemy.

2. Still in local use: *a.* in the southwest, forming part of the name of hills, as Cadon Barrow in Cornwall, Trentishoe Barrow in North Devon, Bull Barrow in Dorset; *b.* in the north, usually a long low hill, as Barrow near Derwentwater, Whitbarrow in North Lancashire: see *BARGH*.

3. A mound of earth or stones erected in early times over a grave; a grave-mound, a tumulus.

c. 1000 ÆLFRIC *Joshua* vii. 26 (Boew.) Worhton mid stánum áne steapne beorh him ofer. c. 1000 Sax. *Leechd.* I. 124 Deos wyrt . . . bið cenned abutan byrgenne, & on beorgum. 1576 LAMBARDE *Peramb. Kent* (1826) 392 These hillocks, in the West Countrie (where is no small store of the like) are called Barowes . . . which signifith Sepulchres. 1606 J. CHALOWER in D. King *Vale Royall* iv. 10 Those round hills, which in the Plains of Wiltshire are . . . by the Inhabitants termed Barrowes, like as in the Midland parts of England they call them Lowes, commonly and truly held to be the Sepulchres of the Danes. 1779 PENNANT *Tours Scot.* (1774) 185 A plain, on which are five earthen tumuli, or barrows. 1836 THIRLWALL *Greece* II. xiv. 244 Another barrow was consecrated to the Platæans and the slaves. 1851 D. WILSON *Frech. Ann.* (1863) I. 65 Sir Richard Colt Hoare . . . adopted a subdivision, which embraces fourteen different kinds of barrows, classified according to their shape. 1860 TENNYSON *Tithonus* 71 Grassy barrows of the happier dead. 1877 GREENWELL & ROLLESTON (*title*) British Barrows; a record of the examination of sepulchral mounds.

4. *dial.* A mound or heap.

1869 BLACKMORE *Lorna D.* iii. 18 John lay on the ground by a barrow of heather. 1881 RAYMOND *Mining Gloss.*, *Barrow* (Cornw.), a heap of *atle* or rubbish.

Barrow (bæ'rou), *sb.2* *Obs. exc. dial.* Forms: 1 *beaz*, *beazh*, *berz*, 3 *baru*, 4 *bare3*, 5 *barowe*, 6 *barrowe*, 6- *barrow*. [*Common Teut.*: OE. *beaz* (:-*barz*) = Fris. *baerg*, MDu. *barch*, Du. *barg*, OHG. *barug*, *barh*, MHG. *barc* (*barg-es*), Ger. *barch*, ON. *börgr* :- OTeut. **bargu-z* or *barwo-z*; not known beyond Teutonic.]

1. A castrated boar; a swine. Still *dial.*

a. 1000 *Riddles* (Grein) xli. 106 Fætra þonne amæsted swin, beaz bellende on bōc-wuda. c. 950 *Lindisf. Gosp.* Matt. vii. 6 Ne sendas ge mere-grotta iurre before berz [*Ruskw.* swinum]. a. 1250 *Owl & Night*. 408 He wile of bore wurchen bare3 [*v. r.* bareh]. 1297 R. GLOUC. 207 [He] hadde an vatte baru ynome. 1398 TREvisa *Barth. De P. R.* xviii. lxxxvii. (1495) 836 Amonge the tame swyne the males be callyd boores and barowes. 1577 B. GOOGE *Husb.* (1586) 122 b. Take . . . of Barrowes grease very olde two poundes. 1745 BRADLEY *Fam. Dict.* s.v. *Mange*, Anoint them with stale Barrows-Lard. 1741 *Compl. Fam.-Pierce* iii. 498 Better to keep all Boars and Sows, and no Barrows. 1864 CAPERN *Devon Provinc.*, *Barrow*, a castrated boar.

b. In later times commonly barrow-hog, -pig.

1547 RECORDE *Judic. Ur.* 61 b. Tame barrow-hogs. 1599 A. M. tr. *Cabellhouer's Bk. Physic* 252/2 Take the grease of a little redde Barrowe Pigge. 1693 W. ROBERTSON *Phrascol. Gen.* 732 A barrow-hog, *porcus castratus*. *Mod. Kent. Dial.*, I bought two open sows and one barrow pig. [In most of the dialect glossaries.]

† 2. A badger. *Obs. rare.* (? mispr. for *bauson*).

1554 HULOET, Badger, barrow, brocke, or graye beaste.

3. *Comb.*, barrow-flick, the fatty membrane covering the kidneys of a hog; barrow-guttings, pig's chitterlings; intestines, bowels.

1575 TURBERV. *Falconrie* 363 An ungent made of Barrowe flicke. 1611 L. BARREY *Ram Alley* iv. in Dods. O. P. (1780) V. 484 My barrow-guttings grumble And would have food. 1745 BRADLEY *Fam. Dict.* s.v. *Mange*, Take a Pound of Barrow-flick.

Barrow (bæ'rou), *sb.3* Forms: 4 *barewe*, 5 *barwe*, *barow*, 5-6 *barowe*, 6 *barrowe*, 5- *barrow*. [*ME.* *barewe* points to an OE. **beawce*, *barue*, OTeut. **barud-* or *barwōn-*, a derivative of *ber-an* to BEAR: cf. the MHG. *bere* hand-barrow, *rade-ber(e)*, now in Thuringian dial. *rade-berre*, wheel-barrow (Lexen I. 127, II. 333 'Cenovectorium, radeber': cf. quot. 1483 in sense 2 below) :- OTeut. *barjā*. Cf. also ON. *barar* pl. :- OTeut. **barā-*; and with long vowel OE. *bār* :- WGer. **bārā-*, OTeut. **bārā-*, BIER.]

1. A utensil for the carrying of a load by two or more men; a stretcher, a bier; *spec.* a flat rectangular frame of transverse bars, having shafts or 'trams' before and behind, by which it is carried; sometimes with four legs to raise it from the ground. Now more usually called *hand-barrow* to distinguish it from the *wheel-barrow*: see next.

c. 1300 *Beket* 899 They ich scholde beo thider ibore in barewe othe in bere. c. 1450 HENRYSON *Mouss & Frog.* For thou war better beir of stane the barrow. 1535 COVERDALE *Acts* v. 15 They brought out the sycke . . . and layed them vpon beddes and barowes. 1636 SHERWOOD *s.v.*, A hand barrow, *civière*. *d. bras*. A necke-barrow, *civière d. col.* 1669 WORLIDGE *Syst. Agric.* (1681) 322 Barrow, is of two sorts; either a Hand-barrow, or a Wheel-barrow. 1837 CARLYLE *Fr. Rev.* vii. v. III. 379 The wounded . . . defile in handbarrows.

2. *a.* A modification of the preceding, having one small wheel inserted between the front shafts, so that it can be pushed by a single man, the body

or frame being usually converted into a kind of shallow open box; more fully called *wheel-barrow*.
b. Also, in London and its vicinity, a small two-wheeled cart similarly pushed by the shafts, a hand-cart, or 'costermonger's barrow.'

a1420 Occleve *De Reg. Princ.* 983 Lade a carte or fille a barwe. *1436* Pol. Poems (1859) II. 169 Halfe here shippes . . . wyth barowes are laden. *c1440* *Promp. Parv.* 105 Crowde wythe a barow, *cinevecto*. *1483* Cath. Angl. 22 A Barrow, *cenovectorium*. *1554* Huloet, Barrowe for to carye out dunge or filthe, *cenovectorium*. *1768* Goldsm. *Good Nat. Man* II. i. (1780) 42 He had scarce talents to be groom-porter to an orange barrow. *1816* Southey *Poet's Pilgr.* 1. 26 Carts, barrows, coaches, hurry from all sides. *1837* Carlyle *Fr. Rev.* I. xi. 11. 70 Setting down his own barrow, he snatches the Abbé's; trundles it fast, like an infected thing. *1837* Whitlock *Bk. Trades* (1842) 17 He has to wheel it [bread] in a barrow round to the customers.

b. The contents of a barrow, a barrowful.

1598 Shaks. *Merry W.* III. v. 4 To be carried in a Basket like a barrow of butchers Offall.

3. *Salt-making*. A conical basket into which the wet salt is put to drain.

1686 Plot *Staffordsh.* 94 Which [the corned salt] they put into wicker baskets they call Barrows, made in a Conical form. *a1728* KENNETT *MS. Lausd.* 1033 (Halliwell) At Nantwich and Droitwich, the conical baskets wherein they put the salt to . . . drain . . . are called barrows. A barrow contained about six pecks.

4. *Comb.*, as *barrow-maker*; † *barrow-bunter*, *barrow-man*, -*woman*, one employed in wheeling a barrow; *barrowful*, the quantity that fills a barrow; *barrow-tram*, the shaft of a barrow; *barrow-way* (*Mining*), see quot.

1771 SUOLLETT *Humphr. Cl.* (1815) 145, I saw a dirty 'barrow-bunter in the street. *c1485* *Digby Myst.* (1882) II. 97 A 'barrowful . . . of horsedown. *1882* Miss BRADDON *Appl. xxvii.* To buy a 'barrowful of red and orange pots and pans. *1468* *Medulla Gram.* in *Cath. Angl.* 22 *Veticularius*, a 'barwe-maker. *c1650* Ld. HERRIES in *Calderwood Hist. Kirk* (1842) II. 417 note, He scorned to be a 'barrowman. *1822* HOGG 3 *Perils of Man* II. 326 Old masons are the best 'barrowmen. *a1550* *Kristis Kirke* 166 Than followit feymen rycht onafleid, Bet on with 'barrow tramis. *1657* Colvill *Whigs Supplic.* (1751) 19 His arms were stiff like 'barrow-trams. *1815* SCOTT *Guy R.* xlii, Ye black 'barrow-tram o' the kirk. *1851* *Coal-tr. Terms Northumbld. & Durh.* 7, 'Barrow-way, the way along which the barrow-men put the corves or tubs of coals . . . laid with tram-plates or bridge-rails. *c1475* in *Wright Voc.* 268 *Psraannia*, a 'barrowwoman. *1818* HAN. MORE *Betty Brown, Tales* (1830) II. 289 A 'barrow-woman . . . is as much her own mistress on Sundays as a duchess.

Barrow (*bærow*), *sb.* 4 Also (*north. dial.*) *barrie*, *barry*. [connected with OE. *beorgan* to protect, cover.] (Also in *comb.*, *barrow-coat*.) A long sleeveless flannel garment for infants.

1878 HALLIWELL, *Barricoot*, a child's coat; a word in use in the Northumbrian dialect. *1884* *Cassell's Mag.* Apr. 303/1 (*Baby clothing*), The barrow-coats are best made of real Welsh flannel.

Barrow (*bærow*), *v.* [f. BARROW *sb.* 3] To wheel or transport in a barrow; cf. *to cart*.

1674 RAY *Alon Work Whitby* 139 When it is sufficiently burnt they barrow it into a pit. *1864* *Borrow Wild Wales* III. 84 Barrowing stones on a Welsh road.

Barrowist. *Hist.* One who followed, or held the tenets of, Henry Barrowe, one of the founders of Independency or Congregationalism, executed along with John Greenwood, in 1593, for nonconformity to the Church of England. (Barrowe has been by some identified with *Martin Marprelate*.)

1589 *Pasquils Ret.* 20 There neuer yet wanted . . . Brownist, Barrowist, Martinist, Anabaptist. *1645* PAGITT *Heresiogr.* (1661) 87 The second sort of separatists may be called Barrowists . . . who say that the Church of England is Sodom, Babylon, and Egypt. *1884* G. HUNTINGTON in *Chicago Advance* 11 Dec., The Barrowist party in New England.

Barrulet (*bærrule*), *Her.* Also -ette. [dim. of **barrule*, assumed dim. of *F. barre*, or *BAR sb.* 1.] The fourth part of a *bar*, the half of a *closet*.

1564 LEIGH *Armorie* 67 b, The field is sanguin, a Barrulet, Or. *1766* PORNY *Heraldry* (1787) 74 The Closet which contains the half of the Bar, and the Barrulet which is the half of the Closet. *1883* BURKE *Peerage* 1167 Or, two barrulets az. between three wolves' heads erased.

Barrulety, *a. Her.* [f. prec. + -y.] = *BAR-RULEY*. [In mod. Dicts.]

Barruly (*bærruli*), *a. Her.*; also 6 -ley, -lye, 9 -l6e. [ad. *AF. barrulle*, f. **barrule*: see *BARRULET*.] (A field) Crossed by barrulets or small bars.

1564 LEIGH *Armorie* (1597) 49 He beareth of ten barruley, Argent and Azure. *1864* BOUTELL *Heraldry Hist. & Pop.* xv. 188 The paternal shield . . . was simply barruly (the bars sans nombre) arg., and az. *Ibid.* xv. 224 The points barrulé argent and azure.

Barry (*bāri*), *a. Her.* [a. *F. barré* barred, f. *barrer* to BAR.] (A field) Divided horizontally into a number of equal parts by bars of two colours arranged alternately.

1486 Bk. *St. Albans, Her.* D. vij, He berith barri of siluer and sable. *1578* BOSSEWELL *Armorie* II. 31 b, The blazon . . . how they differ from playne armes barrie. [See quotation for *BENDY*.] *1864* BOUTELL *Heraldry Hist. & Pop.* xv. 211 This shield of De Grey with the barry field.

Barry-bendy *a.*, divided into both bars and bends, with colours alternating. **Barry-nebully** *a.*, barry, but with the lines bounding the bars

made wavy. **Barry-pily** *a.*, divided into a number of equal 'piles' or wedge-shaped pieces, horizontally arranged, and alternately coloured.

1611 GWILLIM *Heraldry* v. iii. (1660) 369, iv. 371. † **Barse**. *Obs. exc. dial.* [Common Teut.: OE. *bars*, *bears* (:-*bars*) = MDu. *bars*, Du. *baars*, MHG. *bars*, Ger. *barsch*, f. root **bars*, -*bors*, whence OHG. *burst*, OE. *byrst*, Sc. *birse* 'bristle'.] Name of a species of fish: the original form of the word subsequently corrupted to *BASS*, and *BASS*(*z*); still retained in some dialects.

c1000 *ÆLFRIC Gloss* in Wülker /180 *Lufus*, uel *scardo*, *bars*. *c1050* *Ag. Voc.* *ibid.* 1293 *Lyfius*, *bars*. *1753* CHAMBERS *Cycl. Suppl.*, *Barse*, in ichthyology, an English name for the common perch. *1860* H. RILEY *Liber Custum.* Gloss., *Barcius*, a perch, which in Cumberland and Westmoreland is still known as *barse*.

Barselette, -*alett*, var. *BERCELET*, *Obs.*, hound.

Barst(e), *obs. pa. t.* of *BURST* *v.*

Barstness, *dial. f.* *BURST*(*EN*)*NESS*, *Obs.*, rupture.

Barst, an abbreviation of the title *BARONET*, commonly written after the name of one who holds that rank; to supplement the prefixed *Sir*, also given to a Knight; *e. g.* Sir Wilfrid Lawson, Barst.

1813 THOMPSON in *Examiner* 26 Apr. 270/2 When he saw *Barst* against a man's name, he thought it stood for 'bartered.'

† **Bartavel**. *Obs. rare*-. [a. *F. bartavelle*, a name given, according to Lavalée, on account of the bird's monotonous note, f. med. *L. bartavella* for *vertevella* (cf. *Pr. bartaveo*) windlass, f. *vertère* to turn.] The Red Partridge.

1773 BARRINGTON in *Phil. Trans.* LXIII. 273 note, Buffon contends that the *μπερί* of Aristotle does not mean the common partridge, but the bartavel. [1819 in *Rees Cycl.* s. v. *Tetrao*, The bartavelle of Buffon . . . the Greek or great red partridge of Willughby.]

Bartelemy, a. *F. Barthélémy* *BARTHOLOMEW*.

Barter (*bāitar*), *v.* [App. a derivative formation from *barat*, *BARRAT* *v.*; cf. sense of *F. barater* 'to cheat, couzen . . . to trucke, scourse, barter, exchange' (Cotgr.), in Godefroy = 'trouquer, échanger' under date 1373, It. *barattare* 'to barter, trucke, chop and change one thing for another' (Florio 1598), Sp. *baratar* 'to sell cheap, or deceive.' With the final -*er*, cf. *batter*, *falter*, *stutter*; but an intermediate form **barat-er* connecting *barat* and *barter* has not been found.]

1. *trans.* To give (a commodity) in exchange for something taken as of equivalent value; distinguished from *purchase* and *sell*, which imply that money is given for the commodity. *To barter away*: to dispose of by barter; cf. also 2. *Const. for* (with *obs.*) a thing, with a person.

c1440 *Promp. Parv.* 25 *Bartryn* or *changyn*, or *chafare* oone thyng for a othere, *cambio*. *1530* *Palsgr.* 444/1 It is a comen feate of marchantes to barter [*tracquer*] ware for ware. *1590* SHAKS. 1 *Hen. VI.* i. iv. 31 But with a baser man of Arms by farre, Once, in contempt, they would haue barter'd me. *1669* GALE *Crt. Gentiles* I. i. iv. 23 They, by frequent Commerce . . . barter and exchange commodities, each with other. *a1704* LOCKE (J.) He also bartered away plums that would have rotted in a week, for nuts that would last good . . . a whole year. *1796* COLERIDGE *Answ. Melanch. Let. Wks.* I. 87 Barter for food the jewels of his crown. *1833* Ht. MARTINEAU *Charmed Sea* iv. 44 Those who have little merchandise to barter away.

2. *fig. a.* To exchange.

1608 WARNER *Alb. Eng.* ix. xlix. (1612) 226 Such hearts to barter blowes. *1664* H. MORE *Myst. Iniq.* v. 12 They have . . . bartered away one great evil for several others. *1848* KINGSLEY *Saint's Trag.* III. i. 18, I but barter Less grief for greater.

b. To part with for a consideration, usually a mercenary or unworthy one; to bargain away.

1664 *Decay Chm. Piety* (J.) They will barter away their time. *1764* GOLDSM. *Trav.* 305 E'en liberty itself is barter'd here. *1862* (18 Dec.) BRIGHT *Amer. Sp.* (1876) 110 Writers of eminence and honour who will not barter human rights for the patronage of the great. *1863* W. PHILLIPS *Speeches* III. 49 The greatest hour of the age was bartered away.

3. *intr.* To trade by exchange of commodities.

1485 in *Arnold Chron.* (1811) 229 To selle, barter, and occupye in our sayd landis and lordships. *1635* QUARLES *Emblems* II. v. (1718) 83 With thy bastard bullion thou hast barter'd for wares of price. *1865* LIVINGSTONE *Zambesi* xix. 391 We did not need evidence of a wish to barter.

Barter (*bāitar*), *sb.* [f. prec. *vb.*]

1. The act or practice of trafficking by exchange of commodities; truck.

1592 WEST *Symbol.* B. j. § 26 The putting of such thinges in fellowship or barter. *1677* VARRANTON *Eng. Improv.* 186 In the way of barter, the Pin-Makers may have . . . Bacon from Shrewsbury for Pins. *1796* BURKE *Regic. Peace Wks.* VIII. 334 Differences arising from the spirit of huckstering and barter. *1857* LIVINGSTONE *Trav.* xx. 407 Salt . . . and calico are the common medium of barter.

2. *fig.* Exchange, interchange.

1819 SCOTT *Ivanhoe* xxxii, I will exchange no more cuffs with thee, having been a loser by the barter. *1844* KINGLAKE *Eothen* II. (1878) 24 We made our sullen way through the darkness with scarcely one barter of words.

3. Goods to be bartered or traded in by exchange.

1740 FELTON (J.) Ladies that change plate for china: for which the laudable traffic of old clothes is much the fairest barter. *1800* STUART in *Wellesley Disp.* 577 Piece goods and grain may be made barter for any quantity of coffee.

4. *Arith.* The computation of the quantity or value of one commodity, to be given for a known quantity and value of another; the 'rule' or method of computing this.

Barterer (*bāitarer*). [f. as prec. + -*ER*.] One who barters; a petty or mercenary trafficker.

1611 Cotgr., *Permutateur*, a barterer, exchanger. *1624* F. WHITE *Repl. Fisher* 504 The onely or principall Key-bearer, and Barterer of this Treasure. *1794* COLERIDGE *Relig. Musings* vii, Soul-hardened barterers of human blood. *1837* W. WARE *Lett. fr. Palmyra* xiii. (1860) 306 A community of money-makers, hucksters, and barterers.

Bartering, *vb. sb.* [f. as prec. + -ING 1.] Trading or trafficking by exchange of commodities.

c1440 *Promp. Parv.* 25 *Bartrynge*, or changeynge of chafyre, *cambium*. *1485* Act 1 *Hen. VII.* viii, The said Sale or Barterings of them. *1674* Ch. & Crt. *Rome* 7 Shall the bartering for Masses . . . be laid aside? *1851* MAYHEW *Labour* 324 The crockery-ware and glass-sellers . . . are peculiar from their principle of bartering.

† **Bartery**. *Obs.* Also 6 *bartry*, 7 *bartrie*, -*terie*. [f. *BARTER* + -y. Cf. *BARRATRY*, and It. *baratteria* 'bartring or chaffring one thing for another' (Florio 1611).]

1. Traffic by exchange, barter; = prec.

1570 Act 13 *Eliz.* vii. § 1 Using . . . the Trade of Merchandize by way of Bargaining, Exchange, Rechange, Bartry. *1664* FULLER *Worthies* iv. 8 By the bartery or change of Wares and Commodities.

2. Wares for barter or exchange.

a1638 MEDE *Wks.* I. xi. 45 They permitted a Market of Oxen and Sheep, Doves and other bartery.

Bartes, *Sc. var.* *BRETASCE*, -*ACHE*; cf. *BARTIZAN*.

† **Barth**. *Obs. exc. dial.* [Origin unknown. Welsh *barth* 'floor' does not explain the sense.]

Wedgwood suggests derivation from OE. *beorgan* 'to protect, shelter,' but no instance is known of the required OE. derivative **beorhp*. See *BERTH*.] A warm sheltered place for cattle and sheep.

1573 TUSSEY *Husb.* (1878) 73 Warme barth giue lams. *Ibid.* 62 In tempest Warme barth, vnder hedge, is a sucker to beast. *1674* RAY *S. & E. Countr. Wds.* 58 *Barth*, a warm place or pasture for calves or lambs. [So *1797* *BRADLEY Fam. Dict.*]

Bartholomean (*barþlōmēan*), *a.* [f. *L. Bartholomæus*, Gr. *Bartholomaios* + -*AN*.] Of or pertaining to Bartholomew or Bartholomew's-day.

1645 HOWELL *Dodona's Gr.* 49 The Trinitarian Vespers, and Bartholomew Masses, were nothing to this.

Bartholomew (*barþlōmēu*), *a.* Also 6 *Bartelmew*, -*tylmew*, -*tilmew*, 7 -*tholmew*, -*tholmew*; and, after *F. Barthélémy*, 7 -*Bartlemy* (*bārtlmi*), 7 *Bartelemy*, 8 *Bart'lemy*. [partly ad. *L. Bartholomæus*, Gr. *Bartholomaios*; partly a. *F. Barthélémy*.]

a. Name of one of the twelve apostles, the festival in whose honour is held on the 24th of August (*Bartholomew-day*, -*tide*). b. On this day, in 1572, took place the great massacre of the Protestants in France. c. On the same day, in 1662, the penalties of the English Act of Uniformity (*Bartholomew Act*) came into force. d. At the same time of year, a fair was held annually from 1133 to 1855, at West Smithfield (*Bartholomew Fair*); whence the name was applied to articles sold at it, e.g. *Bartholomew-baby* or -*puppet* (a doll), -*beef*, -*boar-pig*, -*ware*; see also quot. 1777.

a. *1554-3* Inv. *Ch. Goods Staffordsh.* 61, ij challices were stolne owte of the church about Bartelmew tyde. *c1626* *Dick of Devon* iv. i. in *Old Pl.* (1883) II. 59 What a buzzing you make, as if you were a fly at Bartholomew-tyde at a Butcher's stall. *1676* *Trial Coleman* 80 Where was you the last Bartholomew day? *1854* THACKERAY *Newcomes* I. 253 It being the Bartlemytide vacation.

b. *1646* BUCK *Rich. III.* 63 A glimpse like that Bartholomew in France . . . All such slaughters from thence call'd Bartholemies . . . in a perpetual Stigma of that Butchery.

c. *1711* B. SACHEVERELL *Sachev. agst. Sachev.* 15 Being silenc'd by the Bartholomew-Act, he retir'd to Stalbridge.

d. *1597* SHAKS. 2 *Hen. IV.* II. iv. 250 Thou whorson little tydie Bartholomew Bore-pigge. *1614* B. JONSON *Bartholomew Fair* I. vi. (N). For the very calling it a Bartholomew pig, and to eat it so, is a spice of idolatry. *c1645* HOWELL *Lett.* (1650) I. 2 Freighten with mere Bartholomew ware, with trite and trivial phrases only. *1660* HEXHAM *Dutch Dict.*, *Geroockt vleesch*, smoked meat, or Bartholomew beefe. *1668* R. LESTRANGE *Vix. Quev.* (1708) 30 Rolling their Eyes (like a Bartlemy-Puppet, without so much as moving the Head). *1670* BROOKS *Wks.* (1867) VI. 51 Men . . . were dressed up like fantastical antics, and women like Bartholomew-babies. *1711* SHAFESB. *Charac.* (1737) I. 28 A choice droll or puppet-show at Bart'lemy-fair. *1777* HOWARD *Prisons Eng.* (1780) 177 There are four floors [in the Fleet] . . . besides the cellar-floor, called Bartholomew-Fair.

Bartizan (*bārtizān*). [In no dictionary before 1800; not in Todd 1818, nor Craig 1847. Apparently first used by Sir Walter Scott, and due to a misconception of a 17th c. illiterate Sc. spelling, *bertisene*, for *bertising*, i. e. *bretising*, BRATTICING, f. *bretasce* (BRATTICE), a. OF. *bretesche*, 'battlemented parapet, originally of wood and temporary.' *Bartizan* is thus merely a spurious 'modern antique,' which had no existence in the times to which it is attributed.]

A battlemented parapet at the top of a castle or

church; esp. an over-hanging battlemented turret projecting from an angle at the top of a tower, etc. [1377 Wyllif *Sel. Wks.* (1869) I. 191 *pe* highest part of his tour is breiteysing of charite. 1483 *Cath. Angl.* 431 Bretasynge, *propugnaculum*. 1651 *Rec. Pittenweem in Statist. Acc.* (V. 376 (JAM.)) That the morn afternoon the town's colours be put upon the bertisene of the steeple.] 1808 Scott *Marm.* vi. ii. Its varying circle did combine Bulwark, and bartizan, and line. 1824 *Warr.* xiii. A bartizan, or projecting gallery, before the windows of her parlour. 1859 *Turner Dom. Archit.* III. iv. 146 Small stone closets, called Bartizans or machicoulis, are thrown out on corbels immediately over the doorway.

attrib. 1801 Scott *Eve of St. John* 127 He mounted the narrow stair, To the bartizan seat. [See also the *Introd.*] 1821 JOHNSON *Baillie Met. Leg.* Lady J. B. Concl. 15 Bartizan of braided locks.

Bartizaned, *pph.* a. [f. prec. + -ED².] Furnished with a bartizan or bartizans.

1818 Scott *Hrt. Midl.* xxvi. A half-circular turret, battlemented, or, to use the appropriate phrase, bartizan'd on the top. 1834 H. MILLER *Scenes & Leg.* vi. (1857) 79 A small court . . . bartizaned and turreted.

Bartlemy: see BARTHOLOMEW.

† **Bartolist**. *Obs.* [f. *Bartolo*, name of an eminent Italian lawyer born 1313 + -IST.] A student of Bartolo; one skilled in the law.

1608 DANIEL *EA. Sir T. Egerton* xiii. These great Italian Bartolists Called in of purpose to explain the law.

Barton (bā'tŏn). *Forms*: 1 *bere-tun*, 7 *bar-ton*, *berton*, 7-9 *dial.* *barken*, 6- *barton*. [OE. *beretūn* barley-enclosure, courtyard, farmstead, etc., f. *bere* barley (see *BEAR sb.* 2) + *tūn* enclosure: see *TOWN*. Cf. *BARN*, OE. *beretūn*.]

† 1. A threshing-floor. *Obs.*; only in OE.

c950 *Lindisf. Gosp.* Matt. iii. 12 *Derh* clensade *beretūn* [Vulg. *arvam*] his.

2. A farm-yard. (The regular modern sense.)

1559 HULOET, Barton or place enclosed where husbandry is used, *cohors*. 1674 RAY *S. & E. Countr. Wds.* 58 A *Barken* or (as they use it in Sussex) *Barton*: a yard of a house, a backside. 1721 BAILEY, *Barton*: a Backside, Fold-yard or Out-house. 1816 SOUTHEY *Poet's Pilgr.* iii. 41 Spacious bartons clean, well-wall'd around, Where all the wealth of rural life was found.

attrib. 1707 WINTER *Syst. Husb.* 59 Stale urine and barton draining, are greatly preferable to dung. 1865 BARNES *Rhymes Dorset Dial.* I. 79 Flop Down into *barken* pon'.

3. A demesne farm; the demesne lands of a manor, not let out to tenants, but retained for the lord's own use.

[*Monast. Angl.* II. 887 (Du Cange), Et in Bertonia mea de Cadeham unum locum ad construendam aliam grangiam. 1393 *Rot.* 17 *Rich.* II (Spelman), Gulielmus le Scrope . . . habet Castrum, villam et bertonom de Marlebergh.] 1507 FLEMING *Contn. Holinshed* III. 303/2 He also did . . . purchase the lordship and house of Clist Sachisfield, and . . . did enlarge the Barton thereof, by gaining of Cornish wood. 1602 CAKEW *Cornwall* 36 a, That part of the demaines, which appertaineth to the Lord's dwelling house, they call his *Barton*, or *Berton*. 1724 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 6253/3 The Barton of Tregarrick . . . contains 80 Acres of . . . good Land, 150 Acres of good Arable, etc. 1813 VANCOUVER *Agric. Devon* 253 A fine grove of Scotch and silver fir on the barton of Bridestow.

attrib. c1630 RISSON *Surv. Devon* § 91 The barton tenants [cf. BARTONER]. 1708 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 4412/3 The Barton-House of Kentaberry.

† 4. An enclosure for poultry, a pen. *Obs.*

1559 HULOET, Inclusion called a barton to feade fowles in, *chors*. 1756 NUGENT *Montesquieu's Spir. Laws* (1758) II. xxvi. xviii. 452 The eggs of the bartons of his demesnes. 1763 AINSWORTH *Lat. Dict.* (Morell), A barton for poultry, *gallinarius*.

† 5. Used to translate L. *cauedium*: The inner court of a Roman house. *Obs.*

1510 HORMAN *Vulg.* 138 Moche of the showre felle into the lous; but moche more into the barton [L. *cauedium*].

Bartoner. [f. prec. + -ER¹.] (See quot.)

1834 BOUCHER *S.V. Barton*. The persons who took care of, and managed such reserved lands were called *bartonarii*, i.e. bartoners, or husbandmen.

Bartram, *obs.* form of BERTRAM, q.v.

† **Bartsia** (bā'tsĭā). *Bot.* [named by Linnæus after Bartsch of Königsberg.] A genus of *Scrophulariaceæ*. *B. Odontites* is a wayside weed in Britain, with dull purple flowers and purplish stem.

1753 in CHAMBERS *Cycl. Supp.* 1861 S. THOMSON *Wild Flowers* iii. (ed. 4) 246 The dull-looking bartsia, with its . . . conspicuous bracteas. 1863 BARING-GOULD *Iceland* 190 The rich purple flowers of Alpine bartsia.

Barune, *Baruot*, *obs.* ff. BARREN, BAREFOOT.

Barvel, -ell (bā'rvēl). [? phonetic corruption of *barm-fell* leather apron: see *BARM sb.* 1 3.] A kind of leather apron.

1876 HALLIWELL, *Barvel*, a short leathern apron worn by washerwomen; a slabbering bib. *Kent.* 1883 *Chamb. Jrm.* 271 The man . . . dressed in a petticoat barvel is cutting away the fish. 1883 *Fisheries Exhib. Catal.* 217 Petticoat Barvell. Harvell or Apron . . . Common Barvell.

Barwood (bā'rwud). [prob. so named from its being sent over in bars; cf. *logwood*.] A red wood imported from the Gaboon and adjacent parts of Africa, used chiefly for dyeing purposes, and also for ramrods and violin bows. It is the produce of the *Baphita nitida*.

1788 CLARKSON *Impol. Slave Tr.* 7 The first African woods, that were known to be objects of commercial importance, were Camwood and Barwood. 1861 *Du Chaillu's*

Equat. Afr. x. 121 The bar-wood of commerce is the heart or main part of the trunk.

† **Bary**, *v.* *Obs.* *rare*—1. [a. OF. *bari-er*, later *barrier*:—L. *barri-er*, f. *barrus* elephant; cf. *BARRV.*] *intr.* To utter the peculiar cry of an elephant.

1594 2nd *Rep. Faustus* in Thoms *E. E. Pr. Rom.* (1858) III. 399 His meekness turned into rage, and began to rise and bary, and stamp.

Barya, *var.* BARIA, *obs.* name for BARTYA.

Barycentric (bæ'risen'trik), *a.* [f. Gr. *Bapús* heavy + *κέντρον* centre + -IC.] Of or pertaining to the centre of gravity.

Baryphony (bā'rifōni). *Med.* [f. Gr. *Bapús* heavy, deep + *φωνή* voice.] Difficulty of speech.

† **Baryt**, *Chem.* *Obs.* [a. F. *baryte*, ad. mod. L. *barytēs*: see BARYTES.] = next.

1794 PEARSON in *Phil. Trans.* LXXXIV. 395 Nitrate and muriate of baryt. 1809 — *ibid.* XCIX. 327 Precipitation with muriate of baryt.

Baryta (bā'ritā). *Chem.* Also (*obs.*) *barita*. [f. next: see quot. Cf. also BARIA.] The protoxide of barium; an alkaline earth distinguished by its great weight.

1809 YOUNG in *Phil. Trans.* XCIX. 151 Phosphate of barita. *Ibid.* 154 *Barytes*, as a single Greek word, means weight . . . but as the name of a stone, accented on the second syllable, it must be written *barites*; and the pure earth may properly be called *barita*. 1812 SIR H. DAVY *Chem. Philos.* 338 Withierite, or carbonate of baryta.

attrib. 1877 W. THOMSON *Voy. Challenger* I. i. 26 *Baryta*-water of known strength.

Barytes (bā'ritēs). *Chem.* [mod. f. Gr. *Bapús* heavy (in reference to its great weight), partly assimilated to names of minerals in -ITES, Gr. -ῖτης (whence some early chemists preferred *barites*: see prec.). Cf. mod. F. *baryte*, and *trachyte*.]

† 1. = BARYTA. (*Occas. attrib.*) *Obs.*

1791 HAMILTON *Berthollet's Dyeing* I. i. v. 86 Solutions of lime . . . [and] *barytes*, are not decomposed. 1802 CHEVREUX in *Phil. Trans.* XCII. 341 No precipitate took place from a mixture of barytes-water and stromtia-water. 1854 F. BAKEWELL *Geol.* 32 A lining of sulphate of barytes.

2. Native sulphate of barium, heavy spar, *BARITE*. 1789 A. CRAWFORD in *Med. Comm.* II. 301 The medicinal properties of the Muriated Barytes. 1822 IMISON *Sc. & Art* II. 90 Barytes is used as a white paint, under the name of permanent white. 1878 LAWRENCE *Cotta's Rocks Class.* 41 Barytes seldom occurs as an independent rock.

Barytic (bā'ritik), *a.* *Chem.* [f. prec. + -IC.] Of, pertaining to, or containing baryta or barium.

1789 A. CRAWFORD in *Med. Comm.* II. 349 The purity of the barytic salt. 1831 T. P. JONES *Convers. Chem.* xvii. 176 Barytic water . . . a solution of baryta in water, is kept as a test by the chemist.

Barytine, **Barytite**, synonyms of *BARITE*.

Baryto- (bā'ritō), *comb.* form of BARYTA, as in **Baryto-calcite**, a carbonate of barium and calcium. **Baryto-celestite**, a sulphate of barium and strontium. Both found as native minerals.

Barytone, -itone (bæ'ritōn), *sb.* and *a.* *Forms*: 7 *bariton*, *barritone*, 9 *baritone*, *bary-ton*, 8-9 *barytone*. [a. F. *barytone*, or It. *baritono*, ad. Gr. *Bapūrovos* deep-sounding, f. *Bapús* heavy, deep + *ῥόσος* pitch, *TONE*.]

a. sb.

1. The male voice of compass intermediate between tenor and bass, ranging from lower A in the bass clef to lower F in the treble clef.

1609 DOULAND *Ornithop. Microlog.* 84 Of the Baritone. The Bassus . . . is the lowest part of each Song. Or it is an Harmony to be sung with a deeper voice, which is called Baritonus. 1859 GEO. ELIOT *A. Bede* i. The strong barytone . . . which was heard above the sound of plane and hammer, singing—Awake, my soul.

fig. 1870 LOWELL, *Among my Bks.* II. 240 Harmonies . . . deep and eternal, like the undying barytone of the sea.

2. A singer possessing a barytone voice.

1821 BYRON *Yuan* iv. lxxxix. Our baritone . . . A pretty lad, but bursting with conceit. 1878 GROVE *Dict. Music* I. 127 Offered him an engagement as principal barytone.

3. A musical instrument of deep sound: † *a.* a kind of bass viol now obsolete; † *b.* see quot. 1880.

1885 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 2088/4 Some performance upon the Barritone. c1790 HAYDN (*title*) Concertos for baryton with accompaniment of two violins and bass. 1880 GROVE *Dict. Mus.* I. 139 Baritone, the name usually applied to the smaller bass saxhorn in Bb or C.

4. *Grk. Gram.* A barytone word: see B. 2.

B. adj.

1. Of the voice: Having a compass intermediate between bass and tenor. *b.* Of music: Suited for a barytone voice. *c.* Of a singer: Possessing a barytone voice.

1729 SWIFT *Corr.* (1841) II. 628, I recommend one Mr. Mason . . . a barytone voice, for the vacancy. 1861 *Sat. Rev.* 16 Dec. 611 The present fashion of writing at the extreme end of the baritone register. 1871 PALGRAVE *Lyr. Poems* 50 And the deep rich oily Te Deum By the barytone canon sung.

2. *Grk. Gram.* Not having the acute accent on the last syllable.

1855 WALKER *Dict.* *Introd.* 65 The tendency to the barytone pronunciation in the noun [*prophecy*] and the oxytone in the verb [*prophecy*]. 1863 *Rudin. Grk. Lang. Edin. Acad.* 184 Words unaccented on the last syllable are called barytone. 1881 CHANDLER *Grk. Accent.* § 905 When words

are combined in a sentence . . . oxytones become barytone, except before a colon, a full stop, etc.

† **Barytonize**, *v.* *Obs.* *rare*—1. [? f. prec. + -IZE; but cf. F. *baritonner* to wag, or dangle, vp and downe' (Cotgr.).]

1653 URQUHART *Rabelais* i. vii. [Gargantua] would loll and rock himself in the cradle . . . monocrdising with his Fingers and barytonising with his Tail.

Baryum, *obs.* form of BARIUM.

Bas, *obs.* form of BASE *a.*

Basal (bā'sāl), *a.* (*sb.*) [f. BASE *sb.* + -AL.]

1. Pertaining to, situated at, or forming the base. In *Bot.* Situated at the base of the ovary. *Basal plane* and *cleavage* in *Crystallog.*: one parallel to the lateral or horizontal axis.

1828 KIRBY & SP. *Entomol.* III. xxxii. 330 The elytra have a basal gibbosity. 1845 DARWIN *Voy. Nat.* xii. (1879) 254 Geologising the basal parts of the Andes. 1870 HOOKER *Stud. Flora* 314 *Amaranthaceæ* . . . ovules . . . basal.

2. *fig.* Fundamental.

1865 BUSHNELL *Vicar. Sacr.* III. v. (1868) 330 A much deeper and more nearly basal office. 1883 H. DRUMMOND *Nat. Law in Spir. W.* 378 Classification should rest on the most basal characteristics.

3. *Comb.*, as *basal-nerved*, 'with nerves all springing from the base of the leaf.' Gray *Bot. Text-bk.*

B. as *sb.* A basal part; *spec.* one of the basal plates encircling the stem of the crinoids.

1877 HUXLEY *Anat. Inv. An.* ix. 589 The basals coalescing into the rosette are hidden by the first radials. 1881 *Nature* 4 Aug. 305 Those species of *Pentacrinus* in which the basals form a complete ring.

Basally, *adv.* [f. prec. + -LY².] As a base or basis, fundamentally.

1881 J. STIRLING *Text-bk. Kant* 208 The first condition, that . . . must . . . basally underlie objects, so far as form is concerned . . . in the mind.

Basalt (bā'sōlt, bæ'sōlt). *Min.* [ad. L. *basaltis*, (originally an African word, Pliny), long used in Eng. unchanged.]

1. A kind of trap rock; a greenish- or brownish-black rock, igneous in origin, of compact texture and considerable hardness, composed of augite or hornblende containing titaniferous magnetic iron and crystals of feldspar (labradorite), often lying in columnar strata, as at the Giant's Causeway in Ireland, and Fingal's Cave in the Hebrides. (Pliny's *basaltis* was probably a variety of Syenite.)

1601 HOLLAND *Pliny* xxxvii. vii. § 11 The Egyptians also found in Ethiopia another kind of Marble which they call Basaltis, resembling yron as well in colour as hardness. 1694 MOLYNEUX *Giant's Causeway* in *Phil. Trans.* XVIII. 181 Our Irish Basaltis is composed of Columns. 1789 Mrs. PIOZZI *Journ. France* II. 364 Its composition seemed black basalt. 1813 SIR H. DAVY *Agric. Chem.* iv. 195 Basalt or whinstone. 1837 W. IRVING *Capt. Bonneville* (1849) 317 Prismoids of basaltis, rising to the height of fifty or sixty feet. 1845 DARWIN *Voy. Nat.* ix. (1852) 180 The Basalt is only Lava, which has flowed beneath the sea.

b. attrib. and in *comb.*, as in *basalt rock*, -*building*.

1769 RASPE in *Phil. Trans.* LXI. 580 Our basalt rocks differ from those of the Giant's Causeway. 1873 TRISTRAM *Noah* ix. 174 The basalt-building inhabitants.

2. A black porcelain invented by Wedgwood.

1832 G. PORTER *Porcelain* 17 Basaltis, or black ware . . . was a black porcelainous biscuit, having nearly the same properties as the natural stone.

Basaltic (bā'sōltik), *a.* [f. prec. + -IC.] Of, consisting of, of the nature of, or resembling basalt.

1772 PENNANT *Tours Scot.* (1774) 161 Basaltic, a term I apply to the jointed columns, resembling those of the giants causeway. 1813 SIR H. DAVY *Agric. Chem.* (1814) 201 Fine red Earth . . . immediately above decomposing basalt . . . may be denominated basaltic soil. 1843 J. PORTLOCK *Geol.* 149 Eruptions of basaltic lava.

Basaltiform (bā'sōltifōrm), *a.* [f. as prec. + -IFORM.] Having the form of basalt.

1791 BEDDOES in *Phil. Trans.* LXXXI. 51 Basaltiform colonnades of granite. 1876 PAGE *Adv. Text-bk. Geol.* xix. 377 The basaltiform structure of the carboniferous traps.

Basaltine (bā'sōltin), *a.* *Obs.* [f. as prec. + -INE.] = BASALTIC.

1774 STRANGE in *Phil. Trans.* LXV. 14 The profusion of basaltine phenomena, in . . . Auvergne. 1796 MORSE *Amer. Geog.* II. 12 Basaltine pillars are very common in Iceland.

† **Basaltine** (*e.* *Min.* *Obs.* [f. as prec.] A kind of basaltic hornblende, classed by Dana as an aluminous variety of Pyroxene; a crystal of this mineral.

1794 KIRWAN *Min.* I. 219 Basaltine. Basaltic Hornblende, or Crystallized Hornblende, of Werner. 1811 PINKERTON *Petrol.* I. 9 The trap of the Swedes, with a fine grain, is here called basaltine.

Basaltoid (bā'sōltoid), *a.* [f. BASALT + -OID.] = BASALTIFORM. [In mod. Dicts.]

Basan, **basan** (bæ'zān). Also 8 *basin*. [a. F. *basane*, (Cotgr. *basane*, Palsgr. *basanne*), prob. ad. Pr. **bazana*, a. Sp. *badana* (med. L. *badana*), ad. Arab. *بيضان* *biṣānah*, lining, 'inside'; see also the Eng. corruption BASIL *sb.* 3, BAZIL.] Sheep-skin tanned in oak- or larch-bark; distinguished from *roan*, which is tanned in sumach.

1714 *Fr. Bk. of Rates* 153 Cloth made of Hemp, Fustians, or Basins. 1851 TURNER *Dom. Ar. Hist.* II. iii. 126 The pre-

pared sheepskin called *basan*. 1865 HANNETT *Bibliopegia* (ed. 6) 104 The cover is of black *basan*, the back full gilt.

Basanite (bæs'ânait). *Min.* [ad. L. *basanites* (*lapis*), in Pliny, f. Gr. *Basanos* touchstone, test.] A velvet-black siliceous variety of quartz, used on account of its blackness and hardness for testing the purity of precious metals, by means of the mark left after rubbing the metal upon it.

[1753 CHAMBERS *Cycl. Suppl.*, *Basanites*... the touchstone used for trying gold.] 1794 KIRWAN *Min.* I. 307 *Basanite*. Lydian stone of Werner. Black Jasper of some. 1850 Müller's *Anc. Art* § 403 Statue of the Nile... of *basanite*.

Basar, obs. form of **BAZAAR**.

|| **Bas bleu** (bâ'blø). *Obs.* [French rendering of Eng. BLUE-STOCKING, q. v.] A 'blue-stocking', a literary lady.

1801 HAN. MORE *Bas bleu* Wks. I. 13 Or how *Aspasia's* parties shone. The first *Bas-bleu* at Athens known. 1808 Miss Talbot's *Lett.* Intro. 15 The appellation which the company that assembled at her (Mrs. Vesey's) house acquired of the *Bas bleu*. 1811 BYRON *Juan* iv. cxli. (*MS. reading*), By measuring the intensity of blue; I'll back a London *bas* against Peru.

† **Bascaud**. *Obs.* Used to English L. *bascauda*, instead of adopting the doubtful translation **BASKET**. 1647 R. STAPFELTON *Juvenal* 231 From British Picts the barbarous *bascaud* came.

Bascaudal (bæsk'ādäl), *a.* [f. L. *bascauda*, taken as meaning **BASKET** + *-AL*.] Of or pertaining to a basket or basket-work.

1870 *Archæol.* XLIII. 367 (D.) In a cup... deeper than usual, the *bascaudal* character was confined to the upper part.

Baschar, -at, obs. forms of **BASHAW**, **PASHA**.

|| **Bas chevalier** (bâ'jvâlye). [F. *bas* low, *chevalier* knight.] 'Low or Inferiour Knights, by bare Tenure of a Military Fee, as distinguished from Bannerets and Baronets.' Phillips 1706; whence in mod. Dicts.

(Founded on an erroneous derivation of **BACHELOR**.)

Basinet, variant of **BASINET**.

† **Basque**. *Obs.* The Basque language.

c 1645 HOWELL *Lett.* v. (1650) 164, I have bin shewn for Irish and *Basque* Imperfect rules couch'd in an Accidence. 1696 PHILLIPS, *Basque*, the language of a Country of Spain called Biscay.

Basculat (bæskul'at-jon). *Surg.* [mod. f. F. *basculer* to see-saw, f. *bascule*; see next and -ATION.] A term applied to the movement by which retroversion of the uterus is remedied.

1881 in *Syd. Soc. Lex.*

Bascule (bæ'skiul). [a. F. *bascule*, formerly *basule* a see-saw, f. *battre* to beat, bump, or *bas* low, down + *cul* the posteriors.] An apparatus acting on the principle of the lever or pulley, whereby one end is raised when the other is depressed; esp. in **Bascule-bridge**, a kind of drawbridge, balanced by a counterpoise which rises or falls, usually into a prepared pit, as the bridge is lowered or raised.

1678 Phil. Trans. XII. 1007 At the Extremity of this *Bascule* is ty'd a Cord which passes through the Pulley. 1883 *Pall Mall G.* 11 Sept. 11/2 A weighing machine on the *bascule* principle. 1884 *Daily News* 29 Oct. 5/3 A 'basculer' or lifting bridge... would be more speedily opened than a swing bridge... Steamboats and small craft generally would not require the opening of the *basculer*.

Base (bæ'is), *sb.* Forms: 4-7 **basse**, 4-6 **baas**, 4 **bas**, **bays**, 7 **bass**, 4- **base**. [a. F. *base* (12th c. in *Littre*):—L. *bas-is*, a. Gr. *Basios* a stepping, also that on which one steps or stands, pedestal, base, f. *βα-* 'walk, go.' The ME. spellings *bas*, *baas*, *basse*, indicate confusion with **BASE** *a.*, which, in Fr., is distinct in origin and pronunciation.]

I. The lowest or supporting part.

* generally.

1. The bottom of any object, when considered as its support, or as that on which it stands or rests.

c 1295 E. E. Allit. P. A. 999 Iasper hygt þe fyrst gemme þat I on þe fyrst *basce* con wale. c 1391 CHAUCER *Astron.* ii. § 41 b. þe *basce* of þe tour. *Ibid.* § 43 a. To knowe þe heighe of þynges, 3if þou mayst nat come to þe *basce* of a þyng. c 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 20 *Base*, or fundament, *basis*. 1483 *Cath. Angl.* 23 *Base* (v. r. *Bays*), *basis*. 1599 SHAKS. *Hen. V.* iii. 1. 13 As doth a galled Rocke O'erhang and lutty his confounded *Base*. 1613 Heywood *Sib.* Age ii. i. Wks. 1874 III. 120 Let all yon starry structure from his *basses* Shrink to the earth. 1799 JOHNSON *Rasselas* xxx. (1787) 88 When they came to the great pyramid they were astonished at the extent of the *base*. 1862 STANLEY *Jew. Ch.* (1877) 1. ix. 182 From the Jabok up to the *base* of Hermon. 1866 *Tate Brit. Mollusks* iv. 149 At the *bases* of the trees.

2. fig. Fundamental principle, foundation, groundwork.

c 1500 *Blowbol's Test.* in Halliwell. *Nugz* P. 2 Phisike... Whiche men callen *basas* naturall. 1581 LAMBARDE *Eiren.* iv. v. (1588) 505 Enditements... be the chiefe *base* and groundworke whereupon the whole Triall is afterward to be built. 1646 Sir T. Browne *Pseud. Ep.* i. x. (1686) 28 Hereby he undermineth the *Base* of Religion. 1738 WESLEY *Psalm* xxxvi. Nor Earth can shake, nor Hell remove The *Base* of thine eternal Love. 1879 GREEN *Read. Eng. Hist.* xx. 100 Henry's charter... was at once welcomed as a *base* for the needed reforms.

† b. Ground of action or attitude. *Obs.*

1601 SHAKS. *Twel. N.* v. 1. 78 Antonio [is]... on *base* and ground enough Orsino's enemy. a 1608 F. GREVILLE in Farr's

S. P. (1845) I. 112 That man... nothing yet done amisse And so in him no *base* of this defection. Should fall from God. * * specifically and technically.

3. *Arch.* a. The part of a column, consisting of the plinth and various mouldings, between the bottom of the shaft and top of the pedestal, or, if there is no pedestal, between the shaft and the pavement.

c 1325 E. E. Allit. P. B. 1278 þe *bases* of þe byrgt postes. c 1400 *Destr. Troy* v. 1652 Pight into pilers prudly to shewe The *bases* and boudurs all of bright perle. 1563 SHUTE *Archit.* C j b, Vpon the which *Base* shalbe set Scapus, or the body of the pillar. 1643 BURROUGHS *Exp. Hosea* ii. (1652) 174 God many times raises up golden pillars upon leaden *Bases*. 1734 *Builder's Dict.* s. v., The Corinthian *Base* has two Tors, two Scotia's, and two Astragals. 1868 FREEMAN *Norm. Cong.* II. x. 514 Of Eadward's minster nothing is left save a few *bases* of pillars.

b. The plinth and mouldings which form the slightly projecting part at the bottom of the wall of a room. c. The lowest course of masonry in a building.

1803 P. NICHOLSON *Pract. Build.* 165 *Bases* and *Subbases* for Rooms.

4. A pedestal.

c 1440 *Bible* (Wyclif) *Ex.* xxxi. 9 (MS. I) The greet... lautorie with his *baas* [1388 foundement]. 1463 *Bury Wills* (1850) 19 That the ymage of oure lady... be set vp... with the *baas* redy thereto. 1614 RALEIGH *Hist. World* ii. 292 These shee mounted on two great *Bases* or *Pedestals* of the same Metall. 1835 THIRLWALL *Greece* I. vii. 258 The *base* of his statue... bore an inscription.

† 5. A socket. *Obs.*

c 1325 (cf. 5). 1380 *Sir Ferumb.* 1329 þe raftres... And þe *bases* þat hem bere. 1648 LIGHTFOOT *Glean. Ex.* 49 Each Pillar was fastned in a *base* of brasse.

6. In mechanical arts: a. in *Printing*, The bottom or footing of letters. b. in *Gunnery*, The protuberant rear-portion of a cannon, between the knob of the cascabel and the base-ring.

1676 MOXON *Print. Lett.* 6 Capital I is all Stem, except the *Base* and Topping. 1686-1868 [see 20].

7. *Bot.* and *Zool.* That extremity of a part or organ by which it is attached to the trunk; e.g. the part of a leaf adjoining the leaf-stalk, of a pericarp adjoining the peduncle, of a thumb adjoining the hand.

1831 R. KNOX *Cloquet's Anat.* 435 Its *base* is continuous with the tentorium cerebelli. 1866 *Treas. Bot.* 121 A five-parted calyx... with glands at its *base*.

8. *Her.* The lower part of a shield; spec. the width of a 'bar' (or fifth part of the shield's height) parted off from the bottom by a horizontal line.

1611 GWILLIM *Heraldry* iii. vii. 105 He beareth Or, on a Mount in *Base* a pear tree fruited. 1706 PHILLIPS, *Base*... in *Heraldry*, the lowest part of an escutcheon, consisting of the Dexter, Middle, and Sinister *Base-points*.

9. *Geom.* That line or surface of a plane or solid figure on which it stands, or is considered to stand, Thus:—of a triangle, any one side in respect of the other two; of a cone or pyramid, the circle or polygon remote from its apex; of a cylinder or prism, the lower of the two circles or equal polygons which form its ends.

1570 BILLINGSLEY *Euclid* i. def. 29 In comparison of any two sides of a triangle, the third is called a *base*. 1571 DIGGES *Pantom.* iv. def. 29 Any one of the Figures where-with these solids be enuironed, is called the *base* of that solide. 1660 BARROW *Euclid* i. v. The angles at the *base* of an isosceles triangle are equal. 1817 R. JAMESON *Charac. Min.* 104 Terminal planes are the smallest planes that bound the greatest extent. In the prism they form the *bases*. 1831 BREWSTER *Optics* ii. 17 A cone of rays, whose *base* is the circular mirror.

† b. *Distinct base* in *Optics*: focal distance. *Obs.* 1706 in PHILLIPS. 1797-51 CHAMBERS *Cycl.* *Distinct base*... is that distance, from the pole of a convex glass, in which objects, beheld through it, appear distinct, and well defined.

10. *Fortification*. The imaginary line which connects the salient angle of two adjacent bastions.

1721 in BAILEY.

11. The main or most important element or ingredient, looked upon as its fundamental part.

11. generally.

1471 RIPLEY *Comp. Alch.* in Ashm. (1652) Ep. 112 Our *Base* principally, Wherof doth spring both Whyte and Red naturally. 1696 PHILLIPS, *Base*... the principal ingredient in a prescription. 1810 HENRY *Elem. Chem.* (1826) I. 627 A strong presumption that alumina is a metallic oxide; but its *base*, aluminum, has not been yet obtained.

12. *Dyeing*. A substance used as a mordant, by which colours are fixed in the material dyed.

1791 HAMILTON *Berthollet's Dyeing* II. ii. 121 Its colouring particles are fixed by a *base*. 1875 *URE Dict. Arts* II. 168 The fixation of iron oxide and several other *bases* depends on the same change within the pores or fibre.

13. *Mod. Chem.* The electropositive compound body, whether metallic oxide (sulphide, selenide), hydrate, or alkaloid, which enters into combination with an acid to form a salt; the correlative of **ACID**, including, but having wider meaning than, **ALKALI**.

1810 HENRY *Elem. Chem.* (1826) II. 51 Arsenites... may be formed by simply boiling the arsenious acid with the respective *bases*. 1855 BAIN *Senses & Int.* II. ii. § 1 In salts the taste is determined more by the *base* than by the acid. 1871 ROSCOE *Elem. Chem.* 427 *Vegeto-alkaloids*... a series

of bodies containing carbon, hydrogen, oxygen, and nitrogen, which act as *bases*, and are found in certain plants.

14. *Gram.* The form of a word to which suffixes are attached; the theme.

1875 WHITNEY *Life Lang.* iv. 71 In the Scythian languages, it is the final vowel of the *base* which assimilates that of the following suffixes. *Ibid.* x. 207 The derivative theme or *base*.

III. That from which a commencement of action or reckoning is made, regarded as a fundamental starting-point.

15. a. The line or limit from which the start is made in a race, or which serves as a goal for the finish. b. The fixed line or 'goal' across which players endeavour to strike the ball in such games as hockey. c. The fixed points or stations round which the striker at rounders or base-ball has to run, and at any of which he is allowed to stay.

1695 BLACKMORE *Pr. Arth.* ix. 358 While round the *Base* the wanton Coursers play, Th' ambitious Riders in just Scales they weigh. 1812 W. TENNANT *Auster* F. iii. lvi, His toils are o'er, and he has gained the *base*. 1875 'STONE-HENGE' *Brit. Sports* iii. i. iv. § 1 If while running between the *bases* he is hit by the ball, he is put out.

16. *Mil.* The line or place upon which the general of an army relies as a stronghold and magazine, and from which the operations of a campaign are conducted. Also *transf.* to other operations.

1860 GEN. P. THOMPSON *Audi Ali.* III. cxxii. 68 The theory of the *base*. A leading point in it, being that you must not pass a fortification, by reason of the effects its garrison would have on you if you left it in your rear. 1863 KINGLAKE *Crimea* II. 193 The territory on which these resources are spread is called the 'base of operations.'

17. *Surv.* A line on the earth's surface or in space, of which the exact length and position are accurately determined, and which is used as a *base* (sense 9) for trigonometrical observations and computations.

1834 MRS. SOMERVILLE *Connex. Phys. Sc.* vi. 54 Measuring 500 feet of a *base* in Ireland. *Ibid.* (1849) Intro. 2 Use the globe he inhabits as a *base* wherewith to measure the magnitude and distance of the sun and planets.

18. *Math.* The number from which, as a definite starting-point, a system of numeration or logarithms proceeds.

1874 TODDUNTER *Trigon.* x. 93 Suppose $a^x = n$, then x is called the logarithm of n to the *base* a . e.g. $3^4 = 81$; thus 4 is the logarithm of 81 to the *base* 3. *Mod.* The *base* of our system of numeration is 10.

IV. *Comb.* and *Attrib.*

19. General relations: a. appositive (= forming a *base*), as *base-colour*, *line*, *plate*, *squadron*, *unit*; b. attrib. (= belonging to, or situated at, the *base*), as *base-course*, *moulding* (see 5 b), *shoot*, *table*.

a. 1823 *Regul. Instr. Cavalry* iii. 46 The *Base Squadron*, Troop, or Division, is the one upon which a Formation is made. 1871 C. DAVIES *Met. Syst.* ii. 41 That the metre is too large for a *base-unit*. 1879 HARLAN *Eyesight* v. 61 Red, yellow, and blue were formerly considered the *base* colours. 1879 *Cassell's Tech. Educ.* IV. 243/1 At the back of the *base-plate* is a small stud.

b. 1845 *Gloss. Goth. Archit.* I. 47 *Base-moulding*, *Base-table*... a projecting moulding or band of mouldings near the bottom of a wall. 1879 Sir G. SCOTT *Lect. Archit.* II. 82 The walls were further relieved by projecting *base-courses*. 1884 *Garden* 11 Mar. 169/1 When all the *base* shoots are neatly tied down.

20. Special combinations: *base-burner*, a furnace or stove in which the fuel is supplied to the fire automatically from a hopper as the lower stratum is consumed; *base-line* (see quot. and cf. 16, 17); also in *Perspective*, the common section of a picture and the geometrical plane, and in *Gunnery*, a line traced round a cannon at the rear of the vent; *base-point*, in *Her.*, the middle point of the *base* (see 8); *base-ring*, a moulding on the breech of a cannon between the *base* and the first reinforce; † *base-square* (see quot.).

1765 Roy *Surveying* in *Phil. Trans.* LXXXV. 406 It was seen that the computed 'base-line' would fall... little short of the hypothenusal distance. 1830 E. CAMPBELL *Dict. Mil. Sc.*, 'Base-line', in Military Tactics, signifies the line on which all Magazines and means of Supply of an Army are established. 1865 CAMDEN *Rem.* (1637) 225 John of Clarence bare... a Floure-de-lis Or in 'Base-Point'. 1606 CAPT. SMITH *Accid. Yng. Seamen* 32 Her carnooze or 'base ring' at her britch. 1868 F. GRIFFITHS *Artill. Man.* 53 The Length of a gun is ascertained by measuring it from the rear of the 'base ring' to the face of the muzzle. 1598 BARRET *Theor. Warres* iv. i. 95 The *Base square*, is the battell [i. e. battalion] which containeth almost thrise, or 3 times more in breadth then in depth.

Base (bæ'is), *sb.* 2 Also *prisoner's base*; in 5 *base*, 6 *baase*. [either a specific use of **BASE** *sb.* 1, III., or a phonetic corruption of *bars* (cf. **BAR** *sb.* 1, and **BASE** *sb.* 5, 6); if the latter is the real origin, the former accounts equally well for the sense.] A popular game among boys; it is played by two sides, who occupy contiguous 'bases' or 'homes'; any player running out from his 'base' is chased by one of the opposite side, and, if caught, made a prisoner.

c 1440 *Prompt. Parv.* 20/2 *Bace*, pleye... *barri*, *barrorum*, *dantur ludi puerorum*. 1558 PHAER *Æneid* v. Oj, Thy

kind of pastime fyrst, and place boyes to learne at Baase, Ascanius . . . dyd bryng in place. 1611 SHAKS. *Cymb.* v. iii. 20 Lads more like to run The Country base, then to commit such slaughter. 1653 GREAVES *Seraglio* 80 The Jeeret [is] a kind of running at base on horsback. 1880 *Boy's Own Bk.* 27 Prisoners' Base is a capital game for cold weather.

† **b.** To bid base: to challenge to a chase in this game; *gen.* to challenge. Hence *base-bidding* adj.

1548 UNALL, etc. *Erasm. Par. Luke* iv. 1 (R.) The spirite of wickednesse . . . biddeth bace, and begynneth firste with hym, of whom he was to be subdued. 1590 SHAKS. *Ven. & Ad.* li. To bid the wind a base he now prepares. 1593 NASHE *Christ's T.* (1613) 69 Sportive Base-bidding Roundelayes. 1641 MILTON *Animadv.* Wks. (1851) 202, I shall not intend this hot season to bid you the base through the wide, and dusty Champaine of the Councils.

† **Base** (bā's), *sb.* 3. *Obs. exc. Hist.* Also 6-7 *baise*, 7 *baas*. [app. an Eng. application of *BASS sb.* 1 'bottom, lower part' to these articles of dress.]

1. *sing.*

1. The housing of a horse.

1548 HALL *Chron. Hen. VIII.* an. 1 (R.) The basses and hardes of their horse were grene sattyn. *Ibid.* an. 2 (R.) Their basses and trappers of clothe of gold, euery of them his name embroudered on hys basse and trapper. 1577 HOLINSHED *Chron.* III. 825/1 The king had a basse and a trapper of purple velvet. 1667 MILTON *P. L.* ix. 36 Caparisons and steeds; Bases and tinsel Trappings.

II. *pl. bases* (cf. *skirts*).

2. A plaited skirt, of cloth, velvet, or rich brocade, appended to the doublet, and reaching from the waist to the knee, common in the Tudor period; also an imitation of this in mailed armour.

1580 SIDNEY *Arcadia* iii. 285 His bases which he ware so long as they came almost to his ankle. 1596 SPENSER *F. Q.* v. 20 An apron white, Instead of curlets and bases fit for fight. 1600 WARNER *Alb. Eng.* xii. lxxix. (1612) 291 The Taishes, Cushies, and the Graues, Staffe, Pensell, Baieses. 1639 J. ASTON *Iter Borale* Add. MS. B. M. 28566 f. 25 b, A paire of bases of Plad and stockings of y^e same. 1821 SCOTT *Kentiv.* xxxix, His bases and the foot-cloth of his hobbyhorse dropping water.

3. The skirt of a woman's outer petticoat or robe.

1591 HARRINGTON *Orl. Fur.* xxxii. xlvii, The colour of her bases was almost Like to the falling whitish leaves. 1672 JORDAN *Lond. Tri.* in Heath *Grocers' Comp.* (1869) 496 A short Petticoat or Bases of Silver, fringed with Gold. 1697 *Cress D'Anno's Trav.* (1706) 125 She had Bases all of Flowers of Point de Spain in Silk and Gold.

4. An apron.

c 1605 MARSTON (in Webster), Bakers in their linen bases. 1663 BUTLER *Hud.* i. ii. 769 [The butcher] With gauntlet blue and bases white.

† **Base**, *sb.* 4. *Mus. Obs.* Also 5-6 *baos*. The regular form up to the present century of the word now spelt *BASS sb.* 5, q. v.

† a 1450 *Songes & Carols* (1847) 67 Whan . . . bulles of the see syng a good bace. 1609 MILTON *Ode Nativ.* 130 The base of Heaven's deep organ. 1728 POPE *Dunc.* ii. 225 Whose hoarse heroic base Drowns the loud clarion of the braying Ass. 1835 PENNY *Cycl.* s. v. *Base* in music, This word is frequently written *bass*, but the etymology, and more especially the pronunciation, are decidedly in favour of the orthography here adopted, which is sanctioned by Dr. Johnson and other high authorities.

† **Base**, *sb.* 5. *Obs. exc. dial.* Also 5-6 *baos*.

[phonetic corruption of OE. *bass*, *BARSE*, now *BASS*.] Earlier and dial. form of *BASS sb.* 1, a fish.

c 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 202 Bace, fische. c 1460 J. RUSSELL *Bk. Nurture* in *Babes Bk.* (1878) 167 Carpe, base, mylet, or trowl. 1513 Bk. *Kervyn* *ibid.* 281 Base, molet, roche, perche. 1611 COTGR., *Bar*, the fish called a Base. 1620 VENNOR *Via Recta* iv. 74 The Base is in goodness of iuyce inferiour to the Mullett. 1724 DE FOE, etc. *Tour Gt. Brit.* (1769) III. 341 One Draught of Base has equalled a Cart-load. 1851 *Cumbld. Gloss.*, *Base*, a perch.

† **Base**, *sb.* 6. *Obs.* 6-7; also 6 *baas*. [app. a corruption (cf. *prec.*) of *F. barce, berche* (both in Cotgr., in same sense).] The smallest kind of cannon used in 16-17th centuries; see *quot.*

1544 in Lodge *Illustr. Brit. Hist.* (1838) I. 105 Bastard culverins . . . besides other small field pieces, falcons, and bases. 1587 FLEMING *Contn. Holinshed* III. 1021/1 Their ordinance, namely bases and slings. 1611 COTGR., *Berche*, the peece of ordinance called a Base. 1623 MINSHEU, *Esmirel*, a kind of artillery, to the bigness of an harquebus de croc called a base. 1692 in *Capt. Smith's Seaman's Gram.* ii. vii. 96 Base . . . Diameter of bore 1.25 in., weight 200 lb., weight of shot 0.5 lb.

attrib. 1599 HAKLUYT *Voy.* II. ii. 20 We let fall our grapnel almost a base shot off the shoare.

Base (bā's), *a.* Forms: 4-7 *bass*, 5 *baas*, (*Sc. baisse*), *bas*, 5-7 *basse*, 6-7 *bace*, 5-*basso*. [*a. F. bas*, fem. *basse*, cogn. with *Pr. bas*, It. *basso* = late *L. bassus*, explained by Isidore, as 'thick, fat,' by Papias as 'short, low'; found in cl. *L.* as a family cognomen. For the remoter etymology some suggest a Celtic source; others, including Diez, refer to Gr. *βάσιον*, compar. of *βάσις* deep.]

I. *Literal senses.*

1. Low absolutely; of small height. *arch.*

1393 GOWER *Conf.* I. 98 Her nose bass, her browes high. 1596 SPENSER *F. Q.* i. v. 31 An entraince, darke and bace . . . Descends to hell. 1605 SHAKS. *Lucr.* 664 The cedar stoops not to the base shrubs foot. 1863 KINGLAKE *Crimée* (1876) I. iii. 56 A crowd of monks with base foreheads.

b. In *Bot.* denoting lowly growth; e.g. *Base Broom*, *Base Rocklet*.

1578 LYTE *Dodoens* 667 Of base Broome or Woodwarden . . . called in Latine, *Genista humilis*: in Italian *Cerretta*:

that is, lowe and base Broome. 1863 PRIOR *Plant-n.* 15 Base-rocket, from its rocket-like leaves, and lowly growth.

† 2. Low comparatively; below its usual height.

1525 LD. BERNERS *Froiss.* II. xcix. [xcv.] 291 They founde the ryuer in suche a poynt, that in xxx. yeres before it was not so base. *Ibid.* cii. [xcviii.] 297 In wynter . . . the ryuers are but base and lowe.

† 3. Occupying a low position, low-lying; of lower situation than neighbouring parts. *Obs.* Cf. *BASE-COURT*.

c 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 20 Bace chambyr, camera bassa. 1509 HAWES *Past. Pleas.* xxxviii. iii, Alofte the basse toure foure ymages stode. 1561 HOLLYBUSH *Hom. Apoth.* 33 b, When the basse or last gutt issueth or is swollen. 1593 SHAKS. *Richard II.* ii. iv. 20, I see thy Glory, like a shooting Starre, Fall to the base Earth from the Firmament. 1644 Z. BOYD *Zion's Flowers* (1855) App. 8/1 The base valleys enjoy a calm in a gentle gale. 1821 TURNER *Dom. Archit.* I. 1. 6 To construct a base-chamber with a fireplace.

† b. *esp.* geographically or topographically. *Obs.*

1475 Bk. *Noblesse* 45 He wanne . . . base Normandie. 1578 LYTE *Dodoens* 5 The base Almaines do call it 'alsene'. 1601 HOLLAND *Pliny* II. 210 Base Egypt watered . . . with Nilus. a 1608 F. GREVILLE *Sidney* (1652) 226 They took the base Towne . . . even to the gates of the High Towne.

4. Of sounds: Low, not loud; deep, *BASS*.

c 1450 *Merlin* xxviii. 572 He seide in bas voice: I am Monevall. c 1500 *Partenay* 945 Ful gret mynstracy; Bothe hye and bas instrumentes sondry. 1596 SPENSER *F. Q.* iii. ii. 50 Sad words with hollow voice and bace, Shee to the virgin sayd. 1833 BREWSTER *Nat. Magic* ix. 230 His ears were insensible to all sounds below F, marked by the base cliff.

† 5. Deep-coloured, dark. Also *adverbially*. *Obs.*

1533 ELYOT *Cast. Helth* (1541) 87 Urine base redde, lyke to bole armenake. 1586 COGAN *Haven Health* i. (1636) 8 That [urine] which is well colored not too high or base. [1588 SHAKS. *Tit. A.* iv. ii. 72 Is black so base a hue?]

II. *Figurative senses.*

6. Low in the social scale, of lowly condition, plebeian; belonging to the 'lower orders'. *arch.*

1490 CAXTON *Encyclos* xi. 42 They which ben borne of basse parentage. c 1500 *Partenay* 523 If any you demaunde, hie other bas, Of your said lord. 1534 MORE on *The Passion* Wks. 1289/2 To the keeping of hym from synne . . . a more base estate was better. 1604 FULBECKE *Pandectes* 47 Hauing singled the most noble, did kill the baser prisoners. 1742-3 WESLEY *Jrnl.* (1749) 42 Many of the baser people would fain have interrupted.

† b. To bring base: to bring low. *Obs.*

c 1430 LYDGE *Bochas* v. xi. (1554) 130 b, The noblesse of Grece was brought bass. a 1508 *Scot. Poems* 1618 C. (1801) II. 195 Quhen say weill at sumtimes sall be brought base, Do weill sall triumph in euery place.

7. Illegitimate, bastard. ? *Obs. exc. in BASE-BORN*.

1570-87 HOLINSHED *Scot. Chron.* (1806) II. 430 His base brother, Robert Maxwell. 1601 F. GOWDIN *Bps. Eng.* 189 In his youth he was wantonly giuen, and gate a base daughter. 1695 KENNETT *Par. Antiq.* ix. 124 Jeffery the Kings base son. 1755 in *Wesley's Wks.* (1872) III. 342 Their wretched Minister told them . . . that 'John Wesley was expelled the College for a base child.'

8. Low in natural rank, or in the scale of creation.

1534 MORE on *The Passion* Wks. 1324/1 A thing of more base nature then was the thing that was wont to be sacrificed to forefigure it. 1600 SHAKS. *A. Y. L.* iii. ii. 69 Cuiet is of a baser birth then Tarre, the verie vncleynly fluxe of a Cat. 1680 H. MORE *Apoc.* 127 The Wafer may happen to be eaten by base Vermin, such as Rats. 1775 HARRIS *Philos. Arrangem.* (1841) 369 Providence has given to every animal, however base . . . a consciousness of this want [of food]. 1853 KINGSLY *Hypatia* iv. 43 She might sacrifice the base body, and ennoble the soul by the self-sacrifice.

9. Low in the moral scale; without dignity of sentiment; reprehensibly cowardly or selfish, despicable mean; opposed to *high-minded*: *a.* of persons.

1593 SHAKS. 3 *Hen. VI.* i. 1. 178 Base, fearefull, and despayning Henry. 1675 DRYDEN *Aureng.* i. i. 248 Hast thou been never base? Did Love ne'er bend Thy frailer Virtue, to betray thy Friend? 1771 JUNIUS *Lett.* xlix. 253, I. call you the meanest and basest fellow in the kingdom. 1849 MACAULAY *Hist. Eng.* II. 98 He offered Rochester a simple choice, to pronounce the Bishop guilty, or to quit the Treasury. Rochester was base enough to yield.

b. of actions, habits, thoughts, etc.

a 1535 MORE *Wks.* 361 (R.) Such a base foule fleshy liuing. 1593 STANYHURST *Eneis* i. (Arb.) 24 On with a fresh courage, and bace thoughts fearful abandon. 1614 RALEIGH *Hist. World* v. vi. § 6 II. 642 A most base piece of flatterie. 1760 BURKE *Lett. T. Burgh* Wks. IX. 250 A market-overt for legalizing a base traffick of Votes and Pensions. 1852 McCULLOCH *Taxation* i. iv. 121 Their most upright decisions may be . . . ascribed to the basest motives.

10. Befitting an inferior person or thing; degraded or degrading, unworthy, menial.

1594 T. B. La *Primaud. Fr. Acad.* ii. The guttes and other partes of baser seruice. 1602 SHAKS. *Ham.* v. i. 223 To what base vses we may returne Horatio. 1603 KNOLLES *Hist. Turks* (1621) 106 Better fitted for merchandize and other base occupations than for Chivalrie. 1685 BAXTER *Paraphr. N. T.* Luke xv. 15 Foolish sinners will submit to the basest servitude, and be attendants of swine.

11. *Law.* Servile, as opposed to *free*. *Base tenure, estate, or fee*: *orig.* tenure, not by 'free' or military service, but by *base service*, such as a 'villain' owed to his lord; *later*, since this was tenure at the mere will of the lord, applied to such tenure in fee simple as may determine on the

fulfilment of a contingent qualification or limitation. So *base-tenant*. See also *BASE-COURT*.

1523 FITZHERB. *Surv.* 14 These maner of cople holders haue an estate of enherytaunce, after the custome of the maner, yet haue they no franke tenement . . . and therefore they be called tenants of base tenure. 1607 COWELL *Interpr.* s. v., Base tenants be they which do to their lords villeinuous service. 1741 T. ROBINSON *Gavelkind* v. 45 As well to free Socage as base. 1768 BLACKSTONE *Comm.* II. 61 Base services . . . as to plough the lord's land, to make his hedges. 1849 MACAULAY *Hist. Eng.* II. 589 English liberty would thenceforth be held by a base tenure. It would be, not, as heretofore, an immemorial inheritance. 1876 DIGBY *Real Prop.* iv. § 3. 189 An estate in fee which was thus liable to be defeated was called in later times a base fee.

† 12. Of price: Low, cheap. *Obs. rare.*

1599 HAKLUYT *Voy.* II. 164 As base prices as is possible. *Ibid.* 239 They . . . sell them at most vile and base prices.

13. Of inferior quality; mean, paltry, common, poor, shabby.

1561 T. NORTON *Calvin's Inst.* iii. 274 He may yet sustaine his body with bacer foodde. 1576 LAMBARDE *Peramb. Kent* (1826) 157 This old house . . . may now seeme but a base Barn in your eie. 1607 ROWLANDS *Diog. Lanth.* 5 Base is thy attyre, as thrid-bare in thy apparel as my Gowne. 1785 COWPER *Task* i. 50 The rest . . . content With base materials, sat on well-tann'd hides. 1849 RUSKIN *Ser. Lamps* vi. § 18. 180 The cheapest and basest imitation which can escape detection.

b. Of language: Not classical, debased.

1549 OLDE *Erasm. Par. Thess.* Ded., A translation of basse kinde of thenglishe phrase. 1591 SPENSER *M. Hubberrit* 44 Base is the style, and matter meane withall. a 1661 FULLER (in Webster), *Base Latin*. *Mod.* 'Of very base Latinity.'

14. Of comparatively little value, worthless.

Base metals: those not classed as *noble* or *precious*. 1607 SHAKS. *Timon* iii. iii. 6 They haue all bin touch'd, and found Base-Mettle. 1613 SIR H. FINCH *Law* (1636) 23 A base Myne where there is Ore, shall be the Kings for the worthinesse of the Ore. 1684 *Contemp. State* Map ii. i. (1699) 133 All Temporal things are in themselves little and bass. 1708 ADDISON *Dial. Medals* iii. 145 Coins . . . made of your baser sorts of metal. 1881 RAYMOND *Mining Gloss.*, *Base metals*. See *Noble metals*.

15. Alloyed with less valuable metal; debased, counterfeit.

a 1528 SKELTON *Vox Populi* viii. vi. 9 The coyne yt is so scante . . . But even as much to base. 1611 COTGR. s. v. *Argent*, Silver . . . twelve grains baser than *Argent le Roy*. 1725 SWIFT *Wood the Ironm.* Wks. 1755 IV. i. 66 They search'd his pockets on the place, And found his copper all was base. 1855 MACAULAY *Hist. Eng.* III. 215 Persons who refused the base money were arrested.

16. *Comb. a. adverbially* with *pa. pple.*, as in *base-begged*, *-begot*, *-bred*, *BASE-BORN*; also *base-like* adj., seeming base. b. *parasynthetic deriv.*, as *base-hearted*, *-mettled*, *-spirited*, *-witted*, *BASE-MINDED*; and deriv. from these, as *base-heartedly*, *base-spiritedness*.

a. 1579 SPENSER *Sheph. Cal.* To Bk., If that any aske thy name, Say, thou wert base-begot. 1600 GOURIE'S *Conspir.* in *Harl. Misc.* (1793) 190 Recountred a base-like fellow, vnknowne to him. 1609 DANIEL *Civ. War* (1717) II. 22 Prolongs this not long base-begg'd Breath. 1616 PASQUIL & KATH. iv. 120 Whose verie eyes will blaze His base-bred spirit.

b. 1547 LATIMER *Serm. & Rem.* (1845) 422 Every silly soul and base-witted man. a 1683 OLDHAM *Wks. & Rem.* (1685) 10 To rein, and curb base-mettled Hereticks. 1748 RICHARDSON *Clarissa* (1811) VII. lxxx. 338 His generous confessions taken for a mark of base-spiritedness. 1843 CARLYLE *Past & Pr.* 391 Thy stupidities and grovelling baseheartedness.

B. *quasi-adv.*; cf. 'high and low'; OF. *en haut et en bas* completely. See also A 6.

c 1500 *Partenay* 927 Ther fair chapel . . . Wel apparailled it was, hie and bas.

C. *absol.* *quasi-sb.* Cf. *BAST sb.* 2

† 1. *Bastard. Obs.*

1591 *Troub. Raigne K. John* (1611) 18 Base to a King addes title of more State, Than Knights begotten, though legitimate. 1600 *Parish Reg. Roxwell, Essex* 8 June, Agnes, the base of Maudin Wonne. 1624 *Ibid.* 18 July, Richardus, the base of Dominici Godstret.

† 2. *Bastardy. Obs.* (? error for *bast*.)

1611 SPEED *Hist. Gt. B.* ix. xviii, Children . . . begot in base.

† **Base**, *v.* 1. *Obs.*; also 4-5 *basse*, 6 *baisse*, *baas*. [partly aphetic f. *ABASE v.*; partly a. *F. baisse-r* (= *Pr. baisser*:—late *L. bassā-re*, f. *bassus*: see *BASE a.*), whence the frequent 16th c. form *baisse*.]

1. To lower; to bring, cast, or lay down.

c 1375 BARBOUR *Bruce* iv. 94 Sum best, sum woundyt, sum als slayne. 1580 NORTH *Plutarch* (1676) 343 They could not once base their Pikes, nor fight. 1598 WYRLEY *Armorie* 50 Sir Eustace . . . Did baisse his gleau. 1600 HOLLAND *Livy* xlv. xix. 1213 To base at the feet of . . . his conquerour, the crowne . . . which he came unjustly by.

2. To lower in rank, condition, or character; to debase, humble, depose, degrade.

1528 POLE in *Strype Eccl. Mem.* i. ii. lxxxiii. 217 Long continuance in other studies, that baseth the mind. 1559 MYRR. *Mag.*, *Warwick* xii, That plauste and baaste his soverayne so oft. 1660 BRETTON *Fantasticks* (1857) 323 Love . . . weakneth strength, and baseth Honour.

3. To lessen in amount or value, depreciate; to debase (metals).

1581 W. STAFFORD *Exam. Compl.* ii. (1876) 49 By basing the estimation of wooll & felles. a 1626 BACON (J.) *Metals*, which we cannot base.

Base (bē's), *v.* 2; in 6 base. [f. BASE sb. 1.]

1. *trans.* To make, lay, or form a foundation for. 1587 *Myrr. Mag.*, Brennus xl, By bloudshed they doe founde, bace, builde, and prop their state. 1809 J. BARLOW *Columb.* iv. 514 Long toils... Must base the fabric of so vast a throne. 1878 G. MACDONALD *Phantastes* vi. 94 Great roots based the tree-columns.

2. To place on or upon a foundation or logical basis; to found, establish securely, secure. (So mod.F. *basar*.)

1841 MYERS *Cath. Th.* iv. § 12. 247 The foundations on which any moral judgement... can be based. 1868 ROGERS *Pol. Econ.* iv. 46 These [bank-notes] were based on gold. 1878 HOPPS *Princ. Relig.* iii. 13 Upon this great truth of His eternal goodness and mercy we base all our hopes.

† **Base**, *v.* 3 *Obs. rare*. [f. BASE sb. 2.] *intr.* To run at, or as at, prisoner's base.

1580 WARNER *Alb. Eng. Prose Addit.* (1612) 341 With Bacing on foote and on horsbacke, a sport lately used of our English youthes. 1614 CHAPMAN *Odys.* x. 527 Yong heiffers... all so sprightly given... about Bace by the dams.

Base-ball (bē's; bōl), *a.* [f. BASE sb. 1. 15.] The national field-game of the United States, a more elaborate variety of the English 'rounders,' played by two sides of nine each; so called from the 'bases' or bounds (usually four in number) which mark the circuit to be taken by each player of the in-side after striking the ball. Also, the ball used in the game.

1815 MISS AUSTEN *Northang. Ab.* i. (1848) 3 It was not very wonderful that Catherine... should prefer cricket, base ball... to books. 1870 EMERSON *Soc. & Solit.* x. 209 Amiable boys, who had never encountered any rougher play than a base-ball match. 1883 *Harper's Mag.* Dec. 106/a An oval ball... a little larger than a base-ball.

Base-born (bē's; bōrn), *a.* [f. BASE *a.* 6, 7, 16.]

1. Of low or humble birth, plebeian.

1593 SHAKS. 2 *Hen. VI.* iv. viii. 49 Better ten-thousand base-born Cades miscarry. 1741 RICHARDSON *Pamela* (1824) i. 95 That a gentleman of your rank in life should stoop... to the base-born Pamela. 1845 DISRAELI *Sybil* (1863) 153 Very often the base-born change their liveries for coronets.

2. *fig.* Of base origin or nature.

1591 SPENSER *Tears Muses* 392 Such high conceit of that celestial fire, The base-borne brood of Blindnes cannot gesse. 1854 TUPPER *Prov. Philos.* 179 A base-born mirth, springing out of carelessness and folly

3. Illegitimate, born out of wedlock.

1645 FEATLY *Dippers Dipt* 51 (T.) Neither doth holy imply no bastard; for some holy men have been base-born. 1851 KINGSLEY *Yeast* xl. 203 Our daughters with base-born babies have wandered away in their shame.

Base-born, *sb.* One of humble or illegitimate birth. 1605 *Parish Reg. Romford, Essex* 11 Aug., George, the base-borne of one of my Ladye Coke's servants. 1879 E. ARNOLD *Lt. Asia* 195 Huts where the base-born dwelt.

Base-court (bē's; kōrt), *a.* Also 5-6 **base-court**, 7-9 **base-court**. [f. BASE *a.* 3 + COURT; in sense 1 directly from 15th c. F. *basse-court* (OF. *basse-cort*, -*cort*, mod.F. *basse-court*.)]

1. The lower or outer court of a castle or mansion, occupied by the servants; the court in the rear of a farm-house, containing the out-buildings.

1491 CAXTON *Four Sons* iii. (1885) 98 Reynawde... sawe that the basse-courte of the castell brenned. 1575 CHURCH-YARD *Chippes* (1817) 83 Thei laye under the rampire of the base courte, and slue sondrie of our soldiours. 1616 SUREL & MARKH. *Countr. Farm* 38 [The farmer's wife] is tyed to matters within the House and base Court. 1759 B. MARTIN *Nat. Hist. Eng.* i. 212 Bass-Courts for Officers and Servants. 1881 SCOTT *Kenilw.* xxv, The large base-court or outer-yard of the noble Castle.

2. An inferior court of justice, one that is not a court of record; *e.g.* a court baron.

1544-3 *Act.* 34-5 *Hen. VIII.* xxvii. § 82 The returne of a write of false judgement, out of a base court, before the sayde Iustices. 1757 BURKE *Abridgm. Eng. Hist. Wks.* X. 438 The original manner of granting feudal property, and something like it is still practised in our base-courts.

† **Based**, *pp.* *a.* 1 *Obs.* Also 6 **baissed**. [f. BASE *v.* 1 + -ED. Cf. F. *baissé*.] Lowered.

1592 WYRLY *Armorie* 103 With baissed lance the knights approach amaine.

Based (bē'st), *pp.* *a.* 2 [f. BASE sb. 1 + -ED 2.] Having or standing on a base, esp. in comb., as broad-based; *spec.* in *Crystallog.* (see quot.)

1610 SHAKS. *Temp.* v. i. 46 The strong bass'd promontorie Haue I made shake. 1817 R. JAMESON *Charac. Min.* 197 Based, when the primitive form is either a double pyramid, or a rhomboid, in which the summits are intercepted by planes perpendicular to the axis, which take the place of terminal planes. Based sulphur... is a double four-sided pyramid, truncated on the extremities.

† **Based**, *pp.* *a.* 3 *Obs.* in 6 **based**. [f. BASE sb. 3 + -ED 2.] Wearing or furnished with 'bases.'

1598 HALL *Chron. Hen. VIII.* an. 6 (R.) The Duke of Burboncs bende was apparelled and based in lawny velvet. 1577 HOLINSHED *Chron.* III. 834/1 Based in tawny velvet.

† **Base-dance**, *Obs.* [a. F. *basse dance*.] A term formerly applied to dances in slow time (*e.g.* the minuet), which consist of gliding motions and stately posing, the feet being but little raised from the ground.

1509 HAWES *Past. Pleas.* xvi. xlvii, Musyke... Dyvers base daunces moost swetly dyd playe. 1521 in *Lanham's Let.* (1871) Pref. 160 For to daunce only base daunce there behoueth... iiii. paces... syngle, double: re pryse, & braule. 1549 *Compl. Scot.* vi. 66 Base dancis, pauans, galjardis.

Basedow's disease: see BRONCHOCELE.

† **Basel**, *Obs.* The alleged name according to Holinshed (and copyists down to the present day) of certain pieces of money abrogated by Henry II., of which numismatists have no knowledge. (Prob. Holinshed's error for *Baseling*, in sense of 'base piece': cf. *silverling*, etc.)

1577 HOLINSHED *Chron.* III. 67/1 The same year [1158] also the King altered his coine, abrogating certeine peeces called basels. [Marg. note in Rolls ed. MATT. PARIS I. 309 from one MS. 'Moneta tunc reprobata Baseling dicebatur.']

† **Baselard**, *Obs.* Forms: 4-6 **baselarde**, **baslard**, 5 **basulard**, 6 **baslaerd**, **baselarde**, 7 **basiliard**, 4-8 **baselard**. [a. AF. *baselard* (Act 12 Richard II), OF. *basalart* (med.L. *basiliardus*); perh. from same source as OF. *baselaire*, *baselaire*, *badelaire*, probably a derivative of late L. *badile*, *badillus* a bill-hook (P. Meyer); the *z* (s) for d being of Provençal origin. In *baselard* the suffix is evidently -ARD augmentative.] A species of dagger or hanger, usually worn at the girdle.

1377 LANGL. *P. Pl.* B. III. 303 Alle pat berep baslarde, brode swerde or launce. 1450 MYRC 48 Baselard ny bawdryke were thou non. 1460 CAPGRAVE *Chron.* 125 Sodeynly with a sharp basulard he smet the Kyng among the boweles. 1500 in *Rybon Ch. Acts* 303 Cum gladiis vocatis hyngers vel baselardys. 1508 STOW *Surv.* xxiv. (1603) 221 Drew his basiliard. 1608 in Southey's *Comm.-Al. Bk.* Ser. II. (1849) 338 Two baslaerd swords, the blades to be one yard and half a quarter of length. 1788 *New Lond. Mag.* 150 The Mayor, drawing his baselard, grievously wounded Wat [Tyler] in the neck.

Baseless (bē's; sls), *a.* [f. BASE sb. 1 + -LESS.] Without base or foundation, groundless.

1610 SHAKS. *Temp.* iv. i. 151 The baselesse fabricke of this vision. 1815 SOUTHEY *Roderick* xvii. 181 A baseless faith. 1876 GREEN *Short Hist.* v. § 6 (1882) 261 No claim could have been more utterly baseless.

Baseless, in reference to military tactics; cf. BASE sb. 1 16. 1868 HELPS *Organis. Daily Life* 79 Occasionally, baseless operations have effected great results in war.

Baselessness, [f. prec. + -NESS.] The quality of being baseless; groundlessness.

1850 WHIFFLE *Ess. & Rev.* I. 315 To show the baselessness of the objections to his writings. 1864 PUSEY *Daniel* 395 The baselessness of the imputation.

† **Baseling**, *Obs. rare* -1. [f. BASE *a.* + -LING; cf. BASEL.] A base creature.

1618 *Barnesvelt's Apol.* B. iii. They should bee ranked in the number of double-harted baselings.

† **Basella** (bā'sē-lā), [mod.L. ?dim. of L. *basis* base.] A genus of climbing plants (N.O. *Chenopodiaceae*), with smooth fleshy leaves, known as the Malabar Nightshade.

1761 MILLER *Gard. Kal.* (1775) 24 Plants in the Green-House [in January]... Basella in fruit. 1830 LINDLEY *Nat. Syst. Bot.* 167 Some of these are used as potherbs; as Basella, Spinage.

Basely (bā'sē-ly), *adv.* [f. BASE *a.* + -LY 2.]

† 1. In a low position, low down. *Obs.*

1500 *Partenay* 1216 Saunyng pat on ey had he more basly Then pat other.

† 2. In a low tone, softly, quietly. *Obs.*

1562 J. HEYWOOD *Prov. & Epigr.* (1867) 216 Talke thou basely, talke thou boldly. 1577 DEK RELAT. *Spir.* i. (1659) 365, I hear... a whistling very basely.

3. In humble rank of life; illegitimately. ? *Obs.*

1523 STANYHURST *Æneis* II. (Arb.) 61 Baselye Neoptolemus was borne. 1631 GOUGE *God's Arrows* III. ii. 185 Commonly such as are basely borne... are of ill disposition.

4. With contemptible cowardice, treachery, or meanness; dishonourably, disingenuously.

1c 1550 *Robin Hood* (Ritson) ix. 92 Beshrew thy heart, said Little John, Thou basely dost begin. 1656 COWLEY *Davidis* II. Wks. 1710 I. 342 Some basely die, and some more basely yield. 1879 YRATS *Growth Comm.* 122 The King of Portugal basely betrayed Columbus.

† 5. At small value or esteem, meanly; cheaply.

1624 POWELL *Lloyd's Cambria* 210 Sonnes were not basely esteemed. 1650 VENNEN *Via Recta* III. 52 Them that desire to look big, and to lise basely. 1651 WITTIE tr. *Primrose's Pop. Err.* iv. 197 Those of Galens method... they basely account off, and contemne.

Basement (bē'smēt), *a.* Also 8 **basement**. [f. BASE sb. 1 or 2 + -MENT; cf. F. *soubassement*.]

1. The lowest or fundamental portion of a structure. **Basement-membrane**: a fine transparent layer lying between the epithelium and the fibro-vascular layer of mucous membranes.

1793 SKEATON *Edystone L. Cont.* 7 Establishing a solid Basement of Wood. 1843 J. PORTLOCK *Geol.* 97 The... augitic rock which forms the basement of the promontory. 1847 TODD *Cycl. Anat. & Phys.* III. 751/1 The cell-germs contained in this basement-membrane.

2. *fig.* Groundwork; attrib. = fundamental.

1818 HALLAM *Mid. Ages* II. i. That Great Charter, the basement, at least, if not the foundation of our free constitution. 1829 I. TAYLOR *Enthus.* III. (1867) 55 This belief constitutes the basement-principle of all religion.

3. *spec.* The lowest storey (not a cellar) of a building, esp. when sunk below the general ground level.

1730 A. GORDON *Maffei's Amphit.* 389 There is a small Basement... under the lower Pilasters. 1823 SCOTT in *Lockhart* (1839) VII. 204 The under or sunk story—basement the learned call.

b. attrib. 1766 FENTICK *Lond.* IV. 360 The basement story is very massy. 1865 DICKENS *Mut. Fr.* iv. 22 Down stairs to a little basement front door

4. The action of basing; the state of being based; cf. *debasement*.

1836 G. FABER *An Inquiry, etc.* 579 Evincen by its actual basement upon the unhallowed principle, that nations, as such, ought, etc.

Base-minded, *a.* [f. BASE *a.* 9, 16.] Having a base mind; = BASE *a.* 9. Hence **Base-mindedly** = BASELY 4; **Base-mindedness** = BASENESS 4.

1586 Q. ELIZ. in *Ellis Orig. Lett.* i. 225 III. 23, I am not so bacedminded that feare of any livinge... prince shoulde make me afraide. 1614 SELDEN *Titles Hon.* 6a Base-minded Jewes, with acclamations, affirmed Herod Agrippa... a Deitie. 1792 *Chron.* in *Ann. Reg.* 4/1 To deter base-minded persons from such shocking enormities.

b. 1599 SANDYS *Europæ Spec.* (1632) 160 A timorous base mindednesse and abjectnesse. 1607 BR. HALL *Heav. vpon Earth* iv. 76 To whom repentance seemes base-mindednesse.

Basence, *obs.* form of BEZANT.

Baseness (bē's; snēs), [f. BASE *a.* + -NESS.]

† 1. Lowness or feebleness in sound; deepness in tone. *Obs.*; cf. *BASENESS*.

1609 BIBLE (Douay) *Eccles.* xii. 4 The baseness of the grinders voice. 1606 BACON *Sylva* § 184 The Baseness or Trebleness of Tones.

2. Low birth or rank, lowly or mean estate, lowliness; a trait or characteristic of low rank (*obs.*).

1551 HULOET, *Basenes* of bloude or ignobility. 1563 *Homilies* II. xxi. 1. (1859) 554 As the Majesty of heavenly things may by the baseness of earthly things be shadowed. 1608 SHAKS. *Ham.* v. ii. 34, I once did hold it... A basenesse to write faire. 1615 T. ADAMS *Christ's Star* Wks. 1871 II. 7 God did ever so strangely qualify the baseness of Christ. 1850 TENNYSON *In Mem.* ix, He mixing with his proper sphere, She finds the baseness of her lot.

† 3. Illegitimacy of birth, bastardy. *Obs.*

1605 SHAKS. *Learn.* i. ii. 10 Why brand they vs With Base? With basenes, Bastardie?

4. Moral turpitude, reprehensible cowardice or selfishness, contemptible meanness; an act or trait of this character.

1598 SHAKS. *Merry W.* II. ii. 21 You stand vpon your honor... thou vnconfinable basenes? 1599 FULLER *Holy War* v. xv. (1840) 269 Soldiers count it basenes to be thrifty of their own healths. 1677 JUNIUS *Let.* III. 18, I acquit him of the baseness of selling Commissions. 1850 GEN. P. THOMPSON *Audi Alt.* I. lxii. 240 Having no basenesses of his own to prosecute, and therefore under no temptation to pander to the basenesses of other people.

5. Inferior or debased quality.

1577 HARRISON *England* II. vi. (1877) 159 As she seeth cause by the goodnesse or basenesse of the hops. 1582 W. STAFFORD *Exam. Compl.* i. (1876) 28 That basenesse of our English Coyne. a 1745 SWIFT (J.) *We* alleged... the baseness of his metal. 1851 RUSKIN *Stones Ven.* I. i. 40 The world is so widely encumbered with forgeries and basenesses.

Basenet, -ette, variant of BASINET.

† **Basier**, *Obs.* Also 4 **basare**. [Etymol. unknown.] An executioner.

c 1375 *Barbour St. Cristofore* 598 Syne to be basare sade in hy: Stryk of myne hede, bruthyre dere. — *St. Jacobus* 239 Fra be baser sancte James gat A pot with vattir.

† **Basery**, *Obs. rare* -1. [f. BASE *a.* + -RY.] Base dealing, dishonest practice.

1637 BRIAN *Pisse-graph.* i. (1679) 2 They will hardly acknowledge their errors, and relinquish this basery.

Baset, **Basetry**: see *BASSADE*.

† **Bash**, *v.* 1 *Obs.* Forms: 4 **baise-n**, **bayse-n**, 4-6 **bashe-n**, 5 **basche**, **baysche**, 6 **bashe**, 6-7 **bash**. *North.* 4 **baise**, 6 **base**. [Aphetic form of *ABASH v.*]

1. *trans.* To destroy the confidence or self-possession of; to daunt, dismay, discomf.; to disconcert, put out of countenance, abash.

c 1375 (MS. c 1440) *Morte Arth.* 2857 Bees noghte baiste of 30ne boyes, ne of paire bryghte wedis. c 1480 *A Jng & Hermit* 442 in Hazl. *E. P.* F. (1864) 30 Thoff I be here in pore clothing, I am no bayschyd for to bryng Gestys two or thre. 1515 *Scot. Field* 179 in *Chetham Misc.* II, Because they basched them at Berwick, that boldeth them the more. 1594 CAREW *Tasso* (1881) 104 He made Semblant, as nought him could dismay or bash.

2. *intr.* *a.* To be daunted or dismayed; to quail, lose confidence; to be confounded.

c 1340 *Gaw. & Gr. Knt.* 376 He baldly hym bydez, he bayst neuer be helder. 1382 WYCLIF *Yosh.* II. 11 Oure herte baschede, ne spyrty bood in us. c 1490 LONELICH *Grail* xxxvii. 244 Gretteer tempestes... where often they bascheden. 1580 NORTH *Plutarch* (1676) 38 Alexander... strake out one of his eyes... Yet for all this Lycurgus never basched.

b. To be put out of countenance; to shrink back for shame, to be ashamed or abashed. *Const. inf., at.*

c 1460 RUSSELL *Bk. Nurture* in *Babes Bk.* (1868) 161 With salt & wyne serue ye hym be same, boldly & not to basche. 1554 PHILPOT *Exam. & Writ.* (1842) 303 Their corrupt faces bash not to deny the eternal Son of God. 1589 GREENE *Tullies Love* Wks. 1882 VII. 115 Like Diana when shee basht at Acteons presence. 1606 HOLLAND *Sueton.* 148 He basht not to kisse him even in the open Theater. 1610 — *Camden's Brit.* (1637) 309 Bash not, but deigne (I pray) to be my Sovereigne Ladie deere.

Bash (bæʃ), *v.* 2 [Chiefly northern; perhaps from Scand.; cf. Sw. *basa* to baste, whip, flog, lash, Da. *baske* to beat, strike, cudgel. But possibly onomatopoeitic, with the *b* of *beat*, *bang*, and the termination of *dash*, *gash*, *gnash*, *hash*, *lash*, *pash*, *smash*, etc.]

1. To strike with a heavy blow that tends to

beat or smash in the surface struck: *a. trans.* Also *To bash up* (the edge or point of an instrument).

1790 A. WILSON *Pack Wks.* 26 Fir'd w' indignance I turn'd round, And bash't w' my money a fung The Pack, that day. 1834 M. SCOTT *Cruise Midge* (1863) 200 The callant has... bashed my neb as saft as pap. 1883 *Pall Mall G.* 24 Apr. 2/2 A proposition to 'smash' or 'bash' in the tall hats aforesaid.

b. refl. (of a hen beating her wings in the dust.) 1641 *BEST Farm Bks.* (1856) 110 The henne... will also bash her in the dust, and so oftentimes crush them to death.

c. absol. or intr. (with *at*.) 1833 M. SCOTT *Tom Cringle* xi. (1859) 255 The gun is loaded. The negro continued to bash at it with all his might.

2. The verb-stem is used adverbially with other verbs. Cf. BANG v. 18.

1833 M. SCOTT *Tom Cringle* xviii. (1859) 511 A fine preserved Pine Apple flew bash on Isaac Shingle's sharp snout.

Bash, *sb.* Sc. [f. prec. vb.; cf. Sw. *bash* whipping, beating, Da. *bask* stripe, blow.] A heavy blow that beats or smashes in a surface.

1805 J. NICOL *Poems* I. 36 (JAM.) An' gae her a desperate bash on the chaffs. 1817 HOGG *Tales* I. 17 (JAM.) Then, giving two or three bashes on the face, he left me.

† **Bashalik** (*bāshālik*). *Obs.* Also 7-ique, 8 *bassalick*. [a. Turkish *bāshālik*, *pāshālik* jurisdiction of a *pāshā*: see next.] Earlier form of *PASHALIK*, the district under the jurisdiction of a *pasha*.

1682 WHEELER *Journ. Greece* iii. 238 It... remaineth yet a Bashalik, although of late governed by a Deputy. 1703 MAUNDRELL *Journ. Tunis* (1726) 5 A Woody Mountainous Country, which ends the Bashalik of Aleppo.

Bashaw (*bāshā*). *Forms:* 6 *bassawe*, -*shawe*, -*cha*, (*bassat*, *basso*), 6-7 *bassi*, 6-8 *bassa*, *basha*, 7 *bashawe*, *bassaw*, -*shaw*, -*char*, *bacha*, 9 *bashe*, 7 *bashaw*. [a. Turkish *bāshā*, variant of *pāshā*, prob. f. *bāsh* head, the Old Turkish not distinguishing *p* and *b* (Prof. Rieu): see *PASHA*. The earliest English form came indirectly through med.L. and It. *bassa* (later It. *basciā*); other spellings represent 16-17th c. F. *bachat*, mod.F. *bacha*, *pacha*.]

1. The earlier form of the Turkish title *PASHA*.

1534 MORE *Conf. agst. Trib.* iii. Wks. 1218/2 His Bassawes... surmount very farre aboute any christen estate. 1548 HALL *Chron.* (1830) 771 The Turke loste foure score 1000 men as one of his Bassates did afterwarde confesse. 1601 R. JOHNSON *Kingd. & Commw.* 49 The Bassas... as it were Harpies, sucke the verye blood of the people. 1608 WARNER *Alb. Eng.* x. lviii. 252 His Bands of Janizaries... He out of these his Captaines, and his Bassies doth elect. 1676 BUTLER *Hud.* iii. iii. 306 Or else their Sultan-Populaces Still strangle all their routed Bassa's. 1693 *Mem. Tschely* iv. 15 He created Vizier Ismal Bacha. 1695 MORTIMER *St. Olav's Morocco* 31 A Captain, to whom they give the Title of Bashaw. 1743 FIELDING *J. Wild* iii. vii. (1762) 322 He addressed me with all the insolence of a basha to a Circassian slave. 1860 MOTLEY *Netherl.* (1868) I. iii. 79, I will offer service to one of the Turk's bashaws.

c. Bashaw of two or three tails: one of lower or higher rank, as indicated by the number of horse-tails borne on his standard.

1733 HANWAY *Trav.* (1762) II. xiii. ii. 205 He was appointed basha of three tails. 1798 WOLCOTT (P. Pindar) *Tales of Hoy Wks.* 182 IV. 422 He would fly to Constantinople, hang up a bashaw of three tails.

2. *fig.* A grandee; a haughty, imperious man.

1593 NASHE *Christ's T.* (1613) 85 The duels chiefe Basso, Ambition. a 1670 HACKET *Adp. Williams* I. 82 In every society of men there will be some Bashawes, who presume that there are many rules of law from which they should be exempted. 1794 GODWIN *Cal. Williams* 16 The young men... looked up to this insolent bashaw with timid respect. 1872 GEO. ELIOT *Middlem.* liii. (1873) 185 You've taken to being a nob, buying land, being a country bashaw!

Bashawism, [see -ISM.] The imperiousness or haughty tyranny of a bashaw.

1839 LADY LYTTON *Chevelley* II. v. 146 Exercising a truly manly degree of embryo bashawism over his younger sister.

Bashawship, [f. as prec. + -SHIP.] *a.* The jurisdiction or office of a bashaw. *b. fig.* Dignity or demeanour of a bashaw.

1607 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 2252/6 To be paid yearly during his Bassawship. 1701 GREW *Cosm. Sacra* vi. § 15 (L.) At this day it (Egypt) is no better than a bashawship, under the Grand Signior. 1882 H. MERIVALE *Faunt of B.* I. i. xiv. 237 Mr. Fairfield's angry airs of Bashawship.

† **Bashed**, *pp.* *a. Obs.* [f. BASH v. 1 + -ED.] Abashed, disconcerted, dismayed.

c. 1440 [see next]. 1553 BRENDON *Q. Curtius* 156 (R.) Cebal-linus with a bashed countenance... reported all those thinges. 1594 CAREW *Tasso* (1881) 94 Sometimes her bash't eye seemes by shame contrit.

† **Bashedness**, *Obs.* [f. prec. + -NESS.] A-bashment, bashfulness.

c. 1440 *Parlamente* 6000 What for shame and bashedness.

Bashful (*bāsh'ful*), *a.* [f. BASH v. 1 + -FUL; cf. also ABASH *sb.*, though -ful is occasionally added to vbs., as in *mournful*, *assistful*.]

† 1. Wanting in self-possession, daunted, dismayed. *Obs.*

1553 HULOET. Bashfull or amased, *attonitus*. a 1674 CLARENDON *Hist. Reb.* II. vi. 15 Those Forces would... by their success give much courage to his bashful Army. 1709 STEELE *Tatler* No. 39 ¶ 7 [Duelling was] as great an Impediment to Advancement in the Service, as being bashful in Time of Action.

VOL. I.

2. Of persons: Shrinking from publicity, shame-faced, shy. Sometimes used in a good or neutral sense = Sensitive modest in demeanour; sometimes depreciatively = Excessively self-conscious, embarrassed and ill at ease in society, 'sheepish.'

1548 UDALL, etc. *Erasm. Par. John* xii. 12 (R.) These folke beyng very desirous to see Jesus... yet they were bashfull. 1570 ASCHAM *Scholem.* (1863) 42 If a yong gentleman... be bashfull, and will soon blushe, they call him a babishe and ill brought up thyng. 1644 CAPT. SMITH *Virginia* I. 3 His wife and children... were... well fauored and very bashful. 1764 GOLDSM. *Trav.* 21 Or press the bashful stranger to his food. 1781 COWPER *Convers.* 347, I pity bashful men. 1810 SCOTT *Lady of L.* II. xxiv, Like Summer rose, The bashful maiden's cheek appeared.

3. Of things, actions, etc.: Characterizing or characterized by extreme sensitiveness or modesty.

1595 SPENSER *Wks.* (Grosart) IV. 122 His face with bashfull blood did flame. 1610 SHAKS. *Temp.* III. i. 81 Hence bashfull cunning, And prompt me plaine and holy innocence. a 1711 KEN *Hymnotheo* Wks. 1721 III. 313 Naked they walk'd, but had no bashful sense. 1816 SOUTHEY *Poet's Pilgr.* Proem 10 With impulse shy of bashful tenderness, Soliciting again the wish'd caress.

† 4. Exciting a feeling of shame. *Obs.*

1559 *Mirr. Mag.* 59 (T.) A woman yet must blush when bashful is the case, though truth bid tell the story as it fell.

Bashfully, *adv.* [f. prec. + -LY.]

† 1. Without self-possession; with misgiving or dismay. *Obs.*

1553 HULOET. Bashfullye or in amase, *attonite*. 1675 HOBBS *Odyssey* (1677) 382 He went not to the battle bashfully.

2. In a shy or shamefaced manner; cf. BASHFUL 2. 1553 HULOET. Bashfullye or wyth shamefastnes, *pudibunde*. 1651 DAVENANT *Gondib.* II. vi. (R.) Here the check'd Sun his universal face Stops bashfully, and will no entrance make. 1832 HT. MARTINEAU *Ellis of Gar.* vi. 70 Angus looked down as bashfully as if he had never seen the world.

Bashfulness, [f. as prec. + -NESS.]

† 1. *Bashfulness of:* a timid or reverential shrinking back from (something). *Obs.*

1534 WHITTINTON *Tullyes Offices* I. (1540) 42 One parte of honesty... in the which is a bashfulness of dishonesty. 1674 N. FAIRFAX *Bulk & Selv.* To Rdr., Led by such a clue of understanding, and softened by such a bashfulness of knowledge, that we may be wise and awful both in one.

2. The quality of being BASHFUL (see sense 2).

1539 TAVERNER *Erasm. Prov.* (1552) 26 Cast awaye bashfulness where nede constraineth. 1590 SHAKS. *Mids. N.* III. ii. 286 Haue you no modesty, no maiden shame, No touch of bashfulness? 1603 JAS. I. in *Ellis Orig. Lett.* I. 244 III. 80 Awaye with chydilsh bashfulness. 1798 MARY WOLLSTONECR. *Rights Wom.* vii. 275 Modesty is the graceful calm virtue of maturity; bashfulness, the charm of vivacious youth. 1814 SCOTT *Wav.* xlii. An air of bashfulness, which was in reality the effect of want of habitual intercourse with the world.

|| **Bashi-bazouk** (*bāshī-bāzūk*). [mod. Turk.; lit. 'one whose head is turned.']

1. A mercenary soldier belonging to the skirmishing or irregular troops of the Turkish army; notorious for their lawlessness, plundering, and savage brutality. Hence *Bashi-bazoukery*, *Bashi-Bazouks* collectively, their habits, etc.

1859 *Blackw. Mag.* Mar. 300/1 The Bashi-Bazouks bolted, and dashing in amongst the Turkish regulars, put them to the rout too. 1861 MISS BEAUFORT *Egypt. Sept.* II. xvii. 60 Bashi-Bazouk, the generic name given to any of the Arabs of this country who attached themselves to the government and fought for pay. 1884 *Pall Mall G.* 1 Mar. 1/2 His government was a system of Bashi-Bazoukery plus slave-raiding... The Bashi-Bazoukery from Brunei ceased to trouble the tribes.

2. *fig.* An 'irregular,' a skirmisher.

1835 WYNTER *Cur. Civilis* II. 404 The Bashi-Bazouks of private establishments. 1861 SALA *Tur. round Clock* 33 Hard-working boys are these juvenile Bashi-Bazouks of the newspaper trade.

† **Bashless**, *a. Obs.* [f. BASH v. 1 + -LESS; cf. *bashful*.] Unbashed, shameless, unblushing, bold.

1578 SIDNEY *Lady of May Wks.* (1674) 619 (D.) 'Com on, master school-master, bee not so bashless.' 1597 BRETON *Ab. Amor. Devises* (1879) 4 (D.) Blush now, you bashles dames, that vaunt of beaute rare.

† **Bashment**, *Obs.* In 4 *bays*. [Aphetic form of ABASHMENT.] Confusion from surprise or sudden check; discomfiture, shame.

1325 E. E. *Allit. P. A.* 174 Bot baysment gef myn hert a brunt. 1539 HORMAN *Vulg.* 48 A mannis mynde is neuer more vnstable than in soden chauncis, and soden bashment. 1610 HOLLAND *Camden's Brit.* (1637) 86 Where to controll lease feare it was, lesse bashment to displease.

† **Bash-rag**, *Obs. rare*. 1. Ragamuffin.

1600 J. DAVIES *Exstasie* 95 (D.) Wilt loose thy roiall sole prerogative, To make vngrateful base Bash-rags to thriue!

† **Bashron** (*e. Obs.* 'A kettle.' Halliwell.

1660 *Act 12 Chas. II.* iv. Sched., Batterie, Bashrons, or Kettles, the hundred weight, ix.

Bashyle: see *BASYLE*.

Basi- (*bāsi*), combining form of *BASE*, *BASIS*, forming the first element of many adjs. in *Phys.*, in sense of 'pertaining to, situated at, or forming, the base of'; e.g. *basibranchial*, -*cranial*, -*facial*, -*hyal*, -*occipital*, -*radial*, -*rostral*, -*sphenoid* (al), -*temporal*, -*vertebral*, pertaining to, situated at, or forming, the base or posterior part of, the branchial arch (in fishes), the skull, the face, the hyoid bone, the occiput, the ray or *radius*, the beak, the

sphenoid bone, the temples, the vertebrae. These are often used *ellipt.*; e.g. the *basihyal* (bone).

1872 MIVART *Anat.* 477 The branchial arches are attached to a... series of pieces termed basi-branchials. 1866 HUXLEY *Preh. Rem. Catthn.* 99 The basi-cranial line is from the anterior margin of the *foramen magnum* to the fronto-nasal suture. 1863 — *Man's Place Nat.* iii. 149 The basifacial axis... drawn through the axis of the face, between the bones called ethmoid and vomer. 1849-50 TODD *Cycl. Anat. & Phys.* IV. 1145/2 The basi-hyal is generally elongated proportionately to the shape of the tongue. *Ibid.* 1323/1 The fissure that... separates the basi-occipital bone from the occipitals. 1880 CARPENTER in *Yrnl. Linn. Soc.* XV. 208 The basiradial suture is an obtuse angle. 1837 MACGILLIVRAY *Hist. Brit. Birds* III. 643 Its basirostral bristles. 1870 ROLLESTON *Anim. Life* 17 The junction of the basisphenoid to the basioccipital. *Ibid.* The basitemporals form a second floor to the cranium. 1849-50 TODD *Cycl. Anat. & Phys.* IV. 1410/1 The basi-vertebral veins.

Basial (*bāsi-ziāl*), *a.* 1. [f. *L. bāsi-um* kiss + -AL.] Of or pertaining to kissing, osculatory.

Mod. The basial salutation.

† **Basial**, *a.* 2. *Obs.* [f. *L. basi-s* BASE + -AL.] = *BASAL*.

1836-9 TODD *Cycl. Anat. & Phys.* II. 622/1 The basial part of the heart. 1842 E. WILSON *Anat. Vade M.* 489 The... Basial band, passes directly backwards through the septum.

Basiate (*bāsi-zi-ēt*), *v.* 1. *Obs.* [f. *L. bāsiāt* -pp. stem of *bāsiāre*, f. *bāsiūm* kiss.] To kiss.

1623 in COCKERAM.

Basiation (*bāsi-zi-ē-shn*). [ad. *L. bāsiātiō-em*, f. *bāsiāre*; see prec. and -ATION.] Kissing.

1879 G. MEREDITH *Egoist* I. 85 Love that... seems to the scoffing world to go slinking into basiation's obscurity.

Basic (*bāsi-sik*), *a.* [f. *BASE* *sb.* 1 + -IC.]

1. Of, pertaining to, or forming a base; fundamental, essential: *spec.* in *Arch.*, and in *Chem.*

1842 W. GROVE *Corr. Phys. Forces* 146 The amount of heat produced is determined by the basic ingredient. 1849 RUSKIN *Sev. Lamps* v. 141 Its capital resting... on its basic plinth. 1869 ROSCOE *Elem. Chem.* 67 Basic oxides or bases act upon acids to form salts. 1884 *Harper's Mag.* Apr. 770/2 This is Miss Hill's basic principle.

2. Having the base in excess. *a. Chem.* (A salt) Having the amount of the base atomically greater than that of the acid, or exceeding in proportion that of the related neutral salt. *b. Min.* (An igneous rock) Having little silica in proportion to the amount of lime, potash, magnesia, etc. present.

1854 SCOFFERN in *Orr's Circ. Sc. Chem.* 400 The class of subsalts is now generally termed basic salts, because the base predominates. 1876 tr. *Wagner's Gen. Pathol.* 319 Neutral or basic phosphates of the alkalies. 1877 GREEN *Phys. Grol.* ii. § 5. 47 The Poorly Silicated or Basic rocks.

c. Applied to an improved 'Bessemer' process of steel-manufacture, in which phosphorus is eliminated from the pig-iron by the use of non-silicious materials (e.g. limestone, dolomite, magnesia) for the lining of the converters, and for introduction in the course of the 'blow'; hence also applied to the steel thus produced, etc.

1880 ROBERTS *Introd. Lect. Metallurgy* 20 The practical application of basic linings in the Bessemer converter. 1883 *Birmingham Weekly Post* 18 Aug. 8/2 Basic steel and ingot iron, made from phosphoric pig.

See also *MONOBASIC*, *BIBASIC*, *TRIBASIC*.

Basicerite (*bāsi-sērīt*). *Anim. Phys.* [f. *Gr. bāsi-s* base + *kerp-as* horn, antenna + -ITE.] The second segment of the antenna of an Arthropod, reckoning from the head.

1877 HUXLEY *Anat. Inv. An.* vi. 314 A basicerite, to the outer portion of which a flattened plate... is articulated.

Basicity (*bāsi-siti*). *Chem.* [f. *BASIC* *a.* + -ITY.] The power of combining with bases possessed by an acid, dependent on the number of atoms of hydrogen replaceable by a metal which are contained in it; thus nitric acid (HNO₃) is monobasic, phosphoric acid (H₃PO₄) is tribasic.

1849 LIEBIG & KOPP'S *Rep. Progr. Chem.* I. 469 The capacity of saturation or the basicity B of a compound. 1883 MUIR *Heroes of Sc. V.* 23 Graham... added to science the conception of acids of different basicity.

Basidiospore (*bāsi-diō-spōrē*). *Bot.* [f. next + *SPORE*.] A spore borne at the extremity of a basidium. Hence *Basidiosporous* *a.*

1859 TODD *Cycl. Anat. & Phys.* V. 232/1 The basidiospore is distinguished from all the other acrogenous forms. *Ibid.* 224/2 Basidiosporous Fungi.

|| **Basidium** (*bāsi-diŭm*). [mod.L., f. *Gr. bāsis*, base + -idiŭm dim. ending.] Name given to the cells of the fructification in some fungi, which form the 'gills,' and bear the spores.

1858 CARPENTER *Veg. Phys.* § 778 The spores are arranged on this hymenium in clusters of four, each group being attached to the points of a small body, rounded below, which is called the basidium. 1861 H. MACMILLAN *Footn. Page Nat.* 214 Each of the gills... is found to consist of a number of elongated cells called basidia.

Basifier (*bāsi-sifai-er*). [f. *BASIFY* + -ER.] That which basifies. 1847 in CRAIG.

Basifixed (*bāsi-sifikst*), *a. Bot.* [f. *L. basi-s* BASE + *FIXED*.] Attached by the base or lower end. 1870 HOOKER *Stud. Flora* 85 Genista... Anthers... long and basifixed.

Basifugal (*bāsi-fingāl*), *a. Bot.* [f. *L. basi-s* BASE + *FUGAL*.] 87

BASE *sb.* ¹ + *-fug-us* fleeing + *-AL*.] Tending away from the base. *Basifugal growth*: that which begins at the apex (of a leaf, etc.), and proceeds in a direction away from the base. *Basifugally*, *adv.*, in a basifugal manner.

1875 BENNETT & DYER *Sacks' Bot.* 138 Two extreme cases may therefore be distinguished in leaves... the predominantly basifugal or apical, and the predominantly basal growth. **1882** VINES *Sacks' Bot.* 170 Lateral members usually arise on their common axial structure in acropetal or basifugal order. *Ibid.* 448 The leaves grow... basifugally.

Basify (*bæ'sifai*), *v.* [*f. L. basi-s* BASE *sb.* ¹ + *-FY*.] 'To convert into a salifiable base.' Craig.

|| **Basigynium** (*bæ'si,dzi'nium*). *Bot.* [*mod.L., f. Gr. Basi-s* base + *gyn-h* female + *-ium*, repr. *Gr. dim. -ion*.] The pedicel or stalk bearing the ovary. **1880** GRAY *Bot. Text-bk.* 398 *Basigynium*, synonym of Carpophore or Thecaphore.

Basil (*bæ'zil*), *Herb.* Forms: 5 (*basilicon*), *basile*, 6 *basyle*, *-yll*, *basil*, *bassel*, 6-7 *basill*, 6- *basil*. [*a. OF. basile*, *ad. L. basilica*, *f. basiliscus* BASILISK: the *Gr.* name of the plant was *basilikon* 'royal', whence the botanical specific name *basilicum*, perhaps because the herb was used 'in some royal unguent, bath, or medicine' (Prior). In Lat. this seems to have been confused with *basiliscus*, on the supposition that it was an antidote to the basilisk's venom: in *OF.*, *basile*, *basilicog*, *basilique*, and in *mod.F.*, *basilic* are applied both to the serpent and the plant.]

1. Popular name of a genus (*Ocimum*, *N.O. Labiate*) of aromatic, shrubby plants, with flowers arranged in whorled racemes, widely dispersed in tropical and sub-tropical countries. The best-known species are the culinary herbs, Common or Sweet Basil (*O. basilicum*) and Bush or Lesser Basil (*O. minimum*), the leaves of which are used for seasoning soups and made dishes.

[*c.1400* *Pallad. on Husb.* ii. 201 Basilicon, radish and rucul stronge. **1481** CAXTON *Tulle of Old Age*, Violetys, rosemarynes, majorons, gylofres, basiles. **1562** TURNER *Herbal* ii. 66 a. Basil... is good for the stryking of a se dragon. **1573** TUSSEY *Husb.* xlii. (1878) 95 Bassel, fine and bushy, sowe in May. **1586** COGAN *Haven Health* xxxvi. (1612) 50 A certaine Italian, by often smelling to Basill, had a Scorpion bred in his braine. **1607** H. BURTON *Baiting Pope's Bull* Ep. Ded. 26 Basil (the Embleme of the Throne established by mercy) which being gently stroked on the hand, yields a pleasant smell, but crushed hard vpon it, vnsauory. **1795** BRADLEY *Fam. Dict.* s.v. *Sallet*, Basil imparts a grateful Flavour if not too strong. **1861** DELAMER *Kitch. Gard.* 122 Sweet basil... is, as its name imports, one of the royalties among sweet herbs.

2. Used as a book-name for other plants: e. g. Wild Basil (*Calamintha Acanthos*, Lyte, *C. Clinopodium*, Benth.), Field or Cow Basil (*Saponaria Vaccaria*, Lyte); also Basil-balm, -thyme (*Calamintha Acanthos*).

1578 LYTE *Dodoens* 239 Wilde Basill hath square hearie stemmes, beset with small leaues, much lyke to the leaues of Bushe Basill. *Ibid.* 241 Of Vaccaria, or Cow Basill. **1597** GERARD *Herbal* ii. cxxiii. 675 The wilde Basil or Acanthos. **1640** PARKINSON *Theat. Bot.* 19 Basil-thyme... because the smell thereof is so excellent, that it is fit for a king's house.

† **Basil** ², *Obs. rare* -1. In 6 *bassil*. [*a. OF. basile* BASILISK: see prec.]

1. = BASILISK 3.

† 2. An 'iron' or fetter fastened round the ankle of a prisoner. *Obs.* (Perhaps a distinct word.)

1592 GREENE *Art Conny Catch* ii. 31 Clap a strong paire of bolts on his heeles, and a basill of 28. pound weight. **1755** MEN. *Capt. P. Drake* i. xiii. 106 One of my Irons taken off... only one of the Basills, which did not weigh above two Pounds out of thirty. **1805** SALA in *N. & Q. Ser.* iii. VIII. 365/2 The iron ring or fetter which English convicts were wont to wear round one ankle was called a Basil.

Basil ³, *basil* (*bæ'zil*). [*App.* an Eng. corruption of *Fr. basane*: see BASAN.] Sheepskin tanned in bark; distinguished from *roan*, which is tanned in sumach. Often *attrib.*

1674 GUIDOTT *Observ. Bath.* in *Hart. Misc.* (Malh.) IV. 130 The water happened... to fall upon a Basil-skin I sometimes use. **1697** *Lond. Gaz.* No. 3285/4 All Tanners, Basil Tanners, Curriers. **1755** JOHNSON, *Basil*, the skin of a sheep tanned. This is I believe more properly written *basen*. **1794** W. FELTON *Carriages* (1801) i. 215 An inferior leather... called basil leather... tears almost like paper. **1854** MAYHEW *Lond. Labour* III. 419 (Hoppe) Each sleeper has for covering a large basil such as cobblers use for aprons.

Basil, *sb.* ⁴ and *v.* corrupt form of BEZEL.

Basilar (*bæ'silār*), *a.*; also 6 *basylare*. [*ad. mod.L. basilaris*, irreg. *f. basis*: see BASE *sb.* ¹] Of, pertaining to, or situated at the base, *esp.* at that of the skull.

1541 R. COPLAND *Guydon's Quest. Cyrurg.* The vij. bone is the bone basylare... that closeth and sustenteth all the sayd bones over the rofe. **1782** A. MONRO *Anat. Bones & Nerves* 77 Made concave for the reception... of the basilar artery. **1840** G. ELLIS *Anat.* 17 The basilar artery... lies on the basilar process of the occipital bone.

Basiliary (*bæ'silārī*), *a.* [*ad. F. basilaire* (16th c.), *ad. mod.L. basilaris*: see prec. and -ARY².] = prec.

1800 CARLISLE in *Phil. Trans.* XCI. 144 The basiliary

artery. **1874** M. COOKE *Fungi* 22 Upon the hymenium of Agarics... elongated cells, called by Corda basiliary cells.

† **Basilean**. *Obs. rare* -1. [*f. Gr. βασιλε-ús* king + *-AN*.] A Royalist.

c.1645 HOWELL *Lett.* iv. (1726) 23 (D.) If any intemperate

Basilean take exceptions thereat.

Basileio-latry, *nonce-wd.* [*f. Gr. βασιλειο-s* of the king + *λατρεία* worship.] King-worship.

1872 SACRISTY II. 10 note, At Westminster the established

religion is Basileiolatry.

Basilic (*bæ'silik*), *a.* Forms: 6 *basylco*, 7-8

basilick (e, 8- *basilio*. [*a. F. basilique* (16th c.),

ad. L. basilicus, *a. Gr. βασιλικός* royal, kingly, *f.*

βασιλεύς king.]

1. Kingly, royal, sovereign. ? *Obs. rare*.

1728 BARBERY tr. *Burnet's St. Dead* I. 13 In this world we

see nothing except God's basilick justice.

2. *Phys.* Specific epithet of the large vein of the

arm starting from the elbow and discharging into

the axillary vein. [So called from its supposed

great importance; the right and left basilic veins

were formerly thought to be in direct communica-

tion with the liver and spleen respectively.]

1541 R. COPLAND *Guydon's Quest. Cyrurg.* That party

that was deuyed vnder the arme pyttes that goeth in to

the inward party in descending appereth within the bought

of the elbowe, and is called Basylco. **c.1670** HACKETT *Alp.*

Williams i. (1692) 88 As if he had prick'd the Court in the

Basilick or Liver-vein. **1849-52** TODD *Cycl. Anat. & Phys.*

IV. 1407/1 The basilic vein... ascends along the inner margin

of the biceps muscle.

Basilic (*bæ'silik*), *sb. arch.* [*a. F. basilique*,

ad. L. basilica.]

1. = BASILICA 1.

1727-51 CHAMBERS *Cycl.*, *Basilic* or *Basilica*. **1811** J.

MILNER *Ecl. Archit.* Eng. ii. 12 The emperors gave up

their palaces and courts of justice, called Basilics, for the

service of religion.

2. = BASILICA 2.

1703 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 3891/3 Considerable Damage to the

Basilick, or Great Church of St. Peter. **1753** CHAMBERS

Cycl. Supp., *Basilics* were also little chapels built by the

ancient Franks over the tombs of their great men. **1840**

Ld. HOUGHTON in *Blackw. Mag.* XLVII. 29 Oh! never in

high Roman basilic, Prime dome of art, or elder Lateran.

Basilica (*bæ'silikā*). Pl. -as, rarely -æ. Also

6 (*transliterated Greek*) *basilike*, 8 *basilika*. [*a.*

L. basilica, *Gr. βασιλική* (sc. *οικία*, *στοά*), fem. of

adjs. *basilicus*, *basilikós*, royal, *f. βασιλεύς* king.]

1. *Anc. Hist.* Literally and originally, a royal

palace; thence, a large oblong building or hall,

with double colonnades and a semicircular apse at

the end, used for a court of justice and place of

public assembly.

1541 ELYOT *Image Govt.* (1556) 66 A *Basilike*, or place

where civile controversies were herde and judged. **1741**

MIDDLETON *Cicero* i. vii. 468 A *Basilica* also or grand hall.

1852 CONYBEARE & H. ST. PAUL (1862) II. xxvii. 500 The

basilicas were buildings of great size, so that a vast mul-

titude of spectators was always present at any trial which

excited public interest.

2. A building of the preceding type, used for

Christian worship. Originally, a hall of justice

handed over by Roman emperors and consecrated

for religious use; thence applied to other early

churches built on the same plan, and improperly

to churches generally. In Rome applied spec. to the

seven principal churches founded by Constantine.

1563 *Homilies* ii. ii. iii. (1859) 256 Called *Basilicæ*, eyther

for that the Greeks used to call all great and goodly

places *Basilicas*, or for that the high and everlasting King

... was served in them. **1725** tr. *Dupin's Eccl. Hist.* 17th

C. i. v. 99 There were some Churches... which were not

dedicated to any Saint, but had only in general the Name

of a *Basilika*. **1851** RUSKIN *Stones Ven.* i. i. § 27 An imita-

tion in wood of the Christian Roman churches or *basilicas*.

1852 MISS YONGE *Cameos* (1877) III. xxx. 303 Sending a

deputation to do penance at the seven *basilicæ*. **1874**

PARKER *Illustr. Goth. Archit.* ii. 276 The application of the

name of *Basilica* to the small burial-chapels in the Catacombs

is a mistake.

† 3. The basilic vein: see BASILIC a. 2. *Obs.*

1625 HART *Anat. Ur.* ii. viii. 105 The *basilica* or liver

veine. **1751** CHAMBERS *Cycl.* s.v., The *basilica* is one of the

veins used in bleeding in the arm.

4. (*neut. pl.*) = BASILIOS, q.v.

Basilical (*bæ'silikāl*), *a.* ¹ [*f. Gr. βασιλικ-ús* +

-AL.]

1. Kingly, royal, regal.

1652 URQUHART *Yvetot Wks.* (1834) 277 *Basilical* rule or any

other temporal sovereignty. **1885** 1. KERSLAKE *Liberty*

Hist. Research 5 Up wells this basilical word 'must.'

† 2. = BASILIC a. 2. *Obs.*

1649 HOWELL *Lett.* (1650) III. 40 How England will thrive

now that she is let blood in the basilical veine. **1686** PLOT

Staffordsh. 290 Upon squeezing her Arm he forced thence

from about the *Basilical* veine... a pins point.

Basilical, *a.* ² [*f. BASILICA* + *-AL*.] = next.

1613 T. GODWIN *Rom. Antig.* (1658) 10 Many men... were

wont to walk under those basilical buildings. **1881** G. SCOTT

Ch. Archit. Pref., The basilical church of Lyminge.

Basilican (*bæ'silikān*), *a.* [*ad. med.L. basilicān-us*, *f. basilica*: see prec. and -AN.] Of, per-

taining to, or resembling a basilica. **Basilicanism**,

adherence to the basilican type of church.

1797 HOLCROFT *Stolberg's Trav.* II. i. 228 It is built in the

basilican manner. **1879** BARING-GOULD *Germany* II. 345

But the basilican churches were not always adaptations of this sort. **1861** A. B. HOPE *Eng. Cathedr.* 19th C. vi. 179 In very many Italian monastic churches... basilicanism has as it were been caricatured.

Basilicate (*bæ'silikēt*), *a.* [*f. BASILICA* + *-ATE*.] Shaped like a basilica; basilican.

1882 S. BUTLER *Alps & Sanct.* xxv. 357 A fine old basili-

cate Church.

† **Basilicock**. *Obs.* Forms: 4 *baselycok*,

4-5 *-cok*, *basilicok*, *-iskoc*, 5 *basylicock*, *-ycok*,

6 *basilicock*. [*a. OF. basilicoc*, *-ecoc* (nom. sing.

and acc. pl. *basilicos*), *f. basilic*: *-L. basiliscus*

BASILISK + *-oc* = *It. -occo*, usually augmentative)

sometimes diminutive. Here perhaps associated

with *cog* *cock*: cf. *cockatrice*.] = BASILISK 1.

1340 Ayeub. 28 Panne is he [the envious] of be kende of

be baselycok, uor no grenhede ne may yeste beoure hym.

c.1386 CHAUCER *Pers. T.* p. 778 That sleeth right as the

Basilicok [v. r. *Baselycok*] sleeth folk by the venom of his

sighte. **1481** CAXTON *Myrr.* ii. vi. 77 *Basylcokcs* [have]...

the heed lyke a cocke and body of a serpent. **1583** STUBBS

Anat. Abus. (1877) 109 Like a Cockatrice, or Basilicock,

which slay or kill men with the poison of their sighte.

|| **Basilicon**, *-um*. [*L. basilicum*, *Gr. βασι-*

λικόν (sc. *φάρμακον* drug, plaster), neut. of adj.

basilicus, *βασιλικός*, royal.] Name given to several

ointments supposed to possess 'sovereign' virtues.

1541 R. COPLAND *Guydon's Formul.* T. j. The fourth fourme

is the great basilicon that is prayed over all, and is called

tetrafarmacum. **1569** CULPEPER *Pharm.* *Lond.* 298 *Basilic-*

con, the greater. Take of white Wax, Pine Rozin, Heifers

suet, etc. **1762** STERNÉ *Tr. Shandy* V. xxvii. 96 He had

stepped down for lint and basilicon. **1872** SCHOTTE in *Phil.*

Trans. LXXIII. 88 A pledget of basilicum was put over it.

¶ See also BASIL *sb.* ¹

Basilics (*bæ'siliks*), *sb. pl.* [*ad. L. basilica*

(also used in Eng.), *a. Gr. βασιλικά*, neut. pl. of

adj. *βασιλικός*.] A digest of the laws of Justinian

and other emperors, translated from Latin into

Greek by command of the emperors Basil and Leo,

and constituting the code of the Eastern empire.

[**1652** NEEDHAM *Selden's Mare Cl.* 96 Which is manifest

enough, not only in the *Basilica*... but also by the Decrees

established by the Emperor Leo.] **1751** CHAMBERS *Cycl.*

s.v., The *basilics* comprehend the institutes, digests, code

and novels, and some edicts of Justinian. **1771** RAFFER in *Phil.*

Trans. LXI. 513 A scholiast on the *Basilics* tells us.

Basilidian (*bæ'silidiān*), *a.* and *sb.* [*f. L.*

Basili-dēs, *Gr. βασιλιδης* + *-IAN*.]

founde in his waye a grete serpente basylisque. 1530 PALSGR. 196. a Basylisque serpent, *basilisque*.

6. 1635 JENNINGS *Elise* 57 He loses his countenance at the aspect of the Basilisk, whose sight kills him.

2. *fig.* Often attrib.

a. 1549 CHERRY *Hurt Sedit.* (1642) 42 But what is a loyterer? A sucker of Honie... a Basiliske of the Commonwealth. 1789 BURNES *Hist. Mus.* I. viii. 123 Satire... becomes a basilisk in the hands of a man... who employs it to blast the reputation of another. 1831 CARLYLE *Sart. Res.* II. vi. That Basilisk-glance of the barouche-and-four.

γ. 1475 CAXTON *Jason* 45 Certes madame youre eyen basilique haue hurte me unto the deth.

3. *transf.* A large cannon, generally made of brass, and throwing a shot of about 200 pounds weight. (Other pieces of ordnance of the time were named from venomous reptiles; e.g. *culverin*, *serpentine*, *slang*, etc. Cf. Shaks. *Hen. V.* v. ii. 17.)

a. 1577 HARRISON *England* II. xvi. (1877) 281 Basiliske [weigheth] 9000 pounds, eight inches and three quarters within the mouth. 1886 MARLOWE *1st Pt. Tamburl.* iv. 1. The basilisks, That, roaring, shake Damascus turrets down! 1613 PURCHA *Pilgr.* I. v. vii. 408 Great Brazen Ordinance, whereof foure Basilisks were drawne (such was their weight) by so many hundred yokes of Oxen. 1861 MISS BEAUFORT *Egypt. Sepul.* II. xxiv. 28 Stone shot lying about, some of the latter thrown by basilisks.

β. 1549 EDW. VI. *Lit. Rem.* (1858) 250 The pecis of new conquest, and a basilisk, a demy canons, etc.

δ. 1607 CAPT. SMITH *Seaman's Gram.* xiv. 70 A Basilisco. Height (= bore) in Inches, 5. Weight in Pounds, 4000. Shot, Pounds, 151. Powder, Pounds, 10. 1644 in Rushw. *Hist. Coll.* III. II. 701 The Rebels Train of Artillery... amongst which was the great Basilisco of Dover.

4. *Zool.* A small American lizard of the family *Iguanidae*, having on the top of its head a hollow crest which can be inflated at will.

1813 SHELLEY *Q. Mab* VIII. 86 The green and golden basilisk. 1847 CARPENTER *Zool.* § 495 The Mitred Basilisk is an inhabitant of Guiana, Martinique, etc. It swims with great address by means of the lateral motions of its finny tail.

† 5. *Ornith.* Obs. name of the Golden-crested Wren or Kinglet (*Regulus cristatus*). (So in Gr.)

β. 1753 CHAMBERS *Cycl. Suppl.* *Basiliscus*.

† 6. *Astr.* Obs. name of the star Regulus, in Leo. 1551 RECORDE *Cast. Knowl.* (1556) 266 The Basyliske or Kyngely starre. 1797-51 in CHAMBERS *Cycl.*

7. *Comb.* *basiliscoo*-proof, a., proof against eyes, even those of a basilisk; unabashed, shameless.

1649 LANC. *Tracts Civ. War* (1844) 236 Though your brows be Basiliscoo-proof, yet you could be content I should end this language.

Basiliskian, a. [f. prec. + -IAN.] Of or pertaining to a basilisk; basiliscan.

1808 J. WILSON in *Blackw. Mag.* XXIII. 783 That... fascinating and basiliskian glare of gorgeous and rhetorical embellishment.

Basin (bā's'n), sb. Forms: 3 bascin, bascin, 4-5 basine, basyn(e, bassyn(e, -eyn, 4-6 basyn, 5 basoon, basyng, -ien, basoon, 6 bayseyn, bassine, basing, balseing, 6-7 basen, 8 bassin, 6-bason, 5-basin. [ME. *basin*, *bascin*, a. OF. *basin* (12th c. in Littré), mod. *bassin* (= Picard *bachin*, Pr., Sp. *basin*, It. *basino*); -late L. *bacinus*, *bacchinus*; in Greg. of Tours, 6th c., 'vulgo' *bacchinon*; supposed by some to be for *baccinus*, -um, and to be a derivative of *bacca* 'vas aquarium' Isidore. Thence also OHG. *becchin*, mod.G. *becken*, Du. *bekken*. The med.L. had *bacinus*, *bassinus* from the mod. langs. The ulterior source is unknown: the Celtic *bacc* 'hook, crook,' to which Diez and others have referred it, has no derivative with any approach to the sense of 'basin': see Thurneysen.]

1. A hollow circular vessel.

1. A circular vessel of greater width than depth, with sloping or curving sides, used for holding water and other liquids, especially for washing purposes. *Barber's basin*: see BARBER sb. 3.

c. 1200 St. *Marker*. 9 His two ehnen... brad as bascina. c. 1330 *Florice & Bl.* 550 Water and cloth and bacyn For to waschen his hondes in. c. 1400 *Destr. Troy* vii. 3169 Bassons of bright gold. 1486 Bk. St. Albans B v a. Put it in a bassin of brasse. 1513-75 *Diurn. Occurr.* (1833) 103 The basing and lawar. 1596 SHAKS. *Tam. Shrew* II. i. 350 Bassons and ewers, to laue her dainty hands. 1616 R. C. *Timet Whis.* iv. 1613 Faire water in a basen. 1796 GAY *Fables* I. xxi. 23 His pole with pewter basons hung. 1794 G. ADAMS *Nat. & Exp. Philos.* I. iii. 70 A barometer... immersed in a basin of mercury. c. 1845 LANE *Arab. Nts.* (Ridg.) 290 The slave brought a basin and water; the prince then washed himself.

b. The quantity held by a basin; a basinful.

1834 Ht. MARTINEAU *Farrers* vii. 127 [She] made a basin of tea. Mod. A basin of soup on a cold day.

2. A similar circular dish for any purpose.

1595 Ld. BERNERS *Friss.* II. cxvi. (R.) His bedde was wont to be chafed with a basin of hote coles. a. 1704 T. BROWN *Sat. Antients* (1730) I. 14 Satura Lanx was properly a basin filled with all sorts of fruit. 1777 J. RICHARDSON *Dissert. East. Nations* 26 Four large basons filled with gold and silver. Bk. Com. *Prayer Commun.* Shall receive the Alms for the Poor... in a decent basin.

3. The scale-dish of a balance.

1413 *Lydg. Pilgr. Sowle* I. xvi. (1859) 18 Lete hym put it in the 1731 bacyn of the balance. 1797-51 CHAMBERS *Cycl.* *Basins* of a Balance. 1833 J. HOLLAND *Manuf. Metal* II. 272 The boards or basins are suspended by means of hooks to the ends of the beam.

† 4. *pl.* Hollow metal dishes clashed together to produce sound; cymbals. The beating of metal basins was formerly part of the mocking accompaniment when infamous persons were condemned to be publicly carted. Obs.

c. 1300 *Pol. Songs* (1839) 189 The Flemmysche... Agynneth to clynken huere basyns of bras. c. 1374 CHAUCER *Boeth.* iv. vi. 133 Forto rescowe þe moone (in eclipses) þei betyn hire basines wip þikke strokes. 1604 DEKKER *Honest Wh. Wks.* 1873 II. 181 Why before her does the Bason ring? 1609 B. JONSON *Sil. Wom.* III. v. (N.) Let there be no bawd carted that year, to employ a bason of his.

5. *spec. a.* A concave tool used by glass-grinders in the manufacture of convex glasses.

1797-51 CHAMBERS *Cycl.* s.v. Various kinds of basons, of copper, iron, etc. some deeper, others shallower, according to the focus of the glasses that are to be ground.

† 6. The hollow part of a plate or dish. Obs.

1664 *Pepys Diary* 21 July. Silver dishes and plates... in the edges and basins of which was placed... gold medals.

7. A helmet; a BASINET. Obs.

c. 1300 K. *Alis* 2333 So he tok his basyn, That hit cleved into the chyn. c. 1325 *Coeur de L.* 2557 Some he hytte on the bacyn, That he cleff hym to the chyn.

† 8. *Phys.* a. The pelvis; b. A funnel-shaped cavity situated between the anterior ventricles of the brain. Obs.

1797-51 in CHAMBERS *Cycl.* 1760 BRADY in *Phil. Trans.* L. 660 A bone found in the pelvis or bason of a man. 1772 J. S. Le Dran's *Observ. Surg.* Dict. C b b, The Pelvis, or Bason of the Kidneys.

II. A hollow depression, natural or artificial.

9. A hollow receptacle, natural or artificial, containing water.

1712 BLACKMORE (J.) And from its ample basin cast the main. 1764 HARNER *Observ.* x. viii. 327 Their waters being conveyed by aqueducts into two very large basons. 18... Wordsw. *Idle Sheph. Boys*, And in a basin black and small Receives a lofty waterfall. 1867 LADY HERBERT *Cradle L.* viii. 213 Inland basins of rain-water.

10. A dock constructed in a tidal river or harbour, in which by means of flood-gates the water is kept at a constant level, used for ships discharging or lading cargo, or when laid up.

1709 *Land. Gaz.* No. 45105 A great Fleet of Merchant Ships... have contracted with the Officers of his Majesty's Customs to open their way into the great Basin of this City. 1815 WELLINGTON in *Gurw. Disp.* XII. 265 A wet dock or basin of considerable size and depth may be considered necessary for the trade of Antwerp.

b. Part of a river or canal widened and furnished with wharfs for the lading and unlading of barges.

1837 WHITLOCK *Bk. Trudes* (1842) 203 Basins are formed near towns to which the canal has a communication.

11. A land-locked harbour; a bay.

1795 POPE *Odys.* vi. 315 The spacious basins arching rocks enclose. 1781 GIBSON *Decl. & F.* II. xxxi. 101 The largest vessels securely rode at anchor within three deep and capacious basons. 1855 MACAULAY *Hist. Eng.* IV. 226 His army... was encamped round the basin of La Hogue. 1866 THOUAU *Yauke in Can.* II. 29 The harbor of Quebec... a basin two miles across.

12. *Phys. Geog.* The tract of country drained by a river and its tributaries, or which drains into a particular lake or sea.

1790 A. YOUNG *Trav. France* 289 Modern French geographers... have divided the kingdom into what they call *basins*... into several great plains, through which flow the principal rivers; 1830 LVELL *Princ. Geol.* I. 434 The hydrographical basin of the Thames. 1860 MAURY *Phys. Geog.* Sea v. § 270 The basin of the Amazon is usually computed at 1,512,000 square miles. *Ibid.* xii. § 534 The basin of the Dead Sea... and the other inland basins of Asia.

13. *gen.* A circular or oval valley or hollow.

c. 1254 STANLEY *Sinai & Pal.* v. 243 The traveller finds himself in a wide basin, encircled by hills. 1860 TYNDALL *Glac.* I. § 23. 166 The basin had been scooped by glaciers.

14. *Geol.* A circumscribed formation in which the strata dip inward from all sides to the centre; the stratified deposit, especially of coal, lying in such a depression.

1801 *Abridgem. R. Turner's Arts. & Sc.* 230 What is called a coal-field, or district, or sometimes a coal-basin. 1850 LVELL *Princ. Geol.* Gloss. 776 Basin of Paris, Basin of London. Deposits lying in a hollow or trough, formed of older rocks. 1877 GREEN *Phys. Geol.* ix. § 3. 147 If the beds dip everywhere towards a centre, they... form a basin.

III. *Comb.*, chiefly attrib., as *basin-pan*, -sign, -stand; also *basin-like*, -shaped, adj.; *basinful*, the content of a basin; *basin-wide* a., as wide as a basin (cf. *saucer-eyed*).

1799 G. SMITH *Laborat.* I. 434 Take two *basinfuls of river sand. 1836-9 TODD *Cycl. Anat. & Phys.* II. 134/2 A horny *basin-like cavity. 1868 *Test. Ebor.* (1855) II. 261 Wirt-pannes, *basyn-pan. 1869 TODD *Cycl. Anat. & Phys.* V. 146/4 The pelvis offers a *basin-shaped structure. 1813 ROWLANDS *Spy-Knanes* Bijb. b, First to my Barber, at his *Bason signe. 1843 T. MARTIN in *Fraser's Mag.* Dec., Ducking and diving into the *basin-stand. 1891 SPENSER *M. Hubbard* 670 Then gan the Courtiers... stare on him, with big looks *basen wide.

Basined (bā's'nd), *pl.* a.; also 8-9 *basoned*. [f. prec. + -ED.] Placed or contained in a basin.

1744 YOUNG *Nt. Th.* ix. 918 Thy basined rivers, and imprisoned seas. 1809 J. BARLOW *Columb.* I. 651 Bason'd high, on earth's broad bosom gay, The bright Superior silvers down the day.

Basinerved (bā's'niŋvud), a. *Bot.* [f. L. *basin-*

BASE sb.¹ + *NERVED*; cf. F. *basinerve*.] Of leaves: Having the ribs all springing from the base.

1866 in *Treas. Bot.*

Basinet, *basnet* (bā'sinēt, bā'snēt). *Obs. exc.* *Hist.* Forms: 3-9 basnet, 4-9 bacinet, basen-net, 9 basinet, bassinet, bascinet; also 4 basinet, 4-6 basenett(e, 5 bacenett, basnite, -nette, 4-5 basynet, baocynet, -ette, 5-7 bassenett. [a. OF. *bacinete*, *bassin*, *bassinete* (= Sp. *bacinete*, It. *bacinetto*, med.L. *basinetum*, *bacinetum*), dim. of *bacin* BASIN: see -ET.]

A small, light, steel headpiece, in shape somewhat globular, terminating in a point raised slightly above the head, and closed in front with a ventail or visor; when used in action without the ventail, as was frequently the case in England, the great 'helm,' resting on the shoulders, was worn over it.

c. 1300 K. *Alis* 2234 Helm and basnet... The sharpe sword carf bothe. c. 1380 *Sir Ferumb.* 5577 Porw helm, & coyphes & bacynet, þe sword goþ forþ. 1391 *Test. Ebor.* (1836) I. 151 Unum melius basenett cum ventayll. c. 1440 *Morte Arth.* 906 A bacenett burnesche of sylver. 1523 Ld. BERNERS *Friss.* I. ix. 61 Such a stroke... that their basenettes were clouen. 1561 T. NEWTON *Seneca's Thebas* 51 On head thy Basnet tye. 1611 GWILLIM *Heraldry* iv. xv. 234 Their bassenets or sculles. 1808 SCOTT *Marm.* vi. xxi, My basnet to a prentice cap, Lord Surrey's o'er the Till! 1843 LYTTON *Last Bar.* I. ix, Thou talkest of bassinets and hauberkers. 1856 R. VAUGHAN *Mystics* (1860) I. 154 Sir Rudolf's new bascinet with the beaked ventaille. 1874 BOUTELL *Arms & Arm.* viii. 127 The basinet was considered to be incomplete without... a mail defence for the neck and shoulders, called the *camail*. 1875 STUBBS *Const. Hist.* II. xvii. 543 *note*, Aketons, bascinets, gauntlets. *fig.* 1496 *Dives & Paup.* (W. de W.) viii. viii. 332 The amyt betokeneth the basynet of helthe, that is hope of the lyte that is to come.

See also *BASSINET*, *BASSINATE*.

† **Basineted**, *pl.* a. *Obs.* [f. prec. + -ED².] Furnished with, or as if with, a basinet.

1596 FITZ-GEFFREY *Sir F. Drake* (1881) 24 Even as the Larke... Mounteth her basinetted head on high.

† **Basing**, sb. *Obs.* rare⁻¹. [f. *BASE* sb.¹ + -ING.] Foundation, base.

c. 1395 E. E. *Allit. P.* A. 991 Bantelez... on basyng boun. † **Basing**, *vb.* sb. *Obs.* [f. *BASE* v.¹ + -ING.] The action of *BASE* v.¹; abasing, debasement.

1581 W. STAFFORD *Exam. Compl.* II. (1876) 55 The basing or rather the corrupting of our coyn & treasure.

Basiophthalmite (bā'si'phtāl'mīt). *Anim. Phys.* [f. Gr. *basio*- base + *ophthalmos*-eye + -ITE.] The lowest joint of the eye-stalk of Crustacea.

1877 HUXLEY *Anat. Inv. An.* vi. 315 The peduncles of the eye... are composed of... a small proximal basiophthalmite, and a larger terminal podophthalmite.

Basipetal (bā'si'pētāl), a. *Bot.* [f. L. *basio*- base + *pet-* seeking + -AL.] 'Developing from the apex towards the base.' Gray *Bot. Text-bk.* 1880. 1880 VINES *Sachs' Bot.* 171 Lateral members... arranged in basipetal order.

Basipodite (bā'si'pōdīt). *Anim. Phys.* [f. Gr. *basio*- base + *pod-* (podis) foot + -ITE.] The second segment of the leg of an Arthropod.

1870 ROLLESTON *Anim. Life* 94 The second joint is known as the basipodite. 1877 HUXLEY *Anat. Inv. An.* vi. 309 The proximal one... is the coxopodite, the next, small and conical, is the basipodite.

Basin (bā'sis). *Pl. bases.* [a. L. *basis*, a. Gr. *basios*: see *BASE* sb.¹]

I. Literal senses. (Now rarely used: see *BASE*.)

1. *gen.* The bottom of anything, considered as the part on which it rests or is supported; the foundation, base, foot, arch.

1571 DIGGES *Pantom.* I. xxx. I iij, The distance of the ship from the basis or foote of the cliffe. 1620 SHAKS. *Temp.* II. I. 120 Th'shore; that ore his waue-worne basis bowed As stooping to releuee him. 1656 H. MORE *Antid.* Ath. I. iv. (1712) 143 The basis of the Cedar. 1718 POPE *Task* vii. 545 Whose rage can make The solid earth's eternal basis shake! 1837 CARLYLE *Fr. Rev.* iv. iv. III. 155 Triumphant Arches: at the basis of the first of which, we descry, etc.

† 2. The base of a pillar; = *BASE* sb.¹ 5.

[1530 MORE *Confut. Barnes* viii. Wks. 742/2 The ground or foote of the pillar called in laten *basin*.] 1677 HALE *Prim. Orig. Man.* I. ii. 64 His Feet, the Basis of the Pillar of his Body. a. 1719 ADDISON (J.) Observing an English inscription upon the basis, we read it over several times.

† 3. A pedestal. *Obs.*

1601 SHAKS. *Jul. C.* III. i. 115 Caesar... That now on Pompey's Basis lyeth along, No worthier then the dust. 1666 AGLONBY *Paint. Illustr.* 367 The Basis likewise is a Balust of Granite-Stone.

4. *Bot. and Zool.* That part of an organ by which it is attached to its support; = *BASE* sb.¹ 7. Now only in specific use: see *quots.* 1870.

1615 CROOKE *Body of Man* 467 A Pine-apple, broade and round in the Basis. 1664 POWER *Exp. Philos.* I. 40 The obtuse Tip of this Capsula... shoots itself into the basis of the Liver. 1753 CHAMBERS *Cycl. Suppl.* s.v. *Antholyza*, The upper lip [of the flower]... near its basis has two short jags. 1870 NICHOLSON *Zool.* (1880) 289 A shelly or membranous plate closes the lower aperture of the [Acorn-] shell, and is termed the 'basis.' 1870 ROLLESTON *Anim. Life* 94 The second joint is known as the 'basipodite,' or 'basis.'

† 5. A geometrical base; = *BASE* sb.¹ 9.

1571 DIGGES *Pantom.* I. vi. Cij b, That subfendente side, or basis. 1661 BOYLE *Examen* (1682) 95 A Pyramide...

whose Basis is part of the surface of the Atmosphere. 1748 HARTLEY *Observ. Man* i. iii. § 1780 The Angles at the Basis of an Isosceles Triangle.

† 6. Each of the boards of a pair of bellows. *Obs.* 1669 BOYLE *Cont. New Exp.* i. (1682) 129 Another pair of Tite Bellows made with a very light Clack in the lower Basis. *Ibid.* i. 109 The Orifice of the Vent in the Basis.

II. Transferred and figurative senses.

7. The main constituent, fundamental ingredient. 1601 HOLLAND *Pliny Gloss.*, Basis in a compound medicine is that drug or simple which is predominant. 1665 *Phil. Trans.* i. 117 Salt, the Basis of all Natural Productions. 1712 tr. *Pomet's Hist. Drugs* i. 179 Several People make it the Basis of the Liquorice juice. 1867 J. HOGG *Microsc.* i. iii. 225 Colouring-solutions should be always prepared with glycerine... as a basis.

8. That by or on which anything immaterial is supported or sustained; a foundation, support

1605 SHAKS. *Macb.* iv. iii. 32 Great Tyranny, lay thou thy basis sure. 1606 W. DE BRITAIN *Hum. Prud.* 126 The love of the Subject is the most sure Basis of the Princes Greatness. 1778 *Free-thinker* No. 75. 142 Integrity is the Basis of all Human Prudence. 1860 TYNDALL *Glac.* ii. § 3. 243 This speculation... rested upon a basis of conjecture.

9. That on which anything is reared, constructed, or established, and by which its constitution or operation is determined; groundwork, footing: a. a thing material.

1668 HALE *Prof. Rolfe's Abridgm.* 9 This Book will be the Basis of such a Common-place Book. 1808 MIDDLETON *Grk. Article* (ed. 3) i. 485 The critical possessor of the basis filled its margin with glosses and readings.

b. a thing immaterial; a principle, a fact.

1601 SHAKS. *Twel. N.* iii. ii. 36 Build me thy fortunes upon the basis of valour. 1628 MALYNES *Ans. Law-Merch.* 423 Where the Basis of Exchange... is made upon our twentie shillings sterling. 1854 McCULLOCH *Taxation* ii. vi. 254 Assessing licence duties on such inapplicable basis. 1871 R. W. DALE *Commandm.* vi. 151 If Moses had to regulate our legislation in reference to railway accidents, he would put it on altogether a new basis. 1876 GREEN *Short Hist.* iv. § 4 (1882) 190 Among the German races society rested on the basis of the family.

c. a set of principles laid down or agreed upon as the ground of negotiation, argument, or action.

1796 BURKE *Regic. Peace Wks.* VIII. 334 We had gained a great point in getting this basis admitted... a basis of mutual compensation. 1855 (7 June) *Bright Russia, Sp.* (1876) 253 It is necessary therefore to have a basis for our discussion. 1880 McCARTHY *Omn Times* III. xxxvi. 129 A basis of legislation was at last agreed upon.

10. The tract of country from, and in connexion with, which military or other operations are conducted; = BASE *sb.* 16. *lit. and fig.*

1833 HT. MARTINEAU *Cinnamon & P.* vii. 124 Colonies are not advantageous to the mother-country as the basis of a peculiar trade. 1865 M. ARNOLD *Ess. Crit.* vii. 219 [Joubert's] soul had, for its basis of operations, hardly any body at all. 1865 *Times* 2 Jan., To make Canada... the basis of operations against the Northern States.

III. attrib., as in basis-structure, -tissue.

1839-47 TODD *Cycl. Anat. & Phys.* III. 127/1 The basis-substance is... destitute of fibres. *Ibid.* IV. 878/1 These 'dental tubuli'... subdivide rapidly in the hard basis-tissue.

Basiscopic (bā'si,skō'pik), *a. Bot.* [f. Gr. *basos*-s base + *-skopos* viewing + *-ic*.] Looking or turned towards the base.

1882 VINES *Sacks' Bot.* 450 Each of these halves is divided... into an ascropic and a basiscopic portion.

Basislute (bā'si-soliūt), *a. Bot.* [f. *L. basi*-s base + *solutus* unbound, free.] Of leaves: Prolonged at the base below the point of origin.

1847 in CRAIG. 1866 *Treas. Bot.*, *Basislute*, a term applied to leaves which, like those of *Sedum* and *Echeveria*, are extended downwards below their true origin.

Bask (bask), *v.*; also 4-6 *basko*. [app. for earlier **bathask*, *a. ON. bathask*, in later Icel. *bathast* to bathe oneself, refl. of *batha* to bathe. (With loss of *th* cf. *or* from *other*, *sou' west*, etc.)]

† 1. *intr.* (also *refl.*, and with *pa. pple.* quasi-*trans.*) To bathe, especially in warm water or liquid, and so *transf.* to be suffused with, or swim in, blood, etc. *Obs.*

1393 GOWER *Conf. I.* 290 The child lay bathend in her blood... And for the blood was hote and warme He basketh him about therinne. 1430 LYDO. *Chron. Troy* v. xxxvii. Seyng his brother baskyng in his blood. c. 1545 SKELTON *Rephyc. Wks.* i. 209 Basked and bathed in their wyldie burbling... blode. 1530 PALSGR. 444/1, I basko, I bathe in water or any lycour, *Je baigne* (Lydgate).

2. *trans.* To expose to a flood of warmth, to suffuse with genial warmth. (Cf. *to bathe in sunshine*.) Chiefly *refl.*; = 3.

1600 SHAKS. *A. Y. L.* ii. vii. 15 A foole, Who laid him downe, and bask'd him in the Sun. 1632 MILTON *Allegro* 110 The lubbar fiend... Basks at the fire his hairy strength. 1676 WYCHERLEY *PL-Dealer* i. 1. 3 To go... and bask himself on the sunny side of the Globe. 1691 RAY *Creation* i. (1704) 163 Other Birds bask themselves in the Dust. 1725 POPE *Odyss.* iv. 542 The seer... Basks on the breezy shore... His oory limbs.

3. *intr.* To expose oneself to, or disport oneself in, an ambient flood of genial warmth, as in the sunshine, the rays of a fire; to lie enjoying the heat which radiates upon one.

1697 DRYDEN *Virg. Georg.* iii. 473 Where basking in the Sun-shine they may lye. 1718 POPE *Iliad* iii. 198 Antenor... Lean'd on the walls, and bask'd before the sun. 1819 S. ROGERS *Hum. Life* 15 Basking in the chimney's ample

blaze. 1841 BORROW *Zincali* i. iv. 1. 76 The swarthy children basked naked in the sun. 1873 G. DAVIES *Mount. & Mere* xiv. 109 A large pike was basking over the weeds.

b. *fig.* of the 'sunshine' of love, favour, prosperity.

1647 COWLEY *Mistr.*, *Change* i, Love in her Sunny eyes does basking play. 1791 BURKE *Lett. Memb. Assembly Wks.* VI. 27 Basking in the sunshine of unmerited fortune. 1867 FREEMAN *Norm. Cong.* (1876) i. v. 382 Traitors basking in the royal smiles.

Bask (bask), *sb. rare*. [f. prec. vb.] A 'bath' or suffusion of genial warmth.

1876 Mrs. WHITNEY *Sights & Ins.* II. xxxvi. 654 A perfect bask of sunshine lying over it.

† **Bask**, *a. Obs. or dial.* Forms: 3 *bə'skə*, 4-5 *bask* (e, 4-6 *bask*. [a. ON. *beisk* bitter, acid; hence the etymological form is *bask*.] Bitter, acid, ungrateful or irritating to the senses.

c. 1200 ORMIN 669 Itt iss full bitter & full beyske. 12300 *MS. Cott. Faust.* B. vi. f. 123 b, The froite... is soure And baskie and bitter of odoure. c. 1300 WYCLIF *Sol. Wks.* (1871) III. 42 Pride and covetise... ben bask or bittr synnes. a. 1550 CLAPPERTON *Wa Worth Maryage*, Of boure-bourding bath bask and bair. 1808 JAMIESON *S.v.*, 'A bask day,' a day distinguished by drought with a withering wind (*Dumfriesshire*).

† **Basko**, *v. Obs.* [A variant of *BASH* v. 2, a. Da. *basko*.] To strike with a bruising blow.

1641 ROGERS *Naaman* 369 Temptations, crosses, discouragements, which many others are basked withall. *Ibid.* 443 Many things... which buffet and basko it shrewdly.

Basker (bā'skə-r), *One who basks.*

1866 N. SENIOR *Convers. Egypt* II. 130, I think that the baskers have been about one-third.

Basket (bā'skət), *sb.* Forms: 3- *basket*; also

4-5 *basket* (e, 5- *att*, -*yt*, 6 *baskett* (e, *basquette*, 7 *basquet*. [Origin not ascertained: not in Teutonic or Romanic; found in Eng. since 13th c.

Basket has been conjecturally identified with *L. bascauda*, used by Juvenal and Martial; by the latter (xiv. 99) given as British, 'Barbara de pictis veni bascauda Britannis, Sed me jam mavult dicere Roma suam.' But the senses anciently assigned to *bascauda* of washing tub or tray 'vasa ubi calices lavabantur, cacabus,' or *bracen vessel* 'conchae æreas, genera vasorum' Papias (see Du Cange), do not favour this identification. The word is unknown in Old Irish or Welsh (*basgawd* is a fignient invented to suggest *bascauda*), and the mod. Celtic words, Welsh *basged*, Corn. *basced*, Ir. *basceid*, Gael. *bascaid*, cannot phonetically be descended from an original *bascauda*, but seem to be simply adopted from Eng. (Prof. Rhys). At present, therefore, there is no evidence to connect *basket* with *bascauda*, or to refer it to a Celtic origin.]

1. A vessel of wickerwork, made of plaited osiers, cane, rushes, bast, or other materials.

a. 1300 W. DE BIBLESW. in Wright *Poc.* 158 *Un corbel*, a litel basket. c. 1386 CHAUCER *Pard. Prolog.* 117, I wil do no labour with myn hondes, Ne make basketis and lyve therby. 1398 TREVIS *Barth. De P. R.* ix. xvii. (1495) 357 A gardyner gaderynge grapes in a baskette. 1535 COVERDALE 2 *Kings* x. 7 They... sleweth me... and layeth their heades in baszkettes. 1598 SHAKS. *Merry W.* iii. iii. 137 Looke, heere is a basket... he may creep in heere. 1606 COWLEY *Davidis* II. (1669) 61 With gilded basquets in their hands. 1725 POPE *Odyss.* ix. 203 High in wicker-baskets heaped. 1863 STANLEY *Jew. Ch. v.* 104 His mother placed him in a small boat or basket of papyrus.

b. with sb. defining the purpose, as *alms-basket*, *bread-basket*, *clothes-basket*, *eel-basket*, *work-basket*.

1513 KINGSLEY *Yeast* iii. 43 A high weir, with all its appendages of bucks and hatchways, and eel-baskets. 1863 MISS WHATELY *Ragged Life Egypt* vii. 50 A work-basket was stocked. 1868 H. LEE *B. Godfrey* i. 2 Everywhere... hung... clothes-baskets, work-baskets, toy-baskets, market-baskets.

c. taken as the type of daily provisions; also, of alms, formerly in special reference to the alms-basket on which poor prisoners in the public gaols were mainly dependent for their sustenance; hence *To go to the basket*: i. e. to prison.

1535 COVERDALE *Deut.* xxviii. 5 Blessed shal be thy baszkett, & thy stoare. 1632 MASS. & FIELD *Fatal Downy* v. i, Pontalier [to Liladam, who is in custody for debt], Go to the basket, and repent. 1679 *Trials of White*, etc. 75 He was in the Marshalsey, and lived a poor mean life, and all the time fed upon the Basket. c. 1700 *Gentl. Instruc.* (1732) 6 (D.) God be praised! I am not brought to the basket though I had rather live on charity than rapine. 1705 HICKERINGILL *Priest-Cr.* ii. ii. 16 Living, as Prisoners in Ludgate, of the Basket. 1866 NEALE *Seg. & Hymns* 80 Helpless, hopeless, if Thou spare not, Of their basket and their store.

d. phrases. *To pin the basket*: to conclude the matter (*obs.*). *To be left in the basket*: to remain unchosen, or to the last (like the worst apples, etc.). *The pick of the basket*: i. e. of the lot or number.

a. 1669 OSBORN *Observ. Turks* Pref. (1673) 4 Steer contrary to the current of Antiquity, imagined only by idle Dunces, to have pinned the Basket. a. 1704 T. BROWN *Sat. Fr. King* Wks. 1730 i. 61 Thus far in jest; but now to pin the basket, May'st thou to England come. 1796 W. YOUNG *Lat. Dict.* s. v. *Pin*. To pin the basket... *concludo, conficio, finio*. 1847 BARHAM *Ingl. Leg. House-warm*, (D.) And all other suitors are 'left in the basket.' 1874 *Bell's Life* 26 Dec. The pick of the basket, a compact young greyhound.

2. The quantity which fills a basket, a basketful; used as a measure of uncertain amount.

1795 BRADLEY *Fam. Dict.*, *Basket*... of Medlars, two Bushels; Asa-fetida, 20 to 50 lb. Weight. 1865 MACAULAY *Hist. Eng.* xvi, A basket of the first cherries... was accepted... by the king. 1867 F. FRANCIS *Angling* xii. (1880) 456, I killed baskets of white trout.

3. A wickerwork protection for the hand on a sword-stick, in the form of a small basket; *ellipt.* a basket-hilt sword or stick.

1773 GOLDSM. *Stoops to Cong.* iv. *Tony*, I'll fight you both, one after the other—with baskets. 1833 *Regul. Instr. Cavalry* i. 171 This exercise should... be tried with... sticks with baskets.

† 4. A head-dress of wickerwork, or of basket shape. *Obs.*

1555 *Fardle Facions* II. x. 219 Their married Women weare on their heades, fine wicke Baskettes of a foote and a haull long. 1606 *Choice Chance*, etc. (1881) 33 This youth in a basket, with a face of Brasse.

5. The overhanging back compartment on the outside of a stage-coach. *arch.*

1773 GOLDSM. *Stoops to Cong.* v. (1780) 249 It has shook me worse than the basket of a stage-coach. 1807 MACAULAY *Clergym. Trip Camb.* in *Misc.* (1865) 374 There were parsons in hood and in basket; There were parsons below and above. 1840 MARRYAT *Poor Jack* xi, Long stages, with a basket to hold six behind.

6. *Mil.* A gabion.

1753 CHAMBERS *Cycl. Supp.* s. v., At sieges, they make use of a small basket filled with earth, and ranged on the top of the parapet.

7. A part of the hinder leg of the bee, adapted to carry pollen.

1861 HULME *Moquin-Tandon* II. iii. 208 The leg [of the Bee] is dilated, and forms a triangular cavity on its inner surface, which is known as the 'basket.'

8. The vase of a Corinthian capital, with its foliage, etc. *Gwilt.*

1753 in CHAMBERS *Cycl. Supp.*

9. A wickerwork or wire screen used in hat-making.

B. *Comb. and Attrib.*

1. General relations: a. objective with *vbl.* or agent-noun or *pr. pple.*, as *basket-bearer*, *-bearing*, *-carrier*, *-maker*, *-making*, *-seller*; b. attrib. of material (= formed as a basket, or of basket-work), as *basket-balcony*, *-bonnet*, *-box*, *-carriage*, *-grate*, *-net*, *-trap*, *-ware*; c. attrib. of purpose (= used for baskets or basket-making), as *basket-osier*, *-twine*; d. attrib. of origin (= carried in a basket), as *basket-alms*, *-dole*.

1660 EARL ROSCOM. *Poems* (1780) 53 With 'basket-alms scarce kept alive. 1866 HOWELLS *Venet. Life* xv. 223 The hideous 'basket-balcony over the main door. 1530 PALSGR. 196/2 'Basketbearer, *hochquetur*. 1831 CARLYLE *Sart. Res.* II. i, The mysterious 'Basket-bearing stranger. 1804 MISS MITFORD *Village Ser.* i. (1863) 51 The pockets are almost full, and so is the 'basket-bonnet. 1881 MISS YONGE *Lads & Lassies of L.* iii. 133 A porter... with a large foreign 'basket-box on his shoulders. 1870 MISS BRIDGMAN *R. Lynne* II. viii. 161 The little 'basket carriage. 1849 GROTE *Greece* II. xxx. VI. 150 One of the Kanéphoræ or 'basket-carriers. 1618 HOLYDAY *Juvenal* 4 A 'basket-dole at the outmost door to wait. 1603 *Patient Grisill* 6 I'll hamper somebody if I die because I am a 'basket-maker. 1721 AMHERST *Terræ Fil.* x. 47 To teach the art and mystery of 'basket-making. 1654 STERRY *Eng. Deliv. North. Presb.* 12 'Basket-nets laid in those Wyers, to catch Lampries. c. 1500 COCKE *Lorelles B.* 5 Jackie 'basket seler. 1866 LIVINGSTONE *Jrnl.* v. (1873) 1. 123 Hunting with a dog and 'basket-trap. 1833 TENNYSON *Poems* 82 Piles of flavoured fruits, in 'basket-twine Of gold, up-heaped. 1858 W. ELLIS *Vis. Madagascar* iii. 61 'Basket-ware, cooper's work.

2. Special combinations: *basket-beagle*, a small dog used to hunt a basket-hare; *basket-boat*, a boat of basket-work; in India, a circular basket of 10 or 12 ft. diameter, covered with skins; *basket-button*, a metal button with a basket-pattern on it, instead of crest or arms; *basket-clerk* (see *quot.*); *basket-darning*, darning in which the threads cross each other above and below, like simple wickerwork; *basket-fish*, a star-fish of the genus *Astrophyton*, with five rays divided into a number of curled filaments; *basket-hare*, one turned out of a basket to be coured (cf. *bag-fox*); *basket-justice* (see *quot.*); *basket-osier*, the *Salix Forbyana*; *basket-salt*, that made from salt-springs, of finer quality than ordinary salt, so called from the vessels in which the brine is evaporated; *basket-scambler*, one who scrambles for the dole from a basket, i. e. who lives on charity; *basket-stick*, a fencing-stick with a wickerwork protection for the hand; *basket-stitch* (cf. *basket-darning*); *basket-stones*, fossil fragments of the stems of *Crinoidæ*; *basket-woman*, one who carries goods for sale in a basket; *basket-work*, structure composed of interlaced osiers, twigs, etc., or so carved as to resemble it.

1804 SCOTT *St. Roman's* i. 19 (D.) Grey-headed sportsmen, who had sunk from fox-hounds to 'basket-beagles and coursing. 1801 WELLINGTON in *Gurw. Disp.* I. 357 Communication... kept up by means of the common 'Basket boats. 1868 BEVERIDGE *Hist. India* II. v. viii. 522 Crossing in 'basket-boats at Trichinopoly. 1836 DICKENS *Sk. Box* (1877) 173 In a blue coat and bright 'basket buttons. 1863 MILTON *Hirelings* Wks. (1851) 376 The Clergy had their Portions given them in Baskets, and were thence call'd *spoutularii*, 'basket-clerks. 1884 *Harper's Mag.* Aug. 346/2 Ordinary 'basket darning. 1753 CHAMBERS *Cycl. Supp.*, *Basket-fish*... a name given by the English in North America to a very remarkable fish, sometimes caught in the seas thereabout. a. 1698 HOWARD *Committee* iv. (D.) As if we had brought a

*basket-hare to be set down and hunted. 1866 WYNTER *Curios. Civiliz.* 493 The *basket justices were so called because they allowed themselves to be bought over by presents of game. 1753 CHAMBERS *Cycl. Suppl.* s.v. *Basket salt. is made from the water of our salt springs in Cheshire. 1769 ELLIS in *Phil. Trans.* LIX. 148 Grains of salt... about the size of the finest *basket salt. 1647 R. STAPLTON *Juvenal* 40 With fine young fencers, *basket-scramblers, thus it pleases vain Otho to distinguish us. 1833 *Regul. Instr. Cavalry* 1.66 The files being prepared with masks and *basket-sticks. 1883 *Daily News* 12 July 3/5 Embroidered in raised gold, worked in *basket stitch on white satin. 1851 RICHARDSON *Geol.* ii. 24 Various terms... chessstones, *basketstones, caskstones. 1664 LUTTRELL *Brief Rel.* III. 403 Having gott armes, brought them the day before by *basket women. 1837 MARRYAT *Dog-Friend* ix. The *basket-women flitted about displaying their stores. 1769 FALCONER *Dict. Marine* (1789), *Dame-Jeanne*, a... large bottle... covered with *basket-work. 1867 LADY HERBERT *Cradle L.* iv. 123 Its venerable pillars and beautiful *basket-work capitals.

Basket (bask'et), *v.* [f. prec. sb.; cf. *to bag*.]

1. To put into a basket; also *fig.*
1593 STANYHURST *Æneid* 1. (Arb.) 27 Maunchets sum in pantrie doe basket. 1650 FULLER *Piaget* iii. vi. 370 Christ commanded the fragments... to be basketed up. 1765 COWPER *Task* II. 667 Basket up the family of plagues. 1867 F. FRANCIS *Angling* viii. (1880) 297 A grayling... is scarcely so easy to basket.

2. To hang up in a basket; also *fig.*
1778 KIPPIS *Biog. Brit.* I. 240 note, He... would suffer himself to be banged and basketed for refusing a challenge. 1833 T. MITCHELL *Aristoph.* II. 37, I see you're basketed so high, That you look down upon the gods.

3. To throw into the waste-paper basket; also *fig.* to reject as unsuitable.

1867 *Daily Tel. Mar.*, The meeting of Opposition members had a good deal to do with its being 'basketed.' 1883 PROCTOR in *Knowledge* 6 July 1312 Your handwriting will cause our... sub-editor to 'basket' your communications rather summarily.

Basketeer, *n.* *nonce-wd.* A passenger in the basket of a stage-coach.

1866 *Cornh. Mag.* XIII. 346 Seldom is there wanting a sufficient quorum of grave *basketeers.

Basketful, [*see* -FUL.] As much as fills a basket; also *fig.*

1774 R. SCOT *Hop Gard.* 49 Laye downe Basketfull by Basketfull till the bedde be all covered. 1656 Bp. HALL in Spurgeon *Treas. Dav.* Ps. xli. 8 Whole basketfuls of heads... presented to Jehu. 1841 GEN. THOMPSON *Exerc.* (1842) VI. 34 We are to pay the expenses of a basketfull of disgraced wars.

Basket-hilt, [*f.* BASKET sb. 3.] A hilt provided with a defence for the swordsman's hand, consisting of narrow plates of steel curved into the shape of a basket.

1663 BUTLER *Hud.* I. i. 353 With basket-hilt, that would hold broth, And serve for fight and dinner both. 1708 W. KING *Cookery* (1807) 82 Their beef, they often in their murrions stew'd, And in their basket-hilts their bev'rage brew'd. 1830 SCOTT *Monast.* xiv. My father's broadsword with its great rusty basket-hilt.

b. attrib. = next.

c. 1550 Rob. Hood (Ritson) iii. 41 Then Robin got on his basket-hilt sword. 1597 SHAKS. 2 *Hen. IV.* II. iv. 141 You Basket-hilt stale juggler, you! 1712 STEELE *Spect.* No. 109 P. 4 His Viol hangs by his Basket-hilt sword.

Basket-hilted, *adj.* [*f.* prec. + -ED.] Of swords: Having a basket-hilt. Of persons: Wearing a basket-hilted sword.

1600 ROWLANDS *Let. Humours Blood* v. 72 Basket hilted Sword. 1659 CLEVELAND *Count. Com. Man* (1677) 99 A good Basket-hilted Yeoman. 1854 F. CATHERWOOD *Trav. Centr. Amer.* 100 Don Clementino...waving a large basket-hilted sword through a strap in the saddle.

Basketing, [*cf.* *matting*.] Basket-work.
1633 FAVINE *Theat. Hon.* II. xiii. 223 This same Chariot was covered with Basketting Wicker. 1830 GALT *Laurie T.* viii. iii. (1849) 366 The thickly interwoven basketing of the arborous vaults above us.

Basketry (bask'et'ri). [*see* -RY; cf. *pottery*.] Basket-work, basket-ware.

1851 *Art. Frml.* Sept. 231 Matting and basketry in all their branches. 1883 BURTON & CAMERON *Gold Coast* I. iv. 95 Basketry, and...wicker chairs.

Basking (bask'ing), *vbl. sb.* 1 [*f.* BASK *v.*] The action of exposing oneself to genial warmth. Also *attrib.*, as in *basking-hole*.

1856 KANE *Arct. Exp.* II. xiii. 134 Until the seals begin to form their basking-holes.

† **Basking**, *vbl. sb.* 2 *Obs.* [*f.* BASKE *v.* + -ING 1.] Beating, flagellation; also *fig.*

1644 ROGERS *Naaman* 137 Full of tedious accusations, and baskings of herself.

Basking, *pp. a.* [*f.* BASK *v.* + -ING 2.] 1. That basks or suns himself.

1742 YOUNG *Nt. Th.* III. 19 Take Phœbus to yourselves, ye basking bards! 1870 MORRIS *Earthly Par.* II. iii. 303 The basking pike's abode.

2. **Basking-shark**: the largest species of shark (*Selachus maximus*), called also Sun-fish and Sail-fish, found in the Northern Seas; see *quot.* 1802.

1769 PENNANT *Zool.* III. 78. 1800 BINGLEY *Anim. Biog.* (1813) III. 97 The basking shark has derived its name from its propensity to lie on the surface of the water, as if to bask itself in the sun. 1860 GOSSE *Rom. Nat. Hist.* 149 The huge basking-shark of six-and-thirty feet.

† **Baskle**, *Obs.* [*a.* OF. *Basclois* 'a name given indifferently to all foreign peoples' (Roquefort)]

= med.L. *Basculi*, *Basculones*, brigands or raiders from Vasconia: see BASQUE.] A Basque.

1330 R. BRUNNE *Chron.* 242 Fote folk inouh of baskles & Gascons... Porghe mountayn & more þe baskles 3elde].

Baslard (e, Basme, obs. ff. BASELARD, BALM.

Basnat, -et, -ette, -ite, variants of BASINET.

Bason, variant of BASIN.

Bason (bā's'n), *sb.* Hat-making. [Origin doubtful; taken by some as a specific use of BASIN (of which *bason* was a common spelling), but evidence of this is wanting.] A bench with a plate of iron or stone flag fitted in it, and a little fire underneath, on which (before the introduction of machinery) the first part of the felting process was performed.

1757-51 CHAMBERS *Cycl.* s.v. The hatters have also *basons* for the brims of hats, usually of lead, having an aperture in the middle. 1837 WHITLOCK *Bk. Trades* (1842) 294 'Basoning' follows next in making the coarser kind of hat; the *bason* being a piece of cast-iron, or mixed metal, on which the felt is drawn.

Bason, *v.* [*f.* prec.] To harden the felt on the bason in hat-making. Hence *Basoned ppl. a.*, *Basoning vbl. sb.*

1757-51 CHAMBERS *Cycl.* s.v. *Hat*, The *basoned* hat being first dapt in the kettle. 1837 [*see* prec.] 1875 *Ure Dict. Arts* II. 784 Till the hat is *basoned* or rendered tolerably firm. 1885 (A hat-maker writes) 'Basoning' is the first part of the felting process for making hats from sheep's wool or a mixture of sheep's wool and rabbit's fur.

Basque (bask), *sb.* and *a.* [*f.* *Basque*:—late L. *Vasco* an inhabitant of Vasconia, the country upon the slopes of the western Pyrenees.]

A. sb. [Senses 3 and 4 may have some connexion with Basque dress and habits, but may also be of distinct origin.]

1. A native of Biscay; name of the ancient race inhabiting both slopes of the western Pyrenees, adjacent to the Bay of Biscay, who speak a language of non-Aryan origin.

1835 *Penny Cycl.* III. 543/1 In the middle ages the Basques were notorious for their propensity to brigandage. 1878 *N. Amer. Rev.* CXXVI. 368 Representing the Basques as the special descendants of the ancient Iberians.

2. The language of this race, of which there are many distinct dialects and sub-dialects.

1860 *All Y. Round* No. 68. 420 The Basque and Béarnais along the Western Pyrenees. 1878 *N. Amer. Rev.* 368 He studied the Basque in order to verify these conclusions.

† 3. A dish of minced mutton, mixed with bread-crumbs, eggs, anchovies, wine, lemon-peel, etc., and baked in the 'caul of a leg of veal.' *Obs.*

1769 MRS. RAFFALD *Eng. Housefr.* (1778) 107 A Basque of Mutton.

4. The continuation, formerly of a doublet or waistcoat, now only of a lady's bodice, slightly below the waist, forming a kind of short skirt. Sometimes used of the bodice thus extended.

[1611 COTGR., *Basque de pourpoint*, the skirt of a doublet.] 1860 *Rutledge* 75 Putting my hands in the pockets of my Basque. 1884 *Harper's Mag.* Oct. 788/1 A brown over-skirt and basque of an obsolete cut. 1885 *Globe* 31 Jan. 7/4 The bodice, with basques cut open in front.

B. adj. Of or pertaining to the Basques.

1817 FREAR *Whitcraft in Byron's Wks.* (1846) 144/2 Many a lay Asturian, or Armoric, Irish, Basque. 1835 *Penny Cycl.* III. 543/2 The Basque nation is certainly the first that settled in the Spanish peninsula.

Basqued (baskt), *pp. a.* [*f.* prec. sb. + -ED.] Furnished with a BASQUE (sense 4).

1870 *Daily News* 20 Dec. His long basqued waistcoat. 1885 *Globe* 31 Jan. 7/4 With basqued bodice, an under basque of velvet...is fashionable.

Basquine (bask'i'n). [*a.* F. *basquine*, Sp. *basquina*, *f. basque*; see *prec.*] A rich outer petticoat worn by Basque and Spanish women.

1819 BYRON *Juan* II. cxx. While wave Around them... The basquina and the mantilla. 1873 MRS. WHITNEY *Other Girls* xv. 149 In the street they contented themselves with their plain basquines.

† **Basquish**, *a.* and *sb.* *Obs.* [*f.* BASQUE + -ISH 1.] Basque (language).

1612 SHELTON *Quix.* I. l. 8 (T). He said in bad Spanish, and worse Basquish, Get thee away. 1688 Sir T. BROWNE *Tracts* 136 (T). Their words were Basquish or Cantabrian.

Bas-relief, *Bas-relief* (bā's'ri:l'f, bā'r'i:l'f). Forms: 7-8 *basse-relieve*, *base relief*, *bas-relieve*, 8-9 *bass-relief*, *bas-relief*. [*a.* F. *bas-relief*, ad. It. *basso-rilievo*, low RELIEF. Cf. BASSO-RELIEVO.]

1. Low relief; sculpture or carved work in which the figures project less than one half of their true proportions from the surface on which they are carved.

1696 PHILLIPS, *Base Relief*, emboss'd work. 1706 *Basso Relief*, Bass or Low Relief, when the Wks. is low, flat, or but a little raised. 1711 KEN *Hymntheo* Wks. 1721 III. 102 Upon the Frontispiece, In *bas-relieve* the Story was impress'd, Of Lazarus and Dives. 1755 JOHNSON, *Bas-relief*, 1843 PRESACOT *Mexico* IV. i. (1864) 205 Two statues of that monarch...cut in *bas-relief* in the porphyry.

attrib. 1884 *Harper's Mag.* Feb. 350/1 The lithic forms must give place to a more *bas-relief* treatment.

2. *concr.* A sculpture or carving in low relief.

1667 OLDENBURG in *Phil. Trans.* II. 420 Excellent Pictures and *Basse Relieves*. 1766 H. WALPOLE *Vertue's*

Anecd. Paint. (1786) II. 58 The *basrelief*, of James I. on horseback. 1828 HAWTHORNE *Fr. & It. Trm.* I. 106 *Bas-reliefs* the figures of which almost step and struggle out of the marble.

Basse, *basse* (bas), *sb.* 1 Forms: 5 *bace*, 6 *bas*, 6-7 *bace*, 7-9 *basse*, 9 *basse*. [A phonetic corruption of BASSE, OE. *bass*, another form of which was *BASE sb.*]

1. The Common Perch (*Perca fluviatilis*), or an allied freshwater species.

[*See* BASSE, *BASE sb.*]. c. 1440 *Prompt. Parv.* 20 Bace, fische. 1586 COGAN *Haven Health* (1636) 164 Roch, Loch, Bace, Smelt, are very wholesome fishes. 1802 GOUV. MORRIS in Sparks *Life & Writ.* (1832) III. 140 Trout and perch, called by the Dutch name of *basack*, or *bass*. 1866 *Intell. Observ.* No. 56. 101 Sticklebacks, perches, *basses*.

b. Black Bass: a fish of the Perch family (*Perca huro*) found in Lake Huron.

1840 *Penny Cycl.* XVII. 432/1 The Black Bass...one of best-flavoured fishes of that lake. 1881 *Harper's Mag.* Sept. 511 The much-prized black bass.

2. A voracious marine fish (*Labrax lupus*) of the Perch family, common in European seas; called also Sea-wolf and Sea-dace. Also an allied species (Sea-bass) caught on the coasts of North America.

1530 PALSCR. 106/1 Bace, fysche, *ung bar.* 1602 CAREW *Cornewall* 106 b, Sucking Millet, swallowing Basse. 1611 COTGR., *Lubin*, a base, or sea wolf. 1684 CAPT. SMITH *Virginia* vi. 237 There hath bene taken one thousand Bases at a draught. 1769 PENNANT *Zool.* III. 213 The *basse* is a strong, active, and voracious fish. 1852 KINGSLEY *Andromeda* 394 Chasing the *basse* and the mullet.

Basse (bas), *sb.* 2 Also 7 *basse*. [phonetic corruption of BAST sb. 1]

1. *strictly*. The inner bark of the lime or linden; sometimes applied loosely to any similar fibre, e.g. split rushes or straw.

1691 WORLIDGE *Cider* 54 'Fit it aptly to the Stock, and bind it on with...Basse. 1769 FALCONER *Dict. Marine* (1789), *Basse*...is a sort of long straw-or rushes. 1835 R. WARD *Tremaine* I. xxix. 231 A soft bit of wood...bound with *basse* to the stem.

b. attrib., as in *bass-mat*.

1797 BRADLEY *Fam. Dict.* s.v. *Cabbage*, Wrap...*Bass-mat*, etc. about the Roots. 1837 CARLYLE *Fr. Rev.* III. vii. iii. 368 Straw rope shoes and cloaks of *bass-mat*.

2. The name given elliptically to various articles made of this or similar material; e.g. a mat, a hassock, a flat plaited bag or flexible basket.

1706 PHILLIPS, *Bass* or *Hassock*, a kind of Cushion made of Straw, such as are us'd to kneel upon in Churches. *Basse*, a Collar for Cart-horses, made of Straw, Sedge, Rushes, etc., whence the *Bass* for kneeling in Churches. 1837 HOWITT *Rur. Life* vi. xiii. (1862) 552 Carrying home a *bass* brimful of vegetables. 1861 RAMSAY *Remin.* v. 118 You hear him...wipe his feet upon the *basse*.

3. *Building*. 'A short trough for holding mortar, when tiling the roof; it is hung to the lath.' Nicholson *Practical Builder* 1823.

† **Bass**, *sb.* 3 *Obs.*; also 5-6 *basse*, 6 *bas*. [prob. f. *BASS v.* 1: cf. L. *bāsum*, Pr. *bais*, It. *bacio*, Sp. *bajo*, kiss. The OF. equivalent **bais* is not found, and its Eng. repr. would be *beace* (cf. OF. *pais*, Eng. *peace*). Cf. also BUSS.] A kiss.

c. 1450 *Crt. Love* cxiv. If the *basse* ben full there is delight.

c. 1500 SKELTON *My Darling dere* 9 With ba, ba, ba, and bas, bas, bas, She cheryshed hym both cheke and chyn. 1570 *Play Wit & Sc.* (1848) 13 Nay, Syr, as for *basses*, From hence none passes But as in gage Of mary-age.

Bass (bas), *sb.* 4 [*f.* for *bas* or *basse-coal*, as in *base coin*.] A miners' term for shale stained dark by vegetable matter. Cf. BAT sb. 2 11.

1686 Plot *Staffordsh.* 131 Bass or freestone above, and Ironston, or earth, below. 1861 E. HULL *Coal-fields Gt. Brit.* 54 Some of the shales are so highly carbonaceous as to be nearly black, and form impure coal called 'bass.'

Bass (bās), *a.* and *sb.* 5 Forms: 5-6 *bas*, 6 *bace*, *Sc. bays*, 6-7 *basse*, 6-9 *basse*, 7- *bass*. [ME. *bas*, *base* (see *BASE a.*) in specific senses in Music; now spelt *bass* after It. *basso*, but still pronounced as *bace*. (Pope rimed *bace* and *ass*.)]

A. adj.

† 1. Low in sound, barely audible, soft. *Obs.*
c. 1450 *Merlin* xxviii. 572 He seide in *bas* voice, 'I am Monewall.' 1513 DOUGLAS *Æneis* ix. vi. 28 With *ane bays* voce thus Nisus spak agane.

2. Deep-sounding, low in the musical scale.

1533 ELYOT *Cast. Helth* (1541) 51 Let him...begyne to syngre lowder and lowder, but styl in a *bace* voice. 1613 Bp. HALL *Serm.* v. 66 The trumpets...sounded *baset* and dolefullest at the last. 1626 BACON *Sylva* § 173 All *bace* notes, or very treble notes, give an asper sound. 1866 TYN-DALL *Glac.* II. § 1. 226 Boys are chosen...to produce the shrill notes; men are chosen to produce the *bass* notes.

3. [partly *attrib.* use of *sb.*] Of, pertaining to, or suited to, the lowest part in harmonized musical composition.

Bass voice: that ranging from *E*^b below the *bass* stave to *F* above it. *Bass clef*: the *F* clef, now placed on the fourth line from the bottom of the *bass* stave, formerly sometimes on the third, and earlier on the fifth.

1559 HULOET, *Base synger, succentor*. 1597 MORLEY *Introd. Mus.* 86 *Base* descant is that kinde of descanting where your sight of taking and vsing your cordes must be vnder the plain-song. 1880 in *Grove Dict. Mus.* I. 149/1 A *bass* voice is too...deficient in sweetness for single songs.

b. Hence prefixed, sometimes with hyphen, to names of musical instruments or their strings, to indicate that they are of the lowest pitch.

1590 [see BASS-VIOL]. 1596 SHAKS. *1 Hen. IV.* II. iv. 6, 1 have sounded the vorie base string of humility. 1674 PLAYFORD *Skill Mus.* II. 112 The Bass or fourth string is called G sol re ut. 1856 tr. *Berlioz' Instrument.* 152 The sound of the bass trombone is majestic. 1863 HAWTHORNE *Old Home* I. 248 Rain-drops... pattering on the bass-drum. 1880 in *Grove Dict. Mus.* I. 150/2 The Bass-flute requires a great deal of breath.

B. sb. [By some erroneously taken as derived from BASE sb.1, foundation, with which it has etymologically no connexion.]

1. The lowest part in harmonized musical composition; the deepest male voice, or lowest tones of a musical instrument, which sing or sound this part. Cf. A. 3.

2. a 1450 *Songs & Carols* (Wright) 67 When... bulles of the see syng a good base. 1535 STEWART *Cron. Scot.* I. 432 Mony trumpet into sindrie tune, Sum in bas and sum in alt above. 1597 MORLEY *Introd. Mus.* 3 The Basse or lowest part. 1655 *Purvis Diary* (1879) IV. 32 One of my new tunes that I have got Dr. Child to set me a base to. 1674 PLAYFORD *Skill Mus.* I. xi. 49 The Bass for the Theorbo. 1708 A. BEDFORD *Temple Mus.* viii. 163 The Base usually closing in the Fifth above the Key. 1849 MARRYAT *Valerie* vi. The milkmaid's falsetto, and the dustman's bass.

b. fig. 1535 MORR *Confut. Tindale* Wks. 405/2 Hys false translation with their farther false construction, they thoughte shoulde be the basse and the tenour, whereupon they woulde syng the trouble, with much false descant. 1649 JER. TAYLOR *Gl. Exemp.* III. Add. xv. 103 The Goodman knew Christ's voice to be a low base of humility. 1870 M. CONWAY *Earthly Pilgr.* vi. 94 Above the bass of Commerce is the clear tenor of Fraternity.

2. One who sings the bass part.

1592 SPENSER *Tears of Muses* 28 The... streames... were... taught to beare A Bases part amongst their consorts. 1611 SHAKS. *Wint. T.* IV. iii. 45 Song-men... most of them Meanes and Bases. 1880 in *Grove Dict. Mus.* I. 148/2 The employment of basses and barytons in principal characters on the operatic stage.

3. The bass string of a musical instrument.

1565 J. HEYWOOD *Prov. & Epigr.* (1867) 186 Which string in all the harpe wouldest thou styll harpe on. Not the base. a 1649 DRUMM. of HAWTH. *Poems* Wks. (1711) 5/2 Sound hoarse, sad lute... Sad treble weep; and you, dull basses, show Your masters sorrow in a doleful strain. a 1700 DRYDEN (J.) At thy well-sharpen'd thumb... The trebles squeak for fear, the bases roar.

4. A BASS-VIOL.

1705 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 3819/8 For two Violins and a Bass. 1794 WOLCOTT (P. Pindar) *Rosal. for Oliver* Wks. II. 66 Watkyn... forbore his bass to seize.

5. *Thorough-bass* (ellipt. *bass*): the bass part written with figures beneath it which indicate concisely but vaguely the kind of harmony to be played with it. Hence *formerly*, An accompaniment for harpsichord or organ; *now*, The theory or science of harmony. See also DOUBLE-BASS.

1674 PLAYFORD *Skill Mus.* I. xi. 36 The Thorough-bass of Songs or Ayres. 1685 EVELYN *Mem.* (1857) II. 223 She had an excellent voice, to which she played a thorough-bass on the harpsichord. 1706 in *Lond. Gaz.* No. 4249/3 With a Thorough-Bass to each Song. 1868 OUSELEY *Harmony* iii. (1875) 29 Thorough-bass-figuring... is a kind of musical shorthand.

† **Bass**, v.1 *Obs.*; also 5-6 *basse*. [cf. F. *baiser*, *baisier* (11th c. in Littré); —L. *bāsīā-re* to kiss; cf. BASIATE.] *trans.* and *absol.* To kiss.

1500 *Bk. Mayd Emlyn* 26 One that yonge was, That coude ofte her basse. 1530 *Calisto & Mel.* in *Hazl. Dods.* I. 74 Thus they kiss and bass. 1565 J. HEYWOOD *Prov. & Epigr.* (1867) 57 He must nedes basse hir. 1570 in LEVINS.

Bass, v.2 *nonce-ud.*; in 7 *basse*. [f. BASS sb.5] To utter or proclaim with bass voice or sound.

1610 SHAKS. *Temp.* III. iii. 99 The Thunder (That deepe and dreadful Organ-Pipe)... did base my Trespass.

Bass, obs. form of BASE sb., a, v.

Bassa, -awe, obs. forms of BASHAW.

† **Bassade**. *Obs.* Also 5 *basset*. Shortened form of AMBASSADE. So **Bassatour**, ambassador; **Bassetry**, ambassadry.

c 1400 *Soudane Bab.* 995 He sente oute his bassatoures. 1458 *Paston Lett.* 317 l. 428 Ye Basset of Burgoyne shall come to Calleys. 1462 *Ibid.* 452 II. 104 Ther came the Queene of Skoots... in basetry to my seyrd Lord of Werwek. c 1532 Ld. BERNERS *Huon* cxvii. 466 A bysshop of Grece who was come thether in bassade.

Bass-bar (bā'sbār). *Mus.* [f. BASS sb.5] An oblong piece of wood fixed lengthwise within the belly of various musical instruments of the violin type, to strengthen it against the pressure of the left foot of the bridge.

1838 *Penny Mag.* 30 June, The bar of harmony or bass-bar, was placed under the middle of the instrument. 1848 J. BISHOP tr. *Otto's Violin* iv. 30 The same difficulty in bringing out the tone arises if the bass-bar is placed too far inwards, instead of being more under the foot of the bridge.

Basse, **Bassel**: see BASS sb.1, BASIL.

† **Basselan**, *Obs.* Some kind of fabric.

1453 in *Heath Grocers' Comp.* (1869) 422 Coton, Cyprus or basselan.

Bassemain, obs. variant of BAISEMAIN.

† **Bassen**, a. *Obs.* rare-1. In 6 *bassyn*. [f. BASS sb.2 + -EN-1.] Made of bass or bast.

1513 DOUGLAS *Æneis* II. v. (iv.) 66 About the nek knyt myn bassyn raip [L. *stuppea vincula*].

Bassen'd, obs. form of BAUSONED.

Bassenet, -inet, variants of BASINET.

† **Basser**. *Obs.* [f. BASS v.1 + -ER-1.] A kisser.

1555 HULOET, *Basser* or kysser, *basiator*.

Basset (bā'set), sb.1 [a. F. *basset* 'a terrier, or earthing beagle' (Cotgr.), orig. adj., dim. of *bas-se* low; see BASE a.] A short-legged dog used in unearthing foxes and badgers.

1616 SURFL. & MARKH. *Countr. Farm* 700 Couple vp all the old earth dogs, and after let loose the young ones, encouraging them to take the earth, and crying vnto them, Creepe into them basset, creepe into them. 1683 *Daily News* 2 May 3/5 Pictures of harriers and bassets.

Basset (bā'set), sb.2 Also 7-8 *basset(e)* (bāset). [(a. F. *bassette*), ad. It. *bassetta*, f. *bassetto* somewhat low, dim. of *basso* low; see BASE a.] An obsolete game at cards, resembling Faro, first played at Venice. Hence *basset-table*.

1645 EVELYN *Mem.* (1857) I. 211 We went to the Chetto de San Felice, to see the noblemen... at Basset, a game at cards which is much used. 1705 VANBURGH *Confed.* I. ii. Advised her to set up a basset-table. 1726 POPE *Basset-t.* 85 Poems (1785) 16 Look upon Bassette, you who reason boast; And see if reason must not there be lost. a 1718 ROWE *R. Convert* ProL 8 Not to forget Your Piquet Parties, and your dear Basset. 1849 MACAULAY *Hist. Eng.* I. 347 Gamblers playing deep at basset.

Basset (bā'set), sb.3 *Geol.* [etymol. uncertain; ? from F. *basset* 'a low stoole' (Cotgr.); see BASSET sb.1] The edge of a geological stratum showing at the surface of the ground; an outcrop.

1686 PLOT *Staffordsh.* 131 To what points soever the rise and dip direct their course, the row, side basset or streak, lyes quite contrary. 1830 *Edin. Encycl.* III. 396 The regular basset or outcrop of the Bedford limestone.

attrib. 1701 E. DARWIN *Econ. Veg.* II. notes, A basset coal-mine at Woolarton in Nottinghamshire. 1851 CLARKE in *Yrnl. R. Agric. Soc.* XII. 1. 264 The oolite range... presenting a lofty basset-edge to the west.

Basset (bā'set), v.1 [f. BASSET sb.2] In phrase *To basset away*: to play away at basset.

c 1700 *Gentl. Instruc.* (1732) 492 (D.) He had bassetted away his money and good humour.

Basset (bā'set), v.2 *Geol.* [f. BASSET sb.3] Of strata: To crop out at the surface.

1763 WEDGWOOD in *Phil. Trans.* LXXIII. 284, I collected some of this earth, which bassetted out... near Winstler. 1843 J. PORTLOCK *Geol.* 98 The strata of the chalk basset, therefore, to the north.

Basset-horn (bā'set,hōrn). *Mus.* [translation of F. *cor de bassette*, It. *corno di bassetto*; see BASSETTO.] A tenor clarinet, of somewhat greater compass than the ordinary clarinet.

1835 in *Penny Cycl.* 1880 in *Grove Dict. Mus.* I. 151/1 Mendelssohn... two concert-pieces for clarinet and basset-horn.

Bassetting (bā'set'ing), vbl. sb. *Geol.* [f. BASSET v.2 + -ING-1.] The outcrop or cropping out of strata at the surface of the ground.

1686 PLOT *Staffordsh.* 129 This bassetting, and dipping of coal. 1861 W. WALLACE *Depos. Lead Ore*, A steep escarpment... is formed by the bassetting of the Scar Limestone.

† **Bassette** (bā'set). [Fr., ad. It. *bassetto*], and

† **Bassetto** (bā'set-to). *Mus.* [It., dim. of *basso*; see BASE a., BASS a.] A small bass-viol.

1847 CRAIG, *Bassette*. 1864 WEBSTER, *Bassetto*.

Bass-horn. *Mus.* [see BASS a. 3 b.] A modification of the bassoon, much deeper in its tones.

1859 WORCESTER cites BUCHANAN.

† **Bassia** (bā'siā). *Bot.* [mod.L.; named after Fernando Bassi, an Italian botanist of last century.] A genus of tropical or subtropical trees (N.O. *Sapotaceæ*), from the seeds of which a butter-like oil is pressed. Hence *Bassia* a.

1863 WATTS *Dict. Chem.* I. 519 *Bassia* Acid is identical in composition and properties with stearic acid. c 1865 LETHBY in *Circ. Sc.* I. 95/1 The solid fats obtained from three species of *Bassia* indigenous to India.

Bassil, obs. form of BASIL sb.2

Bassin, -on, -yn, obs. forms of BASIN.

† **Bassinat** (e). *Sc. Obs.* [f. *bassin*, BASINET, helmet.] A kind of fish; ? a porpoise.

1536 BELLENDEN *Cron. Scot.* (1821) II. 179 Fische... the tane half of thame above the watter, na thing different fra the figour of man: callit, by the pepil, Bassinat. This fische hes blak skinnis hingand on thair bodyis, with quhilke, sum time, thay covir thair heid. 1570 HOLINSHED *Scot. Chron.* (1806) I. 272 Fishes... called Bassinates.

Bassinett. Also 9 *bassinett(e)*. [a. F. *bassin*, diminutive of *bassin* BASIN; see BASINET.] 1. (bā'sinēt.) Variant of BASINET.

2. *Herb.* Name given to species of *Ranunculus* and *Geranium*, and to the Marsh Marigold. *Obs.*

1578 LYTE *Dodoens* 32 The Braue Bassinet, or Marthe Marigolde. *Ibid.* 47 Bassinet *Geranium* or Crowfoote. 1609 PARKINSON *Parad.* (1656) 230 Some *Geraniums* are called in many places of England Bassinets. 1727 BRADLEY *Fam. Dict.* s.v. *Bassinets*, The yellow Bassinet grows usually upon a small Stalk.

3. (bā'sinēt.) An oblong wickerwork basket, with a hood over one end, used as a cradle for babies. Also, a form of child's perambulator of the same shape.

1854 THACKERAY *Newcomes* II. 122 The cradle or what I

believe is called the bassinet of Master Pendennis. 1865 *Macm. Mag.* July 258 A row of bassinets... indicated possibilities of sleep. a 1876 P'CESS ALICE *Mem.* 85 Victoria sleeps in the bassinet, which is done up with chintz.

attrib. 1883 *Daily News* 18 Sept. 8/3 Very handsome Bassinette Perambulator... fitted with... brass-jointed hood.

† **Bassing**, vbl. sb. [f. BASS v.1] Kissing.

1555 HULOET, *Bassing*, *basiatio*. 1565 J. HEYWOOD *Prov. & Epigr.* (1867) 65 Our lord blyss me From bassyng of beastes.

Bassist (bā'sist). [See -IST-1.] = BASS sb.5 2.

1870 WESSELY *Germ. Dict.*, *Bass-sänger*, bassist. 1883 *Pall Mall G.* 28 Nov. 4/1 One swears he is the prince of double-bassists, the other that he can sing like Sims Reeves.

Bassness (bā'snēs). [f. BASS a. + -NESS.]

Bass quality or depth (of sounds).

1880 LANIER *Sci. Eng. Verse* I. 28 The pitch of sounds, i.e. their bassness or trebleness.

|| **Basso** (bā'sso), a. and sb. *Mus.* [It. —late L. *bassus*: see BASE a. 3, sb.5 1, 2.]

1817 BYRON *Beppo* xxxii, Soprano, basso, even the contralto, Wish'd him five fathom under the Rialto. 1883 *Harper's Mag.* Mar. 554/1 The minor basso part... was given to Kindermann.

Hence, *basso continuo*, thorough-bass (see BASS sb.5 5); *basso-ripieno* (cf. *alto-ripieno*), a bass part used only occasionally in a grand chorus.

Bassock. App. by confusion for HASOCK.

1706 PHILLIPS and 1708 KERSEY have 'Bass or Hassock' [see BASS sb.2 2]. 1721 BAILEY brackets *Bass* and *Hassock*. 1736 BAILEY, and following edd., bracket *Bass* and *Hassock*.

Bassoon (bā'sūn). *Mus.* [ad. F. *basson*, augmentative f. *bas*, *basse* BASS sb.5; or perhaps *bas son* deep sound (Littré).]

1. A wooden double-reed instrument, with a compass of about three octaves, used as a bass to the oboe, having a pipe eight feet in length, so arranged in parts (whence the Italian name *fagotto*) that the whole instrument measures only four feet.

1727-51 CHAMBERS *Cycl.* s.v., A good bassoon is said to be worth four or five hundred pistoles. 1778 JOHNSON in *Boswell* III. 39 In a different language it [poetry] may be the same tune, but it has not the same tone. Homer plays it on a bassoon; Pope on a fageliet. 1798 COLERIDGE *Anc. Mar.* I. viii, The wedding-guest here beat his breast, For he heard the loud bassoon. 1855 O. W. HOLMES *Poems* 148 As if a broken fife should strive To drown a cracked bassoon. 1880 in *Grove Dict. Mus.* I. 152/1 Handel's scores contain few bassoon parts.

2. a. An organ-stop of a quality of tone similar to that of the bassoon. b. A series of reeds of similar tone in a harmonium, etc.

Bassoonist (bā'sūnist). [f. prec. + -IST.] A performer on the bassoon.

1865 *Spohr's Autobiog.* I. 67, I received assistance from... the Bassoonist Barnbeck.

|| **Basso-relievo**, *rilievo*. Pl. -os. Also 8 *basse*, *bas-relievo*. [ad. It. *basso-rilievo* ('basso riljēvo') low relief.] = BAS-RELIEF, q.v.

1676 F. VERNON in *Phil. Trans.* I. 578 About the Cornice... is a basso rilievo of men on horseback. 1780 SIR J. REYNOLDS *Disc.* x. (1842) 179 A single group in basso-relievo. *Ibid.* (1876) 17 In *bas-reliefs* it is totally different. 1850 MRS. JAMESON *Leg. Monast. Ord.* (1863) 282 The fine series of basso-reliefs on the walls of the chapel.

Bassorin (bā'sōrin). [f. *Bassor-a* gum + -IN-1.] An inodorous, colourless, translucent substance, found in Bassora and other gums, insoluble but swelling to a gelatinous state in water.

1830 LINDLEY *Nat. Syst. Bot.* 265 The nutritive substance called Salep... consists almost entirely of a chemical principle called Bassorin.

Bass-relief: variant spelling of BAS-RELIEF.

|| **Bassus**. *Obs.* [L. *bassus* low.] = BASS sb.5 1598 SYLVESTER *Du Bartas* (1608) 73 Lift me above Parnassus, With your loud Trebbles help my lowly bassus.

Bass-viol (bā's'viol). [see BASS a. 3 b and VIOL.] A stringed instrument for playing the bass part in concerted music; a violoncello.

1590 SHAKS. *Com. Err.* IV. iii. 23 Went like a Base-Viole in a case of leather. 1638 J. KIRKE *Sev. Champions* III. 1, The resined stick of a base viol. 1709 ADDISON *Tatler* No. 153 ¶ 7 Your Bass-Viol, which grumbles in the Bottom of the Consort. 1801 HUGHES *Tom Brown Oxf.* II. ii. 29 Carrying a great bass-viol bigger than himself.

Bass-wood (bā's'wud). [f. BASS sb.2 + WOOD.] The American Lime or Linden (*Tilia americana*); the wood of this tree. Also *attrib.*

1824 W. IRVING *Brace Hall* II. 271 A man is never a man till he can... sleep under a tree and live on bass-wood leaves. 1855 LONGF. *Hiaw.* x. 153 Gave them drink in bowls of bass-wood.

Bast (bast), sb.1 Also 6-7 *baste*. [Common Teut.: OE. *bast* is cogn. with MHG., mod.G., MDu., Du. *bast* (masc.), Goth. **bastus* not found, also ON., Da., Sw. *bast* (neuter), all in same sense. Ulterior deriv. unknown: not related to *bind* (Kluge). See also the corrupted form BASS sb.2.]

1. The inner bark of the lime or linden, which, cut into strips and coarsely plaited, is sold as 'Russia matting'; also applied generally to flexible fibrous barks, and other similar materials (cf. BASS sb.2), and in *Physiological Botany* to all fibres of the same cellular structure.

a 800 *Corpus Gl.* (Sweet O. E. T. 101), *Tilio*, baest. [c 1000 ÆLFRIC *Judg.* xiii. 15 Hiȝ ða hine gebundon mid twām

bæstenum rāpum.] c1400 *Destr. Troy* xi. 4772 Till all was bare as a bast. 1553 FITZGER. *Husb.* § 130 Bastes or pyllyng of wythy or elme. 1599 HARLUYT *Voy.* II. 178 Ropes of bast. 1693 W. ROBERTSON *Phrasol.* Gen. 213 Baste or the bark of twigs, *spartum*. 1872 *Q. Rev.* CXXXII. 221 They make paper of the fine white bast or skin which lies between the wood and the bark. 1881 BLACKMORE *Christouell* iii. With... a trail of bast around her neck.

b. attrib., as in *bast-cell*, *-fibre*, *-mat*, *-tree*.

c1425 in *Wülcker Voc.* 1647, *Tilia*, baste-tre. 1577 HARRISON *Descr. Brit.* iii. They bind the planks together verie artificiallie with bast ropes. 1660 *Act 12 Chas. II.* iv. Sched., Bast or straw-hats knotted. 1837 CARLYLE *Fr. Rev.* (1872) III. v. vi. 201 They skewer a bast mat round their shoulders. 1880 GRAY *Bot. Text-bk.* 398 Bast-cells... give to the kinds of inner bark that largely contain them their strength and toughness.

2. A rope, mat, etc. made of bast; cf. *BASS sb.* 2. 15450 *M.S. Lincoln A.* i. 17 f. 127 (Halliwell) 3e salue take a stalwortheste baste, And bynde my handes byhynd me faste.

† *Bast*, sb. 2 and a. Obs. Also 5 *baste*, *baaste*. [a. OF. *bast* (mod. *bât* = Pr. *bast*, med. L. *bastum*) pack-saddle (used as a bed by muleteers in the inns), in phr. *filis (homme, etc.) de bast*, lit. 'pack-saddle child,' as opposed to a child of the marriage-bed; thus forming a tersely allusive epithet for illegitimate offspring: cf. *BASTARD*, *BANTLING*.]

A. sb. *Bastardy*. (In phr.: *on, in, a, o, of bast.*) 1297 R. GLOUC. 516 Gentil man was inou, thei he were a bast ibore. c1330 *Arth. & Merl.* 7643 Bast Ywain he was y-hot, For he was bigeten o bast. c1430 *Lydg. Bochas* iii. xxvi. (1554) 97 b. Hys brethren in bast an hundred and fiftene. c1440 *Prompt. Parv.* 26 Baaste, not wedlocke, *bastardia*. 1494 FAYAN VI. ccii. 212 Arnolde, Sone of bast of Lothayr.

B. adj. [the sb. used attrib.: *bast son* = son of bast. *filis de bast.*] *Bastard*, illegitimate.

c1330 [see prec.] 1387 *TREVISIA Higden* Rolls Ser. VII. 27 De erle his bast sone. 1494 FAYAN VII. ccxix. 240 Wyllyam duke of Normandy... bast sone of Robert. 1572 *Scholehouse Wom.* 324 in Hazl. *E. P. P.* IV. 117 The childe I warrant shalbe bast.

† *Bast*, sb. 3 Obs. Erroneous form of *BASS sb.* 1, a kind of fish [due to use of *bass* for *bast* in other words.]

1709 T. ROBINSON *Nat. Hist. Westmid.* The fish bred in Bassenthwait water are basts. 1799 *MS. at Urswick*, Perch or basts brought from Dalton Tarn.

Bast, obs. form of *BOAST*.

|| *Basta* (bastā), int. Obs. [a. It. (also Sp.) *basta* enough.] Enough! no more! no matter! 1596 SHAKS. *Tam. Shr.* i. 1. 203 Basta, content thee: for I haue it full. 1632 *Brome Crt. Beggar* iv. i. And for thy meanes (basta) let me alone. 1819 *Scott Ivanhoe* II. iii. 40 If he will not consent - basta - I can but go away home.

Bastaiye, obs. form of *BASTILLE*.

Bastan(n)ado, obs. form of *BASTINADO*.

† *Bastant*, a. Obs. [a. F. *bastant*, It. *Sp. bastante*, pr. pple. of *bastare* to suffice; see prec. and -ANT.] Sufficient, able, capable.

1637 *Monro Exped.* v. i. 80 (JAM.) His Majestie... not being bastant to resist the enemy retired. 1652 *URQUHART Jewel Wks.* (1834) 194 Each language borrows from another... nor is the perfectest... without being beholden to another, in all things enunciate, bastant to afford instruction.

Bastard (bastārd), sb. and a. Also 5-6 *bastards*, (7 *basterd*). [a. OF. *bastard*, mod. *bâtard* (= Pr. *bastard*, It. *Sp. Pg. bastardo*) = *filis de bast*, 'pack-saddle child,' f. *bast* (see *BAST sb.* 2) + the pejorative suffix -ARD. Cf. *BANTLING*.]

A. sb. 1. One begotten and born out of wedlock; an illegitimate or natural child.

By the civil and canon laws, a child born out of wedlock is legitimated by the subsequent marriage of his parents; but by the law of England, retained in some of the United States, a child to be legitimate must at least be born after the marriage of the parents. *Bastard eigne* or *clider*: the bastard son of a man who afterwards marries the mother, and has a legitimate son; the latter is called in legal phrase *mulier puine* or *younger*.

1297 R. GLOUC. 295 Of hulke blode Wyllam bastard com. 1362 *LANGL. P. Pl.* A. viii. 76 Bringeb forþ Barnes bat Bastardes bein holden. c1450 *Merlin* vii. 112 Thei wolde neuer haue no bastarde to there kyng. 1528 *PEKINS Prof. Bk.* i. § 49 A bastard eigne who is mulier in the spiritual law. 1601 SHAKS. *Alfs Well* ii. iii. 100 Sure they are bastards to the English, the French nere got em. 1662 *FULLER Worthies* i. 322 He confuted their Etymology who deduced *Bastard* from the Dutch words *bos* and *art*, that is an abject Nature, and verified their deduction deriving it from *bestenard*, that is the best disposition. 1764 *BURN Just. Peace* s.v., The word *bastard* seemeth to have been brought into us by the Saxons; and to be compounded of *bæst*, vile or ignoble, and *stard*, or *steort* signifying a rise or original. 1868 *FREEMAN Norm. Cong.* II. viii. 210 Spiritual preferments... for cadets or bastards of the royal house.

2. fig. 1583 *FULKE Defence* iv. He pronounceth the Epistle of James... to be a bastard. 1642 *FULLER Holy & Prof. St.* iii. xxiii. 215 Fame being a bastard or *filia populi*, 'tis very hard to find her father. 1785 *BURKE Nab. Arcote's Debts* Wks. IV. 319 Six great chopping bastards [Reports of Committee of Secrecy], each as lusty as an infant Hercules.

3. A mongrel, an animal of inferior breed. 1 Obs. 1601 *HOLLAND Pliny* I. 191 The lesser sort of [elephants], which they call Bastards. 1602 *Ref. Jr. Parnass.* ii. v. 30 Small Ladies puppies, Caches and Bastards.

† 4. A sweet kind of Spanish wine, resembling

muscadell in flavour; sometimes applied to any kind of sweetened wine. Obs. exc. Hist. (See B. 7.)

1390 [ROGERS *Agric. & Prices* (1866) I. xxv. 619 The fellows of Merton purchase... some bastard in 1399.] c1460 J. RUSSELL *Bk. Nurture in Babers Bk.* 125 The namys of swete wyne y wold bat ye them knewe... Bastard, Tyre, Osey, etc. c1536 *TINDALE Exp. Matt.* Wks. II. 97 With bastar[r]do, muscadell, and ipocrass. 1596 SHAKS. *1 Hen. IV.* ii. iv. 30 Anon, Anon sir, Score a Pint of Bastard in the Halfe Moone. 1616 *SURFL. & MARKH. Countr. Farm* 642 Bastards... seeme to me to be so called, because they are oftentimes adulterated and falsified with honey. 1631 *HEYWOOD Maid of West III.* Wks. 1874 II. 301 He furnish you with bastard white or brown. 1869 *BLACKMORE Lorna D.* xiv. 85 He... called for a little mulled bastard.

† 5. A kind of cloth, of inferior or mixed quality, or unusual make or size. Obs.

1483 *Act 1 Rich. III.* viii. § 18 Woollen Cloths called Bastards. 1523 *Act 14-15 Hen. VIII.* i. White brode wollen clothes with Crumpli listes, other wise called bastards.

† 6. A kind of war-vessel, a variety of galley.

1506 *GUYLFORD Pylgr.* 7 An. c. galyes, grete bastardes and sotell. 1599 *HARLUYT Voy.* II. i. 78 Gallies, as well bastards as subtil mahonnets.

† 7. A species of cannon, also called *bastard culverin*. Cf. *BASTARD a. 6.* Obs.

1549 *Compt. Scott.* vi. 41 (1872) Mak redde your cannons, culverene moyens, culverene bastardis, falcons, saikys. 1670 *COTTON Esperon* i. iv. 149 Thirty brass Pieces, of which fourteen were Royal Culverines, or Bastards. 1753 *CHAMBERS Cycl. Supp.* s.v., The long bastards... are either common or uncommon. To the common kind belong the double culverin extraordinary, etc.

8. A large sail used in the Mediterranean when there is little wind. (So F. *bâtard*.)

1753 in *CHAMBERS Cycl. Supp.* 1867 *SMYTH Sailor's Word-bk.*, *Bastard*, a fair-weather square sail... occasionally used for an awning.

9. A particular size of paper. ? Obs.

1712 *Act 10 Anne in Lond. Gaz.* No. 50183 Paper called... bastard or double Copy. 1774 *BURKE Amer. Tax.* Wks. II. 374 The duties on... blue royal, or bastard, or fool's-cap.

10. *Sugar-refining*. a. An impure coarse brown sugar, made from the refuse syrup of previous boilings. b. A large mould into which sugar is drained. (So F. *bâtard*.)

1850 in *WORCESTER*. 1864 in *WEBSTER*.

11. Comb., as *bastard-bearing*, *belied*, *like*.

1594 T. B. *La Primaud. Fr. Acad.* ii. 423 Whereby the warlike vertues... of their subjects become degenerate and bastardlike. 1633 *FORD 'Tis Pity* iv. iii. (1839) 40 Thy corrupted bastard-bearing womb! 1640 *BROME Sparag. Gard.* iv. iv. 183 Though she prov'd bastard-bellied, I will owne her.

B. adj. [At first not separable from the sb.: so in Fr.]

1. Born out of wedlock, illegitimate.

1297 R. GLOUC. 412 He was Wyllammes sone bastard. c1386 *CHAUCER Monkes T.* 388 Thy bastard brother made the to fle. 1597 SHAKS. *2 Hen. IV.* ii. iv. 307 Ha? a Bastard Sone of the Kings? 1729 *SWIFT Wks.* (1841) II. 100 That horrid practice of women murdering their bastard children. 1844 *LD. BROUGHAM Brit. Const.* xiv. (1862) 202 The marriage... void, and the issue counterfeit or bastard.

2. Mongrel, hybrid, of inferior breed. ? Obs.

1398 *TREVISIA Barth. De P. R.* xviii. lxxxiii. (1495) 834 The perde... gendred wyth the lyennesse: of that bastarde generacion comith leopordus. 1607 *TOPSELL Four-f. Beasts* 161 Their lesser Elephants (which they call Bastard Elephants). 1641 *HINDE Jr. Bruen* vii. 27 To beget and bring forth mules, a bastard brood.

3. fig. Illegitimate, unrecognized, unauthorized.

1528 *KNOX First Blast* (Arb.) 48 Who soever receiveth of a woman, office or authoritie, are adulterous and bastard officers before God. 1622 *BACON Hen. VII.* 66 Usurie... is the Bastard use of Money. 1711 *SHAFTESB. Charac.* (1737) III. 67 After speaking of prophetic enthusiasm, and establishing... a legitimate and a bastard-sort. 1843 *GLADSTONE Gleamings* V. i. 38 The bastard sense... strives to eject what he firmly holds to be legitimate.

b. *Bastard branch* or *slip*: a shoot or sucker springing of its own accord from the root of a tree, or where not wanted. Often fig. = *BASTARD sb.*

1398 *TREVISIA Barth. De P. R.* xviii. clxxxix. (1495) 720 Vitulamen is that bastarde plante other braunche... that spryngeth out of the rote of the vyne or elles where in the vyne, and not out of the knottes. c1525 *MORE Wks.* (1557) 60/2 Bastard slippes shal neuer take depe roote. 1622 *BACON Hen. VII.* 86 The Kingdom of Naples, beeing now in the possession of a Bastardslip of Arragon. 1768 *BLACKSTONE Comm.* IV. 409 From this root has sprung a bastard slip, known by the name of the game law. 1852 *TUPPER Proverb. Philos.* 293 Grey-headed men, the bastard slips of science, Go for light to glow-worms.

4. fig. Not genuine; counterfeit, spurious; debased, adulterated, corrupt.

1550 *HULOET*, Bastarde hande, letter, or wrytyng, *Litera adulterina*. 1635 *QUARLES Emblems* ii. v. (1718) 83 With thy bastard bullion thou hast barter'd for wares of price. a 1639 W. *WHATELEY Prototypes* i. xix. (1640) 194 Favourable dealing with a man... for a faire sister, or kinswomans sake, is a kinde of bastard curtesie. 1796 *MORSE Amer. Geogr.* II. 314 The Swisses speak a bastard French. 1826 *DISRAELI Vir. Grey* ii. iv. 36 That bastard, but picturesque style of architecture, called the Italian Gothic.

5. Having the appearance of, somewhat resembling; an inferior or less proper kind of; esp. in scientific nomenclature applied to things resembling, but not identical with, the species which legitimately bear the name. a. generally.

1530 *PALSGR.* 196/2 Bastarde flour, *folle farine*. 1601 *HOLLAND Pliny* I. 99 Four more [mouths of the Nile],

which they themselves call bastard mouths. 1690 H. STUBBS. *Plus Ultra Reduced* 145 A florid red, but paler than blood... resembling a bastard-scarlet. 1691 *RAY Creation* i. (1704) 106 Bastard Diamonds. 1844 H. HUTCHINSON *Pract. Drainage* 153 A portion of which is strong clay, and more of which is of the description requiring Bastard Draining.

b. esp. in Bot., often forming the specific name of a plant; see *Bastard ALKANET*, *BALM*, *PIMPINEL*, *SAFFRON*, *TOADFLAX*, etc.

1598 *LYTE Dodons* 42 Of the false and Bastard Rewbarbes, there are at y^e least foure or five kinds. 1671 *SALMON Syn. Med.* iii. xxii. 432 Sison, bastard Stone-parsley. 1779 *FORREST Voy. N. Guinea* 130 A grove of bastard pine trees, called by Malays, Arrow. 1865 *GOSSE Land & Sea* (1874) 385 The beautiful spotted bastard-balm... spangling the hedge with its large white flowers.

c. in Zool., Phys., etc. *Bastard-wing*, a set of three or four quill-like feathers placed at a small joint in the middle of a bird's wing, taken as the analogue of the thumb in mammals.

1594 I. B. *La Primaud. Fr. Acad.* ii. 46 The lower part of the ribs are commonly called the false ribbes, or bastard ribbes. 1678 *RAY Willughby's Ornith.* 307 The Lapwing or Bastard Plover. 1772 *FORSTER in Phil. Trans.* LXII. 420 The Alula, or bastard wing, is black. 1799 G. SMITH *Laborat.* II. 298 Alder-fly, withy-fly, or bastard-caddis. 1859 *DARWIN Orig. Spec.* xiv. (1878) 397 The 'bastard-wing' may safely be considered as a rudimentary digit.

d. in Medicine.

1625 *HART Anat. Ur.* n. v. 79, I was surprised with a bastard Tertian ague. 1728 *NICHOLLS in Phil. Trans.* XXXV. 442 Some Resemblance of the Aneurysm; for which Reason it is by some Chirurgeons term'd a Bastard-Aneurysm. 1882 *Syd. Soc. Lex. s.v.*, Bastard Measles, the *Roseola epidemica*.

e. in Geology and Mineralogy.

1695 *Voy. Eng. Merck.* in *Misc. Cur.* (1708) III. 127 Covered with an Arch of Bastard Marble. 1839 *MURCHISON Silur. Syst.* i. xxxi. 415 A bastard limestone charged with encrinures. 1851 *Coal-tr. Terms Northumbld. & Durh.* 7 Bastard Whin, very hard post or sandstone, but not so flinty as to be called whin.

6. Of abnormal shape or irregular (esp. unusually large) size; spec. applied: † a. *Mil.* to swords, guns, etc.; † b. to ships (cf. A 6); c. to a file intermediate between the coarse and fine 'cuts'; d. in Printing, to (a.) a fount of type cast on a smaller or larger body than that to which it usually belongs, (b.) an abbreviated or half-title on the page preceding the full title-page of a book.

a. 1418 E. E. *Wills* (1882) 30, I bequeethe to Symond Wrenchin... my Bastard Swerd. 1598 *BARNET Theor. Warrs* iv. i. 95 The Bastard square, is the battell which conteineh almost twice so many men in front, as in flanke. 1627 *CAPT. SMITH Seaman's Gram.* xiv. 69 Bastard-muskets, Coliurs. 1753 *CHAMBERS Cycl. Supp.* s.v., The ordinary bastard culverin carries a ball of eight pounds.

b. 1667 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 2202 The Bastard Gally that lies ready to sail. 1693 *Ibid.* No. 2878/2 One Bastard Galley on which the Doge is embarked.

c. 1677 *MOXON Mech. Exerc.* (1703) 15 The Bastard-tooth'd file is to take out of your work, the deep cuts... the Rough-file made; the Fine-tooth'd file is to take out the cuts... the Bastard-file made. 1834 F. BATTEN *Watch & Clockm.* 32 Bastard Cut... a file between rough and smooth.

7. Applied as a specific epithet:

a. to wine (cf. A 4).

1436 *Pol. Poems* (1859) II. 160 Raysyns, wyne bastarde, and dates. 1598 *Epulario* B. ij, Bastard wine, that is, wine sod with new wine, called Must. 1616 *SURFL. & MARKH. Countr. Farm* 635 Mungrell or bastard vines, which... haue neither manifest sweetnesse nor manifest astriction.

b. to sugar (cf. A 10).

1863 *Act 26 Vict.* xxii. Sched. A, Bastard or Refined Sugar unstoved. 1877 *BURROUGHS Taxation* 551 Bastard sugar is the residuum... of clayed sugars.

† *Bastard*, v. Obs. [f. prec. sb.; cf. 16th c. F. *abastardir*, Sp. *abastardar*, It. *abbastardire*, *bastardire*, Eng. *ABASTARD*.]

1. *trans.* To declare or stigmatize as a bastard; to render illegitimate, *BASTARDIZE*. Also fig.

1549 *CHALONER in Erasm. Moris Enc. P. ij*, They do binde Christ in certaine money lawes of theyr owne, and with wrested gloses... dooe bastard him. 1589 *WARNER Alb. Eng.* vi. xxx. (1597) 149 He bastards Cupid, and... Venus did chaife. a 1658 *CLEVELAND To Earl Newcastle* Gen. Poems (1677) 147 To Bastard her present Issue.

2. *intr.* To beget a bastard.

† *Bastarded*, ppl. a. Obs. [f. prec. + -ED.] Tainted with bastardy, illegitimate; unfathered.

1579 *TOMSON Calvin's Sermon* Tim. 681/1 That their race be a good race and not bastardied. a 1603 T. CARTWRIGHT *Confut. Rhem. N. T.* (1618) 403 [It] is confessed to be the authours owne, and not bastardied.

† *Bastardice*, -ise. Obs. [a. F. *bastardise* (16th c. in Littre), mod. *bâtardise*, f. *bâtard* *BASTARD*.] Bastardy, illegitimacy; falsity.

1579 *TOMSON Calvin's Sermon* Tim. 1030/1 This is such a bastardise, as the diuell hath brought into the worlde. 1600 *CHAPMAN Iliad* iii. 319 With bastardice brand all their future race. 1611 *SPEED Hist. Gt. Brit.* vii. cxv. 271 Affecting the Crown, vpon... supposed bastardise of Arthur.

† *Bastarding*, vbl. sb. Obs. [f. *BASTARD v.* + -ING.] a. The action of declaring (a child) illegitimate. b. The begetting of a bastard.

1563 *GRAFTON Chron. Rich. III.* an. 3, Putting in oblivion the bastardyng of her daughters. 1623 *FORD Love's Sacr.* v. i. (1811) 436 Thy bastarding the issues of a prince. 1677 *OTWAY Cheats of Sc.* ii. i. (1736) 98 They'll... tell all your Fornications, Bastardings, and Commutings.

Bastardism (bastārdiz'm). ? Obs. [f. *BAS-*

TARD sb. + -ISM. The condition of a bastard, illegitimacy, **BASTARDY**.

1589 *Almond for P.* 38 Is Christ descended of bastardisme or no, as you gaue out in the pulpyt. 1733 *Scotts Mag.* Oct. 489/1 We ought to remove... the incapacities of bastardism.

Bastardization (bɑːstɑːdaɪzɪŋ). [f. next; see -ATION.] The declaring or rendering bastard.

1818 W. TAYLOR in *Monthly Rev.* LXXXVII. 534 The illegitimation, or bastardization, of the children of Edward IV. 1838 *Blackw. Mag.* XLIII. 763 Declaring wedlock to be a mere civil engagement... to the bastardization, one may almost say, of society.

Bastardize (bɑːstɑːdaɪz, v.; also 7 **bastardize**. [f. **BASTARD** + -IZE: cf. *F. abastardir*, -iss-, Eng. **ABASTARDIZE**, and **BASTARD v.**]

1. *trans.* To declare or stigmatize as bastard.

1611 *COTGR.* *Abastardir*, to bastardize. 1631 W. SALTONSTALL *Pict. Log.* E ij b. His ielous thoughts are ready to bastardize his Children. 1768 *BLACKSTONE Comm.* I. 435 To annul the marriage and bastardize the issue. 1807 *HALLAM Const. Hist.* (1876) I. 1. 34 To bastardize the princess Mary. 1856 *TRAPP Comm. Math.* xxv. 45 Moabites were bastardized and banished the beauty of holiness.

† 2. To beget bastard issue. *Obs. rare.*

1605 *SHAKS. Lear* i. ii. 144 Had the maidenliest Starre in the Firmament twinkled on my bastardizing.

3. To make degenerate, deteriorate, debase.

1587 *HARMAR tr. Beza's Sermon* 142 (T.) The ground articles and points of true religion... [may] be in divers sorts... disguised and bastardized. 1601 *CORNWALLYSS Seneca*, Feare... bastardizeth their natures, and corrupts them. 1779 *Phil. Trans.* LXIX. 239 Defect of the season... keeps back and bastardizes the one sort.

4. *intr.* To become degenerate, to deteriorate.

1878 *SEELY Stein* I. 249 Lets his army... lie idle in garrison service, where it rusts and bastardizes.

Bastardized, *pp. a.* Rendered or declared illegitimate; debased, degenerate.

1611 *COTGR.* *Abastardiz*, sophisticated, bastardized. 1859 *DARWIN Orig. Spec.* ix. (1873) 247 Bastardized and deteriorated offspring. 1871 — *Desc. Man* I. ii. 62 Abbreviated and bastardised languages.

† **Bastardliness**. *Obs. rare.* [f. next + -NESS.] Bastardly or illegitimate quality.

1656 *TRAPP Comm.* 2 *Cor.* viii. 8 Legitimateness opposed to bastardliness. 1660 *HEXHAM Dutch Dict.*, *Bastardlye*, bastardliness.

† **Bastardly**, *a. Obs.*; also 6 **basterlie**, **basterdly**, 6-7 **bastardlye**. [f. **BASTARD sb.** + -LY¹.]

1. Of bastard sort; mongrel, base-born.

1554 *HULOET*, *Bastardlye*, as not after the ryght sort begotten, *spurius*. 1555 *BALE* in *Strype Eccl. Mem.* III. App. xxxix. 108 Our unnatural and bastardly brethren. 1586 *J. HOOKER Girald. Irel. in Holinsh.* II. 141/1 His sonnes, that basterlie brood. 1597 *SHAKS. 2 Hen. IV.* ii. 1. 55 Wilt thou? wilt thou? thou bastardly rogue. 1640 *J. DYKE Rt. Receiv. Christ* 44 A bastardly fruit, upon which shee cannot looke without blushing. 1749 *FIELDRING Tom Jones* (1775) III. 63 Married to a poor bastardly vagabond. 1785 *GROSE Dict. Vulg. Tongue*, *Bastardly Gullion*, a bastard's bastard.

2. Unlicensed, unauthorized; counterfeit, spurious.

1586 *FERNE Blas. Gentrie* 56 Our bastardly and apocryphate poets. 1626 *DONNE 21 Sermon*, 208 Apocryphall and Bastardly Canons which they father upon the Apostles. a 1679 *T. GOODWIN Wks.* (1864) VIII. 51 It is... a bastardly spurious mercy that is in creatures.

3. = **BASTARD a.** 5.

1607 *TOWSELL Serpents* 638 Others... are without a sting, as counterfeit and bastardly Bees. 1620 *BARROUGH Meth. Physick* iv. viii. (1639) 234 A Bastardly Tertian is caused, when choler is mixed... with fleame.

4. Degenerate, debased, corrupt.

1587 *GOLDING De Mornay* xvii. 273 Such an vnkindly and Bastardly Nature, that not euen the best of vs haue any whit of our former nature... saven onely shame. 1669 *W. SIMPSON Hydrol. Chym.* 71 The bastardly fermentation of the blood.

† **Bastardry**. *Obs.* [f. as prec. + -RY; or ? error for **BASTARDY**.]

1483 *Cath. Angl.* 23/1 *Bastardrye*, *bastardia*.

† **Bastardry**, *v. Obs.* [f. prec.] = **BASTARDIZE**. 1644 *HEYLYN Stumbling-block in Hist. & Misc. Tracts* (1681) 725 To bastardry his daughter Mary in favour of the Lady Elizabeth.

Bastardy (bɑːstɑːdi). [a. AF. and OF. *bastardie*, f. *bastard*; see -Y.]

1. The condition of a bastard, illegitimate birth.

1499 *BRITTON* I. v. § 4 De *bastardie* et de *bigamie*. 1486 *Bk. St. Albans, Her.* E viij, His faderis armys he may here with such a staffe as is sayd afore: in signe of his bastardy. 1594 *SHAKS. Rich. III.* iii. v. 75 Inferre the Bastardie of Edwards Children. 1655 *FULLER Ch.-Hist.* i. 31 No Crosse-barre of Bastardy... can bolt Grace out of that Heart, wherein God will have to enter. 1800 *BYRON Mar. Fal.* v. iii. 72 Shall bear about their bastardy in triumph To the third spurious generation. 1868 *ROGERS Pol. Econ.* viii. 70 Bastardy laws... put the maintenance of an illegitimate child on its putative parent.

2. Begetting of bastards, fornication.

1577 *NORTHROOKE Dicing* (1843) 175 It is the storehouse and nurserie of bastardie. 1642 *ROGERS Naaman* 303 Overthrowing the foundation of the family, by such bastardy. 1839 *CARLYLE Chartism* iii. 121 Any law... which has become a bounty on unthrift... bastardy and beer-drinking.

3. *fig.* in prec. senses.

1601 *SHAKS. Jul. C.* ii. 1. 138 When every drop of blood... is guilty of a severall Bastardie, If, etc. 1678 *CUDWORTH Intell. Syst.* i. iv. § 18. 34 No signs of Spuriousness or Bastardy [being] discovered in them.

† 4. Bastards collectively, bastard brood. *Obs.*

1599 *MARSTON Sco. Villanie* III. xi. 228 Which still he hugs, and luls as tenderly As cuckold Tisus his wives bastardie.

Baste (bɛɪst), *sb.*¹ Also **bast**. *Card-playing*. A variant of **BEAST**, of which it retains the former pronunciation, the spelling being altered to suit.

1850 *Hand-bk. of Games* (Bohn) 226 Bast is a penalty incurred by not winning when you stand your game, or by renouncing. 1843 A baste off the board is always paid out of the pool.

† **Baste**, *sb.*² *Her. Obs.* App. corruption of **BASE sb.** 8; cf. **BAST sb.** 3.

1568 *LEIGH Armorie* (1579) 80 He beareth partie per bast barre erased, Argent, and Vert. 1586 *FERNE Blas. Gentrie* 177 You haue scene in one coate... both a cheefe and a baste.

Baste (bɛɪst), *v.*¹; also 6 **baest**, 6-7 **bast**.

[a. OF. *bastir* (mod. *bâtir*), cogn. with Sp. *bastear*, *embastar*, It. *imbastire* 'to stuffe, to quilt'... to baste as taylers doe' (Florio); separated by Littré and others from *bâtir* to build, with which it is identical in form, and referred to OHG. *bestan* to patch, MHG. *besten* to lace, tie, f. *bast* **BAST sb.** 1; but Diez thinks it sufficiently accounted for by 'put together, join,' dialectal senses of It. and Romanic *bastire* to build, construct.]

trans. To sew together loosely: hence † a. To stitch through (the folds of a doublet, contents of a bag or cushion), so as to keep them in place, to quilt (*obs.*); b. in mod. use, To sew or 'tack' together with long loose stitches the parts of (a piece of work), in order to hold them in place for the time. c. *transf. or fig.*

a. c 1440 *Rom. Rose* 104 With a threde bastyng my slevis. c 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 26 Bastyn clothyis, *subiuso, sutulo*. 1530 *PALSGR.* 442 This dublet was not well basted at the first, and that maketh it to wrinkle thus: *ce pourpoint nestoit pas bien basti*. 1599 *A. M. tr. Gabelhouer's Bk. Physick* 178/2 Replenishe therewith a little bagge... baest least the herbes fall together on a heape. 1611 *COTGR.*, *Glacer*, to flesh-bast; or stitch downe the lyming of a garment, thereby to keep it from sagging.

b. 1589 *R. HARVEY Pl. Perc.* (1590) 25 This patch here placed, the which I bast; And sow so fast. 1883 *Chr. Globe* 13 Sept. 879/2 A doll's dress that has been cut and basted by 'a real dressmaker'.

c. 1540 *RAYNALD Birth Man* i. ii. (1634) 19 The very skin and it being both basted together, by a great number of small fibres. 1599 *SHAKS. Much Ado* i. 1. 289 The body of your discourse is sometime guarded with fragments, and the guardes are but slightly basted on neither. 1816 *SCOTT Old Mort.* Concl. You have... basted up your first story very hastily and clumsily.

Baste (bɛɪst), *v.*² Forms: 6 **baast** (*pa. pple.*), 6-7 **bast**, 6- **baste**. [Origin unknown: it has been conjectured to be a transferred sense of the next, with idea of 'stroking' (Wedgwood), which is not favoured by the relative dates of the two words, or to be from Romanic *bastire* (see **BASTE v.** 1), with general sense of 'prepare'; but nothing like the special sense occurs in Romanic.]

1. To moisten (a roasting joint, etc.) by the application of melted fat, gravy, or other liquid, so as to keep it from burning, and improve its flavour.

1509 *BARCLAY Ship of Fools* I. 100 The fat pygge is baast, the lene cony is brent. 1598 *Epitaph* C j b. Let it rost sokingly, basting it off with the foresaid sauce. 1653 *WATSON Angler* 159 Let him be... often basted with claret wine. 1741 *Compl. Fam. Piece* i. ii. 126 Tie your Lobsters to the Spit alive, baste them with Water and Salt. 1853 *SOVER PATRISTHEON* 163 Baste it with its own gravy.

b. *transf. or fig.*

1575 *TURBERV. Venerie* 61 That I the wine should taste... and so my throte I baste. 1598 *E. GILPIN Skial.* (1878) 50 See how he bastes himselfe in his owne greace. 1606 *SHAKS. Tr. & Cr.* ii. iii. 195 That bastes his arrogance with his owne seame. 1883 *GILMOUR Mongols* xxiv. 297 Some white flour scones basted in butter.

† 2. To perfume as with a liniment. *Obs.*

1570 *LEVINS Manib.* 136 *Baste, linire*. 1797 *BRADLEY Fam. Dict.* s.v. *Fleas*, Put to your water two ounces of Staves-acre... and... baste your dog therewith. 1735 *OLDS Ralrigh* (R.) Having had their naked bodies basted or dropped over with burning bacon.

3. In *Candle-making*: see **BASTING vbl. sb.** 2.

4. To mark (sheep) with tar. 'North.' (Halliwell.)

[1590 *GREENE Mourn. Garm.* (1616) 2 The prime of his yeeres was in the flowre, and youth sate and basted him *Calendes* in his forehead.] (Cf. *BUIST*.)

Baste (bɛɪst), *v.*³ Forms: 6 (*pa. pple.*) **baeste**, **basit**, (*pa. t.*) **baist**; 6-7 **bast**, 6- **baste**. [Of uncertain origin, not known before 16th c.; the early instances being all in *pa. t.* or *pa. pple.* *basit*, *baste*, *baist*, might be from a present *bas*, *baste*, to be compared with Sw. *basa* 'to taste, whip, beat, flog.' With *baste*, if it was the original form, cf. Icel. *beysta*, *beyrsta* 'to bruise, thrash, flog'; Sw. *bösta* 'to thump'; but the vowels do not agree with the Eng. Possibly, after all, a figurative use of the preceding: cf. *anoint* in sense of *thrash*.]

trans. To beat soundly, thrash, cudgel.

1533 *BRELLDEN Livy* III. (1822) 223 He departit weil basit, and defuleyit of his clothing. 1a 1550 *Rob. Hood* (Ritson) iii. 102 He paid good Robin back and side, And baist him up and down. 1842 *Ibid.* 364 Their bones were baste so sore. 1596 *COLSE Penelope* (1880) 172 Would not sticke to baste your bones. 1660 *PEPYS Diary* i Dec. 1 took a broom, and basted her, till she cried extremely. 1704 *STEELE*

Lying Lower iv. ii. 43 I'll have the Rascal well basted for his insolence. 1801 *STURTT Sports & Past.* iv. iv. § 8 Baste the bear [a kind of game]. 1847 *BARHAM Ingol. Leg.* (1877) 13 Would now and then seize... A stick... And baste her lord and master most confoundedly.

fig. 1797 *WOLCOTT* (P. Pindar) *Livery Lond. Wks.* 1812 III. 443 Basted by saucy Verse and Prose... Like Bears by ruffian Bull-dogs baited.

Baste (bɛɪst), *v.*⁴ Also **bast**. *Card-playing*. [f. **BASTE sb.** 1] A modern variant of To **BEAST** (retaining the former pronunciation).

1850 *Hand-Bk. of Games* (Bohn) 231 He who renounces is basted as often as detected. 1878 *H. H. GIBBS Ombre* 27 note, Quadrille-players call it a Baste or being Basted, not from any idea connected with Baste or being beaten, but by corruption from the word Beaste.

Bastel (ə, obs. form of **BASTILLE**).

Bastel-house (bæstəlhaus). Also **bastle**.

[f. *bastel*, var. of **BASTILE** + **HOUSE**.] A fortified house, usually having the lower floors arched over.

1544 *Exped. Scotl.* in *Arb. Garner* I. 125 Divers bastel and fortified houses. 1849 *Mem. Kirkcaldy* Gr. xxi. 242 The Potterrow Port, an arch between two bastel houses. 1884 *Programme Archaeol. Inst. Newcastle*, The Medieval Castles, Towers, and Bastle-houses in Northumberland.

Basten (bæstən), *a.* [OE. *bæsten*: see **BAST sb.** 1 and -EN.] Made of bast.

c 1000 *ÆLFRIC Judg.* xv. 13 Hiz 84 hine gebundon mid twām bāstenum rāpum. 1677 *PLOT Oxfordsh.* 263 The... small leav'd Lime or Linden tree... called Bast; whence the ropes are also called Basten ropes. 1693 *W. ROBERTSON Phrasol. Gen.* 213 A Basten rope, *funis spartus*.

Baster¹ (bɛɪstər). [f. **BASTE v.** 1 + -ER¹.] One who bastes (with thread); cf. **BASTE v.** 1.

1883 *Standard* 6 Nov. 2/2 A garment is manipulated by the cutter, the baster, the machinist.

Baster² (in 16th c. *basteter*). [f. **BASTE v.** 2] One who bastes meat.

1525 *Churchw. Acc. Heybridge* (Nichols 1797) 181 To she that turned the spitt, &c.; to the Basterie, &c.

Baster³ (bɛɪstər). [f. **BASTE v.** 3 + -ER¹.] He who or that which bastes or thrashes; hence, a stick or cudgel; also, a heavy blow.

1726 *W. WAGSTAFFE Misc. Wks.* 48 (L.) Jack took up the poker, and gave me such a baster upon my head. 1770 in *Smith's Bk. Rainy Day* (1861) 14 A fellow riding a hog, brandishing a birch broom by way of a baster.

Basterly, obs. form of **BASTARDLY**.

|| **Bastide** (bɑːstɪd, bɑːstɪd). [a. OF. *bastide*, ad. Pr. *bastida* 'building,' sb. from fem. pa. pple. of *bastir* to build: cf. -ADA, -ADE.]

† 1. a. A bastel-house or fortlet. b. A temporary hut or tower erected for besieging purposes. Cf. **BASTILLE. Obs. exc. Hist.**

1593 *LD. BERNERS Froiss.* I. xxvi. 39 They fortified the bastide of Roseboure, and made it a strong Castel. 1577 *HOLINSHED Chron.* II. 640 He came before the strong towne of Calis... and erected bastides betweene the towne and the river. 1808 *MORRIS G. Teste-Notre* 138 Therefore we set our bastides round the tower That Gefray held.

|| 2. A country-house in southern France.

1781 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 6932/2 The Bastides and Farm-Houses in that Neighbourhood. 1837 *CARLYLE Fr. Rev.* II. vi. ii. 332 White glittering bastides that crown the hill.

Bastille, -ile (bɑːstɪl, bɑːstɪl), *sb.* Forms: 4 **bastile**, 4-5 -el, 5 -yle, -elle, -yll, 5-6 **ylle**, 6 -il, -ell, (Sc. *bastillie*, -alyie, -aillye), 7 **bastill**, 8- **bastille**, 4- **bastile**. [a. F. *bastille* (15th c. in Littré): -late L. *bastilia*, pl. of *bastile*, f. *bastire* to build (cf. *sedile*, *sedilia*, f. *sedire*). In mod. Eng. refashioned after Fr.; the regular form from ME. *bastil(e)* would be *bastle*.]

1. A tower or bastion of a castle; a fortified tower; a small fortress.

c 1340 *Gaw. & Gr. Knt.* 799 Bastel rouez, bat blenked ful quyte. c 1430 *LYDG. Bochas* II. xvii. (1554) 56 a, Square bastiles and bulwarkes to make. 1494 *FABYAN* vii. 516 Ye prouoste... went to dyner vnto y^e bastyle of Seynt Denys. 1536 *BRELLDEN Chron. Scot.* (1821) I. 182 To repair the said wall in all partis, with touris and bastailies. 1664 *BUTLER Hud.* i. ii. Arg't., Conveys him to enchanted Castle, There shuts him fast in Wooden Bastile. 1853 *G. JOHNSTON Nat. Hist. E. Borders* I. 144 Ruins of bastiles and castles.

2. *spec.* in siege operations: a. A wooden tower on wheels for the protection of the besieging troops. b. One of a series of huts, surrounded by entrenchments, provided for their accommodation.

c 1345 *E. E. Allit.* P. B. 1187 At vch brugge a berfray on bastiles wyse. 1430 *LYDG. Chron. Troy* II. xviii, Sette their bastiles and their hurdeys eke Rounde about to the harde wall. 1429 *CAXTON Faytes of A.* ii. xxxiv, Thys bastille muste be aduironned with hirdels aboute and dawbed thykke with erthe and clay therupon, and it may be sette vpon wheles. 1523 *LD. BERNERS Froiss.* I. cccxxix. 754 And so lodged in Calays... in bastilles that they made dayly. 1600 *HOLLAND Lety xxii. lx.* 471 Good no where, neither in bataille nor in bastill [*castris*]. 1750 *CARTE Hist. Eng.* II. 717 A bastille or small wooden fort was erected on the land side. 1839 *KEIGHTLEY Hist. Eng.* I. 352 Bastilles, or huts defended by intrenchments were constructed round the city.

fig. c 1430 *LYDG. Bochas* (1554) 67 b Oblivion, Hath a bastill of forgetfulness To stop the passage.

3. Name of the prison-fortress built in Paris in the 14th century, and destroyed in 1789.

1501 *R. NORVELL* (*title*) The Meroure of an Christian, composed... during the tyme of his captiueite at Paris, in the Bastillie. 1783 *COWPER Task* v. 383 Her [France's] house of bondage... the Bastille. 1837 *CARLYLE Fr. Rev.* iv. iii. I.

162 That rock-fortress, Tyranny's stronghold, which they name Bastille, or Building, as if there were no other building.

4. By extension: A prison.

1790 BURKE *Fr. Rev. Wks.* V. 143 One of the old palaces of Paris, now converted into a Bastille for kings. 1861 SALA *Two round Clock* 58 Pentonville's frowning bastille. 1884 *Ransom City* (Dakota) *Paper* 9 Feb., Fined \$25, and ten days in the bastille, for selling liquor to the Indians.

Bastille, -ile (basi'l, ba'stil), *v.*; also 5 **bastyle**. [a. OF. *bastille-r* (also *bateillier*), *f. bastille*; see *prec.* In sense 2 formed on the Eng. sb.]

† 1. To fortify (a castle). *Obs.*

1480 CAXTON *Ovid's Met.* xl. v. Laomedon . . . redyed hym for to bastyle & edefy the new Troye. c. 1500 *Partenay* 1134 When thys castell was bastiled fair.

2. To confine in a bastille; to imprison.

1798 YOUNG *Nt. Tr.* ix. 1058 Instead of forging chains for foreigners, Bastille thy Tutor. a. 1798 MARY WOLLSTONECR. *Wks.* II. 34 Marriage had bastilled me for life. 1863 W. PHILLIPS *Speeches* xix. 422 One thousand men . . . are 'bastilled' by an authority as despotic as that of Louis.

Bastillon. *Obs.* or *Hist.* Forms: 6-7 **bastillon**, 7 **bastillon**, 6-9 **bastillion**. [a. OF. *bastillon*, -*illion*, dim. of *bastille*; see *prec.*] A small fortress or castle; a fortified tower.

1540 THOMAS *Hist. Italy* 101 Buildyng of fortresses and bastillions about Petabubula. 1603 KNOLLES *Hist. Turks* (1621) 82 They gained one of the greatest bastillions . . . of the citie, called the Angels tower. 1805 SOUTHEY in *Q. Rev.* XXXII. 385 An assault was made . . . upon a bastillion by the gate of Codalonga.

† **Bastiment**. *Obs.* Also 8 **bastimento**. [partly ad. Sp. *bastimento* 'fortification, victuall, furniture' (Minsheu), partly a. F. *bastiment* (mod. *bâtiment* 'building, ship'; both f. Romanic *bastire* to put together, build, prepare.)

1. Military supplies, stores, provisions.

1598 BARRET *Theor. Warres* v. iii. 133 To provide all Bastiments, prouision, and other necessarie things. 1622 F. MARKHAM *Bks. Warre* iii. x. 5 All his prouisions . . . of Bastiments or other necessities.

2. A building, a wall.

1579 *Trials White & Jesuits* 61 He is a Mason, and . . . built a Bastiment there by direction from Sir John Warner.

3. A ship, a vessel; cf. Fr. *bâtiment*.

1740 GLOVER *Hosier's Ghost* vii. in *Pol. Ball.* (1860) II. 261 Then the bastimentos never Had our foul dishonour seen, Nor the sea the sad receiver Of this gallant train had been.

Bastinado, -onade (bastin'ā-d, -ōnād'), *sb.* *arch.* [In 17th c., *bastonade*, a. F. *bastonade* (ad. Sp. *bastonada* or It. *bastonata*, taking place of OF. *bastonē*; see -ADE); or Eng. adaptation of *bastonada*, after Fr.; see BASTINADO.] = BASTINADO sb. 1-3.

1660 *Plea for Mon.* in *Harl. Misc.* I. 17 We have learned quietly to take the bastinado. c. 1700 *Gentl. Instruc.* (1732) 351 (D.) They would . . . submit to a bastinado rather than occasion bloodshed. 1813 J. HOBHOUSE *Journ.* 297 Offenders, whom he may punish with the bastinado. 1878 LADY HERBERT tr. *Hübner's Ramble* III. ii. 487 Sure of their bastinado and sure also of their tails.

Bastina'de, -onade (see *prec.*), *v. arch.* [f. *prec. sb.*] To thrash or thrack with a stick, *esp.* on the soles of the feet; to BASTINADO.

1601 R. JOHNSON *Kingd. & Commw.* 59 The euening following he is well bastinadoed. 1753 HANWAY *Trav.* (1762) I. iii. xxxviii. 174 The shah . . . ordered the executioners to bastinado him to death. 1828 *Blackw. Mag.* XXIII. 828 Away with him . . . bow-string him, bastinado him.

Bastina'ded, ppl. u. arch. [f. *prec. + -ED.*] Thrashed, beaten, *esp.* on the soles of the feet.

a. 1711 KEN *Hymnotheo Wks.* 1721 III. 134 The starv'd bastinadoed Slave in Chains.

Bastina'ding, vbl. sb. = BASTINADOING.

1748 ANSON *Voy.* iii. ix. 388 Such a sum of money would . . . have enticed a Chinese to have undergone a dozen bastinadoings. 1890 LANE *Arab. Nts.* I. 273 *note*, On Bastinadoing.

Bastinado (bastin'ād), *sb.* Forms: 6- **bastinado**; also 6 **bastannado**, -**anado**, 7 -**onada**, 7-8 **onado**. [a. Sp. *bastonada* (= It. *bastonata*, OF. *bastonmē*) a caning or cudgelling, *f. baston* stick, staff, cudgel. For termination see -ADO²: the unaccented *o* in the second syllable has fluctuated from the first as *d, ð, f*, tending to settle down under the closest vowel *i*.]

1. A blow with a stick or cudgel; a whack or thrack; *esp.* one upon the soles of the feet. *arch.*

1577 HOLINSHED *Chron.* III. 897/1 Leading him . . . with buffets and bastannados into the borough. 1592 GREENE *Art Conny Catch.* 25 As many bastinnados as thy bones will beare. 1598 HAKLUYT *Voy.* II. 203 Beaten with so many bastinnados vpon the soles of their feete. 1625 *Modell of Wit* 41 b. Lifting up the Cudgell, he gave him therewith halfe a score good bastinnados. 1849 W. IRVING *Mahomed & Succ.* xiii. (1853) 58 Let him who drinks wine . . . receive twenty bastinnados on the soles of his feet.

2. A beating with a stick; a cudgelling. *arch.* 1594 T. B. *La Primav. Fr. Acad.* II. 717 If a Romane soldior . . . went out of his ranke . . . he had the bastinnado. a. 1600 BURLEIGH *Adv. Q. Eliz.* in *Harl. Misc.* (1809) II. 277 No man loves one the better for giving him the bastinado, though with never so little a cudgel. 1808 SCOTT *F. M. Perth* xvi. Must I show thee that thou art a captive, by giving thee incontinently the bastinado?

3. *spec.* An Eastern method of corporal punishment, by beating with a stick the soles of the culprit's feet.

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1726 AVLIFFE *Parerg.* 46 Remitted the punishment of Death . . . and in lieu thereof introduced the Bastinado. 1884 BROWNING *Ferishtah's F.* 133 To cool his heels Uncarpeted, or warm them—likelier still—With bastinado.

4. A stick, staff, rod, cudgel, truncheon.

1598 HAKLUYT *Voy.* I. 55 He receiueh an hundreth blowes on the backe with a bastinado, layd on by a tall fellow. 1624 CAPT. SMITH *Virginia* II. 36 Having a Bastinado . . . made of reeds bound together. 1808 WAKE *Evol. Morality* II. 128 Her paramour receiving a thousand blows of the bastinado.

Bastina'do, v.; also 8 -**onado**. [f. *prec. sb.*]

1. To beat with a stick; to thrash, thrack. *arch.* 1614 (see next). 1633 MARMYON *Fine Comp.* iv. 5 A gentleman that I bastinadoed the other day. 1728 MORGAN *Algiers* II. iv. 273 Cruelly bastinadoed on the Shoulders, Buttocks, Belly, and Feet. 1775 ADAIR *Amer. Ind.* 156 He bastinadoed the young sinner severely, with a thick whip.

2. *spec.* To beat or cane on the soles of the feet. 1686 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 2318/3 Were put on the Rack, or Bastinadoed. 1855 MACAULAY *Hist. Eng.* III. 547 The Saltee rover, who threatened to bastinado a Christian captive to death.

Bastina'ding, vbl. sb. [f. *prec. + -ING*]. The action of the vb. BASTINADO; cudgelling, thrashing (*spec.* on the soles of the feet).

1614 SELDEN *Titles Hon.* 63 The punishment for periury was inflicted, that was *Fustigatio* . . . bastinadoing. 1879 A. FORBES in *Daily News* 25 Mar. 5/7 He is treated to a vehement bastinadoing.

Basting (bā'sting), *vbl. sb.* [f. BASTE v. 1.]

1. Sewing with large loose stitches; quilting (*obs.*), 'tacking'; also *attrib.*, as in *basting-thread*.

1530 PALSGR. 196/2 Basting of clothe, *bastiment*. 1860 R. COBOLD *Pict. Chinese* 146 When the scissors . . . have done their work of cutting the material . . . the next process . . . answers to our basting. 1870 *Daily News* 4 Apr. Waistcoats without buttons, coats disfigured by basting threads.

† 2. Something basted or quilted on; a lining or trimming. *Obs.*

c. 1525 SKELTON *Agst. Garmesche* 200 The flesche basting of hys cote was seywd with slender thred. 1592 NASH P. *Penitence* 122, Blistered with light sarcent bastings.

Basting, vbl. sb. [f. BASTE v. 2 + -ING].

1. The action of moistening a roasting joint with melted butter, gravy, etc.; also *fig.* and *attrib.*

1530 PALSGR. 196/2 Basting of meate, *bastiment*. 1550 CROWLEY *Epigr.* 365 The tongue must have bastyng, it will the better wagge. 1822 KIRCHNER *Cook's Orac.* 187 Put a little bit of butter into your basting-ladle.

2. The material used for this purpose.

1615 MARKHAM *Eng. Housew.* (1660) 69 To know the best bastings for meat, which is sweet Butter, sweet Oyl, etc.

† 2. **Candle-making**. The process of pouring melted wax from a ladle over the wicks.

c. 1862 LETHBY in *Circ. Sc.* I. 94/1 The operations of basting and rolling are repeated as often as necessary. 1879 G. GLADSTONE in *Cassell's Techn. Educ.* II. 75/2 Wax candles are . . . made by another process, which is termed basting.

Basting, vbl. sb. [f. BASTE v. 3 + -ING]. A cudgelling, beating, thrashing. (In 'a dry basting' there is a humorous reference to the preceding.)

1590 SHAKS. *Com. Err.* II. ii. 64 Lest it make you chollericke, and purchase me another drie basting. 1790 SWIFT *Irish Feast* Misc. (1735) V. 16 What Stabs and what Cuts. . . What Bastings and Kicks! 1833 MARRAT *P. Simple* (1863) 64 A good basting . . . was a sovereign remedy for sea-sickness.

Bastion (bæ'stion). [a. F. *bastion*, 16th c., ad. It. *bastione*, *f. bastire* to build, construct, late L. or common Romanic, of uncertain origin; generally referred to the same root as *baston*, *baton*.]

1. A projecting part of a fortification, consisting of an earthenwork, faced with brick or stone, or of a mass of masonry, in the form of an irregular pentagon, having its base in the main line, or at an angle, of the fortification; its 'flanks' are the two sides which spring from the base, and are shorter than the 'faces' or two sides which meet in the acute 'salient angle'.

Cut bastion: one with its salient angle cut off and replaced by an inward angle. *Detached bastion*: one constructed apart from the fortification, also called a *LUNETTE*. *Double bastion*: two bastions, one placed inside the other. *Empty bastion*: one in which the interior surface is lower than the rampart. *Flat bastion*: one placed in front of a 'curtain'. *Full or solid bastion*: one in which the interior surface is level with the rampart. *Tower bastion*: a tower built like a bastion and provided with casemates.

1598 BARRET *Theor. Warres* v. iii. 135 Baskets to carry earth to the bastion. 1693 *Mem. Ct. Tackly* 14 This small City, flanked with five good Bastions. 1703 MAUNDRELL *Journ. Terns* (1732) 54 Bastions faced with hewn stone. 1828 WELLINGTON in *Gurw. Disp.* IX. 27 To breach the face of Bastion at the south east angle of the fort. 1851 RUSKIN *Stones Ven.* I. v. 58 Sharp as the frontal angle of a bastion.

2. *transf.* and *fig.* Rampart, fortification, defence.

1679 *Est. Test.* 27 The frontier and Bastion of the Protestant Religion. 1781 COWPER *Convers.* 688 They build each other up. . . As bastions set point-blank against God's will. 1828 LONGF. *Ladder St. Aug.* ix. The distant mountains, that appear Their solid bastions to the skies.

Bastion, variant of BASTON sb., a staff.

Bastioned, ppl. a. [f. *prec. + -ED*]. Furnished with or defended by a bastion or bastions.

1817 MOORE *Lalla R.*, *Veiled Proph.* iii. If tower and battlement And bastion'd wall be not less hard to win. 1875 *Hist. Civ. War Amer.* I. 457 Closed at the gorge by a bastioned curtain with a lunette.

Bastionet (bæ'stionet). [f. BASTION + -ET.] A small bastion.

1871 TYNDALL *Fragm. Sc.* I. vi. 207 On Tuesday . . . I was early at the bastionet.

Bastite (bæ'stōit). *Min.* [f. *Baste* in the Harz Mountains, where first found + -ITE.] A bronze- or greenish-coloured impure foliated serpentine; also called *Schiller-spar*.

1837-68 DANA *Min.* 409. 1879 RUTLEY *Stud. Rocks* x. 120 Enstatite becomes altered to schiller-spar or bastite.

Bastle-house, modern variant of BASTEL-HOUSE.

Basto (bā'sto). [a. Sp. *basto*, in same sense, the whole suit of Clubs being also called *Bastos*, and the ace being *el Basto* par excellence; in It. *Bastone*: cf. *baston* club, *staff*.] The ace of clubs in quadrille and ombre.

1675 COTTON *Compl. Gamester* (1680) 70 The Malillio or black Deuce, the Basto or Ace of Clubs. 1714 POPE *Rape Lock* III. 53 Him basto follow'd, but his fate more hard, Gain'd but one trump and one plebeian card. 1861 MACM. *Mag.* Dec. 130 The ace of clubs . . . is always ranked as the third best trump card, and is called Basto.

† **Baston**. *Obs.* or (in sense 6) *arch.* Forms: 4 **bastun**, 4-8 **baston**, 6 **bastoun**, **bastion**, 6-7 **bastone**, 7 (**bastome**). [a. OF. *baston* (mod. f. *bâton*), cogn. with Sp. *baston*, Pg. *bastão*, It. *bastone*, pointing to a late L. **bastōn-em*, of unknown origin: Diez suggests a connexion with Gr. *βαρρά* (cf. *εω* to lift, carry. Replaced in 17th c. by BATON, and now by BATON; another form is BATTEN.)

1. A staff or stick used as a weapon or a staff of office; a cudgel, club, bat, truncheon; = BATON 1, BATON 1.

a. 1300 *Cursor M.* 15827 Wit þair bastons [v. r. bastunes; staves] bete þai him. 1485 CAXTON *Chas. Gt.* (1880) 182 Florypes . . . took a baston in her honde. 1577 HOLINSHED *Chron.* III. 1226/1 His baston (a staffe of an ell long made taper wise tipt with horn). 1598 BARRET *Theor. Warres* iv. i. 102 Armed but lightly, with a short baston or truncheon in his hand. 1598 STOW *Surv.* (transl. Fitzstephen) xi. (1603) 93 The schollers of euery schoole haue their ball or baston in their hands. 1693 W. ROBERTSON *Phrasol. Gen.* 213 A Baston, or baton, *fustis, baculus*. 1796 NUGENT *Montesquieu's Spir. Laws* (1758) II. xxviii. xx. 271 In process of time none but bondmen fought with the baston.

2. A stanza, or verse. (Transl. of *staff, stave*.)

a. 1300 *Cursor M.* 14923 Es resun þat wee vr rime rune, And set fra nu langer bastune [v. r. bastoun]. c. 1300 in *Rel. Ant.* II. 175 The clerk that this baston wrowyte. *Ibid.* 176 Nis this bastun wel i-pigte, Euch word him sitte a-rygte. 1330 R. BRUNNE *Chron.* Pref. 99 If it were made in ryme couwee . . . outhere in couwee or in baston.

3. *Her.* = BATON 3.

1592 WYRLEY *Armorie* 70 Thimperial egle . . . In siluer, gulie baston ouer all. 1622 PEACHAM *Compl. Gentl.* III. (1634) 144 A baston . . . must not touch the Scotchman at both the ends. 1660 WATERHOUSE *Arms and Arm.* 112 That were . . . a baston of Allay to that Gentleman who should extenuate the merit of Military Grandees.

4. **Card-playing**. A club. Cf. BASTO.

1593 MUNDAY *Def. Contraries* 49 The inuenter of the Italian Cardes . . . put the Deniers or monyes, and the Bastons or clubs in combat together.

5. **Old Law**. Title of 'one of the Warden of the Fleet's men, who attends the king's courts with a red staff, for taking such to ward as are committed by the court; and likewise attends on such prisoners as are suffered to go at large by licence.' Chambers *Cycl.* 1727-51. (Cf. *tip-staff, gold-stick-in-waiting*, etc.) Hence, to go out of prison by *baston*, to remain in prison without *baston*.

1366 *Act 1 Rich. II.* xii. [Whereas diuers people be . . . suffered to goe at large by the Warden of the prison] alefoitz sanz as-cun maynpris avec une baston de Flete [sometimes without any mainprise with a baston of the Fleet . . . It is ordained and assented, that . . . no Warden of the Fleet shall suffer any prisoner] aler hors de prisonne par maynpris, baille ne par baston [to go out of prison by mainprise, baile, nor by baston]. 1562 *Act 5 Elis.* xxiii. § 8 The same Party . . . shall remain in the Prison . . . without Bail, Baston or Mainprise. 1619 DALTON *Countr. Just.* cvi. (1630) 273 If the officer shall suffer his prisoners to go abroad for a time, by baile or baston. 1671 F. PHILLIPS *Reg. Necess.* 475 Committed to the Tower of London, there to remain one year without baile, baston or Mainprise.

6. **Arch.** A round moulding at the base of a column, a torus. [So *bâton* in mod. f.]

1751 CHAMBERS *Cycl.*, *Baston* or *Baton* . . . a mould in the base of a column, otherwise called a tore. 1847 in CRAIG.

† **Baston**, *v. Obs.* [f. *prec. sb.*; cf. OF. *bastonner* (mod. f. *bâtonner*); and see BATON v.] To beat with a staff or cudgel. Hence **Baston'd** *ppl. a.*

1593 DEE *Diary* 43 And that I wold try on the fleish of him, or buy a bastoned gown of him.

Bastonade, -ado, *obs. ff. BASTINADO*.

† **Bastonate**, *v. Obs. rare*-. [formed after Romanic vb. (It. *bastonare*, Sp. *bastonar*, OF. *bastoner*) + -ATE: cf. It. pa. pple. *bastonato*] = *prec.*

1604 T. WRIGHT *Passions* v. § 4. 285 The very Cudgell wherewith a Cavalero is bastonated.

† **Bastonet**. *Obs.* [a. OF. *bastonet* (mod. *bâtonnet*) lit. 'little stick,' dim. of *baston* stick, BATON.] A kind of bit: see the quot.

1611 COTGR., *Bastonnet* . . . the bastonet of a bridle. 1617 MARKHAM *Caval.* II. 59, I haue seen some horsmen vse that bytt which we call the Bastonet or Jeue bytt, which is made with round buttons or great rough rings.

Bastonite (bæ'stōnit). *Min.* [f. *Bastoigne*, in Luxembourg, where it was discovered + -ITE.]

1773 *Gentl. Mag.* XLIII. 451 To bat and bowl with might
and main. 1850 BARNES *Rhymes Dorset Dial* II. 14 Well

here... 'S a ball for you if you can bat it. 1884 *Manch. Exam.* 16 May 5 The Notts team was batting all day against Sussex.

†3. To fasten by beating. *Obs.*

1793 SMEATON *Edystone* L. § 302 By batting them closely to the stone underneath, by the gentle blows of a small hammer. *Ibid.* The leaden cap... that I had carefully batted to the stone.

Bat, *v.* 2 [A variant of BATE *v.* 1; in sense 2 perh. of BATE *v.* 2]

1. *intr.* To bate or flutter as a hawk.

1615 LATHAM *Falconry* (1633) Gloss., Batting, or to bat is when a Hawke fluttereth with her wings either from the perch or the mans fist, striding as it were to flee away.

2. *trans.* (*dial.* and in U.S.) To bat the eyes: to move the eyelids quickly, to wink.

1847-78 HALLIWELL, *Bat*, to wink. *Derbysh.* 1879 MISS JACKSON *Shropsh. Word-bk.*, *Bat*, to wink, or rather to move the eyelids up and down quickly. 1883 *American* VI. 237 To bat the eyes, meaning to wink, when we desire to express the rapidity of the action. 1883 J. HARRIS in *Century Mag.* May 146 You hol' your head high; don't you bat your eyes to please none of 'em.

Bat, *obs.* f. BATH *sb.* 3 a Heb. measure.

Bat: see BATZ, a German coin.

Bat(e), *obs.* form of BOAT.

† **Batable**, *a.* *Obs.*; also 7 *bateable*, 7-8 *battable*. [Shortened form of DEBATABLE; cf. BATH *sb.* 1] Debatable, disputed; used esp. of the 'debatable ground' on the Scottish border.

1453 in Rymer *Federa* (1710) XI. 337 The Batable Landes in the Westmarch. 1531-2 *Act 23 Hen. VIII*, xvi. The batable grounde betweene England and Scotland. 1620 HOLLAND *Camden's Brit.* i. 782 Called Batable ground, as one would say *Litigious*, because the English and the Scotch have litigiously contended about it. 1753 CHAMBERS *Cycl.*, *Batable ground*. [In mod. Dicts.]

Batable, variant of BATTLE *a.* 1 *Obs.* fertile.

Batail(e), *ailler*, *ailling*, *aillous*, *obs.* forms of BATTLE, *-ER*, *-ING*, BATAILLOUS.

† **Batand**, *pres. pple.* used *adv.* *Obs.* Also *bata(u)nt*, *baitand*. [a. OF. *batant*, *pr. pple.* of *bat-re* to beat, in phrase *venir batant* to come with haste; in form *batand*, assimilated to native *pples.* in *-AND*, q. v.] Hastening, in haste.

1330 R. BRUNNE *Chron.* 149 Batand for Cezile com him a messengere. *Ibid.* 307 So com þe erle Marschalle baitand to London.

|| **Batardeau** (*batardeu*). Also 8 *batter*. [Fr.: formerly *bastardeau*, considered by Littré and Scheler to be a dim. of *bastard* 'a dike', of doubtful origin: see Littré. (The idea that the termination is 'eau' of water 'is not entertained by French scholars.)] a. A coffer-dam. b. A wall built across the moat or ditch surrounding a fortification.

1767 DUCAREL *Anglo-Norm. Antiq.* 36 Laying the foundations of such piers under water... by means of a Batardeaux. 1830 E. CAMPBELL *Dict. Mil. Sc.* 62 The Enemy may be greatly annoyed by means of certain works called Batardeaux. 1866 F. GRIFFITHS *Artill. Man.* 262 A Batardeau is a solid piece of masonry, 7 or 8 feet thick, crossing the whole breadth of the ditch opposite the flanked angles of the bastions. It retains the water in those parts of the ditch which require to be inundated.

† **Batardier**. *Obs.* [a. F. *batardière*, f. *bâtard* bastard, 'because the plants are there only bastards, awaiting their definitive family' (Littré).] A plantation of young grafted trees intended to be transplanted into gardens.

1795 BRADLEY *Fam. Dict.*, *Batardier*, a Place in a Garden, whose Soil should be good, etc., in order to plant Fruit-Trees there.

Batata (*bātātā*, *bātātā*). [a. Sp. and Pg. *batata*, from a native American language; according to Peter Martyr and Navagerio, 1526, the native name in Haiti. (Hence, transferred to a different plant, *potato*.)]

A plant (*Batatas edulis*, N.O. *Convolvulaceae*) having an edible tuberous root, called also Spanish or Sweet Potato, a native of the West Indies, whence it was introduced into Spain early in the 16th c.

1577 FRAMPTON *Joyf. News* 104 The Batatas... a common frute in those countries... a victail of much substance. 1613 PURCHAS *Pilgr.* v. xiv. 516 The islands of Moratay... where Battata-roots is their bread. 1832 *Veg. Subst. Food* 126 The plant carried to Ireland by Captain Hawkins, in 1565, was the Spanish batata, or sweet potato. 1866 LIVINGSTONE *Jrnl.* i. iii. 73 Batatas and maize were often planted.

Bataunt, var. BATAND, *Obs.* hastening, eager.

¶ Misused by Chatterton (and J. M. Neale).

a 1770 CHATTERTON *Sir C. Bevidin* 276 Behynde theyre backs syx mynstrelles came, Who tun'd the strunge bataunt.

† **Batauntly**, *adv.* *Obs.* In 4-liche. [f. *prec.* + *-LY*.] Hastily, pressingly, eagerly.

1393 LANGL. *P. Pl.* C. xvii. 56 Batauntliche, as beggers don't and boldeliche he craueþ. [1677 COLES, *Batauntly*, boldly. *Obs.* (Hence in Kersey, Bailey, etc.) a 1768 CHATTERTON *Ælla* 826 Yette would I batauntlie assuage mie fyre.]

Batavian (*bātāvian*), a. and *sb.* [f. L. *Batavia*, f. *Batavi* an ancient people who dwelt on the island Betawe, between the Rhine and the Waal, in part of what is now Holland. See *-AN*.]

A. adj. a. Of or pertaining to the ancient Batavi: see above. b. Pertaining to Holland or to the Dutch.

1796 MORSE *Amer. Geog.* II. 339 First year of Batavian liberty. 1859 MACAULAY *Hist. Eng.* V. 141 The peculiarity of the Batavian polity threw some difficulties in his way. 1876 BANCROFT *Hist. U. S.* I. iv. 100 He had fought for the independence of the Batavian republic.

B. sb. pl. a. The ancient Batavi: see above.

b. The Dutch or Netherlanders (*rare*).

1598 GREENWY *Tacitus' Ann.* iv. (1622) 266 The Batavians... inhabit an Ilande of the River of Rhene. 1876 BANCROFT *Hist. U. S.* II. xxii. 24 There would be no war but on water, the home of the Batavians.

Batayle, *-ynge*, etc., *obs.* ff. BATTLE, etc.

Bat-ball: see BAT *sb.* 1

Batch (*bætʃ*). Forms: 5 *bahoche*, 5-6 *bachs*, *batoche*, 7 *bach*, 6- *batch*. [ME. *batche*, *bachche*, repr. an unrecorded OE. **bæcce*, f. *bacan* to BAKE: cf. *wake*, *watch*, *make*, *match*, *speech*.]

† 1. The process of baking. *Obs.*

1440 *Prompt. Parv.* 21 *Bachche*, or *bakyng* (v. r. *batche*), *distura*. 1551 T. WILSON *Logike* 42 b, Except the baker doe his part also in the batch.

2. *concr.* A baking; the quantity of bread produced at one baking.

1461-83 *Ord. R. House*. 70 He shall trulye delyver into the bredehouse... the whole numbyr of his batche. 1530 PALSGR. 197/1 *Batche* of brede—*journe de pain*. a 1556 Bf. *Hall Rem. Wks.* (1660) 186 They had no leisure to make up their batch. 1760 T. HUTCHINSON *Hist. Col. Mass.* i. (1765) 23 The last batch was in the oven. 1856 KANE *Arch. Exp.* II. xix. 192 We... baked a large batch of bread. 1906 SHAKS. *Tr. & Cr. v.* i. 5 Thou crusty batch of Nature, what's the newes?

† b. *ellipt.* The bread itself: cf. *bread of life*.

Obs. 1648 EARL WESTM'D. *Otia Sacra* (1879) 92 Those blest With the True batch of Life may ever rest So satisf'd.

† 3. *fig.* and *transf.* The sort or 'lot' to which a thing belongs by origin (as loaves do to their own batch). *Obs.*

1598 B. JONSON *Ev. Man in Hum.* i. ii. (1616) 9 One is a Rimer Sir, o' your owne batch. 1641 MILTON *Ch. Discip.* II. Wks. (1851) 42 This worthy Motto, No Bishop, no King is of the same batch, and infanted out of the same fears. 1705 HICKERINGILL *Priest-cr.* (1721) I. 47 All sorts of Priest-craft are of one Leaven and one Batch.

4. a. The quantity of flour or dough to be used for one baking. b. The quantity of corn sent at one time to the mill to be ground. *dial.*

1549 COVERDALE *Erasm. Par.* i. Cor. vi. 6 A lytle leauen soweth the whole batche, wherewith it is myngled. 1570 LEVINS *Manip.* 38 A batche, *fermentum*. 1579 LANGHAM *Gard. Health* (1633) 90 Bake a loafe of wheat meale as it cometh from the mill in the midst of the batch. 1796 W. MARSHALL *Midl. Count.* II. Gloss., *Batch*, a grist; a quantity of corn sent to mill. 1859 *Autobiog. Beggar-boy* 65 To bring the farmers' batches to be ground, and take them home when made into meal.

5. *transf.* A quantity produced at one operation, e.g. a brewing; a lot. *arch.*

1713 *Land. & Country Brew.* i. (1742) 31 You are welcome to a good batch of my October [Beer]. 1878 MISS BRADDON *Open Verd.* i. l. 13 That last batch of soup was excellent.

6. a. A quantity of anything coming at a time, an instalment. b. A number of things or persons introduced, put, or treated together; a set.

a 1833 MARRYAT *P. Simple* (1863) 85, I have just received a batch of prize-money. 1840 HOOD *Up Rhine* 58, I am not going to favour you with a batch of politics. 1882 RAYMOND *Mining Gloss.*, *Batch* (Cornw.), the quantity of ore sent to the surface by a *pare* of men.

b. [1598; cf. 4.] 1632 MASSINGER *City Mad.* iv. i, A whole batch, sir, Almost of the same leaven. 1793 Ld. AUCKLAND *Corr.* III. 75 A new batch of visitors, who are coming for the day. 1845 DISRAELI *Sybil* (1863) 39 A baronet of the earliest batch. 1863 KINGLAKE *Crimes* (1876) I. xiv. 207 Shot by platoons and in batches. 1872 BLACK *Adv. Phaeton* xxxi. 413 The batch of letters awaiting us in Edinburgh.

7. *attrib.*, as in *batch-bread*, *flour*.

1667 *Land. Rev.* 16 Aug. 140 Baking rolls and fancy bread, taking the batch-bread out of the oven. 1878 HALLIWELL *s.v.*, Coarse flour is sometimes called *batch flour*.

Batch 2. [a variant of BACK *sb.* 2] A vessel used in brewing.

1697 *View Penal Laws* 21 By which any Beer... may be conveyed into or out of such Tun, Batch or Float.

Batch, *mod. dial.* form of BACHE.

Batchelor, *-ry*, *obs.* ff. BACHELOR, *-RY*, etc.

Bate (*bæt*), *v.* 1; also 6-7 *batte*, *bayte*, 7-9 *bait*. [a. OF. *batre* (mod. *battre*)—late L. *batēre*, *battēre*, for cl. L. *batuere*. In sense 1 partly also a shortened form of DEBATE *v.* 1]

† 1. To contend, fight, strive, with blows or arguments. *Const. on. Obs.*

a 1300 *Cursor M.* 5913 And for he wil þus bate [Trin. MS. debate] on me, I sal him drenkil in þe se. c 1400 *Destr. Troy* xiv. 5914 Durst no buerne on hym bate for his bold dedis. c 1440 *Prompt. Parv.* 26/2 *Batyn*, or make debate, *Iurgor*.

2. *Falconry*. To beat the wings impatiently and flutter away from the fist or perch. (Fr. *se battre*: cf. ABATE *v.* 1 18.)

1398 TREVISIA *Barth. De P. R.* xii. iii. (1495) 412 That she bate not to ofte fro his honde. 1486 Bk. St. Alban's, *Hawking* A vj, Holde faste at all tymes and specially when she batith. 1566 SHAKS. *Tam. Sherriv.* iv. i. 99 These kites, That baite, and bate, and will not be obedient. 1631 *Celestina* i. 3 The Gyrfalcon bated, and I came in to set him on the perch. 1828 SEBRIGHT *Observ. Hawking* 14 In the field the hood prevents them from baiting. *Ibid.* 48 Which assists the hawk in regaining the perch when he has baited off.

b. *fig.* To flutter, struggle; to be restless or impatient. *Obs.*

1598 SHAKS. *Rom. & Jul.* III. ii. 14 Come, civil night... Hood my vnman'd blood, bayting in my Cheekes. 1673 DRYDEN *Assignment* i. i, You are eager, and baiting to be gone. 1682 Sir T. BROWNE *Chr. Mor.* (1756) 106 It's now somewhat late to bait after things before us.

c. with some sense of BATE *v.* 2 combined: To flutter downwards. Also *To bate the wings*.

1590 GREENE *Never too late* (1600) 93, I haue soared with the Hobby, I shall bate with the Bunting. 1641 MILTON *Ch. Discip.* i. Wks. (1851) 2 Till the Soule by this meanes of over-boddyng herselfe... bated her wing apace downward.

Bate (*bæt*), *v.* 2 Forms: 4- *bate*; (4 *bawt*), 6-7 *bayte*, *baite*. [aphetic form of ABATE *v.* 1]

† 1. *trans.* To beat down or away; *fig.* to put an end to. *Obs.*

c 1300 K. *Alis.* 7496 Thow batest wrong, and hauntest ryght. 1330 R. BRUNNE *Chron.* 87 Bated was þe strife. *Ibid.* 338 And bate alle oper outrage. c 1430 *Hymns to Virg.* (1867) 57 Þe deuils boost þus gan he bate. 1601 HOLLAND *Pliny* II. 521 Bate the earth from about the roots of Oliues.

† b. *intr.* To come to an end, cease. *Obs.* c 1305 E. E. *Allit. P.* B. 440 Þe rayn... batede as fast.

2. *trans.* To lower, let down; *fig.* to cast down, humble, depress, deject. (With quot. 1834 cf. 6.)

c 1380 *Sir Ferumb.* 749 þut stod he strong & stif... & ne batede noȝt is mod. 1523 FITZHERB. *Husb.* § 153 Myght bere it though he lost and bate nat his countenance. 1530 PALSGR. 443/1, I bayte myne eares (Lydgate), I applye them to herken a thyng, *Je embats*. 1834 S. ROGERS *Inscript. Strathfieldsaye*, On he went, Bating nor heart, nor hope.

† b. *To bate of, from*: to bring down or remove from; to deprive of. *Obs.*

1399 LANGL. *Rich. Redeless* II. 13 Ffor mowtyng... bawtid þoure bestis of here bolde chere. 1642 ROGERS *Naaman* 869 Who will baite their children and servants from their diligence.

† c. *intr.* To become dejected or depressed. *Obs.* 1608 TOURNEUR *Rev. Trag.* II. ii. 54, I bate in courage now. 1678 DRYDEN *Dram. Wks.* IV. 102 His Heroe... Bates of his Mettle; and scarce Rants at all.

3. *trans.* To beat back or blunt the edge of. *lit.* and *fig.* (Perhaps in *fig.* used combined with some idea of BAIT *v.* 1 II., as if 'to satisfy the hunger of.')

1535 COVERDALE *Jer.* xli. 10 The swearde shal deuoure, it shal be satisfied and bated [1611 made drunke] in their bloude. 1588 SHAKS. *L. L. L.* i. i. 6 Which shall bate his sythes keene edge. 1649 *JER. TAYLOR Gl. Exemp.* III. xv. 85 Caiaphas... to baite his envy, was furiously determined Jesus should die. 1827 F. COOPER *Prairie* I. iii. 43 And now I have bated your curiosity.

† 4. *trans.* To lower in amount, weight, estimation, to reduce. *Obs.*

c 1460 *Pol. Poems* (1859) II. 286 Theyre... wages be batyd. 1596 SHAKS. *Merch. V.* III. iii. 32 These greefes and losses haue so bated mee. 1607 *Timon* III. iii. 26 Who bates mine Honor, shall not know my Coyne. 1691 LOCKE *Money* Wks. 1727, II. 34 He must bate the Labourer's Wages.

† b. *intr.* To decrease in amount, weight, estimation. *Obs.*

a 1541 WYATT *Poet. Wks.* (1861), How that my wealth doth bate. 1596 SHAKS. *1 Hen. IV.* III. iii. 2 Doe I not bate? doe I not dwindle?

5. *trans.* To lessen in force or intensity; to mitigate, moderate, assuage, diminish. Now chiefly in *phr.* *To bate one's breath*: to restrain one's breathing, and make it soft and gentle.

a 1300 *Cursor M.* 10942 And dow þai þar-fore murnand were, þai batid it mekil wud þair chere. 1398 TREVISIA *Barth.* XIII. xxi. (1495) 452 Takyth fro us the beemes of the sonne and batyth heete therof. a 1640 CRASHAW *Poems* (1858) 117 And with some daring drug, Bait the disease. a 1653 G. DANIEL *Idyll* v. 105 Let's sift the World; and bate y^r Proverbe's force. 1829 GEO. ELIOT *A. Bede* 41 To his dying day he bated his breath a little when he told the story.

b. *intr.* To fall off in force or intensity. (Cf. 6.) 1860 TYNDALL *Glac.* i. § 3. 29 His cheerfulness and energy did not bate a jot.

6. *trans.* To strike off or take away (a part of); to deduct, subtract.

c 1440 *Prompt. Parv.* 26/2 *Batyn* or abaten of weyte or mesure, *subtrahere*. 1543 RECORDE *Gr. Arts* 120 b, Then 8... from 3 cannot be, therefore do they bate it from a hygher roume. 1608 *Life T. Cromwell* II. iii. 92, I will not bate a penny. 1790 OZELL *Vertol's Rom. Rep.* I. iv. 202 Neither of the Parties wou'd bate any thing of its Pretensions. 1809 W. IRVING *Knickerb.* (1861) 120 I'd not bate one nail's breadth of the honest truth.

b. with obj. (*orig. dative*) of the person, etc.

1597 SHAKS. *2 Hen. IV.* Epil. Bate me some, and I will pay you some. 1633 G. HERBERT *Ch. Porch* xlv. in *Temple* 10 Do not bate The place its honour. 1712 ADDISON *Spect.* No. 488 ¶ 2 They offered... to bate him the article of bread and butter in the tea-table account. 1867 PARKMAN *Jesuits N. Amer.* VIII. (1875) 91 Brébeuf would bate them nothing.

c. *ellipt.* To deprive (a person) of; also *dial.* to deduct part of the wages of.

1823 BYRON *Juan* XIII. xcviij, Must let slip no occasion, Nor bate (abate) their hearers of an inch. 1854 MRS. GASKELL *North & S.* xvi, 'Their business [being] to bate us down to clemming point.' 1864 Harland's *Lanc. Lyrics* 22 'He winna' 'bate' me when He sees Aw 've done as weel 's aw could. Aw 'se get my wage.

d. *To bate an ace*: see ACE 3. *Bate me an ace*, *quoth Bolton*: an obsolete expression of incredulity.

1570 R. EDWARDS *Damon & P.* in *Hazl. Dodsl.* IV. 77 Nay, there bate an ace (quod Bolton). c 1600 DAY *Begg. Bednell Gr.* (1881) 110 Bate me an ace of that, qd. Bolton.

† 7. To omit, leave out of count, except. *Obs.*
 a 1611 BEAUM. & FL. *Maid's Trag.* i. i. Bate me the King
 He lyes that saies it. 1647 R. STAPYLTON *Tuvenal* 183 For
 bate reward, who will at vertue aime? 1679 DRYDEN *Edipus*
 iii. i. Bate but his Years, You are his Picture. 1704 SWIFT
T. Tub (1768) l. 117 If you will bate him but the circum-
 stances of method and style.

† 8. To bate of: a. to make an abatement or de-
 duction from, or lessening of. *Obs.*

1605 B. JONSON *Staph. News* iii. iv. And yet not pay the
 use; Bate of the use? I am mad with this times manners.
 1608 EARL *Microcosm* vi. 14 A good conceit or two bates of
 such a man, and makes a sensible weakning in him. 1642
 R. CARPENTER *Experience* ii. iv. 179 The dearest friends
 would bate of their love.

b. to be deficient in.
 1633 T. ADAMS *Exp.* 2. *Pet.* ii. 2 Suppose the example bates
 of multitude, and is supplied with magnitude.

Bate (bāt), *v.* 3. *Tanning.* [immediate source
 doubtful; cf. Sw. *bata* to tan, G. *beizen* to steep
 in lye, to macerate, also to BAIT *v.* 1 (with which
 it is cognate).] To steep in bate: see BATE *sb.* 5.

1875 URE *Dict. Arts* iii. 89. The liming and bating, or the
 unhairing and cleansing. 1879 JAMIESON, *Bait*, to steep
 skins in a ley made of hens' or pigeons' dung, for the purpose
 of reducing them to a proper softness.

† **Bate**, *sb.* 1. *Obs.* Forms: 4-7 bate; also 4-5
 bat, 5 batte, 6 batste, bayte. [f. BATE *v.* 1; or
 directly shortened from DEBATE *sb.*]

1. Contention, strife, discord.
 a 1300 *Cursor M.* 684 Bituix mi susteris es be bate [Cotton
MS. debat]. a 1400 *Cov. Myst.* (1841) 12 Cryst that loyrd
 not stryff nor bat. 1565 SPENSER *Sonnets* viii. Ciulle bate
 Made me the spoile and bootie of the world. 1690 SHADWELL
Am. Bigot i. i. I'll breed no bate nor division between young
 people.

b. At (the) bate: at strife, contending, fighting.
 a 1500 E. E. *Misc.* (1855) 64 Thowth men be now at the
 batte. They may be frendys anodyre day. 1500 HAWES
Past. Pleas. xx. v. Was never man yet surely at the bayte
 Wyth Sappence, but that he dyd repent. 1623 SIR J.
 STRADLING in Farr's *S. P.* 233 A man within himself may
 be at bate.

2. Comb., as bate-breeding, -maker, -making.
 1533 MORE *Debell. Salem* Wks. 963/1 Hys bate making
 booke. a 1564 BECON *Christ & Antichr.* (1844) 517 Antichrist
 is our disturber, bate-maker, and destroyer. 1598 SHAKS.
Ven. & Ad. cx. This sour informer, this bate-breeding spy.
 1646 Vox *Populi* Pref., And our Peace-preachers turnes our
 Bate-makers.

¶ With the following cf. BAIT *sb.* 1 III, BATE *v.* 1 2.
 a 1340 *Gaw. & Gr. Knt.* 1461 Pen, brayn-wod for bate on
 burnez he [the boar] rasez. 1607 FELTHAM *Resolves* ii. xi.
 Wks. 181 The Bates and Flutterings of a Conscience within.

Bate (bāt), *sb.* 2. *Obs.* or *dia.* [f. BATE *v.* 2]

† 1. Depression, lowering: cf. ABATE *sb.* 1. *Obs.*
 1686 GOAD *Celest. Bod.* i. iii. 9 The deformity of the parts
 of the Earth . . . of Hault or Bate.

2. Deduction, diminution, abatement: cf. A-
 BATE *sb.* 3. Still in *north. dial.*, esp. in *comb.*
 a 1450 in *Babees Bk.* (1868) 329 Withoute bate or betyng be
 hit distribute . . . to powre men. 1845 DISRAELI *Sybil* (1863)
 72 You're never paid wages, but there's a bate ticket. 1851
Coal-tr. Terms Northumbld., Batework, short work.

† 3. That which is deducted or remains over. *Obs.*
 1798 *Ann. Reg.* 35/2 The bate or surplus of the chain re-
 mained suspended.

† **Bate**, *sb.* 3. *Obs. rare.* [ad. Gr. *bátos*, ad. Heb.
 n3 bath.] = BATH *sb.* 3.

1548 UDALL, etc. *Erasm. Par. Luke* xvi. 6 An hundred
 bates of oyle.

Bate (bāt), *sb.* 4. *Obs. exc. in north. dial.*
 [Origin unknown.] The grain of wood or stone.
 1664 POWER *Exp. Philos.* iii. 159 Finding the grain and
 bait of the stone to lye fit for their Trination. 1692 RAY
Disc. ii. v. (1732) 231 The Bate or Texture of the wood.
 1748 ARDERON in *Phil. Trans.* XLIV. 185, I sawed seven
 Pieces cross the Bate or Grain. 1879 JAMIESON, *Bait*, the
 grain of wood or stone. *Aberd.*

Bate (bāt), *sb.* 5. *Tanning.* [immediate source
 doubtful; cf. Sw. *bata* 'maceration, soaking, lime-
 pit, corrosive,' G. *beizen* 'maceration, steeping,'
 f. *beissen* to cause to bite, BAIT *v.* 1. See BATE *v.* 3.]
 An alkaline lye which neutralizes the effect of
 the previous application of lime, and makes the
 hides supple; a vat containing it; the process of
 steeping in it.

1804 *Hull Advertiser* 30 June 2/3 A Tan-Yard, containing
 . . . Securing-tubs, and Bates. 1875 URE *Dict. Arts* iii. 89
 The bate consists in steeping the haired hides in a solution
 of pigeons' dung. 1879 JAMIESON, *Bait*, the ley in which
 skins are put.

Bate, variant of BAIT; *obs. form* of BOAT.

¶ **Bateau** (batō) Also, less correctly, batteau.
 Pl. bateaux (batōz). [Fr. -OF. *batel* 'boat',
 cogn. w. Sp. *batel*, It. *battello*, dim. of *ballo*; cf.
 med.L. *batellus*, *batus*, *battus*, prob. from Teut.,
 and ON. *bátr*, OE. *bát*, Eng. BOAT.] A light river
 boat; esp. the long tapering boats with flat bottoms
 used by the French Canadians. *Bateau-bridge*:
 a floating bridge supported by bateaux.

1759 *Hist. Eur. in Ann. Reg.* 44/2 Dangerous to venture
 his troops . . . upon the water in open bateaux. 1823 F.
 COOPER *Pioneer* xxiii, The batteau shot into the circle of
 light. 1848 THOREAU *Maine Woods* i. (1864) 4 The making
 of bateaux is quite a business here. 1884 *Century Mag.*
 Apr. 826 The bateau which was to carry Mr. Lincoln.

Bated (bātēd), *ppl. a.* [f. BATE *v.* 2 + -ED.]

Lowered or lessened in position, amount, force,
 estimation, etc.; esp. in *Bated breath*: breathing
 subdued or restrained under the influence of awe,
 terror, or other emotion.

1596 SHAKS. *Merch. V.* l. iii. 125 With bated breath, and
 whispering humbleness. a 1637 B. JONSON *Masques* (1692)
 335 The longing Bridgroom, in the Porch, Shews you again
 the bated Torch. 1854 Mrs. GASKELL *North & S.* xvi. Take
 the bated wage, and be thankful. 1879 FREEMAN *Norm.*
Conq. (1876) IV. xxi. 632 It was whispered with bated breath
 that the vengeance for the blood of Waltheof had begun.

† **Bateful**, *a. Obs.* [f. BATE *sb.* 1 + -FUL.]
 Full of strife, quarrelsome, contentious.

a 1588 SIDNEY (J.) And taught his sheep her sheep in food
 to thwart; Which soon as it did bateful question frame, etc.
 1588 STANVHURST *Conceites* (Arb.) 138 Thee surlye God
 angered . . . too wrath towns bateful on eggeth.

† **Bateless**, *a. Obs.* [f. BATE *v.* 2 + -LESS.]
 That cannot be 'bated' or blunted; unalterably
 keen.

1593 SHAKS. *Linc.* ii. Haply that name of chaste unhappily
 set This bateless edge on his keen appetite. 1595 MARKHAM
Sir R. Grinville cv. Sets a batelesse edge, grownd by his
 word Vpon their blunt harts.

Battel, -elment, *obs. ff.* BATTLE, -MENT.

† **Batelle**, *Obs.* Also 6-7 battle. [a. OF.
batel: see BATEAU.] A small boat, a skiff.

1330 R. BRUNNE *Chron.* 241 Vnder þam alle sank, bothe
 batelle and barge. c 1440 *Morte Arth.* (Roxb.) 103 With his
 batelle one brede, by tha blythe stremes. 1790 *Stow's Survey*
 (Strype 1754) i. ll. x. 486/1 The lesser boat called a Battle
 (temp. Edw. III).

Batelur, *obs. form* of BATTLE.

Batement. ? *Obs.* [aphetic form of ABATE-
 -MENT.] Reduction, lessening, diminution.

1677 MOXON *Mech. Exerc.* (1703) 157 Instead of asking how
 much was cut off such a piece of Stuff, Carpenters ask what
 Batement that piece of Stuff had.

Bater (bātēr), *Falconry.* [f. BATE *v.* 1 2 +
 -ER.] A hawk that bates.

1575 TURBERV. *Falconrie* 32 Great Baters and therefore
 not very greedy of meate.

Batesme, *obs. form* of BAPTISM.

Bat-fowl (bāt-fau), *v.* [app. f. BAT *sb.* 2 +
 FOWL *v.*, as if to go fowling with bats or clubs.
 Perhaps afterwards associated with BAT the noc-
 turnal animal.]

1. To catch birds at night by dazing them with a
 light, and knocking them down or netting them.

c 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 26 Batfowlyn (*v.* *r.* or go to take birdes
 in the nyght), *aucubaculo*. 1538 LELAND *Itin.* VII. 143
 There they bat Fowle, and kil many Birdes. 1611 COTGR.
Briller, to batfowle; to catch birds by batfowling.

2. (See BAT-FOWLING *vbl. sb.*)

Bat-fowler. [f. prec. + -ER.]

1. One who practises bat-fowling.

c 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 26 Batfowlere, *aucubaculator*. 1330
 PALSGR. 197/1 Batfouler, a taker of byrdes, *piperr*. 1770
 G. WHITE *Hist. Selborne* xxvii. 78 The bat-fowlers . . . take
 many red-wings in the hedges.

† 2. *slang.* A swindler, a sharper who makes
 victims of the simple or credulous. *Obs.*

1608 ROWLANDS *Green's Cony-catchers* 16 Gentlemen Bat-
 fowlers in comparison of the common rablement of Cut-
 purses and pickpockets.

Bat-fowling, *vbl. sb.* [f. as prec. + -ING.]

1. The catching of birds by night when at roost.

c 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 26 Batte fowlynge, *aucubaculator*.
 1530 PALSGR. 197/1 Batfowlyng, *la piple*. 1610 SHAKS.
Temp. ii. i. 185 We vould so, and then go a Bat-fowling.
 1727 BRADLEY *Fam. Dict.* s. v. Bird, Bat fowling . . . may be
 used with nets or without. 1873 BROWNING *Red Cott. Night*.
 C. 1405 Bat-fowling is all fair with birds at roost; The lantern
 and the claspnet suit the hedge.

fig. a 1670 HACKET *Adp. Williams* ii. (1692) 66 They that
 go a bat-fowling in the dark, to seek matter of crimination.

† 2. *slang.* Swindling, victimizing the simple. *Obs.*
 1608 ROWLANDS *Green's Cony-catchers* 8 As for Coni-
 catching, they cleape it Batfowling, the wine the Strap, and
 the cards the Limetwigs. 1608 DEKKER *Belman Lond.*
 Wks. 1885 III. 131 Sometimes likewise this Card-cheating
 . . . is called Bat fowling, and then y^e Setter is the Beater.

† **Batful**, *a. Obs.* [f. bat- (see BATTEN *v.*) +
 -FUL; a favourite word of Drayton's.] = BATTLE.

1549 THOMAS *Hist. Italy* i Fertile fieldes, pleasaunt hilles,
 batfull pastures, &c. 1607 J. DAVIES *Summa Tol.* (1875)
 26 The Beggars Belly is the batfull's ground That we can
 sow in. 1612 DRAYTON *Poly-olb.* x. 159 That Brooke whose
 course so batfull makes her mould.

Bath (bap), *sb.* 1. Forms: 1-2 bæp, 2-3 bæð,
 3 bæp, 3-6 bæpe, 3-7 bathe, 2- bath. [Common
 Teutonic: OE. *bæð* = OS. *bād*, OHG. *bad*, *pad*,
 mod.G. *bad*, ON. *bād* (not recorded in Gothic): -
 OTeut. **batho*-(m), neut. Prob. f. OTeut. verbal
 base **bajo*- to foment (cf. OHG. *pāwan*, *pāan*,
 mod.G. *bähen*), cogn. with L. *fovere*; the idea of
 'heat' being originally prominent in *bath*: cf.
 STREW. The technical senses show a parallel transi-
 tion from the heating bath of chemistry to the
 merely steeping or washing bath of photography.]

I. The action of bathing; the state of being
 bathed.

1. The action of bathing or immersing the body,
 or a part of it, in water or other liquid. (Used
 playfully of accidental or involuntary immersion.)

Preceded by words indicating differences in the mode of
 application, or the part of the body subjected to it: thus,
douche, *hip*, *plunge*, *shower*, *sitz*, *sponge-bath*. Phrase,
to take a bath.

c 1000 Sax. *Leechd.* II. 244 Bæp him egleð swiðost æfter
 mete. 1398 TREVISA *Barth. De P. R.* iii. xxiv. (1495) 74 A
 bathe in cold water. 1711 F. FULLER *Med. Gymn.* Pref.,
 A Warm Bath is . . . supposed . . . to be only a kind of a last
 Resort. 1837 DICKENS *Pickw.* xxxvi. He had imprudently
 taken a bath at too high a temperature. 1851 KINGSLEY
Yeast iv. 75 Well, my man . . . how are you after your cold-
 bath? You are the heaviest fish I ever landed. *Mod.* The
 dripping trees gave us a gratuitous shower-bath.

† 2. The immersion or washing of baptism. *Obs.*

c 885 K. ÆLFRED *Oros.* vi. xxxiv. § 4 Hu hi hine bædan
 rihtes zelesafan, and fullwiltes bæpes. c 1175 *Lamb. Hom.*
 23 Al swa clenliche swa crist ha be bithahte on pas fulhtes
 bede. c 1200 ORMIN 18044 þurh shrifte & þurh dædbotes
 bæpp, & ec þurh bæpjske tæress.

3. By extension: The action of immersing the
 body in, or surrounding it with, any medium, such
 as vapour, hot air, mud, to produce effects analo-
 gous to those of bathing.

1771 J. S. Le Dran's *Observ. Surg.* 294 The last Remedy
 he used was dry Baths . . . performed with Spirit of Wine.

4. The state of being suffused with a liquid, as
 perspiration.

1598 SHAKS. *Merry W.* iii. v. 120 And in the height of this
 Bath . . . to be throwne into the Thames. 1714 MANDEVILLE
Fab. Bees (1725) l. 271 His head all over in a bath of sweat.
 1783 AINSWORTH *Lat. Dict.* (Morell) i. To be all in a bath,
sudore diffusus.

5. fig. Bath of blood: carnage. (Ger. *blutbad*.)
 1888 FARRAR *Early Chr.* II. 207 Once more began the
 bath of blood for the hapless race.

II. The liquid or element in which one bathes.

6. A quantity of water or other liquid prepared
 for bathing.

Preceded by attrib. words indicating differences in the
 nature or temperature of the liquid used: thus, *hot*, *warm*,
tepid, *cold*, *salt*, *fresh-water* bath.

c 885 K. ÆLFRED *Bæda* iv. xix. On hátum bæðum. a 1000
 CYNEWULF *Juliana* (Grein) 581 Bæp hâte wéol. a 1200
Moral Ode 218 His bæp scal bon wallinde [v. r. in E. E. P.
 29 His bæð scal beo wallinde nich]. 1340 HAMPOLE *Pr.*
Consc. 7481 A bathe of water, nouthur hate ne cald. c 1440
Gesta Rom. i. 2 Be nakid, and go into a bæp þat I shalle make
 for the. 1526 *Pilgr. Perf.* (W. de W. 1531) 135 To some . . . y^e
 hote forneys of fyre hath ben moche pleasaunt, as a temper-
 ate bathe. 1607 SHAKS. *Cor.* i. vi. 63 Conducted to a gentle
 Bath, And Balms applied to you. 1647 W. BROWNE *Poet.*
 ii. 263 They put him into a bathe of fresh water. 1709
 STEELE *Tatler* No. 80 ¶ 5 To rise the next Morning and
 plunge into the Cold Bath. 1866 KINGSLEY *Herew.* xviii.
 227 Countess, your bath is ready.

† 7. The water of baptism. *Obs.*

971 *Blickl. Hom.* 27 Þe he of þam fulwiltes bæpe eode.
 c 1250 *Ancre. R.* 396 Þreo bæbes he geseoð he his deore
 leofmon uorto waschen hire in ham . . . þæt erst bæð is fuluht.
 1548 CRANMER *Catech.* 212 The water of Baptisme, which
 Paule calleth the bathe of regeneration.

† 8. A spring of water (chiefly hot or impreg-
 nated with minerals) suitable for bathing. *Obs.*

864 *Cod. Dipl.* 290 Et þam hátum bæðum. 1297 R.
 GLOUC. 7 Þat water of Bæpe . . . þat euer ys yliche hot . . . Suche
 bæpes þer bæp fele in þe clos & in þe stret. c 1400 MAUNDEV.
 viii. 88 In that Bathe was wont to come Watre fro Paradyz.
 1519 *Four Elem.* in Hazl. *Dodsl.* I. 6 The cause of
 the baths of water in the earth, which be perpetually hot.
 1605 CAMDEN *Rem.* i That I may say nothing of healthfull
 Bathes. a 1711 KEN *Prayers for Baths* Wks. (1838) 449
 Look on the bath, as a very admirable and propitious work
 of Divine Providence.

9. Any particular liquid or mixture of liquids
 applied to the body to produce a certain remedial
 effect; a wash or lotion wherewith to bathe the
 whole or any part of the body, or to immerse
 animals, or objects of any kind, in order to expose
 them to its effects. Cf. 16, 17.

1548-3 *Act* 34-5 *Hen. VIII.* viii. § 3 To . . . minister . . . to anie
 outward sore . . . herbes, oyntmentes, bathes, pultes and em-
 plasteres. 1607 TORSSELL *Four-f. Beasts* 295 To bath his legs
 with this bath. 1610 MARKHAM *Masterp.* l. lxxxii. Make
 a bathe or pultus thereof, and lay it to the sick member.
Mod. One of the best baths for sheep now in use.

10. fig. and transf. Any enveloping or surround-
 ing medium, producing effects analogous to those
 of bathing.

c 1386 CHAUCER *Wife's T.* 397 His herte bathid in a bath
 of blisse. 1605 SHAKS. *Macb.* ii. ii. 38 Sleepe . . . The death of
 each dayes Life, sore Labors Bath. 1871 SMILES *Charac.*
 iii. (1876) 73 Enjoying a bath of sunshine. 1878 B. TAYLOR
Denkation ii. v. 84 Bath of dazzling Day, Take these spent
 limbs, revive the old Titan blood.

III. A receptacle, apartment, or place for
 bathing.

11. A vessel or receptacle intended to contain
 water for the purpose of bathing. (Cf. 17.)

1607 SHAKS. *Timon* iv. iii. 86 Season the slaues for Tubbes
 and Bathes. 1635 R. BOLTON *Conf. Aff. Cons.* l. 355 It is
 nothing to swimme in a warme Bath. 1790 COWPER *Odys.*
 xvii. 104 And plung'd his feet into a polish'd bath. *Mod.*
 Baths for sale or hire. To run the water out of the bath.

12. An apartment arranged for bathing, or a
 building containing a series of such apartments;
 (the latter usually *pl.*).

1591 SPENSER *Ruines Rome* xxvii, These wals, these
 arcks, these bathes, these temples hie. 1636 HEALEY *Epi-*
tetus' Man. xxxi. 39 You cannot builde it a schoole, an
 Exchange, or a Bathe. 1757 BURKE *Abridgm. Eng. Hist.*
 Wks. X. 218 A fondness for baths, for gardens, for grand

houses. 1844 *Mem. Babylon. Pcess.* II. 30 At the principal bath in Beyroot. 1879 *Boy's Own P.* 118/2 The Autumn swimming fête was held at the Lambeth Baths.

13. A place for undergoing medical treatment by bathing and similar remedial agencies; a town resorted to for the sake of such treatment, e.g. *Matlock Bath*. Usually in pl. Cf. BATH² 1.

1568 *TURNER Baths* 1 Of the baths of Bath. The bath of England is in a city called in Latin Bathonia, and Baeth in English, of the bathes y^e are in it. 1578 J. JONES (*title*) The Baths of Bathes Ayde. 1670 *COTTON Espermon* III. x. 487 At liberty to go as far as the Frontier to the Baths at Banieres. 1739 *HUXHAM Fevers* III. (1750) 30 Sent him to use the Waters at the Bath. 1864 *TENNISON Aylmer's F.* 27 His wife a faded beauty of the Baths.

IV. Transferred uses in science and the arts.

† 14. (St.) *Mary's Bath* in *Alch.*, etc.: see *BAIN MARIE. Obs.*

c 1470 *Bk. Quintessence* 13 Putte by vij. daies to encorpere wel as tofore in be bath of marien. 1610 B. JONSON *Alch.* II. i. F. is come over the helm too, I thank my maker, in S. Mary's bath. 1632 *SHERWOOD, Maries Bath, Bain de Marie.*

15. Chem. (See quot. 1846.)

1599 A. M. Gabelkauer's *Bk. Physik* 54 Bath it 3 dayes after other, every day in a water bath. 1709 G. WILSON *Chym.* Expl. 3rd Table, The Sand Bath the digesting Furnace. *Ibid.* 8th Table, The moist Bath of the Athanor. 1846 G. WRIGHT *Cream Sci. Knowl.* 37 Bath in Chemistry, is a contrivance for producing a steady heat at high temperature, or at a temperature not exceeding that of boiling water. In the former, the substance to be heated is placed in a vessel immersed in sand, and this is called a sand-bath; in the latter water is employed instead, and this is called a water-bath, or balneum Marie.

16. Dyeing, A preparation of colouring liquid in which the dyer immerses his cloth, etc.

1792 *HAMILTON Berthollet's Dyeing* I. i. 1. i. 19 Each of them he dyed separately in a cochineal bath.

17. Photography, A solution in which photographic plates or prints are immersed, for the purposes of 'sensitizing,' fixing, toning, washing, etc.; the vessel in which the solution is contained. 1861 *Photogr. News Alm.* in *Circ. Sc.* 160/1 A thirty-five grain nitrate bath... is the best sensitizing solution. c 1865 J. WYLD in *Circ. Sc.* I. 148/2 The choice of a 'bath'... for rendering a coated plate sensitive, has been a subject of great discussion amongst photographers. 1869 *Eng. Mech.* 17 Dec. 335/1 It varies with the strength of the... albumenising... bath. 1879 *Cassell's Techn. Educ.* II. 65 For the sensitising of the late, a glass or porcelain bath will be required. 1884 *ARNBY Instr. Photogr.* 109 The ordinary negative bath is used.

18. Metallurgy, 'A mass of molten material in a furnace.' *Raymond Mining Gloss.* 1881.

V. An order of knighthood.

19. Order of the Bath: a high order of British knighthood. (So called from the bath which preceded installation.)

1603 *KNOLLES Hist. Turks* Ep. Ded., My most especial good friend Sir Peter Manwood Knight of the Bath. 1614 *SELDEN Titles Hon.* 359 Those of the Bath were anciently amongst the old Franks. [See the whole passage.] 1747 *LIND Lett. Nary* (1757) I. 45 To wear... a star as the knights of the Bath do. 1835 *Penny Cycl.* IV. 24/2 The re-modelling of the Order of the Bath was dated January 2, 1815.

b. Short for: *Bath King of Arms*, the herald or marshal of the order.

1795 *London Gaz.* No. 6382/4 Bath King of Arms then made his Reverences. Bath then delivered the Collar of the Order.

VI. *Attrib.* and *Comb.*, as *bath-cloth*, † *bath-fat* (= BATH 11), *bath-house*, *-keeper*, *-room*, *-stove*, *-towel*, *-tub*; *bath-loving* adj., etc.

1536 *BELLENDEN Cron. Scot.* (1821) II. 267 The third sonne, John Stewart, was... slane in the Cannongait, in a baith fatt. 1591 *PERCIVALL Sp. Dict.*, *Bañador*, a bathe keeper. 1591 G. FLETCHER *Ruse Commu.* (1836) 147 Made lyke the German bathstoves. 1618 R. HOLYDAY *Juvenal* 43 They fold the bath-cloaves. 1705 *London Gaz.* No. 4139/7 The Bath House at Buxton. 1760 *COXE Russ. Disc.* 99 An empty Russian dwelling, and near it a bath-room. 1884 *H. LANSDELL Siberia* I. 192 Out-houses, such as kitchen-house and bath-house. 1884 *Century Mag.* Dec. 266/2 English earthenware bath-tubs.

Bath (bap), sb.² [The same word as the prec. originally used in dat. pl. in a defining phrase, thus, *Cod. Dipl.* 290 (an. 864) 'in illa famosa urbe bat est æt ætem hātum baðum' (in that famous town that is at the hot baths), 193 (an. 808) 'in civitate æt Baðun' (in the city at the Baths), whence as an indecl. sb. *Baðum*, *Baðun*, *Baðon* (Latinized *Bathonia*), *Baðan*, *Baðanceaster* (see Bosworth); in 13th c. reduced to *Bapen*, *Bape*, *Bathe*: in 17th c. *Bath*, in 18th c. sometimes with renewed reference to its spa, *the Bath* (or allusively *the Baths*).]

1. A well-known city in the west of England, so called from its hot springs.

973 *O. E. Chron.* On ðære ealdan byrig Acemannes ceastre, æac hi, oðre worde, beornas ealdan nemnað. 1130 *Ibid.* Gode-freith of Bathe. 1297 [see prec. 8]. 1258 [see prec. 13]. 1604 *MASSINGER Parl. Love* II. iii, The far-famed English Bath, or German Spa. 1711 *ADDISON Spect.* No. 179 ¶ An Under-Citizen of the Bath. 1797 R. NEWTON *Expt. Univ. Educ.* reduced 13 To take Oxford and Blenheim in his way to the Bath. 1799 H. WALPOLE *Lett. H. Mann* 25 Sept., I am going to the Bath, with more opinion of... the change of air, than of the waters. (Cf. BATH¹ 13.)

2. a. *attrib.* of natural or artificial productions of the city, or of objects connected with it: e.g. *Bath*

waters, etc. b. Used as a specific description in *Bath-bun*, *-chap*, *-fagot*, *-ring*, etc. c. *Bath-brick*, a preparation of calcareous earth moulded in form of a brick, made at Bridgwater; used for cleaning polished metal. *Bath-chair*, a large chair on wheels for invalids. (Both these are often written without a capital B.) † *Bath-coating*, a material formerly fashionable for male attire. *Bath Guide*, a popular 'Society' poem of the 18th c., sometimes taken as a type of such verse. *Bath-metal*, an alloy, consisting of 3 or 4 oz. of zinc to one pound of copper (Ure). *Bath oolite*, *Bath-stone*, a building stone quarried from the oolite formation near Bath. *Bath-post*, a sort of letter-paper.

1839 *CARLYLE Fr. Rev.* VII. i. I. 300 Scanty ill-baked loaves, more like baked *Bath bricks. 1863 *KINGSLEY Water-Bab.* iv. 127 And found that the moon was just the shape of a *Bath bun. 1769 *MRS. RAFFALD Eng. Househpr.* (1778) 272 To make *Bath Cakes. 1860 *VENABLES J. Wight* 121 *Bath chairs are always waiting the arrival of the steamers. 1873 *MISS BRADDOCK Str. & Pilgr.* III. xviii. 389 She... was brought here in a *bath-chair. 1889 *MARRIAT F. Mildmay* xvi, A *Bath chair-man. 1791 J. LACKINGTON *Mem. Let.* xix. (D.) One [great-coat] made of *Bath-coating. 1875 *STONEHENGE Brit. Sports* I. i. ix. § 3. 123 A waistcoat of *Bath-coating or shag. 1721 *ADDISON Spect.* No. 3 ¶ 7 Little piles of notched sticks, bound up together in bundles like *Bath faggots. 1844 *MISS MITFORD Village Ser.* L. (1863) 92 [He] becommelled it through three pages of *Bath-guide verses. 1750 *Phil. Trans.* XLVI. 586 Platina... like *Bath-metal, or cast Iron, brittle. c 1865 J. WYLD in *Circ. Sc.* I. 153/2 The plain *Bath or satin post may be employed. 1765 *Archæol.* VII. 104 (D.) A lock of hair which was so perfectly strong that I had it woven into *Bath rings. 1833 *LYELL Princ. Geol.* III. 232 At Vichy, the oolite resembles our *Bath stone in appearance. 1723 *London Gaz.* 6127/3 The Mayor... having appointed Carew Davis... Pumper of all the *Bath-waters. 1836 *Scenes Commerce* 162 The *Bath water is hot.

Bath (bæp), sb.³ Forms: (4) *batus*, 6 *bat*, *batte*, 6- *bath*. [a. Heb. בַּת *bath*: the earlier forms represented *L. batius*, Gr. *Báros* of the Vulgate and Septuagint.] A Hebrew liquid-measure, containing about six and a half gallons.

1398 *TREvisa Barth. De P. R.* XIX. cxxviii. (1495) 932 Batus is in fletyng thynges as cours, and Ephri in drye thynges. 1535 *COVERDALE Ezek.* xiv. 14 The oyle shal be measured with the Bat. Ten Batus make one Homer. 1581 *MARBECK Bk. of Notes* 99 Bath & Epha seeme to be both one measure. 1611 *BIBLE Isa.* v. 10 Ten acres of Vineyard shall yeeld one Bath. 1653 *COCKERAM, Bath*, ten pottles in liquor.

Bath (bap), v. [f. BATH sb.¹; cf. to *shoe*, *tub*, *pot*, etc.; distinct from *bathe*; but the inflected forms, except *baths*, coincide in spelling, though not in pronounc., with the corresponding forms of *bathe*, and therefore are avoided in writing; *batht* and *bath-ing*, with a hyphen, have however been employed. In some early instances, *bath* may probably be only a variant spelling of *bathe*.]

trans. To subject to a bath; to wash or immerse in a bath. Differing from *bathe* in having a more distinct reference to sense 11 of BATH sb.¹, and in being always literal.

1483 *Cath. Angl.* 24 To bath or bathe, *balneare*. c 1485 *Digby Myst.* (1832) iv. 296 A bath of bi blude to bath mans saule in. 1616 R. C. *Times Whis.* (1871) 116 That fountain rather Where faire Diana with her nymphs doth bath her? 1660 *EVELYN Mem.* (1857) I. 366 To London and saw the bathing... of the Knights of the Bath. 1876 G. MACDONALD *T. Wingfield*, He batht himself. *Mod.* The nurse who dresses and baths the younger children.

Bathe (bæð), v. Forms: 1 *baðian*, *baðian*, 2-4 *baðen*, *baþen*, *baþe* (n), *baþe* (n), 4 *baþie*, *-ey*, 5-6 *bath*, 5- *bathe*. [Common Teutonic: OE. *baðian*, also *baðian* = ON. *baða*, OHG. *badōn*, *badōn*, mod. G. *baden*, Du. *baden* = OTEut. *baþ-en*, f. *baþo* (m) BATH sb.¹ The difference of vowel and consonant between *bathe* and *bath* (bæð, bap) has been developed since the OE. period, through the additional syllable and open vowel of *baðian*; cf. *grass*, *graze*, *staff*, *stave*.]

I. *trans.* (Now mostly reflexive or passive.)

1. To immerse, as in a bath: a. *lit.* To immerse (the body, or any part of it) in water or other liquid, for the sake of some effect (e.g. health, warmth, cleansing) promoted by the action of the liquid.

a 1200 *Moral Ode* 245 þer is bernunde pich hore saule to baþien inne. 1398 *TREvisa Barth. de P. R.* VI. ix. (1495) 195 The moder batheth the chylde. c 1400 *MAUNDEV.* x. 112 Gabriellles welle, where our Lord was wont to bathe him. 1611 *BIBLE Lev.* xv. 5 [He] shall wash his clothes, and bathe himself in water. 1667 *MILTON P. L.* VII. 437 Others on Silver Lakes and Rivers, Bath'd Thir downie Brest. 1796 *MORSE Amer. Geog.* I. 205 He has the convenience of sometimes bathing himself.

b. To immerse in other elements or substances, e.g. sand, fire.

c 1386 *CHAUCER Nonne Pr. T.* 447 Faire in the sond, to bathe hir merily, Lith Petelot... Agayn the sonne. 1612 *DRAYTON Poly-olb.* Frontisp., The Norman Leopards bath'd in Gules. 1849 *ROBERTSON Sermon.* Ser. I. i. (1866) 16 The later martyr bathes his fingers in the flames.

c. To plunge, or dip, without reference to the action of the liquid.

a 1345 *E. E. Allit. P. C.* 211 [Jonah says] Beret me to þe

borde, & baþes me þer-oute. 1583 *STANHYURST Æneis* III. (Arb.) 82 In flud Trinacrian thy great oars must deepe be bathed.

2. To apply water or other liquid to anything so as to wet it all over, or moisten it copiously; to lave, perfuse, suffuse, wet, moisten: a. *literally*.

c 1000 *Sax. Leechd.* II. 206 Donne is sio beðianne mid hatan wætre. c 1250 *Gen. & Ex.* 2447 First ix. niþt de liches beðen, And smeren. 1536 *Pilgr. Peril.* (W. de W. 1531) 140 We come to the gates... all bathed in rayne and frosen with yce. 1593 *SHAKS. 3 Hen. VI.* II. ii. 169 Till we haue... bath'd thy growing, with our heated bloods. 1654 *CULPEPPER Eng. Physic.* 6 To bath the place grieved... for the inflammation. 1877 *CHAVASSE Adv. to Mother* § 290 Well bathe the eye with vinegar and water.

b. said of the action of a river or the sea upon the adjacent banks or land.

1591 *SPENSER Bellay's Vis.* ix, A water, whose out gushing flood Ran bathing all the creakie shore afloat. 1697 *Cress D'Annoy's Trav.* (1706) 52 The River which passes under it bathes a meadow. 1776 *GIBBON Decl. & F.* I. xix. 537 The river bathed the foot of the walls. 1872 *BAGHOT Physic.* & Pol. 85 Groups of islands... bathed by the same oceans.

c. said of the action of tears, perspiration, or any secretion, in flowing over and wetting the body or its parts.

1578 T. N. tr. *Comp. W. India* 32 His eyes toward heaven, and his face bathed with tears. 1718 *POPE Iliad* XXIII. 18 Tears bathe their arms, and tears the sands bedew. 1746 *HERVEY Medit.* (1818) 166 The laborer, bathed in sweat, drops the scythe. 1790 *BURKE Fr. Rev.* Wks. V. 89 Bathing in tears... thousands of worthy men and worthy families. 1875 *DARWIN Insectiv. Pl.* vi. 87 When bathed in the secretion.

d. (Inverted construction.)

1611 *SHAKS. Cymb.* I. vi. 100 Had I this cheek To bathe my lips vpon.

3. The phrase 'to bathe in blood' includes and often blends 1 and 2, and is generally used *fig.* to express the great quantity of blood shed.

c 1300 *K. Alis.* 2708 Mony pencil god, Quyk y-bathed in heorte blod. c 1325 *E. E. Allit. P. B.* 1248 Pay... Baped barnes in blod & her brayn spyled. c 1380 *Sir Ferunb.* 3100 Roland... bapede is swerd in hure blod. c 1590 *GREENE Fr. Bacon* viii. 79, I will bathe my poniard in the bosom of an Earl. 1601 *SHAKS. Jul. C.* III. i. 106 Let vs bathe our hands in Cæsars blood vp to the Elbowes. 1647 W. BROWNE *Poet.* II. 306 A tyrant which took pleasure in bathing himself in humane blood. 1836 *THIRLWALL Greece* II. xvi. 377 His plan... would have bathed Sparta in blood.

4. To suffuse, envelope, or encompass, like the air or the sunshine.

1816 J. WILSON *City of Plague* II. ii. 136 A stream of sunshine bathing The bright moss-roses. 1823 *KINGSLEY Hypatia* xiii. 164 Heavenly glory seemed to bathe her from head to foot. 1853 *KANE Grinnell Exp.* xxxi. (1856) 272 The Bay of Baffin, bathed in foggy darkness. 1878 *HUXLEY Physiogr.* 88 An ocean of air bathing the entire earth.

b. said of mental influences.

1526 *SKELTON Magnyf.* 1490 Bathyd with blysse, embraced with comfort. 1535 *COVERDALE Isa.* lxiii. 6 And thus haue I troden downe the people in my wrath, and bathed them in my displeasure. 1857 *EMERSON Poems* 8 The babe... Lies bathed in joy.

II. *intr.* (from reflexive use of I.)

5. a. *lit.* To take a bath, to plunge or immerse oneself in water or other liquid, so as to enjoy its influence; in earlier usage also, to lie or remain so immersed, to bask.

c 1200 *Moral Ode* (245) in *E. E. P.* (1862) 29 Pich bat eure weald þat sculle baþien inne þo þe laddre vual lif. c 1275 *Death in O. E. Misc.* 180 In ful a bitter bað bathien ich schal naked. 1398 *TREvisa Barth. de P. R.* III. xxiv. (1495) 73 They that bathen temperatly in hote water. 1667 *MILTON P. L.* II. 660 Vex'd Scylla, bathing in the Sea. 1667 *COWPER Lett.* 24 June. It is a noble stream to bathe in. 1862 *STANLEY Jew. Ch.* v. (1875) 89 The princess came down... to bathe in the sacred river.

b. in various transferred and figurative senses: see the transitive uses above, 3-4.

1576 *LD. VAUX in Parad. Dainty Dev.*, He most of all doth bathe in bliss. 1590 *MARLOWE and Pt. Tamburl.* II. iii, Now lie the Christians bathing in their bloods. 1646 *TRAPP Comm. Mark* i. 35 Shall Christians be bathing in their beds on their Lord's day? c 1700 S. WESLEY *Eupolis* 40 The feathered souls, that swim the air, And bathe in liquid ether there.

Bathe (bæð), sb. [f. prec. vb.] An act of bathing (in the *intr.* sense of *bathe*).

Of modern origin, and used instead of BATH sb.¹, sense 1, to exclude the suggestion of other senses.

1831 *SOUTHEY Lett.* (1856) IV. 230 A two hours' walk, and a bathe in the Greta. 1861 *Sat. Rev.* 30 Nov. 565 A mountain stream in which the happy party took every day their morning bathe.

Batheable (bæð-əb'l), a. [f. BATHE v. + -ABLE.] Able to be bathed; suitable for bathing in.

1831 *MRS. KEMBLE Rec. Girlhood* III. 90 It [the sea] was not expected to be batheable till eleven.

Bather (bæð-ə), [f. BATHE v. + -ER.]

† 1. A bath-keeper, or attendant at a bath. *Obs.* 1636 *HEALEY Theophrast.* 40 Turning to the Bather or Bath-keeper, saith, Sir, now I thanke you for nothing. 1823 J. HOBHOUSE *Journ.* 537 The appearance of the bathers... is most disgusting; and it requires some practice to bear patiently the kneading of your limbs, etc.

2. One who takes a bath.

1716-8 *LADY MONTAGUE Lett.* I. xxix. 94 What degree of warmth the bathers please to have. c 1824 *STANLEY Sinai & Pal.* VII. (1858) 315 Most of the bathers keep within the shelter of the bank.

Bathetic (bæp-etik), a. [A mod. word, formed

irregularly from *bathos*, on the assumed analogy of *pathetic*, (which is not derived from *pathos*); cf. also BATHETIC.] Characterized by bathos; 'sinking' rhetorically, or in literary style; absol. *The bathetic* = BATHOS. (A favourite word of reviewers.)
 1834 COLERIDGE in *Rem.* (1836) II. 163 Even Warburton would scarcely have made so deep a plunge into the bathetic.
 1866 *Lond. Rev.* 15 Sept. 189/1 The bathetic of our women novelists.
 1879 O'CONNOR *Beaconsfield* 189 His bathetic and impotent epic.
 1884 *Inquirer* 21 June 390/1 Verbose when they should have been concise, bathetic when they wanted to be pathetic.

Bathing (bæ'tiŋ), *vbl. sb.* [f. BATH *v.* + -ING¹.]
 1. The exposing of oneself or others to the free action of water, etc. by immersion or suffusion.

1541 *Copland Galyen's Therap.* 2 A iv, Moderate it with bathynge, and wetyng in temperate water. 1776 Miss BURNES *Evening in Casquet Lit.* V. 311/2, I always hated bathing. 1788 G. SANDMAN in *Med. Comm.* II. 277 She used sea bathing. 1809 L.D. MALMESBURY in G. ROSE *Diaries* (1860) II. 355 Remaining a week for the purpose of bathing.
 2. *attrib.* or in *comb.*, as *bathing-box*, *-dress*, *-gown*, *-machine*, *-place*, *-room*, *-tub*, *-woman*, etc.

1593 *PLAT Diversæ New Exper.* (1594) 94 The room would be close wherein you place your bathing-tub. 1653 *Bacon Gardens, Ess.* (Arb.) 561 The other kinde of Fountaine, which we may call a Bathing Poole. 1646 SIR T. BROWNE *Pseud. Ep.* 309 The Batheries or bathing places... hee exposeth unto the Summer setting. 1771 *SMOLLETT Humph. Cl.* (1815) 214 Bathing machines are ranged along the beach. 1810 in *Risdon's Surv. Devon* 431 The town is frequented... as a bathing place. 1845 *HOOD Storm at Hastings* xxvi, No bathing woman waded—none would dare. 1859 *All Y. Round No.* 19. 447 Coloured bathing-dresses, towels, and other apparatus. 1883 *Harper's Mag.* Feb. 336/2 'Bathing-boxes' (as the sea-side cottages are called) perched about on the... hill-sides.

Bathing, *ppl. a.* [f. BATH *v.* + -ING².]

1824 *Pall Mall G.* 29 July 4/2 Bathing boys grow up clean men.

Bathometer (bæ'thɒmɪtər), [f. Gr. *Báthos* depth + *μέτρον* measure.] A spring balance of peculiar construction for ascertaining the depth of water without actually measuring the sounding line.
 1875 J. PRESTWICH in *Phil. Trans.* CLXV. 616 Obtained, by means of his bathometer... the low readings given.

Bathonian, *a.* [f. *Bathonia*, latinized name of the city of Bath, in England + -AN; cf. *Oxonian*.] Of or pertaining to the city of Bath.

1766 *ANSTREY Horace Ode* II. i. (1808) 189 Whose genius guides, whose counsel guards The labours of Bathonian bards.
Bat-horse: see BAT *sb.* 3

Bathos (bæ'thɒs), [a. Gr. *Báthos* depth. First made Eng. in sense 2 by Pope's treatise, the title being a parody on Longinus's *περί ὑψους*; subseq. in the more etymological sense 1.]

1. Depth; lowest phase, bottom.
 1638 *SANDERSON Serm.* II. 101 There is such a height, and depth, and length, and breadth in that love; such a *Báthos* in every dimension of it. 1758 *JOHNSON Idler No.* 79 ¶ 7 Declining... to the very bathos of insipidity. 1840 *MARRVAT Olla Podr.* (Ridg.) 276, I am at the very bathos of stupidity.
 2. *Rhet.* Ludicrous descent from the elevated to the commonplace in writing or speech; anticlimax.

1727 *POPE Bathos* 71 While a plain and direct road is paved to their *ὑψος*, or sublime; no track has been yet chalked out to arrive at our *Báthos*, or profound. 1787 J. ANDREWS *Anecdotes s.v. Bathos*, Had Ovid introduced this supper of Niobé between the death of her children and her own metamorphosis into stone, he would have furnished us, with a complete instance of the Bathos. 1875 *M'LAREN Serm.* Ser. II. xii. 211 It is as absurd bathos as to say, the essentials of a judge are integrity, learning, and an ermine robe!
 3. Hence *gen.* A 'come-down' in one's career.
 1814 T. JEFFERSON *Writ.* (1830) IV. 240 How meanly has he closed his inflated career! What a sample of the bathos will his history present! 1841 *MARRVAT Poacher* xxviii, It was rather a bathos... to sink from a gentleman's son to an under usher.

Bathotic, *a. nonce-wd.* [f. Gr. *Báthos*, on superficial analogy; cf. *chaos*, *chaotic*.] = BATHETIC.
 1863 *Temple Bar* VII. 193 The appearance of this bathotic ebullition.

Bathukolpian (bæ'thʊkɒlpiən), *a. rare.* [f. Gr. *βαθυκόλπος* (f. *Báthos* deep + *κόλπος* breast, bosom) + -IAN.] Deep-bosomed. *Bathukolpio* (-kɒl'pik), *a.* [see -IO.] = prec.

1845 *Blackiv. Mag.* XVII. 222 Our bathukolpian attendant.
 1872 M. COLLINS *Pr. Clarice* I. 1. 8 A colossal red-haired maiden of twenty, bathukolpic.

Bathybius (bæ'thi'biʊs), *Zool.* [mod.L., f. Gr. *Báthos* deep + *βίος* living, f. *bios* life.] A name given by Prof. Huxley to a gelatinous substance found at the bottom of the Atlantic Ocean, and at first supposed to be a formless mass of living protoplasm, but now regarded as an inorganic precipitate.

1868 *HUXLEY in Q. J. J. Sci.* 211, I propose to confer upon this new 'Moner' the generic name of *Bathybius*. 1875 *DAWSON Dawn of Life* iv. 66 The Bathybius... may possibly be merely the pulpy sarcode of sponges. 1884 *Sat. Rev.* 14 June 770/2 Below the ooze, and bathybius, and so forth, in the Salaminian bay.

Bathymetric (bæ'thɪmɪtrɪk), *a.* [f. Gr. *Báthos* deep + *μετρικός* of measuring; cf. BATHOMETER.] Of or pertaining to the measurement of depth,

spec. to the vertical range of distribution of plants and animals in the sea.

1862 T. COSSOLD in *Intell. Observ.* No. 1. 27 Their bathymetric position... will also accord with that of the infested creatures. 1880 *J. Linn. Soc.* XV. 88 Their bathymetric limits are not absolutely constant.

Bathymetric, *a.* [f. as prec. + -AL.] = prec. 1861 *GEIKIE E. Forbes x. 209* This bathymetric principle of classification was also applied... to the *Ægean*.

Bathymetrically, *adv.* [f. prec. + -LY².] In bathymetric manner; as regards bathymetry.

1880 *Geog. Distrib. Anim.* in *Libr. Univ. Knowl.*, Life extends bathymetrically (to use Prof. Forbes's word) much further than was formerly supposed.

Bathymetry (bæ'thɪmɪtri), [f. Gr. *Báthos* deep + *μετρία* measurement.] The art or science of measuring depths (in the sea).

1864 in *WEBSTER*.

Batie-bum, *-bummil*, *Sc. Obs.* An inactive helpless fellow; a useless bungler.

1850 *CHRISTIE Kirke Gr.* 131 He muddit thame down lyk ony myss. He wes na baity bummil. 1872 A. ARBUTHNOT *Mis. Pure Scool.* Bot thame am I comptit ane batie-bum, And all men thinks a play me till injure.

Batilde, obs. form of BATTLED, embattled.

Bating (bæ'tiŋ), *vbl. sb.* 1 [f. BATE *v.* 1 + -ING¹.] The action of beating the wings, and (*spec.* in *Falconry*) fluttering off the fist or perch.

1556 *Bk. St. Albans* Avj, It is calde bating for she batith with hir selfe most oftyn causeless. 1614 *RALEIGH Hist. World* 1. 175 The crying of Crows, and bating of Ducks foretewh rain. 1783 *AINSWORTH Lat. Dict.* (Morell) 1, The bating of a hawk, *alarum plausus*.

Bating (bæ'tiŋ), *vbl. sb.* 2 [f. BATE *v.* 2 + -ING¹.] Lessening, abatement.

1688 *EARLE Microcosm* xxxix. 86 This bating shall in conclusion take away all he granted.

Bating (bæ'tiŋ), *ppl. a.* [f. BATE *v.* 1 + -ING².] Beating the wings impatiently, fluttering.

1587 *GASCOIGNE Herbes* 138 The hooded hawk... fast tied, yet beats hir bating wing.

Bating (bæ'tiŋ), *prep.*; also 6 *baiting*. [absolute use of pr. pple. of BATE *v.* 2; cf. similar use of *barring*, *excepting*.] Abating, leaving out of account, excepting, except. + *Bating of*: less than.

1568 C. WATSON *Polyb.* 73 b, Another tyme [they fought] with few bating of seven hundred. 1647 R. STAVILTON *Juvenal* ii. 182 Nobler then... all that from the scaffolds saw the sport He made, not bating him that paid him for't. 1721 *Wodrow Corr.* (1843) II. 594 Bating this, I know nothing to the youth's disadvantage. 1817 *BYRON Beppo* v. For, bating Covent Garden, I can hit on No place that's call'd 'Piazza' in Great Britain.

Batiste (bæ'tist), also 7 *baptist*. [a. F. *batiste* = *Baptiste*, according to Littré and Scheler from the alleged original maker, Baptiste of Cambray; according to others, from its use in wiping the heads of children after baptism.]

The French word for *cambric*; applied, in commerce, to a fine light fabric of the same texture, but differently finished, and made of cotton as well as of linen. Often *attrib.*

1697 *Cress D'Aunoy's Trav.* (1706) 155 A sort of a Gown made of their Baptist Cloth very fine. 1863 B. TAYLOR *H. Thurston* xviii. 240 Wiped her eyes with a very small batiste handkerchief. 1880 *MISS BRADDOCK Asph.* I. vi. 188 A graceful, gracious figure in a pale yellow batiste gown.

Batle, *batled*, *batling*: see BATTLE, etc.

Batle, *-er*, obs. ff. BATTLE, *-ER* (at Oxford).

Batler, in mod. edd. of *Shakspeare Batlet*. *Obs. rare* -1. [f. BATTLE *v.* 4 + -ER¹; or f. dim. f. BAT *sb.* 2 + -LET.] Probably, a 'beetle' for battling clothes: see BATTLE *v.* 4

1600 *SHAKS. A. Y. L.* II. iv. 49 And I remember the kissing of her batler. [1865 *Reader* 29 Apr. 481/3, I lately picked up in an old house in Yorkshire a 'batlet', such as Touchstone kissed when in love.]

Batling, *dial. rare* -1. [f. BAT *sb.* 2 + -LING.] A small stick, a fagot. (Halliwell.)

1864 *MAR. CHARLESWORTH Eng. Yeomen* 52 Tell 'em to bring in a batling, and make up the fire.

Batling, obs. form of BATTILING.

Batman 1 (bæ'tmæn). Also 6-7 *bateman*. [Turkish (Chaghatai) *bātmān*, (Osmanli) *baṭmān*, *batman*, a weight equal to the Pers. *man*, the Anglo-Indian *maund*.] An oriental weight varying greatly in value according to the locality.

1599 *HAKLUYT Voy.* II. 247 Every bateman here [i.e. Baby-lon] maketh 7 pound and 5 ounces English weight. 1616 *PURCHAS Pilgr.* (1864) 38 A Batman is five and fiftie pound weight English. 1740 *THOMPSON & HOGG in Hanway Trav.* (1762) I. iv. lii. 242 Their weights [at Khiva] are the great batman, equal to eighteen lb. russian, and the lesser batman, nine and a quarter. 1882 *McCulloch Dict. Comm.* 391 [At Constantinople] 6 okes [i.e. about 16 lbs.] = 1 batman.

Batman 2 (bæ'tmæn, bā'mæn). [f. Bāt *sb.* + MAN.] A man in charge of a bat-horse and its load; a military servant of a cavalry officer.

1809 *WELLINGTON in Gurw. Disp.* V. 198 The care of the Camp Kettles is not only the business of the Bātmān of the company, but of all the Bātmān of the regiment. 1844 *Regul. & Ord. Army* 271 A Bāt Man is allowed to the Surgeon for the care of the horse carrying the Instruments. 1855 *W. SARGENT Bradock's Exp.* 206 The English loss was... a waggoner, three bat-men, and a horse.
 ¶ See also BAT *sb.* 2

Batning, obs. form of BATTENING.

Baton (bæ'tɒn, || baton). Forms: 6- batton, 7- baton. [a. mod.F. *bâton*: -OF. *baston*, whence the earlier Eng. BASTON. *Baton* appeared first in 16th c. in Sc. writers: the usual Eng. form during 17th and 18th c. was BATOON, but *baton* was occasionally used in sense 2, and has now all but supplanted *batoon*.]

1. A staff or stick used as a weapon, sometimes also of iron or iron-tipped; a club, cudgel, or truncheon; = BASTON 1. *Obs.* in general sense, in which also BATOON was the form always used during 17th and 18th c.

1548 *Compl. Scot.* 28 The father takkis ane batton or sum othir sterk vappin to punishe his sonne. 1556 *SPENSER F. Q.* vi. vii. 46 The Villaine... with his yron batton which he bore Let drive at him. 1609 *SKENE Reg. Maj.* 142 Gift any... mutilates ane othir with ane batton. 1809 *SCOTT Anne of G. I.* If you use your baton, he rewards you with the stab of a knife.

2. A staff or stick generally; a walking-stick (after French use).

1801 *STRUTT Sports & Past.* II. iii. 98 A small batton or stump set up. 1860 *TYNDALL Glac.* I. § 11. 79 Driving... the spikes of our batons into the slope above our feet.

3. A staff or truncheon carried as the symbol of office, command, or authority; a staff of office; e.g. a Marshal's baton, that carried by engine-drivers on a single line of railway, and the truncheon of a constable. Formerly also BATOON (2).

1590 *J. BUREL Entry of Queen*, With battons blank into their hands. 1662 *J. BARGRAVE Pope Alex. VII.* (1867) 116 *Æsculapius*... in a long robe, with his baton or knotty staff in his hand. 1690 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 2527/3 His High-Steward and Chamberlain, having gilt Batons in their Hands. 1813 *SCOTT Trierm.* II. xxvii, The weighty baton of command. 1813 *WELLINGTON in Gurw. Disp.* X. 452 Marshal Jourdan's Bâton of a Marshal of France. 1864 *BURTON Scot. Abr.* I. i. 39 Buchan got the baton of High Constable.

4. *Her.* An ordinary, in breadth the fourth part of a BEND, not extending to the extremities of an escutcheon, but broken off short at each end, so as to have the figure of a truncheon; used by French heralds as a difference or mark of consanguinity, but in English coats of arms only in the form of the *baton sinister*, the badge of bastardy. (Popularly called *bar sinister*.) Formerly BASTON (3), *batune*, BATOON (3).

1816 *SCOTT Antiq.* xxiii, Here is the baton-sinister, the mark of illegitimacy, extended diagonally through both coats upon the shield. 1864 *BOURTEL Heraldry Hist. & Pop.* xxviii. 438 The eldest son of this Earl removed his father's baton from his arms.

5. *Music.* The light stick or wand used by a musical conductor for beating time. (From mod. Fr., and often pronounced as French.)

1867 *Athenæum* 6 Apr., The introduction of the bâton in England. 1880 *Grove Dict. Mus.* I. 82 There... 1820, Spohr appeared... when a baton was used for perhaps the first time at an English concert. 1884 *Yorksh. Post* 30 Apr., It was Costa, who founded in England the order of conductor, and who introduced the wand as *baton* in lieu of the fiddlestick.

6. See BATTEN.

7. *Comb.* as *batonless*, without a baton; cf. 2.

1835 *Blackiv. Mag.* May 73/1 The batonless chiefs, the disinherited princes of the Irish name.

Baton (bæ'tɒn), *v.*; also 6 *battoun* (e). [f. prec. sb.] To strike with a baton or truncheon; formerly, to cudgel: see the earlier form BATOON *v.*

1550 *MONTGOMERIE To R. Hudson*, They battouned her quhill that thay saw her bluid. 1800 *SCOTT Abbot* iv, That this young esquire shall poniard the servants, as well as switch and baton them. 1835 *Times* 17 Apr. 6/4 If they did not leave peaceably, they would be batoned by the police.

Batoned (bæ'tɒnd), *ppl. a.*; also 7 *battoned*. [f. prec. + -ED.] Furnished or armed with, or bearing, a baton; in *Her.* marked with, or bearing, the baton of bastardy.

1691 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 2682/4 A Coat quartered with the Arms of the Crown battoned. 1833 *W. C. SMITH N. Country Folk* 156 Gibbets, and soldiers, and batoned police.

Batoon (bātū'n), *sb. arch.* Forms: 6 *batune*, 6-7 *battune* (sense 3), 7 *battoune*, 7-8 *battoons*, 7- *battoon*, *batons*. [17th c. ad. F. *baton*, of which it retained the accent: see -OON. Now almost superseded by BATON, which follows the French spelling.]

1. A stout staff or stick used as a weapon; a cudgel, club, truncheon; = BASTON 1, BATON 1.

1625 *FLETCH. & MASS. Elder Bro.* v. i, My sword fore'd from me... Get me a battoon. 1632 *CHAPM. & SHIRLEY Ball* iv. ii, I'll cullice thee With a battoon. 1664 *BUTLER Hud.* II. ii. 719 Although his Shoulders with Battoon Be claw'd and cudgel'd to some tune. 1719 *D'URVEY Pills* (1872) III. 321 Often he fought with huge Battoon. 1801 *STRUTT Sports & Past.* III. vii. 238 The bowls... are driven with a battoon, or mace. 1860 *All Y. Round* No. 71. 491 Winterfield, though he escaped the battoon, was ordered to leave his shop.

2. A staff of office; = BATON 2.

1658 *BROME Covent Gard.* III. i, The Lord and the Lowne, Must move by the motion of the Leaders Battoon. 1693 *ASHMOLE Antiq. Berks* (1723) III. 60 In his right hand is a Battoon, as a General. 1704 *LUTTRELL Brief Rel.* V. 427 A battoon set with diamonds, sent him from the French King. 1807 *ROBINSON Archæol. Græca* I. xiv. 65 The Arco-

pagites . . held in their hands, as a mark of their authority, a sort of baton made in the form of a sceptre.

3. *Her.* = BASTON 3, BATON 3, which is the form now used. (In 16-17th c. usually written *batune*.)

1566 LEIGH *Armorie* (1597) 64 b. The bastard shall be called a batune sinister. 1611 COTGR., *Cottice*, a Cottice or Battune. 1611 GWILLIM *Heraldry* II. v. 52 Batune is derived from the French word *Baston*. This is the proper and most usual note of illegitimation, perhaps for the affinity betwixt *Baston* and Bastards; or else for that Bastards lost the privilege of Freeman, and so were subject to the servile stroke. 1666 FULLER *Worthies* II. 299 Over all a Batune dexter-ways Argent. 1725 BRADLEY *Fam. Dict.*, *Battonne*, the fourth Part of a Bend Sinister.

4. *Arch.* = BASTON 6 (q.v.), BATON 5, BATTEN. 1819 P. NICHOLSON *Dict. Archit.* I. 57 Bastion or Batoun; see TORUS. 1852 *Archit. Publ. Soc. Dict.* I. 45 Batoun, Batoun, or Batton . . a name given to the torus between the listel or fillet and the plinth, in the base commonly assigned to the Roman Doric order.

Batoon (bātū'n), *v. arch.* [f. prec. sb.] To beat or strike with a baton, to thrash with a stick, to cudgel. (See BATON v.)

1663 *Roxb. Bat.* (1885) 336 Payton batoun'd him for calling him Rogue. 1818 SCOTT *Br. Lamm.* xvi. If you do not depart . . I will batoun you to death. 1863 *Sala Capt. Dang.* I. iv. 102, I would batoun you to a mummy.

|| **Batrachia** (bātrā'kiā), *sb. pl. Zool.* [prop. *batrachia*, mod. L., a. Gr. *batrācheia* (sc. *ῥῆα* animals), neut. pl. of *batrāchos*, a. f. *batrāchos* frog.] a. One of Brongniart's four orders of Reptiles, including frogs, toads, newts, salamanders, etc., which have no ribs, and a soft scaleless skin, and breathe by means of gills during the early part, or whole, of their existence. b. By modern zoologists restricted to an order of the class Amphibia, containing those animals only, as frogs and toads, which subsequently discard the gills and tail of their larval state. (The sing. is supplied by BATRACHIAN.)

1847 CARPENTER *Zool.* § 514 In the Proteidae, or perenni-branchiate Batrachia, the gills remain during the whole of life. 1881 MIVART in *Nature* No. 615, 337 Effs of all kinds, with all frogs and toads . . form the class Batrachia.

Batrachian, *a. and sb.* [f. prec. + -AN.]

A. adj. Of or pertaining to the Batrachia, esp. frogs and toads.

1834 SIR C. BELL *Hand* 156 In the batrachian orders, the ribs are wanting. 1858 O. W. HOLMES *Ant. Breakf. T.* 84 The batrachian hymns from the neighbouring swamp. b. *Sb.* An animal of the order Batrachia.

1838 *Penny Cycl.* X. 487/5 Anurous or Tailless Batrachians, having no tails except in their young state. 1848 H. MILLER *First Impr.* xii. (1857) 190 The footprints of some tailed batrachian.

Batrachite (bætrākōit). [ad. L. *batrachites* a., Gr. *batrākhitis* (αἶθος), f. Gr. *batrāchos* frog; see -ITE.] a. A stone or gem resembling a frog in colour. b. A fossil batrachian.

1797 CHAMBERS *Cycl.*, *Batrachites*, a kind of gem, found in Egypt. 1837-68 DANA *Min.* 256 v. *Monticellite*, Batrachite is found in small masses containing black spinel, at Mt. Rinzi in the Tyrol. 1847 in CRAIG.

Batrachio-, combining form of Gr. *batrāchos* frog; whence **Batrachomyomachy** (bætrākōi-māi'gmāki) [ad. Gr. *batrāchomomachia*, f. *batrāchos* + *mōs* mouse + *-māchi* fighting.] The battle of the frogs and mice, a mock heroic poem, possibly of the Homeric age. **Batrachophagous** (bætrākōfāgōs), *a.* [Gr. *batrāchos* eating + *-phagos*.] Frog-eating. **Batrachophobia** [Gr. *-phobos* fear.] Dread of or aversion to frogs, toads, newts, etc.

1845 SOUTHEY *Q. Rev.* XXXI. 385 Delivered the remnant of the race from their batrachophagous oppressors. 1863 G. KEARLEY *Links in Chain* viii. 162 The batrachophobia is at length giving way . . for the Aquarium has made it manifest that the Water Newts . . are perfectly harmless little creatures.

Batrachoid (bætrākōid), *a.* [f. Gr. *batrāchos* frog + *-oidēs* like (cf. Gr. *batrāchōidēs*); see -OID.] Resembling a frog, frog-like.

1845 SOUTHEY in *Q. Rev.* XXXI. 384 Compared with all other batrachoid colonies . . the frogs of Cintra are the . . nobles of the species. 1854 OWEN in *Orn. Sc. Org. Nat.* I. 187 The most batrachoid of fishes.

Batsman (bætsmæn). [f. *bat's* (BAT sb.2) + -MAN.] One who handles the bat at cricket.

1756 *Gentl. Mag.* XXVI. 480 The wary batsman watches o'er the game. 1830 MISS MITFORD *Village Ser.* iv. (1863) 147 The best batsman in the county. 1851 PYCROFT *Cricket Field* (1859) 225 With fast bowling and good batsmen.

† **Batsome**, *a. Obs. rare* -1. [f. *bat-* (see BAT- TEN v.) + -SOME: cf. *batsful*.] = BATTLE.

1555 BONNER *Necess. Doctr.* I. i, He had planted them in a batsome and frutefull country.

Batt, variant of BAT sb.2 12. A felted mass of hair and wool in hat-making.

|| **Batta** (bætā). *Anglo-Ind.* [a. Indo-Portuguese *bata*, prob. ad. Canarese *bhatta* rice in the husk (also called by Europeans *batty*), which became, first with the Portuguese, a term for 'maintenance', 'allowance for maintenance' (Col. Yule).] *orig.* Subsistence money (given to soldiers in the field, witnesses, prisoners, etc.). Hence, extra pay given to East Indian regiments when on a cam-

paign, and *spec.* An extra allowance, which grew in time to be a constant addition to the pay of officers serving in India.

1548 *Ordenadas de Dio* (i. e. *Dio*) in S. BOTELHO, *Tombo*, 233 E pera dous ffarazes, dous pardaos a anbos por mēs, e quatro tangas pera bata. (Called in a later entry mantimento.) 1680 *Fort St. George Consultations* (1872) Feb. 10 The peons were . . fined each one month's pay, and to repay the money paid them for *Battée*. 1707 in J. T. WHEELER *Madras in O. T.* II. 63 (Y.) That they would allow *Batta* or subsistence money to all that should desert us. 1800 WELLINGTON in *Gurw. Disp.* I. 69 The government intend to put the troops in this country on half *batta*. 1835 *Penny Cycl.* IV. 39/2 The half *batta* of a lieutenant colonel is 304 rupees per month. 1883 *Standard* 22 Jan. 5/6 The question of *batta* for the troops employed in Egypt has been . . under consideration.

|| **Batta** (bætā). *Anglo-Ind.* [a. Urdu *battā*, Bengali *bāttā*.] In Indian Banking, agio or difference in exchange; discount on coins not current, or of short weight. (Col. Yule.)

1680 *Fl. St. George Consultations* (1872) 17 Payment or receipt of *Batta* or *Vatun* upon the exchange of Pollitac for Madras pagodas prohibited. 1760 *Fort William Consultations* June 30 All siccas of a lower date . . are bought and sold at a certain discount called *batta*, which rises and falls like the price of other goods. 1810 T. WILLIAMSON *E. Ind. Vade-mec.* I. 203 (Y.) He immediately tells master that the *batta*, i. e. the exchange, is altered.

† **Battable**, *a. Obs.*; also 6-7 *batable*. [f. *bat-* (see BATTEN v.) + -ABLE.] Of pasture-land: Good for the sustenance of flocks and herds; feeding, fattening; fertile in pasture.

1570-87 HOLINSHED *Scot. Chron.* (1806) I. 8 There is good grasse and verie *batable* for their heards. 1589 FLEMING *Virg. Georg.* II. 27 What ground also is *batable*, or fat and lustie soile. 1611 BURTON *Anat. Met. Democr.* 53 a, Massinissa made many inward parts of Barbary . . fruitful and *batable* by this means. 1641 HEVLIN *Help to Hist.* (1680) 491 Grounds as *batable* and rich for the feeding of cattle.

† **Battable**, *a.2 Obs.* [a. OF. *batable*, *battable*, f. *batt-re* to beat; see -ABLE.] Of metals: That may be hammered or beaten out, malleable.

1601 HOLLAND *Pliny* II. 505 The other sort of copper . . yeeldeth to the hammer and will be drawne out, whereupon some call it Ductile, i. *battable*. 1611 CORG., *Batable*, *battable*.

† **Battailant**, *a. and sb. Obs.* In 6 *battailant*, 7-ellant. [a. F. *bataillant*, pr. pp. of *batailler* to BATTLE.]

A. adj. Engaged in battle, combatant.

1591 SPENSER *Viv. World's Van.* 101 An Elephant . . That on his backe did beare (as *battailant*) A gilden towre.

b. sb. One who does battle; a combatant.

1600 SHELTON *Quix.* I. III. ii. 125 Those Battailants that fought so eagerly . . had slain him.

Battaille, *obs. form of BATTLE.*

† **Battailleurous**, *a. Obs.* [a. OF. *bataillours*, -eux, f. *batailleur* BATTLE; see -OUS.] Fond of fighting, warlike, bellicose.

c. 1480 CAXTON *Ovid's Met.* XI. xviii, A man of grete puyssance fyers, corageous, batayllourous, and full of prowesse.

Battailous (bætēlōs), *a. arch.* Forms: 4 *batelouse*, -ailous, -ailous, 5 -ellous, -ayllous, 5-6 *battelous*, 6- -aylous, 7 -ellous, -alouse, 6-9 -ailous, (8 *battillous*). [a. OF. *bataillos* (-eus), f. *bataille* BATTLE: see -OUS.] Fond of fighting, ready for battle; warlike, bellicose, pugnacious.

c. 1380 WYCLIF *Sel. Wks.* (1871) III. 265 Bothe mon and beestis ben pure *batelouse*. 1393 GOWER *Conf.* III. 118 Mighty Mars the *battailous*. 1483 CAXTON *Cato* E. vi. b, The hors is a beest fyghtyng and batayllous. 1598 WYRLEY *Armorie* 44 With *battelous* axe in fist. 1596 SPENSER *F. Q.* I. v. 2 In sunbright armes, and *battailous* array. 1607 MILTON *P. L.* VI. 81 A ferie Region stretcht In *battailous* aspect. 1760 BEATTIE *Pigm. & Cranes* 126 In *battailous* array display'd. 1876 LOWELL *Among my Bts.* II. 241 The silent thunders of their *battailous* armaments.

Battailying, *obs. form of BATTILING.*

Battalia (bætā'lyā). *arch. or Obs.* Forms: 7- *battalia*; also 7 *battalia* -allia -alio, *battallia*, -alio, -aglio. [late 16th century a. It. *battaglia* or Sp. *battalla* (in same sense). The forms *battaglia*, -alio, etc. are examples of a tendency then common to turn It. and Sp. final -a into -o; see -ADO 2. Cf. BATTLE, of which this is a doublet.]

1. *Mil.* Order of battle, battle array; disposition or arrangement of troops (or naval forces) for action. (Usually with prep. *in*, *into*.)

1613 CHAPMAN *Busy d' Amb.* Plays 1873 II. 128, I have made all his Troopes and Companies Advance, and put themselves randg'd in Battalia. 1650 tr. *Herodian* (1635) 403 Having march'd in *battalia* over all the plaine. 1645 SLINGSBY *Diary* (1836) 137 They had drawn out in Battalia upon y^e side of Nasby hill. 1650 R. STAPYLTON *Strada's Low-C. Wars* ix. 46 The ships on both sides put in Battalia. 1779 DE FOE *Crusoe* (1869) 479 An Army might enter in Battalia. 1858 CARLYLE *Fraser's* GL. XIX. vii. (1865) VIII. 235 Friedrich draws out in *battalia*.

b. *Fig.* 1645 *Sacr. Decretal* 4 Draw up all your Instruments of torture and torment in Battalia. 1798 W. HUTTON *Autobiog.* 27 Marshalling, in *battalia*, fifty bright guineas.

† 2. A large body of men in battle array, a marshalled force or host, whether constituting the whole of an army, or one of its great divisions or battalions; = BATTLE sb. 8. *Obs.* (cf. BATTALION 1). 1594 SHAKS. *Rich. III.* v. iii. 11 Nor Six or seven thousand

is their vtmost power. *K. Rich.* Why, our Battalia trebbles that account. 1639 SALTMARSH *Pract. Policie* 136 If your forces bee divided and your troopes scattered into severall battalios. 1650 GAUDEN *Tears of Ch.* 366 (D.) The Pope's main Battaglio. 1677 HALE *Prim. Orig. Man.* I. i. 6 The Rules and Exercise of Architecture, Fortifications, and ordering of Battalia's. 1684 CHARNOCK *Attrib. God* (1834) II. 500 The general of an army appoints the station of every regiment in a battalia. 1750 CARTE *Hist. Eng.* II. 412 A great army . . marching towards them in three battalias.

b. *fig.*; cf. 'host'. 1653 J. HALL *Paradoxes* 75 The Sunne, the Moone, and all the glorious battalia of heaven. 1668 CHILD *Disc. Trade* (1698) 44 The gentleman brings up his battalia.

c. (*short for* 'main battalia'): The main body of an army, as distinguished from the wings.

1645 *Sacr. Decretal* 14 Wee quickly plac'd Jockey in the right wing, Sir John in the left wing, and Old Nick in the Battalia. 1805 GIFFORD *Massinger's Picture* II. i. (1840) 260.

† 3. The summons or call to form into line. *Obs.*

1645 MARKHAM *Souldiers Accid.* 16 The Drum doth beat . . a Call, a March . . a Battalia, a Charge.

Battalia pie. Forms: 7-8 *beatille*, *beatilla*, *beatilia*, 9 *battalia*. [ad. F. *béatilles* 'tit-bits, as cocks' combs, sweetbreads, etc. in a pie'; also in convents applied to small pieces of needlework (as pincushions, 'samplers' embroidered with sacred subjects) worked by nuns. The latter is the original sense; Cotgr. has the intermediate 'trinkets or vaine toys, wherewith finical people deck themselves; trifles, nifles, oddeattires'; whence 'trifles' in cookery. Du Cange gives med. L. *beatilla*, which he regards as formed from the Fr.; but its existence in early conventual L. seems proved by Sp. *beatilla* 'a sort of thin fine linen.' The original sense was evidently 'small blessed articles,' the form being dim. of L. *beatus*. The corruption to *battalia* is due to 'popular etymology.']

1664 EVELYN *Sylva* (1776) 169 We here use Chesnuts in stewed meats and Beatille pies. *Ibid.* 272 Other ingredients in Beatilla-pies. 1678 ASHMOLE *Inst. Ord. Carter* 605 The Supper for the Sovereign . . First Course, 1. Ducklings boyled . . 19. Beatilla pye. 1706 PHILLIPS, *Beatilles*, certain Tit-bits, as Cocks-combs, Goose-gibbets, Ghizzards, Livers, and other Appurtenances of Fowls, to be put into Pies, Potages, etc. 1837 DISRAELI *Venetia* I. iv. (1871) 15 That masterpiece of the culinary art, a grand battalia pie.

Battalion (bætē'liōn). Forms: 6 *battailion*, 6-7 *battailion*, -ailion, 7 -allion, -ailian 7- *battalion*. [a. F. *bataillon*, 16th c. ad. It. *battaglione*, augm. or dim. of *battaglia* BATTLE; cf. Sp. *battallon* 'a petite battell or army.' (Cf. BATTALIA.)]

1. *gen.* A large body of men in battle array; one of the large divisions of an army.

1589 IVE *Du Bellay's Instr. Warres* 73, I will goe range the ten bands in one whole Battalion. 1598 BARRET *Theor. Warres* III. i. 33 Deviding them [Companies] into so many parts or battailions. 1654 C. STAPYLTON *Herodian* XVII. 146 His Army . . he divideth into three Battailians. 1658 LENNARD tr. *Charon's Wisd.* III. iii. § 31 (1670) 373 The distribution of the Troops, into Battailions, Regiments, Ensigns. 1697 POTTER *Antiq. Greece* III. vi. (1715) 61 The Roman Battailions . . were still call'd Legiones. 1866 T. HUGHES *Struggle Kansas* 363 'Providence is on the side of the strongest battailions' is a saying . . much believed in here. 1868 KIRK *Chas. Bold* III. v. ii. 377 The army was broken up into eight battailions and a reserve.

† b. The main body of an army. (= BATTLE 9.)

1608 WITHER *Brit. Rememb.* I. 403 The maine Battailion was both rang'd and led By that slye Prince. 1653 HOLCROFT *Procopius* I. 14 Compast by the Enemy . . who staid it not, but gallopt home to the Battailion. 1656 BLOUNT *Glossogr.*, *Battailion*, the main battle.

2. *spec.* A body of infantry (or engineers) composed of several companies, and forming part of a regiment. (The number of battalions in a regiment varies greatly in different countries, and even in the British Army at the present time.)

1708 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 4467/4 Each regiment is to consist of two Battalions, and each Battalion of 1000 Men. 1810 WELLINGTON in *Gurw. Disp.* VI. 81 An army composed of divisions, brigades, regiments, and battalions. 1877 *Field Exerc. Infantry* 148 A Battalion in line may advance or retire in fours from the right or left of Companies.

3. *transf. and fig.* (from 1.)

1603 FLORIO *Montaigne* n. xii. (1632) 267 [The Tunnyfish] alwaies frame their shole of a cubike figure . . a solide, close and welranged battailion.

Battalion, *v. rare*. [f. prec. sb.] To form into a battalion.

1865 *Daily Tel.* 18 Apr. 2 The fine body of volunteers . . with whom are battalioned one or two companies raised in the . . London Docks.

Battalioned (bætē'liōnd), *pp. a.* [f. prec. + -ED.] Formed into a battalion or battalions.

1809 J. BARLOW *Columb.* VII. 731 Battalion'd infantry and squadron'd horse.

Battalogize, *erron. form of BATTOLOGIZE.*

Battalogy, *obs. form of BATTALOG.*

† **Battard**. *Sc. Obs.* Also 6 *battart*, -irt, *batter*. [a. OF. *bastard*, pronounced *bâtard* (in same sense), perhaps confused in Scotl. with *batter* vb.] = BASTARD, or *culverin bastard*, a small cannon. Similarly *battard-falcon*, a kind of cannon.

1513-75 *Diurn. Occurr.* (1833) 124 Foure cannonis, twa gross culveringis, and ane battart. c. 1565 R. LINDSAY *Hist. Scot.* (1728) 108 Small artillery, that is to say, myand and

battier-falcon. 1566 *Inventories* 166 (JAM.) Item, tua pair of irne calmes for moyan and battard. c. 1570 BANNATYNE *Jrnl.* 126 (JAM.) Item, tuo batteris monted for the wallis.

Batte, obs. form of BAT and BATZ.

† **Batte**, *a.* Obs. rare. [Mätzner compares BAT sb.² in sense of 'speed.'? Hasty, in a hurry. c. 1450 *Liber Cocorum* 22 With porke thou sethe the henne fatte, Grynde brede and peper and be not batte.

Batteillant, -ellant, variant of BATTAILANT *a.* **Battel**, obs. form of BATTLE.

Battel (bæt'l), *sb.* As a separate word only in pl. battels; also 4 battails, 8 battles, 9 battells. [Of uncertain origin: in 16th c. L. *batilli*, *battilli*; in the Laudian Statutes *batellæ*. The etymology of this, with its associated vb., and deriv. *batteler*, has been the subject of abundant conjecture. Much depends on the original sense at Oxford: if this was 'food, provisions,' it is natural to connect it with BATTLE v.³ to feed, receive nourishment; cf. esp. BATTILING vbl. sb.³, explained by Sherwood (1632) as '*vivres, manger, morche*.' But conclusive evidence that *battels* had this sense is wanting, while already before 1600 it had that of 'debts, sums due to the college for provisions, etc.' The verb however appears to have been sometimes used for 'to take or receive provisions,' i.e. from the college buttry, which brings us close to the senses of BATTLE v.³ 'to feed, take nourishment.' Cf. also the Eton use, and Winchester *battlings*. On the other hand, sense 3 of the vb. (if the same word) suggests the idea of contributing to a common fund or stock: compare the terms 'commons' and 'commoner.' See BATTELER.

Taking 'accounts' or 'score' as the original sense, some have conjectured *battel* to be a dimin. of BAT sb.¹ or of F. *baille*, with sense of 'little staff or stick,' whence perhaps 'tally-stick.' But nothing appears in Med. L., OF., or Eng., to support this conjecture. Reference to Du. *betaalen*, G. *bezahlen* 'to pay,' or to the possibility of *batilli* arising out of a misreading of *batilli* 'little sticks,' do not fall within the limits of scientific etymology.]

† 1. See quot. (Perhaps a distinct word.) Obs.

c. 1400 *Apol. Loll.* 76 To cry his day . . . azenis be multide of lawis of þe kirk . . . azen battails, azen reseruacouns, azen fursit frutis, & oþer spolingis of goodis of þe kirk.

2. In Univ. of Oxford: *a.* College accounts for board and provisions supplied from the kitchen and buttry. *b.* In looser use: The whole college accounts for board and lodgings, rates, tuition, and contribution to various funds, as 'My last term's battels came to £40.' Also *attrib.*, as *battel-bills*.

The word has apparently undergone progressive extensions of application, owing partly to changes in the internal economy of the colleges. Some Oxford men of a previous generation state that it was understood by them to apply to the buttry accounts alone, or even to the provisions ordered from the buttry, as distinct from the 'commons' supplied from the kitchen: but this latter use is disavowed by others. See the quotations, and cf. those under BATTLE v. and BATTELER, which bear that *battels* applied in 17-18th c. to provisions supplied to members of the college individually at their own order and cost, i.e. to *battellers*, who had no commons, but were charged their 'battels' only, and to *commoners* as extras 'above the ordinary stint of their appointed commons': but whether the *battels* were originally the provisions themselves, or the sums due on account of them, must at present be left undecided.

[1555 *Reg. Exeter Coll.* 41 Ad solvendum debita seu battillos sociorum. 1636 *Corpus Statut. Oxon.* II. § 4 Diligenti examinatione habita tam libri Battellarum quam Obsonatoris cujuslibet Collegii et Aulae.] 1706 *HEARNE Remarks & Coll.* (1885) I. 220 For sometime kept a name in y^e Buttry Book; at w^{ch} time Dr. Charlett was sponsor for discharge of his Battels. 1792 *Gentl. Mag.* Aug. 716 The word *battel*, which . . . signifies to account, and *battels* the College accounts in general. 1842 *ARNOLD in Life & Corr.* (1844) II. x. 305 Their authority might be exerted to compel payment to tradesmen with nearly the same regularity as they exact their own battels. 1861 *HUGHES Tom Brown Oxf. in Macm. Mag.* IV. 61 The dinners and wines are charged in their battel bills. 1882 *Spectator* 18 Mar. 352 Receipts . . . in respect of battels, room rent and tuition fees.

3. Elsewhere: (see quot.)

1708 H. TOOKER *Purley* 390 *Battel*, a term used at Eton for the small portion of food which, in addition to the College allowance, the Collegers receive from their Dames. 1851 *Cumbrld. Gloss.*, *Battels*, commons or board. [a 1883 *TROILLOVE Autobiogr.* (1883) I. 13 Every boy had a shilling a week pocket-money, which we called battels [This is an error of the author: the Winchester term is *battlings*], and which was advanced to us out of the pocket of the second master.]

Battel, *v.*; also 6-9 *battle*. [See prec., and next, and cf. BATTLE v.³]

1. In the University of Oxford: To have a kitchen and buttry account in college; to be supplied with provisions from the buttry. (For earlier use see quotations, and cf. the sb. above.)

1570 *LEVINS Manip.* 78 *Battle* commons, *sumere*. 1632 *SHERWOOD*, *Battle* (as scholars do in Oxford), *estre débiteur au College pour ses vivres*. 1678 *PHILLIPS* (App.), *Battle*, in the University of Oxford is taken for to run on to Exceedings above the ordinary stint of the appointed Commons. 1721 *BAILEY*, *Battle* (in the University of Oxford) is to take up Provision in the College-Book. a 1733 *NORTH Lives* I. 300 He kept a table there, and his family were allowed to battle in the buttries. 1791-1824 *D'ISRAELI Cyp. Lit.* (1866) II. 168 To battle is to be nourished, a term still retained at the University of Oxford. 1884 *Regul. Merton College*, Under-

graduates who live in lodgings are charged terminally, if they battle in College, £2 5s. 6d.

† 2. (†) To put into a common fund or stock. Obs. 1600 *HEYWOOD If you know not Wks.* 1874 I. 243 And you be a true subject, you'll battle with vs your faggot [towards making a bonfire]. 1606 *DEKKER Sev. Sins* III. (Arb.) 26 [He] slips into a Tauerne, where either alone, or with some other that battles their money together, they plye themselves with penny pots.

Batteler. Obs. exc. Hist. Also 6-9 *battler*, 7 *batler*. [f. BATTLE v. + -ER¹.] *lit.* One who battles in college; formerly, a rank or order of students at Oxford below Commoners.

1604 *MIDDLETON Black Bk. Wks.* V. 544 Pierce Pennyless, exceeding poor scholar, that hath made clean shoes in both universities, and been a pitiful battler all thy lifetime. 1691 *WOOD Ath. Oxon.* I. 277 Thomas Floyd . . . became a Battler or Commoner of New Inn in the beginning of 1580. 1715 *Mem. J. Radcliffe* 4 Resided as a Battler, a Condition of Life there, between a Commoner and a Servitor. 1736 *BAILEY*, *Batteler* (in an University), a Student that battles or goes on Score for his Diet. 1744 *SALMON Pres. State of Univ.* I. 423 Undergraduates consisting of Noblemen, Gentlemen-Commoners, Commoners, Scholars of the Foundation, Exhibitioners, Battlers and Servitors. The Commoners I presume are so called from their communing together, and having a certain Portion of Meat and Drink provided for them, denominated Commons. The Battlers are entitled to no Commons, but purchase their Meat and Drink of the Cook and Butler, unless they serve a Fellow or Gentleman Commoner, and then they may have the Dishes, which come from their Tables. . . Of these Battlers, some are Servitors, who attend the Bachelors and Commoners in the Hall, for which they have an Allowance. 1814 *CHALMERS Hist. Univ. Oxf.* II. 238 In 1665 he was admitted a Batteler of University College. 1824 *HEBER Jer. Taylor* I. 24 John entered . . . in the year 1613, as battler, or poor scholar, of Merton College.

Batten (bæt'n), *sb.*; also 7 *battin*, -oun, -une, 8 -on. [A variant of BATON sb., which in technical use preserved the earlier pronunciation, while *batoon* came in for the more general sense.]

1. *Carp. and Build.* A piece of squared timber, not more than 7 inches broad and 2½ inches thick, used for flooring, and as a support for laths, etc.; a scantling. (The length may be anything over 6 feet; shorter pieces are known as *batten-ends*.)

1658 *Jrnl.* in I. Mather *Remark. Provid.* (1856) 52 The battens next the chimney . . . were broken. 1743 *Lond. & Countr. Brwv.* III. 179 Three Sides in four of its . . . second Floor should be built with wooden Battons about three Inches broad, and two thick. 1835 *Penny Cycl.* s.v., Battens are never, and deals are always, above seven inches wide.

2. *spec.* A bar or strip (orig. as in sense 1) nailed or glued across a door or anything composed of parallel boards, to hold these together, give strength, or prevent warping; a ledge, a clamp.

1663 *GERBIER Counsel* 94 Shutters . . . framed within with Battens. 1667 *PRIMATT City & C. Builder* 64 A good firm door of board . . . with handsome ledges or battons for ornament. 1794 W. FELTON *Carriages* (1801) I. 21 The battens made of wood or thin iron plates, which cross the boards. 1859 *TIMBS & GULLICK Painting* 217 The best contrivance to preserve wood flat and sound is to strengthen the back with battens, or ledges.

3. *Naut.* A narrow strip of wood nailed to various parts of the masts and spars to preserve them from chafing; a similar strip used to fasten down the edges of the tarpaulin fixed over the hatchways to keep out the water in bad weather; also, a wooden bar (in place of a cleat) from which hammocks are slung.

1709 *FALCONER Dict. Marine* (1789) s.v., The battens serve to confine the edges of the tarpaulings down to the sides of the hatches. 1840 *MARRIAT Poor Jack* i, We were permitted to . . . hoist her . . . up again to the battens. 1840 R. DANA *Bef. Mast* III. 5 This chafing gear consists of . . . roundings battens, and service of all kinds. *Ibid.* xxix. 98 We took the battens from the hatches, and opened the ship.

4. *Comb.*, as *batten-door*, a door formed of narrow boards, held together by 'battens' or cross-pieces nailed to them. Cf. BATTENED.

Batten (bæt'n), *sb.*² [a corruption of F. *battant* (of same meaning).] A movable bar or arm in a silk-loom which strikes in or closes the weft.

1831 G. PORTER *Silk Manuf.* 216 This batten is suspended by its bar from the upper framing of the loom. 1863 *Morn. Star* 1 Jan. 6 The superior machinery containing numerous battens for making elaborate and also cheap figured goods.

Batten, *sb.*³ *dial.* A bundle of straw consisting of two or more sheaves.

(In most of the northern and midland dial. glossaries.)

† **Batten**, *a.* Obs. [Cf. next.] = BATTLE *a.*

1607 *SPEED Eng. Abridged* x. § 3 Which [earth] by a seaweed . . . and certain kinde of fruitfull Sea-sand, they make so ranke and batten, as is vncredible.

Batten (bæt'n), *v.*¹ [First found in end of 16th c., but may have been in dialectal use before; app. *a.* ON. *batna* to improve, get better, recover, *f. bati* advantage, improvement, amelioration; cogn. w. Goth. *gabatan* 'to be advantaged, to be bettered, to profit,' a neuter-passive form derived from **batan*, *bōt*, *batans* 'to be useful, to profit, to boot.' Cf. also Du. *baten* to avail, yield profit, *baat* profit, gain, advantage, benefit, and see Grimm s.v. *batten*. A cogn. *bat* in sense of 'profit, advantage, improvement, although not known as

a separate word in Eng., is implied in the derivatives *batt-able*, *bat-ful*, *batt-l.* adj. With all the senses cf. BATTLE v.³]

1. *intr.* To grow better or improve in condition; esp. (of animals) to improve in bodily condition by feeding, to feed to advantage, thrive, grow fat.

1591 *LYLY Endym.* III. iii. 39 No, let him batten, when his tongue Once goes, a cat is not worse strung. 1614 B. JONSON *Barth. Fair* II. iii. (1631) 21 It makes her fat you see. Shee battens with it. 1648 *HERRICK Hesper.* (1869) 214 We eat our own, and batten more, Because we feed on no man's score. 1684 *DRYDEN in Southern's Disappointment*. Prolog. 53 Our women batten well on their good Nature. 1687 — *Hind & P.* I. 390 The ethereal pastures with so fair a flock . . . bat'ning on their food.

b. To feed gluttonously on, glut oneself; to gloat or revel in. (With indirect passive, *to be battened on*, in mod. writers.)

1608 *SHAKS. Ham.* III. iv. 67 Could you on this faire Mountaine leaue to feed, And batten on this Moor? 1693 W. ROBERTSON *Pharsel.* Gen. 215 To batten in's own dung, *Anno voluntari.* 1709 *WOLCOTT (P. Pindar) Subj. Painters* Wks. 1812 II. 210 Dainty mud . . . In which they had been battening. 1830 *TENNYSON Poems* 130 Battening upon huge seaworms in his sleep. 1833 Mrs. BROWNING *Prometh. Bd.* Poems (1850) I. 187 The strong carnivorous eagle shall . . . batten deep Upon thy dusky liver. 1879 *DIXON Brit. Cypris* VIII. 78 A skeleton battened on by kites and crows.

c. *fig.* To thrive, grow fat, prosper (esp. in a bad sense, at the expense or to the detriment of another); to gratify a morbid mental craving.

1605 B. JONSON *Volpone* in Campbell's *Spec.* III. 185 And with these thoughts so battens, as if fate Would be as easily cheated on, as he. 1641 J. JACKSON *True Evang.* T. I. 56 That religion should batten with blood. 1837 *CARLYLE Fr. Rev.* (1872) II. III. ii. 91 Battening vampire-like on a People next door to starvation. 1870 *EMERSON Soc. & Solit.* x. 220 Melancholy sceptics with a taste for carrion, who batten on the hideous facts in history,—persecutions, inquisitions.

2. To grow fertile (as soil); to grow rank (as a plant).

1855 *SINGLETON Virgil* I. 104 That twice should batten with our blood Emathia and Hæmas' spacious plains. 1859 *HOLLAND Gold F.* xxiv. 283 A potato—a bloated tuber that battens in the muck of other times.

† 3. *trans.* To improve, feed to advantage, fatten up. Obs. (The pa. pple. *battened*, belonged orig. to the intr. sense; cf. *well-grown*, *well-read*, etc.)

1611 *COTGR.* s.v. *Advenu*, *Vne fille bien advenu*, well grown . . . well batned, or batled.] 1637 *MILTON Lycidas* 29 We drove a field . . . Battening our flocks with the fresh dew of night. 1643 *BURROUGHS Exp. Hæsea* ii. (1859) 172 They did batten themselves and suck out the Egyptian manners and customs. 1790 *COWPER Iliad* xxii. 107 As some fell serpent . . . batten'd with herbs Of baneful juice to fury.

† 4. To fertilize (soil). Obs. rare.

1611 *SPEED Theat. Gt. Brit.* xxxv. 69/1 Others [rivers] doe so batten the ground that the meadows even in the midst of winter grow greene.

Batten (bæt'n), *v.*² [f. BATTEN sb.¹]

1. To furnish or strengthen with battens.

1775 *FALCH Day's Dining Vess.* 26 These windlasses being battened and holed for common handspikes. 1794 W. FELTON *Carriages* (1801) I. 17 Deal boardings firmly battened on the inside. 1831 *Mechanic* § 1651 The wall must be battened.

2. (chiefly *Naut.*) To batten down: to fasten down with battens; see BATTEN sb.¹

1823 J. BADCOCK *Dom. Anusem.* 53 The severity of the climate having compelled them to batten down and caulk their abiding place. c. 1860 H. STUART *Seaman's Catech.* 72 It is sometimes necessary in bad weather to put on the gratings and nail tarpaulings over them: this is called 'battening down.' 1883 *Chamb. Jrnl.* 20 Batten down the hatches—quick, men.

Battened, *ppl.* *a.*¹ [f. BATTEN v.¹ + -ED.] Nourished, fed, fattened.

1791 *COWPER Odys.* XII. 309 His well-batten'd flocks.

Battened, *ppl.* *a.*² [f. BATTEN sb.¹, v.² + -ED.]

a. Formed of battens. *b.* Furnished, lined, or strengthened with battens.

1663 *GERBIER Counsel* 68 Doors glued and Battined at nine shillings. 1677 *MOXON Mech. Exerc.* (1703) 153 In a Battend-door . . . they use Cross-Garnets. c. 1850 *Rudim. Nav.* 130 The louvered or battened parts of ships' wells.

Battener. [f. BATTEN v.¹ + -ER¹.] One who battens (on, upon).

a 1849 *Por. Wks.* (1864) III. 542 A fetid battener upon the garbage of thought.

Battening (bæt'nɪŋ) *sb.* [f. BATTEN sb. + -ING¹.] The application or addition of battens; a structure formed with battens.

1794 W. FELTON *Carriages* (1801) I. 17 The other inside work is battening, blocking, and gluing. 1796 W. MARSHALL *Yorksh.* (ed. 21) I. 104 Fence Walls.—Battening, in the Norfolk manner, is unknown. 1834 *Brit. Husbandry* I. 89 Palings, battening, and other fences. 1880 *HOWELLS Undisc. Country* i. 29 'Mr. Hatch, will you put up the battening? Hatch made haste to darken the windows completely with some light wooden sheathings prepared for the purpose.

Battening (bæt'nɪŋ), *ppl.* *a.* [f. BATTEN v.¹]

1. *intr.* Feeding to advantage, or with a relish; growing fat.

1593 *DRAYTON Eclog.* ix. 70 Their batning Flocks on grassy Leas to hold. 1714 *GAY Sheph. Week* Friday 156 Battening hogs roll in the sinking mire. 1763 *BEATTIE Judgu. Paris* lxxxii, Battening Avarice mocks his tuneless lyre.

2. *trans.* Fattening; fertilizing.

1612 *DRAYTON Poly-ob.* xii. 206 Twixt Trent and batning Dove. 1708 J. PHILLIPS *Cyder* I. 34 The Meadows here, with bat'ning ooze enrich'd.

Battentille: see BATAUNTY.

Batter (bæ'tər), *v.* 1. also 4-6 **bater** (e. [f. the stem *bat-* 'beat,' as in OF. *bat-re*, Eng. *BAT v.*, *BAT sb.* 2, with freq. suffix -*er*; cf. *stutter*, *patter*].

I. Main senses.

1. *trans.* (and *absol.*) To strike with repeated blows of an instrument or weapon, or with frequent missiles; to beat continuously and violently so as to bruise or shatter. (Also with complementary *about*, *down*, *in*.)

c. 1325 *E. E. Allit. P. B.* 1416 Symbales & sonetex sware the noyse & bougonz busch batered so pikke. 1377 *LANGT. P. Pl. B.* iii. 198, I batered hem on þe bakke. 1591 *GARRARD Art Warre* 204 The drums ought to be ready to batter their caisses. 1620 *SHAKS. Temp.* iii. ii. 98 Or with a logge Batter his skull. 1641 *WILKINS Math. Mag.* i. xvii. (1648) 122 These would he presently batter in pieces with great stones. 1797 *SWIFT Gulliver* iv. xii. 341 Battering the warriors' faces into mummy. 1801 *HUNTINGTON Bank of Faith* 136 They had so battered me about. 1873 *BURTON Hist. Scot.* v. lix. 325 Carrying in a wooden beam, as if to batter in a door.

† b. To beat out (metal); † to inlay. *Obs. rare.* c. 1380 *Sir Ferumb.* 896 Vs scheld þat was wyþ golde y-batrid; & eke wyþ ire y-bounde.

2. *Mil.* To operate against (walls, fortifications, etc.) with artillery, or in ancient times with the battering ram, with the purpose (and result) of breaking down or demolishing them; to bombard. Often with *down*.

1590 *LEVINS Manyp.* 177 To batter walles, demoliri muros. 1593 *STANFURD Aeneis* i. (Arb.) 18 Which would thee Tyrian turrets quite batter a sunder. 1606 *SHAKS. Tr. & Cr.* i. iii. 206 The Rammie that batters downe the wall. 1765 *HUME Hist. Eng.* (1806) iv. ix. 498 Having led the army without delay to Wexford, he began to batter the town. 1803 *WELINGTON in Gurw. Disp.* II. 289, I shall be able to begin to batter to-morrow morning. 1876 *GREEN Short Hist.* vii. § 8 (1882) 436 The castles which had hitherto sheltered rebellion were battered into ruins.

3. *transf.* and *fig.* To subject (persons, opinions, etc.) to heavy, crushing, or persistent attack.

1598 *FENTON Guicciard.* (1618) 30 So that the Florentines by this meanes should remaine battered. 1603 *SHAKS. Macb.* iv. iii. 178 The Tyrant has not batter'd at their peace? 1670 *G. H. Hist. Cardinals* ii. i. 107 Every Fryer .. battering the ears of their Protectors with informations of their Rogueries. a. 1733 *NORTH Exam.* i. ii. p. 174 But none batter'd it more than the Earl of Shaftsbury, who said it was absolutely impossible to be true. 1873 *BROWNING Red Coll. Night-c.* 177 What foe would dare approach? Historic Doubt? Ay, were there some half-knowledge to attack! Batter doubt's best, sheer ignorance will beat.

4. To bruise, beat out of shape, or indent by blows or rough usage; in *Printing*, to deface the surface of type.

1697 *EVELYN Numism.* i. 8 Type and Form of one single Stamp .. being greatly batter'd and impaired. 1840 *HOOD Up Rhine* 44 The beautiful brass pail .. look how it's all bruised and battered! 1856 *KANE Arch. Exp.* II. xvi. 169 Boats .. well battered by exposure to ice and storm.

† 5. *intr.* a. To become crushed, dented, or defaced with blows. b. To yield to beating, to be malleable. *Obs.*

1529 *Br. ANDREWES Serm.* II. 10 All our cups would batter with the fall. 1677 *MOXON Mech. Exerc.* (1703) 8 Iron .. if it be too cold .. will not batter under the Hammer.

6. *Comb.*, with attrib. sense, as *batter-head*, the part of the drum beaten.

1704 *ATHEN. ORAC.* III. 423 in Southey *Comm.-Pl. Bk.* Ser. II. (1849) 657 They [the drums] received several small shot in the batter heads.

II. (From BATTER sb. 1)

† 7. *trans.* To beat into a paste or batter, to mix by beating. *Obs.*

1585 *LLOYD Treas. Health* I vj, Masticke baterid with whyte of an egge and vinegar. 1625 *MABBE Aleman's Gussman d'Alf.* II. 334 With a few egges battered together, and seasoned with a little pepper.

† 8. *Sc.* To paste, to fix (as with paste); to cover with things stuck on. *Obs.*

1624 *A. H. Paper-Persec.* in J. DAVIES *Papers Compl. Wks.* 1876-8 II. 81 To behold the wals Batter'd with weekly Newes. 1650 *Row Hist. Kirk* (1842) 72 Who mutilated and did ryue out many leaues of the Register, and did batter others together. 1756 *Mrs. CALDERWOOD Jnl.* (1884) 86 This church is battered as full of escutcheons as the wall can hold. *Ibid.* 105 A certain sort of mutch they wear .. close battered to their faces.

Batter (bæ'tər), *v.* 2 *Arch.* [Of doubtful origin: hardly connected with preceding; can it be related to F. *abattre* to beat down, throw down?]

1. *intr.* Of walls, etc.: To incline from the perpendicular, so as to have a receding slope.

1546 *LANGLEY Pol. Verg. De Invent.* III. x. 77 a, Dædalus .. first inuented the plomline, whereby the Euenes of the Squares bee tried whether they batter or hang ouer. 1677 *MOXON Mech. Exerc.* (1703) 157 The side .. of a Wall .. that bulges from its bottom or Foundation, is said to Batter, or hang ouer the Foundation. 1793 *RENNIE in Smiles Engineers* II. 208 Made five feet thick at the base next to the bridge, and four feet thick at the top, battering one-fifth of their height in a curvilinear form. 1845 *Gloss. Gothic Archit.* I. 48 Wharf walls, and walls built to support embankments and fortifications, generally batter.

2. *trans.* 'To give (a wall) in building it, an inclination inwards.' Jamieson.

1795 *TREVISA Barth. De P. R.* xv. xxii. (1495) 497 A toure in Babilon .. whyche contenynt at heyghte two lewges batryd in brede. [The sense is here doubtful].

VOL. I.

Batter (bæ'tər), *sb.* 1 Forms: 5 **bater** (e. -our, -owre, -ure, 6 **battere**, 7- **batter**. [prob. f. *BATTER v.* 1; cf. however OF. *bature*, -eure: action of beating, also metal beaten into thin leaf.]

I. Materials beaten or battered.

1. A mixture of two or more ingredients beaten up with a liquid for culinary purposes.

c. 1400 *Liber Cocorum* (1862) 26 Of almond mylke and amydone, Make bater. a. 1500 *Recipes in Babees Bk.* (1868) 53 Make bature of floure, ale, peper & saferon, with oþer spices. 1615 *MARKHAM Eng. Housew.* (1660) 56 Taking the Apples and Batter out together with a spoon. 1796 *Mrs. GLASSE Cookery* viii. 140 Dip the oysters in a batter. 1879 *BEERBOHM Patagonia* xi. 171 The batter must be stirred well, or else it will stick to the sides.

b. *Sc.* Flour and water made into 'paste'; *transf.* that which is pasted upon walls, etc. (*obs.*)

[c. 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 27 Batowre of floure and mele wyth water (v. r. batour, mola. 1530 *PALSCR.* 197/1 Batter of floure, paste. 1644 *A. H. Paper-Persec.* in J. DAVIES *Papers Compl. Wks.* 1878 II. 81 To see such Batter euerie weeke besmeare Each publike post, and Church dore. 1831 *CARLYLE Sart. Res.* I. vii, Multiple ruffs of cloth, pasted together with batter.

c. *attrib.*, as in *batter-cake*, *pan*, *pudding*.

1769 *Mrs. RAFFALD Eng. Housekpr.* (1778) 167 Batter and rice puddings [require] a quick oven. 1853 *KANE Grinnall Exp.* xxxiv. (1856) 306 Flattened it out like a batter-cake.

2. *transf.* A thick paste of any kind, of the consistency of cook's batter; liquid mud.

1601 *HOLLAND Pliny* II. 555 The batter or lome that goeth to the making of [bricks]. 1884 *Ld. COLEIDGE in Law Times Rep.* 19 July 635/1 They had swept mud in a state of batter to the side of a road by means of 'squeegees.'

† 3. = *BATTERY* 13. *Obs.*

1567 *Wills & Inv. N. C.* (1835) 278 One batter kettill, and a brasse chaffer.

II. The action or result of battering.

4. A heavy bruising blow. *rare.*

1823 *GALT Entail* I. xxviii. 245 Such a thundering batter on the ribs, that he fell reeling from the shock.

5. A cannonade of heavy ordnance against a fortress. 1859 in *WORCESTER*.

6. *Printing.* A bruise on the face of printing type or stereotype plate. (Cf. *BATTER v.* 1 4.)

1844 *J. JOHNSON Typogr.* II. xxii. 659 The pressmen never observe a batter (unless it be very glaring), because they would be stopped in their progress. 1880 *Printing Times* 15 May 102/2 Defective letters or batters may thus be easily detected.

Batter, *sb.* 2 [f. *BATTER v.* 2] The slope of a wall, terrace, or bank, from the perpendicular; a receding slope, etc.

1743 *Br. MAXWELL Sel. Trans.* 193 (JAM.) When the kill is formed to four and a half feet high .. the second batter begins. 1823 *P. NICHOLSON Pract. Build.* 329 Batter, the leaning part of the upper part of the face of a wall which so inclines as to make the plumb-line fall within the base. 1884 *Scotman* 10 Apr. 6/2 These brick piers are all erected with a 'batter' of 1 in 36—which means that they are to that extent broader at the base than at the top.

b. *Batter-rule*, an instrument consisting of a plumb-line and a triangular frame, one side of which makes a given angle with the line, used for setting a wall, etc. at the proper slope or batter. 1847 in *CRAIG*.

Batter (bæ'tər), *sb.* 3 [f. *BAT v.* 1 + -*ER* 1.] One who bats; *esp.* the player who uses the bat in the game of cricket.

1824 *MISS MITFORD Village Ser.* i. (1863) 174 Such mutual compliments from man to man—bowler to batter, batter to bowler. 1854 *WARTER Old Squires* v. 48 The old Squire .. had been a good batter in his day.

Batter: see *BATTARD*.

Batterable (bæ'tərə'b'l), *a.* [f. *BATTER v.* 1 + -*ABLE*.] That can be battered or bruised by beating.

1611 *COTGR.* *Batable*, beatable, batterable. 1663 *FAVINE Theat. Hon.* II. xiii. 265 A strong Citie for Warre, without Suburb, not batter-able.

† **Batterdasher**, *Obs. rare*—1. [f. *BATTER* + *DASHER* or? (from F. *d'acier*) of steel.] A weapon of offence.

1696 *AUBREY Misc.* (1857) 215 (D.) The skreens were garnished with corslets and helmets, gaping with open mouth, with coats of mail, laces, pikes, halberds, brown bills, batter-dashers, bucklers.

Batterdeau, *obs.* form of *BATARDEAU*.

Battered (bæ'təd), *ppl. a.* [f. *BATTER v.* 1 + -*ED*.] Bruised and shattered by repeated blows; worn and defaced by rough or hard usage, the chances of time, etc. Often *fig.*

1598 *SHAKS. Ven. & Ad.* 104 Over my altars hath he hung his lance, His batter'd shield. 1680 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 1538/4 A Brown Bay Nag .. his Feet somewhat battered. 1700 *MAUNDRELL Journ. Jerns.* (1721) T liij b, Old batter'd Horses. 1765 *TUCKER Lt. Nat.* II. 57 The battered rake .. has exhausted all his health. 1809 *J. BARLOW Columb.* II. 336 And pours destruction o'er its batter'd walls. 1840 *DICKENS Old C. Shop* liii. (1848) 240 The sexton's spade gets worn and battered.

Batterer (bæ'tərɪ), [f. as prec. + -*ER* 1.] One who batters; a vigorous assailant, a bruiser.

1611 *COTGR.* *Fraccasser*, a crasher, violent breaker, batterer. a. 1619 *DANIEL Coll. Hist.* (1626) 160 Batterers hyred to beat men. 1666 *Artif. Handson.* 185 Batterers or demolishers of stately and elegant buildings. 1823 *Blackw. Mag.* XIV. 512 A jolly batterer, who never looked for a soft word when he could get a hard one.

† **Batterfang** (bæ'tərfæŋ), *v.* *Obs.* or *dial.* [f. *BATTER v.* 1 + *FANG* a claw.] Explained in glossaries as: To assail with fists and nails, to beat and beclaw; but in use apparently = *BATTER v.* 1.

1630 *J. TAYLOR (Water P.) Wks.* II. 191/2 The poore man was so batterfanged and belabour'd with tongue mettle, that he was weary of his life. 1716 *T. WARD Eng. Ref.* 124 The Pastor lays on lusty Bangs, Whitehead the Pastor Batter-fangs. 1804 *ATKINSON Whitby Gloss.*, *Batterfang* d, beaten and beclawed, as a termagant will fight with her fists and nails. 1877 in *E. Peacock Manley (Linc.) Gloss.* s. v., He'd been a soldier in th' Roosian war, an' came home strangely batterfanged about.

Battering (bæ'tərɪŋ), *vbl. sb.* [f. *BATTER v.* 1.]

1. The action of beating with successive blows, *esp.* in *Mil.* of attacking a fortification with cannon or other engines. Also *fig.*

1542 *UDALL Erasmi. Apoph.* 220 a, His manier of battreyng. 1647 *W. BROWNE Pollex.* II. 180 The Turkes .. after two daies battering, wonne it [the palace] by force. 1678 *CUDWORTH Intell. Syst.* I. i. § 43 A most Effectual Engine .. for the battering of all their Atheistical Structure down about their Ears. 1862 *THACKERAY Philip* I. 89 Amidst enthusiastic battering of glasses.

2. The result of this action; bruising or defacement caused by successive blows.

1558 *PHAER Aeneid* in *Webbe Eng. Poetrie* (1870) 50 Hel-mets, skulles, with battrings marred. 1891 *PERCIVALL Sp. Dict.*, *Desabollar*, to beat out the battrings in a piece of armor or plate.

3. *attrib.* a. in ancient warfare, *battering-engine*, an engine constructed for breaking down walls; so *battering-machine*, *BATTERING-RAM*.

b. in modern warfare, *battering-train*, a number of cannon specially intended for siege purposes; so *battering-artillery*, -*cannon*, -*gun*, -*piece*.

c. *battering-charge*, the full charge of powder for a cannon.

a. 1774 *COLLYER Hist. Eng.* II. 84 He assaulted the castle .. with battering engines. 1852 *GROTE Greece* II. lxxxv. X. 560 He distributed his army into two parts, each provided with battering machines.

b. 1577 *HOLINSHED Chron.* III. 875/1 They raised their siege, cheeflie because they had no great battering peeces to ouerthrow the walles. 1697 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 3319/2 Having ordered a Train of Battering Artillery to be provided. 1733 *HANWAY Trav.* I. vii. xcviij. 452 Ten pieces of large brass battering Cannon. 1820 *WELLINGTON in Gurw. Disp.* V. 593 They are bringing a Battering Train into Spain from France.

c. 1868 *Morn. Star* 17 June, A charge of 100lb. is now considered the full battering charge. 1884 *Fall Mall G.* 13 Apr. 2/1 With a full battering charge (100lb. of powder).

Battering (bæ'tərɪŋ), *ppl. a.* 1; also 6 *battering*. [f. as prec. + -*ING* 2.] That batters or violently assails with blows.

1587 *GASCOIGNE Flowers, Hearsb.* etc. 290 Such batring tiro this pamph[let]et here bewraies. 1793 *COWPER Illiad* v. 38 Town-battering Mars! 1871 *FARRAR Wilt. Hist.* iii. 102 The battering violence of his impassioned rhetoric.

Battering, *ppl. a.* 2 *Arch.* [f. *BATTER v.* 3 + -*ING* 2.] Leaning away from the perpendicular, with an inward or receding slope.

1589 *Ive Fortif.* 25 The rampier must be raised, scarping, battering, or coming in, for euery one foot of height, one foot of scarpe. 1823 *P. NICHOLSON Pract. Build.* 339 The .. Battering surface, whence all projectiles arise.

Battering-ram. [f. *BATTERING vbl. sb.* + *RAM*. Cf. *L. aris* ram, battering-ram.]

1. An ancient military engine employed for battering down walls, consisting of a beam of wood, with a mass of iron at one end, sometimes in the form of a ram's head; (also *fig.*)

1611 *BIBLE Ezek.* iv. 2 Set battering rams against it round about [cf. *COVERDALE Ezek.* xxi. 22 Batell-rammes]. 1776 *GIBSON Decl. & F.* I. xiv. 330 The battering-rams had shaken the walls in several places. 1818 *BENTHAM Ch. Eng.* 55 In the hands of Lancaster .. the Bible .. worked as a battering-ram against the Established Church. 1840 *THIRLWALL Greece* VII. lix. 344 Battering-rams, each 150 feet long.

2. *transf.* A blacksmith's hammer suspended and worked horizontally. 1864 in *WEBSTER*.

Battart: see *BATTARD*.

Battery (bæ'təri), Forms: 6 *batterye*, *batterie*, -*trie* (e. *baterie*, 6-7 *battrie* (e. -erie, 6- *battery*. [a. F. *batterie* (13th c.) 'beating, battering, a group of cannon', etc. (= Pr. *bataria*, Sp. *batería*, It. *batteria*), f. *battr* to beat: see -*ERY*].

I. The action of beating or battering.

1. An assailing with blows; *spec.* in *Law*, an unlawful attack upon another by beating or wounding, including technically the slightest touching of another's person or clothes in a menacing manner.

1531 *ELYOT Gov.* III. i. (1557) 142 Intermedlynge sometyme is vyolent as batrye, open murder. 1601 *SHAKS. Twel. N.* iv. i. 36 Ile haue an action of Battery against him. 1753 *FIELDING Amelia* I. ii. Wks. 1784 VIII. 160 Charged with a battery by a much stouter man than himself. 1868 *G. DUFF Pol. Surv.* 127 Murder, to say nothing of assault and battery, has been .. an everyday matter.

† b. A mark of beating; a wound or bruise. *Obs.* 1598 *SHAKS. Ven. & Ad.* 426 For where a heart is hard they make no battery. 1699 *City-Match* I. iv. in *Hazl. Dods.* XIII. 218 Lets feel: No batteries in thy head, to signify Th' art a constable.

† 2. The beating of drums; sometimes a particular kind of drum-beat, perhaps that giving the signal for an assault. *Obs.*

1591 GARRARD *Art Warre* 118 The most fit and apt time . . . ought to be shewed by . . . stroke or batterie of drums to the footmen. 1605 MARKHAM *Souldiers Accid.*, The Drum doth beat . . . a call, a march, a troupe, a battalia, a charge, a retreat, a batterie, a relieve.

† 3. A succession of heavy blows inflicted upon the walls of a city or fortress by means of artillery; bombardment. *To plant battery*: to prepare for such an attack. *To lay battery to*: to carry it into execution. *To change one's battery*: to change the direction of attack. *Obs. exc. fig.*

1548 HALL *Chron. Hen. VIII.* an. 13 (R.) The battery of the walles discourages vs not. 1587 TURBERV. *Trag. T.* (1837) 47 Planting batterie to my fort. 1603 KNOLLES *Hist. Turkes* (1638) 304 He laid battery to the wal four daies. 1667 MILTON *P. L.* xl. 656 By Batterie, Scale, and Mine, Assaulting. 1732 LEDIARD *Sethos II.* ix. 275 The most violent battery would have weaken'd their walls.

b. *transf. or fig.*

1566 VERON (*title*) A Strong Battery against the Idolatrous Invocation of the Dead Saintes. 1640 LD. DIGBY *Parl. Sp.* 9 Nov. 4 Mischiefs which have . . . layed battery either to our Estates or Consciences. 1655 FULLER *Ch. Hist.* l. 86 The scaling of the swelling Surges, and constant Battery of the Tide. 1805 GROTE *Plato I.* xix. 550 Plato . . . changes his battery, and says something against these enemies.

† c. *Battery piece or piece of battery*: a siege gun. 1570 SIR R. CONSTABLE in *Lodge Illustr. Brit. Hist.* (1838) l. 509 With three battery pieces . . . went to the siege of Hume. 1648 *Petit. Eastern Ass.* 18 Was it ill done to fill the Tower with . . . great pieces of battery?

II. The apparatus used in battering or beating.

4. A number of pieces of artillery placed in juxtaposition for combined action; in Military use, the smallest division of artillery for tactical purposes (corresponding to a company of infantry).

Technically, including also the artillerymen who work the guns, the drivers, and horses. In *Horse batteries*, the gunners are carried partly on the carriages and partly on horses, in *Field batteries* wholly on the carriages; *Garrison batteries* are bodies of artillerymen serving heavy guns in forts or coast batteries.

1555 *Fordale Facioms II.* xi. 246 To plante batteries, make Ladders, and suche other thinges necessarie for the siege. 1732 LEDIARD *Sethos II.* viii. 163 He will begin to work his batteries. 1803 WELLINGTON in *Gurw. Disp.* II. 286 You will have a breaching battery of two 18 pounders and one 12 pounder. 1861 *Man. Artill. Exerc.* 102 The centre battery halts when the rear battery wheels to the left.

b. *fig., esp. in phr. To turn any one's battery against himself.*

1581 J. BELL *Haddon's Answ. Osor.* 82 b, Three wordes onely may suffice to overthrow the whole Battre of these three Invecives. 1771 SMOLLETT *Humph. Cl.* (1815) 183 The fellow who accused him has had his own battery turned upon himself. 1823 LAMB *Elia Ser.* i. xxviii. (1865) 231 You think he has exhausted his battery of looks.

5. The platform or fortified work, on or within which artillery is mounted (sometimes including the guns or mortars there mounted).

1590 MARLOWE *and Pt. Tamburl.* iii. iii, The bringing of our ordnance . . . into the battery. 1688 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 2378/3 We had finished a Battery of three Mortars. 1769 FALCONER *Dict. Marine* (1789) H h 2 b, Those on the lower battery are 32 pounders. 1810 WELLINGTON in *Gurw. Disp.* VI. 346 The batteries and works erecting at Cadiz. 1836 MARRVAT *Midsh. Easy xxx*, She continued her destructive fire . . . from the main-deck battery.

b. *transf. or fig.*

1581 J. BELL *Haddon's Answ. Osor.*, Before you had raysed your Battre agaynst Luther. 1684 T. BURNET *Th. Earth* 89 These [burning] mountains are as so many batteries, planted by Providence in several parts of the earth. 1692 BENTLEY *Boyle Lect.* iv. 111 The Towers and Batteries that the Atheists have raised against Heaven.

6. Phrases and locutions. *Battery-wagon*: one in which are carried tools and materials for repair of the battery. *Cross batteries*: two batteries playing upon the same point from different directions. *Enfilading battery*: one which sweeps the whole line attacked. *Floating battery*: a heavily armed and armoured vessel intended for bombarding fortresses. *In battery*: (a gun) projecting in readiness for firing through an embrasure or over a parapet. *Masked battery*: one screened from the enemy's view by natural or artificial obstacles. *Out of or from battery*: (a gun) withdrawn for the purpose of loading.

1813 WELLINGTON in *Gurw. Disp.* X. 487 On what days did you disembark the artillery? . . . On what days did you put them in battery? 1837 CARLYLE *Fr. Rev.* II. v. I. 57 Wondrous leather-roofed Floating-batteries . . . give gallant summons; to which . . . Gibraltar answers Plutonically. 1861 GEN. P. THOMPSON *Audi Alt.* III. clxxvii. 214 Do not go probing for 'masked batteries' to run your heads against.

7. *Mining*. The set of stamps, usually five in number, that work in one 'mortar' of a stamp-mill. 1881 S. JENNINGS *Vis. Wynaad* viii. 69 Eight batteries of five gravitation stamps each. 1884 *Century Mag.* XXVII. 923 Batteries, where the quartz is pounded into white mud.

8. *Dyeing*. (See quot.)

1777 MILLER *Gard. Dict.* s. v. *Anil*, The second [vat] is called the Battery. It is in the second that they agitate and beat this Water impregnated and loaded with the Salts of the plant [Indigo]. 1815 *Encycl. Brit.* X. 287/2 A battery, consisting of a kettle, containing water slightly acidulated with sulphuric acid.

III. (from 4) A combination of simple instruments, usually to produce a compound instrument

of increased power; applied originally with a reference to the discharge of electricity from such a combination.

9. *Electr.* An apparatus consisting of a number of Leyden jars so connected that they may be charged and discharged simultaneously.

1748 FRANKLIN *Lett. Wks.* 1840 V. 202 An electrical battery, consisting of eleven panes of large sash-glass, armed with thin leaden plates. 1822 IMISON *Sc. & Art I.* 340 When a number of Jars are thus connected it is called a battery.

fig. 1831 CARLYLE *Sart. Res.* III. 339 Till your whole vital Electricity . . . is cut into two isolated portions of Positive and Negative (of Money and of Hunger); and stands there bottled up in two World-Batteries!

10. *Galvanism*. An apparatus consisting of a series of cells, each containing the essentials for producing voltaic electricity, connected together. Also used of any such apparatus for producing voltaic electricity, whether of one cell or more.

1801 SIR H. DAVY in *Phil. Trans.* XCI. 400 The third and most powerful class of Galvanic batteries . . . is formed, when metallic substances, oxidizable in acids . . . are connected, as plates, with oxidizing fluids. 1812 *Chem. Philos.* 162 Zinc, copper, and nitric acid form a powerful battery. 1865 J. WYLD in *Circ. Sc. I.* 190/1 No arrangement equals Grove's platina battery.

11. *Optics*. A combined series of lenses or prisms.

1867-77 CHAMBERS *Astron.*, An eye-piece . . . intermediate between the 1st and of the 'battery'. 1879 WARREN *Astron.* iii. 49 The best instruments pass the beam of light through a series of prisms called a battery.

12. Apparatus for preparing or serving meals.

[= *F. Batterie de cuisine*; perhaps from next sense.]

1819 REES *Cycl.* s. v. *Battery*, Some make battery for the kitchen, *batterie de cuisine*, comprehend all utensils for the service of the kitchen, whether of iron, brass, copper, or other matters. 1893 G. BOUGHTON in *Harper's Mag.* Apr. 655/1 Our tea battery came in. 1894 — *ibid.* Aug. 334/2 The feasting batteries of the . . . guilds.

IV. 13. Metal, or articles of metal, especially of brass or copper, wrought by hammering.

1502 ARNOLD *Chron.* (1811) 74 Battery for the bale, xij*d.* 1577 WILLS & Lvo. N. C. (1860) 414, ij panes of battre wey-inge xv*lb.* 1742 H. HINES *Specif. Patent* No. 462 Raising copper battery cold in common battery mills. 1812 J. SMYTH *Pract. Customs* 107 Black Latten . . . and Battery. This last is known by the dint of the mill-hammers upon the kettles.

attrib. 1592 WILLS & Lvo. N. C. (1860) 252 Kettell of battre mettell. 1802 REES *Cycl.* s. v., Battery-works include pots, saucepans, kettles . . . which though cast at first, are to be afterwards hammered or beaten into form. 1885 *Birmm. Directory*, The Birmingham Battery and Metal Company.

V. [Cf. OF. *baterie* 'sorte de rempart' (Godefroy); ? an extension of 5; or can it be related to BATTER v.2?]

14. An embankment.

1799 J. ROBERTSON *Agric. Perth.* 276 A battery of stone, to join another island to the main land. 1862 SMILES *Engineers* III. 156 The expense of cuts and batteries (since called cuttings and embankments) on the different . . . lines.

15. *Mining*. a. A bulkhead of timber. b. The plank closing the bottom of a coal-chute. Raymond *Mining Gloss.* 1881.

Battil, obs. f. BATTLE, BATTLE.

Batting (bæ'tin), *vbl. sb.* [f. BAT v.1, sb.2.]

1. The action of using or striking with a bat: † a. formerly in washing or smoothing linen (*attrib. in batting-staff, -log, etc.*).

1611 COTGR., *Batoir*, a Laundresses batting staffe. 1798 W. HUTTON *Fam. Hutton* 98 A girl of fifteen . . . lading water into her pail, while standing upon her batting-lag.

b. in *Cricket*.

1773 *Gentl. Mag.* XLIII. 451 The hay may rue, that is un-hous'd, The batting of that day. 1882 *Daily Tel.* 27 May, Messrs. Thornton and Schultz opened the batting for the Gentlemen.

c. Beating out the impurities from raw cotton, an operation now superseded by use of 'opening' and 'scutching' machines.

1819 *Pantologia, Batting Machine* . . . for beating and cleaning cotton. 1835 *Use Philos. Manuf.* 311 Batting cotton by hand . . . seems by far the hardest work in a factory . . . and is somewhat similar to threshing corn.

2. *concr.* Cotton fibre prepared in sheets for quilts or bed-covers; cf. BAT sb.2 13.

1875 H. WOOD *Therap.* (1879) 645 For some purposes a stronger batting . . . is prepared. 1883 *Century Mag.* Oct. 819/2 Filtered through six layers of cotton batting.

Battish (bæ'tif), *a.* [f. BAT sb.1 + -ISH1.] Be fitting a bat, bat-like.

c 1700 *Gentl. Instruc.* (1732) 1 Why Men should dote on Shades, and range in Obscurity . . . a battish Humour.

† Battism. *Obs. rare*—1. [f. Gr. *Battos* stammerer (see BATOLOGICAL) + -ISM.] Tautological repetition; = BATOLOGY.

1617 COLLINS *Def. Bp. Ely* i. v. 198 The frequency of repeating it, to which his Battismes . . . and his abominable Crambes give the only occasion.

Battle (bæ'tl), *sb.* Forms: 3-6 batayle, 4-6 bataile, -ayl, -ail, 4 batail, -al, 4-5 bataill(e), batael(e), 5 batayll(e), -ail, -eyl, -ell, -elle, -ill, (Sc.) battalze, 5-6 batel(e), battayle, battail(l), 5-7 batell, battell, 6 batyl, battaille, -ayl(l), (Sc.) battal, 6-7 battail(e), batle, 6-9 battel, 6-battle. [ME. *batayle*, -aile, -aille, a. OF. *bat-aile* (= It. *battaglia*, Sp. *batalla*) :—vulgar L. *bat-*

talia, corruption of late L. *battuālia*, neut. pl. of adj. **battuālis*, f. late L. *battu-ire* to beat (perh. of Celtic origin). *Battuālia* is mentioned by the grammarian Adamantius or Martyrius (Keil *Gram. Lat.* vii. 178) as a neut. pl. meaning 'exercitationes militum vel gladiatorum': Cassiodorus (Keil *ibid.*), reproducing the passage, adds, 'quæ vulgo *battālia* dicuntur.' Like *murālia*, *mirabilia*, *biblia*, and many other neuter plurals, *battālia* came to be used as a feminine sing. in Romanic.]

I. A fight, fighting.

1. A hostile engagement or encounter between opposing forces on land or sea; a combat, a fight.

1297 R. GLOUC. 369 Pere, as be batayle was, an abbey he let rere. . . Pat ys ycluped in Engellond, abbey of be batayle. c 1386 CHAUCER *Prolog.* 61 At mortal batailles [bataylis] hadde he been fiftene. 1477 EARL RIVERS (Caxton) *Dictes* 64 A man that fled vengquished from a bataille. 1506 *Pilgr. Perf.* (W. de W. 1531) 4 The victory in many great batayles. 1535 COVERDALE 1 *Chron.* xxi. Cont., Of certaine batels which David winneth. 1559 Bp. SCOT in *Strype Ann. Ref.* I. App. vii. 18 Our king . . . shall fyght our batailles for us. 1605 CAMDEN *Rem.* (1637) 49 The sea-battell at Actium. 1642 PR. RUPERT *Declar.* 3 In a battell, where two Armies fight. 1708 NEWTON *Chronol. Amended* Introd. 7 Before the Battell of Thermopylae. 1808 SCOTT *Marm.* vi. xxvi, Wide raged the battle on the plain.

b. With various qualifying attributes:

Close battle, a naval battle at 'close quarters,' in which the ships engage each other side by side. *Pitched battle*, a battle which has been planned, and of which the ground has been chosen beforehand, by both sides. *Plain battle*, 'open field,' fair fight. *General's battle*, a battle in which the issue turns mainly upon the skill of the general, as contrasted with a *soldier's battle*, in which the main element is the courage and energy of the soldier.

1509 RASTELL *Fastyme* (1811) 64 He slew, in playne battayl, GROSUS, kynge of Wandalyas. 1596 SHAKS. *Tam. Shr.* i. ii. 206 Haue I not in a pitched battell heard Loud larums? 1840 NAPIER *Penins. War* VI. xxii. iv. 269 It [Passage of the Bidassoa] was a general's not a soldier's battle. Wellington had with overmastering combinations overwhelmed each point of attack. 1850 E. WARBURTON *Cress. & Cross* I. 36 The signal for 'close battle' flew from his mast head. 1851 CRESSY *Decis. Battles* (1864) 187 To encounter Varus's army in a pitched battle.

2. A fight between two persons, a single combat, a duel. *Trial by battle*: the legal decision of a dispute by the issue of a single combat.

a 1300 *Cursor M.* 3463 Bituix vn-born a batel blind. c 1430 LYOG. *Bochas* II. xxix. (1554) 65 b, Romains By singular batayle had wonne the victory. c 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 26 Batayle, pugna, duellum. 1556 *Chron. Grey Friars* (1852) 12 A gret batle rose betweene Roberte Gloicire & Arthur Ormesby in Smythfelde. 1593 SHAKS. *Rich. II.* i. i. 92, I say, and will in bataille proue . . . That, etc. 1641 *Termes de la Ley* 39 Bataille is an ancient triall in our Law, which the Defendant in appeale of murder, robbery, or felony, may chuse. 1641 in *Rushw. Hist. Coll.* III. (1692) l. 356 The House afterwards Ordered a Bill to be brought in to take away Tryal by Battel. 1819 REES *Cycl.* s. v. *Battle*, The last trial by battel that was waged in the court of common pleas at Westminster . . . was in 1571.

b. An encounter between two animals, especially when set to fight to provide sport. Hence *battle-cock*, a fighting cock.

1605 VERSTEGAN *Dec. Intell.* viii. (1628) 284 Beasts of battle, as is . . . the beare. 1606 SHAKS. *Ant. & Cl.* II. iii. 36 His Cocks do winne the Battaille, still of mine. 1611 MARKHAM *Countr. Content.* l. xix, The breeding of these Cocks for the battail, is much differing from those of the dung-hill. 1704 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 4005/4 There will be . . . a Cock Match . . . for 6 Guineas a Battel.

3. *Battle royal*, a fight in which several combatants engage (*spec. applied to a cock-fight of this character*); a general engagement; a 'free' fight; hence *fig.* a general squabble.

1672 J. HOWARD *All Mistaken* I. (D.) Hist—now for a battle-royal. 1687 DRYDEN *Hind & P.* II. 248 Though Luther, Zuinglius, Calvin, holy chiefs Have made a battel Royal of beliefs. 1804 NELSON in Nicolas *Disp.* VI. 178 We may as well have a Battle Royal, Line-of-Battle Ships opposed to Ships of the Line, and Frigates to Frigates. 1860 GEN. P. THOMPSON *Audi Alt.* III. ci. 1 Cockerels crow across a ditch, till they get up a battle-royal.

4. (In certain phrases): The favourable issue of a combat, victory (cf. *game, match, race*). *To give the battle*: to grant victory. *To have the battle*: to be victorious. *It is half the battle*: (said of anything which contributes largely to success).

c 1400 *Yvain & Gaw.* 1003 Whether is the better? . . . He that has the bataille. 1611 BIBLE *Eccles.* ix. 11 The race is not to the swift nor the battle to the strong. 1849 MARRVAT *Valerie* II, Youth . . . is more than half the battle.

5. (Without article or pl.): Fighting, actual hostilities, conflict between enemies, war.

a 1300 *Cursor M.* 6970 Whenne pat bei to bataille 3ede. 1375 BARBOUR *Bruce* I. 105 Durst name of Walis in battail ride c 1400 *Destr. Troy* iv. 1216 Pollux . . . Brusshit into batell & moche bale wrought. c 1430 *Life St. Kath.* (1884) 61 The tyraunt Maxence went in batayle agensnt the Emperour Constantyne. 1535 COVERDALE *Yosh.* ii. 19 They wanne them all with battayll. 1566 SPENSER *F. Q.* II. l. 27 His steede . . . did cruell battell breathe. 1676 HOBBS *Liad* l. 238 Two ages he in battell honour gain'd. 1872 RUSKIN *For's Clav.* xiv. II. 8 The best men still go out to battle.

† 6. A continued state of hostilities between two or more armed forces, a war. *Obs.*

1382 Wyclif *Wisd.* xiv. 22 In gret bataille [1611 war] or vnkunnyng liuende. 1387 TREVISIA *Hiden Rolls* Ser. IV. 153 *pe bataille pat heet bellum Sociale.* 1542 UDALL *Erasm.*

Apoph. 262 b. Sylla. made civile battail with Marius. 1557 PAYNELL *Barclay's Yngurth*. B. J. The Romayns had three notable and famous batayls agaynst the Carthaginences.

7. *fig.* Strife, conflict, contest, struggle for victory. c1375 WYCLIF *Serm.* Sel. Wks. 1871 II. 250 Batayls and stryvynys in plee shuld be forsaken of Cristene men. c1485 *Digby Myst.* (1882) IV. 1118 His gret bataylle He had on crosse of tree. 1535 COVERDALE *Ps.* IV. 21 Their mouthes are softer then butter and yet haue they batell in their mynde. 1704 SWIFT *Batt. Bks.* (1711) 215 The Battel between the antient and modern Books. 1863 STANLEY *Jew. Ch.* xi. 246 Round this famous prayer was fought a battle of words. 1864 KINGSLEY *Lett.* (1878) II. 197 It is curious to watch the battle between the two waters, quite unmixed, owing to their different specific gravity.

II. Battle array, an army or battalion in array.

8. A body or line of troops in battle array, whether composing an entire army, or one of its main divisions; = BATTALION. *arch.* (since c1700).

1330 R. BRUNNE *Chron.* 276, I se an oste . . . comand bi batayles ten. c1350 *Will. Palerne* 3562 Alle his burnes blue in x batayles he sett. c1400 *Destr. Troy* VI. 213 Gird furthe into grese with a gret batell. 1480 CAXTON *Chron. Eng.* cxxvii. 234 Kyng Edward in a felde fast by cresce haung iij batayls coundred and met with philip of valois haung with hym iij batayles. 1560 WHITEHORNE *Art Warre* (1573) 21 b. A Macedonickall Fallange, was no other wise then is now a days a bataylle of Swizzers. 1596 SHAKS. 1 *Hen. IV.* IV. i. 129 What may the Kings whole Battaille reach vnto? 1598 BARRET *Theor. Warres* III. i. 32 Whereof we frame our battels or battallions. 1664 S. CLARKE *Tamerlane* 8 He divided his Army into three main Battels. 1697 POTTER *Antiq. Greece* III. vi. 58 Their Phalanx is . . . a square Battail of Pike-men. a 1718 ROWE *Lucan* (1807) 141 The joining battles shout. 1814 SCOTT *Ld. Isles* VI. x. In battles four beneath their eye, The forces of King Robert lie.

b. *fig.* A martial array, a line. 1598 SHAKS. *Ven. & Ad. civ.* On his [the boar's] bow-back he hath a battell of Of bristly pikes.

† 9. (More fully called 'great' or 'main battle') : The main body of an army or naval force, as distinguished from the van and rear, or from the wings; = BATTALIA 2 c, BATTALION 1 b. *Obs.*

1489 CAXTON *Faytes of A.* i. xxiii. 71 After the fyrst bataylle that men calle the forwarde cometh the grette bataylle. 1594 SHAKS. *Rich. III.* v. iii. 299 They thus directed, we will follow in the maine Battell. 1655 FULLER *Ch. Hist.* VIII. § 36 IV. 171 He suffered Wyat his Van and main Battell . . . to march undisturbed . . . to Charing Chrosse.

1548 W. PATTEN *Exped. Scot.* in Arb. Garner III. 82 Our three Battels kept order in pace. The Forward, foremost; the Battle, in the midst; and the Rereward, hindmost. a 1628 RALEIGH *Invent. Shipping* 30 A Vanguard . . . of these hoyes . . . with a Battaille of 400 other warlike ships, and a Reare of thirty. 1655 LESTRANGE *Chas. I.* 112 So terrible a shock, as . . . disordered both Battail and Rere. 1868 KIRK *Chas. Bold* III. v. iii. 436 The artillery . . . was divided between the vanguard and the 'battle,' or main body.

† 10. Battle array; = BATTALIA 1 b. *Obs.*

1570-87 HOLINSHED *Scot. Chron.* (1806) I. 200 Seeing the enemies readie ranged in battell. 1596 SIR F. VERE *Comm.* 37 He should march on roundly to the enemy where they stood in battell.

III. Phrases (chiefly in sense 1).

11. In obvious phrases, as *To have, keep, make, smite, strike, battle* (all obs.); *to bid* (obs.), *offer, refuse, accept, take* (arch.) *battle*; *to join battle*; also, *to do battle*, *to fight*; *to give battle*, *to attack, engage*; *to pitch a battle* (cf. *pitched battle* in 1 b).

1297 R. GLOUC. 514 Hii mette hom atte laste . . . at Lincolne . . . & smite there an bataylle. a 1300 *Cursor M.* 471 Ayein him 3af he batayll grym. 1460 in *Pol. Rel. & L. Poems* (1866) 185 *pe* world biddi *pe* bataylle bliif. 1475 CAXTON *Jason* 76 They had batayll togeder. 1470-85 MALORY *Arthur* I. iii. His enemies . . . did a gret batell upon his men. 1495 *Act 11 Hen. VII.* lxiii. Pream. Divers . . . rered Warre, and made Battail ayenst him. 1513 BRADSHAW *St. Werburge* (1848) 181 William Conquerour Pight a stronge battell. 1548 UDALL *Erasm.* *Apoph.* 336 a. The battail was kept in Cherronea. 1577 NORTHBROOKE *Dicing* (1843) 64 To make battell vpon the Sabbath day. 1593 SHAKS. 3 *Hen. VI.* v. iv. 66 Here pitch our Battaille, hence we will not budge. 1599 — *Hen. V.* II. iv. 54 When Cressy Battell fatallly was strucke. 1621 BIBLE *Gen.* xiv. 8 They joynd battell with them, in the vale of Siddim. 1696 H. MORE *Antid. Ath.* II. viii. 117 He did bid battell to the very fiercest of them. 1697 DRYDEN *Virg. Georg.* II. 382 Before the Battel joins. 1723 Dr. Foe *Mem. Cavalier* (1840) 125 Shall we give battle to the imperialists or not? 1847 MAXWELL *Viet. Brit. Armies* 270 He advanced with sixty thousand men, determined to offer battle. 1851 CREASY *Decis. Battles* (1864) 48 Miltiades immediately joined battle and gained the victory. *Ibid.* 149 He should abstain from giving or taking battle. 1853 KINGSLEY *Westm. Hol* xxxi. (1878) 496 The Spaniard had refused battle. 1881 R. STEVENSON *Virg. Puerisque* 85 We must strive and do battle for the truth.

12. *Line of battle* : the position of troops drawn up in battle array in their usual order; the line or arrangement formed by ships of war in an engagement. Hence *line-of-battle ship*, a ship of sufficient size to take part in a main attack; formerly, one of 74 guns and upward.

1655 ADDISON *King Misc. Wks.* 1726 I. 11 Spain's numerous Fleet . . . Could scarce a longer Line of battell boast. 1770 *Lord. Gaz.* No. 4700/1 Eighteen Men of War, all of the Line of Battel. 1798 FALCONER *Dict. Marine* (1789) A a. In the line, or order of battle, all the ships . . . are close-hauled. 1824 WELLINGTON in *Gurw. Disp.* X. 16 The army . . . made up in the form of what is called 'a line of battle.' 1863 CORNH. *Mag.* Feb. *Life Man-of-War*, The typical vessel—the two-decker line-of-battle ship, say of eighty guns.

IV. Combinations.

13. General relations: a. instrumental with pa.

pple., as *battle-scarred*, *-slain*, *-spent* (exhausted with fighting), *-writhen* (twisted in struggle). b. attrib. with sb., as *battle-day*, *-din*, *-hymn*, *-line*, *-order*, *-painter*, *-picture*, *-place*, *-rank*, *-shout*, *-smoke*, *-song*, and poetical combinations without limit, nearly all of the present century.

1701 *Lord. Gaz.* 3694/4 Mr. Alexander van Gaalon, the Battel-Painter. 1814 BYRON *Lara* II. xi. The battle-day They could encounter as a veteran may. 1814 SCOTT *Ld. of Isles* IV. xxx. To wreak thy wrongs in battle-line. 1831 CARLYLE *Sart. Res.* III. viii. The steel Host, that yelled in fierce battle-shouts at Issus and Arbela. 1849 TENNYSON *Elaine* 808 Battle-writhen arms and mighty hands. 1865 O. W. HOLMES *To Gen. Grant*, Our leaders battle-scarred. 1870 BRYANT *Iliad* I. IV. 12 The battle-din was loud.

14. Special combinations: *Battle array*, formerly *battle-ray*, the order of troops arranged for battle; *battle-cry*, a war-cry, a slogan; *battle-field*, *-ground*, the field or ground on which a battle is fought; *battle-piece*, a painting of a battle, a poetical or rhetorical passage describing a battle; † *battle-ram*, a battering-ram; *battlestead* (*arch.*), place of battle; *battle-word*, war-cry; † *battle-wright*, a warrior; *battle-wise adv.*, in manner or order of battle.

1522 HULOET, *Battayle arraye, in fourme or order of battayle, *terminatim*. c1600 *Rob. Hood* (Ritson) xii. 66 The King is into Finsbury field Marching in 'battle-ray.' 1618 BOLTON *Florus* (1636) 234 Athenio. puts them under Banners into 'battell-ray.' 1646 THIRLWALL *Greece* VII. lviii. 285 The two armies were drawn up in 'battle-array.' 1814 SCOTT *Ld. of Isles* VI. xxxii. He shouted loud his 'battle-cry,' 'Saint James for Argentine!' 1879 *Pall Mall Budget*, 12 Sept. 8 The noisy 'battle-cries' that are put into their mouths. 1812 BYRON *Ch. Har.* II. lxxxix. 'The Battle-field, where Persia's victim horde First bow'd.' 1880 SCOTT *Abbot* xxii. The French and English have . . . made Scotland the 'battle-field' on which to fight out their own ancient quarrel. 1865 MILL *Exam. Hamilton* 154 The question of an external world is the great 'battle-ground of metaphysics.' 1711 SHAFTESB. *Chas. R.* (1737) III. 379 Representations of the human passions; as we see even in 'battel-pieces.' 1867 FREEMAN *Norm. Cong.* I. v. 271 Verses which echo the true ring of the 'battel-pieces of Homer.' 1535 COVERDALE *Ezek.* xli. 22 To crie out Alarum, to set 'battel-rammes agaynst the gates.' 1375 BARBOUR *Bruce* xiv. 301 (Thai) leuit in the 'battel-stede Weill mone of thar gud men ded.' 1599 *Myrr. for Mag.*, *Jack Cade* ix. 6 And 'battayle wyse to cum to blacketh playne. 1622 MABBE *Aleman's Gussman d'Als* II. 333 Wee did presently 'battel-wyse cast our selues into a Wing. 1814 SCOTT *Ld. of Isles* VI. xxvii. Sinks, Argentine, thy 'battel-word.' a 1300 *Cursor M.* 7495 Yon es a stalworth 'bataill wright.

Battle, variant of BATTAL sb.

Battle, *battel* (bæt'l), a. *Obs.* exc. *dial.* Forms: 6-7 *battill*, *battell*, *batle*, *battle*, 6 *batel* (1), 7 *batell*, 8-9 *Sc. battille*, *bettile*. [For the etymology and mutual relations of this and the cognate *BATTLE* v.3, data are wanting; according to present evidence, the adj. appears earliest, being found in Scotch in 1513. Its form and sense agree with a derivation from *bat, representing ON. *bati* 'improvement, getting better,' Du. *baat* 'improvement, advantage, profiting, profit,' referred to under *BATTEN* v.1; with suffix as in *brittle*, *bruckle*, *fickle*, *newfangle*, and OE. *etol*, *drincol*, *witloll*. This would give as the primary sense 'given, tending, or fitted, to improve, better, fatten, etc.' All the related words have a smack of Northern origin: 'battle or battile grass' is still common in south of Scotland.

The non-occurrence of bat, while its presumed derivatives, *battle*, *battable*, *batful*, *batsome*, are so frequent in 16-17th c., is a difficulty; as is also the fact that *bat-le*, *bat-able* point to a verbal rather than a substantive base, and yet can hardly have been formed on *bat-en*.]

1. Of grass or pasture: Improving or nutritious to sheep and cattle; feeding, nourishing, fattening. 1513 DOUGLAS *Zenis* VI. x. 25 With battill gers, fresche erbis and grene suarids. 1533 BELLENDEN *Livy* I. (1822) 13 To refresche thaim with the battell gers thairof. 1641 BEST *Farm. Bks.* (1856) 28 A battle, sweete, moist, and (as wee say) a naturall grasse, and doth the sheepe much good. 1822 SCOTT *Pirate* III. 182 (JAM.) We turn heather into greensward, and the poor yarphe into battle grass-land. *Mod. (Roxburghshire)*, Hillsides covered with fine battle grass.

2. Hence, of soil or land: Rich, fertile, productive, fruitful (properly in pasture, but sometimes generally).

c1540 BRINKLOW *Complaynt* IV. B. v. b. Y* most battell and fruitfull grownd in Ingland. 1563 HYLL *Art Garden*. (1593) 6 A fruitfull profitable, and a battle ground. 1601 HOLLAND *Pliny* I. 472 The soile is exceeding battill and fat. 1610 — *Camden's Brit.* II. 102 A plenteous and battle country for feeding and raising of cattell. 1609 BUTLER *Fem. Mon.* I. (1623) B j. There is no ground . . . whether it be battle or barren. 1693 W. ROBERTSON *Phrascol. Gen.* 214 Battel or fruitful, *fertillis*. 1807 HOGG *Mount. Bard* 124 (JAM.) On Ettrick's battle haughs.

Battle (bæt'l), v.1 Forms: 4 *bataille*, *-ale*, 4-5 *-ail*, 5 *-aylle*, *-el* (1), *-ol*, *-il*, 6 *-ayle*, *battaille*, 7- *battile*. [a. F. *bataille-r* (12th c. in Littre) to fight, f. *bataille* *BATTLE*.]

1. *Intr.* To fight, to engage in war. (Now rare in literal sense, in which *fight* is usual.)

1330 R. BRUNNE *Chron.* 252 In þinkeng of alle þis, þe batailed in þe se. c1374 CHAUCEER *Boeth.* I. iv. 18 Whom þei

han seyn alwey batailen and defenden goode men. c1400 *Destr. Troy* III. 945 These balefull brether batell so longe. 1483 CAXTON *Gold. Leg.* 430/1 This . . . fader bataylled and foughte agaynst the heretykes. 1593 SHAKS. 3 *Hen. VI.* II. v. 74 Whiles Lyons Warre, and battaille for their Dennes. 1704 ROWE *Ulysses* Prol. 8 To seek Renown And Battel for a Harlot at Troy Town. 1831 CARLYLE *Sart. Res.* II. viii. To . . . battle with innumerable wolves.

b. *fig.* To contend, maintain a (usually defensive) struggle, e.g. *with* or *against* pestilence, bigotry, the waves, etc.

1502 *Ord. Crysten Men* (W. de W. 1506) I. vii. 75 To resist and batayle in this present lyfe. 1729 SWIFT *Libel Delany* Wks. 1755 IV. l. 99 His virtues battling with his place. 1880 SCOTT *Abbot* viii. A lively brook, which battled with every stone that interrupted its passage. 1876 GREEN *Short Hist.* 713 Walpole battled stubbornly against the cry of war.

c. (with indefinite object) *To battle it* (lit. and fig.).

1714 ADDISON *Spect.* No. 556 ¶ 9, I was battling it across the Table with a young Templar. 1821 BYRON *Sardan.* v. i. 60 They battle it beyond the wall. 1885 BROWNING *Ferishtah's F.* 141 So we battled it like men.

† 2. *trans.* and *refl.* To put into battle array, form into battalions, embattle. *Obs.*

1330 R. BRUNNE *Chron.* 170 Jan cried Richard on hie, 'Now batayle vs belyue.' c1430 *Syr Gomer*. 7822 Thei batailed hem in ranges fiftene.

3. *trans.* To give battle to, fight against, assail in battle. Also *fig.*

c1399 *Pol. Poems* (1859) II. 9 Cristes feith is every dai assailed . . . and batailed. 1590 GREENE *Orl. Fur.* (1599) 31 To bataylle him that scornes to iniure thee. 1765 TUCKER *Lt. Nat.* I. 39 The work . . . of battling the opinions of others. 1852 DICKINSON in *Jrnl. R. Agric. Soc.* XIII. II. 257 The calves are suffered to battle each other in loose sheds.

4. Phrases.

1794 SOUTHEY *Bot. Bay Eclog.* iii. Every step that he takes he must battle his way. 1875 B. TAYLOR *Faust* II. iii. II. 103 Here a lesson grand was battled to the end.

† *Battle*, *v.2* *Obs.* Forms: 4 *batayle*, *-alle*, 5 *bataille*, 7 *battell*; see *BATTLED* ppl. a.2 [a. OF. *bataillier*, *-eillier* (= Pr. *batalhar*) to furnish with *batailles* 'battlements,' temporary or movable turrets of wood, etc. erected upon walls when besieged; formally the same word as *bataille* battle, though the sense-development is not clear. Later OF. had also in same sense *battillier*, *bastillier*, either a distinct formation on *bastille* (see *BASTILLE*), or refashioned after this word, which eventually displaced *bataillier*, so that mod. F. has only *bastiller*: in Eng. on the other hand the word followed the phonetic course of *battle*. See also *BATTEMENT*.]

trans. To fortify or furnish with battlements. (Usually in passive: cf. *BATTLED* ppl. a.2)

c1340 *Cursor M.* (Trin.) 9902 þis castel . . . of loue and grace . . . is . . . batailed aboute al wip sele. c1375 BARBOUR *Bruce* II. 221 Perth . . . then wes wallyt all about With feile towris ryght hey battaillyt. c1618 FLETCHER *Woman's Prize* III. ii. 110 Ile have it batteld too.

† *Battle*, *battel* (bæt'l), v.3 *Obs.* Forms: 6 *battill*, *battell*, 7 *batle*, 7, 9 *battell*, 6- *battle*. [See *BATTLE* a., of which this appears to be a derivative, and cf. the synonymous *BATTEN* v.1.

(As we cannot be quite sure whether the pr. ppl. in the earliest instances is *trans.* 'feeding,' or *intr.* 'thriving, flourishing,' the order of development is uncertain. If derived from the adj., we should expect the earliest sense to be 'to render pasture or land *batle*, to fertilize.')

I. *transitive*.

† 1. To nourish cattle, as a rich pasture does; to feed or nourish (men or beasts). *Obs.*

1548 UDALL *Erasm. Par. Luke* Pref. 3 The fatte batleyng yearth of the Paraphrase. 1617 COLLINS *Def. Bp. Ely* I. ii. 120 As they may wish wel to the childe, that are not particularly put in trust to battle it, or to give it suck. 1653 A. WILSON *Jas. I.* 43 A Courtier from his infancy, Battled by Art, and industrie. 1655 MOUFF. & BERN. *Health's Improv.* 190 Snails . . . towards winter, having . . . battled themselves fat with sleep. 1662 FULLER *Worthies* I. 229 [see *BATTLING* ppl. a.2].

† 2. To render (soil) fertile and productive. *Obs.*

1611 COTGR., *Engraisser un champ*, to battle it, or make it fertile. 1662 FULLER *Worthies* (1840) I. 399 Ashes are a marvellous improvement to battle barren ground. *Ibid.* III. 40 Dove . . . is the Nilus of Staffordshire, much battling the Meadows thereof.

II. *intransitive*.

† 3. Of men and animals: To grow fat, to thrive.

1575 TURBERV. *Venerie*. 189 The badgerd battles much with slepe and is a verie fat beast. 1601 HOLLAND *Pliny* IX. xxxi. In autumnne and spring they battle and wax fat. 1656 TRAPP *Comm.* I. Pet. II. 2 Like the changeling Luther mentioneth, ever sucking, never battling. 1699 COLES, *Battle*, as cattle turned into rank ground, *impascor*, *vevor*. *Battle* [get flesh] *pinguesco*. 1721 BAILEY, *Battle*, to feed as Cattle do; to grow fat.

† 4. To become fertile and fruitful. *Obs.*

1576 FOXE *A. & M.* To Rdr. ¶ ij b. These with farnes of their bloud dyd cause it [fields of the church] to battell and fructifie. 1578 Chr. *Prayers in Priv. Prayers* Q. *Elia*. (1851) 516 That the good seed . . . battle, as in good ground, and bring forth plentiful fruit.

† *Battle*, *v.4* *Obs.* [freq. of *BAT* v.1, or var. of *BETLE*; cf. *BATTLING* and *BATLER*.] *trans.*

To beat (clothes) with a wooden beetle during the process of washing, or in order to smooth them after they are dried. See also *BATTLING* vbl. sb.4

1570 LEVINS *Manif.* 38 To battle clothes, *excutere*.

Battle, variant of **BATTEL**.

† **Battleage**. *Obs.* [Of uncertain etymology and meaning.]

1566 *Ord. R. House*. 195 Grinding of Wheate, Messurage, Carriage, and Battelage of Wheat, Bread, and Meale.

Battle-ax, **-axe**, (bæt'l, æks).

1. A kind of ax used as a weapon of war in the Middle Ages.

c1380 in *Tytler Hist. Scot.* (1864) I. 367 Bow, and spier, And battle-axe, their fechtung gear. 1437 *Test. Ebor.* (1855) II. 70 Unam loriam de optimis, et optimum batelax. 1546 *Lanc. Wills* II. 27 Also my batell axe wth all other harnishe belonging to my bodie. 1588 *SHAKS. Tit. A.* III. i. 169 Rear'd aloft the bloody Battle axe. 1768 *HUME Hist. Eng.* II. (1803) xiv. 238 Cleft his adversary to the chin with a battle-axe. 1850 *PRESCOTT Peru* II. 213 Long lances and battle-axes edged with copper.

2. A halberd or bill carried by guards.

1709 *Lond. Gas.* No. 4536/2 His Excellency proceeded to the Castle, attended by the Privy-Council, with the Guard of Battle-Axes. 1714 *Ibid.* No. 5282/6 The Company of Foot-Guards armed with Battle-axes.

Battled (bæt'ld), *ppl. a.* [f. **BATTLE** v.1 + -ED.]

1. Ranged in battle-array; disposed in battalions. 1592 *WYKLEY Armorie* 46 He sommoned braue Dukes, stout Earles and Lordes In battel'd armes before him to appeere. 1841 *ORDENON Creol.* xviii. 213 She could not stay the 'battled pestilence'.

2. *poet.* Fought, contested.

1810 *SCOTT Lady of L.* I. xxxi. Soldier rest! Thy warfare o'er, Dream of battled fields no more.

Battled (bæt'ld), *ppl. a.* 2. *Obs. exc. poet.* Forms:

4 batayld, -ailed, -ayled, (Sc.) battalit, 4-5 baytalyed, (Sc.) battailyt, 5 batild, 6 batteled, -eld, (Sc.) battalit, 7 batled, 7- battiled. [f. **BATTLE** v.2 + -ED: cf. OF. *bataillé* now *bastillé*.]

1. Fortified with battlements; embattled.

c1325 *E. E. Allit. P.* B. 1183 For þe borg watz so bygge baytalyed alofte. c1400 *Rom. Rose* 4162 Lest any tyme it were assailed, Ful wel aboute it was batayled. 1600 *FAIRFAX Tasso* xiii. xlviii. 244 Built like a battled wall. 1810 *SCOTT Lady of L.* v. xxix. The castle's battled verge. 1830 *TENNYSON Dream Fair Wom.* 220 The valleys of grape-loaded vines that glow Beneath the battled tower.

† 2. *transf.* Having an edge or outline shaped like a battlement; crenelated. *Obs.*

c1386 *CHAUCER Nonne Pr. T.* 40 His comb was redder than the fyn coral, And batayld, as it were a castel wall. 1405 *Test. Ebor.* (1836) I. 318 Unum gobellum . . . cum operculo batellato. 1422 (?) *Ibid.* I. 404, j. murreus . . . cum ligacione batilde.]

† **Battled** (bæt'ld), *ppl. a.* 3. *Obs.* Also 7 batled, battilled. [f. **BATTLE** v.3 + -ED.] Of animals: Nourished, fed up, fattened. Of pasture, land; Fertilized, manured. (Commonly well-battled.)

1611 *COTGR.* *Vne fille bien advenue*, well procured, well grown . . . well batned, or batled. 1616 *SURFL. & MARKH. Countr. Farm* 212 Well manured and batled ground. *Ibid.* 311 In a free and well battilled ground.

Battledore (bæt'ldɔr), *sb.* Forms: 5 batyl-doure, -dore, batyledore, (batyndore, badildore, batildure, 6-dore, batil(l)dore, batteldore, 7 battledore, 6-9 battledoor, 6- battledore. [Perh. ad. *Pr. batador* 'beater'; cf. *Sp. batador* applied to instruments as well as to persons, f. *batir* to beat; Minshew gives a *Sp. batador*, with the meaning of a beetle used in washing. But historical connexion with these Romanic words is not proved, and the date offers difficulties. If we refer the first part to **BATTLE** v.4, or to **BAT**, the -dore remains without satisfactory explanation.]

1. A beetle or wooden 'bat' used in washing, also (when made cylindrical) for smoothing out or 'mangling' linen clothes; hence also applied to similarly shaped instruments, e.g. the paddle of a canoe, a utensil for inserting loaves into an oven, or glass-ware into the kiln, etc.

c1440 *Promp. Parv.* 27 Batyldoure, or wasshyng betylle, feretorium. c1450 in *Wulker Voc.* 1582 Feretorium, batyndore. 1601 *Pecten*, batyndore. 1483 *Cath. Angl.* 17 Badildore, batildure, pecten. c1555 *HARPSFIELD Divorce Hen. VIII* (1878) 276 [She] all to beat her yokemate with a wash-beetle or battledore. 1627 *F. MORISON Itin.* I. 11 Boats of a hollow tree, driven . . . by battledores. 1655 *Queen's Clos. Open.* 222 (D.) Rowl them [the gumbals] with battledores into long pieces, and tie them up in knots, and so dry them. 1828 *J. PLATTS Bk. Curios.* 579 A Laundress . . . turning the clothes up and down with her hand and battledore. 1883 *Knowledge* 22 June 371/2 The loaves are inserted . . . by means of a flat battledore with a long handle, called a 'peel'.

2. An instrument like a small racket used in playing with a shuttlecock.

1598 *FLORIO, Poletta*, a scoope or batledore to play at tenis with. 1690 *LOCKE Educ. Wks.* 1812 IX. 126 Playthings . . . as tops, gigs, battledores. 1836-7 *DICKENS Sk. Box* (1850) 274/2 The shuttlecocks fluttered from the little deal battledores.

b. The game played with this by two persons who strike the shuttlecock to and from each other. 1719 *D'URFEY Pills* (1872) II. 303 Have you seen Battledore play, Where the Shuttlecock flys to and fro one? 1798 *COWPER Let. to Hill* 7 Dec. I . . . have been playing at battledore and shuttle-cock. 1794 *SCOTT in Lockhart* (1839) I. 311, I hope they are improved at the battledore.

fig. 1879 *LOWELL Orient. Apol. Poet. Wks.* 363 So they two played at wordy battledore.

† 3. (more fully *battledore-book*): A horn-book,

so called from its usual shape. Hence *battledore boy*, an abecedarian. *Obs. or dial.*

1693 *W. ROBERTSON Phrasol. Gen.* 215 A battledore book, or Horn-book: *Abecedarium*. *Ibid.* A Battledore boy or Horn-book-boy. 1697 *G. KEITH and Narr. Turner's Hall* 9 G. H. has Printed . . . a Battle-dore to teach them to speak true English. 1877 *E. PEACOCK Manley (Linc.) Gloss.* *Battledore*, a piece of cardboard on which was printed the A. B. C., the Lord's prayer, and a few short syllables, employed as a substitute for the horn-book. They were in use here, in dames' schools, thirty years ago. 'He doesn't know his A. B. C. fra a battledore' perhaps refers to this. 1884 *Mrs. BANKS In his own Hand* xx, Behold the lad with battledore or book before him.

4. **Battledore barley**: a species of cultivated barley (*Hordeum secalinum*) with short broad ears, also called *Sprat barley*.

1848 *MILBURN in Jynl. R. Agric. Soc. IX.* n. 506 The variety of barley usually sown is Chevalier . . . the 'battledore,' an old variety, is nearly extinct.

5. Phrases. *Not to know a B from a battledore* (arch.): to be utterly illiterate; *To say B (or Bo!) to a battledore* (obs.): to open one's mouth in speech (cf. *to say Bo! to a goose*); hence, *battledore* is alliteratively used along with *B* in various locutions.

1553-87 *FOX E. & M. II.* 474 He knew not a B from a battledore nor ever a letter of the book. 1592 *NASHE P. Penilisse* 30 b, Now you talke of a Bee, Ile tell you a tale of a Battle-dore. 1599 — *Lent. Stoffe Wks.* 1885 V. 197 Every man can say Bee to a Battledore, and write in prayse of Vertue. 1621 *Br. MOUNTAGU Diatribe* 118 The Clergy of this time were . . . not able to say bo to a battledore. 1630 *J. TAYLOR (Water P.) Wks.* II. 43/1 Criticks . . . That of a B. will make a Battledore. 1877 [see 3]. 1884 *BLACK Jnd. Shaks.* xxi, Fools that scarce know a B from a battledore.

Battledore, v. [f. prec. sb. (in sense 2).] To drive, toss or fly to and fro.

1858 *BUSHNELL Serm. New Life* 181 Battle-dooring always in opinions and dogmas. 1864 *Daily Tel.* 9 Apr., Honest men were not to be battledored and shuttlecocked between names and names.

† **Battleful**, *a. Obs. rare*—1. [f. **BATTLE** sb.1 + -FUL.] Full of strife or conflict; contentious.

c1449 *PEECOCK Repr.* 348 To seke after the surer to him weies than after the hardir and the batteifuller weies.

Battlement (bæt'lment), *sb.* Forms: 4-5 batelment, 5-eillement, 5-6- ilment, -illement, -ylment(e), battilment, 6- battlement. [ME. *batell-, batayle-, batelment*, a. OF. **bataille-, *batellement*, f. *batailler* (= *Pr. batalhar*). OF. had also (later) *battilement*, f. *ba(s)illier*, whence Caxton's *battilement*: as to the relation of the two forms see **BATTLE** v.2.]

An indented parapet at the top of a wall, at first used only in fortified buildings for purposes of defence against assailants, but afterwards in the architectural decoration of ecclesiastical and other edifices. The raised parts are called *cops* or *merlons*, the indentations *embrasures* or *crenelles*.

c1325 *E. E. Allit. P.* B. 1459 Enbanded vnder batelment with batelles quoynt. 1443 *Test. Ebor.* (1855) II. 89 Ad facturam unius batilment super ecclesiam predictam. 1475 *CAXTON Jason* 100 b, Som ran to the creneaulx or battilements of the walles. 1593 *SHAKS. Rich. II.* III. iii. 52 This Castle's tatter'd Battlements. 1611 *BIBLE Deut.* xxii. 8 When thou buildest a new house, then thou shalt make a battlement for thy roofe. 1766 *H. WALPOLE Vertue's Anecd. Paint.* (1786) I. 169 The battlements of all the said chapels and porches. 1814 *SCOTT Wav. lixii.* The battlements above the gates were broken and thrown down.

b. *loosely* for 'embattled roof.'

1595 *SHAKS. John II.* i. 375 These scroyles of Anjou . . . stand securely on their battlements. 1677 *MOXON Mech. Exerc.* (1703) 157 *Battlement*, a flat Roof or Platform to walk on. But Battlements are more properly Walls built about the Platform to inclose it. 1803 *BRISTED Ped. Tour* II. 470 Presently appeared, upon the battlements above, some female forms, arrayed in white.

c. *transf.* A crenelated brim on cups, etc. d. *fig.* The towering summits of the mountains, the roof of the heavens.

1444 *Test. Ebor.* (1855) II. 98 Unam peciam [cup] coopertam cum batelment deauratam. c1530 in *Gutch Coll. Cur.* II. 327 A standing Cuppe withe a Cover and Batilments of silvar. 1667 *MILTON P. L.* I. 742 Thrown by angry Jove Sheer o're the Chrystal Battlements. 1860 *TYNDALL Glac.* I. § 16. 112 The torn battlements of the mountain.

d. *Comb.*, as *battlement-wise* adv.

1616 *SURFL. & MARKH. Countr. Farm* 512 A smooth board, six or seven ynches square, and cut battlement-wise at each end.

Battlement, v. [f. prec. sb.] To furnish or decorate with battlements.

1603 [see next]. 1884 *Pall Mall G.* 18 July 11/2 It is proposed to . . . battlement the top of the wall.

Battlemented, *ppl. a.* [f. prec. sb. or vb.] Furnished with or surmounted by battlements.

1603 *FLORIO Montaigne* II. xii. (1632) 336 The walks or battlements of an high tower or steeple, if they be battlemented. 1826 *SCOTT Woodstock* (1832) 179 A battlemented portal. 1873 *G. DAVIES Mount. & Mere* xxiv. 213 Lurid flames seem springing from above the battlemented rocks.

† **Battleness**. *Obs.* [f. **BATTLE** a. + -NESS.] The quality of being 'battle,' fertility.

1598 *FLORIO, Verità*, fertility, fruitfulness, battleness.

Battler (bæt'lar). Forms: 3 batelur, 5 batallier, 9 battler. [ME. *batelur*, a. OF. *bataillor*, -eur, agent-noun f. *bataillier* to **BATTLE**; also ME.

bataillier, a. OF. *bataillier*, f. *bataille* **BATTLE**. In mod. Eng. perh. directly f. **BATTLE** v.] One who battles or fights; a warrior, a fighter.

c1300 *K. Alis.* 1433 He wan of that lond the honor, And mony noble batelur. 1489 *CAXTON Faytes of A. I.* x. 28 The right worthy and preu bataillier Cerna the romain. 1868 *Q. Rev.* Apr. 410 Rough battlers with the world.

† **Battler**, *Obs. rare*. Also 7 batteller. [f. **BATTLE** v.4 + -ER.]

1. One who beats with a 'bat' or 'battledore.' 1668 *FULLER Worthies* IV. 49 Capping anciently set fifteen distinct Callings on work . . . 9. Dyers. 10. Battellers. 11. Shearers. 1790 *Stow's Surv.* (Strype 1754) II. v. xvi. 318/1 Carders, spinners, knitters . . . dyers, Battlers, shearers.

2. A small bat to play at ball with.

1650 *HALLIWELL* refers to HOWELL.

3. A utensil for battling clothes. [see **BATLER**.]

Battler, var. **BATTLER** (at Oxford).

Battlesome (bæt'lsəm), *a.* 1. *rare*. [f. as prec. + -SOME.] Given to fighting, quarrelsome.

1877 *Daily News* 10 Nov. 6/1 To be strong, France needs not be battlesome.

† **Battlesome**, *a.* 2. *Obs. rare*. [f. **BATTLE** v.3 + -SOME.] Nutritious.

1627 *J. CARTER Plaine & Comp. Expos.* 23 The most foysonable and battlesome word, and Ordmances of God.

Battling (bæt'lin), *vb.* sb.1 [f. **BATTLE** v.1.]

The action of the vb. **BATTLE**; fighting, conflict.

c1300 *K. Alis.* 100 Nyne and twenty ryche kynges, To make on him bataylynges. 1866 *FRONDE Hist. Eng.* VI. 361 After forty years of battling with the stormy waters. 1878 *P. BAYNE Purit. Rev.* I. 10 The United Kingdom is now what the battlings of the seventeenth century made it.

attrib. 1856 *KANE Arc. Exp.* II. xxix. 289 The familiar localities of the whalers' battling-ground.

† **Battling**, *vb.* sb.2 *Obs.* Forms: 4-5 bat-taillyng, 4-6 -alyng, 5 batayling, 6 bateling, -elyng, -elling, battailing, -alyng, -elyng, 7 battling. [f. **BATTLE** v.2 + -ING.]

1. The furnishing with battlements, embattling.

1506 in *MS. Reg. Test. Ebor.* VI. 173 [Robt. Drayton . . . leaves 30c.] to the edification of a new roof wth battelling of the church. 1527 *Lanc. & Chesh. Wills* (1854) 5, I gif to the batylyng of the church of Northen xxxijis. iiijd.

2. *concr.* Battlement work, battlements.

1375 *BARBOUR Bruce* IV. 136 That bataylyng [v. r. battaillyng], without dout, Safit thair lifis. 1430 *LYDG. Chron. Troy* II. xi, To reyse a wall with batayling and crestes marciall. 1540 *Coweney Acc.* in T. Sharp *Dissert.* (1825) 19 For mendyng the batylyng yn the toppes of the pagent, viijd. 1600 *SHELTON Quix.* IV. xi. 11. 140 Two foot broad of a Plank on the Battlings.

† **Battling, battling**, *vb.* sb.3 *Obs.* Also 7 battling. [f. **BATTLE** v.3 + -ING.]

1. The action or process of causing to grow or thrive; nourishing, feeding; fertilizing, manuring of land. b. *intr.* A growing fat or thriving.

1616 *SURFL. & MARKH. Countr. Farm* 218 You shall helpe it [the earth] by such manner of battelling as hath beene spoken of. 1650 *FULLER Pigs* II. viii. 177 A jolly dame no doubt, as appears by the well-batling of the plump boy. *Ibid.* II. x. 217 The well batling of the Giants bred in Philistia . . . attests the fertility of their soil.

2. That which 'battles' or nourishes; feeding, food: a. that which nourishes animals; food, victuals; b. that which fertilizes land; manure.

1601 *HOLLAND Pliny* I. 508 The fruit it selfe of the earth is a batling to the earth. 1611 *COTGR.* *Morche*, food, victuals, cheere, batling. 1616 *SURFL. & MARKH. Countr. Farm* 371 Anie other sort of dung or batling. 1632 *SHERWOOD, Battling, vires, manger, morche.*

Battling, *vb.* sb.4 *Obs. exc. dial.* [f. **BATTLE** v.4 + -ING.] The action of beating with a 'bat,' battler, battledore, etc.; in quot. *attrib.*

1519 *HORMAN Vulg.* 239 b, Fet iii. batylylyng roddis [rudi-culas] to beate this wolle. 1878 *HALLIWELL Dict.* *Battling-stone*, a large smooth-faced stone . . . by the side of a stream, on which washerwomen beat their linen to clean it. *North.*

Battling (bæt'lin), *ppl. a.* 1. [f. **BATTLE** v.1 + -ING.] Fighting, engaged in conflict; combative.

1707 *J. WOLCOTT (P. Pindar) Ode upon O. Wks.* 1794 I. 421 The mighty battling Broughtons and the Slacks. 1834 *R. MUDIE Brit. Birds* (1841) II. 51 The gold-finch . . . is somewhat of a battling bird. 1840 *CARLYLE Heroes* IV. (1858) 236 The much-enduring, hard-work, ever-battling man.

† **Battling**, *ppl. a.* 2. *Obs.* Also 7 battling. [f. **BATTLE** v.3 + -ING.]

(As manure *battled* pasture, or made it *battle*, and as *battling* pasture *battled* the cattle that fed or *battled* on it, it is in some cases not possible to be sure whether 'fertile' or 'fertilizing' is the notion intended.)

1. Nourishing or fattening to cattle; hence, fertile, productive, fruitful.

1548 [see **BATTLE** v.3 1.]. 1565 *GOLDING Ovid's Met.* VII. (1593) 164 [It] took roote And thriving in the battling soyle in burgeons forth did shoote. c1590 *GREENE Fr. Bacon* ix. 4 The battling pastures lade [v. r. laid] with kine. 1668 *FULLER Worthies* (1840) I. 365 The fair pasture nigh Haddon . . . so incredibly battling of cattle.

2. *gen.* Nourishing, making to grow or thrive; fertilizing to soil; nutritious to man.

1555 *Fardle Facions* II. viii. 164 The battling breathe of the gentle Weast winde. 1565 *GOLDING Ovid's Met.* XV. (1593) 359 Udders full of battling milke. 1620 *HOLLAND Camden's Brit.* I. 556 A battling fruitful slugh, or humour.

Battlous: see **BATTAILOUS** a.

Battological (bæt'ɒlədʒikəl), *a.* [f. Gr. *βαττολόγος* a stammerer, one who repeats himself

needlessly + -ICAL. The Gr. word is f. the personal name *Báttos* (see the story in Herodotus, IV. 155) + -λογία speaking, speaker.] Given to battology.

1863 C. READE *Hard Cash* II. xiv. 200 The battological author.

Battologist (bæ'tlɒdʒɪst). [f. as prec. + -IST.] One who needlessly repeats the same thing.

1653 GAUDEN *Hierasp.* 384 What perfect Battologists they are; what circles they make... in their Prayings.

Battologize (-lɒdʒaɪz, v.; also 8-lse. [f. as prec. + -IZE; cf. Gr. *Βαττολογέειν*].

1. *trans.* To keep repeating (a word or phrase). 1634 SIR T. HERBERT *Trav.* (1677) 191 Battologizing the names *Alough Whoddaw* and *Mohumet* very often.

2. *intr.* To repeat words or phrases with needless iteration; to multiply words.

1718 SIR P. KING *Const. Prim. Ch.* i. ii. (1713) 37 When we pray, let us not battologise. a 1736 BLACKALL *Wks.* 1723 I. 480 Do not Battologize in your prayers, says Our Saviour.

Battology (bæ'tlɒdʒi). Also 7-logie, -logee. [ad. Gr. *Βαττολογία* vain repetition, n. of quality f. *Βαττολόγος*; see BATTOLOGICAL.] A needless and tiresome repetition in speaking or writing.

a 1603 T. CARTWRIGHT *Confut. Rhen. N. T.* (1618) 142 The Marginal notes... are mere Battologies of loathsome repetitions. 1765 TUCKER *Lt. Nat.* II. 440 We are warned against the Battology or vain repetitions of the heathens.

1818 SOUTHEY in *Q. Rev.* XIX. 96 Away then with... the battology of statistics.

Batton, -oon(e, -oun(e; see BATON, -OON.

|| **Battue** (batyū). Also 9 battu. [F. (= Pr. *batuda*, It. *battuta*, L. type *batūla*) 'a beating, a beat-up', sb. formed on fem. pa. pple. of *battere* to beat. (Analogous to those in -ATA, -ADE.)]

1. The driving of game from cover (by beating the bushes, etc. in which they lodge) to a point where a number of sportsmen wait to shoot them.

1816 *Gentl. Mag.* LXXXVI. i. 414 The keen Sportsman... and a favoured few, on a set day, have the Grand Battu.

1860 *All Y. Round* No. 71. 485 A battue is a contrivance for killing the largest quantity of game in the smallest time, with the least amount of trouble, by a small select party.

attrib. 1849 CODDEN *Speeches* 52 That modern innovation of battue shooting, which was not known in 1790.

2. *transf.* a. A beat-up, a thorough search. b. Wholesale slaughter, esp. of unresisting crowds.

1854 CDL WISEMAN *Fabiola* i. viii. 43 Ordered a grand general battue through every part of the house where Syra had been. 1864 BURTON *Scott. Abr.* i. iv. 162 The great battue of St. Bartholomew's Day.

3. The game thus driven from cover.

1849 in SMART.

|| **Batture** (|| batyū-r, batyū-r). [a. F. *batture* bottom of a sandy or rocky shallow.] A river- or sea-bed elevated to the surface. Also attrib.

1856 OLMSHEAD *Slave States* 464 The great capability of our batture lands for the production of rice. 1860 J. KENNEDY *W. Wirt* I. xix. 292 Constructed certain works upon the beach, or batture, as it was called.

|| **Battuta** (batyū tā). Mus. [It. n. of action f. *battere* to beat: cf. BATTUE.] The beating of time.

1859 in *Pantologia*. 1880 GROVE *Dict. Mus.* s.v., 'A battuta, like 'a tempo', means a return to the strict beat.

Batty (bæ'ti), a.; also 7 battie. [f. BAT sb.¹ + -Y.] Of or belonging to a bat, bat-like.

1590 SHAKS. *Mids. N.* iii. ii. 365 Sleepe With leaden legs, and Battie-wings doth creepe. 1883 E. H. A. *Tribes on Frontier* 69 The fruit-bat or flying-fox... would not be a bat at all but for... a strong batty smell.

Batune, obs. f. BATOON, BATON, esp. in *Her.*

Batus: see BATH sb.³

|| **Batwell**, a. Obs. rare⁻¹. [f. bat- (see BATTEN v.¹) + WELL.] = BATTLE a.

1534 WHITTINTON *Tullies Offices* i. (1540) 22 Groundes that be batwell... bryngne moche more fruyte than they receyved.

Batwing: see BAT sb.¹

|| **Bats** (bæts). Also 7 batte, 8 bat. [Ger. *batz*, *batze*; prob. taken as a plural, *bats*, whence as sing. *bat* 17-18th c.] A small coin worth four kreuzers in Switzerland and South Germany; originally having as device the bear of Berne, where it was first coined.

1625 tr. *Gonsalvis's Sp. Inquis.* 73 Halfe a riall... is as much as a dutch batte, and is worth... 3 pence sterling. 1753 CHAMBERS *Cycl. Supp.*, *Bat*, in commerce, a small base silver coin, current in divers parts of Germany and Switzerland at different prices. 1753 HANWAY *Trav.* (1762) I. vii. xciv. 434 The currency of such a coin as their bats and driers must be detrimental. 1756 NUGENT *Gr. Tour* II. 283 In Franconia, you meet with batzes, eighteen of which make a dollar.

Bau-: for forms so beginning see also BAW-.

Baubee, -bie, variants of BAWBEE.

Baubish, ! for BABISH a.

a 1641 Bp. MOUNTAGU *Acts & Mon.* (1642) 219 It is as baubish a discourse as the former.

Bauble (bɔːbl). For forms see the senses.

[Probably two original words are here blended: (1) OF. *babel*, also *baubel* 'child's toy, trinket, plaything'; whence also the dim. *baubelet* (Littre, s.v. *babiole*), *beubelet* (Godef.), adopted in Eng. at a very early date as BEAUBLET, q.v. The etymology of the F. is uncertain: it is very doubtful whether it can be connected with mod.F. *babiole* in same sense, which Littre thinks derived from a root *bab-*,

appearing in L. *babulus* babbler, fool, It. *babbeo*, *babbano* silly, Pr. *babau* fool, and perh. in Eng. *baby*. (2) ME. *babyll*, *babulle*, *babie*, translated *librilla*, is evidently connected with *bablyn* to waver or oscillate, *librillare*, 'babelynge waver- ing, oscillatio, librillacio'; see BABLE v. 5, BAB- BLING vbl. sb. 3, which has been suggested to be a frequentative derivative of *bab* or *BOB* v. It must, in any case, be distinct from the OF. word. But the 'fool's bauble' (see sense 4) may, so far as evidence goes, be from either, according as it was named from its shape or its purpose, or may blend the two notions; it has certainly been associated phonetically and in idea with the 'toy' senses, and has probably coloured the later use of these, in which 'childish' and 'foolish' are united.]

(If sense 1 has no connexion with the 'fool's bauble', it would be better treated as a distinct word under main-form BABLE.)

|| 1. An instrument consisting of a stick with a mass of lead fixed or suspended at one end, used for weighing, and apparently for other purposes.

Forms: *babyll*(e), *babulle*, 5-6 *bauble*. Obs.

c 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 20 Babulle or bable (v. r. *babyll*) *librilla*, *pegma*. c 1475 in Wright *Voc.* 263/2 *Babrilla* [? *Librilla*], dong [? dog] *babulle*. 1483 *Cath. Angl.* 17 *Ba- bylle*, *pegma*. 1570 LEVINS *Manip.* 124 *Bable*, *pegma*.

The *Catholicon* explains *Pegma*, 'baculus cum massa plumbi in summitate pendente, ut, ut dicit Cornutus, tali baculoscenici ludebant.' The *Ortus Voc.* explains *Librilla*, 'instrumentum librandi, idem est percutiendi lapides in castra, i. *mangnus*, a *baule*, or a dogme *malote*.' It is not easy to say in which of these senses *pegma* and *librilla* corresponded to 'bauble.'

|| 2. A child's plaything or toy. (Now obs., except as coloured by 3, 4.) Forms: 4 *babel*, 5 *babulle*, 6 *babyl*, *babell*, 6-7 *bauble*, 7-8 *bawble*, 7- *bauble* (first in Shaks. Folio 1623).

c 1460 J. RUSSELL *Bk. Nurture in Babes Bk.* (1868) 127 He bat no good can... Heshalle neuer y-thryve, perfore take to hym a *babulle*. c 1595 SKELTON *Replaye*. 175 Marked in your cradels To beare fagottes for *babyls*. 1590 NASH *Pasquils Apol.* 12 To beguile my argument as women do their children... when they give them a *baule* to play withall.

1611 CORG. *Poupee*, a *babie*; a puppet or *baule*. 1623 *Sectary Dissect.* 24 Give the childe his *baule* before he cry.

1791 COWPER *Yardly Oak* 17 Thou wast a *bauble* once, a cup and ball, which *babes* might play with. 1814 SOUTHEY *Roderick* xix. 70 The little hand which there Played with the *bauble*.

3. A showy trinket or ornament such as would please a child, a piece of finery of little worth, a pretty trifle, a gewgaw. Forms as in 2.

c 1320 *Pol. Songs* 335 Nu nis no squier of pris... But if that he bere a *babel* and a long berd. 1581 J. BELL *Haddon's Answ. Osor.* 41 b. To abandone images out of Churches... to finde no want of any such paynted *bables*. 1584 R. W. *Three Ladies Lond.* in Hazl. *Dods.* VI. 276 Amber, jet, coral, crystal, and every such *bauble* that is slight, pretty, and pleasant. 1596 SHAKS. *Tam. Shrew* iv. iii. 82 *Paltrie* cap... a *bauble*, a silken pie. 1611 BURTON *Anat. Mel.* ii. iii. 11. (1651) 315 Coats of armes... and such like *bables*. 1740 H. WALPOLE *Corr.* I. 69 A little box of *bawbles* that I have bought for presents. 1740-61 MRS. DELANY *Life & Corr.* (1861) III. 386, I send you enclosed what I am sure you will value above a *Bath* *bauble*... the picture of a friend.

1808 MAR. EDGEWORTH *Moral T.* (1816) I. iv. 18 Forester looked upon a watch as a useless *bauble*. 1803 BRISTED *Pedest. Tour* I. 393 We treat women as if they were pretty idiots, little *bables*. 1843 LYTTON *Last Bar.* i. iii. The knight's *bables* become the aldermans' badges.

4. A baton or stick, surmounted by a fantastically carved head with asses' ears, carried by the Court Fool or jester of former days as a mock emblem of office. Forms: 4 *babulle*, 5-6 *babel*, *babyll*, 6-7 *bauble*, 7- *bauble* (first in Shaks. Folio 1623).

1c 1370 K. Robt. *Cytille* 161 in Hazl. *E. P. P.* I. 275 Thou art a *fole*, seyde the angelles... Thy *babulle* schalle be thy dygnite. 1593 GOWER *Conf.* III. 224 The Kinges *fole*... That with his *babel* plaide. 1599 BARCLAY *Skepp of Follys* (1874) I. 89 Such is a *fole* and well worthy a *babyll*. 1598 SHAKS. *Tit. A.* v. i. 79 An Ideot holds his *Bauble* for a God. 1611 CORG. s.v. *Fol*, If all *fooles* *bables* bore, wood would be very deere. 1811 SCOTT *Kenilw.* xxv. The licensed jester... brandished his *bauble*.

b. *allusively*.

1653 S. MEWES in Hatton *Corr.* (1878) [Cromwell] then commanded that *baule* to be taken awaye. a 1676 WHITE- LOCKE *Mem.* (Bute MS.), He bid one of his soldiers take away that *fooles* *baule*, the *Mace*.

|| c. To deserve the *bauble*; to give (a person) the *bauble*: to make a fool of, befool. Obs.

1599 Broughton's *Let.* v. 17 Not sparing the holy fathers of the Church... but giuing some the *baule*... befooling the penner of the *Creede*. 1606 DAY *Ille of Guts* (1881) 107 If in any thing your wits deserue the *baule*, tis in that.

5. In various *transf.* or *fig.* senses (from 2, 3, coloured by 4): a. A childish or foolish matter or affair; a piece of childish foolery.

1579 FULKE Heskins's *Parl.* 456 Their *Agnes Dei*, their graines of the Trinite, and such other gaudes and *bables*. 1583 GOLDING *Calvin on Dent.* cci. 628 A sort of pelting *bables* or ceremonies. 1613 WITHER *Sat. Vanity* in Southey *Comm.-pt. Bk.* Ser. ii. (1849) 302 If the salt fall towards them at *table*, Or any such like superstitious *baule*, Their mirth is spoild. 1671 True *Non-Conf.* Pref. To apologize for the seriousness that I have used in confuting such a trifling *baule*. 1838 MACAULAY in Trevelyan *Life* (1876) II. i. 29 The Right Honourable before my name is a *baule*.

|| b. *fig.* A childish or foolish person, a silly trifter. Obs. (In quot. 1606 perh. = *babbler*.)

a 1606 SIR J. MELVIL *Diary* 37, I perceiv't at annes yat I was bot an ignorant *babble*. 1604 SHAKS. *Oth.* iv. i. 140 Thither comes the *Bauble*, and falls me thus about my neck. 1798 MORGAN *Algiers* I. Pref. 17 Nor can I bring [the Coxcomb] in without an apology for interrupting my worthy Audience with a *Bauble* of his Nothingness.

|| c. 'A mere toy'; applied to a machine, etc., considered too small or weak for actual work. Obs.

1611 SHAKS. *Cymb.* iii. i. 27 His Shipping (Poore ignorant *Baubles*)... Like Egge-shells mou'd vpon their Surges. 1615 J. TAYLOR (Water P.) *Seiges of Jerus.* in Farr S. P. (1848) 303 Jehovah with a puff was able To make ambitious *Babel* but a *baule*. 1748 ANSON *Voy.* ii. iv. 168 It was impossible such a *bawble* as that could pass round Cape Horn.

d. A thing or article of no value, a paltry piece of rubbish.

1634 J. TAYLOR (Water P.) *Gl. Eater Kent* 12 The Spanish potato he holds as a *baule*, and the Italian figge he esteemes as *poysoun*. 1805 TEMPLE *Gardening Wks.* 1731 I. 184 Of Figs... the White, the Blue, and the Tawny: The last is very small, bears ill, and I think but a *Bawble*. 1871 MACDUFF *Mem. Patmos* xiv. 195 Are all earthly joys, and honours, and pleasures a *bauble*, compared with... the splendours of immortality?

6. *attrib.* = 'toy-', as in *bauble boat*, *coach*, etc.

1606 SHAKS. *Tr. & Cr.* i. iii. 35 How many shallow *bauble* Boates dare saile vpon her patient brest. 1790 COWPER *Mother's Pict.* 50 Delighted with my *bauble* coach. 1873 BROWNING *Red Colt. Night-c.* 706 Yonder *bauble* world Of silvered glass.

7. *Comb.* *bauble-bearer*, a court-fool or jester. (The quot. may mean *bauble-bearer* story teller.)

1535 LYNDESAI *Sat. Three Estates* 2607 Thir *baubel-bearers* and thir *bairds*.

|| **Bauble**, v. Obs. [f. prec. sb.] *intr.* To trifle.

1608 ARMIN *Nest Ninn.* (1880) 50 That musically fret their time in idle *baubling*.

|| **Baublery**. Obs. In 6 *bablerie*, *babelerie*, *babelry*. [f. as prec. + -RY.] Childish foolery, trifling business. See also BABELERY, BABERY, BABOONERY, all liable to contact of form and sense.

1583 STUBBS *Anat. Abus.* (1877) 81 These new toys... fond deuces and childish *bauberles* (new fashions I should say). *Ibid.* (1595) Mijb, Papers, wherein is painted some *bauberle* or other of imagerie worke, and these they call my Lord of Misrule's badges. (See also BABELERY.)

|| **Baubling** (bɔːblig), a. Obs. [f. BAUBLE sb. or ? v. + -ING.] Trifling, contemptible, paltry.

1608 SHAKS. *Twel. N.* v. i. 57 A *bawbling* Vessel was he Captaine of. 1849 DE QUINCEY *Mail-Coach* in *Blackw. Mag.* LXVI. 496 But a *bawbling* schooner.

Baubyn, obs. form of BABOON.

Bauch, *baugh* (bāx, bāx*, bāf), a. Sc. [perh. a. ON. *bágr*, uneasy, poor, hard up; cf. also, *bagr* awkward, clumsy.] Weak, poor, pithless, without substance or stamina; 'indifferent,' 'sorry,' 'shaky.'

Hence *Bauchly adv.*, *Bauchness*.

a 1560 ROLLAND *Crt. Venus* iv. 355 Thocht he and I throw play fell in *bawch* pleid. a 1603 SIR J. MELVIL *Diary* 37 He fond me *bauche* in the latin tounge. 1798 RAMSAY *Gent. Sheph. Poems* (1844) 41 Without estate A youth, though sprung frae kings, looks *bauch* and blate. 1866 N. Brit. *Daily Mail* 9 Mar., Though the ice was rather *baugh*, 1793 M'WARD *Contend. Faith* 155 (JAM.) How bluntly and *bauchly* soever the matter be handled.

|| The north. Eng. dial. form is *baff*, as in *baff week*, 'hard-up week.'

1885 *Weekly Times* 21 Aug. 9/2 The workers in collieries receive their pay once a fortnight, and call the intervening no-pay week 'baff-week.' The expression 'as long as a baff-week' has become proverbial among them.

Bauchill, Sc. var. BACUL, staff, crosier.

1535 STEWART *Cron. Scott.* II. 468 On buke and *bauchill* so oft is mensworne.

Bauchle, *bachle* (bāx*l). Sc. [Etymol. unknown; ? connected with BAUCH.]

1. An old shoe used as a slipper, or worn down at the heel, which causes the wearer to shamble.

1787 W. TAYLOR *Scotts Poems* 4 (JAM.) Thro' my auld *bachle* peep'd my muckle tae. 1868 G. MACDONALD *R. Falconer* II. 33 My sins are just like muckle *bauchles* upo' my feet, and winna lat me come.

2. A shambler, a ne'er-do-well.

1809 HOGG *Sheph. Cal.* II. 195 He'll be but a *bauchle* in this world and a backstiter in the neist.

|| **Bauchle**, *bachle*, v. Sc. Obs. [? f. BAUCH = 'to treat as *bauch*': apparently the original or one of the sources of BAFFLE.] *trans.* To subject to disgrace or ignominy, treat with contumely, vilify; = BAFFLE I, 2; also *absol.*

c 1470 HENRY Wallace VIII. 723 He... Rapreiffit Eduuard... off this thing, *Bawchillit* his seyll, blew out on that fals king, as a tyrand. 1496 *Seal of Cause for Hammermen* (JAM.) In *bachlying* of the Hammymen's work... and dishonouring of our said burgh. c 1550 SIR J. BALFOUR *Practicks* (JAM.) He at an inconvenient time *bauchlit* and reprovit.

Baukie-bird: see BAWKIE-BIRD.

Baucyne, *Baud*, obs. ff. BAUSON, BAWD.

|| **Baude**, a. Obs. rare⁻¹. [a. OF. *baud* gay, sprightly, a. OLG. *bald* bold, lively.] Joyous, gay.

c 1400 Rom. *Rose* 577 And many a *ribaude* is mery and *baude* That swynkith, and berith... Many a burthen.

Baud(e), obs. form of BAWD.

Baudekyn, *baudkin* (bɔːdʒɪn, bɔːdʒɪn). Obs. exc. Hist. Forms: 4-9 *baudekyn*, *baudekin*, 5-9 *baudkin*, 6-9 *bawdkin*; also 4 *baude-*

kine, 4-6 bawdekyn(e), 5 bawdkyne, bawede-kyn, 5-6 bawdekin, 6 bawdkyn, bawdkyn, bawdkyn, 7 bodkin. [a. OF. *baudekin*, -quin: = med.L. *baldaquinus*, -chinus (= It. *baldachino*), f. *Baldacco*, It. form of *Bagdad*; see BALDACHIN.]

A rich embroidered stuff, originally made with warp of gold thread and woof of silk; later, with wider application, rich brocade, rich shot silk. Sometimes, more fully, cloth of *baud(e)kin*.

c 1300 *K. Alis*. 759 He dude his temple al by-honge With bawdekyn, brod and longe. c 1320 *Senyn Sag*. (W.) 2744 Th' emperour was browt abedde, With riche baudekines i-sprede. 1440 *Lincolnsh. Ch. Furn.* (1866) 182 A vesment of baudekyn y^e ground black with grene Werk. 1525 LD. BERNERS *Froiss.* II. clvii. [clviii.] 429 Appareled in gownes of one sute of clothe of Bawdkyn, grene and crymosyn. 1536 *Regist. in Antiq. Sarisb.* (1771) 197 Ten Chesiboles of white Bawdkyn, with leaves and hearts of Gold. 1552 HULOKT, Bawdkyn or Tynsel clothe. 1610 HOLLAND *Camden's Brit.* I. 174 Arraied in cloth of gold of the most pretious and costly Bawdkyn. 1624 HEYWOOD *Gunaik*. v. 241 Women appareled in cloth of bodkin. 1861 H. AINSWORTH *Constable of T.* 43 Her dress was of gold bawdkyn.

attrib. c 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 27 Bawdekyn clothe, *closericus*. 1609 HOLLAND *Amm. Marcel.* xiv. note, Surcoat of scarlet, likewise of bawdkyn work. 1843 LYTTON *Last Bar.* II. ii. 124 The bawdekin stripes (blue and gold) of her tunic attested her royalty.

Baudelaire, variant of **BADELAR**, a dagger.

† **Baudery**. *Obs.* Also -erie, -rie, -ry. [a. OF. *bauderie* gayety, jollity, f. *baud*; see BAUDE and -ry.] Gayety, jollity, mirth.

c 1306 CHAUSSER *Knts.* T. 1068 Beautee and youthe, bawderie, riches.

Baudry, -erie, -ry, *obs.* form of **BAWDRY**.

Baudric, -derick, *obs.* forms of **BALDRIC**.

Baudrons (bō'dronz). *Sc.* Forms: 5-9 *ba-drans*, 6 *bawdrone*, 7 *batrons*, 8 *baudrina*, 6-9 *bawdrone*, 8- *baudrons* (*mod. dial.* *ba-drans*, *bauthrans*). [Origin uncertain: perh. Celtic; cf. Ir. *beadrach* frolicsome, *beadrach* playing, joking, fondness (O'Reilly), Scotch Gaelic *beadrach* a playful girl, *beadrach* a fondling, flattering, caressing (MacLeod and Dewar). Cf. also *BAD sb.*] Scotch name for the cat (like 'reynard' for the fox).

c 1450 HENRYSON *Two Mice* (*Mor. Fab.* 13), *Badrans* [other *edd.* *bawdrone*, -one] the uthir be the back has hint. 1657 COLVIL *Whigs Supplic.* (1751) 151 Batrons for grief of scorched members, Doth fall... a mewling. 1794 BURNS *Wks.* IV. 327 Auld baudrons by the ingle sits, An' wi' her loof her face a-washin. 1816 SCOTT *Antiq.* ix. He had a beard too, and whiskers... as long as baudrons.

Bauer, *obs.* form of **BEAVER** (of helmet).

† **Baufrey**. *Obs. rare.* [perh. identical with *BELFRY*, OF. *bercfrit*; the sense of a framework of wooden beams may have passed into that of a single beam in such a framework.] (See quot.)

[1676 FÉLIBIEN *Princ. Archit.* 492 Befray ou Befroy, c'est la charpenterie qui soutient les cloches dans une tour.] 1639 HORN & ROB. *Gate Lang. Unl.* xlix. § 545 The tiles, gutter-tiles or slates, on rafters... baufries and spars. 1693 W. ROBERTSON *Phrasol. Gen.* 216 A baufrey, *lignum, trabes*. 1830 R. STUART *Dict. Archit.*, *Baufrey*, an old word for beam.

|| **Bauge** (bōz). [*mod. Fr.* (in Littré).] A drugget manufactured at Bauge in Burgundy of stout thread and coarse wool. 1847 in CRAIG.

† **Bauger**, *a. Obs. rare* -1. [Of uncertain origin: cf. F. *baugear* 'a scowndrell, a scurvie or beastly companion' (Cotgr.), f. *bauge* mud, filth; it might also be a form of the national name *Bulgar*, *Bolgar*, *Bugar*, used as a term of reproach in the Middle Ages.] Barbarous (or vile, beastly).

1544 BALE *Sir J. Oldcastell in Harl. Misc.* (Malh.) I. 273 Then brought he forth another bill... that he redde also in his bauer Laryne.

† **Baugh, baw**, *v. Obs.* [Imitative of the sound: cf. *Bow-wow*.] To bark, as a dog.

1576 FLEMING tr. *Caius' Dogs* in Arb. *Garner* III. 255 Bawing and wawing at the moon. 1639 HORN & ROB. *Gate Lang. Unl.* xv. § 187 If you smite him, he yelpeth... and baugh.

Bauk, Baul(e), *obs.* ff. **BALK**, **BALL**, **BAWL**.

Bauld, *dial.* form of **BOLD**.

Baulk, variant of **BALK**, *esp.* in billiards.

Baulme, baum(e), *obs.* forms of **BALM**.

† **Baultering**, *ppl. a. Obs.* [f. *BALTER* v. + -ING².] Moving unwieldily, floundering.

a 1704 T. BROWN *Sat. Wom. Wks.* 1730 I. 55 Days... never free from baultering impotence and jealousy.

Baur, *obs.* form of **BEAVER**.

† **Bause**, *v. Obs. rare.* [f. L. *bāsāre* to kiss.] 'Tokiss' (is Halliwell's explanation); but cf. *BAWZE*.

1607 MARSTON *What you w. II. i.* My spaniell slept, whilst I bausd leaves... por'd on the old print Of titled wordes.

Bauson (bō'son). *arch.* Forms: 4-6 *bausen*, 4-7 *bawson*, 4- *bauson*; also 4 *baucyne*, *bawcyn*, 5 *bawsone*, -ym, (*bawstone*, *bauston*), 6 *bauson*, *bawsym*, (*balstone*), 7 *boson*, 8 *bawsin*, (*boson*). [ME. *bausen*, a. OF. *bausen*, *bausan*, see next word, the animal taking its name from the white mark on its face: cf. *bauson-faced*. See *BADGER sb.* for the etymological parallel of F. *blaireau* badger, from Flem. *blaer*, Du.

blaar white spot on the forehead. (But in Fr., *bausen*, etc., has never been applied to the badger, and its being so used in Eng. implies a much earlier use of the adj. than we have evidence of.)

A. sb. A badger; see *BADGER sb.*

c 1325 E. E. *Alli.* P. B. 392 Bukkez, bausenez, & bulez to be bonkkez hyzed. c 1350 *Will. Palerme* 2299 Bores boles and bausenes. 1387 *TREvisa Higden* Rolls Ser. I. 327 White beres, bausons, and brokkes. 1496 *Dives & Paup.* vi. xiv. 256 'Taxis... is a brok or a bawsym in Englysshe. 1587 M. GROVE *Poems* (1878) 67 The wille subtle foxe The balstone or [printed on] the greydoth chase and beate from cliuie rocks. 1593 *DRAYTON Eclog.* iv. 176 His Mittens were of Bausons skin. 1742 *Compl. Fam.-Piece* II. i. 298 A Badger is known by several Names, as a Gray, a Brock, a Boreson or Bauson. 1783 *AINSWORTH Lat. Dict.* (Morell) 1. A bawsin, *melis*.

b. applied contemptuously to persons, fat (like the badger before winter), or pertinacious.

1607 *Lingua v. xvi.* in *Hazl. Doodl.* IX. 452 Peace, you fat bawson, peace. 1862 H. AINSWORTH *Constable of T.* 131 Know, ye incredulous bawsons, that I am now one of the royal household.

B. adj. = *BAUSONED*. Hence *bauson-faced*.

1597 *Wills & Inv. N. C.* (1860) 288 One stud mare of colour bawson sored. 1829 *Scott Hrt. Midl.* xxviii. Ye might try it on the bawson-faced year-auld quey.

Bausond, *a. Obs.* or *dial.* Forms: 4 *bausand*, 6 *bawsonde*, 6-8 *bawsand*, 8 *bawsint*, *baws'nt*, 8-9 *bassen'd*, 9 *bauson'd*. [a. OF. *bausant*, -sant, -sent, -cent, *balcent*, also *bauchant*, *baulchant*, and (without final *t*) *bausan*, -sen, -sain, -gain, black and white spotted, piebald, a word of doubtful form and etymology, but of which the forms without -t correspond to Pr. *bausan*, It. *balzano*, white spotted (Baretti), white-footed (Minshew), whence also *mod. F.* *balzan* 'black or bay (horse) with white feet' (Littré). The word appears also in med.L. as *bausendus*, *bauscennus*, *bauchantus*, from Fr. In view of the It. and Pr., the OF. forms in -nt are not easy to account for, but they seem to be the source of the ME. *bausand*, though later spelling assimilates the word to ppl. adjs. in -ed, as if formed on *bauson*.]

(For the ulterior etymology there is nothing satisfactory. Conjectures may be seen in Boecher *De colorum nominibus equinorum in Roman. Studien* vol. I. in Diez, who referred *balzano* to *balza* 'border, fringe'; and in Devic (Littré, *Suppl.*) who has pointed out the striking identity of meaning between *bausant* and Arab. *ablaq*, fem. *balqa*; but notwithstanding this, the forms of the Arabic and Romanic words cannot (at present at least) be phonetically reconciled.)

Of animals: Having white spots on a black or bay ground; *esp.* (in modern use) having a white patch on the forehead, or a white stripe down the face.

c 1320 *Durham Wills* (1835) I. 19 Quidam equus bausand. 1513 *DOUGLAS Aeneis v. x.* 40 A hors of Trace dappil gray With bawsand face. 1549 *Wills & Inv. N. C.* (1835) 131 A bawsone curtall nagge. 1586 BURNS *Twa Dogs* 31 A faithful tyke... His honest sonsie baws'nt face. 1807-20 TANNHAUL *Poems* (1846) 12 Bauson'd Crummock's broken frae the sta'. 1837 SCOTT in *Lochart* (1839) I. 93 A bow of Kye and a bassen'd (brindled) bull.

Baustrott, var. of **BAWDSTROT**.

Bauude, *obs.* form of **BAWD**.

|| **Bavardage** (bavarda:z). [Fr., f. *bavard-er* to chatter, f. *bavard* talkative, f. *bave* saliva, *drivel*.] Idle talk, prattle, chattering.

1835 LYTTON *Rienzi* II. v. 133 Replying only by monosyllables to the gay bavardage of the Knight. 1882 *Q. Rev.*, *Jacobin Cong.* 152 They were browbeat, contradicted, told to cease their bavardage.

† **Bavaroy**. *Obs.* Also 8 *bavary*. [prob. ad. F. *bavarois* Bavarian (Todd).] A kind of cloak or surcoat; sometimes fig.

1714 *GAY Trivia* I. 53 Let the loop'd Bavaroy the fop embrace. 1788 *PICKEN Poems* 90 (JAM.) Dinna use to hide yer sin Hypocrisy's Bavaroy.

Bavian, Bavler(e), *obs.* form of **BABION**, **BEAVER**.

Bavin (bā'vin), *sb.* Forms: 6 *bauline*, 6-7 *bauen*, -in, 7 *baven*, -yn, 7-8 *bavine*, 6- *bavin*. [Derivation unknown; among sources which have been suggested are OF. *baffe* a bundle; also Gael. *baban*, *babhaid*, tassel, cluster.]

1. A bundle of brushwood or light underwood, such as is used in bakers' ovens, differing from a *fagot* in being bound with only one withe or band instead of two; in *Mil.* a fascine.

1528 in T. WHITAKER *Hist. Craven* (1812) 303 Item, for 40 load of cutwood & bavons. 1580 *LYLY Euphues* (Arb.) 331 Bavons be known by their bands. 1603 H. CROSSE *Vertues Commu.* (1878) 133 Which like a bavin giueth goodly blaze... but is soon out. 1609 *S'herlogenbosch* 39 The Enemies did nothing else but fill the ditches with wet Bavons of trees. 1776 T. BOWDEN *Farm. Direct.* 11 All hay ricks should be bottomed with faggots and bavons. a 1848 *MARRYAT R. Refr.* xiii. The bavons of furze... shall be sold.

fig. 1593 *NASHE Christ's T.* (1613) 144 Adding more Bavons vnto it of lasciuious embolstrings. 1603 *CHAPMAN Eastw. Hoe* Aijj. If he out-last not a hundred such crackling Bavons as thou art.

b. collect. sing. Brushwood, firewood.

1577 *Tusser Husb.* (1878) 133 In stacking of bauen... make vnder thy bauen a houell for hogs. 1664 *EVELYN Sylva* 48 [They] be profitable for the Oven, and make good Bavin.

c. attrib., as in *bavin-band*, -stack; *bavin wits*, wits bavin-like in quick and short-lived blaze.

1596 *SHAKS. 1 Hen. IV.* III. ii. 61 Shallow Iesters, and rash Bavin Wits, Soone kindled and soone burnt. 1725 *BRADLEY Fam. Dict.*, *Birch*... is of use for Bavin bands. 1762 tr. *Duhamel's Husb.* I. viii. 21 The bottom of bavinestacks.

2. *Min.* Impure limestone. (? a different word).

1839 *MURCHISON Silur. Syst.* I. xxxvi. 484 These concretions... are called 'bavin,' the shale associated with them being termed 'rotch.'

† **Bavin**, *v. Obs.* [f. prec. sb.] *trans.* To bind up into bavons.

1664 *EVELYN Sylva* (1776) 538 Kid or Bavin them (the underwood)... to preserve them from rotting. 1685 *COTTON Montaigne* II. 516 They saw (him) ingeniously bavin up a burthen of brushwood.

Bavour, *obs.* form of **BEAVER**.

Baw-, for forms so beginning, see also **BAU-**.

Baw, *int.* 1 *Obs.* Also 4 *bawe*. [a natural expression of disgust, probably at first directed against tastes or smells; cf. *bah!*] Ejaculation of disgust, aversion, or contempt.

1377 *LANG. P. Pl.* B. xi. 135 See! baw for bokes! quod one. 1393 *Ibid.* xxii. 398 3e, bawe! quah a brewere, ich wol nat beo ruele. 1768 *GOLDSM. Good N. Man* IV. ii. Baw! damn me, but I'll fight you both.

† **Bawaty, bowety**. *Obs.* -o 'Linsey-wolsey.'

Ray North Country Wds. 1691.

Bawbee (bō'bf). *Sc.* Forms: 6 *bawbie*, *babie*, 7 *babee*, *baubie*, *baubye*, *baubee*, 7- *bawbee*. [Of doubtful origin: it has been conjecturally identified with *baby* (with which it was sometimes identical in form in 16th c.), derived from *basse-pièce* (phonetically impossible), and *bas billon* 'base bullion' or mixed metal, and from the name of a contemporary mint-master, the laird of Sillebawby.]

(The last conjecture is on the whole probable, and is strengthened by the similar origin of the name of the ARCHBISHOP, and perhaps of the BOOLE. The laird of *Sille-bawby* (notwithstanding his designation, and its suggestion of *Siller bawbee*) was a real person: on 7 Sept. 1541, Kirkcaldy of Grange, the Treasurer, accounted for amounts 'in argenteo receptis a Jacobo Atkinson, et Alexandro Orok de Sillebawby respective' (Cochran-Patrick I. 60). There is only wanting some direct proof of the abbreviation of *Sille-bawby* to *bawby*. The idle surmise that the first issue bore the head of, or was issued by, an infant king, is disposed of by the preliminary fact that 'bawbeis' were first issued in 1541-2 near the close of the reign of James V, and bore no head; moreover there exists no Scottish coin bearing a baby head. Beside the fatal phonetic objection to *basse pièce*, *bas billon*, there is not the slightest indication that the *bawbeis* were ever so called, and coins of billon, or base metal, had been too common for a century and a half in Scotland to make them a novelty in 1541.)

A Scotch coin of base silver equivalent originally to three, and afterwards to six, pennies of Scotch money, about a halfpenny of English coin; hence, in modern use, a halfpenny, a 'copper.'

1542 *Hopetoun MS.* (in Cochran-Patrick, *Coinage of Scott.* 96) The said James [Atcheson] being commandet to worke bawbeis he altogether refusit... First thair was cuneynt of bawbeis of iii d. fyne xvj in the ounce. The cause of thir bawbeis cuneyng was the warres that schortlie begowde betuixt ws and Ingland. 1544 *Ibid.* 97 The maist part of the saidis bawbeis were cuneynt of clippit soussis quhillis than were proclamat in France for bullion, and send heer to be conuertit in bawbeis. a 1572 *Knox Hist. Ref.* 151 (JAM.) With us thare did not remane the valow of a Babie. 1573 *Let. in Tytler Hist. Scot.* (1864) 111. 361 A piece of their coin called a bawbee... which is in value English one penny and a quarter. 1623 *COCKERAM, Bawbee*, a farthing. 1635 *BREERTON Trav.* (1844) 188 Bawbees 2 to one penny English or 12 Scottish. 1732 *De For. &c. Tour Gt. Brit.* (1769) IV. 253 Boys and girls... sold... us near a Mutchkin for a bawbee. 1862 *Macm. Mag.* Oct. 502 Proposing to solicit a bawbee from a party of strangers.

Bawble, *obs.* form of **BAUBLE**.

Bawcock (bō'kpk). [a. F. *beau coq* 'fine cock,' for *bewcock* (cf. *bawshere*).] A colloquial or burlesque term of endearment: = Fine fellow, good fellow.

1599 *SHAKS. Hen. V.* III. ii. 25 Good Bawcock bate thy Rage. *Ibid.* IV. i. 44 The King's a Bawcock, and a Heart of Gold. 1862 H. AINSWORTH *Constable of T.* 131 One of the gamesome little bawcock's jests.

Bawd (bōd), *sb.* 1 Forms: 4-5 *bauude*, 4-7 *baude*, 4-6 *bawde*, 6 *bawed*, 6-7 *baud*, 6- *bawd*. [Of uncertain origin: the original sense shows no approach to that of OF. *baud*, *baude*, 'bold, lively, gay, merry' (see BAUDE), to which it has often been referred: even allowing that 'gay' might have passed into the sense of 'wanton, licentious, personally unchaste,' no trace of such sense appears either in ME. or Fr.; nor is the Fr. word found as a sb. The earliest instance yet found occurs in *Piers Plowman*, 1362, where one MS. reads *BAWDSTROT*. *Bawd* may not improbably be an abbreviation of that word, which is found in Fr. a century earlier.]

One employed in pandering to sexual debauchery; a procurer or procuress; *orig.* in a more general sense, and in the majority of passages masculine, a 'go-between,' a pander; since c 1700 only

feminine, and applied to a procuress, or a woman keeping a place of prostitution.

1368 LANGL. *P. Pl. A.* iii. 42 And eke be þi Bawde, and Bere wel þin ernde. [*One MS. has bawdstrot; texts B, C, bedeman, bedman (messenger).*] c1374 CHAUCER *Troilus* ii. 304 For me were lever, that ye, and I, and he, were hangid, than I (*i. e.* Pandarus) sholde be his bawde. 1386 — *Frere's T.* 54 He was a theef, and eek a somnour, and a bawde (*i. e.* bawde). c1440 *Promp. Parv.* 27 Bawde, leno. 1483 CAXTON *Gold. Leg.* 83/1 Thenne Vago his bawde wente in to his prey chamber. 1541 *Act 33 Hen. VIII.* xxi. 1 That bawde the lady Jane Rochford, by whose meanes Culpeper came thither. 1642 ROGERS *Namaan* 303 Bauds and Pandars to their Masters. 1706 PHILLIPS, *Bawd*, a leud Woman that makes it her Business to debauch others for Gain; a Procureuse. 1771 SMOLLETT *Humph. Cl.* (1815) 222 Where she stuck like a bawd in the pillory. 1845 LONGF. *Sp. Stud.* i. i, A vile, shameless bawd, Whose craft was to deceive the young and fair.

b. *fig.* He who or that which panders to any evil design or vicious practice.

1507 HIERON *Wks.* i. 185 The mercy of God... is made... a Bawde to all manner of vngodlinesse. 1688 LD. DELAMERE *Wks.* 12 Ignorant Ambitious Clergy, who in hopes of preferment have turned Bawds to Arbitrary Power. 1704 BURKE *Nab. Arcot's Debt* Wks. IV. 285 Their affected purity... becomes pander and bawd to the unbridled debauchery and licentious lewdness of usury and extortion.

† **Bawd** (bōd), *sb.* *2* *dial.* [Perh. the same word as *badde*, *BADsb.*, a cat, or a contraction of *Baudrons*, or otherwise related to the latter; cf. the Eng. use of *puss*, and the Sc. use of *malin*, for both hare and cat.] A hare.

[1592 SHAKS. *Rom. & Jul.* ii. iv. 13 *Mercutio*. A bawd, a bawd. So ho. *Romeo*. What hast thou found? *Mer.* No Hare sir, vlesse a Hare sir in a Lenten pie, etc.] 1705 *Poems in Buchan Dial.* 23, I saw you rin awa' like bawds. ('This is the common name for a hare, Aberd. Used in the same sense, Roxb.' Jamieson. Also in Fife.)

† **Bawd**, *v.* *1* *Obs.*; in 6 *baud*. [cf. *BAWDY a.* 1] *trans.* To befool or dirty.

c1509 SKELTON *EL Rum.* 90 Dyrt, That baudeth her skirt. **Bawd** (bōd), *v.* *2* *arch.* or *Obs.*; also 7 *baud*. [f. *BAWD sb.* 1] *intr.* To pander; also *fig.*

1651 J. CLEVELAND *Poems* 39 To whose viler ends Your pow'r hath bawdied. 1715 STEELE *Spect.* No. 266 P2 Lucippe... bawds at the same time for the whole Court.

† **Bawdefy**, *v.* *Obs.* *rare*—1. [f. *F. baude* (see *BAUDE*) + *fy.*] ?To make gay, deck.

1564 LEIGH *Armory*, His coat... was of cloth garded with a burgianian garde of bare velvet, well bawdefied on the halfe placard, and squallied in the fore quarters.

Bawdekin, -oryke, *obs.* f. *BAUDEKIN*, *BALDRIC*. **Bawdily** (bōdili), *adv.* [f. *BAWDY a.* 2 + *ly* 2.] In a bawdy manner, lasciviously.

1608 EARLE *Microcosm.* liii. 134 He talks loud and bawdily. 1630 J. TAYLOR (Water P.) *Wks.* ii. 95 She can speake and write Amorously, Fainedly... Purposely, Bawdily.

Bawdiness, [f. *BAWDY a.* + *ness*.] †a. Dirtiness; dirt, filth. *Obs.* b. Lewdness, obscenity.

1554 HULOT, Bawdines or filthines vpon clothes or other thyngs, *squaliditas*. 1731 in BAILEY II.

Bawding, *vbl. sb.* *arch.* or *Obs.* [f. *BAWD v.* 2 + *ing* 1.] The practice of a bawd.

1676 SHADWELL *Virtuoso* iv. *Wks.* i. 381 Their very art of... adorning women is implicit bawding. 1688 E. RAVENSCROFT *Land. Cuckolds* 27 Formerly still'd Bawding and Pimping... it is now a modish piece of service only.

† **Bawdish**, *a.* *Obs.* *rare*—1. In 6 *bawdische*. [f. *BAWD sb.* 1 + *ish* 1.] Obscene, filthy.

1572 A. ARBUTHNOT *Mis. Pure Scola* ix, To bawdische boundis yet man I oft gif ear.

Bawdikin, variant of *BAUDEKIN*.

Bawdle, *obs.* form of *BODLE*, Scotch coin.

Bawdreminy, *nonce-ud.* Bawdry.

1608 MIDDLETON *Trick to Catch* iii. ii, Thou caverneest quean of foolery, knavery, and bawdreminy.

Bawdrick, variant form of *BALDRIC*.

† **Bawdress**, *Obs.* [formed, as if on a masc. *bawder*, from *BAWD v.* 2] A woman bawd.

1569 J. SANFORD *Agrippa's Van. Artes* 97 A, A perfect and absolute bawde and bawdress.

Bawdry 1 (bōdri), *arch.* Forms: 4-8 *bawdery*, 4-7 *baudery*, 5 *baudre*, 6 *baudrey*, *baudrye*, *bawdrye*, (*baudeir*), *bauderie*, *baudrie*, 6-7 *baudry*, *bawdrie*, 7-8 *bawdry*. [f. *BAWD sb.* 1 + *ry*; the sense does not agree with *F. bauderie*, which means simply 'boldness, liveliness']

1. The practice of a bawd; the business of providing opportunities for sexual immorality.

c1374 CHAUCER *Troilus* iii. 348 Me thought... I shold wene hit were a bawdry. 1447-8 SHILLINGFORD *Let.* (1871) 104 Yif any such mysrule and bawdry bee within the saide taverne. 1569 J. SANFORD *Agrippa's Van. Artes* 97 Bawdrye is the arte of assaunting and makinge common an others chastitie. 1634 T. JOHNSON *Parey's Chirurg.* xxiv. xlii. (1678) 571 The most filthy and infamous Arts of Bawdry.

1706 AYLIFFE *Parerg.* 48 Bawdry... is a wicked Practice of procuring and bringing Whores and Rogues together.

† 2. *gen.* Unchastity, fornication. *Obs.*

1460 in *Pol. Rel. & L. Poems* (1866) 97 And he gotten in bawdre. 1600 SHAKS. *A. Y. L.* iii. iii. 99 We must be married, or we must lue in bawdrye. 1651 WELDON *Crt. Jas.* i. 7 For the bringing this bawdry to a marriage.

3. Lewdness in speech or writing; lewd, obscene, or filthy talk, etc.

1580 *Pappe v. Hatchet* (1844) 23 If Martin speake broad bawdrye. 1611 SHAKS. *Wint. T.* iv. iv. 194 He has the prettiest Looe-songs for Maids, so without bawdrye. 1715

STEEL *Spect.* No. 51 P2 No one ever writ Bawdry for any other Reason but Dearth of Invention. 1798 A. YOUNG *Trav. France* 135 A voluble garniture of bawdry or nonsense.

b. *attrib.* = *BAWDY a.* 2

1763 CHURCHILL *Duelliist* iii *Poems* II. 36 Baw'd bawdry songs to a Psalm Tune.

† 3. Material filth; dirt, defilement. Cf. *BAWDY a.* 1 *Obs.*

1648 HERRICK *Hesper.* 141 (D.) And have our roofe... And seeling free From that cheap candle bawdrye.

† **Bawdry** 2, *Obs.* [f. *BAUDE gay*.] Finery.

a 1509 SKELTON *Agst. Garnische* 40 Crimson velvet for your bawdry. 1693 W. ROBERTSON *Phrasol. Gen.* 216 Bawdry, *i. e.* bravery... *lautilia vestium*.

Bawdry 3, *obs.* form of *BALDRIC*.

a 1697 AUBREY in *D'Israeli Ctr. Lit.* (1866) 293 They wore about their necks a great horn... in a string or bawdry.

Bawdship (bōdʃip), [f. *BAWD sb.* 1 + *ship*; cf. *lordship*.] The position or personality of a bawd. (Used as a mock style of address.)

1633 FORD *Broken H.* ii. i. (1811) 256 One word with your old bawdship. 1676 SHADWELL *Virtuoso* iv. *Wks.* 1720 I. 384 I'll maul your bawdship.

† **Bawdstrot**, *Obs.* Forms: 4 *baudstrot*, 5 *bawdstrot*(t), *baustrott*, *balde- baldystrot*, *bawstrot*. [Identical with *OF. baudetrot*: Godefroy, s.v., quotes 'pronuba, baudetrot', from a Latin-French glossary of 13th c. This, with the Eng. forms, indicates an earlier *OF. baldestrot*, *baudestrot*, the first element of which appears to be *bald*, *baud* 'bold, forward, lively, gay' (see *BAUDE*); the second suggests the Teutonic *strutt*, *strut*. (Cant names have been frequent for the class of persons in question.) This is probably the full word from which *bawd* was shortened; the form *bawstrot* seems to be the origin of the word *BRONSTROPS*, a procuress, which is frequent in Middleton's comedies.]

A *BAWD*, male or female; a pander, a procuress.

1368 LANGL. *P. Pl. A.* iii. 42 (MS. H.), I [a Confessor] schal asoyle þe [Meede þe Mayden] my-self And eke be þi bawdstrot (*v. r.* bawde) and bere wel þin ernde Among Clerkes and knihtes. c1450 in Wülcker *Voc.* 1693 *Lemo*, *baustrott*. 1695 *Pronuba*, *bawdstrott*. c1475 in Wright *Voc.* 266/1 *Pronuba*, *bawstrot*. 1483 *Cath. Angl.* 18 *Baldetrot* (*v. r.* *Baldystrot*), *pronubus*, *pronuba*.

† **Bawdy**, *a.* *1* *Obs.* Forms: 4-5 *baudy*, 5-6 *bawdy*, 6 *baudye*, 7 *bawdy*. [Derivation unknown. Skeat compares *W. bawaid* dirty, *f. baw* mud. The *F. boue* 'mud' is probably of same origin.]

Soiled, dirty, filthy.

1377 LANGL. *P. Pl. B.* v. 197 A tauny tabarde... Al totorne and baudy, and ful of lys crepynges. c1430 *LVG. Bochas* ix. xxxiv. (1554) 214 b. He... in the kechen laye Among the pottes with baudy coate. 1527 WHITTIN *Vulg.* 28 b. Holde thy bawdy handes from my bote... My handes be as clene as thyne. 1621 BURTON *Anat. Mel.* ii. iii. iii. (1651) 323 Slovenly cooks, that... never wash their bawdy hands.

b. *fig.* of language: Vile, abominable, barbarous.

1519 HORMAN *Vulg.* 90 b, Them that wyll nat come out of theyr baudy latyn (*qui barbarum nunguam exiunt*).

Bawdy (bōdi), *a.* *2* Forms: 6 *bawdy*, *bawdie*, 6-7 *baudie*, *baudy*, 6- *bawdy*. [f. *BAWD sb.* + *y*.] Probably often associated in sense with *prec.*

1. Of, pertaining to, or befitting a bawd; lewd, obscene, unchaste. (Usually applied to language.)

1513 BRANDSHAW *St. Werburgh* (1848) 209 Baudy balades full of... wanton wyldie gestis. 1616 R. C. *Times Whis.* v. 2137 The chamber wher you lay your head With baudie pictures round about doe spread. c1765 BURKE *On Drama* Wks. X. 158 Listening to a bawdy story from his host.

2. *absol.* quasi-*sb.*, esp. in phr. *To talk bawdy* (where perh. orig. adverbial): Lewd, obscene language, lewdness, obscenity.

1656 SANDERSON *Serm.* (1689) 26 To drink, talk bawdy, swear and stare. 1698 VANBRUGH *Æsop* Prol. No rape, no bawdy, no intrigue, no beau. 1708 DE FOE *Moe Reform.* 787 Eternal Bawdy fills up every Song. 1760 STERNE *Tr. Shandy* 220 How can that unconscionable coachman talk so much bawdy to that lean horse.

3. *Comb.* *bawdy-basket*, a hawker of indecent literature; *bawdy-house*, a brothel.

1552 HULOT, Bawdy house or house of bawdrye... *summanium*. 1567 HARMAN *Caveat* 65 These Bawdy baskets be... wemen, and go with baskets... where in they have laces, gynnies, needles. 1784 GROSS *Dict. Vulg. Tongue*, *Bawdy Basket*, the twenty-third rank of canters, who carry pins, tape, ballads and obscene books to sell. 1884 *Ev. Man's Own Lawyer* 390 The keeping a bawdy house is a common nuisance.

† **Bawdy**, *v.* *Obs.*; also 6 *baudy*. [f. *BAWDY a.* 1] To make dirty or filthy, to befool, defile.

1398 TREVISIA *Barth. De P. R.* xviii. lxxxvii. (1495) 836 The swyne... waloweth in dyrt... and bawdyeth hymself therewith. 1530 PALSGR. 444/4 He hath bawdyed his sleeves on this facyon.

Bawe, *obs.* form of *BOW sb.*

Bawhorse, *obs.* form (after anglicized pronunciation of *F. bāt*) of *bāt-horse*; see *BAT sb.* 3

Bawk, *obs.* form of *BALK*.

Bawke, *dial.* [f. *dial.* variant of *BACK sb.* 2] A large bucket used in mines for raising coal, etc.

1880 *Times* 13 Dec. 10/2 That both cages should be removed and that the large bawke or bucket... used instead.

† **Bawker**, *Obs.* [f. *BAWKER* 1.] (See *quot.*)

1596 GREENE *Art Conny Catch.* ii. 7 The Bawkers, for so

the common hunters of the Ally are tearmed... come to bowle, as though rather they did it for sport then gaines.

Bawkie, var. of *BAUKIE*, bat.

Bawl (bōl), *v.* Forms: 6 *baull*, *bool*, 6-7 *ball*, *baule*, 6-8 *baul*, 5- *bawl*. [Found only from 15th c. Prob. ad. med. L. *baulā-re* to bark as a dog, 'latrare, et est proprie canum' (Du Cange); also in an 11th or 12th c. list of cries of animals 'canum latrare, seu baulare, vulpium gannire,' etc. The *Prompt. Parv.* has 'baffyn as houndys, *baulo*, *baffo*, *latro*, and the earliest English instances refer to dogs. But cf. *Icel. baula*, Sw. *böla* to low like a cow, pointing to an ON. vb. **baula*, f. *baula* a cow. In any case, originally applied to the voice of animals; hence more or less vituperative as applied to human utterance.]

† 1. *intr.* To bark or howl as a dog, to give mouth or tongue as an animal.

[c1440 *Prompt. Parv.* 20 Baffynge or bawlynge of howndys, *bawlatu*, *bawlatu*.] 1563 BECON *New Calech.* (1844) 390 Singing-men... in churches... may roar, bool, bleat, yell, grunt. 1566 J. HAYWOOD *Sp. & Flie xxv*, At my blunty behaunour barke ye or ball ye. 1621 BURTON *Anat. Mel.* i. iii. i. ii. (1651) 183 A barking dog that always bawls, but seldom bites. 1693 HOBBS *Odyss.* (1677) 166 The other three [dogs] ran bawling forth. 1753 [see *BAWLING vbl. sb.*]

2. *gen.* To shout at the top of one's voice, with a loud, full, protracted sound; to cry loudly and roughly, to bellow. Often emphasized by *out*.

1570 LEVINS *Manip.* 112 Baul, to cry, *vociferare*. 1583 STANVHURST *Ensis* ii. (Arb.) 67, I belicht owit blasphemye bawling. 1622 HEVLYN *Cosmogr.* iii. (1628) 104 The cryers kept a bawling in the steeples... for the people to come to Church. 1708 COWPER *Gilpin* 104 And ev'ry soul cried out, well done, As loud as he could bawl. 1872 THACKERAY *Christm. Bks.* 8, I heard him bawling out to Gregory in the passage.

b. *Const. against, at, for.*

1618 HOLYDAY *Juvenal* 240 We baul, More for our gold, then for a funeral. 1708 SWIFT *Abol. Chr.* Wks. 1755 II. 1. 88 To bawl one day in seven against the lawfulness of those methods. 1863 KINGSLEY *Water-Bab.* vii. 267 They all bawled at her at once.

3. *trans.* To utter with bawling; to shout at the top of one's voice. (Often with *out*.)

1599 SHAKS. 2 *Hen. IV.* ii. ii. 27 Those that bawl out the ruins of thy linen. 1709 STEELE & SWIFT *Tatler* No. 66 P. 1 To bawl out, My Beloved; and the Words Grace! Regeneration! Sanctification! 1826 MARRVAT *Yaphet* lxvi, Bawling out his ditty. 1830 THACKERAY *Pendennis* xxvii. 257, 'I will fling you out of window'... bawled out Mr. Pen.

b. To 'cry' for sale, as a hawker.

a 1745 SWIFT (J.), It grieved me when I saw labours which had cost so much, bawled about by common hawkers.

Bawl (bōl), *sb.* [f. *prec. vb.*] A shout at the top of one's voice, a loud prolonged rough cry.

1792 WOLCOTT (P. Pindar) *Acad. Ode* Wks. 1812 II. 509 Proud of a loud, clear, melancholy bawl.

Bawle, *obs.* form of *BALL sb.* 1

Bawler (bōler), [f. *BAWL v.* + *ER* 1.] One who bawls; sometimes applied contemptuously to a declamatory preacher.

1656 S. H. *Gold. Law* 73 One hath thrown Baal's Altar, what's this to the Bawlers? 1758 JORTIN *Erasm.* 140 When you meet with one of these bawlers, let him rave... till he hath made himselfe hoarse. 1824 BESANT *All Sorts* i. xii. 259 Listening, as most bawlers discover, is not conviction.

Bawling (bōlin), *vbl. sb.* [f. *BAWL v.* + *ing* 1.]

† 1. The howling or yelping of dogs, wolves, etc.; *spec.* in *Hunting* (see *quot.* 1753). *Obs.*

c1440 *Prompt. Parv.* [see *BAWL v.* 1] 1555 *Fardle Facions* ii. x. 213 Their [Tartares'] singyng is like the bawlynge of Woulues. 1635 WITHER *Lord's Prayer* 129 The bawlings and snarlings of Dogs. 1753 CHAMBERS *Cycl. Suppl.*, *Bawling*, among hunters, is spoke of the dogs, when they are too busy to find the scent good.

2. Shouting at the top of one's voice, loud vehement outcry, vociferation.

1629 GAULE *Pract. The.* 239 The Rancour and Bawlings of Fiends and Wretches. 1722 WOLLASTON *Relig. Nat.* ix. 208 Propagating... senseless opinions with bawling and fury. 1865 LIVINGSTONE *Zambesi* xix. 366 But talking and bawling did not put them out of breath.

b. *attrib.* 1884 19th Cent. No. 69, 749 They were in the bawling stage of beer. 1884 *Graphic* 23 Aug. 190/2 To row within bawling distance.

Bawling (bōlin), *ppl. a.* [f. *BAWL v.* + *ing* 2.]

† 1. Of dogs, etc.: Howling, yelping; *spec.* in *Hunting*, giving tongue too loudly (cf. *prec.*) *Obs.*

1594 T. B. *La Primand. Fr. Acad.* ii. 510 A barking and bawling dogge. 1669 WORLIDGE *Syst. Agric.* (1681) 228 Small bawling Curs are the surest Watchers.

2. Shouting at the top of one's voice; making loud noise or outcry, vociferating.

1603 KNOLLES *Hist. Turks.* (1621) 830 Their barbarous bawling instruments. 1697 DRYDEN *Virg. Georg.* ii. 719 Nor heard, at bawling Bars, corrupted Law. 1850 MRS. STOWE *Uncle Tom's C.* xxxi. 286, I have none o' yer bawling, praying, singing niggers on my place.

Bawm (e), *obs.* form of *BALM*.

Bawn (bōn). Also 6 *baon*, *banne*, 7-8 *baune*, 9 *bane*. [ad. Ir. *bábhun* (O'Clery), of unknown derivation.]

1. A fortified enclosure, enceinte, or circumvallation; the fortified court or outwork of a castle.

1537 *St. Papers Hen. VIII.* ii. 441 Our Englishe men assaulted the diges and baon of the castell. 1586 J. HOOKER

Girald. Irel. in Holinsh. II. 167/1 This castell . . . and the bannes about it. 1596 SPENSER *State Irel.* 502 b, These . . . square bawns which you see so strongly trenched and thrown up. 1736 CARTE *Ormonde II.* 6 Defects in the walls of the outward Bawne . . . rendered it assaultable. 1887 HALLAM *Const. Hist.* III. 506 in *N. & Q.* 1850 Ser. I. 440/1 Those who received 2000 acres were bound . . . to build a castle and bawn or strong court yard: the second class . . . to build a stone house with a bawn; the third class a bawn only.

2. A cattlefold.

1850 *N. & Q.* Ser. I. II. 60/2 The word *bawm* or *bawne* . . . is still applied in the south of Ireland to the . . . place for milking the cows of a farm . . . Before the practice of housing cattle became general, every country gentleman's house had its bawn. 1884 *Whitehall Rev.* No. 21. 6/1 A large castle . . . with a bawn attached to preserve their cattle at night.

Bawne, variant of BALNE. Obs., bath.

† **Bawrel, bawret.** Obs. [Of unknown origin: some compare It. *barletta* a tree falcon, a hobby; the Corpus Gloss. has *bariulus* reaguifine, some kind of finch. Cf. also BAWTERE.]

According to 18th c. dictionaries, the female and male respectively of a kind of hawk; see quot.

1706 PHILLIPS, *Bawrel*, a kind Hawk, that for Size and Shape, is somewhat like the Lanner, but has a longer Body and Sails. 1797 BRADLEY *Fam. Dict.* s. v. Hawk. [The] Bawrel [has] her Bawret. 1755 in JOHNSON, and mod. dicta.

Bawshire, obs. form of BEAU SIRE.

Bawshint, bawson, -stone, var. BAUSON, -OND. † **Bawters.** Obs. rare. [? an error for *vawtere*, VULTURE; or by transposition of letters for BAWRET.] (See quot.)

1486 Bk. St. Albans D'ij b, Theys haukes belong to an Emproure . . . an Egile, a Bawtere, a Melowne.

Bawty, -tie (bōtī). Sc. [cf. F. *baud* white hound (Cotgr. s. v. *Souillard*)] Scotch titular name for a dog, esp. a large one; also for a hare.

1536 LYNDESAY (*Stille*) Complaint . . . of the Kingis auld Hound callit Bawsche, directit to Bawte, the Kingis best belouit Dog. 1641 For Bawte now . . . lyes in the kingis nycht gown. 1798 RAMSAY *Gent. Sheph.* II. ii. *Poems* (1844) 60 The devil's . . . Appearing sometimes like a black-horned cow, At-times like bawty. Sc. *Proverb*, Bourd not wi' bawtie lest he bite you.

† **Baw-waw.** Obs. [imitative of the sound; cf. BAUGH and Bow-wow.]

1. The barking of a dog. 1576 LAMBARDE *Peramb. Kent.* (1826) 233 A Dogs barking that soundeth nothing els—but Baw waw waw.

2. An exclamation of contempt.

1599 NASHE *Lent. Stuffe* 59 Bawwaw, quoth Bagahaw. 1600 *Dist. Emperor* v. iii. in *Old Pl.* (1884) III. 247 Baw, waw, waw! Sir, trouble not your selfe.

b. attrib. quasi-adj. Vainly or contemptibly noisy.

1570 LEVINS *Manip.* 45 Bawwawe spoken of one, that talketh to no purpose. 1853 STANYHURST *Æneis* IV. (Arb.) 108 Ne on baw-waw tromperye descendant.

† **Bawze, v. Obs. rare.** [Of doubtful origin and use. Hardly likely to be related to Du. *bassen* to bark (pret. *bies* in MDu.), considered by Franck to be a modern onomatopoeia, as it is found in no other Teut. lang.] To exclaim, shout. 1677 LITTLETON *Lat. Dict.*, To bawze, exclamare, intonare.

† **Baxter.** Obs. or dial. Forms: 1 bæcestre, -latre, -ystre, 2-3 bækestre, 4-5 bækestir, bæcstare, 5 bæxstere, bæckstare, 6-7 bæckster, bæxter, 7 bæxster, 5-baxter. [OE. *bæcstre*, fem. of *bæcere*, f. *bacan* to BAKE: see -STER. A true feminine in origin, and used of women as late as 16th c.; but already in OE. used also of men (see Gen. xl. 1, of a eunuch), and in ME. used of both sexes, as the Vocabularies expressly show; in later use only masculine, being the regular northern, and esp. Sc., equivalent of *baker*, in which use it still lingers dialectally. In 16th c. a new feminine BAKSTER-ESS was formed upon it; cf. *songstress*, *seamstress*.] A baker: a. applied to women.

1390 Test. Ebor. (1836) I. 143 Lego Matildæ bækestir j. goun. c. 1425 Gloss. in Wright *Voc.* 194 Hic [? hec] *pandoxatrix*, bæcstare. c. 1490 *Ibid.* 215 Hec *pistrix*, a baxter. a. 1550 *Theristes* in *Four Old Plays* (1848) 81 The backster of Balockburye with her baking pele.

b. without distinction of sex. Apparently not used in southern English after 1400.

c. 1000 ÆLFRIC *Gen.* xl. 1, 2 Tvegen afryde men . . . Egypta cynges byrle and his bæcistre . . . his byrlas oþer his bæcstran. c. 1150 Gloss. in Wright *Voc.* 93 *Pistor*, bækestre. 1377 LANGL. *P. Pl. B.* Prol. 218 Baxstere & brewestere, and bocheres manye. 1460 CARC. *Chron.* 55 Plautus . . . was compelled for to dwell with a baxter. c. 1550 J. BALFOUR *Practicks* (1754) 15 The Baxter, for his fe, fue pundis. 1753 *Scotts Mag.* Apr. 206/1 Mr. Robert Bartleman, baxter. 1818 SCOTT *Hrt. Midl.* vi. note, One in appearance a baxter, i. e. a baker's lad, handed her out of her chair.

Baxterian (bæks-ti-ri-ān), a. and sb. [f. BAXTER + -IAN.] A. adj. Of or pertaining to Richard Baxter, the eminent Puritan divine, or his doctrines. B. sb. One who holds Baxter's tenets. **Baxterianism**, Baxter's doctrines, one special point of which was the amalgamation of the Arminian doctrine of free grace with the Calvinistic doctrine of election.

1835 in *Penny Cycl.* IV. 62/1. 1839 SIR J. STEPHEN *Ecl. Biogr.* 44 Baxter was opposed to every sect, and belonged to none. He can be properly described only as a Baxterian.

Bartone, dial. form of BAKESTONE.

Bay (bē), sb. 1; also 4-7 bays, baie. [a. OF. *baie* (= Pr. *baga*) = L. *bacca* berry.]

In OE. *begbeam* occurs in the OE. Gospels, and in a glossary of the 11th c. (Wülcker 450) as a rendering of *mōdr-rūs*; the glossarist adds that *mōdr* is a name for 'berries' generally, whence *beg* appears to be = berry. In the 11th c. it might perhaps already be adopted from Fr.; but the Corpus Glossary of the 8th c. (Wülcker 8) has also 'baccinia (= *vaccinia*) *beger*' which suggests that this (elsewhere *begir*) might be an archaic plural of an original -is, -os stem, and that *beg* was a native word. Its ME. repr. would be *bay*, but the extant *bay* appears to be from French.]

† 1. A berry, a small fruit, esp. used of that of the laurel or bay-tree: see 2. Obs.

1398 TREvisa *Barth. De P. R.* xvii. xlviii. The frute of lauri tre ben clepid baies. 1483 Cath. Angl. 17 Bay; *bacca*, est fructus lauri & olive. 1601 HOLLAND *Pliny* I. 452 The Baies or berries that it [the roail Lawrel] beareth are nothing sharp biting . . . in tast. 1616 SURFL. & MARKH. *Countr. Farm* 200 The bays, or berries of myrtle-tree. 1661 LOVELL *Hist. Anim. & Min.* 245 Drunk with the Oile of Bayes in black Wine. 1866 TREAS. Bot. 664 From the fruit is expressed a butter-like substance known as oil of Bays.

† 2. A small ball, a globule. Obs. rare.

c. 1480 *Pallad. on Husb.* II. 198 Take a bay of gootes dounge, And with a nal . . . make it holowe.

3. Short for *Bay-tree* or *Bay Laurel*, English name of the *Laurus nobilis* (called also Sweet Bay), a fine tree, with deep-green leaves and a profusion of dark-purple berries; also applied to other laurels (e.g. the Red Bay of S. America), and in America to *Magnolia glauca* (White Bay).

a. 1530 PALSGR. 914/3 The bay tre, *laurier*. 1535 COVERDALE *Ps.* xxviii. 35, I my self haue sene the vngodly . . . flourishing like a grene baye tre. 1684 I. MATHER *Remark. Provid.* IV. 93 Philosophers told him the lightning could not hurt the bay-tree. 1866 TREAS. Bot. 664/1 The Bay Laurel is a native of the south of Europe.

b. 1557 Tottell's *Misc.* (Arb.) 264 When other frutes and flowers decay, The bay yet grows full grene. 1794 MARTYN *Rousseau's Bot.* xix. 262 The true Bay is known by its lance-shaped, veiny evergreen leaves. 1855 KINGSLEY *Heracles* II. iv. Slopes of oak . . . arbutus, and fragrant bay.

c. (Cf. BAY sb. 2 4.)

3. Usually in pl. Leaves or sprigs of this tree, esp. as woven into a wreath or garland to reward a conqueror or poet; hence fig. the fame and repute attained by these.

1564 HAWARD *Eutropius* VII. 75 When he had subdued the Sarmatians, he ware but a garland of baies only. c. 1590 GREENE *Fr. Bacon* IV. 64 A poet's garland made of bays. 1649 Churchw. Acc. St. Margaret's Westminster. (Nichols 1797) 53 Rosemarie and baies, that was stuck about the Church at Christmas. 1656 COWLEY *Misc.* (1669) 8 The gain of Civil wars will not allow Bay to the Conquerors and Brow. 1730 THOMSON *Autumn* 666 For virtuous Young and thee they twine the bay. a. 1764 LLOYD *Author's Apol.* Poet. Wks. 1774 I. 7, I seek to blast no scholar's bays.

4. Comb. and Attrib. a. attrib., as *bay-bow* (= bough), *branch, leaf, tree* (see 2 b), *-wood*; b. instrumental and similitive, as *bay-crowned, -leaved*. Also *bay-cherry*, the Cherry-laurel (*Cerasus Laurocerasus*); *bay-rum*, an aromatic liquid, used by perfumers, obtained by distilling rum in which bay-leaves have been steeped.

1607 Schol. *Disc. agst. Antichr.* I. iii. 157 They doe not set lights and bay bowes at their dores. 1799 SPENSER *Sheph. Cal.* Apr. 104 Bene they not Bay branches, which they doe beare? 1665-76 RAY *Flora* 14 The Bay-Cherry is a stately evergreen tree. 1638-48 G. DANIEL *Ecl.* IV. Song 3 Wouldst thou still Bay-crowned Sitt? 1636 HEALEY *Theophrast.* 59 Bearing a bay leaf in his mouth. 1855 BROWNING *Protus* Poet. Wks. I. 297 Half-emperors and quarter-emperors, Each with his bay-leaf fillet. 1883 *Harper's Mag.* Jan. 199 Pepper-woods, whose leaves smell of bay-rum.

Bay (bē), sb. 2; also 5-7 bays. [a. F. *baie* = late L. *baia*, in Isidore, c. 640. (Isidore illustrates his derivation of *portus* from *portare* by the analogy of *baia* from *bajulare*. He does not consider *baia* a modern word; but says it made its genitive in -as, like *familia*. It may thus be an old word in popular Latin.) The meaning of the Fr. word (which the Eng. follows) may have been modified by confusion with *bace*, *bee*, on L. type **badāta* an opening (see BAY sb. 3). The two have certainly been associated in English; see esp. 2-4, where the senses of recess and projection appear.

Derivation from *badare*, to be open (see BAY sb. 2) is disproved by It. *baja*, unless this is borrowed from some other Romanic language, as Sp. or Fr.]

1. An indentation of the sea into the land with a wide opening.

1305 TREvisa *Higden* (1865) I. 57 In that grete mouthe and baye, both ilondes Calchos, Patmos, and others. 1436 Pol. *Poems* II. (1859) 186 For they have havenesse grete and godely bayes Sure, wyde, and depe. 1596 SHAKS. *Merch. V.* II. vi. 15 The skarfed barke puffs from her native bay. 1600 — A. Y. L. IV. i. 211 My affection hath an vnkowne bottome, like the Bay of Portugal. 1665 R. BURTON *Eng. Emp.* Amer. II. 54 A fair Sandy Bay or Beach, which the Sea washeth on one side. 1719 DE FOE *Crusoe* I. 50 We might happen into some Bay of Gulph. 1875 MACKAY *Mod. Geog.* 24 Bay of Biscay, noted for its heavy seas and dangerous navigation.

Fig. 1601 CORNWALLYSE *Ess.* xix. Yet did I once touch at the baye of Armes. 1633 G. HERBERT *Sunday* I. in *Temple* 66 The couch of time; care's balm and bay.

† 2. An indentation or rounded projection of the land into the sea. Obs.

[Perhaps a distinct word, f. Bay v. to bend; cf. BAVING.] 1621 Cotgr., *Surridaire*, a road, gulf, or bosome, of the sea . . . sometimes also the opposite, a Promontorie, Cape, or Bay of land entering into the sea.

3. An indentation, recess in a range of hills, etc. 1853 G. JOHNSTON *Nat. Hist. E. Bord.* I. 9 The hills . . . stand out generally well-defined by bays and vales, which run in about their bases.

4. (in U. S.): a. An arm of a prairie extending into, and partly surrounded by, woods. b. A piece of low, marshy ground producing large numbers of Bay-trees. Bartlett *Dict. Amer.* 1848. (The latter ought prob. to come under BAY sb. 1.) 1884 *Harper's Mag.* Mar. 601/1 Swamps and 'bay' (the word applied in Florida to slough and water-grass meadows).

5. Comb., mostly attrib., as *bay-head, -man, -side*. Also *bay-duck*, dial. (east English) name of the Sheldrake (*Tadorna vulpanser*); *bay-floe, -loe*, new-formed ice, such as first appears in sheltered water; *Bay-state*, popular name in U. S. for the State of Massachusetts, originally the Colony of Massachusetts Bay.

1856 KARR *Arct. Exp.* I. xxvi. 342 The big 'bay-floe.' 1863 — *Grinnell Exp.* xv. (1866) 109 The 'young', or as it is called by the whalers, the 'bay ice.' 1779 *Hist. Eur.* in *Ann. Reg.* (1781) 211/2 The 'Bay-men on the Musquito and bay of Honduras shores. 1883 BURTON & CAMERON *Gold Coast* I. i. 16 The shallow brown waters of the 'Bayside.' 1896 LOWELL *Biglow P.* 37, I love our own 'Bay-State.'

Bay (bē), sb. 3. Forms: 6 baile, 6-7 baye, 4-bay. [a. F. *baie*, OF. *baie* (L. type *badāta*), f. *bayer*, OF. *baer*, *beer* to gape, stand open = Pr. and It. *badare*, as to which see Diez. See prec.]

1. An opening in a wall; esp. the space between two columns.

c. 1325 E. E. *Allit. P.* B. 1392 Heze houses withinne þe halle to hit med, So broð blide in a bay, þat blonkes mozt renne. c. 1400 *Soudene Bab.* 940, O Thow rede Marz . . . That in the trende baye hase made thy trone. 1849 FREEMAN *Archit.* 371 The division into bays by a marked vertical line seems everywhere rigidly preserved. 1870 F. WILSON *Ch. Lindisf.* 102 The last two bays of the nave . . . are unoccupied. 1884 *Manch. W. Times* 11 Oct. 5/6 The replacing of the tracery of the cloisters . . . proceeding bay by bay.

2. 'The division of a barn or other building, generally from fifteen to twenty feet in breadth,' Gwilt. (See the dialect Glossaries.) Applied to a house, it appears to be the space lying under one gable, or included between two party-walls.

1557 *Richmond Wills* (1853) 101 Ij bayes of rye, bye est. xxxij. xv. 1577 HOLINS. *Chron.* III. 1108/2 Two and fortie baies of houses. 1603 SHAKS. *Meas. for M.* II. i. 255 He rent the fairest house in it after three pence a Bay. 1616 SURFL. & MARKH. *Countr. Farm* 18 One of the sides of your Barne, all along for the space of three Bayes, shall serue to put your Rie and Wheat in. 1795 BRADLEY *Fam. Dict.*, Bay, a rural Word used to signify the Bigness of a Barn; for if a Barn consists of a Floor and two Heads, wherein they lay Corn, they say a barn of two Bays. 1759 *Ann. Reg.* 127/2 Ten bay of Buildings.

3. Applications of the idea of 'recess': e.g. *horse-bay*, the stall for a horse; *sick-bay*, part of the fore-part of a ship's main-deck, used as a hospital.

1584 *Wills & Inv. N. C.* (1860) II. 47 Iij swalles for a horse baye 8d. 1851 *Art. Frl. Hist. Gl. Exhib.* 20/1 The crowding of the bays of the galleries. 1863 *Man-of-War* in *Cornh. Mag.* Feb., Their 'sick-bay' probably does not differ from any hospital ward. 1867 SMYTH *Sailor's Word.* 64, Bay, the fore part of a ship between decks before the bitts. 1885 *Pall Mall G.* 31 Mar. 6/1 The 'bays' between the gun stations . . . afford shelter to the gunners.

4. Applications of 'intervening space,' usually receding, as bay in plastering, of joists, of roofing.

1823 P. NICHOLSON *Pract. Build.* 384 Bay, a strip or rib of plaster between screeds, for regulating the floating rule. 1842 Gwilt *Archit.* (1875) 1103 Bay of joists, the joisting between two binding joists, or between two girders, when binding joists are not used. Bay of roofing, the small rafters and their supporting purlins between two principal rafters.

5. An internal recess formed by causing a wall to project outwardly beyond the general line, for the reception of a window or other feature.

1428-1741 [see BAY-WINDOW]. 1805 REPTON *Lands. Gard.* 178 Large recesses or bays, sometimes called bowre windows, and now bow windows. 1855 MERIVALE *Rom. Emp.* (1865) VI. xlviii. 60 Projecting the bay of the tribune from the flat wall of the basilica. 1877 E. WALFORD *Our Gt. Fam.* I. 76 A substantial brick house, the front diversified by two bays.

Bay (bē), sb. 4; also 4 baile, 5 baye. [Two different words seem to be here inextricably confused. Originally, the phrase to hold at bay seems ad. OF. *tenir a bay* (Godefroy) = It. *tenere a bada*, where bay, bada, means the state of suspense, expectation, or unfulfilled desire, indicated by the open mouth (late L. *badare* to open the mouth); but to stand at bay, be brought to bay, correspond to mod. F. *être aux abois*, meaning to be at close quarters with the barking dogs, and bay is here apophetically formed from ABAY, a. OF. *abai* barking. See BAY v. 1. In the phrase at a bay, some early quotations may read at abay.]

I. Barking or baying.

1. The deep prolonged barking of a dog when pursuing or attacking.

1530 PALSGR. 196/2 Bay of hounds, *aboyement de chiens*.
1588 SHAKS. *Tit. A. II. ii. 3* Vncouple heere, and let vs make a bay, And wake the Emperour. 1784 COWPER *Task* 1. 230 The bay of curs. 1820 SCOTT *Lady of L. I. i. i*, The deep-mouthed bloodhounds heavy bay. 1849 C. BRONTË *Shirley* xv. 230 Formidable-looking dogs... all bristle and bay.

2. *esp.* The chorus of barking raised by hounds in immediate conflict with a hunted animal; hence, the final encounter between hounds and the prey they have chased.

c 1300 K. *Alis*. 200 Of lions chas, of beore baityng, And bay of bor. a 1400 *Con. Myst.* 180 Tyl a beggere blede be bestys baye. 1575 TURBERV. *Venerie* 125 That there are Bayes in the water and bayes on the lande. 1876 WYTHE-MELVILLE *Katerfelto* xxiii. 261 Soon would burst on his ear that loud and welcome chorus called the 'bay'.

† b. *transf.* applied to the singing of birds. *Obs.* 1513 DOUGLAS *Æneis* xii. Prol. 232 Dame naturis mentalis... Thair blyssfull bay entonyng euery art.

II. Most commonly, and often figuratively, in hunting phrases relating to the position of a hunted animal when, unable to flee farther, it turns, faces the hounds, and defends itself at close quarters.

3. Of the position of the hunted animal: *To stand, be (abide obs.) at bay, turn to bay*; and of the relative action of the hounds: *To hold or have at bay, bring or drive to bay, make a bay at (obs.)*

c 1314 *Guy Warw.* 245 He stod at a bay, And werd him while that he may. c 1350 *Will. Patern.* 35 He gan to berke on bat barn and to baie it hold. 1530 PALSGR. 586/2 Yonder stagge is almeste yelden, I here the houndes holde hym at a beye, *je os les chiens laboyr, or le tenyr a laboyr*. 1579 TOMSON *Calvin's Sermon*. *Tim.* 309/1 He shall be sette upon on all sides, they make a bay at him, they will bite him, if it bee possible. 1593 SHAKS. *Rich. II. II. iii. 128* To rowze his Wrongs, and chase them to the bay. 1621 COTGR., s. v. *Accult.*, the wild Bore, who, brought vnto a bay, sets him on his Gammons, and... is forced to defende himselfe against both dogs, and men. 1735 SOMERVILLE *Chase* iii. 535 He stands at Bay against yon knotty Trunk. 1879 FROUDE *Cæsar* xxiv. 422 To fight to the last and die at bay.

b. *fig.* In phr. *At a bay or to the bay*: at or to close quarters; in great straits, in distress, at or to one's last extremity. Cf. *F. aux abois*.

1596 SPENSER *State Irell*. 510A, All former purposes were blanked, the governor at a bay, and, etc. 1599 *Pas. Pilgr.* xi. Ah! that I had my lady at this bay, to kiss and clip me till I run away. 1648 ROGERS *Naaman* 17 Shall God haue us at so great a bay as he hath, and shall we wax careless. 1688 DRYDEN *Medal, Epistle*, In utter Despair of your own Satyr, make me Satyrize myself. Some of you have been driven to this Bay already.

4. Of the effective action of the hunted animal: *To hold or keep at (a) bay* (the assailing hounds); *to give the bay to (obs.)*; and (rarely) of the corresponding position of the hounds: *To be at bay*.

c 1530 LO. BERNERS *Huon* (1883) 395 As the wyld bore doth kepe a baye agaynst the mastuyes and bayynge houndes. 1553-57 FOXE *A. & M.* III. 239 Whereat the Chancellor was most offended: but Bradford still kept him at the bay. 1577 FENTON *Guicciard*. I. (1599) 35 With his industry... he had giuen the bay to his aduersaries. 1592 SHAKS. *Ven. & Ad.* 973 She hears the hounds are at a bay. 1607 DRYDEN *Virg. Georg.* iii. 620 Thy faithful Dogs... who... hold at Bay The Mountain Robbers. 1721 F. FULLER *Med. Gymn. Pref.*, By Riding... keep Death as it were at a Bay. 1863 FROUDE *Hist. Eng.* III. xiv. 256 The spoils of the church furnished the arms by which the Pope... could be held at bay.

Bay (*bē*), *sb.*; also 7 *baye*. [A word of doubtful standing and origin: it may be questioned whether senses 1 and 2 are really connected, and whether the word in the *Promp. Parv.* is not *BAY sb.*, but sense 2 does not fall easily under any other of the words spelt *bay*. For the etymology, the ON. *bæg-r* 'opposition,' has been compared, with its derived vb. *bægja* 'to push back, hinder'; the latter might be the direct source of the related *BAY v.*, if we could assume the *sb.* to have been taken from the vb. But if, as seems more likely, the vb. is from the *sb.*, the origin of the latter has still to be discovered.]

† 1. 'Obstacle.' *Obs.*

c 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 21 Bay, or withstondyng, *obstacle*.

2. An embankment or dam to retain water, or divert its course into a mill stream, etc.

1581 LAMBARDE *Eiren.* iv. iv. (1588) 421 If any persons... have bene assembled... to cut downe any houses, Barnes Milles, or Bayes. 1604 *Fr. Bacon's Proph.* 507 in Hazl. *E. P. P.* IV. 286 The Ducke must have a Bay, the Hawke must haue a stone. 1607 COWELL *Interpr.*, Baye... is a pond head made vp of a great heith, to keep in a great quantitie or store of water. 1623 SHERWOOD, Bay of planks, to breake the force of water, *maile*. 1879 JEFFERIES *Wild Life* S. C. 126 A strong bay or dam crosses... [the brook], forcing the water into a pond for the cattle.

Bay (*bē*), *sb.*; also 7 (in *comb.*) *be-*. [short for *bay-antler*, earlier *be-* or *bes-antler*, f. OF. *bes* twice, second, secondary + *ANTLER*.] The second branch of a stag's horn, formerly also called the *sur-antler*, being next above the 'antler' proper, or (as it is now called) brow-antler.

[1621 COTGR., *Surandouillier*, the beankler or second branch VOL. I.

of a Deere's head.] 1863 KINGSLEY *Water-Bab.* ii. 67 You may... know... what his rights mean, if he has them, brow, bay, tray, and points. 1884 JEFFERIES *Red Deer* iv. 69 This is a full horn; brow, bay, tray, and three on top, or six points a side. *Ibid.* 71 The ancient terms... next the *bes-antler*, now the bay.

† **Bay** (*bē*), *sb.*; *Obs. exc. Hist.* Also 7 *baye*. [a. *F. baie*, or its Du. repr. *baai*, f. *F. bai*, *baie*, the colour *BAY*: see *BAIZE*.]

1. *Baize*; originally a fabric of a finer and lighter texture than now, the manufacture of which was introduced into England in the 16th c. by fugitives from France and the Netherlands. Usually in the pl., whence the modern corruption *BAIZE*, q. v.

1581 Act 23 *Eliz.* ix. § 1 Pennestones, Bays, Cottons, Hose-Yarn... and other Things. 1648 in Rushw. *Hist. Coll.* iv. II. 1152 In making of Bays and Says. 1660 Act 12 *Chas. II.* xxii, None shall weave in Colchester any bay known by the names of *four-and-fifties*, *sixties*,... but within two days after weaving shall carry it to the Dutch Bay Hall to be viewed. 1713 *Guardian* No. 170 (1756) II. 344 Colchester bays, Exeter serges. 1727-51 CHAMBERS *Cycl.*, Bay is also a sort of woollen stuff, made chiefly in Colchester, where there is a hall, called the Dutch Bay-hall.

2. *Comb.*, as *bay-maker*, *-making*, *-market*, *-trade*, *-yarn*; *bay-hall*, a hall in Colchester used as an exchange by traders in this commodity.

1684 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 1988/3 The Moot-Hall and Bay-Hall hung with the same. 1708 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 4501/4 Zacheus Skingsley of Colchester... Baymaker. 1753 *Scots Mag.* Nov. 538/1 Woollen or bay yarn. 1858 *People's Hist. Gl. Brit.* 104 The Protestants... fled many to this country bringing with them the art of Bay and say making.

Bay, *sb.*; [Of uncertain origin and sense: cf. *BECK*.]

1593 PERLE *Edward I* 381 (D.) Friar, I am at beck and bay, And at thy commandment to sing and say.

Bay (*bē*), *a.* (and *sb.*) Also 5-6 *baye*, 6-7 *baie*. [a. *F. bai* bay-coloured:—L. *badius*, mentioned by Varro in a list of colours appropriate to horses.]

1. A reddish brown colour; a. generally used of horses, and taken to include various shades. Hence qualified as *bright-bay*, *light-bay*, *blood-bay*, *golden-bay*.

c 1374 CHAUCER *Troilus* i. 1072 His stede bay. 1420 *E. E. Wills* (1882) 53 A bay hors pat was Gerard's son. 1460 *Lybeaus Disc.* 462 An stedes baye brown. 1551 T. WILSON *Logike* 79 All horses bee not of one colour, but... some baye, some dapple. 1622 PEACHAM *Compl. Gentl.* l. xxiv. (1634) 85 A Bay or a Chesnut Colour, of all others it is most to be commended in Horses. 1671 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 636/4 Stolin... a Bay Ball Nag. 1715 ADDISON *Drummer* v. i. concl., I have a horse... a bay gelding. 1823 LOCKHART *Vow of Reduan* xi. in *Sp. Ball.*, He spurred his bright bay mare. 1860 J. BROWN *Horse Subs.*, My Father's Mem., His little blood bay horse.

b. rarely used otherwise.

1653 URQUHART *Rabelais* i. xii. (1694) I. 45 He made him also change his colour of Hair... from Bay, Brown, to Sorrel... gingioline. 1839 LADY LYTTON *Cheveley* II. v. 143 Mrs. Tymmons had been a blonde, and consequently had subsided into a bay wig.

2. as *sb.*, *eliph.* for 'bay horse.'

1535 STEWART *Cron. Scot.* II. 187 Occa... Vpoun ane bay out of the feild him bair. 1a 1600 *Came you not fr. N.* in *Furniv. Percy Folio* I. 253 Met yee not my true loye ryding on a bony bay. 1774 J. BRYANT *Mythol.* I. 327 The horse was of a Palm colour, which is a bright red. We call such horses bays. 1785 COWPER *Retirem.* 392 Lolls at his ease behind four handsome bays. 1884 *Times* 27 Feb. 7/6 The compact, black-legged bays of Essex.

3. *Comb.*, as *bay-brown*, *bay-coloured*.

1591 PERCIVALL *Sp. Dict.*, Vayo, baye coloured. 1616 SURFL. & MARKH. *Countr. Farm* 675 The baie coloured ones haue the second place for goodness. 1824 T. HARRIS *Insects New Eng.* 85 [An insect] of a light bay-brown color, with the head and antennae darker.

Bay (*bē*), *v.* Also 5-6 *baye*. [Partly a. OF. *baye-r*, more frequently occurring in the deriv. *abayer* (see *Littre* s. v. *aboyer*; cf. It. *bajare*, *abbajare* to bark) of uncertain origin; but influenced in later Eng. use by *BAY sb.*, in phrases 'at bay, to bay,' so that the two notions were even more inextricably blended than in the *sb.*

(Diez's reference of *abayer* to L. *ad-baudare* 'to bark at' is now rejected; recently it has been proposed to connect it with *badare*, in which case both words would ultimately be from the same source.)

1. To bark, properly applied to the deep voice of a large dog, as a hound or mastiff. Const. *on*, at (with *indirect passive* 'to be bayed at').

c 1340 *Gauv. & Gr. Knt.* 1142 Braches bayed perfore & breme noyse maked. 1486 *Bk. St. Albans* E viij, They houndes all Bayen and cryen. 1530 PALSGR. 442/2 This hounde bayeth at somwhat: *ce chien aboye a quelque chose*. 1596 SPENSER *F. Q. I. v. 30* The wakefull dogs did never cease to bay. a 1771 GRAY *Poems* (1775) 50 Hoarse he bays with hideous din. 1805 SCOTT *Last Minstr.* i. vi, They watch to hear the blood hound baying.

† b. (said of other animals.) *Obs.*

c 1450 HOLLAND *Houlat*, Sum bird will bay at my beke, and sum will me byte.

2. *fig.* Applied (depreciatively) to the noise of human assailants.

1399 LANGL. *Rich. Redefles* iii. 235 And alle þe berdles burnes bayed on him euer. 1583 STUBBS *Anat. Abus.* Pref. 18 Zoilvs crew, Who'le dayly at thee bay. 1606 SHAKS. *Tr. & Cr.* II. iii. 99 What moves Ajax thus to bay at him?

3. *trans.* To bark at, to assail with barking.

c 1420 *Avow. Arth.* vii, The raches comen reuynnyng him by And bayet him fulle boldly. 1596 DRAYTON *Leg.* iii. 669 Some againe did bay me, As hungrie Wolves at Passengers doe howle. 1601 SHAKS. *Jul. C.* iv. iii. 27, I had rather be a dog, and bay the moon, Than such a Roman. c 1800 K. WHITE *Cliff Gr.* 166 The deep-mouth'd mastiff bays the troubled night. 1866 HOWELLS *Venet. Life* (1883) I. iv. 75 Sleepless youths who there melodiously bayed the moon in chorus.

b. *fig.* of persons.

1796-7 COLERIDGE *Poems* (1862) 34 Though superstition and her wolfish brood Bay his mild radiance. 1839 BAILEY *Festus* v. (1848) 36 Millions... bay a mind Which drives the darkness out of them, like hounds.

4. To give forth, utter, or express by baying.

1591 SPENSER *Virg. Gnat* xlv, Cerberus, whose many mouthes doo bay And barke out flames. 1856 KANE *Arct. Exp.* I. xxii. 279 These faithful servants generally bayed their full-mouth welcome from afar off.

5. To pursue with barking like a pack of hounds; to drive to bay with barking.

1590 SHAKS. *Mids. N.* iv. i. 118 In a wood of Creete they bayed the Beare With hounds of Sparta. 1597-2 *Hen. IV.* i. iii. 80 He leaves his backe vnarm'd, the French, and Welch Baying him at the heeles. 1661 HICKERINGILL *Jamaica* 17 The whole Herd making homewards so soon as euer the Doggs do Bay them. 1845 DARWIN *Voy. Nat.* vii. (1879) 136 The jaguar is killed by the aid of dogs baying and driving him up a tree.

6. To bring to bay, hold at bay. (The notion of barking disappears.)

1575 TURBERV. *Bk. Venerie* 239 We tree and baye both Marten and wild Cattie. 1601 SHAKS. *Jul. C.* iv. i. 49 We are at the stake, And bayed about with many Enemies. 1713 *Guardian* No. 125 (1756) II. 164 He taught to turn the hare, to bay the deer. 1795 SOUTHEY *Joan of Arc* vi. 96 The men of Orleans, Long by their foemen bay'd.

Bay (*bē*), *v.* 2 [A later deriv. of the *sb.* in the expression 'at bay,' due to the ambiguity with which that was said both of the pursued and of the pursuing animal: see *BAY sb.* 4.]

1. *intr.* To turn to bay, stand at bay.

1649 G. DANIEL *Trinarch.* *Rich. II.* civ, They knew Hee Bay'd to their Destruction. 1774 GOLDSM. *Nat. Hist.* (1862) I. ii. v. 325 When a stag turns his head against the hounds, he is said to bay.

2. *trans.* To stand at bay against. *rare*.

1848 G. RUXTON in *Blackw. Mag.* LXIII. 719 Baying his enemies like the hunted deer.

† **Bay**, *v.* 3 *Obs. rare*—1. [a. OF. *baye-r*, *bte-r* to gape, seek with open mouth:—late L. *badare* to gape, be open.] To seek with open mouth, as the young of animals for the dugs.

1580 HOLLYBAND *Treas. Fr. Tong.*, *Bayer à la mamelle*, to seeke or baye for the dugges.

Bay (*bē*), *v.* 4 [Immediately connected with *BAY sb.*, but whether as its source or derivative does not appear; the latter is more likely. Supposing the vb. to be the source, it has been conjecturally derived from ON. *bægjan* 'to push back, hinder'; it might also be referred to 'hold at bay' in some of its uses (see *BAY sb.* 4); or even to *BAY sb.* 2 or 3 in some of their applications.] *trans.* To obstruct, dam (water): often with *up, back*.

1598 SYLVESTER *Du Bartas* l. ii. (1641) 18/2 He, whose powerfull hand Bay'd-up the Red-Sea with a double Wall. 1625 CARPENTER *Geog. Del.* II. x. 177 By baying vp the Rivers into certaine Artificiall Channells. 1803 SIR A. HOUSHOUSE *Laws Rep.* IX. Appeal 177 The defendants' barrier has been found to bay back the water to a maximum depth of twenty-two inches.

† **Bay** (*bē*), *v.* 5 *Obs. rare*—1. [app. a pseudo-archaism; cf. the similar use of *EMBAY* in same work I. vii. 3.] † To bathe, immerse.

1596 SPENSER *F. Q. I. vii. 3* He... bayes His sweatie forehead in the breathing wind.

|| **Bayadère** (*bāyādēr*, -di-). Also 6 *balliadera*, 8 *balliadere*, 9 *bayadeer*. [F. *bayadère*, ad. Pg. *bailadeira* female dancer; cf. *bailar* to dance. The earlier forms were taken directly from the Portuguese.] A Hindoo dancing girl: the French name, occasionally used by English writers.

1598 W. PHILLIPS *Linschoten's Trav.* 74 (Y.) The heathenish whore called Balliadere, who is a dancer. 1794 E. MOOR *Narrat. Little's Del.* 356 (Y.) The name of balliadere, we never heard applied to the dancing girls. 1806 HEBER *Journ. India* (1828) II. xxviii. 282 The southern Bayadère, who differ considerably from the nāch girls of northern India. 1835 *Penny Cycl.* IV. 62/2 The little arts and manners which form the accomplished bayadeer.

Bayard (*bē'ārd*), *a.* and *sb.* 1 *arch.* Forms: 4-7 *bayard*, 5 *beyard*, 5-7 *bayarde*, 6 *bayart*, *baierd*, *balarde*, 6-7 *balard*, *bayerd*. [a. OF. *baiaird*, -art, *bayard* bay-coloured, f. *bai*: see *BAY a.* and *ABD*.]

1. Bay coloured; *absol.* a bay horse.

1330 R. BRUNNE *Chron.* 272 Sir Edward... Upon his stede bayard first he wan þe dike. 1464 *Mann. & Howse. Exp.* 184, I bowete of Robert Bernard the Konstabelscheuer of Bramborou, and he ad of me ther fore my bayard Kresuer. 1623 MINSHEU *Sp. Gram.* 6, *Bays*, which is used in good authors for Bay coloured or Bayard. 1868 D. EVANS & Bks. *Wales* I. 520 Saddle thou the bayard with the long bound.

2. Proper name of the bright-bay-coloured magic steed given by Charlemagne to Renaud (or Rinaldo), one of the four sons of Aimon, famous in mediæval romance; whence *a.* Formerly used as a kind of

mock-heroic allusive name for any horse; cf. the occasional use of *Rosinante*, *Bucephalus*, *Pegasus*.
 c 1374 CHAUCER *Troilus* l. 218 As proud Bayard gynnyth for to skippe Out of the way. c 1400 *Beryn* 3184 A man to seruesabill Ledith oft beyard from his own stabill. c 1489 CAXTON *Four Sonnes Aymon* i. (1884) 31 Thenne mounted Reynawde on horsebacke vpon Bayarde. 1575 CHURCH-YARD *Chippes* (1817) 147 But he that holdes... the horses rain, When steede bolts out, calles bayard back again.

b. *Bayard's bun*: a kind of bread given to horses. *Bayard of ten toes*: the human feet, 'shanks' mare, nag, or pony'; also called *horse of ten toes*.

c 1520 SKELTON *Agst. Comely Coystroune* 8 A swete sugar loaf and sowre bayardys bun. 1616 BRETON *Good & Badde* 35 The walke of the wofull and his Horse, Bayard of ten-toes.

c. Alluded to in many phrases and proverbial sayings, the origin of which was in later times forgotten, and 'Bayard' taken as the type of blindness or blind recklessness.

c 1325 E. E. *Allit.* P. B. 886 Pay blustered as blynde as bayard watz euer. 1393 GOWER *Conf.* III. 44 But as Bayard the blinde stede... He goth there no man will him bidde. 1401 *Pol. Poems* (1859) II. 53 Thou, as blynde Bayarde, berkest at the mone. 1532 MORE *Confut. Tindale* Wks. 500/1 Bee bolde vpon it lyke blynde bayarde. 1609 BRETON *Poste w. Packet*, Who is so blinde as Bold Bayarde. 1625 GOSWALD *Sp. Inquis.* 168 As blind & yet as bold as Bayard. c 1650 JACKSON *Creed* iv. iv. Wks. III. 33 As... boldly as blind bayard rusheth into the battle. 1674 N. FAIRFAX *Bulk & Selv.* 157 Bayard must ever be as bold as blind.

3. Hence: One blind to the light of knowledge, who has the self-confidence of ignorance.

c 1520 SKELTON *Agst. Garmesche* Wks. I. 123 Rolde bayarde, ye are to blynde. 1579 TOMSON *Calvin's Sermon* Tim. 65/2 Them that shall walke negligently, and like blinde bayardes. 1645 MILTON *Colast.* Wks. (1851) 368 Being a bayard, who never had the soul to know, what conversing means. a 1677 BARROW *Serm.* (1686) III. 487 The bold and blind Bayards (who usually out of self-conceit are so exceedingly confident of their election and salvation).

† *Bayard*, sb. 2. Obs. [a. F. *bayard*, *baiart*, in same sense: cf. *BAIARDOUR*.] A kind of handbarrow used for heavy loads; also fig.

1642 ROGERS *Naaman* 30 When they are laid upon his bayard, and when he hath them upon the hip. *Ibid.* 35 Surely he is faine to lay men upon the bayard.

† *Bayardism*, Obs. [f. *BAYARD* sb. 1 + -ISM.] Ignorant presumption.

1624 BR. MOUNTAGU *New Gagg* 89 Grosse Bayardismes in so insolent a Bard.

† *Bayardly*, a. Obs. [f. *BAYARD* sb. 1 + -LY 1.] Bayard-like; characterized by the blindness and self-confidence of ignorance.

1636 GOODMAN *Wind. Even. Confer.* III. 20 Religion is... not a formal and bayardly round of duties. 1656 *Artif. Handson.* 143 A blind credulity, a bayardly confidence. 1659 GAUDEN *Tears* Ch. 118 The bayardly blindness of common people... neither able nor willing to discern.

† *Bayardly*, adv. Obs. [f. as prec. + -LY 2.] Blindly, with blind self-confidence.

1624 H. MASON *Art of Lying* iv. 67 Some ignorant Iesuite: (for none else can be imagined to be so Bayardly bold).

Bayberry (bā'ber-i). [f. *BAY* sb. 1. 2.]

1. The fruit of the bay-tree.

1576 LYVE *Dodoens* 688 Called in Latine *Lauri bacca*, in English Bay berries. 1747 *Gentl. Mag.* XVII. 409 Take of anised. bay-berries, myrrh. of each half an ounce.

2. In U.S., the fruit of the Wax-myrtle (*Myrica cerifera*), and the plant itself, an American shrub that bears a berry covered with a wax-like coating. 1860 BARTLETT *Dict. Amer. s.v.*, The berries when boiled in water yield a fragrant green wax, known as bayberry tallow, used for making candles, etc. 1878 R. THOMPSON *Gard. Assist.* (Moore) 657/1 *Myrica cerifera*, candleberry, bay-berry, or wax-myrtle.—Very near the sweet-gale.

3. In Jamaica, the fruit of the 'Bayberry Tree,' *Eugenia acris*, a species of Pimento.

1756 P. BROWNE *Jamaica* 247 The Bayberry Tree... The berries resemble our cloves, both in form and flavour.

Bayche, *Baye*, obs. ff. BEACH, BO, both.

† *Bayed*, a. 1. Obs.; also 5 bayde. [f. *BAY* a. 1 + -ED; or ad. L. *badius*.] Bay-coloured.

c 1440 *Prompt. Parv.* 21 Bayyd, as a horse (v. r. bay), *badius*. 1483 *Cath. Angl.* 17 Bayde [with no Latin equivalent].

† *Bayed*, ppl. a. 2. Obs. [f. short for EMBAYED.] Surrounded, enclosed.

1577 HOLINSHED *Chron.* II. 11/1 The territorie bayed and perlosed within the river. 1583 STANVHURST *Ensis* III. (Arb.) 74 A plentiful Island... roundlye bayed... With Mycone, and eke with Giarus, two famous Islands.

Bayed (bād), ppl. a. 3 [f. *BAY* v. 4 + -ED.] Dammed.

a 1618 SILVESTER *Lane* 694 (D.) He smot the sea with his dead-living rod: The sea obeyed, as bay'd. 1879 JEFFRIES *Wild Life in S. C.* 64 It [the brook] swells sufficiently, if bayed up properly, to drive a mill.

Bayed (bād), ppl. a. 4 [f. *BAY* sb. 3 + -ED.] Having a bay, formed as a bay or recess.

a 1828 MARRVAT *R. Reffer* lxvi. 258 The bayed windows. 1851 HELPS *Comp. Solit.* vii. (1874) 130 A window, in a bayed recess.

Bayne, *bayne*, obs. forms of BAIN.

Baying (bā'ing), vbl. sb. 1 [f. *BAY* v. 1 + -ING 1.] The continued deep barking of a large dog.

1611 COTGR., *Abbey*, a barking, or baying of dogs. 1814 SCOTT *Waver.* xxiv, The baying of the dogs was soon added to the chorus.

Baying (bā'ing), vbl. sb. 2 [f. *BAY* a. 1 + -ING 1.] The imparting of a bay colour.

1634 in H. WALPOLE *Verrius's Anecd. Paint.* (1786) II. 212 For baying and colouring the whole number of the oares for the row barge.

Baying (bā'ing), ppl. a. 1 [f. *BAY* v. 1 + -ING 2.] That bays; deep-barking.

c 1532 LD. BERNERS *Huon* (1883) 375 The mastuyes and bayynge houndes. 1792 COWPER *Iliad* III. 29 Baying hounds Disturb not him.

† *Baying*, ppl. a. 2. Obs. [f. *BAY* sb. 2 or 3; cf. BEY v. to bow.] Curving, receding.

1538 LELAND *Itin.* III. 75 From Bridport to the North West Point of the Chisil renning from Portland thither about a Mile... Shore somewhat baying.

Bayish (bā'ish), a. rare. [f. *BAY* a. 1 + -ISH 1.] Somewhat bay, inclining to bay (in colour).

1697 *Land. Gaz.* No. 3280/4 A Bayish dun Horse. *Bayl*, *bayle*, *bayll*, obs. ff. BAIL, BAILE, BAILEY.

Bayable, obs. form of BAILABLE q. v.

|| *Bayle*, *baylo*, obs. variants of BAILLO.

1703 *Land. Gaz.* No. 3891/2 To go in the Quality of Bayle or Ambassador... to the Ottoman Porte. *Ibid.* No. 3903/2 This Republic's Baylo or Ambassador... to the... Porte.

Baylet (bā'let). [f. *BAY* sb. 2.] A little bay.

1826 *Blackw. Mag.* XX. 426 Headland bold, And silver-sanded baylet. 1876 R. BURTON *Gorilla* L. II. 265 Off this baylet are three rocky islets.

Bayliary, *bayllive*, etc.: see BAILIERY, BAILIFF.

Bayne, -ly, variant of BAIN, -LY; obs. f. BANE.

Bayne = both: see BO.

Bayness (bā'nēs). [f. *BAY* a. 1 + -NESS.] The quality of being bay-coloured.

1570 LEVIN *Manip.* 90 Also many other that end in *ness*, derived of adiectives... as of bay, *bayness*. 1620 MARKHAM *Masterp.* l. lxvi. 140 Bayness turns to dunness.

Baynd (*Prompt. Parv.*): see BAINED.

Bayonet (bā'net). Also 7 baggonet, 7-8 bagonet, 8 bagnet; all still in vulgar use. [a. F. *bayonnette*, in Cotgr. *bayonnette*, of uncertain origin.

Diez, Littre, Scheler, favour the usual derivation from the name of the city *Bayonne*, the weapon being supposed to have been either first made or first used there; the former notion is strengthened by a statement of Des Accords (a 1583) that people spoke of *bayonnettes* de *Bayonne* 'Bayonne bayonets,' as of 'Toulouse scissors,' etc. But it is possible that the word may be a dim. of OF. *bayon*, *baion* 'arrow or shaft of a cross-bow,' from which Cotgr. still has *bayonnier* 'an old word' = *arbalétrier*: the Sp. *bayona* sheath, and It. *bajonetta* 'little joker' (a possible appellation for a dagger), have also been suggested as the source.

(See Notes on the Origin and History of the Bayonet; by Mr. Akerman, read to the Soc. of Antiquaries, May 1860.)

|| 1. A short flat dagger. Obs.

1611 COTGR., *Bayonnette*, a kind of small flat pocket-dagger, furnished with knives; or a great knife to hang at the girdle, like a dagger. 1692 *Land. Gaz.* No. 2742/2 Skeynes, Baggonets, and all other Arms. 1707 *Ibid.* No. 4380/1 (Venice), That no persons... shall presume to wear the Bayonet, or Sword, on pain of being sent to the Gallies.

2. A stabbing instrument of steel, which may be fixed to the muzzle of a musket or rifle; originally its handle was inserted in the mouth of the gun, but it is now secured by a circular band claspings the barrel. See also SWORD-BAYONET.

[1672 CHAS. II *Warrant* a Apr. in Carter *Curiosities of War* (1860) 230 The souldiers of the several troops aforesaid are... also to have and to carry one bayonet or great knife.]

1704 *Land. Gaz.* No. 4044/3 Our Granadiers, after... two or three Volies... put their Bayonets in the Muzzles of their Pieces. a 1774 FERGUSSON *Leith Races, Poems* (1845) 32 On guns your baynets thrav. 1817 J. SCOTT *Paris Revisit.* 130 The soldier... was about to plunge his bayonet into the breast of the unfortunate Frenchman.

b. *abst.* Military force.

1774 BURKE *Amer. Tax.* Wks. II. 373 You are obeyed solely from respect to the bayonet. 1879 D. HILL *Bryant* 112 He visited Paris, then... under the rule of the bayonet.

3. pl. Soldiers armed with bayonets.

1780 BURKE *Let. Merlott* Wks. IX. 250 On the demand of 40,000 Irish bayonets. c 1880 GRANT *Hist. India* I. li. 261/1 Colonel Pearce's column... returned... reduced from 5000 to 2000 bayonets.

4. *transf.* or *fig.* a. generally.

1883 G. ALLEN in *Knowledge* 8 June 337/1 In wild barley the entire inflorescence bristles... with stiff bayonets.

b. *Mech.* A pin which plays in and out of a hole, and serves to engage and disengage portions of machinery, a clutch.

1798 in *Specif. Patent* No. 2228 (*Sellars' Spin. Mach.*). 1864 in WEBSTER.

5. *Spanish Bayonet*: A species of *Yucca*, a liliaceous plant, with a crown of linear-lanceolate leaves, found in the south of North America.

1865 PARKMAN *Huguenots* vii. (1875) 109 Hacking their way through thickets of the *Yucca*, or Spanish bayonet.

1882 W. BISHOP in *Harper's Mag.* Dec. 47/1 In the door-yards are the Mexican aloe and the Spanish bayonet.

6. *attrib.*, as in *bayonet-belt*, -charge, -sheath, -thrust, -wound; also *bayonet-clutch*, a clutch with two prongs for engaging and disengaging

machinery; *bayonet-joint*, one in which the two parts are so interlocked that they cannot be separated by a simple longitudinal movement.

1812 WELLINGTON in *Gurw. Disp.* IX. 603 There are in the stores at Lisbon Bayonet belts for infantry. 1817 J. SCOTT *Paris Revisit.* 215 Bayonet sheaths, bits of caps, and the rags of clothes, covered the ground. 1870 *Eng. Mech.* 4 Feb. 501/3 A lens, which is adapted to the apparatus by a bayonet-joint. 1877 BRYANT *Country's Call*, The rifle and the bayonet-blade For arms like yours were fitter now.

Bayonet (bā'net), v. [f. prec. sb.]

1. *trans.* To stab or pierce with a bayonet.

c 1700 *Gentl. Instruc.* 535 (D.), I came not into the world to be cannonaded or bayoneted out of it. 1858 BEVERIDGE *Hist. Ind.* III. vii. iii. 85 The Arabs within were bayoneted.

2. To drive at the point of the bayonet; to coerce or compel as by military force.

1790 BURKE *Fr. Rev.* 325 You send troops to sabre and to bayonet us into a submission. 1863 *Commonwealth* (Boston) 18 Feb. 65 It has been bayoneted up to it by the pressure of outside public opinion.

Bayoneted (bā'neted), ppl. a. [f. *BAYONET* sb. + -ED.] Armed or provided with a bayonet.

1815 *Edin. Rev.* XXV. 532 Guarded by a bayoneted soldiery against a bludgeoned mob. 1856 OLSTED *Slave States* 20 A bright bayoneted firelock.

Bayoneteer (bā'netē-er), *notice-wd.* [f. *BAYONET* sb. + -EER.] A soldier armed with the bayonet.

1848 THACKERAY *Cornh. to Cairo* iv. 33 Knights shout their war cries and jovial Irish bayoneteers hurrah.

Bayoneting (bā'neting), vbl. sb. [f. *BAYONET* v. + -ING 1.] Stabbing with a bayonet.

1824 *Pall Mall G.* 10 Feb. 10/2 The bayoneting of a soldier at Woolwich.

Bayon (bā'n). [Prob. a corruption of Fr. *boyau* gut.] The name given (chiefly in the southern States of N. America) to the marshy off-shoots and overflows of lakes and rivers.

1818 CORBETT *Resid. U. S.* (1822) 273 Johnson's Ferry, a place where a Bayou (Boyau) of the Wabash is crossed. This Bayou is a run out of the main river, round a flat portion of land. 1847 LONGP. *Ev.* II. iii. 51 How have you nowhere encountered my Gabriel's boat on the bayous?

Bayrn, *Bayt*, *Bayz*, etc.: see BAI-

Bay-salt (bā'salt). Forms: 5-6 baye-, 7 bai-, base-, 6- bay-salt. [prob. f. *BAY* sb. 2.]

Many explanations have been offered. A derivation from *Bayonne* dates from 1633; but if salt was really imported into England from that place, it would seem more probable that *bay-salt* meant 'salt from the Bay of Biscay'; cf. 'Cafe wines,' etc. The conjecture that it means salt procured from bays (of the sea) indefinitely, seems less probable, for it would have been more obvious, in this case, to say 'sea-salt.' There seems to be no good authority for the statement that the Cheshire brine-pools are called *bays*, nor would this explain why one kind of salt should bear the name of *bay-salt* more than another.]

Salt, obtained in large crystals by slow evaporation; originally, from sea-water by the sun's heat.

1465 *Mann. & Househ. Exp.* 201 Item, for di. a bz. of baye salt iij. d. ob. 1550 *Wills & Inv. N. C.* (1835) 184 In the Salt Garner. Halffe a weye of baye salte. 1612 WOODALL *Surg. Mate* Wks. (1653) 207 Bay or Sea salt, dried merely from salt Sea water by the heat of the Sunne. 1633 C. BUTLER *Eng. Gram. Index*, Bai Salt, salt of Bayonne in France.

1654 GAYTON *Fest. Notes* III. iii. 80 Train oyle, dead wine, Base-salt. 1708 *Land. Gaz.* No. 4486/3 Her Lading, consisting of French Bay Salt. 1866 ROGERS *Agric. & Prices* I. xix. 456 Great or gross salt has no doubt the larger crystals known now as bay salt.

Baysche, *bayse*, -ment, obs. f. BASH, -MENT.

Bay-stone. [? corruption of BASE-STONE: cf. *base* for *bay* in prec.] A stone laid on the surface of the ground as part of the foundation of a slight building.

1845 WILLIAMS in *Jrnl. R. Agric. Soc.* VI. l. 45 The tenant has the right to remove... any buildings put up by himself on 'bay stones,' where the buildings do not enter into the ground.

Bayswater Captain, slang. [f. *Bayswater*, a residential part of London: cf. *dry-land sailor*.]

1880 *Daily News* 2/4 Several persons used to frequent the club who did not appear to have any ostensible means of living, but were known as 'Spongers' or 'Bayswater Captains.'

Bayt (e, obs. form of BAIT and BEAT sb. 2.)

Baythe, var. BAITHE v. Obs. to grant.

Bay-window (bā'window). [f. *BAY* sb. 3 + WINDOW.] 'A window forming a bay or recess in a room, and projecting outwards from the wall, either in a rectangular, polygonal, or semicircular form; often called a bow-window.' Parker *Concise Gloss. Archit.*

1428 in Heath *Grocers' Comp.* (1869) 6 In the baye wyn-dowe of the chambre. 1562 J. HEYWOOD *Prov. & Epigr.* (1867) 204 All Newgate wyndowes bay wyndowes they bee. 1601 SHAKS. *Twel. N. v.* ii. 40 Why it hath bay Windowes transparent as baricadoes. 1741 RICHARDSON *Pamela* (1824) I. 233 The old bay-windowes he will have preserved. 1867 DICKENS *Gl. Expect.* III. 105 Three stories of bow-window (not bay-window, which is another thing).

Hence *Bay-windowed*, having bay-windows.

1881 MISS BRADDON *Asph.* II. 137 An airy bay-windowed drawing room. 1883 AGNES CRANE in *Litt. H.* 481/2 The 'bay-windowed' city of San Francisco.

Baywood (bā'wud). Mahogany from the Bay of Campeachy and its vicinity.

1869 *Eng. Mech.* 24 Dec. 370/2 Drawers of baywood.

It is an Indian word, originally bayouc. See the Nation, 1894, Nov. 15, 361, Nov. 381.

Bazaar, bazār (bāzār). Forms: 6 *basaro*, -arro, 7 *bussar*, *bussar*(r), *basarr*, -are, 7-8 *basar*, 7-9 *basar*, 8 -aard, 9 *basaar*. [Ult. a. Pers. بازار *bāzār* market. It has been adopted in Hindustani and Turkish, and seems to have come into English use first from the latter, through Italian.]

1. An Oriental market-place or permanent market, usually consisting of ranges of shops or stalls, where all kinds of merchandise are offered for sale.

[c. 1340 BALDUCCI PEGOLOTTI *Merc. Handb.* gives *Basarra* as Genoese word for 'market-place' (Y.).] 1599 HAKLUYT *Voy.* II. 1. 214 A faire place or towne, and in it a faire Bazarro for marchants. 1656 PURCHAS *Pilgr.* (1864) 58 A great Basar or Market of Brazen wares. c. 1650 R. BACON *Mirza* 5 A giddy stream of people... Powring themselves from all parts to the Buzzarr. 1708 W. J. BRUNN *Voy. Levant* ix. 33 Several Bazaards or publick Markets. 1813 MOORE *Lalla R. Intro.* The bazars... were all covered with the richest tapestry. 1853 M. WHATELY *Ragged Life Egypt* iv. 25 Then we dive into a dark little street... it is the shoe-bazaar.

b. A market in an Oriental camp.

1803 WELLINGTON in *Disp.* 392 The enemy... were completely defeated, with the loss of all their bazars. 1882 C. FRANCIS *Med. Temp. Jrm.* No. 52. 148 Country liquor is too readily obtainable from the bazaar even though the sale of it to soldiers is strictly prohibited.

2. A fancy fair in imitation of the Eastern bazaar; esp. a sale of useful and ornamental articles, in behalf of some charitable or religious object.

1816 *Soho Bazaar*. 1829 SOUTHEY *Sir T. More* II. 216 No Vanity Fair opened in aid of the funds, under the title of a Ladies' Bazaar. 1849 MACAULAY *Hist. Eng.* I. 346 Milliners, toy-men, and jewellers came down from London, and opened a bazaar under the trees. 1876 *World* No. 106. 16 A bazaar is the clergyman's recognised ultimate hope when he wants to enlarge his school.

Bazan, -in, Bazar, see **BASAN**, **BEZOAR**.

† **Baze**, *v.* Obs. or dial. Also *baise*. [App. identical with Du. *bazen*, *verbazen* to astonish, stupefy; but its late appearance in Eng. (or Sc.) is not explained. Cf. also obs. Ger. *basen* (in Grimm) to rave.] To stupefy, frighten, alarm.

1603 *Philotus* cxviii. As with a Bogill bazed. 1807 J. STAGG *Poems* 39 Guod numb's ne'er be bazed, I'll undertake the work. 1808 *Cumb. Ball.* lxxv. 172 Tom Ridley was aw bazed wi' drinkin.

Basil, obs. form of **BASIL**, and **BEZEL** sb.

Bdellatomy (delatōmī). *Med.* [mod. f. Gr. *βδέλλα* leech + *-τομία* a cutting.] The name given to the practice of cutting leeches to empty them of blood while they still continue to suck.

1868 *Daily News* 30 July. When the little blood-sucker has taken his fill and is about to release his bite... a small incision is made in his side that serves as an outlet for the blood, and he goes on sucking... Bdellatomy is the name given to the practice.

|| **Bdellium** (deliōm). Forms: 4 *bidellium*, *bdelyum*, *bdellyum*, 6 *bedellion*, 6-7 *bdellium*, 6-*bdellium*. [a. L. *bdellium* (Vulgate), ad. Gr. *βδέλλιον* (according to Dioscorides and Pliny, a plant, and the fragrant gum exuded by it: see senses 1 and 2); used in the Greek versions later than the LXX to translate the Heb. *בְּדֶלֶךְ* *ḥ'dōlakh*, which Josephus also rendered *βδέλλα*. The Greek word is evidently of oriental origin, but whether it has any relation either of etymology or sense with the Heb. is uncertain, as is also the meaning and origin of the latter, which the LXX had rendered in Genesis by *ἀνθράξ* 'carbuncle', and in Numbers by *κρυστάλλος* 'crystal': the Rabbins and Bochart explain it as meaning 'pearl, pearls'.]

1. The name given to several trees or shrubs of the N.O. *Amyridaceæ*, chiefly of the genus *Balsamodendron*, from which exudes a kind of gum-resin resembling impure myrrh, of pungent taste and agreeable odour, used in medicine and as a perfume. 1398 TREVISAN *Barth. De P. R.* xvii. xix. (1495) 614 Bidelium is... a blacke tre moost lyke to the Oliue and the gumme therof is bryght and bytter. 1596 LODGE *Marg. Amer.* The blacke bdellium [bringeth forth] sweete gumme. 1600 T. PEYTON *Parad.* in Farr's *S. P.* (1848) 178 Where can a man... Find bdellium, that pleasant tree, to grow. [1878 H. STANLEY *Dark Cont.* II. xii. 350 Where the myrrh and bdellium shrubs exhaled their fragrance.]

2. The gum-resin thus procured.

1585 LLOYD *Treas. Health* Qv. Afterwarde put... ther-vnto... powder of Masticke, of Castoreum, bdellii, myrrhe. 1601 HOLLAND *Pliny* I. 362 The right Bdelium... being washed and drenched with wine... is more odoriferous. 1859 R. BURTON *Centr. Afr.* in *Trul. R. G. S.* XXIX. 448 The important growths of the interior are frankincense and bdellium.

3. The translation, in the English Bible, of the Hebrew word *בְּדֶלֶךְ* (*ḥ'dōlakh*); see above.

1382 WYCLIF *Gen.* ii. 12 Ther is foundun bdelyum and the stoon onychynus. — *Nun.* xi. 7 Manna forsothe was... of the colour of bdelli [1388 of bdellyum, which is whijt and brygt as cristall]. 1535 COVERDALE *ibid.* There is founde Bedellion. — The Manna was... like Bedellion. 1560 Geneva *ibid.* The Man also was... the colour of bdellium. 1611 *ibid.* There is bdellium. — The colour of Bdelium.

Bdellometer (delpōmētā). [ad. F. *bdellomètre*, f. Gr. *βδέλλα* leech + *μέτρον* measure.] A surgical

instrument proposed as a substitute for leeches, and fitted to show the amount of blood drawn.

1839 HOORNA *Med. Dict.* 254. 1874 DUNGLISON *Med. Dict.*, *Bdellometer*. consists of a cupping-glass, to which a scarificator and exhausting syringe are attached.

Be (bē), *v.* [An irregular and defective verb, the full conjugation of which in modern Eng. is effected by a union of the surviving inflexions of three originally distinct and independent verbs, viz. (1) the original Aryan substantive verb with stem *es-*, Skr. *as-*, Gr. *es-*, L. *es-*, OTeut. **es-*, **s-*; (2) the verb with stem *was-*, Skr. *vas-* to remain, OTeut. *was-*, Gothic *wis-an* to remain, stay, continue to be, OS. OE. OHG. *wesan*, OFris. *wesa*, ON. *ver-a*; (3) the stem *beu-*, Skr. *bhū-*, *bhaw-*, Gr. *φω-*, L. *fu-*, OTeut. **beu-*, *beo-*, OE. *beo-n* to become, come to be. Of the stem *es-*, OE. (like the oldest extant Teutonic) possessed only the present tenses, Indicative and Subjunctive (orig. Optative), all the other parts being supplied from the stem *was-*, pa. t. *was*, which, though still a distinct and complete vb. in Gothic, was in OE. only supplemental to *es-*, the two constituting the substantive verb *am-was*. *Beon*, *be*, was still in OE. a distinct verb (having all the present, but no past tenses) meaning to 'become, come to be', and thus often serving as a future tense to *am-was*. By the beginning of the 13th c., the Infinitive and Participle, Imperative, and pres. Subjunctive of *am-was*, became successively obsolete, the corresponding parts of *be* taking their place, so that the whole verb *am-was-be* is now commonly called from its infinitive, 'the verb to be', although *be* is no part of the substantive verb originally, but only a later accretion replacing original parts now lost.

In OE. the present Indic. of *am* had two forms of the plural, (1) *sind*, *sindon* (= Goth. and Ger. *sind*, L. *sunt*, Skr. *sdnti*) and *earon*, *aron* (= ON. *eru*), the latter confined to the Anglian dialects, where it was used side by side with *sind*, *un*. Of these, *sind*, *on* ceased to be used before 1250, its place being taken in southern Eng. by the corresponding inflexions of *be*. We, ye, they *beth*, *ben*, *be*, were the standard forms in southern and midl. Eng. for centuries; and even in the sing., *be*, *best*, *beth* began to encroach on *am*, *art*, *is*, and are now the regular forms in southern dialect speech. Meanwhile *aron*, *aren*, *arn*, *are*, survived in the north, and gradually spread south, till early in 16th c. *are* made its appearance in standard Eng., where it was regularly used by Tindale. *Be* continued in concurrent use till the end of the century (see Shakspeare, and Bible of 1611), and still occurs as a poetic archaism, as well as in certain traditional expressions and familiar quotations of 16th c. origin, as 'the powers that be'. But the regular modern Eng. plural is *are*, which now tends to oust *be* even from the subjunctive. Southern and eastern dialect speech retains *be* both in singular and plural, as 'I be a going', 'we be ready'.]

In treating this important word, the history of the inflexions is first exhibited, and then that of the signification.

A. Inflexions.

1. Inflexions from stem *es-*: partly replaced in ME. by *be*.

a. Present Indicative.

* from *es-*, *s-*.

1 sing. *am* (æm, æm, æm, 'm, m). [= ON. *em*, Gothic *im*, Skr. *āsmi*, Gr. **ἔσμι*, *ἐμῖ*, L. *sum*: the only Eng. vb. form which retains the old personal suffix -m (for -mi).] Forms: 1-3 *eom*, 1 *Merc.* *eam*, *North.* *am*, *amm*, 2-4 *em*, *eam*, *em*, 2-*am* (*Orm.* *amm*, 3-4 *ham*, 4 *ame*, *emme*), *contr.* 6-*m* (*I'm*) in verse and familiar prose. In 4-5 *icham* (south and west) was treated as one word, whence later dial. *cham* in 16th c. and recent s. w. dial. *Negative* 1-5 *neom*, *næm*, *nam*. (*Northern* *es*, *is*: see 3rd sing.)

c. 885 K. ÆLFRED *Boeth.* xiii. 40 Ic eom ofwundrod. 990 *Durh. Ritual* 10a. Ic am drihten god ðin. c. 990 *Lindisf. Gosp.* Matt. xxviii. 20 Ic iuh mid am. c. 995 *Rushw. G.* *ibid.*, Ic mid eow eam. c. 1000 *Ag. G.* Matt. xi. 28 Ic eom biwite. c. 1160 *Hatton G.* *ibid.*, Ich eom bylewhite. c. 1175 *Lamb. Hom.* 25 Ic em hal. c. 1200 *Trin. Coll. Hom.* 256 Ic am þi mon. 1205 *LAV.* 461 Ich am duc. *Ibid.* 25.943 Ich æm mon [1250 Ich ham a mon]. *Ibid.* 14.136 Næm ich næwere bute care. c. 1300 *Cursor M.* 5756 Lord here I ame. c. 1300 *Bekef* 475 So moche wreche nam y nojt. 1330 R. BRUNNE *Chron.* 337 Ich emme pat be bere. 1362 *LANGL. P. Pl. A.* v. 105 'Icham sori' quod Envy. 'I ne am [v.r. nam] but seeldene oper. 1382 *Wyclif Ex.* iii. 14 Y am that am. c. 1385 CHAUCER *L. G. W.* Prol. 314 Sir it am I. 1647 *Cowley Mistr.* lxxvi. No: I'm undone. 1803 GEO. ELIOT *Romola* I, I'm a stranger in Florence.

dial. 1247 *BOORDE Intro. Knowl.* 122 Iche cham a Cornyshe man. 1633 B. JONSON *T. Tub* i. 1, 'Cham no man's wife. 1746 *Exmoor Scolding* (1879) 26 Cham a-troubled.

2 sing. *art* (ārt, ārt, art, 'rt). [= ON. *est*, after 12th c. *ert*, Goth. *is*, Skr. *dsi*, Gr. *ἔσσι* (*ἔσσι*, *εἰ*), L. *es*; in Eng., as in later ON., *s* of the stem has become *r*: the final *t* is a pleonastic addition of the 2nd pers. pron., not found in Goth., nor outside Teut.] Forms: 1-2 *eart*, 1 *Merc.* *earð*, *North.* *arð*, 2-3 *ert*, (*earrt*, *earrt*, *hart*, *ard*), *Orm.* *arrt*, 2-5 *ert*, 2-*art*, capable of contraction, 6-*thou'rt*. *Negative* 1-5 *neart*, *nert*, *nart*. *Art-thou* appears 1-2 *eartu*, *earðu*, *arðu*, 2-5 *ertu*, *artu*, *artow*; in poet. and dial. use, the pron. is now sometimes omitted, as in 'What art doing?' (*Northern* *es*, *is*: see 3rd sing.)

c. 990 *Lindisf. Gosp.* Matt. vi. 9 Fæder ure ðu arð vel bist in heofum. c. 995 *Rushw. G.* *ibid.*, Fæder ure þu be in heofunum earð. a. 1000 *Ag. G.* *ibid.*, Fæder ure þu be eart an heofenum. c. 1160 *Hatton G.* *ibid.*, Fæder ure þu be ert on heofne. c. 1175 *Lamb. Hom.* 223 þu eart dust. *Ibid.* 201 Hwi ertu me so freomeðe. a. 1250 *Owl & Night*, 561 Thu art lutel. c. 1280 *Relig. Songs* v. 178 Nu thu ard al skere. a. 1300 *Cursor M.* (Cott.) 14105 In mikel bisenes ert þou, Bise ert þou [Gott. bise es þu] bot mani dede. c. 1340 *Ibid.* (Fairf.) 12136 Vnneþes artow of vij cere. 1340 *HAMPOLE Pr. Cons.* 424 Askes er-tow now. 1382 *WYCLIF 2 Sam.* xii. 7 Thou ert thilk man [1388 Thou art thilke man]. — *Matt.* vi. 9 Our fadir that art in heuenes. 1602 *DEKKER Satirom.* 234 Art not famous enough yet, but thou must eate men alive?

3 sing. *is* (i'z, 'z, 's). [= ON. *es*, after 1200 *er*, Goth., OHG., OS., OFris. *ist*, Skr. *dsi*, Gr. *ἔστι*, L. *est*: in Eng. as in ON. and Du. the personal suffix -t is lost.] Forms: 1-*is*; 1-6 *ys*; *Orm.* *ias*; *North.* 3-5 *es* (*eas*, *easse*, *ias*, *iasse*). *Negative* 1-5 *nis*, *nys*. *Is* still rimed with *miss*, *bliss*, *this*, etc. in 16th c.; it retains the *s* sound in *is't*? and when contracted, after breath mutes as *that's* (*thæt's*), but = *s* elsewhere, as *he's*, *all's*, *this is* (*hīz*, *ōlz*, *ō'siz*).

c. 885 K. ÆLFRED *Oros.* i. i. § 13 Hit is call weste. c. 1000 *Ag. Gosp.* Matt. xxviii. 6 Nys he her. c. 1160 *Hatton G.* *ibid.*, Nis he her. c. 1280 *Sarmun* 38 in E. E. P. (1862) 5 Manis lif nis bot a schæde, nov he is and nov he nis. a. 1300 *Cursor M.* (Gott.) 5779 Til þou me sendis he pat ess [Cott. *es*, *Fairf.* *ys*]. c. 1340 *Ibid.* (Trin.) 12158 Seint Ion þat in prison isse. 1340 *HAMPOLE Pr. Cons.* 32 Swa he es, and ay... sal be. c. 1386 *CHAUCER Knts.* T. 1277 He is [v.r. nys] no newe gyse, that it nas old. c. 1400 *MAUNDEV.* iii. 19 There nys no Purgatorie. c. 1450 *MYRC* 10 Alle ys for defawte of lore. 1483 *CAXTON G. de la Tour* Bvii, Is it right or wrong. c. 1530 *REDFORDE Play Wyt & Sc.* (1848) 3 Ah! syr, what tyme ys? 1635 *QUARLES Embl.* ii. xiv. When not himself, he's mad; when most himself, he's worse. 1733 *POPE Ess. Man* i. 286 One truth is clear, Whatever *is* is right. 1848 *KINGSLEY Saints' Trag.* ii. vii. 100 What's thy name?

¶ In the northern dialect, ME. and mod., *es*, *is*, *ys*, is used for all persons of the sing., and also for the plur., when not immediately joined to the nom. pron., e.g. when the subject is a noun or relative; the latter usage is exceedingly frequent in the Shakspeare folio of 1623 (though much altered by editors ignorant of its history).

a. 1300 *Cursor M.* (Cott.) 5262 þat þou liuand es! [*Fairf.* On liue þou ys]. *Ibid.* 9727 'Fader, he said, 'þi sun i es.' *Ibid.* 14105 In mikel bisenes es þu. c. 1386 *CHAUCER Reeves T.* 125 (*Northern Clerk*), I is as ille a millere as are ye [*Lausd.*, I es as ille a Melnere as es ye]. *Ibid.* 166 Il hayl! by god, Aleyn, thou is a fonne. 1485 *MAUDY Author* (1817) II. 391 Here is I. 1570-87 *HOLINGSHEAD Scot. Chron.* II. 50 Giltless persons is condemned. 1574 *tr. Littleton's Tenures* 107 b, Hys heires is in by descent. 1578 in *Scot. Poems* 16th c. (1801) II. 133 Our fals that bisie is. 1590 *SHAKS. Com. Err.* iii. ii. 20 Ill deeds is doubled with an evil word. 1593 — 2 *Hen. VI.* iii. ii. 11 Is all things well? *Ibid.* 303 There's two of you. [*Mod. Sc. and north. Eng.* All my hopes is lost. Is your friends coming?]

1-3 plural.

† a. Obs. form from weak stem *s-*: [OE. *sind*, *sindon*, = OS. *sind*, *sindon*, OFris. *send*, OHG. 3 pl. *sint*, *sindun*, Goth. 3 pl. *sind*, Skr. 3 pl. *sdnti*, L. *sunt*. The -on, -un, occurring in WGer. is a second pl. suffix subsequently added.] Forms: 1 *sind*, *sint*, *synd*, *synt*, *sindon*, *si(e)ndun*, *sindon*, *syndon*, 2 *synde(n)*, *synd*, *synt*, 2-3 *sende(n)*, 3 *sunde(n)*, *sonde(n)*, *seonde(n)*, (*seod*), *Orm.* *sinnenn*. Replaced in south by *be*; in north and at length everywhere by *are*.

b. *are* (ārt, ārt, ar, 'rt). [= ON. 1 *erum*, 2 *erud*, 3 *eru*, (= **erund*), Sw. 1 *äro*, 2 *ären*, 3 *äro*, Da. *ere*; a re-forming of the pl. on the strong stem-form *es-*, analogous to Gr. **ἔσ-μεν*, *ἔσ-τε*, *ἔσ-σι* (from **ἔσ-αυρι*), L. *es-tis*, compared with the original type in Skr. *s-mas*, *s-thā*, *s-dnti*, L. *s-umus*, *s-unt*, and Gothic *sijum*, *sijuþ*, *sind*, OE. *sind* (in *o*).] Forms: 1 *Merc.* *earun*, *Northumb.* *aron*, *aro*, 2-5 *north.* and *n. midl.* *aren*, 2-6 *arn*, 3 *Orm.* *arn*, (4-5 *arunne*), 4-6 *arne*, 4-*are* (4-6 *ar*); 3-4 *north.* *ern*, 4-5 *ere*, *er*. (Without pronoun 4-*es*, *is*: see 3rd sing. above.)

a. c. 885 K. ÆLFRED *Oros.* i. i. § 12 Be norðan him sindon [*later M.S.* *syndon*] Ealdseaxan. c. 1000 *Ag. Gosp.* Matt. x. 2 Dis synt [*Lindisf.* *sint*, *Rushw.* *sindun*] þara Apostola naman. c. 1160 *Hatton G.* *ibid.*, Dis sende þara apostole naman. c. 1200 *Moral Ode* 290 in *Trin. Coll. Hom.* 229 Hwu fele senden in helle. c. 1200 *ORMIN* 6293 þa þat sinnenn gode. 1205 *LAV.* 24763 We sunden twelf cnihtes. *Ibid.* 27319 Godd heo seondeð laðe.

β. *agso Durh. Ritual* 28 Allo gie bearno lehtes aro gie. *agso Lindisf. Gosp. Matt. v. 14* 3ie aron (vel sint) leht mid-dangeardes. *c1200 Trin. Coll. Hom.* 73 Swiche ben pe deules bernas, pe aren cleped ortowe. *c1200 ORMIN* 6849 Pa patt arm i pine walde. *c1200 Gen. & Ex.* 16 So fagen so fueles arm. *c1200 Cursor M. (Cott.)* 4847 Elleuen breper es we [v.r. we er, we ar, are we] liuand. *Ibid.* 4878 Yee Ne em licki lel men to be. *c1200 E. E. Psalter xcii.* 6 pine werkes ere bai. *c1200 Wyclif Sch. Wks. (1871)* 111. 169 Bodily werkes arunne more known. *c1200 Sir Ferumb.* 2379 Pay aren in gret drede. *c1200 CHAUCER H. Fame* 1008 Al these arne set in heuene [*Cart. ar. Thynne are*]. *c1200 Trevisa Barth. De P. R.* xviii. xix. (1295) 778 Camelles ben tothlesse aboute as oxen are. *c1200 MARC. Paston in Lett.* 300 IL 179 They eryn as he left hem. The place where they ern kept. *c1200 MORE Herseyes II. Wks.* 202/1 Sarasyne, whiche... arne of another floke. *c1200 TINDALE John x. 30* I and my father are one [Wyclif ben oon]. *c1200 Bible Gen. xlii. 31* We are true men: we are no spies. We be twelue brethren [*Coverd.* we are; *Genev.* we be]. *c1200 Burns Brigs of Ayr*, I'll be a Brig, when ye're a shapeless cairn.

¶ Negative forms colloquial and vulgar, found in dramatists and novels since 17th c. are *ar'n't*, *a'n't* = are not, am not, *e'n't*, *ain't* = am not, is not, are not.

1710 PALMER Proverbs 124 The politest atheist can't be sure that their e'n't a God. *1794 SOUTHEY Wat Tyler* iii. ii. You ar'n't to die so easily. *1799 B. THOMSON Kotzebue's Stranger* in Mrs. Inchbald *Theat.* I. 17 Sharp lad, a'n't I? *1837 DICKENS Pickwick* xiii. I an't quite certain. *Ibid.* xxviii. There ain't anything the matter.

* * from verb *be*.

1 sing. + be (bē, bī). *Obs. exc. dial.* [= OS. *bium*, OFris. *bem*, OHG. *pim*, cogn. w. Skr. *bha-vāmi*, Gr. **φύμι*, *φύω*, L. *fui*.] Forms: 1 *bīom*, *bēom*, 1-3 *bēo*, *beon*, 3- *be*, (4-5 *by*, 4-7 *bee*). Like *am*, this had the personal suffix *-m*, which was however dropped already in later OE.

a. as distinct vb. or future: I become, come to be, shall be.

c805 Vesp. Psalter cxlvi. 2 Ic singu gode minum swe longe swe ic bīom [*Lat. ero*]. *c1000 Ags. Ps. cxix.* 117 Gefultuma me fæste, ðonne bēo ic hāl. *c1200 Trin. Coll. Hom.* 17 Bispreng me mid edmodnesse louerd þanne be ic clene. *c1200 LAY.* 28218 Ne beo (*c1200 worpe*) ich nauere bliðe.

b. as present: rare and doubtful in ME., but now the regular form in southern and some midland dialects. The negative *I ben't*, *beant*, *baint* is even more widely used dialectally.

c1000 Ags. Gosp. Matt. xxviii. 20 Ic beo mid eow ealle dagas [*Lindisf. am, Rushw. eam*]. *c1160 Hatton G. ibid.* Ich beo. *c1200 LAY.* 3945 Pa while ich beon on liue. *Ibid.* 11501 Pe while pe ich beo (*c1200 ham*) on liue. *c1864 CAPERN Devon Provinc. s.v. Be*, I be going. *c1864 TENNYSON North Farmer* 3, I beant a fool.

3 sing. + beest, *bēst* (bēst, bist). *Obs. exc. dial.* [= OS. *bist*, OHG. *pis*, *pist*.] Forms: (1 *bis*), 1-3 *bist*, 3 *beost*, 3-4 *beest*, 4 *besto*, 4- *beest* (5 *north. beo*), 9 *beest*, *bist*.

a. as distinct vb., or future.

c1000 Ags. Gosp. Luke xxiii. 43 To-dæg þu bist mid me on paradiso. *c1160 Hatton G. ibid.* To-dæg þu byst. *c1200 LAY.* 9843 Wið pine sune þu beost iuæid. *c1240 Cursor M. (Trin.)* 2038 þou beste of his blessing quyt. *1277 LANGL. P. Pl. B. v.* 598 Bileue so or þow beest nougþ ysaue.

b. as present = art. Rare in ME., but now widely spread in south. and midl. dialects.

c950 Lindisf. Gosp. Matt. vi. 9 Fæder user ðu arð vel bist in heofum. *c1200 LAY.* 3053 Al swa muchel þu bist [*v.r. hart*] worp. *c1248 KINGSLEY Saints' Trag.* II. vii. 100 Wood cutler:—Be'est a keeper, man? *c1864 BARNES Rhymes Dorset Dial.* I. 61 Whatever bist about.

3 sing. beeth, bes (bēþ, bēz). *Obs. exc. dial.* Forms: 1-3 *bīð*, 1 *byð*, 2 *bæð*, 2-3 *beoð*, 3 (*bīdeð*), *būþ*, 3-4 *bæð*, *bueð*, 4 *byeþ*, 4-6 *beth* (e). *North.* 4 *bets*, *beis*, 4-5 *bes* (e), 6 *Sc. beis*. *South. dial.* 9 *be*.

a. as distinct vb., or future.

c805 Vesp. Psalter cxiii. 3 Se milde bið allum un-rehtwis-nissum ðinum. *c1200 LAY.* 5763 Anan swa hit beoð auen. *c1240 Cursor M. (Fairf.)* 3762 My hert bese [*Trin. beþ*] neuer brozt in rest, bi-twix and his Iacob be slayne. *c1400 Chron. Eng.* 270 in Ritson *M. R.* II. 281 Non ne byth ther nevermore. *c1525 STEWART Cron. Scot.* I. 565 Traist weill... the feild this da beis ouris.

b. as present.

c1175 Lamb. Hom. 25 He bið wið-uten feire. *c1200 Moral Ode* 39 in *E. E. P.* (1862) 24 So muchel bet [*v.r. bið*] his mihte. *c1200 Cursor M.* 1175 It beis not sua [*v.r. bes*, *beþ*]. *c1240 Ayenb.* 54 Pe holyist man byeþ. *becast.* *c1286 CHAUCER Kn's T.* 1163 Nought beth forgotten the infortune of Mart [*Six-texts was*]. *c1460 Towneley Myst.* 13 It bese the wars for thi sake. *c1516-21 BUCKH. in Ellis Orig. Lett.* III. I. 217 It bethe matter that I am lothe... to trouble you withall. *c1570 Bp. St. Andrews in Scot. Poems* 16th C. II. 305 When Plutois palice beis provydit for them. *Mod. East-Englian* Here he be.

1-3 plural. be (bē, bi, bī). [In the other OTent. langs. only repr. by OHG. *pirumes*, *pirut* (MHG. *birnt*, *bint*).] Forms: *a.* (type *beoth*, *beth*): 1-3 *bēoð* (1 *Northumb. biað*, *bið-on*, *bið-on*, *Merc. bīoþ*, *bið-on*, *beoþ-an*), 1-4 *bēo*, 2 *bæð*, *byð*, 2-3 *bīeð*, *bueð*, *būð* (ū), 3-4 *bueð*, *būþ*, *beoth*, 2-5 *bēð*, *bēþ*, 4 *byeþ*, *beep*, 4-5 *beth*, 5- *beeth*, (6-7 *dial. beth*).

β. *Midl.* (type *beon*, *ben*, *been*, *be*): 2-4 *beon*, 2 *bienn*, *bin*, 2-3 *bien*, 2-6 *ben*, 3-4 *buen*, 4-5

by, 4-6 *bene*, 4-7 *been* (e), 5 (*byn* (ne)), 5-7 *bin* (*still dial.*), 6-7 *bee*, 4- *be*. *Negative, dial. ben't*, *beant*.

γ. North. 3 *bes*, 5 *bese*.

a. as future.

c805 Vesp. Psalter xcii. 14 Bið gemonizfaldade in ældu. *c1175 Cott. Hom.* 239 A domes deiz alle godes fend. *abroden bienn.* *c1200 LAY.* 3057 Sone heo bið [*hi beoð*] ilaþeð.

b. as present.

c1175 Cott. Hom. 219 Her beoð niþen anglen hapes. *c1175 Lamb. Hom.* 89 La hu ne beaþ þa... galileisce? *c1200 Trin. Coll. Hom.* 39 þu bin ge gode word of holi boc. *c1200 LAY.* 4455 Whær beo 3e mine cnihtes? *c1200 Gen. & Ex.* 107 Watres ben her ðer-under. *c1200 R. GLOUC.* 368 Hey men, þat in Engeland bep, Beþ ycone of þe Normans. *c1200 K. Alis.* 4965 Men hy ben. *Ibid.* 6494 Faire wymmnen heo buth. *c1200 Beht* 174 To fewe ther beoth. *c1207 Elgy Edw. I.* ix. Our baners that bueth broht to grounde. *c1240 Ayenb.* 1 Þise byeþ be capiteles. *c1270 Wyclif Wks.* (1880) 33 Þei ben enemyes. *c1285 CHAUCER L. G. W.* 1029 We... Be now disclaunders. *c1287 Trevisa Higden Rolls Ser. I.* 321 Þere by gracious tymes. *c1420 Sir Amadace* xlviii. For-sothe that bynne awaye. *c1460 FORTESCUE Abs. & Lim. Mon.* (1714) 7 The two Princes beth of egall Astate. *Ibid.* 10 Which Lawys ben right good. *c1485 Caxton Paris & V.* 16 Knigthes and barons that been here. *c1500 Rob. Hood* (Ritson) i. i. 213 My goodes beth sette and sold. *c1534 TINDALE Rom.* xiii. 1 The powers that be are ordeyned of God. *c1535 COVERDALE Zech.* i. 10 What be thesē? *c1548 Erasmus Per. Rom.* II. 40 And what thinges bene they? *c1557 K. Arthur* (Copland) *Cont.* The chaptryes that ben conteyned in this present volume. *c1584 BENTLEY Mon. Maitrons* ii. 65 They be never offended at anie thing. *c1585 STUBBS Anal. Abus.* II. 2 Surely they are, as all other countries and nations be. *c1594 SHAKS. Rich. III.* iv. iv. 93 Where is thy Husband now? Where be thy Brothers? *c1611 Bible 2 Kings* vi. 16 They that be with vs are moe than they that be with them. *c1669 MILTON Accidence* Wks. (1847) 461/1 *Ego, tu, et* be of the first Declension. *c1687 PETTY Fol. Arith.* v. (1691) 87 There be Three distinct Legislative Powers.

¶ Examples of *dial.* and *arch.* retention of *beon*, *bin*, *beth* for *be*, and of *be* for *are*. *c1276 GASCOIGNE Philomene* 63 (Arb.) 88 Such as true and stedfast louers bene. *c1281 CAMPION Hist. Irel.* II. vii. (1633) 97 The Irish beene false by kinde. *c1284 PREEL Ar-ranigum Paris* 60 6 Th' unpartial daughters of Necessity Bin aids in her suit. *c1285 FERNZ Blas. Centrie* 71 You zay somewhat well vor vs that we bene the most necessary men. *c1608 SHAKS. Per.* II. Prol. 28 Toseas, Where when men been, there's seldom ease. *c1640 BROME Antiq.* II. ix. 272 We be none of your father, so we beant. *c1647 JER. TAYLOR Holy Dying* iv. 49 (1727) 178 Widows beth dothful, and children beth unkind. *c1800 BYRON Mar. Fal.* v. i. 169 And who be they? *c1824 BARNES Rhymes Dorset Dial.* I. 136 The carpets they do use, Ben't fit to tread. 'An' chairs an' couches be so neat, You musen teake em vor a seat. *c1861 THACKERAY Georges* II. 114 Where be your painted hours? *c1865 SWINBURNE Queen Bessie* 467 If thou be keen to note things amiss that been. *c1879 ESCOTT England* I. 242 No alarming sound for the powers that be.

Beon, *bin* was erroneously used by 16th c. Sc. writers, in supposed imitation of Chaucer, and by Byron (in supposed imitation of Shaks.) as singular. *c1513 DOUGLAS Æneis* I. Pref. 213, I will nocht say all Virgil bene als trew. *c1554 LYNDSEY Monarchie* 5768 Gret dult that day, to Iugis bene. *c1556 LAUDER Tractate* (1864) 65 Nothing... Different... Than bene the purest Creature That euer wes formit of nature. *c1823 BYRON Juan* xiii. xxvi. Also there bin another pious reason For making squares and streets anonymous.

2. Present Subjunctive.

* from stem *es-* (in weak form *'s-*).

sing. + OE. *sie*, *sī*. [= OFris. *sē*, OS. OHG. *sī*, *sīs*, *ON.* *sē*, *sēr*, *sē*, Goth. *sijau*, *sijais*, *sijai*, Skr. *syām*, *syās*, *syāt*, OL. *siēm*, *siēs*, *siēt*, cl. L. *sim*, *sīs*, *sit*.] In OE. all 3 persons were levelled under one form, though in ancient times the 1 pers. was distinct *sien*, *sion*.] Forms: 1 (1 pers. *sien*, *sion*) *sie*, *sīe*, *sīe*, *sīe*, 1-2 *sī*, *sī*, *sye*, *syo*, *sio*. *c1734 Bæda Death-song*, Naenig uiuithit thone-snottura than him tharf sie. *c1000 Ags. Gosp. Matt. xxiv.* 3 Hwilt tacn siþines tocmyns. *Ibid.* v. 13 Buton þæt hit sy ði-aworpen, and sy [*v.r. si*, *siz*] fram mannun fortreden. *c1260 Hatton G. ibid.* Buton þæt hyt sye ut-aworpen, and syo fram mannun fortreden. *c1200 Trin. Coll. Hom.* 91 Si lof Dauðes bern, blesced bie he. *c1200 LAY.* 14893 Alre king si [*c1200 beo*] he ærnest. *Ibid.* 24759 Hail seo [*c1200 beo*] þu Arður king!

plural. + OE. *sien*, *sīe*, *sīn*. [= OS. *sīn*, OFris. *sē*, OHG. *sīms*, *sīt*, *sīn*, *ON.* *sēm*, *sēt*, *sē*, Goth. *sijaina*, *sijaiþ*, *sijaina*, Skr. *syāma*, *syāta*, *syūs*, OL. *siēmūs*, *siētīs*, *siēt*, cl. L. *simus*, *sitis*, *sint*.] Forms: 1 *sien*, *sīn*, *sīn*, *sīe*, *sīe*, *sē*, *sē*, 2 *syen*, 3 *seon* (*seoð*). *c950 Lindisf. Gosp. Matt. vi.* 1 Þæt gie se geseno. *c975 Rushw. G. ibid.* Þæt ge sie gesean. *c1000 Ags. G. ibid.* Þæt ge sin gehæred. *c1160 Hatton G. ibid.* Þæt ge syen gehæred. *c1200 LAY.* 13837 Wh[ah]æt cnihtes 3e seon [*c1200 beo*] þu Arður king!

plural. + OE. *sien*, *sīe*, *sīn*. [= OS. *sīn*, OFris. *sē*, OHG. *sīms*, *sīt*, *sīn*, *ON.* *sēm*, *sēt*, *sē*, Goth. *sijaina*, *sijaiþ*, *sijaina*, Skr. *syāma*, *syāta*, *syūs*, OL. *siēmūs*, *siētīs*, *siēt*, cl. L. *simus*, *sitis*, *sint*.] Forms: 1 *sien*, *sīn*, *sīn*, *sīe*, *sīe*, *sē*, *sē*, 2 *syen*, 3 *seon* (*seoð*). *c950 Lindisf. Gosp. Matt. vi.* 1 Þæt gie se geseno. *c975 Rushw. G. ibid.* Þæt ge sie gesean. *c1000 Ags. G. ibid.* Þæt ge sin gehæred. *c1160 Hatton G. ibid.* Þæt ge syen gehæred. *c1200 LAY.* 13837 Wh[ah]æt cnihtes 3e seon [*c1200 beo*] þu Arður king!

plural. + OE. *sien*, *sīe*, *sīn*. [= OS. *sīn*, OFris. *sē*, OHG. *sīms*, *sīt*, *sīn*, *ON.* *sēm*, *sēt*, *sē*, Goth. *sijaina*, *sijaiþ*, *sijaina*, Skr. *syāma*, *syāta*, *syūs*, OL. *siēmūs*, *siētīs*, *siēt*, cl. L. *simus*, *sitis*, *sint*.] Forms: 1 *sien*, *sīn*, *sīn*, *sīe*, *sīe*, *sē*, *sē*, 2 *syen*, 3 *seon* (*seoð*). *c950 Lindisf. Gosp. Matt. vi.* 1 Þæt gie se geseno. *c975 Rushw. G. ibid.* Þæt ge sie gesean. *c1000 Ags. G. ibid.* Þæt ge sin gehæred. *c1160 Hatton G. ibid.* Þæt ge syen gehæred. *c1200 LAY.* 13837 Wh[ah]æt cnihtes 3e seon [*c1200 beo*] þu Arður king!

plural. + OE. *sien*, *sīe*, *sīn*. [= OS. *sīn*, OFris. *sē*, OHG. *sīms*, *sīt*, *sīn*, *ON.* *sēm*, *sēt*, *sē*, Goth. *sijaina*, *sijaiþ*, *sijaina*, Skr. *syāma*, *syāta*, *syūs*, OL. *siēmūs*, *siētīs*, *siēt*, cl. L. *simus*, *sitis*, *sint*.] Forms: 1 *sien*, *sīn*, *sīn*, *sīe*, *sīe*, *sē*, *sē*, 2 *syen*, 3 *seon* (*seoð*). *c950 Lindisf. Gosp. Matt. vi.* 1 Þæt gie se geseno. *c975 Rushw. G. ibid.* Þæt ge sie gesean. *c1000 Ags. G. ibid.* Þæt ge sin gehæred. *c1160 Hatton G. ibid.* Þæt ge syen gehæred. *c1200 LAY.* 13837 Wh[ah]æt cnihtes 3e seon [*c1200 beo*] þu Arður king!

plural. + OE. *sien*, *sīe*, *sīn*. [= OS. *sīn*, OFris. *sē*, OHG. *sīms*, *sīt*, *sīn*, *ON.* *sēm*, *sēt*, *sē*, Goth. *sijaina*, *sijaiþ*, *sijaina*, Skr. *syāma*, *syāta*, *syūs*, OL. *siēmūs*, *siētīs*, *siēt*, cl. L. *simus*, *sitis*, *sint*.] Forms: 1 *sien*, *sīn*, *sīn*, *sīe*, *sīe*, *sē*, *sē*, 2 *syen*, 3 *seon* (*seoð*). *c950 Lindisf. Gosp. Matt. vi.* 1 Þæt gie se geseno. *c975 Rushw. G. ibid.* Þæt ge sie gesean. *c1000 Ags. G. ibid.* Þæt ge sin gehæred. *c1160 Hatton G. ibid.* Þæt ge syen gehæred. *c1200 LAY.* 13837 Wh[ah]æt cnihtes 3e seon [*c1200 beo*] þu Arður king!

¶ A present subj. from stem *wes-*, singular *wese*, plural *wesen*, also existed in OE., in poetic use. *c1000 Ags. Ps. cv.* 37 Wese swa, wese swa, þurh eall wide ferhð. *Ibid.* lxvii. 5 Pa þe wydeuw syn wraðe... oppe steop-cildum wesen strange fæderas.

* * from verb *be*.

sing. be. Forms: 1 *bīo*, 1-3 *bēo*, 2 *bo*, *bīe*, 4-5 *bi*, *by*, 4- *be*, (4-7 *bee*).

c1000 Metr. Boeth. x. 65 Hwæt iow æfre þy bet bio oððe þince. *c1200 Trin. Coll. Hom.* 91 Blesced bie he þe cumeð a godes name. *Ibid.* 107 Be swo it beo, *c1250*

Owl & Night. 566 Thu gredest suich thu bo wod. *c1240 Ayenb.* 219 By hit to þe bodie, by hit to þe zaul. *1277 LANGL. P. Pl. B. vi.* 207 Be þow went, They wil worche ful ille. *c1284 Wyclif Gen.* xxvii. 21 Whether thou be [*v.r. art*] my sone Esau, or noon [*c1285 CHAUCER L. G. W.* 1848 'Be as be may,' quod she. *c1286 BENTLEY Mon. Maitrons* ii. 7 If thou be my father. *c1611 Bible Jer.* xvii. 5 Cursed be the man that trusteth in man. *1716 ADDISON Drummerv.* i. Look you if he ben't with my lady. *c1830 TENNYSON Dream Fair Wom.* 251, I am that Rosamond, whom men call fair, If what I was I be. *Mod.* Be he who he may, he has no right here.

b. In the 2nd sing., after *if*, *though*, etc., *beest*, properly an indicative form, was common in 16th and 17th c., and is regularly used by Shakspeare.

c1600 Rob. Hood (Ritson) II. ii. 38 Although thou beest in haste. *c1606 SHAKS. Ant. & Cl.* i. v. 59 Bee'st thou dead, or merrie, The violence of either thee becomes. *c1667 MILTON P. L.* i. 84 If thou beest he; But O how fall'n! *c1678 CUDWORTH Intell. Syst.* 462 Whether thou beest a certain Divine Force and Soul.

c. In the 3rd sing., *beis* was formerly used in Sc. *c1513 DOUGLAS Æneis* xii. iv. 70 Bot gif so beis, Mars... The victory... grants ws. *c1609 SKENE Reg. Maj.* 79 Gif it beis within borgh. *c1641 Kirkcudbr. War-Comm. Min. Bk.* (1855) 62 Gif neid beis, to assist thame.

plural. be. Forms: 1-3 *beon*, 2-5 *ben*, 2- *be*. *c1175 Lamb. Hom.* 73 Þeh alle men beon of hore sunnen iclensced. *c1200 LAY.* 938 Þæt we beon iqumed. *c1240 Cursor M. (Trin.)* 14784 But of o þing in were be we. *c1264 LANGL. P. Pl. A. v.* 418 Tyl matynes and masse be do. *c1450 Merlin* x. 150 Loke now that ye be larger. *c1611 Bible 1 Sam.* xxiii. 21 Blessed be yee of the Lord. *c1632 SANDERSON 12 Serm.* 96 If we be of the Spirituality. *c1708 T. SHERIDAN Persius* (1739) Ded. 5 Although you be now removed to another Soil. *Mod.* If we be in time, we shall find him at home.

¶ For these the indicative forms have been occasionally substituted since the 15th c., and are now chiefly used after *if*, *though*, *unless*, etc.

c1283 CAXTON G. de la Tour B vij. Thus oughte every good woman... to do his commandment, is it right or wrong. *c1611 Bible 1 John* iv. 1 Try the spirits whether they are of God. *c1667 MARVELL Corr.* II. xxxvi. 81, I can not be wanted though I am missing. *Mod.* I never go unless I am specially invited. Tell me it they are in sight.

II. Inflexions of stem *wes-*; now replaced by *be*.

3. Present Imperative.

a. from *wes-*: + OE. *wes*, *pl. wesath*. *Obs.* [= OS. *wes*, *wesath*, OFris. *wese*, *wesath*, OHG. *wis*, *wesat*, *ON.* *ver*, *verid*.] Forms: *sing.* 1 *wes*, (*north. wassa*), 2 *wasse*, 3 *wes*. *pl.* 1 *wesath*, *wesath* (3e), (*north. wosass*), 2 *wesse* (3e). (After 1200 only in phrase *wes hail!* in Layamon. See *WASSAIL*.)

c1000 Andreas (Gr.) 540 Wes þu gebletsod! *c1000 Ags. Ps. cxiii.* 23 Wesað ge gebletsade. *c1000 Ags. Gosp. Luke* i. 28 Hal wes ðu! *c1160 Hatton G. ibid.* Hal wesse þu. — *Matt.* xxviii. 9 Hale wese ge [*Lindisf. Wosað*] 3e hal; *Rushw.* Beoþ hale). *c1200 LAY.* 14970 Lauerd king, wes hail! [*c1200 Louerd king, wassail*].

b. from *be*: *sing.* and *pl. be* (bē, bī). Forms: *sing.* 1-3 *bēo*, (2 *beo*, 3 *bo*, *bī*), 4- *be*, (6-7 *bee*). *pl.* 1-3 *bēoð*, *bēoð* (3e), 3-4 *būð*, 4-5 *beoþ*, *bēþ*, *beth* (e), *north.* 4-5 *bes*, *bey*s (occas. used as *sing.*), 6 *Sc. beis*. *Negative, dial. beant*, *baint*, *mod. Sc. binna*, *bynna*.

c1000 Satan 733 (Gr.) Lā! bēo nu on yfele. — *Andreas* 1611 (Gr.) Ne beoþ ge to forhte. *c1200 Trin. Coll. Hom.* 49 Buð admode also duue. *Ibid.* 256 I-hered iþeo þu swete þing. *c1200 LAY.* 1499 Hal beo þu Brutus! *Ibid.* 19173 Beoð stille! beoð stille! cnihtes inne halle. *c1230 Ancr. R.* 174 Ne beo 3e nout Semei, auh beoð Hester. *c1250 Owl & Night.* 262 Bo nu stille, and lat me speke. *c1300 Cursor M.* 10454 Be stille, or ga me heipen fra

streyned. *c. 1440 Morte Arth.* (Roxb.) 2 That aunte shall . . . by spoke of on euery syde. *1485 Malory Arthur* (1817) II. 378 Wete ye wel he wold ben here. *Mod.* He bids me be quiet.

c. Dative Infinitive: 1 to bëonne, 2 to bienne, to been, 3-4 to byenne, to buen, to bue, 3-5 to bene, 4-5 to ben, 4- to be.

c. 1000 Ags. Gosp. Luke II. 49 Me gebyrað to beonne [*Lindisf.* to wosanne] on þam ðingum ðe mines fæder synt. *c. 1175 Cott. Hom.* 203 To been moder of swich sune. *Ibid.* 233 [Hit] 4h to bienne. *1200 Solomon & Sat.* (1848) 270 Betere were to bue wis. *c. 1300 Harrow. Hell* 67 Forte buen oure fere. *1340 Aenb.* 169 Pet wes y-woned to byenne þe ealde manere at rome. *1398 Trevisa Barth. De P. R.* I. (1495) 6 He knoweth al thynges present and to be. *a. 1440 Sir Degrev.* 38a He prayd the portere for to bene his mesengere. *c. 1440 Love Bonavent. Mirr.* x. 25 (Gibbs MS.). What tyme þey knewen þe chylde sought to bene [*v. r.* ben] slayne. *1608 Shaks. Ham.* III. i. 55 To be, or not to be, that is the Question.

5. Present Participle.

a. from stem wes-: † OE. *wesende*. Obs. [= OS., OFris. *wesand*, OHG. *wesant*, ON. *wesandi*, from 12th c. *verandi*, Goth. *wesant*.]

a. 1000 Beowulf 750 Ic hine cõe cniht wesende.

b. from be: being (bi-ing). Forms: 1-4 bëonde, 4 beende, 4-7 north. beand; 4- being, 4 beoing, 4-6 beyng(e, 6 bying, 7 beinge, 8 beeing).

c. 1050 in Wulker Voc. 398 *Existentiis*, wesendum, be-ondum. *a. 1300 Cursor M.* (Gott.) 4080 His breder mast in wildrenes beand. *c. 1340 Ibid.* (Laud) 948 To Adam being in paradise. *c. 1340 Ibid.* (Trin.) 1512 In my blisse beonde. *138a Wyclif Rom. Prolog.* New causes beende, also questionnes to comen afir. *1475 Caxton Jason* 69 b. None of them beyng in the arke. *1535 COVERDALE 1 Kings* xvi. 4 Who so beyng of him dyeth in the felde. *c. 1538 STARKEY England* II. i. 159 Some Bying to lytly, some to grete. *1615 G. SANDYS Trav.* 115 The buildings now being, are meane and few. *Mod.* For the time being.

III. Parts from stem wes- only.

6. Past Indicative.

1 and 3 sing. was (wōz, wǣz, wəz, wos). [= Goth., OHG., OS., OFris. *was*, ON. *var*.] Forms: 1-3 wæs, 2-6 wæ, 3- was, (3 weos, 4 wæse, 4 wæse, wæse, wæse, wæts, 5 wys, 6 wæs). **Negative** 1 næs, 3 næs, nes, 3-5 nās, 5 nasse. Until 16th or 17th c. *was* rimed with *pass*, etc. In *was* 't' was it, has it still the s sound. (For *was* used in the plural, see below *were* ¶).

c. 950 Lindisf. Gosp. John I. i. In fruma uses uord. *c. 1000 Ags. G. Ibid.*, On frymde was word. *c. 1160 Hattun G. Ibid.*, On aginne ærest wæs word. *c. 1175 Lamb. Hom.* 17 He wes iboren of ure lēfð. *c. 1200 Trin. Coll. Hom.* 67 Al man-kin, þe was, and nu is. *1205 LAY. 2984* Þæt þæt wæs þe olde king. *Ibid.* 3466 And ich nas na wurdra, þenne ich nes weldinde. *a. 1300 Cursor M.* 1074 Wid þe cheke bon of an asse Men say þæt abel slain wæse. *Ibid.* 12695 Sco was wit barn. *c. 1340 Gau. & Gr. Knt.* i. Þe assant watz sēd at Troye. *c. 1400 Chron. Vilod.* 799 A lyttile child ybore þer wys. *c. 1400 Pallad. on Husb.* IV. 886 Gentiler in kynde never nasse. *1475 Caxton Jason* 6 Ther was grete nombre of speeres. *1611 Bible John* I. i. In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God.

¶ Dialectally *were*, *war* occur: hence the negative *warnt*, *wa'n't*, in 18th c. dramatists.

1535 Bury Wills (1850) 126 My rynge whych wher my wyfys. *1633 Brome North Lark* II. ii. He sed I were a deaft Lasse. *1775 Sheridan Rivals* I. ii. (1883) 85 It wa'n't fit for a Christian to read. *1837 Dickens Pickw.* xxxiv. Was one of those voices Pickwick's? Yes, it were, sir. *1865 - Mul. Fr.* xii. Warn't I troubled?

2 sing. wæst (wǣst, wəst), orig. *were*. [in Goth. *wast*, ON. *vast*, *vart*, OHG., OS. *wāri*, OFris. *wære*.] Forms: 1 wære, 2-6 were, (3 wore), 6-7 werst, wart, 6- wert, wast. *North.* 3- was. **Negative** 1-3 nære, nere. The modern analogical *wast* has displaced the etymological *were* (with grammatical ablaut) chiefly under the influence of Tindale and the Bible; the intermediate *wert* (Shakspeare's form) prevailed in literature during the 17th and 18th c., and has been used by many 19th century writers.

c. 1000 Ags. Gosp. John I. 48 Þa þu wære [*Ruskw.* were] under þam fīcēdowe. *c. 1300 Cursor M.* 684 Cherl, als thou er were. *a. 1300 Cursor M.* (Cott.) 6248 Ta þat wand þat þou was wont [*Trin. MS.* þou were] ber in þi hand. *138a Wyclif John* I. 48 Whanne thou were vndir the fyge tree. [*1534 TINDALE, and all subseq. versions*, When thou wast]. *a. 1530 Myrr. Our Ladye* 178 Thou O vyrgyn . . . that were souerayne delyte to god hymselfe . . . were ioye to angels. *1611 Shaks. Wint. T.* II. i. 174 Thou wer't borne a foole. *1617 Hieron Wks.* (1628) II. 122 Why did I forget that thou wart an Observer? *1657 HAKEWILL Apologie* (1630) 83 Thou, who werst a Christian before. *1738 GLOVER Leonidas* III. 560 Thou, who once wert Lacedæmon's chief. *1748 RICHARDSON Clarissa* (1811) II. 204 Wert thou bid to come up? *1800 Shelley To Skylark* I. i. Hail to thee, blithe spirit! Bird thou never wert. *1822 HAZLITT Table-t.* ser. II. iv. (1860) 91 Thou wert damned. *1875 BROWNING Aristoph. Acol.* 232 Thou wast less friendly far than thou didst seem.

plural. were (wē, wē, wai, wər). [= OFris. *wēran*, OS. *wārun*, OHG. *wārumes*, *wārun*, *wārun*, ON. *vōrum*, *vōrum*, *vōruð*, *vōru*, Goth. *wesum*, *wesup*, *wesun*.] Forms: 1 wērun, 1-2 wēron, 2 wāren, 2-5 weren, 3- were; (2 waren, 3-4 weore(n), 3-6 were, 4 warre, wair, quar, 4-6 werne, warn, wer, war, wher, whar,

5 werene, werun, 6 warren, werren.) Also 4- was. **Negative** 1-3 næron, neoren, nere.

(For *were* used in the sing. see above, *was* ¶). *c. 1000 Ags. Gosp.* John I. 24 Þa wāron of sundor-halgan. *1160 Hattun G. Ibid.*, Þa wāren. *c. 1175 Lamb. Hom.* 15 Þas lajen weren from Moyses. *c. 1200 Trin. Coll. Hom.* 31 Hie waren swiðe . . . oldredde. *Ibid.* 143 Seuen awerjede gastes ware on hire. *c. 1250 Gen. & Ex.* 2446 Swilc woren egipte lajes. *a. 1300 Cursor M.* (Gott.) 11490 Þar iesu and his moder warn [*v. r.* wern, werne]. *c. 1340 Ibid.* (Trin.) 388 Boþe were [*v. r.* war, ware, was] made sonne and mone. *c. 1386 CHAUCER Prolog.* 28 And wel we weren esed atte beste. *Ibid.* 41 And eek in what array that they were inne. *c. 1420 Love Bonavent. Mirr.* x. (Gibbs MS.) Þei þat weren so noble. *146a Paston Lett.* 453 II. 104 Your brother and Debenham were at words. *1557 BARCLAY (Paynell) Jugurth* 5 b. What tyme ye warre withouthe riches. *1611 Bible Num.* xiii. 33 Wee were in our owne sight as grasshoppers, and so we were in their sight.

¶ The plural had formerly also *was*; almost universally so in 16-18th c. with *you* when used as a singular. Still *dial.* in all persons.

c. 1340 Cursor M. (Trin.) 944 Into þe world þere þei made was. *c. 1430 Syr Gener.* 5674 Traitors was him euer loothe. *c. 1460 FORTESCUE Abs. & Lim. Mon.* 108 Whan thay came togeders, thay was . . . occuppyd with their own maters. *1588 Shaks. Tit. A.* IV. i. 38 There was more then one . . . I more there was. *1671 WILKINS in Grew Anat. Plants* Pref., You was very happy in the choice of this Subject. *1684 BUNYAN Pilg.* II. 76, I suppose you was in a dream. *1735 WALPOLE Corr.* (1820) I. 3 When you was at Eton. *1749 FIELDING Tom Jones* VI. v. What was you reading when I came in? *1811 MISS AUSTEN Sense & Sens.* (1870) II. i. 122, I felt sure that you was angry with me. *1837 DICKENS Pickw.* xxxiii. You was to come to him at six o'clock. *Mod. dial.* They was here.

7. Past Subjunctive.

1 and 3 sing. were (wē, wē, wai, wər). [= OFris. *wære*, ON. *wæri*, OS. and OHG. *wāri*, Goth. *i* *wesau*, 3 *wesi*.] Forms: 1-2 wære, 2- were, (2-3 weore, 3-4 wor(e, 4-5 ware, war, 6 weare.)

c. 1175 Lamb. Hom. 5 Er þis were. *a. 1250 Owl & Night.* 1312 3if ich were a bisimere. *a. 1300 Havelok* 1938 Me wore leuere I wore lame. *a. 1300 Cursor M.* 1599 Pou he war [*v. r.* were] wrath it was na wrang. *c. 1440 Love Bonavent. Mirr.* x. 25 (Gibbs MS.) As he were a pore man. *1486 Bk. St. Albans A* iiiij, As it were the mawe of a pegeon. *1529 MORE in Four C. Eng. Lett.* 12 What way were best to take. *1788 BURNS Oh, were I on Parnassus' Hill!* *185a MISS YONGE Camoes* I. vi. 42 By my faith it were treason. *1863 GEO. ELIOT Romola* x. If I were only a Theocritus. *Mod.* Would I were there!

2 sing. wert (wē, wai, wait), formerly *were*. [= OFris. *wære*, ON. *wæri*, OS. and OHG. *wāris*, Goth. *wesets*. The final -t in Eng., formerly -est, -st, is on the analogy of the indic.] Forms: 1-2 wære, 2-6 were; 6-7 werest, werat; 6- wert. *a. 1300 Harrow. Hell* 131 Were thou among men. *1535 COVERDALE 2 Esdras* v. 30 Though thou werest enemye. — *Ezek.* xxviii. 6 As though thou werst God. *1611 Bible Rev.* iii. 15, I would thou wert cold or hote [*Wyclif*, COVERD., CRANMER, *Rhem.* were, *Genev.* werest]. *a. 1796 BURNS Oh, wert thou in the cauld blast.*

plural. were (wē, wai, wait) with grammatical ablaut. [= OFris. *wære*, ON. *wærim*, -ið, -i, OS. *wārim*, OHG. *wārimis*, -st, -in, Goth. *wesuma*, -cip, -eina.] Forms: 1-2 wāren, 2-4 weren, (3 weoren, 3-4 woren, waren), 3- were, (3 weore, 4 wore, weore, 4-6 war(e, 6 were.)

1205 LAY. 50 Out of beowodeome, freo þat heo weoren [*1250 were*]. *a. 1300 Havelok* 2661 And fouthen so thei woren wode. *1460 Robt. Deyll* 10 Ye were better lette me a lone. *1571 LYNDESAI MS. Collect.*, Swowmand, lyk as thai war bot life. *1611 Bible John* xv. 19 If ye were of the world, the world would loue his owne [*So TINDALE, etc.*] *1766 FORDYCE Serm. Yng. Wom.* II. viii. 4 Were these extinguished, what were this world? *1868 BROWNING Ring & Bk.* II. 1153 Were they verily the lady's own . . . she must be the fondest of the frail.

¶ For the singular, the indicative form *was* was common in 17-18th c.; it was even used by the plural by writers who used *was* in the plural indicative. *1684 BUNYAN Pilg.* II. 77 As if one was awake. *1713 BEVERIDGE Private Th.* II. (1730) 46 Which certainly would be the greatest Absurdity. . . was not they God as well as He. *1760 STERNE Serm. Yorick* viii. (1773) 88 A man, of whom, was you to form a conjecture, etc. *1768 - Sent. Journ.* (1778) I. 85 Was I in a desert, I would find out, etc. *1787 G. WHITE Selborne* v. (1789) 11 The manor of Selborne, was it strictly looked after . . . would swarm with game.

IV. Parts from be only.

8. Past Participle: been (bīn, bin). Forms: *Southern* 1-2 zebéon, 2-3 ibeon, ibon, iben, ibi, 3-4 ibeo, beo, 3-5 ibe, ybe, 4 yben, by, 4-6 be. *Northern* 1-2 beon, 3-7 ben, 4 beyn, buen, 4-7 bene, 5-6 byn(ne, 6-8 bin, 7- beone, 5- been. Not known in OE., where no pa. pple. of any of these verbs (*am*, *was*, *be*) appears. The common literary form in 14-15th c. was *be*, before the general acceptance of the northern *ben*, *bene*. South-western dialects have still *a-be* = *ibe*. (In U. S. often pronounced *ben*.)

a. 1109 OE. Chron. (Laud MS.) an. 1096 He heafde zebéon on þes cynges swidome. *c. 1175 Lamb. Hom.* 159 Wel longe ich habbe child iben [*v. r.* iben, ibeo]. *c. 1175 Cott. Hom.* 239 Pus hit hað ibi and is. *c. 1200 ORMIN* 8399 Hafide he beon. *Ibid.* 2311 Hafde ben. *1205 LAY.* 8325 Þu hafust

ibéon [*1250 beon*] ouer-cumen. *c. 1230 Ancr. R.* 316 Ich habbe ibeon fol. *a. 1300 Cursor M.* (Cott.) 14638 War yemed haf I ben [*Gott.* bene]. *c. 1300 Beket* 133 Lute we habbeth to-gadere I-beo. *c. 1300 Harrow. Hell* 173 So longe we haveth buen herynne. *1375 BARBOUR Bruce* I. 527 Thai mycht nocht haif beyn tane. *c. 1375 Wyclif Serm.* xliiii. Sel. Wks. 1871 II. 346 Trespassours, þat wolden . . . have be ever wantoun. *1377 LANGL. P. Pl.* B. xiv. 95 As it neuere had ybe. *c. 1386 CHAUCER Prolog.* 60 At mortal batailles hadde he be [*v. r.* ben, been] fiftene. — *Merch. T.* 1157 A man that longe hath blynd ybe [*v. r.* ibe, blynde be]. *c. 1400 Distr. Troy* xii. 8913 Þat any dede has be don. *c. 1400 Sir Amadace* xxxix, A mon that hasse alle way bynne kynde. *c. 1450 Merlin* xv. 239 Where the battle had I-be. *1465 E. CLERE in Four C. Eng. Lett.* 5 Nor wist not where he had be, whils he had be seke til now. *1483 Act 1 Rich.* III. i. § 1 As . . . if this Act had not be made. *1526 TINDALE John* v. 5 Which had bene [*1528 Rhem.* been] diseased. — xiv. 9 Hane I bene [*1611 bin*] so long tyme with you? *1575 J. STILL Gamm. Gurtun* v. ii. Had my hens beestoune eche one. *1579 Lyle Euphues* (1636) E iii b. Had it not bin better for thee? *1580 JEWELL Serm. Matt.* ix. 37-8 As if they had byn a flock of sheepe. *c. 1645 HOWELL Lett.* (1726) 23 Having bin so rocked and shaken at Sea. *1864 TENNYSON En. Ard.* 40 You have been as God's good angel in our house.

B. Signification and uses.

[The primary sense appears to have been that of branch II below, 'to occupy a place' (i.e. *to sit, stand, lie, etc.*) in some specified place; thence the more abstract branch I was derived by abstracting the notion of particular place, so as to emphasize that of actual existence, 'to be somewhere, no matter where, to be in the universe, or realm of fact, to have a place among existing things, to exist.' Branch III was derived from II by weakening the idea of actual presence, into the merely intellectual conception of 'having a place' in a class of notions, or 'being identical with' another notion: 'centaurs are imaginary creatures' = 'centaurs have their place in the class of creatures of the imagination.' Branch IV is an obvious extension of III: cf. 'it was annoying to me,' with 'it was annoying me.']

I. absolutely: To have or take place in the world of fact, to exist, occur, happen.

1. To have place in the objective universe or realm of fact, to exist; also, to exist in life, to live. *c. 1000 ÆLFRIC Exod.* iii. 14 Ic eom se þe eom cwæp he . . . se ðe ys me sende to eow. *c. 1340 Cursor M.* (Fairf.) 9732 This world . . . hast þou made fadir þorogh me to bene. *1548 UDALL Erasim. Par. Matt.* xxii. 105 They beleue . . . nothing to be but that which they see. *1587 GOLDING De Mornay* iii. 26 All things that are, or euer were, or shall hereafter bee. *1611 Bible Gen.* v. 24 Enoch walked with God: and hee was not, for God tooke him. *1668 DRYDEN Æneid* II. 438 Troy is no more, and Ilium was a Town. *1732 Pope Ess. Man* I. 109 To Be, contents his natural desire. *1810 SCOTT Lady of L.* III. i. How are they blotted from the things that be. *1823 BYRON Juan* ix. xxiv, Tyrants and sycophants have been and are. *1827 CARLYLE Misc.* (1857) I. 61 God is, nay alone is. *1837 - Fr. Rev.* I. i. 6 So much that was not is beginning to be.

b. with there. [See THERE, for its use with verbs.] *a. 1300 Cursor M.* 10783 There bene reasons wretyn sere That god wold she spoused were. *c. 1386 CHAUCER Pers. T.* 21 Ther ben thre accouns of penitence. *1426 AUDELEY Poems* 16 Ther bene bot feu truly. *156a J. HEYWOOD Prov. & Epigr.* (1867) 86 Thers no redemption. *a. 1586 ANSW. Cartwright* 79 There were of the princes that tooke his parte. *1650 BAXTER Saints' R.* I. i. (1662) 3 There's few will deny, that God knows. *1711 POPE Rape Lock* 79 Some nymphs there are, too conscious of their face. *Mod.* There are photographs and photographs.

2. To come into existence, come about, happen, occur, take place, be acted or done.

(To become, come about, was the OE. and early ME. sense of *beon*, while still a distinct vb., before it became blended with *am*, *was*.)

c. 950 Lindisf. Gosp. Matt. xxiv. 3 Cwæt us, hœenne ðas biðon. *c. 975 Ruskw. G. Ibid.*, Sæge us hwænne þas beoþ. *c. 1175 Lamb. Hom.* 177 Hu scal þat bon? *c. 1350 Will. Palerne* 1930 Manly on þe morwe þat marriage schilð bene. *1530 FALSGR.* 421/1 Be as be may, *vaille que vaille.* *156a J. HEYWOOD Prov. & Epigr.* (1867) 43 Be as be maie is no bannying. *1775 SHERIDAN Rivals in Casquet. Lit.* (1877) IV. 37/2 Your husband that shall be. *a. 1804 NELSON in Nicolas Disp.* II. 457 Marry . . . speedily, or to be to Mrs. Berry will have very little of your company. *Mod.* When is the wedding to be? The flower-show was last week.

3. To be the case or the fact, esp. in the phrases *So be, Be it that* = if it be the case that, suppose that, and the arch. or dial. *Being, Being that* = it being the case that, seeing that, since. Hence the adverb HOWBEIT.

c. 1314 Guy Warr. 203 Bi so that he wille kisse me, Euer eft we schul frendes be. *c. 1400 MAUNDEV.* v. 40 Beso it be not agens his Lawe. *1547 BRENDE Lett.* in Tytler Hist. Scot. (1864) III. 380 If so be he will stand. *1549 LATIMER Serm. bef. Edu.* VI. vi. 178 Be it so, the Corinthians had no such contentions among them. *1611 Bible Job* xix. 4 And be it indeed that I have erred. *1851 J. HUME Repert.* iv. Poems 96 So-be the haunting sense of wrong . . . Were loosened from his breast.

1558 T. MORE Herseyes III. Wks. 214/2 Beyng though they wer but men. *1599 SHAKS. 2 Hen. IV.* II. i. 199 You loyter here too long, being you are to take Souldiers vp. *1641 Best Farm. Bks.* (1856) 120 They went all for halfe gages, beinge that they coulde not bee discerned. *1641 MILTON Ch. Discip.* II. Wks. (1851) 61 Being they are Church-men, we may rather suspect, etc. *1659 PEARSON Creed* To Rdr., Being the Creed comprehendeth the principles of our

1873 HUXLEY *Crit. & Addresses* 247 The corpuscles enter into the eggs while they are being formed.

16. With the dative infinitive, making a future of appointment or arrangement; hence of necessity, obligation, or duty; in which sense *have* is now commonly substituted.

† a. with infinitive active. *Obs.*

c. 1200 *Trin. Coll. Hom.* 3 Alle þo þe habben ben... and alle þo þe ben to cumen her after. 1388 WYCLIF *Gen.* xiii. 17, I am to [1388 Y schall] 3yue it to thee. 1388 — *Eccles.* ii. 18, I knowe not whether wis or fool he be to ben. 1628 MASSINGER *Virgin Mart.* iii. i, A King of Egypt, being to erect The image of Osiris. 1698 LOCKE *Educ.* § 167 If a Gentleman be to study any Language, it ought to be that of his own Country. 1703 ROWE *Fair Penit.* Ded., If this be not a receiv'd Maxim, yet I am sure I am to wish it were. 1725 DE FOE *Voy. round World* (1840) 22 Mighty uneasy... about their being to go back again. 1748 RICHARDSON *Pamela* III. 264, I am to thank you, my dear Miss, for your kind Letter. 1814 SCOTT *Wau.* I. v. 55 Had he been to chuse between any punishment... and the necessity.

† b. Hence, *To be to seek*: to have to seek, to be obliged to seek, to be in want or at a loss. *Obs.*

1601 HOLLAND *Pliny* I. 89 The complete measure of it... that such as are desirous of knowledge be not to seek in any one thing. 1605 BACON *Usury, Ess.* (Arb.) 544 The Merchant will be to seek for Money. 1653 HOLCROFT *Procopius* i. 4 Being to seek his food he would hunt for it. 1654 (12 Sept.) CROMWELL *Sp.* (Carl. 1871) IV. 52 We were exceedingly to seek how to settle things. 1674 CLARENDON *Hist. Reb.* I. v. (1702) 454 They were very much to seek, how the Case of Hull could concern Descents and Purchases. 1832 *Fair of May Fair* III. ii. 278 It was excusable that a man having passed so large a portion of those sixty years in a comforting house, could be somewhat to seek in the economy of his social system.

† c. with infinitive passive.

1581 FULKE in *Confer.* iii. (1584) O iiii b, He him selfe being to iudge all men, is to be iudged of no man. 1674 CLARENDON *Hist. Reb.* I. ii. 118 Being to be made Earl of Strafford. 1869 FREEMAN *Norm. Conq.* III. xii. 145 Normandy was to be invaded on each side.

17. The same construction is used in the sense of 'to be proper or fit (to)'. a. with infinitive active. *arch.* and now commonly expressed by b. c. 1175 *Lamb. Hom.* 133 Hit is to witene. c. 1340 *Cursor M.* (Fairf.) 12861 Wat is to do. 1340 *Aenb.* 5 þet is to zigge. c. 1388 in *Wyclif's Sel. Wks.* 1871 III. 468 Hit ys not to gifte dymes to a persoun. 1483 CAXTON *G. de la Tour* E. v. Suche... wyrmmen be to compare to the wyf of Lothe. 1508 PERKINS *Prof. Bk.* i. § 36 (1642) 16 Now it is to shew. 1634 MALORY *Arthur* (1816) II. 308 The four... is to understand the four evangelists. *Mod.* Is this house to let? They are not to compare with these.

b. with infinitive passive.

1503 R. BRUNNE *Handl. Synne* 1545 Pey þeþ to be blamede eft. 1588 J. UDALL *Demonstr. Discip.* (Arb.) 54 If the whole... be to be observed untill the ende. 1679 PENN *Addr. Prof.* ii. § 2 (1692) 76 Not a Good Samaritan being to be found. 1798 MALTHEUS *Popul.* (1817) II. 194 It must be to be depended upon.

18. The past subjunctive *were* with the infinitive makes an emphatically hypothetical condition: cf. the degrees of uncertainty in *If I went, if I should go, if I were to go*.

1596 RALEIGH in *Four C. Eng. Lett.* 37 If I weare... to advise my selfe. *Mod.* If I were to propose, would you accept? Were he to ask me, it would be different.

V. Phraseological combinations.

19. In *I were better* (*best, as good*), the nominative pronoun took cataphorically the place of an earlier dative (*me were better* = it were better to or for me): modern usage substitutes *had better*, after the analogy of *had liefer, rather*, etc. Cf. HAVE, LIEF, RATHER.

(See F. Hall, 'Had Rather' in *Amer. Jnl. Philol.* II, No. 7, 1881.)

c. 1300 *St. Marg.* 180 þe were betere habbe [= it were better for thee to have] bileued atom, þan icome me to fonde. c. 1430 *Syr Tryam.* 399 Sche wyste not wheder warde... Sche was best to goone. c. 1590 MARLOWE *Jew of M.* iv. iv. 1653, I. told him he were best to send it. 1597 LYLW *Wom. in Moone* iii. ii. 185 Sirra, provide the banquet, you are best. 1620 SHAKS. *Temp.* i. ii. 366 Be quicke thou'rt best. 1622 — *Cymb.* iii. ii. 79 Madam, you're best consider. 1628 CHAPMAN *Widdowes' T.* Plays 1873 III. 12 Y're best take you to your stand. 1647 WARD *Simp. Cobler* 57 They were... better speake plainer English. 1703 MOXON *Mech. Ex.* 278 You were best to mark the lower Clozier in each course.

20. In clauses measuring time: as 'he came here Monday was a week,' i.e. he came here on the Monday a week before Monday last: the phrase became a mere adjective clause, whence arose remarkable constructions, as 'on the evening of Saturday was sennight before the day fixed' = on the evening of the Saturday a week earlier than the Saturday before the day fixed. *Was* is now generally omitted: I was in London Monday (was) three weeks.

[1449 *Paston Lett.* 68 I. 85 And as God wuld, on Fryday last was, we had a gode wynd.] 1676 *Gunpowder-Treas.* 11 The Evening of the Saturday was Sennight before the appointed time. 1684 BAXTER *Twelve Argt.* Post. M, I have been at no Church since August was Twelvemonth. 1691 *Land. Gaz.* No. 2657/4 Edward Flower... went from his House about last Christmas was 4 years. 1785 *Ibid.* No. 6447/4 About two or three Days after Holy Rood Day last was Twelve Month. 1850 GEO. ELIOT *A. Bede* 343 Did there come no young woman here... Friday was a fortnight?

21. *To be about to*: see ABOUT A 11, 12.

22. *What one would be at*: what one aims at; what one means, wishes, or would have.

1705 VANBRUGH *Confeder.* i. i. (1759) II. 13 What wou'd he be at? At her—if she's at leisure. 1749 FIELDING *Tom Jones* (1836) I. i. xi. 51 We cannot always discover what the young lady would be at. 1766 GOLDSM. *Vic. W.* x. (1857) 58 That is very true but not what I would be at. 1848 *Blackw. Mag.* LXIV. 373 What would revolutionising Germany be at?

23. *To be for*: † a. to be ready, prepared, or a match for a person (*obs.*); b. to be bound for, to be making for a place; c. to be ready to act for, to be on the side of, or in favour of, to advocate; d. to be anxious for, to desire, to want (*dial.*).

a. 1628 MIDDLETON, etc. *Old Law* iii. ii, My young boys, I shall be for you. 1621 MASSINGER *Believe as you list* iii. iii, His angry forehead... No matter—I am for him.

b. 1650 WADSWORTH *Sp. Piler.* ii. 6, I was for St. Sebastian, accompanied with one Mr. Pickford. *Mod.* 'Where are you for to-day?'

c. 1636 HERALEY *Epictetus' Man.* 147 Like unto beasts, they are all for the belly. 1698 LOCKE *Toleration* ii. Wks. 1727 II. 289 You cannot be... for a free and impartial Examination. 1799 T. JEFFERSON *Writ.* (1859) IV. 268, I am for free commerce with all nations. 1855 MACAULAY *Hist. Eng.* IV. 511 He was for going straight into the harbour of Brest. 1878 BOSW. SMITH *Carthage* 219 Scipio... was for delay.

24. Many parts of the verb and its tenses are used substantively, adjectively, or adverbially.

a. 1679 T. GOODWIN *Wks.* (1864) VIII. 231 How slender these hopes... which these it may bes do afford. 1739 CHESTERF. *Lett.* i. xxxv. 115 May be they were drunk. 1808 G. COLMAN *Br. Grins. Reckoning with Time* iii, List then, old Is-Was-and-To-Be. 1819 BYRON *Venice* ii, The everlasting to be which hath been. 1837 CARLYLE *Fr. Rev.* II. iv. ii. 189 He goes, as Rabelais did when dying, to seek a great May-be. *Ibid.* III. i. iv. 36 There is a need-be for removing. 1848 CLOUGH *Boothie* iii. 159 He to the great might-have-been upsoaring... He to the merest it-was-restricting, diminishing. 1854 TUPPER *Prov. Philos.* 173 This would-be god Thinketh to make mind.

Be, variant of BEB sb.

Be, obs. and dial. form of BY prep.; see next.

Be- prefix:—OE. *be-*, weak or stressless form of the prep. and adv. *bi* (*big*), BY. The original Teut. form was, as in Gothic, *bi*, with short vowel, prob. cognate with second syllable of Gr. *ἀμφί*, L. *ambi*; in OHG. and early OE., when it had the stress, as a separate word, and in composition with a noun, it was lengthened to *bi* (*bi*, *bi*), while the stressless form, in composition with a vb. or indeclinable word, remained *bi-*; in later OE., as in MHG. and mod.G., the latter was obscured to *be-* (also occasional in OE. as an unaccented form of the preposition): cf. OE. *bi-geng* practice, *bi-gangan*, *be-gangan*, to practise. In early ME. the etymological *bi-*, *by-* regularly reappeared in comp. as the stressless form; but in later times *be-* was finally restored. (On the other hand, *be* was used by northern writers as the separate prep., as still in mod. Sc.) In modern use, the unaccented prefix is always *be-*; the accented form *by-* (sometimes spelt *bye-*) occurs in one or two words descended from OE., as *by-law*, *by-word* (OE. *bi-lage*, *bi-word*), and in modern formations on the adv., as *by-gone*, *by-name*, *by-play*, *by-road*, *by-stander*.

The original meaning was 'about.' In prepositions and adverbs this is weakened into a general expression of position at or near, as in *before* (at, near, or towards the front), *behind*, *below*, *beneath*, *benorth*, *besouth*, *between*, *beyond*. With verbs, various senses of 'about' are often distinctly retained, as in *be-bind*, *be-come* (= come about), *be-delve*, *be-gird*, *be-set*, *be-stir*. In such as *be-daub*, *be-spatter*, *be-stir*, *be-strew*, the notion of 'all about, all round, over,' or 'throughout,' naturally intensifies the sense of the verb; whence, *be-* comes to be more or less a simple intensive, as in *be-muddle*, *be-crowd*, *be-grudge*, *be-break*, or specializes or renders figurative, as in *be-fall* (to fall as an accident), *be-come*, *be-get*, *be-gin*, *be-have*, *be-hold*, *be-lieve*. In other words the force of *be-* passes over to an object, and renders an intransitive verb transitive, as in *be-speak* (speak about, for, or to), *be-flow* (flow about), *be-lie*, *be-moan*, *be-think*, *be-wail*. Hence it is used to form transitive vbs. on adjectives and substantives, as in *dim be-dim*, *fool be-fool*, *madam be-madam*; also others, in which the sb. stands in an instrumental or other oblique relation, as *be-night* 'to overtake with night,' *be-guile*, *be-witch*. Of these a special section consists of verbs having a privative force, as OE. *be-landian*, *be-lafjadian*, to deprive of one's land, one's head: cf. *be-reave*, and OE. *be-nim-an* to take away. Finally, *be-* is prefixed with a force combining some of the preceding, to ppl. adjs., as in *be-jewelled*, *be-daughtered*.

Be- being still in some of its senses (esp. 2, 6, 7 below) a living element, capable of being prefixed wherever the sense requires it, the derivatives

into which it enters are practically unlimited in number. The more important, including those that are in any way specialized, or that require separate explanation, are treated in their alphabetical places as Main Words. (In the case of ME. words in *bi-*, *by-*, all that survived long enough to have *Be-* appear under this spelling; a few that became obsolete at an early date are left under their only extant form in *Bi-*, *By-*.) Those of less importance, infrequent (often single) occurrence, and obvious composition, are arranged under the following groups (in which, however, the senses tend to overlap each other, so as to make the place of some of the words ambiguous):—

1. Forming derivative verbs, with sense of 'around': a. all round externally, on all sides, all over the surface, as in *BESER*, *BESMEAR*; b. from side to side (within a space), to and fro, in all directions, in all ways, in or through all its parts, thoroughly, as in *BESTIB*, *bejumble*. (Some of these formations appear only in the pa. pple.)

Bebang, to bang about; † *bebass*, to kiss all over, cover with kisses; *bebaste* (with a cudgel, or with gravity); † *bebat*, to becadged; *bebatte*, *be-bite*; *beblar*, to blar all over; *beblotch*, † *beboss*, *bebotch*, *bebrush*; † *becense*, to perfume with incense; *bechase*, to chase about; *becircle*; *beclart dial.*, to be dirty; *beclasp*; *becompass*, to compass about; *becramp*; † *becrampoun*, to set (a jewel); *becrimson*, *becrust*; † *becurry*, to curry one's hide, *belabour*; *becurse*, to cover with curses; *becut*, *bedamn*, *bedamp*, *bediaper*; † *bedowse*, to souse with water; *bedrape*, *bedrift*, *bedrive*, *be-embroider*, *befan*; *befinger*, to finger all over; *befleck*, to cover with flecks; *befrookle*, *befritz*; † *befrounce*, to frounce or toss about, *touzle*; † *begarnish*, *begash*, *begaud*, *begirdle*; † *behale*, to drag about; *behammer*, † *behem*; † *behorewe*, to befoul; *bejig*, to jig about; *bejumble*, † *beknit* (OE. *becnyttan*), *belave*, *beliak*, *bemingle*, *bemix*, *bepaste*; *be-paw*, to befoul as with paws; *bepen*, to pen in; *bepommel*; † *bepounce*, to stud; *beprank*, to prank out or over; *bepuddle* (e.g. a spring); *bepurple*; † *bequirtle*, to besprinkle; *berake*, to rake all over; † *beroll*, to roll over; † *beround*, *bescour*, *beseam*, *behackle*, † *besield*, *be-shroud*; † *bealab*, to beplaster; *bealash*, † *be-slur*; *bealurry*, to sully all over; *beasmother*, *beasmudge* († *beasmouche*); † *besow* (OE. *besdwān*), to sow about; † *besperple*, to bespatter; *bespin*, to spin round, so as to cover; *bespirt*; † *besquatter*, to bespatter with filth; *bestamp*, † *bestroke*, † *beswitch*, *betinge*, † *be-turn*, *beveil*, † *bewallow* (OE. *bevaltwian*), *bewash*, *bewater*, *bewhiten*, *bewreath*. Also *BEBAE*, *BEDELVE*, etc., q.v.

1599 PORTER *Angry Wom. Abingd.* (1841) 50 Sheele... 'be-bang him with drie bobs and scoffes. 1583 STANVHURST *Eneis* i. (Arb.) 40 Queene Dido shal smacklye 'bebasse thee. *Ibid.* iii. (Arb.) 79 With larding smearye 'bebasted. 1620 ROWLANDS *Nt. Raven* 29 Tom with his cudgel well 'bebasts his bones. 1565 CALFILL *Answ. Treat. Crosse* (1846) 133 To be all to 'bebatted and afterward to be be-headed. 1565 GOLDING *Ovid's Met.* v. (1593) 106 All 'be-batted was his head. 1880 WEBB tr. *Goethe's Faust* ii. v. 130 Each, from queen to waiting-maid, is Be-devilled and 'be-bit'. 1609 ARMIN *Ital. Taylor* (1880) 196 Eyes 'be-beard with blindness. 1807 SOUTHEY *Lett.* (1856) I. 412 Down comes a proof... 'beblotched and be-deviled. 1576 GASCOIGNE *Philomena* (Arb.) 90 A snaffle Bit or brake, 'Bebost with gold. 1603 DAVIES *Humours Wks.* (1876) 44 (D.) Petti-botching brokers all 'bebotch. 1587 TURBERV. *Trag. T.* (1837) 30 'Bebrusht with bryers her broosed body bled. 1591 G. FLETCHER *Russe Commw.* (1836) 113 Having sprinkled and 'besensed the good man and his wife. 1629 AINSWORTH *Annot. Song Sol.* iii. 6 'Becenssed with Myrrh. 1574 HELLOWES *Guevara's Ep.* (1577) 96 In this Courte, none runneth, but they go all 'bechased. 1648 EARL WESTMLD. *Olia Sacra* (1879) 128 A grove of Pine 'Becircled with Eglantine. 1607 TORSELL *Serpents* 743 He 'beclaspeth it with his tail, and giveth it fearful blows. c. 1290 *Wohunge in Cott. Hom.* 279 Pat spatel þat swn 'biclarted ti leor. 1864 ATKINSON *Whitby Gloss.*, 'Beclarted, splashed or bemired. 1280 CAXTON *Chron. Eng.* ii. (1550) 10 b/1 An Yle... called Albany... 'becompassed al with the see. 1634 MALORY *Arthur* (1816) II. 257 Him thought there came a man... all 'becompassed of stars. 1666 FULLER *Hist. Camb.* (1840) 107 Many whose hands are 'becramped with laziness. 1583 STANVHURST *Eneis* iv. (Arb.) 99 With... pure Gould neatly 'becrampoun. 1837 CARLYLE *Fr. Rev.* II. iii. vii. vi. 369 Why was the Earth... 'becrimsoned with dawn and twilight? 1883 *Century Mag.* XXVII. 47 The lofty hedge is 'becrimsoned with savage roses. a. 1834 LAMB tr. *Bourn's Ball. Singers* Wks. 633 Two Nymphs... in mud behind, before, From heel to middle leg 'becrusted o'er. 1598 R. BERNARD tr. *Terence's Andr.* i. ii. (1629) 16/1, I will all to 'becurry thee, or bewacke thy coate. 1553-87 FOXE *A. & M.* (1556) 247/1 The legat... all to 'becursed the earle of Tholouse, his cities and his people. 1860 READER *Cloister & H.* xlviii. (D.), I was never so 'becursed in all my days. 1630 J. TAYLOR (Water P.) *Trav. Twelve P. Wks.* i. 67/2 Me all in pieces they 'becut and quartir'd. 1863 KINGLAKE *Crimea* (1877) VI. vi. 278 This much 'be-damned 'Sixth of the Line. 1870

HAWTHORNE *Eng. Note-Bks.* (1879) II. 328 A mist... *bedamped me. 1648 HERRICK *Poems* App. (1869) 457 (D.) Fields *bediaperd with flowers, Presente their shappes. 1576 Gosson *Sper. Hum.* ii. A bruised barke with billowes all *bedowst. 1865 SWINBURNE *Dolores* 49 We shift and bedeck and *bedrape us. 1837 CARLYLE *Fr. Rev.* (1872) III. iii. 109 Poor Orleans... foolishly *bedrifted hither and thither. 1614 RICH *Honest. Age* (1844) 26 Some women goe... to the church... so be-laced and so *bee-imbrodered. 1674 N. FAIRFAX *Bulk & Selv.* Ep. Ded., *Befann'd from next Dogs-day scorplings. 1821 SOUTHEY *Lett.* (1856) III. 233 The dirty and *befingered leaves. 1567 TURBERV. *Ovid's Epist.* 135 b, Why blush you? and why with vermilion taint *Beflecke your cheekes? 1610 G. FLETCHER *Christ's Vict.* ii. vii, A grassie hillock... With woodie primroses *befreckell'd. 1773 *Songs Costume* (1849) 249 *Be-friz it, and paste it, and cut it, and curl it. 1821 STUDLEY *Seneca's Herc. Cletus* 214 b, All her hayre *befronced, rent and torne. 1647 R. STAPYLTON *Juvenal* 70 What sparagus *begarnishes the dish. 1555 *Faville Facions* II. ix. 106 [They] all to *begasshe his forehead and his nose. 1580 NORTH *Pintarch* (1676) 127 *Begawded with Chains of Gold and Jewells. 1843 CARLYLE *Past & Pres.* 75 Stately masonries... *begirdle it far and wide. 1574 HELLOWES *Guevara's Ep.* (1584) 310 Also *bee-haileth her by the lockes. 1639 AINSWORTH *Annot. Pentat.* 144 The Hebrew word signifieth stricken... *behammered. 1598 SYLVESTER *Job Triumph.* i. 688 (D.) Armies of pains... mee round *behem. 1340 *Ayenb.* 237 Pe hand bet is uoul and *behorewed. 1821 COMBE (Dr. Syntax) *Wife* v. (D.) When they *bejigg'd it 'neath the steeple. 1565 GOLDING *Ovid. Met.* iv. (R.) Her filthy arms *beknit with snakes about. 1598 SYLVESTER *Du Bartas* II. iii. (1641) 174/1 Me in Thy Blood *be-lave. *Ibid.* (1638) 1002 The happy plains great Phasis streams *belave. 1559 *Mirr. Mag.* 106 (T.) All his gore *bemingled with this glew. *Ibid.*, *Dr. Clarence* xliii, *Bemixt my sweete with bitterness to bad. 1565 GOLDING *Ovid's Met.* iv. (1593) 102 Waves of water... *Bemixed with the purple blood. 1684 OTWAY *Atheist Epil.*, While Rotten Eggs *bepaw the Scarlet Gown. c. 1320 *Ansr.* R. 94 Heo beo her so *bipenned. 1583 STANYHURST *Æneis* i. (Arb.) 32 The beams with brazed copper were costlye *bepounced. 1648 HERRICK *Hesper.* (1844) I. 159 A sheep-hook I will send *Beprank'd with ribands. 1643 JER. TAYLOR *Episc.* (1647) 98 While their tradition was cleare... and not so *bepudled... with the mixture of Hereticks. 1583 STANYHURST *Æneis* i. (Arb.) 37 His sight was youthlye *bepurpled. 1771 *Muse in Miniature* 115 Mossy banks and flower-bepurpled plains. 1600 *Songs Costume* (1849) 193 Whole quarts the chamber to *bequirtle. 1683 R. BURTON *Eng. Emp. Amer.* ii. 51 Their Guns, with which they so *beraked her from side to side. c. 1325 *E. E. Allit.* P. B. 959 Al *birolled wyth be rayn, rostted & brenned. 1643 BRIDGE *Serm. Norf. Volunteers* 9 Are we not *beounded with many enemies? 1837 CARLYLE *Fr. Rev.* II. iii. v. iv. 304 France too is *bescoured with a Devil's Pack. 1839 *Blackw. Mag.* XLV. 301 Blue tops... All *beseamed with snow-streaks hoar. 1599 NASH *Lent. Stuffe* 50 Who this king should bee, *beshackled theyr wits. 1848 H. MILLER *First Impressions of Eng.* xi. (1857) 172 Venerable dwellings, much *beshrouded in ivy and honeysuckle. 1481 CAXTON *Reynard* (1844) 138 They were *byslabbed and byclaggd to their eres to in her owen donge. 1581 T. NEWTON *Seneca's Thebais* 44 b, To die this death; or in one part to be *beslashed through. 1625 tr. *Camden's Hist. Elis.* iii. (1688) 291 To *beslurt their Writings with so impudent a Lie. c. 1614 DRAYTON *Crt. Fairy Wks.* (1748) 164 Al *beslurried, head and face, On runs he in this wild-goose chase. 1598 FLORIO, *Carbonare*, to besmeare as black as coles, to *besmother. 1600 HAKLUYT *Voy.* (1810) III. 508 Their faces... all *besmouchted with cole. c. 1375 *Lamb. Hom.* 107 Pa sunnan be deouel *bisawed on us. 1557 K. ARTHUR (W. Copland) vi. viii. The grounde... was all *besperpled wyth blode. 1865 CARLYLE *Fr. Rev.* V. xiii. ix. 92 Was a Nation ever so *bespun by gossamer? 1865 SINGLETON *Virgil* I. 171 And on the cattle to *bespirit his bane. 1611 COTGR., *Enfoirir*, to bespirit, *besquatter. 1654 URQUHART *Yewel Wks.* 184, 256 *Besquatter them on all sides. 1847 *Fraser's Mag.* LVI. 742 That letter much *bestamped, much stained with travel... is delivered to its owner at Lahore. 1548 HERRICK *Hesp. Wks.* I. 157 *Bestroaking fate the while. 1821 CLARE *Vill. Minstr.* I. 12 *Beting'd with glossy yellow. 1594 CAREW *Tasso* (1881) 110 To their aduises the dissaine-full hart, Of this audacious youth, *beturning plies. 1582 STANYHURST *Æneis* II. (Arb.) 55 With darcknesse mightie *beueyled. 1805 LAY. 2598 Al *biwaled [2590 biwaled] on axen. 1589 FLEMING *Virg. Georg.* iv. 69 She... all *bewasht the burning Vesta... with pure sweet wine. 1648 HERRICK *St. Disstaff's Day, Hesp.* (1859) 451 Let the maidens *bewash the men. 1593 BARNES *Parthen.* in Arb. *Garner* V. 363 Why were these cheekes with tears *bewatered? 1812 COMBE (Dr. Syntax) *Pictureque* xix. 71 The cot that's all *bewhiten'd o'er. 1598 GORG. *Gallery Invent.*, *Lower overeyd w. Life.* About mishap that hast thy selfe *bewrethed. c. 1850 BEDDOES *Song on Water* II, Heart high-beating, triumph... *bewreathed.

2. Forming intensive verbs, with sense of 'thoroughly (extension of 1), soundly, much, conspicuously, to excess, ridiculously.' (Some of these occur only in the past participle.) *Bebait, to bait or worry persistently; *bebothered; *bebreach, to breach soundly; *bebusied, *bebeck; *becheke, to choke, stifle; beclamour, becompliment, becoost, becovert, becrowd, becrush, becumber; *bedare, to defy; *bedrown; bedrowse, to make drowsy; bedrug, beduck; *beduncho, to strike against; *be-elbow, *befavour, beflou; *beflap, to clap; beflout, beflustered, befraught; begall, to gall, fret, or rub sore; *beglose, to deceive; *begrain, to dye in the grain, colour permanently; *begreet, begut, behallow, *behelp; *behusband, to economize to the full; bekioke, belade, *belash, belull; *bemar, to injure seriously; bemartyr, bemase, *bemeet, bemuzzle, bepaid, beparoch, beparody; *bebart, to divide, share; *beplece, to

piece up, patch up; *bepleroe; *beplele, to pile up; *bepill, to pillage completely; bepoetize; *beppress, to oppress; *bepride; bequoted, quoted to excess; *beragged, *berinse; be-sanotify, to besaint; besauce, besoent, besooroh; *besoorn, to cover with scorn; *besourge, besorape, beshake; beshiver, to shiver to atoms; beshod, *beshower, beshrivel, *besinge (OE. *besengan*); beslap, to slap soundly; besnowball; *besob, to soak; besoothe; *bespend, to spend, waste; *besplit, besqueeze, *bestab, bestay, besteer; bestock, to stock thoroughly; bestore; *bestrip, besult, besweeten; *betalk, *bethreaten, *betire; *betraze, to mark all over, to streak; *betwattle (dial.), to bewilder; bewasted, wasted away; bewearry, bewelooome, bewidow, bewomanize; *bewound, to wound seriously; *bewreak, to revenge.

1599 THYNNE *Animadv.* (1865) 61 This syllable [be] is sett before to make yt moore significant and of force; as... for 'dewed,' 'bedewed,' etc.

1589 *Almond for P.* 40 It was not for nothing... that he so *bebailed his betters. 1866 *Harvard Memor. Biogr.* I. 263 Seventy miles distant—a long way in this *bebothered state. 1617 COLLINS *Def. Ep.* Ely II. x. 504 As if his wits were *bebrecht. 1603 FLORIO *Montaigne* III. v. (1632) 490 They are not *bebusied about Rhetorike flowers. 1598 SYLVESTER *Du Bartas* II. ii. (1641) 114/1 British Cham... In scornful teares his Father thus *becheckt. c. 1375 *Cott. Hom.* 239 His richwite deme, be non ne maie *bechece, non beswice. 1832 WHATELY in *Life* (1866) I. 150 He whined and *beclamoured... but all to no purpose. 1832 tr. *Tour Germ. Prince* IV. v. 195 The chief magistrate... thought fit to *becomplement him by the mission of two of his colleagues. 1513 DOUGLAS *Æneis* x. viii. 135 Na lytill thyng... Hys hym *bycost the friendship of Ene. 1883 *Gd. Words* 448 The begrudged, *becoveted good of half a lifetime. 1860 TROLOPE *Pyramley* P. I. xiv. 281 Barsetshire... is a pleasant, green, tree-becrowded county. 1607 ROWLANDS *Fam. Hist.* 37 Eskeldart Guy's sword did so *becrush. 1863 G. KEARLEY *Links in Chain* iv. 74 Snails, much despised, bekicked, and *becrushed. 1550 COVERDALE *Spir. Perle* xxi. Wks. 1844 I. 151 Why should any man... *becumber himself about that thing? 1599 PEELE *David & Beths.* Wks. II. 74 The eagle... emboldened... to *bedare the sun. 1824 HUDSON *Judith* in *Sylvestre Du Bartas* (1608) 694 You Tyrant... Who hath *bedround the world with blood. 1877 J. HAWTHORNE *Garth* II. iv. xxxii. 31 Nor was it the lack of public recognition which had *bedrownded him. 1874 MOTLEY *Barnveld* II. xi. 19 England and France distracted and *bedrugged. 1596 SPENSER *F. Q.* II. vi. 42 To the flood he came... And deepe himselfe *beducked in the same. 1567 DRANT *Horace's Ars Poet.* B vj, Daunce and *beduchne the grounde with fote. 1602 WARNER *Alb. Eng.* x. liv. 444 Her owne *byeamed lot. 1848 H. MILLER *First Impr.* vii. (1857) 119 Sorely *be-elbowed and be-kneed. c. 1633 MUNDAY *Palm. of Eng.* ii. One of her *befavoured knights. 1566 STUDLEY *Seneca's Agamem.* (1581) 155 Hercules... left the groue *beflashed cleane. 1388 WYCLIF *Lament.* II. 15 Alle men passynge bi the weie *biflappeden with hondis on thee. 1574 HELLOWES *Guevara's Ep.* (1577) 232 You had escaped from thence wounded, abhorred, *beeflowed. 1864 *Morn. Star* 25 June 4 Some panting, blushing, *beeflustered honourable member. 1568 T. HOWELL *New Senn.* (1879) 144 For thou in Barke so well *befraught, hast all our ioyes away. c. 1666 BR. HALL *Defiance to Shoy* (R.) Pines. *begad alone With the deep furrowes of the thunder-stone. 1893 LANGL. *P. Pl.* C. xxi. 383 pou... *By-gloseded hem and (by-)glydested hem and my gardyn breke. 1855 SINGLETON *Virgil* I. 204 With full hue of glassy green *Begrained. 1513 DOUGLAS *Æneis* VI. vii. 63 With hartly luiſ *begrait hir thus in hy. 1648 HERRICK *Poems* App. (1869) 433 (D.) Whose head befringed with *behalloved tresses Seemes like Apollo's. 1481 CAXTON *Myrr.* III. xii. 160 A grete philosophe... whiche coude *byhelpe hym. 1640 A. HARNETT *God's Summ.* 388 Bee careful then to *Be-Husband every moment of thy time. 1862 J. BROWN in *Illustr. Melbourne Post* 26 July, Many generations of starved, bekicked, and downtrodden forefathers. 1850 BLACKIE *Æschylus* I. 197 Friendly men receive The curse—beladen wanderer. 1458 *Paston Lett.* 311 I. 422 *Belassch hym, tyl he wyll amend. 1621 BRATHWAIT *Whimies* 46 To dandle him in the lappe of securitie, and *bellull him in his sensuall lethargie. c. 1400 *Destr. Troy* xxvi. 10701 Paris... was pricket at his hert, To se his men so *be-mard, & murtherit. 1662 FULLER *Worthies* i. 2 He *bemartyrth such who as yet did survive. 1879 HOWELLS *L. Arostook* (1883) II. 174 Stanifrid stood *bemazed. 1656 S. H. GOLD. *Law* 61 But now the Laicks are a Lay people... till some Moses *be-meet with them. 1857 CARLYLE *Misc.* iv. 86 (D.) The young lion's whelp has to grow up all bestrapped, *bemuzzled. 1838 HAWTHORNE *Amer. Note Bks.* (1871) I. 147 A *bepaid clergyman. 1586 WEBBE *Eng. Poetrie* (1870) 77 Workmen... with boyling heate so *beparched. 1828 *Blackw. Mag.* XXIV. 591 It has been be-spoited, bequoted, and *bepardied. 1831 ELVOR *Gov.* (1850) 7 Hiero... counsaileth him to *beparte his importable labours. 1578 FLORIO *1st Frutes* 50 A language confused, *bepeessed with many tongues. 1839 J. DARLEY in *Beaum. & Fl. Wks.* (1839) I. Intro. 31 Unlike him [i.e. Caesar] *bepierced and becratched. c. 1796 VANBRUGH *Journ. Lond.* i. i. Bandboxes... were so *bepiled up. 1574 HELLOWES *Guevara's Ep.* (1577) 232 You had escaped from thence wounded, abhorred, and also *beepilled. 1865 *Morn. Star* 20 Nov., The most *bepoetised case of crim. con. on record. 1591 in FARR S. P. (1845) I. 141 To rescue me, *beprest I do thee pray. 1690 E. FOWLER *Serm. Bow-Ch.* 16 Apr. 16 They would... *bepride themselves the more in their own strength. 1828 *Blackw. Mag.* II. 64 Bethumbing and *bequoting their beauties. 1611 COTGR. s.v. *Chiphant*, He is all to *beragged and rent. 1598 SYLVESTER *Du Bartas* (1608) 1013 Princes Whose rage their realms with... blood *berinses. 1866 SCOTT *Woodst.* v, *Besanctified as you are. c. 1674 MILTON *Moravia Wks.* (1738) II. 147 Rare dishes... *besauc'd with Garlick and Onions. 1863 A. B. GROBART *Small Sins* 40 A... *be-

scented, be-ribboned... little fox! 1593 STANYHURST *Æneis* II. (Arb.) 52 Hector... thee Greekish nauye *beskorched. c. 1386 CHAUCER *Pers. T.* P. 204 Than was he *bescorned, that onoly schulde be honoured. c. 1300 *Cursus M.* 17771 Bath biscurget and bi-spit. 1865 *Athenum* No. 1951. 375/3 No *bescraped cathedrals. 1664 COTTON *Scarron.* 24 Have you not seen... A water-dog... Beshake his shaggy pantalons? 1556 ASP. PARKER *Psalter* xxxiv. 87 God hateth the proud and them *besenth. 1648 HERRICK *Noble Numb.* Wks. II. 203 That cloude... *Beshiver'd into seeds of raine. 1890 CLOUGH *Dipsychus* II. ii. 69 Hexameters... *Beshod with rhyme. c. 1400 *Pallad. on Husb.* vi. 12 And yf the rayne *beshoure. 1821 COMBE (Dr. Syntax) *Wife* III. (D.) That *beshrivelled face and mien. 1340 *Ayenb.* 230 Pe prive cat *bezengh ofte his scin. 1828 CARLYLE *Fr. Rev.* Gt. IV. x. I. 488 Philip's Father, son of the *Beslapped. 1611 CHAPMAN *May Day Plays* (1873) II. 360 'Twere a good deed, to... *besnowball him with rotten egges. 1609 HOLLAND *Amm. Marcell.* xxxv. viii. 259 The ground was *besobbed and drenched with the mid-Winter frosts that now thawed. 1614 SYLVESTER *Bethulia's Resc.* vi. 60 The trembling Lady... *besoothes him. 1567 MAPLET *Gr. Forest* ix. Wks. VIII. 445 Unless abundance of wit hath *besplitted his understanding. 1600 ROWLANDS *Let. Humours Blood* xxiii. 29 Drinkte with his dart hath all *bestabbed mee. c. 1320 *Sir Tristr.* I. Ixii, Tristrem... seyd... How stormes hem *bistayd. c. 1618 J. DAVIES *Sonn.* *Sir T. Erskin* (D.), How blest wert thou that didst thee so *besteeze. 1648 HERRICK *Poems* App. (1869) 439 (D.) Lett hym... Soe good a soile *bestocke and till. 1661 HICKERINGILL *Jamaica* 16 *Bestored with all sorts of fruit-bearing Trees. 1340 *Ayenb.* 123 Pe holy gost be pise zeue yeffes *bestrepp be zeue zennes uram be herte. 1648 HERRICK *Hesp.* I. 166 Dew... *besweetened in a... violet. 1612 DRAYTON *Poly-ob.* xxviii, The same... *betalk'd on long. 1635 QUARLES *Emb.* III. xi, My rock-bethreaten'd soul. 1594 CAREW *Tasso* (1881) 17 Like rest to gaine in like *betyred plight. c. 1460 *Towneleye Myst.* 288 A goost... lyke hym in blood betraded. 1686 GOAD *Celest.* *Bodys* III. iv. 507 They are *betwatted in their Understandings. 1844 S. NAVLER *Reynard* 29 Poor Bruin thus was sheer *betwattled. 1593 SHAKS. *Rich. II.* i. iii. 221 My... time-bewasted light Shall be extinct with age. 1636 HEALEY *Theophrast.* 55 Hec... is all to *bewearied. 1583 STANYHURST *Æneis* III. (Arb.) 81 King Helenus... vs... *bewelcomd. 1797 T. JEFFERSON *Writ.* (1859) II. 127, I shall now feel *bewidowed. 1633 HEMINGS *Fatal Contr.* O man *be-womaniz'd! 1422-61 *Songs & Carols* 15th C. (1856) 87 Many man... wyste hym wel *bewreke, The hadde wel levere myn had to breke hym.

3. Forming derivative verbs with privative meaning 'off, away, as in BEDEAL, BENIM, BEBEAVE. A very common use of *be-* in OE. and ME., prob. originating in words like BE-SHEAR, 'to cut all round,' whence 'to cut off or away'; but no longer in living use in forming new derivatives.

4. Making verbs transitive, by adding a prepositional relation: primarily 'about,' as in BE-SPEAK, speak about (or for, to), BE-MOAN, moan about (or over); which sense can usually be detected under the various *against, at, for, to, on, upon, over, by*, etc. required by modern idiom: *Bebark, to bark around or at; *becack, to deposit ordure on; bechatter, to environ with chattering, etc.; *bechirm, to chirm (as birds) around; *bechirp, to chirp about; beclang, belatter; *beclaw, to claw about; beclaw, to claw for; becrawl, to crawl all over; becroak, to croak round or at; *becry, to cry at, accuse; bedin, to fill with din or noise; bedribble, to dribble upon (e.g. as a dog); bedrivel; bedrizzle; *bedwell, to dwell in or around; *befleet, to flow round; *befret, to fret or gnaw away; befuddle, to make stupid with tipping; begaze, to gaze at; *beglide, to slip away from, escape; *beglitter, to irradiate; begroan, to groan at; *begruntle, to make uneasy; behoot, to hoot at; bejuggle, to get over by jugglery, to cheat; *belag, to make to lag; *beleap, to leap on, 'cover'; *bemew, *bemoult, to mew or moult upon; bemurmur, to murmur at or against; *bemute (of birds), to mute or drop dung on; bepare, to plague with parsing; bepiss, to piss on, wet with urine; bepreach, to preach at; bereason, to reason with, overcome by reasoning; *berime, to cry out upon; beride (OE. *beridan*), to ride beside, to override; *berow, to row round; *bescumber, to scumber on; beshine (OE. *besclian*), to shine on; beshit(e) (OE. *besclian*) = becaek (*Obs.* in polite use, but common in ME. and early mod.E. literature); beshout, to shout at, applaud; *beshriek, to shriek at; *besigh, to sigh for; *be-smell, to smell out; besmile, to smile on; *bespew, to spew on; bestare, to stare at, to make staring; bestraddle, to straddle across, bestride; bestream, to stream over; beswarm, to swarm over; *beswelter; beswim, to swim upon; beunder; *betipple, to muddle by tipping; betravel, to travel over, to overrun with travellers; bevomit, to vomit all over; bewhispor, to whisper to; bewhistle, to whistle round.

1340 *Ayenb.* 66 Pe felle dogge bet byt and *beberk alle jo bet he may. 1598 FLORIO, *Incarare*, to becacke. c. 1618 J. DAVIES *Paper's Compl.* Wks. (1876) 75 (D.), He all my

breast *becakes. 1875 B. TAYLOR *Faust* I. xxi. 191 If he can't every step *bechatter. a 1850 *Owl & Night*. 279 Hi me *be-chirmel (v. r. bichermel) and bigredeth. 1600 T. MORLEY in *Lyric P.* (Percy Soc.) 51 Every bird upon the bush *be-chirps it up so gay. 1875 A. SMITH *Burns' Wks.* (Globe) Intro. 13 A dingy churchyard hemmed by narrow streets—*be-clanged now by innumerable hammers. 1832-53 *Whistle-Binkie* (Sc. Songs) Ser. I. 77 Why see incessantly deave and *beclatter me. Teasing me mair than a body can bide? c 1250 *Gen. & Ex.* 1388 Dotte he, his maiden wile ic... *bi-crauen. 1879 BECKFORD *Italy*, etc. II. 19 An oozy beach... *becrawled with worms. 1861 TEMPLE & TREVOR *Tannhäuser* 52 Let... the hoarse chough *becroak the moon! c 1440 *Morte Arth.* (Roxb.) 89 Launcelot of treson he *be-cryed. 1880 SWINBURNE *Stud. Song* 192 The darkness by thunders *bedinned. 1600 Bp. HALL *Hom. Mar. Clergy* I. § 8 Wks. (1628) 747 This welthe of theirs commingit cineros, *bedribbles their ashes. 1653 A. WILSON *Jas. I.* Pref. 4 Why should we *bedribble with our Pens, the Dust that rests there? 1721 BAILEY, *Bedrabled*, bedrabled, bedrivedel: cf. BEDRAVEL. 1883 *Harper's Mag.* Jan. 167/1 The *bedrizzled windows of an express train. 1802 W. TAYLOR in *Robberds Mem.* I. 412 Gentry of narrow income used to *bedwell Montreuil. 1857—in *Month. Mag.* XLIII. 236 The marble caves ye now *bedwell. a 1300 *K. Horn* 1396 Strong castel he let sette, Mid see him *biffette. 1598 GREENE *Jas. IV* (1861) 207 A constant heart with burning flames *be-fret. 1802 W. TAYLOR in *Robberds Mem.* I. 411, I could only... *begaze the site of Lord Nelson's misemployment. c 1300 in *Wright Lyric P.* xxx. 87 That ded he shal *by-glyde. 1583 STANYHURST *Aeneis* I. (Arb.) 30 Shee turned with rose color heaunlye *beglittred. 1837 CARLYLE *Fr. Rev.* II. vi. iii. (D.), [He] shall find himself *begroaned by them. a 1670 HACKET *Abp. Williams* I. 131 (D.), The Spaniards were *begruntled with these scruples. 1838 EMERSON *Misc.* 118 It is travestied and depreciated... it is *behoated and behowled. 1680 HICKERINGILL *Meros* 12 To *bejuggle and beguile the silly Rabble. 1705—*Priest-cr.* II. Pref. Aijj, *Bejuggl'd Mob! you are the Tools, That Priests do work with called Fools. 1721 BAILEY, *Belagued, left behind. 1513 DOUGLAS *Aeneis* VII. iii. 207 Makand his stedis *beleip meris vnkaw. 1630 J. TAYLOR (Water P.) *Wks.* II. 448 So scurriely bescuriude and *bemewde. 1603 FLORIO *Montaigne* III. ix. (1632) 561 Some of Platoes Dialogues: *bemoluted with a fantastical variety. 1837 CARLYLE *Fr. Rev.* III. iii. iv. II. 231 Beshouted by the Galleries... *bemurmured by the Right-side. 1875 LOWELL *Poet. Wks.* (1879) 458 She loves yon pine *bemurmured ridge. 1634 A. WARWICK *Spere Min.* (1821) 110 The heron... *bemuting his enemies feathers to make her flagee-winged. 1880 GRANT *White Every-Day Eng.* 270 Grammar that has so weighed down our poor *beparsed English-speaking people. 1482 CAXTON *Reynard* (Arb.) 6 There he hath *be-pysed my children where as they laye. 1658 FORD *Witch of Edm.* IV. i. Ready to *bepiss themselves with laughing. 1764 T. BRYDGES *Hom. Travest.* (1797) II. 16 Ye all *bepiss'd yourselves for fear. 1809 W. IRVING *Knickerb.* II. viii. (1849) 130 Our worthy ancestors... never being *be-preached and be-lectured. 1880 *World* 13 Oct. 8 She is alternately *be-preached and bepraized by middle-aged spinsterhood. 1856 E. IRVING *Babylon* II. vi. 154 We are *bereasoned out of our faith by the intellectual apostasy of the time. c 1200 *Trin. Coll. Hom.* 29 Nu shalt [pu]... *biremen him mid euel wordes. 1690 D'URVEY *Collins's Walk* II. (D.), Those two that there *beride him. And with such graces grace beside him. 1848 in *Proc. Beru. Nat. Club* II. vi. 300 When an insect so *beridden is taken up, the mites disperse. 1205 LAV. 20128 He wolde... be Bristouwe abuten *birouwen [1200 birouwe]. 1599 MARSTON *Sca. Villanie* III. ix. (1764) 218 This... pedant Mortimers numbers with muck-pit Esculine filth *becumbers. 1645 B. JONSON *Staple News* v. ii. Did Block *becumber Statute's white suit? 1850 BLACKIE *Eckylus* I. Pref. 23 The large sweeping sun-*beshone tiers of an ancient theatre. a 1000 *Ag. Glas.* in *W. Wülker Voc.* 507 *Caccabatum*, *bescent. a 1300 *K. Alis.* 5485 *Bishiten and bydagged soule. a 1683 OLDHAM *Wks. & Rem.* 81 Flies which would the Deity *beshite. 1727 SWIFT *Acc. E. Carr* Wks. 1755 III. i. 158, I have been frighted, pumped, kicked... and *beshit. 1858 CARLYLE *Misc.* I. 156 Betrumped and *beshouted from end to end of the habitable globe. a 1250 *Owl & Night*. 67 Alle ho... the *bi-schricheth and bi-gredet. c 1200 *Trin. Coll. Hom.* 201 Pe sinfulle be his sinnes... sore *bisched. 1803 *Ladies' Diary* 26 Colonial settlements I made, And Spain *be-smelt the prize. 1867 CAYLEY in *Fort. Rev.* Nov. 590 The levels *besmile thee of ocean. c 1600 Stow in *Three 15th c. Chron.* (1880) 162 *house was marvelously... *by spewed. c 1200 *Leg. Kath.* 302 Pe Keiser *bistarede hire wið swide steape ehnen. 1700 BECKFORD *Italy*, etc. I. 224 That hobgoblin tapestry which used to *bestare the walls of our ancestors. 1807-8 W. IRVING *Salmag.* 12 (D.), The little gentleman who *bestraddles the world in the front of Hutchings' Almanack. 1860 PUSEY *Min. Propk.* 488 Shall My dwelling-place... be *bestreamed with rains. 1583 STANYHURST *Aeneis* I. (Arb.) 24 Troians with rough seas stormye *besweltred. 1804 W. TAYLOR in *Ann. Rev.* III. 59 Rivers which bridges have yoked, and navigation *beswims. 1581 J. BELL *Haddon's Answ. Osor.* A. iij b, This poisoned Doldreanche hath *betyppled the senses. 1837 CARLYLE *Fr. Rev.* III. iii. iv. II. 229 An explosive crater; vomiting fire, *bevomited with fire! 1674 N. FAIRFAX *Bulk & Selv.* To Rdr., Self *bewhispers us, that it stands us all in hand to be forgiven as well as to forgive. 1837 CARLYLE *Fr. Rev.* III. iii. vi. (D.), Dumouriez and his Staff... sprawl and plunge for life, *bewhistled with curses and lead.

5. Forming trans. verbs on adjectives and substantives, taken as complements of the predicate, meaning To make: as BEFOUL, to make foul, orig. to surround or affect with foulness; BEDIM, to make dim; BEFOOL, to make a fool of; BESOT, to turn into a sot. In modern use, nearly all tinged with ridicule or contempt; cf. to *be-knight* with to *knight*. a. Formed with adj.: +be-brave (1576), to make brave; bedirty, bedismal, bedumb; +befast (OE. *befestan*), to fasten; +begaudy, +begay, +beglad, begray, begreen, begrim; +begrimly, to begrime; Vol. I.

+beguilty; +bepale, bepretty, +bered; be-shag, to make shaggy; +beslow, to retard; be-smooth, +besour, bewhite. b. With sb.: be-baron, to make into a baron; bebishop, be-clown; +becollier, to make as black as a collier; becoward; +bedaw (a 1529), to make a 'daw' or fool of; bedeacon (1589), bedoctor, +bedolt (= besot), beduchess, beduncoe, befop, beking, beknight; belion, to make a (society) lion of; beminsterel; bewhig, to convert into a whig.

1842 MIALI in *Nonconf.* II. 33 Be-mitred and *be-baroned bishops. 1576 in *Collier's E. E. Pop. Lit.* xvi. 40 Dyvers... gladly would have mee, And being their wyfe would trimly *bebrave me. 1609 ROWLANDS *Crew Gossips* 24 O wretch, O Lob, who would be thus *beclovn'd? 1593 NASHE *Leit. Stufe* (1871) 60 Too foul-mouthed I am, to becollow, or *becollier him, with such chimney-sweeping attributes. 1831 HEIDIGER *Didon*, A lot of fellows so *becowarded by their stay on shore. a 1529 SKELTON *Agst. Garmesche* 182 Ye may well be *bedawyd. 1589 *Hay any Work* 74 The old porter of Paddington, whom John of London *bedeaconed and beminsterel. 1623 *Accident Blacke Friers* 12 [They] must run from the pure waters of Shiloe, to *bedirty themselves in the filthy puddles of mens traditions. 1803 BRISTED *Pedest. Tour* II. 535 It (a shirt) was... begrimed and *bedirtied. 1751 *Student* II. 259 Let us see your next number... *bedismalised with broad black lines. 1866 SOUTHEY *Let.* (1856) I. 364 Harry will be *bedoctor'd in July. 1856 VAUGHAN *Mystics* II. viii. v. 59 The *be-doctor'd wisecracks of all the universities of Europe. 1574 HELLOWES *Guearna's Ep.* (1577) 183 Young men without experience... *bedolted of the things of this world. 1804 WOLCOTT (P. Pindar) *Wks.* (1812) V. 180 She's begrac'd and *beduchess'd already. 1615 Bp. HALL *Contempl. N. T.* iv. ii. Every soul is more dealened and *bedumbed by increasing corruptions. 1611 COTGR., *Philogroboliz du cerueau*... astonished, *beduned, at his wits end. 1721 N. FAIRFAX *Bulk & Selv.* 43 Motion, which I think is altogether *befasted to Body. 1866 *Reader* 24 Feb. 201/1 The courier in his new Court suit *be-fopt. 1640 J. GOWER *Ovid's Fast.* 310 Her breasts with glittering gold *begaudy'd were. 1648 J. BEAUMONT *Psyche* iii. § 75 (R.), Beauteous things... *Begay the simple fields. a 1617 HIERON *Wks.* II. 199 To *beglad your hearts. a 1664 Bp. M. SMYTH *Serm.* (1632) 23 Age... *begrayeth our head. 1864 D. MITCHELL *Ser. Stories* 300 Hillside, *begreened by a thousand irrigating streamlets. 1870 H. MACMILLAN *Bible Teach.* xiii. 267 They... tarnish and *begrim the brightest colours. c 1483 *Diety Myst.* (1882) II. 105 Ye were so *be-grymlyd and yt had bene a sowe. 1607 Bp. SANDERSON *Serm.* I. 263 Dost... *beguilty thine own conscience with sordid bribery. 1832 GREVILLE *Mem.* (1875) II. xiv. 153 He would do anything to be *be-king'd. 1794 WOLCOTT (P. Pindar) *Celebration* Wks. III. 422 Behold once-Quaker Benjamin... *be-knighted. 1808 SCOTT in *Lockhart* (1839) I. 11 Many worshipful and *be-knighted names. 1837 *New Month. Mag.* L. 183 Be-scented and *be-lioned pettings! 1660 T. CAREW *Lady to Inconst. Serv.*, Those perjur'd lips of thine, *Bepal'd with blasting sighs. 1874 C. KING *Sierra Nev.* x. 210 What has he done but... belittle and *be-pretty this whole... country? 1604 ROWLANDS *Looke to it* 27 Your head *beshag'd with nittie lawsie lockes. 1668 HAWTHORNE *Amer. Note-bks.* (1879) IV. 201 All *beshagged with forest. 1645 QUARLES *Sol. Recant.* IV. 50 How art thou clogg'd with dull mortality, *beslow'd... In thine owne frailty! 1615 CHAPMAN *Odyss.* VIII. 495 The Graces... with immortal balm *be-smooth her skin. a 1660 HAMMOND *Serm.* xv. Wks. 1683 IV. 668 This old leaven that so *besoures all our actions. 1852 JAMES *Peguntillo* I. 154 Five-and-thirty years of peace have so betravell'd the world. 1832 SOUTHEY *Q. Rev.* XLVIII. 300 Lord Nugent is lamentably *bewhigged. 1678 RIPLEY *Reviv'd. Vision*, 12 The Concave of this secret place will be so *bewhitened with the fumes.

b. To call, to style, to dub with the title of, etc. Often with a depreciatory or contemptuous force: as be-blockhead, +be-blunderbus, be-brother, be-coward, +behypocrite, be-lady, be-ladyship, belout, be-madam, bemistress, bemonster, be-rascal, be-Roscius, besoundrel, bevillain.

1765 TUCKER *Li. Nat.* I. 476 He so *be-blockheaded and *be-blunderbus me about as was enough to hurry anybody, and throw them off their guard. 1881 PHILLIPS-WOLLEY *Sport in Crimea* 80 The old gentleman was... much given to kissing and *be-brothering his friends. 1752 FIELDING *Covent Gard. Jm.* Wks. (1840) 712 If another hath kicked you, be sure to *becoward him well. 1612 J. DAVIES *Muse's Sacr.* 75 How would'st Thou now *behypocrit man's hart. 1812 E. NARES *Thinks I to Myself* ii. (1816) 38 (D.), How Mrs. Twist did *be-ladyship my poor mother. 1614 B. JONSON *Barth. Fair* v. iii. (D.), They do so all to *be-madam me, I think they think me a very great lady. 1605 CAMDEN *Rem.* 157 He rated and *below'd his Cooke. 1630 J. TAYLOR (Water P.) *Wks.* II. 239/1 Were so *be-madam'd, *bemistris and Ladified by the beggers. 1692 *Christ Exalted* cxxxix. 105 Not be-herticking, not *be-monst'ring Dr. Crisp. 1743 FIELDING *Jon. Wild* II. iii. She beknaved, *be-rascal'd, berogued the unhappy hero. 1595 NASHE *Saffron Walden* V ij, M. Lilly and me, by name he be-ruffianiz'd and *be-rascal'd. 1774 GOLDSM. *Retal.* 117 While he was *be-Roscius'd and you were be-prais'd! 1885 *Blackw. Mag.* Apr. 543/2 Garrick's generation *be-Roscius'd him. 1766 WOLCOTT *To Boswell* Wks. 1794 I. 313 Where surly Sam... Nassau *besoundrel. a 1734 NORTH *Exam.* (1740) 247 (D.), After Mr. S. Atkins had *bevillain'd the Captain sufficiently.

6. Forming trans. verbs on substantives used in an instrumental relation; the primary idea being: a. To surround, cover, or bedaub with, as in BECLOUD, to put clouds about, cover with clouds, BEDEW. Thence, by extension, b. To affect with in any way, as in BENIGHT, BEGUILÉ, BEFRIEND. In both sets there is often an accompanying notion

of 'thoroughly, excessively,' as in 2. c. An ancient application, no longer in living use, was to express the sense of 'bereave of,' as in BEHEAD, BELIMB, etc., q.v. Cf. 3. above.

a. +Be-ash, to cover or soil with ashes; +be-blain, +bebloom, beboulder, bebutter, becap, becarpet, bechalk, becloak, becobweb, be-colour; becoom, +becolme, to smear with coom; becrime, becertain, +bedot; +bedowle, to cover with dowle or soft hair; bedust, befetter, befilth, befannel, befounee, befouur, be-flower, befoam, befringe, befume, +beglare, begloom, +begum, behorn, behorror, belard, +beleaf, +beloam; +bemail to cover with mail; bemantle, bemat, bemeal, bemuck, be-picture, bepimple, beplague, bepowder, be-rust, bescab, bescarf, bescurf, bescurvy, beslime, besugar, betallow, bethorn, betowel, beulcer, bevenom, bewig, +bewimple.

b. +Beback, to furnish (a book) with a back; +bebed, to furnish with a bed; bebog, to entangle in a bog, embog; +bebrine, to wet with brine; bebutterfly, to engross with butterflies; be-civet, to perfume with civet; becomma, to sprinkle with commas; bedawn, beday, to overtake with dawn or daylight; +bedebt, to indebt; bedinner, to treat with a dinner, give a dinner to; +bedown, to fill with down; +befame, to make famous; +befanoy, to fill with fancies; be-fiddle, to engross with a fiddle; befire, +befist, to belabour with the fists; beflae, to infest (as) with fleas; +beffum (*dial.*), to deceive; +be-frumple, to crease into frumples or clumsy folds; befume, to affect with fumes; +begall, to fill with gall, embitter; +beginger, to spice with ginger; +beglew, -glue, to make game of, befool; begulf, to engulf; +behearse, to place in a hearse; be-hymn, beice, bekerchief; beladle, to ladle up; belecture, to ply with lectures; beliquor, to soak with liquor, to alcoholize; +beman, to fill with men, to man; bemissionary, to pester with missionaries; bemole, to mark with moles or dirty spots; be-moon, to moon-strike; bemusk, to perfume with musk; +benettle, benightmare, be-ode; bepapar, to cover or pester with papers; bephilter, to treat with a philter; bephrase; +bepistle, to inflict epistles on; bequalm, to affect with qualms; +berampier, to surround with a rampart; berebus, to inscribe with a rebus; berubrio, to mark with a rubric or red letter; besaffron, to stain or mingle with saffron; beschoolmaster, to furnish with schoolmasters; beschoolcheon, to furnish with an escutcheon; besentinel, to surround or guard with sentinels; +besin, to stamp with sin, to stigmatize as sinful; besiren, to charm with a siren; be-slipper, to present with slippers; besnivel, besnuff, besonnet, to address or celebrate in sonnets; bespeech; bespy, to dog with spies; besquib; bestench, be-stink, to afflict with stench; bestraw, to furnish or fill with straw; betag, to furnish with a tag; betask, to charge with a task; betocain, be-trumpet; betutor, to furnish with tutors; be-urine; be-verse, to celebrate in verse; beveto, to put a veto on; bewall, bewelcome; bewhisker, to adorn with whiskers; bewinter, to overtake or affect with winter; bewizard, to influence by a wizard (cf. bewitch); beworm, to infest with worms; pass, to breed worms; beworship, to honour with worship.

(Some of these are used only in the passive voice.)

1530 PALSGR. 444/2 You have *beasshed your gloves. 1599 H. BUTTES in *Jas. I Counterbl.* (Arb.) App. 93 The leaves *be-ashed or warmed in imbers and ashes. 1858 REEVES & TURNER'S *Bk. Catal.* Dec. (No. 278) Folio, newly *be-backed. a 1300 *Havelok* 420 He hem ne dede richelike *bebedde. 1605 J. DAVIES *Humours* Wks. (1876) 43 (D.), *Beblaine the bosome of each mistress. 1585 HUNNIS *Handf. Honsuck.* Gen. xl. 8 In the Yyne were Braunches three That al *bebloomed were. 1662 FULLER *Worthies* (1840) I. 458 His feet were fixed in Ireland, where he was not *be-bogg'd. 1862 H. MARRYAT *Sweden* II. 341 The country, though greatly *be-bouldered, is wild like fertile Skane. 1652 BENLOWES *Theoph.* xi. lxviii. 202 Thou peul'st, not to repent, but to *bebrine thy woes. 1611 COTGR., *Embeurrer*, to butter or *bebutter. 1759 STERNE *Tr. Shandy* II. iii, The souls of connoisseurs... have the happiness... to get all be-virtued... *be-butterfied, and be-fiddled. 1821 COMBE (Dr. Syntax) *Wife* v. (D.), He thus appear'd... *Becapp'd in due conformity. a 1200 CUMBERLAND *Mem.* II. 364 (L.), A floor... splendidly *bechalked by a capital de-seyner. 1805 W. TAYLOR in *Ann. Rev.* III. 46 The distilled perfume of the bookmaker's style, which bemucks and *be-civets every London composition. 1598 SYLVESTER *Batt. Jory* in *Du Bartas* (1608) 1096 Fire and Smoak As with thick clouds, both Armies round *be-cloak. 1611 COTGR., *Emmantell.*, *be-cloak'd... wrapped as in a cloke. 1788 BURNS *Let.* 9 Sept., Throw my horny fist across my *becowbedbed lyre. 1851 CARLYLE *Sterling* II. iv, Anywhere else in this

much *becobwebbed world. 1867 MAPLET *Cr. Forest* 57 b. To make black and *becolour the Caruclis as it were most brown. 1881 *Academy* 14 May 355 The senseless 'becomming' of many Shakespeare texts. 1890 *K. Horn* 1064 He made him a ful chere, And al *bicolmede his swere. 1884 *Pall Mall G.* 18 Apr. 2 A ship's fireman all *becoomed and besmoked. 1844 E. WARBURTON *Cress.* & *Cross* xiv. (1859) 144 Every man of any nation, who has so *becrimed himself as to have no country of his own. 1876 H. PHILLIPS *Poems* 71 The heaven with clouds *becurtained. 1867 *Blackw. Mag.* XXI. 783 (He) exclaimed, with visible apprehension of being *bedawned, 'Methinks I smell the morning air.' 1880 G. MACDONALD *Cast. Warl.* III. xxvii. 374 My spirit is the shadow of thy word, Thy candle sun *bedayed 1. 1853 DOUGLAS *Æneis* viii. vii. 20 Albeit that to the childing of Priame King I was *bedettit. 1837 CARLYLE *Fr. Rev.* II. v. II. 81 They are harangued, *bedinnered, begifted. 1843 CARLYLE *Past & Pr.* 385 Can he do nothing for his Burns but... lionise him, *bedinner him? 1880 SIR J. DAVIES *Past. W. Brown* What though time yet have not *bedowd thy chin. 1811 COTGR., *Enduvelter*, to *bedowne; to fill... with downe. 1874 HELLOWES *Guevara's Ep.* (1884) 280 Aristarot. most *befamed the art of phisick. 1867 TURBERV. *Ovid's Ep.* 110 b, For everie point I was *befancide well. 1860 G. FLETCHER *Christ's Vict.* in Farr's *S. P.* (1847) 64 How thou *befanciest the men most wise. 1837 CARLYLE *Fr. Rev.* II. i. x. 1268 The mute representatives of... *befettered, heavy-laden Nations. 1759 STERNE *Tr. Shandy* II. iii. Be-pictured, be-butterflied, and *befiddled. 1893 NASHE *Christ's T.* (1613) 115 The Buck, hauing *befilth himself with the female. 1613 F. ROBERTS *Revenue Gosp.* (title-p.), A sparke vnseen... *befird her neast, and burnt vp all her wealth. 1718 MOTTEUX *Quix.* (1733) I. 284 Sancho... rent his Beard... *befisted his own forgetful Skull. 1859 M. SCOTT *Tom Cringle's Log* xi. 228 Men who... whenever a common cold overtook them... caudled and *beflannelled themselves. 1870 LOWELL *Among my Bks.* (1873) 283 The savages by whom the continent was *befamed rather than inhabited. 1844 MISS MITFORD *Village Ser.* I. (1863) 202 Miss Phoebe... is said to have becured and *befouced herself at least two tiers higher on... holidays. 1898 FLORIO, *Farinara*, to *beflowe or *becmeale. 1814 SCOTT *Wav. lxxi*, Then... I *beflumm'd them wi' Colonel Talbot. 1700 DRYDEN *Fables* 106 Froth... *befoams the Ground. 1611 COTGR. s.v. *Floquer*, To hang forth loose, to sit bagging, flagging, or *befrumpled, as an over-wide garment. 1898 SYLVESTER *Du Bartas* (1608) 809 If such a folly have *befumed your Brain. 1898 GILPIN *Skial.* i, Play the scold... *begall thy spirit. 1811 COTGR., *Gingembre*, *begingered; seasoned... with Ginger. 1865 DICKENS *Mul. Fr.* III. xvi. The countenance of the *beglared one. 1835 BURCKFORD *Recoll.* 46 A square... *begloomed by dark-coloured painted windows. 1830 LYDG. *Minor P.* 115 They went from the game beglyld and *beglued. 1813 A. WILSON *Forresters Wks.* 246 *Begluf in mire we laboured on. 1730 SWIFT *Lady's Dress-room*, *Beggum'd, bematter'd, and beslim'd. 1611 COTGR., *Encrasser*, to *begryme... be-dawbe with slouenlie filth. 1894 PEELE *Batt. Alcasar* 88 In fatal bed *behearts. 1877 HELLOWES *Guevara's Ep.* 314 An Ox... *behorned. 1830 J. TAYLOR (Water P.) *Wks.* II. 109 She... did *behorne his head. 1857 THACKERAY *White Squall* (D.), The Turkish women... Were frightened and *behorror'd. 1863 *N. Brit. Daily Mail* 13 Oct., *Be-iced in Melville Bay, and presumed to be lost. 1860 SHELTON *Quix.* III. xiii. I. 247 The Curate would not permit 'em to veil and *bekerchief him. 1885 *Spectator* 8 Aug. 1043/1 They were... rather unpleasantly *belarded. 1864 THACKERAY *Four Georges* i. 37 The honest masters of the roast *beladling the dripping. 1631 BRATHWAIT *Whimsies*, *Ruffian* 83 So *beliquored and belarded, as they have oyle enough to frie themselves. 1611 COTGR., *Enfueiller*, to *beleafe; to stick or set... with leaues. 1898 FLORIO *Smallare*, To *belome... to ouercast with mortar or loame. 1894 NASHE *Terrors of Nt. Gij* b, Their armes as it were *bemayed with rich chaynes and bracelets. 1875 Lamb. *Hom.* 23 Pah an castel beo wel *bemomed mid monne. 1860 SHELTON *Quix.* IV. vii. 47 A white long gather'd Stole, so long that it did... *bemantle her from Head to Foot. 1880 COMBE (Dr. Syntax) *Consol.* II. (D.), The straw-roof'd cot... With spreading vine *bemantled o'er. 1868 *Morn. Star* 3 Feb., The chaste hall so scrupulously hearthstoned and *bematted. 1633 FAVINE *Theat. Hon.* II. xiii. 208 The idolatry of the Syrians... was planted among the Egyptians, who *be-mealed the Greeks therewith. 1896 EARL MONM. *Advt. fr. Parnass.* 118 As much *bemealed as those millers who keep there day and night. 1884 in *Pall Mall G.* 31 May 2 Till the end of his days he is *bemissionaried by the society which has made him what he is. 1864 LANGL. *P. Pl.* B. xiv. 4 Children Pat wolen *bemyolen it many tyme maugre my chekes 1. 1866 *Lond. Rev.* 23 June 697/b If you get *be-mooned on a shoemaker's holiday, you had best return home at once. 1830 PALSGR. 306/1 *Bemooked, *breneux*. 1611 COTGR., *Emmusquer*, to *bemuske, or perfume with muske. 1611 COTGR., *Enortier*, To *benettle; to sting... rub over, with nettles. 1880 KEATS *St. Agnes* xlii, All his warrior-guests... Were long *benightmared. 1814 SOUTHEY *Life & Corr.* (1850) IV. 78 Present copies to the persons *be-oded. 1837 WHITTLOCK *Bk. Trades* (1842) 356 His well *be-papered chimney. 1861 M. ARNOLD *Pop. Educ. France* 93 French administration is *bepapered to death. 1890 *Secr. Hist. Chas. II & Jas. II.* 36 The King... had so *bepilhtered them with his potions of Atrum potable, that they passed another act to his heart's desire. 1853 F. HALL *Ledlie's Miscell.* II. 171 Englishmen... are not easily bephrased to death. 1818 MACNEILL *Poems* (1844) 122 The shelving palm-girt beach... *Bepictured o'er. 1868 HERRICK *Hesp.* I. 52 His cheeks *be-pimpled, red and blue. 1866 *Ally. Round* No. 49. 545 Have taken to drinking, and have got blotchy and *bepimpled in consequence. 1859 *Hay any Work* 36 He *bepistle you D. Prime, when I am at more leisure. 1870 *Pall Mall G.* 23 Aug. 3 To furnish a concrete and basis for our *bepilgued civilization. 1846 G. DANIEL *Poems* Wks. 1878 I. 52 When we are *be-qualm'd, that long embraces has Made dull Desire. 1898 STANHYURST *Æneis* II. (Arb.) 51 O Troy walls stronglie *berampyrd. 1865 FULLER *Hist. Camb.* (1840) 140 Sir Hugh Ashton... in a tomb... *be-rebussed, according to the ingenuity of that age, with an ash growing out of a *tun*. — *Ch. Hist.* xi. vii. § 43 VI. 103 We have *be-rubrick'd each day... with English blood. 1631 BRATHWAIT *Whimsies* 129

His conscience is a Delphian sword... yet annoint him and you *berust him. 1611 COTGR., *Ensafrant*, *besaffroned... seasoned, stained, or coloured with Saffron.—*Cronstene*, crustie, *bescabbed. 1631 W. SALTONSTALL *Pict. Log.* (1635) F viij. She is so *bescard'd that the wind must not breath on her face. 1866 MISS MITFORD *Village Ser.* II. (1863) 327 Miss Reid... *be-scarfed and be-veiled... and all in a flutter of bridal finery. 1810 COLERIDGE *Friend* (1818) III. 224 Young men... expensively *be-schoolmastered, be-tutored, be-learned, anything but educated. 1633 UNQUHART *Rab-lair* v. v, They are thus bescab'd... with Carbuncles, Pashes, and Pockroyals. 1830 J. TAYLOR (Water P.) *Nat. Eng. Poetry* Wks. II. 248/2 So scuriously *bescuriude and bewew'd? 1760 CHURCHILL *Ghost* III. 640 A... hearse, *Besutecheon'd. 1864 H. SYDENHAM *Serm. Sol. Occ.* (1837) 62 Our Apostle *be-sinnes it over and over. 1861 TROLLOPE *Barchester T.* 346 Thus... *be-sinred, Mr. Arabin behaved himself very differently from Mr. Slope. 1860 B. JONSON *Postast.* Frol. (R.), Our fry of writers may *beslime his fame. 1868 HALPS *Realism* xv. (1876) 416 *Beslimed with disagreeable and injurious talk. 1866 *Reader* 24 Mar. 299 Poor men... to be be-teapotted and *be-slippered. 1611 COTGR., *Enropit*, *besniueled, dropping at the nose. 1788 YOUNG *Love Fame* VI. (1757) 147 Unwash'd her hands, and much *besnuff'd her face. 1860 J. KENNEDY *Swallow B.* v. 60 Belles, who had been *be-sinnetted... for ten years before. 1845 CARLYLE *Cromwell's Lett. & Sp.* (1871) II. 126 Solemnly welcomed, bedinnered, *bespeched. 1837 — *Fr. Rev.* III. viii. 132 Getting them *bespid. 1813 Q. REV. IX. 107 She was *besquibbed and pasquinated. 1868 *Like to Like* in Hazl. *Dods.* III. 317 To *bestench the place! 1611 COTGR., *Empuantir*, to *bestinke; to fill with stinke. — *Empaillie*, *bestrawed, filled... furnished with straw. 1611 COTGR., *Ensucrer*, to *besugar; to sweeten... with sugar. 1818 SYLVESTER *Colonies* 356 (D.), Thrace subtle Greece *beswarms. 1760 CHURCHILL *Ghost* III. 640 Besutecheon'd and *betagg'd with verse. 1868 FORD *Fancies* I. 2 I will *betallow thy tweeze. 1857 HEAVYSEGE *Saul* (1869) 268 The nymph... would have *betasked me like a very slave. 1884 G. HAWLEY *Wit, Wind, etc.* *Richter* 66 The whole... lay prickly and *bethorned before him. 1857 CARLYLE *Fr. Rev.* II. vii. v. 263 It has been *betocined, bestormed. 1846 H. MILLER *Rambles Gool.* (1858) 399 The *betowelled monkey. 1860 FULLER *Worthies* II. 520 (D.), Satan... having Job in his power... only *be-ulcered him on his skin. 1865 GOLDING *Ovid's Met.* II. (1893) 51 All *bevenim'd was his toong. 1876 CHURCHILL *P. Profess.*, When their Ancestors *beversed that glorious Stuart James the first. 1837 CARLYLE *Fr. Rev.* II. xii. II. 85 The Priest-Decree, *beveted by Majesty. 1850 LAY. 1863 He hadde pare twice castles *biwalled swide faste. 1833 STANHYURST *Æneis* III. (Arb.) 81 King Helenus... vsas his freends freendly *bewelcom. 1760 STERNE *Tr. Shandy* V. i. 14 'Twas she who *bewhiskerd St. Bridget. 1880 W. IRVING *Sketch Bk.*, *Amas Dinner* (D.), Striplings *bewhiskered with burnt cork. 1866 *Lond. Rev.* 9 June 640/1 It drives him to *bewig his bald head. 1893 GOWER *Conf.* II. 360 Where lay *bewimp'd a visage. 1847 COWLEY *Mistr.* (1866) 47 Tears, that *bewinter all my Year. 1862 SPARKS *Prim. Der.* Pref., The Sun... visiting the *bewintered earth. 1864 H. TAYLOR *St. Clement's Eve* 23 She cannot... Be more *bewizarded than I'm bewitched. 1864 DEKKER *Honest Wh.* in *Dodsley* (1780) X. 253 The body... is gone *be-worm'd. 1877 BECKFORD *Italy*, etc. II. 198 For what purpose they [state pageants] are bedecked and *beworshipped.

7. Forming participial adjectives, which unite the preceding senses, esp. 6 and 2, in the notion of 'covered or furnished with,' usually in a conspicuous, ostentatious, unnecessary, or overdone way. In modern use (e.g. with Carlyle) the force of the *be-* is often merely rhetorical, expressing depreciation, ridicule, or railery, on the part of the speaker, towards the appendage or ornamentation in question; cf. *booted* and *bebooted*, *gartered* and *begartered*, *wigged* and *bewigged*. Some of these words have no form without *be-*, and closely approach the verbs in 5, e.g. *bedaughtered*, *bepilgrimed*, 'overrun with pilgrims.' This is now the most frequent use of *be-*, and the formations of this kind are endless; e.g. *bebelled*, *beboaked*, *becoroneted*, *becupolad*, *bediamonded*, *befathered*, *beflogged*, *be-flooned*, *bemitred*, *bemuslined*, *beperiwigged*, *beribboned*, *beringletted*, *besleeved*, *beturbaned*, *be-uncled*, *bewinged*. See the quotations.

1839 LADY LYTTON *Cheveley* I. v. 105 *Be-balled and *be-chained candelabras. 1854 H. STRICKLAND *Trav. Th.* 18 A besworded... *bebelled official takes all passports. 1831 CARLYLE *Sart. Res.* I. iii, Couriers arrive *bestrapped and *bebooted. 1859 REEVE *Britannia* 138 [A] short-tailed jacket, *bebuttoned and braided throughout. 1884 *Harper's Mag.* Sept. 556/1 Elderly *becapped women. 1883 *Century Mag.* XXVII. 110 [A] country... *becarpeted, and becurtained with grass. 1861 *Sat. Rev.* 18 May 502 The figure of the *becassocked priest spoils all. 1880 MRS. HECKFORD *Lady Trader* 302 Fine-looking Kaffirs, all *becat-tailed. 1898 SYLVESTER *Vocation, Du Bartas* (1608) 211 Gaudy plumes of Foes (*be-cedared brave). 1785-95 WOLCOTT (P. Pindar) *Lonsiad.* III. Wks. I. 267 *Be-chain'd with all the splendor of Lord May'r. 1869 *Daily News* 3 July, Genial welcome... to the bewigged and the *bechignoned alike. 1879 MRS. HOUSTON *Wild West* 85 The smiling remonstrance of more than one of his *be-coiffed listeners. 1863 GROSART *Small Sins* 40 It is only a 'small sin,' a smug, be-furred, be-combed... 'little fox' 1. 1837 CARLYLE *Fr. Rev.* III. v. i. II. 283 Open-Scoundrels rode triumphant, bediamonded, *becoroneted, be-mitred. 1700 CONGREVE *Way of World* III. xv, Thou art so *becravated, and so beperiwig'd. 1885 *Times* 28 July 3/1 Very ancient illustrations, crowded with *becrinolined ladies. 1860 READE *Cloister & H.* IV. (D.), My master was at the gate *be-crutched. 1868 W. IRVING *Sahmag.* xiv. (1860) 331 The portrait of a young lady dressed in a... gown... be-flowered... and *be-cuffed. 1771 H. WALPOLE *Lett.* III. 375 (D.), The Colliése... is a most gaudy Ranelagh, gilt, painted, and *becupied like an opera. 1863 VERNON LEE in *Mag. Art.*

Nov. 3/1 Two rooms... stuccoed, gilded, flowered, *be-cupied. 1861 RUSSELL in *Times* 10 July, A city on a hill... be-steeped, *becupolad, large-holed. 1883 *Century Mag.* XXVII. 110 Is there another country under the sun so *becushioned, becarpeted, and becurtained with grass? 1837 CARLYLE *Fr. Rev.* I. vi. iii. I. 180 Comes this 'Saviour of France,' beshouted, *becymballed by the world. 1839 *Diary of Nun* I. 233 *Bedaughtered dowagers. 1884 *Med. Times* 28 June 875/2 The wait-matrons and *be-dentured debutantes. 1837 CARLYLE *Fr. Rev.* III. v. i. II. 283 Open-Scoundrels rode... *bediamonded, becoroneted, be-mitred. 1840 FOX *Utalume, Poems* (1850) 70 Astarte's *bediamonded crescent. 1879 HINGSTON *Austral. Abr.* ix. 101 The garden of China is much *bedotted with mounds of earth. 1874 RICH *Honest. Age* (1844) 50 Starcht beds, so *be-edged, and be-laced. 1746 H. WALPOLE *Corr.* (1837) I. 105 Your campaign... well *be-epitheted would make a pompous work. 1864 *Daily Tel.* 9 Feb., Matrons... *befanned, be-jewelled, and speechless. 1839 LADY LYTTON *Cheveley* I. ii. 34 You *be-fathered and be-uncled young gentlemen. 1865 C. HALL *Amer. Missionary* June 175 Young men [Indians] nude, and painted in parti colors and *befeathered. 1835 QUARLES *Emblems* III. I. (1818) 138 Surveying round her dove *befeather'd prison. 1761 STERNE *Tr. Shandy* III. xii. 57 Hung round and *befeish'd with the bobs and trinkets of criticism. 1839 CARLYLE *Remin.* I. 43 His pale, ghastly, *befilletted head. 1846 LANDOR *Wks.* II. 458 The eagle eye of Buonaparte was *befilmed. 1880 *Standard* 28 Apr. 6 Has the town been *beflagged and decorated. 1884 *Cassell's Fam. Mag.* Mar. 216/1 Aprons... *befrilled and adorned with lace. 1860 H. MARRIAT *Yutland* I. I. 4 Houses turreted and *begabled... statted, and *befeized. 1849 MISS MULOCK *Ogilvies* xxix. (1875) 218 The be-laced and *be-furbelowed throng around. 1879 SIR G. SCOTT *Recoll.* II. 87 [The churches were] *begalettered to the very eyes. 1870 MORRIS *Earthly Par.* II. III. 486 The beasts, sharp horn... and dewlapped neck were well *begalettered. 1797 W. TAYLOR in *Monthly Mag.* IV. 134 Lordlings all *begaletter'd and bestar'd. 1839 BAILEY *Festus* (1848) 207 Or diamond beetle round *beglobed with light. 1611 COTGR., *Enganté*, *begloured. 1858 *Lond. Rev.* Oct. 112 Bathing machines, with *begowned tenants. 1818 COMBE (Dr. Syntax) *Picturesque* III. (D.), Thus *behatted, Down on the grass the Doctor squatted. 1745 FIELDING *Miss Lucy in T.* (1762) 179 This... be-curl'd, *behoop'd. 1869 RAY S. & E. *Country Wds.* 89 *Behound'd; Tricked up and made fine. 1884 *Pall Mall G.* 7 Oct. 5/1 This awful, befringed, *bekilted, and befooned dual trouser. 1848 H. MILLER *First Impr.* xi. (1857) 172 Venerable dwellings *belatitied with lead. 1835 BECKFORD *Recoll.* 91 The wildest be-pined, and be-rosemaryed, and *be-lavendered country. 1877 BURNS *Wks.* III. 90 Gie Wealth to some *be-ledger'd Cit. 1854 THACKERAY *Newcomers* II. 58 The steps of a fine *belongered carriage were let down. 1850 *Blackw. Mag.* Feb. 243 Officers much *be-medalled and much be-crossed. 1876 J. THOMSON *Plenip.* Key 7 Tap your mulls or bejewelled and *beminaturred caskets. 1845 MIALI in *Noncon.* II. 33 *Be-mitred and be-baroned bishops. 1858 E. JACSON *Harvest Festiv.* 7 A long... *be-mottoed cattle shed. 1880 *Daily News* 10 Oct. 2/4 The becurled and *bemoustachiod tenor. 1850 *Frank Fairleigh* vi. 61 A very pretty girl you would make, too, if you were properly *bemuslined. 1845 H. MILLER *O. R. Sandst.* vii. 155 Its be-tailed and *bepaddled figure (the Ple-richthys). 1849 THOREAU *Week on Concord, Ess.* 331 The stumpy, rocky, forested and *bepastured country. 1814 RICH *Honest. Age* (1844) 26 They are so be-paynted, so *be-periwig'd. 1884 E. GOSSE in *Fortn. Rev.* Apr. 534 The rider, the august and *beperiwigged Kurfürst. 1854 H. STRICKLAND *Trav. Th.* 6 A chapel correctly *bepewed à l'Anglaise. 1759 STERNE *Tr. Shandy* II. iii, All be-virtued, *be-pictured, be-butterflied, and be-fiddled. 1857 CARLYLE *Misc.* IV. 168 (D.), There was no literary shrine ever so *bepilgrimed. 1611 COTGR., *Empillier*, *bepillered; set on pillars; made with pillars. 1828 H. MILLER *Ramb. Gool.* 375 Sallied out, *be-plaidded and umbrellad. 1854 JAMES *Pequinillo* I. 154 Five-and-thirty years of peace have so... *be-railroaded... the world. 1831 CARLYLE *Sart. Res.* II. ii, Nut-brown maids and nut-brown men, all clean-washed... and *beribanded. 1863 W. THORBURN *True as Steel* I. 104 Their *beribboned waists and huge be-ruffed sleeves. 1854 PURCHAS *Pilgr.* VI. xiv. 647 They found others thus *beringed. 1883 G. MAC-DONNELL *Chess Life-Pict.* 166 A Frenchman whose *beringed fingers and be-jewelled scarf betokened a certain amount of pecuniosity. 1880 MRS. PARR *Adam & Eve* vii. 97 A petticoated figure, with a dark *beringled face. 1864 *Times* 26 Dec., Mr. Anthony Trollope comes to us *berobed and bewigged. 1865 *Reader* 15 Apr. 427/3 Those *berouged, leering, stripped souls. 1799 *Bot. Mag.* VI. 213 The Stipulae on the stalk... making it look as if *beruffed. 1865 MRS. WHITNEY *Gayworthys* i. (1879) 12 The small, starched, rib-boned and *beruffled creature. 1848 *Blackw. Mag.* LXIII. 576 Long galleries vainly draped and *beshawled with all the rich wonders of modern manufacture. 1864 MISS YONGE *Trial* II. 150 Cora tripped in, all *besleeved and smartened. 1837 CARLYLE *Fr. Rev.* II. xi. I. 271 Mayor and Curate... also walk *bespaded, and in tricolor sash. 1859 *Evening Star* 2 Apr. 2/5 These nineteenth century *bestayed women. 1884 A. PUTNAM *Ten Yrs. Police Judge* v. 28 The dearly beloved and dearly *betaxed people. 1873 BROWNING *Red Cott. Night-c.* 165 Its cobweb-work, *be-tinselled stitchery. 1866 *Sat. Rev.* 123 Be-cloaked and *be-togged statesmen. 1611 COTGR., *Entourell*, *be-towed; bedecked... with turrets. 1880 CARLYLE in *PAGE De Quincy* I. xiii. 279 *Betrotten by picturesque tourists. 1865 *Pall Mall G.* No. 166, 11/2 Fluttering ribbons, *be-tuckered bodices. 1868 DE QUINCY *Autob. Sk.* Wks. I. 48 (D.) Bewhiskered and beturbaned. 1884 *Chambers' Jnl.* 4 Oct. 635/2 Never did a *be-uniformed people more thoroughly believe in the dignity of dress. 1866 ALFORD in *Life* (1873) 389 Falmouth, with the spruce well *be-vesselled basin. 1784 WILBERFORCE *Life* I. 70 Running between two mountains *be-vined. 1849 POE *Comp. Worms, Poems* (1859) 87 An angel throng *bewinged. 1869 PALLISER *Hist. Luce* xxii. 268 To keep the ruff erect, *bewired and starched. 1860 PUSEY *Mix. Proph.* 342 'Accursed,' or, one might say, 'bewrathed,' lying under the wrath and curse of God.

¶ Examples of the capabilities of *be-* are seen in *be-belzebubbed* (= *bedevilled*), *be-blacksmithed*, *be-cockney'd*, to *be-documentise* (1893), to *bedolify*,

be-frenchify (1603), *be-Frenchman'd*, *be-Germanized*, *be-lady-loved*, *belawgiver* (Milton) legislated to, *be-Legion-of-Honoured*, to *be-lish-lash* to whip soundly, to *be-Mary* to give us too much of 'Mary,' to *be-pamphletize*, to *be-trash*.

1814 COLERIDGE *Let.* 16 July, All last Sunday I was thoroughly 'be-belzebubbed.' 1864 CARLYLE *Fredk. Gt.* IV. 316 Superb baited running at the ring; 'be-blacksmithed' running at one another. 1890 W. IRVING *Salmag.* ii. (1860) 39 This poor town... has long been 'be-Frenchman'd,' 'be-cockney'd,' 'be-trash'd.' 1893 NASH *Lent. Stuffs in Harl. Misc.* VI. 157 (D.), Digests... cited up in the precedents and 'bedocumentized' most locupletly. 1898 T. RYMER *Short View* 146 Never was old deputy Recorder... so blunder'd and 'be-doultified,' as is our Poet. 1603 FLORIO *Montaigne* i. lvi. (1632) 173 In a cape-cloake-hood 'befrenchified.' 1896 *Southerly's Lett.* (1896) I. Pref. 14 Unnecessary disquisitions, or 'be-Germanised' excursions. 1863 GROSART *Small Sins* 40 Only a 'small sin,' a smug, be-furred, be-combed, be-scented, be-ribboned, 'be-lady-loved' 'little fox'! 1643 MILTON *Divorce Wks.* (1851) Intro. 6 The Almighty... whom they do not deny to have 'belawgiv'n' his own sacred people with this very allowance. 1860 *All Year Round* No. 52. 34 The bestarred, beribboned, 'be-Legion-of-Honoured'... pensioned throng. 1603 in *Hazl. Dods.* IX. 28 He that minds trishtrash... Him will I 'be-lish-lash.' 1824 G. COLMAN *Br. Grins, Lady of Wreck* II. x. The world has been much 'be-Maryed' of late... we have innumerable sweet little stanzas... ending with 'my Mary.' 1884 *Punch* 9 Feb. 62 The right to bespatter and 'be-pamphletize' any particular leader.

Beach (bēch), *sb.* Forms: 6- beach; also 6 *baeche*, *bayche*, 7 *beatch*, 7-8 *baich* (e, 8 *beech*). [Origin unknown: apparently at first a dialect word, meaning, as it still does in Sussex, Kent, and the adjacent counties, the shingle or pebbles worn by the waves. Thence the transference of the term to the place covered by 'beach,' was easy for those who heard such phrases as 'to lie' or 'walk on the beach,' without knowing the exact significance. The Fr. *grève* shows precisely the same transference. The spelling shows that the pronunciation in 16-18th c. was (bēf). If OE., the type would be *bēce*. A derivation from ON. *bakk* 'bank,' which has been proposed (for sense 3), is not admissible phonologically: (cf. *BACHE*). Another conjecture would derive *beach* from *bleach* = OE. *blāc*, f. *blāc* white, with loss of *l*, of which there is however no evidence.]

1. (Usually *collect.*, formerly *occas.* with *pl.*): The loose water-worn pebbles of the sea-shore; shingle. 1535 *Art Surry* 28 The smooth hard beach on the Sea-shores burnes to a purer white. 1538 LELAND *Itin.* VII. 143 A Banke of baches thrown up by the Se. 1597 GERARD *Herbal* xxxvi. § 16. 249 Rowling pebble stones, which those that dwell neere the sea do call Bayche. 1598 HAKLUYT *Voy.* I. 355 (R.) We hailed your barke over a barre of beach or pebble stones. 1607 CAPT. SMITH *Seaman's Gram.* xii. 57 As many pebble stones or beach as can there lie. 1721 PERRY *Daggenh.* Beach 116 The Drift or Rolling of the Beach or Shingle along the Shore. 1875 PARISH *Sussex Dial.* (E. D. S.) s.v. *Beach*, Shingle brought from the sea-coast is always called beach. 1884 COLE *Antiq. Hastings* 18 All that part between Cambridge Road and the sea is one mass of beach.

†2. A ridge or bank of stones or shingle. *Obs.* 1673 RAY *Journ.* Low C. 280 The baich or languet of land between the Haven of Messina and the Fretum Siculum. 1690 — *Discourses* (1713) 8 Raising up therein a Baich or Bank of Stones as big as Towers.

3. The shore of the sea, on which the waves break, the strand; *spec.* the part of the shore lying between high- and low-water-mark. Also applied to the shore of a lake or large river. In *Geol.* an ancient sea-margin.

(In early quotations, this sense is often doubtful: it is probably Shakspeare's sense in all the five passages in which he uses *beach*; though, taken by themselves, 'stand upon the beach' *Merc.* V. iv. i. 71, the Fishermen, that walk'd upon the beach' *Lea* iv. vi. 17, might as well belong to 1.)

1596 SHAKS. (see above). 1607 — *Cor.* v. iii. 58 The Pibbles on the hungry beach. 1667 MILTON *P. L.* t. 299 On the Beach Of that inflamed sea, He stood. 1768 FALCONER *Shipw.* iii. 365 In dreadful form the curving beech appears. 1890 LYELL *Princ. Geol.* xiii. (1850) 178 These strata passing by the name of 'raised beaches,' occur at moderate elevations on the coast. 1837 CARLYLE *Fr. Rev.* II. i. ii. 13 Like gold-grains in the mud-beach. 1880 GEIKIE *Phys. Geog.* iii. xvii. 154 The strip of sand, gravel or mud, which is alternately covered and laid bare by the rise and fall of the tidal undulation is called the beach.

4. *Comb.* chiefly attrib., as *beach-bird*, *-line*, *-pea*, *-sand*. Also *beach-oomber*, 'a long wave rolling in from the ocean' (Bartlett *Dict. Amer.*); also a settler on the islands of the Pacific, living by pearl-fishery, etc., and often by less reputable means (whence *beach-combing* ppl. adj.); *beach-grass*, a reedy grass (*Arundo arenaria*) growing on the sea-shore; *beachman*, one who earns his living on the beach; *beach-master*, a superior officer appointed to superintend the disembarkation of troops; *beach-rest*, a chair-back used for sitting against on the beach; *beach-wagon*, a light open wagon, with two or more seats.

1837 HAWTHORNE *Amer. Note Bks.* (1871) I. 187 You are preceded by a flock of twenty or thirty 'beach birds.' 1847

Blackw. Mag. LXI. 757 A daring Yankee 'beach-comber.' 1880 *Athenaeum* 18 Dec. 809/2 The white scamps who, as 'Beach-combers,' have polluted these Edens and debauched their inhabitants. 1880 J. S. COOPER *Coral Lands* I. xx. 242 The 'beach-combing' pioneers of the Pacific. 1882 T. HARRIS *Insects New Eng.* 50 note. The advantages to be derived from employing... 'beach-grass, in fixing the sands of the shore. 1883 *Harper's Mag.* LXIII. 494 The 'beachmen' put their shoulders to the stern and gunwhale. 1895 BEDFORD *Sailor's Pocket Bk.* vii. 275 The 'Beach Master' is to take care that... all appliances for disembarking troops... are kept in good order. 1884 *Harper's Mag.* June 103/2 The 'beach pea' is found along the North Shore. 1881 MISS YONGE *Rev. Nieces* 167, I see the invalid lady creep out with her 'beach-rest.'

Beach (bēch), *v.* 1 [f. prec. *sb.*] *trans.* To run or haul (a vessel) up on the beach.

1840 DANA *Bef. Mast* xxvii. 51 We rowed ashore... beached our boat. 1868 MORRIS *Jason* xi. 425 And as the Goddess bade them, there they beached Their sea-beat ship.

Beach, *-en*, *obs.* forms of *BEECH*, *-EN*.

Beached (bēchd), *bit*(t), *a.* and *ppl.* [f. *BEACH* *sb.* and *v.* + *-ED*.]

1. Having a beach; *prob.* also, in early use, Covered with 'beach' or shingle.

1590 SHAKS. *Mids. N.* ii. i. 82 The beached margent of the sea. 1607 — *Timon* v. i. 219 Timon hath made his euerlasting Mansion Upon the Beached Verge of the salt Flood.

2. Of a ship: Driven or dragged up on the beach.

Mod. The beached fishing-boats at Hastings.

†**Beach**, *v.* 2 *Obs.* [perh. aphetic f. *ABECHER*, *a.* OF. *abechier*, f. *a.* to + *bec* BEAK *sb.* 1; but cf. also OF. *bechier*, *becher* to peck, strike with the beak, also 'to give a beakful.'] *trans.* To give a beakful to (a young bird); hence *spec.* in *Falconry*, to give part of a meal as a whet to appetite.

1575 TURBURY *Falconrie* 103 Giue hir washte meate and beach (printed beade) hir in the morning.

Beaching (bēch'ing), *vbl. sb.* 1 [f. *BEACH* *v.* 1 + *-ING*.] The action of running or hauling a vessel up on the beach.

1871 *Daily News* 26 Sept. The beaching and wreck of Her Majesty's ship *Megæra*. 1875 BEDFORD *Sailor's Pocket Bk.* vi. 221 The beaching or landing of a boat.

†**Beaching**, *vbl. sb.* 2 *Obs.* *Falconry*. [f. *BEACH* *v.* 2 + *-ING*.] A small meal or 'feed,' given only as a whet to appetite.

1561 DAUS tr. *Bullinger on Apoc.* (1573) 222 Small pittances or beachings to feede them wyth, tyll be great supper be geuen them. 1575 TURBURY *Falconrie* 84 Feede hir with pullets flesh... as much as shall be sufficient for a beaching. 1727-38 CHAMBERS *Cycl. s.v. Falcon*, Give her a little beaching of warm meat (ed. 1751 a little hot meat).

Beachless (bēch'less), *a.* Without beach.

1873 MORRIS *Love is enough* 64 The sea beat for ever 'Gainst... the black rocks, and beachless.

Beachy (bēch'i), *a.* [f. *BEACH* *sb.* + *-Y*.] Covered with beach (sense 1); pebbly, shingly.

1597 SHAKS. 2 *Hm. IV.* iii. i. 50 The beachie Girdle of the Ocean. 1621 G. SANDYS *Orvid's Met.* iv. (1626) 85 Let the beachy Sands Should hurt the snaky head. 1734 WATTS *Reliq. Juv.* (1789) 213 Smooth pebbles on the beachy shore.

Beack, *obs.* form of *BEAK*.

Beacon (bē'kən), *sb.* Forms: 1 *bēacen*, *becon*, *becun*, 2 *bēacen*, 4 *bikene*, *bekne*, 4-5 *bekene*, *beeken*, 5-6 *beken*, *-yn*, 6 *bekin*, *beakon*, 6- *beacon*, *s. w. dial.* *biok'n*. [OE. *bēacen* (neut.) = OFris. *bācen*, *bēcen*, OS. *bōkan*, MDu. *bōkin*, *-en*, OHG. *bouhhan*, MHG. *bouchen* = OTeut. **baukno(m)*. Not known outside of Teutonic. (In this and the following words in *bea-* the occasional identity of the OE. and modern spellings is not due to continuity of form, the two being separated by a ME. spelling in *e*, *ee*, which prevailed for more than 3 centuries. Modern *ea* represents not merely OE. *ea* and *ēa*, but also many other OE. and OF. vowels, as seen in *bead*, *beadle*, *beak*, *beast*. See *EA*.)]

†1. A sign, a portent. *Obs.* 1590 Lindisf. *Gosp.* John iv. 48 Buta beceno & soða uundra gie zesece, ne zelefēð gie. c. 1000 *Agg. G.* ibid., Tacna & fore-beacna. c. 1160 *Halton G.*, Tacne & fore-beacne.

†2. An ensign, standard. *Obs.* a. 1000 *Beowulf* 5547 Segn ēac genom, bēacna beorhtost. c. 1280 Wyclif *Wks.* (1880) 471 Religion shall be shewed in sensible signs, as habitis, and bikenes, & hye housis. 1483 *Cath. Angl.* 261 A Bekyn or a standard, *statela*.

3. A signal; *spec.* a signal-fire. A. A burning cresset raised on a pole, or fixed at the top of a building. [LAMBARDE *Peramb. Kent* (1826) 64 says he finds it ordained about the eleventh year of Edward III that beacons 'should be high standards with their pitchpots.'] a. 1589 MACAULAY *Armada*, The beacon blazed upon the roof of Edgcombe's lofty hall. c. 1870 THORNE *Enviroms of Lond.* 266 From it [the tower of Monken Hadley Church] projects the ancient iron beacon, one of the last of its kind left.

b. A fire, of wood, pitch, or other material, lighted on an eminence and serving as a signal (of danger, etc.); by a chain of beacons at convenient distances apart, tidings could be rapidly spread over a wide area. 1577 LANGE *P. Pl.* B. xvii. 262 3e brenne, but 3e blaseth nouzte, þat is a blynde bekene. 1480 CAXTON *Chron. Eng.* ccvi. 188 That men should tende the bekene that the country myght be warned. 1533 BELLENDEN *Litv* 348 (JAM.) He tuke thare tentis... and incontinent made an bekin of reik. 1645 K. LONG tr. *Barclay's Argenis* i. i. 9 Publike trees... which being kindled by the King's command, give

notice to the people... and these they call Beacons. 1825 SCOTT *Ld. of Isles* iv. viii. Signal of Ronald's high command, A beacon gleam'd o'er sea and land.

4. Hence *gen.* A signal station, watch-tower.

1611 BIBLE *Gen.* xxxi. 49 Therefore was the name of it called... Mizpah [*marg.* that is a beacon or watchtower]. 1778 FERNANT *Tours Scott.* 104 On the eminencies beacons were established, for alarming the country. 1846 FERRIS *Ferd.* 4 12. II. xviii. 165 Ascertained by the erection of beacons at suitable distances.

5. A conspicuous hill commanding a good view of the surrounding country, on which beacons were (or might be) lighted. Still applied to such hills in various parts of England; e.g. Brecon Beacons near Abergavenny, Dunkery Beacon on Exmoor, Culmstock Beacon, Cotelstone Beacon, etc. (On some of these the beacon towers still exist.)

1597 T. BEARD *Theat. Gods Judgm.* 58 He lies upon a beacons side With watchfull eie to circumscribe their traine. 1882 *Athenaeum* 26 Aug. 265/3 Nothing can bring up the image of chalk country like the words *combe*, *dean*, *beacon*.

†b. A division of a wapentake; probably a district throughout which a beacon could be seen, or which was bound to furnish one. *Obs.*

1641 BEST *Farm Bks.* (1856) 90 There is in everie wapentacke soe many severall divisions or beacons... there is in the wapentacke of Harthill fower beacons, Bainton beacon, Hunsley beacon, etc.

6. A lighthouse or other conspicuous object placed upon the coast or at sea, to warn vessels of danger or direct their course.

[a. 1000 *Beowulf* 6301 Hlāw on hliðe, wāg-licendum wide tō-syne... beadu-rōfes bēacn.] 1397 *Act 21 Rich.* 111, xviii. § 1 Les Beekenes devant la port Moeges. 1526 *Pilgr. Perf.* (W. de W. 1531) 240 b. The beken lyghted in y' nyght, directeth the maryner... to y' port entended. 1684 *Lond. Gas.* No. 1911/4 In the place of the Shore Beacon, there is at present a white Buoy laid. 1837 HAWTHORNE *Amer. Note Bks.* (1871) I. 97 A ledge of rocks, with a beacon upon it. 1850 TENNYSON *In Mem.* xvii. My blessing... is on the waters day and night, And like a beacon guards thee home.

b. *fig.* 1606 SHAKS. *Tr. & Cr.* ii. ii. 16 Modest Doubt is cal'd The Beacon of the wise. 1773 MONBODDO *Lang.* (1774) I. Intro. 3 My errors may be of use, by serving as beacons to direct into the right course men of greater learning. 1840 CARLYLE *Heroes* ii. 82 Great brother-souls, flame-beacons through so many lands and times.

7. *Comb.* chiefly attrib., as *beacon-bell*, *-blaze*, *-grate*, *-place*, *-turret*, *-vessel*; also *beacon-wise* adv.

1548 UDALL *Erasm. Par. Luke* xix. 154 Out of the beacon place of the Crosse. 1577 HOLINSHED *Chron.* I. 61/1 He gaue knowledge thereof to his wife, in raising a fire on heigh beaconwise. 1814 SCOTT *Ld. of Isles* i. xxii. By that blithe beacon-light they steer'd. 1880 — *Monast.* xviii. The glow-worm, which makes a goodly show among the grass of the field, would be of little avail if deposited in a beacon-grate. 1862 MRS. NORTON *Lady La G.* Ded. 30 A voice whose sound Came like a beacon-bell, heard clear above The whirl of violent waters.

Beacon (bē'kən), *v.* [f. prec. *sb.*]

†1. *trans.* To beacon up: to raise or kindle as a beacon. *Obs.*

1644 MILTON *Arrop.* Wks. 1738 I. 156 We have lookt so long upon the blaze that Zuignius and Calvin have beacon'd up to us. 1651 BIGGS *New Disp.* Pref. 13 A greater light in Physick then what Galen has beaconed up to us.

2. To light up, as a beacon-fire does.

1803 CAMPBELL *Lochiel's Warn.* (1846) 94 'Tis the fire-shower of ruin... that beacons the darkness of Heaven. 1813 SCOTT *Rokeby* v. xxxvii. Where far the mansion of her sires Beaconed the dale with midnight fires.

b. *fig.* To give light and guidance to; to lead.

1835 BROWNING *Paracels.* Wks. I. 37 Some one truth would dimly beacon me... Into assured light. 1856 R. VAUGHAN *Mystics* (1860) I. 11 Whose far glories beacon him... as he rises step by step.

3. To furnish with beacons; to mark the position of, by beacons or a beacon. *Occas.* with *off*, *out*.

1821 SHELLEY *Epipsych.* 148 My wisdom... bids me dare Beacon the rocks on which high hearts are wreckt. 1860 *Merc. Mar. Mag.* VII. 174 The... Channel... is as good as buoyed and beaconed by the... Rock and... Reefs. 1883 *Daily News* 12 June 5/2 The Boers have beaconed out a boundary. 1883 *Pall Mall G.* 16 Nov. 2/1 The boundary has never been beaconed off.

4. *intr.* To shine like a beacon.

1821 SHELLEY *Adonais* lv. The soul of Adonais, like a star, Beacons from the abode where the Eternal are. 1864 N. & Q. V. 210 Arcturus beaconed from his zenith tower to Cepheus.

Beaconage (bē'kənédz), *Also* 7 *beaconage*.

[f. *BEACON* *sb.* + *-AGE*.] a. Toll paid for the maintenance of beacons. b. A system of beacons.

1607 COWELL *Interpr.* *Beaconage* signifieth money paid for the maintenance of Beacons. 1755 MAGNIN *Insurances* I. 72 Towage, and Pilotage... Light-money, Beaconage, &c. 1862 *Edin. Rev.* Jan. 183 Our beaconage admits of much improvement.

Beaconed (bē'kənd), *ppl. a.* Furnished with, or surmounted by, a beacon.

a. 1790 T. WATSON *Ode* x. (T.) The fess that skirts the beaconed hill.

Beaconless, *a.* rare-°. [f. as prec. + *-LESS*.] Without a beacon. 1864 in *WESTER*.

Bead (bēd), *sb.* Forms: 1-2 *bed*, 3-4 *beode*, 3-7, and (archaically) 9 *beds*, 5 *bed*, *beod*, 5-6 *bedde*, *beid*, 6-7 *beade*, 5- *bead*. [ME. *bede*, pl. *bedes*, *beden*, perh. repr. an OE. **bedu*, **bed* 91-2]

(fem.) = OFris. *bede*, OS. *beda*, MDu. and Du. *bede*, OHG. *beta*, MHG. *bete*, mod.G. *bitte*, Goth. *bida* (str. fem.), f. Goth. *bidjan*, in OE. *biddan* to pray: see BID. But an OE. *bedu* is doubtful, and *bed* occurs only in comb. (*bed-hus*, etc.), the regular OE. word being *gebed* (neut.), in ME. *IBED*, ?*ibede*, pl. *ibeoden*, from which *bede* may have arisen by aphesis in early ME. The name was transferred from 'prayer' to the small globular bodies used for 'telling beads,' i.e. counting prayers said, from which the other senses naturally followed.]

I. Prayer, and connected senses.

†1. Prayer; pl. prayers, devotions. *Obs.*

c 885 K. ALFRED *Beda* i. vii. (Bosw.) Dæt he sceolde ða bedu anescian. c 1200 *Trin. Col. Hom.* 193 Þe þridde is bede. *Ibid.* 163 On salmes, and on songes, and on holde bedes. *Ibid.* 201 Alle holie beden ben. biheue. c 1230 *Anecr. R.* 44 Beoð i beoden. c 1305 *St. Lucy* 37 in E. E. P. (1862) 102 Þer hi leye in hire bedes. 1330 R. BRUNNE *Chron.* 202 Better is holy bede. c 1330 *King of Tars* 643 With beodes and with preyere. 1426 AUDELEY *Poems* 15 3if he be besed in his bedus. c 1430 *Hymns Virg.* (1867) 6 To þee y make my beed. 1494 FABYAN VI. ccxiii. 229, I hoped to haue ben saued by your bedes & prayers. 1554 *Chron. Grey Friars* (1852) 92 Went unto the crosse, & stode there alle the [sermon] tyme, & whan he came unto the beddes they turnyd unto the preacher & knelyd downe.

b. In later usage (after sense 2 became the popular one) there was almost always a reference direct or indirect to the use of the rosary.

†a 1550 *Pore helpe* 369 in E. P. P. (Hazl.) III. 265 Take you to your beades; All men and women. That useth so to praye. 1580 *NASHE Almond for P.* 14 b, [He] would haue run a false gallop ouer his beades with anie man in England. 1648 *HERRICK Hesper.* (1869) 70 Be briefe in praying, Few beads are best, when once we goe a maying. 1741 *RICHARDSON Pamela* (1824) I. xxx. 49, I began. to say the Lord's prayer. None of your beads to me, Pamela, said he; thou art a perfect nun.

c. To bid a bead: to offer a prayer; hence beads bidding, the saying of prayers. Also To say one's beads.

c 1250 *Gen. & Ex.* 2981 Moyses bad is bede. c 1330 *Assump. Virg.* 876 To ihesu þei bede a bede. c 1380 *WYCLIF Sel. Wks.* 1871 II. 420 How þei shulen bidde her bedis. 1387 *TREVISSA Hyden Rolls Ser.* VI. 225 He travaillid besliche in bedes byddynge. 1563 *Homilies* II. *Idolatry* III. (1859) 236 For the which they pray in their beads bidding. 1598 *DRAYTON Heroic. Ep.* III. 87 The Beades that we will bid, shall be sweet Kisses. [1656 *BLOUNT Glossogr.* s.v., To say our Beades, is to say our prayers.] 1681 *BURNET Hist. Ref.* II. 55 All the people said their beads in a general silence. 1764 *GRAY Let. in Poems* (1775) 381 Bidding his beads for the souls of his benefactors. 1870 *MORRIS Earthly Par.* I. 1. 152 To fetch the priest. To bury her and say her bede.

2. A small perforated ball or other body, a series of which (formerly called 'a pair of beads') threaded upon a string, forms the *rosary* or *paternoster*, used for keeping count of the number of prayers said. Hence b. To tell or count one's beads: to say one's prayers. To pray without one's beads: to be 'out of one's reckoning.'

1377 *LANGLE, P. Pl.* B. xv. 119 A peyre bedes in her hande And a boke vnder hire arme. 1446 *Test. Ebor.* (1855) II. 124 A pare of bedes of corall with gaudes of gete. 1483 *Cath. Angl.* 24/1 A bede, *precula*. 1533 *MORE Answ. Poysoned Bk. Wks.* 1120/1 Away wyth our ladies psalter, and cast the bedes in the fyre. c 1550 *Auentur on Weddinsd.* (Bann. MS.) Ane pair of beids about hir throt. 1570 *Act 13 Ellis.* II. 7 Crosses, Pictures, Beads and such like superstitious Things. 1659 *COLLINGS Caveat for Prof.* (1653) A ij. I no where read, That thy Apostles ever us'd a Bead. 1697 *Cress D'Annoy's Trav.* (1706) 142 She presented me with a pair of Beads of Paulo d'Aguila, a curious sort of wood. 1729 *PORR Ess. Man* II. 280 Beads and prayerbooks are the toys of age. 1806 B. TAYLOR *Deukalion* II. i. 53 Five hundred have I told upon these beads.

1647 J. JACKSON *Evangel. Tempter* III. 188 Telling the panes of glasse, as fast as a Papist doth his Beads. a 1659 *OSBORN Machiavel* (1673) 356 In which he prayed without his Beads, being so far out, in the account, as that, etc. 1759 *STERNE Tr. Shandy* I. xl, Cross himself;—tell his beads;—be a good Catholic. 1799 J. BARLOW *Conspir. Kings* 78 He counts his beads, and spends his holy zeal. 1800 *COLERIDGE Christabel* II. ii, The sacristan Five and forty beads must tell. 1853 *GILMOUR Mongols* xvii. 205 Counting beads and making pilgrimages.

3. Comb., chiefly attrib. (mostly archaic, and, when used by modern writers, often spelt *bede*): bead-child, a child that prays for the welfare of a benefactor or relative; bead-folk, people (often pensioners) who pray for a benefactor; bead-house (north. dial. *beadus*, Welsh *Bettus*), originally a house of prayer, hence an almshouse, the inmates of which were to pray for the soul of the founder; †bead-master, a religious officer who attends to the poor, a deacon; †bead-song, song of prayer; beads-woman, a woman who prays for a benefactor, an almswoman. Also BEAD-BOLL, BEADSMAN.

†1499 *Plumpton Corr.* 140 Your good son & *beadchild, German Pole. †1465 *Ibid.* 15 Others your well willers, servants, and *bed folks. 1849 *ROCK Ch. of Fathers* III. viii. 134 To live and do as *bead-folks should. c 1160 *Hattou Goss. Matt.* xxi. 13 Min hus ys *bed-hus [Ags. G. *gebed-hus*]. 1485 *Will in Ripon Ch. Acts* 277 The *bedehouse beside the Mawdelays. 1774 T. WEST *Antiq. Furness* (1805) 180 Lodgys and *bed-houses for x poor men. 1864 *ATKINSON Whithy Gloss.*, *Beadus or Beadhouse, an almshouse. 1866

NEALE *Seq. & Hymns* 126 They raised full many a *bedehouse, but never a bastille. 1579 *TOMSON Calvin's Sermon.* Tim. 295/1 The Deacons, that is to say, the *Bede maisters, and such as see to the poore. c 1200 *ORMIN* 1450 Wipþ fastung, & wipþ *bedesang. †1465 *Plumpton Corr.* 14 Your dayly *bedewoman my huswif. 1508 *MARG. C'TESS RICHMOND* in *Ellis Orig. Lett.* I. 23 I. 48 Your feythfull trewe *bedwoman and humble modyr. 1536 in *Strype Eccl. Mem.* I. i. xxxv. 256 Your poor *bedes women The whole convent of Styxwold. 1689 *SHIRLEY Gracef. Serv.* III. i, My humblest service to his grace: I am his *beads-woman. 1790 *Stow's Surv.* (Strype 1754) I. i. xxvii. 229/1 Ten poor women called *Bedes women, and six poor Clerks. 1864 *MISS YONGE Bk. Gold. Deeds* 194 Asking the Queen to make her a *bedeswoman at Vienna.

II. Extensions of sense 2.

4. A small perforated body, spherical or otherwise, of glass, amber, metal, wood, etc., used as an ornament, either strung in a series to form a necklace, bracelet, etc., or sewn upon various fabrics.

c 1400 *Destr. of Troy* xv. 7044 Garmentes full gay. Bright beidis & Brasse broght þai with-all. 1599 *HAKLUYT Voy.* II. II. 32 About their neckes great beades of glasse of diuerse colours. 1647 *COWLEY Mistr.* *Bargain* II, The foolish Indian that sells His precious Gold for Beads and Bells. 1753 *HANWAY Trav.* (1762) I. vi. lxxxii. 371 Their old way of reckoning. is with beads on wires, which they work without pen and ink. 1836 *MARRYAT Japhet* xviii, A long chain of round coral and gold beads. 1890 *SHAKS. Mids. N.* III. II. 329 You minimus. You bead, you acorne. 1870 *LOWELL Study Wind.* 97 Quincy's [life] was strung with seventy active years, each one a rounded bead of usefulness and service.

b. (The plural is commonly used in sense of a string of beads for the neck; formerly the *sing.* seems to have been occas. so used.)

c 1500 *Mayd Emlyn in Poet. Tracts* (1842) 21 And sayth that she lacks Many pretty knacks, As bedes and gyrdels gaye. 1596 *SHAKS. Tam. Shr.* IV. iii. 58 With Amber Bracelets, Beades, and all this knau'ry. 1655 H. VAUGHAN *Silex Scint.* I. 77 There's one Sun more strung on my Bead of days. *Mod.* Do they wear beads? She cannot find her beads.

5. In various transf. senses applied to things having some of the characteristics of the prec.:

a. A bead-like drop of liquid or of molten metal. 1596 *SHAKS. 1 Hen. IV.* II. iii. 61 Beds of sweate hath stood vpon thy Brow. 1601 — *Jul. C.* III. i. 284 Seeing those Beads of sorrow stand in thine. 1633 G. HERBERT *Sacrifice* vi. in *Temple* 19 My hearts deare treasure Drops blood (the only beads) my words to measure. 1884 *SCOFFERN in Orr's Circ. Sc. Chem.* 507 The bead of impure silver is seen to emit fumes.

b. A bubble of foam; *spec.* a bubble in spirits, sparkling wines, etc.; the foam or head upon certain beverages. Cf. bead-proof.

1753 *CHAMBERS Cycl. Suppl.*, *Bead* is also used for a little, round, white froth formed on the surface of brandy, or spirit of wine, upon shaking the glass. 1839 *BAILEY Festus* xiv, An eye which outsparkles the beads of the wine. 1863 *KINGSLEY Water-Bab.* vi. 255 Swimming about among the foam-beads below. 1883 *Harper's Mag.* 894/2 There is. a finer bead on this wine of mirth.

c. A clear nacreous spot on the surface of shells. 1848 *JOHNSTON in Proc. Berw. Nat. Club* II. x. 32 The clear spots or beads of the transverse lines (on a shell) are much larger.

d. The small metal knob which forms the front sight of a gun; *esp.* in the phrase (of U. S. origin) To draw a bead upon: to take aim at.

1841 *CATLIN N. Amer. Ind.* (1844) I. x. 77, I made several attempts to get near enough to 'draw a bead' upon one of them. 1844 *MARRYAT Settlers* II. 206 'Now, John,' said Malachi; 'get your bead well on him.' 1875 *URE Dict. Arts* II. 391 The front sight is that known as the bead-sight, which consists of a small steel needle, with a little head upon it like the head of an ordinary pin, enclosed in a steel tube. In aiming with this sight, the eye is directed. to the bead in the tube.

e. A string of sponges; see quot.

1885 *LADY BRASSEY in Trades* 339 The sponges are strung upon small palmetto strips, three or four to a strip, which is called a 'bead.'

6. Arch. A small globular ornament, commonly applied in a row like a string of beads. b. A narrow moulding having a semicircular section.

1808 *Gentl. Mag.* LXXII. II. 1118 Bead, a globular ornament peculiar to Saxon architecture, carved in the mouldings. 1803 *Phil. Trans.* XCIII. 171 On the edges. a small regular raised bead or moulding was formed. 1861 *RUSKIN Stones Ven.* (1874) I. xxi. 256, I think *bead* a bad word for a continuous moulding. 1861 *PARKER Goth. Archit.* Gloss. (1874) 320 *Bead*, an ornament resembling a row of beads. 1869 *SIR E. REED Ship Build.* xi. 233 Beads of india-rubber are fitted in the rabbets of the frame.

7. Beads of St. Elline: certain round roots brought out of Florida (Bullock 1616). St. Martin's beads: (the sanctuary of St. Martin's-le-Grand, London, was a noted resort of makers of sham jewellery. F. Cohen in *Archæol.* XVIII. 55, quotes an ordinance of the Star Chamber in 36 Hen. VI. for the regulation of that sanctuary, by which it is declared that 'no workers of counterfeit cheynes, beades, broaches, owches, rings, cups, and spoons silvered, should be suffered therein.') *Baily's beads*: a phenomenon observed in total eclipses of the sun; see quotations. *Wilson's* or *Lovis's beads*: a series of globular bodies of different densities, formerly used to determine

the specific gravity of a spirit into which they were thrown one by one.

1678 *BUTLER Hud.*, *Lady's Answ.* 59 Those false St. Martins Beads. 1867 G. CHAMBERS *Astron.* 175 When the disc of the Moon advancing over that of the Sun has reduced the latter to a thin crescent, it is usually noticed that immediately before the beginning and after the end of complete obscuration, the crescent appears as a band of brilliant points, separated by dark spaces so as to give it the appearance of a string of beads. These phenomena are generally known as *Baily's beads*, having received their name from the late Mr. Francis Baily, who was the first to describe them in detail. The earliest account of the. beads is contained in Halley's memoir on the total eclipse of 1715. 1874 S. JOHNSON *Eclipses* 66 An eclipse of the sun A.D. 1836, May 15. Famous for what is known as 'Baily's beads' noticed by Mr. Baily, at Jedburgh, in Roxburghshire. 1878 *NEWCOMB Pop. Astron.* III. iii. 314 'Baily's beads' are caused by the sun shining through the depressions between the lunar mountains.

8. Comb. as bead-amber, -maker, -potato, -string, -work; beadlike adj.; also bead-frame, a frame containing beads strung upon wires used for teaching numeration, an abacus; bead-plant; bead-proof a. (of alcoholic spirits), such that a crown of bubbles (see 5 b) formed by shaking will stand for some time after on the surface (a fallacious test of strength); also, according to some recent works, of a certain proof, as tested by Wilson's or Lovis's Beads (see 7); bead-sedge, the Bur-reed (*Sparganium ramosum*); bead-snake, a small American snake (*Elops fulvus*); bead-stone, a stone used as a bead, or of which beads are made; bead-tree, the AZEDARAC. Also BEAD-BOLL.

1611 *COTGR.*, *Ambre de Paternostres*, 'Bead-amber; the ordinary yellow Amber. 1666 *BACON Sylva* § 83 'Bead-Amber, which is at first as a soft Substance. 1868 *CURWEN Singing for Sch.* Intro. 20 Till the pupil. is able to perform some of its [arithmetic] simpler operations by the help of the 'Bead-Frame or the Box of various Objects. 1876 *HUMPHREY Coin Coll. Man.* xxvi. 400 The minor 'bead-like decorations, borders of pearls, &c. 1880 *HOLLYBAND Treas. Fr. Tong.* Vn *paternostrier*, a 'beades maker. 1793 *London. Gas.* No. 6172/7 William Dossett. 'Beadmaker. 1878 R. THOMPSON *Gard. Assist.* 700/2, *Nertera scapanioides*. Popularly known as the 'bead plant, owing to the profusion of golden berries it produces. 1867 *VANCOUVER Agric. Devon* (1813) 455 To produce languid shoots and a number of small 'bead potatoes of no value. 1753 *CHAMBERS Cycl. Suppl.*, 'Bead-proof, a term used by our distillers. 1868 *TURNER Herbal* II. 143 b, It may be called 'beade sedge or knop sedge. 1863 *PRIOR Plant-n.* 17 'Bede-sedge, from its round bead-like burs. *Sparganium ramosum*. 1736 *MORTIMER in Phil. Trans.* XXXIX. 258 The 'Bead-Snake. commonly found under Ground. 1867 *Wood Pop. Nat. Hist.* III. 52 One of the brightest and loveliest of Serpents is the 'Bead Snake of North America. 1677 *London. Gas.* No. 1202/4 Three broad Chains set with 'Bead Stones. 1851 D. WILSON *Preh. Ann.* (1863) II. iv. vi. 338 Bone draughtsmen, or 'bead stones. 1801 W. TAYLOR in *Month. Mag.* XII. 583 The most precious jewel in the long 'bead-string of his pedigree. a 1878 *MAURICE Friendsk.* Bks. II. 44 Not even a 'beadstring to hang the different meanings upon. 1668 *WILKINS Real Char.* II. iv. § 7, 115 Clove Tree, 'Bede Tree 1854 *TH. ROSS Humboldt's Trav.* II. xvii. 136 Hedges of 'bead-trees. 1840 R. DANA *Bef. Mast* xxvii. 85 Indian curiosities. such as 'bead-work. 1881 *Mechanic* § 1597 The mouldings or any 'bead-work should be painted.

Bead (bēd), v. [f. prec.]

1. trans. To furnish, adorn, or work with beads. 1577 [see BEADED]. 1822 *BEDDOES Bride's Trag.* III. iv, Drops enough to bead a thousand such [necklaces]. 1856 *MISS YONGE Daisy Ch.* I. xxii. (1879) 228 Morning dew, which beaded the webs of the spiders.

2. Arch. To furnish with a bead or beading.

1851 *RUSKIN Stones Ven.* I. xxii. § 13 If we take the plain chamfer. and bead both its edges.

3. intr. To form a bead or beads.

1873 *BLACKMORE Craddock* N. viii. (1881) 29 The fescue grass was beading rough with dew. 1884 *Harper's Mag.* Mar. 524/2 Every drop of water beading on the wall becomes a jewel.

4. To string like beads; also fig.

1883 *Harper's Mag.* June 117/1 The houses are beaded along the. stream.

Beaded (bēdéd), ppl. a. [f. BEAD + -ED.]

1. Worked or ornamented with beads.

1577 *HOLINSHED Chron.* III. 858 A cloake of broched satin. bedded from the shoulder to the wast. 1840 *HOOD Up Rhine* 222 The other cap is also embroidered or beaded.

b. Having bead-like protuberances upon the edge.

1697 *London. Gas.* No. 3208/4 One Beaded Salver without Arms. 1870 *HOOKER Stand. Flora* 27 Sisymbrium Trio. London Rocket. valves beaded. 1870 *TYNDALL Heat* viii. App. 261 A beaded line of great beauty was observed.

c. Furnished with or wearing beads.

1805 *SOUTHEY Madoc in Ast.* xxi. Wks. V. 348 His neck with hearts beaded. 1885 *Fall Mall G.* 13 July 6/2 Monks. cowled, sandalled, beaded, and picturesque.

2. Formed into or like beads.

1597 *SHAKS. Lover's Compl.* vi, A thousand fauours from a maund she drew, Of amber christall and of bedded Iet. 1800 *KEATS Ode Nightingale* 17 With beaded bubbles winking at the brim. 1878 *BLACK Adv. Phaeton* II. 15 Portraits. in which the women have all beaded black eyes.

3. Covered with bubbles.

1884 *Harper's Mag.* Sept. 533/2 Beakers of beaded ale.

4. Arch. Having a bead-moulding.

Beadel, variant of BEADLE.

Beader (bēdər), [f. BEAD v. + -ER.] A tool used in silver chasing to make a bead pattern.

† **Beadful**, *a. Obs.*; in 3 beodeful. [*f. BEAD sb. 1.*] Prayerful.
c. 1200 St. Marhar. 14 Beodefule pohtes þæt ha schulen þenchen.

† **Bead-hook**. *Obs.* Also 7 beedhook. [Chiefly in Chapman: can he have formed it from OE. *beadu* battle, war? Cf. OE. *beadu wæpen* weapon of battle, etc.]? A kind of boat-hook.

1600 Chapman Iliad xv. 356 The Greeks with bead-hooks fought. *1614—Odys.* ix. 651 A bead-hook then. I snatch'd up. *1631—Cæsar & P.* Plays 1873 III. 180 Yet beare halfe pikes or bead-hooks. *1614 Raleigh Hist. World* II. viii. iii. § 18. 474 Come, Iron, Canuas for Sailes, Axes, Beede-hooks, Hand-milles.

Beadiness. The quality of being beady.
1873 Spectator 22 Feb. 239/2 *A bistre* shade around his black eyes which softens away their beadiness.

Beading (*bēdīn*), *vbl. sb.* [*f. BEAD v. + -ING*].
 1. The formation of beads.

1869 Student's Mag. 33 A tendency towards beading is very noticeable in the coccoliths I have seen.

2. Bead-work, in trimming, etc.
1881 Daily News 29 July 3/1 The black silk toilette, with steel beadings.

3. A bead moulding or edge line.
1873 Tristram Moab iv. 67 White chalk and limestone pleasantly relieved by the beading of black lines of flint.

4. A preparation for causing liquor to hang in drops about the glass or bottle when poured out.

Beadle (*bēd'l*), *sb.* Forms: 1 *bydel*, 2-4 *budel* (*ū*), *bedele*, 3 *bidell*, 4 *bidel*, (*Sc. badal*), 5 *bydelle*, *beddell*, (*betille*), 6 *beedle*, *bedyl* (1, 6-7 *bedelle*, *bedle*, 9 *bedel*, (*Sc. beddal*); 2-9 *bedel*, 4-9 *bedell*, 7- *beadle*. [Originally OE. *bydel* (= MDu. **bōdel*, Du. *beul*, OHG. *butil*, MHG. *bütel*, Ger. *büttel*):—OTeut. **budilo-s*, derivative of *biud-an*, in OE. *biudan*, OHG. *biotan* to offer, present, deliver, announce, command. Some form of the Teutonic was adopted in Romanic: cf. It. *bidello*, Pr. Sp., OF. *bedel*, F. *bédau*, med.L. *bedellus*, *bedellus*; and in ME. the Fr. form *bedel* gradually superseded the native *bydel*. The ordinary modern spelling is *beadle*, but the archaic forms *bedel*, *bedel*, *bedell*, are in use in specific senses.]

† 1. One who makes a proclamation (on behalf of another); a herald. *Obs.*

c. 1200 Ælfric Ex. xxiii. 5 Aaron . . het bydelas beodan and þus cweþan. *c. 1200 Ormin* 632 Cristess bidell Sannt Johan. *c. 1300 Cursor M.* 11006 Sent him forwit his beede, For þi sent iesus iohn forwith. *c. 1440 Gesta Rom.* 15 Whenne the bedell hadde y-makid this proclamacion. *1535 Coverdale Dan.* iii. 4 The bedell cried out with all his might. *1644 Bulwer Chirrol* 124 Proclaimed liberty by the Beadle to many of the parts of Greece.

† 2. The crier or usher of a law-court; a town-crier. *Obs.*

c. 1400 Apol. Loll. 8 If a bedel, or criare, schewe þe fre graunt of his lord. *c. 1430—50 tr. Higden* (1865) I. 247 A bydelle, or the crier of the cite ascende in to a towre, and seide so many tymes, 'Calo, calo.' *1691 Blount Law Dict.* *Bedel*, a Crier or Messenger of a court.

2. One who delivers the message or executes the mandates of an authority: † *a. generally. Obs.*

c. 1175 Lamb. Hom. 95 Þes budelles word. *Ibid.* 117 Þe bisceop . . . godes budel is. *c. 1200 Leg. St. Kath.* 1928 A burhreue . . . þæt wes þe deoules budel. *c. 1375 Wyclif Sermon*. Sel. Wks. 1871 II. 100 Þei be trewe bedellis to telle it. *c. 1440 Gesta Rom.* 364 Dethie is the messynger of the hie Emperour . . . and . . . the betille of hym that made hevyn and Erth. *c. 1450 Lydg. St. Albion* (1534) G j b, As a bedyll to bryngne you tydyng. *1513 Bradshaw St. Werburge* (1848) 39 This wycked Werode, the bedyll of Belyall.

† 3. *Spec.* A messenger of justice, a warrant officer; an under-bailiff; a tipstaff. *Obs.*

c. 1000 Ags. Gosp. Luke xii. 58 Þe læs he þe sylle þam . . . bydele, and se bydel þe sende on cwertern. *c. 1300 Havelok* 266 Schiureus he sette, bedels, and greyes . . . To yemen wilde wodes and pathes Fro wicke men. *1393 Langl. P. Pl. C.* iii. 6 Budels and bailifs . . . and brokours of chaffare. *c. 1500 God Speed Plough* 37 Bayllys and bedelles . . . to doo vs sorowe Inough. *1591 Lambard Arch.* (1635) 38 Burgess Serjeants and Beadles have their Courts within every their particular limits. *1608 Coke On Litt.* 234 b, The oath of a Bedell of a Mannor is, that he shall duly and truly execute all such Attachments and other Proces as shall be directed to him from the Lord or Steward of his Court.

† 4. An under-officer of the Forest Courts. *Obs.*

1598 Manwood Lawes Forest xxi. § 4 (1615) 206 A Bedle is an officer or servant of the Forest that doth make all manner of garnishments of the Courts of the Forest, and also all manner of Proclamations as well within the Courts of the Forest as without. *1647 Haward Crown Rev.* 48 Bedle of the Forrest: Fee, £9 2s. 6d. *1700 Tyrell Hist. Eng.* II. 819 No Forester or Bedell . . . shall make any Ale-shots, or Collect Sheafs of Corn.

3. An apparitor or precursor who walks officially in front of dignitaries, a mace-bearer; *a. spec.* in the English universities (at present conventionally spelt *bedel*, -ell), the name of certain officials, formerly of two ranks distinguished as *esquire bedels* and *yeomen bedels*, having various functions as executive officers of the University. Their duties are now chiefly processional: at Oxford there are four, the junior- or sub-bedel being the official attendant of the Vice-chancellor, before whom he bears a silver

staff or mace; at Cambridge there are two, called *esquire-bedells*, both of whom officially walk in front of the Vice-chancellor with maces.

a. 1300 Cursor M. (Cott.) 12914 Als bedel gais be-for iustis. *1566 Petition in Strype Ann. Ref.* I. i. xxx. 342 The beadles and other officers, belonging to either of the Universities. *1577 Holinshed Chron.* III. 11461 One of the bedels named maister Adams, came weeping to him, & praied him to shift for himselfe. *1642 Laud Hist. Chanc. Oxf.* 132 (T.) If the university would bring in some bachelors of Art to be yeomen-bedels . . . they which thrived well and did good service, might after be preferred to be esquire-bedels. *a. 1763 Shenstone Odes* (1765) 206 When college-students take degrees, And pay the beadle's endless fees. *1777 Cambr. Univ. Cal.* 143 Esquire Bedells. The Bedells are officers for life, they must be men of learning, and have taken the degree of A.M. *1826-7 Act 7 & 8 Geo. IV.* lxxv. in *Oxf. & Camb. Enactm.* 144 The Proctors and Bedels for the time being. *1849 Macaulay Hist. Eng.* II. 280 The registrar and bedells waited on Francis.

b. The apparitor of a trades guild or company.
1389 Eng. Gilds (1870) 35 He [the Alderman] ssal sende forth þe bedel to alle þe breþeren and þe systeren. *1514 Ibid.* 144 To be paid yerly . . . to the bedell of the seid Gilde, Tuppens. *1844 J. Johnson Typogr.* I. 541 He received aid from his Company, and was ultimately appointed their beadle.

4. An inferior parish officer appointed by the vestry to keep order in church, punish petty offenders, and act as the servitor or messenger of the parish generally; a parish constable.

1594 1st Pt. Contention (1843) 23 Have you not Beadles in your town? *c. 1600 Distracted Emp.* v. iii. in *Old Pl.* (1884) III. 248 Let the Bedle . . . with . . . his owne whyppe medle, And lashe theym soundlye. *1718 Steele Spect.* No. 509 ¶ 2 The unlucky boys with toys and balls were whipped away by a beadle. *1818 Hazlitt Eng. Poets* v. (1870) 128 If Bloomfield is too much of the farmer's boy, Crabbe is too much of the parish beadle. *1845 Stephen Lawus Eng.* II. 701 A beadle . . . whose business is to attend the vestry, to give notice of its meetings to the parishioners, and execute its orders &c. *1857 Toulm. Smith Parish* 55 A printed copy of the notice calling each Vestry, shall be left by the Beadel at every house in the Parish.

b. In Scotland the duties of the beadle or 'church-officer' are more especially connected with attending upon the clergyman; he may be also sexton.

c. 1600 Ramsay Remin. i. 6 The beddal and parish oracle. *1864 Rogers Soc. Life Scot.* I. v. 163 At Alls the beadle's fee for the funeral bell was thirteen shillings and fourpence.

† 5. *fig.* (referring to the punitive functions of the beadle.) *Obs.*

1595 Shaks. John II. I. 189 Her iniurie the Beadle to her sinne. *1650 R. Stapylton Strada's Low-C. Warres* II. 33 Fear, the Beadle of the law, lixed them from the beginning. *1797 Godwin Enquirer* I. ix. 84 He is the beadle to chastise their follies.

6. *Comb., as beadle-office; beadle-watched adj.*

1876 Geo. Eliot Dan. Der. III. xxxviii. A narrow, beadle-watched portal. *1877 E. Thomas Lange's Materialism* (1880) II. 245 The magnificent abstraction . . . performed the meanest beadle-offices long enough to excite a universal distrust of philosophy.

Beadledom (*bēd'ldm*). [*see -DOM*] The embodiment of the characteristics of beadles as a class; stupid officiousness and 'red-tapeism.'

1860 Temple Bar I. 80 The defeat of beadle-dom and vestrydom. *1861 Blackw. Mag.* 732 [Words] which serve to express the relationship supposed to exist between the higher and lower grades of English society. Flunkeyism, plush, beadle-dom, lordolatry. *1866 Reader* 15 Dec. 106 At present we have too much beadle-dom on the episcopal bench.

Beadlehood. [*see -HOOD*] The state or dignity of a beadle. *So Beadleship.*

1838 Dickens O. Twist xvii. Mr. Bumble . . . was in the full bloom and pride of beadleism. [*Later edd. read 'beadle-dom, and 'beadlehood'. The latter is in the C. D. ed.*]

Beadlemer (*bēd'l,mē-r*). [Corruption of F. *beuf-de-mer* 'the Seale or Sea-calfe' (Cotgr.)] A one-year-old hooded seal. *1859 in Worcester.*

Beadlery. † *Obs.* Forms: 7 *bedellery*, 7-8 *bedelarie*, -ary. [prob. ad. med.L. *bedellaria*, f. *bedellus*: see *BEADLE* and -ERY, -RY.] The office or jurisdiction of a beadle.

1608 Coke On Litt. 234 a, The offices of Steward, Constable, Bedelarie, Bayliwick, or other offices. *1699 Blount Anc. Tenures* 75 Bedlery is the same to a Bedel, as Bailiwick to a Bailiff. *1699—Law Dict.* *Bedelary*.

Beadleship (*bēd'l,shīp*). Also *bedel(ish)ip*. [*see -SHIP*] The office of beadle.

1613 Sir H. Finch Law (1636) 106 The grant of a stewardship, Bedleship, Bailiwick, or other offices. *1691 Wood Ath. Oxon* II. 171 He . . . was turn'd out of his Beadleship in the year following. *1870 Daily News* 1 Feb. I should have no objection to the beadleship of any City company which arrays its minion in specially gorgeous attire. *1873 Ibid.* 22 Sept. 3/5 Cambridge, Sept. 20. The Esquire Bedleship . . . Mr. Miller resigns the office of Junior Esquire Bedell.

Beadlet. [*f. BEAD sb. + -LET*] A small or tiny bead, or bead-like drop.

1863 Lancaster Præterita 85 Celandine in wide gold beadlets glared.

Beadman: see *BEADSMAN*.

Bead-roll (*bēd'rōl*). Also 6-8 *bed-*, 6-*bede-*. [*f. BEAD sb. + ROLL sb.*]

† 1. *orig.* A list of persons to be specially prayed for. *Obs. or arch.*

c. 1500 Fabian Will in Chron. Pref. 6 The soules above written, may be remembered in their parishe bede rolle by the whole space of a yere after. *1504 in Bury Wills* (1850)

100 A sangred to be payed for in the bedroule for my soule . . . by the space of a yere. *1508 Tindale Obed. Chr. Man.* To Rdr., Here a mass-penny, there a trental, yonder dirige-money, and for his bead-roll. *1849 Rock Ch. of Fathers* II. vii. 355 Those souls of the dead whose names were written upon the bead-roll just read out.

2. *transf.* A list or string of names; a catalogue; a long line, a pedigree; a long series.

1599 More Supplic. Soules Wks. 289/1 This he laith to y' onely fault of the cleargie, naming them in his bederolle, bishops, abbottes, etc. *1596 Spenser F. Q.* IV. ii. 32 Dan Chaucer, well of English undefyled, On fames eternall bead-roll worthe to be fyled. *1603 Florio Montaigne* III. viii. (1632) 523 A man . . . doth nothing but molest all men with the impertinent bed-rowle and register of his pedigrees. *1607 Heywood Wom. Kilde* Wks. 1874 II. 115 'Kac'd from the bed-roll of Gentility. *1618 Drayton Poly-olb.* xxii. (1748) 346 Wakefield battle next we in our bedroul bring. *1644 Quarles Judgm. & Mercy* 286 The devil presents me with a bead-roll of my offences. *1806 Scott in Lockhart* (1839) VIII. 322 A whole beadroll of cousins. *1868 Freeman Norm. Cong.* (1876) II. viii. 218 The long bead-roll of the worthies of Bec. *1884 Symonds Shaks. Predecess.* v. 191 The whole bede roll of inferior oracles.

3. A string of beads for counting prayers; a rosary.
1598 Hakluyt I. 115 A certaine string with an hundreth or two hundreth nutshells thereupon, much like to our beadroule. *1816 Coleridge Lay Sermon*. 341 Superstition . . . with its pack of amulets, bead-rolls, fetiches. *1819 Wordsw. Waggoner* II. 9 Twelve strokes that clock would have been telling. . . Its bead-roll of midnight. *1866 Mrs. Stowe Lit. Foxes* 22 Let us all make a bead-roll, a holy rosary, of all that is good and agreeable in our position . . . and charge ourselves to repeat it daily.

† **Bead-row**. *Obs.* [*see ROW*: here perhaps confused with *ROLL*.] = *prec.* (sense 2.)

1576 Fleming tr. Cains' Dogs in Arb. Garner III. 246 We reckon it [the beaver] not in the beadrow of English Dogs. *1577 tr. Bullinger's Decades* (1592) 190 A pitifull beadrow of miserable torments. *Ibid.* 263 His Catalog or beadrow of heritikes. *1607 Torsell Four-J. Beasts* 135.

Beadsman (*bēdz-mān*). Forms: 3-4 *beode-mon*, 4-6 *bedeman*, 4-7 *bed-*, 6 *beid-*, *bedys-*, *beids-*, 6-7 *bead-*, 7 *beades-*, 9 *bede-*, 6-*bedes-*, *beadsman*. [*ME. beodeman*, f. *BEAD sb. 1 + MAN*: with *beadsman* = bead's-man cf. *kinsman*, *craftsman*, *townsman*, etc. The archaic spellings *bedesman*, *bedeman*, are also used as historical forms.]

1. *lit.* A man of prayer; one who prays for the soul or spiritual welfare of another.

c. 1200 Ancr. R. 356 Beon oðres beode-mon. *c. 1485 Wyn-toun Cron.* ix. xxvii. 99 His Bede-men þai suld be . . . And pray for hym. *1538 Latimer Sermon & Rem.* (1845) 412 The prior of Worcester, is your orator and beadsman. *c. 1540 Thrie Priests of Peblis*, Welcum my beidmen, my blesse, and al my beid. *1591 Shaks. Two Gent.* I. i. 18 Commend thy grievance to my holy prayers, For I will be thy beadsman, Valentine. *1647 Ward Simp. Cobler* (1843) 62 As servent a Beadsman for your welfare. *1869 Freeman Norm. Cong.* (1876) III. ii. 28 His friend and bedesman, Abbot Eadwine.

2. One paid or endowed to pray for others; a pensioner or almsman charged with the duty of praying for the souls of his benefactors. Hence in later times; *a.* in England: An almsman, an inmate of an almshouse; (so also *beadsman*: see *BEAD sb. 3*); *b.* in Scotland: A public almsman or licensed beggar (into which position 'the King's Bedesmen' finally sank).

a. 1528 Skelton Image Hypocr. 108 Other smale mystyners, As reders and singers, Bedemen and bellringers. *1593 Peele Chron. Edw. I.* 8a He shall have forty pound of yearly fee, And be my beadsman. *1593 Shaks. Rich. II.* III. ii. 116 Thy very Beads-men learne to bend their Bowes. *1796 Lond. Gaz.* No. 6458/5 John Hailes, a Beadsman of the Cathedral Church of Ely.

b. 1544 S. Fish Supplic. Begg. 18 Your poore sike lame and sore bedemen. *1582 N. T. (Rhem.) Acts* x. 21 marg., The praise of our Almsfolkes and beadsmen may do us great good euen after our departure. *1636 Dekker Wonder* iv. i. Wks. 1873 IV. 267 To be a Beades-man in your Hospital. *1862 Mrs. Wood Channings* i, The decrepit old bedesmen in their black gowns. *1864 Atkinson Whitley Gloss.* *Beadsman*. . . now used to denote almspeople in general, and prevalent at Guisborough, as applied to the inmates of the almshouses in that town.

b. 1768 Burns Wks. III. 302 Stranger, go! Heav'n be thy guide! Quoth the Beadsman of Nith-side. *1816 Scott Antiq. Advt.* 6 These Bedesmen are an order of paupers to whom the Kings of Scotland were in the custom of distributing a certain alms . . . and who were expected in return to pray for the royal welfare and that of the state. *Ibid.* xxxviii. It wadna be creditable for me, that am the king's bedesman, and entitled to beg by word of mouth.

† 3. A messenger. *Obs.*

1377 Langl. P. Pl. B. III. 41, I shal assoille þe my-selue . . . And also be þi bedeman and bere wel þi message.

† 4. A petitioner. *arch.*

1600 S. Nicholson Acolastus (1876) 11 Poore foolish Blink-ard, Beads-man vnto Christ, For restitution of long-lacked sight. *1876 Bancroft Hist. U. S. V.* xli. 12 Having thus owned the continuing sovereignty of the king, before whom they presented themselves as bedemen.

† 5. The term by which men used to designate or subscribe themselves in addressing their patrons and superiors, answering to our modern 'humble servant.' (Cf. 'your petitioners will ever pray,' still retained at end of petitions to Parliament.) *Obs.*

1400 George & Stokes in Ellis Orig. Lett. III. 20 I. 67 We jowr seruitours and bede men. *1485 Plumpton Corr.* 49 Your bedman, Sir Tho. Betanson. *1590 Wolsey in Four C. Eng. Lett.* 11 Your dayly bedysman And assuryd friend,

T. Carle Ebor. 1535 Boorde *Let. in Introd. Knowl.* (1870) 53 By be hond of your saruuntt and bedman, Andrew Boord. 1577 HOLINSHED *Chron.* III. 1164/1 Your graces most bounden bedesman and seruant Edmund Boner. 1645 *Let. in Harrington Nugae Ant.* 73 A dailie beadesman for you, and a right obedient subject.

† **Beadsmanny.** *Obs.* [f. prec. + -RY.] The position or place of a beadsman.

1594 NASH *Unfort. Trav.* 9 His former request to the King to accept his lands, and allow him a beadsmanrie.

Beadsteed, *obs.* form of **BEDSTEAD**.

Beadswoman: see **BEAD sb.** 3.

Beady, north. dial. f. *beadhouse*: see **BEAD sb.** 3.

Beady (bē'di), *a.* [f. **BEAD sb.** + -Y¹.]

1. Beadlike; (of eyes) small, round and glittering.

1866 DISRAELI *Viv. Grey* I. iv. Small black, beady eyes.

1872 THACKERAY *Van. Fair* xix. (1853) 149 Mrs. Bute's beady eyes.

1879 BLACK *Macloed of D. I.* 170 The ugly brute, with its beady eyes and its black snout.

2. Covered with beads (of liquid, etc.).

1868 GEO. ELIOT *Sp. Gipsy* 243 While he treads painfully with stillest step And beady brow.

3. Full of bubbles, frothy.

1881 *Harper's Mag.* LXIII. 488 Creamy and beady scum.

Beaften, early form of **BAFT**.

Beaf (e), *obs.* form of **BEEF**.

Beag, **beaz**, early forms of **BEE sb.** 2, *Obs.*, ring.

1873 E. ROBERTSON *Hist. Ess.* II. i. 30 To swear upon 'the holy beag' was the most solemn oath known.

Beagle (bē'g'l). Forms: 5-6 beagle, 6 beagle, 6-beagle. [Derivation obscure. The F. *bigle* is recognized as borrowed from Eng. The word can scarcely be of OE. origin, because of the hard g; in this position the g could not have escaped becoming palatalized. Possibly it is from F. *be-guile*, f. *bler* to gape, open wide + *guile* throat. The OF. *bequeuile*, according to Godefroy, meant a noisy shouting person (*criailleur*); 'open throat', in this sense, might be an epithet applied to a dog, though there is no evidence that it was so used in Fr.]

1. A small variety of hound, tracking by scent, formerly used in hunting hares, but now superseded by the Harrier, which sometimes takes its name.

1547 *Spr. Ioue Degre* 771 With theyr begies in that place, And sevenscore raches at his recharge.

1548 HALL *Chron. Hen. VI.* an. 27 (R.) The Frenchmen still like good beagles following their prey.

1631 QUARLES *Samson Wks.* (1717) 406 Quick-scented Beagles. 1704 *Pore Windsor For.* I. 121 To plains with well-bred beagles we repair, And trace the mazes of the circling hare.

1868 HUXLEY *Lect. Wks.* Men 110 A physiological peculiarity enables the Beagle to track its prey by the scent.

2. *fig.* One who makes it his business to scent out or hunt down; a spy or informer; a constable, sheriff's officer, bailiff.

1559 *Myrr. Mag.*, *Jack Cade* xix. 2 That restless beagle sought and found me out.

1570 B. GOODE *Pop. Kingd.* II. (1880) 17 Such prettie Begles haue these Bishops. That hunt out Prebendes fatte for them.

1618 RALEIGH *Maxims* 54 (1644) 45 To have their Beagles, or listner in every corner. of the Realm. 1640 *Day Peregr. Schol.* (1881) A brace of beagles in blew. 1837 CARLYLE *Fr. Rev.* III. vii. v. 377 Attorneys and Law-beagles, which hunt ravenous on this Earth.

3. *attrib.*, as in *beagle-chase*, -dog, -hound.

1559 HULOT, *Begle hounde, catellus*. 1706 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 4223/4 A Beagle-Dog. with . . . Liver-coloured Spots upon his Ears.

1808 CARLYLE *Frederick* I. iv. viii. 471 Hot Beagle-chase, hot Stag-hunt, your chief game deer.

† **Beagle-rod.** *Obs.* rare⁻¹. [variant of **BAGLE** (-rod), *q. v.*] A crossier.

1664 *Flodden* F. ii. 19 And Abots eke as bold as the best For beagle-rod, tooks [took] bills in hand.

Beak (bēk), *sb.* Forms: 3-6 bec, 4-5 bek, beke, 4-6 beeko, 6 beoko (pl. beks), 6-7 beake, 7 beack, 7-8 beok, 7- beak. [a. F. *bec* (= It. *becco*, Pr. *bec*, Sp. *Pg. bico*:—late L. *beccus*), of Gaulish origin. Suetonius says (*Vitell.* 18) that Antonius Primus, who was born at Toulouse, had as a boy the nickname of *Beccus*, 'id valet, gallinacei rostrum.' According to Thurneysen, probably related to the Celtic stem *bacc-* 'hook'; but the mod. Celtic words, Irish *bec*, Breton *bek*, *beg*, are 'certainly borrowed' from Eng. and Fr. The original short vowel of Fr. *bec*, ME. *bec*, *bek*, was still retained in *beck* in the 18th c., but the form *beek*, *beak*, with lengthened vowel, occurred in the plural at least, where it evidently originated (*beek-es* being made into *be-kes*, *bē-kes*, *beekes*, *beaks*; cf. *staff*, *staves*) as early as 1400.]

I. Original and allied senses.

1. The horny termination of the jaws of a bird, consisting of two pointed mandibles adapted for piercing and for taking firm hold; a bird's bill.

1220 *Bestiary* 58 in O. E. Misc. 3 Siden his bec is al to-wrong. 1399 *Pol. Poems* (1859) I. 395 But the nedy nestlingis . . . burnished her beekis, and bent to himwardis.

1406 *St. Albans* A vjb. Ye shall say this hauke has a large beke or a shortt beke, and call it not bille. c. 1532 Ld. BERNERS *Huon* cxli. 432 The Gryffon . . . was redy to dystroye hym with his becke and naylys. 1573 *Tusser Husb.* (1878) 89 If peacock and turkey leaue iobbing their bez.

1611 SHAKS. *Cymb.* v. iv. 118 His Royall Bird Prunes

the immortal wing, and cloyes his Beake. 1713 CRESS WINCHESEA *Misc. Poems* 107 With Vultur's Becks, And Shoulders higher than their Necks. 1831 CARLYLE *Sart. Res.* II. vii. (1838) 187 The Eagle . . . to attain his new beak, must harshly dash off the old one upon rocks.

b. *Birds of a beak* (cf. 'birds of a feather'; see *A. adj.* 2 3).

1607 DEKKER *Knt's Conjur.* (1842) 28 Cut vp one cut vp all; they were birdes all of a beake.

2. The extremities, often horny in structure, of the mandibles of other animals; e.g. the turtle, ornithorhynchus, octopus, etc.

1822 BURROWS *Cycl.* s. v. *Sepia*. Their beak is like that of a parrot. 1840 *Penny Cycl.* s. v. *Ornithorhynchus*. The edge of the osseous beak. 1847 CARPENTER *Zool.* § 485 Tortoises . . . (have) the mouth destitute of teeth, but furnished with a horny beak. 1877 SYMONDS *Renniss. Italy* vi. 317 An octopus which . . . shoots its beak into a vital spot.

† 3. The snout or muzzle of quadrupeds. *Obs.*

1567 MAPLET *Gr. Forest* 85 [The Elephant's] becke is holpen with that snowt that helpeth him euen as our hand doth. 1607 TORSSELL *Four-f. Beasts* 231 The beak or snowt of a Horse, ought not to stand out like a Swines.

4. The elongated head, proboscis, or sucker mouth of certain insects; e.g. the weevil, cochineal.

1658 ROWLAND *Mouffet's Theat. Ins.* 1086 The Weevil . . . is formed like a small Beetle, it hath a becke proper to it self.

1847 CARPENTER *Zool.* § 720 The young larvæ [of the Cochineal] . . . affix themselves by their sucking-beak. 1866 RYE *Brit. Beetles* xvii. 174 The Rhynchophora . . . have the head elongated in front into a rostrum or beak.

5. *humorously*. The human nose.

1598 FLORIO, *Naso aduoco*, a beake-nose. 1854 THACKERAY *Newcomes* I. 206 The well-known hooked beak of the old Countess. 1865 E. C. CLAYTON *Cruel Fort.* I. 143 A large, fat, greasy woman, with a prominent beak.

II. Transferred and technical senses.

6. A beak-shaped point or projection; a peak.

1440 *Partonope* 2100 Wyth the beke yet of his gleve. 1483 in *Planché Brit. Costume* (1834) 212 Two hats of estate . . . with the round rolls behind and the beaks before.

1602 CAREW *Cornwall* (J.). Cuddenbeak, from a well advanced promontory, which entitled it beak. 1720 *Stow's Surv.* (Strype 1754) I. iii. viii. 691/2 It was ordained . . . that Beaks of Shin (= shoes) and Boots should not pass the length of two inches. 1855 tr. *Labarte's Arts Mid. Ages* iv. 106 A goose-quill cut to a point . . . but with a longer beak.

7. The pointed and ornamented projection at the prow of ancient vessels, esp. of war galleys, where it was used in piercing and disabling the enemy's vessels; now = **BEAK-HEAD**.

1550 NICOLLS *Thucyd.* 183 (R.) Crushed and bruised in their fore parts with the beakes of the Corynthians. 1610 SHAKS. *Temp.* I. ii. 197 Now on the Beake, Now in the Waste, the Decke, in every Cabyn, I flam'd amazement.

1738 GLOVER *Leonidas* I. 63 Xerxes' navy with their hostile beaks. 1830 BLACKIE *Æschylus* I. 43 Ship on ship Struck clashing; beak on butting beak was driven.

8. a. In the shells of some univalves: A narrow prolongation of the shell beyond the aperture in the axial line, containing the 'canal.'

b. In those of some bivalves: The projecting apex of each valve, situated directly above the hinge; also called *umbo*.

1851 RICHARDSON *Paleont.* viii. 240 The canal is the elongation of the aperture, in both lips of those shells which have a beak. 1854 WOODWARD *Mollusca* II. 245 The valves of the Conchifera are bound together by an elastic ligament . . . The apex is termed the beak, or umbo.

9. *Bot.* A sharp projecting process, or prolonged tip, as in the seeds of Crane's-bill, etc.

1578 LYTE *Dodoens* 45 Whose seedes be long and sharpe like to a Hearsons beake or byl. 1800 GALPINE *Brit. Bot.* 67 Silicles linear, smooth, with short beaks. 1870 HOOKER *St. Fl.* 75 Ovary . . . produced upwards into a styliferous beak.

10. The taper tube of a retort, still, etc.; a spout.

1641 *FRENCH Distill.* v. (1651) 146 Take a Caldron with a . . . half cover having a beake or nose. 1827 FARADAY *Chem. Manip.* xx. 542 When the beak of a retort is dipped into such mercury.

† 11. *pl.* A pair of pincers, a forceps. *Obs.*

1656 KIDGLEY *Pract. Physic* 172 The bone must be cut away either with Beaks or Raspers. *Ibid.* 357 It is taken out with the Fingers, or Beakes, with or without cutting.

12. *technically* in mechanical arts: a. in *Printing* (see *quot.*). b. in *Forging* (see **BEAK-IRON**). c. in *Carpentry*, the crooked end of the holdfast of a carpenter's bench. d. in *Gas-fitting*, a gas-burner with a circular hole 1/4 of an inch in diameter. e. in *Organ-building*.

1676 MOXON *Print Lett.* 21 The Projecture or Beak of the Stem. *Ibid.* 18 The Beak projects i stem on the left hand. 1831 J. HOLLAND *Manuf. Metal* I. 182 The beak or point of his anvil. 1852 SEIDEL *Organ* 82 The mouth-piece . . . consists of the block, the beak, the tongue, the spring, the reed.

13. *Farriery*, 'A little horse-shoe, turned up, and fastened in upon the forepart of the hoof. Its use is to keep the shoes fast.' Chambers *Cycl. Supp.*

14. *Arch.* 'A little pendent fillet left on the edge of the larnier, forming a canal behind to prevent the water from running down the lower bed of the cornice.' Gwilt. 1734 in *Builder's Dict.*

III. *Comb.*, chiefly attrib., as *beak-nose* (see 5), *beak-rush*, -sedge (see *quot.*); also the adjs. *beak-bearing*, -like, -shaped. See also **BEAK-HEAD**, -IRON.

1830 WITHERING *Bot. Arrangement*. (ed. 7) II. 109 White Beak-rush; *Rhynchospora alba* . . . [found in] turfy bogs and marshes. 1839-47 TODD *Cycl. Anat. & Phys.* III. 151, 2

The beak-bearing mouth of the adult. 1849-50 *Ibid.* IV. 878/2 The dense covering of the beak-like jaws of the Parrot-fishes. 1851 RICHARDSON *Geol.* viii. 232 The dorsal valve is the largest, and . . . develops a beak-shaped process.

† **Beak**, *sb.* 2 *Obs.* rare⁻¹. [f. **BEAK v.** 1, or F. *becquer*, in the sense 'to give a stroke with the beak.'] † A stroke with the beak; a thrust, a poke.

1598 WYRLEY *Armorie* 100 A hardie Britton thinking not to toy Vnto . . . my seruant gaue a beake.

Beak (bēk), *sb.* 3 *slang.* [Derivation unknown. † from **BEAK sb.** 1; but in Harman's vocabulary of 'Peddlers' French' in his *Caveat* (1573), *harman beek* is explained as 'the counstable' (*harman* being 'the stocks').]

A magistrate or justice of the peace.

1573 *HARMAN Caveat* (Shaks. Soc. 1880) 84 The Harman beek, the counstable. *Gipsy Song in Shaks. Eng.* (1856) I. viii. 270 The ruffin (devil) cly (take) the nob (head) of the harman beek.] a 1845 Hood *Tale Trump.* xxx, Dicky Gossips of birds, That talk with as much good sense and decorum, As many Beaks who belong to the quorum. 1838 DICKENS *O. Twist* (1850) 37/2 Why, a beak's a madgst'rate; and when you walk by a beak's order, it's . . . always agoing up, and nivr acoming down agin.

Beak (bēk), *v.* 1 Forms: 3-5 beke, (4 bike), 6 beake, 7 beok, 7- beak. [a. OF. *beque-r*, *bequier*, f. *bec* **BEAK sb.** 1; cf. MHG. *becken*, *bicken*.]

1. To strike or seize with the beak, to peck; to push the beak (or snout) into: a. *trans.*

c. 1230 *Ancre. R.* 118 Ase deð þe pellican . . . mid hire owune bile bekie hire broeste. 1591 PERCIVAL *Sp. Dict.*, *Hocicar*, to roote as a pigge, to busse, or beake. 1770 LANGHORNE *Plutarch* (1879) I. 513/1 The crows came and beaked it for several days. 1861 MRS. NORTON *Lady La G.* II. 206 Some poor woodland bird, who stays his flight . . . And beaks the plumage of his glistening wings.

b. *absol.* or *intr.*: occas. *fig.*

c. 1230 *Ancre. R.* 84 þe bacitatre . . . bekeð mid his blake bile o cwike charoines. 1571 FORTESCUE *Forest Hist.* 65 b, Certaine sparrows . . . supposing they had been grapes, ordered them to beake thereon. 1760-6 WOLCOTT (P. Pindar) *Odes R. Acad. Wks.* I. 113 Like cocks, for ever at each other beaking.

† c. *spec.* in *Falconry*; see *quot.*

1406 *Bk. St. Albans* C viij. She bekyth when she sewith: that is to say she wyptih hir beke.

2. *intr.* To project or stick out with or as a beak; to put or push out the beak; to 'put out the nose', i. e. to peep out. *rare.*

c. 1230 *Ancre. R.* 102 Totilde ancre . . . þet bekeð euer utward ase untowe brid lene cage. 1547 BOORDE *Introd. Knowl.* 207 On the toppe . . . is a thyng like a poding bekyng forward.

† 3. † To thrust, strike with a pointed weapon.

[In the quotation *biked* may be for *beked*, as *styked* interchanges with *steked*, perh. the original reading here; but it may also be a distinct word. Mätner compares MHG. *bicken*, and *becken*, 'to pierce, strike through, hack, hew,' ad. F. *pieger*, It. *piccare*.]

c. 1300 *K. Alis.* 2337 The thriddle, Gildas, faste biked; Ac thorough the throte he him styked.

Beak, var. form of **BEEK v.** to warm.

Beaked (bēkt), *ppl. a.*; also 7 beak'd. [f. **BEAK sb.** 1 + -ED².]

1. Furnished with a beak (or peak).

1520 PUTTENHAM *Eng. Poetrie* (Arb.) 290 A long beaked doublet hanging downe to his thies. 1611 COTGR. s. v. *Oiseau*, Beaked like a Parrot. 1870 BRYANT *Iliad* I. l. 19, I shall now go home . . . With my beaked ships.

2. *spec.* a. in *Her.* used when the beak or bill of the fowl is of a different tincture from the body.

1572 BOSSEWELL *Armorie* II. 36 b, An Eagle displayed with twoo heades . . . membred and beaked Gules. 1864 BOUTELL *Hist. Heraldry* xv. § 15. 264 Three herons arg. . . beaked and legged or.

b. in *Bot.* Rostrate: sometimes forming a descriptive epithet of plants, e.g. *Beaked Parsley*.

1841 WITHERING *Bot. Arrangement*. (ed. 5) 143 Common Beaked-parsley. Fruit egg-shaped. 1858 THORAU *Maine W.* (1882) 119 I saw the aster puniceus and the beaked hazel. 1870 HOOKER *Stud. Flora* 4 Buttercup . . . Fruit a head or spike of apiculate or beaked achenes.

c. in *Zool.* Having a beak-like proboscis.

1865 NICHOLSON *Zool.* liv. (1880) 500 Other well-known members of the family [*Batides*] are . . . the Beaked Rays.

3. Resembling a beak, pointed or hooked.

1590 GREENE *Never too late* (1600) 96 His nose . . . was conqueror like, as beaked as an Eagle. 1637 MILTON *Lycidas* 94 Every gust . . . That blows from off each beaked promontory. 1863 *Cornh. Mag.* 100 Small, searching eyes, a beaked nose, and white bristly hair.

Beaker (bē'kar). Forms: 4 biker, 5 beoure, byker, bikyr, 7 beaker, 7- beaker: see also **BICKER**. [ME. *biker*, ad. ON. *bikarr*: found in other Teutonic langs. (OS. *bikert*, OHG. *behhart*, *behharr*, MHG. and mod.G. *becher*:—OTeut. type **bikarjo*-(m), but not a native Teut. word: considered to be a L. *bicārium*; but as this is known only in med.L., it is doubtful whether it existed early enough to be the source of the Teutonic. (The Romanic words, It. *bicchiere*, *pecchero*, OF. *pichier*, *pechier*, referred by Diez to the same source, require a Latin type in *biccār*.) *Bicārium* is referred by Diez to Gr. *bīnos* 'drinking-bowl,' of which **bīnāpov* would be a legitimately formed, though not recorded, diminutive. The original Eng. form is retained in Scotch *bicker*; the mod. form has apparently been assimilated to *beak*.]

1. A large drinking vessel with a wide mouth, an open cup or goblet. (Now chiefly in literary use.)
 1348 *Acc. Edu. Pr. Wales in Promp. Parv.* 35 Magne pecie argenti, vocate Bikers. 1490 *E. E. Wills* (1882) 45 A beure of seluer. c 1440 *Prompt. Parv.* 35/2 Byker, cuppe (v. r. bikyr), *cimbum*. 1600 ROWLANDS *Let. Humours Blood* vi. 75 Fill him his Beaker, he will never flinch, To giue a full quart pot the empty pinch. 1795 POPE *Odys.* xiv. 117 The prince a silver beaker chose. 1873 FREEMAN *Hist. Ess.* 14 His cupbearer was carrying . . a royal beaker full of wine.
 b. The contents of a beaker.
 1819 SCOTT *Ivanhoe* I. xv. 218 We drink this beaker . . to the health of Wilfred of Ivanhoe. 1870 DISRAELI *Lothair* xxx. 146 Stimulated by . . beakers of Badminion.

2. An open-mouthed glass vessel, with a lip for pouring, used in scientific experiments.
 1877 WATTS *Fountain Chem.* II. 16 The acid containing the ammonia is poured out into a beaker.

Beakful (bē'kful). [*f.* BEAK *sb.* + -FUL.] As much as can be held in a bird's beak.

1794 WOLCOTT (P. Pindar) *Rowl. for Oliver Wks.* II. 365 Got a good handsome beakful by good pulling. 1884 in *Harper's Mag.* May 927/1 With a beakful of . . grass.

Beak-head (bē'k'hed). [*f.* BEAK *sb.* + HEAD.]

1. *Naval Arch.* a. The BEAK or prow of an ancient war-galley. b. A small platform at the fore part of the upper deck. c. The part of a ship in front of the fore-castle, fastened to the stem, and supported by the main knee.

1880 NORTH *Plutarch* (1676) 423 Commanding his Master to turn the beak-head of his galley forward. 1614 RALEIGH *Hist. World* viii. Each of them hung out a burning Cresset vpon two poles, at the Beake-head. 1867 CAPT. SMITH *Seaman's Gram.* ii. 10 The Beak-head is without the ship before the fore-Castle . . and of great use, as well for the grace and countenance of the ship, as a place for men to ease themselves in. c 1850 *Rudim. Nav.* (Weale) 95 *Beak head*, the short platform at the fore-part of the upper deck . . placed at the height of the ports from the deck, for the convenience of the chase-guns. 1855 KINGSLEY *Heroes* III. (1868) 105 They . . nailed it [the bough] to the beak-head of the ship.

2. *Arch.* An ornament shaped like a bird's beak used in Norman mouldings.

1849 FREEMAN *Archit.* 248 The beak-head is commonly employed to grasp, as it were, one of the heavy roll-mouldings of the style.

3. *attrib.* **beak-head-beam**, **-bulkhead** (see quot.); **beak-head ornament**, **moulding** (cf. sense 2).

1848 RICKMAN *Archit.* Introd. 17 Ornamented with a succession of zigzags and beak-head ornaments. c 1850 *Rudim. Nav.* (Weale) 95 Cat-Beam, or Beak-Head Beam . . is the broadest beam in a ship, generally made in two breadths, tabled and bolted together. The foreside is placed far enough forward to receive the heads of the stanchions of the beak-head bulk-head. 1867 SMYTH *Sailor's Word-bk.* *Beak-head bulkhead*, the old termination aft of the space called *beak-head*, which inclosed the fore part of the ship.

Beaking (bē'kij), *vbl. sb.* [*f.* BEAK *v.* 1.] The action of striking or seizing with the beak.

1796 PHILLIPS, *Beaking* (a term in Cock-fighting), the fighting of those Birds with their Bills; or their holding with the Bill, and striking with the Heels. 1819 REES *Encycl.*, *Beaking* in Cock-fighting.

Beaking (bē'kij), *ppl. a.* [*f.* BEAK *v.* 1 + -ING 2.] Forming, projecting like, or furnished with, a beak. *Beaking joint*: that formed by the meeting of several heading-joints in one continuous line; the opposite of *breaking joint*.

1667 MOXON *Mech. Exerc.* (1703) 150 The ends may all lye in a straight Line, that the straight ends of other Boards laid against them may make the truer Joint, and this they call a Beaking Joint. 1687 HOLME *Armory* II. iii. 48 The Daubil . . of some called a Beaking Glomaine . . is a long Apple, having a Beak or Hook, by which it hangs to the stalk.

Beak-iron. Also *9 bick*, *beek-iron*. [*A* corruption of BICKERN (= *F. bigorne*, *It. bicornia*, an anvil with two pointed extremities), altered first in form, and then in sense, by popular etymology.] The pike or taper end of a blacksmith's anvil.

1667 MOXON *Mech. Exerc.* (1703) 3 A Black Smith's Anvil . . is sometimes made with a Pike, or Bickern, or Beak-iron, at one end of it. 1831 J. HOLLAND *Manuf. Metals* I. 160 The furniture of a blacksmith's shop . . comprising . . vice, anvil with bick-iron, etc. *ibid.* II. 39 A little beaked anvil, called a beek-iron.

Beakless (bē'kless), *a.* [*f.* BEAK *sb.* + -LESS.] Having no beak.

1598 SYLVESTER *Du Bartas* II. iv. (1641) 229/2 Hence beakless-Bird; hence winged-Beast, they cride. 1870 *Pall Mall G.* 30 Nov. O dearest, sweetest of beakless singers!

Beakment. Also *beatment*. *Obs.* or *dial.* [*perh. f. F. becquer* to peck + -MENT. Cf. Prof. Skeat's remarks on PECK (the measure).] 'A measure of about a quarter of a peck.' Halliwell.

1673 *Depos. Yrk. Castle* (1861) 194 She gott a beakment of wheat flower. 1863 in Robson *Bards of Tyne* 252 The Farrier's cap Blew off . . Into a huckster's shop it went—Now Martin's cap's a tatie beakment.

Beaky (bē'ki), *a.* [*f.* BEAK *sb.* + -Y.] Furnished with or distinguished by a beak.

1718 POPE *Iliad* xiv. 834 The ships, whose beaky proes lay . . on the bending shores. 1867 MISS BROUGHTON *Not wisely* I. 62 Sir Guy Stamer, bald-headed, beaky, ill-natured.

Beal, *sb.* 1. *Obs.* or *dial.* [Apparently a variant of BOIL *sb.*, which occurs in M.E. in the various forms, *byle*, *byil*, *bule*, *buyl*, *buile*, *bile*, *biel*, *bele*, *becl*, the latter apparently the precursor of the 17th c. spelling *beal* (if this does not rather represent the

ON. equivalent *beyla*). For the further history, see BOIL.] A pustule or boil.

c 1400 WYCLIF *Lev.* xiii. 18 (MS. D). The skynne in the whiche a beel [v. r. bocche] is growun. 1632 SHERWOOD, A beale, *pustule*. 1783 AINSWORTH *Lat. Dict.* (Morell) I. s.v., Full of beals, *pustulosus*.

Beal (ē, *sb.* 2. *Obs.* var. PEEL, baker's shovel. 1598 FLORIO, *Impalare*, to put bread into an oven with a beale. [So s.v. *Impalato*.]

Beal (bēl, bē'l), *sb.* 3. [*Gaelic beul* mouth.] The mouth of a (highland) river or valley. (Used for the sake of local colouring.)

1818 SCOTT *Leg. Montrose* III. 330 (Jam.) The different passes, precipices, corries, and beals, through which he said the road lay to Inverary.

Beal, *v.* *Obs.* or *dial.* [*f.* BEAL *sb.* 1] *intr.* To suppurate, to 'gather.' Still in regular use in Scotland.

1611 COTGR., *Bouer*, to beale, to matter. 1717 WODROW *Corr.* (1843) II. 244 The remarkable instance of the adulterer, to whom Mr. Peebles said, 'This shall beal out of your breast!' *Mod. Sc.* Take care the sore does not beal.

Bealing, *vbl. sb.* and *ppl. a.* *Obs.* exc. *dial.* [*f.* BEAL *v.* + -ING.]

1. *vbl. sb.* Suppuration; a 'gathering'; a boil. c 1605 MONTGOMERIE *Poems* (1821) 215 Go to—what rek? And gar the bealing brek. 1611 COTGR., *Hypocrite*, bealing, or matter growing, or gathering in a crushed eye. 1703 THORNTON *Let.*, *Bealing*, matter mix'd with blood running out of a sore. *Mod. Sc.* To poultice a bealing.

2. *ppl. a.* Suppurating, 'gathering.' *Mod. Sc.* To have a bealing hand lanced.

Beak: see BELCH.

Be-all (bē'āl), *sb. phrase*. That which is or constitutes the whole; the whole being: a Shaksperian phrase in common modern use.

1605 SHAKS. *Macb.* I. vii. 5 That but this blow Might be the be all, and the end all. 1830 GEN. P. THOMPSON *Exerc.* (1842) I. 218 This is the end-all and be-all of the anti-liberals' piety. 1854 E. NEALE *Min. Canon* II. 30 With whom money was the 'be-all and end-all of existence.'

Bealme, *obs.* variant of BEAM.

Be-altared, *ppl. a.* [*f.* BE + ALTAR] Furnished or filled with altars.

1655 FULLER *Ch. Hist.* VI. vi. § 9 III. 471 See how the Church of Saint Paul was be-altared in that Age.

Bealte, early form of BEAUTY.

Bealy (ē, *obs.* form of BELLY.

Beam (bēm), *sb.* 1. Forms: 1 *bēam*, 2 *bēm*, *bēm*, 3-4 *bem*, 4-5 *beem*, 4-6 *bome*, (5-6 *Sc.* *beym* (ē, *bēm*, 5-6 *bealme*), 6-7 *beame*, 6- *beam*. [Common Teutonic: OE. *bēam* 'tree', 'plank', = OFris. *bām*, OS. *bām*, *bōm*, MDu. *Du. boom*, OHG., MHG. *baum*, Ger. *baum* 'tree':—West Ger. **baum-s*. The East Ger. words, Goth. *bagm-s*, ON. *baðm-r* 'tree', though supposed to be identical, present phonetic differences of which no explanation has been found, and render somewhat doubtful the original Teutonic form of the word, as also a suggested derivation (which would suit the WGer.) from the vb. root *bā-, beu-*, = Gr. *φύω* (cf. *φύμα* a growth), Skr. *bhu-*, *bhaw-* to grow (cf. *Bē*). It remains uncertain whether the original sense was 'tree' as a kind of plant, or 'tree' as a wooden stem, stock, or post: OE. had both meanings, but that of (growing) 'tree', the regular sense in the continental langs., is (exc. in a few compound names) lost in mod. Eng., where the word has received many transferred applications, among which that of *beam of light*, *sun-beam*, is remarkable.]

1. A material beam.
 *of wood (actually or originally).

†1. A tree; only in OE., exc. in the now unanalysed compounds, HORNBEAM, QUICKBEAM, WHITEBEAM or Beam-tree, names of trees.

866 *Chart. Egbert* in *Cod. Dipl.* V. 84 Sōðsewardæ oð ðet scirhlitæ on ðone grēatan bēam. c 1000 *Riddles* (Grein) lvi. 7 Ic bæð beames mæg eade for eorlum æðelu secgan.

†2. The root-tree or cross. (Cf. 'hanged on a tree', *Actsv.* 30). *Beam-light*: lighted candles placed before the road. *Fees of the beam*: perquisites of the unconsumed remnants of such candles.

c 1000 *Crist* (Grein) 1094 He on ðone hālgan bēam ahongen wæs. c 1305 in *Leg. Rod* (1871) 146 Cristened we wore in Red rem, Whon his bodi bledde on þe Beem. 1461-83 *Ord. R. House*, 49 The Deane of the Chapell hathe alle the offerings of wax . . with the moderate fees of the beame . . wher the tapers be consumed into a shaftment. 1550 *Bk. Founders' Comp.* in *N. & Q.* Ser. III. IX. 62 Payd for makyng of viij square tap^r for the beme lyght of St. Marg^r . . vs. liij*d*. 1790 *Stow's Surv.* (Strype, 1754) I. I. xv. 74/2 The Cross and the Beam beyond the Altar.

3. A large piece of squared timber, long in proportion to its breadth and thickness, such as is used in house- or ship-building, where beams form important parts of the structure: originally, the squared timber of a whole tree, but now used without any such restriction. The ordinary current sense: for naval use, see II.

978 O. E. *Chron.*, At Calne . . se halga Dunstan ana setstod uppon anum beame. c 1000 *Ag. Gosp.* Matt. vii. 3 Ðu ne gesyst þone beam on þinum agenum eagan. c 1250 *Gen. &*

Ex. 1606 And slep and sa3, an soðe drem, Fro ðe eorðe up til heuene bem A leddre stonden. 1597 R. GLOUC. 288 Þe flor to brac vnder hem . . Seyn Dunston by cas . . hente hym by a bem, and ysaued was. c 1340 *Cursor M.* (Trin.) 8781 Þe beam [Cotton, balk] þat most þe werk schulde bynde. 1413 LYDG. *Pylgr. Sowle* IV. iii. (1483) 59 A grete tre was hewen doune for to be made a beme. 1595 SHAKS. *John* IV. iii. 129 A rush will be a beame To hang thee on. 1611 BIBLE 2 *Kings* vi. 2 Let vs . . take thence euery man a beame, and let vs make vs a place there where we may dwell. 1807 CRABBE *Village* I. 262 Such is that room which one rude beam diuides.

b. with special shape or purpose indicated:
Camber-beam: one with its upper surface curving downward on both sides from the middle. *Collar-beam*: a beam used to join together roof-rafters above the base of the roof, acting either as a tie or a strut. *Dragon-beam*: a short piece of timber lying diagonally with the wall plates at the angles of the roof, for receiving the heel of the hip rafter. *Hammer-beam*: a beam acting as a tie, but not extending across the whole span of the roof. *Tie-beam*: the beam which connects the bottom of a pair of principal rafters, and prevents them from thrusting out the walls.

1734 *Builder's Dict.*, *Dragon Beams* are two strong Braces or Struts . . meeting in an Angle upon the Shoulder of the Kingpiece. 1823 P. NICHOLSON *Pract. Build.* 221 *Camber-Beams*, those beams used in the flats of truncated roofs, and raised in the middle with an obtuse angle, for discharging the rain water towards both sides of the roof. *Ibid.* 222 *Dragon-beam*, the piece of timber which supports the hip-rafter, and bisects the angle formed by the wall plates. 1845 *Gloss. Gothic Archit.* I. 317 In the Perpendicular style hammer-beam roofs were introduced. *Ibid.* The roof . . of Malvern priory had a variety of cross-braces above the tie-beams cut into ornamental featherings.

c. *fig.*, esp. with allusion to the figure of the mote and the beam (*Matt.* vii. 3).

[Cf. c 1000 in 3.] 1377 LANGL. *P. Pl.* B. x. 264 Sithen a beam in pine owne abyndeth þi-selue. a 1555 LATIMER *Serm. & Rem.* (1845) 314 Learn from your own beams to make allowance for your neighbour's motes. 1588 SHAKS. *L. L. L.* IV. iii. 162 You found his Moth, the King your Moth did see: But I a Beame doe finde in each of three. 1649 DRUMM. OF HAWTH. *Hist. Jas. IV.* Wks. (1711) 74 Her tears and prayers shook the strongest beams of his resolutions.

4. The wooden roller or cylinder in a loom, on which the warp is wound before weaving; also called *fore-beam*, *yarn-beam*, *yarn-roll*. The similar roller on which the cloth is wound as it is woven; also called *back-beam*, *breast-beam*, *cloth-beam*.

c 1000 *Supp. Ælfric's Gloss.* in Wülcker *Voc.* 137 *Licetorium*, webbeam. 1384 WYCLIF *I Sam.* xvii. 7 The shaft of his spear was as the beam [COVERDALE, lome] of websters. c 1440 *Prompt. Parv.* 30/2 Beeme of webstarrys lome, *Licetorium*. 1558 HULOET, Beame of timber wherupon embroderers . . do rolle their worke, *igum*. 1598 SHAKS. *Merry W.* v. l. 23, I feare not Goliath with a Weauers beame. 1675 HOBBS *Odys.* (1677) 230 So I a beam set up, and then began to weave. 1831 G. PORTER *Silk Manuf.* 215 The beam, or yarn-roll, on which the threads are wound.

5. The great timber of the plough, to which all the other parts of the plough-tail are fixed.

c 1000 *Ælfric Gloss.* in Wülcker *Voc.* 104 *Buris*, sulh-beam. c 1450 in *Ibid.* 1569 *Burris*, the plowbeame. 1483 *Cath. Angl.* 27/1 A beym of ye plwgh, *buris*. 1598 WARNER *Alb. Eng.* VIII. xlii. (1597) 205 But to the Headland shall our Plough, vnles we breake our Beame. 1797 T. JEFFERSON *Corr.* (1830) 135 The plough here is made with . . a beam twelve feet long. 1832 C. HOWARD *Sel. Farms* (L. U. K.) 3 The plough is of a light construction . . the length of the beam is six feet six inches.

6. The transverse bar from the ends of which the scales of a balance are suspended; the balance itself. Often *fig.* with reference to the scales held by the allegorical figure of justice.

1480 E. E. *Wills* (1882) 46 A beme þat y weye þer-with. 1503 *Act 19 Hen. VII.* vi. Deceivable and untrue Beams and Scales. 1581 LAMBARDE *Eiren.* IV. xix. (1588) 605 Let us holde the beame, and put in balance their reasons on either side. 1711 POPE *Rape Lock* v. 73 The doubtful beam long nods from side to side. 1802 REES *Cycl.* s.v. *Balance*. The beam, the principal part of the balance, is a lever of the first kind. 1875 *Encycl. Brit.* (ed. 9) s.v. *Balance*. The beam . . is supported on a polished horizontal frame of agate or hard steel.

b. Phrases, *The common beam*, *the King's beam* (*Hist.*); the public standard balance formerly in the custody of the Grocers' Company of London; *fig.* an authorized standard. *To kick or strike the beam*: (of one scale of a balance) to be so lightly loaded that it flies up and strikes the beam; to be greatly outweighed; often *fig.*

[1386 *Records Grocers' Co. Lond.* (facsimile 67), Item paie a Johan Reche pour defendre le pursute dell Bem.] 1448 *MS. Records do.* 147 Weying the same marchandise at ther owne beeme, and not at the common beeme. 1494 FABYAN VII. 341 Than was layde vnto theyr charge, that . . they hadde altyred the kynges beame. *Ibid.* 391 The kynges bealme. 1607 HIERON *Wks.* I. 79 To make the written word (as it were) the standard or the kings beame, by which to try all doctrine. 1647 WARD *Simp. Cobler* 38 A sin . . that seemes small in the common beame of the world, may be very great in the scales of his Sanctuary. 1712 ADDISON *Spect.* No. 463 P 3 The latter, to shew its comparative Lightness, immediately flew up and kicked the Beam. 1860 G. P. MORRIS *Poems* (ed. 15) 53 Wealth!—a straw within the balance, Opposed to love will strike the beam.

†7. The pole or shaft of a chariot. *Obs.*
 1600 CHAPMAN *Iliad.* v. 736 The chariot's . . beam that look'd before Was massy silver. 1697 DRYDEN *Virg. Æneid* XII. (J.) Turna . . Forc'd from the beam her brother's charioteer.

8. *Tanning*. A block of varying shape upon which hides are fixed to be scraped or shaved.

1875 *URE Dict. Arts* III. 93 The furniture in this department consists of a beam on which the leather is shaved, etc. * of other materials.

† 9. A large bar of metal; a piece of metal fulfilling the functions of sense 3. *Obs.*

c 885 *K. ÆLFRED ORS.* II. viii. § 5 Hiora ærenan beamas . . ne mehton from Galliscum fyre forberenede weorban. 1357 *TREVIS Higden* Rolls Ser. V. 315 Hormisda leste in Seynt Peter his churche a beme [trabem] of silver. 1597 *HOOKER Eccl. Pol.* (1841) IV. lxxix. § 5 A certain beam of gold about seven hundred and a half in weight. 1613 *PURCHAS Pilgr.* II. vii. 132 A greete beame of gold.

10. The shank or main part of an anchor (Phillips 1706, Johnson, etc.); but according to Admiral Smyth, the stock.

11. In the steam-engine, etc.: A heavy iron lever, having a reciprocating motion on a central axis, one end of which is connected with the piston-rod from which it receives motion, and the other with the crank or wheel-shaft, to which it communicates motion; also called *working- and walking-beam*.

1758 *FITZGERALD in Phil. Trans.* L. 727 [In] the fire-engine . . it was necessary to contrive some way to make the beam, tho' moving alternately, to turn a wheel constantly round one way. 1851 *CARLYLE Sterling* III. ii. (1872) 175, I saw half the beam of a great steam-engine . . cast in about five minutes. 1884 *Harper's Mag.* July 270/1 The walking-beam which drives the side-wheels.

12. The main trunk of a stag's horn which bears the branches or 'antlers.'

1575 *TURBERV. Venerie* 53 When the beame is great, burnished . . and not made crooked by the antlers. 1630 *J. TAYLOR (Water P.) Wks.* I. 93/1 A Buckes hornes are composed of Burre, Beame, etc. 1774 *GOLDSM. Nat. Hist.* I. II. v. (1862) 325 The fourth year that part [of the horn] which bears the antlers is called the beam. 1862 *C. COLLYNS Red Deer* II, The 'beam,' or main horn, increases in size . . as the stag grows older.

† 13. The part of a cock's leg below the thigh and above the spur. *Obs.*

1614 *MARKHAM Cheap Hous.* (1623) 135 His legs straight, and of a strong beame. [So 1727 in *BRADLEY Fam. Dict.* s.v. *Cock*.]

II. Nautical extensions of senses 1, 3.

† 14. *poet.* A ship, a bark; perhaps, originally one made of a hollowed trunk. *Obs.*

c 1000 *Riddles* (Grein) xi. 7 Ic of fædum cwóm brimes and beames. 1509 *BARCLAY Ship of Fools* (1570) 178 Howe thou thee aventrest in holowe beame To passe the sea.

15. One of the horizontal transverse timbers, stretching from side to side of a ship, supporting the deck, and holding the vessel together. *On the beams:* cf. *on the beam-ends* (sense 18).

1637 *CAPT. SMITH Seaman's Gram.* II. 5 The maine beame is ever next the maine mast, where is the ships greatest breadth. 1784 *COOK Voy.* (1790) III. 809 Before we could raise the main tack, the Dolphin was laid upon her beams. 1795 *NELSON in Nicolas Disp.* II. 5 The ships built at Toulon have their sides, beams, decks . . from this Island. 1873 *Act 36 & 37 Vict.* lxxxv. § 3 The number denoting her registered tonnage shall be cut in on her main beam.

16. *Hence*, The greatest breadth of a ship.

1637 *CAPT. SMITH Seaman's Gram.* III. 15 Suppose a Ship of 300. Tunnies be 20 foot at the Beame. 1781 *NELSON in Nicolas Disp.* I. 43 The Albemarle is not so wide on the gun-deck by four inches, but the same beam. 1875 *'STONEHENGE' Brit. Sports* II. viii. l. § 3 The shallow hull gave way . . to sharp bottoms, less beam, and a great deal of lead.

17. *Hence* designating the side of a vessel or sideward direction, esp. in technical phrases. *Lee* or *weather beam:* the side away from or towards the wind. *On or upon the (starboard or larboard) beam:* at some distance on the (right or left) side of a ship, at right angles to the keel. *Aft or before the beam:* behind or before an imaginary line drawn right across the centre of the ship. *Beam sea:* one rolling against the ship's side.

1608 *DIGBY Trul.* 83 You gett your chace vpon your beame. 1791 *SMEATON Edystone L.* § 159 The wind . . was but one point before our beam. 1833 *MARRYAT P. Simple* (1863) 101 Land on the lee beam! 1836 — *Midsh. Easy* xxx, The other frigate had passed half her length clear of the beam of the Aurora. 1883 *Froude Sketches* 67 The wind rose . . bringing . . a heavy beam sea.

18. *Beam-ends*, the ends of a ship's beams. *To be, or be laid, on the beam-ends:* to have them touching the water, so that the vessel lies on its side in imminent danger of capsizing; *fig.* to be quite laid aside, utterly at a loss, hard up.

1773 *Gentl. Mag.* XLIII. 321 The gust laid her upon her beam-ends. 1790 *MORSE Amer. Geog.* I. 517 A number of large river craft . . on their beam-ends for want of water. 1830 *MARRYAT King's Own* xxvi, Our first-lieutenant was . . on his beam-ends with the rheumatism. 1844 *DICKENS Mar. Chas.* xl. (D.) Tom was thrown upon his beam-ends again for some other solution.

III. An immaterial beam, of light, colour, etc.

19. A ray, or 'bundle' of parallel rays, of light emitted from the sun or other luminous body; out-streaming radiance. [Apparently this sense arose in OE. through literal translation from the Lat.; not, however, as often thought, of *radius solis* 'a spoke' of the sun, but of *columna lucis* 'a pillar' or 'column' of light; an expression used more

than once by Bæda (e.g. *H.E.* III. xi) to denote a column or stream of light rising from a saint's dead body, which Ælfred renders by *swylce sunne-beam*. Also, in the poetical version of Exodus, the pillars or columns of fire and cloud, are *beamas twegen*; the fiery pillar is *wuldres beam*, column or beam of glory, *byrnende beam*, and in the metrical Psalms, *fyren beam* a fire beam. We may compare the beam- or balk-like appearance of the illuminated dusty atmosphere of a room, and the representations of light from heaven in paintings.]

c 885 in *Q. E. Chron.* an. 678 Her atowede cometa . . and scan iii monðas ælce morgen swilce sunne beam [Bæda, *excelsam radiantis flammæ quasi columnam*.] c 1000 *Ag.* Ps. cv. 34 Het him neode, nihta gehwylce, fyrenne beam beforan wisian. 1205 *LAV.* 17887 He leome þa strehte west riht a seouen bæmen [1250 beames] wes idiht. c 1325 *E. E. Allit.* P. B. 603 Bryt blykked þe bem of þe brode heuen. 1375 *BARBOUR Bruce* xi. 190 Armys . . blenknyt with the sonys beyme. c 1430 *Hymns Virg.* 208 þe bryt beemys blent my siht. 1596 *SHAKS. Merch. V. v. i.* 90 How farre that little candell throwes his beames. 1664 *POWER Exp. Philos.* I. 77 So were the Luminous Beams variously transmitted, refracted, or reflected. 1869 *TYNDALL in Fortn. Rev.* 228 But what, in the first instance, is a beam of light? It is a train of innumerable waves, excited in, and propagated through, an almost infinitely attenuated and elastic medium, which fills all space, and which we name the æther.

b. The appearance of rays produced by the sun's shining upon mist through gaps in the clouds.

1846 *RUSKIN Mod. Paint.* (1851) I. II. 3 i. § 15. 209 The appearance of beams can only take place in a part of the sky which has clouds between it and the sun.

c. A radiating line of colour.

1705 *PETIVER in Phil. Trans.* XXV. 1953 The other [shells] have red beams, which shoot from the hinge, and are broader at the edges.

20. *transf.* A similar ray of heat.

1860 *TYNDALL Glac.* II. § 3. 244 Two beams of heat, from two distinct sources. 1882 *Longm. Mag.* 38 In passing through the liquid layer, a beam of heat encounters the same number of molecules as in passing through the vapour layer.

21. *fig.* Ray, gleam, emanation: † *Eye-beam*, beam of sight, a glance.

1570 *GOSSON Sch. Abuse* (Arb.) 33 Basilisks . . poysoun as well with the beame of their sighte as with the breath of their mouth. 1577 *MARLOWE Dido* III. i. 208 Lest their gross eye-beams taint my lovers cheeks. 1674 *OWEN Holy Spirit* (1693) 235 A Beam of Truth from the Light of Nature. 1748 *COLLINS Epist.* 56 Bring No beam of comfort to the guilty king. 1818 *BYRON Yvan* I. lxi, Her cheek all purple with the beam of youth.

† 22. *Math.* The radius of a circle, an axial line. (Translating *L. radius*, apparently from the association of beam and ray of light.) *Obs.*

1570 *DEE Math. Praef.* 19 Beames, or naturall lines. 1589 *PURTEMAN Eng. Poetie* II. (1811) 81 The beame is a line stretching directly from the circle to the center. 1644 *WOTTON Archit.* in *Reliq. Wotton* (1672) 52 The Axel-tree, or middle Beam of the Eye.

† 23. *Arch.* (See quot.) *Obs.*

1664 *EVELYN tr. Frear's Archit.* 130 Raies or Beames, which . . are those plain spaces between the Flutings.

IV. *Comb.* as *beam-house*, *knife-man* (sense 8);

beam-engine, *gudgeon* (sense 11); *beam-antler* (12); *beam-knee*, *plate* (15); also *beam-arm*, a crooked timber extending from the side of a beam to the ship's side, in the wake of the hatchway (Adm. Smyth); *beam-bird*, dial. name of the Spotted Flycatcher; *beam-board*, the platform of a steel-yard or balance; *beam-centre*, the central pin on which the beam of a steam-engine works; *beam-compass*, an instrument consisting of a wooden or brass beam with sliding sockets, for drawing larger circles than an ordinary pair of compasses can describe; *beam-ends* (see 18); *beam-feather* (see quot.); *beam-fish*, a shark (see quot.); *beam-like a.*, like a beam, of timber or of light; *beam-line*, the line which shows the junction of the upper sides of the successive beams with the ship's sides; *beam-trawl v.*, to fish with a trawl-net of which the mouth is kept open by a beam.

1623 *COCKERAM s.v. Pollard*, 'Beame antler is the next start growing above the Brow antler. c 1850 *Rudin. Nav.* (Weale) 95 'Beam-Arm, or Fork-Beam, a forked piece of timber, nearly of the depth of the beam, scarphed, tabled, and bolted, for additional security to the sides of beams athwart large openings in the decks, as the main hatchway and the mast-rooms. 1766 *PENNANT Zool.* (1768) II. 263 Known in that county [York] by the name of the 'beam-bird, because it nestles under the ends of beams in out-buildings, &c. 1785 *ROY in Phil. Trans.* LXXV. 402 A 'beam-compass, sufficient to take in twenty feet. 1806 *Bk. St. Albans* A. viij. b. And on principall feder of the same is in the myddis . . that is called the 'Beme feder of the tayle. 1721 *BAILEY, 'Beam-feathers* [among falconers], the long feathers of a Hawk's Wing [in mod. dict.]. 1748 *BAILEY, 'Beam-fish*, a sea monster like a pike, a dreadful enemy to mankind, seizing like a blood-hound, and never letting go, if he gets fast hold. 1885 *Harper's Mag.* Jan. 274/2 The . . tip-cart . . makes its appearance . . ready to take a load to the 'beam-house. 1869 *SIR E. REED Shipbuild.* viii. 145 And the 'Beam-knee ends are welded on to the central piece. 1630 *QUARLES Jonah* (1638) 27 The great Leviathan set ope His 'beame-like Jawes. 1830 *SHELLEY Sens. Plant* II, The bee and the 'beamlieke ephemeris. 1884 *West. Morn. News* 3 Sept. 2/1 To Tanners.—Wanted, young man as 'Beamman. 1614 *CHAPMAN Odys.* I. 675 And hung them on a 'beam-pin near the bed. 1658 *USSHER Ann.* vi.

360 The planet of Mercurie . . was seen, near to the 'beam star in the signe of Libre. 1883 *Fisheries Exhib. Catal.* 3 The rapid growth of 'beam-trawling.

† *Beam*, sb.² Only in phr. *Bote of beam:* remedy, improvement, restoration. *Obs.*

[Referred by Mätzner to *BEAM sb.¹*, taking the cross as typical of misfortune and distress. But may not *bote of beam* be 'repair of timbers,' used proverbially to signify repair or amendment of any kind?]

1330 *R. BRUNNE Chron.* 90 Per he wist bote of beam, he went þat viage To William þe rede kyng. *Ibid.* 103 For seke is þe kyng, of him is no bote of beam.

Beam (bīm), v. Forms: 5 *beem*, *beme*, 8-*beam*. [i:—OE. *beaman* (given by Bosworth on Somner's authority), f. *BEAM sb.¹*]

I. From the 'beam' of light.

† 1. *trans.* To shed light upon, irradiate, illumine. c 1430 *Life St. Kath.* 86 (1884) 46 For angels come from heuene and counforted hir, beaming þat place of derkenesse wyth vnspekable cleernesse.

2. *trans.* To throw out or radiate (beams or rays of light); to emit in rays. Often extended by *forth, out, in*. Also *fig.*

c 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 30/1 Beme lyghte, radio. c 1690 *SOUTH Serm.* (1843) II. xii. 207 That God beames this light into man's understanding. c 1716 *SOUTH Serm.* IV. 9 (R.) God beames in peculiar evidences and discoveries of the truth to such as embrace it in their affections. c 1750 *SHENSTONE Love & Hon.* 187 The genial sun . . Beams forth ungentle influences. 1785 *BURKE Nab. Arcot's Debt* Wks. 182 I. 321 What are the sunbeams they beamed out to enlighten it? 1871 *MACDUFF Mem. Palmos* xviii. 241 That eye which once beamed affection now rayless.

3. *intr.* To shine radiantly. *lit. and fig.*

1640 *S. MARSHALL Serm.* (1641) 9 No excellencie . . like to that which beames out from God in the Covenant of grace. 1820 *W. IRVING Sketch Bk.* I. 52 Her whole countenance beamed with smiles. 1839 *BAILEY Festus* I, Yon sun beams hottest on The earth when distant most.

II. From the 'beam' of timber.

4. To stretch (cloth) over a beam; to use a beam in *Tanning* (see *BEAMING vbl. sb.* 2).

1558 *Act i. Eliz.* xii. § 1 Deceitfull persons . . doe vse to cast the pieces of Cloth ouer a beame . . and doe by sundry deuices racke, stretch, and draw the same. 1605 in *N. Riding Or. Sessions Rec.* (1884) I. 9 Did beame ten webbes of lynnyn cloth of the length of 20 virgates the piece. 1885 [see *BEAMING vbl. sb.* 2].

5. To roll (yarn or warp) on the beam of a loom.

1864 *R. ARNOLD Cotton Fam.* 34 The yarn, which has now become 'warp,' is then 'beamed.'

6. To shore up or support by a beam.

1536 [see *BEAMING vbl. sb.* 2].

Beamed (bīmd), ppl. a. [f. *BEAM sb.¹* or *v.*]

1. Having or furnished with a beam or beams. a 1711 *KEN Hymnotheo* Poet. Wks. 1721 III. 187 A Chariot . . With Cedar beam'd, and wheel'd with spicy Wreaths. 1865 in *Derby Merc.* 15 Feb., And the waves danced under their beamed bows. 1881 *E. POYNTER Among Hills* I. 162 The low-beamed paper-trillick ceiling.

b. *fig.*; cf. *BEAM sb.¹* 3 c.

1627 *FELTHAM Resolves* i. viii. Wks. (1677) 12 He that looks upon another with a beamed eye.

2. Of a stag: Having a horn of the fourth year.

1575 *TURBERV. Venerie* 51 Those be verie strong, bearing fayre and high heades well furnished and beamed. 1637 *R. JONSON Sad Sheph.* I. ii. (1641) 121 [The deer] beares a head, Large, and well beam'd. 1810 *SCOTT Lady of L.* I. ii, The antlered monarch of the waste . . Tossed his beamed frontlet to the sky.

3. Arranged on the beam of the loom.

1851 *L. GORDON in Art Trul. Illust. Catal.* vii.*/1 These bobbins of yarn are then taken to the warping-machine . . to make them into a beamed warp.

4. Having rays or beams of light; radiant.

1480 *CAXTON Chron. Eng.* ccxxiv. 229 A beamed sterre, the whiche clerkes calle stella cometa. 1647 *CRASHAW Poems* 130 Broad-beam'd day's meridian. 1862 *BARNES Rhymes Dorset Dial.* I. 26 When hot-beam'd zuns do strike right down.

Beamer (bīmə), v. [f. *BEAM sb.¹* + *-ER*.] One who works with a beam; e.g. one who arranges yarn on the beam of the loom.

1879 *Temple Bar* LV. 453 You must find some one else to overlook the beamers. 1884 *GRAHAM in U. P. Mag.* July 350, Crofters, beamers, weavers, and traders came forward.

Beamfill (bīmfīl), v. *Building*. Also 5 *bem(e)fell*. [f. *BEAM sb.¹* + *FILL v.*] (See quots.) *Hence Beam-filling vbl. sb.*

c 1400 in *Wülcker Voc.* 1732 *Hec sugrunda*, a befmellyng. 1469 *Mann. & Housch. Exp.* (1841) 395 My mastyr made a couenant wyth Saunsam the tylere, that he schalle pergete, and whigte, and befmefelle all the new byldynge. 1734 *Builders' Dict.*, *Beam filling* in building is plasterer's work, and is the filling up the vacant space between the rason and the roof. 1842 *GWILT Archit.*, *Beam-filling* is the masonry brought up from the level of the under to the upper sides of the beams. It is also used to denote the filling up of the space from the top of the wall-plate between the rafters to the under side of the slating, board, or other covering.

Beamful, a. [f. *BEAM sb.¹* + *-FUL*.] Luminous.

a 1631 *DRAYTON* is cited by *HALLIWELL*.

Beamily (bīmfīli), adv. [f. *BEAMY* + *-LY*.] In a beamy or beaming manner, radiantly.

a 1821 *KEATS To Byron* (D.), Thou thy griefs dost dress With a bright halo, shining beamily.

Beaminess (bīmīnēs), v. [f. *BEAMY* + *-NESS*.] The quality of being beamy; radiance.

1748 *RICHARDSON Pamela* IV. 384 She . . glides along with her paler and fainter Beaminess. 1880 *MRS. WHITNEY Odd or Even* xiii. 107 Its beaminess of red-gold, wavy hair.

Beaming (bēmīng), *vbl. sb.* [f. BEAM *v.*]

1. Emission of beams of light, radiation, radiance.
1398 *TREVISIA Barth. De P. R.* viii. xxviii. (1495) 339 Lyghte is a substance beyng in itselfe, and therof comyth beymynge .. of other bodies. 1660 W. SECKER *Nonsuch Prof.* 14 You do not look for so much splendor from the burnings of a candle as from the beamings of the Sun. 1813 *SHELLEY Q. Mab* ii. 36 Whilst suns their mingling beamings darted.

2. The use of a beam: a. for shoring up or supporting; b. in *Tanning* (see quot. 1885), whence attrib., as in *beaming-knife*. c. The rolling of warp, etc. on a beam. Also attrib.

1530 *PALSGR. 1971/2* Beamyng knyfe for a tanner. 1538 *LATIMER Serm. & Rem.* (1845) 398 Here is much beaming and bolstering, and malefactors do not lack their supporters. 1831 G. PORTER *Silk Manuf.* 220 To roll regularly on the beam .. the different portions of warp threads .. is called beaming. 1879 *Temple Bar* LV. 453 If you go to the beaming-room. 1885 *Harper's Mag.* Jan. 274/2 'Beaming,' or unhairing, derives its name from an inclined convex wooden form called a 'beam,' on which the hide is spread during the operation.

Beaming (bēmīng), *ppl. a.* [f. BEAM *v.* + -ING ².]
Radiant, shining, bright; often fig.

1667 *MILTON P. L.* iii. 625 Of beaming sunnie Raies, a golden tair Circl'd his Head. 1832 *MARRIAT N. Forster* xxviii. A beaming eye met his return. 1863 *GEO. ELIOT* *Romola* i. ii. A broad beaming smile.

Beamingly, *adv.* [f. prec. + -LY ².] In the manner of beams of light, radiantly.

1664 J. CHANDLER *Van Helmont's Oriat.* 294 Alkali, .. doth disperse its property even thitherto, beamingly only. 1863 *MARY HOWITT F. Bremer's Greece* i. v. 152 The sky is beamingly bright. 1866 *MRS. GASKELL* *Wives & Daughters* i. 158 Mrs. Kirkpatrick .. looked beamingly happy.

Beamish (bēmīsh), *a. arch.*; also 6 beamyshe. [f. BEAM *sb.* + -ISH ¹.] Shining brightly, radiant.

1530 *PALSGR. 305/2* Beamyshe as the sonne is, radiens. 1870 L. CARROLL *Thro' Look-glass*, Come to my arms, my beamish boy!

Beamless (bēmīlē), *a.* [f. BEAM *sb.* + -LESS.] Without beams, rayless; occas. fig.

1797 *DYDEN* *Edipus* i. i. Wks. 1725 IV. 375 A bald and beamless Fire. 1746-68 *HARVEY* *Medit.* (1818) 268 At length all her [the moon's] beauty vanishes, and she becomes a beamless orb. 1821 *JOANNA BAILLIE* *Ld. John* xx. The stony look of his beamless eyes.

Beamlet (bēmīlē), [f. BEAM *sb.* + -LET.] A little beam or ray of light.

1840 *CULPIT Fay* xxxi in N. Willis *Loiter. Trav.* II. ad fin., Her eyes two beamlets from the moon. 1878 H. PHILLIPS *Poems fr. Sp. & Germ.* 63 And all the glittering beamlets Deep in her bosom play.

Beamling (bēmīling), *Obs.* Also 7-lin. = prec. 1598 *SYLVESTER* *Quadr. Fibrac* in *Du Bartas* (1608) 561 What man wee call and count, It is a beamling of Divinity. 1625 *BRAITHWAITE* *Soul's Solace*, Graces are divine beam-lins. 1659 *Lady Alimony* in *Hazl. Dods.* XIV. 305 One beamling to bestow on my obscur'd, once glorious, family.

Beamsome, *a. Obs.* [f. BEAM *sb.* + -SOME.] Shedding beams, radiant.

1595 B. BARNES in *Farr S. P.* (1845) I. 45 That I by them, as from some beamsome lampe, May find the bright and true direction.

Beamster (bēmīstər), [f. BEAM *sb.* + -STER; cf. *teamster*.] The man who works at the beam in a tannery, unhairing the hides.

1885 *Harper's Mag.* Jan. 274/2 The beamsters .. look as if they had taken in a large week's washing.

Beamstrid, *Obs.* In phr. *on beam strid*, app. = astride on a beam.

1575 *App. & Virginia* in *Hazl. Dods.* IV. 147 In hazard he was of riding on beamstrid.

Beam-tree, [Improper shortening of *White-beam* (tree), so called from the white under-surface of its leaves, which strikingly characterize it in a wind.] A tree (*Pyrus Aria*) related to the Apple, Pear, and Wild Service, bearing flat corymbs of flowers, succeeded by rich scarlet berries.

1800 *SIR J. SMITH* *Eng. Flora* (1828) II. 366 *Pyrus Aria*, White Beam-tree, White Wild Pear-tree. 1830 *LINDLEY Nat. Syst. Bot.* 84 The timber of the Beam-tree is invaluable for axletrees. 1879 *Prior Plant-n.* 16 Without the *White* prefixed .. Beam-tree is a silly pleonasm, a tree-tree.

Beamy (bēmī), *a.* Forms: 4 beamy, 6-7 beamie, 6- beamy. [f. BEAM *sb.* + -Y ¹.]

1. Emitting beams of light, radiant; also fig.

1398 *TREVISIA Barth. De P. R.* viii. ii. (1495) 299 Eueriche rounde body and holowe and bryghte in eueriche poynt therof sendith a beamy lyne in to the mydle of that bryghte body. 1586 *BENTLEY Mon. Matrones* 204 The beamie Sun large light doth gieue. 1641 *MILTON* *Animadv.* Wks. (1851) 221 Thy beamy walke through the midst of thy Sanctuary. 1799 *SOUTHEY* *Love Eleg.* iii. II. 125 The straitening curls of gold so beamy bright. 1813 *SHELLEY Q. Mab* ix. (1853) 49 Bending her beamy eyes in thankfulness.

2. b. *transf.* Radiated, umbellate. *Obs. rare.* 1564 *TURNER* *Herbal* ii. 79 b. The wilde carot hathe ... a spoky or beamy top lyke vnto dill.

3. Massive as a (weaver's) beam; cf. BEAM *sb.* 4. 1608 *DYDEN* *Enrid* xii. 641 The beamy weapon quakes. 1718 *POPE* *Iliad* iii. 180 In single fight to toss the beamy lance. 1809 *HEBER* *Palestine* 351 Lords of the biting axe and beamy spear. [Cf. 1 Sam. xvii. 7.]

3. Possessing full-grown horns; antlered.

1697 *DYDEN* *Virg. Georg.* iii. 625 Thou mayst .. beamy Stags in Toils engage. 1735 *SOMERVILLE* *Chase* iii. 407 The Royal Stag .. tosses high his beamy Head.

4. Of a ship: Broad in the beam; cf. BEAM *sb.* 1 16. 1882 *Century Mag.* XXIV. 671 The speed of beamy vessels.

1883 G. DAVIES *Norfolk Roads & Riv.* vi. 42 The yachts used on Hickling were beamy shallow boats.

Bean (bēn). Forms: 1-2 bēan, 3-6 ben, 4-6 bene, been(e), (Sc. and north. bein, beyn), 6-7 beane, 6- bean. *Pl. beans*; in 1 bēana, 4 bene, benen, 4-6 benes, -ys. [Common Teut.: OE. *bēan* (fem.) = OHG. *bēna*, mod.G. *bohne*, MDu. *bone*, Du. *boon*, ON. *baun* :—OTeut. **baund* (str. fem.); conjectured by Fick to be for an earlier *babna*, cogn. with L. *faba*, Slav. *bobŭ*, Old Prussian *babo*; but phonetic considerations render this doubtful.]

1. A smooth, kidney-shaped, laterally flattened seed, borne in long pods by a leguminous plant, *Faba vulgaris*.

The garden variety, or *Broad-bean*, is used, in its green state, as a culinary vegetable, esp. in Britain by the poorer classes, as in the proverbial 'beans and bacon'; *Field- and Horse-beans*, when ripened to a brownish-black colour, are used as food for horses and cattle, and have also been made into bean-meal, used for coarse bread.

c 1000 *Sax. Leechd.* II. 84 Genim bean mela. c 1325 *Coer de L.* 6004 Whete & ooten, pesen and bene. 1377 *LANGL. P. Pl.* B. vi. 184 Lete hem etc .. benes and bren ybaken togideres. c 1394 *P. Pl. Crde* 762 A great bolle-full of benen were betere in his wombe. 1475 *Bk. Noblesse* 69 Benys, pesyn, and aveyn for horsmete. 1551 *TURNER* *Herbal* i. 178 Beanes .. are harde of digestion, and make troublesum dreames. 1600 *VENNER* *Via Recta* i. 27 Bread made of Beanes is very drie. 1707 *Lond. Gas.* No. 4357/4 At Ham .. are to be sold, Garden Beans, Gosport-Beans. 1832 *Veg. Subst.* Food 218 In Barbary .. stewed with oil and garlic, beans form .. the principal food of persons of all classes.

2. The cultivated plant that bears this seed; it has fragrant violet-tinted white flowers, whence the often-mentioned 'fragrance of the bean-fields.'

940 *Chart. Edmund* in *Cod. Dipl.* V. 265 Of pistelleage to beanleage. 1398 *TREVISIA Barth. De P. R.* xvii. lxiv, Benes [ed. 1495 beens] berep white floures. 1611 *COTGR.* s. v. *Febve*, In Cuckoo-time when Beanes doe flower. 1728 *THOMSON* *Spring* (R.) Where the breeze blows from yon extended field Of blossom'd beans. 1837 *CARLYLE* *Fr. Rev.* II. i. viii. 51 It will grow verily, like the Boy's Bean, in the Fairy-Tale, heaven-high.

3. The plant and seed of the allied genus *Phaseolus*, of which the best-known species are the French, Kidney, or Haricot Bean (*P. vulgaris*), and Scarlet Runner (*P. multiflorus*). The unripe pods of both, and the ripe seeds of the former, are used as culinary vegetables.

(*Navy Bean*: the dried haricot. *Pea Bean*: a small variety of it.)

1548 *TURNER* *Names of Herbs* (1881) 75 Kydney beanes .. or arber beanes, because they serue to couer an arber for the tyme of Summer. 1566 — *Herbal* ii. 140 b. The vertues of Kidney beanes. The fruyt is sodden wyth the sede, and it is eaten after the maner of a wurt or eatable herbe, as sperage is eaten. 1634 *SHERWOOD* s. v. *Bean*, French, or Romane Beanes. 1837 *CARLYLE* *Fr. Rev.* II. v. ix. 302 She who has quietly shelled French-beans for her dinner.

4. Name given to the seeds of other plants, usually from some resemblance in shape to the common bean; e.g. *Egyptian* or *Pythagorean* Bean, the seed of the Lotus (*Nelumbium speciosum*); *Bean* of Molucca, seed of *Guilandina Bonducella*; *Bean* of St. Ignatius, seed of *Strychnos amara*; *Tonka Bean*, the perfumed seed of *Dipterix odorata*; so too coffee-bean, etc. See also BUCK, LOCUST-BEAN.

1398 *TREVISIA Barth. De P. R.* xvii. lxiv. (1495) 641 Beenyng growe in Egypte .. wyth a heed as a Poppe and therein beenes ben closid; and that heed is red as a Rose. 1484 *CAXTON* *Curial* 6 The benes of Pictagoras .. gafe better sauour. 1551 *TURNER* *Herbal* i. 123 The beane of Egypt is .. as tryngent. 1611 *COTGR.* *Anacarde*, th' East-Indian fruit called Anacardium, or Beane of Malacca. 1830 *LINDLEY Nat. Syst. Bot.* 215 The St. Ignatius's bean .. is prescribed by the native practitioners of India in cholera. c 1865 *Circ. Sc.* I. 351/1 The organic acids .. of the coffee-beans.

5. Any object resembling a bean in shape. 1561 *HOLLYBUSH* *Hom. Apoth.* 38 b. Take the beanes or hinderfallages of Goates. 1607 *TORSELL* *Four-f. Beasts* 215 The dried beans of a Cutle fish. 1881 *RAYMOND* *Mining Gloss.*, Beans (Newcastle), small coals.

6. Literary and proverbial uses:—

a. in reference to a bean's small value; cf. *straw*. 1597 R. GLOUC. 497 Al nas wurth a bene. c 1325 *Poem temp. Edu.* II. xlviii. No rich man .. dredeth God The worth of a bean. 1377 *LANGL. P. Pl.* B. iii. 141 (Wright) To be corsed in consistorie She counted noght a bene [v. r. rushe]. 1413 *LYDC.* *Pylgr. Soule* i. xv. (1483) 9 Al my wyt aunylth nought a bene. 1548 *HALL* *Chron.* (1809) 690 Thei set not by the Frenche Kyng one bene. 1656 *HOBBS* *Liberty* etc. (1841) 426 But all this will not advantage his cause the black of a bean.

b. in reference to the former use of beans in balloting.

1580 *NORTH* *Plutarch* (1676) 272 He was one year Mayor, or Provost of Athens .. He came to it by drawing of the Bean. 1603 *HOLLAND* *Plutarch's Mor.* 15 Abstaine from beanes, i. e. Intermeddle not in the affaires of State. 1660 *MILTON* *Free Commu.* Wks. 1851 438 To convey each Man his bean or ballot into the Box.

c. in reference to the custom of appointing as King of the company on Twelfth-night, the man in whose portion of the cake the bean was found. [Lauder's reference appears to be to this, though he seems to have confounded the 16th c. Eng. *bean* (bēn) with his own Sc. *bane* 'bone'.]

1556 *LAUDER* *Tractate* (1864) 29 Thy kyngs bai ar bot

kyngs of bane; And schort wyl heir bare tyme be gane. 1592 *Sp. at Sudely* 8 in *Nichols Progr. Q. Elis.* II. Cut the cake: who hath the beane shall be kyng; and where the peaze is she shall be quene. 1648 *HERRICK* *Hesper.* 376 (N.) Beane's the kyng of the sport. 1853 *SOVER* *Pantroph.* 55 The cake was often full of raisins among which one bean and one pea were introduced.

d. in proverbial expressions.

1562 J. HEYWOOD *Prov. & Epigr.* (1867) 24 Hunger makth hard beanes sweete. *Ibid.* 56 Alwaie the bygger e teth the beane. 1568 *Marr. Wit & Wisd.* 45 (N.) It is not for idlenis that men sowe beanes in the wind [i. e. labour in vain]. a 1644 *Br. M. SMITH* *Serm.* (1632) 178 Euerie Beane hath his blacke. 1830 *GALT* *Laurie T.* (1849) II. i. 42 Few men who better knew how many blue beans it takes to make five.

II. *Attrib. and Comb.*

7. General relations: a. objective with agent-noun or vbl. sb., as *bean-setter*, -setting; b. instrumental, as *bean-election*, -fed (1589); c. similitive, as *bean-ore*, -shaped; d. attrib. (of the seed), as *bean-bread*, -broth, -corn, -diet, -flour, -meal (a 1000), -water; (of the plant), as *bean-cod* (a 1000), -field, -flower, -hauum, -honey, -husk, -plant, -plot, -rick, -season, -stack, -stubble, -weevil, -wood.

c 1380 *WYCLIF* *Wks.* (1880) 61 þei mygitten vnnpe before haue 'bene-bred & watir or feble ale. 1701 J. CUNNINGHAM in *Phil. Trans.* XXIII. 1207 *Bean, or Mandarin Broth .. made of the Seed of Sesamum. c 1400 *Pallad. on Husb.* iv. 110 Two basketfull of 'bene chaf. 1800 T. MITCHELL *Aristoph.* I. 161 One much giv'n To a *bean-diet. 1820 *Edin. Rev.* XXXIV. 303 The folly of the *bean-election. 1850 R. HARVEY *Pl. Perc.* (1860) 34 Forehorse of my 'beane-fed Teeme. 1870 *MORRIS* *Earthly Par.* I. ii. 454 Thy soft breezes blow Sweet with the scent of 'beanfields far away. 1610 *HEALEY* *St. Aug. City of God* 164 Brutus .. kept her feast .. with *beane-floure, and bacon. a 1661 *HOLYDAY* *Juvenal* (1673) 25 The distilled water of *bean-flowers. c 1000 *Sax. Leechd.* II. 84 Genim Bean mela. 1847 *Gard. Chron.* 144 The fitness of *Bean-meal for cheap bread. 1677 *YARRANTON* *Engl. Improv.* 18 His Creditors crowd to him as Pigs do .. to a *Bean and Peas Rick. 1844 *MISS MITFORD* *Village Ser.* i. (1863) 25 Troops of stooping *bean-setters. *Ibid.* 26 What work *bean-setting is! 1835-9 *TODD* *Cycl. Anat. & Phys.* II. 530/2 A kidney or *bean-shaped hole called *foramen ovale*. 1856 *KANE* *Art. Exp.* II. xvi. 169 A stock of concentrated *bean-soup was cooked. 1824 *MISS MITFORD* *Village Ser.* iii. (1863) 91 The obstinate bird ran away behind a *bean-stack. 1585 *JAS. I* *Ess. Poies* 68 Some bucklit on a *benvvod, and some on a bene.

8. Special combinations: *bean-belly*, a great eater of beans, a nickname of dwellers in Leicestershire; *bean-brush*, the stubble of beans; *bean-butter*, a dish made from unshelled beans; *bean-caper*, English name of the genus *Zygophyllum*, South African plants with fleshy leaves and flower-buds used as capers; † *bean-cod*, a bean-pod; also applied to a kind of river boat in use in Portugal; *bean-crake*, local name of the Corn-crake; *bean-dolphin*, the aphid or plant-louse of the bean; *bean-fly*, a beautiful insect, of pale purple colour, found on beans; *bean-hull* (*Sc. hool*), a bean-pod; *bean-mouse*, name given to the Long-tailed Field-mouse: *bean-pole*, -stick, (-wood, *obs.*), one used for beans to twine round, *fig.* a lanky fellow; *bean-shatter*, a bird-scarer; *bean-shot* copper, that obtained in rounded grains, by pouring it, when melted, into hot water; *bean-stalk*, the stem of the bean-plant: so called in the fairy-tale of 'Jack and the Beanstalk'; *bean-straw*, the dried stems of the bean-plant; *bean-vine*, common name of *Phaseolus diversifolius*. See also BEAN-FEAST, -GOOSE, -TREE, -TREEFOIL.

1659 E. LEIGH *Eng. Descr.* 114 Leicestershire .. yeeldeth great abundance of Peas and Beans .. inasmuch that there is an old by-word .. Leicestershire *Bean-Belly. 1677 *Plot Oxfordsh.* 240 Ploughing in the *bean-brush at All-Saints. 1552 *HUTOET*, *Beane butter, *conchis*. 1597 *GERARD* *Herbal* ii. cccxxiii. 827 Called after the Latine *Beane Caper. c 1000 *Ag. Gosp.* Luke xv. 16 His wambe gefyllan of þam bean-coddum [v. r. bien-coddun; *Lindisf.* *G. bean-beslum*; *Halton G. bean-coddan*]. 1615 *MARKHAM* *Eng. Housew.* ii. ii. (1668) 52 A good simple Sallet is Camphire, *Bean cods, Sparagus, and Cucumbers. 1769 *FALCONER* *Dict. Marine* (1789), *Bean-cod, a small fishing-vessel .. extremely sharp forward, having its stem bent inward above into a great curve. 1647 R. STAPLTON *Juvenal* 250 Give me a *beane-hull. 1818 *SCOTT* *Hrt. Midl.* xviii. He shall hide himself in a *bean-hool if he remains on Scottish ground without my finding him. 1766 *PENNANT* *Zool.* (1768) I. 103 They are called *bean-mice from the havoc they make among beans when first sown. 1837 *HALIBUTSON* *Clockm.* (1862) 137 Mr. Jehiel, a *bean-pole of a lawyer. 1632 *CHAPMAN & SHIRLEY* *Ball* iv. i. To fright away crows, and keep the corn, *beanshatter. 1c 1800 (*title*) *The Surprising History of Jack and the Bean Stalk*. 1871 M. COLLINS *Mrg. & Merch.* I. i. 74 Jack's *beanstalk was nothing to it. 1823 J. BADCOCK *Dom. Amusem.* 54 Thrust a *bean-stick into the ground. c 1386 *CHAUCER* *Merck* 7. 178 [A] woman thirty yere of age .. is but *bene-straw. 1838 *HAWTHORNE* *Amer. Note Bks.* (1871) I. 127 Bean-vines running up round the doors.

Beandler, -kler, incorrect f. *BEANTLER*.

Beand, *obs. f. of being*: see *BE* v.

Beane, variant of *BENE*. *Obs.* a prayer.

Beane, *beayne*, var. of *BAIN* a., ready, willing. a 1400 *Chester Pl.* i. (1843) 50 Lord, to thy byddinge I am beane. *Ibid.* ii. (1847) 181 Though I to synne were beayne and bonne.

Bean-feast. [Various explained by the appearance of *beans*, or of a *bean-goose*, as a prominent

dish on such occasions; connexion with ME. *bene* 'prayer, request, solicitation' from the custom of soliciting subscriptions, has also been suggested.]

An annual dinner given by employers to their work-people. Hence *Bean-feaster*.

1888a *Printing Times* 15 Feb. 26/2 A beanfeast dinner served up at a country inn. 1884 *Bath Jnl.* 26 July 6/1 The annual grant of £20 for their bean feast. 1884 *Cornh. Mag.* Jan. 621 For the delectation of the bold beanfeasters.

Bean-goose. A species of Goose (*Anser setgetum*): see quotation.

1766 *Pennant Zool.* (1812) II. 234 Called the bean goose, from the likeness of the nail of the bill to a horse bean. 1863 *Spring Leph.* 14 In Lapland. 'bean, and white-fronted geese, flock in hundreds.

Beant, dial. f. of *be not*: see *Be v.*

Beantler, var. *BESANTLER*, *BAY ANTILER*.

Bean-tree. A name given to several trees bearing podded seeds; esp. the Algarroba or Carob-tree (*Ceratonia siliqua*); also Swedish Bean-tree (*Pyrus intermedia*), Australian Bean-tree (*Casstanospermum australe*).

1616 *SURFL. & MARKH. Countr. Farm* 201 Beane-tree, or S. Johns-bread (bearing a long, flat, and broad fruit, like unto that of Cassia). 1834 *PRINGLE Afr. Sk.* 22 The bright-blossomed bean-tree shakes its coral tufts above the brakes.

Bean-trefoil. English name of the *Anagyris*, a bushy shrub, bearing axillary racemes of yellow flowers, succeeded by narrow recurved pods. Sometimes applied to the Buckbean (*Menyanthes trifoliata*), and formerly to the Laburnum.

1551 *TURNER Herbal* 28 *Anagyris*. . . maye be called in Englishe, benefetrifolye: because the leues grow thre together, and the seede is muche lyke a bene. 1607 *Torsell Serpents* 773 Leaves of Bean-trifoly drunk in Wine. 1793 *BRADLEY Fam. Dict.*, *Bean-Trefoil*, affords many fine yellow blossoms.

Beany (bēni), *a. slang.* [f. *BEAN* + *-y*.] In good condition (?like a bean-fed horse); spirited, fresh. 1852 *KINGSLEY in Life* (1877) I. 278 The very incongruity keeps one beany and jolly. 1870 *Daily News* 27 July 5 The horses . . . looked fresh and beany.

Bear (bēa), *sb.* Forms: 1 *bers*, 2-7 *bere*, 3 *beore*, 4 *beeyr*, 4-5 *beore*, 5 *barre*, 6 *Sc.* *beir*, 6-7 *beare*, 7 *bar*, 7- *bear*. [OE. *bera* = OHG. *bero*, *pero*, MHG. *ber*, mod.G. *bär*, MDu. *bere*, Du. *beer* :- OTeut. **beron*-. The ON. *björn* :- **bern-oz* seems to be an extended form. Supposed by Fick to be cogn. with L. *ferus* wild, as if 'the wild beast' of northern nations.]

I. 1. A heavily-built, thick-furred plantigrade quadruped, of the genus *Ursus*; belonging to the *Carnivora*, but having teeth partly adapted to a vegetable diet.

The best-known species are the Brown Bear of Europe (*U. arctos*), the White or Polar Bear (*U. maritimus*), the Grizzly Bear (*U. horribilis* or *ferax*) and Black Bear (*U. americanus*) of North America, and the Syrian Bear (*U. syriacus*), mentioned in the Bible; there are remains of fossil species, some larger than any now known.

c. 1000 *ÆLFRIC On O. T. in Sweet Reader* 66 David . . . ge-wylde ðone wildan beran. c. 1200 *Trin. Coll. Hom.* 211 Ech man is efened to be deore þe he nimeð after geres . . . sum bere, sum leun. 1398 *TREvisa Barth. De P. R.* xviii. liii. (1495) 813 Whan beeyrs ben syke they seke amptes and deuoure them. *Ibid.* cxii. 854 The beer can wonderly stye vpon trees. c. 1400 *Anturs of Arth. x.* Thus were the grehondes a-gast of the gryme bere. 1501 *DOUGLAS Pal. Hon.* iii. xxvii, David I saw slay baith lyoun and beir. 1506 *SHAKS. Merch. V.* ii. 20, I would . . . Plucke the yong sucking Cubs from the she Beare. 1644 *CAPT. SMITH Virginia* II. 24 Their attire is the skinnes of Beares. 1733 *POPE Horac. Sat.* ii. i. 87 'Tis a Bear's talent not to kick but hug. 1860 *Gosse Rom. Nat. Hist.* 62 The white bear seated on a solitary iceberg in the Polar Sea.

b. in proverbial phrases, referring to the habits of bears, and to the obsolete sport of bear-baiting.

Are you there with your bears? 'Are you there again, or at it again?' is explained by Joe Miller as the exclamation of a man who, not liking a sermon he had heard on Elisha and the bears, went next Sunday to another church, only to find the same preacher and the same discourse.

1564 *J. Heywood Prov. & Epigr.* (1867) 17 With as good will as a beare goth to the stake. *Ibid.* 54 As handsomly as a beare picketh muscles. 1589 *Pappe w. Hatchet* (1844) 16 Swarmed . . . like beares to a honie pot. 1601 *DENT Pathw. Heauen* 62 To put his finger into the Lions mouth, and . . . take the Beare by the tooth. 1603 *FULBECKE 1st Pt. Parall.* 28 A man should deuide honie with a Beare. 1736 *BAILEY s. v.* You dare as well take a Bear by the Tooth, That is, You dare not attempt it. 1748 *RICHARDSON Pamela* III. 335 O ho, Nephew! are you thereabouts with your Bears? 1800 *SCOTT Abbot* xv, 'Marry come up—are you there with your Bears?' muttered the Dragon. 1830 *MARBYAT King's Own* xxvi, As savage as a bear with a sore head. 1831 *GEN. THOMPSON Exerr.* (1842) I. 485 Not fit to carry garbage to a bear. 1858 *Sat. Rev.* 7 Aug. 139 You must not sell the skin till you have shot the bear [cf. II].

c. *fig.*

c. 1200 *Ancr. R.* 202 Þe Bore (þe bere, beore) of heui Slouhðe haueð beos hweolc. c. 1400 *Apol. Loll.* 58 Þe bere of glotonie rymis a bout . . . for to fille þe wombe. 1501 *SENSEER Ruines Time* 66 What nowe is of th' Assyrian Lyonesse? 2. What of the Persian Beares outrageousnesse?

2. *fig.* A rough, unmannerly, or uncouth person. To play the bear: to behave rudely and roughly. Also in obs. colloquial sense: see quot. 1832.

1579 *TOMSON Calvin's Sermon. Tim.* 473/1 When we haue so turned all order vpsidowne . . . there is nothing but . . . play-

ing the beare amongst vs. 1751 *CHESTERY Lett.* III. cclxii. 202 The French people of learning . . . are not bears as most of ours are. 1828 *Legends Lond.* II: 247 When I was the youthful Bear—as the disciple of a Private Tutor is called at Oxford. 1825 *MACAULAY Hist. Eng.* III. 51 This great soldier . . . was no better than a Low Dutch bear.

3. *Astr.* Name given to two constellations in the northern hemisphere known respectively as the 'Great Bear,' and 'Lesser Bear.'

1398 *TREvisa Barth. De P. R.* viii. xxv, Alwey þoo sterres wyndep and turnep rounde aboute þat lyne, þat is calde Axis, as a bere aboute þe stake. And perfore þat cerle is clepid þe more bear. 1551 *RECORDE Cast. Knowl.* (1556) 267 The moste northerly constellation is the lesser Beare . . . Nigh vnto it is the greater Beare. 1632 *MILTON Pens.* 85 Where I may oft outwatch the Bear. 1868 *LOCKYER Heavens* (ed. 3) 320 Between the Great Bear and Cassiopeia is the Little Bear.

4. In New South Wales, the local name of the *Phascogale*, a Marsupial animal allied to the *Phalanger*, called by the natives *Koala* or 'Biter.' 1847 *CARPENTER Zool.* § 314 By the colonists usually termed the native Bear or Monkey.

5. *Sea-bear*: popular name of a species of seal. 1847 *CARPENTER Zool.* § 202 Several species of Seal are known under the names of Sea-Lion, Sea-Bear, etc. 1863 *FLOWER in Glasgow Weekly Her.* 14 July 8/1.

6. A rough mat for wiping boots on; a block covered with shaggy matting, used for scrubbing the decks of vessels.

1795 *J. Aikin Manchester* 349 The making (by blindfolk) of . . . white and tarred bears, foot-cloths, etc. 1805 *D. JOHNSTON Sermon for Blind so Rope-bears* for cleaning the feet at our doors.

7. A machine for punching holes.

1869 *SIR E. REED Ship Build.* xx. 446 The holes which come in the plate-edges are usually punched by a bear.

b. Other technical uses: see quot.

1864 *Reader* No. 85. 203/3 A machine called the bear, which sheltered a number of archers. 1871 *Trans. Amer. Inst. Min. Engineers* I. 112 Metallic iron, not finding heat enough in a lead furnace . . . congeals in the hearth, and forms what smelters term 'sows,' 'bears,' 'horses.'

II. 8. *Stock Exchange.* A speculator for a fall; i. e. one who sells stock for delivery at a future date, in the expectation that meanwhile prices will fall, and he will be able to buy in at a lower rate what he has contracted to deliver at a higher. Formerly, The stock so contracted to be delivered, in the phrase 'to buy' or 'sell the bear'; see b.

[As applied to stock thus sold, *bear* appears early in 18th c., and was common at the time of the South Sea Bubble. The term 'bearskin jobber,' then applied to the dealer now called the 'bear,' makes it probable that the original phrase was 'sell the bearskin,' and that it originated in the well-known proverb, 'To sell the bear's skin before one has caught the bear.' The associated *BULL* appears somewhat later and was perhaps suggested by *bear*.]

a. 1790 *Anat. Change Alley* (in *N. & Q.* 1876 Ser. v. VI. 118 Those who buy Exchange Alley Bargains are styled) buyers of Bear-skins. 1796 *Dr. Fox Hist. Devil* (1822) 238 Every secret cheat, every bear-skin jobber.

b. 1790 *STEELE Tattle* No. 28 § 3 Being at that General Mart of Stock-Jobbers called Jonathans . . . he bought the bear of another officer. *Ibid.* 75, I fear the Word *Bear* is hardly to be understood among the polite People; but I take the meaning to be, That one who ensures a Real Value upon an Imaginary Thing, is said to sell a Bear. 1794 *C. JOHNSON Country Lassies* I. i. Instead of changing honest staple for Gold and Silver, you deal in Bears and Bulls. 1790 *POPE Inscr. Punch Bowl in South-Sea Year* (Globe ed.) 490 Come fill the South Sea goblet full; The gods shall of our stock take care: Europa pleased accepts the bull, And Jove with joy puts off the bear. 1791 *CIBBER Refusal Wks.* 1754 I. 41 (*from end*), And all this out of Change-Alley? Every Shilling, Sir, all out of Stocks, Tuts, Bulls, Rams, Bears, and Bubbles. 1791 *BAILEY, To sell a Bear* (among Stock-jobbers), to sell what one hath not.

c. 1744 *Lond. Mag.* 86 These noisy Devotees were false ones, and in fact were only Bulls and Bears. 1768 *Gentl. Mag.* 18 In contracts for time, he who contracts to sell is called the bear. 1865 *Standard* 23 Feb. The 'bear' party at the Paris Bourse plucked up courage to-day. 1881 *Chicago Times* 30 Apr., The bears made a strong fight against an advance.

III. *Comb.* 9. General relations, chiefly attrib., as *bear-dance*, *fight*, *hide*, *kin*, *meat*, *whelp*.

c. 1200 *Ancr. R.* 202 Þe laste bore hweolc is grimmet of alle. *Ibid.* 296 Þe deouel is beorekunnes. 1588 *SHAKS. Tit. A.* iv. i. 96 But if you hunt these Beare-whelpes, then beware: The Dam will wake. 1825 *SCOTT Betrothed* (1860) 349 Stretch thyself on the bear-hide, and sleep. 1856 *KANE Arctic. Exp.* II. 311 Bear-meat, seal, walrus. 1869 *MASSON Milton* I. iv. 113 Dancings, bear-fights, cock-fights, etc.

10. Special combinations: † *bear-ape*, obsolete name of an American ape (see quot.); *bear-bait* = *BEAR-BAITING*; *bear-brat*, contemptuous epithet = *bear's cub*; *bear's* (*s*)-*breech*, popular name of the genus *Acanthus*, Brank-ursine; *bear-bug*, variant of *BUG-DOG*; † *bear-claw* (= *bear's* *breech*); *bear-dog*, one used in hunting or baiting bears; *bear's-ear*, popular name of the *AURICULA* (sense 3); *bear's-ear* *sanicle*, herbalists' name of *Cortusa matthioli*; † *bear-fell*, a bear-skin; *bear-garden*, a place originally set apart for the baiting of bears, and used for the exhibition of other rough sports, *fig.* a scene of strife and tumult; *bear's-garlic*, popular name of *Alium Ursinum* or *Ramsons*; *bear's-grease*, the fat of the bear, used esp. in medical and cosmetic

preparations; *bear-hound* (= *bear-dog*); *bear-leader*, formerly a ludicrous name for a travelling tutor, cf. sense 2 above; *bear's-muok* (see quot.); *bear-play*, rough tumultuous behaviour; *bear-warden* = *BEAR-WARD*; † *bear-wolf*, a vigorous term of opprobrium; † *bear-worm*, obsolete name of a hairy caterpillar, or 'woolly-bear.'

Also *BEAR-BAITING*, *BERRY*, *-FOOT*, *-SKIN*, *-WARD*.

1607 *TORSSELL Four-f. Beasts* 15 Of the 'Bear-Ape Arc-topithecus. His belly hangeth very low, his head and face like unto a child. c. 1590 in *Chetham Misc.* V. Maigames, rushbearings, 'bearebaits. 1593 *STANFURST Epitaphs* 150 Thee 'bearbrat boucher thy corps with villenye mangled. 1605 *GOLDING Ovid's Met.* xiii. (1593) 315 A traile of flowres of 'bearbrich. 1736 *BAILEY Househ. Dict.* 71 'Bears breech or Brank Ursine, is an herb of singular use in Physick, for . . . the gout and cramp. 1758 *J. Heywood Prov. & Epigr.* (1867) 194 They put on blacke scruffs, and go like 'beare buggis. 1809 *FLEMING Virg. Elog.* iii. 8 Compassed about the eares with tender 'beare-claw (leaves). 1873 *Lond. Gas.* No. 763/4 A Blew brinded 'Bear Dog of about three quarters old. 1897 *GERARD Herball* II. cclxii. 640 There be diuers sorts of Mountaine Cowslips, or 'Beares eares. 1671 *GREW Anat. Plants* I. (1682) 31 Sometimes single, as in 'Beares-Ears. c. 1350 *Will. Palerne* 2430 Wip hem bope 'bere felles þei bere in here armes. 1506 *J. NORDEN Progr. Pietie* (1847) 177 And go to the . . . 'bear-gardens . . . where they lose their time . . . and offend the laws . . . of her majesty. 1687 *SETTLE Refl. Dryden's Plays* 33 Our 'Beargarden Duellers. 1743 *WESLEY in Wks.* 1782 I. 439 One of them having been a prize-fighter at the 'bear-garden. 1803 *BRISTED Pedest. Tour* II. 543 Squabbles and boxings . . . rendering the place more like a 'bear-garden than a hall of instruction. 1811 *COTGER, Ail d'ours, Ramsons*. 'Beares garlick. 1863 *PRIOR Plant-n.* 17 'Bear's-garlick, so called, says Tabernemontanus, quia nrsi eo delectantur. c. 1400 *Pallad. on Husb.* I. 838 And evry tole in 'beres grees de-foule. 1601 *HOLLAND Pliny* II. 103 Wild Rose leaves reduced into a liniment with 'Beares grease. 1843 *THACKERAY Irish Sk. Bk.* (1863) 286 A tuft on the chin may be had at a small expense of 'bear's grease, by persons of a proper age. 1837 *CARLYLE Fr. Rev.* I. iii. i. 80 The Wolfhounds shall fall suppressed, the 'Beardhounds, the Falconry. 1749 *H. WALPOLE Lett. H. Mann* 202 (1834) II. 283 She takes me for his 'bear-leader, his travelling governor. 1846 *CLARKE in Jnl. R. Agric. Soc.* VII. ii. 517 The 'dead peat, commonly called 'bear's muck'. 1803 *Pall Mall G.* 14 June, That the university would not degrade itself in the eyes of the visitors by 'bear-play. 1884 *BESANT in Contemp. Rev.* Mar. 343 The 'bear-warden's fiddle. 1545 *BRINKLOW Complaynt* (1874) 89 Turne your chauntries and your obbets from the profite of these 'berewolwes whelpes. 1608 *TORSSELL Serpents* 667 These Caterpillars . . . by reason of their roughnesse and ruggednesse, some call them 'Bear-worms.

Bear (bēa), *sb.* Forms: 1-9 *bere*, 6 *beir*, 6-8 *beare*, *beer*, 7 *bar*, 8- *bear*. [OE. *bege* (masc.) :- OTeut. **baris* (neut.), found in Gothic in the derivative *bariseins*, adj. 'made of barley.' The thematic *s* of OTeut. was mistaken for the inflexional *s* of the nom. masc. and the noun became masc. in OE. and in ON. *bar-r*: cf. *awe*.]

1. Barley: the original English name, in later times retained only in the north, and esp. in Scotland; hence *spec.* applied to the coarse variety (*Hordeum hexastichon* or *tetrastichon*), with six (or four) rows of grain in its ear, till lately chiefly cultivated in the north; also distinguished as *bear-barley* and *bigg*. *Knocked bear*: pounded barley.

c. 950 *Lindisf. Gosp.* John vi. 9 Fife hafas bere and tuocege fisses. c. 975 *Rushw. G.* *Ibid.*, Fif hafas of bere. c. 1300 *ÆLFRIC Gram.* (Z.) 31 *Ordeum*, bere. a. 1300 *Cursor M.* 13506 Tua fisses and fue laues o bere. 1340 *AYMER*, 141 Þe asse of þe melle. ase blepeliche berþ bere ase huede. c. 1405 *WYNTOUN Cron.* vii. x. 521 A Boll of Bere for awcht or ten . . . sawid wes þen. c. 1570 *Leg. Bp. S. And.* in *Scot. Forms* 16th C. II. 324 To craue there debitis; For kail, caudle, and knocked beir. 1570 *HOLMES Scot. Chron.* (1806) I. 8 Abundance of barleie which the Scots call beir. 1778 *PENNANT Tours Scotl.* (1774) 245 Thatched with the Straw of bear pulled up by the roots. 1799 *J. ROBERTSON Agric. Perth* 152 Bear-barley or bigg, which consists of four rows in the ear. 1800 *SCOTT Monast.* I The feuars raised tolerable bear.

2. *attrib.*, as in *bear-avens*, *-bannock*, *-bread*, *-corn*, *-flour*, *-meal*; *bear-seed*, the seed or sowing (*obs.*) of bear. See also *BEAR-BINE*; and cf. *BARN*, *BARTON*.

c. 950 *Lindisf. Gosp.* Luke iii. 17 Clenseð ber-ern vel bere-fior his. c. 1550 *Description of Pedder Coffris* (Bann. MS.), And beir bonnoks with thame thay tak. 1587 *Acts Jas. VI* (1814) 447 (JAM.) Thairefter the Session . . . to ryse and vacance be for the beirseid during the moneth of Maji. 1591 *PERCIVALL Sp. Dict.*, *Espeilla*, beere corne *Spella*, *sea*. 1601 *HOLLAND Pliny* I. 559 The Beare corne or bearded Far. c. 1600 *Z. Boyd Zion's Flowers* (1855) 100 Where pinch'd with want the Bar bread thou shalt cate. 1733 *Scots Mag.* XV. 54/4 Bear-meal 7d.

† **Bear**, *sb.* 3. *Obs.* [f. *BEAR v.*]

1. = *BEARING vbl. sb.* 2; behaviour.

a. 1400 *Chester Pl.* 106, I wotte by this boisters beare That tribute I muste paye.

2. Pressure, thrust.

1674 *N. FAIRFAX Bulk & Selo.* 72 The pent or bear of it beneath vvvas nothing at all. *Ibid.* 122 The spring . . . may, by its bear or elasticity hitch it forwards . . . creeper-like.

Bear (bēa, bi-a), *sb.* 4. *Obs.* or *dial.* Forms: 4-6 *bere*, 5 *bare*, 5-7 *beare*, 6 *beere*, *ber*, 6-7 *beier*, 7-8 *bier*, 4- *beer*. [ME. *bere*, cognate w. LG. *büre*, adopted also in mod.G. as *bühre*. Of obscure origin; Grimm's derivation from OHG. *bur-jan*, *burren* to raise, is not satisfactory.] A case

or covering for a pillow. Usually **PILLOW-BERE**, q. v.

1369 CHAUCER *Bk. Duchesse* 254 Many a pillow and every bere, Of cloth of Raines to slepe on soft. 1494 *Ord. R. Househ.* 125 Every pillow two bares of raynes For every pillow two bares. 1525 *Bury Wills* (1850) 116, I bequethes to Fraunces Wrethe. .ij. pelows w^t the berys. 1641 *Chron. Pret. Snathene* in *Frml. Statist. Soc.* (1858), 7 linen pillow bears, 8s. 1713 *Lond. & Country Brew.* 1. (1742) 36 A Bag, like a Pillow-bear. 1890 *Hood Poems* (1864) 269 Right beautiful the dewy meads appear. What then, — if I prefer my pillow-bear?

† **Bear**, *sb.* **Obs.** rare; also bere, bier. [Cogn. w. ON. *lára* wave, billow, perh. f. *berja* to strike, dash.] A wave, a billow.

1250 *LAV.* 1341 He hepte . . seyles drawe to toppe leten lade pane wind passi ouer bieres (1205 uden). *Ibid.* 28077 Pe beares me hire bi-nome. *Ibid.* 2865 A . . sort bot Wandri mid þ[e] biers.

Bear (*bēar*), *v.* 1 *str.* Pa. t. bore (*bōr*). Pa. pple. borne (*bōm*), born (*bēm*). Forms: *Inf.* 1 *ber-an*, (2 *beor-en*, *bor-en*), 2-5 *ber-en*, 3-6 *ber-e*, (4 *berne*, *bern*), 4-5 *ber*, 5 *beere*, *Sc.* 5-6 *beir(e)*, 5-7 *beare*, (5-8 *bare*, 6 *baire*, *berie*), 6-*bear*. Pa. t. 1-2 *bear* (*pl. bēaron*), 2-5 *ber*, *bar* (*pl. beren*), 4-5 *bere*, 4-8 *bare*, (4 *beir*, *beere*, *baar*); 5-*bore* (*rare* till c 1600), 6 *boore*; *Sc.* 5 *bur*, 5-6 *buir*, 6-8 *bure*; (5 *baryd*, 7 *beared*). Pa. pple. 1-4 *boren*, (4-5 *borin(e)*, 5 *borun*), 4-7 *born* (*rare*), 5-7 *borne* (*usual*); also 2-4 *iboren*, 3-5 *ibore*, *yborne*, *ibor*, (5 *ebore*), 3-8 *bore*, (4-5 *bor*, 6 *arch*, *yborne*, *yborne*), 8-9 *borne*, *born* differentiated. [Common Teut., and Aryan: OE., OS., OHG. *ber-an*, ON. *ber-a*, Goth. *bair-an* — OTeut. stem *ber-* = L. *fer-*, Gr. *φερ-*, Skr. *bhar-*. (The compound form, Goth. *ga-bairan*, OHG. *ga-beran*, OS. *gi-beran*, OE. *geberan*, ME. *IBERE*, is in some of the langs. more usual than the simple verb: cf. MHG. *gebern*, mod.G. *gebären* in sense IV.) As the senses of *carry a burden*, and *bring forth fruit or offspring*, are both found in the word and its derivatives in the Aryan languages generally, from the earliest period, it is not certain which is the primitive; possibly branch IV preceded I in prehistoric times. In mod.Eng. the originally short vowel of the present has been lengthened by position (*orig. ber*, now *bēar*). The pa. t., in Gothic *bar*, *pl. bēaron*, was regularly in OE. *ber*, *bēaron* (Anglian *bēron*); early ME. *bar*, *beren*, afterwards by levelling of sing. and pl., in south *ber*, *beren*, *beeren*, in north *bar(e)*, *baren*, *bare*, which became the literary form. The later *bore*, assimilated in vowel to the pa. pple., appears in w. midl. texts, about 1400; it was not general till after 1600; the Shaks. folio of 1623 has *bore* and *bare*, but the Bible of 1611 only *bare*. The corresponding *Sc. bur*, *buir* (pointing to earlier *ō*) is found in 15th c. As to the two forms of the pa. pple., *borne*, *born*, see 44 below. The ME. *iboren* may also be referred to the derivative *IBERE* (see above), which cannot be separated in sense from the simple verb.]

Main senses: I. to carry; II. to sustain; III. to thrust, press; IV. to bring forth.

I. To carry; with its transferred and fig. senses.

1. *trans.* To support the weight of (anything) whilst moving it from one place to another; to carry. Now usually restricted in prose to the carrying of something weighty or which requires an effort. a 1000 *Beowulf* 96 [He hina] leton holm beran, zeafon on garsec. 1154 *O. E. Chron.* (Laud MS.) an. 1113 Wua sira bare his byrthen. c 1200 *Trin. Coll. Hom.* 89 Hie . . beren on here honde blome. c 1250 *Gen. & Ex.* 309 God bar him in-to paradis. c 1380 *Wyclif De Ps. Freris* xlii. Wks. (1880) 307 Boren aboute wip windis. c 1385 CHAUCER *L. G. W.* 943 On his bak he bar . . Anchises. c 1400 MAUNDEV. xvi. 172 Men . . beeren his body in to Mesopotayme . . and aftre he was broughte thidre agen. c 1450 *Bk. Curtesy* 1. 114 With mete ne bere þy knyfe to mowthe. 1483 *Cath. Angl.* 28 To bere, *batulare*, *portare*. 1568 SHAKS. *L. L. L.* iv. iii. 17 She hath one a' my sonnets already, the Clowne bore it, the foolle sent it. a 1605 FLETCHER *Eld. Brother* 1. ii. Court-admirers . . ever echo him that bears the bag. 1704 *Swift Batt. Bks.* (1711) 256 The other half was born by the frighted Steed thro the Field. 1740 *Johnson Drake* Wks. 1787 IV. 453 Over his head was born a rich canopy. 1816 J. Wilson *City of Plague* 1. ii. 138 The wretch who bore them in her womb. 1880 *Scott Ivanhoe* viii, He was borne senseless from the lists.

b. *absol.* To carry burdens.

1593 SHAKS. *Rich. II.* v. v. 90 Forgiveness, horse: why do I rale on thee, Since thou . . Was't borne to beare? 1621 *Bible Gen.* xlix. 15 He . . bowed his shoulder to beare.

c. To lift, raise, or keep up (a thing) while moving it. *Obs.* or *arch.*

1576 BANISTER *Hist. Man* iv. 62 These two muscles baire the hand vpward. 1677 *Maxon Mech. Exerc.* (1703) 98 When he draws back his Saw, the Work-man bears it lightly off the un-sawn Stuff. *Ibid.* 170 To bear their Work off the Cheeks of the Lathe.

d. *Backgammon*: To remove a piece at the end of a game. Also *absol.*

1758 J. Haywood *Prov. & Epigr.* (1867) 109, I will no

more play at tables with thee: When was come to bearing, thou begylest mee, In bearyng of thy men. *Ibid.* 110 Eche other caste thou bearest a man to many. 1748 *Hovitz Backgammon in Penny Cycl.* III. 240/2 If you bear any number of men, before you entered a man taken up . . such men, so borne, must be entered again in your adversary's tables.

† e. To take as a companion, take along with one; to carry as a consequence. *Obs.*

1596 SPENSER *F. Q.* l. iv. 2 After that he had faire Una lorne. And false Duessa in her sted had borne. 1607 SHAKS. *Timon* 1. i. 131 His honesty rewards him in it selfe, It must not beare my Daughter.

f. *To bear across*: to support (things) going across. 1860 *Tyndall Glac.* 1. § 11. 75 Finding a bridge which bore us across the crevasse.

2. *fig.* Said in reference to things immaterial, or to ideal carrying.

c 1200 *Trin. Coll. Hom.* 47 We agen to beren ure louerd ihesu crist on heorte. c 1230 *Ancre. R.* 424 Nouder of þe wummen ne beren . . none idele tale. a 1300 *Cursor M.* 2201 Ful fer about men bar his namen. c 1500 *Merch. & Son* in *Halliwell's* *Anglo-P.* 23 There was not oon man in all this londre that bare a bettyr brede. 1558 *Hulst.* *Bear* tale or tidynge. 1577 *Holinshead Chron.* III. 831/2 This pope Leo . . bare bot seauen and thirtie yeres of age. 1795 *Pope's* *Odys.* xvi. 162 To the Queen with speed dispatchful bear Our safe return. 1768 *Blackstone Comm.* II. 242 The ancestor, during his life, beareth in himself all his heirs. 1805 *Southey Madoc in Ast. ii.* Wks. V. 213 [He] seem'd to bear at heart Something that rankled there. 1879 *MacLear Celts* v. 79 Another . . incident, which bears internal evidence of high antiquity.

b. *To bear in mind*: to carry or keep in remembrance.

1538 *Bale God's Promyses* 1. in *Dodsley* (1780) I. 12 To beare in mynde. . The brute of thy name. 1539 *Taverner Erasmus. Prov.* 20 Worthy . . to be continually borne in mynde. 1854 *McCulloch Taxation* II. iv. 199 It should . . be borne in mind that this is not a mere agricultural question. 1855 *Macaulay Hist. Eng.* IV. 313 He promised to bear the subject in mind. 1870 *Bryant Iliad* I. iv. 106 Bear what I say in mind.

c. *To bear witness, record, testimony*: to testify.

a 1300 *Cursor M.* 6478 Ne ber þou witness nan bot lele. 1340 *Hampole Pr. Conc.* 585 Als þe buk says and bers witness. 1596 *Tindale John viii.* 14 Though I beare recorde [Wyclif witnessyng, *Rhem. testimonie*] of my selfe, yet my recorde is true. 1611 *Bible Ex.* xx. 16 Thou shalt not beare false witness against thy neighbour. 1671 *Milton Samson* 1749 [He] to his faithful champion hath in place Bore witness gloriously. 1848 *Macaulay Hist. Eng.* I. 508 Titles . . against which he had often borne his testimony.

3. With extension, and in phrases; both in lit. and fig. sense.

a. Extended by various advbs., as *about*, *away*, *off*, *out*, etc. Sometimes with specialized sense, as *To bear away*: to carry away as winner; † to carry away in the mind (a thing learned) *obs.* *To be borne away*: i. e. in opinion by feeling, impulse, etc. † *To bear forth*: to carry out, conduct (a matter); to develop. *To bear off*: to carry off as winner. *To bear out*: To pretend, give out (*obs.*); to extol (*obs.*); to support, back up, corroborate, confirm; to be responsible for (*obs.*). † *To bear over*: to transfer; to carry over, hold over to a later date. *To bear up*: to carry, holding up (a train, etc.)

1823 *Lamb Elia* Ser. II. xxiii. (1865) 396 To bear^a about the piteous spectacle of his own self-ruins. 1848 H. E. MANNING *Serm.* (1848) I. 317 The dying body we now bear^a about. c 1450 *Rob. Hood* (Ritson) 1. i. 1132 And he that shoteht alder best The game shall bere^a away. 1530 *Palsgr.* 449/1, I beare^a awaye as a well wytted chylde dothe his lesson, *Ye apprens.* 1589 *Puttenham Eng. Poetrie* 5 Easier to beare^a away and be retained in memorie. 1711 *Spect.* No. 548 ¶ 6 Such tragedies as ended unhappily bore^a away the prizes. 1808 *Mar. Edgeworth Moral T.* (1816) I. xiv. 114 Borne^a away by their prejudices. c 1460 *Bk. Quintessence* 11 It berith^a forþ þat blood anon aftir into fleisch. 1631 *Weever Anc. Fun. Mon.* 212 This Duke had borne^a forth his youth with better respect then Prince Henry his brother had done. 1813 *Scott Rokeby* III. xxvi, We are enow to storm the hold, Bear^a off the plunder and the dame. 1485 *Caxton Paris & V.* 10 Somme were that bare^a out the beaulte of the syster of the Kyng. 1530 *Palsgr.* 450/2 This felowe beareth^a it out, as he were a great gentylman. 1551 *Robinson tr. Moré's Utop.* 128 He helpeth and beareth^a out simple wittes. 1618 *Bolton Florus* (1636) 153 Thou didst defend thy selfe . . against that people which had all the earth to backe, and beare them^a out. 1605 *Gaule Pract. The.* 334 Yet he beares^a out, As he'd preuent, or pittie the disaster. 1808 *Mar. Edgeworth Moral T.* (1816) I. xix. 166 You think, I suppose, that your friends . . will beare you^a out. 1867 *Freeman Norm. Comp.* I. vi. 441 A splendid panegyric which is fully borne^a out by his recorded acts. 1388 *Wyclif Eccles.* x. 8 Rewme fro folc in to folc is born^a ouer. — *Prov.* xxix. 11 A wis man berth^a ouer, and kepith vnto afterward. 1488 *Monk of Evesham* (1869) 40 They were bore^a vppe an hy by the grete vyolente flamys of fier. 1503 *Hawes Examp. Virt.* xiii. 255 Dame grace . . bare^a vp her trayn.

b. *To bear the bell, coals, the cross, a fagot, the flower, the grace, the palm, the prize, a part, the stroke, the word*: see **BELL**, **COALS**, etc. † *To bear low sail*: to demean oneself humbly.

a 1300 *Cursor M.* 12353 Pa oper leonis . . wip þaire heued þai bare logh saile. 1593 SHAKS. *3 Hen. VI.* v. i. 52, I had rather chop this Hand off at a blow . . Then beare so low a saile, to strike to thee. 1608 *Carew Cornwall* 135 b, Our Foy gallants, unable to beare a low saile, in their fresh gale of fortune.

† c. *To bear the face, the heart*: to direct, turn, incline it. *Obs.*

c 1300 *Beket* 224 The King also . . bar his hurte mest: to do ther Seint Thomas. c 1385 *E. E. Allit. P. A.* 67 Towarde a foreste I bere þe face.

d. *To bear (any one) company* (*fellowship obs.*), a hand: to bring, give, lend it. † *To bear one a blow*: to give or 'fetch' him a blow. *Obs.*

a 1300 *Cursor M.* 12568 And quen he suld to metship ga . . Alle þai felauchip him bare. 1523 *Ld. Berners Froiss.* I. cxi. 133 We desyre you to bere vs some company of armes. 1591 SHAKS. *Two Gent.* iv. iii. 34, I doe desire thee . . To beare me company, and goe with me. 1647 *W. Browne Polixander* 1. 116 Bajazet . . bore him a blow that, in all likelihood, should have bereft his life. 1749 *Fielding Tom Jones* VII. vii. (1840) 90 You have promised to beare me company. 1769 *Falconer Dict. Marine* (1789), *Bear-a-hand*, a phrase of the same import with make haste . . quick. 1865 *Dickens Mut. Fr.* vi. 307 Get him to beare a hand. 1865 *Carlyle Fredk. Gl.* II. vii. v. 290 This pleasant streamlet . . has borne us company for some time.

† e. *To bear (an, a, on) in hand* [= *F. maintenir*, med.L. *manutēere*]: to maintain (a statement); maintain or assert to or against (a person); to charge, accuse (*obs.* c 1540); to profess, pretend; to assure, to lead (one) to believe; to delude, abuse with false pretences. † *To bear in hand*: to carry on, manage.

c 1300 *Beket* 909 We woloth the bere an hond: that thu ert his traitour. c 1340 *Cursor M.* 15922 (Trin.) 3c bere me wrong on honde. c 1386 CHAUCER *Man of L.* T. 522 This false knight . . Bereth hir an hand that sche hath don this thing. 1461 *Paston Lett.* 396 II. 20 The parson of Snoryng . . beryth hym a hand. c 1470 *Henry Wallace* 1. 37 As Con's Cornyke bers on hand. 1513 *Douglas Envy* vi. xv. 103 The batellis and the weir, Quiklik eftir this he had to beir on hand. 1566 *Skelton Magnyf.* 357 They bare me in hande, that I was a spy. 1588 *More Heresyes* 1. Wks. 109/1 To dowte whither Luther himselfe . . wrote in dede so euyl as he is borne in hande. 1597 *Homilies* 1. *Fear of Death* III. (1859) 103 The love which we bear in hand to beare to him. 1599 *Daniel Cyp. Wars* vi. xxxiii, Devotion . . Bears men a Hand on their Credulity. 1599 SHAKS. *Much Ado* iv. i. 305 What, beare her in hand untill they come to take hands. 1611 — *Cymb.* v. v. 43 Your daughter, whom she bore in hand to loue. 1665 *Ussher Answ. Jesuit* 4 Not so easie to be discerned, as foolles bee borne in hand they are. a 1716 *South* (1717) VI. 25 If Popery and Fanaticism are so irreconcilable, as our True Protestants would beare us in hand that they are.

† f. *To bear it*: to carry off as a prize, to 'carry' by assault, carry the day. *Obs.*

1604 SHAKS. *Oth.* 1. iii. 23 So may he with more facile question beare it? 1612 *Bacon Ess.* (Arb.) 216 Some thinke to beare it, by . . being peremptorye. a 1665 *Fletcher Mad Lover* II. i. 7 'Tis worth doing . . but what doing beares it?

4. *refl.* *To bear oneself*: to carry, conduct, or deport oneself; behave, acquit oneself. Sometimes (like *behave oneself*) = to conduct oneself properly.

c 1230 *Ancre. R.* 4 Hu me schal beren him wibuten. 1330 *R. Brunne Chron.* 98 þe gode quene gaf him in conselle, To luf his folk bituene . . Bere him tille his barons. c 1386 CHAUCER *Prolog.* 798 Which of yow that bereth him best of alle. c 1485 *Digby Myst.* (1882) II. 524 Who-so in pride beryth hym to hye, with myscheff shalbe mekyd. 1530 *Palsgr.* 450/1, I beare myselfe well. 1593 *Hooker Ecccl. Pol.* II. vii. § 10 Wks. 1841 I. 268 Who beare themselves bold upon human authority. 1c 1600 *World & Child* in *Hazl. Dods.* I. 248 Bear thee prest in every game. 1668 *Ussher Ann.* vi. 163 Clearchus . . bearing himself for a Tyrant of Byzantium. 1754 *Sherlock Disc.* (1759) I. ix. 257 A Man may beare himself so well in Disguise, as not to be discovered. 1848 *Macaulay Hist. Eng.* I. 618 The latest generations would know how . . he had borne himself.

5. To have as a member or part of the body.

1486 *Bk. St. Albans* Eijj, And beerth talow and gris. 1611 SHAKS. *Wint. T.* 1. ii. 309 Seruants . . that bare eyes To see alike mine Honor, as their Profits. 1808 *Scott Marm.* vi. xvi, Eustace, thou bearest a brain. 1817 *Byron Manfred* II. iv. 92 Bear what thou borest, The heart and the form.

6. To carry about with or upon one, as material equipment or ornament.

a. To carry about with one, or wear, ensigns of office, weapons of offence or defence. *To bear arms against*: to be engaged in hostilities with.

a 1000 *Beowulf* 432 Secgas bēron . . beorhte frētwā. a 1175 *Lamb. Hom.* 69 Crist . . zeue us wepne for to bearen. c 1400 MAUNDEV. vi. 64 Thei beren but o Scheld and o Spere. 1568 G. FERRERS in *Arb. Garner* IV. 179 Apt to beare arms. 1609 *Skene Reg. Maj.* 60 He bure armes, and made weir against the King. 1760 *Robertson Chas. V.* III. xi. 316 An ample . . pardon to all who had born arms against him. 1868 *Stanley Jew. Ch.* (1877) I. v. 94 The staff like that still borne by Arab chiefs.

† b. To have upon the body (clothes, ornaments); to wear. *To bear the breech*: to 'wear the breeches.'

c 809 *K. Alfred Oros.* IV. x. § 12 [He] ber hæt on his headfe. c 1230 *Ancre. R.* 382 Ich wot swulne þet bereð boðe togedere heui brunie and here. a 1300 *Cursor M.* 9071 'Tas of . . mi kinges croun þat i na langer agh to bere'. c 1400 *Rom. Rose* 6240 Many . . that comyn clothe ay beeren, Yit seyntes neverthelesse they weren. c 1500 *Mayd Emlyn* in *Anc. Port. Tr.* (1842) 20 All women be suche Though the man bere the breeche, They wyll be euer checkemate. 1574 *Hellowes Guenaro's Ep.* (1577) 87 The good or the euil of monasteries lyeth not in y^r habite, but in the men that beare it.

c. To display on a heraldic shield; to be entitled to wear or use as coat armour.

a 1450 *Syr Eglam.* 1186 He bare of Aser, a schyp of golde. 1486 *Bk. St. Albans. Her. A.* j, Beyng in worthenes armes for to bere. 1599 *Thynne Animado.* 42 The erle of Kent beareth a wiuer for his Creste and supporters. 1797 *Bradley Fam. Dict.* s.v. *Bear*, He that has a Coat of Arms, is said to Bear it in the several Charges or Ordinaries that

are in his Escutcheon. 1825 Scott *Talism.* (1832) 225 The shield... bore... a serrated and rocky mountain.

7. To carry about with one, to have attached to, or impressed upon one, to own, have: a. a feature, external character, look. (= to present.)

c 1300 *Cursor M.* 1882 Bot of his liknes þat he bare. 1303 *Gower Conf.* I. 339 No life... Which berth visage of mannes kinde. c 1350 *Hickscornier* in *Hazl. Dods.* I. 171 Outward he beareth a fair face. 1600 *Hakluyt Voy.* (1810) III. 470 Many Mountaines that beare shewes of Mettals. 1711 *Steele Spect.* No. 478 Falshood... shall hereafter bear a blacker Aspect. 1795 *Southey Joan of Arc* iv. 28 So firm a front They bear in battle. 1848 *Macaulay Hist. Eng.* II. 142 Old Cavaliers... who bore the marks of honourable wounds.

b. a name, title, etc.

c 1301 *Chaucer Astrol.* II. 12. 23 After which planete the day berith his name. 1303 *Langl. P. Pl.* C. xvii. 203 For bishopes blessed... thei berep meny names. 1581 *Marbeck Bk. of Notes* 341 The Epistle which beareth the title to the Hebrews. 1850 *Prescott Mexico* I. 63 Four beautiful girls, bearing the names of the principal goddesses.

c. a reputation, praise, blame, price, value, etc.

c 1405 *Seven Sag.* (P.) 73 The fyfte mayster... That of wisdom bare grete loos. 1588 *Munday in Farr's S. P.* (1845) I. 230 The sweetest face... And highest head... Beare no more reckoning than the poorest slave. 1710 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 4658/2 The Blank Tickets bear seven per Cent. Interest. 1816 *Kirby & Sp. Entomol.* (1828) I. 331 It... is exported to India, where it bears a high price. 1845 *Hood Recipe Civiltz.* Wks. (1871) 298 That which bears the praise of nations. 1866 *Rogers Agric. & Prices* I. ii. 17 Natural meadow bore a high rental.

8. To wield (power, sway, etc.); to hold (an office). Cf. *office-bearer*.

c 1300 *Beket* 2409, (He) scholde have Ibore the heritage. 1303 *4 Act 19 Hen. VII.* xxvii. § 11 No merchant... [shall] bere any voyce ne have any sayngs in eny Courte. 1534 *Whitington Tullies Offices* II. (1540) 99 In that yere that I bare roume. 1535 *Coverdale Chron.* xxvii. 6 Sonnes... which bare rule in the house of their fathers. 1554 *Latimer Serm.* II. 138 They bear the swing, all things goeth after their minds. 1570 *Ascham Scholem.* (1863) 37 To beare some office in the common wealth. 1650 *R. Stapylton Strada's Low C. Warren* II. 29 That they should bear all the sway. 1690 *Idiom. Anglo-Lat.* 42 That Office did I bear. 1855 *Macaulay Hist. Eng.* III. 671 Those great Celtic houses, which... bore rule in Ulster.

9. fig. To entertain, harbour, cherish (a feeling).

c 1250 *Gen. & Ex.* 1044 Salt ðu 1037 ðe riht-wise weren. Or for hem ðe toðese með beren? a 1300 *Cursor M.* 1069 Until his broþer nith [w.r. ire] he bare. *Ibid.* 12096 Ye ber him right nan au [w.r. awe]. 1483 *Caxton G. de la Tour* Fiv b. Obeysshe and bere hym honour. 1518 *Act 4 Hen. VIII.* ix. Pream. The true faythe that hys Highnesse berythe unto Almyghy Gode. 1528 *Starkey England* iii. (1871) 8a One beryth malyce agayn another. 1570 *T. Wilson Demasthenes* 23 Now that the Thebanes beare us the stomache, that you see they doe. 1598 *Shaks. Merry W.* iv. vi. 9 The deare loue I beare to faire Anne Page. 1598 *Greneway Tacitus Ann.* iv. ix. (1622) 103 She beareth the minde to passe the rest of her life with a Gentleman of Rome. 1797 *Swift Gulliver* iii. ii. 189 The contempt they bear for practical geometry. 1878 *Black Adv. Phanton* xvi. 356 He bore her no malice.

10. To hold, maintain, possess, or have (a property or attribute, a relation to something else).

a 1300 *Cursor M.* 2682 Circumcising Bers in it-self gret for-biseyng. 1600 *Locke Hum. Und.* II. xxix. (1695) 204 Nothing finite beares any proportion to infinite. 1841 *Macaulay W. Hastings, Ess.* (1851) I. 16 His mind beares a singular analogy to his body. 1857 *Buckle Civiltz.* I. ix. 576 The relation the nobles bore to the throne. 1863 *Fawcett Pol. Econ.* II. v. 194 The ratio which population beares to capital.

11. To sustain, support, uphold.

* To sustain weight or pressure, to endure.

11. *trans.* To sustain, support (a weight or strain). c 1000 *Ag. Gosp. Matt.* xx. 12 Þe beon byrðena, on þises dagas heatan. c 1375 *Wyclif Sel. Wks.* I. 66 Þei shal bere... the wyte of þe olde lawe. 1399 *Rich. Redeless* 1. 41 The braunchis aboute boren grett charge. c 1550 *Scot. Poems* 16th C. (1810) II. 160 Our seiknes on thy back thou bure. a 1640 *Drum of Hawth. Poems* Wks. (1711) 3 Atlas-like it seem'd the heaven they beared. 1793 *Smeaton Edystone L.* § 246 Proportionate in every part to the stress it was likely to bear. 1801 *Strutt Sports & Past.* II. ii. 79 When the ice would bear them. 1849 *Ruskin Sev. Lambs.* II. (1855) 34 For the shafts do indeed bear as much as they are ever imagined to bear.

b. *absol.* or *intr.*; *spec.* in *Building*. To stand a strain without intermediate support.

1677 *Moxon Mech. Exert.* (1703) 157 Timber is said to Bear at its whole length, when neither a Brick-wall, or Posts, etc. stand between the ends of it. *Ibid.* 136 Joysts are seldom made to Bear at above ten Foot in length.

12. *fig.* (of an immaterial burden, charge, cost, responsibility, etc.) Formerly also *bear out*.

1597 *R. Glouc.* 379 To bere þeroure a certeyn rente by þe 3ere. a 1300 *Cursor M.* 5667 Him þat bare þe wite. 1439 *E. E. Wills* (1882) 125 Certayne annuities borne oute of hem [manors]. 1529 *More in Four C. Eng. Lett.* 12 There shall no poore neighbour... bere no losse. 1598 *W. Phillips Linschoten's Voy.* in *Arb. Garner* III. 403 The Farmers bearing the adventure of the sea. 1606 *G. Woodcocke's Justine* 24 a. Darius... promised to beare out the whole charges of those Warrens. 1611 *Bible Gen.* xiii. 6 The land was not able to beare them, that they might dwell together. 1769 *Sterne Serm. Yorick* v. (1773) 63 It had been... better for the nation to have bore the expence. 1848 *Macaulay Hist. Eng.* II. 263 Lewis would bear the charge of supporting two thousand of them [troops].

b. † To bear the person of: to sustain the character of, to personate (*obs.*). To bear a part: to sustain a part, take part, share in.

1604 *Verstegan Dec. Intell.* x. (1634) 320 A vice-roy: that is, he that in the Kings absence supplieth his place and beareth his person. 1651 *Hobbes Leviath.* I. xvi. 80 He that acteth another, is said to beare his Person. *Ibid.* III. xlii. 267 Here wee have the Person of God born now the third time.

13. *trans.* To sustain successfully; fig. to stand (a strain, test, examination); to allow or admit of.

1523 *Fitzherb. Husb.* (1882) 60, Lx. mares... able to beare the horse. 1605 *Shaks. Lear* v. iii. 26 Thy great employment Will not beare question. 1607 *Capt. Smith Seaman's Gram.* vii. 33 The ship will beare much, that is, carry much Ordnance or goods, or beare much saile. 1697 *Dryden Virg. Ded.* No Modern Latin can bear criticism. 1768 *Falconer Shipw.* II. 245 The ship no longer can her top-sails bear. 1793 *Smeaton Edystone L.* § 137 The cable... would scarcely have borne to have been heaved up. 1838 *Macaulay in Trevelyan Life & Lett.* (1876) II. vii. 11 The style will not bear examination. 1849 *Ruskin Sev. Lambs* I. § 15. 25 It is not less the boast of some styles that they can bear ornament.

† 14. *intr.* (for *refl.*) To hold good; to hold, stand, 'do'. (Cf. also *bring to bear* in 33.) *Obs.*

1710 *Steele Tatler* No. 199 ¶ 5 If the Matter bears, I shall not be unjust to his Merit. 1737 *Waterland Eucharist* 112 The Argument will not bear in the View before mentioned. 1748 *Richardson Pamela* III. 227 We are going into Personals again, Gentlemen... And that wont bear.

15. To sustain (anything painful or trying); to suffer, endure, pass through: a. without any reference to the manner of bearing.

c 1385 *Chaucer L. G. W.* 1272 And beryn... for hire sake Not I not what. 1450 *Henryson Mor. Fab.* 71 Three battes hee bure, or hee his feet might find. c 1470 *Henry Wallace* II. 210 In fureous payne, yat ye bur. c 1580 *Amadis of Gaul* 273 This great sorow that I beare and suffer. 1718 *Pope Iliad* I. 270 The wrongs I bear from Atreus son. 1826 *J. Wilson City of Plague* II. ii. 118 A melancholy pleasant to be borne. 1870 *Morris Earthly Par.* I. I. 281 That we can bear such things and yet not die.

b. To suffer without succumbing, to sustain without giving way, to endure. Formerly with *away*, *out* (cf. *hold out*, *stand out*).

a 1300 *Cursor M.* 15617 Him... þat baret for yow bare. 1526 *Tindale John* xvi. 12, I have yet many thynges to saye vnto you; but ye cannot beare them awaye now. 1547 *Baldwin Mor. Philos.* vi. iii. Patiently beare the time. 1574 *tr. Marlorat's Apocalips* 17 Blessed is the man that beareth out temptation. 1607 *Topsell Four-f. Beasts* 437 The Horses can abide no cold, but the Asses and Mules beare out. 1611 *Bible Gen.* iv. 13 My punishment is greater than I can beare. 1697 *Dryden Virg. Georg.* III. 542 He who bears in Thrace the bitter cold. 1855 *Smollett Quix.* (1803) II. 143 With an intrepid heart... he bears the brunt of their whole artillery. 1796 *Mrs. Glasse Cookery* xiv. 215 Make it as hot as you can bear your finger in it. 1864 *Daily Tel.* 16 May, We can only recommend Alphonse and Theophile... to grin and bear it; the expression, perchance, savours a little of slang.

c. To endure without opposition or resistance, to tolerate (a thing); also with *inf.* or *subord. cl.*

c 900 *Law of Alfred* (Bosw.) Ic nelle beran eowre gyme-leaste. a 1300 *Cursor M.* 12991 Na langer Mai i nu þi wicked wordes ber. 1503 *Ld. Berners Froiss.* I. xxvi. 37 The kyng myght no longer bear by his honour the iniuries and wronges. 1659 in *Burton's Diary* (1828) IV. 49, I say not but the army will bear, that you sit to levy money. 1704 *Rowe Ulys.* I. I. 230 My Lords, this Railer is not to be borne. 1855 *Macaulay Hist. Eng.* III. 26 The public would not have borne to see any Papist among the servants of their Majesties.

d. To reconcile oneself to, put up with, tolerate, away with. (Always negatively, interrogatively, or hypothetically: often with infinitive.) Cf. *ABEAR*.

1710 *Tatler* No. 219 ¶ 4 There is no reasonable Man can bear him half an Hour. 1808 *Mar. Edgeworth Moral T.* (1816) I. xii. 100 [He] could not bear to think of distressing her. 1813 *Miss Austen Pride & Prej.* xv. 62 The man whom she could not bear to speak of. 1865 *Dickens Mut. Fr.* I. 2 'What hurt can it do you?' 'None, none. But I cannot bear it.' *Mod. I* cannot bear anticassars!

† 16. To bear hard, heavy or heavily (L. *agere ferre*): to endure with a grudge, take (a thing) ill or amiss, have ill will to, have a resentment against; so to bear upon the spleen. *Obs.*

c 1400 *Apol. Loll.* Introd. 10 Many beren heuy that freris ben clepid pseudo or ypocritis. 1601 *Shaks. Jul. C.* II. i. 215 Caius Ligarius doth beare Caesar hard. 1603 *Life T. Cromwell* IV. ii. 112 You bear me hard about the abbey lands. 1609 *tr. Herodian* (1635) 38 Divers, that bore Perennius upon the spleene, for his intolerable haughtie and disdainefull carriage. a 1674 *Clarendon Hist. Reb.* I. 1. 32 The Ill Success was heavily born, and imputed to ill Conduct.

17. *intr.* To bear with: to put up with, be patient with, make allowance for. (With indirect passive to be borne with.)

a 1553 *Udall Royster D.* iv. vii. (Arb.) 74 The heart of a man Should more honour winne by bearyng with a woman. a 1586 *Answe. Cartwright* 72 Ignorance... is to bee borne with. 1601 *Shaks. Jul. C.* III. ii. 110 Beare with me, my heart is in the coffin there with Caesar. 1712 *Pope Spect.* No. 408 ¶ 7 Little Irregularities are sometimes to be borne with. 1795 *Southey Joan of Arc* II. 223 He would bid us Bear with our miseries manfully. 1878 *Freeman Norm. Cong.* IV. xviii. 113 A foreign King had to be borne with.

* * To support, keep up, maintain. Usually with *up*.

18. *trans.* To hold (up) from falling or sinking, to support, keep up.

a 1300 *Cursor M.* 537 Hys fete him bers up fra fall. 1398 *Trevisa Barth. De P. R.* v. liii. (1495) 170 The fote... beareth vp all the body. 1439 *E. E. Wills* (1882) 117, 119 Gressons to bere hit vppe. 1611 *Bible Judges* xvi. 29 The two middle

pillars... on which it was borne vp. 1684 *R. Waller Nat. Exert.* 50 The Water... may fill about half the Ball, that the Fishes may move, and bear themselves thereon.

b. *spec.* To hold up a horse's head with a 'bearing rein.' To bear a rein upon: to hold in check by this means. Also *fig.*

1603 *S. Daniel Defence Rhime* (1717) 29 The best Rein, the strongest Hand to make men keep their Way, is, that which their Enemy beares upon them. 1607 *Topsell Four-f. Beasts* 284 Let him [a horse with a crick in the neck] be ridden... by such a one as will bear his head, and make him to bring it in. 1610 *Healey St. Aug. City of God* 903 The hand of God bearing a raine upon our condemned soules.

† 18. *trans.* To uphold (any one in a course of action). *refl.* and *intr.* To exalt or lift up oneself upon, to plume oneself, presume. *Obs.*

c 1400 *Apol. Loll.* 64 Maynteynd, & born vp in iuel. 1535 *Shaxton in Strype Eccl. Mem.* I. ii. App. lxi. 150 If yee... beare the Abbot in his evil dealing that he may escape... see yee thereto. 1565 *Jewel Def. Apol.* (1611) 227 The truth will be able euermore to beare it selfe. 1603 *Knolles Hist. Turkes* (1621) 894 The Spaniards bearing themselves upon their wealth, were too proud. 1635 *Naunton Fragm. Reg.* (1879) 17 The Gentleman bearing high on my Lords favor. 1667 *Potter Antiq. Greece* III. vii. (1715) 67 Families... bearing themselves much higher on their Original.

20. To sustain, keep up, or keep going (the burden or bass of a song). *arch.*

c 1386 *Chaucer Prolog* 673 This sumpoun bar to him a stiff burdoun. 1611 *Cotgr.* *Faire le contre*... to beare a burden, or sing the plain song wheron another descants. a 1656 *Br. Hall Soliloquies* 68 Who hath heard... the bitter bearing her base in the coldest months? 1813 *Scott Rokeby* v. vii. A manly voice... Bare burthen to the music well.

21. To bear up: a. (*trans.*) to uphold (a principle); to keep up the spirits of (a person).

1606 *Bryskett Civ. Life* 20 Persons to assist my accuser, and beare vp his cause. 1658 (25 Jan.) *Cromwell Sp.* (Carl.) To beare up our honour at sea. 1828 *Hammers & Ploughshares* iv. 27 What hope have you to beare you up?

† b. *refl.* To exalt oneself; cf. 19. *Obs.*

a 1500 *Myrr. Our Ladye* 188 Thou ouercomest them that bere vp themselves.

c. *intr.* (for *refl.*) To keep up one's courage or spirits; to maintain one's ground (against difficulties); not to succumb.

1606 *More Antid. Ath.* I. ix. (1712) 26 Bearing up as well as they can. 1668 *Child Disc. Trade* (1698) 219 The Portuguese, except they alter their politics... can never bear up with us, much less prejudice our Plantations. 1771 *Adison Spect.* No. 256 ¶ 8 To beare up under Scandal and Defamation. 1796 *Burke Regic. Peace Wks.* 1842 II. 291 Bearing up against those vicissitudes of fortune. 1850 *Mrs. Stowe Uncle Tom's C.* III. 15 'Bear up, now, and good bye; for I'm going.'

* * * To hold up, hold, have upon it.

22. To uphold, hold up, hold on top or aloft.

c 1380 *Sir Ferumb.* 369 Þe nayles three, þat payned crist wan he was born on þe rode Tree. 1398 *Trevisa Barth De P. R.* xli. i. (1495) 381 Ayre... beareth the fyre and is boren of the water. 1850 *Mrs. Stowe Uncle Tom's C.* xxvii. 252 Eva's little table... bore on it her favourite vase, with a single white moss rose-bud in it.

23. To have written or inscribed upon it.

1503 *4 Act 19 Hen. VII.* xxxviii. Preamb. Lettres patentes beryng date at Westminster the xxj day of August. 1660 *Stanley Hist. Philos.* (1701) 119 A Pillar... bare this inscription. *Sacred to Diana.* 1823 *Phillips Rivers Yorksh.* viii. 195 Coins, bearing the effigy of the Horse. 1864 *Times* 6 Dec. These deeds bear dates from 1573 to about 1660.

b. *passive.* To be entered or registered in a list, on the books of any establishment, etc.

1798 *J. Blake Plan Mar. Syst.* 7 Each man so listed... shall be borne upon the said ship, in the same class in which he is rated. 1803 *Nelson in Nicolas Disp.* V. 321 A complement of sixty men, including two boys, to be borne on the third class. 1855 *Macaulay Hist. Eng.* III. 38 Though borne on the English establishment, that regiment... had been almost exclusively composed of Scotchmen. 1863 *Cox Inst. Eng. Govt.* III. viii. 724 All persons borne on the books of Queen's ships in commission.

24. *fig.* To have or convey the meaning, to purport (that). *arch.*

a 1300 *Cursor M.* 14753 Oure lord hem 3af þis vnsware But þei wist not what hit bare. 1589 *Puttenham Eng. Poetrie* III. xix. (1811) 167 The Greeks call this figure Anadiplosis, I call him the Redouble as the original beares. 1603 *Gerbier Counsel* 53 The description of... the Palace of Solomon bears, that it was made with smooth hard stone. 1746 *Rep. Cond. Sir J. Cope* 116 The Letter bears, that the pretended Prince of Wales came lately on the Coast.

b. To profess, claim, purport (to be).

1759 *Robertson in H. Campbell Love-Lett. Mary Q. Scots* (1824) 235 A French translation... bears to have been printed at Edinburgh by Thomas Waltem, 1572. a 1829 *L. Hunt Autobiogr.* III. (1860) 72 A portrait... bearing to be the likeness of a certain Erasmus Smith, Esq.

† 25. To bear (a thing) upon (one): to allege, charge upon, lay to the charge of. [The proper position of this sense is doubtful.]

c 1375 *Wyclif Antecrist* 233 Crist was... beten, and skourged, and false borne upon. c 1449 *Peacock Repr.* 363 The seid large endowing Born upon Constantin to be mad to Silvester Pope was neuere doon.

III. *trans.* and *intr.* To push, thrust, press.

[This group seems to have arisen in a transference of the sense from *carry* to an action producing the same result (i.e. the moving forward of a body) by a different application of force, that of continuous pressure. This once established, the extension of the idea to pressure of many kinds, both hori-

zontal and vertical, followed. Thus there result senses of *bear* directly contrary to each other, as when a post bears the pressure which is brought to bear upon it, or a man bears up till calamity bears him down.]

* *To push, press.*

26. *trans.* To move (a thing) onward by force of pressure; to push, force, drive; cf. 'carry' in same sense.

a 1300 *Cursor M.* 1625a Hu þat þis folk þe beres to þe dede. c 1400 *Destr.* Troy iv. 1279 þan pollux. . . Bere backward the batell. c 1450 *Mertin* vii. 117 He bar hym ouer the horse croupe. 1652 NEEDHAM tr. *Selden's Mare* CL 470 They . . . will needs bear all the world before them. 1795 SOUTHEY *Joan of Arc* vi. 397 Borne backward Talbot turns. 1855 MONTLEY *Dutch Rep.* ii. ii. (1866) 163 Bearing him off over his horse's tail.

b. *Naut.* To bear off.

1697 CAPT. SMITH *Seaman's Gram.* ix. 44 A ship board, *bear off* is used to every thing you would thrust from you.

27. *esp.* To bear down, formerly also *bear over* (whence *OVERBORNE*): to push to the ground, overwhelm, overthrow, vanquish. Also *fig.*

1398 TREVISIA *Barth. De P. R.* ix. xxxi. (1495) 368 Metynge and berynge downe the fende. c 1435 *Torr. Portugal* 1171. Hors and man down he bore. 1576 LAMBARDE *Peramb. Kent* (1826) 331 He bare it [a Door] cleane downe before him, and so escaped. 1603 KNOLLES *Hist. Turks* (1621) 132 The Tartars . . . bearing downe the world before them. 1633 BR. HALL *Hard Texts* 516 He shall . . . bear over and kill those that stood against him. 1680 BURNET *Rochester* (1692) 98 A Doctrine which was born down and persecuted. a 1811 LEYDEN *Ld. Soulis*, They bore him down with lances bright. 1840 MACAULAY *Ranke, Ess.* (1854) 550/2 His activity and zeal bore down all opposition.

† 28. *fig.* To bear (one) down: to overthrow in debate; maintain one's point against, insist in opposition to (any one). *Obs.*

1526 TINDALE *Acts* xii. 15 She bare them doune that hit was even so. 1641 MILTON *Prel. Episc.* Wks. (1851) 92 Though hee himselfe . . . should beare us doune that there bee three. 1874 N. FAIRFAX *Bulk & Sels.* 87 [He] roundly bears us down, That two such worlds would touch without more ado.

29. *intr.* To press (laterally) on, to thrust at, to come with force or pressure against. *arch.* Also with *at*, to (obs.).

c 1450 *Mertin* vii. 118 Thei bar to hym so harde that Arthur was throwe to the erthe. *Ibid.* viii. 127 And he bar on hym so sore that he threwe the knyght to grounde. 1523 DOUGLAS *Æneis* x. x. 24 The tother . . . Buir at hym mychtly with a lang speyr. 1710 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 4647/3 Two East-India Men . . . received Damage by bearing upon one another as they were sailing out of the Harbour.

b. *fig.* To press *hard(ly)* or *heav(il)y* upon, to affect adversely or injuriously. (In mod. use this is prob. often pictured as the downward pressure of a burden: see next.)

1699 BENTLEY *Phal.* 272 The next will bear harder upon him. 1713 *Guardian* No. 53 (1756) I. 237, I will not bear hard upon his contrition. 1834 H. MILLER *Scenes & Leg.* xxii. (1857) 322 An open, boisterous winter, that bore heavy on the weak and aged. 1877 TYNDALL in *Daily News* 2 Oct. 2/4 No great mechanical improvement . . . is introduced . . . that does not bear hardly upon individuals.

30. Transferred to downward pressure, as that of a load: a. *trans.* with down.

1674 PLAYFORD *Skill Mus.* ii. 102 Bearing it [a string of an instrument] hard down with the end of your finger. 1853 FOSTER *Arab. Nts.* (Rtldg.) 327 The branches . . . were all most borne down with the weight of the fruit. 1864 TENNYSON *En. Ard.* 679 The dead weight . . . bore it down.

b. *intr.* with down. Cf. BEARING *vbl.* sb. 8.

1835 TODD *Cycl. Anat. & Phys.* I. 17/2 A woman who 'bears down' . . . will thus accelerate her delivery.

c. *intr.* with on.

1809 SOUTHEY *All for Love* vi. Wks. VII. 186 While she pray'd the load of care less heavily bore on her heart.

31. *intr.* To exert or transmit mechanical pressure upon, on, against (a point which sustains it); to repose one's weight, to rest upon; also to press as a spring, to 'thrust' (as an arch against its piers).

1677 MOXON *Mech. Exerc.* (1703) 148 This Post . . . bears upon the Floor. 1715 DESAGULIERES *Fires Impr.* 122 Which must bear against the Limbs of the Sector-Pieces. 1854 SCOFFER in *Orr's Circ. Sc. Chem.* 292 Little collars of leather . . . bearing against the shoulders of the apparatus.

32. To exert a practical effect or influence on or upon, to tend to affect; to have reference to, relate to, come into practical contact with, touch.

1672 MARVELL *Rel. Transp.* l. 87 Their edge bore alwayes upon J. O. either in broad meanings or in plain terms. 1794 PALEY *Evid.* ii. vii. (1817) 187 To point out how the argument bears upon the general question. 1836 *Recoll. House of Lords* viii. 155 His matter . . . always bears directly on the question before the House. 1869 FREEMAN *Norm. Cong.* (1876) III. xii. 197 How this marriage bears on the history of Maine. 1883 LD. CARLINGFORD in *Echo* 1 Sept. 4/2 A . . . collection of artistic objects bearing on industry.

† b. To touch upon, border close upon, lie very near to (in nature or character). *Obs.*

1682 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 1731/4 A . . . Coat of grey colour'd Cloth bearing upon the blew. 1835 MARRVAT *Jac. Faithf.* xv. He related an accident . . . which particularly bore upon the marvellous.

33. To bring to bear: to bring into effective operation (against, upon, etc.); to bring about, to cause to act; to employ, exert. (Cf. also 14.)

1748 RICHARDSON *Clarissa* (1811) VIII. 2 Your cousin . . . had with difficulty brought this meeting to bear. 1775 JOHNSON *Lett.* 127 (1788) I. 275, I am still of opinion that we shall bring the Oxford riding-school to bear. 1833 H. MARTINEAU *Tale Tyne* iii. 64 Whenever legislation is brought to bear directly upon industry. 1853 LYTON *My Novel* iii. iii. Randal now brought his experience and art to bear. 1866 KINGSLEY *Herein* xxi. 266 Before a bow could be brought to bear. 1871 TYNDALL *Fragm. Sc.* I. vii. 245 No human instrument has been brought to bear upon these stones.

34. Here may also be put the phrases: † To bear off: to resist and cause (a stroke) to rebound, to repel, to ward off, to 'turn' (a shower, etc.). *Obs.* To bear in, pass, to be borne in: to be forced in, impressed with force upon (the mind); in which there is also some admixture of notions belonging to I and II.

1542 UDALL *Erasm. Apophth.* 318 b, With the sweorde wee laie on, with the bucler wee beare of. 1570 ASCHAM *Scholem.* (1863) 112 A demie bukrum cassok . . . which will neither beare of winde nor wether. 1641 MILTON *Ch. Discip.* 1. Wks. (1851) 22 His Helmet, to beare off blowes in battell. 1818 Q. Rev. XVIII. 537 It had been born in upon his mind . . . that some great man . . . was to be cut off. 1852 J. H. NEWMAN *Disc. Univ. Educ.* 103 It is borne in upon the many . . . as self-evident, that religious men would not thus be jealous.

** To thrust (through).

† 35. *trans.* To thrust, pierce, stab (a person through the body, or his body through, with a spear, etc.) [Cf. the mod. 'to run one through with a rapier' and 'to run a rapier through him.'] Also with other prepositions. *Obs.*

a 1300 *Cursor M.* 7625 Thoru he had his bodi born, If he ne had blenked. c 1386 CHAUCER *Knts. T.* 1398 Than pray I the, to morwe with a speere That Arcita me thurgh the herte bere. c 1400 *Roland* 689 He brek his sheld, and bar hym to the hert. c 1400 *Melayne* 1395 Thurgh the schelde . . . He was borne with a brande. c 1400 *Avow. Arth.* xvi. He bare him inne atte the throte. c 1435 *Torr. Portugal* 689 To the hart he baryd hym than. 1470-85 MALORY *Arthur* (1816) II. 440 They met together so furiously, that either bare other through.

*** To press oneself; move, tend, lie in a given direction. [An intransitive development of 26.]

36. *intr.* To press, force one's way against resistance; to move with effort, with persistence, or with a distinct bias in some direction. Extended by many advs., as *back, away, on, down.*

1593 SHAKS. *Lucr.* 1417 Here one, being thronged, bears back. 1601 — *Jul. C.* iii. ii. 172 Stand backe; roome, beare backe. 1748 R. BLAIR *Grave* 767 The . . . bird . . . claps his . . . wings, and bears away. 1754 P. H. HIBERNIA § 2. 14 Let any Stranger . . . bear away and visit the County of Wicklow. 1810 SCOTT *Lady of L.* ii. xvi. Nearer and nearer as they bear. 1848 H. E. MANNING *Serm.* xviii. (1848) I. 272 The stream of this visible world, which bears down in a heavy tide away from God. 1862 TYNDALL *Mountaineer* vi. 47 The quently orb . . . clears the mountain, and bears splendidly away. 1872 JENKINSON *Guide Lakes* (1879) 226 On arriving at the top of the crag, bear a little to the right.

37. *esp.* in Nautical phraseology: To sail in a certain direction; hence, To bear away: to sail away, leave. To bear down (upon or towards): to sail with the wind (towards). To bear off: see quot. To bear up: to put the helm 'up' so as to bring the vessel into the direction of the wind. To bear up for, or bear with (a place): to sail towards.

1605 SHAKS. *Temp.* iii. ii. 3 Beare vp, & boord em'. 1611 BIBLE *Acts* xxvii. 15 The ship . . . could not beare vp into [Geneva make way against] the winde. 1697 CAPT. SMITH *Seaman's Gram.* ix. 44 When a ship sailes with a large wind towards the land . . . we say she beares in with the land. . . And when she would not come neere the land, but goeth more Roome-way than her course, wee say she beares off. c 1630 RISON *Surre. Devon* § 210 (1810) 218 A mark to sailors, who bear with Plymouth haven. 1699 BENTLEY *Phal.* 328 She must not make to the next safe Harbour; but . . . bear away for the remotest. 1709 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 4521/2 We all bore down to secure what Merchant ships we could. 1712 STRELE *Spect.* No. 428 ¶ 1 People tost in a troubled Sea, without knowing to what Shore they bear. 1748 ANSON *Voy.* ii. xi. 256 We bore down to them, and took them up. 1772-84 COOK *Voy.* (1790) V. 1820 We passed the rocks, and bore up to the southward. 1793 SMEATON *Edystone L.* § 98 The wind being now fair for that port, we bore away for it. 1798 *Jrnl.* in *Nicolas Nelson's Disp.* III. 426 Nelson immediately bore up under all sail, for Alexandria. 1812 J. WILSON *Isle of Palms* i. 397 Onwards with the favouring gale. . . Th' impatient Vessel bore. 1854 H. MILLER *Sch. & Schm.* (1858) 12 They bore out to sea. 1865 PARKMAN *Champlain* i. (1875) 182 The voyagers . . . bore away for France.

b. *Naut. and gen.* To bear down upon: to proceed (esp. with force) towards.

1716 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 5455/3 Our Fleet . . . bore down upon them . . . keeping the Wind of them. 1867 BAKER *Nile Tribut.* xiii. 328 A tremendous crashing in the jungle . . . and continued shouts . . . assured us that they were bearing down exactly upon our direction. 1878 BOSW. SMITH *Carthage* 15 Both consuls bore down on the left wing of the enemy.

38. To extend or stretch away, to continue to lie in a particular direction, as a coast line, a mountain range, etc.

1601 HOLLAND *Pliny* I. 56 Such an oblique and winding might seem to decline and beare out too much unto one side. *Ibid.* I. 73 From whence proceedeth and beareth forth the necke or cape of Peloponnesus. 1883 HARPER'S *Mag.* Nov. 8/22 The Battenkill bears southward for twenty miles.

39. Chiefly *Naut.*: To lie off in a certain direction from a given point or place. (Cf. BEARING.)

1594 BLUNDEVILLE *Exerc.* vii. xxiv. 682 The Ship-master knowing . . . how the port . . . beareth from the place from which he departeth. 1596 SHAKS. *Tam. Shr.* v. i. 10 This is Lucentios house, My fathers beares more toward the market-place. 1668 SMITH *Voy. in Misc. Cur.* (1708) III. 59 Then shewed him how Constantinople beared from Candia. 1765 TUCKER *Lt. Nat.* II. 388 You must bring such a hill to bear directly over such a point of the shore. 1835 SIR J. ROSS *N.-W. Pass.* vi. 88 Possession Bay bore due west.

40. Of cannon: To lie so as to 'cover,' or be in position for discharging shot effectively (upon). 1692 in *Capt. Smith's Seaman's Gram.* I. xvi. 75 A piece of Ordnance doth come to bear, that is, lies right with the Mark. 1711 BOURN in *Lond. Gaz.* No. 4906/2, I could not bring a Broadside to bear. a 1804 NELSON in *Nicolas Disp.* II. 14 Our after-guns ceased to bear. 1865 CARLYLE *Fredk. Gt. VIII.* xix. vii. 230 Finck had no artillery to bear on Daun's transit through the Pass.

b. (causal). To direct a shot or missile.

1799 G. SMITH *Laboratory* I. 28 You must bear the first fired rocket above the rest.

41. *Painting.* Of colours: To bear out: to 'come out' effectively or with some effect. Cf. to bring out, and to be brought out. (rare.)

1855 J. EDWARDS *Oil Paint.* 28 The colours of pigments 'bear out' with effects differing according to the liquids with which they are combined.

IV. To bring forth, produce, give birth to.

42. To bring forth, produce, yield: a. said of plants bearing leaves, flowers, fruit. Also *fig.*

a 1000 *Cadmon's Gen.* 479 (Gr.) Déapes béam se ber bitres fela. c 1000 *Ag. Gosp.* Matt. vii. 17. Elic god treow byrd gode westmas. 1297 R. GLOUC. 352 To blowe, & suppe to bere fruit. 1398 TREVISIA *Barth. De P. R.* xvii. lxi. Trees that beere well fruite. c 1400 *Rom. Rose* 3128 Pulled. Fro the roser that it bere. 1567 DRANT *Horace's Epist.* vii. D ii, Whilst sommer swage, and the figge tree her pryme frute have lbore. 1607 SHAKS. *Timon* iv. iii. 422 The Oakes beare Mast, the Briars Scarlet Heps. 1793 BRADLEY *Fam. Dict.* s.v. Low-worm, That Turmentille which bears a yellow flower. 1879 MACLEAR *Cells* v. 70 The good seed . . . sown in early years now bore fruit.

b. said of the earth, yielding vegetable productions, and fig. animals, gems, metals, etc.

1154 O. E. *Chron.* (Laud MS.) an. 1137 þe erthe ne bæ nan corn. 1697 DRYDEN *Virg. Georg.* l. 85 India, black Ebony and white Ivory bears. — *Ecolg.* iv. 29 The sacred ground Shall Weeds . . . refuse to bear. 1794 ADDISON *Italy* 1 The most uncultivated of 'em beare aundance of sweet Plants.

c. *absol.*

1398 TREVISIA *Barth. De P. R.* xvii. lxxxiv. (1495) 654 The lasse Juniperus berith more frute than the more, but eyther beeryth. c 1400 *Destr.* Troy ii. 412 Bowes for to beire in the bare wintur . . . she made. Mod. A variety of apple that bears well. When does a mulberry tree begin to bear?

43. Of female mammalia, and esp. women: To bring forth, produce, give birth to (offspring).

971 *Blickl. Hom.* 13 Heo þone eadmodon cýning ber. c 1200 *Trin. Coll. Hom.* 257 þu bere þine helere. c 1250 *Gen. & Ex.* 722 Sarray non childe ne bar. a 1300 *Cursor M.* 1051 þe formast barn þat sco him bare. *Ibid.* 11212 Mary beere childe in chastite. c 1440 HVLTON *Scala Perf.* (W. de W. 1494) l. xci, My dere chyldein whyche I bere as a woman bereth her chylde. 1559 MYRR. *Mag. Dk. York* xi, Fower goodly boyes in youth my wife she boore. 1611 BIBLE *Lcv.* xii. 5 If she beare a maid child. 1855 KINGSLEY *Heroes* I. (1868) 2 Your daughter Danae shall bear a son.

b. *absol.*

1382 WYCLIF *Isa.* liv. 1 Preise, thou bareyne that berst not. 1596 SHAKS. *Tam. Shr.* ii. l. 201 Women are made to beare, and so are you. 1611 BIBLE *Gen.* xxx. 9 She had left bearing.

44. The various forms of the pa. pple. had formerly no distinction of sense. In the earlier part of the 17th c., these were *borne* (usual), *born*, *bore* (rare). About 1660, *borne* (the only spelling in Shaks. folio of 1623) was generally abandoned, and *born* (cf. *born, worn*) retained in all senses, with *bore* as a frequent variant (the latter perhaps not in sense of *nātus*). Dr. Johnson, in his various edd. from 1751 to 1773, says under BEAR, 'part. pass. *bore* or *born*,' and the same is found in other dicta. and grammars of the period. But c 1775, a different usage (which some writers or printers had observed as early as 1750) was established: *bore* (common in Addison, Swift, Thomson) was abandoned, *borne* was reinstated, and now used as the ordinary form, and *born* was restricted to a specific sense. Thus, *borne* is now the only pa. pple., active or passive, in senses 1-42 (he has *borne* a burden, the tree has *borne* fruit, the testimony *borne* by him); it is also used in sense 43 in the active always, and in the passive with *by* and name of the mother, that is when it has the literal sense of 'brought forth.' *Born* is used only in sense 43, and there only in the passive, when not followed by *by* and the mother; it has rather a neuter signification = 'come into existence, sprung' without explicit reference to maternal action; hence it is the form used adjectively, and figuratively. Cf. 'She had *borne* several children, the children *borne* to him by this woman, *born* of the Virgin Mary, *born* in a stable, her first-born son, a lady *born*, new-born zeal, a flower *born* to blush unseen.'

a. In senses 1-43, the following forms appear incidentally under the quotations.

Before 1660: *borren*, 1380, 1398; *borne*, 1300, 1482, 1567; *born*, 1300, 1375, 1380, 1382, 1400, 1449, 1611; *borne*, 1400, 1430, 1528, 1539, 1586, 1593, 1596, 1611, 1625, 1631. After 1660: *born*, 1667, 1674, 1680, 1704, 1740, 1769, 1818 (34); *borne*, 1712, 1751, 1758; *borne*, 1758, 1788, 1793, 1795, 1802, 1803, 1816, 1849, and twenty later.

b. In sense 43; before 1660:

a. *a 1667 Chart. Eadw. in Cod. Dipl. IV. 215* Dat cotlif de ic was boren inne bi naman Gidslepe. *c 1230 Ancr. R.* 158 Al were he. of barain iboren. *c 1230 Gen. & Ex.* 1707 Of Rachel Joseph was boren. *1297 R. Glouc.* 516 Thei he were a bast ibore. *a 1300 Cursor M.* 4966 'Allas I'. . . pat euer we ware Born. *Ibid.* 10977 Till pat he be borin. *c 1300 Harrow. Hell* 186 That of me Shulde suche a child ybore be. *Ibid.* 198 David. . . That bore was of thyn offspring. *c 1374 Chaucer Troylus* II. 94 Never, sethe tyme that she was bor. *1388 Wyclif Isa.* xlv. 3 That ben born (1388 borun) of my wombe. *c 1388 Chaucer Sir Thopas* 7 I-bore he was in fer contre. *c 1425 WYNTOUN Cron.* II. ix. 62 Or Jesus wes of Mary born. *c 1425 MS. Christ* was. . . of Virgin Marie bore. *1470 HARDING Chron.* x. iv. His mother dyed. . . Anone after as he was of hir bore. *1513 DOUGLAS Eneis* x. Prol. 41 The Fader of nane generat, creat, ne boyt. *1576 GASCORNE Steele Gl.* (Arb.) 61 O Gentle blouds yborne You were not borne alonely for your selues. *1589 WARNER Alb. Eng.* v. xxviii. (1597) 138 Full deere they were to me vnborne, at birth, and borne, and now. *a 1593 H. SMITH Wks.* (1867) II. 65 Leah having borne to Jacob four sons. *1595 SPENSER Col. Clout* 839 Long before the world he was yborne. *1596 - F. Q. I. xi.* 51 That was both borne and bred In heavenly throne. *1611 BIBLE Gen.* xxi. 7, I have borne him a sonne in his old age. *1612 BACON Death, Ess.* (Arb.) 388 It is as naturall to dye, as to be borne. *1614 J. COOKE Tu Quoqus* in *Dodd.* (1780) VII. 19 A wench that has been bred and born in an alley.

Since 1660:

b. *1676 HOBBS Iliad* I. 397, I have born you to Short life. *1695 DRYDEN in Macaulay Ess.* (1854) II. 281/2 Whom I foresaw to better fortune born. *1703 ROWE Ulys.* I. i. 231 Wherefore art thou born. . . Thou Tyrant born to be a Nation's Punishment? *1805 H. TOOKER Purley* II. (1815) 76 Born. . . formerly written *born*, and on other occasions now written *borne*. *Born* is. *Borne* into life. *1830 CARLYLE Misc.* (1837) II. 149 She saw. . . that she, even she, had born (sic) a mighty man. *1853 MILMAN Lat. Chr.* (1864) II. iv. viii. 397 The porphyry chamber in which Irene had borne him—her first-born son. *1879 FROUDS Caesar* xviii. 299 A child which Julia had borne to Pompey.

b. *Fig.* *1774 BURKE Amer. Tax. Wks.* 1842 II. 422 These distinctions, born of our unhappy contest. *1853 KINGSLEY Hypatia* Pref. 6 The Roman Empire and the Christian Church, born into the world almost at the same moment. *1866 B. TAYLOR Palm & Pine* 268 What time the morning-star is born. *1875 H. E. MANNING Mission H. Ghost* I. 21 Living as if they had never been born again.

Phrase-key. To *b* about, 3a; *b* across, 1f; *b* against, 31; *b* arms against, 6a; *b* at, 29; *b* away, 3a, 15b, 36, 37; *b* back, 36; *b* in Backgammon, 1d; *b* a blow, 3d; *b* the breech, 6b; *b* bring to, 33; *b* children, 43; *b* company, 3d; *b* the cost, 12; *b* down, 27, 28, 30, 36; *b* down upon, 37; *b* the face, 3c; *b* fellowship, 3d; *b* forth, 3a; *b* fruit, 42; *b* a hand, 3d; *b* in, on hand, 3c; *b* hard, 16, 29b; *b* the heart, 3c; *b* heavily, 16, 29b; *b* in upon one, 34; *b* it, 3f; *b* interest, 7c; *b* low sail, 3b; *b* in mind, 2b; *b* a name, 7b; *b* off, 3a, 26b, 34, (Naut.) 37; *b* on, 29, 30c, 31, 32, 36; *b* oneself, 4; *b* oneself upon, 19; *b* out, 3a, 15b, 41; *b* over, 3a; *b* part in, 12b; *b* person of, 12b; *b* = produce, 42-3; *b* record, 2c; *b* a rein, 18b; *b* on shield, 6c; *b* upon spleen, 16; *b* strain, 13; *b* sway or swing, 8; *b* testimony, 2c; *b* through, 35; *b* to, 29; *b* up, 3a, 18, 21, (Naut.) 37; *b* up for, 37; *b* upon, 23b, 25, 31-3; *b* with, 17, (Naut.) 37; *b* witness, 2c; *b* young, 43.

Bear, obs. form of BIER.

Bear (bēar), *v.* 2 [f. BEAR sb. 1]

intr. To act the part of a 'bear' on the Stock Exchange; to speculate for a fall. *trans.* To produce a fall in the price of (any stocks, shares, or commodities liable to speculation).

a 1845 W. MAGINN *Pict. Grave & Gay* (1859) 286 His stories being. . . I should have been sorry to have bullied or beared in Spanish on the strength of them. *1881 Chicago Times* 4 June, If we succeed in bulling silver we shall also succeed in bearing gold to the same extent. *1884 Pall Mall G.* 8 Mar. 5 Mr. Gladstone's speech on Egypt 'beared' Egyptian Stock yesterday.

Bearable (bēar'ābl), *a.* Also 6 bearabil. [f. BEAR *v.* 1 + -ABLE.] That may be borne; sup- portable, endurable, tolerable.

c 1250 *CHEKE Matt.* xxiii. 4 Heui burdens and hardli bear- abil. *1763 Mrs. F. BROOKE Lady Mandeville* (1782) II. 34 The most bearable man I have seen. *1788 Med. Commun.* II. 253 The least motion was scarce bearable. *1854 J. AB- BOTT Napoleon* I. xi. 203 Life becomes bearable for their sakes.

Bearableness. [f. prec. + -NESS.] Capa- bility of being borne.

1830 *CLOUGH Poems & Pr. Rem.* (1869) I. 167.

Bearably, *adv.* Endurably, tolerably.

1846 In *WORCESTER from Westm. Rev.*

Bearance (bēar'āns). [f. BEAR *v.* + (Romanic suffix) -ANCE. Cf. *abearance*, *forbearance*.]

1. Endurance, patient suffering. *arch.*

1795 *BAILEY Erasm. Colloq.* 577 Their minds are inured to temperance and bearance.

2. A bearing (in mechanism).

1824 *GALLOWAY Hist. Steam Eng.* 214 Two circular pieces or valves 4, one of brass and the other of iron, are placed on the bearance. *1851 Coal-tr. Terms Northumbld. & Durh.* 49 The part of a. . . coal-tub frame to which the bearances for the wheels are attached.

Beard, obs. f. BEARHERD.

Bear-baiting, *vbl. sb.* [f. BEAR sb. 1] The

sport of setting dogs to attack a bear chained to a stake; also *fig.*

1c 1478 *Hunt. Hare* 232 Sam seyð it was a beyr-beytung 1286 J. HOOKER *Girald. Irel. in Holinsh.* II. 120/2 It was more like a bearebaiting of disordered persons, than a parlement of wise men. *1601 SHAKS. Twel. N.* II. v. 9 He haunts Wakes, Faires, and Beare-baitings. *1663 BUTLER Hud.* I. i. 678 An old way of Recreating, Which learned Butchers call Bear-Baiting. *1849 MACAULAY Hist. Eng.* I. 161 The Puritan hated bearebaiting, not because it gave pain to the bear, but because it gave pleasure to the spectators.

Bearberry (bēar'berī). [f. BEAR sb. 1 + BERRY.]

a. A procumbent shrub, *Arctostaphylos uva-ursi* (N.O. *Ericaceæ*), the astringent berries of which are a favourite food of grouse; also *A. alpina* (Black Bearberry). b. Sometimes applied to the allied *Arbutus*. † c. (erroneously) = BARBERRY.

1665 *BACON Gardens, Ess.* (Arb.) 562 The Standards to be . . . Beare-berries but here and there, because of the Smell of their Blossome. *1759 B. STILLINGF. in Misc. Tracts* (1762) 205 The bear-berry . . . an efficacious astringent. *1899 W. COLEMAN Woodlands* (1862) 97 Common bearberry. . . Its fair pink blossoms come out in May or June.

Bearbine, *-bind* (bēar'bin). [f. OE. *bere*

BEAR sb. 2 + *bindan* to bind, from winding round and binding the stalks. In an 11th century list of plants, *berwinde* is the gloss for *umbilicum*. Cf. also OE. *wuduwinde*, *wudubind*, *WOODBINE*.] A popular name applied to two English species of convolvulus, the Lesser Field Convolvulus, and the large white convolvulus of the hedges; also to a species of Polygonum (*P. Convolvulus*), to which it is most appropriate.

[c 1000 in *Wulcker Voc.* 300 *Umbilicum*, *berwinde*.] *1732 DE FOR.* etc. *Tour Gt. Brit.* (1748) III. 242 (D.) Small and soft, not unlike the Roots of Asparagus or of Bearbind. *1755 CROKER Orl. Fur.* xxv. lxix, Entwining becardind dont more knots unite. *1830 HOOD Haunted House* I. xxiv, The becardine with the lilac interlaced.

Beard (bi:rd), *sb.* Forms: 1-3 beard, (3 beard, beard, burde), 3-6 beard, (4-6 berde), 5-6 beard(e, 6 (Sc. baird, beird), bearde, 6-beard. [Common Teut.: OE. *beard* (:-earlier **bard*, **berd*) = MDu. *baert*, Du. *baard*, OHG., mod.G. *bart*, ON. **barðr* retained only in comp. as *Langbarðr* (but cogn. with *barð* neuter, 'brim, edge, peak, prow,' whence sense II below): -O Teut. **harda-s* (not known in Gothic); cogn. w. O Slav. *barda* beard. Kinship to *L. barba* is, on phonetic grounds, doubtful. As to identity of OE. and mod. spelling see *BEACON*.]

1. The hair that grows upon the chin, lips, and adjacent parts of an adult man's face; now usually excluding the moustache, or hair of the upper lip.

c 825 *Vesp. Ps.* cxxiii. 2 Swe swe smiring in heafde ðæt astax in beard Aaron. *1205 LAV.* 10753 Elcne mon . . . þe hæfde on his chinnre beard (1250 beard). *c 1230 Wokunge in Cott. Hom.* 279 Den mon for schendlic i beard spitted. *c 1250 Gen. & Ex.* 358, Ðo wiste he wel quili haeten it don, Sene it was here berdes on. *a 1300 A. ALIS* 1164 Swith mury hit is in halfe, When the burdes wawen alle I 1288 *Wyclif Isa.* xiv. 2 Eche berd (1288 beard) shal be shau. *1387 TREVISIA Higden Rolls Ser.* I. 205 Longo- bardi. . . haue þe name of her longe growe withoute schering. *a 1550 Christi Kirk Gr.* xix, Bludy berkit we thair beard. *1589 Pajpe w. Hatchet* D, Let me stroke my beard thence like a Germin, before I speak a wise word. *1716 LADY M. W. MONTAGU Lett.* vi. I. 20 A decrepit old man, with a beard down to his knees. *1750 BURKE Abridgm. Eng. Hist.* Wks. X. 184 The Britons. . . shaved the beard on the chin, that on the upper lip was suffered to remain. *1834 BYRON Deform. Transf.* I. i. Broad brow, and. . . curly beard.

b. with qualifying epithet, e.g. *Cads-beard*, *! Cadiz-beard*; *tile- or cathedral-beard*, one cut square in the shape of a tile.

1590 *SHAKS. Mids. N.* i. ii. 97 Your purple in graine beard, or your French-crowne colour'd beard. *1598 E. GILPIN Skel.* (1878) 22 His face, Fur'd with Cads-beard. *1837 CARLYLE Fr. Rev.* vii. 1. 325 Who is this. . . in red-grizzled locks; nay with long tile-beard? *1866 FAIRHOLT Costume* 229 The soldier wore the spade beard and the stiletto beard.

c. *transf.* or *fig.*

a 1836 *LONGF. Build. Ship* 274 His [the ocean's] beard of snow Heaves with the heaving of his breast.

d. *allusively*, of age, experience, virility; cf. *GREYBEARD*.

1591 *FLORIO 2nd Fruits* 41 A greater beard than mine might be deceat. *a 1700 DRYDEN (J.)* Some thin remains of chastity appeared Ev'n under Jove, but Jove without a beard. *a 1704 LOCKE (J.)* Would it not be insufferable for a professor to have. . . a reverend beard overturned by an upstart novelist?

e. *Phrases.* † *In spite of or maugre any one's beard*: in defiance of or direct opposition to his purpose. *To one's beard*: to one's face, openly. † *To be, meet, or run in any one's beard*: to op- pose him openly and resolutely, to BEARD. *To take by the beard*: to attack resolutely (cf. *1 Sam.* xvii. 35). † *To make a man's beard*: (*lit.*) to dress his beard, (*fig.*) to outwit or delude him. So † *To make a man's beard without a razor*: (in later sense) to behead him. † *To put something against a man's beard*: to taunt him with it.

1330 R. BRUNNE *Chron.* 207 Pe cuntre some he fond in his berd redy ran. *c 1384 CHAUCER H. Fame* 689 Moo berdys in two oures Withoute Rasour or Sisoures Y-made, then greyndes be of soodes. *c 1386 - WYF's Prol.* 361 Yit couthe I make his berd, though queynte he be. *1389 TRAVISA Higden Rolls Ser.* II. 325 A morwe a man of Hebrewe putte þat a3en Moyses berd. *c 1450 Rob. Hood* (Ritson) I. i. 361 Thou art euer in my berde, seyð the abbot. *c 1500 Lancelot* 3471 If that we met them sharply in the berd. *1525 LD. BERNERS Froiss.* I. xxiii. 59 If I get you. . . I shall deluyner you to Joselyn, that shall make your beerdes with- out any rasoure. *1555 TRAVES Let.* in *Sturpe Eccl. Mem.* III. ii. App. xxxiii, Yea mawgre the berdis of al hard harts, God wil at length. . . deluyver thee. *1601 DENT Pathw. Heaven* 80 Yet at last they must (spight of their beards) end where they began. *1765 COWPER Task* II. 271 Shamed as we have been, to th' very beard. *1809 W. IRVING Knickerb.* (1861) 21 A gigantic question. . . which I must needs take by the beard and utterly subdue.

2. The similar hairy tuft or growth on the lower jaw or adjacent parts of the face of other animals; e.g. the goat, lion, ibex, seal.

c 1300 *K. ALIS* 6519 A best. . . y-cleped Cessus. . . Berd hit hadde long y-waxe. *a 1300 Cursor M.* 7509 A bere a lyon bap I mette. . . and shoke ham bi þe berde squa. *1480 CAX- TON Chron. Eng.* ccxi. 124 A got. . . that shuld haue hornes of silver and a berde as white as snowe. *1555 SHAKS. John* II. i. 138 Whose valour plucks dead Lyons by the beard. *1697 DRYDEN Virg. Georg.* iii. 485 The Pastor shears their hoary Beards. *c 1840 Wood Nat. Hist.* I. 670 A Goat. . . is easily conquered if his beard can only be grasped.

3. *Zool.* a. The appendages to the mouth of some fishes. b. The rows of gills in certain bivalves, e.g. the Oyster. c. The byssus or mass of threads by which certain shell-fish (e.g. the *Pinna*) attach themselves to rocks, etc. d. (See quot. 1802.) e. Two small oblong fleshy bodies situated just above the antlia or spiral sucker of moths and butterflies; the corresponding part in some *Diptera*, e.g. the Gnat.

1753 *CHAMBERS Cycl. Suppl.*, *Beard* of a muscle. . . [also of insects]. *1774 GOLDSM. Nat. Hist.* (1862) II. iv. vi. 367 These threads which are usually termed the beard of the mussel. *1796 Mrs. GLASSE Cookery* xi. 175 Wash the oysters very clean. . . and take the beards off. *1805 PALEY Nat. Theol.* xvi. (1817) 140 The play of the rings in an earth- worm. . . the beards or prickles, with which the annuli are armed. *1838 DICKENS O. Twist* (1850) 136/2 'A'n't yer fond of oysters?' 'Here's one with such a beautiful, delicate beard!'

4. *Ornith.* a. The cluster of bristles at the base of the beak in some birds, as the Barbet (*Bucco*). b. The vane or soft lateral filaments of a feather.

1808 *PALEY Nat. Theol.* xii. (1817) 106 The separate pieces, or laminae, of which the beard [of a feather] is composed. *1835 Penny Cycl.* III. 433/2 [In *Bucco*] *Pogonias*. . . the beard is very strong. *1836 TODD Cycl. Anat. & Phys.* I. 350/1 All feathers are composed of. . . a vane or beard.

5. Applied as specific name of: The freshwater Shrimp, the Hake, and a kind of pigeon.

1611 *COTGR.* *Petite crevette de riviere*, the Beard, or fresh- water Shrimpe. *a 1766 PENNANT Zool.* (1769) III. 158 The lesser hake. . . is known on the coast of Cornwall by the name of the greater forked beard. *1807 TEGETMEIER Pigeons* x. 108 In other parts of Germany they have many clean-footed Tumblers of various colours, as Magpies, Helmeets, and Beards; but their Beards have only a white beard and flight- feathers, the rest of the body being dark.

6. *Bot.* The awn of grasses; prickles, bristles, or hair-like tufts found on various plants; also quasi-*fig.* in wider application.

1555 *HULORT*, Beard or eare of corne, *arista*. *1578 LYRE Dodoens* 456 Rough with many sharp pointed eares or beards, like the eares of Barley. *c 1600 SHAKS. Sonn.* xii, Summers green all girded up in sheaves, Borne on the bier with white and bristly beard. *1732 Acc. Workhouses* 84 Cut off the beards before the wheat is thresh'd. *1813 Sir H. DAVY Agric. Chem.* (1814) 364 The seeds. . . like those of the thistle and dandelion, are furnished with beards or wings. *1839 BAILEY Festus* vii, Sunshine. . . catching By its soft brown beard, the moss. *1865 BURRITT Walk Land's End* 106 English downs. . . yielding a short, crisp beard of herbage.

b. *Old-Man's Beard*: popular name of the Tra- veller's Joy (*Clematis vitalba*).

1821 *CLARE Vill. Ministr.* I. 84 Dig old man's beard from woodland hedge, To twine a summer shade.

† 7. Obsolete name for the train or tail of a comet when it appeared to precede the nucleus.

1647 *H. MORE Song Soul* II. App. xciv, But for the new- fixt starrs there's no pretence, Nor beard nor tail to take occasion by. *1713 SWIFT Eleg. Partridge* Wks. 1755 III. u. 79 No comet with a flaming beard. *1825 T. MILLER Gallery of Nat.* 108 When the train preceded the nucleus. . . it was called the beard.

8. *Ferriery*. 'That part of a horse's nether jaw whereon the curb doth rest.' (*Cotgr.* s.v. *Barbe*.)

1753 *CHAMBERS Cycl. Suppl.*, *Beard*, or under-beard, called also *chuck*, of a horse, is that part under the lower mandible or the outside, and above the chin, which bears the curb of the bridle. *1798 OSBALDISTON Brit. Sportsm.* 49 Beard of a horse, should neither be too high raised, nor too flat, so that the curb may rest in its right place. [In mod. dict.]

9. a. The barb of an arrow, fish-hook, etc. *Obs.* b. Hence, The hook at the end of a knitting- needle in a knitting-machine, which holds the yarn.

1611 *MARKHAM Countr. Content.* I. x. 56 Cut out and raise up the beard, which you shall make. . . according to the bigness of the hook. *1712 Phil. Trans.* XXVII. 444 The Beard or Hooks thereof [of the Harping Iron] did penetrate. *1713 DERRHAM Phys. Theol.* IV. xv. 257 The Common Heron hath. . . a long sharp Bill to strike their Prey. . . with sharp hooked Beards standing backward, to hold their Prey fast when struck. *1733 HANWAY Trav.* (1762) I. III. xxxvii. 171 Who wore in their caps the beard of an arrow. *1793 SWERTON*

Edystone L. § 43 note, Jag or bearded bolts.. have a beard raised upon their angles, somewhat like that of a fish-hook.

10. (See quot.)

1871 E. PEACOCK *R. Skirlaugh* II. 166 Cattle, which had at these points to be kept out by a stout 'beard' of thorns stuck in the ground. 1876 HALLIWELL, *Beard-hedge*, the bushes which are stuck into the bank of a new-made hedge, to protect the fresh-planted thorns.

11. In mechanical arts: a. in *Ship-building*, The angular fore-part of the rudder; the corresponding bevel of the stern-post. b. in *Carpentry*, The sharp edge of a board. c. in *Organ-building* (see quot.). d. A spring-piece at the back of a lock to prevent the parts from rattling.

1861 T. H[ALE] *Acc. New Invent.* 82 To sheath the .. Beard of the Rudder with Lead. 1858 SEIDEL *Organ* 79 Some organ-builders provide the height on both sides with what they call a beard. 1876 HILES *Catech. Organ* iv. (1878) 27 Flue-pipes have also occasionally a beard, which is a cross piece fastened on just below the under-lip.

e. *Printing*. (a.) That part of the type above and below the face, which allows for ascending and descending letters, and prevents their meeting those in the lines above or below. (b.) The horizontal bases and tops added to the letters.

1823 J. BADCOCK *Dom. Amusem.* 144 A moveable square of wood, which rises nearly as high as the beard of the letter. 1824 J. JOHNSON *Typogr.* II. 521 He examines if the beards of the letter print at the feet of the pages. 1860 *Bookseller* 26 Oct. 574 [In] the Franklin type.. there are no sharp beards to the letters, and the outline is consequently distinct.

12. 'The coarser parts of a joint of meat. The bad portions of a fleece of wool.' Halliwell.

13. The brim or margin of a vessel. [Directly from ON. *barb*.] *Obs.* or *dial.*, but possibly the origin of some of the prec. specific uses.

1368 TREVISA *Barth. De P. R.* xvii. liii. Pe wyne wol flete oute ouer pe berdes (1535 brynke). c. 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 32 Berde, or brynke of a wesselle, or other like, *margo*

14. *Comb.*, chiefly attrib., as *beard-brush*, *-hook*, *-stubble*; also *beard-grass*, the genus of grasses *Polypogon*; + *beard-grave* a., having the gravity of a bearded face; *beard-moss*, a British lichen (*Usnea barbata*); *beard-tree*, the Hazel.

1830 B. JOHNSON *New Inn* i. i. He'll tell you what is Latin for a looking-glass, a 'beard-brush'. 1841 *Withering's Brit. Plants* (Macgillivray) 73 Annual 'Beard-grass'.. grows in moist pastures. 1899 MARSTON *Sc. Villania* III. x. 222 Tut, tut, a toy.. Cries 'Beard-grass' Dromus. 1799 G. SMITH *Laborat.* II. 266 The 'Beard Hook', by some anglers is preferred before any other in winter trolling. 1837 CARLYLE *Fr. Rev.* III. v. iii. 268 Plenteous.. 'beard-stubble, of a tile-colour.

Beard (bi'ud), *v.* Forms: 5 *berde*, 6 *berd*, 7 *beards*, *beard*. [f. prec. sb.]

+1. *intr.* To become bearded, get a beard. *Obs.* as used of men.

1483 *Cath. Angl.* 28/1 To berde, *guberare*. 1552 HULOET, Berden, or begyn to haue a berd, *pubeo*. 1678 SIR T. BROWNE *Let. Friend* (1881) § 11. 135 Lewis, King of Hungary.. was said.. to haue bearded at fifteen.

2. *trans.* To cut or strip off the beard of (e.g. oysters). +b. To clip off the defective parts of (a fleece). c. To chip or plane away the edge of (timber) to a required shape.

1429 Act 8 Hen. VI. xii. No stranger shall cause to be forced, clacked or bearded any manner of woollies to carry them out of the realm. 1825 *Househ. Cookery*, Carving 104 We think it unnecessary to beard the oyster. 1863 WYNTER *Subtle Brains*, etc. 275 Another machine rebated and bearded the keel. 1867 [see BEARDING 4].

3. To oppose openly and resolutely, with daring or with effrontery; to set at defiance, thwart, affront. [Partly from the idea of taking a lion by the beard, partly from the use of *beard* as = face; see BEARD sb. 1 c.]

1525 *St. Papers Hen. VIII.* VI. 454 If they [Frenchmen] be kept shorte, and berdyd, their stomakks will soone wax more mylde. 1596 SHAKS. 1 Hen. IV. iv. i. 12 No man so potent breathes vpon the ground, But I will beard him. 1682 *Addr. Lancaster in Lond. Gaz.* No. 1727/5 A Proceeding that Beards the Regal Power, Outfaces the Law, etc. 1749 SMOLLETT *Regicide* II. vii. (1777) 39 Sooner would'st thou beard The lion in his rage. 1820 SCOTT *Monast.* xvii. Shall that English silk-worm presume to beard me in my father's house?

4. To furnish with a beard.

[c. 1380 see BEARDED 4]. 1791 E. DARWIN *Bot. Gard.* I. 33 Beard the bright cylinder with golden wire. 1824 J. JOHNSON *Typogr.* II. iii. 21 Short letters.. all which will admit of being bearded above and below their face.

5. To brush or rub with the beard.

1839 *Autobiog. Beggar Boy* 56 Some of the young men were romping with the girls and bearding their rosy faces.

Bearded (bi'ided), *pp. a.* [f. BEARD sb. or v.]

1. Of man and animals: Having a beard; *spec.* in names of animals, as Bearded Eagle, and Bearded Tit, Titmouse, or Pincock.

1530 PALSGR. 306/1 Berded, *barbu*. 1600 SHAKS. *A. Y. L.* II. vii. 150 A Soldier, Full of strange oaths, and bearded like the Pard. 1802 BINGLEY *Anim. Biog.* (1813) II. 39 The Bearded Eagle, or Lammer-Geyer. 1868 MISS BRADDOCK *Run to Earth* I. i. 9 Black-bearded, foreign-looking seamen. 1879 BROWNING *Ivan Ivanov.* 39 Each bearded mouth.

2. Of plants, seeds, etc.: Furnished with bristles or hairy tufts, awned; as in *bearded wheat*.

1576 LYTE *Dodons* 461 His long bearded eares doth much resemble Barley. 1667 MILTON *P. L.* IV. 983 Her bearded

Grove of ears. 1779-84 COOK *Voy.* (1790) I. 196 The ground being covered with grass, the seeds of which were sharp and bearded. 1842 TENNYSON *L. of Shalott* I. iv. Only reapers, reaping early, In among the bearded barley.

3. *transf.* in gen. sense: Covered with beard-like tufts or appendages.

1847 LONGF. *Evang. Prel.* 2 The hemlocks, Bearded with moss. 1870 TYNDALL *Heat* II. § 29. 33 The pipe from which the air issued became bearded with icicles.

4. Of a comet, meteor, etc.: Having a train or tail; cf. BEARD sb. 7. *arch.* or *poet.*

c. 1380 WYCLIF *De Pseudo-frederic* v. Wks. (1880) 308 Pe sterre herid or beerdid errip fro heuene in his mouyng and bitokenep pestilence. a. 1638 RANDOLPH *Muses' Look-GL* II. ii. (1640) 22 Let foolcs gaze At bearded starras. 1703 W. F. MARTYN *Geog. Mag.* I. Intro. 21 Comets.. are vulgarly distinguished into three kinds, bearded, tailed, and hairy. 1842 TENNYSON *L. of Shalott* III. iii. Some bearded meteor, trailing light Moves over still Shalott.

5. Barbed or jagged like an arrow or fish-hook.

1613 M. RIDLEY *Magn. Bodies* 28 The bearded end of the [compass] needle doth only offer itself. 1839 GAUDEN *Tears* Ch. 105 Reputation is the bearded hook, which holds most men faster than conscience. 1733 DOUGLASS *Brit. Sett.* N. Amer. 262 The best Iron Bars break fibrous and bearded. 1793 [see BEARD sb. 9]. 1813 H. & J. SMITH *Ref. Addr.* 48 Rest there awhile, my bearded lance.

b. Of type: Furnished with a BEARD sb. 11 c.

Bearder (bi'ud), [f. BEARD v. + -ER.] One who beards.

1605 CAMDEN *Rem.* (1657) 41 To air, to beard.. and their derivations, aying, ayred, bearder, bearding, beoched.

Beardie (bi'idi), *a.* Also *beardie-loach*. [f. BEARD sb. + -IE = -Y 4.] A name given, chiefly in Scotland, to a small fish, the Loach (*Cobitis barbatula*), from the 'beards' or bristles on its gills.

1828 *Blackw. Mag.* Sept. 274 In mute.. hope of some time or other catching a minnow or beardie. 1859 YARRELL *Brit. Fishes* (ed. 3) I. 448 The habits of the Beardie in confinement.

Bearding, *vbl. sb.* [f. BEARD v. + -ING 1.]

+1. The action of cutting off the beard, e.g. the inferior parts of a fleece. Cf. BEARD v. 2. *Obs.*

1483 Act 1 Rich. III. viii. § 4 That the same Wolle be as it is shorn.. without any sortyng, berdyng, clakkyng.

2. Open, resolute opposition; insolent defiance.

1577 HOLMESHEDE *Chron.* II. 36/1 Leauie lieng for varlets, berding for ruffians, facing for crackers. 1854 LINNET's *Trial* I. III. l. 310 Would you do the bearding for us?

3. Beard-like growth; also *transf.*

1607 TOPSELL *Four-f. Beasts* 9 They have.. bearding about the lips like a Dragon. 1865 CARLYLE *Frederick* IV. xii. x. 219 A Plain of silent snow, with sparse bearding of bushes.

4. *Shipbuilding and Carpentry*. The bevelling of a piece of timber or plank to any required angle; *concr.* = BEARD sb. 11 a; also *attrib.*, as in *bearding-line*.

1833 RICHARDSON *Merc. Mar. Arch.* 26 Cutting down and bearding lines are not introduced. c. 1850 *Rudim. Nav.* (Weale) 144 The bearding-piece, which forms the fore-part [of the rudder] is of elm. 1867 SMYTH *Sailor's Wd.-bk.*, *Bearding line*, a curved line made by bearding the dead-wood to the shape of the ship's body.

Beardless (bi'idles), *a.* [f. BEARD sb. + -LESS.]

Having no beard; hence *fig.* youthful, immature.

c. 1235 E. E. *Allit. P. B.* 789 Bolde burnes wer pay boye with berdes chynnez. 1480 CAXTON *Trevisa's Decr.* Brit. 50 Ther come xv. yong berdes men clothed like wyymen. 1595 SHAKS. *John* v. i. 69 Shall a beardless boy, A cockred-silken wanton, braue our fields? 1621 QUARLES *Esther* (1638) 112 Rash, and beardless Councill. 1712 *Spect.* No. 527 P 2 A beardless stripling. 1825 SYD. SMITH *Wks.* 1867 II. 72 Is beardless youth to show no respect for the decisions of mature age?

b. *Bot.* Without beard or awn.

1861 MISS PRATT *Flower. Pl.* VI. 127 Common Rye-grass, Red Darnel, or Beardless Darnel. 1870 HOOKER *Stud. Flora* 97 Milk-vetch, style filiform, beardless.

Beardlessness. [f. prec. + -NESS.] Beardless condition; absence of beard.

1861 G. MOORE *Last Tribes* 137 Baldness and beardlessness were signs of mourning among the Hebrews. 1880 MISS BIRD *Japan* I. 55 The beardlessness of the ordinary Japanese.

Beardlet. A tiny beard or awn, like that of some grasses. Hence *Beardleted*.

+ **Bearding**. *Obs.* [f. BEARD sb. + -ING.] One who wears a beard; a layman.

1622 MABBE *Aleman's Gusman d'Alf.* II. 261 Leauing out neither bearding nor shaueling, high nor low.

Beardom (bi'udom), [f. BEAR sb. 1 + -DOM.] Bearish quality or personality.

1842 MRS. BROWNING *Grk. Chr. Poets* 191 Johnson was Dryden's critical bear, a rough bear, and with points of noble beardom.

Beardy (bi'idi), *a.* [f. BEARD + -Y 1.] Bearded.

1598 SYLVESTER *Du Bartas* I. iii. (1641) 26/2 Beard-less Apollo's beardy son. 1855 CARLYLE *Prinsenraub* 102 George the Rich, called also the *Barbatus*, Beardy.

Beare, *obs.* f. BEER, BEER, BIER and BIRE.

Bearer (bi'ear), *Forms*: 4 *berere*, 4-6 *berar*, 6 *beator*, 6-*beare*. [f. BEAR v. 1 + -ER 1.]

I. He who or that which carries or brings.

1. One who carries or conveys; a carrier, a porter. *a. generally.*

1382 WYCLIF *Isa.* xlv. 2 Oure chargis with heuy berthere do to-broysed ben.. thei mygten not sauen the berere. 1483 *Cath. Angl.* 29 A berer, *baiulus*. 1597 Act 1 Edw. VI.

iii. § 9 The .. nurse, or other the bearer about of the child. 1611 BIBLE a *Chron.* II. 18 To be bearers of burdens. 1797 SWIFT *Gulliver* II. iv. 131 To crowd about the sedan.. to make the bearers stop. 1870 MORRIS *Earthly Par.* III. iv. 239 Fleeces.. In their own bearers' blood were dyed. 1870 NICHOLSON *Zool.* (1880) 235 The scolex (a tape worm) apparently leads an independent life in water, and its intermediary bearer (supposed by some to be a fish..) is at present unknown.

b. of a non-material burden.

c. 1425 WYNTOUN *Cron.* VIII. x. 94 He wes chosyn bare Of bis charge to be berere. 1483 *Cath. Angl.* 29 A berer of wytnes, *testis*. 1526 *Pilgr. Prof.* (W. de W. 1531) 67 b, Lucifer, that is to say, the lyght berer.

c. One who helps to carry a corpse to the grave, or who holds the pall in a funeral procession.

1633 P. FLETCHER *Edisa* II. xlii, Six mournfull bearers, the sad hearse attending. 1789 Mrs. Piozzi *Journ. France* II. 291 A burial.. not one.. bearer being dressed in black. 1859 CAPERN *Ball. & Songs* 179 The tramp of the bearers and horses Beats out the death-march on the air.

d. In India: a. A palanquin carrier; b. A domestic servant who has charge of his master's clothes, furniture, and (often) his ready money. [Wilson conjectured this latter name to be a corruption of Bengali *behārā*; but the domestic 'bearer' was simply the headman of a set of palanquin bearers when the latter were universally used.]

1766 J. GROSE *Voy. E. Ind.* I. 153 (Y.) The poles which.. are carried by six, but most commonly by four bearers. 1811 Mrs. SHERWOOD *Henry & Beare* 3 A bearer, who.. had taken care of Henry from the day that he was born. *Note.* A servant, whose work is to carry a palanquin; but who is frequently employed to take care of children. 1813 — *Ayah & Lady* vii. 39 The bearers had nothing to do but to carry their Lady to church. 1880 G. A. MACKAY *21 Days in Ind.* (1882) 92 The Ayah and Bearer sit with Baby in the verandah.

e. In comb. with various sbs., as *cup*, *palanquin*, *pall*, *shield*, *standard-bearer*.

c. 1500 *Cocks Lovelies* B. 10 Tankarde berers.. and spere planers. 1611 BIBLE *Nehem.* I. 11 For I was the kings cup-bearer [COVERDALE, butler]. 1824 MACAULAY *1877*, And should my standard-bearer fall, as fall full well he may. 1832 MARRYAT *N. Forster* xxxviii, A double set of palanquin-bearers. 1865 F. GRIFFITHS *Artill. Man.* (ed. 9) 40 Pall-bearers on each side of the corpse.

2. One who brings a letter, a verbal message, tidings, rumours, etc.

a. 1300 *Cursor M.* 3226 Apon his kne he did him suere [at he suld be lel errand berer. 1465 J. PASTON in *Let.* 424 II. 92 The berour here of can enfourme you. 1566 KNOX *Hist. Ref.* Wks. 1846 I. 268 The rest of our mynydis this faythfull berare will schaw you at lenth. 1605 PERYS *Diary* VI. 182 In behalf of this young man, the bearer. 1850 Mrs. STOWE *Uncle Tom's C.* xxix. 271 An order.. to give the bearer fifteen lashes. 1855 MACAULAY *Hist. Eng.* III. 589 Others.. trafficked in the secrets of which they were the bearers.

3. The actual holder or presenter of a cheque, draft, or other order to pay money.

1863 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 1862/8 A Note.. for Ninety nine Pounds.. paid to Edward Callender or Bearer. 1869 R. LANGFORD *Introd. Trade* 12 A Promissory Note payable to Bearer, need not be endorsed. 1832 MARRYAT *N. Forster* xxix, Fill up a cheque for five hundred pounds, self or bearer.

4. *Her.* One who bears heraldic arms.

¶ The sense of 'supporters', copied in mod. dictionaries from JOHNSON, (who inserted it from BAILEY's folio of 1731), is apparently only a traditional dictionary error: see quot. 1885.

1620 GWILLIM *Heraldry* § 3 x. (1660) 144. 1707 PONY *Heraldry* 19 note, Such [tinctures] as should be used for marks of disgrace in the Bearers. 1825 G. E. COCKAYNE (Norroy King of Arms) in *letter*: We never use the word 'bearers' for 'supporters': the 'bearers' of the arms of Howard are the Duke of Norfolk, Earl of Carlisle, etc., themselves, not the supporters used by these noblemen.

5. The possessor of any personal endowment or quality; the holder of rank or office; hence *office-bearer*, etc.

1597 SHAKS. 2 Hen. IV. iv. v. 29 O Maieitie! When thou do'st pinch thy Bearer. 1606 — *Tr. & Cr.* III. iii. 104 The beautie that is borne here in the face, The bearer knows not. 1818 SCOTT *Hrt. Midl.* xvi, 'That's speaking to the purpose'.. said the office-bearer.

6. That in, or by means of, which anything is carried; e.g. a bier.

1847 HALLIWELL *s. v.*, In Kent the bier is sometimes called a bearer. 1865 F. GRIFFITHS *Artill. Man.* (ed. 9) 116 Nos. 8 and 9 bring up hot shot on a bearer. 1883 *Daily News* 27 July 2/1 For carrying this.. bearer poles of very ingenious design have been devised.

II. He who or that which supports or sustains.

+7. One who supports or sustains a weight, or who holds up what would fall; an upholder. *Obs.*

1483 CAXTON *Gold. Leg.*, A susteynour and a berar up of the church. 1553 SP. FERRAR in *Strype Eccl. Mem.* III. ii. App. xlvii, The bolsterers and bearers of the promoters. 1655 FULLER *Ch. Hist.* v. 333, Many have reported that I have been a bearer of such as have maintained evil opinions.

+8. One who sustains or joins in sustaining a charge or responsibility. *Obs.*

1641 BEST *Farm. Bks.* (1856) 89 The richest and ablest men in everie towne are.. subsidymen, and the poorer.. onely bearers with them. a. 1663 SANDERSON *Wks.* (1854) I. 185 (D.) As men use to do in common payments and taxes, we plead hard to have bearers and partners that may go a share with us. a. 1737 STRYPE *Eccl. Mem.* I. i. xxviii. 202 A bearer with them.. in printing of their books.

9. Mechanics. Anything used as a support or stay. 1677 *Moxon Mech. Exerc.* (1703) 157 Bearer, a Post or Brick-wall that is Trimm'd up between the two ends of a piece of Timber, to shorten its Bearing. 1823 P. NICHOLSON *Pract. Build.* 219 Bearer—any thing used by way of support to another. 1861 *SMILES Engineers* II. 183 To check the effect of the bearers or struts of the ribs.

b. spec. Applied to various mechanical contrivances for sustaining or taking off pressure: e.g. in *Printing*, to a kind of 'packing' used to lessen the pressure upon the types in certain places.

1846 *Print. Appar. Amateurs* 30 The introduction of 'bearers' which serve to reduce the pressure upon the types, or rather to bear off a part of the pressure. 1881 C. EDWARDS *Organs* 57 The bearers are strips of wood fixed between the sliders, which support the weight of the upper boards, pipes, &c. 1884 F. BRITTEN *Watch & Clockm.* 32 (A) Bearer. [is] a piece of metal soldered to the 'middle' of a watch case as a support for the joint.

10. dial. (See quot.)

1871 E. PRACOCK *R. Skirlaugh* II. 89 Where in one of the drains a sunken floor of wood, called a bearer, was deposited for making a safe watering place for the cattle.

III. 11. She who, or that which, brings forth or produces; *spec.* a fruit-yielding tree.

1413 *LYDG. Pylar. Sowle* iv. vii. (1483) 61, I maye wel be cleped only the Appeltree and berer of this Appel. 1719 *LOUDON & WISE Compl. Gard.* 76 The Tree is a great Bearer. 1872 H. MACMILLAN *True Vine* v. 190 The celebrated vine of Hampton Court is a most productive bearer.

Bear-ress. *nonce-wd.* A she-bear.

1840 *HOOD Kilmansegg* lxxv, Snips and snaps, As if from a Tigress or Bear-ress.

† Bear-gear. *Obs.* = bearing-gear (see BEARING 17). Hence, *To be or draw in the bear gears.*

Bear³, *obs.* form of BARROW sb.² a swine.

† Bearherd. *Obs.* Also 6-7 beare-herd, bearhard, bearard, berard, berrord. [f. BEAR sb.¹ + HERD. Shakspeare's *Bearard*, etc., are assigned to this, rather than to BEAR-WARD, to which some editors refer them, chiefly because he elsewhere uses *beare-herd*, and not *beare-ward*: cf. *shepherd*, formerly also *shepard*, *sheppard*.] The keeper of a bear, who leads him about for exhibition.

1589 R. HARVEY *Pl. Perc.* (1860) 14 Nor a beare-herd .. to put his staffe in the mouth of the beare, or pull off these dogs? 1593 *SHAKS. 2 Hen. VI.* v. i. 149 We'll bate thy Bears to death, And manacle the Berard in their Chaines. — *Ibid.* 210 Despight the Bearard, that protects the Beare. 1597 — *2 Hen. IV.* i. ii. 191 True valor is turn'd Beare-herd. 1599 — *Much Ado* ii. i. 43 Take sixpence in earnest of the Berrord, and leade his Apes into Hell. 1655 *GOUGE Comm. Hebrews* i. 13 Bearhards that have their Bears at command. 1860 *KENNEDY Swallow-B.* 14 It gave me over to the great bear-herd.

Bearing (bē'rin), *vbl. sb.* [f. BEAR v.¹ + -ING¹.] **I.** from BEAR v.¹ I.

1. The action of carrying or conveying. In *Backgammon*, see BEAR v. I d.

c 1384 *Wyclif De Eccl. Sel. Wks.* III. 347 In þe olde lawe weren preests and dekenes myche chargid in beryng of þe tabernacle. c 1485 *Digby Myst.* (1882) ii. 645 In a beryng basket or a lepe ... I shall me conuay [over wall]. 1598 *BARRET Theor. Warres* Pref. 3 Your yong yeares haue scarce artuied yet to the bearing of Armes. 1645 *DURVEY Israel's Call* 27 To serve him in the bearing of his vessels. 1875 *COTTON Compl. Gaster* xxvi. (1680) 111 When you come to bearing, have a care of making when you need not.

b. things immaterial, e.g. the bringing forward of testimony.

1393 *LANGL. P. Pl. C.* xvii. 360 Brawelynge and bacbytyng and beryng of false witness. *Mod.* The continual bearing of a grudge.

2. The carrying of oneself (with reference to the manner); carriage, deportment; behaviour, demeanour.

c 1250 *Gen. & Ex.* 2178 Bi þure bering men mai it sen. c 1374 *CHAUCER Troilus* i. 181 Symple of beryng [v. r. attire] and debonor of chere. 1495 *Act 11 Hen. VII.* ix. § 2 To be of goode beryng ayenst the King. 1599 *SHAKS. Much Ado* ii. i. 166 That is Claudio, I know him by his bearing. 1814 *SCOTT Ld. of Isles* iv. xxii. The bearing of that stranger Lord. 1873 *BLACK Pr. Thule* vi. 79 The .. courtesy of his bearing towards women.

b. Behaviour in battle, etc., achievement.

1387 *TREVISIA Higden* (1865) I. 3 Greet berynge and dedes of oure forme fadres.

3. Her. That which is borne upon an escutcheon; a single charge or device.

1562 *LEIGH Armorie* (1597) 120 b, And vpon the valence of that studie, were Scocheons of vnperfitte bearing. 1614 *Selden Titles Hon. Pref.* When the Prince ennobled any, he usually gaue him the particular of his Bearing in Blazon. 1790 *BOSWELL Johnson* II. 35 Armorial Bearings. Johnson said .. were as ancient as the siege of Thebes. 1858 *BUCKLER Civilis* (1869) II. ii. 112 In the twelfth century armorial bearings were invented.

II. from BEAR v.¹ II.

† 4. Upholding, supporting; maintenance. *Obs.*

1548 *HALL Chron.* (1809) 600 Indicted of riottes and maintenance of berynges of divers misdoers within the countie. 1552 *LATIMER Serm. Lord's Pr.* iii. II. 34 In the place of justice, there I have seen bearing and bolstering.

5. Sustaining, supporting, endurance.

1586 *Pilgr. Perf.* (W. de W. 1531) 45 In suffryng or beryng aduersities and troubles. 1640 *SANDERSON Serm.* II. 174 Our bearing with their infirmities. 1815 T. JEFFERSON *Corr.* (1830) 263 Considering the government of England as totally without morality, and insolent beyond bearing.

6. A material support; a supporting surface; supporting power.

a 1300 *K. Alis.* 484 A goshaue with gret flyght Setliþ on his beryng. 1677 *Moxon Mech. Exerc.* (1703) 148 This Post .. bears upon the Floor, to make its Bearing the stronger. 1732 *POPE Ess. Man* i. 29 But of this frame the bearings, and the ties. 1793 *SMEATON Edystone L.* § 274 Each floor .. lying upon the horizontal bearings furnished by these ledges. 1876 *Handbk. Sc. App. S. Kens.* 5 A greater number of bearings is required to prevent the mirror from becoming strained by its own weight.

7. Carpentry. The length of a beam between two supports, span; the distance between the cutting-edge of a tool and the rest in which it is held.

1677 *Moxon Mech. Exerc.* (1703) 136 This short Bearing .. renders the whole Floor firm enough for all common Occupation. *Ibid.* 186 Its edge cutting at a greater Bearing from the Rest .. it is then more subject to tremble. 1823 P. NICHOLSON *Pract. Build.* 219 Bearing, the distance in which a beam or rafter is suspended in the clear.

III. from BEAR v.¹ III.

8. A thrusting, pressing, or straining in any direction; thrust, pressure.

1591 *PERCIVAL Sp. Dict.*, *Salidiso*. the bearing out of a wall, *Proctia*. 1753 *CHAMBERS Cycl. Suppl.* s. v. Bearing of an arch, or vault, denotes the efforts which the stones make to burst open the piers. 1784 *Med. Commun.* II. 7 Such a bearing down, as made her fearful of a miscarriage. 1797 M. BAILLIE *Morb. Anat.* (1807) 415 An inversion of the vagina is attended with a sense of bearing down.

9. Tendency to exert influence, practical relation or reference to other things; aspect.

1785 *BURKE Nab. Arcot's Debts* Wks. IV. 201 Having had .. a just sense of their true bearings and relations. 1804 T. JEFFERSON *Corr.* (1830) 18 In its unfortunate bearings on my private friendships. 1828 *SOUTHEY Ess.* (1832) II. 243 The subject .. was thoroughly examined in all its bearings. 1867 A. BARRY *Sir C. Barry* vi. 177 The legal bearings of the case.

† 10. A taking effect; operation, effective result.

1793 *WODROW Corr.* (1843) III. 89 Whether I shall ever be able to bring anything of this to a bearing, I know not.

† 11. Spring, elasticity. *Obs.* Cf. BEAR sb.³ 1674 N. FAIRFAX *Bulk & Selv.* 118 Slower motions are made up of starts and bearings, or springsomeness. *Ibid.* 119 A pend or earnest strift fromwards, which we call springsomeness or bearing.

12. Mech. (generally in *pl.*) Those parts of a machine which bear the friction; the block or supports on which a shaft or axle turns, and also the part of the shaft or axle resting upon these supports. [This combines II and III of the vb.]

1793 *Specific Patent* No. 1794 Water wheels to be made and fixed upon bearings. 1793 *WOLLASTON in Phil. Trans.* LXXXIII. 137 A better bearing, and much less likely to wear the pivots. 1861 *SMILES Engineers* II. 129 The shafts and axles were of iron, and the bearings of brass. 1881 *Print. Trades Jnl.* xxxi. 38 Heated bearings in machinery may be relieved .. by the use of graphite as a lubricator.

13. The direction in which any point lies from a point of reference, esp. as measured in degrees from one of the quarters of the compass. In *pl.* the relative positions of surrounding objects. *To take one's bearings*: to determine one's position with regard to surrounding objects; also *fig.*

1635 N. CARPENTER *Geog. Del.* i. vii. 171 Great errors not only in the situation of diuers places, but also in the bearing of places one to the other. 1711 F. FULLER *Med. Gymn.* 29 When they [jockeys] design to take the Bearings of a Running Horse. 1790 *SMEATON in Phil. Trans.* 5 July, To make the compass useful in taking .. the bearing of headlands, ships and other objects. 1805 *FLINDERS in Phil. Trans.* XCIV. 189 On the first bearings the ship's head was six points on one side of the meridian. 1898 in *Merc. Mar. Mag.* V. 229 All Bearings herein given are Magnetic. 1875 *BEDFORD Sailor's Pocket Bk.* i. (ed. 2) 41 The difference between the sun's true bearing and its compass bearing.

b. Mus. (see quot.)

1835 *Penny Cycl.* XXV. 356/2 The parts [of a piano, etc.] which are first tuned by the fifths, and from which all the others are tuned by octaves, are called bearings.

14. The direction of any line on the earth's surface in relation to a meridian.

1802 *PLAYFAIR Illustr. Hutton. The.* 229 Vertical strata, having the same bearing with respect to the meridian. 1881 *RAYMOND Mining Gloss.*, *Bearing*. the direction of a horizontal line, drawn in the middle plane of a vein or stratum not horizontal.

b. fig. Tendency, natural leaning, bent.

1862 *TROLLOPE Orley F.* xv. 121 In the publicity of such sympathy there was something that suited the bearings of Miss Furnival's mind.

† 15. Mus. The variation allowed from the true pitch of a note, in tuning an instrument upon the method of unequal temperament. *Obs.*

1658 *WALLIS in Phil. Trans.* XX. 256 Pipes at equal Intervals do not give the just desired Harmony, without somewhat of Bearing.

16. Naut. 'The widest part of a vessel below the plank-shear. The line of flotation which is formed by the water upon her sides when she sits upright with her provisions, stores, and ballast, on board in proper trim.' Smyth *Sailor's Wd.-bk.*

1667 *CAPT. SMITH Seaman's Gram.* ii. 3 There doth begin the compass and bearing of the ship. 1835 *MARRYAT Pirate* iii. The wind howled, and .. the vessel was pressed down to her bearings by its force.

17. Comb. and attrib. in prec. senses: as, *bearing-chair*, *-point*, *-shaft*, *-surface*; † *bearing-back*, a pedlar's staff for carrying his pack; † *bearing-*

cloth, a child's christening-robe; *bearing-door*, (*Coal-mining*), one of the main doors in a pit for regulating the ventilation; † *bearing-gear*, the gear or apparatus (usually a twisted withe passed through the collar so as to form a loop) by which, in old times, a pair of horses supported the ends of the swingle-tree of a plough, or of the cross-bar from which the pole of a wagon was suspended; † *bearing-leap*, a carrying-basket; see BEAR-LEAP.

1544 *ASCHAM Toxoph.* (1654) 115 They be good ynough for bearynge gere. 1570 *Bury Wills* (1850) 156, I beqwe the to my dawghter Jone Kenam one berynge sheet. 1598 *GREENWY Tacitus Ann.* xiv. ii. (1622) 200 Agrippina .. caused her-selfe to be carried to Baia in a bearing-chaire. 1601 *HOLLAND Pliny* II. 341 If a child be lapped in a mantle or bearing-cloth made of an asse skin, it shall not be affrighted at any thing. 1607 *TORSELL Four-f. Beasts* (1673) 437 A bearing back or colt staffe, as we say in English, whereupon poor men carry their burdens. 1611 *SHAKS. Wint. T.* iii. iii. 119 Looke thee, a bearing-cloth for a Squires childe. 1616 *SURFL. & MARKH. Countr. Farm* 533 When they [horses] draw two and two together in the beare-gears .. then theris needfull the plow clevis .. the harness, the collars, the round withers or bearing gears. 1851 *Coal-tr. Terms Northumbld. & Durh.* 24 A bearing or main door, is a door which forces the air through an entire district. 1856 *KANE Art. Exp.* I. xxix. 402 Passed the chain cable under the keel at four bearing-points.

IV. from BEAR v.¹ IV.

18. The action of bringing forth (offspring); birth. Also in comb. *child-bearing*.

a 1300 *CURSOR M.* 11079 All mad þai mirth at his bering. c 1400 *Epih.* (Turnb. 1843) 908 As women .. When thei ben in beryng of chyld. 1612 *BIBLE 1 Tim.* ii. 15 Notwithstanding she shall be saved in child-bearing.

b. attrib., as in *bearing-pain*, *place*, *throe*, *time*.

1587 *GOLDING De Mornay* xxi. 323 Wouldst thou haue Children? It is hee that openeth and shutteth the bearing place. 1597 *DANIEL Civ. Wares* vi. cv. To stay beyond the bearing-time, so long. 1789 *Med. Commun.* II. 227 The throes which the women call bearing pains.

19. The action of producing leaves, flowers, and esp. fruit; yielding, production.

1583 *PLAT Jewell* ho. (1594) 5 He did greatly backward the tree in his bearing. 1799 *STANHOPE Paraphr.* IV. 255 Bearing will be required from every Branch. 1861 *DELAMER Kitch. Gard.* 160 Wall-trees .. come into early bearing.

20. That which is produced; fruit, a crop.

1838 *WORDSW. Sonn.* ii. xix, Rich mellow bearings, that for thanks shall call.

21. Those external parts of animals which are concerned in parturition. *Obs.* or *dial.*

1674 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 911/4 A Bright bay Mare .. lately Stackt behind under her Bearing. 1779 *Phil. Trans.* LXIX. 285 The teats and the external female parts, called by farmers the bearing.

Bearing (bē'rin), *pl. a.* [f. BEAR v.¹.]

1. That bears, carries, supports, endures, drives, presses, pierces, stands out, etc. (See various meanings of the vb.)

c 1500 *Rob. Hood* (Ritson) II. xii. 131 Clifton with a bearing arrow, Hee clawe the willow wand. 1551 *ROBINSON tr. More's Utop.* 158 Drawing and bearing beastes. 1642 *HOWELL For. Trav.* (1869) 61 Large and bearing streames. 1674 N. FAIRFAX *Bulk & Selv.* 122 Lockt up in a bearing or pressing posture. 1677 *Moxon Mech. Exerc.* (1703) 69 Plane both the Bearing sides thinner. 1702 *PENN in Pa. Hist. Soc. Mem.* IX. 162 Be as bearing as you can with hasty and fretful tempers. 1850 *LEITCH tr. Muller's Anc. Art* § 275. 305 The architectural members .. are divided into bearing, borne, and intermediate. Among the bearing the column is the form naturally suggested.

† 2. Of food: Sustaining, substantial. *Obs.*

c 1618 *FLETCHER Wom. Pleased* i. ii, A good bearing dinner. 1633 *MASSINGER New Way*, etc. v. i, Bearing dishes.

3. In comb., as: *burden*, *interest-bearing*; *bearing-rein*, a short fixed rein which passes from the bit to the saddle, intended to keep the horse's head up and its neck arched; *fig.* a check or restraint upon movements.

1600 *QUARLES Jonah* (1638) 43 The burden-bearing Camell. 1794 W. FELTON *Carriages* (1801) II. 128 The bearing rein is what prevents the horse from holding his head down. 1839 *SYD. SMITH Wks.* 1859 I. Pref. 8 Lord Grey had not then taken off the bearing-rein from the English people. 1866 *CRUMP Banking* xi. 245 Having an interest-bearing reserve. 1882 *Macm. Mag.* XLV. 464 When horses are unnecessarily restrained by bearing-reins.

4. Bringing forth, producing (offspring, fruit, etc.). Often as second element in a compound, as *berry*, *fruit*, *spectre-bearing*.

1398 *TREVISIA Barth. De P. R.* xvii. cxvii. (1495) 682 Thycke settyng of knottes is token of a good vyne and berynge. 1672 *PERRY Pol. Anat.* (1691) 53 A Cow continues Milch and bearing, from 3 or 4 years old to 12. 1831 *CARLYLE Sart. Res.* ii. vi, The Future is wholly a Stygian Darkness, spectre-bearing. 1895 W. ELLIS *Vis. Madagascar* viii. 225 The fruit-bearing olive.

5. Fertile, productive.

c 1400 *Pallad. on Husb.* i. 28 Eke se thi lande Be bering, and commodiously stande. 1882 S. MACADAM *Manitoba Soil*, Soils of a good bearing quality.

Bearing, *pl. a.* [f. BEAR v.² + -ING².] Acting as a 'bear' in Stock Exchange transactions.

1884 *Pall Mall G.* 7 Aug. 5/1 The shrewd men who are so .. anxious to put money in the pockets of the bulling or bearing public.

Bearish (bē'rif), *a.* [f. BEAR sb.¹ + -ISH¹.]

1. Bear-like, esp. in manner or temper; rough, rude, and uncouth; growling, surly.

1744 HARRIS *Three Treat. Wks.* (1842) 99 We call men, by way of reproach, sheepish, bearish, etc. 1800 COLERIDGE *Piccolom.* v. iv. Forgive me too my bearish ways, old father. 1863 SARAH TYTLER in *Gd. Words* 705 As unmannerly and bearish as two gentlemen... could contrive to be.

2. *Stock Exchange.* Belonging or tending to a fall in the price of stocks. 1881 *Chicago Times* 30 Apr. The movement was bearish, and prices all around averaged a trifle lower. 1884 *Manch. Exam.* 8 Sept. 8/3 Bearish news from the oilfields brought down prices.

Hence *Bearishly adv.*

Bearishness. [*f. prec. + -NESS.*] Bearish quality; rough unmannerliness; surliness.

1861 COLLIER *Hist. Eng. Lit.* 162 He never lost a certain bearishness of temper. 1884 *Church Union* (N. Y.) 15 Nov. 8 Private boorishness and domestic bearishness.

† **Bearleap, -lepe(e).** In 4-5 berlep(e), bere lepe, 7 beer-lip. [*f. ME. ber-en to BEAR + LEAP basket.*] A carrying basket.

1325-40 HAMPOLE *Præm* lxxx. 6 His hend seruyd in berlepe, v. r. bere lepe [*in copino*], that is a vessel in the whilke the iwes bare mortere in egypt. c1375 WYCLIF *Serm. Sel. Wks.* l. 17 Pei gedriden seven berlepis of relief bat was left [WYCLIF *Mark* viii. 8 has lepis, leepis]. 1677 *Pilot Oxfordsh.* 256 They draw a Cubb or Beerlip, up the middle of the mow or stack, and through the hole, that this leaves, the heat will ascend, and so prevent mow-burning.

Cf. also the following: c1440 *Medulla Gramm.*, *Sporta*, a berynge lepe. 1440 *Prom. Parv.*, Barlylepe, to kepe yn corne, *Cumeria* [1499 Pynson's ed. has here Barlep; also elsewhere Beringe lepe *Canistra*]. 1500 *Ortus Vocab.*, *Sporta*, a bere lepe or basket. c1485 *Digby Myst.* (1882) ii. 645 In a beryng basket or a lepe.

† **Bearless, a.** *Obs. rare*—1. [*f. BEAR sb.1 + IV + -LESS.*] Barren.

1611 *SPED Theat. Gt. Brit.* xiv. (1614) 27/x Barkeshire... from a naked and bearelesse Oke-tree, whereunto the people usually resorted... to conferre for the State.

Bear-like, a. and adv. [*f. BEAR sb.1 + LIKE.*]

Like, or after the manner of, a bear; rough, rude. 1605 SHAKS. *Macb.* v. vii. 2, I cannot flye, But Beare-like I must fight the course. 1663 *GERBIER Counsel* D iij. 4, Some of them Bear-like-whelps (by licking and smoothing) have gotten some fashionable like shape. 1823 SCOTT in *Lockhart* (1830) VII. 174, I was rather a Bear-like nurse for such a lamb-like charge.

Bearn, obs. form of BARN, and of BURN, v.

Bear's-foot. *Herb.* [*f. BEAR sb.1*]

1. Popular name of various species of Hellebore, esp. of the Black Hellebore (*H. fatidus*), a handsome plant with spreading panicles of globular flowers, their sepals green edged with pink.

1551 TURNER *Herbal* 126 Thys herbe whyche they call cholestes wurtz and we berefoot. 1609 J. PARKINSON *Parad. in Sole* lxxxi. 344 There are three sorts of blacke Hellebor or Beares foot. 1697 DRYDEN *Virg. Georg.* iv. 185 The late Narcissus, and the winding Trail Of Beares-foot. 1863 *Prior Plant-n.* 17 Bear's-foot, from its digitate leaf.

2. Also applied loosely to Bear's-breech or Acanthus, to Lady's Mantle, and to Monkshood.

1554 HULOET, Bere fote herbe, *Acantha*. 1603 SHUTE *Archit.* B j b, An herbe called Acanthus, in frenche Brack-ursine, or bearefote with vs.

Bearship (bē-ship). [*f. BEAR sb.1 + -SHIP.*]

The personality of a bear. (Humorous.)

1800 SOUTHEY *Lett.* (1856) I. 90 If you were a dancing bear, and I had a string tied to the ring in your bearship's nose.

Bearskin (bē-skin). [*f. BEAR sb.1*]

1. The skin of a bear used as a wrap or garment. 1823 BYRON *Yuan* x. xxvi. In this gay cline of bear-skins black and furry. 1835 SIR J. ROSS *N.-W. Pass.* xli. 547 Natives came... bringing... a bearskin and some clothing. 1855 KINGSLEY *Herzoe* ii. 205 Wrapt in a bearskin cloak.

2. *fig.* in reference to the torture of Christians by baiting them in bearskins.

1677 GALE *Crt. Gentiles* III. 123 The Pelagian Iesuites oppose the Dominicans in this point under the Bears skin of being Calvinists. 1731 SHAFTESB. *Charac.* (1737) I. 29 If they had chosen to bring our primitive founders upon the stage in a pleasant way than that of bear-skins and pitch-barrels.

2. The tall furry cap worn by the Guards in the British Army.

1848 THACKERAY *Van. Fair* xxiv. Ensign Spooney... tried on a new bearskin cap, under which he looked savage beyond his years. 1863 KINGLAKE *Crimea* II. 338 The towering bearskins which mark a battalion of the English Guards.

3. A shaggy kind of woollen cloth used for overcoats.

4. See BEAR sb.1 8. *Bearskin jobber*, early name of the 'bear' on the Stock Exchange.

Bearward (bē-wōrd). [*f. BEAR sb.1 + WARD.*]

Also 4 bereward, 5 bareward, 5-6 berward(e) (see BEARHERD).

1. The keeper of a bear, who leads it about for public exhibition of its tricks, etc.; also *fig.*

1399 *Pol. Poems* (1859) I. 364 A bereward for a rag. 1463 *Mann. & Househ. Exp.* 156, I toke to the lord Stanley is berward... v. v. 111. 1530 BALE *Eng. Volaries* ii. 118 They played with those worldly rulers... as the bearwards do with their apes and their beares. 1644 EVELYN *Mem.* (1857) I. 95 [They] command them, as our bearwards do the bears, with a ring through the nose. 1806 SCOTT *Woodst. ix.* The army is your bear now, and old Noll is your bearward.

2. The constellation Bootes, or its chief star Arcturus, from its position in reference to *Ursa Major*.

VOL. I.

1283 *Cath. Angl.* 23/x Barward, *arctophilax*. 1577 B. GOODE *Heresbach's Husb.* (1586) 39 b, The rising of the star called the Berward. 1883 LINDALL & SCOTT *Grk. Lex.* s. v. 'Αρκτοφίλας, The star just behind is called 'Αρκτοφίλας, the Bear-ward, or Βοώτης, the Waggoner.

† **Bearwort.** *Herb. Obs.* [*f. BEAR sb.1 + WORT.*] The herb *Meum Athamanticum*.

1597 in GERARD. 1863 in *Prior Plant-n.*

Beasantlier, obs. form of BESANTLER.

Beasaunte, obs. form of BEZANT.

Bease, obs. form of BAIZE.

Be-ash, etc.: see BE- pref.

Beasom, obs. f. BESOM, and BISEN, Obs. blind.

Beast (bist), *sb.* Forms: 3-6 beste, best, beast(e), 4-6 Sc. beist, 6-7 beaste, (6 biste, 7 beise), 6- beast. (*Pl. dial.* *beas(e), beas(e), beas(e).*) [*a. OF. beste*—*L. bestia*. The earliest use of the word was to translate *L. animal*, in which it took the place of *OE. deor*, just as it was, in this sense, subseq. replaced by *animal* itself.]

I. *Literal senses.*

1. A living being, an animal. (Used to translate *Gr. ζῷον*, or *L. animal*, esp. in versions of the Bible. Now restricted in literary use as in sense 2; but still widely applied in dialect and colloquial use, including e. g. newts, insects, centipedes.)

† a. In early times, explicitly including man. *Obs.* b. In later times, applied to the lower animals, as distinct from man.

c1280 *Hali Meid.* 25 Beastes þat dumble neb habbeð. a1300 *Cursor M.* 6039 Þan sent drihtin a liel beist [locust]. *Ibid.* 700 Þe nedder... was mast wis of ani best. 1493 *Festivall* (1515) 3 b, All the fysshes and beestes in the see. 1535 COVERDALE *Ecclus.* xi. 3 The Bey is but a small beast among the foules, yet is hir frute exceedinge swete. 1611 BIBLE *Rev.* iv. 6 Foure beastes full of eyes before and behinde.

1668 ROWLAND MONTGOMERY *Theat. Ins.* 931 Nor know I the little Beast [Hornet] it self. 1771 *Phil. Trans.* LXI. 240 Monoculi, some of which had their ovaria full of eggs, and others of little live beasts. 1827 MOORE *Periwink.* 4 *Soc. Wks.* (1862) 529 Of all the beasts that ever were born, Your Locust most delights in corn. 1875 BUCKLAND *Log-Bk.* 91 These Cod, poor Beasts. *Mod. dial.* There's a little beast crawling up your back!

a. c1374 CHAUCER *Boeth.* i. vi. 27 Arest not me quod I. weþir þat [man] be a resonable best mortel. 1387 TREVISIA *Hidden Rolls* Ser. III. 367 Al þing þat hap lif and felynge is i-cleped a beste. 1547 BOORDE *Brev. Health* clxxxii, A man or a woman, which be resonable beastes.

b. 1610 SHAKS. *Temp.* ii. ii. 34 There would this Monster make a man: any strange beast there, makes a man. 1760 HARRIS *Philol. Eng.* (1841) 538 To render the nature of man odious, and the nature of beasts amiable.

c. The animal nature (in man).

1667 *Decay Chr. Piety* ix. § 9. 302 Those advantages which may... exalt the beast, and depress the beast in us.

2. A quadruped (or animal popularly regarded as such), as distinguished from birds, reptiles, fishes, insects, etc., as well as from man. (Now the ordinary literary use.)

c1230 *Ansr. R.* 416 3e... ne schulen habben no best, bute kat one. c1360 *Deus Caritas* in *E. E. P.* (1862) 127 Lord þu madest... hope foul and best. 1393 GOWER *Conf.* III. 74 As lion is the king of bestes. 1526 *Pilgr. Perf.* (W. de W. 1531) 151 In the sixth daye... all beastes were create. 1559 *Mirr. Mag.*, *De Clarence* xxviii, Compare them vnto birdes and beastes. 1611 BIBLE i *Kings* iv. 33 Hee spake also of beastes, and of foule, and of creeping things, and of fishes. 1691 RAY *Creation* (1722) 21 Animate bodies are divided into four great genera or orders: Beasts, Birds, Fishes, and Insects. 1849 MARRIAT *Valerie* vi, Like the bat, they are neither bird nor beast.

b. *spec.* An animal of the chase; fourfooted game.

1297 R. GLOUC. 375 Þe nywe forest... he... astored yt wel myd bestys. c1420 *Avon. Arth.* xvii, Sethun brittuns he the best, As venesus in forest. 1539 *Act 31 Hen. VIII.* v. A chase... for... feeding of beastes of venery. 1598 WARNER *Alb. Eng.* vii. xxxvii. (1597) 180 They feede Mongst Beasts of chase. 1697 DRYDEN *Virg. Georg.* i. 211 Then Toils for Beasts, and Lime for Birds were found. 1731 CHAMBERS *Cycl. s.v.*, Beasts of Chase, in our statute-books are five; the buck, doe, fox, martin, and roe. Beasts of the forest are the hart, hind, hare, boar, and wolf. Beasts and fowls of the warren are, the hare, coney, pheasant, and partridge.

c. *Wild beast:* an animal not domesticated, formerly esp. a beast of the chase, now esp. a ferocious animal from a foreign land; = *L. fera*, *Gr. θηρ*.

1297 R. GLOUC. 376 Men ne dorste... wylde best nyme no3t, Hare ne wylde swyn. 1393 LANGL. *P. Pl.* C. xviii. 28 And wonden in wilderness... among wilde bestes. 1590 SHAKS. *Mids. N.* ii. 1. 228 He... leave thee to the mercy of wilde beasts. 1591 SPENSER *Daphn.* xviii. And of the race, that all wild beastes do feare. 1697 DRYDEN *Virg. Georg.* iv. 758 Whom ev'n the savage Beasts had spar'd, they kill'd. 1833 MARRIAT *P. Simple* ix, To see the wild beasts fed at Mr. Polito's menagerie.

3. A domesticated animal owned and used by man, as part of his farm 'stock' or cattle [*f. bestiaux, bétail*]; at first including sheep, goats, etc., but a. gradually more or less restricted to the bovine kind; and now chiefly applied by farmers, graziers, etc. to fattening cattle. (In this sense there is also a collective plural *beast*.)

c1230 *Ansr. R.* 58 3if eni unwrie put were, and best feolle þer inne. a1300 *Cursor M.* 6137 Ta your beistes wit yow bun. c1450 *Mertin* 3 This riche man hadde grete plente of bestes and of other riches. 1514 BARCLAY *Cyl. & Up-*

londyskm. (1847) Introd. 9 Sometime the wolfe our beastes doth devour. 1704 BAILY *Dict. Rustic.* s. v. *Common*, Which Common must be taken with Beasts commonable, as Horses, Oxen, Kine, and Sheep. 1884 ROSSETTI *Ball. & Sonn.* 87 I am Berold the butcher's son, Who slays the beasts in Rouen Town.

a. 1523 FITZGER. *Husb.* (1534) G ij, Beastes alone, nor horses alone, nor shepe alone... wyll not eate a pasture euen. 1641 HINDE *J. Bruen* xxix. 90 There was spent in his house a fat Beise, and a half, within the space of three days. 1700 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 5880/5 Robert Watson, late of Uttoxeter... Dealer in Beasts. 1807 J. STAGG *Poems* 63 To th' fells they drive beath bease and sweyne. 1863 ATKINSON *Whitby Gloss.*, *Beast*, an... animal of the Ox kind—The plural... is *beas* or *beas*; applied to Cows or fattening-stock collectively. 1865 *Daily Tel.* 22 Aug. 6/5 One half... is devoted to 'beasts'; the other half to sheep, pigs, and calves, none of which creatures are 'beasts' according to the natural history of the Caledonian-road. 1884 *W. Sussex Gaz.* 25 Sept. (*Advt.*) The Live Stock comprises the valuable herd of Sussex Beasts, including cows, heifers, bulls and steers.

b. An animal used in riding, driving, etc., as the horse and ass; a 'beast of burden,' a 'yoke beast,' a draught animal. [In some parts of England, *beast* in the sing. means spec. 'horse,' while the pl. *beasts, beastes, beass* means 'oxen.']

a1300 *Cursor M.* 14963 Þar sal yee find an ass beist. 1388 WYCLIF *Luke* x. 34 And leid hym on his best [1388 hors], and ledde in to an ostri. 1523 FITZGER. *Serm.* xi. (1539) 26 His werke bestis to his plough. 1599 FRITH *Ep. Chr. Reader* Wks. (1829) 462 His Son... was made our beast, bearing our sins upon his own back. 1611 BIBLE *Luke* x. 34 And bound vp his wounds, powring in oil and wine, and set him on his owne beast. 1803 WELLINGTON in *Gurw. Disp.* II. 199 Coolies and bullocks and every animal that can be procured of the description of a beast of burthen. 1816 SCOTT *Antiq.* xxv. There sall nane o' my gear gang on your beast's back. 1848 MACAULAY *Hist. Eng.* I. 374 Travellers... compelled to alight and lead their beasts.

II. *fig. and transf.*

4. A human being under the sway of animal propensities.

c1400 *Rom. Rose* 5065 No such beeste [a harlot] To be loved is not worthy. 1598 SHAKS. *Merry W. v. v.* 5 O powerful Loue, that in some respects makes a Beast a Man: in som other, a Man a beast. 1647 SANDERSON *Serm.* II. 215 All histories afford us strange examples... of voluptuous beasts. 1709 STEELE *Tailler* No. 2 p 2 Till Morn' sends staggering Home a Drunken Beast. 1845 HOOD *Open Quest.* xv. Better... spend a leisure hour amongst the brutes, Than make a beast of his own self on Sunday.

5. 'A brutal, savage man; a man acting in any manner unworthy of a reasonable creature.' J. In earlier usage, often connoting stupidity or folly (cf. *Fr. bête*); in modern phraseology opprobriously employed to express disgust or merely aversion.

c1230 *Leg. Kath.* 2067 Hwet medschipe makeð þe, þu bittre balefule beast! 1393 GOWER *Conf.* I. 202 O beste of helle, in what guise Hast thou deserved for to die. 1594 R. CAREW *Huarts Exam. Wits* (1616) He that goes a beast to Rome, returns a beast againe. 1603 SHAKS. *Meas. for M.* iii. i. 137 Oh you beast, Oh faithlesse Coward, oh dishonest wretch. 1723 M'WARD *Earn. Contend.* 151 (Jam.) Putting the Beast upon ourselves, for having been so base. 1772 NICHOLLS in *Gray's Corr.* (1843) 170 It is this moment only that I have received nine letters... from that cursed beast Belloni's Abbé. 1841 WARREN *Ten Thous. Year* i. v. Mr. Sharpey... is coming down from dinner, directly, the beast! 1875 MISS BROUGHTON *Nancy* ii. 12 (1875) 'You beast' cried I, in good nervous English, turning sharply round.

† 6. Applied to the devil (the 'old serpent' or 'dragon') and evil spirits. *Obs.*

c1230 *St. Mark.* 11 Hu ha... þæt bittre best makede to bersten. a1300 *Cursor M.* 12954 Bot herdili he [þe warlaun] yode him nerr, Qua herd euer best sua bald. c1305 *Miracle St. Jas.* 57 in *E. E. P.* 59 þu libere best ure leude seide.

7. *The Beast* (*fig.*): Antichrist, or the Anti-christian power. (From the Apocalypse of St. John.) 1388 WYCLIF *Rev.* xiii. 18 He that hath vnderstonding, accounte the nombre of the best. 1526 *Pilgr. Perf.* (W. de W. 1531) 37 Wonders, which the best of the Antechryst (as Saynt Paule sayth) shall shewe. 1577 HOLMES *Chron.* III. 1265/2 They... which suffer death vnder the best, for confession of Christs religion. 1649 OWEN *Serm. Wks.* 1851 VIII. 235 God will bring the followers after the beast to destruction. 1849 CUMMING *God in Hist.* (1851) 115 In 1807 the ten kings or horns (Britain excepted...) joined in desolating 'the Beast.' c1875 CALVERLEY *Fly-leaves*, Leave the number of the beast to puzzle Doctor Cumming!

III. In *Card-playing*. [*orig. beste* as in 17th c. French, then englished as *beaste, beast*, pronounced (bēst), a pronunciation still retained by some who spell it *baste, bast*; but more usually spelt and pronounced as in the other senses. *Mod. F. bête.*]

8. a. An obsolete game at cards, resembling the modern *Nap*.

b. A penalty at this game; also at Ombre and Quadrille.

[The name *Ombre* is derived from *Sp. Hombre* man. At Ombre, the one who undertakes the game has to beat each of the other two; if he fails, he is said to be *beasted*, and pays forfeit to the pool; hence it has been suggested that having failed to maintain himself as *Hombre* or *man*, he becomes *beast*. In the earlier quotations it occurs only along with Ombre.]

1668 R. LESTRANGE *Viz. Quere* (1708) 97 Spend whole Nights at Beste or Ombre with my Lady Pen-Tweezel. 1674 COTTON *Compl. Gamester* (1725) 97 Beast... called by the French, La Bett. 1678 BUTLER *Hud.* iii. 1. 1007 These at Beste and L'Ombre wooe And play for loue and money too. 1734 R. SKYMOUR *Compl. Gamester* (1739) 22 The Beast is made whenever he who undertakes the game (that is to say the

Ombre) does not win. *Ibid.* 23 Whoever Renounces several times in a Deal suffers a Beast for every Renounce. *Ibid.* All the Beasts that are made in one Deal, must be together upon the Board and be played for the next. 1777-51 CHAMBERS *Cycl.* s. v. *Ombre*, The oversights and irregularities committed in the course of the game, are called beasts. [See also *BASTE sb.*]

IV. Comb. a. objective gen. with verbal sb. or agent-noun, as *beast-baiting*, -*subduer*; b. similitive, as *beast-blindness*; c. attrib., as *beast-body*, -*fable*, -*fight*, -*hide*, -*kind*, -*market*, -*oblation*, -*poetry*, -*saga*. Also *beast-fly*, the gad-fly; *beast-gates* (*north dial.*), pastures where beasts may go.

1606 HOLLAND *Sueton*. 262 Wardens... who were to exhibit... *Beastbaitings and stage plays. 1802 SOUTHEY *Thalaba* x. xxxiii, Live With such *beast-blindness in the present joy. 1824 TENNYSON *Becket* 93 This *beast-body That God has plunged my soul in. 1865 TYLER *Early Hist. Man* i. 10 Stories known as *Beast Fables. 1868 ROWLAND MONTELL *Theat. Ins.* 935 This *Beast-fly is in Latine called *Asilum*. 1866 RICHMOND *Wills* (1853) 185 The *beast gates... upon the more and in the field only except. 1867 HOLLAND *Pliny* l. 507 When the haire of *beast-hides haue bin soaked therewith. 1867 SURFL. & MARKH. *Countr. Farm*, At the end of all these *Beast-houses... you shall appoint a Dog-house. 1874 BREKTON *Trav.* (1844) 52 A charter for a *beast-market. 1885 *Weekly Times* 2 Oct. 18/4 Trade today in the *beast-market has been almost at a standstill.

Beast (bēst), *v.* [f. prec. sb.] See also *BASTE v.* 4 +1 *trans.* To make a beast of, treat as a beast. 1646 S. BOLTON *Arraignm. Err.* 151 And having thus beasted men, they [Papists] say to them... 'You are... in no way able to judge of Questions of truth.'

2. *passive.* In the game of Ombre: To fail to win the game (said of the Ombre), or to incur a forfeit for breaking the rules.

1653 UROUHAUT *Rabelais* i. v. We will not be beasted at this bout, for I have got one trick. 1712 ARBUTHNOT *John Bull in Swift's Wks.* 1824 VI. 163 Lewis Baboon attempted to play a game solo in clubs, and was beasted. 1768 *Acad. of Play* 83 He who looks at the cards that remain in the Stock is beasted. 1811 E. NARES *Thinks* i. II. 136 Not being able to save her from being beasted.

[*Beast, v.* 'To hunt for beasts,' which modern dictionaries have inserted each from its predecessor, is a figment founded on a grotesque misreading of Spenser's *Amoretti* Epigr. ii.: With that [i.e. Dian's dart] Love wounded my Loves hart, But Diane [wounded] beasts with Cupids dart.]

Beastal, obs. form of **BESTIAL**.

Beastdom (bēstdōm), *rare.* [f. *BEAST sb.* + *-DOM*.] The condition of a beast; beasthood.

1873 ADDIS *Elisab. Echoes* (1879) 57 Sorrow... had freed the woman-soul from that foul den of crusting beastdom.

+ **Beasten** (bēstēn), *a. Obs.* In 4 *beasten* (e, 5 *bestyn*. [f. *BEAST sb.* + *-EN*]; but *bestene* may be gen. pl. of *beste*, *BEAST*.] Of beasts.

1325 E. E. *Allit. P. B.* 1446 Wyth besten blod busily anoynted. 1387 TREvisa *Hyden* Rolls Ser. II. 181 Oistres and schelle fische, that beeth... lowest in bestene kynde. 1400 *Oscanian* 478 That bestyn kyng.

Beasthood (bēsthud), [f. *BEAST sb.* + *-HOOD*.] The rank, condition, or nature of beasts.

1837 CARLYLE *Fr. Rev.* III. i. vii. 61 Many a Circe Island, with temporary... conversion into beasthood and hoghood.

1851 MAYHEW *Labour* I. 25 Instinct with all the elements of manhood and beasthood. 1868 BROWNING *Ring & Bk.* viii. 510 Beasts... Do credit to their beasthood.

Beastial, -*iary*, -*larian*, obs. ff. **BESTIAL**, etc.

Beastie (bēstī), [f. *BEAST + -IE* = *Y*.] A little animal; an endearing form of *BEAST*. (*orig. Scotch.*) 1785 BURNS *To Mouse*, Wee, sleekit, cowrin', tim'rous beastie. 1864 D. THOMPSON *Daydreams* 229 Dogs... are religious beasties: but idolaters. 1880 LADY BARKER in *Macm. Mag.* 388 The sheep... are compact little beasties.

Beastily (bēstīlī), *adv.* [f. as if from *beasty* adj. + *-LY*? on analogy of *hastily*, *lustily*, etc.] After the manner of a beast; bestially.

1883 SHELLEY *Scenes fr. Faust* 702 To live more beastily than any beast.

Beastings, var. form of **BEESTINGS**.

+ **Beastish**, *a. Obs.* Also 5 *best*-, 6 *beestyshe*. [f. *BEAST sb.* + *-ISH*.] Partaking of the nature of a beast; = **BEASTLY** (in various senses).

1308 TREvisa *Barth. De P. R.* III. i. (1495) 48 Bestyshe men and symple. 1502 *Ord. Crysten Men* (W. de W.) i. iii. 24 Bestyshe, deuyllyshe and worldly... be they. 1643 MILTON *Divorce Wks.* 1738 I. 182 Else it [marriage] would be but a kind of animal or beastish meeting. 1664 *Flodden F.* III. 32 Your beastish acts.

+ **Beastishness**, *Obs.* Also 6 *bestysshness*. [f. prec. + *-NESS*.] The condition of being 'beastish', brutishness.

1530 PALSGR. 107/2 Bestysshness, besterie. 1561 VERON *Free-will* 32 a, The beastishness of these bragging marchants of the cleary.

+ **Beastlihead**, *Obs.* 6-7; also *beastlyhead*, -*lihed*. = **BEASTHOOD**, **BEASTLINESS**.

1579 SPENSER *Sheph. Cal.* May 265 Sicke, alas, a lile lack of dead, But I be releued by your beastlyhead. 1616 W. BROWNE *Past.* (R.) Peregrall to nymphs of old, From which their beastlihed now freely start.

+ **Beastlihood**, *Obs.* = prec.

1612 CHAPMAN *Widow's T.* in *Doddsley* (1780) VI. 162 Manhood! quoth you? Nay, beastlihood I might say.

Beastlike, *a. and adv.* [f. *BEAST sb.* + *-LIKE*.]

A. adj. Like a beast in nature, or in habits.

1566 *Pilgr. Perf.* (W. de W. 1531) 117 b, We be all carnall

and beastlyke. 1588 SHAKS. *Tit. A. v.* iii. 109 Her life was Beast-like and deuoid of pitty. 1601 BP. BARLOW *Defence* 148 Those beastlike passions... which rage within us. 1868 TENNYSON *Lucr.* 228 Why should I, beastlike as I find myself, Not manlike end myself?

B. as adv.

1604 E. GRIMSTON *D'Acosta's Hist. Indies* vii. ii. 497 They lived... beastlike, without any pollicie.

Beastliness (bēstlīnēs), [f. *BEASTLY* + *-NESS*.] Beastly quality; resemblance to a beast in various points, e.g. unintelligence, rudeness, brutality, cowardice, gluttony, drunkenness, filthiness; bestiality.

1370 *Lay-Folk's Mass-Bk.* App. III. 122 Alle beestlynesse of synne. 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 33 Bestlynesse [1499 bestlynesse], bestialitas. 1566 *Pilgr. Perf.* (W. de W. 1531) 110 Bestlynesse or rude maner. 1820 NORTH *Plutarch* (1676) 769 By their beastliness... they had like to haue made all the Army fly. 1828 RALEIGH *To Son ix.* in *Rem.* (1661) 102 A Drunkard will neuer shake off the delight of beastliness. 1751 H. WALPOLE *Lett. H. Mann* (1834) II. 388 Whithed... had forgiven all his elder brother's beastliness. 1854 DUFF in *Life* xxi. (1881) 342 Such drunkenness, such beastliness, such unblushing shamelessness.

b. concr. = 'beastly stuff.'

1834 L. HUNT *Land. Yrnl.* No. 8. 58 The ale too!... not the beastliness of these days.

Beastling (bēstlīng), [f. *BEAST sb.* + *-LING*.]

A little beast or animal.

1874 MISS BRADDON *Bitter End* vii. 51 Tender young beastlings of the squirrel tribe.

Beastlings, var. form of **BEESTINGS**.

Beastly (bēstlī), *a.* Forms: 3 *best*-, *beaste*-, *beastlich*, 4 *bestell*, *beestli*, *beastly*, 4-6 *bestell*, *beestly*, 6 *beastlye*, 6-7 *-lie*, 6- *beastly*. [f. *BEAST + -LY*.]

1. Of the nature of living creatures (including man); animal, natural, 'carnal.' *Obs.*

1325 WYCLIF *1 Cor.* xv. 44 It is sowun a beestly [1388 beestli] body, it schal ryse a spiritual body. 1566 *Pilgr. Perf.* (W. de W. 1531) 95 The beestly man can not perceyue those thynges y^e be godly.

2. Of or pertaining to the lower animals (as opposed to man); merely animal, bestial. *arch.*

1393 GOWER *Conf.* I. 144 And waileth in his [Nebuchadnezzar's] bestly steven. 1571 DIGGES *Pantom.* Pref. A iv, Wherein... the nature of man surmounteth beestly kinde. 1608 *Gr. Frost* in *Arb. Garner* I. 89 Charge of feeding so many beestly mouths. 1615 BEDWELL *Arab. Trudge*, See more of this beestly fable, at the 14 Chapter. 1827-83 EVELYN *Hist. Relig.* (1850) l. 143 To be appeased by bloody and beestly sacrifices. 1873 RUSKIN *For. Clav.* xxv. 27 The 'breeding' of a man is what he gets from the Centaur Chiron; the 'beastly' part of him in a good sense.

+ 3. Resembling a beast in unintelligence; brutish, irrational, without thought. *Obs.*

1320 *Anr. R.* 58 Pe bestliche mon þæt ne þencheð nout of God. 1542 RECORDE *Gr. Arts* (1640) Pref., To bring the people from beestly rage to manly reason. 1563 *Homilies* II. *Idolatry* III. (1859) 236 More beestly than the Ass. 1598 DRAVTON *Heroic. Ep.* xxii. 150 When it doth passe by beestly ignorance. 1793 BURKITT *On N. T. Matt.* xxii. 33 The beestly opinion of the mortality of the soul.

4. Resembling a beast in conduct, or in obeying the animal instincts.

1320 *Hali Meid.* 9 þæt beestliche gederunge, þæt schomelese somning. 1449 PECOCK *Repr.* iv. vii. 463 To bacbite in this wise... is a beestly gouernaunce. 1567 *Trial Treas.* in *Hazl. Dods.* III. 264 The beestly desires of inordinate lust. 1604 ROWLANDS *Looke to it* 33 Thou filthy fellow of a beestly life. 1799 SWIFT *Adv. Relig. Wks.* 1755 II. i. 105 The beestly vice of drinking to excess. 1885 *Fall Mail G.* 29 May 4 They are frankly and cynically beestly.

+ b. Inhuman, brutally cruel. *Obs.*

1558 KNOX *First Blast* (Arb.) 52 Open testimonie of her and their beestlie crueltye. 1587 TURBERV. *Trag. T.* (1837) 71 That bloodie beestlie king.

+ c. Unmanly, cowardly. *Obs.*

1584 T. HUDSON *Judith* in *Syluester Du Bartas* (1608) 752 Some brave in words, are beestly of their hands.

5. Unfit for human use or enjoyment; abominable; disgusting, or offensive, especially from dirtiness: applied, by those who use strong language, to anything that offends their tastes.

1603 SHAKS. *Meas. for M.* II. i. 229 In the beestliest sence, you are Pompey the great. 1611 DEKKER *Roar. Girl* Wks. 1873 III. 159 I thought 'twould bee a beestly journey. 1763 Mrs. HARRIS in *Ld. Malmesbury's Lett.* I. 93 We had a beestly walk through the Borough. 1798 LD. CLARE in *Ld. Auckland's Corr.* (1862) III. 395 The pamphlet... is full of beestly blunders committed in the printing-office. 1830 DISRAELI *Home Lett.* (1885) 3 The steam packet is a beestly conveyance. 1876 MISS BROUGHTON *Corneth up as Flower* xiv. 150 That beestly hole, London. 1883 *American VI.* 245 This beestly English weather, you know.

6. Comb. + *beastlywise*, in a beastly manner.

1440 *Promp. Parv.* 33 Bestlywyse, bestialiter.

Beastly, *adv.* Forms: 4 *bestly*, 6 *-lie*, (*beasly*), *beastlie*, -*lye*, 6- *beastly*. [f. *BEAST sb.* + *-LY*.]

After the manner or likeness of a beast.

+ 1. In a beastly manner, like a beast. *Obs.*

1400 *Apol. Loll.* 58 Onclen suyn, fying ober, lyfing beestly, are sett in þe kirk. 1513 MORE *Rich. III.* (1641) 459 Hee would bite and chew beasly his nether lip. 1514 BARCLAY *Cyt. & Upplandysm.* (1847) Introd. 51 Some jangle when they be beestly fed. 1564 BULLEYN *Bk. Sicke Men* 77 b, Wastyng their wealtie... foolishly, and moste beasly. 1596 SHAKS. *Tam. Shr.* iv. ii. 35 Fe on her, see how beasly she doth court him. 1624 GAULE *Magastrom.* 371 Bellantius... was most beestly murdered.

2. As adjunct to an adj.: Brutishly, brutally, abominably, offensively. (In society slang, often merely = *Exceedingly*.)

1561 T. NORTON *Calvin's Inst.* i. 25 So beestly foolish are men. *Ibid.* 23 b, They are to much beestly witted. 1803 BRISTON *Pedest. Tour* I. 208 He... comes home every morning about two or three o'clock quite beestly drunk. 1844 DICKENS *Lett.* I. 130, I was so beestly dirty when I got to this house. [1865 *Daily Tel.* 24 Oct. 5/3 He was in good health... looked almost 'beestly well', as I once heard it described.]

Beastship (bēstʃip), *rare.* [f. *BEAST sb.* + *-SHIP*.] The position of a beast.

1875 BROWNING *Aristoph. Apol.* 153 Shamed to brute-beastship by comparison!

Beat (bīt), *v. 1 str. & wk.* Pa. t. *beat* (bīt). Pa.

ppl. *beaten* (bīt'n), *beat*. Forms: *Inf.* 1-2

bēat-an, 2-3 *beat-en*, 3-5 *beat-en*, 4 *beat-e(n)*, 4-6 *bete*, 5 *beite*, 5-6 *betto*, 5-7 *beate*, 7- *beat*.

Pa. t. 1-4 *bēot*, 3 *biet*, 3-7 *bet*, 4-6 *bett*, *bete*, 4 *but*, 4-7 *betto*, 5 *bote*, 6- *beat*, 7 *Sc. bet*; also 3-6 *beted*, *beated*. *Pa. ppl.* 1-2 *bēaten*, 3 *bētenn*, 1-*bet*, 1-*beaten*, 4 *y-bete*, 1-*bete*, 4-6 *beten*, 4-7 *betto*, 5-6 *bete*, 5-7 *bet*, 6 *betten*, *beate*, *y-bet*, 7 *beated*, 6-9 *beat*, 5- *beaten*.

[*Com. Teut.*; OE. *bēatan*, str. vb., identical with ON. *bauta*, OHG. *bōzan*, MHG. *bōzen* = *OTeut.* **baut-an*, not found in Gothlc. The OE. pa. t.

bēot (repr. earlier reduplicated **bēbōt*, **bābaut*), duly became in ME. *bēt*, *bete* (with close *e*, as distinct from the open *e* or *o* of the present); its mod.

form would be *bēt*, but this became obs. in 16th c. The actual pa. t. *beat* is prob. shortened from the ME. weak form *beted*, in 16th c. *beated*. The pa.

ppl. *beat*, still occasional for *beaten* in all senses, but chiefly used in sense 10, and in phrases like 'dead-beat' belonging to that sense, may also be

from *beated*, but comes naturally enough from ME. *bēt*, shortened from *bete*, *beten*, found already in 13th c., and having the open *e* of the present.]

I. The simple action: to strike repeatedly.

1. *trans.* To strike with repeated blows. *To beat the breast*: i.e. in sign of sorrow.

1000 *Ag. Ps.* lx. 1 Nu me caru beateð heard set heortan. 1361 LANGE. *P. Pl.* A. v. 227 Bet þe self on þe Breste. 1398 TREvisa *Barth. De P. R.* xvii. lii. (1495) 634 The tre ebenus tornyth in to stoon if it is longe beten. 1594 SHAKS. *Rich.* III. ii. ii. 3 Why do weepe so oft? And beate your Brest?

1751 JOHNSON *Rambl.* No. 98 ¶ 13 At what hour they may beat the door of an acquaintance. 1798 COLERIDGE *Anc. Mar.* i. xi, The Wedding-Guest he beat his breast, Yet he cannot choose but hear. 1799 G. SMITH *Laborat.* l. 405 Then wring it out and beat it. 1850 TENNYSON *In Mem.* lvi. 23 He plays with threads, he beats his chair.

b. With extension, expressing the result of the process: *To beat to powder*, *beat black and blue*, etc.

1598 SHAKS. *Merry W.* iv. v. 115 Mistress Ford (good heart) is beaten blacke and blew. 1755 SMOLLETT *Quix.* (1803) 215 My poor father, whom two wicked men are now beating to a jelly. 1807 MILNER *Martyrs* i. § 2. 49 He was... beat to death with cudgels.

c. *To beat the air, the wind, (the water obs.)*: to fight to no purpose or against no opposition; in reference to 1 Cor. ix. 20. Sometimes referring to the ordeal by battle, when one of the parties made default, in which case the other is said to have gained his cause by dealing so many blows upon the air.

1375 WYCLIF *Serm.* Sel. Wks. 1871 II. 258 Not as betinge þe air. 1579 TOMSON *Calvin Serm.* Tim. 98/2 As we say in a common prouerbe, to beate the water, Saint Paule saith to beate the ayre. 1611 BIBLE *1 Cor.* ix. 26 So fight I, not as one that beateth the ayre. 1815 *Encycl. Brit.* (ed. 5) III. 488/2 If either of the combatants did not appear in the field... the other was to beat the wind, or to make so many flourishes with his weapon. 1884 FROUDE *Carlyle* II. xviii. 49 He cared little about contemporary politics, which he regarded as beating the wind.

2. *intr.* To strike or deliver repeated blows (*on, at anything*); + to knock (*at a door*). *To beat away* or *on*: to go on beating.

1320 *Anr. R.* 18 Beateð on ower breoste. 1385 CHAUCER *L. G. W.* 863 Betyng with his helis on the grounde. 1435 Torr. *Portugal* 1515 On the dragon fast he bett. 1459 Gologras & Gaw. liv. (1839) 158 Thai bet on sa brymyng, thai... Bristis birneis with brandis. 1535 STEWART *Cron. Scot.* II. 576 Thir bernis bald ilkone on vther bet. 1605 SHAKS. *Lear* i. iv. 293 O Lear, Lear, Lear! Beate at this gate, that let thy Folly in. 1611 BIBLE *Judg.* xix. 22 Certaine sonnes of Belial... beat at the doore.

b. Said of hares and rabbits in rutting-time.

1610 GWILLIM *Heraldry* III. xiv. (1660) 166 You shall say a Hare and Conie Beateth or Tappeth. 1650 FULLER *Pisgah* III. ix. 338 Here the bellowing Harts are said to harbour... beating Hares to forme. 1781 in BAILEY.

3. *trans.* Said of the action of the feet upon the ground in walking or running; hence, *To beat the streets*: to walk up and down. *To beat a path* or *track*: to tread it hard or bare by frequent passage; hence, to open up or prepare a way. Often fig.

1000 *Beowulf* 452 Se mearh burhstede beateð. 1375 WYCLIF *Wks.* (1880) 166 Bete stretis vp & down & synge & pleie as mynystrels. 1587 TURBERV. *Trag. T.* (1837) 249 And as enamored wights are wont, He gan the stretes to beate. 1590 NASH in *Greene's Arcadia* Pref. (1616) 8 Master Gascoigne... who first beate the path to that perfection.

1596 SPENSER *F. Q.* i. 11 That path they take that beaten seemed most bare. 1637 W. AUSTIN in Spurgeon *Treas.* David I. 23. Jesus Christ... who hath beaten the way for us. 1693 W. FRAKE *Sel. Ess.* 18 Our Ancestors have beat the Track before us. 1758 Pope *Iliad* ii. 184 Their trampling feet Beat the loose sands. 1748 Young *Nr. Th.* ix. 521 The paths she trod; Various, extensive, beaten but by few. 1875 CHAS. ROSSETTI *Goblin Market* 193 This beaten way thou beatest, I fear is Hell's own track.

4. To strike (a man or beast) with blows of the hand or any weapon so as to give pain; to inflict blows on, to thrash; to punish by beating.

971 *Blickl. Hom.* 23 His hine... mid heora systum beotan. c1175 *Lamb. Hom.* 121 Summe... hine on þet neb mid heore hordian sterliche beoten. c1200 *St. Mark.* 5 Beaten hire bare bodi wið bittre besmet. c1200 *Fall & Pass.* 61 in *E. P.* (1862) 14 He was ibund to a tre... an ibet wiþ scourges keane. a1300 *Cursor M.* 1887 Wit þair bastons bete þai him. 1484 CAXTON *G. de la Tour* l. vi. [She]... may wel bete herself with her owne staf. 1501 *Plumpton Corr.* 157 All ther servant[s] beated me one after another. c1534 L.D. BERNERS *Huon* 433 The Gryffen bet hym merueylusly with her beke, wyngis, and talouns. 1556 *Chrom. Grey Friars* (1852) 78 And then was... bettyn at the same pyller. 1557 *Primer C.* liii, Thy heavenly sonne... was cruellye bette and scourged. 1609 BIBLE (Douay) *Num.* xxii. 27 Who being angry, bette her sides with a staffe. a1618 RALEIGH *Rem.* (1664) 5 Beaten with their own rods. 1718 ARBUTHNOT *John Bull* (1755) 47 They were beat... and turned out of doors. 1856 RUSKIN *King Gold Riv.* i. (ed. 3) 8 My brothers would beat me to death, Sir.

† b. *intr.* To exchange blows, fight. (Fr. *se battre*.) 1586 WARNER *Alb. Eng.* iv. xli. (1597) 106 They spur their Horses, breake their speares, and beat at Barriers long.

† b. *trans.* To strike with heavy blows or discharges of missiles; to batter, bombard. *Obs.* See also 17, 36, 37.

c1400 *Destr. Troy* xxxii. 12664 Þe buernes on þe bonk bet hym with stonys. c1600 SHAKS. *Sonn.* lxii, Beated and chopt with tand antiquitie. 1603 KNOLLES *Hist. Turks* (1621) 708 Upon this hill, Rogendorff to beat the Castle... planted his batterie. 1864 *Flodden F.* iii. 22 With Bombard shot the walls he bet.

† b. *intr. Obs.*

c1400 *Destr. Troy* xxiv. 9669 Beiton burgh basnettes with the brem egge. 1633 STAFFORD *Pac. Hib.* xvii. (1821) 392 And caused the Artillery to beate upon that place.

6. *trans.* Of water, waves, wind, weather, the sun's rays, and other physical agents: To dash against, impinge on, strike violently, assail. (*poetical*.) Cf. *weather-beaten*.

a1000 *Riddles* (Grein) iii. 6 Stréamas staðu béatað. 1579 SPENSER *Sheph. Cal.* Aug. 47 The Sunnebeame so sore doth vs beate. 1664 *Flodden F.* iii. 25 Wary men with weather bet. 1697 DRYDEN *Virg. Eclog.* ix. 59 Let the wild Surges vainly beat the Shoar. 1814 WORDSW. *White Doe* vii. 10 Some island which the wild waves beat. 1830 TENNYSON *To F. S. I.* The wind that beats the mountain.

b. *intr.* with *on*, *upon*, *against*; also *absol.*

c1885 K. ALFRED *Boeth. Metr.* vi. 15 Sá... on staðu béateþ. a1300 *Cursor M.* 1844 Þe wawis bett on euer-ilk a side. 1513 DOUGLAS *Æneis* viii. 161 The fyreflaucht bettyn from the lyft on far. 1530 PALSGR. 452/a The rayne bette... in my face. 1611 BIBLE *Mark* iv. 37 The waues beat into the ship. — *Jonah* iv. 8 The Sunne beat vpon the head of Ionah. 1759 B. MARTIN *Nat. Hist. Eng.* i. 53 Bristol Channel beats upon it on the North. 1795 SOUTHEY *Joan of Arc* l. 352 We heard the rain beat hard. 1859 TENNYSON *Idylls* Ded. 26 That fierce light which beats upon a throne.

† c. (said of a river): To meet, join. *Obs.*

1577 HARRISON *Descr. Brit.* in *Hollinshed* xii. 55 Two rilles... joining in Wadele parke they beat upon the Test, not verie far from Nursling.

7. *trans.* Said of the impact of sounds. *arch.* or *Obs.*

1282 WYCLIF *Eccles.* xliii. 18 The vois of his thunder schal beten the erthe. 1581 MARRBECK *Bk. of Notes* 1020 Not so much as the wordes or voices are heard, onely the sound beateh the eares. 1597 SHAKS. *2 Hen. IV.* i. iii. 92 With what loud applause Didst thou beate heauen with blessing Bullingbrooke? 1677 GILPIN *Damozel*. (1867) 136 Yet are their eares so beaten with the objection of sects and schisms.

† 8. *trans.* To labour or 'hammer' at (a subject), to thresh out; to debate, discuss; reason about, argue. *Obs.*

1470 Sir J. PASTON in *Lett.* 637 II. 393, I have betyn the mater for you, your unknowleche, as I tolde hyr. 1548 BECON *Pathway Prayer* Wks. (1843) 145 When he hath once thoroughly debated and beaten with himself his own misery, 1566 *St. Papers Hen. VIII.* XI. 107 Prayed him, in the beateinge of the matur with the Quene, to consider and waye all partes. 1656 HEALEY *Epitaphus* *Man.* 160 Beate this discourse of mine over and over, untill you have gotten the habite thereof. 1699 *Instruct. Oratory* a Diligently beateing and examining... whatever may have relation to your subject.

† 9. *intr.* To insist with iteration *on* or *upon*. *Obs.*

1579 TOMSON *Calvin Sermon*. *Tim.* 374/2 When we beate vpon these promyses to purpose. 1593 HOOKER *Ecc.* Pol. ii. iv. § 3 Their earnestness, who beat more and more vpon these last alleged words. 1612 T. TAYLOR *Comm. Titus* iii. 1 Often to inculcate and beat vpon this point. 1633 SANDERSON *Sermon*. II. 29 The holy Apostles... beat so much... upon the argument of Christian subjection.

10. *trans.* To overcome, to conquer in battle, or (in mod. use) in any other contest, at doing anything; to show oneself superior to, to surpass, excel. (A natural extension of 4: cf. similar use of *thrash*, *drub*, *lick*, etc. The earlier examples show the transition. In the colloquial to beat one hollow, to sticks, to ribbands, etc., there is a play upon other senses of beat.)

[c1460 FORTESCUE *Ab. & Lim. Mon.* (1714) 23 The Scotts and the Pyctes, so bette and oppresyd this Lond. 1480 CAXTON *Chron. Eng.* lix. 46 The whyte dragon strongly fought with the reed dragon and bote hym euil and hym ouercome.] 1611 BIBLE *2 Kings* xiii. 25 Three times did ioash beat [1388 WYCLIF smoot; COVERD. did smyte] him, and recovered the cities of Israel. 1634 *Malory's Arthur* (1816) l. 424 They came home all five well beaten. 1664 *Perrys Diary* 22 Dec. I hear fully the news of our being beaten to dirt at Guinny by De Ruyter. 1704 *Hymn to Vict.* lxxvi. 12 Never was braver Army better Beat. 1711 *Steele Spect.* No. 180 P. 13 He had beat the Romans in a pitched battle. 1778 BURKE *Corr.* (1844) II. 213 We were beat about the light-house. c1800 SOUTHEY *Devil's Walk* xxii, This Scotch phenomenon, I trow, Beats Alexander hollow. 1808 MAR. EDGEWORTH *Moral T.* (1816) l. xi. 92 Favourite had been beat... by Sawney. 1818 T. JEFFERSON *Writ.* (1830) IV. 177 How many children have you? You beat me, I expect, in that count. 1818 MOORE *Fudge Fam. Paris* iii, The old Café Harly... Beats the field at a *dejeuner à la fourchette*. 1828 BYRON *Juan* vii. xlii, Few are slow in thinking that their enemy is beat (Or beaten, if you insist on grammar). 1827 HALLAM *Const. Hist.* (1876) II. xii. 440 The ministers were constantly beaten in the house of lords. 1847 BARNHAM *Ingol. Leg.* (1877) 55 Many ladies... were beat all to sticks by the lovely Odille. 1871 WHYTE-MELVILLE *Kate* *Cov.* i, I rode a race against Bob Dashwood... and beat him all to ribbands. 1872 FREEMAN *Gen. Sketch* xiv. § 11 (1874) 295 He first beat the Danes, and then the Russians. 1879 LOWELL *Poet. Wks.* 418 And there's where I shall beat them hollow.

b. Of a difficulty: To master (a person), to defy all his efforts to conquer it.

c1810 in *Smiles Engineers* (1862) III. 51 The engineers hereabouts are all bet; and if you really succeed in accomplishing what they cannot do, etc. 1884 J. PAYN *Cash Only* II. 316 'This beats me altogether,' mused the lawyer.

c. *absol.* To gain the victory.

1770 J. LOVE *Cricket* 24 Jove, and all-compelling Fate, In their high Will determin'd Kent should beat. *Mod.* Which side beat?

† 11. *trans.* To strike together the eyelids (= BAT), or the teeth; also *intr.* either of a person, or his teeth (= chatter). *Obs.*

c1360 WYCLIF *De Dot. Eccl.* 96 [Then] shal antecrit grenne... & bete to gedre wiþ his teeh. a1450 *Knt. de la Tour* (1868) 16 Ever beting her eyeliddes togedre. 1597 R. JOHNSON *Sev. Champ.* i. xvi. (1867) 127 Who, at the first sight of St. George, beat his teeth so mightily together, that they rang like the stroke of an anvil. 1617 GREENE *Alcida Wks.* (Gros.) IX. 17 My teeth for cold beating in my head.

12. *trans.* To flap (the wings) with force so that they beat the air or the sides; also *intr.* (*absol.*)

c1386 CHAUCER *Frankl. T.* 38 The god of loue anon Beteth his wynges and farewell he is gon. 1596 SHAKS. *Tam. Shr.* iv. i. 199 These Kites, That bait and beate, and will not be obedient. 1640 W. HODGSON *Div. Cosmog.* 101 The Eagle... beating her wings on high. a1700 DRYDEN (J.) Thrice have I beat the wing and rid with night about the world.

13. *intr.* Of the heart: To strike against the breast; hence, to throb, palpitate, pulsate. (Said also of the pulse, etc. and fig. of passions.)

c1800 *Trin. Coll. Hom.* 169 And sore sihte, and his heorte biet. c1384 CHAUCER *H. Fame* 570 And felte eke, that my hert bet. 1566 *Pilgr. Perf.* (W. de W. 1531) 119 We may fele our pulses bete quickly. 1530 PALSGR. 452/a Fele howe my waynes beate. 1663 *Perrys Diary* 19 Oct., Her pulse beats fast. 1664 POWER *Exp. Philos.* l. 37 We have observ'd her [a Black Snail's] Heart to beat fairly for a quarter of an hour after her dissection. 1697 DRYDEN *Virg. Georg.* iv. 299 Such Rage of Honey in their Bosom beats. 1785 Mrs. A. ADAMS *Lett.* (1848) 260 How the pulse of the ministry beats, time will unfold. 1839 *Penny Mag.* VI. 212 My heart beat with such transports of joy. 1845 LONGFELLOW *Belfrey Bruges* v, I heard a heart of iron beating in the ancient tower. c1863 JEAN INGELW *Four Bridge* Wks. (1874) 242 Beat high, beat low, wild heart so deeply stirred.

14. *intr.* Hence, applied to other pulsating actions and their sounds. a. Said of a watch, etc.

b. *Music.* To sound in pulsations; said of the undulating sound produced by two notes of slightly differing pitch sounding at the same time; see BEAT sb. 1 8. c. *trans.* To beat seconds, etc. See 33.

1614 MARKHAM *Cheap Husb.* ii. iv. 152 Whose voyce (if you lay your eare to the Hiue) you shall distinguish... louder and greater, and beating with a more solemne measure. 1737 M. GREEN *Poems* (1796) 71 There let the serious death-watch beat. 1801 COOPER in *Phil. Trans.* XCI. 442 The trial with the watch was again resorted to; and she could hear it beat. 1819 REES *Encycl. s.v. Beats*, And like the human pulse in a fever, the more dissonant are the sounds, the quicker they beat. 1883 Sir E. BECKETT *Clocks*, etc. 295 In a pocket lever watch the balance generally beats in 2-gths of a second.

II. Of the action and its effects: to do something by repeated striking.

* To affect the place of by beating.

15. *trans.* To force or impel (a thing) by striking, hammering, etc. With the direction expressed, as to beat down, out of, or into (a position or thing).

1607 SHAKS. *Timon* iii. vi. 123 He gaue me a Iewell th' other day, and now hee has beate it out of my hat. 1660 BOYLE *Seraph. Love* § 16 (1700) 95 When we beat the Dust out of a Suit. 1719 De Fox *Cruise* (Rldg.) 18/2 The blow... beat the breath, as it were, quite out of my body. 1793 SMERATON *Edystone L.* § 238 The stone... was then lowered... and beat down with a heavy wooden maul.

b. fig. To beat (a thing) into one's head, mind, etc.

1533 MORE *Ansu. Poysoun. Bk.* Wks. 1099/2 In suche effectual we inculked it, and as who should say, bette into their heades. 1556 VERNON *Godly Sayings* (1846) 18 They must beat into y^e hearts of the people... studie of concord and true innocence. 1571 ASCHAM *Scholem.* (1863)

29 Fond scholemasters, by feare, do beate into them the hatred of learning. 1612 BRINSLEY *Lud. Lit.* 74 You may beat the Latine into their heads. 1848 L. HUNT *Jar Honey* Pref. 15 The classics were beaten into their heads at school.

16. To drive by blows (a person, etc.) away, off, from, to, into, out of (a place or thing). In beat out of the field, there is perhaps some mixture of sense with 10.

c1325 E. E. *Allit. P. C.* 248 A wyld walterande whal... Dat watz beten for þe abyeme. c1384 CHAUCER *H. Fame* 1150 They were... not away with stormes bete. 1570 ASCHAM *Scholem.* (1815) 205 In beating, and driving away the best natures from learning. 1603 SHAKS. *Meas. for M.* ii. i. 262, I shall beat you to your Trent. 1611 — *Wint. T.* i. ii. 33 He's beat from his best ward. 1603 KNOLLES *Hist. Turks* (1621) 132 Seeing the... Sultan... beaten out of his kingdom by the Tartar. 1738 WESLEY *Wks.* (1872) l. 91, I was beat out of this retreat too. 1885 N. POCOCK in *Book Lore* 28 July, Their version of the Psalms was ignominiously beaten out of the field.

17. To break, crush, smash, or overthrow by hard knocks; to batter. Cf. 5.

1570 T. WILSON *Demosthenes* 68 Which places he hath so cruelly overthrowne and bet to the ground. 1603 KNOLLES *Hist. Turks* (1621) 265 Part of the walls we have beaten even with the ground. 1611 BIBLE *Micah* iv. 13 Thou shalt beat in pieces many people. 1798 NELSON in *Nicolas Disp.* III. 2 The man who may have his Ship beat to pieces.

† 18. To beat the price, the market, the bargain: to endeavour to bring down the price, to chaffer for the lowest terms; to cheapen; = ABATE, or BATE. Now only in beat down: see 36 d.

1592 GREENE *Art Conny Catch.* ii. 6 Hee bet the price of him, bargained, and bought him. 1630 LORD *Banians* 84 The broker that beateh the price with him that selleth. 1632 QUARLES *Div. Fanc.* i. lix. (1660) 29 How loth was righteous Abraham to cease, To Beat the price of lustful Sodoms peace! 1640 W. HARRINGTON *Hist. Edu.* IV. 135 To beate the bargaine of peace to a lower rate. 1655 GURNALL *Chr. in Arm.* xviii. § 3 (1669) 76 How low did Abraham beat the Market for Sodoms preservation? 1667 *Perrys Diary* (1879) IV. 467 With a little beating the bargain, we came to a perfect agreement. 1785 C. BURNEY in *Parr's Wks.* VII. 398, I have been beating the market for them.

19. *Naut.* (*intr.*) To strive against contrary winds or currents at sea; to make way in any direction against the wind. To beat about: to tack against the wind. [Cf. nautical use of *Ice.* *beita* to bait: some conjecture that *beat* here represents a lost **bait*.]

1677 YARRANTON *Engl. Improv.* i We must lye beating at Sea while the Dutch are at Anchor. 1687 RANDOLPH *Archipel.* 99 An English ship called the President... had been beating (i.e. striving against the wind) above 6 weeks in the channel. 1748 ANSON *Voy.* i. x. 102 The time of our beating round Cape Horn. 1765 TUCKER *Lt. Nat.* II. 552 Those who still beat about in the boisterous seas of life. 1819 *Merc. Mar. Mag.* (1860) VII. 291 They could not beat to the anchorage. 1827 HAWTHORNE *Amer. Note-bks.* (1871) I. 75 The hull of a small schooner came beating down towards us. 1830 MARRVAT *Phant. Ship* ix, They beat against light and baffling winds. 1840 R. DANA *Bef. Mast* i. i We... hove up our anchor, and began beating down the bay. *Ibid.* xliii. 69 The wind drew ahead, and we had to beat up the coast. 1841 TYTLER *Hist. Scot.* (1864) III. 57 The transports... should beat in as near as possible to the shore. 1853 KANE *Grinnell Exp.* xlvii. (1856) 431 Beating hard to windward. 1858 *Merc. Mar. Mag.* V. 123 A ship has no chance to beat off.

b. *esp.* To beat up against the wind.

1790 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 5827/1 He beat up to Windward. 1784 KING *Voy.* (1790) V. 1712 We remained several days beating up, but in vain, to regain our former birth. a1848 MARRVAT *Pirate* xiii, From Carthage, probably, beating up.

c. *trans.* said of the ship beating the sea.

1718 Pope *Iliad* xx. 82 The toss'd navies beat the heaving main. 1758 J. BLAKE *Plan Mar. Syst.* 58 Others beat the Channel with great danger, rather than put into a port.

d. *trans.* said of the mariners beating the ship up or to windward.

1839 *Sat. Mag.* 18 May 192/1 We might continue to beat the ship up. *Ibid.* 192/2 We... kept beating the ship to windward.

20. *Vener.* (*intr.*) a. To run hither and thither in attempting to escape. b. To take to the water, and go up the stream; also *trans.* To beat the stream, a brook, etc.

c1470 *Hors. Shepe*, & G. (1822) 31 A herte, yf he be chasid, he wil desire to have a ryuer. As sone as he taketh the Riuer, he soileth... yf he take agayn the streme he beteth or els he beketh. 1575 TURBERV. *Venerie* 241 The Otter... is sayde to beate the Streame. 1797-51 CHAMBERS *Cycl. s.v. Hunting*, The buck will beat a brook, but seldom a great river, as the hart. 1815 *Encycl. Brit.* (ed. 5) III. 489/1 Beating, with hunters, a term used of a stag, which runs first one way and then another. It is then said to beat up and down.

** To affect the state or condition of by beating.

21. *trans.* To work metal or other malleable material by frequent striking; to hammer. † a. To inlay metal, to enchase, or emboss (*obs.*). b. To shape by beating, to forge, to flatten or expand superficially by beating; also with *out*. † c. To coin (money). Also fig.

c1386 CHAUCER *Knts. T.* 121 His pynoun Of gold... in which ther was i-bete The Minatour. 1430 *Lvde. Chron.* Troy i. ix, His armes... Branded or bete vpon his coote armure. 1482 *Churchw. Accts. St. Mary H. Lond.* (Nichols 1797) 96 For betyng and steynyngs of the same pinons, 6d. 1611 BIBLE *Isa.* ii. 4 They shall beate [1388 WYCLIF bete to-gidre, 1388 well to-gidre] their swords into plow-shares. 1614 RALPH *Hist. World* II. viii. vi. § 1: 611 Prerogatives

belonging to a Monarch. To beat Monie. 1640 HODGSON *Div. Cosmog.* 71 Beating out chains and nets. so thin that the eye could not see them. 1751 CHAMBERS *Cycl.* s. v. *Gold Leaf*. An ounce may be beaten into sixteen hundred leaves each three inches square. 1815 *Encycl. Brit.* (ed. 5) III. 487/2 To forge and hammer; in which sense smiths and farriers say, to beat iron. 1821 CRAIG *Lect. Drawing* vii. 372 An anvil, a hammer. to beat out and repair any part of the work that may seem to be ill done. 1884 CHURCH *Bacon* ix. 220 He...beat out his thoughts into shape in talking.

b. To become by being beaten out.

1873 BROWNING *Red Cloth*. Night-c. 219 One particle of ore beats out such leaf!

22. To make into a powder, or paste, by repeated blows; to pound, pulverize. Generally with a complementary word or phrase.

c 1420 *Pallad. on Husb.* xl. 414 Bete all this smal, and sarce it smothe atte alle. 1535 COVERDALE *Num.* xi. 7 The people gathered it... and beate it in mortars. 1616 SURFL. & MARKH. *Countr. Farm* 235 Sower with fine sand well bet. a 1618 W. BRADSHAW in Spurgeon *Treas.* David Ps. xc. 3 Thou beatest him to dust again. 1779-84 COOK *Voy.* (1790) V. 1772 The bark of the pine-tree, beat into a mass resembling hemp. 1815 *Encycl. Brit.* (ed. 5) III. 487/2 We say, to beat drugs, to beat pepper, to beat spices; that is to say, to pulverize them. 1871 RUSKIN *For. Clav.* III. 2 Pick the meat clean off and beat it in a marble mortar.

23. To mix (liquids) by beating with a stick or other instrument; to make into a batter; to switch or whip (an egg, etc.). Also with up.

1486 *Bk. St. Albans* C vj. a. Take yolks of egges rawe and when they be wele beaten to geder. 1541 R. COPLAND *Guydon's Formul.* Uij. The whytes of egges, and oyle of roses bett together. 1664 *Crt. & Kitch. J. Cromwell* 104 Take twenty Eggs, beat them in a dish with some salt. 1793 SMEATON *Edystone* L. § 237 The mortar... was prepared for use by being beat in a very strong wooden bucket. c 1813 W. PYBUS *Ladies' Rec. Bk.* 26 Beat well up together equal quantities of honey and common water. 1882 Mrs. REEVE *Cookery & Housek.* 320 Take three or more eggs... beat yolks and whites separately.

24. *techn.*, expressing various operations in the arts; as in *Printing*, to ink the forms with beaters; in *Bookbinding*, *Paper-making*, *Flax-dressing*, etc.

1753 CHAMBERS *Cycl. Supp.* s. v., *Beating* flax or hemp is an operation in the dressing of these matters, contrived to render them more soft and pliant. *Beating* among bookbinders denotes the knocking a book in quires on a block with a hammer, after folding, and before binding or stitching. *Beating* in the paper-works, signifies the beating of paper on a stone with a heavy hammer with a large, smooth head, and short handle, in order to render it more smooth, and uniform, and fit for writing. 1824 J. JOHNSON *Typogr.* II. 524 All pressmen do not beat alike. *Ibid.* The great art in beating is to preserve uniformity of colour.

25. To strike so as to cause appendages to come off. To beat a carpet, so as to rid it of dust. To beat a tree, so as to cause its fruit to fall.

1611 BIBLE *Deut.* xxiv. 30 When thou beatest thine olive trees, thou shalt not go over the boughs again. 1871 RUSKIN *For. Clav.* II. 16 From a distance it sounds just like beating carpets.

26. To strike (water, bushes, or cover of any kind) in order to rouse or drive game; to scour or range over (a wood, etc.) in hunting. To beat the bush is also *fig.* as in o.

a 1400 *Cov. Myst.* 119 Many a man doth bete the bow. Another man hath the brydde. 1486 *Bk. St. Albans* D j a. Cast yowre sparrowhawk in to a tre and bete the bushes. 1526 *Pilgr. Perf.* (W. de W. 1531) 141 Whiche... hath... betten the bushes that you may cathe the byrde. 1665 GURNALL *Chr. in Arm.* 19 viii. § 1 (1669) 502/2 How shall we get them to come into it? Truly, never, except we first beat the River. a 1667 WITHER *I loved a Lass*. Twas I that beat the bush. The birds to others flew. 1707 *Ref. Ridicule* 1717 II. 183 [They] can only beat the Bush, and never tend to the Head of the Business. 1741 *Compl. Fam. Piece* II. i. 289 The Huntsman... must... beat the Outside of the Springs or Thickets. 1779 GOLDSM. *Sloops to Cong.* 1. Beating the thicket for a hare. 1814 SCOTT *Wav. Pref. App.* (1842) 30 The cover being now thoroughly beat by the attendants. 1871 BAKER *Nile Tribut.* xvii. 290, I took a few men to beat the jungle.

fig. 1772 *Pope's Ess. Man* i. 9 Together let us beat this ample field. 1790 R. CUMBERLAND *West Indian* II. 21 He... has been beating the town over to raise a little money. 1861 SALA *Tu. round Clock* One A.M. P 5 When the shadowy hero of the 'Virginians' was beating the town with my Lords Castlewood and March.

b. *intr.* or *absol.* Also *fig.* esp. with *about*. To beat over the old ground: to discuss topics already treated of.

1709 STEELE *Tatler* No. 73 P 8 Some [dogs] beat for the Game, some hunt it. 1711 BUDGELL *Spect.* No. 116 P 5 We came upon a large Heath, and the Sportsmen began to beat. 1828 LANDOR *Imag. Conn.* (1846) 470 The light dog beats over most ground. 1865 *Times* 2 Jan. They both saw a man beating towards the place where the net was fixed. 1876 H. SMART *Play or Pay* vii. 149 What do you expect us to do—beat, or carry cartridges?

fig. 1713 *Guardian* (1750) I. 312 Beasts of prey, who walk our streets in broad day-light, beating about from coffee-house to coffee-house. *Ibid.* II. 83, I am always beating about in my thoughts for something that may turn to the benefit of my dear country. 1738 *For. Epil. Sat.* II. 102 To find an honest man I beat about. 1790 MARY WOLLSTONECR. *Rights Wom.* v. 225, I do not mean to allude to all the writers who have written on the subject of female manners: it would, in fact, be only beating over the old ground.

c. To beat about the bush: *lit.*, as in 12; *fig.* To engage in preliminary operations, esp. to approach a matter in a cautious or roundabout way.

1571 GASCOIGNE *Wks.* (1587) 71 He bet about the bush,

whyles other caught the birds. 1687 T. BROWN in *Dk. Buckhm.'s Wks.* (1705) II. 115 He... often beat about the Bush, to start a Convert in him. 1798 MAR. EDGEWORTH *Pract. Educ.* (1822) I. 268 This ludicrous and perverse method of beating about the bush. 1834 PRINGLE *Afr. St.* vii. 259 After some hours spent in beating about the bush. 1884 *Punch* 29 Nov. 256/2 Obligated to be off: Excuse me... But no good beating about the bush.

27. *fig.* With up in many constructions, as to beat up for recruits, to beat up the town for recruits, to beat up recruits, and ellipt. to beat up.

1696 BROOKHOUSE *Temple Open.* 21 Beating up for Volunteers, by a New Predication. 1711 ADDISON *Spect.* No. 261 P 1 A Captain of Dragoons... beating up for Recruits in those Parts. 1758 J. RAY *Rebellion* 151 They also endeavour'd to levy Men here, and beat up publicly for that Purpose. 1794 SOUTHEY *Bot. Bay Eclog.* ii. Wks. II. 78 A sergeant to the fair recruiting came... to beat up for game. 1809 W. IRVING *Knickerb.* III. v. (1849) 171 He tarried... to beat up recruits for his colony. 1824 TREVELVAN in *Life Macaulay* (1876) I. iii. 146 Macaulay beat up the Inns of Court for recruits. 1879 LOWELL *Poet. Wks.* 418 If a poet Beat up for themes, his verse will show it. 1885 *Manch. Exam.* 8 July 5/3 Any effort to beat up pecuniary help outside the ranks.

28. To beat up the quarters of: to arouse, disturb; colloq. to visit uncereemoniously.

1670 COTTON *Espernon* I. i. 3 Now beating up one quarter, now alarming another. *Ibid.* I. ii. 63 An opportunity to beat up a Quarter of twelve hundred Light Horse. 1741 RICHARDSON *Pamela* II. 179 To... travel round the Country, and beat up their Friends Quarters all the Way. 1761 HUME *Hist. Eng.* II. xxix. 151 His quarters were every moment beaten up by the activity of the French Generals. 1823 LAMB *Ella* Ser. i. xv. (1865) 119 To beat up the quarters of some of our less known relations.

29. To beat the brains, head, etc.: to think persistently and laboriously. Cf. CUDGEL v.

1579 TOMSON *Calvin Serm.* Tim. 457/2 Yet do the Papistes, but beate the water, when they stand & beate their heads only about ceremonies. a 1593 MARLOWE *Massacre Paris* I. i. Guise... beats his brains to catch us in his trap. 1677 YARRANTON *Engl. Improv.* 108, I have beat my Noddle a good while, considering of the reasons. 1686 W. DE BRITAINNE *Hum. Prud.* § 1 Never... Beat your Brain about the Proportion between the Cylinder and the Sphere.

† b. *intr.* predicated of the brain, etc. *Obs.*

1608 SHAKS. *Ham.* III. i. 182 This... matter in his heart; Whereon his Brains still beating, puts him thus From fashion of himselfe. 1639 FULLER *Holy War* II. xlv. (1840) 111 A lawyer's brains will beat to purpose when his own premeditation is the fee.

30. To beat a drum, etc.: to strike it so as to produce rhythmical sound. (Formerly with up.)

1603 KNOLLES *Hist. Turks* D. (1621) 1381 Beating up his drummes in every quarter. 1647 MAY *Hist. Parl.* II. v. 92 Drums were beat up in London... for Soldiers to be sent to Hull. 1697 DRYDEN *Virg. Georg.* II. 789 E'er hollow Drums were beat. 1824 HONE *Year Bk.* 1294 Beating a drum, and blowing the hautboy.

b. To beat an air, a tattoo, a signal, and hence ellipt., a charge, a parley, a retreat, etc. on the drum. Also *fig.* To beat a retreat: to retreat.

1706 *Land. Gaz.* No. 4211/2 The Enemy beat a Parley. 1765 FALCONER *Demag.* 409 He bids enraged sedition beat the charge. 1841 THACKERAY *Ballads, Chron. Drum* I. 21 At midnight I beat the tattoo. 1855 MACAULAY *Hist. Eng.* III. 680 A parley was beaten. 1861 HUGHES *Tom Brown* Oxf. III. iv. 74 With the help of his pipe [he] debated with himself the question of beating a retreat.

c. *intr.* and *absol.* 1841 THACKERAY *Chron. Drum* 1879 Wks. XXI. 6 He... will never more beat on the drum. 1860 *All Y. Round* 403 The captain ordered the drummer... to beat to quarters.

31. (Predicated of a drum or other instrument itself): a. *intr.* = To be beaten, to sound when beaten.

1656 *Rec. New Haven Col.* (1858) 603 The second Drum hath left beating. 1723 DE FOE *Memo. Cavalier* (1840) 137, I was glad to hear the drums beat for soldiers. 1758 J. RAY *Rebellion* 147 The Drums beat to Arms. 1808 CAMPBELL *Hohenlinden*, But Linden saw another sight When the drums beat at dead of night. 1821 SCOTT *Nigel* xxi, Every brass basin betwixt the Bar and Paul's beating before you. 1851 LONGF. *Wks.* (Rtdg.) 57 And the muffled drum should beat To the tread of mournful feet. 1871 L. MORRIS *Songs Two W.* 167 The mad chimes were beating like surf in the air. 1882 ROSSETTI *White Ship in Ball.* & *Sonn.* 85 High do the bells of Rouen beat.

b. *trans.* with the sound or signal as obj.: To express by its sound when beaten.

1636 MASSINGER *Bashf. Lov.* iv. iii, Nor fife nor drum beat up a charge. 1671 T. VENN *Mil. & Mar. Discipl.* xxii. b 166 Before the Drum beates a march. 1821 SCOTT *Nigel* xxi, With all the brass basins of the ward beating the march to Bridewell before me. 1841 THACKERAY *Chron. Drum* II. 4 My drum beat its loudest of tunes. 1848 MACAULAY *Hist. Eng.* II. 535 Before him the drums beat Lillibullero. *Ibid.* xvii. (1871) 289 The drums of Limerick beat a parley.

c. *intr.* predicated of the signal, etc. = To be beaten, to be expressed by beating.

1816 C. JAMES *Mil. Dict.* (ed. 4) 178 The Réveille always beats at break of day. 1848 THACKERAY *Van. Fair* II. v. 53 Wake me about half an hour before the assembly beats.

32. To beat time: to mark musical time by beating a drum, by tapping with the hands, feet, a stick, etc., by striking the air with a baton; also *fig.* to keep time with.

1697 DRYDEN *Virg. Georg.* III. 301 With Pride to prance; And (rightly manag'd) equal Time to beat. 1709 ADDISON *Tatler* No. 157 P 2 The Part rather of one who beats the

Time, than of a Performer. 1807 ROBINSON *Archaeol. Græcæ* v. xxiii. 535 The leaders of choruses beat time sometimes with the hand, and sometimes with the foot. 1848 TENNYSON *Miller's Dan.* 67 A love-song I had somewhere read... Beat time to nothing in my head. 1847 LONGF. *Ev.* (1851) 172 And anon with his wooden shoes beat time to the music.

33. There is often a combination of the notions of the beating of the heart, the pulse, or chronometer (senses 13, 14) with that of the beating of a drum, the beating of time, etc.

1608 SHAKS. *Ham.* I. i. 39 The Bell then beating one. a 1656 BR. KING *Poems & Ps.* (1843) 38 My Pulse, like a soft Drum, Beats my approach. 1704 STEELE *Lying Lover* I. i. (1732) 23 To all, my Heart and every Pulse beat time. 1769 MASKELYNE in *Phil. Trans.* LIX. 279 A pendulum clock beating half seconds. 1790 MARY WOLLSTONECR. *Rights Wom.* vii. 278 The heart made to beat time to humanity, rather than to throb with love. 1813 WOODHOUSE *Astron.* viii. 53 The seconds which it [a clock] beats. 1839 LONGF. *Ps. Life* iv. Our hearts... like muffled drums are beating Funeral marches to the grave.

III. With adverbs, and in phrases.

* With adverbs.

34. Beat about: see 26 b. Beat away: see 2 and 16.

35. Beat back: a. To force back by beating (cf. 15); b. To drive back by force, to repel, repulse; c. To cause to rebound (cf. 16).

1593 HOOKER *Ecl. Pol.* III. xi. § 21 That our pride... be controlled, and our disputes beaten back. 1621 MOLLE *Camarar. Liv. Libr.* I. vii. 23 The souldiers... knew not how to doe to beat backe the enemy. a 1656 BR. HALL *Occas. Medit.* (1851) 28 We beat back the flame; not with a purpose to suppress it, but to raise it higher. 1715 DESAULIERS *Fires Impr.* 7 By Reflection when they are beaten back from Bodies, against which they strike. 1855 MACAULAY *Hist. Eng.* IV. 588 On the eighth a gallant sally of French dragoons was gallantly beaten back.

36. Beat down: a. To force or drive downward by beating or hammering (cf. 15); b. To batter or break down by heavy blows, to demolish, knock down (cf. 17); c. *fig.* To overthrow (an institution, opinion, etc.); d. To force down (a price) by haggling (cf. 18). With these cf. ABATE. e. *intr.* To come down with violence, like rain blown by the wind, the sun's rays, etc. (cf. 6); f. (see 19); g. To reduce by beating (cf. 23).

a 1400 *Distr. Troy* xxix. 11931 The knightes... breftyn and betyn down all the big houses. 1547 HOMILIUS I. *Salvation* (1859) 30 This doctrine... beateeth down the vain glory of man. 1554 Bk. *Com. Prayer, Litany*. And finally to beate downe Satan under our feete. 1586 WARNER *Alb. Eng.* II. xii. (1597) 53 Fighting to beate downe the Gates. 1608 FULBECKER *Pandects* 28 Democracie hath beene bette doune, and Monarchie established. 1603 KNOLLES *Hist. Turks* (1621) 63 The enemy with great slaughter still beaten downe. 1667 PEPYS *Diary* (1871) V. 87 To alter my office by beating down the wall and making me a fayre window there. 1793 BENTHAM *Wks.* (1843) IV. 413 This monopoly will beat down prices. 1849 MACAULAY *Hist. Eng.* xvii. (1871) II. 280 One whole side of the castle had been beaten down. c 1850 *Rudin. Nav.* (Weale) 107 For the purpose of keeping the sea from beating down. 1860 GEO. ELIOT in *Cross Life* (1885) 63 The fields that were so sadly beaten down a little while ago are now standing in fine yellow shocks. 1860 TYNDALL *Glac.* I. § 16. 113 The sun... beat down upon us with intense force.

37. Beat in: a. To knock or force in by beating (cf. 15); b. To drive in by force (cf. 16); c. To smash or break in by blows, to batter in (cf. 17); d. To inculcate (cf. 15 b); e. (see 19).

1561 DAUS tr. *Bullinger on Apoc.* (1573) 260 b. Thys should the Monkes and Fryers haue beaten in and set forth. 1589 WARNER *Alb. Eng.* VI. xxix. (1597) 143 Scots but brag, and he did beate them in. 1874 BOUTELL *Arms & Arm.* vi. 91 An axe-blow... would even beat in a shield.

38. Beat off: a. To drive away from by blows, attacks, volleys (cf. 16, 17); b. (see 19).

1630 R. STAPLTON *Strada's Louc. C. Warren* vii. 41 When the Enemy... attacks the Towne, it cannot beat them off. 1764 HARMER *Observ.* xiv. i. 37 No rain fell in the day-time, to beat off the workmen.

c. Beat on: (see 2.)

39. Beat out: a. To trace out a path by treading it first, to lead the way (cf. 3); b. To knock or force or shape out by beating (cf. 15); c. To drive out by force or fighting (cf. 16); d. To hammer out into a bulge, to extend by hammering (see 21); e. To thresh (corn); f. To work out or get to the bottom of (a matter, laboriously), to 'hammer' out; g. (in U.S.) To overpower completely, to exhaust; h. To measure out by beats (cf. 33).

1577 tr. *Bullinger's Decades* 203 To beate out the causes of these calamities. 1603 SHAKS. *Meas. for M.* iv. iii. 58 They shall beat out my braines with billets. 1606 G. WOODCOCKE *Hist. Justine* 14 a. Themystocles... began to beat out what they intended. 1611 BIBLE *Ruth* ii. 17 So she gleaned in the field vntill euen, and beat out [1388] Wyclif beet with a gerde, and shook out; COVERD. shaken out] that she had gleaned. 1612 BRINSLEY *Lud. Lit.* xxi. (1627) 244 The... labours of others, which beat out the... sense of every word and phrase. 1667 MILTON *P. L.* xl. 446 A stone That beat out life. 1667 SIR R. MORAY in *Lauder's Papers* (1885) II. 42 Wee beat out the bottom of the matter. 1671 BR. LLOYD *Fun. Serm.* Ep. *Wilkins* 39 Sometimes beating out new untravell'd ways, sometimes repairing those that had been beaten already. 1775 FIELDING *Miser* v. iv, Lovegold... I'll beat out your brains. 1780 G. CLINTON in

Sparks *Corr. Amer. Rev.* (1853) III. 132 They were so beat out with fatigue. 1850 TENNYSON *In. Mem.* I. II. iv. The clock beats out the little lives of men.

40. Beat together: (see 23.)

Beat up: a. To tread up by much trampling (cf. 3); b. To make way against the wind or tide (see 19 b); c. To bring a soft or semi-fluid mass to equal consistency by beating (see 23); d. (see 30, 31 b); e. To beat up for recruits, etc. (see 27); to beat up quarters (see 28).

188a *Daily Tel.* 24 June. At the commencement of play the wicket was moderately good, but it was beaten up considerably during the latter half of the Australian innings. *Mod.* 'We had an egg beaten up and biscuits.'

* In the phrases:

41. To beat the bounds: to trace out the boundaries of a parish, striking certain points with rods, etc., by way of a sensible sign patent to witnesses. To beat goose, or (Naut.) the booby: to strike the hands under the armpits to warm them. † To beat the hoof, beat it on the hoof: to go on foot (obs.). To beat the knave out of doors, name of an obsolete game of cards.

1870 B. GOODE *Popish Kingd.* IV. (1880) 53 (margin) Procession weeks. Bounds are beaten. 1887 T. BROWN *Saints in Up. Wks.* 1730 I. 78 We beat the hoof as pilgrims. 1861 *Wood Ath. Ozm.* II. 1/12 They all beat it on the hoof ... to London. 1886 *Singer Hist. Cards* 260 A childish pastime with cards played ... under the title of 'Beat the Knave out of doors.' 1879 *SAT. in Daily Tel.* 21 July, You and your mates were provided with long willow wands with which, at appointed spots, to beat the bounds. 1883 *Times* 15 Mar. 9/6 The common labourers at outdoor work were 'beating goose' to drive the blood from their fingers.

42. Horsemanship. Technical phrases: To beat a curvet, the dust, upon a walk, upon the hand, etc. (See quot.)

1807 *MARKHAM Caval.* I. (1617) 16 To manage, to beat a curvet and such like. 1733 *CHAMBERS Cycl. Supp.* s. v. Beat. A horse is said to beat the dust, when at each stroke or motion, he does not take in ground or way enough with his forelegs ... He beats the dust at curvets, when he does them too precipitantly, and too low ... He beats upon a walk, when he walks too short, and thus rides but little ground, whether it be in straight lines, rounds or passages. *Ibid.*, Chack in the Manege is taken in the same sense, as beat upon the hand; it is applied to a horse, when his head is not steady, but he tosses up his nose and shakes it all of a sudden, to avoid the subjection of the bridle.

43. Phrases treated under senses 1-33:

To beat about the bush (see 26 c), the air (1 c), a bargain (18), black and blue (1 b), one's brains (29), the breast (1), a brook (20), the bush (26), a carpet (25), a charge (30 b), a door (1), a drum (30), the ears (7), one's head (29), hollow (10), the market (18), money (21), out of the field (16), a parley (30 b), a path (3), the price (18), a retreat (30 b), seconds (33), the ship (19 d), small (22), the stream (20), the streets (3), time (32), to arms (30), to ribbons, to sticks (10), a track (3), a tree (25), up quarters (28), the water (1 c, 26), the wind (1 c), the wings (12).

Beat (bāt, bāt), v. 2 [Either the direct derivative, or immediate source, of BEAT sb. 3, q. v.]

(Marshall in 1796 (*Eng. Dial. Soc. B. vi. p. 70*) seems to identify this with BEAT v. 1; others have tried to identify it with BEAT v. (M.E. *beten*), either in the sense of improving the soil, or of kindling, or feeding fire, which seems phonetically inadmissible, even if the sense were more probable.)

To slice off the rough sod from uncultivated or fallow ground, with a beat-ax or breast-plough, in order to burn it, for the purpose at once of destroying it, and of converting it into manure for the land. Hence BEATING vbl. sb.; and the compound Beat-ing-ax = BEAT-AX (under BEAT sb. 3).

1734 *FITZHERB. Husb.* § 8 They must go beate theyr landes with mattocks as they do in many places of Cornewale, and in some places of Deuonshyre. 1608 *CAREW Cornwall* 196 About May, they cut vp all the grasse of that ground which must newly be broken, into Turfes, which they call Beating. 1796 *MARSHALL Econ. W. Eng.* I. 324 Performed with a Beating-axe—namely, a large adze—some five or six inches wide, and ten or twelve inches long; crooked and somewhat hollow or dishing. ... This operation is termed hand-beating. 1808 *Monthly Mag.* Dec. 422 To beat ground: to pare off the turf in order to burn it (Cornwall and Devon).

Beat (bāt), sb. 1 [f. BEAT v.]

1. A stroke or blow in beating.

1613 *FLETCHER Valent.* II. iii. For thus we get but years and beets. 1687 *DRYDEN Hind & P.* I. 253 The Smith Divine, as with a careless beat, Struck out the mute creation at a heat. 1805 *SOUTHEY Madoc in Ast.* xxiii. Instrument of touch, Or beat, or breath.

2. Fencing. A particular blow struck upon the adversary's sword or foil.

1733 *CHAMBERS Cycl. Supp.* s. v. There are two kinds of beats; the first performed with the foible of a man's sword on the foible of his adversary's. The second ... is performed with the fort of a man's sword on the foible of his adversary's ... with a jerk or dry beat. 1833 *Regul. Instr. Cavalry* I. 153 The smarter the beat is given, the more effectual they will be as 'Guards' and 'Parries.'

3. A stroke upon a drum, the striking of a drum with the sound produced; the signal given thereby; also in drum-beat. Sometimes fig.

1671 *T. VENN Mil. & Mar. Discip.* I. iv. 45 There are these several Beates [of the Drum] to be taken notice of as military signs. 1687 *DRYDEN St. Cecilia's Day* iii. The double double double beat Of the thundering drum. 1795 *FAIRBRIGHTS M.* 44 By the beat of drum a proclamation

was made. 1816 *C. JAMES Mil. Dict.* (ed. 4) 178/2 The Church Call: ... a beat to summon the soldiers of a regiment, or garrison, to church. 1848 *MACAULAY Hist. Eng.* xvii. (1871) II. 184 Every man should be under arms without beat of drum. c. 1850 *LONGF. My last Youth*, The drum-beat repeated o'er and o'er.

4. The movement of the hand or baton, by which the rhythm of a piece of music is indicated, and by which a conductor ensures perfect agreement in tempo and accent on the part of the orchestra or chorus; also, by analogy, the different divisions of a bar or measure with respect to their relative accent. *Grove Dict. Mus.* (1880).

5. Any measured sequence of strokes or blows, or the sound thereby produced; the march of measured sound or of verse.

1795 *SOUTHEY Vis. Maid Orleans* iii. 37 The regular beat Of evening death-watch. a 1888 *SHELLEY Cloud*, The beat of her airy feet, Which only the angels hear. 1848 *Mrs. GASKELL M. Barton* 66/2 The measured beat of the waters against the sides of the boat. 1851 *LONGF. Village Blacksm.* You can hear him swing his heavy sledge With measured beat and slow. 1885 *Contemp. Rev.* Apr. 555 Though it scarcely can be said to indicate the beat of the lamb.

6. The rhythmic throbbing of the heart or pulses; sometimes in comb., as pulse-beat.

1755 *JOHNSON Dict.* s. v. The beat of a pulse. 1836 *TODD Cycl. Anat. & Phys.* I. 674/1 The flow from a vein is accelerated after each beat of the heart. 1877 *O. W. HOLMES Fam. Record Poems* (1884) 319 In every pulse-beat of their loyal sons. 1877 *M. FOSTER Phys.* I. iv. 97 Regarded as a pump its (i. e. the Heart's) effects are determined by the frequency of the beats, by the force of each beat, by the character of each beat.

7. In a clock or watch: The stroke of a pallet of the pendulum or balance on a tooth of the scape wheel; the sound thus produced; also the regular succession of such strokes. Hence beat-pin.

1706 *PHILLIPS, Beats* in a watch or clock. 1819 *REES Cycl. s. v. Beat*, The interval between two successive beats, in a clock or watch. 1888 *ANNOTT Physics* I. 90 In storm and in calm its [the chronometer's] steady beat went on. 1883 *SIR E. BECKETT Clocks, etc.* 131 In very large clocks the pallet tails are too thick to bend for adjustment of the beat, and these eccentric beat pins are used. 1884 *F. BATTEN Watch & Clockm.* 32 Beat Pins [are] small screws to adjust the position of the crutch with relation to the pendulum.

b. fig.

1805 *J. H. NEWMAN Gerontius* II. 14 How still it is! I hear no more the busy beat of time.

8. A throbbing or undulating effect taking place in rapid succession when two notes not quite of the same pitch are sounded together; the combined note alternates rapidly between the minimum of sound produced by the mutual interference of their vibrations, and the full effect produced by the coincidence of their vibrations.

a 1733 *NORTH Lives* I. 247 How it [the organ at Exeter] is tuned, whether by measure or the beats, we were not informed. 1819 *REES Cycl. s. v. Beat*, The beats of two dissonant organ pipes, resemble the beating of the pulse to the touch. 1834 *MRS. SOMERVILLE Connex. Phys. Sc.* x. vi. (1849) 154.

9. Music. 'The name given in English to a melodic grace or ornament, but with considerable uncertainty as to which particular ornament it denotes, the word having been variously applied by different writers.' *Grove Dict. Mus.* (1880).

1803 *REES Cycl. s. v.*, Beat in music is a grace.

10. The round or course habitually traversed by a watchman, sentinel, or constable on duty. [It is uncertain to which sense of BEAT v. this is to be referred: cf. prob. to 3, but cf. 26 b, 41.]

1835 *HOOD Ode Graham* xxxvii. I hear the watchmen on their beats, Hawking the hour about the streets. 1840 *Penny Cycl.* XVIII. 335 Every part of the metropolis is divided into beats. c. 1850 *THACKERAY Ball. Policem.* (1879) 251, I paced upon my beat With steady step and slow.

b. A course habitually traversed by any one; sometimes fig., esp. in phrase, Out of one's beat: not in one's sphere or department.

1836 *GEN. P. THOMPSON Lett. Represent.* 153 A highwayman could never get more than the value of his beat. 1836 *DICKENS Sk. Bos* I. 31 The costermongers repaired to their ordinary 'beats' in the suburbs. 1839 *CARLYLE Chartism* iv. (1858) 21 Europe, Asia, Africa, and America lay somewhere out of their beat. 186a *Sat. Rev.* 15 Mar. 295 Ask him why anything is so and so, and you have got out of his beat.

11. A tract over which a sportsman ranges in pursuit of game.

1875 *'STONEHENGE' Brit. Sports* I. I. § 1 The frauds ... are enough to make him cautious before engaging a beat. 1884 *Weekly Times* 29 Aug. 14/4 On the first day's beat he saw one brace of barren birds.

12. In sailing: One of the transverse courses in beating to windward.

1880 *Daily Tel.* 7 Sept. Anxious moments follow next on the beat to windward.

13. Beat-up of quarters: assault, reconnaissance.

1870 *Daily News* 18 Oct. The beat-up of the enemy's quarters ... took place after all.

Beat (bāt, dial. bāt), sb. 2 Forms: 5 betō, 6 belt, 7 bayt, 8 bait, 8—beat, 9 beet. [Of uncertain form and etymology; the 15th c. *bete* and 18th c. frequent *bait*, point to beat as the 16th c. and normal modern form, *bait* being only a phonetic variant at a time when the pronunciation

was still (bāt) as in *great*, and *beet* being a modern phonetic spelling since the pronunc. became (bīt) as in *meat*, *meet*. Possibly from the vb. *beat*, in sense of a 'beating,' or quantity to be beaten at once; see BEAT v. 24, and cf. *stack*, etc.] A bundle of flax or hemp made up ready for steeping.

c 1450 *HENRYSON Mor. Fab.* 60 The Lint ryped, the Churle pulled the Lyne, Riplid the bolles, and in beites it set; It steeped in the burne, and dried syne, And with ane beittel knocked it and bet, Syne swyngled it well, and hekked in the stet. a 1500 *Cath. Angl.* 30 note, A bete as of hempe or lyne, *fascia*. 1616 *SURFL. & MARKH. Countr. Farm* 567 Hempe ... bound vp in bundles, which they do call bayts. 1725 *BRADLEY Fam. Dict.* s. v. *Hemp*, Laying Bait upon Bais till all be laid in, and so that the Water covers 'em all over. 1744 *D. FLINT Raising Flax* ix. 21 The lint is ... tied up in large but manageable Beats or Sheaves. 1839 *STONEHOUSE As-holme* 29 Flax ... a week after midsummer, is pulled and bound in sheaves or beats. 1847 *Yrnl. R. Agric. Soc.* VIII. II. 453 The flax ... must be tied up in small sheaves or beats.

Beat (bāt, bāt), sb. 3 Forms: also 7 baite, 7—9 bait, 8—9 bate. [Of doubtful phonetic form, and unknown origin. The modern Devonsh. pronunciation is (bāt), variously spelt *bait*, *bate*, *beat*. Although *bait* occurs constantly in Gervaise Markham, *beat* was the spelling of the vb. with Fitzherbert in 1534, Carew in 1602, and of the sb. with Worlidge in 1681, and is apparently the proper form. The vb. is found nearly a century before the sb., and may thus be its immediate source, but on general grounds, the converse is more likely.]

The suggestion that *beat* is another form of *PEAT*, is incompatible with the history of the latter, q. v. The ON. *beit* 'pasturage,' *beiti* 'pasture,' also 'heath, ling,' would barely do for the sense, and phonetically would give *bait*, not *beat*. See BEAT v. 2.]

The rough sod of moorland (with its heath, gorse, etc.), or the matted growth of fallow land, which is sliced or pared off, and burned (at once to get rid of it and to make manure), when the land is about to be ploughed. See *Eng. Dial. Soc. B. vi. p. 70*. To beat-burn, also BURN-BEAT: to treat land in this way. To lie to beat: to lie fallow till covered with a matted growth of grass and weeds which may be thus pared off and burned.

1600 *MARKHAM Farewell to Husb.* (1649) 22 After you have thus burnt your baite and plowed up your ground. — *Ibid.* II. xxi. (1668) 115 To break up Pease-earth, which is to lye to bait. 1796 *MARSHALL Econ. W. Eng.* I. 323 *Beat*, the roots and soil subjected to the operation of 'burning beat.' 1830 *Mrs. BRAY Fitz of F.* xvi. (1884) 137 The burning of bate, as it is called; a mode of manuring land, known elsewhere by the name of *denkiring*. 1864 *CAPEREN Devon Provincialism*, *Beat* or *Bate*, the spine of old fallow lands. 1885 *F. T. ELWORTHY* (in letter) A field is described as 'all to a beat' when it has become matted with weeds, especially couch-grass or twitch.

Comb. Beat-ax (in Devonsh. *dial.* bidax, bidix), the ax or adze with which the beat is pared off in hand-beating: see BEATING-AX under BEAT v. 2. Beat-borough, beat-hill, one of the heaps in which the beat is collected and burned; beat-field, a field in which the beat is being burned.

1608 *R. CAREW Survey of Cornwall* 19 b A little before plowing time, they scatter abroad those Beat-boroughs ... upon the ground. 1813 *C. VANCOUVER Agriculture of Devon* 92 It is utterly impossible, at a distance, to distinguish a village from a beatfield. 1885 *F. T. ELWORTHY* (letter) The operation is performed with a *bidix* (beat-ax), or more commonly with a breast-plough called a *spader*.

Beat (bāt), ppl. a.; for forms see BEAT v. Shortened form of BEATEN, often used as ppl.; as *adj.* chiefly in the sense: Overcome by hard work or difficulty; common in the expression *dead-beat*.

a. literally. *Obs.*, *arch.*, or *dial.*

c 1400 *Rowland & Ot.* 417 A Serle of golde That bett was wonder newe. c 1440 *Bone Flor.* 182 Hur clothys wyth bestes and byrdes wer bete All aboute. 1529 *WARNER Alb. Eng.* v. xxiii. (1579) 113 The storm-beate English ship. 1793 *SWEATON Edystone L.* § 239 A proper quantity of the beat mortar was liquefied. c 1817 *Hogg Tales & Sk.* IV. 13 A little bowl of beat potatoes and some milk.

b. figuratively in current use.

1832 *MOORE Yvonne on E. II. Wks.* (1862) 558 Till fairly beat the saint gave o'er. 1868 *DICKENS Lett.* (1880) II. 334, I was again dead beat at the end. 1879 *HOWELLS L. Arco-stock* (1882) I. 20 'Is the young lady ill?' 'No ... a little beat out, that's all.'

Beatable, a. That can be beaten.

1611 *COTGR.* *Batable*, beatable; batterable.

Beatoh, obs. variant of BEACH.

Beatee. [see -EE.] One who is beaten; correlative to beater.

1860 *L. HARCOURT Diaries G. Rose* I. 184 You are the beater, I am only the beatee. 1876 *R. BLACK tr. Guizot's Hist. Fr.* V. iv. 262 Put the beatee in the Bastille to tranquillize the beater.

Beaten (bāt'n), ppl. a. For forms see BEAT v. Used adjectively in many of the senses of the verb.

1. Struck with repeated blows.

1599 *SANDYS Europe Spec.* (1632) 124 On whom ... so many ... beaten breasts, and lift uppe eyes attended. 1633 *P. FLETCHER Elisa* II. 1, Sleep beaten breast; no blows shall now molest thee. 1859 *BARNES Rymes Dorset Dial.* II. 4 W' drubbens of a beaten drum.

2. Struck or pressed by frequent feet; trodden; worn hard, bare, or plain by repeated passage. Often in fig. expressions.

1477 NORTON *Ord. Alch.* in Ashm. Introd. 3 A Booke of secrets given by God; to men Elect, a Beaten-Trod. 1583 BABINGTON *Commandm.* 97 Had wee any feeling left within our sides, and our heartes were not altogether so hard trampled and beaten as they are. 1648 CARPENTER *Ex-perience* II. vi. 221 Our beaten, customary, and daily practice. 1748 ANSON *Voy.* II. xii. 263 They had marched... about ten miles in a beaten road. 1751 JOHNSON *Rambl.* No. 86 ¶ 3 The imitator treads a beaten walk. 1860 TYNDALL *Glac.* I. § 9. 64 We were far from the beaten track. 1865 M. ARNOLD *Ess. Crit.* viii. (1875) 318 Subjects out of the beaten line of the reading and thought of their day.

† 3. Well-worn, trite. *Obs.*

1543 FENNER *Def. Ministers* (1587) 98 These also are known and beaten sentences alleaded by Bishop Jewell. 1648 R. CARPENTER *Experience* IV. ix. 159 If God had talked to them... in a worn and beaten phrase. 1718 ADDISON *Spect.* No. 289 ¶ 6 One of the most ancient and most beaten Morals. 1756 J. WARTON *Ess. Pope* (1782) I. iii. 102 This Essay... on a beaten subject.

† 4. Of persons: Inured to (anything), experienced.

1593 H. SMITH *Serm.* (1866) I. 220 Rehoboam's sage and beaten counsellors. 1603 KNOLLES *Hist. Turks* K. (1621) 870 An armie... most strong and puissant, old beaten souldiers almost throughout it. 1611 COTGR., *Fauls rompu*, a subtil fellow, one that hath bin much beaten to the world. 1639 S. WARD *Serm.* (1862) 117 (D.) A beaten politician of our times. 1700 *Genll. Instruc.* (1782) 522 (D.) A man beaten to the trade may wrangle... better.

5. Worked by hammering, as metal.

a. Hammered into thin foil or leaf; shaped by the hammer, as repoussé work.

1700 in Wright *Lyric* P. ix. 35 Hire gurdell of bete gold is al. 1483 *Cath. Angl.* 30 Betyng gold, braccia. 1611 BIBLE *Numb.* viii. 4 Vnto the flowres thereof was beaten worke. 1659 in Rushw. *Hist. Coll.* I. 169 The Earls of Carstille and Holland, Ambassadors, were both clad in Beaten-Silver. 1760 Mrs. DELANY *Autobiog.* (1861) III, 591 Fine ladies in beaten silver, and glittering with jewels. 1879 C. HIBBS in *Castell's Techn. Educ.* IV. 263/1 It resembles, therefore, beaten or repoussé work.

b. Hence, because the purest gold is the most malleable: Fine, of pure quality; also fig.

1535 COVERDALE *1 Kings* x. 16 Two hundred speares of beaten golde. 1670 EACHARD *Cont. Clergy* 103 Sincere and pure beaten virtue, like the gold of the first age.

† c. Overlaid, inlaid, embossed, damascened with gold or other precious material; embroidered. *Obs.*

1300 K. *Alis.* 1518 An ymage was therynne, Y-beten al with gold fyne. 1340 *Gaw. & Gr. Knt.* 78 Enbrawd & beten wyth be best gemmes. 1400 *Roland* 287 Baners beten with gold. 1470 HARDING *Chron.* xciv. ii. The lordes... w^t penous proudly bette. 1611 L. BARREY *Ram Alley* III. in *Dodley* (1780) V. 452 (Clad) In beaten velvet. 1641 BAKER *Chron.* (1679) 236/1 A red fiery Dragon, beaten upon white and green Sarcenet.

6. Pounded small; whipped up to uniform consistency.

1535 COVERDALE *1 Kings* v. 11 Twenty quarters of beaten oyle. 1667 BOYLE *Orig. Formes & Qual.* 15 Beaten Glasse is commonly reckoned among Poisons. 1769 Mrs. RAFFALD *Eng. Housekpr.* (1778) 295 Season it with beaten mace.

7. Conquered, defeated.

1562 J. HEYWOOD *Prov. & Epigr.* (1867) 95 One of the beaten syde, Ran home. 1855 MACAULAY *Hist. Eng.* IV. 94 The beaten army had now lost all the appearance of an army.

8. Overcome by hard work, exhausted. *Dead-beaten*: exhausted as if to death. Cf. *BEAT* ppl. a.

1681 TEMPLE *Mem.* III. Wks. 1731 I. 331 Use of an old beaten Horse. 1854 *Blackw. Mag.* Apr. 459/2 At the next post-house the unhappy animals (post-horses) are left dead beaten. 1876 H. SMART *Play or Pay* v. 89 There is little object in going on with a beaten horse.

9. Systematically scoured for game.

1803 *Pall Mall G.* 1 Oct. 2/1 A pheasant... from a beaten cover.

10. With prec. sb. in instrumental relation, as weather-beaten, wave-beaten, etc. See *BEAT* v. 6.

1579 E. K. in *Spenser's Sheph. Cal. Jan. Arg.*, His... winter beaten flocke. 1596 DRAYTON *Bar. Wars* Ded. 1 Anchor of my poore Tempest-beaten State. 1600 QUARLES *Jonah* (1638) 27 The weather-beaten Ship. 1873 BLACK *Pr. Thule* 1 A desolate waste of rain-beaten sea.

11. With adv., as beaten down, dejected, subdued. 1876 Geo. ELIOT *Dan. Der.* II. xxvii. 176 The beaten-down consciousness.

Beater (bī'tai). [f. *BEAT* v. + -ER¹.] He who, or that which, beats. (In various senses of the vb.)

1. A person who beats; one who strikes repeated blows, a striker; a punisher; one who 'beats' or walks the streets (*obs.*); one who beats metals, e.g. a gold-beater; one who beats a drum, etc.

1483 *Cath. Angl.* 30 A beater, verberator... baculator. 1509 BARCLAY *Shyp of Folys* (1570) 116 Of night watchers and beters of the stretes, playing by night on instrumentes.

1571 ASCHAM *Scholem.* (1863) 11 Even the wisest of your great beaters, do as oft punishe-nature, as they do correcte fautes. 1647 R. STAPFYLTON *Juvenal* 45 He must the hand that bastinades him kisse; And give his beater thanks with all his heart.

b. A man employed in rousing and driving game. 1825 FORD *Handbk. Spain* i. 105 The intelligence with which these Spanish beaters track and recover a wounded deer. 1859 TENNENT *Ceylon* II. viii. 435 The beaters address themselves to drive in the elephants.

c. In comb., as beater up.

1721 E. WARD *Vulg. Brit.* viii. 87 Who were beholders Of these the Beaters up for Soldiers.

2. An instrument or contrivance for beating;

generally, an implement for beating flat or pounding; but used in many specific technical senses; see quotations.

1611 COTGR., *Eschandole*. Thatchers Beater. — Rabat... a beater, the staffe wherwith Plaisterers beat their mortar. 1632 SHERWOOD s. v. Ball, A Printer's ball, Pompel, or beater. 1727 BRADLEY *Fam. Dict.* s. v. Building. The mortar must be well beaten with a beater. 1828 STEUART *Planter's G.* 303 Wooden Beater, made in the fashion of the beater used by paviors. 1851 *Coal-tr. Terms.* Northumbld. & Durh., Beater, an iron rod, used for stemming or tamping a hole, preparatory to blasting. 1879 *Castell's Techn. Educ.* IV. 210/1 The beater (in cotton-spinning)... is composed of two, and sometimes three iron bars or blades. 1883 *Gd. Words* July 442/1 Pounding it [rice] in a wooden or stone mortar with hard wooden beaters. 1883 *Blackw. Mag.* Aug. 234 All armed with one or two long switches of birch called technically 'beaters' or 'trees'.

Beath (bīō), v. *Obs.* exc. dial. Forms: 1 beāi-an, 1-5 bethe, 6- beath. [OE. *bēgian* to foment:—O¹Teut. **bapian*; a parallel form to OE. *batian* (:-**bapōn*) to BATH, preserving the original notion of heat: see BATH.]

1. To foment, bathe with warm liquid.

1000 *Sax. Leechd.* I. 72 Bēa bā ēazan. c. 1250 *Gen. & Ex.* 244/7 First ix. niȝt bē liches beēen, And smeren.

2. To heat unseasoned wood for the purpose of straightening it.

1496 *Bk. St. Albans, Fysshing* 8 Ye shall kytte... a fayr staffe... and bethe hym in a hote ouyn. 1520 TUSSEY *Husb.* (1878) 62 Yokes, forks, and such other, let baillie spie out... And after at leasure let this be his hier, to beath them. 1653 W. LAUSON *Secr. Angling* in Arb. *Garner* I. 192 Beath them a little... all in a furnace. (Still in dialectal use. Also, 'Meat improperly roasted is said in the Midland Counties to be beathed.' Hal.)

Beathing, vbl. sb. *Obs.* or dial. [OE. *bēting*, f. *bēgian* (see *BEATH* v.) + -ING¹.] Fomentation; the heating of wood in order to render it flexible.

c. 1000 *Sax. Leechd.* II. 36 Wip pocce on eazum, genim wad... wyl on meolce... & wyrc beþinge. 1591 PERCIVAL *Sp. Dict.*, *Borne*, the bending of a staffe or timber by beathing in the fire, *lentatio*. — *Bornear*, to bend timber by beathing in the fire, *lentare*.

Beatio (bī'ati-fik), a.; also 7-8 -ick. [ad. L. *beatiſic-us*, f. *beāt-us* blessed (pa. pple. of *beāre* to bless) + *-ficus* making: see -FIC. Cf. F. *beatiſique*.] Making blessed; imparting supreme happiness or blessedness.

1649 LOVEACE *Poems* 47 Such a beatific Face. 1746 HERVEY *Medit.* (1818) 169 Where the Lamb that was slain, manifests his beatific presence. 1880 L. MORRIS *Old of Life* 120 A beatific peace greater than tongue can tell.

b. *Beatific vision*: a sight of the glories of heaven; esp. that first granted to a disembodied spirit.

1639 ROUSE *Heav. Univ. Adv.* (1702) 4 The Beatific Vision of the Supream Good hereafter. 1704 NELSON *Fest. & Fasts* xxviii. (1739) 361 Martyrs... upon their Death... were immediately admitted to the Beatific Vision. 1869 FREEMAN *Norm. Cong.* (1876) III. xl. 30 A soul which... angels had already borne to the beatific vision.

Beatifical, a. [f. as prec. + -AL¹.] = prec.

1620 G. FLETCHER *Christ's Vict.* in Farr S. P. (1848) 73 In midst of this citie celestiall, Lightned th' Idea Beatificall. 1681 GLANVILLE *Sadducismus* II. (1726) 453 To talk trivially of beatifical enjoyments.

b. 1605 BELL *Motives Rom. Faith* 95 That so the faithfull may... be made partakers of the vision beatificall. 1703 BRUNY'S *Voy. Levant* xii. 55 A Beatifical Vision of God.

c. *absol.* Quasi-sb.

A 1711 KEN *Hymn* Poet. Wks. 1721 III. 320 In God all Beatificals conspire.

Beatifically, adv. [f. as prec. + -LY².] In a beatific manner; in a way that blesses; *catachr.* with supreme felicity.

1607 HAKEWILL *Apol.* 495 (R.) Beatifically to behold the face of God... is a blessedness... no way incident vnto the creature beneath man. 1667 H. MORE *Div. Dial.* II. xviii. (1713) 148 And enjoy them there more fully and beatifically. 1869 *Daily News* 12 June, Gleaning beatifically with a proud confidence in himself as a work of art.

Beatificate, v. 1 *Obs.* rare. [f. L. *beatiſicāre* ppl. stem of *beatiſicare* to make happy or blessed.] = *BEATIFY*; cf. also *BEATIFICATION* 2.

a 1636 E. DACRES *Machivell's Disc. Livy* II. 267 The ancient Religion did not beatificate, but only men fraught with worldly glory. 1655 FULLER *Ch. Hist.* x. ii. § 53 V. 363 It seemed good... to his Holiness not to canonize Garnet... but only to beatificate him.

Beatification (bī'æ-tifika-ti'ōn). Also 6 beatifycation. [a. F. *beatiſication*, n. of action and state f. L. *beatiſicāre*; see prec.]

1. The action of rendering, or condition of being rendered, supremely happy or blessed.

1502 *Ord. Crysten Men* (W. de W. 1506) II. xviii. 133 Ye blyssed trynity promyteth for to gyue unto us eternal beatifycation. a 1631 DONNE *Serm.* xii. 120 All the Beatification and Glorification of our bodies consists in this. 1844 *Blackw. Mag.* XVI. 5 That picture which Horace has given us of human beatification. 1865 NEALE *Hymns Parod.* 66 What the beatification Of the spirits round the Throne?

2. R. C. Ch. An act of the Pope, by which he declares that a deceased member of the Church is in the enjoyment of heavenly bliss, and grants to certain persons the privilege of paying a particular form of worship or reverence to him.

This ceremony is the first step towards canonization, which

confers the full honours of a saint, and makes worship of him incumbent on the whole Church.

1626 L. OWEN *Spec. Jesuit.* (1629) 32 You may see, how the... Beatification and Canonization of this wicked... Ignatius did... fore-shew some great disaster. 1781 J. MOORE *View Soc. It.* (1790) I. xlii. 454, I have been witness to the beatification of a saint. 1864 *Daily Tel.* 6 May, To hear his Holiness read a couple of decrees—one of beatification, the other of canonisation. *Mod.* The beatification of Joan of Arc.

b. *transf.* with allusion to the halo of a saint.

1794 G. ADAMS *Nat. & Exp. Philos.* IV. xlii. 289 This experiment [with silvered leather on the head] has been called the diadem of beatification.

Beatified (bī'æ-tifaid), ppl. a. [f. next + -ED.]

1. Made supremely happy or blest.

1575 LANEHAM *Let.* (1871) 32 They vaunted their play was neuer so dignified, nor euer any players afore as beatified. 1650 NORRIS *Beatiſitudes* (1694) I. 231 Angels and beatified Spirits. 1848 Mrs. JAMESON *Sacr. & Leg. Art.* (1850) 315 They are beatified children, not winged angels. 1860 PUSEY *Min. Proph.* 56a The... glorious body of the beatified.

2. R. C. Ch. Declared to be in the enjoyment of heavenly bliss; see prec. 2.

1650 R. STAPFYLTON *Strada's Low-C. Warres* VII. 43 The already beatified Didacus. a 1837 Miss KNIGHT *Autobiog.* II. 312 The feast of a beatified saint is not observed by the church in general, but only by his own order. 1854 Mrs. JAMESON *Leg. Madonna* (1857) 92 The beatified members of these orders.

Beatify (bī'æ-tifai), v.; also 7 -fie. [a. F. *beatiſier*, ad. L. *beatiſicare* to make happy.]

1. *trans.* To make supremely happy or blessed.

1535 *Trevisa's Barth. De P. R.* II. iii. The sowle departed from the body is... beatified... with angels. 1860 PUSEY *Min. Proph.* 119 He can beatify, because He is Bliss.

2. To pronounce or declare supremely blessed.

a 1677 BARROW *Wks.* 1686 III. 161 The common conceits and phrases which so beatify wealth.

3. R. C. Ch. To pronounce (a person) to be in enjoyment of heavenly bliss: see *BEATIFICATION* 2.

1629 WADSWORTH *Sp. Pilgr.* 79, I examined the cause why the Pope should beatify Garnet. 1704 ADDISON *Italy* (1733) 225 Who has been beatified tho' never Sainted. 1854 PUSEY *Tr. Eng. Ch.* 101 One who has since been beatified.

Beatifying, vbl. sb. [f. prec. + -ING¹.] The action of making supremely blest; beatification.

c 1630 JACKSON *Cred* VI. xiii. Wks. V. 139 God's glory must... appear... in the beatifying of the elect.

Beatifying, ppl. a. [f. as prec. + -ING².]

Making supremely happy or blest.

a 1682 Sir T. BROWNE (J.) The fullest good... the most beatifying of all others. 1822 K. DIGBY *Broadst. Hon.* (1848) I. 183 Oh! the sublime... and already beatifying philosophy of Christians! 1869 Ld. LYTTON *Orval* 45 Image of all beatifying beauty.

Beatilla, beatilla, -illes; see *BATTALIA* FIE.

Beating (bī'ting), vbl. sb. [f. *BEAT* v. + -ING¹.]

1. The infliction of repeated blows; *spec.* the action of inflicting blows in punishment; the dashing of waves against the shore; the whipping up of a fluid; the flapping of wings; rousing of game, exercising the brain, etc.

c 1320 *Ancre R.* 366 Seid Isaye... ure beatusge uel upon him. c 1374 CHAUCER *H. Fame* 1034 Betyng of the see... ayen the roches holowe. c 1440 LONELICH *Graill* IV. 297 He herd abowtes hym a wondir thinge: betyng of bryddes wynges in fere. 1556 *Pilgr. Perf.* (W. de W. 1531) 114 b. Remember his scourgynges, buffettes & beatynges.

1606 G. WOODCOCKE *Hist. Insine* 5 b. Darius... bestowed much beating... in his troubled pate. 1656 H. MORE *Antid.* *Arch.* II. iii. 82 The courageous beating of the Drum. 1860 PUSEY *Min. Proph.* 160 The restless beating of the barren, bitter sea. 1879 *Photogr. in Castell's Techn. Educ.* III. 207 Upon the perfect beating of the albumen the success of the operation mainly depends.

b. with adv., as beating down, beating off, etc.

1530 PALSGR. 198/1 Beatyng downe of any buyldyng, demolition. 1803 NELSON in Nicolas *Disp.* (1845) V. 227 This beating off the Tunisians will have a very good effect.

2. In various technical uses: see *BEAT* v. 24.

1687 T. BROWN *Saints in Upwar* Wks. 1730 I. 80 A fortnight's beating of hemp. 1824 J. JOHNSON *Typogr.* II. 525 After the form has been lately washed... the letter will not take the ink without several beatings. 1875 *URE Dict. Arts* II. 415 As in hand-scutching, the operation consists of two processes: first the bruising of the stems; and secondly, the beating away of the woody parts from the fibre. *Ibid.* II. 728 Four principal operations constitute the art of gold-beating. 1 The casting of the gold ingots... 4 The beating.

3. A defeat in any contest.

1883 *American VI.* 245 Our American rifle-team has had its beating, but not a bad beating.

4. *Naut.* Sailing against the wind.

1883 *Contemp. Rev.* Aug. 231 Of all the modes of progression invented by man, beating to windward in a sailing vessel is morally the most beautiful.

5. A pulsating or throbbing movement, like that of the heart, of a watch or clock, of two notes not in unison.

1601 SHAKS. *Twel. N.* II. iv. 97 The beating of so strong a passion As loue doth giue my heart. 1798 SOUTHEY *St. Patrick's Purg.* xxiii. In short quick beatings told his heart. 1801 *Phil. Trans.* XCI. 442 Whether she really heard the beating of the watch. 1872 HUXLEY *Phys.* II. 42 Beating of the heart... is the result of the striking of the apex of the heart against the pericardium.

6. Comb., as beating-board; beating-dog, a dog trained to put up game; beating-net, a kind of fishing-net; beating-order, a certificate given to

a recruiting sergeant; † beating-stook, a jocular title given to one who is subjected to beating.

1558 HULST, Beatyng stocke, *subiculum flagri*. 1669 Worlidge *Syst. Agric.* (1681) 248 You may go into the Fens, Marshes, or places with a Spaniel, or other Beating-dog. 1679 Plot *Staffordsh.* (1686) 123 Then they bring it [potter's clay] to their beating board, where with a long Spatula they beat it till it be well mix'd. 1721 *Land. Gaz.* No. 5947/4 Has a Beating-Order about him, was lately a Serjeant and employed in Recruiting. 1883 *Fisheries Exhib. Catal.* 125 Beating net... used by fishermen in the freshwater... It is a trammel or armoured net.

Beating, ppl. a. [f. BEAT v. + -ING².]

1. That strikes successive blows.
1718 Pope *Iliaid* II. 383 Seiz'd by the beating wing.
2. Of wind, rain, etc.: That strikes violently, or batters; driving.
1708 Rowe *Tamerl.* IV. i. 1576 To bear the beating Storm That roars around me. 1884 *Cornh. Mag.* July 74 Chinese hat, suitable in case of beating rain or fierce sun.

3. Palpitating, throbbing.
1708 Rowe *Tamerl.* III. i. 1039 My beating Heart Bounds with exulting motion. 1805 Wordsworth *Prel.* II. (1850) 34 Feverish with weary joints and beating minds. 1820 Southey *Kehama* XVII. ix. To meet with beating heart. 1850 Mrs. Browning *Poems* I. 301 The fever and the beating pain.

† **Beation**, obs. rare⁻¹. [n. of action f. L. *beat*-ppl. stem of *beare* to bless.] Blessing.

1652 BENLOWES *Theoph.* VI. lxxxvi, Præcelling Seraphs shew Gods ardent still... Beations Thrones instill.

Beatitude (bi-jæt'itūd). Also 5 beatitud, 5-6 beatytude. [a. F. *beatitudo* (15th c. in Littré), ad. L. *beatitudo* blessedness, f. *beat*-us blessed: see -TUD².]

1. Supreme blessedness or happiness.
1491 CAXTON *Vitas Patr.* (W. de W.) I. xlv. (1495) 75 a/a How by abstinence... myghte be gotten the souerayne beatty-tude or blessednesse. a 1555 BRADFORD *Wks.* 397 There shall be joy... and all kind of beatitude. 1643 PAVNNE *Power Parl.* I. 48 Knowing better... what conduced to the beatitude of the Empire. 1667 MILTON *P. L.* III. 62 The Sanctities of Heaven... from his sight receiv'd Beatitude past utterance. 1794 COLERIDGE *Relig. Musings* Wks. I. 105 Such strange beatitudes Seize on my young anticipat-ing heart. 1875 RUSKIN *Lect. Art* I. 5 The consummate beatitude of being rich.

2. A declaration or ascription of special blessedness; esp. (in pl.) those pronounced by Christ in the Sermon on the Mount.

1566 *Pilgr. Perf.* (1531) 43 b. The viii beatitudes that... spryngh of grace and the other vertues. 1588 A. KING *Canisius Catech.* 186 These quihik S. Ambrose callis our Lords beatitudes. 1777 FLETCHER *Reconcil.* Wks. 1795 IV. 319 Bent upon the inheriting the seventh beatitude. 1877 FARRAR *Thy Youth* I. 10 The priceless beatitude of the pure in heart.

3. = BEATIFICATION 2.

1847 DISRAELI *Tancred* (1871) I. v. 30 The saint was scarcely canonised, before his claims to beatitude were impugned. 1865 BUSHNELL *Vicar. Sacr.* v. (1868) 116 Candidates for beatitude.

1873 CARLYLE *Fr. Rev.* I. II. viii. 69 Burnt by the common hangman... perhaps the last notable Book that had such fire-beatitude.

† **Beatizing**, ppl. a. Obs. [In form a pr. pple. of *beatize*, f. L. *beat*-us blessed + -IZE.] Beatifying, blessing.

1652 BENLOWES *Theoph.* XIII. xxxiii, All beatizing sweets.

Beatliss (bi-tlēs), a. [f. BEAT sb. + -LESS.]

Destitute of beats, not beating.

1849 ROCK *Ch. of Fathers* III. viii. 85 That heart is now cold and beatless.

Beatling, obs. form of BEETLING.

Beatment, dial. form of BEAKMENT.

Beator, nonce-ud. [see -OR.] = BEATER.

1719 OZELL *Misson's Trav. Eng.* 304 If he is the Beator, the Beatee must pay the money about which they quarrell'd.

Beau (bō), a. and sb. Forms: 4- beau; 4 bieu,

4-5 beu, 6 bew; also in comb. 5 baw-, be-,

bew-; see BEAUSIRE. [a. late OF. *beau*, *biau*,

earlier *bel*, *beal*, *bial*:—L. *bellus* fine, pretty. The

adj., in ME. quite naturalized and pronounced as

in *beauty*, *Beaulieu* (biū'li), has been long obs.:

the sb. has been reintroduced from mod. Fr.,

whence its pronunciation.]

† **A. adj.** 1. Fair, beautiful. Obs.

c 1325 E. E. Allit. P. A. 197 Al blysnande whyt watz hir

beau uys. 1399 LANGE *Rich. Redeless* III. 1 Now leue we

his beu brid.

2. Used in affection, friendship, or politeness, in

addressing relations, friends, etc. (usually with

their French titles): equal to the English 'fair'

(fair sir), 'good' (good people), 'dear' (dear

sir). With some words it entered into more or

less permanent combination: see BEAUPERE,

BEAUSIRE, and BEL-.

c 1300 Beket 1903 Beau frere, quath Seint Thomas, that ne

mai ich do noyt. c 1324 Guy *Warw.* 4 Bieus amis, molt

gramerci! 1513 DOUGLAS *Epilogue to Eneid*, Lo, this is

all, bew schirris haue gude day!

B. sb. Pl. beaux, beaus (bōz).

1. A man who gives particular, or excessive,

attention to dress, mien, and social etiquette; an

exquisite, a fop, a dandy.

1607 T. BROWN *Lib. Cons.* in *Dk. Buckhns's Wks.* 1705

II. 128 You're a perfect Woman, nothing but a Beau will

please you! 1700 DRYDEN *Cock & Fox* 64 What will not

beaux attempt to please the fair? 1738 Birch *Life of Milton*

in *Wks.* I. 20 Young Sparks of his Acquaintance... the Beaus of those Days. 1824 W. IRVING *T. Trav.* I. 341 The painted beau with... long, flimsy, sky-blue coat.

2. The attendant or suitor of a lady; a lover, sweetheart.

1790 Mountford's *Elegy in Collect. Poems* 43 No Lady henceforth can be safe with her Beau. a 1777 GOLDSM. *Doubl. Transform.* 87 Her country beaux and city cousins, Lovers no more, flew off by dozens. a 1845 HOOD *Number One* 1 It's very hard... that every Miss But me has got a Beau. 1875 B. TAYLOR *Faust* I. x. 130 If not a husband, then a beau for you!

Beau, v. [f. prec. sb.] trans. To act the beau to, to attend or escort (a lady).

1843 Commissioner 411 Chevalier, you shall beau the young lady. 1876 WINGFIELD *Lady Grisel* I. viii. 151 His Grace... is to beau your ladyship to Ranelagh.

† **Beaucelet**, obs. rare⁻¹. [a. OF. *baubelet*, *beubelet*, dim. of *baubel* child's plaything, toy, trinket, BAUBLE.] A small toy, trinket, plaything.

c 1205 *Ancre. R.* 388 He... sende hire beaucelet(2) [v. r. beau-, bewbelez] boße uoele and feire.

† **Beauclerk** (bō'klārk). Also 6 -clark, 7 -clark, 9 -clero. [a. F. *beau* fine + *clerc*:—L. *clericus* 'clergyman', hence 'scholar', as opposed to the uneducated laity: see CLERK.] A learned man, a scholar. (Given as a surname to Henry I.)

c 1367 *Eulog. Hist.* (1863) III. v. ci. 40 Henricus cognomen Beauclerk. 1886 WEBBER *Eng. Poetrie* (Arb.) 31 Henry the first King of that name in England... was named by his surname Beauclerk. 1641 J. JACKSON *True Evang.* 7. iii. 206 Erasmus and Ferus, two Beauclerks. 1856 KNIGHT *Pop. Hist. Eng.* I. xvi. 218 The brutal Rufus, or the crafty Beau Clerc.

† **Beaudoy**, obs. rare. Some worsted material.

1759 B. MARTIN *Nat. Hist. Eng.* II. 279 Worsteds Goods, as Beaudoyes, Camblets, Shalloons, etc.

† **Beauetry**, obs. [f. BEAU, in jocular imitation of *coquetry*.] Dandyism; dandy outfit.

1702 *Eng. Theophrast.* 53 When all the rest of his Beauetry is rightly adjusted. 1709 STEELE *Tatler* No. 29 P. 2 One may easily distinguish the Man that is affected with Beauetry.

Beaufet, **Beaufin**: see BUFFET, BIFFIN.

† **Beaufort**, obs. A material used for flags.

1712 *Land. Gaz.* No. 5051/3 Three Pence half Penny per Yard for Beaufort of 11 Inches broad.

† **Beau garçon** (bō'garshōn). Also 7 -garson. [F.] A handsome fellow; an exquisite, a fop.

c 1665 VILLIERS (Dk. Buckhm.) *Adv. Painter* Wks. 1705 II. 81 Povey the Wit, and R— the Beau-garçon. 1815 SCOTT *Guy R.* xlix. 'And then,' said the old beau garçon.

Beaule, obs. form of BUGLE.

Beau-ideal (bō'aidē'al). [a. F. *beau idéal* the ideal Beautiful, 'the Beautiful' as an abstract conception; *beau* being the sb., and *idéal* the adj.]

But in Eng., where the adj. usually precedes the sb., there has been a tendency to take *ideal* as the sb. part, whence the current usage; cf. IDEAL.]

† 1. The ideal Beautiful; the Beautiful, or beauty, in its ideal perfection. Obs.

1801 MAR. EDGEWORTH *Belinda* xix. (D.) The image which they have in their own minds of the beau ideal is cast upon the first objects they afterwards behold.

2. The highest conceived or conceivable type of beauty or excellence of any kind; that in which one's 'ideal' is realized, the perfect type or model.

1820 IRVING *Sketch-Bk.*, *John Bull* (D.) Wonderfully captivated with the beau ideal which they have formed of John Bull. 1827 *Gent. Mag.* XCVII. II. 516 The beau ideal of manly beauty. 1854 H. MILLER *Sch. & Schm.* xxii. 231 The Highlanders came to regard him as the very beau-ideal of a minister.

Beauidealize, v. nonce-ud. [f. prec.] To form a beau ideal, or charming conception, of.

a 1839 L. LONDON in *Blanchard's Life* (1841) I. 60 (D.) I shall spare you the flowers I have gathered, the trees I have seen, leaving you to beauidealize them for yourself.

Beauish (bō'ish), a. [f. BEAU sb. + -ISH¹.] After the manner of a beau; foppish, dandified.

1699 BENTLEY *Phal.* 395 Some common and obvious Thought, dress'd and cur'd in the Beauish way. 1858 LYTON *What will he do* VIII. ix. Those beauish brigands.

Beauism (bō'iz'm). [f. as prec. + -ISM.] The characteristic practice of a beau.

1844 *Blackw. Mag.* LV. 769 The flame of beauism was expiring. 1844 TUPPER *Cock of G.* xviii. 151 The extreme mode of rustic beauism.

Beaute, -tye, obs. forms of BEAUTY.

† **Beau-monde** (bō'mōnd, bō'mōnd). [a. F. *beau monde*, i.e. fine world.] The fashionable world, 'society'.

1714 POPE *Rape Lock* v. 133 This the beau monde shall form by the Mall survey. 1756 NUGENT *Gr. Tour.* I. 116 The beau-monde used to go in masquerade about the streets. 1823 BYRON *Juan* XIV. xx. Of the beau monde a part potential.

† **Beaupere**, obs. Forms: 4-6 bewpere, beupere, 4-7 beaupere, 5 beupere, bepyr,

bewpyr, 6 bewpeer, 7 bewpeer. [f. OF. *beau* fine, good + *père* father, or, in sense 2, *per*, *peer* (mod. *pair*) equal, PEER. See BEAU. In OF.,

beau père was politely used in addressing every one whom one called 'father'; i.e. one's own father, a 'father' in the church, a god-father, a step-father, a father-in-law, an elderly man occupying a fatherly position in one's regard; about

the 16th or 17th c., this use of *beau* became obsolete, and *beau-père* was retained as a distinctive term for 'father-in-law' and 'step-father' as distinct from a real father. In English the use appears to have been much more limited. See also BEL.]

1. A term of courtesy for 'father', used esp. to or of a spiritual or ecclesiastical 'Father.'

c 1300 Beket 1299 The Bisshop of Ciestre gon arise: Beau pere, he seide to the Pope. c 1375 WYCLIF *Serm.* Sel. Wks. 1871 II. 380 Summe children þus maad freris ben worse þan her bewperis. c 1450 Pol. *Poems* (1859) II. 229 Bridelée, you, bysshoppe... And biddeth yowre bewperes se to the same. 1599 Broughton's *Lett.* v. 17 The holy fathers of the Church, the reuerend Beauperes of diuine knowledge.

2. Good fellow, fellow, companion, compeer.

1377 LANGE. P. Pl. B. xviii. 229 Boke hize þat beupere, a bolde man of speche. 1578 Schole-house Wom. 774 in Hazl. E. P. P. IV. 135 In her lap sleeping she clift of his hear, Be-traited her Lord and her bewpeer. 1610 G. FLETCHER *Christ's Vict.* in Farr S. P. (1848) 74 There The saints with their bewperes whole worlds outweare.

† **Beaupers**, **bewpers**, obs. Also 6 bowpres, 7 bewpers. [Deriv. unknown: it has been referred to *Beaupreux*, a town of France with manufactures of linen and woolen.] A fabric, apparently linen; used for flags.

1592 Wills & Inv. N. C. II. (1860) 211 Lawne cufes 2s., peace of bowpres 16s. 1660 Act 12 Chas. II. iv. Sched., Beaupers the piece 1/2 vs. 1664 PERVA *Diary* (1879) III. 56 Among the Linnen Wholesale Drapers... to see what can be done with them for the supplying our want of Bewpers for flags.

Ibid. 16 June, Supplying us with bewpers from Norwich. 1720 Stow's *Surv.* (1754) II. v. xviii. 382/a Bolters and Bewpers the dozen pieces 1d.

Beaupleder, Law. [a. AF. *beul pleder* = F. *beau plaider* 'fair or correct pleading'; cf. *fair copy*.] The amendment of a defective plea; a writ lying against those who levied a fine for amendment of plea.

[1267 Act 52 Hen. III. xi, transl., No fines shall be taken for Beaupleder. 1292 BRITTON I. xxi. § 4 Ceux q' pernent fins pur coungé de beul pleder (transl. Those who take fines for leave of beau pleder).] 1700 TYRRELL *Hist. Eng.* II. 1112 That no Fines be taken for Beaupleder, or fair Pleading.

Beau-pot (bō'pōt). [f. F. *beau* beautiful + *pot* POT: possibly, in its origin, a mistaken spelling of BOUGH-POT q.v.] A large ornamental vase for cut flowers.

1761 GARRICK & COLMAN *Cland. Marr.* II. Wks. 1798 III. 27 A bunch of flowers as big as the cook or the nurse carry to town... for a beaupot. 1867 MISS MULOCK *Two Marr.* II. 80 Flowers to replenish the beau-pot in the grate.

Beauship (bō'ship). [f. BEAU + -SHIP.] The position or personality of a beau; cf. *lordship*.

1696 CONGREVE *J. Dryden's Husb. Cuckold* Prol., You laugh not... At what his beauship says, but what he wears.

† **Beausire**, obs. Forms: 4 beau sir(e), 5 bawshere, beshar, bewshar(e), 6 bew schirre, bew schyre, bew schirre. See also BELSIRE.

[a. F. *beau* fair, *sire* sir, lord. In OF. *bel sire*, *beau sire* was a general form of respectful address: see BEAU, BEAUPERE.] Fair sir, a form of address.

c 1300 Beket 768 Beau sire... thu speest as a fol. c 1340 Gaw. & Gr. *Knt.* 1222 'Nay, for soþe, beau sir, sayd þat swete. c 1400 Destr. *Troy* v. 1863 Beshar, who so euer pou be... Me meruillis of þi momlyng. c 1460 Towneley *Myst.* 66 Be styll, beshers. *Ibid.* 69 Welcom, bawshere. *Ibid.* 241 Thou shalla abak, bewshere. 1513 DOUGLAS *Eneis* ix. Prol. 79 Sa faris with me bew schirris.

Beauteous (biū'tiōs), a. Forms: 5 bewtyose, 5-6 beauteous, 6 beuteus, bewtyous, 7 beuteous, bewtious, 6-8 beautious, 6- beauteous.

[f. *beaute*, BEAUTY sb. + -OUS. Cf. *plenteous*.] Distinguished by beauty, exceedingly fair in appearance or elegant in form, pleasing to the sight, beautiful. (*Literary* and chiefly *poetical*.)

c 1440 York *Myst.* xlv. 175 As bewteous braunche for to bere. 1480 CAXTON *Descr. Brit.* 6 England is beauteous... flour of londes all aboute. 1596 SHAKS. *Tam. Shr.* I. ii. 86 A wife With wealth enough, and yong and beauteous.

1667 MILTON *P. L.* IV. 697 Each beauteous flour. 1711 STEELE *Spect.* No. 144 P. 1 There is something irresistible in a beauteous Form. c 1805 WORDSW. *Sonn.* I. xxx. Wks. III. 32 It is a beauteous evening, calm and free. 1855 BROWNING *In Balcony* in *Mens & Wom.* II. 105 The dearest, richest, beauteousest and best Of women.

Beauteously, adv. [f. prec. + -LY².] In a beauteous manner; beautifully.

1471 RIPLEY *Compl. Alch.* III. in Ashm. (1652) 141 Wyth Flowers dyscoloryd bewtyously to syght. 1650 JER. TAYLOR *Holy Living* II. § 1 (1727) 54 Look upon pleasures not upon that side... where they look beauteously. 1807 WORDSW. *Sonn.* v. Wks. 1840 III. 208 The ruddy crest of Mars Amid his fellows beauteously revealed.

Beauteousness, [f. as prec. + -NESS.] The quality of being beauteous; beauty.

1855 SINGLETON *Virgil* II. 419 Whose brilliance not as yet hath passed away, Nor yet its beauteousness. 1882 J. PARKER *Apost. Life* I. 137 Its ineffable beauteousness.

Beautied (biū'tid), ppl. a. [f. BEAUTY v. and sb. + -ED.]

1. Endowed with beauty, beautified. See BEAUTY v.

2. (in comb.) Having beauty.

1614 CHAPMAN *Odys.* xl. 374 A daughter that surpass'd Rare-beautied Pero.

Beautification (biū'tifikā'shōn). [f. BEAUTIFY;

see -FICATION, and cf. *amplify*, *-fication*, etc.] The action of beautifying; embellishment, adornment. *a 1640 JACKSON Creed* xi. xvi. Wks. X. 313 Unuseful beautifications. *1798 Mavor Brit. Tourist* V. 35 The church is antique, but its venerable beauties have been spoiled by offensive and injudicious beautifications. *1882 G. MACDONALD M. Marston* II. xiii. 213 To minister to the comfort or beautification of her cousin.

Beautified (bi'utifaid), *pp. a.* [f. BEAUTIFY + -ED.] Made beautiful; adorned, embellished. *1580 SIDNEY Arcadia* (1622) 305 Thou art gone to a beautified heauen. *1608 SHAKS. Ham.* II. ii. 110 To the Celestiall, and my soules Idoll, the most beautified Ophelia. *1684 BUNYAN Pilgr.* II. 99 How green this Valley is, also how beautified with Lillies. *1870 HAWTHORNE Eng. Note-bks.* (1879) I. 102 It is the ideal of a goose, — a goose beautified and beautified.

Beautifier (bi'utifai), *pp. a.* [f. as prec. + -ER.] He who, or that which, makes beautiful.

1612 R. SHELTON Serm. St. Martins 50 God the Dignifier, the Sanctifier, and Beautifier of the Sacrifice. *1712 tr. Pomel's Hist. Drugs* 14 Pomatums, and other external Beautifiers. *1758 Month. Rev.* 161 Narses, the repairer and beautifier of it [a bridge]. *1849 Miss MULOCK Ogilvie* x. (1875) 81 There is no beautifier like happiness.

Beautiful (bi'utiful), *a.* Forms: 6 *beaute*-, *beuti*-, *beuty*-, *bewti*-, *bewtyfull*, *beuty*-, *butyful*, 6-7 *beauti*-, *beautyfull*, 6- *beautiful*. [f. BEAUTY sb. + -FUL. Occas. compared with -er, -est, usually with *more*, *most*.] Full of beauty, possessing the qualities which constitute beauty.

1. Excelling in grace of form, charm of colouring, and other qualities which delight the eye, and call forth admiration: *a.* of the human face or figure.

1586 Pilgr. Perf. (W. de W. 1531) 3 Whose swete visage was moost beautefull. *1644 FULLER Holy & Prof. St.* v. ii. 362 Lewis, Prince of Tarentum, one of the beautefull men in the world. *1716-8 LADY MONTAGUE Lett.* I. xiii. 46 The only beautiful young woman I have seen. *a 1842 TENNYSON Ode to Mem.* 39 Spirit-thrilling eyes so keen and beautiful. *b.* of other objects.

1586 TINDALE Matt. xxiii. 27 Paynted tombes, which appere beautefull outwards. *1611 BIBLE Ps.* xlviii. 4 Beautifull for situation, the joy of the whole earth is mount Zion. *1788 Lond. Mag.* 64 One of the beauteifullst of the whole parrot kind. *1860 TYNDALL Glac.* I. § 12. 90 Below us was the beautiful valley of Chamouni.

2. Affording keen pleasure to the senses generally, especially that of hearing; delightful. In modern colloquial use the word is often applied to anything that a person likes very much, *e.g.* 'beautiful pears', 'she makes beautiful soup', 'a beautiful ride.'

1868 HAWTHORNE Amer. Note-bks. (1879) II. 202 It had been the beauteifullst of weather all day. *Mod.* Beethoven's most beautiful sonata.

3. Impressing with charm the intellectual or moral sense, through inherent fitness or grace, or exact adaptation to a purpose; hence sometimes applied to things that, in other aspects, are even repulsive, as 'a beautiful operation in surgery.'

1587 GOLDING De Mornay vi. 77 The vnderstanding is beautefull, and the most beautefull of all. *1650 B. DISCOLLININ* 19 The Proviences of God are wonderfull and beautefull. *1739 HUME Hum. Nat.* II. ii. Wks. 1874 I. 337 Another argument... which seems to me very strong and beautiful. *1819 J. Q. ADAMS in Davies Metr. Syst.* 148 The theory of this nomenclature is perfectly simple and beautiful. *1876 HAMERTON Intell. Life* viii. 1 275 A beautiful patience, and resignation.

4. Relating to the beautiful; aesthetic. *rare.* *1814 W. TAYLOR Month. Rev.* 155 Lady Russell's letters have rather a moral and political than a beautiful value.

b. Comb., as *beautiful-browed*, *-minded*. *a 1830 TENNYSON Enone* 69 Beautiful-browed (Enone, my own soul. *1865 MASSON Rec. Brit. Philos.* 43 A beautiful-minded Berkeley.

B. absol. quasi-sb.

1. = Beautiful one.

1535 COVERDALE Song Sol. ii. 10 My loue, my doue, my beutyfull. *1819 BYRON Yuan* iv. lviii. Where late he trod, her beautiful, her own.

2. That which is beautiful. *The beautiful*: the name given to the general notion which the mind forms of the assemblage of qualities which constitute beauty.

1756 BURKE Subl. & B. IV. § 22. 299 We may here call sweetness the beautiful of the taste. *1856 Mrs. BROWNING Aur. Leigh* II. 97 So you judge! Because I love the beautiful I must Love pleasure chiefly. *1861 in Macm. Mag.* June 126 The Beautiful in nature is the unmarred result of God's first creative or forming will; and the beautiful in art is the result of an unimpaired working of man in accordance with the beautiful in nature.

Beautifully, *adv.* [f. prec. + -LY.] In a beautiful manner, with beauty; charmingly, delightfully, admirably.

1548 HALL Chron. Hen. VI. an. 14 (R.) The bright sunne that shone in Fraunce feare and beautifully. *1576 LAMBARDE Peramb. Kent* (1826) 223 He brought Planes... and furnished this ground with them beautifully. *c 1730 Prior Hen. & Emma* 323 Fine by degrees and beautifully less. *1800 SCOTT Abbot* xix. A short but beautifully-wrought sword. *1841 MARRYAT Poacher* xxiv. She could read and write beautifully. *1856 KANE Art. Expl.* I. xxxi. 421 The atmosphere was beautifully clear.

Beautifulness. [f. as prec. + -NESS.] The

quality of being beautiful, beauty, loveliness; *concr.* in *pl.* things in which this quality is embodied.

1586 Pilgr. Perf. (W. de W. 1531) 63 Beaufutesnesse of nature. *1623 tr. Camden's Hist. Eliz.* I. (1635) 67 Queene Elizabeth... being much delighted with the... beaufutesnesse of the Colledges. *1849 ROBERTSON Serm.* Ser. I. xiii. 192 The beaufutesnesse of obedience is perceived. *1870 HAWTHORNE Eng. Note-bks.* (1879) II. 15 The house... is filled with... ingenious... beaufutesneses.

Beautify (bi'utifi), *v.* Forms: 6 *beuti*-, *beuty*-, *bewtife*-, *beaute*-, *bewti*-, *bewtyfy*-, *beauti*-, *beauty*-, *bewtyfy*-, 6-7 *beautifie*-, 6-8 *-yfy*, 6- *beautify*. [f. BEAUTY sb. + -FY.]

1. *trans.* To render beauteous or beautiful; to make fair or lovely; to adorn, embellish, decorate.

1586 Pilgr. Perf. (W. de W. 1531) 83 Virginitie ioynd with mekenes... beaufetyeth all vertues. *1576 LD. BURGHLEY in Thynne Animadv.* (1875) App. 114 Whome princely garter, with his azurd hue, dothe bewtyfy. *1604 HERRON Wks.* I. (1625) 678 To beaufite the house of God. *1697 COLLIER Ess. Mor. Subj.* I. (1709) 69 Whose mind is... beaufited with all sorts of useful Knowledge. *1703 MAUNDRELL Journ. Jerus.* (1721) 136 It is... beaufited all round with exquisite Sculpture. *1860 MAURY Phys. Geog. Spa* x. § 488 No coral islands to beaufite its landscapes.

2. *refl. and intr.* To grow beautiful. *1593 SHAKS. Lucr.* 404 Each in her sleep themselves so beaufite. *1711 ADDISON Spect.* No. III. § 8 It must be a Prospect pleasing to God himself, to see his Creation for ever beaufiting in his Eyes, and drawing nearer to him.

¶ *catchtr.* for BEATIFY, *q.v.*

1666 L. OWEN Spec. Jesuit. (1629) 31 Ignatius... was afterwards Beaufited by Pope Paul. *1703 MAUNDRELL Journ. Jerus.* (1721) 64 That beaufiting vision of God.

Beautifying, *vb. sb.* [f. prec. + -ING.] The action or process of making beautiful; adornment, embellishment; *pl.* things that beautify.

1582 THYNNE in Animadv. (1875) Introd. 24 The beaufityng... of thenglysh tonge. *1665 P. della Valle's Trav. E. India* 78 The buildings... are rather plain, and almost all without beautifying. *1798 SOUTHEY Eng. Eclog.* I. Wks. III. 3, I can remember... The beaufityng of this mansion here.

Beautifying, *pp. a.* [f. as prec. + -ING.]

That beaufities or makes beautiful.

1607 H. MORE Death's Vis. viii. 88 Amidst the Streams Of Beaufityng Beams. *1703 Lond. Gaz.* No. 3856/4 A most excellent Beaufityng Water, called the Pearl Cosmetick.

Beautiless (bi'utiles), *a.* [f. BEAUTY sb. + -LESS.] Void of beauty.

c 1600 Lyrics for Lutenists (Collier) 20 (title) Beauty when beaufite. *1669 BUNYAN Holy Cite* 155 A forlorn beaufiteless World. *c 1835 JAMES De L'Orme* xiv. 301 A withered, formless, beaufiteless thing.

¶ **Beautitude**, *bewtitude*. *Obs.* Apparently for BEATITUDE, *perh.* confused with *beauty*.

a 1400 Chester Pl. I. 1. 8 My beames be all bewtitude. *1660 STANLEY Hist. Philos.* (1701) 334/1 God is an Immortal being, rational, perfect, or intellectual in Beaufitude.

Beauty (bi'uti). Forms: 3 *bealte*-, *buate*-, 3-4 *beute*-, 4 *beaute*-, *bewtee*-, 4-5 *bewte*-, 4-6 *beaute*-, 5 *beauty*-, *bewete*-, *boutte*-, 5-6 *beaute*-, 6 *beauty*-, *bewtye*-, *bewtie*-, *-tye*-, 6-7 *beautie*-, 7 *beuty*-, 6- *beauty*. [ME. *bealte*, *beute*, *a. OF. bealte*, *beaute*, *buate*, earlier *bellet*, *mod. beaulté*, (cogn. with Pr. *bellat*, *beutat*, Sp. *beldad*, It. *beldà*): — late L. **bellitātē*, f. *bellus* beautiful: see -TY.]

I. *abstractly.*

(1756 BURKE Subl. & B. III. xii. (1808) 235 Beauty is, for the greater part, some quality in bodies acting mechanically upon the human mind by the intervention of the senses. *1784 J. BARRY Lect. Art* II. (1848) 103 According to the definitions generally given, Beauty consists of unity and gradual variety; or unity, variety, and harmony. Our rule for judging of the mode and degree of this combination of variety and unity seems to be no other than that of its fitness and conformity to the designation of each species. *1827 HARE Guesses* (1859) 77 Beauty is perfection unmodified by a predominating expression.)

1. Such combined perfection of form and charm of colouring as affords keen pleasure to the sense of sight: *a.* in the human face or figure.

c 1275 in Wright Lyric P. xvi. 53 Heo is cristal of clannesse, Ant baner of bealte. *c 1325 E. E. Allit. P. A.* 764 He 3ef me myzt & als bewte. *c 1350 Will. Palerne* 4074 A wor-schippful lady. pat burde was of beautea brizest in erpe. *c 1485 E. E. Misc.* (Warton) 10 Alle owre pryde, owre jolytte and fayre boutte. *1485 CAXTON Chas. Gt.* 240 Sam-blant to... Absalon in beaulte! *1502 SHAKS. Rom. & Jul.* v. iii. 94 Beauties ensigne yet Is Crymson in thy lips. *1651 HOBBS Leviath.* III. xxiv. 212 A Man, or Child of never so great beauty. *1711 POPE Rape Lock* II. 28 Fair tresses man's imperial race insnare, And beauty draws us with a single hair. *1847 TENNYSON Princ.* II. 20 There sat... All beauty compass'd in a female form, The Princess.

b. of other objects.

1340 HAMPOLE Pr. Consc. 7857 Pare es bryghtnes and bewte Of alle thing pat men sille pare se. *1413 Lycop. Pylgr. Soule* IV. xxviii. (1483) 74 The wonderful beaute of creatures. *c 1535 LD. BERNERS Huon* (1882) 412 The rychesse and beaute of that chaumbre can not be dyscryuyd. *1752 JOHNSON Ramb.* No. 192 § 5 Describing the beauty of his brother's seat. *1818 KEATS Endym.* I. 1 A thing of beauty is a joy for ever; Its loveliness increases: it will never Pass into nothingness.

2. That quality or combination of qualities which affords keen pleasure to other senses (*e.g.* that of hearing), or which charms the intellectual or moral faculties, through inherent grace, or fitness to a desired end; cf. BEAUTIFUL *a.* 3.

c 1300 Cursor M. 14115 Of all thing scho [Mary] tok till ane, widtven quam es buute [v. beute] nane. *c 1449 PR- cock Repr.* 255 To speke and write the wordis in sum gaynes and bewte. *1599 THYNNE Animadv.* (1875) 56 The dialecte of oure tonge, whiche with the beawtye vsethe suche transmu-tacione. *1677 GALE Cr. Gentiles* II. IV. 17 Beawtie is de-fined by Plato the Fulgor, i.e. Lustre of Good. *1860 EMER- son Cond. Life* viii. 168 We ascribe beauty to that which is simple; which has no superfluous parts; which exactly an-swers its end. *1876 HAMERTON Intell. Life* II. II. 62 The beauty and solidity of the moral constitution. *1876 GREEN Short Hist.* viii. § 10 (1882) 584 The large but ordered beauty of form which he [Milton] had drunk in from the literature of Greece and Rome.

3. The prevailing fashion or standard of the beautiful. *Obs.*

a 1667 JER. TAYLOR (in Webster) She stained her hair yel-low, which was then the beauty.

4. The abstract quality (*esp.* in sense 1 *a*) per-sonified.

1667 MILTON P. L. VII. 533 The charm of Beauties power-ful glance. *1730 THOMSON Autumn* 209 Thoughtless of beauty, she was beauty's self. *a 1842 TENNYSON Gard. Dan.* 57 Such a lord is Love, And Beauty such a mistress of the world.

II. *concretely.*

5. A beautiful person or thing; *esp.* a beautiful woman. (Often used ironically).

1483 CAXTON Gold. Leg. 273/2, I have loued the ouer late, thou beaute. *1566 SHAKS. Merch. V.* III. II. 99 The beaufiteous scarfe Vailing an Indian beaute. *1711 ADDISON Spect.* No. 37 § 4 Leonora was formerly a celebrated Beauty, and is still a very lovely Woman. *1753 HOGARTH Anal. Beauty* I. 14 When a vessel sails well, the sailors always call her a beauty. *1826 DISRAELI Viv. Grey* v. VI. (1868) 173 He was to be introduced to some of the most fashionable beauties. *1832 CARLETON Traits Irish Peasant* 380 Faith, you're a beauty, Elisha.

b. collectively. The beautiful women, etc.

1611 BIBLE 2 Sam. I. 19 The beauty of Israel is slaine vpon thy high places. *1613 SHAKS. Hen. VIII.* I. III. 55 There will be The Beauty of this Kingdome. *1816 BYRON Ch. Har.* III. xxi. Belgium's capital had gather'd then Her Beauty and her Chivalry.

6. A beautiful feature or trait; an embellish-ment, ornament, grace, charm.

1563 SHUTE Archib. Diiij. a. The which is a beauteie vnto the whole Coronic. *1611 BIBLE Ps.* cx. 3 In the beauties of holinesse. *1711 POPE Rape Lock* IV. 170 These, in two sable ringlets taught to break, Once gave new beauties to the snowy neck. *1712 ADDISON Spec.* 291 § 7 To discover the concealed Beauties of a Writer. *1849 MACAULAY Hist. Eng.* II. 630 The one beauty of the resolution is its inconsistency. *1860 TYNDALL Glac.* I. § 1. 1 Guided by a friend who knew the country, I became acquainted with its chief beauties.

7. Colloq. phrases, as *† It was great beauty* (*obs.*): it was a fine sight. *That's the beauty of it*: i.e. the feature or phase that affords special pleasure and satisfaction.

1523 LD. BERNERS Froiss. I. xli. 57 It was a great beauty to beholde the baners and standeres waynyng. *Ibid.* cxliv. 172 Hit was great beauteie to beholde their pyussant array. *1754 RICHARDSON Grandison* III. xviii. 159 That's the beauty of it; to offend and make up at pleasure.

8. *Beauty of wildness*: see *quat.*

1611 GWILLIM Heraldry III. xiv. (1660) 174 Foresters and Hunters do call this yearly mewing of their heads, the beauty of their wildnesse: not the Mewing of their Horns.

III. *Comb.* *a.* poetical adjs., as *beauty-beaming*, *-blooming*, *-blushing*, *-breathing*, *-bright*, *-clad*, *-waning*.

b. Also *beauty-bloom*, beautiful tint or colour; *beauty-manner*, the bearing of a 'beauty'; *† beauty-mock*, an imitation of beauty; *beauty-proof a.*, proof against the influence of beauty; *beauty-sleep*, the sleep secured before midnight; *beauty-wash*, a liquid employed to preserve or heighten beauty, a cosmetic.

a. *1594 SHAKS. Rich.* III. vii. 185 A Beautie-waining and distressed Widow. *1595 CHAPMAN Bang. Sence* (1639) 23 This Beauty-clad naked lady. *1597 DRAYTON Mortimer.* 13 This beauty-blushing orient of his rise. *1797 THOMSON Summer.* All the varied hues Their beauty-beaming parent can disclose. *1813 BYRON Geneva* 10 When from his beauty-breathing pencil born... The Magdalen of Guido saw the morn.

b. *1853 KINGSLEY Hypatia* xxv. 318 Young Apollo, with the 'beauty-bloom upon his chin! *1598 SYLVESTER Du. Bartas* II. IV. Arg. (1641) 227 Achabs Stock, With his proud Queen (a painted 'Beauty-mock). *1753 RICHARDSON Grandison* (1781) III. xiv. 105, I am 'Beauty-proof. *1857 KINGSLEY Two Y. Ago* II. xv. 148 A medical man, who may be called up at any moment, must make sure of his 'beauty-sleep.' *1700 STEELE Tatler* No. 34 § 2 The only true Cos-metick or 'Beauty-Wash in the world.

Beauty, *v. arch.*; also 4-5 *bewtye*, *bewte*, 6 *beauty*. [f. prec. sb.] *trans.* To render beauti-ful; to beautify, adorn, deck.

1308 TREvisa Barth. De P. R. XVII. lxxiii. (1495) 647 Floures... defoyleth not the yerde: but bewtyeth it. *1595 LD. BERNERS Froiss.* II. xlii. 131 The Pecocke sayd, he is gretly beaufited by reason of my fethers. *1602 SHAKS. Ham.* III. i. 51 The Harlots Cheeke beaufited with plaist'ring Art. *1855 SINGLETON Virgil* I. 201 The altars of the gods in wreathed festoons Are beaufited.

Beautydom (bi'utidom). The estate or rank of a 'beauty' or of beautiful women.

1881 World 28 Dec. The system of professional beautydom.

Beautyship. The personality of a 'beauty.'

Used sportively in address; cf. *ladyship*.

1839 HAILLY Festus 56/2 If your beautyship would con-descend To teach us what true melody might be.

Beauty-spot. [f. as prec. + SPOT.]

1. A spot or patch placed upon the face by ladies in the method of adornment formerly fashionable: originally intended to heighten by contrast the charm of some neighbouring feature; *fig.* a foil.

1657 REEVE *God's Plea* 123 The setting of every hair... the placing of every beauty-spot. 1705 HICKERINGILL *Priest-cr.* i. (1721) 45 Their Black Patches, which in former Times have been taken for Beauty-Spots. 1711 GREW (J.) The filthiness of swine makes them the beauty-spot of the animal creation. 1864 H. SPENCER *Illust. Univ. Progr.* 90 From painted faces to beauty-spots.

2. *gen.* A feature or place of special beauty.

1682 BUNYAN *Holy War* 110 If righteousness be such a beauty-spot in thine eyes. 1879 CHR. ROSSSETTI *Seek & Find* 91 Hill-streams and waterfalls rank among the beauty-spots of this beautiful world.

Beauxite (bō'zīt). *Min.* Also *bauxite*. [f. (1847) *Beaux* or *Baux*, near Arles in France, where found + -ITE.] A hydrous oxide of alumina and iron, used in the manufacture of aluminium.

1868 DANA *Min.* 175 The purest beauxite... is called aluminium ore. 1873 in *Proc. Amer. Phil. Soc.* XIII. 373 The presence of grains of corundum in the beauxite.

Beaver¹ (bē'vər). *Forms:* 1 beofor, befor, (byfor, befer), 2-7 beuer, 4-8 bever, 5 bevere, -yr, 6 beauer, 7 beavor, 6- beaver. [One of the animal names common to the Aryan family: OE. *beofor*, earlier *befor* (= *bevor*), identical with LG. and Du. *bever*, OHG. *bibaz*, mod.G. *biber*:—OTeut. **bebru-*; cogn. w. Lith. *bebru-*, Boh. *bobr*, Slav. *bebru-*, L. *fiber*, 'beaver'; also with Skr. *babhris* 'brown,' and as sb. 'great ichneumon':—OAr. **bhebhru-*, reduplicated deriv. of *bhru-*, brown, with sense of 'brown' or 'red-brown,' and 'brown water-animal'.]

1. An amphibious rodent, distinguished by its broad, oval, horizontally-flattened, scaly tail, palmated hind feet, coat of soft fur, and hard incisor teeth with which it cuts down trees; remarkable for its skill in constructing huts of mud and wood for its habitation, and dams for preserving its supply of water.

c 1000 ÆLFRIC *Gram.* (Zup.) 27 *Fiber*, befor, beofor. c 1200 *Moral Ode* 362 in *Lamb. Hom.* 181 Ne scal þer beo fou ne gret. ne beuer ne sabeline. 1387 TREVISIA *Higden* Rolls Ser. VI. 205 Beverlay... the place or lake of bevers. c 1460 J. RUSSELL *Bk. Nurture* in *Babes Bk.* (1868) 153 To peson or frumment take þe tayle of þe bevere. 1591 SPENCER *M. Hubbard* 124 Monstrous beasts... Bred of two kinds, as Griffons, Minotaures... Beavers, and Centaures. a 1667 COWLEY *Love's Riddle* i. i. His lips... Softer than Bevers Skins. 1776 ADAM SMITH *W. N. I.* i. vi. 49 One beaver should exchange for or be worth two deer. 1835 LONGF. *Hiaw.* iii. 153 How the beavers built their lodges.

2. The fur of the beaver.

c 1394 P. PL. *Crede* 295 A cote hap he furred, Wiþ foyns... oþer syn beuer. 1532-3 Act 24 *Hen. VIII.* xiii. Any manner of furre, other then... otter and beuer. 1613 WITHER *Epithal.* in *Juvenilia* (1633) 363 A hat of Beaver. 1739 GRAY in *Mason Life* (ed. 2) 62 With muffs, hoods, and masks of beaver. 1837 MARRIAT *Dog-Friend* x. He pulled off some beaver from his hat to staunch the blood.

fig. 1598 SYLVESTER *Du Bartas* i. iii. (1641) 301 Green Carpets, thrummed with mossie Beaver, Fringing the round Skirts of his winding River.

b. *attrib.*, esp. in *beaver hat*, *bonnet*: see next.

c 1386 CHAUCER *Prolog.* 272 On his hed a Flaundrish bever hat. 1593 STUBBS *Anat. Abus.* (1877) 50 note, Bever hattes, of xx., xxx., or xl shillings price. 1740 SWIFT *Will Wks.* 1745 VIII. 383 The second best beaver hat I shall die possessed of. 1844 DICKENS *Mar. Chus.* v. Farmers' wives in beaver bonnets and red cloaks.

3. A hat made of beaver's fur, or some imitation of it; formerly worn by both sexes, but chiefly by men.

1528 ROY *Sat.*, To exalte the thre folde crowne Of antichrist hys bever. 1642 H. MORE *Song of Soul* i. ii. xxxviii, A Yongster gent With bever cockt. 1661 PEPYS *Diary* 27 June, Mr. Holden sent me a bever, which cost me 46 s. 1766 [ANSTY] *Bath Guide* xi. 97 To preside at her Balls in a Cream-colour'd Beaver. 1810 CRABBE *Borough* iv. Wks. 1834 III. 80 The simple Friend... in drab and beaver. 1885 CORNH. *Mag.* June 649 His crumpled beaver—there might be some difficulty in lighting on a beaver nowadays except in a museum.

4. *In beaver* (Univ. slang). In a tall hat (and the costume which accompanies it) instead of cap and gown; in non-academical costume.

1840 *New Monthly Mag.* LIX. 271 He... went out of college in what the members of the United Service call *muffin*, but members of the University *beaver*, which means, not in his academics—his cap and gown.

5. A felted cloth, used for overcoats, etc.

1756 *Gentl. Mag.* XXVI. 618 Their carpets and bevers... retain the electrical virtue, and prevent its spreading to the floor. 1810 J. T. in *Ridout's Surv. Devon* Intro. 25 Coatings, beavers... found a market.

6. A particular kind of glove.

1816 MISS AUSTEN *Emma* (1870) II. vi. 169 Well tied parcels of 'Men's Beavers' and 'York Tan.' [1836 DICKENS *Sk. Bos.* (1850) 131/2 In a black coat... gaiters, and brown beaver gloves.]

7. *Comb.*, chiefly *attrib.*, as *beaver-dam*, *-fur*, *-intellect*, *-kind*, *-pond*, *-skin*, *-wool* (= fur); *beaver-like* adj. Also *beaver-rat*, the musquash or MUSK-BAT; *beaver-stones*, the two small sacs in the

groin of the beaver, from which the substance 'castor' is obtained.

1725 *London Gaz.* No. 6383/4 Ann Messenger, ... *Beaver-Cutter. 1676 T. GLOVER in *Phil. Trans.* XI. 626 The Bevers... gnaw down trees, wherewith they make... *Beaver-damms. 1835 *Wood Anim. Life* 421 The *beaver-fur will work its way completely through the felt. 1850 CARLYLE *Latter-d. Pamph.* iv. 2 The intellect of the Nineteenth Century... is itself a mechanical or *beaver-intellect. 1735 SOMERVILLE *Chase* iv. 379 This subtle Spoiler of the *Beaver kind. 1875 HELPS *Anim. & Mast.* iii. 59 Words of wisdom, of *beaver-like sagacity. 1884 *Cassell's Fam. Mag.* Apr. 272/2 The *beaver-rat is another singular animal. 1761 *Brit. Mag.* 7 Jan. 11. 52 This day 10,000 *beaver skins... were entered from Quebec. 1697 DRYDEN *Virgil* (1806) I. 207 Pontus sends her *beaver-stones from far. 1780 COXE *Russ. Disc.* 114 One side set close with *beaver-wool like velvet.

Beaver² (bē'vər). *Obs. exc. Hist. Forms:* 5 baviere, 6 banour, -er, 6-7 beuer, 7 bauiet, beauer, beavoit, 8-9 bever, 9 beavor, 6- beaver. [ME. *baviere*, a. OF. *baviere*, orig. a child's bib, f. *bave* saliva; cf. It. *baviera*, Sp. *babera*.]

1. 'The lower portion of the face-guard of a helmet, when worn with a visor; but occasionally serving the purposes of both.'

'In 14th c. applied to the moveable face-guard of the basinet, otherwise called *visiere*, *ventail*, or *aventail*. In the early part of 15th c. the beaver appears formed of overlapping plates, which can be raised or depressed to any degree desired by the wearer. In the 16th c. it again became confounded with the visor, and could be pushed up entirely over the top of the helmet, and drawn down at pleasure.' (Planché.)

1481-90 HOWARD *Househ. Bks.* 274 A pair brigandines... (i) baviers [and] (ii) peire gantelet. 1557 K. ARTHUR (Copland) vi. ix, Syr Launcelot... gate hym by the bavouir of hys helmet. 1600 FAIRFAX *Tasso* ii. xlviii, The Virgin gan her Beavoit vale. 1602 SHAKS. *Ham.* i. ii. 230 Then saw you not his face? O yes, my Lord, he wore his Beaver vp. 1765 H. WALPOLE *Otranto* iii. (1798) 51 Two knights in complete armour, their beavers down. 1820 SCOTT *Ivanhoe* viii, The conqueror called for a bowl of wine, and opening the beaver, or lower part of his helmet... quaffed it. 1876 PLANCHÉ *Cycl. Costume* I. 39 One of the earliest examples of a moveable beaver is seen in the effigy of Thomas, Duke of Clarence, slain 1415.

b. *fig.*

1838 SOUTHEY *Doctor Wks.* V. 148, I will maintain... as publicly (only that my beaver must be closed. 1845 R. HAMILTON *Pop. Educ.* iii. 49 Why should the Author suppress this anecdote now that his beaver is up?

2. *Comb.*, as *beaver-sight*, eye-hole of a helmet.

a 1843 SOUTHEY *G. Hermigues* i. Wks. 1853 VI. 163 Through the beaver-sight his eye Glared fierce and red.

Beaver³, variant of BEVER.

Beavered (bē'vərd), *ppl. a.*; also 7 bevered. [f. BEAVER + -ED.]

a. Of a helmet: Furnished with a beaver. b. Covered with or wearing a beaver (hat).

1610 GWILLIM *Heraldry* iv. xiv. 342 The Helmets... sometimes close bevered. 1742 POPE *Dunciad* iv. 141 His beaver'd brow a birchen garland wears. 1797 WOLCOTT (P. Pindar) *Out at Last* Wks. 1812 III. 499 To grace the beaver'd brows of Christian Kings.

Beaverish (bē'vərɪʃ), *a.* [f. BEAVER¹ + -ISH.] Like a beaver in nature or habit; merely instinctive.

1850 CARLYLE *Latter-d. Pamph.* iv. 3 All intellect... will tend to become beaverish. 1858 — *Fredk. Gt. I.* iv. viii. 473 Irrational man-mountains, of the beaverish or beaverish-vulpine sort.

Beaverism. The condition of a beaver; a beaverish quality or trait.

1850 CARLYLE *Latter-d. Pamph.* v. 17 He will contract himself into beaverism. *Ibid.* 37 Beaverisms, astucities, and sensualisms.

Beaverkin. A little beaver (hat).

1867 CARLYLE *Remin.* (1881) II. 98 Dainty little cap, perhaps little beaverkin.

Beaverteen (bē'vərtēn). [f. BEAVER¹; after *velvet-teen*.] A cotton twilled cloth, in which the warp is drawn up into loops, forming a pile, which is left uncut, whereas in velvet it is cut.

1807 *Hull Advert.* 7 Dec. 2/2 Fustians, Beaverteens, Moleskins, and Velveteens. 1872 *Echo* 27 Sept., Velveteens striped with beaverteen... make a very lady-like petticoat.

Beavery (bē'vəri). [f. BEAVER¹ + -RY; cf. *grocery*.] A place in which beavers live or are kept.

1877 *Daily News* 26 Dec. 7/2 Lord Bute's beavers have bred in their beavery. 1882 F. BUCKLAND *Notes & Jottings* 281 By the curator of the beavery.

Beaw, Beawper, etc.: see BEAU, BEAUPER, etc.

Beawalling, -waymenting: see BAA sb.

Beayell. *Obs. rare.* [Early form of BE-SAIEL, q. v.; cf. *beantler*, *bisantler*, *bayanter*.] A grandfather's father, a great grandfather.

c 1400 *Destr. Troy* 13474 His beayell aboute on þe burne syde, On his modur halfe.

Beazar, -er, -il, obs. ff. BEZOAR, BEZEL.

Beazler, obs. f. BEZZLER, *Obs.*, drunkard, sot.

Beb, obs. or SC. form of BIB v.

Beback, Bebat, bebang, etc.: see BE-*pref.*

Bebally, a. *Her. Obs. rare.* [Etymol. unknown.] Said of a shield: = *Party per pale*, i. e. divided into two parts by a vertical line.

1486 *Bk. St. Albans, Her.* B. iij. b. Bebally is calde in armys when a cotearmure is calde endentyde of ij dyuere colowris in the length. 1566 FERRIS *Blas. Gentry* 205 Blazons called Bebally, Lentally, and Fesselly. *Ibid.* 208 Bebally indented:

†Bebar (bē'bār), *v. Obs.*; in 3 *bibarre*, 6-7 *bebarre*. [f. BE- + BAR v.] *trans.* To bar about; to debar.

a 1230 *Ancr. R.* 170 Uor 3e beoð mid Iesu Criste bitund ase ine sepulcre & bibarred. 1581 T. HOWELL *Deuises* (1879) 230 Though eyes bebarred be, From that fayre sight. 1649 BR. HALL *Cases Cons.* 236 Neither doth the want... bebarre any man from... fruition of these earthly inheritances.

Bebarb, bebase, bebaste, bebat, bebatte, etc.: see BE-*pref.*

Bebathe (bē'bātē), *v.*; 1-6. [OE. *bebathan*, f. BE- + *bathan* to BATHE.] *trans.* To bathe completely; suffuse.

a 1000 *Phanix* (Grein) 107 Se æðela fugel hine bibaðaþ in ðam burnan. c 1375 GASCOIGNE *Fruites Warre* (1831) 210 Thine owne head bebathe with enmies teares.

Bebauch, *v. Obs.* = DEBAUCH. (Cf. *bebar*.)

1607 R. C. *World of Wonders* 258.

†Bebay, *v. Obs. rare.* [f. BE- + BAY sb.² or 3.]

trans. To bay about, embay, hem in, surround. 1506 GUYFORD *Pilgr.* (1831) 62 We were so bebayed that we had no remedy but to trust to our ancre holde. 1823 STANVHURST *Æneis* iii. (Arb.) 76 Uoyded of al coast sight, with wild fouds roundly bebayed.

|| Bébé (bebe). [F. *bébé*, ad. Eng. BABY; used attrib. in technical senses.] (See quot.)

1883 MRS. LEACH *Dressm. Pocket Dict.*, *Bébé* bodice, a round-waisted bodice with sash. 1884 *West. Daily Press* 11 Apr. 7/6 Loops of narrow bébé ribbon.

†Bebeast (bē'bēst), *v. Obs.* [f. BE- + BEAST.]

1. *trans.* To make a beast of.

1640 BR. REYNOLDS *Passions* xl. 527 [He] hath... be-beasted himselfe by setting his Desires onely on Transitory and Perishable goods. 1713 BEVERIDGE *Priv. Th.* (1730) 127 To... be-beast themselves by drinking to Excess.

2. To treat as a beast; to call 'beast.'

1659 EADES *Christ's Exalt.* 16 They will... bebeast themselves, for their carelessness. — *Wisd. Justif.* 72 They will condemn themselves, and befoole and bebeast themselves.

Bebed, bebelted, etc.: see BE-*pref.*

|| Bebeeru, bibiru (bē'bē-ru). Also *bee-beeru, bibiri*. [native name in Guiana.] The Greenheart Tree of Guiana (*Nectandra Rodiei* or *leucantha*). **Bebeeria, Bebeerine** (bē'bē-rin), also *beber-bibir*, an alkaloid resembling quinine, yielded by the bark and seeds of this tree.

1851 *Art. Jnrl. Illustr. Catal.*, *Sci. Exhib.* iv. xv*1 Quinine, beberine, morphine. 1875 WOOD *Therap.* 56 Bebeeria... as a substitute for quinia in malarial diseases.

Bebite, beblain, beblear, etc.: see BE-*pref.*

†Beblast, *v. Obs.*; also *pa. pple.* [f. BE- + BLAST v.] *trans.* To blast completely, wither up.

1558 PHAER *Æneid* II. E. iv. b, Me the father of Gods... Beblasted with his lightning wynd. c 1575 GASCOIGNE *Fruites Warre* (1831) 211 Are both thine eyes beblast? 1595 HUNNIS *Joseph* 17 Beblasted with the Easterne wind.

Beblead, *v. Obs. or arch.* [f. BE- + BLEED v.] To cover, or stain with blood, make bloody.

a 1230 *Ancr. R.* 118 Bledinde mon [v. r. a mon bled] is grislich. c 1380 *Sir Ferumb.* 1380 Sche caste hure eye on Olyuer: & saw him al be-bled. 1602 CAXTON *Chas. Gt.* 77 The place was alle bybled of the blood. 1600 FAIRFAX *Tasso* xix. ciii. 357 Where lay a warrior murdered new, That all bebled the ground. 1866 KINGSLEY *Herew.* xlii. He is all wounded and be-bled.

Bebless (bē'ble's), *v.* [f. BE- + BLESS.] *trans.*

To bless amply or profusely. Hence *Beblast ppl. a.* 1598 SYLVESTER *Job. Triumph.*, *Du Bartas* (1608) 933 If his Loynes beblast not me from harm. 1610 BR. HALL *Apol. Brownists* 141 note, The vilest miscreants... are be-blest by her. 1799 W. TAYLOR in *Month. Mag.* VII. 139 A becross'd, beblest, Besprinkled bag of holy sackcloth.

†Beblind, *v. Obs.* [f. BE- + BLIND.] *trans.*

To make completely blind. Also *as pa. pple.*

1575 GASCOIGNE *Flowers Wks.* (1587) 105 Courage quails where love beblinds the sense. 1580 NORTH *Plutarch, Romulus*, In fervent flames of beastly love beblindyde.

Beblister (bē'bli-stər), *v.* [f. BE- + BLISTER.] *trans.*

To blister badly, cover with blisters. 1575 TURBERV. *Venerie* 33 Running through the hard... stonie grounde they... beblister their feete. 1611 COTGR., *Vessie*, beblistered, or full of blisters. 1802 SOUTHEY *Lett.* (1856) I. 201 How Bella's knee is be-blistered.

Beblockhead, bebloom, beblotth, see BE-.

Beblood (bē'bləd), *v.* [f. BE- + BLOOD.] *trans.* To smear or stain with blood; = BEBLEED.

1580 NORTH *Plutarch* (1676) 26 Whose forehead they touch with the knife beblooded with the blood of the Goats. 1623 LISLE *Ælfric on O. & N. T.* 8 There lay in a dish a joynit of a finger all beblooded. 1829 SINGLETON *Virgil* II. 398 And, dying... bebloods the shattered darts.

†Bebloody, *v. Obs.* *Forms:* 3 *biblod* (e)ge, 4 *biblodke*, 7 *bebloody*. [f. BE- + BLOODY v.]

—OE. *blōdegian*, *blōdgian*, f. *blōdig* bloody; but the earlier forms point to an OE. **blōdician* on type of ON. *vbs* in -ka.] *trans.* To make bloody.

c 1210 *Leg. Kath.* 203 Of þat balefule blot al biblodked. c 1220 *St. Marher.* 3 Wið þe lūðere... þat beoð al blodi blodeget mid sunne. 1580 NORTH *Plutarch* (1676) 727 Antonius... did shew them his Gown all beblooded. 1647 W. BROWNE *Poolexander* II. 336 To bebloody the Chronicle of their owne times.

†Beblot (bē'blɒt), *v. Obs.*; also 4 *biblotte*, 6 (*pa. pple.*) *beblot*. [f. BE- + BLOT.] *trans.* To blot all over; also *fig.*

c 1374 CHAUCER *Troilus* II. 982 Biblotte it with thy teris. 1575 GASCOIGNE *Flowers Wks.* (1587) 114 A roll of Sable,

black and foule beblot. 1580 NORTH *Plutarch* (1676) 72 Any wrong, Which might beblot the glory of my name.

Beblubbered (b'bl'br'd), *v.* [f. BE- + BLUBBER v.] Disfigured by blubbing; befouled with tears; also (obs.) with blood.

1583 STANYHURST *Æneis* 1. (Arb.) 25 With tears Venus heauye beblubbered Prest fourth in presence. 1596 COLSE *Penelope* (1880) 182 Beblubbered all with blood, Antinous lieth under bord. 1661 USSHER *Power Princes* II. (1683) 198 Covered with dust, and beblubbered with tears. 1873 MISS BROUGHTON *Nancy* II. 33 What does it matter what colour my eyelids are?.. or how be-beblubbered my cheeks?

† **Beblur**, *v.* Obs.; 6-7. [f. BE- + BLUR v.] *trans.* To blur all over.

1598 FLORIO, *Pattacchiare*, to besmeare... to beblurre. a 1644 QUARLES *Hymn to God, Div. Poems* (1717) 56 Be-blur thy looke with tears.

Bebod, variant form of BIBOD, command.

Bebog, bebooted, beboss, bebotoh, bebother, bebloulder, etc.: see BE- *pref.*

Bebove, *prep.*, above: see BIBUVEN.

Bebrave, bebreach, bebrine, bebrother, be-brush, etc.: see BE- *pref.*

† **Bebroyde**, *v.* Obs. rare. [f. BE- + -broyde; cf. EMBROIDER.] *trans.* To embroider about.

1583 STANYHURST *Æneis* III. (Arb.) 85 Andromache... Presented vestures of gould most richlye bebroyded.

† **Bebump**, *v.* Obs.; 7-8. [f. BE- + BUMP.] *trans.* To bump thoroughly, to belabour.

1653 URQUHART *Rabelais* IV. xiii. You have... bethwack'd, belam'd, and bebump'd the catchpole. 1718 MOTTEUX *Quix.* (1733) I. 266 You bebump'd your Poll against the Point of a Rock.

† **Bebury**, *v.* Obs. Forms: 1 bebyrizan, 2 bebyri, 3 biburi-on, -burye, -burijs. [OE. f. BE- + byrizan to BURY.] To entomb, bury.

1000 ÆLFRIC *Gen.* xlii. 31 Þær was Isaac bebyrizd. c 1175 *Coll. Hom.* 229 Twegen 3elefde men him arwrolice bebyridon. 1297 R. GLOUC. 166 Hii let hym beburye.

Bebusy, bebutter, bebuttery, see BE- *pref.*

Bec, obs. form of BEAK.

Beccafica, -ficio, variants of BECCAFICO.

Beccal (b'kāl), *v.*; also 3-5 bi-, by-, -cal, -kalle. [f. BE- + CALL v.] There was app. no connexion between the early and modern uses.]

† 1. *trans.* To accuse of. Obs.

c 1250 *Gen. & Ex.* 2314 Dis sonde hem ouertakeð raðe, And bi-calleð of harme and scaðe. c 1440 *Morte Arth.* (1819) 48 Syr Mador loudeste spake The queene of treson to by-calle.

† 2. To call upon, call forth, challenge. Obs. c 1325 E. E. *Allit. P.* A 912 Neuer þe-lesse cler I you by-calle If se can se hyt to be done. c 1450 *Antony of Arth.* xxxii. Here I the be-calle, For to fynde me a freke to fezte on my file. 1500 *Eger & Grime* 693 He beccalled any cristen Knight, or any 5 that with him wold fight.

† 3. To call, summon. Obs.

c 1325 E. E. *Allit. P.* A 1162 When I schulde start in þe streem astraye, Out of þat caste I watz by-calt.

4. To call names, miscall.

1683 *Case Cons.* *Symbolizing* v. Ch. Rome 12 The Devil... is conjured as before, and most wofully becalled. 1825 COBBETT *Rur. Rides* 407 Not to becall the King of Spain is looked upon as a proof of want of 'liberality.'

Becalm (b'kāl'm), *v.* [f. BE- + CALM v.]

1. *trans.* To make calm or still; to calm, quiet; fig. to assuage, mitigate, soothe, tranquillize.

1613 BR. HALL *Holy Panegy.* 77 He. hath becalmed the world, and shut the iron gates of warre. a 1649 DRUMM. OF HAWTH. *Poems* Wks. (1711) 38 Thou becalm'st Mind's easeless anguish. 1718 *Pope's* *Odyssey* IV. 515 What power becalms the innavigable seas? 1873 W. MAYO *Newer Again* xxxii. 417 Thy medic touch becalms my throbbing brow.

2. *Naut.* To shelter from, or deprive (a ship) of, wind; usually in pass. To be becalmed: to lie motionless for want of wind.

1595 MAYNARDE *Drake's Voy.* (1849) 8 Being becalmed under the lee of the land. 1627 CAPT. SMITH *Seaman's Gram.* xiii. 62 To martiall... those squadrons... a good berth or distance from each other, that they becalme not one another. 1704 *in Lond. Gas.* No. 4033/1 The Charles Gally... being becalmed, was attacked. 1855 MACAULAY *Hist. Eng.* IV. 1 The fleet was becalmed off the Godwin Sands. b. fig.

1599 *Mirr. Mag.* 196 (R.) I and mine becalm'd from hatred's blast. 1674 DRYDEN *Comp. Granada* I. v. l. 88 'Twas Life becalm'd, without a gentle Breath.

Becalmed (b'kāl'md), *ppl. a.* [f. BECALM v. + ED.] a. Calmed, quieted, stilled. b. Motionless for want of wind.

a 1667 COWLEY *Solit. Wks.* 1710 II. 693 They're like a becalmed Ship. a 1674 CLARENDON *Hist. Reb.* III. xv. 491 The silence... of a becalm'd Conscience. a 1700 DRYDEN (J.) The moon shone clear on the becalmed flood.

Becalming, *vbl. sb.* [f. as prec. + -ING¹.] The act of calming, assuaging, tranquillizing.

1625 DOWNE *Serm.* 26 For the becalming of tempestuous humours.

Becalming, *ppl. a.* [f. as prec. + -ING².] Calming, tranquillizing, soothing.

1827 MOORE *Epicure* xi. (1839) 101 The becalming influence of the hour.

Becap, becarpet, becassocked, etc.: see BE-.

Becarve (b'kār'v), *v.* [OE. *becorfan*, f. BE- + *corfan* to CARVE.]

† 1. *trans.* To cut off. Obs. (Cf. *behead*.)

a 1000 *Beowulf* 3185 And hine þá hēafde becarf. a 1230 *Anscr. R.* 362 Lofleaze meidenes þe... hēfdes bikoruen.

† 2. To cut up, open up (land). Obs.

1388 WYCLIF *Isa.* xxviii. 24 Whether he that erith... schal be kerue (1388 forth cutten) and purge his lond?

3. To cut in pieces, carve.

1663 ALCOCK *Capit. Tycoon* I. 272 The chance of being becarved by two-sworded samourai in pursuit of their game.

† **Becast**, *v.* Obs. [f. BE- + CAST v.]

1. *trans.* To cover or surround, by casting something about.

c 1300 *St. Brandan* 90 Hi letten hem dizte a gret schip, and above hit al bi-caste With bole huden. c 1500 *Egynourte* 272 in E. P. P. (Hazz.) II. 104 The frenchemen our kynge about becaste With batayles stronge on euery side.

2. *intr.* To cast about, plan, plot.

1563 *Myrr. Mag.* *Rich.* III. xiv. Becast them to kyl by smothering in theyr bed.

† **Becatch**, *v.* Obs. Also bi-, by-; for forms see CATCH. [f. BE- + CATCH v.]

1. *trans.* To lay hold of, seize upon.

c 1200 *Trin. Coll. Hom.* 35 Þe wilde deor þe þis ofref waned, and wile bicachen it... and wile mid strengde binimen.

2. To take by craft; to beguile, cheat, deceive.

c 1200 ORMIN 11628 3iff þe Læferrd hafde þær þatt wise makedd lafess... þa wære he þær bikachedd. 1340 *Ayenb.* 125 Prudence lokþ þane scele, þet hi ne bi becast. c 1460 *How Wif taught Doughter* 174 in Hazz. E. P. P. 192 What man that the wedde schalle, than is he nought bycaught.

Because (b'kō'z, -kō'z), *adv.* and *conj.* Forms: 4-7 bi-, bycause, 4-6 by cause, (6 be cause), 4- because; *dial.* 'cause. [f. BY *prep.* + CAUSE *sb.* Orig. a phrase, consisting of *prep.* and *subst.*; after which the cause or purpose was expressed by a *subst.* governed by *of*, a *dative infinitive*, or a *subord. clause* introduced by *that* or *why*. See also *cause why*, s. v. CAUSE. Such *subord. clauses* fell into two classes, one expressing cause or reason, the other purpose. In the former *that* was at length omitted, leaving *because* only. The same was often done from 15th to 17th c. with the latter class, but modern usage here drops *because* and uses *that* alone. There was an equivalent for *cause* (see CAUSE *sb.*); hence, perhaps the former use of *for because*, in nearly all the constructions.]

A. *adv.*

1. Followed by *that* or *why*: For the reason that. (Formerly *for* was sometimes prefixed.) *arch.*

c 1305 *Deo Gratias* 37 in E. E. P. (1862) 125 þou hast herd al my deuse, Bi cause whi, hit is clerkes wise. c 1386 CHAUCER *Frankl. T.* 233 By cause that he was hire Neighbour. c 1400 MAUNDEY. xv. 162 For because that Saturne is of so late steryng. c 1486 *Bk. St. Albans* D iij b. This be not enlured... by cause that they be so ponderowse. 1541 COPLAND *Galyen's Teraf.* 2 Bivb. For bycause that the sayde indication is nat taken of the same cause, it is euydent, etc. 1611 *Bible* *John* vii. 39 The Holy Ghost was not yet giuen; because that Iesus was not yet glorified. 1821 *Byron* *Heav. & Earth* iii. 442, I abhor death, because that thou must die.

2. Followed by *of* and *subst.*: a. By reason of, on account of. (For formerly sometimes prefixed.)

c 1256 WYCLIF *Last Age Ch.* (1840) 31 Þe synnes bi cause of whiche suche persecucioun schal be in Goddis Chirche. 1393 GOWER *Conf.* II. 169 His wife, because of this, Goddesse of corn cleped is. a 1400 *Cov. Myst.* 31 My husband is lost because of me. 1578 TIMME *Calvin on Gen.* 173 Man ought to have excelled all other Creatures, for because of the mind wherewith he was indued. 1717 LADY M. W. MONTAGU *Lett.* xxxvii. I. 133 It is a particular art to load them (camels), because of the bunch on their backs. 1816 J. WILSON *City of Plague* I. i. 331, I cling to thee with a more desperate love Because of thy ingratitude.

† b. For the sake of, for the purpose of. Obs.

1480 CAXTON *Trevisa's Descr. Brit.* 15 Elidurus was logged atte cite Alcluid by cause of solace and hunting. 1523 LD. BERNERS *Froiss.* I. cxxv. 150 The kynge made none assaut, bycause of the sparyng of his people.

† c. For the sake of not; for fear of.

1470-85 MALORY *Arthur* (1817) II. 452 By cause of brekyng of myn avowe, I pray yow all lede me thyder.

† 3. Followed by *to* with *inf.* = In order to. Obs.

1523 LD. BERNERS *Froiss.* I. cxxxix. 346 Bycause to gyue ensample to his subgettes... he caused the... erle of Auser to be putte in prison. 1546 LANGLEY *Pol. Verg. De Invent.* I. xv. 282, Arithmetike was inagyned by the Phenicians, because to vtter theyr Merchandysse.

B. *conj.* [from A 1.]

1. For the reason that; inasmuch as, since. (For formerly sometimes prefixed.)

c 1386 CHAUCER *Frankl. Prol.* 8 By cause I am a burel man... Hauue me excused of my rude speche. 1477 *Paston Lett.* 194 III. 186 Putt hym away by cause he is dangerous. 1509 HAWES *Past. Pleas.* 147 For because I was in her presence, I toke acquaintance of her excellence. 1506 TINDALE *John* xvi. 4 These things sayde I not... be cause [1504 because] I was present with you. 1578 LYTE *Dodoens* 10 Names... giuen to this plante, bycause it is very good. 1607 TORSSELL *Serpents* 789 They are much deceived... for because the Serllion hath a rustie colour. 1616 SIR R. DUDLEY in *Fortes. Papers* 17 Nor am I so vaine... bycause I am not worth so much. 1771 *Junius Lett.* xlviii. 253 Their will must be obeyed; not because it is lawful and reasonable, but because it is their will. 1857 BUCKLE *Civilis.* I. x. 616 We wonder because we are ignorant and we fear because we are weak.

† 2. With the purpose that, to the end that, in order that, so that, that. Obs. (Common *dial.*)

1485 CAXTON *Paris & V.* Told to hys fader... by cause he shold... doo that which he wold requyre hym. 1506 TINDALE *Matt.* xii. 10 They axed him... because [other versions 'that'] they might accuse hym. 1621 BURTON *Anat. Mel.* iii. ii. iv. i. (1651) 525 Anointing the doors and hinges with oyl, because they should not creak. 1626 H. MORE *Antid.* Ath. ii. ix. (1712) 67 The reason why Birds are Oviparous is because there might be more plenty of them.

† Used substantively.

1736 BAILEY s. v. 'Because' is a Woman's Reason. 1875 A. SWINBOURNE *Pict. Logic* 162 Our 'whys' and our 'be-causes' are obliged to stop.

† **Beccabunga**, *Bot.* [med.L., f. Ger. *bach-bunge*, f. *bach* brook + *bunge*:-OHG. *bungo* 'bulb, swelling' (Grimm).] A plant growing on the water's edge; the BROOKLIME (*Veronica beccabunga*).

1706 PHILLIPS, *Beccabunga*, the Herb Sea-purslain, or Brooklime. 1778 *Phil. Trans.* LXVIII. 673 Antiscorbatic plants, such as cochlearia, ... becca bunga.

† **Becca'ccia** (bekkāt'ts'a). [It.] A woodcock. 1855 BROWNING *Pict. Flor. in Men & Wom.* II. 47 Fine as the beak of a young becca'ccia.

† **Beccafico** (bekkāf'ko). Forms: 7-9 becca-fico, 7 beccaficge, 8-9 beccafica, 8 beccifigo, 9 beccafico, -ca, beccaficure, 7- beccafico. [It.; lit. 'fig-pecker,' f. *beccare* to peck + *fico* fig.] A name given in Italy to small migratory birds of the genus *Sylvia*, much esteemed as dainties in the autumn, when they have fattened on figs and grapes: they are identified with the British Pettychaps and Blackcaps.

1621 BURTON in *Lamb Cur. Fragm.* (1823) 574 Beccaficos which men in Sussex eat. 1708 W. KING *Cookery* (1807) 81 Quails, beccaficos, ortolans, were sent to grace the levee of a gen'l's tent. 1732 *Pope Hor. Sat.* ii. ii. 39 Children sacred held a Martin's nest, Till Becca-ficos sold so dev'lish dear. 1817 BYRON *Beppo* xliii, I also like to dine on beccaficos. 1835 E. JESSE *Cleanings Nat. Hist.* Ser. iii. 77 The Beccafico annually visits the fig orchard near that place [Worthing]. 1861 MISS BEAUFORT *Egypt. Sepul.* I. vii. 144 Delicious little beccaficos, of which a hundred may be shot in one tree.

† **Becco**, *Obs.* [a. It. *becco* goat.] A cuckold. 1604 MARSTON *Malcontent* iv. 20 Duke, thou art a becco, a cornuto. P. How? M. Thou art a cuckold. 1623 MASSESINGER *Bondman* II. iii. They'll all make Sufficient beccos, and with their brow-antlers Bear up the cap of maintenance.

Beccene, beccained, beccalk, etc.: see BE-.

† **Bechamel** (b'chā'mel). *Cookery.* Also 8 bischamel. [Named after the inventor, the Marquis de Béchamel, steward of Louis XIV.] A kind of fine white sauce thickened with cream.

1706 MRS. GLASSE *Cookery* v. 44 Have ready a bischamel. 1835 BECKFORD *Recoll.* 95 The sautes and bechamels [were] beyond praise.

Bechance (b'chā'ns), *v.* [f. BE- + CHANCE v.]

1. *intr.* To happen, fall out, chance.

1507 KNIGHT in *Pocock Rec. Ref.* I. xxviii. 58 It may bechance that the king... may be right well content. a 1555 RIDLEY *Wks.* 376 Ye do know what hath bechanced unto my brother. 1591 SHAKS. *Two Gent.* I. i. 61 All happiness bechance to thee in Millaine. 1814 CARY *Dante's Inf.* IV. 143 My words fall short of what bechanced.

2. (with *dative object*) To befall (a person). 1530 TINDALE *Exp. & Notes* (1849) 329 Let whatsoever rebuke bechance my brother. 1593 SHAKS. *Lucr.* cxi. Let there bechance him pitiful mischances.

† **Bechance**, *adv.* *prop. phrase.* [f. BY *prep.* + CHANCE *sb.*] By chance.

1548 GRAFTON *Hen. VIII.* an. 14 (R.) At the last battayle... we bechance lost our souereigne lorde. c 1570 *Scot. Poems* 16th C. II. 334 Were not bechance he had a man.

Becharm (b'chā'm), *v.* [f. BE- + CHARM.] *trans.* To charm, to fascinate; to hold by a charm or spell. Hence *Becharming ppl. a.*

1340 *Ayenb.* 60 Hy becharmeþ zuo moche þane man þet he yleþ ham. 1616 BEAUM. & FL. *L'Amour de Candie* v. i. (R.) My reason long Hath been becharm'd. 1658 FORD *Fancies* IV. i. The paradise of my becharming thoughts. 1823 *Harper's Mag.* Dec. 36/1 The forest where Merlin was becharmed.

Bechase, bechatter, bechoeck, etc.: see BE-.

Beche. [Etymol. uncertain: cf. F. *bêche* mattock.] (See quot.)

1851 *Coal-tr. Terms, Northumbld. & Durh.* 8 Beche (called by the workmen *Bitch*, an instrument... used in boring, for the purpose of extricating the bottom portion of a broken set of bore-rods from a bore-hole.

† **Bêche-de-mer** (b'f'ch' d' mgr). [Fr.; lit. 'sea-spade.'] A marine animal, an echinoderm (*Holothuria edulis*), called also Trepang, Sea-cucumber, Sea-slug, eaten as a luxury by the Chinese. Hence a vb. To bêche-de-mer.

1814 FLINDERS *Voy. Terra Austr.* in *Penny Cycl.* XII. 270/2 The bêche-de-mer, or sea-cucumber, which we had first seen on the reefs of the east coast. 1847 CARPENTER *Zool.* § 1023 Those who go bêche-de-mer-ing, as the employment is commonly termed.

Beche, obs. form of BEECH.

Bechic (b'chik, b'chik), *a.* and *sb.* *Med.*; also 7-8 bechick, bechick. [ad. F. *béchique*, ad. L. *bēchicus*, a. Gr. *βήχικός*, f. *βήχ* cough.]

A. *adj.* Tending to cure or relieve a cough.

1678 SALMON *Pharm. Lond.* vi. ii. 813 Bechick (preparations), such as are good against Coughs, Colds, Asthma's.

B. *sb.* A cough medicine.

1661 LOVELL *Hist. Anim. & Min.* 339 The cough's... cured

A compilation
the Portuguese
do mar, 'sea-u'

by . bechicks. 1684 tr. *Bonnet's Merc. Comput.* xvii. 595 The Lungs smoothed and moistened with Bechicks.

† **Bechical**, *a.* *Obs.* = prec. adj.
1657 TOMLINSON *Renou's Disp.* 86 Bechical confections.
1771 J. S. *Le Dran's Observ. Surg.* (ed. 4) 107 Bechical Medicines . . . to facilitate the Expectoration.

Bechignoned, **bechirm**, **bechirp**, etc.: see **BE-**

Beck (bek), *sb.* Forms: 3 beco, 5-6 bek, 6-7 becke, 7 beke, 5- beok. [a. ON. *bekk-r* (Du. *bak*, Sw. *bäck*), brook, rivulet:—OTeut. **bakki-s* masc.; cognate with **baki-s*, whence OE. *bēce* masc., OS. *bēki*, MDu. *bēke*, Du. *beek* fem., and OHG. *bah*, mod. G. *bach* masc., also fem. provincially. Gothic preserves no form of this word, which is also unknown beyond Teutonic.]

1. A brook or stream: the ordinary name in those parts of England from Lincolnshire to Cumberland which were occupied by the Danes and Norwegians; hence, often used *spec.* in literature to connote a brook with stony bed, or rugged course, such as are those of the north country.

a 1200 *Cursor M.* (Gött.) 8946 Made a brig, Ouer a littel becc [Cott. burn, Trin. ryuere] to lig. c 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 29 Bek watyr, rendlyst, riuulus, torrens. 1481 in *Ripon Ch. Acts* 247 Markington becc. 1538 *LELAND Itin.* i. 70 There cummuth a very little Bek thorough the Toun of Northalverton . . . communely callid Sunnebek. 1610 *HOLLAND Camden's Brit.* i. 722 Wandering becces [printed beakes] and violent swift brookes. 1630 SANDERSON *Serm.* ii. 276 Shallowest becks run with the greatest noise. 1691 RAY *N. Countr. Wds.* 131 A Beck, a Rivulet or small Brook. 1795 *SOUTHEY Joan of Arc* i. 235, I have laid me down . . . and watch'd The becc roll glittering to the noon-tide sun. 1872 *BLACK Adv. Phaeton* xxvii. 369 Each gorge and valley has its becc.

2. The valley-bottom through which a becc flows: cf. **BACHE**.

1641 *BEST Farm. Books* (1856) 28 Keepe them [sheep] together in some well fenced place, as the Bricke close . . . the Newe Intacke in the towne becke.

Beck (bek), *sb.* Forms: 4-6 bek, 5 beke, 5-7 becke, 6 bekke, 4- beok. [f. **BECK** v.1]

1. A mute signal or significant gesture, especially one indicating assent or notifying a command; e. g. a nod, a motion of the hand or fore-finger, etc.

1384 *WYCLIF Job* xxvi. 11 The pilers of heuene . . . quaken at his becc. 1398 *TREVISA Barth. De P. R.* xviii. xlviii. (1495) 809 Thise ben accounted tonglesse: and vse signes and becces in stede of spekyng. 1486 *Bk. St. Albans* D.J. 2500 *ARNOLD Chron.* (1811) 161 They w^t a bek on thinge wyl afferme, and the same streit wyl denye. 1598 *YONG Diana* 162 Giuing a becke with his head to his Shepherdesse in token of thanks. 1635 *QUARLES Embl.* i. xiii. (1718) 54 If pleasse beccon with her balmy hand, Her becc's a strong command. 1798 *DE FOE Syst. Magick* i. vii. 204 With a becc of the head or hand, as we beccon to servants. 1866 *TRENCH Mirac.* xxxii. 452 Armies of heuene . . . whom a becc from Him would bring forth.

2. Hence, The slightest indication of will or command, and *transf.* absolute order or control; esp. in phrases *To have at one's becc*, *to hang upon the becc of*, *to be at the becc and call of*.

a 1470 *TIPTOT Cesar* iii. (1530) 4 It should be ready at a becc. 1587 *MYRR Mag.* G. Cordila xxv, I had the Britaynes at what becke I wou'd. 1635 *PAGITT Christianogr.* 117 Bound to your Holiness, and wholly hanging upon your becke. 1642 *ROGERS Naaman* 229 His conversion brought the whole Towne into order under Gods becke. 1750 *JOHNSON Rambl.* No. 74 p. 7 He . . . expects to find the world rolling at his becc. 1875 *MCLAREN Serm.* 65 Christ's love is not at the becc and call of our fluctuating affections.

3. A gesture expressive of salutation or respect; an inclination of the head; an obeisance, a bow, a curtsy, a nod. Chiefly *Sc.*

c 1375 *WYCLIF Antecrist* 149 Ne wip beccus, ne wip dugardes, as ypocritus usen. c 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 29 Bek, or lowte. *conquincio.* c 1450 *HENRYSON Mor. Fab.* 24 Welcome . . . (Quod hee) with many bing and many becke. 1538 *BALF Three Lawes* 1470 As good is a becke, as is a dewe vow garde. 1557 *SURREY in Tottell's Misc.* (Arb.) 218 With a becc full low he bowed at her feete. c 1633 *MILTON L'Allegro* 28 Nods and Becks and wreathed Smiles. 1744 *RAMSAY Tea-t. Misc.* (1733) II. 138 She right courteously Return'd a becc. c 1817 *HOGG Tales & Sk.* III. 267 Ellen came into the parlour with a becc as quick and as low as that made by the water ousel. 1863 *GEO. ELIOT Romola* (1880) I. i. vi. 84 He retreated with a bow to Romola and a becc to Tito.

Beck (bek), *sb.* *dial.* [In OE. *becca*; cf. Pr. *beca* hook, perh. from Celtic root *bacc-*, cf. Ir. *bacc*, *bac* (masc.) 'hook, crook'.] An agricultural implement with two hooks, for dressing turnips, hops, etc.; a kind of mattock.

c 1000 *ÆLFRIC Gloss.* in Wülcker *Voc.* 106 *Ligo*, becca. 1875 *PARRISH Sussex Dial.*, *Beck*, a mattock. 1884 *West Sussex Gaz.* 25 Sept. Turnip cutters, fold bars, becks.

Beck (bek), *sb.* *?* corruption of **BACK** *sb.* 2; but cf. Du. *becken*, G. *becken*, basin.] A large shallow vessel or tub, used in brewing, dyeing, etc.

1828 *Hull Rockingham* 14 June 84/3 Three large guile tubs, several mash tubs and under becks.

Beck (bek), *v.* Forms: 3-7 becke, 4-6 bekke, bek, 6 beake, (7 *Sc.* baik), 5- beok. [shortened form of **BECKON** v. (in ME. *becni-en*, *becken-en*, *beken-en*), the *-en* of the stem *beken-* being apparently taken as the infinitive ending, whence an assumed stem *bek-*; the *Promp. Parv.* has

both *bekn-yn* and *bek-yn* 'annoto'; cf. *open*, *ope*, etc.]

1. *intr.* To make a mute signal, or significant gesture, as by nodding, shaking the fore-finger, etc.
a 1300 *E. E. Psalter* xxxiv. 19 Whilk þat hates me wilfulli, And becces with þair eghen lesli. c 1386 *CHAUCER Manc. T.* 346 Spek nat, but with thyne heed thou bekke. c 1450 *Towneley M.* 319. 1548 *HALL Chron.* (1809) 703 At the whiche wise menne becced and lyht men laughed, thynkyng great foly in his high presumption. 1625 *K. LONG Barclay's Argenis* i. ix. 22 Secretly beccing and winking on the Maids, she bade them speake softer. 1854 *WOOLMER Silenus*, Our sweetest hopes That ever becc with smiles of welcoming.

b. *trans.* To express by a becc.

1821 *CLARE Vill. Ministr.* II. 72 While turning nods becc thanks for kindness done.

2. *trans.* (obj. *orig. dative*.) To make a mute signal to (a person, to approach); to beckon.

1486 *Bk. St. Albans* A j b, With yowre hande or with yowre tabur styke, becke yowre hawke to come to you. 1595 *SHAKS. John* iii. iii. 13 When gold and siluer becks me to come on. 1609 *GAUL Pract. The.* 305 Hee [Christ] bowes his Head; as though hee would becke us towards him. 1839 *BAILEY Festus* (1843) 40/2 The star Which beams and becks the spirit from afar.

3. *intr.* To make a sign of recognition, respect, or obeisance; to nod, make a slight bow; to curtsy. (Chiefly in *Sc.* writers.)

1535 *STEWART Cron. Scot.* II. 575 And call him schir, bekkand with bayth his kneis. 1571 *T. FORDESCUE Forest Pref.*, Verses, Beake, then, and bowe thee lowe. 1686 *G. STUART Joco-Ser. Disc.* 50 She laighly balking made her honour. 1712 *ARBUTHNOT John Bull* (1755) 51, I mun stand beccing and binging. 1877 *H. PAGE De Quincey* i. viii. 156 Two philosophers beccing and bowing to each other.

Beck, *-ed*, *-er*, *obs.* forms of **BEAK**, *-ED*, *-ER*.

Becker, *becket*, *dial.* Sea-bream, braize.

1608 *CAREW Cornwall* 320 Of flat [fish there are] Brets, Turbets, Becket, Haddock, &c. 1880 *T. COUCH E. Cornw. Gloss.*, *Becker*, a species of bream, *Sparus pagrus*.

† **Becket**, *sb.* *Obs. rare.* (See quot.)

1352-98 [in *Rogers Agric. & Prices* (1866) I. xxii. 580 We find purchases of silk on behalf of the warden of Merton. These purchases are called 'beckets' or 'begens'. Three begens or beckets were equal in quantity and price to the amount ordinarily used for lining the summer robes of a great person.]

Becket (bek'et), *sb.* *2 Naut.* [Etymology unknown. Du. *bogt*, *bocht* 'bend' of rope, has been suggested. Falconer *Dict. Marine*, thought it 'probably a corruption of bracket'.]

A simple contrivance, usually a loop of rope with a knot on one end and eye at the other, but also a large hook, or a wooden bracket, used for confining loose ropes, tackle, ropes, oars, spars, etc. in a convenient place, and also for holding or securing the tacks and sheets of sails, and for similar purposes.

1769 *FALCONER Dict. Marine* (1789), Beckets are either large hooks, or short pieces of rope, with a knot on one end and an eye in the other, or formed like a circular wreath; or they are wooden brackets. 1830 *MARRVAT King's Own* xxx, A pistol stuck . . . in a becket at the side of the boat. c 1860 *H. STUART Seaman's Catech.* 45 Bunt beckets are sewn on the after part of the sail.

Becket (bek'et), *v.* [f. prec. *sb.*] *trans.* To fasten or secure by beckets; to furnish with beckets.

1823 *F. COOPER Pioneer* xv. (1860) 66/2, I learnt . . . how a top-gallant-sail was to be becketted. 1853 *KANE Grinnell Exp.* xxxiii. (1856) 295 Preserved meat boxes . . . ready strapped and becketted [wantice for trunk-handled].

Becking (bek'ing), *vbl. sb.* [f. **BECK** v.1 + *-ING*1.] The action of **BECK** v.1: a. Significant gesture.

b. Nodding, bowing, obeisance, curtsy.

1542 *UDALL Erasim. Apoph.* 912, Excepte thei make much doukyng, stoopyng, beccyng. 1559 *J. SA[NFORD] Agrippa's Van. Artes* 124 Birdes fiewe to him at his beccyng. 1583 *STANWURST Enic* ii. (Arb.) 63 With menacing beccyng.

Beckiron, *obs.* form of **BEAK-IRON**.

Beckon (bek'n), *v.* Forms: 1 *biecon*, *bécon*, *bion*, *býen-lan*, *bécon-an*, 2-4 *been(i)-en*, 3 *bécon-i-en*, 4-5 *beken*, *biken*, 5 *bekn-yn* (? *bekyn*, *beccyn*), 6-8 *becken*, 7 *becon*, 5- *beekon*. [OE. *biecan*:—OTeut. **bauknjan*, f. *baukno*, in OE. *béacn* sign, *BEACON*; cogn. w. OS. *bōknian*, OHG. *bouhhanjan*, *bouhnen*. Also OE. *béacnian*, a later formation on the *sb.*: cf. ON. *bákna*, and *BEACON* v.]

1. *intr.* To make a mute signal or significant gesture with the head, hand, finger, etc.; now esp. in order to bid a person approach.

c 950 *Lindisf. Gosp.* Luke i. 22 He was beccende ðæm. c 1000 *Ag.* G. *ibid.*, He was beccniende him. c 1160 *Hallton G.* *ibid.*, He was beccniende heom. c 1200 *ORMIN* 223 Comm he sibbenn ðæt All dumb. And toce to beccenn till þe folle. 1388 *WYCLIF Ps.* xxxiv. 19 Audieraries . . . haten me with out cause, and bikenen with isen. c 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 29 *Bek-yn*, *annoto*. 1530 *PALSGR 441/2*, I beccen with the heed to gyve one warnyng of a thyng. 1675 *HOBBS Odys.* (1677) 259 Then to his son with's eye he becconed. 1719 *DE FOE Crusoe* i. 241, I beccon'd with my hand to him, to come back. 1834 *HT. MARTINEAU Demerara* vii. 89 He was about to beckon to his companion.

† b. To act as a beacon. *Obs. rare.*

c 1400 *Destr. Troy* xiv. 603 Brode fris & brem beccyn in þe ost, That yche freike in the fild his felow might know.

2. *trans.* (the object *orig. dat.*; see sense 1): To make a mute signal or significant gesture of head or hand to (a person), as commanding his attention or action, and esp. his approach; hence, to summon or bid approach by such a gesture.

[c 1000 *Ag.* G. Luke v. 7 Hig bicnodon hyra zeferan. c 1160 *Hallton G.* *ibid.*, Hyo becceden heore ze-feren.] c 1400 *Destr. Troy* vii. 3112 And ho . . . becconet hym boldly . . . his place to Remeve. c 1440 *Generydes* ii. 3827 With hir kerche she bekenyd hym aside. 1604 *SHAKS. Oth.* iv. i. 134 Iago becons me: now he begins the story. 1712 *STEELE Spect.* No. 498 p. 3 A lively young fellow . . . beckoned a coach. 1732 *SWIFT Lett.* 58 Wks. 1761 VIII. 133 You may becken a blackguard-boy under a gate. 1816 *J. WILSON City of Plague* i. iv. 138 He beccon'd me to ascend a cart.

† b. To summon by a signal of any kind. *Obs.*

1205 *LAY. 21938* He lette blawen bemen and þa Scottes beccien [Layo bannien].

† 3. *intr.* To nod; to bow. *Obs.* Cf. **BECK** v. 3. 1578 *LYTE Dodona* 330 The flowers hang upon tender stalkes, nodding or beccyng downewardes.

Beckon (bek'n), *sb.* [f. prec. *vb.*: of late formation.] A significant gesture of head, hand, etc., esp. one indicating assent or command.

a 1718 *PENN Travels* Wks. 1726 I. 623 Æshilus makes a sincere Beckon to a matter, a firm Oath. 1817 *W. TAYLOR in Month. Mag.* XLIII. 237 Their beckon intimates no ambush nigh. 1875 *B. TAYLOR Faust* II. iii. 204 Strong men obedient stand waiting his every beckon.

Beckoning, *vbl. sb.* [f. as prec. + *-ING*1.] The action of the *vb.* **BECKON**; = preceding.

c 1380 *Sir Ferumb.* 3577 Þe frensche panne . . . made a bekenyng to Richard, To take ys way forþ rihte. 1388 *WYCLIF Gen.* xlii. 6 At his bikenyng [1388 wille] whete cornes weren solde to the peplis. c 1450 *Bk. Curstaze* 249 in *Babees Bk.* (1868) 306 Bekenyng, fygnyng non thou use. 1562 *J. HEYWOOD Prov. & Epigr.* (1867) 61 Before I was wedded . . . I made recknyng. To make my wyfe bowe at eury beccyng. 1828 *CARLYLE Misc.* (1857) I. 113 Incited by capricious beckonings.

Beckoning, *ppl. a.* [*-ING*2.] Making mute signs of assent, invitation, etc.; signalling.

1637 *MILTON Comus* 205 A thousand fantasies. Of calling shapes, and beckoning shadows dire. 1852 *TUPPER Proverb.* *Philos.* 270 Many lovers . . . follow her beckoning finger.

Beclad, *pa. pple.* of **BECLAD**.

Beclag, variant of **BECLAD**.

† **Beclam**, *v.* *Obs.* or *dial.* [f. **BE** + **CLAM**.]

trans. To beclag with anything clammy or sticky.

1674 *N. FAIRFAX Bulk & Selv.* 77 Angels . . . being no wayes beclam'd with body as to ubiety or whereness. 1864 *ATKINSON Whitley Gloss.*, *Beclamed*, splashed or bemired.

Beclamour, **beclang**, **beclart**, **beclatter**, **beolack**, etc.: see **BE** *pref.*

† **Beclap**, *v.* *Obs.* In 4-5 *by*, 5-6 *beclappe*. [f. **BE** + **CLAP**.] To catch or lay hold of suddenly.

c 1386 *CHAUCER 2nd Nommes* T. 9 He . . . continually us wayteth to byclappe. 1530 *PALSGR 445/1*, I beclappe or be trappe, or take in a snare.

Beclaw (b'klō), *v.* [f. **BE** + **CLAW**.] *trans.* To scratch or tear all over with claws or nails.

1603 *HOLLAND Plutarch's Mor.* 1231 CROZUS . . . caught one of the nobles . . . and within a fullers mill all to beclawed and mangled him. 1609 *ROWLANDS Knaus* of C. 6 And with her Nails be clawd Them cruelly.

† **Beclipse**, *v.* *Obs.* For forms see **CLEPE** v. [OE. *beclipse*, *-cliep*, *-clepian*, f. **BE** + *cleopian*, *clypian* to call, cry, **CLEPE**.]

1. *trans.* To complain against; to indict, accuse.

c 1030 *Cant's Sec. Latus* § 28 l. 392 (Bosw.) Ælcere spæce, ðe he ðær beclyped wæs. c 1200 *Trin. Coll. Hom.* 173 Here owen sinnes hem biclepieð. c 1300 *Beket* 365 That of man-asayt was Bicliped.

2. To call upon, address, accost; with *compl.* to address as, call, name.

c 1220 *Halt Meid.* 33 Jif þu ert feir & wið glad chere biclepest alle feire. a 1300 *Cursor M.* 15323 Me yur maister yee bi-clipe, And yur lauerd yee call.

3. To summon to a higher court; *absol.* to appeal.

1297 *R. GLOUC.* 473 Bote the erche bissope's court to rihte him wolde bringe, That he solde fram him bi clupe biure the Kinge. c 1300 *Beket* 1016 You bischops ich biclipie: to the Court of Rome also.

b. To appeal against, object to, disapprove.

c 1320 *Cast. Love* 498 We be-cliepe þe dom for-þi.

Beclip (b'klip), *v.* *1 arch.* For forms see **CLIP**. [OE. *beclippian*, f. **BE** + *clippian* to clasp, embrace; see **CLIP** v.]

† 1. *trans.* To fold in the arms, embrace, clasp. *Obs.*

c 1000 *Ag.* *Gosp.* Mark ix. 36 Þa nam he anne cnapan . . . he hine beclipte. c 1200 *Urrison in Cott. Hom.* 201 Hire leoue child for to bi-cluppen. 1297 *R. GLOUC.* 469 Hi custe hom & bi clupte. 1393 *GOWER Conf.* II. 95 When I may her hond beclippe. 1474 *CANTON Chesse* 16 Her right arme shal beclippe me. 1643 *HORN & ROBERTHAM Gate Lang. Unl.* xx. § 229 Hugging, beclipping, and embracing her foster-child. 1669 *J. WORLIDGE Syst. Agric.* (1681) 113 A Pear-tree . . . as much as three Men, from hand to hand, could beclip.

2. To wrap round, enclose, encircle, surround.

c 1000 *Ag.* *Ps.* cxix. 61 Me fyrenfulra læcne rapas . . . oft becliptan. c 1330 *Arth. & Merl.* 6109 Of Sarrazins gret threng . . . hem biclepten in that place. 1387 *TREVISA Higden Rolls Ser.* I. 59 Ocean byclippeþ al þe erpe aboute as a garlond. 1494 *FABYAN* vi. cxlviii. 134 The Wandalis . . . approchid the cytie . . . and it enuyroned, or beclipped with a stronge siege. 1541 *R. COPLAND Guydon's Quest. Chirurg.* F. iij a b, The muscles and cordes . . . beclipped with all the ioynt of the bone called vlna. 1608 *WARNER Alb. Eng.* xiii. lxxviii. (1612) 323 Yeat Sea the Earth, the Aier them

both, the skie be-cleaps them all. 1855 SINGLETON *Virgil* II. 121 The flood . . beclips, and whirles The booming rocks.
 †3. To include, comprise, comprehend, contain.
 1330 *Hali Meid*. 19 Pe hehsceipe of be mede bat tis ilke
 lut wordes becluppen abuten. 1393 GOWER *Conf.* II. 194
 He wolde embrace All that this wide world beclippeth.

†4. To lay hold of, seize upon, grip; to catch, overtake. *lit. and fig. Obs.*

1380 WYCLIF *Wks.* (1880) 462 Pe pope will beclippe worldly worchip. 1380 — *Isa.* v. 29 He shal . . holden the prei, and beclippen, and ther shal not be that delyuere out. 1491 CAXTON *Vitas Patr.* (W. de W. 1495) II. 180 b/1 He toke his waye . . but was beclippede of the nyghte. 1493 *Festivall* (1515) 17 b, A grete blacke tooode . . had beclipped his faders herte. 1557 TUSSEY *Husb.* (1878) 224 Get euer before hande . . least winter beclip thee.

†b. To curdle (milk). *Obs.* Cf. *catch*.

1400 MAUNDEV. 52 Take also a drope of Bawme, and put it in to a Dissche . . with Mylk of a Goot; and 3if it be naturelle Bawme, anon it wole take and beclippe the Mylk.

Beclip (bɪkɪp), *v.* 2. [f. BE- + CLIP *v.*] *trans.*

To clip about, crop.

1794 MARTYN *Rousseau's Bot.* xvi. 207 Alaternus, formerly so shorn and beclipped in hedges.

†**Beclipping**, *vbl. sb.* [f. BECLIP *v.*] Embrace.

1340 *Aenb.* 96 Pet word is worp ase moche ase a beclippinge of love. 1400 WYCLIF *Gen.* xli. 29 (MS. C.) 1449 PECKOK *Repr.* II. xx. 271 An handling or a beclipping.

Beclug (bɪklʊg), *v.*; also 4 *biolag*, 5 *byolag*. [f. BE- + CLOG.] *trans.* To encumber with a sticky substance; hence *Beclugged ppl. a.*

1340 *Auent. Sir Gauwayne* ix. Al beclugged in clay. 1481 CAXTON *Reynard* (Arb.) 98 They were byslybbed and by-clugged to their eres. 1578 *Gorgious Gallery Inuent.*, Thy loving mate, Whom thou hast left beclugged now, in most unhappy state. 1668 EARLE *Microcosm.* x. 23 A miry way, where the spirits are beclugged. 1866 J. ROSE *Virgil* 125 At eve returning, thighs beclugged with thyme.

†**Beclouse**, *v.* *Obs.* Forms: 1 *beclūs-an*, 2-3 *biolusen-en*, 4 *7 beclouse*. [Orig. OE. *beclūsian*, f. BE- + *clūsian*: see CLUSE; subseq. changed to CLOSE after Fr.] *trans.* To shut up or in; to enclose, imprison. Hence *Beclousing vbl. sb.*

1000 *Ag. Gosp.* Luke iii. 20 He be-clousede iohannem on cwearterne. 1205 LAV. 15023 Sculden þer swiðe faste bi-clusen heom in ane castle. 1230 *Ancr. R.* 108 Du uorsoke þene world i þine beclusinge. 1325 *Cant. de L.* 5185 Richard seigh. That the Sarcenez hoost beclousyd is. 1679 GILPIN *Diamond* (1867) 165 Becloused in the mil[d]head of God.

Beclouthe (bɪkləʊð), *v.* Pa. t. and ppl. *be-clouthe*, *beclad*. [f. BE- + CLOTH.] *trans.* To clothe about, cover with clothes.

1509 HAWES *Past. Pleas.* xlii. iii. Thy beaute . . becladde with cloth of pleasure. 1640 FULLER *Joseph's Coat* (1867) 213 The night, with mourning weeds, the world beclad. 1775 R. CHANDLER *Trav. Greece* (1825) II. 153 Enwrapped and beclouthe in such a manner, it is impossible to discern whether they are young or old. 1821 CLARE *Vill. Minstr.* etc. I. 106 Brown heaths be-clouthe in furze.

Becloud (bɪklaʊd), *v.* Also 7 *-clowd*. [f. BE- + CLOUD.]

1. *trans.* To cover or obscure with clouds (of vapour, smoke, etc.); to make misty or murky.

1598 SYLVESTER *Du Bartas* (1608) 359 With a sable cloud Of horned locusts doth the sun becloud. 1636 R. GRIFFIN in *Ann. Dubensis* (1877) 52 These . . becloud the azure skies. 1854 WOODWARD *Mollusca* (1856) 15 The cuttle-fish escapes by . . beclouding the water with an inky discharge.

2. *fig.* To make obscure; to darken, to hide.

1619 DONNE *Serm.* Wks. 1839 VI. 20 Howsoever the Understanding be beclouded. 1782a PRIESTLEY *Nat. & Rev. Relig.* II. 161 Beclouding and puzzling the business. 1876 GEO. ELIOT *Dan. Der.* II. xix. 7 These fine words with which we fumigate and becloud unpleasant facts.

Beclouded, *ppl. a.* [f. prec. + -ED.] Covered or beset with clouds; made obscure, or gloomy.

1581 SIDNEY *Astr. & Stella* (T.) Woe Painted in my beclouded stormy face. 1875 HELPS *Organic Daily L.* 138 Houses are constructed after the same pattern . . for cloudless and beclouded districts.

Beclout (bɪklaʊt), *v.*; also 3 *biolute*. [f. BE- + CLOUT.] *trans.* To cover with a clout or cloth; to dress up; chiefly *fig.*

1230 *Ancr. R.* 316 Þis nis nout naked schrif. . . biolute þu hit nowhit. 1873 T. COOPER *Parad. Martyrs* (1877) 299 The mimsters who beclout themselves anew with rags of Rome.

†**Beclumpse**, *v.* *Obs.* [f. BE- + CLUM(P)] *se v.*; cf. *clumper*, *clumsy*.] *trans.* To benumb.

1611 COTGR., *Glacer* . . to benumme, beclumpse. 1653 URQUHART *Rabelais* III. xxxi, Certain Drugs . . do . . benumb mortifie and beclumpse with cold the prolific Semence.

Becon-ian, *en*, *obs.* form of BECKON.

Beconweb, *beconlier*, *beconme*, *beconlour*, *beconbed*, *beconma*, *beconpass*, etc.: see BE-.

Become (bɪkʊm), *v.* Pa. t. *became*; Pa. ppl. *become*. Forms as in COME: also in 16-17th c. *pa. t.* and *pa. ppl.* often *becomed*, esp. in senses 5-8: see next word. Prefix in ME. also *bi-*, *by-*. [Common Teut.: OE. *becuman* to arrive, attain, happen, corresponding to OHG. *biqueman*, mod.G. *bekommen*, Du. *bekomen*, Goth. *biquiman*, f. *bi-* BE- + *quiman*, in OE. *cuman*, to COME. With the development of senses 5, 6, cf. Fr. *devenir*; with that of 7 cf. L. *convenire*, Gr. *συνανθηναι*.]

1. To come, come about.

†1. *intr.* To come (to a place), to arrive; passing in later use into 'betake oneself, go'. *Obs.*

1885 K. ALFRED *Oros.* IV. viii. § 3 Hannibal to þam lande becom. 1175 *Lamb. Hom.* 129 Hwer bicomem heo þa? 1250 *Gen. & Ex.* 1744 To be munt galaad he bi-cam. 1340 *Cursor M.* 13748. 1475 CAXTON *Jason* 92 b, Where may I becomfe to haue good conceyll. 1533 BELLENDEN *Livy* V. (1822) 450 Thay war becomin oure the said montanis. 1535 COVERDALE *Prov.* xvii. 8 Where so euer he becometh he prospereth. 1554 MOUNTAIN in *Strype Eccl. Mem.* III. 1. xxiv. 198 Knew not where to become that night. 1625 BACON *Ess.* xlv. (Arb.) 551 Houses so full of Glasse, that one cannot tell, where to become, to be out of the Sunne. 1737 WHISTON *Josephus' Antiq.* viii. iii. § 2 That they might become into one through another.

†b. Where became it, is it become, etc. (= 'where went it, has it gone') are now expressed by *what became of it, has become of it*: see 4.

1205 LAV. 21913 Wær scullen we bicomem? 1300 *Cursor M.* 8998 Quar be-com at his in-sight? 1380 WYCLIF *Wicket* 13 Where then becometh your ministrations? 1400 *Yvain & Gau.* 1652 No man wist whor he bycome. 1483 CAXTON *G. de la Tour* xvi. 22 He asked his wif wher the ele was become. 1528 MORE *Herresyes* IV. Wks. 1557, 274/1 Where were becomel a good ordre among men. 1628 WITHER *Brit. Rememb.* 24 Why should the wicked . . say, Where is their God become? 1636 *Ariana* 130 Where is become of this honour and this vertue?

†2. *transf.* To come, in reference to time or state. *Obs.*, or (with infinitive) *arch.*

Beconul 231 Sybhan niht becom. 888 K. ALFRED *Boeth.* xxxix. § 11 Oft becymþ se ænweald þisse worlde to swiþe godum monnum. 1230 *Juliana* 21 Ich schal bliðe bicomem to endelese blissen. 1483 CAXTON *Gold. Leg.* 431/1 Thenne the sayd Saynt . . became to al maner perfection of lyf. 1513-75 *Diurn. Occur.* (1833) 75 The said archbishoppe . . became in the Quenis will. 1541 UDALL *Erasm. Apoph.* 112 b, Why Diogenes first became to bee a philosopher. 1618 BOLTON *Florus* IV. ii. 265 The whole World was now become to be held by three Princes. 1730 A. GORDON *Maffei's Amphit.* 345 The Senatorian Order . . became to have Seats in the Amphitheatre. 1806 SYD. SMITH *Elem. Mor. Philos.* (1850) 369 It becomes to be loved on its own account.

†b. To come, in reference to origin. *Obs.*

1300 *Cursor M.* 9354 His moder . . was be-comen al o þair kin. *Ibid.* 10936 Þis zachari . . Becummen was o leui sede. 1606 G. WOODCOCKE *Hist. Justine* 137a, A country . . wherof became the Ryuer so called.

†3. To come about, come to pass, happen; to fall to one's lot, befall. a. with *dative* or *to. Obs.*

888 K. ALFRED *Boeth.* xxxix. § 9 Swa hit hwilum gewyrf þæt þam godum becymþ anfeald yfel. 1250 *Gen. & Ex.* 2227 Wel michel sorþe is me bicomem. 1556 LAUDER *Tractate* (1864) 1 And quhat sal becum to Kyngis that contynewis in Iniquitie. 1655 JENNINGS *Elise* 147 What became this woman, when she heard this news?

†b. without construction; often impersonally.

1330 *Leg. Kath.* 1563 Bicom (to) þat te king maxence moste fearen. 1250 *Gen. & Ex.* 1777 Quad esau, grot sal bi-cumem. 1483 CAXTON *G. de la Tour* Fij, It became ones that the good man made semblaunt to goo oute. 1530 PALSGR. 445/a It becometh, it happeneth, it chaunseth.

4. *Become of* (after 'what') was used formerly in sense of 'come out of, result from', but has also taken the place of 'where is it become', etc., in 1 b, in reference to the later locality, position, or fate of a person or thing.

1535 COVERDALE *Ex.* xxxii. 1 We can not tell what is become [1380a WYCLIF, what is befallyn; 1388 what befelde] of this man Moses. 1601 SHAKS. *Twel. N.* II. ii. 37 What will become of this? . . My state is desperate. 1611 BIBLE *Gen.* xxviii. 20 We shall see what will become of his dreames. 1663 BUTLER *Hud.* I. iii. 263 Nor do I know what is become Of him more than the Pope. 1707 FREIND *Peterboro's Cond.* SP. 211 It is no Matter what becomes of the Town. 1790 PALEY *Horw. Paul.*, Rom. II. 18 [St. Paul] is telling what was become of his companions. 1866 H. SPENCER *First Princ.* II. v. § 56 (1875) 183 What becomes of this element at either extreme of the oscillation?

II. To come to be. (Closely related to sense 2.)

5. To come to be (something or in some state).

†a. with *to, into. Obs.*

1175 *Lamb. Hom.* 215 To lure hit bi-kumeð of hwuche half so hit falled. 1250 *Prov. Alfred* 383 in O. E. *Misc.* 126 Werldes welpe schulle bi-cumen to nouhte. 1330 *St. Kenelm* 129 in E. E. P. (1862) 51 To a litel foþel he bicom. 1483 CAXTON *G. de la Tour* A i, The . . myrthe was soone falle doune and . . become in to grete tristesse. 1657 HOWELL *Londinop.* 51 The rest of the ground is become into smal tenements. 1683 EVELYN *Hist. Relig.* (1850) II. 28 The Church of God, being now become, from a private family . . to a great and numerous nation.

b. with *subst.* or *adj. complement.*

1175 *Lamb. Hom.* 47 Þa bicom his licome swiðe feble. 1200 *Trin. Coll. Hom.* 21 And þus bicom ure lafdi mid childe. 1350 *Will. Palerne* 881 He cast al his colour and bicom pale. 1398 TREvisa *Barth. De P. R.* v. lxiii. (1495) 178 Gaddis sone bycame man and dwelled among vs. 1483 CAXTON *Gold. Leg.* 135/4 So wyse a man is such a fole become. 1549 *Compl. Scot.* 4 The vniuersal pepil ar be cum distitute of iustice. 1601 BIBLE *Gen.* xix. 26 His wife looked backe . . she became a pillar of salt. 1625 BACON *Ess.* (Arb.) 479 Their Boughs were becomen too great. 1717 LADY M. W. MONTAGUE *Lett.* II. xlii. 30 The asmack, or Turkish veil, is become, agreeable to me. 1774 CASTERV. *Lett.* I. 11 Unfortunately for her, she became in love with him. 1820 HENRY *Elem. Chem.* (1840) II. 699 When . . more largely diluted with water, it becomes hot. 1848 MACAULAY *Hist. Eng. L.* When first they became known to the Tyrian mariners. 1876 GREEN *Short Hist.* vi. § 4. 298 Florence . . became the home of an intellectual Revival.

6. To come into being or existence.

1598 SYLVESTER *Du Bartas* I. l. (1641) 1/2 In the instant when Time first became. 1876 HAMERTON *Intell. Life* II. ii. 56 The powers given us by Nature are little more than a power to become.

III. To agree or accord with; suit, befit, grace.

7. *trans.* To accord with, agree with, be suitable to; to befit (object orig. *dative*).

1230 *Juliana* 7 He was freo boren, and hem walde bicomem a freo boren burde. 1564 BAULDWIN *Mor. Philos.* (Palfr.) i. 51 They should doe such things as becommed their shape. 1596 SHAKS. *Merch. V.* v. 57 Soft stilnes and the night Become the tutches of sweet harmonie. 1611 BIBLE *Heb.* vii. 26 Such an high Priest became vs. — *Prov.* xvii. 7 Excellent speech becommeth not a fole. 1723 DE FOE *Col. Jack* (1840) 171 A book would become his hands better than a hoe. 1778 *Anecd. W. Pitt* (1792) III. 29 A tone of modesty . . would become him better. 1810 WORDSW. *Sonn. Liberty* II. xxv, A garland . . Becomes not one whose father is a slave. 1844 DISRAELI *Coningsby* II. ii. 62 He had that public spirit which became his station.

8. *impers.* (now usually with *it*).

†a. (*absol.*, with *to, for, or clause*.) To be congruous, appropriate, fitting. *Obs.*, replaced by 'it is becoming'.

1175 *Lamb. Hom.* 45 Nu bi-comeð hit . . to uwilchen cristene monne . . to haligen þenne dei. 1297 R. GLOUC. 36 Dop hem alle wel an horse, as a kyng bi comeþ to. 1393 LANGL. *P. Pl. C.* IV. 266 Hyt by-cometh for a kyng. . . To 3eue men mede. 1535 COVERDALE 2 *Macc.* xii. 14 Speakynge soch wordes as it becometh not. 1589 PUTTENHAM *Eng. Poessie* (Arb.) 25 It became that the high mysteries of the gods should be reuealed and taught. 1591 SHAKS. 1 *Hen. VI.* v. iii. 17 Set this Diamond safe . . as it becomes.

b. with *object*. (*orig. dative*) To befit; to be proper to or for.

1230 *Juliana* 55 Wel bisemeð þe to beon and bikimeð [v. r. bicomem] to beo streon of a swuch strunde. 1300 *Beket* 1179 Ueue Bicom him to gon afote. 1480 CAXTON *Chron. Eng.* ccxlii. 295 To play with tenys balles become hym better. 1541 BARNES *Wks.* (1573) 192 It had becommed them a great deale better, to haue punished their seruant. 1577 HOLINSHED *Chron.* III. 1140/1 We haue begun, as becommed vs. 1644 *Direct. Publ. Worship* 17 Gravely, as becommed the word of God. 1661 MARVELL *Corr.* xxviii. Wks. 1872-5 II. 66 There are nakedness which it becomes us to cover. 1788 PRIESTLEY *Lect. Hist.* v. xxxvi. 276 It becomes men . . to make provision for rectifying their mistakes. 1806 SCOTT in *Lockhart* (1839) VIII. 230, I thought it became me to make public how far I was concerned. 1869 FREEMAN *Norm. Cong.* III. xii. 95 He was fonder of hunting than became an Archbishop.

9. Hence, To look well (on or with), to set out.

†a. *absol.* To look well (i. e. in its place); to be comely or becoming. *Obs.*

1300 *Beket* 2351 Wel bicom the brighte gold, upon the rede blod.

b. Said, esp. of an accessory, property, attribute, quality, or action, suiting or gracing its owner or subject. At first with an adv. (*well*, etc.), but afterwards also without one.

1314 *Guy Warw.* 4 The kirtel bicom him swithe wel. 1400 A. DAVY *Dreams* 11 A Coroune of gold Bicom hym wel. 1589 PUTTENHAM *Eng. Poessie* (Arb.) 297 Nothing in the world could worse haue become them. 1605 SHAKS. *Macb.* I. iv. 7 Nothing in his life became him, Like the leauing it. 1644 FULLER *Holy & Prof. St.* IV. i. 240 Bluntnesse of speech hath becom'd some, and made them more acceptable. 1716 ADDISON *Drummer* II. i, Her Widow's weeds became her. 1844 COLERIDGE *Aids Refl.* 53 So anxious to have their dress become them.

c. Of a person: To grace or adorn his surroundings, place, or position, to occupy or wear with fitting grace.

1596 SHAKS. *Tam. Shr.* II. 260 Did euer Dian so become a Groue As Kate this chamber? 1610 — *Temp.* III. ii. 112 She will become thy bed. 1674 CLARENDON *Hist. Reb.* II. vi. 162 Which place he became well. 1713 STEELE *Guardian* No. 21 7 A graceful man . . who became the dignity of his function.

d. Hence, To look well in (a dress, etc.).

1660 MARVELL *Corr.* III. Wks. 1872-5 II. 10 The youth of your own town . . become their arms much better than any soldiers. 1750 JOHNSON *Ramb.* No. 75 9 The splendour which I became so well. 1874 HELPS *Soc. Press.* I. 23 She with her dark hair did most become that yellow gown.

†**Becommed**, *ppl. a.* *Obs. rare*—1. [f. BECOME (sense 8) + -ED.] Befitting, becoming.

1592 SHAKS. *Rom. & Jul.* IV. ii. 26, I . . gaue him what be-comed Loue I might.

†**Becomely**, *a.* and *adv.* *Obs.* Forms: 2-3 *bioumelic*, *-lich*; *adv.* *bioumeliche*. [f. BE-COME + -LY.] *A. adj.* Becoming, fitting, acceptable.

1175 *Lamb. Hom.* 129 Him þuhte bioumelic þæt we weren . . aledede. 1200 *Trin. Coll. Hom.* 127 Swa þat he was bi-cumelich to his wuninge.

B. *adv.* Becomingly, properly.

1200 *Trin. Coll. Hom.* 9 We gon ð dai bioumeliche.

†**Becomeness**, *Obs. rare*—1. [f. *become* *pa. ppl.* + -NESS.] = BECOMINGNESS.

1656 DU GARD *Gate Lat. Uni.* § 673. 287 You may bee adorned . . with bashfulness . . becomeness, faithfulness.

Becoming (bɪkʊmɪŋ), *vbl. sb.* [f. BECOME *v.*]

1. The action of befitting or gracing; that which befits or graces. *rare.*

1600 SHAKS. *Sonn.* 150 Whence hast thou this becoming of things ill. 1606 SHAKS. *Ant. & Cl.* I. iii. 96 My becom-mings kill me, when they do not Eye well to you.

2. A coming to be, a passing into a state.

1853 ROBERTSON *Serm.* Ser. III. xi. 139 Everything else is in a state of becoming. God is in a state of Being. 1860 PUSEY *Min. Proph.* 613 Our life is a 'becoming' rather than a simple 'being'.

Becoming, *ppl. a.* [f. as prec. + -ING²]

1. Befitting, suitable, having graceful fitness. 1565 *Sr. Met. Pr.* cxxxiii. 1 How good a thing it is and how becoming well. 1588 SHAKS. *L. L. II.* i. 67 Within the limits of becoming mirth. 1686 W. DE BRITAIN *Hum. Prud.* § 4. 19 Let your Behaviour, like your Garment, be fit and becoming. 1713 *Guardian* No. 1 P. 1 Coming up to town in a very becoming PERIWIG. 1833 HT. MARTINEAU *Cinn. & Pearls* i. 4 He spoke with becoming indifference of all meaner accomplishments.

2. The becoming: a. that which is befitting or proper; decorum.

1842 *Realities of Life* 207 Some of whom... study the becoming in their own persons. 1848 MACAULAY *Hist. Eng.* II. 540 Selfcommand and a fine sense of the becoming.

b. that which is coming into existence. 1856 FERRIER *Inst. Metaph.* xvii. xvii. 349 The usual synonym for this was the Becoming (ὁ γίνόμενος), that is, inchoate existence.

Becomingly, *adv.* [f. prec. + -LY.] In a becoming manner; befittingly; with graceful fitness.

1644 HEYWOOD *Gunsak* III. 131 Her nose somewhat (but most becomingly) hooked. 1694 KETTLEWELL *Comp. Persecuted* 145 To act... in all things, wisely and becomingly. 1824 BLACK *Jud. Shaks.* xiii. She was becomingly dressed.

Becomingness (bēkōmīngness). [f. as prec. + -NESS.] The quality of being becoming; fitness, suitability; graceful propriety or fitness.

1657 W. DILLINGHAM in *Sir F. Vere's Comm.* Pref. A iv, The becomingness of the stile did much affect me. 1690 NORRIS *Beatitudes* (1692) 214 A kind of Congruity or Becomingness on God's part so to do. 1866 FELTON *Anc. & Mod. Greece* I. i. 283 A propriety and becomingness of demeanour. 1876 MISS YONGE *Womanhood* xv. 116 Taking questions of complexion and becomingness into account.

Become, *v.* *Obs. rare*—[f. BE- + COME, syncopated for *commence*.] To begin, commence. c 1350 *Will. Palerne* 253 Pe kolieres bi-komsed to karpē kēnely i-tere.

Becoom, **becoost**, **becovet**, **becoward**: see BE.

Becon, -age, *obs.* f. BECKON, BEACON, -AGE.

Becover, *v.* *Obs.* [f. BE- + COVER *v.*] *trans.* 1. To recover.

c 1325 E. E. *Allit. P. B.* 1327 Pat he ful clany bi-cu-ver his carþ bi þe laste.

2. To cover over.

c 1325 *Coer de L.* 3925 Alle becoveryd wer feeldes and pleynes With knyghtes. 1594 CAREW *Tasso* (1881) 63 That great one scene with blacke becovered so.

Becram, **becrampoun**, **becrave**, **becrawl**, **becrime**, **becrimson**, **becripple**, **becroak**, **becrowd**, **becrush**, **becrust**, **becry**, etc.: see BE-.

Becripple (bēkrippl), *v.* [f. BE- 2 or 5 + CRIPPLE.] To make lame, to cripple.

1666 H. MORE *Myst. Godd.* vi. xix. 277 Those who you do bedwarte and becripple with your poisonous medicines. 1755 Bp. WARBURTON *Letit.* (ed. Part 1809) 180 Bringing himself down to a lame becrippled world.

Becross (bēkross), *v.* [f. BE- + CROSS.] *trans.* To mark with the sign of the cross; to surround or decorate with crosses. Hence **Becrossed** *ppl. a.*

1565 CALPHILL *Answ. Treat.* Crosse (1846) 79 Your spiritual fathers, all to becrossed about their beds. 1581 in *Confer.* iv. (1584) Z iii, *Campion* becrossed himself on the forehead. 1799 W. TAYLOR *Month. Mag.* VII. 139 A becross'd, beblest... bag of holy sackcloth. 1880 *Blackw. Mag.* Feb. 243 Officers much be-medalled and much be-crossed.

Becrown (bēkraun), *v.* [f. BE- + CROWN *v.*] To crown.

1592 STANFURD *Aeneis* III. (Arb.) 87 Father Anchises a goold boull massye be-crowning. 1800 W. TAYLOR *Month. Mag.* VIII. 806 The cool And shadowy forest, which be-crowns the isle. 1850 LYNCH *Theo. Triv.* viii. 145 Gabriel, perhaps... disports himself... be-crowned with roses.

Becudgel (bēkudʒəl), *v.* [f. BE- + CUDGEL *v.*] To cudgel soundly.

1591 G. FLETCHER *Russe Comedies* (1836) 67 You shall see... their shinnies thus becudgelled and bebasted every morning. 1821 A. DUFFIELD *Quix.* 34 To think I will return to mine [home] until I have becudgelled Don Quixote, is vain.

Becuffed, **becumbered**, **becourry**, **becourse**, **becurtain**, **becushioned**, **becut**, etc.: see BE- *pref.*

Becum, -in, -cumen, *obs.* f. BECOME *v.*

Becure, *obs.* var. of BEAKER.

Becurl (bēkɜrl), *v.* [f. BE- + CURL *v.*] To cover or deck out with curls. Hence **Becurled** *ppl. a.*

1614 SYLVESTER *Bethulia's Rescue* v. 201 Judith... Becurles her Tresses. 1624 MILTON *Paraph. Ps.* cxiv, To hide his frost-becurled head. 1824 MISS MITFORD *Village Ser.* i. (1863) 202 Miss Phoebe... is said to have becurred... herself at least two tiers higher. 1860 A. WINDSOR *Ethica* vii. 352 Questions... discussed by becurred young declaimers.

Becwethe, *obs.* form of BEQUEATH.

Bed (bed), *sb.* Forms: (1-2 bed(d), 3 bedd, 3-6 bedd, 5-7 bedde, (4) bidd, 3-7 bede, 6 beed), 3- bed. [Com. Teut.: OE. *bēdd*, *bēd*, neut., OS. *bed*, MDu. *bedde*, *bed*, *bet*, Du. *bed*, OHG. *beti*, MHG. *bette*, *bet*, mod.G. *bett*, Goth. *badī* (gen. *badjis*): -OTeut. **badjo*-(m) neut.; cf. ON. *bedr*, masc.: -OTeut. **badjo*-(m) neut. Referred by Franck with some probability to Aryan **bhōdh*-, whence L. *fod*-(i) to dig, as if orig. 'a dug out place,' a 'lair' of beasts or men: but this primitive notion had quite disappeared in Teutonic, in which the word had only the two senses 'sleeping-place of men' and 'garden-bed': it is uncertain whether the latter came independently from the root idea of 'dig,'

or whether it was a transference from a bed for sleeping, with reference to its shape or purpose.]

1. The sleeping-place of men or animals.

A permanent structure or arrangement for sleeping on, or for the sake of rest. In some form or other it constitutes a regular article of household furniture in civilized life, as well as part of the equipment of an army or expedition. It consists for the most part of a sack or mattress of sufficient size, stuffed with something soft or springy, raised generally upon a 'bedstead' or support, and covered with sheets, blankets, etc., for the purpose of warmth. The name is given both to the whole structure in its most elaborate form, and, as in 'feather-bed,' to the stuffed sack or mattress which constitutes its essential part. (A person is said to be *in bed*, when undressed and covered with the bedclothes.)

c 995 *Will in Cod. Dipl.* VI. 132 An bedreaf eal ðæt 16 4num bedde gebryð. c 1000 *Ag. Gosp.* John v. 8 Aris: nim þin bed [c 1160 *Hatton G. bedd*] and ga. 1205 LAY. 6701 Pe king læt in his bedde [1250 *bedde*]. a 1300 *Cursor M.* 12392 He suld him mak a treen bedd [Fairf. MS. a bed of tree]. c 1300 *St. Brandan* 125 Beddes ther were al 3are y-maked. 1388 *Wyclif Mark* ii. 9 Ryse, take thi bed and walke. c 1400 *Dest. Troy* xxix. 11933 Buernes in hor bednes britnet all naked. 1424 E. E. *Wills* (1882) 57, I wul þat ilk of my said childre haue a bed, þat is to say, couer-lide, tapite, blankettis, too peyre schetes, matras, and canvas. 1480 CAXTON *Chron. Eng.* ccxlii. 277 He was in his bed and a slepe on a fethyr bedde. 1564 HEYWOOD *Prov. & Epigr.* (1867) 16 In house to kepe housholde, whan folks wyl needis wed, Mo thyngs belong, than foure bare legs in a bed. 1611 BIBLE I *Sam.* xix. 15 Bring him vp to me in the bedde. 1648 JENKYN *Blind Guide* iv. 115 Solld matter lodgeth in his great booke of words, as a childe of two days old in the great bed of Ware. 1726 LADY M. W. MONTAGUE *Letit.* I. xv. 51, I carried my own bed with me. 1761 STERNE *Tr. Shandy* II. xxix. 142 An old... chair... stood at the bed's head. 1851 TENNYSON *May Queen* iii. 23 Sit beside my bed, mother.

b. Often used somewhat elliptically for the use of a bed for the night, the condition or position of being in bed, sleeping in bed, the time for sleeping, etc. Cf. also the phrases under 6.

1474 *Ord. R. Househ.* 28 Make him joyouse and merry towards his bedde. 1666 *Perry's Diary* 12 Aug., We began both to be angry, and so continued till bed. 1769 WESLEY *Jrnl.* 19 Apr., Archdeacon C—e... desired I would take a bed with him. 1845 FORD *Handbk. Spain* § 1. 20 The traveller should immediately on arriving secure his bed. 1874 BLACKIE *Self-Cult.* 50 Let a man walk for an hour before bed. 1879 M. PATTISON *Milton* 151 Bed, with its warmth and recumbent posture, he found favourable to composition.

c. *Bed and board*: entertainment with lodging and food. Of a wife: full connubial relations, as wife and mistress of the household.

c 1403 *York Manual* (1881) Pref. 16 Here I take þe N. to be my wedded wyfe, to haile and to haue at bed and at borde, for fayrer for layther, for better for wers... till ded us depart. 1596 SPENSER *F. Q.* III. x. 51 She [should be] receivd againe to bed and bord. 1756 C. LUCAS *Ess. Waters* III. 17 There is no city... better supplied for dress, carriage, bed and board. 1823 GALT *Entail* II. xv. 135 What... was due for bed and board. 1868 BROWNING *Ring & Bk.* II. 1287 Pompilia sought divorce from bed and board.

d. *fig.* The 'sleeping-place' attributed to things personified; that on which persons figuratively 'repose.'

a 1600 in 1001 *Gems of Song* (1883) 3 The merrie home wakes up the morn to leave his idle bed. 1817 JAS. MILL *Brit. India* II. iv. viii. 285 The treaty with Hyder was the bed on which the resentments of the Directors sought to repose. 1861 GEO. ELIOT *Silas M.* 74 The money... 'll be a bad bed to lie down on at the last.

2. *transf.* a. As the place of conjugal union; hence matrimonial rights and duties.

c 1200 ORMIN 2447 Hu... Patt I mazz ben wipþ childe I min mazzþhad, i clene bedd. c 1305 St. Edmund *Conf.* 106 in E. E. P. (1862) 73 Hire clothes he hude of anon: as hit is lawe of bedde. 1388 WYCLIF *Gen.* xlix. 4 Thow has defouled the bedde of hym. 1611 SHAKS. *Cymb.* III. iv. 42 False to his Bed? 1611 BIBLE *Hebr.* xiii. 4 Marriage is honorable in all, and the bed vndefiled. 1697 DRYDEN *Virg. Eclog.* iv. 78 No God shall crown the Board, nor Goddess bless the Bed. 1711 STEELE *Spect.* No. 51 P. 7 He betrays the Honour and Bed of his Neighbour.

b. As the place of procreation and child-birth; hence parental union, parentage; also birth, progeny.

c 1230 LYDG. *Bokas* II. xxii. (1554) 58 a, Socrates... Of ful lowe bed... was descended. a 1674 CLARENDON *Hist. Reb.* I. 1. 9 George, the eldest son of this second bed. 1809 CRABBE *Par. Reg.* 1. 48 And hoped, when wed, For loves fair favours, and a fruitful bed. 1832 STR. E. BRYDGES *Geneva* III. 104 A younger brother... One of a numerous bed.

3. *gen.* A sleeping-place generally; any extemporized resting-place for the night.

a 1300 *Cursor M.* 902 In cald sal euer be þi bedde. c 1440 *Gesta Rom.* i. 4 Encreasing of his peyne in þe bed of hell. 1590 SHAKS. *Mids. N.* II. ii. 39 Finde you out a bed, For I ypon this banke will rest my head. 1598 — *Merry W.* III. i. 20 There will we make our Beds of Roses. 1877 BRYANT *Odys.* v. 579 Ulysses heaped a bed Of leaves.

4. *fig.* The grave: usually with some qualification, as *narrow bed*, or contextual indication.

a 1300 *Cursor M.* 6962 Iosep banis... þai haue graued in erþe bed. 1535 COVERDALE *Job* xvii. 13 The graue is my house, and I must make my bed in the darcke [WYCLIF In dercness I beddede my bed]. 1611 SHAKS. *Cymb.* IV. iv. 52

If in your Country warres you chance to dye, That is my Bed to. 1793 BURNS *Scots wha hae*, Welcome to your gory bed, Or to victorie. 1817 WOLFE *Burial Sir J. Moore* v. 1 As we hallowed his narrow bed.

5. The resting-place of an animal, esp. one strewed or made up for a domestic beast.

1697 DRYDEN *Virg. Georg.* III. 813 The Water-Snake... lyes poyson'd in his Bed. 1786 THOMSON *Winter* 831 He makes his bed beneath th' inclement drift. 1831 YOUNG *Horse* vi. (1872) 126 The bed of the horse, viz. wheat and oat straw. 1853 'STONEHENGE' *Greyhound* 242 Clean straw... for her [a greyhound] to make her bed on.

6. Phrases and locutions belonging to prec. senses:

a. Qualified by an adj. or attributive sb., as *bridal bed*, *nuptial bed*, the bed in which a newly-married pair sleep; *narrow bed*, the grave; *wedlock bed* = MARRIAGE-BED, q. v.

1667 MILTON *P. L.* IV. 710 With flow'rs... Espoused Eve deck'd first her nuptial bed. 1796 SCOTT *Will. & Helen* xli, To-night I ride, with my young bride, To deck our bridal bed. 1819 — *Noble Moringer* i, In wedlock bed he lay. 1854 HOUSEH. *Words* VIII. 427 There is another bed to come—the grave... Poetry names it the 'narrow bed.'

b. Qualified by prep. phrase, as *bed of death* = DEATH-BED, also used as synonymous with next; *bed of dust*, the grave; *bed of down*, *flowers*, *roses*, (*fig.*) a delightful resting-place, a comfortable or easy position; *bed of honour*, *honour's bed*, (*spec.*) the grave of a soldier who has died on the field of battle; *bed of pleasure*; *bed of sickness* (cf. SICK-BED) that upon which a person lies during illness; *bed of state*, a superb and finely decorated bed for show, or for laying out the corpse of a distinguished person (see STATE-BED).

1549-50 Bk. Com. *Prayer. Visit. Sick*, Look down... upon this child now lying upon the bed of sickness. 1604 SHAKS. *Oth.* I. iii. 232 Custome... Hath made the flinty... Coach of Warre My thrice-driven bed of downe. 1648 HERRICK *Hesper.*, *Connub. Flor.*, Go then discreetly to the bed of pleasure. *Ibid.* To Mrs. Elis. Herrick, Thy bed of roses. 1663 BUTLER *Hud.* I. iii. 147 If he that in the field is slain Be in the bed of honour lain. 1676 C. JEFFRESON in *Young Squire* (1877) Those [English] behaved themselves gallantly, and were most of them layd in the bed of honour. 1713 *London Gaz.* 5009/1 The Corps of the late King is expos'd in a Bed of State. 1735 POPE *Prolog. Sat.* 408 Smooth the bed of death. 1747 *Gentl. Mag.* XVII. 326 In that Bed of Dust, I leave him to repose till a General Resurrection. 1764 GOLDSM. *Trav.* 86 These rocks by custom turn to beds of down. 1777 ROBERTSON *Hist. Amer.* v. Wks. (1831) 890/1 Am I now reposing on a bed of flowers? 1806 LD. CASTLEREAGH 3 Apr. in *Cobbett's Parl. Debates* (1806) VI. 707 The present administration may be considered as on a Bed of Roses. 1834 MARY HOWITT *St. Nat. Hist.* (1851) 105 That soldiers die upon honour's bed! 1838 T. JACKSON *E. Meth. Preachers* (1846) I. 377 My death-bed is a bed of roses.

c. Verbal phrases: *To bring to bed*, *a-bed*, formerly = put to bed; now generally passive, to be delivered of a child; also *fig.* (see also ABED). *To die in one's bed*: to die at home or of 'natural causes,' as opposed to violent death in war, persecution, etc. *To go to bed*: to go to lie down to sleep. † *To have one's bed*: to give birth to a child, 'lie in.' *To keep one's bed*: to remain in bed through sickness or other cause. *To leave one's bed*: to recover from sickness. *To make a bed*: to put a bed in order after it has been used. *To lie or sleep in the bed one has made* (*fig.* extension of prec.): to accept the natural fruits or results of one's own conduct. *To make up a bed*: to prepare sleeping accommodation not previously available. *To take a bed*, *to bed* = 'bring to bed' (see above); also *fig.* *To take to one's bed*: to become confined to bed through sickness or infirmity.

c 1320 *Seyn Sages* (W.) 525 An even late, the emperowr Was browt to bedde with honour. c 1530 LD. BERNERS *Arth. Lyt. Bryt.* (1814) 540 Florence was brought a bed, and had a fayre sonne. 1649 LD. HERBERT *Hen. VIII.* 66 The Queene... being brought to bed of a daughter. 1685 GRACIAN'S *Courtier's Orac.* 161 There are some artificial men, that... are brought to bed of mistakes. 1745 JARVIS *Quix.* I. i. vi. The knights eat, sleep, and die in their beds. 1805 LAY. 711 A beon time... Ponne men gað to bedde. 1777 LANGL. *P. Pl.* B. Prolog. 43 In glotonye, god it wote gon hy to bedde. 1601 SHAKS. *Twel. N.* II. iii. 7 To go to bed after midnight, is to goe to bed betimes. 1848 MRS. GASKELL *M. Barton* (1882) I My Mary expects to have her bed in three weeks. 1534 TINDALE *Acts* ix. 33 A certayne man which had kepte hys bed viii. yere. c 1590 MARLOWE *Faust.* (and vers.) 981 All this day the sluggard keeps his bed. 1828 SCOTT *F. M. Perth* xvi, To speak plainly, she keeps her bed. 1745 JARVIS *Quix.* I. i. vii, Two days after, when Don Quixote left his bed. 1598 SHAKS. *Merry W.* I. iv. 102, I wash, ring, brew... make the beds, and doe all my selfe. 1745 SWIFT *Direct. Servants* Wks. 1756 VII. 404 Your master's bed is made... lock the chamber door. 1823 HOME *Year Bk.* 1301 He would not allow his bed to be made oftener than once a-week. 1883 FLOR. NIGHTINGALE in *Quain's Dict. Med.* s.v. *Nursing*, A true nurse always knows how to make a bed, and always makes it herself. 1753 HANWAY *Trav.* I. III. xxxi. 136 They might sleep in the bed which they had made. 1876 LADY BARKER *Bedr. & Boudoir* III. 42 This could be removed at night, and the bed made up in the usual way. 1883 *Harper's Mag.* Dec. 135 By-and-by he took to his bed.

d. Prepositional phrases: *in*, *to*, *out of bed*.

1388 WYCLIF *Luke* xl. 7 My children ben with me in bed. 1745 JARVIS *Quix.* I. I. vii, They found him already out of bed. 1761 CHURCHILL *Night.*, *Poems* (1769) I. 78 'Till vain

Prosperity retires to bed. 1790 Mrs. ADAMS Lett. (1848) 349 She has not been out of bed since. 1875 JOWETT Plato (ed. 2) I. 129 Prodicus was still in bed.

7. *Bed of justice* (Fr. *lit de justice*): a bed adorned in a particular way in the French king's bedchamber, where he gave receptions; *spec.* the throne of the king in the Parliament of Paris; also, a sitting of this parliament at which the king was present. As the king sometimes convened the parliament to enforce the registration of his own decrees, the term came to be chiefly or exclusively applied to sessions held for this purpose.

1753 CHAMBERS *Cycl. Suppl.*, *Bed of justice*, is only held on affairs relating to the state. 1767 T. JEFFERSON Writ. II. (1859) 251 The King has been obliged to hold a bed of justice, to enforce the registering of new taxes. 1837 CARLYLE *Fr. Rev.* I. III. iv. 102 On the morning, this Parliament declares all that was done on the prior day to be null, and the Bed of Justice as good as a futility. 1875 STUBBS *Const. Hist.* II. xv. 265 The bed of justice, in which the king solemnly attested the decisions, put in form by parliament.

II. The flat base or surface on which anything rests.

8. A level or smooth piece of ground in a garden, usually somewhat raised, for the better cultivation of the plants with which it is filled; also used to include the plants themselves which grow in it.

c 1000 Sax. *Leechd.* I. 96 Deos wyrt . . bið cenned . . on wyrtbeddum. *Ibid.* 98 Deos wyrt . . bið cenned . . on hreod-beddon. 1475 Bk. *Noblesse* 70 The gardyns . . rengid withe beddis bering . . divers herbis. 1535 COVERDALE *Song Sol.* v. 13 His chekes are like a garden bedd. 1632 MILTON *Allegro*, Beds of violets blue. 1690 LOCKE *Hum. Und.* II. xxix. (1695) 198 If I believed, that Sempronius digged Titus out of the Parsley-Bed, as they use to tell Children, and thereby became his Mother. 1797 SWIFT *Country Post Wks.* 1755 III. 1. 175 Not a turnip or carrot can lie safe in their beds. 1847 TENNYSON *Princess* II. 416 The long hall glitter'd like a bed of flowers. *fig.* 1647 WARD *Simp. Cobbler* 22 The bed of Truth is green all the year long.

9. The bottom of a lake or sea, or of the channel of a river or stream.

a 1586 SIDNEY in *Sel. Poetry* (Parker Soc.) I. 67 On sea's discovered bed. 1650 SHAKS. *Temp.* v. I. 151, I wish My selfe were mudded in that ooze bed. c 1645 HOWELL Lett. IV. xix, Rivers . . have still the same beds. 1779 Phil. *Trans.* LXIX. 609 While the volume of water in the bed of a river increases. 1814 SCOTT *Ld. of Isles* III. xii, A wild stream . . Came crawling down its bed of rock. 1830 LVELL *Princ. Geol.* I. 85 Donati explored the bed of the Adriatic.

10. An extended base upon which anything rests firmly or securely, or in which it is embedded; a basis, a matrix.

1633 I. STAFFORD *Pac. Hib.* xvi. (1821) 175 Ready to make a bed for the placing of the powder. 1676 GREW *Luctation* II. § 2 Bolus's are the Beds, or as it were, the *Materia prima*, both of opacous Stones, and Metals. 1803 WELLINGTON *Mem.* in *Gurw. Disp.* I. 487 A bed for the boat ought to be fixed on each axle tree. 1839 HOOPER *Med. Dict.* (ed. 7) 1218 Shock . . sufficient to shoot off an ovulum from its bed. 1859 TODD *Cycl. Anat. & Phys.* V. 477 1 In the dog and cat the bed of the claw is laminated as in man.

11. A level surface on which anything rests, e.g. the level surface in a printing press on which the form of type is laid; the flat surface of a billiard-table, which is covered with green cloth; etc.

1846 *Print. Appar. Amateur* 10 The press . . consists of two stout blocks of mahogany; the lower piece called the bed . . the upper piece called the platten, which closes upon the bed.

12. In various technical uses (from 10 and 11):

a. *Gunnery*. The portion of a gun-carriage upon which the gun rests; formerly *spec.* a movable block of wood laid under the breech to give the general elevation, quoins being driven between it and the gun.

b. *Arch. and Building*. The surface of a stone or brick which is embedded in the mortar; the under side of a slate.

c. *Mech.* Any foundation, framework, or support, which furnishes a solid or unyielding surface upon which to rest a superstructure, or execute a piece of work.

d. *Carpentry*. A support or rest, e.g. for a ship on the stocks, for the lodging of a bowsprit, etc.

e. *Railway-making*. The layer of broken stone, gravel, clay, etc., upon which the rails are laid.

a. 1598 BARRET *Theor. Warres* v. iii. 135 Certaine carriages, or beds for the Artillery. 1694 LUTTRELL *Brief Rel.* (1857) III. 387 The new mortars . . are laid in beds of brasse. 1811 WELLINGTON in *Gurw. Disp.* VII. 569 Have the carriages of the 24 pounders, as well as the mortar beds and howitzer carriages . . put in a state to be fit for service. 1816 C. JAMES *Mil. Dict.* s.v., Sea-Mortar-beds are . . made of solid timber . . having a hole in the center to receive the pintle or strong iron bolt, about which the bed turns. 1868 F. GRIFFITHS *Artill. Man.* (ed. 9) 127 A 13-inch mortar, and its bed, require each a wagon.

b. 1677 MOXON *Mech. Exerc.* (1703) 245 The bed of the Brick, (viz. that side which lies in the Mortar). 1816 C. JAMES *Mil. Dict.* (ed. 4) s.v. *Bed of Stone*, The joint of the bed is the mortar between two stones placed over each other. 1823 P. NICHOLSON *Pract. Build.* 384 Bed of a Brick. —The horizontal surface as disposed in a wall. 1843 GWILT *Archit.* (1876) 655 The bed of a slate is its under side. *Ibid.* 1194 In general language the beds . . are the surfaces where the stones or bricks meet.

c, d. 1793 SKEATON *Edystone L.* § 201 It is beat by iron-

headed Stampers upon an iron bed. 1823 P. NICHOLSON *Pract. Build.* 242 [In a Plane] the bed . . is the aperture in the stock, upon which the iron is laid, and secured by the wedge. The angle of the bed . . is generally from 42 to 45 degrees. 1831 J. HOLLAND *Manuf. Metal* I. 198 Cut the nails out . . with a bed and punch. 1881 *Mechanic* § 581 A good working lathe with strong wooden standards and wooden 3 ft. bed. c 1860 H. STUART *Seaman's Catech.* 74 Where it rests on the stem is the bed.

III. A layer or bed-like mass.

13. A layer, a stratum; a horizontal course.

1616 SURFL. & MARKH. *Countr. Farm* 407 Lay them orderly in a vessel, having in the bottom of it a bed of Saurie . . laying a bed of Saurie, and a bed of Cherries. 1672 T. VENN *Compl. Gunner* xxxi. 51 Two foot high of Earth, bed upon bed, unto eleven foot high. 1725 POPE *Odys.* ix. 449 The stake now glow'd beneath the burning bed. 1783 AINSWORTH *Lat. Dict.* (Morell) 1, A bed of Sand, &c. *stratum*. 1833 TENNYSON *Poems* 84 Clusters and beds of woods, and bee-like swarms of suns. 1875 URE *Dict. Arts* II. 373 The filter-beds . . are large square beds of sand and gravel.

b. *Geol.* A layer or stratum of some thickness. 1684 RAY *Philos. Lett.* (1718) 166 That Bed of Sand and Cockle Shells found in sinking a well. 1793 SKEATON *Edystone L.* § 106 The bed or stratum of freestone worked here. 1863 RAMSAY *Phys. Geol. Gt. Brit.* (1878) 254 In the Bembridge beds there has also been found the Anoplotheroid mammal. 1874 LVELL *Elem. Geol.* xxi. 355 The lowest 'bed' of the Lias. 1878 HUXLEY *Physiogr.* 28 The pervious substance being thus enclosed between two impervious beds, one forming its floor and the other its roof.

14. A layer of small animals, especially reptiles, congregated thickly in some particular spot. Cf. *nest* in a similar sense.

1608 SHAKS. *Per. iv.* ii. 155 Thunder shall not so awake the beds of eels. 1666 J. H. TRAIT *Gt. Antidote* 10 This Medicine breaks the bed of Worms. 1692 R. LESTRANGE *Fables* 209 (1708) I. 228 Apt to run . . into a bed of Scorpions. 1731 BAILEY, *Bed of Snakes*, a knot of young ones.

b. *esp.* A layer of shell-fish covering a tract of the bottom of the sea.

1688 R. HOLME *Armory* II. xiv. 325 A Bed of Oysters, Muscles, and Cockles. 1865 PARKMAN *Huguenots* ix. (1875) 152 The channel was a bed of oysters. 1879 CASSELL'S *Techn. Educ.* IV. 97 1 The spat . . drifted . . from the natural beds.

IV. Various transferred uses.

15. A division of the ground in the game of 'hopscotch,' also called locally the game of 'beds.' 1801 STRUTT *Sports & Past.* iv. iv. 339 A parallelogram . . divided into compartments, which were called beds.

16. The placenta or after-birth. *Obs.*

1611 COTGRE, *Aguellette*, their bed, or after birth . . is more grosse.

17. The 'silver side' of a round of beef.

1864 *Derby Mercury* Dec., Good beef (beds and rounds taken off at the joints).

V. *Comb. and Attrib.*

18. General relations: a. attrib., as *bed-apparel*, *blanket*, *board*, *bolster*, *bottom*, *bug*, *case*, *curtain*, *damask*, *feet*, *foot*, *furniture*, *glaze*, *hangings*, *head*, *hour*, *house*, *joinder*, *mate*, *place*, *quilt*, *rite* (right), *rug*, *sabbath* (a sabbath in bed), *sheet*, *stand*, *steps*, *stuff*, *tester*; b. objective gen. with verbal sb. or pp., as *bed-spreader*; *making*, *spread*.

1822 BYRON *Werner* i. 1. 264 Madame Idenstein . . shall furnish forth the 'bed-apparel'. 1701 *Land. Gaz.* No. 2660/4 Fine Flannel 'Bed-Blankets'. 1530 FALCON. 177 1 'Bedde borde, fionde. 1684 I. MATHER *Romark. Provid.* i. 104 When the man was . . a bed, his 'bed-board' did rise out of its place. a 1000 ÆLFRIC *Gloss.* in Wt. Wulker *Voc.* 124 *Plumaciis*, 'bedbolster'. 1873 BINGLEY *Anim. Biog.* III. 181 The 'Bed Bug' is a nauseous and troublesome inhabitant of most of the houses in large towns. 1757 *Lanc. & Chesk. Wills* 71, I bequeathe all my harnes and all the 'bedcasis, etc. 1774 Phil. *Trans.* LXXV. 274 We have seen . . 'bed-fleas' . . swarming at the mouths of these holes. 1823 *Cath. Angl.* 24 A 'Bedfute, *fultrum*. 1670 COTTON *Espernon* III. xii. 647 He had . . a Crucifix fastned to his 'Beds-feet'. 1865 SWINBURNE *Poems & Ball.* *Wmas Carol* 46 The bedstead shall be gold two spans. The 'bedfoot' silver fine. 1815 SCOTT *Guy R.* xlv, Iron 'bedframes and straw mattresses. 1861 Mrs. BEETON *Bk. Househ. Managem.* 993 The 'bed-furniture' requires changing. 1583 STANVHURST *Æneis* iv. (Arb.) 91 Had not I such dalaunce, such pipping 'bed-gle' renounced. 1566 Eng. *Ch. Furnit.* (1866) 100 Fyve banner clothes . . and he haith made bedd henges therof. 1864 *Chamber's Jnl.* 8 Oct. 642 Hair like the fringe to bed-hangings. 1579 FULKE *Confut. Souders* 649 He worshipped toward the 'bedshead'. 1853 KANE *Grinnell Exp.* v. (1856) 35 The temptation to avoid a regular 'bed-hour' was sometimes irresistible. 1881 Du CHAILLU *Land Mndt.* *Sun* II. 276 A larder and a separate 'bed-house. 1795 *Land. Gaz.* No. 6385/4 Richard Beardsley . . 'Bed-Joyner. 1583 STANVHURST *Æneis* III. (Arb.) 75 With iealousie kindled Orestes For los of his 'bed-mate. 1890 BLACKIE *Æschylus* I. 157 He was thy 'bed-mate living, Be then his comrade, dead. 1566 T. NUCE *Seneca's Octavia* (1581) 177 Fasten Poppie sure in our 'bed-place. 1833 MARRYAT *P. Simple* (1863) 362 Retired to my standing 'bed-place in the cabin. 1598 SHAKS. *1 Hen. IV.* II. iv. 268 This sanguine Coward, this 'Bed-presser. 1601 CORNWALLIS *Ess.* (1632) xviii, Fame never knew a perpetual 'Bedpresser. a 1847 Mrs. SHERWOOD *Lady of Manor* vi. 193 A patch-work 'bedquilt. 1620 SHAKS. *Temp.* IV. i. 96 No 'bed-right shall be paid Till Hymens Torch be lighted. 1684 P. HENRY *Diaries & Lett.* (1882) 323, Feb. 23, a 'Bed-Sabbath, few such, cup'd and blister'd. 1481-90 *Howard Househ. Bks.* 274, 11ij, pair schitz for my Lord, [and] ij. 'bedschitz. 1620 HEALEY *City of God* 132 The Sybil books directed the first 'Bed-spreading to last eight days. 1535 COVERDALE 2 *Sam.* xvii. 28 And Barsillai . . broughte 'bed-stuff, tapestrie worke. 1704 *Land. Gaz.* No. 4068/4 Old Serge 'Bed-Testers. 1843 CARLYLE *Misc.* (1857) IV. 269 For 'bed-tester is the canopy of everlasting blue.

19. Special combinations: *bed-ale* (see quot.); *bed-bere*, a pillow-case; *bed-bolster*, -bolt, in *Gunnery* (see quots.); *bed-broker*, a pander, pimp; *bed-card*, a card fixed at the head of a hospital patient's bed, giving a statement of the 'case'; *bed-chair*, a chair for the sick, with a movable back, to support them while sitting up in bed; *bed-coach*, a coach with sleeping accommodation; *bed-company*; *bed-cord*, a cord for stretching the sacking of a bed; *bed-eel* (see quot.); *bed-evil*, illness that confines to bed; *bed-game*; *bed-gang*, -gate, going to bed; *bed-geld* (see quot.); *bed-irons*, the iron framework for a bed (cf. *fire-irons*); *bed-joint*, a split or parting in a rock parallel to the surface of the earth; *bed-key*, an iron tool for screwing and unscrewing the nuts and bolts of a bedstead; *bed-lift*, a canvas stretched by a wooden frame, with an aperture in the centre for defæcation, upon which a patient may be raised (*Syd. Soc. Lex.*); *bed-litter*, straw, etc. to make up a bed; *bed-loft* (transl. of L. *pulvinar*), a couch made of cushions, upon which images of the gods were placed at festivals; *bed-match*, marriage, wedlock; *bed-moulding* (*arch.*), 'the mouldings under a projection, as the corona of a cornice' (*Gwilt*); *bed-piece*, -plate (*Mech.*), the foundation or support of any mechanical structure; *bed-rock* (*Geol.*) the solid rock underlying alluvial and other superficial formations; also *fig.* bottom, lowest level; *bed-screw*, a screw used for holding together the posts and beams of a wooden bedstead; also, a powerful machine for lifting heavy bodies, often used in launching vessels; *bed-seller* (see quot.); *bed-sick*, sick in bed; *bed-sister*, the mistress of a married man in relation to his lawful wife; *bed-sore*, a soreness of the skin produced by long lying in bed; *bed-stone*, a large heavy stone used as the foundation and support of girders, etc. in building; also, the lower stone in an oil-mill, on which the runners roll; *bed-string* (= *bed-cord*); *bed-swerter*, one unfaithful to the marriage-bed; *bed-vow*, promise of fidelity to the marriage-bed; *bed-way* in *Geol.* (see quot.); *bed-ways adv.*, in the direction of the beds or strata; *bed-winch*, -wrench, an instrument for tightening up or loosening the screws of bedsteads; *bedwoman*, a woman confined to bed; *bed-work*, work that is or can be done in bed or without toil, easy work.

1880 W. CORNW. *Gloss.* (E. D. S.), 'Bed-ale, groaning ale; ale brewed for a christening. 1420 E. E. Wills (1882) 41 That Anneys Tukkyssworthe have be beste 'beddere. 1769 FALCONER *Dict. Marine* (1789) C c iv, On the fore-part of the bed a piece of timber is placed transversely, upon which rests the belly of the mortar . . This piece is called the 'bed-bolster. *Ibid.* I iv, The 'bed-bolt, upon which the bed rests to support the breech of the cannon. 1592 DANIEL *Compl. Rosamond* (1717) 58 And fly . . these 'Bed-Brokers unclean. 1885 *Standard* 4 Aug. 37 A 'bed-card bearing on the case had been taken away. 1685 Br. BURNET *Trav. France* III. (1752) 96 His was a huge 'bed-coach, all the outside black velvet. a 1555 LATIMER *Serm. & Rem.* (1845) 101 The lawful 'bed-company that is between married folks. a 1625 FLETCHER *Nt. Walker* v. i, With the 'bed-cord he may pass for a porter. 1720 GAY *Poems* (1745) II. 59 Beneath the frightened guest The 'bed-cords trembled. 1769 PENNANT *Zool.* III. 112 A variety of small eel . . that is found in clusters in the bottom of the river, and is called the 'Bed-eel. 1609 SKENE *Reg. Maj.* 107 Na default nor essonzie of law, bot gif it be *mal de lit*, that is 'bed evill. 1608 WARNER *Alb. Eng.* xi. lxi. (1612) 268 But deified swore he him her 'bed-game sweets might taste. a 1300 E. E. *Psalter* iv. 2 Dried I am in mi 'bed-gange. 1440 *Morte Arth.* (Roxb.) 1030 Thre balefulle birdez . . That bydder his 'bedgatt. 1483 *Cath. Angl.* 25 'Bedgate, *conticinium, concubium*. 1844 R. HART *Antiq. Norfolk* xxiv. 79 'Bedgeld was the fine paid to the lord on the marriage of his vassal. 1863 *Cornh. Mag.* Mar. 446 The 'bed-irons are turned up. 1747 HOOSON *Miner's Dict.* L. iij b, In some . . Veins . . the 'Bed-joyns themselves will often carry it a little aside. 1861 WYNTER *Soc. Bees* 343 Winding up some moaning machinery with a 'bed-key. c 1425 in Wright *Voc.* 199 *Hoc stratum*, 'bed-lytter. 1606 HOLLAND *Sueton.* 60 marg, The 'bedloft wher the sacred Images of the Gods were devoutly bestowed. 1583 STANVHURST *Æneis* iv. (Arb.) 96 Juno, the chaplain, Seams vp the 'bedmatch. 1703 *Chatsworth Build. Accts.* In *Jrnl. Derbysh. Archæol.* Soc. III. 39 The lower member of the 'bedmolding of the cornice. 1727-51 CHAMBERS *Cycl. s. v.*, A 'bed-moulding usually consists of these four members, an O-G, a list, a large boutine, and another list under the coronet. 1879 *Encycl. Brit.* X. 745 1 In alluvial deposits the richest ground is usually found in contact with the 'bed rock. 1881 *Chicago Times* 11 June, The transactions . . having been based on 'bed-rock prices. 1883 *Century* 581 The family is about down to 'bedrock. 1757 in *Phil. Trans.* L. 289 There were set up, under the wales . . of the ship, nine pair of 'bed-screws. 1832 BABBAGE *Econ. Manuf.* xvii. 153 'Bed-screws, 6 inches long. 1553 *Lanc. Wills* (1857) I. 91 Y^e courtens and hangings bed-stocke and 'bedseller of y^e same. c 1550 Sir J. BALFOUR *Practicks* (1754) 361 If it be provin . . that he is 'bed-seik and may not travel. 1611 BARKSTED *Hires* (1876) 81 Like to a man Rich and full cram'd . . Yet lires 'bed-sicke. 1597 R. GLOUC. 27 Astrilde hire 'bedsuster (hire lordes concubine). 1861 F. LOR. NIGHTINGALE *Nursing* 57 Where there is

any danger of *bed-sores a blanket should never be placed under the patient. 1878 T. BRYANT *Pract. Surg.* i. 34 In theory *bed-sores should never occur. 1793 S. MORLAND *Spec. Lat. Dict.* 6 Nor have they the least mention of *bed-stone in the English. 1866 *Report E. Midl. R'way Co.* 26, Pier No. 14... has the *bedstones for the girders set. 1848 THACKERAY *Van. Fair* v. (1853) 31 They cut his *bedstrings. 1811 SHAKS. *Wint. T.* ii. 193 Shee's A *Bed-swarmer. 1800 — *Sonn.* cli, Thy *bed-vow brooke and new faith tome. 1881 RAYMOND *Mining Gloss.*, *Bed-way*, an appearance of stratification, or parallel marking, in granite. 1883 *Stonemason Jan.*, The blocks... are usually sawn through *bedways about two feet from the top. 1958 R. BERTIE in *Lady Bertie Loyal Ho.* (1845) 42 Though she continue a *bedwoman and not a footwoman. 1866 SHAKS. *Tr. & Cr.* i. iii. 203 They call this *Bed-work, Mapp'ry, Closet-Warre. 1844 *Regul. & Ord. Army* 235 See that the different parts of the bedsteads are properly screwed together, (for which purpose a *bed-wrench is to be hung in every room).

Bed, *v.* Pa. t. and ppl. **bedded**. Forms: I **beddian**, 2-3 **beddi-en**, 3 **beddy**, 2-5 **bedd-e(n)**, 4-7 **bedde**, 6- **bed**. [OE. *beddian* f. *bed(d)*, **BED**.]

1. Connected with a bed for sleeping.
† 1. *intr.* To spread or prepare a bed. *Const. dat.*; also with *cognate object*. *Obs.*

a 1000 in Thorpe's *Laws* II. 282 (Bosw.) Fede beafan, and beddige him. a 1000 *Sax. Lechd.* III. 140 Bedde hys bed myd mor-sege. 1388 *Wyclif Job* xvii. 13 In dercessis I bedde my bed.

2. *trans.* To lay in bed, put to bed; to furnish (a person) with a bed.

c 1200 *ORMIN* 2712 To wasshenn hem, to warrmenn hemm, To beddenn hemm & frofrenn. 1388 *Wyclif 1 Sam.* ix. 25 He beddide Saul in the solere, and he slepte. 1394 *P. Pl. Crede* 772 Pey schulden nougt... bedden swiche brobels in 30 brode schutes. 1646 W. PRICKE *Mans Deling*. 20 It will not leave us, if we welcom and bed and board it. 1863 B. TAYLOR *Poet's Trnl.* (1866) 35 Beds me in its balmy green. 1866 G. MACDONALD *Ann. O. Neighb.* vii. (1878) 120 No end of work... to get them all bedded for the night.

b. *spec.* To put (a couple) to bed together.

a 1300 *Havelok* 1235 He sholen bedden hire and the. a 1639 W. WHATELY *Prototypes* II. xxxi. (1640) 118 To see a stranger bedded with him instead of his owne Spouse. 1680 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 1494/4 The Dauphin and the Dauphiness were Bedded. 1743 *Ld. Hervey's Mem.* Intro'd., Sure Venus had never seen bedded So lovely a beau and a belle.

3. To take (a wife) to bed. *arch.*

1548 *Hall Chron. Hen. VIII* (R.) She was both wedded and bedded with his brother Prince Arthur. 1596 SHAKS. *Tam. Shr.* i. i. 149 That would thoroughly woo her, wed her, and bed her, and ridde the house of her. 1653 HOLCROFT *Procopius* iv. 140 Askt him why he would neglect his Vow, and bed another Woman. 1740 L. CLARKE *Hist. Bible* i. l. 63 Jacob... then married and bedded Rachel.

4. *intr.* To go to bed; to retire for the night.

1635 *Huywood London's Sinus Salut.* 289 Rise earlie, and bed late. 1822 *Hood Lycus* (1871) 61 The cave where I bedded.

b. *spec.* said of a couple sleeping together.

c 1315 *SHOREHAM* 76 3ef thon thother profreth, Wyth any other to beddy. 1583 STANYHURST *Ensis* III. (Arb.) 79 Andromachee dooth bed with a cuntrye man husband. 1668 EVELYN *Mem.* (1857) II. 37 Sir Samuel Tuke, Bart., and the lady he had married this day, came and bedded at night at my house. 1740 H. CAREY *Sally in our Alley* vii. O then we'll wed, and then we'll bed, But not in our Alley. 1763 C. JOHNSTON *Reverie* II. 6 No man can bear to bed with such an ugly, filthy brute.

† 5. *fig.* To lodge, find a resting-place. *Obs.*

c 1175 *Lamb Hom.* 185 Eorliche lou and heouenliche ne mazen... beddin in a breoste. a 1200 *Hali Meid.* 43 Ne muhen ha nanes weis bedden in a breoste.

6. *trans.* To put (animals) to rest for the night; to provide with 'bedding' or litter for sleeping purposes. Also with *up, down*.

c 1480 *King & H.* 166, E. P. P. (1864) 20 Hys stede into the house he lede, With litter son he gan hym bed. a 1791 *Wesley Wks.* (1872) VIII. 318 Sec... that your horse be rubbed, fed, and bedded. 1856 *OLMSTED Slave States* 380 They were obliged to bed their horses with pine leaves. 1859 *Art Taming Horses* xi. 188 My Lord, the horses are bedded up. 1863 *Cornh. Mag.* Mar. 448 Bedding down the horses and making them snug for the night.

7. *intr.* Of an animal: To make its lair; the specific term used of the roe.

c 1470 *Hors, Shepe, & G.* (1822) 33 A roo is bedded. 1620 GWILLIM *Heraldry* III. xiv. (1660) 166 You shall say that a Roe Beddeth. 1819 *Rees Cycl.* v. *Bedding*, A roe is said to bed; a hart to harbour.

8. *trans.* To furnish (a room) with a bed. *rare.* 1758 MRS. CALDERWOOD *Trnl.* (1884) 44 The captain has the cabin bedded at his expense.

II. Connected with a garden bed, a layer, base.

9. *trans.* To plant in or as in a garden bed; to plant deeply. *To bed out*: to plant out in a bed or beds.

1671 *GREW Anat. Plants* (1822) 28 Trunk-Roots newly bedded. a 1750 MORTIMER (J.) Mould to bed your quick in. *Mod.* May is rather too early to bed out your geraniums.

10. To sink or bury in a matrix of any kind, to cover up or fix firmly in any substance; to EMBED. 1586 *HOOKER Girald. Irel.* in *Holinsh.* II. 41 A place where the ships lie bedded. 1622 RAY *Disc.* II. iv. (1732) 200 The Minerals wherein they are bedded. 1803 *Phil. Trans.* XCIII. 142 Bedded and fixed firmly in a brass socket. 1874 MRS. WOOD *Mast. Greylands* xxvii. 320 The bullet... must have bedded itself in the wall.

fig. 1862 *TRENCH Mirac.* xxviii. 385 Testimonies... which... not lying on the surface of Scripture, are bedded deeply in it.

b. *intr.* To rest on, to lie on for support.

1875 *URE Dict. Arts* III. 692 The rail, therefore, beds throughout on the ballast.

11. *Building.* To lay (bricks or stones) in position in cement or mortar.

1685 *BOYLE Effects of Motion* viii. 104 Stones... taken out of the cement wherein they were bedded. 1823 P. NICHOLSON *Pract. Build.* 398 Both plain and pan tiles are commonly bedded in mortar.

fig. 1831 *CARLYLE Sart. Res.* i. viii. 62 Words well bedded also in good Logic-mortar.

12. *Masonry.* To dress the face or 'bed' of a stone (cf. **BED** sb. 12 b.).

1793 *SMEATON Edystone L.* § 169 Each size and species of stone were to be worked... to a given parallel thickness... and... when so bedded... to be cut... to the true figure.

13. To spread, strew, or cover with a bed or layer of anything. Cf. *to carpet*.

1859 *KINGSLEY Misc.* II. 299 Those dells bedded with dark velvet green fern.

fig. 1839 *BAILEY Festus* (1848) v. It is fear which beds the far-to-come with fire.

14. To lay in a bed or layer; e. g. to lay (oysters) in beds prepared for their reception.

1653 *WALTON Angler* 190 Many of them [eels] together bed themselves, and live without feeding upon anything. 1721 *Phil. Trans.* XXXI. 250 The Bottom of its Channel all bedded with good Oysters. 1861 *HULME tr. Moquin-Tandon* II. III. 160 The Oysters are placed in large reservoirs... this is called 'Bedding the Oysters.'

15. *intr.* To form a compact layer.

1615 *MARKHAM Eng. Housew.* II. v. By reason of the softness thereof it beddeth closer. 1641 *BEST Farm. Bks.* 144 The wette strawe coucheth better, and beddes closer. 1787 *BEST Angling* (ed. 2) 168 Hairs bed well when they twist kindly.

16. *To bed up*: to lie up in beds or strata against. 1782 *WITHERING in Phil. Trans.* LXXII. 329 The limestone rocks... bed up against it, and the coal comes up to the surface against the lime-stone.

Bedabble (bɪdæbəl), *v.* [f. **BE** + **DABBLE**.]

trans. To wet with dirty liquid, or in such a way as to make untidy or dirty. Hence **Bedabbled** *ppl. a.*

1590 *SHAKS. Mids. N.* III. ii. 443 Bedabbled with the dew, and tome with briars, I can no further crawl. 1644 *Vind. Featley* Pref. 1 Pens bedabbled in the Gall of bitterness. 1811 *SCOTT Don Roderick* xxxi. Idols of gold... Bedabbled all with blood. 1862 *Luck Ladysmede* II. 78 Whose stained and bedabbled head and face made more of a sufferer than he really was.

Bedad (bɪdæd), *int.* *Irish.* [= *By dad*, or *by God* (cf. *begad*).] An asseveration.

1710 *SWIFT Lett.* (1768) III. 25 Only because it is Tuesday, a Monday beud. 1848 *THACKERAY Van. Fair* II. iv. 39 'Bedad it's him,' said Mrs. O'Dowd. 1871 *J. YOUNG Mem. C. H. Young* 324, Standing where, bedad, I'm standing now.

† **Bedad**, *v.* *Obs.* [f. **BE** + **DAFF** sb.] *trans.* To befool, make a fool of, make foolish. Hence **Bedadft** *ppl. a.*, foolish, stupid.

c 1300 *CHAUCER Clerkes T.* 1135 Beth not bedadft for your innocence. 1572 *GAUCOIGNÉ Flowers* Wks. (1587) 67 Bartholmew hys wits had so bedadft, That all seemed good. 1580 *NORTH Plutarch* 105 When you come yore [eye-sore] in all your faces Then are you bynde, dull witted and bedadft.

† **Bedag**, *v.* *Obs.* [f. **BE** + **DAG** v.] To be mire the bottom of (dress).

a 1300 *K. Alis.* 5485 Alisaunder cometh upon his mule, Bishiten and bydagged foule. 1530 *PALSGR.* 445/2, I be dagge, I araye a garment aboute the skyrtes with myre.

† **Bedaggle**, *v.* *Obs.* [f. **BE** + **DAGGLE**.] A kind of frequentative to **BEDAG** = *prec.*

1580 *HOLLYBAND Treas. Fr. Tong. Croft.*, bedagled. 1583 *STANYHURST Ensis* II. (Arb.) 40 With dust all powdered, with filthhood dustie bedagled. 1660 *PEPYS Diary* 5 July, I saw the King... go forth in the rain... and it bedagged many a fine suit of clothes. 1755 in *JOHNSON*; in *mod. Dicts.*

Bedaghe, var. of **BEDAW**, *v.* *Obs.*

Bedamn, *bedamp*, etc.: see **BE**-*pref.*

Bedangled (bɪdæŋɡld), *ppl. a.* [f. **BE** + **DANGLE**.] Beseet with things dangling about one.

1601 *WEVER Mirr. Mart.* E. ij b, Direct my course To the dew-bangled Oceanides. 1732 *SWIFT Corr.* Wks. 1841 II. 691 Worthless bishops, all bedangled with their illiterate relations and flatterers.

Bedare, *bedaugtered*, etc.: see **BE**-*pref.*

Bedark (bɪdɑːrk), *v.*; also 4 **bederk**. [f. **BE** + **DARK** v.] *trans.* To involve in darkness.

1393 *GOWER Conf.* I. 81 When the blacke winter night... Bederked hath the water stonde. 1855 *SINGLETON Virgil* I. 297 Every mist which... bedarks thee round, I'll take away.

Bedarken (bɪdɑːrkən), *v.* [f. **BE** + **DARKEN**.] *trans.* To involve in darkness. Also *fig.*

1596 *FITZ-GEFFREY Sir P. Drake* (1881) 24 Boughes bedarking all the daie. 1834 *SIR H. TAYLOR Artevelde* II. III. ii, Guilt bedarkens and confounds the mind of man. Hence **Bedarkened**, **Bedarkening** *ppl. a.*

1809 *SOUTHEY Ess.* (1832) II. 282 It is still the same bedarkened and bedarkening superstition. 1833 *H. COLERIDGE Poems* I. 54 Sweet snatches of delight That visit our bedarken'd day. 1847 *SIR H. TAYLOR Eve of Cong.* 36 If thou cast reproachful looks On sports bedarkening custom erst allowed.

Bedash (bɪdæʃ), *v.* [f. **BE** + **DASH** v.] *trans.* a. To dash against, dash about. b. To injure or spoil by dashing (as the wind or rain dashes flowers). c. To cover with dashes of colour or adornment.

1564 *GOLDING Justine* 90 (R.) Bedect with skarlet and bedasht with golde. 1594 *SHAKS. Rich. III.* i. ii. 164 Like Trees bedash'd with raine. 1609 *HOLLAND Amm. Marcel.*

196 It bedaseth on that side Cysicum and Dindyma. 1621 *QUARLES Esther in Des. Poems* (1717) 46 His comfort is bedasht and done. 1640 *J. GOWER Ovid's Fest.* II. 25 The battred billows all bedash the Shippe. 1850 *BLACKIE Eschylus* I. 131 Purple gouts bedash The guilty ground.

Bedaub (bɪdɔʊb), *v.* [f. **BE** + **DAUB** v.]

1. *trans.* To daub over with anything that sticks, to plaster.

1558 *PHAEÆ Æneid* II. (R.) But now in dust his beard bedaw'd [is]. 1683 *LORRAIN Murel's Rites Fun.* 5 They all bedawbed their faces with mire and dirt. 1763 *J. BROWN Poetry & Mus.* § 6. 119 Thespis and his Company bedaubed their Faces with the Lees of Wine. 1860 *GOSSE Rom. Nat. Hist.* 24 And with a painter's brush [he] had bedaubed the trunks of several large trees.

b. *fig.* To bespatter with abuse, to vilify.

1553-57 *FOX E. & M.* (1596) 532/1 Your dirtie pen... hath not so bedaubed and bespotted me... but I hope to sponge it out. 1666 *PEPYS Diary* 30 Oct., He prepares to bedaub him. 1705 *OTWAY Orphan* Prolog. 18 The names of Honest Men bedaw'd.

2. To ornament clumsily or vulgarly; to bedizen.

1581 *J. BELL Haddon's Answ. Osor.* 309 They bedawbe their Temples on every side, with pictures, and Poppettes. 1716 *LADY M. W. MONTAGU Lett.* xxii. I. 67 The emperor and empress have two of these little monsters... all bedaubed with diamonds. 1862 *THACKERAY Four Georges* I. (1862) 63 Are now embroidered and bedaubed.

b. *fig.* To load with rhetorical devices, with praise, etc.; to belaud to excess.

1581 *J. BELL Haddon's Answ. Osor.* 493 Untymely applications, wherewith his discourse is altogether bedawbed. 1672 *MARVELL Rel. Transp.* I. 23 Set off, and bedaw'd with Rhetorick. 1790 *BOSWELL Johnson* III. 57 note, That I... should have... bedawbed him, as the worthy gentleman has bedawbed Scotland?

Bedau, *bed*, -ing *ppl. a.*, **Bedaubing** *vbl. sb.*

1624 *QUARLES Sion's Sonn.* (1717) 416 A newer fashion... Than eye bedawbing tears, and printed lamentation. 1788 *BURNS Lett.* 40 Those bedaubing paragraphs with which he is eternally larding the lean characters of certain great men. 1863 *MISS WHATELY Ragged L. Egypt* xii. 105 Disgust at the bedaubed face of the little one.

Bedauer, -aver, *obs. dial. f. bed-ifere*, **BED-FERE**, *bed-fellow*.

† **Bedaw**, *v.* *Obs. rare*; also 4-5 **bedaghe**. [f. **BE** + **DAW** v.] *trans.* To dawn upon. Cf. **BE-DAWN**, **BEDAY** in **BE**-*pref.*

1393 *GOWER Conf.* II. 193 There is no day which hem bedaweth. c 1400 *Dest. Troy* III. 758 Hit is best þat we buske & of bede rise, Lest þe day us be-daghe.

Bedawee, -wi, -wy, *ppl. bedaween*, -win, forms of **BEDOUIN**, -s.

Bedaze (bɪdɛɪz), *v.* Also 7 **bedeaze** (Sc.). [f. **BE** + **DAZE**.] Emphatic form of **DAZE**. Hence **Bedazed** *ppl. a.* Dazed, stupefied; besotted.

a 1605 *MONTGOMERIE Poems* (1821) 173 Quhai frostie head... Bedeazit evry vane. 1870 *Daily News* 10 June, The baby-acrobat may fall, bedazed and stunned. 1882 *E. PLUMPTRE Eccles. (Camb. Bible for Sch.)* 167 The besotted and bedazed spiritual pride which St. Paul paints by the participle 'puffed up.'

Bedazle (bɪdæzəl), *v.*; also 6-7 **bedasle**. [f. **BE** + **DAZZLE**.] Intensive form of **DAZZLE**; to dazzle thoroughly, confuse by dazzling.

1596 *SHAKS. Tam. Shr.* IV. v. 46 That have bin so bedazled with the sunne. 1870 *HAWTHORNE Eng. Note-bks.* (1879) II. 291 They bedazle one another with cross lights.

Bedazled, *ppl. a.* [f. *prec.* + **ED**.] Dazzled so as to be confused.

1805 *SCOTT Last Ministr.* VI. xxv, Full through the guests' bedazzled band Resistless flashed the levin brand. 1837 *CARLYLE Fr. Rev.* II. III. II. i. Poor bedazzled mortals.

Bedazlement. [f. as *prec.* + **MENT**.] The fact of being bedazzled; the action of bedazzling.

1866 *KNOX & JESS Corr.* I. 295 To the bewuzement of the ignorant, and the bedazlement of the superficial. 1877 *V. Hugo's Miserables* II. lxxix, All the other historians suffer with a certain bedazlement in which they grope about.

Bedazling, *ppl. a.* [f. as *prec.* + **ING**.] Dazzling so as to confuse. Hence **Bedazlingly** *adv.*

1824 *D. MOIR* II. 73 When are swept aside The court's bedazzling pageantry and pride.

Bedchamber (bedtʃæmbər), *Also* 4 **cha(u)mbre**. [f. **BED** sb. + **CHAMBER**. Cf. **MHG. bettekammer**.]

A chamber or room intended for holding a bed; *arch.* and displaced in common use by *bedroom*, exc. in reference to the royal bedchamber, as in *gentleman, groom, lord, or lady of the bedchamber*.

1362 *LANGL. P. Pl. A. v.* 136 Þe Beste in þe Bed-chambre lay bi þe wowe. 1621 *SHAKS. Cymb.* II. iv. 66 Her Bed-chamber... was hang'd With Tapistry of Silke and silver. 1683 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 2028/2 Then the Lord Churchill Gentleman of the Bedchamber, followed by Two Grooms of the Bed-Chamber. 1702 *Ibid.* No. 3862/1 The Ladies of the Bed-chamber, Maids of Honour, and other Ladies. 1776 *GIBSON Decl. & F. I.* 70 Those menial offices, which, in the household and bedchamber of a limited monarch, are so eagerly solicited by the proudest nobles. 1799 *Ld. AUCKLAND Corr.* (1861) II. 188 We are obliged to have all the six children in our bedchamber to-night. 1849 *MACAULAY Hist. Eng.* I. 248 Letting us know how the parlours and bed-chambers of our ancestors looked.

b. *attrib.*, as *bed-chamber candle, plot, -man*.

1643 *PRYNNE Sov. Power Parl.* III. 89 Nor [must] his Bed-chamber-men attire him, for feare of high Treason. 1671 *F. PHILLIPS Reg. Necess.* 46 All the Chamberlains or Bed-chamber-men. 1833 *MACAULAY War Success.* *Ess.* (1854) I. 259/1 The great party... was undermined by bedchamber-

women at St. James's. 1854 THACKERAY *Newcomes* I. 32 A bed-chamber candle. 1880 DISRAELI *Endym.* lviii. The famous Bed-Chamber Plot... which terminated in the return of the Whigs to office.

Bed-clothes (bed-kloðz), *sb. pl.* (The sing. bedcloth is obs.) [*f.* BED *sb.* + CLOTHES.] The sheets and blankets with which a bed is covered.

1387 TREVISIA *Hidden Rolls* Ser. VI. 37 A burpen of bed-clothes. c1440 *Promp. Parv.* 27 Bedclothe, or a rayment for a bed. 1601 SHAKS. *All's Well* iv. iii. 287 In his sleepe he does little harme, saue to his bed-clothes about him. 1818 BYRON *Juan* i. cxi. To fling the bed-clothes in a heap.

† **Bedde**. *Obs.* [short form of *ibedde*, OE. *ge-bedda*: cf. OFris. *bedda*, MHG. *bedde*.] A bedfellow. c1250 *Owl & Night*. 1498 3if aht man is hie bedde.

Bedded (bed'd), *pp. a.* [*f.* BED *v.* + -ED.] 1. Put to bed, having gone to bed; lying in bed.

1393 LANGL. *P. Pl. C.* xviii. 197 Vuel-cloped. Baddeliche beddyd. 1625 BOYS in Spurgeon *Treas. Dav.* Ps. xlv. 9 Spiritually the wedded and bedded wife to the king of glory. 1773 J. ROBERTSON *Poems* 202 All silent was the bedded house. 1839 HALIBURTON *Lett. Bag. Gt. W.* i. 4 Bedded all day. Rose in the Evening. 1855 LONGF. *Hiaw.* iii. 76 Bedded soft in moss and rushes.

2. Lying at rest in their lair, or bed; cf. BED *v.* 14. 1653 WALTON *Angler* 185 Let coarse bold hands, from slimy nest, The bedded fish in banks outwrest.

3. Growing in a bed.

1818 KEATS *Endym.* l. 239 Dost sit and hearken The dreary melody of bedded reeds?

4. Deeply or firmly fixed; embedded.

1641 D. CAWDREY *Three Serms.* The spawne and seed of corruption which lies bedded in our hearts. 1813 SCOTT *Rokeby* ii. xv. Yon earth-bedded jetting stone.

5. Laid or strewn in a smooth layer.

1602 SHAKS. *Ham.* iii. iv. 121 Your bedded haire Start up, and stand an end. 1795 SOUTHEY *Juan of Arc* iii. 443 Light-edged shadows on the bedded sand.

6. Existing in beds or layers; stratified in beds.

1830 LYELL *Princ. Geol.* (1833) III. 65 A similar compact variety of the limestone occurs... often very thick bedded. 1858 GEIKIE *Hist. Boulder* xii. 247 The bedded or contemporaneous trap-rocks.

7. In *comb.* Having a bed.

1831 CARLYLE *Sart. Res.* ii. ix. Not sufficiently honoured, nourished, soft-bedded. 1862 BARNES *Rhymes Dorset Dial.* 11. 100 Above the gravel-bedded rill.

Beddel (l. obs. or dial. form of BEADLE, BEDREL.

Bedder (bed'd). Also 8 *beder*. [*f.* BED *v.* or *sb.* + -ER.] With sense 2, cf. *hedger*, *potter*; with 3, cf. *header*, *drawer*.]

1. One who puts to bed; one who litters cattle. c1612 FLETCHER *Thierry* l. 450 All your guiled knaves, brokers, and bedders.

† 2. A bed-maker, an upholsterer. *Obs.* or *dial.*

1803 S. PEGGE *Anecd. Eng. Lang.* 273 Upholsterer, Called in some parts of the kingdom... a bedder.

3. The lower stone in an oil-mill; the bed-stone.

1611 CORGER, *Giant d'un moulin*, the Bed, Bedder, or under-millstone. 1706 PHILLIPS, *Bedder*, beddeter, the neather-stone of an Oil-mill. 1755 in JOHNSON; and in mod. Dicts.

4. A plant adapted for being grown in a flower bed; a 'bedding-out plant.'

1862 *Times* 10 Apr. Plants... possessing the properties required in bedders, that is... adapted to form masses of uniform colour. 1882 *Garden* 21 Jan. 34/1 It will be a new sensation... to grow bedders on rockwork.

5. (See quot.)

1879 C. HIBBS *Jewellery in Cassell's Techn. Educ.* IV. 309/1 It was the custom formerly to lay a heavy block of iron, called a 'bedder,' on the two metals and strike upon it with sledge hammers until... the contact was complete.

Bedding (bed'ing), *vbl. sb.* [*f.* BED + -ING.] 1. Connected with BED *sb.*

1. A collective name for the articles which compose a bed, esp. the mattress, feather-bed, or other article lain upon, and the bed-clothes.

a1000 *Lamb. Psalter* vi. 7 (Bosw.). Mid minum tearum mine beddinge ic beþwea. a1000 *Gloss.* in Wr. Wülcker *Voc.* 187 *Matras*, uel *conductum*, uel *stramentum*, strael, uel bedding. 1303 R. BRUNNE *Handl. S.* 3432 3yf bou delyte be yn ryche beddyng. 1388 WYCLIF *2 Sam.* xvii. 28 Brount to hym beddyngis and tapitis. 1486 *Act 3 Hen. VII.* ix. Things that be good... for Household... Brass, Pewter, Bedding. 1566 *Wills & Inv. N.C.* (1835) 254 All bedding as featherbedds, mattresses with all that pertaineth thereto. 1610 B. JONSON *Alch.* v. i. He hath sold my hangings, and my beddings! 1700 DRYDEN *Pal. & Arc.* ii. 159 Bedding and clothes I will this night provide. 1815 *Encycl. Brit.* III. 503/2 In the Highlands heath... is very generally used as bedding. 1861 F. NIGHTINGALE *Nursing* 50 Whenever you can, hang up the whole of the bedding to air for a few hours.

b. A supply of bed-clothes for one bed.

1600 R. SETON in *Rep. Eglington Papers* No. 128 (1885) 45 Your lordship must also send two bedding of clothes. 1724 RAMSAY *Teat. Misc.* (ed. g) l. 28 With an auld bedden o' claihs Was left me by my mither.

c. Anything used to sleep on or in; sleeping accommodation. *arch.* or *Obs.*

1393 LANGL. *P. Pl. C.* xvii. 74 He goþ to a cold beddyng. 1463 *Mann & Househ. Exp.* 225 He schalle have mete, and drynke, and beddyng. a1550 *Pebbis to Play* xiv. Gilbert in ane guttargayde; He gat na better beddin. 1596 SPENSER *State Trsl.* (1809) l. 161 The ground... which useth to be his bedding. 1675 HOBBS *Odys.* (1677) 31 So rude or poor, As not good bedding for a friend t' afford.

d. Litter for horses and cattle.

1697 DRYDEN *Virg. Georg.* iii. 465 Spread with Straw, the bedding of thy Fold. 1840 J. STEWART *Stable Econ.* 137 Some people give the horse no bedding, or almost none.

2. A bottom layer or foundation, in or on which anything rests, or may be firmly fixed.

1621 MARKHAM *Countr. Content.* ii. ii. (1688) 161 Straws which do belong to the bedding of [the malt-] kiln. 1677 EVELYN *Mem.* (1857) II. 119 The bedding being soft mud it is safe for shipping. 1787 *BEST Angling Gloss.*, Bedding, the body of an artificial-fly. 1881 *Ev. Man his own Mechanic* iii. § 1696 A bedding of putty must be carefully laid round that part... against which the glass is to be placed.

† 3. *Building.* The upper and lower surfaces of stones when worked for building. See BED 12 b.

1401 *Contr. Durham Dorn.* in *Gloss. Goth. Arch.* (1845) l. 52 Et erit le beddyng cujuslibet achiler ponendi in isto opere longitudinis unius pedis de assyse.

4. Arrangement of rocks, etc. in beds or layers; stratification or any similar structure.

1860 TYNDALL *Glac.* l. § 11. 75 Walls, across which the lines of annual bedding were drawn. 1862 ANSTED *Channel Isl.* ii. x. 264 Veins... at right angles to the apparent cleavage or bedding. 1890 LAWRENCE *Tr. Cotta's Rocks* Class. 97 The word 'Bedding' is used... in speaking of all rocks, whether stratified or not. It is taken as the equivalent of the German 'Lagerung.' 1890 HUXLEY *Physiogr.* 238 Running along the planes of stratification or bedding.

II. Connected with BED *v.*

5. A putting to bed; esp. of a bride.

1520 PUTTENHAM *Eng. Poetrie* i. xxvi. (1811) 41 Epithalamies... ballades at the bedding of the bride. 1622 MASSINGER, etc. *Old Law* v. i. Case up thy maidenhead: no priest, no bedding. 1822 SCOTT *Nigel* xxxvii. A circumstantial description of the wedding, bedding, and throwing the stocking.

6. The process of planting flowers in beds; also called *bedding out*.

1862 *Cott. Gardener* 3 June 182 The week has been taken up chiefly with bedding. 1885 *Garden* 4 June 521 There has been no time for bedding out.

III. *Attrib.* and *comb.*, as *bedding ballad*, *-plant*, *bedding-out plant*; also *bedding-moulding* = BED-MOULDING; *bedding-stone* (see quot.).

1589 PUTTENHAM *Eng. Poetrie* (Arb.) 68 Epithalamie or bedding ballad of the ancient times. 1664 EVELYN *Freart's Archit.* 136 Modifications... supply the part of the bedding-moulding as our Workmen style the Ovolo in this place. 1823 P. NICHOLSON *Pract. Build.* 384 Bedding Stone.—A straight piece of marble used to try the rubbed side of a brick. 1856 *Gard. Chron.* 55 Many of the bedding-plants were either dead or in a dying state. 1862 ANSTED *Channel Isl.* iv. xxi. 495 The scarlet bedding varieties often live for many years in the open ground. 1865 *Cornh. Mag.* May 587 To put down some bedding-out plants.

Bedded, *obs.* form of BEDRID.

Bede, *sb.* ME. form of BEAD *sb.*, often used in mod. Eng. in the now archaic sense of 'prayer.' So *bedehouse*, *bedesman*, *bedeswoman*.

† **Bede**, *sb.* *Obs.* rare.—[*f.* ME. *beden*, *beoden*, OE. *blōdan* to command (cf. Ger. *gebiel*): if not a sense of prec.] Command, bidding.

c1175 *Lamb. Hom.* 7 3ef we haldeþ his beode. 1330 R. BRUNNE *Chron.* 335 3ei bed be same beode. c1430 *Hymns Virg.* (1867) 49 3oruz pride 3e offendid my fadris beode.

Bede (bid), *sb.* 3 'A miner's pickaxe.' Raymond *Mining Gloss.*

Bedeacon, *bedebt*, etc.: see BE-*pref.*

Bedead (bide'd), *v.* 1 *Obs.* [*f.* BE-2 + DEAD *v.*] *trans.* To deaden. Only found in pples. *Bedeaded*, *deadened*; *Bedeadening*, *deadening*.

1656 H. MORE *Enthus. Tri.* § 28. 27 His body so deeply overwhelmed and bedeaded with sleep. — *Antid. Ath.* iii. xvi. (1712) 141 A dark bedeadening Melancholy. 1681 HALLYWELL *Melamor.* (T.) Bedeaded and stupified as to their morals. 1736 in BAILEY; and in mod. Dicts.

† **Bedearf**, *v.* *Obs.* [*f.* BE-2 + DEAF.] To deafen. 1650 QUARLES *Jonah* (1638) 26 Bedearfing him with what he knows and hears.

Bedeaft (bide'f'n), *v.* [*f.* BE-2 + DEAFEN *v.*]

Intensive of DEAFEN. Found only in pa. pple. 1631 QUARLES *Samson* in *Farr S. P.* (1848) 126 Did wake His father's sleep-bedeafted ears. 1808 SCOTT *Marm.* iv. xvi. Bedeafted d with the jangling knell.

† **Bedeal**, *v.* *Obs.* Forms: 1 *bedēlan*, 3 *bidēlan*, 2-3 *bidelen*. [*f.* BE-3 + OE. *dēlan*, to part, DEAL.] *trans.* To deprive, bereave, free of.

c1000 *Ælfric Gen.* xxvii. 45 Hw sceal ic beon bedealed æððer minra sunena. c1200 ORMIN 4676 Loc nu 3iff þatt tu nartt... wittes biðealed. 1205 LAY. 17364 Seouen þusend þer leien liues biðealed. a1275 *Prose Alfred* in *O. E. Misc.* 124 3if þu i þin helde best welþes biðelid.

Bedeck (bide'k), *v.* [*f.* BE-1 + DECK.] *trans.* To deck about, to cover with ornament, to adorn.

a1566 R. EDWARDS in *Ellis II.* (R.) May bedecks each branch with green. 1628 tr. *Camden's Hist. Eliz.* ii. 251 That part of the Heaven... was bedecked with but few Stars. 1720 GAY *Poems* (1745) II. 18 Three gold rings her skilful hand bedeck. 1850 BLACKIE *Æschylus* II. 173 Spear-pierced trophies, Argive harnesses, Bedeck their holy halls. fig. 1559 *Mirr. Mag.* 187 (R.) So that I was bedecked with double praise.

Hence *Bedecked ppl. a.*, *Bedecking ppl. a.* and *vbl. sb.*

1671 MILTON *Samson* 712 But who is this? That, so bedecked, ornate, and gay, Comes this way sailing. 1588 SHAKS. *L. L. L.* ii. 1. 79 Bedecking ornaments of praise. 1612 W. PARKES *Curtaine-Dr.* (1876) 54 The wife in her faire ornaments and bedeckings.

Bedece, variant of BEDET, *obs.* 'a soldier's boy.'

Bedegar (bed'gar). Also *-gar*, *-gaur*, *-guar*, [*a. f.* *bedeguar* = *bedegar*, ad. ult. Pers. (and Arab.) باادار, *bādāwar*, -ard, lit. 'wind-

brought,' according to the *Burhani Kati* 'a thorny bush with a white flower, resembling the thistle.' Thence sense 1. Later writers seem to have fancifully attributed to the word a derivation from Pers. *bād* wind, breath + Arab. *ward* 'rose,' and applied it to something growing on the rose. Gerard of Cremona, in his *Synonymy* (1481) explains *bedegar* both ways, by 'spina alba vel odor rose' (Devic).]

† 1. A white spiny or thorny plant, perh. originally an *Echinops*, but taken by western herbalists for the Milk Thistle (*Silybum Marianum*).

1578 LYFE *Dodoens* 655 The spongyous bawle... upon the wilde Rose... is called of som Apothecaries Bedegar; but wrongfully. 1605 W. WESTMACOTT *Script. Herb.* 30 These Briars yield an Excrecence... called, tho' falsely, Bedegaur or Bedegnar. 1872 OLIVER *Elem. Bot.* ii. 171 Rose Bedeguars or 'Robin Redbreast's Pincushions', are frequent upon the Dog Rose. 1883 *Pall Mall G.* 3 Sept. 2/1 The hedgerows... beautiful with clematis, and scarlet and yellow foliage, with hip and haw, and the bedegaur of the rose.

2. A moss-like excrescence on rose-bushes: it is a kind of gall produced by the puncture of a small insect *Cynips rosea*.

1578 LYFE *Dodoens* 655 The spongyous bawle... upon the wilde Rose... is called of som Apothecaries Bedegar; but wrongfully. 1605 W. WESTMACOTT *Script. Herb.* 30 These Briars yield an Excrecence... called, tho' falsely, Bedegaur or Bedegnar. 1872 OLIVER *Elem. Bot.* ii. 171 Rose Bedeguars or 'Robin Redbreast's Pincushions', are frequent upon the Dog Rose. 1883 *Pall Mall G.* 3 Sept. 2/1 The hedgerows... beautiful with clematis, and scarlet and yellow foliage, with hip and haw, and the bedegaur of the rose.

Bede house, earlier form of BEAD-HOUSE.

Bedel, *bedell*, archaic forms of BEADLE, officially retained in the Universities of Oxford and Cambridge. So *Bedelry*, etc.

Bedelary, *bedellarie*, var. of BEADLERY.

† **Bedeolve**, *v.* *Obs.* Forms: *Inf.* 1 *bedelfan*, 3-4 *bydelve*, 4-5 *bi-*, *bedelue* (-ve). *Pa. pple.* 1 *bedolfen*, 3 *bydeolve* (n, 4 *by-*, *bedolve* (n, 6 *bedolvynne*, *Sc. bedelvyn*. [OE. *bedelf-an*, *f.* BE- + *delf-an* to DELVE.]

1. *trans.* To dig round or about.

c1000 *Ag. Gosp.* Luke xii. 8 Op ic hine bedelfe. a1500 *E. E. Misc.* 68 The tre schal be bedolvynne abowte.

2. To bury.

a1000 *Dream of Rod* 75 Bedealf us man on deopan seade. c1374 CHAUCER *Boeth.* v. i. 151 And fond þere a gobet of golde by-doluen. c1440 LONELICH *Graill* li. 14 And him... putten there-inne, and him bedelven. 1513 DOUGLAS *Æneis* x. ix. 49 Quharin bedelvyn lyis a gret talent.

Bedeman, *obs.* form of BEADSMAN.

† **Bedene**, *adv.* *Obs.* exc. *dial.* Forms: 3-6 *bidene*, 4 *biden*, *bedeine*, 4-6 *by-*, *bedene*, *bedeyne*, 5 *bydeene*, *bedeene*, *bedon*, 6 *bedyn*.

8-9 *bedeen*. [ME. *bidene*, a word of constant occurrence in northern ME. verse, but of uncertain origin; its senses run partly parallel with those of ANON, but it is often used without any appreciable force, as a rime word, or to fill up the measure. Its latter part is almost certainly the early ME. adv. *ene*, *ene*, OE. *ēne* 'once, at once, in one, together' (cf. the ME. phrases at *ene* at once, for *ene* for once, and see ENE); but the *bid-* is difficult of explanation.

Marsh and Mätzner compared Du. *bijdien*, MDu. *biden*, *biden*, LG. *biden* 'by that, thereby, beside that,' which must be discarded; Stratmann compared LG. *binene* ('for *bi ene*), and suggested that *bidene* might be for *bi ene*, but offered no explanation of the -d-. Prof. Zupitza (note to *Guy of Warwick*, 15th c. version, l. 2408) suggests a corruption of **mid ene*, comparing MHG. *miten*, *mit ene*, 'together, and'. This completely suits the sense; also, the change of initial *m* to *b*, though unusual, is not unexampled; cf. esp. MHG. *bitalle* for *mit alle* 'wholly, entirely.' But there are historical difficulties in the non-appearance of **mid ene* in OE., or of *mid ene*, *bidene*, in early southern ME., where alone *mid* was retained; in the rise and use of *bidene* in the north, where *mid* was not retained in ME.; and in the fact that the Old Northumbrian had not *mid*, but *mið*, so that the Anglian form would have been *mið ene*. These difficulties are only partially removed, if, for *mid*, we start from the more northern *witth*. In the *Old Usages of Winchester* (E. E. Guilds), we see *witth-inne*, *witth-outte*, transformed into *by-pinne*, *by-powte*, through assimilation to *by*; similarly **witth ene*, **witth ene*, might be changed into **bi-dene*, **by-pene*; but the change of the latter into *bi-dene*, would still remain to be explained.]

1. In one body or company, together. *All bedene*: all together; altogether, completely. Cf. ANON 1. c1200 ORMIN 4793 He [Job] forliss hiss streon Onn an daz3 all bidene. 12nn menn. a1300 *Cursor M.* 1553 Manes sinne... corrupt all his world bidene. 1340 HAMPOLE *Pr. Consc.* 8044 A vesselle dypped alle bidene In water. 1450 MYRC *Par. Pr.* 1870 And also halowet alle by-dene. 1522 *World & Child* in Hazl. *Dods.* l. 268 All this company that is gathered here bi-dene.

2. Sometimes perhaps: Straight on, continuously, right through so as to include the whole quantity or number; one after another. Cf. ANON 3.

a1300 *Cursor M.* 1457 Enos son liued al biden Nine hundred yeur and fute, i wene. 1610 *ibid.* 1560 To sle the childrynn alle by-dene [i.e. be-, bidene] Wyth-ynne the town of bedlem. 1375 BARBOUR *Bruce* v. 144 [He] sperit thithandis of the queyn, And of his frendis all bedeyn. c1400 *Destr. Troy* xxix. 12092 He besit hym. Fele dayes bedene, or he þat dere fonde. c1420 *Pallad.* on *Insul.* i. 184 To till a felde man must have diligence, And balk it not; but ere it up bydene. 1475 *Sgr. Loue Degree* 274 Take thy leve of kinge and quene, And so to all the court bydene.

3. Straightway, at once, forthwith, immediately Cf. ANON 4.

a 1300 E. E. Psalter l. 4. Nou mare me wasche of min ivel bi-dene. c 1460 *Launfal* 907 in Ritson *Met. Rom.* l. 309 The kyng answered bedene, Well come, ye maydenes schene. 1513 G. DOUGLAS *Æneis* l. ii. 33 Warp all thair bodyis in the deip bedene. 1706 *Harst Rig* in *Pop. Sc. Poems* 49 The master is set sair, And vows bedene that he will share His staff among them. 1791 A. WILSON *Laurel Disput.* Wks. (1846) 124 A saxepe too, to let me in bedene. 4. Sometimes perhaps: In a little while, by and by, 'anon.' Cf. ANON 5.

1330 R. BRUNNE *Chron.* 149 And Richard oste bidene at Marsille left alle po. 1470 *HARDING Chron.* ccxv, To Caleice so he came and home bee dene. a 1550 *Christis Kirke Gr.* xxii, Fresch men cam in and hail'd the dulis, And dang them down in dallis Bedene. 1830 *Hogg in Blackw. Mag.* XXVIII, 738 Read on our Bibles, pray bedene.

5. As an expletive, or without appreciable force. c 1350 *Med. MS. Archæol.* XXX, 351 And stampe alle to-gedir bedene And wryngis throw a cloth clene. 1375 *BARBOUR Bruce* xv. 108 Fra develling came schippis xv Chargit with armyt men bedeyne [*v.r.* bedene, bedene], c 1420 *Anturs Arth.* liii, Bothe the king and the quene, And other durti bi-dene. 1810 *TANNAHILL Poems* (1846) 139 Ye'll baith come owre on Friday bedene, And join us.

Beder, obs. form of **BEDDER**.
Bederal, variant of **BEDRAL**, beadle.

Bedered(e), obs. form of **BEDRID**.

Bederpe, **bederpe**, variants of **BEDRIP**.

Bederk, obs. form of **BEDARK**.

Beder-roll, obs. form of **BEAD-ROLL**.

+Bedet. Obs. Also 7 bedee. [ad. F. *bidet* little baggage horse.] A horseman's or soldier's boy employed to carry his baggage.

1633 *AMES Fresh Suit agst. Cerem.* ii. 452 Not stragling Souldiers... but Souldiers boyes or Bedees. 1660 *HEXHAM, Ern Ruyters jongen*, a Horse-man's boy, or a Bedet.

Bedevil (bidev'l), *v.*; also 6 bedevil. [f. BE-5, 6 + DEVIL.]

1. To treat diabolically, with diabolical violence, ribaldry, or abuse.

1708 *STERNE Sent. Journ.* (1775) l. 34 He had been... bedevild... at every stage he had come at. 1809 *BYRON Eng. Bards & Sc. Rev.* (ed. 2) Postscr., My poor... Muse... they have... so be-deviled with their... ribaldry.

2. To 'possess' with, or as with, a devil.

1831 *CARLYLE Sart. Res.* iii. iii, One age, he is hagridden, bewitched; the next, priestridden, befooled; in all ages, bedevilled. 1866 *THACKERAY Four Georges* i. 45 People who have to deal with her are charmed, and fascinated, and bedevilled.

3. To drive frantic, to bewilder with worry; to torment, worry, 'bother.'

1823 *T. MOORE Fables, Holy Alliance* Fab. 2. 107. 549 Satires at the Court they levelled. That soon, in short, they quite bedevilled Their Majesties and Royal Highnesses. 1878 *P. BAYNE Pnr. Rev.* vi. 230 He did so dazzle and bewilder and bedevil the poor man.

4. To 'play the devil with'; to transform mischievously or bewilderingly, to corrupt, spoil, confound, or muddle.

1800 *Edin. Rev.* IX. 108 A room and furniture 'bedeviled' by taste. 1836 *DISRAELI Viv. Grey* vi. l. 273 So bedevil a bottle of Geisenheim... you wouldn't know it from the green-est Tokay. 1844 — *Cummings* iv. v. 129 The country attorneys... had so bedevilled the registration. 1851 *KINGSLEY Yeast* ix. 186 To bedevil, by the light of those very already dimmed eyes, the objects around.

5. To bring into the condition of a devil.

1861 *J. BROWN Horae Subs.* 219 [Art] cannot regenerate, neither can it... bedevil mankind.

6. To call devil, stigmatize as a devil.

Bedevilled, -iled, *ppl. a.* [f. prec. + -ED.]

1. Possessed with, or as with, a devil.

1574 *HELLOWES Guevara's Ep.* (1577) 310 He commeth from abroad so furious... and so bedevilled, that none may abide him. 1668 *R. LESTRANGE Vis. Quev.* (1708) 2 You are to say, this is a Devil Catchpole, and not a Catchpole bedevild. 1785-95 *WOLCOTT (P. Pindar) Lonsiad* Wks. iv. l. 296 No sheep, like sheep be-devild'd, ran about. 1879 *R. STEVENSON Trav. Cevenues* 180 Those who took to the hills... had all gloomy and bedevilled thoughts.

2. Driven frantic, as if by satanic agency; worried, 'bothered.'

1828 *SOUTHEY Lett.* (1856) IV. 92 This be-duped and be-devild nation. 1852 *HAWTHORNE Blithed. Rom.* II. iii. 61 Bedevilled with one grief or another.

3. Mischievously or bewilderingly transformed, utterly confused, or muddled.

1755 *SMOLLETT Quix.* (1803) l. 47 The unintelligible and bedevilled discourses of his author. 1809 *WINDHAM Lett. in Speeches* (1812) l. 114 The whole is so bedevilled, that there is no restoring things to their original state.

4. Cookery. Grilled or broiled, with the addition of hot spice; = **DEVILLED**.

1814 *SOUTHEY in Q. Rev.* XII. 223 The gizzard was... sent from the table to be broiled and seasoned, and... returned thus bedevilled. 1866 *Sat. Rev.* 13 Sept. 309 Whitebait simple and whitebait bedevilled.

Bedevilment (bidev'lmēt), [f. as prec. + -MENT.]

1. Possession by an evil spirit.

1861 *A. CLINGTON Fr. O'Donnell* 25 Whatever bedevilment seized me, I let some of it [opium] spill into his punch. 1878 *P. ROBINSON My Ind. Gard.* 18 Are not these unequivocal signs of bedevilment?

2. Maddening or bewildering trouble.

1844 *DICKENS Lett.* (1880) l. 132 The greater chance of no such bedevilment happening to me. 1882 *ROSSETTI in Hall Caine Recoll.* 273 Bedevilments thicken: the Garden is ploughed up.

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3. Maddening confusion or disorder.

1843 *Blackw. Mag.* LIII. 361 The confusion and bedevilment was ten times worse. 1852 *DICKENS Bleak Ho.* viii. (D.) The lawyers have twisted it into such a state of bedevilment. 1861 *SALA Trw. round Clock* 87 What a chaos of cash debtor, contra creditor... brokerage, agio, tare and tret, dock warrants, and general commercial bedevilment!

Bedew (bidiu'), *v.* Forms: 4-5 bydewe, 4-7 bedeaw, 5- bedew. [f. BE- + DEW; cf. MHG. *betouwen*, MLG. *bedauwen*.]

1. *passive*. To be wetted with dew; hence *active*, To cover with dew-like moisture.

1398 *TREVISIA Barth. De P. R.* xiv. ii. (1495) 468 Yf good londe is bydewed... it fattyth. 1665-6 *Phil. Trans.* l. 257 The outside of the Metalline Vessel will be bedew'd (if I may so speak) with... Drops of Water. 1706 *ADDISON Rosamond* ii. vi, In the dreadful pains of death, When the cold damp bedews your brow. 1830 *HERSCHEL Stud. Nat. Phil.* ii. vi. (1851) 159 The moisture which bedews a cold metal or stone when we breathe upon it.

2. *transf.* To wet or moisten gently or by drops; also, *poet. or rhet.*, to perfume with moisture.

c 1374 *CHAUCER Boeth.* iv. vii. 144 De flesyng reyne bydewep be wynter. 1491 *CAXTON Vitas Patr.* (1495) 140 The ryver of Nyle that bedewyth and watreth the londe. 1578 *LITZ Dodens* 53 As though it were bedewed... with honie. 1593 *SHAKS. Rich. II.* iii. iii. 99 Bedewe Her Pastors Grasse with faithful English Blood. 1596 *SPENSER F. Q.* i. xii. 16. a 1674 *MILTON in Birch Milton's Wks.* (1738) l. 43 That Herod had well bedew'd himself with Wine. 1746 *SMOLLETT Tears Scotl.* 43 While the warm blood bedews my veins. 1864 *H. AINSWORTH Tower Lond.* 395 Tears bedewed her cheeks.

3. *fig.* To perfume with any influence figured as like dew in its operation.

1340 *Aeneid.* 94 De virtues bet be Holy Gost bedeawep myd his grace. 1483 *CAXTON Gold. Leg.* 301/4, I shalle arouse and bydewe her body with so arduant desyre. 1639 *ROUSE Heav. Univ.* iv. 33 When the soul is inwardly bedewed... by the Spirit. 1860 *PUSEY Min. Proph.* 336 So did the Apostles bedew the souls of believers with the word of godliness.

Bedewed (bidiud'), *ppl. a.* [f. prec. + -ED.] Moistened with or as with dew.

1530 *PALSGR.* 445/2 In April it is a pleasant syght to se the yonge herbes bedewed. 1646 *CRASHAW Steps to Temp.* 59 His sweat-bedewed bed. 1876 *G. CHAMBERS Astron.* 736 Its transfer into warm air will probably lead to its becoming bedewed.

Bedewer. One who or that which bedews.

1611 *COTGR.* *Arroseur*, a bedewer, a besprinkler.

Bedewing, *vbl. sb.* [f. as prec. + -ING.] A wetting with or as with dew.

1860 *HOLLYBAND Treas. Fr. Tong.* *Asperion & Arrosement*, besprinkling or bedewing. 1874 *N. FAIRFAX Bulb & Selv.* 128 The bedewings of the raughty mold soaking in between its crevices.

Bedewing, *ppl. a.* [f. as prec. + -ING.] That bedews or moistens like dew.

1611 *COTGR.* *Rosillant*, dewie, bedewing, dew-dropping. a 1834 *COLERIDGE*, All-bedewing prayer.

+Bedewment. Obs. rare. [f. BEDEW + -MENT.] = **BEDEWING** *vbl. sb.* (fig.) Cf. **BEDEW** 3.

a 1679 *T. GOODWIN Wks.* (1861) II. 452 Those refreshing bedewments which the Holy Ghost vouchsafeth.

+Bedewy, *a. rare*-. [Irregularly formed by assoc. w. **BEDEW** and **DEWY**.] = **DEWY**.

1607 *A. BREWER Lingua* v. xvi, Night from her bedewy wings Drops Sleepie silence.

Bedfast, *a. north. dial. and Sc.* [f. **BED** sb. + **FAST** a. Cf. OE. *legerbedde fest* buried; and MDu. *beddevass* bedfast.] Confined to bed.

a 1630 *SPOTTISWOOD Hist. Ch. Scot.* vi. (1677) 341 Farnherst lying bedfast at the time in Aberdeen. 1796 *BURNS Lett.* (Globe ed.) 564, I have been ailing, sometimes bedfast. 1863 *MRS. GASKELL Sylvia's L.* l. 30 My old woman is bed-fast.

Bedfellow (bedfelou). For forms see **BED** and **FELLOW**.

1. One who shares a bed with another; also *fig.*

1478 *SIR J. PASTON Lett.* III. 235 [He] hath the entryd the manner of Scolton upon your bedfellowe Conyorse. 1571 *ASCHAM Scholem.* (1863) 96 John Whitney, a yong gentleman, was my bedfelow. 1610 *SHAKS. Temp.* ii. ii. 42 Misery acquaints a man with strange bedfellows. 1711 *ADDISON Spect.* No. 90 ¶ 7 My Bed-fellows left me about an Hour before Day. 1834 *J. WILSON Noct. Ambr.* xxxv. Wks. 1864 IV. 102 *Tickler*. I request to have Fang for my bed fellow.

+2. spec. A husband or wife; a concubine. Obs.

1490 *Flimston Corr.* 89 My simple bedfellow, your bedewoman and servant... recommendeth hir unto your mastership. 1564 *P. MOORE Hope Health* Ep. Ded. 9 Vnto your worship, and to my good Ladie your bedfellowe. 1579 *FULKE Ref. Rastel* 725 Have not some Popish Priestes such servants and bedfellows also? 1684 *Contempl. State Man* i. vi. (1690) 61 Altho' she had a great Dowry, none would covet such a Bed-fellow.

Bed-fellowship (bedfel'wip), [f. prec. + -SHIP.] The condition of being bed-fellows.

1611 *TOURNEUR Ath. Trag.* l. i, Her husbands bedfellowship. 1854 *H. MILLER Sch. & Schm.* (1858) 186 The strange bed-fellowship which our recent misery had made.

+Bed-fere, **bed-ifere**. Obs. Forms: 3-4 bed-yver(e), 4-5 bed-ifere, bedde-fere, 4-6 bed-fere, 6 s. w. dial. bed-aver, 7 bed-ph(e)re.

[cf. **BED** + **IFERE**, and **FERE** = OE. *gefera* companion, fellow. The longer form *bed-ifere* was retained in s. w. dial., where it appeared in 16th c. as *bed-aver*; *bed-fere* was the literary form till 17th c.]

c 1300 in Wright's *Lyric P.* xv. 49 Lyare wes mi latymer, Sleuthe ant slep mi bedyuer [*printed* bedyner]. 1393 *GOWER*

Conf. II. 229 Unto his bedifere, Deidamy he hath by night. *Ibid.* III. 65 He shal be your beddefere. 1547 *BOORDE Introd. Knowl.* 122 Wyl your bedauer, gosse, come home at the next tyde?.. My bedauer wyl to London, to try the law. 1609 *B. JONSON Sil. Woman* II. v, Her that I mean to choose for my bedphere. 1614 *CHAPMAN Odys.* III. 542 His bedfere was Pisistratus. 1656 *BLOUNT Glossogr.*, *Bedphere* (Sax.) a Bed-fellow.

Bedfordshire (bedsfud'sh). Name of an English county; humorously put for *bed*.

1663 *COTTON Poet. Wks.* (1765) 75 Each one departs to Bedfordshire, And Pillows all securely snort on. c 1706 *SWIFT Polit. Conn.* iii. (D.) Faith, I'm for Bedfordshire. [a 1845 *HOOD Kilmansegg* (D.) There was the bed, so soft, so vast, Quite a field of Bedfordshire clover.]

Bedful. [f. **BED** sb. + -FUL.] As much or as many as would fill a bed. (Half humorous.)

1621 *BURTON Anat. Mel.* iii. iii. l. i. (1651) 599, I have an old grim sire to my husband... a bedful of bones.

Bedgown (bed'gaun). [see **GOWN**.]

1. A woman's night-gown or 'night-dress.'

1766 *STERNE Tr. Shandy* V. vii. 43 Her bed-gowns, and... under-petticoats. c 1860 *WHITTIER Sisters* iii, Annie rose up in her bed-gown white.

2. A kind of jacket worn by women of the working class in the north.

1827 *SCOTT in Lockhart* (1839) IX. 168 The women had no other dress than a bed-gown and petticoat. 1863 *KINGSLEY Water Bab.* 52 The nicest old woman that ever was seen, in her red petticoat and short dimity bedgown.

Hence **Bedgowny** *a. colloq.*

1883 *Pall Mall G.* 30 Apr. 6/1 Sloppy, bed-gowny, *dc. collette* dresses.

Bed-head. [see **HEAD**.]

1. The part of a bed on which the head rests; a pillow or bolster. Obs.

1483 *Cath. Angl.* 25 Bedhede, *cubitale*.

2. The upper end of a bed.

c 1386 *CHAUCER C. T. Prol.* 293 For hym was leuere haue at his bed hede [*v.r.* beddes hede] Twenty bookes clad in blak or rede. 1883 *SIR F. POLLOCK in Fortn. Rev.* 1 Oct. 536 A Book... such as every one would like to have at his bed-head.

Bediademed, -diamonded, -diaper: see **BE-**

+Bedi'dder, *v. Obs.* Forms: 1 *bedidri-an*, 3 *bididdr-en*. [OE. *bedidrian*, f. **BE-** + *dydrian*, *dyderian* to deceive.] To deceive, delude.

c 1000 *ÆLFRIC Gen.* xlv. 15 Wendon ge þat ge mihton bedidrian minne gelican. c 1200 *ORMIN* 19137 Te defell hafide hemm all Bididredd.

Bedight (bidi't), *v. arch.* *Pa. t.* bedight. *Pa. pple.* bedight, -ed. [f. **BE-** + **DIGHT**.] *trans.*

To equip, furnish, apparel, array, bedeck. (Now only poetical.)

c 1400 in *Pol. Rel. & L. Poems* (1866) 23 Wat is he þis þat comet so bñht Wit blodli clothes al be-diht? 1559 *Mirr. Mag.* 270 (R.) A troope of men... in armis bedight. 1598 *SYLVESTER Du Bartas* (1608) 462 A garland... The royal bridegrooms radiant brows bedights. 1621 *QUARLES Esther* (1717) 8 Jonah straight arose, himself bedight with fit accoutrements for hasty flight. 1642 *MILTON Apol. Smect.* Wks. (1851) 269 Whose outward garment hath bin injurd and ill bedighted. 1874 *N. FAIRFAX Bulb & Selv.* 129 She not only bedights them with many springs. 1886 *LONGF. Elected Ant.* vii, Three modest maidens have me bedight.

Hence **Bedight** *ppl. a.*

a 1440 *Sire Degrev.* 144 Lothlych by-dyght. 1598 *Yong Diana* 428 Thy fieldes bedight with Daffodillies. a 1849 *Poe Eldorado* i, Gaily bedight, a gallant knight. 1863 *C. M. SMITH Dead Lock* 296 Lilian... With gems and gold bedight.

+Bedighting, *vbl. sb. Obs.* [f. prec. + -ING.]

Outfit, furnishing; hence, property, attribute.

1874 *N. FAIRFAX Bulb & Selv.* 108 Having pared off from body all its parts, we have also bereaved it of all those bedightings or affections that belong to it.

+Bedilt, *pa. pple. Obs. rare*. [f. **BE-** + **DILL**, ON. *dylja* to conceal, hide.] Hidden, covered.

1660 *T. HALL Funebria Fl.* ad fin., In bowers May-sprigs gaily built With flowers and garlands all bedilt.

Bedim (bidi'm), *v.*; also 6-7 bedym, -dymn. [f. **BE-** + **DIM**.] *trans.* To make dim, cover with dimness, becloud.

1593 *STANYHURST Æneis* III. (Arb.) 84 Soomtyme owt it bolcketh from bulck clouds grimly bedimmed. 1610 *SHAKS. Temp.* v. i. 41, I haue bedymnd The Noone-tide Sun. 1876 *HUXLEY Physiogr.* 75 The surface [is] soon bedimmed on exposure to the atmosphere.

b. *esp.* the eyesight.

1811 *BYRON Curse Minerva* 86 Celestial tears bedimmd her large blue eye. 1890 *BLACKIE Æchylus* II. 24 A tearful cloud My woeful sight bedims.

c. *fig.* the mind, mental vision, memory, etc.

1566 *GASCOIGNE Jocasta* Wks. (1587) 85 Those raging storms of wrath That so bedym the eyes of thine intent. 1816 *J. WILSON City of Plague* II. iv. 179 Nor can the shadow of this passing world Bedim thy holy spirit. 1817 *COLERIDGE Biog. Lit.* 93 The detestable maxims... of the late French despotism had already bedimmed the public recollections of democratic phrensy. 1849 *HARE Par. Sermon* II. 169 Fear so troubles and bedims and confounds the mind.

Bedimmed (bidi'md), *ppl. a.* [f. prec. + -ED.] Obscured in brightness or clearness.

1790 *COWPER Odys.* l. 459 The palace dark bedimmd. 1831 *CARLYLE Misc.* (1857) II. 305 An ancient, bedimmed, half obliterated woodcut. 1898 *HAWTHORNE Fr. & It. Jnals.* II. 177 The backgrounds still retain a bedimmed splendor of gilding.

Bedimming (bidi'mig), *ppl. a.* [f. as prec. + -ING.] That bedims or obscures.

1810 *COLERIDGE Friend* (1865) 57 Vain halos and bedimming

95

vapours. 1849 WORDSW. *Sonn. Wks.* III. 66 A dragon's eye that feels the stress of a bedimming sleep.

Bedimple (bɪdɪmp'l), *v.* [f. BE- + DIMPLE.] *trans.* To cover or mark over with dimples.

1718 MOTTEUX *Quix.* (1733) II. 276 The whitest Pebbles bedimple its smooth surface. 1821 CLARK *Vill. Minstr.* I. 30 The shower-bedimpled sandy lanes.

Bedin, **bedinner**, etc.: see BE-*pref.*

Bedip (bɪdɪp), *v.* [OE. *bedyppan*, f. BE- + *dyppan* to DIP. *Obs.* after 12th c., but formed anew c. 1600.] *trans.* To dip, immerse, treat to a dipping.

c. 1000 ÆLFRIC *Gen.* xxxvii. 31 Hig. . . bedypton his tunecan on ðam blode. c. 1000 *Agg. Gosp.* Matt. xxvi. 23 Se þe bedyppð [c. 1160 *Hotton* bedepð] on disc mid me his hand. 1598 SYLVESTER *Du Bartas* (1608) 993 Her. . . hands in snow bedipt. 1820 COMBE (Dr. Syntax) *Consol.* II. (D.), The warrior's spear bedipp'd in blood. a 1845 Hood *Storm Hastings* i, Crowds of idlers willing or unwilling To be bedipped.

† **Bedirt** (bɪdɪrt), *v.* *Obs.* Also 7 *bedurt*. [f. BE- + DIRT.] *trans.* To cover or defile with dirt; *fig.* 'to throw dirt at' to vilify.

1623 MABBEY *Alaman's Guzman d'Alf* II. 56 My Master knew I was all bedurtd. 1673 PENN *Life Wks.* 1782 I. 39 An Independent and an Anabaptist. . . have lately bedurtd us in three discourses. 1684 *Contempl. State of Man* i. ix. (1699) 98 Be dirted and defiled with abominable. . . crimes.

Hence **Bedirted**, **bedirten** (Sc.) *ppl. a.*

1598 A DALABER *Narr.* in Froude *Hist. Eng.* (1856) II. 56 All bedirted as I was. a 1590 *Peables to Play* (1862) 10 She. . . all bedirted drew him out. 1721 STRYVE *Eccle. Mem.* I. i. xxii. 160 A long gown. . . all bedirted like, and sloven.

† **Bedirter**. *Obs.* A thrower of dirt; a vilifier. 1747 T. STORY *Life* 64 The Stoners and Bedirters among his Hearers.

Bedirry, **bedismal**, etc.: see BE-*pref.*

Bedizen (bɪdɪz'n, -dɪz'n), *v.*; also *bedissen*. [f. BE- + DIZEN. All English orthoepists have (ɪ); Webster has the alternative (i).] *trans.* To dress out, especially in a vulgar or gaudy fashion.

1661 K. W. *Conf. Charac.* (1860) 81 These petty ladies. . . are bedizened in sable sacks, or. . . in white sarcenet wallats. 1755 JOHNSON, *Bedizen*, to dress out: a low word. a 1779 LANGHORNE *County Just.* (R.) Ye cits, that sore bedizen Nature's fate. 1825 SCOTT *Talisman*. (1854) 267 You have bedizened me in green, a colour he detests.

b. fig.

a 1768 HEADLEY *Parad. Gray's El.* (T.) The name bedizen'd by the pedant muse. 1806 *Edin. Rev.* VIII. 268 The quotations. . . with which Mr. Lemaistre has thought fit to bedizzen his pages. 1820 W. IRVING *Sketch Bk.* II. 130 Bedizened out into a burlesque imitation of an antique masque.

Bedizened (bɪdɪz'nd, -dɪz'nd), *ppl. a.* [f. prec. + -ED¹.] Dressed up with vulgar finery.

1707 FARQUHAR *Beaus' Strat.* III. i. 23, I took him for a Captain, he's so bedizen'd with Lace. 1860 MOTLEY *Netherl.* (1868) I. ii. 37 Bedizened dresses. 1867 SMILES *Huguenots* Fr. xix. (1860) 349 A poor bedizened creature. . . was led through. . . Paris in the character of the Goddess of Reason.

Bedizening, *vb. sb.* Dressing out.

1863 HOLLAND *Lett. Joneses* xiv. 206 In your devotion to dressing and bedizening of your persons.

Bedizement. The process, result, or material of bedizening; vulgar or gaudy attire.

1837 CARLYLE *Fr. Rev.* III. iv. 227 They sit there. . . with oak-branches, tricolor bedizement. 1859 KINGSLEY *Misc.* I. 48 Even if there were no bedizement of jewels.

Bedlam (bedlām). Forms: 1-3 *bedleem*, 3 *beppleam*, 3-6 *beth(e)leem*, 4 *bedleem*, 4-8 *bethleem*, 6-10 *lehem*, 3-7 *bedleem*, 5 *bedeleem*, 6 *bedleme*, 6-7 *-lame*, 6- *bedlam*. [ME. *Bedlem* = *Bethlem*, *Bethlehem*; applied to the Hospital of St. Mary of Bethlehem, in London, founded as a priory in 1247, with the special duty of receiving and entertaining the bishop of St. Mary of Bethlehem, and the canons, etc. of this, the mother church, as often as they might come to England. In 1330 it is mentioned as 'an hospital,' and in 1402 as a hospital for lunatics (Timbs); in 1346 it was received under the protection of the city of London, and on the Dissolution of the Monasteries, it was granted to the mayor and citizens, and in 1547 incorporated as a royal foundation for the reception of lunatics. Thence the modern sense, of which instances appear early in 16th c.]

† 1. The town of Bethlehem in Judea. *Obs.*

971 *Blickl. Hom.* 93 pa he on Betleem was accenned. c. 1200 *Trin. Coll. Hom.* 31 And tealde þe herdes þe waken den ouer here oref beside þe burch belleem [? betleem]. c. 1200 ORMIN 3360 He borenn iss I Daviþþ kingess chesstre, þat iss þehatenn Beppleam. a 1300 *Cursor M.* 11234 Þat blisful biþþ in bethleem [Goth. *bethleem*, *Land a 1400 bedlem*]. 1382 WYCLIF *Luke* ii, A cite of Dauith that is cleped Bedleem. c. 1440 *Lay-Folks Mass-Bk.* C. 109 Ihesu, þat was in bedlem borne. 1616 *Pasquil & Kath.* v. 206 M. Mamon is in a Cite of Iurie, called Bethleem, alias, plaine Bedleme.

2. The Hospital of St. Mary of Bethlehem, used as an asylum for the reception and cure of mentally deranged persons; originally situated in Bishopsgate, in 1676 rebuilt near London Wall, and in 1815 transferred to Lambeth. *Jack or Tom o' Bedlam*: a madman.

1528 TINDALE *Obed. Chr. Man* (1848) 184 For they. . . do things which they of Bedlam may see that they are but madness. 1562 J. HEYWOOD *Prov. & Epigr.* (1867) 107 Lyke lacke of Bedlem in and out whipping. 1589 *Pappe w. Hatchet* (1844) 34 Could sute them in no place but in Bedlam

and Bridewell. 1593 SHAKS. 2 *Hen. VI.* v. i. 131 To Bedlem with him! Is the man growne mad? 1605 — *Leare* i. ii. 148 With a sighe like Tom o' Bedlam. 1678 EVELYN *Mem.* (1857) II. 126, I went to see new Bedlam Hospital. . . most sweetly placed in Moorfields, since the dreadful fire. 1866 G. MACDONALD *Ann. O. Neighb.* xi. (1878) 223 There was I. . . in as strait a jacket as ever poor wretch in Bedlam.

3. By extension: A lunatic asylum, a madhouse.

1663 *Aron-binnucha* 32 The Bedlam. . . the skrews. . . are the best instances of our kindness. 1699 POMFRET *Love triumph.* Reason 170 'Twas both an hospital and bedlam too. 1708 C. MATHER *Magn. Christi* vii. iv. (1852) 525 A Bethlehem seems to have been fitter for them than a gallows. a 1743 LD. HERVEY *Beauties Eng.* (1804) I. 106 Those virgins act a wiser part Who hospitals and bedlams would explore.

b. abstr. Madness, lunacy. Also *interjectionally*.

1598 MARSTON *Pygmal.* III. 149 Bedleme, Frenzie, Madnes, Lunacie, I challenge all your moody Empery. a 1645 HAWKING *Fine V. Folly* v. Bedlam! this is pretty sport.

4. *fig.* A scene of mad confusion or uproar.

a 1667 COWLEY *Cromwell Wks.* 1710 II. 627 Thou dost. . . A Babel, and a Bedlam grow. 1723 *Guardian* No. 132 (1756) II. 194 Our house is a sort of Bedlam, and nothing in order. 1850 CARLYLE *Letter-d. Pamph.* viii. (1872) 276 That all this was a Donnybrook Bedlam.

† 5. An inmate of Bethlehem Hospital, London, or of a lunatic asylum, or one fit for such a place, a madman; *spec.* one of the discharged, but often only half-cured, patients of the former, who were licensed to beg, wearing as a badge a tin plate on their left hand or arm; called also *bedlam-beggars*, *bedlamers*, *bedlamites*. *Obs.*

1528 SKELTON *Why not to Court* Wks. II. 653 Such a madde bedleme For to rewle this reame. 1541 BARNES *Wks.* (1573) 294/2 A scorge to tame those bedlames with. 1545 COVERDALE *Abridgm. Erasmus. Euchir.* iii. Wks. 1844 I. 500 The world judgeth us to be fools. . . and to be mad bedlames.

1594 T. B. *La Primaud. Fr. Acad.* II. 169 The veriest bedlams that can be. 1611 COTGER. s. v. *Agamē*, A hungry Boore is halfe a bedlam. 1666 L. OWEN *Spec. Jesuit.* (1629) 37 The Duke imagining him to be a foole, or a bedlem. . . let him goe. 1678 BUNYAN *Pilgr.* I. 123 Some [said] they were Bedlams. 1701 SWIFT *Mrs. Harris Petiti.* Wks. 1755 III. ii. 61 She roar'd like a Bedlam.

6. *attrib.*, at length *adj.* Of, belonging to, or fit for Bedlam or a mad-house; mad, foolish.

a 1535 MORE *Wks.* (1557) 16 The rauning of bethlem people. 1575 TURBERY *Falconrie* 254 Falcons. . . when they bee impatient and bedlam in the mew. 1599 SHAKS. *Hen. V.* v. I. 20 Ha, art thou bedlam? 1622 MILTON *Apol. Smect.* Wks. (1851) 275 But this which follows is plaine bedlam stuffe.

1768 COWPER *Table-T.* 609 Anacreon, Horace, play'd. This Bedlam part.

7. *Comb.*: sbs., as *Bedlam beggar* (cf. BEDLAM 5), *house*, *man*; *adjs.*, as *bedlam-mad*, *-ripe*, *-witted*.

1525 TINDALE *N. T. Prol.* Who ys. . . so bedlem madde to affyrn that good is the naturall cause of yuell? 1533 MORE *Answ. Poyson. Bk.* Wks. (1557) 1036/2 More bedleme rype then this booke is. 1556 J. HEYWOOD *Spider & F.* lxxxiv. 28 Beethill blind, and bedlem mad. 1572 R. H. tr. *Lavaterus' Ghostes* (1596) 13 Bedleme houses where madde and frantike men are kept. 1605 SHAKS. *Leare* II. iii. 14 The country giues me prooffe, and president Of Bedlam beggers. 1646 G. DANIEL *Poems Wks.* 1878 I. 60 All Bedlam-witted, walke in Bedlem wise. 1668 USSHER *Ann.* vi. (1688) 106 Like a bedlam-man. 1837 CARLYLE *Fr. Rev.* III. vi. vii. 346 Hardly audible amid the Bedlam-storm.

† **Bedlamer**. *Obs.* [f. BEDLAM + -ER¹.] A lunatic; *spec.* a Bedlam-beggar.

c 1675 W. BLUNDELL *Crogsby Rec.* 137 A gentleman who passed as a Bedlamer. a 1733 NORTH *Lives* I. 287 This country was then much troubled with Bedlamers.

Bedlamism. A word or thing characteristic of Bedlam; a trait of madness.

1843 CARLYLE *Past & Pr.* 288 Nothing but a noisy bedlamism in your mouth. 1865 — *Frede. Gl.* VI. xv. xi. 80 A strict place, moreover; its very bedlamisms flowing by law.

Bedlamite (bedlāmɪt), *sb.* and *a.* [f. as prec. + -ITE.]

A. sb. An inmate of Bedlam or of a lunatic asylum; a madman or lunatic.

1621 BURTON *Anat. Mel.* II. iv. i. v, Such raging bedlamites, as are tied in chains. 1691 WOOD *Ath. Oxon.* II. 489 More fit. . . to be read by Bedlamites than pretenders to virtue and modesty. 1751 SMOLLETT *Per. Pic.* (1779) III. lxxxii. 168 Lord B. . . raved like a bedlamite. 1822 BYRON *Juan* vi. xxxiv, Like. . . bedlamites broke loose.

B. attrib. or *adj.* Lunatic, mad.

1815 SCOTT *Guy R.* liii, 'The devil take the bedlamite old woman!' a 1832 MOORE *Three Doctors* v, Dr. Slop, upon subjects divine. Such bedlamite slaver lets drop.

Bedlamitish (bedlāmɪtɪʃ), *a.* [f. prec. + -ISH¹.] Like a bedlamite; mad; foolish.

1824 *Blackw. Mag.* XVI. 179 None. . . was so Bedlamitish, as to fancy that he himself was personally aggrieved.

Bedlamlike, *a.* and *adv.* Like a madman.

A. adj. Mad-looking.

1618 M. BARET *Horsemanship* i. 58 That will. . . make him [the horse] more bedlam-like.

B. adv. After the manner of a madman.

1576 NEWTON tr. *Lemni's Complex.* (1633) 68 Many being angry. . . will Bedlam-like run upon their enemies with minds enraged. 1581 — *Seneca's Thebais* 41 Agave (bedlemlike) raunged up and downe the woode With sisters hers.

† **Bedlamly**, *adv.* *Obs.* [f. BEDLAM + -LY².] Like a madman, insanely.

1587 FOXE *A. & M.* (1596) 966/2 To speake as undiscreeitly and bedlemly, as ye doe.

† **Bedlar**, **-lawer**, *a.* (and *sb.*) *Obs.* exc. *dial.* [ME. *bedlawere*, f. BED + ? ON. *lag* lying:

cf. MHG. *bettliger*, -ic, G. *bettläger*, -ig, in same sense.] Bed-ridden; a person confined to bed.

c 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 28 Bedlawyr, decumbens. 1447 BOKENHAM *Seyntys* (1835) 288 Seke wummen. . . wych bedlaure dede lye. 1468 *Medulla Gram.*, *Clinicus*, a bedlawere. 1474 *Act. Audit.* 36 (JAM.) Johne of Kerss was seke and bedlare. 1868 G. MACDONALD *Seaboard Par.* I. x. 146 Patients, who considered themselves bedlars. . . bedridden.

b. Comb. † **Bedlawerman**.

1419 in *Promp. Parv.* 28 Item lego cuilibet pauperum vocatorum bedlawermen. . . iij d.

Bedlar, local variant of BEDRAL, beadle.

Bedle, *obs.* form of BEADLE.

† **Bedle**, *Obs.* BDELIUM; cf. L. *bedella*.

1501 PERCIVALL *Sp. Dict.*, *Bedel*, a bedle stone, *Bethillus*.

Bedless, *a.* [f. BED *sb.* + -LESS.] Without

a bed, unprovided with a bed.

1864 *SALA Daily Tel.* 13 Oct., Bedless and supperless wanderers. 1870 R. ANDERSON *Missions Amer. Bd.* IV. xlii. 413 The people seem to be almost bedless.

Hence, **Bedlessness**.

1861 *SALA Tw. round Clock* 7 Were it winter, our bedlessness would be indefensible.

Bed-linen. [f. BED *sb.* + LINEN.] Bed-clothes, esp. sheets and pillow-cases, originally of linen.

1815 SCOTT *Guy M.* xlv, She proceeded. . . to arrange the stipulated bed-linen.

Bed-maker. [f. BED *sb.* + MAKER.]

1. One who constructs beds.

c 1500 *Cocke Lorettes B.* (1843) 9 Bedmakers, fedbed makers, and wyre drawers; Founders. . . and broche makers.

2. One who arranges beds for use again, after they have been slept in; the official name in the English universities for old women or men who make the beds and sweep the rooms in college.

1465 *Mann. & Househ. Exp.* 184 Item. . . the bed-maker a below. 1552 HULOET, Bedde maker, *Lectisterniator*. 1678 *Yng. Mans Call.* 107 His health. . . is his best bed-maker, that makes his bed so easy to rest on.

1691 *Case of Exeter Coll.* 18 For fear she should. . . lose her place of Bed-maker. 1716 *CIBBER Love Makes Man* i. i. 21 He never spoke six words to any Woman in his Life, but his Bed-maker. 1789 Mrs. Piozzi *Journ. France* II. 118 A person not unlike an Oxford or Cambridge bed-maker. 1825 BENTHAM *Ration. Rew.* 337 The barbers, cooks, bed-makers, errand-boys, and other unlettered retainers to the university, are sworn in English to the observance of these Latin statutes.

So **Bed-making**.

1670 EACHARD *Cont. Clergy* 16 To prevent sizars over heating their brains: bedmaking, chamber-sweeping, and water-fetiching, were doubtless great preservatives. 1691 *Case of Exeter Coll.* 19 Her Employ of Bed-making in Exeter Colledge. 1883 *Glasgow Wkly. Her.* 21 Apr. 8/4 Ladies' Baking, Cooking and Bedmaking Aprons. 1885 *Oxf. Student's Handbk.* 235 In addition, 6/7 a year for bedmaking.

Bedman, *obs.* variant of BEADSMAN.

† **Bedo**, *v.* *Obs.* In 1-3 *bedón*, *bidón*. [OE. *bedón*, f. BE- + *dōn* to put, DO. With sense 2, cf. Ger. *bethun*, *bemachen*.]

1. *trans.* To put to, to shut.

c 1000 *Agg. Ps.* cxlvii. 2 Þæt þu þine doru mihtest bedón.

2. To befool, defile with ordure.

c 1230 *Ancre. R.* 130 þu wende Saul into hole uort te bidon þene stude. *Ibid.* 216 Habbæ þeos þet fuluste mester. . . þet so bidoð ham sulben.

3. To adorn, ornament, garnish.

1a 1500 in *Furniv. Percy Fol.* II. 305 A kirtle and a mantle. . . with branches and ringes full richly bedone. a 1765 *Ld. Thomas & Fair Annet* xx, in *Child Ballads* III. (1885) 183 The belt that was about her waist Was a wi' pearls bedone.

Bedoctor, **bedolt**, **bedot**, etc.: see BE-*pref.*

Bedog (bɪdɒg), *v.* [f. BE- + DOG *sb.* and *v.*]

1. *trans.* To call 'dog.'

1794 WOLCOTT (P. Pindar) *Rowl. for Oliver* Wks. II. 260 Be-dogging this poor singer, that be-bitching.

2. To follow about like a dog, to dog.

1858 *TRELAWNY Rec. Shelley, Byron*, etc. II. (1878) 57 Envy, malice, and hatred bedogged his steps.

Hence **Bedogged** *ppl. a.*, Become like a dog.

1672 COTTON *Scarron* II. (1692) 43 She had told her dear bedogged.

† **Bedote**, *v.* *Obs.* [f. BE- + DOTE.] *trans.* To cause to dote, make silly, befool.

c 1385 CHAUCER *L. G. W.* 1547 Ffor to be-dote this queen was here assent. 1449 *PECOCK Repr.* 145 Salomon. . . fonned and bidotid with his wifis, madd ydolis false goddis. 1583 GOLDING *Calvin on Deut.* clxxxiii. 1139 So bedoted that they could not come to the knowledge of their sinnes.

† **Bedoubt**, *v.* *Obs.* Also 5 *pa. pple.* *bedoute*.

[f. BE- + DOUBT *v.* Cf. F. *redouter*.] To dread.

1470 HARDYNG *Chron.* cli, About all men he was there moste bedoute.

Bedouin (be'du:ɪn), *sb.* (and *a.*) Forms: 4 *pl.*

bedoynes, 7 *pl.* *baduini*, *sing.* *bedwin*, 8 *bedonian*, *bedouia*, *bedoween*, 8- *bedouin* (9 *bedu-* in). Also 6 *g. sing.* *bedawry*, *-awree*, *pl.* *bedawin*, *-een*. [a. F. *bedouin*, 12th c. OF. *li bedouin* (pl.), 13th c. *beduins*, *beduyn* (sing.), a. Arab. بدوین *badāwīn*, or *badawīn*, pl. of بدو *badā*.

wīy or *badawīy* a dweller in the desert, f. *badw* desert. First known to Europeans in Crusading times. The plural, being of most frequent use, was adapted in med.L. as *beduini*, *bedewini*, It. *beduini*, *baduini*, whence a sing. L. *beduinus*, It. *beduino*, F. *beduin*, etc., with the Arab. pl. ending

-in retained: cf. *assassin*, also *cherubin*, *seraphin*, *rabbín*. In English apparently forgotten after Crusading times till the 17th c. The mod. spelling is French: travellers acquainted with Arabic often substitute the forms in *β*. An Arab of the desert. c 1400 MAUNDEV. v. 35. I duelled with him as soudyur in his werres. 1321 the Bedouynes. 1603 R. JOHNSON *Kingd. & Commonw.* 171 Parte of the Arabians. live in the fields and mountains, and are termed Baduini. 1635 PAGITT *Christianogr.* 1. ii. (1636) 71 A few Christians remaining, called Bedwys. 1767 RUSSEL in *Phil. Trans.* LVIII. 144 The Bedouins at this place. 1788 GIBSON *Decl. & F.* (1802) IX. 223 The same life is uniformly pursued by. the modern Bedouweens. 1796 MORSE *Amer. Geog.* II. 609 The Bedonians, or wandering Arabs. 1847 KINGLAKE *Edith* 180, I was now amongst the true Bedouins.

β. 1865 *Fam. Treas. Sund. Read.* VII. 442 The tent of the modern Bedawy. 1870 R. ANDERSON *Missions Amer. Bd.* III. iii. 45 The wild Bedawin. were worse than the Greeks.

b. *transf.* One who leads a Bedouin-like life elsewhere; a gipsy. (Cf. *City Arab*.)

1863 *Times* 2 May, Where were all the dingy bedouins of England who travel through to this great gathering?

2. *attrib.* or as *adj.*

1844 *Mem. Babylonian P'cess.* 82, I had seen several Bedouin girls. 1861 SALA *Two round Clock* 45 Half-starved Bedouin children, mostly Irish.

Bedouinism. The Bedouin life or system. 1864 *Sat. Rev.* 5 Aug. 176 It is against this ideal Bedouinism that Mr. Palgrave is chiefly vehement.

† **Bedove, bedoven, pa. pple.** Obs. Forms: 1. *bedofen*, 6. *Sc. bedoif, bedowyn, -ovin*. [:-OE. *bedofen*, pa. pple. of *bedifan* to submerge, f. BE- + *difan* to dive, sink.] Immersed, plunged. a 1000 ÆLFRIC *Hom.* II. 472 Bedofen on deoppre nyten-nyse. 1213 DOUGLAS *Æneis* v. vi. 125 All his membris in mude and dung bedoif. *Ibid.* vii. Prol. 60 Bedovin in donkis deyp was every syk.

† **Bedow(e, v. Sc. Obs.** [perh. f. BE- + DOWIE, sad, or its root DOLE, sorrow.] *trans.* 1. To sadden. 1513 DOUGLAS *Æneis* xiii. l. 42 The gret syte Thar breistis had bedowit and to smyte.

Bedowle, bedown, bedowse, etc.: see BE-.

Bedown, prep. rare—1. [f. BE- + DOWN, on some mistaken analogy.] = DOWN, ADOWN.

1a 1800 in Ayton's *Ballads* Scot. (1858) II. 369 Bedown the bents of Banquo brae My lane I wandered.

Bed-pan (be'dpæn). [cf. MDu. *beddepanne*: see PAN.]

1. A pan for warming beds; a warming-pan.

1525 J. HIGGINS *Juvenis Nomencl.* *Batillus cubicularius* . . . un eschauffoir de lit, a bed pan, or warming pan. 1597 GERARD *Herbal* (1633) 1066 A little bag with some . . . Bay-salt, and made hot vpon a bed-pan. 1699 GARTH *Dispens.* 72 Each Combatant his Adversary mauls With batter'd Bed-pans.

2. A chamber utensil constructed for use in bed. 1863 FLOR. NIGHTINGALE in Quain's *Dict. Med.* 1046 Bed-pans should have Carbolic powder in them lavishly.

Bed-post (be'dpōst). [see POST.] A post of a bed, one of the upright supports of the framework of a bed. *The twinkling of a bedpost*: cf. BEDSTAFF.

1598 MARSTON *Pygmal.* iii. 149 The antique Bed-post. 1815 SCOTT *Guy M.* xlv. One of the bed-posts of a sort of tent-bed. 1871 M. COLLINS *Mry. & Merch.* III. iii. 78 In the twinkling of a bed-post is each savoury platter clear.

Bedrabbled (bēdræ'b'l). v. Chiefly in ppl. adj. **Bedrabbled**. [f. BE- + DRABBLE.] *trans.* To make wet and dirty with rain and mud.

c 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 28 Be-drabyld or drabelyde, *palm-dossu*. 1890 KINGSLEY *Alt. Locke* xi. Jacket and leather gaiters, sufficiently bedrabbled with mud. 1879 *Scribn. Mag.* July 334 The bedrabbled snows of March shrank away.

Hence **Bedrabbled** *vbl. sb.*

1884 *Harper's Mag.* Sept. 623/2 With no disfigurement of scorching or bedrabbled.

Bedraden, obs. form of BEDRID.

Bedraggle (bēdræ'gl). v. [f. BE- + DRAGGLE.]

a. To wet (dress, skirts, or the like) so that they drag, or hang limp and clinging with moisture. b. 'To soil clothes by suffering them, in walking, to reach the dirt.' JOHNSON. (Rare in the active till modern times.)

1797 SWIFT *Past. Dial.* Wks. 1755 IV. 1. 78 Poor Patty Blount, no more be seen Bedraggled in my walks so green. 1857 Mrs. BROWNING *Aur. Leigh* 9 The very sky Bedraggled with the desolating salt. 1871 *Daily News* 24 Aug., The rain has fallen. . . bedraggling the flags and banners.

Hence, **Bedraggled** *ppl. a.*, **Bedraggled**.

1797 [see prec.] 1824 W. IRVING *T. Trav.* I. 36 Such pale, careworn faces, such bedraggled dresses. 1852 HAWTHORNE *Tanglew.* T. 105 All in a terribly bedraggled condition. 1882 *Standard* 7 June 3/1 Elaborate costumes. . . much the worse, not for wear, but for. . . bedraggled.

Bedral, bederal (be'd(ə)räl). Sc. Also *bethral, -el, betheral, -el*. [App. a corruption of BEADLE: the ending may be due to form-assoc.]

A church officer in Scotland with duties akin to, but not identical with, those of the English beadle, often combining those of clerk, sexton, and bell-ringer.

1815 SCOTT *Guy M.* lv. Put in auld Elspeth, the bedral's widow—the like of them's used w' graves and ghaists, and thae things. 1823 BYRON *Yuan x. lxxiii*, Black Edward's helm, and Becket's bloody stone, Were pointed out

as usual by the bedral. 1834 M. SCOTT *Cruise Midge* (1863) 211 The Dominie was sitting. . . opposite the auld Betherel.

Bedrape, etc.: see BE- *pref.*

† **Bedrawel, v. Obs.** Also 8 *bedrawl*. [f. BE- + DRAVEL.] *trans.* To cover with drivel or saliva. 1377 LANGL. *P. Pl. B. v.* 194 Panne com couetyise. . . His berde was bidraueled. [1721 BAILEY, *Bedrawled*, bedrabbled, bedrivelled.]

† **Bedread, ppl. a. Obs. rare.** Dreaded.

c 1485 *Digby Myst.* (1882) i. 64, I am most be-dred with my bronde bright.

Bedread, -red(e, -reed, obs. ff. BEDRID.

Bedreint, obs. f. bedrenched: see BEDRENCH.

† **Bedrel, a. Obs. rare.** Also 6 *beddrell*.

bedral, 7 bedrell, 9 Sc. beddel. [Corrupted from

bedred, BEDRID, or from BEDLAR.] = BEDRIDEN.

1513 DOUGLAS *Æneis* xii. vii. 32 Quhilk as beddrell (v. r. bedrel) lay Befor hys zet. 1603 FLORIO *Montaigne* i. xix. (1632) 32 There is no man so crazed, bedrell, or decrepit.

B. as *sb.* A bedridden person.

a 1572 KNOX *Hist. Ref.* 109 (JAM.) The Blind, Crooked, Bedralis, Widows, Orphelings. 1815 CHALMERS *Let. in Life* (1851) II. 13 Is the beddel got better? 1845 *Statist. Acc. Scot.*, Kincard. XI. 249 The poor were of three classes, viz. beddels, those who were confined by infirmity, etc.

Bedrench (bē'drēnʃ), v. Pa. t. and pa. pple.

bedrenched; also 4-6 *bedreint, 6 bedrent*.

[f. BE- + DRENCH.] Intensive of DRENCH; to soak.

c 1450 *Crt. of Love* 577 Lady Venus. . . Receive our billes

with teres al bedreint. 1563 SACKVILLE *Mirr. Mag.*, *Induct.* xxi. And showers. . . all bedrent the place. 1593 SHAKS.

Rich. II. iii. iii. 46 Such Crimson Tempest should bedrench

. . . king Richard's land. 1656 SANDERSON *Serm.* (1689) 302

Their heads. . . bedrencht. . . with Ointments. 1812 W. TENNANT

Auster F. ii. lviij. They. . . bedrench their blood with wine.

Bedress (bē'dres), v. [f. BE- + DRESS.] *trans.*

To dress up. Hence **Bedressed** (bē'drest), *ppl. a.*

1821 COMBE (Dr. Syntax) *Wife v. (D.)* The bride. . . had

bedress'd Her upright form in all her best. 1863 G. CALVERT

Gentlem. i. 8 Let no bedressed, bescented passer curl his lip.

† **Bedri'b, v. Obs.** [cf. DRIB.]

1681 OTWAY *Soldier's Fort.* iv. i, A swinging drubbing to

bedrib him.

Bedribble, bedrift, etc.: see BE- *pref.*

Bedrid (bed'rid), a., orig. *sb.* Forms: 1-2

bedreda (-rida), 4 *bederede*, 4-5 *bedrede*, 4-8

bedred, 5-ered, *beedered*, 6 *bedredd*, *bedread*,

-reed, *-ridde*, 7 *beddered*, *-ridde*, 6- *bedrid*.

[OE. *bedreda*, -rida, f. *bed* bed + *rida* rider, f. *ridan*

to ride. LG. has, in same sense, *bedderede*, -redig;

the dulling of the atonic vowel in OE. is frequent

in forms like *misleca*, for *mislicca*, etc.]

1. Confined to bed through sickness or infirmity.

The usual prose form is now BEDRIDEN.

c 1000 Thorpe's *Hom.* II. 422 (Bosw.) Dēr lāz be ðām wege

ān bedreda. *Ibid.* l. 472 Drihten cwæp to sumum bed-

ridan. 1340 HAMPOLE *Pr. Consc.* 6198 Seke I was, and

bedred lay. c 1430 *How Gd. Wife taught Dan.* 19 in

Babers Bk. (1868) 37 Pe poore & be beedered, loke pou

not lope. 1535 *Act 27 Hen. VIII.* xxv. All leprouse and

poore bedded creatures. 1565 JEWELL *Repl. Harding* (1611)

393 Lying Bed-read many yeeres for sickness of Body.

1588 SHAKS. *L. L. L.* i. 139 To her decrepit, sickle,

and bed-rid Father. a 1666 Bp. ANDREWS *Serm.* xix. (1661) 430

Clinic Christiani, beddered Christians. 1765 WESLEY in

Wks. (1872) III. 207 He is. . . now quite bed-rid. 1815 SOUTHEY

Roderick l. 141 Bed-rid infirmity alone was left behind.

2. *fig.* Worn out, decrepit, impotent.

1621 QUARLES *Argalus & P.* (1678) 73 Whose richly furnish'd

Table would invite A bedrid stomach to a sumum bed-

ridan. 1740 *Milton Animad.* Wks. (1851) 217 What an over-worne

and bedrid Argument is this. 1822 HAZLITT *Table-t.* i. vi. 130

In danger of being bed-rid in his faculties. 1837 CARLYLE

Fr. Rev. i. l. iii. vii. 75 Orthodoxy, bedrid as she seemed.

Bedridden (bed'rid'n), a. (*sb.*) Forms: 4 *bed-*

reden, *-redde*, *-raden*, 5 *bedredene*, *-redyn*,

-ryden, 8- *bedridden*. [f. BEDRID, the -en being

added on the analogy of ppl. adjs.]

A. *adj.* = BEDRID 1.

1340 HAMPOLE *Pr. Consc.* 808 When he is seke, and bed-

reden lys. 1393 LANGL. *P. Pl. C.* viii. 108 A bedreden

womman. c 1440 *Gesta Rom.* lxxxv. 459 He laye bedredene

vij. yere. 1711 F. FULLER *Med. Gymn.* 28 A kind of bed-

ridden Creature. 1796 MORSE *Amer. Geog.* II. 25 The bed-

ridden may hear divine service in their beds. 1856 R.

VAUGHAN *Mystice* (1860) l. 239 He tells a bedridden man to

climb the mountains.

fig. 1816 COLERIDGE *Lay Serm.* 319 Truths. . . considered

as so true as to lose all the powers of truth, and lie bedridden

in the dormitory of the soul.

† B. as *sb.* A bedridden person. Obs. rare.

1429 *Wills & Inv. N. C.* (1835) 78 Euery hows of almouise

ordynnet for bedrydens.

Bedrid-denness. Also 7 *bedridnesse*. [f.

BEDRID, -DEN + -NESS.] Bedridden condition.

1630 DOWNE *Serm.* 245 Bind me. . . in the Corde of Decrepit-

nesse and Bedridnesse. 1871 HAWTHORNE *Sept. Fellon*

(1879) 49 My old grandmother laments her bedriddenness.

† **Bedrip, v. Obs.** Also *bedrepe*, (*bederpe*),

bederepe, *-rape*, *bedripe*, *bidrip(e, -repe*.

[OE. *bed-rip*, f. *bed*- prayer, request (see BEAD)

+ *rip* reaping, harvest: lit. 'reaping by request';

called also *bēn-rip*, f. *bēn* prayer. Retained as

a technical term in charters, etc., and variously

corrupted: seems to have become obs. in 15th c.]

A service which some tenants had to perform to

their lord, viz. at his request or bidding to reap his corn at harvest-time. The days thus employed were sometimes called *boom-days*.

1226 10 *Hen. III. Rot. 8* (Blount) Debet venire in autumpno ad precarium quæ vocatur a le bederpe. 1417 E. E. Wills (1882) 27 My poure tenauntes. . . that haueht yzeue to me Capouns & bederpes, and Plouwys. 1670 BLOUNT *Law Dict.* Bederepe, Bidrepe is a service, which some Tenants were anciently bound to perform, viz. To reap their Landlord's Corn at Harvest.

Bedrit, -ite, obs. Sc. form of BEDIRT v.

† **Bedrive, v. Obs.** [f. BE- + DRIVE: in Caxton,

directly after Flem. *bedryven*, or G. *betreiben*.]

a. *trans.* To drive about; b. To commit, perpetrate, do; c. *intr.* To have to do with.

c 1205 LAY. 6206 Sæ-werie men mid wedere bi-driene.

1481 CAXTON *Reynard* (Arb.) 78 Ony that wolde bedryue

ony thyng ayenst you. *Ibid.* 114 No man dar. . . but preyre

alle that they bedryue. *Ibid.* 27 Also I have bydryuen with

dame erswynde his wyf.

Bedrivel, bedrizzle: see BE- *pref.*

Bedroom (bed'rūm). [see ROOM.]

1. Room in bed, sleeping room or space. rare.

1590 SHAKS. *Mids. N.* ii. ii. 51 Then by your side, no bed-

roome me deny.

2. A room used or intended to contain a bed or

beds; a sleeping apartment. (Now in common

use instead of the earlier BED-CHAMBER.)

1616 SURL & MARKH. *Countr. Farm* 16 On the other side

of the Kitchin shall be the Farmers Bed-room. 1792 *Mun-*

chausen's Trav. iii. 9 The windows of my bed-room. a 1859

MACAULAY *Hist. Eng.* V. 73 The gentlemen of the retinue

. . . were. . . thrust into a single bedroom.

Hence **Bedroomed a.**, having a bedroom; **Bed-**

roomy a. colloq., characteristic of a bedroom.

1865 *Pall Mall G.* 20 Apr. 3 Eight and nine people were

found in the single bedroomed houses. 1866 HOWELLS

Venetian Life vii. 90 A bed-roomy small.

Bedrop (bē'drɒp), v. Pa. pple. **bedropped**,

bedropt. [f. BE- + DROP.]

1. *trans.* To drop upon, cover or wet with drops.

1393 GOWER *Conf.* III. 254 As men sene the dew bedroppe

The leues and the floures eke. 1667 MILTON *P. L.* x. 527

The Soil Bedropt with blood of Gorgon. 1829 WORDSW.

Liberty Wks. V. 102 Life's book for Thee may lie unclosed,

till age Shall with a thankful tear bedrop its latest page.

2. *pa. pple.* Sprinkled as with drops.

1658 ROWLAND MOUNTFELT *Theat. Ins.* 965 The. . . body

yellow, bedropt with black from the neck to the tail. 1858

Blackw. Mag. 482 Lomond and Awe bedropt with woody

isles.

b. *fig.* Strewn, interspersed.

1377 LANGL. *P. Pl. B.* xiii. 321 It was bidropped with

wratthe and wikked wille. 1855 GILFILLAN *Dryden* *Introd.*

20 A tale. . . bedropt with the most flagrant falsehoods.

Bedrown, bedrowse, bedrug, etc.: see BE-.

Bedryden, obs. form of BEDRIDEN.

1971 Bedde stede, *chalit*. 1335 COVERDALE *Song Sol* iii. 7 Aboute Salomons beddeste there stonde LX. valeaunt men. 1611 BIBLE *Deut.* iii. 11 Behold, his beddest was a bedsted of yron. 1621 G. SANDYS *Ovid's Met.* viii. (1626) 167 A homely bed-steed made of willow. 1713 SWIFT *Fr. J. Denny Wks.* 1755 III. i. 145 We bound our lunatick . . . down to the bedsted. 1879 YEATS *Techn. Hist. Comm.* 352 Celebrated for its bedsteads of cast iron.

Bedstock. [see STOCK.] Earlier name of a BEDSTEAD, or rather of its front and back parts, between which the cross staves or rungs were laid; still used in the north.

1483 *Cath. Angl.* 25 Bedstoke, *sponda. fultrum*. 1534 *Eng. Ch. Furniture* (1866) 189 A peire of bedstockes & an olde presse. 1599 HARNET *Agst. Darrell* 181 His toe rapping on the Ende of the Bedstocke. 1624 *Invent. in Archæol.* (1884) XLVIII. i. 139 A bed stockes, a matresse, a bolster. 1823 BEWICK *Mem.* note 43 Trunks of two old trees . . . answer the . . . purpose of bed-stocks. 1864 ATKINSON *Whitby Gloss.*, *Bedstocks*, the frame of the bedstead for the sacking on which the mattress and bed rest.

Bedstraw (be'dstrā). [see STRAW.]

†1. The straw which (covered by a sheet) formerly constituted the bedding in an ordinary bed, and which still serves in rural districts instead of a pallsie, or under-bed. *Obs.* (See also STRAW.)

c 1386 CHAUCER *Merch. T.* 539 O perillous fyr that in the bedstraw bredeth. 1388 WYCLIF *Ps.* vi. 7 Y schal moiste my bedstre [1388a bedding] with my teeris. 1483 *Cath. Angl.* 25 Bedstre, *stratum, stratorium*. 1578 LYTE *Dodoens* 402 Ferne put into the bedstrowe, drieth away the stinking punnysses. 1626 BACON *Sylva* § 696 The Chamber and Bedstraw, kept close, and not Aired. a 1637 DEKKER *Witch Edm.* iv. ii. Wks. 1873 IV. 413 More fire 'th' Bed-straw?

2. Name applied to a genus of plants (*Galium*, N.O. *Rubiaceæ*) containing many species, with slender ascending stems, whorled or cruciate leaves, and small clustered flowers. One of these (*G. verum*) has long borne the legendary name of *Our Lady's Bedstraw* (cf. the similarly allusive *Our Lady's Garters, Mantle, Slippers, Smock*, etc., etc.); whence recent writers have somewhat irrationally taken 'Bedstraw' as an English book-name for the whole genus, making 'Our Lady's B.' a species.

1527 ANDREW BRUNSWYKE's *Distyll. Waters* O iv. Our lady bedstrowe, *serpillum* in latyn. 1543 TRAHERON *Vigo's Chirurg.* v. v. 163 b. Decoction of the herbe called our ladyes bedstrowe. 1597 GERARD *Herbal* ii. cccclix. 1126 There be divers sortes of the herbes called Ladies Bedstraw or Cheese renning. 1784 TWANLEY *Dairying* 119 The Runnet Plant . . . English Names, are yellow ladies bedstraw or Cheese renning, or petty muguet. 1820 SOWERBY *Eng. Bot.* s.v. Rough Marsh Bed straw. 1854 S. THOMSON *Wild Fl.* i. 68 In the bedstraws . . . we count four stamens.

Bedtick (bedtik). Also 6-tyke. [see TICK.] A large flat quadrangular bag or case, into which feathers, hair, straw, chaff, or other substances are put to form a bed.

1569 *Wills & Inv. N. C.* (1835) 303 Item one fether bedtyke xijd. 1658 ROWLAND MOWFET's *Theat. Ins.* 916 The use of wax . . . for bed-ticks that the feathers fly not out. 1865 *Morn. Post* 27 Nov. Found under a mattress and bed-tick.

Hence **Bedtick**ing, bedticks collectively, or the material of which they are made; also attrib. 1705 *Overseers' Acc. Holy Cross, Canterb.*, Pd. for mowing Rich. Silks Goods and for a bedtickin, oo. 02. 01. 1884 *Harper's Mag.* July 3041 The bed-ticking bag.

Bedtime (bed'taim). [see TIME.] The hour or time for going to bed. *fig.* = 'hour of death.'

a 1250 *Owl & Night*. 324 Ich singe an eve . . . And soththe won hit is bed-time. 1590 SHAKS. *Mids. N. v.* i. 34 What dances shall we haue . . . Between our after supper, and bed-time? 1743 WESLEY *Jrnl.* (1749) 62 The Lord's prayer, which they were made say at rising and bed-time.

fig. 1870 ALFORD in *Life* (1873) 457, I only hope the Master's work may be got done by bedtime.

Bedub (bīd'ub), *v.* [f. BE- + DUB.] *trans.*

†a. To adorn. *Obs.* b. To denominate.

1657 TOMLINSON *Renou's Disp. Pref.*, You live in a city . . . bedubbed and adorned with . . . blessings. 1884 *Times* 25 Feb. 4 We poor Army tutors who undertake to teach, by first unteaching, such specimens . . . are bedubbed crammers.

Beduck, bedumb, bedunch, etc.: see BE-*pref.* **Beduin**, variant of BEDOUIN.

Bedull (bīd'ul), *v.* [f. BE- + DULL *v.*] To make dull. Hence **Bedulling** *ppl. a.*

a 1617 HIERON *Wks.* (1620) II. 380 Time . . . bedulleth the tenderness of his [man's] conscience. 1836 *Blackw. Mag.* XL. 724 A mist bedulls mine eyes. 1856 TRAPP *Comm.* i. *Thess.* v. 17 A lazy, customary, bedulling strain.

Bedung (bīd'ung), *v.* [f. BE- + DUNG.] *trans.* To treat with dung or manure; to befoul with dung; also *fig.*

1639 HORN & ROBOTHAM *Gate Lang. Unl.* xiv. § 157 What he [the thrush] bedungeth, that sprouteth forth to misselen, whence comes bird-lime. 1650 BP. HALL *Cases Consc.* 83 Leaving all but his head, to bedung that earth, which had lately shaken at his terrour. 1679 PULLER *Moder. Ch. Eng.* (1843) 300 Soundly bedunged with calumny and filth.

Bedusk (bīd'usk), *v.* [f. BE- + DUSK.] *trans.* To shroud in gloom, as of twilight.

1566 DRANT *Wail. Jerim.* K iij, Howe hath the Lord . . . bedusked his daughter dere, Tsyon. a 1670 HACKET *Cent. Serim.* (1675) 455 Some dark cloud bedusks all worldly glory.

Bedust (bīd'ust), *v.* [f. BE- + DUST.] *trans.* To cover with dust. Hence **Bedusted** *ppl. a.*

1530 PALSGR. 445/2 You have bedusted your shoes. a 1679 T. GOODWIN *Wks.* (1863) VII. 278 They suffer their hearts

and lives to lie bedusted. 1832-53 *Whistle-Binkie* (Sc. Songs) Ser. ii. 51 Lang Miller Geordie, wi' meal a' bedusted.

Bedward, -wards (be'dwōrd, -z), *adv.* [f. BED *sb.* + -WARD (s): orig. to bedward.]

1. Towards bed, in the direction of bed.

c 1530 J. RHODES *Bk. Nurture in Babees Bk.* (1868) 69 When your mayster intendeth to bedward. 1667 MILTON *P. L.* iv. 352 Others on the grass Coucht . . . Or Bedward ruminating. 1820 SCOTT *Monast.* xiv. The signal to move bedward. 1834 LAMB *Wks.* (1852) 181 When the dark night comes and they are creeping bedwards.

†2. Towards bedtime; just before going to bed.

c 1430 *Dialorie in Babees Bk.* (1868) 56 Use fier bi pe morewe, & to bedward at cue. c 1515 BARCLAY *Eglog.* iii. (1570) B vj/1, I drankte to bedward (as is my common gise). 1615 MARKHAM *Eng. Housew.* ii. i. (1668) 47 Drink of it at night to bedward. a 1661 FULLER in *H. Smith's Wks.* (1867) I. 20 These sermons have been used as a handmaid to prayer bedward in some families. 1669 W. SIMPSON *Hydrol. Chym.* 355 That may be done over night, last to bed-ward.

Bedwarf (bīd'wōrf), [f. BE- + DWARF.] Intensive of DWARF *v.* Hence **Bedwarfed** *ppl. a.*

1633 *DONNE Poems* (1650) 207 'Tis shrinking . . . hath thus, In minde and body both bedwarfed us. 1664 H. MORE *Myst. Inig.* 334 Some big Mastiff or bedwarfed Nag. 1678 NORRIS *Misc.* (1699) 283 Self-esteem . . . bedwarfs all our Excellencies.

† **Bedwele** (n), *v. Obs.* Also **bidweolien**, **beduolen**. [f. BE- + DWELL *v.*², OE. *dwellan*, *dwelian*.] *trans.* To mislead, lead into error.

c 1205 *Ancre R.* 128 Te valse ancre . . . wened forte gilen God, ase heo bidweolied simple men. c 1220 *Leg. Kath.* 1257 Euch an biheold oðer as heo bidweolet weren. a 1300 *Cursor M.* 1926 He cuth mak þe men be dued.

Bedwell, *well*, etc.: see BE-*pref.*

Bedwoman, *obs. form* of BEADWOMAN.

† **Bedwyng**, *v. Obs.* Pa. *ppl. bydwongen*.

[Only in Caxton: prob. a. Flem. *bedwing-en*.] *trans.* To constrain, to restrain.

1480 CAXTON *Ovid's Met.* xii. iii, I oughthe well thenne bedwyng myn herte. 1481 — *Reynard* (Arb.) 37 They had none lorde ne were not bydwongen.

Bedye (bīdai), [f. BE- + DYE.] Intensive of DYE *v.* Chiefly in pa. *ppl.*

1513 DOUGLAS *Æneis* i. iv. 31 Thair lithis and lymmis be salt water bedyed. 1566 SPENSER *F. Q.* i. xl. 7 Bryton fieldes with Sarazin blood bedyed. 1866 J. ROSE *Virgil* 50 With cheeks . . . bedyed with sanguine berry-juice.

Bedyman, *obs. form* of BEADSMAN.

Bed-yuer (e mispr. *bedyner*), var. of *bed-ifere*, *bed-fere*, *Obs. bed-fellow*.

Bee¹ (bī). Forms: 1-3 bēo, 3-9 bee (5 by, 5-6 be, 6 bey). *Pl.* bees: also 1-2 beon, 3-7 been, 4 bene, bein, 6 beene. [Com. Teut.: OE. *bēo* = OHG. *bīa* (G. dial. *beie*), MLG. *bīe*, LG. *bigge*, MDu. *bīe*, Du. *bij*, all fem.; ON. *bý* (? neut.): = OTeut. **bīōn* or *bīōn*; beside which there is OHG. *bīni* neut., MHG. *bīne*, *bīn*, fem., mod. G. *biene*: = OTeut. **bīni*; all going back to root *bī-*, perh. = Aryan *bhī-* 'to fear', in the sense of 'quivering', or its development 'buzzing, humming'.]

1. A well-known insect, or rather genus of insects, of the Hymenopterous order, living in societies composed of one queen, or perfect female, a small number of males or 'drones,' and an indefinite number of undeveloped females or 'neuters' (which are the workers), all having four wings; they produce wax, and collect honey, which they store up for food in the winter.

a 1000 *Agg. Ps.* cxvii. 12 þā hī me ymbsealdon samod . . . swā beon. a 1100 *Agg. Gloss.* in Wülcker *Voc.* 318 *Apis*, beo. c 1275 *Pains of Hell* in O. E. *Misc.* 148 Pickure hi hongep þer ouer-al þan don been in wynterstal. a 1300 *Cursor M.* 7113 In leon muth he fand, was slain, A bike o bees [i.e. bees] þar-in be-bredd. 1382 WYCLIF *Deut.* i. 44 As been [1388 bees] ben wont to be pursued. c 1430 *Lydg.* *Bochas* i. xix. (1554) 35 b. A swarm of been entered on his head. 1481-90 *Howard Househ. Bks.* (1844) 207 Paid . . . to Jodge for a heve for beys iij. d. 1535 COVERDALE *Ecclus.* xi. 2 The Bey is but a small beast amonge the foules, yet is hir frute exceddinge swete. 1538 STARKEY *England* ii. i. 153 Delytyng in idulnes as a drowne Be doth. 1609 C. BUTLER *Fem. Mon.* (1634) 139 Whoso keep well Sheep and Been, Sleep or wake, their thrift comes in. 1697 DRYDEN *Georg.* iv. 801 A buzzing noise of Bees his Ears alarms. 1855 LONGF. *Hiau.* xxii. 11 Passed the bees, the honey-makers.

b. Often used as the type of busy workers. 1535 STEWART *Cron. Scot.* II. 445 Now ar tha maid als bissie as ane be. 1580 BARET *Abv.* To Rdr. A great volume which (for the apt similitude betweene the good Scholers and diligent Bees) I called then their *Aluearie*, for a memorial by whom it was made. 1655 FULLER *Ch. Hist.* ix. vii. § 24 V. 137 The Popish Clergy . . . were as busie as Bees, newly ready to swarme. c 1720 WATTS *Div. Songs*, How doth the little busy bee Improve each shining hour! 1807 CRABBE *Par. Reg.* iii. 150 Busy and careful, like that working bee.

c. A model or image of this insect.

1826 J. SCOTT *Vis. Paris* 239 The remains found in the tomb of Childeric, were chiefly gold bees, from which Buonaparte took the hint of covering his mantle . . . with representations of that insect.

d. One of the southern constellations, so figured.

2. Applied to a large group of allied insects, chiefly with a distinguishing epithet, e.g. Humble Bee, Mason Bee, Carpenter Bee, etc.; in scientific use, including all insects of the *Melliferous* or honey-gathering division of the *Aculeate* (or sting-

bearing) *Hymenoptera*, and comprising two families, the Social Bees or *Apidae*, and Solitary Bees or *Andrenide*.

c 1000 *Sax. Leechd.* II. 308 Feld beon hunig meng to somne. 1532 *MORE Comfut.* *Tindale Wks.* (1557) 502/1 Till either some blind beetle, or some holy humble bee come flye in at their mouths. 1802 BINGLEY *Anim. Biog.* (1813) 111. 275 The Garden Bee. 1847 CARPENTER *Zool.* § 697 Of the solitary bees, . . . there are many curious varieties; some of which go under the names of Mason, Carpenter, and Upholsterer Bees, from the materials on which they respectively work. 1861 HULME tr. *Moquin-Tandon* ii. v. ii. 279 The Humble Bees are larger than the Bees.

3. *fig.* a. A sweet writer. b. A busy worker.

1753 CHAMBERS *Cycl. Supp.* s.v. *Bee*, Xenophon is called the Attic bee. 1793-1824 DISRAELI *Cur. Lit.* (1866) 319/2 A complete collection of classical works, all the bees of antiquity . . . may be hived in a single glass case.

4. In allusion to the social character of the insect (originally in U. S.): A meeting of neighbours to unite their labours for the benefit of one of their number; e.g. as is done still in some parts, when the farmers unite to get in each other's harvests in succession; usually preceded by a word defining the purpose of the meeting, as *apple-bee*, *husking-bee*, *quilting-bee*, *raising-bee*, etc. Hence, with extended sense: A gathering or meeting for some object; esp. *spelling-bee*, a party assembled to compete in the spelling of words.

1809 W. IRVING *Knickerb. Wks.* i. 238 Now were instituted quilting bees and husking bees and other rural assemblages. 1830 GALT *Lawrie T.* (1849) III. v. 98, I made a bee; that is, I collected as many of the most expert and able-bodied of the settlers to assist at the raising. 1864 MISS YONGE *Triad* II. 281 She is gone out with Cousin Deborah to an apple bee. 1876 LUBBOCK *Educ. in Countess*. Rev. June 91 He may be invincible at a spelling bee. 1884 *Harper's Mag.* Sept. 510/2 This execution, . . . in Idaho phrase was a 'hanging-bee.'

5. To have bees in the head or the brains, a bee in one's bonnet: i.e. a fantasy, an eccentric whim, a craze on some point, a 'screw loose.' (Cf. *maggot*, and *F. grille*.)

1513 DOUGLAS *Æneis* viii. ProL 120 Quall bern be thou in bed with heid full of beis? a 1553 Udal *Roister D.* (Arb.) 29 Who so hath suche bees as your maister in hys head. 1657 COLVIL *Whigs Supplic.* (1751) 74 Which comes from brains which have a bee. 1744 RAMSAY *Tea-T. Misc.* (ed. 9) II. 119 But thy wild bees I canna please. 1845 DE QUINCEY *Coleridge & Opium Wks.* XII. 91 John Hunter, notwithstanding he had a bee in his bonnet, was really a great man.

6. *Comb. and Attrib.* General relations: a. attrib., as *bee-book*, *-comb*, *-garden*, *-grub*, *-house*, *-mouth*, *-palace*, *-sting*, *-swarm*, *-woman*, *-yard*; b. objective with *vbl. sb.* or agent-noun, as *bee-culture*, *-fumigator*, *-herd*, *-hunter*, *-hunting*, *-keeper*, *-keeping*, *-owner*, *-shepherd*, *-ward*; instrumental, as *bee-beset*.

1870 MORRIS *Earthly Par.* III. iv. 383 The 'bee-beset ripe-seeded grass. 1870 LOWELL *Among my Bks.* Ser. i. (1873) 84 The teaching of the latest 'bee-book. 1882 *Harper's Mag.* Dec. 631 'Bee-culture is an important industry. 1609 *Gd. Speed to Virginia* 13 The maister of the 'bee-garden . . . reapeth a greater gaine by his waxe and honie. a 1750 MORTIMER (J.) A convenient . . . place . . . for your apiary or 'bee-garden. 1678 *Phil. Trans.* VII. 5060 The 'Bee-grubbs actually feed on Mites. 1823 *Cath. Angl.* 26 'Beehyrd, *apiaster*. 1861 PEARSON *Early & Mid. Ages Eng.* 201 It was preferable to be tenant of a holding rather than a swine-herd or 'bee-herd. 1675 *Land. Gaz.* No. 987/4 A new Invention for the Improvement of Bees, by certain 'Bee-houses and Colonies. 1852 *Gard. Chron.* 755 A very convenient 'bee-house. 1776 *Phil. Trans.* LXVII. 44 The 'bee-hunters never fail to leave a small portion for their conductor. 1839 *Sat. Mag.* 23 Feb. 69 The Economy of 'Bee-Keeping. a 1821 KEATS *Melancholy* 24 Pleasure . . . Turning to poison while the 'bee-mouth sips. 1845 *Gard. Chron.* (1845) 171 Grove's American 'bee-palace is similar to the collateral hive. 1689 P. HENRY *Diaries & Lett.* (1882) 346 Your Mother hath been afflicted this night with a 'Bee-sting. c 1500 *Cocke Lovelles B.* 10 Mole sekens, and ratte takers; Bewardes. 1833 GREEN *Comp. Eng.* 330 The 'beeward received his dues from the store of honey. 1833 Ht. MARTINEAU *Br. Creed* iii. 52 The 'bee-women laughed in anticipation of their sport. c 1220 *Pallad. on Husb.* i. 1009 The 'Bee-yerd be not ferre, but faire asyde Gladsum, secrete, and hootie. 1577 B. GOOGE *Heresbach's Husb.* (1586) 179 About the 'Beeyard, and neare to the hives, set flowers.

7. Special comb.: *bee-bike* (Sc.), a wild bee's nest; *bee-bird*, the Spotted Fly-catcher, also a humming-bird; *bee-bonneted a.*, having a bee in his bonnet, somewhat crazed; *bee-ceil*, one of the hexagonal cells of the comb; *bee-cuckoo*, an African bird (*Cuculus Indicator*), also called 'Honey-guide,' which indicates the nests of wild bees; *bee-driving*, the driving of bees into an empty hive; *bee-feeder*, a contrivance for feeding bees within the hive; *bee-fertilised a.*, (of flowers) having their pollen conveyed to the stigma by the agency of bees; *bee-flower*, a flower loved, visited, or fertilized by bees, *spec.* the Wall-flower; also, a flower resembling a bee, the Bee Orchis; *bee-fly*, a two-winged fly resembling a bee, esp. certain of the *Bombyliidae* and *Syrphidae*; *bee-fold*, an enclosure for hives; *bee-glue*, the glue-like substance with which bees fill up crevices, and fix the combs to the hives, propolis; *bee-gum*, a term in parts of U. S. for a bee-hive; *bee-hawk*, a bird of

prey (*Pernis apivora*), also called Honey Buzzard; also a clear-wing hawk-moth (*Sesia fuciformis*), something resembling a wild bee; **bee-head**, a crazy pate; hence **bee-headed**; **bee-larkspur** (see quot.); **bee-like** *a.*, resembling a bee; **bee-line**, a straight line between two points on the earth's surface, such as a bee was supposed instinctively to take in returning to its hive; **bee-maggot**, the larva of a bee; **bee-master**, a keeper of bees, an apiarian; so **bee-mistress**; **bee-nettle**, species of Dead-nettle much visited by bees; **bee-orchis**, a plant (*Ophrys apifera*) noted for the resemblance of part of its flower to a bee; **bee-skep** (*-scap*), a straw bee-hive; † **bee-stall**, a bee-hive; **bee-tree**, a tree in which bees have hived; **bee-wine**, nectar of a flower. See also **BEE-BREAD**, **-EATER**, **-HIVE**, **BEES-WAX**, **-WING**.

1837 R. NICOLL *Poems* (1843) 95 Nae apples he pu'd now, nae 'bee-bikes he knowed. 1799 G. WHITE *Selborne* ix. (1853) 181 These vast migrations, consist not only of hirundines, but of 'bee-birds. 1850 BROWNING *Xmas Eve & Easter D.* 240 The 'bee-bird and the aloe-flower! 1856 Mrs. BROWNING *Aur. Leigh* i. 107 Whom men judge hardly as 'bee-bonneted, because he holds, etc. 1868 WOOD *Homes without H.* xxiii. 427 The primary object of the 'bee-cell is to serve as a storehouse and a nursery. 1786 tr. *Sparrowman's Voy.* II. 186 The 'bee-cuckoo (*Cuculus indicator*)... deserves to have more particular notice. 1808 BINGLEY *Anim. Biog.* (1813) II. 125 The 'Bee Cuckoo, in its external appearance, does not much differ from the common sparrow. 1884 *Pall Mall G.* 12 July 1902 A sum of money which will enable them to give demonstrations of 'bee-driving. 1881 F. DARWIN in *Nature* XXIII. 334 The spread of the 'bee-fertilised ancestors. 1854 T. HARRIS *Insects New Eng.* 484 The 'bee-flies... often hover... over the early flowers, sucking out the honey thereof. 1869 C. BUTLER *Fem. Mon.* (1863) ii. Eij, The unequal leuelling of the ground, in a great 'Bee-fold is best. 1898 FLORIO, *Propoli*, that which Bees make at the entrance of the hives to keep out cold, called 'Beegluce. 1868 ROWLAND *Mouffet's Theat. Ins.* 907 Wax, Bee-bread, 'Bee-glew, Rosin, etc. 1884 *Cent. Mag.* Jan. 442/2 The bees were for the most part rudely hived in cross sections of the gum-tree... whence... a bee-hive of any kind is often called a 'bee-gum. 1837 MAC GILLIVRAY *Hist. Brit. Birds* III. 259 'Bee-Hawk is of rare occurrence in any part of Britain. 1857 STANTON *Brit. Butterfl. & Moths* I. 99 *Sesia fuciformis*, Broad-bordered 'Bee-Hawk. 1857 COLVIL *Whigs Suppl.* (1751) 135 Ye sectaries, quoth he, have 'bee-heads. 1879 JAMIESON s.v., Ye needna mind him, he's a 'bee-headit bodie. 1846 Mrs. LOUDON *Ladies' Comp. Fl. Gard.* 37 The 'Bee Larkspurs... their petals are folded up in the centre of the flower, so as to resemble a bee or a blue-bottle-fly. 1857 S. PURCHAS *Pol. Flying-Ins.* Pref. Verses, To the Learned Author of this 'Bee-like laborious Treatise. 1883 BYRON *Juan* xi. viii, That 'bee-like, bubbling busy hum Of cities. 1849 Poe *Gold-Beetle, Tales* I. 44 A 'bee-line, or, in other words, a straight line, drawn... to a distance of fifty feet. 1870 EMERSON *Soc. & Solit.* x. 219 Men, who, almost as soon as they are born, take a 'bee-line to the rack of the inquisitor. 1884 J. HAWTHORNE *Fort. Fool* I. viii, This disreputable clergyman would make a 'bee-line for Castlemere. 1879 PLOT *Staffordsh.* (1886) 221 Of the corruption of which 'bee-maggots... are bred. 1868 ROWLAND *Mouffet's Theat. Ins.* 902 The 'Bee-masters with clapping of their hands, and with the sound of the brasse. 1866 ROGERS *Agric. & Prices* I. xviii. 399 The 'bee-master was apparently as rare as he is at present. 1859 *Edin. Rev.* CIX. 301 The 'bee-mistresses... gain a living by their honey in many rural districts. 1897 GERARD *Herbal* I. ci. § 1. 163 'Bees Orchis or Satyrion. 1857 HUGHES *Tom Brown* i. Not one in twenty of you knows where to find the... 'bee-orchis... on the down. 1840 DAY *Parl. Bees* (1881) 44 And set fier of all there 'Beeskepps. 1822 *Steam-Boat* 83 (JAM.) My head was bizzing like a 'bee-scap. 1872 BOSSEWELL *Armory* III. 18 b, The weasel... is a destroyer of 'Beestals, and eateth up their honey. 1849 W. IRVING *Crayon Misc.* 49 Honey, the spoils of a plundered 'bee-tree. 1818 KEATS *Endymion* IV. Honeysuckles full of clear 'bee-wine.

Bee (bī). Forms: 1-2 *bēah*, 3 *bē3*, *bēie*, *bēh*, *bēh3*, 3-4 *bē3e*, 4 *beygh*, *by3e*, *bīe*, *bēe3*, 5 *beghe*, *bē*, *bey*, 4-5 *by(e)*, 4-9 *bēe*. [Com. Teut.: OE. *bēag*, *bēah* = ON. *baugr*, OHG. *bouc* = OTeut. **baugz*-ring, f. pret. stem of the vb. **bug-*, *baugz-*, to bow, bend (intr.). The modern form in south would prob. have been *by*, or *bigh* (cf. *high*, *nigh*): *bee* is the northern type.]

† 1. A ring or torque of metal, usually meant for the arm or neck; but in one case at least used of a finger-ring. *Obs.*

c 1009 *Ælfric Gen.* xxxviii. 18 Pinne hring & pine bēah and pinne staf. a 1200 in Wr. Wülcker *Voc.* 313 *Armilla*, beah. c 1175 *Lamb. Hom.* 193 Pu ham giuest... beies and gold ringes. 1205 *Lay.* 24520 Enne beh of rede gold. *Ibid.* 21640 Behyes [1250 bejes] of golde. c 1300 *K. Alis.* 1572 Riche beyghes, besans, and pans. c 1325 *E. E. Allit. P.* A. 466 On arme oper fynger, þa3 pou ber by3e. 1377 *Langl. P. Pl.* B. ProL 161 Beren bi3es [v. r. be3es, behes, byes, bejes] ful bryhte abouten here nekkes. 1384 *Wyclif Prov.* i. 9 A be3e [1388 bie] to thi necke. 1387 *Trevisa Higden* Rolls Ser. III. 331 A bye is *torques* in Latyn. c 1440 *Morte Arth.* (Roxb.) 84 Pomelles bryghte as goldis beghe. *Ibid.* 102 W many a besaunte, broche, and be. 1483 *Cath. Angl.* 24 A Bee, *armilla*, *brachiale*. 1487 *Paston Lett.* III. 464 A bee with a grete pearl. c 1490 *Howard Househ. Bks.* 394 Item, for beyes, roppe, and streyners xjd. 1558 *Huloet*, Bee or collar of gold or syluer, *torques*.

2. Nautical: *bees*, *bee-blocks*, *bee-seating*; see quot. c 1860 H. STUART *Seaman's Catch.* 74 At the outer end, and on each side of the bowsprit, inside the cap, bees and bee blocks are bolted, for the topmast stays to reeve through. *Ibid.* Where it rests on the stem is the bed, and the re-

mainder the beesating. 1867 SMYTH *Sailor's Word-bk.* *Bee*, a ring or hoop of metal... *Bee-blocks*, pieces of hard wood, bolted to the outer end of the bowsprit, to reeve the fore mast stays through.

Be-east (bi, īst), *prep.*, orig. *adv. phr.* In 1 *be eastan*. [OE. *be eastan* 'on the east,' (be 'by, about,' *eastan* 'from the east,' f. *east* 'east'); used *adv.*, and also with following dative. In later times only in Sc.] East of.

894 *O.E. Chron.* Of ælcere byrig be eastan Pendredan. 3e be westan Seal wuda 3e be eastan. 1559-66 in *Misc. Wodrow Soc.* (1844) 78 Twoe mile be-east the said townne. 1819 *Blackw. Mag.* V. 637 Lodge them be-east the town.

|| **Beebee** (bī-bī). [a. Urdu بی بی, *bībī* lady, from Pers. orig. Eastern Turki *bībī* 'lady, lawful wife.'] Hindustani name for a lady. (Now superseded in application to European ladies by 'Mem-sāhib,' but applied to Englishwomen of lower rank, to a (native) mistress, etc.)

1816 'QUIZ' *Grand Master* xi. 34 Its oppressive beams had made Buffalos and beebes seek the shade. a 1847 Mrs. SHERWOOD *Lady of Manor* V. xxix. 96 Being the burree beebie [chief lady] of the night, I moved for an adjournment.

Bee-bread. Forms: 1 *bēa*, *bēo*, *bī-bread*, 2 *bēi*; 7- *bee-bread*. [f. BEE + BREAD: cf. MHG. *bē brôt*, G. *bienen brot*. The modern word is probably a new combination, not historically related to the OE., which had also a different sense.]

† 1. orig. In OE. as in the other Teutonic languages: Honey-comb with the honey in it. *Obs.*

c 885 *Vesp. Psalter* cxviii. 103 Hu swoete... ofer hunig & biabread. a 1000 *Boeth. Metr.* xii. 17 Pyncep... huniges bi-bread heafte þy swetre. c 1000 *Ag. Gosp.* Luke xxiv. 42 Ðel gebræddes fises and beobread [Hotton bei-brad].

2. Pollen, or a compound of honey and pollen, consumed by the nurse-bees.

1657 S. PURCHAS *Pol. Flying Ins.* I. xv. 95 [Bees] gather as often Bee-bread as honey. 1790 *Phil. Trans.* XLVI. 538 A Bee loading the Farina, Bee-Bread, or crude Wax, upon its Legs. 1815 R. HUNTS *Treat.* *Bees* xi. (1817) 147 The crude wax, which is called... in English Bee-bread. 1816 KIRBY & SP. *Entomol.* xi. (1818) I. 376 Little or no honey is collected until an ample store of bee-bread has been laid up for food. 1868 WOOD *Homes without H.* xxiii. 436 Bee-bread... is a compound of honey and the pollen of flowers. 1870 LOWELL *Among my Bks.* Ser. I. (1873) 66 He had been feeding on the bee-bread of Shakespeare.

3. Applied locally to certain plants yielding nectar: viz. the White Clover, and Borage. (Britten and Holland.)

Beech (bīf). Forms: 1 *bēocē*, *bēoc*, 3-6 *bēoc*, 3 *bēoc*, 6 *bēoth*. 6-7 *bēoche*, 6-9 *bēocch*. [OE. *bēce*, *bēce*, cogn. with MLG. *bōke*, *bōke*, mod. LG. *baike*, weak fem. (:-) OTeut. **bōkjon-*), a derivative form from OTeut. **bōkō*, str. fem., whence also ON. *bōk*, OE. *bōc*, OHG. *buohha*, MHG. *buochte*, G. *buche*, MDu. *bocke* (Du. *beuk*, Flem. *boek*), 'beech.' OTeut. **bōkō*- was cogn. w. L. *fagus* 'beech,' and Gr. *φάγος*, *φάγος* 'esculent oak'; meaning originally 'tree with eatable fruit', from root found in Gr. *φάγειν* to eat. The more primitive Eng. *bōc* is not found after the 12th c. exc. in BUCK-MAST, BUCK-WHEAT, and their abbreviation BUCK.]

1. a. A well-known forest tree indigenous to Europe and Western Asia, having fine thin smooth bark, and glossy oval leaves; its boughs and foliage form a dense mass, and it bears triquetrous nuts (called *mast*) placed in pairs in a rough or prickly involucre. It has several ornamental varieties distinguished by the colour or shape of the leaves, as the Purple, Copper, and Fern-leaved Beech.

b. The genus *Fagus*, N.O. *Corylaceæ*, including the Common Beech (*F. sylvatica*) and other species.

a 800 *Epinal Gl.*, *Fagus*, *boecae*, *Corpus Gl.*, *boece* (Sweet, O. E. T. 61, 62). [a 1000 Wr. Wülcker *Voc.* 137 *Fagus*, *boc*.] *Ibid.* 402 *Fagus*, *bēce*. [a 1200 *Ibid.* 545 *Fagus*, *bocetrow*.] a 1300 W. DE BIBLESW. in Wright *Voc.* 171 *Quyr encloué à foust de fou* (of bech). a 1300 *K. Alis.* 5242 Beches, birches of the fairest. 1340 *Ayenb.* 23 Þe grete beches ine wodes. c 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 27 Beche tre, *fagus*. 1577 B. GOOGE *Heresbach's Hush.* (1586) 101 b, The next among the Mast trees is the Beech. 1600 *FAIRFAX Tasso* VII. xix. (R.) Engrau'd in barke of beech and baies. 1704 *POPE Summer* 13 Ye shady beeches, and ye cooling streams. 1707 *THOMSON Summer* 1362 The spreading beech, that o'er the stream Incumbent hung. 1845 *DARWIN Voy. Nat.* xiii. (1852) 281, I was also pleased to see, at an elevation of little less than 1000 feet, our old friend the southern beech.

c. The wood of this tree. Often attrib., as in *beech-coal* (i. e. charcoal), *beech bedstead*, etc.

1607 *Lingua* IV. i. in Hazl. *Dods.* IX. 411 How shall I devise to blow the fire of beech coals? 1730 *SOUTHALL Bugs* 34 Also Beech-Bedsteads, for all such afford them much Harbour and Food. 1853 P. NICHOLSON *Pract. Build.* 259 Beech, a wood which, from its hardness, closeness, and strength, holds a prominent place.

2. Applied with or without distinguishing epithet to various other trees more or less resembling the beech of Europe; in Australia, *Tectona australis* (a kind of Teak); in New South Wales, *Monotoca elliptica* (an Epicrad); in Jamaica, *Exostemma*

caribaeum (a Cinchonad). **Blue Beech** (U. S.), an American species of Hornbeam (*Carpinus Americana*); † **Dutch Beech**, old name in England of the Abele (*Populus alba*); **Horn, Horse**, or **Hurst Beech**, dial. names of the HORNBEAM; **Sea-side Beech**, the 'Beech' of Jamaica (see above); **Water Beech**, the same as *Blue Beech*; **White Beech**, dial. name of the HORNBEAM.

3. Comb., chiefly attrib., as *beech-apple*, *gall*, *leaf*, *nut*, *root*, *timber*, *tree*, *wood*; *beech-green* adj. c 1450 in Wright *Voc.* 228 *Hec fagus*, a beech-tree. 1551 *TURNER Herbal* (1568) 12 The sede is thre square like bucke wheat or beach aples. 1556 *WEBBE Eng. Poetis* (Arb.) 71 Tyterus happily thou liest tumbling vnder a beechtree. 1712 *Lond. Gas.* No. 4964/1 The Assize of Billet, made... of Beech-wood. 1824 *SOUTHEY Roderick* vii, And from his head the ashes fell, like snow Shaken from some dry beech-leaves. 1831 *CARLYLE Sart. Res.* II. ii, The little Kubbach gushing kindly by, among beech-rows. 1851 *Gard. Chron.* 740 A disease which is making great ravages amongst our Beech trees. *Ibid.* 550 The beech-timber of the Chiltern Hills is harder and heavier. c 1864 *LATHERY in Circ.* Sc. I. 106/1 Oils are... extracted from the beech-nut, weld seed, etc.

4. Special comb.: **beech-drops**, a North American plant, *Epiphegus*, N.O. *Orobanchaceæ*, parasitic upon the roots of the beech; **beech-fern**, common name of *Polypodium Phlegopteris*; **beech-finch**, local name of the Chaffinch; **beech-marten**, see *MARTEN*; **beech-mast**, the fruit of the beech; **beech-oil**, oil extracted from beech-mast; **beech-owl**, local name of the Tawny Owl; **beech-weevil** (see quot.); **beech-wheat** = BUCKWHEAT.

1876 *CHAMBERS Cycl.*, *Cancer Root*, or 'Beech-drops... a parasitic plant. 1841 *FENNELL Nat. Hist. Quadr.* 106 The Beech Marten is the *Martes foina* of modern zoologists... Besides 'Beech Marten, it is called Stone Marten. 1877 B. GOOGE *Heresbach's Hush.* (1586) 31 The grain... three-corned, not unlike the 'Beechmast both in colour and forme. 1876 *DIGBY Real Prop.* i. § 1. 17 Feeding swine on the acorns and 'beechmast. 1716 *Lond. Gas.* No. 5468/4 Fine 'Beech Oil cold drawn. 1884 *Garden* 25 Mar. 1982 The 'Beech weevil... feeds on the leaves of Beech trees.

Beech, obs. variant of *BEACH*.

Beechen (bīfjēn), *a. arch. and poet.* In 1 *bēcen*, 4-5 *bēchen*, 7 *beachen*. [OE. *bēcen* = *bēcen* = OTeut. **bōkino-z* (cogn. w. L. *fāginus*, Gr. *φάγος*), f. *bōkō*- beech: see prec. and -EN.]

1. Of, pertaining to, or derived from the beech.

c 1000 *ÆLFRIC Gloss.* in Wülcker *Voc.* 137 *Fāginus*, *bēcen*. c 1000 *Sax. Leechd.* I. 182 Þær heo on beccenan treowes wyrttruman gewexen sy. c 1386 *CHAUCER Chan. Yem. ProL* & T. 607 This false chanoun Out of his bosom took a bechen cole. 1622 *PRACHAM Compl. Gentl.* II. ii. (1634) 110 By his beechen garland is signified the great plenty of beech-trees which grow about FASTERONA. 1697 *DRYDEN Virg. Eclog.* I. i Beneath the Shade which Beechen Boughs diffuse. 1773 G. WHITE *Selborne* xxxix. (1788) 117 Before our beechen woods were so much destroyed. 1878 B. TAYLOR *Denkation* III. i, Under yonder beechen shade.

2. Made of the wood of the beech.

1663 *COWLEY Verses & Ess.* (1669) 87 Canst look upon thy Beechen Bowl, and Dish. 1741 *RICHARDSON Pamela* (1824) I. xxix. 46 As hard as a beechen trencher. 1822 *WORDSW.* *Ecc. Sonn.* I. xxii, A beechen bowl, A maple dish, my furniture should be. 1870 *BRYANT Homer* I. v. 176 The beechen axle groaned beneath the weight.

¶ Now superseded in common use by *BEECH attrib.*

Beechy (bīfji), *a.* [f. BEECH + y.] Of, characterized by, or abounding in, beeches.

1612 *DRAYTON Poly-olb.* xix. (1748) 333 Vast beechy banks. 1647-9 G. DANIEL *Poems* Wks. II. 130 Titirus sitting vnder Beechie Shade. 1830 *DISRAELI Home Lett.* II. 6 Our beloved and beechy Bucks.

Beed, **beedered**, obs. ff. *BEAD*, *BED*, *BEDRID*.

Be-edged, etc.: see *BE- pref.*

Beedle, obs. variant of *BEADLE*.

Beedom (bīdēm), *rare*. The realm of bees.

1868 G. MACDONALD *Seaboard Par.* I. xi. 158 As if he were the beadle of all bee-dom, and overgrown in consequence.

Bee-eater. A genus of birds (*Merops*) which devour bees and flies, one species of which (*M. apiaster*) is an occasional visitant to England. Many of the species are brilliantly coloured.

1768 *CROKER, etc. Compl. Dict.* II, *Merops*, the bee-eater... a very beautiful bird, somewhat larger than the common king-fisher. 1877 A. B. EDWARDS *Up Nile* xxii. 684 The bee-eaters flash like live emeralds across our path.

Beef (bīf), *sb.* Forms: 3-4 *boef*, *beef*, 4 *bouf*, 5 *befe*, *byffe*, *beoff*, *buif*, 5-6 *beff*, 6 *beafe*, *biefe*, *beffe*, 6-7 *beefe*, 7 (*bouffe*), *bief*, *beife*, 7- *beef*. Plural: *beeves*; also 5 *beoffes*, *bueffs*, *beuys*, 5-7 *beues*, *beves*, 6 *beafes*, *beffes*, *bevis*, *beoves*, 6-7 *beefes*, *bieves*, *beoffes*, 9 (in U. S.) *beefs*. [a. OF. *boef* (= mod. F. *boeuf*): = L. *bov-em*, acc. of *bos* ox, cogn. with Gr. *βovς*, Skr. *go-*, Eng. *Cow*.]

1. The flesh of an ox, bull, or cow, used as food. Often preceded by words indicating the exact part of the animal, e.g. *sirloin*, *ribs of beef*, etc. *Sea-beef*: beef pickled for use at sea.

a 1300 *K. Alis.* 5248 To mete was greithed beef and motoun. c 1350 *Will. Palerne* 1849 Fair bouffwel sode. c 1386 *CHAUCER Merch. T.* 176 Bet than olde beef is tendre vel. c 1420 *Liber Cocorum* (1862) 27 Fresche brothe of the befe. c 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 28 Byffe, flesche [v. r. beff]. 1533 *ELYOT*

Cast. Helthe II. i. (1541) 16 b. Biefe is better digested than a chyken's legge. 1554 HULOT, Beafe, *bubula*. 1596 SHAKS. *Tam. Shr.* IV. iii. 23 What say you to a peece of Beeffe and Mustard? 1607 DEKKER *Knts. Conjur.* (1842) 34 More stale then sea-beefe. 1653 WALTON *Angler* 191 Powdered Bief is a most excellent bait to catch an Eele. 1662 PEYTS *Diary* 29 May, We had cakes, and powdered beef, and ale. 1712 ADDISON *Spect.* No. 269 ¶ 8, I have always a Piece of cold Beef and a Mince-Pye upon the Table. 1818 COBBET *Pol. Reg.* V. 302 They dine . . . upon good roast-beef and port. 1876 WHYTE-MELVILLE *Katerfelto* xx. 228 'What can we have for supper?' 'Aitch-bone of beef, my lord.'

2. *transf. a.* Applied to other kinds of flesh or food. *b. mod. colloq. = 'Flesh' (of men).* Cf. BEEFY. 1661 LOVELL *Hist. Anim. & Min.* 233 Ling . . . is counted the beefe of the Sea. 1862 *Cork Examiner* 28 Mar., Chelmsford stood higher in the leg, and showed less beef about him. 1883 *Cornh. Mag.*, Feb. *Life Man of War*, Useful at the heavy hauling of braces, etc.—Where plenty of 'beef' is required. 1888 LOSSING *Hudson* 145 The Sturgeon . . . are sold in such quantities in Albany, that they have been called, in derision, 'Albany beef.'

3. An ox; any animal of the ox kind; *esp. a* fattened beast, or its carcase. *a.* Usually in *pl. arch. or techn.*

c 1320 *Senyn Sag.* (W.) 1095 Hit mote bothe drink and eate . . . Beues flesch, and drink the broht. 1475 *Bk. Noblesse* 68 Grete providence of vitaille of cornys, of larde, and beoffes. 1485 CAXTON *Chas. Gt.* 107 Grete oxen and buefs slayn. 1523 BERNERS *Froiss.* I. ccxciii. 675 Mo than xx. thousand beastes, swyne, beufes, kene, and moutons. 1596 SHAKS. *Merch. Ven.* I. iii. 168 As flesch of Muttons, Beefes, or Goates. 1611 *Bible Lev.* xxii. 21 A free will offering in beuees or sheepe. 1669 *Worldw. Syst. Agric.* (1681) 170 Our Beves yield much Butter, Cheese . . . and Meat. 1674 CLARENDON *Hist. Reb.* II. vii. 323 One half in Money, and the other half in good Beefs. 1780 T. JEFFERSON *Corr.* Wks. 1859 I. 252 To collect beeves in our southern counties. 1861 *May Const. Hist.* (1863) I. iv. 192 The supply of beeves and grain for his household. 1884 in *Glasgow Her.* 5 Jan. 5/2 All the beefs that are ready for shipping.

b. The sing. has been occasional in this sense since 16th c.

1593 STUBBS *Anat. Abus.* II. 26 Whereas they pay a certeine price for a fat beefe. 1601 HOLLAND *Pliny* II. 420 If either a beoufe or mutton be rubbed with salt. 1609 *Bible* (Douay) *Deut.* xiv. 5 The pygargue, the wilde beefe, the camelopard. 1668 WILKINS *Real Char.* II. v. § 5. 164 Either to a Beef, or a Sheep, or a Wolf. 1775 JOHNSON *West. Isl. Wks.* X. 456 When a beef was killed for the house. 1844 MRS. HOUSTON *Yacht Voy. Texas* II. 180 The cook went on shore and 'shot a beef.'

fig. 1596 SHAKS. *1 Hen. IV.* III. iii. 199 O, my sweet Beefe I must still be good Angell to thee.

4. *Attrib. and in comb., as beef-boat, -bone, -cattle, -collops, -fat, -flick, -house, -market, -merchant, -net, -pot, -shop, -steer, -suet; beef-boiler, -eating, -grower, -making, -roaster; beef-faced adj.*

1837 MARRYAT *Dog-Fiend* xii, He jumped into the 'beef boat to go on board of the cutter. 1611 CUTGR., *Archi-narmilioneastique* . . . or Arch-frequenter of the Cloyster beefe-pot, or 'beefe-boiler. 1758 J. S. Le Dran's *Observ. Surg.* (1771) 279 It seemed to be the Scale of a 'Beef-Bone. 1820 SCOTT *Abbot* xix, Such bare 'beef-bones, such ashoulder-ling at the buttry-hatch. — *Guy M.* xiv, A plate of 'beef-collops. 1838 DICKENS *O. Twist* (1850) 68/1, I know a friend who has a 'beef-faced boy. 1836 TODD *Cycl. Anat. & Phys.* II. 233/1 The elain of 'beef fat is colourless. 1466 *Test. Ebor.* (1855) II. 261 Ilij, bakon-fliks, ij, 'beffe-fliks. 1880 *Victorian Rev.* 2 Feb. 670 For the American 'beef-grower to fatten their beef cattle. 1881 *Gentl. Mag.* Jan. 67 They [wild cattle] are . . . illbred, and averse to 'beef-making. 1480 *Robt. Dryyll* 38 Robert toke a quycke catte . . . And threwe her quycke into the 'beefe potte. 1703 *Art's Improv.* I. 14 As big as an ordinary 'Beef-Pot. 1880 *Victorian Rev.* 2 Feb. 665 The production of cheap 'beef steers. 1853 *Q. Rev.* Mar. 397 An equal quantity of melted 'beef-suet.

5 Special comb.: † *beef-brained ppl. a.*, thick-headed, stupid; † *beef-brewis, -broth*, broth made from beef; *beef-ham*, beef cured in the same fashion as a ham, by salting, smoking, etc.; *beef-head*, a thick-head, a block-head; *beef-measles*, a parasitic disease, which sometimes attacks cattle; *beef-tapeworm*, *Tenia mediocancellata*; *beef-tea*, the juice of beef extracted by prolonged simmering in a very little water, used as a nutritious food for invalids; *beef-witted a.* (= *beef-brained*); hence *beef-wittedness*. See also BEEFEATER, BEEF-STEAK, BEEF-WOOD.

1627 FELTHAM *Resolutes* I. x. (1647) 28 A 'beefe-brain'd fellow that hath only impudence enough to shew himself a foole. 1820 SCOTT *Abbot* xiv, The monks . . . are merriest . . . when they sup 'beef-brewis for lenden-kail. 1703 *Art's Improv.* I. 26 Supply it with the Fat of Powder'd 'Beef-broth. 1815 SCOTT *Guy M.* xxiv, A huge piece of cold 'beef-ham. 1775 LD. CAVENTISH in *Burke's Corr.* (1844) II. 86 The petition . . . should be framed so as to . . . draw off some of the 'beef-heads who are disposed against it. 1884 *Health Exhib. Catal.* 20/1 Drawings of . . . 'Beef Measles and the 'Beef-tapeworm. 1783 *Med. Commun.* I. 140 She was ordered 'beef-tea. 1861 FLOR. NIGHTINGALE *Nursing* 52 A small quantity of 'beef-tea added to other articles of food makes them more nourishing. 1870 LOWELL *Study Wind.* 91 He gives us the very 'beef-tea of history, nourishing and even palatable enough. 1866 SHAKS. *Tr. & Cr.* II. i. 14 Thou mungrel 'beefe-witted Lord. 1863 *Reader* 22 Aug., This British bull-neckedness, this British 'beef-wittedness.

Beef, v. rare. [*f. prec.*] *trans.* To apply raw beef to (a bruise).

1870 T. SIMMONS *Oakdale Gr.* 124 [It] will show up in blue and yellow relief . . . unless they beef it.

† *Beef-eat, v. nonce-wd.* (Cf. next word.)

1671 CROWNE *Juliana* IV. 44 Sirrah, I could find in my heart to beef-eat you.

Beefeater. [*f. BEEF + EATER; cf. OE. hldf-ēta*, lit. 'loaf-eater,' a menial servant.

(The conjecture that sense 2 may have had some different origin, e. g. from *buffet* 'sideboard,' is historically baseless. No such form of the word as **buffetier* exists; and *beaufet*, which has been cited as a phonetic link between *buffet* and *beefeater*, is merely an 18th c. bad spelling, not so old as *beefeater*.)

1. An eater of beef; *contemptuously*, a well-fed menial. (Properly with hyphen, *beef-eater*.)

1610 *Histrio-m.* III. 99 Awake yee drowsie drones That long have sucked the honney from my hives: Begone yee greedy beefe-eaters y' are best. 1668 F. GREVILLE *Sidney* (1652) 109 We conquered France, more by such factions and ambitious assistances than by any odds of our Bows, or Beef-eaters, as the French were then scornfully pleas'd to terme us. 1854 BADHAM *Halient*. 516 Amongst immortal gluttons, Hercules (*Ἡρόκλῆς*) the beef-eater was chief.

2. Popular appellation of the Yeomen of the Guard, in the household of the Sovereign of Great Britain, instituted at the accession of Henry VII in 1485; also of the Warders of the Tower of London, who were named Yeomen Extraordinary of the Guard in the reign of Edward VI, and wear the same antique uniform as the 'Beefeaters of the Guard.'

1671 CROWNE *Juliana* IV. 44 The Beef-eaters o' the Guard. *Ibid.* You Beef-eater, you saucy cur. 1736 FIELDING *Pasquin* II. i, Is not there a sort of employment, sir, called—beef eating?—If your lordship please to make me a beef-eater. 1779 SHERIDAN *Critic* III. i. (1883) 175 Enter Beef-eater, with his halbert. 1848 MACAULAY *Hist. Eng.* I. 293 Without some better protection than that of the trainbands and beefeaters. 1864 H. SPENCER *Illustr. Univ. Progr.* 63 The Beefeaters at the Tower wear the costume of Henry VIII's body guard.

3. *Ornith.* A genus of African birds (*Buphaga*), called also Ox-peckers, allied to the Starling family, which live chiefly on parasitic larvæ hatched under the skin of cattle.

1836 PENNY *Cycl.* VI. 22 The Beef-eater . . . or *Piquet-beuf* . . . digs and squeezes out with his forceps of a beak the larva that lies festering under the tough hide of the quadruped.

Beefiness (*bī fīnēs*). [*f. BEEFY a. + -NESS.*] Beefy quality; *transf.* fleshy development.

1859 SMILES *Self-Help* 160 It is . . . the one pull more of the oar that proves the beefiness of the fellow, as Oxford men say. 1882 ANNIE THOMAS *Allerton* T. III. ix. 164, I like to have my animal . . . dressed in such a way that its original beefiness or muttoniness is completely concealed.

Beefing, beefin. *dial.* [*f. BEEF + -ING.*] An ox for slaughter.

1466 *Paston Lett.* 549 II. 269 All the velys, lambes, beefins. 1847 HALLIWELL, *Beefing*, a bullock fit for slaughter. (Suffolk dialect.)

Beefing, var. of BIFFIN, a kind of apple.

Beef-flower.

1. A flower resembling a bee; the Bee Orchis. 1666 BACON *Sylva* § 609 The Figure maketh the Fable; For so we see, there be Bee-Flowers, etc. 1749 MRS. DELANY *Autobiog.* (1861) II. 531 Could Mrs. Viney send the Duchess a root or two of the bee-flower?

2. A flower visited or fertilized by bees. 1615 LAWSON *Orch. & Gard.* III. vi. (1668) 12 Wall flowers, commonly called Bee-flowers, or Winter Gilly-Flowers. 1799 LUBBOCK *Sci. Lect.* II. 32 Bee-flowers (if I may coin such an expression) have generally bright clear colors.

Beef-steak (*bī fīstēk*). A steak or thick slice of beef, cut from the hind-quarters of the animal, suitable for grilling or frying.

1711 [see b.] 1715 *Spect.* No. 639 (1734) IX. 12 He tossed his Hat into the Frying-pan, and made a Beef-steak of it. 1783 JOHNSON in *Bornell* III. 449 Let you and I, Sir, go together and eat a Beef-steak in Grub-Street. 1849 DICKENS *Dan. Copps* xviii. 162, I am taken home . . . have beef-steaks put to my eyes.

b. attrib., as in *beef-steak pie, pudding*; *Beef-steak Club*, a celebrated society founded by Lord Peterborough; the members wear a gridiron upon their buttons, and meet now in the Lyceum Theatre. Hence *Beefsteaker*.

1711 ADDISON *Spect.* No. 9 ¶ 8 The Beef-steak and October Clubs are neither of them averse to eating and drinking. 1841 MARRYAT *Poacher* x, She was carving a beefsteak-pie. 1851 MAYHEW *Lond. L.* I. 359 A good beef-steak supper. 1883 *Cornh. Mag.* (article) *Beefsteakers*.

Beef-wood (*bī fīwd*). [*f. BEEF sb. + WOOD.*]

1. The timber of an Australian tree (*Casuarina*), so called from its red colour; the tree has long, pendent, jointed, thread-like branches, without leaves, but with small sheaths at the joints.

1836 PENNY *Cycl.* VI. 358 The timber of some species (*Casuarina*) forms the beefwood of the New South Wales colonists. 1880 SILVER *Handbk. Australia* 275 The beef-wood . . . and tulipwood take a high polish.

2. Applied to various other trees, e. g. in N. S. Wales to *Stenocarpus salignus*; in Queensland to *Banksia compar* (both N.O. *Proteaceæ*); in Jamaica to evergreen shrubs or low trees of the genus *Ardisia* (N.O. *Myrsinacæ*).

1756 P. BROWNE *Jamaica* 201 This tree is commonly called by the name of Beef-wood . . . from the fleshy colour of the interior bark. 1819 *Blackw. Mag.* IV. 654 Well wooded with . . . the Beefwood.

Beefy (*bī fī*), *a.* [*f. BEEF sb. + -Y.*] Abounding in beef; resembling beef; fleshy; obese; stolid. 1853 KANE *Grinnell Exp.* xvii. (1856) 129 One day he [the bear] is quite beefy and bearable. 1859 SMILES *Self-Help* 291 This dunce had a dull energy and a sort of beefy tenacity of purpose. 1860 *All Y. Round* No. 66. 367 There are no beefy boys at these schools. 1862 CALVERLEY *Verses & Tr.* 48 The beefy market-place. 1876 MISS BRADDON *J. Haggard's D.* x. 134 Added the farmer in his beefy voice.

Beegum, variant of BEGUM.

Beehive (*bī hīv*). [*f. BEE sb. + -HIVE sb.*]

1. A receptacle used as a home for bees; usually made of thick straw work in the shape of a dome; but there are modern contrivances made of many materials, and adapted to special purposes.

c 1325 *Coer de L.* 2885 And commanded hys men, belyve To bryng up many a bee-hyve. 1483 *Cath. Angl.* 26 Bee-hyve, *apiarium*. 1593 SHAKS. *2 Hen. VI.* IV. i. 109 Drones sucke not Eagles blood, but rob Bee-hives. 1855 MACAULAY *Hist. Eng.* III. 611 The farmhouse peeping from among beehives and apple-blossoms.

fig. 1616 R. CARPENTER *Larum Love* 33 A profitable and behoouefull member in the Bee-hiue of Christs Church.

2. Name of a nebula in the constellation Cancer. 1869 DUNKIN *Midn. Sky* 136 A small nebulous-looking object in the crab's body, is known by the name of the Presepe, or the Beehive.

3. *Comb. and attrib.*, chiefly in sense of 'shaped like a bee-hive,' as in *beehive-basket, -chair* (i. e. with a top like a bee-hive), *beehive-hut, -oven*; also *beehive-like, beehive-shaped*, *adjs.*

1816 SOUTHEY *Essays* (1832) I. 181 His place in the chimney-corner, or the bee-hive chair. 1858 W. ELLIS *Vis. Madagascar* ix. 235 Low, beehive-shaped huts. 1863 LUBBOCK *Prich. Times* II. (1878) 56 From these we pass naturally to the beehive houses. 1881 RAYMOND *Mining Gloss.*, *Beehive oven*, an oven for the manufacture of coke, shaped like the old-fashioned beehive. 1884 J. COLBOURNE *Hicks Pasha* 84 The . . . beehive huts of the narrow street.

Beehive, v. rare. [*f. prec.*] *intr.* To cluster like bees in a hive. (U.S.A.)

1883 *N. E. Yrnl. Educ.* XVII. 325 The girls bee-hive together to discuss mysteries.

Beehived, a. [*f. BEEHIVE sb. + -ED.*] Made or shaped like a beehive.

1885 *Contemp. Rev.* May 742 Beehived cells . . . for churches occur abundantly at Innismurry.

Bee-hivy, a. nonce-wd. Beehive-like.

1864 LADY D. GORDON in *Vac. Tourists*, Bamboo canes close together across the rafters, and bound together between each with transverse bamboo—a pretty beehive effect.

† *Beeishness.* *Obs. rare.* [*f. BEE; after waspish, waspishness.*] The quality of being like bees: used by Penn in his answer to the divines, who had termed the Friends 'wasps.'

1674 PENN *Rebuke Divines* 12 Doth this flow from the Beeishness of your Nature?

Beek, sb. Sc. [*f. BEEK v.*] A warming or basking in the heat, a bask.

1725 RAMSAY *Wks.* 1848 II. 133 Gland by his morning ingle takes a beek. 1768 PICKEN *Poems* 88 (JAM.) Life's just a wee bit Sunny beek, That bright, and brighter waxes.

Beek (*bīk*), *v.* Now only *Sc.* or *north. dial.* Forms: 3-6 *beke*, 5-6 *boyeke*, 6 *Sc. beik*, 6-7 *beak*, 6- *beek*. [Chiefly northern: of uncertain origin. The analogy in form and sense of *bake, beek, to bathe, beathe*, suggests possible connexion with *bake*. An OTeut. **bōkian* f. *bōk*, pa. t. of *bakan* would have given an OE. **bōccen*, *bēcen*, and ME. *beke, beek*; but no trace of the older forms is found. Another suggestion would refer *beke* to the stem of *bæwen* to foment (in Ormin) with suffixal *k*: cf., in same sense, dial. G. *bächeln, bächern*, which Grimm refers to *bähen* to foment.]

1. *trans. and refl.* To suffuse with genial warmth; to expose (oneself, one's limbs, etc.) to the pleasurable warmth of sun, fire, etc.

c 1230 [see BEEKING *ppl. a.*] 1375 BARBOUR *Bruce* XIX. 552 Ane ynghlish man, that lay bekind Hym by a fyre. c 1400 *Bone Flor.* 99 A gode fyre. To beyke hys boones by. 1553 BRENDE *Q. Curtius* II. 11 Diogenes . . . was beking of himself in y^e sunne. 1627 H. BURTON *Bait. Pope's Bull* 26 The foolish fish, which beaking his self neere the banke, suffereth the fisher to tickle . . . her. a 1774 FERGUSSON *Cawler Oysters Poems* (1845) 8 How often at that ingle cheek Did I my frosty fingers beek. (In modern Scotch.)

b. To season (wood) by exposure to heat.

1483 *Cathol. Angl.* 26 To beke wandes, *explorare*. 1523 FITZHERB. *Hush.* § 24 A good husbando hath his forks and rakes made redye in the wynter before . . . and beyked . . . and than they will be harde, styffe and drye. 1642 BEST *Farm. Bks.* (1856) 122 After that we have cutte our wilfes and saughs . . . wee sette our foreman and another to beak-ing of them.

2. *intr.* To expose oneself to, or disport in, pleasurable warmth; to bask.

c 1400 *Yvaine & Gau.* 1459 That Knyght es nothing to set by That . . . liggis bekind in his bed. 1426 *Wife Aucterm.* in *Bannatyne Poems* 215 (JAM.) He saw the wif . . . sittand at ane fyre, beikand bawld. 1730 RAMSAY *Gent. Sheph.* Wks. II. 95 She and her cat sit beeking in her yard. a 1801 MACNEILL *Poet. Wks.* (1844) 54 To sport on fancy's flowery brink, And beek a wee in love's warm blink.

† *Beek, v.* 2 *Obs.* A term of the chase: see quot.

c 1470 *Hors Shepe & G.* (1822) 31 A herte, yf he be chasid, he wil desire to haue a ryuer . . . yf he take agayn the streme, he beteth or els he beeketh.

Becke, becker, obs. f. **BEAK, BEAKER**.

Beeking, *vbl. sb. Obs. exc. Sc.* [f. **BEER** v.1 + -ING¹.] Exposure to genial warmth or heat. 1523 FITZGER. *Hush.* 24 All the bekyng and drienge that can be had. 1623 COCKERAM, *Aprication*, a beaking in the Sunne.

Beeking, beaking, *ppl. a. Obs. exc. Sc.* [f. as prec. + -ING².] That gives genial warmth.

c. 1230 *Wokunge in Cott. Hom.* 269 Al bat pinende pik ne walde ham punche bote a softe bekinde bað. a. 1652 *Brome Queen's Exch.* ii. Wks. III. 480 Our Masters grudge to give us wood Enough to make a beaking Bonfire.

Beel, obs. form of **BEAL**; see also **BOIL sb.**

Be-elbow, be-embroider, etc.: see **BE-pref.**

Beeld(e, -yng, obs. forms of BIELD, BUILDING.

† **Beele**¹. *Obs.* [Prob. a variant of **bill* (not actually found in this sense, but cf. **BILLET** a. f. *bille* 'a young stocke of a tree to graft on' (Cotgr.); cf. 12th c. med.L. *billa, billus* 'branch, trunk of a tree.')] †The crossbar of the yoke.

1616 *SURFL. & MARKH. Countr. Farm* 650 The young plants are good to make beeles for Yoakes.

† **Beele**². *Obs. or dial.* [app. a variant form of **BILL**. But cf. **MHG. bil, bihel**, mod.Ger. *beil* ax.] A pick-ax. with both ends sharp, used to pick out the ore from the rocks.

1671 *Phil. Trans.* VI. 2104 The Instruments commonly used in Mines. are; (1.) A Beele or Cornish Tubber of 8l. or 10l. weight, sharpened at both ends. 1753 *CHAMBERS Cycl. Suppl.*, *Beele*, an instrument used by the workmen to break and pick out the ore from the rocks in which it lies. [Not in modern Cornish Gloss. of E. D. Soc.; but *W. Corn. Gl.* has 'Beal' a bird's bill.]

Hence **Beele-man**.

1671 *Phil. Trans.* VI. 2104 The Beele-men rip the Deads and Ore. 1753 *CHAMBERS Cycl. Suppl.* s.v. *Beele*, The miners, who dig up the ore in the mines, are, from the use of this instrument called beele-men. In Cornwall. they allow two shovellers to three beele-men.

Beele, obs. or dial. f. **BILL** 'a beak.'

Beely, obs. form of **BELE**.

Beelzebub (bē'elzēbūb). Also 4 **Belzebub**, 4-6 **Belsabub**, -bbe, 1-9 **Belsebub**. [a. L. *Belzebūb*, used in the Vulgate to render both the Gr. *βελζεβοῦθ* of the received text of the N. T. (for which early MSS. have *βελζεβοῦλ*), and the

Heb. *בַּעַל-זְבוּב* *ba'al-zēbūb* 'fly-lord,' mentioned in 2 Kings i. 2, as 'the god of Ekron,' which Aquila had also reproduced in Gr. as *βελζεβοῦθ*, though the LXX rendered it *βααλ μὲν*. The relation between the Heb. and Gr. words is not settled. The earlier Eng. translations, and the Douay, followed the Vulgate in identifying them in form, but the Geneva Bible of 1560, followed by the 'Authorized' of 1611, represent the O. T. word more exactly as *Baal-zēbub*. From the N. T. designation of Beelzebub as 'prince of demons,' the word became at an early period one of the popular names of the Devil. Milton used it as the name of one of the fallen angels.] The Devil; a devil; also *transf.*

c. 950 *Lindisf. Gosp. Matt.* xii. 24 In Belzebub ðone aldor-menn diobla. c. 975 *Rushw. G. ibid.*, Belzebub þæt is aldor deofla. c. 1000 *Ag. G. ibid.*, Puri Belzebub deofla ealdre. c. 1175 *Lamb. Hom.* 55 Loke weo us wif him misdon purh beelzebubbes swikedom. 1377 *LANGF. P. Pl.* B. ii. 130 A bastarde y-bore Of Belsabubbes kynne. 1564 J. Heywood *Prov. & Epigr.* (1867) 51 Ye be a baby of Belsabub's bowre. 1601 *SHAKS. Twel. N. v. i.* 291 He holds Belzebub at the staues end as well as a man in his case may do. 1759 *LAW Lett. Import. Subj.* 193 To crucify the Christ of God, as a beelzebub and blasphemor. 1816 *KIRBY & Sp. Entomol.* (1843) i. 124 This fly is truly a beelzebub and perhaps, the prototype of the Philistine idol worshipped under that name and in the form of a fly. 1848 *MACAULAY Hist. Eng.* i. xiii. His old troopers, the Satans and Beelzebubs who had snared his crimes (i. e. of Claverhouse).

Beelzebubian, a. rare; only in form **Bel-**. [f. prec. + -IAN.] Devilish.

1867 *FITZGERALD 75 Brooke St. I.* 239 There'll be the most infernal Belzebubian row.

Beem, obs. form of **BEAM**.

Been, *pa. pple.* of **BE** v. Also, obs. form of **be**, pres. infin., and pres. indic. plural.

Been, obs. plural of **BE** sb.1. form of **BEIN** a.

Been, beenge, var. f. of **BEHEN, BEN, BINGE** v.

Beënt (bē'ent), a. *Metaph.* [f. **BE** v. + L. suffix -ENT.] That is or exists; existing (in the most abstract sense); also used substantively. (Introduced to represent Germ. *seiend*, as expressing pure being in the Hegelian sense.)

1865 J. H. STIRLING *Secret of Hegel* I. 321 Something, however, is already a definite Beënt. — 362 Quality distinguished as beënt is Reality. 1883 R. ADAMSON in *Mind* Oct. 575 The changing, variable, transitory, and relatively non-beënt, world of finite fact.

Beer (bīr), sb.1. Forms: 1-3 **béor** (bear), 3-4 **ber**, 4 **bor**, 5-7 **bere**, **beere**, 6 **bier**, **Sc. beer**, 6-7 **beare**, 6- **beer**. [Common WGer.: OE. *béor* = OHG. *bior*, MHG. and mod.G. *bier*, MLG. *bēr*, MDu. and Du. *bier*, all neut.; cf. also ON. *bjor-r* masc. Etymology uncertain.

The OTeut. form might be **beuro(m)*, f. **beuro-* barley (whence ON. *bygg*: see **BIGG**); Kögel, taking the same derivation, has suggested as the Gothic form **bigrwa*: — OTeut. **beurois*; Sievers points out that one of the other forms of the neuter suffix -is, -es, -i, viz. **beurois*, or rather **beuro-* would better account for the WGer. forms. Others (see Kluge) have thought of a connexion with *brur* (taking *beuro-* as for **breuro-*). Franck's suggestion of an Aryan **bhar-* 'to ferment' seems unwarranted, there being no known Aryan roots in -ur.]

1. An alcoholic liquor obtained by the fermentation of malt (or other saccharine substance), flavoured with hops or other aromatic bitters. Formerly distinguished from *ale* by being hopped; but now the generic name of malt liquor, including ale and porter, though sometimes restricted and used in contradistinction to ale. The word occurs in OE., but its use is rare, except in poetry, and it seems to have become common only in the 16th c. as the name of hopped malt liquor. Not in Chaucer or *Piers Ploughman*. See further under **ALE**.

c. 1000 *Ag. Gosp. Luke* i. 15 He ne drincð win ne béor [*Lindisf. and Rushw. bear*]. c. 1205 *LAV. 8124* Weoren þa bernas iscængte mid beore. c. 1250 *Out & Night*. 1009 Hi nabbeþ noth win ne bor. c. 1340 *Gaw. & Cr. Knt.* 128 Good ber and bryt wyn boþe. c. 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 31 Bere, a drynke, *kummuli potus, aut ceruisia kummulina*. 1502 *ARNOLD Chron.* (1811) 247, X. quarters malte, ij quarters wheat, ij quarters ootes, xl. ll. weight of hoppys. To make ix. barrels of sengyll beer. c. 1550 *SKELTON El. Rummyng in Hart. Misc.* I. 415 (D.) The Dutchman's strong beer Was not hopt over heere. 1555 *STEWART Cron. Scot.* II. 583 With Marche aill and also doubill beer. 1554 *Boorde Dytary* x. 256 Bere is made of malte, of hoppes, and water: it is a natural drynke for a Dutche man. And nowe of late dayes it is moche vsed in Englande to the detryment of many Englysshe men. 1570 *LEVINS Manip.* 84 Bere, *potus lupinatus*. 1574 *R. 3007 Hog Gard.* (1578) 6 If the controuersie be betwixt Beere and Ale, which of them two shall have y^e place of preheminence? 1578 *LYTE Dodoens* 17 In barrels of Bier. 1597 *SHAKS. 2 Hen. IV.* ii. 11. 7 Doth it not show vildely in me, to desire small Beer? 1600 *VENNER Via Recta* ii. 36 Ale by reason of the grossnesse of the substance of it. is more nourishing then Beere. 1641 *BAKER Chron.* (1666) 298 Turkeys, carps, hogs, piccadell, and beer, Came into England all in one year. c. 1645 *HOWELL Lett.* ii. liv. Since Beer hath hopp'd in among us, Ale is thought to be much adulterated. 1674 *YEATS Techn. Hist. Comm.* 119 A beer was made by the Germans. from oats and wheat. 1883 *PROF. GARDNER in Glasg. Whly. Her.* 1 Sept. 8/1 The present proper definition of beer may be as follows:—A saccharine fluid flavoured with hops, or other aromatic bitters, which has been rendered alcoholic by fermentation.

b. **Buttered beer**: see **ALE** 4. **Small beer**: weak beer; hence *fig.* trifling matters, small things, as in the colloquial phrase *To think no small beer of oneself*. *To be in beer*: to be under the effects of beer, to be more or less intoxicated.

1524 *MORE Confut. Tindale Wks.* 423/5, I stande in so great peryll of chokynge with lucre, as Tindale standeth in daunger of chokynge with the bones of buttered beere. 1604 *SHAKS. Oth.* ii. i. 161 To suckle fooles, and chronicle small Beere. 1631 J. Rous *Diary* (1856) 66 Warren (that was in beere) . . . urged upon the maide to ride behinde him. 1712 *ADDISON Spect.* No. 269 ¶ 8, I allow a double Quantity of Malt to my small Beer. 1840 *DE QUINCEY Style Wks.* XI. 174 Should express her self-esteem by the popular phrase, that she did not 'think small beer of herself.' 1880 *Academy* 25 Sept. 219 Two such chroniclers of small beer as Boswell and Erskine.

2. Applied to fermented liquors of various kinds, or flavoured by various ingredients, as *nettle beer*, *spruce beer*, *tar beer*, *treacle beer*, **GINGER BEER**. c. 1100 *Ag. Gloss.* in *Wülcker Voc.* 329 *Ydromellum vel mulsum*, beor. 1666 *RINDLEY Pract. Physic* 102 The beer of the decoction of Camomile flowers is miraculous. 1850 T. SMITH *Terebinth. Med.* 61 Beverage, pale ale, dandelion beer, spruce beer.

II. **Comb. and Attrib.**

3. General relations: a. objective gen. with *vbl. sb.* or agent-noun, as *beer-bibber*, *-bibbing*, *-brewer*, *-brewing*, *-buttering*, *-carrier*, *-drinker*, *-drinking*, *-monger*, *-seller*, *-soaking*; b. instrumental with *pa. pple.*, as *beer-bemuddled*; c. attrib. (of, made of or with, beer), as *beer-broth*, *-posset*, *-soup*, *-stain*, *-yeast*; d. attrib. (of, for, or connected with the manufacture, sale, or use of beer), as *beer-barrel*, *-cellar*, *-gallon*, *-shop*, *-vat*.

a. 1840 *DICKENS Barn. Rudge* xiii. To be looked upon as a common pipe-smoker. **beer-bibber*. 1465 *Mann. & Housh. Exp.* 201 My mastyr payd to Clayson **beerebrewer* of Herewyche, for iiii. barrels of bere. vj. viii. d. 1565 *JEWELL Def. Apol.* (1611) 205 This Thomas Becketts Father was a Iew, and a **Beere-Brewer* of London. 1766 *ENTWICK London* IV. 179 The drink is supplied by two **beer-brewers*. a. 1608 F. GREVILLE *Sidney* (1652) 24 The Burgesses of that **beer-brewing town* [Delft]. 1598 *MARSTON Pygmal.* ii. 147 From Belgia what? but their deep beezling, Their boote-carouse, and their **Beere-buttering*. 1664 *KILLICREW Parson's Wed.* i. iii. By the way of a country-gentleman and a **beer-drinker*. 1829 *CARLYLE Chartism* iii. 121 A bounty on unthrift. . . and **beer-drinking*. 1622 *MALYNES Anc. Law-Merch.* 321 **Beere-mongers*, Inne-keepers and Tapsters. b. 1851 *KINGSLY Yeast* xiii. 238 Afraid of the jealousy of some **beer-bemuddled* swain.

c. 1648 *HERRICK Hesper.* II. 176 He Must not vary, From **beer-broth* at all. 1842 *MRS. GORE Fascin.* 109 Having eaten a slice of cold venison, with a basin of **beer-posset*. 1857 *ELIZA ACTON Eng. Bread-Bk.* II. § 3. 121 For two pounds of flour half an ounce . . . of **beer-yeast* is used.

d. 1602 *SHAKS. Ham.* v. i. 235 Why of that Lome might they not stopp a **Beer barrel*? 1773 *GOLDSM. Stoops to Cong.* iv. Unless you'd have the poor devil soused in a **beer-barrel*. 1865 *BARING-GOULD Werrulvres* v. 54 They burst into the **beer-cellars*. 1661 S. PARTIDGE *Double Sc. Proport.* 68 To know how many Ale or **Beer-gallons* are in it, divide 24839, 56 the content in inches. 1848 *KINGSLY Saint's Trag.* i. ii. 44 Poor men give them [priests] Their power at the Church and take it back at the **beer-shop*. 1837 *CARLYLE Fr. Rev.* II. vi. vi. 356 Thou laggard sonorous **Beer-vat* [Santerre] . . . is it time now to paker?

4. Special combinations: † *beer-bombard*, a large can or vessel for holding beer; *beer-chiller*, a funnel-shaped pot made of tin, used to warm, or 'take off the chill' of beer over the fire; *beer-cooler*, a large shallow vat for cooling beer; *beer-corn*, grain used for brewing; *beer-engine*, a machine for drawing or pumping up beer from the casks to the bar; *beer-faucet*, a machine for injecting air into flat beer to make it foam; *beer-float*, a hydrometer for ascertaining the density of beer-wash; *beer-fountain* (= *beer-engine*); *beer-garden*, a garden attached to an inn for the consumption of beer; *beer-glass*, a glass holding half a pint; a tumbler; *beer-heading*, a mixture intended to revive flat beer; † *beer-horse*, a brewer's horse; *beer-house*, a house licensed for the sale of beer, but not of spirits; *beer-machine* (= *beer-engine*); *beer-money*, an allowance of money to servants, instead of beer; *beer-pot*, now a pewter vessel holding a quart or a pint, formerly probably made of wooden staves, and hooped; *beer-pull*, the handle of a beer-engine; *beer-pump* (= *beer-engine*); *beer-tray*, a tray fitted with two upright ends, and an upright division from one to the other, so as to hold two rows of beer pots; *beer-vinegar*, vinegar made from beer (cf. **BEEREGAR**).

a. 1652 *BROME Jov. Crew* I. 362 We have unloaden the Bread-basket, and the Beef-kettle, and the **Beer-Bumbards*. 1836 *DICKENS Sk. Bos* (1850) 145/2 Until . . . the little **beer-chiller* on the fire, had started into life. 1594 *PLAT Jewell-ho.* I. 15 A due proportion between the mault and other **beer-corn*. 1823 J. BADCOCK *Dom. Amusem.* 78 Pliable composition tube, employed by the makers of **beer engines*. 1884 *Harper's Mag.* Jan. 189/1 The bowling-ally is . . . an adjunct of what is known as a **beer garden*. 1594 *PLAT Jewell-ho.* III. 36 The aptest glasses. . . were straight upright ones, like to our long **beere glasses*. 1707 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 4391/3 A Silver cup. the Form of a **Beer-Glass*. 1562 J. HEYWOOD *Prov. & Epigr.* (1867) 178 The butler and the **beere horse* both be like one. They drawe beere both. 1494 *FABYAN VII.* 658 The Kentysshemen. . . robbid and spoyled the Flemynge, and all the **bere-howes*. 1864 *Derby Merc.* 7 Dec. A **beer-house* keeper. . . had been convicted of selling beer during the prohibited hour on Sunday. 1845 *DISRAELI Sybil* (1863) 90 There is **beer-money* allowed. . . and that makes nearly a shilling per week additional. 1562 J. HEYWOOD *Prov. & Epigr.* (1867) 42 She was made lyke a **beere pot*, or a barrel. 1864 *DICKENS Mut. Fr.* I. vi. 46 Polite **beer-pulls* that made low bows. 1607 *CAPT. SMITH Seaman's Gram.* ii. 9 A **beare Pompe*. 1863 *SMILES Indust. Biogr.* 191 Another popular machine of his is the **beer-pump*, patented in 1797. 1860 *MAYHEW Crim. Prisons* 183 **Beer-trays*—such as the London pot-boys use for the conveyance of the mid-day porter. 1672 *DAVENANT Ballad Wks.* (1673) 339 Sack which like **Beer-Vinegar* looks.

† **Beer** (bīr), sb.2. *Obs. rare*. Also 4 **beere**. [f. **BE** v. + -ER¹.] One who is or exists; sometimes *spec.* the Self-existent, the great I Am.

1328 *WYCLIF Eccles.* xix. 28 Ther is a beere stille [1388 a stille man]. 1507 *GOLDING De Mornay* iii. (1617) 29 He calleth God. . . the Beer—that is to say: Hee who only is or hath being. 1602 *WARNER Alb. Eng.* xvii. lxxviii, The Beer, Cause Divine in all, all Godheads Essence.

Beer, sb.3. *Weaving*. Also 9 **bier**. [The same word as **BIER** 'a means of carrying,' cf. the synonym **PORTER** used in Scotland.] The name given to a (variable) number of ends (interlaced with a cord or cords), into which a warp is divided in the process of warping, in order to facilitate the opening and dividing of the warp, after sizing, while being wound on the beam; it also facilitates the subsequent process of weaving.

1712 J. BEAUMONT *Math. Sleaving Tables* 40 Every weaver should be obliged to run a coarse coloured thread through every forty threads in the breadth of the cloth to mark the beers or scores. 1819 *PRIDDIE Linen Weaver's Assist.* 178 In Manchester and Bolton. . . these biers contain 19, but more frequently 20 splits, or what is termed there dents. 1860 *WHITE Weaving* 277 The hundred splits. . . is nominally divided into five equal portions for the sake of calculation, called porters in Scotland and beers in England. 1880 T. R. ASHENHURST *Use & Abuse of Arithmetic in Textile Calculations* 5 Beers are variable quantities according to the custom of the district.

|| **Beer**, sb.4. *Obs. rare*. [Du.] A mole or pier. 1609 *S'herlogenbosh* 13 The water. . . was stayed with two stone beeres on the Bulworkes, next to the boome.

Beer (bīr), v. [f. **BEER** sb.1.] *intr.* To drink or indulge in beer. (*colloq.* and *humorous*.) 1780-6 *WOLCOTT* (P. Pindar) *Odes R. Acad. Wks.* 1794 I. 105 He surely had been brandying it, or beering. 1824 *MISS MITFORD Village Ser.* II. (1863) 242 A cart and a waggon watering (it would be more correct, perhaps, to say *beering*) at the Rose.

Beer, obs. f. **BEAR** v. and sb.2, **BIEB**, and **BIEB** force, impetus.

Beerd(e), ME. form of **BEARD**.

Beeregar (bī-rīgār). 1 Obs. Also **berhegor**, 6 **beereager**, **beare**, **beareger**, 7 **beeregre**. [f. **BEER** sb.¹ + **egre**, **EAGER** = F. *aigre* sour; after *vinegar*, *alegar*.] Sour beer; vinegar formed by the acetous fermentation of beer.

a 1500 *Manners & Househ. Exp. of Eng.* 456 The master of the schepe hath... vij. galones **berhegor**. 1586 *Bright Melanch.* vi. 29 Of sauces those that be sharpe, as veruice aliger, or beareger, vinegar. 1592-3 *Act 35 Eliz.* xi. § 3 To carrie any Wyne Caske out of this Realme with any Beere or Beereger. 1720 *Stow's Survey* (Strype, 1754) II. v. xv. 324/1 The Flemings bought great quantities... of Beeregre for the cooling of their Ordinance. 1882 *ROGERS Hist. of Agric. Prices* IV. 618 Aleager and beereger... are malt vinegar.

Beerhood (bī-rhūd). rare-1. [f. **BEER** sb.¹ + **-hood**, after *manhood*, etc. Cf. OE. *gebeorscipe* 'beership'.] A beer-drinking class or set.

1865 E. BURRITT *Walk Land's End* 103 All his old beerhood fraternity warned him against such a resolution.

Beeriness. [f. **BEERY** + **-ness**.] colloq. Beery quality or condition. In mod. Dictionaries.

Beerish (bī-rīf), a. [f. **BEER** sb.¹ + **-ish**.] Having the nature or properties of beer; beery.

1694 *WESTMACOTT Script. Herb.* 16 Beerish drink keeps the stomach clean.

Beerishly, adv. [f. **prec.** + **-ly**.] In beerish or beery fashion.

1865 *Spectator* 2 Sept. 980/1 Nothing better than beerishly and boorishly jolly.

Beer-lip, var. form of **BEAR-LEAF**, Obs. a basket.

Beerne, obs. form of **BAIRN**.

Beerocracy (bī-rōkrāsī). [f. **BEER** sb.¹ + **-ocracy**.] one of the numerous burlesques upon *aristocracy*.] A ludicrous or polemical name for: The brewing and beer-selling interest.

1882 *World* 19 Jan. 10/2 The startling mixture of peerage and beerocracy... was absent this time.

Beery (bī-rī), a. [f. **prec.** + **-y**.] Belonging to, or abounding in beer; characterized or influenced by beer; beer-like.

1861 *Geo. Eliot Silas M.* 67 [The kindness] was often of a beery and bungling sort. 1870 *Lowell Among my Bks.* Ser. 1. (1873) 15 The 'first sprightly running' of Dryden's vintage was... a little muddy, if not beery. Mod. An election of the old beery sort.

Bees-antler: see **BES-ANTLER**.

Beesom(e), obs. form of **BESOM**.

Beest, obs. or dial. 2nd sing. pres. of **BE** v.

Beest(e), obs. form of **BEAST**, and **BEST**.

Beest (bīst). [Common Teut., or at least WGer.: OE. *bēost* = OHG. *bīost*, MHG., mod.G. *biest* (masc.), MDu. and mod.Du. *biest* (fem.), MLG. *best*, North Fris. *bjast*, *bjūst*, all in same sense. Of unknown derivation, not found beyond Teutonic.] The first milk drawn from a mammal, especially a cow, after parturition.

c 1000 *ÆLFRIC Gloss.* in Wf. Wülck. 14/36 *Colostrum* beost. — *ibid.* 210/17 *Colostrum*, i.e. *lac novum*, beost nel obestum. 1611 *COTGR.* *Beton*, Beest, the first milke a female gives after the birth of her young one. 1612 (see next). 1688 *R. HOLME Armory* II. ix. 173 Beest, the first Milk after Calving. 1796 *Mrs. GLASSE Cookery* xxi. 520 Pour your hot beest upon it.

Beestings (bīstīnz). Forms: 1 **býsting**, 5 **bestynge**, 6 **blestings**, 7 **beestings**, **beestning**, **beestlings**, 7-8 **beestings**, 7-9 **beastlings**, -ges, 8- **beastings**, 9 *dial.* **beastin**, **biznings**, **beslings**. [OE. **bīestīng*, *býstīng*, as if f. a vb. **bīestian* 'to yield beest', f. *bēost*: see **prec.** Now usually in pl. form, which however is sometimes construed as a (collective) sing.]

1. = preceding.

c 1000 *ÆLFRIC* in Wright *Voc.* 28 *Colostrum*, býsting, pīce meolc. 1483 *Cath. Angl.* 30 A bestynge, *colostrum*. 1574 *Newton Health Mag.* 32 The thicke and curdie Milke... commonly called *Bleestings*, is very dangerous. 1611 *COTGR.* *Colostre*, the first milke, tearmed beest, or beestings. 1615 B. JONSON *Pans' Annivers.* ad fin. Both the beesting of our Goates, and Kine. 1641 *BEST Farm. Bks.* (1856) 11 An ewe is say'd to give beestings three or fourer dayes. 1697 *Dryden Virgil* (1806) II. 14 Who fill'd the pail with beestings of the cow. 1757 *Lisle Husb.* 353 Roman writers on husbandry forbid the colostrum or beestings to be given to the calf. Mod. *Northampton Dial.* We shall have some biznings tomorrow for a custard.

attrib. 1881 *Tennyson North. Cobbler* xx, A beestings-puddin' an' Adam's wine.

2. A disease caused by imbibing beestings. L. *colostratio*. Obs.

1607 *Topsell Four-f. Beasts* 18 It breedeth in their mouthes the Colostracion or Beestings.

Beesting, obs. variant of **BUSTING**.

Bees-wax (bī-zwæks). [f. **BEE** + **WAX**.]

The wax secreted by bees as the material of their combs, and used for various purposes in the arts.

1676 *Moxon Print Lett.* 12 You may rub your Stone over with a little Bees Wax. 1753 *HANWAY Trav.* (1762) I. vii. lxxxviii. 406 They also export beeswax annually to near one thousand shippounds. 1876 *HARLEY Mat. Med.* 793 Bees Wax is secreted by glands on the ventral scales of the bee, whence they collect it.

Beeswax, v. [f. **prec.**] trans. To rub or polish with bees-wax. Hence **Beeswaxed** ppl. a., and **Beeswaxing** vbl. sb.

1836 *DICKENS Sk. Bos* ii. (1879) 7 The table-covers are never taken off except when the leaves are turpentine and bees-waxed. 1873 *MISS BRADDON Str. & Pilgr.* I. ix. 103 A Turkey carpet covered the centre of the floor—a mere island in an ocean of bees-waxed oak. 1876 — *J. Haggard's Dan.* III. 62 The dusting and beeswaxing were duly done.

Beeswing (bī-zwīn). Also **bee's wing**, **bee's-wing**, **bees'-wing**, **bees-wing**. [f. **BEE** + **WING**, from its appearance.] The second crust, consisting of shining filmy scales of tartar, formed in port and some other wines after long keeping; so called from its appearance; *ellipt.*, old wine showing beeswing. Hence **Bees'-winged** a., so old as to show beeswing.

1860 *GEN. P. THOMPSON Audi Alt.* III. cxiv. 44 His richer or more showy neighbour... is curious in 'bee's wing'. 1864 *Tennyson Aymer's P.* 405 Fetched His richest beeswing from a binn reserved. 1880 *BROWNING Dram. Idylls* II. Clive 47 Too much bee's-wing floats my figure! 1873 *F. HALL Mod. Eng.* 32 His port is not presentable, unless bee's-winged.

Beet (bīt). Forms: 1 **béte**, 4-6 **bete**, 5-7 **beete**, 6- **beet**. [OE. *bēte*, ad. L. *bēta*, whence also OHG. *bīzza* (8th c.), MHG. *bīzza*, MLG. and MDu. *bēte*, etc. The plant was of early cultivation, and the name was adopted from Latin into the Teutonic languages, but though common in OE., no further mention of it occurs before c 1400.]

1. A plant or genus of plants (N.O. *Chenopodiaceae*), having, in cultivation, a succulent root much used for food, and also for yielding sugar. There are two species, the Common or Red Beet (*Beta vulgaris*), found wild on the British coasts, and cultivated in several varieties, both as an esculent, and as an ornamental foliage plant, and the White Beet (*B. cicla*), chiefly used in the production of sugar. Formerly almost always spoken of in plural 'beets', like *beans*, *pease*, *greens*, etc.

c 1000 *Sax. Leechd.* II. 226 Pās wyrt sinton. ēad begetra, bēte and mealwe. 1398 *TREVISIA Barth. De P. R.* xvii. xxii. (1495) 616 Men may graffe on a bete stocke as men doon on a Caustocke. a 1400 *Cov. Myst.* 22 Erbyss and gresse, both beetes and brake. c 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 34 Betys herbe, *bēta*. 1551 *TURNER Herbal.* (1568) Fijja, There are two kyndes of Betes, the white bete whyche is called cicula, and blake betes. 1616 *SURFL. & MARKH. Countr. Farm* 173 If you would make choyce of faire beets, chuse rather the white than either the blacke or red. 1713 *tr. Pomet's Hist. Drugs* 47 Leaves, like those of the Beet or Winter-green. 1732 *ARBUTHNOT Rules of Diet* i. 249 Beets, emollient, nutritive, and relaxing. a 1778 *BORLASE in C. Johns Week at Lizard* (1848) 185 One year nothing will grow but mallows, and the next nothing but beets. 1870 *H. MACMILLAN Bible Teach.* v. 100 The wild beet and cabbage still grow on our sea-shores.

2. *Comb. and Attrib.*, as *beet leaves*, -sugar; *beet-grower*, -growing; *BEET-ROOT*. † *Beet-raves* [a. F. *bette-rave* 'beet', lit. 'beet-turnip'], the small red beet.

1719 *LOUDON & WISE Compl. Gard.* 197 Beet-raves, or Beet-Radishes, that is, Red Beets, produce roots for Sallads. 1736 *BAILLY Housh. Dict.* s.v. *Beets*, Beet-raves are made use of to colour wine. 1769 *Mrs. RAFFALD Eng. Housekpr.* (1778) 131 Leave on the bacon and beet leaves. 1823 *R. PHILLIPS Fam. Cycl.* 230 The French... still persevere in manufacturing beet-sugar. 1837 *Ht. MARTINEAU Soc. in Amer.* II. 55 The interest excited by this subject of beet-growing is very strong.

Beet, bete (bīt), v. Obs. exc. *dial.* Forms: 1 **bētan**, **bētan**, 2-5 **beten**, 3-5 **bete**, 5-6 **beete**, 6- *Sc.* **bett**, 8- **beet**; (3 **betten**, 5 **beton**, **bet**, **beethe**, **beytt**). *Pa. t.* **bet**: 1 **bētte**, 2-5 **bette**, 4 **bett**, **bet** (**bete**, **beit**). *Pa. pple.* **bet**; 1 **bēted**, 1-5 **bet**, 3-5 **ibet**, **bett** (4 **bete**, **bette**). [Common Teut.: OE. *bētan*, *bētan*, to make good, make better, amend = Goth. *bōtjan*, OS. *bōtjan*, MDu. *boeten*, MLG. *bōten*, OHG. *buozzen*, MHG. *büezen*, G. *büezen* = OTeut. **bōtjan* to advantage, profit, be of use to, a derivative vb. from *bōt* = good, profit, advantage, in OE. *bōt*, *Boot*, q.v. Now only *Sc.* and north. *dial.*; it became obs. in literary Eng. before 1500, while still spelt *bete*.]

1. To make good, amend, make amends for.

1. *trans.* To make good or better; to mend or repair (things damaged), mend or heal (wounds, sickness), improve (land). Still *dial.*

c 975 *Rushw. Gosp. Matt.* iv. 21 þonan gesægh opre tweezen gebroþer... boetende heora nett [Wyclif, makynge aþein or beetyngne her nettis]. c 1000 *Sax. Leechd.* I. 398 Hu ðu meahst ðine æceras betan. *Ibid.* 116 ðonne bið hit (the wound) sona gebet. c 1200 *Trin. Coll. Hom.* 215 Mine 3eð þat ane niwe cloðes, oðer elde bete. c 1386 *CHAUCER Reves T.* 7 Pipen he koude, and fische, and nettes bete. 1572 *Scot. Poems* 16th C. II. 247 The prouerb is, of palice, kirk, and brig, Better in tyme to bett, nor efter to big. 1808 *JAMIESON Sc. Dict.* (Prov.) Daily wearing neids yearly beeting. [1873 *EARLE Philol.* § 82 The fishermen of Yarmouth have sometimes astonished the learned... by talking of beating their nets (so it sounds) when they mean mending them.]

2. To bring into better state, put right, correct, amend, reform (faults, evil ways, etc.); to make good (misdeeds): a. those of others.

c 950 *Bindist. Gosp. Matt.* xviii. 15 Gif ðec geheres, boetend ðu bist broðeres ðines. a 1000 *ÆLFRIC Deut.* i. 17 Ic hit bete. c 1175 *Lamb. Hom.* (1867) 113 3if he hit [uuel]

betan mei. a 1300 *Cursor M.* 9790 No patriark ne 3eit prophete, Miht be sent adames sine to bete. c 1300 *Harrow. Hall* 229 That thou woldest come to bete The sunnes that Adam thohte suete.

† b. To amend, make good (one's own faults); hence, to repent of, make amends for, expiate, atone for (one's sin). The usual word in early ME.; afterwards superseded by **AMEND**. Obs.

c 897 *K. ÆLFRED Gregory's Past.* 220 Ealle scylda þe wið god beoð ungebetta. c 1200 *Trin. Coll. Hom.* 169 Bute his sunnes him ben ere forgiueene: oðer bette. a 1250 *Moral Ode* 121 in E. E. P. (1862) 29 Hi mihten here sunne beten. *Ibid.* 138 And gunnen here gultes beten, & betere lif leden. c 1300 *Reket* 2417 And wende to the holi lond: here synnes forto bete. c 1325 *Metr. Hom.* (1862) 10 [Jon the Baptist]... taht the folk thair sine to bete.

† c. *absol.* To amend, repent. Obs.

c 1200 *Trin. Coll. Hom.* 223 For þi he [is] wis þe hit and biþet and bet bifore dome. a 1250 *Owl & Night.* 863 Vorthi he mot... Mid teres an mid woþe betet.

3. To relieve hunger, thirst, or any form of want; to supply wants, needs (Sc. *misters*). Hence subst. in comb. *beet-need*, *beet-mister*. *Sc.* and north.

a 1300 *Cursor M.* 3279 Sco þat sal bete me my thirst. 1362 *LANGL. P. Pl. A.* vii. 224 No mon [schal] beete his hunger. 1513 *DOUGLAS Æneis* i. viii. 105 Grantit eik leif wod to hew, and tak Tymmer to beit ayris [= oars] and wther mysteris. 1826 *SCOTT Tales Landl.* IV. 252 (JAM.) She enlarged on the advantage of saving old clothes to be what she called beetmasters to the new. 1823 *Blackw. Mag.* 314 (JAM.) If two or three hunder pounds can beet a mister for you in a strait, ye sanna want it. 1875 *Lancash. Gloss.* (E. D. S.) *Beet-need*, a help that may be had at will.

† b. To relieve, help, aid, assist (a person in need or trouble), to supply the wants of. Obs.

a 1300 *Cursor M.* 9592 And þi pite þat es sa suete Aght þi prisun [= prisoner] o bandes bete. c 1325 *E. E. Allit. P. A.* 756 My makelæx lambe þat al may bete. c 1440 *Gesta Rom.* 86 Reson betith him so ofte tyme as he stonidh ayens þe Synner. c 1450 *HENRYSON Mor. Fab.* 51 Who shall mee bete? who shall my bands break? c 1470 *HENRY Wallace* II. 18 With stuff of houshald streteily he thaim bett.

† c. esp.: To bete one's bale (see **BALE** sb.¹ 6); also to bete one of one's bale (cf. sense 2). Obs.

a 1300 *Cursor M.* 105 Til alloure bale al for to bete. *Ibid.* 14415 Par he... o mani bale þam bete. c 1440 *Epith.* (Turnb. 1843) 223 That was the angell to beton is bale. c 1460 *Lawnfal* 971 Sche myghte me of my balys bete. 1513 *DOUGLAS Æneis* xii. Prolog. 233 To beyt [v. r. bete] thar amouris of thar nychtis bail.

II. To beet a fire.

[The development of this (the chief extant) sense, the antiquity of which is shown, not merely by the OS. *fyr bētan*, but by its existence in the other Teutonic languages (cf. Du. *vuur boeten*, LG. *für böten*, etc.), is somewhat obscure, from the fact that in the earliest instances it appears to mean, not 'to mend a fire,' but as in modern Dutch, 'to make, kindle, put on a fire.' Perhaps this is to be explained by the primitive conditions (which prevailed more or less till the days of phosphorus matches), according to which fire was not generated anew each time it was required, but was usually propagated by a 'glede' from an existing fire, often carried and kept alive for days (cf. Genesis xxii. 6), which was surrounded with combustibles, and 'beeted' into a blaze, when a fire was required.]

4. To make, kindle, put on (a fire). Now *dial.*

c 885 *K. ÆLFRED Oros.* vi. xxxii. Ða het he betan þærinne micel fyr. c 1325 *Seven Sag.* (W.) 2122 The clerkes... bet a fir strong and sterk. c 1325 *E. E. Allit. P.* B. 1012 When bryt brennande bronðez ar bet þer an-vnder. c 1386 *CHAUCER Knts.* T. 1434 Tuo fyres on the auter gan sche beete. 1430 *Cher. Assigne* 157 The goldesmyth gooth & beetheth hym a fyre. a 1500 *Sir Aldingar* 53 in Furniv. *Percy Folio* I. 168 And fayre fyre there shalbe bett. 1513 *DOUGLAS Æneis* vii. Prolog. 127 Bad bett the fyre, and the candill alycht. 1875 *Lancash. Gloss.* (E. D. S.) s.v. *Beet*, Tha mun get up an' beet 't fire to-morn.

5. To mend, make up, keep up, add fuel to, feed (a fire). Still in *Sc.* See also **BOTE**, **FIRE-BOTE**.

1205 *LAV.* 25977 His fur he beten agon. c 1325 *E. E. Allit. P.* B. 627 Quyl I fete sum quat fat pou þe fyr bete. c 1386 *CHAUCER 2nd Nonnes T.* 581 In a bath thay gonne hir faste schetten, And nyght and day greet fyur they under betten. 1810 *TANNAHILL Poems* (1846) 48 The wither'd twigs to beet her fire. 1826 *J. WILSON Noct. Ambr.* Wks. 1855 I. 262 A fire, that they keep beetin wi' planks and spars o' the puir man o' war. 1837 *J. SCHOLLES Jaunt to See Q.* 14 (Lanc. Gloss.) Then aw beetud fire, un rattl' fire-potter ogen't back o'th grate.

b. *fig.* 1784 *BURNS Epist. Davie* viii. It heats me, it beets me And sets me a' on flame! 1787 — *Wks.* III. 179 Or noble Elgin beets the heav'n-ward flame.

Beet, variant of **BEAT**, bundle of flax.

† **Beeter**. Obs. rare-1. [f. **BEET** v. + **-er**.]

1576 *COOPER Lat. Dict.*, *Cereosus*, a beeter or little waxe candle.

Beeth, obs. south. pres. indic. pl. of **BE** v.

† **Beeting**, vbl. sb. Obs. [f. **BEET** v. + **-ing**.]

The action of making good; mending, repair; making (a fire), kindling.

1517 *Churchw. Acc.*, *Heybridge, Essex* (Nichols 1797), 168 Half of betynge lyght agaynst the feste of the Nartyvte of oure Blessed Lady. 1594 *Act Jas. VI.* (1814) IV. 80 (JAM.) The beeting and reparatioun of thair wallis, streitis,

havynnis and portis. a 1615 *Briene Cron. Erlis of Ross*. (1850) 20 The mill decayed in default of beating and holding up of the same. 1808 [see BEET v. 1.]

Beetle (bē'tl), *sb.*¹ Forms: 1 bitel, bital, bytel, 3 beetle, 4 bytylle, 4-6 betel, 5 betyll, bittill, 5-6 betell(e), 6 betill, -yll, betle, beetel(le), 7 boytle, 8-9 dial. beetle, bittile, 6-beetle. [OE. *biel*, in Anglian **bētel*, 'beating implement,' -OEut. **bautilo-z*, f. *bautan*, in OE. *bēatan*, 'to beat' + **-il*, -el, -l, -le, suffix denoting an instrument; cogn. w. MHG. *bēzel* cudgel, LG. *betel*, *bōtel* 'a mall' (*Bremisches Wb.* I. 126). The variant forms in *i* and *e* in middle and mod. Eng. are due to the late WSax. *biel*, *bētel*, and Anglian *bētel* respectively; of the latter the mod. *beetle* is the regular representative. Those like *bittile* show the ordinary shortening of a long vowel before two consonants: thus, the OE. genitive *bittles*, and plur. *bittas*, would naturally give *bittles* in ME. The identification of the form with those of BEETLE *sb.*² has led to confusion in their fig. senses: see sense 2.]

1. An implement consisting of a heavy weight or 'head,' usually of wood, with a handle or stock, used for driving wedges or pegs, ramming down paving stones, or for crushing, bruising, beating, flattening, or smoothing, in various industrial and domestic operations, and having various shapes according to the purpose for which it is used; a mall. *Three-man beetle*: one that requires three men to lift it, used in ramming paving-stones, etc.

c 897 *K. Ælfred Gregory's Past.* xxxvi. 253 Nān monn ne gehierde ne axe hlem ne beetles [Cotton bittles] sweg. a 1000 *Judith* iv. 21 Sēo wifman geslōh mid ānum bytle. a 1225 *Ancr. R.* 188 Per 3e schulen iseon bunsen ham mit tes deofles beetles. a 1400 *Wright's Lat. Stories* 29 (Mätz.) Wyht suyle a betel be he smyten. c 1400 in *Wright Voc.* 180 *Mallus*, bytylle. 1413 *LYDG. Pylgr. Soule* iii. x. (1483) 56 Somme were brayned with beetles and somme beten with staues. c 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 34 Betylle, malleus, malleolus. c 1450 *HOLLAND Houlat*, He could wark wundaris Mak. A lang spere of a bittill. 1530 *PALSGR.* 198/1 Betyll to bete clothes with, battoyr. 1577 *B. GOOGE Heresbach's Hush.* (1586) 39 Then the bundels [of flax]. are beaten with beetles. 1589 *Pappe w. Hatchet* (1844) 7 Make your tongue the wedge, and your head the beetle. 1597 *SHAKS.* 2 *Hen. IV.* i. ii. 255 If I do, fillop me with a three-man-Beetle. a 1666 *FLETCHER Wom. Prize* ii. vi. Have I lived thus long to be knockt o' th' head With half a washing beetle? 1639 *FULLER Holy War* iii. xxiv. (1840) 162 To cleave a tree with a beetle without a wedge. 1791 *HAMILTON Berthollet's Dyeing* I. i. ii. 132 In the fulling mill... it is beaten with large beetles in a trough of water. 1822 *SCOTT Pirate* I. 128 (JAM.), Out of an honest house, or shame fa' me, but I'll take the beetle to you! 1845 *DE QUINCEY Wks.* XII. 73 note, A beetle is that heavy sort of pestle with which paviours drive home the paving-stones... sometimes... fitted up by three handles... for the use of three men.

b. *fig.*
1564 *FOX E. A. & M. I.* 265/1 [King Henry the Second]... the Mall and Beetle of the Church. 1581 *J. BELL Haddon's Answ. Osor.* 278 An... argument such as all y^r Heretiques wedges with all their Beetles and mallees can not beat abroad. c 1666 *Dick of Devon* iv. i. in *Old Pl.* (1883) II. 61 Now the Beetle of my head beates it into my memory. 1674 *FLATMAN To Austin* 41 The Beetles of our Rhimes shall drive full fast in The wedges of your worth.

c. *Phrase. Between the beetle and the block.*
[1541 *Act 33 Hen. VIII.* xii. § 18 The sericant... shall bring to the said place of execution a blocke with a betill, a staple, and cordes to binde the saide hande.] 1589 *R. HARVEY Pl. Perc.*, Thou must come to Knokham faire, and what betwene the block and the beetle, be thumped like a stock-fish. 1613 *HAYWARD Norm. Kings* 274 Earle William being thus set, as it were, betwene the beetle and the blocke, was nothing dejected.

2. Used as the type of heavy dullness or stupidity. The phrase *deaf, or dumb as a beetle*, probably belongs here; but cf. BEETLE *sb.*² 3.

1520 *WHITTINTON Vulg.* (1527) 2 Tendre wyttes... be made as dull as a betell. 1566 *KNOX Hist. Ref. Wks.* (1846) I. 164 That dolt had not a worde to say for him self, but was as doume as a bitle in that mater. 1643 *ROGERS Naaman* 4 Our faculty to understand is still left... we are not meere blockes and beetles. 1867 *N. & Q. Ser.* iii. XI. 106/2 'As deaf as a beetle' no doubt refers to this wooden instrument.

3. *Comb.*, as beetle-fish, -man, -stock (i.e. handle); beetle-beaten adj.; also as contemptuous epithets (from sense 2), beetle-brain, -head (cf. block head), whence beetle-headed adj.; also beetle-head, the 'monkey' of a pile-driving engine.

1654 *GAYTON Fest. Notes* iii. ii. 76 As if she had been *beetle-beaten to be laid in a pastry. a 1604 *CHURCHYARD in Nichols Progr. Q. Eliz.* III. 239 *Beetle-braines cannot conceive things right. 1783 *AINSWORTH Lat. Dict.* (Morell) 1. The *beetle fish, *cantharus piscis*. 1577 *BRETTON in Heliconia* I. 7 Because that *Beetle-heads doo serve for such instructions fit. 1617 *COLLINS Def. Bp. Ely* i. i. 54 The more to condemne the blindness of this *beetle-head. 1656 *EARL MONN. Advt. fr. Parnass.* 425 Had returned some brains into the *beetle-heads of those Frenchmen. 1553-87 *FOX E. A. & M.* (1596) 171/2 Learne, learne, yee *beetle headed Asses. 1596 *SHAKS. Tam. Shr.* iv. i. 161 A horson *beetle-headed flap-eard knave. 1870 *Daily News* 30 Nov., To persuade the conscientious but *beetle-headed monarch. 1587 *FLEMING Cont. Holinshed* III. 1544/2 The... *beetlemen... who served to beat or drive the fleeth to the sides of the wals. 1591 *SPENSER M. Hubberd* 507 To crouche to please, to be a *beetle stock

Of thy great Masters will. 1826 *C. JAMES Mil. Dict.*, *Beetlestock, the stock or handle of a beetle.

Beetle (bē'tl), *sb.*² Forms: 1 bitula, bitela, 1 betel; 5 bityl, bytylle; betylle, 6 betel, -ell, -yll, betle, bettill, -le; bitle, bytell, bittill, byttill, -el, -all; 6-beetle. [OE. *bitula*, *bitela* (the sense of which is established by the glosses quoted) is app. a sb. formed on an adj. **bitul*, *bitol*, biting, mordax (in early ME. BITEL, q.v.), f. *bitan* to BITE; cf. the gloss 'mordiculus' (little biter), which occurs in a list *De Nominibus Insectorum* in Wülcker *Voc.* 122. As in similar OE. derivatives the *i* was certainly short; thence the ME. *bityl*, 16th c. *bittill*, and mod. dial. *bittle*. The form *betyl*, pointing to a nom. *betel*, has not been etymologically explained, but it may, if genuine, be the source of ME. *betylle*, 16th c. *betel*, mod. *beetle*, though the latter may also be from the normal *bitela*, with the vowel lengthened, as in *evil* from OE. *yfel*, *weevil* from OE. *wifel* (OHG. *wibil*), *Sc. meikle* from OE. *mycil*, dial. *leete* from *litle*, etc. The later forms are confused with those of BEETLE *sb.*¹, whence also confusion in their fig. use: see sense 3.]

1. The class name for insects of the coleopterous order, having the upper pair of wings converted into hard sheaths or wing-cases (elytra) that close over the back, and protect the lower or true wings, which most species are able to use in flight.

a 800 *Epinal, Erfurt & Corpus Glosses* (Sweet O. E. T. 44, 45) *Blattis*, *blatis*, bitulum, a 1000 *Harl. Gl.* in Wülcker *Voc.* 196 *Blatis*, bitulum. c 1000 *ÆLFRED Voc.* (ibid.) 122 *Mordiculus*, *bitela*. [Also c 1050 *ibid.* 448; and 456 *Nigro colore*, ha blacan betlas]. c 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 37 Bytylle worme [v.r. bityl wyme]. *subscus*. c 1450 in *Wright Voc.* 255 *Hic carembis*, a betylle. 1552 *HULOET*, Bettill or byttill vermine, *scarabæus*. 1570 *LEVINUS Manih.* 124 A bittill *flee*, *scarabæus*. 1581 *J. BELL Haddon's Answ. Osor.* 208 An other compereth a Byttell with an Eggle. 1603 *SHAKS. Meas. for M.* iii. i. 79 The poore Beetle that we treade vpon. 1653 *WALTON Angler* 54 A Bob which... in time will be a Beetle. 1765 *TUCKER Lt. Nat.* I. 640 The beetle, whose characteristic is stupidity and unwieldiness of limbs, beats himself down against a tree, or overturns himself in crawling, and lies sprawling upon his back. 1852 *T. HARRIS Insects New Eng.* 20 Beetles are biting-insects, and are provided with two pairs of jaws moving sidewise.

2. In popular use applied especially to those of black colour, and comparatively large size; hence many coleopterous insects of different appearance, as the glow-worm, lady-birds, death-ticks, etc. are usually excluded, and other insects included under the name; among the latter are the **Black-beetle** or **COCKROACH** (q.v.), which is not a beetle.

c 1050 [see 1.] 1530 *PALSGR.* 198/1 Beetle, a blacke flye. 1552 *HULOET*, Byttell, flye with a blacke huske. 1590 *SHAKS. Mids. N.* ii. 12 Beetles blacke approach not neere. 1864 *Realm* 16 Mar. 8 Tosses is thrust into a cupboard among the blackbeetles. 1878 *BLACK Green Past.* xvi. 132 They were at all events human beings... not black-beetles.

3. Taken as a type of blindness: see quot. 1747. (*As dumb, as deaf as a beetle*, see BEETLE *sb.*¹ 2.) 1548 *UDALL, etc. Erasm. Par. Mark* i. 5 Jerusalem... albeit she were in very dede as blynde as a betell. 1579 *TOMSON Calvin's Serm. Tim.* 471/2 Wee cease not to bee brute beasts, as blind as beetles. 1747 *BAKER in Phil. Trans.* XLIV. 581 They frequently dash themselves against People's Faces with great Violence, and by their so doing occasioned the common Proverb, *As blind as a Beetle*.

4. Hence *fig.* An intellectually blind person. 1579 *TOMSON Calvin's Serm. Tim.* 931/2 They that had charge to guyde other, were poore blinde beetles themselves. 1692 *WASHINGTON tr. Milton's Def. Pop.* v. (1851) 132 They... confute such a Beetle as you are. 1765 *TUCKER Lt. Nat.* I. 475 A blockhead, yea a numskull, not to say a beetle.

† b. *attrib.* or as *adj.* **Blind-beetledness** *sb.*, the quality of being mentally blind as a beetle. Cf. also beetle-head in BEETLE *sb.*¹ 3.

1566 *STAPLETON Ret. Untr. Jewell* iii. 91 With such Beetle arguments as you make. *Ibid.* iv. 184 Pewish absur-dite or blinde beetle ignorance. 1649 *LIGHTFOOT Battle Wasp's Nest* Wks. (1825) I. 389 If you must shame anybody for blind beetleedness, it must be Mr. Heming.

5. *Comb.*, as beetle-blind, -eyed, -grub; † beetle-wig (*obs.*), an ear-wig.

1556 *J. HERWOOD Spider & F.* xix, Thou nor no fie is so beetle-blind. 1594 *T. B. La Primaud. Fr. Acad.* II. To Rdr., These beetle-eyed atheists may as well be deprived of their bodily eyes. 1595 *WIDOWES Treas.* Cii b, A medicine for to get the Beetelwigges out of a mans eare. 1617 *COLLINS Def. Bp. Ely* To Rdr. 14 Hee was starke beetle-blind at broad noone day. 1884 *Littell's Living Age* 686 To get beetle-grubs out of the ground.

Beetle (bē'tl), *1a.* in Beetle brows, beetle-browed. Forms: 4 bitel, bytel, 1 betyl, bittill, 6 beetell, -ill, -yll, 7 betle, bittle, 6-beetle. [Found first in the *comb. beetle-browed* (1532); much later (1532), beetle is treated as a separate word in beetle brow(s); whence a derived verb to BEETLE (see next) formed by Shakspeare.

(As the 14-15th c. form had *bitel*, *bytel*, it has been proposed to identify it with BITEL a. 'biting, cutting like a sharp-edged tool,' used by Ormin and Layamon, which is phonetically possible; but, beside the hardly satisfactory sense, there is the difficulty that *bitel* appears to have been obsolete for 160 years when the first example of *bitel*-

browed occurs. It is more likely that the word here is one of the two sbs. BEETLE, both extant in 14th c., and both having the form *bitel*. The choice depends largely upon the exact meaning originally attached to 'beetle-browed,' which was a reproachful epithet, and appears to have referred to the shaggy prominence of the eye-brows. (*Brow* in ME. was always = eyebrow, not = forehead.) It is probable therefore (as suggested by Dr. F. Chance) that the comparison is to the short tufted antennæ of some species of beetles, projecting at right angles to the head, which may have been called 'eyebrows' in Eng. as well as in Fr.; for in French the expression *sourcils de hanneton* 'cockchafers' eyebrows' is the name given to a species of fringe made in imitation of the antennæ of these insects.)]

1. **Beetle-browed**: 'Having prominent brows,' Johnson; 'having black and long eye-brows,' Bailey (1782); with earlier authorities 'Having shaggy, bushy, or prominent eye-brows'; see esp. quot. 1400, 1591. Dr. Johnson's explanation probably owes something to the sense attached to BEETLE *v.*¹ Almost always reproachful, and sometimes in 17th c. simply = Lowering, scowling, sullen, surly. Cf. *supercilious* f. L. *supercilium* 'eyebrow.'

1362 *LANGL. P. Pl. A. v.* 109 He was bitel-browed with twei blered eigen [v. r. He was bitel-browd & habirlipped, also biter-, bitter-browid. B. v. 190 bitelbrowed and babirlipped also, With two blered eyghen, as a blynde hagge; v. r. bytter browid. C. vii. 198 bytelbrowed; v. r. bittur-browed.] c 1400 *Destr. Troy* viii. 3824 Grete ene and gray, with a grym lōke... Bytell browet was the buerne, þat aboute met. c 1450 *York Myst.*, Cutlers Qij b, Say bittilbrowed bribour! 1502 *J. HEYWOOD Prov. & Epigr.* (1867) 42 A crooked hooked nose, beetyll browde. 1591 *PERCIVALL Sp. Dict.*, *Cejunto*, beetle browed, *torvus* [1623 *Cejunto*, that hath bushy eye-brows, beetle-browed, or the haire of the eye-brows meeting]. 1591 *HARINGTON Ort. Fur.* xliii, cxviii. (1634) 368 All blablip, beetle-browd, and bottle-nosed. 1621 *COTGR.*, Beetle-browed, *sourcilieux*.—*Sourcilieux*, having very great eye brows, frowning, or looking sowerly; surly or proud of countenance. c 1645 *HOWELL Lett.* (1650) I. 355 A beetle-browed sullen face. 1755 *SMOLLETT Quix.* (1803) I. 126 Beetlebrow'd, flat-nosed, blind of one eye. 1840 *BARHAM Ingol. Leg.* 231 A beetle-browed hag With a knife and a bag.

b. *fig. or transf.*
1651 *J. CLEVELAND* 30 The Sun wears Midnight, day is beetle-brow'd. 1837 *HAWTHORNE Twice-told T.* (1851) II. xii. 174 One of those... wooden houses... with a beetle-browed second story projecting over the foundation. 1865 *Cornh. Mag.* XI. 157 Jealous loopholes or beetle-browed machicolations.

2. **Beetle** (qualifying brows). 1532 *MORE Confut. Tindale Wks.* (1557) 398/1 Tindall... so long pryed vpon them with beetle brows and his brittle spectacles of pride and malice. 1552 *J. HEYWOOD Prov. & Epigr.* (1867) 115, I rather would a husband wed With a beetill brow, than with a beetell hed. 1596 *SPENSER F. Q.* II. ix. 52 Bent hollow beetle brows. 1600 *FAIRFAX Tasso* x. xxii. 182 His beetle browses the Turke amazed bent. 1723 *Long. Gas. No.* 5157/4 Lost... a. Nag... very stout grown, a bittle Brow. 1827 *CARLYLE Fr. Rev.* (1857) I. i. iv. 108 Through whose shaggy beetle brows... there look[s]... fire of genius.

b. Of the brow or ridge of a mountain, as projecting, or perhaps as tree-clad. Cf. L. *supercilium* 'eyebrow,' also 'brow or ridge of a mountain.'

1580 *SIDNEY Arcadia* (1622) 35 A pleasant valley of either side of which high hills lifted vp their beetle-brows, as if they would ouer looke the pleasantnesse of their vnder prospect. 1601 *WEEVER Myrr. Mart.* E vij, Tree-garnish Cambrises loftie mountaines Did ouer-shade me with their beetle browses.

† (Confused with BEETLE *sb.*¹) 1553-87 *FOX E. A. & M.* III. 140 Then my Lord said 'Thou art an ignorant Beetle-brow.'

Beetle (bē'tl), *v.*¹ [f. BEETLE a. 2 b. Apparently used as a nonce-word by Shakspeare, from whom it has been taken by later writers.]

1. *intr.* To 'lift up beetle brows' (Sidney), look with beetle brows, scowl; taken by modern writers as simply 'to project, overhang'; but probably used by Shakspeare with some reference to eyebrows.

1602 *SHAKS. Ham.* i. iv. 71 The dreadful summit of the Cliffe, That beetles o'er his base into the Sea. 1798 *J. HUCKS Poems* 82 The bleak cliffs shaggy steep, That beetles o'er the hoarse resounding deep. 1814 *SCOTT Lady of L.* II. xxxi, The verge which beetled o'er The ocean. 1824 *W. IRVING T. Trav.* II. 107 The rocks often beetled over the road.

2. *fig.* To hang threateningly. 1859 *MÉRIVALE Rom. Emp.* (1865) VII. lvi. 87 This double invasion... was... beetling on the summits of the Alps. 1870 *EMERSON Soc. & Solit.* iv. 75 The justice of states, which we could well enough see beetling over his head.

Beetle (bē'tl), *v.*²; also (Sc.) bittle. [f. BEETLE *sb.*¹] *trans.* To beat with a beetle, in order to thresh, crush, or flatten; also, *techn.*, to emboss fabrics by pressure from figured rollers.

1608 in *N. Riding Or. Sessions Rec.* (1884) I. 136 Betling... & stretching three webbes of lynnyn cloth, etc. 1706 *MARY LEADBEATER in Leadb. Papers* I. 52 The bleach green for the clothes, the large stone to beetle them on. 1745 *tr. Columella's Husb.* xii. xix, Raw Spanish broom, that is, which has not been beetled. 1815 *SCOTT Guy R.* xxiv, Bleached on the bonny white gowans, and bittled by Nelly and herself. 1863 *SMILES Industr. Biog.* 270 Patents for... weaving, beetling, and mangling fabrics of various sorts.

Beetle, *obs. form of BETEL.*

Beetled, a. = BEETLE a. 2. 1509 *HAWES Past. Pleas.* xxix. ii. 135 His head was greate,

beteled was his browes. 1838 LYTON *Eugene A.* iv. ix. The frowning and beetleed ruins of the shattered castle.

Beetledness: see **BEETLE** *sb.* 2, 4 b.

Beetler (bē'tlā). [*f.* **BEETLE** *v.* 2 + **ER** 1.] One who beetle (cloth, etc.).

1885 *Manch. Guard*. 16 May 1 (*Adv.*) To Bleachers, Dyers, Finishers, Beetlers, etc.

Beetling (bē'tlīng), *vbl. sb.* [*f.* as prec. + **ING** 1.] Beating with a beetle; embossing fabrics with a beetle-machine.

1859 *Edin. Rev.* CIX. 302 The care of the crop... the steeping, beetleing, and dressing. 1859 *SMILES Self-Help* 33 The beetleing and mangling of textile fabrics.

Beetling, *ppl. a.* [*f.* **BEETLE** *v.* 1 + **ING** 2.] Projecting, overhanging.

1798 THOMSON *Spring*. The hawk High in the beetleing cliff his airy builds. 1809 W. IRVING *Knickerbocker*. (1861) 197 From the beetleing brow of some precipice. 1840 DICKENS *Barn. Rudge* xxxvi. His beetleing brow almost obscured his eyes.

Beet-root (bē'trūt), *vbl. sb.* The root of the beet; also *attrib.*, as in *beetroot sugar*. **Beetrooty** *a. colloq.*, of the nature or appearance of beet-root.

1579 LANGHAM *Gard. Health* (1633) 66 Strake a little salt on a Beete roote, and put it into the fundament. 1834 Ht. MARTINEAU *Hist. Peace* (1877) III. v. xl. 405 The beet-root sugar of France supplied one-third of the national consumption. 1844 DICKENS *Amer. Notes* (1850) 109/1 Those who fancy slices of beet-root. 1859 *All Y. Round* No. 35. 198 The smallest boy, with the whitest face, the most beetrooty nose... ever seen.

Beever (bēvz). Pl. of **BEEF** (q.v.); now usually poetic for 'oxen, cattle.'

Beezel, variant of **BEZZLE**.

Befall (bē'fāl), *v.*; also 2-5 bi-, by-, 2-4 be-, bivalle, 6- befall. Pa. t. befell (2-fel). Pa. pple. befallen. Variant forms generally as in **FALL**. [*OE.* *bef(e)all-an* *f.* **BE** + *f(e)allan* to fall; = **OS.**, **OHG.** *bifallan*, mod.G. *befallen*.]

1. *intr.* To fall. (Chiefly fig.) *Obs.*
c 897 K. ALFRED *Past. Ca.* xl. (Bosw.), Hie oft befeallað on micel yfel. c 1000 *Ag. Gosp. Matt.* x. 29 An of ðam ne befyb on eorþan. c 1160 *Harlow* *ibid.*, Ne befað on eorðen. c 1200 *Trin. Coll. Hom.* 73 þe sinfulle man beoð bifallen on depe sinne. 1470 HARDING *Chron.* Pref. 2 If that he were in suche a jupertee Of werre by falle. 1649 SELDEN *Laws Eng.* i. lxvii. (1739) 177 Many mens cases befele not directly within the Letter of the Law.

2. To fall to as one's share or right; to pertain, belong; be fitting. Also *impers. arch.*

c 1175 *Lamb. Hom.* 161 Mest al þet ich habbe idon bi-fealt to child-hade. c 1305 *St. Lucy* 170 in *E. E. P.* (1862) 106 þe reissouns were alle iseid þat bifulle þerto. 1393 *Langl. P.* Pl. C. ii. 48 'Reddite Cæsari,' seide god, 'þat wito cesar by-falleþ.' c 1460 *Towneley Myst.* 209 Sirs, a kyng he hym cald. Therfor a crowne hym befa. 1649 SELDEN *Laws Eng.* i. xlii. (1739) 23 It now befalls to touch upon the manner of the Government of the Church. 1850 NEALE *Med. Hymns* 197 Giving to the dearer ones What to each befalleth.

3. To fall to (as an inheritance). *Obs.*
a 1617 *Bayne On Eph.* (1658) 131 Goodly Lands, which in likelihood will befall him. 1704 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 4049/4 He is desired to return... he having an Estate befallen him.

4. To fall out in the course of events, to happen, occur: *a. simply. arch.*

a 1300 *Sarman* 57 in *E. E. P.* (1862) 7 þe mest ioi þat mal befa. c 1400 *Antur* *Arth.* iv. This ferli be-felle in Ingulwid forest. 1533 DOUGLAS *Æneis* ix. i. 48, I sal persew, and follow quhat befa. 1610 HEALEY *St. August.* *City of God* 126 The Eclipse which befall at our Saviours death was quite against the regular course of the stars. 1765 TUCKER *LA. Nat.* i. 372 There are seldom any events befalling... which concern no more than a single person. 1854 THACKERAY *Newcomes* xx, Ethel's birthday befele in the Spring.

b. with indirect obj. (dative). The most frequent modern use.

1297 R. GLOUC. 556 Ac after þulke time... Lute god cas him biuel. 1477 EARL RIVERS (Caxton) *Dietes* 91 They knowe not what good may befall them thereby. 1597 *Hooker Eccl. Pol.* v. xxxix. § 4 Wks. 1841 I. 553 Heavy accidents which befall men in this... life. 1611 *Bible Gen.* xlii. 4 Lest peradventure mischief befall him. 1709 STEELE *Tatler* No. 128 ¶ 6 The most deplorable misfortune that possibly can befall a Woman. 1858 J. MARTINEAU *Stud. Chr.* 90 The disaster which then befele the human race.

c. with *to*, *unto*, or *upon. arch.*
a 1295 *Ancr. R.* 344 Swuche openliche sunnen þet to alle men biuallē. 1563 GOLDING *Calvin on Deut.* xvii. 97 If this befall to Moses. 1667 MILTON *P. L.* vii. 43 What befele in Heaven To those Apostates. 1814 CARY *Dante's Inf.* xxiii. 5 What fate unto the mouse and frog befele.

d. *impers.*, or with subject *it* representing a clause.

c 1175 *Cott. Hom.* 231 þa be-fel hit swa þat hym a þance befele. 1250 *LAY.* 27135 Luper him bifalle was. c 1386 CHAUCER *Prolog.* 18 Byfel that, in that sesoun on a day, In Southwerk at the Tabbard as I lay, etc. 1393 *Langl. P. Pl. C.* i. 7 On Maluerne hulles Me byfel for to slepe. 1483 CAXTON *G. de la Tour Dvi.* As in like wise bifelle to Eue that touchid of the fruyt. 1590 SHAKS. *Com. Err.* v. i. 208 So befall my soule, As this is false. 1667 MILTON *P. L.* ix. 1185 Thus it shall befall Him who... Lets her Will rule. 1857 KINGSLEY *Two Y. Ago* (1877) 54 And so it befele that they often quarrelled and wrangled.

5. In phrases: *Fair befall, foul befall. Obs.*
1377 *Langl. P. Pl. B. v.* 59 þat feire hem bifalle þat suweh my sermon. c 1460 *Towneley Myst.* 33 Fayre myght the befa. a 1550 *Y. Bow & Person* 67 in *Harl. E. P.* P. IV. 9 Then myght he laye him, so fowle befa. 1588 SHAKS. *L. L. II.* i. 124 Now faire befall your maske.

6. To fall in one's way, happen to be, turn up, occur. *Obs.*

1591 SPENSER *Virgil's Gnat.* ix, To feede abroad, where pasture best befalls.

7. a. with *compl.* To become as it were by chance, to grow. *Obs.*

1590 WYVLEY *Armorie* 146 Passing darke it was befa. b. To become of. *Obs.*

1470-85 MALORY *Arthur* (1816) II. 125 Needs must I revenge my lord, and so will I whatsoever befall of me. a 1500 *Myrr. Our Ladye* 320 Though they be roten or brente, or what euer befall of them. 1590 SHAKS. *Com. Err.* i. i. 124 To dilate What haue befall of them and they till now.

7. 1. To surround. *Obs. rare.*
1205 *LAY.* 25736 Uppen ane hulle Mid sæe ulode bi uallen (1250 mid see ðode bifalle).

2. **Befall**, *sb.* *Obs.*; also *befalle*, *byfalle*. [*f.* prec.] A case, circumstance, incident, accident.

1491 CAXTON *Vitas Patr.* (W. de W. 1495) 150 Or he had tolde al his befall. *Ibid.* i. cxx. 141 b, He sholde enquire ferder of the trowth of the befall.

Befalling (bē'fālīng), *vbl. sb.*; also *bifallynge*. [*f.* **BEFALL** *v.* + **ING** 1.] Happening, occurrence; *concr.* occurrence, chance, event.

c 1374 CHAUCER *Troilus* iv. 990 It bihoveth, that the bifallynge Of thynges... Be necessarie. 1388 WYCLIF *Wisd.* viii. 8 The bifallyngis of tymes and of worldis. 1839 *Fr. Kemble Rec. Later Life* i. 218 These and other befallings may serve for talking matter.

3. **Befalling**, *ppl. a.* *Obs.* [*f.* as prec. + **ING** 2.] Appertaining, appropriate, fitting.

1544 UDALL *Erasm. Aepoph.* 215 a, Bountie and largesse is befalling for kynnes.

Befan, *befat*, *befavour*, *befathered*: see **BE**.

4. **Befate**, *v.* *Obs.* Only in pa. pple. *befated*. [*f.* **BE** + **FATE** *sb.* (or *v.*)] Fatally possessed, in-fated (by his destiny). Cf. **SC. FEY**.

a 1659 OSBORN *Essex's Death* Wks. (1673) 668 If he had not been befated with a strong Opinion of success.

Befe, *befe* (e), *obs. forms* of **BEF**.

Befeather (bē'feðə), *v.* [*f.* **BE** + **FEATHER** *sb.*] *trans.* To deck with feathers. Hence *Befeathered* *ppl. a.*

1611 COTGR., *Emplumer*... befeather... to dresse with feathers. 1623 QUARLES *Emblems* III. i. 33 (D.) Her dove-befeathered prison. c 1850 *tr. V. Hugo's Hunchback* i. l. 1 Some bedizened and befeathered embassy.

Befetter, etc.: see **BE** - *pref.*

5. **Beff**, *sb.* *Sc. Obs.* [*f.* **BEFT** *v.*, and **BAFF** *sb.*] A blow, buffet.

1768 BEATTIE in *Ross' Helenore* vi, With beffs and flegs, Bumbas' d and dizzie.

6. **Beff** *v.*: see **BEFT**.

7. **Befie**, *v.* *Obs. rare* - 1. 1 To defy; or to say *fit* to.

1589 *Hayany Work* 48 Ile befie em that will say so of me.

8. **Befight**, *v.* *Obs.* [*f.* **BE** + **OE. feohtan**, ME. *fight*: cf. **MHG.** *beuehten*. The **OE.** and ME. uses seem to be unconnected.]

1. *trans.* To deprive of by fighting. Only in **OE.** c 1000 *Riddles* iv. 32 Feore bihoften.

2. To fight against, do battle with.

1274 CAXTON *Chesse* 87 To fore or he dyd doo assaill hit or befight hit. a 1547 EARL SURREY *Æneid* II. 532 As wrestling windes... Benight themselves.

Hence *Befighting* *vbl. sb.*

1489 CAXTON *Faytes of A. II.* xiv. 116 In fayttes of befightyngis and sawtynges of cytees.

Beflich, *beflich*, *befinger*, etc.: see **BE** - *pref.*

9. **Befile**, *v.* *Obs.* Forms: *Inf.* 1 be-, *bifylan*, 3 *bifulen* (ū), 4 *bifilen*, (*Kentish*) *bevelen*, 6 *befyle*, *befile*. [*OE.* *befylan*, *f.* **BE** + *fylan* to FILE (= **OTeut.** **fylan*, *f.* *ful*, **FOUL**). Afterwards superseded by **BEFOUL**.] *trans.* To make foul or dirty; to defile. Hence *Befiling* *vbl. sb.*

c 1000 *Sax. Leechd.* III. 208 Handa him befyde gesihð weorca unrihta. c 1200 *Ancr. R.* 272 Uorte bifulen hire mid þeate of olde sunnen. 1340 *Ayenb.* 40 Maystres of gyle and of contak and of be-ueylunge. 1530 *FALSGR.* 445/4 You haue befyled your hosen with duste and you haue befoyled your cappe with ashes. 1530 *MORE Confut. Tindale* Wks. (1557) 685/1 Then shall ye see... thys fayre egly byrde foule befile hys nest.

10. **Befind**, *v.* *Obs.* [*ME.*, *f.* **BE** + **OE. findan** to FIND; cf. **OHG.** *bifindan*.]

1. *trans.* To find, discover.

c 1200 *Trin. Coll. Hom.* 47 Hire ferede was bifunden also hie frend hedde. 1413 *LYDG. Pylyer. Soule* v. iii. (1483) 93 The fyrst that was byfound with this vertu.

2. To invent, contrive.

1297 R. GLOUC. 267 Perour he byuonde þat þer were hondredes in eche contreye. *Ibid.* He byuond vorst a quentynde ajen þe Deneyes to anstond.

3. In *passive*, 'To be found' = to be. Cf. **Ger.** *sich befinden*, *F. se trouver*.

c 1200 ORMIN 129 Fort 3ho wass swa bifundenn wif þatt 3ho ne mihte temenn. c 1230 *Halt Meid.* 31 Ne beon ha neauer swa wið fuisse bifunden.

Befit (bē'fit), *v.* [*f.* **BE** + **Fit** *v.*]

1. *trans.* To be suited to, or fit for; to agree with, be in harmony with; to become.

c 1460 FORTESCUE *Abbs. & Lim. Mon.* (1714) 49 That befitith the Kyngs Liberalite. 1598 BARRET *Theor. Warres* iv. l. 93 He ought... to haue a certayne naturall instinct befitting this office. 1610 SHAKS. *Temp.* II. i. 289 They tell the clocke to any businesse that We say befits the houre. 1667 MILTON *P. L.* x. 868 Thou Serpent! that name best Befits thee with him leagu'd. 1748 RICHARDSON *Clarissa* (1811) IV. xii. 70

Let me know, whether she wants anything that befits her case. 1843 PRESCOTT *Mexico* (1850) I. 137 The various duties befitting his princely station.

2. Of moral fitness: To be proper to, or incumbent upon, as a duty or task; to be right for.

1628 SHAKS. *Ham.* i. ii. 2 It us befitted To beare our hearts in greefe. 1647 COWLEY *Mistr.* i. (1669) 21 She came for that, which more befits all Wives, The art of Giving, not of Saving Lives. 1875 B. TAYLOR *Faust* II. iii. 11. 141 At home, be wise as it befits thee there.

3. To fit out with. *Obs.*

1598 BARRET *Theor. Warres* v. ii. 143 A... horse... befitted with a saddle, bridle, etc. 1759 STERNE *Tr. Shandy* I. x, He had... befitted him with just such a bridle and saddle.

Befitting (bē'fitīng), *ppl. a.* [*f.* prec. + **ING** 2.] Fitting, suitable, becoming, due.

1564 HARRINGTON *To Isa. Markham* 8 The lipps [speake] befitting wordes moste kynde. 1875 E. WHITE *Life in Christ* 215 This must be done with a befitting sense of awe.

Befittingly, *adv.* [*f.* prec. + **LY** 2.] In a befitting manner, suitably, becomingly.

1638 EARL PEMBROKE in *Verney Papers* 205 A curassier... befittingly horsed. 1821 BYRON *Sardan.* v. l. 347 They are to deem that I reject their terms, And act befittingly.

4. **Befittingness**, *Obs.* [*f.* as prec. + **NESS**.] The quality of being fitting; appropriateness.

1647 W. BROWNE *Poetaster* II. 9 To discern what the befittingness of her condition permitted.

5. **Beflake**, *v.* *Obs. rare.* [*f.* **BE** + **FLAKE**.] To take off an external layer, to skin in thin flakes.

1649 BLITHR. *Eng. Improv. Impr.* (1652) 234 So to pare off the husk that it [madder] may be... beflaked or flayed that it may all go one way.

Beflannel, *beflap*, *befleek*, *befleet*: see **BE**.

Beflatter (bē'flætə), *v.* [*f.* **BE** + **FLATTER**.] Intensive of **FLATTER**.

1340 *Ayenb.* 60 (Roxb.), Huanne hi yzeþ þet he oþer hy þet hi wylleþ beulateri (v. r. beulyl) habbeþ wel yzed. 1828 SOUTHEY in *Q. Rev.* XXXVIII. 500 Looking to see how far we might be... beflattered and befooled into a departure, etc.

6. **Beflay**, *v.* *Obs.* [*OE.* *beflan*, *f.* **BE** + *flean* to FLAY.] *trans.* To flay, strip.

a 1000 in *Wülker Voc.* 218 *Deglobe, spoliare*, beflaen. 1340 *Ayenb.* 38 Kueade lordes... þet beulazeþ þe poure men. *Ibid.* 218 þo þet be-uleþ þe poure uolk. 1393 GOWER *Conf.* III. 183 Out of his skin he was beflaen All quick.

7. **Beflee**, *v.* *Obs.* [*OE.* *beflon*, *f.* **BE** + *fleon* (pa. t. *fleah* *flugon*, pa. pple. *flogen*) to FLEE, q.v. for forms.] *trans.* To flee from, flee, avoid, shun.

c 1000 *Ag. Ps.* lxi. 6 Ne mæc ic hine ahwer befeon. c 1315 SHOREHAM 36 And the ferste hys that he by-fle Chy-peans of sennes rote.

Beflounce, *befLOUR*, *beflout*, *befuster*: see **BE**.

8. **Beflow**, *v.* *Obs.* [*OE.* *beflowan* *f.* **BE** + *floan* to FLOW, q.v. for forms.] a. To flow by, about, or around. b. To flow all over, overflow.

a 1000 *Wife's Lament* 49 Wine werigmod, wætre beflowen. c 1250 *LAY.* 25738 An oþer hulle was þar heh, þe sæc hine bifloede (1200 bifelled) swiþe neh. 1377 TREVISIA *Hyden* (1865) I. 133 After þat he (Nilus) hap so biflowe and i-watred þe lond... þe water falleþ into þe chanel 23.

9. **Beflower** (bē'flaʊə), *v.* [*f.* **BE** + **FLOWER** *sb.*] *trans.* To cover or deck with, or as with, flowers.

1594 CAREW *Tasso* (1881) 53 She trimmes her selfe and golden-hed Beflowes with Roses culd in Paradize. 1628 HOBBS *Thucyd.* (1822) 99 Their bodies... reddish livid and beflowered with little pimples. 1795 WOLCOTT (P. Pindar) *Pindar.* Wks. 1812 IV. 188 Damask well beflower'd with blue.

10. **Befly**, *v.* *Obs.* [*OE.* *beflogan* *f.* **BE** + *flogan* to FLY, q.v. for forms. (Not separated in ME. from **BEFLEE**, the pa. tenses being identical.)] *trans.*

a. To fly about. b. To fly from, shun, escape.

a 890 K. ALFRED *Beda* III. x, Pa spearcan beflugon on þæs huses hrof. c 1175 *Lamb. Hom.* 169 Wið þet þe mihte hele pine bi-flien and bi-sunien. 1340 *Ayenb.* 77 þe greate filo-sopes þet þise guodes beuloþe.

Hence *Beflying* *vbl. sb.*, shunning, avoiding.

1340 *Ayenb.* 121 Be þe beuilyng of kueade.

11. **Befoam** (bē'fəʊm), *v.* [*f.* **BE** + **FOAM** *sb.*] *trans.* To cover with foam.

a 1618 SYLVESTER *Handy-Cr.* Wks. 463 Th' angry Steed... Befoams the path. 1697 DRYDEN *Ovid's Met.* viii. (R.) And part he [the boar] churns and part befoams the ground. 1863 BARNES *Poems Dorset Dial.* 50 The clear brook that did slide... befoam'd white as snow.

12. **Befog** (bē'fɒg), *v.* [*f.* **BE** + **FOG** *sb.*] *trans.* To envelope in fog; fig. to obscure, confuse.

1603 HARSNET *Pop. Impost.* 124 What time that popish mist had befogged the eyes of our poure people. 1850 W. IRVING *Goldsmith* 249 The wine and wassail... befogged his senses. 1879 *Cornh. Mag.* Dec. 695 He befogs the whole matter with a cloud of abuse.

Hence, *Befogged* *ppl. a.*

1601 DENT *Pathw. Heaven* 254 You are altogetther befogd and benighted in this question. 1868 G. MACDONALD *R. Falconer* II. 13 The pale, faintly befogged moon overhead. 1888 *Standard* 6 Oct. 2/1 A benighted or befogged wayfarer.

13. **Befold**, *v.* *Obs.* [*OE.* *befaldan*, *-fealdan*, *f.* **BE** + *f(e)aldan* (pa. t. *feald*, pa. pple. *f(e)alden*) to FOLD.] *trans.* To fold up, wrap up, envelope.

a 1000 *ÆLFRIC Gen.* xxvii. 16 And befold his handa mid þæra tyccena fellum. 1340 *Ayenb.* 8 Zuich wreþe long yhyealde and byuealde ine herte. c 1400 *Le Freine* 172 Therin she leyed the childe, for cold, In the pel as it was bifold.

14. **Befong**, *v.* *Obs.* Forms: 1-3 *befon*, 3 *bifon*, -von; 1-3 *be*-, *bifeng*. Pa. pple. 1-3 *be*-, *bifongen*, 3 *biuonge*. [*OE.* *befun*:-**befa(n)h-*

an (pa. pple. *befangen*), f. Bz- about + **fanhan*, *fōn* to seize, grasp. Corresp. to mod. G. *befangen*, OHG. *pfāhan*, MHG. *befān* to comprehend.]

1. *trans.* To lay hold on, seize, grasp, catch. *a 1000 Cudmon's Gen.* 374 (Gr.) Habbap me helle clommas fæste befangen. *c 1160 Halton Gosp.* Matt. xxii. 15 Hyo wolden panne Hæland on his sprace befō. *1250 LAY.* 830 per Brutus bifenge! al þat him bifore was.

2. *intr.* To take hold on, begin or commence upon. (Cf. Ger. *ansfangen*.)

c 1200 Trin. Coll. Hom. 143 þo þe hadden here sinnes for- leten and bet, oðer þar-on biuouge.

3. *trans.* To encompass, enclose, comprehend.

971 Blickl. Hom. 5 God Fæder Sunu, þone ne mazon befōn heofon and eorþe. *1205 LAY.* 2478 Mid æne bende of golde: ælc hæfde his hæfð biuouge. *a 1225 Ancr. R.* 76 þe Louerd, þat al þe world ne muhte nout biuon.

Befool (bifūl), *v.* In 4-5 before. [f. Bz- 5 + FOOL sb.]

1. *trans.* To make a fool of; to dupe, delude.

1393 Gower Conf. III. 236 Many wise Befooled have hem self er this. *1622 HEVLIN Cosmogr.* III. (1682) 220 Befooling him with as glorious Titles. *1672 H. Stubbs Furth. Vind.* Dutch War App. 81 The old Rumpers were befooled by Cromwell. *1765 Wesley Wks.* (1872) XII. 323 Be temperate in speaking: else Satan will befool you. *1831 CARLYLE Sart. Res.* II. iii. 460 One age he is hagridden, bewitched; the next, priestridden, befooled.

2. To treat as a fool, call 'fool.'

1618 W. SCLATER Sick Souls Salve 33 That rash censuring and befooling others. *a 1617 HERRON Wks.* II. 166 Who is hee, whom Salomon doth so often be-foole in his Prouerbs?

1684 BUNYAN Pilgr. II. 180 They... befooled themselves for setting a Foot out of Doors in that Path. *1864 TENNYSON Aylmer's F.* 590 Being much befooled and idioted By the rough amity of the other.

3. To squander foolishly, 'fool away.' *rare.*

1861 SMILES Engineers I. 468 In this way Sir Thomas seems to have befooled his estate, and it shortly after became the property of the Alsager family.

Hence, **Befooled**, **Befooling** ppl. a.; **Befool- ing** vbl. sb.; **Befoolment** sb.

1677 GILPIN Demonol. (1807) 197 Either of these ways Satan makes use of for the befooling of men. *1681 BAXTER Search Schism.* iii. 44 A transitory befooling dream. *1848 MALL Nonconf.* II. 8 Ah! we are a befooled people. *1881 Pall Mall G.* 14 May 11/2 For the general befoolment of those easy souls.

† **Beforce**, *v.* Obs. *rare.* [f. BE- 2 + FORCE *v.*]

1. *trans.* To force, ravish.

c 1375 ? BARBOUR St. Theodora 556 þe monk Theoderus... me beforsit be his slycht.

2. ? To impose by force, to enforce.

1532 Dice Play (1850) 33 If there be broad laws beforsed aforehand.

Before (bifōr), *adv., prep., and conj.* Forms: 1 bi-, beforen, 2-4 bi-, beforen, 4- before. (Also 3 biuore(n), biforenn, byuore, bifort; 4-5 bi-, byforne, bifor(e), 4-6 byfore, 4-7 beforen(e), 5 befoore, 5-6 Sc. befoir, beforrow, 7 arch. be- foren, biforn, 8 arch. beforen.) [OE. *beforan* (cogn. v. OS. *biforan*, OHG. *bifora*, MHG. *bevor*, also *becorne*, *becorn*), f. bi-, Bz- by, about + *foran* adv. :- OTeut. **forana* from the front, advb. derivative of *fora*, FOR. Cf. also FORA, AFORE, AFTORE, TOFORE. Primarily an adverb; its relation to a sb. was expressed by putting the latter in the dative, 'in front as to a thing,' whence it passed into a preposition (cf. B 2, quot. 971). Elision of a relative particle has given it also the force of an adverbial conjunction e.g. in 'think before (that) you speak.']

A. *adv.* I. Of sequence in space.

1. Of motion: Ahead, in advance, in front.

a 1000 Beowulf 2829 He færa sum beforan gengde wisra monna. *c 1175 Lamb. Hom.* 41 Mihhal eode biforen and behynd. *1420 E. E. Wills* (1882) 53 A habirgoun of Mylen, opyn be-for. *1523 Ld. Berners Froiss.* I. cliii. 183 Bare a starre on his bonet and on his mantell before. *1596 SHAKS. Tam. Shr.* III. ii. 56 His horse... neere leg'd before. *1605 — Mach.* v. viii. 46 Had he his hurts before? *1635 PAGITT Christianogr.* I. ii. (1636) 77 His upper garment... buttoned before. *1722 Lond. Gaz.* No. 6088/3 Has lost a Tooth before. *1855 OWEN Teeth* 302 Counting the molars from before backwards.

fig. *1821 SHELLEY Skylark*, We look before and after, And pine for what is not.

† 3. Before the face of men; openly. *Obs.*

c 1000 Andreas 1212 (Bosw.), Wundor on eorþan he beforan cyþde. *c 1175 Lamb. Hom.* 41 þe þet spekeð faire biforen and false bihind.

† 4. In a position of pre-eminence or superiority to. *Obs.*

1377 LANGL. P. Pl. B. xx. 23 For is no vertue by fer to spiritus temperancie [C. text reads by-for to, to-for, by fer, by fer, be ver, so fair as]. *1382 WYCLIF Gen.* i. 26 Bifore be he [man] to the fishis of the see.

II. Of sequence in time or order.

5. In time previous or anterior to a time in ques- tion, previous to that or to this, earlier, sooner; hence beforehand; already, heretofore, in the past. Often with adverbs or advb. phrases of time, as *long before*, *three years before*, *the week before*, etc.

a 1225 Ancr. R. 240 Vor þi, mine leoue sustren, beoð biuoren iwarre. *1258 Procl. Hen. III.* Also hit is beforen iseid. *1297 R. GLOUC.* 443 Robert... les þat lyf Aboute þre 3er byuore. *a 1300 Cursor M.* 8523 David... spak... O cristes birth sua lang be-for. *1340 Aeneb.* 260 Ase ich habbe be- uore yzed. *1477 EARL RIVERS (Caxton) Dictes* 2 Whyche book I had neuer seen before. *1512 Act 4 Hen. VIII.* xi. Every- thing... byfore rehered. *1513 BRADSHAW St. Werburge* (1848) 38 As our mother sayd to the byfore. *c 1560 A. SCOTT Counsaile Wanton W.* Ye trest to finde thame trest That nevir was beforrow. *1579 SPENSER Sheph. Cal.* May 104 For ought may happen that hath bene beforen. *c 1600 SHAKS. Sonn.* xi. What hast thou then more then thou hadst before? *1610 — Temp.* iii. ii. 2 When the But is out we will drinke water. not a drop before. *1766 GOLDSM. Vic. W.* ix. (1806) 44 The conversation at this time was more reserved than before. *1798 COLERIDGE Anc. Mar.* v. II. 47 The Mariners all return'd to work As silent as beforen. *1848 MACAULAY Hist.* I. 153 Charles the First, eighteen years before, withdrew from his capital.

† b. In Scotch, *Of before* = of aforesaid, formerly.

c 1505 DUNBAR Gold. Targe xxiv, Scho semyt lustiar of chere... Than of before. *1513-75 Diurn. Occurr.* (1833) 109 Sho past a tyllit of befoir to vesie hir sone.

B. *prep.* I. Of sequence in space.

1. Of motion: In advance, ahead of.

c 1000 ÆLFRIC Ex. xiii. 21 And Drihten for beforan him and swutelode him þone weg. *c 1175 Lamb. Hom.* 5 Al þe hebreisce folc þe eode after him and biuoren him. *1388 WYCLIF Ex.* xiii. 21 Forsothe the Lord ȝede bifore hem to schewe the weie. *1436 Test. Ebor.* II. (1851) 75 Fore men berand... torches before my cors. *1506 Pilgr. Perf.* (W. de W. 1531) 4 They gyde... to go before them, and conducte or lead them. *1611 BIBLE Josh.* viii. 10 And Ioshua... went vp; he, and the Elders of Israel, before the people to Ai. *1843 MACAULAY Armada* 20 Behind him march the hal- bardiers; before him sound the drums.

D. Driven in front of, hurried on by; e.g. in the phrase *Before the wind*: said of a ship sailing directly with the wind; also *fig.*

1598 W. PHILLIP Lincolnton's Trav. in Arb. Garner III. 23 We got before the wind to the Cape of Good Hope. *1697 DRYDEN Virg. Georg.* III. 822 Tisiphone... Before her drives Diseases and Affright. *1705 THOMSON Winter* 171 Before the breath of full exerted Heaven they wing their course. *1769 FALCONER Dict. Marine* (1789) *Arriver*, to bear away before the wind. *1853 KINGSLEY Hypatia* xviii. He had been only the leaf before the wind. *1865 DICKENS Mut. Fr.* i. Kept the boat in that direction going before the tide. *Mod.* A man who carries everything before him.

E. Hence, with distinct causal force.

1535 COVERDALE 1 Sam. viii. 33 Smytten before their ene- mies. *1590 SHAKS. Mids. N.* iii. ii. 423 Thou runst before me. *1593 — 2 Hen. VI.* iv. ii. 37 Our enemies shall falle before us. *1599 — Hen. V.* iii. Cho. 3 Downe goes all before them. *1850 Mrs. BROWNING Poems* I. 4 Recoil be- fore that sorrow, if not this sword.

2. Of position or direction: In front of.

971 Blickl. Hom. 15 [He] gehyrd mycelle menigo him be- foran feran. *a 1200 Moral Ode* 44 in E. E. P. (1862) 25 He is buuen vs & bi-nepen... biforen & bi-hinde. *c 1250 Gen. 4 Ex.* 2272 Al ðo brider... fellen bi-for ðat louerd-is fot. *c 1340 Cursor M.* 15023 (Trin.) Biforn her kyng childe cast branches broken of bowje. *c 1386 CHAUCER Knts. T.* 776 He caryed al this harneys him byfor. *c 1450 Merlin* xv. 237 He hide after many feire chualries be-for the castell. *1593 HOOKER Eccl. Pol.* II. iv. § 5 Wks. 1841 I. 240 When many meats are set before me. *1652 NEEDHAM tr. Selden's Mare Cl.* 96 Wee decree that every Man possess his Vesti- bul or Seas lying before his lands. *1766 GOLDSM. Vic. W.* viii. (1806) 42 On the grass-plot before our door. *1871 BLACK DAW. Heth* xviii. Peering over the edge of the rock before him.

fig. *1848 MACAULAY Hist. Eng.* I. 84 Great statesmen who looked far behind them and far before them.

b. In front of, at the beginning of (a writing).

1535 JOYE Apol. Tindale 19 Tindals incharitable pistle set before hys newe Testament.

c. *Before the face or eyes* = 3.

c 1175 Lamb. Hom. 111 Pine welan forrotiað biforan þine ehþan. *1611 BIBLE Ps.* xxxi. 22, I am cut off from before thine eies. *1711 ADDISON Spect.* No. 12 ¶ 2 The Mistress... scolds at the Servants as heartily before my face as be- hind my Back. *1832 TENNYSON Talking Oak* 3 Once more before my face I see the moulder'd Abbey-walls.

d. *Before the mast*: a phrase said of the common sailors, who are berthed in the fore-castle in front of the fore-mast.

1627 CAPT. SMITH Seaman's Gram. ix. 39 The Boatswaine, and all the Yonkers or common Sailers vnder his command is to be before the Mast. *1840 R. DANA (title)* Two years before the mast.

3. In front of so as to be in the sight of; under the actual notice or cognizance of; in presence of.

c 1000 ÆLFRIC Ex. xi. 10 [Hi] worhton ealle þa wundru... beforan Faraone. *c 1175 Lamb. Hom.* 53 þe speket also feire biforen heore eucencristene. *a 1300 Cursor M.* 13137 Bifor þis king in his palis, His broþer doghter... Com... for to bale. *c 1450 HENRYSON Tale of Dog* 22 This sum- mond is made befor witnes. *1506 Pilgr. Perf.* (W. de W. 1531) 156 b, Though the kyngde were before hym in his robes of golde, he wolde lytell regarde his royaltie. *1601 F. GODWIN Bps. Eng.* 398 Preaching at Sittingborne before a great auditory. *1611 BIBLE John* xii. 37 Though he had

done... miracles before them. *1883 GILMOUR Mongols* xvii. 209 Those who will confess Him before their countrymen.

b. *spec.* Said in reference to a tribunal, of the persons or matters of which it has cognizance.

c 1000 Ags. Gosp. Matt. xxvii. 11 Ða stod se Hæland be- foran þam deman. *c 1200 ORMIN* 6901 Wreðed Biforr þe Romanisshe king. *1512 Act 4 Hen. VIII.* x. Any office or offices found before Eschetour or Eschetours. *1601 F. GOD- WIN Bps. Eng.* 451 Both of them being... before the Pope, they fell... into by matters and articling one against another.

1712 STEELE Spect. No. 270 ¶ 1 As ill an Action as any that comes before the Magistrate. *1838 ARNOLD Hist. Rome* (1848) I. 17 The appeal was tried before all the Romans. *1883 Law Rep.* xi. Q. Bench Div. 595 The proceedings before the police court.

c. with the added idea of deference toward.

1816 J. WILSON City of Plague i. 30 No knee... hath bent before its altar. *1848 MACAULAY Hist. Eng.* I. 146 The military power now humbled itself before the civil power.

4. In the (mental) view of; in the opinion, re- gard, or consideration of. *arch.*

c 1000 ÆLFRIC Ex. iii. 21 Ic sylle þison folce gife beforan þam Egiptiscan folce. *c 1000 Ags. Gosp.* Luke xv. 22 Fæder ic syngude on heofon & beforan ðe. *c 1175 Lamb. Hom.* 15 Eour eyþer sunesað biforan drihten. *c 1200 ORMIN* 117 Te33 wærenn biforenn Godd Rihhtwise menn. *1583 STUBBS Anat. Abus.* II. 14 Though this be not theft before the world, nor punishable by penall lawes. *1611 BIBLE Gen.* xliii. 14 God Almightye giue you mercie before the man.

5. Open to the knowledge of, displayed to or brought under the conscious knowledge or atten- tion of. Hence, as an asseveration, *Before God!* = As God knows, by God.

[*c 1000 Ags. Gosp.* Luke xii. 28 Swa hwylc swa me andet beforan mannun, þone mannes sunu andet beforan godes englum. *c 1160 Halton G.* ibid., Beforen mannen... beforen godes engles.] *1393 LANGL. P. Pl. C.* xvi. 139 By-for per- petuel pees... ich shal preoue þat ich seide, And a-vowe by- for God. *1599 SHAKS. Hen. V.* v. ii. 149 Before God, Kate, I cannot looke greenely. *1711 ADDISON Spect.* No. 9 ¶ 4 That of the Georges, which used to meet at the sign of the George... and swear 'Before George.' *1712 STEELE ibid.* No. 284 ¶ 6, I shall therefore with your Leave lay before you the whole Matter. *1815 Scribbleomania* 234 The subject having been so recently before the public in all the diurnal prints. *1847 BUCKLE Civilis.* I. xii. 671 The accusations brought against these great men are before the world.

b. Claiming the attention of.

a 1711 KEN Div. Love Wks. (1838) 217 That which now lies before you is to shew, how your abnegation is prepara- tory to the love of God. *1857 BUCKLE Civilis.* I. i. 19 The problem immediately before us, is to ascertain the method.

6. In front of one in the course of action or of life; in prospect. a. Awaiting the coming action of, at the disposal of, open to. *To have a penny before him*: i. e. in hand for future needs, remaining over (now *dial.*).

[*c 1000 ÆLFRIC Gen.* xx. 15 Land liþ ætforan eow.] *1382 WYCLIF Gen.* xx. 15 The lond is bifore ȝow; where euer it shal plesse to thee, dwel. *c 1420 Sir Amadace* xxix. In gud tyme were he borne, That hade a peny him bi-forne. *1535 COVERDALE Gen.* xx. 15 Beholde, my londe stondesth open before the [1611 in there thee], dwell where it liketh the.

1667 MILTON P. L. xii. 646 The World was all before them, where to choose, Their place of rest. *1828 HUGHES Life D. Macmillan* II. 10 He had the world before him.

b. Ahead or in front of (one) in the future; awaiting.

1807 CRABBE Par. Reg. II. 386 Their graves before them and their griefs behind. *1831 CARLYLE Sart. Res.* III. v, The golden age... which a blind tradition has hitherto placed in the Past, is before us.

II. Of time.

7. Preceding in order of time; anterior to.

c 1000 Ags. Gosp. John i. 15 Se þe to cummene is æfter me wæs geworden beforan me. *c 1200 Trin. Coll. Hom.* 219 þe laste man is sib þe forme, þe was biforn us. *a 1300 E. E. Psalter* lxxvii. 5 Our fadres us bifore. *1480 CAXTON Chron. Eng.* lvi. 40 They move lyuen as hyt auncestres dyde byfore hem. *1676 CUDWORTH Intell. Syst.* I. i. § 28. 35 All the other ancient Physiologists that were before Anaxagoras. *1819 BYRON Juan* I. v, Brave men were living before Agamemnon. *1870 TROLLOPE Phineas F.* 401 It is so easy to be a lord if your father is one before you.

8. Previous to, or earlier than (a point of time, date, or event).

c 1200 ORMIN 177 He shall newenn cumenn forþ Biforenn Cristess come. *a 1300 Cursor M.* 4236 Es noght his murning may a-mend I trou bi-for his liues ende. *Ibid.* 5064, I saghe þe neuer be-for þis day. *1485 Act 1 Hen. VII.* x. § 1 Byfore the fest of Ester than next ensuyng. *1506 Bury Wills* (1850) 108, I annulle and revoke all the wills made by for this date. *1603 SHAKS. Meas. for M.* IV. iv. 10 And why should wee proclaime it in an howre before his entring? *1712 STEELE Spect.* No. 493 ¶ 4 He wondered I was not dead before now. *1779 JOHNSON Dryden Wks.* VII. 182 It was written before the Conquest of Granada. *1822 HT. MARTINEAU Life in Wilds* III. 39 Would be back before dark. *1848 MACAULAY Hist.* I. 561 Thirty-five years before this time.

9. † a. Previous to a past space of time, before the beginning of. *Obs.* In mod. usage *before three months* is replaced by *three months before*. Cf. A 5.

c 1340 Cursor M. 10675 (Laud), Hyt was by-for many a day cummouid in the olde lay.

b. Previous to the expiration of a future space of time.

1866 TROLLOPE Belton Est. xxvii. 326 This grief, I hope, may be cured some day before long. *Mod.* I hope to be there before another year.

III. Of rank.

10. In precedence of, superior to; in advance of in development.

c 1230 Hali Meid. 19 Se schene biforen alle oðre. *a 1300* in Wright *Pop. Sc.* 367 Al that a man hath bifore a best. *1526 Pilgr. Perf.* (W. de W. 1531) 8 b, The philosophers that trusted in theyr owne conynge . . . that they had before other. *1676 Hobbes* *Iliad* i. 266 Atrides is before you in command. *1755 JOHNSON* s. v. *Before*, He is before his competitors both in right and power. *1848 MACAULAY Hist. Eng. I.* 413 The nation which was so far before its neighbours in science.

11. In preference to; rather than.

c 1230 Hali Meid. 23 He mекeð me suchel biforen alle þe oðre. *c 1380 WYCLIF Sel. Wks.* (1871) III. 83 Þow schalt not haue before me alen Goddis. *1450 Q. MARGARET in Four C. Eng. Lett.* 8 To do you worship by wey of marriage, bifore all creatures lyving. *1611 BIBLE 2 Sam.* vi. 21 The Lord, which chose me before thy father, & before all his house. *1653 WALTON Angler* i. 16 Action is . . . to be preferred before Contemplation. *1748 YOUNG Nt. Tr.* (1751) 243 Why then is health preferred before disease? *Mod.* They would die before yielding.

12. In comparison with, in respect to.

1711 ADDISON Spect. No. 98 ¶ 1 The Women were of such an enormous Stature, that we appeared as Grasshoppers before them. *1832 TENNYSON St. Agnes* ii. So shows my soul before the Lamb, My spirit before Thee.

C. Conj. or conjunctive adv.

1. Of time: Previous to the time when.

a. orig. with that: now arch.

c 1200 ORMIN 964 Biforenn þatt te Lafferð Crist Wass borenn her to manne. *a 1300 Cursor M.* 10603 Bifore þat sco was of hir more born. *1382 WYCLIF John* viii. 58 Bifore that Abraham was maad, I am. *1548 UDALL Erasmi. Apoph.* 280a, Neither did he repaire vnto Sylla before that he had . . . vanquished diuerse capitaines of enemies. *1611 BIBLE John* i. 48 Before that Philip called thee . . . I saw thee.

b. without that.

c 1235 E. E. Allit. P. A. 529 On oure byfore þe sonne go doun. *c 1400 MAUNDEY* 18, 2000 3eer before oure Lord was born. *1503-4 Act 19 Hen. VII.* xxxvi. Pream. Sir William . . . lay both at Surgery and fesyk . . . by the space of ij yerres . . . byfore he was able to ride. *1588 A. KING Canisius Catch.* 76 The day before he sufferit. *1658 USSHER Ann.* 405 Seleucus was dead before he came. *1711 ADDISON Spect.* No. 1 ¶ 2, I threw away my Rattle before I was two Months old. *1816 J. WILSON City of Plague* i. ii. 90 Ay, she intends to look before she leaps.

† c. Formerly also with *ere* (*than*), or. *Obs.*

1297 R. GLOUC. 40 Fyf hundred 3er . . . bifore Er þan oure Lord . . . on erpe was ybore. *1340 HAMPOLE Pr. Conc.* 9 Before ar anything was wrought. *c 1400 MAUNDEY* 83 Before or thei resceyve hem thei knelen doun.

2. Of preference: Sooner than, rather than.

1596 SHAKS. Merch. V. iii. ii. 303 Treble that, Before a friend. I shall lose a haire. *Mod.* I will die before I submit.

D. Used as *adj.* and *sb.*

1. quasi-*adj.* = Anterior; previous.

1382 WYCLIF 1 Esdras ix. 1 Risende up Esdras fro the before porche of the temple. *c 1400 Test. Love* i. (1560) 279 I rehearse thy before deed. *1599 SHAKS. Hen. V.* iv. i. 179 Men are punishit for before breach of the Kings Lawes.

2. quasi-*sb.*

1850 TENNYSON In Mem. xxvi. 3 Oh, if indeed that eye foresee Or see (in Him is no before) In more of life true life no more.

E. Comb.

1. In combination with participles where the hyphen has merely a syntactical value, showing that *before* is an adverbial qualification of the following pple., with sense of 'previously, formerly'; as *before-created*, *going*, *mentioned*, *named*, *noticed*, *recited*, *told*, *written*, *BEFORE-*SAID**.

1786 BURKE W. Hastings Wks. XII. 360 The pernicious consequences of his 'before-created unwarrantable, and illegal arrangements. *1806 HIERON Wks.* i. Let vs remember the 'before-delivered matter. *1382 WYCLIF Rom.* iii. 25 Remission of 'before goynge synnes. *1677 HALE Prim. Orig. Man.* l. iv. 99 Somewhat which hath been before said touching the Question 'before going. *1593 HOOKER Eccl. Pol.* iii. xi. § 9, Wks. 1841 i. 331 Till the time 'before-mentioned was expired. *1671 F. PHILLIPS Reg. Necess.* 324 By the 'before-mentioned Opinions of Sir Christopher Wray. *1815 Encycl. Brit.* v. 781/1 The queen . . . takes all the steps of the 'before-mentioned pieces. *1467 Bury Wills* (1850) 48 The ferme of the seide londys, medows, and pasture 'bee-for-namyd. *a 1666 BACON New Atl.* in *Sylva* (1658) 12 All the Nations 'before-named science. *1807 VANCOUVER Agric. Devon* (1813) 127 The mattock, 'before-noticed, is used to grub up . . . the surface. *1786 BURKE W. Hastings Wks.* XII. 399 In consequence of all the 'before-recited intrigues. *1697 Snake in Grass* (ed. 2) 288 Like Fox's Apology 'beforetold. *1825 BENTHAM Ration. Rev.* 123 A new and 'before-unknown splendour. *1382 WYCLIF 2 Chron.* xxx. 5 As in the lawe it is 'beforewritten.

† 2. In many obsolete compound verbs and vbl. sbs. etc., esp. in Wyclif, representing L. *præ-* and *ante-*, some of which have mod. representatives with *FOR-*: as *before-bar*, to preclude, foreclose; *before-casting*, forecasting, pre-calculation; *before-come*, to prevent; *before-cut*; *before-gird*; *before-goer*, a predecessor; *before-graith*, to prepare, make ready beforehand; *before-had*, held previously; *before-know*; *before-passing*, excelling; *before-ripe*, premature; *before-runner*; *before-say*, to predict, foretell; *before-sayer*, -speaker, a prophet: *before-see*; *before-set*, to promote, set over; *before-show*; *before-sing*; *before-stretch*, to extend forth; *before-take*, to anticipate; *before-taste*; *before-tell*; *before-wall*, *antemurale*, outer defence; *before-warn*;

before-weave, to fringe, hem in, *prætexere*; *before-witting*, foreknowledge.

c 1449 Pecock Repr. v. l. 477 What euer religioun lettith and 'biforbarrit. *Ibid.* v. l. 478 Alle . . . letten and 'biforbarren, she and forbeiden, thiik religioun to be doon & usid. *1382 WYCLIF Ex.* xxi. 14 If ony man sleeth his neibore bi 'beforecasting. *1382* — *2 Macc.* xiv. 31 As he knew hym strongly 'byforecumen of the man. — *Dan.* iv. 11 'Biforkitte 3e the braunchis therof. — *Ps.* xvii. 33 God that 'biforgirte me with vertue. — *Gal.* i. 17 Nether I cam to Ierusalem to my 'bifore goeris apostlis. *c 1388 in Wyclif's Sel. Wks.* 1871 III. 476 He þat is 'biforegoar be he as a servant. *1382 WYCLIF Ps.* lxxxviii. 5 In to withoute ende I shal 'biforgreithe thi seed. *Ibid.* 15 Rigtwisesne and dom 'biforgreithing of thi sete. — *Gen.* xl. 13 Pharaon shal restore thee to the 'biforehad gree. *1388* — *Gen.* xv. 13 God 'biforeknew also the things to comynge. *1382* — *2 Pet.* i. 16 The vertu and prescience, or 'bifore knowing. — *Ecclus.* xxxiii. 23 In alle thi werkis 'bifore passende be thou (1388 be thou souereyn). *1388* — *Num.* xiii. 21 The 'bifore rijp grapes. *1382* — *Ex.* xxxiii. 4 Y shal sende an angel, thi 'bifore renner. — *Isa.* xlviii. 5, I 'biforseide to thee fro thanne, er thei camen I shewed to thee. — *Deut.* viii. 19 Loo! now y 'bifore seye to thee, that vtterly thou schalt perishe. *1388* — *Ecclus.* iv. 13 That cannot 'bifore se in to tyme to comynge. *1382* — *Ecclus.* xvii. 14 Into ech folde of kinde he 'bifore sette a gouernour. *c 1440 Promp. Parv.* 28 'Before sette, *præfixus*. *1382 WYCLIF Gen.* xli. 11 A sweuen 'biforeshewynge of thingis that ben to comun. *1388* — *Ps.* cxlvi. 7 'Bifore syng 3e to the Lord. — *Ex.* xv. 21 With the whiche she beforefonge. *c 1400* — *Ex.* vii. 1 (MS. B), Profete, that is, interpretour other 'biforespekere. *1382* — *Ps.* xxxv. 11 'Beforestrecche thi mercy to men. — *Ps.* lxxviii. 8 Soone shul 'befortaken vs thi mercies. *1526 Pilgr. Perf.* (W. de W. 1531) 150 A 'before tastynge of the ioye and glory of heuen. *1382 WYCLIF Ps.* xlix. 6 Heuenes shulen his rigtwisnes 'beforetelle. — *Isa.* xxvi. 1 The wal and the 'biforwalling. — *Wisd.* xviii. 19 The visouns . . . these thingis 'biforwarneden. — *Job* xxxvi. 28 The cloudis . . . that 'beforeweden alle thingis therabout. *c 1400 Test. Love* iii. (1560) 298 In the chapitre of Gods 'beforewetting . . . all these matters apertly may be founden.

Beforehand (bifōrhand), *adv.* (and *a.*) Also 3-4 biforen hond(e), 4-6 before hand(e), 4 bi-, by-, be-forhand, biforand. [Originally two words, *before hand*, also *before the hand*, perhaps from the idea of one working *before the hand* of another, and so in anticipation of his action. But cf. L. *præ manu*, *manibus*, 'at hand, in readiness, in hand,' used in ME. as = 'beforehand.']

1. In anticipation of something so as to be ready for it; in advance.

a 1225 Ancr. R. 212 Heo beoð þe lesse te menen, þet heo biuoren hond leorned hore meister to makien grimme chere. *1334 TINDALE 2 Cor.* ix. 5 To come before honde (WYCLIF bifor) vnto you for to prepare youre good blessing. *1551 RECORDE Pathway. Knowl.* Pref. He . . . was so skylfull in Astronomie, and could tell before hande of Eclipses. *1611 BIBLE Mark* xiii. 11 Take no thought before hand what ye shal speake. *1710 STEELE Tatler* No. 86 ¶ 1, I thought it proper to acquaint you before-hand . . . that you might not be surpris'd therewith. *1875 B. TAYLOR Faust* i. iv. 78 Prepare beforehand for your part.

b. *spec.* in reference to payment in advance.

1393 LANGL. P. Pl. C. iv. 301 [Ich halde hym ouer-hardy ober elles nouht trewe, þat *præ manu* ys payed.] *c 1450 HENRYSON Tale of Dog* 88 Ane soume I payit haif befor the hand. *1551 HULOET*, Before handes, *præ manu*. *1583 STUBBES Anat. Abus.* ii. 32 To pay a yeere or two yeeres rent before hande. *1755 SMOLLETT Quix.* (1803) IV. 129 He demanded two ducats for the job, and they paid him beforehand. *Mod. maxim.* There are two bad payers—he that pays beforehand, and he that never pays at all.

c. *To be beforehand with*: to anticipate, to be earlier than; to outstrip or forestall in action. (In this and the next, often used *adjectively*.)

1505 SHAKS. John v. vii. 111 Let vs pay the time bet needfull woe, Since it hath bene before hand with our greeces. *a 1619 DANIEL Coll. Hist. Eng.* 30 Then was he beforehand with Pope Alexander . . . promising likewise to hold it . . . of the Apostolicke Sea. *1701 W. WOOTTON Hist. Rome* i. 203 If you are not beforehand with them, you will perish. *1863 Mrs. C. CLARKE Shaks. Char.* ix. 222 Like Napoleon, he knew the value of being beforehand with an enemy.

d. *To be beforehand, to be beforehand with the world, to have something beforehand*: to have more than sufficient to meet present demands; to have money in hand for future contingencies; to have the balance on the right side. *So to bring, get beforehand.* All arch.

1526 Pilgr. Perf. (W. de W. 1531) 133 He wyll . . . labour diligently to brynge hym selfe beforehande agayn, & to recouer his losse. *1591 G. FLETCHER Russe Commu.* (1857) 13 [They] regard not to lay up anything, or to haue it before hand. *c 1645 HOWELL Lett.* (1650) III. 9 Hee is the happy man who can square his mind to his means . . . he who is beforehand hand with the world. *1651 FEATLY in Fuller's Abel Rediv.* (1867) II. 228 He brought the college much beforehand, which before . . . was very much impoverished. *1712 STEELE Spect.* No. 450 ¶ 3 Having little or nothing beforehand, and living from Hand to Mouth. *1771 FRANKLIN Autobiog.* Wks. 1840 l. 59, I now began to think of getting a little beforehand. *c 1812 Miss AUSTEN Sense & Sens.* (1849) 25, I shall see how much I am beforehand with the world in the spring.

† 2. Before this or that, previously. *Obs.*

a 1300 Cursor M. 3393 His sede suld multipli, als godd him had biforand hit. *Ibid.* 6512 He tok him tablis of þe lay, As 3e herd me bifor-hand say. *1382 WYCLIF Gen.* xxviii. 19 The cyte Bethel, that biforand hoond was clepid Luz. *1413 Lydg. Pilgr. Soule* iv. i. (1483) 58 This appel was hanged vpon this drye tree whiche that grew before hand

vpon this grene florissynge tree. *a 1520 Myrr. Our Ladye* 186 As I haue sayde ofte before hande.

† B. as *adj.* Ready, prepared. *Obs. rare.*

a 1704 LESTRANGE (J.), What is a man's contending with insuperable difficulties but the rolling of Sisyphus's stone up the hill, which is soon beforehand to return upon him again?

Beforeness, *rare*. [f. *BEFORE* + *-NESS*: cf. *aforeness*.] Priority, anteriority, pre-existence.

1605 GILL Sacr. Philos. i. 57 In the infinitie of being . . . therefore there can bee no beforeness nor afterness.

Beforesaid, *ppl. a.* [See *BEFORE* E 1.] Mentioned, or treated of before or already. *Now arch.* or *Obs.*, its place being taken by *AFORESAID*.

a 1225 Ancr. R. 42 Deos biuore seide psalmes. *c 1391 CHAUCER Astrol.* 58 Eche of þe poyntis be-fornseyd. *1480 Bury Wills* (1850) 55 The heigh aughter of the chirche of oure lady beforeseyde. *1574 tr. Littleton's Tenures* 79 b, In witness whereof, y^e parties beforesaid interchaungeably haue put to their seales. *1766 in Entick's London* iv. 319 That you cause to be proclaimed the beforesaid fair.

Beforetime, *adv.* [f. *BEFORE* + *TIME*, i. e. 'the time that was before': cf. *aforetime*.] In former time, formerly, previously.

a 1300 Cursor M. 2110 Africk . . . þat bifor time was cald libye. *c 1440 Promp. Parv.* 28 Beforetyme, *ante*, *antea*. *1611 BIBLE 1 Sam.* ix. 9 He that is now called a Prophet, was beforetime called a Seer. *1865 SWINBURNE Ball. Burdens* 36 And no more as the thing beforetime seen.

¶ Sometimes two words = *Time preceding*.

c 1450 Knt. de la Tour cxiii. 153 The bifore tyme they had be married. *1614 CHAPMAN Odys.* vi. 392 Having touch'd no meat A long before time.

† **Beforetimes**, *adv.* *Obs.* [f. *prec.* + genitival *-s*: cf. *aforetimes*.]

a 1554 LATIMER Serm. & Rem. (1845) 192 Saints, that departed in faith out of this world beforetimes. *1647 W. BROWNE Folexander* ii. 83 In all appearance, he was the same man he had been before times.

Beforen (e), *obs. form of BEFORE*.

Beforenow, *obs. Sc.* f. *BEFORE* [cf. *morn*, *morrow*.]

Beforetune, *v. rare*. [f. *BE* + *FORTUNE* v., after *bechance*, *befall*.] *intr.* and *with dative obj.* To befall, happen, chance.

1591 SHAKS. Two Gent. iv. iii. 41 As much, I wish all good befortune you. *1855 SINGLETON Virgil* II. 51 Whatever shall befortune, every hap is by endurance to be overcome.

Befoul (bifaul), *v.* [f. *BE* + *FOUL*: a later formation, which ran parallel to *BEFILE* in ME., and at length displaced it.] *trans.* To make foul, cover with filth or dirt; often of moral filth; *esp.* in the proverbial *To befoul one's own nest*.

c 1320 Cast. Love 1147 Al was his face bi-foulet w^t spot. *c 1430 Syr Gener.* 4610 The last he fond Darel Al be-fouled in the grauel. *1506 SKELTON Magnyf.* 885, I befoleu his pate. *1776 AMHERST Terræ Fil.* v. 22 'Tis an ill bird which befoleu his own nest. *1844 MACAULAY Chatham, Ess.*, Fox had stumbled in the mire, and had not only been defeated but befoleu.

Hence **Befouler**, **befoulment**.

1844 LD. JEFFREY in Napier's Corr. (1879) 388 A befouler of his own nest. *1862 F. HALL Hind. Philos. Syst.* 272 The ignorant . . . think the blueness of the sky to be the befoulment of ether.

Befraught, **befreckle**, **befret**, etc.: see *BE*-*pref.*

Befreeze, *v.* [f. *BE* + *FREEZE* v.] *trans.* To freeze up or over; to freeze intensely.

c 1200 ORMIN 13854 All iss itt uss biforenn. *1393 GOWER Conf.* I. 220 Danubie . . . Whiche alle before the thanne stood. *1663 BINGHAM Xenophon* 69 Scorching and befreezing the limbs of the Souldiers.

Befriend (bifriendz), *v.* [f. *BE* + *FRIEND* v.] *trans.* To act as a friend to, to help, favour; to assist, promote, further.

1559 Mirr. Mag. 613 (R.), That . . . you may befriend My wretched soule with quicke dispatch in death. *1607 SHAKS. Timon* iii. ii. 64 Will you befriend mee so farre as to vse mine owne words to him? *1709 POPE Ess. Crit.* 474 Be thou the first true merit to befriend. *1754 YOUNG Brothers* ii. i, Wait an occasion that befriends your wishes. *1867* (29 June) *BRIGHT Amer.*, Sp. 147 Persons . . . who befriended the negro in his bondage.

Hence **Befriender**, **Befriending** *ppl. a.*, **Befriendment**.

1681 C. COTTON Poet. Wks. (1765) 321 At the very first befriending Knock. *1856 LONGF. Childr. Lord's Supper* 226 Hope, the befriending, does what she can. *1856 E. BOND Russia* 16th C. 208 As the befriendier of her subjects.

Befringe (bifriendz), *v.* [f. *BE* + *FRINGE* v.] *trans.* To border, furnish, or adorn with (or as with) a fringe. Hence **Befringed** *ppl. a.*

1611 COTGR., *Enfranger*, to befringe; to edge, or set with fringe. *1639 FULLER Holy War* 78 Befringed with gold. *1737 POPE Horace Ep.* ii. l. 419 Let my dirty leaves . . . Befringe the rails of Bedlam and Soho. *1848 H. MILLER First Impr.* xiv. (1857) 239 A placid stream, broadly befringed with sedges. *1884 Manch. Exam.* 10 Dec. 3/7 Christmas cards . . . of the gorgeous befringed upholstered sort.

Befris, **befrounce**, **befrumple**, etc.: see *BE*-*pref.*

Befroy, **beffroy**, *obs. forms of BELFRY*.

Beft, *v.* *Obs. north. dial.* found only in *pa. t.* and *pa. pple.* [It is uncertain whether the present tense would be *beff*, of same origin as *BAFF* sb. 1, or *best*:—Old Northumb. **beafta* or **beaftia* (for **beaftian*, f. *BE* + *OE. haftian* to clap, strike with the flat of the hand). The late sb. *BEFF* may be merely for *baff*, or a wrong formation on *best*.]

1. *intr.* To strike, give blows. *rare.*
[1590 *Lindisf. Matt.* xi. 17 We mið hondum beafon.]
c 1505 *DUNBAR DANCE* 40 Sum vpoun vdir with brandis beft.
2. *trans.* To beat, buffet, slap,
a 1300 *Cursor M.* 2264 Als þai had sare þar fra ben beft.
Ibid. 15831 Wit bastons þai him beft ful grimli to þe grund.
c 1375 *BARBOUR St. Johannes* 421 He rafe his clathis & befte his face.
c 1505 *DUNBAR Fenzit Friar* x, [They] Beft him with buffets quhill he bled.
1513 *DOUGLAS Aeneis* ii. xi. 78 The wroth of the goddis has doun beft The cietie of Troye.

Befuddle, befume, etc.: see *Be-pref.*
Befur (bifur), *v.* [f. *Be-* + *FUR v.* and *sb.*]
Chiefly in *pa. pple.*

†1. To fur over, encrust. *Obs.*
1581 T. NEWTON *Seneca's Thebas* 49 b, What rauenus Harpye Burd... all with filth, and dirty doun befurde.
2. To cover or deck out with furs.
1589 *HELPS Friends* in C. Ser. ii. ix. 199 Those clattering, befurred... gentry called soldiers.
1654 *Daily Tel.* 12 Mar., Our grotesquely befurred Aldermanic body.

Befyle, var. of *BEFILE v.* *Obs.* to befool.
Beg (beg), *v.* Forms: 3 *beggen*, 4-7 *begge*, 4-6 *begs*, 6 (*Sc.*) *baye*, 5-*beg*. [Of uncertain origin: see note below.]

1. To ask alms or by way of alms.
a. *trans.* To ask (bread, money, etc.) in alms or as a charitable gift; to procure (one's living) by begging.

a 1225 *Ancre R.* 356 Scheome ich telle uorte... beggen ase on harlot... his liuened. 1377 *LANGL P. Pl. B. vi.* 195 Blynde and bedreden... þat seten to begge silver. c 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 28/2 Beggyn bodely fode. c 1500 *Bk. Mayd Emlyn* xxvii. in *Poet. Tracts* (Percy Soc.) 28 Longe or she were dede, She wente to begge her brede. 1611 *BIBLE Ps.* xxxvii. 25 Yet haue I not seene the righteous forsaken, nor his seede begging bread. 1805 *SCOTT Last Minst.* 24 He begged his bread from door to door.

b. *intr.* To ask alms; *esp.* to ask alms habitually, to live by asking alms. *Const. absol.;* *of from*, formerly *at*, a person; *for* alms.

[c 897 *K. ÆLFRED Gregory's Past.* 284 Hit is swiðe wel be ðæm gecweden ðæt he eft bedecige on sumera, & him mon ðonne noht ne selle.] a 1300 *Cursor M.* 4708 Þai war sa fele þat begand [v. r. beggand] yode. 1382 *WYCLIF John* ix. 8 He that sat and beggide. 1386 *CHAUCER Sompn. T.* 4 Ther wente a lymytour aboute To preche and eek to begge. a 1450 *York Myst.* *Barbers* 8 What riche man gose from dore to dore To begge at hym þat has right noht. 1530 *PALSGR.* 446/1, I begge for the guyde of saynt Anthonye. 1554 *J. HEYWOOD Prov. & Epigr.* (1867) 138 Thou beggst at wrong dore, and so hast begg longe. 1601 *SHAKS. Per.* i. iv. 41 Those palates... Would now be glad of bread, and beg for it. 1602 *WARNER Alb. Eng.* ix. xlviii. (1612) 218 Fring'd and ymbroidred Petticoats now begge [i. e. are worn by beggars]. a 1617 *HIERON Wks.* II. 392 We haue an ordinary saying... 'They which begge must not choose.' 1718 *LADY M. W. MONTAGUE Lett.* II. lii. 80 While the post-horses are changed, the whole town comes out to beg. 1846 *FROUDE Hist. Eng.* i. l. 74 Licences to beg were at that time granted.

2. *transf.* To ask as a favour or act of grace; hence to ask humbly, earnestly, supplicatingly; to crave, entreat. (With many const.: cf. *ASK*.)

a. *trans.* *Const. of from* (formerly *at*).

The early instances are closely connected with sense 1.
[1340 *HAMPOLE Pr. Cons.* 3219 Þai mai nathing begg ne borowe, To help þam, þat þai war out brought [of purgatory]. 1399 *LANGL Rich. Redetel* iii. 149 Beggith and borwith of burgeis in tounes Ffurris of floyne, and oþer felle-ware.] 1506 *Pilgr. Perf.* (W. de W. 1531), The miserable nature of man... beggith and craueth of god socour and relefe. 1534 *TINDALE Matt.* xxvii. 58 Joseph... went to Pilate and begged the body of Iesus. 1590 *SHAKS. Mids.* i. l. 41, I beg the ancient priuiledge of Athens. 1605 *Bk. Com. Prayer, Gynpowd. Tr.*, All which we humbly beg for the sake of our blessed Lord and Saviour. 1667 *PEPYS Diary* (1879) IV. 239 All the world will believe, that we do go to beg a peace. 1711 *STEELE Spect.* No. 168 p. 11, I beg the Favour of you... to send us Word. 1746 *H. WALPOLE Corr.* 12 June, I have three favours to beg of you. 1752 *MRS. LENNOX Fem. Quil.* l. ii. ix. 116 She refused to give him a glorious scarf which she wore, though he begged it on his knees. 1840 *CARLYLE Heroes* iii. 141 The Florentines begged back his [Dante's] body... the Ravenna people would not give it.

b. *absol.* or *intr.*; with same const.
1588 *SHAKS. L. L. v. ii.* 107 How I would make him fawne, and begge, and seeke. 1609 *SKENE Reg. Maj. Stat. Robt.* II. 48 Na Schiref... sall dar or presume to begge... fra the inhabitants of the cuntries. 1718 *Pope Iliad* i. 19 Apollo's awful ensigns grace his hands: By these he begs. 1845 *Hood Last Man* xxxvii. In vain My desperate fancy begs.

c. To beg for a thing.

1576 *FLEMING tr. Caius Dogs* in *Topsell Four-f. Beasts* (1673) 139 Dogs... are taught... to beg for their meat. 1588 *SHAKS. Tit. A.* i. i. 455 Kneele in the streetes, and beg for grace in vaine. 1649 *Bp. REYNOLDS Hosea* iii. 11, I must... begge for pardon. 1876 *GREEN Short Hist.* iv. § 3 (1882) 177 Single-handed [he] forced him to beg for mercy.

d. To beg to do a thing, or that a thing may be.

1485 *CAXTON Paris & V.* (1868) Prol., I beg to request. 1575 *Ld. LANSDOWNE in Thynne's Animadv.* Intro. 55 Begginge, upon the knees of my harte, to come before your Lordship. 1591 *SHAKS. 1 Hen. VI.* iv. i. 72, I should haue beggd I might haue bene employd. 1605... *Lear* ii. iv. 157 On my knees I begge, That you'll vouchsafe me Rayment, Bed, and Food. 1654 *EARL ORRERY Parthenissa* (1676) 679, I passionately beggd to wait upon him. 1767 *WILKES Corr.* (1805) III. 197, I shall very soon beg to call the public attention to some points of national importance. 1855 *MACAULAY Hist. Eng.* III. 613 Shrewsbury begged that... he might be appointed.

†e. To beg of a person for a thing. *Obs.*
1590 *SHAKS. Mids.* N. iii. ii. 108 If she be by, Beg of her for remedy.

f. To beg of (formerly *at*) a person to do a thing, or that a thing may be.

1604 *SHAKS. Oth.* v. ii. 229 He beggd of me to steale 't.
1665 *EVELYN Mem.* (1857) III. 174 Our prisoners... beg at us, as a mercy, to knock them on the head. 1769 *JUNIUS Lett.* xxi. 99, I must beg of you to print a few lines in explanation. 1799 *SOUTHEY Eng. Eclog.* vii. Wks. III. 35 [He] would come... and beg of me To tell him stories of his ancestors. 1848 *TENNYSON Dora* 121, I will beg of him to take thee back.

g. *trans.* To beg a person to do a thing.

1675 *LOCKE Let. Person of Qual. Wks.* 1794 IX. 207 He begged me to consider... whether in such a case, etc. 1711 *ADDISON Spect.* No. 117 p. 5, I begged my friend Sir Roger to go with me. 1778 *H. BOWMAN Trav.* 266, I begged him to explain himself. 1876 *GREEN Short Hist.* iii. § 5 (1882) 142 The king... begged him to write the story of the day's proceedings.

3. In *Beg pardon, excuse, leave, etc.*: beside the strict sense as in 2, the whole expression is often merely a courteous or apologetic mode of asking what is expected, or even of taking as a matter of course.

1600 *SHAKS. A. Y. L.* iii. v. 6 Falls not the axe vpon the humbled neck, But first begs pardon. 1602... *Ham.* iv. vii. 45 To-morrow shall I begge leave to see your Kingly Eyes. 1711 *ADDISON Spect.* No. 74 p. 2, I must however beg Leave to dissent from so great an Authority. *Ibid.* p. 15, I shall only beg Pardon for such a Profusion of Latin Quotations. 1734 *WATTS Reliq. Jew.* (1789) 270 In the business of Transubstantiation, he begs your excuse. 1754 *CHATHAM Lett. Nephew* iv. 22 There is likewise a particular attention required to contradict with good manners; such as, begging pardon, begging leave to doubt, and such like phrases. 1802 *MAR. EDGEWORTH Moral T.* (1816) I. iii. 17 You begged my pardon. *Mod.* I beg your pardon; I did not quite catch what you said. I have received your letter, and beg leave to say in reply...

†4. In Anglo-French and probably also in English 'begger to beg' was used euphemistically in sense of 'exact as a benevolence.'

1592 *BRITTON l. xxii.* § 11 Et de ceux qi coillent garbes en Aust, agneus et purceus, et issi vount begaunt, et les fount norir en leur baillies al greuaunce del peuple. *Ibid.* § 15 Touz nos autres, qe gentz de religion et autres gentz greuent... par begger [v. r. beguigner] merrym ou fustz ou autre chose a eus.

5. †a. To beg a person: to petition the Court of Wards (established by Hen. VIII, and suppressed under Chas. II) for the custody of a minor, an heirless, or an idiot, as feudal superior or as having interest in the matter; hence also fig. To beg (any one) for a fool or idiot: to take him for, set him down as, a fool. *Obs.*

1824 *D. FENNER Def. Ministers* (1857) 51 Then would you haue proued vs asses, not begged vs for innocents. 1589 *Hay any Work* 71 It is time to beg the for a swagg. 1596 *HARRINGTON Mel. Ajax* 46 He proued a wiser man by much, then he that begged him. 1604 *T. WRIGHT Passions* iii. i. 81 He may be begd for an ideot. 1636 *DAVENANT Wits* in *Doddsley VIII.* 509 (N.), I fear you will be beggd at court, unless you come off thus. 1639 *J. MAYNE City Match* ii. vi. And that a great man Did mean to beg you for—his daughter. 1666 *STILLINGF.* 12 *Serm.* ii. 59 That we may not therefore seem to beg all wicked men for fools. 1736 *HERVEY Mem.* II. 143 Moyle either deserved to be... begged for a fool, or hanged for a knave.

b. To beg off (trans. and intr. for refl.): to obtain by entreaty the release of (any one), or of oneself, from a penalty, or liability.

1741 *RICHARDSON Pamela* II. 292 What, said she, is the Creature begging me off from Insult? *Mod.* He promised at first to go with us, but he has since begged off.

6. To take for granted without warrant; *esp.* in *To beg the question:* to take for granted the matter in dispute, to assume without proof.

1581 *W. CLARKE in Confer.* iv. (1584) Fijij, I say this is still to beg the question. 1687 *SETTLE Refl. Dryden* 13 Here hee's at his old way of Begging the meaning. 1680 *BURNET Rochester* (1692) 82 This was to assert or beg the thing in Question. 1788 *REID Aristotle's Log.* v. § 3. 118 Begging the question is when the thing to be proved is assumed in the premises. 1852 *ROGERS Ecl. Fatik* 251 Many say it is begging the point in dispute. 1870 *BOWEN Logic* ix. 294 The vulgar equivalent for *petitio principii* is begging the question.

[The notion that *beg* had to do with the *bag* carried by a beggar, as if he were a 'bagger', finds no etymological corroboration. The Flemish *beggen* appeared to by Littré under *Beguin* has no existence (Cosijn). Mr. H. Sweet has suggested that ME. *beggen* might be worn down from the rare OE. *bedecian* 'to beg', found once (in *Past. Care*), and obscurely connected with Gothic *bidagwa* 'beggar', f. *bidjan* 'to ask, beg'. This has much to recommend it; but the phonetic connexion of *beggen* and *bedecian* is by no means established, and there is the serious historical difficulty that no connecting links are to be found, there being no trace of the word in any form between K. Ælfred's *bedecian* before 900 and the regular use of the modern *beg* and *beggar* in the 13th c. Perhaps the most likely derivation is from the OF. *begari*, *begard*, and *begar*, med. L. *begardus* = *BEGHARD*, or its synonym *beguin*, *BEGUIN*, and deriv. vb. *beguigner*, *beguiner* 'to take the beguin'. It is known that the *Beghards* or *Beguins* were, or soon became, a lay mendicant order, and that in the 13th c. mendicants calling themselves, or called, by these names, swarmed over Western Europe, 'laici, qui sub pretextis cuiusdam religionis fictæ Begardos se appellant... qui extra religionem approbatam validam mendicantes discurrunt' (Council of Treves 1310). It is notable that in one of the two passages where Britton has Anglo-French *begger* to beg (see 4 above), the reading of two 14th c. MSS. is *beguigner*, showing that this was at any rate identical in sense with 'beg'. So also we find in Sym. de Hesdin a 1380 (Godef.), 'il n'y eust pas tant de begars et de begardes qui mengas...

sent leur pain en oiseuse' (there would not have been so many begards, male and female, to eat their bread in idleness), which strongly suggests the Eng. *beggar*. About this time the words *beggars* and *beggen* arose in English: the exact process of their formation, and their actual relation to each other can only be conjectured: possibly *beggen* was shortened from *beguin-er*, possibly it was taken from *beggar-er*, and this directly from OF. *begar* above. The -are of the Ancien Riwele proves nothing, being the regular agent ending, as seen in *bachitare*, *demare*, *renare*, etc.]

† **Beg**, *sb.* *Obs.* Also 7 *beog*. [a. Osmanli *beg* 'prince, governor', now pronounced as *bey*: see *BEY*, and cf. *BEGUM*.] A *bey*. Now only used as part of Eastern names. *Beg beg* = *BEGLEBEG*.

1686 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 2198/3 The Grand Visier had sent a *Beg*... to desire a treaty. 1687 *Ibid.* No. 2285/2 The *Beg* *Beg* that commanded there... yielded at Discretion. 1818 *JAS. MILL Brit. India* (1848) II. 254 Togrul *Beg*... offered himself as a leader and bond of union to the Turks.

Beglic, -lik, -luc, province of a *bey*, *BEYLIC*.

1614 *SELDEN Titles Hon.* 377 *Beg* is Lord... and *Beglic* is the Dignitie of the *Beg*.

† **Bega'b**, *v.* *Obs.* [f. *Be-* + *GAB v.* to impose upon.] *trans.* To delude, impose upon.

1597 *R. GLOUC.* 458 Ichot ynam nost bygabbet. c 1375 *BARBOUR St. Clement* 704 And wend [þat] he begabbith had bene Be wesch-crafte.

Begad (bige'd), *int.* Not in polite use. [Altered form of *by God*; cf. *bedad*, *begar*.] An exclamation, used to give weight to a statement.

1742 *FIELDING J. Andrews* (L.) 'Begad, madam' answered he, 'tis the very same I met.' 1848 *THACKERAY Van. Fair* II. iv. 39 Only one, *begad*, in the World.

† **Begadores**, *sb. pl.* *Obs.* *rare*¹. The same as *BEGHARDS* or *BEGUINS*.

1586 *T. ROGERS 39 Art.* (1607) 101 We stand therefore... Against the Begadores in Almaine.

† **Begair**, *v.* *Sc.* *Obs.* [app. ad. F. *bigarrer* - *r*: see *BEGARY*; but perhaps associated with *GAIR* 'stripe, streak'.] *trans.* To diversify or variegate, as with stripes or streaks. Hence *Begair'd ppl. a.* 1552 *LYNDESAY Monarchie* 5868 For cowlis blak, gray, nor begaird, 3e sall, that day, get no reward. a 1609 *A. HUME Summer's Day*, Begair'd... With sprains of scarlet hue.

Begall, *begarnish*, *begash*, etc.: see *Be-pref.*

† **Begallow**, *v.* *Obs.* [f. *Be-* + *GALLOW v.* to terrify; cf. OE. *agelwian*, *agelwian* to stupefy, throw into consternation.] *trans.* To frighten or terrify. c 1320 *Sir Beues* in *Ellis Spec.* (1811) II. 171 That horse was swift as any swallow, No man might that horse begallowe. [MS. *Cantab. F.* ii. 38. f. 124 (Halli.)] Ther myst no hors hym begallowe.]

Began (bige'n), *pa. t.* of *BEGIN*.

Begane, *obs.* *Sc.* form of *BEGONE*.

Begar, *int.* Not in polite use = *BEGAD*.

1598 *SHAKS. Merry W.* l. iv. 123 By gar, I vill kill de lack-Priest. 1759 *P. WHITEHEAD* in *Evans O. Ball.* (1784) II. xxviii. 164 Begar we can beat them in heels.

† **Begary**, *v.* *Sc.* *Obs.* [ad. F. *bigarrer* to diversify with contrasting colours: cf. *begair*.] *trans.* To variegate with colours, whether by way of adornment or of disfigurement.

1501 *DOUGLAS Pat. Hom.* i. xlvii, Velvot robbis maid with the grand assise, Dames, Satyne, begaryt mony wise. 1538 *LYNDESAY Syde Taittis* 35 The dust fleis hiest in the air, And all thar faces does begarie. a 1560 *ROLLAND Cr. Venus* l. 120 Barrit braid Begaryt all with sindrie silks hew. 1657 *COLVIL Whigs Supplic.* (1751) 62 Some Whally's bible did begarie, By letting flee at it Canarie.

† **Begary**, *begairle*, *sb.* *Sc.* *Obs.*; usually in *pl.* [f. *BEGARY v.*, or directly ad. F. *bigarré* *pa. pple.*] Ornamental facings of different colour or fabric worn on dress. (Jamieson.)

1575 *Declar. Gen. Assembly* in *Calderwood's Hist. Kirk* (1842) III. 354 All kind of brodering... all begaris of velvet, in gounes, hose or coat. 1581 *Act James VI*, cxiii, On begairies, frenyies, pasments or broderie of gold, silver or silk.

Begasse, variant of *BAGASSE*.

1867 *F. STEWART Sorghum* 54 This property of the dried begasse suggests the propriety of using it for thatching.

Begat, *arch.* *pa. t.* of *BEGOT*.

Begaud, *begaudy*, *begay*, *begaze*: see *Be-*.

† **Begge'ck**, *v.* *Obs.* or *Sc.*; also -*gaik*, -*geik*. [f. *BE-* + *GECK v.*] To befool, to gull; to jilt.

a 1513 *DUNBAR Tua Mariit Women* 452 With gret engyne to begaik [v. r. beiaip] ther jelyus husbandis. 1768 *ROSS Helenore* 85 (JAM.) Ye'd better want him than he sud beggeck you.

† **Begge'ck**, *sb.* *Obs.* or *Sc.* Also 8 *begeek*. [f. *BEGECK v.*] A cheating disappointment.

c 1600 *Rob. Hood* (Ritson) 79 And give them a begeck. c 1774 *C. KEITH Farmer's Ha* in *Chambers' Pop. Sc. Poems* (1862) 32 He meets wi' a great begeck Frae empty hinks.

Begels, *obs.* form of *BEAGLE*.

Begem (bidge'm), *v.* [f. *Be-* + *GEM sb.*] *trans.* To set about or stud with gems; also *transf.*

1800 *T. MOORE Anacreon* l. 16 Flowers begemmed with tears of wine. 1852 *D. MOIR Daisy v.* Stars are the Daisies that begem The blue fields of the sky.

† **Begenild**, *Obs.* *rare*. Also *Begeneld*, -el, -yld. [App. f. *BEGUIN* + *-ILD* a female suffix: see *BEGGILD*.] But in one passage the name seems to be applied to a male, and in the other it is doubtful. A beggar; ? properly, a beggar woman.

1393 *LANGL. P. Pl. C.* x. 154 With a bagge at hus bak, a begeneldes [v. r. begenildys] wyse. *Ibid.* xi. 263 A begeneldes [v. r. begenylde] doughter, that no curtesye can.

Begess, obs. Sc. f. by guess: see GUESS.

Beget (bige't), *v.* Pa. t. bego't, arch. bega't. Pa. pple. bego'tten, formerly bi-, begeten, -get, begot. Forms as in GET. [Comm. Teut.: OE. *begitan* = Goth. *bi-gitan*, f. *bi-* BE- + *gitan* to get. The normal form, from OE. *begitan*, would have been *be-yet*; for the substitution of *be-get*, see GET.]
 † 1. *trans.* To get, to acquire (usually by effort).
a 1000 Brownl. 2297 Fin eft beget sword. *1154 O. E. Chron. an. 1137* [He] was wæl underfangen fram þe pape, and beget þare priuilegies. *c 1200 ORMIN 13986* Þær þu þigatt he þær att Crist þu þigatt himm to wuþþenn þorþhenn. *a 1225 Ancr. R.* 196 Heo biþet þe blisful kempenne crune. *a 1300 Cursor M.* 4913 Ne haue we wit vs trussed noght, Bot. of our lele bi-geten (v. r. begityn) thing. *1393 GOWER Conf. I.* 82 When he weneth most beþete, Than is he shape most to lese. *1608 SHAKS. Ham. III. ii.* 8 You must acquire and beget a Temperance that may giue it Smoothnesse.

2. To procreate, to generate: usually said of the father, but sometimes of both parents.

1205 LAV. 15792 Þus wes Mærlin biþeten and iboren of his moder. *c 1300 Beke 119* Bituene hem biþete was The gode child of wham we speketh. *1460 CAPGRAVE Chron. 15* The Sonnes of God. comouned with the Douteris of men. and they begotin geauntis. *1611 BIBLE Prov. xvii. 21* He that begetheth a foole, doth it to his sorrow. *1711 STEELE Spect. No. 2* ¶ 5 He has good blood in his Veins; Tom Mirabell begot him. *1768 J. POWELL Devises (1827) II.* 205 Without having any children issue lawfully begotten or to be begotten. *1875 JOWETT Plato (ed. 2) I.* 226 What could he have been thinking of when he begat such wise sons?

b. Const. on, upon, or upon the body of.

1297 R. GLOUC. 516 Sire Morisse of Berkeley wedded .. Is doþter, and biþet on hire the kniþ Sir Tomas. *c 1386 CHAUCER Melib. P. 1* Melibeus .. biþat vp on his wyf .. a doghter. *1500-10 Act 1 Hen. VIII. xix.* Pream. The heires males which he shulde begett on the body of the said Elizabeth. *1641 HINDS J. Bruen xxx. 92* (Wakes) are begotten of Sathan, upon the body of that Whore of Rome. *1748 Young Mt. Th. ix. 447* Num'rous is the race Of blackest ill.. Begot by madness on fair liberty.

† c. = GET (with child). Obs.

c 1450 Knt. de la Tour 6 That other knight .. begate her with childe. *1603 SHAKS. Meas. for M. v. i.* 517 There's one Whom he begot with childe. *1611 CORYAT Crudities 101* For shee reported that shee was begotten with child by a certaine Dragon.

3. Theol. Applied to the relationship of the Father to the Son in the Trinity; also to the spiritual relationship of God to man in regeneration.

1388 WYCLIF 1 Peter i. 3 Which begat [1388a gendride, 1611 hath begotten] vs agen in to luyng hope. *1534 TINDALE 1 John v. 1* Every one that loveth him which begat [WYCLIF gendred, 1611 begate], loveth him also which was begotten [W. borun] of him. *1549 Bk. Com. Pr. Athanas. Cr.* The Son is of the Father alone: not made, nor created, but begotten. *1597 GOLDING De Mornay vi. 71* God .. begate the Sonne or Word equal to himselfe.

4. *fig. and transf.* To call into being, give rise to; to produce, occasion.

1581 LAMBARDE Eiren. II. ii. (1588) 124 The doing thereof doth also beget a forfeiture of the Recognisance that is made. *1588 SHAKS. L. L. II. ii. 69* His eye begets occasion for his wit. *1675 TRAHERNE Chr. Ethics vi. 71* Fire begets water by melting ice. *1691 RAY Creation II. (1704) 335* How can all these things .. but beget Wonder? *1845 MIALl Nonconf. V. 133* One falsehood usually begets a necessity for a dozen others.

† **Beget**, *sb.* Obs. Forms: 2-3 biþeate, biþeate, 2-4 biþete, 4-5 beþete, biþete, beyete, 4 byþete, beþeitt, biþeitt, bigeot, ? bygate, ? bigete; 4-5 bigate, 5 beþete. [ME. f. BEGET *v.*; cf. OE. *gndgit*, -get, f. *gndgitan*.]

1. The action of acquiring; acquisition, gaining; acquisition, gain, profit, advantage.

c 1175 Lamb. Hom. 213 Iblesced beo þe þus went lure to biþeate. *a 1225 Ancr. R.* 166 Þe þridde reisun of þe wordes fluite is þe biþeate of heouene. *1393 GOWER Conf. Prol. I.* 14 For pompe and for beþete.

b. *concr.* The thing acquired; acquisition, acquirement, gain, proceeds; spoils of war.

c 1200 Trin. Coll. Hom. 37 Þe fule man .. of unrihte biþete ofte filled [his wombe]. *a 1225 Ancr. R.* 160 He biþet þeos þreo biþeaten. *c 1250 Gen. & Ex. 895* Habram gaf him ðe tiþðe del Of alle is biþete. *c 1430 Syr Gener. 4810* Al to smal is oure beþete.

2. Procreation, generation; begetting.

c 1330 Arth. & Merl. 1437 Al he teld ther the king Of his biþete, of his bereing.

b. *concr.* That which is begotten, progeny.

c 1315 SHOREHAM 68 And eke hem that hym hebbeth so, And alle hare biþete. *a 1400 Octonion 848* He was som gentylmannes beyete.

† **Begetel**, *a.* Obs. [f. BEGET *v.* + -el, -LE, repr. an OE. **begitol*.] Advantageous, profitable.

c 1250 Gen. & Ex. 1992 Wið putifar .. He maden swiðe biþetel forward.

Begettal (bige'täl), *rare*. [f. BEGET *v.* + -AL, cf. *committal*.] Begetting.

1873 C. M. DAVIES Unorth. London 247 They believe in his preternatural begettal by the Holy Spirit.

Begetter (bige'tar). Also 5 begetare, 6 begettor. [f. BEGET *v.* + -ER.]

1. One who begets; a procreator.

c 1140 Promp. Parv. 28/2 Begetare, as a fathyr, genitor. Begetare, as mother, genitrix. *1597 FENNER Def. Ministers (1587) 126* The begetter of this base-borne childe. *1616 CHAPMAN Muses 200* Blest was thy great begetter; blest was she Whose womb did bear thee. *1875 G. SMITH Assyri. Discov. 321* Esarhaddon, king of Assyria, .. my begetter.

2. *fig. and transf.* The agent that originates, produces, or occasions.

1597 GOLDING De Mornay iii. 28 The onely one God. .. the Begetter of the Soules of the other Gods. *1606 SHAKS. Sonnets (Inscr.)* To the onlie begetter of these insuing sonnets. ** 1637 BASTWICK Lilany III. 11* The word of God is both the begetter of faith, and the increaser of it. *1884 Pall Mall G. 2 Aug. 4/2* Dr. Alfred Wright, the ostensible begetter of these very light and graphic sketches.

Begetting, *vbl. sb.* [f. as prec. + -ING¹.]

The action or process of generating or producing; generation; also, the result of the action, progeny.
c 1300 K. Alis. 6866 Er thou weore in thy bygetyng. *1398 TREvisa Barth. De P. R. vi. xiv.* (1495) 198 A fader is heed and welle of bygetyng and gendringe. *1611 TOURNEUR Ath. Trag. iv. ii. 104* Tush! they onely father bastards That father other men's begettings. *1765 TUCKER Lt. Nat. II. 469* Begotten, not of bloods, nor of the will of the flesh, nor of the will of man, but of God. Here is a variety of begettings.

Begetting, *ppl. a.* [f. BEGET *v.* + -ING².]

Producing, creative; chiefly in comb., as *spring-begetting*, *life-begetting*, etc.

1597 DRAYTON Mortimer. 42 Like Promethian life-begetting flame. *1848 KINGSLEY Saint's Trag. II. x. 126* Marriage is the life-long miracle. The self-begetting wonder.

Beggable (beg'gäbl), *a.* [f. BEG *v.* + -ABLE.]

Capable of being begged, or obtained by begging.

a 1680 BUTLER Rem. (1759) II. 88 Things that are disposed of not beggable.

Begger (beg'gä), *sb.* Forms: 3 beggare, 4-5 beggere, 4-7 begger, 4- beggar. [See BEG *v.*]

The spelling in -ar has been occasional from 14th c., but the usual form in 15-17th c., as an ordinary agent-noun from BEG, was *begger*: see 3].

1. One who asks alms, especially habitually; one who lives by so doing.

a 1225 Ancr. R. 168 Hit is beggares [v. r. beggilde] rihte uorte beren bagge on bac. *a 1300 K. Horn 1133* Þu wenest I beo a begger. *1388a WYCLIF Deut. xv. 4* Nedi and begger there shal not be among þow. *a 1400 Destr. Troy xxxv.* 13549 And now me bus, as a beggar, my bred for to thigge. *1480 CAXTON Chron. Eng. ccxxxvii.* 262 Beggars that were knowe openly for nedly poure beggers. *1538 STARKEY England III. 91* The multitude of Beggarys in our cuntry. *1610 SHAKS. Temp. II. ii. 34* They will not giue a doyt to relieue a lame Begger. *1611 BIBLE Luke xvi. 20* A certaine begger named Lazarus. *1673 RAY Journ. Low C. 423* Near the door .. an incredible number of Beggars. *1797 GODWIN Enquirer II. iii. 187* Those who pursue the trade of a common beggar. *1857 KINGSLEY Misc. II. 326* The beggars became a regular fourth-estate.

b. *Sturdy beggar*: an able-bodied man begging without cause, and often with violence.

c 1538 STARKEY England 176 Thys grete nombur of sturdy beggarys therby schold uttily be taken away. *1597 Act 39 Ellis. iv. § 1* For the suppressing of rogues, vagabonds and sturdy beggers. *1711 STEELE Spect. No. 48* ¶ 5 The Heroes appear only like sturdy Beggars. *1860 R. VAUGHAN Mystics (ed. 2) I. 143* There are some sturdy beggars who wander about the country availing themselves of the name of Beghard to lead an idle life.

c. In many proverbial expressions.

1539 TAVERNER Erasmus. Prov. (1552) 9 One begger by-deth wo that another by the dore shuld go. *Ibid. 39* A beggars scrip is neuer fylled. *1562 J. HEYWOOD Prov. & Epigr. (1867) 23* Beggars should be no choosers. *Ibid. 38* The begger maie syng before the theefe. *Ibid. 171*, I know him as well as the begger knowh his bag. *1581 Rich Farewe. Mil. Prof.* She sware by no beggers she would be so revenged. *1594 and Pt. Contention (1843) 132* Beggars mounted run their horse to death. *1613 Uncasing Machiavil's Instr. Some 7* Proue the prouerbe often tolde, 'A carelesse Courtier yong, a Begger olde.' *1617 MORVSON Itin. III. ii. 61* Who know the way as well as a begger knowes his dish. *1688 BUNYAN Holy War 260* When Cerberus and Mr. Profane met, they were presently as great as beggars. *1690 W. WALKER Idiom. Anglo-Lat. 46* Sue a beggar and catch a louse. *1706 SWIFT Polite Conv. I. (D.)* Know him? Ay Madam, as well as a beggar knowes his dish. *1809 CORBETT Pol. Reg. XV. xii.* 429 Our own old saying: 'Set a beggar on horse-back, and he'll ride to the devil.'

2. *transf.* One in indigent circumstances.

1340 Ayenb. 36 Vor hire time-zettinge hi destrueb and makeþ beggeres þe knyghtes. *1335 COVERDALE Eccles. xxxvii. 30* Some man .. can geue .. prudent counsell .. and contynueþ a begger. *c 1550 CHEKE Matt. v. 3* Happi be y^e beggars in sprit. *1596 SHAKS. Merch. P. III. l. 48* A beggar that was vsd to come so smug vpon the Mart. *1621 BURTON Anat. Med. I. II. III. xv.* (1651) 128 Origanus assigns the same cause why Mercurialists are so poor, and most part beggers.

† 3. One who begs a favour; one who entreats, a suppliant. Obs. (The regular mod. form of this and 4 would be *begger*, as 'a beggar for mercy'.)

1589 PUTTENHAM Eng. Poetrie III. xxiv. (1811) 247 He had spent much and was an ill beggar: the king answered .. If he be ashamed to begge, we are ashamed to giue. *1601 SHAKS. All's Well I. iii. 22* Wilt thou needes be a begger? *Cl.* I doe beg your good will in this case.

† 4. One who begs the question. Obs.

1579 FULKE Heskini's Parl. 130 O shamelesse begger, that crauth no lesse then the whole controuersie to be giuen him! *a 1694 TILLOTSON (J.)* These shameful beggars of principles .. assume .. to be men of reason.

5. Applied to a mendicant friar or to a Beghard.

c 1384 WYCLIF De Eccl. Sel. Wks. III. 359 Newe sectis or ordns, boþe possessioneris & beggeria shulden cese bi Cristis lawe. *c 1400 Rom. Rose 7258* But beggers [Fr. *Beguins*] with these hodes wide, With sleight and pale faces lene.

6. As a term of contempt: a. = Mean or low fellow.

a 1300 Cursor M. 1366a 'Herd yee þis lurdan,' coth þai,

'þat beggar þat in sin was gotent?' *c 1460 Towneley Myst. 70* If sicke a beggere shold My kyngdom thus reyf me. *1869 Miss BROUGHTON Not Wisely 121* A sulky ill-conditioned sort of beggar.

b. Used familiarly or playfully. (Cf. *baggage*, *dog*, *rogue*, etc.)

1833 MARRVAT P. Simple xxxiii. Sir John left Sir W. Parker .. to watch the Spanish beggars. *1857 HUGHES Tom Brown I.* You're uncommon good-hearted little beggars. *1873 BLACK Pr. Thule xvii.* 267 The cheekiest young beggar I have the pleasure to know.

c. In cards, applied to the small cards 2 to 10.

7. *Comb.* (in which *beggar* approaches in use to an adj.) General relations: a. appositive, as *beggar-body*, -boy, -brat, -girl, -maid, -man, -wife, -woman; b. attrib. (of or befitting a beggar, beggarly), as *beggar-fear*, -pride, -sport, -whine; c. *beggar-wise* adv.; *beggar-patched* adj.

1765 TUCKER Lt. Nat. II. 126 Above the dirty 'beggar boys in the street. *a 1631 DRAYTON Wks. I. 244* (JOD.) Those 'beggar brats wrapped in our rich perfumes. *1593 SHAKS. Rich. II. I. i. 180* Or with pale 'beggar-fears impeach my hight. *1863 E. CLAYTON Queens of Some II. 172* She heard a 'beggar-girl sing beneath the window of her hotel. *1592 SHAKS. Rom. & Jul. II. i. 14* When King Cophetua lou'd the 'beggar Maid. *1605 — Lear IV. i. 32* Is it a 'Beggarm? *Oldm. Madman*, and beggar too. *1882 R. STEVENSON in Longm. Mag. I. 74* That wooden crowd of kings and genies, sorcerers and 'beggarmen. *1668 A. FOX tr. Wurst's Surg. I. iv. 15* A 'Begger-patch'd coat of several sorts of old rags. *1764 GOLDSM. Trav. 277* Here 'beggars pride defrauds her daily cheer. *1652 BROME Jov. Crew v. Wks. 1873 III. 451* The Gentleman .. that would have made 'Begger-sport with us. *1800 KEATS Isabella xvii.* Paled in and vineyarded from 'beggars-spies. *1796 SCOTT Wild Huntsm. xxvii.* To stop my sport Vain were thy cant and 'beggars whine. *1623 J. PENKERTON Handf. Hon. iv. i.* Wealth despise Which they that doat vpon, liue 'Beggars-wise. *1530 PALSGR. 197/1* 'Begger woman, *belistresse*. *1594 1st Pt. Contention (1843) 53* One of them was stolne away by a 'begger-woman. *1859 TENNYSON Enid 1528* This silken rag, this 'begger-woman's weed.

8. Special combinations: † *Beggars' bolts*, stones; † *beggar-brach*, a female beggar (see BRACH, a female hound); *beggar's brown* (*colloq.*), Scotch snuff; † *beggar's-bush*, a bush under which a beggar finds shelter (name of 'a tree near Huntingdon, formerly a noted rendezvous for beggars'—Brewer), *fig.* beggary, ruin; *beggar's buttons*, the heads of the burdock; † *beggar-charge*, allowance to a steward for the relief of beggars; *beggar's-haven*, a beggar's shelter, beggary; *beggars'-lice*, the plant called Clivers, also (in U. S.) applied to certain boraginaceous plants, whose prickly fruit or seeds stick to the clothes; † *beggar-niggler*, one who toys with a beggar-woman; † *beggar's plush* ? cotton velvet, or ? corduroy; † *beggar-staff*, the staff of a beggar, *fig.* beggary; *beggar's tape*; *beggar-tick* (in U. S.), a name for the plant *Bidens frondosa*; † *beggar's velvet*, see *beggar's plush*; also quot.: *beggar-weed* (see quot.).

1584 HUDSON Judith in Sylvester's Du Bartas (1608) 698 A pack of country clowns .. that them to battail bownes With 'beggars bolts and levers. *a 1652 BROME Jov. Crew III. Wks. 1873 III. 401* A brace of the handsomest 'Beggars-braches that ever grac'd a Ditch or a Hedge-side. *1879 JAMIESON Sc. Dict. 'Begger's brown* .. light brown snuff which is made of the stem of tobacco. *1592 GREENE Upst. Courtier (1871) 6* Walking home by 'Beggars Bush for a penance. *a 1640 DAY Perregr. Schol. (1881) 75* Notwithstanding .. Industry .. he was forc'd to take a napp at 'Beggars Bush. *1677 YARRANTON Eng. Improv. 99* We are almost at 'Beggars-bush, and we cannot tell how to help our selves. *a 1652 BROME Jov. Crew II. Wks. 1873 III. 382* Here's five and twenty pounds for this Quarters 'beggars-charge. *1732 Dice Play (1850) 22* He must needs sink, and gather the wind into 'beggars hands. *1880 New Virginians I. 133* Look at the weeds .. cockle-burrs, Spanish needles, 'beggars'-lice. *a 1652 BROME Jov. Crew II. Wks. 1873 III. 392* Do we look like 'beggars-nigglers? *1868 Lond. Gaz. No. 2399/4* A Person .. in a dark grey Cloth Coat .. Breeches of 'Beggars Plush. *1506 Plumpton Corr. 199* We are brought to 'begger staffe. *1864 ATKINSON Whilby Glass, Beggarstaff*, 'They brought him to 'beggars staff'. *1796 GLASSE Cookery xviii.* 289 Tie it very tight with 'beggars tape. *1854 THORAU Walden, Ess. 202* It was over-run with Roman worm-wood and 'beggars-ticks, which last stuck to my clothes. *1711 Lond. Gaz. No. 4888/3* A green 'Beggars Velvet Frock with Metal Buttons. *1847 HALLIWELL, 'Begger's velvet*, the light particles of down shaken from a feather-bed, and left by a sluttish housemaid to collect under it. *1876 BRITTON Plant-n. I. 33* 'Begger-weed, a name applied to several plants by farmers, either because they denote poverty of soil, or because they are such noxious weeds as to beggar the land. *1884 Times 15 Apr. 8* The 'begger weed' (unknown in England) .. stands 6 feet high all over the fields.

Beggar (beg'gä), *v.*; 6-7 begger. [f. prec. sb.]

1. *trans.* To make a beggar of, exhaust the means of, reduce to beggary; to impoverish.

1598 ROY Sat. 845 Oure master shalbe beggered Of all his ryche possession. *1592 GREENE Upst. Courtier in Harl. Misc. (Malh.) II. 232* These lawiers .. beggering their clients .. purchase to themselves whole lordships. *1594 SHAKS. Rich. III. I. iv. 145* [Conscience] beggars any man that keeps it. *1650 FULLER Pisgah iv. i.* 5 Excess will begger wealth it-self. *1709 STEELE Tatler No. 25* ¶ 8 He would beggar him by the exorbitant Bills which came from Oxford. *1864 BRIGHT Distrib. Land, Sp. (1876) 455* The Corn-law .. beggared hundreds and thousands of the people.

*On this passage, see Sidney Lee, in Athenaeum, Feb. 24, 1900, 250f.

b. fig.

1648 FULLER *Holy & Prof. St.* ii. iv. 61 Beggering the Opponent to maintain such a fruitfull generation of absurdities. 1679 Plot *Staffordsh.* (1686) 152 It sometimes beggers it [the ground] for ever after. 1735 BOLINGBROKE *Parties* 19 (T.) To beggar them out of their sturdiness.

2. To exhaust the resources of, go beyond, outdo; as in *To beggar description, compare, etc.*

1606 SHAKS. *Ant. & Cl.* ii. ii. 203 For her owne person It beggerd all description. 1769 Mrs. Piozzi *Journ. France* i. 363 A place which beggars all description. 1815 *Scribblemania* 15 Hunger's a sauce, sir, that beggars compare. 1825 COBBETT *Rur. Rides* 207 It beggars one's feelings to attempt to find words whereby to express them.

3. Comb. Beggar-my-neighbour: a simple game at cards often played by children.

1777 BRAND *Pop. Antiq.* (1849) ii. 396 *Birkie*, a childish game at cards: in England, called Beggar-my-neighbour. 1843 SOUTHEY *Doctor* cxlii. (D.) I cannot call to mind anything which is estimated so much below its deserts as the game of Beggar-my-neighbour. 1874 HELPS *Soc. Press.* xxiv. 355, I believe he would throw some spirit and some hope into 'Beggar my Neighbour.'

Beggardom (beg'gärdöm). [see -DOM.] The beggar's profession; the mendicant fraternity.

1882 *Athenæum* 23 Dec. 842/3 The kindly hospitality of the farmers on whose charity beggardom mainly thrives. 1884 C. DICKENS *Dict. Lond.* 361/1 London beggardom is a close corporation.

Beggared (beg'gärd), *pp. a.* [f. BEGGAR *v.* + -ED.] Reduced to destitution; impoverished.

1599 SHAKS. *Hen. V.* iv. ii. 43 Bigge Mars seemes banqu' rout in their begger'd Hoast. 1790 BURKE *Fr. Rev.* Wk. V. 88 The discredited paper securities of impoverished fraud, and beggared rapine, held out as a currency for the support of an empire. 1857 BUCKLE *Civilis.* i. xi. 653 A rapacious government, and a beggared exchequer.

fig. c1600 SHAKS. *Sonn.* lxviii. Beggared of blood to blush through liuely vaines. 1742 YOUNG *Nt. Th.* iv. 425 Their beggar'd blaze wants lustre for my lay.

Beggarer. [f. as prec. + -ER.] One who beggars or impoverishes.

1630 BRATHWAIT *Eng. Gentl.* (1641) 161 Enrichers of their retinue, but beggarers of their posterity. a 1640 DAY *Parl. Bees* x. 65 The poore fryes beggerer and rich Bees betraier.

Beggaresse, *monce-ud.* A female beggar.

1863 MISS POWER *Arab. Days & N.* 19 The blind beggars and beggaresses, who kiss the hem of your garment.

Beggarhood (beg'gähdud). [f. BEGGAR *sb.* + -HOOD.] The condition of a beggar; *concr.* people in this condition.

1843 THACKERAY *Irish Sk. Bk.* Wks. 1879 XVIII. 50 Benedictions delivered gratis from the beggarhood of the city. 1883 *Sunday Mag.* Aug. 487/5 A happy combination of the gentility and beggarhood of Seville.

Beggaring, *vbl. sb.* [f. BEGGAR *v.* + -ING.] Reduction to beggary. (Now gerundial.)

a 1536 TINDALE *Wks.* 375 (R.) Vnto the vitter beggering of our selues. 1609 MAU in MOORE (1849) 8 His childrens beggering, if he be a father. 1674 BREVINT *Saul at Endor* 235 For fear of beggering themselves.

Beggarly, *pp. a.* [f. BEGGAR *v.* + -ING.] That beggars or brings to beggary, ruinous.

1863 *Edinb. Rev.* Oct. 308 A hundred ducats raised... at beggarly interest.

† **Beggarish**, *a. Obs.* = BEGGARLY.

1530 PALSGR. 305/2 Beggerish, blistrous.

Beggarism. [f. as prec. + -ISM.] Practice characteristic of a beggar; professional beggary; beggarliness; extreme poverty.

1636 R. JAMES *Iter Lanc.* (1845) Introd. 85 He must leave his humility and the beggarism of a set speech. 1818 LVELL *Life, etc.* i. iv. 106 A man who rose... from beggarism to enormous affluence. 1865 *Times* 4 Feb. 5/4 A good many instances of this sturdy beggarism.

Beggar-like, *a.* Like a beggar; mean, poor.

1586 I. B. LA PRIMAUD *Fr. Acad.* 717 Not a souldiour so beggerlike, but will have his fourre lackies. 1851 H. MELVILLE *White* xix. 104 The beggar-like stranger.

Beggarliness (beg'gärliness). [f. BEGGARLY + -NESS.] Beggarly quality or condition.

1544 UDALL *Erasm. Apoph.* 97 b, His slouenrie and beggerlynesse of luyng. 1650 T. GOODWIN *Wks.* (1862) IV. 227 The beggarliness of these rudiments. 1804 SOUTHEY in *Ann. Rev.* II. 67 Poverty of imagination... beggarliness of language. 1816 J. SCOTT *Vis. Paris* 148 An apparent beggarliness as to real comforts.

Beggarly (beg'gärlī), *a.*; also 6 *bedgarly*, 6-7 *boggerly*. [f. BEGGAR + -LY.]

1. In the condition of a beggar, indigent; befitting a beggar, mean, poverty-stricken.

1545 JOVE *Exp. Dan.* vii. (R.) Poore beggerly fryers. 1596 SHAKS. *Tam. Shr.* iv. i. 140 The rest were ragged, old, and beggerly. 1704 POPE *Let.* (1736) V. 2 No beggar is so poor but he can keep a cur, and no author is so beggarly but he can keep a critic. 1848 MACAULAY *Hist. Eng.* i. 330 As children multiplied... the household... became more and more beggarly.

2. fig. Intellectually poor, destitute of meaning or intrinsic value.

1526 TINDALE *Gal. iv.* 9 Weake and bedgarly [1611 beggerly] cerimones. a 1674 CLARENDON *Hist. Reb.* III. xv. 491 Weak and beggarly Arguments. 1883 *Edin. Daily Rev.* 6 June 2/7 That most crude and beggarly conception of reform.

3. Displaying the spirit of a beggar; mean, sordid.

1577 NORTHBROOKE *Dicing* (1843) 140 The beggerly and greedy desire. 1580 SIDNEY *Arcadia* iii. 319 Thou art the beggerliest dastardly villain. 1600 SHAKS. *A. P.* L. ii. v. 29 He renders me the beggerly thanks. 1640 BR. HALL

Episc. ii. xix. 197 A very poor and beggarly evasion. 1870 EMERSON *Soc. & Solit.* viii. 170 Lapsing into a beggarly habit.

4. Comb., as *beggarly-looking*.

1818 SCOTT *Rob Roy* xxxi. A forked, uncased, bald-pated, beggarly-looking scare-crow.

Beggarly, *adv.* [f. as prec. + -LY.] After the manner of a beggar or of one who begs; a. indigently, meanly; b. suppliantly, entreatingly.

c 1400 Rom. *Rose* 223 And both bihynde & eke biforne Clouted was she beggarly. 1551 ROBINSON tr. *More's Utopia* (1869) 67 The resydewe lyve myserablye, wretchedlye, and beggerlye. 1623 DONNE *Poems* (1650) 122 But he is worst, who (beggerly) doth chaw Others wits fruits. 1850 Mrs. BROWNING *Poems* i. 58 Eve, who beggarly entreats your love.

† **Beggarty**. *Sc. Obs.* [f. BEGGAR, after poverty, etc.] = BEGGARY.

c 1505 DUNBAR *Discretion* iv. To serve and leif in beggartie. c 1540 LYNDSEAY *Pedder Coffes* 5 Knavis... That wait of nocht but beggartie.

Beggary (beg'gäri). Forms: 4 *beggeri*, *beg-ry* (e, a-6 *beggerye*, 4-7 *-erie*, 6 *-arie*, 6-7 *-ery*, 6- *beggary*. [f. BEGGAR + -Y.]

1. The state or condition of a beggar; extreme poverty. Also fig.

1377 LANGL. *P. Pl.* B. vii. 88 The boke banneth beggarie (v. r. beggerie, beggerie). 1581 MARBECK *Bk. of Notes* 7 Adulterie bringeth a man to... beggerie, and viter destruction. 1611 SHAKS. *Cymb.* v. v. 10 One that promist nought But beggerie, and poore looks. 1681 BAXTER *Apol. Noncon.* *Min.* 58 [They] drank themselves into beggerie.

1724 SWIFT *Draper's Lett.* Wks. 1755 V. ii. 58 This coin... will reduce the kingdom to beggerie. 1841 BORROW *Zin-cali* i. 242 Passing their days in beggerie and nakedness.

2. The action or habit of begging; the beggar's trade, mendicancy. *Obs.*

1608 DEKKER *Belman Lond.* Wks. 1883 III. 88 An Oration in praise of Beggerie, and of those that profess the Trade. 1649 JER. TAYLOR *Gl. Exemp.* ii. x. 139 We must be careful that our charity do not minister to idleness and the love of beggerie. 1650 B. *Discolim.* 19 Witnessse the dayly Beggarie, and nightly Robberies throughout the Land.

1764 BURN *Poor Laws* 176 Beggary is become an art or mystery, to which children are brought up from their cradles.

3. *concr.* The profession or class of beggars; a place where beggars live.

1615 CHAPMAN *Odyss.* xviii. 147 Not presume to be Lord of the guests or of the beggary. 1816 J. WILSON *City of Plague* i. l. 195 Scoffing thus At the white head of hunger'd beggary?

a 1834 LAMB *Sir J. Dunstan Misc.* Wks. (1871) 391 A burial alive in the fetid beggarie of Bethnal.

4. Beggarliness; contemptible meanness. *Obs.*

1611 SHAKS. *Cymb.* i. vi. 171 Not I... pronounce The Beggerie of his change. 1669 FORD *Lover's Mel.* i. ii. (1811) 132 So do thy knavery and desperate beggary.

5. Beggarly stuff, rubbish; 'beggarly elements'. *Obs.*

1538 BALE *Three Laves* 1674 Of yow God doth axe no soch wayne beggerie. 1553-57 FOXE *A. & M.* III. 319 Your Ceremonies in the Church be beggary and poyson. 1641 MILTON *Ch. Discip.* Wks. 1738 I. 1 The Jewish beggary of old cast Rudiments. 1644 J. FARY *God's Severity* (1645) 9 The bribes and beggary that grows about it.

6. Begging of the question. *Obs.*

a 1603 T. CARTWRIGHT *Confut. Rheni.* N. T. (1618) 448 Where... you conclude authoritie to forgiue temporall punishment, your beggary is too shamelesse.

7. **Beggary**, *a. Obs.* [f. BEGGAR *sb.* + -Y.] Beggarly, poor; mean, contemptible.

1542 UDALL *Erasm. Apoph.* 116 a, Suche beggerie wretches as had nothyng to lese. *Ibid.* 266 b, He passed by a beggerie litle tounne. 1544 ASCHAM *Taxoph.* (Arb.) 83 A Booke... wherein he... setteth out much ruffraffe... baggage and beggerie ware. 1641 J. JOHNSON *Acad. Love* 84 [They] blow a beggerie echo into the eares of their auditors.

Begged (begd), *pp. a.* [f. BEG *v.* + -ED.]

1. Obtained or sustained by begging.

1570-71 HOLINSHED *Scot. Chron.* (1806) II. 121 To lead a bare and begged life. 1641 SMECTYMNUS *Vind. Answ.* 30 What the Bishop of Salisbury saith in his begged suffrage.

2. *Begged fool*: see BEG *v.* 5.

1603 W. ROBERTSON *Phrasol. Gen.* 621 Beg'd fools, insignifier stulti, qui gemmas vitro, aurum plumbo permittunt.

3. **Begged**, *-eth.* *Obs.* [Only in phrase *a-begged*, *-eth*; f. BEG *v.* Prof. Skeat takes the original form as *beggeth*, formed in imitation of 'a hunteth' (used by Robt. Glouc. in 'to wende an honteth'), from OE. *huntað* sb. 'hunting', the ending *-eth* being extended in ME. to other verbs, and confused in form with the pa. pple. See other instances in Skeat's ed. of Chaucer's *Man of Law's T.* 146.] In phrase *To go a-begged*: to go a begging.

c 1386 CHAUCER *Frankl. T.* 852 To goon a begged in my kitle bare. 1393 LANGL. *P. Pl.* C. ix. 137 Folk that gon a-begged [v. r. abegged, a-beggyd, abegged, beggen].

4. **Beggild**. *Obs. rare* = 1. [f. BEGGEN to BEG + -ILD, termination forming female names; cf. *cheap-ild* female bargainer, *fostrild* foster-mother; also *begetild*.] 1 A female beggar.

a 1225 *Anec. R.* 168 Hit is beggilde [v. r. beggares] rihte uorte beren bagge on bac.

Begging (beg'in), *vbl. sb.* [f. BEG *v.* + -ING.]

1. The action or habit of asking earnestly; *spec.* of asking alms.

c 1380 WYCLIF *Wks.* (1880) 128 Summe by bygging and some by 3ifte. c 1410 LOVE *Bonavent. Mirr.* xii. (Gibbs MS.) 30 For beggynge lyoute forthe, bote pere be a meke

herte wyt in forthe, is lytyll werth as to perfeccione. 1608 *Return fr. Parnass.* iv. ii. (Arb.) 55 There is a statute come out against begging. 1706 tr. *Dupin's Eccl. Hist.* 16th C. II. iv. xviii. 267 Those pressing and indecent Beggings of Alms. 1837 HARE *Guesses* (1859) 152 To no kind of begging are people so averse, as to begging pardon; that is when there is any serious ground for doing so.

2. *To go* (or *have been*) *a begging*: a. to go about begging. (Cf. BEGGED.)

1535 COVERDALE *Proph.* xx. 4 Therefore shal he go abegginge and haue nothyng. 1641 MILTON *Ch. Discip.* Wks. 1738 I. 17 Where they have been a begging for it. 1825 Bro. Jonathan III. 221, I dared not go a-begging of those that knew me.

b. fig. (said of situations, offices, in need of men to fill them; things offered for sale and finding no purchaser; and the like.)

a 1593 H. SMITH *Wks.* 1867 II. 218 Sin might go a-begging for want of service. 1597 HOWSON *Serm.* 24 Dec. 34 Benefices went a begging as Ministers doe nowe. 1673 DIXON *Two Queens* i. iii. i. 117 Land almost went a-begging. 1878 H. SMART *Play or Pay* viii. 160 I'll not believe a good horse goes begging in the Covelty country.

3. *Begging of the question*: a taking for granted of the thing to be proved.

1579 FULKE *Haskins Parl.* 153 Alas, this is such a poore beggine of that in question. 1644 JESSOP *Angel of Ephesus* 10 An usual fallacie, a shameful begging of the question. 1847 L. HUNT *Men, Women, & Bks.* i. iv. 87 Reasonings of this description... are but so many beggings of the question.

4. *Attrib. and comb.*, as *begging-box*, *-expedition*, *-letter*, *-letter-writer*; *begging Thursday*, *Maundy Thursday*; *begging-wise adv.*, by way of begging, in begging fashion.

1546 PLUMPTON *Corr.* 250 Tomorrow begging Thursday, I must of force ride to Tankerslay. 1645 RUTHERFORD *Tryal Faith* (1845) 87 All that faith hath, is by way of receiving and begging-wise. 1651 C. CARTWRIGHT *Cert. Relig.* ii. 3 The Author... rid upon a long stick, or in begging shoes, as he did when he was a Friar. 1828 SCOTT *Ht. Midl.* ii. They... entered the Krames, and passed the begging-box. 1867 *Times* 7 Oct., The Begging Letter Writer has talents which it is impossible not to admire.

1868 FREEMAN *Norm. Cong.* (1876) II. App. 545 This was not the last begging expedition of Gervinus to our shore. 1871 RUSKIN *Fors Clav.* i. l. 4 My desk is full of begging letters.

Begging (beg'in), *pp. a.* [f. BEG *v.* + -ING.]

That begs, mendicant; *spec.* in *Begging friar*.

1523 *Exec. for Treason* (1675) 32 Forced to go up and down in the streets... like a begging Fryer. 1591 SPENSER *M. Hubberd* 198 A ciuile begging sect. 1795 POPE *Odyss.* xvii. 657 With the begging kind Shame suits but ill. 1766 ENTICK *London* IV. 80 An order of begging friars.

Beggingly (beg'inli), *adv.* [f. BEG *v.* + -LY.] In the manner of one who begs.

1598 FLORIO, *Implorare*, to crave beggingly. 1804 MISS MITTFORD *Village Ser.* i. (1863) 51 Even my bonnet—how beggingly she looks at that. 1857 DICKENS in *Forster Life* 319, I don't mean to do it beggingly.

† **Beggingness**. *Obs.* [f. as prec. + -NESS.] The condition of a beggar, indigence, beggary.

1382 WYCLIF *Prov.* xxiv. 34 Beggingnesse [1388 beggerie] as a man armyd. c 1384 — *Sol. Wks.* (1871) III. 371 Gif not to me beggyng or beggyngnesse.

Beghard (beg'gärd). [ad. med.L. *beghardus*, *begardus*, *begardus*, *begehurdus*, *begihardus* (see Du Cange); cf. F. *béguard*, OF. *béguart*, Flemish *beggaert*, MHG. *beghart*, *begehart*, either directly from the same word as BEGUINE (i.e. the surname *Bégué*), or at a later date from *béguine* itself, with the masc. ending *-ard*, *-hard*, here pejorative; see -ARD. OF. had also a masc. *béguin*, in which the pejorative sense was absent; and a fem. *bégarde* formed on *béguart*, with its reproachful force.

This word has been the subject of much etymological conjecture. An extraordinary error, which appears even in Littré, refers it to an alleged Flemish *beggen* 'to beg', which never existed. (On the contrary, OF. *béguart* may be the source of the English *beggar* and *beg*; see these words.) It has been by some referred directly to the adj. *bégué* 'stammerer', as if it meant originally 'stammerer', and has been 'derived' in various other ways. But its origination in the name of Lambert *Bégué* is now established beyond all dispute (Prof. Cosijn).

A name given to the members of certain lay brotherhoods which arose in the Low Countries early in the 13th c., subsequent to, and in imitation of, the female BEGUINES. 'They took no vow, and were allowed to leave the company when they liked.' The name is said soon to have been adopted by many who were simply idle mendicants: see BEGGAR. From the 14th c. they were denounced by Popes and Councils, and persecuted by the Inquisition. In the 17th c. such of them as still survived were absorbed in the Tertiarii of the Franciscans. (The name was sometimes thrown abusively at other 'heretics', as the Albigenes and Waldenses.)

1606 H. MORE *Enthns. Triumph.* 23 That religious sect of the *Beguardi*. 1764 MACLAINE *Mosheim's Eccl. Hist.* (1844) i. 333/2 note. The denominations Beghards and Beguines were given to above thirty sects or orders, which differed widely from each other in their opinions, their discipline, and manner of living. 1768 PRIESTLEY *Corrupt. Chr.* i. l. 7 The early reformers from popery got the name of Beghards.

1829 SOUTHEY *Sir T. More* II. 329 Both Beghards and Beguines, throughout Germany, very generally became Lutherans. 1863 J. LUDLOW in *Gd. Words* July 497/2 So

complete was the change that the very name of *béghard*... surviving in our *beggar*, has come to designate clamorous pauperism.

† **Beghost**, *v.* *Obs.* [f. BE-5, 6 + GHOST *sb.* Cf. *bespirit*.] *trans.* 1. To make a ghost of; to teach (one) how to play the ghost. 2. To endow with a spirit or soul. Hence † **Beghosted** *ppl. a.* 1600 ROWLANDS *Nt. Raven* 29 Let me alone... I will beghost him. 1674 N. FAIRFAX *Bulk & Selo* 182 That the same body... the same Man with body beghosted, rises.

Begift, *v.* [f. BE-6 + GIFT *sb.*] *trans.* † 1. To entrust. *Obs.* 2. To present with gifts.

a 1400 *Octonian* 675 These, where haste thou my oxen done, That y the be-gifte? c 1550 in *Hazl. E. P. P. IV.* 196 The friends that were together met, Be-gifted them richly. 1837 CARLYLE *Fr. Rev.* (1857) II. II. v. x. 81 They are harangued, benighted, begifted, the very Court... contributing something.

Begild (*bé-gild*), *v.*; also 7 **beguild**. [f. BE- + GILD.] *trans.* To cover with, or as with, gold.

1600 FAIRFAX *Tasso* XVIII. xv. 318 Begilding (with the radiant beames she threw) His helme. 1630 J. TAYLOR (*Water P.*) *Wks.* II. 471 To waste as much to polish and be-gild As would a charitable Almes-house build. 1648 EARL WESTMORL. *Otia Sacra* (1879) 38 We may with Eloquence Beguild our Speech.

Hence **Begilded**, **Begilt** *ppl. a.*

1594 CAREW *Tasso* (1881) 60 Her beguill[d]ed lockes... be-tainted red, As gold grows ruddie. a 1637 B. JONSON *Underwoods* (L.) Begilt white sleeves. 1831 CARLYLE *Sart.* *Res.* I. iv. Any Drawing room... were it never so begilt.

Begile, *obs.* form of **BEGUILE**.

Begin (*bé-gin*), *v.* 1. *Pa. t.* began (*bé-gæn*). *Pa. pple.* begun (*bé-gæn*). *Forms:* 1 *bi-*, *begin-*, 2-4 *beginnen*, 3-4 *beginne*, 3-7 *beginne*, 3- *begin*. (Also 3 *beginen*, 4 *beginne*, -*gyn*(e), *bygyn*(ne), 4-6 *begyn*(ne).) *Pa. t. sing.* 1- *be-*, *gan*, 1-5 *gigan*. (Also 2-5 *bigon*, 3-5 *bygan*, 4 *bigane*, 4-5 *bygon*(ne), 4-6 *begann*(e), *begon*(ne), 6-9 *begun*.) *plur.* 1 *bi-*, *beginnen*, 2-4 *gun-*, *nen*, 3-4 *bigun*(ne), 4-6 *beginne*, 4-9 *begun*; 4-5 *bi-*, *beginn*(e), 4- *begin*. (Also 3-4 *by-*, *gun*(ne), -*gonne*, 6- *gane*.) *Sc.* 4-7 *begouth*, 6- *gould*, -*guld*, 6-8 *goud*, 7-9 *gude*. *Pa. pple.* 1-4 *bi-*, *beginnen*, 3-5 *bigun*(ne), 4-7 *be-*, *gunne*, 4- *begin*. (Also 4-5 *bygun*(ne), *begonnen*, *bygonne*, 4-6 *begonne*, *begunnyn*, 6-7 *begon*, 7 *begone*, 7- *occ.* *begin*.)

[Of common WGer. or ?Otent. formation: OE. *bi-*, *be-ginnan* is identical with OS. and OHG. *bi-ginnan*, MHG., mod.G., Du. *be-ginnen*, MDu. *beghinnen*; f. *bi-*, BE- about + *ginnan*, an original Teutonic vb., of which however only compounds have come down to us, including (beside the preceding) Goth. *du-ginnan* to begin, OE. *gn-ginnan*, a-*ginnan*, to begin, OHG. *in-ginnan*. MHG. *en-ginnen*. The latter (OHG. and MHG.) had the senses 'to cut open, open up, begin, undertake'; hence it is inferred that the root sense of **ginnan* was 'to open, open up,' and that it was cogn. w. ON. *gína*, OE. *gínan* 'to gape, yawn,' from a stem **gi-*, appearing also in OSlav. *zj-ati*, L. *hi-äre* 'to gape, open' = Aryan **ghi-*. '*Gi-nan* might originally be a form of the *nu-* class, in which, as in *ri-nan*, *ski-nan*, and other verbs, the formative of the present was carried over into the other tenses' (Sievers). The transition of sense from 'open up' to 'begin,' is a frequent one: cf. F. *entamer*, Eng. *ATTAME*; also Ger. *eröffnen* and Eng. 'open' a speech, 'open' fire, 'open up' negotiations; also the parallel use of 'close, close up, conclude, shut up,' in sense of 'to end.' *Beginnan* was very rare in OE., where the ordinary word was *ginnan*: see *ONGIN*, *AGIN*, and the aphetic *GIN*, *GAN*. As in other verbs having grammatical vowel change in the *pa. t.*, there was an early tendency to level the forms of the 1-3 sing. *began*, and of the 2 sing. *beginne*, pl. *beginnon*, which has resulted in the establishment of *began* as the standard form; but an alternative from the old plural *begin* has also come down to the present day. The rare *pa. pple.* *began* shows form-levelling in another direction. The *Sc.* forms *begouth*, *begoud*, seem due to some form-association with *couth*, *could*, probably through the aphetic form *gan*, which became in *Sc. can*, and was thus identical in form with *can* 'to be able.']

1. *intr.* To open operations upon or in reference to (any action), to set oneself effectively to do (something), to be at the point of first contact with; to enter upon, take the first step, do the first or starting part; to commence, to start. An abstract notion, which is reached in various languages through the concrete notions of opening, broaching (F. *entamer*), going into or entering upon (L. *inire*), rousing oneself to, attacking (L. *adoriri*), setting oneself to (F. *se mettre*), seizing

hold of, or taking in hand (G. *ansfangen*), rousing oneself from inaction into activity (*start*).

a. with dative inf. with to (formerly often for to; occasionally with the inf. without to).

c 1000 ÆLFRIC *Gen.* ix. 20 Noe ba began to wircenne þæt land. c 1175 Lamb. *Hom.* 77 Nu bi-gon þau to wepen. c 1250 *Gen.* 4 Ex. 188 Ðan þat he singen bi-gan. a 1300 *Cursor M.* 3565 His heued bigines for to skak. *Ibid.* 5942 Ful yern on godd bi-gun [v. r. *beganne*] þai call. c 1374 CHAUCER *Boeth.* II. iii. 37 Þou bygonne raper to ben leet and deere Pan forto ben a neyghbour. 1375 BARBOUR *Bruce* ix. 183 Thair hertis all begouth to fale. c 1420 *Avon. Arth.* xxx. The day be-ganne to daw. 1526 *Pilgr. Perf.* (W. de W. 1531) 1 b. Therupon I begon... to wryte in latyn. a 1579 Knox *Hist. Ref. Wks.* 1846 l. 389 Thay begoud to requyre that Messe should be sett up agane. 1581 SAVILE *Tacitus Hist.* (1622) 198 The troopes of the horsemen beganne for to flee. 1611 BIBLE *Gen.* iv. 26 Then began men to call upon the Name of the Lord. 1646 Row *Hist. Kirk* (1842) 245 Many... ill-principled ministers begouth to acknowledge them. 1647 W. BROWNE *Poetaster* i. 183 The faire Gardeneresse then began speake. 1793 SKEATON *Edystone L.* § 223 The storm... begun at the south-east. a 1813 A. WILSON *Hogmanae Wks.* 295 Auld Saunders begoud for to wink. 1819 BYRON *Juan* II. clxvii, He begun to hear new words, and to repeat them. 1821 T. H. SCOTT in *Parr's Wks.* (1828) VII. 242 They have already begun to export fine wool. 1826 J. WILSON *Noct. Ambr. Wks.* 1855 l. 238 Day-life begude to roar again. 1870 H. MACMILLAN *Bible Teach.* x. 208 We began to die the moment we began to live.

¶ When the following verb is transitive, e.g. 'they have begun to cleanse it,' the passive has been variously 'it has been begun-to-cleanse,' 'it has been begun to be cleansed,' 'it has begun to be cleansed'; the last is the form now used.

c 1200 *Trin. Coll. Hom.* 99 Þe is of sinne clesed oðer bi-gunne to clesende. c 1400 MAUNDEV. v. 40 When the gret Tour of Babel was begonnen to be made. a 1657 Sir J. BALFOUR *Ann. Scotl.* (1825) II. 72 Wednesday, the 18 of Nouember, a blazinge star begude to be seine in the southe.

b. *absol.* To start or take the first step in any matter in question, or in action generally.

c 1200 *Trin. Coll. Hom.* 85 Du bigunne betere penne þu ende. c 1380 WYCLIF *Wks.* (1880) 78 Charite schuld bigyne at herself. 1458 MS. in *Dom. Arch.* III. 41 The kyng bad hem begynne upon Goddes blissing. 1535 STEWART *Cron. Scot.* III. 314 With als grit anger that tyme as tha culd, Tha left the mater war than tha beguld. 1591 SHAKS. *Two Gent.* II. iv. 32, I know it wel sir, you alwaies end ere you begin. 1612 DEKKER *If not good Wks.* 1873 l. 276 Well to begin, and not to end so were base. a 1762 LADY M. W. MONTAGUE *Lett.* lxxx. 132, I do not know how to begin.

c. *spec.* To begin a speech, to start speaking,

to speak. 1563 *Mirr. Mag. Induct.* xix. My spirits returnd, and then I thus begonne. 1667 MILTON *P. L.* I. 83 To whom th' Arch-Enemy... Breaking the horrid silence, thus began: 1795 POPE *Odyss.* iv. 82 Soft-whispering thus to Nestor's son... young Ithacus began...

d. *Const. To begin at* (formerly *from*): to start from a point. *To begin with* (formerly *at, from, by*): to start with an action or thing affected; to begin by doing something. *To begin with*, (*withal* *obs.*), *advb. phr.*: At the outset, as the first thing to be considered.

c 1325 E. E. *Allit. P. A.* 546 Bygyn at þe laste þat standez lowe, tyl to þe fyrst þat þou at-teny. c 1380 WYCLIF *Tres Tract.* 24 Bigynne we at the freris, the whiche he brougte laste into. 1380 *Luke* xxiii. 5 Bigynnyng fro Galilee til hidur [TINDALE, at Galilee even to this place; *Remick*, from Galilee euen hither; 1611 from Galilee to this place]. 1531 TINDALE *Expos. & Notes* (1849) 220 And, to begin withal, they said *Confiteor*. 1536 K. BEERLEY in *Four C. Eng. Lett.* 35 Some cum to mattens, begynnyng at the mydes, and some when yt ys almost done. 1564 FOXE *A. & M.* I. 452/2 First, beginning with that godly man... the Author of the Book. a 1563 BALE K. *Johan* (1837) 47 Fyrst to begyne with, we shall interdyte the lond. 1611 BIBLE *Matt.* xx. 8 Beginning from the last unto the first [WYCLIF, to; *Geneva*, at the laste til [to] the first]. 1631 GOUGE *God's Arrows* iii. § 2. 182, I will begin with the Assauller, who is... said to be Amalek. 1697 DRYDEN *Alexander's Feast* II. The song began from Jove. 1739 CHESTERF. *Lett.* I. xxxix. 124 The Spaniards began their conquests... by the islands of St. Domingo and Cuba. 1774 *Ibid.* 2, I am told, Sir, you are preparing to travel, and that you begin by Holland. 1819 BYRON *Juan* I. vii, My way is to begin with the beginning. 1843 CARLYLE *Past & Present* 324 The noble Priest was always a noble *Aristos*, to begin with. 1860 MILL *Repr. Govt.* 278 It is obvious, to begin with, that all business purely local... should devolve upon the local authorities.

2. *trans.* (in same sense) with a *vbl. sb.*, or other noun expressing action; also *ellipt.* with any *sb.* treated as a piece of work, as *to begin* (*writing*) *a letter*, *to begin* (*reading*) *a book*.

c 1175 Lamb. *Hom.* 93 Þet weorc was bigunnen on-þen godes iwillan. a 1300 *Cursor M.* 266 Now þis prologue wil we blin, In crist nam our bok begin. 1307 *Elegy Edw. I.* viii, Bring to ende that thou hast by-gonne. 1433 CAXTON *G. de la Tour* E v j b, He began werre to his neyghbours and to his Barons. 1513 DOUGLAS *Eneis* v. ii. 36 This sacrifice quhilk I begunnyn haif. 1699 BENTLEY *Phal.* ii. 62 They begun their Reigns at the same time. 1722 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 6051/1 His Royal Highness began the Ball with the Princess. 1751 CHATHAM *Lett. Nephew* ii. 6, I rejoice to hear you have begun Homer's *Iliad*. 1835 CRABBE *Par. Reg.* I. 276 With evil omen, we that year began.

b. *intr.* To begin on or upon: To set to work upon, begin to deal with.

1808 SOUTHEY *Life* (1850) III. 163, I will not begin upon it till I come to a stop in Kehama.

3. *trans.* To start (anything) on its career, to

give origin to, bring into existence, create; to be the first to do or practise. Of works, practices, or institutions, lasting through time.

c 1175 Lamb. *Hom.* 59 Alle þe scafte þe he bi-gon. c 1250 *Gen.* 4 Ex. 447 Dis Lamech was þe firme man þe bigamie first bigan. c 1385 CHAUCER *L. G. W.* 1007 Dido... This noble toun of Cartage hath bygonne. 1704 POPE *Windsor For.* 61 Proud Nimrod first the savage chase began. 1846 GROTE *Greece* I. xviii. II. 14 Archelaus... alleged to have first begun the dynasty of the Temenid Kings.

4. *intr.* To enter upon its career, come into existence, take its rise, originate; to arise, start.

a. in reference to time.

c 1250 *Gen.* 4 Ex. 236 Here first name þor bigan. a 1300 *Cursor M.* 5342 Par lijs adam, þe forsmat man, And eue of quam we all bigann. 1393 GOWER *Conf.* I. 26 And than a newe [world] shal beginne. 1513 MORRIS *Rich.* III. (1641) 235 If the world would have begunne as I would have wished. 1598 SYLVESTER *Du Bartas* I. i. (1641) 2/1 Eternally before this World begun. 1608 FULBECKE *1st Pt. Parall.* 28 All perfection, goodness, and iustice beginneth at him. 1611 BIBLE *Numb.* xvi. 46 There is wrath gone out from the Lord; the plague is begun. 1875 BYRCE *Holy Rom. Emp.* (ed. 5) Sup. 405 The greatness of the Prussian monarchy begins with Frederick II. 1883 H. DRUMMOND *Nat. Law in Spir.* W. 386 All life begins at the Amœboid stage.

b. of order in a list or series, place in a book, etc. a 1225 *St. Mark.* 1 Her begynneth þe lifaðe and te pasion of seinte Margarete. 1380 WYCLIF *Matt.* ad fin., Here endith the gospel of Mathe and bygynneth the prolog of Mark. 1485 CAXTON *Chas. Gt.* 3 Here begynnen the chappytres and tytles of this book following. *Mod.* A new story begins in the present number. The paragraph begins about the middle of the page.

c. in reference to space.

a 1300 *Cursor M.* 1035 Þis flummes four þat þar bigynnes, thoru out all oþer contres rinnen. 1517 TORKINGTON *Pilgrimage* (1884) 23 At this Jaffe begynnyth the holy lond. *Mod.* The pine-forests begin at an elevation of two thousand feet.

5. *Phrases.* † *To begin the board, dais, etc.*: to sit at the head of the table. † *To begin a toast*: to propose a toast. † *To begin to a person*: to pledge, toast that person. *To begin the world*: to start in life. *To begin upon a person* (*colloq.*): to attack or assail a person.

c 1385 CHAUCER *Prolog.* 52 Ful ofte tyme he hadde the bord bygonne Aboven alle nacions in Pruce. c 1430 *Syr Tryam.* 1636 Quene Margaret began the deysse. 1493 *Festivall* W. de W. 1515 85 b, That they sholde bere them to hym that began the table [at Cana]. 1608 EARLE *Microcosm.* lxxvi. 157 That is kind o'er his beer, and protests he loves you, And begins to you again. 1633 Br. HALL *Hard Texts* 36 Can yee drinke of that bitter cup wherein I shall begin to you? 1715 BURNET *Owen Time* II. 117 At Sanctroft's consecration dinner, he began a health, to the confusion of all that were not for a war with France. c 1825 Mrs. SHERWOOD *Houliston Tr.* II. xxxii. 4 All the company began upon her, and bade her mind her own affairs. 1833 Ht. MARTINEAU *Br. Farm* iv. 53 Do you know... with how much land Mr. Malton began the world?

† **Begin** (*bé-dzín*), *v.* 2 *Obs.* *Forms:* 3- *by-*, *gynne*, 4 *bigin*, *bigyn*, *biginn*(e), *begyn*, *begin*. [f. BE- + GIN, a trap.] *trans.* To entrup, ensnare.

c 1250 O. E. *Misc.* 79 Ure wyperwine þat þencheþ vs to bi-gynne. a 1300 *Cursor M.* 3880 Allas for sinn, qua wend he wald þus me biginn.

† **Begin**, *sb.* *Obs. rare* -1. [f. **BEGIN** *v.* 1] Beginning.

1596 SPENSER *F. Q.* III. iii. 21 Let no whit thee dismay The hard beginne that meetes thee in the dore.

Begin, **beginck**, *obs.* f. **BEGIN**, **BIGIN**, **BEGUNK**. **Beginger**, *etc.*: see **BE-pref.**

Beginner (*bé-gin-nar*). [f. **BEGIN** *v.* 1 + -ER.]

1. One who begins; an originator, founder.

c 1325 E. E. *Allit. P. A.* 436 Blessed bygynner of vch a grace. 1480 CAXTON *Chron. Eng.* cxxxvii. 117 Of the whiche abbay he was bygynner and foundour. 1547 BAULDWIN *Mor. Philos.* (Palfy. 1564) x. v. The most gracious and mighty beginner is God, which in the beginning created the world. 1592 SHAKS. *Rom. & Jul.* III. i. 146 Where are the vile beginners of this Fray? 1790 BURKE *Fr. Rev.* Wks. V. 49 All the beginners of dynasties. 1863 (16 June) BRIGHT *Amer.* 52, 130 The South, which was the beginner of the war.

2. *spec.* One beginning to learn; a novice, a tyro. 1470-85 MALORY *Arthur* II. xiv. (1634) 367 But young beginners. 1526 *Pilgr. Perf.* (W. de W. 1531) 156 b, Suche that be vnlerned in religyon... as nouyceos or yonge bygynners. 1601 HOLLAND *Pliny* VIII. xlviii. (R.) New beginners (namely, young souldiours, barristers, and fresh brides). 1760 Sir J. REYNOLDS *Disc.* vii. (R.) The very enumeration of its kinds is enough to frighten a beginner. 1807 BYRON *Granat* xx, A band of raw beginners. 1875 JOWETT *Plato* (ed. 2) I. 139 For the use of the young beginner.

† 3. He who or that which goes or comes first, or takes the lead. *Obs.*

c 1613 ROWLANDS *Morre Knaues* 35 Being set to dinner, A legge of mutton was the first beginner. Next he deuoured vp a loyne of veale.

Beginning (*bé-gin-nin*), *vbl. sb.* Also *bi-*, *by-*, *gyn*(n) *yn*; 2-3 -*unge*. [f. **BEGIN** *v.* 1 + -ING.]

1. The action or process of entering upon existence or upon action, or of bringing into existence; commencing, origination.

a 1225 *Leg. Kath.* 289 As eueþ þing hefde beginnunge of his godlec. a 1300 *Cursor M.* 838 Þar þai biggning gan to tak. c 1400 MAUNDEV. 316 Withoute beginnyngne and withouten endyng. 1570 BILLINGSLEY *Euclid* I. def. iii. 2 A line hath his beginning from a point. 1579 FENTON *Guicciard.* (1618) 288 Maximilian then being come to Trent, to giue beginning to the warre. 1635 SWAN *Spec. M.* (1670)

17 The world... was not for everlasting, but took beginning. 1883 FROUDE *Short Stud.* IV. ii. 1. 171 The beginning of change, like the beginning of strife, is like the letting out of water.

b. viewed as a definite fact belonging to anything extended in time or space.

a 1225 *Anscr. R.* 18 Et te beginninge of be Venite. c 1530 R. HILLES *Comm. pl. Bk.* (1858) 140 All thyngs hath a beginning. 1530 TAVERNER *Erasm. Prov.* 9 The beginninge is halfe the hole. 1562 J. HEYWOOD *Prov. & Epigr.* (1867) 21 Of a good beginning cometh a good end. 1590 SHAKS. *Mids. N. v.* i. 111 That is the true beginning of our end. 1780 J. HARRIS *Philol. Eng.* (1841) 421 A beginning is that, which nothing necessarily precedes, but which something naturally follows. 1836 GEN. P. THOMPSON *Exerc.* (1842) IV. 99 As was shrewdly intimated, in respect of the question of Primogeniture this is only 'the beginning of the end.'

2. The point of time at which anything begins; *absol.* the time when the universe began to be.

c 1175 *Lamb. Hom.* 81 Pis bitacned be world bet was from beginninge. 1388 WYCLIF *Gen. i.* 1 In the beginninge God made of nouȝt heuene and erthe. 1535 COVERDALE *Hab. i.* 12 Thou o Lorde... art from the beginninge. 1611 BIBLE 1 *John* ii. 13 Yee haue known him that is from the beginning. 1875 BRYCE *Holy Rom. Emp.* vi. (ed. 5) 77 Germany proclaims the era of A.D. 843 the beginning of her national existence.

3. That in which anything has its rise, or in which its origin is embodied; origin, source, fount. c 1200 *Trin. Coll. Hom.* 73 Pe shame be pe man haueð of his sinne... is be beginninge of fremfulle sinbote. a 1225 *Anscr. R.* 54 Beginninge & rote of bis ilke reoude. 1486 *Bk. St. Albans, Her. Ajb.* Adam the beginninge of man kynde. 1611 BIBLE *Col. i.* 18 The head of the body, the Church: who is the beginning, the first borne from the dead. 1831 CARLYLE *Sart. Res.* ii. 1. (1838) 101 Thy true... Beginning and Father is in Heaven.

† b. A first cause, first principle. *Obs.* 1597 GOLDING *De Mornay* vi. 63 The Magies held three beginnings, whom... they called Oromaces, Mitris, and Arimimis, (that is to say) God, Minde, and Soule.

c. *concr.* The head or chief extremity. 1483 *Cath. Angl.* 26 Beginninge, *caput.* 1576 BANISTER *Hist. Man* iv. 62 The second Mistle begynneth at the same Tubercle... with a sharpe beginninge.

4. The earliest or first part of any space of time, of a book, a journey, etc.

1297 R. GLOUC. 390 In be beginninge of Jule þys batayle was ydo. c 1380 WYCLIF *Wks.* (1880) 385 As Lyncolnyence saip in be beginninge of his dicitis. 1473 WARKW. *Chron.* 11 In the beginninge of the moneth of Octobre. 1549 *Bk. Com. Pr.* 3rd Collect Grace, Who hast safely brought us to the beginning of this day. 1611 BIBLE *Num. x.* 10 In the beginnings of your monethes, ye shall blow with the trumpets over your burnt offerings. 1743 J. MORRIS *Servu.* ii. 35 He explains himself in the beginning of this chapter.

5. The initial or rudimentary stage; the earliest proceedings. Often in *plur.*

c 1200 *Trin. Coll. Hom.* 83 Perfore wurd here ende werse þene here beginninge. 1340 *Aeneid.* 72 Þane dyab þet is to be guoden beginninge of liue. 1548 COVERDALE *Erasm. Par. Gal.* 14 Vnder the grosse beginninges of this worlde. 1611 BIBLE *Job* viii. 7 Though thy beginning was small, yet thy latter end should greatly increase. 1690 W. WALKER *Idiom. Ang.-Lat.* Pref. i. A considerable increase to my beginnings. 1776 ADAM SMITH *W. N.* i. x. 132 Great fortunes acquired from small beginnings. 1790 BURKE *Fr. Rev.* Wks. V. 39 The beginnings of confusion with us in England. 1876 GREEN *Short Hist.* ix. § 1. (1882) 597 The beginnings of physical science were more slow and timid there.

† 6. An undertaking. *Obs.*

1481 CAXTON *Myrr.* iii. xxiv. 192 In alle beginninges and in all operations the godd ought to be called.

Beginning, *ppl. a.* [f. BEGIN v. 1 + -ING 2.]

1. That comes into existence or begins its course; incipient, commencing.

1576 GRINDAL *Custom & Ver.* Wks. (1843) 72 The primitive and beginning church. 1650 JER. TAYLOR *Holy Living* (1727) 201 He helpt my slow and beginning endeavours. 1775 DE LOLME *Eng. Constit.* ii. xvii. 293 He peaceably weathered the beginning storm. 1829 S. TURNER *Mod. Hist. Eng.* III. ii. xviii. 540 [She] waited for her parliament to be the beginning innovators.

2. Coming first or in front; leading the way. 1609 DOULAND *Ornith. Micro.* 40 Euery Beginning Note without a taylor, if the second Note ascend, is a Breefe.

Hence † **Beginningly**, *Obs.* in 4 **beginnyndly**, initially, at the beginning.

a 1340 HAMPOLE *Psalter* cxviii. 152 Bigynnyndly, that was fra bigynnyng of mannys kynd. i. knew that thou hight the kyngdome of heuen till thi lufers.

Beginningless, *a.* [f. BEGINNING *vbl. sb.* + -LESS.] Without beginning; uncreate. Hence **Beginninglessness**.

1597 GOLDING *De Mornay* ix. 119 And that time should be beginning lesse, what els is it to say, than that time is not time. 1602 J. DAVIES *Mirum in M.* (1875) 16 All wise, all good, all great, beginninglesse. 1674 N. FAIRFAX *Bulk & Set.* 158 A beginningless, endless now. 1832 CARLYLE in Froude *Life* II. xii. 271 All speculation is beginningless and endless. 1865 GINSBURG *Kabbalah, Proc. L. pool. Lit. & Phil. Soc.* XIX. 299 On the beginninglessness of the first and necessary first Emanation.

Begird (*bġd*), *v.* Pa. t. and pple. **begirt**. [OE. *begyrdan* (= OHG. *bigurten*) f. *bi-*, BE- + *gyrdan*:-OTeut. **gyrdjan* to GIRD.]

1. *trans.* To gird about or around; chiefly used of fastening a girdle or belt round the body, or of fastening on a sword by means of a belt. Also *fig.* c 1000 *Ag. Ps.* xvii. 37 Þu me begyrdest mid mægenum. c 1315 SHORHAM 51 Hym with a touwayle schete Ihesus... by-gerde. 1583 STANVHURST *Aeneis* l. (Arb.) 28 My deere

sisters with quiver closely begyrded. 1768 BEATTIE *Minstr.* ii. xxv. Breasts begirt with steel 1865 ADLER *Fauriel's Prov. Poetry* xv. 399 Begirding the young warrior with the sword.

2. To encircle, encompass, enclose, with. c 890 K. ÆLFRED *Beda* i. v. He þæt ealond begyrde and gefestnade mid dice. a 1225 *Anscr. R.* 378 3unge mipen me bigurt mid þornes. 1622 HEYLIN *Cosmogr.* II. (1682) 114 A Demi-Island begirt with rocks. 1667 MILTON *P. L.* i. 581 Vthers Son Begirt with British and Armoric Knights. 1814 CARY *Dante's Inf.* xviii. 11 Where... many a foss Begirds some stately castle. 1846 LONGF. *Occult. Orion* 33 Begirt with many a blazing star.

fig. 1633 G. HERBERT *Sinne in Temple* 37 Lord, with what care hast thou begirt us round! 1876 MISS SIDGWICK *Live & let Live* 62 With what blessings has... Providence begirt labor!

† 3. *spec.* To beset in hostile array, to besiege. *Obs.* as a *spec. use.*

1597 GREENE *Armad.* (1616) 62 Melicertus begirt the Castle with a siege. 1618 BOLTON *Florus* II. xvi. 139 Now the City it self was begirt with a siege. 1643 [ANGIER] *Lanc. Vall. Actor* 32 Lancaster called aloud for relief, having been begirt twenty dayes. 1791 COWPER *Liad* II. 885 The Epean host had round Begirt the city.

Begirding, *vbl. sb.* [f. *prec.* + -ING 1.] The action of girding about or enclosing.

1641 C. BURGESS in Spurgeon *Treas. Dav.* Pa. lxxvi. 10 The begirding or binding of it in on every side.

Begirding, *ppl. a.* [f. as *prec.* + -ING 2.] That begirds or encloses all round.

1777 WAXELL *Hugo's Miserables* v. xviii. 11 The masonry of the begirding drain.

Begirdle (*bġd*), *v.* [f. BE- + GIRDLE.]

trans. To encompass or bind like a girdle or belt. 1837 CARLYLE *Fr. Rev.* III. vii. 368 Like a ring of lightning, they... begirdle her from shore to shore. 1850 — *Letter-d. Pamph.* viii. (1872) 285 Restless gnawing ennui... begirdles every human life so guided.

Hence, **Begirdled**, *ppl. a.*

1853 SCOTT *Rokby* II. i. Rock-begirdled Gilmanscar.

Begirt (*bġt*), *v.*; also 7 **begirth**. [f. BE- + GIRT v., a late secondary form of GIRD, taken apparently from the pa. pple. *girt*, or perhaps from *girt*, *obs. f.* of GIRTH *sb.*] *trans.* To surround, encompass, enclose. (It has not the literal sense of *begird*.)

1608 HIERON *Wks.* I. 747 Begirt vs with Thy fauour. 1658 USSHER *Anno* 530 Heo had begirthed the place with a triple wall. 1720 STYVE *Stow's Surv.* II. vi. 87 The Parish of St. Martin's... begirtheth it on all Parts. 1862 DANA *Elem. Geol.* 733 The lofty mountains and volcanoes which begirt it.

Hence **Begirt**, **begirting**, *ppl. a.*, **begirting**, *vbl. sb.*

1645 MILTON *Tetrach. Wks.* (1851) 233 With a begirting mischief. 1660 H. MORE *Myst. Godl.* v. xvi. 198 The begirting of the holy City by the numerous armies of Gog and Magog. 1790 COWPER *Liad* II. 681 Sea-begirt Ægina.

Beglad, **beglare**, etc.: see BE-*pref.*

Begle, *obs. form* of BEAGLE.

† **Beglerbeg** (*beglærbeg*). Also 6 **bellerbey**, 6-g **beglerbey**, 7 **beglarbeg**. [A Turk. *begler* = bey of beys; cf. BEG (of which *begler* is plural).] The governor of a province of the Ottoman empire, in rank next to the grand vizier.

Hence **Begler-beglic**, -lik, -luo, the district over which a beglerbeg rules, the dignity or office of a beglerbeg. Also **Beglerbegship**.

1594 T. B. La Primaud. *Fr. Acad.* 631 Neither doth any other sit there but the twelve bellerbeis. 1602 CAREW *Cornwall* 126 a, A Turkish Beglerbey of Greece. 1603 KNOLLES *Hist. Turkes* (1621) 945 It is now one of the Turkes proud Beglerbegships. 1614 SELDEN *Titles Hom.* 377 *Begler-Beg* is Lord of Lords, that is one which hath vnder his gouernment diuers Begs of lesser Prouinces. And *Beglic* is the Dignitie of the one, *Beglarbeglic* of the other. 1624 MASSINGER *Renegado* III. iv. What places of credit are there?... There's your beglerbeg. 1833 C. HOBHOUSE *Journey* 162 Reckoned the eighth under the Beglerbey of Romania.

Beglic (k), variant of BEYLIC.

Beglide, **beglitter**, **beglose**, etc.: see BE-*pref.*

Begloom (*bġglu:m*), *v.* [f. BE- + GLOOM.] To render gloomy, to overshadow with gloom.

1799 CORRY *Sat. Lond.* (1803) 197 Sometimes... melancholy begloomed his mind. 1835 BECKFORD *Recoll.* 46 The rectory... begloomed by dark-coloured painted windows. 1855 SINGLETON *Virgil* II. 369 Sirius... doth arise, And with disastrous light beglooms the sky.

† **Beglew**, *v.* *Obs.* Also 7 **beglew**. [f. BE- + GLUE v.] *trans.* To fix with glue, or by gluing.

1658 ROWLAND *Mouffet's Theat. Ins.* 1067 The Spider either new weaves them, or else beglews them anew. 1664 POWER *Exp. Philos.* i. 5 She can... be-glew herself to the plain she walks on.

b. † To ensnare, delude, cheat. (But there may be some error in the quotation; or is it = *illusi* from *glewen* to play?)

c 1430 LYDGATE *Min. Poems* 115 Thus they went from the game, beglyd and beglued.

Begnaw (*bġn*), *v.* Pa. pple. 6 **begnawn**. [OE. *begnagan*, f. BE- + gnagan to GNAW.] *trans.* To gnaw at; to corrode; to nibble.

a 1000 *Martyrol.* 9 Jul. (Bosw.) 1555 PHAER *Æneid* III. Gijb, The pray... begnawn ful fowle they leaue. 1594 SHAKS. *Rich. III.* l. iii. 222 The Worme of Conscience still begnaw thy Soule. 1880 WEBB *Tr. Goethe's Faust* i. iii. 87 Commands thee [i.e. a rat]... yonder threshold spell begnaw.

† **Bego**, *v.* *Obs.* exc. in *pa. pple.* **begone**.

Forms: 1 **begán**, 3 **bigan**, 4 **begon**, **bigo**. *Pa. t.* 1 **beode**, 3 **bleode**, 4 **byede**, 4-5 **bywent**. *Pa. pple.* 1 **begán**, 2 **bigan**, 3 **bigon**, 4 **begon**, -**goo**, **bigo**, -**gon**(nen), -**gone**, -**goo**(n), **bygo**(n), -**gone**, -**goo**(n), *Sc.* **begane**, 5 **begoon**, **bygone**, *Sc.* **bigane**, 5-6 **begon**, 6 *Sc.* **bygone**, 4-**begone**. [Comm. Teut.: OE. *begán*, Goth. *bigaggan*, OS. *bigangan*, OHG. *bigán*, MHG. *begán*, *-gên*, mod.G. *begehen*, Du. *begaan*; f. *bi-*, BE- about + *gangan*, *gán* to Go.]

† 1. *trans.* To go about, occupy, inhabit; to work, cultivate. (*L. colere*.) *Obs.*

c 890 ÆLFRED *Beda* i. xxvi. (Bosw.) Mid 3y Romane 8a xyt Breotone be-eodan. c 1000 ÆLFRED *Gram.* (Zup.) 24 *Agricola*, se ðe æcer begæð. c 1000 Sax. *Leechd.* i. 94 *Peos wyrt... whist on beganum landum.* 1393 GOWER *Conf.* I. 152 The erthe it is, whiche evermo With mannes labour is bego.

† 2. To go round; to compass, encompass. *Obs.* c 1000 ÆLFRED *Job* i. 7 Ic ferde geond 8as eorþan and hi be-eode. 1205 LAV. 11000 Al þat þe sæ bigað. 1387 TREVISIA *Higden* I. 311 [Crete] is bygoon wþ þe see of Grece.

† 3. To go about hostilely, beset, overrun (in hostile sense). Also *fig.*; cf. 8. *Obs.*

a 855 O. E. *Chron.* an. 775 He... bone bur utan beode. c 1175 *Lamb. Hom.* 149 Þet isich... his emcristene... mid sicnesse bigan. c 1380 *Sir Ferum.* 3429 Al þe contre... ful by-gon wyþ enymys. c 1400 *Warres of Jewes* in War-ton *Hist. Poetry* (1840) II. 106 Whippes... bywent his white sides. 1602 WARNER *Alb. Eng. Epit.* (1612) 363 Brencia, and Daira... were begone seuerally within three yeares... vnder two Saxons named Ida and Ella.

† 4. To get round with craft, to talk over. *Obs.* 1362 LANGE *P. Pl.* A. II. 24 Gyle hap bigon hire so heo graunteþ al his wille. c 1380 *Sir Ferum.* 2013 Many ys þe manlich man! þat þow womman ys by-go. 1387 TREVISIA *Higden* VI. 213 Þe queene bygyde here housbonde.

† 5. To surround, environ, furnish. *Obs.* 1393 GOWER *Conf.* II. 227 He was wel begone With faire daughters manyone.

† 6. To dress; to clothe, attire, deck, adorn. *Obs.* a 1225 *Leg. Kath.* 1614 Pe engles... smreden hire wunden, and bleden swa þe bruchen of hire bodi. c 1325 *Coer de L.* 5661 Hymself was rychely begoo, From the crest unto the too. 1393 GOWER *Conf.* II. 45 The sadels were... With perle and gold so well begone. *Ibid.* 228 His moder to him tolde [the cause] That she him hadde so begone. c 1400 *Pallad. on Husb.* i. 630 Al golde begoon his tail. 1513 DOUGLAS *Aeneis* VI. l. 28 The... hous of brycht Appollo gold bygane.

† 7. *passive.* To be permeated, tainted, infected. 1205 LAV. 19773 Þa wes þa welle anan al mid attre bigon. c 1430 *Syr Gower.* 4195 The ground was al begoon with bloode.

8. To beset as an environment or affecting influence, good or evil; to affect as one's environment does. Now only in *pa. pple.* in *woc-begone* 'affected by an environment of woe,' and the like. (The original phrase was 'him was wo begone,' i.e. to him woe had closed round; but already in Chaucer we find the later construction in 'He was wo begone'; *need-begone* is in Barbour.)

c 1300 *Vox & Wolf* 53 Go wei, quod the kok, wo the bi-go! c 1314 *Gny Warw.* 120 Yuel ows worth than bigo. c 1375 BARBOUR *St. Alexis* 92 Al þat he saw ned-begane. c 1386 CHAUCER *Man of Lawes* T. 820 Wo was this wretched womman tho bigoon. — *Wife's Prolog.* 606, I was... riche and yonge and wel begon. — *Miller's T.* 472 Absolon that is for loue alwey so wo bigon. c 1400 *Sir Perc.* 349 The lady was never more sore bygone. c 1440 *LONELICH Grail* xlviii. 373 Elles ben we ful euele begon. c 1440 *Sir Gower* 435 Ful wel was him by gone. 1593 T. WATSON *Sonn.* (Arb.) 197 My hart doth whisper I am we begone me. 1794 W. BLAKE *Songs Exper.*, *Little Girl Found*, Tired and woe-begone. 1825 WATERTON *Wand. S. Amer.* 310 It appears sad and woe-begone.

† **Bego'd**, *v.* *Obs.* *rare.* [f. BE- + GOD.] *trans.* To make a god of, to deify.

a 1576 GRINDAL *Fruitful Dial.* Wks. (1843) 48 Caused men to kneel and crouch down and all-to be-god him. 1656 H. MORE *Enthus. Tri.* Wks. (1712) 27 Tho' they have so deify'd, or (as they phrase it) begodded themselves.

Hence **Bego'dded**, *ppl. a.*

1660 H. MORE *Myst. Godl.* vi. xviii. 273 This begodded Mock-Prophet. a 1716 SOUTH *Serm.* xix. (1843) II. 329 Setting up... begodded tutelar saints.

Begone (*bġgn*), *ppl. a.*: see BEGO v. 8.

Begone (*bġgn*), *v.*: also 7 **begon**. [Really two words *be gone* (cf. *be off*), long used without analysis in the imperative as expressing a single notion, and so written as one word; recent writers have extended this, without any good reason, to the infinitive. But cf. the similar *be ware*.]

a. c 1370 *Robt. Cicyle* 52 He stode, And calld the portar, 'Gad'lyng, begone!' 1610 *Histrio-m.* III. 99 Begone yee greedy bee-eaters. a 1719 ADDISON (*J.*) Begone! the goddess cries with stern disdain. 1853 *Arab. Nts.* (Rldg.) 82 Begone, and remember I am impatient for your return.

b. [1660] JER. TAYLOR *Worthy Communion* i. 61 He had him be gon and fly from his Fathers wrath.] 1816 J. WILSON *City of Plague* i. i. 265 Let us begone, the day is wearing fast. 1865 CARLYLE *Fredk. Gl.* (1873) II. 135 Kaiser's Ambassador... is angrily ordered to begone.

† Used for the word or command 'Begone!' 1800 SCOTT *Abbot* xi, My Lady made me brook the 'Be-gone.'

† Formerly sometimes for *be* (= *been*) *gone*. 1440 J. SHIRLEY *Dethe K. James* (1818) 17 The Kyng... denyd that they had all begone [been gone].

Begonia (*bġgnā*). [Named by Plumier 97]

after Michel Begon, a French promoter of botany, 1638-1710.] A genus of succulent under-shrubs and herbaceous plants, mostly of tropical nativity, having flowers without petals but with coloured perianths, and often richly-coloured foliage, for the sake of which many species are cultivated as ornamental plants. Said by Loudon to have been introduced into Great Britain from Jamaica in 1777, but little cultivated before 1840.

1751 CHAMBERS *Cycl. Suppl.* s.v. The great purple *begonia* with auriculated leaves. 1881 Miss BRADDON *Asph.* I. 304 All the tribe of begonias, and house-leeks, newly bedded out. 1883 *Pall Mall G.* 7 Sept. 4/1 The well-known Begonias and Fuchsias; which have...withstood the late storms better than any of their rarer rivals.

† **Begore**, *v. Obs.*; also 6-7 *begoar*. [f. BE-6 + GORE.] *trans.* To besmear with gore. Hence **Begored** *pp. a.*

c 1500 *Coché Lorettes B.* (1843) 2 A bocher... All be gored in reed blade. 1573 TWYNN *Æneid* x. G. g. The corps he lifts, begoring all with blood. 1614 SYLVESTER *Bethulia's Resc.* vi. 156 The Sword Which had so oft the groaning Earth begor'd. 1683 TRYON *Way to Health* 445 To think of putting those be-gored Gobbets into our Mouths.

Begotten (bĕg'ot'n), *pp. a.*; also 4 *bigetun*, 5 *bygoten*, 5-6 *begot(e)*. [pa. pple. of BEGET *v.*] + 1. *Gotten*. (With *right*-, etc. prefixed.) *Obs.*

c 1300 ORMIN 1645 Rihhtbijetenn ahhte. 1523 FITZHERB. *Husb.* (1525) 63 A glad gyuer... of true begoten goodes.

2. *Procreated*. (Usually with *only*-, *first*-.)

138a WYCLIF *John* iii. 16 His oon bigetun sone. 1480 CAXTON *Chron. Eng.* ccxxvi. 232 Edward his first bygoten sone. 1587 GOLDING *De Moray* vi. 66 [Plato] calleth him the begotten Sonne of the Good. 1597 HOOKER *Ecl. Pol.* v. xlviii. § 5 The only begotten Son of God. 1608 WARNER *Alb. Eng.* x. lix. 261 [Ammon] his Issue first-begot.

B. absol.
138a WYCLIF *John* i. 14 The glorie as of the oon bigetun of the fadir. 1611 BIBLE *Rev.* I. 5 The first begotten of the dead. 1685 BAXTER *Paraphr. N. T.* Matt. i. 8 With the Hebrews called the Son or Begotten.

Begrace (bĕgrĕ's), *v.* [f. BE-5 b + GRACE.] To address as 'your grace.'

c 1350 MORE *De quat. Nouiss.* Wks. 86/1 They knele and... at euerie word barehed bigrace him. 1586 J. HOOKER *Girard. Irel.* in *Holmsk.* II. 86/2 You are begraced and belorded, and crouched & kneeled vnto. 1808 WOLCOTT (P. Pindar) *Gr. Cry & Lit. Wool* Wks. 1812 V. 180 She's begraced and beduchess'd already.

Begrain, *begrain*, *begreen*, *begreet*: see BE-.

† **Begrave**, *v. Obs.* Forms: 1 *be*-, *bigrafan*, 4-6 *bi*-, *by*-, *be-grave*, (*Sc. begraf*). *Pa. t.* 5 *begrave*. *Pa. pple.* 6 *begraven*. [Comm. Teut.: OE. *bi*-, *begrāfan*, cogn. w. OHG. *bigraban*, to bury, Goth. *bigraban* to dig a ditch round, mod. G. *begraben*; f. BE- + *graban*, in OE. *grāfan* to dig.]

1. *trans.* To bury (a corpse, treasure, etc.).

c 1000 *Elene* (Gr.) 835 Roda setsonne greote begrafene. c 1330 *Arth. & Merl.* 98 At Winchester... that king bigrauen wes. 1393 GOWER *Conf.* II. 197 They... have Her gold under the ertth begrave. c 1450 LONELICH *Graill* li. 122 They him begroven as he desired him-selve. 1528 ROY *Rede & be nott twolke* (Arb.) 45 His dedde coors rychly to begrave.

2. To engrave; to ornament with graven work.

c 1325 *Coer de L.* 62 Every nayl with gold begrave. 1393 GOWER *Conf.* I. 127 With great slighte Of werkmanchip it was begrave.

Begrease (bĕgrĕ's), *v.* [f. BE-1 + GREASE *v.*] *trans.* To besmear with grease.

1565 CALPHILL *Answ. Treat. Crosse* (1846) 175 The marrowbones of their matter; wherewith they did so begrease themselves. a 1641 Br. MOUNTAGU *Acts & Mon.* 426 They... held him polluted who had been so begreased. 1783 AINSWORTH *Lat. Dict.* (Morell) 1, To begrease the fat sow in the tail... locupletem donis cumulare.

† **Begrede**, *v. Obs.* Forms: 3-4 *bigreden*, -*graden*, 5 *begreden*. [ME., f. BE- + GREDEN, OE. *grēdan* to cry.]

1. To cry about, to weep for.

c 1300 K. *Alis.* 5175 The gentil men Bigraden, and wepden her ken.

2. To cry out against; to upbraid, reproach, accuse.

c 1200 *Trin. Coll. Hom.* 69 And shameliche hem bigredeð. and fule shendeð. c 1320 *Sen. Sages* (W.) 1518 Lohtliche driuen & bigrad Ase a thef. c 1440 *Morie Arth.* (Roxb.) 57 Launcelot of tresson they be gredde.

† **Begrey**, *prep. Obs.* *rare*—1. [? Corruption of F. *bon gré*; or f. BE- = *by* + *gre*, GREB 'liking,' a. F. *gré*. But the sense is doubtful, and it may be for *malgré*.]

1614 J. DAVIES *Ecol.* Wks. 1876-8 II. 20 And wrap hem in thy loue begrey their wils.

Begrin, *begrinly*, *begroan*, etc.: see BE-*pref.*

Begrime (bĕgrĭm), *v.* [f. BE-6 + GRIME.] *trans.* To blacken or soil with grime, or dirt which sinks into the surface, and discolours it.

a 1553 UDALL *Roister D.* (Arb.) 48 All to begrime you with worship. 1603 HOLLAND *Plutarch* 215 (R.) Enjoying men to begrime and bewray themselves with dirt. 1843 Sir J. HERSCHKE *Pop. Lect.* Sc. i. § 21 (1873) 15 In your eyes, in your mouth, begriming every pore.

Hence **Begrimed** *pp. a.* **Begrimer** *sb.*

1604 SHAKS. *Oth.* iii. iii. 387 My name that was as fresh As Dians Visage, is now begrim'd and blacke As mine own face. 1611 COTGR., *Patrouilleur*, a smeecher, begrimer, besmeared. 1865 *Sat. Rev.* 8 July 48/1 The blackened and begrimed people who had worked so hard.

† **Begripe**, *v. Obs.* Forms: 1 *begripan*, 2-3 *bi*-, *begrin*, 4 *bigrype* (n), 4-7 *begripe*. [Comm. WGer.: OE. *begrĭpan*, f. BE- + *grĭpan* to GRIP = OHG. *begrĭfan*, mod. G. *begreifen*, Du. *begrijpen*.]

1. *trans.* To catch hold of, apprehend; to seize and hold fast. Also *fig.*

c 1175 *Cott. Hom.* 237 Al se middennard was mid sennne begripe. c 1220 *Bestiary* 516 in O. E. Misc. 16 De grete maij he nozt bigripen. c 1340 *Gaw. & Gr. Knt.* 214 De stele of a stif staf he sturme hit bi-grypte. 1470-85 MALORY *Arthur* (1816) II. 295 This sword... shall never no man begripe.

2. To take in, contain, hold, comprehend.

1393 GOWER *Conf.* III. 102 Asia, Afrique, Europe... Begrieth all this ertth round. c 1420 *Pallad. on Husb.* II. 278 Let stand as feel as may the land begripe.

3. To take to task, reprehend.

a 1000 *Ag. Gloss.* to Psalm xv. 7. c 1200 ORMIN 19857 Sannit Johan haffde þe king Bigripen off his sinne.

† **Begruple**, *v. Obs.* [Cf. GRIP, GRAPPLE.]

1607 TOPSELL *Four-f. Beasts* 178 The Crow with his talons so be-gripling the Foxes mouth that he could not bark.

Begrown (bĕgrō'n), *pp. a.*; also 3-4 *bi*-, *be-growe*, 6 *begrowen*. [f. BE-1 + GROWN *pp. a.*]

Grown over with, covered with a growth.

a 1250 *Owl & Night.* 27 Mid iui al bi-growe. 1393 GOWER *Conf.* II. 358 Of Timolus which was begrowe With vines.

1558 PHAER *Æneid* vii. Tij, Ouer all begrowen with snakes. 1812 W. TAYLOR in *Month. Mag.* XXXIV. 210 Land begrown with trees.

Begrudge (bĕgrudʒ), *v.*; also 4 *bi*-, *bygruche* (n), *bygroch*, 7-8 *begrutuh*. [f. BE- + GRUDGE, ME. *gruchen* to murmur.] To grumble at, show dissatisfaction with; *esp.* to envy (one) the possession of; to give reluctantly, to be reluctant.

a. *trans.*, and with *inf. obj.*

136a LANGE. P. Pl. A. vii. 62 And make him murie with þe Corn hose hit euer bi-grucheþ. 1642 FULLER *Holy & Prof.* St. II. xix. 125 Our Souldier... begruteth not to get to his side a probability of victory by the certainty of his own death. 1658 A. Fox *Wurts Surg.* II. xxv. 149 Begrudge not your labour you bestow. 1703 C. MATHER *Magn. Chr.* III. iii. (1852) 551 To begrutch the cost of a school. 1711 SHAFTESB. *Charac.* III. 290 They will... begrudge the pains of attending. 1861 *National Rev.* Oct. 413 They did begrudge to pay the smart. 1862 TROLLOPE *Orley* F. xiii. 91 He had begrudged her nothing.

b. *intr. rare. Obs.*

1690 PENN *Rise & Progr. Quakers* (1834) 69 And not begrudge at one anothers increase.

Hence **Begrudged** *pp. a.*

1840 R. DANA *Bef. Mast* xxxi. 117 Our common beverage... water bewitched, and tea begrudged.

Begruntle, etc.: see BE-*pref.*

Begrutten (bĕgrut'n), *pp. a.* *Sc.* [f. BE-4 + GRUTTEN, pa. pple. of GREET *v.* to weep.]

Marred or swollen in face with much weeping.

1805 A. SCOTT *Poems* 85 (JAM.) A hopeless maid of fifty years Begrutten sair, and blurr'd wi' tears. 1820 SCOTT *Monast.* viii. Poor things... they are sae begrutten.

Begry, *obs.* form of BEGGARY.

† **Begster**, *Obs.* Also 4 *beggstere*. [f. BEG *v.* + -STER: cf. *trickster*.] A beggar (*fem.* and *pejorative*).

1386 CHAUCER *Prolog.* 242 He knew the Tauernes wel in al the town Bet than a lazor or a beggstere. 1549 CHALONER *Erasm. Moria Enc.* Nja, Pestrying men every where... not a little to the hyndrance of other begsters.

† **Beguard**, *v. Obs.* Also 6 *begard*. [f. BE-6 + GUARD *sb.*] *trans.* To adorn or furnish with 'guards' or facings, generally of lace or embroidery.

Hence, **Beguarded** *pp. a.*

1605 J. DAVIES *Humours* 43 (D.) My too strait-laced al begarded girdle. 1640 FULLER *Joseph's Coat* (1867) 51 To seek with our own inventions to beguard that which God will have plain.

† **Beguel**, *Obs.* [ad. Du. *beugel* 'iron hoop or ring, bow, cramp iron,' f. *buigen* to bow. A Du. or Flemish term used in connexion with hops.]

1737 MILLER *Gard. Dict.* s.v. *Lupulus*, The Beguels of the Stedde where the Fire is kept.

Beguess, *adv. Sc.* Also 6-7 *begos*, *begess*. [f. BE- + BY *prep.* + GUESS.] By guess, at a venture.

c 1500 SCOTT in *Evergr.* I. 113 (JAM.) And hits begess. 1597 MONTGOMERIE *Cherry & Slae* xciii. A tentless Merchand... bying geir begess. 1724 RAMSAY *Tea-t. Misc.* (1733) I. 28 Two pistols charg'd beguess.

Beguild, *obs.* form of BEGILD.

Begule (bĕgūl), *v.* Forms: 3-4 *bigile* (n), 4 *bygille*, 4-5 *bigyle*, *bygile*, 4-6 *begile*, 4-7 *begyle*, 5 *bygyle*, -*ile*, 4- *beguile*. [f. BE-2 + GUILLE *v.*, cognate with WILE. The development of senses 3, 4, 5, is analogous to that of AMUSE, q.v.]

1. *trans.* To entangle or over-reach with guile; to delude, deceive, cheat.

a 1225 *Ancr. R.* 270 Non so wis ne so war... bet nis bigiled oðer hules. a 1300 *Cursor M.* 716 And thought hou he mith man bigile [v.r. bi-will]. c 1386 CHAUCER *Canon-Yem. Prolog.* & T. 832 Lo thus byiaped and bigiled [v.r. bygiled, begiled, bygyle] was he. c 1450 *Mertin* 9 The feende myght neuer begyle him. 1552 LATIMER *Serm. Lincoln* ii. 73 Esau wept when Jacob begyled him. 1653 WALTON *Angler* 170 That you may... beguile this crafty fish. 1663 COWLEY *Verses & Eccl.* (1669) 2 The foolish light which Travellers beguile. 1821 JOANNA BAILLIE *Met. Leg.* Lady G. B. ii. Are not my eyes beguiled? 1858 LONGF. *M. Standish* viii. 81 Into an ambush beguiled, cut off with the whole of his forces.

b. *absol.*

c 1305 St. James 39 in E. E. P. 59 Leue to bigyli & bi-

traye also In eche quyntise þat mai. 138a WYCLIF *Isa.* xxviii. 22 And now wileth not bigilen [1388 nyle 3e scorne; COVERD., make no mockes]. — Job xl. 24 Whether thou shalt begile to hym as to a bird. 1608 WARNER *Alb. Eng.* x. liv. 242 For it a Nature was in Stukellie to begile.

2. To deprive of by fraud, to cheat out of.

a 1300 *Cursor M.* 8632 Qui has þu me bigiled [Cott. bi-suiken] sua Of mi child þat mi-selue bar? 1390 P. Pl. *Crede* 51 Wymmen... begileth hem of her good wip glauerynge wordes. 1593 HOOKER *Ecl. Pol.* iii. i. § 12 Wks. 1841 I. 285 Infants are beguiled of their right. 1611 BIBLE *Col.* ii. 18 Let no man beguile you of your reward. 1772 MACKENZIE *Man Feel* xxxiv. (1803) 62 'I fear... sleep has beguiled me of my time.' 1826 SCOTT *Woodst.* xxxviii. Time is beguiling man of his strength.

† 3. To cheat (hopes, expectations, aims, or a person in them); to disappoint, to foil. *Obs.*

1423 CAXTON *Cato Cvi.* He is begyled for he findeth nothing. 1576 BAKER *Gesner's Jewell Health* 201a, This drinck rightly ministred never fayleth nor beguyleth the Phisition. 1591 SHAKS. *Two Gent.* v. iv. 37 Thou hast beguild my hopes. 1596 SPENSER *F. Q.* I. xl. 25 The knight was wroth to see his stroke beguild. a 1670 SPALDING *Troub. Chas. I.* (1792) I. 165 (JAM.) Still looking for the coming of his soldiers, but he was beguiled.

4. To win the attention or interest of (any one) by willing means; to charm, divert, amuse; to wile (one) on, or into any course.

[a 1225 *Ancr. R.* 330 Edmodnesse cadiliche bigiled ure Louerd... & biȝit of his gode.] 1593 SHAKS. *Lucr.* 1404 It beguild attention, charm'd the sight. 1809 I. TAYLOR *Enthus.* vii. 177 Fertile in devices for beguiling mankind into virtue. 1874 JENKINSON *Guide Eng. Lakes* (1879) 198 The charms of this stream will beguile the tourist and diminish the toil of the ascent.

5. To divert attention in some pleasant way from (anything painful, or irksome); to elude the disagreeable sensation of, and so to cause to pass insensibly or pleasantly; to charm away, wile away.

1588 SHAKS. *Tit. A.* iv. i. 35 Take choyse of all my Library, And so beguile thy sorrow. 1601 — *Twel. N.* iii. iii. 41, I will bespeake our dyet, Whiles you beguile this time. 1718 POPE *Ilad* II. 788 Pleasing conference beguiles the day. 1764 GOLDSM. *Trav.* 152 By sports like these are all their cares beguild. 1808 SOUTHEY *Thalaba* iv, With various talk beguiling the long way. 1820 W. IRVING *Sketch Bk.* I. 177 Took a book to beguile the tedious hours.

Beguile (bĕgūl), *sb.* *Sc.* [f. *prec.*] Deception.

1637 RUTHERFORD *Lett.* 176 (1862) I. 417, I will die in that sweet beguile. a 1709 W. GUTHRIE *Serm.* 20 (JAM.) Yond man has given himself a great beguile. 1768 ROSS *Helenore* 70 (JAM.), I gets the beguile. Nae thing I finds.

Beguiled (bĕgūl'd), *pp. a.* [f. BEGUILLE *v.* + -ED.] a. Concealed or disguised by guile. b. De-luded, deceived by guile; self-deluded, mistaken.

1534 LD. BERNERS *Gold. Bk. M. Aurel.* (1546) Biv. I, I think I am not begyled in the histories. 1561 J. HEYWOOD *Seneca's Herc. Furres* (1581) 3b, He his begiled hookes doth bayte. 1876 GEO. ELIOT *Dan. Der.* III. xxxvii. 103 The beguiled mortal.

Begui-leful, *a.* [f. BEGUILLE *sb.* or *v.* + -FUL: cf. *assistful*.] Guileful, deceiving, deceptive.

1530 PALSGR. 305/2 Beguylefull, disfaistfull, cautelleux. (1613 R. C. *Table Alph.*, *Infallible*, vndeceuable, vnbe-guilefull.)

Beguilement (bĕgūl'mēt), [f. BEGUILLE *v.* + -MENT.] The action or process of beguiling; also, its agencies and resulting condition or state.

1805 FOSTER *Ess.* i. ii. 24 The same beguilement in favour of ourselves. 1844 MRS. BROWNING *Grk. Chr. Poets* (1863) 69 From my heart in its beguilement. 1862 THORNBURY *Turner* I. 339 The aerial witchery and beguilement of such an hour. 1881 J. HAWTHORNE *Fort. Fool* i. iii.

Beguiler (bĕgūl'ɪə), [f. as *prec.* + -ER¹.] One that beguiles or deludes; a deceiver.

138a WYCLIF *Job* xii. 16 The begilere [1388 hym that dis-seyneth] and hym that is begiled. a 1450 *Knt. de la Tour* (1868) 175 Deceyours or begylers of the ladies and dam-oyseles. 1526 TINDALE *Jude* i. 18 That there shulde be begylers in the last tyme. 1623 WOODROFFE *Fr. & Eng. Gr.* 476 To-day a beguiler, to-morrow beguiled. *Mod.* A beguiler of the unwary.

Beguiling (bĕgūl'ɪŋ), *vbl. sb.* [f. as *prec.* + -ING¹.] The action of the vb. BEGUILLE: deluding, delusion, deception; beguilement.

c 1400 *Test. Love* II. (1560) 283/2 The false disceivable con-jectments of mans beguilings. 1490 CAXTON *Eneydos* xv. 54 The perfyte begylynge that Juno had founde soo soone. 1594 CAREW *Huarts Exam.* Wits ix. (1596) 125 Beguilings (saith Plato) neuer befall in things vnlike and very different. 1625 *Modell of Wit* 68 To preserue you from any such be-guiling.

Beguiling, *pp. a.* [f. as *prec.* + -ING².] That beguiles; deluding; charming, wiling away.

1593 SHAKS. *Ven. & Ad.* 24 Such time-beguiling sport. 1646 CRASHAW *Steps to Temple* 63 Some smiling But be-guiling Spheres of sweet and sugar'd lies. 1814 WORDSW. *White Doe* iv. 106 The sense Of that beguiling influence.

Begui-lingly, *adv.* [f. *prec.* + -LY².] In a beguiling or deceiving manner; illusively.

1847 in CRAIG.

† **Begui-lous**, *a.* *Obs.* *rare*—1. = BEGUILLEFUL.

1483 *Cath. Angl.* 261/1 *Begui-lous*, vbi false.

† **Beguilty**, *v. Obs.* *rare*. [f. BE-5 + GUILTY.] *trans.* To render guilty.

a 1653 Br. SANDERSON *Serm.* 275 (T.), [Thou] dost at once beguilty thine own conscience with sordid bribery.

† **Beguily**, in expression *wily beguily*: see WILY.

Beguina (bĕgīnə), *sb.* [f. BEGUILLE.]

† **Beguina** (bĕgīnə), *sb.* [f. BEGUILLE.] An establishment of, or house for, be-

guines; often giving a name to a part of a town in the Low Countries.

1815 SOUTHEY in C. Southey *Life & Corr.* IV. 127. 1819 — in *Q. Rev.* XXII. 94. The house at Little Gidding bore no resemblance whatever to a beguine. 1854 H. STRICKLAND *Trav. Th.* 26. Went to the Beguine. Nunnery of nuns who are not nuns; that is, who vow no vows, and may go away and marry whenever they like.

Beguine (beg'in, begin). Forms: 5 *bygyn*, *begyne*, 6 *begine*, *-ghine*, *-gyn*, *biggayne*, 7 *beguin*, *beggin*, 6- *beguine*. [a. F. *biguine* (13th c. in Littré), in med. L. *beguina*, *begina*, *beghina* (Du Cange), an appellative derived from the surname of Lambert Bègue or le Bègue ('the Stammerer'), a priest of Liège, in the 12th c., the founder of the order.

(Cf. the annal of 1180, quoted in Du Cange: 'God stirred up the spirit of a certain holy priest, a man of religion, who was called Lambert le Bègue (because he was a stammerer) of St. Christopher (in Liège), from whose surname women and girls who propose to live chastely, are called *Beguines*, because he was the first to arise and preach to them by his word and example the reward of chastity.' The cap *beguin* derives its name from them, and not *vice versa*.)

A name for the members of certain lay sisterhoods which began in the Low Countries in the 12th century, who devoted themselves to a religious life, but did not bind themselves by strict vows, and might leave their societies for marriage. They were protected by Pope John XXII, when he persecuted the male Beguins or Beghards, and are still represented by small communities existing in the Netherlands, with an organization somewhat similar to some Anglican sisterhoods.

1483 CAXTON *Gold. Leg.* 431/1. Almshouses to y^e blynde begynes, daughters of god. 1554 BALE *Apol.* 20. Not to vysite... wydwones in their trouble, but wanton wenches, beguines, nunnies and vovesses. 1595 *World of Wond.* (1608) 184. Young wanton wenches, and beguins, nuns, and naughty packs. 1599 THYNN *Animadv.* 37. But this woorde 'Begn' sholde in his owne nature rightlie have ben expounded, 'superstitious or hypocriticall wemmenne.' 1609 *Shertogen-bosh* 37. The Beguins... did make cushions for the Souldiers. 1765 STERNE *Tr. Shandy* (1804) VIII. xx. 162. She was a young Beguine... they can quit their cloister if they choose to marry. a 1843 SOUTHEY *Poet's Pilgr.* Proem. xvi. Behold the black Beguine, the Sister grey. 1851 KINGSLEY *Yeast* ix. 182. To write at once to the Superior of the Beguines. attrib. 1850 THACKERAY *Pendennis* lvi. The Beguine convents which they visited.

Begulf, **begum**, **begut**, etc.: see *Be-* *pref.*

† **Beguill**, *v. Obs.* [f. BE- 2 or 5 + GULL.]

trans. To make a gull of; to gull, impose upon.

1605 BRETON *Olde Man's Less.* (1876) 13. Trauailers are giuen... to beguill the worlde with gudgins. 1600 SHELTON *Quix.* iv. xxi. II. 252. You are... beguilled and made a Fool.

|| **Begum** (bĕgŭm). Also 7 *begoon*, *begun*,

9 *beegum*, *begaum*. [Urdu (Pers.) *begam*,

ad. Eastern Turkish *bigm* princess, fem. of *big*,

bik prince (in Osmanli *BEG*, *BEY*.) A queen,

princess, or lady of high rank in Hindustan.

1634 SIR T. HERBERT *Trav.* (1677) 99. Queen, *Begum*. 1786

BURKE *Art. W. Hastings* Wks. XI. 381. Prayer was made

not to dishonour the Begum (a princess of great rank, whose

husband had been killed in the battle). 1841 MACAULAY

W. Hastings, Ess. III. 431. Jewels torn from Indian Begums.

Begun (bĕgŭn), *pp. a.*; also 6 *begon*, *began*.

[f. *BEGIN* *v.*] That has begun, or has been begun.

1483 *Cath. Angl.* 26. Begunne, *exorsus*, *inceptus*, *initus*.

1597 J. PAYNE *Royal Exch.* 33. That begun roote not being

enriched... yt becomes weaker. a 1610 BARNINGTON

Wks. 9. A steadfast heart to effect a good begun is a great

virtue. 1847 BUSHINELL *Chr. Nur.* II. iv. (1861) 309. To be

recognized in a begun relationship.

Begunk (bĕgŭnk), *v. Sc.* [cf. *BEGERK*.] *trans.*

To delude, play a deceiving trick on, 'take in.'

1821 *Blackw. Mag.* Jan. 426 (JAM.). Is there a lad, whose

father is unkind... Whose sweetheart has begunked him?

Begunk, *sb. Sc.* Also 8 *begink*. [f. *prec.*] A

befooling or deluding trick, a piece of deception.

1795 RAMSAY *Gentle Sheph.* II. l. 30. Ane ca'd Monk Has

play'd the Rumpie a right slee begunk. 1790 MORISON

Poems 137 (JAM.) Our sex are shy... they think, Wha yields

o'er soon fu' aff gets the begink. 1814 SCOTT *Waverley*

III. 354. If I have na gien Inch-Grabbit and Jamie Howie

a bonnie begunk, they ken themselves.

Begyle, *obs. form* of *BEGUILE*.

Begyn, *begyrd*, *obs. forms* of *BEGIN*, *BEGIRD*.

† **Behack**, *v. Obs.* [f. BE- 1 + HACK *v.*] *trans.*

To hack about.

1565 CALFILL *Answ. Treat. Crosse* (1846) 3. The blade it

self is all to behacked. 1631 *Celestina* XII. 143. My sword

like a saw, all to behack't and hew'd.

Behale, **behallow**, **behammer**, etc.: see *Be-*.

Behalf (bĕhāf). Forms: 4 *bihalve*, *bihalv*,

4-5 *bi-*, *byhalve*, 4-6 *behalve*, 4-7 *behalfe*,

6 *behave*, 5- *behalv*. Pl. 6-7 *behalves*, *behalfs*.

[Used only in the phrases *on*, *in behalf* (of), *in*, *on*

(his, etc.) *behalf*, which arose about 1300, by

the blending of the two earlier constructions *on*

his halve and *bihalve him*, both meaning 'by or

on his side': see *HALF*. By the mixture of these

in the construction *on his bihalve*, *BIHALV*, pre-

viously a preposition, and originally a phrase,

be healfe 'by (the) side,' became treated, so far as construction goes, as a *sb.*, and had even a plural *behalves*, *behalfs* in 16-17th c. The final -e of *ME.* was the dative ending. In modern use, construed either with a possessive pronoun (in my behalf), a possessive case (in the king's behalf), or with *of* (in behalf of the starving population); the choice being determined by considerations of euphony and perspicuity. Formerly *of* was sometimes omitted.]

I. 1. *On behalf of*: † *a.* (lit.) On the side of. *Obs.*

1508 ARNOLD *Chron.* (1811) 29. Other Sherefs on this behalfe

trente.

† *b.* (fig.) On (one's own) part or side. *Obs.*

c 1386 CHAUCER *Melib.* 781. Tellynge hem on youre bi-

halve [v. r. behalve, bihalve, behalf] bat if they wole trete of

pees... that they shap hem... to comen vnto vs. 1538

STARKEY *England* 11. They Turky's wyl surely say on theyr

behalfe that theyr lyfe ys most natural and polytyke... the

Sarasyn contrary, apon hys behalfe, wyl defend hys pollycy.

c. On the part of (another), in the name of, as

the agent or representative of, on account of, for,

instead of. (With the notion of official agency.)

1303 R. BRUNNE *Handl. Synne* 9066. On Goddes behalve

y 30w forbede bat 3e no lenger do swych dede. c 1374

CHAUCER *Troilus* II. 1409. Spek thow thyself also to Troilus

On my bihalve [v. r. behalve]. 1485 CAXTON *Paris & V.*

(1688) 80. So say ye to hym on my behalve. 1535 COVERDALE

1 Sam. xxv. 6. Salute him frendly on my behalfe. 1768

BLACKSTONE *Comm.* I. 429. Things which a servant may do

on behalf of his master... proceed upon this principle, that

the master is answerable for the act of his servant, if done

by his command, either expressly given, or implied. 1883

SIR J. MATHEW *Law Rep.* XI. Q. Bench Div. 592. An ap-

plication was made on behalf of the prosecutor for a re-

mand.

† *d.* As concerns, with regard to, in the matter

of. Also, *on this behalf*, etc. *Obs.* Cf. 2 c.

1581 J. BELL Hadden's *Answ. Osor.* 431. Your utter destruc-

tion, which... is much to be feared on your behalves. 1611

BIBLE *Ex.* xxvii. 21. It shall be a statute for euer... on the

behalfe of [COVERD. among] the children of Israel. 1623

LISLE *Test. Antig.* Intro. The common taught doctrine

of the Church of England on this behalfe. 1674 N. FAIRFAX

Bulk and Setv. 164. Why could not God as well make the

world everlasting a *parte ante*, on the behalf of formerness,

as he did the soul of man a *parte post*, on the behalf of

laterness?

¶ In recent use we often find *on behalf* in the

sense of *in behalf* 2 b, to the loss of an important

distinction.

1791 COWPER *Ilind* iv. 63. I will not interpose on their

behalf. 1851 DIXON *W. Penn* xx. (1872) 174. A petition

on behalf of Sydney was sent to the House of Commons. 1852

MISS YONGE *Cameos* II. xxxvii. 287. They interfered on his

behalf. 1862 TRENCH *Mirac.* xxxii. 448. This gracious work

wrought on behalf of one who was in arms against his life.

2. *In behalf of*: † *a.* In the name of. *Obs.* Cf. 1 c.

c 1320 *Seyn Sag.* (W.) 334. The seven wise thai grette In

th'empereours bihelue. c 1400 *Apol. Loll.* 38. We forbede

in almyti Goddis behalve... be entre of be kirk. 1523

L.D. BERNERS *Froiss.* I. cviii. 130. Ther is no persone in his

behalfe, that wyl stoppe you of your way. 1606 SHAKS.

Tr. & Cr. v. iii. 22. And rob in the behalfe of charite.

b. In the interest of, as a friend or defender of,

for the benefit of. (With the notion of interposi-

tion: 'speak in my behalf' = in my interest, say

a good word for me, intercede for me.)

1598 SHAKS. *Merry W.* I. iv. 168. Let mee haue thy voice

in my behalfe. 1711 STEELE *Spect.* No. 51 ¶ 2. There is a

great deal to be said in Behalf of an Author. 1719 W. WOOD

Surv. Trade 28. Speaking in Behalf the Trading Interest.

1749 FIELDING *Tom Jones* vii. xiv. She should immediately

have interposed in his behalf. 1848 MACAULAY *Hist.* I. 620

Imploing the Queen Dowager... to intercede in his

behalf.

c. *In this or that behalf*: in respect of, in regard

to, in reference to this or that; in this or that

matter, or aspect of the matter. *arch.* Cf. 1 d.

1458 EARL SALISBURY in *Paston Lett.* I. 421. The said

diseas which hath right severly and sore holden me in

many diverse bihalvez. 1489 CAXTON *Paytes* A. I. xv. 40

Takyng of gode kepe vpon hys peple in this byhalve. 1534

WHITTINGTON *Tullies Offices* I. (1540) 10. In this behalve we

be bounde to folowe nature as a gyde. 1598 GREENWY

Tacitus Ann. III. iii. (1622) 65. Not hoping to find him cruell

in his behalfe... but rather fauorable. 1621 Bk. *Discip. Ch.*

Scot. 84. To assist and fortifie the godly proceedings of

the Kirk in all behalves. 1658 A. FOX *Wurtz Surg.* II. v. 60

More could be said in that behalfe, but... [it] would be too

great a labour. 1772 JUNIUS *Lett.* lxviii. 338. Our statute

in law, in this behalfe... is directed by the same spirit.

II. Obsolete phrases.

† 3. *Of his behalf*: of or from his side or part;

on his part. Cf. 1 a. *Obs.*

c 1450 *Merlin* xv. 241. The londe that cometh of youre be-

halve ne may I not lese. 1500 *Virgilius* in Thoms E.

Rom. II. 24. This Nemus had a knyght of his moders

behalfe. 1551 ROBINSON *tr. More's Utop.* 155. The loue and

honoure whiche of their behalfe is dewe to God.

† 4. *To or for the behalf of*: to the interest or

advantage of, for the behoof of. Cf. 2 a. *Obs.*

1562 COOPER *Answ. Priv. Masse* (1850) 56. Ye never af-

firmed mass to be private, but to pertain to the behalf of all

states and sorts of men. 1566 *Wills & Inv.* N. C. (1835)

255. For the behaue of my wif and children. 1576 LAM-

BARDE *Perramb. Kent* (1862) 295. Some others seized some of

the Kings owne Castles to the behalfe of the Emperre.

† **Behang**, *v.* For forms see *HANG*. *Obs.* since

17th c. exc. in pa. pple. *BEHUNG*. [OE. *behōn*

(= OS. *bihāhan*; cf. mod. G. *behängen*), f. BE- about

+ *hōn* (= *-hanhan*) to *HANG*.] To hang (a thing)

about *with* (bells, hangings, drapery, etc.).

c 897 K. ALFRED *Past.* xv. (Sw. 92) Se sacerd sceolde bion

mid bellum behangen. c 1200 *Trin. Coll. Hom.* 89. Pat burh

folc... bihengen it mid palmes. c 1300 K. ALF. 758. He dude

his temple al by-honge With bawdekyn, brod and longe.

1393 GOWER *Conf.* II. 384. With great riches he him be-

hongereth. 1597 K. JOHNSON *Ser. Champ.* I. x. 65. Winter...

behung the trees wit crystal icicles. 1648 HERRICK *Poems*

(1869) I. 13. And with rich clusters... her temples I behung.

† **Behanged**, *pp. a. Obs.* Forms: 2-3 *bi-*

hanged, 3-4 *be-*, *bihanged*, 5-7 *behanged*. [f.

prec. + ED.] Hung about, draped, hung.

c 1200 ORMIN 951. Patt tall ludisskenn preost wass swa Bi-

hennegedd all wipb belless. c 1330 *Art. & Merl.* 3549. Eueri

strete Was behanged... With mani pal and riche cloth. 1553-

87 FOXE *A. & M.* (1566) 114/2. A faire palace richlie be-

hanged. 1601 HOLLAND *Pliny* I. 255. Our dames and gentle-

women must haue their eares behanged with them.

† **Behap**, *v. Obs.* [f. BE- 2 + HAP *v.*] To be-

fall, happen. Const. with *dative obj.*

c 1450 LONELICH *Graill* xiii. 26. What so behapped him in

oni chaunce. *Ibid.* iv. 417. It behappede that kyng Lam-

bors And this kyng Varlans... assembled were. a 1450 *Knt.*

de la Tour vi. 9. And this behapped her. 1714 GAY *Sheph.*

Week. Thursd. 125. Behap what wyl.

well. 1855 MACAULAY *Hist. Eng.* III. 678 He behaved like a man of sense and spirit. 1866 KINGSLEY *Herrev.* vii. 129 She behaved not over wisely or well. 1872 RUSKIN *Eagle's N.* § 161 You must very thoroughly know how to behave.

b. To behave towards or to : to conduct oneself in regard to, act, deal with, treat (in any way).

1754 CHATHAM *Lett. Nephew* iv. 24 As to your manner of behaving towards these unhappy young gentlemen. 1875 JOWETT *Plato* (ed. 2) I. 51 Did you ever behave ill to your father or your mother? *Mod.* They have behaved very handsomely to you.

c. *transf.* of things.

1854 SCOFFERN in *Orr's Circ. Sc. Chem.* 463 It combines violently with water, behaving like the bichloride of tin. 1871 B. STEWART *Heat* § 38 Glass will also behave in a very different manner according as it is annealed or unannealed.

† **Behave**, *sb.* *Obs.* [f. *prec.*] = BEHAVIOUR.

1615 CHAPMAN *Odys.* xxii. 545 Only there were twelve that gave themselves to impudence and light behave.

Behaved (bē'hēvd), *ppl. a.* [pa. *ppl.* of BEHAVE: cf. *learned, well-read*, etc.] Conducted, mannered; usually with qualifying adv., as *well-behaved, ill-behaved*.

1608 SHAKS. *Ham.* iii. 1. 35 And gather by him, as he is behaved, It's but the affliction of his love or no. 1713 *Guardian* No. 6 ¶ 4 Their servants well behaved. 1837 CARLYLE *Fr. Rev.* I. iv. 167 The brown-haired, light-behaved, fire-hearted Demoiselle. 1858 W. ELLIS *Vis. Madagascar* iv. 89 Well-behaved scholars.

Behaving (bē'hēvīng), *vbl. sb.* [f. BEHAVE v. + -ING]. Conduct, behaviour.

c. 1490 *Mertin* 49 And I will also that ye tweyn prively in counseil knowe my condicions and my behavynge. 1488 *Monk of Evesham* (Arb.) 47 Wyth an enarrabulle gestur and behaving of gladnes. 1495 *Act 2 Hen. VII.* ii. § 5 To take suretie of the keepers of ale houses of their gode behavynge. 1523 LD. BERNERS *Froiss.* I. xiv. 14 All his vsages, and euill behavynge. 1817 FRERE *K. Arthur* I. x. For fine behaving King Arthur's Court has never had its match.

Behaviour (bē'hēvīor), *sb.* Forms: 5-6 behauour(e), 6-7 behauour(e), -ior, 6 behauer, -eour(e), behauyour, 7 behauor, behavioir, 7-6 behaviour. [f. BEHAVE v., by form-analogy with HAVOUR, *havyour*, common 15-16th c. forms of the word which was orig. AVER *sb.* (q.v.), *aveyr*, also in 15th c. *avoir*; really OF. *aveir, avoir*, in sense of 'having, possession,' but naturally affiliated in Eng. to the native verb *have*, and spelt *haver, havour, haviour*, etc. Hence, by analogy, *have: havour, -iour: behave: behavour, -iour*. The formation might be confirmed by the (apparently) parallel *demeanour*, from *demean* (oneself). For the -iour see HAVOUR.]

1. Manner of conducting oneself in the external relations of life; demeanour, deportment, bearing, manners.

1490 CAXTON *Eneydos* xxxi. 120 For hys honneste behauoure [he] began to be taken with his loue. 1530 BALE *Thre Lawes* 53 In clemens of lyfe and in a gentyll behauer. 1601 SHAKS. *Twel. N.* iii. iv. 202 The behaviour of the yong Gentleman, giues him out to be of good capacity, and breeding. 1754 CHATHAM *Lett. Nephew* v. 32 Behaviour is of infinite advantage or prejudice to a man. 1797 GODWIN *Enquirer* I. xiii. 111 Their behaviour is forced and artificial. 1862 H. SPENCER *First Princ.* ii. i. § 36 Special directions for behaviour in the nursery, at table, or on the exchange. 1875 JOWETT *Plato* (ed. 2) IV. 226 His courage is shown by his behaviour in the battle.

† b. The plural was formerly also in use. *Obs.* 1538 BALE *Comedy in Harl. Misc.* (Malh.) I. 211 Your fastynges, longe prayers, with other holy behauers. 1601 SHAKS. *Jul. C.* i. ii. 42 Which giue some soyle (perhaps) to my Behaviours. 1678 CUDWORTH *Intell. Syst.* I. iv. § 19. 366 To observe the actions, manners and Behaviours of men.

† c. The bearing of the character of another; personification, 'person.' *Obs.*

1595 SHAKS. *John* I. 3 Thus speaks the King of France, In my behavioir, to the Maiesty . . of England heere.

† d. 'External appearance with respect to grace.'

Johnson. *Obs.* a 1585 SIDNEY (J.) He marked, in Dora's dancing, good grace and handsome behavioir. 1639 FULLER *Holy War* I. vi. (184) 8 [Mahometanism] having neither real substance in her doctrine, nor winning behavior in her ceremonies to allure professors.

e. *absol.* Good manners, elegant deportment.

1591 LAMBARDE *Arch.* (1635) 91 A man of behaviour and countenance. 1701 DE FOE *True Born Eng. Wks.* (1841) 24 Strong aversion to Behaviour. 1711 ADDISON *Spect.* No. 119 ¶ 1 By Manners I do not mean Morals, but Behaviour and Good-breeding.

2. Conduct, general practice, course of life; course of action towards or to others, treatment of others.

1515 BARCLAY *Cyt. & Uplondyschm.* (1847) 70 All people of good behavioir By rightwise battayle, justice and equitie. 1535 COVERDALE *1 Macc.* xiv. 35 His godly behavioire, and faithfulness which he kepte vnto them. 1584 POWELL *Lloyd's Cambria* 88 By his rich gifts and princely Behavioir. 1641 J. JACKSON *True Evang. Temp.* ii. 124 The blamelesse behavioir of the Christians. 1719 YOUNG *Revenge* I. i. This severe behavioir Has, to my comfort, made it sweet to die. 1768 BLACKSTONE *Comm.* IV. 251 Recognizances, for the peace, and for the good behavioir. 1858 FROUDE *Hist. Eng.* IV. xviii. 36 Henry's early behavioir to James.

3. Phrase. To be (or stand) on or upon one's behavioir, or one's good behavioir: to be placed on a trial of conduct or deportment, to be in a situa-

tion in which a failure in conduct will have untoward consequences; hence, to behave one's best.

1538 STARKY *England* 196 And much better hyt were that they schuld stond upon theyr behavioir. 1698 NORRIS *Pract. Disc.* IV. 261 Man . . is now upon his Behaviour in order to a Better World. 1689 SHERLOCK *Death* i. § 1 (1731) 20 Adam . . was but upon his good Behaviour, was but a Probationer for Immortality. 1779 BURKE in Boswell *Johnston* III. 172, I should be obliged to be so much upon my good behaviour. *Mod.* Tell the children to be on their best behaviour.

† 4. Handling, management, disposition of (anything); bearing (of body). *Obs.*

1549 COVERDALE *Erasm. Par.* 1 Peter 8 Welfavourednes of beutie, and Behaviour of apparell. 1553 *Homilies* II. *Fasting* (1859) 281 Both with words and behaviour of body to shew themselves weary of this life. 1589 PUTTENHAM *Eng. Poess* (Arb.) 262 Your misplacing and preposterous placing is not all one in behaviour of language.

5. *transf.* The manner in which a thing acts under specified conditions or circumstances, or in relation to other things.

1674 N. FAIRFAX *Bull. & Sect.* 82 All local habitude or behaviour must be between two things or more, in a place so or so. 1866 ARCYLL *Reign Law* ii. 67 In Chemistry the behaviour of different substances towards each other, in respect to combination and affinity. 1878 HUXLEY *Physiogr.* 135 To watch . . the behaviour of the water which drains off a flat coast of mud. 1882 *Daily Tel.* 4 May, The behaviour of the vessel during her maiden voyage across the Atlantic.

† **Behavoured**, *a. Obs.* [f. *prec.* + -ED]. Conducted, mannered, behaved.

1589 PUTTENHAM *Eng. Poess* (Arb.) 157 Men ciuill and graciously behavoured and bred. 1591 HARRINGTON *Orl. Fur.* xlii. lxxv. A well behaved knight. 1624 CAPT. SMITH *Virginia* IV. 123 They haue scene many English Ladies worse fauored, proportioned and behavoured.

Behad (bē'hēd), *v.* Forms: 1 behēafdi-an, 2 behēafdin, 2-3 bihaue-d-en, 3 bihaefdin, bihafti, 3-4 bihaefden, 4 bihaueuden, 4-5 behēvede(n, bi-, byhede(n, -heede, 4-6 behede, -heede, 5-6 be-, byhede, 6 behēadde, 6-behead. [OE. *behēafdi-an*, f. *Be-* 3 (with privative force) + *hafod* HEAD; cf. MHG. *behoubeten* in same sense, *mod. G. enthaupfen*.]

1. *trans.* To deprive (a man or animal) of the head, to decapitate; to kill by cutting off the head.

c. 1000 *Ang. Gosp. Matt.* xiv. 10 He asende þa and behædode Iohannem. c. 1160 *Halton G. ibid.*, behæfede 1205 LAY. 26296 Pat heo u wulle bihafti. a 1225 *Juliana* 40 To bihaefden [v.r. behæfdin] pawel. 1382 WYCLIF *Matt.* xiv. 10 He sente, and bihaefde [v.r. byhævede] Joon in the prison. c. 1450 LOWELL *Grail* xlvii. 155 Behæveded on aftyr anothir. 1474 CAXTON *Chesse* 36 Other said that they shold be behæd. 1513 MORE *Rich. III.* Wks. 54/1 To bee byhædded at Pounfreit. 1593 SHAKS. 2 *Hen. VI.* iv. vii. 102 Take him away and behæd him. 1782 GIBSON *Decl. & F. II.* xlvii. 719 A great number of the captives were behæd. 1873 H. SPENCER *Stud. Sociol.* vii. 156 We behæded 2000 fellahs, throwing their headless corpses into the Nile.

fig. 1594 HOOKER *Ecl. Pol.* iv. xiv. § 7 To repair the decays thereof by behæding superstition. 1796 M. HENRY *Wks.* II. 370 It adds to our grief to see a family behæded.

2. Of things: To deprive of the top or foremost part. *rare.*

1579 FULKE *Heskins' Parl.* 271 Maister Heskins behædeth the sentence. 1796 MARSHALL *Garden.* § 20 (1813) 400 Grass of last year, cut to a few eyes, behæd as at 98. *Mod.* Behæded and curtailed words.

Behædal (bē'hēdāl), [f. *prec.* + -AL² 5, which see. Apparently in no Dict. hitherto.] Behæding, execution by decapitation.

1859 WINGFIELD *Tour Dalmatin* 6 The drums announcing Mary's behædal. 1881 BISANT & RICE *Whittington* ii. 54 The behædal of Sheriff Richard Lions. 1882-3 SCHAFF in *Herzog's Encycl. Rel. Knowl.* II. 1191 The reason for the behædal was jealousy at John's preponderant influence with the people.

Behæding (bē'hēdin), *vbl. sb.* [f. BEHÆD v. + -ING]. The action of cutting off the head; spec. of execution by decapitation.

a 1225 *Anr.* R. 184 Nolde me tellen him alre monne dusizest, þet forsok . . ane nelde prikunge, uor ane bihaef-dunge. 1541 R. COPLAND *Guydon's Quest. Cyrurg.* Whan he had a deade body by behædyng or other wyse. 1585 THYNN in *Animad.* Introd. 75 The duke of Buckingham's behæding. 1586-7 *Churchw. Acc. St. Margaret's, Westminster* (Nichols 1797) 21 Paid for ringing at the behæding of the Queen of Scots. 1615 HIERON *Wks.* I. 664 That story, which reports his behæding at Rome. 1732 LEDIARD *Sethos* II. vii. 64 The easiest and shortest of all deaths, behæding. 1863 THACKERAY in *Coruh. Mag.* Jan., Battles and victories, treasons, kings, and behædings.

fig. 1641 MILTON *Ch. Govt.* v. (1811) 115 For if the type of Priest be not taken away, then neither of the high Priest, it were a strange behæding.

Behæding, *ppl. a.* [f. as *prec.* + -ING².] That severs the head or decapitates.

1845 BROWNING *Soul's Trag.* I. The behæding axe!

Behæ-r, *v. Obs.* (Pseudo-archaic.) To hear.

a 1600 R. HOOD & GUY *Gisborne* 187 That behæd the sherriffe of Nottingham. a 1700 *Child's Waters* in Evans *O. Ball.* II. xxv. 214 And that behæd his mother deare.

Behæst, *behepl, behem*, etc.: see BE-PREF.

Behæst, *obs. form of BEHEST.*

† **Behæ-ven**, *v. Obs.* [f. BE-6 + HEAVEN.]

trans. To endow with celestial bliss, to beatify.

1601 W. PARRY *Shirley's Trav.* (1863) 4 Such a man . . woulde be behævened with the joy. 1609 J. DAVIES *Holy*

Rode Wks. 1876 I. 7 Ofaire Jerusalem. . Yet wast beheu'nd through blessed Bethelhem.

Behecht, -heet, -height, *obs. var. of BEHIGHT.*

Behefe, variant of BIHEVE.

Behett, for BEHAVED.

a 1637 B. JONSON *Underwoods* (1692) Wks. 587 But he was wiser, and well behett. For this is all that he hath left.

† **Behelo**, *v. Obs.* Those 1 call behelo. [OE. *behelian*, f. *Be-* + *helian* to cover: see HELE.] To conceal, cover, envelop. *lit. and fig.*

c. 1000 *ÆLFRIC Gen.* vii. 19 Wurdon ta behelede ealle ta hehstan duna. c. 1275 in *O. E. Misc.* 91 Al þes world is biheled myd heþene-hode. c. 1325 *Coer de L.* 5586 As snowgh lygges on the mountaynes, Behelyd were hylls and playnes, With hawberk bryghte and helmes clere.

† **Behem**, *v. Obs.* Forms: 3 bihemmen, 6-7 behemm. [f. BE-1 + HEM.] *trans.* To hem round. *lit. and fig.*

a 1250 *Owl & Night.* 672 He mot bihemmen and bilegge. 1567 MAPLET *Gr. Forest* 44 Those I call coates which are as it were on both their sides behemmed and parted. 1598 SYLVESTER *Du Bartas* (1608) 993 Her musky mouth . . a swelling welt of Corall round behemms.

Behemoth (bē'hēmōth, -ōp), *sb.* Forms: 4-5 behemoth, behemot, 6- behemoth. [Heb. בְּהֵמוֹת *b'hēmōth*, used in Job xl. 15. In form the word is the plural of בְּהֵמָה *b'hēmāh* 'beast,' and might be interpreted 'great or monstrous beast' (plural of dignity). But most moderns take it as really an Egyptian word *p-che-mau*, which would mean 'water-ox,' assimilated in Hebrew mouths to a Hebrew form.] An animal mentioned in the book of Job; probably the hippopotamus; but also used in modern literature as a general expression for one of the largest and strongest animals. Cf. LEVIATHAN.

1382 WYCLIF *Job* xl. 10 Lo! behemoth [1388 behemot, 1611 behemoth] that I made with thee. 1430 LYDG. *Chron. Troy* II. xvii. Whom the Hebrews . . call Behoth that doth in latin playne expresse A beast rude full of cursednes. 1667 MILTON *P. L.* vii. 471 Behemoth biggest born of earth. 1797 THOMSON *Summer* 710 The flood disparts: behold! in plaited mail, Behemoth rears his head. 1818 KEATS *Endym.* III. 134 Skeletons of man, Of beast, behemoth, and leviathan. 1880 SHELLEY *Prometh. Unb.* IV. i. 310 The might of earth-convolving behemoth. 1887 EMERSON *Poems* 306 Be swift their feet as antelopes, And as behemoth strong.

fig. 1592 G. HARVEY *Pierces Super.*, Will soone finde the huge Behemoth of conceit to be the sprat of a pickle herring. 1850 MRS. STOWE *Uncle Tom's C.* xv. 140 He's a perfect behemoth.

|| **Behen** (bē'hēn). Also behn, beñ, ben.

[a. med. L. *behen* (found in other mod. langs.),

app. corruption of Arab. بهمن *bahman, behmen*, a kind of root, also a dog-rose.]

1. A name which the old herbalists had received apparently from Arabic sources, without knowing to what plant it belonged, and which different authors consequently tried to identify with many different plants. In England it was chiefly affixed to the Bladder Campion ('White Behen'), and Sea Lavender ('Red Behen').

1578 LYKE *Dodorns* III. xxii. Called . . of herboristes at this day Behen, or Beñ album. 1682 GREW *Anat. Seeds* i. § 7 The Seed also of Ben or spatling Poppey is somewhat like a Kidney. 1769 SIR J. HILL *Fam. Herbal* (1812) 33 Red Behen, a wild plant about our sea coasts . . also called by some sea lavender. 1781 BAILEY, *Behen, Behn*, the root of Valerian, either red or white. 1783 — *Behen, Behn*, there is the white and red; the first is likewise called . . Bladder Campion; the other is also called . . Sea Lavender.

2. = BEN.

Behenetic, *behenic*: see BENIC.

Behouen, *obs. form of BEHOVE v.*

† **Beheretic**, *v. Obs.* [f. BE-5 + HERETIC.]

trans. To call, stigmatize, or treat as a heretic.

1539 TAVERNER *Gard. Wyndome* II. 16 b. Some, we behereticke, we call Lutheranes, and all that naught is. 1656 S. H. Gold. *Laws* 13 Would you that Prelacy and Priesthood should . . be heretic and sect you?

Behest (bē'hēst), *sb.* Forms: 1 behēs, 2-3 bihese, biheaste, 2-6 bi-, byheste, 3-6 beheste,

4-5 be-, bi-, byheest(e, 4-6 bi-, byhest, 6-7 beheast, 4- behest. [OE. *behēs* fem. (acc. *behēse*)

was the regular repr. of OTeut. **bihait-ti*, abst. sb. f. *bihait-an*, in OE. *behātan* to BEHIGHT (see Sievers, *Ag. Gr.* § 232); thence, early ME. *bihese*,

soon altered to *bihēs-te*, by form analogy with words in -te, OE. -t. For full phonetic history see HEST. The OE. *bihēs*, like the vb. *bihātan*, occurs only in the sense of 'promise, vow,' but in ME. *biheste* acquired the sense of the simple *hēs*, HEST, f. *hātan* 'to command'; see HIGHT.] Cf. the equivalent BEHOTE, OE. *behāt* neut., with its ME. variants BEHETE, BEHIGHT.)

† 1. A vow, promise. Very common in the phr. *Land of behest*: land of promise. *Obs.*

a 1200 *Trin. Coll. Hom.* 61 But [we] lusteren ure bihese. 1205 LAY. 1263 He bi-heithe hire bihese. c. 1230 *Hali Meid.* 39 Ich habbe ihalden mine biheste pruppe. c. 1300 *St. Brandan* 76 Bifore the gates of Paradys in the Lond of Biheste. c. 1386 CHAUCER *Frankl. Prolog.* 26 Breken his bihese. 1388 WYCLIF *Heb.* xl. 9 Bi feith he dwelte in the loond of biheest. 1496 *Dives & Paup.* (W. de W.) iv. xxvi. 193 Why is this commaundement gyuen with a byhest

of helthe. 1564 Foxe A. & M. I. 454/1 He behight to him and to his heirs the Land of behest. 1587 TURBERV. *Trag.* T. (1837) 89 She made a large behest, Of gold that she would franklike give. 1634 Malory's *Arthur* (1816) I. Prol. 13 Duke Joshua, which brought the children of Israel into the land of behest.

2. A command, injunction, bidding.

c 1175 *Lamb. Hom.* 33 þu scoldest halden cristes biheste. 1388 WYCLIF *Eccles.* xxiv. 33 Moyses comaundide a lawe in the comaundementis of rightfulness. . . and biheestis to Israel. 1528 MORE *Heresies* 1. Wks. 157/2 That thei should kepe his byhestes. 1591 SPENSER *Ruines Time* 73 To fall before her feete at her behest. 1667 MILTON P. L. viii. 238 Us he (God) sends upon his high behests. 1857 BUCKLE *Civilis.* iii. 140 We see the subtilty . . . of all forces . . . obeying even the most capricious behests of the human mind.

† **Behest**, *v.* *Obs.* Also 2 bihaste, 6 bheast; *pa. pple.* 6 bheast. [*f. prec. sb.*] *trans.* (or with *subord. cl.*) To vow, promise.

c 1175 *Lamb. Hom.* 185 þu . . . bihastest us wiþ þon þet we neomen hit heouenliche blißen. c 1430 LYDG. *Bochas* ii. xii. (1554) 51 God hath behested to David and his lyne . . . In Jerusalem how they shal succede. c 1440 *Pronp. Parv.* 29. 1477 MARC. *PASTON in Lett.* 800 III. 215 The gyrdy that my fadyr be hestyt me. 1519 HORMAN *Vulg.* 3 b. I haue behest a pygge to saynt Anthony. 1548 UDALL, etc. *Erasm. Par. Luke* xiii. 3 Thou haddest euen vowed and behested thy selfe to utter ruine. 1566 GASCOIGNE *Jocasta* Wks. (1587) 92 As much as late I did behest to thee.

† **Behesting**, *vbl. sb.* *Obs. rare*-. [*f. prec. + -ING* 1.] Bidding, command.

1583 STANHYURST *Æneis* iv. (Arb.) 115 We rely toe thyn hautye behestings.

Behet, *obs. pa. t.* of **BEHIGHT**

† **Behete**, *sb.* *Obs.* [*f. behete*, one of the forms of **BEHIGHT**, *v.*: cf. the earlier **BEHOTE**, and parallel **BEHIGHT sb.**] A promise, a vow.

c 1460 *Towneley Myst.* 159 These prophetys . . . That have knowyng of his behetyng. 1470 HARDING *Chron.* cxl. xi. Traytoure he was, and false of his behete.

Behete, variant of **BEHIGHT v.** to promise.

† **Beheter**, **beheeter**. *Obs.* [*f. behete* = **BEHIGHT v.** + *-ER*: cf. **BEHIGHTER**.] A promiser.

1388 WYCLIF *2 Macc.* x. 28 Hauynge the Lord biheeter [*v. r.* behetere] of victorie. . . Heb. vii. 22 Jhesu is maad biheter of the betere testament.

† **Beheting**, *vbl. sb.* *Obs.* [*f. as prec. + -ING* 1; cf. **BEHOTING**.] Promise, promising.

1303 R. BRUNNE *Handl. Synne* 11220 x. 3e shende hyt [wedlock] wyþ 3oure fals behetyng. 1400 in *Pol. Rel. & L. Poems* (1866) 242 A fals by-hetyng.

† **Behew**, *v.* *Obs.* *pa. pple.* behewen, behewe. [*f. BE- + HEW v.* Cf. OE. *behēawan* to hew off.] *trans.* To hew about, to carve.

c 1374 *Guy Warw.* 125 Stonis. . . Bihewe quarre for the nonis. c 1384 CHAUCER *H. Fame* 1306 It was all with [*v. r.* of] gold behewe.

† **Behide**, *v.* *Obs.* Forms: 1 behydan, 2 behuden. [OE. *behýdan*; *f. BE- + hýdan* to HIDE.] *trans.* To hide away, conceal.

c 1000 *Ag. Gosp. Matt.* xxv. 25 Ic . . . behydde [c 1160 *Hattou* behedde] þin pund on eorðan. c 1175 *Lamb. Hom.* 109 þe bihut his gold hord on heouene riche. a 1225 *Ancr. R.* 100 Hit is bilepped & bihud.

† **Behie**, *v.* *Obs.* In 4 bihyse, 5 byhye. [*f. BE- + HIE v.*] *refl.* To hie oneself, make haste.

c 1340 *Cursor M.* 5087 Bihyse þou swiþe hoome to go. c 1425 *Seven Sag.* (P.) 952 The bore byhyde hym thydyr faste.

† **Behight**, *v.* *Obs.* For forms see below. [An OE. compound *vb.*: OE. *bi-*, *behátan* = OHG. *biheizan*, Goth. *bihátan* (in derivatives), *f. bi-*, BE- + OE. *hátan* = Goth. *hátan* to call, *pa. t.* *hahátit*, (= *hehátit*), *pa. pple.* *haitans*. The reduplicated *pa. t.* appeared in OE. as *heht* (— *he hat*: — *hehátit*: — *hehátit*), contr. *hét* (pl. *hétan*). As there was no other Eng. *vb.* exactly parallel, the isolated inflexion of *hátan* and *behátan* was in ME. subjected to a remarkable series of changes, resulting finally in the loss of the original present stem, and the substitution of that of the past as a new present, with weak inflexions. 1. The OE. original forms of the pres. *behátan*, and *pa. pple.* *behátan*, gave regularly the ME. *behoite* and *behoiten* (to c 1255). The OE. *pa. t.* *behét* gave ME. *behet* (— *heet*, — *hete*), found after 1400; *beheht* gave *biheght*, — *height*, more usually *behijt*, — *hight* (— *hyht*, — *hyght*, and in 15th c. — *hite*). But in the course of the 14th c., the normal forms, *behoite*, *behet* — *height* — *hight*, *behoiten*, began to be disturbed under the influence of levelling, and of various assumed analogies. 2. Thus, the Present took the vowel of the then archaic past, and became *behoite*, — *heete*, frequent in Wyclif, Chaucer, and Lydgate. The Past was occasionally assimilated to the *pple.* as *behoite*, *behoite*; but far more frequently the *pple.* was assimilated to the *pa. t.*, first as *behet*, — *heete*, then as *beheght*, *behight*, in 16th c. also *behoite*. The Past *behoite* was then made weak, as *be-height-e* (3 syllables; cf. forms like *michte*, *lighte*); and finally *behight* (*behoite*) was taken as present, and the *pa. t.* and *pple.* duly became in 16th c. *behighted* (*behited*); cf. *lighted* for earlier *lighte*. Rare forms of the *pa. t.* were

c 1400 *behit* (cf. *lit* = *lighted*), and in 16th c. *behoited*, formed on the original present *behoite*. See further under the simple **HIGHT v.** Towards the end of the 16th c. *behight* became obsolete, but was kept up by the Spenserian archaists, who often misunderstood its meaning, and employed it in mistaken senses.]

A. Illustration of Forms.

1. Present. a. 1-3 beháte; 3-4 bi-, 3-6 behote.

a 1000 *ÆLFRIC Deut.* xxiii. 21 Donne ðu behat behæst. c 1175 *Lamb. Hom.* 161 Moni mon bihated wel þe hit forþetd sone. a 1225 *Ancr. R.* 8 3e ne schulen nout bihoten hit, auh. . . doð hit as þauh 3e hefden hit bihoten. 1340 *Aenb.* 65 3uyche men þet . . . behotep þing þet hi nele nazt healde. c 1400 *Gamelyn* 378 For to holden myn a-vow as I the by-hote. a 1520 *Myrr. Our Ladye* 61 He behoteth that . . . there shall be encreased peace and accord. [1591 *LAMBARDE Arch.* 141 That the Lord of Bedford . . . nor other of the Councell shall behote any favour.]

B. 4-6 behete, behote.

c 1340 *Cursor M.* 682 So dud prince & als prophete As god dud to him bihete [*v. r.* hete, hette]. c 1388 WYCLIF *Wisd.* ii. 13 He biheithit [*v. r.* behoteth] that he hath the kunnyng of God. c 1386 CHAUCER *Chan. Yem.* Prol. & T. 154 Neuere heere after wol I with hym meete. I yow biheite [*v. r.* be-, by-, -hete]. a 1400 *Chesler Pl.* 31, I thee behette. c 1420 *Chron. Vilod.* 1014 Depe dampnacyn God byhetuth alle þo. c 1520 *HANLEY in Prynce Sov. Power* Parl. ii. (1643) 67 The King shall answer, I grant and behete.

γ 4-5 behyte, 6 behyjt, — *height*, — *hite*, *Sc. hecht*, 6-7 *hight*.

c 1400 *Apol. Loll.* 11 If þe pope . . . behijt ani swilk bingis. *Ibid.* 69 Wan þe prest . . . behyjt suelk an absolucoun. 1513 DOUGLAS *Æneis* i. vi. 94, I þou behicht [*v. r.* hecht]. 1548 *HALL Chron.* (1809) 136 Promysing and behighting by the faith of his body. 1582 MARBECK *Bk. Notes* 458 It bringeth and behighteth good thinges. 1610 *BARROUGH Meth. Physick* i. xxviii. (1639) 45 [They] often behight and determine to kill themselves.

2. Past t. a. 1-4 behét, 2 -heet, 4 -heet, -hete, -hett.

c 1000 *ÆLFRIC Deut.* v. 2 Drihten God behet us wed. a 1100 *O. E. Chron.* an. 1036 Ælc man yfel him behet. c 1175 *Lamb. Hom.* 71 Swa he þurh þe witeþa bihet. a 1225 *Ancr. R.* 176 Salue ich bihet to techen ou. c 1300 *Harrow. Hell* 199 Do me as thou bihete. c 1400 *Gamelyn* 783 He him behet that he wolde be redy when the justice seet. c 1430 *Hymns Virg.* 98 He . . . Pat biheet me riht.

B. 1 behéht, 3-5 -heght(e), 5-6 -height; 4 -hyjt, 4-6 -hight, 5 -hite, 5-6 -hyght, 6 *Sc. hioht*.

c 1300 *K. Alis.* 3925 A byhete, That Darie byheghte. c 1320 R. BRUNNE *Medit.* 1027 As þou me behyhte. c 1386 CHAUCER *Knts. T.* 1614 Myn owen knight Schal have his lady, as thou him bihight. c 1440 *Gesta Rom.* 122 Veruys, þe whiche he be-hite in baptyme. c 1500 *Lancelot* 1481 The lond, the wich he them byhicht. 1527 *Caxton's Trevisa's Higden* i. lviii. 53 b. Scotess sente y^e Pyetes. . . and behyght them helpe. 1569 *TURBERV. Poems*, Your comely hewe behight me hope.

γ 4-5 be-, bi-, byhyte, -hyjte, -higte, 5-6 -hyghte, -highte. After final *e* became mute, this was of course identified with *β*.

c 1374 CHAUCER *Troilus* v. 1204 He niste what he juggen of it myghte, Syn she hath broken that she hym byhyghte. 1388 WYCLIF *Matt.* xiv. 7 He byhyhte for to jeeue to hir. c 1449 *PECOCK Repr.* 404 Wole not performe what he so behyhte. a 1520 *Myrr. Our Ladye* 309 Iesu hathe sente the holy goste that he behyghte.

δ. 4-5 behit.

c 1400 *Apol. Loll.* 10 Crist. . . behit vs heuently kyndom.

ε. 5 behote, 5-6 behote.

c 1425 *Three Kings Cologne* (1885) 9 And [þei] byhotten jiftes to þe keepers. 1493 *Festivall* (W. de W. 1515) 115 Thou behote me a chylde, and now is the mother deed.

ζ. 6 behoted.

1520 *Caxton's Chron. Eng.* ii. 15/2 Those that me other wise behoted [ed. 1480 Tho that me other wyse behyghten].

η. 6 behighted, -hited, -heighted.

1564 FOXE A. & M. I. 456/2 For so thou behited us sometime. 1587 *GOLDING De Mornay* xxix. 452 Let vs see what time they behighted for his coming.

3. *Pa. pple.* a. 1-3 behátan, 2-6 -hoten, 3-6 -hote.

c 1175 *Cott. Hom.* 225 Swa swa him aér be-haten wes. c 1314 *Guy Warw.* 104 Bihoten Ich it haue a maiden of pris. c 1400 *Beryn* 2528 Delyvir me of sorowe, as yee behote have. a 1520 *Myrr. Our Ladye* 267 He hathe behote . . . to gyue a hundereth folde. 1564 FOXE A. & M. I. 454/2 It was byhoten by Jeremiah. 1579 SPENSER *Sheph. Cal.* Dec. 54 But better mought they haue behote him Hate.

β. 4 behet, 5 -hete.

a 1400 *Cursor M.* 3010 (Trin.) 8 Hir son . . . þat was longe bihet toform. *Ibid.* 13137 This childe was by-hete [*v. r.* bihett] many a yere Ar he were sent. c 1460 *Towneley Myst.* 31 As thou me behete hase.

γ. 4 byheght, 4-5 bihyjt, -hyght, -hijt, -hight, behijt, -hyjt, -hyht; 4-6 behight, -hyght, -hite.

c 1325 *E. E. Allit. P. C.* 29 þe happes alle a3t þat was bihyjt weren. c 1380 WYCLIF *Sel. Wks.* III. 429 God haves byheght hom. 1388 — *Eccles.* viii. 16 If thou hast bihijt. 1447 *BOKENHAM Seyntys* Introd. 6 Aftyr I had behyht the ryng. 1510 *LOVE Bonavent.* *Mirr.* xviii. E v. The mede of theym is behyght for to come. 1553-57 FOXE A. & M. I. 541/1 To wakers God has behite the Crown of Life. 1596 SPENSER *F. Q. I.* x. 50 The keys are to thy hand behight.

δ. 6 behited, -highted, -heighted.

1574 *tr. Marlorat's Apocalips* 37 He hath behyghted vs euerlasting life. 1577 *St. Aug. Manuell* 26 The light that God hath behighted them. 1606 *WARNER Alb. Eng.* ci. 399 His knights had all behited them fulfid.

B. Signification.

I. Proper senses. 1. To vow, to promise.

a. *trans.* (with *dative* of the person.)

a 1000 *ÆLFRIC Gen.* xxxviii. 17 Oð þæt þu me sende þæt þu me behæst. c 1300 *Beke* 1010 The King bihet hem gret honor. 1369 CHAUCER *Bk. Duchesse* 631 The trayteresse false and full of gyle, That al behoteth, and nothing halt. a 1400 *OCCLEVE De Reg. Princ.* 2337 A kyng ought . . . No thyng bihete but yf he it performe. 1556 *ASP. PARKER Psalter* cxvi. 16, I now will paye, My vowes that I behight. 1622 *Br. MOUNTAGU Diatribae* 506, I behight thee the Tenth of all my gettings.

b. with *inf.* or *subord. cl.*

c 1205 *LAV.* 18396 Godde we scullen bihaten ure sunnen to beten. c 1340 *Cursor M.* 5431 (Trin.), I bihete þe riht hit shal be done. c 1450 *Knt. de la Tour* (1868) 92 The payens behight her. . . that she shulde haue a gret somme of moneye. 1480 *CAXTON Chron. Eng.* ccxxi. 211 He . . . behijt hym for to done his message. 1496 *Dives & Paup.* (W. de W.) i. xl. 81 He that behoteth to come ayen. 1610 *BARROUGH Meth. Physick* i. xxviii. (1639) 45 [The melancholious] desire death, and do very often behight and determine to kill themselves.

2. *trans.* To encourage expectation, to hold out hope of (life, recovery, etc.).

c 1420 *Chron. Vilod.* 788 He had . . . þe severe quarteyne, þat no mon þat sye hurte by-hette hurrt þe lyff. a 1552 *LELAND Brit. Coll.* i. 231 This William . . . was wounded so sore that no man beheight him life. 1571 *GOLDING Calvin on Ps.* ix. 14 He behighteth himselfe sauffy even in the mouth of death.

3. *trans.* To assure (one) of the truth of a statement; to warrant. (Cf. mod. *I promise you.*)

c 1386 CHAUCER *Wife's Prolog.* 1034 Litel whil it last, I you biheete. c 1430 *Syr. Tryam.* 18 He had a quene. . . Trewe as stele, y yow be-hett. 1513 DOUGLAS *Æneis* i. vi. 94 Dido heyrat comouit, I þou behicht. . . followship redy made.

II. Improper uses by the archaists of the 16th and 17th cc., when the word was becoming obsolete; cf. the simple *hight*, also *behest*.

4. *trans.* To grant, deliver.

1566 SPENSER *F. Q. I.* x. 50 The keys are to thy hand behight By wise Fidelia.

5. To command, bid, ordain.

c 1591 SPENSER *Muipolmas* 241 It fortun'd (as heavens had behight) That, etc. 1596 — *F. Q.* vi. li. 39 He . . . with her march'd forth, as she did him behight.

6. To call, to name.

1579 SPENSER *Sheph. Cal.* Apr. 120 They bene all Ladyes of the lake behight. *Ibid.* Dec. 54 Love they him call'd . . . But better mought they have behote him Hate. 1599 *NASHK Lent. Stiffe* (1871) 72 Which . . . are behighted the trees of the sun and moon. 1654 *ASHMOLE Theat. Chem.* i. 129 After Philosophy I you behyte.

7. To bespeak, invoke.

1615 T. ADAMS *Lycanth.* Ep. Ded. 3, I behight you in my prayers, a happy progresse in grace.

† **Behight**, *sb.* *Obs.* Forms: 5 behijt, 6 -hight, *Sc.* behicht, — *hecht*. [*f. prec. vb.*: cf. the parallel **BEHETE**, **BEHOTE**.] A promise.

c 1400 *Apol. Loll.* 57 After His blessing and silk behijt. c 1505 *DUNBAR None may Assure* xii, Quahais fals behichtis as wind hym wavis. 1533 *BELLENDEN Liry* ii. (1822) 130, I wil nocht dissawe the Tarquinis . . . with vane behichtis. a 1547 *EARL SURREY Psalm lxxiii.* 25 [Not] In other succour . . . But only thine, whom I have found in thy behight so just.

† **Behighted**, *ppl. a.* *Obs.* Promised.

1571 *GOLDING Calvin on Ps.* xi. 2 This behighted kingdom. 1596 *WARNER Alb. Eng. Prose* Add. (1612) 332 His Troians disanker from Thrace in quest of the behighted Italie.

† **Behighter**, *Obs. rare.* A promiser.

c 1400 *Apol. Loll.* 105 Pei are largist bihijtars, and scarsist geuars.

Behind (bĥai'nd), *adv., prep. (sb.)* FORMS: 1 behindan, (*Northumb.* bihianda), 2-3 bihinden, 3 (*Orm.*) -hinndenn, 2-4 -hinde, 3-4 byhynde, 4 bi-, by-hynden, bi-henden, -hynde, -hind, beheinde, 4-6 behynde, 5-7 behinde, 4- behind. [OE. *bi-*, *behindan*, identical w. OS. *bihindan*, *f. bi-*, BE- + *hindan*, OHG. *hindana*, mod.G. *hinten*, Gothic *hindana* adv., 'from behind', 'behind'; *f. root hind-* in *HINDER*, *HIND-most*, with advb. suffix *-ana*, orig. meaning direction from: the notion of position is given by BE-. *Behind* is used both absolutely (as adv.), and with an object (as prep.), the latter originating in an OE. dative of reference, *behindan him* 'in the rear as to him'; in Gothic *hindana* took a genitive, *hindana laurdanaus* 'from the back of the Jordan.' In its sense-development the word is one, though for practical purposes the adverbial and prepositional construction are here treated separately.]

A. *adv.* * In relation to an object in motion.

1. In a place whence those to whom the reference is made have departed; remaining after the others have gone. Esp. used with *leave* (*let obs.*), *remain*, *stay*, *abide*. B. *lit.*

c 900 *O. E. Chron.* an. 894 Da Deniscan szeton þær be hindan. a 1000 *Boeth. Metr.* xxiv. 29 þu . . . þone hehstan heofon behindan læstest. *Ibid.* xxvi. 23 He let him behindan hyrude ciolas. c 1305 *St. Swithun* 99 in *E. E. P.* (1862) 46 Ne lef þu no3t bihynde. c 1450 *Kob. Hood* (Ritson) i. 46 We shall abide behynde. c 1500 *Merch. & Son* in *Halliw. Nuge Poet.* 26 Here ys a fytt of thys matere; the better ys behynde. 1607 *DRYDEN Virg. Georg.* iii. 306 He . . . leaves the Scythian Arrow far behind. 1766 *GOLDSM. Vic. W.* iii. (1806) 13 Too generous to attempt leaving us behind. 1788

COWPER *J. Gilpin* 60 Betty screaming came downstairs, 'The wine is left behind!' 1874 *Stubbs Const. Hist.* (1875) I. 64 Even the slaves were not left behind.

b. *fig.* In the position, condition, or state which a person or thing has left: e.g. in existence after one's death.

c. 1400 *St. Alexius* 20 Richesse he lete al bihynde. 1595 *Babes in Wd.* (Ritson) 16 They died And left two babes behind. a 1631 *DONNE Poems* (1650) 15 To leave this world behind, is death. 1652 *CULPEPPER Eng. Physic* 68 Gross humours Winter hath left behind. 1764 *GOLDSM. Trav.* 132 All evils... That opulence departed leaves behind. 1829 *SOUTHEY Sir T. More* II. 138 When they were advanced from a private station, they left behind them the leisure. 1878 *HUXLEY Physiogr.* 73 The salt is left entirely behind, and nothing but pure water evaporated.

c. In the time which one has lived beyond, in the past.

[1388] *WYCLIF Phil.* iii. 13 Forgettinge... tho things that ben bihyndis. 1526 *TINDALE ibid.*, I forget that which is behind. c. 1600 *SHAKS. Son.* I. My grief lies onward and my joy behind. 1850 *TENNYSON In Mem.* lxvii. As in the winters left behind, Again our ancient games had place.

†2. After one has left (a company), in one's absence. *Obs.*, and now expressed by 'behind one's back': see B 9.

a 1000 *Bi manna Lease* (Gr.) 4 Eorl oðerne... mid teon-wordum tæled bihindan, spreced fagere beforan. c. 1175 *Lamb. Hom.* 143 Þe bet speked faire biforen and false bihindan. 1413 *LYDG. Pygmy*. Sowle iii. iii. (1483) 51 Ye have shewed them in presence good chere... but behynde ye have ben fals traytours.

3. In the rear of anything moving; following, in the train; not so far forward. *To come behind*: to follow, come after. *To fall behind*: to fall into the rear through not going so fast or 'keeping up.'

[c. 950] *Lindisf. Gosp.* Mark v. 27 [Wif] cwom in ðreat bihindan. 1393 *LANGL. P. Pl. C.* iv. 37 Ther connyng clerkus shulle clokke by-hynde. 1562 *J. HEYWOOD Prov. & Epigr.* (1867) 72 The further ye go, the further behynde. c. 1575 *J. STILL Gamm. Gurtun* v. in *Dodsley* (1780) II. 77 As proude come behinde, as anie goes before. 1697 *DRYDEN Virg. Georg.* iii. 708 Late to lag behind, with truant pace. 1857 *MARY HOWITT Web-Spinner*, I am wearied with a long day's chase, My friends are far behind. 1858 *C. PATMORE Angel in Ho.* xii. iii. Her laughing sisters lagged behind.

†b. of following in time: Later. *Those that come behind*: posterity. *Obs.*

c. 1600 *Rob. Hood* (Ritson) I. v. 420 Least his fame should be buried clean From those that came behind. 1628 *HOBBS Tacud.* (1822) 40 Men... are many times to fall first to action, the which ought to come behind.

4. *fig.* (from 1) In reserve, kept back, not yet brought forward or mentioned; still to come.

1250 *LAY. 18012* He hadde bihinde ehtetene þousend. 1526 *Pilgr. Perf.* (W. de W. 1531) 6 b. Smoke, the more it encreaseth, the lesse is behynde. 1528 *UDALL Eras.* *Apoph.* 276 b. There is but a veray little litle tyme of my life behynde. 1603 *SHAKS. Meas. for M.* v. 545 Wee'll show What's yet behind. 1630 *WADSWORTH Sp. Pilgr.* v. 46 He... told what was behynde of his former discourse. 1697 *T. BROWN Saints in Up.* Wks. 1730 I. 73 The oddest and most comical scene is still behind. 1750 *JOHNSON Rambl.* No. 67 ¶ 2 The expectation of some new possession, or of some enjoyment yet behind. 1818 *MACAULAY in Trevelyan Life* I. ii. 96 But stronger evidence is behind.

5. *fig.* (from 3.) a. Of progress, advancement, or attainment; hence, of rank, order, subordination.

c. 1200 *Trin. Coll. Hom.* 213 Þenne man biþeched oðer he him maked to ben bihindan of þat he wened to ben biforen. c. 1300 *Cursor M.* 6073 Qua for pouert ys be-hinde. 1526 *TINDALE 1 Cor.* i. 7 So that ye are behynde [WYCLIF fail, 1611 come behind] in no gyfte. 1586 *WARNER Alb. Eng.* iii. xviii. 83 You... shall see Yourselves to come behind in Armes. 1788 *MISS BURNAY Diary, etc.* (1842) IV. 42 Mrs. Montagu, who was behind with no one in kind speeches. 1817 *JAS. MILL Brit. India* II. v. iv. 462 The opponents were not behind in violence.

b. In reference to the fulfilment of an obligation, esp. of paying money due: In arrear. *Const. with money unpaid*, or the person to whom it is due; *in fulfilling an obligation*.

c. 1375 *WYCLIF Sermon*. Sel. Wks. II. 252 So many men in þis world ben byhynde of dette of love. 1454 *E. E. Wills* (1882) 133 His wages beyng be-hynde. 1493 *Festivall* (W. de W. 1515) 20 Ye that be behynde [in making shrift]... come and shryve you. 1522 *Act 4 Hen. VIII.* xi. If the said annuell rentes... be behynde. 1596 *DANETT Comes Hist. Fr.* (1614) 239 Maximilian was behind with them for certain moneths pay. 1614 *R. TAILOR Hog hath lost Pearl* i. i. in *Dodsley* (1780) VI. 381, I am behind with my landlord a year. 1697 *Cless. D'Annoy's Trav.* (1706) 86 A man of good quality... much behind in the world. 1765 *Act 5 Geo. II.* xvii. § 3 in *Oxf. & Camb. Enact.* 75 In case the rent or rents... shall be behind or unpaid. 1885 *Manch. Exam.* 21 July 5/2 If the tenant falls behind with his instalments.

6. After due time; late or slow in coming forward. *Obs. exc. Sc.*

c. 1330 *Assumpt. Virg.* 808 Euer art þou bi-hynde, Where hast þou so longe bene? 1414 *BRAMPTON Penit. Ps.* lxxv. 25 Lete noȝt thi mercy be behynde. 1727 *WALKER Life Feden* 38 (JAM.) He was never behind with any that put their trust in him. 1787 *BEATTIE Scotticisms* 24, I fear I shall be behind, i.e. not arrive in time.—Late, too late.

b. Of a watch or clock: Slow.

1787 *BEATTIE Scotticisms* 15 My watch is behind, before: slow, fast, are better.

* *In relation to objects at rest.*

7. On the back side, at the back; in the rear of anything stationary having a recognized front.

c. 1220 *Sawles Warde in Cott. Hom.* 251 Speowes ham eft ut biuoren ant bihinden. c. 1305 *Judas Iscar.* 83 in' E. E. P. 109 He smot him wip a ston bihynde in þe pate. c. 1400 *Destr. Troy* xxiii. 9540 He was brocht purgh the body with a big speire, Pat a trunchyn of þe tre tut out behynd. a 1540 *Pilgrim's T.* 66 in *Thynne's Animadv.* 79 In myn eyr behynd I herde a bussinge. 1601 *SHAKS. Jul. C.* v. i. 43 Caska, like a curie, behinde Strooke Cæsar on the necke. 1713 *STEELE Englishm.* No. 1. 5 The Servants behind... were unable to contain from laughing. 1795 *SOUTHEY Joann of Arc.* iv. 388 From behind a voice was heard. 1831 *R. KNOX Cloquet's Anat.* 152 A... smooth surface, concave from behind forwards. 1837 *MARRVAT Dog-Fiend* viii. She had... a back-door into the street behind.

†b. *fig.* At one's back, supporting, backing up. 1630 *WADSWORTH Sp. Pilgr.* vii. 71 The remainder of the regiment... [was] giuen to Sir James Creeton, there being behind Captain Lucy... with diuerse other... Captaines.

c. At the back or on the farther side of some object, so as to be hidden. Chiefly *fig.*

Mod. That seems fair enough, but is there anything behind?

8. Towards the rear, backwards. (With *look* or equivalent verbs.)

c. 1340 *Ayenb.* 130 Yzyp aboue and beneþe, and beuore and behynde. 1388 *WYCLIF Judg.* xx. 40 Beniamyn biholdynge bihynde... turnede the face. 1604 *SHAKS. Oth.* ii. i. 158 She that could... See suitors following, and not looke behind. 1628 *E. WALKER Epictetus Mor.* (1737) xii. Run, Nor look behind. 1697 *DRYDEN Virg. Georg.* iv. 708 Th' unwary Lover cast his Eyes behind. 1799 *WORDSW. Lucy Gray* xvi. O'er rough and smooth she trips along, And never looks behind. 1867 *ALFORD Hymn 'Forward'*, Seek the things before us, Not a look behind.

9. To the back, into the rear. † *To put behind* (*obs.*): to put into the rear, out of sight, into the background, or into a subordinate position.

c. 1380 *WYCLIF 3 Treat.* i. 61 Shrift to God is put bihynde... but priuie shrift newe foundun is autorisid as nedeful to soules heele. c. 1400 *Apol. Loll.* go Put not His bidding be hynd. c. 1430 *LYDG. Bochas* i. iii. (1544) 6 a. The pride of Nembroth there was put behind. c. 1450 *Rob. Hood* (Ritson) i. i. 1072, I dyd holpe a pore yeman, With wronge was put behynde. *Mod.* Go behind and look for it.

B. *prep.* * *With the object in motion.*

1. In a place left by (one who has gone on). Usually with *leave, remain, stay*, expressed or understood.

c. 1200 *ORMIN* 8213 He was þa bihindenn hemm bilefled att te temple. a 1300 *Cursor M.* 15879 Lafte þei not bihynden hem þe fals feloun Iudas. 1526 *Pilgr. Perf.* (W. de W. 1531) 143 To leue our best behynde vs. 1613 *SHAKS. Hen. VIII.* iv. ii. 84 Leauie me heere in wretchednesse behynde ye. 1874 *FARRAR Christ* I. 177 Leaving behind him those Phœnician shrines. *Mod.* She has resolved to stay behind me for a few days.

b. *fig.* In a condition or state left by (one); in existence, in life, in the world after one is 'gone.' 1601 *SHAKS. Twel. N.* ii. i. 20 He left behind him myself and a sister. a 1604 *TILLOTSON* (J.) Piety and virtue are not only delightful for the present, but they leave peace and contentment behind them. 1750 *JOHNSON Rasselas* xxx. Wks. (1825) I. 263 The old Egyptians have left behind them monuments of industry. 1867 *FREEMAN Norm. Cong.* I. vi. (1876) 420 The last King who left behind him a name for just and mild government.

c. *fig.* In time left by (one); in time past.

1832 *TENNYSON Locksley H.* 13 When the centuries behind me like a fruitful land reposed.

†2. After the departure of (a person); in the absence of. *Obs.* (Now, behind his back: see 9.)

c. 1300 *Beket* 1374 To deme a man bihynden him thou wost hit nere no lawe. 1340 *Ayenb.* 10 Þo þet misziggbe guode men behinde ham. 1470-85 *MALORY Arthur* (1816) I. 357 Many speak more behind him than they will say to his face.

3. In the rear of (one moving); following, after.

c. 1385 *CHAUCER L. G. W.* 185 By-hynde this god... I saw comynge of ladyis nyntene. 1610 *SHAKS. Temp.* iv. i. 11 She will outstrip all praise And make it halt, behinde her. 1697 *DRYDEN Virg. Georg.* iv. 700 And close behind him follow'd she. 1742 *YOUNG Nt. Th.* i. 171 Joy behind joy, in endless perspective! 1808 *SCOTT Marm.* I. vii. Behind him rode two gallant squires.

b. with reference to any kind of progress, attainment, or position or order attained: Inferior to.

1526 *TINDALE 2 Cor.* xi. 5, I suppose that I was not behynde the cheste apostles. 1593 *HOOKER Eccl. Pol.* I. vi. § 2 Wks. 1841 I. 164 Beasts, though otherwise behind men, may... in actions of sense and fancy go beyond them. 1625 *BURGES Pers. Tithes* 24 The practise of such as are behind him in estate. 1823 *LAMB Elia* Ser. I. xv. (1865) 121 She is in some things behind her years. 1848 *MACAULAY Hist. Eng.* I. 68 They were some centuries behind their neighbours in knowledge.

4. Later than, after (the set time), i.e. after the set time has passed. In 'behind time' there is an expression of blame not present in 'after time.'

1600 *SHAKS. A. Y. L.* iv. i. 195 If you... come one minute behind your hour. 1632 *RUTHERFORD Lett.* 26 (1862) I. 98 We be but half-hungred of Christ here, and many a time dine behind noon. 1853 *C. BRONTE Villetta* 180 'Ten minutes behind his time, said she.

* *With the object at rest.*

5. In the space lying to the rear of, on the back side of (a person, or object that has a front and back). *Behind fortifications*, etc.: inside of, so as to be defended by them.

c. 1175 *Lamb. Hom.* 165 He is buuen us and bineþen, biforen and bihinden. a 1225 *Juliana* 73 Bihinden hare schuldren. c. 1300 *K. Alis.* 2013 Y wol... faste bynde, His honden his rug byhynde. c. 1320 *Seuyn Sag.* (W.) 553 He hadde, bihinden his paleys, A fair gardin. 1611 *BIBLE E.*

xiv. 19 The pillar of the cloud... stood behinde them. 1760 *JOHNSON Idler* No. 95 ¶ 6 They wondered how a youth of spirit could spend the prime of life behind a counter. 1766 *GOLDSM. Vic. W.* xxii. (1806) 132 Next morning I took my daughter behind me, and set out on my return home. 1849 *KINGSLEY Pr. Idylls* (1875) 295 The gentleman from Lloyd's with the pen behind his ear.

b. *fig.* At the back of (any one) as a support; backing (one) up.

1882 *Pall Mall G.* 24 June 1 The great arbitragists who have behind them the wealthy financial houses in London.

6. On the farther side of (an object) from the spectator or point of reference; beyond.

c. 1325 *E. E. Allit. P. B.* 653 Þe burde byhynde þe dor for busmar lazed. a 1400 *Chester Pl.* 209 Alas! that I were awaie Ferre behynde France! 1653 *HOLCROFT Procopius* iv. 120 All behind the end of the Euxine is Lazica. 1697 *DRYDEN Virg. Georg.* iii. 330 Behind the Mountain, or beyond the Flood. 1800 *KRATS St. Agnes* xi. He stood hid... Behind a broad hall-pillar. 1832 *HT. MARTINEAU Life in Wilds* i. 3 The mountains behind the Cape of Good Hope.

b. *fig.* At the back of, hidden by, on the side remote from our observation.

1866 *J. MARTINEAU Ess.* I. 198 Behind every phenomenon we must assume a power.

c. Behind the scenes: in the rear of the scenery of a theatre; hence, behind what is publicly displayed, out of sight, in private.

1711 *ADDISON Spect.* No. 44 ¶ 5 Murders and Executions are always transacted behind the Scenes in the French Theatre. 1779 *HORNE Disc.* (1799) IV. vii. 169 In the Scripture-histories we are as it were admitted behind the scenes. 1856 *FROUDE Hist. Eng.* I. 316 There lay... behind the scenes a whole drama of contention and bitterness.

7. Backwards from (oneself), towards what lies in the rear of. (With *look* and equivalent verbs.)

c. 1374 *CHAUCER Boeth.* iii. xii. 108 Yif he loke bihynden hym. 1388 *WYCLIF Gen.* xix. 26 The wijf of hym [Lot], biholdynge bihynde her. 1611 *BIBLE Judg.* xx. 40 The Beniamites looked behind them. 1750 *JOHNSON Rambl.* No. 6 ¶ 13 Venturing to look behind him. 1860 *TYNDALL Glaciers* I. § 14. 94 The prospect... behind us... grew worse.

8. Into the space lying to the rear of, to the back or farther side of.

1250 *LAY.* 26057 Arthur... storte bi-hinde an treo. c. 1385 *CHAUCER L. G. W.* 643 By-hyndyn the mast begynnyth he to fle. 1611 *BIBLE Matt.* xxvi. 23 Get thee behind mee, Satan. — 2 *Kings* ix. 19 Turne thee behinde me. *Mod.* The mouse ran behind the sideboard. The sun has sunk behind the mountains.

b. *fig.* Out of attention or consideration.

1866 *MOTLEY Dutch Rep.* v. i. 673 The plan of Don John... I put entirely behind me.

c. *To go behind*: to press an enquiry into what does not appear on the surface of (any matter), or is not avowed.

1824 *M. WHITE in Law Times Rep.* LII. 548/2 The rate... was valid and good on the face of it, and the justices were not entitled to go behind it and inquire whether there was a concurrent rate.

* * * *Phrase.*

9. Behind (one's) back has been used as a more emphatic expression for behind (one), in all senses; but now spec. in sense 2, in which behind-backs also occurs in Scotch.

c. 1325 *E. E. Allit. P. B.* 980 Þe balleful burde... Blushed bihynden her bak. 1388 *WYCLIF Gen.* xxii. 13 Abraham... sawe bihynd his bak a wether among the thornes. 1470-85 *MALORY Arthur* (1816) I. 307 To say of me wrong or shame behind my back. 1611 *BIBLE Ex.* xxiii. 35 Thou hast forgotten me, and cast me behind thy backe [1388 *WYCLIF*, behynde thi bodil]. 1645 *RUTHERFORD Tryal & Tri. Faith* (1845) 78 The Father and the Son are speaking of thee behind backs. 1711 *STEELE Spect.* No. 109 ¶ 5 Sir Andrew Freeport has said behind my Back, that, etc. 1768 *Br. NEWTON Wks.* II. xxii. 460 The flatterer will... trumpet forth your praises behind your back. c. 1817 *HOGG Tales & Sk.* IV. 14 Tibby was sitting behind backs enjoying the meal. 1864 *Linnet's Trial* I. iii. 1. 303, I should be very sorry not to defend people behind their backs.

c. as *sb.* (*collog.* and *vulgar*): The back side or rear part (of the person or of a garment); the posteriors.

1786 *Lounger* No. 54. 17 Two young Ladies... with new Hats on their heads, new Bosoms, and new Behinds in a band-box. a 1830 *GEORGE IV in Sat. Rev.* (1862) 8 Feb., Go and do my bidding—tell him he lies, and kick his behind in my name! 1833 *MARRVAT P. Simple* (1863) 49 That I might not have the front of my trowsers torn as well as the behind.

D. Comb. † Behind-back(s, see 9 above; behind-forth (*obs.*), from behind forward; behind-rider, a rear guard; behind-sight *nonce-wd.* (as contrast to *foresight*), backward view, retrospection.

1398 *TREVISIA Barth. De P. R.* xviii. lxvii. (1495) 823 [The leopard] reseth on hym behynde-forth wyth bytyng and wyth clawes. 1471 *Hist. Arriv. Eduw.* IV (1838) 14 A good bande of speres and archars his behynd-rydars. 1824 *Pall Mall G.* 8 Feb. 1/1 If our foresight were as good as our 'behindsight,' many disasters would never happen.

Behindhand (*bihindhand*, *adv.* and *a.*) Also 6-7 behind the hand. [f. *BEHIND prep.* + *HAND*, probably on the analogy of *beforehand*. Properly an adverb, but in common use as complement of the predicate, in 'to be behindhand,' where the distinction of adverb and adjective breaks down: hence sometimes attributively.]

1. In arrear as to the discharge of one's liability.

ties, in a state of insolvency, in debt. (Const. with.)

1530 PALSGR. 423/2, I am behynde the hande as a man is that is fallen in pouerty. 1535 LATIMER *Serm. & Rem.* (1845) 367 He can tell you of more as far behindhand as he. 1542 UDALL *Apoph. Erasm.* 319 b, Sore behynde hande in debte. 1618 WOTTON in *Reliq. Wotton.* (1685) 258 He was Poor and somewhat behind hand. 1647 W. BROWNE *Poet. and* 1. 134, I finde my selfe behindhand with him more than I am able to pay him. 1704 SWIFT *T. Tub* § 2 (1709) 48 Having run something behind-hand with the world. 1752 JOHNSON *Ramb.* No. 101 P. 1 A cold which has .. put me seventeen visits behind-hand.

b. In the position of a creditor, entitled to money which is in arrears.

1666 PERVS *Diary* 19 Dec. Many .. are ready to starve, they being five years behind-hand for their wages.

2. Behind time, late, too late, 'after the event'; out of date, behind the times.

1549 COMPT. Scot. 115 This vryting is cum ouer lait and behynd the hand. 1645 W. LITHGOW *Siege Newcastle* (1820) 31 Scottish-men are aye wise behinde the hand. 1711 ADDISON *Spect.* No. 129 P. 5 A Justice of Peace's Lady, who was at least ten years behindhand in her Dress. 1837 CARLYLE *Pr. Rev.* I. i. v. il. 131 Folly is that wisdom which is wise only behindhand. 1875 BROWNING *Aristoph. Apol.* 302 Am I perhaps behindhand? come too late?

3. In a state of backwardness, less advanced than others (*in*); ill provided or prepared (*with*).

1542 UDALL *Apoph. Erasm.* 169 a, Leasyng me behynd hande in bountifullnesse. 1601 R. JOHNSON *Kingd. & Commw.* 84 Unfurnished of warre provision .. being exceedingly behind hand. 1701 W. WOTTON *Hist. Rome* 285 Severus was not behind-hand in anything that had been customary. 1768 STERNE *Sent. Journ.* (1778) I. 140 Not to be behind-hand in politeness. 1845 DISRAELI *Sybil* (1863) 59 Ah! you were abroad at the time, and so you are behindhand. 1851 HAWTHORNE *Snow Image* (1879) 223 A whole class who were behindhand with their lessons.

b. In an incomplete state, unfinished.

1833 ROBERTSON *Serm.* Ser. II. vii. 101 Was there .. something behindhand of Christ's sufferings remaining uncompleted?

4. *attrib.* Backward, tardy, hanging back.

1611 SHAKS. *Wint. T.* v. i. 151 Interpreters Of my behind-hand slacknesse.

5. *quasi-sb.* The state of being behind. *Obs.*

1580 SIDNEY *Arcadia* II. (1613) 123 Hee .. invaded Thessalia, and brought Doriulus to some behind-hand of fortune. 1611 COTGR., *Perdre pied*, to .. be driven to a behind-hand.

† **Behinds**, *adv.* *Obs. rare.* [f. BEHIND with *advb.* genitive -es, -s, for earlier -en.] = BEHIND.

138a WYCLIF (see BEHIND A 1c).

† **Behindward**, *adv.* *Obs.* [f. as prec. + -ward.] In the direction that is behind.

1440 HYLTON *Scala Perf.* (W. de W. 1494) xiii. B, That I myght forgette all thynges the whyche ben behyndward.

Behite, *obs.* form of BEHIGHT v.

† **Behither**, *adv.* and *prep.* *Obs.* [f. BE- + HITHER, cf. *behind*, *before*, *besides*, *beyond*, etc. (A useful word, worth reviving.)]

A. *prep.* 1. On this side of. (L. *cis*, *citra*.)

1521 ABP. WARHAM in *Ellis Orig. Lett.* Ser. III. I. 241 Yt shuld engendre grete obloquy and sclandre to the Universitie, bothe behither the See and beyonde. 1589 PUTTENHAM *Eng. Poetrie* (Arb.) 257 The Italian .. calleth the Frenchman .. and all other breed behither their mountaines Appennines, *Tramontani*. 1679 EVELYN *Diary* (1827) III. 14, I called at my cousin Evelyn's who has a very pretty seat in the forest, 2 miles behither Cliefden. 1711 J. GREENWOOD *Eng. Gram.* 82 The Parlour lies behither, or on this Side the Kitchen.

2. Short of, barring, save.

1633 G. HERBERT *H. Baptism in Temple* 36 Let me be soft and supple to thy will .. to others, mild, Behither ill. 1671 OLEY *Herbert's C. Parson* Pref. A ij b (N.), I have not any one thing, behither vice, that hath occasioned so much contempt of the clergie.

B. *adv.* On this side, on the nearer side.

1650 ELDERFIELD *Tythes* 280 Of what is behither .. I need say nothing.

Behemenism, var. form of BEHMENISM.

Behof(e), *obs.* f. of BEHOOF and BEHOOVE.

Behoft(e): see BIHOFTHE.

Behold (*bifhōld*), *v.* Pa. t. beheld. Pa. pple. beheld, *arch.* beholden. Chief forms:

Inf. 1-2 biheld-an, 2-helden, 2-5-hald-e(n), 3-5-holde(n), 6-behold. *Ind. pres. 3rd sing.* 2 bihalt. *Pa. t.* 1-4 beheold, -hield, -held, -huld, -heild, -heeld, 5-beheld, (4 behelded). *Pa. pple.* 4 bihalden, 4-beholden, 4-5 beholde, 7-beheld, (4 behelded, beholdyd, 4-6 -ed). For other forms see HOLD. [OE. *bihaldan* (WSax. *behealdan*), identical w. OS. *bihaldan*, OFris. *bihalda*, OHG. *bihaltan*, mod.G. *behalten*, Du. *behouden*, f. bi-BE- + *haldan*, *healdan* to HOLD. The application to watching, looking, is confined to English.]

1. To hold by, keep, observe, regard, look.

† 1. *trans.* To hold by, keep hold of, retain. *Obs.*

a 1000 *Cadmon's Gen.* 366 (Gr.) Dæt Adam sceal .. minne stronglican stol behaldan. c 1380 WYCLIF *Serm.* Sel. Wks. I. 384 Men that biholden [MS. E holden] bileve of Crist. 1525 LD. BERNERS *Froiss.* II. lxiv. [lxix] 222 Every man behelde the same oppynyon.

b. *intr.* (for *refl.*) To hold, keep to.

a 1300 *Cursor M.* 9483 To quas seuis straitly he bi-held.

† 2. *trans.* To hold by some tie of duty or obligation, to retain as a client or person in duty bound.

Found only in the pa. pple. BEHOLDEN, q.v.

† 3. a. *intr.* To hold on by, appertain or belong to.

b. *trans.* To pertain, relate or belong to, to concern. *Obs.*

a 1067 *Chart. Eadweard* in *Cod. Dipl.* IV. 214 God eow gehealde and alle de ðat beholde into ðare hālagen stowe. c 1175 *Lamb. Hom.* 65 þe pater noster bihalt me noht, bute ic þis habbe in mi poht. a 1250 *Moral Ode* 156 in *E. E. P.* (1862) 31 Al hit hanged and bihalt bi þisse twam worde. c 1449 *Pecock Repr.* i. ix. 45 Ech of hem [gouernauncis] whiche biholden the making .. of the said sacramentis.

† 4. *trans.* To hold or contain by way of purport or signification, to signify, mean. *Obs.*

c 1200 ORMIN 13408 We muðhenn sen whatt itt bihaltit. a 1225 *St. Mark.* 7 Whet bihalt, .. þat tu ne buhest to me?

† 5. *trans.* To hold in regard, keep, observe (commands, appointed days, etc.). *Obs.*

971 *Blickl. Hom.* 11 Symle blipe mode Godes beboda utan we behealdan. 1387 *Travisa Higden* (1865) I. 243 þe Romaynes .. byhelde þilke dayes and wrouȝt nouȝt þilke dayes.

† 6. a. *trans.* To regard (with the mind), have regard to, attend to, consider. b. *intr.* To give attention or regard, have regard unto, to. *Obs.*

c 825 *Vesp. Ps.* ix. 1 Bihold to gebede minum. a 1000 *Ag. Ps.* ix. 1 Beheald min gebede. a 1300 *E. E. Psalter* lx. i Unto mi bode bihold þou. c 1300 *Beket* 750 Al this (ho so riȝt bihalt) thu gynnest forth to drawe. 138a WYCLIF *Gen.* iv. 5 The lord bihelde to Abel and to his ȝifis. 1a 1400 *Cato Major* II. xxv, Ende and bigynnyng of þe werk Boþe þou hem bi-holde.

7. *trans.* a. To hold or keep in view, to watch; to regard or contemplate with the eyes; to look upon, look at (implying active voluntary exercise of the faculty of vision). *arch.* This has passed imperceptibly into the resulting passive sensation: b. To receive the impression of (anything) through the eyes, to see: the ordinary current sense. (It is not easy to show the beginning of sense b, as nearly all the early instances have some suggestion of the former: the earlier quotations under b. must therefore be treated as merely introductory.)

a. 971 *Blickl. Hom.* 11 Englas hie georne behealdan. a 1200 *Trin. Hom.* 29 þe wimman bihalt hire sheaue and cumeð hire shadewe þaronne. c 1250 *Owl & N.* 1323 On ape mai a boc bi-halde, An leues wenden. a 1300 *Cursor M.* 290 Behald þe sune and þou mai se. c 1450 *Merlin* xiv. 225 The maiden hym be-heilde moche, and he her. 1523 LD. BERNERS *Froiss.* (1812) I. 423 They brought him to the princis .. who behelde hym riȝt fersly and felly. 1530 PALSGR. 447/1 To se an olde ryddyllede queene to behelde herselfe in a glasse. 1605 *Bacon Adv. Learn.* i. § 2 (1873) 1 Beholding you not with the inquisitive eye of presumption. 1667 MILTON *P. L.* ix. 1080 How shall I behold the face Henceforth of God or Angel, earst with joy and rapture so oft beheld? 1676 HOBBS *Liad* 291 And when enough beholden them he had. 1718 POPE *Liad* 1. 553 From far Behold the field.

b. c 1175 *Lamb. Hom.* 177 He muwen ben of-drād þe hine sculleð bi-helde. a 1225 *Ancre. R.* 106 He biheold hu his deore deciples fluen alle vrom him. 138a WYCLIF *Gen.* xxiv. 64 Rebecca, Isaac biholdyd, descendide of the camel. 1483 *Cath. Angl.* 26/1 To behalde: *aspicere casu*. 1565 STAPLETON *Fortresse* 56 And such as haue not heard haue yet beheld. 1565 SHAKS. *Tam. Shr.* II. ii. 11, I neuer yet beheld that speciall face, Which I could fandie. 1607 DRYDEN *Virg. Georg.* iii. 711 On Winter Seas we fewer Storms behold. 1850 MRS. BROWNING *Poems* I. 90 These are stars beheld by your eyes in Eden. 1860 LYNDALL *Glac.* i. § 16. 109 Anything more exquisite I had never beheld.

† 8. *intr.* To look. Const. with various adverbs and prepositions. *Obs.* (exc. as absolute use of 7.)

c 1175 *Lamb. Hom.* 133 Bihold he seide up to heuene. c 1200 *Trin. Coll. Hom.* 133 Bi-hold up to heuene and tel þe sterres. c 1325 *E. E. Allit. P.* A. 809 Hys face .. þat watz so fayr on to byholde. c 1386 CHAUCER *Fraunkl. T.* 135 Thanne wolde she .. pitously in to the see biholde. 1393 LANGL. P. Pl. C. i. 14 Esteward ich byhulde .. after þe sonne. 1491 CAXTON *Vitas Patr.* (W. de W. 1495) II. 210 b/2 The holy fader .. beholdinge upon hym. 1509 BARCLAY *Ship of Fools* (1570) ¶ vj, Beholde vnto the shore. 1601 SHAKS. *Jul. C.* v. iii. 33 Come downe, behold no more. 1634 MALORY *Arthur* (1816) II. 95 They took their horses, and beheld about them. 1795 SOUTHEY *Joan of Arc* vi. 277 The Maiden's host beheld.

† 9. a. *intr.* To look or face (as a building) against or to (a direction). b. *trans.* To face. *Obs.*

138a WYCLIF *Song Sol.* vii. 4 The tour of Liban that beholdith aȝen Damasch. c 1449 *Pecock Repr.* III. i. 280 At the see that biholdith to the west. 1593 *Fale Dialling* 8 Let the arke behold the South. 1634 SIR I. HERBERT *Trav.* 209 The Land is high .. chiefly where it beholds the Sea. 1677 MOXON *Mach. Exerc.* (1703) 310 The South Erect .. whose Plane .. directly beholds the South.

† 10. *trans.* To look upon, view, consider as (something); to consider or hold in a certain capacity.

1643 ROGERS *Naaman* 344 To behold himselfe the true bread and .. water of life. 1850 FULLER *Pisgah* III. i. It is beheld in Scripture as most solemn and of highest importance. 1866a - *Worthies* (1840) II. 223 Though beans be generally beheld but as horse and hog-grain. *Ibid.* 551 He is beheld one of the first merchants.

† 11. Senses apparently derived from HOLD at a later period. Only in Sc. *Obs.* (Some of these are doubtful.)

† 11. *intr.* To 'hold,' stop, wait.

a 1670 SPALDING *Tronb. Chas.* I. i. 143 (JAM.) They beheld but kept still the fields. 1768 ROSS *Helmore* 21 (JAM.) 'That's true,' quo' she, 'but we'll behad a wee.'

† b. *trans.* 'To await.' JAM.

1639 *Act Chas. I.* Addit. (1814) V. 665 (JAM.) To behold the treatie with the commissioneris. a 1668 BAILLIE *Lett.* (1775) I. 24 (JAM.) To behold the event of that meeting.

† 12. *trans.* 'To connive at, take no notice of.' JAM.

a 1670 SPALDING *Tronb. Chas.* I. i. 154 (JAM.) To understand if his lordship would behold them, or if he would raise forces against them.

† 13. 'To permit.' JAM.

a 1670 SPALDING *Tronb. Chas.* I. i. 117 (JAM.) They .. desired him out of love .. that he would be pleased to behold them to go on, otherwise they were making such preparations that they would come and might not be resisted.

Behold (*bifhōld*), *int.* The imperative of the preceding verb, used to call attention; = LO!

[c 1440 *York Myst.* xx. 193 Be-halde howe he alleggis oure lawe.] 1535 COVERDALE *Mal.* iii. 1 Beholde, I will send my messanger. 1590 SHAKS. *Mids. N.* i. 147 Beholde, The iawes of darknesse do denoure it vp. a 1764 LLOYD *Dial.* Wks. II. 2 Behold! to yours and my surprise, These trifles to a volume rise. 1831 CARLYLE *Sart. Res.* III. viii, Fortunatus .. when he .. wished himself Anywhere, behold he was There.

† **Beholdable**, *a.* *Obs.* In 5 bi-. [f. BEHOLD v. + -ABLE.] That admits of being contemplated.

c 1449 *Pecock Repr.* i. vii. 37 A lawe .. doable and not onli knoweable and biholdable. *Ibid.* II. i. 134 Ech .. is a treuthe considerable, or speculable, or biholdable onli.

Beholden (*bifhōldn*), *ppl. a.*; also 4 bihalden, biholden, 5-6 behold(e, s byholden, -halden, beholden, 9 *dial.*) behauden, behadden, behouden. [Originally pa. pple. of BEHOLD v.; but senses 1 and 2 are not actually found in other parts of the vb., though 'hold or retain under obligation' was a natural enough sense of *be-hold*. See also BEHOLDING *ppl. a.*]

1. Attached, or obliged (to a person); under personal obligation for favours or services.

c 1340 *Gaw. & Gr. Knt.* 1547, I am hyȝly bihalden, & euer more wyll Be seruaut to your-seluen. *Ibid.* 1841, I am derely to yow biholde. 1414 BRAMPTON *Penit.* Ps. li. 20 Manye, that were to me beholde. 1489 CAXTON *Faytes of A.* III. x. 188 The more beholden is the lorde unto hym. 1592 tr. *Yunius on Rev.* xiii. 1 The beast is beholden for all unto the Dragon. 1666 BRAMHALL *Reliq.* vii. 283, I am much beholden to him for easing me of the labour of replying. 1741 RICHARDSON *Pamela* (1824) I. xxvii. 41 Besides I don't love to be beholden. 1816 SCOTT *Old Mort.* 49 'And wad keep ye in bread without being behadden to any one.' 1873 F. HALL *Mod. English* 101 Howdeeply we are beholden to the happy daring of translators, for the amplitude and variety of our diction.

† 2. Under moral obligation, in duty bound (to do something). *Obs.*

a 1450 *Knt. de la Tour* (1868) 108 Eueriche fader and moder is be holde to prae for her children. c 1485 *Digby Myst.* (1882) III. 1814 To worchep Iesu þey ar be-hold. 1508 *Ord. Crysten Men* i. vii. (1506) 82 He is bounde and beholde for to byleue that who so trespasseth .. is in deedlye synne.

† 3. Regarded, considered. *Obs.*

a 1520 *Myrr. Our Ladye* 310 The thyng byholden ys to say, the beholdinge of the causes.

† **Beholdenness**: see BEHOLDINGNESS.

[Richardson's pretended quotation of *beholdenness* from Sir P. Sidney is a double error, reprehensibly copied by subsequent dictionaries: the quotation is from R. Belling (1628), and the word is *beholdingnesse*, q.v.]

Beholder (*bifhōldn*), *also* 4 bi-, by-, beholder, -ere. [f. BEHOLD v. + -ER.] One who beholds, a watcher, looker on, spectator.

c 1374 CHAUCER *Boeth.* v. vi. 178 God byholder and forwiter of alle pinges. c 1400 *Apol. Loll.* 32, I haue sett þe a beholder to þe hows of Israel. 1526 *Pilgr. Perf.* (W. de W. 1531) 203 Beynge the very seers & beholders of his magesty. 1535 COVERDALE *Esther* xv. 2 God, which is the beholder & Sauoure of all thynges. 1600 SHAKS. *A. Y. L.* I. ii. 139 All the beholders take his part with weeping. 1660 FULLER *Mist Contemp.* (1841) 242 The multitude of actors and beholders at the mustering in Hyde Park. 1712 BUDGELL *Spect.* No. 404 ¶ 6 If Cælia would be silent, her Beholders would adore her. 1875 JOWETT *Plato* (ed. 2) I. 492 A sight to gladden the beholder's eye.

Beholding (*bifhōldin*), *vbl. sb.*; also 3 bihaldung, biholdung, 4 by-, behaldyng. [f. BEHOLD v. + -ING.]

1. The action of looking at; contemplation, sight.

a 1225 *St. Mark.* 14 Wið luneliche lates, wið steape bihaldunge eider on oðer. 138a WYCLIF 2 *Chron.* xxv. 21 Thei ȝeuen to hem silf beholdingis either to other. 1483 CAXTON *G. de la Tour D. v.* The fourthe foly of Eue was the foolyssh beholdinge. 1605 SHAKS. *Lear* III. vii. 10 The reuenges .. are not fit for your beholding. 1702 ROWE *Tamerl.* I. i. 321 My Eyes first own'd thee .. the Joy of their Beholding.

† 2. Mental contemplation; consideration. *Obs.*

a 1520 *Myrr. Our Ladye* 310 The beholdinge of the causes. 1540 COVERDALE *Pref. Fruitful Less.* Wks. 1844 I. 206 Sweet contemplation and beholding of God's almightiness.

† 3. Regard, reference. *Obs.*

c 1449 *Pecock Repr.* i. iii. 17 Thouȝ no biholding therto were maad into Holi Scripture.

4. The thing beheld: † a. An image, a spectre. *Obs.* b. A vision. *arch.*

c 1440 *Gesta Rom.* 240 She shalle loke in the glas, & hir owne beholdinge shalle bowe & passe to hir ayene. 1824 COLLIERIDGE *Aids Refl.* (1848) I. 322 Shadows and imperfect beholdings and vivid fragments of things distinctly seen. 1826 E. IRVING *Babylon* I. III. 161 Twice .. doth the Prophet mention this part of his beholding.

† The sense 'Obligation,' the only one recognized by Dr. Johnson, assigned by him on the strength of a quotation from Carew, is a mere blunder,

mechanically perpetuated by subsequent dictionaries: Carew's word is *beholdingness*, q. v.

Beholding, *ppl. a.* [f. as prec. + -ING². Sense 1 evidently originated in an error for BEHOLDEN, either through confusion of the endings (cf. esp. the 15th c. spelling -yne for -en), or, more probably, after *beholden* was shortened to *beholde*, *behold*, and its grammatical character obscured; the general acceptance of 'beholding' may have been due to a notion that it meant 'looking (e.g. with respect, or dependence)', or to association with the idea of 'holding of' or 'from' a feudal superior. (It was exceedingly common in the 17th c., for which no fewer than 97 instances have been sent in by our readers.)]

† 1. Under obligation, obliged, indebted, BEHOLDEN; in late use often: Dependent. *Obs.*

[a 1450 *Knt. de la Tour* viii. 11 Doughter, ye are moche beholde to serue God.] 1483 CAXTON *ibid.* C. viij. b. Dame ye ben moche beholdinge to god. 1551-6 ROBINSON tr. *Moré's Utop.* 36. I was muche bounde and beholdinge to the righte reuerende father. 1598 SHAKS. *Merry W.* i. i. 283 A lustice of peace sometime may be beholding to his friend, for a Man. 1662 H. MORE *Antid. Ath.* i. vi. (1712) 19 We have some Ideas that we are not beholding to our Senses for. a 1704 T. BROWN *Eng. Sat.* Wks. 1730 l. 25 Posterity has been very little beholding to the ancient Greeks for satire. 1719 D'URFVY *Pills* (1872) l. 67 And he for their bread, Beholding to his wife.

† 2. That holds fast the eyes; engaging, attractive. *Obs. rare*—

1580 SIDNEY *Arcadia* (1598) l. 50 When he saw me... my beaultie was no more beholding to him then my harmony.

3. Looking on, gazing.

1593 SHAKS. *Lucr.* 1590 Which when her sad-beholding husband saw, Amazedly in her sad face he stares.

† **Beholdingness**. *Obs.* [f. prec. + -NESS.] The condition of beholding to any one; obligation, indebtedness; (in late use) dependence.

1580 SIDNEY *Arcadia* iii. 253 All other meanes, that might either establish a beholdingness, or at least awake a kindness. 1602 CAREW *Cornwall* 60 b. My love to vertue, and not any particular beholdingness, hath expressed this my testimony. 1668 RICHARD BIELING. *Sidney's Arcadia* vi. (1628-38) 492 Leonatus the yong king of Pontus (who had bin there to acknowledge his beholdingness to them. 1658 SLINGSBY *Diary* (1836) 200 That servile condition.. beholdingness or dependence on the elder [brother].

Behoney, *v.* [f. BE + HONEY.] To smear or sweeten with honey, or fig. with honied words.

1611 CORN. *Emmieller*, to behonie, to sweeten, dresse.. with honie. 1845 WHITTELL xix. 120 This behoneying and larding of women with high-seasoned compliments.

Behoof (*bhūf*). Forms: (1-2 bi-, behōf,) 3-5 (*dative*) bihoue, 4-5 bihove, 4-6 behoue, 4-7 behove, 6-7 behoove, 6-8 behoofe, 6- behoof. (Also 4-5 bihufe, 4-6 byhove, behuf, 5 byhoof, beofe, 5-6 behofe, -houfe, 6 Sc. behowe, -hufe, -huif, 7 behoofe.) [OE. **bihōf* 'utility', occurring in the deriv. *bihōf-lic* useful, necessary; = OFris. *bihof*, Du. *behoef*, MHG. *bihuoof*, mod.G. *behuf*, of same meaning; f. **bihōf*, pa. t. of Orig. Teut. **bihafjan*, MHG. *beheben* 'to take, hold, receive', f. bi-, BE- + *hafjan*, OE. *hebban*, pa. t. *hōf*, 'to HEAVE, raise', orig. 'to take up, take, cogn. w. L. *cap(i)ere*. The original sense seems to have been either, 'taking in, reception, acquisition,' whence 'gain, advantage,' or 'taking away, taking to oneself, taking the use of,' whence 'use.' See also the synonyms BIHEVE, BIHOFTHE.]

1. Use, benefit, advantage. Chiefly in *To, for, on*, (formerly *into, till*) (*the behoof of*. (*In, on behoof of*, are due to confusion with *behalf*.) *pl. rare*.

1205 LAY. 1050 3e 3eorneð.. mine leoue dohter to swa laðe mannes bihoue (1250 bihofe). 1340 HAMPOLE *Pr. Consc.* 70 He ordaynd, for mans byhufe, Heven and herth. 1375 BARBOUR *Bruce* xv. 517 (Douglas) held no thing till his behuf. 1393 GOWER *Conf.* I. 15 Upon the hond to were a sho.. Accordeth nought to the behove Of resonable mannes use. 1482 MARG. PASTON in *Lett.* 861 III. 286, I bequeth an C marc.. to the use and byhoof of the seid William Paston. 1483 CAXTON *Cato* Eijb. Alle thynges shal come to your behove in habundaunce. 1491 *Act 7 Hen. VII.* xx. Londres.. which be.. to his use or behove had. c 1530 MORE *De quat. Noviss.* Wks. 93 For whose use and behoofe thei kepe it. 1532 HERVET *Xenophon's Househ.* (1768) 28 Delivered it vnto you to kepe for bothe our behoues. 1549 OLDE *Erasm. Par.* i Tim. iii. 1 (A bishop is) one that careth for y^r commodities and behoues of others. 1553 T. WILSON *Rhet.* 7 In behove of the publike weal. 1611 BIBLE *Pref.* 5 For the behoofe and edifying of the vnlearned. 1625 MILTON *Death Fair Inf.* vii. Which careful Jove in nature's true behoof Took up. 1667 — P. L. II. 982 No mean recompence it brings To your behoof. 1768 BLACKSTONE *Comm.* II. 365 To the use and behoof of A and his heirs. 1769 ROBERTSON *Chas. V.* III. vii. 35 Taking towns for his own behoof. 1855 MOTLEY *Dutch Rep.* (1861) I. 31 Fines are imposed for the behoof of the count. 1857 MISS WINKWORTH *Tauler's Life & Sermon.* 386 They devote all their prayers.. to their own behoof. [1868 F. PAGET *Lucretia* 207 The parlour had been turned into a bedroom on my behoof.]

† 2. What it behoves one to do; obligation, duty. *Obs. rare*.

1594 SOUTHWELL *M. Magd. Fun. Teares* 161 It con-

sidereth behoofe more than benefit, and what in duty it should, not what indeed it can.

† 3. A gift for behoof of the recipient, a 'benefit' or benefaction, a gratuity, a 'tip.' *Obs. rare*.

1596 SPENSER *State Irel.* 529 No offices should be sold for money.. nor no behoves taken for captaincies of counties.

Behooped, behoot, etc.; see BE-*pref.*

Behoove, variant of BEHOVE *v.*

Behorewe, behorn, behorror, etc.; see BE-*pref.*

† **Behote**, *sb.* *Obs.* [OE. *beht*, f. *behtan* to promise: cf. BEHETE, BEHIGHT *sb.*] A promise.

c 1000 *Ag. Gosp.* Luke xxiv. 49 Ic sende on cow mines fæder behat. c 1175 *Cott. Hom.* 225 Ic wille settan mi wed.. to jisan behate. a 1300 E. E. *Psalter* cxv. 14 Mi be-hotes yhelde sal I Bifore alle his folke.

Behote, earlier and better form of BEHIGHT *v.*

† **Behoten**, *ppl. a.* *Obs.* [f. prec.] Promised. c 1200 *Trin. Coll. Hom.* 185 Dat is pat bihotene lond.

† **Behoting**, *vbl. sb.* Also bi-, by-. [f. as prec. + -ING¹: cf. BEHIGHTING.] Promising, promise.

c 1300 K. *Alis.* 4000 Thou, for mede, or byhotyng, Stal byhynde on oure kyng Him to slen. 1340 *Aenb.* 40 Be yefþes, oþer be behotinges. 1496 *Dives & Paup.* (W. de W.) ii. xv. 125 Auowe is byhotyng of some good thyng made to god with auserment.

Behoufe, *obs. form of BEHOOF.*

Behounced, etc.; see BE-*pref.*

† **Behovable**, *a.* *Obs.* [f. BEHOVE *v.* + -ABLE.] Useful, profitable, advantageous; incumbent.

c 1460 J. RUSSELL *Bk. Nurture in Babes Bk.* (1868) 172 Perfore stuffe of household is behovable. 1482 *Monk of Evesham* (Arb.) 49 Y toke hem, and to behovable vsus ful treumly spende hem. 1553-87 FOXE *A. & M.* (1596) 1021/1 Gamaliel did see better what was behovable. 1596 BELL *Serv. Popery* ii. viii. 172 It was as well behouable to haue the wiues confirmed, as the husbands.

† **Behovably**, *adv.* *Obs.* [f. prec. + -LY².]

Usefully, profitably, advantageously, advisably. 1512 *Act 4 Hen. VIII.* xix. § 6 To do all that.. shall seeme behovably and necessary.

Behove, behoove (*bhūv*, -*hōv*), *v.* Forms: 1 behōfan, 2-3 be-, bihouen, (3-hofen, -heouen, bioue, behafe), 3-5 bi-, byhoue, (4 behowe, byhufe, behowue, behowf), 4-6 behuif, 4-7 behoue, (5 behofe), 6 behooue, (bihoove, behoofe, behuf, behof), 6- behoove, 5- behove. *Pa. t.* behoved, (4 byhod). For contracted impersonal forms, see BUS. [OE. *bi-, behōfan* (corresp. to MLG. *behooven*, MDu. and Du. *behoeven*), f. *bihōf sb.*; see BEHOOF. Lit. 'to be of behoof or use.' Historically, it rimes with *move, prove*, but being now mainly a literary word, it is generally made to rime with *rove, grove*, by those who know it only in books. Cf. *prove, proof: behove, behoof*.]

† 1. *trans.* To have use for or need of, to require; to be in want of. (Object orig. *genitive*.) *Obs.*

c 890 K. *Ælfred Bada* iv. v. Mycel wund behōfap mycles læcedomes. c 1000 *Sax. Leechd.* III. 440 Peah þa scearp þancian witan.. þisse englisca gehæddnesse ne behofien. c 1175 *Lamb. Hom.* 63 Swa bi-houed þe saule fode. 1483 CAXTON *Gold. Leg.* 281/2 Somme sekenes in the legge whiche behoueth a medycyne. 1523 LD. BERNERS *Froiss.* (1812) I. 626 One of the most strongest townes of the world; for it behoveth mo than ii. C. M. men to besiege it rounde. a 1670 HACKET *Abp. Williams* I. 39 (D.) He had all those endowments.. which are behoven in a scholar.

† 2. To be physically of use, needful, or necessary to; (only in 3 pers.). *Obs.* Object orig. *dative*.

1154 O. E. *Chron.* (Laud MS.) an. 1137 § 6 Al þat heom behoued. c 1175 *Lamb. Hom.* 65 He us 3eue.. þet us bihoued ulche del. c 1230 *Hali Meid.* 27 Me behoued his help. 1297 R. GLOUC. 177 Ech [erne] ys in a roche hym sulf.. for hem byhouep muche mete. c 1350 *Will. Palerne* 2349 Alle harneys þat be hoves to werre. 1489 CAXTON *Faytes of A.* II. xxxi. 142 Gannes and the pouldre that behoueth therto. c 1530 MORE *De quat. Noviss.* Wks. 90 Labour.. to geate that thee and thynne behoueth. 1667 MILTON *P. L.* II. 942 Behoves him now both Oare and Saile.

† 3. To be morally needful or requisite to; to be incumbent, proper, or due.

c 1175 *Lamb. Hom.* 109 þan alden bihouað duzende þewas. 1387 *Trevisa Higden* (1865) I. 67 Oþer vnderstondyng bihouep of þe ryueres of Paradyse, þan auctours writeþ. 1538 BALE *Thre Lawes* 873 Those are perswaded all thynges them to behoue. 1572 FORREST *Theophilus* 358, I will informe him what doth behove in þis case. 1684 *Contemplot. State Man* II. vi. (1699) 190 They informed him of the King's Testament and what he behoved him. 1860 TRENCH *Serm. Westm. Ab.* xiv. 158 If this behoves in the time of a great joy, it behoves still more in the time of a great sorrow.

b. To befit, be due to; to belong, pertain, suit. 1470-85 MALORY *Arthur* (1816) II. 221 This shield behoveth to no man but unto sir Galahad. 1485 CAXTON *Paris & V.* 67 Now see I wel that now me byhoueth noo hoope ne truste. 1502 *Ord. Crysten Men* (W. de W.) i. vii. 56 It behoueth unto all the moost grete clerkes. 1577 *HARRISON Descr. Eng.* II. xx. (1877) 827 We wold haue them in reuerence as to their case behoueth. 1814 SCOTT *Ld. Isles* vi. ix. With honour, as behoved To page the monarch dearly loved. 1881 ROSSETTI *Ball. & Son.* 119 To such bright cheer and courtesy That name might best behove.

4. quasi-*impers.* (the subject being a clause). In early ME. without *it*, which is now ordinarily used.

a. with the thing incumbent expressed by an infinitive, and with personal object: It is incumbent upon or necessary for (a person) to do (something).

c 1200 ORMIN 16706 Bihofoþþ.. þe mannes sune onn erþe To wurpen hofenn upp. c 1325 E. E. *Allit. P. A.* 927 A gret cite.. Yow byhod haue. 1382 WYCLIF 2 *Sam.* iv. 10 To whom it hadde bihouid (1388 it bihofte) me to 3eue mede. 1485 CAXTON *Chas. Gl.* 103 Vs behoueth fyrst to passe. 1592 SPENSER *Virgil's Gnat* lix. She.. observ'd th' appointed way, as her behoued. 1611 BIBLE *Heb.* ii. 17 In all thyngs it behoueth him to bee made like vnto his brethren. 1649 MILTON *Eikon.* iii. Wks. (1851) 355 Wherefore did he goe at all, it behouing him to know there were two Statutes that declar'd he ought first, etc. 1796 C. LUCAS *Ess. Waters* III. 341 It behooves the more weakly.. to be more cautious. 1792 BURKE *Corr.* (1844) IV. 33 It greatly behoved government to keep its temper. 1820 W. IRVING *Sketch Bk.* II. 354 It behoved him to keep on good terms with his pupils. 1855 H. REED *Lect. Eng. Lit.* i. (1878) 28 What books does it behove me to know?

b. without pers. obj.: It is proper or due. *arch.*

a 1240 *Wokunge in Cott. Hom.* 275 Bihoues þurh þi grace 3apliche to write me. 1340 HAMPOLE *Pr. Consc.* 945 God grace worthy mare to be lufed þan any creature, and swa byhufed. 1563 SHUTE *Archib.* D liij b. Now it behoueth to make mention of another order. 1633 G. HERBERT *Agnie in Temple* 29 Two.. things, The which to measure it doth more behove. 1876 SWINBURNE *Ereth.* 1452 Yet no pause behoves it make.

c. the thing incumbent expressed by a clause.

arch. c 950 *Lindisf. Gosp.* Matt. xviii. 6 Behofas [c 975 *Rushw.* beþearþ] him þæt he gehongiza coern-stan. *Ibid.* John xviii. 14 Behofað þætte an monn sie dead fore ðæm folce. c 1200 ORMIN 17966 Iut bihofoþþ wel þatt he nu forþward wake. a 1240 *Sawles Warde* 247. 1375 BARBOUR *Bruce* vi. 114 And than behuif, he chesit him ane Of thir twa. c 1440 *Gesta Rom.* 403 It behoueth that the blynde bere the halte. 1533 TINDALE *Lord's Supper* 31 It behoveth, that the son of man must die. 1547 *Homilies* i. *Read. Script.* II. (1859) 15 It behoueth not, that such.. should set aside reading. 1647 W. BROWNE *Polexander* l. 126 It behooves, likewise, that you give some room and place to those that speake to you. 1860 ADLER *Fairchild's Prov.* *Poetry* xvii. 389 It well behooves that every faithful friend.. should dread to disclose.. his passion.

† d. the thing incumbent elliptically omitted. *Obs.*

c 1175 *Lamb. Hom.* 75 He nis nawiht alle leful alle him bi-houede. 1502 ARNOLD *Chron.* (1811) 207 The sacramentis freely to make and bere to whom it behoughe. 1644 MILTON *Areop.* (Arb.) 54 If he be of such worth as behoovs him.

5. Used, owing to confusion between the accusative and nominative (see first two quot.), as a personal verb: To be under obligation (to do); = must needs, ought, have. Of northern origin, and since 1500 only Scotch.

[c 1340 HAMPOLE *Prose Tr.* (1866) 5 Þe nam of Ihesu es helefull and nedys by-houys be lufed of all. c 1386 CHAUCER *Pers. T.* 557 A servaunt of God bihoveth nought to chide.] c 1400 *Apol. Loll.* 31 Swelk men be howen tak hede. 1475 CAXTON *Jason* 76 The.. craft that he behoueth to observe and kepe. 1449 *Compl. Scot.* xv. 131 We behuif fyrst to reueil it. 1537 GILLESPIE *Eng. Pop. Cerem.* II. ix. 52 He behoued to offend the lewes. 1759 ROBERTSON *Hist. Scot.* II. viii. 45 They behoved to esteem them traitors. 1832 SIR W. HAMILTON *Disc.* (1853) 101 He behoved.. clearly to determine the value of the principal terms.

† b. To owe. *Obs.*

1496 *Dives & Paup.* iv. 24/2 He that moche hath byhoueth moche. And he that hath lesse byhoueth lesse.

¶ error for BEHOTE.

1470-85 MALORY *Arthur* I. xxxix. 72 'Then I behove you,' said Balin, 'part of his blood to heal your son withal.' 1502 ARNOLD *Chron.* 296 Promyttyngne and behofynge by the fayth of his body, worde of his princelode, and kyngis sonne.

† **Behove, byhoue, ?a. or fa. pple.** *Obs.* [f. BEHOVE *v.*] In want. Cf. BIHEVE.

1413 *Lydg. Pylg.* *Sowle* i. xv. (1483) 13, I that am poure and hugely byhoue, Of help I pray you of almysdede.

Behove, *obs. form of BEHOOF.*

Behoveful, -hooveful, a. *arch.* Forms: 4-5 behof-, 5 byhoof-, behoe-, behowe-, behuf-, 5-6 beho-, 5-7 behofe-, 5 behoue-, 6-7 behov-, behoof-, behoofe-, behooue-, 7 behoov-, 6-9 behoove-, 5- behooveful. [f. BEHOOF *sb.* + -FUL.

(Extremely common from 1400 to 1700; but used since only by archaists.) Useful, of use; advantageous, expedient; needful, necessary, due.

1382 WYCLIF *Ps.* cxliv. 15 Thou yuest the mete of hem in the behouful time [1388 in couenable tyme]. 1432 *Paston Lett.* 18. I. 32 Not behovefull nor expedient to be aboute the king. 1485 CAXTON *Chas. Gl.* 145 It is not behouful to put hym so to deth. 1533 MORE *Anno. Poyson* Bk. Wks. 1124/2 How necessary.. for mans redemption, that is to witte so behouful therto, that without it we shoulde not haue bene saued. 1570 DEE *Math. Pref.* 40 It is behouful for an Architect to haue the Knowledge of Painting. 1589 *Marpres. Epil.* 40 Behouful to the honor of god, and the good of the common welth. a 1674 CLARENDON *Surv. Leviath.* (1676) 159 His friendship was the more behouful and necessary to the King. 1736 in *Arb. Garner* II. 528 [They] thought it more behouful for themselves and their Religion. 1865 CARLYLE *Fredk. Gl.* V. xiii. l. 8 For a Nation, as for a man, it is very behouful to be honest.

† **Behovefully, adv.** *Obs.* [f. prec. + -LY.] Usefully, profitably, duly; necessarily.

1443 *Hen. VI* in *Ellis Orig. Lett.* III. 34 l. 80 Vndir the whiche the seid pees shall mowe behovefully be vtred to a good conclusion. c 1449 *Peacock Repr.* 47 [They] techen ful clereli and bihoovefully the treuthis. 1594 HOOKER *Ecccl. Pol.* III. (1617) 112 Most behovefully spoken. a 1603 T. CARTWRIGHT *Confut. Rhem.* N. T. (1618) 630 It must behovefully be now remembered.

† **Behovefulness**, *Obs.* [f. as prec. + -NESS.] The quality of being behoveful; usefulness, use.

1592 WYRLEY *Armorie* 141 Declaring how for their be-

hoofness It was. 1607 HIERON *Wks.* I. 260 The Apostle, knowing the behoovfulness of it.

† **Behovely**, *a. Obs.* [OE. *behōflic*, f. *behōf* BEHOOF + *-lic*: see -LY¹.] Of use; useful, profitable; needful, necessary. Const. *to*, orig. *dat*.

c 950 *Lindisf. Gosp.* Mark xi. 3 [The ass] drihtne behōflic is. c 1250 *Gen. & Ex.* 4108 Als wilc als hem bi-hu(f)lik bee. 1330 R. BRUNNE *Chron.* Pref. 190 If it be a behovely þing at nede. c 1366 CHAUCER *Pers. T.* P. 312 Now it is bihovely thing to telle whiche ben dedly synnes. 1393 GOWER *Conf.* I. 186 All was behovely to the man.

† **Behovely**, *adv. Obs.* [f. as prec. + -LY²: OE. **behōflice*.] Usefully, needfully, necessarily.

c 1430 *Life St. Kath.* (Gibbs MS.) 90 Syth þou behovely sturest my counsail.

Behoven, *ppl. a.* [f. BEHOVE *v.* 5: on wrong analogy.] Under obligation, beholden.

1880 *Mehalah* I. ii. 26, I will in nothing be behoven to the man I abhor.

† **Behovesome**, *a. Obs.* In 4 behovesum, behofsam. [f. BEHOOF + -SOME.] Useful, of service.

c 1330 *Arth. & Merl.* 2803 Pray to Crist . . . A king ous sende that bihoveseum be To the right ogains the wrong. 1340 *Ayeb.* 99 He is þe veyreste and mest behofsam.

Behoving, *ppl. a. arch.* [f. BEHOVE *v.* + -ING².] That behaves; of use, needful, appropriate, incumbent.

c 1175 *Lamb. Hom.* 109 Hwet is elde bihou[n]ge. 1572 FORREST *Theophilus* 666 As specialiye ys mee behovinge. 1573 *Tusser Husb.* (1878) 8 Things to plough behovinge. 1614 *RALEIGH Hist. World* II. iv. vii. § 2. 252 Very vnplesing, though greatly behoving to their Estate. 1850 Mrs. BROWNING *Poems* II. 399 Unless you can dream that his faith is fast, Through behaving and unbehaving.

† **Behovingly**, *adv. Obs.* [f. prec. + -LY².] As it behaves one; usefully, appropriately.

1556 J. HERWOOD *Spider & F.* lxxxviii. 56 Things that I shall moue, Which, to your behofe, behouinglie behoue.

Behowl (bʰəu'li), *v.* [f. BE- + HOWL *v.*; first suggested by Warburton, 1746, as an emendation of *behold* in the passage from *Mids. N. Dream.*] *trans.* (and *refl.*) To howl at; to bewail with howls.

1590 SHAKS. *Mids. N. v.* 379 Now the hungry Lyons rores, And the Wolfe beholds [behows] the Moone. 1838 EMERSON *Misc.* 118 It is travestied and depreciated . . . behooted and behowled. 1853 KINGSLEY *Hyppatia* I. xiii. 287 Behowling your fate like Achilles on the shores of Styx. 1899 — *Misc.* I. 35 No wonder, poor fellow, if he behows himself lustily . . . to Cecil.

Behuf, *obs. form of BEHOOF.*

Behung (bʰəuŋ), *ppl. a.* Forms: 1-3 be-, bihonge(n), 3 bihangen, 4 byhong, 7- behung. [See BEHANG.] Hung about; draped with (hangings, etc.).

c 897 K. ALFRED *Gregory's Past.* xv. § 4 Dæs sacerdes hrægl . . . mid bellum behungen. c 1305 LAV. 3637 Hallen bihongen [1350 bihonge] mid pellen. c 1300 K. ALIS. 201 Al thea cite was þe hong Of richte baudekyns. 1622 HEYLIN *Cosmog.* III. (1682) 192 Their noses . . . behung with Jewels. 1858 CARLYLE *Frederick* Gt. II. vi. iii. 163 A Serene Highness . . . of polite turn, behung with titles.

Behusband, **behymn**, **behypocrite**, **beice**, etc.: see BE-*pref.*

Bei(en), var. of BEY *v.* *Obs.* to bend.

Beidman, **beidsman**, *obs. f. BEADSMAN.*

† **Beienlich**, *a. Obs.* [f. *beien*, *pa. ppl.* of BEY, to bend + -lich, -like¹: but cf. BAIN-LY.] Humble, submissive.

c 1205 LAV. 4930 Pa answered Brennes mid beienliche worden.

Beife, *obs. form of BEEF.*

Beigh, *obs. form of BEE sb.² ring, and BEY v.*

Obs. to bow.

Beik, *Sc. form of BEEK v.* to warm, and BIKE.

Beild, variant of BIELD, *sb.* and *v.*

Beim, *obs. form of BEAM.*

Bein (bʰin), *a. and adv. Obs.* except *dial.* Forms: 2-7 bene, 5-6 beene, (*Sc.*) beyne, beine, 8-9 bien, bein, 9 been. [Of unknown derivation: the spellings *bein*, *bien*, are merely modern *Sc.* ways of writing *been*, the regular repr. of ME. *bene*; the latter rimed with words in *ē*, from OE. *ē* or *eo*, but no OE. **bēn*, **bēne*, **beon* is found or etymologically accounted for.

The phonetic history shows that the word cannot be connected with ON. *beinn*, to which, in its fig. sense of 'hospitable', some have plausibly referred it; that word duly survives in north. Eng. as BAIN. Others have turned to the L. *bene* or Fr. *bien* well; but it is not intelligible how either of these could have been adopted in Eng. as an adjective, which appears to have been the earlier use of *bene*.]

A. adj.

† 1. Pleasant, genial, kindly; 'nice.' (L. *amamus*, *almus*, *benignus*.) *Obs.*

a 1200 *Moral Ode* 170 in E. E. P. (1862) 32 Læte we þe brode stret, & þe wei bene. c 1325 E. E. Allit. P. A. 110 Bonkez bene of beryl bryzt. *Ibid.* C. 418 Þy bounte of debonerte & þy bene grace. c 1340 *Gaw. & Gr. Knt.* 2475 Gawayn on blonk ful bene To the kynges burz buskez bolde. c 1450 HENRYSON *Mor. Fab.* 45 On sleope I fell among the Bewes beene. 1513 DOUGLAS *Rhemes* VI. x. 108 In soft bene meidis by clere strandis . . . Our habitatioun is. *Ibid.* VI. v. 36 Into sum benar realm and warm countrie. *Ibid.* IX. xi. 41 Besyde the bene river Athesys.

2. Comfortable, comfortably furnished.

VOL. I.

1533 BELLENDEN *Livy* (1822) 401 Somer fowlis, quhillkis flies, als sone as hervist cummis, to sum bene hous or secrete hollis. a 1560 ROLLAND *Cr. Venus* II. 130 Thair riche array, and thair habillement . . . So bene, so big, and so Auripotent. 1725 A. RAMSAY *Gentle Sheph.* I. i. Were your bien rooms as thinly stock'd as mine. a 1805 MACNEILL *Poems* (1844) 110 A bein house to bide in, a chaise for to ride in. 1816 SCOTT *Antiq.* xlv, 'This is a gey bein place, and it's a comfort to hae sic a corner to sit in.' 1837 NICOLL *Poems* (1843) 141 To make our bien but-house his chaumer.

3. Of persons: Comfortable, well-to-do, well off. a 1548 *Thrie Priests Peblis* (1603) 78 Syne in ane Hal. . . He harbourit al his Burgessis rich and bene. 1603 *Philotus*, He wantis na jewels, clait, nor waith, Bot is baith big & beine. 1784 BURNS *Wks.* III. 155 The great folk . . . that live sae bien an' snug. 1816 SCOTT *Old Mort.* 58 'If we're no sae bein and comfortable as we were up yonder, yet life's life only gate.' 1830 GALT *Laurie* T. IV. i. (1849) 14 A mother-looking personage, not unlike a bein Scotch wife.

b. Of a horse: Well fed, lazy.

1859 *Parish Mag.* Oct. 149 The old mare . . . was a deal better than she was in the morning.

† 4. In thieves' cant [perh. distinct from the prec., and immediately from L. *bene* or F. *bien*]: Good. Bene bowse: good drink; hence bene-bowsie a.

1567 HARMAN *Caveat* (1869) 59 Sell it out right, for bene bowse at their bowsing ken. 1609 DEKKER *Lant. & Candle-Lt.* Wks. 1885 III. 198 Cut benar whiddes [=speake better words]. 1621 B. JONSON *Gipsies Metam.*, You must be ben-bowsy, And sleepy and drowsy. 1622 FLETCHER *Beggar's Bush* III. iii. 1 crown thy nab with a gage of bene-bowse. 1622 BROME *Jov. Crew.* II. Wks. 1873 III. 388 For all this bene Cribbing and Peck let us then Bowse a health to the Gentry Cofe of the Ken. *Ibid.* 391 This is Bien Bowse, this is Bien Bowse, Too little is my Skew. 1834 *New Dict. Canting Crew*, Bene cove, a good fellow.

B. *adv.* Pleasantly, genially, kindly.

c 1400 *Anturs Arth.* VI. A lefe sale, Of box and of barbere byggyt ful bene. *Ibid.* xxix, Beten with besandus, and boucut ful bene. 1513 DOUGLAS *Ensis* XII. ix. 76 And full beyne [ed. 1553 bene] Tawcht thame to grub the wynis.

† **Bein** (bʰin), *v. Obs.* [f. prec.] To make 'bein'; to furnish bounteously, to fill. (L. *locupletare*.)

c 1450 HENRYSON *Mor. Fab.* 55 Haruest heat, when Ceres that goddesse Her barnes beined hes with abundance.

Beine = both: see BO.

Being (bʰiŋ), *vbl. sb.* Forms: 3-6 beinge, 4-6 beying(e), 5 beenge, beying(e), byinge, 6-7 beeing, 5- being. [f. BE *v.* + -ING¹.]

1. Existence, the fact of belonging to the universe of things material or immaterial.

c 1325 E. E. Allit. P. A. 446 Pe court of þe kyndom of god alyue, Hatz a property in hyt self beying. 1340 *Ayeb.* 103 Pet ne ziggeþ propreliche þe zoþe of þe byinge of God. 1413 *LYDG. Pilgr. Sowle* IV. xxviii. (1483) 74 The seed . . . wherof they taken their beynge. 1506 *Ord. Crysten Men*. (W. de W.) I. vi. 50, I byleue in the holy chyrche catholyke . . . the beynge of all sayntes. 1534 *TINDALE Acts* xvii. 28 In him we lyve, move & haue our beynge. 1647 *MAY Hist. Parl.* II. ii. 22 To subvert the very Rights and Beeyngs of Parliament. 1667 *MILTON P. L.* II. 441 With utter loss of being Threatens him. 1712 *ADDISON Spect.* No. 381 P. 4 The great Author of our being. 1734 *POPE Ess. Man* IV. 1 Oh happiness! our being's end and aim. 1750 *JOHNSON Rambl.* No. 72 P. 2 Good humour . . . is the balm of being. 1868 *FREEMAN Norm. Cong.* (1876) II. App. 610 The house had no corporate being.

b. *In being*: existing, extant, alive.

1676 *ALLEN Addr. Non-Conf.* 48 The Church in being before, had thereby a new Illumination. 1702 *ADDISON Chr. Relig.* (1727) 278 Had he quoted a record not in being, or made a false statement. 1788 J. POWELL *Devises* (1827) II. 91 A legacy, to a person in being at the time the will is made.

c. Life, physical existence.

1596 SHAKS. *Tam. Shr.* I. i. 10 Pisa . . . Gae me my being. 1662 *STILLINGFLEET Orig. Sacre* III. ii. § 10 That power infinite should raise an Insect into Being. 1676 *DRYDEN Aureng-z.* III. i. 1476 Our Prophet's care Commands the Beings ev'n of Brutes to spare. 1713 *GUARDIAN* No. 1 P. 2 In all the occurrences of a various being. 1754 *SHERLOCK Disc.* (1759) I. II. 76 To call Men from the Graue into Being. 1766 C. BEATTY *Two Months Tour* (1768) 92 In this pleasurable manner they spent their beings. 1812 J. WILSON *Isle of Palms* II. 155 Hopeless woe the spring of being feeds.

† d. Occurrence, happening. *Obs.*

1664 CAPT. SMITH *Virginia* (1629) 180 margin, A strange being of Rauens.

2. Existence in some relation of place or condition. 1526 *TINDALE Luke* ix. 33 Master, it is gooðe beinge here for us. 1535 *COVERDALE Ibid.* Master here is good beynge for vs. a 1617 HIERON *Wks.* I. 3 Entrance in at the gate presupposeth a being without the gate. 1682 *BURNET Rights Princes* III. 81 What he has acquired during his being a Bishop. 1692 RAY *Disc.* II. v. (1732) 208 The Being of Wolves and Foxes. anciently in this Island. *Mod.* After being at home for some time. Through being so tired.

† b. Condition. *Obs.*

c 1300 K. ALIS. 224 Heo asked his beynge, an hast. c 1440 *LONGELICH Graill* xlii. 232 Now have I 3ow told al in fere Of owre beynge & of owre manere. 1548 *THOMAS Ital. Gram.*, *Freschezza*, lustinesse or fresh beynge.

† c. Position, standing (in the world). *Obs.*

1627 *FELTHAM Resolves* I. lxxvi. (1677) 116 Whosoever comes to place from a mean being, had need haue . . . Virtue. 1685 *EVELYN Mem.* (1857) II. 246 Colonel Norton, who though now in being, was formerly a very fierce commander in the first rebellion. 1712 *STEELE Spect.* No. 544 P. 2 Such . . . as want help towards getting into some being in the world. 1818 *CORBETT Resid. U. S.* (1822) 349 He has not kept house; he has had no being in any neighbourhood.

† d. Livelihood, living, subsistence. *Obs.*

1579 *SPENSER Sheph. Cal.* Sept. 33 No being for those, that truly mene, But for such as of guile maken gayne.

1667 *Decay Chr. Piety* viii. § 44. 292 A bare being was all could be expected. 1722 *STEELE Cons. Lovers* III. i. (1755) 46 It will be nothing for them to give us a little Being of our own, some small Tenement, out of their large Possessions. 1731 *MEDLEY Kolben's Cape G. Hope* II. 45 Several others . . . had likewise very good Beings there.

3. Existence viewed as a property possessed by anything; substance, constitution, nature.

1340 *HAMPOLE Pr. Cons.* 17 Als God in a [=one] substance and beynge With outen any bygynnyng. 1393 *TREVISA Barth. De P. R.* II. ii. (1405) 28 The companyon bitwene a poynite and a lyne in beyng. 1581 *FULKE in Confer.* III. (1584) V. The proper substance of Christes body remaineth not, but a generally being thereof. 1659 J. ARROWSMITH *Armilla Calc.* IV. iii. § 3. 187 Our very being is none of ours. 1855 *PRESCOTT Philip* I, I. II. v. 192 The Romish faith may be said to have entered into the being of the Spaniard. 1860 *HAWTHORNE Marble Faun* xiii. (1883) 147 Nature has made women especially prone to throw their whole being into what is technically called love.

b. Essential substance, essence.

1530 *PALSGR.* 197/x Beyng, essence. 1656 H. MORE *Antid. Ath.* I. iii. (1662) 13, I define God therefore an Essence or Being fully and absolutely perfect. 1860 *EMERSON Cond. Life* 187 We are one day to deal with real being—essences with essences.

4. That which exists or is conceived as existing; in philosophical language, the widest term applicable to all objects of sense or thought, material and immaterial.

a 1628 F. GREVILLE *Calia, Sonn.* vii. 46 No being was secure. 1690 *LOCKE Hum. Und.* III. v. § 5 Species of Actions which were only the Creatures of their own Understandings; Beings that had no other existence, but in their own Minds. a 1704 — *Posth. Wks.* (1706) 86 A word may be made use of, as if it stood for some real Being. 1714 *FORTESCUE-ALAND Fortescue's Abs. & Lim. Mon.* 6 In the Nature of Ideas, Legal Beings, as I may call them, are as capable of Demonstration, as Mathematical ones. 1843 *MILL Logic* I. iii. § 2. 62 Being is . . . applied impartially to matter and to mind. . . A Being is that which excites feelings, and which possesses attributes.

b. Applied with various qualifications, e.g. 'the Supreme Being,' to God.

c 1600 J. DAVIES in FARR'S S. P. I. 244 He that was, and is, and cannot fade, This Beeing infinite. 1688 *CUDWORTH Immut. Mor.* IV. iv. (1731) 250 There is a God, or an Omnipotent and Omniscient Being. 1712 *ADDISON Spect.* No. 381 P. 8 Atheism, by which I mean a disbelief of a Supreme Being. 1761 *STERNE Tr. Shandy* III. xlix. That kind Being, who is a friend to the friendless, shall recompence thee for this. 1875 *SCRIVENER Lect. Grk. Test.* 6 That the Supreme Being should have thus far interfered with the course of his providential arrangements.

c. A human being, a person. (Sometimes contemptuous; sometimes idealistic.)

1751 *JOHNSON Rambl.* No. 141 P. 6 A wit . . . a species of beings only heard of at the university. 1802 *MAR. EDGEWORTH Moral T.* (1816) I. xii. 100 This mean, incorrigible being said to himself. 1816 J. WILSON *City of Plague* I. iii. 33 There I saw A white-robed Being on her knees. 1852 *MISS YONGE Cameos* II. xxix. 307 The veiled girlish being on whom Henry had set his vehement heart.

Being (bʰiŋ), *ppl. a.* [f. BE *v.* + -ING².]

1. Existing, present; esp. in phr. *The time being.*

1458 *Test. Ebor.* (1855) II. 225 The covent of the priore . . . for the tyme beynge, and thaire successors. 1593 *L.D. BERNERS Froiss.* I. ccxii. 257 The kynges of Englande for the tyme beynge. 1768 J. POWELL *Devises* (1827) II. 341 Where there is a gift to the elder son in terms which would carry it to the eldest for the time being.

2. *absol.* = It being the case that, seeing, since. See BE *v.* B. II.

Beingless (bʰiŋlēs), *a.* [f. BEING *sb.* + -LESS.] That has no being, non-existent.

1840 *GALT Demon Dest.* III. 22 We are but things like thee All beingless—the substance of idea. 1864 C. KING *Gnostics* 38 When first the Father, the Inconceivable, Beingless, Sexless, began to be in labour.

† **Beingness** (bʰiŋnēs), *Obs.* [f. as prec. + -NESS.] The quality of existing, entity, actuality.

1662 J. CHANDLER *Van Helmont's Oriat.* 29 The Entity or Beingness of vertue and operation.

Be-inked (bʰiŋkt), *ppl. a.* [f. BE- + INK.] Smeared or stained over with ink.

1853 C. BRONTË *Villette* xxxv. (D.), A sorry paletot much be-inked, and no little adust.

Beinly (bʰinli), *adv. Sc.* Also 5 beenlie. [f. BEIN + -LY².] Pleasantly, comfortably, cosily.

c 1450 *HENRYSON Mor. Fab.* 14 Her den . . . Full beenlie stuffed both butte and ben Of Beines and Nuttes. 1572 *Scot. Poems* 16th C. II. 249 3on carle . . . dois beinly dwell. 1790 A. WILSON *Discons. Wren* Wks. 97 Fu' cleanly and beinly We lined it [our nest] a' wi' down.

Beinness (bʰinnēs), *Sc.* Also bienness. [f. BEIN + -NESS.] Comfort, well-to-do condition.

1874 *BLACK Pr. Thule* 20 There was a prevailing air of comfort and bienness about the people.

Beir, **beire**, *Sc. f. BEAR, BEER, BERE, BIER, BIRR*; *obs. pa. t. BEAR v.*; also = of both: see BOTH.

Beiram, variant spelling of BAIRAM.

Beird, *obs. Sc. form of BEARD.*

Beis, *obs. f. BEAST-8*; see also BE *v.* A. I.*

† **Beisance**. In 6-7 baysance, beysaunoe, bezaunoe. Aphetic f. OBEISANCE, ABAISANCE.

1556 *HUGGARD Display. Protest.* 85 (D.) To make beysaunce to the magistrates. 1604 A. SCOLKER *Daiphantus* (1880) 11 Her lowly bezaunoe doth regreat With her chast

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silence. *c1650* in Furniv. *Percy Folio I*. 159 When they [y] came it Lamwell by, baysance they [y] made certainly.

Beisand, obs. form of **BEZANT**.
Beist, obs. form of **BEAST**, **BEST**.

† **Beisum**, *a. Obs.* [f. *beien*, **BEY**, to bend + *-sum*, -some: cf. *buxom*.] Pliable, flexible, docile.
a1225 Leg. Kath. 1805 *þeo þat* . . buhsume and beisume haldeð his heastes.

Beit(e), obs. form of **BEET** *v.*, **BEAT**.

Beizle, obs. form of **BEZZLE** *v.*

† **Beja'de**, *v. Obs.* [f. **BE** + **JADE** *v.*]

1. *trans.* To weary, tire out.

1600 MELTON *Astrolog.* 14 He had so bejaded and tyred mine eares. *1641* MILTON *Animadv.* Wks. (1851) 240 Spare your selfe, lest you bejaded the good galloway, your owne opiniaster wit.

2. To make a jade of.

1705 HICKERINGILL *Priest-cr.* II. vi. 61 Some Women . . are Skitish, and will not suffer themselves tamely to be Rid and Bejaded by ne're a Priest of them all.

Hence **Beja'ded** *ppl. a.*

1687 *Elegy in Cleveland's Wks.* 284 Jogge still as things bejaded ride in black. *1694* SOUTH 12 *Serm.* II. 197 A tired, languishing, and be-jaded Devotion.

Bejan (bī'dʒən). Forms: 7 **bajon**, 7-9 **bajan**, 9 **bejaune**, **bejeant**, **bejan**, **bigent**. [a. F. *bejaune* novice, freshman (f. *bec jaune* 'yellow beak,' in allusion to young birds. See *Littre*, s. v. *Bec*, *Béjaune*); cf. Ger. *gelbschnabel*.] A freshman at the Scotch universities, where the term was adopted from the University of Paris. (Now obsolete at Edinburgh.) Also *attrib.*

1611 COTGR. *Bejaune*, a novice . . or young beginner in, a Trade, or Art. *Payer son bejaune*, to pay his welcome; a fee exacted by scholars, of such as are newly admitted into their societie. *1642* BAILLIE *Lett.* to May 1794 There will be near 60 Bajons already. *c1670* T. CROFT *Univ. Edin.* 63 (JAM.) No Bajons convened all that year. *1708* J. CHAMBERLAYNE *St. Gt. Brit.* II. III. x (1743) 441 The first year the students [at Edinburgh] who are called Bajans, are taught only Greek. *1814* W. TENNANT *Anster Fair* II. Up from their mouldy books . . had sprung Bigent and Magstrand to try the game. *1864* BURTON *Scot. Abr.* I. v. 270. *1868* G. MACDONALD *R. Falconer* II. 65 His grandmother yielded, and Robert was straightway a Bejan or Yellow-beak. *1884* SIR A. GRANT *Story Univ. Edin.* I. III. 144.

† **Beja'pe**, *v. Obs.* [f. **BE** + **JAPE** *v.*] *trans.* To play a trick on; to trick or befool.

1377 LANGL. *P. Pl.* B. XVIII. 290 God wil nouȝt be bigiled . . ne bi-aped. *c1386* CHAUCER *Knts. T.* 727 And hast bi-japed here the duke Theseus. *a1400* OCCLEVE *De Reg. Princ.* 112 The smert of thought . . hath . . so me bi-japed. *a1500* PIERS *of F.* 168 in *Hazl. E. P. P.* II. 8 An olde fowle . . May cause many othyr to be japed.

Bejesuit, [f. **BE** + **JESUIT**.] To initiate in Jesuitism; to work upon by, or subject to, Jesuits.

1644 MILTON *Areop.* (Arb.) 76 Who hath so bejesuited us that we should, etc.? *1680* HICKERINGILL *Meros* 12 Both are Bejesuited and Breath nothing but Blood and Ruin. *1865* CARLYLE *Frederick* IX. XX. II. 24 The . . garrison . . had been well bejesuited during those seven weeks.

Bejewel (bī'dʒiweɪl), *v.* [f. **BE** + **JEWEL** *sb.*] *trans.* To deck or adorn with or as with jewels; to spangle. Also *fig.*

1557 NORTH *Gueard's Diall Pr.* (1582) 387 b, The gorgeous courtier, bedecked with gold, be buttoned, & be jewelled. *1647* R. STAPYLTON *Juvenal* 21 Those priests. . . Bejewel all their necks. *1877* BROWNING *La Saisias* 588 Laughter so bejewels Learning.

Hence **Bejewelled** *ppl. a.*

1876 GEO. ELIOT *Dan. Der.* I. i. 2 The white bejewelled fingers of an English countess.

Bejig, **bejuggle**, **bejumble**, etc.: see **BE** - *pref.*

Bek(e), obs. form of **BEAK**, **BECK**, **BEEK**.

† **Beken**, *v. Obs.* Forms: 3-4 **bi**, **byken**, **nen**, 4 **biken**(ne), 4-5 **beken**. [f. **BE** + **KEN**.]

1. *trans.* To make known, to declare, to show.
a1300 *Havelok* 1268 Kinges sone, and kinges eyr That bikenneth that croiz so fayr.

2. To deliver.

a1300 *Cursor M.* 7242 Till his foos sco him be-kend. *1330* R. BRUNNE *Chron.* 332 A wif þei him bikenne. *1a1400* *Morte Arth.* 2355 They . . Bekende theme the caryage, kystis and oper.

3. To commend or commit to the care of.

c1350 *Will. Palerne* 5423, I bikenne þou to Crist þat on Croyce was peyned. *a1400* *Relig. Pieces fr. Thornton MS.* (1867) 90 His modir in keping to þe be-kende. *1a1400* *Morte Arth.* 482 Sir Cadore . . to Crist þeme be-kennede. *c1400* *Sir Amadace* xxxii, Cryst of hevon, Y yo beken!

¶ See also **BIKENN**.

† **Beken**, **bekin**, *sb. Obs.* [Identical in spelling with 16th c. forms of **BEACON**, but nothing appears to be known of the word beyond what is contained in the quotations.]

1538 ELVOT *Dict.*, *Cinclidæ* are bayes or parclosis made aboute the places of judgement, where men not being sutars, may stande, beholde, and here what is done and spoken amonge the juges and pledours. Such a lyke thing is at Westmyster Hall about the common place, and is called the bekens. *1577* HOLINSHED *Chron.* III. 934 The kings of armes . . stood in their place, which was in the bekens at the kings bench.

Beken, obs. form of **BEACON**, **BECKON**.

† **Bekend**, *ppl. a. Sc. Obs.* [f. **BKEN** *v.* + -ED¹.] Known.

1513 DOUGLAS *Æneis* IV. xii. 12 Sone as scho beheld . .

the bed bekend. *Ibid.* II. xii. (xi.) 94 For throw the secrete stretis fast I rane Before the laif, as weil bekend mane.

† **Bekennig**, *vbl. sb. Obs.* [f. as prec. + -ING¹.] Knowledge, acquaintance.

c1380 WYCLIF *Serm.* Sel. Wks. II. 79 Þei tellen more bi þer owne bekenyng . . þan þei don bi Goddis heestis.

Beker, -kir, obs. forms of **BICKER**.

Bekerchief, **bekiok**, **beking**, etc.: see **BE** - *pref.*

Bekeryn, obs. form of **BICKER**.

Beking, obs. form of **BEAKING**.

Bekiss (bē'kiss), *v.* [f. **BE** + **KISS** *v.*] *trans.*

To kiss to excess, to cover with kisses. Hence **Bekissed** (bē'kist), *ppl. a.*

1587 TURBERV. *Trag. T.* (1837) 195 Shee all bekist the face. *1677* MRS. BEHN *Rover* III. i. (1716) 119 To hug, and all to bekiss me. *1862* TROLLOPE *Orley F.* xiv. In such cases one cannot but pity her who is bekissed. *1809* W. IRVING *Knickerb.* (1861) 237 The most thoroughly be-kissed community in all Christendom.

Bekke, -nyng, obs. ff. **BECK**, **BECKONING**.

Beknave (bē'nev), *v.* [f. **BE** + **KNAVE** *sb.*] *trans.* To treat as a knave, to call 'knave.'

c1525 SKELTON *Agst. Garneshe* 9 So curtyously to beknave me in the kynges place. *1539* TAYLOR *Gard. Wynd.* II. 162, Some we call Pharisies, we be knave, we deifye as naughtye papistes. *c1700* POPE *Gentle Sheph.* (Globe) 475 May satire ne'er befool ye, or beknave ye. *1876* GREEN *Short Hist.* vii. § 1 Beknaved by the King.

Beknit, **beknight**, etc.: see **BE** - *pref.*

Beknotted (bē'noted), *ppl. a.* [f. **BE** + **KNOT** *v.*] Tied into or covered with knots.

Hence **Beknottedness**.

1882 *Nature* XXV. 595 The difficulty of measuring beknottedness electromagnetically.

† **Beknow**, *v. Obs.* For forms see **KNOW**. [f. **BE** + **KNOW**.] *trans.*

1. To become acquainted with, to recognize.

c1300 *Relig. Songs* I. 31 Mon, hwi nultu the bi-cnowe? *1314* *Guy Warw.* (Abbotsf.) 106 The Soudan him biknewe anon. *1393* GOWER *III.* 357 So fit it wel, that thou beknowe Thy feble estate. *1475* CAXTON *Jason* 48 In no wyse I wold not ben beknown. *1560* PHAER *Æneid* Cc ij b, The lords bekenw that god. [See **BEKNOWN**.]

2. To admit one's knowledge of; to acknowledge, confess.

c1325 *Coer de L.* 1700 That he thynges he wyl beknawe. *1340* *Ayenb.* 69 (Hil) hare folyes ne beknaweþ. *c1386* CHAUCER *Pers. T.* 796 To destroye him that wolde not by-knowe his synnes. *c1440* *Morte Arth.* (Roxb.) 31 She moste there by know the dede. *1580* HOLLYBAND *Treas. Fr. Tong.* Confesser, to confesse, to beknowe.

3. To acknowledge or recognize (a person) in some capacity or relation; e.g. to confess Christ.

c1315 SHOREHAM 15 To biknowe Cristes name. *1377* LANGL. *P. Pl.* B. XVIII. 24 Þat cryst be nouȝt biknowe here for consummatus deus.

4. To be *beknown*: to be aware or conscious of anything; hence, to avow, confess. Used like 'to be **ACKNOWN**,' but rarer.

a1300 *Cursor M.* 1905 Þan was noe wel be-knauin þat þe fode it was wit-drain. *c1374* CHAUCER *Boeth.* III. x. 90, I am byknown and confesse . . þat god is ryȝt worþi abouen alle þinges. *1413* *LYDG. Pilgr. Soule* I. xv. 11, I am by-knowe that I haue done amys. *c1500* *Lancelot* 1627 Qwho that is of an of this byknow. *1523* LD. BERNERS *Froiss.* (1812) I. 694 If they aske the any thyng of me, be not be known that I am in the tounne.

† **Beknowing**, *vbl. sb. Obs.* [f. prec. + -ING¹.] Knowledge.

1340 *Ayenb.* 126 Hi ne hedden naȝt rȝte byleue . . ne zoþe beknawynge.

† **Beknowledge**, *v. Obs.* [f. **BE** + **KNOWLEDGE** *v.* Cf. *acknowledge*.] *trans.* To acknowledge. Hence **Beknowledging** *vbl. sb.* (4 *be-knowledge*): Acknowledgement, confession.

1340 *Ayenb.* 32 Beknowledge of mouþe, boȝsamnesse in dede.

Beknown (bē'nown), *ppl. a. arch.* [See **BEKNOWN**.] Known, acquainted, familiar.

1425 *Pol. Poems* (1859) II. 147 A Marschalle full woorthly beknowne. *1513* DOUGLAS *Æneis* VII. ii. 17 On bankis weil-biknaw. *1589* PUTTENHAM *Eng. Poesie* (Arb.) 241 Let our figure enioy his best beknown name. *a1618* SYLVESTER *Job Triumph.* I. 486 Nor of his place is any more beknown. *1865* DICKENS *Mut. Fr.* xii, The seaman was beknown to me.

Bekuyde, obs. form of **BEQUEATH** *sb.*

Bekyn(e), obs. form of **BEACON** and **BECKON**.

Bekyre, obs. form of **BICKER**.

|| **Bel**, *a. and formative.* Forms: 4-5 **bele**, 7 **bell**. [a. F. *bel*, *belle* 'beautiful, fair, fine': -L. *bell-um*, -am. Naturalized in ME.; but after 1600 consciously French.]

† **A. adj.** Fair, fine, beautiful. *Obs.*

c1314 *Guy Warw.* 68 Bele ost, y bidde say thou me What may al this erning be. *c1384* CHAUCER *II. Fame* 1796 Bele Isawde Ne coude hem noȝt of loue werne. *c1475* *Babees Bk.* (1868) 3 A Bele Babees, herkne now to my lore! [1605 CHAPMAN *All Fools Plays* (1873) I. 136 With a Bell regard aduant mine eye.] *1678* MRS. BEHN *Pat. Fancy* II. 253 If you are not the most *Bell Person I ever saw [? A pun on the name *Isabella*].

B. Used as a formative prefix in *belfader*, *belsire*, *beldame*, *belmoder*, grandfather, grandmother. The explanation of this use, which seems to be entirely English and unknown to French, is not

clear; but it answers to the Eng. use of *good* in *goodsire* (*gudscher*, *gutcher*), *gooddame* (*gudame*), *'godson* or *gosson* filiolus, and *'goddowter* filiola, in *Prompt. Parv.*, which is again partly paralleled by the mod. F. *bon-papa*, *bonne-maman*, grandpapa, grandmamma. The French and English use of *grand*, in *grandpère* grandfather, grandsire, *grand'mère* grandmother, grandame, is capable of more obvious explanation; while the tendency to allow analogy to prevail over sense appears in the Eng. *grandson* as compared with F. *petit-fils*. Still further analogies in the parallel use of *beau*, *belle*, and *good* (though to express a different relationship) are presented by the F. *beau-père* father-in-law, *belle-mère* mother-in-law, *beau-frère* brother-in-law, etc., for which the north. Eng. and Sc. forms are *good-father*, *good-mother*, *good-brother*, *good-sister*, etc.

Bel, obs. variant of **BELL**.

Belabour (bē'lā'bor), *v.* [f. **BE** + **LABOUR**.]

† 1. *trans.* To labour at, work at; to exert one's strength or ability upon, to ply. *Obs.*

1604 DEKKER *Honest Wh.* Wks. 1873 II. 73 Husbands, whom they would belabour by all means possible to keepe em in their right wits. *a1631* DRAYTON *Nymphal* 8 (R.) Let the nimble hand belabour The whistling pipe. *1686* BARROW *Serm.* III. 205 If the earth is belaboured with culture.

2. To thrash or buffet with all one's might.

1600 ASP. ABBOT *Jonah* 529 The tempest which belaboured him. *1609* ROWLANDS *Doct. Merrie-m.* 9 His Maister tooke a Cudgell, And belabour'd him withall. *1724* SWIFT *Misc.* (1735) V. 60 He saw Virago Nell belabour, With Dick's own Staff his peaceful Neighbour. *1876* SMILES *Sc. Natur.* I. 6 They were belaboured with every kind of weapon.

b. *fig.* To assail with words.

1596 NASHE *Saffron Walden* 108 With . . complements hee belaboured him till his eares tingled. *1779* COWPER *Lett.* 31 Oct. [He] has belaboured that great poet's character with the most industrious cruelty. *1832* AUSTIN *Jurisp.* (1879) I. vi. 323 Nonsense wherewith the haters of improvement would belabour the audacious innovators.

Bela'borous, *a. nounce-wd.* [f. prec. + -OUS.] Given to labouring or thrashing.

1860 ALL Y. Round No. 52. 47 Coleridge, who had many a thrashing . . from the belaborous Doctor . . at the Blue-coat School.

† **Bel-accoil**, -accoyle. *Obs.* [a. OF. *bel* (*biel*, *beal*) *accil* fair welcome: cf. **ACCOIL**.] Kindly greeting, welcome.

c1400 *Rom. Rose* 2984 Bialacoil forsothe he hight, Some he was to Curtesie. *1566* SPENSER *F. Q.* IV. vi. 25 Glaucē . . her salewd with seemely bel-accoyle.

Belace (bē'lās), *v.* [f. **BE** + **LACE** *v.* and *sb.*]

1. *trans.* To border or adorn with lace. Usually in *ppl. a.* **BELACED**.

1648 JOS. BEAUMONT *Psyche* II. 48 How to belace and fringe soft love.

† 2. To streak, stripe. *Obs.*

1648 EARL WESTMOREL. *Otia Sacra* (1879) 88 The Crimson streaks belace the Damask West.

† 3. To beat with stripes. *Obs.*

1736 BAILEY, *Belace*, the same as to belabour. *1857* in Wright.

Bela'ce, *v.* 'Sea Term. To fasten; as to belace a rope.' Johnson. [This is found only in Dictionaries. It appeared first in Bailey's folio, 1730, was retained by Dr. Johnson (who used a copy of that as the basis of his own work), and from him it has been perpetuated by later dictionaries. In Bailey it appears to be merely a mistake for **BE-LAGE**, q. v. Bailey's 8vo of 1721 (like the earlier dictionaries of Phillips and Kersey) has '*Belage*, also *Belay* (*Sea Term.*), to fasten any running Rope when it is haled, that it cannot run forth again.' This the folio of 1730 splits up into '*Belace* (*Sea Term.*), to fasten any Rope,' and '*Belay*, to fasten any running Rope, so that when it is haled it cannot run out again.' Thence Johnson's *Belace* and *Belay*. But the 8vo editions of Bailey retained the original entry and took no notice of *Belace*, till after the appearance of Johnson's Dictionary, when the editor of the edition of 1783 added the fictitious *Belace* from Johnson, while retaining Bailey's original *Belage* or *Belay*.]

Belaced (bē'lās't), *ppl. a.* [f. **BELACE** *v.* + -ED¹.] Bordered or adorned with lace.

1648 JOS. BEAUMONT *Psyche* VII. x. (N.) In thy bravest And most belaced servitude. *1879* MRS. OLIPHANT *Reign Geo. II.* II. 78 His 'long lean' form bepowdered, belaced, bescented.

† **Bela'ck**, *v. Obs.* [f. **BE** + **LACK** *v.* to depreciate.] *trans.* To depreciate, find fault with.

a1555 LATIMER *Serm. & Rem.* (1845) 329 As for my preaching itself . . my lord of London cannot rightfully belack it, nor justly reprove it.

Belade, -ladle, **belady**, -ship: see **BE**.

† **Bela'g**, *v. Obs.* [f. **BE** + **LAG** *v.*] † To clog with wet mud. (Cf. *beclag*, also *water-logged*.)

a1300 W. de BIBLESW. in Wright *Voc.* 173 Cy vent un garzoun esclat, bilagad wit swirting. *c1440* *Prompt. Parv.* 29 Be-lagyd, madidatus [1499 *paludatus*]. [1721 BAILEY *Belagged* (left behind).]

† **Belage**, *v. Naut. Obs.* [Either ME. *belegge*, obs. form of *BELAY*, or, what is not improbable, ad. Du. *beleggen*, in same sense. (It is also possible that it may have originated as a misprint or misreading of *belaye*. See also *BELAGE*.)]

1678 PHILLIPS, *Belage* in Navigation is to fasten any running Rope when it is haled, that it cannot run forth again. (So in ed. 1696: *Belage* in nautical sense not given in either; but ed. 1706 has *Belage* or *Belage*, explained as in 1678.) 1696 in *Capt. Smith's Seaman's Gram.* i. xvi. 75 To *Belage*, to make fast any running Rope. 1707 in KERSEY. 1721 BAILEY *Belage*, *Belage* (Sea Term) [expl. as in PHILLIPS].

Belakin, variant of *Byrlakin*: By our Ladykin.

† **Belam**, *v. Obs. or dial.* Also 6 *belamb*, 7 *belammo*. [f. BE- + LAM *v.*] *trans.* To thrash.

1595 WITTS, *Fittes*, & F. 146 His father mainly belamb'd him for the fact. 1621 COTGR., *Contonner*, to cudgell, thwacke, baste, belamme. 1653 URQUHART *Rabelais* iii. xxxv. III. 53. I shall bang, belam thee, and claw thee well for thy labour.

† **Belamour**, *v. Obs.* Also *bellamour* (e). [f. F. *bel fair* + *amour* love.]

1. A loved one of either sex; lady love, fair lady.

1596 SPENSER *F. Q.* ii. vi. 16 She decks her bounteous bourne, With silken curtains, to shrowd her sumptuous belamour. 1603 J. DAVIES *Microcosm*. 92 His wisdom's pow'r Did choose me for his chiefest Belamour.

2. Love; a glance or look of love.

1610 G. FLETCHER *Christ's Vict.* xvii. Those eyes from whence are shed Infinite belamours.

3. Applied to some unidentified flower.

1595 SPENSER *Sonn.* lxxiii. Her snowy brows lyke budded Belamours.

† **Belamy**, *v. Obs.* Forms: 3-4 *belami*, 3-6 *belamy*, 4 *bele amys*, 7 *belamy*. [a. F. *bel ami* (nom. sing. *amis*) fair friend.] Fair friend, good friend (esp. as a form of address).

a. 1225 *Ancre R.* 306 O, belami, bis pu deust. c. 1325 *Coer de L.* 3253, I suffre, sere, bele amys. c. 1400 *Yvaine & Gaw.* 278 What erow, belamy? c. 1460 *Towneley Myst.* 127 Welcom be thou, belamy! 1596 SPENSER *F. Q.* ii. vii. 52 To the fayre Critias, his dearest belamy! 1689 BAXTER *Cain & Abel Matig.* Wks. 1830 X. 493 True Protestants (such as the pseudo-belamy in Philanax Anglicus hatefully callest Protestants off sincerity).

Belandere, obs. form of *BILANDER*.

† **Belap** (*bɪlæp*), *v. Obs.* [f. BE- + LAP.] *trans.* To lap about, clasp, enfold, envelop; to environ, surround. Chiefly in pa. ppl. *Belapped*.

c. 1200 *ORMIN* 14267 All Bilokenn & bilappedd Inn all þatt boc. a. 1225 *Ancre R.* 100 Hit is bilepped & bihud. 1c. 1330 *Amis & Amil.* 1014 He seighe Sir Amis. Bilapped among his fon. 1494 *Dives & Panp.* (W. de W.) iv. xxiii. 189/2 Her good angell... belapped her with so grette lyght that ther myght no man luke upon her. a. 1550 *SKELTON Col. Cloute* 312 In purple & paulle belapped. 1564 A. SCOT *Poems*, This belapit body here.

Belard, *belash*, *belattioed*, etc.: see *BE- pref.*

† **Belast**, *ppl. a. Obs.* [f. OE. *behlæstan* to load; cf. Ger. *belasten*.] Burdened, charged, bound.

1441 in *Archæol.* XVII. 214 (Halli.) James Skidmore is belast and wt holden toward the said Sir James for an hole year. 1470 *HARDING Chron.* cccxi. The duke of Brytain then was his manne, For fee belaste without rebellion. c. 1574 GASCOIGNE *Fruites Warre* (1831) 215 At euery porte it was... belast, That I... might not go out.

Belate (*bɪlæt*), *v.* [f. BE- + LATE *a.*] *trans.* To make late, detain beyond the usual time, delay.

1542 H. MORE *Song of Soul* i. l. xxxi. Night... quick to work the fate Of mured red travellers, when they themselves belate. 1669 PENN. *No Cross Wks.* 1726 I. 273 Wilt thou then for such a World, be-late thyself, over-stay the Time of thy salvation? 1805 SOUTHEY *Madoc* in *W. x* Wks. V. 79 A little while to old remembrance given Will not belate us.

Belated (*bɪlætəd*), *ppl. a.* [f. prec. + -ED.]

1. Overtaken by lateness of the night; hence, overtaken by darkness, benighted.

1618 ROWLANDS *Sacr. Memorie* 24 We are belated, and the time farre spent. 1667 MILTON *P. L.* l. 783 Faerie Elves Whose midnight Revels... some belated Peasant sees. 1769 G. WHITE *Selborne* (1853) 4 Belated shepherd swains See the cowl'd spectre.

2. Detained beyond the usual time, coming or staying too late; out of date, behind date.

1670 MILTON *Hist. Eng.* Wks. 1738 II. 38 Authors... in time not much belated, some of equal age. 1785 BURKE *Nab. Arcot's Debts* Wks. 1842 I. 327 Who contested this belated account? 1857 LD. DUFFERIN *Lett. High Lat.* (1867) 70 Our belated baggage-train. 1877 MRS. OLIPHANT *Makers Flor.* iii. (1877) 52 Information... got but slowly... to the ears of the belated ambassador.

† **Belatedness**, *Obs.* [f. prec. + -NESS.] The quality or state of being belated.

1631 MILTON *Wks.* (1738) I. 4, I... do take notice of a certaine Belatedness in me.

Belaud (*bɪlɔːd*), *v.* [f. BE- + LAUD.] *trans.* To load with praise.

a. 1849 POE *Wks.* (1864) III. 139 Was belauded by the universal American press. 1882 FARRAR *Early Chr.* I. 14 Suicide... which many Stoics belauded.

Hence *Belauded* *ppl. a.*

1857 HUGHES *Tom Brown* i. iii. (1871) 61 Abused and much belauded institutions. 1866 *Sat. Rev.* 25 Aug. 236/2 The belauded administration of the Duke of Somerset.

Belauder, [f. prec.] One who belauds.

1884 J. W. ENSWORTH *Roxb. Bal.* V. 203 The erudite belauder of Ignoramus Juries.

† **Belave**, *v. Obs.* Also 3 *by-*. [f. BE- +

LAVE *v.*] *trans.* To lave about, wash all over; to lave its banks as a river.

a. 1300 O. E. *Misc.* 140 Pu stode Naked and bylaue myd blode. 1598 SYLVESTER *Du Bartas* ii. iii. (1641) 174/1 Me in thy Bloud belave. *Ibid.* (1608) 1002 The happy plains great Phasis streams belave.

Belawgive (Milton): see *BE- 7 f.*

Belay (*bɪleɪ*), *v.* Forms: 1 *beleogan*, 3-4 *bi-*, *be-legge* (n), 6- *belay*. *Pa. t.* 1 *beleзде*, *beléde*, 3 *biléde*, 4 *-laide*, 6 *belaid*, 7 *-laid*, (*Naut.*) 7- *-layed*. *Pa. ppl.* 1 *beleзд*, *beléd*, 3 *bileзд*, 4 *bi-*, *beleyd*, *-leid*, 6 *-layd*, 6-7 *-laid*, 7 *-laid*, (*Naut.*) 7- *-layed*. [OE. *bi-*, *beleggan*: OTeut. **bilagan*, in OHG. *bilecan*, *bilegen*, mod.G. *belegen*, Du. *beleggen*; f. *bi-*, BE- + *lagjan*, in OE. *leggan* to LAY. Prof. Skeat suggests that the nautical use may have been taken from Du. *beleggen*: cf. *BELAGE*.]

† 1. *trans.* To lay (a thing) about with other objects (i.e. by putting them about or around it); to surround, environ, invest, enclose, etc. *with.* *Obs.*

† a. *lit.*

a. 1200 *Andreas* (Grein) 1562 We... ellþeðigne... clomum beledon vitebendum! c. 1205 LAY. 14223 (With a strip of hide) A-buten he bilade muhe del of londe. a. 1300 *Cursor M.* 5739 Him þouȝte brennyng a tre As hit wip loue al were bilede.

† b. *fig.*

c. 893 K. ALFRED *Oras.* iii. viii. § 3 Papius was mid Romanum swylces domes belad. 1608 J. RAYNOLDS *Dolanys Prin.* 69 With many fauours, still thou didst belay mee.

† c. *esp.* To set about with (ornamentation), to lay with (a margin of gold, etc.). Cf. *OVERLAY*.

c. 1200 *ORMIN* 8167 All þe bare was bileзд wip bætenn gold. 1577 *DEE Relat. Spir.* i. (1659) 206 His robes all belayed with lace of gold. 1596 SPENSER *F. Q.* vi. ii. 5 A woodmans iacket... Of Lincolne greene, belayed with silver lace.

† 2. *spec.* To beset with armed men; to besiege, invest, beleaguer. *Obs.*

c. 1300 *Sir Beves* 3189 Thempur theroute us wille belegge. 1595 SPENSER *Sonn.* xiv. Those small forts which ye were wont belay. 1610 HOLLAND *Camden's Brit.* (1637) 281 It was by King Stephen belayed once or twice with sieges. 1648 G. SANDYS *Paraphr. Div. Poems*, *Deo Opt. Max.*, When Arabian Theeves belaid us round.

† b. To beset or line (a way or passage) with armed men so as to intercept an enemy; or with anything for the use of those who pass. *Obs.*

1603 KNOLLES *Hist. Turkes* (1621) 945 Simon... had so belayed that strait, as that the Turkes could not... passe the same. 1612 SPEED *Hist. Gr. Brit.* vi. xlv. 156 Constantine... hasted from Rome, hauling belaid all the way with Posthorses for the purpose. a. 1639 SPOTTISWOOD *Hist. Ch. Scot.* ii. (1677) 44 Frederick... having belayed the ways made the Bishops... prisoners. 1698 DRYDEN *Æneid* ix. 515 The speedy Horse all passages belay.

† c. To waylay, lie in wait for (a person). *Obs.*

1470-85 MALORY *Arthur* (1816) I. 273 All kings and knights of king Arthur's part belayed him, and waited for him. 1603 KNOLLES *Hist. Turkes* (1621) 717 He was by certain Spaniards... belaid upon the river Padus. 1760 STERNE *Tr. Shandy* (1802) I. xviii. 70 Other cases of danger, which belay us in getting into the world.

† d. *fig.* To forestall, make preparations for. *Obs.*

1598 BACON *Sacr. Medit.* v. *Ess.* (Arb.) 109 They who... haue entred into a confidence that they had belayed all euent.

† 3. To invest (words) with a sense or meaning.

† a. To explain or expound (in some way). *Obs.*

c. 1175 *Lamb. Hom.* 67 Pet we seggeð and þus þa wordes we bi-leggeð. a. 1250 *Owl & Night.* 903 3et ich þe wile an oþer segge 3if þu hit const a riht begge.

† b. To gloze (so as to conceal meaning). *Obs.*

a. 1250 *Owl & Night.* 674 He mot bi-hemmen and bi-legge. *Ibid.* 837 Alle thine wordes thu bileist, That hit thinch soth al that thu seist.

† c. ? To illustrate by evidence or action. *Obs.*

c. 1175 *Lamb. Hom.* 65 Gif we þos bode þus bileggeð. 1c. (Predicated of the thing which lies around): To encircle, clasp or coil round (about). *Obs.*

c. 1340 *Cursor M.* 1336 (Trin.) þis tre. A neder hit had aboute bileide. c. 1380 R. BRUNNE *Medit.* 274 Sorwe 3oure hertes hap alle be leyd. (1835 LANDOR *Lett. Conserv.* 86 Under the slightest whipping that ever belayed the shoulders of malefactor.)

5. *Naut.* To coil a running rope round a cleat, belaying pin, or kevel, so as to fasten or secure it; to fasten by so putting it round. Said especially of one of the small ropes, used for working the sails. (The only current sense.)

1549 *Compt. Scot.* vi. 41 Mak fast and belay. 1627 CAPT. SMITH *Seaman's Gram.* ix. 42 To belay, is to make fast the ropes in their proper places. *Ibid.* ix. 38 Bits... are... placed abait the Manger... to belay the Cable thereto. 1706 PHILLIPS, *Belay* or *Belage* [see *BELAGE*]. Belay the Shear, or Tack, i.e. fasten it to the Kennel, etc. 1762 FALCONER *Shipw.* ii. 83 Taught aft the sheet they tally and belay. 1840 R. DANA *Bef. Mast.* xxiii. The weather cross-jack braces and the lee main braces are each belayed together upon two pins.

† b. *transf.* To make fast, tie, secure.

1751 SMOLLETT *Per. Pick.* (1779) IV. lxxxvi. 23 Pipes had found it very difficult to keep him (Peregrine) fast belayed. 1802 W. GIFFORD *Funeral* ii. 84 The distaff, to a block belay'd. 1849 CURZON *Visits Monast.* 376 The bridle, which was safely belayed to the pack-saddle.

† c. *Sailor's slang.*

1796 DIBDIN *Poor Jack* ii. My timbers! what lingo he'd coil and belay. 1866 G. MACDONALD *Ann. Q. Neigh.* xxxi.

(1878) 536 Belay there, and hearken. 1867 ADM. SMYTH *Sailor's Word-bk.* 94 Belay there, stop! that is enough! Belay that yarn, we have had enough of it!

† 6. *intr.* To lay about one (sc. blows). *Obs. rare.*

1598 YONG *Dianna* 109 They belaid about them, passing active and nimble in lending blowes.

† 7. ? To lay down; but see *ALLAY v.* 14. *Obs.*

1562 TURNER *Bathes* 5 Your wyne must be cleare and well belayd, accordinge vnto... the strengith and weakenes of the wyne.

Belaying, *vbl. sb.* [f. prec. + -ING¹.]

† 1. A lying in wait. *Obs.*

1677 FELTHAM *Disc. Eccles.* ii. 11, 346 Experienc'd in the belayings, the ingrossings, the circumventions of Merchandizing.

2. *Naut.* The coiling of running ropes round pins, etc.; chiefly *attrib.*, as in *belaying-cleat*, *pin*.

1836 MARRYAT *Pirate* iii. Ropes... neatly secured to copper belaying-pins. 1862 F. GRIFFITHS *Artif. Man.* 133 The belaying cleats on the bow beam.

Belch (*beltʃ*, *belfʃ*), *v.* Forms: 5-6 *belke*, 5-7 *belche*, 6 *balche*, *bealche*, 6-8 *belk*, 7 *bealke*, 9 *dial.* *belk*, 6- *beloh*. [OE. *bealcian*, *bealcian*: cf. Du. *balken* to bray, shout. See *BELK*.]

1. *intr.* To void wind noisily from the stomach through the mouth, to eructate. (Now *vulgar*.)

a. 1000 *Be Manna Mode* (Gr.) 28 Brodæð he and bælcð. c. 1460 *Towneley Myst.* 314 To belke thai begyn and spew that is irke. 1483 *Cath. Angl.* 27 Belche [v. r. Belke or Bolke], *ructare*. 1530 PALSGR. 447/2 Harke howe the churle belceth. 1574 HELLOWES *Guevara's Ep.* (1577) 185 The olde... glutton... shall belk much and sleepe little.

1623 COCKERAM, *Parbreake*, to bealke. 1727 BRADLEY *Fam. Dict.* s. v. *Belch*, If an Asthmatical Person comes to belch, it is a good Sign. 1860 J. WOLFF *Trav. & Adv.* i. xi. 341 They sit, and belch, because, they say, that they are filled with the mystical wine of truth. 1864 ATKINSON *Whitby Gloss.*, *Belk*, to belch.

2. *trans.* To ejaculate, to give vent to; to vent with vehemence or violence (words, feelings). In early use, translating L. *fructare*, and having no offensive meaning; but in later use confined, by association with other senses, to the utterance of things foul or offensive, or to furious vociferation compared to the action of a volcano or cannon.

a. 1000 *Ag. Ps.* (Spelm.) xix. 2 Dæz ðam dæge bealceþ word. c. 1500 WYCLIF *Ps.* xlv. 2 (MS. X.) Myn herte hath teld ethir belkid [138a bowide] out a good word. 1581 MARBECK *Bk. of Notes* 637 As the rich glutton... belked out these glorious words. 1583 STANYHURST *Aeneis* ii. (Arb.) 67, I belcht ow't blasphemye bawling. 1594 CAREW *Tasso* (1887) 73 His fell griefe, as some begoared Bull, Roaring and sighing out he belkes at full. 1612 T. TAYLOR *Comm. Titus* i. 16 (1619) 323 And openly belch out blasphemies against God. 1622 WASHINGTON tr. *Milton's Def. Pop.* Wks. 1738 I. 509 Belching out the same slanders. 1797 WOLCOTT (P. Pindar) *Maggie & Rob.* Wks. 1812 II. 473 Belching wisdom in one's face. 1856 CAPERN *Poems* (ed. 2) 176 The war-fend shrieks and belches out his fury.

3. *trans.* To emit (wind, fumes, etc.) by belching.

Also *fig.*

1561 NORTON *Calvin's Inst.* iii. 105 What spirit do they belche out? 1607 WALKINGTON *Opt. Glasse* 37 He breathing belketh out such sulphure aires. 1611 SHAKS. *Cymb.* iii. v. 137 The bitterness of it I now belch from my heart. 1634 A. WARWICK *Spare Min.* (1637) 113 What more... noisome smells can a new opened sepulcher belch out? 1641 MILTON *Ch. Discip.* i. Wks. (1851) 12 Belching the soure crudities of yesterday's Poperie. 1648 G. DANIEL *Ecolg.* iii. 207 Noe morning penitence Belches the folly of my last offence.

4. *trans.* To vomit. + a. *lit.* *Obs.*

1558 PHAER *Æneid* iii. (R.) Belching raw gobbets from his maw. 1589 TURBERV. *Trag. T.* (1837) 256 The venomd worme Had belch'd his poyson out. 1718 POPE *Iliad* xvi. 200 Their black jaws belch the gore. 1783 BLAIR *Rhet.* (1812) I. iv. 83 Belching up its bowels with a groan.

† b. *fig.*

1610 SHAKS. *Tam. P.* iii. iii. 56 Destiny... the neuer surfeited Sea, Hath caus'd to belch vp you! 1648 *Hunting of Fox* 36 Deadly Poyson, belch'd up by a Consistorian Schismatick.

5. *trans.* To eject, throw out. + a. *gen.* *Obs.*

1668 CULPEPPER & COLE *Barthol. Anat.* i. xvi. 40 Which vessel some will have to belch out acid blood.

† b. *esp.* Said of the eruptive emission of fire and smoke by volcanoes; hence of cannons, etc.

1580 H. GIFFORD *Gilfoflowers* (1875) 125 Aetna hill doth belke forth flakes of fire. 1667 MILTON *P. L.* i. 671 A Hill... whose griesly top Belch'd fire and rowling smoak. a. 1733 NORTH *Lives* (1826) II. 339 Strombolo... belched out fire and smoke in a most terrible sort. 1865 PARKMAN *Huguenots* iii. (1875) 34 Rebel batteries belched their vain thunder. 1874 HOLLAND *Mistr. Manse* xv. 200 The cloud of menace belched its brand.

† c. *absol.*

1837 CARLYLE *Fr. Rev.* I. l. vii. vii. 208 Rusty firelocks belch after him.

† 6. *intr.* To rise in eructation; to heave like a confined fluid or gas seeking to escape. *Obs.*

1576 LAMBARDE *Peramb. Kent* (1826) 420 Envious rancour so boiled in the brest, that it not onely belched, but also brake forth immediately.

† 7. *intr.* To gush out; to flow in gulps. *Obs.*

1581 MARBECK *Bk. of Notes* 218 Their plenteous wine presses, and their full sellers, belking from this vnto that. 1589 FLEMING *Cont. Holinshed* III. 1351/1 The blood still belched out into the basin.

Belch (*beltʃ*, *belfʃ*), *sb.* [f. prec. vb.]

1. An eructation.

1570 LEVINS *Manip.* 58 A Belche, *ructus*. 1574 HELLOWES *Guevara's Ep.* (1577) 132 The sight thereof moueth belkes,

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and makes the stomach wamble. 1580 HOLLYBAND *Treas. Fr. Tong. Vne route*, a belch. 1763 CHURCHILL *P. Professor*, Salute the royal babe in Welsh, And send forth gutturals like a belch.

2. *fig.* Said of the sea, hell, a volcano, cannon. 1513 DOUGLAS *Æneis* vii. vi. 110 Pluto cik... Reputtis that bismyng belch haitfull to se. 1648 H. MORE *Song of Soul* ii. iii. iv. xxii. O belch of hell! O horrid blasphemy! 1837 CARLYLE *Fr. Rev.* II. ii. vi. vii. 118 And at every new belch, the women... shout.

b. A slang name for poor beer: see quot. 1796. 1706 E. WARD *Hud. Rediv.* I. vii. 18 A little House, Where Porters do their Belch carouse. 1712 HENLEY *Spect.* No. 396 P. 2 Owing to the use of brown jugs, muddy belch, etc. 1796 GROSE *Class. Dict.*, Belch, all sorts of beer: that liquor being apt to cause eructation. 1858 A. MAYHEW *Paved w. Gold* iii. iii. 265 Whilst my mates are drinking the 'belch.'

Belcher¹. [*f.* BELCH *v.*] One who belches.

1598 FLORIO, *Rottatore*, a belcher, a spuer, a rasper. 1699 COLES, *Belcher, ructator*.

Belcher² (be'ljə). A neckerchief with blue ground, and large white spots having a dark blue spot or eye in the centre, named after a celebrated pugilist called Jim Belcher; sometimes applied to any particoloured handkerchief worn round the neck.

1812 *Examiner* 21 Sept. 607/1 The traverser... tied a Belcher handkerchief round his neck. 1825 T. LISTER *Granby* xxxix. (1836) 261 Instead of the Belcher he has a loose black handkerchief round his neck. 1846 LYTTON *Lucretia* (1853) 154 The lower part of which [a face] was enveloped in an immense 'belcher.' 1862 BURTON *Bk. Hunter* i. 31 The fragments of a parti-coloured belcher handkerchief.

Belching (be'ljɪŋ, be'lj-), *vbl. sb.*; also 6-7 **belking**. [*f.* BELCH *v.* + -ING¹.] The action of voiding wind from the stomach through the mouth; eructation; also, the utterance of foul or violent language; the eruptive action of volcanoes.

1598 PAYNELL *Salerne Regim.* Biiij. Sower belchynges. 1576 NEWTON *Lemnes Complex.* 233 Subject to belking and sower vomiting. 1655 GURMALL *Chr. in Arm.* xviii. 231/2 Rather the belching of a Devil, than the voice of a saint. 1859 TODD *Cycl. Anat. & Phys.* V. 316/1 Simple eructation or belching.

Belching, *ppl. a.*; also 6 **belking**, **bealking**. [*f.* as prec. + -ING².] That belches, eructates, etc. (Cf. the various meanings of the vb.)

1581 STUDEY *Seneca's Hippolytus* 71 The belking Seas yell out. 1585 LLOYD *Treas. Health* I. v. A weak bealking stomach. 1601 R. VARRINGTON *Two Traj.* iv. vi. in Bullen *O. Pl.* IV. That belching voice, that harsh night-raven sound. 1700 DRYDEN (J.) His crest... On which with belching flames Chimæra burn'd. 1833 H. MARTINEAU *Tale of Time* iii. 45 To face the belching cannon.

Belcony, obs. form of BALCONY.

Beld(e, obs. ff. of BALD, BIELD, BOLD, BUILD. **Beldam**, -dame (be'ldəm). Forms: 5-9 **beldame**, 7 **beldame**, 5- **beldam**. [Not a direct adoption of the F. *belle dame* 'fair lady,' but formed upon *dame*, earlier *dame*, in its Eng. sense of 'mother,' with *bel*-employed to express relationship, as in *belsire*, *belfader*: see BEL B. For the transference to a more remote ancestor see also BELSIRE; for the extension to old woman, etc., cf. *gaffer*, *gammer*, *goody*, *grandame*, *granny*.]

† 1. A father or mother's mother, a grandmother. Also *fig.* Obs.

1440 *Promp. Parv.* 29 *Beldam* (v. r. *beldame*), faders and mothers modyt, bothe. 1483 *Cath. Angl.* 27 *Beldame*, *avia*. 1483 CAXTON *Bk. Trav.* in *Promp. Parv.* 29 note, Recommande me to your bel-fadre, and to your bel dame, à vostre layon et à vostre taye. 1530 PALSGR. 179/2 *Beldame*, *meretrax*. 1550 PAYNELL tr. *Vives' Duty Husband* (T.) The mother, the beldame, the aunt, the sister, the cosyn. 1593 SHAKS. *Lucr.* 953 To shew the beldame daughters of her daughter. 1613 DRYDEN *Polyolb.* vi. (T.) The beldam and the girl, the grandire and the boy. 1608 MILTON *Vac. Exerc.* 46 When beldam Nature in her cradle was

† b. A great-grandmother, or still more remote ancestress; by Plot used for a woman who has lived to see five generations of female descendants.

1679 *Plot Staffordsh.* (1686) 322 She lived to be a Beldam, that is to see the sixth generation. 1863 CHAMBERS *Bk. of Days* I. 306 At the same rate she might have been beldam at sixty six.

2. An aged woman, a matron of advanced years. (In 16th c. used in addressing nurses.)

1580 GIFFORD *Giltoflowers* (1875) 98 And thus... This aged beldam speaks. 1596 SPENSER *P. O.* iii. ii. 43 [To 'her aged nurse'] 'Beldame, your words doe worke me litle ease.' 1598 DRYDEN *Heroic. Ep.* xix. 15 Here is no Beldam Nurse, to powt nor lowre. 1709 STRELE *Taller* No. 83 P. 2, I am neither Childish young, nor Beldam-old. 1752 FOOTE *Taste* I. 1, This superannuated Beldame gapes for Flattery. 1768 BEATTIE *Minstr.* i. xliii, Her legend when the Beldame gan impart. 1821 BYRON *Sardan.* I. ii. (1868) 352 That blood-loving beldame, My martial grandam. 1856 LONGF. *Blind Girl* i. 122 The beldame, wrinkled and gray takes the young bride by the hand.

3. *esp.* with depreciative sense: A loathsome old woman, a hag; a witch; a furious raging woman (without the notion of age), a virago.

1585 SIDNEY *Arcadia* (1613) 10 A beldame... accused for a witch. 1608 R. JOHNSON *Sev. Champions* 212 Come all you witches, beldames, and Fortunetellers. 1641 BP. MOUNTAGU *Acts & Mon.* (1642) 177 Tarquinus taking her to be some frantick Beldame. 1706 ADDISON *Rosamond* i. iii, Fly from my passion, Beldame, fly! 1822 SCOTT *Nigel*

xxxv, That accused beldam whom she caused to work upon me. 1857 F. LOCKER *Lon. Lyrics* (1862) 100 The beldams shriek, the caldron bubbles.

Beldamship. [*f.* prec.: after *ladyship*.] 1633 SHIRLEY *Yng. Admiral* iv. i, I beseech your learned beldamship to accept it. 1636 DAVENANT *Wits in Dodsley* (1780) VIII. 512 We'll make her costive beldamship Come off.

Belders, var. of BILDERS, Obs., a plant-name.

Bele, obs. f. BEAL: see also BOIL sb.

† **Beleard**, *v.* Obs. [OE. *belēdan*, f. BE- pref. + *lēdan* to LEAD.]

1. *trans.* To lead away, lead astray. 1000 *Benedict. Rule* (Schr.) 27 Du belādest us on grin. 1340 *Alex. & Dind.* 906 So be 3e, ludus, by-lad' and lawles also. 141500 *Pore Helpe* 285 in Hazl. E. P. P. III. 262 We maye go to bed, Blyndeflyde and beled.

2. *fig.* To conduct, lead, use, treat. 1275 *Passion Our Lord* 278 in O. E. Misc. 45 He iseyh hw ihesu crist wes vuede biled. 1300 *Cursor M.* 17049 Whenne pou þi son say so biled. 1485 CAXTON *Trevisa's Higden* iv. x. (1527) 159 He was... harde cruelly beladde.

Beleat, *beleap*, etc.: see BE- pref.

Beleaguer (be'li-gə), *v.*; also 6 **belegar**, 7 **-guer**, **beleager**, -gre, 8 **-gure**. [*a.* Du. *belegeren*, f. be- + *leger* camp; cf. mod.G. *belagern*; see LEAGUER.]

1. To surround (a town, etc.) with troops so as to prevent ingress and egress, to invest, besiege.

1590 SIR J. SMYTHE *Weapons* 4 These... haue so affected the Wallons, Flemings, and base Almanes discipline, that... they will not... afford to say that such a towne is besieged, but that it is beleagred. 1598 BARRET *Theor. Warres* v. iii. 134 Antwerpe... then by him beleaguered. 1648 EVELYN *Mem.* (1857) III. 26 The castle of Dover, which some say is beleaguered. 1846 PRESCOTT *Ferd. & Is.* I. ix. 392 He reflected that the Castilians would soon be beleaguered. 1856 LONGF. *Beleg.* City vii, That an army of phantoms vast and wan, Beleaguer the human soul.

2. *transf.* To surround, beset (generally with some idea of hostility or annoyance). Cf. BESIEGE.

1580 NASHE *Almond for P.* 54, A whole host of Pasquils... will so beleaguer your paper wallas. 1614 LODGE *Seneca* 4 Beleaguer him on every side by thy bountie. 1741 RICHARDSON *Pamela* (1824) I. iv. 239 The girl is... beleaguering, as you significantly express it, a worthy gentleman. 1822 W. IRVING *Braceb. Hall* xxvii. 253 It [the house] has been beleaguered by gipsy women.

† **Beleaguer**, *sb.* Obs. = BELEAGUERER. 1612 SPEED *Hist. Gt. Brit.* ix. iii. 31 His men sallied out... in the face of their beleaguers. 1612 COTGR., *Assiegeur*, a besieger, a beleaguer. [ed. 1632 beleaguerer.]

Beleaguered (be'li-gərd), *ppl. a.* [*f.* BE-LEAGUER *v.* + -ED¹.] Besieged, invested, beset.

1644 MILTON *Areop.* (Arb.) 69 In defence of beleaguered truth. 1647 SPRIGG *Angl. Rediv.* iv. vii. (1854) 281 To know themselves a beleaguered enemy. 1762 FALCONER *Shipw.* iii. 165 Beleaguer'd Troy. 1852 THACKERAY *Esmond* iii. x. (1876) 416 The poor beleaguered garrison. 1862 GOULBURN *Pers. Relig.* iii. viii, The key of a beleaguered position.

Beleaguerer (be'li-gə-rə), [*f.* as prec. + -ER¹.]

One who beleaguers: a besieger. 1628 EARLE *Microcosm.* lxxvii. 159 He is a sore beleaguerer of chambers. 1817 COLERIDGE *Zapolya* II. Wks. IV. 232 A wall, that wards off the beleaguerer.

Beleaguering (be'li-gə-rin), *vbl. sb.* [*f.* as prec. + -ING².] The act of besieging; investment.

1601 R. JOHNSON *Kingd. & Commw.* 29 The beleaguering of Harlem. 1869 FREEMAN *Norm. Conq.* (1876) III. xii. 187 The actual beleaguering of Rome.

Beleaguering (be'li-gə-rin), *ppl. a.* [*f.* as prec. + -ING².] That beleaguers; besieging, investing. 1753 SCOTS MAG. XV. 76/2 Beleag'ring foes. 1870 *Even. Standard* 28 Oct., Break through the beleaguering lines.

Beleaguement (be'li-gə-mənt), [*f.* as prec. + -MENT.] The fact of beleaguering; siege, blockade.

1826 E. IRVING *Babylon* I. iii. 186 Two beleaguements of the capital. 1870 MORRIS *Earthly Par.* II. iii. 5 In the last month of Troy's beleaguement.

† **Beleave**, -eve, *v.* Obs. Forms: 1 **belēfan**, 2 **biēfen**, -laufen, -leauen, 2-4 **bi**, -beleue(n), (4 **bi**, -bylaue), 4-5 **beleve**, **bleve**, **blewy(n)**, (5 **byleve**), 6 **beleaue**. *Pa. t.* 1-2 **be**, **biēfede**, -leafde, 2-3 **lefde**, 3 **-leaued(e)**, -lefte, 3-4 **-leued(e)**, -left(e), -lafte, **blefede**, 4 **blefte**, 4-7 **beleft(e)**. *Pa. pple.* 1 **belēfēd**, 2-4 **bi**, -beleued, 3 **(-lefued)**, -leued, -left, 4 **bleft**, 4-5 **byleft**, -left, -laft. [OE. *belēfan*: -OTeut. and Goth. *bi-laibjan*, f. *bi*-, BE- + *laibjan*, in OE. *lēfan* to LEAVE, a causal deriv. of OTeut. **liban* to remain, which appeared in Eng. in BELIVE. Thus originally and properly transitive; but very early substituted for the intrans. *belive*. In 14th c. often syncopeated to *bleue(n)*, esp. in Kentish; cf. mod.G. *bleiben*, Du. *blijven*.]

1. To let or cause to remain behind, to go away without taking with one, to abandon.

1175 *Lamb. Hom.* 79 Ho hine bilede ligen half quic. 1200 ORMIN 8913 He wass þa behindenn hemm Bilefedd att temple. 1205 LAY. 18648 Þe eorl... bilefed his wif in Tintaeol. 1297 R. GLOUC. 421 Hys fader... ladde hym... into Normandy, & byleued hym þere. 1330 ASSUMP. *Virg.* 759 Thei leide þe bodi in a stone, And bileft alle in þat stede. 14100 *Morte Arth.* 2380 The cors of Kayone... at Came es belevede. 1513 DOUGLAS *Æneis* x. xi. 166 Men... Quham... to myschewus deyd beleft haue I. 1607 MAY *Lucan*

viii. (T.) Wondering at fortune's turns, and scarce is he Beleft, relating his own misery.

b. To leave (something) behind to; to leave at death; to leave in the possession or power of.

1200 *Trin. Coll. Hom.* 183 Hie bileued uncude men þe ahte. 1307 TREVISA *Higden* Rolls Ser. VI. 367 Þe kyngdom [they] byleft to Colwulfus. 1410 LOVE *Bonavent. Mirr.* vi. (Gibbs MS.) Lord to þe is bylafte [1330 beleft] þe pore peple. 1557 K. ARTHUR (Copland) vii. i, The two men... beleft him to Syr Kay.

2. To allow to remain over; to leave out of count or process: to pass over, let go, omit.

1205 LAY. 29363 Elene bilefed mon he lette bilimien. 1297 R. GLOUC. 173 He ne beleuede noht on. 1450 *Mertin* xvii. 276 And v C men that were hym be-lefte of the bataile.

3. To go away from (a person or place); to depart from, forsake, quit, abandon.

1205 LAY. 8569 Lundene we mote bileuen. 1225 *Ancr.* R. 110 And fluen alle vrom him & bilefed him ase vreo-mede. 1400 *Destr. Troy* xxxv. 13456 A buyldyng... was of long tyme beleft, & no lede there.

b. *fig.* To turn from, forsake.

1175 *Lamb. Hom.* 81 He scal his sunne uor-saken and bileuen. 1225 *Ancr.* R. 394 Heo wule... bileuen bene deouel. 1300 *Cursor M.* 9053, I haf bi-left mi lauerd lau. 1400 *Ywayne & Gau.* 35 Trowth and luf es al bylaf.

c. To leave off, cease, give up, abandon (action).

1175 *Lamb. Hom.* 93 Bileafden heo heore timbrunge. 1380 *Sir Ferumb.* 3344 Het hem þe assaut be-leue. 1400 *Solomon's Bk. Wisd.* 82 Ne bileue þou nough to trauaile.

4. To let go (from one's hold).

1225 *Ancr.* R. 322 Hwon two bered one burdene, & te oðer bileued hit.

II. *intr.* [taking place of BELIVE: = Ger. *bleiben*.]

5. To remain over, survive, be left in existence.

1000 *Psalm.* (Spelm.) cvij. 10 An of him ne belēfed (Vulg. non remansit). 1297 R. GLOUC. 372 Þe ne byleuede noht... þat nas to grounde ybrogt. 1350 *MS.* in *Archæol.* XXX. 352 Of y ewyll xal no thynge blewyn. 1435 *Torr. Portugal* 359 Had byn the gyant belevand, They had not partyd soo.

b. To remain behind in a place.

1250 *Gen. & Ex.* 3114 La! god it wot, sal ðe[r]-of bi-leuen non fot. 1340 *Ayenb.* 190 Yrobbed... 200 þet him naht ne blefte. 1380 *Sir Ferumb.* 1595 Þe hedes on þe tre by-lafte. 1400 *Octavian* 1540 The Soudan... Bleft yn Fraunce, Cytes to brenne. 1480 CAXTON *Chron. Eng.* lxi. 45, I beleft allone in my chambere.

c. To remain in a condition or state, to continue.

1200 *Trin. Coll. Hom.* 87 Þe children were censed of sinnen and þus bilefen. 1250 *Gen. & Ex.* 671 Babel, ðat tur, bilef unmad. 1300 *Cursor M.* 7662 Þer mani man fell vnder scheild, Bot with dauid be-left þe feild. 1340 *Ayenb.* 12 Þe mayde Marie blefte eue mayde. 1430 *Syr Gener.* 5737 Here speres beleft hole bothe.

6. To remain for the time being (in a place); to stay, abide, continue, dwell (with a person).

1175 *Lamb. Hom.* 149 3e moten... him, foleze and mid him bileue. 1205 LAY. 19777 Ne dursten heo þer bilefen. 1250 *Gen. & Ex.* 800 Abram... and saray bilefen bi-twen betel and ay. 1340 *Ayenb.* 245 Mid him wor to bleve. 1425 *Seven Sag.* (P.) 48 Gyf he schal byleve with me.

7. To be beleft was often used in the sense of 'To remain, to be'; also 'to be become of.'

1340 *Cursor M.* 7736 (Trin.) His coupe his spere where mai hit be... Where be þei now bileued. 1858 He wrougte bi wicche-craft And wiþ þe deuel was bilafte. 1440 *Bone Flor.* 733 He ys beleft wyth Syr Garcy Ageyn you.

† **Beleaving**, *vbl. sb.* Obs. [*f.* prec. + -ING¹.]

1. Remaining, tarrying, abiding, abode.

1330 *Arthur & Merl.* 861 Withouten bileueing ani more, Thai went. 1340 *Ayenb.* 72 Þer hy habbeþ hyre bleuinge.

2. Remaining steadfast, endurance, perseverance. 1340 *Ayenb.* 232 Þet xixte leaf is bleuinge, þet is stedeuest wyl to loki þet me heþ behote god.

3. That which is left, a leaving.

1440 *Promp. Parv.* 39 Bleyunge, or releve, or relefe, *reliquia vel reliquus*. 1842 428 Releef, or brocaly of mete (or bleyunge), *fragmentum*. 1592 GREENE *Disputat.* 17 Hee had nothing for his pence, but the waste beleauings of others beastly labours.

Belecture, *beledgered*, etc.: see BE- pref.

† **Belee**, *v.* Obs. rare⁻¹. [*f.* BE- 6 + LEE sb.]

trans. To get (a ship) into such a position that the wind is intercepted from her; also *fig.*

1604 SHAKS. *Oth.* I. i. 30, I... must be be-lee and calm'd. **Beleeve**, obs. form of BELIEF, BELIEVE.

† **Belef**, -if, Obs. In advb. phr. a *belef*. [*a.* OF. *à belif*, *belif* (: -late L. type **bis-liquus* = *obliquus*; cf. F. *beslong*, med.L. *beslongus* = L. *oblongus*). Cf. EMBELIFE.] Obliquely, askant; scarf-wise.

1340 *Gaw. & Gr. Knt.* 2486 Þe blykkande belt he bere þeraboute, A belef as a bauderyk. 1842 2517 Vche burne... a bauderyk schulde haue, A bende a belef hym aboute.

Beleft(e, pa. t. of BELEAVE *v.* Obs.

Belemnite (be'lemnait). *Palæont.* [*f.* mod.L. *belemnites* (formerly used in Eng.), f. Gr. *βέλεμν-ov* a dart + -ITE (cf. AMONITE): so named in allusion to the popular notions mentioned below.]

a. A fossil common in rocks of the Secondary formation; a straight, smooth, cylindrical object, a few inches long, convexly tapering to a sharp point, formerly known, from its shape and supposed origin, as *thunder-bolt*, *thunder-stone*, *elf-bolt*, but now recognized as the internal bone of an animal allied to the cuttle-fish. b. The extinct animal to which this belonged.

1646 SIR T. BROWNE *Pseud. Ep.* 53 The figures are regular

in many other stones, as in the Belemnites. 1677 Plot *Oxfordsh.* 41 Meeting by the way with a bed of Belemnites, or (as they call them) Thunder-bolts. 1698 T. MOLYNEUX in *Nat. Hist. Irel.* (1726) 160 One plain homogeneous body, without any mixture of Cochlite, Belemnite, or such like extraneous matter. 1833 LYELL *Princ. Geol.* 111. 325 The Belemnite, one of the cephalopodes not found in any tertiary formation.

Belemnitic (belémnitik), *a.* [f. prec. + -ic.] Of, pertaining to, or characterized by belemnites.

1847 ANSTED *Anc. World* viii. 148 Preserved in connexion with the belemnitic shell. 1878 tr. *Cotta's Rocks* 376 Belemnitic strata (of the oldest deposits of the Jurassic period).

† **Beleper**, *v.* Obs. [f. BE- pref. 5 + LEPER.] *trans.* To afflict with, or as with, leprosy. Hence **Belepered** *ppl. a.*

c 1653 FLETCHER *Laws Candy* v. i. 66 Belepered with the Curse Of foule ingratitude. 1633 FORD *Tis Pity* iv. iii. (1830) 41 Thy lust beleper'd body. 1649 MILTON *Eikon* xiv. Wks. (1851) 449 Impuritie and Church revenue rushing in, corrupted and beleper'd all the Clergie.

Belerio, variant of **BELLERIO**.

|| **Bel-esprit** (be'lesprī). Pl. beaux esprits (bō'zespri). [Fr.; = 'fine mind, wit, wittiness'; hence 'a man of culture and talent.']

1. A clever genius, a brilliant wit. 1638 CHILLINGW. *Relig. Prot.* i. Pref. § 8 Which I feare is a great scandall to many Beaux Esprits among you. 1721 AMHERST *Terra Fil.* xxv. 129 The finest geniuses and beaux esprits of the university. 1801 MAR. EDGEMORTH *Belinda* i. iii. 44 The world thought me a beauty and a bel esprit. 1813 — *Patron* i. xiv. 228 One could hand her verses about, and get her forward in the bel-esprit line.

2. Wit, wittiness. (Hardly in Eng. use.)

1860 ADLER *Fauriel's Prov. Poetry* xviii. 401 The maner'd subtilties of a vitiated taste and of bel-esprit.

Belet (t), obs. form of **BILLET**.

† **Belette**. Obs. [a. OF. *belette* in same sense, f. *bel* beautiful.] A jewel, an ornament.

1522 in *Bury Wills* (1850) 116, 1 beqwethe to my doughter the steynynd clothes. . . and a golde corse with belettes harness lesse.

Beletter (b'letar), *v.* [f. BE- pref. 6 + LETTER.]

† 1. *trans.* To serve with letters, to write to. Obs. 1653 FULLER *Hist. Camb.* (1840) 179 The University-Orator . . be-lettered all the lords of the privy-council.

2. *nonce-wd.* To decorate with letters (such as F.R.S., Ph.D., etc.) appended to one's name.

1883 *Athenaeum* 19 May 638/3 The mania prevalent among people of more ambition than performance for belettering themselves.

† **Belève**, *nonce-wd.* Obs. = LEAVE.

1575 J. STILL *Gamm. Gurlon* iii. 15 Mine owne goods I will have, and aske the no believe.

Belève, var. **BELAVE** *v.*; obs. f. **BELIEF**, -**LIEVE**.

† **Belève**, *v.* Obs. [OE. *belēwian* f. BE- 2 + *lēwian* to betray.] *trans.* To betray.

c 1000 *Ag. Gosp. Matt.* xxvi. 15-16 And ic hyne belāwe [Haton, *Belawige*] eow. . . He hyne wolde belāwan. c 1175 *Lamb. Hom.* 220 Hu he Crist heom belēwen michte.

Below, -*ying*, obs. form of **BELLOW**, -**ING**.

† **Belfather**. Obs. Also 5-fader. [f. **BEL** + **FATHER**: cf. *bellame*, *belsire*.] Grandfather.

c 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 30 Belsyre or belfather, faders or moders fader, *avus*. 1483 CAXTON *Gold. Leg.* 414/1 Here lyeth henry the sone of henry the fader henry the belfader henry the olde belfader.

Belfried (be'friad), *ppl. a.* [f. **BELFRY** + -ED 2.] Having a belfry.

1841 LADY F. HASTINGS *Poems* 150 The belfried tower. 1860 MRS. GASKELL *C. Brontë* 4 Parsonage, Church, and Belfried school-house.

Belfry (be'fri). Forms: (2-3) *berefreid*, *ber-freit*, 4 *berfrey*, -*fray*, -*froiss*, 5 *barfray*, 5-7 *belfray* (e, 6 *belfroy*, *belfray*, -*froy*, *belfrie*, -*frie*, 6-7 *belfrey*, 6-*belfrey*, *belfry*, 7 *belfore*, *befroy*, *befroy*, 8 *belfry*.) [ME. *berfrey*, -*ay* a. OF. *ber-frei*, -*ai*, -*ay* (also *berfro*, later *belfrei*, *belfroi*, *befroi*, mod. *belfroi*), pointing to a late L. type *berefrānus*, from *berefrānus*, adopted f. Teutonic **bergfrid*; in MHG. *bercurit*, -*frit*, *berchfrit*, *berfrit* (also *berhfride*), MDu. *bergfert*, -*frede*, in sense 1 below. The subsequent change of the first *r* to *l* by dissimilation from following *r* (as in *armarium*, *almarium*, *almerie*; *peregrinum*, *pelegrin*, *pilgrim*; *parafridus*, *palefrei*, *palfrey*) is common in later med.L.; it is rare, and exceptional in Fr. (where the normal form dropped the *r*, *befroi*, *beffrei*); in Eng. *belfray* did not appear bef. 15th c., being probably at first a literary imitation of med.L.; its acceptance was doubtless due to popular association with **BELL**, and the particular application which was in consequence given to the word. The meaning has passed from a 'pent-house' a 'movable-tower' used by besiegers and besieged, to 'a tower to protect watchmen, a watch-tower, beacon-tower, alarm-bell tower, bell-tower, place where a bell is hung.' The sense of 'pent-house' or 'shelter-shed' is retained dialectally in Lincolnshire and Notts.

The etymology of Ger. *bergfrid*, *bercurit*, presents some difficulties; but it is generally agreed that the latter part is a form of OHG. *fridu*, OTeut. *fridu-s*, 'peace, security, shelter, place of shelter or safety' (cf. the range of meaning

of OE. *fridu*, *frid*, ME. *fairn*), the final vowel being dropped as in proper names, *Gottfrid*, *Sigfrid*, etc.; and that the former part is the stem of *berg-en* to protect, defend; the whole meaning 'protecting' or 'defensive place of shelter,' an obvious description of a pent-house fitted to ward off missiles from those to whom it gave shelter during siege operations. (The possibility that *berg* here means 'mountain' seems precluded by the sense; but see the discussion of the word by Dr. Chance in N. & Q. vi. xii. 284, 412, etc.) For the form taken by *bergfrid* in Romance, and thus in Eng., cf. the adoption of OHG. *fridu* in late L. as *fridus*, *fridus* 'peace, protection,' the proper names from G. *frid*, *Gottfridus*, *Colefridus*, *Galfridus*, *Geoffrey*, and the sb. *affray*, OF. *esfrei*, mod. *effroi*, parallel to *berfrei*, *belfroi*. Med.L. had the forms *berefrānus*, *berfredus*, *bit*, *bat*, *belfredus*, *berie*, *balte*, *bati*, *bati-fredus*, with the latter of which cf. the It. *battifredo*, assimilated by popular etymology with *battere* to beat (the tocsin), to strike (as a clock.)

† 1. A wooden tower, usually movable, used in the middle ages in besieging fortifications. Probably, in its simplest form, it was a mere shed or pent-house, intended to shelter the besiegers while operating against a fortification; but in its developed form it was constructed with many offensive appurtenances, so as to make it a formidable engine of attack. See the quotation from Ld. Berners. Obs.

[WILL. OF MALMESB. IV. 141 (in Du Cange), Turre non magna in modum aedificiorum facta (Berefred [other MSS. berfrei] appellat), quod fastigium murorum aequat. SIMON DURH. an. 1123 Ligneam turrim quam Berfrei vocant, erexit.] c 1300 K. *Alis*. 2777 Alisaundre. . . Fast asailed heore wallis, Myd berfreies, with alle gyn. c 1325 E. E. *Allit*. P. B. 1187 At vch brugge a berfroy on basteles wyse, Pat seuen sybe vch a day assayed be 3ates. 1375 BARBOUR *Bruce* x. 708 Alexander. . . Lap fra a berfrois on the wall. c 1430 *Syr. Gener.* 7811 He purveid for maynagelles and berfrayes, And othere ordinaunce. 1483 *Cath. Angl.* 21. 1523 Ld. BERNERS *Froiss.* i. cix. 131 Two belfroys of great tymbre, with iii. stages, euery belfroy on four great whelys, and the sydes towards the towne, were covered with cure boly [F. *cuir bouilli*] to defende them fro fyre and fro shotte; and into euery stage, ther weren poynted C. archers. 1530 PALSGR. 197 Belfray, *beufroy*.

2. A shed used as a shelter for cattle or for the protection of carts and agricultural implements, or produce. Still in local use: 'a shed made of wood and sticks, furze, or straw.' (E. Peacock *Gloss. of Manley & Corringham, Lincoln*.)

1553 *Court-Roll of Manor of Scotter, Lincoln* 9 Oct., R. R. amovit omnia ligna sua super le belfrey et jacent in communi via. 1590 Invent J. Nevil in *Midl. Co. Hist. Collector* 11. 29 Item the belfrey with other wood, xx'. 1873 in *Peacock Gloss. M. & C.* 21 The belfrey . . was ruinous, and liable to fall upon the passers-by.

† 3. A tower for the protection of a watchman, a watch-tower; a beacon-tower, alarm-bell tower. (A sense perhaps not used in England, though common in France.) Obs.

1622 FOXE *A. & M.* (1684) III. 899 Being now come nigh to the Befroy (which is a watchtower standing before the City-Hall where the Clock is). c 1645 HOWELL *Lett.* (1650) I. 461 A beacon or watch-tower is called *befroy*, whereas the true word is *leffroy*.

4. A bell-tower; generally attached to a church or other building, but sometimes standing separate.

c 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 30 Belfray, campanarium. 1494 FABYAN *Viii.* 330 The solars . . put the legatte in such feere, that he, for his sauegarde, toke the belfray of Osney, and there helde hym. 1556 *Chron. Grey Friars* (1852) 73 The grett belfrey that stode in Powelles church-yerde. 1674 tr. *Scheffer's Lapland* viii. 26 Adjoining to their churches they have belfries, and houses for the use of Priests. 1849 FREEMAN *Archit.* 177 The introduction of steeples or belfries. 1861 N. Woods *Pr. Wales in Canada* 347 A little glass lantern, like a belfry.

b. The room or storey of the church tower in which the bells are hung.

1549 THOMAS *Hist. Italie* 74 Saincte Markes steeple is . . so well built, that withinfoure an horse maie be ledde vp vnto the belfroy. 1601 SHAKS. *Per.* ii. i. 41 If I had been the sexton, I would have been that day in the belfrey. 1724 GAY *What d'ye call it* Prel. 3 Fetch the Leathern Buckets that hangs in the Belfrey. 1823 P. NICHOLSON *Pract. Build.* 571 The part above the belfrey, which contains the clock-work, is of an octagonal form.

† c. That part of the floor of the church under the tower, where the ringers stand to ring the bells, sometimes parted from the main body of the church by a curtain; this was the seat of the poor, and sometimes used as a schoolroom. Obs.

1549 LATIMER *Serm. bef. Edw. VI.* (Arb.) 125 Yea, a poor woman in the belfre hath as good authorite to offer vp thy sacrifice, as hath the byshop in his pontificalibus. 1588 FRANCE *Lawiers Log. Ded.* P. iv. b. They may plague poore boyes with false Latine in a belfraye. a 1617 HIERON *Wks.* II. 75 The gentleman that sitteth in the quire, as well as the poore that is ranged in the belfrey. 1637 BASTWICK *Litany* II. 17 In the Font or belfore, or other part of the Church. 1659 GAUDEN *Tears Ch.* 253 (D.) Teaching school in a belfry.

d. (See quot.) 1753 CHAMBERS *Cycl. Supp.*, *Belfry* is more particularly used for the timber-work, which sustains the bells in a steeple; or that wooden structure to which the bells in church-steeples are fastened.

5. *Naut.* 'An ornamental framing, made of stanchions, at the after-beams of the fore-castle, with a covering, under which the ship's bell is hung.' Weale's *Rudim. Navigation*.

1769 FALCONER *Dict. Marine* (1789), *Ecussom*, . . a . . . scutcheon upon the stern, fore-castle, or belfry. 1776 *Phil.*

Trans. LXVII. 88 The electrical matter darted from the mast to the belfry.

6. *attrib.*, as in *belfry-key*, -*stage*, -*tower*, -*window*. 1870 F. WILSON *Ch. Lindisf.* 169 The belfry stage has semi-circular headed couplets. 1874 PARKER *Illustr. Goth. Archit.* i. vi. 202 Magdalen College . . tower was originally intended to stand alone as a campanile, or belfry-tower. 1879 SIR G. SCOTT *Lect. Archit.* II. 38 The belfry-windows are often of two lights. 1883 *St. James's Gas.* 30 Nov. 5/1 [The churchwardens] have also the custody of the belfry-keys.

† **Belgard**. Obs. [ad. It. *bel guardo* 'lovely look.'] A kind or loving look.

1590 SPENSER *F. Q.* II. iii. 25 Upon her eyelids many graces sate. . . Working belgardes and amorous retrace. 1593 BARNES *Parthenophil & P.* in Arb. Garner v. 385 To bandy with bel-guards in interchange. 1650 G. FLETCHER *Christ's Vict.* i. xlvii. They move To earth their amorous belgardes from above.

Belgium (be'djizm). a. Latin name of the territory occupied by the Belgæ, stretching from the Mame and Seine to the Rhine; b. subsequently used loosely as an appellation for Low Germany or the Netherlands; c. in 1830 adopted as title of the new kingdom established by the separation of the provinces watered by the Meuse and Scheldt from the kingdom of the Netherlands. **Belgia** = prec. b. **Belgian** (be'djizn), a., of or pertaining to Belgium; as sb. † a. one of the ancient Belgæ of southern England; † b. a Low German; c. a native of modern Belgium; d. a kind of canary. **Belgio** (be'djizk), a., of or pertaining to the Netherlands; sb. a Low German.

† **Belgies** sb. pl. = **BELGIAN** sb. b.

1602 WARNER *Alb. Eng.* x. lxi. 267 By Embassies Spayne often moud to doe the *Belgies right. 1608 TORSSELL *Ser-pents* 647 Called . . of the *Belgies 'Besonder Strael', of the Spaniards 'Zangane.' 1618 *Barnevelt's Apol.* Fb. That difficult, bloody and chargeable *Belgicque Warre. 1623 COCKERAM II, *Netherland*, *Belgian. *Ibid.* III, *Belgians, People of the low Countries, Somersetshire, Wiltshire and Hampshire. 1629 HEYLIN, *Microcosm*. . . Germany is divided into the higher and the lower; the latter is called Belgium. 1631 CHAPMAN *Cesar & P.* Plays (1873) III. 128 Britaine, *Belgia, France & Germanie. 1709 *Lond. Gas.* No. 4584/4 A neat and large Map of Modern *Belgium, or Lower Germany. 1764 GOLDSM. *Trav.* 313 Their *Belgic sires of old! 1825 MARRYAT *Olla Podr.* vi. *Belgian flags, of yellow, red, and black. 1865 *Derry Merc.* 25 Jan., The crested *Belgians . . had five entries.

Beli, obs. sing. f. of **BELLY** and **BELLOWS**.

Belial (be'liāl). Also 6 Belyall. [a. Heb.

בְּלִיַּאל *b'li-yasal*, f. *b'li* not, without + *yasal* use, profit; hence lit. 'worthlessness,' and 'destruction'; but in later use and in the N. T. treated as a proper name = δ *ωνυμὸς*, the evil one, Satan. In the Eng. transl. it is retained untranslated in the phrase 'sons of Belial' and the like, as it is generally also in the Vulgate, though in 1 *Kings* xxi. 13 it is rendered *filiis diaboli*, as in mediæval use.]

1. The spirit of evil personified; used from early times as a name for the Devil or one of the fiends, and by Milton as the name of one of the fallen angels. Also *attrib.*

c 1225 *Juliana* 38 Ich am be deuuel belial, deofene wurest, ant mest is awariet. *Ibid.* 16 3e beliales budeles. 1377 LANGL. *P. Pl.* B. xviii. 319 And with þat breth helle brake with Beliales barres. c 1384 WYCLIF *De Eccl. Sel.* Wks. III. 339 Christ comouned not wip Belial. 1574 FORREST *Theoph.* 416 This Belyall bill written with his bloode. 1663 *Bk. Com. Prayer*, *Chas. Mart.*, In permitting cruel men, sons of Belial, (as on this day) to imbrue their hands in the blood of thine Anointed. 1667 MILTON *P. L.* i. 490 Belial came last, then whom a Spirit more lewd Fell not from Heaven. 1822 SCOTT *Monast.* xxxiv. A scoffer, a debauched person, and, in brief, a man of Belial. 1879 FARRAR *St. Paul* II. 103 note, Belial is not originally a proper name . . this is why there was no worship of Belial.

Hence **Belialist** a., **Belialist**.

1621 BR. WEBBE *Quieta*. (1657) 145 The most unquiet Belialist in his parish. 1626 TRAPP *Comm. Matt.* xi. 29 Christians must not be yokeless. Belialists. 1822 *Blackw. Mag.* XI. 464 Belialic qualities I could not have expected to find in him.

Belibel (be'li-b'l), *v.* [f. BE- 4 + **LIBEL** *v.*] *trans.* To assail with libels; to traduce, slander, calumniate. Hence **Beli-belled** *ppl. a.*

a 1626 BRETON *Packet Lett.* II. xvi. Belibelling the wicked, abusing the honest, or pleasing the foolish. 1683 CAVE *Ecclesiastici* 493 To be thus traduced and . . be-libelled in publick Sermons. 1881 *Athenaeum* 13 Aug. 209/3 Sir John Fastolf, the much be-libelled original of Falstaff.

Belick, *belish-lash*, etc.: see **BE- pref.**

† **Belie** (be'li), *v.* 1. Obs. Forms: 1 *belicizan*, 2-3 *billiggen*, 5 *belye*. *Pa. t.* 1 *belaz*, 2-3 *bil-lai*, -*lai*, 3-5 *bi*, -*by*, -*be-lay* (e). *Pa. pple.* 1 *be-lazen*, 3-4 *bi*, -*by*, -*be-layn*, -*layn* (e), -*lay* (e), 7 *beely'd*. [OE. *bi*, -*belizan* = OHG. *biligan*, *hili-kan*, MHG. *biligen*, Ger. *beliegen*, f. *bi*, BE- about + *ligan*, in OE. *ligan* to LIE.]

1. *trans.* To lie around, encompass.

a 1000 *Cardman's Gen.* (Grein) 229 Sio ea Ethiopia land belizeð uton. 1250 *LYDG. Chron.* Troy III. xxiv. Dimmed with skyes foule. . . with tempest all be-layne. 1627 MAY *Lucan* III. (1631) 219 From Phoebe Beely'd with Centaures.

2. *spec.* To lie with an army round, to beleaguer. a 1000 *ÆLFRIC Joshua* vii. 9 Hi belicazþ us mid fyrdre. c 1200

Trin. Coll. Hom. 51 De king. bilai þe burh ierusalem. c 1230 *Arth. & Merl.* 5378 He was belayn in that cite. c 1380 *Sir Ferumb.* 4483 Now hap þe A[meral] by-leyn hem þer.

3. To lie with (carnally).
c 1225 *Cæur de L.* 1119 Hys daughtyr that was bylayn.
c 1460 *Towneley Myst.* 328, I slew my fader, and syn bylay my moder.
4. *intr.* To lie near; to pertain or belong to; *impers.* it is pertinent or proper.

c 1200 *Trin. Coll. Hom.* 15 De six werkes of þesternes þe bilize to nihte. *Ibid.* 61 þe habbeð þo sinnes don þe biligged to here shrifte. 1387 *TREVISA Higden* (1865) I. 147 Þerto [to Cappadocia] be-lep Cilicia. a 1400 *Old Usages Winchester* in T. Smith *Eng. Glids* (1870) 350 Also twey coroners by-lyth that ther be in Wynchestre. 1522 *World & Child* in Hazl. *Dods.* I. 258 Covet... no good that him be-lie.

Belie (bɛlɪ), *v.* 2 Forms: -1 belēozan, 2-3 beozen, 4-7 belye, 6-8 -ly, 6-belle. *Pa. t.* 1 belēaz, 6- belied. *Pa. pple.* 1 belozen, 3-4 belowen, 6- belied. [OE. *belogan* = OFris. *beliugan*, OHG. *beliugan* to lie about, f. *bi-*, BE- + OE. *lōgan* = Gothic *liugan* to lie, tell lies. Originally, like the simple *LIE*, a strong vb., but rare exc. in present in ME.] Always *trans.*

†1. To deceive by lying. *Obs.*
a 1000 *Gregory's Dial.* (Bosw.) I. 14 Belogen beon, *falli*.
2. To tell lies about; *esp.* to calumniate by false statements.

a 1225 *Ancre. R.* 68 Þe treowe is misleued, and te sakeleas ofte bilowen, uor wone of wisse. 1377 *LANGL. P. Pl. B.* II. 22 She hath. . . ylakked my lemman, and bilowen hire to liden. *Ibid.* v. 414, I haue leuere. . . lesynges to laughe at and belye my neighbore. 1481 *CAXTON Reynard* (Arb.) 96 He belyeth me falsly. 1581 J. BELL *Haddon's Answ.* *Osor.* 490 Wherein you doe dishonestlye slaunders him and belye him, without cause. 1667 *PEPYS Diary* (1879) IV. 396 Saying that he had belied him to our King. 1762 *HUME Hist. Eng.* (1806) IV. lxiv. 762 It was rendered criminal to belie the subjects of the king. 1876 *HOLLAND Sev. Oaks* xv. 213, I think she is shamefully belied.

†b. To belie the truth. *Obs.*
1377 *LANGL. P. Pl. B. x.* 22 Þei lede lordes with lesynges and bilyeth treuthe. 1635 *AUSTIN Medit.* 123 The Judge of Heaven is judg'd; the Truth be-lide.

†3. To assert or allege falsely, or with a lie.
1501 *DAUS tr. Bullinger on Apoc.* (1573) 123 He belyed hymself to be the Prophet of God. 1581 J. BELL *Haddon's Answ.* *Osor.* 1106, Whiche. . . is most falsly belyed upon him. 1659 *MILTON Hircles Wks.* 1738 I. 570 To belye diuine Authority, to make the name of Christ accessory to violence.

4. To give a false representation or account of, to misrepresent; to present in a false character.

1601 *CORNWALLIS Ess.* xxii, It is a strange thing how men belye themselves: every one speaks well, and means naughtily. 1649 *MILTON Eikon.* 143 He a declar'd Papist, If his own letter to the Pope belye him not. 1709 *LADY M. W. MONTAGUE Lett.* lxiv. II. 106, I know not. . . how much my face may belie my heart. 1814 *BYRON Lara* i. xxi, His brow belied him if his soul was sad. 1851 *KINGSLEY Yeast* xv, You are an Englishman. . . unless your physiognomy belies you. *absol.* 1871 *R. ELLIS Catullus* x. 16 They grow quantities, if report belies not.

†b. To disguise (a person or thing) so as to make it appear something else. *Obs.*

1711 *POPE Temple* f. 154 His horned head bel'd the Libian God. a 1725 — *Odys.* iv. 618 A boar's obscener shape the god belies. 1810 *CROMER Nithsd. & Galloway Song App.* (1880) 225 To belie the form of God in the unholy semblance of cats.

†c. To assume falsely the character of; to counterfeit. *Obs. rare.*

a 1700 *DRYDEN (J.) Durst*, with horses hoofs that beat the ground, And martial brass, belie the thunder's sound.

†5. To give the lie to, call false, contradict as a lie or a liar; to reject as false, deny the truth of.

1577 *HOLINSHED Chron.* III. 1158/1 This that I haue said, I will stand vnto, for I will neuer beelie my selfe. 1611 *BIBLE Jer. v.* 12 They haue belyed the Lord, and said; It is not he. 1636 T. H. tr. *Cassius's Holy Cr.* 21, I will not be-lye the law of my Maister. 1649 *Alcoran* 45 If they bely thee, know, they belyed the Prophets that were before thee.

6. To call (a thing) false practically, to treat it as false by speaking or acting at variance with it; to be false or faithless to.

1698 *NORRIS Pract. Disc.* IV. 27 If a Man. . . does not appear to bely his Discourse by his Practice. 1790 *BURKE Fr. Rev.* 356 Who in his last acts does not wish to belye the tenour of his life. 1810 *SHELLEY O. Mab* 22 Those who dare belie Their human nature. 1868 *DUFF Pol. Surv.* 196 Her life as a nation will not belie her great gifts as a country. 1868 *FREEMAN Norm. Cong.* (1876) II. viii. 207 But. . . he grossly belied his faith.

7. To show to be false, prove false or mistaken; to falsify (expectations, etc.).

1685 tr. *Gracian's Courtier's Orac.* 7 It is the victory of an able man to correct, or at least bely the censure. 1781 *COWPER Retirem.* 714 Novels. . . Belie their name, and offer nothing new. 1833 Ht. *MARTINEAU Tale of Tyne* iii. 53 There was. . . a quaver of the voice which belied what he said. 1857 *BUCKLE Civilis.* vi. 296 The subsequent actions of Arthur did not belie his supernatural origin.

†8. ? To fill with lies. *Obs. rare.*

1611 *SHAKS. Cymb.* III. iv. 38 'Tis Slander. . . whose breath Rides on the posting windes, and doth belye All corners of the World.

Belied (bɛlɪd), *pple. a.* [f. prec. + -ED.] Calumniated, falsified, proved false.

1610 G. FLETCHER *Christ's Vict.* in *Farr S. P.* 59 A

painted face, belied with vermayl store. 1848 *KINGSLEY Saint's Trag.* Proem 28 Fathers, long belied, and long forsaken. 1853 *MAURICE Proph. & Kings* xix. 339 But the words lived on, established, not belied, by that apparent confutation.

Belied, *obs. form of BELIED.*

Belief (bɛlɪf). Forms: 2 bileafe, 2-3 -leafe, 2-5 -leue, 5 -leue, 4-6 beleue, -ve, 5-6 -leeve, 6-7 -leefe, 7 -liefe, 7- belief. (Also 5 bileeve, byleue, belyefe, 5-6 byleue, -ve, 6 b'leue, 6-7 Sc. beleif. [Early ME. *bileafe*, -leafe, -leue, f. *bi-*, BE- + *leafe* :- OE. (Northumb.) *lāfa*, shortened from *ge-lāfa* 'belief', a common WGer. abstract sb. (= OS. *gilōbo*, MDu. *geloue*, Du. *geloof*, OHG. *giloubu*, MHG. *geloubē*, Ger. *glaube*):-O.Teut. type **galauōn*- (but not found in Gothic, which had the cogn. *galauēins* fem.); f. *galauōn* 'dear, esteemed, valued, valuable'; see BELIEVE. The orig. *gelāfa*, *leafe*, *leeve*, and its short form *lāfa*, *leafe*, *leeve*, survived till the 13th c., when the present compound, which had appeared already in the 12th c., superseded both. The *be-*, which is not a natural prefix of nouns, was prefixed on the analogy of the vb. (where it is naturally an intensive), so that *believe*, *belief*, go together, as the earlier *gellefan*, *gelāfa*, and *liefan*, *lāfa*, did. The vowel of the sb. (*ā*) and vb. (WSax. *ē*, Anglian *ē*) were originally different; but the distinction was lost in ME. On the other hand the final consonants were differentiated in 16th c. the sb. changing from *beleue* to *believe*, apparently by form-analogy with pairs like *grieve* *grief*, *prove* *proof*. The normal mod.Eng. would have been *beleue* or *beleuee*.]

1. The mental action, condition, or habit, of trusting to or confiding in a person or thing; trust, dependence, reliance, confidence, faith. *Const. in (to, of obs.) a person.*

(*Belief* was the earlier word for what is now commonly called *faith*. The latter originally meant in Eng. (as in OFrench) 'loyalty to a person to whom one is bound by promise or duty, or to one's promise or duty itself,' as in 'to keep faith, to break faith,' and the derivatives *faithful*, *faithless*, in which there is no reference to 'belief'; i. e. 'faith' was = fidelity, fealty. But the word *faith* being, through OF. *fei*, *feith*, the etymological representative of the L. *fides*, it began in the 14th c. to be used to translate the latter, and in course of time almost superseded 'belief,' *esp.* in theological language, leaving 'belief' in great measure to the merely intellectual process or state in sense 2. Thus 'belief in God' no longer means as much as 'faith in God' (cf. quot. 1814 in 2). See BELIEVE 1, and 1 b.)

c 1175 *Lamb. Hom.* 101 Cristene men ne sculen heore bileafe bisettan on þere weorð[li]che cahte. c 1375 *Wyclif Serm.* Sel. Wks. I. 59 Affie þe, douȝter, þi bileve hap made þee saif. c 1386 *CHAUCER 2nd Noures T.* 63 And though that I, unworthy sone of Eve, Be synful, yet accepte my bileve. c 1400 *Melayne* 438 What myghte es in a rotyñ tree þat ȝoure byleue es in. c 1450 *Mertin* 50 It is grete merueille that ye haue so grete bileve to this man. 1508 *FISHER Wks.* 271 A stedfast byleue of God. 1535 *COVERDALE Tob.* ii. We. . . loke for the life, which God shal geue vnto them, that neuer turne their beleue from him. 1606 *BACON Sylva* § 327 We knew a Dutch-man, that had wrought himself into the belief of a great Person by undertaking that he could make Gold. 1837 *CARLYLE Fr. Rev.* I. iv. 183 Belief in high-plumed hats of a feudal cut; in heraldic scutcheons; in the divine right of Kings. 1859 *TENNYSON Elaine* 961 Beyond mine old belief in womanhood.

b. *absol.* Trust in God; the Christian virtue of faith. *arch. or Obs.*

c 1375 *Wyclif Serm.* Sel. Wks. I. 21 Neither wiþ figis of bileve, ne wiþ gras of deuocioun. c 1400 *Apol. Loll.* Introd. 6 It is sooth that bileue is grounde of alle vertues. c 1400 *Destr. Troy* x. 4287 for lacke of beleue þai light into error, and fellen vnto fals goddes. 1578 Q. ELIZAB. in *Farr S. P.* (1845) I. 1 Who shall therefor from Syon geue That helthe which hangeth on our b'leue? 1593 *HOOKER Eccl. Pol.* III. 4. § 5 The Church hath from the apostles. . . received belief. 1840 *CARLYLE Heroes* vi. 320 That war of the Puritans. . . the war of Belief against Unbelief.

†c. *Out of belief*: unbelieving, outside the pale of the faith. *Obs.*

1493 *Festivall* (W. de W. 1515) 60 The Jewe that was out of beleve.

2. Mental acceptance of a proposition, statement, or fact, as true, on the ground of authority or evidence; assent of the mind to a statement, or to the truth of a fact beyond observation, on the testimony of another, or to a fact or truth on the evidence of consciousness; the mental condition involved in this assent. *Constr. of a statement, or (obs.) a speaker; that. . . ; Belief in (a thing); persuasion of its existence.*

1533 *FRITH Bk. agst. Rastell* (1829) 236 That I would bring the people in belief that repentance of a man helpeth not for the remission of his sin. 1580 *SIDNEY Arcadia* III. (1590) 385 My only defence shal be beleefe of nothing. 1680 *MORDEN Geog. Rect.* (1685) 254 There is no belief of men that were always accounted Lyars. 1790 *BOSWELL Johnson* 100 We talked of belief in ghosts. 1814 *WORDSW. Excursion* IV. Wks. VII. 161 One in whom persuasion and belief Had ripened into faith. 1843 *MILL Logic* i. 1. § 2 The simplest act of belief supposes, and has something to do with, two objects. 1849 *ARR. THOMSON Larus Th.* § 118 (1860) 240 The amount of belief we have in our judgment

has been called its Modality, as being the mode in which we hold it for truth. 1872 *CALDERWOOD Handbk. Mor. Philos.* (1874) 248 Belief is the assent of the mind to a truth, while the reality so acknowledged is not matter of observation. *Mod.* His statements are unworthy of belief.

3. The thing believed; the proposition or set of propositions held true; in early usage, *esp.* the doctrines believed by the professors of a religious system, a religion. In modern use often simply = opinion, persuasion.

a 1225 *St. Marher.* 4 Ant heide his hethene godes. . . ant lei to his luthere bileue. a 1340 *HAMPOLE Pr. Consc.* 4335 And turne þam til a fals belyefe. c 1380 *Sir Ferumb.* 829 Til he wer cristend. . . & y-broȝt to þerȝt beleue. 1393 *GOWER Conf.* II. 152 The beleves, that tho were. c 1400 *MAUNDEV.* x. 121 Thei holden the Beleue amonges us. 1530 *RAS-TELL Bk. Purgat.* II. iv, Of thys beleue, that the soule shall never dye. 1535 *COVERDALE Esther* viii. 17 Many of the people in the londe became of the Iewes beleue. 1714 *LADY M. W. MONTAGUE Lett.* lxxxvi. II. 141 It is my belief you will not be at all the richer. 1836 *HOR. SMITH Tin Trump.* (1876) 56 Throughout the world belief depends chiefly upon localities, and the accidents of birth. 1877 *E. CONDER Bas. Faith* i. 8 The belief that there is no God is as definite a creed as the belief in one God or in many gods.

b. The term is applied by some philosophers to the primary or ultimate principles of knowledge received on the evidence of consciousness; intuition, natural judgement.

1838 *SIR W. HAMILTON in Reid's Wks.* 743/1 note, The primary truths of fact, and the primary truths of intelligence (the contingent and necessary truths of Reid) form two very distinct classes of the original beliefs or intuitions of consciousness. 1877 *CONDER Basis of Faith* iv. 157 Primary judgments (as that every change must have a cause) are often called beliefs, though 'intuitions' would be a better term.

4. A formal statement of doctrines believed, a creed. *The Belief*: the 'Apostles' Creed.' *arch.*

c 1175 *Lamb. Hom.* 73 Buten heo cunnen heore bileue. þet is. pater noster. and credo. 1377 *LANGL. P. Pl. B. v.* 1. . . sat softly adown and seide my bileue. c 1390 *How Plowm. lerned Pater-Noster* 54 in Hazl. *E. P. P.* 211, I mervayll ryght gretly, That thy byleve was never taught the. 1637 *HEYWOOD Dialogues* i. 101 Some sung, and some did say Haile Virgin: others, their Beleefe. 1712 *PRIDEAUX Direct. Ch. Wardens* (ed. 4) 11 Kneeling at the Prayers, Standing at the Belief. 1840 *MARRYAT Olla Podr.* (Ridg.) 331, I said. . . the Belief.

†5. Confident anticipation, expectation. *Obs.*

1513 *DOUGLAS Ennis* x. ix. 44 That gude belieff quihill thou has eyk Of Ascanyys vprysyng to estait. 1535 *STEWART Cron. Scot.* II. 235 In the feild sa mony als war slane, Without belief to gif battell agane.

† **Belieful** (bɛlɪfʊl), *a. arch. or Obs.* Forms: 2-3 bileful, bilefull, 6 beliefull. [f. prec. + -FUL.] Full of faith, believing.

c 1175 *Lamb. Hom.* 73 þet heo sculen beon bilefull. c 1300 *Trin. Coll. Hom.* 25 þe rihtwise and þe bileful. 1548 *UDALL, etc. Erasmus. Par. Luke* i. (R.) A minde beliefull and readie to obeie.

Beliefulness, *arch.* [f. prec. + -NESS.] The quality of being full of belief or faith.

1548 *UDALL, etc. Erasmus. Par. Luke* iv. 24 Ye godly beliefulness of the heathen. 1853 *CLOUGH Poems & Pr. Rem.* I. 213 And there is a hopefulness and a beliefulness, so to say, on your side.

Beliefless (bɛlɪf-lɪs), *a.* [f. BELIEF + -LESS.] Without belief or faith.

1612 *SYLVESTER Henrie Gt.* Wks. 512 (D.) Heav'n's Embassy to Belief-less Soules. 1849 *CLOUGH Relig. Poems* xiii. 81 We are most hopeless, who had once most hope, And most beliefless, that had most believed.

Belier (bɛlɪə), [f. BELIE *v.* 2 + -ER.] One who belies.

1547 *COVERDALE Old Faith* Prol. Wks. 1844 I 8 Blasphemers, backbiters, beliers of good men. 1605 B. JONSON *Volpone* II. ii. (1616) 467 Beliers Of great-mens fauours. 1864 *COLERIDGE Aids Refl.* (1848) I. 89 Foul-mouthed beliers of the Christian faith and history.

Believability (bɛlɪvəbɪlɪtɪ), [f. next: see -BILITY.] Capability of being believed, credibility.

1865 *MILL Logic* (ed. 6) I. 305.

Believable (bɛlɪvəbəl), *a.* [f. BELIEVE *v.* 4 + -ABLE.] Capable of being believed; credible.

1332 *WYCLIF Ps.* xciii. 5 The witnessings ben maad believable ful myche. 1548 *GESTE Pr. Masse* 86 Ryght true and beleuable. 1611 *COTGREVE, Credible*, beleuable; to be credited or beleueed. 1859 *TENNYSON Vivien* 610 And that he sinn'd, is not believable.

Believableness, [f. prec. + -NESS.] The quality of being believable; credibility.

a 1679 T. GOODWIN *Wks.* IV. i. 88 The credibility and believableness, as I call it, of those promises. — Wks. 1864 VIII. 116 Gives a subsistence to the object of faith that doth put into it. . . a being of believableness.

Believe (bɛlɪv), *v.* Forms: 2-3 bileuen, 4-5 bileue, -leve, -leeve, 4-6 beleue, -leve, 6-7 -leeve, 6- believe. (Also, 3 bliuen, byleuen, 4-5 byleue, 4-6 byleue, -leve, 7 -leeue, -leive.) *Pa. t.* and *pple.* believed, occas. in 6-7 beleft (still *dial.*). [Early ME. *bileuen*, f. *bi-*, BE- + *leven* :- OE., Anglian *lēfan*, short. f. *gellefan*, WSax. *gellefan*, *gelfan*, a Common Teut. vb. (in OS. *gilōbian*, Du. *gelooven*, OHG. *gilouben*, MHG. *gelouben*, *glōuben*, mod.G. *glauben* (earlier *glouben*, Gothic *galauþan*):-O.Teut. **galauþan* to believe, probably, 'to hold estimable, valuable, pleasing, or

satisfactory, to be satisfied with, *f. galaub-* 'dear, pleasing'; cf. Goth. *liuban*, *lauf*, *lubum*, *lubans*, Teut. root **lub-*, Aryan *lubh-*, to hold dear, to like, whence also LOVE, LIEF. The original *gelifan*, *ilcuen*, *lleve*, survived to the 14th c., and the shortened *leve* to the 15th; the present compound, which eventually superseded both, appears in the 12th. The historical form is *beleeve*. *Believe* is an erroneous spelling of the 17th c., prob. after *relieve* (from Fr.). Cf. BELIEF.]

I. intr.

1. To have confidence or faith in (a person), and consequently to rely upon, trust to. Const. in, and (in theological language) on (an obs.); formerly with into, unto, of (rare). On *hine gelifan* to believe in or on him, was common in OE. No difference can be detected between the use of 'believe in' and 'believe on,' in the 16th c. versions of the Scriptures, except that the latter was more frequent; it is now used chiefly (but not exclusively) of 'saving faith.'

a. To believe in a person (also in Scripture in, or on, his name). [Cf. late L. *credere aliquem*.] c. 1200 *Trin. Coll. Hom.* 23 Ich beleue on þe holie gost. *Ibid.* 19 To beleuen in god. c. 1305 *LAV.* 13966 Woden ure laured, be we on bi-leued. c. 1340 *Ayeneb.* 12 Ich beleue ine God. c. 1380 *Wyclif Wicket* (1828) 16 Into whome ye nowe not seynge beleue. 138a—*John* i. 12 To hem that beleueven in his name [so 1388, *Geneva*, *Rhem.*]; but TIND. CRANM., 1611 To them that beleue on his name. *Ibid.* viii. 30 Many men beleueven in to him [1388 in hym; TIND., CRANM., *Geneva*, 1611 on him; *Rhem.* in him]. *Ibid.* xiv. 1 3e beleuen in to God, and beleue 3e in to me [1388, TIND., CRANM., *Geneva*, *Rhem.*, 1611 in God. in me]. 1540 *Bk. Com. Prayer* Q. vj. I Beleue in God the father almightie, maker of heauen and yearth. 1649 *Br. Reynolds Hosea* iii. 7 All that should beleue on him unto eternal life. 1860 *Pusey Min. Proph.* 279 To believe God is to believe what God says, to be true. To believe in or on God, expresses not belief only, but that belief resting in God, trusting itself and all its concerns with Him.

b. To believe in a thing, e.g. the truth of a statement or doctrine; also in mod. usage, in the genuineness, virtue, or efficacy of a principle, institution, or practice.

c. 1250 *LAV.* 13890 3oure bi-leue þat 3eo an bi-lefep. 1569 *J. Rogers Gl. Godly Love* 181 We repent and beleue in the promise of God in Christ. 1865 *Mozley Mirac.* vii. 139 In this sense St. Paul, if I may use the expression, believes in human nature; he thinks it capable of rising to great heights even in this life. *Mod.* To believe in universal suffrage, free education, vegetarianism, the college system; *colloq.* To believe in public schools, in the roast beef of Old England, in bicycles, the telephone, gas, etc.

c. Formerly with of=on, in.

c. 1532 *LD. BERNERS Huon* (1883) 464 They were al content to leue theyr law and to byleue of Iesu chryst. 1630 *PAGITT Christianogr.* i. iii. (1636) 160 They do not well beleueve of the primacy of the Bishop of Rome.

d. absol. To exercise faith.

1377 *Lancel. P. Pl. B. v.* 598 All þe wallis ben of witte. . . Boterased with beleue-so-or-pow-beest-nouste-yasved. 1562 *J. Heywood Prov. & Epigr.* (1867) 74 Beleue well, and haue well, men say. 1611 *Bible Mark* v. 36 Be not afraid, onely beleue. 1667 *SANDERSON 12 Serms.* (1637) 252 Who so forward as they to repent, and beleue, and reforme their liues. 1633 *DONNE Poems* (1650) 7, I can love. . . Her who beleues, and her who tries. 1870 *M. CONWAY Earthen Pilgr.* xiv. 178 The man who really believes follows that which he believes, fearless of consequences.

e. absol. To think. Cf. 7.

1749 *FIELDING Tom Jones* ii. vii. (1840) 160/2, I will not believe so meanly of you.

+2. To give credence to (a person, or his statement); to trust (from L. *credere alicui*). *Obs.* Replaced by 5, 6.

138a *Wyclif 1 John* iv. 1 Nyl 3ee bileue to eche spirit. — *John* x. 37 If I do not the workis of my fadir nyle 3e bileue to me [so 1388; TINDALE and later versions, believe me not]. c. 1430 *Life St. Kath.* xviii. (Gibbs MS.) 71 At þe lest byleue to 3oure owne goddes [diis saltem vestris credite]. 1530 *LOVE Bonavent. Mirr.* (W. de W.) iii. Mary through mekenes byleuyng to the gaungell Gabryell. 1647 *W. BROWNE Poxalexander* i. 67 Beleue lesse to your courage then judgement.

3. *ellipt.* To believe in (a person or thing), i.e. in its actual existence or occurrence.

1716 *LADY M. W. MONTAGUE Lett.* ix. i. 29, I find that I have . . . a strong disposition to believe in miracles. 1877 *SPARROW Serms.* xxii. 290 No civilized . . . nation appears . . . which did not believe in a God. *Mod.* To believe in ghosts, in the sea-serpent, in Romulus and Remus.

+4. To trust, expect, think to do (something). *Obs.* Cf. BELIEF 5.

c. 1400 *Destr. Troy* xxvii. 10919 Priam was proude, & prestely beleuyt For to couer of care thurgh hir kynd helpe. c. 1550 *Scot. Poems* 1616 C. II. 100 Beleuand for to bring vs to despair. 1560 *WHITEHORNE Arte of Warre* (1573) 107 b, There shall never bee founde any good mason which will beleue to bee able to make a faire image of a peece of Marbell ill hewed.

II. trans.

5. To give credence to (a person in making statements, etc.). Object orig. *dat.*: cf. 2.

1393 *GOWER Conf.* i. 13 But if Gregoire be beleued, As it is in the bokes write. c. 1450 *Merlin* 3 Sholde he be beleued of moche peple. 1590 *SHAKS. Com. Err.* v. i. 306 You are now bound to beleue him. 1611 *BIBL. Ex.* xix. 9 That

the people may . . . beleue thee for euer. 1667 *MAY Lucan* viii. 20 And scarce is he Belief, relating his owne misery. a 1674 *CLARENDON Hist. Reb.* i. i. 4 A man . . . who deserves to be beleued. 1859 *TENNISON Enid* 1592, I do believe yourself against yourself.

6. To give credence to, to accept (a statement) as true [cf. L. *credere aliquid*].

c. 1315 *SHOREHAM* 7 He that bilefeth hit nau3t. 1340 *Ayeneb.* 151 Huanne me belefp. . . al þet God made, zayþ, and hat. c. 1380 *Wyclif Wicket* (1828) 6 They make us beleue a false law. 1528 *MORE Hercesyes* i. Wks. 133/1 Ye be so cyrcum-spect that ye will nothing beleue without good sufficient & full profe. 1549 *Bk. Com. Prayer, Athan. Cr.*, This is the Catholike faith: whiche excepte a man beleue faithfully, he cannot be saued. 1667 *MAY Lucan* vi. 262 Aulus beleft These fained words of his. 1649 *Br. Reynolds Hosea* ii. 71 Our faith to beleueve Gods promises. 1667 *MILTON P. L.* x. 42 Believing lies Against his Maker. 1741 *WATTS Improv. Mind* ii. iii. 264 Men cannot believe what they will. 1855 *H. REED Lect. Eng. Hist.* ii. 67 It is . . . as irrational to believe too little, as to believe too much. 1860 *TYNDALL Glac.* i. § 24. 171 The Guide Chef evidently did not believe a word of it.

+b. To accept (a thing) as authentic. *Obs.*

1721 *STRYPE Eccl. Mem.* ii. i. xv. 116 That these pensions should presently be sent to the hands of the auditors . . . with strait commandment to believe the same patents immediately.

7. With clause or equivalent inf. phrase: To hold it as true that . . . to be of opinion, think.

1297 *R. GLOUC.* 229 þe heþene Englysse men. . . Byleuede, þat in heuene Godes hit were bo. 1393 *GOWER Conf.* i. 273 To make us full beleue That he was verray Goddes sone. 1513 *BRADSHAW St. Werburge* (1848) 32 Who byleueþ her chast. 1603 *SHAKS. Meas. for M.* iii. ii. 27, I beleuee I know the cause. 1667 *MILTON P. L.* i. 144 Our Conqueror whom I now Of force beleuee Almighty. 1719 *De Foe Crusoe* (1858) 312 He beleued there were more wolves a coming. 1853 *H. ROGERS Eccl. Faith* 326 He believes . . . that 'probability is the guide of life.' 1862 *H. SPENCER First Princ.* ii. iv. § 52 (1875) 172 If men did not believe this in the strict sense of the word, they still believed that they believed it. 1875 *JOWETT Plato* (ed. 2) i. 151 Some one—Critias, I believe—went on to say.

+8. To hold as true the existence of. *Obs.* (Now expressed by 3.)

1481 *CAXTON Reynard* (Arb.) 119 Ther ben many thynges in the world whiche ben byleued though they were neuer seen. 1708 *SWIFT Sentim. Ch. Eng. Man* Wks. 1755 II. i. 57 Whoever professeth himself a member of the Church of England, ought to believe a God. 1732 *BERKELEY Alciphron* v. § 2 Shall we believe a God?

III. To make believe: to pretend. Subst. make-believe: a pretence; see MAKE.

Believed (bɪlɪvd), *ppl. a.* [f. prec. + -ED.] Credited, held for true.

1615 *W. HULL Mirr. Maistie* 21 He is now a beleueed truth, not yet a seene treachery. 1874 *SULLY Sensation & Int.* 87 The believed reality.

Believer (bɪlɪvə), [f. as prec. + -ER.] One who believes. a. One who has faith in the doctrines of religion; esp. a Christian, Christian disciple.

1549 *Bk. Com. Prayer, Te Deum*, Thou diddest open the kyngdome of heauen to all beleuers. 1611 *BIBLE 1 Tim.* iv. 12 Be thou an example of the beleueers. 1704 *NELSON Fast & Fasts* xxv. (1739) 319 They who first embraced the Faith were styled Disciples or Believers. 1779 *J. NEWTON Hymn*, How sweet the name of Jesus sounds In a believer's ear.

b. gen. One who believes in, (or of) anything.

a 1600 *HOOKE (J.) Discipline* began to enter into conflict with Churches which, in extremity, had been believers of it. 1724 *SWIFT Drapier's Lett.* Wks. 1755 V. ii. 126, I could get but few believers, when I attempted to justify you. 1876 *GREEN Short. Hist.* viii. § 2. 470 James was a fanatical believer in the rights and power of his crown.

Believing, *vbl. sb.* [f. as prec. + -ING.] The having faith; confidence, trust; the accepting of a statement as true.

1523 *LD. BERNERS Froiss.* i. cccxvi. 548 The beleuyng thus of the frenche kyng vpon Clement. 1633 *P. FLETCHER Purple Isl.* iii. xxxi, Thy little fault was but too much believing. 1796 *PEGGE Anonym.* (1809) 448 Seeing is believing: this old saying is taken to task by those who write upon Faith. 1825 *SOUTHEY Paraguay* iv. 21 How at believing aught should these delay?

Believing, *ppl. a.* [f. as prec. + -ING.] That believes, or has faith.

c. 1440 *Three Kings Col.* (1885) 2 Des in kynges, þat of myscreantys were þe first beleuyng men. 1593 *SHAKS. 2 Hen. VI.* ii. 1. 66 God be prayd, that to beleueing Soules Gieues Light in Darknesse. 1762 *GOLDSM. Nash* 76 Poor, believing girls deceived by such professions. 1875 *M. PATISON Casanbon* 252 A scandal and stumbling-block to believing Calvinists.

Believingly, *adv.* [f. prec. + -LY.] In a believing manner, with belief.

1643 *CARYL Sacr. Court.* 36 Walke believingly. 1824 *COLERIDGE Aids Refl.* (1848) i. 273 Do they believingly suppose a spiritual regenerative power. . . accompanying the sprinkling of a few drops of water on an infant's face? 1854 *JAMES Ticonder.* III. 173 He gazed at him believingly.

Belife, *obs. form* of BELIEVE.

Belight, *v. 1 Obs. or dial.* In 3 bilighten, 5 by lyght. [f. BE- + LIGHT.] Hence Belighted *ppl. a.*

1. *trans.* To light up, illuminate.

c. 1200 *Trin. Coll. Hom.* 31 Godes břitnesse bilighte hem. 1575 *LANEHAM Lett.* (1871) 48 Euery room so. well belighted. 1863 *BARNES Rhymes Dorset Dial.* II. 43 Moon-belighted boughs.

2. *intr.* ? To shine up, to dawn.

c. 1440 *Morte Arth.* (Roxb.) 55 We shalle hym haue withouten wene To morow or any day by lyght.

+Belike, *v. 1 Obs.* In 3 bilike, 5 belyke. [? f. BE- + LIKE a.]

1. *trans.* To make like, to simulate.

a 1250 *Owl & Night.* 830 All thine wordes beth isliked, And so bisemed and biliked, That alle tho that hi avoht Hi weneth that thu segge soth.

2. *trans.* To be like, to resemble.

1481 *CAXTON Reynard* (Arb.) 25 Reynkin my yongest sone, belyketh me so wel, I hope he shal folowe my stappes.

+Belike, *v. 2 Obs.* [f. BE- + LIKE v.]

1. *impers.* To be pleasing to, to please.

1764 *T. BRYDGES Homer Travest.* (1797) II. 207 Let him, since it belikes him well, Stay where he is.

2. *trans.* To like, to be pleased with.

1557 *NORTH Guevara's Diall Pr.* (1582) 403 a, Those that are beloued and belyked of prynces. 1567 *TURBIV. Ovid's Epist.* 144 b, Such things as I in thee should have beliked.

Hence Beliked *ppl. a.*

1557 *NORTH Guevara's Diall Pr.* (1582) 406 a, Therefore let not the beliked think, if he dare beleue mee, etc.

Belike (bɪlaɪk), *adv.* Also 6 belyke, bylyke, -like, 7 bee-like. [? f. be= BY prep. + LIKE a. or sb.; ? 'By what is likely, by what seems.']

A. *adv.* To appearance, likely, in all likelihood, probably; not unlikely, perhaps, possibly.

a 1533 *FRITH Purgatory* (1820) 121 Belike this man hath drunk of a merry cup. 1579 *FULKE Heskins' Parl.* 73 By like all their ceremonies bee not so auncient. 1691 *WOOD Ath. Oxon* i. 157 In 1572, and belike before, he had a Chamber. 1741 *RICHARDSON Pamela* i. 238 All these three, belike, went together. 1800 *WORDSW. Pet Lamb*, Things that I know not of belike to thee are dear. 1873 *BROWNING Red Cott. Night-c.* 268 Caterpillar-like. . . Become the Painted Peacock, or belike The Brimstone-wing.

+B. *adj.* Like, likely (to do something). *Obs.*

1550 *LEVER Serms.* 30 For they seme belyke to do moste good wyth the ryches. 1805 *SOUTHEY Madoc in W.* iv. Wks. V. 35 They saw. . . our food belike to fail.

+Belikely, *adv. Obs.* Also 6 belikly. [f. prec. + -LY²; after likely.] = prec.

a 1550 *LD. SOMERSET in Foxe A. & M.* 730 b, Images be great letters. . . and belikly they are so likly to be red amis, that God himself. . . did forbid them. a 1696 *Br. HALL Rem.* Wks. (1660) 9 [He] having belikely heard some better words of me.

+Belim, *v. 1 Obs.* Forms: 3-4 bilimien, -limen, -lymen, lymme. [f. BE- 6 c. + OE. *lim*, LIMB: cf. *behead*.] *trans.* To cut off a limb or the limbs, to dismember, mutilate; to disfigure.

c. 1205 *LAV.* 29353 Ælcne bileafued mon He lette bi-limien. c. 1300 *Beket* 560 Bote ther man schal beo bylimed: oþer to dethe ido. c. 1330 *Arth. & Merl.* 5775 The Knight. . . Mani ther slough in litel stounde And bilimeden. a 1528 *SKELTON Bouge of Court* 289 His face was belymmed, as byes had him stounge. [Or can this be *belim*?]

+Belime, *v. Obs. or arch.* [f. BE- 6 + *lime* sb.]

1. *trans.* To cover as with bird-lime.

1555 *Fardle Faciens* Pref. 12 When he. . . had with all kinde of wickednes belimed y^r world. a 1696 *Br. HALL Wks.* (1661) II. 301 Ye whose foul hands are belimed with bribery.

2. To entangle as with bird-lime; to ensnare.

1601 *DENT Pathw. Heaven* 83 This world. . . is very bird-lime, which doth so belime our affections, that they cannot ascend vpward. 1651 *HOBBS Leviath.* i. iv. 15 As a bird in lime-twiggs; the more he struggles, the more he belimed. a 1674 *CLARENDON Surv. Leviath.* (1676) 289 Where he found it necessary for his own purpose, sometimes to perplex and belime his Readers.

† Used for Ger. *leimen* to glue.

1875 *B. TAYLOR Faust* i. vi. 105 Oh be then so good With sweat and with blood The crown to belime!

+Belimp, *v. Obs.* Pa. t. belamp. [OE. *belimpan*, f. BE- 2 + *limpan* to happen: see LIMP v. 1]

1. *intr.* To happen, occur, befall (with *dat.* = to).

a 1000 *Beowulf* 4928 Þa him sio sar belamp. 1154 *O. E. Chron.* (Laud MS.) an. 1137 § 7 Wat belamp on Stephenes kinges time. a 1250 *Prov. Alfred* 486 in *O. E. Misc.* 132 Ef it so bilimip.

2. To pertain, belong to, to befit; also *impers.*

c. 888 *K. ÆLFRED Boeth.* xxxviii. § 2 Hit belimpp genog wel to þære spræce. c. 1175 *Lamb. Hom.* 51 Pet scrift þe þer to bilimpeð. c. 1200 *Trin. Coll. Hom.* 258 Hit bilimpeð forte speke. c. 1270 in *O. E. Misc.* 146 To Westsexene lawe bi-lympeþ ix. schiren.

Belion, beliquor, etc.: see BE- pref.

+Belirt, *v. Obs.* [OE. *belyrtan*; f. BE- 2 + *lyrtan* cogn. w. MHG. *lürzen* 'to deceive,' pointing to a WGer. **lurtjan*, of uncertain derivation; related perh. to MHG. *lurz*, *lurz* 'left, lefthand,' or perh. to ON. *lortr* 'filth, ordure'; cf. also the Romanic words treated by Diez under *lordo*.] *trans.* To deceive, cheat, befool.

c. 950 *Lindisf. Matt.* ii. 16 Ða Herodes. . . bisuicen vel bilyrtet was from dryum. c. 1200 *Bestiary* 403 in *O. E. Misc.* 13 Forto bilirten fugeles. c. 1250 *Gen. & Ex.* 316 Ic, and eue hise wif, sulen adam bilirten of hise lif. c. 1400 *Destr. Troy* iii. 715 Þat such a lady belirt with þi lechur dedes.

Belise, *obs. form* of BELLOWS.

Belitter (bɪlɪtə), *v. 1* [f. BE- 6 + LITTER 1.]

†1. *trans.* To strew with litter (for the floor). *Obs.*

1660 *FULLER Mixt Contemp.* (1841) 255 Contented with a house belittered with straw.

2. To bestrew with rubbish or things in disorder.

1678 *Quack's Acad.* in *Harl. Misc.* II. 33 (D.) A chamber. . . belittered with urinals or empty gally-pots.

† b. Similarly, *To deserve or lose the bell, to give the bell.* Obs.

1600 FAIRFAX *Tasso* xvii. lix. When in single fight he lost the bell. a 1659 FOTHERBY *Althorn*. l. iv. § 4 (1622) 25 The folle of the Romanes doth well deserue the Bell. 1686 AGLEONBY *Paint. Illustr.* 278 Which gave him the Bell above all Modern Artists.

8. *By bell and book, book and bell* (i.e. those used in the service of the mass): a frequent asseveration in the Middle Ages. *To curse by bell, book, and candle*: referring to a form of excommunication which closed with the words, 'Doe to the book, quench the candle, ring the bell!' Also used as summarizing the resources of the hierarchy against heretics, or the terrors of excommunication; and humorously, to indicate the accessories of a religious ceremony.

a 1300 *Cursor M.* 17110 Curced in kirc þan sal þai be wid candil, boke, and bell. c 1400 *Ywaine & Gaw.* 3023 So bus the do, by bel and boke. c 1400 *Anters Arth.* iii. That borne was in Burgoyne, be boke and by belle. 1505 SHAKS. *John* iii. iii. 12 Bell, Booke, & Candle, shall not driue me back, When gold and silver becks me to come on! 1611 BARREY *Ram Alley* in Dodsley *O. Pl. V.* 447, I have a priest will mumble up a marriage, Without bell, book, or candle. 1680 *Spir. Popery* 45 The Field-Preachers damned this Bond with Bell, Book, and Candle. 1808 SCOTT *F. M. Perth* l. 155 Hold thy hand, on pain of bell, book, and candle.

9. With allusion to the fable of the mice (or rats) who proposed to hang a bell round the cat's neck, so as to be warned of its approach. See also *bell the cat* in *BELL v. 5*.

1377 LANGL. *P. Pl. B. Prol.* 168 Bugge a belle of brasse. And hangen it vp-on þe cattede hals; þanne here we mowen Where he ritt or rest. a 1500 SKELTON *Col. Cloute* 164 Loth to hang the bell aboute the cattede necke. 1568 J. HAYWOOD *Prov. & Epigr.* (1867) 32, I will hang the bell about the cats necke. 1657 E. F. HILL *Edw. II* (1680) 14 Wishing some one would shew undaunted valour, to tye the Bell about the Cat's neck.

10. *As sound or as clear as a bell*; see *SOUND a.*, *CLEAR a.*

IV. Comb. and Attrib.

11. General relations: a. simple attrib., as *bell-canopy*, *-chamber*, *-chime*, *-clapper*, *-cot*, *-cote*, *-end* (see b b), *-loft*, *-steepie*, *-toll*, *-tower*; b. objective, as *bell-baptism*, *-bearer*, *-caster*, *-casting*, *-hallower*, *-maker*; c. similitive and parasynthetic, as *bell-button*, *-cup*, *-lamp*, *-mouth*, *-net*, *-shape*; *bell-bored*, *-crowned*, *-fashioned*, *-hooded*, *-mouthed*, *-nosed*, *-shaped*; d. instrumental with pa. pple., as *bell-hung*. Also *bell-like* adj.

1872 ELLACOMBE *Bells of Ch. v.* 78 The ceremony of *bell baptism exceeds in splendour and minutiae the baptism of Christians. 1607 TORSSELL *Four-f. Beasts* 189 Neither have Goats a Captain or *Bell-bearer like unto Sheep. 1851 H. MELVILLE *Whale* vi. 36 He orders *bell-buttons to his waistcoats. 1688 in *Earwaker E. Cheshire* l. 107 note, Going to enquire for the *bellcaster. 1872 ELLACOMBE *Bells of Ch. i.* 3, I describe the modern process of *bell casting. 1848 RICKMAN *Archit.* 153 Sound-holes. are not used in the *bell-chamber. 1819 SHELLEY *Peter Bell* vi. Like a crazed *bell-chime, out of tune. 1498 *Church-w. Acc. St. Dunstan's, Canterb.*. For making of new *bellclappers. . . xiiij. 1377 MOXON *Mech. Exerc.* (1703) 14 Large *Bell-clappers. . . and all thick strong Bars, etc. 1559 TURNER *Dom. Archit.* III. ii. vii. 338 A *bell-cot projecting from the face of the wall. 1877 L. JEWITT *Half-hrs. Eng. Antiq.* 175 The Sanctus Bell. . . hung in a small *bell-cote at the apex of the gable. 1854 J. STEPHENS *Centr. Amer.* (1854) 18 A *bell-crowned straw hat. a 1849 MANGAN *Poems* (1859) 308 From gloomy iron *bell-cups they drank the Saxon wine. 1874 CHAPPELL *Hist. Music* l. ix. 267 The *bell-ends of certain pipes. 1608 J. PETIVER in *Phil. Trans.* XX. 315 A large *bell-fashioned cinereous Calyx. 1549 LATIMER *Serm. bef. Edw. VI* (Arb.) 135 Preachers, not *bellhalowers. 1883 *Harper's Mag.* Jan. 208/1 The smoke. . . escaped up a big *bell-hooded flue. 1870 MORRIS *Earthly Par.* II. iii. 145 The *bell-hung bridle-rein. 1836 SICKENS *Sk. Boz*, The *bell-lamp in the passage. 1769 DIRK J. HILL *Fam. Herbal* (1789) 307 The flowers are. . . of a *bell-like shape. 1865 BOYLE *Dyaks Borneo* 56 Sending forth his clear *bell-like challenge. 1764 in *Phil. Trans.* LIV. 213 In the *bell-loft at St. Bride's. c 1400 *Destr. Troy* v. 1589 *Bellmakers, bokebynders, brasiers fyn. 1483 *Cath. Angl.* 27 A *Belle maker, *campanarius*. 1837 MARRYAT *Dog-Friend* ii, The *bell-mouth of his speaking trumpet. 1823 BYRON *Juan* xiii. lxxii, His *bell-mouth'd goblet makes me feel quite. . . Dutch with thirst. 1856 Mrs. BROWNING *Aur. Leigh* 9 The very sky Dropping its *bell-net down upon the sea. 1881 GREENER *Guns* 56 The barrel is. . . *bell-nosed upon the outside. 1874 BOUTELL *Arms & Arm.* iii. 55 One is a helm of a deep *bell shape. 1757 *Phil. Trans.* L. 65 Campaniform or *bell-shaped flowers. 1879 A. BENNETT in *Academy* 32 The open *bell-shaped mouth of the corolla. 1847 L.D. LINDSAY *Chr. Art* l. 22 The round towers of Ireland. . . are *bell-steeples. 1861 T. PEACOCK *Gryll Gr.* 308 On the dreary midnight air Rolled the deep *bell toll. 1614 SPED *Theat. Gt. Brit.* xxxiv. 67 Whose steeples or *bell-tower being both beautiful and high. 1879 Sir G. SCOTT *Lect. Archit.* l. 258 The *bell-tower. . . becomes the culminating ornament of the whole exterior.

12. Special combinations: *bell-animalcules*, *-animals*, English name for the *Vorticellidae*, infusorial animalcules having a bell- or wine-glass-shaped body on a long flexible stalk; *bell-binder*, the large Wild Convulvulus or Bindweed; *bell-bit*, 'the bit of a bridle made in the form of a bell' (Halliwell); *bell-boat*, a boat with a bell freely suspended on it so as to ring as the vessel

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is moved by the waves, and thus give notice of danger; so *bell-buoy*, a buoy with a bell; *bell-bridle*, a bridle hung or adorned with bells; † *bell-course*, a race for a bell; *bell-crank*, a crank or species of lever adapted to communicate motion from one bell-wire to another lying at right angles to it; also *attrib.*; † *bell-dream*, the sound or music of a bell; *bell-faced* (of a hammer), having the striking surface convex or rounded; *bell-gable*, a gable or turret in which bells are hung; *bell-girdle*, a girdle or belt hung or adorned with bells; *bell-handle*, the handle by which a bell-rope or bell-wire is pulled; *bell-hanger*, one whose business it is to put up bells, bell-wires, etc.; hence *bell-hanging*; *bell-harp* (see quot.); *bell-heather*, the cross-leaved heath, *Erica tetralix* (Jam.); *bell-horn*, a horn which gives a bell-like tone; *bell-horse*, a horse wearing a bell or bells, esp. a horse adorned with bells, flowers, ribbons, etc. to celebrate the advent of May; hence *bell-horse-day*, the first of May; *bell-jar*, a bell-shaped glass jar used in chemical and physical laboratories; *bell-less a.*, destitute of a bell; *bell-mare*, in herding mules on the prairies, a mare which wears a bell and acts as leader to the troop, etc.; † *bell-melter*, a bell-founder, a founder; *bell-moth*, a group of moths of the family *Tortricidae*, named from their outline when at rest; *bell-pepper*, a species of *Capiscum* (*C. grossum*), so called from the shape of the fruit; *bell-polype* (= *bell-animalcule*); *bell-pull*, a cord or handle attached to a bell-wire, by pulling which the bell is rung; *bell-rheometer*, a bell-shaped instrument for measuring the strength of an electric current; *bell-roof*, a roof shaped like a bell; *bell-rose*, the daffodil (Somerset); *bell-stone*, the part of a column which lies between the shaft and the abacus (cf. 6 a); *bell-string* = *BELL-ROPE*; *bell-team*, a team of horses adorned with bells; *bell-tent*, a tent resembling a bell in shape; *bell-top* (see quot.); *bell-trap*, a stench-trap resembling a bell in shape; *bell-tubing*, tubing through which a bell-wire is passed in order to protect it; † *bell-vessel*, a diving-bell; *bell-ware* (see quot.); *bell-waver v. Sc.*, 'to fluctuate, to be inconstant; applied to the mind' (Jam.); *bell-weight*, a weight shaped somewhat like a bell; *bell-wheel*, the wheel to which an ordinary church-bell is attached, and by which it is swung; *bell-wire*, the wire by which a bell-pull is connected with the bell; † *bell-yetter*, a bell-founder (lit. 'bell-pourer').

See also *BELL-BIRD*, *-FLOWER*, *-FOUNDER*, *-GLASS*, *-HOUSE*, *-MAN*, *-METAL*, *-RAGS*, *-RINGER*, *-ROPE*, *-WETHER*, *-WORT*.

1677 MARKHAM *Caval.* ii. 58 That bytt which we call the . . Campanell or *Bell bytt. 1858 in *Merc. Mar. Mag.* V. 253 A *Bell Boat has been placed just outside the bar. 1666 CART. SMITH *Arch. Yng. Swamen* 32 To know whether she be. . . taper or *bell-bored. 1836 MARRYAT *Midsh. Easy* (1863) 143 Two fine mules with *bell bridles. 1677 MARKHAM *Caval.* l. 12, I have seen them used at our English *Bell-courses. 1884 F. BRITTEN *Watch & Clockm.* 32 *Bell Crank Lever. . . a lever whose two arms form a right angle. c 1200 ORMIN 922 þe *bellædræm bitacneþ þu w. dræm þatt þu birp herenn. 1845 *Gloss. Goth. Arch.* l. 54 In small churches and chapels that have no towers, there is very frequently a *bell-gable or turret at the west end in which the bells are hung. 1831 CARLYLE *Sart. Res.* i. v. 39 Whether he. . . tower up in high headgear, from amid peaks, spangles and *bell-girdles. 1765 TUCKER *Li. Nat.* l. 387 A *bell-handle hanging by your chimney side. 1791 in *Harper's Mag.* Mar. 1885. 534/2 Pa. a *bell hanger on a/c ss. 1851 W. IRVING in *Life IV*. 71 Plumbers and *bellhangers [are] to attack the vitals of the house. 1798 W. HUTTON *Autobiog.* 17 One of them played upon the *bell-harp. 1815 *Encycl. Brit.* (ed. 5) X. 277/1 *Bell-Harp, a musical instrument of the string kind, thus called from the common players on it swinging it about, as a bell on its basis. 1688 FLETCHER *Beggars* B. iii. iv, Rouse ye the lofty stag, and with my *bell-horn Ring him a knell. 1898 HUXLEY *Physiog.* 77 These bubbles may be. . . collected in the *bell-jar. 1667 WATERHOUSE *Fire Lond.* 87 The tops of Steeples *Bellless. 1859 MARCY *Prairie Trav.* iv. 101 A *bell-mare, to which the mules soon become so attached that they will follow her wherever she goes. 1604 *Supplic. Masse-priests* § 10 note, Popes, Monks, or Friars, the original *bellmelters of Popery. 1841 E. NEWMAN *Hist. Insects* ii. 214 *Bell-moths. . . with filliform antennæ. 1707 SLOANE *Jamaica* l. 241 *Bell Pepper. The fruit is large. . . somewhat shaped like a bell. 1832 *Veg. Subst. Food* 314 The *Bell Pepper. . . a biennial. . . native of India. 1832 Miss MITFORD *Village Ser.* iii. (1863) 496 The *bell-pull was within reach: but she had an aversion to ringing the bell. 1846 LYTTON *Lucretia* (1853) 185 Beside the door. . . a row of some ten or twelve *bell-pulls. 1865 *Cornh. Mag.* XI. 167 A pair of large tassels with loops of cord-like *bell-pulls. 1876 GWILT *Archit.* 1195 *Bell Roof. . . is often called an ogee roof, from its form. 1522-4 *Church-w. Acc. St. Dunstan's, Canterb.*. For mending of the *bellstoke vijld. 1851 RUSKIN *Stones Ven.* l. ix. § vi, [The] treatment of the capital depends simply on the manner in which this *bell stone is prepared. 1464 in *Ripon Ch. Acts* 222 Le *bell strynges *swnt defectiva*. 1824 Miss MITFORD *Village Ser.* i. (1863) 199 Walking. . . by the side of his *bell-team. 1785

Roy in *Phil. Trans.* LXXV. 393 One of the pyramidal *bell-tents. . . being placed at the station. c 1850 *Rudim. Navig.* (Weale) 96 *Bell-top, a term applied to the top of a quarter-gallery when the upper stool is hollowed away. 1876 GWILT *Archit.* § 2218 b. The usual iron *bell trap, as supplied to a sink. 1881 *Mechanic* § 1540. 692 It is usual. . . to provide for the passage of the bell wires from floor to floor by inserting *bell-tubing in the walls. 1816 *Chron.* in *Ann. Reg.* 93/1 The *bell-vessel was. . . lowered with Fisher and two other men. . . in 33 feet of water. 1812 *Agric. Surv. Caithn.* 182 (Jam.) *Bell-ware. . . is the kelp weed along the Scottish shores. 1800 SCOTT *Monast.* vii. 'I doubt me his wits have gone a *bell-wavering.' 1743 *Phil. Trans.* XLII. 552 Pound *Bell-Weights, and the single Pound flat Weight. 1529 *Church-w. Acc. St. Dunstan's, Canterb.*. For mending of the *belwhele, *xd.* 1799 *Phil. Trans.* LI. 288 The *Bell-wire, coming from the parlour below. 1864 N. ARNOTT *Elem. Physics* ii. 445 *Bell-wires too slack in summer, may be of the proper length in winter. c 1400 *Promp. Parv.* 30 *Bell-yetare, *campanarius*. 1881 J. BRISCOE *Nottinghamsh.* 118 The *bell-yetters trade has now found its way. . . into the hands of a few great firms.

Bell, sb.² [Belongs to *BELL v. 2*] The actual history is uncertain. (It may be only a fig. use of *BELL sb. 1*, from its shape.) The strobile, cone, or catkin, containing the female flowers of the hop.

1594 PLAT *Yewell-ho.* l. 43 His hops are more kindly, and the bells of them much larger. 1797 BRADLEY *Fam. Dict.* s. v. *Hop*, About August the Hop will begin to be in the Bell or Button.

Bell, sb.³ [Etymology obscure: identical in meaning with mod. Du. *bel*, which, with the accompanying MDu. vb. *bellen* 'to bubble up,' is considered by Franck to have arisen out of MDu. *bulle* (ad. L. *bulla* bubble in water) under the influence of *wellen* to well or boil up; but in presence of the existence of the vb. and sb. in Eng. this seems doubtful.] A bubble formed in a liquid. (The ordinary word for 'bubble' in modern Scotch, whence occasional in English literature.)

1483 *Cath. Angl.* 27/1 A belle in þe water, *bulle*. 1530 PAISGR. 197/2 Bell of snevill at ones nose, *rospie*. 1533 ELVOT *Cast. Helth* (1541) 88 Sometime belles or bobles. 1576 WOOLTON *Chr. Manual* 109 Mans life flieth away. . . as the bells which bubble up in the water. 1743 DAVIDSON *Æneid* vii. 203 In Frisky Bells the Liquors dance. 1815 SCOTT *Guy M.* xxvi. The twinkling of a fin, the rising of an air-bell. 1872 BLACK *Adv. Phaeton* vi. 75 Bells of air in a champagne glass.

Bell, sb.⁴ [*f. BELL v. 4*] The cry of a stag or buck at rutting time.

[The first quot. is possibly the verb.]

1510 *Inscr. Wharfedale Lodge, Sheffield*. For his plesor to here the Hartes bel. 1806 C. COLLYNS *Chase Red Deer* iii, What I had heard was the 'bell' of the stag. 1865 BOYLE *Dyaks Borneo* 56 Few people in England know the melody of a wild buck's bell.

† **Bell** (bel), v. 1 Obs. Pa. pple. *bollen*. [Of doubtful origin; apparently repr. OE. *belgan*, pa. pple. *bolgen* to swell, be proud or angry = OHG. *belgan* to swell; the total loss of the guttural presents difficulties, but occurs also in ME. *boln-e-n*, a. ON. *bolgna*, Da. *bolne* to swell. Cf. also *BOLLED*.]

intr. To swell up (like a boil).

a 1225 *Ansr. R.* 282 Auh heorte-to-bollen and-to-swollen, and ihouen on heih ase hul. A bledde ibollen ful of winde. c 1300 *Sir Beves* 2655 His flesch gan rancien and te belle. 1664 in *Pepys Diary* (1876) III. 96 [*Charm against a thorn*] Jesus. . . Was pricked both with nail and thorn; It neither wealed, nor belled, nor boned. — [Another] And he was pricked with a thorn; And it did neither bell, nor swell.

b. *fig.* To be puffed up or proud.

1328 WYCLIF *2 Tim.* iii. 4 Men schulen be. . . bollun with proude thourtis. c 1450 *Compl. Lover's Life* 101 Hyt wolde aswage Bollyn hertes.

Bell, v. 2 [Cf. *BELL sb. 2*, from which the vb. is prob. formed.] *intr.* Of hops: To be, begin to be, in bell.

1574 R. SCOT *Hop Gard.* (1578) 33 At Saint Margarets daye Hoppes blowe, and at Lammass they bell. 1669 W[ORLIDGE] *Syst. Agric.* (1681) 150 *marg.*, When Hops Blow, Bell, and Ripen. 1753 CHAMBERS *Cycl. Supp.* s. v. *Belling*, Hops blow towards the end of July, and bell the latter end of August. 1819 REES *Cycl.*, *Belling* of hops, denotes their opening and expanding to their customary shape.

Bell, v. 3 Obs. exc. dial. [This goes with *BELL sb. 3*, being identical with MDu. *bellen* to bubble up, as the sb. is with mod. Du. *bel* bubble.] *intr.* To bubble.

1598 FLORIO, *Vena di fontana*. . . the belling or rising vp of water out of a spring. 1822 HOGG *Perils Man* II. 44 (Jam.) The blood bells through.

Bell (bel), v. 4; also 5 belle, 6 bel, beale, 9 dial. *beal*. [OE. *bellan* str. vb., to roar, bark, bellow = OHG. *bellan*, mod. G. *bellen* to bark; cf. ON. *belfa* to bellow. Cf. *BELLOW*.]

1. *intr.* To bellow, roar, make a loud noise.

a 1000 *Riddler* xli. 106 (Gr.) Amasted swim, bearg bellende on boc-wuda. a 1300 W. DE BISLESWORTH in *Promp. Parv.* 30 note, *Tor torreye*. . . bole belleth. c 1350 *Will. Palerne* 1891 þe werwolf. . . went to him evne bellyng as a bole. c 1384 CHAUCER *H. Fame* 1803 He gan to blasen out a soun, As loude as belleth winde in Hell. c 1400 *Promp. Parv.* 30 Belyny, or lowyn, as nette, *mugio*. 1570 LEVINS *Manip.* 207 To Beale, *boare*. 1589 *Gold. Mirr.* (1851) 3 Which rored and belid, in th' eares of some. 1872 BROWNING *Fifteen* lxxv. 27 You acted part so well, went all fours upon earth. . . brayed, belled.

2. *spec.* of the voice of deer in rutting time. 1286 *Bk. St. Albans* v. a, Iche Roobucke certayne bellis by kynde. 1610 WILLIAM *Heraldry* iii. xiv. (1660) 166 You shall say, a Roe Belleth. 1774 *GOLDSM. Nat. Hist.* (1862) I. ii. v. 324 When the stag cries, he is said to bell. 1808 *SCOTT Marm.* iv. xv. The wild buck bells from ferny brake. 1875 'STONEHENGE' *Brit. Sports* i. i. x. § 8. 133 We start them [the hinds], and they go on belling.

3. *trans.* To utter loudly, to bellow forth. 1596 SPENSER *Astroph. Eclog.* 21 Their leaders bell their bleating tunes In doleful sound. 1868 *BROWNING Ring & Book* viii. 1400 Bell us forth deep the authoritative bay.

Bell, *v.* [f. *BELL sb.*].

1. *trans.* To furnish with a bell. To bell the cat: to hang a bell round the cat's neck, according to the Fable (see *BELL sb.* 1 g), and *esp.* a. to perform personally this hazardous feat, to undertake a perilous part or be the ring-leader in any movement.

In the latter use, there is immediate reference to the story or legend, related by Lindsay of Pittscottie, that when certain of the Scottish barons formed a secret conspiracy to put down the obnoxious favourites of James III. in 1482, a moment of grave suspense followed the inquiry 'Who would undertake to enter the royal presence and seize the victims?' which was terminated by the exclamation of Archibald Douglas, Earl of Angus, 'I will bell the cat,' whence his historical appellation of 'Archibald Bell-the-cat.'

1762 J. MAN *Buchanan's Hist. Scot.* xii. § 41. 349 *note*, Earl Archibald hearing the parable answered sadly, I shall bell the cat, meaning Cochrane, the great and terrible minion. 1791 D'ISRAELI *Curr. Lit.* (1858) 169/2 He would be glad to see who would bell the cat, alluding to the fable. 1840 ARNOLD *Life & Corr.* (1844) II. ix. 186, I was willing to bell the cat, hoping that some who were able might take up what I had begun. 1861 HUGHES *Tom Brown's Sch.* I. xii. 232 As nobody was afraid of him, there was no difficulty in finding the man to bell the cat.

b. To venture to grapple or contend with (a dangerous opponent). *Sc.*

1721 WODROW *Hist. Ch. Scot.* II. 384 (JAM.) How little justice... poor simple country people, who could not bell the cat with them, had to look for. 1825 *SCOTT Betrothed* introd. (1876) 19 It has fallen on me, as we Scotsmen say, to bell-the-cat with you.

2. *trans.* To cause to swell or bulge out. 1870 *Eng. Mech.* 11 Feb. 535/2 He must bell them [tubes] out a little.

3. (*nonce-wd.*)

1863 DICKENS *Mrs. Lirriper's Lodgings* i. They [servant girls] get bell'd off their legs [i.e. 'run off their legs' in answering bells].

† **Bella-city**, *Obs.* -o [f. *L. bellāc-em* (*bellax*), f. *bell-um* war; see -ACITY.] 'Warlikeness,' Blount *Glossogr.* 1656.

|| **Belladonna** (be'lādōnā). [mod.L.; a. It. *bella donna*, lit. 'fair lady,' name given in Italy to the plant, on uncertain grounds.

(The usual statement, current since the time of Ray and Tournefort, is given in quot. 1757; a different account is in quot. 1851. A well-known property of the juice is to enlarge the pupil of the eye.)

I. 1. *Bot.* The specific name of the Deadly Nightshade or Dwale (*Atropa Belladonna*), occasionally used as English.

1597 GERARD *Herbal* ii. lvi. (1633) 341 In English, Dwale, or sleeping nightshade: the Venetians and Italians call it *Belladonna*. 1757 PULTNEY in *Phil. Trans.* L. 62 *Bella-donna* is the name, which the Italians, and particularly the Venetians, apply to this plant; and Mr. Ray observes, that it is so called because the Italian ladies make a cosmetic from the juice. 1851 E. HAMILTON *Flora Hæmæop.* iii. 64 *Belladonna*, because it was employed by Leucota, a famous poisoner of Italy, to destroy the beautiful women. 1876 HARLEY *Mat. Med.* 488 *Belladonna* is cultivated for medicinal use at Hitchin.

2. *Med.* The name, in the pharmacopœia, of the leaves and root of this plant, and of the drug thence prepared, the active principle of which is the alkaloid *atropine*.

1788 *Edinb. New Dispens.* ii. (1791) 145 The belladonna taken internally has been highly recommended in cancer. 1866 *Treas. Bot.* 109 *Belladonna* is said by homœopaths to act as a preventative of scarlet fever. 1875 H. WOOD *Therap.* (1879) 250 *Belladonna* is not a hypnotic.

II. *Belladonna Lily*, *Amaryllis Belladonna*, a native of the Cape of Good Hope.

1774 MILLER *Gard. Cal.* 140 The roots of the Guernsey and Belladonna Lillies. 1868 ANSTED *Channel Isl.* iv. xxi. 499 The belladonna is a yet more handsome lily. 1866 T. MOORE in *Treas. Bot.* 48 The name *Belladonna Lily* was given... from the charmingly blended red and white of the perianth, resembling the complexion of a beautiful woman.

Bellamy, variant of *BELAMY*, fair friend.

Bellane (e), *obs.* var. *BALEEN* (sense 3), whalebone. 1513 DOUGLAS *Æneis* v. vii. 73 *Errix* was wont... In that hard bellane his brawnis to embrace.

† **Bellandine**, *Obs.* rare -1. (See quot.)

1721 C. KING *Brit. Merch.* II. 218 Importation of Bellandine, or white Turkey Silk, and of Sherbassee of Persia.

† **Bellarries**, *sb. pl.* *Obs.* [ad. *L. bellāria* viands of the dessert.] (See quot.)

1653 COCKERAM II, Banqueting Dishes, *Bellarries*.

Bellarmine (be'lāmīn). *Obs.* exc. *Hist.* A large glazed drinking-jug with capacious belly and narrow neck, originally designed, by the Protestant party in the Netherlands, as a burlesque likeness of their great opponent, Cardinal Bellarmine. (See *Chambers Bk. of Days* I. 371.)

1719 D'URFEE *Pills* (1872) VI. 201 With Jugs, Mugs, and

Pitchers, and Bellarmine of State. 1783 AINSWORTH *Lat. Dict.* (Morell) v. *Amphitethum*, a great cup or jug... a rummer, a bellarmine. 1861 *Our Eng. Home* 170 The capacious bellarmine was filled to the brim with foaming ale.

† **Bellatory**, *a.* *Obs.* rare. [ad. *L. bellatōrius*, f. *bellator* warrior: see -ORY.] Warlike, of war. 1657 TOMLINSON *Renow's Disp.* 429 Their bellatory arms were not of steel but brass.

† **Bellatrice**, *Obs.* -o [a. *F. bellatrice*, ad. *L. bellātric-em* (*bellātrix*), fem. of *bellator* warrior: see -RICE.] 'A warrior, a woman well skill'd in war, a Virago.' Blount *Glossogr.* 1656.

† **Bellaview**, *Obs.* rare -1. [for *F. belle vue*.] Fine view or outlook.

1611 BOYS *Expos. Gosp.* (1630) 345 This text is as it were the bellaview of the whole Chapter, in which a Christian may behold all sufficient fortifications against... assaults.

Bell-bird (be'l'bōd). [f. *BELL sb.* 1 + *BIRD*.] A name given to two distinct birds, the *Procnias carunculata* or Campanero of Brazil, and the *Myzanthra melanophrys* of Australia, both remarkable for their clear ringing notes.

a 1848 Bp. STANLEY *Fam. Hist. Birds* iv. (1854) 60 The Bell-Bird's note was borne upon the wind. 1868 WOOD *Homes without H.* xxv. 470 To this group [the Honey-eaters] belong many... species, such as that which produces a sound like the tinkling of a bell and is in consequence called the Bell-bird.

Beldars, *obs.* f. *BILDERS*, name of a plant.

Belle (bel), *a.* and *sb.* [a. mod.F. (17th c.) *belle*, OF. *bele*:-*L. bella*, fem. of *bellus* beautiful, fair: see *BEAU*, *BEL*.]

A. adj. †1. Pretty, handsome. *Obs.* as *Eng.*

1668 PEPYS *Diary* 16 May, I did kiss her maid, who is so mighty belle.

2. In certain French phrases, which have been used in *Eng.*, as *belle assemblée* brilliant assembly or gathering; *belle dame* fair lady, *belle*; *belle passion* the tender passion, love; also *BELLES-LETTRES*, q.v.

1698 CONGREVE *Way of W.* Epil. (1866) 287 Whole belles assemblées of coquettes and beaux. 1711 SHAFESB. *Charac.* (1737) III. 31 The gallant sentiments, the elegant fancies, the belle-passions. 1716 LADY M. W. MONTAGUE *Lett.* xi. I. 40 In what a delicate manner the belles passions are managed in this country. 1767 H. BROOKE *Fool of Q.* (1859) I. 375 (D.) Should we see the value of a German prince's ransom gorgeously attiring each of our belle-dames?

B. sb. A handsome woman, *esp.* one who dresses so as to set off her personal charms; the reigning 'beauty' of a place; a fair lady, a fair one.

1652 FLETCHER *Beggars* B. iv. iv, Vandunke's daughter, The dainty black-ey'd belle. 1712 POPE *Rape Lock* II. 16 Might hide her faults, if Belles had faults to hide. 1712 ARBUTHNOT *John Bull* (1755) 42 Fantastical old belles, that dress themselves like girls of fifteen. 1770 JOHNSON *Lett.* 220 (1788) II. 79 My Master... courts the belles, and shakes Brightelmston. 1860 O. MEREDITH *Lucile* 56 The belle of all Paris last winter; last spring The belle of all Baden.

Belle, *obs.* form of *BELL*; also in comb.

Belled (beld), *ppl. a.* [f. *BELL sb.* or *v.* + -ED.] 1. Furnished with a bell or bells. Often in comb., as *double-belled*.

1833 Ht. MARTINEAU *Manch. Strike* vii. 81 His belled cap. 1865 RUSKIN *Sesame* a To ring with confidence the visitors' bell at double-belled doors.

2. Bell-flowered. Often in comb., as *blue-belled*.

a 1850 BEDDOES *Alpine Spir. Song* i, Where the gentians blue-belled blow. 1856 RUSKIN *King Gold. Riv.* v. 51 Soft belled gentians, more blue than the sky. 1869 - *Q. of Air* § 83 The belled group, of the hyacinth and convallaria.

Belled, *obs.* var. of *BELD*, *BALD*.

1568 *Wills & Inv. N. C.* (1860) 297 A little belled meare and a fole.

Bellementte, var. *BILLIMENT*, *Obs.*, ornament.

Belleric, *beleric* (belerik), *a.* and *sb.* [a. *F. belliric*, more correctly *belliric*, ad. (ultimately) Arab. *بليل* *balilaj*, f. Pers. *بيلة* *balilah*.] The astringent fruit of *Terminalia Bellerica*, also called Bastard Myrobalan, imported from India for the use of calico-printers, and used for the production of a permanent black.

1757 PARSONS in *Phil. Trans.* L. 403 Distinguished... by its round figure; and called the belleric Myrobalan. 1808 COLEBROOKE *Dict. Sanscr.* 90 *Beleric* Myrobalan. 1838 R. HOGG *Veg. K.* 635 The *Belleric* is... the size of a nutmeg and very astringent.

|| **Belles-lettres** (be'l le'tr), *sb. pl.* Also 8 -letters, *belle-lettres*. [Fr.; lit. 'fine letters, i.e. literary studies,' parallel to *beaux arts* the 'fine arts'; embracing, according to Littré, grammar, rhetoric, and poetry.] Elegant or polite literature or literary studies. A vaguely-used term, formerly taken sometimes in the wide sense of 'the humanities,' *literæ humaniores*; sometimes in the exact sense in which we now use 'literature'; in the latter use it has come down to the present time, but it is now generally applied (when used at all) to the lighter branches of literature or the æsthetics of literary study.

1710 SWIFT *Tatler* No. 230 ¶ 2 The Traders in History and Politicks, and the Belles Lettres. 1747 *Scheme Equip. Men of War* 23 Civil or Military Law, or any other Part of the Belles Lettres. 1801 FINLAYSON *H. Blair*, To endow a

Professorship of Rhetoric and Belles Lettres in the University of Edinburgh. 1848 L. HUNT *Town* iii. 138 A strong union has always existed between the law and the belles-lettres. 1855 H. REED *Lect. Eng. Lit.* i. (1878) 34 That vapid, half-naturalized term 'belles-lettres,' which has had some currency as a substitute for the term 'literature.'

Bellet, *obs.* variant of *BILLET sb.* 2

Belletrist, *-lettrist* (belletrist). Also 9 belles-lettrist. [f. prec. + -IST.] One devoted to belles-lettres.

1816 GILCHRIST *Philos. Etym.* 193 The great Quintilian, or any of his worthy disciples the French *Belles-lettrists*. 1858 DE QUINCY *Whiggism* Wks. VI. 130 As an orator, an essayist, or, generally, as a belletrist.

Belletristic (belletristik), *a.* [f. prec. + -IC.] Of or pertaining to belles-lettres.

1821 COLERIDGE in *Blackw. Mag.* X. 254, I wish I could find a more familiar word than *æsthetic*, for works of taste and criticism. It is, however, in all respects better, and of more reputable origin, than *belletristic*. 1864 *Reader* 2 Apr. 427/2 To start from the first of April the *Grand Journal*, as a belletristic weekly. 1866 M. ARNOLD in *Cornh. Mag.* XIII. 290 An unlearned belletristic trifler like me. 1868 PATTISON *Academ. Org.* § 5. 293 We have risen above the mere belletristic treatment of classical literature. So † *Belles-lettrist's* *a. Obs.*

1799 W. TAYLOR in *Robberds' Mem.* I. 259 His belles-lettristical pedantry.

Bellewe, *-ewing*, *obs.* ff. *BELLOW*, -ING.

Bell-flower (be'l'flauə, -flauə). [f. *BELL sb.* 1 + *FLOWER*.] The common name of the various species of flowering plants of the genus *Campanula*, distinguished by their handsome bell-shaped blossoms.

1578 LYTE *Dodoens* 172 In English they be called Bell-flowers, and of some Canterbury Belles. 1741 *Compl. Fam. Piece* II. iii. 374 Nettle-leav'd Bell-flowers. 1855 *Browning Toccata* Wks. VI. 55 On her neck the small face buoyant, like a bell-flower on its bed. 1882 J. HARDY in *Proc. Berns. Nat. Club* IX. 430 The giant bell-flower (*Campanula latifolia*) grows near the footpath.

Bell-founder (be'l'faunder), [f. *BELL sb.* 1 + *FOUNDER*.] A founder, caster, or maker of bells.

Bell-founding, the art or process of founding or casting bells. **Bell-foundry**, a place where bells are cast.

1530 *Palsgr.* 107/2 Bell founder, *fondeur de cloches*. 1643 HORN & ROB. *Gale Lang. Unk.* x, Of bell-metal bell-founders cast bells. 1856 tr. *Berlioz Instrument.* 225 Bell-founders can all manufacture these small cymbals. 1872 *ELLACOMBE Bells of Ch.* 216 A masterpiece of bellfounding.

Bell-glass (be'l'glās), [f. *BELL sb.* 1 + *GLASS*.] A bell-shaped glass vessel or cover, used chiefly for the protection of plants.

1682 WHEELER *Journ. Greece* II. 193 A large square Room... covered with a Cuppalo, thorough which the Light is let by Bell-glasses. 1737 MILLER *Gard. Dict.* s. v. *Lupulus*, When they... put Bell-glasses over their Cauliflowers. 1809 ALLEN & PEPYS in *Phil. Trans.* XCIX. 413 We placed a Guinea pig upon it, with the bell-glass over him. 1851 GLENNY *Handbk. Fl.-gard.* 36 Cuttings may be planted... and covered by a bell-glass.

Bell-house, *arch.* and *dial.* Also 1 bell-hūs, 4 bellhows, 5 bellhows, bellhouse, 5-7 bellhouse. [f. *BELL sb.* 1 + *HOUSE*.] A tower or other erection for containing a bell or set of bells; a belfry; properly used of a detached structure, but also applied to the belfry of a church, etc.

a 1000 Thorpe's *Laws* I. 190 (Bosw.) Gif ceorl hæfde fif hida agenes landes, cirican and cýcanan, bel-hus. a 1100 *Gloss. in Wr-Wülker Voc.* 327 *Clocarium*, *bel-lucar*, *Belhus* c 1425 *Ibid.* 648 *Hoc campanare*, A^c bellhouse. 1483 *Cath. Angl.* 27/1 Bellhouse, *campanile*. 1598 HAKLUYT *Voy.* I. 126 A Church and a Kitchen, a Bellhouse, and a gate. 1766 ENTICK *London* IV. 223 The bell-house stood on the said ground. 1855 *Whitby Gloss.*, *Bell-house*, the tower of a church, the belfry.

† **Bellibone**, *Obs.* rare. [? corruption of *F. belle bonne* or *belle et bonne* fair and good; if not a humorous perversion of *BONNIBEL*, q.v.] A fair maid, a bonny lass.

1579 SPENSER *Sheph. Cal.* Aug. 61, I saw the bouncing Bellibone. *Ibid.* Apr. 92 *Gloss.*, A bellibone, or a Bonibell, homely spoken for a fair mayde, or Bonilasse. 1586 WEBBER *Eng. Poetrie* 83 With a bellibone trym for to be loaden.

† **Bellie**, *a.* *Obs.* [a. *F. bellique*, ad. *L. bellicus*, f. *bellum* war.] Of war; warlike.

1657 FELTHAM *Resolves* II. lii. (1677) 262 The bellie [other edd. *bellique*] Caesar. 1680 PELLING *Good Old Way* 128 (L.) His machines and bellic instruments.

† **Bellical**, *a.* *Obs.* [f. as prec. + -AL¹.] Pertaining to war, warlike.

1513 DOUGLAS *Æneis* vii. xi. 54 Itale Now birnis into fury bellical. 1572 BOSSEWELL *Armorie* II. 97 Two maces bellical. 1602 FULBECKE *1st Pt. Parall.* 20 Some [tenures are] both domestical & bellical, as grand sergancy.

† **Belliche**, *adv.* *Obs.* rare -1. [f. *BEL a.* + -iche = -LY².] Beautifully.

1394 P. PL. *Crede* 344 Wip arches on eueriche half and belliche y-corven.

Bellicose (be'l'ikōs), *a.* [ad. *L. bellicōs-us*: see -OSE.] Inclined to war or fighting; warlike.

1432-50 tr. *Higden* (1865) I. 321 Germanye, the people of whom was... bellicose. 1535 STEWART *Cron. Scot.* (1858) I. 134 Our godis aboue. In Albione hes plantit... The perfite pepill, bald and bellicous. 1706 MAULE *Hist. Picts in Misc. Scot.* I. 32 The bellicose Romans. 1880 KINGLAKE *Crimea* VI. iii. 13 Their bellicose names were deceptive.

Bellico'sely, *adv.* [f. prec. + -LY².] In a bellicose or warlike manner or direction.
1830 O'DONOVAN *Merv* I. xxiv. 415 Bellico'sely inclined.
Belliconity (beli'kōn'iti). Warlike inclination.
1884 *Manch. Exam.* 9 July 5/1 There is no suggestion of bellicosity in these utterances.

† **Bellious**, *a. Obs.*; also 7- quous. [a. F. *belliqueux*, ad. L. *bellicosus*.] = **BELLIOUSE**.
1535 *Exhort. North* in *Furniv. Ballads* I. 304 Cheif bellicous champions. 1577 SIR T. SMITH *Comm. Eng.* 106 Bellicous nations. 1626 DICKY *Voy. Medit.* (1868) 65 The Greeks of the countrie.. would soone become a bellious [printed bellious] nation.

Bellied (be'lid), *ppl. a.* Forms: 5 balyd, 6 belied, 6-7 bellyed, 7 belly'd, belli'd, 6- bellied. [f. *BELLY* v. or *sb.* + -ED.]

1. Having a belly. Often in *comb.*, e. g. *big- or great-bellied*, having a big belly, corpulent; hence, pregnant. See also *GOR-*, *POT-*, *SHADBELLED*.

15475 *Hunt. Hare* 187 Sym, that was balyd lyke a cow.
1550 ANDREW Noble *Life in Babes Bk.* (1868) 237 Scilla.. is belied like a beste & tayed lyke a dolphin. 1567 *Triall Treas.* (1850) 14 The great bellied loute. 1690 J. GREGORY *Learned Traits* 98 When the great belli'd woman's time is com. 1697 DRYDEN *Ving. Georg.* III. 126 The Colt.. Sharp headed, Barrel belly'd, broadly back'd. 1803 BRISTED *Pedest. Tour* II. 687 The big-bellied hostess.

b. Big-bellied, corpulent; *fig.* inflated.

1533 FRITH *Mirror* (1829) 272 Bellied monks, canons, and priests. 1564 BECON *P. Godly Pr.* in *Prayers, etc.* (1844) 39 The dreams of the bellied hypocrites. 1813 A. WILSON *Insult. Pedlar Poet.* Wks. (1846) 199 A bellied gent. steps ower the run.

2. *transf.* Made large and full, rounded; bulging; blown or puffed out.

a 1593 H. SMITH *Serm.* (1622) 207 It becomes them well.. to wear bellied doublets. 1649 BLITHE *Eng. Improv. Impr.* (1653) 70 The neather part of the bit a little bellied or square. 1678 *Land. Gas.* No. 733/4 A bellied porringer. 1747 FRANKLIN *Wks.* (1840) 192 A vinegar-cruet, or some such bellied bottle. 1808 B. TAYLOR *Deukalion* III. VI. 130, I see a glorious barque With bellied canvass.

Bellies, *pl.* of *BELLY*; also *obs.* f. *BELLOWS*.

† **Belliferous**, *a. Obs.* [f. L. *bellifer*, f. *bellum* war + -fer, -bringing.] 'That bringeth war.' Bailey.

† **Bellify**, *v. Obs. rare*-. [f. L. *bell-us* beautiful + -ry.] *trans.* To embellish, beautify. Hence *Bellifying* *ppl. a.*

1540 RAYNALD *Birk Man* iv. vi. (1634) 197 Embellishing or bellifying Medicines.. to remove certain blemishes.

† **Belligerate**, *v. Obs.*-. [f. L. *belligerāt*- *ppl.* stem of *belligerāre* to wage war, f. *belliger*: see **BELLIGEROUS**.] 'To make war.' Cockeram 1623; whence in Bailey, etc.

† **Belligeration**. *Obs.*-. [formed as prec.] 'Waging, or making war.' Bullock 1676.

Belligerence (beli'dzērēns). [f. **BELLIGERENT** a.: see -ENCE.] The carrying on of hostilities; also = **BELLIGERENCY**.

1814 W. TAYLOR in *Robberds' Mem.* II. 422 From your belligerence I seek refuge in his pacific philanthropy. 1882 *Punch* 9 Sept. 102 The thought of belligerence made him feel faint.

Belligerency. Also -anoy. [f. as prec.: see -ENCY.] The position or status of a belligerent. 1803 *Boston Commw.* 11 Sept., The absurdity and wrong of conceding Ocean Belligerency to a pretended Power. 1864 *Times* 22 Dec., To concede to Russia the rights of naval belligerency. 1877 MORLEY *Crit. Misc.* Ser. II. 392 Macaulay.. steepes us in an atmosphere of belligerency.

Belligerent (beli'dzērēt), *a. and sb.* Also 6-8 -gerant. [The earlier *belligerant* (cf. F. *belligérant*) was ad. L. *belligerant-em*, pr. *ppl.* of *belligerāre* to wage war: see **BELLIGERATE**, -OUS. The current spelling, if due to imitation of L. *gerentem*, is etymologically erroneous, since the word is not derived from *gerere*; but cf. *magnific-ent*.]

A. adj.

1. Waging or carrying on regular recognized war; actually engaged in hostilities; formerly also said of warlike engines, and the like.

1577 DEE *Relat. Spir.* I. (1659) 171 Four.. belligerent Castles, out of the which sounded Trumpets thrice. 1765 TUCKER *Li. Nat.* II. 408 Religion and reason are so far from being belligerent powers.. that they join in alliance. 1773 CHESTERF. (T.) The belligerent and contracting parties. 1775 JOHNSON, *Belligerent*, waging war. *Dict.* [i.e. from some dictionary.] 1846 PRESCOTT *Ferd. & Is.* I. iv. 213 A truce of six months between the belligerent parties.

2. *fig.* or *transf.* To other hostilities.

1809 W. IRVING *Knickerb.* (1861) 117 He assumed a most belligerent look. 1812 *Examiner* 11 May 290/2 The belligerent journalists.. are unanimously for the military. 1850 THACKERAY *Pendennis* xlvii (1884) 458 Costigan called for a 'waither' with such a belligerent voice.

3. *attrib.* from the *sb.*: Of or pertaining to belligerents.

1805 (13 Mar.) BRIGHT *Canada, Sp.* (1876) 68 The acknowledgment of the belligerent rights of the South. 1881 J. WESTLAKE in *Academy* 15 Jan. 41/2 Controversies.. concerning the capture of private belligerent property at sea.

B. sb. 1. A nation, party, or person waging regular war (recognized by the law of nations).

1811 *Hist. Eng.* in *Ann. Reg.* 75/2 The common rules between civilized belligerents. 1839 HALLAM *Hist. Lit.* II. 21. iv. § 86 War itself.. even for the advantage of the belligerents, had its rules. 1864 *Times* 22 Dec., Deprived the blockaded Power of its rights as a maritime belligerent.

2. *fig.* or *transf.* To other hostile agents. 1839 DICKENS *Nick Nick* ii, A loud shout attracted the attention of even the belligerents (i. e. policemen). 1849 MACAULAY *Hist. Eng.* xviii, Out of Parliament.. the belligerents were by no means scrupulous about the means which they employed.

Belligerently, *adv.* [f. prec. *adj.* + -LY².] In a belligerent manner or way; in a warlike way. 1837 *New Month Mag.* L. 201 They feel belligerently inclined. 1881 *Standard* 18 Apr. 4/6 The whole Eastern Question.. actively and belligerently reopened.

† **Belligerous**, *a. Obs. rare*. [f. L. *belliger* war-waging, f. *bellum* war + -ger, -carrying on.] Waging war; belligerent.

1731 BAILEY, *Belligerous*, making or waging war. 1735 in JOHNSON. 1764 J. BARRY *Lect. Art.* (1848) 66 The public energies, seldom belligerous, were generally directed to objects of public utility.

Belling (be'lin), *vbl. sb.* 1 [f. *BELL* v. 4 + -ING¹.] 1. The roaring of animals; bellowing. *Obs.*

1440 *Promp. Parv.* 30 Bellinge, of [for] rorynge of bestys (v. r. bellinge of nete), *mugitus*. 2. *spec.* The cry of deer in the rutting season; hence *elipt.* the season itself. *Occas. attrib.*

1513 DOUGLAS *Æneis* iv. Prol. 68 The meik hartis in bellong off ar found Mak feirs bargane. 1560 A. SCOTT *Adv. Wanton Womans*, As bukks in bellong time. 1828 LYTON *What will he do?* v. iv. (D.) A melancholy bellong note like the bellong itself of a melancholy hart.

† 3. Crying, roaring of human beings. *Obs.*

1803 STANFURD *Æneis* II. (Arb.) 68 With mournful bellong I namde expresive Creusa.

Belling, *vbl. sb.*, in sense of *BELL* v. 1, 2, 3, 5: see these.

Belling (be'lin), *ppl. a.* [f. *BELL* v. 4 + -ING².]

† 1. *gen.* Roaring, bellowing. *Obs.*

1583 STANFURD *Æneis* III. (Arb.) 92 Loud the lowbye brayed with bellong monstrous eccho. 1610 With bellong skrichcrye she roareth.

2. *spec.* Uttering the cry of deer in rutting-time.

1650 FULLER *Pisgah* III. ix. 338 Here.. the bellong Roes [are said] to bed.

Bellipotent (beli'pōtēt), *a.* [ad. L. *bellipotent-em*, f. *bell-um* war + *potent-em* powerful.] Mighty or powerful in war. (*Obs.* in serious use.)

1635 HEYWOOD *Land. Sinus Salut.* Wks. IV. 294 Bellipotent Mars is from his sphere come downe. 1656 BLOUNT *Glossogr.*, *Bellipotent*, mighty in wars, puissant at arms. 1825 BLACKW. *Mag.* XVII. 62 General W.—a 'bellipotent' officer, who sent in a bill to Congress, for sugar plums.

† **Bellish**, *v. Obs.* Forms: 5 bells(o)h-yn, belch-yn. [Either shortened from *EMBELLISH*, or adopted from rare OF. *belir*, *bellir*, *bellissant* (used in same sense as *embellir*), f. *bel* beautiful.] = *EMBELLISH*. Hence *Bellishing* (in 15th c. *belah-ynge*) *vbl. sb.*; cf. next.

1440 *Promp. Parv.* 30 Belschyd, or made fayre [1499 belched], *penustus*. Belchyn or make fayre, *decoro*, *venustacio*. Belshynge, *venustacio*.

† **Bellishment**. *Obs.* [prob. a. OF. *belissement*: see prec.]

1611 SPEED *Hist. Gt. Brit.* v. vi. (1632) 42 Some other bellishments they had.

† **Bellitude**. *Obs.*-. [ad. L. *bellitudo*, f. *bell-us* fine, pretty: see -TUD-] Beauty, fairness.

1623 in COCKERAM.

Bel-kite. *Sc. and north. dial.* In 5 beld cytt. [f. *beld*, *bell*, northern forms of *BALD* + *cytt*, *kite*, here a corruption of *COOT*.] The northern form of *BALD-COOT*. Also *fig.* as term of contempt.

1450 HOLLAND *Houlate* iii. f. Busardis and Beld cyttes. 1676 *Mid-Yorksh. Gloss.* s. v. *Belkite*, The usual application of this term is in the way of good-humoured reproach, 'Thou little belkite, get out of t' road.'

Belman (be'mān). Also 4-7 belman. [f. *BELL* sb. 1 + *MAN*.]

1. A man who rings a bell; *esp.* a man employed to go round the streets of a town and make public announcements, to which he attracts attention by ringing a bell; a town-crier.

(Formerly a bellman announced deaths, and called on the faithful to pray for the souls of the departed; a bellman also acted as night-watchman, and called the hours).

1391 *Test. Ebor.* (1836) I. 163 Le belman portand' campanam per villam. 1513 *Bury Wills* (1850) 17 Item I wele the ij bellemen haue ij. gownys. 1577 HOLMES *Chron.* III. 1209/1 Certaine houses in Cornhill, being.. cried by a belman. 1648 HERRICK *Hesper.* (1869) 221, I heare the cock, The bell-man of the night. 1659-60 FERRIS *Diary* 16 June, I staid up till the bell-man came by.. and cried, 'Past one of the clock, and a cold, frosty, windy morning.' 1858 DICKENS *Lett.* (1880) II. 80 There is a bellman announcing something.

† 2. He who 'bears the bell'; the best or most excellent. *Obs. rare.*

1617 MARKHAM *Caval.* v. 55 Repaire to the Stable of great Princes, where commonly are the bell-men of this Art. Hence *Belmanship*, the office of bellman.

1825 BLACKW. *Mag.* XLVI. 386 The election of John Tappe to the bellmanship of Buzleton.

Bel-metal.

The substance of which bells are made; an alloy of copper and tin, the tin being in larger proportion than in ordinary bronze.

The proportions of the constituents vary within the limits

of 31 and 4 of copper to 1 of tin: the former is suited for large bells, the latter for small house-bells.

1541 *Act 33 Hen. VIII.* vii. § 1 No person.. should.. conuey anie brasse.. laten, bell metall, gun metall.. into.. partes beyonde the sea. 1552-3 *Inv. Ch. Goods Staffs.* 24 A bokett of belmettel. 1613 SIR H. FINCH *Law* (1636) 235 A licence to carrie Bell-metall out of the Realme. 1812 SIR H. DAVY *Chem. Philos.* 420 Copper alloyed with from 1/10 to 1/2 of tin forms the different species of bronze and bell-metal.

b. *attrib.* Made of or resembling this alloy.

Also *fig.* applied to a loud ringing voice.

1780 *Chron.* in *Ann. Reg.* 225/2 By eating mushrooms stewed in a bell-metal saucepan. 1876 SOUTHEY in *Q. Rev.* XVI. 271 Any blockhead with a brazen face and a bell-metal voice. 1837 DANA *Min.* (1880) 68 [Stannite] frequently has the appearance of bronze or bell metal, and hence the name *bell-metal ore*.

Bellomancy, *obs. var.* **BELOMANCY**.

† **Bellomy**. *Sc. Obs.* [Derivation uncertain.]

A blustering or audacious man.

1535 STEWART *Cron. Scot.* II. 666 Ane bellomy that busteous wes and bald. 1610 *Ibid.* 621 Of thir tratuoris.. Ane bellomye was callit Makdowald.

Bellon (be'lan). A term for lead-colic.

1794 E. DARWIN *Zoon.* (1801) II. 114 In the bellon, or colica Saturnina, the patients are said to bite their own flesh. 1819 REES *Encycl.*, *Bellon* or *Belland*, a distemper very common in Derbyshire.. where they smelt lead ore.

Bellona (be'lōnā). [L. *Bellōna*, the goddess of war, f. *bellum* war.] Proper name of the Roman goddess of war; *transf.* a spirited woman of commanding presence. *Bellonian a.*, warlike.

1605 SHAKS. *Macb.* I. ii. 54 Bellona's Bridegroom, lapt in profe. 1667 MILTON *P. II.* II. 922 Bellona storms, With all her battering Engines. 1711 E. WARD *Quix.* I. 64 His Steel Belonian Bright-Cap. 1800 SCOTT *Abbot* xxxi, Her features.. inflamed and resembling those of a Bellona. 1859 G. MEREDITH *R. Feverel* xxxvii. (1885) 346 He had recognized his superb Bellona in the lady by the garden window.

2. Name of one of the asteroids.

Bellcot, *belote* (bē'lūt, bē'lōt). [ad. Sp. *bellota* acorn.] The edible acorn of a species of oak (*Quercus Ballota*), in Barbary, Spain, and Portugal. *Bellote Oak*: the tree which bears it.

1666 *Treas. Bot.* 951/1 The acorns of *Q. Ballota*, and of its variety *Q. Gramuntia*, are eaten.. under the name of Belotes. 1876 HOOKER & BALL *Marocco* 268 The bellcot oak.. which is spread through North Africa and Spain.

† **Bellosious**, *a. Obs. rare*-. [erroneously f. L. *bellōsus* warlike.] Warlike.

1586 WARNER *Alb. Eng.* lxxxvi (1606) 354 These two bellosious people cleer'd no sooner forren swords.

Bellougina: see **BELUGA**.

Bellow (be'lō), *v.* Forms: 4 belwe, bellowe, 4-5 below, 6 bellue, 6- bellow. [Of uncertain etymology. The equation of ME. *belwen* with the rare OE. *bylgian* suggests that the latter is late WSax. for **biggian*, Anglian **belgian*; but the origin of this is not evident, unless it be a parallel formation to the synonymous *bellan*, *BELL* v. 4, say from OTeut. **balligjan*: cf. OE. *a-dilgian*, OS. *dilgōn*, OTeut. **dilgōjan*, parallel to **dilgjan*, in OHG. *dilgōn* and *slōn* to destroy.]

1. *prop.* To roar as a bull, or as a cow when excited. (Ordinarily, a cow *low*.)

1000 *Martyrol* 17 Jan. (Cockayne *Shrine* 52) Hwulum þa deofol hine swungon.. hwulum hi hine bylgedon on swa farras and ðuton eall swa wulfas. c 1305 *Leg. Rood* 145 Beestes gan belwe in eueri binne. 1377 LANGL. *P. Pl.* B. xi. 333 Pere ne was cow.. þat wolde belwe after boles. 1388 WYCLIF *Jer.* I. 21 And lowiden ether belweiden, as bolis. 1580 NORTH *Plutarch* 358 (R.) Like wild beasts bellowing and roaring. 1611 SHAKS. *Wint. T.* iv. 28 Iupiter Became a Bull, and bellow'd. 1784 BURNS *Lett.* x. Wks. (Globe) 302 A cow bellowing at the crib without food. 1868 *Once a Week* No. 5. 99 The first bull advances bellowing fiercely.

b. *trans.*

1868 *Once a Week* No. 5. 99 A young bull bellows a challenge.

2. Applied to the roaring of other animals; used formerly in sense of *BELL* v. 4 2.

1486 *Bk. St. Albans* Ev. An hert belowys. 1575 TURBERV. *Venerie* 238 An harte belloweth. 1596 SHAKS. *Merch. V. v.* i. 73 Youthful and vnhandled Colts.. bellowing and neighing loud. 1608 — *Ham.* III. ii. 264 The croaking Rauens doth bellow for Reuenge. 1738-51 CHAMBERS *Cycl.* s. v. *Hunting*. The terms for their noise at rutting time.. A hart *bellet*; a buck *grooms* or *troats*; a roe *bellows*. 1766 *Vacation* in Dodsley *Coll. Poems* III. 153 The master stag.. Bellows loud with savage roar. 1875 B. TAYLOR *Faust* III. I. 51 Poodle.. Cease to bark and bellow.

3. Of human beings: To cry in a loud and deep voice; to shout, vociferate, roar (*depreciative* or *humorous*); also (*seriously*) to roar from pain.

1608 SHAKS. *Ham.* III. ii. 36 There bee Players.. that.. haue so strutted and bellowed. 1649 MILTON *Eikon*. Wks. (1738) I. 43 Not fit for that liberty which they cried out and bellowed for. 1709 STEELE *Tatler* No. 54 P. 3 He is accustomed to roar and bellow so terribly loud in the Responses. 1718 POPE *Iliad* v. 1053 Mars bellows with the pain. 1824 W. IRVING *T. Trav.* II. 234 Like a bullly bellowing for more drink.

b. *trans.* To utter (words or cries) in a loud and deep voice; frequently with *out*, *forth*.

1801 NOWELL & DAY in *Confer.* I. (1884) D iiiij b, Beelzebub bellowed out most horrible blasphemies. 1803 KNOLLES *Hist. Turkes* (1621) 663 Bellowing out certaine superstitious charms. 1771 SMOLLETT *Humph. Ch.* (1815) 143 Noisy

rustics bellowing 'Green pease' under my window. 1881 Miss YONGE *Lads & L. Langley* i. 41 Some used to bellow or screech out any familiar hymn in an irreverent way.

c. To bellow off: to drive off by shouting, to shout down.

1837 CARLYLE *Fr. Rev.* II. III. III. 249 Fain would Reporter Rabaut speak his last words; but he is bellowed off. 4. Of thunder, cannon, wind, the sea, and other inanimate agents: To make a loud hollow noise; to roar.

1384 CHAUCER *House F.* (Fairf.) 1803 A soun As lowde as beloweth (v. r. belwith, bellyth, belleth) wynde in helle. 1596 SPENSER *F. Q.* i. vii. 7 A dreadfull sownd, Which through the wood loud bellowing did rebownd. 1653 HOLCROFT *Procopius* 36 Mount Vesuvius bellowed. 1727 THOMSON *Summer* 1168 Thule bellows through her utmost isles. 1800 WORDSW. *Sonn. Liberty* xii. And Ocean [should] bellow from his rocky shore. 1866 B. TAYLOR *Soldier & Pard* 27 Our cannon bellowed round.

b. With obj.: To give forth, emit, utter, or proclaim with loud noise.

1706 WATTS *Horz. Lyr.* II. 1. 236 Till the hollow brazen clouds Had bellow'd... Loud thunder. 1852 TENNYSON *Wellington* 66 His captain's ear has heard them boom, Bellowing victory, bellowing doom. 1848 HAWTHORNE *Fr. & It. Fruts.* I. 141 A large cannon-ball... rolling down... bellowing forth long thunderous echoes.

Bellow, sb. [f. prec. vb.]

1. The roar of a bull, or similar cry of other animals.

1779 HUNTER in *Phil. Trans.* LXIX. 286 The bellow of the free martin is similar to that of an ox. 1870 LUSBOCK *Orig. Civilit.* ix (1875) 408.

2. *transf.* of human beings: A loud deep cry or roar.

1835 HOGG *Tales* (1837) III. 37 As loud as he could roar... never letting one bellow abide another. 1850 G. MEREDITH *R. Feazel* xxi (1885) 151 He heard a bellow for help.

3. The loud deep roar of cannon, thunder, a storm, and other inanimate agents.

1866 DISRAELI *Viv. Grey* vii. viii. 430 The bellow of the martial drum. 1866 FROUDE *Hist. Eng.* (1858) II. vii. 229 Mere idle sounds, like the bellow of unshotted cannon.

Bellow(e, obs. form of BELLOW.

Bellowed (be'lowd), *pp. a.* [f. prec. + -ED.] Uttered with a loud roar.

1850 R. BURTON *Centr. Afr.* in *Jrnl. R. G. S.* XXIX. 323 The frequent recurrence of bellowed exclamations.

Bellower (be'lowz). [f. as prec. + -ER.] He who or that which bellows.

1634 CHAPMAN *Hymn Hermes* (1818) 56 Full fifty of the violent bellowers. 1796 GROSSE *Dict. Vulgar T.* *Bellower*, the town crier. 1848 MARRYAT *R. Kiefer* xli. We had the report from the said brass bellowers. 1840 MACAULAY in *Leis. Ho.* (1881) 477:1 The steady bellowers of the Opposition had been howling from six o'clock.

Bellowing (be'lowing), *vbl. sb.*; also 4 bellowing, 5 bellowyng. [f. as prec. + -ING.]

a. The roaring of a bull, or similar noise of other animals. b. Loud and continued vociferation of human beings, especially when inarticulate; noisy outcry. c. Roaring of cannon, thunder, the sea, etc.

1393 GOWER *Conf.* III. 203 It shulde seme... A bellowing in a mannes ere. 1450 LONELICH *Grail* xliii. 172 As though it hadde ben a devesle bellowyng. 1550 HULOET, *Bellowyng* or rorynge of neate, *mutius*. 1580 NORTH *Plutarch* 358 (R.) The bellowing of such a multitude of beastly people. 1610 SHAKS. *Temp.* II. i. 311 We heard a hollow burst of bellowing Like Bulls, or rather Lyons. c. 1600 Z. BOYD *Zion's Flowers* (1855) 11 We heare no thing but bellowing of the wind. 1774 GOLDSM. *Nat. Hist.* (1824) I. 56 [They] believe the bellowings of Hecla are nothing else but the cries of the damned. 1852 HAWTHORNE *Grand-Chair* II. iii. (1879) 86 What a bellowing the urchins make!

Bellowing, ppl. a. [f. as prec. + -ING.] That bellows or roars: see the vb.

1618 BOLTON *Florus* III. viii. 195 They raised a bellowing cry, like so many beasts, and fled to shore. 1635 SWAN *Spec. M. v.* 82 (1643) 173 Blustering Boreas... is a bellowing wind. c. 1746 HERVEY *Medit. & Contempl.* (1818) 165 Signals of distress are heard from the bellowing deep. 1847 LONGF. *Ev. i. v.* Bellowing herds of buffaloes rush to the river.

Bellows (be'lowz, be'les), *sb.* Forms: a. *sing.* 1. *bæls, belz, belis, bylz, bylis, 3 bel, 3-4 bely, ?buly; pl. 3-4 belies, bulies, 5 belyes, belise, belioe, 6 bales, bellies, bellyis. β. sing.* 4 *belw, belu, below, 5-6 bel(1)owe; pl. 4 belwes, bellows, 5 belwis, -wys, -owys, 6 bellowsse, 5-7 bellowes, 7- bellows, (double pl. 7 bellowesses, still dial.).* [Now used only in plural: the sing. was still in use in 15th c., and still later in compounds. The OE. name for 'bellows' was *blæst-bel(i)g*, *blæst-bel(i)g* 'blast-bag, blowing-bag' (= ON. *blæstr-belgr*, Sw. *blåsbälg*, Da. *blæsbælg*, mod. G. *blasebalg*); but already in the 11th c. the simple *belg, bylg, bylig* 'bag' occurs in this sense in the glossaries. (So also mod. Sw. *bälg*, and Da. *bælger* pl. = 'bellows'.) Thence the ME. *beli, bely, buly* (*u*), really the same word as *BELLY*, under which see the remoter etymology. In the sense 'bellows', *bely* was still used in the sing. by Chaucer, but after 1400 we find this only with the sense 'belly', though the pl. *belies, bellies* retained the sense 'bellows' late in the 16th c. in literature, and *bellis, bellice*, is still common in the dialects. But

in Wyclif we find another form, *belu, belu*, in 15th c. *bellowe* (apparently of northern or north. midl. origin), of which the plur. *belwes, belowes, bellows* became established in 16th c. as the literary form, *bellies* being thenceforth used only as the plur. of 'belly' in the modern sense. In later times *bellows* has often been construed as a sing., 'a bellows', and occasionally has even received a second plural inflexion, *bellowesses*, which is common in the dialects; cf. 'a gallows', and obs. or dial. pl. *gallowesses*. Hence also the pronunciation (be'les), the only one known to orthoepists early in the present century, which has however of late largely given place to (be'lowz).

The evidence at present available does not settle whether *belu, belu*, came down from a non-palatalized form of OE. *belu*, or from the plural inflexions *belga, belgum*, while *beli* represented the sing. forms *belig, belige* (cf. ME. *bel, dai, del, pl. dawes* = OE. *dag, dagas*); or, finally, whether it was a northern Eng. adoption of ON. *belgr*: for each of these hypotheses something may be said. *Bellows* is app. cognate with L. *folis*: see BALL sb. and BELLV.]

1. An instrument or machine constructed to furnish a strong blast of air. In its simplest form, it consists essentially of a combination of bag and box, formed of an upper and lower board joined by flexible leather sides, enclosing a cavity capable of expansion and contraction, and furnished with a valve opening inwards, through which air enters and fills the expanded cavity, and with a tube or nozzle, through which the air is forced out in a stream when the machine is compressed. It has many modifications of form and structure according to its purpose; and the name is sometimes applied to the 'blower' of a blast-furnace.

a. An instrument or machine of this kind used to blow a fire; it may be portable, as the common hand-bellows, or fixed, as a smith's bellows. Often, with reference to the two halves or handles, called a pair of bellows, rarely, as sing., a bellows.

a. 1800 *Epinal & Erf. Gl.* (Sweet O. E. T. 64) *Follis*, blast-bag, *Corpus Gl.* blast-bag. a 1000 in Wülcker *Voc.* 241 *Follis*, *Corpus Gl.* blast-bag. — 272 *Follis*, blast-bag. a 1100 — 336 *Follis*, bylig. — 517 *Follis*, byligum. a 1225 *Anscr. R.* 296 *Pe deouel*... mucheled his bel bles. *Ibid.* 284 No fur in his smitche — ne belies. a 1300 W. DE BIBLESW. in Wright *Conf.* 171 *Le fousse*, the bely. c. 1300 St. Brandan 467 The hurden fil of bulies gret blowing there. c. 1400 *Leg. Road* (1871) 85 Scho blew be belise ferly fast. a 1440 *Isumbras* 410 A smethymane... bleweth thaire belyes bloo. 1523 *Fitzherb. Surv.* 9 b. The whole gothe by drifte of water to blowe the bales. a 1600 *Purgatory in Ever-Green* (1761) II. 246 Thocht thay... blaw Ay quhill thair Belyis ryve.

β. 1288 Wyclif *Jer. vi.* 29 The belu [v. r. belw, bely] failide, leed is wastid in the fer. 1308 *Test. Ebor.* (1836) I. 250 Unum par de melioribus bellows. c. 1440 *Prompt. Parv.* 30 Belowe [ed. Pynson 1499, belows], *Follis*. 1463 *Bury Wills* (1850) 23 A peyre tongys, and a peyre belwys. 1483 *Cath. Angl.* 27 A Bellowe [v. r. belowys or belice], *Follis*. a 1568 COVERDALE *Hope Faithful*, xxvii. 189 The Lords breath, is... as a belowes. 1570 LEVINS *Manih.* 180 A Belowe, *Follis*. 1611 BIBLE *Jer. vi.* 29 The bellows are burnt, the lead is consumed of the fire. 1660 BOYLE *New Exp. Phys. Mech.* x. 74 The blasts of a pair of Bellows. 1676 HOBBS *Iliad* xviii. 427 Twenty Bellowses in all he had. a 1700 DRYDEN (J.) *Thou...* like a bellows, swellst thy face. 1775 DESAGULIERS *Fires Impr.* 137 The Bellows... blows so much the stronger. *Ibid.* 139 A pair of Bellows that blow constantly. 1791 COWPER *Iliad* xviii. 585 Full twenty bellows working all at once. 1796 SOUTHEY *Lett. Spain & Port.* (1799) 109 The people make use of a hollow cane instead of a bellows. 1821 CLARE *Vill. Minstr.* II. 26 Taking the bellows up the fire to blow. 1870 BRYANT *Iliad* II. xviii. 200 From twenty bellows came their breath into the furnaces.

b. A similar contrivance for supplying air to a wind-instrument, as an organ, harmonium, or concertina. (In large organs the bellows are usually blown by hydraulic power.)

1542 *Rec. St. Michaels, Stortf.* (1882) 43 For ij schepe-kynnes to amend w all the bellis for the organs, vij*d.* 1566 *Church-w. Acc. St. Dunstan's, Canterb.*, One payer of organs lackeng ij pypes, also thear lacketh the pesys of led belongen to the belowes. 1697 DRYDEN *Alexander's F.* 156 Ere heaving bellows learned to blow, While organs yet were mute. 1795 MASON *Ch. Music* L 37 Twelve pair of Bellows, rang'd in stated row, Are joined above, and fourteen more below. 1855 HOPKINS & RIMBAULT *Organ* II. (1877) 9 There are two kinds of bellows to be met with in church organs... diagonal and horizontal bellows.

2. *fig.* Applied to that which blows up or fans the fire of passion, discord, etc.

c. 1386 CHAUCER *Perz. T. P.* 277 The deules bely... bloweth in man be fire of fleschly concupiscence. 1576 LAMBARDE *Peramb. Kent* (1846) 427 By mediation of the Frenche King, a very Bellowsse of this fire. 1600 *Cherrie & Slae in Ever-Green* (1761) II. 110 By Luve his Bellies blawin. 1608 SHAKS. *Per. i.* ii. 39 (1878) 1878, Flattery is the bellows blows up sin. 1665 BOYLE *Occas. Refl.* i. iv. (1675) 24 As Bellows to blow or rekindle Devotion. 1800 KEATS *Hyperion* II. 176 My voice is not a bellows unto ire.

3. *fig.* Applied to the lungs.

1615 LATHAM *Falconry* (1633) 115 The lungs doe draw a breath. When these bellowses doe decay, then health from both doth fade away. 1631 *DONNE Elegy* in Farr's *S. P.* (1848) 21 We, to live, our bellows wear, and breath. 1711 *Vind. Sacheverell* 91 He... would be insufferably noisy in Company, if his Bellows would hold. 1875 WHITNEY *Life Lang.* iv. 59 The lungs are, as it were, the bellows of the

organ. [Of a broken-winded horse, stablemen say, 'He has bellows to mend.']

4. The expansible portion of a photographer's camera.

1884 *Jrnl. Phot. Alman.* 115 Attached to BB [the wooden frame of the camera] is a bellows stretching back some six inches when open. *Ibid.* 116 The back bellows acts as a focussing-cloth.

5. *Hydrostatic Bellows*: see HYDROSTATIC.

6. *Comb. chiefly attrib., as bellows action, -blast, -board, -pedal, -sound, -spring*; also bellows-blower, the person who works or blows the bellows; hence, *fig.* a fanner, inciter of strife, etc.; also, an unskilled assistant whose part is merely mechanical like that of the blower of an organ; bellows-engine, an engine that works bellows; bellows-fever (see quot.); bellows-fish (so called from its general shape: see quot.); bellows-like *a.*, resembling or acting like bellows; bellows-maker; bellows-mender; bellows-nail, a very small nail used in the construction of bellows; bellows press, a small hand printing-press formerly used; bellows-tail (see quot.); bellows-treader, one who works bellows with his feet by treadles.

1881 C. EDWARDS *Organs* 44 The 'bellows action' resembles an ordinary pump action. 1674 PETTY *Disc. bef. R. Soc.* 104 The Strength of such 'Bellows-blast'. 1658 LEMNARD tr. *Charron's Wisd.* II. iii. § 16 (1670) 250 The Player or Organist may in every point exercise his Art, without the 'bellows-blower'. 1849 SOUTHEY *Comm-pl. Bk.* II. 191 The trumpeters and drummers and 'bellows-blowers' of rebellion were conformable Episcopalians. 1865 *Times* 2 Feb., The prelates play the new organ; the lay members are the mere 'bellows-blowers'. 1831 J. HOLLAND *Manuf. Metal* I. 162 The length and leverage... of the 'bellows boards'. 1831 CARLYLE *Sart. Res.* II. viii. Its 'bellows-engines' (in these Churches), thou still seest. 1852 SEIDEL *Organ* 133 'Bellows fever', that is, the trembling or faltering of the wards, is a great defect. 1684 *Phil. Trans.* XXXIX. 479 The *Scalopax* or *Trombetta*, call'd by our Seamen the 'Bellows or Trumpet-Fish'. 1836 *Penny Cycl.* VI. 422/1 *Centriscus Scalopax*... known in Cornwall by the name of the 'bellows-fish'. 1715 DESAGULIERS *Fires Impr.* 140 They... may be had at several 'Bellows-makers'. 1590 SHAKS. *Mids. N.* IV. i. 210 Flute the 'bellows-mender'. 1765 GOLDSM. *Ess.* i. Mr. 'Bellows-mender' hoped Mr. Curry-comb-maker had not caught cold. 1730 SAVERY in *Phil. Trans.* XXXVI. 296 Nails of several sizes, from the smallest Sort of 'Bellows-Nails' to the largest Sort of Rafter-Nails. 1846 *Print. Appar. Amateurs* 5 A small and old instrument known amongst printers as the 'Bellows Press'. 1834 FORBES *Dis. Chest* 517 Most commonly the 'bellows sound' is... confined within the limits of the artery or ventricle. 1852 SEIDEL *Organ* 39 This ledge is called the 'bellows-spring'. *Ibid.* 38 The upper-board has on its end... a prolongation... called the 'bellows tail'. 1876 HILES *Catech. Organ* viii. (1878) 53 In many Continental Organs the inflation of the bellows is by treadles instead of handles, and hence the name 'bellows-treader.'

† **Bellows, v. Obs. rare.** [f. prec.] To blow (with bellows). To bellows up: to gather up (wind).

1605 TIMME *Quersit.* II. vii. 137 The fire... which he had spread abroad, and winded or bellowsed, in vaine. 1648 *Persecutio Undecim* 9 The kindle-coale that the Faction bellowsed to that flame that must consume, etc. 1748 RICHARDSON *Clarissa* (1811) V. 318 She pouted out her blubber-lips, as if to bellows up wind.

† **Bellrags.** *Herb. Obs.* A water plant, identified by Britten with *Nasturtium amphibia*.

1548 TURNER *Names of Herbes* D viij b, Lauer or Sion, is called of some Bellrags, of other some yealowe water-cresses. 1576 LYTE *Doddens* 611 Turner and Cooper do call it [Water Parsley]... Yellow water cresses, and Bell raggas. 1611 COTGR. *Persil agrum*, Wild Parsley... Bellrags.

Bell-ringer (be'lingz). [f. BELL sb.] One whose business it is to ring a church or town bell at stated times or on stated occasions.

1543 BALE *Yet a Courte* 24 Parysh clarkes and bellryngers. 1668 N. O. tr. *Boileau's Lutrin* iv. 133 Who should come in, but Girard the Bell-ringer? 1841 DICKENS *Barn. Rudge* 3/2 The parish clerk and bellringer of Chigwell.

So **Bell-ringing** *vbl. sb.* and *ppl. a.*

c. 1315 SHOREHAM 8 Holi thynges, As hali water... Liyt, and bel-ryngynges. 1408 E. E. *Wills* (1882) 15 Wyth Belle Ryngyng... and Masse of requiem. 1883 *Daily News* 30 July 5/8 Bellringing showy equipages conducted by postillions and drawn by four strong horses.

Bell-rope (be'lrōp). [f. as prec.]

The rope by which a bell is rung, *i.e.* either those in a belfry, or those which hang from the bell-levers in a room or chamber.

1638 FORD *Fancies* III. ii. 163 Why hang thy looks like bell ropes? 1781 COWPER *Truth* 82 Girt with a bell-rope that the pope has blessed. 1871 *Mad. Simple's Invest.* III. in *Casquet Lit.* (1877) I. 311/1 He pulled a bell-rope which hung at his bed's head. 1883 *St. James's Gas.* 30 Nov. 5/1 It has been decided that the bell-ropes are the legal property of the churchwardens.

Bellswagger, -syte, var. BELSWAGGER, -SIRE.

Bell-tongue: see BILTONG.

Bellue, obs. form of BELLOW.

† **Belluine, a. Obs.**; also 7 belluin. [ad. L. *belluin-us*, f. *bellua* beast: see -INE.] Pertaining to or characteristic of beasts; brutal.

1618 MYNSHUL *Ess. Prison* 35 Barbarous cruelty is a Belluine quality. 1708 C. MATHER *Magn. Chr.* VII. vi. (1852) 575 The dying beast, with belluine rage, got such hold on his head. a 1731 ATTERBURY (J.) At this rate the animal and belluine life would be the best.

Bell-wether (be'lweðər). Forms: 5 *belleweder*, *belwedyr*, 5-7 *-weather*, 6- *-weder*, *-wedder*, *-weadder*, 6-8 *bellweather*, 5- *bellwether*, 6- *bellwether*. [f. *BELL* sb.¹ + *WETHER*.]

1. The leading sheep of a flock, on whose neck a bell is hung.

c 1440 *Prompt. Parv.* 30/1 *Belwedyr*, shepe, *titurus*. 1540 *Compl. Scot.* vi. 66 The bel veddir for blythnes bleytit rycht fast. 1591 SPENSER *M. Hubbard* 296 To follow after their *Belwether*. 1718 MOTTEUX *Quix.* (1733) l. 237 He that steals a *Bell-wether*, shall be discover'd by the *Bell*. 1847 LEWIS *Hist. Philas.* (1867) II. 254 Men are for the most part like sheep, who always follow the *bell-wether*.

2. *fig.* A chief or leader. (Mostly contemptuous.) *c* 1430 *Lydg. Bochas* (1554) 224 a, I was cled in my country *The belwether*. 1577 *HOLINSHED Chron.* II. 40/2 Thomas being the ring-leader of the one sect, and Scotus the *belwether* of the other. 1687 T. BROWN *Saints in Upr.* Wks. 1730 l. 73 The principal *bell-weathers* of this mutiny. 1794 SOUTHEY *Wat Tyler* III. i. Wks. II. 50 You *bell-wether* of the mob. 1848 LOWELL *Biglow P.* i, 'Taint affollerin' your *bell-wethers* Will excuse ye in His sight.

3. *fig.* a. A clamorous person, one ready to give mouth. b. (Used approbatively.)

c 1460 *Towneley Myst.* 86 Go now, *belweder*. 1598 SHAKS. *Merry W.* III. v. 111 To be detected with a lealious rotten *Bell-wether*. 1680 SHELTON *Quix.* IV. xiii. 109 She made me weep, that am no *Bell-wether*. 1847 HALLIWELL, *Bell-wether*, a fretful child. *North.*

Hence *Bell-wethering*, the fact of leading and being led 'like sheep.' *Bell-wetherishness*, tendency to follow one who takes the lead.

1882 *Spectator* 25 Mar. 388 But for the *bell-wethering*, there could have been no crinoline at all. *Ibid.* 387 The gregariousness, and *bell-wetherishness* of the English people, who must all do the same thing at once.

Bellwort (be'lwɜrt). [f. *BELL* sb.¹ + *WORT*.] A general name in English botany for the plants of the N.O. *Campanulaceæ*, of which the type is the *Campanula* or *Bellflower*. Also, in U.S., a name for the genus *Uvularia*.

1884 *Garden. Illustr.* 8 Nov. 426/2 A garden of *Bell Worts* .. only would be very interesting.

Belly (be'li), *sb.* Forms: 3-4 *bali*, 4 *baly* (e), 4-5 *bale*, 4-6 *bely*, (5 *bylly*), 6 *bally*, *bealy* (e), *bellye*, 6-7 *bellie*, 5- *belly*. [ME. *bali*, *bely* :- OE. *bælig*, *bælig*, earlier *bælg*, *bælg* 'bag, skin, envelope, hull (of beans and peas)', identical with ON. *bælg* 'skin, bag', OHG. *balg*, MDu. *balch*, Goth. *balgs* 'bag, sack', -O. Teut. **balgi-z* 'bag', lit. 'inflated or swollen thing', f. *belgan*, pa. t. *balg*, 'to be inflated, swell up'. The same word of which the plural appears as *BELLOWS*. The sense 'belly' did not exist in OE., and has not been developed in the cognate langs. Evidence is wanting to show whether it came directly from the sense of a material 'bag', or whether the meaning 'body' (as the shell or husk of the soul) intervened: cf. senses 2 and 3. The history of the differentiation of *belly* and *bellos* is complicated. The various dialectal forms of the OE. word were WSax. *bælg*, later *bylg*, *bylig*, Kentish and ESax. *bælg*, *bælig*, Anglian *bælg*, *bælig*; these gave the early ME. *bali* (*ū*), *beli*, *bali*, respectively. Of these *beli*, *bely* occurs in sense both of 'bellows' and 'belly'; *bali* only as = 'belly'; *bali(es)* only as = 'bellows.' Hence it may be inferred that the sense 'body, belly' arose first in a dialect where the form was *bali*, *baly*, and that this form passed with this sense into other dialects, which could thus discriminate *bali* 'belly', from *beli*, *bali*, 'bellows.' Meanwhile the *belly* dial. obtained the distinction in another way, viz. by the establishment of *belu* in sense of 'bellows': thus the *Prompt. Parv.* has *Bely venter*, *Below follis*. Finally the pl. *belwes*, *belows* was generally adopted in that sense, and *beli*, *bely* became the literary form for the part of the body. *Bally* still occurs dialectally, e.g. in Lancashire and Shropshire.]

I. Original sense, in OE.

† 1. A bag, skin-bag, purse, pod, husk. Freq. in comb. as *bean-bælg* 'bean-pod', *blást-bælg* *BELLOWS* q.v., *met-bælg* 'meat-bag, scrip', *wine-bælg* 'wine-skin, leather bottle'. Only in OE.

c 990 *Lindisf. Gosp.* Luke xv. 16 And wilnade gefylle womb his of bean-bælgum. — *ibid.* xxii. 35 Ic sende iuh buta seame and met-bælg. — *c* 975 *Rukku. C.* *ibid.*, Butu seome and met-bælg. — Matt. ix. 17 Ne menn geotap win niowe in win belgas alde, elles to berstap ba belgas. and ba belgas to lore weorðap. 971 *Blickl. Hom.* 31 Pa nam he fī stanas on his herdebælg. 1090 *Gloss.* in Wt.-Wülcker *Voc.* 360 *Bulga*, bælg eððe bylg.

II. Of the body of man and animals.

† 2. The body (as the shell or integument of the soul. Cf. Ger. *madensack* 'worm-sack', the body). *Obs.*

c 1275 *Sinners Beware* 199 in O. E. Misc. 78 Hwenne *bali* me byndep And bryngþ hine on eorþe. *c* 1275 *Death* 83 in O. E. Misc. 172 Penne sæiþ þe sawle .. Awai þu wrecche fole *bali* (l. 83 *baly*), Nu þu list on bere. *Ibid.* 137 Li awariede *bali* [later *verr*, *bodi*], that neauer thu ne arise.

3. That part of the human body which lies between the breast and the thighs, and contains the bowels; the abdomen. (The ordinary mod. sense.)

1340 HAMPOLE *Pr. Consc.* 679 Þe brest with þe bely. *c* 1380 WYCLIF *Pseudo-Preris Wks.* (1880) 315 To breede hem grete balyes. *c* 1440 *Prompt. Parv.* 30 *Bely*, *venter*, *abnus*, *uterus*. 1c 1475 *Hunt. Hare* 187 Won hit hym on the bale with a mall. 1600 SHAKS. *A. Y. L.* II. vii. 154 The Iustice in faire round belly, with good Capon lin'd. 1803 *Baister Pedest. Tour* II. 643 A secret retained four and twenty hours would have burst his belly. 1834 MARRYAT *P. Simple* xxi. We must creep to the ramparts on our bellies. 1843 *Watson's Pract. Physic* II. 342 Organs .. in the cavity of the belly. *fig.* 1677 *GILPIN Demonol.* (1867) 254 [To] go over the belly of their scruple to the performance of their action.

b. The part of a garment covering the belly.

1599 B. JONSON *Ev. Man out of Hum.* III. i. Such a sleeve, such a shirt, belly and all. 1601 CORNWALLIS *Ess.* II. xxviii. Our Taylors gave us a little belly to our doublets.

4. The under part of the body of animals.

c 1440 *Anc. Cookery in Househ. Ord.* (1790) 451 Take pykes, and undo hom on the bale, and wash hom clene. 1535 COVERDALE *Gen.* iii. 14 Vpon thy bely [WYCLIF, *breest*] shalt thou go & earth shalt thou eate. 1667 MILTON *P. L.* x. 514 A monstrous Serpent on his Belly prone. 1711 *London Gaz.* No. 4792/4 Two Geldings, the one black .. carrying a small Belly. 1862 *JOHNS Brit. Birds* (1879) 419 The Common Curlew .. belly white, with longitudinal dusky spots.

b. As a joint of meat.

1883 *Enquire Within* (ed. 67) § 1044 A belly of pork is excellent in this way.

5. That part of the body which receives food; the stomach with its adjuncts.

1362 LANGL. *P. Pl.* A. Prol. 41 Heor Bagges and heore Balyes weren [bratful] I-crommet. *c* 1375 WYCLIF *Epist.* Dom. xii. Sel. Wks. II. 257 Þer owene bely þat þei feden as þer God. 1394 *P. Pl.* *Crede* 1521 With the bandes of bakun His baly for to fillen. *c* 1485 *Digby Myst.* (1882) III. 1156 Ye have so fellyd yower bylly with growell. 1526 TINDALE *Luke* xv. 16 He wolde fayne have filled his bely [WYCLIF, *wombe*] with the coddes that he swyne ate. 1554-9 *Songs & Ball.* O. *Mary* v. (1860) 13 Glade when the may fyll up thear ballys with bennys. 1562 J. HERWOOD *Prov. & Epigr.* (1867) 45 When the bealy is full, the bones wold be at rest. 1629 *FORBES Lover's Melanch.* II. ii. Get some warm porridge in your belly. 1712 ARBUTHNOT *John Bull* (1755) 16 He the sows .. upon marble, will have many a hungry belly before harvest. 1857 *Bohn's Handbk. Prov.* 70 The belly is not filled with fair words.

b. Hence, Put for the body in its capacity for food: opposed to *back*, as the recipient of clothing. Also, the appetite for food.

1555 *Fardle Facions* i. vi. 104 They sitte them downe together, and eate by the bealy. 1653 WALTON *Angler* 144 It is a hard thing to perswade the belly, because it hath no ears. 1719 W. WOOD *Serv. Trade* 312 The Labourers or Manufacturers that .. wrought for the Backs and Bellies of other People. 1796 AMHERST *Towers Fil.* 62 The best way .. is to pinch their bellies. 1796 JOHNSON in *Boswell* (1831) l. 479 He who does not mind his belly, will hardly mind any thing else. 1845 *FORD Handbk. Spain* l. 30 The way to many an honest heart lies through the belly.

c. The body in its capacity for indulgence of appetite; gluttony.

1526 TINDALE *Phil.* iii. 19 Whose God is their bely [WYCLIF, *wombe*]. *c* 1538 *STARKEY England* II. ii. 171 Drunkerys, gyuen to the bely and plesure therof. 1561 DAUS tr. *Bullinger on Apoc.* (1573) 37 b. Beastly bondslaves of the bealy. 1837 A. COMBE *Princ. Physiol.* IV. (ed. 6) 120 Let it not be supposed that I wish to make a god of the belly.

† d. A glutton. *Obs.*

1526 TINDALE *Tit.* i. 12 Evyll beastes, and slowe belies [WYCLIF, of slowe wombe]. 1577 tr. *Bullinger's Decades* (1592) 1114 Tributes .. by wicked Princes bestowed vpon flatterers and bellies. 1655 *MOUFFET Health's Impr.* (1746) 133 They called the Eaters of it Savages and Bellies.

6. The bowels.

c 1340 *Gaw. & Gr. Knt.* 1330 Þen brek þay þe bale, þe balez out token. 1553 BRENDE *Q. Curtius* Ffij He felt a payne in his bealye. 1607 TOPSELL *Four-f. Beasts* (1673) 92 Good against all pains in the small guts, for it dryeth and stayeth the belly. 1671 J. WEBSTER *Metallogr.* xii. 186 It doth not loose the belly, or purge.

7. The womb; the uterus.

c 1440 *Prompt. Parv.* 30/1 *Bely*, *uterus*. 1540-50 *Plumpton Cor.* 254 As yet my wife hath not laid her belly. 1596 SHAKS. *Merch. V.* III. v. 41, I shall answer that better than you can the getting vp of the Negroes belly; the Moore is with childe by you. 1602 WARNER *Alb. Eng.* IX. xlvii. 222 My belly did not blab, so I was still a Mayde. 1607 TOPSELL *Four-f. Beasts* (1673) 472 While they smell and taste of their dams belly. 1798 *GAY Begg. Op.* l. (1772) 75 Why, she may plead her belly at worst. 1823 'STONEHENGE' *Cry-hound* 178 'Flirt' ran second for the same cup with 'War Eagle' in her belly.

8. The internal cavity of the body; the 'inside.'

1491 CAXTON *Four Sons* (1885) 173 He braste the herte in hys bely. 1535 COVERDALE *Jonah* II. i. So was Ionas in the bely [WYCLIF, *wombe*] of the fysh, three dayes and three nightes. 1605 tr. *Gonsalvius's Sp. Inquis.* 43 Neither hath he any mans heart in his belly, that can without teares reade or heare these things. 1629 R. BERNARD *Terence's Andr.* I. i. 12/1 It made my heart cold in my belly. *c* 1645 HOWELL *Let.* (1650) l. 472 Some shallow-pated puritan .. will .. cry me up to have a Pope in my belly.

9. The interior, the inside; esp. of things having a hollow cavity within, but also of other things material and immaterial.

1535 COVERDALE *Jonah* II. 2 Out of the bely [WYCLIF, *wombe*] off hell I cried. 1658 USSHER *Ann.* v. 78 Out of Scythia, went over the belly of all Asia, till he came into Egypt. 1664 BUTLER *Hud.* II. III. 164 Speak 't' th' Nun at London's Belly! 1677 POTTER *Antiq. Greece* III. xiv. (1715) 223 Ships of Burden .. having large and capacious Bellies.

1832 AUSTIN *Jurist.* (1870) II. xlv. 801 They treat of *obligationes* .. as it were in the belly of the opposite class, or that of *dominia*. 1884 FROUDE *Carlyle* II. xix. 65 A .. candle lighted in the belly of a dark dead past.

† 10. An internal cavity. *Obs.*

1594 T. B. La Primaud. *Fr. Acad.* II. 148 There are hollowe places [of the braine], called 'little bellies.' *Ibid.* 220 Wee divided .. the internal parts of the frame .. of man into three bellies.

11. 'The part of anything that swells out into a larger capacity' (Johnson); the bulging part e.g. of a pot or bottle; a suddenly widened part of a vein of ore; the central portion of a muscle, etc.

1591 SPENSER *Bellay's Vis.* ix. Leaning on the belly of a pot. 1625 CROOKE *Body of Man* 759 [This muscle] was called *Digastricus* because it hath two Venters or Bellies. 1625 BACON *Delays*, *Ess.* (Arb.) 525 The Handle of the Bottle, first to be received, and after the Belly. 1674 *Gaww Anat. Plants* I. vii. § 12 Against the Belly of the Bean. 1710 LONDON & WISE *Compl. Gard.* IV. (1719) 62 A handsome Pear .. its Belly round. 1747 HOOSON *Miners' Dict.* s.v. Such Bellies prove oftentimes very well filled with Ore. 1799 KIRWAN *Geol. Ess.* 416 Sulphurated Iron occurs in strata in bellies and in veins. 1825-6 TODD *Cycl. Anat. & Phys.* I. 711/1 The belly of the shell comprises the greatest part of the exterior surface. 1845 TODD & BOWMAN *Phys. Anat.* I. 176 Muscles which have a bulging centre or belly.

12. A concave or hollow surface; a concavity formed in a surface, e.g. of a sail.

1607 TOPSELL *Four-f. Beasts* (1673) 443 Citherns or Lutes, upon whose bellies the Musicians played their Musick. *a* 1626 BACON (J.) An Irish harp hath the concave or belly, not along the strings, but at the end of the strings. 1701 *Phil. Trans.* XXIII. 1277 They wholly laid aside the Tortoise shell, and the sonorous part or Belly of the Lyre, was made of .. different Figures. 1840 R. DANA *Bef. Mast* v. 12 To fall from aloft and be caught in the belly of a sail.

13. The front, inner, or lower surface of anything, as opposed to the *back*; e.g. the front bulging surface of a violin, the inside of curved timber, the angle formed by the meeting of the two lower sides of a burin or graver, the convex under edge of the tumbler of a lock, etc.

c 1790 IMISON *Sch. Art* II. 44 Great pains is required to whet the graver nicely, particularly the belly of it. 1843 *Penny Cycl.* XXVI. 346/1 The back [of the violin] is worked out much in the same proportion as the belly. *c* 1850 *Rudim. Nav.* (Weale) 96 *Belly*, the inside or hollow part of compass or curved timber, the outside of which is called the *Back*. 1867 TYNDALL *Sound* III. 90 The two feet of the bridge rest upon the most yielding portion of the belly of the violin. 1884 F. BRITTEN *Watch & Clockm.* 143 The teeth of the wheel in passing just clear the belly of the pallets.

14. In various technical uses derived from the preceding: e.g. in *Coach-building*, the wooden casing of the axle-tree; in *Leather trade*, the belly hide of an ox or other beast (cf. *BEND, BACK*); in *Saddlery*, a piece of leather fastened to the back of the cantle, and sometimes forming a point of attachment for valise-straps.

1880 *Daily News* 10 Nov. 3/8 Leather .. There is a short supply .. of .. light English .. bellies.

III. Comb. and Attrib.

15. attrib. (often = *adj.*) Pertaining to the belly: a. lit. Ventral, abdominal, as in *belly-fin*, *-part*, *-place*, *-worm*.

1594 BLUNDEVIL *Exerc.* IV. xix. 473 The lower belly-part of the former fish. 1607 TOPSELL *Four-f. Beasts* (1673) 156 His tender belly-parts. 1748 tr. *Vegetius' Distemp. Horres* 93 Proper for destroying Maw- or Belly-worms. 1774 GOLDSM. *Nat. Hist.* (1862) 294 The ventral, or belly fins, are either wholly wanting, as in the eel, etc. 1869 BLACKMORE *Lorna D.* III. 17 'Us must crawl on our belly-places.'

† b. Pertaining to the supply of food, to bodily nourishment or appetite, as in *belly-care*, *-joy*, *-matter*, *Obs.*

1577 LANGL. *P. Pl.* B. vii. 118 I shall cessen of my sowying .. Ne about my bely ioye so bisi be na-more. *c* 1530 *MORR De quat. Noviss.* Wks. 101 Preferring their belly joy before all the ioyes of heauen. 1549 COVERDALE *Erasm. Par.* 1 Cor. 2 The Lordes souper .. was no bealy matter. *a* 1564 BECON *Fortr. Faithful Wks.* (1844) 602 This belly-care .. is a great temptation to man .. when he seeth all things so dear.

† c. *Theol.* Pertaining to the service of the flesh; fleshly, carnal; as in *belly-doctrine*, *-ease*, *-wisdom*. 1528 TINDALE *Obed. Chr. Man* To Rdr. Wks. I. 138 Our fleshy wit, our worldly understanding, and belly-wisdom. 1528 *Roy Satire* (1845) A belly beast engendered among the .. papistical secte. 1645 MILTON *Tetrach.* Wks. (1851) 146 Deluded through belly-doctrines into a devout slavery. 1711 SHAFTESB. *Charac.* (1737) I. 283 Apt to construe every divine saying in a belly-sense.

16. a. objective with *vbl. sb.* or *pr. pple.*, as *belly-worshipper*, *-worshipping*. b. locative and adverbial, as *belly-beaten*, *-devout*, *-fed*, *-gulled*, *-laden*, *-naked*, *-pinched*, *-proud*, *-sprung*; also *belly-like* *adj.*

1648 ROGERS *Naaman* 219 Children .. backed and *belly-beaten. 1599 SANDYS *Europe Spec.* (1632) 140 The 'belly-devout' Friars. 1574 B. GOOGE *Let.* in *N. & Q.* III. III. 182 The 'bellyfedd' mynsters that came over, att .. a miserabell hard dyett. 1640 BROME *Sparagus Gard.* v. xiii. 221, I have been .. backed-guld and *belly-guld. 1727 BRADLEY *Fam. Dict.* s.v. *Badger*. The other lays Earth on his Belly, and so .. draws the *Belly-laden Badger out of the Hole. 1847-9 TODD *Cycl. Anat. & Phys.* IV. 486/2 The posterior 'belly-like part of the cell. 1525 *Basyn* 168 in *Hazl. E. P. P.* III. 51 Upstert the wench .. And ran to hir maistrays all *baly naked. 1651 COTGR. *Tout fin mere nw*, all discovered ..

starke *bellie naked. 1605 SHAKS. *Learn* III. i. 13 The lion and the *belly-pinch'd wolf. 1675 *Three Inhumane Murth.* 2 Growing *Belly-proud, and Prodigal. 1607 *Lingua* IV. i. in *Hazl. Doodl.* IX. 412 *Belly-sprung invention.

17. Special combinations: belly-bound *a.*, constipated, costive; belly-brace, a cross-brace passing beneath the steam-boiler of a locomotive; + belly-heat (*slang*), something for the belly, food; also, an apron; belly-critie, a connoisseur of good living; + belly-cup, a cup with a swelling body; + belly-doublet, a doublet covering the belly; belly-fretting, 'a great Pain in the Belly of a Horse; also the Wounding, or Galling of that Part with Fore-girths' (Phillips 1706); + belly-friend, a parasite; belly-grinding, pain in the bowels, colic; belly-gut, a slothful glutton; belly-guy (*Naut.*), 'a tackle applied half-way up sheers, or long spars that require support in the middle' (Adm. Smyth); belly-helve (see *quot.*); belly-metal, food, BELLY-TIMBER; + belly-mountained *a.*, having a large prominent belly; + belly-paunch, (*fig.*) a great eater, a glutton; + belly-pinched *a.*, pinched with hunger; belly-roll, a roller with a central bulge, adapted to roll land between ridges or in hollows; belly-sacrifice, 'a sacrifice to the belly; belly-shot *a.*, a disease of cattle (see *quot.*); + belly-slave, one devoted to eating and drinking; belly-stay (*Naut.*), a stay 'used half-mast down when a mast requires support' (Adm. Smyth); + belly-swain, 'a glutton; + belly-sweep *v.*, to sweep (the ground) with the belly; belly-thrawe (*Sc.*), pain in the belly, colic; belly-vengeance (*dial.*), sour ale, cider, wine, etc. Also BELLY-ACHE, BELLY-GOD, BELLY-TIMBER, etc., *q. v.*

1607 TORSSELL *Four-f. Beasts* 302 Of Costiveness, or *Belly-bound, when a Horse is bound in the belly, and cannot dung. 1609 DEKKER *Lanth. & Candle Lt. Wks.* 188; III. 196 A Smelling cheate, signifies a Nose... A *Belly cheate, an Apron. 1622 FLETCHER *Begg. Bush* II. i. Each man shall eat his own stol'n eggs, . . . ay, and possess What he can purchase, back or *belly-cheats, To his own prop. 1711 KEN *Urania* Wks. 1721 IV. 468 The *Belly-Criticks study how to eat. 1673 *Land. Gas.* No. 764/4 Several Canns, Bous, *Belly-Cups, Spoons. 1588 SHAKS. *L. L. L.* III. i. 19 Your armes crost on your thin *bellie doublet. 1579 LANGHAM *Gard. Health* (1633) 529 [For] *Belly grinding, bake a cake of Rye flower . . . and apply it as hot as may be suffered. 1540 MORVINE tr. *Vives Introd. Wisd.* D viij. Suche as be skoffers, smell feastes, . . . belly guts. 1733 BAILEY *Erasm. Collog.* (1877) 346 (D.) Thou wouldest not have a *belly-gut for thy servant, but rather one brisk and agile. 1881 RAYMOND *Mining Gloss.*, *Belly-keke, a forge-hammer, lifted by a cam. . . midway between the fulcrum and the head. 1590 *Plain Perc.* A iij. Old wringers . . . that fell out at their *belly mettall. 1544 GATAKER *Disc. Apol.* 65 A man of puff-past, like that fat *bellie-mountain'd Bishop. 1553-97 FOXE *A. & M.* (1596) 28/2 Heliogabalus that monstrous *belly-paunch. 1725 BRADLEY *Fam. Dict.* s. v. *Ridge*, It is harrow'd right up and down, and roll'd with a *Belly-Roll that passes between the Ridges. 1555 *Fardle Facions* II. ix. 300 Acquaintance and kindnessfolke, assembled together, make a *belie sacrifice of hymn [i. e. devotion him]. 1688 J. CLAYTON in *Phil. Trans.* XVII. 986 Their Guts [i. e. of cattle] shrink up, and they become *Belly-shot. 1565 *Homilies* II. *Agst. Gluttony* (1859) 300 These beastly *belly-slaves . . . continually day and night, give themselves wholly to bibbing and banqueting. 1587 CAMPION *Hist. Prel.* II. i. (1633) 67 Proud, *belly-swaines fed with extortion and bribery. 1638 G. DANIEL *Eclog.* v. 146 Some *belly-sweep the Earth, and some have wings To cut the purer Ayre. 1595 DUNCAN *Append. Etymol.* (E. D. S.), *Tormen*, the *belly-thrawe. 1626 *Blackiv. Mag.* XIX. 631 A diet of outlandish soups and *belly-vengeance.

Belly (be'li), *v.* [f. prec. sb.]

1. *trans.* To cause to swell out.

1606 SHAKS. *Tr. & Cr.* II. ii. 74 Your breath with full consent bellied his sales. 1790 COLERIDGE *Happiness Poems* I. 33 Fortune's gale Shall belly out each prosperous sail. 1848 LOWELL *Biglow P. Poet.* Wks. (1879) 179/1 But could see the fair west wind belly the homeward sail.

2. *intr.* To bulge out, swell out.

1624 SAUNDERSON *12 Serm.* (1637) 172 The Morter getting wet dissolveth, and the wals belly-out. 1718 POPE *Iliad* I. 626 The milk-white canvass bellying as they [the gales] blow. 1775 M. GUTHRIE in G. Colman *Posth. Lett.* (1820) 119 An earthen pot that Bellys towards the top. 1883 SPURGEON in *Chr. Her.* 277/1 Her white sails bellying to the wind.

+ 3. *intr.* To become corpulent or stout. *Obs.*

1641 *Best Farm. Bks.* (1856) 73 Your hogges will beginne to belly againe. 1679 SHADWELL *True Widow* I. Wks. 1720 III. 120, I begin to belly, I think, very much. 1778 BURKE *Corr.* (1844) I. 381 We . . . flatter ourselves that, while we creep on the ground, we belly into melons.

Belly-ache (be'li,æk), [f. BELLY *sb.* + *ACHE*, which see for forms.] 'The colic or pain in the bowels.' Johnson. *Bellyache* (-bush, -weed), names given to the *Jatropha gossypifolia*; *belly-ache-root* = *ANGELICA*.

1552 HULSTET, Diseased with bealye ache, or featyngs in the bealye. 1750 G. HUGHES *Barbados* 152 The Belly-Ach. The roots of this shrub are . . . white, penetrating deep into the earth. 1775 ADAMS *Amer. Ind.* 412 Angelica, or belly-ach-root is one of their physical greens. 1804 SOUTHEY *Lett.* (1856) I. 268 A supper so hearty, That it gave him a sad belly-ache.

Belly-band. [f. BELLY *sb.* + *BAND*.]

1. The band which passes round the belly of a horse in harness, to check the play of the shafts.

1523 FITZHERB. *Husb.* § 5 A cart-sadel, bakbandes, and belybandes. 1837 MARRIAT *Olla Podr.* xxxvi, The shaft horse neither felt his saddle nor his belly-band.

2. *Naut.* 'A slip of canvas stitched across a sail to strengthen the parts most liable to pressure.' Smyth *Sailor's Word-bk.* See *BAND sb.* 6.

1860 H. STUART *Seaman's Catech.* 45 The reef bands and belly bands stretch from leech to leech.

3. The piece of string on the face of a kite, to which the ball of twine is attached.

Belly-blind. *Sc.* [The meaning and origin of *belly* here is uncertain: it may possibly = *billie* 'fellow, comrade.' *Belly Blind* or more commonly *Billie Blin* is the name of 'a serviceable household demon of a decidedly benignant disposition' in several Scottish ballads: see Child *Eng. and Sc. Pop. Ballads* I. 67, where the name is discussed and compared with Du. *belwille*, Ger. *bilwisse*, and other Teutonic words of kindred use. But the connexion between these and the sense of *belly-blind* below is not obvious.] A blind-folded person; esp. in the game of Blind-man's Buff; hence used as a name for that game, also (as in first *quot.*) for 'Hide and Seek.'

1450 HENRYSON *Mor. Fab.* 77 Thou playes belly blind, Wee seeke all night, but nothing can wee finde. c. 1520 *Adv. Lurairs*, Sum led is lyk the belly-blind With luv.

+ **Belly-cheer**, *sb.* *Obs.* [f. BELLY *sb.* + *CHEER*, which see for forms.]

1. The gratification of the belly; feasting, gluttony; luxurious eating.

1549 OLDE *Erasm. Par. Eph.* Prol. Onely for pelfe, belly-cheare, ease and lucre. 1580 LUTPON *Sigula* 56 That gave himself to nothing but to drinking, bybbling, and bellycheare. 1606 HOLLAND *Sutton.* 235 Given most of all to excessive belly-cheare (*luxuria*). 1650 S. CLARKE *Eccl. Hist.* 245.

2. *concr.* Food, viands.

1579 FOLKE *Refut. Rastell* 172 Prophane banquets of bellie cheare. 1611 COTGR., *Carrelure de ventre*, meat, belly timber, belly cheare. 1619 FOTHERBY *Athom.* I. xi. § 4 Wine, and Belly-cheare. 1699 COLES, *Belly-cheer, cibaria*.

+ **Belly-cheer**, *v.* *Obs.* [f. prec. sb.] *intr.* To feast luxuriously.

1549 UDALL, etc., *Erasm. Par. Eph.* Prol. (R.) Riotous bankettyng, potte-companyning, and bellychearyng. 1648 MILTON *Tenure Kings* 41 A pack of Clergie men . . . to belly cheare in their presumptuous Sion, or to promote designs.

Belly-flaught, *a.* *Sc.* [f. BELLY *sb.* + *FLAUGHT*, 'in full flight' (Jam.).]

1. Headlong; precipitate.

c. 1375 ? BARBOUR *St. Barthol.* 316 And bely-flawcht fiede also. 1712-58 A. RAMSAY *Poems* (1844) 78 The bauld guid-wife . . . Came *bellyflaught. 1805 NICOLL *Poems* I. 31 (Jam.) Beath flew belly-flaught I' the pool.

2. To fly belly-flaught: i. e. by pulling the skin off entire over the head.

a. 1550 *Priests of Pbelis* 25 (Jam.) Thus fla they al the puir men belly flaught. 1774 MONRO *Descr. Hebr.* 47 (Jam.) Quhen they slay their sheepe, they flay them belly flaught.

Belly-ful (be'li,ful), [f. BELLY *sb.* + *FUL*.]

1. As much as the belly will contain; a sufficiency of food.

1573 TUSSEY *Husb.* (1878) 101 No spoone meat, no belly-ful, labourers thinke. 1595 SPENSER *Epithal.* 251 Pourre not by cups, but by the bellyfull. 1755 SMOLLETT *Quix.* (1803) IV. 158, I never once had my belly-full, even of dry bread. 1821 J. HAWTHORNE *Fort. Fool* I. xxiii, What I need now is a bellyful of venison and acorn-bread.

2. A sufficiency; quite as much (of anything) as one wants or cares to take. (Now rather *coarse*.)

1535 COVERDALE *Ezek.* xxvi. 2, I haue destroyed my bely full. 1583 GOLDING *Catv. on Dent.* ci. 684 Let him thunder his belly full. 1689 A. LOVELL *Bergerac's Com. Hist.* II. 42 The Spectators, having had their Belly-fulls of Laughing. 1705 HICKERINGILL *Priest-cr.* II. vi. 61 Take your Bellyfulls of Sermons. 1824 THACKERAY *Esmond* III. v. (1876) 357 The nation had had its bellyful of fighting.

Belly-god (beli,god), [f. as prec. + *GOD*.]

1. One who makes a god of his belly; a glutton.

c. 1540 *Compl. Rodk. Mors* xxii. F iv b, A sort of bellygods and ydle stoute and strong lorrels. 1620 VENNOR *Via Recta* vi. 102 Mixt sauces . . . which of ingurgitating belly-gods are greatly esteemed. 1683 TRYON *Way to Health* 395 Many of our English Belly-Gods suppose Flesh to be most mighty in its operation. 1818 SCOTT *Rob Roy* xxviii, 'To see thae English belly-gods!'

attrib. c. 1570 Bp. St. Andrew's in *Scot. Poems* II. 307 Fals Pharisanis, Bellie god bischopis. 1634-46 Row *Hist. Kirk* (1842) 344 Bellie-god bishops hes little will of that work.

2. A god presiding over the appetites.

a. 1619 FOTHERBY *Athom.* I. xi. § 4 (1622) 117 These three Belly-gods; Bacchus, Ceres, Venus.

Bellying (beli,ing), *vbl. sb.* [f. BELLY *v.* + *-ING*.] A swelling or bulging out.

1662 HOBBS *Seven Prob.* Wks. 1845 VII. 45 The bellying of the sail. 1753 FRANKLIN *Wks.* (1840) 299 They will comply better with the bellying of the glass.

Bellying, *phl. a.* [f. as prec. + *-ING*.] Swelling, bulging out.

a. 1700 DRYDEN *Iliad* I. Wks. (1700) 213 The bellying Canvass strutt'd with the Gale. 1822 W. IRVING *Braceb. Hall* (1845) 325 As if the bellying clouds were torn open by the mountain

tops. *fig.* 1830 *Fraser's Mag.* I. 133 His fame, buoyant and bellying as it is.

Bellyis, *obs.* form of *BELLOWS*.

+ **Belly-piece**, *Obs.* [f. BELLY *sb.* + *PIECE*.]

1. The flesh covering the belly; the peritoneum. 1591 PERCIVALL *Sp. Dict.*, *Ijada*, the small ribs, the collike, the belly peece of a fish. 1633 P. FLETCHER *Purple Isl.* II. *note*, The muscles of the belly-peece, or the inner rimme of the belly. a. 1650 CLEVELAND *Pet. Poem* 31 My Belly-pieces are so fat, they will if toasted, serve for Belly-pieces still.

2. The part of the dress covering the belly; an apron.

1689 SHADWELL *Bury Fair* II i, My fat Host's Belly-pieces. 3. The piece forming the belly of a violin, etc.

1609 DOULAND *Ornithop. Micro.* 22 Let it be covered with a belly peece well smoothed . . . like the belly of a lute.

4. A concubine.

1632 RANDOLPH *Jealous Lovers Wks.* (1668) 37 Blush not, belly-piece.

Bellyship, *nonce-wd.* In 7 belliship. [See *-SHIP*.] The personality of the belly; cf. *lordship*. (*Humorous*.)

1600 ROWLANDS *Let. Humours Blood* vii. 84 His belliship contains th' insatiate gutte.

Belly-swagger: see *BELSWAGGER*.

+ **Belly-ter**, *Obs. rare* -1. [a. F. *belître*, *belistre* beggar, vagabond; of unknown origin: see Diez, Littré, Scheler.] A beggar.

a. 1528 SKELTON *Image Hypeocr.* 386 Oh ye kynde of vypers Ye beestly bellyters.

Belly-timber, *Obs. exc. dial.* [f. BELLY *sb.*

+ *TIMBER*.] Food, provisions. (Formerly in serious use, as still in dialects (cf. *TIMBER*); but since the time of Butler tending to be ludicrous.)

1607 *Mis. Enforced Marr.* III. in *Hazl. Doodl.* IX. 519 We had some belly timber at your table. 1663 PURCHAS *Pilgrims* II. 1643 They make Florentines, and verie good belly-timber. 1663 BUTLER *Hud.* I. i. 331 Belly-Timber above Ground Or under was not to be found. 1753 SMOLLETT *Ct. Fathom* (1784) 63/2 Here is no solid belly-timber in this country. [1820 SCOTT *Monast.* (1830) I. 222 The ample provision they have made for their own belly-timber.] 1855 *Whitby Gloss.*, *Belly-timber*, food.

Belman, *obs.* form of *BELLMAN*.

Belmontin, *-ine* (be'lməntin), *sb.* [f. the 'Belmont Works' at Vauxhall.] 'A fatty substance prepared from Burmese naphtha.' Watts *Dict. Chem.* I. 538. Also used *attrib.*

1870 *Eng. Mech.* 11 Mar. 626/1 It requires no stronger light than that afforded by a . . . belmontine lamp.

Beloom *v.*: see *BE-pref.*

+ **Belock**, *v.* *Obs. rare* -1. [f. *BE-pref.* + *LOCK* *v.* (cf. *BELOUKE*)] Intensive of *LOCK*.

1603 SHAKS. *Meas. for M.* v. 210 This is the hand, which with a vovd contract Was fast belockt in thine.

Belooke, *beloke* (n, var. of *BELOUKE* *v.* *Obs.*

Belomancy (be'lomansi). Also 8 bell-. [f. Gr. *βέλος* a dart + *μαντεία* divination: see *-MANCY*.]

Divination by means of arrows.

1646 SIR T. BROWNE *Pseud. Ep.* 272 Alike way of Belomancy or Divination by Arrowes hath bene in request with Scythians, Alanes, Germans. 1883 *Sat. Rev.* 84/1 These . . . divining arrows or rods or the knotted [sic] sticks of belomancy.

Belone (be'lōn), [L. *belone*, a Gr. *βέλον* a needle.] Generic name of the GAB-FISH.

+ **Belong**, *a.* *Obs. rare*. In 3 bilong. [Early ME., answering in form and meaning to OS. *bilang*, MDu. *belangh*, *belanc* adj.; f. *bi-*, *BE-pref.* + *LONG* *a.*, app. shortened form of OE. *ge-lang*, ME. *y-long*, *i-long*, *ALONG* *a.* As in other words (cf. *BELIEF*), the *ge-* may have been dropped already in OE.; Ormin has 'lang o Cristes helpe.'

The primary notion was apparently 'equally long, corresponding in length,' whence 'running alongside of, parallel to, going along with, accompanying as a property or attribute'; cf. *BELONG* *v.*, also *BRLENCE* *a.* Pertaining, belonging, or appropriate; 'along of.' Const. *on*.

c. 1250 *Gen. & Ex.* 2058 Tel me bin drem, mi broder her . . . be reching wurd on god bi-long.

Belong (bi'lɒŋ), *v.* Forms: 4 *bi-*, 4-5 *by-long*, 4- *belong*; *north.* and *Sc.* *belang*. [ME. *bi-*, *belongen* appears to be an intensive (with *BE-pref.*) of the simple *longen*, common in the same sense from 13th c.: see *LONG* *v.* 2 OHG. has, in same sense, *bilangen*, MDu. *belanghen*, mod.G. and Du. *belangen*, also a *sb.* *belang* 'concern, interest, importance'; but no trace of such forms is found in OE. For the sense, cf. the prec. adj.]

1. *intr.* To go along with, or accompany, as an adjunct, function, or duty; to be the proper accompaniment, to be appropriate, to pertain to.

1340 *Ayenh.* 176 Pe uelliche [poyses] belongeþ to lost an to wyninges. 1377 LANGL. *P. Pl. B.* Prol. 110 For in loue and letterure þe eleccioun bilongeth. c. 1386 CHAUCER *Merch.* T. 215 Suffisaunt To doon al that a man bilongeth unto. 1486 *Bk. St. Alban's* D iij b, Theys haukes belong to an Emproure. 1580 SIDNEY *Arcadia* (1613) 209 To learne the good what traualles do belong. 1599 SHAKS. *Much Ado* III. iii. 40 Wee know what belongs to a Watch. 1621 BIBLE *Dan.* ix. 9 To the Lord our God belong mercies and forgivenesses. 1667 MILTON *P. L.* vi. 807 Of this cursed crew The punishment to other hand belongs. 1712 ADDISON *Spect.* No. 397 ¶ 3

Grief has a natural Eloquence belonging to it. 1861 Gzo. ELIOT in *Cross Life* (1885) II. xi. 322 He... works with all the zest that belongs to fresh ideas.

b. *impers.*, or with subject *it* repr. a clause. 1413 *Lydg. Pylgr. Soule* l. xii. Neuer ne left he... his burdon, as it bylongeth to a good pylgrym. c 1450 *Merlin* xv. 239 He was wele horsed as to soche a man be-longeth. 1588 A. KING *Canisius Catech.* 188 To rakin thame al in this place it belanges nat to our purpose. 1667 MILTON *P. L.* III. 111 They therefore, as to right belondg. So were created. 1881 KEATS *Isabel* xlix. Here... it doth not well belong To speak.

2. To pertain, concern, refer, or relate to. *arch.* 1340 *Ayenh.* 12 De ojer article [of the Creed] belonge to be zone. 1549 COVERDALE *Erasm. Par.* i Cor. i. 24 Nor belongeth these my wordes onelye to you, but generally to all nations. 1553 HOOKER *Ecc. Pol.* II. viii. § 4 Whatsoever belongeth unto the highest perfection of man. 1611 SHAKS. *Cymb.* v. v. 147 All that belongs to this. 1611 Bible i Cor. vii. 22 He that is unmarried careth for the things that belong to the Lord.

3. To be the property or rightful possession of. *Const. to*; occas. with *indirect obj.*

1393 LANGL. *P. Pl. C.* II. 43 Telle 3e me now to wham þat tresour by-longeþ. 1508 FISHER *Wks.* I. (1876) 290 The Blessed Marthia was a woman of noble blode, to whom by enheritance belongeth the castel of bethany. a 1602 ASHMOLE *Antiq. Berks* (1723) II. 424 The Hundred of Wargrave did for many Ages belong to the Bishops of Winchester. 1764 BAYDGE *Hom. Travest.* (1797) I. 128 Thy buxom wench... Belongs a better man than thee. 1835 PENNY *Cycl.* XIV. 365/2 Rushen Abbey belonged to the Cistercian order. 1854 McCULLOCH *Comm. Dict.* 1105 Property belonging to another state.

b. To be a property or attribute of. 1662 STILLINGF. *Orig. Sacre* III. ii. § 18 It must have equal motion in all its particles, if motion doth belong to it. a 1704 LOCKE *Wks.* (1706) 191 This way of containing all things can by no means belong to God. 1855 BAIN *Senses & Int.* II. ii. § 14 (1864) 204 The accompaniment of activity belongs to every one of the senses. 1885 J. MARTINEAU *Ethical The.* I. 275 The innumerable 'attributes' which must belong to an infinite nature.

4. To be connected with in various relations; to form a part or appendage of; *e.g.* to be a member of a family, society, or nation, to be an adherent or dependent of, to be a native or inhabitant of a place; to be a dependency, adjunct, or appendage of something; to be one of a generation or time.

1393 GOWER *Conf. I.* 121 Þe nimphes of the welles, And other... Unto the wodes belongende. 1485 CAXTON *Paris & V. Prol.* I belong to the parish of Saint Pierre. 1535 COVERDALE *Esther* viii. i Hester tolde how that he belongeth unto her. 1601 SHAKS. *Twel. N.* v. i. 9 Belong you to the Lady Oliuia, friends? 1613 — *Hen. VIII.* v. iv. 3 Good M. Porter, I belong to th' Larder. 1711 ADDISON *Spect.* No. 121 P. The great Yard that belongs to my Friend's Country-House. 1856 *Sat. Rev.* II. 189 Mr. Pierce belongs to New Hampshire. 1875 MACDONELL in *Macm. Mag.* XXXII. 545 His finest figures belong to [an early] period in American history. 1883 M. CRAWFORD *Mr. Isaacs* iv. 71 To what confession do you yourself belong? 1884 H. DRUMMOND *Nat. Law in Spir. W.* 112 Those who belong to the rank and file of life need this warning most.

b. occas. *const.* To belong *here*; also in U. S., with, *in*.

1861 O. W. HOLMES *Elsie Venner* xxvii. You belong with the last [set], and got accidentally shuffled in with the others.

† **Belonger.** *Obs. rare.* [f. *prec.* + -ER¹.] He who or that which belongs; an attribute.

1874 N. FAIRFAX *Bulk & Selv.* 12 The two first... things that the mind is likeliest to fasten on, as the main belongings to the world. *Ibid.* 112 That one belonging of unthoroughfareness.

Belonging (*bɪlɒŋɪŋ*), *vbl. sb.* [f. as *prec.* + -ING¹.] Perhaps the pl. *belongings* was orig. taken from the pr. pple., in sense of 'things belonging.'

1. Usually in pl. only.

1. Circumstances connected with a person or thing; relations with another person or thing. 1603 SHAKS. *Meas. for M.* I. i. 30 Thy selfe and thy belongings Are not thine owne so proper. 1867 FURNIVALL *Percy Folio Pref.* 5 Such information... as he would wish... in order to understand the belongings of it. 1873 BROWNING *Red Cott.* *Int.* c. 220 All my belongings, what is summed in life, I have submitted wholly... to your rule.

2. Possessions, goods, effects.

1817 B'NESS BUNSEN in *Hare Life* I. v. 117 [They] did the honors of their belongings with ease. 1857 RUSKIN *Pol. Econ. Art Add.* § 8 Jewels, liveries, and other such common belongings of wealthy people. 1871 A. HORE *Schoolboy Fr.* (1875) 158 Rushing about collecting their belongings.

3. Persons related in any way; relatives.

1854 DICKENS *Bleak H.* II. 103. I have been trouble enough to my belongings in my day. 1866 *Sat. Rev.* 24 Feb. 224/2 The rich uncle whose mission is to bring prosperity to his belongings.

4. A thing connected with, forming a part, appendage, or accessory of another.

1863 D. MITCHELL *Farm Edgew.* 106 When I have shown some curious city visitor all these belongings of the farm, 1868 LOCKYER *Heavens* (ed. 3) 26 These are the 'Sun-spots,' real movable belongings of the surface of the Sun. 1883 *Harper's Mag.* Mar. 533/2 She had shown us the rest of the château with a sense of being a belonging of the place.

II. The fact of appertaining, relationship.

1879 WHITNEY *Skr. Gram.* 275 There remain, as cases of doubtful belonging, etc.

Belonging, *ppl. a.* [f. as *prec.* + -ING².] Proper, appropriate; appertaining, accompanying.

1648 MILTON *Tenure of Kings* (1650) 45 In hands better able and more belonging to manage them. 1869 RUSKIN

Q. of Air § 141 Sanctifying noble thought with separately distinguished loveliness of belonging sound.

Belonite (*belɒnaɪt*). *Min.* [f. L. *belonē*, Gr. *βελόνη* needle + -ITE.] A mineral variety occurring in microscopic needle-shaped crystals.

1879 RUTLEY *Stud. Rocks* xi. 190 The augite and hornblende exist... as minute acicular bodies and spicular forms ('belonites'). 1880 DANA *Min.* 805 The belonite may be a feldspar.

† **Belook**, *v. Obs.* Forms: 2 *beloo-en*, 3 *bilok-en* (n), -in. [ME., f. *Be-* *pref.* 1 + *lokien*, OE. *locian* to LOOK. Cf. senses of *BEHOLD*, *BESEE*.]

1. *intr.* To look.

c 1175 *Cott. Hom.* 233 To newelnesse þe under eorþe is be-locest. a 1225 *Ancr. R.* 132 Heo mot wel... bilokin [*v.r.* biholden] on each half.

2. *trans.* To look at, consider. Also *absol.*

c 1200 *Trin. Coll. Hom.* 77 Nu hit is god time to beloken þe sinesse of þe soule. a 1400 *Octonian* 1046 Of many a knyght he was beloked.

3. *refl.* To look about one, cast one's eyes about.

a 1225 *Ancr. R.* 132 [He] biloked him euer 3eorneliche al abuten. c 1220 *Bestiary* 229 in O. E. Misc. 17 De sipes dat arn on se fordiuen... biloken hem and sen ðis fis.

Belord (*bɪlɔːd*), *v.* [f. *BE-* 5 + *LORD sb.*]

1. *trans.* To call 'lord,' address as 'my lord.'

1285 J. HOOKER *Girald. Irel.* in *Holmsh.* II. 86/2 You are begraced and belorded, and crouched and kneeled unto. 1883 SALA in *Illustr. Lond. News* 7 July, An American never fails to belord Francis of Verulam.

2. To act the lord over.

Belote, var. of *BELLOOT*. **Belout**: see *BE-* *pref.*

† **Belouke**, *v. Obs.* Forms: 1 *belúo-an*,

2-3 *biluk-en*, 4 *belouke*, (*belok*). *Pa. t.* 1-3

beléao, 3 *bilek*, -leok, -loo. *Pp. pple.* 1-2 *be-*

loosen, 2-4 *beloken*, 3-4 *biloken*, -luken, *bi-*

loke, 5 *belooke*. [OE. *bi-*, *be-lucan* (corr. to OS.

bilucan, OHG. *bilūhhan*, MHG. *belūchen*), f. *bi-*,

BE- about + *lucan*, in Goth. *lūkan*, to shut, close.]

1. *trans.* To close, to shut (a door, etc.).

971 *Blickl. Hom.* 9 Heofonices duru... belocen standeþ.

He þone halgan ham beléac. c 1000 *Ag. Gosp. Matt.* xxv.

He Seo duru was belocyn. c 1160 *Hutton G.* Beloken.

2. To shut (a person, etc.), *in* or *out*.

c 897 K. ALFRED *Past.* 399 On sumere lytelre byriþ belocene.

c 1175 *Cott. Hom.* 225 God be-léac þi binnan þan arce.

c 1250 *Owl & Night.* 1079 He hire bi-lek in one bure. c 1300

Sir Beves 3024 Belok hem thar oute for love o me. 1430

Lydg. Chron. Troy III. xxiii. How ye may suffre the great

harmes kene... Duryng the syege in this towne beloke.

3. To enclose, encompass.

c 825 *Vesp. Ps.* xxx. 9 [xxxi. 8] Ne biluce me in honda feondes.

c 1000 ORMIN 12126 *Past. Est.* and West, and Sup, and Norþ

biss middellærd bilukenn. a 1300 E. E. *Præter* xxxij. 8

Ne þou me belouked in hend of fa. c 1314 *Guy Warw.* 229

A strong cite biloken with walle.

4. To include in an expression.

c 1200 ORMIN 11495 Cristless lare... bilokenn iss I tene bode-

wordess. 1340 *Ayenh.* 99 He beloukp ine ssorte wordes al

þet we may wyryng of herte.

Belove (*bɪləv*), *v.* Forms: 2-3 *biluuien*, *bi-*

luuen, *bilouen*, 3 *biloeuen*, *bilufen*, 4-5 *bi-*

bylove, 6 *beloue*, *Sc. beluve*, 5- *belove*. [ME.

biluuen, -luuen, f. *bi-*, *BE-* 2 + *luuen*, *luuen* to LOVE.

Cf. mod. G. *belieben* and Du. *believen*, both usually

impersonal.]

† 1. *intr.* To please, be pleasing (to a person).

c 1205 LAY. 989 3if hit eow biloued... fare we from þisse

londe. a 1225 *Juliana* 24 3ef me ssa biluuede hit were

sone. a 1240 *Sawles Warde* in *Cott. Hom.* 259 Wel us

biluued hit.

† 2. *trans.* To be pleased with, approve, like. *Obs.*

c 1205 LAY. 1013 Alle hit bi-luueden. *Ibid.* 19121 Al þat

leodliche folc bilufde þesse ilke ræd.

3. To love. Now only in *passive*. *Const. with*

(*obs.*), [f. (*arch.*), *poet.*], *by*.

1377 LANGL. *P. Pl. B.* III. 211 Mede maketh hym bi-loued.

1485 CAXTON *Reynard* (Arb.) 118 The money is better byloued

than God. 1535 STEWART *Cron. Scot.* II. 521 Quhilk with

the king all tyme was best belude. 1590 SHAKS. *Mids. N.*

I. i. 204. I am belou'd of beauteous Hermia. 1604 T. WRIGHT

Passions v. § 4. 212 Those persons cannot but be accounted

hard hearted... who belove not them of whom they are

loved. 1623 WODROUPE *Marrow Fr. Tongue* 322. I would

wear it about my neck for a certain testimony that I belove

it much. 1818 BYRON *Maseppa* vii. I loved, and was beloved

again. 1825 SOUTHEY *Paraguay* ii. To Beloving and beloved

she grew, a happy child. 1871 R. ELLIS *Catullus* viii. 5 By

me belov'd as maiden is belov'd no more.

† **Belove**, *sb. Obs. rare* -1. [f. *prec.*: cf.

LOVE *sb.*] = *BELOVED sb.*

1246 BALE *Eng. Votaries* I. (1550) 48 Only Lieba and Tecla

ij English nonnes his best beloues.

Beloved (*bɪləvəd*, -ləvd), *ppl. a.* and *sb.*

Also 4 by-luffed, 5 bylouyd, 6-7 beloued. [f.

as *prec.* + -ED¹.]

A. *ppl. adj.* Loved. (Often *well-best*, *first*, etc.)

1298 TREVISIA *Barth. De P. R.* xii. xiii. (1405) 423 Gnattes

ben beste bylouyd meete to swalows. c 1285 *Digby Myst.*

(1822) II. 510 Welbelouyd frendes. 1535 COVERDALE *Song*

3 *Childr.* 11 For thy beloued Abrahams sake. 1552 Bk. *Com.*

Prayer. Dearly beloved brethren, the Scripture moveth us

in sundry places. 1597 SHAKS. *Two Gent.* II. ii. 57 How happily

he liues, how well belov'd. 1647 W. BROWNE *Polexander* II.

123 The fairest and best beloved daughter of the Emperour.

1817 COLERIDGE *Sibyl. Leaves* (1862) 243 'Twas even thine,

belov'd woman mild! 1855 MACAULAY *Hist. Eng.* IV. 1

Impatient to be more once in his beloved country.

B. sb. (ellipt. use of *adj.*: cf. *dear*.) One who is beloved, a loved one.

1526 TINDALE i *Yohn* iii. 2 Dearly beloved, now are we the sonnes of God. 1589 WARNER *Alb. Eng.* vi. xxxi. 155 The Louer and Beloued are not tyed to one Law. 1611 BIBLE *Song* v. 9 What is thy beloued more then another beloued?

1748 G. WHITE *MS. Sermon*. 'Tis the nature of Love to extend itself to all things belonging to it's Beloved. 1850 MRS. BROWNING *Consolation*. There are left behind Living Beloveds. 1872 SPRUNSON *Treas. Dav.* Pa. lxxi. 24 Others talk of their beloveds, and they shall be made to hear of mine.

† **Belovedly** (*bɪləvədli*), *adv. Obs. rare*. [f.

prec. + -LY².] So as to be beloved.

1667 WATERHOUSE *Fire Lond.* 186 My Worthy... Father,

who hath lived long, creditably and belovedly in it.

† **Belover**. *Obs. rare* -1. In 5 *bylouer*. [f.

BELOVE v. + -ER¹.] A lover.

1491 CAXTON *Vitas Patr.* II. (1495) 196 a/2 Wymmen that

utter sweetly theyr wordes for to geteloue of theyr bylouers.

† **Beloving**, *vbl. sb. Obs. rare*. [f. as *prec.* +

-ING¹.] Liking, pleasure.

1509 WARNER *Alb. Eng.* v. xxix. 145 No bettring but as your

beloving is.

† **Beloving**, *ppl. a. Obs.* [-ING².] Loving.

1606 SHAKS. *Ant. & Cl.* I. ii. 22 You shall be more beloving,

then beloud.

Below (*bɪləv*), *adv.* and *prep.* Forms: 4 *bi-*

looghe, 6 *by lowe*, *belos*, *belowe*, 6- *below*.

[f. *BE prep.* + *LOW a.* (in ME. *loz*, *loogh*). Very

rare in ME., and only as an adverb; it began

apparently as a variant of the earlier *a-low*, *A-*

low, the parallel form to *an-high* (now on *high*);

the synonymous pair, *a-low be-low*, were analogous

to *a-for be-for*, etc. *Below* was not a common

word till the 16th c., towards the end of which

the prepositional use (not found with *a-low*) arose,

and is frequent in Shakspeare. *Below* and *beneath*

constitute together the opposite of *above*. As to

their use, and relations to *under*, see *BENEATH B.*]

A. (without object expressed.) *adv.*

1. *gen.* In a low position relatively to another

place; in or to a lower position, lower down.

c 1325 E. E. *Allit. P. B.* 116, & syþen on lenþe bi-looghe

ledez inogh. 1567 TURBERV. in Chalmers *Eng. Poets* II. 616/2

It makes the Oke to overlooke the slender shrubs bylow.

1606 BACON *Sylva* (J.) To men standing below on the ground,

those that are on the top of Paul's seem much less than

they are. 1697 DRYDEN *Virg. Georg.* III. 373 The Waters... belching from below, Black Sands, as from a forceful Engine

throw. 1700 — *Pal. & Arc.* I. 218 Then look'd below, and

from the Castle's height Beheld a... pleasing sight. 1766

GOLDSM. *Vic. W.* xxiii. (1806) 137 The child... leaped from

her arms into the flood below. 1842 TENNYSON *Fatima* iv,

it gets a little below the Tapering, go no farther. 1805 SCOTT *Last Minstr.* iv. xvii. 8 He never counted him a man would strike below the knee. 1849 MRS. SOMERVILLE *Phys. Geog.* II. xxiv. 136 Immediately below the snow-line. 1855 MOTLEY *Dutch Rep.* (1876) I. 1 A district lying partly below the level of the ocean. 1863 C. ST. JOHN *Nat. Hist. Moray* i. 2 The bird is looking in all directions below her for any enemy.

b. *Below-stairs* (now usually *down-stairs*): at the foot of the staircase, on or to the floor below, esp. the ground-floor; hence, in or into the kitchen or servants' hall.

1599 SHAKS. *Much Ado* v. ii. 10 Why shall I alwaies keepe below staires? 1667 E. CHAMBERLAYNE *St. Gt. Brit.* I. (1684) 153 The Cofferer... is to pay the Wages to the King's Servants above and below stairs. 1749 FITZCOTTON *Iliad* I. Pref. 14 Leaving the young people below-stairs, to divert themselves. 1840 DICKENS *Old C. Shop* viii. Kit's mother, poor woman, is waiting at the grate below stairs. 1850 MRS. STOWE *Uncle Tom's C.* xvi. 144 St. Clare will have high life below stairs.

c. Of position in a writing or on a printed page. 1743 J. BARCLAY *Educ.* 85 Below the simple verbs are translated into English all the useful rules. 1828 W. HOLDSWORTH *Law of Wills* 13 No signature will give effect to any disposition or direction which is inserted below or after it in point of place.

d. *fig.* Too low for the influence of, too low to be affected by.

1848 MACAULAY *Hist. Eng.* I. 168 It is possible to be below flattery as well as above it. One who trusts nobody will not trust sycophants.

2. Lower on a slope than; farther down a valley or stream than: hence *below-bridge* = lower than London (or other) Bridge; nearer the bottom, or what is considered the bottom, of a room than, as *below the gangway* in the British House of Commons.

1603 SHAKS. *Meas. for M.* iv. iii. 103 At the consecrated Fount, A League below the Citie. 1691 T. H[ALL] *Acc. New Invent.* C. Below bridge, where the great Scene of Navigation lies. 1871 RUSKIN *Fors. Clav.* II. xiv. 11 Below the village, the valley opens... into a broad flat meadow. 1876 HUXLEY *Physiogr.* I. 2 The water sweeps down below bridge in the direction of Greenwich. 1885 *Weekly Times* 8 May 15/4 Below the gangway sat a strong Radical party.

b. Of time: Later than, after. *rare.*

a 1790 T. WARTON (L.) The most eminent scholars... before and even below the twelfth century, were educated in our religious houses.

3. Deeper than. Also *fig.*

1849 MRS. SOMERVILLE *Phys. Geog.* II. xxiv. 129 The ground is perpetually frozen at a very small depth below the surface. 1875 *Mem. Agnes E. Jones* vi. 387 This call was followed by one or two more, but we did not get below the surface. 1884 G. SYMONS *Brit. Rainf.* 21 That water is usually about 3 ft. below the surface of the ground. 1885 SIR W. THOMSON in *Nature* XXXI. 409 The necessity for study below the surface seems to have been earliest recognised in anatomy.

4. Directly beneath; under the covering or canopy of; underneath. More strictly expressed by *under, beneath*.

1605 SHAKS. *Lear* v. iii. 137 To the discent and dust below thy foote. 1697 DRYDEN *Virg. Georg.* iv. 472 From her Mossy Bow'r below the Ground. 1719 WATTS *Ps.* cxvii. From all that dwell below the skies. 1816 J. WILSON *City of Plague* i. iii. 21 Sitting on this stone, And thinking who it was who lay below it. 1831 CARLYLE *Sart. Res.* i. iii. Books lay on tables and below tables. 1850 TENNYSON *In Mem.* xii. 1. Some dolorous message knit below The wild pulsation of her wings.

5. Under the influence of; = BENEATH 4. *rare.* 1813 BYRON *Ch. Har.* i. xvii. His vineyard... Blasted below the dim hot breath of war.

6. Of position in a graduated scale, e.g. that of a barometer: hence a. Lower, in amount, weight, strength, value, price, degree of any quality, than.

1781 PERRY *Daggenh. Breach* 30 Having made it sure that no Man else would go below [underbid] him. 1788 PRIESTLEY *Lect. Hist.* v. liii. 416 In this case, the exchange is said to be below par at London. 1840 E. TURNER *Elem. Chem.* (ed. 7) II. 445 In this state it... fuses below redness. 1848 MILL *Pol. Econ.* II. v. iii. § 5. 377 Incomes below a certain amount should be altogether untaxed. 1849 MRS. SOMERVILLE *Phys. Geog.* II. xxiv. 124 The cold has been 120° below Zero. 1884 MRS. H. WOOD *White Witch* II. viii. 190 He threw himself into the seat beside her, and said below his breath, etc. 1884 G. SYMONS *Brit. Rainf.* 84 The rainfall of this month... is considerably below the average. *Mod.* Throughout England the barometer stood below 29.

b. *fig.* Lower in rank, dignity, or station than.

1601 SHAKS. *All's Well* II. ii. 32 From below your Duke to beneath your Constable. 1668 DRYDEN *Maiden Q.* i. iii. I love below myself, a Subject. 1711 STEELE *Spect.* No. 49 ¶ 7 He... gives his Orders... to the Servants below him. 1751 JORTIN *Sermon* (1771) II. iv. 73 Unless he is sunk below a beast. 1833 LAMB *Elia* Ser. II. ii. (1865) 248 No woman dresses below herself from caprice. 1849 MACAULAY *Hist. Eng.* II. 227 A man far below them in station. 1885 J. MARTINEAU *Ethical The.* I. 275 What he treats as Substance relatively to phenomenal nature below it, he regards as Attribute relatively to a prior infinite nature above it.

c. Lower, in quality or excellence, or in some particular quality, than; inferior to.

1711 FELTON (T.) His idylliums of Theocritus are as much below his Manilius, as the fields are below the stars. 1766 GOLDSM. *Vic. W.* viii. (1806) 34 The finest strokes... are much below those in the *Acis* and *Galatea* of Ovid. 1839 BAILEY *Festus* viii. So far is the lightest heart below True happiness. 1847 MACAULAY *Lett.* in *Trevelyan Life* (1876) II. xi. 232 How far my performance is below excellence. 1871 HAWKES *Mus. & Mor.* (1874) 505 We place England and France below Germany.

7. Unworthy of, unbefitting, lowering to. More usually expressed by BENEATH.

1637 BRIDGMAN in Prynne's *Prelate's Tyr.* (1641) 223 It is much below me to be an Informer. 1709 STEELE *Tatler* No. 23 ¶ 2 It was below a Gentlewoman to wrangle. 1718 — *ibid.* No. 522 ¶ 2 A man... of birth and estate below no woman to accept. 1743 J. BARCLAY *Educ.* 36 Such things some may reckon below attention. 1827 HALLAM *Const. Hist.* (1842) I. 139 A compiler... who thinks no fact below his regard. 1883 PROCTOR in *Knowledge* 10 Aug. 94/1 Too far below contempt to be worth castigating.

† *Below, v. Obs. rare.* [f. BE- + Low v.] To make low or lowly, to humble.

1377 LANGL. *P. Pl.* B. vi. 230 If þow wil[st]... bilowe [v. r. bilow, bylowe] þe amonges low men 'so shaltow lacche grace.

Below, -es, -ys, obs. forms of BELLOW-8.

Belschyd, -shynge, pa. pple. and vbl. sb. of BELLISH v. Obs.

† *Belsire, Obs.* Also 4-6 bel(1)syre, 5 belesire, 6 belsier. [f. BEL + SIRE: cf. *bedame, belfader*. The components are the same as in *beausire*, with which, however, this has no connexion, being of Eng. formation.] A grandfather; an ancestor.

1377 LANGL. *P. Pl.* B. ix. 142 Here aboute þe barne þe belysres gultes. 1483 *Cath. Angl.* 27/1 Belsyre, *anus.* 1494 FABYAN vii. ccxxvii. 256 The sone here lyeth with also the fader, The belysre, for & y^e great graundfader. 1530 PALSGR. 197/2 Belsyre, *grant pere.* 1573 TWYNE *Æneid* xii. Mm iii. Antique names of noble Belsiers old. 1612 DRAVTON *Poly-olb.* xiv. 233 When he his long descent shall from his Bel-sires bring. a 1632 WEEVER *Ant. Fun. Mon.* 615 The great Belsire, the Grand sire, Sire, and Sonne Lie here interred vnder this Grauestone.

† *Belswagger, Obs.* Also bell-, bely-. [Perhaps a contr. of *belly-swagger* (as in Ash) 'one who swags or sways his belly.' A swaggering gallant or bully; a whoremonger, pimp.

1594 GREENE *Def. Coney-catch.* (1859) 47 [Nothing] can draw them from the love of the Poligamist or bel-swaggerers of the country. 1680 DRYDEN *Kind. H.* iv. i. Wks. IV. 337 Fifty Guineas! Dost thou think I'll sell my self?... thou impudent Belswagger. 1721 BAILEY, *Belswagger*, a swaggering fellow, a hectoring blade, a Bully. 1775 ASH *Belly-swagger*, a bully, a hectoring fellow. *Belswagger*, a whoremonger.

Belt (belt), sb.1 Also 5-7 belte. [Common Teut.: OE. *belt*, cogn. with OHG. *balz* (? masc.), prob.: — OTeut. **baltjo-s*, ad. L. *balteus* girdle. ON. has *balti* (neut.), perh. ad. L. *balteum*, common in med. L.]

1. A broadish, flat strip of leather or similar material, used to gird or encircle the person, confine some part of the dress, and to support various articles of use or ornament. Often described by the part of the body encircled (as *waist-belt, shoulder-belt*), or the article supported (as *sword-belt, cartridge-belt*).

a 1000 *Hall. Gloss.* in Wt. Wölcker *Voc.* 192 *Baltheum, cingulum, uel belt.* a 1100 *Cott. Gl.* *ibid.* 359 *Baltheum* gyrdel, oððe belt. 1375 BARBOUR *Bruce* x. 175 And ber Ane hatchat, that wer scharp to scher Undre hys belt. c 1400 *Anturs Arth.* xxix. Her belte was of blenket... bocult ful bene. 1597 SHAKS. 2 *Hen. IV.* i. ii. 159 He that buckles him in my belt. 1676 ETHEREDGE *Man of Mode* III. i. (1684) 31 Get your right leg firm on the ground, adjust your Belt. 1715 *Land. Gas.* No. 5376/3 A Cartouch Pouch, with a Shoulder belt, a Sword with a Waist-belt. 1874 BOUTELL *Arms & Arm.* ii. 24 The sword... hung from a belt that passed over the shoulder.

b. *esp.* one worn as a mark of rank or distinction. c 1340 *Gaw. & Gr. Knt.* 162 Bope þe barres of his belt & ober blype stones. 1673 CAVE *Prim. Chr.* i. v. 110 An officer... threw away his belt, rather than obey that impious command. 1850 THACKERAY *Pendennis* xlv. They fight each other for the champion's belt and two hundred pounds a side. c. *fig.*

1483 *Cath. Angl.* 27/1 A belte of lechery, *cestus.* a 1500 *Songs Costume* (1849) 60 Hir belt suld be of beniginitie About her middill meit. 1605 SHAKS. *Mach.* v. ii. 17 He cannot buckle his distemper'd cause Within the belt of Rule.

d. *To hit below the belt* (from the language of pugilists) is used *fig.* for 'to act unfairly in any contest.'

2. *transf.* A broadish strip or stripe of any kind, or a continuous series of objects, encircling or girdling something: a. *gen.*

1753 CHAMBERS *Cycl. Suppl.*, s.v., The denomination *belt* is also applied to a sort of bandage in use among surgeons. 1788 J. C. SMYTH in *Med. Commun.* II. 184 The Zona, or Belt... seems to partake of the nature of a herpes. 1857 EMERSON *Poems* 163 A belt of mirrors round a taper's flame. 1875 FORTNUM *Maidica* v. 49 The body is decorated with two belts of grotesques.

b. *esp.* of the physical features of a landscape. 1820 SOUTHEY *Kehama* xxi. iii. A level belt of ice which bound... The waters of the sleeping Ocean round. 1834 *Brit. Husb.* I. 473 To plant a belt of Scotch firs around the inside of the circular drain. 1850 PRESCOTT *Peru* II. 216 The American hunter, who endeavours to surround himself with a belt of wasted land, when overtaken by a conflagration.

c. *spec. in Astr.*

1664 *Phil. Trans.* I. 3 He hath remarked in the Belts of Jupiter the shadows of his satellites. 1707 BONNYCASTLE *Astron.* iii. 44 The body of Jupiter is surrounded by several parallel faint substances called Belts. 1830 TENNYSON *Poems* 113 The burning belts, the mighty rings, The murmurous planets' rolling choir.

3. *Mech.* A broad flat strap of leather, india-rubber, etc. passing round two wheels or shafts, and communicating motion from one to the other.

1795 *Specif. Patent* No. 2034 The wood roller... has its motion by a pulley and belt. 1885 *Engineer* 15 May (*Adv.*), Main Driving Belts... to transmit any required H. P.

4. A broadish flexible strap. (The idea of encircling or girdling here begins to disappear.)

1672 T. VENN *Mil. & Mar. Discip.* iii. 8 He is to have a good Harquebuz, hanging on a belt into a swivel. 1753 DOUGLASS *Brit. Settlement. N. Amer.* 219 Our Indians formerly accounted by single Wampum, by Strings of Wampum, and by Belts of Wampum, in the same manner as the English account by the Denominations of Pence, Shillings, and Pounds. 1885 *Nature* XXXI. 415 The cartridges [of a self-loading gun] are placed in a belt formed of two bands of tape, before they are placed in the box, and one end of this belt is placed in the gun.

5. A broad band or stripe characteristically distinguished from the surface it crosses; a tract or district long in proportion to its breadth.

1828 WILFORD *Sacr. Isles in Asiat. Res.* VIII. 264 A range of belt about forty degrees broad, across the old continent. 1850 CONYBEARE & H. ST. PAUL (1862) I. vi. 159 Three belts of vegetation are successively passed through in ascending from the coast. 1877 H. SPORFORD *Pilot's Wife in Casquet Lit.* IV. 13/2 Bert's boat might have been beyond its [the storm's] belt. 1879 TOURGEE *Fool's Err.* xlv. 353 You have just come through the infected belt [of yellow fever].

b. *Geog.* Great and Little Belts, two channels between the Cattergat and the Baltic.

1753 CHAMBERS *Cycl. Suppl.* s.v., The belts belong to the King of Denmark.

c. *Arch.* 'A course of stones projecting from the naked, either moulded, plain, or fluted.' Gwilt.

d. *Naval Arch.* A series of thick iron plates running along the water-line in armoured vessels. 1885 *Pall Mall G.* 21 Jan. 1/1 Naval officers will feel profoundly uncomfortable in taking an ironclad without a complete belt into action. 1885 *Times* 10 Apr. 3 A short armoured belt... extending over less than half the length of the ship.

¶ *Belt of pater-nosters or of Our Fathers:*

In the Acts of the Council of Celchyth, an. 816 (Haddan & Stubbs *Councils & Eccl. Doc.* III. 584), occurs the passage 'et xxx diebus canonicis horis expleto synaxeos at vii beltidum, Paternoster pro eo cantetur,' of which the latter part 'at the seven bell-hours let the Paternoster be sung for him,' has given rise to one of the most grotesque blunders on record. The OE. words at vii beltidum, 'at the seven bell-hours,' a gloss on 'canonicis horis' preceding, were taken by Spelman as Latin, and construed with the following word as a 'paternoster of seven belts,' which he explained as a *rosary*. Du Cange repeated the explanation, though questioning the existence of the rosary at that date. Johnson the Nonjuror (*Eccl. Laws* 1720) elaborately described 'belts' set with studs serving the purpose of a rosary. Scott (Suppl. to Chambers, 1753) suggested as a better rendering, 'a paternoster to be repeated seven times.' In all these there was an attempt to construe the passage, but in later 'explanations' the grammatical construction has been dismissed, and 'vii beltidum, paternoster' transmuted into 'seven belts of paternosters,' as in the following curious specimens of modern mythology:

1844 LINGARD *Anglo-Sax. Ch.* (1858) II. ix. 62 The frequent repetition of the Lord's Prayer, technically called a belt of Pater-nosters. Note. A belt of Pater-nosters appears to correspond with a string of beads of later times... It is probable that the belt contained fifty Pater-nosters. 1849 ROCK *Ch. of Fathers* III. viii. 8 Seven belts of Our Fathers had to be said for the deceased.

6. *Comb. and Attrib.*: a. objective with vbl. sb. or pple., as *belt-cutter, -maker, -splicing, -stretcher, -tightener*; b. attrib., as *belt-armour, -clasp, -coupling*. Also *belt-lacing*, thongs for lacing together the ends of machine belts; † *belt-money*, † a gratuity to soldiers; *belt-pipe*, a steam-pipe surrounding the cylinder of a steam-engine; *belt-punch*, an instrument for punching holes in belts; *belt-saw* (= *band-saw*; see *BAND* sb.2 III); *belt-shifter*, a contrivance for shifting a belt from pulley to pulley; *belt-speeder*, a contrivance consisting of two cone-pulleys carrying a belt, by which varying rates of motion are transmitted; † *belt-stead, -stid*, the place of the belt, the waist; *belt-wise adv.*, in the manner of a belt.

1885 *Pall Mall G.* 14 Jan. 11/1 Ships stripped of their 'belt armour. 1886 KANE *Art. Exp.* II. xv. 159 The 'belt-ice at their foot was old and undisturbed. 1483 *Cath. Angl.* 27/1 A 'belte maker, *zonarius*. 1679 *Trial Wakeman* 44 Mr. Cott, a 'Beltmaker in the New Exchange. 1648 *Petit. Eastern Ass.* 18 Is not 'Belt-money the dispendium of our possessions? c 1400 *Destr. Troy* xiv. 5940 Slit hym down sleghly thurgh the slote euyñ, Bode at the 'belt stid, and the buerne deghit. 1879 *Daily News* 6 Nov. 5/3 They were armoured on the 'belt system, their thickest plates being confined to the neighbourhood of the water-line. 1667 E. CHAMBERLAYNE *St. Gt. Brit.* I. iii. iv. (1743) 173 They wear a scarlet Ribbon 'belt-wise.

† *Belt, sb.2 Obs.* [Prob. distinct from prec., but nothing is known of its derivation.] An ax.

a 1300 W. DE BIBLESW. in Wright's *Voc.* 163 The belte, *le coing*. 1409 *Prompt. Parv.* (Pynson), *Belt* or *ax, securis*. c 1500 *Carpenter's T.* in Halliwell *Nugæ P.* 13 'Wherefore, seyde the belte, 'With grete strokes I schalle hym pelte.'

Belt, sb.3. † Obs. (See *BELT* v. 5 and *ppl. a.*)

c 1540 J. SMYTH *Lines Berkeley* (1883) I. 156 What money was yearly made by sale of the locks belts and tags of the sheep. 1741 *Compl. Fam. Pice* iii. 494 Of the Tag or Belt in Sheep. 1753 in CHAMBERS *Cycl. Suppl.*; and in later Dicts.

Belt (belt), *v.* Pa. pp. 6 belt. [f. BELT sb.1]
1. *trans.* and *refl.* To gird with a belt; to engirdle; *spec.* to invest with a distinctive belt, *e.g.* of knighthood.

a 1300 Cursor M. 15285 Wid a tuel he belted his sides.
Ibid. 1365 Sco belted hir bettur on hir wede. *Ibid.* 6087 Yee be alle belted, wit staf in hand. *c 1425 Wyntoun Cron.* ix. xix. 51 De Lord Schire Davy de Lyndesay Wes Erle maid . . . and he beltit swa. *c 1570 Bp. St. Andrew's in Scot. Poems* 16th C. II. 327 A cott of kelt, Weill beltit in ane lethrone belt. *1813 Scott Rokeby* iii. xxx, Allen-a-Dale was ne'er belted a knight.

fig. *1536 Belenden Cron. Scot.* (1821) I. 238 Belt you thairfore, lusty gallandis, with manheid and wisdom. *1558 ABP. Hamilton Catech.* 267 Belt our loynies with verite.

b. refl. To gird oneself with a weapon.
c 1425 Wyntoun Cron. vii. viii. 444 Beltyd wyth his Swerd alsua. *1513 Douglas Aeneis* iv. v. 159 Belt he was with a swerd of mettall brycht. *1800 Scott Abbot* iii. There ne'er was gentleman but who belted him with the brand.

c. trans. To fasten on with a belt, gird on (a weapon, shield, etc.).

1513 Douglas Aeneis ii. x. (ix.) 9 A swerd, but help, about him beltit he. *a 1560 ROLLAND CRT. Venus* l. 163 Ane sword was belt about his [loins]. *1583 STANFURD Aeneis* ii. (Arb.) 60 Bootlesse morylay to his sydes hee belted. *1788 PENNANT Journ. Chester* (R.) An enormous shield . . . is belted to his body. *1800 Scott Nigel* xi. A trustier old Trojan never belted a broadsword by a loop of leather.

2. trans. To surround with a circle or zone of any kind; to engirdle; to mark with an encircling band.

1536 Belenden Cron. Scot. I. 127 Thay wer beltit about on every side with enimes. *1814 Wordsw. Wh. Doe* iv. 205 They belt him round with hearts undaunted. *1838 Ht. Martineau Each & All* vi. 72 The trees belted the churchyard. *1837 W. Irving Capt. Bonneville* (1849) 225 He [the beaver] makes incisions round them [trees], or, in technical phrase, belts them with his teeth.

3. To mark with bands or stripes of colour, etc.
1788 T. Warton Hist. Kiddington 67 (R.) Ramperts . . . belting the hills far and wide with white. *1868 Lockyer Elem. Astron.* cccv. Moments in which the meteors belted the sky like the meridians on a terrestrial globe.

4. To thrash with a belt. *Cf. to strap.*
1649 in Rogers Soc. Life Scott. II. 217 Comitted to Alexander Cumming to see him belted by his mother. *a 1700 in Somers Tracts* (1811) V. 460. I wad she were wale belted with a bridle. *1818 Hoag Browne* II. 162 (JAM.), 'I wish he had beltit your shoulders.' *1867 Smyth Sailor's Wd.* *bk.* Belt, to beat with a colt or rope's end.

5. (See quot.: app. To shear off a belt of wool.)
1523 Fitzhugh. Husb. 41 To belte shepe. Yf any shepe raye or be fylde with dounge about the tayle, take a payre of sheres, and clyppe it awaye, etc. *1688 Holme Armory* ii. ix. 176 Belting of sheep, is the dressing of them from filth. *1848 C. Johnson Farmer's Encycl.* I. 196 To belt, in some districts signifies to shear the buttocks and tails of sheep.

Belt, *pp. a.* [short for belted, f. prec.; sense 5. *Cf. BELT sb.3*] (See quot.)

1614 Markham Cheap Husb. iii. xvii. (1668) 91 A sheep is said to be Tag'd or Belt, when by a continual squirt running out of his ordure he berayeth his tail, in such wise, that through the heat of the dung it scaldeth, and breedeth the scab therein. [So in *1741 Compl. Fam. Piece* iii. 494.]

Beltane (beil'tn). [Adopted in Lowland Scotch from Gaelic *bealltainn*, *bealtuinn* (in Irish *bealltaine*, *Manx boalltinn*, *boaldyn*) the Celtic name of the first of May, the beginning of summer.

Old forms are *bellene* (in a text), *belltaine*, *belline* in Cormac's Glossary (9th to 12th c.). The first is prob. the earliest quotable form of the word, of which the original meaning seems to have been unknown even to the glossarist, since he makes a desperate guess at it by transposing *bel-tine* or *bit-tene* into *tene-bit*, and explaining *bit* as 'Bil from Bial, i.e. an idol god', evidently meaning the Bel, or Baal, of the Old Testament; so that *bel-tene* became 'fire of Bel', or (7) 'Baal'. Dr. Whitley Stokes has shown that the latter part of the word is not *tene* 'fire', since this is a *-t* stem (Old Ir. *tene*, *tened*), while *bellene* is a feminine *-ya* stem. Whether it can be a parallel derivative of the same root, or whether, as is more likely, the notion that *-taine* was = *tene* 'fire' is due merely to 'popular etymology' cannot be determined. (The ancient Gaels kindled bonfires not only on Beltane, but also on Lammass and Hallowmas. The rubbish about *Baal*, *Bel*, *Belus*, imported into the word from the Old Testament and classical antiquity, is outside the scope of scientific etymology.)

1. The first day of May (reckoned since 1752 according to Old Style); Old May-day. The quarter-days anciently in Scotland were Hallowmas, Candlemas, Beltane, and Lammass. *Beltane day* (Gael. *la bealltainn*) appears sometimes to have been identified with the nearest Church Feast, the Invention of the Cross (May 3rd), and the name seems even to have been applied to Whit-sunday (May 15th), when this took its place as term day.

1424 Acts Jas. I. (1597) § 19 And the nest be funden in the Trees at Beltane the trees sall be forfeitfuld to the King. *1536 Belenden Cron. Scot.* xvii. ii. (JAM.) On Beltane day, in the yeir nixt following, callit the Invention of the haly Croce. *a 1550 Pebbis to Play* i. 2 At Beltane, quhen ilk bodie bowinis To Pebbis to Play. *1716 MARTIN West. Isles Scot.* 240 In the Highlands, the first day of May is still called *La Baaltine*—corruptly *Beltan-day*. *1781 KELLY Sc. Proverbs* 376 (JAM.) You have skill of man and beast, you was born between the Beltans; i.e. the first and eighth of May. *a 1835 Motherwell Jeanie Morrison* 5 The fire that's blawn on Beltane e'en May weel be black

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gin Yule. *1864 Hislop's Prov. Scott.* 8 A gowk at Yule 'll no be bright at Beltane. *1876 GRANT Burgh Sch. Scott.* ii. xiii. 469 The old quarterly terms for paying the School fees were Lammass, Hallowmas, Candlemas and Beltane.

2. Name of an ancient Celtic anniversary celebration on May-day, in connexion with which great bonfires were kindled on the hills.

This use of the word appears in English much later than the preceding, and only as an alien term applied to the Celtic custom; it may be the original use in Celtic. Cormac's Glossary explains *belltaine* as 'two fires which the Druids used to make, and they used to bring the cattle [as a safe-guard] against the diseases of each year to those fires.' Also under *Bil*, 'a fire was kindled in his name at the beginning of summer always, and cattle were driven between the two fires.' Various accounts of Beltane observances lingering in the Highlands and Islands of Scotland, are to be found in 18th c. writers, and esp. in the old *Statistical Accts. of Scotland 1794-99*. A large number of these are collected in Jamieson.

1774 PENNANT Tours Scott. (1774) 42 The superstition of the Bel-tein was kept up. *Ibid.* (JAM.) On the first of May the herdsmen of every village hold their *Bel-tein* or rural sacrifice. *c 1795 Statist. Acc. Scot.* V. 84 (Logierait, Perthsh.). On the first of May, Old Style, a festival called Beltan is annually held here. *1807 BYRON Oscar of Alva* iv. For him thy beltane yet may burn.

b. attrib., as in *Beltane fire, games, etc.*

1801 Scott Glenfinlas, How blazed Lord Ronald's beltane tree. *1820 — Lady of L.* ii. xv. When at Beltane game, Thou ledst the dance with Malcolm Graeme. *1824 — Ld. Isles* i. viii. The shepherd lights his beltane fire. *1883 Harper's Mag.* Feb. 331 The time when the Beltane fires were lit near this well on Midsummer-eve.

Belted (bel'ted), *pp. a.* [f. BELT *v.*, sb.1]

1. Wearing, or girded with, a belt; *spec.* as describing the distinctive cincture of an earl or knight (cf. BELT sb.1 b); fastened on by means of a belt.

1483 Cath. Angl. 27/1 Beltyd, *zonatus, cinctus*. *c 1565 R. Lindsay Cron. Scott.* 17 (JAM.) This Willame was the sixt belted earle of the hous of Douglas. *1795 Burns 'A Man's a Man'*, A prince can mak a belted knight. *1805 Scott Last Minstr.* i. iv. With belted sword and spur on heel. *1800 — Abbot* ii. Were he himself the son of a belted earl.

2. Furnished with a belt or belts of any kind; marked by belts or bands of distinctive colour, etc. *Belted cattle*: black cattle of Dutch origin with a broad band of white round the middle.

1785 Cowper Tiroc. 633 The moons of Jove and Saturn's belted ball. *1844 MARRYAT Sett. Canada* ix. 67 The belted kingfisher darted up and down. *1884 Pall Mall G.* 8 Dec. 5/1 Belted cruisers of the *Mersey* type.

Belter, *Sc. and north.* [cf. BELT sb.1, BELT *v.* 4.]

A heavy blow or series of blows; ? a pelting.
1823 GALT Entail II. xvii. 160 I'll stand aint a dike, and gie them a belter wi' stones. *Mod. Lancash. dial.* Hoo then for me another belter rest across th' een.

Belting (be'lting), *vbl. sb.* [f. BELT *v.*, sb.1]

1. The action of the *vb.* BELT.

2. *concr.* Belts collectively, or material for making them; also, a belt.

1567 Wills & Inv. N. C. (1835) 277 To my sister Margrett my best deny, my long belting best crooks. *1571 ibid.* 362, ij doss' of crewle beltinge iijjs. *1855 Engineer* 15 May (Adv.) Single and Double Leather Belting. *1876 Daily News* 3 Nov. 4/4, I rode into a belting of wood.

Belting, *pp. a.* [f. BELT *v.* + -ING 2.] Girdling, encircling, surrounding.

1857 EMERSON Poems 178 From nodding pole and belting zone. *1871 G. Macdonald Bk. Dreams in Wks. Fancy & Imag.* 120 The belting trees.

Beltless (beil'tles), *a.* [f. BELT sb.1 + -LESS.]

Without a belt.

1884 Pall Mall G. 5 June 11/1 Beltless trousers. *1884 GILMOUR Mongols* 276 The common word for 'woman' in Mongolia is 'beltless'.

Beltong, variant of BILTONG.

Belu, obs. sing. of BELLOW.

† **Belue**, *Obs. rare.* [a. OF. *belue*, *bellue*, ad. L. *belua*, *bellua* great beast.] A great beast, a monster; *spec.* a sea-monster, a whale.

1474 CANTON Chesse 113 To be lyke vnto belues of the see. *1483 — Gold. Leg.* 122/1 That he . . . should be deuoured in the see of belues and grete fysshes. *1574 Boswell Armorie* ii. 65 A Belue . . . Thys is a great fishe in the Sea, and is called Belua. He casteth out water at hys iowes with vapoure of good smell.

1. **Beluga** (bēlū'gā). Also 6 bellougina. [In sense 1, a. Russ. *белуга* *bēlū'ga*; in sense 2, a. Russ. *белуха* *bēlū'xa*; both f. *бѣло- bēlo-*, white + *-uga, -uxa*, augmentative formatives. Fletcher's word is evidently the Russ. deriv. *bēlū'zhina* flesh of the beluga.]

1. A species of fish: the Great or Hausen Sturgeon (*Acipenser huso*), found in the Caspian and Black Seas, and their tributary rivers.

1591 G. Fletcher Russe Commw. (1857) 12 Of ikary or cavery, a great quantitie is made upon the . . . Volga out of the fish called bellougina. *1774 JACKSON Isinglass in Phil. Trans.* LXIII. 7 The Beluga yields the greatest quantity. *1869 NICHOLSON Zool.* (1880) 493 The various species of sturgeon attain a great size, one—the Beluga—often measuring 12 or 15 feet in length.

2. The white Whale (*Delphinapterus leucas*), an animal of the Dolphin family, found in herds in the Northern Seas, and in the estuaries of rivers.

1817 in BURROUES Cycl. 1847 CARPENTER *Zool.* § 211 The Beluga or White Whale . . . rarely visits our own coasts. *1884 Pall Mall G.* 25 July 11/2 In the placid . . . waters of

the fjords . . . one meets with . . . shoals of the beluga, or white whale.

Beluin, obs. form of BELLUNE.

† **Belus eye**, *Obs.* [transl. of L. *Beli oculus* (Pliny); see quot.] A precious stone, Eye Onyx. *1601 HOLLAND Pliny* II. 625 The stone called Belus eie is white, and hath within it a black apple, the mids wherof a man shall see to glitter like gold: this stone for the singular beautie that it hath, is dedicated to Belus the most sacred god of the Assyrians.

Belute (bēlūt), *v.* [f. BE- + LUTE ad. L. *lutum* mud.] *a. trans.* To cover with mud or dirt. *b.* To coat with lute or cement of any kind.

1760 STERNE Tr. Shandy (1802) II. ix. 172 Never was a Dr. Slop so beluted, and so transubstantiated. *1837 New Month. Mag.* XLIX. 524 Bird-lime, with which it belutes its eyes till they are sealed up.

Belvedere (bēlvīdē'r). Also 9-8 belvidere. [a. It. *belvedere* 'a faire sight, a place of a faire prospect', f. *bel, bello*, beautiful + *vedere* (inf. mood used subst.) a view, sight. The It. word was adopted in Fr. as early as 16th c. as *belveder, bel-védère*, whence perhaps the Eng. pronunciation.]

1. *Arch.* A raised turret or lantern on the top of a house, or a summer-house erected on an eminence in a garden or pleasure-ground, for the purpose of viewing the surrounding scene.

1596 BELL Surv. Popery iii. ii. 213 Walking in his garden, or looking about him in his Belvidere. *1623 WESTER Devil's Law Case* i. i. They build their palaces and belvederes With musical water-works. *1755 HERVEY Dial.* in Southey *Comm. pl. Bk. Ser.* i. (1850) I. 314 Over this recess, so pleasingly horrid . . . arose an open and airy belvidere. *1824 Penny Cycl.* II. 165/1 Apollo Belvedere, a celebrated statue of Apollo . . . placed by him [Pope Julius II] in the Belvidere of the Vatican, whence it derives its present name. *1773 BROWNING Red Cott. Night-c.* 148 What means this Belvedere? This Tower, stuck like a fool's-cap on the roof?

2. *Hort.* A plant, *Kochia scoparia* (N.O. *Chenopodiaceae*), cultivated as an ornamental garden plant. Also called *Summer Cypress*, and *Broom Toad-flax*.

1597 GERARD Herbal iii. clxv. (1633) 556 This Belvidere, or Scoparia is the Osyris described by Dioscorides. *1725 BRADLEY Fam. Dict., Belvedere.* *1797 C. MARSHALL Garden.* (1805) 326 Belvidere, annual, summer or mock cypress.

Belw(e, belwys, obs. ff. BELLOW, BELLOW.

Belwedder, -wether, obs. ff. BELLWETHER.

Bely, obs. form of BELIE *v.*, BELLY, BELLOW.

Bely-; for words formerly so spelt, see BELI-

Belying (bēlī'ing), *vbl. sb.* [f. BELIE *v.* + -ING 1.]

1. Giving of the lie; denial.

1587 GOLDING De Mornay xi. 150 If the denying that there is any God be a belying of a mans owne senses. *1612 FLORIO, Dimentia*, a belying.

2. Telling lies of any one, calumny.

1624 SHERWOOD, A belying, calumnia. *1875 SWINBURNE Ess. & Stud. Pref.* 10 The right of backbiting and belying.

Belzaar, obs. form of BEZOAR.

Belzebub, variant of BEELZEBUB.

Bem, beme, obs. forms of BEAM.

1. **Bema** (bēmā). [a. Gr. *βῆμα*, lit. 'a step' (f. *βα-* go); hence, a raised place to speak from, the tribune, or rostrum; whence, the apse or chancel of a basilica, in which sense it first appears in Eng.]

1. *Eccles. Antiq.* 'The altar part or sanctuary in the ancient churches' (Chambers); the chancel.

1683 T. SMITH Observ. Constantinop. in *Misc. Cur.* (1708) III. 46, I observed but one step from the Body of the Church to the Bema or place where the Altar formerly stood. *1753 CHAMBERS Cycl. Suppl.*, *Bema* made the third, or innermost part of the church, answering to the chancel among us. *1861 A. B. HOPE Eng. Cathedr.* 19th C. At Torcello the episcopal cathedra is raised aloft in the bema or apse.

2. *Grecian Antiq.* The platform or tribune from which an Athenian orator addressed the assembly. *1800 T. MITCHELL Aristoph.* I. 225 The most worthless of those who mount the bema. *1864 LEWES Aristotote* 9 For sixty years Pericles had ceased to thunder from the bema.

Bemad (bēmād), *v.* [f. BE- + MAD *v.*] *trans.* To make mad, to madden. Hence *Bemaddded, Bemaddding pp. a.*

1605 SHAKS. Lear iii. i. 38 Unnatural and bemaddding sorrow. *1655 FULLER Ch. Hist.* iv. § 5 II. 319 His practical Tenents . . . did enrage and bemaddd his adversaries. *1850 BLACKIE Esch.* II. 189 O god-detested! god-bemaddded race!

Bemadam, bemall, beman, etc.: see BE- *pref.*

Be-maddening, *pp. a.* Intensive of MADDENING.

1850 CLOUGH Dipseychns ii. iv. 13 These be-maddening discords of the mind.

Bemaim (bēmāim), *v.* [f. BE- + MAIM *v.*] Intensive of MAIM.

1605 STOW Ann. 673 Spoiled of their goods, bemaimed and slaine. *1881 DUFFIELD Quix.* II. 422 Envious fate . . . Struck down Cervantes and bemaimed his hand.

Bemangle (bēmæng'l), *v.* [f. BE- + MANGLE *v.*] *trans.* To cut about, hack, mangle. Hence *Bemangled pp. a.*

1553-87 FOXE A. & M. (1596) 71/1 [He was] so scotched and bemangled with the shards of sharpe and cutting shels. *1601 R. YARINGTON Two Traj.* i. l. in Bullen O. *PL* IV. So foule a deede, Thus to bemangle a distressed youth. *1648 JOS. BEAUMONT Psyche* ix. lxiv. (J.) Those bemangled limbs.

Bemantle, bemar, bemartyr, bemat: see BE-

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† **Bemark**, *v.* *Obs.* *rare*—1. [f. BE-2 + MARK *v.*] *trans.* † To mark with the sign of the cross, to cross oneself; = med. L. *signare*.

1544 LATIMER *Lett. fr. Bocardo* Wks. 1845 II. 441 Because they worship not, nor kneel not down [neither bemark not] as others do, but sit still in their pews.

† **Bemartelled**, *ppl. a.* *Obs.* [f. BE-2 + MARTEL *v.* to hammer, beat.] † Hammered, beaten.

1598 T. BASTARD *Chrestoleros* (1880) 60 Steru'de mutton, beefe with foote bemartelled, And skinn and bones.

Bemask (bɪmɑːsk), *v.* [f. BE-2 + MASK *v.*] *trans.* To mask, to cover or conceal with a mask. Hence **Bemasked** *ppl. a.*

1579 Tomsom *Calvin's Sermon*. Tim. 409/2 The Popish Bishops... do so bemask them selves, as though they should play the part in a play.

1600 SHELTON *Quix.* I. iv. i. (T.) Which have thus bemasked your singular beauty under a worthy array. *Ibid.* I. ix. (R.) The bemasked gentleman.

Bemaster (bɪmɑːstə), *v.* [f. BE-2 + MASTER *v.*] *trans.* To master (*emphatic*).

1875 B. TAYLOR *Faust* II. iii. 11. 106 One must with modern thought the thing bemaster. 1880 MISS BROUGHTON *Ser. Thoughts* II. iii. 1. 105 Gawkly, romping, but thoroughly be-mastered Jane.

Bemaul (bɪmɔːl), *v.* [f. BE-2 + MAUL *v.*] *trans.* To maul thoroughly.

1600 SHELTON *Quix.* IV. xxii. 179 (R.) So the poor soul [Sancho] was sore bruised and bemaule. 1761 STERNE *Tr. Shandy* (1802) IV. xxvii. 120 To snatch the cudgels... to bemaule Yorick to some purpose. 1846 HAWTHORNE *Mosses* I. vi. 155 Bemauled as the poor fellow had been.

Bemazed (bɪmɛɪzd), *ppl. a.* [f. BE-2 + MAZE *v.*] Stupefied, bewildered. (*Cf.* AMAZE *v.*)

1225 *Ancr. R.* 270 Isobset on Ebrewish is 'bimased mon' on English. 1240 *Chetiv. Pt.* II. 93 And lefte us lyinge... Al bemased in a sounne. 1263 *Cowper Task* v. 848 Intellects bemaz'd in endless doubts. 1879 HOWELLS *L. Aroostook* xxvi. 311 Staniford stood bemazed, though he knew enough to take the hand she yielded him.

† **Beme**, *sb.* *Obs.* Forms: 1 *býme*, *béme*, 2-5 *beme*, 3, 6 *beame*, 5 *beeme*; *pl.* 1-3 *beman*, 2-4 *en*, 3-6 *es*, 5 *ys*. [OE. *béme*, WSax. *bíeme*, later *býme*, pointing to OTeut. **baumjón*, of unknown etymology.] A trumpet.

1200 *Corpus Gloss.* in Wr. Wülcker *Voc.* 15 *Concha*, *beme*. 1297 K. ALFRIC *Past.* 244 *Biemena* dæg & gedynes ofer ealla truma caestra. 1200 *Ag. Goss.* Matt. vi. 2 Ne blawe man byman [Rusku. *beman*, 12160 *Hatt. G.* *beman*] beforan þe. 1205 LAY. 5107 *Bemen* þer bleowen. 12150 *Gen. & Ex.* 3521 Ðat dreful beames blaw. 12140 *HAMPOLE Pr. Cons.* 1676 Þe beme þat blaw sal on domsdray. 12160 *Towneley Myst.* 53 At hys comyng shalle bemys blaw. 12150 *Death* in Halliwell *Nug. P.* 40 When bemes shalle blawe rewly one rawe.

b. *fig.* (in allusion to Matt. vi. 2) † Noise, parade. 1240 *Arthur* 108 Seyþ a Pater noster wythout any Beme.

† **Beme**, *v.* *Obs.* Forms: 1 **bémian*, *býmian*, 3-6 *bemen*. [f. prec. sb.]

1. *intr.* To blow on a trumpet. 1200 *ALFRIC Gloss.* in Wr. Wülcker *Voc.* 190 *Salpiso vel buccino*, ic byme. 1200 *Lamb. Ps.* lxxxix. 4 (Bosw.) By-miap odde hlyriap on niwum monþe mid byman.

2. *trans.* a. *intr.* To make a loud din or noise. b. *trans.* To trumpet or din (a thing).

1225 *Ancr. R.* 430 And þe... þet ower beoden bemen & dreamen wel ine drihtenes earen. 1513 DOUGLAS *Æneis* v. iii. 90 Quhill the meikle villis Bemys agane hit with the brute so schill is. *Ibid.* v. vii. 40.

3. *trans.* To summon with a trumpet. 1240 *Gaw. & Gologras* iii. 8 The folk... That bemyt war be the lord.

† **Bemean**, *v.* *Obs.* Forms: 3-4 *bimene*, 3 *bemene*, 4-5 *bymene*, 5 *bemeyne*, 6 *beemene*. [f. bi-, BE-2 + MEAN *v.*, OE. *mēnan*; cf. OHG. *bimeinan*, MHG. *bemeinen*, with same senses.]

1. *trans.* To mean, signify, import. 1200 *Havelok* 1259 Wat may this bimene. 12340 *Cursor M.* (Fairf.) 10853 Her by-thought What this gretyngh myght be-mene. 12440 *Gesta Rom.* i. 4 Pan most a prelate honghe the wif—what bymenyth that? 12502 *ARNOLD Chron.* (1811) 265 Yf a man aske hem [the Sarasyns] what Paradyse beemene, they sayn it is a place of delytis.

2. To signify or communicate to (a person). *rare*. 12340 *Cursor M.* (Trin.) 15495 Petur him bymened & seide þis resoun, þou shal bitrayed be lord to ny3t.

† **Bemean**, *v.* *Obs.* *rare*. [f. BE-*pref.* 5, or perh. two words, BE *v.* + mene, MEAN, 'intermediate, a mediator.'] *intr.* To mediate, intercede.

1259 MARG. PASTON in *Lett.* (1872) I. 438 He desyryd Alblastre to bemene to yow for hym. 1250 *Myrr. Our Ladye* 232 Pray for the people, by meane for the clerge.

Bemean (bɪmɛn), *v.* 3 [f. BE-*pref.* 5 + MEAN *a.*] *trans.* To render mean or base, to lower in dignity, abase. (In first quot. for *demean* = 'behave'.)

1651 GATSKER *Ridley* in Fuller *Abel. Rediv.* 193 How he be-meaned himself, shall hereafter be related. 1688 *ROKEBY Diary* (1858) 29 Foolish frothy things, that be-mean it [my memory] before the Lord. 1744 JARVIS *Quix.* II. iii. xx. (D.) I renounce my gentility... and be-mean myself to the lowness of the offender. 1866 READE *G. Gault* II. 92 Oh, husband, how can you so be-mean yourself?

Bemean, *v.* 4, *bemene*; see BEMOAN.

† **Bemeet**, *v.* *Obs.* [f. BE-*pref.* 2 + MEET *v.*] a. *trans.* To meet with. b. *intr.* To meet with.

1605 SHAKS. *Leav.* v. i. 20 Our very loving sister, well be-met. 1656 S. H. Gold. *Law* 61 The Laicks are a Lay people... till some Moses be-meet with them.

† **Bemer**. *Obs.* Forms: 1 *beamere*, *bemere*, *bymere*, 2-3 *bemare*. [f. BEME *v.* or sb. + -ER 1.] A trumpeter.

1250 *Lindisf. Goss.* Matt. ix. 23 And zeseth beameres [Rusku. *piperas*, *Ag.* *hwistleras*] mænende. 12000 *ALFRIC Gloss.* in Wr. Wülcker *Voc.* 190 *Bymere*, *salpista*. 1225 *Ancr. R.* 210 Þe prude beoð his bemares.

† **Bemercy**, *v.* *Obs.* [f. BE-*pref.* 6 + MERCY *sb.*] *trans.* To treat with mercy, show mercy to.

1640 T. GOODWIN *Justif. Faith* I. iii. ii. I was bemercied (if we may so speak), endowed with mercy, encompassed with mercy. 1660 T. WATSON in Spurgeon *Treas. Dav. Ps.* xxxii. 1 The Greek signifies, 'I was be-mercied.'

† **Bemete**, *v.* *Obs.* [OE. *bemetan*, f. BE-*pref.* 2 + *metan* to MERE; but in Shaks. prob. an independent re-formation.] *trans.* To measure.

1293 K. ALFRIC *Oros.* III. ix. § 7 Hie... hie selfe sibþan wið Alexander to nohte ne bemetan. 1296 SHAKS. *Tam. Shr.* iv. iii. 113, I shall so be-mete thee with thy yard.

Bemfelling, *obs.* form of BEAMFILLING.

† **Beming**, *vbl. sb.* *Obs.* [f. BEME *v.* + -ING 1.] Trumpeting; *trans.* noisy buzzing.

1213 DOUGLAS *Æneis* VII. ii. 88 A gret flycht of beis... Wyth loud bemynng gan alycht.

Bemingle, etc.: see BE-*pref.*

Bemire (bɪmɪə), *v.* [f. BE-*pref.* 6 + MIRE *sb.*] Hence **Bemired** *ppl. a.*, **Bemiring** *vbl. sb.*

1. *trans.* To cover or besoul with mire. 12134 *MORE Answ. Frits* Wks. 833/2 If only they that are already bymired, were... myred on more and more. 1727 SWIFT *Gulliver* II. v. 144, I was filthily bemired. 1837 HAWTHORNE *Twice-told T.* (1851) II. xvi. 237 His shoes were bemired, as if he had been travelling on foot.

b. *fig.* 1287 GOLDING *De Mornay* Pref. 1 Bemiring it [reason] in the filthy and beastly pleasures of the world. 1601 CORNWALLIS *Ess.* x. (1632), Good safe care to keep herself from bemiring. 1870 SPURGEON *Treas. Dav. Ps.* xvii. 3 The purest innocence will be bemired by malice.

2. To plunge or roll in the mire; in *pass.* to sink in the mire, be bogged. *lit.* and *fig.*

1254 HELLOWES *Gurara's Ep.* (1577) 354 If we sinke not to the bottome, at the leaste we remaine all bemired. 1654 TRAPP *Comm. Ps.* xl. 2. II. 690 As a bemired beast he was in a perishing condition. 1771 WESLEY *Wks.* (1872) VI. 36 Doubt... bemires the soul. 1883 *Century* 377 Bemired in the deeply rutted roads.

Bemirror, *v.* [f. BE-2 + MIRROR *v.*] To image or show as in a mirror. Hence **Bemirrored**.

1249 *Poe Quacks of Helicon* Wks. 1864 IV. 412 The woefully over-done be-mirrored of that man-of-straw.

Bemissionary, *bemitted*, *bemix*: see BE-.

Bemist (bɪmɪst), *v.* [f. BE-*pref.* 6 + MIST *sb.*] 1. *trans.* To overtake with, or involve in mist; *fig.* to confuse the senses of, bewuzzle, bewilder.

1609 HOLLAND *Amm. Marcell* Annot. D ij b, The Greekes... were bemisted and overcast with darkness. 1627 FELTHAM *Resolves* II. iv. Wks. (1677) 166 How can that Judg walk right, that is bemisted in his way? 1677 GALE *Crt. Gentiles* II. iii. Pref., God bemisted the degenerate mindes of those proud Sophistes. 1864 *Sat. Rev.* 278/2 Many a mountain climber... has been benighted or bemisted.

2. To cover or obscure (a thing) with, or as with, mist; to becloud, dim.

1296 E. GILPIN *Skial.* (1878) 36 He is the deuill, Brightly accoustred to bemist his euill. 1630 T. WESTCOTE *Deuon.* (1845) 453 Antiquities are often bemisted, and leave their surveyor perplexed. 1790 WELTON *Suff. Son of God* II. xxii. 595 The more sublime... his Doctrine was, the more they strove to darken and Be-mist it.

Bemoan (bɪmɔːn), *v.* Forms: 1 *bi-*, *-bemanan*, 3 *bimen-en*, 4-5 *bi-*, *bymene*, 4-6 *bemene*, 5 *bimeane*; 6 *beemone*, *bemoane*, 6-7 *bemone*, 7- *bemoan*. [OE. *bi-*, *bemēnan*, f. *bi-*, BE- + *mēnan* to moan; the regular modern repr. of this would have been *bemean*: for the substitution of the existing form, see MOAN.]

1. *trans.* To moan for; to lament, weep for. 1200 *ALFRIC Deua* xxiv. 8 Þa heofungdagaz waron þa zefylle þe bi3 Moisen bemanoden. 12175 *Lamb. Hom.* 13 Þenne wille 3e... sunne bemenen. 1250 *Gen. & Ex.* 4150 xxx. daiges wep israel for his dead and bi-mient it wel. 12180 *Sir Ferumb.* 4225 Ys trewe baronye be-mend him sore. 1230 *LDG. Chron.* Troy iv. xxx. They playne and the death bimeane Of worthy Hector. 1253 *Myrr. Mag.* *Induct.* xvii. 2 Luckeles lot for to bemean. 1653 WALTON *Angler* i. 17 The children of Israel... bemoaning the ruines of Sion. 1732 GAY *Poems* (1745) I. 97 Her piteous tale the winds in sighs bemoan. 1840 DICKENS *Barn. Rudge* lix, She bemoaned her miseries in the sweetest voice.

2. *refl.* To lament or bewail one's lot. 1220 *Bestiary* 798 in O. E. *Misc.* 25 Bimene we us, we haufen don wrong. 12314 *Guy Warw.* 5 He gan to wepe... And biment him wel welliche. 1213 *LDG. Pylgr. Soule* iv. xx. (1283) 67 See how my sone... Bymeneth hym in herte chere and voyz. 1625 BACON *Envy, Ess.* (Arb.) 514 Politique persons... are euer bemoaning themselves, what a Life they lead. 1845 MACAULAY *Hist. Eng.* III. 486 Tillotson be-moaned himself with unfeigned... sorrow to Lady Russell.

3. *intr.* or with *subord. cl.* To lament, grieve. 12305 *St. Edm. Conf.* 426 in E. E. P. 82 Hi bimende & ofþo3te sore: þat hi hizege þider so faste. 1260 in *Pol. Rel. & L. Poems* (1866) 157 Yf thou owght morne, I shall be-mene. 1655 FULLER *Ch. Hist.* I. ii. § 5 We rather bemoan she lost it so soon. 1833 LAMB *Elia* (1860) 238, I do not know whether I ought to bemoan or rejoice that my old friend is departed.

4. *trans.* with cogn. obj.: To utter with moans. 1393 GOWER *Conf. I.* 346 His firste pleinte to bemene Unto the citee of Athene He goth him forth.

5. To express pity for, condole with.

12300 *Beket* 983 Therefore we ne bymeneth the no3t: for thu noldest beo awar bifore. 12305 *St. Kenelm* 236 in E. E. P. (1862) 54 He nere no3t to bymene þe3 his larder were ne3 ido. 1611 *Bible* Job xlii. 11 They bemoaned him, and comforted him ouer all the euill... brought vpon him.

† **Bemoanable**, *a.* *Obs.*—0 [f. prec. + -ABLE.] Deplorable, lamentable.

1611 *CORGE, Regrettable*, bemoanable, bewailable.

Bemoaning (bɪmɔːniŋ), *vbl. sb.* Also 3 *bi-mening*. [f. as prec. + -ING 1.] Lamentation, wailing, grief loudly expressed.

1250 *Gen. & Ex.* 2484 He ðer abiden, And bi-mening for iacob deden. 12300 K. *Alis.* 534 The kyng... Wolde... make bymenyng Of his wywes misdoynge. 1298 *GREENE Poems* 41 Send forth winter in her rusty weed To wail my bemoanings. 1705 STANHOPE *Paraphr.* III. 434 The Samaritane... did not express his Pity in idle and unprofitable Bemoanings. 1870 SPURGEON *Treas. Dav. Ps.* xxv. 7 Sincere penitents... are constrained to use many bemoanings.

Bemoaning, *ppl. a.* [f. as prec. + -ING 2.] Lamenting, miserably plaintive. Hence **Bemoaningly** *adv.*

1639 FULLER *Holy War* II. vii. (1840) 57 Sending his bemoaning letters to Boemund prince of Antioch. 1655 — *Hist. Camb.* (1840) 173 A bemoaning letter to king Henry. 1647 J. MAYNE *Serm.* (1647) 38 You, Sir, who have... thus bemoaningly pitied our divisions.

† **Bemoat**, *v.* *Obs.* [f. BE-6 + MOAT *sb.*] To surround with, or as with, a moat; to flood.

1298 SYLVESTER *Du Bartas* I. vii. (1641) 59/1 A silver Brook... A goodly Garden it be-moateth round. 1686 W. DE BRITAINNE *Hum. Prud.* ix. 43 When I have heard that my Friend was dead, I have bemoated my Eyes with Tears.

Bemoock (bɪmɔːk), *v.* [f. BE-*pref.* 2 + MOCK *v.*] *trans.* To mock at, flout; to delude mockingly. Hence **Bemoocked** *ppl. a.*

1607 SHAKS. *Cor.* I. i. 261 He will not spare to gird the Gods—Bemoocke the modest Moore. 1626 — *Temp.* III. iii. 63 Or with bemockt-at Stabs Kill the still closing waters. 1798 COLERIDGE *Anc. Mar.* IV. xi, Her [the moon's] beams bemock'd the sultry main. 1870 MORRIS *Earthly Par.* II. iii. 427 Why was I then bemocked with days of bliss?

† **Bemoil**, *v.* *Obs.* [f. BE-*pref.* 1 + MOIL *v.*] *trans.* 'To encumber with dirt and mire: to be-mire' (Johnson).

1596 SHAKS. *Tam. Shr.* IV. i. 77 How her horse fel... in how mery a place, how she was bemoil'd. 1636 HEALEY *Theophrast.* 93 When hee... riding upon a borrowed horse... falling all-to-bemoiles himself.

† **Bemoist**, *v.* *Obs.* [f. BE-5 + MOIST *a.*] = next. 1567 DRANT *Horac. Epist.* I. ii. Cv, What iuse first be-moysts a shel, the shel... wil retere the tast. 1587 TURBERV. *Trag. T.* (1837) 193 Which made her to be-moyst her face And bosome all with teares.

Bemoisten (bɪmɔɪstən), *v.* [f. BE-*pref.* 1, 2 + MOISTEN *v.*] Hence **Bemoistened** *ppl. a.*

1. *trans.* To make moist. 1590 LODGE *Euphrates Gold.* Leg. in Halliwell *Shaks.* VI. 20 First time shall stay his staylesse race... And snow be-moysten Julies face. 1800 COMBE (Dr. Syntax) *Consol.* vi. (D.) Wiping her bemoisten'd eye.

2. *intr.* To become moist. *rare*. 1821 CLARE *Vill. Minstr.* I. 57 With tears the while be-moist'ning in his eye.

† **Bemol**. *Obs.* Also 5 *bemole*, 7 *beemol*. [a. Fr. *Bemol* (med. L. *B mollis*) 'softened B.' In the harmonic system of Guido of Arezzo, which divided the scale into hexachords beginning from every G, C, and F, it was found necessary in the hexachord which started on F to introduce an additional note a semitone lower than B, which note was called *B mollis*, or *Bemol*; this was written in the old literal notation as a rounded *b*, a sign afterwards corrupted into *b*: see B II. 1.]

1. Name given to Bb, when that note was first introduced into the scale.

1237 *Rel. Ant.* I. 292 Thu holdest nowt a note... in riht ton... Thu bitist a-sonder bequarre, for bemol i the blame. 1287 *TREVISIA Higden* Rolls Ser. I. 355 [In their harp-playing they] bygynneþ from bemol [L. *a B mollis incipunt*]. 1529 SKELTON *P. Sparow* 530 Synghe the verse, Libera me, In de, la, soll, re, Softly bemole For my sparowes soule.

2. By extension: a. A flat.

1609 DOULAND *Ornithop. Micro.* 6 Of Voyces, some are called b Mols, Naturals, Sharps. 1656 [see 2 b].

b. A semitone. 1626 BACON *Sylva* § 104 There be interuenient in the Rise of Eight (in Tones) two Beemolls, or Half-notes. *Ibid.* § 105 There fall out to be two Beemolls between the Vnison and the Diapason. [1656 BLOUNT *Glossogr.*, *Beemol* (Fr.), the flat key in musick. *Bacon*.]

Bemole, **bemoon**, **bemoult**, etc.: see BE-*pref.*

Bemong: see BIMONG.

Bemonster (bɪmɔnstə), *v.* [f. BE-5 + MONSTER.] *trans.*

1. To make monstrous or hideous; to deform. 1605 SHAKS. *Leav.* IV. ii. 63 Be-monster not thy feature. 1608 MACHIN *Dumb Knt.* III. i, Ile rather wed a sootie blackamore, Then her that hath bemonstered my pure soule.

2. To regard, treat as, or 'call' a monster. 1698 *Christ Exalted* § 139 Yet he writes... like a Gentleman, not be-herickting, not be-monstring Dr. Crisp. 1880 SWINBURNE *Birthday.* Ode 421 A man by men bemonstered.

† **Bemourn**, *v.* *Obs.* [OE. *be-*, *bimurnan*, f. *bi-*, BE-2 + *murnan* to MOURN.]

See *Nation*, 1891, Aug. 7, p. 3796.

1. *trans.* To mourn over, lament, bewail.
a 1000 Crist (Grein) 176 Hwæt bemurnest þu? *c 1200 Trin. Coll. Hom.* 111 þe maked him his sinnes swide bi-murnen. *1380 Wyclif Luke xxiii.* 27 Wyymen that weileden, and bymoornyden him. *1668 MABE Aleman's Cusman de Alf.* 11. 249 Bemourne the miseries wherein you are.
 2. *intr.* To mourn, lament.
c 1400 Destr. Troy vii. 3279 þus [ho] bemournet full mekull & no meite toke.

Bemouth (bɪmʊθ), *v.* [f. BE-2 + MOUTH *v.*]
trans. To mouth the praises of (a person); to talk grandiloquently, to declaim.
a 1843 Southey Nondescript. i. They heard the illustrious furbelow'd Heroically in Popean rhyme Tee-tum'd, in Miltonic blank bemouth'd. *1888 F. HARRISON Crisis in Egypt* 6 The peace and good name of a great people are not to be bemouthed away by diplomatic brag.

† **Bemow**, *v.* *Obs.* [f. BE-2 + MOW *sb.* a grimace.]
trans. To mock, mock at, lit. with grimaces.
1388 Wyclif 2 Chron. xxx. 10 Thei scorniden and bi-mowiden hem. *c 1400 Apol. Loll.* 81. I schal. bymowe þow wen þis schal cum to þow þat ȝe dreed.

Bemud (bɪmʊd), *v.* [f. BE-6 + MUD.] Hence **Bemuddled** *ppl. a.*, **Bemudding** *vbl. sb.*
 1. *trans.* To cover, bespatter, or befoul with mud.
1380 HOLLYBAND Treas. Fr. Tong. Embouer, to bedirt, or bemud one. *1611 Cotgr.* Embouement, a bedurting, bemurring, bemudding. *1659 ARROWSMITH Armilla Catech.* 1. iv. § 5 Elephants. are wont, before they drink, to bemud the water. *1832 Fraser's Mag.* VI. 251 He often rides in swampy ways. and bemuds his friends.

2. *fig.* To confuse, muddle.
1599 NASHE Lent. Stuffe (1871) 35 And so troubledly bemudded with grief and care. my purer intellectual powers. *1790 COLERIDGE Devonsh. Roads Poems* I. 24 Dull sounds the Bard's bemuddled lyre. *1863 CHAMBERS Bk. of Days* 124 Satan. first tried by bemudding his thoughts, to divert him from the design of becoming a monk.

Bemuddle (bɪmʊdʌl), *v.* [f. BE-2, 6 + MUDDLE.]
trans. To confuse or muddle completely. Hence **Bemuddled** *ppl. a.*, **Bemuddlement**.
1865 Sat. Rev. XIII. 619/1 Novel-readers who bemuddle their brains in the reading-room day after day. *1883 A. Watson in Mag. Art* 186/1 A wild, bemuddled dream. *1884 Pall Mall G.* 13 May 1/2 In such a state of bemuddlement and confusion.

Bemuffle (bɪmʊfl), *v.* [f. BE-1 + MUFFLE *v.*]
 To muffle up; often *fig.* Hence **Bemuffled** *ppl. a.*
1583 STANFURD Aeneis iv. (Arb.) 111 The earth with the shades of night was darcklye bemuffled. *1611 Cotgr.* Bemouffle. bemuffled, wrapped, or lapped close within (warmed) clothes. *1760 STERNE Sermon York.* III. 225 So bemuffled with the externals of religion, that he has not a hand to spare for a worldly purpose!

Bemulce, for **DEMULCE**, to soothe or soften.
1531 ELVOT Gov. (1580) 64 Wherwith Saturne was eftsones bemulced and appaysed. [The original ed. has demulced.]
Bemurmur, **bemusk**, **bemute**, **bemuzzle**, etc.: see *BE-pref.*

Bemuse (bɪmjuːz), *v.* [f. BE-2 + MUSE *v.*: cf. *amuse*.]
trans. To make utterly confused or muddled, as with intoxicating liquor; to put into a stupid stare, to stupefy. Hence **Bemused**, **Bemusing** *ppl. a.*

1735 PORE Prol. Sat. 15 A parson much be-mus'd in beer. *1771 J. FOOT Penseroso* iv. 106 (With) fairy tales bemused the shepherd life. *1847 H. MILLER First Impr.* xix. (1861) 265 The bad metaphysics with which they bemuse themselves. *1880 M'CARTHY Oum Times* xxx. III. 2 A Prussian was regarded in England as a dull beer-bemused creature.
 ¶ *humorously.* To devote entirely to the Muses.
1705 PORE Let. H. Cromwell Wks. 1735 I. 15 When those incorrigible things, Poets, are once irrecoverably Be-mus'd.

Bemy, *obs.* form of **BEAMY**.
Ben (ben), *adv.*, *prep.*, *a.*, *sb.*, *Sc.* and *north.* *dial.* Forms: 4 bene, 5- ben. [Appears first in 14th c. There is no cognate in Scand. languages; so that it must be a dial. variant of ME. *binne*, BIN 'within':—OE. *binnan*, cogn. w. Du., Ger. *binnen*.]

A. adv. Within, towards the inner part; *esp.* in or into an inner part of the house relatively, in or into the inner part absolutely; into the parlour, etc. from the kitchen; in the parlour or chamber.

The words *but* and *ben* have special reference to the structure of dwelling houses formerly prevalent in the north, in which there was only one outer door, so that it was usual to enter through the kitchen into the parlour, and through the latter to an inner chamber, bedroom, or the like. In reference to the kitchen, the two latter rooms are *ben* and *far-ben* respectively; they constitute the *ben-end* of the house: in reference to the parlour, the kitchen is *but*, or *but the house*, or the *but end*. These phrases are retained even in more modern houses, where the parlour has a separate entrance: 'go but' = 'go into the kitchen'; 'come ben' = come into the parlour, etc. Also apartments on opposite sides of a passage are said to be *but* and *ben* with each other, though neither is farther out or farther in than the other: *come ben, go but* are then used of either. Their occupants are said to live *but and ben* with each other.

c 1425 WYNTOUN Cron. vii. x. 39 Hyr cors þai tuk wp, & bare ben. *1535 STEWART Cron. Scot.* III. 271 Intumulat. Ben in the queir. *1686 G. STUART Jocosser. Disc.* 35 When doors stand open, dogs come ben. *1816 SCOTT Antiqu.* xv. Baby [= Barbara], bring ben the tea-water. and we'll steek the shop, and cry ben. and take a hand at the cartes. *1865 J. GROVES in Harland Lanc. Lyrics* 128 Come ben, an shelter frae the storm.

b. Phrases: *But and ben*: in the outer and inner apartment, in both (or all) parts of the house.

To live but and ben with: see above. *Far ben*: far within, in the innermost chamber; *fig.* admitted beyond the ante-room, or to special intimacy or favour, 'far in.' *O'er far ben*: too intimate.

c 1375 BARBOUR St. Barthol. 22 þe tempil. Wes fillit ful, but & bene. *c 1336 LYNDSEY Compl. Baysche* 137. I was anis als far ben as ȝe ar, And had in Court als greit credence. *1632 RUTHERFORD Lett.* 20 (1862) I. 83 Ye are. far ben in the palace of our Lord. *1786 BURNS Holy Fair* xviii. Now butt an' ben the change-house fills. *1814 SCOTT Wav.* xlviii. I admit I could not be so far ben as you lads.

c. *There-ben*, corrupt. *the-ben* [cf. *there-out*], also *ben-by* (arch.): inside; = *G. darinnen*.

c 1375 ROLLAND Seuin Seages Prol. For to bring but its ill thatis not there ben. *1650 Vind. Hammond's Addr.* 22 note. That cannot be brought But, that is not the Ben. *1768 Ross Helmore* 33 (JAM.) Your bed's be made the-ben. *a 1774 FERGUSSON Election, Poems* (1845) 40 The coat ben-by, I the kist-nook. Is brought ance mair thereout.

B. prep. In or into the inner part of (a house).

1684 R. LAW Memorials Pref. (1818) 60 (JAM.) Ye. bad the father and mother go ben the house a whyle. *1810 TANNANILL Cragie Lee, Poems* (1846) 132 Far ben thy dark green planting's shade. *1827 J. WILSON Noct. Ambr. Wks.* 1855 I. 354 When ye gaed ben the house.

C. adj. Inner, interior: as in *ben end*, *ben room*.

Compared *benner*, *benmost*.

1774 FERGUSSON Poems (1789) II. 44 (JAM.) The benmost part o' my kist nook. *1785 Poems in Buchan Dial.* 34 (JAM.) Their benner pantries. *1818 HOGG Browne* II. 18 (JAM.) I was a free man i' my ain ben-end. *1820 SCOTT Abbot* xxviii. A door leading into the ben or inner chamber of a but, a ben, and a far-ben.

D. sb. (Elliptical use of the adj.) The inner room.
1791-9 Statist. Acc. Scot. XV. 339 The rent of a room and kitchen, or what. is stiled a but and a ben, gives at least two pounds sterling. *1807 SIR J. CARR Caledon. Sk.* 405 (JAM.) A tolerable hut is divided into three parts—a butt. a benn. and a byar, where the cattle are housed. *Mod. Sc.* Their house is a long low thatched cottage consisting of a but, a ben, and a far-ben.

Ben (ben), *sb.* Also 8 bin. [Gael. *beann*:—O.Celt. **benno*, **bendo*, 'peak, horn, conical point.'] A mountain-peak. Used with the names of Scottish mountains; e.g. Ben Nevis, Ben Lomond.
1788 R. GALLOWAY Poems 75 (JAM.) From Lomond bin to Pentland know. *1813 HOGG Queen's W.* 355 Ben—is a Highland term and denotes a mountain of a pyramidal form, which stands unconnected with others. *1819 Jacob. Relics* II. 421 (JAM.) Sweet was the river that flow'd from the Ben. *1884 Manch. Exam.* 13 Sept. 5/3 Lowlanders and Irishmen who never climbed a ben.

Ben (ben), *sb.* Also 6 benn, 7 behen. [a. Arab. *ban*, 'the ben-tree' (Lane). The form *behen* is due to confusion with another word.] The winged seed of the Horse-radish tree (*Moringa pterygosperma*); also called *ben-nut*.

1559 MORWYNG Evonym. 239 The fruites of Ben. are found about Gonna pteuteously. *1601 HOLLAND Pliny* I. 374 The Egyptian Ben is more oleous and fat. *1769 SIR J. HILL Fam. Herbal* (1812) 33 Ben-Nut-Tree. an Arabian tree. *1783 AINSWORTH Lat. Dict.* (Morell) 11, *Myrobalanum*. myrobalan, Ben, or a fruit of Egypt, about the bigness of a filbert. *1866 Treas. Bot.* 756 The seeds of the Horse-radish tree are winged, and are called Ben-nuts.

b. *Oil of Ben*: oil obtained from the ben-nut.
1594 PLAT Jewell. II. 16 The oil of Ben. is made of the Italian nuts. *1736 BAILEY Household.* Dict. 268 The oil of Ben has no smell of it self, but will readily receive any smell that you would impart to it. *1875 URE Dict. Arts* I. 337 Oil of ben. is much used by watchmakers.

Ben, *obs.* form of **BEHEN**, the plant.
Ben, *obs.* pres. indic., subj. pl., and inf. of **BE v.**
 † **Benam**, *v.* *Obs.* (arch. in pa. pple.) Forms of pa. t. and pple. 6 benamed, bynempt, 6-9 benempt (9 benempted). [OE. *benemnan*, f. BE- + *neþman* to NAME; cf. MHG., mod.G. *benennen*, Sw. *benämna*, to name. With *benempt* cf. *inempted* from name in *Ancren Riwe*, Trevisa, etc.]
 † 1. *trans.* To declare or utter solemnly or on oath; to promise with an oath. *Obs.*
c 1000 Agr. Ps. lxxxix. 3 Ic Dauide. on æð-sware ær benemede, þæt ic, etc. *c 1315 Poem temp. Edw. II* in *Pol. Songs* 327 Though the bishop hit wite, that hit bename kouth, He may wid a litel silver stoppen his mouth. *1579 SPENSER Sheph. Cal. Nov.* Kid or cosset, which I thee bynempt. *1615 CROOKE Body of Man* 249 Iphis her vow benempt a Maide, But turned boy her vow she paide.

† 2. To name, mention by name. *Obs. rare.*

1579 SPENSER Sheph. Cal. July 214 What is Algrin, he that is so oft bynempt?

3. With *compl.*: To name, call, style, describe as.
1580 SIDNEY Arcadia III. 391 Hee a Courtier was benamed. *1748 THOMSON Cast. of Indol.* II. xxxii. A fiery-footed boy, Benempt Dispatch. *1814 SCOTT Wav.* xxx. The master smith, benempt, as his sign intimated, John Mucklewraith. *1832 Blackw. Mag.* XXXII. 257 A Virgin, benempted Prudence Smith.

Bench (benʃ), *sb.* Forms: 1 beno(e), 3-6 benche, (*Orm.* *bennohe*), 4- bench. For *Sc.* and northern forms, see **BENK**, **BINK**. [Comm. Tent.: OE. *benç* = ON. **benkr* (Sw. *bänk*, Da. *bänk*, Icel. *bekkr*), OS. MHG., MDu. *banc*, OHG. *banch*, mod.G., Du. *bänk*:—OTeut. **banki-z* 'bench': cf. *BANK sb.* 1, 2, which are originally the same word as this, introduced into English at a later time

through Romanic. In sense 2, *bench* translates L. *bancum*, AF. *baunc*, *baunk*.]

1. A long seat, with or without a back, usually of wood, but also of stone, etc. 'Distinguished from a stool by its greater length.' J.

a 1000 Beowulf 659 Bugon þa to bence. *c 1200 ORMIN* 14087 He wolde sittenn þær, To drinnenn þære on bennche. *1393 LANGL. P. Pl. C.* i. 200 To cracchen ouis [rats]. pouh we crepe vnder benches. *c 1440 Promp. Parv.* 30 Benche, *scamnum*. *1535 COVERDALE Esther* i. 6 The benches were of golde and siluer. *1611 BIBLE Esch.* xxvii. 6 Thy benches of Yuoire. *1712 STEELE Spect.* No. 509 ¶ 3 The benches around are so filthy, that no one can sit down. *1870 F. WILSON Ch. Lindisf.* 69 The nave is now seated with two rows of low-backed benches.

b. A seat or thwart in a boat.

1552 HULOET, Benches in a barge, bote, or shyppes, *juga*, *1701 COWPER Odyss.* xv. 666 Each obedient, to his bench repaired. *1867 SMYTH Sailor's Word-bk.* Benches of Boats.

2. The seat where the judges sit in court; the judge's seat, or seat of justice; hence, the office or dignity of a judge, as in 'to be raised to the bench.'

c 1275 MAPES Body & Soul 305 Theiȝ alle the men nouȝ. under mone to demen weren sette on benche. *1597 SHAKS. 2 Hen. IV.* v. ii. 86 To plucke downe Iustices from your awefull Bench. *1663 BUTLER Hud.* i. l. 23 Great on the Bench, Great in the Saddle. *1848 MACAULAY Hist. Eng.* I. 450 These qualifications he carried. from the bar to the bench. *Ibid.* 662 On the bench sate three judges who had been with Jeffreys.

b. Hence, the place where justice is administered: orig. applied to *The (Court of) Common Bench*, or (later) *Common Pleas* at Westminster, Anglo-Fr. *le baunc*, L. *bancum*; also *The (Court of) King's or Queen's Bench*, in which originally the sovereign presided, and which followed him in his movements. (These now form divisions of the High Court of Judicature.)

1292 BRITTON i. xxvii. § 13 Brefs pledables par devaunt nos Justices du baunc a Westmouster [before our Justices of the Bench at Westminster]. — § 14 Si sount ajournez en baunc en presence des parties [they shall be adjourned into the Bench]. — xxii. § 18 Des clers. del un baunc et del autre, et des clers del Eschequer [the clerks. of the one Bench and the other]. *1297 R. GLOUC.* 570 Biore pe justices atte benche. *1330* [See **BENK**.] *1365 LANGL. P. Pl. A.* Prol. 95 To ben Clerkes of þe Kynges Benche. *1474 CAXTON Chesse* 79 The courtes of the chauncerye, kynges bench, comyn place. *1628 COKE On Litt.* 71 b, Called the Kings Bench. because Kings in former times haue often personally set there. *1768 BLACKSTONE Comm.* III. 41 The court of king's bench. is the supreme court of common law in the kingdom. *1809 TOMLINS Law Dict.* s. v. *King's Bench*, During the reign of a Queen, it is called the Queen's Bench; and in Cromwell's time, it was stiled the Upper Bench. *1835 PENNY Cycl.* III. 376/1 Of the modern Court of Common Pleas. the judges. retain the technical title of 'Justices of the Bench at Westminster' to the present day.

c. Any court of justice; a tribunal.

1589 PASQUILL's Ret. Bij, The Courtes, Benches, Sessions, that are helde. in her Maiesties name. *1660 MILTON Free Commw.* Wks. (1851) 451 Monarchs. will have all the Benches of Judicature annex'd to the Throne. *1863 KINGSLEY Water-Bab.* iv. 149 The other two [days] he went to the bench and the board of guardians.

d. The judges or magistrates collectively, or the judge or magistrate sitting in the seat of justice.

1502 GREENE Art Conny Catch. 10 The bench, that neuer held this name before, smiled. *1677 MARVELL Corr.* 296 II. 355 Sir, Your's and the Bench's most humble servant. *a 1716 BLACKALL Wks.* I. 318 He had been asked some questions by the Bench. *1753 PRINGLE in Scots Mag.* XV. 42/1 The bench consisted of six persons. *1837 DISRAELI Venetia* i. xvi. Now, prisoner, the bench is ready to hear your confession.

3. A seat where a number of persons sit side by side in some official capacity; e.g. those in the British Houses of Parliament (originally simple wooden benches), that occupied by the Aldermen in a Council Chamber, etc.

1607 SHAKS. Timon iv. i. 5 Slaues and Fooles Plucke the graue wrinkled Senate from the Bench.] *1742 SHENSTONE Schoolmistr.* xxviii. A little bench of heedless bishops And there a chancellor in embryo. *1771 SMOLLETT Humph. Cl.* (1815) 132 Every individual that now filled the bench of bishops in the house of Lords. *1812 Examiner* 4 May 280/1 (Parliament. Rep.), Loud cheering from the Treasury bench. *1849 HT. MARTINEAU Hist. Eng.* I. 15 The cross-benches of neutrality in the House of Commons. *1883 MAY Law of Parl.* 16 The spiritual and temporal lords. sit apart on separate benches. *1885 Manch. Exam.* 24 July 6/1 The comparative bareness of. the Whig benches on the left of the Speaker's chair.

Hence, **b.** The dignity of occupying such a seat, as 'to be raised to the episcopal bench,' i.e. the Bishop's bench in the House of Lords, 'to aspire to the civic bench,' i.e. to be an Alderman, etc.

c. Applied collectively to the persons who occupy, or have a right to occupy, such a seat.

1494 FABYAN vii. 665 By a consent of the benche [of aldermen], and of the comyn counsayll. *1600 CHAPMAN Iliad* vi. 513 Those loving vows to living Jove he used And all the other bench of gods. *1801 BR. LINCOLN in G. Rose Diaries* (1860) I. 359 It has excited no small alarm amongst some of our bench. *1853 BRIGHT India, Sp.* (1876) 2, I do not allude to the whole of the Treasury bench. *1860 FORSTER Gr. Remonstr.* 196 The conflict with the Right Reverend Bench which ended in their committal to the Tower.

4. An article of furniture similar in form to the long seat (sense 1): † **a.** a footstool; **b.** the

rough strong table at which carpenters and other mechanics work; c. a banker's counter.

c1386 CHAUCER *Pers. T.* p. 515 Ne schal ye not swere. . by the corthe, for it is the benche of his feet. 1737 CHAMBERS *Cycl. s.v. Foundry*, Two workmen . . have a table or bench in common. 1755 JOHNSON *Dict. s.v. Bankrupt*, When any became insolvent his . . bench was broke. 1881 *Mechanic* i. viii § 466 A carpenter's bench may be either fixed or moveable. 1885 HESBA STRETTON in *Good Words* XIV. 27/2, I have begun to work a little now at the bench.

5. Hence, A collection of dogs as exhibited at a show on benches or platforms; hence *attrib.*

1883 *Chamb. Jnrl.* 305 The 'bench' and field properties of a greyhound.

6 = BANK sb. 1.

c1450 *Why not Nun* 114 in *E. E. P.* (1862) 141 Vn-to a benche of camomille My wofulle hede I dyd inclyne. 1557 ROBINSON tr. *Mor's Utop.* 30 Vpon a bench couered with greene torues we satte. 1622 ASHMOLE *Theat. Chem.* 215 Benches couered with new Turves grene.

7. Any conformation of earth, stone, etc., which has a raised and flat surface: e.g. the coping of a wall (*obs.*); a level ledge or set-back in the slope of masonry or earthwork; in U.S. a level tract between a river and neighbouring hills; a horizontal division or layer of a coal-seam, cut by itself. 1730 A. GORDON *Maffei's Amph.* 399 The Bench or Out-jutting, which is above the highest Ridge of the Building. 1793 SMERTON *Edystone L.* § 111 Its slope . . being formed into a sort of steps, or benches. 1862 R. MAYNE *Brit. Columbia* 108 These flats or benches . . are found generally at the bends of the river. 1881 RAYMOND *Mining Gloss.* s.v. *Bench*, One bench or layer [of coal] being cut before the adjacent one.

8. Law. See FREE-BENCH.

9. Comb., chiefly *attrib.*, as *bench-cloth*, -*tied* (sense 1), *bench-holdfast*, -*hook* (sense 2), *bench-check*, -*drill*, -*jaw* or -*vice* (4 b). Also *bench-babbler* = BENCH-WHISTLER; *bench-clamp*, a kind of vice with sliding side used to force together the parts, e.g. of a window-frame; *bench-coal* (see 7); *bench-hammer*, a finisher's or blacksmith's hammer; *bench-holdfast*, -*hook*, an iron hook, sliding in a socket, by which a plank may be gripped; † *bench-hole*, a privy; *bench-key*, a particular key used by a watchmaker for winding watches upon which he is employed; *bench-plane*, a joiner's plane for working on a flat surface; *bench-reel*, a spinning reel on the pinn of which sailmakers wind their yarn; *bench-room*, sitting accommodation; *bench-screw* (see *quot.*); *bench-shears*, shears used by copper- and zinc-workers; *bench-show* (see 5); *bench-stop*, -*strip*, a strip of wood or metal fixed on a carpenter's bench to rest his work against; *bench-table*, a low stone seat on the inside of walls, or round the bases of pillars, in churches, cloisters, etc.; *bench-warrant*, one issued by a judge, as opposed to a *justice's* or *magistrate's* warrant; *bench-winder* = Bench-key. See also BENCH-MARK, -WHISTLER.

1540 BALE in *Chke's Hurt Sedit.* (1641) Pref., These chimney-Preachers, and *bench-Babblers. 1850 J. SMITH *Rep. Sanit. Condition Hull* 17 Forming *bench-beds for the vessels. 1647 FULLER *Good Th. Worsh.* (1841) 103 As if he made a session or *bench-business thereof. 1881 *Mechanic* § 505 Pins running through the bench leg and *bench check respectively. 1552 HULOET, *Benchclothe, or carpet cloth. 1712 *Phil. Trans.* XXVII. 541 Coal, called *Bench-Coal. 1555 *Fardle Factions* 10 Whiche dreamed not their knowledge in the *benchclothe at home. 1666 SHAKS. *Ant. & Cl.* iv. vii. 9 Wee'l beat 'em into *Bench-holes. a 1656 HALL *Rem. Wks.* (1660) 231 The stoutest Atheist turnes pale, and is ready to creep into a *bench-hole. 1833 P. NICHOLSON *Pract. Build.* 236 The *bench-hook is to keep the wood steady. 1635 BRATHWAITE *Arctid. Pr.* ii. 13 Thou . . sitt'st *Bench-mute with thy decayed braines. 1601 HOLLAND *Pliny* II. 358 Sufficient bed and *bench-room to rest and repose. 1833 P. NICHOLSON *Pract. Build.* 237 The *bench-screw is used to fasten boards between the cheeks, in order to plane their edges. 1881 *Mechanic* § 464 An ordinary carpenter's bench . . with a bench vice and *bench stop. 1849 FREEMAN *Archit.* 197 A *bench table along the east wall. 1880 T. MITCHELL *Aristoph.* I. 33 My poor *bench-tied countrymen. 1696 LUTTRELL *Brief Rel.* IV. 108 A *bench warrant was issued. 1884 F. BRITTEN *Watch & Clockm.* 293 *Bench Winder . . [is] a key used for winding watches by a watch maker.

Bench (benʃ), v. [f. prec. sb.]

1. *trans.* To furnish with benches. c1385 CHAUCER *L. G. W.* 98 I-benchede newe with turvis. 1615 G. SANDYS *Trav.* 130 This entry [of the pyramid] was . . benched on each side. 1799 SAVAGE *Wanderer* v. v. There, bench'd with turf, an oak our seat extends. 1847 TENNYSON *Princess* ii. 348 Stately theatres Bench'd crescent-wise.

† 2. To bank up, bank back. *Obs. rare.* 1587 FLEMING *Cont. Holinshed* III. 1547/1 Yf there were anie issue or draining of water vnder the wals . . they benched it, digging a trench at the foot of that part of the wall, and filling the same with earth.

3. a. *trans.* To seat on a bench. b. *refl.* and *intr.* To seat oneself, or take a seat, upon a bench. 1605 SHAKS. *Lea* iii. vi. 40 Thou his yoke-fellow of equity, Bench by his side. 1611 — *Wint. T.* i. ii. 314 His Cup-bearer, whom I from meaner forme Hauē Bench'd, and rear'd to Worship. 1644 HEYWOOD *Captives* iv. iii. in Bullen O. PL IV. The fryar . . Hath lyke a surly Justice bensht himself. 1816 W. TAYLOR in *Month. Mag.* XLI. 331 They . . bench their weary joints.

4. *intr.* To bench in: to recede in terraced levels 1737 L. CLARKE *Hist. Bible* vii. (1740) 409 The whole ascent to it was, by the benching in, drawn in a sloping line from the bottom to the top. *Ibid.*, Calling it a Pyramid, because of its . . benching in at every Tower.

Benched (benʃt), ppl. a. [f. prec. + -ED.] a. Furnished with benches. b. Seated on a bench.

1394 P. PL. *Crede* 205 An halle Wip brode bordes aboute y-benched wel cleue. 1636 HEYWOOD *Loves Mistr.* v. i. Wks. 1874 V. 148 Minos bench'd. 1873 MISS BROUGHTON *Nancy* III. 72, I sit benched among the old women.

Bencher (benʃə), [f. BENCH sb. + -ER.]

1. One who sits on a bench (or thwart); one who frequents the benches of a tavern.

1534 LD. BERNERS *Gold. Bk. M. Aurel.* (1546) D d viij, If the pyllyers bee of syluer, and benches of golde, and though the benchers be kynges. 1598 B. JONSON *Ev. Man in Hum.* iv. i. O, the benchers phrase: *pauca verba.* 1858 HAWTHORNE *Fr. & H. Jnrl.* II. 186 The benchers joke with the women passing by. 1866 HUGHES *Tom Brown Oxf.* xiii. Old companions, *spavins*, benchers (of the gallant eight-oar).

2. One who officially sits on a bench; a magistrate, judge, assessor, senator, member of the Sanhedrim, alderman, etc. *arch.*

1571 *Damon & P.* in *Hazl. Dodsl.* IV. 17 Of parasites and sycophants you are a grave bencher. 1607 SHAKS. *Cor.* ii. i. 91 A necessary Bencher in the Capitoll. 1612 BR. HALL *Contempl. N. T.* iv. xxx, The grave benchers of Ierusalem . . Rabbits of Israel. a 1693 ASHMOLE *Antiq. Berks* (1723) III. 58 Ten of them Aldermen or chief Benchers.

3. *spec.* One of the senior members of the Inns of Court, who form for each Inn a self-elective body, managing its affairs, and possessing the privilege of 'calling to the bar'.

1582 *Act 5 Eliz.* i. § 5 As well Utter-Barresters as Benchers. 1691 WOOD *Alth. Oxon.* II. 311 He was made successively Barrester, utter Barrester, Bencher and Reader. 1711 ADDISON *Spect.* No. 21 P. 4 Benchers of the several Inns of Court, who seem to be Dignitaries of the Law. 1855 MACAULAY *Hist. Eng.* IV. 774 The benchers of the Inner Temple could bear the scandal . . no longer.

Benchership, [f. prec. + -SHIP.] The position or dignity of a bencher in an Inn of Court.

1823 LAMB *Elia*, *Benchers Inner Temple*, They were co-evals, and had nothing but that and their benchership in common. 1865 *Pal Mall G.* 29 Sept. 6/2 A benchership of Gray's-inn has become vacant.

Benching (benʃɪŋ), vbl. sb. [f. BENCH + -ING.]

a. The action of the vb. BENCH. b. *Benching up*: working on the top of coal (Raymond *Mining Gloss.* 1881). c. *concr.* A provision or range of benches or seats.

1398 TREvisa *Barth. De P. R.* xix. cxxix. 938 *Diuerticulum* is a benchynge besyde the waye. 1866 HOWELLS *Venet. Life* xx. 335 The benching that passes round the shop.

Benchlet (benʃlet), [f. BENCH sb. + -LET.] A little bench, a stool.

1865 CARLYLE *Freddie. Gl. X.* xxi. vii, Three little benchlets or stools . . stood before him. 1884 A. PUTNAM *Police Judge* xvi. 165 The petit judge might sit on his benchlet.

Bench-mark. A surveyor's mark cut in some durable material, as a rock, wall, gate-pillar, face of a building, etc., to indicate the starting, closing, or any suitable intermediate, point in a line of levels for the determination of altitudes over the face of a country. It consists of a series of wedge-shaped incisions, in the form of the 'broad-arrow' with a horizontal bar through its apex, thus ↗. When the spot is below sea-level, as in mining surveys, the mark is inverted.

[The horizontal bar is the essential part, the broad arrow being added (originally by the Ordnance Survey) as an identification. In taking a reading, an angle-iron 7 is held with its upper extremity inserted in the horizontal bar, so as to form a temporary bracket or bench for the support of the levelling-staff, which can thus be placed on absolutely the same base on any subsequent occasion. Hence the name.]

1864 WEBSTER *City Francis*. 1883 G. SYMONS *Brit. Rainf.* 134 A series of levels has been taken from the gauge to an Ordnance bench mark.

† **Bench-whistler**. *Obs.* One who sits idly whistling on a bench: a term of reproach.

1544 BOORDE *Dyetary* viii. 245 Fye on the, bench-whistler, wylt thou sterte awaye now? 1607 CHAPMAN *All Fools* Plays (1873) I. 137 'Are but bench-whistlers now a dayes to them that were in our times. 1618 HORNEY *Sea Drunk.* (1859) 17 He that will not drinke off his whole scowre Is a bench-whistler.

Bend (bend), sb. 1. Forms: 1—bend; also 3 bend, 4 bend. [Com. Teut., OE. *bend* str. fem. (pl. *benda*) = OS. *bendi*, OFris. *bende*, MDu. *bende*, Goth. *bandi*:—O Teut. **bandjā*, f. *band*, stem of *bindan* to BIND; also in OE. str. masc. (pl. *bendas*). This is the original English word, now superseded, exc. in nautical use, by the cognate BAND sb. 1. BOND, from ON., the senses of which ran in ME. alongside of those of *bend*, so as to make it appear only another phonetic variant of those. The OE. pl. *benda* remained in ME. as *bende* in collective sense of 'bonds, imprisonment.']

† 1. Anything with which one's body or limbs are bound; a band, bond, or fetter. *pl. collective*, Bonds, fetters, confinement, imprisonment. *Obs.*

c 890 K. ALFRED *Beda* iv. xxii. (Hosw.) þa benda sumes gehæftes. c 1000 *Agg. Ps.* cvij[1], 13 Heora benda to wearp. c 1000 *Agg. Gosp. Matt.* xi. 2 Ða Johannes on bendum (*Hat-*

ton benden) gehyrde Christes weoruc. c 1175 *Moral Ode* 180 in *Lamb. Hom.* 171 For lesen hi of bende. *Ibid.* 289 In þo lobe biende [*Trin. M.S.* in þe lobe bende]. c 1205 LAY. 18459 Þe king heom lette binden mid irene bende [1250 bendes]. c 1300 *Beket* 15 Oft in feteres and in othe[r] bende. c 1400 *Camelyn* 457 To byrynge me out of bendes. *Ibid.* 837 Gamelyn leet unfetere his brother out of bende.

† b. *fig.* The 'fettlers' or 'shackles' of habit, etc.; custody, keeping; = BAND sb. 1 8.

971 *Blickl. Hom.* 9 þa wæs gesended þæt goldhord . . on þone bend þæs clenran innodes. c 1200 *Trin. Coll. Hom.* 63 Ac þat . . unbunden þe bendes of wiferfulness.

† c. A moral or spiritual bond or restraint; the bands or bonds of matrimony. = BAND sb. 1 9.

a 1250 *Owl & Night*. 1426 Thurh chirche bende. *Ibid.* 1470 Thah spusing bendes thuncheth sore. 1340 *Ayenb.* 48 Þet ne habbeþ nenne bend ne of wodewehoh ne of spoushod.

† d. 'Confinement' at child-birth: 'Our Lady's Bands': see BAND sb. 1 c.

1297 R. GLOUC. 379 3yf God me wole grace sende Vorto make my chyrche gon, & bringe me of þys bende. c 1330 *King of Tars* 539 By the fourti wikes ende, Heo was deliuered out of bende, Thorw help of Marie Myde.

† 2. A clamp or band (of iron, etc.) for strengthening a box, etc.; a connecting piece by which the parts of anything are bound together; = BAND sb. 1 4, 5. *Obs.*

a 1285 *Ankr. R.* 382 Ibunden mid iren . . and mid brode þicke bendes. 1523 FITZHERB. *Husb.* § 4 Somme plowes haue a bende of yron. 1596 SPENSER *F. Q.* ii. vii. 30 Huge great yron chests, and cofers strong, All bard with double bendes.

3. *Naut.* A knot, used to unite one rope to another, or to something else; there are various kinds, as the *cable bend*, *carrick bend*, *fisherman's bend*, etc. (The only extant sense.)

1769 FALCONER *Dict. Marine* (1789) *Bend*, the knot by which one rope is fastened to another. 1819 REES *Cycl. s.v. Bends*, For a carrick bend, lay the end of a rope, or hawser, across its standing part. 1899 GEN. P. THOMPSON *Exerc.* (1842) I. 114 Taking a bend on the bight of the rope. 1833 MARRIAT *P. Simple* xiv, He taught me a fisherman's bend, which he pronounced to be the king of all knots.

† 4. Comb. *bend-ful*, (*obs.*), a bandful, a bundle. 1a 1480 *Kyng & Hermit* 169 in *Hazl. E. P. P.* 20 The frere he had bot baryl stro, Two thake bendfull without mo.

Bend (bend), sb. 2. Forms: 1 bend, 5-6 bends. [Apparently originally English, as a sense of the prec. word: see the early quotations. But afterwards naturally identified with OF. *bende* (mod. Fr. *bande*): see BAND sb. 2; whence the later sense-development. Now used only in the Heraldic and technical senses 3, 4 (if 4 really belongs here).

The OF. *bende*, *bande*, corresponds to med. L. *binda*, *benda*, Lombard *benda*, It. *benda*, *banda*, Sp. and Pg. *venda* and *banda*; pointing to a Romanic adoption of OHG. *binda*, 'band, fillet, tie, sash', and also of Gothic *bandi* or other equivalent of OE. *bend*, with similar sense.]

† 1. A thin flat strip adapted to bind round.

† a. A riband, fillet, strap, band, used for ornament or as part of a dress; a sash, swaddling-band, hat-band, bandage; = BAND sb. 2 1-5. *Obs.* or *ldial.*

c 1000 *Ælfric Gloss.* in Wt-Wülcker *Voc.* 152 *Diadema*, bend agzimmed and gesmided. — *Nimbus*, mid golde gesiwud bend. c 1205 LAY. 24747 And mid æne bende of golde ælc hafde his hæfð biuonge. c 1340 *Gaw. & Gr. Knt.* 2517 Vche burne . . a bauderyk schulde haue, A bende a belef him aboute, of a bryt grene. c 1450 *Crt. of Love* 810 A bend of golde and silke. 1463 in *Bury Wills* (1850) 41 My bende for an hat of blak sylk and silvir. Item to John Coote my bende of whit boon with smale bedys of grene. 1491 CAXTON *Vitas Patr.* (W. de W.) i. xlviii. (1495) 93 b/1 A lytyll bende, to swadde a lytyll chylyde beyng in his cradle. 1513 DOUGLAS *Æneis* ii. iii. (ii.) 138 About my heid aue gairland or a bend. 1552 HULOET, *Bende*, fillet or kerchiefe. *amiculum*. 1601 HOLLAND *Pliny* II. 365 Bast dogs haire down to a bend or piece of cloth, and fasten the same close to the said forehead. 1790 GROSE *Prov. Gloss.*, *Bend*, a border of a woman's cap; *north.* 1792-9 *Statist. Acc. Scot.* XI. 173 (JAM.) The [Archery] prize [at Kilwinning], from 1488 to 1688, was a sash, or as it was called, a benn . . a piece of Taffeta or Persian, of different colours, chiefly red, green, white, and blue.

† b. *Anat.* A band, a ligament. *Obs.*

1398 TREvisa *Barth. De P. R.* v. v, The bridde curtel folowep, þat hat 'cerotica' [*clerotica*], þat . . defendep all þe oper from þe hardnesse of þe bon, and is as it were þe bende [*ligamentum*] of þe ye.

† c. A scroll or riband in decorative work. ? *Obs.* c 1535 in *Gutch Coll. Cur.* I. 206 And for 246 bends or poses . . set up in the same windows. 1743 A. MILNE in *Wade Melrose Ab.* (1861) 33 On the East of this Window there is a Niche, having a monk for the supporter of the statue, holding a Bend with each Hand about his Breast. [1861 WADE *ibid.* 314 A venerable monk, bearing a band or scroll.]

† 2. A 'stripe' inflicted by a lash or rod. *Obs. rare.* (Also in form *band*, belonging to BAND sb. 2 after sense 8.)

c 1400 *Iwaine & Gaw.* 2394 He bar a scourge with cordes ten . . Ester ilka band brast out the blode. a 1550 *Peebles to Play*, Quoth he, 'Thy back sall bear aue bend'; 'In faith,' quoth she, 'we meit not.'

3. *Her.* An ordinary formed by two parallel lines drawn from the dexter chief to the sinister base of the shield, containing the fifth part of the field in breadth, or the third if charged. (See *quot.* 1872.) *Bend sinister*: a similar ordinary drawn in the opposite direction: one of the marks of bastardy. Cf. BATON. In *bend*: placed bendwise. *Parted per bend*: divided bendwise.

c. 1430 *Syr Gener.* 3924 Armes he bereth riche and clene, With bendes of gold wel besene. 1480 Caxton *Chron. Eng.* cxiv. 170 Euery bataylle had cote armures of grene clothe and therof the ryght quarter was yelow with whyte bendes, wherfor that parlement was callyd the parlement of the whyte bende. 1572 Boswell *Armorie* ii. 33 b. Thei are called Bendes. 1598 Drayton *Heroic. Ep.* xxi. 95 That Lyon plac'd in our bright Silver bend. 1622 Peacham *Compl. Gentl.* i. (1634) 9 Some [bare] their Fathers whole Coate... in bend dexter. *Ibid.* Yet it is the custome with vs, and in France, to allow them for Noble, by giving them sometimes their Fathers proper Coate, with a Bend sinister. 1666 Fuller *Worthies* i. 48 A Bend is esteemed the best Ordinarie, being a Belt born in its true posture athwart. 1688 R. Holmes *Armory* i. 74 Parted per Bend Sinister. 1816 Scott *Antig.* xii. The bend of bastardy upon the shield yonder. 1872 Ruskin *Eagle's N.* § 235 The Bend... represents the sword-belt.

4. A shape or size in which ox- or cow-hides are tanned into leather, forming half of a 'butt.'

A 'butt' is the entire hide of the back and flanks reduced to a rough rectangle, by what is technically called 'rounding,' i. e. cutting off the surrounding thinner parts (the hide of the head and shoulders, and of the belly and shanks on each side of the 'butt'). When this is cut in two by a line down the middle of the back, before tanning (as is mostly done in Scotland and the north of England), each half is called a 'bend.' Butts and bends contain the thickest and strongest hide, the qualities of which are further developed by special processes in tanning, so as to make the stoutest leather. Hence

b. Bend-leather (orig. northern): the leather of a 'bend,' i. e. the thickest and stoutest kind of leather (from the back and flanks), used for soles of boots and shoes; sole-leather.

1600 Heywood i. K. *Edw. Wks.* 1874 l. 40, I had rather than a bend of leather Shée and I might smouch together. 1865 *Times* 29 Apr., An average amount of business has been done in leather during the month. Foreign heavy butts and bends have been in only moderate demand.

b. 1588 LAMBARDE *Eiren.* iv. 164 If any tanner have raised with any mixture any hide to be converted to backes, bend-leather, clouting-leather. 1700 Blair *Phil. Trans.* XXVII. 76 Of Substance not unlike to English Bend or Sole-Leather. 1811 Scott in *Lockhart* (1839) III. 344 Sir... can you say anything clever about bend leather? 1886 *Blackw. Mag.* Feb. 254 But Jem was a tough one and never knew pains in his vulcanite bowels and bend-leather brains.

† **Bend**, sb.³ *Obs.* Forms: 5-6 *bende*, 6-7 *bend*. [Late 15th c. *bende*, a. F. *bende*, another (? earlier) form of F. *bande* (corresp. to It., Sp., Pg. *banda*) 'an organized company of men,' a *BAND*. Both forms, *bende* and *bande*, appear to have been introduced from Fr. by Caxton (see *BAND* sb.³); but *bende* was by far the more frequent form till late in the 16th c., being always used by Ld. Berners, Sir T. More, Grafton, etc., though *band(e)*, alone appears in the versions of the Bible (Tindale and Coverdale have *bonde* in *John* xviii. 3, where the later versions have *bande*; but the word is not frequent in any form before the Geneva version of 1557). *Bend* is rare after 1600; the Shaks. folio of 1623 has always *band*. The sense of 'faction, party,' is assigned also by Cotgrave to F. *bande*, and by Minshew to Sp. *banda*.]

An organized company of men; = *BAND* sb.³; a party, a faction; a gang.

1475 Caxton *Jason* 78 Upon them that they founde not of their bende. 1509 Fisher *Fun. Sermon*. *Cress Richmon.* (1708) 15 Yf ony faccyons or bendes were made secretly amongst her hede Officers. 1539 TONSTALL *Serm. Palm Sund.* (1823) 33 Cornelius the Centurion, capytayne of the Italyens bende. 1544 STALBRIDGE *Epist.* 24 A bende of bolde braggers. 1552 HULOET, Bende of men, commonly of ten souldiers, manipulus. 1579 SPENSER *Sheph. Cal.* May 32 A fresh bend Of louely Nymphs. 1600 HOLLAND *Livy* XXIII. 473 The bend and faction of the Cossanes... kept him downe. 1611 SPEED *Hist. Gt. Brit.* ix. xviii. 15 The Duke of Gloucester... and other Lords, the chiefe of his bend

Bend (bend), sb.⁴ [A late derivative of *BEND* v., appearing in the 16th c.]

I. Related to *BEND* v. II.

1. The action of the verb *BEND*; bending, incurvation; bent condition, flexure, curvature.

1597 *Way to Thrift* 62 Too mickle bend will breake thy bow When the game is alder best. c. 1790 IMISON *Sch. Arts* I. 112 When the strong spring C is set on bend against the opposite ends of the pins. c. 1806 A. MACKINTOSH *Driffeld Angler* 229 The effect of the proper degree of bend. 1816 BYRON *Ch. Har.* iii. cii. The gush of springs... the bend Of stirring branches. 1858 HAWTHORNE *Fr. & It. Grm.* I. 236 A wave just on the bend, and about to break over.

2. A bending of the body; a bow. *Obs.* except with defining words, as an instance of sense 1.

(Cf. the slang phrase *Grecian Bend*, denoting a certain bending forward of the body in walking, affected by some women c. 1872-80.)

1599 LYNDSEAY *Complaint* 181 With bendis and becks For wantones. 1550 *Christis Kirk Gr. vi.* Platefute he bobit up with bendis, For Mald he made requiest. [Mod. With a quick bend of the body, a slight bend of the knee, etc.]

† 3. Inclination of the eye in any direction, glance. *Obs. rare.*

1601 SHAKS. *Jul. C.* i. ii. 123 That same eye whose bend doth awe the world.

4. Turn of mind, inclination, bent. *Obs.* except with defining words, as an instance of sense 1.

1591 in *Harl. Misc.* (1809) II. 211 For the more forcible

attraction of these vnnatural people (being weake of vnderstanding) to this their bend, these sedemen of treason bring certain bulles from the Pope. 1610 FLETCHER *Faithful Sheph.* (T.) Farewel, poor swain: thou art not for my bend. c. 1815 FUSELI *Lect. Art* vii. (1848) 491 The prevalent bend of the reigning taste.

5. *concr.* A thing of bent shape; the bent part of anything, e. g. of a river, a road; a curve or crook.

c. 1600 Rob. Hood (Ritson) ii. xi. 17 A herd of deer was in the bend All feeding before his face. 1727 CHAMBERS *Cycl.* s. v. *Flying*, The bony part, or bend of the wing into which the feathers are inserted. 1803 SOUTHEY *Eng. Eclog.* ix A long parade... Round yonder bend it reaches A furlong further. 1879 FROUDE *Cæsar* xix. 319 At a bend of the river four miles below Paris. 1883 *Century Mag.* 378 The perfection of fishhooks in shank, bend, barb and point.

6. *Naut. (pl.)* 'The crooked timbers which make the ribs or sides of a ship' (J.); the wales.

1666 CAPT. SMITH *Accid. Yng. Seamen* 11 The Orlope, the ports, the bend, the bowe. 1697 — *Seaman's Gram.* ii. 6 From bend to bend, or waile to waile, which are the out-most timbers on the ship sides, and are the chiefe strength of her sides, to which the foot-hooks, beames, and knees are bolted, and are called the first, second, and third Bend. 1725 SLOANE *Jamaica* II. 344 A signal of distress from a plank being started on her bend, on the forepart of the ship. 1803 NELSON in Nicolas *Disp.* (1845) V. 127 She is to be caulked, her bends blacked and painted.

b. 'The chock of the bowsprit.' Smyth *Sailor's Word-bk.*

† 7. See quot. (Perhaps belongs here.)

1847-78 HALLIWELL, *Bend*, a semicircular piece of iron used as part of a horse's harness to hold up the chains when ploughing. 1881 EVANS *Leicester Wds.* (E. Dial. Soc.) 103 *Bend*, a piece of bent plate-iron which went over the back of the last horse at plough. Now (1848) disused.

II. Probably related to *BEND* v. V.

† 8. 'A spring, a leap, a bound.' Jamieson. *Sc. Obs.* [Cf. *BEND* v. 22.]

1513 DOUGLAS *Æneis* v. vi. 58 Befoir thaim all furth bowtis with a bend Nisus a far way. 1550 LYNDSEAY *Spr. Meldrum* 519 Quhairon [a steed] he lap, and tuik his speir... And bowit forward with a ne bend.

9. A long draught, 'a pull of liquor.' Jamieson. Only in *Sc.* [Cf. *BEND* v. 23.]

1725 RAMSAY *Gentle Sheph.* in Poems (1844) 31 Come, gie's the other bend, We drink their healths, what ever way it end.

Bend (bend), v. Forms: *Pa.* t. 1-3 *bende*, 4-6 *bend*, 4-5 *bente*, 3-*bent*, 6-*bended*. *Pa. ppl.* 1 *bended*, 4-5 *y-*, 1-*ye-bent*, 4-6 *bente*, 6 *y-*, 1-*bente*, *bende*, 4-*bended*, *bent*. [OE. *bendan*, prob. identical with ON. *benda* 'to join, strain, strive, bend.' (The rare MHG. *benden* 'to fetter' is perhaps of independent formation.) OTeut. **bandjan*, f. *bandjā* - 'string, band,' in OE. *bend*. In OE. used only in the senses 'to restrain with a bond, fetter, confine,' and 'to bend a bow,' orig. 'to hold in restraint or confine with the string.' From the latter by transference of the word to the bowed or curved condition of a bent bow, came the now main sense of 'to bow, curve, or crook.' Cf. the partly parallel history of F. *bander*, OF. *bender* (= Pr. and It. *bandare*, *bandare*, Sp. and Pg. *vendar*, *bandar*).]

Gen. sign. I. To fasten or constrain with a 'bend' or bond; to confine, fetter. *spec.* To constrain a bow with the string (hence, to wind up a cross-bow, cock a pistol); to fasten ropes, sails to the yards, horses to a vehicle. Hence arise two lines of development; II. To bow or curve, deflect, inflect, bow oneself, stoop, submit, yield; III. To direct or level a weapon, to aim, bring to bear, bring one's force or energies to bear. By blending of these; IV. To direct or turn one's steps, oneself, one's mind, eyes, ears, in any specified direction.

I. To bind, to constrain, to make fast.

† 1. *trans.* To put in bonds, to fetter. *Obs.*

1036 O.E. *Chron.* (MS. C.) Sum he man bende.

2. *spec.* To constrain or bring into tension by a string (a bow, an arbalest, a catapult, etc.) Formerly also *bend up*; = *L. tendere*. In later times associated with the curved shape into which the bow is brought; = *L. flectere*. (Hence branch II.)

c. 1000 *Ag. Ps.* vii. 13 He bende his bozan, se is nu gearo to scotanne. 1297 R. GLOUC. 377 So styf man he was in harness, in Souldren, & in lende, þat vnneþe eny man myȝte hys bowe bende. *Ibid.* 536 Arblastis sone & gynnys withoute me bende. 1375 BARBOUR *Bruce* xvii. 682 The Engynour than deliquier Gert bende the gyne in full gret hy. 1400 OCTOBIAN 1495 And they withoute gynnes bende, And greet stones to hem sente. c. 1400 *Dest. Troy* xxiii. 9475 Paris bend vp his bow with his big arme. c. 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 30 Bende bowys, tendo. c. 1500 Rob. Hood (Ritson) i. 1. 1266 Sone there were good bowes bent. 1599 GREENE *George a G.* (1861) 264 Bend up your bows, and see your strings be tight. 1697 DRYDEN *Parg.* Georg. ii. 774 The Groom his Fellow-Groom at Butts defies; And bends his Bow, and levels with his Eyes. 1870 BRYANT *Hom. I.* ii. 71 Philoctetes, A warrior skilled to bend the bow.

† b. Transferred to the harquebus, pistol, etc. when these took the place of the bow and arbalest; perhaps, as Littre suggests in regard to the similar use of Fr. *bander*, with special reference to the old form of lock which had to be wound up

like a clock: To cock. *Obs.* (Hence branch III.)

1633 T. STAFFORD *Pac. Hib.* vi. (1821) 82 The Pistoll bent, both heart and hand, ready to doe the deed.

O. *fig.*

1611 BIBLE *Jer.* ix. 3 And they bend their tongue like their bow for lies.

3. *fig.* To strain, brace, tighten, wind up, bring into tension (like a strung bow or wound up harquebus). *refl.* To strain every nerve, brace or wind oneself up, nerve oneself; = Fr. *se bander*, *Obs.* or *arch.* Also *bend up*: cf. 2.

c. 1380 *Sir Ferumb.* 545 Wip þat be Sarsyn þat was þor: wax wroþ on his herte & bente hym brymly as a bor. 1529 SKELTON *Agst. Garnesche* 41 Boldly bend you to batell, and buske yourself to save. c. 1565 R. LINDSAY *Chron. Scot.* (1814) 79 Nothing effeired of this disadvantage, bot rather bendit up, and kindled thereat, [he] rushed forward upon Craigie Wallace. 1599 SHAKS. *Hen. V.* iii. i. 16 Now set the Teeth... Hold hard the Breath, and bend vp eury Spirit To his full height. 1605 — *Macb.* i. vii. 79, I am settled, and bend up Each corporal agent to this terrible feat. 1816 SCOTT *Old Mort.* vii. Her whole mind apparently bent up to the solemn interview.

4. *Naut.* To tie, fasten on, make fast (cf. *BEND* sb.¹ 3): e. g. to bend a rope. To bend the cable: to fasten it to the ring of the anchor. To bend a sail: 'to extend or make it fast to its proper yard or stay' (Adm. Smyth).

1599 Rich. Redeless iv. 72 They bente on a bonet, and bare a topte saile Affor the wynde fresshly, to make a good flare. c. 1440 *Morte Arth.* (Roxb.) 34 A clothe that ouer the bote was bente Sir Gawayne lyfte vp and wente in bayne. 1666 CAPT. SMITH *Accid. Yng. Seamen* 16 Bend your cables to your Anchors. 1793 SKEATON *Edystone L.* § 262 We concluded... to bend our sails (which had indeed been all unbent and stowed down in the hold for the summer) and try to gain Plymouth Sound. 1833 MARRIAT *P. Simple* xv, He desired Mr. Falcon to get new sails up and bend them. 1887 SMYTH *Sailor's Wd.-Bk.*, *Bending the Cable*, the operation of clinching, or tying the cable to the ring of its anchor. — *Bending* ropes is to join them together with a bowline knot, and then make their own ends fast upon themselves.

† 5. To harness the horses to (a cart or other vehicle); to yoke. *Obs.* (Cf. Ger. and Du. *spannen* to stretch, to bend a bow, to yoke a vehicle. See also *BIND* in this sense.)

1513 DOUGLAS *Æneis* xii. v. 169 Sum brydillis stedis, and cartis vp dyd bend. 1535 COVERDALE *Gen.* xvi. 29 Then Joseph bended his charett fast [Vulgate *iuncto currui*; Wyclif, Joseph ioynd his chare; 1611 made ready], and wente vp to mete Israel his father.

II. To bring into the shape or direction of a bent bow. *Of the shape of a thing.

6. *trans.* To put or bring into the shape of a bow; to arch. *Obs.* exc. as a specific sense of 7.

c. 1300 *Cast. Lowe* 713 For heuene-bowwe is abouten i-bent, Wip alle þe hewes þat him bep i-sent. 1382 WYCLIF *Isa.* li. 13 The Lord thi shapere, that bente heuenes, and foundide the erthe. 1483 *Cath. Angl.* 271 To bend, *arcuare*. 1655 VAUGHAN *Silex Scint.* (1858) 50 Who gave the clouds so brave a bow, Who bent the spheres. [1839 BAILEY *Festus* x, Who bendst the Heavens before thee like a bow.]

b. To bend the brows: (orig.) to arch the eyebrows; (later) to wrinkle or knit the brow; to frown, scowl. Cf. *BENT*.

a. 1300 in Wright *Lyric P.* 34 (Mätz.) Heo hath browes bend an heh. c. 1340 *Gaw. & Gr. Knt.* 305 He... Bende his bresed broze. 1387 TREVISA *Higden* (1865) I. 9 (Mätz.) Now men... wolde... whette her tungenes and bende hire browes. 1530 PALSGR. 448/2 Thou bendest thy browes upon me as thou woldest eate me. 1559 *Myrr. Mag.*, *Dh. Suffolk* xvii, Fortune can both bend and smothe her brow. 1631 GOUGE *God's Arrow* i. § 41. 66 Passion will soone manifest it selfe... by bending his browes. 1774 BLACKLOCK *Graham* i. xx, In vain that rage which bends thy brow. [Cf. 1593 SHAKS. *Rich. II.* ii. i. 170 Or bend one wrinkle on my Soueraigne's face.]

7. To constrain (anything straight) into any kind of arched or angular shape; to stretch out of the straight; to bow, curve, crook, inflect. Usually said of things linear, but also of surfaces, to dint. 'Bend' is not said of flaccid things, such as cotton, cloth, paper, which are 'folded'; but only of such as possess some rigidity, as a card, wood, metal, gristle; or of rigid things having joints, as the arm or back-bone. Now the main sense.

1393 GOWER *Conf.* II. 247 On knees down bent. 1415 *Pol. Poems* (1859) II. 125 His basonet to his brayn was bent. c. 1435 *Torr. Port.* 2590 No man... That myght make Torent to bowe, Ne his bak to bend. 1584 LVLV *Campaspe* v. i, To bend his body every way, and his mind no way. 1593 SHAKS. *Rich. II.* v. iii. 98 *Aum.* Vnto my mothers prayres, I bend my knee. *Yorke.* Against them both, my true ioynts bended be. 1597 GERARD *Herbal* iii. xlii. (1633) 1357 Branches... so easie to be bent or bowed, that hereof they make Hoops. 1667 MILTON *P. L.* l. 616 Their doubled ranks they bend From wing to wing, and half enclose him round. 1751 DESAGULIERS *Fires Impr.* 10 A Tube... bended in the manner of a Syphon. a. 1776 J. FERGUSON *Astron.* (1803) 111 Take about seven feet of strong wire, and bend it into a circular form. 1813 BYRON *Giaour* 68 He who hath bent him o'er the dead. 1836 DICKENS *St. Boz* iv. (C. D. ed.) 39 His form is bent by age.

b. To apply the same kind of action to alter curvature in any way, e. g. to straighten what is crooked.

1616 R. C. *Times' Whistle* (1871) 125 The tree growing crooked, if you'll have it mended, Whilst that it is a twig it must be bended. 1674 PETTY *Disc. bef. R. Soc.* 2, I haue

therefore, to straighten this crooked stick, bent it... the quite contrary way.

c. To make (a thing fixed at one end) curve over for the time from the erect position.

1681 CHETHAM *Angler's Vade-m.* i. § 9 The Yew, though much bended, will quickly return to its former standing. 1698 R. LESTRANGE *Fables* 215 (1708) I. 233 The Oak was stubborn and chose rather to Break than to Bend. 1832 A. CUNNINGHAM *Song 'A Wet Sheet'*, A wind that follows fast... And bends the gallant mast. 1885 *Truth* 28 May 84/2 The poplars are bent by the rising wind.

8. *intr.* To assume or receive a curved form, or a shape in which one part is inclined at an angle to the other.

1398 TREVISA *Barth. De P. R.* vi. iv. (1495) 191 For tender-ness the lymmes of the chylde maye... bowe and bende and take dyuers shapes. 1577 GASCOIGNE in FARR'S *S. P.* (1845) I. 37 The Rainbowe bending in the skie, Bedeckte with sundry hewes. 1815 *Encycl. Brit.* (ed. 5) VIII. 436 Their knees... bend so, that they are apt to trip and stumble. 1816 J. WILSON *City of Plagues* i. i. 30 No knee This day... hath bent before its altar.

b. To curve over from the erect position. (Usually said of things that recover their position when the bending force is withdrawn.)

c 1374 CHAUCER *Troilus* ii. 1378 Thogh she bende, yet she stont a-rote. a 1593 H. SMITH *Wks.* (1867) II. 90 A house bending to fall. 1697 DRYDEN *Virg. Georg.* iii. 311 The waving Harvest bends beneath his Blast. 1751 JOHNSON *Rambl.* No. 144 P 8 The trees that bend to the tempest erect themselves again when its force is past. 1753 HERVEY *Medit.* II. 33 The knotty Oaks bend before the Blast.

9. *spec.* Of persons: To bend the body, to stoop; to assume a bent or stooping posture. To bend over, i.e. with attention.

c 1374 CHAUCER *Anel. & Arc.* 186 Hir daunger made him boote bowe and bende. 1599 SHAKS. *Much Ado* v. i. 39. I would bend vnder anie heauie vvaight. 1667 MILTON *P. L.* iv. 462 A Shape within the watry gleam appeerd, Bending to look on me. 1797 SWIFT *Gulliver* ii. viii. 174 One of the servants opening the door, I bent down to go in. 1831 CARLYLE *Sart. Res.* i. xi. The sooty smith bends over his anvil. 1850 LYTTON *My Novel* vi. vi. He bent down and kissed her cheek.

b. To stoop down as from a height. 1839 SIR R. GRANT *Hymn 'Saviour, when in dust to Thee'* i. Bending from Thy throne on high, Hear our solemn Litany! 1853 MAURICE *Theol. Ess.* vi. 108 We want to see absolute Goodness and Truth. We want to know whether they can bend to meet us.

c. *esp.* To bend the body in submission or reverence; to bow (unto, to, before, towards).

a 1596 SYDNEY in FARR'S *Sel. P.* I. 63 The desert-dwellers at his beck shall bend. 1611 BIBLE *Isa.* lx. 14 The sonnes also of them that afflicted thee, shall come bending vnto thee. 1648 MILTON *Psalm* lxxxi. 62 Who hate the Lord should then be fain to bow to him and bend. 1667—P. L. ii. 477 Towards him they bend. 1763 CHURCHILL *Poems* I. 72 Here let me bend, great Dryden, at thy shrine. 1813 SCOTT *Rokeby* iv. xxx. Their chief to Wilfrid bowed low. 1850 ROBERTSON *Serm.* Ser. ii. ii. (1864) 24 Science bending before the Child, becoming childlike.

10. *fig.* To submit, to bow; to yield, give way to; to prove pliant, tractable, or subservient.

a 1400 *Cursor M.* 1584 (Fairfax MS.) He wende þat alle sulde til him will bende. 1644 QUARLES *Judgm. & Mercy* 146 Whose leaden souls are taught by stupid reason to stand bent at every wrong. 1723 SHEFFIELD (Dk. Buckhm.) *Wks.* 1753 i. 9 Under this law both kings and kingdoms bend. 1763 J. BROWN *Poetry & Mus.* § 12. 207 Well attested Facts are stubborn Things, and will not bend to general Affirmations. 1823 J. BARCKOCK *Dom. Amusem.* 92 If any excessive paroxysms do not immediately bend before it. 1841 MACAULAY *Lett. in Trevelyan Life* (1876) II. ix. 108 All considerations as to dignity of style ought to bend to his consideration.

11. *trans.* To cause (a person, the temper, spirit, mind, or will) to bow, stoop, incline, or relent.

1538 STARKEY *England* 24 Bend your selfe to that to the wch you are borne. 1583 STANYHURST *Æneis* ii. (Arb.) 65 Yf that prayer annyne the bendeth. 1654 L. S. *People's Lib.* i. 2 Seeing he will not be bended by reason. 1848 MACAULAY *Hist. Eng.* II. 331 The spirit of the rustic gentry was not to be bent. 1878 FREEMAN *Norm. Cong.* (1876) IV. xviii. 156 The sight in no way bent the hearts of the men of Exeter. 1877 Mrs. OLIPHANT *Makers Flor.* xv. 367 To ask pardon, no doubt a hard thing to bend his mind to.

12. To bend the head or face: to lower it or direct it downwards, by bending the neck; to bow the head.

a 1654 J. SMITH *Sel. Disc.* i. 6 With their faces bended downwards. 1697 DRYDEN *Virg. Georg.* iv. 740 Trees bent their Heads to hear him. c 1720 S. WESLEY *Hymn of Eupolis* 102 Bend your heads, in homage bend. 1860 TYNDALL *Glac.* i. § 3. 29 He took my hand and, silently bending down his head, kissed it.

b. *intr.* (for *refl.*) Predicated of the head.

1872 GEO. ELIOT in *Cross Life* III. 169 The sight of the dull faces bending round the gaming tables. 1875 Miss THACKERAY *Miss Angel* xxi. 195 The heads bend in long line.

* * Of the direction in which a thing lies.

13. *trans.* To turn away from the straight line (without reference to the curve imparted); to incline in any direction; to deflect, turn.

1513 DOUGLAS *Æneis* ix. vi. 23 The cartis stand with lymowris bendyt strek. 1563 HYLL *Arte Gardem.* (1593) 155 [They] will in the next morrow, bee turned or bended another way. 1661 LOVELL *Hist. Anim. & Min.* Intro. The foremost longest [legges] are bended forwards; but those that leap... are bended backward. 1877 PROCTOR *Spectroscope* i. 11 The ray is again bent from the perpendicular.

fig. 1888 PRUDY *Eng. Journalism* xvi. 123 He used generally to bend conversation in such way as to avoid coming into dispute with his companions.

14. *intr.* To have a direction away from the straight line, to incline in any direction, to trend.

1572 MASCAL *Govt. Cattle* (1627) 255 His groyne and snout short, and beinding backward. 1600 HAKLUYT *Voy.* (1810) III. 216 The Island... bending from him full West. 1602 HOLLAND *Pliny* I. 117 That mountaine of the one side bendeth downe toward Euxinus. 1609 BIBLE (Douay) i Sam. xx. 41 David rose out of his place which did bend to the South. 1730 A. GORDON *Maffei's Amphith.* 267 Spikes... which stretched forward into the Arena, and... bended towards it. 1828 LONGF. *Discov. North Cape* xviii. And now the land... Bent southward suddenly.

† b. *fig.* To tend. *Obs.*

1579 TOMSON *Calvin's Serm. Tim.* 641/1 These three bend (as it were) to one, to wit, the riche men must do good, and part with their goodes to other, and giue willingly.

† 15. *trans.* (fig.) To turn aside or pervert from the right purpose or use; to twist, wrest. *Obs.*

a 1555 LATIMER *Serm. & Rem.* (1845) 332 Forasmuch as I have heard, *Ecc. vobiscum sum*... bended to corroborate the same. 1564 COOPER *Answ. Def. Truth* (1850) 91 Their successors, by little and little, bent the same name unto the action and celebration of the Sacrament.

† 16. *trans.* To incline, dispose in mind; mostly in *pass.* to be inclined or disposed to, towards; to be prone, liable, ready; to be addicted, given. *Obs.*

1538 STARKEY *England* 78 Thys idulnes and vanyte, to the wch the most parte of our pepul ys much gyven and bent. 1579 E. K. in SPENSER'S *Sheph. Cal.* Apr. 5 *Gloss.* April... is most bent to shewes. 1607 TOPSELL *Serpents* 782 There is not one of them so ill bent, so malapertly sawcy, and impudently shamelesse. 1708 SWIFT *Sacred Test* Wks. 1755 II. i. 124, I am hugely bent to believe, that whenever you concern yourselves in our affairs, it is certainly for our good. 1749 FIELDING *Tom Jones* vii. xi. Seemed bent to extenuate.

† b. *intr.* To incline, lean, in mind or conduct.

1567 TRIALL *Treas.* (1850) 16 He that bendeth to folowe his own inclination. 1577 HOLINSHED *Chron.* III. 1029/2 Although Ket bent to all vngratiousnes.

III. To direct, aim (as a bow bent for shooting).

Cf. Jer. li. 3 Against him that bendeth let the archer bend his bow.

† 17. *trans.* To direct, turn, aim, level, bring to bear (cannon, forces, etc.) against, upon, at. *Obs.*

1530 PALSGR. 448/1 They bended agaynst the castell ten courtaultes and fyftene serpentynes. 1577 HOLINSHED *Chron.* III. 1095/2 They bent their ordinance against the gate. 1595 SHAKS. *John* ii. i. 37 Our cannon shall be bent Against the browes of this resisting towne. 1649 CROMWELL in CARLYLE *Lett.* cvii. (1871) II. 163 They bent their guns at the frigate. 1801 SCOTT *Cadyow Castle* xxxv. With hackbut bent, my secret stand dark as the purposed deed I chose.

† b. To aim, couch, direct (a spear or sword).

1591 SPENSER *Virg. Gnat.* lii. Each doth against the others bodie bend His cursed Steele. 1596—F. Q. I. liii. 34 So bent his speare and spurde his horse with yron heele. 1594 SHAKS. *Rich.* III. i. ii. 95 Thy murd'rous Faulchion... The which thou once diddest bend against her breast.

† c. *fig.* To direct (hostile action or words) against, on, (prayers) to heaven, etc. *Obs.*

1577 HAMMER *Acc. Ecl. Hist.* (1619) 96 The persecution... was so vehemently bent against him. 1605 SHAKS. *Lear* ii. i. 48 The Gods 'Gainst Paricides did all the thunder bend. 1653 CROMWELL *Lett. & Sp.* (Carl.) III. 219, I shall rather bend my prayers for you. 1681 E. SCLATER *Serm. Putney* 12 All their Subtlety and Policy must be bent against them.

† d. *intr.* (for *refl.*) *Obs.*

a 1636 MILTON *Arcades* 6 This, this is she To whom our vows and wishes bend.

18. *trans.* To direct, apply, or bring to bear strenuously (one's mind, energies, etc.) on, upon.

c 1530 MORE *Picus Wks.* (1557) 30 A very lower beleueth in his mynde, On whom so euer he hath his heart lbente, That in that person menne maye nothing finde, But honorable. 1577 HARRISON *England* ii. iii. (1877) 79 If they bend their minds to the knowledge of the same. 1605 BACON *Adv. Learn.* i. v. § 10 The scope... whereunto they bend their endeavours. 1766 BURKE *Regic. Peace* Wks. 1842 II. 313 They bent... their designs and efforts to revive the old French party. 1876 GREEN *Short Hist.* ii. § 8 (1882) 102 A sovereign who bent the whole force of his mind to hold together an Empire.

b. *refl.* To direct or apply oneself. *rare.*

1591 LOK in FARR'S *S. P.* (1845) 140 Whilst in the garden of this earthly soile Myself to solace and to bath I bend. 1593 BILSON *Govt. Christ's Ch.* 362 Many Bishops bent themselves to alter the Emperours minde. 1669 BUNYAN *Holy Citie* 56 If any shall... bend themselves to disappoint the designs of the Eternal God. 1850 THACKERAY *Pendennis* lxxi. To the completion of which he bent himself with all his might.

c. *intr.* (for *refl.*)

1697 DRYDEN *Virg. Georg.* iii. 285 If to the Warlike Steed thy Studies bend, Or for the Prize in Chariots to contend. 1856 KANE *Arct. Exp.* II. xxvi. 258 Bending to our oars as the water opened [we] reached the shore.

19. To be bent; to be intent, determined, resolved. Const. on or upon (to, for, obs.) an object or action; also (arch.) to do (something).

c 1400 *Cov. Myst.* (1841) 3 Now be we bent In this pagent the trewthe to telle. 1561 T. NORTON *Calvin's Inst.* i. 66 To bring him to be more hede fully bent to make amendes. 1606 BACON *New Atl.* 15 And was only bent to make his Kingdom and People happy. 1764 GOLDSM. *Cit. W.* vi. (1837) 26 The youth seems obstinately bent on finding you out. a 1859 DE QUINCEY *Wks.* XIII. 49 He is... bent upon confusing us; and I am bent upon preventing him. 1868 MORRIS *Earthly Par.* ii. (1870) 173 Like my fathers, bent to gather fame. 1868 FREEMAN *Norm. Cong.* (1876) II. vii. 158 A project on which the King was fully bent.

IV. Figurative uses in which 'direct, aim,' and 'bow, deflect, turn,' are combined.

20. *intr.* To direct oneself, proceed, turn. *arch.*

1399 LANGL. *Rich. Redeless* iii. 76 þei... burnished her

beekis, and bent to him-wardis And folowid him fierly. c 1460 *Towneley Myst.* 303 (Mätz.) To hir buxumly I red that we bende. 1601 SHAKS. *All's Well* iii. ii. 57 Thence we came: And... Thither we bend againe. 1698 DRYDEN *Æneid* vi. 438 Why to the Shore the thronging people bent. 1713 ADDISON *Cato* iii. ii. 124 But see! My brother Marcus bends this way! 1813 BYRON *Corsair* l. xvii, He... Down to the cabin with Gonsalvo bends.

b. *trans.* To direct or turn (one's steps, course, way, etc.).

1579 GOSSON *Sch. Abuse* (Arb.) 19 Hee knewe not which way to bende his pace. 1583 STANYHURST *Æneis* i. (Arb.) 24 Oure course toward Italye bending. 1667 MILTON *P. L.* iii. 573 Thither his course he bends Through the calm Firmament. 1718 POPE *Iliad* ii. 64 To the fleet Atides bends his way. 1821 JOANNA BAILLIE *Wallace* xxii. And to the wild woods bent his speed. 1883 M. CRAWFORD *Mr. Isaacs* xii. 268 Thither we all three bent our steps.

c. *trans.* To direct (anything led, driven, or carried). *arch.*

1583 STANYHURST *Æneis* ii. (Arb.) 47 To Troy ward when first you bended a nauye. 1594 SHAKS. *Rich.* III. iv. v. 14 Many other of great name and worth: And towards London do they bend their power. 1746 COLLINS *Ode to Peace*, To Britain bent his iron Car.

21. *trans.* To direct, turn, or incline (the eyes, or ears), in the direction of anything seen or heard.

1581 J. BELL *Haddon's Answ. Osor.* 314 b, The pearyng light of the Sunne... doth blinde the sight, if the eyes be over much bente thereunto. 1586 Let. *Earle Leicester* 31, I neuer... bent my eares to credite a tale that first was tolde mee. 1648 MILTON *Psalm* lxxxviii. 8 And to my cries. Thine ear with favor bend. a 1795 SOUTHEY *Joan of Arc* iv. 62 Every eye on her was bent. 1833 Ht. MARTINEAU *Manch. Strike* iv. 54 His eyes bent on the ground in deep thought.

V. Senses of doubtful origin.

† 22. *intr.* 'To spring, to bound.' *Sc. Obs.*

[Perh. related to 3, or 17.]

c 1530 LYNDESAY is referred to by Jamieson.

23. 'To drink hard; a cant term' (Jamieson).

[Perh. 'to pull, strain' in reference to pulling or straining a bow (cf. 3); or 'to ply, apply oneself to' (cf. 18).] *trans. and intr.*

a 1758 A. RAMSAY *Poems* (1800) I. 215 (JAM.) Braw tip-pony... Which we with greed Bended, as fast as she could brew. *Ibid.* ii. 73 (JAM.) To bend wi' ye, and spend wi' ye. An evening, and gaffaw. 1860 RAMSAY *Remin.* Ser. i. (ed. 7) 47 Bend weel to the Madeira at dinner, for here ye'll get little o't after. Cf. 18 b.]

Bendable (bendäb'l), a. [f. prec. + -ABLE.] Capable of being bent; flexible.

1611 COTGR., *Ployable*, pliable, bowable, bendable. 1642 R. CARPENTER *Experience* iii. 47 The chief acts of nature in the soule are, of themselves, inclinable and bendable to Grace. 1755 in JOHNSON and in MOD. DICTS.

† Bended, a. *Obs.* [f. BEND sb.2] Striped or banded; in *Her.* having a bend or bends; = BENDY.

c 1400 MAUNDEV. 276 Five sapphires bended with gold. c 1430 *Syr Gener.* 4538 Hou he with the bended shield Smote the othere thurgh the bodie. 1572 BOSSEWELL *Armorie* ii. 85 b, One greate difference betwene Armes Bended, and these Armes... For in Armes Bendede the colours contained in the shieldes are equally diuided.

Bended (bended), ppl. a. The original p. pple. of BEND v., superseded in ME. by *bend, bent*, but used again, from 14th c. onwards, as a longer form of BENT (q.v. for the sense); it is now semi-archaic, and used chiefly in *on bended knees*, etc.

1398 TREVISA *Barth. De P. R.* xviii. iii. (1495) 749 The hornes of a ramme ben crokyd and bended as a hounde shell. 1599 SHAKS. *Hen. V.* v. Chor. 18 His bruised Helmet, and his bended Sword. 1660 BLOUNT *Boscobel* 55 And now on my bended knees, let me joyfully congratulate His restored Majesty. c 1790 LAMSON *Sch. Arts* I. 73 Fix the bended glass-pipe C air-tight into the bottle D. 1810 SCOTT *Lady of L.* v. ix. Bonnets and spears and bended bows. 1837 Sir F. PALGRAVE *Merch. & Friar* iv. (1844) 176 'Gracious Sovereign,' replied the Chancellor, dropping off the Woollack upon his bended knees.

† Bended. *Obs.* [a. OF. *bendel, bandel*, dim. of *bende, bande*: cf. BANDEAU, BANDEL. (It is only accidentally that this coincides in form and sense with mod.G. *bendel* a fillet, OHG. *bendil, bentil, pentil*, and ON. *bendill* a small cord.)]

1. A little band or scarf; a fillet, a ribbon.

1483 CAXTON *Gold. Leg.* 244/1 She wypped it... with a bendel of sylke. 1537 *Act Hen. VIII* in *Planché Brit. Cost.* (1834) 365 Or use or wear any shirt, smock, kurchar, bendel, ankerchour, moeket or linen cappe, etc.

2. *Her.* A little bend; = BENDLET.

c 1325 *Coer de L.* 2964 And off asur a fayr bendel. 1486 Bk. St. Albans, *Her.* E j b, Littill bendys... be calde bendylls to the differans of grete bendys.

Bender (bendäu). [f. BEND v. + -ER.] He who or that which bends.

1. An instrument for bending; a pair of pliers.

1496 Bk. St. Albans, *Fysshynge* 14 For makynge your hokis... a bender, a payr of longe and smalle tongys. 1598 FLORIO, *Piegatoie*, a pair of benders that goldsmithes vse, called bowing pincers or plyers. 1833 KENNIS *Alph. Angling* 69 The artist, of [fish-hooks] requires a hammer, a knife, a pair of pincers... a bender.

† 2. A mechanical contrivance for bending, 'drawing up,' or setting cross-bows. *Obs.*

1684 R. WALLER *Nat. Exper.* 146 Cross-bows that are bent with a Bender.

3. One who bends.

1596 SPENSER *F. Q. I.* i. 9 The eugh, obedient to the benders will. 1833 MEDWIN in *Fraser's Mag.* VII. 18 He... leads on the benders of the bow.

† 4. A flexor muscle. *Obs.*

1515 CROOK *Body of Man* 791 This muscle with the second and third benders of the thumb. 1668 CULPEPPER & COLE *Barthol. Anat.* iv. viii. 165 Two Benders of the Cubit.

† 5. Sc. A hard drinker. *Obs.* (Cf. BEND v. 23.)

1728 RAMSAY *Poems* (1848) 111. 162 Now lend your lugs, ye benders fine, Wha ken the benefit of wine. 1820 TANNHILL *Poems* (1846) 53 Or benders, blest your wizzens weetin'.

6. *slang.* A sixpence. (? Because it bends easily.)

1836 DICKENS *Sk. Bos* (1850) 68/2 'Niver mind the loss of two bob and a bender!' 1837 — *Pickw.* xlii. (D.) 'Will you take three bob?' 'And a bender,' suggested the clerical gentleman. 1855 THACKERAY *Newcomes* xi. 'A half-crown, Honeyman? By cock and pye it is not worth a bender.'

Bending (bendin), *vbl. sb.* [f. BEND v.]

† 1. Drawing tight with a string, tension. *Obs.*
c 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 30 Bendinge of bowys, or oþer lyke, *tencio.*

2. Curving, crooking, flexure; bowing, inclination, deflection.

1398 TREVISA *Barth. De P. R.* viii. xxx. (1495) 342 And yf the sonne beme . . . metyth wyth a body that puttith and smytth the lyghte aynward, suche a smytynge and puttynge is callid bendynge of the beme. 1593 SHAKS. *Rich. II.* iii. 73 Thus long have we stood To watch the fearefull bending of thy knee. 1651 JER. TAYLOR *Course Sermon* l. ix. 117 Rent in sunder with trees returning from their violent bendings. 1664 GERBIER *Princ.* 19 To prevent the sinking and bending of their Walls. 1712 BUDGELL *Spect.* No. 277 P. 17 The various Leanings and Bendings of the Head. 1823 LAMB *Elia Ser.* i. 1 That gentle bending of the body forwards. 1815 W. HULL *Merr. Maisties* 47 Prayer is a deuout bending of the minde to God.

3. The place or part where such curving occurs; a curve, angle, corner; a bend; the spring of an arch or vault.

1523 FITZGER. *Hush.* § 95 A selander is in the bendynge of the legge behynde. 1664 MANLEY *Grotius' Low-C. Wars* 626 Not far from Harwarden are the bendings of the River. 1737 WHISTON *Josephus' Hist.* v. iv. § 2 The wall . . . having its bending above the fountain.

4. *Naut.* The fastening with a 'bend' or knot.

1627 CAPT. SMITH *Seaman's Gram.* vii. 30 To tie two ropes or cables together is called bending. 1829 MARRYAT *F. Mildmay* v. The bending of the cable escaped my memory.

† 5. The contrivance for drawing up a cross-bow; = BENDER 2. *Obs.*

1530 PALSGR. 107/2 Bending for a crossbowe, *bendage.*

6. (See quot.)

1816 C. JAMES *Mil. Dict.* 51/1 Bendings, in military and sea matters, are ropes, wood, &c. bent for several purposes.

† Bending, *vbl. sb.* 2. *Obs.* [f. BEND sb. 2 + -ING.] Decoration with 'bends' or stripes.

c 1386 CHAUCER *Pers. T.* P. 343 Swandynge, palyng or bendynge, and semblable wast of cloþ in vanite.

Bending, *ppl. a.* [f. BEND v. + -ING.] That bends (in various senses of the vb.); curving,

curved, inclined, bowing; flexible, pliable, supple. 1567 MAPLET *Gr. Forest* 109 With hir bending bodie. 1571 NORTON & SACKV. *Gorboduc* i. i. (1847) 104 Their yet greene bending wythes. 1603 SHAKS. *Leas* iv. i. 76 A Cliffe, whose high and bending head Lookes fearfully on the confined Deepe. 1697 DRYDEN *Virg. Eclog.* x. 103 Bending Osiers into Baskets weav'd. — *Georg.* iii. 512 Some bending Valley. 1715 POPE *Iliad* iv. 555 To shape the circle of the bending wheel. 1810 SOUTHEY *Kehama* xv. 21 Behold her go. . . Along the bending sand.

Bendingly, *adv.* [f. prec. + -LY.] In a curving direction or attitude, obliquely.

1658 ROWLAND *Monk's Theat.* Ins. 1051 [Scorpions] which have seven or nine joints on their tails, are the most curst: many have but six, it strikes athwart and bendingly. 1830 *New Monthly Mag.* LV. 128 'Parson, say grace!' Millingham bendingly murmured three words.

Bendlet (bendlet). *Her.* Also 6 bendelet. [prob. f. earlier BENDLE + -ET dim. But OF. had also *bendelette*, in *Bk. of St. Albans* transl. *bendil* (see BENDLE, also BANDLET, BANDELET.)] A smaller bend, containing a sixth part of the field.

1572 BOSSEWELL *Armorie* 12 Bendelet. 1603 CAMDEN *Rem.* (1637) 224 Roger Clifford. . . for the bendelet tooke a fesse Geules. 1864 BOUTELL *Heraldry Hist.* & *Pop.* xiv. 155 They appear . . . to have cotised their own silver bend with the two bendlets.

† Bendly, *adv.* *Obs.* [f. BEND sb. 1, 2 + -LY.]

1. *Her.* Bend-wise.

1486 *Bk. St. Albans, Her.* D viij a, Ther be forsothe certayn armys bendli barrit. . . for ij colouris are iunyt together in euery barre bendly.

2. (See quot.)

1552 HULOET, Bendly, or by bendes or handful.

† Bendroll. *Obs.* Sc. A variant of BANDE-ROLL: here perhaps used in the sense of 'the strap of a musket,' one of the senses of F. *banderole*.

1598 Sc. *Acts, Jas. VI.* IV. 169/1 Or ells ane muscat, with forcat, bendrole, and heidpece. 1599 *Ibid.* — 191/1 Or ells ane muscat, with heid peice, forcheit, and band roll.

Bendsome, *a.* [f. BEND v. + -SOME.] Flexible.

1861 BARNES in *Macm. Mag.* June 134 Some softer or more brittle or bendsome substance.

Bendwise (bendwɔiz), *adv.* *Her.* Also 7 -ways, 8-ways. [f. BEND sb. 2 + -WISE.] In the position occupied by a bend on a shield; in the direction of a bend, diagonally.

1610 GUILLIM *Heraldry* ii. vi. 63 Hee beareth Azure, a File wauid, issuing out of the Dexter corner of the Escutcheon Bendwaies, Or. 1727 CHAMBERS *Cycl.*, *Bendy*. An escutcheon divided bend-wise. 1864 BOUTELL *Heraldry*

Hist. & Pop. xviii. 289 Standards were also generally divided bend-wise into compartments by Motto-bands.

† Bendwith. *Herb. Obs.* [probably f. BEND sb. 1 + WITH: perh. another form of BINDWITH.] The word in *Promp. Parv.* suggests the Sw. *benved* 'bone-wood,' expl. as 'dogberry, wild cornel,' and Icel. *beinvölfr* a willow (*Salix arbuscula* Vigf.), the meaning of which is 'bone-withy.' The name of a shrub of which the twigs are used to tie up fagots, etc. Identified by Bradley with the Way-faring Tree or Wild Guelder Rose.

c 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 31 Benwyttre [1499 benewith tre], 1727 BRADLEY *Fam. Dict.*, *Bendwith*, in Latin, *Viburnum* . . . they make use of its Branches to tie Faggots with. 1763 AINSWORTH *Lat. Dict.* (Morell) 1, *Bendwith, viburnum*.

Bendy (bendi), *a.* *Her.* [ad. OF. *bendé*, mod. F. *bandé*: see BEND sb. 2] Of a shield: Divided diagonally into an even number (usually six) of equal divisions, coloured alternately. Bendy-wavy: when the bends or bendlets have wavy margins.

1486 *Bk. St. Albans, Her.* D viij a, He bereth barrit bendy, of gowles and golde. 1610 GUILLIM *Dispt. Heraldry* v. iii. (1660) 370 He beareth Bendy-wavy of six Argent and Azure. 1767 BRADLEY *Fam. Dict.*, *Bendy*, a Term in Blazonry for an Escutcheon being divided Bendways into an even Number of Partitions; but if they are odd, the Field must first be named, and then the Number of the Bends. 1766 POPE *Heraldry* (1787) 69 When the Shield is filled with six Bendlets of metal and colour, it is called Bendy; but if the number is either more or less than six, they are to be blazoned by the name of Bendlets and their number specified. 1864 BOUTELL *Heraldry* viii. 36.

† Bene. *Obs.* Forms: 1 bēn, 2-4 bene, (6 ? beane). [OE. *bēn*, *bēn*, cogn. with ON. *bēn*, *bān* (Sw., Da. *bön*): — OTeut. **bēni-s*; perh. from root *ba-* 'cry': see BAN.]

Prayer, petition, boon; esp. prayer to God.

c 1000 *Agg. Gosp.* Luke i. 13 Pin bēn ys gehyred. 1360 *Hatton G. libid.*, Pin bene is 3e-herd. c 1175 *Lamb. Hom.* 67 Hu maȝen heo bidden eni bene. c 1250 *Gen. & Ex.* 2511 Dat mine bene ne be for-loren, wið 3u ben mine bones boren. a 1300 *K. Horn* 508 Grante me a bene. 1340 *Ayrenb.* 211 Mj bene bi ydyt beoure þe. [1594 NASHE *Unfort. Trav.* 86 Then was the maid in my grandames beanes. 1881 MISS FOTHERGILL *Kith & Kin* xiii. Or was it 'but a bootless bene'!] b. Comb. bene-day, ? rogation-day (cf. OE. *bēn-tīd*); bene-tīde, -tūde sb., success in prayer; *adj.* (OE. *bēn-tīde*, -tūde) successful in prayer; bene-rip = BEDRIPE.

c 1200 *Trin. Coll. Hom.* 27 We muȝen mid one worde þese þrie þing bidden, and ben bene tīde. *Ibid.* 201 To ure drihten . . . þat he . . . ȝife us bene tūde. 1499 *Promp. Parv.* 30/2 Beneday, *precare*.

Bene, *obs.* f. BEAN, BEEN, BEN; *obs.* infin. and 3 pl. of BE v., and variant of BEIN.

Beneaped (bēn'p), *ppl. a.* *Naut.* [f. Be-pref. 7 + NEAP.] Of a ship: Left aground by the neap tide, and so lying beyond the reach of high water, until the tide flows higher.

1692 in *Capt. Smith's Seaman's Gram.* i. xvi. 80 A Ship is beneaped, when the water does not flow high enough to bring [it] off the ground, or out of a Dock, or over a Bar. 1858 *Exeter & Plymouth Gaz.* 13 Mar. The ship was beneaped. 1884 F. POLLOCK in *Eng. Illus. Mag.* Dec. 156 These [trawlers] are now and again 'beneaped' at low tides.

Beneath (bēn'þ), *adv.* and *prep.* Forms: 1 benþan, -neofan, -nyðan, 2-3 bi-neoþen, -neopen, -neofen, nopen, (Orm.) -nepenn, 3 bi-neoþe, -neope, -nefe, 3-4 bi-nepe(n), 4 -nethen, by-nepen, -neathe, be-nype, 4-5 by-nethen, -nepe, benepe, 4-6 bynethes, 5 byneithes, bineth, 5-6 by-, beneth(e), 5-6 beneath; 8-neath. [OE. *bi-niðan*, *be-neofan*, f. *bi* -BE- + *niðan*, *neofan* 'below, down,' orig. 'from below,' earlier *neofane*, *neofone*, = OS. *niðana*, OHG. *niðana*, MHG. *niden(e)*, mod. G. *nieden*, f. OTeut. *nipar* 'lower, farther down, down': see NETHER + advb. ending -ana, originally expressing motion 'from.' The be-gave or emphasized the notion of 'where,' excluding that of 'whence' pertaining to the simple *niðan*. The modern 'neath is abbreviated from *beneath*. Originally an adverb, but already in OE. construed with dative (of reference), as a prep.]

A. *adv.*

1. *gen.* In a low position relatively to some other place; in a lower position; low or lower down; downward; = BELOW *adv.* 1.

c 1205 *LAV.* 25610 Ofte wes þe drake buuen: And eft seoððen bineoþen. a 1225 *Ancre R.* 390 Brod ase scheld buuen . . . and neruh bineoþen. c 1305 *St. Kenelm* 127 in *E. P.* (1862) 51 On of his beste freond. In þe grounde stod bynepe. c 1400 *Destr. Troy* xiii. 5529 A mon fro þe myddell vp, And fro the nauyll by-neithe, vne an abill horse. 1413 *Lydg. Pylgr. Soule* iv. xxxiv. (1483) 82 As well of tho that ben bynethen as tho that ben aboue. 1608 SHAKS. *Ham.* i. iv. 78 And hears it [the sea] roar beneath. 1605 — *Leas* iv. vi. 128 To the Girdle do the Gods inherit, beneath is all the Fiends. 1795 SOUTHEY *Joan of Arc* iii. 298 Pure water in a font beneath reflects The many-colour'd rays.

† b. Lower on a written or printed page; = BELOW *adv.* 1 b. *Obs.*

854 *Chart. Æthelwulf in Cod. Dipl.* V. 106 Ðara naman her beneoþan awritene standað. 1668 CULPEPPER & COLE *Barthol. Anat.* i. xxvii. 64 Of which see other Anatomists . . . and my father Bartholinus beneath.

2. With reference to certain understood points:

† a. Beneath the skies; in the world, on the earth. *Obs.* or *arch.*; expressed by BELOW *adv.* 2 a. c 1250 *Gen. & Ex.* 9 Ðan sal him almightin luuen Her bineoþen and . . . abuuen. 1340 HAMPOLE *Pr. Cons.* 5055 We synful . . . bynethen on þe erthe. 1382 WYCLIF *Ex.* xx. 4 In heuene aboue, and . . . in erthe beneþe [so in 1611]. c 1460 *Towneley Myst.* 183 Say youre prayers here bynethen. 1526 TINDALE *John* viii. 23 Ye are from beneath; I am from above. [1875 BROWNING *Aristoph. Apol.* 106 Our world beneath Shows . . . grimly gross.]

b. Beneath the earth; in Hades, in hell.

1340 HAMPOLE *Pr. Cons.* 5408 Helle bynethen . . . Sal þan be open. 1611 BIBLE *Isa.* xiv. 9 Hell from beneath is mooued for thee. a 1736 YALDEN (J.) The dread abyss beneath, Hell's horrid mansions.

3. Directly below; underneath.

c 1250 *Gen. & Ex.* 4082 Hise hore bi-neþe and him abuuen. a 1300 *Cursor M.* 1681 Ðu sal bi-neþen on þe side Mak a dor wit mesur wide. 1517 TORKINGTON *Pilgr.* (1884) 43 Whiche Ryft . . . appereth bynethen. 1596 SHAKS. *Merch. V.* iv. i. 186 It droppeth as the gentle rain from heaven Upon the place beneath. 1697 DRYDEN *Virg. Georg.* iii. 43 High o'er the Gate . . . The Crowd shall Caesar's Indian War behold; The Nile shall flow beneath. 1873 BROWNING *Red Colt. Night-c.* 1639 Shaggy eyebrows elevate With twinkling apprehension in each orb Beneath.

b. Under some covering or surface, underneath; underground, under the earth.

1297 R. GLOUC. 131 Lat delue vnder þe fundement, & þou schalt bineþe fynde A waterpol. 1388 WYCLIF *Job* xviii. 16 The roots of hym be maad drie bynethen. 1400 *Destr. Troy* v. 1609 The water . . . clensit by ourse all þe clene Cite Of filth and of feum, throughe fletynge bynethen. 1611 BIBLE *Jer.* xxxi. 37 If . . . the foundations of the earth [can be] searched out beneath. 1697 DRYDEN *Virg. Georg.* iii. 466 Spread with Straw, the bedding of thy Fold; With Fern beneath.

4. Lower down on a slope, or in the course of a river. *rare.* Now BELOW *adv.* 3.

1393 GOWER *Conf.* II. 161 On the mount of Parasie. . . And eke beneath in the valey. 1650 FULLER *Pisgah* II. 62 The stopping of the waters [of Jordan] above must necessarily command their defection beneath.

5. Down or lower in fortune, station, dignity, rank, or quality. *arch.*

c 1000 *Elfric Deut.* xxviii. 13 Ðu bist æfre bufan and na benþan. c 1205 *LAV.* 9839 ȝif mi cun clembeð & bineoþen þe ibringed. 1297 R. GLOUC. 258 An batayle at Elendole hii smyte . . . þe Kyng Bernulf was þere byneþe, & bynome all ys bost. c 1400 *Apol. Loll.* 53 þe pope, cardinalis, bischopis, & oþer prelates be neþe, are discipils of antichrist. 1535 COVERDALE *Deut.* xxviii. 13 Thou shalt be aboue onely, and not beneþe [WYCLIF, vndur; 1611 beneath]. 1606 SHAKS. *Tr. & Cr.* i. iii. 131 That next [is disdain'd] by him beneath.

B. (with object expressed) *prep.*

The prepositional use of *beneath* seems originally to have been introduced to express the general notion of 'lower than,' as distinguished from the specific sense of UNDER. But in process of time *beneath* was so largely used for *under*, that BELOW was laid hold of to express the more general idea. In ordinary spoken English, *under* and *below* now cover the whole field (*below* tending naturally to overlap the territory of *under*), leaving *beneath* more or less as a literary and slightly archaic equivalent of both (in some senses), but especially of *under*. The only senses in which *beneath* is preferred are 7 ('beneath contempt'), and fig. uses of 4 (e.g. 'to fall beneath the assaults of temptation').

† 1. *gen.* In a position down from or lower than. *Obs.* or *arch.* Now expressed by BELOW *prep.* 1. † Beneath stair: = below stairs.

a 900 *Pol. Laws Ælfred* § 63 in Thorpe I. 96 Gif se sconca biþ pyrel beneoþan cneowe. c 1205 *LAV.* 14985 Heo bar bineoþen hire titten ane guldene ampulle. c 1305 *St. Edm. Conf.* 164 in *E. P.* (1862) 75 He was byneþe his brech igurd faste ynou3. c 1391 CHAUCER *Astrol.* ii. § 25 By-nethe the Orisonte. 1603 SHAKS. *Leas* iv. vi. 27 For all beneath the Moone would I not leape upright. 1631 T. POWELL *Tom All Trades* 168 The chiefest hand in preferring to any office beneath stayer.

2. Directly down from, overhung or surmounted by; under, underneath.

a 1200 *Moral Ode in Lamb. Hom.* 87 He is buuen us and binopen, biforen and bihinden. a 1225 *Ancre R.* 304 Bineoþen us . . . þe wide þreote of helle. a 1300 *Myrr. Our Ladye* 119 Aboue vs, bynethes vs. 1611 SHAKS. *Wint. T.* i. ii. 180 You're be found, Be you beneath the Sky. 1697 DRYDEN *Virg. Georg.* ii. 137 Lands that lye beneath another Sun. 1770 GOLDSM. *Des. Vill.* 13 The hawthorn bush, with seats beneath the shade. 1821 KEATS *Isabel* i. They could not, sure, beneath the same roof sleep. 1832 TENNYSON *Audley Cr.* 78 We . . . saunter'd home beneath a moon . . . In crescent.

b. At the base or foot of (a wall, cliff, etc.).

1387 TREVISA *Hyden* (1865) I. 209 Hercules, Italus his sone, bulde a citee . . . by neþe þe Capitol. 1535 COVERDALE *Ex.* xxxiii. 19 [He] brake them beneth [WYCLIF, at the rotes of] the mount. 1608 SCOTT *Marm.* i. iii. Beneath the sable palisade . . . His bugle horn he blew. 1870 R. ANDERSON *Missions Amer. Bd.* II. viii. 61 In a frail canoe beneath a tall cliff overhanging the sea.

3. Immediately under, in contact with the under side of; covered by; under, underneath.

1611 BIBLE *Deut.* v. 8 The waters beneath the earth. 1697 DRYDEN *Virg. Georg.* iv. 60 In Chambers of their own, beneath the Ground. 1718 POPE *Iliad* i. 651 One hand she placed Beneath his beard. a 1744 — *Epitaph Rowe* 3 Beneath a rude and nameless stone he lies. 1786 DYER *Grongar Hill* 22 So oft I have . . . Sat . . . With my hand beneath my head. 1831 R. KNOX *Cloquet's Anat.* 309 The axilla is the angle or cavity that lies beneath the junction of the arm with the shoulder. 1826 J. WILSON *City of Plague* i. l. 275 The brown red grass Rustling beneath your feet. 1854 MRS. JAMESON *Bk. of Th.* (1877) 34 No wise man kicks the ladder from beneath him.

b. Hence: Farther from (the surface); covered or concealed by; inside of, behind. More commonly UNDER.

1727 THOMSON *Summer* 753 Thou art no Ruffian, who beneath the mask of social commerce comest to rob their wealth. 1863 E. NEALE *Anal. Th. & Nat.* 192 Beneath the movement of self-assertion appears the repose of self-government. 1871 HAWES *Mus. & Mor.* (1874) 7 The Musician's art lies beneath the surface. 1888 STANLEY *Chr. Instit.* viii. 156 A woollen vest, which sometimes had beneath it another fitting close to the skin.

4. 'Under, as overborne or overwhelmed by some pressure' (J.); often *fig.* subject to, under subjection to, under the influence, action, or control of.

1297 R. GLOUC. 491 There he broȝte al binethe hom that were is fon. 1605 SHAKS. *Macb.* iv. iii. 39 Our Country sinks beneath the yoke. 1660 STANLEY *Hist. Philos.* (1702) 216/2 The comprehension made by the Senses... omits nothing that can fall beneath it. 1719 YOUNG *Busiris* i. i. (1757) 10 Elephants... bending beneath a weight of luxury. 1792 MURCHISON *Trav.*, Thou shalt instant perish 'neath my potent arm. 1795 SOUTHEY *Joan of Arc* iv. 402 Thou shouldst set forth Beneath another's guidance. 1800 BLOOMFIELD *Farmer's B.*, Spring 221 Brisk goes the work beneath each busy hand. 1803 W. C. SMITH *Kildrostan* 43 The carved work mouldered fast 'neath the suns, and the frosts. † 5. Lower on a slope, in a valley, etc., than; = BELOW *prep.* 2. *Obs.*

1551 TURNER *Herbal* (1568) 53. I went by the Rhene side iiii miles beneth Bingen. 1667 MILTON *P. L.* i. 355 Her barbarous sons... spread Beneath Gibraltar to the Lybian sands. 1691 T. HALE *Acc. New Invent.* 68 Obstructions in all Navigable Rivers beneath the first Bridges. 1704 HEARNE *Duct. Hist.* i. 430 A Quarter of a Mile beneath the Village... is the fallen Ruines of the Tower of Babel.

6. *fig.* Lower in the scale of being, station, rank, excellence, or dignity. Now commonly BELOW.

a 1000 *Metr. Boeth.* xx. 444 Hio biþ swiðe fior hire selfe beneoðan. c 1200 ORMIN 10729 To settenn þe Bineþenn þine lahþre. c 1374 CHAUCER *Boeth.* ii. v. 49 It is brouȝt by-nepen al bestes. c 1375 WYCLIF *Serm.* Sel. Wks. 1860 I. 15 Creatures bineþe men. 1611 SHAKS. *Cymb.* iv. i. 21 Not beneath him in Fortunes. 1667 MILTON *P. L.* i. 115 That were an ignominy... beneath This downfall. 1711 ADDISON *Spect.* No. 162 ¶ 4 Beings above and beneath us have probably no Opinions at all. 1849 MACAULAY *Hist. Eng.* i. 421 Beneath them lay a large class which could not subsist without some aid from the parish.

7. Unbefitting the dignity of; unworthy of, unbecoming, undeserving of; lowering to.

c 888 K. ALFRED *Boeth.* xxxvi. § 5 Nis nān wuht benyðan him [i. e. beneath his notice]. c 1380 WYCLIF *Pseudo-Fr.* vi. (1880) 310 Talis byneþe bileue. 1601 SHAKS. *Twel.* v. i. 332 So farre beneath your soft and tender breeding. 1718 STEELE *Spect.* No. 53 ¶ 10 We do not esteem it beneath us to return you our Royal thanks. 1767 FORDYCE *Serm.* *Ing. Wom.* i. vi. 227 No woman... ought to think it beneath her to be an economist. 1871 HAWES *Mus. & Mor.* 499 Beneath the attention of serious critics. 1883 *Times* 23 Oct. 9 Thinking nothing beneath the notice of a man of business.

b. Lower than (any standard of quantity or quality). Better expressed by BELOW.

1849 RUSKIN *Ser. Lamps* i. § 10 We are none of us so good architects as to be able to work habitually beneath our strength. 1890 McCOSH *Dir. Govt.* ii. i. (1874) 135 The copies ever fall beneath the original.

† C. quasi-adj. *Obs. rare.*

1607 SHAKS. *Timon* i. i. 43 A man Whom this beneath world doth embrace.

D. Comb. † beneath-forth, out from beneath; beneath. *Obs.*

1398 TREvisa *Barth. De P. R.* vii. xlvii. (1495) 259 A stronge colde in the mouthe of the stomak... is cause of out puttyngne bineth forth. c 1410 LOVE *Bona vent. Mirr.* xxvi. 56 Thyng þat longeth to þe worlde... here byneth forth. c 1467 *Ord. Worcestre* in *E. E. Gilds* 373 In one of the Chambers benethforth.

† Benecarlo, icarlo. *Obs.* (See quot.)

1734 T. SHERIDAN in *Swift's Wks.* 1841 II. 724 You drink benicarlo wine, I drink right French margose. 1851 H. MAYO *Philos. Living* i. 66 Benecarlo is a coarse-flavoured astringent Spanish wine.

† Bene'cking, ppl. a. *Obs. rare*—1. [f. *Be- pref.* 6 + NECK.] Bowing the neck, cringing. 1705 *Ess. Govt.* 68 Oliver's... beneking ministers pleaded obedience to the supreme power for the time being.

Benedicence. *rare.* [f. L. *benedic-us* (in adv. *benedicere*, or *benedicere*, f. *bene* well + *-dicus* speaking, *dicere* to speak; see -ENCE.] Kindliness in speech.

1881 MONIER WILLIAMS in *19th Cent.* IX. 168 His benevolence, his benedicence (if I may coin a new word), and his beneficence.

|| Benedicite (ben'di'sit), *int.* and *sb.*; also 4-5 benedicite, benste. [L.; 2nd pl. imper. of *benedicere* 'to praise, commend,' later 'to bless, wish well to,' f. *bene* well + *dicere* to speak, say. In early use shortened to *benedicite*, *benste*.]

A. *interj.*

1. as expressing a wish: Bless you!

1377 LANGL. *P. Pl.* B. v. 397 He bygan benedicite with a bolke. 1393 GOWER *Conf.* i. 48 Benedicite, My sone... Thou shalt be shrive of bothe two. 1603 SHAKS. *Meas. for M.* ii. iii. 39 Grace goe with you, Benedicite.

2. as expressing astonishment or remonstrance: Bless us! Good gracious!

c 1374 CHAUCER *Troilus* i. 780 What? liveth not thy lady, benedicite? c 1386 — *Preres T.* 156 A! quod the sompnoir, benedicite! what ye say. c 1400 *Sir Amadace* 647 Sir Amadas seyð Benedicite! Sir, leyt such wordes bee.

B. *sb.*

1. Invocation of a blessing on oneself or others. 1610 G. FLETCHER *Christ's Vict.* in *Farr S. P.* (1848) 55 And all the way he went he ever blest With benedicities. 1808 SCOTT *Marm.* ii. ii. One eyed the... swelling sail, With many a benedicite. 1833 — *Quentin D.* ii. The friar answered his reverend greeting with a paternal benedicite.

2. *esp.* The blessing asked at table. (The earliest sense in English.)

a 1225 *Ancr. R.* 44 Bitweone mete, hwo se drinken wule, sigge benedicite: potum nostrum filius Dei benedicat. 1725 tr. *Dupin's Eccl. Hist.* i. v. 208 The first [prayer] at the Beginning of the Repast... what we call Benedicite. 1844 MRS. GORE *Fascin.* 109 We may repent having laughed at the benedicite last night at supper!

† 3. A blessing, deliverance from evil. *Obs.*

a 1300 *Dame Siris* 193 Bendicite be herinne! c 1314 *Guy Warw.* 206 Gaf him swiche benedicite That he brak his nek ato. c 1460 *Towneley Myst.* 85 Benste, benste, be us emang.

4. The canticle in the Book of Common Prayer, known also as 'The Song of the Three Children.'

c 1661 *Papers on Alter. Prayer-bk.* 3 You will not allow the omission of the Benedicite.

Benedict (ben'dikt), a. and *sb.*; also 6-9 benedick. [ad. L. *benedictus* blessed; see *prec.*]

† A. adj. Blessed, benign, salutary; *spec.* in *Med.* mildly laxative. *Obs.*

1576 BAKER *Gesner's Jewell of Health* 209a, The Oyle Benedick or Oyle of Tyle stones. 1626 BACON *Sylva* § 19 Rhubarb and other Medicines that are benedick. 1657 J. GOODWIN *Triers Tried* 4 That the two Commissions specified be... benedick to the interest of the Gospel. a 1693 SANCROFT *Serm.* 110 (T.) If the more benign and benedick medicines will not work.

† b. Priest benedict: = BENET, exorcist. *Obs.*

1660 R. COKE *Power & Subj.* 160 No Priest, whether consecrate at [or] Benedict shall forsake his Church.

B. *sb.*

1. A newly married man; *esp.* an apparently confirmed bachelor who marries. [From the character of that name in Shaks. *Much Ado about Nothing*.]

[1599 SHAKS. *Much Ado* v. iv. 100 How dost thou Benedicke the married man?] 1821 SCOTT in *Lockhart* (1839) VI. 313 Wish the veteran joy of his entrance into the band of Benedicks. 1843 *Life in West (L.)* He is no longer a benedick, but a quiet married man.

† 2. 'A good saying, an honest report.' Blount *Glossogr.* 1656.

† Benedicted, ppl. a. *Obs.*— [f. L. *benedict-us* (see *prec.*) + ED.] 'Blessed,' Cockeram 1623.

Benedictine (ben'diktin), a. and *sb.* [a. F. *bénédictin*, f. L. *benedictus*; see -INE.]

A. adj. Of or belonging to St. Benedict or the religious order founded by him.

1630 WADSWORTH *Sp. Pilgr.* vi. 49 [He] had a Benedictine Monk to his Tutor. 1861 A. B. HOPE *Eng. Cathedr.* 191h C. 265 The chapter-house of Westminster, a Benedictine abbey before the Reformation.

B. *sb.* 1. One of the order of monks, also known, from the colour of their dress, as 'Black Monks,' founded by St. Benedict about the year 529.

1602 W. WATSON *Decacordon* 185 Sequestered... as Augustines from Benedictines. 1721 *Land. Gaz.* No. 5954/a Dom Thierry, a Benedictine, is banished the Kingdom. 1866 GEO. ELIOT *F. Holt* (1868) 40 When the black Benedictines ceased to pray and chant in this church.

2. A kind of liqueur.

1832 J. HAWTHORNE *Fort. Fool* i. xviii. It smelt rather like Benedictine, but... it was difficult to be certain about these liqueurs.

Benedictinism. [f. *prec.* + -ISM.] The system of the Benedictines.

1826 SOUTHEY *Vind. Eccl. Angl.* 40 That Benedictinism, and Franciscanism... with their respective... superstitions, are no part of the Roman Catholic system. 1884 *Athenaeum* 23 Aug. 235/3 The history of Benedictinism in England requires reconsideration.

Benediction (ben'diktʃən). Also 5-dyotyon, 5-6-diccion. [ad. L. *benediction-em*, n. of action f. *benedicere*; see BENEDICT and -TION. Cf. F. *bénédiction* (16th c. in Littré, replacing the regular *beneicōn*, *beneicisson*, whence Eng. BENISON).]

1. The utterance of a blessing; solemn invocation of blessedness upon a person; devout expression of a wish for the happiness, prosperity, or success of a person or enterprise: a. *gen.*

1438-50 tr. *Higden* (1865) I. 377 He openethe the durre with a benediction, makenge the durre sure after hym. 1485 CAXTON *Paris & V.* (1868) 51 Gyue to me your benediction. 1554 HULOET, *Benediction*, *benedictio*. 1605 SHAKS. *Lear* iv. vii. 58 Hold your hand in benediction o're me. 1755 JOHNSON *Rambl.* No. 204 ¶ 2 Thy path perfumed by the breath of benediction. 1860 FROUDE *Hist. Eng.* V. 329 Amidst the benedictions of tens of thousands of people.

b. as officially pronounced by an ecclesiastical functionary; *spec.* the ceremony of consecration of an abbot.

1638 *Penit. Conf.* xi. (1657) 306 The Priest is to marry him and to give the Benediction. 1679 *Season. Adv. Protest.* 11 This Catholick Religion, and Holy Cause sanctified by the Popes Benediction. 1726 AYLIFFE *Parergon* (J.) What consecration is to a bishop, that benediction is to an abbot. 1781 GIBSON *Decl. & F.* II. xlv. 671 Their choice was sanctified by the benediction of the patriarch. 1802 FOSBROOKE *Brit. Monachism* (1843) 86 Between the election and benediction the Abbot used the Prior's chamber.

c. as pronounced by the officiating minister at the conclusion of divine worship.

1349 *Bk. Com. Prayer, Ord. Deacons* (Rubr.), After the last Collect, and immediately before the benediction, shall be said these collects. 1622 SPARROW *Bk. Com. Prayer* (1843) 266 A most excellent and pious benediction of the priest concludes all. 1826 LONGE *Day is Done* ix, Such songs... come like the benediction That follows after prayer, d. as an expression of thanks; *spec.* as 'grace' before or after meals.

1671 MILTON *P. R.* III. 127 Of whom what could he less expect Than glory and benediction—that is, thanks. 1753 CHAMBERS *Cycl. Supp.*, *Benediction* is still applied to the act of saying grace before or after meals. 1806 WORDSW. *Ode Immort.* 135 The thought of our past years in me doth breed Perpetual benediction. 1818 LAMB *Elia, Grace bef. Meat*, The form, then, of the benediction before eating has its beauty at a poor man's table.

e. as a service in the Roman Catholic Church. 1812 P. GAUDOLPHY *Liturgy Com. Prayers* (1815) 227 An act of adoration and thanksgiving in honour of the Blessed Sacrament of the Altar, commonly called Benediction. 1853 FABER *All for Jesus* 6 Even in the churches during Mass or Benediction, they are hard at work. 1884 ADDIS & ARNOLD *Cath. Dict.*, *Benediction of the Blessed Sacrament*, a rite which has now become very common in the Catholic Church.

2. Blessing carried into practical effect, blessedness; kindly favour, grace.

1483 CAXTON *Cato E.*, That we may haue his glorye and benediction at the end of our dayes. 1526 *Pilgr. Per.* (W. de W. 1531) 69 We shall neuer be partners... of the benediction of the whiche the sone of god spake. 1611 SHAKS. *Wint. T.* iv. iv. 614 As if my Trinkets had bene hallowed, and brought a benediction to the buyer. 1702 *Eng. Theophrast.* 73 The inward joy of contemplating the Benedictions of another World. 1872 RUSKIN *For. Clav.* II. xviii. 5 Has had at least some measure of Christian Benediction.

Benedictional (ben'diktʃənəl). [ad. med. L. *benedictionālis* (sc. *liber*), i. e. book of benedictions; cf. *hymnal*, etc.] A book containing the forms of episcopal benedictions formerly in use.

1844 LINGARD *Anglo-Sax. Ch. I.* vii. (1858) 271 *note*, The Benedictional of St. Ethelwold. 1849 ROCK *Ch. of Fathers* IV. ii. 37 The head deacon... gave the benedictional to the bishop. 1879 J. SIMMONS in *Lay Folks Mass Bk.* 351 *note*, The new words... were rendered in the vulgar tongue, as... *sang-boc* (psalter), *bleising-boc* (benedictional).

Benedictionary. [f. BENEDICTION + -ARY; cf. *antiphonary*.] = *prec.*

1780 DODSLEY *O. Pl.* II. 57 *note*, Not the least mention... in the benedictionary of Bishop Athelwold.

Benedictive (ben'diktiv), a. [f. L. *benedictive* ppl. stem of *benedicere* to bless + -IVE.]

1. Characterized by blessing; tending to bless.

1660 GAUDEN *Mem. Bp. Brownrig* 201 (L.) His paternal prayers and benedictive commendations. c 1746 HERVEY *Medit.* (1818) Introd. 2 That the high and lofty One... should there manifest an extraordinary degree of his benedictive presence.

2. *Gram.* A form of the Optative Mood in the Sanskrit verb, also called the 'precativ,' the use of which is to express wish or desire.

1841 H. H. WILSON *Skr. Gram.* (1847) 114 The benedictive or optative mood is considered as a modification of the potential. 1879 WHITNEY *Skr. Gram.* § 533 The aorist has also an optative, of somewhat peculiar inflection, usually called the precativ (or benedictive).

Hence Benedictively adv. With the force of the benedictive mood.

† Benedictor. [Agent-noun on L. type, f. *benedicere*: see *prec.*] A eulogist, a well-wisher. *Obs.* a 1633 T. ADAMS *Wks.* (1861-2) I. 179 (D.) Ministers have... many benedictors, few benefactors.

Benedictory, a. [ad. med. L. *benedictōri-us*; see BENEDICT and -ORY.] Of or pertaining to the utterance of benediction.

1720 C. WHEATLEY *Illustr. Bk. Com. Prayer* iii. § 26 That benedictory prayer of St. Paul. 1860 ELLICOTT *Life our Lord* viii. 400 With words of holy and benedictory greeting. 1863 GEO. ELIOT *Romola* i. xiv. With hands outstretched in a benedictory attitude.

|| Benedictus. [L.; pa. pple. of *benedicere* to bless: see above.]

1. The fifth movement in the service of the Mass, beginning with the words 'Benedictus qui venit'; (the name is given both to the words of the service, and to their musical setting).

1880 GROVE *Dict. Music* II. 233/1 After the Elevation... the Choir begin the *Benedictus*, in soft low tones.

2. The hymn of Zacharias (Luke i. 68), used as a canticle in the morning service of the Church of England.

1552 *Bk. Com. Prayer, Matins* (Rubr.), And after the Second Lesson shall be used and said, *Benedictus*, in English, as followeth. 1641 S. MARSHALL *Peace-Off.* God 33 Uttering a *Benedictus* or Te Deum laudamus.

Benedight, ppl. a. *Obs.* or arch. Also -diht. [ad. L. *benedictus*; see *prec.* Cf. MHG. *gebenediget*, mod. G. *benedictet*.] Blessed.

a 1300 *Cursor M.* 18705 Bot þamen sal be benedight Sal trou in me wit-ten sight. c 1460 *Towneley Myst.* 91 For ferde we be fryght a crosse let us kest, Cryst crosse, benedyght. a 188. LONGFELLOW *Sonn. Mrs. Longf.*, Nor can in books be read The legend of a life more benedight.

† Benefact. *Obs.*— [ad. L. *benefactum*: see BENEFIT.] 'A good deed or benefit.' Blount *Glossogr.* 1656.

Benefaction (ben'fakʃən). [ad. L. *benefaction-em*, n. of action f. *benefacere*: see BENEFIT.]

1. A doing good, beneficence, kindly or generous action; a benefit or blessing.

a 1666 Heylin Land (1668) 245 Marks of his Benefaction we find none, in places of his Breeding. *1728 Newton Chronol. Amended* 15 For which Benefaction she [Ceres] was Deified after death. *1875 E. White Life in Christ* (1878) 442 What if [divine goodness] will do in the way of positive benefaction.

2. *esp.* The bestowal of money for a charitable purpose; a grant, gift, bounty, endowment.

1674 Scheffer's Lapland viii. 28 Retaining to the crown the superintendency of the benefaction. *1779 Johnson Milton in L. P.* (1816) 132 This was the greatest benefaction that Paradise Lost ever procured the author's descendants. *1855 Prescott Philip II.* iv. (1857) 58 She was liberal in her benefactions to convents and colleges.

Benefaction, *v. rare*. [*f. prec. sb.*] To endow with a benefaction. Cf. *prec. 2*.

1825 Drakard Hist. Stamford in Nichols Progr. Q. Eliz. I. 199 It [the Friary at Stamford] was... further benefactioned by King Edward the Third.

Benefactor (*ben'fæktər*). Also *5-our*. [*a. L. benefactor, f. benefactor: see BENEFIT.*]

1. One who renders aid or kindly service to others, a friendly helper; one who advances the interests of a cause or institution, a patron.

1532 Tindale Expos. & Notes (1849) 71 It is not enough for thee to love thy benefactors only. *1605 Bacon Adv. Learn.* i. vii. § 5 There was not a greater admirer of learning or benefactor of learning. *1769 Junius, Lett.* xxxv. 159 They... have transferred their gratitude from their parents to their benefactors. *1848 Macaulay Hist. Eng.* I. 362 The greatest of all the benefactors of his city.

2. *esp.* One who makes a benefaction to a charitable or religious institution; one who makes a bequest or endowment.

1494 Farban VII. 480 Quene Philyp... the which was a great benefactor unto the Chanons of Seynt Stephans Chappell at Westmyster. *1656 Bacon New Atl.* (1650) 33 These we call Dowry-men or Benefactors. *1752 Johnson Rambl. No.* 197 ¶ 9, I was... inquiring the age of my future benefactors or considering how I should employ their legacies. *1851 Longf. Gold. Leg.* 132 Whose tomb is that, which bears the brass escutcheon? A benefactor's.

3. With reference to the etymology: A well-doer.

1603 Shaks. Meas. for M. ii. i. 50 Well: What Benefactors are they? Are they not Malefactors? *1870 J. Cameron Phases of Th.* 160 Books are to us according as we deal with them—malefactors or benefactors.

Benefactorate, *v. nonce-wd.* [*f. prec. + -ATE.*] To act the benefactor to; to benefaction.

1769 H. Walpole Corr. (1837) II. 432 A plan for the East window of his Cathedral which he intends to benefactorate with painted glass.

Benefactorship. [*f. as prec. + -SHIP.*] The office or action of a benefactor.

1652 Browne Jov. Crev. ii. Wks. 1873 III. 377 His great Benefactorship among the Beggars. *1691 T. Hales Acc. New Invent.* 41 His Benefactorship to his Country in the doing it at his own charge.

Benefactori-us, *f. benefactor-em* BENEFACTOR: see -ORY.] Of or pertaining to a benefactor; conferring a benefit; beneficial.

1744 J. Lewis Life Peacock 150 Saying of special prayers for people by name, as... benefactor. *1884 Thorley Farmers Alm.* 42 The great benefactor result from continually strewing handfuls of salt on hay... has long been known.

Benefactress (*ben'fæktres*). [*f. BENEFACTOR + -ESS.*] A female benefactor.

1711 Swift Wind. Dt. Marlborough Wks. 1814 V. 397 While his gracious benefactress is contented to take up her residence in an old patched-up palace. *1781 Gibbon Decl. & F.* III. xlviii. 32 They basely conspired against their benefactress. *1834 Lamb Elia, Oxford in Vac.* And pay a devisor to some Founder, or noble or Royal Benefactress.

Benefactrice. *Obs. rare*. [*f. as prec., after F. bienfaitrice.*] = *prec.*

1711 Shaftesb. Charac. (1737) I. 331 The pure grace and favour of the benefactrice.

Benefactrix. *Obs. rare*. [*f. BENEFACTOR, after Lat. analogy: see -TRIX.*] = *prec.*

1713 Lond. Gas. No. 5124/4 The great Benefactrix unto the Nations of the Earth.

Benefacture. *Obs.* [*f. L. benefact- ppl. stem of benefactre + -URE; as if ad. L. *benefactura.*] Beneficence, benefaction.

a 1656 Br. Hall Soliloquies Wks. VIII. 256 All these dispositions are but inclosures: give me the open champain of a general and illimited benefacture. *1777 Dyck & Pardons, Benefacture*, a kind, friendly, good-natured deed, a charitable gift or donation.

Benefeter, *our*. *Obs. rare*. [*a. OF. bienfeter, mod. bienfaiteur: cf. also benefet, early form of BENEFIT.*] = BENEFACTOR.

c 1449 Peacock Rep. iii. ix. 333 The zeuer or benefeter. *ibid.* 511 Summe of Cristen neighboris as ben grete to him Benefetouris he ouyte love in Affect and Effect.

Benefic (*ben'fik*), *a.*; also *7-1ok.* -ique. [*ad. L. benefic-us, f. bene well + -ic-us doing: see -FIC.*]

1. *Astrol.* Of good or favourable influence. *1600 B. Jonson Cynthia's Rev.* v. i. 36 The fourth is the kind, and truly benefique Eucloas. *1618 Goad Celest. Bodies* ii. ii. 162 Our Venus is reckoned moist and therefore Benefique. *1884 Zakklet's Alm.* 40 The Moon forms benefic aspects with the primary planets.

2. *gen.* Beneficent, kindly, benign.

1641 Milton Animadv. Wks. (1851) 219 He being... of free

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power to turne his benefick and fatherly regard to what Region or Kingdom he pleases. *1873 Browning Red Coll. Night-c.* 951 Is there not the Church To intercede and bring benefic truce At outset? *1876 Emerson Ess.* Ser. ii. vi. 149 As if that terrific or benefic force did not find us then also, and fashion cities.

Benefical, *a.* [*f. prec. + -AL.*] = *prec.*

1647 Lilly Chr. Astrol. clv. 643 Some very benefical prohibition of the Fortunes intervenes. *1654 Gaule Magastrum.* 92 Whether all such astronomical demonstrations... be any real proofs of benefical and malefical influences.

Benefice (*ben'fis*). Forms: 4 *benyfyce*, -ise, benefise, benefice, 4-5 *benefys*, 5-*fyce* (bonfyce), 6 *benyfyce* (bunfyce), 7 *beni*; 4-*benefice*. [*a. OF. benefice, ad. L. beneficium, f. bene well + -fium a doing: cf. BENEFIC.*]

1. A good deed, kindness, favour; a grace or 'indulgence.' *Obs.*

1340 Hampele Pr. Cons. 5582 Agayne þam sal Crist allege... And reherce his benefices, mare and les. *c 1380 Wyclif Sel. Wks.* III. 200 Þanke þei God for al his mercyes and benefices. *c 1400 Apol. Loll.* 11 Alle þat persewen for swilke indulgencs, or benefices, or other graces. *1549 Compl. Scot.* 20 Them that ar ingrate of the benefices of gode. *1677 Gale Crt. Gentiles* III. 109 He can incline them... to performe his benefices or to inflict his punishments.

2. Favourable influence or operation; advantage, favour, protection, benefit. *Obs. exc. Hist.*

1444 Paston Lett. 4 I. 14 He schuld no benefice take by noon protection. *c 1440 Gesta Rom.* xlix. 174 The knyght seide to the iuge, 'My lorde, I aske the benefice of [the law].' *1685 Baxter Paraph. Peter* ii. 3 Their business is to sell Soules to the Devil for their own worldly Benefice. *1875 Foster tr. Gains* i. Introd. 24 Justinian's benefice of inventory, ... was another fundamental change in hereditary succession.

b. *Benefice of clergy: see BENEFIT 3 c.*

1489 Act 4 Hen. VII. xiii. Every persone... whiche ones hath bene admitted to the benefice of his clergy.

3. Beneficial property or action (as of natural agents or causes). *Obs.*

1387 Trevisa Higden (1865) I. 415 Many benefices of kynde Beþ now i-hidde fro manis mynde. *c 1400 Pallad. on Husb.* ii. 365 The bonfice of sonne and wynde wol harde Hem sure ynough. *a 1500 Myrr. Our Ladye* 210 Theyr fruytes... shall... the more partly wax rype of the benefice of the hete. *1654 Gaule Magastrum.* 77 Made to consist by the stars, and to thrive, or dwindle away, according to the benefice, or malefice, of their influences?

4. A gift; gratuity. *Obs.*

c 1380 Wyclif Confession Wks. (1880) 331 Who shuld take any benyfiss of þe puple. *c 1440 Gesta Rom.* 349 Myghty men... have receiued benefice, after her wille.

5. Land granted in feudal tenure, a fief. (Only in modern legal and historical writers, as transl. *L. beneficium*.)

1681 Nevile Plato Rediv. 87 If these Beneficia had not afterwards been made Hereditary. *1753 Chambers Cycl. Suppl.* Benefice was an estate in land, at first granted for life only. In after times, as these tenures became perpetual and hereditary, they left their name of *beneficia* to the livings of the clergy. *1861 Maine Anc. Law* vii. (1876) 229 Benefices... were grants of Roman provincial land to be holden by the beneficiary on condition of military service. *1867 Freeman Norm. Cong.* (1876) I. iii. 92 Rewarding their followers with grants of land, in short with benefices or fiefs. *1876 Digby Real Prop.* i. § 2. 38.

6. *esp.* An ecclesiastical living.

1340 Ayenb. 42 Þe prouenderes and þe parosses oþer oþre benefices of holy cherche. *1393 Langl. P. Pl. C.* iv. 33 And bigge 30w benefices pluralite to haue. *1480 Caxton Chron. Eng.* iv. (1520) 32 b, That no bysshop sholde be receyved into his benefice but with the popes letters. *1502 Shaks. Rom. & Jul.* i. iv. 81 Then he dreames of another benefice. *1691 Wood Ath. Oxon.* II. 1554 He had a small benefice in Norfolk conferr'd on him, but could not pass the Triers. *1756 Blackstone Comm.* I. ii. xviii. 320 In case a benefice becomes void by death. *1845 Prescott Philip II.* ii. iii. 229 A tract which he published against plurality of benefices.

7. *Comb. and attrib.*, as *benefice farm*, -monger; also *Beneficeless adj.*, destitute of a benefice.

1583 Stubbes Anat. Abus. ii. 76, I advise al benefice mongers, that haue mo charges than one, to take heede to themselves. *a 1654 Selden Mirr. Antichr.* 190 (R.) That competency of means which our beneficeless precisians prate of. *1884 Pall Mall G.* 14 July 4/2 There are the contadini who work the benefice farm.

Benefice (*ben'fis*), *v.*; also 4-5 *benefise*, *beny*, 6 *benefice*. [*f. prec. sb. Cf. OF. beneficier.*] *trans.* To endow or invest with a benefice or church living.

c 1383 Wyclif Sel. Wks. III. 332 A worldly clerk... is preised and beneficed among grete men. *1393 Langl. P. Pl. C.* iv. 186 Hue blessed (MS. F (a 1500) benefiseth) þese bysshops. *1494 Farban VII.* 400 Certayne alicantes, whiche were richly beneficed in Englande. *1608 T. James Life Wicliffe* K. iv. He had sometimes before bene... beneficed in Oxford. *1866 Southey in Q. Rev.* XXXIV. 338 The many eminent men who have been beneficed in that cathedral.

Hence **Beneficed ppl.** a. holding a benefice.

c 1245 Wynnton Cron. ix. xxvii. 385 Benefit Men and Chanownis. Of þat kyrc. *1561 T. Norton Calvin's Inst.* iv. 28 b, The secular Priests: which are partly beneficed men, that is to say, haue benefices whereupon to liue. *1704 Lond. Gas.* No. 4034/1 The humble Address of the... Beneficed Clergy. *1850 Lytton My Novel* v. x. 250 Your father was such a respectable man—beneficed clergyman!

Beneficence (*ben'fisens*). Also 6-*fyconce*.

[*a. F. bñficence, ad. L. beneficentia, f. benefic-us: perh. directly f. the L.*]

1. Doing good, the manifestation of benevolence or kindly feeling, active kindness.

1531 Elyot Gov. ii. x. (1883) II. 112 Beneficence can by no means be vicious and retain still his name. *1548 Udall Erasme Par. Mark v.* 24 (R.) Like as the lodestone draweth vnto it yron, so dothe beneficence and well doing allure all men vnto her. *1651 Hobbes Govt. & Soc.* iii. § 8. 42 By this meanes all beneficence... would be taken from among men. *1790 Burke Fr. Rev.* 87 It is an institution of beneficence; and law itself is only beneficence acting by a rule. *1853 Lytton My Novel* viii. viii. What does intellectual power... stripped of beneficence, most resemble?

2. *concr.* A benefaction, a beneficent gift, deed, or work.

1644 Evelyn Mem. (1857) I. 320 The market-place is... remarkable for old Hobson the pleasant carrier's beneficence of a fountain. *1821 Carlyle Sterling* ii. i. (1872) 87 Sterling now... zealously forwarded schools and beneficences. *1858 Hawthorne Fr. & It. Truls.* II. 197 Distributed their beneficence in the shape of some handfuls of copper.

Beneficency. *Obs.* [*ad. L. beneficentia: see prec. and -ENCY.*] The quality of being beneficent; beneficence.

1576 Woolton Chr. Manual 70 The sixth [commandment] commandeth justice and judgment... beneficence and innocency. *1662 Fuller Worthies* (1840) III. 310 Queen's College in Oxford, owing the glazing of many windows therein to his beneficency. *1682 Sir T. Browne Chr. Mor.* (1716) 105 Such tempers... make beneficency cool unto acts of obligation.

Beneficent (*ben'fisent*), *a.*; also 7 *benificient*. [*f. L. *beneficent-, whence beneficenti-or, compar. of beneficus, and beneficentia: see prec. Cf. magnificent.*] Doing good, performing kind deeds, characterized by beneficence. (*Beneficial* was previously used in this sense.) a. of persons.

1616 Bullocke, Beneficent, liberal, loving. *a 1677 Barrow Wks.* (1683) 173 A most wise, most powerful, most beneficent author. *1725 Pope Odys.* iv. 917 Gentle of speech, beneficent of mind. *1879 Lefevre Philos.* i. 20 Confucius is still revered as a beneficent genius.

b. of things.

1677 Hale Prim. Orig. Man. 5 Objects, the knowledge whereof is... very beneficent to Mankind. *1772 Pennant Towns Scotl.* (1774) 38 That beneficent luminary the Sun. *1855 Macaulay Hist. Eng.* IV. 530 That disease, over which science has since achieved a succession of glorious and beneficent victories. *1871 R. W. Dale Commandm.* iv. 103 The Sabbath was a singularly beneficent institution.

Beneficential (*ben'fisential*), *a.* [*f. L. beneficentia: see prec. + -AL.*] Of or pertaining to beneficence; concerned with what is most beneficial to mankind.

1869 J. Morley in Fortn. Rev. May 533 The beneficential moralist esteems this a particularly virtuous type, because it is particularly conducive to the greatest happiness of the greatest number. *ibid.* 538 The central principle of the utilitarian or beneficential ethics.

Beneficently, *adv.* [*f. prec. + -LY2.*] In a beneficent manner; with beneficence.

a 1727 Parnell Q. Anne's Peace (R.) All mortals once beneficently great. *1797 Holcroft Stolberg's Trav.* III. lxxx. (ed. 2) 246 Airs beneficently tepid. *1852 Hawthorne Wonder-bk., Mirac. Pitcher*, A spot on which Heaven had smiled so beneficently. *1875 Farrar Silence & V.* ii. 33 Pain comes... to warn us beneficently of our danger.

Beneficer. *Obs.* [*f. BENEFICE sb. + -ER1.*] One who holds a benefice.

1621 R. Bolton Act 36 Hen. VI in Stat. Ireland 26 All maner Beneficers within the said land... shall keepe residence continually in their proper persons in the said land.

Beneficial (*ben'fiʃəl*), *a.* and *sb.*; also 6 *benyfyoyal* (1), *bunfyoyal*, *beneficiall*. [*a. F. bñficiale, ad. L. beneficiāl-em, f. beneficium: see -AL.*]

A. adj. 1. = BENEFICENT. *Obs.*

1506 Pilgr. Perf. (W. de W. 1531) 244 Whome... thou hast founde moost... redy helper, and moost beneficent lorde. *1551 Robinson tr. More's Utop.* 129 Other to whom they haue bene beneficiale they call their frendes. *1593 Bitson Govt. Christ's Ch.* 301 You are so liberal and beneficiall. *1628 A. Fox Wurtz Surg.* i. ii. 3 We ought to be beneficial to our neighbours.

2. Of benefit; advantageous, serviceable, profitable.

1494 Farban Hen. III. an. 1262 (R.) To deuise suche thynges as might be benyfyccall for the cytie. *1593 Hooker Eccl. Pol.* i. ii. § 4 Not that anything is made to be beneficial unto Him. *1604 Shaks. Oth.* ii. ii. 7 Besides these beneficiall Newes, it is the Celebration of his Nuptiall. *a 1674 Clarendon Hist. Reb.* I. i. 76 He was so entirely devoted to what would be Beneficial to the King. *1732 Arbuthnot Rules of Diet* 346 Diluents with nitrous Salts are beneficial. *1876 Green Short Hist.* ii. 83 No measures could have been more beneficial to the kingdom at large.

3. Profitable in a pecuniary sense, lucrative.

1506 Tindale Acts xix. 19 Not a littell beneficiall vnto the craftes men. *1647 R. Stapylton Jernall* 48 Officers, that make use of their authority to monopolise all beneficial places and good bargaines. *1830 Galt Lawrie T.* (1849) II. iii. 50 Finding me a beneficial customer.

4. *Law.* 1. a. Of or pertaining to a benefice; having a benefice, benefited. *Obs.*

1502 Act James VI. (1814) 573 (JAM.) The occasion thair of is the direction of lettrez of horning in beneficiall materis generallye. *1660 R. Coke Power & Subj.* 230 Any person... not being beneficiall, or having any spiritual promotion. *a 1850 Hallam (in Ogilvie)*, An engagement was tendered to all civil officers and beneficial clergy.

b. Of or pertaining to the usufruct of property; enjoying the usufruct.

1844 J. Williams Real Prop. Law (1877) 162 He is the

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beneficial owner of the property. 1863 KEBLE *Bp. Wilson* v. 168 Such a formal surrender as should secure... the lord's beneficial interest in them. 1868 ROGERS *Pol. Econ.* ix. 87 The beneficial lessees of the various monastic corporations.

B. sb. ? A letter presenting to a benefice; a presentation. (Johnson says 'A benefice'.)

1591 SPENSER *M. Hubbard* 486 How to a Benefice he might aspire. 'Marie, there (said the Priest) is arte indeed... For that the ground-works is, and end of all, How to obtain a Beneficiall.

Beneficially, adv. [f. prec. + -LY².] In a beneficial manner.

† 1. Beneficially, liberally, bountifully. *Obs.*

1530-1 *Act 22 Hen. VIII.* xv. His said free pardon... shall be... taken... most beneficially... to all... his sayed subiectes. 1609 R. CAWDRAY in Spurgeon *Treas. Dav. Ps.* xix. 1-4 As the sun with his light beneficially comforteth all the world. 1611 COTGR., *Liberalement*, bountifully; beneficially, with an open hand.

2. Advantageously, profitably, helpfully.

1531 *Act 23 Hen. VIII.* x. § 3 This statute shall be always expounded as beneficially as may be to the destruction and utter avoyding of such use, intences and purposes. 1771 MASON in Johnson *Gray Wks.* (1787) IV. 300 To others, at least innocently employed; to himself, certainly beneficially. 1878 SKELEY *Stein* III. 529 France... has influenced it [the Greek cause] at once benevolently and beneficially.

3. *Law.* In the way of a beneficial owner or interest. Cf. **BENEFICIAL A.** 3.

1788 J. POWELL *Devises* (1827) II. 249 The person beneficially entitled for life. 1875 POSTE *Gains* III. (ed. 2) 430 Both the agent and the principal are beneficially interested. 1884 *Law Times Rep.* LII. 650/1 The various persons beneficially entitled under W. Plowright's will.

Beneficialness. [f. as prec. + -NESS.]

† 1. Beneficial character, beneficence. *Obs.*

1538 ROY *Sat. (Arb.)* 35 They reputed vs for haulfe goddes and more, thowre the masses beneficialnes. a 1568 COVERDALE *Spir. Perle* xxiv. 240 If God of his naturall loue, beneficialnesse and free liberalitie geueh here... health, strength, riches. 1691 NORRIS *Pract. Disc.* 115 The goodness and beneficialness of the Divine Nature.

2. Beneficial quality, usefulness, profitableness.

1587 GOLDING *De Moray* xi. 157 Shouldst thou not rather commend the beneficialness thereof [the Sea]? 1677 HALE *Prim. Orig. Man.* 5 They do not commend their knowledge to us upon the account of their usefulness and beneficialness. 1730 BURKITT *On N. T. Matt.* iv. 24 note, A life of universal serviceableness and beneficialness to Mankind. 1868 RUSKIN *Unto this Last* 46 The beneficialness of the inequality depends, first, on the methods by which it is accomplished.

Beneficiary (ben'fi'siəri), *a.* and *sb.* [ad. L. *beneficiarius*: cf. F. *beneficiaire* and see -ARY.]

A. adj.

1. Holding, held as, or pertaining to the holding of, a benefice: *spec.* to the holding of land by feudal tenure; feudatory.

a 1636 BACON (J.), To be made a feudatory or beneficiary king of England, under the seignory in chief of the pope. a 1641 SPELMAN *Fendes & Tenures* xxv. (R.) Beneficiary services... done by the middling or lesser Thanes to the King and the greater Thanes. 1688 BURNET *Rights Princes* vi. 218 Not so ancient as their Beneficiary Tenures. 1768 BLACKSTONE *Comm.* II. 51 As if they had received their lands from his bounty... as pure, proper, beneficiary feudatories. 1818 HALLAM *Mid. Ages* (1872) I. 147 Alodial lands are commonly opposed to beneficiary or feudal.

2. Of a kind by which one benefits or profits. *rare.* 1836 J. GILBERT *Chr. Attonem.* viii. (1852) 244 His justice... is not to be considered as the prosecutor of a beneficiary claim, but as an exactor from himself.

B. sb.

1. The holder of a feudal 'benefice'; a feudatory. 1611 SPEED *Hist. Gt. Brit.* ix. vii. 138 Wee (being their Beneficiaries or Free-holders for such Countries as wee held in France). 1654 LESTRANGE *King Chas. I.* 121 He demanded from the Prince... that he... should repute himself as his Beneficiary and Vassal. 1754 ERSKINE *Princ. Sc. Law* (1809) 199 The legislature, looking upon vassals as proprietors, and not merely as beneficiaries. 1818 HALLAM *Mid. Ages* (1872) I. 131 The great beneficiaries, the most wealthy and potent families in Neustria or France.

2. The holder of an ecclesiastical living.

1641 MILTON *Animado.* Wks. 1738 I. 77 Your Beneficiaries the Priests. 1795 AVILIFFE *Parerg.* 112 If it [a benefice] be annex'd to another Benefice, the Beneficiary is obliged to serve the Parish Church in his own proper Person. 1846 PRESCOTT *Perd. & Is. I.* Intro. 39 The subordinate beneficiaries of his Church.

3. One who receives benefits or favours; a debtor to another's bounty.

1664 W. SCLATER *Exp. 2 Thess.* (1627) Ep. Ded. 3, I rest, your thankfull, and most observant Beneficiary. 1663 BAXTER *Div. Life* 14 We are his Children as he is our Father; or his obliged Beneficiaries as he is our Benefactor. 1856 OLMSTED *Slave States* 606 Another young man, who looked like a beneficiary of the Education Society. 1858 HOLLAND *Tilcomb's Lett.* vii. 65 Content to be a beneficiary of society—to receive favours and confer none.

Beneficiate (ben'fi'siāt), *v.* Mining. [f. Sp. *beneficiar* to benefit, to derive profit from a mine, + -ATE³.] *trans.* To reduce (ores).

Hence **Beneficiating ppl. a.**, **Beneficiation**, the reduction of ores.

1871 *Trans. Amer. Inst. Mining Eng.* I. 92 Such works as beneficiate ores directly in the mining districts. 1883 W. BISHOP *Old Mexico* v. xviii. 238 His ancient beneficiating hacienda of Regla. 1881 RAYMOND *Mining Gloss.*, *Beneficiation*, usually means the reduction of ores.

† **Beneficie.** *Obs. rare*—1. [ad. L. *benefici-um* BENEFICE.] Benefit, benign influence, favour.

c 1449 PECOCK *Repr.* 200 Graunte to this peple of Crist the Beneficie of the Crosse.

[Beneficence, -ficiency, -ficient, erroneous forms of BENEFICENCE, -FICENCY, -FICIENT, found passim as misprints in various books or editions, whence the last two have been accepted by Todd, and uncritically copied by subsequent compilers.]

† **Beneficious, a.** *Obs.* [f. L. *benefici-um* + -OUS: cf. *officious*.] = BENEFICIENT.

1535 FISHER *Wks.* 377 So liberal and beneficous. 1620 HOLLAND *Camden's Brit.* 362 (D.) The Beauchamps... acknowledge Haber de Burgo... beneficous to them.

Benefit (ben'fit), *sb.* Forms: 4 benefet, byn-fet, benefait, (*pl.* benefes), 4-5 benefet(e, benefet, benefete, benefait, -fet(e, 5 benefayte, benefyte, bienfette, -faytte, 6 benifit(e, beny-fyt, bunfyte, benefact, -faiot, 7 benefit(t)e, -fiot, 7- benefit. [ME. *benefet*, a. Afr. *benfet*, = CentralFr. *bienfait*: -L. *benefactum* good deed, kind action, *lit.* (a thing) well done, f. *bene facere* to do well. In 15-16th c. the first syllable was assimilated to the L.; the later change of the second syllable to -fit seems merely phonetic.]

† 1. A thing well done; a good or noble deed.

1377 LANGL. *P. Pl. B. v.* 621 þe boldnesse of þi bienfetes maketh þe blynde þanne. 1393 GOWER *Conf.* III. 187 Of every bienfait the merite The god him self it woll aquite. 1480 CAXTON *Ovid's Met.* xiv. xi. Alle... that had seen his bienfayttes, wer mevyd wyth grace toward hym. 1811 LANDOR *Ct. Julian* Wks. 1846 II. 523 Man's only relics are his benefits.

2. A kind deed, a kindness; a favour, gift. *arch.*

1377 LANGL. *P. Pl. B. v.* 436 3if any man doth me a benefait (*v. r.* benefet, bienfait, -fet, C bynfit). c 1430 *Life St. Katharine* (1884) 27 þe sonne and þe mone... whos benefettes alle deedly creatures vse. c 1449 PECOCK *Repr.* 161 Rememoratyf signyes of God and of his Benefetis. 1526 TINDALE *Acts* xiv. 17 In that he shewed his benefaictes. 1557 N. T. (Geneva) *Philemon* 14 That thy benefit should not be as it were of necessite, but willingly. 1611 *ibid.* [as prec.]. 1600 SHAKS. *A. Y. L. i.* ii. 37 Her [Fortune's] benefaictes are mightily misplaced. 1608 HOBBS *Thucyd.* (1822) 63 For the men which thou hast saved... thy benefit is laid up in our house indelibly registered.

† b. *By (occas. through) the benefit of:* by or through the kindness or favour of; by the agency or help of, by means of (a person or thing). *Obs.*

1538 STARKEY *England* 14 By the bunfyte and powar of nature. 1578 BANISTER *Hist. Man* iv. 51 By the benefite of the third Muscle the shoulder blade is lifted vp. 1590 SHAKS. *Com. Err.* i. i. 91 By the benefit of his wished light The seas waxt calme. 1609 SKENE *Reg. Maj.* 23 He sall be made frie by the Kings benefite and decreit. 1709 STEELE *Tatler* No. 181 ¶ 1 By the Benefit of Nature... Length of Time... blots out the Violence of Afflictions.

c. A benefaction (in somewhat of a legal sense).

1591 SHAKS. *1 Hen. VI.* v. iv. 152 Accept the Title thou usurp'st, Of benefit proceeding from our King, And not of any challenge of Desert. 1594 — *Rich. III.* iii. vii. 196 Take to your Royall selfe this proffer'd benefit of Dignitie.

3. Advantage, profit, good. (The ordinary sense.)

For the benefit of: for the advantage of, on behalf of. † *To take benefit of* (a thing): to take advantage of, avail oneself of.

[1393 GOWER *Conf.* I. 304 When Jupiter this harm hath sein Another bienfait there aynen He yaf. 1483 CAXTON *Gold. Leg.* 362/a We receyve dayly many bienfaictes of this cyte.] 1512 *Act 4 Hen. VIII.* ii. § 2 He to have non advantage or benefette of the matter alleged by hym. 1576 LAMBARDE *Peramb. Kent* (1826) 209 If you minded to haue benefit by the Roode of Grace. 1651 HOBBS *Leviath.* II. xxviii. 162 If the harm inflicted be lesse than the benefit. 1752 JOHNSON *Ramb.* No. 199 ¶ 2 Having long laboured for the benefit of mankind. 1789 BELSHAM *Ess.* ix. I. 173 Government is an institution for the benefit of the people governed. 1875 JOWETT *Plato* (ed. 2) I. 28, I have an impression that temperance is a benefit and a good. *Mod.* The jury gave the prisoner the benefit of the doubt.

b. A natural advantage or 'gift'.

1600 SHAKS. *A. Y. L. iv.* I. 34 Disable all the benefits of your owne Countrey. 1613 — *Hen. VIII.* i. ii. 115 When these so Noble benefits shall proue Not well dispos'd.

c. *Law.* The advantage of belonging to a privileged order which was exempted from the jurisdiction or sentence of the ordinary courts of law; the exemption itself: in the phrases *Benefit of Clergy*, *Benefit of Peerage*; see CLERGY, PEERAGE. 1288-9 *Act 4 Hen. VII.* xiii. (title), An act to take awaye the benefytt of Clergye from certayne persons. 1718 HICKES & NELSON *J. Kettlewell* II. § 56. 175 To this they Pleaded the Benefit of their Peerage. 1827 HALLAM *Const. Hist.* (1876) I. ii. 58 In 1513 the benefit of clergy was entirely taken away from murderers and highway robbers.

d. Pecuniary advantage, profit, gain.

1594 *No-body & Some-b.* (1878) 336 The grand benefit you get by dice, Deceitfull Cards, and other cozening games. 1618 DAVIES *Discon. why Irel.* (1787) 29 Why the King received no benefit of his land of Ireland. 1722 STEELE *Spect.* No. 310 ¶ 2 My Estate is seven hundred Pounds a Year, besides the Benefit of Tin-Mines. 1885 *Law Times Rep.* LII. 706/1 The secretary transferred the benefit of his contract as to three of the lots to other persons.

4. Hence in special senses: a. A theatrical performance the receipts from which are given to a particular actor, the playwright, or some other person connected with the theatre. (First granted to Mrs. Barry 16th Jan. 1687. *Hist. Stage* (1792) 29.)

[Cf. 1629 SIR H. HERBERT in Malone *Eng. Stage* (1821) III. 177 The benefit of the winters day from the kinges company... upon the play of 'The Moor of Venice,' comes, this 22 of Nov. 1629, unto qd. 161. ad.] 1709 STEELE *Tatler* No. 1 ¶ 6 Acted for the Benefit of Mr. Betterton. 1721 SWIFT *Epist. to Play Wks.* 1755 III. ii. 181 Actors, who at best are hardly saviors, Will give a night of benefit to weavers? 1798 *Times* 3 Oct. *Adv.*, Royal Circus. For the Benefit of Mr. Simpson. 1850 THACKERAY *Pendennis* vi, She was going to have a benefit and appear as Ophelia.

† b. A prize in a lottery; a winning ticket. *Obs.*

1694 LUTTRELL *Brief Rel.* (1857) III. 384 Yesterday 72 benefits were drawn in the million lottery. 1694 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 2968/2 That Benefit does belong to the Person that shall produce a Ticket of the same Number. 1710 STEELE *Tatler* No. 202 ¶ 5 After their Number is drawn, whether it was a Blank or Benefit. 1721 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 4903/4 The number'd Tickets entitled to Benefits in the Lottery. 1725 *ibid.* No. 5326/3 The Tickets called Benefits [carry] an interest at the Rate of 4l. per Cent. per Ann. † c. An ecclesiastical living, benefice, endowment. *Obs.*

1554 in Strype *Eccle. Mem.* III. ii. App. xvi. 40 Whether he doth bestow yearly the first part of his benefit. 1719 D'URFEE *Pills* (1872) IV. 86 Your Benefits you'll keep, whilst another feeds the Sheep.

5. *Comb. and attrib.* (only in senses 4 and 5), as *benefit-concert*, *-day*, *-night*, *-play*; also *benefit-club*, *-society*, an association whose members, by the regular payment of small sums, are entitled to pecuniary help in time of age or sickness; also *fig.*; *benefit-ticket*, a winning ticket at a lottery (cf. 5 b.).

1812 *Examiner* 11 May 291/1 The 'benefit club'.. forms something of a provision against adversity. 1817 COLERIDGE *Poems* 111 One 'Benefit-Club for mutual flattery. 1759 JOHNSON in Boswell I. 342 Mrs. Ogle... hopes by a 'benefit concert to set herself free from a few debts. 1712 STEELE *Spect.* No. 288 ¶ 3 The 'Benefit Days of my Plays and Operas. 1748 SMOLLETT *Rod.* (1812) I. 439 My play... could not have been ready until the end of March, when the 'benefit nights came on. 1844-9 LANDOR *Imag. Conv.* (1846) I. 254 Their opera-girls vie in 'benefit-nights. 1740 CIBBER *Apol.* (1756) I. 120 The indulgence of having an annual 'benefit-play. 1845 DISRAELI *Sybil* (1846) 293 The 'Benefit Societies... have money in the banks that would maintain the whole working classes... for six weeks. 1694 LUTTRELL *Brief Rel.* (1857) III. 382 Yesterday the million lottery drew 66 'benefit tickets.

Benefit (ben'fit), *v.* Pa. t. and pple. benefited. [f. prec. sb.]

1. *trans.* To do good to, to be of advantage or profit to; to improve, help forward.

1549 CHEKE *Hurt Sedit.* (R.) Ye be not so much worthe as to be benefited in any kinde. 1611 SHAKS. *Wint. T.* iv. iv. 514 What course I mean to hold, Shall nothing benefit your knowledge. a 1613 OVERBURY *Worthy Comm.* Wks. (1865) 107 If ever a man will benefit himself upon his foe, then is the time, when they have lost force. 1798 BURKE *Lett. Dundas* Wks. IX. 283 The cause of humanity would be far more benefited by the continuance of the trade. 1879 LUBBOCK *Addr. Pol. & Educ.* i. 8 A system of duties which injures our interests without benefiting those of the colonies.

2. *intr.* (for *refl.*) To receive benefit, to get advantage; to profit.

1613 SHAKS. *Hen. VIII.* i. ii. 80 Malicious censurers, which euer, As rau'nous Fishes, doe a Vessell follow That is new trim'd; but benefit no further Then vainly longing. 1644 MILTON *Educ. Wks.* (1847) 98/2 To tell you therefore what I have benefited herein. 1884 *National Rev.* July 720 One who has never directly or indirectly benefited a single shilling by any humble efforts he may have put forth.

Benefited, ppl. a. [f. prec. + -ED.]

1. That has received benefit or profit.

1837 HT. MARTINEAU *Society in Amer.* II. 102 Repayment from the benefited parties being secured.

† 2. Carrying a 'benefit' (in a lottery). *Obs.*

1693 LUTTRELL *Brief Rel.* (1857) 160 The other 22,500l. he divides into 250 benefited lots or tickets.

Benefiter (ben'fiter), [f. as prec. + -ER¹.]

He who confers, or (more usually) derives, benefit. 1883 *St. James's Gaz.* 15 June, The only benefiter is the ship-owner.

Benefiting, vbl. sb. [f. as prec. + -ING¹.] The conferring or deriving of benefit.

1594 T. B. La Primaud *Fr. Acad.* II. 301 Mercie is often taken in the holy Scriptures for... good will, benefiting, friendship. *Mod.* He returned without benefiting by the change.

† **Benegro, v.** ? *Obs.* [f. BE- pref. 6 + NEGRO.] *trans.* To make Negro; to make of the colour of a negro; to blacken, darken.

1646 SIR T. BROWNE *Pseud. Ep.* 330 If we derive the curse on Cham... we shall Benegrore a greater part of the earth than ever was, or so conceived. 1650 CHARLETON *Paradoxes* 19 No reason... why that particular place... should be benegrored and torrihed. 1658 HEWITT *Serm.* 109 (T.), Benegrored in more than Cimmerian... darkness.

Benefit, obs. form of BENNET sb.¹

† **Beneme, v.** *Obs.* Forms: 1 benēman, -nēman, 3-5 bineme(n, 4-6 byneme. [OE. *bi-*, *benēman*, on OTeut. type **binamjan*, deriv. of *binemen*, pa. t. *benam*. The ME. *beneme* may however be merely a variant of BENIM, with which it coincides in use.] *trans. a.* To deprive (with *gen.*). b. To deprive (a person) of (a thing), to take away (a thing) from (a person). c. To take away. c 893 K. ÆLFRED *Oros.* i. x. § 4 Ne mehte he þæs londes benēman. c 1205 LAY. 13155 Pou... þat binemest vs houre broþer. c 1325 *Corr de L.* 1403. 1387 TREvisa *Higden*

(1865) I. 73 Jif Paradys were so hipe, somtyme it schulde byneme be list; and make be clips of be mone. 1481 Reynard (1844) 144 Thenne shal ye byneme hym his syght. 1568 Foxe A. & M. I. 455/2 He bynemeth Christ his Worship.

† **Bene-merent**, *a. Obs. rare*—^o. [f. L. *bene* well + *merent-em*, pres. pple. of *merere* to deserve.] 'That deserves well.' Blount *Glossogr.* 1656.

Benempt, obs. pa. t. and pa. pple. of **BENAME**.

† **Beneplacit**, *Obs. rare*; also *-placit*. [ad. late L. *beneplacit-um* (see Vulgate Eph. i. 9) good pleasure, f. *bene* well + *placitum* pleased, pa. pple. of *placere* to please, as adj. 'pleasing, acceptable.' (In the two unauthorized edd. of *Religio Med.* of 1642, *beneplacit*; which Blount inserted in his *Glossogr.*)] Good pleasure, gracious purpose.

1643 Sir T. Browne *Relig. Med.* 130 The cause of my salvation, which was the mercy and beneplacit [edd. 1642 beneplacit] of God. 1656 Blount *Gloss.*, *Beneplacit*, that which pleaseth well, good liking. 1658 Phillips, *Beneplacit*.

† **Beneplacit**, *a. Obs. rare*. [ad. L. *beneplacit-um* well-pleased; see prec.] Pleased, satisfied.

1678 GALE *Crt. Gentiles* III. 18 God's Beneplacit will, commonly stiled his will of good pleasure... is that whereby he decrees, effects, or permits all events & effects.

† **Bene-placiture**, *Obs. rare*—¹. [f. as prec. + *-ure*.] = **BENEPLACIT**, *sb.*

1666 GLANVIL *Lux Orient.* iv. (1682) 28 Hath he by his holy penmen told us that either of the other ways was more suitable to his beneplaciture?

[**Beneship**. In 16th c. 'Peddelars' Frenche' (Harman's *Caveat* 83-86) = 'very good.' Apparently the source of Bailey's '*Benship*, worship, goodness.']

Beneson, obs. form of **BENISON**.

Benet (benēt), *sb.* Forms: 5 *benett*, *benott*, 5-6 *benetta*, 4- *benet*. [a. OF. *benet* (mod.F. *benit*): —L. *benedictus* blessed: see **BENEDICT**.] The third of the four lesser orders in the Roman Catholic Church, one of whose functions was the exorcizing of evil spirits.

1383 Wyclif *Sol. Wks.* (1871) III. 285 Of... crowning of benetis renneþ be same extorcion. 1480 Caxton *Chron.* Eng. iv. (1500) 38/2 He ordeyned that he that was worthy sholde ascende gree by gree to his ordre, fyrst benet, than colet, subdeacon, deacon, and than preest. 1509 Ortus *Voc.* in *Prompt. Parv.* 30 *Exorcista*, id est adjuvator vel increpator, a benette or a conjuror. 1553-87 Foxe A. & M. III. 125 The lowest Vesture, which they had only in taking Benet and Collet. 1846 C. Maitland *Ch. Catcombs* 194 It is related of Huss the Martyr, that... he was degraded from all his orders... and the offices of exorcist, sexton, and benet.

Benet (bñet), *v.* [f. BE-6 + NET *v.* or *sb.*] *trans. a.* To cover as with a net. *b.* To catch in a net, ensnare, entangle; usually *fig.*

1602 SHAKS. *Ham.* v. ii. 29 Being thus benetted round with Villaines. 1614 SYLVESTER *Bethulia's Resc.* iv. 60 Her Robe, Sky-colour'd Silk, with curious Caul Of golden Twist, benetted over all. 1860 T. MARTIN *Horace* 188 The gaudier charms Of a girl that's both wealthy and wanton benet him.

Benet, variant of **BENNET**.

Benettle, etc.: see **BE- pref.**

† **Beneurous**, *a. Obs.* Also *bien-*, *benewrous*. [a. OF. *beneurous* (mod.F. *bienheureux*):] Happy, blessed. So † **Benewred** [ad. OF. *beneur*; see -ED.] = prec. † **Benewrily** *adv.* [cf. OF. *beneure* (em)ment], happily. **Benewrte** [a. OF. *beneure* (em)ment], happiness, blessedness. (Only in Caxton.)

1483 Caxton *Cato* Fijb. The beneurous or happy. — *Golden Leg.* 428/2 He took the righte beneurous reste of deth. *Ibid.* 426/1 Fylled with benewred auncyente of dayes. *Ibid.* 428/2 He comyng benewrlye unto his laste dayes. 1480 — *Ovid's Met.* xiii. ix, Benewrte & honour laste her not longe.

Benevolence (bñevōlens). Forms: (5) *bienueillance*, 5-6 *beneuolens*, *beniuolence*, *benyuolence*, -ens, 4- *benevolence*, (4-7 *benueu-*). [a. OF. *benivolence*, ad. L. *benevolentia* well-wishing, f. *benevolens* — see **BENEVOLENT**.] This OF. form was a learned or semi-popular adaptation of the Lat. word; its genuine F. descendant being *bienveillance*, later *-veuillance* (whence Caxton's *bienueillance*), now corruptly *bienveillance*. In Eng. *benevolence* was further latinized as *benevolence* at an early period (if this was not directly from L.).

1. Disposition to do good, desire to promote the happiness of others, kindness, generosity, charitable feeling (as a general state or disposition towards mankind at large).

1384 CHAUCER *Mother of G.* to Sauer of vs by thy beneuolence. 1483 JAMES I. *King's Q.* xcix, Hye Quene of Lufe's sterre of beneuolence. 1485 Caxton *Myst.* iii. xii. 159 Of the fader... he [Plato] sayde the power and puissance, of the sone, the sappyence, and of the holy gost the bienueillance. 1554 LYNDESAY *Tragedy* 125 With supporte of sum Lordis beneuolens. 1605 THYNNE *Animadv.* App. (1865) 111 By the... support of our Majesties beneuolence and liberality. 1726 BUTLER *Serm. Hum. Nat.* i. Wks. 1874 II. 6 If there be any affection in human nature, the object and end of w^{ch} is the good of another, this is itself beneuolence, or the love of another. 1781 GIBSON *Decl.* & F. III. l. 142 Beneuolence is the foundation of justice. 1876

MOZLEY *Univ. Serm.* ix. 192 The poor and dependent... exercise our active beneuolence.

† 2. Favourable feeling or disposition, as an emotion manifested towards another; affection; goodwill (towards a particular person or on a particular occasion). *To do one's beneuolence*: to lend one's friendly offices. *Obs.*

1483 JAMES I. *King's Q.* cviii. Though I geve the beneuolence, It standis nocht 3it in myn aduertence. c 1430 Lvoc. *Bechas* Tab. Contents (1554) Bij, Roboam... loste the beneuolence of his people. 1586 TINDALE 1 *Cor.* vii. 3 Let the man geve vnto the wyfe due beneuolence. 1598 SHAKS. *Merry W.* i. l. 32, I... will be glad to do my beneuolence. 1645 USSHER *Body Div.* (1647) 284 When due beneuolence is not yielded, although there be aptness thereunto. 1817 JAS. MILL *Brit. Ind.* II. iv. ii. 70 His dislike of application and control prevented his acquiring the beneuolence of his superiors.

3. *concr.* An expression of goodwill, an act of kindness; a gift or grant of money; a contribution for the support of the poor.

1425 WYNTOUN *Crom.* vii. vii. 157 Recoveryd þe beneuolens Wyth trawayle. 1583 STUBBS *Anat. Abus.* II. 101 To make collections for the poore, to gather beneuolences, and contributions of curie one that was disposed to geve. 1688 LEY in *Fortescue Papers* 175 What Beneuolence we would willingly bestow towards the Palatinate. 1690 FULLER *Pisgah* 400 Conuenient for such as went up to sacrifice, to cast in their beneuolence. 1766 ENTICK *London* IV. 58 Towards the charge whereof the companies gaue great beneuolences. 1868 MILMAN *St. Paul's* xi. 282 The City of London gaue first a great beneuolence.

4. *Eng. Hist.* A forced loan or contribution levied, without legal authority, by the kings of England on their subjects. First so called in 1473 when astutely asked by Edward IV., as a token of goodwill towards his rule. Sometimes loosely applied to similar impositions elsewhere.

1483 Act 1 *Rich. III.* ii. § 1 A newe imposition named a beneuolence. 1494 FARNHAM vii. 664 He rode about the more parte of the land, and vsed the people in suche fayre maner, that he reysed thereby notable summes of money, the whiche waye of the leuying of this money was after named a benyuolence. c 1534 *Pol. Verg. Eng. Hist.* II. 161 Perchance very many gaue that beneuolence with euill will. 1644 LD. DIGBY in *Rushworth Hist. Coll.* iii. (1692) I. 31 The granting of Subsidies, and for that which is a maleuolence indeed. 1661 *Perry's Diary* 31 Aug. The Beneuolence proves... an occasion of so much discontent every where, that it had better it had never been set up. 1775 CHATHAM in *Parli.*, The spirit which now resists your taxation in America is the same which formerly opposed loans, beneuolences, and ship-money in England. 1875 STUBBS *Const. Hist.* III. xviii. 213. 1888 FARRAR *Early Chr.* I. 56 Resentment was kept alive by the beneuolences and imposts which Nero now demanded.

† **Benevolency**, *Obs.* [ad. L. *benevolentia*: see prec. and -ENCY.] The quality of being benevolent; also *concr.* a gift of money, a 'beneuolence.'

1540 RAYNALD *Birth Man* (1634) Prol. 7 The beneuolencie and willing fauour of all. 1698 NORRIS *Pract. Disc.* IV. 340 They retrench their Expenses, and withdraw their wanted Beneuolencies. 1766 *Hist. Europe in Ann. Reg.* 38/1 The body of the Clergy, till very late taxed themselves and granted to the King beneuolencies.

Benevolent (bñevōlēt), *a.* Also 5 *benvolent*, 5-6 *benyuolente*, 6 *beneuolent*. [a. OF. *benivolent*, *benivolent*, ad. L. *benevolens* — f. *bene* well + *volens* — wishing, willing, pr. pple. of *velle* to will, wish: see prec.]

1. Of the general frame or habit of mind: Desirous of the good of others, of a kindly disposition, charitable, generous.

1482 *Monk of Evesham* (Arb.) 75 Redy and benyuolente to alle men whylis he leuyd. 1548 UDALL, etc. *Erasm. Par. N. T.* Pref. 5 Our beneuolent loue and affection. 1725 POPE *Odys.* iii. 456 Beloued old man! beneuolent as wise. 1781 J. MOORE *View Soc. II.* (1790) I. xxxix. 424 The mild precepts of a beneuolent religion. 1848 MACAULAY *Hist. Eng.* I. 406 A small body of sages had turned away with beneuolent disdain from the conflict.

b. transf. of things: Kindly, fostering.

1677 HALE *Prim. Orig. Man.* 306 The beneuolent Heat of the Sun hath a great influence thereupon.

2. With the literal force of the Latin *bene volens*: Well-wishing, well-disposed to, unto (another).

1502 ARNOLD *Chron.* (1811) 161 A thinge... for the which wee shal [be] more benivolent unto thy Holynesse. 1509 HAWES *Past. Pleas.* xx. v. She [Sapience] is to man ryght benivolent. 1667 MILTON *P. L.* viii. 65 Raphael now... Beneuolent and facil thus replid.

† 3. quasi-*sb.* = **BENEVOLENCE** 3. *Obs.* († error.)

1639 SPOTTISWOOD *Hist. Ch. Scot.* vii. (1677) 541 The Noblemen... made offer to geve a beneuolent according to their abilities.

Benevolently, *adv.* [f. prec. + -LY².] In a benevolent manner; with benevolence.

1532 ELVOT in *Gov.* (1883) 77 It pleasid you so beneuolently to remembre me. 1543-4 Act 35 *Hen. VIII.* xii. His subiectes... most willingly and beneuolently... do remit... the same summes of money. 1779 SHERIDAN *Critic* i. ii. (1883) 156 A debt beneuolently contracted to serve a friend. 1879 *Sat. Rev.* 5 July 21 He was beneuolently engaged in making catches [at cricket].

Benevolence, *rare*—^o. [f. **BENEVOLENT** + -NESS.] = **BENEVOLENCE**.

1736 in BAILEY. Hence in Johnson, and mod. Dicts.

† **Benevoler**, *Obs. rare*—¹. A well-wisher.

1486 Paston Lett. 889 III. 327 Her beneuolers willih hir to continue hir sute.

Benevolist (bñevōlist), [f. L. *benevolus* (see prec.) + -IST.] A professor of benevolence. Cf. prec. 1865 (title) School for Patriots and Benevolists. 1863 *Scotsman* 14 Aug., To be experimented upon... by contending sets of sectarians and 'benevolists.'

† **Benevolous**, *a. Obs.* Also 5-6 *benivolous*, -us, *benyuolouse*. [f. as prec. + -OUS.]

1. Well-wishing, kindly, friendly, benevolent.

1470 HARDING *Chron.* xxxi. iv. Amending all their faultes and errors, With all their hertes full benyuolous. 1513 BRADSHAW *St. Werburge* 213 Vnclose thy succours, and be beniuolous. 1536 BELLENDEN *Crom. Scol.* (1821) I. 247 Maximus... schew him sa benivolous to the pepil. 1645 J. [GOODWIN] *Innoc. & Truth* Tri. To Rdr., A man of no benivolous or friendly comportance. a 1670 HACKETT *Abp. Williams* i. (1693) 66 Such as knew not the wherefore were the more benivolous to the Arch-Bishop's misfortune.

2. *Astrol.* Of the planets, etc.: Of favourable influence, auspicious.

1642 Sir T. Browne *Relig. Med.* 43 The benevolous Aspects of my Nativity. 1652 GAULE *Magistron.* 86 Planets amical, benevolous, auspicious.

Benewith, variant of **BENDWITH**.

Benewrous, etc., variant of **BENEUROUS**, etc.

Benfait, -fet, -feet, obs. forms of **BENEFIT** *sb.*

Beng, variant of **BHANG**.

Bengal (bengōl). In 7 *bengall*. Name of a province of Hindustan (in Marco Polo, 1298, as *Bangala*; in Vasco da Gama, 1498, as *Bemgala*; in Ovington, 1690, as *Bengala*; Col. Yule). Hence,

1. Applied to piece goods (apparently of different kinds) exported from Bengal to England in the 17th c.: cf. *Bengal Stripes* in 2.

c 1680 POLEYEN *Coll. Poems* 205 *The Persian Silks*, Bengalls, Printed and Painted Callicoos... are used for Beds, Hanging of Rooms. 1696 LUTTRELL *Brief Rel.* (1857) IV. 147 A bill to be brought in to forbid the wearing of wrought silks brought from Persia and East India, with bengalls, callicoos, etc. 1696 *Merchant's Ware-ho.* 30 There is two sorts, strip'd and plain, by the Buyers called Bengalls... they are very fine stripes, but are of no great use or service. 1701 *London Gas.* No. 3740/3 All Wrought Silks, Bengalls, and Stuffs mixed with Silk. 1755 JOHNSON *Bengal*, a sort of thin slight stuff, made of silk and hair, for women's apparel. 1855 MACAULAY *Hist. Eng.* IV. 141 The importation of silks and of Bengalls, as shawls were then called, was pronounced to be a curse to the country.

2. *Comb. and attrib.*, as *Bengal light*, a kind of firework producing a steady and vivid blue-coloured light, used for signals; *Bengal quince*, the fruit of *Agle Marmelos*, belonging to the orange family; *Bengal root* (see quot.); *Bengal silk*; *Bengal stripes*, striped gingham, originally brought from Bengal, afterwards manufactured at Paisley, etc.; *Bengal tiger*, the tiger proper, so called from its abundance in lower Bengal.

c 1865 J. WYLD in *Circ. Sc. I.* 381/1 Used for the manufacture of *Bengal lights. 1866 *Trans. Bot.* 953 *Bengal Quince, *Agle Marmelos*. *Ibid.* 135 *Bengal Root, an old name for the roots of the Yellow Zedoary. 1771 *London Gas.* No. 4801/3, 15 Pound of Single E *Bengal Silk. 1875 *Urban Dict. Arts* I. 336 *Bengal stripes, Gingham; a kind of cotton cloth woven with coloured stripes, so called from the cottons which we formerly imported from Bengal.

Bengali, **Bengalee** (bengōlī). [a. native *Bangālī*.] *a. adj.* Of or belonging to Bengal. *b. sb.* A native of Bengal; the language of Bengal, one of the Aryan vernaculars of India. So the obs. *Bengalan*, *Bengalian* *a.* and *sb.*; *Bengalia* *a.*

1613 PURCHAS *Pilgr.* I. v. v. 404 The Bengallians have a tradition or fable amongst them. 1768 *Phil. Trans.* LVIII. 130 Having met with a Bengalian doctor. 1801 H. LEARDELL *Gram. Ind. Dial.* Introd. 3 My Sircar... introduced me to a Bengalic School Master. 1848 THACKERAY *Van. Fair* lix, That gentleman would not let the Bengalee rest until he had executed his promise. 1858 W. ELLIS *Visits Madagascar* iii. 54 Bengalee or Chinese merchants. 1862 D. FORBES (title), *Bengali Grammar*.

|| **Bengaline** (bengālīn). [mod.F.; so called from similarity to the fabric mentioned under **BENGAL** I.] A new (French) name for poplin, a mixed fabric of silk and worsted.

1884 *Pall Mall G.* 20 Sept. 4/1 *Autumn Fashions*, Bengaline (a superior substitute for Irish poplin).

Benge, variant of **BINGE** *v.* *Obs.* to bow.

† **Benger(e, bygger)**, *Obs.* A corn-bin.

c 1440 *Prompt. Parv.* 31 Benger(e of corne [1499 benger], *techa* [= theca]. *Ibid.*, Benger(e of a mylle [1499 benger], *ferricapsin*).

Bengewine, **bengewine**, obs. ff. **BENZOIN**.

Benic (benik), *a. Chem.* Also *benenic*. [f. BEN + -IC.] Obtained from oil of ben.

1873 WATTS *Foundes' Chem.* 695 Benic or Benenic Acid is a white crystalline fat. 1879 — *Dict. Chem.*, *Benic acid*, This name has been applied to two different fatty acids... benostearic acid, and... benomargaric acid.

† **Benight**, *adv.* *Obs.* By night, ere night.

1642 GEN. PRESTON in *Carte's Coll.* (1735) 120, I will not trouble your Lordship with more benight.

Benight (bñait), *v.* [f. BE-6 + NIGHT.]

1. *trans. a. pass.* To be overtaken by the darkness of night (before reaching a place of shelter).

1560 DAUS *Seidant's Comm.* 326 The Emperour... was benighted and rode at Ancker. 1598 HAKLUYT *Voy. I.* 112 When we lay in the fields or were benighted before

we came to oure journeis end. 1678 BUNYAN *Pilgr.* i. (1862) 43. I am like to be benighted, for the day is almost spent. 1748 RICHARDSON *Clarissa* (1811) i. xxvii. 190 A gentleman... would rather be benighted, than put up at his house. 1839 DE QUINCEY *Recoll. Lakes Wks.* 1862 II. 172 The tourists were benighted in a forest.

b. active. To involve in the darkness of night; *refl.* to hide oneself in the night. *rare. arch.*

1654 GAYTON *Fest. Notes* ii. vi. 59 She straightway dight Her robes, & did herself benight. a 1691 BOYLE (J.) Those bright stars that did adorn our hemisphere, as those dark shades that did benight it, vanish. 1839 BAILEY *Festus* (1848) vi. Benighting even night with its grim limbs.

2. To involve in darkness, to darken, to cloud. Also *fig.*, of the effect of sorrow, disappointment, etc., upon one's face, prospects, or life.

a 1631 DONNE *Select.* (1840) 3 As the sun does not set to any nation... God... does not set to thy soul, though he benight it with an affliction. 1651 DAVENANT *Gondibert* iii. v. xvi. Now jealousy no more benights her face. 1699 GARTH *Dispens.* (J.) The clouds look heavy and benight the sky. *Ibid.* (1706) 36 Smothering Fogs of Smoke benight the Fire.

b. To involve in intellectual or moral darkness, in the 'night' of error or superstition.

1610 HEALEY *St. Aug. City of God* 414 Nor is the creature ever benighted but when the love of the Creator forsakes him. 1692 E. WALKER *Epictetus Mor.* lxiii. Whose Reason's Light is clouded o'er, whom Error doth benight. 1712 HENLEY *Spect.* No. 396 § 2 These Portraits benight the faculties. 1831 J. WILSON *Unimere* vi. 281 What men... call Religion, now benighting half the earth.

3. To blind, to dazzle; to deprive of vision.

1621 G. SANDYS *Ovid's Met.* ii. (1626) 26 Pale sudden feare... in so great a light, be-nights his eyes. 1651 J. CLEVELAND *Poems* 32 This Cabinet, whose aspect would benight Critick spectators with redundant light. 1652 BENLOWES *Theoph.* iii. lvi. 44 O're-fulent Beams daz'd Eyes benight.

Benighted (bēnī'tēd), *pp. a.* [f. *prec.* + -ED¹.]

1. Overtaken by the darkness of the night; affected by the night (*obs.*).

1575 in Farr's *Sel. P.* (1845) II. 516 And so are all my lockes Bedecked. With these benighted drops. 1810 SCOTT *Lady of L.* i. xxi. He told of his benighted road. 1815—Guy M. xlviii. Some benighted fisherman, he thought.

2. fig. Involved in intellectual or moral darkness.

1634 MILTON *Comus* 384 He that hides a dark soul and foul thoughts, Benighted walks under the mid-day sun. 1856 Mrs. BROWNING *Ans. Leigh* iv. 339 You poets are benighted in this age. 1863 KINGLAKE *Crimea* (1877) i. iii. 51 He was a benighted Moslem.

† b. Involved in obscurity. *Obs.*

1647 WARD *Simp. Cobler* 19 Seekers, looking for new Nuntio's from Christ, to assuage these benighted questions. Hence **Benightedness**.

1865 *Pall Mall G.* 5 July 1/2 Respectable old Russell Whigs, on whom charges of moral corruption operate much more powerfully than charges of intellectual benightedness.

Benighted (bēnī'tēd), *v. rare.* [f. *BENIGHT*, *app. after enlight-en*; see -EN.] *trans.* To benight. Hence **Benighting** *vbl. sb.*

1844 *Blackw. Mag.* LVI. 787 A mere priestly delusion to enslave and benight mankind. 1860 PUSEY *Min. Proph.* 193 Moral benighting which seems to cast the shadow of death over the soul.

Benighter (bēnī'tēr). [f. *BENIGHT* + -ER¹.] One who keeps others in darkness.

1818 MOORE *Fudge Fam. Paris* vi. 208, I, from my soul, profess To hate all bigots and benighters.

Benighting, *vbl. sb.* [f. *BENIGHT* + -ING¹.]

The fact of being benighted or overtaken by night away from shelter.

a 1639 W. WHATELEY *Prototypes* ii. xxvi. (1640) 90 To meet with such kind of accidents, as benighting. 1819 L. HUNT *Indicator*, No. 8 (1822) i. 60 Spenser... seems to have taken the idea of a benighting from Apollonius.

Benighting, *pp. a.* [f. *as prec.* + -ING².] That benights or involves in darkness.

1649 DRYDEN *Death Ld. Hastings* 50 That veil which shrouds Our day-spring in so sad benighting clouds.

Benightmare, etc.: see *BE-prec.*

Benightment. [f. *as prec.* + -MENT.] The state or condition of being involved in physical, intellectual, or moral darkness.

1651 BIGGS *New Disp.* § 162 Confesses their benightment to the black paths of ignorance and error. 1850 ALISON *Hist. Europe.* xcvi. § 99 The benightment of superstition.

Benign (bēnī'n), *a.* Forms: 4-6 benygn(e), -yngne, -yng(e), -ing, 4-7 benigne, -ingne, 7-benign. [a. OF. *benigne*, *benin*; —L. *benignus* 'kindly', prob. for *benigenus*, f. *bene* well + *-genus* born, of kind. Cf. *malignus*, *privignus*; for the sense L. *gentilis*, F. *gentil*, Eng. *gentile*; also, Eng. *kind*, kindly, L. *generosus*, Gr. *γενναῖος*.]

1. Of a kind disposition, gracious, kindly.

c 1300 R. BRUNNE *Medit.* 1103 3e weten weyl how benygne my dere sone was. c 1380 WYCLIF *Wks.* (1880) 353 Charity is benygne. 1425 in Ellis *Orig. Lett.* ii. 30 l. 96 That it please your... Grace of your benigne pitee and grace, to re-leave and refresh your said pouere Oratour. c 1550 *Scot. Poems* 16th C. II. 130 Hee is fair, sober and bening, Sweet, meek, and gentle in all thing. a 1619 FOTHERBY *Athom.* ii. xiv. § 4 It's he alone, even he, the God beningne, That vs instructs, in every blessed thing. 1850 Mrs. BROWNING *Dr. Exile Poems* i. 7 As well as the benignant angel of your all.

† b. Gentle, meek, humble. *Obs.*

1377 LANGL. P. PL. B. xvi. 7 De bloemes beth boxome speche and benygne lokyngne. c 1386 CHAUCER *Clerkes T.* 287 These are the wordes that the markis sayde To this benigne,

verray, feithful mayde. c 1440 *Gesta Rom.* xci. 419 All men and women... that are lowe, and meke, and benigne.

2. Exhibiting or manifesting kindly feeling in look, gesture, or action; bland, gentle, mild.

c 1374 CHAUCER *Troilus* iii. 1753 Benyng he was to eche in general. 1493 *Petrionilla* (Pynson) 5 Benygne of porte, humble of face and chere. 1542 HEN. VIII. *Decl.* 193 We... gaue... benigne and gentyl audience to suche Ambassadors, as repayred hither. 1663 BUTLER *Hud.* i. iii. 880 Benigne & not blustrous Against a vanquisht Foe. 1777 WATSON *Philip II* (1793) II. xiii. 114 Requesens indeed had a more benign and placid countenance than Alva. 1871 BLACKIE *Four Phases* i. 58 That when a thief takes your cloak you should thank him, like a benign Quaker, for his kindness.

3. transf. Of things: Favourable, kind, fortunate, salutary, propitious; *esp.* in *Astrol.* opposed to *malign*, *malignant*, etc.

a 1619 DONNE *Biathan.* 32 Those reasons which are most Benigne... ought to have the best acceptance. 1667 WATERHOUSE *Fire Lond.* 34 By concurrence of circumstances, benign to, and corresponding with a vastative event. 1667 MILTON P. L. xii. 538 So shall the World goe on, To good malignant, to bad men benigne. a 1674 CLARENDON *Hist. Reb.* III. xii. 262 The Government of these benign Stars was very short. 1743 FIELDING *J. Wild* iii. x. His affairs began to wear a more benign aspect. 1853 C. BRONTË *Villette* xvi. 169 On whose birth benign planets have certainly smiled.

4. Of weather, soil, climate, etc.: Mild, salubrious, genial, kindly.

c 1386 CHAUCER *Sqrs.* T. 44 fful lusty was the weder and benigne. 1503 DUNBAR *Thistle & Rose* 32 Thy air it is nocht holsum nor benyng. 1665 G. HAYERS P. *Della Valle's Trav. E. Ind.* 86 The Air becomes more healthful, sweet, and more benigne both to sound and infirm. 1772 PENNANT *Tours Scot.* (1774) 306 He sows his seed, and sees it flourish beneath a benign sun. 1868 G. DUFF *Pol. Surv.* 209 The climate is benign, even in low marshy neighbourhoods.

5. Med. **† a.** Of medicines: Gentle or mild in operation. **Of food:** Easily digested. *Obs.*

1651 tr. *Bacon's Life & Death* 23 Celsus adviseth Interchanging, and Alteration of the Diet, but still with an Inclination to the more Benigne. 1652 FRENCH *Yorksh. Spa* vi. 64 More benigne purgatives. 1733 CHREVIN *Eng. Malady* ii. ix. § 3 (1734) 208 Aromatick Medicines... increase their benign, and... hinder their destructive Effects. a 1735 ARBUTHNOT (J.) These salts are of a benign mild nature.

b. Of diseases: Of a mild type; not malignant.

1743 tr. *Heister's Surg.* 207 There is little or no difference between [certain virulent tumours] and the benign sort. 1876 tr. *Wagner's Gen. Pathol.* 13 Benign Diseases are those in which the appreciable group of phenomena indicates a surely favorable issue. 1878 T. BRYANT *Pract. Surg.* i. 549 Benign tumours are of slow growth.

6. quasi-adv. = BENIGNLY.

1535 STEWART *Cron. Scot.* II. 374 Beseikand thame rycht hartlie and benyng. For to ressaute than as their prince and king This Alpynus. a 1725 POPE *Odys.* xiii. 63 His words well weigh'd, the general voice approved Benign.

Benignancy (bēnī'gnānsi). [f. *BENIGN* + -ANCY; see -ANCY.] Benignant quality or manner.

1876 GEO. ELIOT *Dan. Der.* IV. lxx. 364 M's eyes... dwelt on the scene with the cherishing benignancy of a spirit. 1881 *Blackw. Mag.* CXXIX. 186 Abraham regarded him with an expression of imperturbable benignancy.

Benignant (bēnī'gnānt), *a.* [A recent formation on *BENIGN*, or L. *benignus*, after *malignant*, which is of much earlier standing, and has a Latin prototype. Not in Johnson; nor in Bailey 1800, though freely used by Burke and Boswell in 1791.]

1. Cherishing or exhibiting kindly feeling towards inferiors or dependants; gracious, benevolent (with some suggestion of condescension or patronage).

a 1782 *Maiden's Wish* in Ritson *Coll. Eng. Songs* i. iv. 20 (f.) Defend my heart, benignant Power. 1791 BURKE *Let. Memb. Nat. Assembly* Wks. VI. 45 The king... was... the very reverse of your benignant sovereign. 1859 GEO. ELIOT *A. Bede* 2 His glance, instead of being keen, is confiding and benignant. 1875 BROWNING *Aristoph. Apol.* 119 Theirs would be To prove benignant of playfellows.

2. transf. Of things: Exerting a good or kindly influence; favourable, beneficial, salutary.

1790 BOSWELL *Johnson* IV. 314 (T.) As if its [Christianity's] influence on the mind were not benignant. 1798 SOUTHEY *Sonn.* xiii. Wks. II. 95 For like a God thou [O Sun] art, and on thy way Of glory sheddest with benignant ray, Beauty, and life, and joyance from above. 1844 *Mem. Babylonian Pcess* II. 183 Our destiny is settled in this world by the benignant or malignant character of our natal star.

Benignantly, *adv.* [f. *prec.* + -LY².] With kindly manner or intent, graciously.

1790 BOSWELL *Johnson* II. 240 (JOD.) Dr. Johnson smiled benignantly at this. 1814 SOUTHEY *Roderick* xiv. Benignantly. With voice and look and gesture, did the Prince... Respond. 1831 CARLYLE *Misc.* (1857) II. 219 Friends, who were in life so benignantly united.

† Benignate, *a. Obs. rare*—¹. [f. L. *benignus* + -ATE; cf. next.] A by-form of *BENIGN*.

1533 BELLENDEN *Livy* iii. (1822) 254 Na benignate nor swete contenance semit be his proude havingis.

† Benigned, *a. Obs. rare*. [f. L. *benignus* or F. or Eng. *benigne* + -ED.] A by-form of *BENIGN*.

1470 HARDING *Chron.* cxiv. vi. And Athlstone at the daye assigned Made hym redy the battail to haue smitten Again Colbrond, armed with hart benynged.

Benignity (bēnī'gniti). Forms: 4-6 benyngnitye, -yte, -ete, benignite(e), -yte(e), benygnite(e), -yte, -ete, 5-7 benignitie, -itye, 7-benignity. [ME. *benignete*, a. OF. *benignité*, ad. L. *benignitāt-em*; see -ITY.]

1. Kindly feeling and its manifestation; kindness of disposition, or of manner. (Now attributed to superiors or those who are venerable.)

c 1374 CHAUCER *Troilus* ii. 483 O God... Thou be my shield, for thy benignite. 1382 WYCLIF *Ps. liij.* 5 Thou louedist malice ouer benygnetie; wickidnesse mor than to speke equite. 1c 1480 *Ragman Roll* 64 in Hazl. E. P. P. 72 But patiently your benygnetie Taketh all in gre. 1531 ELYOT *Gov.* ii. viii. Beneuolence, beneficence, and liberalite, which maketh up the said principall vertue call benignite or gentiles. 1659 HAMMOND *On Ps.* li. i Out of the riches of thy benignity. 1737 WHISTON *Josephus' Antiq.* vii. iii. § 2 A peculiar benignity and affection which he had to the King. 1844 THIRLWALL *Greece* VIII. lxvi. 383 It [the senate] received him with the most gracious benignity. 1864 CARLYLE *Fredk. Gt.* X. xxi. ix. 180 Such a fatherly benignity of look.

b. concr. A manifestation of kindness, a kindly or generous deed; a kindness, a favour bestowed.

c 1534 tr. *Pol. Verg. Eng. Hist.* Pref. 6 The reciever of that soliberrall benignite. 1590 SWINBURN *Testaments* 78 Many great and ample grants and benignities. a 1711 KEN *Parat.* Poet. Wks. 1721 IV. 74 The Benignities which shine, From Love divine. 1865 BUSHNELL *Vicar. Sacr.* iii. vi. 337 They look to see it [the gospel] operate by mere benignities. **2.** Of things: **a.** (*Astrol.*) of a planet; **b.** of weather, climate; **c.** of medicine, disease. *arch.* See *BENIGN*.

a. 1665 GLANVILLE *Sceps. Sci.* xx. 130 That planet receives the dusky light we discern in its Sextile Aspect, from the Earth's benignity. 1722 POPE *Let.* Wks. 1737 VI. 87 A star that... is all benignity, all gentle and beneficial influence.

b. a 1640 JACKSON *Creed* xii. xiii. Wks. XII. 98 No benignity of native soil... can quicken... them. 1776 ROBERTSON *Hist. Amer.* II. vii. 333 The fertility of the soil corresponds with the benignity of the climate. 1814 WORDSW. *Excursion* iv. 430 That benignity... that warms the mole.

c. 1605 TIMME *Quersit.* l. xvi. 80 The mercurials doe exceede the antimonials in gentleness and sweetness. 1684 tr. *Bonnet's Merc. Compit.* xix. 765 The Humours are reduced to benignity. 1880 *Syd. Soc. Lex.*, *Benignity*, a term applied in recognition of the mildness and favourable progress of a disease; and also to a tumour which is not cancerous or malignant.

Benignly (bēnī'nli), *adv.* [f. *BENIGN* + -LY².]

1. In a benign manner; kindly, graciously.

c 1380 WYCLIF *Wks.* (1880) 44 Pe mynystis owe to resceyue hem benygne and bi charite. 1528 MORE *Here-syes* iii. Wks. 213/1 The greatest prelate in this realme... dismissed him very benignly. 1862 LYTTON *Str. Story* i. 129 Mrs. Ashleigh looked at me benignly.

† 2. Meekly, gently, humbly. *Obs.*

c 1386 CHAUCER *Pers. T.* p. 35 Penitence destreyneeth a man to accepte benygneley eury peyne that hym is enioyned. 1393 LANGL. P. PL. C. xv. 57 Yf men wolde hit [mercy] aske Buxumliche and benygneleche. 1557 PAYNELL *Barcklaye's Jugurthe* 7 He answered benygneley for the tyme.

3. Of things: Genially, favourably, auspiciously. a 1687 WALLER (J.) Yet they [eyes] so benignly shine. 1754 *Young Brothers* i. i. (1757) II. 202 Benignly bright, as stars to mariners. 1871 R. ELLIS *Catullus* xlvii. 2 Zephyrus, health benignly breathing.

Benignness. [f. *as prec.* + -NESS.] The quality of being benign.

1731 in BAILEY vol. II.

† Benim, *v. Obs.* Chief forms: *Inf.* 1 beniman, 2-4 binime(n), 4-5 bynynmen, 6 benynyme, (bynemme). *Pa. t.* 1 benam, 1-5 binam, 2-4 binom, 4-5 by-, benam(e), -naam, -nom. *Pa. pple.* 1 benumen, 2-3 binume(n), 3-5 bi-, benome, -nomin, -nummen, (5 byname, 6 binomed). [A common Teut. compd. vb.: OE. *bi-, be-niman* = OHG. *bineman*, MHG. *benemen*, mod.G. *benahmen*, Du. *benemen*, Goth. *biniman*, f. *bi-, Be- + niman*, OTeut. **neman* to take; see NIM. Little used after 1500; exc. in *pa. pple.* *benumen, benum*, now BENUMB, BENUMBED. See also BENEME.]

1. trans. To take away generally.

a 1000 *Metz. Boeth.* 271 *Pa. p.* 27 swarta storm benumen hæfde leafa gehweldes. c 1200 *Trin. Coll. Hom.* 143 *Þis* world hwile gið wunne. & hwile hit eft binimð. 1297 R. GLOUC. 375 Vor he... by nome her lond. 1436 *Pol. Poems* (1859) II. 159 Allas! oure reule halteth, hit is benome. 1486 *Bk. St. Albans* B ij b. Hit shall benymen hir grece.

b. with *dat.* of possessor (= from).

a 1000 *Cædmon's Gen.* (Gr.) 362 He us hæfþ heofonrice benumen. c 1250 *Gen. & Ex.* 772 Sone him was sarrai binumen. 1382 WYCLIF *Ecclus.* xxviii. 29 And shal bynyme them ther trauailes [1388 hath priued hem of her trauelis]. c 1430 *Hymns Virg.* (1867) 92 *Þis* word... binam me al my list. 1493 *Festivall* (W. de W. 1515) 170 b. Thou benymest the augelles in heven ther Joye. [1560 *Chaucer's Boeth.* (ed. Speght) 204/1 (ed. 1868 ii. iv. 43) Ne Fortune may not benemme [1374 by-nyme] it thee. *Ibid.* 208/1 (ed. 1868 iii. iii. 70) Money, that hath been binomed [1374 bynomen] hem.]

c. from a possessor.

c 1250 *Gen. & Ex.* 1764 [I]c was for-dred ðe mytne timen, fro me ðine doutes bi-nimen. c 1386 CHAUCER *Pers. T.* p. 486 It bynymeth fro man his witte. 1494 FABIAN *iii. lx. 39* Offa King of Mercia... by name & toke from them that dignyte.

2. trans. To rob, deprive, bereave. *Const. orig. gen., later of (at, from).*

c 890 K. ÆLFRED *Bæda* iii. vii. (Bosw.) He hine his rices benam. c 1205 LAY. 8798 *Þat* he me nolde ut driuen, binimen me æt þan liue. c 1230 *Hali Meid.* 35 *Þe* care aȝain þi pinunge þrahen binimē þe nihtes sleses. c 1460 J. RUSSELL *Bk. Nurture* in *Babes Bk.* (1868) 140 *Þese* may benym þy souerayne from many nyghtis restis. 1480 CAXTON *Chron. Eng.* vii. 93/1 To benymme Edward of his ryght.

b. Without const.: To rob; to spoil, ravish.

c 1250 *Gen. & Ex.* 1706 Lia bar last dower dinam, Sichem, siden, hire ille bi-nam. 1340 *Ayeb.* 23 Ydelblisse benimp god and stelp bet his is. *Ibid.* 39 Pise greate prela[te]s pat benimep and robbep hire onderlinges. 1480 *Caxton Chron.* Eng. xcvi. 76 Euer he that was strengest bynome hym that was feblust.

† **Benimming**, *vbl. sb.* *Obs.* [f. prec. + -ING¹.] The taking away.

a 1400 in *Reliq. Ant.* II. 52 Pley of the fleysh is not covenable, but to the bynymmyng of the spiritus heretage.

Bening(ne), *obs. form of BENIGN.*

Benioin, -ione, -ioyn: *obs. forms of BENZOIN.*

Benison (ben'ison). *Forms:* 3 beneysun, 3-4 benesun, -nis(s)un, -nisoun, -un, 3-5 beneson, 4 benisone, -sune, benesoun, -isoun, -ysoun, -yssoun, 4-5 benyson, 5 beneyson, bensoun, 5-6 benysone, 6 bennyssoun, benison, 8-9 Sc. benisson, 4- benison. [ME. *beneysun*, etc., a. OF. *beneysun*, -son, -sson, son, -son:—L. *benediction-em*. Dr. Johnson says, 'not now (1755) used, unless ludicrously.' But it is now common as a poetic or quaint form of *benediction*.]

1. Blessing, beatitude. a. That blessing which God gives; a giving of blessedness.

a 1300 *Cursor M.* 3345 On morn wit goddis benison Was mai rebecca lede o ton. *Ibid.* 264 [He] sal haue pardon And part of cristes benison. 1394 *P. Pl. Crede* 654 Alle pat persecution in pure lijf suffer, þei han þe benison of god blissed in erþe. 1605 *Shaks.* Lear iv. vi. 228 The bountie, and the benison of Heauen To boot, and boot. 1634 *Brome North.* Lasse ii. iv. Wks. 1873 III. 33 Now Gods benison light o'ye for it. 1645 *Jer. Taylor Episc.* (1647) Pref. The most glorious issues of Divine Benison upon this Kingdome.

b. That which any one receives; beatitude. a 1400 *Reliq. Pieces fr. Thornton MS.* (1867) 29 Pairs es þe joye of heuene, fior þat es þe benysoun of þe pure. 1724 *Ramsay Tea-T.* Misc. (1733) II. 170 There is nae benisson like mine, I haue amaist nae care. 1851 *Mrs. Browning Casa Guidi Wind.* II. Her patriot Dead haue benison.

2. The pronouncing or invocation of a blessing; benediction. a. *gen.* = BENEDICTION I. In early usage esp. that of a father; approaching I a.

a 1300 *Cursor M.* 5356 Quen he was til his ending bun I had his brad benison. *Ibid.* 5461 His suns blessed he on rau, He gaue ilkan seir benissun. c 1300 *Senyn Sag.* (W.) 3485 Tharfore, son, for my benyzoun, Iel wi al now that resoun. 1382 *Wyclif Gen.* xxxii. 12 Y drede lest he bryngne on me malysoun for benysoun. 1508 *Jacob & Esau* iv. i. in Hazl. *Dods.* II. 230 Kill him some venison, Which brought and dressed, he is to haue his benison. 1649 *Jer. Taylor Gl. Exempt.* III. xiv. 27. 1767 *Fawkes Theocritus* xvii. (R.) Twelve noble virgins... pleas'd the vocal benison to shower. 1815 *Southey Roderick* iii. 72 Short interchange of benison As each to other gentle travellers give. 1828 *Scott F. M. Perth* xv, I haue slept sound under such a benison.

† b. *ecclesiastical*; = BENEDICTION I b. *Obs.*

a 1340 *Hampole Pr. Cons.* 3405 Benysoun of bisshope of his dignite; And benysoun of prest, þat gyyen es Namly, in þe end of þe mes. 1387 *Trevisa Higden* Rolls Ser. VI. 411 Noþer he was... i-hijt wiþ sacryngne and benesouns. 1513 *Bradshaw St. Werburgh* (1848) 90 They toke lycence and had the popes benysoun.

fig. (ironical) 1592 *Greene Upst. Courtier*, Bending his staffe as if he meant... to bestow his benison.

† c. Grace before meat; = BENEDICTION I d. *Obs.* a 1300 *Harleok* 1723 Thanne [he] were set, and bord leyd, And the benysoun was seyde.

† 3. Disposition to bless; graciousness, grace, benignity. *Obs.*

c 1450 *Lay-Folks Mass-Bk.* F. 352, I pray him of his benisoun... Sey a pater-noster for the writere.

Benivolence, -ous, *obs. ff. BENEVOLENCE*, etc. **Benj**, variant of BHANG.

Benjamin¹ (ben'dzāmin). Also 6-7 beniamin. [Corruption of *benjoin*, earlier form of *benzoin*, assimilated to the proper name Benjamin.]

1. Gum benzoin.

1580 *Hollyband Treas. Fr. Tong, Du Benjoin*, Benjamin. 1590 *Hakluyt Voy.* II. 1. 260 The marchandise which be in Pegu, are... muske, beniamin or francincense, etc. 1648 *Herrick Hesper.* (1869) 139 Leave a name as sweet As Benjamin and Storax when they meet. 1744 *Mrs. Delany Autobiog.* (1861) II. 270 Seeds and tincture of benjamin. 1799 *W. Taylor in Month. Rev.* XXVIII. 570 Terms so inexpressive or improper as Benjamin for Benjoin... will disappear by simple exposure. 1851-9 *Hooker in Adm. Man. Sci. Eng.* 425 Benzoin or Gum Benjamin.

2. Benjamin tree: a name applied to three trees: a. *Styrax Benzoin*, the tree from which benzoin is obtained; a native of Sumatra, Borneo, etc.; b. the *Benzoin odoriferum* or *Lindera Benzoin*, a North American shrub, which has an aromatic stimulant tonic bark, and berries yielding an oil of similar properties; called also *Benjamin-bush*, and in U.S. *Benjamin*; c. sometimes applied to *Ficus Benjaminia* (*Trcas. Bot.* 135).

1640 *Parkinson Theat. Bot.* 1572 The fruite of this Benjamin-tree. 1693 *Phil. Trans.* XVII. 619 The Benjamin-Tree... from the Continent of Virginia. 1777 *Miller ibid.* LXVIII. 169 Camphire and Benjamin trees are in this Country in great abundance. 1789 *Abercrombie Pract. Gard.* (1823) 321 *Laurus*, Laurel; comprehending the Benjamin-Tree and Sassafras. 1812 *Rees Cycl. s.v. Laurus*, The true Benjamin-tree or Gum Benzoin is a species of *Styrax*. 1867 *Gray Bot. N. U. States* 423 *Lindera Benzoin*, Spice Bush, Benjamin Bush.

Benjamin² (ben'dzāmin). [according to

Brewer from the name of a tailor.] An overcoat of a particular shape formerly worn by men. (Still in slang or humorous use.)

1817 *T. Peacock Nightm. Abbey* 159 His heart is seen to beat through his upper benjamin. 1837 *Lockhart Scott* (1839) V. 59 A vastly scientific and rather grave professor in a smooth drab benjamin. 1841 *Punch* I. 98. 1865 *Pall Mall Gaz.* 7 Mar. 3/2 [quoting East-end slang].

Benjarry, *obs. form of BRINJARRY.*

Benjoin, earlier form of BENZOIN.

† **Benk**. *Obs.* Northern form of BENCH. (Now BINK.) Hence *Benked ppl. a.*, *Benking vbl. sb.* c 1200 *Ormin* 1523: Wipþ þrinne bennkess bennkedd. *Ibid.* 1523: For þer was an bennking lah. 1330 *R. Brunne Chron.* 281 His benk he did þer criē: shireues, balifes he ches. c 1340 *Cursor M.* (Fairf.) 5058 And on benke sete ham by. c 1440 *York. Myst.* xxvi. 189, I schall buske to the benke Where baneres are bright.

Benmost, a. *Sc.* [f. BEN *adv.* and a. + -MOST.] Superlative of BEN, q.v.; innermost.

Benn, var. of BEN sb.³, the Horse-radish tree.

Bennet¹ (ben'et). Also 3 beneit, 5 benet, bennett. [ME. *herbe beneit*, prob. a. OF. *herbe beneite* (in mod.F. *benoitte*), transl. L. *herba benedicta* 'blessed herb,' in It. *erba benedetta*, Ger. *benedict*, also *benedictenkraut*, *benedictenwurze*. Of *herba benedicta* Platearius is quoted in the *Ortus Sanitatis* of 1486, as saying 'Where the root is in the house the devil can do nothing, and flies from it; wherefore it is blessed above all other herbs.' (Prior.) To what plant these virtues were originally ascribed, and how the name was eventually attached to *Geum urbanum*, cannot be determined: see Prior.]

In Herb Bennet, name of a species of *Avens*, *Geum urbanum* (N.O. *Rosaceæ*), a common European wayside plant with yellow flower. The name was vaguely or inaccurately applied by early herbalists, being given also to the Hemlock and, according to Prior, to the Wild Valerian.

c 1205 in *Wr. Wülcker Voc.* 558 *Herba benedicta*, herbe beneit, hemeluc. c 1460 *J. Russell Bk. Nurture in Babes Bk.* (1868) 184 Herbe benet, bresewort, & smallache. 1576 *Lyte Dodons* 133 The leaues of . . . Auens, or Herbe Bennet, are rough. 1653 *Urquhart Rabelais* III. xxxi. The Fervency of Lust is abated by certain Drugs, Plants, Herbs, and Roots. . . Mandrake, Bennet, Keckbuglosse. 1883 *Longm. Mag.* July 308 The roadside herb-bennet or common avens is yellow, like cinquefoil.

Bennet². An earlier form of BENT, still commonly retained in the south of England, in the sense of 'grass-stalk,' 'old stalk of grass.' *Way Bennet*: the Wild Barley-grass (*Hordeum murinum*). See BENT sb.¹ Also in comb.

1669 *Worlidge Syst. Agric.* (1681) 177 Only feeding of them [Pigeons]... about Midsummer before Pease be ripe, which time they usually call Bunting-time, because then necessity inforceth them to feed on the Bents or seed of Bennet-grass. 1806 *Barnes Rhymes Dorset Dial.* II. 85 Wither'd bennet-stems. *Ibid.* Ser. III. 73 Above the bennet-bearing land. 1880 *Jefferies Hodge & M.* I. 135 The lowly convolvulus grew thickly among the tall dusty bennets.

† **Bennet**³. *Obs.* A fish of the African seas. 1731 *Medley Kolben's Cape G. Hope* II. 187 In the sea about the Cape there is plenty of the fish call'd Bennets. 1772-84 *Cook Voy.* (1790) I. 322 The Bennet is near three feet long... the eyes and tail are red, the fins yellow, and the scales purple with gold streaks.

Benneting, *obs. form of BENTING.*

Bennison, -ysoun, *obs. forms of BENISON.*

† **Benoint**, *v. Obs. rare*—¹. [f. BE- + NOINT, aphetic form of ANOINT.] = ANOINT.

1594 and *Rep. Faustus* in *Thoms E. E. Pr. Rom.* (1858) III. 356 He had all benointed the walls with holy water.

† **Benoom**, *v. Obs.* Mistaken form of BENIM.

1563 *Sackville Buckingham's Compl.* xv, His body gored whiche he of life benooms.

Benorth (bēn'orth), *adv. and prep.* Also by-north. [OE. *be northan*, f. BE- prep. and pref. + *norþan* *adv.* from the north; cf. *beþoran*, *behindan*.]

† A. *adv.* To the north. *Obs.*

1087 *O. E. Chron.*, Se biſceop of Dunholme dyde to hearme þæt he mihte ofer ealle be norðan. 1535 *Stewart Cron.* Scot. II. 437 And 3e in peice to bruik the laue benorth.

B. *prep.* North of. Now only Sc.

1387 *Trevisa Descr. Brit.* (Caxton) 12 Tetbury that is thre myle bynorth Malmesbury. c 1425 *Wyntoun Cron.* viii. l. 18 Wardanyis be-north þe scottis se. 1533 *Act 25 Hen. VIII.* iv, Anie place... benorth the riuer of Humber. 1676 *Row Suppl. Blair's Autobiog.* x. (1848) 206 Athol and other engagers be-north Tay. 1854 *Blackw. Mag.* LXXV. 337 Be-north the Forth.

† **Benote**, *v. 1 Obs.* [OE. *benotian* f. BE- + *notian*, ME. *NOTE*, to use.] *trans.* To use, make use of.

a 1100 *O. E. Chron.* (MS. Cott. Tiber. A. vi) an. 894 Hie hæfdan heora mete benotodne. 1340 *Ayeb.* 90 Vor þæt he his benotep næst arizt.

Benote (bēn'ot), *v. 2* [f. BE- + *NOTE sb.*] *trans.* To annotate, to make notes upon.

1767 *Wilkes Corr.* (1805) III. 115 He proceeded to make very fair extracts, and afterwards to be-note them in the foulest manner. 1837 *Whitlock Bk. Trades* (1842) 244 A work which the facetious Charles Cotton benoted and tra-vestied with poetic scraps.

† **Be-nothing**, *v. Obs. rare*. [f. BE- + *NÓ-THING*.] *trans.* To reduce to nothing, annihilate.

1674 *N. Fairfax Bulk & Sch.* To Rdr., I had both lost and benothing'd myself. *Ibid.* 36 Suppose this [world] to be benothing'd, and... another to be made.

Benott, *obs. form of BENET sb. exorcist.*

† **Benotte**, *v. Obs. rare*—¹. [f. BE- + *NOTTE* *v.* to cut round, lop, crop.] *trans.* To crop close.

1594 and *Rep. Faustus* in *Thoms E. E. Pr. Rom.* (1858) III. 386 These benotted him round upon his head and beard, which is the foulest reproach and disgrace that can be offered unto the Turk.

Benow, dial. f. by *now*, by this time.

Bensel, *sb. Sc. and north. dial.* Also *bensell*, -sall, -sail, -sil, bent-sail. [a. ON. *benzla* (or *benzl* Vigf.) bending, bent, tension, f. *benda* to bend (a bow). The spelling *bent-sail* is merely conjectural. With quot. 1659 cf. Icel. *taka boga af benzlum* to take a bow out of bensel.] Bending, tension, spring (of mental faculties); strong bent or determination; impetus (of a body in motion).

1513 *Douglas Eneis* viii. xii. 37 Ourweltit wyth the bensell of the ayris [= oars]. 1659 *Durham Scandal* 79 (JAM.) Men weary... for our spirits are soon out of bensall. a 1666 *R. Baillie Lett.* (1775) II. 306 (JAM.), I found the bent-sail of the spirits of some so much on the engagement. 1734 *A. Welwood Glimpse* ix. 192 Surely, if you be partakers of his [God's] nature, you cannot but bend him with a strong Bensil. 1807 *Stagg Poems* (Cumberl. dial.) 61 A hangrell gang Com with a bensil owt the sea.

Bensel, *v. dial.* Also *bansel*. [prob. f. prec., in sense of 'impetus.'] *trans.* To drive, knock (about); to bang, beat.

1674 *Ray N. C. Wds.* 6 *Bensel*, to bang or beat. 1824 *Craven Dial.* 8 Warmed her jerkin wi' a sound switching, an bensil'd her purely. *Northampton & Staffordsh. dial.* The child never rests: it is always being banselled about for something.

Benshi, -shie, variant of BANSHEE.

Benste, *obs. form of BENEDICTITE.*

Benswine, *obs. form of BENZOIN.*

† **Bensy**, *v. Obs. rare*. [The form suggests OE. *benstan* to make prayer, to pray; perh. confused in form and sense with OF. *beniss-*, lengthened stem of *beneit* to bless, consecrate, hallow.] *trans.* To sanctify, hallow, purify.

c 1315 *Shoreham* 50 That hy ham scholde clensy... And myd water bensy.

Bent (bent), *sb.¹* Also *bennet*. [A word of difficult history. In the sense of 'stiff-grass' or 'grass-stalk' (in which alone the variant *bennet* occurs), it appears to be the representative of OE. *beonet*, found as a frequent element in proper names, as *Beonet-leah* Bentley (see Index to *Cod. Dipl. xvi Saxon*). These names do not show the meaning; but *beonet*—earlier **binut* (with *eo* as *u*—umlaut of *i*), in OS. *binet* (Schade), is phonetically identical with OHG. *binuz*, MHG. *binex*, *binz* (str. masc.), mod.G. *binse* 'rush, reed, stout grass growing in wet places'—WGer. **binut*, of unknown etymology. But distinct instances of this sense are not found before the 15th c., while the sense of 'grassy field or surface' is common in northern writers from the earliest appearance of northern literature. Whether this is the same word is uncertain: it is possible enough that the pl. *bents* was used for a place where 'bents' grew (cf. local names like *Tolley Bents* near Sheffield) and that this led to the use of the sing. *bent* as 'open grassy place.' They are here united provisionally.]

I. 1. A name given to grass of a reedy or rush-like habit, or which has persistent stiff or rigid stems; also to various grass-like reeds, rushes, sedges, and other plants.

Britten and Holland *Plant-n.* give a long list of grasses and other plants, to which the name, either simply or with attribute, is locally applied: by the seashore it very generally means the Sea Reed Grass, *Psamma* or *Ammophila arenaria*, but also *Carex archaria*, *Elymus arenaria*, *Triticum junceum*, according to locality; on northern moorlands often *Juncus squarrosus*, but also *Nardus stricta*, etc.; in some pastoral and hay districts *Cynosurus cristatus* ('Hendon Bent'), *Agrostis vulgaris*; in other localities, *Phalaris arundinacea*, *Scirpus lacustris*, or other marsh-grasses, bulrushes, reeds, or sedges: in Chester and Wiltshire, the name is even given to the common heath and ling, perhaps because they grow on bents: cf. 'heath.'

a. sing. 'bent'; plural 'bents.'

c 1425 in *Wr. Wülcker, Voc.* 644 *Hoc gramen*, a bent. 1547 *Boorde Brer. Health* ccxcix. 98 b, Use no olde Ryshes nor Bentes in the house. 1601 *Holland Plant. II.* 216 Rushes or bents. 1605 *Bacon Gardens, Ess.* (Arb.) 558 The dust of a Bent. 1783 *Cowper Task* v. 22 The bents, And coarser grass, upspringing o'er the rest. 1834 *Mudie Brit. Birds* (1841) I. 293 The nest is formed of bents, or other plants growing near the sea. a 1847 *Mrs. Sherwood Visit Grand-papa* 21 His foot caught in a bent, and he fell. 1854 *Sir F. Palgrave Norm. & Eng.* IV. 61 The bents and sedges where the ox could not feed were excluded from the ox gang. [cf. sense 5.]

b. collectively. Cf. *grass*.

1570 *Levins Manip.* 66 Bent, smal rushes, *innus*. 1580 *North Plutarch* (1676) 366 He... couered him with a great deal of Reed and Bent. 1778 *Lightfoot Fl. Scot.* I. 107 *Arundo arenaria*, Sea Reed-Grass, *Anglii*, Bent, *Scotia*.

Moran, *Gaulis*. 1791 *Newt. Tour Eng. & Scot.* 152 It had been the custom to pull up the bent, a long spiky grass, near the shore. 1795 *Burke Th. on Scarcity* Wks. VII. 406 The rye-grass, or coarse bent, suffered more than the clover. 1848 *W. GARDINER Flora Forfar* 194 It [*Ammophila arundina*] is termed bent, and is valuable in binding the loose sand. 1882 *Proc. Berw. Nat. Club* IX. iii. 463 There is a considerable ascent over ground rough with bent (*Nardus stricta*).

† c. in pl. A bundle of reed-grass. *Obs.*

1597 *GERARD Herbal* i. iii. (1633) 6, I take this last to be the grasse with which we in London do usually adorn our chimneys... and we commonly call the bundle of it hand-somely made up for our use by the name of Bents.

2. The stiff flower-stalk of grasses. (In this sense *bennet* prevails in the southern counties.)

1577 *B. GOODE Herbarist's Husb.* (1586) 45 The time of cutting of it [grass] is when the Bent beginneth to fade and waxe stiffe, and before it wither. 1601 *HOLLAND Pliny* II. 273 It hath certain little husks or cods hanging by small bents. 1752 *LISLE Husb.* 308 The grass will not grow afresh, unless the dying bennets be cut off. (*Gloss.*) *Bennets, bents*, Spiky grass running to seed. 1881 *JEFFERIES Wood Magic* 1 Then he drew forth a bennet from its sheath.

b. 'Applied usually to the old stalks of various grasses.' *Britten and Holland.*

1827 *KIRKE Chr. Y.* 20 *Sund. Trin.* ii. Through withered bents. 1848 *KINGSLEY Saint's Trag.* II. vii. 7 Mow the dry bents down. 1866 *Treas. Bot.* 135 *Bents*, a common country name for the dried stalks or culms of various grasses occurring in pastures.

c. The stalks and seeding heads of two species of Plantain (*Plantago major* and *lanceolata*); in East Yorkshire, the dry stalks of *Hypochaeris radicata*. *Britten and Holland.*

1612 *CHAPMAN Widows T.* in *Dodley VI.* 192 As a mower sweeps off the heads of bents. 1656 *MOUFFET & BENNET Health's Impr.* (1746) 173 [Birds] that feed upon good Corn, Bents, or wholesome Seeds.

3. In English Botany, the name of the genus *Agrostis*. More fully *Bent-grass*: see III.

1796 *MORSE Amer. Geog.* I. 186 Many species of Bent (*Agrostis*), particularly the Rhode Island Bent (*Agrostis interrupta*). 1838 *LOUDON Encycl. Plants* s. v. *Agrostis*, *A. vulgaris*. is the most common and earliest of the bents.

4. Star or Stool Bent, *Juncus squarrosus*, *Psamma arenaria*; Sweet Bent, *Luzula campestris*; Way Bent, *Hordeum murinum*; White, or Wire Bent, *Nardus stricta*.

1597 *GERARD Herbal* (1633) 73 Wilde barley, called... after old English writers, Way Bennet. 1600 *MARKHAM Farrow. Husb.* II. xix. (1668) 103 These mats should rather be made of dry white bents, then of flags and bulrush.

II. 5. A place covered with grass, as opposed to a wood; a bare field, a grassy plain, unenclosed pasture-land, a heath. Of northern origin. In ME. the stock poetic word for 'the field' (of battle), *L. campus*, due partly at least to its alliteration with *battle*, *bicker*, *bide*, *brush*, *bush*, *bleed*, *bold*, *bale*, etc. Used by some modern poets.

c. 1325 *E. E. Allit. P. B.* 1675 As best, byte on be bent of braken & erbes. c. 1360 *Song of Meri* in *E. E. P.* (1862) 118 Lyons raumpyng vpon bente. c. 1400 *Destr. Troy* IV. 1192 Bothe batels on bent brushet to-gedur. 1420 *Siege Rouen* in *Archæol.* XXI. 51 Buschys, brerys, and bowys they bent, They made hyt bare as eyvr was bent. a. 1500 *Chery Chase* 11 Bomen byckarte vppone the bent with ther browd Aros cleare. 1535 *STEWART Cron. Scot.* (1858) I. 152 Thre lillit battellis buskit on the bent. a. 1552 *LELAND Brit. Coll.* I. 232 They mette at a bent by Bourne at a bridge ende a litle from Ludlow. 1552 *LYNDESAY Dreine* 919 We saw a boustius berne cum ouir ye bent. 1664 *Floddan F.* ix. 84 (Three lords) Upon the bent did breathelesse bide. 1808 *SCOTT Marm.* ix. xxv, Since Marmion saw that martial scene Upon the bent so brown. 1858 *KINGSLEY Ode N. E. Wind* 32 On by holt and headland, Over heath and bent.

b. To flee, go, take to the bent: to escape to the moors or the open country, e. g. to avoid danger, creditors, etc.

c. 1450 *HENRYSON Lyon & Mous* xxxv, And he start up anone, And thankit me; syn to the Bent is gane. 1725 *RAMSAY Gentle Sheph.* I. ii, Wi' gloomin' brow, the laird seeks in his rent; It's no to gie; your merchant's to the bent. 1818 *SCOTT Rob Roy* II. 259 Take the bent, Mr. Rashleigh. Make ac pair o' legs worth twa pair o' hands.

6. ? A hill-side, rising ground, slope, brae. (Perhaps because these were the localities naturally left in permanent pasture; but the sense is doubtful. Only in southern writers. (Cf. next word.)

c. 1386 *CHAUCER Knts. T.* 1123 And downward on an hill under a bent, Ther stood the tempul of Marz armyopot. 1c. 1475 *Spr. lowe Degree* 65 in *Hazl. E. P. P.* II. 25 In to that arber wolde he go, And vnder a bente he layde hym lowe. 1600 *FAIRFAX Tasso* xx. ix. 365 To the left wing, spred vnderneath the bent Of the steepe hill. 1870 *MORRIS Earthly Par.* I. i. 320 Worn out, he fell beneath a woody bent. 1876 — *Sigurd* I. 19 They came to the topmost of a certain grassy bent.

III. Comb. chiefly attrib., as bent-mat, -rope, -stalk. Also bent-grass = BENT (sense 1), esp. in Eng. Bot. the genus *Agrostis*; bent-land, land covered with stiff grass, reeds, etc.; bent-star [ON. *stör*, gen. *stavar*, Sw. *starr* 'bent-grass, carex'], the Sea Bent or Sea Reed Grass (*Psamma arenaria*): cf. sense 4.

1778 *LIGHTFOOT Fl. Scot.* I. 93 *Agrostis canina*, Brown 'Bent-grass. 1854 *H. MILLER Sch. & Schm.* (1858) 453 Tufts of the 'bent-grass (*Arundo arenaria*, common here, as in all sandy wastes). 1884 *Weekly Times* 19 Sept. 5/2 Planting

*bent grass along the sea-shore to check the drifting by the Sands. 1883 *Birmingham Weekly Post* 1/5 A 'Golf Club', which... wields its clubs on the sandy 'bentlands' near Bawdsey Ferry, close by. 1813 *MARKHAM Eng. Housw.* II. vii. (1668) 163 'Bent Mats, where one bent or straw is laid by another, and so woven together with a good strong packthread. 1821 *CLARE Vill. Minstr.* II. 144 Slender 'bent-stalks' topt with feathery down. 1822 *J. PLATTS Bk. Curios.* 523 Known to the Highlanders by the name of muran, and to the English by that of 'bent-star'.

Bent (bent), sb.² Also 6 bente. [f. BEND v.; probably on analogy of words from L. or Fr.: cf. *descend*, *descent*, *extend*, *extent*; F. *pendre*, *pente*, *rendre*, *rente*. There appears to be no sufficient analogy for its formation from the past pple.]

1. A curved position or form; curvature, bending degree of curvature. Also fig. (Now rare.)

1541 *ELYOT Image Govt.* (1549) 100 For the Theatre was a place made in the fourme of a bowe, that hath a great bente. 1630 *GUILIM Heraldry* II. v. 49, I find the Bend drawne somewhat Archwise or after the resemblance of the Bent of a Bow. 1755 *BORLASE in Phil. Trans.* XLIX. 375, I attribute it to... the bent of the western land. 1860 *Heads & Hats* 20 With trifling modification of brim and bent and height of crown, we retain the thing [hat] in all its offensive characteristics!

† 2. A curved part, a bend, a crook. *Obs.*

1572 *MASCAL Govt. Cattle* (1627) 271 Hard vnto the bent of the staple. 1607 *TORSELL Four-f. Beasts* 313 Overthwart the bent of the [horse's] knee. 1653 *WALTON Angler* 111 Make these fast at the bent of the hook.

† 3. A piece bent into a curve; a bow. *Obs.*

1521 *Will. Pyllbarough* (Somerset Ho.), Gown whiche I ware every daye with a bent of velvett to the skyrte. 1588 *W. AVERELL Combat Contrar.* B, Their bents of Whale bone to beare out their bummes. 1607 *MIDDLETON Michaelm. Term* I. ii. Wires and tires, bents and bums, felts and falls. 1677 *PLOT Oxfordsh.* 84 Clay thus pretily dispersed in the form of a bent.

† 4. Flexure, bending, crooking. *Obs.*

1572 *Triall Treas.* (1850), It is I that doe guyde the bent of your bowe. 1590 *GREENE Arcad.* (1616) 57 With reuerence and lowly bent of knee. 1642 *ROGERS Naaman* To Rdr. § 2 Rather then she will come to the bent of Gods bow.

† 5. Inclination, bowing, stooping, nodding. *Obs.*

1524 *T. LODGE Forb. & Price* 22 b, With... a seemely bent, as requiting his curtesie. 1596 *CHAPMAN Iliad* II. 95 To vow, and bind it with the bent of his high forehead. 1713 *CRESS WINCHELSEA Misc. Poems* 231 In vain the shrubs, with lowly bent, Sought their Destruction to prevent.

6. The condition of being deflected, inclined, or turned in some direction; a turn, twist, inclination; direction given by bending; cast (of the eye), etc. Usually fig.

1534 *MORE Conf. agst. Trib.* II. Wks. 1206/1 For a little coumfort, is bent ynough therto for them. a. 1600 *HOOKER (J.)* The wilful bent of their obstinate hearts against it. 1601 *SHAKS. Jul. C.* II. i. 210, I can giue his humour the true bent. 1611 — *Cymb.* I. i. 13 They weare their faces to the bent Of the Kings looks. 1664 *J. NALTON* in *Spurgeon Treas. Dav. Ps.* lxxvii. 10 The bent of it [a magnet] will be toward the North Pole. a. 1700 *DRYDEN (J.)* My reason took the bent of thy command. a. 1704 *LOCKE (J.)* The exercising the understanding... teacheth the mind suppleness, to apply itself more dexterously to bents and turns of the matter, in all its researches. 1713 *STEELE Guardian* No. 15 ¶ 1 To cross the bent of a young lady's genius. 1800 *W. IRVING Sketch Bk.* I. 328 To follow the bent of her own taste. 1875 *JOWETT Plato* (ed. 2) II. 281 To counteract wholly the bent of natural character.

b. esp. Mental inclination or tendency; disposition; propensity, bias. *Tral. in Holinsh.* II. 155/1 He saw the bent and disposition of the earle. 1605 *BACON Adv. Learn.* I. iv. § 2 The whole inclination and bent of those times. 1690 *SOUTH 12 Serms.* (1699) I. 429 Bents, and Propensities, and Inclinations, will not do the Business. 1762 *H. WALPOLE Vertue's Anecd. Paint.* (1786) III. 83 He knew he did not like to be a carpenter, but had not discovered his own bent. 1840 *ARNOLD in Life & Corr.* (1844) II. ix. 200 If your bent seems to be to the work of a Missionary.

c. † Phrase. To bring any one to, or have him at, one's bent. *Obs.*

1575 *TURBERV. Venere* 136 Such toyles and toyes as hunters use to bring me to their bents. 1658 *BRAMHALL Consecr. Bps.* iii. 50 That by this meanes they should... bring the Queene to their bent. 1660 *BONDE Scut. Reg.* 286 They would have had the King buckled to their bent.

d. Tendency of motion, course, 'set' of a current.

1648 *MILTON Tenure Kings* 39 The whole bent of their actions was against the King. 1817 *WORDSW. Lament Mary Q. Scots.* A sister Queen, against the bent of Law and holiest sympathy, Detains me. 1855 *M. ARNOLD Sonn. Cruikshank*, Man can control To pain, to death, the bent of his own days.

† 7. That towards which an action, etc. is directed; aim, purpose, intention. *Obs.*

1579 *SPENSER Sheph. Cal. Ded.*, For, not marking the compass of his bent, he will iudge of the length of his cast. 1594 *CAREW Huartle's Exam. Wits* x. (1596) 141 The Oratour... to behooeth... to vse rules... to the end the hearers may not smell out his fetch and bent. 1798 *MALTHUS Popul.* (1817) III. 297 The principal bent of this work.

† 8. Force with which a bow bent or a spring wound up tends to spring back; hence, impetus, concentrated energy. *F. lan. Obs.*

1821 *J. BRILL Haddon's Ansv. Osor.* 454 He rusheth upon Haddon with all the bent of his Eloquence. 1690 *NORRIS Beattitudes* I. 107 Such a Desire as carries in it the full bent and stress of the Soul. 1742 *YOUNG Nt. Th.* vii. 796 False joys, indeed, are born from want of thought; From thought's full bent, and energy, the true.

9. Extent to which a bow may be bent or a spring

wound up, degree of tension; hence degree of endurance, capacity for taking in or receiving; limit of capacity, etc. Now only in the Shaksperian phrase: *To the top of one's bent*, or the like.

1594 *DRAYTON Idea* 596 Beyond the bent of his unknowing Sight. 1602 *SHAKS. Ham.* III. ii. 401 They foole me to the top of my bent. 1641 *MILTON Reform.* I. Wks. (1857) 1 Suffering to the lowest bent of weakness in the Flesh, and presently triumphing to the highest pitch of glory in the Spirit. 1871 *SMILES Charac.* vi. (1876) 178 He flattered French vanity to the top of its bent. 1875 *JOWETT Plato* (ed. 2) II. 238 When you have allowed me to add *μνησιν* (contrivance) to *τέχνη* (art) I shall be at the top of my bent.

10. Technical uses, of various origin.

1674 *COTTON in Singer Hist. Cards* 343 First, for cutting be sure of a good putt-card, they use the bent, the slick, and the brief; the bent is a card bended in play which you cut. 1824 *T. HOGG Carnation* 23 Veins of rust or oxyde of iron... in soil... [are] called by farmers, till or fox bent. 1882 *GREENER Gun* 245 A very old smooth file, worn almost to a burnisher, is used to finish the bents and bearings of the lock. *Ibid.* 263 The sear may then be lifted off, if the tumbler is not in bent.

† *Bent* of a hill occurs too early to belong to this word, but it was perhaps afterwards confused with it. See *BENT sb.* 16.

Bent (bent), ppl. a. Also 6 bend(e) [f. BEND v.]

1. Constrained into a curve, as a straight bow; curved, crooked, deflected from the strung line.

c. 1374 *CHAUCER Troylus* III. 575 The Bente Mone with her hornys pale. 1483 *Cath. Angl.* 28 Bent as a bowe, *extensus*. 1523 *FITZHERB. Husb.* § 3 A bende pece of yren. 1656 *tr. Hobbes Elem. Philos.* (1839) 478 The particles of the bended body, whilst it is held bent. 1821 *R. KNOX Cloquet's Anat.* 141 The two bones... constitute a bent and horizontal lever. 1879 *FARRAR St. Paul* (1883) 402 That bent and weary Jew.

b. *Bent brow*: an arched eyebrow (*obs.*); a wrinkled or knit brow.

c. 1380 *Sir Ferumb.* 1074 A wel schape man was hee, With Browes bente & ejen stoute. c. 1400 *Rom. Rose* 861 Bent were hir browis two, Hir yren greye, & glad also. a. 1641 *STRAFFORD Lett.* I. 179 This bent and ill-favoured brow of mine. 1853 *LYTTON My Novel* II. vii, The sad gaze of the Parson, the bent brow of the Squire.

c. Forming part of the name of various modifications of tools or apparatus which have the blade, or other part bent to adapt them to special purposes: as *bent-gauge*, *-gauge*, *-graver*, *-rasp*, which have a bent or curved blade; *bent-lever*, a lever of the first kind, whose arms form an angle with each other, as a bell-crank lever; *bent-lever balance*, a balance having a short bent arm bearing a scale, and a long weighted arm the leverage of which increases as it ascends, ending in an index pointing to divisions in a graduated arc.

† 2. Braced, nerved, or wound up for action; couched for a spring; levelled or aimed as a weapon. † *Sharp-bent*: sharp-set, hungry. *Obs.*

c. 1330 *Arth. & Merl.* 1486 To dragouns their layen y-bent. c. 1500 *Rob. Hood* (Ritson) I. ii. 57 Robin howt with a sword bent, A bokeler en hes bonde [therto]. 1633 *P. FLETCHER Purple Isl.* II. v, Stood at the Castlesgate, now ready bent To sally out. 1675 *WYCHERLEY Country Wife* v. (1735) 95 Ceremony and Expectation are unsufferable to those that are sharp bent; people always eat with the best stomach at an ordinary.

† 3. Determined, resolute, devoted, inclined, set.

1548 *UDALL, etc. Eras. Par. Matt.* xxvi. 116 With bent myndes had conspired the death. 1571 *ASCHAM Scholem.* (1863) 87 The bent enemy against God and good order. 1645 *RUTHERFORD Tryal & Faith* (1845) 66 With a bent affection. 1655 *Miq. Worck. Cent. Inv.* 2nd. Ded. ad. fin., My Lords and Gentlemen, Your most passionately-bent Fellow-Subject. 1740 *L. CLARK Hist. Bible* I. ix. 379 Being bent to have his revenge on the inhabitants of Ptolemais.

4. Directed in a course, on one's way, bound.

1697 *DRYDEN Virg. Georg.* I. 296 Nor must the Ploughman less observe the Skies... Than Saylor's homeward bent.

† **Benter.** *Obs.* Short for DERENTURE.

1571 *EDWARDS Damon & P.* in *Hazl. Dods.* IV. 77 These benter, I trow, shall anon get me more. *Ibid.* (1744) I. 281 (D.) My pouche, my benter, and all is gone.

Benthal (ben'thal). [f. Gr. *βένθος* the depth of the sea + *-AL*.] Of or pertaining to ocean-depths exceeding 1000 fathoms.

1881 *Nature* No. 588. 324 [They] occur in great abundance in the benthal or deepest zone.

Benthamism (ben'thāmiz'm). [see -ISM.] The philosophical system of Jeremy Bentham, an eminent English jurist and writer on law and ethics, 1748-1832, who taught that the aim or end of life is happiness, identified by him with pleasure, and that the highest morality is the pursuit of the greatest happiness of the greatest number. So *Benthamio* a., of or according to Bentham (for this Carlyle has the contemptuous *Benthamism*). *Benthamite* sb., an adherent of the Benthamic philosophy; a. = prec. *Benthamry*, a contemptuous appellation for 'Benthamism'.

1840 *CARLYLE Heroes* v. 271 Benthamism is an eyesless Heroism. 1866 *M. ARNOLD Ess. Crit.* (1875) Pref. 11 The British nation... has finally anchored itself... on Benthamism. a. 1866 *J. GROTE Exam. Util. Philos.* xv. 227 Benthamic utilitarianism. *Ibid.* xvi. 247 Benthamic despotism. 1840 *CARLYLE Heroes* ii. 119 Benthamite utility, virtue by Profit and Loss. a. 1852 *MOORE Ghost of Milton* 54 A parting kick to the Benthamite. 1882 *Athenæum* 15 Apr. 468/1

The too confident optimism of the Benthamites. *Ibid.* 18 Jan. 1773 Summarizing and co-ordinating the work of the Benthamite circles. 1855 *Ess. Intuit. Morals* 149 note, Public Eudaimonism, however, as I have described it, is not Benthamism.

Bentinck. [f. name of the inventor, Captain Bentinck.]

1. *pl.* Triangular courses, now superseded by storm stay-sails; also used in U.S. as try-sails.

2. **Bentinck-boom**; a boom which stretches the foot of the fore-sail in many small square-rigged merchantmen; particularly used by whalers among the ice, with a reefed foresail, to see clearly ahead. **Bentinck shrouds**: shrouds extending from the weather-futtock staves to the opposite lee-channels: not now used. *Smyth Sailor's Word-bk.* 1867.

Bentiness. [f. BENTY + -NESS.] The condition of being covered with bent.

Benting (bent'ing), *vbl. sb.* [f. BENT sb.1 + -ING: cf. *nutting, bird-nesting.*]

1. The going after bents [see BENT sb.1 2 c]. **Benting- (bent'ing-) time**: the time when pigeons, etc., are reduced to feed on bents; also *transf.*

1672 *RAY Coll. Prov.* (1678) 49 The pigeon never knoweth wo. But when she doth a benting go. 1687 *DRYDEN Hind & P.* III. 1283 Bare benting times, and moulting Months may come. 1795 *BRADLEY Fam. Dict.* s.v. Pigeon, Be sure to feed them in hard weather, and in benting-time. 1795 *LISLE Hush.* 320 Midsummer is the oxen and cow-cattle's benting-time.

2. = BENT sb.1 2 c; the seeding stalks of the plantain (herb).

1807 *VANCOUVER Agric. Devon* (1813) 357 They live upon the seeds of weeds and bentings. 1844 *FORSYTH Fruit Trees* ix. 237, I generally cover them with bentings.

† **Bentily**, *adv. Obs.* In a bent manner: a. like a bow; b. determinedly, with set purpose.

1554 *HULOET*, Bentilye lyke a bowe, *arcuatim*. 1645 *RUTHERFORD Tryal & Tri. Faith* (1845) 58 The malice of the devil...worketh as intently & bentily as he can.

Bent-sail, *obs.* variant of BENSEL.

Bent-wood. [f. BENT ppl. a. + WOOD.]

1. Wood curved by machinery, used for making furniture. Chiefly *altrib.*

1844 *Health Exhib. Catal.* 90/1 Austrian Bentwood Furniture.

2. *north dial.* Ivy. [prob. for *bendwood*, i.e. *bindwood*: cf. BEND sb.1.]

Benty (bent'i), *a.* [f. BENT sb.1 + -Y.]

1. a. Of the nature of a rush or grass-stalk. b. Of or pertaining to bent or bent-grass.

1597 *GERARD Herball* i. iii. § 1. 4 Slender benty stalks. 1807 *HEADRICK Arran* 124 The benty grasses, which grow on the sea beach. 1841 *L.D. COCKBURN Jurl.* I. 305 The gray benty colour of the always drenched pasture.

2. Covered with bent or bent-grasses.

a 1700 in *Maidment's Scot. Ball.* (1808) II. 197 As he came down by Merriemass, And in by the benty line. 1834 *Brit. Hush.* xii. 202 Coarse benty sward. 1876 *BLACKIE Songs of Relig.* 137 Above the benty golfing ground.

† **Benumb**, *ppl. a. Obs.* Forms: 5 *be-*, *by-*, *numen*, *benome*, 6 *benombe*. [Orig. *benomen*, OE. *benumen*, pa. pple. of *beniman* 'to deprive', in phrase 'to be benome(n) the power of one's hands, etc.', in which sense the simple word was subseq. used elliptically. After giving origin to the vb. BENUMB (see next), its place was taken by the pa. pple. *benumbed*. See also BENIM.]

1393 *GOWER Conf.* III. 2 Altogether he is benome The power both of hand and fete. a 1400 *CURSOR M.* 22829 (Tr.) Wemmed...on foot or honde...crupel, croked, or bynomen. 1474 *CAXTON Chesse* 104 Peple lese her membrs and become half benomen. 1483 — *Gold. Leg.* 85/3 Theyr armes were bynomen and of no power. 1530 *PALSGR.* 306/1 Benombe of ones lymbes, *perloc.* *Ibid.* 448/2 He is now benomme of his lymbes.

Benumb (b'num), *v.* Forms: ? 5-6 *benome*, 6 *benomme*, 6-8 *benum*, -*numm(e)*, 7-8 *benumn*, 6- *benumb*. [A verb of late origination, f. prec.; cf. for sense to *lame*, etc., for formation to *astound*. *Benumb* is a bad spelling of *benum*, after *dumb, limb*, etc.]

1. *trans.* To make (any part of the body) insensible, torpid, or powerless; *occas.* to stupefy or stun, as by a blow or shock; but now mostly used of the effects of cold.

1530 *PALSGR.* 448/2, I benomme, I make lame or take awaye the use of ones lymbes. 1579 *SPENSER Sheph. Cal.* Aug. 4 Or hath the Crampe thy ioynts benomd with ache? 1580 *NORTH Plutarch* (1676) 348 The tile...brake his neck-bone asunder...wherewith he was so suddenly benumbed, that he lost his sight with the blow. a 1633 *SIR J. BEAUMONT Ode Blessed Trin.*, No cold shall thee benumme, Nor darkness taint thy sight. 1651 *HOBBS Leviath.* i. ii. 6 The Organs of Sense being now benumbed. 1706 *ADDISON Rosamond* II. vi. Wks. 1726 I. 122 The sleep of death benumbs all o'er My fainting limbs. 1861 *SWINHOE N. China Camp.* 370 The excessive cold benumbs all kinds of game.

2. To render (the mental powers, the will, or the feelings) senseless or inert; to stupefy, deaden.

c 1485 *Digby Myst.* (1882) II. 374 It raussid hym, and his spiritides be-benome. 1563 *MYRR. FOR MAG.*, Somerset ix, Did ever madnes man so much benomme. 1580 *SIDNEY Arcadia* (1622) 107 Mopsa was benumbed with joy when

the Princesse gaue it her. 1665 *GLANVILL Septs. Sci.* xxiv. 147 There are few but find some Companies benum and cramp them. 1762 *GIBSON Decl. & F.* III. liii. 303 A lethargy of servitude had benumbed the minds of the Greeks. 1818 *BYRON Ch. Har.* iv. xix, Some feelings Time can not benumb. *absol.* 1667 *MILTON P. L.* II. 73 If the sleepy drench Of that forgetful Lake benumme not still.

3. *fig.* To paralyze.

1769 *T. JEFFERSON Wks.* (1859) II. 589 The accident in England has benumbed her mediation between the Swedes and Danes. 1845 — *Autobiog.* I. 78 To benumb the action of the Federal government.

Benumbed (b'numd), *ppl. a.* [pa. pple. of prec. vb., taking the place of the earlier *benomen*, *benome*, pa. pple. of *benim*: see BENUMB ppl. a.]

Rendered torpid or numb; deprived of strength or the power of motion by a chilling influence. *lit. and transf.* as in BENUMB v. 1 and 2.

1547 *BOORDE Brer. Health cclxxi.* 90b, The one legge and the one arme is benomed or astounded. 1604 *CAPT. SMITH Virginia* III. ii. 46 They chafed his benumbed limbs. 1691 *NORRIS Pract. Disc.* 174 The torpid and benumm'd World. 1704 *J. TRAPP Abra-Mule* II. i. 440 To melt the most benumm'd of Hearts. 1861 *GEO. ELIOT Silas M.* 12 Silas Marner's benumbed faith. 1870 *HAWTHORNE Eng. Note-Bks.* (1879) II. 34 Our benumbed bodies.

Benumbedness. [f. prec. + -NESS.] The state of being benumbed; numbness; torpor.

1666 *DRANT Horace Sat.* I. iii. Gvj b, The boye through chille benumbednesse his ague worse shall gette. 1668 *J. CHANDLER Van Helmont's Uriat.* 58 The deep or profound benumbednesses of the Schooles, and the drowsie distemper of the aunients. 1701 *T. FULLER Pharmacop.* (1710) 57 A Cephalic Decoction...for prevention of...Benumbedness. 1731 *BAILEY II.* 34 Our benumbed bodies.

Benumbing (b'num'ing), *vbl. sb.* [f. BENUMB v.]

A rendering torpid or inactive, benumbing.

1554 *HULOET*, Benumbing or taken, which is a sycknes that...taketh awaye the sinowes. a 1569 *KYNGESMILL Conf. with Satan* (1578) 45 Because of his great delight hee, taketh in sinne, the apostle compareth it to benumbing. 1671 *SALMON Syn. Med.* I. lii. 126 Catalepsia...is a sudden detention or benumbing both of Mind and Body.

Benumbing, *ppl. a.* [f. as prec. + -ING.]

That benumbs or renders torpid; paralyzing.

1668 *LAYTON Sion's Plea* 2 One benumbing bruise of judgment. 1630 *J. TAYLOR (Water P.) Wks.* III. 37, § 2 The benumbing frigiditie of Greenland. 1774 *Phil. Trans.* LXV. 109 The benumbing effect of that fish. 1879 *M. ARNOLD Democracy, Mixed Ess.* 11 To be profoundly insignificant has...a depressing and benumbing effect on the character.

Benumbing. [f. as prec. + -MENT.] The action of benumbing; the fact or condition of being benumbed; torpor.

1826 *KIRBY & SP. Entomol.* (1843) II. 357 At first a partial benumbing takes place. 1851 *BUNSEN in Macready's Remin.* II. 388 After one century of bloody internal wars and another of benumbing.

Benvenue, variant of BIENVENUE.

Benvolent, *obs.* form of BIENVOLENT.

Benward, *adv. Sc.* Also *benwart*. Inward, towards the interior (of a house).

c 1475 *Rauf Coiltear* 131 Than benwart thay yeid, quhair brandis was bricht.

Benweed (ben'wid), *Herb.* [Possibly for *bendweed* (cf. BENDWITH); but the variants *bun-, bin-, bindweed*, leave the etymology uncertain.]

A popular name in Scotland and north of Ireland of the Ragweed (*Senecio Jacobaea*). Also BUNWEED.

1822 *GALT Entail* III. 115 (JAM.) Switching away the heads of the thistles and benweeds in his path.

Benwytt-tre, var. of BENEWIT (tree).

Benyfet, *obs.* form of BENEFIT.

Benyng, benyson, *obs.* f. BENIGN, BENISON.

Benyvolent, -ous, *obs.* ff. BIENVOLENT, etc.

Benzene, benzine (ben'zin). *Chem.* [f. BENZ-OIG (acid) + -ENE, q.v. The name originally given by Mitscherlich in 1833 was *benzin* or *benzine*, for which Liebig in 1834 substituted BENZOL.

Benzene, according to Hofmann's nomenclature, is now generally used by chemists, but *benzine* is in common use for the commercial product.]

1. An aromatic hydrocarbon, C₆H₆, the first or simplest member of the *Benzene Series*, C_nH_{n-6}; a thin, colourless, strongly refracting fluid, volatile and highly inflammable, formed by distilling benzoic acid with lime, and found in 1849 in the more volatile parts of coal-tar; it dissolves fats, resins, gutta-percha, etc., whence it is used for removing grease-spots and cleaning gloves, as well as for illuminating purposes. (See BENZOLINE.)

a. 1835 *Penny Cycl.* IV. 255 M. Mitscherlich obtained a fluid...to which the name of benzine is given. 1864 *Q. Jurl. Science* I. 523 Benzine has come largely into use to supply the place of turpentine. 1879 *MISS BRADDON Clor. Foot* xxi. 174 It is like the blood-stain on Lady Macbeth's hand. All the benzine in the world won't take it out.

b. 1879 *WATTS Dict. Chem.* I. 541 *Benzene* or *benzol* (Hydride of phenyl)...The most abundant source of benzene is coal tar. 1876 *KINGZETT Anim. Chem.* 29 Benzene...is capable of yielding hundreds of different substances.

2. Entering into the name of substitution-products, as *Chloro-benzene*, *Nitro-benzene* C₆H₅NO₂.

3. *Attrib. and Comb.*, as *benzine-collas* (see quot.); *benzene ring* (*Chem.*), a name for the ring-like arrangement of the six carbon atoms in

the formula of the benzene molecule, by which the phenomena of its combinations are explained.

1864 *Pop. Science Rev.* III. 432 About 1850 impure benzol was sold...under the name of benzine-collas for cleaning gloves, tissues. 1877 *WATTS Formel Chem.* II. 419 In the homologues of benzene, the six carbon-atoms belonging to the benzene itself are said to form the *benzene-ring*, *benzene-nucleus*, or principal chain, while the groups, CH₃, etc., joined on to these carbon-atoms, are called *lateral chains*.

Benzo-, before a vowel *benz-*. *Chem.* [f. BENZOIC.] A formative of the names of substances belonging to, or derived from, the benzene series.

Benzamide, C₆H₅NO, the amide of benzoic acid, a crystalline substance; **Benzhydrol**, a camphor obtained from oil of cassia, or one of its constituents. **Benzidine**, an organic alkali, C₁₂H₈N₂, deposited in crystals by the reduction of azobenzene. **Benzil**, -ile, a yellowish crystalline substance, C₁₄H₈O₂, formed by the action of oxidizing agents on benzoin; hence **Benzilam**, **Benzilim** (*Benzilimide*), products of the action of ammonia on benzil. **Benzilic acid**, C₁₄H₈O₄; a salt of which is a **Benzilate**. **Benzin** (e), earliest name of BENZENE. **Benzosate**, a salt of benzoic acid; hence, **Benzosated a.** **Benzoin**, an artificial fat obtained by the action of benzoic acid on glycerin. **Benzone**, the ketone of benzoic acid (diphenyl ketone), a crystalline substance. **Benzonitrile**, cyanide of phenyl, C₆H₅N, a clear, colourless oil, smelling like bitter almonds. **Benzophenone** (= *benzone*). **Benzoyl** (ben'zoi), the hypothetical radical, C₆H₅O, of benzoic acid and its kindred compounds; hence, **Benzoylic a.**; **Benzyl**, the hypothetical radical, C₆H₅CH₂, contained in *Benzyl alcohol* and many other substances; hence, **Benzyl a.** **Benzylamine**, N.C₆H₅.H₂, an aromatic base metameric with toluidine, a colourless liquid. **Benzylene**, a hypothetical diatomic radical, C₆H₄, found in chlorobenzyl; hence, **Benzylene a.** Also in innumerable combinations as *benz-aldehyde*, *-hydramide*; *benzo-acetic*, *-carbolic*, *glycolic*, *-lactic*, *-tartaric*, etc.

1882 *Boston Jurl. Chem.* Feb. 13/2 It is a by-product in the manufacture of benzaldehyde, benzoic acid, and benzoic ethers. 1850 *DAUBENY Atom. The.* viii. 244 *Benzamide* was regarded as a compound of a body called amidogen (H₂N)...with the radical of benzoic acid. 1877 *WATTS Formel Chem.* 815 Hippuric Acid, or Benzamidic Acid, is produced by the action of benzoyl chloride on the zinc salt of amidic acid. *Ibid.* 825 Benzilic Acid is produced by the action of alcoholic potash on benzoin. 1806 *DAVY in Phil. Trans.* XCVII. 18 Benzoate of ammonia, and alum were used. 1810 *HENRY Elem. Chem.* (1826) II. 237 The compounds, which this [benzoic] acid forms with alkaline and earthy bases, called benzoates. 1876 *GROSS Dis. Bladder* 274 Benzoated zinc ointment. 1869 *ROSCOE Elem. Chem.* 407 This is termed the Benzyl series. 1865 *MANSFIELD Salts* 399 Two of the atoms of Carbon in the Benzyl molecule.

Benzoic (ben'zoi'k), *a. Chem.* [f. BENZO-IN + -IC. (The first of the chemical terms so formed.)] Of or derived from benzoin; as **Benzoic acid**, C₆H₅O₂ (= C₆H₄.CO.OH), a monobasic acid of the Aromatic series, existing in large quantity in gum benzoin, from which it was at first prepared. 1791 *HAMILTON Berthollet's Dyeing* I. l. r. 85 Benzoic acid, or salt of benzoin. 1819 *J. CHILDREN Chem. Anal.* 274 Benzoic acid, formed from gum benzoin, is solid, white, and slightly ductile...it crystallizes in long white opaque prisms, with a satiny lustre. 1830 *LINDLEY Nat. Syst. Bot.* 303 The fragrance of some grasses...depends, according to Vögel, upon the presence of Benzoic acid.

Benzoin (ben'zoi'n, -zoin). Forms: 6 *belsoin*, *benjoin*, *benjwin*, *benjeweine*, 6-7 *-wine*, 7 *benjwine*, *benjwine*, *benjwine*, *benjoyn*, *benjoine*, *benjouin*, *benzoine*, *benzion*, *bensoin*, 7-8 *benione*, 6- *benzoin*. [In 16th c. *benjoin*, a. f. *benjoin* (also *benjaoy*, quoted by Devic from Deterville *Dict. Hist. Nat.* 1816), repr. Sp. *benjui*, *benjuy* (Barbosa 1516), Pg. *beijoin* (Vasco da Gama 1498), It. *benzoi* (Venetian records, 1461), for **lo-benzoi*, **lo-benjuy*, a. Arab. لبان جاوي *lubān jāwī* 'frankincense of Jāwā' (Sumatra), by which name benzoin is called by Ibn Batuta c 1350 (ed. Paris IV. 228). The *lo-* appears to have been dropped in Romanic, as if it were the article. The word was naturally much corrupted in European langs.; later It. forms are *beljivino*, *belzuino*, mod. L. 1584 *belzuinum*, whence *occas.* Eng. *belzoin*. In Eng., *benjoin* was soon corrupted to BENJAMIN, which still survives as a synonym. *Benzoin*, which is farther from the original, and appears to owe its *z* to the It., began to prevail c 1650. From *benzoin*, was formed a 1800 the chemical term *benzoic* (acid), whence at a later period *benzin* (e, *benzol*, and the numerous names of the *Benzene* series.)

1. A dry and brittle resinous substance, with a fragrant odour and slightly aromatic taste, obtained from the *Syrax benzoin*, a tree of Sumatra, Java, etc. It is used in the preparation of benzoic acid,

in medicine, and extensively in perfumery. For scientific distinction it is now termed *Gum benzoin*. Also called by popular corruption BENJAMIN.

1558 WARDE *Alexis' Secr.* (1568) 3a. An unce of Bengewine. 1562 TURNER *Herbal* 11. 30b. Benzoin or Benzoin is the resin of a tree. 1601 HOLLAND *Pliny* 1. 480 The herbe... (which beareth the gum Benjoine) grew there first. 1616 BULLOKAR, *Benzwine*, a sweet smelling gumme. 1616 SURFL. & MARKH. *Countr. Farm* 484 Your hard gums, such as is frankincense, benjoun... and waxe. 1653 WALTON *Angler* (Arb.) 42 There is an herb *Benione*, which... makes him (the Otter) to avoid that place. 1658 ROWLAND *Monflet's Theat. Ins.* 1000 *Asa dulcis*, Wine and Honey, or Benzoin dissolved in warm water. 1671 GREW *Anat. Plants* 1. 17 Benzoin, by Distillation [yieldeth] Oyl; by Vstion, white Flowers. 1834 J. GRIFFIN *Chem. Recr.* 117 Gum benzoin (or benjamin) is a prime constituent of fumigating pastiles. 1875 JEVONS *Money* vii. 28 Cubes of benzoin, gum or beeswax... are other peculiar forms of currency.

2. *Bot.* Name of a genus of *Lauraceae*, of which the Benjamin-tree of North America is the chief species. Also called Benzoin Laurel.

1866 TREAS. *Bot.* 135 Benzoin, a genus of *Lauraceae*, inhabiting... North America. 1875 LONDON *Abridgm. Arboretum* 685 The Benzoin Laurel, or Benjamin Tree.

3. *Chem.* Bitter-almond-oil camphor: one of the constituents of gum-benzoin, also frequently contained in crude bitter-almond oil, whence it is obtained as a by-product, when the oil is purified by lime and ferrous chloride; it is a ketone, $C_{14}H_{12}O_2$, of the di-phenyl group, and crystallizes in shining prisms.

1863 WATTS *Dict. Chem.* 1. 559. 1880 *Syd. Soc. Lex. s.v.*, Gum Benzoin... contains benzoic acid, benzoin, and resin.

Benzonate, *v.* [f. prec. + -ATE 3.] *trans.* To impregnate with benzoin. Hence **Benzonated**.

1861 HULME *Moquin-Tandon* 11. 111. 187 *Benzonated fat*. **Benzol**, **benzole** (ben'zol, -zōl). [f. BENZ-OIL + the ending of ALCOHOL. The spelling -OLE, is prob. intended to refer to *L. oleum* oil.]

1. *Chem.* (Benzol) The name given by Liebig in 1834 to what had at first been called *benzine*; generally used in chemistry till recent times, when it has been largely superseded by Hofmann's name BENZENE. (Less correctly spelt *benzole*.)

1838 THOMSON *Chem. Org. Bodies* 609 Mitscherlich... has given the name of benzol, altered by Liebig to benzol. 1869 ROSCOE *Elem. Chem.* 408 Benzol (or Benzene)... can be prepared from its elements by synthesis. 1875 *Ure Dict. Arts* 1. 337 Benzole is excessively inflammable, and its vapour mixed with air is explosive.

2. In comb., as *amido-benzol* (= aniline), *nitro-benzol*: see BENZENE.

1869 ROSCOE *Elem. Chem.* 409 In contact with reducing agents, nitro-benzol undergoes reduction to aniline. *Ibid.*, *Aniline*... is benzol in which one atom of hydrogen is replaced by the monad group NH_2 , and it is therefore properly called Amido-benzol. 1875 *Ure Dict. Arts* 1. 338 Nitro-benzole... odour greatly resembling bitter almonds.

3. *Min.* (Benzole) Dana's name for native benzene or benzol, as a species of his *Benzole* group of mineral 'oils' of the general formula $C_n H_{2n-6}$; it has been detected in Rangoon tar.

Benzoline (ben'zōlīn, -līn). [f. BENZOL + -INE = derivative.]

1. *Chem.* An earlier name for AMARINE, $C_{21}H_{18}N_2$, isomeric with hydrobenzamide.

2. A commercial name for impure benzene, and often for other volatile inflammable liquid hydrocarbons, esp. for coal-tar naphtha, of which benzene is a chief constituent, and which is used for removing grease-spots, cleaning gloves, etc. Also, less correctly, for a light hydrocarbon obtained by the fractional distillation of crude petroleum, and used to burn in lamps.

1874 (On the 2nd Oct. a barge carrying gunpowder and 'benzoline' along the Regent's Canal in London was blown up by the accidental ignition of the vapour of the benzoline, causing much destruction in the neighbourhood. 1875 *Ure Dict. Arts* 1. 338 Its power of dissolving greasy matters, has caused it [benzole] to become an article of commerce under the name of *benzoline*.

3. *attrib.* (in sense 2), as in *benzoline lamp* (introduced about 1864).

Benzown, -wine, obs. ff. BENISON, BENZOIN.

Beo, in OE. usually became in later times BE-, BEE-; but the earlier spelling lingered in Early ME., especially in the following forms:

Beo, obs. f. of BEE sb.¹, and of pres. indic. subj., imper. and infin. of BE *v.*

† **Beod**. Obs. Also 2 bled. [OE. *bled* = OS. *biod*, *bied*, OHG. *biod*, *biet*, ON. *biodr*, Goth. *biuds*:-O Teut. *biudo*-z table, f. *biud-an* to offer.] A table.

c. 1000 *Ag. Gosp. Matt.* xv. 27 Of þam crumum þe of hyra hlaforða beodum feallað. c. 1200 *Trin. Coll. Hom.* 228 þan he sat at his biede [Yesus MS. borde; Egerton MS. beode].

Beode, etc.: see BE- *pref.*

Beode, -mon, early f. BEDE, BEAD, sb., BEADSMAN.

Beoden, obs. form of BID *v.*

Beofe, obs. form of BEHOOF.

Beoff, beoves, obs. sing. and pl. form of BEEF.

Beon, beonde, early f. *ben*, *been*, *being*: see BE *v.*

Beord, obs. variant of BEARD.

Beoren, obs. infin. form of BEAR *v.*¹

Beorn, early form of BERNE, Obs., man.

† **Beot**, sb. Obs. [OE. *bēot*, contr. from earlier **bēht* 'promise', the original noun-form, corresponding to the vb. *bi-*, *be-há-tan*: see BE-, BY-. For the contraction cf. *hēold* (-he-hald), *bēo*, etc. A shifting of the stress from *bēht* to *bi-hát*, on analogy of the vb., gave the late OE. *bēht*, whence ME. BEHOTE, which is thus a doublet of *bēot*.] A promise, vow, threat, boast.

c. 1000 *Cædmon's Genesis* (Gr.) 70 Wæs him gylp forð, beot forborsten. c. 1200 LAY. 23680 His beot [so 1250] imaked hafde bi-foren al his dūgeðe. *Ibid.* 24929 Pat Romanisce leoden sunden swa reize and heore beot [1250 pret] makied.

† **Beote(n)**, *v.* Obs.-1 [OE. *bēotian* f. prec.] To boast, threaten.

c. 1000 *Juliana* (Gr.) 137 Hildewoman, þe þu hæstlice man-fremmende to me beotast. c. 1200 LAY. 20522 Heo beoteden swiðe... þat heo wolden igræten Cheldric.

Beoth, obs. pl. pres. indic. and imper. of BE *v.*

Beoust, beoust, variants of BIWIST *v.* Obs.

Bepaddle, bepaid, etc.: see BE- *pref.*

Bepaint (bēpānt). [f. BE- + PAINT *v.*] *trans.* To paint over, cover, or smear with paint or paintings; to paint obtrusively; to colour, tinge.

c. 1255 HARPSFIELD *Divorce of Hen. VIII* (1878) 282 The walls all bepainted... with places of holy Scripture. 1567 MAPLET *Gr. Forest* 12 b. Black, yet bepainted with other colours. 1592 SHAKS. *Rom. & Jul.* 11. ii. 86 Else would a maiden blush bepaint my cheek. 1647 BP. CORSET *Poems* (1807) 14 Their collages were new be-painted. 1831 CARLYLE *Sart. Res.* 1. vii. Buff-belts, complicated chains... have been bepainted in Modern Romance.

Hence **Bepainted** ppl. a.

1592 SHAKS. *Ven. & Ad.* 901 Whose frothy mouth, bepainted all with red. 1825 CARLYLE *Frederick* 11. vi. vi. 96 A bepainted, beribanded, insulting Playactor Majesty.

Bepale, bepaper, beparoch, beparody, beparse, bepart, bepaste, bepaw, etc.: see BE-.

Bepat (bēpæt), *v.* [f. BE- + PAT *v.*] *trans.* To pat frequently; to strike, beat.

1676 *ETHEREDGE Man of Mode* 11. i. (1684) 15 He calls me Rogue, tells me he can't abide me; And does so bepat me. a 1841 MISS BAILLIE *Eng. Minstr.*, *Kitten*, Thy clutching feet bepat the ground.

Bepatched (bēpætʃt), ppl. a. [f. BE- + PATCH *v.*]

1. Mended with patches; wearing patched clothes. 1605 STOW *Ann.* 1291 Their habit was Russet, all bepatched. 1846 *Sir R. de Coverley* 11. 186 You ragged vagabond... you bepatched and bespattered knave.

2. Wearing 'patches' on the face as an ornament. 1719 OZELL *Misson's Trav. Eng.* 214 (D.) In England, young, old, handsome, ugly, all are bepatch'd till they are bedrid. 1865 *Publ. Opinion* 4 Mar. 237/1 When Cleopatra appeared bepatched in a farthingale, and Alexander wore his helmet over a full-bottomed wig.

Beparl (bēpārl), *v.* [f. BE- + PEARL.] To cover or set with or as with pearls. Hence **Beparled** ppl. a.

1640 CAREW *Poems* Wks. (1824) 134 This Primrose all beparl'd with dew. 1863 GEO. ELIOT *Romola* 11. vi. The brilliant tints of the embroidered and bepearled canopy.

Bepelt (bēpelt), *v.* [f. BE- + PELT *v.*] *trans.* To pelt soundly; to assail with missiles.

1622 MABBE *Aleman's Gusman d'Alf.* 1. 94 They shrewdly be-pelted their Pates. 1630 J. TAYLOR (Water P.) *Wks.* 11. 145 [They] Be-pelted me with Lome, with Stones, and Laths. 1832 *Fraser's Mag.* 7. 756 The Duke... was hissed and be-pelted. 1852 HAWTHORNE *Wonder-Bk.* (1879) 117 The children... be-pelted him with snowballs.

Bepen, beperiwigged, bepewed, etc.: see BE-.

Bepepper (bēpēpər), [f. BE- + PEPPER *v.*] *trans.* To pelt with shot, sand, etc.; or with blows thickly falling.

1613 ROWLANDS *Four Knaves* (1843) 52 He is be-peper'd over head and eares. 1760 STERNE *Tr. Shandy* (1802) VIII. v. 112 Grinding the faces of the impotent,—bepeppering their noses.

† **Bepeps**, *v.* Obs. rare-1. [f. BE- + PEPS *v.* *dial.* to throw at, pelt.] *trans.* To pepper.

1622 MABBE *Aleman's Gusman d'Alf.* 1. 233 They [the Mosquitos] did so be-peps him.

Bepester (bēpēstər), *v.* [f. BE- + PESTER *v.*] *trans.* To pester greatly, plague, vex, harass.

1600 ABP. ABBOT *Exp. Jonah* 13 When Valens the Emperor with his Arrian opinions, had bee-pestered much of the world. 1865 *Academy* 19 Sept. 188 Since Locke has be-pestered the human mind with his unspeakably valuable chapter upon 'words'.

Bephilter, bephrase, bepicture, bepiece, bepiece, bepile, bepillgrimed, bepill, bepillared, bepimple, etc.: see BE- *pref.*

Bepinch (bēpɪnʃ), *v.* [f. BE- + PINCH *v.*] *trans.* To pinch or bruise all over.

1600 CHAPMAN *Iliad* xxiii. (J.) In their sides, arms, shoulders, all bepinched, Ran thick the weals. 1612 ROWLANDS *More Knaves* Yet 40 Bepinch a lazze queane. 1742 JARVIS *Quix.* 11. 111. xvii. Sad and sorely bepinched.

† **Bepink** (bēpɪŋk), *v.* Obs. [f. BE- + PINK *v.*] *trans.* To cut in small scollops; to work in eyelet-holes; to pierce with small holes.

1567 MAPLET *Gr. Forest* 39 b. Crowfoote... His leafe is cut about or bepinked. 1615 ROWLANDS *Melanch.* Knt. 11 With poniard point his doublet lle bepinke.

Bepias, bepistle, etc.: see BE- *pref.*

† **Bepitch**, *v.* Obs. [f. BE- + PITCH sb.] *trans.* To cover or stain with pitch; also *fig.* Hence **Bepitched** ppl. a., **Bepitching** vbl. sb.

1547 *Life of Abbt. Canter.* To Rdr. Eviij. Who liued in those pitchie tymes, and was not bepitched? 1611 COTGR., *Poizement*, a pitching, or bepitching. *Poisard*, pitchie, bepitched. a 1618 SYLVESTER *Ark* 479 When th air with midnight shal your noon be-pitch.

Bepity (bēpɪtɪ), *v.* [f. BE- + PITY *v.*] *trans.* To pity exceedingly.

1587 TURBERV. *Trag. T.* (1837) 61 But divers moe, that there about did dwell, Bepitied those that loving hearts did beare. 1749 FIELDING *Tom Jones* x. ix. Mercy on him, poor heart! I bepited him, so I did.

Beplague, beplained, etc.: see BE- *pref.*

Beplaster (bēplāstər), *v.* Also 7-8 **beplaster**. [f. BE- + PLASTER *v.*] *trans.* To plaster over or about; to cover or smear thickly.

1611 COTGR., *Emplastré*, plastered, beplastered; covered with a plaster. 1753 SMOLLETT *Cl. Fathom* (1784) 63/2 We Englishmen don't beplaster our doublets with gold and silver. 1812 H. & J. SMITH *Ref. Addr.*, *Drury L. Hustings* iii. Some old harridans who beplaster their cheeks. 1865 *Sat. Rev.* 5 Aug. 169 To plaster his friends with praise in order that he in turn may be similarly beplastered.

Hence **Beplastered** ppl. a., **Beplastering**.

1598 FLORIO, *Pastegli*... plaisters or beplaisters. 1862 MISS YONGE *Cress Kate* vii. (1880). They hurried her along as fast as their beplastered garments would let her move.

† **Beplotmele**, *adv.* Obs. [f. be- = BY + PLOT patch + MEAL, OE. *mæl* time: cf. *piece-meal*.] Part by part, one portion after another.

c. 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 31 Beplotmele, particulariter.

Beplumed (bēplūmd), ppl. a. [f. BE- + PLUME sb.] Furnished or adorned with feathers.

1582 STANFURST *Æneis* 1. (Arb.) 27 Hee flitters with wynges ful fledgey beplumed. 1768 STERNE *Sent. Journ.* (1775) 1. 56 Be-plumed with each gay feather of the east. 1860 MISS YONGE *Stokesley* *Secr.* ix. (1880) 260 It was the first time Christabel had seen Ida out of her beplumed hat.

Bepoetise, bepounce, etc.: see BE- *pref.*

Bepommel (bēpōm'l), *v.* [f. BE- + POMMEL *v.*] *trans.* To pommel soundly, drub; also *fig.*

1553-57 FOXE *A. & M.* (1566) 152/2 He [Hildebrand]... there all to becomid pope Alexander with his fists. 1609 ROWLANDS *Crew Kind Gossips* 9. 1. got him downe, and with my very fist I did be-pommel him. 1828 THACKERAY *Virgin.* xlix. (1878) 388, Still be-pommelled and stoned by irreproachable ladies of the straightest sect of the Pharisees.

Bepowder (bēpau'dər), *v.* [f. BE- + POWDER *v.*] *trans.* To powder over.

1582 STANFURST *Æneis* iv. (Arb.) 100 Thee chase is enusd with passage dustye bepowderd. 1760 STERNE *Tr. Shandy* 243 Bepowdering their wigs,—bepeppering their noses. 1879 G. MACDONALD *P. Faber* 1. xvii. 227 The ashes of life's volcano are falling; they bepowder my hair.

Hence **Bepowdered** ppl. a.

1742 FIELDING *Lucy in Town* Wks. 1784 III. 439 And is this bepowder'd, becur'd, behoop'd madwoman my daughter? 1829 SOUTHEY *Epist. A. Cunningham*, Armorial bearings and bepowdered pates!

Bepraise (bēprāz), *v.* [f. BE- + PRAISE *v.*] *trans.* To laud or praise greatly; or to excess.

1774 GOLDSMITH *Retal.* 118 How did Grub-street re-echo the shouts that you raised When he was be-Roscus'd and you were bepraised. 1844 BENTHAM *Fallacies* Wks. 1843 II. 359 The same man who bepraises you when dead.

Hence **Bepraised** ppl. a.; **Bepraise**ment; **Bepraiser**.

1843 MIALL *Nonconf.* III. 457 Contented, submissive and bepraised agriculturalists. 1831 *Fraser's Mag.* III. 113 The... puffing bepraisement of the Court Journal. — II. 78 Ruin would fall not only upon the head of the pseudo-poet, but his shivering bepraisers.

Beprank, bepreach, bepress, bepretty, bepride: see BE- *pref.*

Bepray, *v.* = PRAY. (Of doubtful use.)

1588 SHAKS. *L. L. V.* 11. 702 (Q^o 1). I bepray you, let me borrow my arms again. [Q^o 2 and Folios, pray.]

Beprose (bēprōz), *v.* [f. BE- + PROSE sb.] *trans.* a. To turn into prose. b. To discuss in prose, to 'prose' about.

1739 MALLEY *Verbal Crit.* (R.) To blast all beauty and beprose all rhyme. 1880 SWINBURNE *Study Shaks.* ii. (ed. 2) 151 More plentifully beprosed than ever Rosalind was be-rhymed.

Bepuddle, bepurple, etc.: see BE- *pref.*

Bepuff (bēpʊf), *v.* [f. BE- + PUFF *v.*] *trans.* a. To puff or blow out, to swell. b. *fig.* To puff up, praise greatly. Hence **Bepuffed** ppl. a.

1843 CARLYLE *Past & Pr.* 392 Doggeries never so diplomated, be-puffed, gas-lighted. a 1849 POE *Wks.* 1864 IV. 303 Altering my countenance... from its be-puffed and distorted appearance. 1860 DICKENS *Uncomm. Trav.* ix. (D.) Even the Lord Mayor—not a Fiction conventionally be-puffed on one day in the year by illustrious friends.

† **Bepurpurate**, ppl. a. Obs. [? for *be-purpurate*, f. *L. purpur* (cf. Gr. *πορφύρεος*) purple.] Purpled, rosy-tinged, rosy-coloured.

1584 LODGE *Forb. & Prisc.* 30 a. Her daintie nose of ivory faire and sheene Be-purpurate with ruddie roses beene.

Bepuzzle (bēpʊz'l), *v.* rare. [f. BE- + PUZZLE *v.*] *trans.* To puzzle greatly.

1599 NASHE *Lent. Stuff* 6 A matter that egregiously be-puzzled and entranced my apprehension.

Hence **Bepuzzlement**, perplexing, perplexity. 1806 KNOX & JESS *Corr.* 1. 295 To the be-puzzlement of

the ignorant, and the bedazzlement of the superficial. 1805 *Daily News* 21 Feb. 5/6 Stewart... used to express to me his bewilderment as to what could be the object of the campaign.

Bepry, var. of **BEAUFERE**, *Obs.*

Beqhweytt, obs. form of **BEQUEATH**.

Be-qualify (bē'kwō'fai), *v. rare*—1. [*f. BE-2 + QUALIFY v.*] *trans.* To ascribe qualities to, to celebrate the qualities of.

1600 B. JONSON *Cynthia's Rev.* iv. iii. 12 How hee doe's all to bequalifie her... as if there were not others in place... polite as shee.

Bequalm, etc.: see **BE-pref.**

† **Bequarre**. *Obs.* [*a. OF. blquarre*, mod. *F. bécarré* (= Lat. *B. quadratum*): see **BEMOL.**] *Mus.* Old name for the note B \flat . See **B II. 1.**

1330 *Song in Rel. Ant.* I. 292 Thu bitist a-sonder bequarre, for bemol i the blame. 1806 CALCOTT *Mus. Gram.* v. 57 note, The French call the Natural Bequarre.

† **Bequarrel**, *v. Obs.* [*f. BE-4 + QUARREL v.*] *trans.* To quarrel with, find fault with, abuse.

1644 F. WHITE *Repl. Fisher* 165 Pontificians bequarrel vs in this argument. 1637 H. SYDENHAM *Serm. Sol. Occ.* 14 Afterwards bequarrell'd by Sabellius the Hereticke... as being the author of Innovation.

† **Bequash**, *v. Obs. rare*—1. [*f. BE-2 + QUASH v.*] *intr.* To shake or fall in pieces, to be shattered.

1377 LANGL. *P. Pl.* B. xviii. 246 The erthe... Quaked as quykke pinge, and al biquash[e] pe roche [1393 C. xxi. 64 The erthe quook and quashte as hit quyke were].

Bequeath (bē'kwēð), *v.* Forms: 1 *bi-*, *be-*, *owethan*, 2-5 *bi-*, *byquethen*, *pe(n)-the(n)*, 4-6 *bequethe*, 4-5 *-qweth(e)*, 6 *-queath(e)*, (5-*quete*, *-wheth(e)*, *-weth*, *-qwithe*, *-quaythe*, and innumerable illiterate spellings in wills). *Pa. t.* 6-*bequethed*; in 1 *becweth*, 2-*quath*, 2-3 *-queth*, 2-4 *-queth*, 3 *-quath*, 5 *-quath(e)*, *-quaythed*. *Pa. pple.* 6-*bequethed*; in 1 *becweden*, 3 *-quethen*, 5 *-quethe(n)*, *-quette*, *-witt*, *-quothan*, *-quethed*. [*OE. bi-, becwethan*, *f. BE-4 + cwethan* to say: see **QUETHE** and **QUOTH**. An ancient word, the retention of which is due to the traditional language of wills. Originally, like its radical *cwethan*, a strong vb.; but having only weak inflexion since 1500. In north. dial. written in 15th c. *bewhethe*, and variously perverted as *-whete*, *-weth*, *-withe*, *-wite*, *-wit*, *-quite*, *-quit*, which show the groping of popular etymology after some known verb to which the derivative might be referred.]

I. To say, utter, declare.

† **1. trans.** To say, utter, express in words. *Obs.* c 1000 *Ag. Ps.* lxxxviii. 44 [-ix. 51] Pæt þinun criste becweþað swiðe. c 1000 *Andreas* (Gr.) 418 Gif þu þegn sie... wuldor cyninges, swa þu worde becwest.

† **b.** Of language: To express, signify, mean. c 1175 *Lamb. Hom.* 75 Ic ow wile seggen word efter word and permide hwat þet word bi-queþ. *Ibid.* 133 Hwet þeo saȝe bi-cwede. c 1200 *Trin. Coll. Hom.* 17 Alle cunne ower crede... þeiȝ 3e alle nuten hwat hit bi-queðe.

† **2. ?** To speak about in sorrow, to bewail. *Obs.* (Or is this error for *bigreden*, or *bigreithen*?)

c 1250 *Gen. & Ex.* 2448 De liches beðen, And smeren, and wunden, and bi-queðen.

II. To 'say (a thing) away'; to give or part with by formal declaration.

† **3.** To assign, ordain, appoint, allot, give as an attribute (a thing to a person, etc.). *Obs.*

c 1250 *Gen. & Ex.* 117 God bi-quadd watres here stede. 1674 N. FAIRFAX *Bulk & Selv.* 79 Yet these belong to body are helpful enough, wherewith to set forth the nature of the things to which we bequeath them.

4. To make a formal assignation of (property of which one is possessed) to any one, + *a.* so as to pass to him at once: To transfer, hand over, make over, assign, deliver. *Obs.*

c 1305 *Edmund Conf.* 132 in E. E. P. (1862) 74 Þis catel þat ich biqueþe þis dede forto do. 1480 CAXTON *Chron.* Eng. xciv. 74 He had the reame... sauf he byquath and yafe it to his broder. 1595 SHAKS. *John* i. l. 149 Wilt thou... Bequeath thy land to him, and follow me? 1611—*Wint.* T. v. iii. 102 Bequeath to Death your nummesse.

b. so as to pass to the recipient after one's death: To 'leave' by will. (The only surviving sense, for which it is the proper term.)

1066 *Chart. Enduward in Cod. Dipl.* IV. 191 Swa full fre and swa forð swa he it sainte Petre bequað. c 1200 *Trin. Coll. Hom.* 183 Gief þe quike hæuð ahte þe were þe dedes ærrure þe he him biqueð. c 1393 CHAUCER *Gentillesse* 17 There may noman... Bequeythe his heyre his vertuous noblesse. 1418 E. E. Wills (1882) 25 My godys... I be-quethe to Ione my wyfe. c 1440 *Prompt. Parv.* 31. 1440 *Test. Ebor.* 11 (1855) 134 A speciall wille... in whiche I have be-queuthen and sette diuerse thyngys to certenn persouns. 1443 *Ibid.* 106, I gyffe and bewhete... xl s. c 1440 *Gesta Rom.* (1879) 23 He bequathe to his dower all his Empire. 1530 PALSGR. 448/2 My grant mother byquaythed me a hundred pounde. 1601 SHAKS. *Jul.* C. iii. ii. 141 Bequeathing it as a rich Legacie Vnto their issue. 1782 PRIESTLEY *Corrupt. Chr.* II. vi. 28 Sums of money were... bequeathed to the priests. 1876 GREEN *Short Hist.* ii. § 6 (1882) 85 William had bequeathed Normandy to his eldest son, Robert.

c. fig. To transmit (to posterity), to 'leave.'

1614 RALEIGH *Hist. World* ii. 415 Jacob in his blessing prophetically bequeathed it. 1750 JOHNSON *Ramb.* No. 205 P 13 This narrative he has bequeathed to future generations.

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1875 SCRIVENER *Lect. Grk. Test.* 11 Antiquity has bequeathed to us nothing else that can be compared with them.

† **5.** To commit to, unto (any one) with recommendation to his acceptance or care; to commend, entrust. Also *fig. Obs. or arch.*

c 1225 *Rel. Ant.* I. 235 Louerd Godd, in hondes tine I biqueðe soule mine. 1436 *Test. Ebor.* ii. (1855) 75, I bewitt my saule to Gode Allmighty. 1591 SPENSER *Virg. Gnat* 633 Them therefore as bequeathing to the winde, I now depart. 1596 DRAVTON *Legends* iii. 16 Let Me to Thee, my sad Complaints bequeathe. 1700 DRYDEN *Pythag. Philos.* 57 *Fables* (1721) 301 The judges to the common urn bequeath Their votes. 1718 POPE *Iliad* vii. 399 We to flames our slaughtered friends bequeath.

† **6. gen.** To deliver, bestow, give, yield, furnish. c 1440 *Gesta Rom.* (1879) 25 To whom god hath ȝevin and bequepon... paradise. 1608 PENNYLESS *Parl. in Harl. Misc.* (Malh.) 111. 72 A niggards purse shall scarce bequeath his master a good dinner. 1674 N. FAIRFAX *Bulk & Selv.* 122 That which bequeaths it this slow pace.

† **7. refl.** To commit oneself, give oneself up, devote oneself. *Obs. or arch.*

1555 PHAER *Æneid* iii. -iv. This flecte at last... I see... I did myself bequeth thereto to flee. 1652 EVELYN *State of France Misc.* (1805) 85 Gentlemen... who generally so bequeath themselves to this service. 1829 K. DIGNY *Broadst. Hom.* I. 166 Orpheus... bequeaths himself to a solitary life in the deserts.

† **Bequeath**, *sb. Obs.* Forms: 3 *byquide*, 4 *bekuyde*, *-quide*, 5 *beqweth*, 6 *bequede*, *bequeth*, 7 *bequeath*. [*ME. byquide*:—*OE. bi-cwide*, *big-cwide*, quotable only in sense of 'byword, proverb' (cf. **BEQUEATH v. 1**), *f. bi-*, emphatic form of *bi-*, *BE-pref.* + *cwide* a sentence, a saying, cogn. w. *OS. quidi*, *OHG. chwiti*:—*OTeut. *qidi-s*, *f. qipan* (*OS. quethan*, *queþan*, *OE. cwethan*) to say; *pa. pple.* with grammatical consonant-change) *OE. cwiden*. In later times, gradually assimilated in form to the vb. **BEQUEATH**.]

1. Byword, proverb. (Only in *OE.*)

c 1000 *Ælfric Deut.* xxviii. 37 Ge forwurðað þurh bigspell and bigcwidas.

2. Bequest, testament, will.

1297 R. GLOUC. 384 Gret folc he sende also Fram Normandye to worry, & hys fader byquide vndo. 1340 *Ayenb.* 38 Kueade exequitours of bekuydes. 1490 *Church-w. Acc. St. Dunstan's, Canterb.* Rec. the full of the bequeth of Mother Belser xxxiiij. liij. 1597 *Lanc. & Chesh. Wills* (1854) 35 All the foresaid gyftes and bequethes. 1644 *Fragm. Reg.* in *Select. Harl. Misc.* (1793) 185 They may express more affection to one in the abundance of bequeaths.

b. fig. 1340 *Ayenb.* 112 He hit ous let: at his [Christ's] yleau nymyng and at his laste bequide. a 1617 BAYNE *On Eph.* 11 Peace is that golden bequeth which Christ did leave us. **Bequeathable** (bē'kwēðəbəl), *a.* [*f. BE-QUEATH v. + -ABLE*.] Capable of being bequeathed. 1655 FULLER *Ch. Hist.* ix. IV. 398 Bequeathable... like goods and Chattels. 1875 POSTE *Gains* ii. 287 Legacies bequeathable to legatees who were capable of taking.

Bequeathal (bē'kwēðəl), [*f. as prec. + -AL*.] The action of bequeathing.

1642 *Act. Harvard Coll.* in Shurtliff *Records Mass. Bay* II. 30 All gifts, legacies, bequeathals, revenues, lands, and donations. 1861 PEARSON *Early & Mid. Ages Eng.* 186 The bequeathal of iolc-land would require a guarantee from the state.

Bequeathed (bē'kwēðəd), *pple. a.* [*f. as prec. + -ED*.] Left by will; *fig.* handed down, transmitted to posterity.

1618 BOLTON *Florus* iii. xv. 220 The late bequeathed kingdom of Attalus. 1679 *Establ. Test.* 21 Capable of taming this bequeathed Fierceness.

Bequeather (bē'kwēðə), [*f. as prec. + -ER*.] One who bequeaths, a testator.

1502 ARNOLD *Chron.* (1811) 274 Ageyn the wyll of the yeuar or byquether. 1638 FEATLY *Strict. Lyndom* ii. 121 The disposer and bequeather of the land. 1883 L. CAMPBELL *St. Andrews* 1 Nov. The munificent donors and bequeathers of large sums to the university.

Bequeathing, *vbl. sb.* [*f. as prec. + -ING*.] The action of leaving by will; *fig.* handing down to posterity; also *concr.* a legacy, bequest.

1674 N. FAIRFAX *Bulk & Selv.* 131 The bequeathing of that hord of sprightfulness. 1768 BLACKSTONE *Comm.* II. 491 The power of bequeathing. 1855 BROWNING *Saul Men & Wom.* II. 123 His rents, the successive bequeathings of ages untold.

Bequeathment. [*f. as prec. + -MENT*.] The action of bequeathing: usually *concr.* a bequest.

1607 W. SCLATER *Fun. Serm.* (1629) Pref. If such vertues were capable of bequeathment. a 1634 RANDOLPH *Amyntas* iii. ii. 32 Nymph take this Whistle: 'Tis Amaryllis last bequeathment to you. 1821 SMILES *Charac.* i. (1876) 24 Among the most cherished bequeathments from the past.

Bequeave, *-queue*, *obs.* phonetic corruptions of **BEQUEATH**.

Bequest (bē'kwest). Also 3-4 *biqueste*, 4 *byquyste*, 5 *biqueste*, *byqueste*, 6 *bequaste*, 5-*bequest*. [*ME. biquyste*, *biqueste*, prob. for an earlier **bi-cwis*, *bi-cwisse*, *f. bi-*, accented form of *bi-*, *BE- + cwis*, *cwisse* 'saying':—*OTeut. *qissi-s*:—**qip-ti-s*, *f. qipan* to say (cf. *Sievers Ags. Gram.* § 232). *Bequest* thus represents a type **bi-qissi-s* answering to the vb. **bigipan*, **BE-QUEATH**. The later change is parallel to that of

BEHEST (q.v.), and the accentuation is assimilated to that of the verb.]

1. The act of bequeathing; transference or bestowal by will, or by a similar procedure.

c 1300 R. BRUNNE *Chron.* 86 Of ȝour fader biqueste dome þan sallaȝe se. 1393 LANGL. *P. Pl.* C. ix. 94 For-thich wolle, erich wende do wryten my by-quyste. c 1600 SHAKS. *Sonn.* iv. Natures bequest gives nothing, but doth lend. 1848 MILL *Pol. Econ.* I. 259 Bequest in a primitive state of society, was seldom recognized. 1876 FREEMAN *Norm. Cong.* V. xxiv. 388 When he made his bequest, if bequest we are to call it, in favour of Rufus.

2. concr. That which is bequeathed; a legacy.

1496 in *Blades Caxton* 162 It^m in bokes called legendes, of the bequest of William Caxton, xliij. 1553 T. WILSON *Rhet.* 246 Al bequestes and goodes of suche his frendes as dyed intestate. 1618 BOLTON *Florus* ii. xx. 156 The estate of kings, and the riches of whole Realmes coming to them as bequests, and Legacies. 1790 BURKE *Fr. Rev.* Wks. V. 437 Let us imitate their caution, if we wish to deserve fortune, or to retain their bequests.

† **Bequest**, *v. Obs.*; also 5 *bi-*, *by-*. *Pa. pple.*

bequested, **bequest**. [*f. prec. sb.*] *trans.* To give as a bequest, to bequeath.

1394 *P. Pl. Crede* 69 Her money may biquest, and testamēt maken. 1479 *Bury Wills* (1850) 54 A cloos... byfor byquestyd to Thomas my sone. 1480 *Ibid.* 55, I bygwest to the fryer of Clare xxx. 1506 *Pilgr. Perf.* (W. de W. 1531) 299 b, Testament of peace... gyuen and bequest to thy disciples. 1793 *Haunted Castle* II. 74 He broke open the papers of Du Pin... bequesting him all his estates.

† **Bequesting**, *vbl. sb. Obs.* Bequeathing.

1572 *Richmond. Wills* (1853) 235 In witness of the bequesting of a bull of the said Adam Kirkbie.

Bequirtle, **bequerte**, etc.: see **BE-pref.**

† **Bequit**, *v. Obs. rare*—1. [*f. BE-2 + QUIT*.]

refl. To acquit oneself.

1577 STANYHURST *Descr. Irel.* in *Holinshead* VI. Ep. Ded., My fast friend... did learnedlie bequit himself in the penning of certeine breefe notes concerning that countrie.

Beqwete, *-qweth(e)*, *-qweythe*, *-qwithe*, *obs.* forms of **BEQUEATH**.

Be, *obs.* and dial form of **BIR** force, impetus, **BEAR**, **BIER**.

Beraft, *obs.* form of **BEREFT**; see **BEREAVE v.**

Beragged, **berailroaded**, etc.: see **BE-pref.**

Beraid, *-raied*, *pa. t.* and *pa. pple.* of **BERAY**.

† **Berain**, *v. Obs.* Forms: 3 *berain*, 4-5 *be-*, *bi-*, *byrein*, *-reyn*, 5 *berayn*, *byrayn(e)*, 6 *berain(e)*. [*f. BE-4 + RAIN*; cf. *OHG. bireganōn*, mod. *G. beregnen*, in same sense.]

1. trans. To ruin upon. (Chiefly in *pa. pple.*)

a 1225 *Ancr. R.* 344 Clodes unseowued: bireined oðer unwaschen. 1388 WYCLIF *Ezek.* xxii. 24 A lond vnclene and not bireyned. 1398 TREvisa *Barth.* De P. R. xiv. i. Yf good londe is bidewid or bireynid it fateth and amendeþ. 1582 BATMAN *Barth.* De P. R. xiv. xlv. 210 Also downes be more bedewed and berained than vallies.]

2. a. To besprinkle as with rain; to wet, bedew.

c 1374 CHAUCER *Troilus* iv. 1144 After that he long had... with his teris salt hire breest bireyned. a 1547 SURREY *Pris. in Windsor* 42 The tears berain my cheeks of deadly hew. 1567 TURNERV. in Chalmers' *Eng. Poets* II. 641/2 Teares... beraine my brest.

b. To sprinkle or pour (a liquid) in drops.

c 1420 *Pallad. on Husb.* i. 932 Byrayne aboute upon thi wortes this.

Berake, **berampler**, etc.: see **BE-pref.**

Berande, *obs.* north. form of **BEARING fpl. a.** Also *subst.* Bearer, carrier.

c 1460 *Towneley Myst.* 8a Prowde men and hyghe berand.

1483 *Cath. Angl.* 28 *Beard*, *bairel*.

Berapt *ppl. a.* [*f. BE-4 + RAFT*, or for *beraft* = **BEREFT**.]

1581 STUDLEY *Seneca's Agamemnon* 153b, Me berapt of sence, with prickes of fury fresh yee fill.

Berar(e), *obs.* form of **BEARER**.

† **Berard**, *Obs. rare*—1. A viper.

c 1475 in *Wt.-Wülcker Voc.* 766 *Hec vispera*, a berard.

Berard, *obs.* *f. BEARERD*.

Berate (bē'rat), *v.* [*f. BE-2 + RATE v.* This word appears to have become *obs.* in England, and to have been preserved in U. S., whence we have many 19th c. instances.]

trans. To rate or chide vehemently; to scold.

1548 UDALL, etc. *Erasm. Par. Mark* xv. (R.) So is the veritie of the gospell berated and laughed to skorne of the miscreantes. 1574 tr. *Lavaterus Ghostes* (1596) 158 They all berated him for occupying his head about questions nothing appertaining unto him. 1601 HOLLAND *Pitny* II. 162 Antony... fell into a furious fit of choler, and all to berated... Toranius. 1825 MOTLEY *Dutch Rep.* vi. i. (1866) 779 Never was unlucky prince more soundly berated by his superiors. 1864 E. SARGENT *Peculiar* III. 290 An ancient virago... was berating a butcher. 1881 *Boston Lit. World* 22 Oct. 365/2 Berating Puritanism in his diary.

† **Berattle**, *v. Obs. rare*; also 7 *beratle*. [*f. BE-4 + RATTLE v.*] *trans.* To rattle away upon; to fill with rattling noise or din; also, to rattle away at, assail with din.

1553 T. WILSON *Rhet.* 180 (R.) He did all berattle him. 1602 SHAKS. *Ham.* ii. ii. 358 An ayrie of Children, little Yases, that crye out on the top of question; and are most tyrannically clapt for't; these... so beratled the common Stages... that many wearing Rapiers, are affraide of Goose-quills.

Beray, *v. Obs. or arch.* Forms: 6 *beraye*, 102

(berer), 6-7 beray, 7-9 erroneously bewray. Pa. t. and pa. pple.: 6-7 beraid, -raied, -rayed. [f. BE-2 + RAY v. (aphetic form of ARRAY: cf. for the sense ARRAY v. 10). Generally mis-spelt by modern writers through erroneous confusion with BEWRAY.] Hence Berayed ppl. a.

1. trans. To disfigure, dirty, defile, befoul (with dirt, filth, ordure).

1530 PALSGR. 449/1. You have berayed your gowne with myer. 1570 HOLINSHED Scot. Chron. (1806) I. 296 The King was slaine, and the bed all beraied with blood. 1678 N. WANLEY Wanderer v. ii. 48. 470/1 When he was Baptized, he berayed the Font. 1679 RAY Prov. (T.) It is an ill bird that berays its own nest. 1701 DE Foe True-born Englishman. Pref. 1, I am tax'd with Bewraying my own Nest. 1863 SALA Capt. Dangerous I. vii. 190 His Countenance and his Raiment were all smirched and bewrayed with dabs and patches of what seemed soot.

b. refl. and intr. 1561 AWDELEY Frat. Vacab. 13 This knave berayeth many tymes in the corners of his maisters chamber. 1611 COTGR. s. v. Arc. To be beshitten; to beray himselfe. 1649 R. HODGES Plain Direct. 27 The childe did bewray, that hee would beray himself.

2. fig. To befoul, stain, disfigure; to asperse, to cover with abuse.

1576 GASCOIGNE Steele Gl. (Arb.) 56 Wherein I see a quicke captivite Berayde with blots of light Inconstancie. 1603 RETURN fr. Parnass. iv. v. (Arb.) 58 Our fellow Shakespeare hath given him a purge that made him beray his credit. 1863 SALA Capt. Dangerous I. x. 287 [She] did so bemaule and bewray Madam Macphlader with her tongue.

† Berayer. Obs. Also 7 (erron.) be-wrayer. [f. PREC. + -ER-1.] One who berays or defiles.

1699 COLES, Bewrayer (defiler), concacator. Berayn, obs. form of BERAIN.

Berber (bē'ber). [For derivation see BARBARY.]

A. sb. A name given by the Arabs to the aboriginal people west and south of Egypt; applied by modern ethnologists to any member of the great North African stock to which belong the aboriginal races of Barbary and the Tuwariks of the Sahara.

1842 PRICHARD Nat. Hist. Man 261 In the Northern parts of Atlas, these people are called Berbers. 1883 CUST Mod. Lang. Africa I. 98 Strictly speaking a Moor must be a native of Mauritania, and a Berber, and the term could not be applied with propriety to an Arab.

B. adj. Of or pertaining to the Berbers or their language; applied (often absol.) to one of the three great subdivisions of the Hamitic group, called also Lybian and Amazirg, containing, according to CUST, nine North African languages.

1844 LATHAM in Orr's Circ. Sc. Org. Nat. I. 367 The Amazirg tongues are often called Berber. 1883 CUST Mod. Lang. Africa I. 104 The Berber Family of Languages is one of striking unity.

† Berber. Sc. Obs. [a. OF. *berbère* 'barberry,' in med.L. *berberis*, which is also used as the botanical name of the genus.] = BARBERRY.

From *Berberis* (stem *berberid-*) also; *Berberal* a. Bot., of or related to the Barberry, or genus *Berberis*; applied by Lindley to the 'alliance' including the N.O. *Berberidaceae*. *Berberid*, any member of the natural order to which the barberry belongs. *Berberidaceae*, belonging to the N.O. *Berberidaceae*, of which the barberry is the type. *Berberideous*, belonging to the tribe *Berberideae* which includes the barberry. *Berberia*, *Berberine*, a yellow bitter principle, obtained from the barberry and other plants.

1440 GAW. & Gologr. (JAM.) Of box and of berber, bigged ful bene. 1878 MISS BRADDOCK Open Verd. xxv. 176 The shining leaves of bay and berberis. 1866 TREAS. Bot. 136 Lindley includes the order in his Berberal Alliance. 1847 LINDLEY Veg. Kingd. (ed. 2) 421 Anonads are connected with Berberids through *Becagea*. 1854 TH. ROSS Humboldt's Trav. II. xviii. 171 It was perhaps a tree of the berberideous family. 1876 HARLEY Mat. Med. 725 Berberia is an alkaloid found abundantly in the common barberry. *Ibid.* 778 Contains a considerable amount of berberine. 1880 SYD. Soc. Lex., *Berberin* is given as a bitter tonic in dyspepsia.

Berberia, same as BERIBERI, a disease.

Berberis, -bery, variants of BARBERRY.

Berceaunette. [A tradesman's perversion of BASSINET or bassinette, whereby that word is ignorantly referred to the F. *berceau* 'cradle,' with which it has no connexion. *Berceaunette* is, of course, an impossible form in Fr., and is a patent modern instance of pseudo-etymological spelling.] 1885 BASAAR 30 Mar. 1250/3 Berceaunette carriage, nearly new, must be sold. *Ibid.* Splendid berceaunette perambulator, one of the handsomest carriages ever made.

† Bercel. Obs. rare; also 5 berseel, bersell, byrselle. [a. OF. *bersel*, also *bersail*, -eil, in same sense; f. *berser*: see next.] An archer's butt.

1440 PROMPT. Parv. 32 Bercel [1499 berseel], meta. *Ibid.* 56 But, or bercel or byrselle [1499 bersell], meta.

† Bercelet. Obs. Forms: 4 barselette, -slett, 4-5 barselet, bercelett, -selette, -slet, 5 breslet, 5-7 bercelett. [Corruption of OF. *berseret* hunting-dog, dim. of *bersier* huntsman (in med.L. *bersarius*), f. *berser*, *bercer* (in med.L. *bersäre*) to

hunt, esp. with the bow, orig. to shoot with the bow. Thence also Ger. *berschen* to shoot game, It. *bersaglio* an archer's butt, whence *bersagliere* archer, sharp-shooter, rifleman.] A hunting dog, a hound.

1340 ALEXANDER 786 (Dublin MS.) Was neuer barslett in hand more buxum to hys lord. c. 1400 Destr. Troy vi. 2196 Ger hom bowe as a berslet & pi blithe seche. c. 1420 Anters of Arth. iii. Wyth bow, and wyth berselette Vndurneth the boes. c. 1420 Avow. Arth. vii. He [the boar] brittunt bercelett bold. 1679 Plot Staffordsh. 444 Every day for his servant and his bercelett... twelve pence.

Bercke, Berd(e, obs. ff. BARK v. BEARD, BIRD. Berdash, variant form of BURDASH.

Berdyd, obs. form of BEARDED ppl. a.

† Bere, sb. Obs. Also 3 beare, 4 ber, 5 beyr, 6 (Sc.) beir. [ME. *beare*, *bere*, apparently short for *ibere* 'clamour, outcry'; the earlier text of Layamon has always *ibere*, the latter only *beare*. In form, *ibere* is:—OE. *gebere* 'bearing, behaviour, gesture' = OS. *gibári*, MDu. *gebaar*, MHG. *gebære*, in same sense, f. *beran* to bear. The history of the change of meaning is not evident; but it appears also in OFris. *bære* 'strepitus, clamour' (Mätzner), where also the prefix *ge-* has been dropped; the MDu. *gebaar* also meant 'noise, strepitus,' as well as 'behaviour.' In later times the word is only Sc., whence the spelling *beir*: the mod. Eng. would have been normally *beare*.]

Clamour, outcry, shouting, roaring; the noise of voices of men or animals.

[a. 800 O. E. Chron. an. 755 On ðæs wifes gebærum [Laud MS. 7c baron] onfundon ðæs cynynges ðegnas ða unstilnesse.] c. 1205 LAV. 25828 Wanliche iberen [1250 reuliche beares]. — 28162 Me mihte iberen Bruten iberen [Bruttune beare]. c. 1330 Florice & Bl. 457 Asked what here were That hi makede so loude bere. c. 1400 Rowland & Ol. 183 Jelde thi suerde to mee, & late be alle thi bere. 1460 Towneley Mytt. 249 Abyde withe alle thi boste and beyr. 1549 Compl. Scot. vi. 38 Foulis... ande... beystis... maid grite beir.

† Bere, v. Obs. Also 3 ibere. [ME. *beren*, short for *iberen* (see 1st quot.):—OE. *gebēran* to bear oneself, behave = OS. *gibārjan*, OHG. **gabārjan*, MHG. *gebären*, *gebēren*, f. *BERE* sb., which see for change of sense.] intr. To cry, roar. Hence Berand ppl. a.

c. 1225 Juliana 53 He... iberde [v. r. berde] as þe ful wiht. a. 1300 E. E. Psalter xxxiii. j. Well singes to him in berand sten. c. 1400 Leg. Rood (1871) 140 Beeryng as a beore-whele. c. 1470 HENRY Wallace vii. 457 The peple beryt lyk wyld bestis. a. 1550 Christiis Kirke Gr. xxii. Quhyn thay had berit lyk baitit bulis.

Bere, obs. f. BEAR, BEER, BIER, BIRE, BOAR.

Bereager, variant of BEEREGAR.

Bereall, obs. form of BURIAL.

Bereason, etc.: see BE-pref.

Bereave (bē'v), v. Pa. t. and pa. pple. bereaved; pa. pple. also bereft. Forms: 1 bereafian, 2-3 bireuon, 2-6 bireve, 3 bireave(n), 3-4 birefe(n), 4-6 byreve, bereve, 5 berefe, bereffe, byreve, 6 bereeve, (berive, byryve), 6-7 berieve, 7 bereauve, 6- bereave. Pa. t., 1 bereafode, 2-3 bereafde, bereafde, 2-4 bireuode, bireuode, 4 bireffe, 4-5 byrafte, 4-6 berast(e), bereffe, 5 berastt, bereffe, 5- bereft, 6- bereaved. Pa. pple. 6- bereaved, bereft. Early forms corres. to pa. t.; also 6-7 bereiven, 6-9 bereaven. [Com. Teut.: OE. *bi-*, *berafian* = O.Fris. *birāu(i)a*, OS. *birōbūn*, (MDu. *beroven*, Du. *berouwen*), OHG. *biroubūn*, (MHG. *berouven*, mod.G. *berauben*), Goth. *biraubūn*:-O.Teut. * *bi-raubūjan*, f. *bi-*, BE- + **raubūjan*, in OE. *rafian* to plunder, spoil, rob; see REAVE v.]

1. trans. To deprive, rob, strip, dispossess (a person, etc., of a possession; the latter orig. expressed by the genitive). Since c. 1650 mostly of immaterial possessions, life, hope, etc., except in reference to the loss of relatives by death. (In the former case *bereft*, in the latter *bereaved*, is more usual in the pa. t. and pa. pple.)

c. 888 K. ALFRED Boeth. v. 8 Heo hit ne mæg his zewittes bereafian. c. 1205 LAV. 2896 Pus wes þas kineriche of heora kinge bireued [1250 bireued]. c. 1400 Rom. Rose 6671 Lest they beraste... Folk of her catel or of her thing. 1549 MORE Conf. agst. Trib. ii. Wks. 1183/2 He hadde... byreued hym of hys rest. 1577 HAPRONIS England ii. xx. 330 Bereeving some fruits of their kernels. 1596 SHAKS. Merch. V. iii. 177 Madam, you have bereft me of all words. 1622 HEYLYN Cosmog. I. (1682) 104 They bereaved the women... of the hair of their heads. a. 1649 DRUMM. OF HAWTH. Poems Wks. (1711) 17 That angel's face hath me of rest bereaven. 1796 C. LUCAS Ess. Waters II. 106 It is there bereft of all its volatile parts. 1833 H. COLERIDGE Poems I. 143 Ere thy birth, of sire bereaven. 1841 D'ISRAELI Amen. Lit. (1867) 222 The accident which had bereaved the father of his child.

† b. with at for of. Obs. c. 1205 LAV. 30311 Ic hine bireuon wulle at his baren liue [1250 bireauce... of his bare liue].

c. with double object (to bereave any one a possession), the former probably at first dative. In the passive the impersonal object was origin-

ally the subject, but in 17th c. either object might be so used. arch.

c. 1200 Trin. Coll. Hom. 33 Hie him bireueden alle hise riche weden. c. 1200 ORMIN 2832 Himm was hys spæche... all birefedd. c. 1286 CHAUCER Knys. T. 503 His sleep, his mete, his drynk is him byraft. 1530 ELVOT Gov. i. xii. Enuy had... bireft hym his lyfe. 1557 K. Arth. (Copland) i. vii. Many landes that were bereued lordes, knyghtes, ladyes and gentylmen. 1593 SHAKS. 2 Hen. VI. iii. l. 85 All your Interest in those Territories Is utterly bereft you. 1667 MILTON P. L. x. 918 Bereave me not... thy gentle looks, thy aid. 1806 SCOTT Wandering Willie, All joy was bereft me the day that you left me.

2. To rob, plunder, despoil (a possessor); to deprive of anything valued; to leave destitute, orphaned, or widowed. See also BEAUEVED.

c. 1175 Lamb. Hom. 79 Ho him bireueden and ho him ferwunden. c. 1230 Hymns Virg. (1867) 124, I was ofte berevyd. 1611 SPEED Hist. Gl. Brit. ix. xiv. (1632) 763 The King bereauing enemies, to enrich his friends. 1867 G. MACDONALD Poems 10, I cry to thee with all my might Because I am bereft.

† 3. To snatch away (a possession); to remove or take away by violence. Obs.

c. 1320 Cast. Lene 1349 Þe meste strengþe he al bi-reuede. c. 1386 CHAUCER Sompn. T. 403 Who so wold us fro the world byreve... He wolde byreve out of this world the sonne. 1571 NORTON & SACKV. Gorboduc iv. l. (1847) 132 Whome no mishap... could haue bereued hence. c. 1600 Death Jane Seymour in Evans O. Ball. (1784) II. viii. 57 He from this joy was soon bereav'n. a. 1617 BAYNE On Eph. (1658) 13 When the blessings of this life are bereaved. a. 1622 WITHER Brit. Rememb. 170 Have... (Like Iezabell) oppressed and bereav'n The poore mans portion. 1718 POPE Iliad xx. 549 Thy life, Echechus! next the sword bereaves.

† b. Const. from a possessor. Obs.

c. 1440 Partonope 267 This craft Ye haue clene from me beaft. c. 1530 L.D. BERNERS Arth. Lyst. Bryt. (1814) 109 Fro the thynde [knight] he beafte his soldier with the arme. 1593 SHAKS. Lucr. 835 From me by strong assault it is bereft. 1606 G. W[OODCOCK] Hist. Iustine 119 a. They wold bereave Kingdomes from these kings in despite of them.

Bereaved (bē'vəd), ppl. a. [f. prec. + -ED.] Deprived or robbed; taken away by force; spec. deprived by death of a near relative, or of one connected by some endearing tie.

1a. 1200 Notes to LAV. III. 447 Kenelm kine-bearn, Lip under borne, Heafode bereaved. 1605 SHAKS. Lear iv. iv. 8 What can man's wisdom In the restoring his bereaved sense? 1808 SCOTT F. M. Perth III. 333 The distraction of a bereaved father. 1858 J. MARTINEAU Stud. Chr. 194 Who... bids bereaved affection weep no more.

Bereavement (bē'vəmənt). [f. as prec. + -MENT.] The fact or state of being bereaved or deprived of anything; spec. as in prec.

1731 BAILEY II. Bereavement, a deprivation or being bereav'd or depriv'd of anything. 1847 HOR. SMITH Tor Hill (L.) He bore his bereavement with stoical fortitude. 1858 J. MARTINEAU Stud. Chr. 197 Total bereavement and utter death of joy. 1866 ALGER Solit. Nat. & Man II. 40 Bereavement, in its essence, is always the loss of some object accustomed to draw forth the soothing or cheering reactions of the soul.

Bereaven (bē'vən), ppl. a. arch. Also 7 bereiven. [On partial analogy of strong vbs.] By-form of BEAUEVED, occasional in the poets.

a. 1619 DANIEL Ode in Arb. Garner III. 620 My field, of flowers quite bereaven. 1848 LYTTON Harold i. As shepherd to thy bereaven flock.

Bereaver (bē'vər), [f. as prec. + -ER-1.] One who bereaves.

1592 WYRLEY Armorie 151 Ah filching death. Bereaver of my sole deliuerance. 1614 RALEIGH Hist. World II. 411 The bereaver being Lord of many. 1624 W. HALL Man's Gl. Enemy in Farr's S. P. (1848) 199 Of soule and bodie's good hee's a bereauer.

Bereaving, vbl. sb. Also 6 byryvinge. [f. BEAUEVE + -ING-1.] The action of the vb. BEAUEVE in various senses. Now only gerundial.

1549 MORE Conf. agst. Trib. iii. Wks. 1232/3 The byryvinge from vs of our wretched worldlye goodes. c. 1630 DRUMM. OF HAWTH. Hist. Jas. I. Wks. (1711) 45 After this violent bereaving him of his wife. 1648 MILTON Tenure Kings Wks. 1738 I. 315 The oppressing and bereaving of Religion and their Liberty. Mod. By bereaving him of his only son.

Bereaving, ppl. a. That bereaves.

1621 QUARLES Esther (1638) 102 This sense-bereaving Song.

Mod. The bereaving hand of death.

† Bere-bag. ME. form of *beare-bag*, whether in sense of 'barley-bag' or of 'bag-bearer' (cf. *turn-key*); applied opprobriously to the Scotch.

1352 MINOT Poems ii. 17 Bere-bag with thi boste, thi bigging es bare. *Ibid.* l. 41 He brought meni bere-bag With bow redy bent.

Berebus, bered, etc.: see BE-pref.

† Berede, v. Obs. Forms: 3 biræde(n), -reade(n), 3-5 bi-, byrede(n), 4-6 berede. [f. BE-2 + *rede*, READ, to advise.]

trans. To advise, inform, counsel; to plan.

a. 1225 Leg. Kath. 1235 Þe wittl Wealdent... bireade [v. r. biradde] hit swa swide wel. c. 1315 SHOREHAM Poems 7 Bote he thorse hys sacrament Ous thos bi-redde. c. 1330 Florice & Bl. 435 Ne were thaiought aught birede. c. 1350 Lyric P. 41 Anon he was byrad To werk.

b. refl. To advise or bethink oneself, deliberate. c. 1205 LAV. 31072 Ich me bireaden [1250 bireaden] wolde of swulchere neode. c. 1314 Gny Warw. 118 Therof thou most berede the. 1530 PALSGR. 449/2, I wyl berede me first, and then you shall have your answers.

Bereft (bē'ft), ppl. a. [f. BEAUEVE.]

1. Forcibly deprived, robbed, having lost the possession or use of; void of.

1506 BRIGHT *Melanch.* xvii. 105 Man transported with passion is utterly bereft of advisement. 1596 SHAKS. *Tam. Shr.* v. ii. 143 A woman mou'd, is like a fountain troubled . . . thicke, bereft of beautie. 1699 POMFREY *Love triumph. over Reason* 194 Not quite bereft Of sense, tho' very small remains were left. 1858 J. MARTINEAU *Stud. Chr.* 108 A pinched and anxious mind bereft of power.

†2. Taken away, removed, quite gone. *Obs.*
1531 ELVOT *Gov.* iii. xliii. Deade or birefte from the minde.
3. Deprived of a near relation, BEREAVED. *rare.*
1808 SCOTT *F. M. Perth.* The helpless and bereft father.
†Bereft, *v.* *Obs. rare.* [*f. prec.*] By-form of BEREAVE: to deprive.

1557 RECORDE *Whetst.* A iij. To berefte the realme of some singulare commoditie. 1564 HAWARD *Eutrophius* To Rdr. 6 That Tully should . . . bereft y' Grecians of theyr exactnesse in all sciences.

Berein, **-reyn**, obs. forms of BERAINE *v.*

Berel, **berel**, obs. forms of BERYL.

Berelepe, variant of BEARLEPE, *Obs.*, a basket.

Berend (*b'rend*), *v.* [*f. BE-2 + REND v.*] *trans.*

To rend or tear badly. Hence **Bere't** *ppl. a.*

1582 BRETON *Dolor. Disc.* in *Heliconia* I. 119 Who all berent, dooth change among the breares. 1596 W. SMITH *Chloris* (1877) 9 Then red with ire, her tresses she berent. 1608 R. JOHNSON *Rev. Champions* 66 With limbes and members all to berent and torne.

Berene, variant of BERNE, *Obs.*, man of valour.

Bereness, variant of BUSINESS, *Obs.*

Berengelite (*b'reng'elait*), *Min.* A variety

of asphalt from St. Juan de Berengela in Peru.

Berenice's hair (*ber'nois'sz h'e:1*). [*f. Bere-nice*, name of the wife of Ptolemy Euergetes, king of Egypt, c. 248 B.C., whose hair, vowed by her to Venus, was said to have been stolen from the temple of the goddess, and afterwards taken to heaven and placed in a constellation.] The name of a small northern constellation of indistinct stars situated near the tail of Leo; formerly of the southern star Canopus.

1601 HOLLAND *Pliny* I. 34 Neither hath Italy a sight of Canopus, named also Berenices haire. 1714 POPE *Rape Lock* v. 129 Not Berenice's locks first rose so bright, The heav'n's bespangling with dishevell'd light. 1868 LOCKYER *Heavens* (ed. 3) 372 In Berenice's Hair most of the stars are visible to the naked eye.

Berere, obs. form of BEARER.

Beres, imperis. variant of BIR, *v.* *Obs.* to behave.

Beresite (*ber'ksait*), *Min.* See quot. 1879.

1849 MURCHISON *Siluria* xix. 454 The shaft traverses a mass called 'beresite'. 1879 WATTS *Dict. Chem.* I. 580 Beresite is a fine-grained granite, occurring at Beresowsk in the Ural.

|| **Béret**, **berret** (*berg, berét*). [*Fr.*; ad. Béarnese *berreto* = Catal. *baret*, Pr. *birret* = late L. *birretum* cap = see BIRETTA.] A round flat woollen cap worn by the Basque peasantry; also, a clerical biretta, and a cap named from it.

1850 MRS. JAMESON *Leg. Monast. Ord.* (1865) 211 The four-cornered cap or beret, worn by the Augustine canons. 1864 H. MARRIAT *Yr. in Sweden* II. 334 With plumed beret and costume of the time. 1864 *Mag. for Young* 47 Dressed in the usual blouse and berret of the peasants. 1883 *Harper's Mag.* 684/2 His crimson beret with its cock's feather.

† **Berewick**. *Obs. exc. Hist.* [*OE. berewic*, in Ingulphus 1030-1109 *berewike*; in Domesday Bk. *berewiculus*, *-uica*, *-uichus*, *-uicha*; *f. OE. bere* barley + *wic* dwelling, habitation, village, place.] A demesne farm; = BARTON (in sense 3). [1060 *Chart. Edu. Conf.* in Thorpe's *Diplom. Angl.* (1865) 382 Hoc est Upwude cum Ravelega berewico suo.] 1809 BAWDEN *tr. Domesday Bk.* 10 To this manor belong 11 berewicks. 1853 *Cornhill Mag.*, *Domesday Bk.* Oct. 609 A hamlet or member of a manor was often called a Berwick (literally, corn-farm).

Berey, obs. form of BERAY.

Berfral, **-fray**, **-frey**, obs. forms of BELFRY.

Berg (*bärg*), [*from ICEBERG*, a. Ger. *eisberg* = ice-mountain.] Short for *iceberg*: A (floating) mountain or mass of ice; (only used when ice is mentioned or understood in the context).

1823 BYRON *Island* iv. iv. Steep, harsh, and slippery as a berg of ice. 1830 LYELL *Princ. Geol.* (1875) I. i. vi. 106 Ice-drifted fragments which have been dropped in deep water by melting bergs. 1847 TENNYSON *Princess* iv. 53 Glittering bergs of ice. 1876 HUXLEY *Physiogr.* 163 The finer detritus which the berg carries.

b. *Comb.*, as *berg-field*, an expanse of ice covered with bergs.

1856 KANE *Arct. Exp.* I. xliii. 284 On quitting the berg-field, they saw two doves in a crack.

Berg, obs. form of BARROW *sb.* 1

Bergamask. Also 6 **Bergomask**, 7 **Burgomask**. [*ad. It. Bergamasco* of Bergamo.]

†1. **Bergomask dance**: a rustic dance, framed in imitation of the people of Bergamo (a province in the state of Venice), ridiculed as clownish in their manners and dialect. Nares.

1590 SHAKS. *Mids. N.* v. 360 Will it please you . . . to heare a Bergomask dance. Come, your Burgomask.

2. A native or inhabitant of Bergamo.

1602 MARSTON *Ant. & Mellida* I. Intro. A wealthie

mountbanking burgomasco's heire of Venice. 1821 BYRON *Doge of Ven.* iv. ii. 295 'Tis a certain Bertram. . . Dogs. Bertram, the Bergamask.

Bergamot (*b'igämt*). Also 7-8 **burg**, **bourgamot**, 8 **burgemott**. [*App. from Bergamo, the Italian town.*]

1. 1. A tree of the orange and lemon kind (*Citrus Bergamia*); from the rind of the fruit a fragrant oil is prepared, called Essence of Bergamot. Also *attrib.*, as in *bergamot-orange*, *-tree*.

1696 *Land. Gas.* No. 3196/4 A parcel of Orange and Bergamot Trees. 1712 *tr. Pomet's Hist. Drugs* I. 150 That which bears the Name of the Cedre or Bourgumot. 1876 HARLEY *Mat. Med.* 696 The Bergamot . . . is regarded by Gallicio as a hybrid between the orange and lemon.

2. The essence extracted from the fruit.

1766 ANSTEE *Bath Guide* iii. 67 Bring thy Essence Pot, Amber, Musk, and Bergamot. 1829 THACKERAY *Bk. Snobs* Wks. IX. 380 The worthy dealer in bergamot. 1850 *Pendennis* xiv. (1884) 123 A delightful odour of musk and bergamot was shaken through the house.

†3. Snuff scented with bergamot. Also *attrib.*

1766 *Songs Costume* (1849) 201 A wig that's full, An empty skull, A box of bergamot. 1715 *Land. Gas.* No. 5394/4 Fine Portugal. . . Bergemott, and Orangere Snuffs. 1716 CIBBER *Love makes Man* iv. 66, I first introduc'd myself with a single Pinch of Bergamot. 1785 COWPER *Task* II. 452 The better hand, more busy, gives the nose its bergamot.

4. A kind of mint (*Mentha citrata*) from which is obtained an oil, the odour of which resembles essence of bergamot. Wild Bergamot (in U.S.), *Monarda fistulosa*.

1828 HOGG *Veg. Kingd.* 575 Bergamot Mint (*M. citrata*) has an odour of citron or lemon. 1866 *Treas. Bot.* I. 137 Bergamot, *Mentha citrata* or *odorata*.

II. 5. A woven fabric or tapestry composed of a mixture of flock and hair, said to have been first produced at Bergamo in Italy.

1882 BRCK *Draper's Dict.* 19 Bergamot, a common tapestry, made of ox and goats' hair with cotton or hemp.

Bergamot (*b'igämt*). Also 7 **bargamot**, **bergamy**, **-amote**, **-ume**, **burgamot**, **-my**, 7-8 **burgamot**. [*a. F. bergamotte*, ad. It. *bergamotta*, app. a popular perversion of Turkish *beg-armüdi* 'prince's pear, Bergamot'; cf. the German name *Fürstenbirne*.] A fine kind of pear. Also *attrib.*

1616 SURFL. & MARK. *Countr. Farm* 417 The best . . . perrie is made of . . . Bergamot. 1677 GREW *Anat. Plants* iv. ii. 11. 5. 1 A Burgamy, or other soft and sweet Pear. c. 1680 *Crys. of London in Bagford Ball* I. 115 Do you want any damsons or Bergume Pare? 1699 DRYDEN *Virg. Georg.* II. 127 Bergamotes and pounder Pears. 1824 MISS MITFORD *Village Ser.* I. (1863) 48 A pelting shower of stony bergamots. 1868 LONGF. *Falc. Federigo* 210 The juicy bergamot.

Bergan, **-gayne**, obs. forms of BARGAIN *sb.*

Bergander. *Ornith. Obs.* or *idial*. Forms:

7 **burgander**, **brigander**, 7-8 **birgander**, 8 **bergander**, 6- **bargander**, **bergander**. [*Of uncertain derivation: perh. f. ME. berȝ shelter, burrow* (see BERRY *sb.* 2; and cf. *bergh*, *berghman*, *berman*, *barman*) + *GANDER*: cf. the synonyms *burrow-duck*, *Da. grav-gaas*. The word has however a curious resemblance to the North Fris. name *barg-aand* (Borkum), Du. *berg-eend*, *G. berg-ente* 'mountain-duck,' the analysis of which is of course altogether different.] An old name (apparently still lingering on the Northumbrian coast) of the Sheldrake, *Tadorna vulpanser* (Leach), a bird related to the duck and goose, which inhabits the seashore and breeds in rabbit-holes or burrows, whence also called by some authors *burrow-duck*.

1544 TURNER *Avium Hist.* 23 Nostrates (i.e. Northumbrians) hodie bergandrum nominant (*margina*, A. bergander). 1570 LEVINS *Manip.* 79 Bergander, *vulpanser*. 1572 BOSSEWELL *Armorie* III. 20 The Bergander is a byrde of the kinde of Geese, somewhat longer, and bigger then a Ducke. 1601 HOLLAND *Pliny* I. 281 Of the Geese kind are the Birganders named Chelanopeces. 1611 COTGR. *Cravanti*, the small Goose, or Goose-like fowle, tearmed, a Brigander. a 1682 SIR T. BROWNE *Wks.* (Bohn) III. 509 Burganders. common in Norfolk, as abounding in vast and capacious warrens. 1753 CHAMBERS *Cycl. Suppl.*, *Bergander*, a name by which some have called the shell-drake or burrough-duck. 1783 AINSWORTH *Lat. Dict.* (Morell) 1, *Bergender* (fowl), *Vulpanser*. — A birgander (bird), *Vulpanser*. 1879 JOHNS *Brit. Birds* 608 Bergander, the Sheldrake.

Bergantine: see BRIGANTINE.

1555 EDEN *Decades W. Ind.* (Arb.) 108 Twoo smaule shypes commonly cauled bergantines or brygantynes.

Bergell, **-ill**: see BERGLE.

† **Berger**. *Obs. rare*—1. [*a. F. bergère* a négligé style of dressing the hair: see LITTRÉ.] 'A name given to a curl of hair as worn by ladies, temp. Chas. II.' (Planché); 'a plain small Lock (*a la Shepherdess*) turn'd up with a Puff.' *Fop Dict.* 1690.

1690 EVELYN *Mundus Mul.* 6 Nor Cruches she, nor Confidants, Nor Passagers, nor Bergers wants.

Bergeret, etymol. sp. of BARGERET, *Obs.*, pastoral.

|| **Bergfall** (*berx'fal*, *b'ärgfāl*). [*Ger. berg-fall* fall of a mountain.] The ruinous fall of a mountain peak or crag, an avalanche of stones.

1856 RUSKIN *Mod. Paint.* IV. v. xiv. § 5. 180 Terrific and fantastic forms of precipice; not altogether without danger,

as has been fearfully demonstrated by many a 'bergfall' among the limestone groups of the Alps. 1866 *Peaks, Passes, & Glac.* II. x. 202 It is the wildest scene of desolation I ever saw; the celebrated bergfall of the Diablerets cannot at all compare with it.

† **Bergh**, **berze**, **berwe**, *v.* *Obs.* Forms:

1 **beorzan**, 2-4 **berze(n)**. Also 2-3 **berezen**, **birezen**, **burezen(u)**, **buruwen**, *Orm.* **berryhenn**, 3 **berwen**. *Pa. t.* 1 **beaz**, 2-3 **barz**, 3 **barw**. *Pa. pple.* 1 **borzen**, 2-4 **borzen**, 3 *Orm.* **borryhenn**, **borezen**, **iboreuwen**, **iboruwen**, **iborhen**. [*Common Teut.*: OE. *beorgan* (:-*bergan*) = OS. (*gi*)*bergan* (MDu. *berghen*, Du. *bergen*), OHG. *bergan* (MHG. and mod.G. *bergen*), ON. *bjarga*, Goth. *bairgan*:—OTeut. **berg-an* to protect, shelter, to shut in for protection or preservation.]

To give shelter; to protect, preserve; to deliver, save. (Orig. with *dat.*, which was afterwards treated as *direct obj.*)

a 1000 *Andreas* (Grein) 1540 Weras. . . woldon feore beorzan. c 1000 *Ag. Psalter* xlii. 8 Beorh me, swa swa man byrð þam æþrum on his engum. c 1175 *Lamb. Hom.* 39 Þenne burest þu here saule. . . from þan ufele deaðe. c 1200 *Trin. Coll. Hom.* 61 Min red is þat we berzen us wið eð of þese þre duntas. c 1200 *ORM* 4394 Þu ne miht noht borryhenn ben. a 1225 *Anscr.* R. 162 Tu schal beon iboruwen. c 1250 *Gen. & Ex.* 1330 Oc angel. . . barȝ þe child fro ðe deað. a 1300 *Havelok* 697 Betere us is . . . to fe, and berwen bothen ure liues. *Ibid.* 2022 God self barw him wel. 1340 *Ayend.* 251 He þet him wille berȝe.

|| The weak *pa. t.* and *pa. pple.* *berghed*, so frequent in the Northern Psalter, are ascribed by Mätzner to a distinct vb. *berghien*, *berghien*, which he compares with ON. *byrgja* (= Eng. *bury*), but this appears to be very doubtful: ON. *bjarga* has itself weak inflexions from an early period in Norway (Vigf.).

a 1300 *E. E. Psalter* xliii. [iv]. 4 Ne þar arme berghed þam ai. *Ibid.* xxxiii. 17 Swikel hors. of his might noht berghed es.

† **Bergh**, *sb.* *Obs.* [*OE. beorg*, *beorh* 'protection, shelter,' only in compounds as *scir-beorg*; *f. the verb.*] Protection, shelter. Hence **Berghless** *a.*, shelterless, unprotected.

[c 1000 *Ag. Ps.* xlv. [i]. 1 Dryhten ys ure gebeorh.] c 1250 *Gen. & Ex.* 926 Ðin berȝ and tin werȝer ic ham. *Ibid.* 3048 Al ðat ic fond Berȝes, ic sloȝe in ðat lond.

Bergh, obs. form of BARROW *sb.* 1 a hill.

† **Bergher**. *Obs.* In 4 **berzere**, **bergher**. [*f. BERGH v. + -ER*.] A protector, deliverer, saviour.

a 1300 *E. E. Psalter* lxi. [i]. 7 He es mi God and my bergher al. [1598 TATE in *Gutch Coll. Cur.* I. 5 I have David's Psalms in very old Metre, and, in the 25th Psalm, *Bericher* is used for a Saviour.]

Berghman, **-master**, **-mote**: see BERMAN, BARMASTER, -MOOT.

† **Bergier**. *Obs. rare*—1. [*a. F. berger* peasant, shepherd.] A peasant, a woodman.

1480 CANTON *Ovid's Met.* xi. xi. And for the prouffyte. . . the bergier norryshed hym wel and diligently.

Bergle (*b'ärg'l*). Also **bergell**, **-gill**. [*Perh. the same word as BERGILT*: Jamieson refers it to ON. *berg rock*.] The name of a rock-fish, the Wrasse, in Orkney.

1805 G. BARRY *Orkney Isl.* 389 (JAM.) The Wrasse . . . has here got the name of *bergle*. 1795 *Statist. Acc. Scot.* XIV. 314 Fish. . . called in this country milds, bergills.

Bergmannite (*b'ärgmänoit*). *Min.* [*f. Bergmann* (name of a mineralogist) + *-ITE*.] A variety of Natrolite, white or red in colour, occurring massive, or in prisms, in southern Norway.

1811 PINKERTON *Petr.* I. 291 The most celebrated rock of this denomination is the Grison, or Bergmanite. 1880 DANA *Min.* 427 Crocalite. . . is a red zeolite, identical with the bergmannite of Laurvig.

Bergomask: see BERGAMASK.

Bergy (*b'ärgi*), *a.* [*f. BERG + -Y*.] A bounding in icebergs; of the nature of an iceberg.

1856 KANE *Arct. Exp.* I. iii. 32 The bergs which infest this region, and which have earned for it. . . the title of the 'Bergy Hole.' 1876 DAVIS *Polaris Exp.* xi. 266 A considerable bergy mass of ice.

Bergylt, **berguylt** (*b'ärgilt*). [*Jamieson refers it to ON. berg rock*; cf. BERGLE.]

1. The name of a fish, the Black Goby, in Shetland, and elsewhere.

1809 EDMONSTONE *Zell.* II. 310 (JAM.) Black Goby. . . is called *berguylt* in Zetland.

2. The Norwegian haddock or Sea Perch (*Sebastes Norvegicus*), an arctic fish, found occasionally on the coasts of Scotland.

1838 *Proc. Berw. Nat. Club* I. 170 *Scorpana norvegica*, Cuvier Sea Perch, Penn. The Bergylt, Yarrrell. 1883 *Norm. Post* 20 June 6/5 Central Fish Market: A large supply of fish. . . bergylt, *qd.* per lb.

Berze, obs. form of BERGH, BERRY, BARROW.

Berhegor, variant of BERREGAR, *Obs.*

Berhom, obs. form of BARGHAM.

Berhyme: see BERIME.

Berial, **-alle**, obs. forms of BERYL, BURL.

|| **Beriberi**. *Med.* Also *beriberia*. [*A Cingalese word, f. beri weakness; the reduplication being intensive.*] An acute disease generally presenting

dropical symptoms, with paralytic weakness and numbness of the legs, prevalent in many parts of India.

1879 Khorz *Princ. Med.* 84 In beriberi there is scurvy from the first. 1884 Yule *Anglo-Ind. Gloss.* s.v., In 1879 the total number of beri-beri patients amounted to 9873.

† **Bericorn.** *Obs.* Prob. = *berc-corn* barley-corn, or the variety called bigg: see *BEAR sb.* 2. 1884-1885 in Rogers *Agric. & Pr.* II. 173-7. See also I. 222.

Berid, variant of *BERRIED ppl. a.*

Beride (bɛrɪd), *v.* Also 3 *biride(n)*. [OE. *beridan* f. *BE- + rīdan* to ride.]

† 1. *trans.* To ride around; to beset with horsemen. *Obs.*

a 1000 Thorpe's *Latw.* I. 90 (Bosw.) Dæt he his gefan beride. c 1205 LAY. 10739 Bruttes þa burgen gunnen biriden (c 1250 bi-ride).

2. To ride by the side of (*obs.*); to ride upon, infest.

1690 D'URFEY *Collins's Walk* II. (D.) Those two that there beride him, And with such graces prance beside him. 1848 in *Proc. Berw. Nat. Club* II. vi. 300 When an insect so beridden is taken up, the mites disperse.

Berle, *obs.* form of *BURGH, BURY.*

Beriel (le, berien), *obs.* forms of *BURIAL, BURY.*

Berig, *obs.* form of *BOROUGH.*

Beriglia, *berilla*, *obs.* forms of *BARILLA.*

Berling, *beril*, *obs.* forms of *BURYING, BERYL.*

† **Beriman-corn.** *Obs.* [Prob. f. *berc*, *BEAR, sb.* 2. barley, *mang* mixture, and *corn*; cf. *BERICORN*.] A mixed crop of barley and some other grain.

1359 in Rogers *Agric. & Prices* II. 177. See also I. 222.

Berime, *berhyme* (bɛrɪm), *v.* [f. *BE- + RIME*.] 1. *trans.* To compose rimes about, to celebrate in rime; often, to lampoon.

1889 *Almond for Parrot* 42 Another while hee would all to berime Doctor Perne, and make a by word of his bald pate. 1600 SHAKS. *A. Y. L.* III. ii. 186, I was neuer so berim'd since Pythagoras time that I was an Irish Rat. 1790 WOLCOTT (P. Pindar) *Adv. Future Laureat* Wks. 1812 II. 333 Rush loyal to berhyme a King and Queen. 1824 W. IRVING *T. Trav.* I. 260 Some glowing lines, in which I berhymed the little lady.

2. To compose in rime, put into rime.

1801 W. TAYLOR in Robbards *Mem.* I. 382 The ladies cannot endure the metre of 'Thallaba'. Berime it, and they will bepraise it.

† **Berine**, *v.* *Obs. rare.* [f. *BE- + RINE*:—OE. *hrinan* to touch; cf. *AT-BINE*.] *trans.* and *intr.* To touch; fall upon, fall.

a 1300 K. Horn 11 Fairer ne mihte non beo born Ne no rein upon birine Ne sunne upon bischine. — *Harl. MS.* For reyne ne myhte byryne. Feoyre child þen he was.

Beringe, *obs.* form of *BEARING, BURYING.*

Beringed, *beringleted*, *berinse*, etc.: see *BE- + BERING, v.* *Obs.* [a. Fl. *berispens*, in same sense.] To censure, reprove. (Only in Caxton).

1481 CAXTON *Reynard* (1844) 136, I can not telle it so wel, but that he shal berispe me.

† **Berk**, *v.* *Obs.* [Variant of *BARK v.* 2. 4.] *trans.* To clot, make matted. Hence *BERKIT ppl. a.*

a 1550 *Christis Kirke* Gr. xx. Bludy berkit we thair berd. 1641 H. Best *Farm. Bks.* (1856) 11 Their excrementes which berke together theire tayles and hinder partes.

Berk in various words: see *BARK*.

Berkeleyan (bɛrkliːən), *a.* and *sb.* [f. name of Berkeley, Bishop of Cloyne (died 1753), a celebrated philosopher who denied the objective or independent existence of the material world.]

A. adj. Of or originating with Berkeley. **B. sb.** A follower or disciple of Berkeley. Hence **Berkeleyanism**, **Berkeleyism**, the philosophical opinions held by Berkeley and his followers.

1860 MANSEL *Prolegom. Log.* v. 145 Taking the Berkeleyan theory in its whole extent. 1878 J. FISKE in *N. Amer. Rev.* CXXVI. 32 Materialists, as a rule, have not mastered the Berkeleyan psychology. 1804 *Edin. Rev.* IX. 158 The reasoning of the Berkeleyans. 1830 MACKINTOSH *Progr. Eth. Philos.* § 6 (1862) 269 His adoption of Berkeleyanism is a proof of an unprejudiced and acute mind. 1864 J. H. NEWMAN *Apol.* 78 The connexion of this philosophy of religion with what is sometimes called 'Berkeleyism' has been mentioned. 1881 *Athenæum* 30 July 137/1 Whether the mind will not at last be driven into actual Berkeleyism.

† **Berkyne**, *Obs.* Also *berekyn* [perh. *berc-kyn*, i.e. *beer-kind*, any kind of beer.]

1436 *Pol. Poems* (1859) II. 169 That two flemmynges togedere Wol undertake. Or they rise onys, to drinke a barelle fulle of gode berkyne [v. r. *berc*, *berekyn*].

Berlady, *berlaken*: see *BYRLADY, BYRLAKIN.*

Berlaw, *-man*, *obs.* form of *BYRLAW, -MAN.*

Berlepe, variant of *BEARLEAP*, carrying basket.

c 1330 HAMPOLE *P.* lxxx(i). 6 Berlepe [v. r. *berc*, *berlepe*]. that is a vessel in the whilke the iwes bare morteyr in egipt.

Berley, *-lik*, *obs.* forms of *BARLEY.*

Berlin (bɛrlɪn, bɛrlɪn). [The name of the capital of Prussia, used *attrib.*, and transferred to things that come or were supposed to come thence.]

1. An old-fashioned four-wheeled covered carriage, with a seat behind covered with a hood. [Also

Berline from Fr.; so in Ger. Introduced by an officer of the Elector of Brandenburg, c 1670.]

1731 SWIFT *Answ. Simile* Wks. 1755 IV. i. 222 Jealous Juno ever snarling, Is drawn by peacocks in her berlin. 1746 CHESTERF. *Lett.* I. cxliii. 307 Your distresses in your journey, and your broken Berlin. 1850 ALISON *Hist. Europe* II. vi. § 79. 75 They entered a berlin which was ready harnessed by M. de Fersen's care.

2. Short for 'Berlin wool.'

1881 *Girls Own Paper* II. 420/3 Any of the Scotch finger yarns are too thin, but double Berlin will do.

3. Short for 'Berlin Glove': A knitted glove (of Berlin wool).

1836 DICKENS *Sk. Bos. Tugges at Ramsgate*. A fat man in black tights, and cloudy Berlins. *Ibid.* *Attley's*, The dirty white Berlin Gloves.

4. *Attrib.* or *Comb.*, as *Berlin black*, a black varnish used for coating the better kinds of iron-ware; *Berlin blue* = *PRUSSIAN BLUE*, or the finest kind of it; *Berlin castings*, ornamental objects imported from Prussia, of Berlin iron, a very fusible quality of iron, smelted from bog-ore, containing much phosphorus, and suitable for casting figures and delicate articles, which are often lacquered or bronzed; *Berlin ware*, an earthenware of a quality which resists the action of most chemical re-agents; *Berlin warehouse*, a shop or repository for Berlin wool and similar fancy wares; *Berlin wool*, a fine dyed wool used for knitting, tapestry, and the like; *Berlin work*, fancy work in Berlin wool, worsted embroidery.

Berlin, *-ling*, var. of *BIRLING*, a galley.

1815 SCOTT *Guy R.* v. The Highlanders, that came here in their berlins.

† **Berlina**, *-ino*. *Obs.* [It. in same sense.] [1598-1601 Florio, *Berlina*, *Berlino* (Italian), a pillerie; Also a cucking-stool, heretofore called a tombrell.] 1605 B. JONSON *Volpone* v. xii. To mount (a Paper Pinned on thy Breast) to the *Berlino*. [1884 BARETTI *Ital. Dict.*, *Berlina*, pillory.]

† **Berling**. *Obs.* [ME. *f. berc*, *BEAR sb.* 1 + *-LING*: cf. ME. *derling*, now *darling* little dear. A modern *berling* formed afresh from *bear* is of course possible.] A little bear, a bear's cub.

1399 LANGL. *Rich. Redeles* III. 96 Tho' all the berlingis brast out at ones.

Berm (bɛrm). Also 8-9 *berme*, 9 *birn*. [a. F. *berme*, a. MDu. and Ger. *berme*, in mod. Du. *berm*, in same sense; prob. cognate w. ON. *barmr* brim, edge, border of a river, the sea, etc.]

1. A narrow space or ledge; esp. in *Fortif.* a space of ground, from 3 to 8 feet wide, sometimes left between the ditch and the base of the parapet.

1799 SHELVOCKE *Artillery* IV. 107 Round which shall be formed a Berm or Ledge, for the conveniently ranging of certain Paper Tubes or Cases. 1775 R. MONTGOMERY in Sparks *Corr. Amer. Rev.* (1853) I. 470 By the time we arrived there, the fraise around the berm was destroyed, the rampart in a ruinous state. 1816 C. JAMES *Mil. Dict.* (ed. 4) 248/2 *Berm*, is to prevent the earth from rolling into the ditch, and serves likewise to pass and repass. As it is in some degree advantageous to the enemy, in getting footing, most of the modern engineers reject it. 1850 ALISON *Hist. Europe* X. lxviii. § 49. 335 The ladders..enabled them to reach an intermediate ledge or berm.

2. **Berm-bank**, the bank of a canal opposite the towing-path. [! Actually used only in U.S.A.]

1841 N. & Q. Ser. I. X. 12/2 [A writer from Philadelphia] The bank of a canal opposite to the towing-path is called the berm-bank. 1877 *Engineer* 3 Aug. 89/1 To lay a rail upon the berm bank (the bank opposite the towing path).

† **Berm(e)**, *v.* *Obs.* [ME. *berm-en*, f. *berme*, *BARM sb.* 2. An earlier form of *BARM v.*]

trans. To work out, as *barm*: to purge out.

c 1315 SHOREHAM *Poems* 15 Ine the foreheved the crouche a set Felthe of fendes to bermi. c 1440 *Prompt. Parv.* 32 Bermyn or spurgyn as ale, *spuma*.

Berm(e), *obs.* form of *BARM*.

† **Berman**, *Obs.* [OE. *bērmān*, f. *bēr* BIER, *ber-an* to bear + *MAN*.] A bearer, carrier, or porter.

c 1000 ÆLFRIC *Josh.* III. 15 Þa barmenn gesetton heora fottest. c 1205 LAY. 3317 We habbet bermen: & birles inowe. a 1300 *Havelok* 876 Þe bermen let he alle ligge, And bar þe mete to þe castel. *Ibid.* 885 Bermen, bermen, hider swibe!

† **Berman**, *Obs. rare.* [f. *berghman*, cf. Ger. *bergmann* miner; see *BARMASTER*.] A miner.

1677 *Plot Oxfordsh.* 59 Without the advice of ancient and experienced Bermen.

† **Bermother**, *Obs.* [f. *BEAR v.* (OE. *beran*, ME. *berz*) + *MOTHER*: possibly after Ger. *gebärmutter*, in same sense.] The womb or uterus.

1527 ANDREW *Brunswyke's Distyll. Waters* N v. Water of nettles..is good for the bermother [v. r. *ber mother*] whan she pusseth upward.

Bermuda (bɛrmɪd̥ə, -mɪd̥ə). The name of a group of islands in the N. Atlantic; hence a variety of cigar, or rolled tobacco. **Bermuda grass**, name in U. S. of *Cynodon Dactylon*, a kind of grass growing on a sandy seashore.

c 1640 [SHIRLEY] *Capt. Underwit* IV. ii. in *O. Pl.* (1883) II. 381 Will you take Tobacco in the Roll? here is a whole ship-lading of Bermudas. 1879 *New Orleans Paper*, An inquiry comes to us about Bermuda-grass. *Ibid.* Bermuda is emphatically a Southern grass..adapted to a hot climate.

Bern(e), *obs.* form of *BAIRN, BARN, BURN*.

Bernacle, *-ièle*, *bernag*, *-nak* (e, variant and early forms of *BARNACLE*).

Bernard, variant of *BARNARD*.

Bernardine (bɛrˈnɑːdɪn), *a.* Of or pertaining to St. Bernard (abbot of Clairvaux in 1115), or to the monastic order bearing his name. *sb.* A monk of this order; a Cistercian.

1676 BULLOKAR, *Bernardines*, a certain Order of Monks, so called from their first Founder. 1798 A. YOUNG *Trav. France* 41 Pass a convent of Bernardine monks. 1797 HOLCROFT *Stolberg's Trav.* II. xlvii. (ed. 2) 110 One of these temples..is..become the church of the Bernardines. 1864 *Gentl. Mag.* CXXXIV. II. 25 The Bernardine reform soon spread to this country.

† **Berne**. *Obs.* Forms: 1 *biorn*, 1-3 *beorn*, 3-6 *bern(e)*, *burn(e)*. Also 3 *bearn*, 3-4 *bieren*, 4 *beern(e)*, *berene*, *biern(e)*, *byern(e)*, *buirn*, *buyn(e)*, *beurn*, *bourne*, *borne*, 4-5 *beryn*, *buern(e)*, *barn(e)*, 5 *byrne*, *biern(e)*, *buirn(e)*. [OE. *beorn*, earlier *biorn* (:-**bern*) 'warrior, hero, man of valour,' hence 'man' pre-eminently, *vir*, *drīp*; a word exclusively poetical; of disputed origin. The ME. forms were very varied; the most common midland type in 14th c. was *burn(e)*; after 1400 the word was retained chiefly in the north, where it was a favourite term of alliterative poetry; in the form *berne* it survived in Scotch till after 1550. In some of its spellings it was occasionally confounded with forms of *BAIRN*, and *BARN*; with the latter it was often actually interchanged: see *quots.* 1205, 1300.

Phonetically, OE. *beorn* 'man of valour' answers exactly to ON. *björn*, gen. *bjarnar*, 'bear' (:-O'Fut. *bernu-s*, the Celtic representative of which Prof. Rhys sees in the Gaulish proper name *Brennus*); but the ON. word has never the sense of 'warrior,' while the OE. has never that of 'bear.' To this, however, a striking analogy is offered by the case of OE. *esfor*, ON. *esfur* (:-O'Fut. *esvoro-s* = L. *aspr*), which has in Old English only the sense of 'wild boar,' in ON. only that of 'warrior, hero.' The use of the name of a fierce animal as a fig. appellation for 'warrior, brave,' seems very natural, and the fact that OE. *beorn* belonged only to the language of poetry and is never found in prose, suggests that it was a word of which the literal sense was lost, and only a figurative one traditionally retained. Nevertheless some eminent Teutonic scholars doubt the identification. Some have considered the word to be an early variant of *bearn*, *BAIRN*, or at least a cognate derivative of *bearn* to *BEAR*. Mr. H. Bradley has suggested the possibility of connecting it with the British root of *Beornice* *Bernicia*, Welsh *byr-neich*, and of Welsh *breknin* king; but the nature of the connexion is not apparent.]

A warrior, a hero, a man of valour; in later use, simply one of the many poetic words for 'man.'

Beowulf 5111 Biorn under beorge bordand onswaf. 937 *Batt. Brunanburh* in O.E. *Chron.* Gelpen ne þorfe beorn blanden-feax. c 1205 LAY. 16923 Euerelche eorle & euerelche beorne [1250 eorl and barun], a 1300 *Cursor M.* 7 Brut, þat bern [v. r. *berne*, *baroun*] bald of hand, þe first conquerour of Ingland. a 1300 E. E. *Psalter* cxxxix. (x) 2 Fra iuel man; Fra wike bieren outake me on-an. c 1325 E. E. *Allit. P.* A. 616 Where wystez þou euer any bourne abate. *Ibid.* B. 80 Boþe burnez & burdez, þe better and þe wers. *Ibid.* C. 302 Ay sykerly he herde þe bygge borne on his bak. *Ibid.* C. 340 He brakez vp þe buyrne, as bede hym oure lorde. c 1350 *Will. Palerne* 1708 Þer as burnes were busy bestes to hulde. 1377 *LANGL. P. Pl. B.* xi. 353 So heighe bere nother buirn [v. r. *burn*, *barne*, *barn*] ne bestez may her briddes rechen. 1400 *Morte Arth.* 1391 Than a ryche mane of Rome relyede to his byerns. c 1400 *Dest.* Troy vii. 2887 Ffairest þe ferre of fre buernes. c 1400 *Roland* 237 He bad no bern be so bold upon mold. c 1400 *Rowland & Ot.* 1416 Thay brittenede many a beryn. c 1400 *Anturs of Arth.* x. Then this byrne braydet owte a brand, and the body bidus. *Ibid.* xiv. Qun birids and birmys ar besy the aboute. c 1465 *Chery Chase* lviii. A bolder barne was never born. c 1470 *HENRY Wallace* iv. 310 A squire come, and with him bernys four. 1515 *Scot. Field* 400 in *Chetham Misc.* II. There was never burne borne, that day bare him better. 1528 *LYNDESA Dreme* 919 We saw a boustius berne cum ouir ye bent.

† **Berner**. *Obs.* [a. OF. *berner* (*bernier*, *brénier*) feeder of hounds, huntsman, f. *bran* bran; cf. *brénier* duty to provide bran to feed the hounds of the feudal lord; also med.L. *bernarius*, (explained by Hearne as keeper of a *berne* or 'bear').] An attendant in charge of a pack of hounds.

a 1425 *Master of Game* (MS. Bodl. 546) Every man..saf the berners on foote and the chacechyens..sholde stonden afront..with rodde. 1601 F. TATE *Househ. Ord. Edw. II.* § 57 (1876) 45, Fifteen buck houndes and one berner. The residew of the doges and the other berner shal be at the kinges costes.

† **Bernet**. *Obs. Law.* In 1 *barnet*, *-nytte*, 1-3 *bernet*. [OE. *bernet*, f. *bernan* to burn.] Burning, combustion; hence, the crime of arson. Retained as a technical archaism in the Laws of Henry I, whence in 17th c. law dictionaries.

c 1000 ÆLFRIC *Gen.* xxii. 9 He wudu zelozode..to his sunn barnnytte. c 1000 *Cnut's Sec. Law* § 65 Husbryce and barnet..is botleas. c 1150 *Leg. Hen. Primi* c. 1281 (Schmidt 444) Quaedam non possunt emendari, quae sunt: husbreche et bernet. [In *COWELL* and other Law Dicts., as an *obs. term.*]

† **Bernete**. *Obs.* [ad. L. *vernetum* (through mediæval form *bernetum*).] Fallow ground ploughed in spring.

c 1250 Pallad. on Husb. iv. 48 Bernetes that beth made in Janveer Goode tyme it is forto repete hem heer.

Bernoo, bernous, variants of BURNOUS.

Bernston, obs. form of BRIMSTONE.

Berob (bɛrɒb), *v.* [f. BE- + ROB.] To rob. *1340 Ayenb.* 39 Robberes... pet berobbeþ þe pilgrimes. *c 1215 Barclay Egloge* i. (1370) A ij/4 He hath small reason that hath a hood more fine And would for malice berob thee here of thine. *1396 SPENSER F. Q.* i. viii. 42 That of your selfe ye thus berobbed arre. *1845 SINGLETON Virgil* II. 82 After... Achilles him Berobbed of life.

Beroe (bɛrɔi), *Zool.* [a. L. *Beroë*, Gr. *Bepón*, name of a daughter of the mythical Oceanus.] A genus of small, gelatinous, marine animals classed by Huxley among the Coelenterata; they swim freely in the sea, and are phosphorescent at night. *1769 Phil. Trans.* LIX. 144 The beroe is a marine animal found on our coasts. *1835 Kirby Hab. & Inst. Anim.* I. vi. 198 (The gelatines) as well as the beroe, are said to form part of the food of the whale. *1883 Harper's Mag.* Jan. 181/2 The beroes are perhaps the most familiar.

Berogues, *v.* Obs. [f. BE- + ROGUE.] *trans.* To call (one) a rogue, to abuse.

1673 CLEVELAND Wks. (1687) 236 Kick a poor Lacquey, and berogue the Cook. *1682 and Plea Nouconf.* 45 To hear a zealous Ignorant be-rogue and damn the House-Preachers. *1733 NORTH Exam.* I. ii. p. 155. 117 After these Intrigues, who wonders that Hayns... should be so berogued.

Beroll, be-Roscius, berouged, beround, berow, etc.: see BE-*pref.*

Beronnen, -yn, *pa. pple.* of BERUN *v.* Obs.

Berour, obs. form of BEARER.

Berowe, variant of BERWE, Obs., a grove.

Berrage, obs. form of BEVERAGE.

Berral, Berrer, obs. ff. BERYL, BEARER.

Berret, berretta, obs. ff. BERET, BIRETTA.

Berrhe, berryhe, variants of BERGH, Obs.

+Berhless, Obs. [f. -OE. *berhels (cf. *reclless* = *reclless*), f. *bergen*: see BERGH *v.*] Salvation. *c 1200 ORMIN* 7028 þatt nittenn eche lifess bræd Till þe 33re sawle berhless.

Berie, Obs. Also *berie*. [App. related to OE. *beru*, *berwas*, ME. *BERWE* grove, mod. *Bere* in *Beere Regis*, etc.; but Harrington's form is not phonetically explicable.] See quot.

1591 HARRINGTON Aristotle xli. lvii. The cell... had... Upon the western side a grove or berrie [ed. 1634 *berie*; Ital. *bosco*].

Berried (berid), *a.* [f. BERRY *sb.* + -ED².]

1. Having or bearing berries.

1794 GIBBONS Walks Forest (1796) 112 While the keen thrush the berried twig invades. *1860 RUSKIN Mod. Paint.* V. vi. x. 99 The berried shrubs. *1871 M. COLLINS Mrq. & Merch.* II. ii. 42 Red-berried holly.

2. Formed as or consisting of a berry; baccate. *1844 Blackw. Mag.* XV. 169 Bushes hung with berried fruits. *1830 LINDLEY Nat. Syst. Bot.* 130 Fruit either berried or membranous. *1851 BALFOUR Bot.* § 550 Baccate or berried is applied to all pulpy fruits.

3. Bearing eggs; 'in berry.' Cf. BERRY *sb.* 3. *1868 Macm. Mag. Nov.* 18 Lobster-sauce... improved by 'berried hens', that is by female lobsters full of eggs.

+Berried, *ppl. a.* Obs. Forms: 4 *beryd*, *berid*, 6 *beryed*, -ied, *buried*, (*barrowid*). [f. BERRY *v.* 1 + -ED¹.] Beaten; threshed; trodden, beaten as a path.

1382 WYCLIF Num. xx. 19 Bi the beryd [1388 *comynli* usid] weye we shulen goon. — *Jer.* xviii. 15 Thei go bi them in a weye not berid [1388 not *troudu*]. *1557 Wills & Inv. N. C.* I. 153 In berried corn in the barne viij. *1569 Richmond. Wills & Inv.* 218 Haver barrowid and unbarrowed. *1570 Wills & Inv. N. C.* I. 341 Otes buried eight lode. xxx.—in vberied whete xiiij thraves. xxx.

+Berrier, Obs. [f. BERRY *v.* + -ER¹.] A thrasher; a barnman.

1573 Wills & Inv. N. C. 399 Iij plewmen, j berryer, & j hird. *1721 BAILEY Berrier*, a Thresher (Country Word).

Berrord, obs. form of BEARHERD.

Berry (beri), *sb.* 1 Forms: 1 *beriae*, *berie*, *berije*, *berze*, 2-6 *berie*, 3-6 *berye* (4 *burie*), 6-7 *berrie*, 6- *berry*. [Found, with some variety of form, in all the Teutonic langs.: with OE. *berie* wk. fem., cf. ON. *ber* (Da. *bær*, Sw. *bär*), OS. *beri* (in *win-beri*), MDu. *bäre*, OHG. *berī* str. neut., MHG. *ber* and *berē* neut. and fem., mod. Ger. *beere* fem. These point to an OGer. **basjo-m*, as a by-form of **basjo-m*, whence Goth. *basi* neut. (in *weina-basi* 'grape'). The *s* type is also preserved in MDu. *bese*, mod. Du. *bes*, also MDu. and mod. Du. *besie* fem. The fem. forms Du. *bezie* and OE. *berie* answer to an OTeut. extended form **basjōn*, **basjōn*-. The ulterior history is uncertain: **basjo* has been conjecturally referred to **bazo-s* BARE (q.v.), as if a bare or uncovered fruit, also to the root represented by Skr. *bhas-* to eat.]

1. Any small globular, or ovate juicy fruit, not having a stone; in OE. chiefly applied to the grape; in mod. popular use, embracing the gooseberry, raspberry, bilberry, and their congeners, as well as the strawberry, mulberry, fruit of the elder, rowan-tree, cornel, honey-suckle, buckthorn, privet, holly, mistletoe, ivy, yew, crowberry, barberry, bearberry, potato, nightshade, bryony, laurel, mezereon, and

many exotic shrubs; also sometimes the bird-cherry or 'hag-berry' (which is a stone-fruit), the haw, and hip of the rose; *spec.* in Scotland and north of England, it means the gooseberry.

c 1000 ÆLFRIC Deut. xxiii. 24 Gif tu gange binnan þines freondes wineard, et þæra bergena. *c 1000 Sax. Leechd.* III. 114 Nym winberian þe beoþ acende æfter oþre berigian. *a 1225 Ancr. R.* 276 Berres bered rosen & berien. *c 1250 Gen. & Ex.* 2062 [A win-tre] blomede, and siden bar be beries ripe. *c 1386 CHAUCER Protr.* 207 His palfrey was as broune as is a berry. *1387 TREVISIA Higden* Rolls Ser. IV. 121 þe juse of grapes and of buries [mori]. *1470-85 MALORY Arthur* xvi. x. (Globe) 385 A strong black horse, blacker than a berry. *a 1500 Songs & Carols* 15th C. 85 Ivy berith berys black. *1590 SHAKS. Mid. N.* iii. ii. 211 Two lously berries molded on one stem. *1667 MILTON P. L.* v. 307 For dinner saviourie fruits... Berrie or Grape. *1793 SOUTHEY Lyric Poems* II. 149 The cluster'd berries bright Amid the holly's gay green leaves. *1842 TENNYSON Enone* 100 Garlanding the gnarled boughs With bunch and berry and flower. *1883 Birmingham. Weekly Post* 11 Aug. 4/7 Last year the heaviest berry shown scaled 31 dwt.

b. *loosely*. A coffee 'bean.'

1712 POPE Rape Lock III. 106 The berries crackle, and the mill turns round.

2. *Bot.* A many-seeded inferior pulpy fruit, the seeds of which are, when mature, scattered through the pulp; called also *bacca*. In this sense, many of the fruits popularly so called, are not berries: the grape, gooseberry and currants, the bilberry, mistletoe berry, and potato fruit, are true berries; but, botanically, the name also includes the cucumber, gourd, and even the orange and lemon.

1809 SIR J. SMITH Bot. 284 The simple many-seeded berries of the Vine, Gooseberry, &c. The Orange and Lemon are true Berries, with a thick coat. *1880 GRAY Bot. Text-bk.* vii. § 2. 299 The Berry... comprises all simple fruits in which the pericarp is fleshy throughout.

3. One of the eggs in the roe of a fish; also, the eggs of a lobster. A hen lobster carrying her eggs is said to be *in berry* or *berried*.

1768 TRAVIS in Penny Cycl. II. 513/2 Hen lobsters are found in berry at all times of the year. *1876 Fam. Herald* 9 Dec. 95/1 A large specimen [of lobster] will yield from five to eight ounces of 'berry.'

4. *Comb. and Attrib.*, as *berry-bush*, -*pie*, -*tree*; *berry-bearing*, -*brown*, -*like*, -*shaped* adjs.; *Berry alder*, *Berry-bearing alder*, a shrub (*Rhamnus frangula*) = Alder Buckthorn; *berry-button*, a berry-shaped button.

1863 PRAPA Plant-n. 20 *Berry-alder, a buckthorn... distinguished from them (the alders) by bearing berries. *1785 COWPER Task* v. 82 *Berry-bearing thorns That feed the thrush. *1611 Art Venerie* 96 He seemed fayre tweene blacke and 'berrie' brounde. *1880 SCOTT Abbot* xvi, The Friars of Fall drank 'berry-brown ale. *1818 - Rob Roy* vi, 'Pleased with the freedom of the 'berry-bushes.' *1708 Lond. Gaz.* No. 3783/4 A... Stuff Westcoat with black and red *Berry-Buttons. *1864 Monthly Even. Readings* May 161 *Berry-like galls are formed on the peduncles. *1398 TREVISIA Barth. De P. R.* xvii. c. (1495) 666 The fruite of the wilde *berry tree. *1836-9 TODD Cycl. Anal. & Phys.* II 485/2 *Berry-shaped corpuscles seem to be appended.

Berry, *sb.* 2 Obs. exc. *dial.* [f. OE. *beorg* hill: a variant of BARROW *sb.* 1 (While the nom. gave ME. *beruh*, *beru*, *baru*, *barou*, the dat. *beorge*, with palatalized *g*, gave *berze*, *berye*, *berye*.)] A mound, hillock, or barrow.

1205 LAY. 1231 Vnder ane berhze. *1393 LANGL. P. Pl.* B. v. 589 Thanne shaltow blenche at a berghie. *a 1533 UDALL Royster D.* II. iii. 36 Heigh derie derie, Trill on the berie. *c 1563 Thersytes in Four O. Plays* (1848) 79 We shall make merye and synge tyrie on the berye. *1613 W. BROWNE Brit. Past.* I. ii. (1772) I. 56 Piping on thine oaten reede Upon this little berry (some ycleep a hillocket). *1807 VANCOUVER Agric. Devon* (1813) 195 Removing the potatoes to the caves, heaps... ricks, or berryes (for by all such terms they are known in this country).

¶ It is doubtful whether the quotation belongs to this or to BERRY 3.

a 1700 DRYDEN Ovid's Art Love I. 103 The theatres are berries for the fair, Like ants on molehills thither they repair.

+Berry, *sb.* 3 Obs. Forms: 5 *berry*, 6 *beery*, 6-7 *berrie*, *berry*. [See BURROW.]

1. A (rabbit's) burrow. Hence, the *spec.* name for a company of rabbits.

1486 Bk. St. Albans F vi, A Bery of Conyis. *1510 HORMAN Vulg.* 283 b, I haue nede of a feret, to let into this beery to styrt out the conies. *1585 Mod. Curiosities Art & Nat.*, To make rabbits come out of their berries without a feret. *1613 PURCHAS Pilgr.* ix. vii. 862 It [the penguin]... feeds on fish and grass and harbors in berries. *1685 R. BURTON Eng. Emp.* Amer. xiii. 165 Musk-Rats who live in holes and Berries like Rabbits.

2. *transf.* An excavation; a mine in besieging. *1598 SYLVESTER Du Bartas* (1608) 514 Till one strict berrie, till one winding cave, Become the fight-field of two armies.

+Berry, *sb.* 4 Obs. [Cf. BIRR; perh. f. BERRY *v.* 1; or, since found only in Florio and Cotgrave, an erroneous form.] A gust or blast (of wind).

1598 FLORIO, Bifera. a whirlewind, a gust or berry of wind. *1611 - Folata di uento*... a gale or berry of winde. *1611 Cotgr.*, *Tourbillon de vent*... a gust, flaw, berry of wind.

Berry, *v.* 1 Obs. exc. *dial.*; also *berry*, *bury*. [ME. *berien*, *berry*, ad. ON. *berja* to strike, beat, thresh = OHG. *berjan*, MHG. *berren*, *bercn*, *bern*; repr. in OE. only by *pa. pple.* *gebered*. Cogn. w. L. *ferire* to strike.]

1. *trans.* To beat, thrash.

a 1225 Ancr. R. 188 Per 3e schulen iseon bunsen [v. r. berien] ham mit tes deofles betles. *1808 JAMIESON, Berry*, to beat; as to berry a bairn, to beat a child.

2. To thresh (corn, etc.). See BERRIED *ppl. a.*

1483 Cath. Angl. 29 Bery... vbi to thresche. *1641 BEST Farm. Bks.* (1856) 142 Thrashers that bury by quarter-tale. *1691 RAY N. Country Wds.*, *Berry*, to thresh, i. e. to beat out the berry or grain of the corn. *1808 JAMIESON, Berry*, to thrash corn, *Roxb.*, *Dumfr.*

3. To beat (a path, etc.). See BERRIED *ppl. a.*

Berry (beri), *v.* 2 [f. BERRY *sb.* 1; cf. to apple.]

1. *intr.* To come into berry; to fill or swell.

1864 E. BURRITT Walk Land's End 402 The wheat, oats and barley... were now berrying full and plump. *1873 BLACKMORE Craddock N.* xxx. (1883) 167 The late bees were buzzing around him though the linden had berried.

2. To go a berrying, i. e. gathering berries.

a 1871 Miss SEDGWICK in Life & Lett. 44, I went with herds of school-girls nutting and berrying.

Berry, obs. form of BURY.

+Berry-block, Obs. 1 A beating of the block, a missing of the thing intended.

1603 Philotus clv, Hauē I not maid a berrie block, That hes for Jennie maryit Jock?

+Berrying, *vbl. sb.* 1 Obs. In 7 burying. [f. BERRY *v.* 1 + -ING¹.] The threshing (of corn).

1641 BEST Farm. Bks. (1856) 132 For Buryinge of Corne. Hence **Berrying** stead, a threshing-floor. BAILEY 1721.

Berrying, *vbl. sb.* 2 [f. BERRY *v.* 2 + -ING¹.] A gathering of berries. Also *attrib.*

1884 Lisbon (Dakota) Star 25 July, On a berrying and picnic excursion.

Bers, *v. impers.*, var. form from BIR to behave.

+Berse, Obs. [a. OF. *berche*, (also *barce*, Cotgr.) in same sense. Cf. *berser* to shoot.] A small species of ordnance, formerly often used at sea. = BASE *sb.* 6

1549 Compl. Scot. vi. 41 Mak redy 3our cammons..bersis, doggis, double bersis.

Bersel, bersolet: see BERCEL, -ET.

Berserk, -er (bɛr'sɜrk, -ɜr). Also *berserker*, -ir; *bersark*. Cf. BARESARK. [Icel. *berserkr*, acc. *berserk*, pl. -ir, of disputed etymology; Vigfusson and Fritzner show that it was probably 'bear-sark', 'bear-coat'.] A wild Norse warrior of great strength and ferocious courage, who fought on the battle-field with a frenzied fury known as the 'berserker rage'; often a lawless bravo or freebooter. Also *fig. and attrib.*

1822 SCOTT Pirate Note B, The berserkers were so called from fighting without armour. *1837 EMERSON Misc.* 85 Out of terrible Druids and Berserkers, come at last Alfred and Shakespeare. *1839 CARLYLE Chartism* (1858) 19 Let no man awaken it, this same Berserkir rage! *1845 KINGSLEY Yeast* i. 16 Velling, like Berserk fiends, among the frowning tombstones. *1861 PEARSON Early & Mid. Ages Eng.* 430 Mere brotherhood in arms... did not distinguish the civilized man from the berserker. *1879 E. GOSSE Lit. N. Europe* 166 He was a dangerous old literary bersark to the last.

Berskin, obs. form of BEARSKIN.

c 1350 Will. Palerne 1735 In þat oþer bere-skykn be-wrapped william þanne. *1386 CHAUCER Knts. T.* (Lansd. MS.) 1284 He hadde a berskinne cole-blake for olde [Corpus berskynne, other MSS. *beres skykn*].

Berst-en, obs. form of BURST and BREST.

Berstel, obs. form of BRISTLE.

+Bersuall, *Mil.* Obs. [a. OF. *berquel*, *bersuel*, in same sense.] A disposition of fighting-men in a triangular phalanx with the apex towards the enemy. (Called also in OF. *coing*, i. e. wedge.)

1429 CANTON Faytes of A. i. xxiv. 74 In a manere of a try-angle that men called at that bersuall.

Berte, variant of BIRT Obs., a fish.

Bertes, Sc. var. BRETASCE, -ACHE; cf. BARTIZAN.

Berth (bɛrθ). Also 6-7 *byrth*, 6-9 *birth*.

[A nautical term of uncertain origin: found first in end of 16th c. Most probably a derivative of BEAR *v.* in some of its senses: see esp. sense 37, quot. 1627, which suggests that *berth* is = 'bearing off, room-way made by bearing-off'; cf. also *bear off* in 26 b. The early spellings *byrth*, *birth*, coincide with those of BIRTH 'bearing of offspring, bringing forth', but it is very doubtful whether the nautical use can go back to a time when that word had the general sense 'bearing'; it looks more like a new formation on *bear*, without reference to the existing *birth*. (Of other derivations suggested, an OE. **beorgb*, 'bearth' 'protection, defence, shelter' (see BARTH), and Icel. *byrdi* 'the board, i. e. side of a ship' (see BERTH *v.* 2), do not well account for the original sense 'sea-room'. The sense is perhaps better explained by supposing *berth* to be a transposition of north. dial. *breith* = *breadth*; but of this historical evidence is entirely wanting.)]

1. *Naut.* 'Convenient sea-room, or a fit distance for ships under sail to keep clear, so as not to fall foul on one another' (Bailey 1730), or run upon the shore, rocks, etc. Now, chiefly in phrases, *To give a good, clear*, or (usually since 1800) *wide berth to*, *keep a wide berth of*: to keep well away from, steer quite clear of. Also *transf. and fig.*

1622 R. HAWKINS *Voy. S. Sea* (1847) 117 There lyeth a poynt of the shore a good byrth off, which is dangerous. 1666 CAPT. SMITH *Accid. Yng. Seamen* 24 Watch bee vigilant to keepe your berth to windward. 1697 — *Seaman's Gram.* xiii. 60 Run a good berth ahead of him. 1740 WOODROOFE in *Hanway Trav.* (1762) I. 274 It is necessary to give the bank a good berth. 1793 SWEATON *Edystone L.* 193 Giving the Lighthouse a clear berth of 50 fathoms to the southward. 1829 SCOTT *Demonol.* x. 383 Giving the apparition phantom what seamen call a wide berth. 1854 THACKERAY *Newcomes* II. 150, I recommend you to keep a wide berth of me, sir. 1870 MORRIS *Earthly Par.* I. 1. 17 To keep the open sea And give to warring lands a full wide berth.

2. *Naut.* 'Convenient sea-room for a ship that rides at anchor' (Phillips 1706); 'sufficient space wherein a ship may swing round at the length of her moorings' (Falconer).

1658 PHILLIPS, *Berth*, convenient room at Sea to moor a Ship in. 1692 CAPT. SMITH'S *Seaman's Gram.* I. xvi. 75 A *Berth*, a convenient space to moor a Ship in. 1696 [PHILLIPS has both *Berth* as in 1658 and *Birth* as in Smith.] 1721 BAILEY, *Birth* and *Berth* [as above]. 1769-89 FALCONER *Dict. Marine, Evitee*, a birth (expl. as above). 1781 WESTON *Mag.* IX. 327 Perceiving neither the Isis nor Diana making any signs to follow, though both of them lay in clear births for so doing [cf. *clear berth* in 1]. 1854 G. B. RICHARDSON *Univ. Code* v. (ed. 12) 423 You have given our ship a foul berth, or brought up in our hawse. 1858 in *Merc. Mar. Mag.* V. 226 The ship may choose her anchorage by giving either shore a berth of a couple of cables' length.

3. Hence, 'A convenient place to moor a ship in' (Phillips); the place where a ship lies when at anchor or at a wharf.

1706 PHILLIPS, *Birth* and *Berth* [see above]. 1731 BAILEY, *Birth* and *Berth* [as in Phillips]. 1754 FIELDING *Voy. Lisbon*, Before we could come to our former anchoring place, or berth, as the captain called it. 1793 SWEATON *Edystone L.* § 166 We let go an anchor and warped the buss to her proper birth. 1801 NELSON in *Nicolas Disp.* (1845) IV. 366 That the squadron may be anchored in a good berth. 1879 CASTLE *Law of Rating* 75 Certain berths for the use of steamers.

4. *Naut.* 'A proper place on board a ship for a mess to put their chests, etc.' (Phillips); whence, 'The room or apartment where any number of the officers, or ship's company, mess and reside' (Smyth, *Sailor's Word-bk.*).

1706 PHILLIPS s.v. *Berth*, Also the proper Place a-board for a Mess to put their chests, etc., is call'd the *Berth* of that Mess. 1748 SMOLLETT *Red Rand.* xxiv. (Ritdg.) 63 When he had shown me their berth (as he called it) I was filled with astonishment and horror. 1836 MARRIAT *Midsh. Easy* x. 30 The first day in which he had entered the midshipmen's berth, and was made acquainted with his messmates. b. *fig.* (*Naut.*) Proper place (for a thing).

1732 DE FOE, etc. *Tonr. Gl. Brit.* (1769) I. 147 For the squaring and cutting out of every Piece, and placing it in its proper Byrth (so they call it) in the Ship that is in Building. 1758 J. BLAKE *Mar. Syst.* 6 A hammock... shall be delivered him, and a birth assigned to hang it in.

c. *transf.* An allotted or assigned place in a barracks; a 'place' allotted in a coach or conveyance. 1813 MRS. SHERWOOD *Stories-Ch. Catech.* xiv. 115 Fanny Bell's berth was in one corner of the barracks. *Ibid.* 116 Kitty Spence was in her berth, playing at cards with her husband and two other men. 1856 SCOTT *Antiq.* i. The first corner hastens to secure the best berth in the coach.

5. *Naut.* A situation or office on board a ship, or (in sailors' phrase) elsewhere.

1720 DE FOE *Capt. Singleton* x. (Bohn) 130 Going to Barbadoes to get a birth, as the sailors call it. 1755 MAGENS *Insurances* II. 115 When Sailors... are discharged in foreign Parts, and do not meet with another Birth there. 1840 R. DANA *Bef. Mast* xxii. 65, I wished... to qualify myself for an officer's berth. *Ibid.* xxviii. 97 He left us to take the berth of second mate on board the Ayacucho. 1876 C. GEIKIE *Life in Woods* x. 177 He hoped to get a good berth on one of the small lake steamers.

b. *transf.* A situation, a place, an appointment. (Usually a 'good' or 'comfortable' one.)

1778 MISS BURNES *Evelina* xvi. (1784) 103 You have a good warm birth here. 1781 MRS. DELANY *Corr.* (1860) III. 51, I think I could find out a berth (the sea-phrase) for a chaplain. 1788 T. JEFFERSON *Corr.* (1830) 412 Both will prefer their present births. 1850 MRS. STOWE *Uncle Tom* iv. 26 I'll do the very best I can in gettin' Tom a good berth.

6. *Naut.* A sleeping-place in a ship; a long box or shelf on the side of the cabin for sleeping.

1796 T. JEFFERSON *Corr.* (1830) 339 Better pleased with sound sleep and a warmer birth below it. 1809 BYRON *Lines to Hodgson* iii, Passengers their berths are clapt in. 1842 T. MARTIN in *Fraser's Mag.* Dec., Just in time to secure the only sleeping-berth in the steam packet.

b. A sleeping-place of the same kind in a railway carriage or elsewhere.

1835 *Harper's Mag.* Apr. 698/2 The traveller... goes to sleep in his Pullman berth. 1885 *Weekly Times* 2 Oct. 14/2 In the kitchens... are a couple of berths reached by a ladder.

7. *Comb.* berth-boards, the partitions dividing berths in a ship; berth-deck, the deck on which the passengers' berths are arranged; berth and space (see quot.).

1833 RICHARDSON *Merc. Mar. Arch.* 7 The distance from the moulding edge of one floor to the moulding edge of the next floor is called the birth and space, and is the room occupied by two timbers, the floor, and the first futtock. 1853 KANE *Grinnell Exp.* xxvi. (1856) 213 This condensation is now very troublesome, sweating over the roof and berth-boards. 1856 OLMSTED *Slave States* 550 Scattering the passengers on the berth deck.

Berth (bərth), *v.* 1 Also 6 byrth, 7 birth. [f. prec. sb.]

1. *trans.* To moor or place (a ship) in a suitable position. Also *refl.* of the ship or sailors.

1667 *Purvis Diary* 30 June, The 'Henery'... berthed himself so well as no pilot could ever have done better. 1673 *Camden Soc. Misc.* (1881) 27 We... anchored againe, and birth'd our selves in our anchoring posture agreed on. 1871 *Daily News* 30 June, There was no dry dock... where the monster ship could be berthed and cleaned.

b. *intr.* (for *refl.*) said of the ship.

1868 MACGREGOR *Voyage Alone* 57 The Rob Roy glided past the pier and smoothly berthed upon a great mud bank.

2. *trans.* To allot a berth or sleeping-place to (a person), to furnish with a berth. Usually in *passive*.

1845 STOCQUER *Handbk. Brit. India* (1854) 81 A general cabin, where two others are berthed. 1869 *Daily News* 12 June, The lower deck, where the officers and crew are berthed. 1876 DAVIS *Polaris Exp.* v. 122 Joe and Hans, with their families, were brought down and berthed below.

3. To provide with a situation or 'place.'

1865 LESLIE & TAYLOR *Sir J. Reynolds* II. viii. 365 Comfortably berthed in the City Chamberlainship. 1885 *Manch. Exam.* 14 Nov. 5/1 All four are berthed; not a man of the Fourth Party is left out.

Berth, *v.* 2 Also 6 byrth. [perh. f. Icel. *byrth* board or side of a ship.] To board, cover or make up with boards. (Chiefly in Ship-building.)

Hence *Berthed ppl.* a. boarded. See BERTHING².

1574 R. SCOT *Hof Gard.* (1578) 52 The chynkes creuises, and open ioyntes of your Loftes being not close byrthed, will deuoure the seedes of them. 1657 CAPT. SMITH *Seaman's Gram.* II. 5 When you haue berthed or brought her vp to the planks. c. 1850 *Rudim. Navig.* (Weale) 96 To berth up. A term generally used for working up a topside or bulkhead with board or thin plank.

Berth (e), obs. form of BIRTH.

Bertha, berth (bərthə, bərth). [a. F. *berthe*, Englished as *bertha*, from the proper name, F. *Berthe*, Eng. *Bertha*.] A deep falling collar, usually of lace, attached to the top of a low-necked dress, and running all round the shoulders.

a. 1856 ALB. SMITH *Sketches of Day Ser.* I. III. i. She dresses by the fashion books, believing *berthe* and *birth* to be words of equal worth in the world. 1869 *Athenaeum* 18 Dec. 826 A *Bertha* of ancient point lace. 1881 MISS BRADDON *Asphodel* xix. 208 Neat laced *berthas* fitting close to modestly-covered shoulders.

Berthage (bərthədʒ). [f. BERTH *v.* 1 + -AGE.] Accommodation for mooring vessels, harbourage.

1881 *Daily News* 25 Jan. 5/8 The new sea wall... provides berthage for as many as thirty vessels at once.

Berthen, obs. form of BURDEN.

Berther (bərthər). [f. BERTH *v.* 1 + -ER.]

1867 SMYTH *Sailor's Word-bk.*, *Berther*, he who assigns places for the respective hammocks to hang in.

Berthierite (bərthiərīt). *Min.* [Named 1827 after *Berthier*, a French naturalist.] A sulphide of antimony and iron, occurring native in elongated masses or prisms; also called Haidingerite.

Berthing (bərthɪŋ), *vbl.* sb. 1 [f. BERTH *v.* 1]

The action of mooring or placing a ship in a berth or harbour.

1800 COLQUHOUN *Comm. Thames* x. 287 Jurisdiction... respecting the birthing or placing of Vessels.

Berthing, *vbl.* sb. 2 [f. BERTH *v.* 2 + -ING.]

The upright planking of the sides and various partitions of a ship; esp. the planking outside above the sheer-stroke, the bulwark.

1706 PHILLIPS, *Birthing*, a Term us'd at Sea, when the Ship's sides are rais'd, or brought up. c. 1850 *Rudim. Navig.* (Weale) 107 It is the birthing or hood round the ladder-way. 1869 SIR E. REED *Ship Build.* xii. 240 A plate-rail is fitted upon the top of the frames, and supports the hammock berthing. 1883 *Pall Mall G.* 20 Nov. 7/2 An able seaman... fell from the maintopmast rigging, and pitched on the birthing of the ship's side.

Berthinek, variant of BURDENSACK.

Bertin, -yn, Sc. var. of BRITTEN *v.* Obs.

Bertisene, obs. form of BARTIZAN.

† **Bertram**, *Herb.* Also *bartram*. [a. Ger.

bertram, *berchtram*, corruption of L. *pyrethrum*, Gr. *πύρεθρον*, f. *πύρ* fire.] Obsolete name of the *Anacyclus Pyrethrum*, or Pellitory of Spain.

1578 LYVE *Dodoent* 342 Of bastard Pellitory or Bartram..

In French *Pyrethre*, or *Pied d'Alexandre*; in high Dutch *Bertram*. 1640 PARKINSON *Theat. Bot.* 858 *Bertram* is Pellitory of Spain. 1763 AINSWORTH *Lat. Dict.* (Morell), *Bertram*, *pyrethrum*. 1863 PRIOR *Plant-n.* 20 *Bertram*, a corruption of L. *pyrethrum*.

[**Berthing**, error for BERTHING: see BERTH *v.* 2]

1678 PHILLIPS, *Berthing* a Ship, the raising up of the Ships sides. So in BAILEY.]

Berubric, beruffed, berust, etc.: see *Be-pref.*

Beruflanze, *v.* [f. *Be-* + RUFFIANIZE.]

trans. To call or stigmatize as a ruffian.

1596 NASH *Saffron Wald.* v. ii, M. Lilly and me, by name he *beruffianiz* and *berascald*.

† **Beru'n**, *v.* Obs. For forms see RUN *v.* [Com. Teut.: OE. *berinnan*, = OHG. and Goth. *birinnan*, f. *bi-*, *Be-* 4 + *rinnan*, to RUN.]

1. *trans.* To run or flow about, or over the surface of; esp. in passive phr. *berun with tears, with blood; bloody berunnen*.

a. 1000 *Crist* (Gr.) 1176 Beam... blodigum tearum *birunnen*.

a. 1300 *K. Horn* 654 Heo sat on þe sunne, Wiþ tieres al bi-runne. c. 1400 *Destr. Troy* xxii. 9052 Mony buernes on þe bent bloody beronen! 1460 *Pol. Rel. & L. Poems* (1866) 246 To-ward caluery Al be-ronne with red blod. 1513 DOUGLAS *Æneis* viii. iv. 31 Heidis... wyth vissage blayknit, blude byrun, and bla. c. 1515 *Scot. Feilde* 31 in Furniv. *Percy Folio* I. 213 Till all his bright armour: was all bloudye beronen.

2. To run round about, encompass.

c. 1205 LAV. 1233 Pat lond is biurnon mid þere sæ. *Ibid.* 26064 Arður... þat treo biorn (1250 biorne) abute. 1513 DOUGLAS *Æneis* v. v. 13 Ane mantill... With purpoure seluage writhin mony fold, And all byrunnyn and lowpit lustely.

fig. a. 1300 *Cursor M.* 8351 Wit eild i am be-runnun nou.

Berward, obs. form of BEARWARD.

† **Berwe**, *Obs.* Also 5 berowe. [OE. *bearu*

(infl. *bearuwe*) grove. (The mod. repr. would be *berrow*. The nom. *bearu*, ME. *bere*, survives in *Bere*, *Beere*, *Bear*, as a place-name.) A grove, a shady place.

c. 890 K. ALFRED *Beda* v. ii. (Bosw.) Wic mid *bearuwe* ymbsealde. c. 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 33 *Berwe* or *schadewe* (1499 *berowe* or *shadowe*), *umbraculum*, *umbra*.

Berwham, early form of BARHAM.

a. 1300 W. DE BIBLESW. in Wright *Voc.* 168 *Coleres* de quyr, *beru-hames*. c. 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 33 *Berwham*, *horsys colere* (1499 *beruham* for *hors*).

Berwick: see BEREWICK.

Bery, *beryal*, -lle, -el, obs. ff. BURY, BURIAL.

Beryd, variant of BERRIED *ppl.* a. Obs.

Beryl (beril). Forms: 3-4, 6-beryl; 4, 7-9

beril; also 4-6 *beryll*, 4-5 -ylle, 5 -ille, -ile, -yle, -al, -el, -ell, *birrell*, 5-6 *berall*, *birrall*, *byrral*, *byrrall*, 5-7 *berill*, *byrrall* (e), 6 *berall*, *birall*, 8 *berryl*; *Sc.* 5-6 *berial*, -iall, -yall, 6

bureall. [a. OF. *beryl*, *beril*:—L. *beryllus*, a. Gr. *βήρυλλος*, prob. a foreign word; identified by Weber with Skr. *vaidūrya*. Cf. also Arab. and Pers. *ballūr* crystal. In med. L. *berillus* was applied also to crystal, and to an eyeglass or spectacles, whence MHG. *berille*, mod. G. *brille* spectacles: cf. branch II.]

A. sb. I. *literal*.

1. A transparent precious stone of a pale-green colour passing into light-blue, yellow, and white; distinguished only by colour from the more precious emerald. When of pale bluish green it is called an *aquamarine*; its yellow or yellowish varieties are the *chrysoberyl*, and, perhaps, the *chrysoprase*, and *chrysolite* of the ancients. (The name is used in early literature without scientific precision: it is also doubtful if the 'beryl' of the Old Testament is correctly identified.)

c. 1305 *Land of Cockayne* 92 *Beril*, onix, topasiune. 1382 WYCLIF *Rev.* xxi. 20 The eighte. *berillus*. 1398 TREVISIA *Barth. De P. R.* xvi. xx. (1495) 559 *Beryll* is a stone of Ynde lyke in grene colour to Smaragde. 1459 *Test. Ebor.* (1855) II. 229 Duos lapides de byrral. 1488 *Invent.* in Tytler *Hist. Scot.* (1864) II. 391 A ruby, a diamant, twa uthir ringis, a *berial*. *Ibid.* A *berial* hingand at it. 1559 MORE *Conf. agst. Trib.* I. Wks. 137/1 Some white saffre or byrral.

1601 HOLLAND *Pliny* II. 613 Many are of opinion, that *Berils* are of the same nature that the *Emeraud*. 1811 PINKERTON *Petr.* I. 41 No one has supposed that *berils* are produced by fire. 1817 R. JAMESON *Char. Min.* 107 The hexahedral prism occurs in *beryl*. 1861 C. KING *Ant. Gems* (1866) 38 The *Beryl* is of little value at our present day.

b. In this sense *beryl-stone* was often used.

c. 1380 WYCLIF *Sen. Wks.* III. 102 Take a *berille-ston* and holde it in a cleer sonne. c. 1475 *Gloss.* in Wright *Voc.* 256, *Hic berillus*, a *berille* ston. 1611 *Bible Esch.* x. 9 The appearance of the wheeles was as the colour of a *Berill* stone. 1881 ROSSETTI *Rose Mary* I. ii, You've read the stars in the *Beryl-stone*.

† c. *fig.* Applied in admiration to a woman; cf. *gem, jewel, pearl*. Obs.

c. 1440 *York Myst.* xxv. 505 Hayll! rose ruddy! hayll *birrall* clere. c. 1485 *Digby Myst.* (1882) III. 958 Now goda-mercy, *berel* brytest of bewte! c. 1535 LYNDSEY *Satyre* 132 Fair ladye Sensualitie, The *berial* of all bewtie, And portraiture preclair.

2. *Min.* A mineral species including not only the *beryl* of the lapidary in all its sub-varieties, but also the *emerald*, a variety of the *beryl*, distinguished by the presence of oxide of chromium, to which it owes the deep rich colour, named from its emerald-green. *Beryl* is a silicate of aluminium and glucinum, and occurs only crystalline, usually in hexagonal prisms.

1837 DANA *Min.* (1868) 246 *Beryls* of gigantic dimensions have been found in the United States... one *beryl* from Grafton weighs 2,900 lbs. 1863 WATTS *Dict. Chem.* I. 582 *Beryls* are found in various parts of the world: the finest *emeralds* come from Peru.

II. *transferred*.

† 3. A fine description of crystal or glass, used for vases, caskets, etc., and for glazing windows.

c. 1384 CHAUCER *H. Fame* 1288 And oft I mused longe while Upon these wallis of *berile*. c. 1430 LYDG. in *Dom. Archit.* III. 121 The worke of wyndowe & eke fenestral Wrougte of *beryle*. 1528 MS. *List Jewellery*, Another coffer of byrral, standing upon lyons. 1530 PALSGR. 197/2 *Berall*, fyne glasse, *beril*. 1538 LATIMER *Serm. & Rem.* (1845) 412 In plate, my new years gifts doth my need with glass and byrral. 1577 HARRISON *England* II. xii. (1877) 237 The houses were often

glased with Berill. *a 1605 Boys Wks.* (1630) 429 The cunning Lapidarie, who sells a Byrall for a Diamond.

b. Used as the type of clearness, as 'crystal' now is. (Some may have meant the gem.)

c 1300 in Wright Lyric P. v. 25 A burde in a bour ase beryl so bryht. *c 1450 Compl. Lover's L.* 37 Water clere as birell or cristall. *1549 Compl. Scott.* vi. 37 Ane fresche reueir as cleir as berill.

† 4. A mirror: more fully called a *beryl-glass*. *1540 Lanc. Wills* (1857) II. 151 A byrrall glasse w^a a cover. *1576 GASCOIGNE Steele Gl.* (Arb.) 54 The days are past. That Berrall glas. Might serve to shew aseemely favord face.

5. The colour of beryl (pale sea-green). *1834 R. MUDIE Feath. Tribes Brit.* (1841) I. 3 It. blends its beryl with the subdued sapphire of the horizon sky.

B. attrib. and hence as adj.
1. attrib. Of beryl; composed of or furnished with a beryl; also formerly, Of crystal.

1594 BLUNDEVIL Exerc. III. i. viii. 289 Cleere and transparent like fine Birall Glasse. *1658 Sir T. BROWNE Hydriot.* ii. 23 The Gemme or Berill Ring upon the finger of Cynthia. *1810 Edin. Rev.* XVII. 120 The apatit accompanes beril- emerald.

2. adj. † a. Clear as crystal, crystal-like (*obs.*).
b. Beryl-like in colour, clear pale green.

c 1496 BLUNDEVIL Exerc. III. i. viii. 289 The rosis yong. War powder brycht with hevily berill droppis. *1501 DOUGLAS Pal. Hon. Pro.* 53 The berill stremis rynnyn men nicht heir. *1545 JOYE On Dan.* xii. GG vii. The swete clere and byrall dewe droppes of the morninge. *1837 EMERSON Poems* 178 He smote the lake to feed his eye With the beryl beam of the broken wave.

Beryllia (berīliā). *Chem.* [f. BERYLLIUM; cf. *magnesia, magnesium*.] The oxide of beryllium or glucinum, otherwise called GLUCINA.

1873 WATTS Furnes' Chem. 375 An ignited mixture of beryllia and charcoal.

Berylline (berīlīn), a. [f. BERYL + -INE¹.] Beryl-like, beryl-coloured.

1847 in CRAIG. 1876 T. HARDY Hand Ethelb. II. xxxiii. 47 A berylline and opalized variegation of ripples.

Beryllium (berīlīūm). *Chem.* [f. BERYL + -IUM.] A synonym for the metal GLUCINUM; so called as entering into the composition of the beryl.

1863 WATTS Dict. Chem. Glucinum (Glycium, Beryllium). *1873 — Furnes' Chem.* 375 Beryllium forms but one class of compounds. *Ibid.* 375 Beryllium Chloride is formed by heating the Metal in chlorine or hydrochloric acid gas.

Berylloid (berīloid). *Crystallog.* [f. L. *beryllus*, a. Gr. *βήρυλλος* beryl + -OID.] A geometrical solid consisting of two twelve-sided pyramids put base to base, as in the beryl.

Beryn, variant of BERNE and BAIRN.

Beryn, beryng: see BEAR v.

Berynes, var. of BURINESS, *Obs.*, burial.

Berzelianite (berīzīliānit). *Min.* [f. name of Berzelius, the celebrated chemist and mineralogist.] A native selenide of copper, silver-white with metallic lustre. With same etymology: **Berzelite** (berīzīlīt), an anhydrous arsenate of lime and magnesia, called also magnesian pharmacolite, and Kühnite. **Berzeline**, an obsolete name of Berzelianite; also a white variety of Häuynite. **Berzelite**, a native di-chloride of lead, called by DANA MENDIPITE.

Bes, representing OF *bes*:—L. *bis* 'twice, at two times, in two ways, doubly'; in Romanic, also, with the sense of 'secondarily, in an inferior way'; whence, with pejorative force, 'improperly, unsymmetrically, not right or straight, awry, aslant.' Found in Eng. as *bes*, *be*, *bes*, in *besage*, *besagew*, *besatel*, *besantler*, *bestourn*; *beayel*, *beantler*, *belif*, *beune*; *bezantler*.

Bes(e), obs. pres. indic. and imper. of BE v.

Besaar, obs. form of BEZOAR.

Besafron, etc.: see BE-*pref*.

† **Besage**. *Obs.* [a. F. *besace*, ad. Sp. *bisaza* or It. *bisaccia*:—L. *bisaccia*, pl. of *bisaccium* a double bag, saddle-bags, f. *bis* twice + *saccus* bag, sack.] A pair of saddle-bags, carried by a pack-horse. Hence in comb. *besage-horse*, *man*.

1526 Ord. R. Househ. 204 The number of all the Kings Horses, &c. . . Pack horses. . . Sompters & Besage horses. *Ibid.* 201 The six sumpter men and one Besage man.

† **Besague**, *-agew*. *Obs.* [a. F. *besaiguē* 'double axe or bill,' f. OF. *bes*:—L. *bis* twice + *aigu* sharp; L. type *bis-acūta*.] A double-edged axe. *c 1430 Lydg. Chron. Troy* III. xxii. Thereon sette were besaguys also. *c 1440 Partonope* 1936 On eche shulder of steede a besagew.

† **Besail**, *besaile*. *Obs. exc. Law.* Forms: 4-5 *beayell*, 5 *bysayeu*, *-sale*, 6 *besayle*, 6-7 *besaile*, 7 *besayel*, (8 *besail*, 9 *besael*). [a. OF. *besayel*, *besaiol* (mod. F. *bisaieu*), f. *bes*:—L. *bis* twice + *ayel*, *aiol*, *aiel* grandfather (see AIEL). The earlier Eng. form was *beayel* from AFR.]

A grandfather's father, a great-grandfather. *c 1400 Distr. Troy* 13474 His beayell aboue on be burne syde, On his modur halfe. *1480 CAXTON Ovid's Met.* XIII. ii. Jupiter, the god of goddess, is my bysayeu. *1586 FERRIS Blas. Centrie* 102 There is Besaile, Groundsire,

father. [1796 RUFFHEAD Act 32 Hen. VIII. ii. § 2 note, The Tresail, that is, the Father of the Besail, or Great Grandfather.]

b. *Law. Writ of besaile* (see quot.).

1508 KITCHIN Courts Leet (1675) 424 In a Writ of Besaile he shall not have the View. *1641 Termes de la Ley* 40 Besaile is a writ that lies for the heire, where his great grandfather was seized the day that he died, or died seized of Land in fee-simple, & a stranger enters the day of the death of the great grandfather, or abates after his death, the heire shall have this writ against such a disseisor or abator. [1865 NICHOLS Britton II. 59 Such kindred. . . shall have their remedy by our writs of Cosinage, of Ael, Aele, Besael, and Besaile.]

† **Besail**, v. *Obs. rare.* In 5 besaile. [f. BE- + SAIL v., aphet. f. ASSAIL.] *trans.* To assail, attack. *1460 Pol. Rel. & L. Poems* (1866) 103 Pai me besaile both strange & styfe.

Besain, obs. form of BESEEN.

Besaint (bēsāint). [f. BE- + SAINT.] *trans.* To make a saint of, canonize.

c 1603 T. CARTWRIGHT Confut. Rhem. N. T. (1618) 658 Thomas Aquinas, whom they have besainted unto the ninth degree. *1646 J. HALL Poems* i. 3 [If you] besaint Old Jesabel for rhewing how to paint. *1680 Refl. Libel on Curse-ye-Merax* 35 Another sort of People would have almost canoniz'd and besainted the Preacher.

Besainted, *ppl. a.* [f. prec. + -ED.]

1. Canonized, credited with sanctity.

1615 CORBET Poems (1807) 14 Their colledges were new be-painted. Their founders eke were new be-sainted. *1711 E. WARD Vulg. Brit.* i. 9 Most were of some Faults attainted. Whether be-devil'd or besainted.

2. Peopled with or haunted by saints.

1805 E. BURRITT Walk Land's E. 209 Popular traditions in this most profusely be-sainted and be-spirited county.

Besan, *-sand(e)*, *-saunt(e)*, obs. ff. BEZANT.

Besantify, *besauce*, *-scab*, *-scarf*: see BE-.

Bes-antler, var. of BEZ-ANTLER.

Besar, obs. form of BEZOAR.

† **Besay**, v. *Obs.* [OE. *besegan*, f. BE- + *segan* to SAY; cf. OHG. *bisagen*, mod. G. *besagen*.]

1. *trans.* To defend. (Only in OE.)

2. To declare, speak about.

c 1200 Moral Ode 112 in *Lamb. Hom.* 167 *pe de* lest wat biseid ofte mest. *c 1200 Trin. Coll. Hom.* 173 Elch sinne bare him seluen biseid, bute hit be here forjue.

Bescatter (bīskātē), v. [f. BE- + SCATTER.] *trans.* a. To besprinkle, strew with. b. To sprinkle, scatter about.

1640 FULLER Joseph's Cont. David's Rep. (1867) 219 It with moans bescattered the skies. *1659 — App. Inj. Innoc.* (1840) 327 The Animadvertor hath bescattered his [comment] every where with verses. *1855 SINGLETON Virgil* III. 500 The nimble hoof bescatters dew of blood.

Hence **Bescattered** *ppl. a.*

1574 HELLOWES Guenara's Ep. (1577) 192 Although I goe bescattered and wandering in this Courte. *1893 STEVENSON Silverado Sp.* 120 The battlemented pine-bescattered ridges.

Bescent, *beschoolmaster*, *bescorch*, *bescorn*, *bescoundrel*, etc.: see BE-*pref*.

† **Bescramble**, v. *Obs. rare*—1. [f. BE- + SCRAMBLE v.] *trans.* To scratch, tear.

1598 SYLVESTER Du Bartas II. iv. 104 The ragged Bramble With thousand scratches doth their skin bescramble.

Bescratch (bīskrætʃ), v. [f. BE- + SCRATCH v.] *trans.* To cover with scratches, to scratch all over.

1555 Fardle Facions i. vi. 98 He that hath this disease. . . all to bescratcheth his bodie. *1628 WITHER Brit. Rememb.* VI. 312 Our pleasant Fig trees, are bescratcht and dropt. *1829 DARLEY in Beaumont & Fletcher's Wks.* (1839) I. Intro. 31 Bepierced and bescratched.

Bescrawl (bīskrōl), v.; also 7 *bescraul* (l. [f. BE- + SCRAWL v.] *trans.* To scrawl or scribble over, to cover with scrawling.

1641 MILTON Ch. Govt. i. Wks. (1851) 99 These wretched projectors of ours that bescrawl their Pamphlets every day with new formes of government for our Church. *1802 SOUTHEY Lett.* (1856) I. 194 Bescrawling this paper.

Hence **Bescrawled** *ppl. a.*

1880 MRS. READE Brown Hand & White I. ii. 60 Freely-bescrawled sheets of foolscap.

Bescreen (bīskrīn), v. [f. BE- + SCREEN v.] *trans.* To hide from sight, to screen; to cover with shade, overshadow, darken.

1599 SHAKS. Rom. & Jul. II. ii. 52 What man art thou, that thus bescreen'd [Q. i. beskrind] in night So stumblest on my counsell. *1657 TOMLINSON Kenou's Disp. Pref.* Ignorance bescreens the soul. *1855 SINGLETON Virgil* I. 48 Which you bescreens With broken shade.

Bescribble (bīskrīb'l), v. [f. BE- + 2 and 4 SCRIBBLE v.] Hence **Bescribbled** *ppl. a.*

1. *trans.* To write in a scrawling hand, to scribble.

1583 STANYHURST Æneid III. (Arb.) 84 Her prophecies in greene leaues nicelye bescribled. *1840 T. Hook Fitzherb.* III. xvii. 333 The superscription was so bescribled that even Miss Bartley's sidelong glance could decipher nothing.

2. To scribble about; to scribble on. Also *fig.* *1643 MILTON Divorce* II. xii. Wks. (1851) 93 That power. . . [he] hath improperly usurpt into his Court-leet, and bescribbled with a thousand trifling impertinencies. *1808 W. IRVING Salmag.* II. (1860) 36 He bescribbled more paper than would serve the theatre for snow-storms a whole season.

Bescumber, *bescourf*, *bescourvy*, *bescoutcheon*, etc.: see BE-*pref*.

Besee, v. *Obs. or arch.* [Common. Teut.: OE. *biston*, *beston*=OS., OHG. *bisehan*, Goth. *bi-*

saihan:—OTeut. **bisehan*, f. *bi*, BE- + **sehan*, in OE. *slon* to SEE, which see for forms.]

I. +1. *intr.* To look about, to look (in any direction); to see. *Obs.*

c 1000 ÆLFRIC Gen. xviii. 2 Abraham beseah upp and geseah þri weras standende. *c 1200 Moral Ode* 19 in *O. E. Misc.* 58 Ne may ich bi-seo me bi-fore for smoke. *a 1225 St. Mark.* 6 Heo biseh up on heh. *a 1240 Sawles Warde* in *Lamb. Hom.* 253 To. . . biseon on hare grimfule. . . nebbes.

b. *fig.* To look to, give heed to, attend to.

c 1200 Trin. Coll. Hom. 125 He bise to us and giue us. . . mihte him to understonde. *a 1240 Ureissun* in *Lamb. Hom.* 195 Ich mon þet to þe biseh þu giuest milce and ore.

† 2. *refl.* To look about oneself, look round. *Obs.*

c 1000 ÆLFRIC Gen. xxiv. 63 þa he hine beseah þa geseah he ofendas pyder weard. *c 1000 Ags. Gosp.* Mark ix. 8 Sona ða hi besawon hi.

b. *fig.* To look to oneself, take heed to oneself, consider.

a 1225 Ancr. R. 132 Heo mot wel biseon hire, & biholden hire on ilchere half. *c 1230 Hall Meid.* 33 Biseh þe seli meiden. *1297 R. GLOUC.* 505 The king ne wolde king leng be, Then holi Thorsdai at non, bote he wolde him bet bise. *1385 WYCLIF Matt.* xxvii. 5 What to wæt bise thee. *1388 — Acts* xviii. 15 Bisee 300 silf. *1413 Lydg. Pylgr. Soule* i. xxi. (1859) 29 That I myght haue leyser to bysene my self.

† 3. *trans.* To look at, look to, behold; to see. *Obs.*

c 1000 Ags. Psalter lxxxix. [lxxx.] 14 Gehweorf nu. . . and beseah wingearð þisne. *c 1275 Cott. Hom.* 231 Gief þe fend wære. me sceolden. . . stiarnne hine besie. and binde him. *c 1250 Gen. & Ex.* 2141 (He) bad him al his lond bise. *1413 Lydg. Pylgr. Soule* II. xlv. (1859) 52 Al these pilgrims ne wylle not. . . euery daye besene their owne self in a good myrrour.

b. *fig.* To regard, attend to, give heed to.

a 1225 Juliana 57 Vnseli mon, biseh þe hei godd. *1297 R. GLOUC.* 456 Pre þynges he mot bysee atte bygnyng. *a 1300 E. E. Psalter* v. 2 Myne wordes, Laverd, with eres by-se.

† 4. To see to, provide for, attend to; hence, to deal with, treat, use (*well* or *ill*). *Obs.*

c 1300 K. Alis. 4605 Foundelynges weore they two, That heore lord by-sayen so. *1393 LAMPL. P. Pl.* C. xxiii. 201 Lo, hou elde þe hore hab me byseye. *c 1425 Seven Sag.* (P.) 507 Euele thai gonnen him bise. *c 1500 Prymer* in *Maskeil Mon. Rit.* II. 45 note, Thus the biseien folke, oure lord king of grace. *1596 SPENSER F. Q.* *Mutab.* i. 11 Ah! gentle Mole, such ioyance hath thee well besene.

† 5. To provide, arrange, ordain, determine. *Obs.*

c 1250 Gen. & Ex. 1411 Quan god haueð it so bi-sen, Also he sendet, als it sal ben. *Ibid.* 1313 God sal bisen, Quor of ðe ofrende sal ben. *1297 R. GLOUC.* 422 Þe Sowday he was yrcrouned. . . as hys conseyl bysay. *c 1305 St. Swithun* 103 in *E. E. P.* (1862) 46 Þat oure louerd hit hab biseje þat mie bodi schal beo ido in churche in an hege stede.

II. Later uses of the pa. pple. **Beseen**, with qualifying adv. or phrase. Two notions here come in: 1. Seen, as in 'well-beseen' = seen to look well; 2. Provided, as in 'beseen of such power.'

† 6. Seen, viewed; having an appearance, looking. *Well-beseen*: good looking, well favoured. *Obs.*

c 1374 CHAUCER Troilus i. 167 Meny a fresh lady, and maydyn bryght, Full wele byseyne. *a 1450 Knt. de la Tour* (1868) 51 The squier come from a uiaje that he hadde ben atte, freshe and iolyly beseen. *1542 UDALL Erasim. Apoph.* 283 Hymself should ryde in a chairette moste goodly beseen. [1678 PHILLIPS, App., *Beasy* (old word), of good aspect.]

7. Appearing in respect of dress, etc.; dressed, apparelled, appointed; furnished. *Obs. or arch.*

c 1450 Florio & Leaf 169 More richly beseene, by many fold She was. . . in every maner thing. *c 1500 DUNBAR Thistle & Rose* 45 Full hestely beseene, In serk and mantill after her I went. *1530 PALSGR.* 423, I am beseene, I am well or yvell appareyled. *1533 in Arb. Garner* II. 47 Well beseen in velvet. *1629 HOLLAND Cyropædia* (1632) 15 Himself also in person, all royally beseene, was present.

8. Appearing as to accomplishments; furnished; informed, versed, read, accomplished. *arch.*

1393 GOWER Conf. I. 341 How that her kinges be besein Of suche a power. *c 1565 R. LINDSAY Chron. Scott.* (1728) 12 Prudent men, well beseen in histories both old and new. *1581 J. BELL Haddon's Answ. Ossor.* 509 Rhetorick wherein he is well beseene. *1591 SPENSER Tears Muses* 180, I late was wont to. . . maske in mirth with Graces well beseene. *1870 MORRIS Earthly Par.* I. i. 380 Each seemed a glorious queen, With all that wondrous daintiness beseen.

9. Of things, in senses analogous to 6, 7. *arch.*

c 1386 CHAUCER Clerkes T. 909 Though thyn array be badde, and yuel biseye. *1430 Lydg. Story Thebes* 33 To a chamber she led him. . . Ful wel beseine. *a 1440 Sire Degrev.* 1686 [The]re gay gownns of grene [We]re ful schamefully beseene. *1603 HOLLAND Plutarch's Mor.* 224 Set in meadow greene With pleasant flowers all faire beseene. *a 1850 WORDSW. Cuckoo & Night.* lvii. Under a maple that is well beseen.

† b. Hence **Best beseen**: best attire. *Obs.*

1602 CAREW Cornwall (1723) 137 b. The Curate in his best beseene, solemnly receiued him at the Churchyard stile.

Beseech (bīseč), v. Pa. t. and pa. pple.

besought (bīsečt). Forms: *Inf.* 2 *biseo-en*, 2-5 *bisechen*, *bysech-e(n)*, 3-6 *beseche* (3 *-seochen*, 4 *beseche*, *bicheche*, 5 *bysuche*), 6-7 *beseche*, 6 *-beseech*. Also *north.* and *n. midl.* 2-4 *biseke*, 4-5 *be-*, *by-*, (4 *beseke*, 5 *besike*, *beseyk*, 5-6 *Se. beseik*, 6 *beseik*), 6-7 *beseek(e)*. *Pa. t.* 3 *bisohte*, 3-4 *-soyte*, *-souhte*, *-souyte*, 4 *bi-*, *bysought*, *-sowght*, *besoght*, 5 *-sought*, 5-6 *-soughte*, 5-9 *Se. besooht*, 6 *-besought*; also 6 *-beseched* (now regarded as incorrect). [f. *bi-*, BE- + ME. *secan*, *sechen*, *seken* to SEEK. In con-

trast to the simple vb., in which the northern *seek* has displaced the southern *sech*, in the compound *beseech* has become the standard form.]

†1. *trans.* To seek after, search for, try to get. *Obs.* *c1200 Trin. Coll. Hom.* 121 Uredrihten . . . lokede gif here ani understoden oder bi-sohten him. *c1200 Cursor M.* 5357 Gitt, Mi broper esau me bi-soght [C. soght, T. bisoght, F. be-soght] To dyserite me, if pat he moght. *c1374 CHAUCER Boeth.* 159 Pylk clernesse þat nis nat approched no rapor or þat men by-seken it.

†b. To seek to know. *Obs.*

c1250 Gen. & Ex. 3236 He bi-sohte godes wil.

2. To beg earnestly for, entreat (a thing).

c1275 Lamb. Hom. 135 Euric neodi ðe heo biseceð. *c1200 Trin. Coll. Hom.* 157 Ech nedī þe hit biseceð. *c1205 LAY.* 3494 Nu ich mot bisechen [1250 biseche] þat þing þat ich ær forhōwe. *1293 LANGL.* P. Pl. C. II. 167 Mydeliche with mouthe mercy he by-souhte. *c1400 Desir. Troy* xxix. 12138 Pils holly with hert here I beseke! *1550 SHAKS. Mids.* N. III. 1. 183, I besech your worship's pardon. *1612 DEKKER, etc. If not Good Play Wks.* 1873 I. 318, O I beseche Thy attention to this Reuerend sub-Prior. *1641 MILTON Ch. Discip.* II. Wks. (1851) 59 It hath beene more and more propounded, desir'd, and besech't. *1803 MISS PORTER Thaddeus* II. (1831) 19 His majesty . . . besechedd permission to rest for a moment. *1885 RUSKIN Praterita* III. 105, I besought leave to pat him [a dog].

b. with *subord. cl.* or *infin.* as obj.

c1205 LAY. 17043 Faire he biseched þat þu him to buze. *c1235 E. E. Allit. P. C.* 375 Pay . . . dymly bisogten, þat þu penaunce plesed him. *1489 CAXTON Faytes of A.* IV. II. 232, I . . . beseke that hyt may be enterneyd and kepte to me. *1622 MABBE Aleman's Guesman d'Alf.* I. 97 Both which besought to be baptized. *1667 MILTON P. L.* XII. 236 They besech That Moses might report to them his will.

†c. Const. of (a person). *Obs.*

1a 1400 Morle Arth. 305 [He] of hyme besekys To ansuere þe alyenes wyth austerite wordes. *1563 Mirr. Mag. Induct.* xlv. 7 And to be yong againe of Joue [he would] beseke.

3. To supplicate, entreat, implore (a person).

c1275 Lamb. Hom. 23 He hine wile biseche mid gode heorte. *a 1300 Cursor M.* 15807 If i mi fader wald beseke, I moght . . . Haf tuelue thusand legions. *c1250 Will. Palerne* 1258 Lette me nougt lese þe liif þut lord, y þe bi cheche. *c1460 in Pol. Rel. & L. Poems* (1866) 253 Leue lord I þee by-seke. *1591 SHAKS. Two Gent.* II. IV. 100 Mistris, I besech you Confirme his welcome. *1597 — 2 Hen. IV.* II. IV. 175, I beseche you now, aggrauate your Choler. *1871 BIBLE Ex.* xxxiii. 18, I besech thee, shew me thy glory. *1875 JOWETT Plato* (ed. 2) I. 196 Tell me, I besech you, what that noble study is?

†b. a person a thing. (Perhaps the person was originally a dative.) *Obs.*

c1205 LAY. 21543 Iþenched what Ardur . . . at Baðen us bisohite. *c1250 Gen. & Ex.* 3000 For to bi-seken god merci. *1340 Ayenb.* 98 Yef we hym besechþ þing þet ous is guod. *1588 SHAKS. L. L. L.* II. I. 197, I besech you a word.

c. a person that, etc.

a 1240 Ureism 161 in *Lamb. Hom.* 199 Ich þe bi-seche . . . þet þu pine blescinge . . . giue me. *c1386 CHAUCER Melib.* P. 270, I biseke yow . . . that ye wol nat wilfully repleie agayn my resouns. *c1470 HENRY Wallace* II. 317 Scho . . . thaim besocht . . . scho nicht thine with him fayr. *1536 WRIOTHESLEY Chron.* (1875) I. 40, I beseche God that I may be an example to you all. *1590 SHAKS. Mids.* N. I. I. 62, I besech your Grace that I may know the worst. *1742 JARVIS Quix.* I. II. x, Beseeching God . . . that he would be pleased to give him the victory.

d. a person to do a thing.

c1400 Desir. Troy xxi. 8452 Ho . . . besechis the souerain . . . Hir lord to let. *1554 Bk. Com. Prayer* Morn. Pr. I pray and besech you . . . to accompany me. *c1600 A. HUME Brit. Tong.* (1865) 3 Beseeking your grace to accep my mint, and pardon my miss. *1647 WARD Simp. Cobler* 78 Be . . . beseched, not to slight good ministers. *1709 Taiter No. 42* P. 2 A Poor Man once a Judge besought, To judge aright his Cause. *1835 BECKFORD Recoll.* 183, I beseched him . . . to remain quiet. *1844 BROUGHAM Brit. Const.* xvi. (1862) 243 He besought the King to refuse his consent.

†e. a person of a thing. *Obs.*

a 1300 Cursor M. 3258 Þus he bisoght god of his grace. *c1386 CHAUCER Knts.* T. 60 (Lansd. MS.), We beseke 30we of soucore and of mercy. *c1440 LONELICH Grail* xvi. 51 Of hapteme I the beseke. *1604 SHAKS. Oth.* III. III. 212, I humbly do besech you of your pardon.

f. a person for a thing.

a 1300 Cursor M. 20655 And þat þou wil bisek [v. r. be-seke, biseche] me fore . . . It sal be als tu it wille. *c1440 York Myst.* xxvi. 126 All samme for þe same we beseke þou. *1594 MARLOWE Dido* I. I. 60 She humbly did besech him for her bane. *1859 THACKERAY Virgin* (1876) 539 The wretch . . . besought him for mercy.

4. *intr.* To make supplication or earnest request; to ask. *arch.*

a 1225 Ancr. R. 230 Þeo deoflen . . . bisouhten & seiden . . . mitte nos in porcos. *a 1300 E. E. Psalter* lxiii[iv]. 1 Here, God, mi bede, when I biseke swa. *1340 Ayenb.* 194 Hit behouep ham bidde and bezeche beuore er hi wyllep 31 do. *c1449 PECOCC Repr.* Prol. I Vndirnyne thou, biseche thou, and blame thou, in all pacience. *1554 Bk. Com. Prayer* Consecr. Bps., That he, preaching thy Word, may . . . be earnest to reprove, besech, and rebuke. *1655 tr. Milton's 2nd Def. Pop.* 223 Well, I besech, who are you?

b. Const. to or unto a person (obs.); of (obs.) or for a thing.

a 1300 E. E. Psalter xxix. [xxx.] 9 To þe . . . icrie I sal, And to mi God biseke. *1330 R. BRUNNE Chron.* 158 To Ihesus scho bisouht. *1393 GOWER Conf.* II. 172 The Grekes to hem beseke. *1377-99 in Hallam Mid. Ages* (1872) III. 90 The comune of youre lond bysechyn vnto youre riht rihtness. *1647 W. BROWNE Polix.* II. 298, I prayed, and with teares besought for an end of our contentions. *1805 SOUTHEY Madoc in W.* v, We now besought for food.

†5. To bring (a person) into (a certain state of mind) by entreaty. *Obs.* (Cf. to argue into.)

a 1718 PENN Life Wks. 1726 I. 173, I rather chuse to besech People into that Commendable Disposition.

†*Beseech*, sb. *Obs. rare.* [f. prec.] Beseeching, entreaty, petition.

1606 SHAKS. Tr. & Cr. I. II. 319 Atchievement, is command; ungain'd, beseech. *a 1625 BEAUM. & FL. Bloody Bro.* (T.), The suit that Edith urges With such submiss beseeches.

Beseched ppl. a. See BESEECH v.

1646 MAYNE Serm. (1647) 16 An equality between the besecher and the beseched.

Besecher (bɪsɪtʃər). Also 4-6 besecher. [f. BESEECH v. + -ER.]

1. One who beseeches; a suppliant, a petitioner. *1384 WYCLIF Zeph.* III. 10 Fro thennis my bisecheris . . . shuln brynge a 3ift to me. *1508 FISHER Wks.* I. 253 Shewe hymselfe yrefull ayenst his subgete and besecher. *c1600 SHAKS. Sonn.* cxxxv, Let no vnkinde, no faire beseechers kill. *1751 SMOLLETT Per. Pic.* (1779) I. VI. 43 They terrify the poor besecher into immediate silence.

2. *spec.* A petitioner to the king or his courts.

c1400 Petit. Ld. Vesey in Whitaker Hist. Craven (1812) 251 Yo' said besecher standeth getrely chargeably to the execucon of . . . the last wille of, etc. *1448 SHILLINGFORD Lett.* (1871) 130 lugges betweene the seid Bishop . . . and your seid besechers. *1488-9 Act 4 Hen. VII.* xxii, Yourse besechers shall ever pray, etc. *1523 Act 14 & 15 Hen. VIII.* vi, It shalbe leful to your said besecher.

Beseeching (bɪsɪtʃɪŋ), vbl. sb. [f. as prec.]

1. Earnest entreaty, intercession, supplication.

c1300 in Wright's Lyric P. xxxiv. 95 Heo mai don us god, thurh hire bysechunge. *1480 CAXTON Chron.* Eng. ccxii. 198 At the prayer and besechunge of his lieges. *1873 HOLLAND Marb. Proph.* 29 With a look of wild beseeching.

2. An earnest request, entreaty, prayer.

a 1300 E. E. Psalter xviii. 1 Bihald what mi bisekinge es. *1340 Ayenb.* 98 Þe besechinge þet he ous made . . . þet wes þet pater noster. *1480 CAXTON Chron.* Eng. ccxii. 251 Continuel besechynge of many noble man. *1659 MILTON Rapt. Commun.* Wks. (1851) 403 By publick Addresses, and brotherly besechings. *1884 W. S. BLUNT Sonn. Proteus, Vanitas Van.* O glorious sighs, Sublime besechings.

†b. A plea, petition. *Obs.*

1340 Ayenb. 39 Ualseplaynes þet makeþ ualse besechings.

Beseching, ppl. a. [f. as prec. + -ING.]

That beseches; entreating, appealing, suppliant.

1704 J. TRAPP Abra. Muld Prol. 3 With beseching Hands. *1753 SMOLLETT Cl. Fathom* (1784) 173/1 In an humble and beseching strain. *1868 HOLME LEE B. Godfrey* xvii. 100 Emmot cast a beseching look.

Besechingly, adv. [f. as prec. + -LY.] In a beseching manner; imploringly.

1830 MARRIAT King's Own lix, 'Don't talk so loud!' . . . said the hag, besechingly. *1881 J. HAWTHORNE Fort. Fool* I. xiii, Her childish face looked up at him besechingly.

Besechingsness (bɪsɪtʃɪŋnəs). [f. as prec. + -NESS.] The quality of being beseching.

1863 GEO. ELIOT Romola xlviii, The husband's determination to mastery, which lay deep below all blandness and besechingsness.

Besechment (bɪsɪtʃmənt). [f. BESEECH v. + -MENT.] Beseeching, supplication.

a 1670 T. GOODWIN Wks. (1863) VI. 118 Which besechment denotes . . . their gracious condescension. *1880 MISS BROUGHAM Sec. Th.* II. III. viii. 253 Casting a glance of abject besechment at his niece.

†*Beseeing*, vbl. sb. *Obs.* In 4 beseyinge.

[f. BESEECH v.] Circumspection, consideration.

1340 Ayenb. 184 Greate þeþencheþ, þet is, grāt bezyinge.

Beseek, v. *nonce-ud.* [f. BE- + SEEK v. (cf. BESEECH 1).] *trans.* To seek or search about.

1880 L. WALLACE Ben-Hur I. ix. (1884) 46 These people have all besought the town, and they report its accommodations all engaged.

Beseek, obs. form of BESEECH.

Beseem (bɪsɪm), v. Also 3-6 bi-, by-. For forms see SEEM v. [f. BE- + SEEM v.]

†1. *intr.* To seem, appear, look. (Almost always in 3rd pers.) *Obs.*

a 1225 Ancr. R. 1428 Moiseses hond . . . bisemed oðe spitel-vuel. *1330 R. BRUNNE Chron.* Prol. 152 He telles . . . Alle þer lymmes how þai beseemed. *1470-85 MALORY* (1816) I. 191 Sir, thou beseemest well. *1586 WEBBE Eng. Poetrie* (Arb.) 182 She sities . . . in a goodly scarlett brauely beseeming. *1779 MASON Eng. Gard.* xiv. (R.) His manly form, His virtues . . . beseem'd no sentiment to wake Warmer than gratitude.

b. *impers.* with *dat. obj.* or *to*.

c1400 Desir. Troy vii. 2886 Paris was pure faire . . . full stithe hym beseemt. *1470-85 MALORY Arthur* (1816) I. 361 Him beseemeth well of person, and of countenance, that he shall prove a good man. *1598 SYLVESTER Du Bartas* I. i. (1641) 2/1 To deep Wisdom and Omnipotence, Nought worse beseems, then sloth and negligence.

2. To suit in appearance; to become, befit, be in accordance with the appearance or character of. With *dative obj.* (rarely *to*).

a. *orig.* with *well*, *ill*, or other qualification: *lit.* To appear or look well, etc., for a person to wear, to have, to do, etc.

a 1225 Juliana 55 Wel bisemed þe . . . to beo streon of a swuch strunde. *c1325 E. E. Allit. P. A.* 309 A poynt of sorquydrye þat vche god mon may euel byseme. *1393 GOWER I.* 110 As though it shulde him well beseeme That all other men can dene. *1398 TREVISIA Barth. De P. R.* vi. vi. (1495) 193 Semeely cloythynge bysemeth to them well that ben chaste damoyells. *1590 MARLOWE Edu.* II. I. i. ad fin., A prison may beseeem his holiness. *a 1674 CLARENDON Hist. Reb.* II. vi. 137 A duty well beseeming the Preachers

of the Gospel. *1843 LYTTON Last Bar.* II. 41 It would ill beseem you, so young and so comely, to go further.

b. *Hence*, without qualification, in the sense of 'well beseem.'

1388 WYCLIF Prov. xvii. 7 Wordis wel set togidere bisemen not a fool. *a 1550 Myrr. Our Ladye* 126 Euerlastynge holynesse bysemeth lorde thy howse. *1593 SHAKS. Lucr.* 277 Sad pause and deep regard beseem the sage. *1639 FULLER Holy War* III. xi. (1840) 134 Being more prodigal of his person than beseemed a general. *1739 T. COOKE Tales* 45 Her Mind beseem'd her Angel's Face. *1837 HAWTHORNE Twice-told T.* (1851) II. i. 12, I have already laughed more than beseems my cloth. *1884 BROWNING Ferishtah* (ed. 3) 61 Man acts as man must; God, as God beseems.

3. *absol.* To be seemly, to be becoming or fitting, to be meet: *orig.* with qualification as in 2.

c1340 Cursor M. 8734 (Trin.) Say me what wol best biseeme. *1384 WYCLIF Rom.* II. 28 Tho thingis that accorden not, or bysemen not. *1388 Hebr.* vii. 26 It biseymde that sich a man were a bishop to us. *c1449 PECOCC Repr.* 552 The recyueys wolden expende thilk god, no other wise than it biseemed. *1596 SPENSER F. Q.* I. viii. 32 His reverend haire The knight much honor, as beseemed well. *1671 MILTON P. R.* II. 331 To treat these as beseems. *1871 PALGRAVE Lyr. Poems* 44 Silence beseemeth most.

†*Beseemed*, ppl. a. *Obs.* [f. prec. + -ED.]

Having an appearance (of such a kind), appearing, looking; = BESEEN; esp. in *well-beseemed*. (Cf. also *well-behaved*, *well-spoken*.)

a 1250 Owl & Night. 842 Pine wordes beop . . . so biseemed and biliked. *c1430 Syr. Tryam.* 720 Ther was no pryncce . . . That was so semeely undur schylde, Nor bettur beseem'd a knyght. *a 1440 Iþomydon* 353 Ther was non . . . So wele beseem'd, doughty of hand.

Beseeming (bɪsɪmɪŋ), vbl. sb. [f. as prec.]

†1. Appearance, look. *Obs.*

1611 SHAKS. Cymb. v. v. 409, I am, sir, The Souldier that did company these three In poore beseeming.

2. Becoming appearance, becomingness, fitness.

c1440 Promp. Parv. 27 Beseemyng, or comelynesse, de-cencia. *1554 HULOET, Beseemyng, comdecencia.* *1580 BARET Adv. B* 557 A Beseemyng or comeliness, comdecencia.

Beseemyng, ppl. a. [f. as prec. + -ING.]

That beseems (in senses 2, 3); becoming, befitting, seemly, comely.

1556 Pilgr. Perf. (W. de W. 1531) 201 Moche beseemyng it was . . . that we sholde haue suche a bysshop. *1594 SHAKS. Rom. & Jul.* I. 1. 100 Cast by their Graue beseemyng Ornaments. *1594 HOOKER Eccl. Pol.* I. (1632) 65 Those things which men . . . know to be beseemyng or unbeseemyng. *1641 MILTON Animadv.* Wks. (1851) 236 Contented with a moderate and beseemyng allowance. *1881 SCOTT Kenilw.* xvi, Tressilian . . . made a low and beseemyng reverence.

Beseemyng, beseemyng, for by seemyng, seemingly: see SEEMING.

Beseemyngly, adv. [f. prec. + -LY.] In a beseemyng manner; befittingly.

1611 COTGR., Decemtem, decently, comelyly, handsomely, gracefully, beseemyngly. *1674 N. FAIRFAX Bulk & Selv.* Ep. Ded., To love knowingly and beseemyngly. *1866 J. H. NEWMAN Gerontius* v. 40 The Angels, as beseemyngly to spirit-kind was given, At once were tried and perfected.

Beseemingness. [f. as prec. + -NESS.] Beseemyng quality; fitness, becomingness.

1656 J. FERGUSSON On Coloss. 142 [It] doth not import a dignity or worth in our walking, to recompence the Lord, but only a beseemingness. *1840 BROWNING Sordello* I. 282 Till two or three amased Mankind's beseemingnesses.

Beseemly (bɪsɪmli), a. *rare.* [Irregularly formed on BESEEM v., after *seemly*.] Seemly, becoming, befitting. Hence *Beseemliness*.

1647 W. BROWNE Polix. II. 292 Preferring false beseemliness before loyall affection! *1744 SHENSTONE Schoolw.* xxiv. 209 To their seats they hie. And in beseemly order sitten there. *1849 ROCK Ch. of Fathers* III. ix. 264 An architectural feature . . . as beautiful as it was beseemly.

Besege, etc., obs. form of BESIEGE, etc.

†*Bese-kandlik*, a. *Obs. north.* [f. *bese-kand*, north. form of BESEECHING pr. ppl. + -lik, -LIKE.] Able to be besought, propitious.

a 1300 E. E. Psalter cxxxiv. 14 He sal . . . in his hine bese-kand-lik be [v. r. besoght sal he] with-al.

Beseke, etc., obs. form of BESEECH, etc.

Besem, obs. form of BESOM.

†*Besench*, v. *Obs.* Forms: 1 besencon, 2-3 besencon, (Orm.) bisennkenn, bisenchen.

Pa. t. 2-3 bisencte, -seinte. [OE. *bescenan* wk. vb., f. BE- + *scnan* :- OTeut. *sangjan*, causal of *singan* to SINK.] *trans.* To cause to sink, submerge, plunge down, overwhelm.

971 Blickl. Rom. 33 Se þe mihte þone costigend instepes on helle grund besencon. *c 1000 Ags. Gosp.* Matt. xviii. 6 Besenced [Rushu, besenked] on ses grund. *c 1175 Lamb. Hom.* 87 God bisencte þa þe pharaon and al his genge. *Ibid.* 107 Hi bisencte us on helle. *c 1200 ORMIN* 19689 Þatt mihte hemm alle . . . Inn helle wel bisennkenn. *a 1225 Ancr. R.* 334 [He] biseinte [v. r. biseintel] Sodome & Gomorre.

†*Besend*, v. *Obs.* [f. BE- + SEND v.] *trans.* To send to, to send (a message) to.

1297 R. GLOUC. 491 Erl Jon, is brother, biseinde him al so, & bisouhte is grace of that he adde misdo. *1330 R. BRUNNE Chron.* 309 For chance þat him bitidde, þe kyng þus þam biseint, I prae 30w in his bede, to help me with þour oste.

Besenes, obs. form of BUSINESS.

Besense, obs. f. BECENSE: (see BE- pref. 1.)

Besort, obs. variant of BEZOAR.

†*Beserve*, v. *Obs.* [f. BE- + SERVE v.] *trans.* To serve diligently.

a 1300 *Cursor M.* 23053 Did þair bodis in prisun And suon-ken þam bath dai and night For to beserue vr lauerd.

Besestano, -tein, obs. variant of **BEZESTEN**.

Beset (biset), *v.* Pa. t. and pa. ppl. **beset**. Also 1-6 bi-, by-. For forms see **SET**. [Com. Teut.: OE. *bi-, besettan* = OHG. *bisetzan* (MHG. and mod.G. *besetzen*), OS. *bissetjan* (MDu. *besetten*, Du. *bezetten*), Goth. and OTeut. *bisatjan*, f. *bi-*, Br. about + *satjan* (OE. *settian*) to **SET**, causal of *settian* to **SET**. **Beset** is thus the causal to **BESIT**.]

I. To set about, surround. All *trans.*
1. To set (a thing) about with accessories or appendages of any kind; to surround with things set in their places. Now only in pa. ppl.

a 1000 *Beowulf* 2910 Swa hine fyrn-dagum worhte wæpna smið wundrum tēode besette swin-līcum. c 1200 *ORMIN* 8169 Ilt wass e33wær bi-sett Wiþ deorewurpe staness. 1388 *Wyclif Ecclius* xxviii. 28 Bisette thin eeris with thornes. a 1500 *SKELTON Vox Pop.* Wks. 1843 II. 404 His tabell... With platt besett inowe. 1563 *PILKINGTON Serm.* Wks. (1842) 657 Many of the university... beset the walls of the Church and Church-porch on both sides with verses. 1598 *BARCKLEY Felic. Man* iii. (1603) 253, I made orchards and gardens, and beset them with all kinde of trees. 1607 *TORSELL Four-f. Beasts* 557 They take a... young man, whom they dress in the apparel of a woman, besetting him with divers odoriferous flowers and spices. 1760 *J. LEZ Introd. Bot.* (1776) 196 The Disk is beset with Points that are sharp and stiff. 1834 *DE QUINCEY Caesars* Wks. X. 231 A diadem or tiara beset with pearls.

† **b.** more vaguely: To surround, encircle, cover round *with*. *Obs.*

1850 *LVLV Euphues* (1636) Iij b, His face did shine as it were beset with the Sun-beams. 1593 *NASHE Christ's T.* Wks. 1883-4 IV. 207 Euen as Angels are painted... besette with Sunne-beams so beset they theyr fore-heads... with glorious borrowed gleamy bushes. 1787 *BRADLEY Fam. Dict.* s.v. *Distilling*, It's necessary you should beset it [a Retort], even to the very End of the Beak, with a Sort of Stuff made of Potters Earth.

2. To set or station themselves round, to surround with hostile intent.

a. To set upon or assail on all sides (a person).
a 1205 *Meid. Maregr.* xvii, Des houndes habbet me biset.
a 1300 *Cursor M.* 15783 Þei bigon to awake And him faste aboute biset. c 1380 *Wyclif Sel. Wks.* III. 143 Monkynde in þo stat of innocense when he... was not bysett wiþ enmyes. c 1400 *York Myst.* xlv. 55 Þe Jewes besettis vs in ilke aside. 1526 *Pilgr. Perf.* (W. de W. 1531) 19 b, Than he is a strypplynge, all beset aboute with ennemyes. 1601 *SHAKS. Twel. N. v. i.* 88, I... Drew to defend him, when he was beset. 1718 *POPE Hind* xvii. 148 The lioness... beset by men and hounds. 1873 *SYMONDS Grk. Poets* vii. 194 The Erinnyes, whose business it is to beset the house of the evil-doer.

b. To invest, or surround (a place); to besiege. (Not now said of a regular army besieging a town).
a 1205 *Ancr. R.* 300 Þe buruh... þet he heueden biset. 1597 *R. GLOUC.* 387 Puderward he heyde vaste, And þer castel bysette. a 1300 *Cursor M.* 7056 In his tyme was troy biset. c 1380 *Sir Ferunb.* 3539 For þe Amyrall... had be-set þe brigge aboute With strengthe and with gynne. c 1500 *Adam Bel* 47 in Hazl. E. P. P. II. 141 Thys place hath ben besette for you. 1604 *CAPT. SMITH Virginia* iii. ix. 79 Salvages, well armed, had inuironed the house, and beset the fields. 1740 *L. CLARKE Hist. Bible* vi. 341 They went and beset the town by night. 1871 *FREEMAN Norm. Conq.* (1876) IV. xviii. 107 The partizans of Oswulf beset the house where Copsige was.

c. To occupy (a road, gate, or passage), esp. so as to prevent any one from passing.

a 1300 *Cursor M.* 15012 Wiþ harpe & pipe... þe weye þei him bisette. 1580 *BARET Adv.* B 559 All the wayes were beset with garrisons of enemies. 1635 *N. R. Camden's Hist. Elis.* i. 75 Morton in the meane tyme beset all passages of access. 1753 *Life of Frith* (1829) 76 Sir Thomas More... persecuted him both by land and sea, besetting all the ways, havens, and ports. 1850 *McCulloch Taxation* Introd. 28 The mob, which beset all the avenues to the House of Commons.

† **d.** To circumvent, entrap, catch. *Obs.*

1616 *SURFL. & MARKH. Countr. Farm* 37 Hee shall make readie his Nets to catch Birds, and to beset the Hares.

3. fig. To encompass, surround, assail, possess detrimentally: **a.** said of temptations, dangers, difficulties, obstacles, evil influences.
a 1000 *Andreas* (Gr.) 1257 Þa se halga was... earopancum besetted. c 1200 *ORMIN* 12954 O manninn þatt wass all bisett Wiþ sinness þestertnessse. a 1450 *Knt. de la Tour* (1868) 58 Whanne that two vices be sette one euellie delite, gladly they bringe her maister into temptacion. 1611 *BIBLE Heb.* xii. 1 Let vs lay aside... the sinne which doth so easily beset vs. 1712 *ADDISON Spect.* No. 441 ¶ 1 (Man) is beset with Dangers on all sides. 1741 *RICHARDSON Pamela* I. 73 A poor Maiden, that is hard beset. 1848 *MACAULAY Hist. Eng.* I. 240 The difficulties by which the government was beset. 1874 *HELPS Soc. Press.* ii. 18 The hopelessness which gradually besets all people in a great town like London.

b. of the difficulties, perils, obstacles which beset an action, work, or course.

1800 *CURRIE Life Burns* (1800) I. Ded. 21 The task was beset with considerable difficulties. 1869 *FREEMAN Norm. Conq.* (1876) III. xii. 254 The tale is beset with contradictions. 1876 *HUXLEY Physiogr.* 138 The difficulties that beset such an explanation.

c. of actual enemies forming schemes against one's life or property. *rare.*
1680 *LUTTRELL Brief Rel.* (1857) I. 202 Our lives and estates are besett here.

† **d. pass.** To be possessed (with devils). *Obs.*
1403 *CAXTON Gold. Leg.* 1761 The deuyls that Saynt Germain had dryuen out of suche bodies as were biseten. 1616 Men that were wood and byset with deuyls.

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4. gen. To close round; to surround, hem in. (Often with some allusion to senses 2 and 3, as in 'to be beset by ice'.)

c 1334 *tr. Pol. Verg. Eng. Hist.* (1846) I. 57 Thetowne... being on all sides besett with wooddes and fenns. 1642 *ROCKERS Naaman* 345 Foggy clouds which doe beset the cleare sky. 1738 *WESLEY Ps.* cxxxix. iv. Within thy circling Arms I lie Beset on every side. 1853 *KANE Grinnell Exp.* x. (1856) 73 We are now again fast, completely 'beset'. 1870 *HAWTHORNE Eng. Note-Bks.* (1879) II. 243 The mountains which beset it round.

II. To set (in fig. sense), to bestow. All *trans.*

† **5.** To set or place (one's mind, affections, faith, trust, love) on or upon (any one); = **SET** *v.* *Obs.*

c 1175 *Lamb. Hom.* 101 Cristene men ne sculen heore bileafe bisettan on þere weorð(d)liche eahte. c 1286 *CHAUCER Pers. T.* P 532 Thay ben accussed... that on such filthe bisetten here bileve. c 1440 *Generydes* 5021, I do very right, Though I besette my loue on suche a knyght. c 1449 *PECOCK Repr.* 295 His over great trust which... he bisettid upon hem. 1627 *Br. HALL Metaphr. Ps.* iv. Offer the truest sacrifice Of broken hearts, on God besetting Your only trust.

† **6.** To employ, expend, spend (one's words, wit, money, time, pains, study). *Obs.* Cf. *bestow*.

a 1240 *Sawles Warde in Lamb. Hom.* 249 Warschipe þat best con bisetten hire wordes ant echire werkes. a 1300 *Dame Siris* 274 Neren never penes beter biset. 1340 *Ayenb.* 214 Me ssel alenway wel do and wel besette þane time ine guode werkes. c 1386 *CHAUCER C. T.* Prol. 279 This worthi man ful wel his witte bisette. c 1449 *PECOCK Repr.* ii. ix. 195 Forto bisette so much labour and coste aboute ymagis. c 1560 in Hazl. E. P. P. I. 207 Here ys thy penworth of ware; Yf thou thyne hyt not wele besett, Gyf hyt another.

† **7.** To bestow, apportion, allot, transfer; *spec.* to bestow or give in marriage. *Obs.*

c 1230 *Hali Meid.* 9 The poure [wummon] þat beoð wacliche lyeoun and biset uuele. c 1325 *Chron. Eng.* 492 in Ritson's *Met. Rom.* II. 290 Thilke he deled on threo, Wel he bisette the. 1480 *CAXTON Chron. Eng.* cxii, Orgarus thought his daughter shold wel be maryed, and wel beset upon hym. 1494 *FABYAN* i. iv. 11 He beset or apoynted to hym the Countre of Walys. 1599 *Br. HALL Sat.* iv. iii. 69 The beare his ferce-nesse to his brood besets.

† **8.** To set in order; arrange; ordain. *Obs.*

1413 *E. E. Wills* (1882) 19, I, Richard Jonge, Brewer of London, be-set my testament in thys manner. 1494 *FABYAN* vi. clxxx. 178 Than this noble pryncce Edward, after these thinges, be set hym in an ordre. c 1500 *Bloubois's Test.* in Halliwell. *Nugz P.* 3 Withoute taryng ye make your Testament, And by good adice all thing wel beset.

III. To become, suit. Cf. *Sc. set*, *Fr. seoir*.

† **9.** To become, look well on, befit, set off. *Obs.*

1567 *DRAMT Horace De Arte P.* A iijj, Sad wordes beset a sorye face; thretyng, the visage grim. 1598 *R. POLLOCK On 1 Thess.* (1616) 258 (JAM.) If thou be the childe of God, doe as besets thy estate—sleep not, but wake.

† **b. intr.** To go well or accord *with*. *Obs.*

1599 *Br. HALL Sat.* i. vi. 13 How handsomely besets Dull spondees with the English dactilets.

Besetment (bisetment). [*f. prec. + -MENT.*]

1. The fact of besetting; *concr.* that by which one is beset; esp. a besetting sin, weakness, or influence.

1830 *S. WARREN Diary Physic.* (1838) II. vi. 231 To her other dreadful besetments, Mrs. Dudleigh now added the odious and vulgar vice of—intoxication! 1858 *GEN. P. THOMPSON Audi Alt. P.* I. xlv. 173 They yield to their peculiar besetments. 1867 *W. PENGELLY Trans. Devon Assoc.* II. 36 Amongst the besetments of the cultivators... is that of trusting to negative evidence.

2. A condition of being hemmed in by persistent obstacles, e.g. that of a ship enclosed in ice.

1853 *KANE Grinnell Exp.* xi. (1856) 84 My journal must give its own picture of this season of 'besetment.' 1862 *Life W. Scoresby* v. 91 A laughable incident occurred during the besetment.

3. A condition of being beset by enemies.

1872 *SPURGEON Treas. Davs.* Ps. lix. 16 David's besetment by Saul's bloodhounds.

Besetter (bisetar). [*f. as prec. + -ER.*] One who or that which besets.

1800 *COLERIDGE in Blackw. Mag.* VII. 630 There is one class of literary besetters who... are highly amusing to all but the unlucky patient himself.

Besetting, *vbl. sb.* [*f. as prec. + -ING.*] The action of surrounding with hostile intent.

1549 *CHEKE Hurt Sedit.* (1641) 27 The besetting of one house to robbe it.

Besetting, *ppl. a.* [*f. as prec. + -ING.* 2.] That besets; esp. in the expression *besetting sin*, and the like, in allusion to *Heb.* xii. 1.

1795 *SOUTHEY Joan of Arc* ii. 60 Retaining still... their old besetting sin. 1860 *TRENCH Serm. Westm. Ab.* xiii. 144 We have every one of us besetting sins... sins, that is, which more easily get advantage over us than others. 1868 *M. PATTISON Academ. Org.* § 5. 210 The besetting danger of endowments—mental stagnation and apathy.

† **Besew**, *v.* *Obs.* For forms see **SEW**. [OE. *bestwian*, f. *BE- + stwian* to **SEW**.] *trans.* To sew about, sew up. Hence **Besewed** *ppl. a.*

a 800 *Epinal Gl.* 699 (Sweet, O. E. T. 80) *Opere plurimario* bisiuuiddi uuerici (*Corpus Gl.* 1450 bisuiddi uerici). a 1100 *Gloss.* in *Wr.-Wulcker Voc.* 459 Besiweid fædergewearc. c 1350 *Will. Palerne* 1688 Mijt we by coyntise con bi too skynnes of þe breme beres, and bisowe 300 perinne. *Ibid.* 3117 We be so sotliche besewed in þise hides. 1393 *GOWER Conf.* III. 312 The dede body was besewed in cloth of gold and laid therinne. 1599 *A. M. Gabelhouer's Bk. Physic* 1852 The besowed two little bandes.

Besey, beseyge: see **BESEE, BESIEGE**.

Beshackle, etc.: see **BE- pref.**

Beshade (bifʃaɪd), *v.* [OE. *besceadian*, f. *BE- + sceadian* to **SHADE**.] To envelop in shade, overshadow. Hence **Beshaded** *ppl. a.*

a 1000 *Salomon & Sat.* (Gr.) 339 For hwam besceadeð heo muntas and moras? 1393 *GOWER III.* 111 The highe tre the ground beshadeth. 1423 *JAS. I. Kingis Q.* xxxii, So thik the bewis and the leues grene Beschadit all the aleyes that there were. a 1606 *SYLVESTER Magnif.* 975. 1621 *QUARLES Argalus & P.* iii. Wks. 1881 III. 273/1 She wore A Crowne of burnisht Gold, beshaded o're With Foggis and rory mist. 1827 *CARLYLE Germ. Rom.* III. 274. 1862 *BARNES Rhymes Dorset Dial.* II. 125 Beside the hill's beshaded head.

Beshadow (bifʃædɔw), *v.* For forms see **SHADOW**. [ME. *bishadewen*, prob. OE. **besceadwian*; cf. OHG. *biscatawēn*, MHG. *beschatewēn*, Du. *beschaduwen*; f. *bi-*, *BE- + OTeut.* (Goth.) *skadwjan*, in OE. *sceadwian*, to **SHADOW**.] *trans.* To cast a shadow upon, to shade, overshadow; also *fig.* Hence **Beshadowed** *ppl. a.*

a 1300 *Cursor M.* 10885 And goddes owne vertu now Shal þe bishadewe for monnes prow. c 1320 *Seiyn Sag* (W.) 586. 1496 *Dives & Paup.* (W. de W.) iv. v. 166/1 The crosse... bysshadoweth the rote for the hete of the sonne. 1558 *PHAER Æneid* ix. C c ij, Their heads to heauen they lift... Beshadowyng broad the bows. 1883 *Century Mag.* XXVII. 47 All is so profoundly beshadowed by huge trees.

Beshag, beshake, beshawled; see **BE- pref.**

Beshame (bifʃæm), *v.* [*f. BE- + SHAME sb.*] To cover with shame, put to shame.

1556 *ABP. PARKER Psalter* xxxviii. [ix.] 109 Beshame me not. 1832 *THIRLWALL in Philol. Mus.* I. 490 Controversy is the element of the learned person who has undertaken to beshame and chastise me.

Beshan, native name of Balm of Mecca: see **BALM sb.** 10.

Beshear, *v.* For forms see **SHEAR v.** [WGer.: OE. *bescieran* = OHG. *bisciran* (MHG. *beschern*, Ger. and Du. *bescieren*), f. *bi-*, *BE- + sciran* to **SHEAR**.] *trans.* To shear or shave all round; hence, to shear, shave, or cut clean off.

c 893 *K. ÆLFRED Oros.* iv. xi. § 1 Hie eal hiera heafod bescearen. c 1000 *ÆLFRED Judg.* xvi. 17 Ic næs næfre gefealdod ne næfre bescoren. a 1300 *Cursor M.* 12231, I caitif al nu am bi-scorn (*Götl.* *bischorn*).

[Still possible: at least in pa. ppl. *beshorn*.]

† **Beshed**, *v.* *Obs.* Also *bisched*. [ME. *f. BE- + SHED v.*] *trans.*

1. To perfume, drench, moisten, wet (*with*).
1382 *Wyclif 1 Kings* xviii. 28 To the tyme that they weren alle beshed with blood. 1388 — *Isa. lv.* 10 As reyn and snow... fillith the erthe, and bishedith it. — *Esther* xv. 8.

2. To shed (blood).

1474 *CAXTON Chesse* iii. iii. (1860) 7 Or he had do beshedde [? be shedde] ony blood he wepte.

† **Beshend**, *v.* *Obs. rare*—1. [*f. BE- + SHEND v.*] *trans.* To ruin.

a 1300 *Cursor M.* 14388 Allas! nu has he 30 bischent. **Besher**, variant of **BEAUSIRE**, ancestor. *Obs.*

Beshet, obs. form of **BESHUT v.**

Beshield, etc.: see **BE- pref.**

Beshine (bifʃi:n), *v.* For forms see **SHINE**. [Com. Teut.: OE. *bi-, bescinan* = OFris. *bischina*, OS. OHG. *biscinan* (MHG. *bescinēn*, mod.G. *bescinēnen*), Du. *bescijnēn*, Goth. *biskeinan* = O Teut. **biskinan*; f. *bi-*, *BE- + skinan*, in OE. *scinan*, to **SHINE**.] Hence **Beshone** *ppl. a.*

1. trans. To shine about or upon; to light up, illumine. *Obs.* bef. 1600, but used anew by Carlyle.
a 1000 *Riddles* (Gr.) lxxii. 17 Þonne mec heaðosigol scir bescineð. c 1200 *ORMIN* 18851, And heffness liht bishineþþ all Mannkinne þestertnessse. a 1300 in *Wright Pop. Treat.* Sc. 132 As an appel the urthe is round, so that euerie mo Half the urthe the sonne bi-schyneth, hou so hit euer go. 1387 *TREvisa Higden* (Rolls Ser.) VI. 293 Alcuinus byschoon þat lond wiþ list of his lore. 1534 *LD. BERNERS Gold. Bk. M. Aurel.* (1546) Q b, Whan the sonne is sette, it beshyneth not the world. 1831 *CARLYLE Misc.* (1857) II. 270 The world—beshone by the young light of Love. 1850 *BLACKIE Æchylus* I. Pref. 23 The sun-beshone tiers of an ancient theatre.

† **2. intr.** with *upon*. *Obs.*

a 1300 *K. Horn* 12 Fairer ne miste no beo born, Ne no reia upon birine Ne sunne upon bishine.

† **3. trans.** To fall or light upon. *Obs. rare.*

1574 *HELLOWES Guenara's Ep.* (1584) 275 Every time, that with the cold my stomach beginneth to belke, presently I say, a shame beshine Doctor Melgar.

† **Beshining**, *vbl. sb.* *Obs.* [*f. prec. + -ING.*] Illumination, lighting up; effulgence. (See *quot.*)

1398 *TREvisa Barth De P. R.* viii. xlii, [Lumen differt a luce, sicut species a genere] Byschinyng and ly3t ben diuerse, as species and gendir, for euerie bishinyng is ly3te, but not ajenwarde euerie ly3te is bishinyng. *Ibid.* viii. xxviii. 340 One bishynyng comyth nat in to the substance of a nother though it seme to the syghte that they ben joyned.

Beshiver, beshod, beshout, beshower: see **BE- pref.**

Beshrew (bifʃrɪ), *v. arch.* Forms: 4 *be-*, by-schrewe, bishrewe, (6 *besoro*), 6-7 *beshrow* (e, 4-7 *beshrewe*, 5- *beshrow*. [*f. BE- + SHREW v.*])

† **1. trans.** To make wicked or evil; to deprave, pervert, corrupt. *Obs.*

c 1325 *Poem temp. Edw. II.* 45 Þis world is al beshrewed. 1382 *Wyclif Prov.* x. 9 Who forsothe beshrew with [1388 makith schrewid; *Vulg.* depravat] his weies, shall be maad opene. — 1 *Kings* xi. 4 The herite of hym is beshrewed bi wyymmen. 1393 *GOWER Conf.* I. 63 His herte is all beshrewed.

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1556 *ABP. PARKER Psalter* lvi. 161 What flesh can do, though all beshrowd, I fear no whit at all.

†2. To treat evilly, use ill, abuse. *Obs.*

1430 *LYDG. Min. Poems* 115 Thus they went from the game begyld and begyled Nether on other wylt hom they went beshrewyd.

†3. To invoke evil upon, to wish (one) all that is bad, to invoke a curse on; to curse, objugate, or blame greatly, as the cause of misfortune. *Obs.*

1377 *LANGL. P. Pl. B. iv.* 168 A schireus clerke byschrewed al þe route. 1386 *CHAUCER Wife's Prolog.* 844 Now elles, frere, I bishrewed thy face. Quod this Somonour, and I bishrewed me But if I telle tales two or thre Of freres. 1485 *Digby Myst.* (1882) ii. 88 Hye the faster, I beshrewed thi swynne. 1533 *MORE Debell. Salem Wks.* 948/2, I durste well in the same word (Some saye) beshrewed hym, and beshrowe hym agayne. 1644 *FULLER Holy & Prof. St. iv.* ix. 280 He hath just cause to beshrew his fingers. 1688 *N. O. Boileau's Lutrin* ii. 106 Trembling she lay, and in her heart beshrewed him.

b. Now only in imprecatory expressions (*beshrew me, thee, etc.*): 'Evil befall, mischief take, devil take, curse, hang!'; also, with weakened force, 'plague on,' and often humorous or playful. *arch.* [Perhaps not imperative, but an elliptical form like (*I*) thank you! (*I*) pray! (*I*) praise!]

1566 *T. STAPLETON Rel. Untr. Jewell* iii. 63 Then beshrowe the lyar. 1599 *SHAKS. Much Ado v. i.* 55 Marry beshrew my hand, If it should giue your age such cause of feare. 1604 — *Obs.* iv. iii. 78 Beshrew me, if I would do such a wrong For the whole world. 1768 *STERNE Sent. Journ.* (1775) 85 Beshrew the sombre pencil! said I. 1808 *SCOTT F. M. Perth* ii. Beshrew me if thou passest this door with dry lips. 1856 *BRYANT Strange Lady* iii. Beshrew my erring bow!

† **Beshrewing.** *Obs.* [f. *prec.*] Used by Purvey to translate *refrenantem* of the Vulgate. ? Turning awry.

1388 *WYCLIF Isa.* ix. 14 And the Lord schal leese fro Israel the heed and the tail, crokeynge and bishrewynge, [1388 shrewende] *ether refrenynge*, in o dai.

Beshriek, beshrikel, beshroud, etc.: see **BE-**.

† **Beshrowp**, *v. Obs.* rare. = **BESHREW** 3.

1547 *BOORDE Intrud. Kynol.* 207 When they be angry, lyke bees they do swarme; I beshrowp them, they have don me much harme.

† **Beshut**, *v. Obs.* For forms see **SHUT**. [*ME. be-, bishet, -shut, f. bi-, BE- + SHUT v.*]

1. *trans.* To shut in, enclose, surround; to shut up, confine, imprison.

1300 *K. ALIS.* 5765 Hy founden many lake and pett With trowes and thornes byshett. 1393 *LANGL. P. Pl. C. xxii.* 167 In an hous al by-shutt and here dore barred. 1470 *HARDING Chron.* cxlii. iv. A lady of grete beautee she was hold Beshet in pryson in paynes strong.

b. *fig.* To include, comprise.

1340 *Ayenb.* 97 In þe pise zeue wordes byþþ bessel... al þe summe of þe newe laze.

2. To shut out, exclude.

1330 *Amis & Amil.* 1907 And that brought him to that state Stode bischet, withouten the gate.

† **Besibbing**, *pp. a. Obs.* rare. [f. **BE-** + **SIB** a. of kin, *sb.* affinity; cf. *resembling*.] Used by Warner for: Resembling, having a likeness to.

1604 *WARNER Alb. Eng. x. lv.* 246 Her selfe meane while, false-Paradiz'd, besybing Æsops croe... did end her song in woe. 1606 — xvi. ciii. 405 Such bastard Courtynals serue but Turns, besibbing Coyns of brasse.

Beside (*bisaid*), *adv. and prep.* Forms: 3-4 **bisiden**, 3-5 **bi-side**, **-syde**, **byside**, 4 **bisid**, **-syd**, **-soid**, (**beseide**), 4-5 **bisiden**, **bysyde**, 4-6 **bisayde** (**n**, **besyde**), 5 **bysaide** (**n**, 4- **beseide**). [*ME. bi siden, bisiden*: -OE. *be sidan*, i. e. *be by, sidan* (dat. sing.) side. Found in OE. only as two words, but by 1200 used as an adverb and preposition. Cf. the similar history of **BIHALVE**, which in early times was a synonym of this.]

A. adv.

1. By the side, by one's side. † *a. lit. Obs.*

1205 *LAY.* 12281 Bisiden heo gunnen heongen cniues swiðe longe. 1386 *CHAUCER Frankl. T.* 513 To Britaigne toke they the righte way Aurelius and this Magicien bisyde. 1430 *Syr Tryam.* 545 Some on horsys and some besyde. 1590 *A. MUNDAY Eng. Romayne Life in Harl. Misc. v.* (1811) 156 Kirbie, quaking when he felt the cart goe away, looked styll how neere the end of it was, till he was quite beside.

† b. Side by side in rank, on a level. *Obs. rare.*

1340 *Ayenb.* 125 Hi yelt... loue to ham þet byþþ beside, grace to ham þet byþþ beneþe.

c. Hard by, close, near. *arch.* † Rarely of time (see quot. 1380). *Obs.* (Mostly an elliptical use of the *prep.*, or with *here, there*, in place of object.)

1207 *R. GLOUC.* 558 Po sei he þer beside... þe erles baner of Gloucetre. 1334 *Guy Warw.* 56 An abbay That was bisiden on the way. 1380 *WYCLIF Sel. Wks.* III. 44 [Vulg. *Tuxta est dies perditionis*] Bisyde is þe day of perdition... Beside, þat is, neer is þe day [1611 *Dent.* xxxii. 35 at hand]. 1517 *TORKINGTON Pilgr.* (1884) 20 A lityll ther be syd stondyth an old Church. 1798 *COLERIDGE Anc. Mar.* iv. x. The moving moon went up the sky... and a star or two beside. 1805 *SOUTHEY Madoc in Asil.* xvi. Mervyn beside, Hangs over his dear mistress silently.

2. In addition, over and above; = **BESIDES** 2 (by which this is now usually expressed).

1207 *R. GLOUC.* 92 Of þe lond of France, and of ober londes bi syde. 1393 *GOWER Conf.* I. 30 Hem nedeth... Of strange londes helpe beside. 1477 *EARL RIVERS (Caxton) Dictes* 144

The goode dedis that thou shalt do besyde. 1597 *SHAKS. 1 Hen. VI. iv. i.* 25 My selfe, and diuers Gentlemen beside. 1698 *E. WALKER Epictetus Mor.* xx. Now if the same Behaviour be your Guide, In all the actions of your life beside. 1766 *GOLDSM. Vic. W.* xxiv. (1806) 143 We can marry her to another... and what is more, she may keep her lover beside. 1825 *CARLYLE Schiller* i. (1845) 11 It was by stealth if he read or wrote any thing beside.

b. As an additional consideration; moreover; = **BESIDES** A 2 b (by which now usually expressed).

1598 *GREENE Art Conny Catch.* iii. 8 The Maide... was not a little ioyfull to see him: beside, shee seemed proud that her kinsman was so neat a youth. 1663 *BUTLER Hud.* i. i. 127 Beside he was a shrewd philosopher. 1871 *BROWNING Balaustion* (1881) 148 Beside, when he found speech, you guess the speech.

3. Otherwise, else; = **BESIDES** 3 (by which this is now usually expressed).

1588 *SHAKS. L. L. L. i. i.* 40 And one day in the week to touch no food, And but one meal on euery day beside. 1649 *MILTON Eikon* Pref. C. Rebels... to God in all their actions beside. 1734 *PORR Ess. Man* iv. 243 To all beside as much an empty shade. 1816 *J. WILSON City of Plague* ii. i. 146 We talk'd of thee and none beside. 1843 *E. JONES Sens. & Event* 57 And these forgetting, all beside in life will darken.

† 4. On or to one side, apart. *Obs.* (Now **ASIDE**.)

1375 *Cursor M.* 3622 (Trin.) She went bi syde & hir bipoust. 1375 *BARBOUR Bruce* xl. 344 The toytir bataills suld be gangand bisid on sid, a lillil space. 1400 *Apol. Loll.* 56 Peter tok him be side, & be gan to blam him. 1485 *Digby Myst.* (1882) ii. 191 Goo thou... In-to the Cyte a lityll be-syde. 1551 *ROBINSON tr. More's Utop.* 152 Whiles y^e armies be fighting together in open feld, they a litle beside not farre of knele upon their knees.

† b. *esp.* with *set, put, leave, etc.* (See **ASIDE** 4).

1414 *BRAMPTON Penit. Pr.* lxxxvi. 33 Lust and lykyng I sette be syde. 1436 *Pol. Poems* (1850) II. 187 Yeue us grace alle sloughte to leue bysyde. 1548 *UDALL, etc. Erasm. Par. Matt.* i. 21 He set his elder brother besyde. 1604 *HANMER Chron. Irel.* 17 In the end the two sonnes were put beside.

† 5. Toward the side, sidewise. *Obs.* (= **ASIDE** 7).

1400 *Destr. Troy* 1221 Lamydon at the laste lokit besyde.

† 6. By the side so as to miss, by, past. To go beside: to pass on one side, to miss. *Obs.*

1430 *Stans Puer* 60 in *Babers Bk.* (1868) 31 Fille not þi spoon lest in þe cariage I scheede bi side, it were not commendable. 1566 *Pilgr. Perf.* (W. de W. 1531) 35 b. And where it purposeth to go ouer the brydge, it gothe besyde, and falleth into the dyche. 1598 *SHAKS. Ven. & Ad.* 981 Yet sometimes falls an orient drop beside Which her cheek melts.

B. prep.

1. *lit.* By the side of; hence, close to, hard by.

a. *strictly.* By the side of a person, animal, or thing that has a recognized side. (The more definite *by the side of, by his, her, etc. side*, is now often used instead, as being more distinct from b.) 1205 *LAY.* 21408 þer fæht Baldulf bisiden his broðer. 1300 *Cursor M.* 3673 Bisid lya al night he lai. *Ibid.* 1787 þe leon suam beside þe hert. 1493 *Festivall* (W. de W. 1515) 10 Thenne fallth his sede besyde the waye. 1566 *Pilgr. Perf.* (W. de W. 1531) 155 The thefte that hong on the crosse besyde our lord. 1611 *BIBLE Ps.* xxiii. 2 He leadeþ mee beside the still waters. 1718 *STEELE Spect.* No. 460 ¶ The boy who stood beside her. 1797 *THOMSON Summer* 11 Beside the brink of haunted stream. 1766 *GOLDSM. Vic. W.* xxi. (1806) 125 We sate beside his kitchen fire. 1816 *J. WILSON City of Plague* i. l. 319 Let me sit down beside you.

b. Less exactly: Close to, near any part of, by. 1300 *Cursor M.* 8207 And did be siden þaim laumpis liht. 1320 *Seyn Sag.* (W.) 3315 That castell That the se ran fast byside. 1375 *WYCLIF Wks.* (1880) 189 She saut bisiden cristis feet. 1430 *How Good Wife, etc.* 172 in *Babes Bk.* (1868) 41 Please weel þi neyboris þat dwelle þee beside. 1611 *BIBLE Song. Sol.* i. 8 Feede thy kiddes beside the shepheard's tents. 1680 *BEVERIDGE Sermon* (1729) II. 299 It doth not fall upon him but beside him. 1884 *L. KEITH Venetia's Lev.* II. 11 You'll come beside us in the drawing room.

† c. Formerly with names of towns, etc., where we now use *by, near*. *Obs.*

1200 *Trin. Coll. Hom.* 31 þe herdes wakened ouer here oref beside þe burch belleem. 1297 *R. GLOUC.* 558 To a town beside Wicrete, þat Kemeseie ihoite is. 1388 *WYCLIF Gen.* xiii. 18 Abram... dwelleþ beside the vale of Mambre. 1418 *E. E. Wills* (1882) 32 Seint Gyles beside Holbourne. 1503 *L. BERNERS Froiss.* i. xiv. 14 At the palace of Westminster, beside London. 1581 *MARBECK Bk. of Notes* 556 He... was buried a litle beside the same Cite.

d. *fig.* (a.) Side by side with in rank, on a level with. (b.) By the side of for comparison, compared with.

1513 *DOUGLAS Æneis* i. Prolog. 365 Besyde Latyne our langage is imperfite. 1843 *RUSKIN Mod. Paint.* (1851) I. Pref. 20 Gainsborough's power of colour... is capable of taking rank beside that of Rubens.

2. In addition to, over and above, as well as; = **BESIDES** B 2 (by which now usually expressed).

1340 *HAMPOLE Pr. Consc.* 3697 Bot special prayers with gude entente, þat es made besyde þe sacramente. 1380 *WYCLIF Sel. Wks.* III. 435 For þise sixe kyndnessen bysyde goostliche suffragies. 1558 *RP. WATSON Ser. Sac.* xxx. 101 The priest... beside his priars, doth minister the outwarde sacrament of Anelling. 1611 *BIBLE Lev.* xxiii. 38 Beside the Sabbaths of the Lord, and beside your gifts. 1774 *SIR J. REYNOLDS Disc.* vi. (1876) 396 Beside his master Andrea Sacchi, he imitated Raphael. 1824 *J. C. HARE in Philol. Museum* I. 59 Beside the planets usually seen, there are other stars. 1879 *LEWIS Study Psychol.* 70 Other men be-side ourselves.

† b. with *obj. clause*; = **BESIDES** B 2 b. *Obs.*

1651 *Life Father P. Sarpi* (1676) 87 The Pope, beside that he is the head of Religion, is also a Prince.

3. Other than, else than; = **BESIDES** B 3 (by which this is now usually expressed).

1400 *Apol. Loll.* 43 If he haue ani þing bi syd þe Lord, þe Lord schal not be his part. 1566 *Pilgr. Perf.* (W. de W. 1531) 238 b. In y^e whiche commaundement is probybyte... all other maner of lechery, besyde the acte of matrimony. 1621 *BR. MOUNTAGU Diatribas* 422 No man beside Festus, in that fragment, doth tell us, etc. 1710 *SHAFTESB. Charac.* i. § 3 (1737) l. 65 None can understand the Speculation beside those who have the Practise. 1827 *BR. HEBER Hymn*, Only Thou art holy, there is none beside Thee, Perfect in power, in love, and purity.

† 4. Outside of, out of, away from. *Obs.*

† a. By the side of so as to pass without contact, by the outside of, past, by. To go beside (*L. præterire*): to pass by, pass over, miss. To look beside: to overlook, fail to see, miss. *Obs.*

1375 *WYCLIF Sermon* Sel. Wks. I. 15 Pei tristen on riht of mannis lawe, and gone ofte beside þe soþe. 1388 — *Prov.* xix. 11 The glorie of hym is to go beside wicke thingys [1388 to passe ouere wickid thingis]. 1627 *BR. HALL Epist.* iv. iii. 341 Let vs but open our eyes, we cannot looke beside a lesson. 1669 *GAULE Holy Madn.* 95 Oh, doe him not the wrong to looke beside him, for if you see him not, hee comes by to no purpose.

† b. Of position: Outside of, out of, away from.

1400 *Apol. Loll.* 1 To reduce me in to þe riht wey, if I haue gon beside þe wey in ani þing. 1555 in *Strype Eccl. Mem.* III. ii. App. xlviii. 143 Beside and without the compasse of the same Articles. 1663 *BUTLER Hud.* i. l. 502 As of Vagabonds we say That they are neer beside their way.

† c. Of removal, deprivation: Out of, away from; *esp.* with *put, set, pluck, etc.* *Obs.*

1548 *UDALL, etc. Erasm. Par. Matt.* ii. 25 Least he should be set beside the kingdome whiche he... held. 1551 *ROBINSON tr. More's Utop.* 133 If they by couyne or gile be wiped beside their goodes. 1553-57 *FOXE A. & M.* II. 384 He put the new Pope Alexander beside the cushion and was made pope himself. 1570-87 *HOLINSHED Scot. Chron.* (1806) II. 60 One of them taking displeasure with his father... stepped to him and plucking her [a falcon] beside his fist wrong her neck. 1660 *STANLEY Hist. Philol.* (1701) 2/1 Neleus Son of Cordrus being put beside the Kingdom of Athens by his younger Brother Medon.

5. *fig.* senses from 4.

a. Out of a mental state or condition, as *beside one's patience, one's gravity, one's wits*; now only in *Beside oneself*: out of one's wits, out of one's senses; cf. *F. hors de soi, Ger. ausser sich*.

1490 *CAXTON Eneydos* xxvii. 98 Mad and beside herself. 1566 *FRITH Disp. Purgat.* 175 The man was almost beside himself, and then was he sent to Oxford. 1566 *SHAKS. 1 Hen. IV.* iii. i. 179 Enough to put him quite beside his patience. 1611 *BIBLE Acts* xxvii. 24 Festus saide with a loud voyce, Paul, thou art beside [Tindale besides] thy selfe, much learning doeth make thee mad. 1716 *LADY M. W. MONTAGUE Lett.* i. vi. 20 This question almost put him beside his gravity. 1827 *Hood Hero & Leand.* cvii. Like an enchanted maid beside her wits. 1884 *Q. VICTORIA More Leaves* 399, I felt quite beside myself for joy and gratitude.

b. Away from, wide of (a mark); apart from, not embraced within (a plan, purpose, question).

1533 *MORE Debell. Salem Wks.* 1021/2 He speketh al beside the purpose. 1573 *G. HARVEY Letter-bk.* (1854) 51, I take it, Mr. Proctor was beside his book. 1691 *RAY Creation* i. (1704) 64 Because it is beside my Scope. 1853 *ROBERTSON Sermon* Ser. iii. xiii. 158 The distinction... is an altogether false one and beside the question. 1866 *FROUDE Hist. Eng.* (1858) I. iii. 285 The point on which the battle was being fought lay beside the real issue. 1883 *Manch. Guard.* 22 Oct. 53 Really this question is beside the mark.

† c. Beyond the range or compass of (*L. præter*); utterly apart from; hence sometimes approaching the sense 'contrary to.' *Obs.*

1566 *Pilgr. Perf.* (W. de W. 1531) 14 b. No persone may recyue... the counseyles of the holy goost, excepte he haue besyde nature a spirituall eare. 1548 *GESTR Fr. Masse* 98 It is institute besyde Gods wrytten wordes and so contrarie to the same. 1619 *FOTHERBY Atheom.* ii. viii. § 2 (1622) 281 Vertues are begotten in vs, neither by nature, nor beside nature. 1668 *SOUTH Sermon* (1715) 462 A Lye is properly an outward Signification of something contrary to, or, at least, beside the inward Sense of the Mind. 1758 *J. EDWARDS* in *N. Worcester Atoning Sacr.* (1830) 140 Old men seldom have any advantage from new discoveries, because these are beside a way of thinking which they have been long used to. 1773 *JOHNSON Lett.* (1788) I. lxxiii. 106 At Durham, beside all expectation, I met an old friend.

† d. **Comb. Beside-forth, besides-forth** *adv.*, moreover, further; **beside-sitter**, one who sits beside, an assessor; **besideward**, † outside, hard by, in the vicinity. *Obs.*

1377 *LANGL. P. Pl. B. xvii.* 22 Judas Macabeus, 3e and sixty þousande bisyde forth þat ben nougt seyen here. 1548 *UDALL, etc. Erasm. Par. Luke* i. 17 And yet was besides-forth an ungodly and a wicked person. 1340 *Ayenb.* 40 þe kuede be besidezitteres, þet yeueþ þe kuede redes to þe demeres. 1460 *Pol. Rel. & L. Poems* (1866) 116 To men þat in þe cyte dwelle; And men þat dwellea be-sydward.

Besides (*bisaidz*), *adv. and prep.* Forms: 3-4 **bisides**, 4 **bi-**, **bysidis**, **bysydes**, 5-6 **besydes**, -is, 5- **bisides**. [f. **BESIDE** + **s** of the *adv.* genitive, here probably a northern substitute for the southern *-en* of *bisiden*. This has been used in all the senses of **BESIDE**, but is now used, in prose, only in senses 2, 3, for which it is the proper word.]

A. adv.

† 1. By the side; close by, near; = **BESIDE** A 1.

1205 *LAY.* 5181 Brennes [wende] bisides mid his folke of Burguigne. 1340 *Gaw. & Gr. Knt.* 76 Smal sendal bisides, a selure hir ouer. 1440 *Gesta Rom.* 114 Hoer besydes is

a foreste. c1450 *Lowell's Grail* xlv. 388 Josephs in that Castel not ne was, but at another besides in that plas.

2. In addition, over and above, as well.

1564 *HAWARD Eutropius* vi. 52 He deprived him of a portion of his kingdom, and assessed him to pay a great summe of money besides. 1611 *BIBLE Gen.* xix. 12 And the men said vnto Lot, Hast thou here any besides? 1821 *KEATS Isabel* liv. It drew Nurture besides, and life, from human fears. 1863 *MARY HOWITT F. Bremer's Greece* II. xvi. 149 There are, besides, many marble slabs with long Greek inscriptions.

b. Introducing a further consideration: As an additional or further matter, moreover, further.

1596 *SHAKS. Merch. V.* ii. 15 Besides, the lottrie of my destenie Bars me the right of voluntarie choosing. 1688 *NORRIS Hierocles* 8 Besides, God is not at all Honour'd by the most costly oblations. 1774 *BURKE Amer. Tax.* Wks. II. 384 Besides, they were indemnified for it. 1858 *BRIGHT Reform, Sp.* (1876) 282 There is, besides, this great significant fact. *Mod.* It is rather too late to go out; besides, I am tired.

3. Other than that mentioned, otherwise, else.

1596 *SHAKS. I Hen. IV.* iii. 1. 185 Which leaves behind a stayne Upon the beautie of all parts besides. a 1604 *TILLOTSON Sermon* I. i. (R.) An ignorant man, whatever he may know besides. a 1704 *LOCKE (J.) Robbers*, who break with all the world besides; must keep faith among themselves. 1768 *BLACKSTONE Comm.* I. 4 Knowledge, in which the gentlemen of England have been more remarkably deficient than those of all Europe besides.

† 4. = BESIDE A 6. *Obs.* (Now ASIDE.)

1611 *BEAUM. & FL. Maid's Trag.* v. (1679) 19 The blows thou mak'st at me are quite besides. 1650 *BULWER Anthropol.* xi. (1653) 184 They never fail, or cast it besides. 1660 *STANLEY Hist. Philos.* (1701) 152a He was so thoughtful, that going to put Incense into a Censer, he put it besides.

B. *prep.*

† 1. = BESIDE B 1. *Obs.*

c 1200 *Trin. Coll. Hom.* 31 Da com on angel of heuene to hem, and stod besides hem. a 1300 *Cursor M.* 16878 In a 3ard bidesides be tune. 1388 *WYCLIF Matt.* xiii. 1 Jhesus... sat besides the see. 1480 *CAXTON Trevisa's Descrip. Eng.* 6 At Stonhenge besides Salesbury. 1548 *UDALL Erasim. Apoph.* 316 b, I would... make you roome here besides me, but that I sitte in so narrowe a roome myself. 1605 *STOW Ann.* 372 King Edward kept his Christmasse at Kenington besides Lambeth. 1677 *MOXON Mech. Exerc.* (1703) 208 Hold... your Right Hand close besides your Left Hand.

2. Over and above, in addition to, as well as. (This and the next are the ordinary current senses.)

1535 *JOYE Apol. Tindale* 24 Besydis this condepnacion of me by hearsay. 1558 *HULOET, Besydes* that, *prateca.* 1557 *N. T. (Geneva) Luke* xvi. 26 Besides all this, betwene you and us there is a great gulfe set. [So 1611.] c 1680 *BEVERIDGE Sermon* (1729) I. 484 Besides that... they have some part of his word solemnly read. 1783 *LD. HAILES Anc. Chr. Ch.* ii. 50 St. Paul... became acquainted with many Christians besides his converts. 1795 *BRUCE Holy Rom. Emp.* vii. (ed. 5) 112 The Emperor, besides the sword... receives a ring as the symbol of his faith.

b. with *obj. clause.*

1579 *E. K. in Spenser's Sheph. Cal. Mar. Gloss.*, Besides that the... affection... tormenteth the mynde. 1586 *COGAN Haven Health* (1636) 97 Besides that this water cooleth all the inward parts, it doth greatly helpe the stone. 1860 *MILL Repr. Govt.* (1865) 59a The representatives of the majority, besides that they would themselves be improved in quality... would no longer have the whole field to themselves.

3. Other than, else than: in negative and interrogative (formerly sometimes in affirmative) sentences, capable of being rendered by 'except, excluding.'

c 1375 *WYCLIF Wks.* (1880) 393 No man may putt an ober ground bysidis pat pat is putt [So 1388 *N. T. I Cor.* iii. 11; 1388 *outtakun*; *TIND.* COVERD., *Genev.*, 1611, then; *Rhem.* beside.] c 1534 *tr. Pol. Verg. Eng. Hist.* I. 22 England is well stored with all kinde of beastes, besides asses, mules, camels, and elephants. 1651 *HOBBS Leviath.* ii. xxii. 116 Not the act of the Body, nor of any other Member thereof besides himselfe. a 1716 *SOUTH 12 Sermon.* (1717) IV. 37 The Jews... for ever unsainting all the world besides themselves. 1721 *ADDISON Spect.* No. 110 ¶ I No living Creature ever walks in it besides the Chaplain. 1728 *JORTIN Erasim.* I. 266 In the opinion of every one besides himself. *Mod.* Have you nothing to tell us besides what we have already heard?

† 4. = BESIDE B 4. a. Past, by. *Obs.*

1634 *PRESTON New Court.* 62 Careful that none of this water run besides the mill. 1639 *FULLER Holy War* v. ii. (1647) 232 King Philip missed of his expectation, and the morsel fell besides his mouth. 1660 *STANLEY Hist. Philos.* (1701) 468a [He] proposed sophisms to the disputants, slipping besides the sense. 1680 *Observ. on 'Curse Ye Meroz'* 5 No sooner did they perceive the waters begin to run besides their Mill... but they turned *Cat in Pan*, and cursed as fast the contrary way.

† b. Opposition: Out of, away from, off. *Obs.* 1537 *TINDALE Exp. I John* Wks. II. 183 Thou mayest well, besides Christ, know him [God] as a tyrant. 1607 *TORSELL Serpents* 769 Aelianus was a little besides the way, when he set down *macrous* for *microus*. 1641 *VIND. Smectymnus* § 7. 90 He tells us we are besides the Cushion.

† c. Of removal: Out of, away from, off. *To put besides:* to put out of, do out of, deprive of.

1551 *ROBINSON tr. More's Utop.* 41 The husbandmen... by coueyne and fraude... be putt besides it. 1577 *HOLINSHED Chron.* I. 173a The Englishmen... desirous... to shake off the yoke of Danish thraldome besides their necks and shoulders. 1605 *BACON Adv. Learn.* ii. xiv. § 5 (1873) 159 Doth not only put a man besides his answer. 1654 *USSHER Ann.* v. 88 That no God was able to put him besides his Kingdom. 1708 *Eng. Theophrast.* 47 An extravagant love... puts the Philosopher besides his Latin.

6. *fig.* (from 4.) = BESIDE B 5.

† a. Out of any mental state; hence *Besides oneself:* see BESIDE B 5 a. *Obs.*

1566 *TINDALE Acts* xxvi. 24 Paul, thou arte besides thy selfe. 1535 *JOYE Apol. Tindale* 36, I am suer Tindale is not so farre besydis his comon sencis. 1611 *BIBLE I Cor.* v. 13 Whether wee bee besides our selues... or whether we bee sober. 1690 *LOCKE Hum. Und.* ii. xxvii. (1695) 186 Our way of speaking in English, when we say such an one is not himself, or is besides himself... as if... the self same Person was no longer in that Man.

† b. = BESIDE B 5 b. *Obs.*

1581 *R. GOADE in Confer.* ii. (1584) I iiii b, You fall to discoursing cleane besides the purpose. 1651 *LILLY & ASHMOLE Autobiogr.* (1774) 172 Its besides my task to write the life of the late King. 1699 *BENTLEY Phil.* 219 Though it be quite besides the subject.

† c. Beyond; = BESIDE B 5 c. *Obs.*

1564 *Brief Exam.* ** b, Nothing muste be brought into the Church, besides or contrary to Scripture. 1577 *VAU-TOULLIER Luther's Ep. Gal.* 8 This thou doest besides thine office; keepe thy selfe within thy bounds. *Ibid.* 36 If it teach any thing besides or against Gods word. 1661 *BRAM-HALL Just. Vind.* vii. 196 The Pope can do nothing in France... either against the Canons or besides the Canons. 1668 *CULPEPPER & COLE Barthol. Anat.* iv. i. 159 Tis besides nature. 1698 *LOCKE Toleration* iii. iv. Wks. 1727 II. 355 A model so wholly new, and besides all experience.

Besie, *obs.* form of *BUSY*.

Besiege (bē'si'dʒ), *v.* Forms: 3-6 *bysege*, 4 *biseche*, 4-5 *be-*, *bisege*, 5 *biseige*, 7 *besiedge*, *-sige*, 5- *besiege*. [*ME.* *bi-*, *by-*, *besege* (n, f. *BE* + *sege*(n), aphetic f. *asege*(n), *ASSIEGE*.)]

1. *trans.* To sit down before (a town, castle, etc.) with armed forces in order to capture it; to lay siege to, beleaguer, invest.

1297 *R. GLOUC.* 387 Pys ost wende paderward... And by-seged þen castel syx wouke wel waste. a 1300 *Cursor M.* 9211 Twelve moneth he biseged hit. c 1380 *Sir Ferumb.* 4275 Pyn barons... þat so buþ be-seged on þat tour. 1388 *WYCLIF Isa.* xxi. 2 Steeth vp, Elam, and bisege [v. r. bi-seche] Medeba. c 1440 *Gesta Rom.* 9 A certeyn Cite... was biseigyd with... enemys of þe Emperoure. 1595 *SHAKS John* ii. i. 489 This Citty now byvs besiedg'd. 1611 *BIBLE I Sam.* xiii. 8 Saul called all the people together... to besiege David, and his men. 1671 *MILTON P. R.* iii. 339 Agrican with all his northern powers Besiege'd Albracca. 1844 *THIRL-WALL Greece* VII. ix. 67 Antigonus besieged the city for ten months.

b. *fig.* and *transf.*

c 1600 *SHAKS. Sonn.* ii. 11, When forty winters shall besiege thy brow. 1601 — *All's Well* II. i. 10 The mallyard That doth my life besiege. 1608 *ARMIN Nest Ninn.* 31 Having wrung off her neck, begins to besiege that good morsel.

2. *transf.* To crowd round like a besieging army; to block up, hem in.

1686 *Gentl. Recr.* i. 101 A Planet is besieged, when he is between the Bodies of the two... Malevolents, Saturn and Mars. 1777 *Pope's Elegy Unfort. Lady* 38 Frequent heares shall besiege your gates. 1799 *JEFFERSON Corr.* (1830) 20 The people have besieged the doors of the bakers.

3. *fig.* To assail with importunate addresses or prayers.

1718 *STEELE Spect.* No. 534 ¶ 5 There is one gentleman who besieges me as close as the French did Bouchain. 1737 *Pope Hor. Ep.* i. vii. 29 Fools with compliments besiege ye. 1850 *ALISON Hist. Europe* VII. l. § 45 The ministers were besieged with innumerable applications for every office. 1867 *PARKMAN Jesuits N. Amer.* xix. (1875) 293 Pious souls... who daily and nightly besieged Heaven with supplications.

† *Besiege*, *sb.* *Obs.*; also 6 *beseige*, 7 *beseige*. [*f. prec. vb.*] *Besieging*, *siege*.

1558 *HULOET, Besiege laier, obsessor.* 1599 *HAKLUYT Voy.* II. 15 The besiege of Sagitta. 1611 *SPEED Hist. Gl. Brit.* ix. xxiv. (1631) 1191 The besiege of Innis-Kellen. 1664 *Flodden F.* iii. 22 Your saults and hard besiege.

Besieged (bē'si'dʒd), *ppl. a.* [*f. prec. vb.* + -ED.]

1. Invested or surrounded by hostile forces.

c 1440 *Prompt. Parv.* 27 Beseigde, *obsessus*. 1603 in *Shaks. C. Praise* 57 Of Helens rape and Troyes besieged Towne. 1795 *SOUTHEY Joan of Arc* vi. 158 Our foes Haply may... quit in peace Besieged Orleans.

b. *absol.* The people besieged.

1603 *KNOLES Hist. Turkes* (1638) 340 Offering vnto the besieged... easie conditions of peace. 1863 *STANLEY Jew. Ch.* xi. 239 The besieged and the besiegers alike were taken by surprise.

2. *transf.* Beset by an importunate crowd.

1866 *CRUMP Banking* ii. 55 The funds... were instantly returned to the besieged bank.

Besiegement (bē'si'dʒmənt). Also 7 *beseidg-*. [*f. as prec.* + -MENT.] The action of besieging or state of being besieged; also *fig.*

1564 *GOLDING Justine* 31 (R.) Setting before their eies besiegement, hungar, and the arrogant enemy. 1577 *Test. 12 Patriarchs* (1604) 75 The Lord shall bring upon you famine, and... wrathful besiegement. a 1679 *T. GOODWIN Wks.* (1865) X. 481 An unheard-of way of besiegement.

Besieger (bē'si'dʒə), [*f. as prec.* + -ER.] One who besieges.

1580 *BARET Adv.* B 570 A besieger, *obsessor*. 1594 *T. B. La Primaud. Fr. Acad.* 313 Demetrius, surnamed the Besieger. 1633 *H. COGAN Pinto's Trav.* liii. (1663) 209 Permission for the Besieged to converse with the Besiegers. 1709 *STEELE Tatter* No. 18 ¶ 6 The Besiegers were quiet in their Trenches. 1860 *FROUDE Hist. Eng.* V. 80 The advanced works of the besiegers were... close to the town.

Besieging (bē'si'dʒɪŋ), *vbl. sb.*; also 4 *bi-*, 5 *beseigynge*. [*f. as prec.* + -ING.] The action of laying siege to (a place); the condition of being besieged.

1388 *WYCLIF Esch.* iv. 2 Thou shalt ordeyne agens it a biseigynge. 1388 — *Jer.* x. 17 Thou that dwellest in biseigynge. 1560 *WHITEHORNE Art Warre* (1588) 93 b, The defending and besieging of townes. 1611 *BIBLE Eccles.* I. 4 He fortified the cite against besieging. 1801 *STURTT Sports & Past.* ii. ii. 66 Chiefly used in besieging of cities.

Besieging, *ppl. a.* [*f. as prec.* + -ING.] That besieges; employed in a siege.

1813 *Examiner* 17 May 307a The besieging corps before Dantzick. 1860 *KEATS St. Agnes* xl. The arras... Flutter'd in the besieging wind's uproar. 1863 *HOLLAND Lett. Joneses* xv. A will as patient... as that which a besieging army needs.

Besiegingly, *adv.* *rare.* [*f. prec.* + -LY.] Urgently, importunately.

1822 *DE QUINCY Confess. Wks.* I. 270 Any particular death... haunts my mind more obstinately and besiegingly, in that season.

Besigh (bē'si), *v.* [*f. BE* + 4 + *SIGH v.*] To sigh over.

c 1200 [see *BE* - *pref.* 4.] 1807 *CARLYLE Germ. Romance* I. 46 Besighing his past madness.

† *Besight*, *Obs.* *rare.* In 3 *besihte*, 4 *besiht*. [*ME.* *besihte*, f. *BESER v.*, and *sichte*, *SIGHT*.] Consideration, determination, ordinance.

1298 *Proclam. Hen. III.* The besijte of than to foren iside redemesmen. c 1300 *Cast. Loue* 311 A pral... þorw be-siht of riht dom To strong prison was I don.

Bezil (e, *obs.* form of *BEZZLE*.

Besilver (bē'silvə), *v.* [*f. BE* + 1 + *SILVER v.*] *trans.* To silver over, to cover or line with silver; also *fig.* Hence *Besilvered ppl. a.*

1610 *G. FLETCHER Christ's Vict.* in Farr's *S. P.* (1847) 61 Many streams his banks besilvered. 1800 *W. TAYLOR* in *Robberds Mem.* I. 330 Yet how well he amalgamates and besilverers all! 1825 *Blackw. Mag.* XVIII. 436 The moon-besilver'd casements guided us. 1864 *R. BARTON Dahome* II. 33 Wives and Amazons, copiously besilvered.

Besin, besinge, besiren: see *BE* - *pref.*

Besing (bē'sɪŋ), *v.* [*f. BE* + 4 + *SING v.*] *trans.*

a. To sing (into some state). b. To sing about (a person, etc.); to celebrate in song; to sing to.

Hence *Besung* (bē'sʊŋ), *ppl. a.*

1566 *DRANT Horace Sat.* x. E iv b, If the plaintife Poet shoulde besing his muses horce. 1808 *CARLYLE Misc.* (1857) I. 239 Let him worship and besing the idols of the time. 1860 *DICKENS Uncomm. Trav.* iii. In the Charter which has been so much besung. 1865 *CARLYLE French. Gl.* IV. xii. 1. 119 The Mountain part... besung by rushing torrents.

† *Besink*, *v.* *Obs.* Forms: 1 *besinkan*, 2-3 *bisinken*; *Pa. t.* -sank; *Pa. pple.* -sunken. [*OE.* *besinkan* str. vb., f. *BE* + 2 + *sincan* to SINK.]

1. *intr.* To sink, fall down through any substance.

c 893 *K. ALFRED Oras.* iii. xi. 10 Sio burx besanc on eorþan. c 1230 *Hali Meid.* 33 Hwase lið ileinen deope bi-sunken.

2. *trans.* To submerge. For *BESENCH*.

c 1200 *Trin. Coll. Hom.* 177 Þe storm bisinked þe ship. † *Besire*, a bad form for *DESIRE*.

1529 *Maryrel. Epit.* C. He besire them to leaue this order, or els they are like to heare of it... And ile besire you.

† *Besit*, *v.* *Obs.*; also 4-5 *besit*. [*OE.* *besitan* to sit about, besiege. f. *BE* + 1 + *sittan* to SIT. The primary verb, of which *BESIT* is the causal.]

1. *trans.* To encamp about, besiege.

a 1200 *O. E. Chron.* (Laud MS.) an. 1087 Se cyng... let besittan þone castel. 1154 *Ibid.* an. 1135 Te king it besat.

2. To sit upon; to lie heavy upon; to weigh upon.

1368 *LANGL. P. Pl.* A. ii. 110 Hit schal bisittien oure soules sore atte laste. 1377 *Ibid.* B. x. 361 It shal bisittien vs ful soure, þe siluer þat we kepen.

3. To sit properly upon (as a dress): to fit, suit, become. Cf. *F. seoir*.

c 1449 *PECOCK Repr.* i. xiv. 73 This... bisittith not his wisdom. c 1471 *FORTESCUE Wks.* (1869) 463 Yt besatt not his magnificence to have done otherwise. 1603 *HOLLAND Plutarch's Mor.* 227 Affections for to change it well besitt.

1614 *C. B. Ghost Rich.* III. Yielding thoughts besit the basest slaves.

† *Beskyfte*, *v.* *Obs.* *rare* -1. [*f. BE* + 3 + *ME.* *skyfte*; see *SHIFT*.] *trans.* To thrust off.

1470-85 *MALORY Arthur* (1817) I. 91 She coude not beskyfte hym by no meane.

Beslab, beslap, beslash, etc.: see *BE* - *pref.*

Beslabber, beslaper, variants of *BESLOBBER*.

Beslave (bē'slāv), *v.* [*f. BE* + 5 + *SLAVE*.]

1. *trans.* To make a slave of, enslave. *lit.* and *fig.*

1615 *Br. Hall Contempl. N. T.* iv. iv. 198 He that... hath beslaved himself to a bewitching beauty. 1645 *QUARLES Sol. Recant.* iv. 51 Or if thy droyling hand should once beslave Thy glorious freedome.

2. To address as a slave, to call 'slave.'

1630 *J. TAYLOR (Water P.) Wks.* II. 158/1, I will not rayle, or rogue thee, or be-slave thee. 1713 *ADDISON Guardian* No. 153 He is now chiding and beslaving the emmet that stands before him.

3. To fill with slaves, pollute with slavery.

1861 *J. SPENCE Amer. Union* 246 Texas would not have been annexed and beslaved.

Hence *Beslaved ppl. a.*, *Beslaving vbl. sb.*

1656 *S. H. Gold. Law* 54 Redeeming of many poor be-slaved souls. 1641 *LD. DIGBY Sp. in Ho. Com.* 19 Jan. 16 Our beslaving since the Petition of Right.

Beslaver (bē'slāvə), *v.* [*f. BE* + 1 + *SLAVER v.* Cf. also *BESLOBBER*.] *trans.*

1. To slaver upon or over, to bedrivel; to cover with anything suggesting slaver.

1589 *Pappe w. Hatchel* C ii j, Giue the infant a bibbe, hec

all to beslaughters his mother tongue. 1602 *Return fr. Parnass.* i. ii. (Arb.) 14 One of your reumaticke Poets, that beslaughters all the paper he comes by. 1870 SWINBURNE *Ess. & Stud.* (1875) 38 Unconscious if any reptile beslaiver its base.

2. To cover with fulsome flattery. 1861 *Life Ld. Bacon* xxii. 498 He was ready to beslaiver Majesty infinitely.

Hence **Beslaivered** ppl. a.

1598 E. GILPIN *Skial.* (1878) 5 To think so well of a scald railing vaine, Which soone is vented in beslaured writs.

† **Besleeve**, v. *nonce-wd.* [BE-6 o. + SLEEVE.] *trans.* To take the sleeves from (a bishop). Hence **Besleeving** vbl. sb.

1589 *NASHE Almond for P.* 16 a, Am not I old *Ille ego qui quondam* at y^e besleeving of a sichophant.

Beslime, beslipper, beslow, etc.: see BE-.

Beslobber (bɪs'lɒbər), v.; also 4-5 bislubber. [f. BE-1 + SLOBBER v.] To wet and befoul with saliva (= to BESLAVEN), or with portions of liquid food escaping from the mouth; to kiss like a drivelling child; hence, to kiss childishly or effusively; fig. to cover with fulsome flattery.

1393 *LANGEL. P. Pl. C. viii.* 1 Tho cam sleuthe al by-slobered [B. v. 392 bislabeled] with two slymed eyen. 1828 *MACAULAY Hallam, Ess.* (1851) i. 84 The salaried Viceroy of France . . . beslobbering his brother and courtiers in a fit of maudlin affection. 1868 *Blackw. Mag.* Aug. When a man is beslobbered by high and by low, In our senates and schools deemed a light of the age.

Beslombre, beslomere, v. *Obs.*: see next.

Beslubber (bɪs'lʊbər), v. Also 4-5 beslombre, beslommer. [f. BE-1 + SLUBBER v.] The early *beslomb* (b) is probably merely a phonetic variant: Mätzner would make it distinct, comparing it with 'Du. *slommeren* to trouble'; but see the sense.] *trans.* To wet and soil with a thick liquid; to bedaub, bedabble, besmear. Hence **Beslubbered**.

1394 *P. Pl. C. de 127* His hosen. . . Al beslombred [v. r. beslommered] in fen as he be plow folwede. 1507 *GOLDING De Mornay* xviii. (1617) 317 A certain common concealing of God, howbeit so defaced and beslubbered. 1596 *SHAKS. 1 Hen. IV.* ii. iv. 341 To beslubber our garments with it, and swear it was the blood of true men. 1621 *MOLLE Camerac. Liv. Libr.* i. xv. 64 Perfumes. . . wherewith he vased to sweeten and beslubber himselfe. 1748 *SMOLLETT Rod. Rand.* iv. (1804) 14 A countenance beslubbered with tears. 1863 *BARING-GOULD Iceland* xl. 197 The boiling jets squirt suddenly at one over the red beslubbered rim.

Beslur, beslurry, etc.: see BE-*pref.*

Besme, obs. form of BESOM.

Besmeare (bɪs'mɪər), v. Forms: 1 bismierwan, bismierwan, 3 bismieruwien, 6 besmeere, -smere, -smire, 6-7 besmeare, 7-8 besmeere, 6-besmeare. [OE. *bismierwan*, late WSax. *bismierwan*, Anglian *bismierwan*, f. bi-, BE-1 + *smierwan*, *smierwan* (pa. t. *smierede*):—OTeut. **smierwan* to SMEAR, f. **smierwa* (m), in OE. *smeara*, *smieru*, ointment, grease.] *trans.* To smear over or about; to cover the surface generally or largely with any greasy, viscous, or sticky substance; usually with the notion of soiling or staining; to bedaub.

1090 *Gloss. Cott. Cleop.* in Wr.-Wülcker *Voc.* 422/14 *Interlitan*, besmyred. 1225 *ANCR. R.* 214 Kumed forð biuoren his Louerde bismitted & bismieruwed. 1535 *JOYE Apol. Tindale* 50 Besmearing and dawbing eche other with dirte and myer. 1596 *SPENSER F. Q.* i. ii. 42 The diuvelish hag. . . With wicked herbes and oymntes didt besmeare My body. 1601 *SHAKS. Twel. N.* v. 55 That face of his . . . was besmeared As blacke as Vulcan in the smoake of warre. 1777 *ROBERTSON Hist. Amer.* (1783) II. 145 They besmeare their children with the blood. 1837 *W. IRVING Capt. Bonneville* (1849) 42 He . . . caused the bodies of the wagons to be . . . besmeared with a compound of tallow and ashes.

b. predicated of the unguent or viscous matter. 1700 *DRYDEN (J.)* Her gushing blood the pavement all besmeared. 1735 *Pope's Odyssey* xxii. 329 His batter'd front and brains besmeare the stone.

c. *intr.* (for refl.) To become besmeared.

1597 *TURBERV. Lower confess.* (R.) If face besmeare with often streames.

2. *fig.* To sully, defile, pollute.

1579 *TOMSON Calvin's Serm. Tim.* 245/2 That they be not besmeared with any blame. 1596 *SHAKS. Merch. V.* v. 219 My honor would not let ingratitude So much besmeare it. 1612 *T. TAYLOR Comm. Titus* i. 10 (1619) 216 With the black coales of enuious and slanderous inuectiues striuing to besmeare them. 1867 *Sat. Rev.* 5 July, Ministers vie with each other in getting themselves besmeared.

Besmeared (bɪs'mɪəd), ppl. a. [f. prec. + -ED¹.] Smeared over, covered with anything greasy or nasty; befouled.

1592 *NASHE P. Penitence* (ed. 2) to b, Mistris Minx. . . that looks as simperingly as if she were besmeared. 1600 *SHAKS. Sonn.* iv, Unswept stone besmeared with sluttish time. 1655 *GURNALL Chr. in Arm.* x. 208/1 Thy filthy garments, and besmeared countenance. 1805 *SOUTHEY Madoc Ast.* xvi, His face, besmeared And black with gore.

Besmearer (bɪs'mɪərər), [f. as prec. + -ER¹.] One who besmears.

1621 *COTGR., Barbonilleur.* . . a blotter, smutter, besmearer.

Besmearing (bɪs'mɪərɪŋ), vbl. sb. [f. as prec. + -ING¹.] A smearing or daubing over; also fig.

1580 *BARETT Alt.* B 571 A Besmeering, or annoying. 1612 *COTGR., Enduement.* a plaistering, dawbing . . . besmearing. 1653 *A. WILSON Jas. I. Proem.* The defacing and besmearing of Virtue and Innocence.

Besnell, besmille, etc.: see BE-*pref.*

Besmirch (bɪs'mɪrtʃ), v. Also 7 besmerch, -smyrch. [f. BE-1 + SMIRCH v.] To soil, discolour, as with smoke, soot, or mud; also fig. to sully, dim the lustre of.

1602 *SHAKS. Ham.* i. iii. 15 And now no soyle nor cautell doth besmerch The vertue of his feare. 1700 *Bride's Bur.* in *Percy Reliques* III. (R.) Fair Helen's face Did Grecian dames besmirche. 1881 *Daily Tel.* 14 Nov., You cannot permanently besmirch a work of art. Time is sure to rub off the stain. 1882 *Garden* 21 Jan. 33/3 The first shower of rain would . . . besmirch the velvet of their petals.

Hence **Besmirched** ppl. a.

1599 *SHAKS. Hen. V.* iv. iii. 110 Our Gaynesse and our Gilt are all besmyrcht. 1864 *Spectator* 618 The toiling, and besmirched priesthood of the world. 1868 *MORRIS Earthly Par.* i. (1870) 94 In besmirched array Some met us.

Besmire, obs. form of BESMEAR.

† **Besmit**, v. *Obs.* Also 3 bismitt, 4 besmet, 5 bismyt. [f. BE-2 + SMIT v.] *trans.* To stain, infect (as with disease), contaminate. (Mostly fig.) 1571 *Blickl. Hon.* 85 Du-woldst symle pone besmitan be pu nan wiht ylfes on nytest. 1225 *ANCR. R.* 214 Kumed forð biuoren his Louerde bismitted [v. r. bismuddet] and bismieruwed. 1340 *Ayenb.* 32 A uice huerof al be wordle is besmet. 1842 *220 Pet. ne is napt besmetted ine herte mid kuede boytes.* 1850 *CAXTON Trevisa's Descr. Brit.* 52 He is bismytted with their treson also.

Besmoke (bɪs'mʊk), v. Forms: 4-5 bysmoke, 5 bismoke, 6-9 besmoak, 7 besmoake, 6-besmoake. [f. BE-4 + SMOKE v.] *trans.* To fill with smoke, to act on with smoke, to fumigate.

1398 *TREvisa Barth. De P. R.* xviii. liii. (1495) 813 Yf a man bismokith the hous of the ampte wyth brymstoon. 1574 *HYLL Bees* xv, Besmoke the hive with flaxe. 1598 *SYLVESTER Du Bartas* (1608) 1133 Mists of Rome, That have so long besmoaked Christendom. 1612 *FLORIO, Affumare*, to besmoake, to drie in the smoake as bacon. 1823 *W. TAYLOR in Month. Mag.* LVI. 126 They besmoak us with a disgusting mixture of sacrifice and frankincense.

Hence **Besmoaked** ppl. a., **Besmoaking** vbl. sb.

1374 *CHAUCER Boeth.* 5 It is wont to dirken by-smoked ymages. 1612 *COTGR., Enfumement*, a smoaking, a besmoaking. 1854 *DICKENS Hard Times* xxii. (D.) The besmoked evergreens were sprinkled with a dirty powder.

Besmoth, besmother, besmouche, besmudge: see BE-*pref.*

† **Besmottered**, ppl. a. *Obs. rare.* In 4 bi-, bysmottered, -erd, 6 Sc. besmutterit. [A simple *smotered* or *smoteren* does not occur: though Chaucer has an adj. *smoterlich*, which Prof. Skeat takes as = 'dial. smutty, wanton.' The Du. *smoderen* to smut, and LG. *besmaddern*, have been compared, but do not quite answer phonetically. The form looks like a freq. or dim. of *besmut*, but neither this nor *smut* is found so early. Douglas evidently took the word from Chaucer.]

trans. To bespatter as with mud or dirt.

1386 *CHAUCER Prol.* 76 Of flustian he wered a gypon Al bismottered with his habergeon. 1513 *DOUGLAS Aeneis* v. vi. 124 His face he schew besmutterit.

Besmut (bɪs'mʊt), v. [f. BE-1 + SMUT v.] *trans.* 'To blacken with smoke or soot' (J.), to dirty; also fig.

1620 *HOLLAND Camden's Brit.* i. 154 That blot wherewith Chalcondilias hath besmuttered our nation. 1656 *EARL MONM. Advt. fr. Parnass.* 438 The flash did so singe his face, having monstrously besmuttered him.

Hence **Besmuttered** ppl. a. (also said of wheat blackened by smut).

1829 *Blackw. Mag.* XXVI. 33 We see the 'rara avis,' with beak and claws begrimed and besmuttered. 1837 *CARLYLE Fr. Rev.* iii. v. iii. (D.) One besmuttered, redbearded corn-ear in this which they cut.

Besmutch (bɪs'mʊtʃ), v. [f. BE-1 + SMUTCH v.] *trans.* To besmirch.

1822 *CARLYLE in Fraser's Mag.* v. 258 Her siren finery has got all besmuttered. 1856 *R. VAUGHAN Mystics* vi. i. (ed. 2) i. 151 Ruffling and besmutching all his gay feathers.

† **Besnare**, v. *Obs.* [f. BE-4 + SNARE v.] *trans.* To take in a snare, to entrap.

1571 *GOLDING Calvin on Ps.* ix. 17 God fulfilleth the part of a Judge, as often as he besnareth [printed besnarleth] the wicked in their wickednesse.

Besnival, besnowball, besnuff, besnob: see BE-*pref.*

Besnow (bɪs'nəʊ), v. Forms: 1 besniwan, 4 bi-, by-, besnywe(n), -snewe(n), 6-besnow. [OE. *besniwan*, f. BE-1 + *snīwan* to SNOW.]

trans. To snow on; to cover or whiten with, or as with, snow; also fig. Hence **Besnowed** ppl. a.

1200 *ELFRIC Gloss.* in Wr.-Wülcker *Voc.* 175 *Ninguidus*, besniwed. 1340 *Ayenb.* 81 Non vayr body ne is bote . . . ase a donghel besnewed. 1393 *GOWER Conf.* III. 51 He was with yffes all besnewed. 1597 *DRAYTON Mortimer.* 26 The battered Caskes. . . Besnow the soyle with drifts of scattered plumes. 1633 *True Trojans* i. iii, Foam besnows the trampled corn. 1849 *LYTTON Caxtons* ii. ix. xxxix, A fourth, all besnowed and frozen, descends from the outside.

† **Besogne**, *Obs.* Also *besognie*, *besogno*. [a. Fr. *bisogne*, *bisognie*, a filthy knave, or clown; a raskall, bisonian, base humoured scoundrell' (Cotgr.), ad. It. *bisogno*, cf. *BESONIO*.] a. A raw recruit. b. A low worthless fellow; = *BEZONIAN*.

1615 *CHAPMAN Odys.* Ep. Ded. 50 Against this host, and this invincible commander, shall we have every besogne and fool a leader? 1633 *T. STAFFORD Pac. Hib.* xi. (1821)

352 There were but a few Besognies amongst them. 1658 *BROME Covent Gard.* v. iii, Beat the Besognes that lie hid in the Carriages.

† **Besognier**, *Obs. rare.* An adapted form of *BESOGNE* or *BISOGNIO*, with English ending; = prec. 1584 *WHETSTONE Mirr. Mag.*, These be no bashful Besogniers. 1588 *J. HARVEY Disc. Probleme* 71 Bribing copesmates and incroching Bisogniers.

† **Besognie**, *Obs.* Also 5 *boesynge*, *besoyne*, 6 *besone*. [a. OF. *besoigne* business, mod. *besogne* = Pr. *besonha*, It. *bisogna*, fem. forms found alongside of the masc. *besoin*, *besonh*, *bisogno*; see *Diez*, *Litttré*.] Business, affair, ado.

1474 *CAXTON Chesse* iv. ii, Thynges that aperteyne to the counceyl & to the besoygne of the royaume. 1653 *A. WILSON Jas. I.* 142 Fitted for those little besognes of Accounts; and Reckonings.

Besoil (bɪ'soɪl), v. Forms: 3-4 bisuele, -suele, 5 beswyle, 4-6 besoyle, 7-besoil. [f. BE-1 + SOIL v.] *trans.* To soil, stain, sully; also fig. Hence **Besoiled** ppl. a.

1300 *Pains of Hell* 91 in O. E. *Misc.* 225 And summe he sauȝ bi-suyled 'as souwes . . . vp to be brouwes. 1315 *SHORHAM* 108 Thys men by-soyled beth. 1450 *Mertin* x. 165 His swerde all besoyled with blode of men and of horse. 1670 *HACKETT Abp. Williams* ii. 164 The Remonstrance . . . came forth . . . to besoil his Majesty's reign. 1798 *SOUTHEY Sonn.* xii, Cobwebs and dust thy pinions white besoil. 1831 *CARLYLE Sart. Res.* iii. iv, All weather-tanned, besoiled.

Besom (bɪ'zɒm), sb.¹ Forms: 1-2 besma, 1 besema, 3-4 besem, 3-5 besame, 4 besemo, bisme, 4-5 besum, 5 besusome, besusume, besowme, 5-7 besome, 6 bysomm, besasome, bessem, 6-8 beesom(e), 7 beesum, beesom, (6 Sc. boosome, 7 bissome, 9 dial. besom, bizzim, buzzom), 5-besom. [Com. WGer.: OE. *besema*, *besma* (= OFris. *besma*, OHG. *besamo*, MHG. *besme*, *besem*, mod. G. *besen*, Du. *bezem*):—OTeut. **besom-* (not found in EGer.).] *Uterior derivation obscure.*

† 1. A bundle of rods or twigs used as an instrument of punishment; a birch. *Obs.* (L. *fascis*.)

1893 *K. ELFRID Oros.* ii. iii. § 2 He . . . het gebindan, and . . . mid besman swingan. 1225 *St. Mark.* 5 [He] strupeth hire steornaket . . . ant beateath hire bare bodi with bittere besmen. 1225 *Juliana* 16 Pu schalt beon ibaten mid besmes.

2. An implement for sweeping, usually made of a bunch of broom, heather, birch, or other twigs bound together round a handle; a broom. (Dialectally, as in Scotland, the generic name for sweeping implements of any material, e.g. a *heather*, *birch*, or *broom besom*, a *hair besom*; but in literary Eng. 'broom' is now generic, and 'besom' specific.)

1000 *Ag. Gosp.* Matt. xii. 44 He gemet hyt æmtig, and geclensod mid besum [v. r. besumum]. 1200 *Trin. Coll. Hom.* 87 Mid beseme clene swopen. 1382 *WYCLIF Matt.* xii. 44 Clensid with bismes [1388 besymes]. 1398 *TREvisa Barth. De l. R.* xvii. clix. (1495) 708 Of the bowes and branches of the byrche ben besomes made. 1440 *Prompt. Parv.* 33 Besme or besowme [1499 besym], scopa. 1493 *Churchw. Acc. Walberswicke, Suffolk* (Nichols, 1797) 185 A besumme of pekoks fethers. 1552 *HULOT, Besomes*, Loke in *broume*. 1580 *LYLY Euphues* (Arb.) 309 There is no more difference betweene them, then betweene a Broome, and a Beesome. 1641 *H. BEST Farm. Bks.* (1856) 104 Wee make the miller take a besome and sweepe a place. 1697 *POTTER Antig. Greece* ii. iii. (1715) 28 He swept the Temple with a Beasom of Lawrel. 1756 *C. LUCAS Ess. Waters* III. 51 The . . . bath is scrubbed all over with a birchen besom. 1857 *Bohn's Handbk. Prov.*, There is little for the rake after the besom.

3. *fig.* Any agent that cleanses, purifies, or sweeps away things material or immaterial.

1380 *WYCLIF De Papa* Wks. (1880) 468 3if he & his secte be . . . clensid wip besumms. 1440 *HYLTON Scala Perf.* (W. de W. 1494) i. xlviii, Swepe thy soule clene wyth the besome of the drede of god. 1611 *BIBLE Isa.* xiv. 23, I will sweepe it with the besome of destruction. 1639 *FULLER Holy War* i. xix. (1840) 35 The ruer Kishon, God's besom to sweep away Sisera's great army. 1837 *CARLYLE Fr. Rev.* i. iii. ix. 139 With steel-besom, Rascality is brushed back into its dim depths. 1862 *TYNDALL Mountaineer.* iv. 30 Grandly the cloud-besom swept the mountains.

4. *fig.* Anything resembling a besom in shape; spec. applied to a comet.

1566 *KNOX Hist. Ref. Wks.* 1846 I. 254 A comet . . . called 'The fyrie boosome.' 1639 *SPOTTISWOOD Hist. Ch. Scot.* ii. (1677) 94 A Comet of that kind which . . . the vulgaris [call] a fyrie Bissome.

5. Applied dialectally to heath and broom, plants used for besoms. (Cf. *broom*, in its two senses.)

1796 *MARSHALL Econ. W. Devon.* (E. D. S.), Beesom, bizzom, spartium scoparium, the broom plant. 1864 *CATERN Devon Prov., Bizzim*, Heath. 1878 *BRITTON Plant-n.* 26 Basam, Basom, Bassam or Bisom, *Sarothamnus scoparius*.

6. *Comb. and Attrib.*, as *besom-handle*, *-staff*, etc.; also *besom-head*, *fig.* a foolish or stupid person, a blockhead, whence *besom-headed*; *besom-heath*, heath used for making besoms; *besom-rider*, a witch, from the popular notion that they rode on broom-sticks; *besom-tail*, a tail formed like a besom, a bushy tail, whence *besom-tailed*; *besom-weed* = BESOM 5.

1864 *ATKINSON Whitty Gloss.* s.v. *Besom*, 'He's as fond as a 'besom,' or 'besom-headed,' very foolish indeed. 1756 *Phil. Trans.* XLIX. 829 *Erica brabantica*. . . Low Dutch Heath, or *Besom Heath. 1864 *H. MORR Myst. Inq.* 161

Defaming them for *Beesom-riders or witches. 1678 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 1356/4. Lost or stolen. one of the King's Setting Dogs. a long *beesum tail. 1695 — No. 3086/4. A dark Iron grey Mare. Silver Eyed, and *Besome Tailed. 1758 *LYTE Dodona* 628 *Bessem weeds, or the herbe serving for Byssoms. 1642 *FULLER Holy & Prof. St. v. iii.* 368 By a Witch-bridle they can make a fair of horses of an acre of *besome-weed.

Besom, *sb.* *Sc.* [App. a distinct word from the preceding: the two words are quite distinct (bōzəm, bi'zəm) in Southern Scotch. Cf. BYSEN.] A contemptuous designation for a low woman.

1816 *SCOTT Old Mort.* viii. To set up to be sae muckle better than ither folk, the auld besom.

Besom, *v.* [f. BESOM *sb.* Cf. to brush.]

1. *intr.* To sweep with force or violence. *Obs.* 1a 1400 *Morte Arth.* 3662 The wynde owte of the weste rysses, Brethly besomes with byrre in berynes sailles.

2. *trans.* To sweep. Often with *away*, *out*, etc. 1791 *COWPER Odys.* xxii. 526 They cleansed The thrones and tables, while Telemachus Besom'd the floor. 1842 *MRS. BROWNING Grk. Chr. Poets* 13 Besom away the thick dust which lies upon their heavy folios. 1866 *KINGSLEY Herew.* xix. 244 He would besom you all out.

Besomer. [f. prec. + -ER.] One who uses a besom.

Besonard, *obs.* form of BEZOAR.

Besone, *-ian*, variants of BESOIGNE, BEZONIAN.

† **Besonio**, **besognio**. *Obs.* [var. of BISOGNIO, a. It. *bisogno* 'need, want'; also, a fresh needy souldier. *Bisogni*, new leuied souldiers such as come needy to the war' (Florio). 'Applied in derision to young soldiers who landed in Italy from Spain ill accoutred and in want of everything' (*Vocab. della Crusca*). Hence also Sp. *bisño*, Pg. *bisonho*, F. *bisogne*. (The conjecture that *bisogno* was an It. corruption of F. *bec-jaune*, BEJAN, is baseless.) Cf. BESOGNE.] a. A raw soldier. b. (term of contempt) A needy beggar; a base worthless fellow. See BEZONIAN.

[1591 *GARRARD Art of Warre* 170 A raw souldier and Bisognio.] 1603 *R. JOHNSON Kingd. & Commw.* 55 A base Besonio, fitter for the spade then the sword. 1611 *FLETCHER Four Pl.* 28 Draw my sword of Fate on a Pesant, a Besognio! 1622 *R. HAWKINS Voy. S. Sea* (1847) 78 The souldiers, who after the common custome of their profession (except when they be besonios), sought to pleasure him. 1820 *SCOTT Monast.* xvi. Base and pilfering besognios and marauders.

Besonnet, **besoother**, etc.: see BE-*pref.*

† **Besooop**, *v.* *Obs.* *rare.* [App. f. BE- + *soop*, earlier form of SWOOP: though the application is not quite clear.] *trans.* ? To thrash, lay about.

1599 *Hay any Work B.* I will so besoop you... as all the world shal cry shame vpon you. *Ibid.* 36, I will so besoop thee, as thou neuer bandedst John Whitgift.

Besoot (bīsūt), *v.* [f. BE- + SOOT.] *trans.* To soil or blacken with (or as with) soot. Hence **Besooting** *vbl. sb.*

1611 *COTGR. Poisture*, a smutting, smearing, besooting. 1622 *MABBE Aleman's Guzman d'Alf.* i. 12 Was it fit that hee should besoot his face with the same paintings? 1661 *EVELYN Misc. Writ.* i. (1805) 228 This coale... flies abroad... besoots all the leaves.

Besootherment (bīsū'mēnt), *rare.* [f. BESOOTHEE: see BE-*pref.* 2.] The fact of soothing; its means or resulting state. *Ogilvie cités Q. Rev.*

† **Besort**, *v.* *Obs.* [f. BE- + SORT *sb.* or *v.*; cf. ASSORT *v.*] To assort, match, or agree with; to befit. 1605 *SHAKS. Lear* i. iv. 272 Such men as may besort your Age.

† **Besort**, *sb.* *Obs.* [f. from prec. *vb.*; cf. ASSORT *sb.*] Suitable company.

1604 *SHAKS. Oth.* i. iii. 238 Such Accomodation, and besort, As leuels with her breeding.

Besot (bīsōt), *v.* [f. BE- + SOT; cf. ASSOT.]

1. *trans.* To affect with a foolish, blinding affection; to cause to dote on; to infatuate with.

1581 *CAMPION in Confer.* iv. (1584) A a iij b, He might be taken with the loue of his eyes towards her, to be besotted with her. 1637 *HEYWOOD Dial.* ii. Wks. 1874 VI. 118 It shall besot thee on some sordid Swaine. 1673 *Art Contentm.* viii. § 5. 217 The kind aspects of the world are very enchanting, apt to inveigle and besot us. 1748-1864 (see BESOTTED 1.).

2. To make mentally or morally stupid or blind; to stupefy in mind.

1615 *Br. HALL Contempl. N. T.* iv. iv. Impiety is wont to besot men. 1660 *FULLER Mixt Contempl.* (1841) 231 Till they besot their understandings. 1822 *HAZLITT Men & Mann.* Ser. II. v. (1869) 122 Such persons are in fact besotted with words. 1877 *SPARROW Sermon.* xix. 249 To besot the minds of men with ignorance and superstition.

3. To stupefy in the brain, make a sot of. (Said of narcotics.) Also *absol.*

1607 *DRAYTON Agincourt*, etc. 134 They no sooner tooke this drinke; But nought into their braines could sinke, Of what had them besotted. 1696 *TAYLOR Good House w.* xxvi. 209 Opium... stupefying and besotting them, even as the superfluous drinking of strong Drinks does. 1753 *YOUNG Centaur* ii. Wks. 1757 IV. 137 Pleasure... has an opiate in it; it stupefies, and besots. 1854 *THACKERAY Esmond* i. xiv. I besotted myself and gambled and drank.

Besotted (bīsōtēd), *ppl. a.* [f. prec. + -ED.]

1. Having the affections foolishly or dotingly engaged; infatuated.

1580 *NORTH Plutarch* (1676) 964 Antonius... besotted by

Cleopatra. a 1618 *RALEIGH Instr. Som.* ii. (1631) 6 Haue... ever more care, that thou be beloved of thy wife, rather than thyself besotted on her. 1748 *RICHARDSON Clarissa* xxxii. (1811) i. 246 If you are not besotted to that man... you will like it. 1864 *BURTON Scot. Abr.* i. iii. 137 Never did besotted lover abandon himself to wilder folly.

2. Intellectually or morally stupefied or blinded. 1634 *MILTON Comus* 790 Swinish gluttony... with besotted base ingratitude Crams and blasphemes his feeder. 1687 *Reflect. on Hind & P.* 25 The gross Ignorance and besotted Superstition of Italy. 1877 *MOZLEY Univ. Sermon.* xvi. 271 A stupid besotted indifference to everything spiritual.

3. Intoxicated or muddled by a narcotic.

1831 *SCOTT Cast. Dang.* ix. You besotted villains, you have been drinking. 1832 *MARRYAT N. Forster v.* Newton went down to rouse the besotted Thompson.

Besottedly, *adv.* [f. prec. + -LY.] Infatuatedly, stupidly, with mental or moral blindness.

1660 *MILTON Free Commw.* Wks. 1738 I. 591 Basely and besottedly to run their necks again into the Yoke. 1849 *C. BRONTË Shirley* i. 4 He was... besottedly arrogant.

Besottedness. [f. as prec. + -NESS.] The state of being besotted; infatuation; intoxication.

1628 *Br. HALL Old Reliq.* 11 The World... stood amazed to see its owne slauerie and besottednesse. 1673 *MILTON True Reliq.* Wks. (1851) 419 Hardness, besottedness of heart, and Idolatry. 1864 *J. LUDLOW Hist. U. S.* 240 The besottedness or demoralisation of a portion of the North.

Besotting, *ppl. a.* [f. BESOT + -ING.] Infatuating, stupefying.

1762 *FIELDING Ess. Conuers.* Wks. (1840) 636 The beastly custom of besotting and ostentatious contention for pre-eminence in their cups. 1863 *Geo. Eliot Romola in Cornh. Mag.* VI. 435 To steal over my senses like besotting wine.

Besought (bīsōt), *pa. t.* and *ppl.* of BESECH.

Besouled (bīsōuld), *ppl. a.* [f. BE- + SOUL *sb.* + -ED.] Endowed with a soul, ensouled.

1843 *CARLYLE Past & Pr.* 388 Besouled with earnest human Nobleness. 1862 *SIMON tr. Dornier's Pers. Christ* ii. (1874) I. 199 His... besouled humanity was not done away with by the deification.

Besouling, *vbl. sb.* [f. as prec. + -ING.] The endowing with a soul.

1862 *SIMON tr. Dornier's Pers. Christ* i. (1875) II. 399 To reduce the incarnation to a besouling... of this man.

Besour, **besow**, **bespaded**, etc.: see BE-*pref.*

Besouth (bīsau), *prep.* now *Sc.* Also 5-6 besowth. [f. BE- + SOUTH: cf. be-east, be-north.] On the south side of; to the south of.

c 1410 *Sir Cleges* 473 A gest... Of a knyght there be-sowth. 1520 *LYNDESAY Papyngo* 918 The borrow mure, Besouth Edinburgh. 1551 *RECORDE Cast. Knowl.* (1556) 85, 29 degrees besouth the tropike of Capricorne. 1650 *Act Seder.* 10 Jan. 64 (JAM.) This present Act shall... take effect for those besouth the water of Die. 1862 *M. NAPIER Life Dundee* II. 342 Perth besouth the river Earn.

Besowme, **besoyle**, *obs.* form of BESOM, BESOIL.

Besoyngne, **-soynne**, *var.* of BESOIGNE.

Bespall, *var.* of BESPAWL *v.* *Obs.*

Bespangle (bīspāngl), *v.* [f. BE- + SPANGLE.]

1. *trans.* To set about with spangles; to besprinkle or adorn with small glittering objects.

1612 *DRAYTON Poly-olb.* xiii. Notes 214 Every lofty top, which late the humorous night Bespangled had with pearly. 1722 *WOLLASTON Reliq. Nat.* v. 80 [Stars] to adorn and bespangle a canopy over our heads. 1862 *G. LLOYD Tarnania* iii. 36 The genial morning dews... that used to glisten upon and bespangle the vernal-leaved kangaroo grass?

2. *fig.*

1675 *BROOKS Gold. Key* Wks. 1867 V. 115 Being bespangled with holiness and clad with the royal robe of righteousness. 1800 *W. TAYLOR in Month. Mag.* X. 425 Other admirable similies bespangle this book. 1846 *PRESOTT Ferd. & Is.* I. viii. 374 The subtleties and conceits with which the ancient Castilian verse is so liberally bespangled.

Hence **Bespangled** *ppl. a.*, **Bespangling** *vbl. sb.*

1593 *NASHE Christ's T.* (1613) 144 Women... sumptuously pearled and bespangled. 1611 *COTGR. Papillotement*, a bespangling. 1634 *Sir T. HERBERT Trav.* 118 Under a bespangled Canopie, the Firmament. 1848 *KINGSLEY Saint's Trag.* v. i. 226 Uprushing pillars, star-bespangled roofs.

Bespangle (bīspāngl), = **BESPANGLED**.

1621 *QUARLES Argalus & P.* (1678) 89 Garments... bespangled ore With Stars of purest Gold. 1853 *G. JOHNSTON Nat. Hist. E. Bord.* I. 227 So she tastefully... bespangles every branchlet and every spine with a daisy flower.

† **Bespar**, *v.* *Obs.* Forms: 1 besparri-an, 3 bisparr-en, 4 -sperr-en, -speren. [f. BE- + SPARZ to bolt, shut.] *trans.* To shut in; to lock up.

a 1200 in *Wt. Wülcker Voc.* 459 *Oppilate*, besparrade. a 1225 *Ancre. R.* 94 Ancren bet bisparrēd [v. r. bitūnēd] her. 1377 *LANGEL. P. Pl.* B. xv. 139 And pat he spared and bisparrēd [bi-sperrēd, bisperrēd, bisparrēd] spene we in murthe.

† **Besparage**, *v.* *Obs.* [f. DISPARAGE, by exchange of prefixes (cf. *distain*, *bestain*), and mistake of *sparage* for the stem.] *trans.* To disparage.

1592 *NASHE P. Penitence* (N.) These men... should come to besparage gentlemen and chuff-headed burghomasters.

† **Besparkle**, *v.* *Obs.* [f. BE- + SPARKLE *v.* Cf. BYSPARKIT.] *trans.* To bespatter, to spot.

1485 *CAXTON St. Wenefryde* 5 The stones... al besparklyde with blood. 1633 *AMES Agst. Cerem.* Pref. 26 He besparkles the worshippers therof with disdain.

† **Besparkling**, *ppl. a.* *Obs.* [f. as prec. + -ING.] Sparkling, throwing out sparks.

1648 *HERRICK Hesper.* App. 449 In his desires More towring and besparkling than thy fires.

Bespatter (bīspātēr), *v.* [f. BE- + SPATTER.]

1. *trans.* To spatter over; to cover with small spots of wet mud or anything of like consistency.

1674 *Cout. of Tongue* v. § 9. 123 Those who will not take vice into their bosoms, shall yet have it bespatter their faces. 1844 *THIRLWALL Greece* VIII. lxvi. 447 They... were even bespattered with mud.

2. To spatter about; to scatter or cast (anything) so that it sticks in spots on surrounding objects.

1813 *Examiner* 1 Feb. 80/1 (He) had... literally bespattered his brains about the floor.

3. *fig.* To asperse (with abuse, blame, flattery, praise, etc.). Generally in a bad sense even when praise is in question.

1644 *JESSOP Angel of Eph.* 24 Bishop Halls titles of honour wherewith he doth bespatter them. 1759 *Let. to Methodist.* Bespattering with your dirty hints and innuendoes the whole body of its Clergy. 1819 *SOUTHEY Lett.* (1856) III. 150, I shall get plentifully bespattered with abuse. 1851 *RUSKIN Mod. Paint.* I. Pref. 19 He... bespatters with praise the canvass which a crowd concealed from him. 1858 *ROBERTSON Lect.* 244 Bespattered with applause.

4. *spec.* To cover with abuse; to vilify or slander.

1653 *A. WILSON Jas. I.* Proeme 4 If Ignorance or Malice attempts to hack, hew, or bespatter it. 1709 *STEELE Tatter* No. 115 P 1 Punch who takes all opportunities of bespattering me. 1748 *RICHARDSON Clarissa* (1811) II. xxxiii. 208, I will convince you that I am basely bespattered.

Bespattered, *ppl. a.* [f. prec. + -ED.] Covered with small spots of mud or the like.

1667 *H. MORE Div. Dial.* iii. § 28 (1713) 250 The whole Keys were all bespattered with Letters. 1831 *CARLYLE Sart. Res.* ii. vii. Every window of your Feeling, even of your Intellect, as it were, begrimed and mud-bespattered.

Bespatterer. [f. as prec. + -ER.] One who bespatters with mud, or abuse.

a 1849 *H. COLERIDGE Ess. & Margin.* (1851) II. 90 It defiles the bespatterer, whether it hit the object or not.

Bespattering, *vbl. sb.* [f. as prec. + -ING.]

The action of covering with spots of mud, or the like, thrown at an object; or *fig.* with abuse.

a 1677 *BARROW Sermon.* Wks. 1716 I. 166 The bespattering our neighbours good name. 1862 *Sat. Rev.* 5 July 4 Pitching the filthiest mud that he could find... and naturally receiving a liberal bespattering in return.

Bespatterment. *rare.* = *prec.*

1870 *C. SMITH Syn. & Antonyms, Adulation*... Ant. Tra-ducement... bespatterment.

† **Bespattle**, *v.* *Obs.* [f. BE- + SPATTLE *v.*] *trans.* To bespatter with anything dirty. Hence **Bespattling** *vbl. sb.*

1546 *BALE Eng. Volaries* ii. (1550) 107 They rated hym... byspatted hym, and byspitted him. 1611 *COTGR. Papilloter*... to bespattle, or spot with dirt. — *Papillotement*, a bespangling; also, a bespattling.

† **Bespawl**, *v.* *Obs.* Also 7 bespaul, bespall. [f. BE- + SPAWL *v.*] *trans.* To bespatter with saliva; also *fig.*

1602 *B. JONSON Poetast.* v. i, Bespawls The conscious time, with humours, foam, and brawls. 1641 *MILTON Animadv.* iii. 63 This Remonstrant would invest himself conditionally with all the rheum of the town... to bespawl his brethren. 1647 *R. STAPFOLTON Juvenal* 215 Whose slipping guests are ready still to fall, He doth his Spartan marble so bespall.

Hence **Bespawled** *ppl. a.*

1612 *DRAYTON Poly-olb.* ii. 33 His foame-bespawled beard.

Bespeak (bīspēk), *v.* Pa. t. bespoke, and (*arch.*) -spake. Pa. pple. bespoken, bespokes. For other forms see SPEAK. [Com. WGer.: OE. *bi-*, *besprecan* = OS. *bisprecan* (Du. *bespreken*), OHG. *bisprekhan* (MHG. and mod.G. *bisprechen*), f. *bi-*, BE- + *sprecan* (*specan*) to SPEAK. The connexion of the senses is very loose; some of them appear to have arisen quite independently of each other from different applications of BE-*pref.*]

I. *intransitive.*

† 1. To call out, exclaim, complain that. Only OE. c 893 *K. ALFRED Oros.* I. x. § 6 Hu unzemelice ge Romware bemurcniad & besprecað þæt, etc. *Ibid.* II. iv. § 7 Ond nu ure Cristne Roma bespricð þæt... etc.

† 2. To speak up or out, to exclaim: orig. with some notion of objection or remonstrance; in later times, simply, to raise one's voice, to speak. *Obs.* or *arch.*

c 1314 *Guy Warw.* 185 Than bispac Otous of Pavi, To Gii he bar gret envie. c 1440 *Erle Tolous* 877 Then bespake an olde Knyght, Y have wondur, be goddys myght, That syr Autore thus was bestedd. c 1500 *Deb. Carpenters' T.* in Halliwell. *Nugw. P.* 17 Than be-spake the polyff with gret strong wordes and styffe. 1590 *MARLOWE Edw. II.* iii. ii, The Earl of Pembroke mildly thus bespake: 'My lords,' etc. 1609 *MILTON Nativ.* vi. Until their Lord himself bespake, and bid them go. 1791 *COWPER Iliad* ii. 201 And thus the chief bespake.

† b. quasi-*trans.* *rare.* *Obs.*

1579 *SPENSER Sheph. Cal.* Feb., Whatever that good old man bespake.

II. *transitive.*

† 3. To speak against: to charge, accuse; oppose. a 1000 *Lawes of Ethelb.* ii. 8 (Bosw.) Hit besprecan biþ. a 1000 *Psalm.* (Lamb.) xliii. 17 (Bosw.) Fram stefne besprecdre. c 1250 *Gen. & Ex.* 1444 And 31e bi-spac him neuere a del. 1297 *R. GLOUC.* 324 He was of churchc inome, tho clerגיע bispek it vaste.

† 4. To speak about: a. To discuss, advise upon, determine upon. (Also *intr.* with *infin.* of purpose.) c 1175 *Lamb. Hom.* 91 Heo bispeken heom bitweonen þæt

heo walden ibuzen. 1297 R. GLOUC. 200 Po þys was syker & byspeke. c 1300 A. Alis. 94 Wel thrytty ygedred beoth, And byspekith al his deth. 1489 CAXTON *Faytes of A.* iv. ix. 250 She haith traytted or bespoken for to make hym dey other by poyson or by som other secrete dethe.

† b. To promise. *Obs. rare.* (Ger. *versprechen*.) c 1300 *Cast. Loue* 221 For so hit was to Adam bi-speke, And God nolde no forward breke.

5. To speak for; to arrange for, engage beforehand; to 'order' (goods).

1583 STANYHURST *Aeneis* ii. (Arb.) 68 Theare doe lye great kingdooms . . bespoken For the. 1608 *Return fr. Parnass.* iii. v. (Arb.) 46 A lodging bespoken for him . . in Newgate. 1688 in *Ellis Orig. Lett.* ii. 367. IV. 143 The six thousand pair of Shoes which he bispoke at Exeter. 1709 STEELE *Tatler* No. 16 ¶ 2 She bespoken the Play of Alexander the Great, to be acted by the Company of Strollers. 1712 ARBUTHNOT *John Bull* (1755) 2 His tradesmen . . waited upon him to . . bespeak his custom. 1793 SKEATON *Edystone L.* § 255 A new set of chains was bespoken. 1839 DE QUINCEY *Murder* Wks. IV. 43 You may have . . bespoken a murder.

b. To stipulate or ask for (a favour or the like).

1677 *Quest. conc. Oath of Alleg.* ii. I must humbly bespeak your pardon. 1706 T. JEFFERSON *Writ.* (1859) II. 69, I bespeak, beforehand, a right to indulge my natural incredulity. 1818 COBBETT *Pol. Reg.* XXXIII. 54 With the view . . of bespeaking a friendly reception for himself. 1846 GROTE *Greece* II. xxiv. 572 Whose patience I have to bespeak.

† c. To request or engage (a person) to do (something). *Obs.*

1590 SHAKS. *Com. Err.* v. i. 233 Then fairly I bespoke the Officer To go in person with me to my house. 1667 *Perrys Diary* (1877) V. 35 Who I feared did come to bespeak me to be Godfather to his son. 1670 WALTON *Lives* iv. 293, I must . . bespeak the Reader to prepare for an almost incredible story. 1764 SMELIE *Midwife* III. 80, I was bespoken . . to attend a woman in her first child.

6. To speak to (a person), to address. (Now chiefly poet.)

1590 MARLOWE *Edw. II.* i. iv. My gentle lord, bespeak these nobles fair. 1597 *North. Mothers Bless.* xiii. When folks thee bespoken curtesly hem grete. 1677 HALE *Contempl.* ii. 124 From this high Mountain he bespokes Mankind. 1703 BURNITT *On N. T.* Luke xxiii. 31 These Christ thus bespoken: 'Weep not for me, but for yourselves.' 1795 *Pope Ode* xxiv. 508 Medon first th' assembled chiefs bespoke. 1870 BRYANT *Iliad* II. xv. 75 The Father of immortals . . frowned upon Juno and bespake her thus.

7. To speak of, tell of, be the outward expression of; to indicate, give evidence of.

1688 EARLE *Microscop.* 43 His very countenance and gesture bespokes how much he is. 1671 FLAVEL *Fount. Life* viii. 20 Long preparations bespeak the . . greatness of the work. 1776 HAN. MORR *Florio* II. 184 Gorgeous banquets oft bespeak A hungry household all the week. 1814 WORDSW. *Excurs.* i. 85 But her house bespake a sleepy hand of negligence. 1863 MRS. C. CLARKE *Shaks. Char.* iii. 65 Hamlet's proneness to soliloquy bespokes the reflective man.

b. with *compl.*

a 1704 T. BROWN *Pr. Drunkenness* Wks. 1730 I. 31 Those whose smiling aspect bespokes them friends. 1708 STERNE *Tr. Shandy* (1802) VI. xxxii. 356 Did that bespeak me cruel?

1815 *Scribblemania* 18 Symptoms bespeaking me rash.

c. To tell of or betoken beforehand; to prognosticate, augur.

1719 YOUNG *Revenge* iii. i. Anguish, and groans, and death bespeak to-morrow. a 1745 SWIFT (J.) They started fears, bespoken dangers, and formed ominous prognosticks. 1851 HAWTHORNE *Snow Im.* (1879) 167 Circumstances that bespeak war and danger.

† d. (as prec. with reverse construction.) *Obs. rare.*

1655 FULLER *Ch. Hist.* vi. III. 511 My tongue is so farre from bespeaking such lands with any ill successe.

† e. To bear witness, to declare to. *Obs. rare.*

1674 N. FAIRFAX *Bulk & Selv.* 144 We have . . only reason to bespeak us, that bulk has a least part.

† f. To speak (a person) into some state. *Obs.*

1604 *Gallants at Ordin.* 19 How a young fellow was even bespoken and jested to death by harlots.

Bespeak (bɪsˈpiːk), *sb.* [f. the vb.] A bespeaking; esp. the bespeaking of a particular play to be performed; hence, a benefit night, when the actor's friends and patrons choose the play.

1839 DICKENS *Nick. Nick.* xxiv. On her bespeak night. . . The night of her bespeak. Her benefit night, when her friends and patrons bespeak the play. 1880 MISS BRADDON *Just as I am* iii. 347 He had given his bespeak to the theatre, and Mr. Montmorency was to act Claude Melnotte.

Bespeaker. [f. BESPEAK v. + -ER.] He who or that which bespeaks.

1624 WOTTON *Archit.* (1672) 51 The Bespeaker of the Work. 1686 GOAD *Celest. Bodies* i. xvii. 111 Infallible Bespeakers of a shower.

Bespeaking, *vbl. sb.* [f. as prec. + -ING.] The action of speaking to, for, about, or of.

1661 *Origen's Opin.* in *Phanix* (1721) I. 1 Custom, which sends few Books into the world . . without some fair bespeaking of the Reader. 1687 DRYDEN *Hind & P.* To Rdr., A Preface . . which is but a bespeaking of Favour. 1711 SWIFT *Lett.* (1767) III. 243 The dinner was my bespeaking.

Bespeckled, *ppl. a.* [f. BE-1 + SPECKED: cf. *besmattered*.] Spotted or speckled over the surface.

1565 GOLDING *Ovid's Met.* iv. (1593) 84 The berrie is bespect With colour tending to a blacke. 1598 SYLVESTER *Du Bartas* ii. l. ii. (1641) 90/2 A Dragons skin All bright bespect. 1745 *Phil. Trans.* XLIII. 296 Broad yellow spots [that] her whole body had been bespecked with.

Bespeckle (bɪsˈpeːkəl), *v.* [f. BE-1 + SPECKLE v.] To speckle over, to variegate with specks or spots. Hence **Bespeckled** *ppl. a.*, **Bespecklement**.

1607 TORSSELL *Four-f. Beasts* 340 The colour yellowish, but bespeckled on the sides with blew spots. 1641 MILTON

Ch. Discip. i. Wks. (1851) 23 They . . bespeckled her with all the gaudy allurements of a Whore. 1655 FULLER *Ch. Hist.* ix. vi. § 15. V. 76 A Translation . . everywhere bespeckled with hard words. 1860 *Encycl. Brit.* XXI. 976/2 Minute black points . . bespeckle the anterior extremity. 1883 *Chamb. Jnl.* 631 [They] threw the white foam from their bits . . to the bespecklement of the groom's hat and coat.

Bespectacled, *ppl. a.* [f. BE-7 + SPECTACLES.] Having spectacles on.

1748 JARVIS *Quix.* ii. li. xvi. (D.) A white-veiled, lank, and bespectacled duenna. 1848 J. H. NEWMAN *Loss & Gain* 60 He was a little, prim, smirking, bespectacled man.

Bespeech, **bespend**, **besperple**, **bespew**: see BE-*pref.*

Bespeed (bɪsˈpiːd), *v. rare.* [f. BE-2 + SPEED v.] *trans.* To speed, help on, prosper. Hence **Besped** (bɪsˈpiːd), *ppl. a.*, prospered, having got on (well or ill).

c 1630 JACKSON *Creed* B iv. iv. vi. Men set to woo . . for others take often opportunity to bespeed themselves. 1796 COLERIDGE *To Unfort. Woman* i. Myrtle leaf, that ill besped Pinest in the gladsome ray.

† **Bespete**, *v. arch.* Forms: *Inf.* 3-4 bi-, *byspete*, *-speete*, (6 bespete). *Pa. t.* 4 *byspet*, *bispatte*. *Pa. pple.* 3-4 *bispat*, 4 *bispet*, 5 *by-*, 6 *bespetted*, 9 *bespate*. [ME. *bespeten*, f. BE-1 + *speten*, OE. *spētan* to spit.] = BESPIR.

a 1225 *Ancre R.* 122 3if me mis-seid þe, þenc þæt tu ert eorðe . . ne bespete me þe eorðe? a 1240 *Orison* 32 in O. E. *Misc.* 140 Bi-spat þu were and al myd wowe. c 1325 SHOREHAM 84 Hy . . Byspet hym that swete semblant. 1382 WYCLIF *Mark* xv. 19 Thei smyten his heed with a reede, and bispaten him. c 1386 CHAUCER *Pers. T.* P 205 Thanne was his visage . . vileynously bispet [v. r. bespit]. 1498 *Dives & Paup.* (W. de W.) vi. xv. 259 That blyssfull bodye . . was . . byspetted for our synne. 1580 BARET *Alt. B* 576 To Bespette one all ouer. 1855 BROWNING *Ch. Roland* xix. Iis [a river's] black eddy bespate with flakes and spumes.

Bespipe (bɪsˈpiːp), *v.* [f. BE-1 and 4 + SPICE.]

1. *trans.* To season with (or as with) spice.

1575 CHURCHYARD *Chippes* (1817) 191 Sweete words did walke, bespyet [? bespiced] with fained cheere. 1601 HOLLAND *Pliny* xix. viii. Seasoned also and bespiced with the costly root of the plant Laserwort. 1611 SHAKS. *Wint. T.* i. ii. 316 Thou His Cup-bearer . . might'st be-spice a cup. 1611 RICH *Honest. Age* (1844) 50 So be-spiced, and be-powdered, that a man may well vent them the breadth of a streete.

† 2. To sprinkle as spice or seasoning. *Obs.*

1567 MAPLET *Gr. Forest* 49 b. This root . . being bespiced or bestrewn upon their meate . . killeth the Panther.

Bespill (bɪsˈpiːl), *v.* [f. BE-1 + SPILL.] Intensive of SPILL.

1566 ABP. PARKER *Psalter* lxxxiii. And let theyr fames all shame bespill. a 1843 SOUTHEY *Poems Slave-tr.* II. 60 By every drop of blood bespill . . Awake! arise! avenge!

Bespin, **bespirit**, **besplit**, etc.: see BE-*pref.*

Bespirit (bɪsˈpiːrɪt), *v.* Also 6 besprite.

[f. BE-5 + SPIRIT.] *trans. a.* To possess with a (familiar) spirit. *b.* To fill or endow with spirit.

1574 HELLOWS *Guenara's Ep.* (1577) 55 The letter had no spirit in it: but he aduised me, that he which wrote it should be bespirted. 1862 SIMON *Dorner's Pers. Christ* i. (1875) II. 399 To reduce the incarnation to a . . bespirting of this man.

Bespit, *v. arch.* *Pa. t.* and *ppl.* bespit. For forms see SPIT. [f. BE-1 + SPIT v.] *trans.* To spit upon, cover or defile with spitting. Rarely *intr.* with *upon*. (Cf. BE-SPEITE.)

a 1300 *Curior M.* 17771 Jesus . . was Bath bi-scurget and bi-spit. 1382 WYCLIF *Mark* xiv. 65 Summe bigunnen for to bispitte him. c 1460 *Towneley Myst.* 223 Thus have thay dight me drederly And all by-spytt me spytously. 1546 BALE *Eng. Votaries* II. (1550) 107 They . . byspatied hym, and byspitted him. 1609 GAULF *Pract. The.* 22 Christ was . . crowned with Thornes, bespit vpon. 1678 HICKES in *Ellis Orig. Lett.* ii. 319 IV. 51 They railed at my black coat, for so they called my gown, and bespit it all over.

Bespote (bɪsˈpiːt), *prep. rare*¹. Despite.

1842 R. I. WILBERFORCE *Rutil. & Lucius* 96, I have had friends who, despite my ignorance and penury, are ready to receive me as their equal.

Besplash (bɪsˈplæʃ), *v.* [f. BE-1 + SPLASH v.] *trans.* To splash all over, to wet by splashing. Hence **Besplashed** *ppl. a.*

1804 W. TAYLOR in *Ann. Rev.* II. 288 He besplashes and bemires the ladies who are walking near. 1845 *Whitehall* xlvi. 329 Dismounting from his besplashed steed.

Bespoken (bɪsˈpəʊkən), *ppl. a.* Also **bespoke**. [See BESPEAK v.]

† 1. Spoken, of speech; as in *well-bespoken*. *Obs.* 1474 CAXTON *Chesse* iii. vi. (1600) Hiv b. The hostellers ought to be wel bespoken and curtoys of wordes. 1483 *Gold. Leg.* 387/4 A mayden wel bespoken.

2. Ordered, commissioned, arranged for.

1607 HEYWOOD *F. Mayde Exch.* Wks. 1874 II. 31 Here is bespoken work. 1807 W. TAYLOR in *Ann. Rev.* V. 577 Which gives to his treatise an appearance of bespoken work. 1884 *Birmingham Daily Post* 24 Jan. 3/3 Boot Trade.—Wanted . . Saleswoman, accustomed to Bespoke Trade.

3. Spoken of, talked of.

1871 BLACKIE *Four Phases* i. 59 The much-bespoken utilitarianism of the most recent ethical school.

Bespot (bɪsˈpɒt), [ME., f. BE-1 + SPOT v.] *tr.* To cover or mark over the surface with spots; to cover with blot or blemishes. Hence **Bespotting** *ppl. a.*, **Besottedness** *sb.*, **Bespotting** *vbl. sb.*

c 1374 CHAUCER *Boeth.* iii. iv. 73 Whan þei byspotten and defoulen dignites with hire vylenie. 1483 CAXTON *G. de la Tour* A vii. The vessel of siluer whiche was foully bespotted

of the donghyll. 1532 MORE *Confut. Barnes* viii. Wks. 802/2 Theyr continuall newe byspottynge and wringlyng. 1622 HEYLIN *Cosmogr.* II. (1682) 213 Marble curiously bespotted. 1684 CHARNOCK *Attrib. God.* I. 331 It soils our duties, and bespots our souls. 1720 ROWE *Amb. Step-Mother* v. i. 78 Com'st thou bespotted with the recent slaughter? 1814 WORDSW. *Excurs.* vii. 788 The Danube . . like a serpent, shows his glittering back Bespotted—with innumerable isles. a 1882 SIR R. CHRISTISON *Autobiogr.* I. xviii. 349 The degree of the Sun's bespottedness.

† **Bespouse**, *v. Obs.* In 2-3 *bispusen*. [f. bi-, BE- + ME. *spusen* to SPOUSE.] *trans.* To espouse, marry.

c 1175 *Lamb. Hom.* 133 Ða þe . . beon bispused richtliche to gedere. c 1200 *Trin. Coll. Hom.* 13 Jef he ben lajeliche bispusede.

Bespout (bɪsˈpaʊt), *v.* [f. BE- + SPOUT v.] *trans.* To besprinkle by spouting. *fig. a.* To utter or recite with pompous elocution. *b.* To recite to, to plague with oratory.

1575 TURBERV. *Falconrie* 84 Take wine and water and therewith bespout hir well with your mouth. 1808 *Blackw. Mag.* XXIV. 591 It has been bespouted, bequoted, and beparodied. 1857 CARLYLE *Misc.* IV. 138 Woe for the age, woe for the man, quack-ridden, bespouched, bespouted.

† **Bespray**, *v. Obs. rare*¹. [f. BE-6 + SPRAY sb.] *trans.* To besprinkle, bespatter. Hence **Bespraying** *vbl. sb.*

1593 NASHE *Christ's T.* (1613) 62 Her Alablaster wals were all furred and some-painted . . with the bespraying of mens braines dunt against them.

Bespread (bɪsˈpreɪd), *v.* [ME. bi-, *bespred(en)*, f. bi- BE-4, 1 + *spreden* to SPREAD v. Cf. MHG. *bespreiten*.] *trans.*

1. To cover, mark, or diversify (a surface) with (things spread over it); to spread with.

c 1205 LAY. 16521 He . . mid ærmen hine bisprædde and forð hine lædde. 1393 GOWER *Conf.* III. 364 A see-foule she becam, And with her winges him besprad. c 1450 *Crt. of Love* xii. High pinacles . . With plate of gold bespred on every side. 1561 T. NORTON *Calvin's Inst.* iii. 252 Ther are euident foule blots where with the workes of the holy are bespred. 1610 HOLLAND *Camden's Brit.* ii. 32 The coasts are well bespred with pretty townlets. a 1764 R. LLOYD *New-Riv. Head* Poet. Wks. (1774) II. 68 Bespred her hospitable board With what she had. 1871 PROCTOR *Light* 8. 110 A wide continent bespread with volcanic mountains.

2. Said of things: To spread over, to cover by spreading over.

1641 M. FRANK *Serm.* (1672) 253 When our graces . . be-spread and cloth this earth we carry. 1779 FORREST *Yoy. N. Guinea* 297 Mats bespredding the floor of a large hall. 1832 FRASER *Mag.* V. 148 The 'giant graves' that bespread the shore of the Hellespont.

3. To spread (anything) over or upon (a surface).

1598 YONG *Diana* 207 But with a teint, like the Vermillion Rose, Bespred vpon her face as white as snow.

4. To spread out.

1557 TOTTILL'S *Misc.* (Arb.) 242 With armes bespred abroad. 1646 J. HALL *Poems* 25 Since for thy sake so brisk they're grown And such a Downy carpet have bespred.

† **Bespreng**, *v. Obs.* exc. in *pa. pple.* besprent. Forms: 1 besprengan, 2-4 bisprenge(n), 5 bespreng(e)n. *Pa. t.* 3-5 bi-, *bysprengede*, 5 besprenged, 6 besprent. *Pa. pple.* 3-5 bi-, *bysprenged*, 4-6 besprent, 5 *bysprented*, 4-5 bi-, bespreynt, 6 bespreinct, -*spraye*, -*sprint*, -*spreigned*, 6-7 -*spreinct*, -*spreint*, 6- besprent. [OE. *besprengan*, f. BE-1 + *sprengan* to sprinkle:—OTeut. *sprangan*, causal of *springan* to SPRING. MHG., mod.G., MDu., and Du. have all *besprengen* in same sense. No part appears after 1600, exc. the *pa. pple.*, and this mostly as *ppl. adj.* See BESPRING and BESPRENT v.; also BESPRINK.]

1. *trans.* To sprinkle (anything) over: *a.* with moisture or powder: To besprinkle, asperse.

c 1000 *Sax. Leechd.* I. 190 Besprenghe hyne mid þam wætere. c 1175 *Lamb. Hom.* 73 Bi-spreng me laured mid buhmunnesse. 1388 WYCLIF *Isa.* lii. 15 He schal bisprengne many folkis. c 1430 *Syr Gengerides* 7068 Asshes with the water she menged And her white legges al be-sprenged. 1494 FAYAN vi. clxxxv. 185 Whome she besprent with many a salte tere. 1600 FAIRFAX *Tasso* xii. ci. His silver locks with dust he foule besprent. 1601 HOLLAND *Pliny* II. 126 Being bespreint, dashed, and drenched quite therewith. 1606 — *Sueton.* 150 As himselfe sacrificed, bespreinct he was with the blood.

b. with spots or patches of colouring: To speckle.

1388 WYCLIF *Gen.* xxx. 39 Spotti beestis, and dyuerse, and bispreynt with dyuerse colour. 1486 *Bk. St. Albans* A viij b. Euery tercellis braylis been bysprenged with blake speckes.

2. To sprinkle (a substance or things) about.

a 1529 SKELTON *1st Pop.* 182 From Scotland to Kent This preaching was bysprent. — *Epit. Dk. Bedford* 76 Deth wyth me doloure So hath besprayne. 1567 MAPLET *Gr. Forest* 28 *Insecta* . . having for all this life proportionably and equally besprent throughout the whole bodies. 1800 BYRON *Juan* v. xlii. O'er the front There seemed to be besprent a deal of gilding.

Besprent (bɪsˈprent), *ppl. a.* [f. prec., where see forms.] Besprinkled.

a. with moisture of any kind, or dust.

c 1368 CHAUCER *Compl. Pity* 10 To Pite ran I all bespreynt [v. r. besprente] with teres. 1483 CAXTON *Gold. Leg.* 269/1 Thre stones besprent with his blood. 1610 *Ibid.* 353/1 Stones bespreyncte and speclad as it were with blood. 1535 JOYK *Apol. Tindale* (Arb.) 17 Euen unto the bespreigned bloude. 1561 JR. HEYWOOD *Seneca's Herc. Furens* (1581) 10 My body thus with wicked blood bespreinct. 1579 SPENSER *Sheph. Cal.*

Nov. 111 Morne now my muse. . with teares besprent. 1634
MILTON *Comus* 542 Knot-grass dew - besprent. a 1866
LONGF. *Sir Christopher* 133 His boots with dust and mire
besprent.

b. with points, or objects dotted about: Strewed.
1556 ABP. PARKER *Psalter* ciii. My soule with cares was
full besprent. 1837 WORDSW. *At Vallombrosa*, The flower-
besprent meadows. 1873 BROWNING *Red Cott. Night-c.*
162 The tawdry tent . . besprent with hearts and darts.

2. Scattered, strewed about.
1567 MAPLET *Gr. Forest* 15 Having certain blotches
besprent upon it. 1870 MORRIS *Earthly Par.* II. iii. 139 He
lay upon the flowers besprent about.

† **Besprent**, v. Obs. rare⁻¹. [improperly f.
prec.] trans. To besprinkle.

1573 TWYNE *Æneid* xii. Mm iv, Latinus rentes His hoarie
head . . and auncient beard with durt besprentes.
† **Bespring**, v. Obs. Forms: 4 bispringen,
4-5 -sprynge(n), 5 be-. Pa. t. 5 bysprang.
Pa. pple. 4 bispronge(n), 4-5 by-, 5 besprong.
[A late ME. variant of BESPRENG, in which the
strong verb *spring* is substituted for the causal
spreng.] trans. To besprinkle; = BESPRENG. Hence
Bespringing vbl. sb.

1387 TREVISA *Descr. Brit.* (Caxton) 54 With mylke of a cove
that is of one year bespringe the welle. 1398 — Barth. *De*
P. R. xi. iv. Ofte as a cloude byspryngeþ þe erbe with drop-
pyngþ, he wastepþ him selfe in þat byspryngeþ (ed. 1582
bespringing). 1420 *Pallad. on Husb.* i. 678 Barly coot
and colde, and wyne besprong. 1483 CAXTON *Gold. Leg.*
291 Thou art al besprongen with the blood. 1575 *Jacob*
4 *Sonnes* (Collier) 20 Their meat cloth they besprang all
with gotes blood.

† **Besprink**, v. Obs. rare. [Shortened from
BESPRINKLE, probably under the influence of *be-
spring*, *bespreng*, and esp. of the pa. pple. *besprink*,
besprink: see BESPRENG.] = To BESPRINKLE.

1609 HEYWOOD *Brit. Troy* in Farr's S. P. 330 With Hip-
procenes drops besprinkle my head.

Besprinkle (bɪˈsprɪŋkəl), v. Also 5 be-
sprængil, 6 by-, besprinkle, -ckle, -ckel. [ME.
besprengil, **bespreinkel*, f. BE-1 and 4 + *spreinkel*,
freq. of *sprengen* to asperse; *besprinkle* is therefore
in form the freq. of BESPRENG.] Hence **Be-
sprinkled** ppl. a.

1. trans. To sprinkle all over with small drops
(of liquid), or with powdery substance, as flour, salt.
c 1440 *Gesta Rom.* (1879) 26 That was all besprengild with
his blessed blode. 1534 MORE *On the Passion* Wks. 1295/2
They shoulde bysprinkle the postes . . with the blood. 1622
R. HAWKINS *Voy. S. Sea* (1847) 58 To keepe cleane the
shippe; to besprinkle her ordinarily with vinegar. 1781
GIBSON *Decl. & F. III.* iii. 273 The walls were besprinkled
with holy water. 1835 PAUL *Antiq. Greece* i. ii. iv. § 8 [He]
was also thrice besprinkled with water.

b. predicated of the fluid.

1738 GLOVER *Leonidas* v. 657 The gory drops besprinkle all
his shield. 1872 SPURGEON *Treas. Dav.* Ps. lxxv. 14 Scarce
a drop of rain would venture to besprinkle their splendour.

2. fig. To strew with (comparatively) small
things scattered about; to spot, to dot; to inter-
perse with any elements diffused throughout.

1561 T. NORTON *Calvin's Inst.* iii. 258 All our good workes
are continually besprinkled with many filthy spotted. 1646
SIR T. BROWNE *Pseud. Ep.* i. viii. (1686) 22 [He] hath be-
sprinkled his work with many fabulositys. 1670 EICHARD
Cont. Clergy 40 Besprinkling all their sermons with plenty
of Greek and Latin. 1842 DICKENS *Amer. Notes* (1850)
54/1 Sloping banks besprinkled with pleasant villas. 1861
LADY WALLACE *Mendelssohn's Lett.* 303 We. besprinkled
each other mutually with great praise.

† 3. trans. To water, moisten (as streams). Obs.
1611 SPEED *Theat. Gl. Brit.* xxx. (1614) 39/1 Vallies
besprinkled with many sweet springs. 1623 FAVINE *Theat.*
Hon. ii. xii. 202 A million of Riuers that water and be-
sprinkle France.

Besprinkler. [f. BESPRINKLE v. + -ER.]
He who or that which besprinkles.

1611 COTGR., *Arroseur*, a bedewer; a besprinkler.

Besprinkling, vbl. sb. [f. as prec. + -ING.]
The action of the vb. BESPRINKLE.

1580 HOLLYBAND *Treas. Fr. Tong.* *Asperion* and *arrouse-
ment*, besprinkling or bedewing. 1680 H. MORE *Apoc.*
Apocal. 186 The besprinkling of Sheep and other Cattle
with holy Water.

Besprong, pa. pple. of BESPRING v. Obs.

Bespuer, variant of BESPEW: see BE-*pref.* 4.

† **Bespurt**, v. Obs. [f. BE-4 + SPURT v.]

trans. To asperse or befool with anything
spurted or spirted on; also fig.

1579 TOMSON *Calvin's Serm.* Tim. 8/4/1 To walke through
the myre and durt, and not bespurt himselfe. 1603 HOLLAND
Plutarch's Mor. 1232 The city of the Corinthians . . he hath
bespurt and dashed . . with a most grievous slander. 1641
MILTON *Animadv.* Wks. (1851) 185 To send home his
haughtinesse well bespurt with his owne holy-water.

† **Bespurtle**, v. Obs. [f. BE-4 + SPURTLE.]

1. A frequentative variant of prec.

1618 BOLTON *Florus* (1636) 245 Merula . . bespurtled the
eyes of love himselfe, with the blood. a 1655 T. ADAMS
Pract. Wks. (1861) III. 21 (D.) They sputter their venom
abroad, and bespurtle others.

2. fig. To asperse with reproach or abuse; to
spot or sully with vice.

1604 MARSTON *Malcontent* i. ii. (D.) Trot about, and be-
spurtle whom thou pleasest. 1609 J. MAXWELL *tr. Herodian*
77 He bespurtled his life with foule Vices.

Besputter (bɪˈspʊtə), v. [f. BE-4 + SPUTTER.]

To sputter (anything) over; 'to dawb anything
by sputtering, or throwing spittle over it.' (J.)

1730 BAILEY, *Besputter*, to spirt or spirtle upon.

Bespy, *besquatter*, *besqueese*, *besquib*, etc.:
see BE-*pref.*

† **Besquirt** (bɪˈskwɜːt), v. Obs. [f. BE-4 +
SQUIRT v.] trans. To asperse or befool by squirting;
also fig. in reference to abuse or defamation.

1611 COTGR., *Foirer*, to besquirt or beray with squirting.
1682 *Roxb. Bal.* (1884) V. 195 Celliers, that Midwife-Slut,
Who Dangerfield doth so besquirt.

Besquite, obs. form of BISCUIT.

Bessant, *bessaun*, obs. forms of BEZANT.

Bessemer (bɛsˈmɛr). [From the name of the
inventor, Sir H. Bessemer, in 1856.] Bessemer
process: a process for decarbonizing and desilicon-
izing pig-iron so as to convert it into steel or mal-
leable iron, by passing currents of air through the
molten metal. Hence Bessemer iron, steel,
briefly Bessemer; and attrib., as in *Bessemer con-
verter*, *flame*, *maker*, *method*, *slag*, etc.

[1856 *Encycl. Brit.* XII. 574/2 The ingots derived from Mr.
Bessemer's process.] 1864 PERCY *Metall.* 819 Analyses . .
of the pig-irons and Bessemer irons made therefrom. 1875 *URE*
Dict. Arts III. 905 The enormously high temperature de-
veloped by the action of cold air on molten cast iron in the
Bessemer process. *Ibid.* 907 The exact chemical character
of the spectrum of the Bessemer flame. *Ibid.* 909 Good pig
iron, such as that employed for Bessemer steel-making.
1881 *N. Y. Nation* XXXII. 404 The generic term Besse-
mer steel denotes a steel made essentially by blowing air
through molten iron, in a vessel called a converter. 1883
Daily News 3 Sept. 2/7 Bessemer makers are very busy.

Besset, early Kentish form of BESHUT.

Besshe, variant of BISSHE sb. Obs.

Bessome, obs. form of BESOM.

Best (best), a. and adv. Forms: 1 betost,
betast, betest, betat (3 besat, 3-4 beist, 4-5
beste, 5 beest), 2- best. [Com. Teut.: OE. (adv.)
best, earlier *betest*, *betost* = OFris., OS. (MDu.,
Du.) *best*, OHG. *bezziest* (MHG., mod.G. *best*), ON.
best, *best* (Da. *best*, Sw. *bäst*), Goth. *batist*, OTeut.
**batist*, superlative belonging to the comp. **batiz*,
BETTER, q.v. The adj. differed from the adv.
only in its inflexions; as nom. sing. masc. str.
OTeut. **batisto*-z, Goth. *batist*-s, ON. *bat*-r, OE.
best, wk. se *betista*, *pæt betiste*, etc. By assimila-
tion of t to following s, the word has been reduced
to *best* in Eng., as in all modern Teut. langs.]

A. adj. The superlative degree of GOOD: Most
good. (Goodest, in 17th c. in Dryden, etc., was
merely analogical; no such form is found in OTeut.)

1. As simple adjective.

1. Of the highest excellence, excelling all others
in quality.

a. Said of persons, in respect of physical,
mental, or esp. moral qualities; or as regards
social standing, as in 'the best people in the town.'

891 O. E. *Chron.* (Parker MS.), Se betista lareow þe on
Scottum wæs. c 893 K. ALFRED *Oras.* v. iv. § 3 Scipia, se
besta and se selesta Romana witeana. a 1000 *Crist* 1012
(Gr.) *Æðelduguð* betast. a 1075 O. E. *Chron.* (Laud MS.)
an. 1052 Ealle þa eorlas and þa betstan menn. a 1300
Cursor M. 12619 þe beste maistris of þat toun. 1382 WYCLIF
Dan. v. i. Balthasar, Kyng, made a grete fest to his best
men a thousand. c 1435 *Torr. Portugal* 2752 Beste of bone
and blood. 1591 SHAKS. *Two Gent.* i. ii. 102 Of many
good, I think him best. 1601 CHESTER in *Shaks. C.*
Praise 43 The best and chiefest of our moderne writers.
1693 W. PAYNE *Pract. Disc.* i. § 2. 18 Some . . failures and
imperfections will stick to the best of Men. 1749 FIELDING
Tom. Jones ix. iv. I will fight the best man of you all for
twenty pound. 1848 MACAULAY *Hist. Eng.* II. 267 The
best Roman Catholic families in England. 1846 FROUDE
Hist. Eng. (1858) I. i. 62 Henry VIII . . was the best rider,
the best lance, and the best archer in England.

b. Said of things, in respect of their essential
qualities.

a 1075 O. E. *Chron.* (Laud MS.) an. 1052 Eall þæt æfre
best was. 1297 R. GLOUC. 370 Edgar Apelyng þat best
kunde in Engelond adde to be Kyng. 1382 WYCLIF *Gen.*
xliiii. 11 Take 3e of the beste fruytis of the loond. 1398
TREVISA *Barth. De P. R.* ix. xxvi. (1495) 363 In the Satur-
daye men weren aournyd . . with theyr best clothes. 1552
Bk. *Com. Prayer*, *Commun.* (Rubr.) The best and purest
Wheat Bread that conveniently may be gotten. 1653 WAL-
TON *Angler* 179 The Peach . . and the Pike are . . the best
of fresh water fish. 1751 JORTIN *Serm.* (1771) VII. i. 13
Acting according to their best judgement. 1834 SOUTHEY
Doctor Corcix (1862) 532 Best . . in the shopkeeper's vocabu-
lary . . is at the bottom of his scale of superlatives. 1849
MACAULAY *Hist. Eng.* I. 172 The best years of his life.

2. Of persons: Most kind or beneficent. Of per-
sons and things: Most advantageous or suitable for
the object in view; most appropriate or desirable.

a 1000 *Beowulf* 6007 Nu is ofost betost, þæt we beod-
cynig þæt sceawian. a 1240 *Urrisum* 129 in *Lamb. Hom.*
107 Nim nu 3eme to me so me best a beo ðe beo. 1297 R.
GLOUC. 504 To lokki, wat were best to do. a 1300 *Cursor*
M. 5287 He þat til his in nede e beste. 1377 LANGL. *P.*
Pl. B. v. 299 As best is for the soule. 1523 LD. BERNERS
Froiss. i. cv. 126 It was thought nat beste to employ
his people then. 1569 J. ROGERS *Gl. Godly Love* 187 [He]
knoweth what is beste for you. 1605 SHAKS. *Macb.* iii. iv.
4 In best time We will require her welcome. 1716 in *Land.*
Gaz. No. 5445/3 To be sold to the best Purchaser. 1879

LOCKYER *Elem. Astron.* iii. § 28. 157 The best way to ob-
tain a knowledge of the various constellations. *Mod. colloq.*
Which of your brothers is best to you?

3. Largest, most; esp. in best part.

1538 *Little Papers* XI. 49 Twenty nobles, of which I
think he doth owe the best part for his rent. 1647 W.
BROWNE *Poet.* i. 215 The Artillery plaid, the best of an
houre, on both sides. 1697 POTTER *Antiq. Greece* ii. x.
(1715) 293 Fiery foam . . which cover'd the best part of its
natural Azure. 1834 BECKFORD *Italy* II. 265, I . . rode the
best part of the way. 1877 A. B. EDWARDS *Up Nile* xii.
318 The best part of three days.

4. In the idiomatic *I, you*, etc. *had best* (formerly
me were best, afterwards *I were best*): it would be
most advantageous for me, you, etc. For the
history see BETTER.

c 1320 *Lay le Freine* 107 Yete me is best take mi chaunce.
1393 GOWER *Conf.* II. 306 What thing him were best to do.
1483 *Cron. Englonde* (1510) Q6b. He wyste not what he
was beste to do. 1509 FISHER *Fun. Serm.* Wks. 1876 i. 292
Doubtfull in her mynde what she were best to do. 1584 LVLV
Campaspe iv. i. He were best be as cunning as a bee. 1591
SHAKS. *Two Gent.* i. iii. 24 Tell me, whether were I best to
send him? 1611 — *Cymb.* iii. ii. 59 Madam, you're best
consider. 1628 *Powerf. Fav.* 77 Liulia may . . resolve whether
she were best to marry againe. 1636 *Ariana* 102 Ignorant
of what hee was best to doe.

1559 CUNNINGHAM *Cosmogr. Glasse* 61 You had best omit
the worke. c 1590 MARLOWE *Faust* (1st. vers.) ix. Stand
aside, you had best. 1639 MASSINGER *Unnat. Combat* v.
ii. Thou hadst best follow her. 1720 ADDISON *Tatler* No.
221 P. 2 Whether I had best sell my Beetles in a Lump. 1777
GARRICK *Sheridan's Sch. Scand.* Prolog. 21 A certain Lord
had best beware. 1808 SOUTHEY *Lett.* (1856) II. 52 The
'Monthly' must needs be sore, and had best be civil. 1877
MALLOCK *New Rep.* (1878) 145, I had best not give her any.

5. Phrases and locutions. *Best work*: a miner's
term for the best class of ore. Also BEST-MAN.
To put one's best foot or leg foremost: to do one's
best to get on. *To turn the best side outward*:
to make the best appearance possible. *At the
best-hand*: see HAND.

1663 PERYS *Diary* 9 Nov., A conceited man, and one that
would put the best side outward. 1670 COTTON *Espernon*
ii. viii. 364 *Espernon* . . endeavour'd nevertheless all he could
to turn the best side outward. 1840 BARNHAM *Ingol. Leg.*
St. Odille vi. She set off and ran. Put her best leg before.

II. absol. (rarely passing into sb.)

6. pl. (formerly also sing.) The best people.

c 1050 *Ag. Gloss.* in Wt. Wülcker *Voc.* 466 *Præstantissi-
mus*, se betesta, and se fyrmesta. 1091 O. E. *Chron.* (Laud
MS.), Ðas forewarde gesworan xii þa betste of þes cynges
heafle. c 1205 LAV. 707 Brutus þe wes night mid þane
beste. c 1325 E. E. *Allit. P. A.* 279 I-wywe quoth I my
blysfol beste. 1737 POPE *Hor. Epist.* ii. i. 286 Observe how
seldom e'en the best succeed. 1864 TENNYSON *Grandin.*
20 Only at your age, Annie, I could have wept with the best.

7. sing. The best thing, point, circumstance,
element.

c 1275 *Lamb. Hom.* 3 Heo nomen heore clapes and þe beste
þæt heo hefde. 1562 J. HEYWOOD *Prov. & Epigr.* (1867) 166
Proude for the woorst, the best wyll saue it selfe. 1591
SHAKS. *Two Gent.* iii. i. 349 The best is, she hath no teeth
to bite. 1597 DANIEL *Civ. Wares* ii. xxiv. We needes must
take the seeming best of bad. 1654 JENKYN *On Jude* (1845)
30 The best is best cheap. a 1693 KILLIGREW *Chit-chat* i.
i. I confess bad is the best.

b. individualized, or with indef. article a.

c 1600 SHAKS. *Sonn.* xci. All these I better in one generally
best. 1765 TUCKER *Lt. Nat.* I. 617 That unknown best
appointed by divine provision. *Ibid.* The best we may at-
tain by the road of virtue and discretion will be . . a better
best, than any we can arrive at [otherwise]. 1881 *Sports-
man's Year-bk.* 192 [Cortis] has accomplished bests on re-
cord at 10 and 20 miles. 1884 *Christmas Illus. Lond.*
News 19/3 For certainly if I have a best I have not put it on.

8. With possessive. *One's best*: † a. what is best
for one; b. the best one can (do); esp. in *To do
one's best*, formerly, *the best of one's power*.

a 1300 *Cursor M.* 2456 (Götl.), Ðai most nede part to seke
þair beste [Fairf. to do þaire best]. 1423 JAS. I. *Kings Q.*
v. My best was more to luke Vpon the writing of this noble
man. c 1530 LD. BERNERS *Arth. Lyt. Bryt.* (1814) 235, I
shall do the best of my power. 1579 SPENSER *Sheph. Cal.*
May 225 Ne for all his worst, nor for his best Open the dore
at his request. 1585 ABP. SANDYS *Serm.* (1841) 112 When a
man hath done his best, he must then begin againe. 1590
SHAKS. *Mids. N.* ii. ii. 145 Do thy best To pluck this crawl-
ing serpent from my breast. 1599 SANDYS *Evropa Spec.* (1637)
247, I have . . also, to my best, avoyded that rashnesse. c 1620
Z. BOYD *Zion's Flowers* (1855) 42 To turne to him's our best.
1733 POPE *Hor. Sat.* ii. vi. 173 He did his best to seem to
eat. 1863 KINGSLEY *Water Bab.* 7 [He] would have done
and behaved his best.

c. Best state, point, or condition.

1571 GOLDING *Calvin on Pt.* xxxix. 6 When man seemeth
to bee at his best, hee is altogether nothing. 1828 STEUART
Plant. Guide 489 Whatever is at its best . . can admit of no
further improvement. 1832 *Athenæum* 197 She was at her
best both as to voice and exertion on Tuesday last. 1871
SMILES *Charac.* i. (1876) 1 It exhibits man at his best.

d. Best clothes.

1790 BURNS *Tam O'Shanter*, It was her best, and she
was vauitie. 1794 SOUTHEY *Bot. Bay Eclog.* 12, To go
to fair I drest . . in my Sunday's best. 1830 GALT *Laurie*
T. v. viii. (1849) 227 Mr. Herbert joined me, also in his
modest best. 1859 JEPHSON *Brittany* xvi. 271 Little family
parties dressed in their Sunday best.

III. Phrases. 9. With verbs.

a. *To have the best* (obs.), *to have the best of it*:
to have the advantage in a contest, or greatest
possible advantage in a transaction, and hence,
the least possible disadvantage or loss; so b. *To*

make the best of. c. To make the best of one's way: to go by the most advantageous route, hence, to go with the greatest possible speed.

a. 1593 SHAKS. 3 *Hen. VI.* v. iii. 20 We haueing now the best at Barnet field. 1647 W. BROWNE *Poet.* ii. 243, I see well that Polexander must have the best. of his Enemies. 1832 MOORE *Wks.* (1862) 561 Those who had the best of the joke. 1846 BROWNING *Luria* l. i, You have so plainly here the best of it. 1871 TYNDALL *Fragm. Sc.* viii. 135 To conclude that the other had the best of it.

b. a 1666 BACON (J.), Carry their commodities where they may make the best of them. 1694 R. LESTRANGE *Fables* (1708) II. 75 Making the Best of a Bad Game. 1836 DICKENS *Sk. Bos.* (C. D. ed.) 36 Accustomed to take things as they came, and to make the best of a bad job. 1868 TROLLOPE *Orley F.* l. (1874) 11 Making the best of it for herself.

c. 1704 ADDISON *Italy* 4 The next Day we again set Sail, and made the best of our way. 1716 *Lond. Gas.* No. 5450/2 Captain Vernon was ordered . . . to make the best of his Way to Sheerness. 1868 FREEMAN *Norm. Cong.* (1876) II. vii. 154 The two brothers made the best of their way towards Bristol.

10. With prepositions:

a. † At the best, at best: at the best possible pitch, in the best possible way, manner, or condition. *Obs.* At best: (taken) in the best circumstances, in the most favourable aspect, making every allowance, at most. At one's best: see 8 c.

c 1325 *Cor de L.* 132 The wynd . . . servede hem atte best. c 1386 CHAUCER *Prolog.* 20 And wel we weren esed atte beste [v. r. at the best]. c 1399 *Pol. Poems* (1859) II. 6 To sterve peace oghte every man alyve. . . Forso this world mai stonden ate beste. 1485 CAXTON *Trevisa's Higden* l. xxx. (1527) 31 Of whichen cleye men make erthen vessell at beste. 1586 COGAN *Haven Health* (1636) 169 Shell fishes be at the best when the moon increaseth, as the Poet Horace noteth. 1604 SHAKS. *Oth.* l. iii. 171 Good Brabantio, take up this mangled matter at the best.

1609 H. BURTON *Truth's Tri.* 133 Our inherent righteousness, call it Christs merits, or what you will, is at the best but as *Piscis in arido*. 1645 QUARLES *Sol. Recant.* iii. 48 Thy days are ev'ill at best. 1728 DE FOE *Col. Jack* (1840) 286 Man is a shortsighted creature at best. 1796 BURKE *Regic. Peace Wks.* 1845 IV. 513 'Tis a random shot at best. 1841 MYERS *Cath. Th.* iv. § 19. 276 External Evidence must at the very best be but partial and secondary.

b. For the best: intended for, aiming at, tending to, the best result. † For my, his, etc. best: for my, his, etc. greatest advantage (*obs.*). † For best: finally; cf. 'for good (and all)', 'for better or for worse' (*obs.*).

c 1386 CHAUCER *Meib.* v. 271, I speke for youre beste. — *Frankl. T.* 158 Al is for the best. c 1450 *Why I can't be Nun* 156 in *E. E. Poems* (1862) 142, I hope hyt schalle be for the best. 1593 SHAKS 3 *Hen. VI.* iii. 170, I hope all's for the best. 1607 — *Cor.* iv. vi. 144 That we did we did for the best. 1794 SOUTHEY *Bot. Bay Eclog.* iii. But all's for the best.

a 1674 MILTON (Webster), Those constitutions . . . are now established for best, and not to be mended.

c. In the best = at best (see 10 a).

1608 SHAKS. *Ham.* l. v. 27 Murder most foule, as in the best it is.

d. Of the best: of the best quality or sort.

c 1400 *Antur of Arth.* lv. Boke-lornut byrnens and bischoppus of the beste. 1608 C. CROKER *Fairy Leg.* 431 After a supper which was of the best, they embarked.

e. To the best: in the best sense, for the best. (*obs.*) Also, To the utmost effort or extent (of one's power, knowledge, belief, etc.).

1593-4 *Act 19 Hen. VII.* xxxiv. Pream., To helpe and assiste hym to the best of their power. 1531 TINDALE *Exp. & Notes* (1849) 175 He taketh it to the best, and is not offended. 1843 C. BRONTË in *Life* (1857) l. 290 She . . . will always serve you . . . to the best of her abilities. 1863 J. KEMBLE *Resid. Georgia* 132 To the best of his belief. 1885 *Law Rep.* XIV. Q. Bench Div. 891 There was no such inspector to the best of our knowledge.

B. *adv.* Superlative of WELL.

1. With *vs.* In the most excellent way, in the most eminent degree; in the most suitable manner, with the greatest advantage, to the fullest extent. (For the *obs.* *alder-best*, best of all, see ALL.)

c 888 K. ALFRED *Boeth.* ii, Ða bereafodon ælcere lust-hærnesse þa ða ic him æfre betst truwoðe. a 1067 *Chart. Eadweard in Cod. Dipl.* IV. 203 Swa freolice swa hit ic meself betst habbe. c 1175 *Lamb. Hom.* 7 Penne þu wenest þu scalt libben alre best. c 1205 LAY. 26606 Þe bezt [1250 best] þat lond cneowen. c 1380 WYCLIF *De Dot. Eccl. Sel.* Wks. III. 433 Ensample of sicche deds exponeþ best Cristis lawe. c 1400 *Sir Amadace* xl, He that furst is inne the feld, And best thenne justus thare. 1596 SPENSER *F. Q.* ii. i. 59 But after death the tryall is to come, When best shall be to them, that liued best. 1602 T. SCOTT *Four Parad.* in *Farr's S. P.* II. 315 He that knowes the best, knowes nought at all. 1615 BRATHWAIT *Lone's Labyr.* (1878) 276 A Countrie lasse best fits a Countrie Swaine. c 1655 MILTON *Sonn.* xix, Who best Bear his mild yoke, they serve him best. c 1680 BEVERIDGE *Serm.* 1729 l. 358 Cannot but . . . believe it to be well done, yea the best that could be. 1715 BURNET *Oron Times* (1823) l. 391 He excused himself the best he could. 1797 COLERIDGE *Anc. Mar.* vii. xxiii, He prayeth best, who loveth best All things both great and small. 1843 MACAULAY *Ess.* (1850) 686 The man who does best what multitudes do well.

2. With *adjs.* and *pples.* written (for syntactical distinctness) with the hyphen.

a. In the most excellent manner; as, *best-aimed*, *best-bred*, *best-built*, *best-conducted*, *best-considered*, *best-consulted* (most prudent, or best-advised), *best-cultivated*, *best-dressed*, *best-established*, *best-grounded*, *best-laid*,

best-looking, *best-made*, *best-managed*, *best-meaning* (most well-meaning), *best-moving*, *best-preserved*, *best-trained*, etc.

1588 SHAKS. *L. L. L.* ii. 29 We single you As our best-mouing faire solicitor. a 1659 OSBORN *Oberr. Turks* (1673) 288 Queen Elizabeth . . . the best consulted Monarch that ever killed the English Throne. 1711 SHAFTESBURY *Charac.* II. 327 The best-meaning person in the world may err. 1762 HUMF. *Eng.* (1806) V. lxx. 253 Multitudes struck with the best-grounded terror. 1765 TUCKER *Lt. Nat.* II. 155 Counter to the clearest best-established principles of reason. 1785 BURNS *To Mouse* vii, The best-laid schemes o' mice an' men Gang aft agley. 1790 BEATSON *Nat. & Mil. Mem.* 241 To frustrate all our best-laid plans. 1794 COLERIDGE *Relig. Musings* 119 In her best-aimed blow Victorious murder a blind suicide. 1837 LOCKHART *Scott* (1839) VIII. 12 The best looking of her daughters. 1844 MARG. FULLER *Wom.* 19th C. (1862) 147 The best-considered efforts have often failed. 1856 *Farmer's Mag.* Nov. 384 The prizes given . . . for the best regulated farms. 1863 LYTTEL *Antiq. Man* 69 The best-preserved human skulls.

b. To the fullest extent, most: forming comb. differing little from ordinary superlatives; now usually written with the hyphen; as, *best-accomplished*, *best-beloved*, *best-esteemed*, *best-frequented*, *best-known*, *best-loved*, *best-read*, *best-skilled*, etc.; including many *obs.* or arch. uses, as *best able*, *best agreeable*, *best-betruist* (most to be trusted), *best-learned*, *best-nourishing*, *best-pleasing*, *best-valiant*, *best-worthy*, etc.

c 1435 Torr. *Portugal* 786 Let Torrent her have, For best worthy ys he. 1506 Pilgr. *Perf.* (W. de W. 1531) 17 b, He sente his . . . best beloved sone into this worlde. 1571 ASCHEM *Scholem.* l. (1863) 12 The best learned, and best men. 1579 E. K. in *Spenser's Sheph. Cal.* Gen. Arg. § 2 The vned and best knowne name. 1596 SHAKS. *Merch.* V. ii. 181, I doe feast to-night My best-esteemd acquaintance. 1602 Downfall *Earl Huntington* v. i, And you Lord Ely! and old best-betruist d? 1620 VENNER *Via Recta* iii. 66 They are best agreeable to cholerick bodies. 1622 BACON *Hen. VII.* 124 Best-bee-trust-Spies. 1641 HINDE *J. Bruen* 114 The first and best, and best worthy to bee first. 1685 Orway *Windsor Cast.*, The ugliest snakes, and best lov'd favourites there. 1724 WATERLAND *Eucharist* (1737) 41 The generality of the best learned Men interpret it of the Eucharist. 1742 JARVIS *Quix.* l. i. vii, To give me what I am best able to bear. 1844 MARG. FULLER *Wom.* 19th C. (1862) 56 Binding the emblem of faith on the heart of the best-beloved. 1866 G. MACDONALD *Ann. Q. Neigh.* viii. (1878) 128 Will better know what is best to know than the best-read bishop. 1872 JENKINSON *Guide Eng. Lakes* (1879) 4 One of the best-frequented houses in the district.

c. In parasyntetic comb. (where the hyphen is always used), meaning 'having the best thing of its kind'; as, *best-conditioned*, i. e. *best condition* + *ed*, having or being in the best condition; so *best-graced*, *best-humoured*, *best-intentioned*, *best-minded*, *best-natured*, *best-policed*, *best-principled*, *best-resolved*, *best-sighted*, *best-tempered*, etc. *Best-graced* (1580), *best-tempered* (1594), may really belong to a., but lead to such as *best-minded* (1586), *best-natured* (1690).

1580 SIDNEY *Arcadia* 144 One of the propprest and best-graced men that euer I sawe. a 1586 — in *Farr's S. P.* I. 75 Least the best minded . . . Bend to abuses. 1594 T. B. La *Primad.* *Fr. Acad.* ii. 381 Those natures that are most moderate and best tempered. 1607 Bp. HALL *Char. Virtues & V.* 174 Blind in no mans cause, best-sighted in his owne. 1690 NORRIS *Beatitudes* (1692) 134 He had the Best-natured . . . Soul in the World. 1774 GOLDSM. *Retal. Postscr.*, Thou best humoured man with the worst humoured muse. 1789 M. HUBER in *Ld. Auckland's Corr.* (1861) II. 326 The two best-intentioned . . . of their order. 1840 CARLYLE *Heroes* vi. 369 The best-conditioned of kings! 1863 J. JEAFFRESON *Sir Everard's Dan.* 208 The best-natured fellow alive.

3. With agent-nouns, as *best-wisher* (cf. *well-wisher*).

1876 MISS YONGE *Womankind* viii. 58 Their best wishers are thankful if half are lost.

Best (best), *v.* *collog.* [f. prec. Of dialectal origin, from the idea of 'getting the better of,' 'having the best of it'; but the form is hardly in accordance with the sense, which is nearly equivalent to the existing vb. *to worst*, i. e. 'to make worst, put to the worst'; cf. also *to better*, to make better, improve.] *trans.* To get the better of, get an advantage over, outdo; to outreach, outwit, circumvent.

1863 TRAFFORD *World in Ch.* II. 77 As I am a staunch Churchman I cannot stand quiet and see the Dissenters best the Establishment. 1885 *May in Fortn. Rev.* Oct. 578 The quack broker who piles up money by besting his clients.

Best, *obs.* f. BEAST; *obs.* Sc. f. *based*, see BASE v. 1; *obs.* 2nd. sing. indic. of BE v.

† **Bestad**, *-stadde*, *v.* *Obs.* Earlier form of BESTED *pa. pple.* Used only in passive voice; but by Spenser made a *pa. t.* and active pple. = BESER. 1579 E. K. in *Spenser's Sheph. Cal.* Aug. 7 What the soule euill hath thee so bestaded? [*gloss.* disposed, ordered.] 1596 SPENSER *F. Q.* iii. v. 22 But both attonce on both sides him bestad.

Bestab, **bestamp**, etc.: see BE-*pref.*

Bestail (le, *obs.* form of BESTIAL sb. 1)

Bestain (bistān), *v.* [f. BE- + STAIN v.]

trans. To stain (a thing) over its surface, to mark with stains. Hence *Bestained* *ppl. a.*

1559 *Mirr. Mag.* 360 (R.), His skin with blood and teares so sore bestain'd. 1595 SHAKS. *John* iv. iii. 24 We will not lyne his thin bestained cloake With our pure Honors. 1869 BALDWIN *Brown Div. Myst.* l. iv. 93 The blood-drops that bestain his steps. 1877 PLUMPTRE *Sopl xles* 133 With his spears all blood-bestained.

† **Bestand**, *v.* *Obs.* For forms see STAND. [Com. Teut.: OE. *bestanden* = OS. *bistān* (Du. *bestaan*), OHG. *bistān*, *pistantan* (MHG. *bestān*, *bestēn*, mod.G. *bestehen*), Goth. (and OTeut.) *bistandan*, f. bi-, BE- about + *standan* to stand.]

1. *trans.* To stand by or near; to stand over (in solicitude); *esp.* to stand by (the dead), to mourn for. Also *absol.*

c 1000 ALFRIC *Gosp.* xxiii. 2 Abraham hig bestod on þa ealdan wisan. c 1250 *Owl & Night.* 1438 He cumeþ and fareþ and beod and bid, And heo bistan [v. r. bistarte] and oversit. c 1250 *Gen. & Ex.* 3857 Dor was Moyses sister dead; Ðat folc . . . after wune faire hire bisted Mid teres.

2. To stand round in hostility; to beset, press hard upon, harass.

c 1000 *Ag. Gosp.* John x. 24 Ða bestodon [c 1160 *Hattou* be-stoden] þa iudeas hyne utan. c 1205 LAY. 30323 Swa bið a bar wilde . . . biston den mid hunden. c 1320 *Sir Tristr.* l. xxxiv, Stormes hem bistede. 1470-85 MALORY *Arthur* (1816) II. 417 In all my life was I never thus bestood. *Ibid.* II. 466 He is full straitly bestood with a false traitor.

3. To surround, encompass (as a wall, water, etc.). c 1205 LAY. 23726, I þan aitonde þat mid watere is bistonde. *Ibid.* 27175 Ich wate a werc mid wundere bi-stonde.

Bestar (bistān), *v.* [f. BE- + STAR.] *trans.* To spangle or adorn as with stars.

1612 SYLVESTER *Trophies Wks.* (1877-80) 274 (D.), O lady-cow, Thou shalt no more bestar thy wanton brow With thine eyes rayes. 1851 S. Judd *Marg.* iii. (1871) 398 The dandelions that bestar the grass.

Bestare, **bestay**, etc.: see BE-*pref.*

Bestarred (bistārd), *ppl. a.* [f. prec. + -ED.]

1. Spangled or studded as with stars.

c 1655 MENNIS *Oberon's Appar.* in *Arb. Garner* l. 18 A rich mantle . . . Bestarred over with a few Diamond drops of morning dew. 1876 BLACK *Madcap V.* xlv. 390 Sheltered woods, bestarred with anemones.

2. Decorated with the star of an order.

1860 *All V. Round No.* 52. 34 The bestarred . . . jewelled . . . throng. 1861 SALA *Tw. round Clock* 298 A crowd of . . . bestarred and be-ribboned ministers.

3. *Ill-bestarred*, for the more usual *ill-starred*.

a 1834 COLERIDGE *Charac.*, Alas poor Bird! and ill-bestarred.

Beste, earlier form of BEAST sb. and v. Still often used in sense 8.

1874 H. H. GIBBS *Ombre* 35 When the Ombre loses bodille, his loss is the same as if he had been Bested. *Ibid.* 37 If the Defender is bested, there are of course two Bestes to be paid.

Bestead (bistēd), *v.* 1 Also 7 *bested*, *-sted*. *Pa. t.* *besteaded*. *Pa. pple.* 6 *bestedde*, 9 *bested*, *bestead*. [f. BE- + STEAD v. 1 to prop, support, help.]

1. *trans.* To help, assist, relieve.

1581 SIR H. SAVILE *Tacitus* iii. xxxii. (1591) 133 They were thought to haue bestedde and helped Vitellius side. 1607 R. PERROT *Jacobs Vow* 56 Better able by his purse . . . to bestead his neighbours, than they him. 1665 FULLER *Worthies* (1840) l. 520 Who besteaded him with the kings favour. 1874 HOLLAND *Mistr. Manse* xxi. 96 Sapphire nought without the red, Ruby still by blue bested.

2. To be of service or use to; to avail.

1589 Sir F. Drake's *Voy. W. Ind.* (R.) Great store of dry Newfoundland fish . . . did very greatly bestead us. 1669 WOODHEAD *St. Teresa* ii. xix. 128 At nights . . . our mantles of thick Cloth which many times besteaded us. 1805 SOUTHEY *Madoc in Ast.* xv, Little did then his pomp of plumes bestead The Azteca . . . Against the tempered sword. 1865 CLOUGH in *Macm. Mag.* Aug. 321 Thou vain Philosophy! Little hast thou bestead, Save to perplex the head.

† **Bestead**, *v.* 2 *Obs.* [f. BE- + STEAD sb. place.] To go instead of, take the place of.

1596 NASHE *Saffron Wald.* 111 Hys missing of the Vniuersitie Oratorship, wherein Doctor Perne besteaded him.

† **Bestea**, *v.* *Obs.* For forms see STEAL.

[OE. *bestelan*, f. BE- + *stelan* to STEAL. Parallel compounds in the other mod. Teut. langs. are Du. *bestelen*, Ger. *bestehlen*, Da. *bestjæle*, Sw. *bestjåla*, all meaning 'to steal, rob.'] *intr.* (and *refl.*) To steal or move stealthily (*away* or *on*).

a 725 *Laws of Ina* § 39 (Bosw.), Gif hwa on oðre scire hine bestele. c 893 K. ALFRED *Oros.* l. x. § 4 And þa nihtes on ungarwe hion bestæl. c 1175 *Moral Ode* 15 in *Lamb. Hom.* 161 Elde me is bistolen on, er ich hit wiste. c 1380 *Sir Ferumb.* 3876 On of hem . . . ys by-stole awaye. 1597 DOWLAND *Lyrics* in *Arb. Garner* IV. 47 Worn soul! That living dies, till thou on me bestoule!

Bested, **bestead** (bistēd), *pa. pple.* Forms:

2-3 *bistaded*, *-et*, 3-5 *bistad*, 4 *bisted*, 4-5 *bestedd* (e, 4-6 *bestadd* (e, 4-7 *bestad*, 5 *bistadde*, *bystedde*, *-stade*, 6 *bestade*, 6- *bestead*, 8- *bested*. [ME. *bistad*, f. bi-, BE- 2 + *stad*, later *sted*, 'placed,' a. ON. *staddr* *pa. pple.* of *stedia* to stop, place: see STED v. and *pa. pple.* (ME. had also *bistaded*, ultimately f. ON. *stadr* 'place,' which might itself have become *stad*: cf. history of *clad*.)

The later spelling *bestead* is merely due to analogy. cf. *BESTAD* v. and *STEAD* sb. Hence Spenser's *BESTAD* *pa. t.* and *pa. pple.*]

† 1. Placed, located, situated. *Obs.*

a 1300 *Cursor M.* 5254 Qua-so had ben be-stadd þat day, And had þat suete meting sene. *Ibid.* 1045 Now adam is in erþe bi stad. c 1300 in Wright *Lyric* P. xi. 38 Of al this world namore y had Then beo with hire myn one bistad. c 1430 *Syr. Tryam.* 1461 In worlde where ever he be bestedd.

† 2. Settled, constituted, arranged. *Obs.*

c 1300 in Wright *Lyri.* P. xii. 41 So hit wes bistad, That

nomon hem ne bad huere lomes to fonde. *a 1400 Cov. Myst.* 77 We xal make us so mery, now this is bestad.

† **3.** Set about, set *with* (ornaments), etc. *Obs.* Cf. **BESSET**, **BELAY**.

1558 PHAER *Aeneid* v. Miv b, A harneys coat... with heavy hookes of gold bestad.

4. **Beset** *by* (formerly *with*, enemies), *with* (danger, fears, troubles).

1303 R. BRUNNE *Handl. Synne* 3365 Wyf hys enmys he was bestedde. 1393 GOWER *Conf.* i. 77 For he with love was bestad. 1493 *Festivall* (W. de W. 1515) 6 Bestad with dethe on euery syde. 1598 R. BERNARD *Terence's Andria* iii. v. See you not how I am bested by your devices. 1616 *Manifest. Abp. Spalato's Motives* App. iii. 2 Bested with feare of a more mortall blow. 1839 GLEIG *Only Dan.* (1859) 103 Bested by the dangers of a Highland sheep-track.

5. Placed in some situation, situated, circumstanced; generally *with ill*, and the like. *To be hard bested*: to be hard put to it, hard pressed.

a 1225 Ancr. R. 264 Hwon we beoð so bistaðed & so stronge bistonden. *c 1330 R. BRUNNE Chron.* (1810) 190 Pe brid eschele full he was bisted. *c 1400 Epiph.* (Turnb. 1843) 145 On the all women wyl call When thei with chylde ben by stedde. *a 1420 Occleve De Reg. Princ.* 704 There rekethe none how harde I be bystade. 1523 L.D. BERNERS *Proiss.* i. cccxviii. 690 They that were lefte behynde were hardly bestadde. 1593 SHAKS. *2 Hen. VI.* ii. iii. 56, I never saw a fellow worse bestad. 1596 SPENSER *F. Q.* vi. i. 4 On his way, Upon an hard adventure sore bestad. *a 1618 J. DAVIES in Farr's S. P.* (1845) i. 247 Since by ill we are so well bestad, We cannot greeue for ill. 1730 T. BOSTON *Mem.* App. 49 Luther found himself hardly bested in the several conflicts within his own breast. *a 1850 Rossetti Dante & Circ.* i. (1874) 157 Poor barque, so ill bested! 1881 SHARP *Asp. Poetry* vi. 166 Men of his kind... are often sore bestad.

† **6.** In an evil sense, without an adverb expressing it: *To be in trouble*, to be hard pressed; to be 'in hard plight set' (*Promp. Parv.*). *Obs.*

1393 GOWER *Conf.* iii. 194 When they ben glad I shall be glad, And sory when they ben bestad. *c 1400 Rom. Rose* 1227 Were a man for his bistade, She wolde ben right sore adradde. 1513 DOUGLAS *Aeneid* x. xi. 16 All efford of thy fatal dreidfull wordis I am bestad. 1587 TURBERN *Trag. Tales* (1837) 104 Shee was bestad, when that at last she sawe Gentile there.

Besteer, **bestenoh**, etc.: see **BE-pref.**

Besteill, *obs. form of BESTIAL.*

† **Bestented**, *ppl. a. Obs. rare*—1. [*f. BE-2 + STENT v.*] Distended.

1648 HERRICK *Hesper.*, *Overon's Feast*, The sag And well bestented bees sweet bag.

Bester (*bestar*). *slang.* [*f. BEST v. + -ER*.] One who gets the better of others by fraudulent means: a sharper.

1862 MAYHEW *Crim. Prisons* 46 'Bouncers and besters, who cheat by laying wagers.'

Bestial (*bestial*), *sb.* 1 *Obs. exc. Sc.* Forms: 4 *beestaille*, 4-5 *bestayle*, -lle, 4-7 *bestaile*; also 5-7 *beastial*, *bestiall* (e, -yal), (7 *beastal*, *bestuall*), 8 *bestail*, -eill, 6- *bestial*. (*As sing.* 6 *bestyll*.) [Two forms: a. *ME. bestaile*, a. *OF. bestaile* (*sing. fem.*):—*L. bestialia*, used in late *L.* in sense of *L. pecudes* cattle, beasts of the farm, pl. neut. of *bestialis* adj. (see below), *f. bestia* BEAST; *B. mod. Eng.* and *Sc. bestial*, a. *OF. bestial* (still in 17th c., now dial.), *sing. of mod. F. bestiaux*, later substantive use of *bestial* adj., ad. *L. bestialis*.]

1. A collective term for domestic animals, especially of the bovine kind, kept for food or tillage. It took the place of the *OE. foh*, *ME. fee*; and has, since 17th c., been displaced in England by *cattle*, but is retained in Scotland as a legal and technical word of the farm.

a. a 1300 Cursor M. 2444 Be-twix him and loth his newow Of bestaile (*Coll. fee, Fair*; *bestayle*, *Trin. beestaille*) hade þai plente enow. 1393 GOWER *Conf.* ii. 138 And that they shulde also forth drawe Bestaile. 1433 E. E. Wills (1882) 95 Alle the meuable Cattell of bestall that y haue in Sussex. 1481 EARL WORC. *Tulle on Friendsch.* Cjb, To gete them grete plente of bestaylle. (1607 COWELL has *Bestaile*; 1698 PHILLIPS *Bestial*; 1791 BAILEY *Bestial*; *obs.*)

B. a 1470 TIRTOFT Cesar xiii. (1530) 18 There was found a great number of bestyall. *c 1470 HENRY Wallace* iii. 5 Als bestiall... Weyle helypt ar be wyken of natur. 1510 *Act 1 Hen. VIII.* xx. § 1 Every maner of fresche fysshe, bestyall and wyne. 1611 SPED *Hist. Gt. Brit.* ix. xv. 41 Leaving the Country bare of men and bestiall. 1631 HEVLIN *Sabbath* ii. (1636) 171 Hee might... kill and skinne his bestiall which were fit for sale. *a 1670 SPALDING Troub. Chas. I.* (1829) 96 They... lived royally upon the corns and bestial of the said ground. 1808 SCOTT *F. M. Perth* i. 22 It is not my business where they get the bestial, so I get the hides. 1833 *Act 3 & 4 Will. IV.* xlv. § 83 No person shall drive cattle or bestial of any description on Sunday through... such burgh.

2. A single beast; (with *plural*.)

c 1430 LYDG. iv. in *Cleveland Wks.* (1687) 388 Void of Discretion that other Bestial. *a 1450 Knt. de la Tour* (1868) 103 Alle his bestailes and riches. 1566 J. HEYWOOD *Prov. & Epigr.* (1867) 56 A good bestyll is worth a grote. 1670 BLOUNT *Law Dict.*, *Bestials*, Beasts or Cattle of any sort... generally and properly used for all kind of Cattle. 1725 BRADLEY *Fam. Dict.*, *Besteills*. *a 1788 MICKLE Ode* i. (R.) No joy, no hope it knows Above what bestials claim. 1813 SIMMOND'S *Lit. Eur.* (1846) ii. xxxviii. 523 And each lulled in his shade, The bestials sleep. 1863 J. KEBLE *Bp. Wilson* viii. 280 The produce of the island, their 'bestials' especially.

† **Bestial**, *sb.* 2 *Obs. Sc.* [*Erron. form of bestaille*, -aile: see **BASTILLE** 2a.; prob. after the sub-

stitution of *bestial* for *bestaille* in prec. word.] A wooden tower used in sieges.

c 1470 HENRY Wallace vii. 977 Ramsay gert byg strang bestials (*ed. 1570 bestailles*) off tre. *Ibid.* xi. 877 On the north syd his bestials had he wrocht.

Bestial (*bestial*), *a.* Forms: 4-7 *bestyall* (e, -iall), 6 *beestyal*, 6-8 *beastial* (l, (7 *beastual*), 5- *bestial*. [*ME.*: a. *OF. bestial* (13th c. in Littré), ad. *L. bestial*-is like a beast, *f. bestia* beast.]

1. Of or belonging to the lower animals, esp. four-footed beasts.

1393 GOWER *Conf.* i. 140 To take a mannes hert aweie And sette there a bestiall, So that he lich an oxe shall Pasture. 1470 HARDING *Chron.* xxxvi. Morille, Kyng of Britaine, was slayne... with a fysshe bestyall of the sea. 1528 PAYNELL *Salerno Regim.* Oijb, Bestiall fysshe as the see swyne, dogge fysshe, and dolphin. 1549 *Compl. Scot.* vi. 64 The scheip and nolt... pronounceth ther bestiall voce. 1607 TORSELL *Four-f. Beasts* (1673) 29 At length her parents... found their little Daughter in the Bears den, who delivered her from that savage and bestiall captivity. 1687 DRYDEN *Hind & P.* i. 167. 1706 PHILLIPS *S. V.*, Bestial Signs of the Zodiack are Aries, Taurus, Leo, and Capricornus. 1709 STEELE *Tatler* No. 49 P. 3 A Satyr; of Shape, part Humane, part Bestial. 1831 CARLYLE *Sart. Res.* i. v, Lurking for his bestial or human prey.

2. *transf.* Like a beast in its want of intelligence; 'below the dignity of reason or humanity' (J.); brutish, untaught, irrational; rude, barbarous.

1400 MANDEV. xxii. 224 They weren but bestyalle folk, and didnen no thing but kepten Bestes. *c 1400 Rom. Rose* 6718 If a man be so bestiall, That he of no craft hath science. 1484 CAXTON *Chyvalry* 16 They gyue doctryne to the peple laye and bestiall. 1538 STARKER *England* 10 Men were brought from their rudenes and bestyall lyfe to thys cyvylyte. 1547 BAULWIN *Mor. Philos.* (Palfr.) ii. 2 There is no nation so savage and bestiall. 1615 G. SANDYS *Trav.* i. 60 To please bestiall Ignorance. 1816 SCOTT *Bl. Dwarf* iv, The slavish and bestial doctrine.

3. *esp.* Like a beast in obeying and gratifying the animal instincts and sensual desires; debased, depraved, lustful, cruel, brutal, beastly, obscene.

1447 BOKENHAM *Scyntys* (1835) 95 That he wold be so bestyal To forsakyn hys glorie pontifical. 1509 BARCLAY *Shyp of Fols* (1570) 245 Thy faythfull fellowe is bestiall dronkenness. 1594 SHAKS. *Rich. III.* iii. v. 80 Bestiall appetite in change of lust. 1755 YOUNG *Centaur* vi. Wks. 1757 IV. 267 The bestiall abyss of a few years' debauch. 1878 S. COX *Salv. Mundi* i. (ed. 3) 13 Sodom was a synonym for the most utter and bestial corruption.

4. *quasi-sb.* The nature of a beast or animal.

1667 H. MORE *Div. Dial.* iii. § 24 (1713) 238 That more full and sensible Sweetness of the Animal or Bestial. 1878 B. TAYLOR *Deukalion* i. iv. 36, I see the bestial, base unpurified, Its hideous features smeared with filth and blood.

Bestialism. [*f. prec. + -ISM.*] The state or condition of beasts; irrationality.

1871 M. F. ROSSETTI *Shad. Dante* v. 52 That Bestialism which seems to correspond to the Folly of Holy Writ.

Bestialist, *nonce-wd.* One who makes a study of bestiality.

1881 SWINBURNE in *Fortn. Rev.* Feb. 129 The sect or school known among its members as the school of realists, among men at once of sounder and more sensitive organs as the sect of bestialists.

Bestiality (*bestialiti*). [*ME. bestialite*, a. *F. bestialité*: see **BESTIAL** and -ITY.]

1. The nature or qualities of a beast; want of intelligence, irrationality, stupidity, brutality.

c 1374 CHAUCEUR *Troilus* i. 735 For that he [an ass] So dul is in his bestialite. 1563 GRAFTON *Chron. Mary* an. 5 (R.) Espying well the bestiality of the Flemings his neighbours. 1649 MILTON *Eikon.* xviii. Wks. (1851) 468 As Politicians oft times... handle the matter, there hath bin no where found more bestialitie. 1714 ARBUTHNOT, etc. *Mart. Scribl.* (J.) What can be a greater absurdity than to affirm bestiality to be the essence of humanity? 1874 MIVART in *Contemp. Rev.* Oct. 773 The great doctrine concerning the essential Bestiality of Man.

2. Indulgence in the instincts of a beast; brutal lust; *concr.* a disgusting vice, a beastly practice.

a 1656 Br. HALL *Remains* 189 (L.) They tickle themselves with the wanton remembrances of their younger bestialities. 1659 *Gentl. Call.* (1666) 77 The sordid bestialities of the most abject of men. 1710 *Tatler* No. 241 P. 4 The unhappy Consort of his Bestiality. 1728 MORGAN *Algiers* ii. iii. 242 Their Wives and Children... [were] not safe from Bestialities, even in their most retired Apartments.

b. Filthy language, obscenity.

1879 FROUDE *Cesar* xv. 241 Filthy verses... about Clodius and Clodia, ribald bestiality, delightful to the ears of Tully.

† **3.** Unnatural connexion with a beast. *Obs.*

1611 *Bible Lev.* xx. Arg't., Of Sodome. Of Bestialitie. Of uncleanness. 1649 DRUMM. or HAWTH. *Fam. Ep.* Wks. (1711) 143 A poor miserable fellow accused of bestiality. 1765 GOLDSMITH *Ess.* xiv. P. 5 Bestiality [was] sanctified by the amours of Jupiter.

† **4.** = **BESTIAL sb.** 1 *Obs.*

1549 *Compl. Scot.* vi. 43 To keep bestialite and to manure corne landis. *Ibid.* 44 Paris... vas an scheiphird, and kept bestialite on monthy ydea.

Bestialize (*bestialize*), *v.* [*f. BESTIAL a. + -IZE.*] *trans.* To change into the form or nature of a beast; to brutalize, debase in character. Hence **Bestialized**, **Bestializing** *ppl. a.*

1684 CHARNOCK *Attrib. of God* (1834) i. 231 The most famous guides of the heathen world... bestialized him [God] in the form of a brute. 1751 *Phil. Lett. Physign.* 87 (T.) Humanity is debased and bestialized where it is otherwise. 1845 *Edin. Rev.* July 11 While he bestializes men and

humanizes beasts, he is a great moralist. 1866 FELTON *Anc. & Mod. Gr.* i. vii. 114 Circe and her enchanting bestializing cup.

† **Bestiallich**, *a. Obs.* [*f. BESTIAL sb. or a. + lich*, *OE. -lic*: see -LY 1.] = **BESTIAL a.** 1.

c 1400 Test. Loue ii. (R.) These liues be thorow names departed in three maner of kinds as bestialliche, manlyche, and reasonable.

Bestially (*bestiali*), *adv.* Also 5 *bestyally*, 7 *bestially*. [*f. as prec. + -LY 2.*] In the manner of a beast or brute; brutishly, brutally.

c 1440 Gesta Rom. xlv. 411 Bestialle men that leuyn bestially. 1640 *Case Ship Money* 23 Why the French Pesants are so beggarly, wretched, and bestially used. 1679 J. SMITH in *Jenison Narr. Popish Plot* 48 How inhumanely and bestially... they dyed. [1755 in JOHNSON; and in mod. Dicts.]

† **Bestian**, *a. Obs.* Also 7-8 *beastian*. [*f. L. bestia*, BEAST + -AN.] Of or belonging to the 'Beast' of the Apocalypse (cf. **BEAST** 7). **Bestianism**, the power of the Beast; **Bestianize**, to be a follower of the 'Beast.'

1652 CULVERWELL *White Stone* (1661) 134 This Bestian Empire, (for so 'tis stild in the Revelation), delights only in sensuals, and strikes at spirituals. 1666 H. MORE *Myst. Godl.* 208 It does not follow, because the number of the Beast is not upon us, that we do not Bestianize. 1691 BEVERLEY *Mem. Kingd. Christ.* 9 Even as if it were the Beastian Power. 1701 — *Apoc. Quest.* 30 The Life, and Beastianism, Idolatrous Supremacy, shift from one Head to another.

Bestiarian (*besti'arian*). Also *beast-*. [*f. as prec. (by Prof. Owen) after humanitarian.*] A name given to anti-vivisectionists, as 'friends of the beast.' **Bestiarianism**, the principles of those who uphold the 'rights of animals.'

1882 OWEN *Exper. Phys.* 56 The advantage of signifying the second group to which my present work relates by the word 'bestiarian.' *Ibid.* 57 That arises from abuse of true bestiarianism. 1883 *Amer. Naturalist* Feb. 175 The anti-vivisectionists, or bestiarians.

Bestiary (*bestiari*). [*ad. L. bestiarius* 'a fighter with beasts in the public spectacles,' and *med. L. bestiarius* a menagerie, also 'liber de bestiis compositus,' etc., *f. bestia* beast: see -ARY.]

† **1.** A beast-fighter in the Roman amphitheatre. (*L. bestiarius*). *Obs.*

1645 T. GODWIN *Rom. Antiq.* 20 The Amphitheatre was full of hollow passage... for the convenient keeping of wilde beasts, and bestiaries.

2. A treatise on beasts: applied to the moralizing treatises written during the Middle Ages.

[1834 *Gentl. Mag.* CIV. i. 190 The Bestiary in the Ashmolean library.] 1840 WRIGHT *Relig. Antiq.* i. 208 (*title*) A Bestiary. 1865 — *Hist. Caricat.* vi. (1875) 95 The earliest Bestiaries, or popular treatises on natural history. 1871 *Sacristy* i. 71 The Bestiaries... are natural histories of animals treated so that the peculiarities of animals shall convey a wholesome moral.

† **Bestiate**, *v. Obs.* Also 7 *beastiate*. [*f. L. bestia* beast + -ATE.] To bestialize.

1648 FELTHAM *Resolves* i. lxxxiv. (1647) 259 Drunkenness... bestiates even the bravest spirits. 1699 *Junius Sin Stigmat.* 235 (L.) Drunkenness bestiates the heart. 1655 R. YOUNGE *Agst. Drunkards* 5.

Bestick (*bestik*), *v.* [*f. BE-1 and 4 + STICK v.*] Chiefly in pa. pple. *bestuck*.

1. *trans.* To stick about, to cover all over; to bedeck, adorn. Also *fig.*

1623 H. HOLLAND in *Shaks. Wks.* (1st folio) Pref. Verses, That coffin now besticke those bayes, Which crown'd him Poet first. 1698 FEVER in *Phil. Trans.* XX. 340 The Rocks... are bestuck with Oyster-Shells. 1838 HAWTHORNE *Amer. Note-Bks.* (1871) i. 117 Coats of linen covered with pitch and bestuck with flax.

2. To pierce through, transfix.

1667 MILTON *P. L.* xii. 536 Truth shall retire, Bestuck with slandrous darts. 1823 LAMB *Elia* (1860) 106 No emblem is so common as... the bestuck and bleeding heart.

Bestill (*bestil*), *v.* [*f. BE-2 + STILL v.*] *trans.* To make quiet, to still, to hush.

1770 ARMSTRONG *Imit.* 80 Each brook that wont to prattle to its banks Lies all bestilled. *a 1848 A. CUNNINGHAM* *Elig. Ode* (R.) Commerce bestill'd her many-nationed tongue. 1871 G. MACDONALD *Wks. Fancy & Imag.* II. 107 The solemn looks, the awful place, Bestill the mother's joy.

† In the following the quartos and mod. edd. read *distilled*; but it may belong to this with the sense 'made motionless, stiffened, congealed.'

1608 SHAKS. *Ham.* i. ii. 204 Whilst they bestill'd Almost to Jelly with the Act of feare, Stand dumbe and speake not.

Bestinch, **bestink**, etc.: see **BE-pref.**

† **Bestious**, *a. Obs. rare*—1. In 5 *bestyous*. [*f. L. bestia* BEAST + -OUS.] Beast-like, monstrous.

1470 HARDING *Chron.* xxxvi. Then come fro the Yrishe sea, A bestyous fysshe.

Bestir (*besti*), *v.* For forms see **STIR**. [*OE. bestyrian*, *f. BE-2 + styrian* to **STR.**]

† **1.** To heap or pile (a thing) about *with*. (*OE.*) *c 890 K. ALFRED* *Bada* iii. ii. (Bosw.) His þegnas mid moldan hit bestyredon and gefestnedon.

2. To stir up, 'to put into vigorous action' (J.). *a. refl.* To begin to move actively, to manifest activity, to busy oneself.

c 1300 K. Alis. 3078 Alle they wolde heom bysteorre, Agayns him with ryght to weorre. *c 1330 Arth. & Merl.* 6248 Bestir the and hardliche fight. 1393 GOWER *Conf.* 104

III. 295 The shipmen stood in such a fere. Was none that might him self bestere. 1581 J. BELL *Haddon's Answ.* Osor. 512 Not much otherwise this good man Osorius here doth besturre himselfe agaynst the Lutherans. 1611 BIBLE 2 Sam. v. 24 Then thou shalt bestirre thy selfe. 1767 FORDYCE *Serm. Yng. Wom.* I. vi. 215 She bestirs herself with the utmost activity. 1838 H. T. MARTINEAU *Weal & Woe* i. 11 Just bestir yourself to plant your potatoes. 1867 SMILES *Huguenots Eng.* vi. (1880) 93 The townspeople .. bestirred themselves in aid of the poor refugees.

b. trans. To rouse into activity, make active. *To bestir one's stumps* (obs.): to move one's limbs actively, to exert oneself: see STIR.

1549 COVERDALE *Erasm. Par. Heb.* xii. 1 Bestyre youre werye handes. 1579 GOSSON *Sch. Abuse* 41 The duty of every man in a common wealth one way or other to bestirre his stumps. 1581 J. BELL *Haddon's Answ.* Osor. 407 This raunyng Rhetorician besturreth his stumps so earnestly. 1605 SHAKS. *Leas* ii. ii. 58 No Maruel, you haue so bestird your valour. 1663 GERBIER *Counsel* 59 Bestirring their Hand and Tools. 1873 BROWNING *Red Cott. Night-c.* 178 More need that heirs, His natural protectors, should assume The management, bestir their cousinship.

c. intr. 1610 SHAKS. *Temp.* I. i. 3 Speake to th' Mariners: fall too't, yarely, or we run our selues a ground, bestirre, bestirre.

3. To move, stir, agitate (a thing).

1813 BYRON *Gaius* 377 Methought Some motion from the current caught Bestird it more.

Bestirring (bĕst'ir'ing), *vbl. sb.* [f. prec. + -ING¹.] Movement, motion, emotion.

1340 *Aeneid*. 263 De wyl of skele, to huam be-longeh moche mayne, postes and his besterirge. 1674 N. FAIRFAX *Bulk & Selv.* 154 The tiny bestirring of the least atoms.

Bestirring, *ppl. a.* [f. as prec. + -ING².] Moving, actuating.

1668 RUTHERFORD *Lett.* iii. (1862) I. 40 The bestirring power of the life of God.

Best man (best mæn'). [Of Scotch origin.] The groomsmen or 'friend of the bridegroom' at a wedding. So **Best maid** Sc., the bridesmaid or chief bridesmaid.

1814 *Discipline* III. 21 (JAM.) Mr. Henry was the best man himself. 1823 ELIZA ACTON *St. Johnstown* III. 90 (JAM.) The two bridegrooms entered, accompanied each by his friend, or best man, as this person is called in Scotland. 1861 S. LYONS *Claudia & P.* 170 Whether they had any bridesmaids; whether there was a best man.

Bestness (bestnēs). [f. BEST + -NESS.] The quality of being best.

1557 CHEKE *Lett. in Ascham's Scholem.* (Arb.) Pref. 5, I am verie curious in mi freendes matters, not to determinj, but to debaat what is best. Whearin, I seek not the bestnes haplie bi truth. 1659 Bp. MORTON *Episcop. Assert.* § 4 (T.) Generally the bestness of a thing (that we may so call it) is best discerned by the necessary use. 1820 J. WILSON in *Mem. Chr. North* ix. 327 We are now speaking not on the question of bestness, but as to fact.

Bestock, bestore, etc.: see BE-*pref.*

Bestorm (bĕst'orm), *v.* [f. BE- + STORM *v.*] *trans.* To storm on all sides, to assail with storms or storming. Hence **Bestormed** *ppl. a.*

1651 DAVENANT *Gondibert* III. vi. In Boats bestorm'd all check at those that row. 1742 YOUNG *Ni. Th.* iv. 560 All is sea besides; Sinks under us; bestorms, and then devours. 1837 CARLYLE *Fr. Rev.* II. iii. vii. v. 363 Betocsined, bestormed; overflooded by black deluges of Sans-culottism.

Bestourn, v. Obs. [a. OF. *bestourner* -r, f. *bes-* pejorative + *tourner* to turn.] *trans.* To turn upside down, overthrow.

1483 CAXTON *G. de la Tour* cxlii. Toke reason fro us, and bestourned our wytte. *Ibid.* Eiv b. The stenche of it .. bestormeth [Fr. *bestourne*] all the ordre of nature.

Bestow (bĕst'ow), *v.* Forms: 4-6 bistow(e), 5 byatow(e), 5-7 bestowe, (6 bestoe), 5- bestow. *Pa. pple.* bestowed, (7 bestowne). [ME. *bi-stowen*, f. bi-, BE- + *stowen* to place, STOW.]

1. trans. To place, locate; to put in a position or situation, dispose of (*in* some place). *arch.*

c. 1374 CHAUCER *Troilus* i. 967 The god of love hath the bystowid In place digne unto thy worthines. 1528 MORE *Conf. agst. Trib.* iii. Wks. 228/1 As rowmes and liuinges fal voyde to bestowe them in. 1567 DRURY *Lett.* in Tytler *Hist. Scot.* (1864) III. 412 Bills bestowed upon the church doors. 1598 SHAKS. *Merry W.* iv. ii. 48 How should I bestow him? Shall I put him into the basket againe? 1650 GWILLIM *Heraldry* iii. i. (1660) 96 Under what heads each peculiar thing must be bestowed. 1713 POPE *Iliad* ix. 284 Glittering canisters .. Which round the board Menenius son bestow'd. 1873 BROWNING *Red Cott. Night-c.* 116 The white domestic pigeon .. does mere duty by bestowing egg In authorized compartment.

2. To stow away; to place or deposit (anywhere) for storage, to store up. *arch.*

1393 GOWER *Conf.* II. 84 The leed after Satome groweth, And Jupiter the brass bestoweth. 1494 FABYAN VII. 466 Lancastre .. bestowed suche ordennance as the Frenshemen for haste lafte behynde. 1526 TINDALE *Luke* xii. 17, I have noo roume where to bestowe my frutes. 1590 SHAKS. *Com. Err.* i. ii. 78. 1630 J. TAYLOR *Gl. Eater Kent* 13 His store-house, into which he would stow and bestow any thing that the house would afford. 1853 KANE *Grinnell Exp.* xxix. (1856) 247 Bestowing away my boots in a snugly-lashed bundle.

3. To lodge, quarter, put up; to provide with a resting- or sleeping-place. Also *refl. arch.*

1577 HOLINSHED *Chron.* III. 813 They were all bestowed aboard in Spanish ships. 1605 SHAKS. *Macb.* iii. vi. 23 Sir, can you tell, Where he bestowes himselfe? 1665 MANLEY *Griott's Low-C.* Wars 295 To bestow the wearied men into Garrisons. 1821 BYRON *Sardan.* III. i. 121 See that the

women are bestow'd in safety In the remote apartments. 1851 LONGF. *Gold. Leg.* iv. iv. Shall the Refectarius bestow Your horses and attendants for the night.

† b. To bring to bed, confine. *Obs. rare.*

c. 1320 *Sir Beves* (Halliiv.) 132 And Iosiane, Christ here be milde! In a wode was bestoude of childe.

† 4. To settle or give in marriage. Also *refl. Obs.*

c. 1386 CHAUCER *Reeves T.* 61 To bystow hir hie Into som worthy blood of ancteyre. 1530 PALSGR. 452/1 He hath bestowed his daughter well. c. 1550 CHEKE *Matt.* xxiv. 38 Eating and drinking, marijng, and bestowing yer childern. 1600 SHAKS. *A. Y. L.* v. iv. 7 You wil bestow her on Orlando heere. c. 1670 MRS. HUTCHINSON *Mem. Col. Hutchinson* (1806) 9 Only three daughters who bestowed themselves meanly. 1714 ELLWOOD *Autobiog.* (1765) 100 He bestowed both his Daughters there in Marriage.

5. To apply, to employ (*in* an occupation); to devote (*to*, *of* obs.) for a specific purpose.

c. 1315 SHOREHAM 95 Thence thou most wel byslyly, And thy wy3t thran by-stowe. c. 1386 CHAUCER *Wyf's Prol.* 113, I wol bystowe the flour of myn age In the actes and in the fruytes of marriage. 1530 PALSGR. *Intro.* 2 Many .. shall also hereafter bestowe theyr tyme in such lyke exercise.

1541 R. COPLAND *Guydon's Quest. Cyrurg.* Howe to bestowe his remedies to the body of man. 1580 BARET *Alv.* B 580 Thou haste wel bestowed thy paynes. 1653 WALTON *Angler* i. 39 Bestow one day with me and my friends in hunting the Otter. 1655 FULLER *Ch. Hist.* vi. 279 These .. onely bestowed themselves in prayer. 1851 DIXON *W. Penn.* xv. (1872) 125 How he intended to bestow his day.

† b. csp. To apply money to a particular purpose; to lay out, expend, spend. *Obs.*

1377 LANGL. *P. Pl.* B. ii. 75 In þe stories he techeth To bistowe þyn almes. 1526 TINDALE 2 *Cor.* xii. 15, I will very gladly bestowe, and wilbe bestowed for youre soules. 1583 STUBBS *Anat. Abus.* 56 But nowe it is a small matter to bestowe .. a hundred ponde of one payre of Breeches. (God be mercifull unto us!) 1590 SHAKS. *Com. Err.* v. v. 11, I would haue bestowed the thousand pound I borrowed of you. 1611 BIBLE *Deut.* xiv. 26 Thou shalt bestow that money for whatsoever thy soule lusteth after. 1631 WEEVER *Anc. Fun. Mon.* 225 He bestowed much in building.

† c. refl. To acquit oneself. *Obs.*

1591 SHAKS. *Two Gent.* iii. i. 87. 1600 — *A. Y. L.* iv. iii. 87 The boy is faire, Of femall fauour, and bestowes himselfe Like a ripe sister. 1606 SYLVESTER *Du Bartas* (1633) 320 He all assays and him so brave bestowes, in his Fight, etc.

6. tr. (& absol.) To confer as a gift, present, give.

1580 BARET *Alv.* B 580 To bestowe and giue his life for his country. 1583 STANYHURST *Aeneid* ii. (Arb.) 45 These Greeks bestowing theyre presents Greekish I feare mee. 1653 SHAKS. *Hen. VIII.* iv. ii. 56 In bestowing, madam, He was most princely. 1632 BROME *Novella* ii. i. To brag of benefits one hath bestowede Doth make the best seeme lesse. 1750 JOHNSON *Ramb.* No. 38 ¶ 11 You here pray for water, and water I will bestow. 1808 MAR. EDGEMORTH *Moral T.* I. i. 7 The importance that wealth can bestow. 1870 BRYANT *Iliad* I. iii. 63 Whatever in their grace the gods bestow.

b. Const. on, upon (of obs.) a person.

1535 COVERDALE 2 *Chron.* xxiv. 7 All that was halowed for the house of the Lorde, haue they bestowed on Baalim. 1601 SHAKS. *Twel. N.* iii. iv. 2 How shall I feast him? What bestow of him? 1628 WITHER *Brit. Rememb.* Pref. 112 What freedoms on the Muses are bestowed. 1817 JAS. MILL *Brit. India* II. iv. v. 205 The steadiness .. of the English .. bestowed upon them a complete and brilliant victory. 1876 GREEN *Short Hist.* vi. § 4 (1882) 301 He bestowed on him a pension of a hundred crowns a year.

† c. (rarely) to or dat. pronoun. (Cf. 1541 in §.)

1528 SHAKS. *Tit.* A. iv. ii. 163 You must needs bestow her funeral. 1605 — *Leas* ii. i. 128 Bestow Your needfull counsaile to our businesses.

† Bestow, sb. Obs. rare. [f. prec. vb.] Bestowing, lodgement, stowage.

1590 WARNER *Alb. Eng.* v. xxvii, They find as bad Bestoe as is their Postage beggerly.

Bestowable (bĕst'ow'āb'l), *a.* [f. BESTOW *v.* + -ABLE.] Capable of being bestowed or given.

1882 *Fraser's Mag.* July 112 The greatest blessing bestowable.

† Bestowage, sb. Obs. rare. [f. as prec. + -AGE.] Stowage.

c. 1656 Bp. HALL is cited by Webster.

Bestowal (bĕst'ow'āl). [f. as prec. + -AL².] The action of bestowing; a. disposal, location; b. presentation, gift.

1773 *Gentl. Mag.* XLIII. 633 If the bestowal of necessities be a task fruitless as the fabled labour of Sisyphus. 1867 FREEMAN *Norm. Cong.* (1876) I. App. 660 The bestowal of the earldom on Eric I have mentioned.

Bestowed (bĕst'ow'd), *ppl. a.* [f. as prec. + -ED.]

1. Placed, located; employed, applied, given; often with qualifying adv., as *well*-, *ill*-, *bestowed*.

1483 CAXTON *G. de la Tour* Ej. Hit is wel bestowed. c. 1603 T. CARTWRIGHT *Confut. Rhem. N. T.* (1618) 178 Our Sauour Christis friends are euill bestowed and thrust into his scalding house. 1667 MILTON *P. L.* v. 317 Well we may afford Our givers their own gifts, and large bestow From large bestowed. 1814 SCOTT *Ld. of Isles* v. xxi, In silvan lodging, close bestowed.

† 2. Filled, stowed *with*. *Obs.*

1621 R. BOLTON *State Irel.* 168 (Act 28 *Hen. VIII.*), Boates, Scowts, .. and other vessels loden and bestowed with goods.

Bestower (bĕst'ow'ar). Also **6- ar.** [f. as prec. + -ER¹.] One who bestows.

1548 UDALL, etc. *Erasm. Par.* 1 *Cor.* iv. 1 Stewardest and bestowers of other mennes goodes. 1612 T. TAYLOR *Comm. Titus* ii. 11 Gifts and good turnes haue great power to hold mens hearts to the bestower. 1721 R. KEITH *Kempis' Vall.* *Lillies* xxxi. 95 The Bestower of eternal Rewards. 1879 R. DOUGLAS *Confuc.* iii. 77 The .. bestower of destiny.

Bestowing (bĕst'ow'ing), *vbl. sb.* [f. as prec. + -ING¹.] The action of the verb BESTOW. **a.**

Placing, stowing away, putting up. **b.** Employment, expenditure. **c.** Conferment, presentation.

1532 FRITH *Mirror* (1829) 277 As touching the bestowing of thy goods. 1542 BRINKLOW *Complaynt* iv. (1874) 17 Ye shal gyue account .. for the bestowing of your ryches. 1608 HIERON *Wks.* I. 751 Knowledge and discretion are Thy bestowings. 1709 STEELE *Tatler* No. 9 ¶ 2 So hurried away with that strong Impulse of Bestowing, that he confers Benefits without Distinction. 1802 PALEY *Nat. Theol.* (1817) 129 The bestowing of the liquor in the hogsheds.

Bestowment (bĕst'ow'mēt). [f. BESTOW *v.* + -MENT.]

1. The action of bestowing; bestowal.

1754 EDWARDS *Freed. Will* iv. v. (ed. 4) 314 God's bestowment of the benefit. 1871 BROWNING *Balaust.* 1536 Such things as bear bestowment, those thou hast.

2. concr. That which is conferred; a gift.

1837-40 HALIBURTON *Clockm.* (1862) 118. 1856 R. VAUGHAN *Mystic* III. iv. (1860) I. 81 Angels and Archangels have at their command only subordinate bestowments.

† Bestract, ppl. a. Obs. rare⁻¹. [See next.] Distracted.

1581 J. STUDLEY *Seneca's Medea* 123 b, Bestract of wits, with wauering minde perplex.

Bestraddle, bestraw, etc.: see BE-*pref.*

† Bestraught, v. and ppl. a. Obs. Also **6 bestrought**. [f. BE-*intensive* + STRAUGHT (found as early as 1520); cf. also *astraight, distraught*.]

The genesis of these forms seems to have been thus: *L. distractus* gave *distract*, and (on some Eng. analogies) *DISTRAUGHT*; thence *astraight* and *STRAUGHT*; hence *be-straight* and (with reference again to *distract*) *be-stract*; finally *be-straighted*. Found as *pa. pple.* and also as *pa. t.* of a vb., of which the present ought analogically to have been *bestract*. But this is app. not found; and the later inflexions *bestraughted*-, *-ing*, imply that *bestraught* was itself assumed as the present.]

1. as *pa. t.* of a vb. Distracted, bereft (of wits).

1580 NORTH *Plutarch* (1676) 278 An Oracle .. whose spirit possessed many Inhabitants thereabouts, and bestraught them of their wits.

2. pa. pple. and adj. Distracted, distraught.

c. 1547 SURREY *Aeneid* iv. 560 Aeneas with that vision stricken down Well nere bestraught. 1586 WARNER *Alb. Eng.* i. ii, 'Till she, as one bestrought Did crie. 1603 HOLLAND *Plutarch's Mor.* 459 His wits were bestraught. 1642 T. TAYLOR *God's Judgem.* i. i. vii. 14 Like a man bestraught he ranne after them. 1728 RICHARDSON *Clarissa* (1811) VIII. 248, I have been, to use an old word, quite bestraught.

† Bestraughted, ppl. a. Obs. rare⁻¹. [See prec.; cf. also *astraighted, distraughted*.] Distracted.

c. 1650 *Song to Lute* in Percy I. (R.) Be-straighted hedes

relyfe hath founde By musickes pleasaunte swete delights.

† Bestraughting, vbl. sb. Obs. [See BE-STRAGHT.] Distracting, distraction (of the wits).

1585 *Nomenclator s.v. Delirium, Resuerie, radotement*, a bestraughting of the mind. 1621 MOLLE *Camerar. Liv. Libr.* iii. xvii. 202 The losse of ones wits, and bestraughting.

Bestraw, obs. f. BESTREW. See also BE-*6 b.*

Bestreak (bĕst'rĕk), *v.* [f. BE- + STREAK *v.*] *trans.* To overspread with streaks, to streak. Hence **Bestreaked** *ppl. a.*

c. 1600 BUREL in Watson *Coll. Scot.* P. II. 12 (JAM.) Their girtens wer of gold bestreik. 1650 CLEVELAND *Sing-song* ix, Her Cheeks bestreak'd with white and red. 1725 POPE *Odys.* xv. 65 When the dawn bestreak'd the east. 1849 W. IRVING *Capt. Bonnevillie* 86 The animal is bestreaked with vermilion, or with white clay.

Bestream: see BE-*pref.*

Bestrew (bĕst'rĕw), *v.* Also **bestrow** (bĕst'rōw), and **bestraw** (obs.). **Pa. pple.** bestrewed; **bestrown, bestrowen.** For the forms see STREW.

[OE. *bi-, bestreowan*, f. *bi-, BE- + streowan* to STREW. Cf. MHG. *bestrowen*, Du. *bestrooien*, Da. *bestroe*, Sw. *bestro*. Orig. a weak verb: the *ppl.* *bestrewen* is recent, and due to analogy.]

1. To strew (a surface) *with*; to cover more or less with things scattered about and lying flat. Often in *pa. pple.* as *adj.*

c. 1000 *Job* ii. 12 Ettm. 5, 38 Hi mid duste heora heafod bestreowodon. c. 1175 *Lamb. Hom.* 5 Heo .. nomen þa twigga and .. bistreoweden al þane weye. c. 1250 *Pallad. on Husb.* iii. 889 On a floor with chaf bestrowed. 1555 *Fardle Facions* i. v. 75 They all to bestrawe the carckesse with salte. 1596 SHAKS. *Tam. Shr.* Ind. ii. 42 Say thou wilt walke: we wil bestrow the ground. 1697 POTTER *Antiq. Greece* II. iv. (1715) 231 Having bestrewed their heads with the Fruits of Ceres. 1725 POPE *Odys.* xxii. 273 Yon fierce man no more With bleeding Princes shall bestrow the floor. 1815 WORDSW. *White Doe* i. 140 The dewy turf with flowers bestrown. 1837 HAWTHORNE *Amer. Note-Bks.* (1871) I. 40 The brook is bestrewn with stones.

b. trans. f. and fig.

1611 SPEED *Theat. Gl. Brit.* (1614) 131/1 The Kingdom of Scotland .. every where bestrewn with cities, townes, and borowes. 1660 T. WATSON in Spurgeon's *Treas. Dav. Ps.* xxxii. 1 He who is pardoned, is all bestrewn with mercy. 1850 HELPS *Friends in C. Ser.* II. i. 30 His daily work thickly bestrewn with trouble and worry.

2. To strew or scatter (things) about.

1667 MILTON *P. L.* i. 311 So thick bestrown Abject and lost lay these, covering the Flood. 1787 J. BARLOW *Hasty Pudding*, The yellow flour, bestrew'd and stirr'd with haste.

3. Of things: To lie scattered over (a surface).

1728 PORR *Iliad* II. 266 Thin hairs bestrew'd his long

misshapen head. 1794 WORDSW. *Guilt & Sorrow*. Wks. I. 107 In a dry nook where fern the floor bestrews. 1832 H. MARTINEAU *Ellis of Gar.* vii. 83 To sweep away the sand and rubbish which bestrewed it.

Bestrewment, *rare*. [f. prec. + -MENT.] A strewing about or over.

1833 *Blackw. Mag.* XXXIII. 137 From beneath all their sweet and sad bestrewments she who is their sister revives. 1845 *Ibid.* LVII. 526 The call for the bestrewment of flowers.

Bestride, bestridden, ppl. a. of **BESTRIDE**.

1651 H. MORE in *Enthus. Tri.* (1656) 175 Like some bestrid Pythonick or hackneyed Enthusiastick.

Bestride (bĕ'strīd), *v.* Pa. t. bestride; also bestrid. Pa. pple. bestridden; also -strid, -strode, (8 -strodden). For other forms see STRIDE. [OE. *bi-, bestridan*, f. *bi-*, BE- + *stridan* to STRIDE. Cf. MHG. *bestriden*, MDu. *bestryden*.]

1. To sit upon with the legs astride. a. To ride, mount (a horse, etc.). The original use.

c1000 ÆLFRIC *Hom.* II. 136 He his hors bestrad. c1300 *K. Alis.* 706 Bulsifal that hors het. No dorste no mon him bystryde. c1386 CHAUCER *Sir Thopas* 192 His goode Steede al he bestrode. c1450 *Laud MS.* 595 f. 1 The worthiest wyght in wede That ever by-strode any stede. 1593 SHAKS. *Rich. II.* v. 79 That horse that thou so often hast bestrid. 1630 *Tink. Turkey* 17, I never bestrad any one beast in my life but a mare. 1777 GRAY *Fatal Sisters* 63 Sisters, hence with spurs of speed. Each bestride her sable steed. 1817 BYRON *Manfred* II. ii. 7 The Giant steed, to be bestride by Death. 1853 KINGSLEY *Hypatia* xxii. 281 Ostriches .. bestridden each by a tiny cupid.

b. To sit across (other things) as on a horse.

c1205 LAY. 28020 Pa halle ich gon bistriden Swulc ich wolde riden. 1598 SHAKS. *Rom. & Jul.* II. ii. 31 When he bestrides the lasie pacing cloudes. 1785 COWPER *Task* II. 439 Through the pressed nostril, spectacle-bestrid. 1793 SOUTHEY in *Life* (1849) I. 180 The driving blast, bestridden by the spirit of Ossian. 1822 SCOTT *Nigel* i, Who can say what nose they [the barnacles] may bestride.

fig. 1752 BR. WARBURTON *Lett. Emin. Prelate* (1809) 119 The Church, bestrid by some bumptious minister of state, who turns and winds it at his pleasure. 1865 BUSHNELL *Vicar. Sacra.* III. vi. 320 The wrath that is to bestride and bestride everlastingly His will and counsel.

2. To stand over (a place) with the legs astride; to straddle over, to bestraddle. Also fig.

1601 SHAKS. *Jul. C.* II. ii. 135 He doth bestride the narrow world like a Colossus. 1606 — *Ant. & Cl.* v. ii. 82 His legges bestride the Ocean. 1787 BENTHAM *Def. Usury* xiii. 131 Your formidable image bestriding the ground. 1872 YEATS *Growth Comm.* 53 A statue .. called the Colossus of Rhodes, is said to have bestridden the mouth of the harbour.

b. To stand over, as a victor over the fallen.

1526 *Pilgr. Perf.* (W. de W.) 1531 97b, His crucifiers bestrydyng hym. 1719 YOUNG *Revenge* v. ii, How I bestride your prostrate conqueror! 1826 SCOTT *Woodst.* ix, He seemed already to bestride the land which he had conquered.

c. To stand over (a fallen man) in order to defend him; also fig. to defend, protect, support.

1580 NORTH *Plutarch* 236 A Romaine souldier being thrown to the ground euen harde by him, Martius straight bestrid him, and slew the enemy. 1590 SHAKS. *Com. Err.* v. i. 192 When I bestrid thee in the warres, and tooke Deepe scarres to saue thy life. 1605 — *Macb.* IV. iii. 4. 1642 CHAS. I. *Answ.* 19 *Prop.* 2 They have .. bestridde Sir John Hotham in his bold-faced Treason. 1847 TENNYSON *Princ.* II. 224 As he bestride my Grandfire, when he fell, And all else fled.

d. *intr.* To stand astride. *Obs.*

1526 *Pilgr. Perf.* (W. de W.) 254 His turmentours or crucifiers moost unuererently bestrydyng ouer his blessed face.

3. *transf.* of things (e.g. a rainbow, bridge). *trans.* 1728 THOMSON *Spring* 203 Bestriding earth, the grand ethereal bow Shoots up immense. 1785 COWPER *Task* IV. 3 Yonder bridge That with its wearisome, but needful length Bestrides the wintry flood. 1860 HAWTHORNE *Marb. Faun* (1878) II. xix. 222 Bestriden by old, triumphal arches.

4. To stride across, to step across with long strides. Also fig.

c1600 *Rob. Hood* (Ritson) II. x. 62 Deepe water he did bestride. 1607 SHAKS. *Cor.* IV. v. 124 When I first my wedded Mistis saw Bestride my Threshold. 1814 BYRON *Corsair* III. xix. 13 He .. Strives through the surge, bestrides the beach. 1824 DIBDIN *Libr. Comp.* 615, I shall bestride the sixteenth and seventeenth centuries.

Hence **Bestri-der**, **Bestri-der** *vbl. sb.* and *ppl. a.*

1618 BOLTON *Florus* II. vi. 95 If his Sonne .. had not rescued his Father from certaine death itselfe with bold bestriding him. 1830 SOUTHEY *Yng. Dragon* II. 77 The fiercest steed that e'er To battle bore bestrider. 1849 DICKENS *Dav. Copp.* xiii. A third animal laden with a bestriding child.

† **Bestride**, *prep.* *Obs. rare*—1. For **ASTRIDE**, influenced by the vb.

1813 J. C. HOBHOUSE *Journey* 408 A marble lion .. with the legs of a man bestride him.

† **Bestrike**, *v.* *Obs. rare*. Also **bestryke**. [f. BE- + STRIKE to rub, stroke; cf. LG. *bestriken*, G. *bestreichen* to overspread, do over;—OHG. *bi-strīhan*, f. *bi-*, BE- + *strīhan* to stroke.] *trans.*

To overspread, do over, anoint, smear, daub, rub over with.

1597 ANDREW BRUNSWYKE'S *Distyll. Waters* Biv b, Rounde aboute the panne ye shal lay sande and bestryke that above with claye. 1563 HYLL *Art Garden.* (1593) 32 If you bestrike the lower part of your tree with reide Oker.

† **Bestrip**, *v.* *Obs.* [OE. *bestrypan*, f. BE- + STRIP to STRIP; cf. MHG. *bestroyfen*.] *trans.*

To strip clean: to deprive of or take away entirely. 1565 O. E. *Chron.* (MS. C.) Ealle þa bestrypte þe he ofer mihte æt life and æt lande. 1340 *Ayenb.* 150 Þes yefþe ..

bestrepp and kest out þe rote and þe zenne of ire. 1625 MARBE *Gnom. d'Alf* II. 87 Be-strip of all manner of vice.

Bestripe (bĕ'strīp), *v.* [f. BE- + STRIPE *v.*]

To cover with stripes. Hence **Bestriped** *ppl. a.*

1618 BOLTON *Florus* (1636) 271 As if his faire successives were .. to be bestriped, and inter-woven with crosse accidents. 1821 CLARE *Vill. Ministr.* I. 75 Vales Bestriped with shades of green and gray.

Bestrode, pa. t. and pple. of **BESTRIDE** *v.*

Bestroke: see **BE- pref.**

Bestrought, var. of **BESTRAUGHT** *v.* *Obs.*

Bestrow, bestrown, variants of **BESTREW**, -N.

Bestrut, *v.* In 6 bestrout. [f. BE- +

STRUT *v.*] *trans.* To strut or walk pompously over.

1594 CAREW *Tasso* (1881) 74 With sauage insteps some the soyle bestrout.

† **Bestrut**, *ppl. a.* *Obs.* Also **bestrutted**.

[Cf. **ASTRUT**, and **STRUT**, whence this seems to have been formed on the analogy of compounds in **BE-** found only in pa. pple.] Swollen.

1603 HOLLAND *Plutarch's Mor.* 632 Pappes bestrutted with milke. 1648 HERRICK *Oberon's Feast, Poems* (1869) 127 He .. eates the saggie And well bestrutted bees sweet bag.

Bestual, *obs.* form of **BESTIAL**.

Bestuck, pa. t. and pple. of **BESTICK**.

Bestud (bĕ'stūd), *v.* [f. BE- + STUD *v.*] *trans.*

To stud the surface of, set with or as with studs.

1601 HOLLAND *Pliny* I. 258 This Purple is bestudded (as it were) .. with sharpe knobs pointed. 1634 MILTON *Comus* 734 The unsought diamonds Would so emblaze the forehead of the deep, And so bestud with stars. c1800 K. WHITE *Poems* (1837) 85 The glittering host bestud the sky.

Hence **Bestudded** *ppl. a.*

1601 WEEVER *Mirr. Mart.* Eijj, This starre-bestudded valie. 1870 ROLLSTON *Anim. Life* 253 The ectoderm is very richly bestudded with the thread cells.

|| **Bestuur** (bĕ'stūr), [Du.; = government, f.

besturen to govern.] Government, administration; i. e. in the Dutch-speaking parts of South Africa.

1825 *Pall Mall G.* 12 May 8/2 Stellaland will .. be governed by the Bestuur under the advice of Captain Trotter and Vincent. 1885 *Daily News* 13 Feb. 3/2 A member of the Goshen bestuur.

Bestyly, bestysse, *obs.* form of **BEASTLY**, -ISH.

Bestugar, besuit, etc.: see **BE- pref.**

Besully (bĕ'sūli), *v.* [f. BE- + SULLY *v.*]

trans. To sully or soil badly.

a1635 CORBET *Fairef. Wind.* (D.) The limber corps, besully'd o'er With meagre paleness. 1820 *Blackw. Mag.* VII. 190 Cheeks are besullied with unused brine.

Besumme, *obs.* form of **BESOME**.

† **Besure** (bĕ'sūr), *adv. phr.* *Obs.* = Be sure;

you may be sure; surely, certainly.

1743 APPLETON *Serm.* 95 And besure, this bids fair for a certain Mark of a good Christian. 1754 RICHARDSON *Grandison* III. 322 Get away as soon as you can. Besure do.

† **Beswaddle**, *v.* *Obs. rare*. [f. BE- +

SWADDLE *v.*] *trans.*

1. To envelop in swaddling-clothes.

1755 P. WHITEHEAD *Ep. Thomson* (R.) Infant limbs beswaddled in the lawn.

2. To beat, thrash, 'swaddle.'

1598 FLORIO, *Pestare*, to bang, to bebast, to beswaddle with a cudgell.

† **Beswak**, *v.* *Sc. Obs.* Pa. pple. **beswakkit**.

[f. BE- + SWAK *v.*] *trans.* To dash, strike.

c1505 DUNBAR *Flying* 188 Oft beswakkit with ane our-hie tyd.

† **Beswape**, *v.* *Obs. rare*. [OE. *beswapan*, f.

be-, BE- + *swapan* to sweep, brush.] *trans.* To envelop, entangle.

c980 K. ÆLFRED *Bada* II. xii, Hi hi mid scytan besweop. c1175 *Cott. Hom.* 239 Him selfe bi sandlice senn beswapan.

Beswarm, besweeten, beswelter: see **BE-**.

† **Besweat**, *pa. pple.* *Obs.* Also 5 **beswette**.

[f. BE- + SWEAT.] Covered with sweat.

c1205 LAY. 9315 Al his burne wes bi-swæt (c1250 bi-swæt). c1260 *Lybans Disc.* 108 All beswette for hete. 1470-85 MALORY *Arthur* (1816) II. 206 Her horse was all to besweat.

1574 HELLOWES *Guenara's Ep.* (1577) 53 Your letters .. come wrinkled like linnen .. besweat like a doublet.

† **Beswike**, *v.* *Obs.* Forms: *Inf.* 1 **beswican**,

2-4 **biswike** (n, 4 by-, **beswyke** (n, (bisuike,

bisquike), 5 bi-, **byswyke**, (beeswik). *Pa. t.*

1 **beswāo**, 2-3 **biswak**, (3-4 -suak), 3-5 -swok (e.

Pa. pple. 1-3 **biswicon**, 2-5 -swiken, 4-5 -swike.

[OE. *beswican* to evade, betray, deceive, = OS.

biswican, OHG. *biswīhan* (MHG. *beswīchen*), f.

BE- + *swican* :-OTeut. **swīgan* to cease, go

away, leave off.]

trans. To betray, cheat, deceive.

971 *Blickl. Hom.* 5 Deofol. beswac þone ærestan wifmon. c1000 *Ag. Gosp.* Matt. xxiv. 4 Warnað þæt eow nan ne beswice (1260 *Hattton* beswike), a 1240 *Lofsong* in *Lamb. Hom.* 213 Þat te hope of ham bi-swoc me. c1250 *Gen. & Ex.* 3861 He ben bi-swiken. a 1300 *Cursor M.* 818 Þe find .. bi-swakadam. *Ibid.* 19231 Ilk suik-it-self bisuikes. c1380 *Sir Ferumb.* 4164 Y wil 300 no3t be-swyke. 1470 HARDING *Chron.* clxxviii, Sir Archibald Douglas and erle Patrike .. their kyng thought to bee swik.

Beswiker (in 4 **besuikere**), deceiver; **Be-**

swiking *vbl. sb.*, cheating, deception.

1340 *Ayenb.* 23 Beswykynges and eucl red and ucle oþre rennes. *Ibid.* 171 Ase his þyef, ase his manslaþe, ase his beswykere.

Beswin, beswitch, etc.: see **BE- pref.**

† **Beswing**, *v.* *Obs.* [f. BE- + SWING *v.*]

trans. To swing about; to hang.

1571 R. EDWARDS *Damon & P.* in *Hazl. Dodley* IV. 84 Such lackeys make me lack; an halter beswinge them!

† **Beswinge**, *v.* *Obs.* Also 6 **beswindge**.

[f. BE- + SWINGE *v.*] *trans.* To swinge, beat

soundly. Also fig.

[c1000 ÆLFRIC *Ex.* v. 16 We ðine ðeowas synd beswunge-ene. c1175 (see next, 2). 1568 T. HOWELL *Arb. Amille* (1879) 45 With better words beswinge this dame, let no perswasion lacke. 1590 GREENE *Orl. Fur.* (1599) 56 You had best .. least I beswinge you.

† **Beswink**, *v.* *Obs.* [OE. *beswincan*, f. BE- +

swincan to toil, to labour: see **SWINK**.]

1. *trans.* To labour for, work for. (Cf. *betwink*.)

[c1000 *Ag. Gosp.* John iv. 38 Ich sende eow to ripene, þæt þæt ge ne beswuncon (c1160 *Hattton* beswuncon). 1377 LANGL. *P. Pl.* B. vi. 216 Bolde beggeres and bigge þat mowe her bred biswynke. 1393 GOWER *Conf. I.* 131 They hadden that they have beswunke. c1400 *Test. Love* (1560) 272/2 With sweate thy sustenance to beswinke.

2. To chastise. *rare*. (Prob. for *beswinge*.)

c1175 *Lamb. Hom.* 111 Ec þæt mon biswinke þene stunte lichome for steore.

† **Beswinkful**, *a.* *Obs. rare*—1. Toilsome.

a 1225 *Anor. R.* 188 Goð nu þeonne gledluker bi stronge wei, & biswinkful, touward þe muchele feste of heouene.

Beswyle, *obs.* form of **BESOIL**.

Besy, -ly, -nes, *obs.* forms of **BUSY**, etc.

Besym, *obs.* form of **BESOM**.

Bet (bet), *sb.* Also 7-8 **bett**. [Of uncertain

origin; nor is it clear whether the sb. or the vb. was the starting-point; if the sb., we may per-

haps see in it an aphetic form of **ABET** sb. in the sense of 'instigation, encouragement, support,

maintaining of a cause': see the quotation from Spenser under **ABET** sb. 2. The vb. would then be derived from the sb., as in the case of **WAGER**

sb. and v. It is less easy to get from the sense of **ABET** v. to that of **BET** v., since the original construction ought then to be, not 'to bet money on

a champion, etc., but 'to bet (i.e. abet) a champion with money,' of which no trace is found.

See however **ABET** v. 4 in sense of 'to bet that'.

(The suggestion that *bet* is:—early ME. *Beot*, 'vow, promise, threat,' has no support in the history or phonology.)

The backing of an affirmation or forecast by offering to forfeit, in case of an adverse issue, a sum of money or article of value, to one who by

accepting, maintains the opposite, and backs his opinion by a corresponding stipulation; the

staking of money or other value on the event of a doubtful issue; a wager; also, the sum of

money or article staked. *An even bet* (fig.): an equal chance, a balance of probabilities.

(The first quotation is quite uncertain in meaning.)

[c1460 *Towneley Myst.* 87 Ye fyste before the nett, And stryfe on this bett, Sickefolys never I mett.] 1590 GREENE *Art Conny catch.* II. 7 Certaine old sokers, which are lookers on,

and listen for bets, either euen or od. c1614 DRAYTON *Mis. Q. Margaret* (1748) 151 For a long time it was an even bet .. Whether proud Warwick or the Queen should win. 1646

BUCK *Rich. III.* II. 60 Might have brought the odds of that day to an even bet. 1735 POPE *Mor. Ess.* I. 86 His pride was in Piquette, Newmarket fame, and judgment at a Bett.

1818 BYRON *Beppo* xxvii, And there were several offer'd any bet, Or that he would, or that he would not come. 1871 KINGSLEY in *Life & Lett.* (1879) II. 271 Plenty of bets pass on every race, which are practically quite harmless.

2. A challenge contest.

1843 *Proc. Berw. Nat. Club* II. xi. 59 A great bet, as a game [at bowls] was called, came off on Cockburnspath Green in 1807 or 1808.

Bet (bet), *v.* Also 7-8 **bett**. Pa. t. and pple. bet; also betted. [See prec.] *trans.* To stake

or wager (a sum of money, etc.) in support of an affirmation or on the issue of a forecast.

1597 SHAKS. 2 *Hen. IV.* III. ii. 50 Iohn of Gaunt loued him well, and betted much Money on his head. 1600 *Rob. Hood* (Ritson) II. xii. 105 Said the bishop then, Ile not bet

one peny. 1727 POPE, etc. *Bathos* 170 These on your side will all their fortunes bet. 1849 DICKENS *Dav. Copp.* II. (C. D. ed.) 16 I'll as good as bet a guinea .. that she'll let us go. 1876 O. W. HOLMES *How Old Horse won* *Ret Poems* (1884) 309 I'll bet you two to one I'll make him do it.

b. *absol.* To lay a wager. *You bet* (*slang*, chiefly in U.S.): be assured, certainly.

1609 ROWLANDS *Knaus Clubbes* 4 At Bedlem-bowling alley late, Where Citizens did bet: And threw their money on the ground. 1628 EARLE *Microcosm.* xlviii. 101 He enjoys it [gambling] that looks on and bets not. 1711 *Act 9 Anne* in *Lond. Gas.* No. 4863/2 If such Person .. shall, at any one time .. Play or Bett for any Sum. 1857 HUGHES *Tom Brown*, Brandy punch going, I'll bet. 1858 THACKERAY *Virgin.* II. xv. 114, I don't bet on horses I don't know. 1868 O. W. HOLMES *Once More Poems* (1884) 224 'Is it loaded?' 'I'll bet you! What doesn't it hold?' 1882 *Sk. Texas Siftings* 131 'Are you drunk?' 'You bet.' 'Then you move off from here.'

† **Bet**, *adv.* (and a.) *Obs.* Forms: 1-7 **bet** (3-6 <

*batizon-, in OE. *betera*, BETTER. In the adv. the comparative ending *-iz* underwent the same phonetic changes as the formative *-iz* of nouns, and was thus reduced to *-e*, or lost entirely before the OE. period. (*Bet*, for the expected *bete*, probably followed *leng*, *sgft*, etc.) About the end of the OE. or beginning of the ME. period, *bet(e)re*, the neuter gender of the adj., began to be used, in certain constructions, in the place of *bet*, and, after a long existence side by side, gradually superseded it about 1600: instances of *bet* just before, and especially after, 1600 are archaisms. This encroachment of *betera*, *beter*, *better* upon *bet* began in phrases where the adj. and adv. are not easily separated, as in *hit is bet or betere* (positive 'it is well' or 'good'), and gradually extended to others; the final ascendancy of *better* was doubtless helped by the fact that *bet* and other comparatives of the same type (e.g. *leng*, *near*) had not the ordinary comparative sign, and were thus less definite in expression. As in similar cases, during the time that *bet* and *better* were interchangeable as adverbs, *bet* was by compensation sometimes used for *better* as adjective.]

I. adv. (and predicative adj.)

1. The earlier form of BETTER, the comparative of WELL.

c 888 K. *Ælfred Boeth.* xxiii. *Dæt se hwæte mæge ðy bet weaxan.* a 1200 *Moral Ode* 15 in *Trin. Coll. Hom.* 220 Ich mihte habben bet idon. c 1205 LAY. 28560 Wha dude wurse, no wha bet. 1297 R. GLOUC. 209 Hys men truste þe bet to hym. 1377 LANGE. P. Pl. B. viii. 123 Where do-wel, do-bet, and do-best ben in lond. 1393 GOWER Conf. I. 126 One justeth wel, another bet. 1423 JAS. I. *King's Q.* ci. 3e know the cause of all my peynes smert Bet than myself. 1466 Pol. Rel. & L. Poems (1866) 109 And graunt me grace ai bett & bett. c 1570 THYNNE *Pride & Loue*. (1841) 20 No Auditor, ne Clerke of Check Can penne it bet then he. 1586 FERNE *Blas. Gentry* 71 We deserue full bet then they.

2. As predicate after *be*; interchanging with the neuter adj. *betera*. (In quots. 1386, 1575, its adjective function is distinct.) Cf. BETTER A 4.

c 1275 Lamb. Hom. 145 Him is wel . . . him is ec mucele þat he is ilaðd from mucele wowe. c 1200 ORMIN 5548 Þatt hemm babe beo þe bett. c 1205 LAY. 870 Hit is þe bet mid us. c 1386 CHAUCER Pers. T. P. 465 Therefore saith a wise man, that ire is bet than play. 1430 LYDG. Chron. Troy i. vi. Bett were me to deye, Than liue ashamed. c 1575 GASCOIGNE *Fruites Warre* (1831) 209, I termed have all strife To be no bet than warres. a 1643 W. CARTWRIGHT *Ordinary in Dodsley* (1780) X. 251 Sin it may be no bet now gang in peace.

II. absol. and quasi-sb.

3. The bet: the advantage; cf. BETTER A 8.

c 1240 CURSOR M. 7642 (Trin.) Wiþ þat folke soone he met And wyllyng of hem þe bet [v. r. his dete]. 1594 WYRLAY *Armorie* 118 It seemd the Frenchmen had the bet.

4. One's bette: cf. BETTER A 7. rare.

1494 FABYAN vii. ccl. 281 No man I thought my bette. + Bet, adv. 2 Obs. [Origin and meaning doubtful.] In *Go bet*. (Prof. Skeat takes it as = go better, i.e. go quicker.)

c 1386 CHAUCER *Parl. T.* 339 Go bet, quod he, and axe redily what cors is this. c 1245 *Seven Sag.* (P.) 2005 The maystir made hys hor go bete. a 1528 SKELTON *El. Rumour* 331 And bad Elynour go bet, And fyll good met. c 1600 *Parl. Byrdes* 148 in *Hazl. E. P.* III. 174 Here is nought els with frende nor foe, But go bet peny go bet go. 1617 *Frere & Boye* 300 *ibid.* III. 73 Ye hath made me daunce, maugre my hede, Amonge the thornes, hey go bette.

Bet, obs. and Sc. pa. t. of BEAT v. 1; dial. form of BEET v.

Beta (bē-tā). [a. L. *bēta*, Gr. *Bētra*.]

1. The second letter of the Greek alphabet, B, β.

a 1300 CURSOR M. 12425 Bot sai þou me first o betha, And siþen i sal þe sai alpha.

2. In various scientific uses; esp. a. Astron. Used to mark the second star in a constellation. b. Chem. The second of two or more isomeric modifications of the same organic compound. c. Nat. Hist. The second sub-species or permanent variety of a species. d. In various other classifications. Cf. ALPHA.

1867 CHAMBERS *Astron.* vi. ii. (1877) 492 Amongst the conspicuous stars β Libræ (green) appears to be the only instance. 1877 WATTS *Faunes' Chem.* II. 497 Beta-orn is obtained by dry distillation of usnic acid. 1877 — *Dict. Chem.* IV. 235 Stenhouse designated the acid obtained from South American Roccella as α-orsellic, and that prepared from South African Roccella as β-orsellic.

Betag: see BE-pref.

Betagt(e), -3t(e), pa. t. of BETEACH v. Obs.

Betaikin, obs. Sc. form of BETOKEN.

Betail (bē-tē-l), v. nonce-wd. [on analogy of behed.] trans. To deprive of the tail.

18. TROLOPE (O.) [The sportsman] puts his heavy boot on the beast's body, and there beheads and betails him.

Betailed (bē-tē-lid), ppl. a. [f. BE- + TAIL.]

Furnished with a tail.

1760 GOLDSM. *Cit. W.* iii. Thus betailed and bewinged, the man of taste fancies he improves in beauty. 1854 H. MILLER *Footpr. Creat.* ix. (1874) 165 The betailed reptiles.

Betaine (bē-tē-in). Chem. [anomalously f. L.

bēta BEET-sb. + -INE 4.] A chemical base (C₄H₁₁NO₃) found in beet and mangold-wurzel.

1879 WATTS *Dict. Chem.* VI. 340 Betaine crystallizes in large shining hydrated crystals.

Betaine, betani, obs. forms of BETONY.

+ Betaint, v. Obs. [f. BE- + TAIN.] trans. To tinge. Hence (short for betainted) ppl. a.

1594 CAREW *Tasso* (1881) 60 Her beguill(d)ed lockes this slightest wound With some few drops, such wise betainted red, As gold grows ruddie. 1598 GREENE *James IV* (1861) 195 Where every wean is all betaint with blood.

Betake (bē-tē-k), v. str. Pa. t. betook. Pa. pple. betaken. For forms see TAKE v. [ME. *be-, bitake* (n, f. bi-, BE- + TAKE. There seems to have been an early confusion of *betake* with *betace*, *betache*, BETEACH, which extended in part also to the simple *take*, so that this had the sense of 'deliver, hand over, give in charge,' not found in ON., and not logically developed in Eng. from its proper sense of 'seize, grasp, catch hold of, make oneself holder or owner of.' In any case, in ME., *betake*, *betōk*, *betaken* was identified in sense with *beteach*, *betaghte*, *betaght*; and only since the latter became obs., has *betake* tended to revert toward the normal sense of *take*. See TAKE.]

+ I. trans. To hand over, deliver, give up, grant, place at a person's disposal; = BETEACH 2. Const. with *dat.* or *to*, *unto*, etc. Obs.

c 1205 LAY. 6251 Heo sculleð eow, þat lond bi-taken. c 1250 *Ibid.* 2779: He was bi-take [c 1205 þefen] Arthur! in stede of hostage. a 1300 *Harleik* 1226 Gold and siluer and oþer fe Bad he us bi-taken þe. c 1400 *Dest. Troy* iv. 1391 Er-cules . . . Betoke hir to Telamon. 1534 MORE *On Passion Wks.* 138/2 The onely sacrifice betaken by Chryst vnto his christen church. 1618 ROWLANDS *Sacred Mem.* 24 Then bread he brake, And that to his Disciples did betake. 1621 QUARLES *Esther* (1638) 89 Zedechia . . . Into Serajahs peacefull hand betooke The sad contents of a more dismall Booke.

+ b. To hand over to the care of; to entrust, commit, give in charge to; = BETEACH 3. Obs.

1297 R. GLOUC. 354 He bytoc hym Engeland, þat he yt wel wuste To Wyllammes byofþe. a 1300 CURSOR M. 1126 (Gott.) He was noht bitan [C. bi-taght, F. betagt, T. bitake] to me. c 1375 WYCLIF *Wks.* (1880) 365 þe whiche god had bytake to her gouernance. c 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 34 Betakyn a thynge to anoþere, commende. 1596 SPENSER F. Q. III. iv. 28 Phoebe to a nymphe her babe betooke To be upbrought in perfect maydenhed. 1640 SELDEN *Laus Eng.* i. lix. (1739) 110 The Emperess perceiuing the power of the Clergy, betakes her case to them.

+ c. To give in marriage. Obs.

1386 WYCLIF *Ecclus.* vii. 27 Bytac a doȝtir and a gret werk thou shalt do; and to a wel felende man ȝif hyr.

+ 2. To commit or commend (one), by the expression of a wish, to (God, the devil, etc.); often as an appreciation or imprecation. Also in leave-taking: To bid adieu, say good-bye. Obs.

1297 R. GLOUC. 475 God & Seinte Marie, & Sein Denis al so . . . Ich bitake min soule. c 1386 CHAUCER *Miller's T.* 564 My soule bitake I vn to Sathanas. c 1400 *Apol. Loll.* 24 Petre be tok Anani . . . to be fend to be tormentid perpetuali. 1493 *Festiuall* (W. de W. 1515) 115 He betoke them to god & Mary maudeleyne to kepe & wente his way. 1526 SKELTON *Magnyf.* 406 Nowe to the Devil I the betake. 1643 EVELYN *Mem.* (1857) III. 4 To God Almighty I betake it for support and speedy good success.

+ 3. To allot, to assign; = BETEACH 5. Obs.

c 1300 CURSOR M. 4001 (Gott.) þe fiss to water als we finde, þe foul he bitok [C. be-taght, F. be-tagt] to be wind.

4. refl. To commit oneself, have recourse or resort to any kind of action. To betake oneself to one's heels: to retreat in flight, to run away.

15. Sc. Metr. Ps. lvii. My soule doth her betake unto the helpe of he. 1593 HOOKER *Ecl. Pol.* i. vii. 3 When we betake ourselves unto rest. 1598 GREENWAY *Facitus' Ann.* xii. viii. (1622) 166 The enemy betooke him to his heeles with small losse. 1601 SHAKS. *Twel. N.* iii. iv. 240 That defiance thou hast, betake the too't. 1684 BUNYAN *Pilgr.* II. 22 They betook themselves to a short debate. 1763 HUME *Eng.* (1806) III. 220 To betake themselves to other expedients for supporting authority. 1794 BURKE *Sp. W. Hastings* Wks. 1842 XV. 166 They saw him . . . betaking himself to flight. 1833 Ht. MARTINEAU *Briery Creek* v. 107 The Irish betake themselves to rebellion when stopped in their merry-makings.

+ b. intr. (for refl.) Obs.

1596 SPENSER F. Q. i. v. 28 Then to her yron wagon she betakes. 1606 SYLVESTER *Du Bartas* (1633) 320 All be-take to flight. 1641 MILTON *Ch. Govt.* II. Intro. d. Whether aught was imposed me by them, or betaken to of mine own choice.

c. passive.

1601 T. WRIGHT *Passions of Minde* (1620) 303 The matter whereunto I am betaken.

5. refl. To resort, make one's way, turn one's course, go. (Here the notion of 'taking' or 'conveying' oneself becomes distinct.)

1612 WOODALL *Surg. Mate* Wks. 1653 Pref. 3 It was of old a custome . . . for the sick to betake themselves unto the . . . Temple of Aesculapius. 1667 MILTON P. L. x. 922 Whither shall I betake me, where subside? 1714 ELLWOOD *Autobiog.* 3 He betook himself to London. 1815 L. HUNT *Feast Poets* 21 So off he betook him the way that he came.

b. with obj. = refl. pron.

1861 DICKENS *Gr. Expect.* II. 307 They betook their little quickened hearts behind the panels.

+ 6. To take; to take in some sense. Obs.

c 1200 *Pallad. on Huab.* i. 639 The xth day the IIII away betake And other IIII ensore her place into. a 1555 LATIMER *Wks.* (1844-5) I. 73 (D.) As the blanchers have

blanched it and wrested it, and as I myself did once betake it. 1591 SPENSER M. *Hubberd* 69 Ere that anie way I doo betake, I meane my Gossip priue first to make.

+ 7. (f) To pursue; to overtake. Obs.

a 1000 *ÆLFRIC Colloquy* P. 34 Mid swiftum hundum ic betace [MS. betacc] wildeor [insequor feras]. 1375 BARBOUR *Bruce* III. 159 Now may 3e se Betane the starkest pundelan. 1583 STANYHURST *Æneis* II. (Arb.) 52 When slumber sweetlye betaketh Eech mortal person.

Betaken, -in, obs. forms of BETOKEN.

Betaking, vbl. sb. [f. BETAKE + -ING 1.] Taking

(obs.); in mod. senses chiefly gerundial.

c 1449 PECCOCK *Repr.* i. xx. 128 The bitaking of these bookis . . . into her vce.

Betalde, obs. pa. pple. of BETELL.

Betalk, betallow, betask, betaxed, see BE-.

+ Betall, v. Obs. [a. Du. *betall-en* to pay; used in Eng. in 17th c.] trans. To pay.

1630 J. TAYLOR (N.) Our host said we had foure shilling to betall or pay. 1631 Heywood *Fair Maid W.* l. ii. i. With one word of my mouth I can tell them what is to be-tall.

Betan(e), north. dial. f. betaken: see BETAKE.

Betan(y), obs. form of BETONY.

Betanglement. [f. BE- 2 + TANGLE v. + -MENT.] Tangled condition.

1881 J. HAWTHORNE *Fortune's Fool* l. ii. The riotous betanglement of his brown hair.

+ Betas. Obs. rare⁻¹. [a. ON. *beiti-dss* sail-

yard, f. *beita* to make the ship catch the wind, to tack + *dss* pole, yard; cf. *windlass*, in ME. *wind-as*, in ON. *windáss*.] A sailyard.

c 1330 R. BRUNNE in *Layamon* III. 396 Som aforced the wyndas, Som the lofe, som the betas.

Betassel (bē-tā'sl), v. [f. BE- 1 + TASSEL.]

trans. To hang round or decorate with, or as with, tassels. Hence Betas'selled, -eled ppl. a.

1648 EARL WESTMLD. *Otia Sacra* (1879) 16 The Lustfull Clusters. Betasseling Autumn. 1778 MRS. DELANY *Lett.* Ser. II. II. 341 Her bridal apparel . . . festooned and betassel'd. 1812 *Examiner* 12 Oct. 653/1 One cannot be always . . . devising patterns, and betasselling dragons.

Betattered (bē-tā'terd), ppl. a. [f. BE- 1 + TATTER v.] All in tatters, ragged.

1618 WITHER *Molto* Wks. (1632) 553 The beggarliest And most betattered Pesant. a 1704 T. BROWN *Wks.* (1760) I. 240 (D.) She brought a gown . . . bepatch'd and betatter'd.

Betaughte, -taughte, etc., pa. t. of BETEACH v.

+ Betawder, v. ? nonce-wd. [f. BE- + TAW-

DR(Y).] trans. To bedizen with tawdry finery.

a 1689 MRS. BEHN *City-heiress* II. ii. Trick and betawder yourself up, like a right City-Lady, rich but ill-fashion'd.

Betayne, obs. form of BETONY.

Bete, obs. form of BEAT and BEET.

+ Beteach, v. Obs. Forms: *Inf.* 1 betescan,

2 -en, 3 bitechen, -teachen, 3-4 biteche(n), 3-5 biteche, 4 biteche, biteche, -teyoche, 5 biteche, 6 Sc. biteche, 7 beteach. Pa. t. 1 betēhte, 2 betachte, -tehte (-tohte, -taote), 2-4 bitaht(e), -hhte, -3te, 3 bitehte, 3-5 bi-, by-, betaght(e), -3t(e), 4 bitahut, biteched), 4-5 bi-, by-, betauht(e), -ht(e), -ght(e), -wght, -wt, 4-6 Sc. betauht, -wcht, 7 beteach. Pa. pple. analogous to pa. t. [OE. *betēc(e)an*, f. BE- 2 + *tēc(e)an* to show (:-ŌTeut. type **taikjan*, from same root as **taikno*, OE. *tācn* token). Cf. BETAKE.]

1. trans. To show, point out.

c 1000 *Ag. Gosp.* Luke xxii. 12 And he eow betacð mycel healle gedæfte.

2. To hand over, deliver, give up, yield. Const. with *dat.*, or *to*, *til*, *unto*.

a 1000 *ÆLFRIC Colloquy* P. 21 Ic betace hig ðam yrrhincge. c 1000 *Ag. Gosp.* Luke i. 2 Swa us betæhtun ða þe hyt of frymde gesawon. c 1275 Lamb. Hom. 11 Drihten him bitahte twa stanene tables breode. c 1275 Cott. Hom. 221 Alle hi beoð þe betefhte. a 1225 *Ancre. R.* 300, I chulle ouer foes lond bitechen in his honden. a 1300 CURSOR M. 3539 þe mete mi moder me bi-taght. 1375 BARBOUR *Bruce* i. 610 The king betauht hym in that steid The Endentur. c 1400 MAUNDEV. v. 63 That is the Place where oure Lord betauhten the Ten Comandementes to Moyses. 1513 DOUGLAS *Æneis* xl. xl. 124 To ane unhappy chance betauht is sche.

3. To hand over as a trust; to entrust, commit, give in charge to.

c 1000 *Ag. Gosp.* Matt. xxv. 15 [He] betēhte hym hys æhta. 1260 *Halton G.* *ibid.*, Betacte [v. r. betachte]. c 1205 LAY. 11503 Ich him wulle bitechen [c 1250 bi-teche] mine kine-riche. a 1300 CURSOR M. 4254 þe wardeinscipp of al his aght Has putifur ioseph bi-taght [v. r. betagt, bitauht]. c 1425 *Seven Sag.* (P.) 324 The emperor . . . byddis 3ow . . . bryng with 3ow his son dere, That he betauht 3ow to lere. 1513 DOUGLAS *Æneis* II. xii. [xl.] 113 Our Troiane Goddis . . . Onto my feris betawcht I, for to keep.

4. To commit or commend (one), by the expression of a wish, to (God, the devil, etc.). As a formula of leave-taking: To bid adieu or good-bye. c 1314 *Guy Warw.* (A) 1248 Fader, god y þe biteche And mi leue moder al-so; For hastiliche ichil nou go. c 1330 *Amis & Amil.* 328 Aither bitaught other heuen king And went in her iurne. 1375 BARBOUR *Bruce* xv. 538 Quhen wiffis vald thar childir ban That wald . . . Beteche thame to the blak douglass. c 1386 CHAUCER *Melib.* Prolog. 6 Now swich a Rym the deuel i biteche. 1535 STEWART *Cron. Scot.* (1856) III. 65 Beteichand hir to him that bocht ws deir. 1685 G. SINCLAIR in R. Law *Memor.* (1818) 124 He beteached himself strongly to God.

bethink themselves, and to take soberer measures. 1800 W. IRVING *Sketch Bk.* I. 83 Rip bethought himself a moment.
b. with *inf.* (obs.) or *obj. clause*, esp. indirect interrogative.

c 1175 *Lamb. Hom.* 155 Hwenne ho hom biðohten þet heo isuneþed heðden. c 1386 CHAUCER *Pers. T.* p 228 Bythynke him wel that he hath deserved thilke peynes. 1634 HEYWOOD *M'head lost* IV. Wks. 1874 IV. 148 Bethinke thee what thou vnderstak'st. 1851 HELPS *Comp. Solit.* vi. (ed. 1874) 84 To bethink themselves how little they may owe to their own merit.

c. with *of* (formerly *on*, *upon*).

c 1200 ORMIN 2017 þatt Godess þeoww himm 3eorne birrþ Bihennkenn & bilokenn, Off all þatt tatt he wile don. 1297 R. GLOUC. 368 Kyng Wyllam byþohte hym ek of þe volc, þat was verlore. c 1380 WYCLIF *Wks.* (1880) 372 He byþohte hym on þis swerde. 1413 LYDG. *Pylgr. Soule* v. v. (1859) 76 Thenne I bethought me vpon the byrdes. 1603 SHAKS. *Meas. for M.* v. i. 461, I haue bethought me of another fault. 1870 BRYANT *Liad* I. iv. 113 The Greeks will. Bethink them of their country.

9. To take it into one's head, propose to oneself, resolve. (F. *s'avisé*.)

c 1325 E. E. *Allit. P.* B. 125 þe mayster him biþoht, þat he wolde se þe semblē. 1387 TREVIS *Hiden* I. 139 Þanne þe lordes byþohte hem . . . otherwise to fyte. 1601 SHAKS. *Jul. C.* iv. iii. 251 It may be I shall otherwise bethinke me. 1712 STEELE *Spect.* No. 264 p 5 A Fellow . . . has bethought himself of joining Profit and Pleasure together. 1884 COURT-HOUSE *Addison* iv. 58 Charles naturally bethought himself of calling literature to his assistance.

III. *intr.*

10. To consider, reflect, meditate, think. *arch.*
c 1300 *Beket* 43 He mooste biþenche. For he was stronge adrad þut. 1382 WYCLIF *Gen.* xxiv. 63 He was goon out to biþenke in the field. 1413 LYDG. *Pylgr. Soule* i. xiv. (1859) 11, I gan to byþenke to me yf euer I had seruyd ony seynt. 1590 SWINBURN *Testaments* Ded., Bethinking vvith myselve (most reuerende Father). 1817 BYRON *Manfred* I. i. 167 Bethink ere thou dismiss us, ask again.

† b. with *of*, *on*, *upon*; = 1-4. *Obs.*

a 1200 *Moral Ode* 162 in *Trin. Coll. Hom.* 224 He biðohte an helle fur. c 1205 LAY. 5021 Biðenc o ðire monschipe. a 1300 *Floris & Bl.* 428 While I biþenche of sume ginne. 1384 CHAUCER *H. Fame* 1176 On this Castell to bethynke. 1597 J. PAYNE *Royal Exch.* 10, I wyshe . . . the exchange . . . to bethinck on the wayters . . . on there . . . soules. 1608 J. KING *Serm.* 38 His Eie-liddes haue considered and bethought of the means. 1647 W. BROWNE *Poet.* II. 75 He bethought on the meanes.

IV. *passive.*

11. To be bethought: to bethink oneself (in senses 7, 8, 9). See also BETHOUGHT.

c 1250 O. E. *Misc.* 166 To bidden his milce to late we beoð biþohte. c 1386 CHAUCER *Prolog.* 767 Of a myrthe I am right now bythoght to doon yow ese. c 1400 *Pallad. on Husband.* 1. 1080 It is not strange. An husbonde on his baathe to be bethought. 1605 SHAKS. *Lear* II. iii. 6 And am bethought To take the basest, and most poorest shape.

Bethinking (bē'þɪŋkɪŋ), *vbl. sb.* [f. *prec.* + -ING¹.] The action of thinking, considering, reflecting, or remembering.

1340 *Ayeb.* 233 Þou sæst louye god . . . mid al þine beþenkinge wyþoute uorþetunge. a 1500 *Myrr.* Our Ladye 246 Sorowe . . . that came of the bethynkinge of payne and of dethe. 1598 SHAKS. *Ven. & Ad.* 1024 Trifles vnwtressed . . . Thy coward heart with false bethinking greues. 1873 MRS. WHITNEY *Other Girls* xxi. 290 The footstep suddenly checked; then, as if with . . . swift bethinking, it went by.

Bethlehem, **Bethlem**: see BEDLAM.

† **Bethlehemite**, *Obs.* Also **Bethlemitē**. [f. BETHLEHEM + -ITE.] One of an order of monks existing in England in the 13th century; they wore a five-rayed star upon the breast, in memory of the star which announced the Nativity of Christ at Bethlehem. 1721 in BAILEY.

Bethorn, **bethresten**, **bethunder**: see BE-.

Bethought (bē'þɔʊt), *pple.* and *a.* [f. BETHINK.]
† 1. Of a thing: Intended, purposed, contrived. *Obs.*
c 1200 *Trin. Coll. Hom.* 63 Beten [we] for þat we haue agilt her biforen . . . oðer recheluste ðe is erueðer to betende, oðer to biþohte þinge þe is swiþe erueðer to betende.

† 2. Of a person: Minded, disposed; chiefly in comb. with *well*, *ill*, etc. *Obs.*

c 1205 LAY. 8831 Nu is min eam wel biðoht. a 1250 O. E. *Misc.* 69 Nere we nouht so ofte biðerch ne so vuele byþohte. c 1430 *Syr Tryam.* 1539 Now am ywelle bethoght.

Bethout, variant of BYTHOUT, without.

† **Bethphany**, *-ie*. *Obs.* [ad. med. L. *bethphania*, made up of Heb. בֵּית־בֶּתְרִי *beth* house, and -*phania*, Gr. -*φάνεια* showing, manifestation, in ἐπιφάνεια EPIPHANY.] A term invented by the Schoolmen for the 'third divine manifestation' commemorated in the feast of Epiphany, viz. the miracle 'in the house' at Cana of Galilee.

1635 AUSTIN *Medit.* 55 By three Apparitions our Saviour was manifested this day . . . the third was the Bethphania in *Domo* when at a Marriage hee turned Water into Wine in a House. . . Though the Feast bee of all the three Manifestations, yet the Epiphany hath carried away the name both from the Theophania and the Bethphania. 1875 SMITH *Dict. Chr. Antiq.* I. 610/1. 1883 STALLYBRASS *tr. Grimm's Teut. Mythol.* II. 586 That miracle [turning water into wine] to which was given a special name, *bethphania*.

Bethral, *-el*, var. of BEDRAL, beadle. Hence, **Bethrelian**, *a. nonce-wd.*

1870 RAMSAY *Remin.* (ed. 18) *Introd.* 36 *The esprit de corps* of the bethrelian mind.

† **Bethrall**, *v.* *Obs.* rare⁻¹. [f. BE- 5 + THBALL.] *trans.* To enthrall, enslave.

1596 SPENSER *F. Q.* I. viii. 28 She . . . did my lord bethrall.
† **Bethrough**, *prep.* *Obs.* rare⁻¹. In 5 *Sc.* be throwch. [f. BE- + THROUGH.] Throughout.
c 1425 WYNTOUN *Crow.* vii. vi. 355 Be throwch þe Land traweland.

† **Bethrow**, *v.* *Obs.* rare. [f. BE- + THROW *v.*] *trans.* To 'throw' or twist about, to torture.

1393 GOWER *Conf.* III. 5, I with loue am so bethrowe . . . That I am verliche dronke.

Bethumb (bē'þʊm), *v.* [f. BE- + THUMB *v.*] To take hold of or mark with the thumbs. Hence **Bethumbed** *pple. a.*

1657 H. CROWCH *Welsh Trav.* 19 The bread and butter so bethumbs. 1882 *Blackw. Mag.* XI. 64 Bethumbing and bequoting their beauties into triteness and commonplace.

1840 POE *W. Wilson* Wks. I. 420 Much-bethumbed books.

Bethump (bē'þʊmp), *v.* [f. BE- + THUMP *v.*] *trans.* To thump soundly. Also *fig.* Hence,

Bethumped *pple. a.*, **Bethumping** *vbl. sb.*

1595 SHAKS. *John* II. i. 466, I was neuer so bethumped with words. 1657 H. CROWCH *Welsh Trav.* 6 Those stones did so bethump her bones. 1826 SCOTT *Woodst.* (1832) I. 92 Bethumping us with his texts. 1831 *Fraser's Mag.* III. 102 Here's a bethumping of words, with a vengeance.

Bethwack (bē'þwæk), *v.* [f. BE- + THWACK.] *trans.* To pelt, thrash, or cudgel soundly.

1555 *Fardle Factions* I. vi. 92 They . . . haue a good sporte to all to bethwacke it with stones. 1598 R. BERNARD *tr. Terence Andr.* I. ii. (1629) 16, I will all to becurry thee, or bethwacke thy coate. 1848 LOWELL *Poet. Wks.* (1879) 143 He bangs and bethwacks them.

Bethwyne (bē'þwɪn). Also **bethwyn**, **pethwind**. [Of unknown derivation: the second element is *perh. wind*: the whole looks like a perversion of *bend-with* or *bind-with*.] A name given locally to various twining plants: a. The Great Hedge Convolvulus (*C. sepium*). b. The Bear-bind (*Polygonum Convolvulus*). c. The Traveller's Joy (*Clematis Vitalba*).

1609 C. BUTLER *Fem. Mon.* (1623) iii. Fij, And then with a small plant Garth or Belt of Bethwyn, Bramble, Brier, or the like, gird the Hackle close to the Hiue. 1863 KINGSLEY *Water Bab.* (1878) 187 There was no more hope of rooting out them than of rooting out peth-winds [*convolvulus*]. 1875 PARISH *Sussex Gloss.*, *Bethwyne*, the wild clematis.

Betide (bē'tɪd), *v.* Forms: 2-3 bitiden, 3-4 bi-, bytyden, 4-5 bi-, bytide, 4-7 betyd(e, 4-betide. *Pa. t.* 3-4 bitidde, 4 bitide, 4-5 bi-, bytydd, -tydde, 5 bytid, beted, 5-6 betyd, -tid, 6 -tyded, -tided. *Pa. pple.* 3-4 bitid, 4-5 betyd, 5-6 betid, 4-5 bi-, betyde, 5-7 betide, 6 betidde, -tidd, (-tight), 7 -tyded, 6- betided, 9 betid. [ME. *bitide-n*, f. *bi-*, BE- 2 + *tide-n* to happen; see *TIDE* *v.*]

1. *intr.* To happen, befall. Only in 3rd pers. and often *impers.*

c 1250 *Gen. & Ex.* 2358 Sone it was king pharaon kid Hu ðis newe tidung wurd bi-tid. 1297 R. GLOUC. 418 He nolde non longer abyde . . . tyde wat so bytyde. a 1300 *Cursor M.* 21723 Has bitid off mani quar, þat less folc ouercumen þe mar. c 1380 WYCLIF *Wks.* (1880) 377 *Pe casis* þat bytyden bytwene . . . naaman and helize. c 1400 *Anturs Arth.* i. In the tyme of Arther thys antur be-tydde. 1591 SPENSER *M. Hubberd* 37 A strange adventure, that betided Betwixt the Foxe and th' Ape. 1647 W. BROWNE *Poet.* II. 199 The wounded man . . . about to aske what was betided. 1705 H. WALPOLE *Otranto* iii. (1798) 55 The death of my son betiding while my soul was under this anxiety. a 1800 *Pop. Rime attrib. to T. of Erceid.* in *Scott Minstr.* III. 209 Betide betide, whatever betide, Haig shall be Haig of Bemerside. 1870 MORRIS *Earthly Par.* III. iv. 3 Who 'gan to tell Mishaps betid upon the winter seas.

b. *Const. dative object*; occas. *to, unto*.

c 1250 *Lamb. Hom.* 71 Ac 3if us eni ufel bitit! þonke we gode in ure wit. c 1250 LAY. 2237 Wel þe sal bytyde. c 1386 *Miller's T.* 264 A man woot litel what him schal betyde. c 1430 *How Gd. Wiif taughte D.* 174 in *Babes Bk.* (1868) 45 What-sum-euere þee bitide, Make not þin husbonde poore with spendinge. 1570 SPENSER *Sheph. Cal.* Nov. 174 As if some cuill were to her betight [*gloss.* happened]. 1603 KNOLLES *Hist. Turks* (1621) 122 Which calamitie betided unto the Christians. 1832 Ht. MARTINEAU *Hill & Vall.* ix. 139 Whatever fortune betides you.

c. *esp.* in the expression of a wish. Now almost exclusively in 'Woe betide!'

c 1325 E. E. *Allit. P.* B. 522 Multiplyez on þis molde, & menske yow bytyde. 1393 LANGL. *P. Pl.* C. iv. 157 Er ich wedde suche a wif wo me by-tyde. 1633 HEYWOOD *Eng. Trav.* iv. Wks. 1874 IV. 70 A happy Morning now betide you Lady. 1808 SCOTT *Marm.* III. xxiii. But woe betide the wandering wight. 1868 G. DUFF *Pol. Surv.* (1868) 194 Woe betide the unfortunate shipmaster.

† 2. To become of (rarely *on*). *Obs.*

a 1200 *Cursor M.* 3274 For þe þis well sal i habide Quat o mi nerrand mai be tide. 1494 FAYAN *VII.* cxxii. 246 Howe so it betyde of the kyng. 1594 SHAKS. *Rich.* III. i. iii. 6 If he were dead, what would betide on me? 1675 HOBBS *Liad* (1677) 189 What is betide Of th' Argive threats.

† 3. To fall to as a possession. *Obs.*
a 1200 *Cursor M.* 4035 Þir breþer tuain þam tok to red To dele þair landes þam bi-tuix. 'Til esau bitid ebron. c 1430 *Syr Gener.* 4384 Twoo the best knyghts of all our side, Such twoo shal neuer vs betide. 1577 BYRD *Sonn.* in *Arb. Garner* II. 88 If I had Davids crown to me betide.

† 4. To become or befit (any one). *Obs.*

1554 *Philpot Exam. & Writ.* (1842) 327 It betideth no man to doubt of the authority . . . of thilk things. 1566 J. STUDLEY *Seneca's Medea* (1581) 136 She threatens our king more then doth her betyde.

5. In *pa. pple.* Circumstanced, beset, begone.

1470 HARDING *Chron.* ci. vii. Then with his staffe he slewe hym so betyd.

† *catachr.* To bode, betoken.

[Not in JOHNSON 1773.] a 1799 COWPER *Morn. Dream* 41 Awaking, how could I but muse At what such a dream should betide? 1850 PRESCOTT *Perru* (1856) II. 251 The Spaniards doubted . . . whether it betided them good or evil.

† **Betide**, *sb.* *Obs.* rare⁻¹. [f. *prec.*] Befalling, event, fortune, chance.

1590 GREENE *Neuer too late* (1600) 87 My wretched hart wounded with bad betide.

† **Betider**, *Obs.* rare⁻¹. [f. BETIDE *v.* + -ER¹.] That which betides or befalls; an accident.

1674 N. FAIRFAX *Bulk & Selv.* 196 'Tis clear that darkness or Sun-light, are such narrow betides of body.

† **Betiding**, *vbl. sb.* *Obs.* [f. BETIDE *v.* + -ING¹.] Happening, occurrence.

c 1374 CHAUCER *Boeth.* v. iii. 155 Þe bytydyng of þinges y-wist byforn is necessarie . . . al þou3 þat it ne seme nat þat the prescience bryngne in necessite of bytydyng of þinges to comen.

† **Betie**, *v.* *Obs.* [f. BE- + TIE *v.*] *trans.* To tie round, bind fast.

1576 *Parad. Dainty Dev.* Bij, I turne, I chaunge from side to side, And stretch me in sorrowes linkes betyde.

Betight, incorrect form of *pa. pple.* of BETIDE.

Betill(e), *obs. f.* BEADLE, BEETLE, BETEELA.

† **Betimber**, *v.* *Obs.* [OE. *betimbr*(*ð*)an, f. BE- + *timbr*(*ð*)an to build.] *trans.* To build.

a 1000 *Brownliff* 6299 And betimbreðon on tyn dagum beadu-rofes beacn. 1829 SOUTHEY in *Q. Rev.* 362 Finan built, or, in Saxon phrase, betimbered, a humble edifice.]

† **Betimbered**, *pple. a.* [f. BE- + TIMBER *sb.*] Furnished with timber.

1848 H. MILLER *First Impr.* xi. (1857) 172 Its old venerable dwellings betimbered with dark oak.

† **Betime**, **bitime**, *v.* *Obs.* [f. *bi-*, BE- + *time*(n) to happen: see *TIME* *v.*] *intr.* To betide.

a 1225 *Ancre R.* 324 3if sunne bitimed bi nihte. *Ibid.* 340 Uorði þet swuch cas, and swuch auenture bitimed to summe monne. a 1225 *St. Markar.* 2 Bitimed umbe stunde þat ter com ut of asie toward antioche þes feondes an foster.

¶ In the following the Folio of 1623 and many editions have *be time* in two words: the chronology of the verb supports their reading.

1588 SHAKS. *L. L. L.* iv. iii. 382 No time shall be omitted, That will betime (be time), and may by vs be fitted.

† **Betime**, *adv.* *Obs.* Also 3-4 bitime, 4 bityme, 4-6 betyme, 6 bytime, -tyme. [properly a phrase: ME. *bi-, by-time*, i. e. *by time*.]

1. In good time, early, seasonably.

a 1300 *Cursor M.* 4321 Bettur it es bi-time to stint þan folu þi prai þat es bot tint. c 1385 CHAUCER *L. G. W.* 452 þfor who so 3euyth a gifte or doth a grace, Do it be tyme his thank is wel the more. 1509 HAWES *Conv. Swearers* 20 Amende by tyme lest I take vengeance. 1595 SHAKS. *John* iv. iii. 98 Put vp thy sword betime. a 1632 Br. M. SMYTH *Serm.* 274 She was very betime . . . lewd or naught.

2. *spec.* At an early hour, early in the day.

c 1250 *Gen. & Ex.* 1088 Elles sulen he brennen and for-faren, If he ne bi time heðen[en] waren. a 1300 K. Horn 905 For ischal beo þer bitime, A soneday bi tyme. 1528 WARDE *Alexis' Secr.* (1568) 424, In the morninge betime take some of the foresaied preservatives. 1606 SHAKS. *Ant. & Cl.* iv. iv. 20 To businesse that we loue, we rise betime. 1630 PAGITT *Christianogr.* III. (1636) 78 Upon Saturday morning betime.

† **Betimely**, *a.* *Obs.* rare⁻¹. [f. BETIME, after *timely*. Cf. *Da. betimelig* *adv.*] Early.

1594 CAREW *Tasso* (1881) 96 We see the morning ryse In his fresh blooming, and betimely howes.

Betimes (bē'taɪmz), *adv.* Forms: 4 bitimes, -tymes, 4-5 be-, bytymes, 5-6 bytymes, 6 be-tymes, bytimes, (8-9 by times), 6- betimes. [f. BETIME + *advb.* genitive -s; cf. *beside*, *besides*.]

1. At an early time, period, or season; early in the year; early in life.

c 1314 *Guy Warw.* 1212 Al bi times þou mi3t wende; 3ete no hastow ben here a moneþ to pende. 1578 LYVE *Dodoens* 208 The flowers of the first kinde, do shewe bytimes, as in Marche or before. 1611 BIBLE *Prov.* xiii. 24 He that loueth him, chasteneth him betimes. 1791 J. WILSON in *Sparks Corr. Amer. Rev.* (1853) IV. 388 Good principles . . . should be laid betimes, as the foundation. 1875 HELPS *Ess.* 59 He [man of business] must learn betimes to love truth.

2. *spec.* At an early hour, early in the morning.

1481 CAXTON *Reynard* 43, I wil to morow bytymes as the sonne riseth take my way to rome. 1535 COVERDALE *Bible* Josh. vii. 16 Iosua gat him vp by tymes in the mornynge. 1601 SHAKS. *Twel. N.* II. iii. 2 Not to be a bedde after mid-night, is to be vp betimes. 1663 *Perru's Diary* 1 Sept., Up pretty betimes, and after a little at my violl, to my office. 1828 SCOTT *F. M. Perth* III. 59, I will ride to Perth to-morrow by times.

3. In good time, in due time; while there is yet time, before it is too late.

c 1280 WYCLIF *Wks.* (1880) 372 And it wer nede þat cristis chirche toke tente to þis word by-tymes. 1545 BRINKLOW *Complaynt* (1874) 95 Repent betymes, and . . . fall diligently to prayer. 1667 MILTON *P. L.* III. 186 To appease betimes Th' incensed Deitie. 1794 G. ADAMS *Nat. & Exp. Philos.* II. xvii. 298 Happy those who learn this lesson betimes. 1860 HAWTHORNE *Marb. Faun* (1879) II. xxv. 254 It is wise, therefore, to come back betimes, or never.

4. In a short time, soon, speedily, anon, forthwith.
c 1400 *Destr. Troy* xiv. 5966 So hit tid hom tensiche betymys þat day. 1593 SHAKS. *Rich.* II. ii. 36 He tyres

betimes, that spurs too fast betimes. 1707 FREIND *Peterboro's Cond. Sp.* 180 We hope for a Maritime Force betimes in these Seas.

† **Betine**, *v. Obs. rare*—1. [f. BE-2 + *tine*, late form of TIND, to kindle.] To set fire to.

1569 FULLER *App. Inj. Innoc.* (1840) 612 Bishop Williams fell foul on the books, moving they might be burned. Let every one betine his share herein.

Betinge, *betipple*, *betire*, etc.: see BE-*pref.*

Betitle (bɛtɪtəl), *v.* [f. BE-6 + TITLE.] *trans.* To give a name or title to; to entitle. Hence **Betitled** *ppl. a.*, furnished with a title.

1564 CROWELL *Let. & Sp.* (Carl. 1871) IV. 28 But for men on this principle to betitle themselves, that they are the only men, etc. 1830 CARLYLE *Misc.* III. 82 A milder second picture was painted over the canvas of the first, and betitled, Glorious Revolution. 1858 — *Fredk. Gl.* (1865) II. vi. iii. 163 A mere betitled, betitled military gentleman.

Betle, *obs. form of BETEL, BETLE.*

Betocne, *obs. form of BETOKEN.*

† **Betoi'l**, *v. Obs.* Also 7 *betoyl*. [f. BE-+ TOIL *sb.* and *v.*] *trans.* To worry or exercise with toil. Hence **Betoi'led** *ppl. a.*

1662 ROWLANDS *Good News & Bad* 36 This is better farre then scurvy wooing, Betoyl'd about a wife, and cannot get her. a 1683 EVELYN *Hist. Relig.* (1850) I. 243 Why, then, do we any longer perplex and betoil ourselves in macerating studies? 1837 CARLYLE *Fr. Rev.* I. i. iv. iii. Poor Lackalls, all betoiled, besoiled, encrusted into dim defacement.

Betoken (bɛtəʊkən), *v.* Forms: 2-3 *bitacnien*, *bitoonen*, 3 *orm. bitacnenn*, 3-4 *be-, bi-, by-taken(en, -in(en, -3-6 be-, bi-, bytoken(e, -3-on(e, -4-5 -yn(e), 4 bytokne, betoone, 6 Sc. betakin, -takin (?betoke), 4- betoken.* [Early ME. *bitacnien*, later *bitok(e)nen*, prob. OE. **betācniān*, not recorded (but cf. OHG. *bitacniān* mod. Ger. *bezeichnen*, Du. *beteekenen*), f. *bi-*, BE-+ *tācniān* to signify, f. *tācni* TOEKN.]

† 1. *trans.* To signify, mean; to denote, express in words. *Obs.*

c 1175 *Lamb. Hom.* 79 Jerusalem bitacnēd griþes siþþe. c 1200 *Trin. Coll. Hom.* 17 Ich wille . . segge ou þe crede word after word, and þarmid hwat elch word bitocnēd. 1504 *Ord. Crysten Men* (W. de W. 1506) i. ii. 11 Or in other langage or wordes betokenynge the same sentence. 1507 FLEMING *Contn. Holinshed* III. 1333 When men intend to betoken the exceeding huge greatness of Rome, they terme it the triumphant Rome. 1622 BRINSLEY *Lud. Lit.* vi. (1627) 68 When two Substantives come together, betokening divers things.

† 2. *absol. Obs.*

1561 T. NORTON *Calvin's Inst.* iii. 232 Many that boast themselves to be Christians . . tremble at euery mention of it [death], as of a thing betokening vnluckely and vnhappy. 1674 N. FAIRFAX *Bulk & Selv.* 200 *World*, may betoken plurally or indefinitely.

† 2. To be a type or emblem of; to typify, symbolize. (Sometimes with *obj. clause*.) *Obs.*

c 1175 *Lamb. Hom.* 89 þet lomb bitacnede cristes þrowunge. a 1300 *Cursor M.* 41 Þis like tre Bytakens man . . Þis fruit bitakens alle oure dedis Both gode and ille. 1393 *LANGT. P. Pl. C.* xx. 118 The paume . . bytokneþ trewely . . The holy goth of heuene. c 1440 *Gesta Rom.* 71 þe rook . . betokenyþ okerers and false merchauntz. 1534 MORE *On the Passiō* i. Wks. 1331/2 Thus excellent high sacrament . . betokeneth also manyfold merueilous mysteries. 1607 MILTON *P. L.* xl. 867 In the Cloud a Bow . . Betok'ning peace from God and Cov'nant new.

3. To be a token, sign, or omen of; to give promise of, augur, presage.

c 1205 LAY. 16008 What bitacnēd þa draken þe bene dune makeden. a 1300 *Cursor M.* 459 Þas ober seven nede nett Bitakens seuen yer of hunger. c 1460 *Trouneley Myst.* 124 Yond starne betokyns . . The byrthe of a prync. 1524 SHAKS. *Ven. & Ad.* 453 Like a red morn, that ever yet betoken'd Wreck to the seaman, tempest to the field. 1635 SWAN *Spec. M.* v. § 2 (1643) 125 They betoken rain and moist weather. 1853 KANE *Grinnell Exp.* xxix. (1856) 249 Everything betokened a crisis.

4. To give evidence of, point to, indicate, show.

1866 *Bk. St. Alban's* Avijb. And much it betokyns hardenes. 1800 SHAKS. *Ham.* v. i. 242 This doth betoken The Coarse they follow did with disperate hand Fore do it owne life. 1814 CARY *Dante's Inf.* vii. 114 All naked, and with looks Betokening rage. 1863 HAWTHORNE *Old Home* (1879) 302 As he talked . . he betokened in many ways a fine . . sensibility. 1871 MACDUFF *Mem. Patmos* iv. 44 This symbolic number further betokens, that the epistolary addresses were designed as a directory of perpetual obligation.

b. *With of.* To give indication.

1793 HOLCROFT *Lavater's Physiog.* xl. 203 As weak hair betokens of fear, so does strong hair courage.

† 5. Used by Wyclif in the sense of 'set a mark upon' (*L. signare*), and 'presage, predict, prophesy.'

1382 WYCLIF *1sa. Prol.* And tho3 . . he betocne [v. r. betokeneth] the a3eencomynge of the puple in to Iewerie. — *John* vi. 27 God the fadir bitokenede or markede him [*Vulg.* signavit].

Betokener (bɛtəʊkənər), [f. BETOKEN *v.* + -ER¹.] He who or that which betokens or indicates. 1507 GOLDING *De Mornay* ix. 123 This worde *forige* being a betokener of time, excludeth . . eternitie. 1662 J. CHANDLER *Van Helmont's Oriat.* 332 Anatomy . . as if it were the undoubted betokener, and healer of all Diseases.

Betokening (bɛtəʊkənɪŋ), *vbl. sb.* [f. prec. + -ING¹.] The giving of a sign or token; signification, meaning; emblem, symbol; omen, portent.

c 1175 *Lamb. Hom.* 51 3e habbeð iherd of þis putte þe bitacninge. a 1225 *Anscr. R.* 50 þe blake cloð also tekeðe

bitocnunge. a 1400 *Cursor M.* 2682 (Trin.) þe werke of circumcysyng Bereþ greet bitokenyng [*Gott.* forbisynig]. 1489 CAXTON *Faytes of A.* ii. vi. 103 Hys folke toke hit for an euyl betoknyng. 1532 MORE *Confut. Tindale* Wks. 374/1 He mocketh not the sacramentes but the mynysters that openeth not the betokeninges thereof. 1674 N. FAIRFAX *Bulk & Selv.* To Rdr., If you . . lay their betokenings to the things whose names they bear.

Betokening, *ppl. a.* [f. as prec. + -ING².] Significant, symbolic.

1584 FENNER *Def. Ministers* (1587) 106 It is a signe, a betokening signe, which men doe worship. 1646 [GREGORY] *Notes & Obs.* (1650) 109 A glorious and betokening Light shined round about this Holy Child.

Betomble, *obs. form of BETUMBLE.*

|| **Beton** (bɛtən, bɛtən), [F. *béton* :—OF. *betun* rubble, rubbish, dirt, app. a. Pr. *betun* cement :—L. *bitūmen* mineral pitch (which was used as a cement).] A kind of concrete, composed of sand, lime, and hydraulic cement.

1819 *Pantologia*, *Beton*, a name given by the French engineers to a kind of mortar, which they use in raising the foundations of masonry under water. 1877 WAKELL *Hugo's Miserables* v. xix. 12 With a coating of concrete on a foundation of beton. 1885 *N. York Weekly Sun* 29 Apr. 3/5 A monolithic block of beton containing the vast quantity of 400 cubic yards.

Betongue (bɛtɒŋ), *v.* [f. BE-6 + TONGUE *sb.*] *trans.* To assail with the tongue; to flout, rally.

1639 AINSWORTH *Annot. Ps. ci.* 5 Hurteþ with tongue—traduceth, or (as the Hebrew phrase is) betongueth. 1859 MASSON *Milton* I. 33 How Ben and Shakespeare betongued each other, while the others listened and wondered.

Betony (bɛtəni), *Bot.* Forms: (1) *betonice*, 4-6 *betone*, 5 *betan*, *batany*, 5-6 *betany*, *betayne*, *betonye*, 6 *bittonie*, *byten*, *bytone*, *betain(e, -6-7 betonie*, 7 *bettony*, 5- *betony*. [a. F. *bétoine*, ad. late L. **betonia* for *betonica*, written by Pliny (*N. H.* xxv. 46) *vettonica*, and said by him to be a Gaulish name for a plant discovered by a Spanish tribe called Vettones. (Previously in OE. in the Latin form *betonica*.)]

1. *prop.* A plant (*Stachys Betonica*) of the Labiate order, having spiked purple flowers and ovate crenate leaves. In former days medicinal and magical virtues were attributed to it.

[c 1000 *Ags. Leechb.* II. 58 Wyl 6n ealað . . betonican.] a 1275 in *Wt. Wulker Voc.* 554 *Bethonica*, beteine. c 1375/1 BARBOUR *St. Baptista* 760 In þe prouince of þe sarr (= tatar?) . . Quhare mene makis drink of spycery—Of betone þare is gret copy. c 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 34 Betayne, herbe [1499 *batany* or *betony*], *betonica*. 1483 *Cath. Angl.* 30 Betan, harba. 1519 HORMAN *Vulg. in Promp. Parv.* 34 Nesynge is caused with byten (*betonica*) thrust in the nostril. 1586 COGAN *Haven Health* lxxiii. (1636) 79 Betaine, though it grow wilde, yet it is set in many Gardens. 1647 BURTON *Anat. Mel.* iii. iv. ii. vi. (1676) 721 All which [herbs], expel Devils. The Emperour Augustus . . approves of Betony to this purpose. 1821 CLARE *Vill. Ministr.* I. 114 Wild-wood on each road we see; And medicinal betony.

b. Applied (with qualification) to other British plants supposed to resemble the preceding in some respect: St. Paul's Betony, a small species of Speedwell (*Veronica serpyllifolia*); Water-Betony, a figwort (*Scrophularia aquatica*) having crenate leaves. In contradistinction to these, betony itself was called *Head Betony*.

1741 *Compl. Fam. Piece* i. iv. 244 Take . . Leaves of . . Lungwort . . Paul's Betony, Self-heal. 1796 MORSE *Amer. Geog.* I. 189 Head Betony (*Betonica officinalis*).

† **Betorn**, *ppl. a. Obs.* [f. BE-1 + TORN.] a. Torn. b. Torn about the sides, tattered.

a 1300 *Cursor M.* 24045 Al his flexis it was be-torn [v. r. bitornie]. 1561 NORTON & SACKV. *Gorboduc* iv. i. 47 Whose hart betorne out of his panting breast. 1599 *Parismus* II. (1661) 218 Her ornaments all betorn and tattered.

Betoss (bɛtɒs), *v.* [f. BE-1 + TOSS *v.*] *trans.* To toss about. Hence **Betossed** *ppl. a.*

1582 T. WATSON *Hekatompath.* lxxv. (Arb.) 121 With grieuous wars, with toyles, with storms betoss. 1592 SHAKS. *Rom. & Jul.* v. iii. 76 My betossed soule. 1630 J. TAYLOR (Water P.) *Wks.* II. 256/2 Man doth man within the Law betosse. 1845 *Whitehall* ix. 410, I am betossed on a sea of perplexities.

Betoure, *betoyl*, *obs. ff. BITTERN, BETOIL.*

Betowel, *betowred*, *betraoe*, etc.: see BE-.

† **Betrack**, *v. Obs.* [f. BE-2 + TRACK *v.*] *trans.* To trace or track carefully. Hence **Betracker**, *spec. one who searches cloth for faults.*

1576 in *Stow Survey* (Strype 1754) II. v. xx. 403/2 If the owner thinketh his baye to be better, he doth appeal to another company called Betrackers.

† **Betrade**, *bytrade*, *v. Obs. north.* Pa. t. bytradit, betrat. (Cf. BETRAUT.) A variant of BETRAY; perhaps influenced by L. *tradere*.

c 1375 BARBOUR *Troy-bk.* II. 849 Thy contrie þow bytradit has. c 1400 *Destr. Troy* xxix. 12026 The couenand to kepe . . þat betrat hom þe toun.

Betrail (bɛtɹɪl), *v.* [f. BE-4 + TRAIL.] *trans.* To trail round or over.

1640 FULLER *Joseph's Coat* (1867) 221 As loving ivy on an oak did wind And with her curling flexures it betrail. **Betrained**: see BETRAYNED.

† **Betraine**, *-traiash*, *v. Obs.* Forms: 4 *bi-, betrais(e, -trayse, bitrissah, bytrassah, betreyss,*

Sc. betrese, 4-6 *betrais(s, 5 betraisale, -trayaho, -trascho, 6 betraash, -trayash, Sc. betrase.* [f. BE-2 + *traiiss-, trahiss-*, lengthened stem of F. *trahir* to BETRAY, q.v.] A by-form of BETRAY, chiefly northern.

1. *trans.* To deliver treacherously into the hand or power of an enemy; = BETRAY 1.

a 1300 *Cursor M.* 15272 He þat etes o mi dische, He sal be-trais [v. r. betrays, -traye] me. c 1386 CHAUCER *Pers. T.* 195 He hadde be bitrayed of his disciple. 1430 *LYDG. Chron. Troy* iv. xxxv. This priest . . For golde and good be-trayshed the cytye. 1558 KENNEDY *Compend. Trent.* in *Misc. Wodrow Soc.* 136 The devyll possessit the hart of Judas to betrais his Lorde.

2. To act treacherously towards (a person); to deceive (the trustful or innocent).

c 1374 CHAUCER *Troilus* v. 1780 For women that be-traised be Thorow fals folk. 1375 BARBOUR *Bruce* iv. 17 Worthy crystoll off Seytoun In-to Loudon betresyt was. c 1400 *Rom. Rose* 1648 In the snare I felle anon, That hath bitrissed many oon. 1501 DOUGLAS *Pal. Hom.* i. lx. Thou . . hes . . Hir sone . . For till betrais awaitit heir sen prime.

3. To seize or entrap (the unsuspecting).

c 1400 *Epiph.* (Turnb. 1843) 136 Yf he may askape Or deth betrasche hym with hys sodeyn rape. 1535 *LYNDESAI Satyre* 328a Haif I nocht maid ane honest schiff That has betraisit common Thift? 1583 STANYHURST *Ennis* iv. (Arb.) 108 A tarbreche quystroune . . with phrensye betrashed.

4. To reveal, disclose incidentally. Cf. BETRAY 6.

c 1400 *Rom. Rose* 1520 He therof was alle abashed; His owne shadowe was hym bytrashed.

† **Betrasing**, *vbl. sb. Obs.* = BETRAYING.

c 1385 CHAUCER *L. G. W.* 2460 3e han wel herd of Theseus deuyse In the betraysynge [v. r. betraying] of fayre Adryane.

Betrample (bɛtɹæmpəl), *v.* [f. BE-2 + TRAMPLE.] *trans.* To affect the state of (anything) by trampling; to crush, mark, dirty with the feet. Hence **Betrampled** *ppl. a.*

1565 GOLDING *Ovid's Met.* vi. (1593) 134 A field . . Betrampled every day with horse. 1644 F. WHITE *Reply Fisher* 113 They betrample their rule with vile manners. 1866 FELTON *Anc. & Mod. Gr.* i. xiii. 264 Olympus, thou by robber-feet betrampled.

Betrap (bɛtɹæp), *v.* 1. *Obs.* Also 1 *betreppan*, 3-4 *bi-, betrappe(n, 5-6 betrappe.* [OE. *betreppan*, *-treppan*, f. BE-1 + *treppan* to TRAP. Cf. the later *ATTRAP* from Fr.] *trans.* To catch in a trap, entrap, ensnare, circumvent, enclose.

a 1000 O. E. *Chron.* an. 902 (MS. C). Meahon by þone here betreppan [MS. F. *betreppan*, E. *betreppen*]. a 1225 *Anscr. R.* 174 Beo heo bitrappet [MS. C. *bitreppet*] þer ute. c 1490 CAXTON *Four Sons Aymon* xvi. (1885) 384 Ha, ha Reynawde, by my soule ye be now taken & betrapped! 1570 LEVINS *Maup.* 27 To Betrappe, *irretire, circumvenire.* 1575 CHURCHYARD *Chippes* (1817) 154 Betrap in penfold close. [1848 *Petrie & Stev. tr. O. E. Chron.* (1853) 75 Could anywhere betrap the army about.]

b. *fig.*

1393 GOWER *Conf.* III. 257 Her innocence to betrappe. 1550 *ABP. PARKER Psalter* cxl. 403 Let theyr lippes in crafty wickednes Betrap themselves.

† **Betrapp**, *v.* 2. *Obs.* [f. BE-1 + TRAP *v.* 2.] *trans.* To furnish (a horse, etc.) with trappings; to deck, adorn. *lit. and fig.*

1509 HAWES *Past. Pleas.* xxvii. lviii. Wyth haute courage betrapped fayre and gaye. 1592 NASH *Christ's T. Wks.* 1883 l. 4 note, Was neuer whore of Babylon so betrapped with abominations. 1597 R. JOHNSON *Ser. Champ.* i. xli. 87 A sable-coloured steed, betrapped with bars of burnished gold.

Betrasche, *-trase*, *-trassah*, var. **BETRAISE** *v.*

† **Betrault**, *v. Obs. north.* A synonym of BETRAY, of unexplained form. [*?betraunt*.]

c 1400 *Destr. Troy* iii. 731 So fals to be founden . . To be-trault soche a trow, þat þe trust in. *Ibid.* xxviii. 11767 And the troiens betrautid with his triet wit.

† **Betravail**, *v. Obs.* Also 4 *bitrauel*, *by-trauaille*, *-uaille*, 5-*vaylle*. [f. BE-1 + TRAVAIL *v.*] 1. *trans.* To work at; to compose (a book).

1307 TREvisa *Hiden* (1805) I. 131 storie is bytrauailled by cause of Brytayne. *Ibid.* i. xlviii. (1527) 47 b, Cyte of legyons there this Cronycle was bytravaylled.

2. To work for; to earn by labour.

1393 *LANGT. P. Pl. C.* ix. 242 With swot and swetyng face By-tulye and by-trauaille treuly oure lyf-lode. *Ibid.* xvi. 210 For no bred þat ich by-trauaille.

3. To do violence to, to violate.

1388 WYCLIF *Judg.* xx. 5 Thei bitraueliden my wijf with vnbeleuful woodnesse of letcherie.

Betravel: see BE-*pref.*

Betray (bɛtɹɪ), *v.* Forms: 3-5 *bitrai(e, -y(e, -by-, betraye*, 4-7 *betrai(e, 4- betray. Pa. pple. 5 betrayne.* [ME. *bi-, betraiin*, f. *bi-*, BE-2 + *traien* TRAY, a. OF. *trair* :—L. *tradere* to deliver, hand over.]

1. *trans.* To give up to, or place in the power of an enemy, by treachery or disloyalty.

c 1275 *Passiō Our Lord* 93 in O. E. *Misc.*, On me scal bi-traye þat nu is vre yuere. a 1300 *Cursor M.* 16514 Iudas . . come als traitur ful fals his lauerd for to be-trai. 1382 WYCLIF *Jer.* xxvi. 15 An ynnocent blod 3ee shul betraye a3en 3ou self. c 1400 *Destr. Troy* xxviii. 11196 The toun to be-tray, truly, þai thought. 1526 TINDALE *Matt.* xxvi. 21 Verely I saye vnto you, that one of you shall betraye [WYCLIF, *bitraye*] me. 1584 POWELL *Lloyd's Cambria* 374 Llewelyn was betrayed by the men of Buelth. 1718 POPE *Iliad* x. 521 Once a traitor, thou betray'st no more. 1862 STANLEY *Jew. Ch.* (1877) I. xiii. 265 The faithless guardian . . tempted to betray the sacred treasure.

+ b. To give up or expose to punishment. *Obs.*
 1590 SHAKS. *Com. Err.* v. 90 She did betray me to my
 own reproof. 1598 *Merry W.* iii. iii. 207 To betray him
 to another punishment. 1660 STANLEY *Hist. Philos.* (1701)
 87/1 Circumvented and betrayed to excessive Punishments.

2. To be or prove false to (a trust or him who
 trusts one); to be disloyal to; to disappoint the
 hopes or expectations of.

a 1300 *Cursor M.* 1634 'Noe,' God said, 'I tell till be, All
 his world bitrais me.' c 1384 CHAUCER *H. Fame* 294 Let
 us speke of Eneas How he betrayed hir allas. c 1430 *Syr*
Tryam. 165 (Halliwell) Syr, he sayde, for certenté, Your quene
 hath you betrayne. c 1590 MARLOWE *Dido* v. i, Why wilt
 thou so betray thy sons good hap? 1791 BURKE *Corr.* (1844)
 III. 278 People who... betray every cause that they have
 in hand. 1844 A. WELBY *Poems* (1867) 24 Those whom I
 trust are the first to betray.

b. *fig.* To prove false to, let go weakly or basely.
 1614 LODGE *Seneca* i Without any election we rather be-
 tray than bestow our benefits. 1644 QUARLES *Job* (1717) 171
 Worn bare with grief, the patient Job betraid His seven-
 days silence. 1765 H. WALPOLE *Otranto* iii. (1798) 51 Scorn-
 ing... to betray the courage he had always manifested.

3. *loosely.* To cheat, disappoint. *Obs.*
 1598 SHAKS. *Tit. A.* v. ii. 146 Reuenge now goes To lay a
 complot to betray thy foes. a 1704 T. BROWN *Sat. Quack*
 Wks. I. 65 Her much wrong'd child was of its life betray'd.

4. To lead astray or into error, as a false guide;
 to mislead, seduce, deceive (the trustful).
 c 1290 LAY 8924 He wende (bat Androgios bi-traie [c 1205
 swikn] hi'ne wolde. c 1385 CHAUCER *L. G. W.* 137 Had
 hem bitraied with his sophistrie. 1604 SHAKS. *Oth.* v. ii. 6
 Yet she must dye, else she'll betray more men. 1647 COWLEY
Mistr., *Bargain* i, Take heed, take heed, thou lovely Maid,
 Nor be by glittering illa betraid. 1775 JOHNSON *Tax. no*
Tyr. 35 Their wit has not yet betrayed them to heresy.
 1860 PUSEY *Min. Proph.* 239 Pride and self-confidence be-
 tray man to his fall.

5. To disclose or reveal with breach of faith (a
 secret, or that which should be kept secret).
 1735 POPE *Prol. Sat.* 298 Who tells whate'er you think,
 whate'er you say, And, if he lie not, must at least betray.
 1798 FERRIAR *Illustr. Sterne* v. 150 The officious doctor...
 betrayed his patient's confidence. 1848 MACAULAY *Hist.*
Eng. II. 65 He betrayed to Barillon all the schemes adverse
 to France. 1855 TENNYSON *Maud* II. v. 34.

6. To reveal or disclose against one's will or
 intention the existence, identity, real character of
 (a person or thing desired to be kept secret).
 1598 SHAKS. *L. L. L.* i. ii. 138, I do betray my selfe
 with blushing. 1667 MILTON *P. L.* iv. 117 Ire, envie
 and despair... betraid Him Counterfet. 1697 DRYDEN *Virg.*
Georg. II. 650 Antick Vests; which, thro' their shady fold,
 Betray the Streaks of ill-dissembl'd Gold. 1759 JOHNSON
Rasselas xv, Let them should betray their rank by their
 unusual behaviour. 1822 PROCTOR (B. Cornwall) *A Voice*,
 She tries to hide The love her eyes betray.

7. To reveal, disclose or show incidentally; to
 exhibit, show signs of, to show (a thing which
 there is no attempt to keep secret).
 1697 DRYDEN *Virg. Georg.* iv. 426 His Bowels bruis'd
 within, Betray no Wound on his unbroken Skin. 1711
 ADDISON *Spect.* No. 106 ¶ 3 If he coughs, or betrays any
 Infirmary of Old Age. 1774 J. BRYANT *Mythol.* II. 174 A
 temple of this sort, which betrayed great antiquity. 1842
 MYERS *Cath. Th.* III. § 14. 51 An irreverence which betrays
 an utter unconsciousness of our due position. 1856 FROUDE
Hist. Eng. (1858) I. ii. 92 No prince of the house of Lan-
 caster betrayed a wish to renew the quarrel with the Church.

+ **Betray**, *sb.* *Obs.* rare-1. [f. prec. vb.] = next.
 1600 CHAPMAN *Iliad* xxiv. 74 O thou that to betray and
 shame art still companion!

Betrayal (bē'trā'el), *pp.* a. [f. as prec. + -AL-2.]

1. A treacherous giving up to an enemy.
 1816 SOUTHEY *Ess.* (1832) I. 254 The betrayal and im-
 prisonment of Toussaint. 1871 FREEMAN *Norm. Cong.* (1876)
 IV. xviii. 108 An attempted betrayal of the country into the
 hands of an invader. *Hymn* The dark betrayal night.

2. A violation of trust or confidence, an abandon-
 ment of something committed to one's charge.

1826 SOUTHEY in *Q. Rev.* XXXIV. 346 Tempted to such
 betrayal of his trust by habits of reckless expenditure. 1856
 FROUDE *Hist. Eng.* (1858) I. iv. 292 He must justly have
 resented the betrayal of his confidence.

3. A revelation or divulging of something which
 it is desirable to keep secret.

1873 BLACK *Pr. Thule* 23 Men... not to be led into these
 betrayals of their secret opinions.

Betrayed (bē'trā'ed), *pp.* a. [f. as prec. + -ED.]

Treacherously given up or exposed.

1597 SHAKS. *Lover's Compl.* xlvii, That borrowed motion
 Would yet againe betray the fore-betrayed. 1660 T. M.
Walker's Hist. Indep. iv. 2 The sacred Reliques of betrayed
 Majesty.

Betrayer (bē'trā'er), *Also* 6-7 betrailer. [f.
 as prec. + -ER-1.] One who betrays; in various
 senses of the vb.

1526 TINDALE *John* xiii. 11 For he knewe his betrayer.
 1552 HULOET, *Betrayer*, bewrayer, or trayter. 1678 WANLEY
Wond. II. xviii, Shamefacedness [is] many times a betrayer
 of the mind. 1738 WARBURTON *Div. Legat.* I. 157 Betrayers
 of the Mysteries were punished capitally. 1767 FORDYCE
Serm. Eng. Wom. I. iv. 144 She met a betrayer, and lost
 her honour. 1828 D'ISRAELI *Chas. I.* I. viii. 253 The be-
 trayer of his patron in his turn was betrayed.

Betraying (bē'trā'ing), *vbl.* sb. [f. as prec. +
 -ING-1.] The action of the vb. BETRAY in various
 senses; betrayal.

1382 WYCLIF *Wisdom* xvii. 11 No thing forsothe is drede,
 but... betraying of the helpis of tho; 1483 *Cath. Angl.* 30
 A Betraynge, *delatura*, *proditio*. 1579 FULKE *Heskins*

Parl. 35 The conception of Sampson was a figure of the in-
 carnation of Christ. Joseph, of his betraying. 1647 W.
 BROWNE *Poet.* I. 105 We will... never more finde fault with
 her betrayings. 1678 *Yng. Man's Call.* 8 It were no be-
 traying of the sacred principles of religion.

Betraying, *pp.* a. That betrays.

1628 EARLE *Microcosm.* xlv. 96 Affectation is the most be-
 traying humour. 1814 WORDSW. *Excurs.* VI. 163 A betraying
 sickness was seen To tinge his cheek.

Betrayment (bē'trā'mēt), *rare.* [f. as
 prec. + -MENT.] = Betrayal.

1548 UDALL, etc. *Erasm. Par. Matt.* xxvii. 4 (R.) Con-
 fessing him to be innocent, whose betrayal they had
 bought. 1863 J. COLEMAN in *Spurgeon Treas. Dav. Ps.* IV,
 Betrayment of the Messiah by one of the twelve.

+ **Betraynted**, *pp.* *Obs.* rare-1. [Of doubt-
 ful formation; perhaps an erroneous form: cf.
 TRAIN v. 'draw, drag.' Borne or carried away.

1593 STANYHURST *Aeneis* II. 62, I thus murthered, with roy-
 string phrensy betraynted [Virgil *furiata mente ferebat*].

Betrays (ē-, -traysh, var. BETRAISE v. *Obs.*

Betre, *obs.* form of BETTER, BETEL.

Betresad, v. In 5 bitrede. Now only in pa.
 pple. betredoden. [ME. f. bi-, BE- + ME. treden

TREAD v.] *trans.* To tread over or walk upon.

1398 TREVISIA *Barth. De P. R.* xiv. ii. (1495) 465 Erthe
 hyghte terra in latyn' and hath that name of the ouer party
 that tredyth other bitredeth the erthe. 1828 CARLYLE in
Page De Quincy I. 279 Betredoden by picturesque tourists.

+ **Betrench**, v. *Obs.* rare-1. [f. BE- + TRENCH.]

trans. To cut up, carve, slash.

1656 SHEPH. *Cal.* viii, The most horrible and fearful
 butchers of hewed, and betrenched them with their glaives.

+ **Betrend**, v. *Obs.* Pa. pple. 4 betrend, bi-
 trent. [f. BE- + TREND.] To wind or draw

round; to encompass.

c 1374 CHAUCER *Troilus* III. 1182 About a tre... Bitrent
 and withen is the swete woodbynde. *Ibid.* IV. 842 About
 hire eyen two a purple rynde Bytrent. c 1380 *Sir Ferumb.*
 4006 Sorwe hym gan betrende.

Betresse, -treys, *Sc.* var. of BETRAISE v. *Obs.*

Betreupe, *obs.* form of BETROTH.

Betrim (bē'trim), v. [f. BE- + TRIM v.]

trans. To trim (anything) about.

1610 SHAKS. *Temp.* IV. i. 65 Thy banks... Which spungie
 April, at thy hest betrimms. 1812 TENNANT *Anster F.* III.
 xxxix, Yon mastlike pole... betrimm'd with clout. 1855
 SINGLETON *Virgil* II. 21 With green bay Betrimms his brows.

Betroth (bē'trōth, -trōp), v. Forms: 4 bi-
 treuthien, betreupe, -troupe, -treuthy, 5-6

betroth(e), 6 betrothe, trougth, 7 betroath,

6- betroth. [ME. *betrodien*, f. bi-, BE- + ME.

treude, *treoude*, TRUTH sb.; Mätzner suggests after
 the analogy of OE. *tréowan* to give one's word,

pledge. Subsequently assimilated to the form

trouthe, TROTH; since this is now shortened to

trōp, the same sound is by many extended to the

vb., but the historical and analogical pronuncia-
 tion is as in *clothe*, *loathe*.]

1. *trans.* To engage (a woman) in contract of
 marriage, to plight one's troth to. *arch.*

1303 R. BRUNNE *Handl. Synne* 1704 Pou shal nat betroupe
 a woman wyb hande þe whylys here husbunde ys lyvande.

c 1315 SHOREHAM 70 3ef thou myd word. Aryt bitreuthest
 one. c 1380 *Sir Ferumb.* 2105 By þe hond þanne he tok
 hur sone! & be-treupede þat swete wijt. 1426 *Pol. Poems*
 (1859) II. 136 Herry... Of Englund kyng... Betrouthed hath
 my lady Kateryne. 1611 BIBLE *Deut.* xx. 7 What man is
 there that hath betrothed a wife. 1653 HOLCROFT *Procopius*
 I. 15 Having betrothed a handsome Maid, an Inheritor.

[1844 LINGARD *Anglo-Sax.* Ch. viii. (1858) II. 6 (transl.
 of an OE. law) If a man wish to betroth a maiden.]

2. To contract two persons to each other in
 order to marriage; to affiancé. (More usually,
 but not exclusively, said of contracting the female
 to her future husband.)

1566 PAINTER *Pal. Pleas.* I. 21 They had betrothed their
 daughter, to one L. Icilus. 1592 SHAKS. *Rom. & Jul.* v.
 iii. 288 You... betroth'd, and would have married her per-
 force to Countie Paris. 1684 BUNYAN *Pilgr.* II. 130 Let
 Christiana look out some Damsels for her Sons; to whom
 they may be Betrothed. 1798 FERRIAR *Illustr. Sterne* v.
 151 The lovers were soon after betrothed. 1839 KEIGHTLEY
Hist. Eng. II. 80 She was soon after betrothed to the
 Dauphin. 1864 D. MITCHELL *Ser. Stor.* 225 He was very
 early betrothed to a daughter of the Contarini.

b. In the *passive*, now commonly used, senses 1
 and 2 are blended.

c 1590 GREENE *Fr. Bacon* v. 108 They'll be betrothed each
 to other. 1685 BAXTER *Paraphr. Luke* i. 26 Not married,
 but betrothed.

3. *fig.* Said of God and his Church or people.

Also, said of the relation of a bishop to a church
 before consecration.

1611 BIBLE *Hosea* II. 19, I will betroth thee vnto me for
 euer. 1726 AYLIFFE *Parergon* 195 If any Person be con-
 secrated a Bishop to that Church, whereunto he was not
 before betrothed, he shall not receive the Habit of Consecra-
 tion, as not being canonically promoted. 1860 PUSEY
Min. Proph. 13 God made the soul for Himself; He be-
 trothed her to Himself through the gift of the Holy Spirit.

+ 4. *transf.* a. To pledge, engage. b. To pledge
 or engage oneself to, to espouse (a cause). *Obs.*

1566 GASCOIGNE *Jocasta* Wks. (1587) 102 To privat fight
 they have betrotht themselves. 1575 BRIEFF *Disc. Troub.*
Frankford 202 They will not slack to vowe and betrothe
 their whole diligence. 1599 SHAKS. *Much Ado* I. iii. 49
 What is hee for a foole that betrothes himselfe to vnquiet-

nesse? 1670 WALTON *Lives* I. 13 At that time [he] had be-
 trothed himself to no religion.

b. 1658 T. WALL *Comm. Times* 68 While he thought to
 betroth a Deity, he betrayed humanity. 1674 N. FAIRFAX
Bulk & Selv. Ep. Ded., Those that have betrothed the Way.

Betrothal (bē'trōthāl: see vb.). [f. prec. +
 -AL-2.] The act of betrothing; the fact of being

betrothed; engagement for marriage, affiancé.

1844 *Mem. Babylon. Præses* II. 103 Here, as in Assyria
 and Chaldea, betrothals take place at a very early age.

1858 LONGF. *M. Standish* ix. 12 Softly the youth and the
 maiden repeated the words of betrothal.

attrib. 1872 YEATS *Techn. Hist. Comm.* 188 Betrothal
 rings, set with pearls and gems. 1878 B. TAYLOR *Deukalion*
 I. iii. 32 Our betrothal-kiss.

Betrothed, *pp.* a. [f. as prec. + -ED-1.]

1. Engaged for marriage, affiancé. Often *subst.*

1540 SURREY *Frailtie of Beautie* (R.) The new betrothed
 birds ycoupled how they went. 1588 SHAKS. *Tit. A.* I. 286
 That iustly may Beare his Betroth'd, from all the world
 away. 1825 SCOTT *Betrothed* xxxi, (Thus) ended the trials
 and sorrows of The Betrothed. 1834 L. WALFORD *Baby's*
Grandm. 171 One of the three was his betrothed bride.

+ 2. Plighted, pledged. *Obs.*

1651 HOBBS *Govt. & Soc.* xiv. § 18. 226 No conscience of
 contracts and betrothed faith can withhold them.

Betrothing (bē'trōth'ing: see vb.), *vbl.* sb. [f. as
 prec. + -ING-1.] The action of giving a pledge or

engagement to marry; affiancing. Also *fig.*

c 1315 SHOREHAM 59 Wythoute speche and by-treuthyng,
 And alle manere othe. 1552 HULOET, *Betrothingyng*, or
 plyghtyng of trougth betwene man and wyfe. a 1639 W.
 WHATELEY *Prototypes* II. xxxiv. (1640) 158 Betrothing is no-
 thing but a serious promise of future marriage. 1805 SCOTT
Last Minstr. v. xxvi, For this is your betrothing day.

Betrothment (see BETROTH.) = BETROTHAL.

1585 *Expos. Canticles* (R.) Making as it were thereby the
 betrothment. 1741 RICHARDSON *Pamela* II. 175, I said,
 after Mr. Peters... the words of Betrothment. 1847 TEN-
 NYSON *Princess* v. 463 How the strange betrothment was to
 end. 1871 HAWTHORNE *Sept. Felton* (1879) 50 When he
 gave her the kiss of betrothment.

+ **Betrow**, v. *Obs.* [f. BE- + TROW v.] *trans.*

To trust.

1556 ABP. PARKER *Psalter* civ. 294 O hym betrow, Hys
 larges note.

+ **Betrumpe**, v. *Obs.* rare. [f. BE- + TROMP v.,
 a. F. *tromper* to deceive.] *trans.* To deceive,
 cheat; to elude, slip from. (= L. *fallere*.)

1513 DOUGLAS *Aeneis* II. xii. (xi.) 105 Sche was away, and
 betrumpt suthlie Hir spous, hir son, and all the company.
Ibid. IV. xi. 14 Sall he... my realm betrumpt on thes maner?

Betrumpet (bē'trōmp'et), v. *rare.* [f. BE- +
 + TRUMPET.] *trans.* To trumpet the praises of.

Hence *Betrumpeting* *vbl.* sb.

1828 CARLYLE *Misc.* (1857) I. 156 Betrumpeted, and be-
 shouted from end to end of the habitable globe. 1866 -
Remin. I. 92 All this betrumpeting of Irving to me.

+ **Betrust**, v. *Obs.* Also 5-6 betrist. *Pa.*

pp. *betrustrusted*; also 5 betrost, 6 betrust, -trist.

[f. BE- + TRUST v.]

1. *trans.* To trust, place confidence in (a person).

c 1440 *Generydes* 3615 He was right weel betrost both ferr
 and neere. 1556 ABP. PARKER *Psalter* civ. 294 O marke hys
 wyll: Hys care betrist. a 1577 GASCOIGNE *Wks.* (1587) 114
 Not best betrust among the worthyne nine. 1649 MILTON
Eikon. 128 Maisters... of the People that betrustrusted them.

2. To entrust.

1619 J. DYKE *Caveat* (1620) 45 If... man... should betrust
 vs with such a businesse of weight, etc. 1702 C. MATHER
Magn. Chr. III. iv. (1852) 328 Those who are betrustrusted to re-
 ceive men unto ordinances in churches. a 1748 WATTS (J.)
 Whatsoever you would betrust to your memory.

+ **Betrust**, *sb.* *Obs.* [f. prec. vb.] An en-
 trusting, a trust.

1656 S. H. GOLD *Law* 42 This empowering him... was only
 a betrust, a redelivery being expected when exacted. *Ibid.*
 43 Their engagements and be-trusts forbade.

+ **Betrusted**, *pp.* a. *Obs.* [f. as prec. + -ED.]

a. Trusted, or confided in. b. Given in trust.

a 1461 *Paston Lett.* 423 II. 66 Ryght reverent and most
 be trusted maister. 1691 E. TAYLOR *Behmen's Theos. Phil.*
 188 Hys betrustrusted Talents. 1692 HACKET *Abp. Williams*
 II. 195 To pluck his best betrustrusted from him.

+ **Betrustment**, *Obs.* rare-9. [f. as prec.
 + -MENT.] An entrusting, a trust.

(In modern Dicts.)

|| **Betso**, *Obs.* [It. *bezzo*.] 'A small brass
 coin in Venice.' Barrett.

1641 *Antiquary* III. i. in Hazl. *Dodsl.* XIII. 460 Thirty
 livres: I'll not bate you a betso.

Bett- in various words: see BET-.

Bettaile, *obs.* form of BETEL.

Bettant, var. of BATAND.

c 1400 Rowland & Ol. 356 Thay... Broghte hym ane helme
 of bettant.

Bett(e), *obs.* pa. t. and pple. of BEAT v.

Bettee, *obs.* form of BETTY sb. 4.

Better (bē'ter), a., (sb.), and adv. Forms: 1-2

betera, 1-4 betere, 3-4 betre, 3-6 bettre, 4 be-

ter, better, -ur, -yr, 4-5 bettir, 5 bettere, bet-

tyrer (*Cath. Angl.*). [Com. Teut.: OE. (sing.
 masc.) *betera* = OFris. *betera*, OS. *betiro* (Du. *beter*-,
 OHG. *beziro*, mod.G. *besser-e*), Goth. *batiza* =

O'ut. **baliz-on*-, used as the compar. of *gōdo-z*
 GOOD, but itself pointing to a positive stem extant
 in no Teutonic lang., and prob. wanting also in

OTent. The root *bat* was prob. related to *bdt*: see *BET* *v.* and *Boot* *v.* Fick and Kluge have compared Skr. *bhadra*-s salutary, benign.]

A. *adj.* The comparative degree of *GOOD* (which see for phrases and idiomatic uses in which the force of *better* corresponds with that of the positive *adj.*): more good.

I. As simple adjective.

1. Of greater excellence, of superior quality.

a. Said of persons, in respect of physical, mental, or esp. moral qualities; also, of social standing.

c 893 K. ALFRED Oros. iv. ix. § 6 *Pæt* his þa wæron beteran þegnas þonne hie nu sien. *1382 WYCLIF 1 Kings* ii. 32 He slew two riȝtwiſe men betere than hym ſelf. *1596 SHAKS. 1 Hen. IV.* v. iv. 104, I could haue better ſpar'd a better man. *1617 MORVSON Itin.* iii. i. iii. 38 Fat men, as the Northerne, are better men then thoſe who are leaner, as the Southerne men be. *1632 MASSINGER City Mad.* iii. iii. Be confident your better angel is Entered your houſe. *1709 STEELE Tatler* No. 164 ¶ 6 Looking upon my ſelf as no better than a dead Man. *1896 HALLIWELL SHAKS.* V. 323 A perſon who exceeds another in wealth is ſaid to be a better man than the other. *1882 J. MORISON Macaulay* 105 They are all no better than they ſhould be.

b. Said of things, in respect of their eſſential qualities.

c 1230 Hali Meid. 19 To ȝiuen ham ſtude & betere nome þen ſunen & dohtren. *c 1300 Cursor M.* 2363 ȝee ſal weind til a better land. *Ibid.* 12088 Till bettir theues þu ſuld him wune. *1485 CAXTON Paris & V.* 33 Yf the ſayd Jewellies were better the half than they be. *c 1550 BALE K. Johan* (1838) 73 Lyke Lorde, lyke chaplayne, neyther barrell better heryng. *a 1555 RIDLEY Wks.* 130 Oftentimes the greater part overcometh the better. *1611 COTGR., A bon iour bon œuvre.* as we ſay, the better day the better work. *1722 DE FOR Plague* (1754) 9 Coaches fill'd with People of the better Sort. *1823 BYRON Island* iii. ii. Their better feelings, if ſuch were, were thrown Back on themſelves. *a 1847 Mrs. SHERWOOD Lady of M.* III. xix. 86 The poor woman had been accuſtomed to what is called better life.

2. Of persons and things: More profitable, useful, or suitable for a purpose; more eligible or desirable. Of persons: Kinder, more beneficent.

c 1175 Lamb. Hom. 17 Betere hit is þet heo beon ſpilled. *1297 R. GLOUC.* 367 So þat after betere wynd hii moſte þere at ſtonde. *1364 LANGL. P. Pl.* B. Prol. 105 Better is a litel loſſe þan a longe ſorwe. *c 1375 WYCLIF 1 Kings* i. 138 þe more þat an herd is lyke to Criſt he is þe better. . in þis office. *1394 P. Pl. Crede* 762 A great bolle-ful of benen were betere in his wombe. *1591 SHAKS. Two Gent.* i. i. 159, I muſt goe ſend me better Meſſenger. *Ibid.* ii. i. 145 Oh excellent deuſe, was there euer heard a better? *1615 LATHAM Falconry* (1633) 136 There is not a more better thing for any new ſwelling. *1703 ROWE Fair Penit.* i. i. 7 Thy better Stars are join'd to ſhed their kindeſt Influence on thee. *1810 HENRY Elem. Chem.* (1826) II. 532 We have much better indicators of both theſe acids.

3. Of greater amount: a. More. b. Larger, greater; esp. in better half, part, etc.

a. c 1507 FLEMING Cont. Holinshed III. 1382/a Woorth one hundred and twentie pounds and better. *1603 R. JOHNSON Kingd. & Commw.* 120 Able to furniſh better then ten thouſand men with horſe. *1630 WADSWORTH Sp. Pilgr.* iii. 15 Vnill nine and better they are exerciſed in repeating. *1679 Plot Staffordſh.* (1686) 239 The bodies. being better than an inch long. *1769 GRAY in N. Nicholls Corr.* (1843) 87 It is better than three weeks ſince I wrote to you. *1823 SCOTT Peveril* vii. Pursued by half a ſcore of horſemen and better. *1823 LAMB Some old Actors, Elia* 399, I think it is now better than five-and-twenty years ago.

b. *1580 SIDNEY Arcadia* iii. 334, I. . . ſhall thinke the better halfe of it alreadie achiueed. *1826 COGAN Haven Health* (1636) 60 Let it boile untill the better part of the liquour be conſumed. *1667 MARVELL Corr.* xxxvi. Wks. 1872-5 II. 81 Your buſineſſe is the better-halfe done. *1707 FRISING Peterboro's Cond. Sp.* 107 That the Forces ſhould be divided, and the better half march immediately into Valencia. *1739 SWIFT Let. Wks.* 1745 VIII. 376 Forced to ſell the better half of his eſtate. *1804 WORDSW. Prel.* v. (1850) 130 For the better part Of two delightful hours we ſtroled along.

c. Hence, *Better half*: orig. *my better half*, the more than half of my being; ſaid of a very cloſe and intimate friend (cf. 'the better part of me' *SHAKS.*; 'mee partem animæ'; 'animæ dimidium mee' *Horace*; 'animæ partem . . . noſtræ majorem' *Statius*); esp. (after *Sidney*) uſed for 'my husband' or 'wife'; now, jocularly appropriated to the latter. Formerly alſo applied to the ſoul, as the better part of man.

1580 SIDNEY Arcadia iii. 280 [*Argalus to Parthenia, his wife*] My deare, my better halfe (ſayd hee) I find I muſt now leaue thee. [*c 1600 SHAKS. Sonn.* xxxix. 2 When thou art all the better part of me. *1646 BUCK Rich.* III. ii. 61 As if his [Richard's] body muſt ſuffer more, becauſe they could not kill his better part.] *1709 J. STEVENS Quevedo's Wks.* 33 [*A woman to her husband*] Thou dear better-half of my ſoul. *a 1700 SHEFFIELD (Dk. Buckhm.) Wks.* (1753) I. 274 My dear and better half is out of danger. *1742 R. BLAIR Grave* 733 The lag fleſh Reſts, in hope of meeting once again his better half [the ſoul]. *1842 T. MARTIN in Fraser's Mag.* Dec. 241/2, I. . . ſhall look out for a better-half.

4. In the predicate, after *be*, the neuter *adj.* formerly interchanged with the adv. *bet*, and its grammatical character is ſtill dubious: the poſitive of 'it is better to go' may be either 'it is good' or 'it is well.' Cf. *BET* *adv.* 2. The dubiety is ſtill greater in elliptical expreſſions, as in quot. *1553, 1667, 1837.* See below, B 3.

c 888 K. ALFRED Boeth. xxxviii. § 7 Hit is betere þæt mon VOL. I.

wrege þone ſcyldigan. *c 1000 Ags. Goſp.* Mark ix. 43 Betere þe is þæt þu wanhal to life ga. *c 1175 Lamb. Hom.* 49 Betre hit is þet mon ne iknawe noht þe wei. *c 1386 CHAUCER Melib.* P. 180 You is better hyde youre counſeil in youre herte. *1470-85 MALORY Arthur* (1817) I. 242 Whether is me better to treate with Kynge Arthur, or to fyghte. *1553 UDALL Roister D.* (Arb.) 81 Better (they ſay) a badde ſcuſe than none. *1667 MILTON P. L.* i. 263 Better to reign in Hell than ſerve in Heav'n. *1822 KEATS Isabel* xi, Better had it been for ever ſo. *1837 J. H. NEWMAN Par. Sermon.* I. iii. 44 Better be a little too ſtrict than a little too eaſy.

b. In the idiomatic *I, we, you, he, etc. had better*, the original conſtruction was *me, us, etc. were betere* (or *bet*) = it would be more advantageous for me, etc. (Cf. *me is betere*, etc. in 4.) The dat. pronoun was ſubſequentlly changed into the nominative, *I, we, were better* (perh. becauſe in abs. the two caſes were no longer diſtinguiſhed). Finally this was given up for the current *I had better* = I ſhould have or hold it better, to do, etc. (Mr. F. Hall has ſhown that in theſe changes, *better* followed in the main the analogy of *liefer* and *rather*.) See *HAVE*.

971 BUCK. Hom. 25 Him were betere þæt he næfre geboren nære. *c 1100 Hattin Goſp.* Mark ix. 42 Betere him were þæt [he] were on ſæ geworpen. *a 1300 Maximin in Rel. Antig.* I. 122 Betere me were ded þen þu alve to be. *1393 GOWER Conf.* III. 241 Him were better go beſide. *a 1450 Knt. de la Tour* 31 Hem were beter take the furre. *a 1450 MARG. PASTON Lett.* 534. II. 250 The Duck [=duke] had be better. that it had never be don.

c 1370 A. Robt. Cicle 55 Bettur he were. . . So to do then for hunger dye. *1470-85 MALORY Arthur* (1816) I. 33 Ye were better to give me a gift . . . than to loſe great riches. *1594 T. B. La Primaud. Fr. Acad.* 512 We were better to ſupport the domeſtical imperfections of our brethren. *1601 SHAKS. Twel. N.* ii. ii. 27 She were better loſe a dreame.

[*c 1435 Torr. Portugal* 186 Better he had to have be away.] *1537 Therſytes, Four O. Plays* (1848) 69 They had better haue ſet me an errande at Rome. *1594 HARRINGTON in Nugæ Ant.* (1804) I. 168 Who liveithe for eaſe had better live awaie [from Court]. *1613 SHAKS. Hen. VIII.* v. iii. 134 He had better ſtarue Then but once thinke his place becomes theſe not. *1875 JOWETT Plato* I. 15, I had better begin by aſking you a queſtion.

c. *To be better* (in health, eſtate, etc.): see B 4.

5. Phrases. † (To have) the better hand: i. e. the upper hand, the ſuperiority. *To be better than one's word*: to do more than one has promiſed. *Better cheap*: ſee *CHEAP* *sb.*

1523 LD. BERNERS Froiss. I. ccv. 272 The marques . . . had the better hand. *1587 WHISTSTONE Cens. loy. Subj.* (Collier) 30 Q. Marie. . . had the better hand againſt her rebels. *1684 T. BURNET Th. Earth* II. 167 God may be better than His word. *Mod.* I have uſually found him better than his word.

II. absol. paſſing into a *substantive*.

6. absol. Something better; that which is better.

1535 COVERDALE Heb. vi. 9 We truſt to ſe better of you [WYCLIF. We truſten of ȝou betere thingis]. *1594 SHAKS. Rich.* III. iii. v. 50, I never lovd'd for better at his hands. *1699 DRYDEN Fables* Pref. If I have altered him any where for the better. *1879 GEO. ELIOT Coll. Breakf. P.* 485 A poſſible Better in the ſeeds of earth. — *Theo. Such* ii. 51 They feed the ideal Better.

7. sb. with *possessive pron.*: One's ſuperior: **a.** in ſome perſonal quality or attainment; **b.** in rank or ſtation. In the latter ſenſe, now only in the plural, which was however from 16th to 18th c. often applied to a ſingle perſon.

a. *c 1225 Corr de L.* 1650 In al Yngelond was non hys beter. *1526 Pilgr. Perf.* (1531) 88 To be inſtructe and taught of my better. *1594 SHAKS. Rich.* III. i. ii. 140 His better doth not breath vpon the earth. *1859 TENNYSON Vivien* 349 To help herſelf By ſtriking at her better.

b. [*c 1205 LAY.* 3749 Heora ſunen. . . þa were hire beteren.] *1432-50 tr. Higden Rolls Ser.* IV. 325 ȝiffene not contrariouſ wordes and anſweres to their betters. *c 1500 in Babes Bk.* (1868) 25 When this better ſpekes to the Do offe thi cape & bow þi kne. *1549 Bk. Com. Prayer* Catech. To ordre myſelf lowly and reuerently to al my betters. *1600 SHAKS. A. Y. L.* ii. iv. 68 Cor. Who calſ? *Clo.* Your betters Sir. *1712 STEELE Spect.* No. 266 ¶ 4 A Squire or a Gentleman, or one that was her Betters. *1742 FIELDING J. Andrews* iv. i. I look upon myſelf as his betters. *1866 KINGSLEY Herew.* xiv. 182 She will grow as proud as her betters.

8. The better: the ſuperiority or maſtery; now chiefly in *To get the better of*. Also fig. (Cf. *BEST* *ga.*) *1401 Paston Lett.* 396 II. 21 The blyſſyd Trinite . . . ſend yow the better of all your aduerſariis. *1586 WARNER Alb. Eng.* iii. xvii. 79 Little wanted that the Brutes the better did not win. *1630 M. GODWIN Annales Eng.* 197 We alwayes came of with the better. *1660 STANLEY Hist. Philos.* (1701) 102 Sometimes the Medes had the better of the Lydians. *1675 HOBBS Odyssey* viii. 320 The ſlow has gotten of the ſwift the better. *1718 HICKES & NELSON J. Nettellwell* 55 App. The worſt Cauſes are likely to have the better, at this way of Reaſoning. *1839 THIRLWALL Greece* VI. xlviii. 137 Prudence . . . got the better of his pride.

† 9. With the better: with addition; and more. *Obs.* *1601 HOLLAND Pliny* I. 163 When his father was 62 years old with the better. *1690 W. WALKER Idiom. Anglo-Lat.* 333 To pay what one hath borrowed with the better.

B. adv. [The original adverbial form was *BET*, which ſurvived till c 1600. See that word as to its gradual diſplacement by *better*.]

1. In a more excellent way, in a ſuperior manner. *c 1240 Loſong in Lamb. Hom.* 215 Þu wult . . . don betere bi me þen is þet ich wilni. *c 1250 Gen. & Ex.* 1585 Ðu ſalt ðe betre ſped. *c 1394 P. Pl. Crede* 95 Fond to don betere.

c 1400 Apol. Loll. 26 Mak hem to drede ſynne & to do bettar. *1530 PALSGR.* 147, I drinke better than I ſyng. *1677 MOXON Mech. Exerc.* (1703) 194 The better to come at it with the Tool. *1797 LD. NELSON in Duncan Life* (1806) 44 The ſooner the better. *Mod.* Until he learns to behave better.

2. In a ſuperior degree.

a 1225 St. Marher. 4 Aðet he hefde betere biþoht him. *c 1230 Hali Meid.* 37 Þat ha . . . witen þe betere hwat ham beo to don. *a 1300 Cursor M.* 2438 He loued hir . . . better þan he did are. *c 1400 Destr. Troy* xix. 8083 For to hold hym in hope, & hert hym the better. *1471 Paston Lett.* 681 III. 23 That ſhall dyſſe awayll him better than a CC. marc. *1475 CAXTON Jason* 77 b, They had him better in grace than zethephius. *1577 B. GOOGE Heresbach's Huſb.* (1586) 65 Where-by it [ſage] proſpereth the better. *1666 BUNYAN Grace Ab.* P. 50, I better conſidering the matter. *1771 Junius Lett.* iii. 266, I know that man much better than any of you. *1848 MACAULAY Hist. Engl.* I. 435 But there were in the palace a few perſons who knew better.

† b. *Rather. Obs.*

c 1340 Cursor M. (Laud MS.) 9815 His hert ought bettyr breke in iij Then fro his byddyngeſ to fle. *1475 CAXTON Jason* 17 b, He ſemed better a thing of that other worlde theme an humayne perſone. *1801 SOUTHEY Life* (1850) II. 168 He. . . prefers books better than official papers.

c. More, in addition. *arch. and dial.*

1538 BALE Thre Lawes 1351 He ſwore, and better ſwore, yea he did ſweare and ſweare agayne. *1830 JAMES Darnley* vii. 36/2 On this he wondered, and better wondered.

3. In the predicate, after *be*, the adv. and *adj.* run together: see A 4. In ſome caſes the adverbial character ſeems more prominent.

1570-87 HOLINSHED Scot. Chron. (1806) II. 75, I will here (being better late than never) ſet down this.

4. *To be better*: to be improved in health, esp. of convaleſcence after an illneſſ. (In northern uſe, to be well again, as in *quite better*, quite well again, fully recovered.) *To get better*: to amend, recover. (The orig. conſt. was 'him is bet or better,' i. e. it is better to or with him. See *WELL*.)

c 1000 Ags. Goſp. John iv. 52 Ða acode he, to hwylcum timan him bet wære. *c 1160 Hattin G.* ibid. Hym bet wære [*Liſindif & Ruſkw.*], þæt betre hæfde = *Vulg.* melius habuerit; *1382 WYCLIF*, He axide of hem the our, in which he hadde betere, *1388* was amended; *1611* began to amend.] *1686 J. DAVIES in K. Ward Life II. More* (1710) 215 He had been let Blood, and ſeem'd after it much better than before. *1745 SHAFTESB. in Lett. 1st Earl Malmesbury* (1870) I. 9 Poor Handel looks ſomething better. *1771 JOHNSON in Mrs. Piozzi's Lett.* (1788) I. 42 Dr. Taylor is better, and is gone out in the chaire. *1863 T. THOMPSON Ann. Influenza* 93 [He] was blooded and got better, went abroad got well. *1872 GEO. ELIOT Middlem.* (1875) 587 She is better this morning, and . . . ſhe will be cheered by ſeeing you again.

† b. *To be the better*: to be profited or advantaged. *arch. and dial.*

1619 J. DYKE Counterp. (1620) 37 What are we the better to know our diſeaſe? *a 1600 — Sc. Sermon.* (1640) 282 What is man the better for eating the Sacrament, if hee eaete not Chriſt? *Mod. Sc.* What the better would you be, if you had it?

5. Comb. With *adjs.* and *pples.*: uſually (for ſyntactical clearneſſ) written with a hyphen. **a.** With paſt and preſ. pples. as compar. of *WELL*: as, *better-adviſed*, *-affected*, *-balanced*, *-behaved*, *-born*, *-conſidered*, *-dressed*, *-informed*, *-regulated*, *-seasoned*, etc.; *better-becoming*, *-knowing*, *-liking*, *-looking*; ſometimes approaching the ſenſe 'more fully, more'. **b.** In paraſynthetic comb. formed on a *sb.* with attribute; as, *better-humoured*, i. e. (*better humour*) + *-ed*; ſo *better-natured*, *-omened*, *-principled*, *-witted*, etc.

1609 NEWES in Shaks. C. Praise 87 And have parted better-witted then they came. *1616 SURFL & MARKH. Countr. Farme* 549 To reſort to the better-knowing huſbands. *1677 Govt. Venice* 23 Such Gentlemen . . . as thereby become better-affected to the Venetian Nobility. *1680 Spier. Popery* 48 A great, and better Principled Lady. *1697 DRYDEN Virg. Georg.* iv. 142 For Empire he deſign'd Is better born. *1712 SHAFTESB. Charac.* I. 254 His better-humour'd and more agreeable ſuccceſſor. *Ibid.* I. 310 Growing better-natur'd, and enjoying more . . . the pleaſures of ſociety. *1792 BENTHAM Wks.* (1843) X. 276 There was not a better-behaved young woman in the whole pariſh. *1818 SCOTT Rob Roy* x, Neglecting the minor and better-balanced chances of the game. *1820 — Abbot* xxiii, To cumber our better-adviſed devotions. *1826 SYD. SMITH Wks.* (1859) II. 113 His awe of better-dreſſed men and better-taught men. *1827 CARLYLE Misc.* (1857) I. 2 Richter was much better-natured than Joſhna. *1833 MARRYAT P. Simple* (1863) 95, I was by far the better-looking chap of the two. *1854 Mrs. GASKELL North & S. v.* To learn his change of opinion . . . from her better-informed child. *1856 Farmer's Mag.* Nov. 431 A more matured and better-considered meaſure. *1860 GEN. P. THOMPSON Audi Alt.* III. clxxi. 198 The move of a better-omened man.

6. Phrases. To think better of: **a.** (a thing); to give it reconſideration with the reſult of deciding more wiſely. **b.** (a perſon): to form a better opinion of him.

1607 SHAKS. Cor. ii. iii. 15 To make us no better thought of, a little helpe will ſerve. *1752 BP. WARBURTON Lett. Emin. Prel.* (1809) 116, I reſolved to be prepared for them (who, by the way, thought better of it). *1812 Examiner* 21 Sept. 596/1 The enemy's General thought better of it, — beat a retreat. *1884 J. HAWTHORNE in Harper's Mag.* Feb. 430/1 The . . . gentleman ſeems to have thought better of his contrariness. *Mod.* I think better of him for his preſent conduct.

7. Better off, comp. of *well off*: see *OFF*.

Better, better (betər), *sb.* [f. BET *v.* + -ER¹. As in other cases where a general agent-noun becomes somewhat specific, the tendency is to spell with -or; cf. *abettor*.] One who makes bets.

1609 B. JONSON *Sil. Wom.* i. i. (1616) 531 Able to giue 'hem the character of every bowler, or better [ed. 1640 better] o' the greene. 1668 EARLE *Microcosm.* xvii. 102 The betterers are the factious noise of the alley, or the gamesters beads-men that pray for them. 1721 ADDISON *Spect.* 126 ¶ 9 Notwithstanding he was a very fair Better, no Body would take him up. 1859 SALA *Tu. round Clock* (1861) 182 Like the honourable betterers inside, and the thievish touts outside. 1878 H. SMART *Play or Play* xl. 234 Some of the big betterers of the Turf.

Better (betər), *v.* [ME. *bet(e)re'n* :- OE. **bet(e)rian* (only *gebetrod* is found) = OFris. *beteria*, Du. *beteren*, ON. *betra*, OHG. *bazirōn*, *bezzerōn*, MHG. *bezzeren*, mod.G. *bessern* :- OTeut. **batizōjan*, f. **batiz-* BETTER.]

1. *trans.* To make better; to improve, amend, ameliorate.

[c. 897 K. ÆLFRED *Past. Care* 204 Þa scamfæstan bið oft mid gemetlice lare gebetrod.] 1384 WYCLIF *De Eccl.* v. Sel. Wks. III. 349 Siþ þei witen not who is beteter bi entryng into þes ordur. 1470-85 MALORY *Arthur* ii. xvii. I did it to this entent that it sholde better thy courage. 1585 ABP. SANDVY *Serm.* (1841) 95 Granted that some rites .. might be bettered, or omitted. 1650 GELL *Serm.* 8 Aug. 48 He will improve and better the land he holds. 1721 J. GREENWOOD *Eng. Gram.* 10 As to our daily borrowing abundance of Words, I cannot think our Language is bettered by it. 1755 HUME *Ess. & Treat.* (1777) i. 283 It is difficult for labourers and artisans to better their condition. 1850 WORDSW. *Sonn.* l. xxv. Love betterers what is best, Even here below. 1869 FREEMAN *Norm. Cong.* (1876) III. xiii. 311.

b. To make morally better.

1587 FLEMING *Cont. Holinshed* III. 1351/2 Are you not resolved to better your life? a 1593 H. SMITH *Wks.* (1867) I. 486 If we will be bettered .. by the word, we must be as newborn babes. 1641 MILTON *Ch. Govt.* ii. Wks. (1851) 148 Instructing and bettering the Nation at all opportunities. 1849 RUSKIN *Sec. Lamps* vii. § 8. 194 We think too much .. of bettering men by giving them advice and instruction.

c. To make better in health; to make better off in worldly condition.

1581 W. STAFFORD *Exam. Compl.* iii. (1876) 91 Oure Townes myght be soone. farre bettered. 1611 BIBLE *Mark* v. 26 A certaine woman which .. had spent all that she had, and was nothing bettered. 1655 GOUGE *Comm. Heb.* xiii. 5 So great hope of bettering himself. 1792 MARY WOLLSTONECR. *Rights Wom.* iv. 164 Girls marry merely to 'better themselves,' to borrow a significant vulgar phrase. 1840 MARRYAT *Poor Jack* i. She left to better herself, and obtained the situation of nurse.

+ 2. *intr.* To be better, have the mastery. *Obs.*

a 1300 E. E. *Psalter* xii. [xiii.] 5 Les when mi wither-wine he sai. I betted againes him ai. *Ibid.* lxiv. [lxv.] 4 Wordes of wike betted over us nou.

3. *trans.* To do better than, surpass, excel.

1548 UDALL, etc. *Erasm. Par. Pref.* 15 Begrieved to see his thing bettered. 1593 SHAKS. *Rich. II.* i. l. 22 Each day still better others happiness! 1623 COCKERAM *III. s. v. Iscan*, Salmon, which is .. not to be bettered in any part of the world. 1811 KEATS *Lamia* 229 Jove heard his vows, and better'd his desire. 1848 RUSKIN *Mod. Painters* II. iii. xiv. § 15. 114 It hardly betters the blocks .. in barbers' windows.

+ 4. *absol.* To be better, to be an improvement.

1594 WARNER *Alb. Eng.* viii. xxxviii. (1612) 189 It betters not to tarrie.

5. *intr.* To grow better, improve. Cf. BETTERING *vbl. sb.* 2.

1839 CARLYLE *Chartism* ii. 116 The general condition of the poor must be bettering instead of worsening. 1883 MISS BROUGHTON *Belinda* II. ii. viii. 113 The day has bettered.

+ **Betterance**. *Obs. rare* -1. [f. BETTER *v.* + -ANCE.] Process of bettering; amelioration.

1614 RALEIGH *Hist. World* i. iii. 93 For their securitie and betterance in time to come.

Bettered (betəd), *ppl. a.* [f. as prec. + -ED.]

1. Improved, amended, rendered more excellent.

1660 H. MORE *Myst. Godl.* ii. vi. 40 The bettered soil answers the swain's desire. 1874 S. COX *Pilgr. Ps.* i. 21 Let me find a bettered world when I come back to it.

b. *esp.* Improved in health or condition.

1634 SIR J. ELIOT in *Four C. Eng. Lett.* 65, I find myself bettered but not well. 1856 MRS. BROWNING *Aur. Leigh* iii. 960 They certainly felt bettered unaware, Emerging from the social smut of towns.

2. Advantaged, that has got the better of another.

a 1659 OSBORN *Observ. Turks* (1673) 343 Here the bettered Party is left so little to boast of.

Betterer (betərər), *sb.* One who makes better.

1862 TRENCH *Miracles* i. 116 Not a betterer of the old life of man, but the bringer in of a new.

+ **Betterhood**. *Obs.* [f. BETTER *a.* + -HOOD.] The state or condition of being better; superiority.

1611 MARKHAM *Countr. Content.* i. ix. (1668) 48 In every contention there must be a better-hood or super-excelling.

Bettering (betərɪŋ), *vbl. sb.* [f. BETTER *v.*]

1. The action of making better or improving; amelioration, amendment, improvement.

c 1375 WYCLIF *Serm.* Sel. Wks. I. 55 Men may .. take of hem þere just dettis for beteryng of þese detours. 1529 MORE *Conf. agst. Trib.* i. Wks. 1156/1 For the bettering of his sinful soul. 1594 PLAT *Jewell-ho.* i. 3 The manuring, or bettering of all barren grounds. 1690 NORRIS *Beatitudes* (1694) I. 78 Nor .. Does it tend to the bettering of others. 1711 ADDISON *Spect.* No. 124 ¶ 6 After having consulted many Oculists for the bettering of his Sight. 1776 ADAM SMITH *W. N. I.* l. viii. 86 The hope of bettering his con-

dition animates him. 1862 TRENCH *Miracles* xix. 320 It was no true bettering of the disciples which they desired.

2. The process of becoming better; improvement, progress in a right direction.

c 1600 SHAKS. *Sonn.* xxxii. Compare them with the bettering of the time. a 1656 BR. HALL *Occas. Med.* § 40 (1851) 48 O God, thou art not capable, either of bettering, or of change. 1718 WODROW *Corr.* (1843) II. 373 Your remark upon the bettering of my style in my History. 1872 BLACKIE *Lays Highl.* 191 Not they who err are damned; but who being wrong, refuse all bettering.

3. **Bettering-house**, + **mansion**, a reformatory.

1735 BERKELEY *Querist* Wks. 1871 III. 360 Whether there are not such things in Holland as bettering houses for bringing young gentlemen to order? 1740 CHEYNE *Regimen* iii. 107 If they are reckon'd only Correction and Bettering Mansions. 1854 MRS. S. AUSTIN *Germany* 83 Fit only for a penal colony or a bettering-house.

Bettering, *ppl. a.* [f. as prec. + -ING 2.] That makes or grows better; improving.

c 1600 SHAKS. *Sonn.* lxxxii. Some fresher stampe of the time bettering days. 1876 MRS. WHITNEY *Sights & Ins.* II. 639 The struggling, distracted, half-blind, bettering earth.

Betterish, *a.* Somewhat better, of somewhat superior sort.

Mod. colloq. and in newspapers.

Betterment (betəmənt), [f. as prec. + -MENT.]

1. The fact of making or becoming better; the condition of being better; amendment, improvement, amelioration, reformation.

1598 SYLVESTER *Agst. Libertie in Du Bartas* (1608) 628 What may most avale unto his betterment. 1640 BLITHE *Eng. Improv. Impr.* (1652) 250 Why we should not .. raise our Flax to a great betterment too, I know not. 1669 WOODHEAD *St. Teresa* i. 293, I find not this betterment of my health. 1865 MISS CARY *Bal. & Lyrics* 304 Each man should live for all men's betterment.

2. *spec.* Improvement of property. (In U.S.)

1809 KENDALL *Trav.* III. lxxiv. 160 These men .. demand either to be left owners of the soil, or paid for their betterments. 1830 GALT *Laurie* v. iii. i. (1849) 81 He sold off his land and betterments in Vermont.

+ 3. = BETTERNESS 1; difference for the better. *Obs.*

1678 BUNYAN *Pilgr.* i. 35 It will appear there is no betterment 'twixt him [Pilable] and my self.

Bettermost (betəməst, -məst), *a. colloq.* [f. BETTER *a.*, after *uppermost*, *utmost*, etc.: see -MOST.] Best (relatively, rather than absolutely).

1564 GENTL. *Mag.* 403 Some of our bettermost neighbours. 1849 ROCK *Ch. Fathers* i. ii. 141 The bettermost sort of wine. 1879 G. MEREDITH *Egoist* i. v. 69 Men, after their fashion, as well as women, distinguish the bettermost, and aid him to succeed.

Betterness (betənəs), *Also 5 betternes.*

[f. BETTER *a.* + -NESS.]

1. The quality of being better, having more good qualities, or excelling; superiority.

a 1300 E. E. *Psalter* liij. 5 Pou loved ivelnes ovre betternes. 1493 ACT. *Dom. Conc.* 247-8 (JAM.) The betternes of the said terre [of land]. 1580 SIDNEY *Arcad.* 407 Your vnmatched betternesse. 1607 HIERON *Wks.* I. 305 There is no betternesse or precedence of one place above another for the administration of holy things. 1611 CHAPMAN *Iliad* ii. Comm. (1857) 56. 1856 RUSKIN *Mod. Paint.* III. iv. x. § 4 An infinity of Betterness above other human effort.

b. *spec.* Finess of the precious metals beyond the standard.

c 1530 in GUTH *Coll. Cur.* II. 287, Item for the betternes of the golde that went to the same Rings-iiijjs. 1820 G. CAREY *Funds* 99 If gold or silver be finer than standard, the difference is termed betterness by the trade.

2. Improvement, amendment, betterment. *dial.*

1864 ATKINSON *Whitby Gloss.* s. v. *Betterness*. As for my ailment I find no betterness in it.

Betty, *obs. form* of BETELLE.

Betting (betɪŋ), *vbl. sb.* 1. [f. BET *v.* + -ING 1.]

The making of bets, wagering. To change the betting, i.e. the course of the betting on an event, put for 'the chances, the way things are going.'

1599 SHAKS. *Hen. V.* ii. i. 98 You'll pay me the eight shillings I won of you at Betting? 1855 MACAULAY *Hist. Eng.* III. 548 Gambling and betting were his amusements. 1858 GEN. P. THOMPSON *Audi. All.* II. lxxx. 38 It is not hiding the head as is the wont of the ostrich and the turkey, that will change the betting.

2. *Comb.*, as **betting-book**, a book in which a better enters his bets; **betting-house**, a house where betting is carried on; **betting-man**, one who makes bets, a better, usually a professional gambler; **betting-post**, (!) a post or station for betting-men.

1771 P. PARSONS *Newmarket* II. 148 Let us walk a little about the betting-post. 1855 *Ess. Intuit. Morals* 154 Making up their lives as sagaciously as a black-leg does his betting book. 1864 *Soc. Sc. Rev.* 386 If he be a betting-man the race-course .. calls him into the open air.

+ **Betting**, *vbl. sb.* 2. *Obs.* [variant of BETTING.] Material for a fire, fuel.

1541 Item paid for viij*ti.* of pyche for the bettyngs to the Cressets, viij*ti.*

|| **Betting**. A species of Kangaroo rat, a nocturnal animal about the size of a hare.

1839 PENNY *Cycl.* XIV. 462/1 Mr. Ogilby describes (*Zool. Proc.* 1831) a fourth species, *Hypsiprymnus setosus*, known in the colony of New South Wales by the native name of Betting Kangaroo.

Betony, *obs. form* of BETONY.

Bettor. + 1. Aphetic form of ABETTOR. *Obs.*

* *The Nation* (1874, Dec. 6, 433 b) gives a quotation of the word in this sense, from 1785.

1671 *True Non-Conf.* 490 Having solemnly vowed a detestation thereof, and a non-conjunction with all their betterors.

2. Variant form of BETTER *sb.*

Betty (beti), *sb.* [dim. of *Bet*, abbreviation of *Elizabeth*, -beth.]

1. A female pet name or familiar name, once fashionable (as in Lady Betty), but now chiefly rustic or homely. Hence,

2. Given in contempt to a man who occupies himself with a woman's household duties. (So MOLLY.)

3. 'A pear-shaped bottle covered round with straw, in which olive oil is sometimes brought from Italy; called by chemists a Florence flask.' Webster. (! Only in U.S. The quot. seems to refer to some kind of vessel; cf. BELLARMINE.)

1745 L. WELSTED *Oikogr.* 12 No Bellarmine, my Lord, is here; Elisa none, at hand to reach, A Betty call'd in common speech!

4. Cant name formerly given to a short bar of iron used by burglars as a lever to force open doors: also called a *Jenny*, and now a *Jemmy*.

1700 LUTTRELL *Brief Rel.* (1857) IV. 687 One of the persons that broke open the exchequer was taken .. he was discovered by the smith who made the betty and saw. 1707 E. WARD *Hud. Rediv.* II. ix. 7 Rufians, who, with Crows and Betties, Break Houses. 1712 ARBUTHNOT *John Bull* (J.) Describing the powerful betty or the artful picklock. 1721 BAILEY, *Betty*. 1755 JOHNSON, *Betty*.

Betty (beti), *v. colloq.* [f. prec. sb.] To betty about: to fuss about, like a man who busies himself with a woman's duties. Hence **Bettying** *vbl. sb.*

1851 T. PARKER in *Weiss Life* II. 105, I am only an old maid in life after all my bettying about in literature and philosophy.

Betuckered, **beturbaned**, **betutor**, **betwat-tle**, etc.: see *BE-* *pref.*

Betux, *obs. form* of BETWIXT.

Betulin (betiˈlɪn), [f. L. *betula* birch + -IN.]

'A resinous substance extracted from the outer bark of the birch-tree (*Betula alba*), or from the tar prepared therefrom.' Watts *Dict. Chem.* 1879.

Betuline (betiˈlɪn), *a. rare* -1. [f. L. *betula* + -INE 1.] Pertaining to the birch, or birch-rod.

1873 M. COLLINS *Miranda* III. 22 He had been bullying boys all his life with betuline despotism.

+ **Betumbled**, *ppl. a.* *Obs. rare* -1. In 6 betumbled. [f. BE- + TUMBLE *v.*] Tossed in confusion, disordered.

1593 SHAKS. *Lucr.* 1037 From her betumbled couch shee starteth.

Betumen, -une, *obs. forms* of BITUMEN.

+ **Beturn**, *v. obs.* For forms see TURN. [ME. f. *bi-*, BE- + *turnen* to TURN.] To turn about.

a 1325 *Ancr. R.* 394 Biturn þe and cum a3ean. a 1300 *Pains of Hell* 119 in O. E. *Misc.* 226 Seynt Poul þo bitorned his face. 1594 CAREW *Tasso* (1881) 110 To their aduises the disdainfull hart, Of this audacious youth, beturning plies.

+ **Betweche**, *v. obs. rare* -1. [? for BETEACH.] (The context suggests 'exorcize, deliver, or rid.')

c 1450 *Pol. Rel. & L. Poems* (1866) 23 Dominus deus sabaot, emanuel, þe gret gods name, I be-tweche þes place from ratones & from alle oþer schame!

Between (biˈtwiːn), *prep. and adv.* Forms:

a. 1 bi-, betweenum, -an, -twinum, -an, -twinum, -an, 2-3 bitweone(n), -twene(n), bitwine, 3 bitweounen, 3-4 bitwene, 4 bitwine, bytwyne, betwene. β. 1 bi-, betwion, -tulen, bitwien, -tween, -twin, betweon, 2 bitweon, -tween, 2-3 bitwien, 3-4 bitwen, -tuen, (bit-

when, bepwen). α. β. (4-5 betweyn(e)), 4-6 bi-, betwen(e), (5 bytwycon, betwyn), 5-7 betweene, 6- between. [The modern between combines two earlier forms: α. OE. *bi-*, *betwēonum*, etc., ME. *bitwēnen*, -twene; β. OE. *bi-*, *betwōn*, etc., ME. *bitwēn*; see BE-.

In *betwēonum*, Mercian *betwīnum*, the second element represents an original OE. dative **twīnum*, **twōcōnum*. In *betwōn* (only a northern form, Rushworth Gosp. *bi-*, *betwion*, *betweon*, Lindisf. *bi-*, *betwien*, *bitwēn*, Durh. Ritual *bitwien*, -*twēn*, -*twin*), the second element points back, according to Sievers, through earlier **twīhen*, **twīhon*, to an orig. OE. acc. *twīhn* (cf. *bitwīchn* in Erfurt Gloss.). These, **twīnum*, **twīhn*, answer respectively to Goth. *twēhnaim* dat. pl., and *twēihna* acc. pl. neuter, of the distributive numeral *twēih-nai* 'two each', a derivative of *two* Two (= L. *bi-ni*, for **dwī-ni* 'two each'), which appears also, but with the simple sense of 'two' (nom. masc.), in OS. and OFris. *twēne*, OHG. *MHG. zwēne* (early mod.G. *zween*).

Betwēonum, later *betwōnan*, gave the prevailing ME. form *bitwēnen*, reduced before a consonant, and at length generally, to *bitwene*; *bitwen* was mostly northern. But after 1400, when final -e became mute, and was omitted in writing, or retained only as a sign of a preceding long vowel, both forms necessarily coalesced in *betwene* (= *betwēn*), whence mod. *between*. In OE. the original

construction was *bi sēm twēonum*, lit. 'by seas twain'; thence through constructions like *frīð freondum bi twēon* 'peace friends between', *bi twēonum*, *bi twēon* coalesced into prepositions. (Cf. the history of *to(us)-ward, to-ward, toward*.) Intimately related to *between*, alike in their elements, and in the process by which these coalesced, are its synonyms *betwixt*, in ME. *betwix*, and *betwixen*, *betwix*, *betwixen*, *betwix*, *betwixen*. *Bitwix* was actually, in its origin, a doublet of OE. *betwōn*, and *betwixen* an expansion of that, on the analogy of *betwōnen*. *Betwixen* and *betwix* were a parallel pair, formed on the OE. adj. *twiski*: 'two-fold'. (See Sievers *Misc. zur Ags. Gram.* § 329.) *Bitwix* died c. 1300, *betwixen* c. 1500; *betwixt* is now archaic, *between* is the living word.]

¶ Instances of the original construction:
Beowulf 1720 *Sūð ne nōrð be sēm tēonum*. 971 *Blickl. Hom.* 139 And hie (Peter and Paul) gesawon be him tēonum *pæt-heo* was gewuldod. *Ibid.* 143 Heo bið swiþor gestrangod be us tēonum purh Drihtnes gehát.

A. prep.

I. Of simple position. * Of a point.

1. The proper word expressing the local relation of a point to two other points in opposite directions from it (i.e. if a point has two other points on opposite sides of it, it is said to be *between* them): In the space which separates two points; in the direct line which joins two points; hence, in any line of communication which passes from one point, place, or object, to another.

c. 1200 *Trin. Coll. Hom.* 171 Noder on heuene ne on eorðe ac bitwēn two on be wolcne. c. 1250 *Gen. & Ex.* 760 An oðer alter Abram made bitwēn Betel and Ai. 1297 *R. Glouc.* 371 At þere hii gonne abyde Bytuene þe water of Trente & of Ouse. 1398 *TREVISIA Barth. De P. R.* viii. xliii. (1495) 335 Mystes other cloudes sette bytwene hym and the syghte. 1535 *COVERDALE Gen.* xiii. 3 The place where his tent was at y^e first, betwene Bethel and Ay [ÆLFRIC, *betwux*; WYCLIF, *bytwix*, *bitwix*]. 1592 *SHAKS. Ven. & Ad.* 194, I lie betwene that sun and thee. 1667 *MILTON P. L.* i. 387 Jehovah... thron'd Between the Cherubim. 1838 *ARNOLD Hist. Rome* (1845) i. xxiv. 517 They... established themselves between the Danube and Greece. *Mod.* Any station on the Inner Circle Railway between Gower Street and The Temple.

2. *fig.* Used of a similar relation to two immaterial objects figured as lying in space; or of a relation, figured as spatial, to two material objects. c. 1325 *E. E. Allit. P. A.* 140 A deuyse Bytwene myrþez by merez made. c. 1400 *Cursor M.* 723 (Trin.) Now mon is sett bitwene [v. r. hituix] two, On eiber side he hab a fo, Bitwene sathan & his wif. 1621 *BURTON Anat. Mel.* i. ii. x. Thus betwene hope and fear, suspicions, angers... we bangle away our best days. 1641 *J. JACKSON True Evang. T. iii.* 200 While these Sermons were betwene the Pulpit, and the Presse. 1722 *H. WALPOLE Lett.* (1857) i. 123 To hold the balance between liberty and prerogative. c. 1815 *MISS AUSTEN Northang. Ab.* (1848) 168 The General, between his cocoa and his newspaper, had luckily no leisure for noticing her. 1826 *DISRAELI Vir. Grey* iii. iv. 102 Between astonishment and fear the lady was tearless. *Mod.* The choice lies between the two last-named applicants.

b. In many phrases, which see under the substantives concerned: e.g. *Between the beetle and the block*; *between the cup and the lip*; *between the devil and the Dead (or deep) Sea*. *Between wind and water*: along the line where anything is submerged in water or in damp soil, esp. on the load-line of a ship, which, as the vessel tosses, is alternately above and below the water's surface.

1580 *LYLY Euphues* (Arb.) 471 Manye thinges fall betwene the cup and the lippe. 1613 *HAYWARD Norm. Kings* 274 Earle William being thus set as it were between the beetle and the block—was nothing detected. 1627 *CAPT. SMITH Seaman's Gram.* xiii. 60 We were shot thorow and thorow, and between wind and water. 1645 *ROGERS Naaman* 22 Nothing shall come betwene cup and lip to defeat thee. 1692 *LUTTRELL Brief Rel.* (1857) ii. 637 Having received a shot between wind and water, [she was] forced to lye by to stop her leakage. *Mod.* An oaken gate-post always decays between wind and water.

3. Of time: In the interval following one event or point of time and preceding another.

c. 1131 *O. E. Chron.* an. 1124 Betweenen Cristes messe and Candel-masse. c. 1205 *LAY.* 24274 Bitwene þis and domes-dæl. c. 1330 *Amis & Amil.* 992 He cam bitwēn the day and the night. c. 1485 *Digby Myst., Mor. Wisd.* (1882) 167 And at the paroyse I will be... be-twyn two and three. 1601 *SHAKS. Jul. C.* ii. i. 63 Betweene the acting of a dreadful thing And the first motion, all the interim is like a phantasma. 1790 *BOSWELL Johnson* (1826) i. 321 Between one and two in the morning. 1848 *MACAULAY Hist. Eng.* ii. 51 The nine months which elapsed between the death of Charles and the commencement of the viceroyalty of Clarendon.

b. *Between hands* (Sc.): in the intervals of regular occupation; also = *BETWEENWHILES*.

c. 1817 *HOGG Tales & Sk.* ii. 222 Always, between hands, thanked Heaven for her health. 1881 *J. YOUNGER Autobiog.* vi. 54 Retiring to sit and work between hands.

4. Of the relation of a number, quantity, degree, or quality to two others above and below it, or differing from it in opposite ways; Intermediate to. 1711 *STEELE Spect.* No. 49 § 3 Persons... such as are between these two sorts of Men. 1711 *ADDISON Ibid.* No. 108 § 3 He is now between Forty and Fifty. 1712 *PARNELL Ibid.* No. 501 § 6 Rivulets that had a colour between red and black. 1816 *MISS AUSTEN Emma* (1849) 123 The atmosphere in that unsettled state between frost and thaw. 1838 *ARNOLD Hist. Rome* (1845) i. iii. 33 Between five and

six miles from the city. 1885 *LAW Rep. XV. Q. Bench Div.* 170 To the value of between 30,000. and 40,000.

** Of a line of motion.

5. Expressing the relation that motion along a line bears to two points on opposite sides of it; as, 'to steer between Scylla and Charybdis.'

c. 1205 *LAY.* 20048 Swa heo liðen after sæ... swa longe þat heo comen bitwix Ænglond & Normandie. 1535 *COVERDALE Josh.* xviii. 11 The border of their lot wente out betwene the children of Iuda and the children of Ioseph. 1590 *SHAKS. Com. Err.* iii. ii. 132 The salt rheume that ranne betwene France and it. 1799 *SOUTHEY Ebb Tide* Lyr. Poems ii. 193 Yet little way they made, though labouring long Between thy winding shores. 1812 *BYRON Ch. Har.* i. xxxiii, But these between a silver streamlet glides. 1864 *TENNYSON Brook* 28 By thirty hills I hurry down Or slip between the ridges.

II. Of intervening space. * As separating or connecting.

6. Expressing the relation of the continuous space, or distance, which extends from one point to another, and separates them, or of a line which passes from one to the other and unites them.

c. 1205 *LAY.* 30017 Nas heom bi-tweonun buten bare twa milen. 1790 *BURNS Tam O'Shanter* 9 We think na on the lang Scots miles That lie between us and our hame. 1858 *SEARS Athan.* iii. 280 The vast distance between heaven and hell. 1884 *Manch. Exam.* 19 Mar. 477 A scheme was mooted... for a playway between Liverpool and Manchester. *Mod.* To stretch a rope between the two rafters.

7. Used in reference to any objective relation uniting two (or more) parties, and holding them in a certain connexion.

c. 1300 *Cursor M.* 3338 Þe mariage þan did he make, Bitwene Rebecca and ysac. 1690 *LOCKE Hum. Und.* (1777) ii. 150 A vital union between the soul and body. 1758 *JOHNSON Idler* No. 12 § 4 A marriage celebrated between Mr. Buckram... and Miss Dolly Juniper. 1815 *SCRIBBLEMANIA* 107 The close alliance which has lately existed between this country and the Peninsula. 1848 *MACAULAY Hist. Eng.* i. 123 A coalition was formed between the Royalists and a large body of Presbyterians.

8. Used with the subjective relations of difference, diversity, likeness, equality, proportion, comparison. c. 1225 *ANCR. R.* 70 Ancr & huses lefdi ouh muche to beon bitwene. 1340 *AYENB.* 210 Zwych difference ase þer is be-tuene þe cheuse and þe corn. 1530 *FALSGR. Intro.* 43 Dyvers other sortes of phrasys betwene our tong and theys. 1692 *E. WALKER Epictetus' Mor., Life, Bear and Forbear.* Words which in Greek have a peculiar Elegance, there being but the Difference of a single Letter between them. 1785 *PALEY M. Philos.* iii. iii. ix, There is no comparison between a fortune which a man acquires by well-applied industry, and one... received from another. 1808 *MAR. EDGEWORTH Moral T.* (1816) i. i. 1 Inequality between the rich and the poor. 1837 *NEWMAN Par. Sermon* (ed. 2) iii. xx. 327 Is there no difference between a chance and a certainty?

** Of motion across intervening space.

9. Expressing motion or communication from one body or place to another.

1598 *SHAKS. Merry W.* ii. iii. 130 You must send her your Page... hee may come and goe betwene you both. 1609 *MASSINGER Emperor of E.* i. ii, You are... the go-between This female and that wanton sir. 1696 *LUTTRELL Brief Rel.* (1857) iv. 142 All clipt money shal goe between man and man at 5s. 2d. per ounce. 1711 *STEELE Spect.* No. 263 § 5 Two letters which passed between a Mother and Son lately. 1812 *MISS AUSTEN Pride & Prej.* (1846) 301 Not a word passed between the sisters concerning Bingley. *Mod. Newspaper.* Carried backwards and forwards between the police station and the workhouse. Tenders for carrying the mails between Great Britain and New Zealand.

10. Expressing reciprocal action or relation maintained by two (or more) agents towards each other.

971 *Blickl. Hom.* 221 Swylce ða gesecefta twá him betwōnan gefeohtan sceoldan. 1038-50 *Chart. Godwine in Cod. Dipl.* iv. 118 (Da foreweard ðe Godwine eorl worhte between Ælfstane abbod... and Leofwine preoste. c. 1175 *Lamb. Hom.* 41 Halded broþerredene eow bitwēn. c. 1205 *LAY.* 22968 Feond-sceipe... bitwene twom monnen. c. 1300 *Beket* 281 The love that bitwene him was. c. 1380 *Sir Ferumb.* 986 þan comendece a batail newe: by-twene þes hostes two. 1478 *Sir J. PASTON Lett.* 815 iii. 223 Suche cawsys as ar now bygunne by twen my Lorde off Suffolke and me. 1503 *WRIOTHESLEY Chron.* (1875) i. 5 A peace made betwene the Emperoure and the Kinge. 1611 *BIBLE Gen.* iii. 15, I will put enmity betwene thee and the woman, and betwene thy seed and her seed. 1779-84 *HORNELL Disc.* (1799) iii. iv. 73 A friendly intercourse is opened between the most distant lands. 1857 *BUCKLE Civilis.* i. x. 607 To talk of sympathy existing between the two classes is a manifest absurdity. 1875 *JOWETT Plato* (ed. 2) i. Pref. 19 The same opposition between science and religion.

III. Of relation to things acting conjointly or participating in action.

11. Expressing the position of anything confined or enclosed by objects on opposite sides.

c. 1175 *Lamb. Hom.* 185 Hwine warpe ich me bitwene þe ilke earmes. 1340 *AYENB.* 210 Pou sselst bidde God betwene þine teþ þet is to zigge ine þine herte. c. 1380 *WYCLIF Wks.* (1880) 19 Þe sacrament of þe auter þat men seen bitwēn þe prestis hondis. 1593 *SHAKS. Lucr.* 390 The pillow... Between whose hills her head entombed is. 1643 *DENHAM Coopers H.* 224 Between the Mountain and the Stream embrac'd. 1682 *DRYDEN Medal* 121 This new Jhu... Instructs the beast... To take the bit between his teeth and fly. 1853 *KANE Grinnell Exp.* i. (1856) 13 The Arctic Ocean is enclosed between the northern shores of Asia, Europe, and America.

12. Expressing confinement or restriction to two (or more) parties; especially used of privacy or secrecy in conversation. *Between ourselves*: as a matter not to be communicated to others.

c. 1000 *Ags. Gosp.* John vii. 35 þa iudeas cwædon betwēonan him sylfum. c. 1205 *LAY.* 25963 Per heo heom bitwēnen [c. 1250 bi-twine] heolden heore runen. c. 1300 *K. Alis.* 1556 Tel me... pryvely bytwene the and me! 1470-85 *MALORY Arthur* (1816) ii. 112 Pray him to speak with me between us two. 1526 *TINDALE John* xi. 56 And spake bitwene [1612 among] them selves. 1588 *J. UDALL Diotroph.* (Arb.) 12 This I tel you between you and me, but I would haue it go no further. 1711 *STEELE Spect.* No. 118 § 3 Between you and me, I am often apt to imagine it has had some whimsical Effect upon my Brain. 1840 *MARRVAT Poor Jack* xix, I was desired to ask you a question... between ourselves.

13. By the joint action of, done by, shared in by, belonging to (two parties) jointly. (Sometimes said of more than two, when it is desired to mark the participation of all the parties more definitely than can be done by *among*; cf. 19.)

1297 *R. GLOUC.* 32 þat heo myzte som eyres bitwene hem forþ bringe. c. 1400 *Cursor M.* 2443 (Laud) By-twene [v. r. bituix] hym and his newew lot Bestayle they had y-now y wot. 1512 *Act & Hen. VIII.* xi, The heires of the bodies of the seid Countesse and... hir late Husband deceased bytwene theym lauffully begoten. 1590 *SHAKS. Com. Err.* v. i. 177 Betwene them they will kill the coniuier. 1785 *MACKENZIE Lounger* No. 36 They had but one pair of silk stockings between them. 1812 *MISS AUSTEN Mansf. Pk.* (1847) 160 We brought home six brace between us. 1867 *FREEMAN Norm. Cong.* (1876) i. App. 776 Between the two we get a full and consistent narrative.

14. Expressing division and distribution to two (or more) partakers.

1758 *JOHNSON Idler* No. 19 § 5 By this ingenious distribution of himself between two houses. 1771 *R. HENRY Hist. Gt. Brit.* i. l. vi. 383 The British trade was thus divided between Marseilles and Narbonne. 1788 *J. POWELL Devises* (1827) ii. 627 Her personal estate... should go and be equally divided between her said two grandsons. *Mod.* They had it between them.

IV. Of separation.

15. Expressing the relation of a line to two spaces which it separates or divides from each other.

c. 1325 *CHAUCER L. G. W.* 713 There was but a ston wal hem betwene. c. 1400 *MAUNDEV.* xi. 124 By twyne the Cytee of Darke and the Cytee of Rophane, ys a Ryvere. 1590 *SHAKS. Mids. N. v.* 176 Ovvall... That stands between her fathers ground and mine. 1770 *BURKE Pres. Discont.* Wks. 1845 i. 383 No man can draw a stroke between the confines of day and night. 1855 *DICKENS Dorrit* i, The line of demarcation between the two colours.

16. Expressing the relation of motion or action to bodies or surfaces which it forces apart. *Between the bark and the wood or tree*: see *BARK*.

c. 1000 *Ags. Ps.* cv. 9 And [ðu] hi betwōnum wætera wealas læddest. c. 1120 *O. E. Chron.* (Laud MS.) an. 1101 þa heafod men heom betwēnan foran. 1645 *ROGERS Naaman* 490 Let none of them come between bark and tree to defeat your faith. 1837 *CARLYLE Fr. Rev.* (1872) ii. ii. vi. 80 Stand between them, keeping them well separate. 1843 *Penny Cycl.* XXV. 81/2 The boots... (in which the torture was applied by driving in wedges with a hammer between the flesh and iron rings drawn tightly upon the legs).

17. *fig.* To be, come, stand between a person and any object desired, or anything threatening him; between combatants, etc.

c. 1325 *E. E. Allit. P. A.* 657 Now is þer noȝt in þe worlde rounde Bytwene vus & bylisse. 1580 *BABT. Ab.* B 60a To go betwene or to be betwene... to make intercession; to let; to prohibit. 1774 *BLACKLOCK Grakam* l. xxiv, With pallid cheek, and trembling frame, Between the combatants she came. 1816 *J. WILSON City of Plague* l. iii. 103 A sinful wretch implores That thou wouldest stand between him and the wrath Of an offended God. 1884 *W. C. SMITH Kildrostan* 55 How could Doris come between us two?

18. After verbs and nouns of action expressing: a. separation, division; b. subjective separation, distinction, discrimination, discernment, judgement.

a. 1340 *HAMPOLE Pr. Consc.* 1691 Gastely dede ætwynyng thurgh synne, Bitwene God and man saule within. 1689 *SELDEN Table T.* (Arb.) 71 'Twas an unhappy Division that has been made between Faith and Works. 1848 *MACAULAY Hist. Eng.* i. 300 A complete separation between the naval and military services.

b. 1340 *AYENB.* 82 Hi ne conne deme betuene zuede and byter. 1526 *Pilgr. Perf.* (W. de W. 1531) 32 To discern by-twene the inspiacyon of the holy goost and the illusion of the enemy. 1593 *HOOKE Ecc. Pol.* i. vi. § 5 To judge rightly between truth and error. 1771 *JUNIUS Lett.* lxi. 319 The public must determine between us. 1848 *MACAULAY Hist. Eng.* i. 640 In cases of felony, a distinction... is made between the principal and the accessory after the fact.

V. 19. In all senses, *between* has been, from its earliest appearance, extended to more than two. In OE. and ME. it was so extended in sense 1, in which *AMONG* is now considered better. It is still the only word available to express the relation of a thing to many surrounding things severally and individually, *among* expressing a relation to them collectively and vaguely: we should not say 'thespace lying among the three points,' or 'a treaty among three powers,' or 'the choice lies among the three candidates in the select list,' or 'to insert a needle among the closed petals of a flower.'

971 *Blickl. Hom.* 229 þa apostoli wædon æt-somme; and hie sendon hlot him betwōnum. c. 1175 *Lamb. Hom.* 61 And cristes wille bo us bitwon. c. 1205 *LAY.* 26936 Heo... sweoren heom bitwēnen [c. 1250 bi-twine] þat heo wolden. c. 1225 *ANCR. R.* 358 In unkuðe londe, & in unkuðe earde, bitwēn unðeode. c. 1250 *Gen. & Ex.* 1601 And wulde noȝt ðat folc bi-twēn Herberged... ben. c. 1300 *Cursor M.* 10244 Ga hepen, he said, fra vs bituix. c. 1380 *Sir Ferumb.* 1255 By-twene hymen þanne euerchon! þay lift vp þat bodi

faite. *a 1400 Cov. Myst.* 352, I xalle telle 30w why In 3oure crysprevly Betweyn us thre. 1755 JOHNSON *Dict.*, *Between* is properly used of two, and *among* of more; but perhaps this accuracy is not always preserved. 1771 JOHNSON in *Boswell* (1826) II. 127, I...hope, that, between publick business, improving studies, and domestick pleasures, neither melancholy nor caprice will find any place for entrance. 1828 SOUTHEY *Est.* (1832) II. 436 Between the prior, the boatmen, and a little offering to St. Patrick, he had not as much money left, etc. 1885 J. COWPER in *N. & Q.* Ser. VI. XII. 148/2 There were six, who collected between them 15s. 4d.

† VI. 20. *Between* and (an adaptation of *betwix* and; see *BETWIXT* A. 3): until, till; with *sb.* or *clause*.

a 1400 Cursor M. 16583 (Trin.) Pei alle ne my3t stir þe cros of þat stede Bitwene & [v. r. bituix and; till] oure lord crist was þider him self lede. *Ibid.* 20181 (Fairf.) I walde wite gladli bi-twene [v. r. tuix] & quen to take leue atte my kinnismen.

B. *adv.* (Mostly the preposition with object understood.)

1. Of place: In an intermediate position or course, midway, in the midst. *lit.* and *fig.*

c 890 K. ÆLFRED Bæda IV. ix. (Bosw.) Ne si lang fac betweonum. *c 1205 L.V.* 276 Heo wepen heore leoten þe sceuwe betweonon. 1297 R. GLOUC. 355 þo þat water was bytuene. *c 1430 Stans Puer* 77 in *Babes Bk.* (1668) 31 Schewe out þi visage, To glad, ne to sory, but kepe þee euene bitwene. 1606 SHAKS. *Ant. & Cl.* III. iv. 12 A more unhappy Lady ne re stood betweene. 1667 MILTON *P. L.* IV. 699 Roses, and Gessamin Rear'd high thir flourish heads between. 1795 SOUTHEY *Joan of Arc* VII. 216 The man of lowly line That instant rush'd between. 1858 SEARS *Athan.* III. II. 268 Looking into the immense vacuum between.

† 2. To go between: to act as a medium or mediator; see *GO-BETWEEN*. *Obs.*

c 1390 Sir Trist. II. 101 A bishop yede bitwene. 1553 Ld. BERNERS *Froiss.* cccviii. 580/1 Certayne good people of Gaunte...went so bytwene in this mater. 1606 SHAKS. *Tr. & Cr.* I. i. 72, I haue...gone betweene and betweene, but small thanks for my labour.

3. Of time: In the interval, at intervals.

a 1440 Urreum 28 in *Lamb. Hom.* 193 Murie dreamed engles...and swieð. and singeð. bitweonen. *a 1300 Cursor M.* 3572 Pe nese it droppes at bi-tuine. *c 1374 CHAUCER* *Troilus* V. 1086 How longe it was betweyne That she forsoke hym. 1611 BIBLE *Acts* III. 42 margin, In the sabbath between. 1661 Bk. *Com. Prayer, Priv. Baptism* Rubr., The first or second Sunday next after their birth, or other Holy-day falling between. 1743 R. BLAIR *Grave* 589 Visits, Like those of angels, short and far between. 1830 TENNYSON *Merman* III. They would pelt me with starry spangles and shells, Laughing and clapping their hands between.

4. Comb., as † between-lier; † between-light, twilight; † between-space, † between-time, intervening time, interval.

1674 N. FAIRFAX *Bulk & Selv.* 94 A change of the world in the successness of the 'between-liers, begetting a change in my nearness as answering that suchness. 1821 CLARE *Vill. Mistr.* I. 154 As 'tween-light was cheating the view. *a 1641 Br. MOUNTAGU* *Acts & Mon.* 341 In the between-space of Festus his death and Albinus his succession. 1980 SIDNEY *Arcadia* II. 119 Those great Lords & little kings who in those 'between-times of reigning...had brought in...the worst kind of oligarchie. *a 1641 Br. MOUNTAGU* *Acts & Mon.* 118 All that Interval and 'between-time, interceding the first and second coming of our Saviour.

C. quasi-*sb.*

1. Anything occupying an intermediate position; an interval of time.

1611 SHAKS. *Wint. T.* III. iii. 62 There is nothing (in the between) but stealing, fighting. 1851 R. TRENCH *Steadf. Prince* xxxix, All the dreary and the dread Between Was gone, like aught which had not ever been.

2. An intermediate size of sewing-needle.

1864 MORRALL *Needle Making* 39 The Betweens are still shorter than the Ground downs, half a size thicker, and with stronger points.

Between-decks (bɪˈtwiːndɛks), *adv.* and *sb.* [*f.* *BETWEEN* *prep.* + *DECK*]. A. *adv.* In the space or spaces between the decks of a ship.

1795 DE FOE *Voy. round World* (1840) 77 One or two of them...got between decks among our men. 1844 *Regul. & Ord. Army* 340 No washing between decks is to take place oftener than once a week.

B. *sb.* The space or spaces themselves.

1765 FALCONER *Dict. Marine* (1789) *Couradoux*, between-decks; the space between any two decks of a ship. 1840 R. DANA *Bef. Mast.* xxii. 67 These between-decks were holystoned regularly. 1852 ROSS *Humboldt's Trav.* III. 141 They considered the between-decks of the ship as infected.

Betweenity (bɪˈtwiːnɪti), [*f.* *A* playful formation on *BETWEEN*, after words from *L.*, such as *extremity*, *vicinity*; see -ITY.] Intermediate-ness of kind, quality, or condition; anything intermediate.

1760 H. WALPOLE *Corr.* (1820) II. 174 (D.) The house is not Gothic, but of that betweenity that intervened when Gothic declined and Palladian was creeping in. 1824 MISS MITFORD *Village* (1863) 20 A little ruinous cottage, white-washed once, and now in a sad state of betweenity. 1824 Q. Rev. XXXI. 167 It is really provoking to find (Miss Mitford using) such low and provincial corruptions of language as 'transmogrified', 'betweenity', 'dumppiness'. 1836 SOUTHEY *Lett.* (1856) IV. 448 To rejoice heads, tails, and betweenities, which Hayley had severed.

Between-whiles (bɪˈtwiːnhwaɪls), *adv.* [*f.* *BETWEEN* *prep.* + *WHILE*]. In the intervals of time; at intervals.

1678 J. PHILLIPS *Tavernier's Trav.* v. xviii. 242 Between whiles they have Sweetmeats, Coffee, and Fruits. 1838 DICKENS *Nich. Nick.* xxx, Regaling the social circle between-whiles. 1850 L. HUNT *Autobiogr.* xv. (1860) 237 Between-whiles he would walk in the garden.

b. quasi-*adj.*

1859 G. MEREDITH *R. Fevers* III. (1885) 17 A monotonous between-whiles kind of talk.

Betwih, betwihen: see *BITWIH*, -EN.

† **Betwine**. *Obs. rare* -1. [*f.* *BE* -1 + *TWINE* v.] To entwine, twine together.

1661 HICKERINGILL *Jamaica* 87 There's no such joy in this betwih'd State.

Betwinen, -um, *obs. form* of *BETWEEN*.

† **Betwitt**, v. *Obs. rare* -1. In 7 betwitt. [*f.* *BE* -2 + *TWIT*]. Emphatic of *TWIT*.

1661 PERYS *Diary* 2 Apr. (D.) Strange how these men...betwitt and reproach one another with their former condition.

† **Betwixen**, -twix, *prep. Obs.* Forms:

1 betweoxn, 2 bitwuxan, -twixan, -tweoxe, -twuxe, 2-4 bitwixen, 3 bituxe(n), 3-5 bitwixe, 4 betwixen, -twixen, -twexen, 4-5 by-, betwixe, (9 betwixen). [*ME.* *bi-, betwixe(n)*, 12th c. *bitwixan, -twuxan, -tweoxe*, pointing to an OE. **betweoxan* (for which the *Pastoral Care* has *betweoxn*), *app.* for earlier **be-tweoxum, -tweohsum*, orig. OE. **bi-twixsum* :- **twiscum, -twiscum*; *f.* *bi-, BE* *prep.* + **twiscum*, dat. pl. of **twisc* *adj.*, in OS. *twisc*, OHG. *zuischi*, MHG. *zuisch, zwisch* :- OTeut. *twiskjo* 'two-fold', *f.* *twa*, Two + -ish (*i. sc.* The same idea (*inter duos, entre deux*) was expressed in OHG. by the dat. pl. *zuischen*, MHG. *zwischen*, with a preceding *prep.*, *untar, undar, in, en* (cf. mod.G. *zwischen* from *nzwischen*, Du. *tusschen*). The ordinary form in OE. was *betweox* (see next); but *betweoxan, bitwixan*, became frequent at 1200, prob. because of its analogy to the numerous other prepositions in -an, ME. -en. For the subsequent history see *BETWIXT*.] *Betwixt*, between.

c 897 K. ÆLFRED Gregory's Past. 121 Ne sie hit ðonne na sua betweoxn eow. *c 1160 Hattin Gosp. Matt.* xxi. 25 Beotweoxe heom. *c 1175 Lamb. Hom.* 91 Ne þer nas nan wone bi-twixan heon. *Ibid.* 115 Bitwixen godes wreccan. *c 1205 LAY.* 502 Bitwixen hire armes. *Ibid.* 30618 Bitwixen Dinan and þære sse. *a 1250 Owl & Night.* 1747 That maister Nichole. Bi-tuxen us deme schulde. *a 1300 Cursor M.* 21840 (Edinh.) Bituixen us and helles here. *c 1325 Metr. Hom.* 166 A derne priuite...bytwix me and the. *c 1344 CHAUCER* *H. Fame* (Fairf. MS.) 715 Betwexen heuene and erthe and see. *c 1386 - Pros.* 277 Bitwix Middleburgh and Orewelle. *c 1449 PECKOK* *Repr.* I. xiii. 69 Bitwix me and 3ou. *c 1450* Bitwix Foul and the Cristen. *[1605 SWINBURNE* *Christm. Carol* 52 The manger shall be straw two spans Betwixen kine and kine.]

Betwixt (bɪˈtwɪkst), *prep.* and *adv.* Forms: 1 betwixt, betweohs, -tweox, -twiux, -twyx, -twux, -tux, (-twuxt, -twyxt), 3 bitwex, 3-5 bitwix, (4 bituex, -tuix, -tuixs, -pwex, bytwyste, -tuixte), 4-5 betwex, 4-7 betwix, -tuix, tuyx, -twyx, 5 bituxst, bytwex, by-twyxt, 6 betwixte, -twixte, (8 Sc. betwisht, -tweosht), 5- betwixt, 7- twixt. [*mod.Eng.* *betwixt*, ME. *betwix* :- OE. *betweohs, -tweox, -twux, -twyx, -tux*: prob. shortened from the dative form **be-tweoxum, -tweox(a)n*; see the *prec.* (Cf. the shortened *wolc* from *wolcen*, also history of *BITWIH*). It is however also possible that *be-tweox* goes back through **tweohs* to **twiscu* *acc.* pl. neuter. Much more common in OE. than the preceding. In ME. *betwix* seems to have been more northern, *betwixen, betwixe*, more southern; in the 15th c. the loss of the final syllable of the latter finally levelled both as *betwix*. Already in OE., there appeared occasional instances of *betwuxt, -twyxt*, with a -t, either phonetic or analogical, but having no significance. This was also rare in ME., but after 1500 became the regular form, except in the north, which retained *betwix*, in 18th c. Sc. *betwixh, betweesh*; cf. G. *zwischen*. (ME. had occasionally *bitwixte*, prob. a confusion between *bitwixt* and *bitwixe*.) There is a late shortened form 'twixt.]

A. *prep.*

1. = *BETWEEN*, in the various senses of that word. Now somewhat arch. in literary Eng. and chiefly poetical. Still in colloquial use in some dialects.

a. of local position. *lit.* and *fig.*

921 *Chart. Ædelstau in Cod. Dipl.* V. 207 Andlang hære-pades; ðonne betweox ða twegen wegas þurh ðone lea. *a 1300 Cursor M.* 725 Bi-tuix þe warlau and his wiif, Adam es stad in strang strif. 1330 R. BRUNNE *Chron.* 18 Ouer alle þe londs bituex Douer & Tuede. *a 1400 Cursor M.* 14233 (Fairf.) Be-twix ierusalem & þis castel...is mylis nane bot bare xv. *a 1450 Knt. de la Tour* (1868) 19 She answered hem no thinge but bituxst her tethe. 1512 *Act 4 Hen. VIII.* xix. § 14 Peynes [=pennys] beryng lyke dyuers Rowles of Spurres betwixte the barres of the Crosse. 1632 MILTON *L'Allegro* 82 A cottage chimney smokes from betwixt two aged oaks. 1660 BARROW *Euclid* I. Def. IV. A Right Line is that which lies equally betwixt its Points. 1663 BUTLER *Hud.* I. l. 68 He could distinguish, and diuide A hair 'twixt south and south-west side. *a 1758 A. RAMSAY* *Poems* (1844) 89 Betwixt twa's shoulders. 1798 COLERIDGE *Anc. Mar.* III. vii. When that strange shape drove suddenly Betwixt us and the sun. 1865 DICKENS *Mut. Fr.* viii. If Mrs. B. had not thrown herself betwixt us.

b. of time.

c 1250 LAY. 24274 Bitwix (*c 1205 bitwene*) þis and domes-

day. *c 1400 Sowdone Bab.* 41 Hit bifelle by-twyxte March and Maye. 1709 STEELE *Tatler* No. 78 ¶ 10 Betwixt the Hours of Eight and Ten at Night. 1860 HAWTHORNE *Marb. Faun* xxxiii, A tolerable journey betwixt now and to-morrow noon.

c. of other relations.

c 975 Rushw. Gosp. Matt. xxi. 25 Hi þa þohtun betwih heom cwæpðende [*Lindisf.* *betuih, Ags. Gosp.* *betwux, -tweox, Hattin G.* *beotweoxe*]. *a 1300 K. Horn* 345 Wif him 3e wolden pleie Bitwex 3ou selue tweie. *a 1300 Cursor M.* 2443 Be-twyx him and loth his neuow Of bestaile hade þai plente enow. *c 1315 SHOREHAM* 77 Ther hol assent By-tuixte man an wyl. 1489 CAXTON *Paytes of A.* III. xix. 211 A generall werre...betwix oure kyng and yours. 1578 *Fortune Son* III. in *Gude & Godely Ball.* 31 The Father did his gude deuyde Betwix them. 1596 SPENSER *F. Q.* II. iv. 33 Betwixt them both, they haue me doen to dye. 1607 HIERON *Wks.* I. 239 That great separation which shall be betwixt the sheepe and the goates. 1622 R. HAWKINS *Voy. S. Sea* (1847) 149 Betwixt threescore and fourescore leagues from the shore. 1689 SELDEN *Table T.* (1847) 222 You must look into the Contract betwixt him and his People. 1732 LAW *Serious C. L.* (ed. 2) 12 Can you find any farther difference betwixt them? 1779 J. MOORE *View Soc. Fr.* (1789) I. xv. 110 They haue but three legs betwixt them. 1838 DICKENS *O. Twist* xxiii, 'Betwixt you and me, ma'am,' returned Mr. Bumble, 'that's the great principle.' 1860 HAWTHORNE *Marb. Faun* (1879) II. x. 106 The bond betwixt you.

2. In reference to more than two: in early use = *AMONG*.

a 1000 Ags. Gosp. Luke vii. 28 Betwix wifa bearnum *a 1000 Nat. S. Greg.*, Da geseah Gregorius betwuxt ðam warum cypencihitas gesette. *c 1000 ÆLFRED Ex.* xxvii. 10 Betweohs him. *a 1300 E. Psalter* vi. 8 Bitwix my faes al elded I. 1711 POPE *Temple* F. 11, I stood, methought, betwixt earth, seas, and skies. 1788 J. POWELL *Devises* (1827) II. 759 Her legacy...equally to be divided betwixt them all. 1878 G. MACDONALD *Phantastes* xii. 184 Betwixt grey stones on the side of a hill.

† 3. *Betwix and, betuix and, betwixt and* (prob. elliptical for *betwixt this and...: cf.* the similar ON. *milli ok*) *north. dial.*: between this (or that) and...until, till. a. with *till*; b. with *sb.*, or *prep. phrase*; c. with *subord. clause*. *Obs.*

a. *a 1300 Cursor M.* 21100 He lenthid his sermon, Bituix- and til his passion.

b. *a 1300 Cursor M.* 8614 Sco slep bituix and dai. *Ibid.* 17322 And bad þam do him up...in prisun state, Bituix and efter þair sabat. 1641 *Kirkcudbr. War-Comm. Min. Bk.* (1855) 129 In caice betwixt and that they get not a supplie. *Ibid.* 153 It is necessary that the haile common burdens...be prepared and in rediness...betwixt and the tyme foir-said.

c. [*a 1300 Cursor M.* 1437 All þat deid bi-tuix and þan þat iesus ras. *Ibid.* 11074 Al þe land þat hepen lijs, Bituix and [Gott. by-tuix and] þar þe sun it rijs. *Ibid.* (Gött.) 16583 Betuix and þat [Cott. till] ur lauerd crist was þedir ledd.] *Ibid.* 1103 Bituixand þai þe southe had sene. *Ibid.* 3763 Mi hert bes neuer in rest, bituixand þis iacob be slan.

B. *adv.*

1. Of space: = *BETWEEN* 1.

a 1300 E. E. Psalter xxviii [ix]. 7 Laverdes steven of bi-twix falland low of fire. 1611 BIBLE *Job* xxxvi. 32 The cloud that commeth betwixt. 1697 DRYDEN *Virg. Georg.* IV. 516 And leave a Space betwixt.

b. *fig.* In an intermediate position or attitude.

1659 HAMMOND *On Ps. cviii.* 4 To the lowest and meanest of us, and to all betwixt. 1816 BYRON *Ch. Har.* III. xxxvi, Extreme in all things! hadst thou been betwixt, Thy throne had still been thine, or never been.

2. Of time: = *BETWEEN* 3.

a 1300 Cursor M. 13521 Noght lang bi-tuix bot also, A-noper he did. 1685 DRYDEN *Thren. August.* 27 With scarce a breathing space betwixt. 1697 - *Virg. Past.* v. 19, I writ, and sung betwixt.

3. *Betwixt and between* (*colloq.* and *dial.*): in an intermediate or middling position; neither one thing nor the other. Also as *adj.*: Middling, indifferent, so-so.

1832 MARRYAT *N. Forster* xlv, [He] took the lease of a house in a betwixt and between fashionable street. 1877 BESANT & RICE *Son of Vulc.* I. iv. 53 She's the fool, and he's the knave, so it's betwix and between. 1884 *Point-blank* III. xv. 226 There are very few who marry into our sort of set. We are just betwixt and between.

C. Comb. † *betwixt-hands, betwixt-times* (*obs.*), between-whiles, at intervals, now and then. *c 1568 tr. Let. Mary Q. Scots* in H. Campbell *Love-Lett.* (1824) App. 24 At the least, to dissemble so well—and to tell hym the treuth betwixt handis. 1607 TOPSELL *Four-f. Beasts* 270 Neither let him drink much nor often, but betwixt times.

† **Betwynde**, v. *Obs.* [Perh. there is some error; cf. *ATWIND* to escape.] † To escape.

1493-1535 W. DE WORDE *Communyc.* Bij, Out of thy tene to betwynde Mercy and loue thyn helye theye.

Betyde, Betyl(e, Betymes, Betyyn, Betyys; *obs.* ff. BETIDE, BEETLE, BETIMES, BEATEN, BEET.

Betyng(e), *obs. form* of *BEATING, BEETING*.

c 1440 Promp. Parv. 34 Betyng[e] [1499 instrument], instru-

mentum, verberaculum.

Beu, *obs. form* of *BEAU* a. fair.

Beuch, beugh, Sc. forms of *BOUGH*.

Beucht, bewocht, Sc. forms of *BOWED*.

Beudantite (biʊˈdɑntaɪt). *Min.* [*f.* *Beudant*, name of a French mineralogist, + -ITE.] A mineral occurring in modified acute rhombohedrons, containing sesquioxide of iron and oxide of lead, with phosphoric or arsenic acid, or both. (Dana.)

Beuer, *obs. form* of *BEAVER*.

† **Beugle**. *Obs.* [*Cf.* Du. *beugel* bow, hoop,

bail; f. *buigen* to bow: cf. *BEGUEL*.] In *beugle-backed* Sc., crook-backed.

a 1709 in *Watson Collect. Sc. Poems* II. 54 (JAM.) *Beugle-backed*, bodied like a beetle.

Beuk, Sc. form of *BOOK*, and obs. pa. t. of *BAKE* v.

Beuloer, beunifformed, beurine, etc.: see *BE-*

Beurre (bôre). Also 8 berry, beury. [Fr.; f. *beurré* buttered, buttery, f. *beurre* butter.] A mellow variety of pear. Also attrib.

1741 *Compl. Fam. Piece* II. iii. 352 And these Pears.. Martin Sec, Winter Beurre. 1750 Mrs. DELANY *Autobiog.* (1861) II. 504, I have just been gleaming my autumn fruits—melon, figs, beury pears. 1866 Mrs. GASKELL *Wives & Daughters* I. 107 She had eaten some brown beurré pears.

Beuscher, variant of *BEAUSIRE*, Obs.

Beute, -tie, etc., obs. forms of *BEAUTY*, etc.

Beutefau, beutifew, obs. forms of *BOUTEFEU*.

Bevapid, obs. f. *beuhaped*: see *BEWHAPE*.

† **Bevar**, ? a. or sb. Obs. In 3 beuir, 5 Sc.

bevar. [Of doubtful origin and meaning: most conjectures refer it to *BEVER* v. to tremble, shake.]

Known only in *bevar hore*. Since ME. *hore* (now

HOAR, q.v.) was both adj. 'hoary,' and sb. 'grey-

beard' (Ger. *grais*), it remains uncertain whether

bevar was an adj. 'feeble, worn-out,' or a sb. 'old

man' or ? 'feeble old man.'

a 1755 *Prov. Alfred* 627, And þu þen beuir hore sixst þe bi-

foren stonden. c 1450 HENRYSON *Age & Youth*, The bevar

hoir said to this birly berne. [1808 JAMIESON *Sc. Dict.* s.v.,

'We still say a *beuir-horse* for a lean horse, or one worn out

with age or hard work.]

Bevelled, ppl. a. [f. *BE* + *VEIL* sb. + -ED².]

Covered, or furnished, with a veil.

1823 STANFORD *Aeneid* II. (Arb.) 55 With darknessse

nighty beueyled. 1826 Miss MITFORD *Village Ser.* II. (1863)

327 Leading Miss Reid beueyled and be-scarfed and be-

veiled and be-plumed..up the aisle.

Bevel (be-vél), a. and sb. 1. Forms: 7 beuell, 8-9

bevil, 8- bevel; in *Her.* 6 beulle, 7-9 bevil(e).

[App. a. OF. **bevel*, not found, but implied in the

mod.F. *beveau*, *beuveau*, *beuveau* (in Boiste's Dict.),

biveau (Littre), *bureau* (Cotgr., Littre, Boiste); of

unknown derivation. Godefroy cites a single

instance of a vb. *beuver*, which he explains as '*baiser*

(i. e. to slope, make slanting): architectural term';

but this seems insecure. It is uncertain whether the

adj. or sb. is earlier: the order here is provisional.]

A. adj.

1. *Her.* Of a line: Broken so as to have two

equal acute alternate angles; composed of two

parallel portions joined at acute angles by an

intermediate piece, thus

1562 LEIGH *Armorie* (1579) 78 b, Hee beareth party per

pale Beuile, Or and purple..He beareth party per Bend

Beuile, Argent, and purple.

2. Oblique; esp. at more than a right angle;

sloping, slant, inclined from a right angle, or from

a horizontal or vertical position.

c 1600 SHAKS. *Sonn.* cxxi, I may be straight though they

them-selves be beuel. 1677 MOXON *Mech. Exerc.* (1703) 89

The Bevil..is used..for the striking such Bevil lines. 1679

Plot *Staffordsh.* 368 The walls of the Chappel stand quite

bevil to those of the Church. 1733 TULL *Horse-hoing*

xxii. 148 The Mortise is bevil. [See *BEVEL* EDGE, etc., in C.]

B. sb. 1. A common joiner's and mason's tool,

consisting of a flat rule with a moveable tongue or

arm stiffly jointed to one end, for setting off angles.

1611 CORNELL, *Beuveau*, a kind of Squire or Squire-like In-

strument, hauing mouable, and compasse, branches; or th'

one branch compasse and th' other straight; some call it a

Beuill. 1677 MOXON *Mech. Exerc.* (1703) 89 The Bevil..

hauing its Tongue moveable upon a Center, may be set to

strike Angles of any..numbers of Degrees. 1823 P. NICHOLSON

Pract. Build. 386 The Bevel is employed in drawing the

soffit line on the face of the bricks. 1876 BLACKIE *Songs*

Relig. & Life 221 Time 'tis none for square and bevel.

2. A slope from the right angle, an obtuse angle;

a slope from the horizontal or vertical; a surface

or part so sloping. In the mechanical arts, the

defined slope or curve to which timber, etc. must

be cut. (Sometimes *bevel* is technically applied

to any angle exc. 90° and 45°.)

1677 MOXON *Mech. Exerc.* (1703) 110 Any sloping Angle

that is not a square, is called a Bevil. 1707 BURNS *Tam Sam-*

son's *El.* iii, The brethren o' the mystic level May hing

their head in wafu' bevel. 1793 SMEATON *Edystone L.* § 53

The upper bevil, or projection by way of cornice for throw-

ing off the sea. 1851 RUSKIN *Stones Ven.* I. xvi. § 13 In

the outlook window the outside bevel downwards is es-

sential. 1863 WYNTER *Subtle Brains*, etc. 274 [It] cut the

plank to the exact size and bevil it was required to take.

3. Short for *bevel-wheel* (see C).

1870 in *Eng. Mech.* 18 Mar. 652/3 This bevel gears with a

horizontal bevel underneath the base.

C. Comb. and Attrib., as *bevel-angle* (see quot.);

bevel edge, the oblique edge of a chisel or similar

tool; hence *bevel-edged* a.; *bevel-gear*, -gear-

ing, gear for conveying motion by means of bevel-

wheels from one shaft to another at an angle (usu-

ally a right angle) with it; *bevel-joint*, a sloping

joint for uniting pieces of timber end to end;

bevel-square (see B 1); *bevel-tool*, a turner's tool

with a bevel-edge for forming grooves and tapers

in wood; *bevel-wheel*, a toothed wheel whose working face, consisting of a frustum of a cone, is oblique with the axis, used to work in connexion with another bevel wheel, the shafts of the two being usually at right angles to each other; *bevel-ways*, -wise, adv. at a bevel.

1757-51 CHAMBERS *Cycl.*, **Bevel-angle* is used among the workmen, to denote any other angle but those of ninety or forty-five degrees. 1833 PHILLIPS *Fam. Cycl.* 1339/1 Wheels are denominated spur, crown, or **bevel-gear*, according to the direction or position of the teeth. c 1790 IMISON *Sch. Art.* I. 34 The Principle of **Bevel Gear*, consists in two cones, rolling on the surface of each other. 1823 P. NICHOLSON *Pract. Build.* 120 Other modes of continuing the length of timbers or beams is, by splicing them with a long **bevel-joint*.

† **Bevel**, sb. 2. Sc. Obs. A staggering blow.

1603 *Philotus* cxxxix, Indeith thou sall beir mee a beuell.

1715 PENNECUK *Poems* 92 (JAM.) And gave him..Three bevels till he gard him beek.

Bevel, v. Also 8 bevil. [f. *BEVEL* sb. 1.]

1. *trans.* To cut away or otherwise bring to a

slope; to reduce (a square edge) to a more obtuse

angle; often with *away*, *off*, etc.

1677 MOXON *Mech. Exerc.* (1703) 109 You may..Bevil

away the outer edges of the Pannels. 1808 PALEY *Nat.*

Theol. x. (1827) 474/2 The same rings are bevelled off at the

upper and lower edges. 1851 RUSKIN *Stones Ven.* I. xvi.

§ 11 The wall is to be bevelled on the outside so as to in-

crease the range of sight as far as possible. 1884 TENNYSON

Becket 171 All was planed and bevel'd smooth again.

fig. 1874 BLACKIE *Self-Cult.* 16 To bevel down the corners

of a character so constituted by a little æsthetic culture.

2. *intr.* To recede in a slope from the right

angle; to slant.

1679 Plot *Staffordsh.* 168 In the whole length it did not

bevel, or depart from a true level, above an inch. 1797

SWIFT *Gulliver* III. ii. 188 Their houses are very ill built, the

walls bevil, without one right angle in any apartment. 1862

TYNDALL *Mountaineer*. vii. 63 At one place, however, the

precipice bevels off to a steep incline of smooth rock.

Bevele, early Kentish form of *BEFILE*.

Bevelled, beveled (be-vèld), ppl. a. Also

bevilled. [f. *BEVEL* v. + -ED¹.] Made or cut to

a bevel; sloped off. a. gen.

1757 *Phil. Trans.* L. 105 The bevelled roof of the south-

west corner. 1822 IMISON *Sc. & Art.* I. 453 Bevelled-wheels

are much used for changing the direction of motion in

wheel-work. 1866 TYNDALL *Glac.* II. § 11. 292 The precipice,

upon a bevelled slope of which some blocks long continued

to rest. 1865 LUBBOCK *Preh.* *Times* iv. (1878) 98 Brought to

a bevelled edge.

b. *spec.* in *Archit.*; in *Crystallog.* (see quot.);

in *Heraldry* = *BEVEL* A 1.

1840 T. HOPE *Ess. Archit.* xii. (ed. 3) I. 123 The porch..

affords five bevelled entrances. 1851 RUSKIN *Stones Ven.*

(1874) I. xvi. 175, I do not like the sound of the word

'splayed'; I always shall use 'bevelled' instead. 1876

GURNEY *Crystallog.* 51 An edge is bevelled when replaced

by two faces which are respectively equally inclined to the

adjacent faces.

Bevelling, beveling, vbl. sb. Also bevil-

ling. [f. as prec. + -ING¹.]

1. A cutting to an oblique angle; the oblique

angle or slant so given; a bevelled portion or sur-

face: esp. in *Shipbuilding*.

1769 FALCONER *Dict. Marine* (1789), *Bevelling*, in ship

building, the art of hewing a timber with a proper and regu-

lar curve. 1853 KANE *Grinnell Exp.* xviii. (1856) 138 A sort

of bevelling prevented the ice-mass from actual contact with

the bottom. 1869 SIR E. REED *Shipbuild.* xx. 430 Care has

to be taken in bringing the flanges to the correct bevelling.

2. Comb., as *bevelling-board* (*Shipbuild.*), see

quot.; *bevelling-machine*, a book-binder's ma-

chine for bevelling the edges of a book-cover.

c 1850 *Rudim. Navig.* (Weale) 96 *Bevelling-board*, a piece

of deal on which the bevellings or angles of the timbers, etc.

are described.

Bevelling, ppl. a. [f. as prec. + -ING².] Slant-

ing, oblique, cut to an obtuse angle. *Bevelling*

edge (*Shipbuilding*): 'the edge of a ship's frame,

which is in contact with the skin, and which is

worked from the moulding-edge, or that which is

represented in the draft.'

1677 MOXON *Mech. Exerc.* (1703) 91 You Saw the Bevil-

ling Angles. c 1850 *Rudim. Navig.* (Weale) 154 *Syphered*,

a mode of joining..with a bevelling edge.

Bevellment (be-vèlment). Also bevilment.

[f. as prec. + -MENT.] The process of bevelling;

spec. in *Crystallog.*, the replacement of the edge of

a crystal by two similar planes equally inclined

to the adjacent faces.

1804 R. JAMIESON *Mineral.* I. 204 There is formed a four-

sided prism bevilled on both extremities..and the edge of

the bevillment is truncated. 1870 H. MACMILLAN *Bible*

Teach. xvi. 313 The truncatures of their [i.e. crystals']

angles, and the bevellment of their edges.

Bevenom, etc.: see *BE*-pref.

† **Beuer** (bī-vaj), sb. Forms: 5-7 beuer, 6

beuoir, boeuer, boyuer, 6-7 boier, 7 beauer,

7-9 beaver, bever. [a. OF. *beivre* (also *baivre*,

beivre, *boivre*) drinking, drink, subst. use of OF.

beivre, *boivre* (now *boire*) pres. inf.:—L. *bibere* to

drink. (In med.L. *biber*, *bibera*, *biberis*.) With

sense 3, cf. the parallel OF. form *beverie*, *beverry*,

in the sense of a lunch or collation in a monastery.]

† 1. Drink, liquor for drinking. Obs.

1451 MARG. PASTON *Let.* 149 (1872) I. 201, I can gett none

ell [ells] yett; as for bever ther is promysid me somme.

† 2. A potation, a drinking; a time for drinking.

1499 *Prompt. Parv.* 34 Beuer, drinkinge tyme, *biberium*.

1552 HULORT, Beuer, or drinckynge, or potacion. 1580

BARET *Adv.* B 876 A Boeuer or drinkinge betwene dinner

and supper. 1606 H. MASON *Epicure's Fast* iii. 25 Their

custome of drinking which I call a continuall Bever.

3. A small repast between meals; a 'snack,'

nuncheon, or lunch; esp. one in the afternoon be-

tween mid-day dinner and supper. Chiefly dial.

1500 *Ortus Voe.* in *Prompt. Parv.* 34 note, *Merendula*, a

beuer after none. 1573 COOPER *Thesaurus*, *Merenda*..a

collation, a noone meale, a boyuer. c 1590 MARLOWE

Faust. vi, Thirty meals a-day and ten bevers. 1599 HAK-

LUYT *Voy.* II. 1. 60 As they vse to ring to dinner or beuoir in

cloisters. 1608 FULBECKE and Pt. *Parall.* Intro. 3 The

booke of Littletons tenures is there breakfast, their dinner,

their boier, their supper, and their rere-banquet. 1650 BUL-

WER *Anthropomet.* xxii. 246 Children of Princes..were to be

allowed their Bevers or afternoons Nuncians. 1679 Plot</

+ **Beveren**, -yn(e), *a. Obs.* [prob. f. BEAVER sb.1 + -EN¹. Cf. O.H.G. *bibirin*, L. *bebrinus*, *fibrinus*.] *prob.* Beaver-coloured, reddish-brown.

† a 1400 *Morte Arth.* 3631 Alle bare-hevede for besye with beveryne lokkes. c 1400 *Antur Arth.* xxviii. His ene, that gray were and grete With his beueren berd. Cf. next.

+ **Beverhued**, *obs. form of beaver-hued.*

c 1340 *Gaw. & Gr. Knt.* 845 Brode bryt watz his berde & al beuerhued.

+ **Bevering**, *vbl. sb. Obs.* [f. BEVER v.2 + -ING¹.] Trembling, shaking, quivering.

1398 *TREVISIA Barth. de P. R.* xvii. cviii. Feures, bat comep with beuerynge [1535 sheuerynge] and colde. 161d. vii. xxxvii. Therof comyth gryllynge, beverynge, and colde.

Beverneck, -nex. *Obs.* Also 6 barnecks. Some fabric.

1507 *Richmond. Wills* (1853) 197 Beds, hangings of buche-rame, and a teaster of beverneke. 1567 *Ibid.* 221 A tabill clothe barnecks, vs.

Beveroy, variant form of BAVAROT.

1713 *London Gaz.* No. 5185/4 A sandy colour Beveroy broad Cloth Coat.

Beverse, bevesselléd, beveto, bevillain, bevinéd, bevomit, etc.: see BE-*pref.*

Beves, -is, *obs. f. beves*, pl. of BEEF.

Bevil(e), bevilled, variants of BEVEL, -ELLED.

Bevin, *obs. form of BAVIN.*

+ **Beviss**. *Obs.* [Etymol. unknown: see conjecture in Britten's *O. C. and Farm. Wds.*]

a 1725 *LISLE Husb.* (1757) 259 A cow-calf would make very pretty beef, at three years old, but, if killed sooner, they called it beviss.

|| **Bevue** (bevü). In 8 bevew. [Fr. *bévue*, f. *bé*, *bes*, pejorative prefix + *vue* VIEW sb. Naturalized in 18th c.] An error of inadvertence.

1716 *M. DAVIES Ath. Brit.* I. Pref. 3 The Follies of the Ignorant, the bevews of Government. 1813 *Scott in Lockhart* (1839) IV. 71 He will content himself with avoiding such bevues in future.

Bevy (bevi). Forms: 5 bevey, beuye, beue, 5-7 beuy, 6 beve, (bevvy), 6-7 beavie, beaule, beule, bevie, 7-9 beavy, 5- bevy. [Derivation and early history unknown; ME. *bevey*, *beue* answers in form to OF. *bevee*, *bevee* 'drink, drinking' (in mod.F., a drink of water thickened with meal for beasts). This seems to correspond, with difference of conjugation (*bevee* - **bevéta*), to It. *bevuta* 'drinking-bout, a draught': cf. also *beva* 'drink, liquor, potion, drench' (Baretti) with *beva* 'a beavie' in Florio. To explain the Eng. sense, it has been conjectured that *bevy* may have passed from the sense of 'drinking-bout' to 'drinking-party,' and to 'party' or 'company' generally: but of this there is no known evidence. These old names for companies of men and animals are however very fantastical and far-fetched, as may be seen in the first three works quoted.]

1. The proper term for a company of maidens or ladies, of roes, of quails, or of larks.

c 1430 *Bk. Hawking in Rel. Ant.* I. 296 A covey of pertrich, a bevey of quayles, and eye of fesaunts. c 1470 *Hors, Shepe, & G.* (1822) 30 A beuye of larkes, A beuye of ladyes, A beuye of quayles, A beuye of roos. 1486 *Bk. St. Albans* F.vj. A Beuy of Ladies, a Beuy of Roos, a Beuy of Quaylis. 1579 *E. K. in Spenser's Sheph. Cal.* Apr. 118 gloss., They say a Beuie of Larkes. 1613 *SHAKS. Hen. VIII.* I. iv. 4 None here he hopes In all this Noble Beuy. 1667 *MILTON P. L.* xi. 582 A Beavie of fair Women, richly gay. 1678 *PHILLIPS s.v. Bevy*, The Foresters say a Bevy of Roes. 1795 *POPE Odys.* vi. 98 Around, a beavy of bright damself shone. 1795 *BRADLEY Fam. Dict.*, *Beavy of Quails*, a Term that imports only a Brood of young Quails. 1808 *SCOTT Marm.* II. xiv. A bevy of the maids of heaven.

2. *transf.* A company of any kind; rarely, a collection of objects.

1603 *B. JONSON Entertim.* Wks. (1692) 314 A bevy of Fairies. 1611 *BEAUM. & FL. King & No K.* v. 59 What a beavy of beaten slaves are here! 1688 *VILLIERS (Dk. Buckham) Chances* Wks. (1714) 110 When you've purchas'd A Beavy of those Butter-prints. a 1774 *GOLDSM. Double Transf.* 53 She kept a bevy Of powder'd coxcombs. 1848 *MACAULAY Hist. Eng.* II. 365 The whole bevy of renegades. 1861 *A. B. HOPE Eng. Cathedr.* 164 A basilica sheltering a bevy of minor altars.

3. *Comb.*, as + *bevy-grease*, the fat of a roe-deer. 1610 *GWILLIM Heraldry* III. xiv. (1660) 166 The fat of a Roe is termed Bevy Greace. 1616 *BULLOKAR, Beniegreace*, the fat of a row Deere.

Bevyr, *obs. form of BEAVER.*

Bew, *obs. form of BEAU a. fair, and BOUGH.*

Bewail (bīwāil), *v.* Forms: 4 bi-, bywelle(n), -weylen, -wayle, bywaille, 4-5 biwail, -wayle, bywaylen, 4-6 bewayll, 6-7 bewaile, -wayle, 6- bewail. [f. BE- + WAIL.]

1. *trans.* To wail over, to utter wailings or cries of sorrow over, esp. over the dead. Also refl.

c 1300 *K. Alis.* 4395 Ded he is of sadel y-falle; Perciens hit byweilleth alle. 1475 *CAXTON Yason* 18 How they bewaylled eche other. 1611 *BIBLE Jer.* iv. 31 The daughter of Zion that bewaileth herself. 1822 *B. CORNWALL Flood Thess.* I. 364 Pyrrha, sheltered in a cave, bewail'd Her child which perished.

2. To express great sorrow for; to lament loudly, mourn. Also refl.

c 1374 *CHAUCER Troylus* IV. 1223 Bywaylynge ay the day that they were borne. 1388 *WYCLIF 2 Cor.* xii. 21 Y biweile

many of hem, that bifor synned. 1549 *Bk. Com. Prayer, Commun. Serv.*, We knowledge and bewaile our manifold sinnes and wickednes. 1649 *MILTON Eikon.* Wks. 1738 I. 395 He bewails his want of the Militia. 1758 *JOHNSON Idler* No. 3 ¶ 8 These miseries I have often felt and often bewailed. 1880 *DIXON Windsor* III. xiv. 128 Other bards bewailed the dead poet.

b. To mourn or lament the want of.

1705 *SOUTHEY Joan of Arc* vi. 437 Then wild with joy speeds on to taste the wave So long bewail'd.

3. *intr.* To utter lamentations; to lament, mourn. c 1374 *CHAUCER Boeth.* I. vi. 96 For þe same þing songe þou... byweydest and bywepest. 1611 *J. FIELD in Coryat Crudities* Pref. Verses, Tom-Piper is gone out and mirth bewailes. 1800 *SOUTHEY Wesley* II. 38 Instead of bewailing for him and for herself.

b. with cognate object; see BEWAILED.

¶ In the following passage, the use of *bewaile* is either very forced (if suggested by the consequences of a wreck), or it is a mere error. The suggestion that it was meant for a derivative of *wale* 'to choose' is worthless.

1590 *SPENSER F. Q.* I. vi. i As when a ship... An hidden rocke escaped hath unware, That lay in waite her wrack for to bewaile.

Bewailable (bīwāil'ābl'), *a.* [f. prec. + -ABLE.] Fit or proper to be bewailed; lamentable.

1611 *COTGR.*, *Larmoyable*, bewaylable, lamentable, wo-full, worthe of teares. 1757 *RICHARDSON in Mrs. Barbauld Life* (1804) IV. 158 Tho' the consequences... are so very bewailable. 1775 *ADAIR Amer. Ind.* 187 The Hebrew ladies... reckoned their virginity a bewailable condition.

Bewailed, *ppl. a.* [f. BEWAIL + -ED¹.]

1. Lamented with wailing.

1600 *SHAKS. Sonn.* xxxvi. Lest my bewailed guilt should do thee shame.

2. Expressed by wailing, wailed forth. *Obs.*

1624 *CAPT. SMITH Virginia* v. 176 His much bewailed sorrow for his death.

Bewailer (bīwāil'ā), [f. as prec. + -ER¹.]

1. One who bewails or laments.

1614 *R. TAILOR Hog lost Pearl* IV. in *Dodsley* (1780) VI. 433 O blest bewailer of thy misery! 1710 *WARD Life H. More* 186 A great bewailer of the late troublesome times. 1851 *Mrs. BROWNING Casa Guidi* 2 Bewailers for their Italy enchained.

2. *Zool.* A species of monkey, the white-throated Sajou, also called Weeper.

1774 *GOLDSM. Nat. Hist.* (1862) I. vii. i. 508 Called... the Bewailer, from its peculiar manner of lamenting.

+ **Bewailful**, *a. Obs. rare.* [f. BEWAIL + -FUL, after *wailful*.] Wailing, mournful.

1592 *HARVEY Fourte Lett.* iii. 30 The bewailefull moane of that sobbing and groning Muse.

Bewailing, *vbl. sb.* [f. as prec. + -ING¹.] The utterance of wails; loud lamentation, mourning.

1485 *CAXTON St. Wenefr.* 3 The fader & moder... desyred to make bewaillynges. 1599 *HAKLUYT Voy.* II. i. 93. 1635 *WITHER Lord's Prayer* (1665) 82 Else his bewailings had not proceeded from true compassion.

Bewailing, *ppl. a.* [f. as prec. + -ING².] That bewails or laments. Hence **Bewailingly** *adv.*

1613 *SHAKS. Hen. VIII.* III. ii. 255 Thy Ambition... robb'd this bewailing Land Of Noble Buckingham. 1862 *THORNBURY Turner* II. 234 He alludes bewailingly to the November fog, that stops his painting.

Bewailment, [f. BEWAIL + -MENT.] A bewailing, a lamentation.

1607 *BEAUMONT Wom. Hater* III. i. Wks. 477 These lamentations, these lowlie love-loyes, these bewailments. 1828 *Blackw. Mag.* XXIII. 33 A general bewailment of the 'inconsistency' of human nature.

+ **Bewake**, *v. Obs.* [ME. *biwak*(ien), f. bi-, BE- + WAKE; cf. G. *bewachen*, Du. *bewaken*. For the strong and weak pa. tense, see AWAKE.]

1. *trans.* To keep watch over; to guard.

c 1300 *Trin. Coll. Hom.* 35 Pe herdes biwakened here oref. c 1300 *ORMIN* 1333 Hirdess... patt nihht biwokenn þe33re faldess. 1393 *GOWER Conf.* II. 350 My lady... Nis better 3emed and bewaked.

2. *spec.* To watch a corpse. Cf. WAKE sb.

c 1250 *Gen. & Ex.* 2444 Egipte folc him bi-waken xl. ni3tes and .xl. dai3es. c 1320 *Sevyn Sag.* (W.) 2578 He was bi-waked richeliche And wel faire browt on erthe.

3. To spend waking; to watch through.

1393 *GOWER Conf.* II. 244 That night was wel bewaked.

4. *intr.* To keep awake; to watch.

a 1450 *Knt. de la Tour c.* (1868) 131 Magdalene... bewaked and wepte for her synnes.

Bewall, *bewallow*, etc.: see BE-*pref.*

Bewandered (bīwāndərd), *ppl. a. rare.* [f. BE- + WANDER + -ED.] + a. Made to wander, bewildered (*obs.*). b. Wandered over.

1574 *HELLOWES Guenara's Ep.* (1577) 188, I go... so bewandered in my businesse, that scarcely I knowe any man. 1863 *W. BARNES Poems Dorset Dial.* Ser. III. 83 The stream be-wandered dell did spread Vrom height to woody height.

Bewape, variant of BEWAPE v. *Obs.*

Beware (bīwē+), *v.* Forms: 2 ben war, 3-6 be war, be-war, 3-7 bewar, 3-5 be-warr, 5 by-war, 5-6 be ware, 6 bewarro, be wayre, 6- beware. [The origin of this is involved: 1. OE. had a trans. vb. *warian* 'to guard, take care or charge of,' with a compound *bewarian* 'to defend.' The latter is not certainly found in ME. (where it would have been *bewaren*); the former survived as WARE, common till 1500 with a dative refl. const.,

esp. in the imperative *ware thee*! 'cave tibi, take care of thyself, be on your guard, beware!'; and has been retained down to the present day in the simple imperative *ware!*, as 'Ware holes!' (although in this form it has often since 1600 been mistaken for a contraction of *beware!* or an interjectional use of the adjective). 2. OE. had also an adj. *war* 'cautious, cautious, on one's guard,' which survived in ME. as *war*, *ware*, common in the phrase *to be ware* 'to be on one's guard,' of which the imperative *be ware!* was practically = *ware thee!* aforesaid. 3. From this equivalence of meaning, *be ware* early began to be treated in some respects as a single word, viz. as a compound of the vb. *ware*, thus stepping into the place of the OE. *bewarian*. As early as 1300 we find it written as one word, and even with *by* as the prefix, and in 14-15th c. it often followed the verbal constructions of the simple *ware*, even to taking a direct object, as in 'beware that train' (c 1500 in 1 e). But on the other hand it was used only in those parts of the vb. where *be* is found, viz. the imper., infin., and pres. subj. (the indic. being *I am ware, thou art ware*, etc.). After 1600, the verbal aspect so far prevailed that the inflexions *bewares, bewared, bewaring*, were used by good writers; but these have again been discarded, and *beware* is now used only where *be ware* would be a possible construction, viz. in the imper. (chiefly), the infin., and pres. subj. (rarely). The full evidence of these statements will be found under WARE: the following quotations show the relations of *to be ware, to ware oneself, ware thee, ware to thee, be ware to thee, beware thee, beware thyself*, before 1500.

c 1300 *Trin. Coll. Hom.* 5 [He] muneyd us alle to ben warre þarof. a 1300 *Cursor M.* 62 He þat stithest wenis at stand, Warre hym! his fall is next his hand. 1377 *LANGT. P. Pl.* B. v. 452 Ware þe fram wanþowe wolde þe bitraye. 1388 *WYCLIF Eccles.* xiii. 16 Be war [7. r. war] to thee, and take heede. to thin heryng. 1470-85 *MALORY Arthur* (1816) II. 399 Be you beware also what ye do. 1477 *EARL RIVERS (Caxton) Dictes* 11 b. Ware the of the wordes of lyers. 1483 *Vulgaria abs. Terentio* 2 b. Ware thy hede thy handys or fete. 1483 *CAXTON G. de la Tour* Giv, A woman ought to beware herself.]

I. Without inflexions.

1. To be cautious or on one's guard, to be wary; to take care, take heed, in reference to a danger.

a. simply.

a 1300 *Cursor M.* 17432 Bot we ne be-warr [Gott. be-war] wit-stand in time. c 1440 *Prompt. Parv.* 34 Be ware, *caveo*. 1535 *COVERDALE Eccles.* iv. 13 An olde king that doteth and cannot beware in tyme to come. 1610 *SHAKS. Temp.* II. i. 304 Shake off slumber and beware.

b. with *of* (*from*, with, *obs.*): To be on one's guard against.

1397 *R. GLOUC.* 547 Hii mi3te bewar of hor fon. c 1340 *Cursor M.* 4425 (Fairf.), Be-war of treson of womman. 1557 *NORTH Guenara's Diall* Pr. (1582) 269 a. There are such malices from the which we ought to beware. 1624 *HEYWOOD Gunak.* II. 74 From Sophists we must altogether beware. 1711 *ADDISON Spect.* No. 128 ¶ 1 Men should beware of being captivated. 1712 *POPE Rape Lock* I. 114 Beware of all, but most beware of Man. 1836 *J. GILBERT Chr. Atone.* ix. (1852) 293 Let us then beware of self-deception.

† c. with infinitive. *Obs.*

c 1325 *E. E. Allit.* P. B. 292, I schal wayte to be-war her wrenchez to kepe. c 1386 *CHAUCER Truth* 11 Bywar therefore to spurne ageyns an al.

d. with clause: *lest, that not, how.*

1523 *FITZHERB. Husb.* § 21 Let hym beware, that he trede not to moche vpon the corne. 1549 *COVERDALE Erasmus. Par.* 2 Cor. 53 Beware, lestye your cleannes be defiled. 1770 *JUNIOR Lett.* xli. 219 Beware how you indulge... your resentment. 1870 *MORRIS Earthly Par.* I. i. 376 Beware lest... in thy mirth, Thou tell'st the story of thy love unseen.

e. with simple object; = b.

c 1500 *Doctr. Gd. Servants in Anc. Poet.* Tr. (Percy Soc.) 4 Beware that trayne, For it standeth in grete daungere. 1596 *SHAKS. Merch. V.* III. iii. 7 Since I am a dog, beware my phangs. 1605 - *Macb.* IV. i. 72. 1697 *DRYDEN Virg. Past.* III. 145 Ye Boys... Beware the secret Snake that shoots a Sting. 1842 *LONGF. Excelsior* vi, Beware the pine-tree's withered branch! Beware the awful avalanche!

† 2. To take care, have a care of: a. with *of*. *Obs.*

c 1386 *CHAUCER Frankl.* T. 813 But euery wyf be war of hire biheeste [7. r. be ware, bewar]. 1611 *BIBLE Ex.* xxiii. 21, I send an Angel... Beware of him, and obey his voice.

† b. with simple object. *Obs.*

1566 *STAPLETON Rel. Untr. Jewel* III. 70 When the Fox preacheth, beware your geese. 1591 *SHAKS. 1 Hen. VI.* I. iii. 47 Priest, beware your Beard, I meane to tuggle it. a 1600 *Rob. Hood* (Ritson) II. xii. 136 Now, bishop, beware thy purse. 1713 *ADDISON Cato* IV. ii. 19 Have at thy heart. *Juba.* Nay, then beware thy own.

c. with infin. or clause. *arch.*

a 1569 *KINGSMYLL Man's Est.* xii. (1580) 80 Christ is sent unto us, let us beware that we receive him. 1599 *GREENE Alphonsus* (1861) 245 Beware you follow still your friends advice. 1697 *DRYDEN Virg. Georg.* IV. 595 The more he varies Forms, beware To strain his Fetters with a stricter Care. 1860 [see II].

† 3. To take warning by. *Obs.*

c 1500 *New Notbr. Mayd* 52 Beware by dedes dampnable. 1536 *WRIOTHESLEY Chron.* (1875) I. 40, I beseeche God... that all you may be wayte by me. 1581 *W. STAFFORD Exam. Compl.* II. (1876) 65, I pray God this Realme may beware by

that example. 1605 CAMDEN Rem. (1637) 300 It is good to beware by other mens harmes. 1700 [see II].

II. As an inflected verb.

1598 FLORIO, *Ranaduto*, beware, espied. 1606 N. BAXTER *Sidney's Urania* Kijj, Bewaring of too hot combustion. 1661 MILTON *Accidence* Wks. 1738 I. 613, I had bewar'd if I had foreseen. 1671 NEWTON in *Rigaud Corr. Sci. Men* (1841) II. 316, I stirred them a little together, beware... that I drew not in breath near the pernicious fumes. 1700 DRYDEN *Cock & Fox* 799 Once warn'd is well bewar'd. 1860 EMERSON *Cond. Life* i. (1861) 32 We beware to ask only for high things. 1870 *Echo* 17 Oct., Showing the greatest respect... and beware of the slightest insubordination.

† **Beware**, *v.* 2. Obs. [First c 1400; f. BE-2 + WARE *v.* to spend (still in every-day use in the north).] *trans.* To lay out (money, etc.), expend, spend.

c 1374 CHAUCER *Troilus* i. 636 Thus ought wyse men beware by folis: If so thou do thy wit is wele by waryd. 1393 GOWER *Conf. I.* 262 If the clerk beware his faith In chapmanhode at such a faire. c 1460 *How March. dyd Wyse betray* 244 in Hazl. E. P. P. 207 Yf thou thynke hyt not wele besett, Gyf hyt another can be ware hyt bett. c 1460 *Childe of Brystowe* 220 *ibid.* 119 He le never, til he had bewared alle the tresour his fader spared. 1472 MARC. PASTON *Lett.* 689 III. 37 If ye bewar any mor money... I shall pait you ageyn.

Bewash, bewasted, bewater, etc.: see BE-*pref.*

† **Bewave**, *v.* Obs. Also 6 bywaif. [f. BE-1 + WAVE *v.*] To blow about, to blow or waft away.

1501 DOUGLAS *Pal. Hon.* III. xxxix, How that Eneas... In countreis seir was be the seyris rage Bewaut oft. 1513—*Eneis* i. iv. 44 Quhilik lait to fore the wyndis hed biwavit. *ibid.* vi. xiv. 42 The fervent luif of his kynd native land... Mot al evil rumour fra his lawd bywaif.

† **Bewayne**, *Obs. rare.* Also bewan3e. [f. BE- + WAIN, gain. Perh. there was a vb. of the same form: it is even possible that we have a vb. in the first quot.] Profit, advantage.

c 1375 BARBOUR *St. Ninian* 754 Mene cummis par of landis seer... Of be pardone for be-wan3e. *ibid.* 1279 Sir, 3e ma haf na bewayne Vith sanctis bis [=bus] to mak bargane.

Bewe, obs. form of BOUGH.

Bewearry, etc.: see BE-*pref.*

† **Bewed**, *v.* Obs. [OE. *beweddian*, f. bi-, BE-2 + *wedden* to WED.]

1. *trans.* To wed, to marry.

c 1000 ÆLFRIC *Ex. xxi.* 9 Gif he hig his suna beweddap. c 1205 LAY. 1033 Custance hauede Ælene biwedded to quene. 1513 DOUGLAS *Eneis* III. v. 74 Art thou, or na, to Pirthus 3it bywed?

2. *fig.* To unite closely and intimately.

1674 N. FAIRFAX *Bulk & Selv.* To bewedding to body the things that belong to ghost. 1720 W. GINSON *Diet Horses* vii. (ed. 3) 105 They will be so much bewedded to Custom. Hence **Bewedded** *ppl. a.*

c 1205 LAY. 31960 His biweddede wif.

Bewep (bēwēp), *v.* Forms: 1 *bewēpan*, 2-4 *biwēpen*, -*weopen*, 4-6 *bi-*, *by-*, *bewepe*, 7 *bewepe*, 6- *beweep*. *Pa. t.* 1-4 *beweop*, 2 *biwiep*, 4-6 *bywēpte*, 6- *bewept*. See **BEWEPT**. [OE. *bewēpan* = OFris. *biwēpa*, OS. *biwōpian*, f. *be-*, *bi-*, BE-4 + *wōpian*, *wōpan* to WEEP.]

1. *trans.* To weep for, weep over, deplore (the dead, losses, sins, etc.).

c 1000 ÆLFRIC *Deut.* xxxv. 8 And Israhela bearn hine bewēpon bēritig daga. c 1175 *Lamb. Hom.* 39 Pu scaht bi wēpen hine sunne. 1388 WYCLIF *Matt.* ii. 18 Rachel biwēpyng hir sonas. 1494 FAYAN *vil. cxxxv.* 252 The kyng... bewēpte yf vnskyfull dede. 1561 VERON *Hunt. Purgat.* 25 b, The Egipcians bewēpt him seventy dayes. c 1600 SHAKS. *Sonn.* xxxi, I all alone beweepe my out-cast state. 1678 SHADWELL *Timon* v, I'll bewee these comforts. 1876 SWINBURNE *Erechth.* 81 Boast me not blameless nor beweepe me wronged.

2. To wet or moisten with, or as with, tears.

c 1420 *Pallad. on Husb.* iv. 61 Yf lukewarm hem by-wepe, Thai wol be greet. 1530 PALSGR. 453/2, I beweepe, I slubber a thynge with wepyng. 1587 TURBERV. *Trag.* T. (1837) 178 Which bones he long bewept with teares. 1848 KINGSLEY *Saint's Trag.* v. i. 230 And passing clouds bewept... Those wasted limbs.

† 3. *intr.* To weep. *Obs.*

c 1374 CHAUCER *Boeth.* i. vi. 26 For be same ping songe hou a lytel here... byweydelest and bywepstest. 1388 WYCLIF *Rev.* xviii. 9 The kingis of the erthe schulen biwepe, and biweile hem self on hir.

† **Beweeper**, *Obs.* One who beweepe.

1388 WYCLIF *Wind.* xviii. 10 Wepeful weyling of biweperis of 3onge children was herd.

Bewelcome, etc.: see BE-*pref.*

Beweld (e), variant of BEWIELD *v.* *Obs.*

† **Bewell**, *v.* *Obs.* [f. BE-2 + ME. *wellen* to WELL *v.*] *intr.* To well up.

1387 TREVISIA *Hiden* (1865) I. 111 Makeþ be brook torrentem Cedron wexe and bewel þe more.

Beweltered (bēwēltəd), *ppl. a.* [f. BE-4 + WELTER.] Besmeared by weltering (in blood, etc.). 1565 GOLDING *Ovid's Met.* iv. (1593) 83 Beweltred in his blood hir lover she espide. 1865 CARLYLE *Fredk. Gl.* VI. xv. xl 75 The beweltered broken harness-gear.

† **Bewend**, *v.* *Obs.* Also 1 *bewendan*, 3-4 *bi-*, *by-*, *bewende(n)*. [Common Teut.: OE. *bewendan* = OS. *biwendian*, OHG. *biwentan* (MHG. and mod.G. *bewenden*), Goth. *biwandjan*, f. *bi-*, BE-1 + OTeut. *wandjan* to turn, causal of *windan* to WIND; *bewend* is thus the causal of BEWIND.]

1. *trans.* To turn round, turn away.

c 1000 *Ag. Gosp.* Mark v. 30 He cwæð bewend to þære

menigu. a 1300 *Cursor M.* 825 Alkin blis was þan bi-went, Fra þaim. c 1314 *Guy Warw.* (1849) 253 Sir Gii his stede biwent tho.

2. *refl.* To turn oneself round.

c 1000 *Ag. Gosp.* Matt. ix. 22 And se Hælend bewende hyne. c 1205 LAY. 18084 Hicgendliche he hine biwent. c 1314 *Guy Warw.* (1840) 187 Biwende the, seyð Herhaud fre.

3. *intr.* (for *refl.*)

a 1300 *Body & Soul in Map's Poems* (1841) 334 Wan the gost it scholde go, yt biwente and withstod. c 1330 *Kyng of Tars* 1026 Theos fyf kynges forth bewent.

Bewept (bēwēpt), *ppl. a.* *arch.* Also 4 *biwēpe*, -*weped*, -*wepen*, 5-6 *by-*, *bewepte*. [f. BEWEEP.] Drowned in tears; marked or disfigured by weeping.

c 1300 *Seign Sag.* (W.) 1186 He fond his emperice... here visage al biwēpe. c 1350 *Will. Palerne* 661 Al bi-wēped for wo. c 1374 CHAUCER *Troilus* iv. 888 That he yow nat biwēpen thus ne fynde. 1490 CAXTON *Eneydos* iv. 24. 1531 ELIOT *Gov.* (1580) 128 Wash cleane your visage and eyen thus bewēpte. 1858 CARLYLE *Fredk. Gl.* II. viii. v. 337 The Prince, all bewept and in emotion, followed his Father.

Bewest (bēwēst), *adv.* and *prep.* [OE. *bewestan*, f. BE-*prep.* + *westan* from the west: cf. BE-EAST.]

† **A. adv.** On or to the west. *Obs.*

1016 O. E. *Chron.* (Laud MS.), Be westan. 1106 *ibid.* a 1225 *Ansr. R.* 232 Hu þe holi mon... iseh biwestan a3an him so muchel uerde of deofen. 1475 *Bk. Noblesse* (1860) 9 The regions be west of Rome.

B. prep. To the west of. Now only *Sc.*

a 855 O. E. *Chron.* an. 709 Be westan wuda. 1535 STEWART *Cron. Scot.* 28936 In Inchcennane, short gait bewest Glasgw. 1676 W. ROW *Contn. Blair's Autobiog.* x. (1848) 276 The sea be-west Inverkeithing. 1883 *Blackw. Mag.* Nov. 636 Bewest North Berwick Law.

Bewet (bēwēt), *v.* Also 5 *bywet*. *Pa. t.* and *ppl.* 4-8 *by-*, *bewet*(te), 7 *bewetted*. [f. BE-2 + WET *v.*] *trans.* To wet profusely.

c 1400 *Test. Love* i. (1560) 272 b/2 The beames... of thynne eyen arne so bewet. 1491 CAXTON *Vitas Patr.* (W. de W.) i. xxxv. 30a/x Saynt Anthonye... wepte and alle bywette his face with teeres. 1528 A. DALABER in Froude *Hist. Eng.* (1856) II. 52 We all bewet both our faces. 1588 SHAKS. *Tit. And.* III. i. 146 His Napkin with her true teares all bewet. 1643 BURROUGHS *Exp. Hosea* iii. (1655) 55 As Gideons fleece bewetted with the tempest of Gods wrath. 1718 ROWE *Lucan* v, The crow bewets her, and prevents the rain.

Bewet, bewit (biwēt), *sb.* *Falconry.* Also 5 *bewette*. [Appar. a. OF. *bewette*, an unrecorded dim. of *bue*, *bue*, orig. *buie*, *boie* collar, bond, chain, fetter:—L. *boia*, in pl. *boies* collar for the neck (of leather, wood, or iron); but perh. the dim. is of Eng. formation.] A ring or slip of leather for attaching the bell to a hawk's leg.

1286 *Bk. St. Albans* B vja, Thessame letheris that be putt in hir bellis: to be fastyned a boutte hir legges yu shall calle Bewettis. 1575 TURBERV. *Falconry*, With belle and Bewetts, Vernelle eke, to make the falcon fine. 1753 CHAMBERS *Cycl. Suppl.* Bewits, in Falconry, denote pieces of leather, to which a hawk's bells are fastened, and buttoned to his legs. 1875 'STONEHENGE' *Brit. Sports* i. iv. i. § 3 A running noose in which the leg of the hawk together with the 'bewit' of the bell is inserted.

Bewetye, Bewgle, Bewgrye, obs. form of BEAUTY, BUGLE, BUGGERY.

† **Bewh**, *v.* *Obs. exc. dial.* [Imitative of the sound.] *intr.* To bark in a thin voice, to yelp.

1581 T. HOWELL *Denises* (1879) 262 A little bewhing Currie.

† **Bewhappe**, *v.* *Obs.* Only in *pa. pple.* 4 *be-whaped*, -*whapped*, -*waped*, -*vapid*. [f. BE- + *whape*: see AWHAPE, WHAP.] *trans.* To bewilder, amaze; confound utterly.

c 1320 *Sir Beues* 1689 The porter was all bewaped. Alas! queth he, is Beues ascaped. 1380 *Sir Ferumb.* 3037 Þai bup ne3 be-vapid. 1393 GOWER *Conf.* III. 4 So bewhapped and assotied. *ibid.* 378 Thus bewhaped in my thought.

† **Bewhatted**, *ppl. a.* *Obs. rare*—1. [Cf. *be-twattle* in BE-2.] Bewildered, out of one's wits. 1641 CARTWRIGHT *Siege* v. iii, She looks as if she were bewhatted.

Bewhete, -whethe, obs. ff. BEQUEATH.

Bewhig, bewhisker, bewhisper, bewhistle, bewhite(n), bewidow, etc.: see BE-*pref.*

† **Bewhore**, *v.* *Obs.* [f. BE-5.] a. To call whore. b. To make a whore of, to prostitute.

1604 SHAKS. *Oth.* iv. ii. 115 My Lord hath so bewhor'd her, Throwne such dispiight, and heavy termes vpon her. 1643 FLETCHER *Maid in Mill* III. i. 9 Had you a daughter stoll, perhaps bewhor'd.

† **Bewield**, *v.* *Obs.* Also 3 *biwielden*, 4-5 *by-*, *bewelde*, 6 *bewylde*. [ME. *biwielden*, f. *bi-*, BE-2 + *wielden*, to WIELD.] *trans.* To hold in hand, rule, control, manage, handle, wield. *refl.* To use one's limbs.

c 1200 *Trin. Coll. Hom.* 25 Þe holie þremnesse þe shop and biwalt alle shafte. 1393 GOWER *Conf.* III. 377 (MS. Harl. 3490) And may my selven nought bewelde, What for sikenesse and what for elde. 1483 CAXTON *Gold. Leg.* 99/t Thyse ii. toke of theyr clothes... to thende that they myght better & lyghtlyer bywylde them to stone hym. 1494 FAYAN *v. cxxviii.* 110 To bewelde his lande when his fader dyed. 1530 PALSGR. 453/2, I bewylde my selfe, I styrrer my selfe. 1577 HARRISON *Descr. Brit.* v. (R.) Gerards staffe... which... no man can beweld.

Bewig (bēwig), *v.* [f. BE-6, 7 + WIG.] To furnish or cover with a wig. Hence **Bewigged** *ppl. a.* a. Wearing a wig. b. Under the influence of bureaucracy or 'red-tape.' (In Germany

Zopf = cue, pigtail, is the symbol of official pedantry or red-tape.)

1774 *Westm. Mag.* II. 600 Suppose me now be-wigg'd and seated here. 1851 MARIOTT *Italy* vii. 416 A paltry Baden, a bewigg'd Prussia. 1866 *Lond. Rev.* 9 June 640/2 It drives him to bewig his bald head. 1876 GEO. ELIOT *Dan. Der.* i. i. 3 An old bewigg'd woman, with eyeglasses pinching her nose.

Bewilder (bēwīldə), *v.* [f. BE-2 + WILDER, to lead one astray, *refl.* to stray, to wander (found 1613 and common in 17th c.).]

1. *lit.* 'To lose in pathless places, to confound for want of a plain road.' J. *arch.*

1685 [see next]. 1754 JOHNSON *Rambl.* No. 195 p. 3 He was so much bewildered in the enormous extent of the town. 1778-84 COOK *Voy.* (1790) I. 36 An unfrequented wood, in which they might probably be bewildered till night. 1806 KANE *Arct. Exp.* II. xxviii. 282 The berg that had bewildered our helmsman.

2. *fig.* To confuse in mental perception, to perplex, confound; to cause mental aberration.

1684 CHARNOCK *Attrib. God* (1834) I. 37 We must come to something at length... or else be bewildered. 1709 POPE *Ess. Crit.* 26 Some are bewilder'd in the maze of schools. 1742 H. BAKER *Microsc.* i. xv. 64 Let no... honest Observer... bewilder his Brains in following such idle Imaginations. 1823 T. JEFFERSON *Writ.* (1830) IV. 372 A vain and useless faculty, given to bewilder, and not to guide us.

Bewildered, *ppl. a.* [f. *prec.* + -ED 1.]

1. Lost in pathless places, at a loss for one's way; *fig.* confused mentally.

1685 DRYDEN *Lucretius* II. 11 (R.) Human-kind Bewilder'd in the maze of life, and blind. 1703 MAUNDRELL *Journ. Jerus.* (1732) 142 We rambled about for seven hours thus bewildred. 1762 BEATTIE *Triumph Mel.* xli, The bewilder'd soul. 1810 SCOTT *Lady of L.* i. xv, Should each bewildred stranger call To friendly feast and lighted hall. 1843 J. MARTINEAU *Chr. Life* (1857) 384 The new generation may grow up with bewildered vision.

2. *transf.* Pathless, trackless, mazy; utterly confused or tangled.

1729 M. BROWNE *Pisc. Eclog.* vii. (1773) 96 And oft would to bewilder'd shades retire. 1820 KEATS *Hyperion* III. 9 Wandering in vain about bewilder'd shores. 1840 CARLYLE *Heroes* I. 10 A bewildered heap of allegories.

Bewilderedly (bēwīldədli), *adv.* [f. *prec.* + -LY 2.] In a bewildered manner; in uncertainty as to one's way or perceptions.

1846 R. de Coverley I. 20 The fox... speeding bewilderedly away. 1883 A. FORBES *Soc. Char. Australia*, Asking oneself bewilderedly how or whence they get it.

Bewilderedness, [f. as *prec.* + -NESS.] The quality of being bewildered; bewilderment.

1847 in CRAIG; and in other Dicts.

Bewildering (bēwīldərin), *vbl. sb.* [f. BE-WILDER + -ING 1.] The causing one to lose his way; the losing of oneself in a maze.

1806 WORDSW. *Redbreast & B.*, The bird... That, after their bewildering, Covered with leaves the little children.

Bewildering, *ppl. a.* [f. as *prec.* + -ING 2.] That causes one to lose his way; mentally confusing or perplexing.

1792 WORDSW. *Descr. Sk. Wks.* I. 82 At once bewildering mists around him close. 1860 TYNDALL *Glac.* I. § 12. 90 A bewildering mass of crags and chasms.

Bewilderingly, *adv.* [f. *prec.* + -LY 2.] In a bewildering manner; so as to bewilder.

1838 *New Monthly Mag.* LIII. 524 Our bark is bewilderingly blown back, forward, or sideways. 1865 *Athenaeum* No. 1974, 285/1 Bewilderingly multitudinous.

Bewilderment (bēwīldərmənt), [f. BE-WILDER + -MENT.] The state or condition of bewildering or being bewildered: a. Confusion arising from losing one's way; mental confusion from inability to grasp or see one's way through a maze or tangle of impressions or ideas. 1820 IRVING *Sketch Bk.* I. 85 In the midst of his bewilderment. 1861 GEO. ELIOT *Silas M.* 13 Thought was arrested by utter bewilderment.

b. A tangled or labyrinthine condition of objects, an inextricable confusion or medley. 1844 *Proc. Berw. Nat. Club* II. 107 The entangled bewilderment of oak and pine, birch and hazel. 1884 BLACK *Jud. Shaks.* xxxi, What a bewilderment of light and color met her eyes!

Bewill (bēwīl), *v.* [f. BE-2 + WILL *v.*] To will. Hence **Bewilled** *ppl. a.* 1864 J. GROTE *Mor. Ideals* 32 The past is the experienced and already bewilled.

Bewimple, etc.: see BE-*pref.*

† **Bewin, biwin**, *v.* *Obs.* For forms see WIN. [ME. *biwinnen*, f. *bi-*, BE- + *winnen* to WIN.] To gain, to win, get possession of.

c 1175 *Lamb. Hom.* 41 Hwa erest bi-won reste þam wrecche saule. c 1205 LAY. 25067 He biwon [c 1220 biwan] Rome. a 1225 *Ansr. R.* 228 Þe tur nis nout assailed, ne þe castel, ne þe cite hwon heo beoð biwunnen. c 1325 *Chron. Eng.* 465 in Ritson *Met. Rom.* II. 289 With is host... Engeland to bywynne. c 1330 R. BRUNNE *Chron.* 323 Of alle þat grete tresoure þat euer he biwan. 1a 1400 *MS. Camb.* v. 48. 24 Þat catell was wo begon, So be-wunne was neuer non.

† **Bewind**, *v.* *Obs.* Also *bi-*. For forms see WIND. [Com. Teut.: OE. *bewindan*, f. *be-*, *bi-*, BE-1 + *windan* to WIND; cf. Goth. *biwindan*, OHG. *bewintan*, mod.G. *bewinden*.]

1. *trans.* To wind (a thing) about; to involve, envelop with (bands, etc.).

c 1000 *Ag. Gosp. Matt.* xxvii. 59 Joseph genam þone lichoman, & bewand hyne mid clenre scytan. c 1200 *Trin. Coll. Hom.* 95 þe crisme cloð. þe þe prest biwinded þat child mide. c 1280 *Christ on Cross in E. E. P.* (1862) 20 Loke to is heued. wip þornis al be-wonde.

b. fig.

a 1000 *Beowulf* 6097 Iu-monna gold galdre bewunden. c 1200 *Trin. Coll. Hom.* 11 3et is sume þarfore of unbileue ifild. and swo faste bunden. and swo biwunde þarinne. c 1340 *Cursor M.* 22492 So soiled in oure synne And al biwunden now þer inne.

2. To wind or twine oneself round.

c 1200 *Trin. Coll. Hom.* 87 And þanne ferde þe fule gost. and seuen oðre gostes. and bitrmede þat child. and biwunden it. and biwalden it al. c 1303 *Gower Conf.* II. 295 A gret serpent it hath bewounde.

Bewing, dial. form of BOWING.

Bewinged, bewinter, bewire, etc.: see BE.

† **Bewiste, biwist(e).** *Obs.* Also i biwist, 3 biweist, biwist, beowust, beowust, bywist(e), -wyste. [OE. *bi-wist*, fem., f. *bi-*, BE- + *wist* 'being' = OS., OHG., *wist*, Goth. *wists* : -OTeut. **wisti-z* 'being', f. *wesan* to be. *Bi-wist* is the sb. answering to a vb. **bi-wesan*; cf. Goth. *bi-wisan* to be together, to feast, make merry, f. *bi-*, BE- + *wesan* to be, remain. This word survived longest in the north; in later times the stress was shifted to the root-syllable, as in verbal *be-* compounds; cf. *behozte*, *beot*, etc. With the senses cf. BEING.]

1. Food, provision, victual, a living.

c 888 K. *Ælfred Boeth.* xvii. He habban sceal þam þrym zeferscipum biwiste. c 1000 *Ælfred Oswald in Saints' Lives* (Sweet Reader 102/228) He wolde. him biwiste syllan.

2. State or condition of life.

c 1200 *Trin. Coll. Hom.* 133 Oðer [his] he[r] biwist. *Ibid.* 167 þis holi man [Job] hadde þre biwistes. c 1205 *LAY.* 17809 Lauerd hu mid þe: hu beoð þine beouste. a 1300 *Cursor M.* 13832 He hates to cum to vr bewist.

3. Abiding, dwelling, sojourn, living.

c 1200 *Trin. Coll. Hom.* 149 Wumme. þat min biwist is tejed here swo longe. a 1225 *Anscr. R.* 160 He was isuled þurh beouste [M.S. T. ifuled þurh bewiste] among men.

4. Dwelling-place, abode, habitation.

c 1200 *Trin. Coll. Hom.* 161 Dis wordles biwist is efmed to wastene. c 1225 *Metr. Hom.* 69 To heuen, that beue thi beste bewyste. c 1375 *Barbour St. Cristofore* 269 Hame he passit til his bewist. — *St. Catharine* 1118.

Bewit, -wytt, *obs.* northern fl. of BEQUEATH.

1297 *Test. Ebor.* (1868) 28, I bewit to the gyld of Seynt John Baptiste in York vjs. viij.

Bewit (Falconry), variant of BEWET.

Bewitch (biwītʃ), *v.* Also 3 biwucch, 4 biwich, bywucch, bewychoe, 5-6 by-, bewytoh. [ME. *biwischen*, f. *bi-*, BE- + *wicchen* : -OE. *wiccan* to enchant, to WITCH, f. *wicca* masc., *wicca* fem., WITCH. **Bewician* may have been in OE.]

1. *trans.* To affect (generally injuriously) by witchcraft or magic. Sometimes with complementary phrase defining the result.

c 1205 *LAY.* 22275 Summe bokes suggeð. þat þa burh wes biwucched. c 1315 *SHOREHAM* 71 That on bi-wiched be. c 1400 *MAUNDEV.* xiv. 159 3if ony cursed Wycche. wolde bewyche him. 1281 J. *BELL Hadden's Ansv. Osor.* 149 b. Least he bewichte into stones all the whole ancient race of the Old Testament. 1294 *SHAKS. Rich. III.* iii. iv. 70 Looke how I am bewich'd. 1702 *POPE Wife of B.* 301 He had bewich'd me to him. 1864 *KINGSLEY Rom. & Tent.* i. 2 The Trolls have bewitched him.

2. *fig.* To influence in a way similar to witchcraft; to fascinate, charm, enchant. Formerly often in a bad sense; but now generally said of pleasing influences.

1296 *TINDALE Gal.* iii. 1 O folisshe Galathians: who hath bewitched [WYCLIF disceyuede] you? 1596 *SHAKS. 1 Hen. IV.* ii. 18, I am bewitcht with the rogues company. 1712 *PARNELL Spect.* No. 460 ¶ 6 The breeze that played about us bewitched the Senses. 1815 *Scribblemanus* 165 (g) Our author... can never fail of bewitching the reader. 1876 *GREEN Short Hist.* vii. § 4. 376 There was in Mary 'some enchantment whereby men are bewitched.'

Bewitched (biwītʃt), *pp. a.* [f. *prec.* + -ED.]

1. Influenced by witchcraft; under, or having, magical influence.

1297 *TREvisa Higden* II. 423 To 3eue chese þat was by-wiched to men. 1571 *GOLDING Calvin on Ps. lx.* 5 A bewitched drink, that bereveth mennes myndes of wit. 1606 G. WOODCOCKE *Justine* 101 a. The flattering and bewitch enticements of a harlot. 1694 S. JOHNSON *Notes Past. Let. Bp. Burnet* i. Pref. 2 There was not one drop of Wine in it, it was all Water Bewitch't. 1876 *BANCROFT Hist. U. S.* II. xxx. 261 The bewitched persons pretended to be dumb.

2. *fig.* Under a fascination; fascinated.

1570 *LIVLY Enphues.* (Arb.) 103 Lucilla, either so bewitched that she could not relent, or, etc. 1670 *MARVELL Corr.* cxlvii. II. 325 At any other but so bewitched a time as this.

Bewitchedness, [f. *prec.* + -NESS.] Bewitched quality or condition. 1847 in CRAIG.

Bewitcher, [f. BEWITCH + -ER.] One who bewitches or charms.

1245 *JOYE Exp. Dan. v.* (R.) Oure... subtile sorcerers... and bewitchers. 1611 A. STAFFORD *Niobe* 117 (T.) These bewitchers of beutie.

Bewitchery, [f. BEWITCH + -ERY.]

1. Bewitching action or influence; charm, fascination; witchery.

1664 H. MORE *Myst. Iniq.* 281 There is something further observable in this golden Cup, wherein the force of its bewitchery may consist. a 1716 *SOUTH 12 Sermon.* (1717) III. 456

There is a certain bewitchery, or fascination in Words. 1868 *HAWTHORNE Amer. Note-Bks.* (1879) II. 161 There was a great bewitchery in the idea.

2. = BEWITCHMENT.

1711 *Spect.* No. 250 ¶ 7 Oblique vision... was anciently the mark of bewitchery and magical fascination. 1727 *BRADLEY Fam. Dict.* s. v. *Falling-Sickn.*, Good Housewives took it for a Bewitchery of their Poultry.

† **Bewitchful**, *a. Obs.* [f. BEWITCH + -FUL.]

Having power to bewitch; fascinating, alluring.

1631 *MILTON Let. in Wks.* (1738) I. 4 There is on the other side ill more bewitchfull to entice away.

Bewitching (biwītʃɪŋ), *vbl. sb.* [f. BEWITCH + -ING.]

The action of influencing by witchcraft; enchantment, fascination.

1535 *COVERDALE Wisd. iv.* 12 For y^e craftie bewitchinge [WYCLIF, disceyuyng] of lyes make good thinges darck. 1563 *HVLL Arte Garden.* 120 It doth also greatly auale against all bewitchings. 1646 *GAULE Cases Cons.* 129 Some worke their bewitchings only by way of Invocation or Imprecation.

Bewitching, *pp. a.* [see -ING.] That bewitches; enchanting; charming, captivating.

1561 *Calvin's Fourte Sermon.* ii. (R.) Such a bewitching and furiose madness. 1595 T. EDWARDS in *Shaks. C. Praise* 18 His bewitching pen. 1603 *DRAYTON Heroic Ep.* xiii. 27 Poys'n-ing Philters, and bewitching Drinke. 1749 *SMOLLETT Regic.* I. vi. The bewitching music of thy tongue. 1827 *KEBLE Chr. Y.* 3rd Sund. East., In Spring's bewitching hour.

Bewitchingly, *adv.* [f. *prec.* + -LY.] In a bewitching manner; charmingly.

1673 *HALLYWELL Acc. Familism* 106 (T.) He is wonderful eloquent and bewitchingly taken. 1862 *MISS BRADDON L. Audley* xxx. 203 My lady... smiled most bewitchingly. 1893 G. BOUGHTON in *Harper's Mag.* Dec. 94/2 The bows and the ribbons became more bewitchingly tied.

Bewitchingness (biwītʃɪŋnes), [f. as *prec.* + -NESS.] Bewitching quality.

1846 *WORCESTER* cites BROWNE. 1879 G. MEREDITH *Egoist* II. xi. 219 The attitude had its bewitchingness.

Bewitchment (biwītʃmēt), [See -MENT.]

1. The fact or power of bewitching; 'fascination, power of charming.' J.

1607 *SHAKS. Cor.* ii. iii. 108, I will counterfet the bewitchment of some popular man. 1830 *MACKINTOSH Eth. Philos.* Wks. 1846 I. 135 The seductions of paradox... the intoxication of fame, the bewitchment of prohibited opinions.

1876 *MISS BRADDON J. Haggard's D.* III. 10 When weighed against the bewitchment of fair looks and winning ways.

2. The fact or state of being bewitched.

1810 *COLERIDGE Friend* (ed. 3) I. 40 The evil day of his sensual bewitchment.

Bewith (biwītʃ), *Sc.* [lit. 'what one can be with', equivalent to the Eng. *do with*; 'To be wi' to tolerate, to bear with.' (Jamieson.)] A makeshift, stopgap, substitute.

1774 *RANSAY Ten-T. Misc.* (ed. 9) I. 105 This bewith, when cunzie is scanty Will keep them frae making din.

Bewizard, bewomanise, etc.: see BE-*pref.*

† **Bewonder**, *v. Obs.* [f. BE- + WONDER *v.* Cf. Ger. *bewundern*, Du. *bewonderen*, both modern.]

1. *trans.* To fill with wonder, or admiration; esp. in Bewondered.

1280 *SIDNEY Arcadia* II. 184 A while we stood bewondered, another while delighted with the rare beaute thereof. — III. 357 That childish stuffe... bewonderd[s] gasing eye. 1600 *FAIRFAX Tasso* x. xvii. 182 How he bewondered was.

2. To wonder at, regard wonderingly, admire.

1610 *HEALEY St. Aug. City of God* Ded. 2 But men given to learning doe not so much bewonder your wealth or your power. a 1628 F. GREVILLE *Cælia* vi. lxxi, My soule, you know, only be-wonders you.

† **Beword**, *v. Obs. rare*—1. [For *beworth*, f. BE- + WORTH *v.*, OE. *weorðan*.] To happen, come to pass.

c 1370 *THYNNE Pride & Lovel.* (1841) 61 Wee mused all what would hereof beword.

† **Bework**, *v. Obs.* Pa. pple. *bewrought*.

[OE. *bewyrcean*, f. BE- + *wyrcean* to WORK; cf. Ger. *bewirken*, Du. *bewerken*.]

1. *trans.* To work round about, to surround.

a 1000 *Beowulf* 6303 Beadu-rofes beacn... wealle be-worhton.

2. To work, adorn, embroider (cloth, etc.).

c 1000 *Sax. Leech.* I. 326 Hy... bewind and on golde oppe on scolfre bewyrc. a 1450 *Syr Eglam.* 1152 The mantelle and the gyrdylle bothe That rychely was bewrought. a 1637 B. JOHNSON *Masque of Owles* (R.) Smocks all bewrought With his thread.

Beworn, beworship, etc.: see BE-*pref.*

† **Bewound** (biwūnd), *v. Obs.* [f. BE- + WOUND *v.*] *trans.* To cover or afflict with wounds.

Hence Bewounding *pp. a.*

1556 *ABP. PARKER Psalter* xxxviii. 108 Bewound me not. 1612 J. DAVIES *Muse's Sacr.* 16 (D.) With wounded spirit I salute Thy wounds, O all-bewounding Sacrifice for sinne!

Bewound (biwūnd), *pa. pple.* of BEWIND.

Bewpers, -pers, -pleader, etc.: see BEAU-.

Bewrap (biwɹæp), *v.* (also in 3 biwɹabbe).

[ME. f. BE- + WRAP *v.*]

1. *trans.* To wrap up, clothe, cover, envelop.

a 1255 *Anscr. R.* 260 Heo leiden hine up on heil in one cecche, mid clutes biwɹabbed [C. biwɹabbed]. c 1350 *Will. Palerne* 1735 Alisaundrine... in þat ober bereskyn bewrapped William. 1491 *CAXTON Vilas Patr.* (W. de W.) II. (1495) 230 b/1 Why he had bewrapped her handes in his mantell. 1576 *BANISTER Hist. Man* v. 65 The nature of fleshes, which so plentifully bewrapped the frame of man.

1609 J. DAVIES *Holy Rode* (1875) 17 Loc, a Wreath of Thornes bewraps thy Browes.

2. *fig. a.* To envelop, involve, clothe. b. To cover up, conceal.

a 1430 *WYCLIF Job.* xviii. 11 (MS. S), Dredis... schulen bewrappe [1388 biwɹappe] hise feet. 1482 *CAXTON Reynard* (Arb.) 71 He can bywrappe and couere his falshede. 1596 J. NORDEN *Progr. Pietie* (1847) 54 Our corruptions... have bewrapped us in bondage to sin.

Bewrapped (biwɹæpt), *pp. a.* [f. *prec.* + -ED.]

Wrapped up, enveloped; involved; absorbed.

1447 *BOKENHAM Seyntys* (1835) 169 Thou lyist... Bewrapped in clothys of sylk and gold. 1589 R. ROBINSON *Gold. Mirr.* (1850) 20 Loc thus bewrapt in viewing this prospect. 1643 *HORN & ROB. Gate Lang. Unl.* xxi. § 258 The breech bewrapped about with buttocks.

Bewrathed, etc.: see BE-*pref.*

Bewray (biwɹeɪ), *v. arch.* Forms: 4, by-, be-wreie(n), bywryghen, biwray, 4-5 bi-, by-, bewrey(e), 4-6 by-, bewrie, -ye, 4-7 bewrale, -ye, 6- bewray. [ME. *beurreien*, f. BE- + *wreien* : see WRAY. Probably more or less of a conscious archaism since the 17th c.; the ordinary modern equivalent is *expose*.] Always *trans.*

† 1. To accuse, malign, speak evil of. *Obs.*

c 1314 *Guy Warw.* (A.) 3379 Ac biwrayed þou war to me, & þerfore haue he maugre... Pat oust sigge bot gode of þe. c 1400 *Rom. Rose* 3879 Wikkid-Lunge hath custome ay, Yonge folkis to bewreye.

† 2. To expose (a person), by divulging his secrets, or telling something that one knows to his discredit or harm. Hence passing into, To expose or reveal (the unknown doer of an act.) *Obs.* or *arch.*

c 1300 K. *Allis.* 4116 That ye no schal me bywryghen Of that Y wol to yow sayn. c 1330 *Arth. & Merl.* 1336 Alle the sothe sche gan hem say, And bad hem nought hir bi-wray. c 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 34 Bewrethyn, or wreyyn [1499 bewreyen], *prodo, recelo, reuelo.* 1481 *CAXTON Reynard* (Arb.) 36 They were of my next kynne whom gladly I wold not bewraye. 1510 *LOVE Bonavent. Mirr.* xiv. Eiv b, Say nat this now and bewrye me nat. 1597 *FLEMING Cont. Holinshed* III. 1321/2 That who so would bewraie the doers thereof, should haue fortie crownes for their labour. 1603 *KNOLLES Hist. Turks* (1621) 7 For feare to be enforced by torments to bewray his confederates.

† b. To expose (a deception). *Obs.*

1548 *UDALL, etc., Erasmus Par. Pref.* 11 In bewraying the iugleyng sleights. a 1601 *NOWELL in Strype Ann. Ref. I.* i. xxxix. 451 Finding therein certain notable untruths... he did bewray them to the auditors.

3. To divulge or reveal (secrets) prejudicially.

c 1386 *CHAUCER 2nd Nun's T.* 147 A conseil... Which that night fayn I wolde vn to yow seye So that ye swere ye shul it nat biwreye. c 1440 *Gesta Rom.* 182 (and vers.), Happely... thou woldest be-wreye my counsaile. 1255 LD. BERNERS *Froiss.* II. cxvii. [cxviii.] 345 None shulde issue out to bewray their entrepryse. 1599 *Pass. Pilgr.* 352 Yet will she blush... To hear her secrets so bewray'd. 1600 *DEKKER Fortun.* 109 The talke of kings none dare bewray. 1819 *SCOTT Ivanhoe* xxxix, Villain!... thou wouldest not bewray our counsel?

† 4. Less specifically: To reveal, divulge, disclose, declare, make known, show. *Obs.*

c 1386 *CHAUCER Frankl. T.* 226 Ne dorste he nat to hire his wo biwreye. 1430 *LYDG. Chron. Troy.* l. ii, His entent there can no man bewreye. c 1500 *DUNBAR Tua mariit Wem.* 41 Bewrie, said the Wedo, 3e weddit wemen 3ing Quhat mirth 3e fand in maryage. 1576 *THYNNE Ld. Burghley's Crest* 218 The horn'd Diana chayne, is silver bryghte Whiche waninge moone dothe unto us bewraye. 1588 *SHAKS. Tit. A.* II. iv. 3 Write downe thy mind, bewray thy meaning so. 1611 *BIBLE Prov.* xxix. 24 Hee heareth cursing, and bewrayeth it not.

† 5. To reveal the presence of, or expose (a fugitive) to his enemies, or to justice; to betray. *Obs.*

1535 *COVERDALE Isa.* xvi. 3 Bewraye [WYCLIF, betraze; 1611 bewray] not them that are fled. 1548 *HALL Chron.* in *Ellis Orig. Lett.* III. I. 100 He... bewrayed his guest and master to John Milton then sheriff of Shropshire. 1628 *HOBBS Thucyd.* (1822) 65 He was bewrayed unto them.

6. To reveal, expose, discover (unintentionally, and usually what it is intended to conceal); = BETRAY 6. a. the existence or presence of (something).

1579 *LIVLY Enphues* (1636) D vj, Thy hot words bewray thy heauy wrath. 1611 *BIBLE Prov.* xxvii. 16 The ointment of his right hand which bewrayeth it selfe. 1644 *BULWER Chirol.* 2 The blushes of Aurora bewray the early approach of the bright Emperour of the day. 1738 *WESLEY Psalms* xxxvi. 1 My heart to every Vice inclin'd, The Sinner's closest Sin bewrays. a 1849 H. COLERIDGE *Ess. & Marg.* (1851) II. 168 A smoke and a crackling that bewrayed the ligneous and carbonaceous quality of the fuel. 1863 *Mrs. C. CLARKE Shaks. Char.* xii. 311 The mental bias in every writer will casually bewray itself.

b. the true character of.

1535 *COVERDALE Matt.* xxvi. 73 Thy speach bewrayeth the. 1585 *ABP. SANDYS Sermon.* (1841) 395 A mans speech and gesture will bewray his thoughts. 1624 *CAPT. SMITH Virginia* III. ix. 79 The extremity of his feare bewrayed his intent. 1645 *MILTON Colast. Wks.* (1851) 345 His very first page notoriously bewrays him an illiterate and arrogant presummer. 1867 *FREEMAN Norm. Cong.* I. App. (1876) 610 A touchstone to bewray the half-learned.

c. a fact (expressed by a clause).

1607 *SHAKS. Cor.* v. iii. 95 Our raiment And state of bodies would bewray what life We haue led since thy exile. 1649 R. HODGES *Plain Direct.* 27 The childie did bewray, that hee would beray himself. 1692 *WASHINGTON tr. Milton's Def. Pop.* x, Your very speech bewrays you to be a right Balaam.

† 7. To exhibit incidentally; = BETRAY 7. *Obs.*

1575 *Laneham's Let.* (1871) 56 Nothing more bewraying hiz age then hiz wit. 1600 *TOURNEUR Transf. Metam.* To Rdr. 14 This Pluto-visag'd world hell doth bewray. a 1632

Donne Poems (1650) 106 O foole, which yesterday Might'st have read more than all thy books bewray. 1763 KAMES *Elem. Crit.* II. xii. 43 He never once bewrays a smile.

Bewray, erroneous form of **BERAY**.

Bewrayer (*bīrē-ai*). *arch.* [f. **BEWRAY** + **-ER**]. He who or that which bewrays or reveals.

c1440 Promp. Parv. 34 Bewrayer of counsel, recclator. 1535 COVERDALE 2 *Macc.* iv. 1 This Symon... beyng a bewrayer of the money and of his owne naturall countre. 1598 GREENWY *Tacitus' Ann.* xi. xi. 153 Certaine writings, bewrayers of hir lusts and lasciuiousnes. 1654 GAULE *Magastrom.* 342 Lest they might be the bewrayers of his secrets. 1711 ADDISON *Spect.* No. 225 ¶ 2 When a Friend is turned into an Enemy, and a Bewrayer of Secrets.

Bewraying, *vbl. sb. arch. or Obs.* [f. as prec. + **-ING**]. The action of revealing or exposing.

*c1396 CHAUCER *Melib.* p. 174* Biwrey nat youre conseil to no persone but if so be that ye wenen sikely that thurgh youre biwreying youre condicion shal be to yow the moore profitable. 1553-77 FOXE *A. & M.* (1566) 38/2 By the bewraying or confession of him. 1597 HOOKER *Ecl. Pol.* v. xlii. § 2 By bewraying their affection towards him.

Bewrayingly, *adv. arch. or Obs.* [f. *bewraying* pr. pp. + **-LY**]. By way of disclosing secrets.

Bewrayment, *arch. or Obs.* [f. **BEWRAY** + **-MENT**]. The fact of bewraying, disclosure.

1864 in WEBSTER.

Bewreak, *v. Obs.* Forms: 4-6 *bewreke*, 6 *wreake*, *wreoke*. [ME. *bewreke*, f. **BE** + *wreke*, *WREAK* *v.*] *trans.* To avenge; to give vent in action to (incensed feelings). Cf. **AWREAK**.

c1325 Coer de L. 6283. I wole me off hym so bewreke. 1430 LYDG. *Chron. Troy* ii. xvi. Our iuste sorowe Compelleth vs... On Troyan our harmes to bewreke. 1523 LD. BERNERS *Froiss.* I. cxlviii. 368 He thought it shulde be a great cruelte, if he shulde bewreke his displeasur on them. 1559 *Mirr. Mag.* 120 (T.) Yet was I, or I parted thence, bewreckt. 1586 J. HOOKER *Irel. in Holinshed* II. 59/1 Euen with that weapon... they will... bewreake their malice.

Bewreath, etc.; see **BE** + *pref.*

Bewrite, *v. Obs.* Intensive of **WRITE**.

1660 Z. CROFTON *St. Peter's Felt.* 74 Bewritten in such sensible Acts, and legible Characters.

Bewrought, *pa. pp.* of **BEWORKE**.

Bewry, *v.1 Obs.* Also *bewrēon*, *bewria*, 3 *biwreo*, *bywryen*. *Pa. pp.* 1-3 *be*, *biwrizen*, 3 *bi-wrie(n)*, 6 *bewry*. [OE. *bewrēon*, *-wrian*, *-wria* for **bewrhan*, f. **BE** + *wrian* to cover: see **WRY** *v.1*] *trans.* To cover up, or over; to overlay. *a1000 *Sat. & Sat.* (Gr.)* 1301 Forhwon fealled se snaw, foldan behyðð, bewriðð wyrtas cū. *c1205 LAV.* 5366 Ha leopen on heore feire hors! biwrizen [1250 *biwrege*] mid faire palle. *c1300 K. Alis.* 6453 When the sonne to hote schyneth... his eren with, Al his body he bywryeth. 1513 DOUGLAS *Eneis* iv. iv. 16 Ane brusit manill of Sydony With gold and perle the bordour all bewry [circumdata].

b. fig.

*c1000 *Met.* Boeth.* iv. 93 Bið þæt lease lo... bewrizen mid wrencum. *a1250 Owl & Night.* 673 3if mup wipute mai biwreo þæt me be heorte noht niseo.

Bewry, *v.2 Obs.* [f. **BE** + *WRY* *wk. v.* ME. *wrian*, OE. *wurigan* to stretch.] To wrest, distort. 1513 DOUGLAS *Eneis* x. i. 80 Quhy that any mycht pervert or 3it bewry Thy commandmentis?

Bewscher, *-schyre*, *-sher*. 1. Northern form of **BEAUSIRE**. 2. *pl.* The buttocks.

*a1400 *Morte Arth.** 1047 His bakke and his bewschers, and his brode lendez.

Bewte, *-tee*, *-tiful*, *-tious*, *obs. ff.* **BEAUTY**, etc. **Bewter**, Scotch form of **BITTERN**.

Bewtynes. *Obs. rare.* = **BEAUTY**.

*c1511 *1st Eng. Bk. Amer.* (Arb.)* Introd. 27 All with feders bounden for there bewtynes and fayrenes.

[**Bewunus** (Hall.), error for *bewunne*; see **Bewin**.]

Bex, *obs.* plural of **BEAK**.

Bey (*bē*), *sb.* Forms: 6 *by(e)*, 7 *beye*, *bei*, 7- *bey*. [a. Osmanli *bey* 'prince, governor,' mod. pronunciation of *beg*: see **BEG** *sb.*]

A Turkish governor of a province or district: also a title of rank.

1599 HAKLUYT *Voy.* II. 168 The By who is the gouernour of the Iland. *Ibid.* II. 1. 176 You goue to the Bye, onely for that he will inquire newes of you. 1649 *Alcoran* A iv b, Bashaws, or Vice-Roys, Beyes, or Governors. 1687 RYCAUT *Hist. Turke* I. 250 Letters sent to the young Bei at Tunis. 1768 *Hist. Europe in Ann. Reg.* 27/2 The Basha of Bosnia being joined by the Bey of Romelia. 1813 BYRON *Br. Abydos* II. xxi. And wouldst thou save that haughty Bey?

Hence **Beydom**, **Beyship**.

1860 TRISTRAM *Gl. Sahara* II. 37 The semi-independent beydom of Tittery. 1867 *Standard* 2 Mar., We... kept our remarks to his titles, his colonelcy, and his beyship.

Bey, *v. Obs.* Forms: 1 *bēgan*, *bēgan*, *bīzan*, *bīzan*, 2 *beizen*, 2-4 *beien*, 3-4 *beie*, *beighe(n)*, *beyghe(n)*, 4 *bie*, *buyen*, *buyen*, 9 *dial.* *bay*. [Com. Teut.: OE. Anglian *bēgan*, WSax. *bēgan*, *bīgan*, *bīgan* *wk. vb.* = OFris. *bēja*, ON. *beygja* (Sw. *bōja*, Da. *bōie*), OHG. *bougen* (MHG. *bōngen*, mod. G. *beugen*), MDu. *bōghen*, Goth. *baugjan*, causal of *brugan*, *baug*, in OE. *būgan*, *blah* to bow (intr.). In the 13th c. there was confusion between this verb, and the primary *buyen* to Bow, partly because both verbs began to be used both transitively and intransitively, partly because of

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the ambiguity of the letter *u* (= *ū* or *ü*), so that *buyen* might be for OE. *būgan*, or OE. *būgan*. At length the strong verb took also a weak past *buyede*, *buhde*: see **Bow**. *Bey*, *bay*, is not found in literature after the 14th c., but seems to have survived in dialects.]

1. *trans.* To bend, cause to bow.

c888 K. ÆLFRED Boeth. xxv. Hwelcne boh... swelce þu began mæge. *c1000 *Ag. Gosp.** Mark xv. 19 [Hi] heora cneow bigdon. *c1160 *Ratt. G.** *ibid.* Hire cneow beizdon. *a1225 *Juliana** 77 Wið [þat] ilke ha beide hire & beah dæne-lunge adun bihefde to þer eorðe. *c1230 *Hali Meid.** 3 Bei þin eare, þat is beo buhsum to mi lare. *c1300 *Beket** 1599 Whan i ne mai his hurte so buye. *a1325 *Maximian in Rel.** Ant. i. 122 He chaungeþ al my ble, Ant buizeþ me to grounde. [1851 *Cumberl. Gloss.*, *Bay*, to bend.]

2. *intr.* To bend, bow.

c1205 LAV. 1051 Ah he mot nede beien þe mon þe ibun den bið. *a1225 *St. Marher.** 7 Buh nu ant bei to me. *Ibid.* 22 Ant te bodi beide. Ant beh to þer eorðe. *c1230 *Hali Meid.** 15 Pat hit ne breke ne beie. *c1300 K. Alis.* 4373 The spere was styf and nought no beyghed.

Bey, *obs.* form of **BOY** (*Promp. Parv.*).

Beyape, variant of **BEJAPE** *v. Obs.*

Beyard, *obs.* form of **BAYARD** *sb.1*

Beye = both; see **Bo**.

Beyeip, *v. Obs.* In 4 *biþelp*. [ME. *biþelp*, *en* f. *bi*, **BE** + *þelp* (*en*) to **YELP**.] *trans.* To talk loudly of, boast of, glory in. Also *refl.* with *of*.

*c1314 *Guy Warw.* (A.)* 1455 Pat tow schalt it biþelp nouz. Pat he is to dep y-brougt. 1393 GOWER *Conf.* III. 155 How shulde I thanne me beyeipe... of thy largesse.

Beyende, *obs.* form of **BEYOND**.

Beyer = of both; see **Bo**.

Beyete, *obs.* form of **BEGET** *v.*

Beyght, *obs.* form of **BAIT**.

Beyke, *-ynge*, *obs.* form of **BECK** *v.*, **-ING**.

Beyle, *obs.* form of **BAIL** *sb.2*, 5.

Beylde, *obs.* form of **BIELD**, **BUILD**.

Beylic, *-lik* (*bē-lik*). Also *beglick*. [a. Osmanli *beglik*, *beylik*, jurisdiction of a *beg* or **BEY**.] The dominion or jurisdiction of a *bey*.

*a1733 *NORTH LIVES** III. 84 To Morat he left the beylic. 1869 RAWLINSON *Arab. Hist.* 77 The modern Beylik of Tunis.

Hence **Beylical**, *a.*, of or belonging to a beylic.

Beylicat = beylic.

1884 *Weekly Times* 4 Jan. (Tunis). The Beylical doing of justice in times past. 1884 *Pall Mall G.* 20 Dec. 1 The beylicat was afterwards annexed.

Beyme, *obs.* form of **BEAM**.

Beyn, *obs.* form of **BAIN** *a.*, and **BEEN** *pa. pp.*

Beyne = both; see **Bo**.

Beyond (*bē-yōnd*), *adv. and prep.* Forms: 1 *be-*, *biþeondan*, *beiuundan*, 2 *beþeonden*, 3 *biþeonde(n)*, *biþonndenn*, 3-5 *bi-*, *byyōnd(e)*, *-jōnde*, *biþende*, 4 *beþōnde*, *n*, *be-*, *biþunde*, 4-6 *beyend(e)*, 5-6 *bayōnde*, 6 *by yōnde*, *by-*, *þend*, 5- *beyōnd*. [OE. *begeondan*, not found in other Teut. langs.: f. *bi-*, **BE** - indicating position + *geondan* from the farther side: -O Teut. **jand-* *ana*, f. **jand* (in OE. *geond* across, through, beyond. Cf. Goth. *jaind* yonder) + *-ana* *adv.* suffix: cf. **BEHIND**. The *adv.* **jand*, (*jaind*), *geond*, belongs to the demonstr. pron. **jano-2*, Goth. *jains*, OHG. *jēnir* (stem *jani-*), OE. *geon*, YON. Other derivatives in Gothic were *jainar* there; *jaindre* thither, *jainpro* thence. The literal meaning of *begeondan* was thus 'on yon side, on the farther side.' Used either without (*adv.*) or with (*prep.*) an object.]

A. adv.

1. On the farther side, farther away, at a greater distance.

*c1000 ÆLFRED *Gram.** 232 *Ullerius*, feor beþeondan. 1368 *LANGT. P. Pl.* A. III. 105 Ichaua a kniht hette Conscience com late from biþōnde [B. *biþunde*]. *c1400 MAUNDEV.* xxxi. 314 With outen any more rehercyng of... marvaylles that ben beþōnde. *c1440 *York Myst.** xvii. 59 And be-yōnde is Bedleem. 1596 SPENSER *F. Q.* III. i. 38 Lo, where beyond he lyeth languishing. 1610 SHAKS. *Temp.* II. i. 242 So high a hope, that euen Ambition cannot pierce a winke beyond. 1842 TENNYSON *Pal. Art* 82 Beyond, a line of heights.

2. In addition, besides, over and above. *rare.*

1886 *Law Times* LXXX. 193/1 This amount and £5, his own damages beyond, he sought to recover in this action.

B. prep.

1. Of position in space: On the farther side of.

a. of a boundary, barrier, or intervening space. *Beyond seas*: out of the country; abroad. *a1000 ÆLFRED *Deut.** i. 5 Beiuundane Iordane on Moab lande. *c1000 *Ag. Gosp.** John i. 28 On beþania beþeondan iordanen. *c1205 LAV.* 28274 Al biþeonde þerere Huimbre. *a1300 *Cursor M.** 11396 Bi-yōnd þam ar wonnand nan. *c1440 *Gesta Rom.** I. Myn husband, quod she, is biþende þe see. 1599 SHAKS. *Hen. V.* III. vi. 180 Beyond the Riuier wee'le encampe our selues. 1644 MILTON *Educ.* ad init. Both here and beyond the seas. 1795 *De For. Voy. round World* (1840) 258 The new world beyond the hills. 1798 S. ROGERS *Pleas. Mem.* II. 51 Beyond the western wave. 1848 MACAULAY *Eng.* I. 173 From 1646 to 1660 he had lived beyond sea.

b. of an object regarded simply as a point in space: Past, further on than, at a more distant point or position than.

1388 WYCLIF *1 Sam.* xx. 22 The arrowis ben beþōnde [1388

biþende] thee. 1610 SHAKS. *Temp.* II. i. 247 She that is Queene of Tunis, she that dwels Ten leagues beyond mans life. 1821 BYRON *Cain* II. i. 14 Thou shalt behold The worlds beyond thy little world. 1846 RUSKIN *Mod. Paint.* I. II. § 4. iii. 296 Out of which rise the soft rounded slopes of mightier mountains, surge beyond surge. 1873 KINGSLEY *Præsid. Idylls* 96 While high overhead hung, motionless, hawk beyond hawk, buzzard beyond buzzard, kite beyond kite, as far as eye could see.

2. Of motion: To the farther side of, farther than, past, so as to leave behind. (Cf. 10.)

a1075 O. E. Chron. an. 1048 Godwine eorl and Swegen... þewendon heom beþeondan sæ. *c1205 LAV.* 29149 Sum fleh biþeonden sæ. *c1305 *St. Dunstan** 103 in *E. E. P.* (1862) 37 Biþunde see he drouz. 1529 RASTELL *Pastyme, Hist. Brit.* (1811) 97 Drove them... by yōnde Doram. 1556 *Chron. Grey Friars* (1852) 35 Barnes... brake aways from them and went beyond see unto Luter. 1709 POPE *Ess. Crit.* 49 Launch not beyond your depth, but be discreet. 1821 KEATS *Lamia* 429 His spirit pass'd beyond its golden bourn Into the noisy world. 1868 SPALDING *Hist. Eng. Lit.* (1876) 372 Never able to pass a step beyond the self-drawn circle.

b. fig.

1690 LOCKE *Hum. Und.* (1777) I. 275 It can proceed and pass beyond all those lengths. 1797 WASHINGTON *IVrit.* (1858) 213 That France has stepped beyond the line of rectitude cannot be denied. *a1849 J. MANGAN *Poems** (1850) 450 All-baffled reason cannot wander Beyond her chain. 1860 HAWTHORNE *Marb. Fann.* iv. (1883) 47 The story of this adventure... made its way beyond the usual gossip of the Foresteri.

c. = **BESIDE** *s. a. rare.*

1834 M. SCOTT in *Blackw. Mag.* XXXVI. 814 The excess of her joy... had driven her beyond herself.

† d. To go beyond: to 'get round,' circumvent.

1608 *Life T. Cromwell* iv. v. 120 We must be wary, else he'll go beyond us. 1611 BIBLE *1 Thess.* iv. 6 That noman goe beyond and defraud his brother in any matter. 1613 SHAKS. *Hen. VIII.* III. ii. 409 The king has gone beyond me.

3. Towards the farther side of, farther than, past. (With *look* and equivalent verbs.) To look beyond (quot. 1597): to misconstrue, misunderstand.

1597 SHAKS. 2 *Hen. IV.* iv. iv. 67 My gracious Lord, you looke beyond him quite. 1712 STEELE *Spect.* No. 302 ¶ 7 Looking beyond this gloomy Vale of Affliction and Sorrow into the Joys of Heaven and Immortality. 1768 BEATTIE *Minstr.* I. (R.) Lofty souls who look beyond the tomb.

4. Of time: Past, later than.

1597 SHAKS. 2 *Hen. IV.* iv. iv. 57 My griefe... Stretches it selfe beyond the howre of death. *c1600 - *Sonn.** cxvii. Which shall... remain Beyond all date, even to eternity. 1747 GRAY *Ode Eton Coll.* 54 No care beyond to date. 1766 HUMK *Hist. Eng.* (1846) V. xli. 228 Those who should remain beyond that time... should be guilty of treason. 1816 J. WILSON *City of Plague* II. ii. 15, I have been kept from home, beyond my promised hour. 1853 C. BRONTË *Villette* xx. 236 We arrived safe at home about an hour and a half beyond our time.

5. *fig.* Outside the limit or sphere of, past; out of the grasp or reach of.

1535 COVERDALE *Num.* xxii. 18 Yet could I not go beyond y^e worde of the Lorde my God. 1595 SHAKS. *John* iv. iii. 117 Beyond the infinite and boundlesse reach of mercie. 1596 - 1 *Hen. IV.* i. iii. 200 Imagination of some great exploit Driues him beyond the bounds of Patience. 1597 - 2 *Hen. IV.* i. iii. 59 The Modell of a house Beyond his power to builde. 1605 HEYWOOD *If know not me* Wks. 1874 I. 210 Shoemaker, you goe a little beyond your last. 1651 HOBBS *Leviath.* III. xxxiii. 201 A time past, beyond the memory of man. 1760 GOLDSM. *Cit. W.* LXX. (Globe) 202 It was beyond one man's strength to remove it. 1856 FROUDE *Hist. Eng.* (1858) I. i. 53 A detail of the working of the trade laws would be beyond my present purpose. 1869 J. MARTINEAU *Ess.* II. 76 Some offences... are beyond detection. 1885 SIR L. CAVE in *Law Times* Rep. LII. 609/2 We cannot go beyond the written agreement.

b. To be beyond a person (colloq.): to pass his comprehension.

1812 MISS AUSTEN *Mansf. P.* (1847) III. i. 280 This is beyond me, said he.

6. *esp.* with nouns expressing an action or a state of mind, as *belief*, *doubt*, *endurance*, *expectation*, *question*, etc.: Not within the range of, not according to, past, surpassing.

1601 SHAKS. *Jul. C.* II. ii. 25 These things are beyond all vse. 1610 - *Temp.* II. i. 59 Which is indeed almost beyond credite. 1624 BENTLEY *Boyle Lect.* iv. 135 'Tis beyond even an Atheist's Credulity. 1701 W. WORTON *Hist. Rome* 285 His Spectacles were almost beyond belief. 1758 BR. NEWTON *Dissert.* xvii. Wks. II. 400 Adversity... often procures friends beyond hope and expectation. 1848 MACAULAY *Hist. Eng.* I. 197 France was now, beyond all doubt, the greatest power in Europe.

7. Exceeding in quantity or amount, more than. (As with *above*, the phrase *beyond a hundred*, etc. may be the subject of a sentence.)

*a1500 *Battle Egyngre.** 238 in Harl. E. P. P. II. 102 There dyed by yōnde... viii. score vpon a day. 1605 *Land. Prodigal* i. i. 220 Doth he spend beyond the allowance I left him? 1653 WALTON *Angler* i. 34 When he was beyond Seventy years of age he made this description. 1885 *Law Rep.* XXIX. Chanc. Div. 528 To an amount far beyond their value.

8. Surpassing in quality or degree, exceeding, superior to; more than.

1593 SHAKS. 3 *Hen. VI.* II. v. 51 The Shepherd's homely Curds... Is farre beyond a Princes Delicates. 1628 DICKIN *Voy. Medit.* 55 Were so much beyond our vessels in sailing. 1634 MILTON *Comus* 813 Delight Beyond the bliss of dreams. 1749 FIELDING *Tom Jones* (1836) I. i. xi. 52 His shoulders were broad beyond all size. 1873 TRISTRAM *Moab* II. 35 Our guide, looking on game as far beyond names in importance.

b. Beyond measure (*advb. phr.*): more than what is meet or moderate; exceedingly, excessively.

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1566 TINDALE *Mark* vii. 37 They... were beyonde measure astonyed [so 1611]. 1596 SHAKS. *Tam. Shr.* i. ii. 90 Shrow'd and froward, so beyond all measure. 1875 JOWETT *Plato* (ed. 2) I. 89, I am delighted beyond measure.

9. In addition to, besides, over and above; in negative and interrog. sentences almost = Except; cf. BESIDES B 2 and 3.

c 1449 PECCOCK *Repr.* iii. i. 281 Ouer and biyende the citees. 1593 HOOKER *Ecl. Pol.* i. xi. § 4 Somewhat beyond and above all this. 1613 SHAKS. *Hen. VIII.* iii. i. 135 Bring me a constant woman to her Husband, One that ne're dream'd a Ioy, beyond his pleasure. 1761 HUMPH. *Eng.* (1826) II. cxi. App. 112 The Conqueror ordained that the barons should be obliged to pay nothing beyond their stated services. 1831 CARLYLE *Sart. Res.* ii. vi. No prospect of breakfast beyond elemental liquid. 1851 DIXON *W. Penn.* xvi. (1872) 134 Beyond his labours as a preacher, he composed... twenty-six books of controversy.

10. When beyond = 'farther than,' 'more than,' introduces an adverbial extension of the predicate, the clause in which it occurs is often contracted; *They prospered beyond other men* = 'beyond the measure in which other men prospered'; *I went a step beyond Whiston* = 'beyond the point to which he went.'

1578 Gude & Godely *Ball.* 127 His bemis send he hes out far Beyond ether sterms all [i. e. beyond the distance to which all other stars have sent theirs]. 1631 GOUGE *God's Arrows* i. § 29. 44 They go in inhumane cruelty beyond the Heathen. 1667 MILTON *P. L.* x. 805 That were to extend His Sentence beyond dust and Natures Law. 1758 BORLASE *Nat. Hist. Cornwall.* xix. § 7. 232 The plant grows luxuriant beyond what we have in Cornwall. 1766 GOLDSM. *Vic. Wakef.* ii. (1806) 6, I even went a step beyond Whiston in displaying my principles. 1848 MACAULAY *Hist. Eng.* i. 154 The discarded warriors prospered beyond other men.

C. quasi-sb. That which lies on the other side or farther away, the remote or distant; that which lies beyond our present life or experience.

1581 SAVILE *Tacitus' Hist.* iv. viii. 174 Beyond [ulteriora] he honored and admired, but professed to follow the present estate. 1835 LYTON *Riensi* x. viii. Each is the yearning for the Great Beyond, which attests our immortality. 1876 MOZLEY *Univ. Sermon* iii. 47 Love... wants a beyond, and no being that is without this beyond can duly answer to it as an object. 1883 J. MARTINEAU *Eth. Theory* i. 281 They are the All, with no beyond.

b. The back of beyond: a humorous phrase for ever so far off, some very out of the way place.

1816 SCOTT *Antig.* I. 37 (JAM.) You... whirled them to the back of beyond to look at the auld Roman camp. 1853 DE QUINCEY *Sp. Mil. Nun Wks.* III. 12 Which port (according to a smart American adage) is to be looked for at the back of beyond. 1883 STEVENSON *Silv. Squatters* 151 In the fastnesses of Nature, forests, mountains, and the back of man's beyond.

D. Comb. † Beyond-sea a. (cf. B 1), ultramarine, outlandish, foreign; hence † beyond-sea-ship, humorously applied to a foreign prince (cf. *lordship*).

1498 *Will. of Petyt* (Somerset Ho.), 1j paire of beyond see shetes. 1534 *Eng. Ch. Furniture* 209 A paynted cloth of beyond see werk. 1578 LYTE *Dodoens* 580 The garden Mallow called the winter or beyond see roose. *Ibid.* 682 The red beyond-sea Gooseberrie. 1611 BEAUM. & FL. *Philaster* iv. ii. I never loved his beyond-sea-ship. 1639 FULLER *Holy War* iv. viii. (1840) 192 Henceforward the beyond-sea world took notice of him. 1711 J. GREENWOOD *Eng. Gram.* 10 Excessive Lust of Novelty... has stung many with an Itch of bringing in beyond-sea words.

† Beyonds, prep. Obs. Only in Wyclif, as biyendis, biyondis, byyondes. [f. prec. + advb. suffix -s.] = BEYOND.

138a WYCLIF *Mark* iii. 8 Fro Ydume and biyendis [1388 biyondis] Jordan. — 2 *Cor. x.* 16 Also for to preche into tho thingis that ben byyondes 30u.

Beysre = of both: see Bo.

Beysaunce, obs. form of BEISANCE.

Beysc, beysc, obs. forms of BASK a. bitter.

Beyt(e), obs. form of BAIT.

Bez, beze: see BES- and BEZANTLER.

Bezaar, bezahar, obs. forms of BEZOAR.

Bezaleelian, -elian (bezāl'liān), a. [f. *Bezaleel*, -lel, the name of the artificer mentioned in *Exod.* xxxi., sometimes used connotatively.] Worthy of Bezaleel, or of a cunning workman.

1609 C. BUTLER *Fem. Mon.* v. (1623) Kiv, Their Hexagonia no Bezaleel For curious Art may passe or imitate. 1878 T. SINCLAIR *Mount* 289 They all are bezaleelian, skill within skill.

† Bezan, sb. 1. Obs. rare-1. [a. Du. *bezaan* mizen sail, ad. Sp. *mezana* or It. *mezzana* mizen.] Apparently used in Eng. in the sense of a small sailing vessel.

166a *Perry's Diary* 5 Sept., Saw the yacht... set out from Greenwich with the little Dutch bezan.

Bezant, byzant (bez'ant, bīz'ant). Forms: 3 (*Ormin*) be3sant, 3-7 besand(e, 4 (*pl.*) besaunee, 4-5 besand(e, -unt(e, -wnt, bessant, -aun, 4-9 besant(e, besaunde, -nt, 6 besaunte, beisand, 6-7 (*pl.*) basenee, bezaunee, 7-9 bi-, byzant, 7- besant. [a. OF. *besan* (*pl.* *besanz*): = L. *byzantius* (sc. *nummus*) Byzantine (coin), from *Byzantium*, where it was first struck; cf. *Byzantine*. Poems c 1400 show the accentuation *bez'ant*.]

1. A gold coin first struck at Byzantium or Constantinople, and seemingly identical with the

Roman *solidus* or *aureus*, but afterwards varying in value between the English sovereign and half-sovereign, or less. It was current in Europe from the 9th century, and in England, till superseded by the noble, a coin of Edw. III. There were also silver Bezants worth from a florin to a shilling. Used by Wyclif to translate both the Latin words *talentum* and *drachma*.

c 1200 ORMIN 8102 He 3aff hise cnihtess þa Fiftig be3santz to mede. 1297 R. GLOUC. 409 Vyfty þousend besans, he sende hem. a 1300 *Cursor M.* 4194 þar was ioseph in seruage sald, For tuenti besands [v. r. besaundes, besauntis]. c 1314 *Guy Warw.* (A.) 2474 An hundred besauns gif Y the. 138a WYCLIF *Matt.* xxv. 15 To oone he 3aue fyue talentis or besauntis. 1388 — *Luke* xv. 8 What womman hauynge ten besauntis. 1400 *Morie Arth.* 3253 Bruches and besauntez and oþer bryghte stonys. c 1400 *Roland* 411 Tok of the hethyn broche or besaunt. 1494 *FABIAN* vii. 374 One is called a bezaunde imperiall, & y^e other a bezaunt ducall. c 1500 KENNEDY *Agst. Mouth-thankl.* iii. Broches, beisands, robbis, & rings. 1577 *Test.* 12 *Patriarchs* (1604) 144 They ask two basenes of gold. 1611 *SPEED Hist. Ct. Brit.* ix. vii. 32 They should pay twentie thousand Bizants. 1653 URQUHART *Rabelais* i. xxxi. A thousand besans of gold. 1800 SCOTT *Joanhoe* vii. Here, Isaac, lend me a handful of byzants. 1875 JEVONS *Money* ix. 97 In Anglo-Saxon times gold byzants from Byzantium were used in England.

2. The offering made by the kings of England at the sacrament, or at festivals.

1667 E. CHAMBERLAYNE *St. Gl. Brit.* i. ii. xii. (1743) 98 The gold offered by the King at the Altar, when he receives the Sacrament... is still called the Byzant. 1762 *Gentl. Mag.* 599 The King's [offering] is a byzant, or wedge of gold, value 30d.

3. *Her.* A gold roundel representing the above coin plain and unstamped: according to Littré, originally signifying that the bearer had been in the Holy Land. Also attrib.

1486 *Bk. St. Albans, Her.* Cij b. This is calde a besant cros for it is made all of besantis... He berith gowles a cros besantid. 1572 BOSSEWELL *Armorie* ii. 79 Plates are of dignitie next unto the besauntes... which are always of a golden colour. 1610 GUILLIM *Heraldry* iv. xix. (1660) 352 If they [Roundels] be Or, then we call them Besants. 1864 BOUTELL *Her. Hist. & Pop.* v. 25 In the instances of the Bezan and the Plate.

Bezantin(e), obs. form of BYZANTINE.

Bez-antler (bēz', bēz'antler). Forms: 7 bezantelier, beas antlier, beantler, 7-9 bez-antler, bezantler, 8-9 bes-antler, 9 bees-antler, bis-antler. [f. bez-, BES- secondary + ANTLE. A word of unfixed form, also called bay antler, and varied as bay-, bez-, beze-tyne.] The second branch or 'start' of a deer's horn, next above the brow-antler (or antler proper).

1598 MANWOOD *Laws Forest* iv. § 6 (1615) 46 The Brow-antler, or Beasantler. 1610 GUILLIM *Heraldry* iii. xiv. (1660) 168 Skillfull Woodmen describing the head of a Hart do call the Next above there unto [i. e. the Browantliers]... Bezanterliers. [1611 COTGR., *Synonimolier*, the beankler or second branch of a Deeres head. — *Synonimolier*... the Beankler of a Bucke.] 1664 *POWER Exp. Phil.* i. 11 With little branches and twigs (like Bezanterliers) springing out of them. 1678 PHILLIPS (App.) *Bezanter*, the... next branch of the Harts-horn to Browantler, which is the lowest. 1855 OWEN *Verteb. An.* (1868) III. 618 Its branches are the 'tynes',... the first or lowest branch is the 'brow-tyne', the second is the 'beze' or 'bez tyne'. 1874 T. BELL *Brit. Quadrup.* 349 The branches or antlers... as the brow-antler, bez-antler, and royal. 1884 JEFFERIES *Red Deer* iv. 71 Above the 'burr' came the brow-antler, now the brow-point; next the bez-antler, now the bay.

Bezant(y) (bīz'anti), ppl. a. *Her.* Also 7-9 besantee. In 5 englished as besantid, besauntid. [a. F. *besantie*, f. *besant*, BEZANT.] Charged with or formed of bezants.

1486 *Bk. St. Albans, Her.* Cij b. He berith gowles a cros besantid. c 1630 *RISDON Surv. Devon* § 192 (1810) 206 These Valtours bear a border bezantee in their coat-armour. 1864 BOUTELL *Her. Hist. & Pop.* xv. (ed. 3) 174 The brothers De La Zouche severally bear gules bezantie, and azure bezantie. 1877 L. JEWITT *Half-hrs. Eng. Antig.* 194 The lion rampant within a bordure bezanty.

Bezaar, -zar(d, -zas, obs. forms of BEZOAR.

Bezaunee, obs. form of BEISANCE, BEZANTS.

Beze: see BES- and BEZ-ANTLER.

Bezeche, bezeik, obs. forms of HESEECH.

Bezel (bez'el). Forms: 7 bezell, -ill, beasel, bizel, bezle, 7-8 beazil, 8 bezil, bazil, (9 beazel), 7- basil, bezel, 8- bezil. [a. OF. **besel*, **bezel*, in mod. F. *biseau*, *bizeau* (cf. Sp. *bisel*), also *basile*; of unknown origin: it may be dim. of *bis*, *bez*, or contain that word. (It does not represent med. L. *bisalus*.) Cf. BELEF, BEVEL.]

1. A slope, a sloping edge or face: esp. that of a chisel or other cutting tool (commonly *basil*.)

1611 COTGR., *Biseau*, a bezle, bezeling, or scuing; such a slopenece, or slope form, as is in the point of an yron leauer, chizle, &c. 1677 *MOXON Mech. Exerc.* (J.) These chissels are not ground to such a basil as the joiner's chissels. 1721 BAILEY, *Basil* is the Sloping edge of a chissel. 1823 NICHOLSON *Pract. Build.* 225 Edge-tools are sharpened, by applying the basil to the convex surface [of a grind-stone].

2. The oblique sides or faces of a cut gem; spec. the various oblique faces and edges of a brilliant, which lie round the 'table' or large central plane on the upper surface, comprising the 8 star-

facets, 16 skill-facets, and 8 lozenges. [Cf. Sp. *bisel* 'edge of a looking-glass, or crystal plate.']

1839-75 *URE Dict. Arts* II. 25 Upper skill-facets are wrought on the lower part of the bezil, and terminate in the girdle; star-facets are wrought on the upper part of the bezil, and terminate in the table; lozenges are formed by the meeting of the skill- and star-facets on the bezil.

3. 'The groove and projecting flange or lip by which the crystal of a watch or the stone of a jewel is retained in its setting.'

1616 BULLOKAR, *Bezell*. 1623 COCKERAM *Bezell*, the broad place of a Ring where the stone is set. 1658 ROWLAND *Mouffet's Theat. Ins.* 968 In the uttermost part of the wings, as if it were four Adamants glistening in a bezil of Hyacinth. 1680 *Lond. Gas. No.* 1499/4 One silver [watch]... the hours in form of Diamonds, the Out-case holes with Bizels for the sound of the Bell. 1783 AINSWORTH *Lat. Dict.* (Morell) iv. s. v. *Cygus*, When he turned the bezil to the palm of the hand. 1826 KIRBY & SP. *Entomol.* III. 496 The partitions that separate the lenses, or rather Bezels in which they are set. 1877 W. JONES *Finger-ring* 12 A long oval bezel chased in intaglio.

4. Comb. bezelwise adv., sloping, bevelled.

1797 *BRADLEY Fam. Dict.* s. v. *Chimney*, The Sides of the Frame and Trap are made slope or bezelwise.

Bezel (bez'el), v. Also 7 basil. [f. prec. sb.] trans. To grind (a tool) down to an edge; to cut to a sloping edge, to bevel.

1617 *MOXON Mech. Exerc.* (1703) 185 The Chissels... are Basil'd away on both the flat sides. 1775 DESAGULIERES *Fires Impr.* 122 Instead of rabbitting the Frame and Trap-Door, let both be bezell'd or sloap'd.

Bezel(l), variant of BEZZLE v. Obs.

Bezelling (bez'elling), vbl. sb. Also 7 bezeling, 9 bezilling. [f. BEZEL + -ING.] Collective appellation of that which forms a bezel.

1611 COTGR., *Biseau*, a bezle, bezeling, or scuing. 1866 BLACKMORE *Cradock N.* xxviii. No bezilling, no jewel whatever.

Bezenge, obs. form of BESINGE.

Bezer, obs. form of BEZOAR.

Bezesteen (bez'estēn). Also 7 besestano, bisestano, 7-8 besestein, 8 bezestan, 9 besestein. [a. (directly or through Fr. or It.) Turk. بازار *bazār*, originally a Pers. word meaning 'clothes market.'] An exchange, bazaar, or market-place in the East.

1656 BLOUNT *Glossogr.*, *Besestein*, an Exchange or the chief Market-place among the Turks. 1666 PHILLIPS, *Besestano*, a Bourse or Exchange for Merchants. 1736 BAILEY, *Bezestan*... a Bourse or Exchange. 1849 CURZON *Visits Monast.* 35 Some of the bezestans and principal bazars are closed at twelve o'clock. 1864 SALA *Two round Clock* 267 Behold the Bezesteen of borrowed money.

Bezetta (bīz'eta). [Corruption of It. *pezzetta*, dim. of *pezza* a PIECE of cloth; defined in Tommaseo's Dict. as 'piece of cloth, usually of cotton, which when rubbed gives a red stain, and is used for rouging.'] A dye or pigment prepared by dipping linen rags in solutions of certain colouring matters' Watts *Dict. Chem.* I. 583.

1863 WATTS *Dict. Chem.* I. 583 Red bezetta is coloured with cochineal, and is used as a cosmetic. *Ibid.*, Blue bezetta... chiefly used for colouring the rind of Dutch cheeses.

Bezil, variant of BEZZLE v. Obs.

Bezique (bēz'ik). Also 9 basique. [corruption of F. *besique*, *besy*: of unknown origin.] A game of cards, in which the name 'Bezique' is applied to the occurrence in one hand of the knave of diamonds and queen of spades.

1861 *Macm. Mag.* Dec. 138 Bazique is a game, probably of later invention, and of quite a novel kind... The knave of diamonds and queen of spades together, form Bazique, and score four. 1869 *Eng. Mech.* 24 Dec. 367/1 Bezique is a very amusing game for two or four persons.

Bezle, obs. form of BEZEL.

Bezoar (bēz'oar, bēz'oar). Forms: 6 besert, bezer, 6-7 besahar, 6-8 bezaar, bezar, 7 besohard, besar, beazar, beazer, bazar, besor, bea-zoar, bezaor, boezar, 8 besaar, bezard, 7-9 oard, -oart, 7- bezoar. [Like mod. L. *bezaar*, *bezaar*, *bezoar* (*bezaardicum*, *lapis bezoarticus*), Sp. *bezaar*, *bezar*, *bezoar*, F. *bezaar*, *bezar*, *bezoar*, *bezoard*, ad. Arab. زاهر *bāzahr* or باد زاهر *bādizahr*, ad. Per. *pād-zahr* counter-poison, antidote, bezoar stone; f. *zahr* poison. In 17th c. Eng., as in F. and Sp., *bezaar*, *bezaar* was reduced to two syllables, *bezar*, *beazar*, *beazer* (bēz'ar), of which the mod. pronunc. would be regularly (bēz'ar). The spelling *bezoar* (for *be-zār*) appears to be of mod. L. origin; it has influenced the pronunciation given in dictionaries since the end of last century.]

† 1. gen. A counter-poison or antidote. Obs. (In later writers taken as a *fig.* use of sense 2a: hence, also, *bezoar-stone*.)

1597 GERARD *Herbal* II. cccxliv. (1633) 969 This root Anthora is the Bezoar or counterpoison to that Thora. 1607 TOPSELL *Serpents* 775 The juice of Apples being drunk, and Endive, are the proper Bezoar against the venom of a Phalangie. 1637 EARL MONMOUTH *Rom. & Tarquin* 208 Valour is a kind of Bezar, which comforts the hearts of subjects, that they may the better endure a Tyrants venome. 1750 tr. *Leonardus' Mirr. Stones* 78 Every Thing that

frees the Body from any Ailment, is called the Bezoar of that Ailment.

b. 1658 ROWLAND Moullet's *Theat. Ins.* 929 A Hornet is the Bezoar stone for its own wound.

2. Various substances formerly held as antidotes: spec. a. A calculus or concretion found in the stomach or intestines of some animals, chiefly ruminants, formed of concentric layers of animal matter deposited round some foreign substance, which serves as a nucleus. Often called *bezoar-stone*. (The ordinary current sense.)

The original sort was the *lapis bezoar orientalis*, obtained from the wild goat of Persia and various antelopes, etc.; the *lapis bezoar occidentalis*, obtained from the lammas of Peru, was less valued; the chamois yielded *German bezoar*.

1580 FRAMPTON *Joyf. News* 126 The stone is called the Bezoar, being approved good against Venome. 1585 in Nichols *Progr. Q. Elis.* II. 420 Item, a besert stone. 1615 CROOKE *Body of Man* 230 Divisible into many shells or husks like a Bezoar stone. 1622 R. HAWKINS *Voy. S. Sea* (1847) 74 The becuia, and other beasts, which breed the beazer stone. 1638 SHIRLEY *Mart. Soldier* III. iv. in *Bullen O. Pl.* (1882) I. 217 A true rare Quintessence Extracted out of Oriental Bezar. 1670 J. NARBROUGH in *Burney Discov. S. Sea* III. xiii. (1813) 333, I had his [a guanaco's] paunch opened to search for the Bezoar stone. 1749 *Phil. Trans.* XLVI. 120 Rhinoceros-Bezoars, which I supposed were taken out of the Stomach or Guts of that large Animal. 1774 GOLDSM. *Nat. Hist.* (1862) I. II. iii. 307 The concretion sometimes found in the stomach of these animals (the chamois), called the German Bezoar. 1849 Todd *Cycl. Anat. & Phys.* IV. 85/1 The oriental bezoard, a resinous intestinal calculus. 1882 *Catal. Mus. St. Barthol. Hosp.* I. 542 (No. 293) Section of a Bezoar, composed chiefly of Pinic Acid. Its nucleus is a date-stone.

† b. Alleged stones or concretions of various kinds. (Usually due to ignorance of the origin of the prec.) Obs.

1477 NORTON *Ord. Alch.* in Ashm. v. (1652) 72 Bezoars of the Mine. 1594 BLUNDEVIL *Exerc. v. ix.* (ed. 7) 550 This stone Bezar growth in a concavity in manner of a girdle about two handfull long and three inches broad. 1607 TORSSELL *Fourf. Beasts* 100 The hart... sendeth forth certain tears, which are turned into a stone called 'bezar'. 1618 Rep. E. Ind. Comp. in Jas. Mill *Brit. India* I. II. 23 On the island of Borneo, diamonds, bezoar stones, and gold, might be obtained. 1634 SIR T. HERBERT *Trav.* (1677) 358 The soil... uberous in rich Stones, as Diamonds, Chrysolites, Onyx, Magnets and Bezoars.

† c. Applied to various medicinal preparations. 1706 PHILLIPS, *Bezoar Mineral*, a Chymical Preparation of Butter of Antimony. — *Bezoar-Animale*, the Livers and Hearts of Vipers dry'd in the Sun and powder'd. 1710 T. FULLER *Pharm. Extemp.* 309. 1807 Aikin *Dict. Chem.*, *Bezoard Mineral* is a perfect oxyd of Antimony.

† d. *transf.* The wild goat of Persia, the best-known source of the calculus (2 a). In later times called *bezoar-goat*; so *bezoar antelope*. Obs. (Early writers confound beazar and beaver.)

1611 COTGR., *Bezoard*, breeds in the maw of the Goat called a Beazar. 1620 FORD *Linca V.* 60 Their places and honours are hunted after as the beazar for his preservatives. 1670 *Phil. Trans.* V. 1177 The Oriental Bezoar... being a Savage Animal like a kid. 1774 GOLDSM. *Nat. Hist.* (1862) I. II. iii. 308 The Bezoar goat... is the animal famous for that concretion in the intestines... called the oriental bezoar. 1781 tr. *Buffon's Nat. Hist.* VI. 407 note, The bezoar antelope... is one of the animals which produce the bezoar.

4. *Attrib. and Comb.*, as *bezoard-extract*, etc. 1641 FRENCH *Distill.* II. (1651) 60 Which may be called a Bezoard extract. 1676 *Phil. Trans.* XI. 743 The Bezoard-like virtue of such stones. 1709 G. WILSON *Chym.* I. (ed. 3) 12 One Pound more of new Bezoart Spirit of Nitre.

Bezoardic, -artic (bezo:ārdik, -ārtik), a. and sb. [ad. mod. L. *bezoardicus, -articus*; a. F. *bezoard, bezoart*, BEZOAR; see -IC.]

A. *adj.* Of the nature of, or pertaining to, bezoar; having its properties; serving as antidote.

1670 *Phil. Trans.* V. 2082 Wont to breed Bezoardic stones. 1712 tr. *Pomet's Hist. Drugs* I. 39 Angelica is... Cordial, Bezoartick, and Alexipharmack. 1835 *Penny Cycl.* IV. 361 Any substance... thought to possess important qualities was termed bezoardic, to indicate its value.

B. *sb.* A bezoardic drug; an antidote; a remedy. 1671 SALMON *Syn. Med.* III. xxii. 396 The Bezoartick... is the present cure for all poysons and Feauers. 1684 tr. *Bonell's Merc. Compt.* III. 92 Guaiacum... I have used... as the Bezoardic of this Disease. 1727 BRADLEY *Fam. Dict.* s.v. *Bezoar Stone*, All Medicines contrary to Poison are called Bezoardicks. 1819 REES *Cycl.* s.v.

† **Bezoardical, -tical**, a. = prec. Obs. 1644 CHILLINGW. *Serm.* v. § 52 The healing Bezoardical Virtue of Grace. 1693 SIR T. BLOUNT *Nat. Hist.* 36 Every thing good against Poysons, is commonly term'd Bezoardical.

† **Besonian** (bēzō:ni-an). Obs. Also 6 *besonion*, 6- *bi-*, *besonian*. [f. It. *bisogna*, Sp. *bisño* (see BESONIO). The ending is perh. -AN, as in *Oxonian*, etc.]

a. A raw recruit. b. (as a term of contempt) Needy beggar, base fellow, knave, rascal.

1598 NASHE *P. Penitence* Wks. 1883-4 II. 86 Trod vnder foote of eury inferior Besonian. 1593 SHAKS. 2 *Hen. VI.* IV. i. 134 Great men oft dye by vilde Besonions. 1597 — 2 *Hen. IV.* v. iii. 115 *Besonian*, speake, or dye. 1611 COTGR., *Bisogne* (see BESOGNE), a raskall, bisonian, base humored scoundrell. 1632 MASSINGER *Maid of Hon.* IV. i. For half a mouldy biscuit, sell herself To a poor bisognion. 1843 LYTON *Last Bar.* I. xi. Out on ye, cullions and besonians!

Bez tyne: see under BEZ-ANTLER.

† **Bezzle**, v. Obs. exc. dial. Forms: 5 *besil*, 6 *beizle*, 7 *beesel*, *bezel*, *bezzel*, *bizle*, *bisel*, 8

besil, *bezell*, 7- *bezzale*. [Late ME. *besil*, a. OF. *besiler*, *besillier*, *bezzler*, to lay waste, ravage, destroy; shortened form of *embesillier*: see EMBEZZLE.] General sense: To make away with wastefully.

† 1. *trans.* To plunder, spoil; to make away with (the property of others). Obs. Cf. EMBEZZLE. c 1430 LYDG. *Bochas* v. xvi. (1554) 132 b, That he should haue beizled the Of Chartage. 1594 CAREW *Tasso* (1881) 94 Her sweet shewes and faire looks shall beizle harts. 1611 BEAUM. & FL. *Knt. Burn.* P. 1. iii. I have laid up a little for my younger son Michael, and thou think'st to 'bezzle' that. c 1612 FLETCHER *Woman's Prize* IV. i. 115/2, I must be shut up and my substance bezell'd. 1720 *Stow's Surv.* (Strype 1754) II. vi. iii. 626/2 To suffer no manner of person to beizl or purloin... out of the said park any timber.

2. *intr.* To make away with a large quantity of food or especially drink; to drink to excess, to guzzle, to revel.

1604 DEKKER *Honest Wh.* Wks. 1873 II. 113, I wonder how the inside of a Tauerne looks now. Oh when shall I bizle, bizle? 1612 T. TAYLOR *Comm. Titus* I. 7 (1619) 143 It is too much for a minister to lie bezzeling in the delight of his tast. 1633 T. ADAMS *Exp.* 2 *Peter* II. 12 (1865) 453/1 He that will be sober when others bezzle... is branded with the name of puritan. 1721 BAILEY, *Bezzle* (q. d. to Beazle), to guzzle, tipple, or drink hard. 1875 *Whitby Gloss.* (E. D. S.), *Bez* or *Bezzle*, to drink.

b. *trans.* To make away with or consume (drink), waste or squander (one's money). Obs. or dial.

1617 J. TAYLOR (Water P.) *Trav.* Wks. (1630) 78/2, 13 or 14 brewings haue bene... stayed in the Towne, as not sufficient to be bezzled in the Country. [1775 COLLIER (Tim Bobbin) *Tumulus & Meary Wks.* (1862) 54, I drank meh Pint o Ele... I cawd for another, on [=and] bezzilt tat too. 1811. 55 In 'fdd'n [=an ye had] bezzilt owey moor brass inney [=than ye] had'd'n. 1875 *Lanc. Gloss.* 37 *Bezzle*, to waste, to squander; generally applied to drinking.]

† **Bezzle**, sb. Obs. rare. Also 7 *bezell*. [f. prec.] A hard drinker, a bouser.

1592 NASHE *P. Penitence* (ed. 2) 12/1 Foule drunken bezzle. 1597 BR. HALL *Sat. v.* ii. The swolne bezell at an alehouse fyre, That tonnes in gallons to his bursten paunch.

† **Bezzled**, ppl. a. Obs. exc. dial. Also *beazzled*. [f. as prec. + -ED.] ? Wasted, spent, worn out, exhausted; muddled (with drinking).

1604 MARSTON *Malcont.* (T.), Wonder of thy errorr will strike dumb Thy bezell'd sense. 1875 PARISH *Saxses Gloss.* s.v. *Beazled*, He comes home tired of an evening, but not beazzled like boys who go to plough.

† **Bezzler**, Obs. Also 7 *beazzler*. [f. as prec. + -ER.] One who drinks much, a tippler, bouser.

a 1593 H. SMITH *Serm.* (1637) 473 If they had been Epicures, and Libertines, and Beazzlers, God would not have heard his prayer for them. 1601 *Jack Drum's Entert.* (1616) Aij. (R.) The shewing horne bezzlers discourse.

† **Bezzling**, ppl. a. Obs. Also 6 *bezzeling*, 7 *bezzelling*, *bezzeling*, *bisseling*. [f. as prec. + -ING.] Drunken revelry or dissipation, bousing.

1599 MARSTON *Sc. Villanie* II. vii. 206 That diuine part is soakt away in sinne, In sensuall lust, and midnight bezzeling. 1641 MILTON *Animadu.* Wks. (1851) 196 They that spend their youth in loitering, bezzeling, and harlotting.

† **Bezzling**, ppl. a. Obs. [f. as prec. + -ING.] That drinks hard; bousing, swilling.

1617 J. TAYLOR (Water P.) *Trav.* Wks. (1630) 80/1 Gogmagog, or our English Sir John Falstaff were but shrimps to this bezzeling Bombards latitude, altitude, and crassitude.

|| **Bhang, bang** (bāŋ). Forms: 6-9 *bangue*, 7-9 *bang*, 9 *bhang*; (also 7 *bange*, 7-8 *banque*, 8 *bank*, 9 *beng*, *benj*, *bhung*). [A word widely spread in Eastern langs: in Urdu, and various Indian langs., *bhāṅg*, *bhang*, *bhung*; in Pers., *bang* (whence Arab. *bany*, *benj*); all from Skr. *bhaṅgā* hemp. Its first European form was the Pg. *bangue*, also the earliest form in Eng.; *bang* (representing the Pers.) has prevailed since c 1675; *bhang* has become frequent during the present century, and is etymologically preferable.]

The native name of the Indian variety of the common Hemp, which in warm countries develops narcotic and intoxicating properties. In India the leaves and seed-capsules are chewed or smoked, or eaten mixed up into a sweetmeat, and sometimes an infusion of them is drunk. The name is sometimes extended to an intoxicating substance prepared from the resinous exudation of the plant, called by the Arabs *hashish*.

[1563 GARCIA DE ORTA *Simples & Drogas* 26 (transl.), All he had to do was to eat a little banguie.] 1598 W. PHILLIPS *Linschoten's Trav. Ind.* 19 Many kinds of Drogues, as Amfion, or Opium, Camfora, Banguie. 1621 BURTON *Anat. Mel.* II. v. i. v. (1651) 392 Another [herb] called Bange, like in effect to Opium. c 1645 HOWELL *Lett.* (1650) II. 72 In the orientall countries—as Cambaia, Calicut... ther is a drink call'd 'Banguie', which is rare and precious. 1673 FRYER *Acc. E. India* (1598) 91 (Y.) Bang (a pleasant intoxicating Seed mixed with Milk). 1727 A. HAMILTON *Acc. E. Ind.* I. 131 (Y.) Before they engage in fight they drink Bang. 1781 T. ARNOLD *Insanity* II. 254 A preparation of a poisonous vegetable called Banguie. 1838 LONDON *Encycl. Plants* 1083 The... intoxicating Turkish drug called Bang or Hashisch. 1899 LANG *Wand. India* 47, I took to opium and smoking *bhung* (hemp). 1866 LIVINGSTONE *Jrnl.* I. (1873) I. 29 Bhang is not smoked, but tobacco is.

|| **Bheesty, bheestie** (bēsti). Also 8- *beasty*, 9 *beestie*. [Urdu *bhīstī*, a. Pers. *bihishtī*, f. *bihisht*

paradise; prob. of jocular origin.] In India, the servant who supplies an establishment with water, which he carries in a skin slung on his back.

1781 *India Gaz.* 24 Nov. (Y.) With the loss of only 1 sepooy, 1 beasty, and a cossy. 1810 T. WILLIAMSON *Vade-Mec.* I. 229 (Y.) If he carries the water himself in the skin of a goat... he then receives the designation of Bheesty. 1899 LANG *Wand. Ind.* 63 Jehan, the bheestie's daughter, was a virtuous girl. 1883 W. BAXTER *Winter in Ind.* II. 22 Bheesties pressing water out of their pigskins to lay the dust.

Bi, ME. variant of BY, a town.

Bi, freq. ME. spelling of BY *pref.*: the same as

Bi- *pref.*, the early OE., and the ordinary ME., form of the prefix BE-; under which spelling see most of the words. Those alone are left under Bi- which did not survive long enough to be spelt with be-.

Bi- *pref.*, a. L. *bi-* (earlier *dui-*, cogn. with Gr. *δι-*, Skr. *dui-*) 'twice, doubly, having two, two-', which is in Latin a prefix of adjs., occas. of sbs., rarely of vbs. (e. g. *bipertire*). The earliest Latin adjs. of this type are formed by simply prefixing *bi-* either to adj.- (and verb-) stems, as *bifer*, *bifidus*, *bijugus*, *bisonus*, or to sb.- (and adj.-) stems, as *bicolor*, *biceps*, *bifrons*, *bifurcus*, *bigenus*; later in all probability, and more evidently mere compounds, are those in which *bi-* is prefixed to an adj. with a thematic suffix, as *bicorniger*, *bicubitalis*, *bilongus*, *bipatens*, and these are occas. participial in form, as *bicameratus*, *biformatus*. The Latin sbs., ending usually in -ium, are formed on the prec. adjs., or possible ones of corresponding type, as *biennium* a space of two years, *biennis* lasting two years, *biclinium*, **biclinus*.

The prefix entered Eng. in composition, e. g. in *bigam* (= med. L. *bigamus*), found c 1300, *bicorne*, c 1420; *bifront*, *biforked* occur late in 16th c.; and from the 17th c. onward, by a wide extension of the Latin analogy, especially in its later phases, *bi-* has been prefixed to any adj. conveniently indicating the thing or quality which is to be described as doubled or occurring twice, principally to those of Latin etymology, as in *biangular*, *bicavitary*, *bicentral*, *bivaulted*, *bivoluminous*, but also to others as *birainy*, *biweekly*. In modern scientific terminology, adjs. in -ate, -ated are most frequently employed, as *biauriculate*, *bicarinat*, *bilamellate*, *bipinnate*, *biunguiculate*, *bimaculated*; and the attrib. use of sbs. as adjs. tends to such modern forms as *bichord*, *biwhirl*. (See also the form BIN-.) *Bi-* is therefore used in Eng. to form:—

I. Adjectives, with the sense:—

1. Having or furnished with two —, two —, as *bi-angular*, -ate, -ated, -ous, having two angles; *bibracteate*, having two bracts; *bibracteolate*, having two small bracts; *bicallose*, -ous, having two callosities; † *bicapited*, *bicapitate*, having two heads, two-headed; *bicapsular*; *bicavitary*, having two cavities; *bicentral*; *bichord*, having two strings; *biciliate*, having two cilia or hairs; *bicircular*, *bicoloured*, *bicolumnar*, *biconsonantal*; *bicorporal*, -ate, -ated, -eal, having two bodies; *bicristate*, having two crests; *bifacial*, *bifanged*; *biglandular*, having two glands; *bimarginate*, *bimembral*, *bimuscular*; *binodal*, having two nodes; *binuclear*, having two nuclei; *bi-ovulate*, *bipetalous*; *biporose*, having or opening by two pores; *bipupillate*, having two pupil-like markings; *biradiat*, having two rays; *birainy*, having two rains or rainy seasons; *bispinous*, *bistipuled*; *bitentaculate*, having two tentacles; *bituberculat*, -ated, having two tubercles; *bivascular*, having two vessels; *bivaulted*; *bivoluminous*, consisting of two volumes; *biwhirl*.

1870 HOOKER *Stud. Flora* 250 Peduncles *bi-bracteate at the forks. 1812 *Ibid.* 345 Scale peltate, *bi-bracteolate. 1572 BOSSEWELL *Armorie* II. 42 (Lions) are borne in armes... *Bicapited, Bicorporated, Tricorporated. 1679 Plot *Staffordsh.* (1886) 196 The *bicapsular seed vessel of *Digitalis ferruginea*. 1870 ROLLESTON *Anim. Life* Introd. 101 Nerve-centres... spoken of as *bicavitary. 1854 MAXWELL in *Life* VIII. 231 Full of ellipses—*bicentral sources of lasting joy. 1857 BERKELEY *Cryptog. Bot.* § 136 *Biciliate spores. 1860 *Athenaeum* 20 Nov. 678/3 *Bicircular Quartics. 1868 R. PATTERSON *Ess. Hist. & Art* 34 A *bi-coloured uniform. 1884 M. RULE *Eadmeri Hist. Nov.* Pref. 84 The pages are *bicolumnar. 1861 MAX MÜLLER *Sc. Lang.* VII. 251 A *bi-consonantal root. 1839 BAILEY *Festus* VIII. (1848) 94 Luxurious, violent, *bicorporate. 1606 GOAD *Celest. Bodies* II. iv. 201 Alry Signs, or Signs *Bicorporal. 1882 R. BROWN *Law Cosmic Ord.* 57 A gigantic *bicorporal Scorpion-couple. 1852 DANA *Crust.* I. 212 Fourth [joint] prominently *bicristate, the crests thin. 1884 BOWER & SCOTT *De Barry's Phanerog.* F. 48 Firm, leathery... *bifacial leaves. 1851 RICHARDSON *Geol.* VIII. 315 Small *bifanged molar teeth. 1876 HARLEY *Mat. Med.* 441 Terminal panicles... supported by *biglandular bracts. 1812 J. JEBB *Corr.* (1834) II. 77 In these stanzas, each line is obviously *bimembral. 1835 KIRBY *Hab. & Inst. Anim.* I. VIII. 237 The first [order] is *Bimuscular, having two attaching muscles. 1835 LINDLEY

Introd. Bot. (1848) I. 324 The cyme... may be *binodal, trinodal. 1880 *Times* 24 Nov. 10 A small *bi-nuclear, gaseous, planetary nebula. 1881 *Gard. Chron.* No. 411. 621 Spores... cylindrical, *binucleate. 1858 W. CLARK *Vanderhoeven's Zool.* II. 145 Ventral fins *biradiate. 1855 MAURY *Phys. Geog. Sea* v. 296 Bogota is within the *birainy latitudes. 1854 DANA *Crust.* I. 621 The preceding segment is *bispinous. 1877 HUXLEY *Anat. Int. An.* iii. 131 A ciliated *bitentaculate body. 1849 *Proc. Berw. Nat. Club* II. vii. 371 A minutely *bituberculated wart. 1809 J. BARLOW *Columb.* ix. 15 In this *bivaulted sphere. 1870 LOWELL in *Athenaeum* 19 Mar. 380 That *bivoluminous shape in which dullness overtakes... genius at last. 1882 in *Nature* XXVI. 546 The formation of whirl and *biwhirl systems.

2. Doubly —; — in two ways or directions, on both sides; as *bi-bisalternate* (see quot.); *bicleft*; *biconic*, -al, conical in two directions; *biconcave*, *biconstant*, *biconvex*; *bicrescentic*, crescent-shaped on both sides; *bicurvedate*, *bifusiform*, *bipyramidal*, *birectangular*, *birefracting*, -ive, *birefringent*, *birhomboidal*, *bi-sphero-concave*; *bisubstituted*.

1817 R. JAMESON *Char. Min.* 210 When there are two rows of bisaltinate planes on each side, as in the *bibisaltinate cinnabar. 1867 DRAYTON *Aguincourt*, etc. 216 Those sacred springs, which from the *by-cliff hill Dropt their pure Nectar. 1854 WOODWARD *Mollusca* (1856) 285 Shell inversely conical, *bi-conic, or cylindrical. 1870 ROLLESTON *Anim. Life* Introd. 71 The *biconical cavity thus formed. 1833 LYELL *Elem. Geol.* xvii. (1874) 291 This Bird approaches the reptilian type in possessing *biconcave vertebrae. 1836 TODD *Cycl. Anat. & Phys.* I. 409/1 A *biconcave disc. 1880 *Nature* XXI. 280 A *bi-constant dispersion formula. 1849-52 TODD *Cycl. Anat. & Phys.* IV. 143/2 When the rays pass out from a *bi-convex lens. 1854 J. HOGG *Microsc.* II. ii. (1867) 400 Spicula having both extremities bent alike—*bicurvate. 1831 BREWSTER *Optics* xxix. 243 The *bipyramidal dodecahedron. 1869 TYNDALL *Notes Light* 75 A *birefracting prism of Iceland spar. *Ibid.* 66 This crystal is *birefractive. 1880 *Nature* XXI. 204 A *birefringent crystal. 1817 R. JAMESON *Char. Min.* 202 A crystal is said to be *bi-rhomboidal, when its surface consists of... two different rhomboids. 1849-52 TODD *Cycl. Anat. & Phys.* IV. 1469/1 *Bi-sphero-concave lenses. 1880 CLEMENSHAW *Wurtz' Atom. Th.* 303 In a *bisubstituted derivative of marsh gas, the third substitution may take place on either side.

3. *Bot. and Zool.* Twice over, re-; i. e. having characteristically divided parts which are themselves similarly divided; as *BILACINATE*, *BIPINATE*, *BISERRATE*, *BITERNATE*, q. v.

4. Lasting or continuing for two —; as *BIENNIAL*, *bi-hourly*, *bi-monthly*, *biweekly*.

1843 in *Proc. Amer. Philos. Soc.* II. 247 *Bi-hourly observations... had ceased with the first of the present year. 1879 GLADSTONE in *Daily News* 1 Dec. 6/5 Annual as opposed to *bi-monthly or tri-monthly budgets.

b. Occurring or appearing twice in a —; as in *bi-diurnal*, *bi-monthly*, *bi-quarterly*, *bi-weekly*, *bi-winter*, *bi-yearly*. (The ambiguous usage is confusing, and might be avoided by the use of *semi*—; e. g. *semi-monthly*, *semi-weekly*; cf. *half-yearly*.)

1854 WOODWARD *Mollusca* (1856) 32 A *bi-diurnal visit from the tide. 1878 *Print. Trades Jnl.* xxv. 4 A new Spanish *bi-monthly journal. 1884 *Pall Mall G.* 15 Feb. 16 To issue these etchings in *bi-quarterly numbers. 1885 FARRAR *Camb. Bible Sch.* Luke xviii. 12 The *bi-weekly fast of the Pharisees... The days chosen were Thursday and Monday. 1884 *Harper's Mag.* Feb. 394/1 The mail-carriers are making one of their *bi-winter trips. 1879 *Print. Trades Jnl.* xxviii. 9 A *bi-yearly calendar.

c. The prec. adjs. in -ly are also used adverbially. 1864 *Even. Standard* 29 Oct., Sixpenny parts, to be issued bi-monthly. 1865 *Reader* 12 Aug. 188/3 To be held bi-weekly, on Mondays and Thursdays.

5. Joining or connecting two —; as *BI-ACROMIAL*, *BI-ISCHIATIC*, *BI-PARIETAL*, q. v.

6. Occasionally in other senses, as *bimanual*, employing two hands; *BISERRATE*, arranged in two series; *bitaurine*, belonging to two bulls.

1873 F. THOMAS *Dis. Women* 73 The practice of *bimanual palpation. 1882 VINES *Sachs' Bot.* 430 The *biseriate segmentation of the apical cell. 1864 E. SWIFTE in *N. & Q. V.* 142 The *bitaurine bull.

II. Adverbs, verbs, and substantives; chiefly a. derivatives from the adjectives in I, as *biconically adv.* (f. *biconical* in 2), *bicleavage* (cf. *bicleft* in 2), *bicoloration* (cf. L. *bicolor* and *bicoloured* in 1), *BIVOCALIZE v.*; but also b. substantives formed after Latin analogies, in which *bi-* has the force of 'double, two'; as *bimillionaire*, the owner of property valued at two millions of money; *binomenclature*, double naming; *biprong*, a two-pronged fork.

a. 1881 *Jrnl. Linn. Soc.* XV. No. 87. 390 Shell... *biconically fusiform. 1847-9 TODD *Cycl. Anat. & Phys.* IV. 676/2 A *bicleavage of the arzygos ventral rays. 1877 COUES *Fur Anim.* iv. 120 [The] animal... resumes its *bicoloration. b. 1838 *New Month. Mag.* LIV. 314 The millionaire... becomes a *bi-millionaire. 1873 TRISTRAM *Mead* vii. 120 Another instance of *binomenclature, a duplicate name occurring on the east side. 1871 M. COLLINS *Jr. Clarice* I. xii. 114 The ancient *biprong of steel.

III. Chem. Substantives and adjectives, in which *bi-* signifies the presence in a compound of twice that amount (usually two equivalents) of the acid,

base, etc. indicated as present by the word to which it is prefixed. Thus *carbonate of soda* was viewed as containing one equivalent of carbonic acid, *bi-carbonate of soda* as containing two. In recent chemical nomenclature, *bi-* has been systematically superseded by *di-*.

1863 WATTS *Dict. Chem.* I. 584 *Bi-compounds: see *Di-compounds*. 1819 BRANDE *Chem.* v. § 306 *Bicarbonate of Potassa is formed by passing a current of carbonic acid into a solution of the subcarbonate. 1869 ROSCOE *Elem. Chem.* 210 The *bicarbonate [of soda] is chiefly used... for the production of refreshing drinks. 1856 HENRY *Elem. Chem.* II. 45 The second sulphuret, or *bi-sulphuret of tin. 1850 DAUBENY *Atom. Th.* x. (ed. 2) 342 *Bisulphuretted hydrogen is... decomposed by the action of alkalies. 1863 TYNDALL *Heat* i. 14, I wet a pellet of cotton-wool with liquid *bi-sulphide of carbon. 1879 G. GLADSTONE in *Cassell's Techn. Educ.* IV. 213/1 Tartar emetic—the *bitartrate of antimony and potash.

Biace, obs. form of *BIAS*.

Biacid (bī'æ'sid), a. [f. *Bi-* pref.² III + *ACID*.] Of a base: Capable of combining with an acid in two different proportions. 1864 in WEBSTER.

Biacromial (bī'āk'rō'miāl), a. *Phys.* [f. *Bi-* pref.² 5 + *ACROMIAL*.] Joining the extremities of the two shoulder-blades.

1878 BARTLEY *Tophinard's Anthropol.* 83 The biacromial line. *Biacuminate* (bī'āk'i'nī'mīnēt), a. [f. *Bi-* pref.² I, 2 + *ACUMINATE*.] (See quot.)

1880 GRAY *Bot. Text-bk.* 398 *Biacuminate*, two-pointed, as malpighiaceae hairs, fixed by the middle and tapering to each end.

Biasten, *biæsten*, early form of *BAST* adv.

Bi-alate (bī'āl'ēt), a. [f. *Bi-* pref.² I + *ALATE*.] Having two wings or wing-like membranous expansions.

1852 DANA *Crust.* II. 1360 Posterior segment bi-alate.

+ *Bially*, a. *Obs. Her.* [Suggests an OF. **biall* (f. *bi-* two), not known.] (See quot.)

1886 Bk. St. Albans, *Her. Bvly*, Bially. 1566 FERNE *Blaz. Gentrie* 212 Bially, that is a barre between two Cheuerons.

Biangular, -ated, -ous, etc.: see *BI-* pref.² I.

Biannual (bī'æ'nī'ūāl), a. and sb. [f. *Bi-* pref.² 4, 4 b + *ANNUAL*.] a. *Adj.* Used as = Half-yearly.

b. sb. = *BIENNIAL* sb. Hence *Bi-annually* adv. 1877 OUIDA *Puck* xii. 123 Every half-year his lawyers transmitted him... the biannual rental. 1884 *Illustr. Sydney News* 26 Aug. 15/1 Plant out... annuals and bi-annuals. 1880 *Century Mag.* XXIII. 647 A change in the fashion of her clothes bi-annually at least.

Biarchy (bī'ār'kī), [f. *Bi-* pref.² II + -archy = Gr. *αρχη*; cf. *monarchy*.] Dual sovereignty, government by two.

1847 in CRAIG. 1862 M. HOPKINS *Hawaii* 141 To terminate the biarchy, and leave Kamehameha sole ruler of Hawaii.

Biarticulate (bī'art'i'kūlēt), a. [f. *Bi-* pref.² I + *ARTICULATE*.] Having two joints, two-jointed. 1816 KIRBY & SP. *Entomol.* (1843) II. 268 Their biarticulate tarsi. 1852 DANA *Crust.* II. 909 note.

Bias (bī'ās), a., sb., and adv. Forms: 6-7 *biace*, (? 6 *byess*), 6-8 *byas*, (7 *biais*, *biase*, *biaz*), 7-8 *biass*, *byass*, 6- *bias*. Pl. *biasses*; also 6 *bias*, 6-9 *biasses*, 7 *byasses*. [a. F. *biass*, in 14th c. 'oblique, obliquity', = Pr. *biass* (cf. OCat. *biass*, mod. *biaise*, *biase*; also Sardinian *biassiu*, It. *s-biescio* awry, in Piem. *sbias*); of unknown origin. The conjecture of Diez that it is:—L. *bifax*, *bifacem*, explained by Isidore as *duos habens obtutus* 'looking two ways', is rejected by later Romanic scholars as phonetically untenable. Originally an adjective, as in Pr. *via biayssa* cross or oblique road; but early used as a sb. in French, so that the first quotable example in Eng. is of the subst. use. The latter became a technical term at the game of bowls, whence come all the later uses of the word. With pl. *biases*, cf. *allases*, *croscuses*.]

a. *Adj.* (Sense 1 is original; 1 b and 2 appear to be derived from senses of the sb.)

1. Slanting, oblique. *Bias line*: (in early geometry) a diagonal or hypotenuse. [Cf. OF. (Oresme, 14th c.) une figure quarree et le diametre qui la traverse *biass*.] *Obs.* Cf. *BIAS-WISE*, -WAYS.

1551 RECORDE *Pathw. Knowl.* II. xxxii. By the Bias line, I mean that lyne, whiche in anysquare figure dooth runne from corner to corner. 1601 HOLLAND *Polym.* 953 (R.) Her oblique and byass declination. 1688 R. HOLME *Acad. Arm.* II. 351 Some shells are crooked and byas.

b. *Spec.* in dress (cf. B 1): Cut across the texture, slanting.

1883 *Daily News* 22 Sept. 3/3 A wide bias band of wall-flower velvet. 1884 *Girl's Own Paper* Aug. 681/1 Plain skirts, trimmed with flat bias bands.

2. 'Swelled as the bowl on the biased side' J. J. 1606 SHAKS. *Tr. & Cr.* IV. v. 8 Thy sphered Bias cheek.

b. sb.

1. An oblique or slanting line; cf. A 1. Now app. only in the spec. sense of a wedge-shaped piece or gore, cut obliquely to the texture of a woven fabric. *On the bias*: diagonally, across the texture.

1530 PALSGR. 198/1 Byas of an hose, *bias*. 1538 BALE *Three Lawes* 513 Take me a napkin folte, With the byas of a bolte. 1570 LD. SEMPLE *Three Taverners* ix. Now gif ye..

shape it precyslie, The ellwand wald be grit & lang, Gif the byess be wyde, gar lay it on side. 1880 *Melbourne Bulletin* 29 Oct. 5/1 The clothing... may not be cut on the bias. 1884 *West. Daily Press* 2 June 7/2 All skirts are... cut with a curved bias.

2. A term at bowls, applied alike to: The construction or form of the bowl imparting an oblique motion, the oblique line in which it runs, and the kind of impetus given to cause it to run obliquely. Thus a bowl is said 'to have a wide or narrow bias', 'to run with a great' or 'little bias'; the player 'gives it more' or 'less bias' in throwing it.

It is difficult to decide in which sense exactly *bias* was here first used. A priori we think of the oblique line of motion: this is favoured also by the quotations under C. and *BIAS-WISE*; yet early quotations here point rather to the oblique one-sided structure or shape of the bowl. Formerly *bias* was given by loading the bowls on one side with lead, and this itself was sometimes called the *bias*; they are now made of very heavy wood, teak or ebony, and the *bias* given entirely by their shape, which is that of a sphere slightly flattened on one side and protuberant on the other, as if composed of the halves of an oblate and a prolate spheroid.

1570 tr. *Life 70 Abs. Canterb.* Bv. marg., As you have sett youre bias, so runneth your bowle. 1596 SHAKS. *Tam. Shr.* IV. v. 25 Well, forward, forward, thus the bowle should run, And not vnclukely against the Bias. 1643 T. GOODWIN *Wks.* (1861) III. 492 A bowl... is swayed by the bias, and lead that is in it. 1692 BENTLEY *Boyle Ser.* II. 71 If it [the Bowl] be made with a Byas, that may decline it a little from a straight line. 1692 SOUTH 12 *Serm.* (1697) I. 444 A bowl may lie still for all its Byass. 1720 NORRIS *Chr. Prudence* i. 22 The Bowl will run, not as the Hand directs, but as the Bias leads. 1728 POPE *Dunciad* l. 170 O thou, of business the directing soul, To human heads like byass to the bowl. 1753 CHAMBERS *Cycl. Swpp.*, *Bias* of a bowl is a piece of lead put into one side, to load and make it incline towards that side. 1822 HAZLITT *Men & Manners* Ser. II. iv. (1869) 89 The skittle-player bends his body to give a bias to the bowl he has already delivered from his hand. 1851 A. W. HARE *Serm.* VIII. I. 133 Just as a bowl with a bias, if you try to send it straight, the longer it rolls, the further it will swerve. 1864 *Athenaeum* No. 1920. 209/1 A bias that should reach the jack.

b. Figurative senses taken from the game of bowls.

1589 PUTTENHAM *Eng. Poetrie* III. xix. (1811) 205 Her bosome sleeker as Paris plaster, Helde vp two balles of alabaster, Eche byas (i. e. nipple) was a little cherrie. 1593 SHAKS. *Rich. II.* III. iv. 'I will make me think the world is full of Rubs, And that my fortune runnes against the Byas. 1581 SIDNEY *Apol. Poetrie* (Arb.) 66 To finde a matter quick mistaken, and goe downe the hill against the byas, in the mouth of some such men. 1618 MYNSHUT. *Ess. Prison* (1638) 17 To bee a bowle for every alley, and run into every company, proves thy mind to have no bias. 1625 BACON *Ess.*, *Wind, Man's Self* (Arb.) 185 Which set a Bias vpon the Bowle, of their owne Petty Ends. 1724 C. JOHNSON *Country Lassies* II. ii, Joy shall be the jack, pleasure the bias, and we'll rowl after happiness to the last moment of life.

3. *transf.* An inclination, leaning, tendency, bent; a preponderating disposition or propensity; pre-disposition towards: predilection; prejudice.

1572 tr. *Buchanan's Delect. Mary in Love-lett.* (1824) 125 She cometh to her own bias, and openly sheweth her own natural conditions. 1577 HOLINSHED *Chron.* I. 166/1 They cease their crueltie for a time, but within a-while after fall to their bloudie bias. 1620 QUARLES *Jonah* (1638) 38 To change the byas of her crooked wayes. 1643 Sir T. BROWNE *Relig. Med.* II. § 1 Though... the byas of present practise wheel another way. 1768 BLACKSTONE *Comm.* III. 361 The law will not suppose a possibility of bias or favour in a judge. 1827 HARE *Guesses* (1859) 13 A proof of our natural bias to evil. 1829 SOUTHEY *Juscript.* xiv, My intellectual life received betimes The bias it hath kept. 1830 Sir J. HERSCHEL *Stud. Nat. Phil.* III. i. (1851) 241 If the bricks... had all a certain leaning or bias in one direction out of the perpendicular. 1878 LUCKY *England* in 18th. C. II. vi. 179 They could have no possible bias in favour of the Irish.

4. Set course in any direction, ordinary 'way.' *From or out of the bias*: out of the way. *To put out of or off one's bias*: to put out, disconcert, confuse, put into disorder. *Obs.*

1588 Marprel. *Epist.* (1843) 51 Marke what will be the issue... if you still keep your olde byas. 1600 DEKKER *Gentle Craft* Wks. 1873 I. 30 Well Master all this is from the bias, doe you remember the Shippe. c. 1619 R. JONES *Serm.* in *Phenix* (1708) II. 478 Such strange opinions as would turn the whole world out of bias. 1642 HOWELL *For. Trav.* 142 Here it will not be much out of the byas, to insert a few verses. 1741 RICHARDSON *Pamela* (1824) I. 272 There is no putting him out of his bias. He is a regular piece of clock-work. 1752 HUME *Pol. Disc.* II. 30 Superstition, which throws the Government off its bias. 1799 WOLCOTT (P. Pindar) *Nit Adm.* Wks. 1812 IV. 266 And turn even Bishops off from Wisdom's bias.

5. A swaying influence, impulse, or weight; 'any thing which turns a man to a particular course, or gives the direction to his measures' (J.)

1587 TURBERVILLE *Trag. T.* (1837) 206 That to the end he might the maid Unto his bias bring. 1595 SHAKS. *John II.* 577 This vile drawing byas, This sway of motion, this commodity. 1642 FULLER *Holy & Prof. State* IV. iv. 254 In his prime he [Wolsey] was the bias of the Christian world, drawing the bowl thereof to what side he pleased. a. 1659 CLEVELAND *Wks.* (1687) 82 In what a puzzling Neutrality is the poor Soul, that moves between two such ponderous Biasses! 1660 W. SECKER *Nonsuch Prof.* 430 The love of God is the byas of a Volunteer. 1705 STANHOPE *Paraphr.* II. 196 The Bribery and Byass of Sense and Flesh. 1851 GLADSTONE *Gleanings* IV. xxxix. 28 He could not possibly be under any bias.

† b. Centre of gravity (as that which determines the direction of motion in a falling body). *rare.* 1674 PETTY *Disc. bef. R. Soc.* 126 I suppose in every atom

...two poles in its superficies, and a Central point within its substance, which I call its Bias.

C. adv. [Cf. on the bias, *F. en biais, de biais.*]

1. Obliquely, aslope, athwart. *Obs. exc. of dress.*
1575 LANHAM *Lett.* (1871) 25 Wold run his race byas among the thickest of the throng. 1598 SYLVESTER *Du Bartas* i. iv. (1641) 33/1 That rich Girdle. Which God gave Nature. To wear it bias, buckled over-thwart-her. 1601 HOLLAND *Pliny* xxvii. iv. (R.) The leaves be. chamfered or channelled bias all along. 1616 SURFL & MARKH. *Countr. Farm* 349 It should be. cut byas, as wedges are. 1656 FINETT *For. Ambass.* 32 Placed. on the King's right hand, not right out but byas forward. 1878 NAPHEYS *Phys. Life Women*. A body-case of strong linen, cut bias.

2. *fig.* Off the straight, awry, wrong, amiss.

To run bias on, to: to fall foul of, attack. *Obs.*
1600 ROWLANDS *Lett. Humours* Blood i. 47 His tongue runs byas on affairs. 1606 SHAKS. *Tr. & Cr.* i. iii. 15 Every action that hath gone before. Triall did draw Bias and thwart, not answering the ayme. 1618 BOLTON *Florus* (1636) 264 Metellus. who always ranne bias to the mighty, detracted Pompey. 1633 G. HERBERT *Constance* vii. in *Temple* 64 When the wide world runnes bias.

D. Comb. bias-drawing *vbl. sb.*, a turning awry or from the truth; bias-eyed *a.*, oblique-eyed. Also **BIASWISE**, *q. v.*

1606 SHAKS. *Tr. & Cr.* iv. v. 169 Faith and troth, Strain'd purely from all hollow bias drawing. 1883 *Glasgow Wkly. Her.* 12 May 2/7 The bias-eyed son of the sun (Chinaman) manipulated the gummy mass.

Bias (boi'ās), *v.* Also 7 *biace*, 7-8 *byas*, *byass*, 7-9 *biass*. [*f. prec. sb.* Cf. *F. biaiser*, *Pr. biaisar*. In inflexions, often spelt *biasses*, *biased*, *biassing*; though the single *s* is more regular; cf. the *sb.*]

1. *trans.* To give bias to (a bowl); to furnish with a weight or bias; cf. **BIASED** 1.

1664 DRYDEN *Wild Gallant* iv. i, Your Bowl must be well bias'd to come in.

2. *transf. and fig.* To give a bias or one-sided tendency or direction to; to incline to one side; to influence, affect (often unduly or unfairly).

a. 1628 F. GREVILLE *Sidney* (1652) 60 To biace Gods immortal truth to the fantasies of mortal Princes. 1646 S. BOLTON *Arraignm. Err.* 239 Beware of being byassed with carnall and corrupt affections. 1683 BURNET *tr. More's Utopia* (1685) 122 Men whom no Advantages can byass. a. 1711 KEN *Hymnar*. Poet. Wks. 1721 II. 108 By Grace our Wills may byass'd be. 1855 MACAULAY *Hist. Eng.* IV. 89 If his judgment had not been biased by his passions. 1875 HAMERTON *Intell. Life* ii. iii. 66 Artists are seldom good critics of art, because their own practice biases them, and they are not disinterested.

b. To incline to or towards; to cause to swerve. 1643 T. GOODWIN *Wks.* (1861) III. 488 We shall. not be biased aside. 1712 STEELE *Spect.* No. 491 P. 2 Without any Vice that could bias him from the Execution of Justice. 1801 STRUTT *Sports & Past.* Intro. 4 Such exercises as. biased the mind to military pursuits. 1864 LYTTON *Sir. Story* I. 216 Whether. it was the Latin inscription. that had originally biased Sir Philip Dervall's literary taste towards the mystic jargon.

† c. To influence or incline (one) to do anything.

1722 DE FOE *Moll Fl.* (1840) 255 She soon biased me to consent. 1747 GOULD *Eng. Ants* 93 Mr. Ray. and other Naturalists, are hence byassed to believe the Curiosity.

† 3. *intr.* To incline to one side, to swerve from the right line. *Obs.*

1622 HEVLIN *Cosmogr.* II. (1682) 191 Without partiality, or byassing on either hand. 1640 SANDERSON *Serm.* II. 158 The hearts of such as byass too much that way. 1645 *City Album* 20 Many great Patriots in the beginning have since byased. 1687 A. LOVELL *Bergeron's Comic Hist.* II. 21 That made me imagine that I byassed towards the Moon.

Biased (boi'āst), *ppl. a.* [*f. prec. + -ED.*]

1. Of bowls: Having a bias.

1611 MARKHAM *Countr. Content.* i. (1615) 108 Your round byazed bowls for open grounds. 1877 EG. WARBURTON *Poems* 15 The bias'd bowl roll'd circling to the jack.

2. Influenced; inclined in some direction; unduly or unfairly influenced; prejudiced.

1649 G. DANIEL *Trinarch*, *Rich.* II. 1, xxv, How byassed all humane Actions are! 1664 FULLER *Worthies* III. 110 If he were a Biassed and Partial writer. 1681 DRYDEN *Abs. & Achit.* I. 79 When to Sin our byast Nature leans. 1870 *Pall Mall G.* 18 Aug. 2 Abstemious from biased language.

Biassing (boi'āsin), *vbl. sb.* [*f. as prec. + -ING.*]

1. Inclination towards one side; propension.

1646 J. HALL *Horæ Vac.* 7 The best course to keepe his judgement from biasing. 1865 CARLYLE *Frederick Gt.* V. XIII. vii. 74 The question is intricate, and there are many secret biasings concerned in the solution of it.

2. In needwork: A kind of work resembling 'gathering.'

1838 *Workwoman's Guide* i. i. 7.

Biassing, *ppl. a.* [*f. as prec. + -ING.*]

a. That gives a bias. † b. That moves obliquely, oblique. 1658 USSHER *Ann.* vi. 98 The Loxodromie, or biasing motions of the stars, in the Zodiac. 1861 H. MACMILLAN *Footn. Page Nat.* 242 [These] operate as biasing influences.

† **Biassness**. *Obs. rare.* Obliquity.

1611 COTGR., *Biaiserie*, slopennesse, byassness, oblique-ness, or obliquitie.

† **Biass-wise, way-s, adv. Obs.** In a slanting manner, aslant, obliquely; also *fig.*

1540 RAYNALD *Birth Man* i. iii. (1634) 22 Two Byasswise descending muscles. 1551 RECORDER *Cast. Knowl.* (1556) 111 A little altering of the one side, maketh the bowl to run biasse waies. c. 1618 J. SMYTH *Berkeley's* (1883) 149 A man that from the font to the grave. walked alwayes byasswise. 1660 HEXHAM *Dutch Dict.*, *Schuyt*, crosse, Oblique, or Byas wise. 1700 W. J. tr. *Brayn's Voy. Levant* xxxvii. 148 The roof. was not flat, but rising Bias way.

Biauricular (boi'gri-kia'lar), *a.* [*f. Bi- pref. 2 + AURICULAR.*] Having two auricles. **Biauriculate** *a.* the same.

1835 KIRBY *Hab. & Inst. Anim.* II. xxii. 414 Heart. bi-auriculate. 1839 TODD *Cycl. Anat.* III. 991 A bi-auricular structure of the heart, as in the Siren.

Biaxial, *a.* = next. **Biaxiality**, biaxial character. 1837 WHEWELL *Hist. Induct. Sc.* (1857) II. 296 Its crystalline symmetry is biaxial. 1869 TYNDALL *Notes Light* § 423 Biaxial crystals, or those which possess two optic axes. 1864 READER 85, 206/2 The biaxiality ascribed to it.

Biaxial (boi'æksial), *a.* [*f. Bi- pref. 2 + AXIAL.*] Having two (optic) axes.

1854 J. HOGG *Microsc.* i. ii. (1867) 146 Topaz, a biaxial crystal. c. 1865 J. WYLD in *Circ. Sc.* I. 84/1 Nitre. is. a biaxial crystal.

Bib (bib), *v.* Forms: 4-6, 9 *dial.* beb, 6 bibb, byb, bybbe, 6-7 bibbe, 4- bib. [Possibly an adaptation of *L. bib-ere*, to drink; but it may have originated independently, in an imitation of repeated movements of the lips; cf. the variant *beb*.] *trans. & intr.* To drink; keep on drinking, tippie.

c. 1235 E. E. ALLIT. P. B. 1499 A boister on benche bibbes per-of. c. 1386 CHAUCER *Reeve's T.* 242 This Millere hath so wisely bibbed [v. r. bebbed] Ale that as an hors he smotherth in his sleepe. 1566 DRANT *Horace Sat.* vii. Eivb, Thou thinkest by sleepe, and bibbinge wyne, to banishe out all woes. 1641 *Vox Borealis* in *Harl. Misc.* (Malh.) IV. 433 If they cannot byte of a bannock, and bibbe of the brooke. c. 1645 HOWELL *Lett.* II. 48 As soon a little little Ant Shall bib the Ocean dry. 1879 BROWNING *Ned Bratts* 5 Folks kept bibbing beer While the parsons prayed for rain.

b. *Bib-all-night*: a drunkard, confirmed toper. 1612 SYLVESTER *Lacrym. Lacr.* Wks. (1621) 1150 Bats, Harpies, Sirens, Centaurs, Bib-all-nights.

Bib (bib), *sb.* Also 6 bibbe, 7-8 bibb. [Prob. from *Bib v.*; but whether because worn by a child when drinking (cf. *feeder*), or because a bib imbibes moisture (Skeat), is purely conjectural.]

A cloth placed under a child's chin, to keep the front of the dress clean, esp. at meals.

1580 BARET *Alv.* B 634 A Bibbe for a childes breast: a gorget. 1589 *Pappe w. Hatchet* Cijj, Give the infant a bibbe. 1613 BEAUM. & FL. *Captain* III. v. We'll have a bib, for spoiling of thy doublet. 1785 COWPER *Task* iv. 226 Misses, at whose age their mothers wore The back-string and the bib. 1840 HOOD *Kilnmansegg* xxxii, Her best bibs were made Of rich gold brocade.

b. A similar article worn over the breast by adults, frequently as the upper part of an apron. *Best bib and tucker*: put for 'best clothes' as a whole, properly of girls or women, but also of men.

1687 B. RANDOLPH *Archipelago* 52 Before their breasts hangs a bibb which reaches a little below their waist. 1737 G. SMITH *Cur. Relat.* I. ii. 132 The Driver is dressed in his best Band and Bib. 1865 DICKENS *Mut. Fr.* iv, She girded herself with an apron, and contrived a bib to it. 1875 *Lanc. Gloss.* (E. D. S.) 37 An' put him his best bib-an-tucker on, an' went to look for a place for him.

c. *attrib.*, as in *bib-apron*, *-cravat*.

1674 DRYDEN *Prot. Open. New House* 27 Only fools. 'Th' extremity of modes will imitate. The dangling knee-fringe and the bib-cravat. 1750 LADY FEATHERSTONH. in *Mem. Ld. Gambier* (1861) I. ii. 31 A laced bib-apron was brought to me. 1880 KINGLAKE *Crimea* VI. xi. 440 The gracious bib-apron seemed to fold her in honour.

Bib (bib), *sb.* 2 [from *Bib sb.*: see quot. 1836.]

A fish; the whitening-pout (*Gadus luscus*).

1674 RAY *Fishes* 101 The Bib or Blinds. 1766 PENNANT *Zool.* (1769) III. 149 The Bib (*Gadus luscus*). is esteemed a good eating fish, not unlike the whitening in taste. 1836 YARRELL *Brit. Fishes* II. 159 From a singular power of inflating a membrane which covers the eyes and other parts about the head, which when thus distended, have the appearance of bladders, it is called Pout, Bib, Blens, and Blinds. 1880 GUNTHER *Fishes* 541.

Bibacious (bi-, bāibā'sjās), *a.* [*f. L. bibāci-* (nom. *bibax*) given to drinking + -OUS.] Addicted to, or fond of, drinking; bibulous.

1676 BULLOKAR, *Bibacious*, given much to drinking. 1834 *Blackw. Mag.* XVI. 650 The middle [class are] bibacious more than health requires.

Bibacity (bibā'siti), [*f. as prec.: see -ACITY.*]

Addictedness to drinking; tippie.

1623 COCKERAM II, Outragious drinking, *Bibacity*. 1642 T. TAYLOR *God's Judgem.* i. vii. 105 This Sinne of Bibacity and Vinosity. 1804 T. TROTTER *Drunkennes* iv. § 2. 112 The evils which follow bibacity.

Bibasic (boibā'sik), *a.* *Chem.* [*f. Bi- pref. 2 + BASE sb.* 1 + -IC.] Having two bases.

Bibasic acid: one which contains two atoms of displaceable hydrogen (e. g. H_2SO_4), and can therefore form two series of salts, normal (e. g. K_2SO_4) and acid (e. g. $KHSO_4$). Now more commonly **DI-BASIO**.

1847-9 TODD *Cycl. Anat. & Phys.* IV. 80/2 The bibasic phosphate of ammonia and magnesia. 1876 HARLEY *Mat. Med.* 314 Oxalic acid is bibasic.

Bibation (bibā'sjān). [Humorously *f. Bib v.*: see -ATION: cf. **BIBITION**.] Bibbing; potation.

1830 *Fraser's Mag.* I. 217 Wilson had lost his five senses, only retaining that of whisky bibation. 1843 CARLYLE *Past & Pr.* (1858) 127 He of the frequent bibations.

† **Bibatory**: see **BIBITORY**.

Bibb (bib), *Naut.* Also 8 bib. [variant of *Bib sb.*] A bracket under the trestle-tree of a mast, resembling in position a child's bib.

1779-80 COOK *Voy.* (1785) II. 271 The foremast. to be unrigged, in order to fix a new bib. 1867 in *SMYTH Sailor's Word-bk.*

Bibbed (bibd), *ppl. a.* Furnished with a bib.

1883 *Sunday Mag.* 483 The lady in neat white cap and bibbed apron.

Bibber (bi'bər), [*f. BIB v. + -ER.*] One who drinks frequently; a tippler. (Frequent in comb., as *wine-, beer-bibber*, etc.)

1536 *Remed. Sedition* 20 b, Bibbers will be offended with hym. 1756 C. LUCAS *Ess. Waters* I. 185 The subjects of the Gout are generally. wine, cider, and beer bibbers. a. 1845 HOOD *Drink. Song* 2, Look at the bibbers of wine.

Hence **Bibbership**.

1670 EACHARD *Cont. Clergy* 31 That would much better fit some old soker at Parnassus than his sipping experienced bibbership. Alas, poor child!

Bibbery, *rare.* [*f. as prec. + -Y.*] Bibbing, drinking; a bibbing-house.

1653 UGOUHART *Rabelais* i. xl, I never eat any confections. whiles I am at the bibbery. 1831 J. WILSON in *Blackw. Mag.* xxx. 541 The high and palmy state of wine-bibbery.

Bibbing (bi'biŋ), *vbl. sb.* [*f. BIB v. + -ING.*] Continued or repeated drinking; tippie.

a. 1400 *Alexander* (Stev.) 154 Bacus he was braynewode for bebbing of wyne. 1563 *Homilies* II. *Agst. Gluttony* (1859) 298 They that give themselves. to bibbing and banqueting. 1835 L. HUNT *Jrnl.* No. 70. 256 The bibbing of bad water. meets with encouragement.

b. *attrib.*, as in *bibbing-house* (= tippie-house).

1587 CHURCHYARD *Worth. Wales* (1876) II. 14 The Danes likewise, doe lead a bibbing life. 1687 T. BROWN *Lib. Consc.* in *Dk. Buckhm's Wks.* (1705) II. 131 It wou'd sound oddly to turn it [the Meeting-house] into a Bibbing-House.

Bibbing, *ppl. a.* [*f. BIB v. + -ING.*]

1. That bibs; given to drinking.

1594 CAREW *Huarte's Exam. Wits* xiv. (1596) 253 If the same be gluttonous, greedy, and bibbing. 1656 DU GARD *Gate Lat. Unt.* § 623 Ravening and bibbing belly-gods. 1833 *Fraser's Mag.* VIII. 44 He is now a. port-bibbing, gout-bemartred believer in the Tory faith.

2. Of things: Absorbent; = **BIBULOUS** 1.

1633 P. FLETCHER *Purple Isl.* v. xvii. 51 Unto a bibbing substance down conveying. *Ibid.* v. xxvi, The bibbing third draws it together nigher.

Bibble (bi'b'l), *v.* Also 6 bible, bibil, bybyll.

[*f. BIB + -LE*, freq. ending; cf. *prattle*, *tippie*.]

† 1. To keep drinking, to drink: *a. trans. Obs.*

1583 STANVHURST *Eneis* i. (Arb.) 33 His fierce steeds. Xanth stream gredilye babled.

† b. *intr. Obs.*

a. 1559 SKELTON *Elyn. Rumming* 550 Let me wyth you bybyll. 1581 MARBECK *Bk. of Notes* 326 An Eagles olde age for necessitie, compelleth him to be ever bibbing.

2. *intr.* To dabble with the bill like a duck. b.

trans. To drink with a dabbling noise.

1550 HULOET, Bubbyng, or bybbyng in water, as ducks do. *amphibolus*. 1861 M. B. EDWARDS *Tale of Woods* II. ii, *Eider-duck*. How pleasant it is to glide through the grass and bibble the dew-drops as I pass!

Bibble-babble (bi'b'l, bæ'b'l). Also 6 bybell-babbel, byble-, bible-bable, bybble-babbie. [Intensive reduplication of **BIBBLE**: cf. *tit-tattle*, *pit-pat*, etc.] Idle or empty talk; prating. (Very common in 16th c.)

1532 MORE *Confut. Barnes* VIII. Wks. 754/1, I. will cutte of all his bybell babbel. 1593 G. HARVEY *Pierce's Super.* 48 His phantastical bible-babbles and capricious panges. 1601 SHAKS. *Twel. N.* iv. ii. 105 Endeavour thy selfe to sleepe, and leaue thy vaine bible-babble. 1656 TRAPP *Comm. Matt.* xxii. 29 [The Athenians] therefore counted all that St. Paul could say to it, bible-babble. 1701 SEDLEY *Gumble* i. i. (1766) 205 Bible-babble, give the goose more hay! 1866 *Reader* 21 Apr. 397 Terrible philippias against wit-frittering, froth-whipping, and vain bible-babble.

Bibbler (bi'b'lər), Also 6 bibbiler. [*f. BIBBLE + -ER.*] A drinker, a tippler.

a. 1553 UDALL *Royster D.* III. v. (Arb.) 58 Fare ye well bibbler, and worthily may ye speede. 1566 GASCOIGNE *Supposes* Wks. (1587) 5 An excellent good bibbler. 1773 *Gentl. Mag.* XLIII. 196 Each idle bibbler is now such a nunny.

† **Bibbles, bibles**. ? *Obs. rare.* [*f. BIBBLE v.*] Strata of clay containing water.

1747 HOOSON *Miner's Dict.* M. iv, He comes. from common Earth, the first into Clay, from Clay to Bibles, etc.

Bibbling (bi'bliŋ), *ppl. a.* [*f. BIBBLE + -ING.*]

a. Drinking; tippie. b. Dabbling with the bill like a duck drinking.

1550 HULOET, Bybbyng with the byll, *bibulus*. 1565 GOLDING *Ovid's Met.* III. (1593) 60 Little bibbling Phayle, and Pseke that pretie mops. 1619 GORGES tr. *Bacon's Wks.* 270 An age. that is dull, bibbling and reeling.

† **Bibe'de**, *v. Obs.* [*OE. bebiadan*, *f. BE- + biadan* to BID.] *trans.* To bid, command.

c. 1000 ÆLFRIC *Deut.* iii. 28 Bebeod Iosue. c. 1000 *Agst. Gosp.* Luke iv. 10 He hys englum be bebyt [1560 *Hatton* bebeot] þæt hīz be gehealdon. c. 1175 *Cott. Hom.* 225 He [Noe] dede þa swa him god bebead.

Bibenella, *obs.* form of **PIMPINELLA**, a herb.

[Cf. *med. L. pimpinella*, *G. bibernelle* = the same.] 1631 SPEED *Frosh. Parts World* 43 Silke. dyed with certaine knots of Bibenella.

† **Bi'berage**. *Obs. rare.* Also -idge. [ad. *med. L. biberagium*, *f. bibere* to drink; see -AGE.] A drink given by way of fee. Cf. **BEVERAGE**.

1607 *England's Jestis*, Collector general of foys and biberage [v. r. biberidge].

† **Bibergh**, *v. Obs.* [*OE. bebeorgan* to defend,

f. BE + *beorgan*, BERGH v.] *trans.* To protect oneself from, ward off.

a 1000 *Beowulf* 3497 Him beorgan ne con wom-wundor-beodum weorgan gastes. c 1205 LAV. 1462 Corineus bleinte and bene scute bi-berh [c 1250 him seolf werede].

† **Biberon**. *Obs.* rare-1. [a. F. *biberon*, f. L. *bib-ere* to drink.] A tippler.

1637 BASTWICK *Litany* l. 19 Corporations of biberons and tipplers.

† **Biberot**. *Obs.* (See quot.)

1706 PHILLIPS, *Biberot*, minc'd Meats made of the Breasts of Partridges and fat Pullets. 1731-90 in BAILEY.

† **Bibes**. *Obs.* -o [ad. L. *bibes* the 'drink-land' (Plautus).] 'A too earnest desire after drink.' Bailey 1731, Vol. II.

Bibition (bi'bī-tion). [ad. late L. *bibition-em*, f. *bibere* to drink: see -TION.] Drinking.

1825 G. S. FABER *Diff. Romanism* (1853) lv, The gross carnal sense of... an actual bibition.

Bibitory (bi'bī-teri), a. rare. [ad. mod. L. *bibitōrius*, f. *bibit*-ppl. stem of *bibere* to drink; see -ORY.] Of or pertaining to drinking; *spec.* in *Bibitory muscle*, synonym for 'rectus internus oculi.'

1696 PHILLIPS, *Bibitory Muscle*, the Muscle that draws down the Eye towards the Cup when we drink. 1834 *Fraser's Mag.* IX. 586 This is not a question amatory—it is a consideration bibitory (*sic*).

Bible (bi'bī-l). Forms: 3-4 *bībul*, 4 *bībel*, 4-6 *bībil*, 5 *bybille*, *bybylle*, 5-6 *byble*, 6 *bybill*, *bybul*, 4- *bible*. [a. F. *bible*, 13th c. (= Pr. *bibla*, Sp. and Pg. *biblia*, It. *bibbia*; whence also Ger. *bibel*, Du. *bijbel*, all fem.): late L. *biblia* fem. sing., for earlier *biblia* neut. pl., the Scriptures, a. Gr. τὰ βιβλία, lit. 'the books,' in later Christian writers *spec.* 'the canonical books, the Scriptures.'

The Gr. βιβλία was pl. of βιβλίον, dim. of βίβλος (i. the inner bark of the papyrus, 'paper'; 2. a paper, scroll, roll, or book), which had ceased to have a diminutive sense, and was the ordinary word for 'book,' whether as a distinct treatise, or as a subdivision of a treatise, before its application to the Jewish and Christian Scriptures. In reference to the former, see τὰ βιβλία τὰ ἁγία 'the holy books,' in 1 *Macc.* xii. 9; in Clemens Alex. probably, and Origen (*in Joannem* v. iv., ed. Lomm. I. 168) c 223, certainly, τὰ βιβλία include the N. Test. books. In Latin, the first appearance of *biblia* is not ascertained. Jerome uses *bibliotheca* for the Scriptures, and this name continued in literary use for several centuries. Of *biblia*, Becker, *Catal. Biblioth. Antiq.* 42, has a 9th c. example (see also those under sense 1 below); but the evidence of the Romanic langs. shows that *biblia* must have been the popular name, and have been treated as a fem. sing., much earlier than this. The common change of a Lat. neuter pl. into a fem. sing. in -a (as in *arma*, *bat-talia*, *folia*, *gaudia*, *gesta*, *opera*, etc.) was in the case of *biblia* facilitated by the habit of regarding the Scriptures as one work. In OE. *biblīpēce* alone occurs; in Anglo-Latin *biblia* and *bibliotheca* interchange in the 11th c. catalogue of the library of Lindisfarne; in the 13th c. catalogue of the Durham books only *biblia* occurs.]

I. 1. The Scriptures of the Old and New Testament. (Sometimes in early use, and still dial., used for the Old Testament; e.g. 'neither in the Bible nor the Testament.')

[1005 *Catal. Lindisfarne* (Becker *Catal. Biblioth. Antiq.* 172) Unum bibliam in duobus voluminibus. Bibliotheca, id est vetus et novum testamentum in duobus libris. 1266 *Catal. Eccles. Dunelm* (ibid. 256) Unam bibliam in IV magnis voluminibus. aliam bibliam in duobus voluminibus.] a 1300 *Cursor M.* 1900 As þe bibul [v. r. bibil, bibel, bible] sais. 1330 R. BRUNNE *Chron.* 290 þe bible may not lie. c 1430 *LYDG. Min. Poems* 179 Like as the bybille rehersith. 1528 *MORE Heresies* l. 1 Wks. 154/1 He lerned the articles of his beleue in the byble. 1530 RASTELL *Bk. Purgat.* l. i, Neyther of the bokys of the olde byble nor of the newe testament. 1587 *GOLDING De Mornay* xxiv. 357 Certaine bookes which we call the Bible or Olde Testament. 1798 *SOUTHEY Eng. Eclog.* v. Is that the charity your Bible teaches? 1850 *PRESOTT Mexico* l. 363 [They] carried with them the sword in one hand and the Bible in the other.

b. A copy of the Scriptures.

1468 *SIR J. PASTON Lett.* 392 II. 329 As for the Byble that the master hath, I wend the uttermost pryse had not passyd v. mark. 1539 *COVERDALE Let. Cromwell in Bible* (Bagster) Pref. 18 License and privilege for the sale of his Bibles and New Testaments. 1704 *NELSON Fest. & Fasts* xviii. (1739) 227 To force from Christians their Bibles. 1852 H. COTTON *Edit. Bible* Pref. 8 Mutilated church Bibles.

c. A particular edition, or a copy of it.

1538 *COVERDALE Let. Cromwell in Bible* (Bagster) Pref. 16, I may know your pleasure concerning the annotations of this Bible. 1644 *EVELYN Mem.* (1857) I. 120 They are described in some of St. Hierom's bibles. 1835 *Penny Cycl.* IV. 374/2 This [Geneva] edition is often called the 'Breeches Bible' on account of a rendering given in Gen. iii. 7. 1842 *MACAULAY Fred. Gl., Ess.* (1854) 659/2 To Frederic William, this huge Irishman was what a brass Otho, or a Vinegar Bible, is to a collector of a different kind.

2. Hence *fig.* A text-book, an authority (of religion, politics, etc.); a sacred book.

1804 *SOUTHEY in Robert's Mem. W. Taylor* l. 517 The Annual. bids fair to become my political bible. 1856 *EMERSON Eng. Traits* Wks. 1874 II. The poets who have contributed to the Bible of existing England sentences of guidance. 1883 M. WILLIAMS *Relig. Thought* Ind. ii. 21 This phase of the Brahmanical system has for its special bible the sacred treatises called *Brahmanas*.

† 3. *transf.* A large book, a tome, a long treatise.

1377 *LANGL. P. Pl. B.* xv. 87 Of þis matere I myzte make a longe bible. 1384 *CHAUCER H. Fame* 1334 Men myght make of hem a bible xx^{iv}. foote thykke. 1542 *UDALL Erasmus*.

Apophth. 205 a, When he had read a long bible written and sent to hym from Antipater. 1629 Z. BOVO *Last Battell* 656 (JAM.), I would gladly know what a blacke bible is that which is called, the Book of the wicked.

II. A collection of books; a library. [One of the senses of Gr. βιβλία; not cited by Du Cange in med. L.; but cf. the converse use of *bibliotheca* in sense of *biblia*.]

1382 *WYCLIF 2 Macc.* ii. 13 He makynge a litil bible [Vulgate *bibliotheca*] gadrede of cuntrees bokis. c 1425 in W. Wülfker *Voc.* 648 *Bibliotheca*, bybulle. 1483 *Cath. Angl.* 31 A Bybille, biblia, bibliotheca.

III. *Comb.*, chiefly attrib., as *Bible-composition*, *-distributor*, *-lore*, *-matter*, *-reader*, *-seller*, *-student*, *-tone*, *-version*; and *Bible-bearing*, *-reading*, *-adjs.* Also *Bible-class*, a class for the study of the Bible; *Bible-oath*, a solemn oath taken upon the Bible; *Bible-press*, *bible*, *Naut.* a hand rolling-board for cartridges, rocket-cases, etc.; *Bible-reader*, a reader of the Bible; also, like *Bible-woman*, one employed to read the Bible from house to house.

1624 *BP. MOUNTAGU App. Caesarem* in Forster *Sir J. Eliot* I. 256 Saint-seeming, 'bible-bearing, and hypocritical. 1820 *SOUTHEY Wesley* I. 47 They were called, in derision, the Sacramentarians, 'Bible-bigots, Bible-mothes. 1698 *CONGREVE Way World* v. ii. (D.) So long as it was not a 'Bible-oath, we may break it with a safe conscience. 1859 *THACKERAY Virginians* (1876) 539 He would take his 'Bible oath of that. 1874 M. ARNOLD in *Contemp. Rev.* Oct. 806 These two things achieved by us... for the 'Bible-reader's benefit. 1849 *STOVEL Introd. Canne's Necess.* 53 The demands of its 'Bible-reading members. 1863 M. L. WHATELY *Ragged Life Egypt* xi. 99 This 'Bible-reading continued for several months. 1707 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 4342/4 Robert Whitledge, 'Bible-seller, at the Bible in Creed-lane. 1853 *LYNCH Self-Improvement* (1859) 43 No 'Bible-student can mistake Christianity.

Bible-Christian.

1. A Christian according to Scriptural standard. 1766 *WESLEY Trul.* 31 Oct., A real Bible Christian. 1788 — *Wks.* (1872) VII. 203 The Methodists... were one and all determined to be Bible-Christians.

2. The name of a Protestant sect founded in 1815 by William O. Bryan, a Wesleyan preacher in Cornwall; chiefly in the south-west of England.

a 1860 *WHATELY Com.-Pl. Bk.* (1864) 267 Still more objectionable is the title of Bible-Christians assumed by a sect. 1866 *VENABLES Isle Wight* 389 The 'Bible Christians', or 'Bryanites', were peculiarly active in gathering congregations in the outlying hamlets.

Bible-clerk. a. A student of the Bible.

b. *spec.* The title of a class of students in certain colleges at Oxford, having the duty of reading the lessons in chapel, and of saying grace in Hall.

1606 *BERNARD Isle of Man* (ed. 10) 12 Thus Hue and Crie is written by the Bible-clerk. 1650 J. COTTON *Sing. Psalms* 21 In some Cathedral Churches, the Bible-Clerks doe sing their Chapters out of the old and New Testament. a 1672 *WOOD Life* (1848) 112 The bible-clerks of Merton Coll.

Bi-bleed, **bloody**, **-blot**: see BE-BLEED, etc.

Bibler (bi'bī-ler). [f. BIBLE + -ER.] † a. A student or reader of the Bible. † b. A Bible-clerk.

c. *Sc.* One of the older scholars in a Scotch country school, so called because the Bible was their class-book.

1538 *COVERDALE N. T. Ded.*, New-fangled fellows, English biblers, coblers of divinity. 1569 in *Etoniana* (1865) 220 The Bibler's office seems to have been to read a portion of Scripture in the hall at dinner. In the accounts for 1569 there is a charge 'for making ii halvespans in the hawle for the Bybblers to stand upon, vs.' 1695 tr. *Gonsalvo's Sp. Inquis.* 170 Many would scornfully... term him a good Bibler. 1883 *NASMYTH Autobiog.* ii. 20 The 'Bibler's Seat' is marked (i. e. a seat on the Castle rock to which the bigger boys used to climb).

Bibless (bi'bī-less), a. Without a bib.

1805 *DICKENS Mt. Fr.* iii. iv. 27 Bibless and apronless.

† **Biblet**. *Obs.* rare-1. [f. BIBLE + -ET, ? dim.]

† a. book, or library.

1388 *WYCLIF Exra* v. 17 Now therfor if it semeth good to the king, rikene he in the biblet [v. r. biblet, that is, the book of cronicling, biblet of croniclis; 1382a *librarie*; Lat. *bibliotheca*] of the king.

Biblic (bi'bī-lik), a. † *Obs.* [ad. med. L. *biblic-us*, f. *biblia* or Gr. βιβλος.] = next.

1684 N. S. *Crit. Eng. Edit. Bible* App. 294 A late Writer... in his Bible Inquisitions. 1725 tr. *Dupin's Eccl. Hist.* I. v. 180 Biblic Exercises. c 1821 *FUSELI Lect. Art* iv. (1848) 443 The Biblic expression... 'the Ancient of Days.'

Biblical (bi'bī-likāl), a. [f. as prec. + -AL.] Of, relating to, or contained in, the Bible.

1790 *PORSON Lett. Travis* 305 (T.) Augustine and Jerome corresponded upon biblical subjects. 1849 *MACAULAY Hist. Eng.* I. 331 Deeply versed in biblical criticism.

Biblicality. *nonce-ud.* [f. prec. + -ITY.] Biblical quality; *concr.* a biblical matter or fact.

1851 *CARLYLE Sterling* l. xv. 125 He would study theology, biblically.

Biblically, *adv.* [f. as prec. + -LY.] In biblical style, according to the Bible.

1838 G. S. FABER *Inquiry* 475 Conrad... might... be ignorant of the biblically-recorded circumstance.

Biblicism (bi'bī-lisiz'm). [f. BIBLIO + -ISM.]

Adherence to the letter of the Bible.

1851 *CARLYLE Sterling* III. vi, As rampant as Biblicism

was in the Seventeenth Century. 1874 tr. *Oosterzee's Chr. Dogmatics* 223 Biblicism, or idolatry of the letter.

Biblicist (bi'bī-lisist). [f. BIBLIO + -IST.] A professed adherent of the letter of the Bible.

1837 G. S. FABER *Justification* 276 The speculations of the Schoolmen were strongly opposed by the Biblicists of the Old Theology. 1862 *West. Rev.* XLI. 78 The extravagant claims of Biblicists with more zeal than discretion.

Biblicize (bi'bī-lisiz), v. [f. as prec. + -IZE.]

trans. To subject to the Bible. Hence Bi'bli-cized ppl. a.

1865 *Pall Mall G.* 23 Sept. 10/1 The more recent creed of the biblicized Chinese.

Biblico (bi'bī-liko), *comb.* form of BIBLIC, -AL, as in *biblico-literary* a., relating to the literature of the Bible; *biblico-poetic* a., of or relating to scriptural poetry; *biblico-psychological*, etc.

1800 *Month. Mag.* X. 433 Under his biblico-poetic banner. 1863 *TREGELLES in N. & Q. Ser.* III. III. 342 His biblico-literary preparations. 1869 R. WALLIS *Delitasc' Bibl. Psychol.* 15 A biblico-psychological investigation.

Biblio (bi'bī-lio), *repr.* Gr. βιβλιο- stem and *comb.* form of βιβλίον book. In compounds formed in Greek itself, as *bibliography*, βιβλιογραφία; and in many of mod. formation, as *bibliogony*, *biblioklept*, *bibliophagist*, etc., some of which are merely pedantic or ponderously humorous.

Biblioclasm (bi'bī-lio-kla:z'm). [f. BIBLIO- + Gr. -κλασμος breaking.] Destruction of books, or of the Bible. **Biblioclast** (-kla:st) [Gr. -κλάστης breaker], a destroyer of books, or of the Bible. (Little more than nonce-words.)

1864 T. GRIFFITH *Plea Scripture* 8 The Biblioclasm of the 'higher criticism'. 1884 *Athenaeum* 7 June 724 Made bonfires of the Maya and Aztec manuscripts... May these bishops expiate their crimes in the purgatory of biblioclasts!

Bibliognost (bi'bī-lio-gnōst, -pōst). [a. F. *bibliognoſte*, f. BIBLIO- + Gr. γνῶστης one who knows.]

One who knows books and bibliography. Hence *Bibliognostic* a.

a 1824 D'ISRAELI *Cur. Lit.* (1839) III. 343 A *bibliognoste*... is one knowing in title-pages and colophons... and all the minutiae of a book. 1863 *Sat. Rev.* 505 A priggish bibliognostic air.

Bibliogony (bi'bī-lio-gōni). [f. BIBLIO + Gr. -γονία generation.] The production of books.

1843 *SOUTHEY Doctor Interch.* xiii. (D.) The various schemes of bibliogony... devised for explaining its phenomena.

Bibliograph (bi'bī-lio-graf). [prob. a. F. *bibliographe*, ad. Gr. βιβλιογράφος book-writer.] = BIBLIOGRAPHER.

1815 T. JEFFERSON *Writ.* (1830) IV. 263 Mr. Ticknor is... the best bibliograph I have met with. 1872 J. HATTON *Vall. Poppies* l. ix. 118 You find the old bibliograph in some corner of the room, amidst a heap of books.

Bibliographer (bi'bī-lio-grāf-er). [f. as prec. + -ER.]

† 1. A writer of books, a copyist. *Obs.*

1656 *BLOUNT, Bibliographer*, a writer of books, a Scrivener. 1701 *FENNING Eng. Dict.*, *Bibliographer*, one who writes or copies books.

2. One who writes about books, describing their authorship, printing, publication, etc.

1814 *DIBDIN Bibl. Spencer*. I. Pref. 6 One of the most celebrated of modern Bibliographers. 1866 *BUCKLE Civilis.* II. viii. 480 Antonio the most learned bibliographer Spain ever possessed.

Bibliographic (bi'bī-lio-grāf-ik), a. [f. Gr. βιβλιογράφος (see above) + -ic: cf. F. *bibliographique*, perh. the immediate source.] Of or pertaining to bibliography.

1847 in CRAIG.

Bibliographical, a. [f. as prec. + -AL.]

Of, relating to, or dealing with bibliography.

1802 *DIBDIN Introd. Class. Advt.*, The English Nation... is without a Bibliographical and Typographical Dictionary. 1868 *PATTISON Academ. Org.* § 4. 112 An assistant qualified by professional bibliographical knowledge.

Bibliographically, *adv.* [f. prec. + -LY.]

With respect to bibliography.

1824 *DIBDIN Libr. Comp.* 40 There is little, bibliographically speaking, which can be advanced on the subject.

Bibliographize (bi'bī-lio-grāf-iz), v. [f. as prec. + -IZE.] *trans.* To write a bibliography of.

1824 *DIBDIN Libr. Comp.* 770 To bibliographize the article Voltaire. 1881 *Daily News* 15 Feb., Catalogues are catalogued and bibliographies are bibliographised.

Bibliography (bi'bī-lio-grāf-ē). [a. Gr. βιβλιογραφία book-writing: cf. F. *bibliographie*.]

† 1. The writing of books. *Obs.*

1678 in PHILLIPS (App.)

2. The systematic description and history of books, their authorship, printing, publication, editions, etc.

1814 *DIBDIN Bibl. Spencer*. I. Pref. 5 The Study of Bibliography in this country is perhaps in its infancy. 1824 *ALLIBONE Dict. Eng. Lit.* Pref. 5 Some other manuals of a similar character are very defective in bibliography. 1870 *EMERSON Soc. & Solit.* viii. 168 The annals of bibliography afford many examples of the delirious extent to which book-fancying can go.

3. A book containing such details.

1838 *HALLAM Hist. Lit.* I. i. iii. 184 note, No such book appears in any of the bibliographies.

4. A list of the books of a particular author,

printer, or country, or of those dealing with any particular theme; the literature of a subject.

1869 W. ROWLANDS (*title*) Cambrian Bibliography. 1879 R. H. SHEPHERD (*title*) The Bibliography of Ruskin. 1882a *Nature* XXVI. 26 The literature or bibliography of the species of the Orthocera.

Biblioklept (bi-bli-ōk-lept). [f. BIBLIO- + Gr. κλέπτω thief.] A book-thief. **Bibliokleptomania**, a book-thief regarded as insane.

1881 *Athenæum* 25 June 843/3 Besides the direct biblioklept there is the indirect thief, who borrows and never returns the book. 1881 A. LANG *Library* 53 Catherine de Medici was a biblioklept. *Ibid.* 46 A great Parisian bookseller who... was a bibliokleptomania.

Bibliolatry (bi-bli-ō-lā-tri). [f. BIBLIO- + Gr. λατρεία worship.] a. Extravagant admiration of a book. b. Excessive reverence for the mere letter of the Bible. **Bibliolater** [cf. idolater], one who entertains such excessive admiration or reverence. **Bibliolatrie** = prec. **Bibliolatræus** a., given to, or characterized by, bibliolatry.

1763 BYRON *Byron's Doctr. Grace*, If to adore an image be idolatry, To deify a book is bibliolatry. 1866 C. ROBINSON *Diary* (1866) II. 330 Coleridge had convinced him that he was a bibliolater. 1847 DE QUINCEY *Protest. Wks.* VIII. 110 They... charge upon us Bibliolatry, or a superstitious allegiance—an idolatrous homage—to the words, to the syllables, and to the very punctuation of the Bible. *Ibid.* 116 It leaves the dispute with the bibliolaters wholly untouched. *Ibid.* 135 Bibliolatræous madness. 1865 ELLICOTT *Destiny Creat.* Pref. 6 Interpretations of scripture... narrow and bibliolatræous.

Bibliology (bi-bli-ō-lō-jī). [f. BIBLIO- + -LOGY, Gr. λογία discourse.] a. Scientific description of books, book-lore; bibliography. b. 'Biblical literature, doctrine, or theology' (Worcester 1859). **Bibliological** (bi-bli-ō-lō-jī-kāl), a. [f. prec. + -ICAL], of or pertaining to bibliology. **Bibliologist** [see -IST], a professed student of bibliology.

1807 SOUTHEY *Life* (1850) III. 108 There is a sort of title-page and colophon knowledge—in one word, bibliology. — *Lett.* (1856) II. 34 'Prince Arthur'... in which I design to give the whole bibliography of the Round Table. 1843 — *Doctor Interch.* xviii. (D.) Careful investigation by the most eminent bibliologists.

Bibliomancy (bi-bli-ō-mān-si). [f. BIBLIO- + Gr. μαντεία divination; cf. F. *biomancie*.]

Divination by books, or by verses of the Bible. 1753 CHAMBERS *Cycl. Supp.*, *Bibliomancy*... amounts to much the same with what is otherwise called *sortes biblicæ*... F. J. Davidus, a Jesuit, has published a bibliomancy. 1864 N. & Q. Ser. III. V. 195/2 Bibliomancy or Divination by Books, was known to the ancients under the appellation of *Sortes Homerice* and *Sortes Virgilianæ*. The practice was to take up the works of Homer and Virgil, and to consider the first verse that presented itself as a prognostication of future events.

Bibliomane (bi-bli-ō-mān), a. [f. *bibliomane*, f. BIBLIO- + Gr. μανής mad.] = BIBLIOMANIAC sb. a 1824 D'ISRAELI *Cur. Lit.* (1866) 503/1 A bibliomane is an indiscriminate accumulator. 1837 DE QUINCEY *Wks.* XIII. 235 The regular iterator or blackletter bibliomane.

Bibliomania (bi-bli-ō-mā-ni-ā). [f. BIBLIO- + Gr. μανία madness, after F. *bibliomanie*.] A rage for collecting and possessing books.

1750 CHESTERF. *Lett.* 220 II. 348 Beware of the Bibliomania. 1809 DIBDIN (*title*) Bibliomania, or Book-madness; containing some account of the history, symptoms, and cure of this fatal disease. 1835 T. HOOK *G. Gurney* (1850) II. i. 153 The bibliomania which appeared to engross my friend.

Bibliomaniac (bi-bli-ō-mā-ni-āk), sb. and a. [f. prec. + -AC.] a. sb. One affected with bibliomania. b. adj. Given to bibliomania; mad after books; also = next.

1816 SCOTT *Antiq.* iv. The most determined, as well as earliest bibliomaniac upon record... Don Quixote de la Mancha. 1865 RUSKIN *Sesame* 75 If a man spends lavishly on his library, you call him mad—a bibliomaniac. 1834 *Fraser's Mag.* IX. 146 Biblio-maniac and genealogical inquiry. 1883 *Athenæum* 17 Nov. 629/3 The bibliomaniac Ptolemies.

Bibliomaniacal (-mā-ni-ākāl), a. [f. prec. + -AL.]

1. Of, relating to, or characterizing, a bibliomaniac. 1816 SCOTT *Antiq.* iii. note, This bibliomaniacal anecdote is literally true. 1861 *National Rev.* Oct. 275 Societies (Roxburghe, Camden &c.). tainted with bibliomaniacal exclusiveness.

2. = BIBLIOMANIAC a. 1822 SCOTT *Nigel* xxiv. The bibliomaniacal reader. 1856 J. STRANG *Glasgow & Clubs* 249 A few bibliomaniacal acquaintances.

Bibliomaniacism, a. and sb. [f. BIBLIOMANIAC + -ISM.] = BIBLIOMANIAC.

Hence **Bibliomaniacism**, bibliomania.

1836 HOR. SMITH *Tin Trump*, 67 A hint which has not been thrown away upon our Bibliomaniacs.

Bibliomanism (bi-bli-ō-mā-niz'm). [f. as BIBLIOMANE + -ISM.] = BIBLIOMANIA. So **Bibliomanist**, a bibliomaniac.

1820 *Blackw. Mag.* VII. 693 During the highest rage of Bibliomanism. 1823 LAMB *Lett.* xiv. 132, I am not bibliomaniac enough to like black-letter. a 1828 *Bewick in Century Mag.* XXIV. 663 The whimsies of the bibliomaniacs.

Bibliopegy (bi-bli-ō-pē-dzī). [f. BIBLIO- + Gr. πηγή, f. πηγ-νύμι to fix.] Bookbinding as a fine art. **Bibliopegic** (bi-bli-ō-pē-dzīk), a., of or per-

taining to bookbinding. **Bibliopegist** (bi-bli-ō-pē-dzist), a bookbinder. **Bibliopegistia** a., of, relating to, or besetting a bookbinder. **Bibliopegistical** a., = prec.

1823 *Pall Mall G.* 10 Sept. 15 The Exhibition of what is known as bibliopegy. 1822a *Bibliographer* II. 15 The handsomest of covers by the first of bibliopegic artists. 1824 DIBDIN *Libr. Comp.* 521 The choicest morocco coverings of Charles Lewis, the renowned bibliopegist. *Ibid.* 605 The workshop of that bibliopegistical Coryphæus. 1822a *Times* 18 July 4/4 A fine specimen of bibliopegic skill.

Bibliophagist (bi-bli-ō-fā-dzist). [f. BIBLIO- + Gr. φάγος devouring + -IST.] A devourer of books. So **Bibliophagist** a.

1881 *Sund. at Home* 27 Aug. 552 That eminent bibliophagist, and printer of scarce tracts. 1884 *Ibid.* May 329 Men of enormous bibliophagic appetite.

Bibliophile (bi-bli-ō-fīl). [a. F. *bibliophile*, f. BIBLIO- + Gr. φίλος friend.] A lover of books; a book-fancier; also as adj. **Bibliophilic** a., of or pertaining to a bibliophile. **Bibliophilism** (bi-bli-ō-fīliz'm), the principles and practice of a bibliophile. **Bibliophilist**, a bibliophile. **Bibliophilistia** a., of or besetting a bibliophilist. **Bibliophilous** (bi-bli-ō-fīl-s), a., addicted to bibliophilia. **Bibliophilic** [F. *bibliophilie*], love of books, taste for books.

1824 DIBDIN *Libr. Comp.* 780 The work... has been reprinted by the Society of 'Bibliophiles at Paris. 1833 *Pall Mall G.* 12 Oct. 5/1 A 'bibliophil', an autograph and print collector. 1883 *American* VI. 25 A 'bibliophilic' rarity and treasure. 1824 DIBDIN *Libr. Comp.* 4 Manias which sometimes bring disgrace upon the good old cause of 'bibliophilism. 1833 *Daily News* 1 Mar. 5/1 This quaint rule of 'bibliophilic' morality, 'no harm in stealing a book if he does not mean to sell it, but to keep it.' 1822a STEVENSON *Men & Bks.* 277 Odd commissions for the 'bibliophilous' Count. 1822a *Athenæum* 2 June 702/2 The old reputation of France as the true home of elegant 'bibliophilie'.

Bibliophobia (bi-bli-ō-fō-bi-ā). [f. BIBLIO- + Gr. φόβος dread.] Dread of, or aversion to, books.

1832 DIBDIN (*title*), Bibliophobia, remarks on the present languid and depressed state of Literature.

Bibliopoeist (-pō-ī-si). [f. BIBLIO- + Gr. ποιησία making.] The making of books.

1832 CARLYLE in *Froude's Life* (1882) 310 Bibliopoeist, bibliopoeist in all their branches are sick, sick, hastening to death.

Bibliopole (bi-bli-ō-pō-lē). [ad. L. *bibliopola*, Gr. βιβλιοπώλης, f. βιβλίον book + πώλης seller, dealer.] A dealer in books, a bookseller.

Bibliopolar (-pō-lār), **Bibliopole** (-pō-līk), **Bibliopole** (-pō-līk), a., of or belonging to booksellers; hence **Bibliopoleally** adv. **Bibliopolism** (bi-bli-ō-pō-liz'm), the principles or trade of bookselling.

Bibliopolist, a bookseller (16th c.). **Bibliopolistia** a., of, pertaining to, or besetting a bookseller. **Bibliopole** (bi-bli-ō-pō-lē), **Bibliopole** (bi-bli-ō-pō-lē), bookselling.

1775 JOHNSON in *Boswell* (1831) III. 220 He... kept a shop in the face of mankind, purchased copyright, and was a 'bibliopole, Sir, in every sense. 1826 D'ISRAELI *Viv. Grey* II. xi. 55 The ancient and amusing ballad purchased... of some itinerant 'bibliopole. 1822a BYRON in *Moore's Life* (1866) 485 The 'bibliopole' world shrink from his Commentary. 1823 *Blackw. Mag.* XVII. 477 It shows some 'bibliopole' liberality. 1825 MASSON *Chatterton* II. iii. (1874) 187 The 'bibliopole' powers of Paternoster Row. 1823 HONE *Ant. Myst.* Pref. 10 To a 'bibliopole' friend I am indebted for the notice of the Castle of Good Preservation. 1824 *Fraser's Mag.* X. 363 The 'bibliopole'ly baptised Contarina Fleming or the Wondrous Tale of Alroy. 1792 S. WHYTE in *Hone Table Bk.* I. 128 Initiation into the mysteries of 'bibliopolism and the state of authorcraft. 1813 SHELLEY in *Contemp. Rev.* (1884) Sept. 388 With all the pomp of empirical 'bibliopolism. 1841 *Guydon's Quest. Cyrrug.* ad. fin., Henry Dalbe stacyoner and 'bybiopoleyst in Poules church yard. 1822a HAWTHORNE *Blithed. Rom.* xvii. (1879) 171 A novel purchased of a railroad 'bibliopolist. 1824 DIBDIN *Libr. Comp.* 340 A constant ingress and egress of 'bibliopolistic Mercurii. 1831 *Fraser's Mag.* IV. 4 Similar complaints... from the highest quarters of 'bibliopoly. 1881 RUSSELL *Hesperothén* I. 63 'Bibliopoly and bibliomania are rather rampant in America.

Bibliotaph (bi-bli-ō-tāf). [a. F. *bibliotaphe*, f. BIBLIO- + Gr. τάφος tomb.] One who buries books by keeping them under lock and key. So **Bibliotaphia** a., **Bibliotaphist** (Crabbe).

a 1824 D'ISRAELI *Cur. Lit.* (1866) 503/1 A bibliotaphe buries his books, by keeping them under lock. 1880 *St. James's Gas.* 5 Nov. 14 The last species of 'enemy' treated of by Mr. Blades, is the 'bibliotaph' or book-burier.

Bibliothec (bi-bli-ō-tēk), a. and sb. [f. next.] Belonging to a library or librarian; sb. a librarian.

[a 1641 BR. MOUNTAGU *Acts & Mon.* (1642) 152 Diodorus Siculus, that general Bibliothec.] 1816 COLMAN *Lumin. Hist.* ix. in *Br. Grins* (1872) 309 Cadell... exclaimed in bibliotaphic, 'Who sells great authors must himself be great.'

1829 CUNNINGHAM *Hist. Ch. Scott.* II. 317 Never had a Burgess of St. Andrews been capable of winning his bread by learning save one, and that was their present bibliothec.

Bibliothec, library: see BIBLIOTHECA.

Bibliotheca (bi-bli-ō-tē-kā). [L. *bibliothēca* library, collection of books, ad. Gr. βιβλιοθήκη book-case, library, f. βιβλίον book + θήκη repository; used also by Jerome, and after him, commonly in med. L., for the BIBLE, being evidently in earlier literary use than *biblia*: hence OE. *bib-*

liote was the original name of the Bible in Eng.] a. (in OE.) The Scriptures, the Bible. b. mod. A collection of books or treatises, a library. c. A bibliographer's catalogue.

c 1000 *ÆLFRIC Test.* (Gr.) 16 Hieronimus ure bibliotecan gebrohte to Ledene of Greciscum bocum and of Ebreiscum. *Ibid.* 14 Se saltene ys an boc on ðære bibliotecan. a 1824 D'ISRAELI *Cur. Lit.* (1839) III. 344 Literary bibliothèques (or bibliothecas) will always present to us... an immense harvest of errors. 1879 MACLEAR *Celts* viii. 133 The Old and New Testaments, in the form of a Bibliotheca, or Bible.

Bibliothecal (bi-bli-ō-tē-kāl), a. [ad. L. *bibliothēcalis*.] Belonging to a library.

1811 W. TAYLOR in *Month. Rev.* LXIV. 131 The Bibliothecal shelves of pedants.

Bibliothecar (*Obs.* Sc. Also mod., in Fr. form, *bibliothécaire*. [See next.] A librarian.

1821 N. BURNES *Dispos.* 97a (JAM.) Anastasius, bibliothecar of the Kirk of Rome. 1839 D'ISRAELI *Cur. Lit.* (1866) 502/2 The bibliothécaire is too delightfully busied among his shelves.]

Bibliothecary (bi-bli-ō-tē-kā-ri), sb. and a. [ad. L. *bibliothēcarius*, -um; see BIBLIOTHECA and -ARY.] Cf. F. *bibliothécaire*.]

1. A library. *Obs.* [= L. **bibliothēcārium*.]

1553-57 FOXE *A. & M.* I. 5/1 Taken out of the Popes bibliothecary, a suspected place.

2. A librarian. [= L. *bibliothēcarius*.]

1611 CORYAT *Crudities* 477 Mr. James Gruterus the Princes Bibliothecary. 1700 in *Misc. Cur.* (1708) III. 40. 11 Signior Abbate Bencini, Bibliothecary of the Propaganda.

B. adj. Of or belonging to a library or librarian.

1820 *Blackw. Mag.* VII. 252 These biographical jewels should not lie locked up in a bibliothecary cabinet. Hence **Bibliothecarian** a. and sb. = prec.

1665 tr. *Boswell's Doctr. Cath. Ch. Adv.* 7 M. l'Abbe Gradi... Bibliothecarian of the Vatican. 1701 *Land. Gaz.* No. 3708/4 Ecclesiastical Historians and Bibliothecarians. 1726 M. DAVIES *Ath. Brit.* III. 92 A third well ordered Bibliothecarian Closet of Medals.

Bibliothèque. In 6 biblyotheke, 7 biblyothecke, -theke, -theo, thek. [a. F. *bibliothèque*, ad. L. BIBLIOTHECA; formerly quite naturalized in Eng. (with -pēk, pek), but now again treated as French (bi-bli-ō-tē-k).]

A library; a collection of books or treatises.

1549 BALE *Concl. Leland's Itin.* (T.) He [Alcuinus] much commendeth a biblyotheke or library in Yorke. 1601 HOLLAND *Pliny* II. 523 Asinius Pollio, by dedicating his Bibliothheque, containing all the books that euer were written. a 1631 DONNE *Aristeas* 16 How many thousand volumes he had gotten together in his Bibliothhecke. 1657 COLVIL *Whigs Supplic.* (1751) 67 Tho' with these two ye join in one The biblyothec of Prester John. 1755 JOHNSON in *Boswell* (1816) 265, I intend in the winter to open a Bibliothheque.

fig. 1685 SIR G. MACKENZIE *Relig. Stoic* xi. 105 In the biblyothec of his head.

Biblist [f. BIBLE + -ISM.] Adherence to the Bible as the sole rule of faith.

1879 M. ARNOLD *Equality, Mixed Est.* 77 The mind-deadening influence of a narrow Biblist.

Biblist (bi-blist, bi-blist). [f. BIBLE + -IST.] a. One who makes the Bible the sole rule of faith. b. A biblical student.

1562 A. SCOTT *New Y. Gift Quene*, And ar bot biblistis fairing full their bellie. 1653 in *Phenix* (1708) II. 320 The Biblists... confess that a Man may not pray for the Holy Spirit as he ought. 1826 COL. WISEMAN *Sc. & Relig.* II. x. 207 All the pretended improvements of modern biblists.

Biblodge, biblodke, var. of BEBLOODY v. *Obs.*

Biblus, -os (bi-blēz, -fz). Also byblus. [L. *bibulus*, Gr. βίβλος.] The papyrus or paper-reed; the inner bark of this plant.

1656 COWLEY *Davidis* I. Wks. 1710 I. 316 Some writ in tender Barks... Some in Beasts Skins, and some in Biblos Reed. 1863 LD. LYTTON *Ring Amasis* I. ii. i. v. 261 Some crumbling byblus or papyrus. 1875 SCRIVENER *Lect. G. T. 8* 'Bring with thee the books' (of the *biblus* or *papyrus* plant).

Bibod. *Obs.* [OE. *bebod*, f. *bebodan*, BIBEDE (pa. pple. *beboden*) to command.] Commandment.

c 1000 *Ag. Gosp.* Matt. xxii. 38 Dis ys þæt meæste and þæt fyrmyste bebod. a 1175 *Cott. Hom.* 221 Gif þu þanne þis litte bebod to breost. c 1175 *Lamb. Hom.* 125 Dis is min bibode and min heste, þæt 3e luiaun eou.

Biborate. *Chem.*: see Bi-pref.² III.

Bibosity (bi-bō-si-ti). [f. L. *bibōs-us* fond of drink + -ITY.] Capacity for drinking.

1823 *Blackw. Mag.* XIV. 528 Vast ideas of stupendous bibosity.

Bibu-fenn, bibu-ven, adv. *Obs.* [f. bi-, BE- + *bufen*, OE. *bufan*, later BOVE. If this had survived, it would have become BEBOVE.] = ABOVE.

c 1200 ORMIN 17970 He þatt fra bibufenn comm.

Bibugh, v. *Obs.* [OE. *bebūgan*, f. BE- + *būgan* to bow.] *trans.* To avoid, abandon.

a 1000 *Elene* (Gr.) 609 Ne meachte he þa gehdu bebugan. c 1205 LAY. 8193 Al þat folc he bi-beah. *Ibid.* 10569 Euer ælcne ut-lage þe his lond hadde bi-bogen.

Bibulate, v. [A bombastic or humorous diminutive from L. *bib-ere* to drink, with reference to BIBBLE, BIBULOUS.] *trans.* To bibble or tippie.

So **Bibulant** a. and sb., **Bibulation** sb.

1767 A. CAMPBELL *Lexiph.* (1774) 29 I bibulated [it]. 1828 *Blackw. Mag.* XXIV. 866 We bibulate gin and water with the housekeeper. 1883 *Boston Herald* Correspond., Bibulants will even buy alcohol, dilute it and drink it. 1882 *St. James's*

Gas, 12 Apr. 5 The extraordinary capacity for bibulation displayed by the regular soldier.

Bibulous (bi'búləs), *a.* [f. *L. bibul-us* freely or readily drinking (f. *bibere* to drink) + *-ous*.]

1. Absorbent of moisture.

1675 *EVELYN Terra* (1799) 18 If the Soil be exceeding bibulous, 1790 *COWPER Odys.* 1. 138 With bibulous sponges those Made clean the tables. 1807 *FARADAY Chem. Manip.* ii. 43 Remove the excess by bibulous paper.

2. Addicted to drinking or tipping.

1861 *THORNBURY Turner* 1. 116 The . . . irregular hours of a careless bibulous age, had undermined Girtin's health.

3. Relating to drink.

1825 *Blackw. Mag.* XVII. 322 Unskilled in bibulous lore, if he knows not the value set upon the claret of Ireland. Hence *Bibulously adv.*

1868 *Dr QUINCEY Goldm. Wks.* VI. 226 The arid sands that bibulously absorbed all the perennial gushings of German enthusiasm.

Biburien, variant of *BEBURY v. Obs.*

Bicachen, Bical, see *BECATCH, BECALL*.

Bicalcarate (boikæ'lkāret), *a.* [f. *Bi-pref.* 1 + *CALCARATE*, f. *L. calcar* spur.] Furnished or armed with two spurs.

1876 *HARLEY Mat. Med.* 381 Another . . . bicalcarate at base.

Bicallose, -ous, Bicapsular: see *Bi-pref.* 1.

Bicameral (boikæ'mérāl), *a.* [f. *Bi-pref.* 1 + *L. camera* chamber + *-AL*; *L. had bicamerātus*.] Having two (legislative) chambers. **Bicamerist**, an advocate of two legislative chambers.

a 1832 *BENTHAM* is cited by *WEBSTER*. 1863 *Sat. Rev.* 140 [This] reduced our Houses to two, and . . . created that 'bicameral' system which the rest of the world has been content to imitate. 1872 *FREEMAN Growth Eng. Const.* ii. (1876) 97 The form of government which political writers call *bicameral*. 1884 *GOLDW. SMITH in Contemp. Rev.* Sept. The only valid argument in favour of the retention of the House of Lords is, in fact, the difficulty which the Bi-Cameralists find in devising any [substitute].

Bicarbonate, -onate, -uret, etc.: see *Bi-pref.* 2 III.

Bicarinatē (boikæ'rīnēt), *a. Bot.* [f. *Bi-pref.* 2 + *CARINATE*, f. *L. carina* keel.] Furnished with two keels or axial ridges. See *BICARINATED*.

1872 *OLIVER Elem. Bot.* App. 310 The pale . . . bicarinatē with inflexed margins. 1880 *Jrnl. Linn. Soc.* XV. 226 Shell . . . conical, with bicarinatē contracted whorls.

Bicas, by chance: see *CASE*.

Bicast (e), obs. form of *BECAST*.

Bicaudal (boikō'dāl), *a.* [f. *Bi-pref.* 2 + *CAUDAL*, f. *L. cauda* tail.] Having two tails.

Bicause, obs. form of *BECAUSE*.

+ **Bicched**, *ppl. a. Obs.* Also 5-6 byched, 6 byched, biched. Origin (see below) and precise meaning unknown: in general the sense 'Cursed, execrable, shrewed,' suits the context.

a 1400 *Alexander* (Stev.) 165 [The basiliske] A stragill and a stithe worme stinkande of elde, And es so bitter, and so breme, and bichid in himselfe, That . . . quat he settes on his sijt, he slaes in a stonde. *a* 1400 *Cov. Myst.* 395 Faste, harlotys, go youre gate, And brynge me that bychyd body, I red. 1522 *World & Chylde* (Roxb.) C ij b, That bychede Conscience. 1533 *MORR Apol.* xxii. Wks. 884/2 Helpe me vp agayne with this bichede burdayne & lay it in my necke. — *Debell. Salem v.* Wks. 941/1 Anye of the blessed byched newe broched bretherhead . . . playnelye proued heretikes.

b. **Bicched bones**: opprobriously applied to dice.

1386 *CHAUCER Pard.* T. 328 This fruyt cometh of the bicched bones two, florsweryng, Ire, falsnesse, Homycide [So 2 MSS.; a read bicche, 1 becched, *Wr. bicchid*], *c* 1460 *Towneley Myst.* 241, I was falsly begyld with the thise byched bones, Ther cursyd they be. *Ibid.* The byched bones that ye be, I byd you go bett.

[*Bicched* appears rather early to be certainly referable to *BITCH* in an opprobrious sense, from which moreover the formation is not easily explained (for *shrewed* there was a verb to *shrew*). The conjecture has been offered that it was a contracted form of *ME. biwicced* 'bewitched'; but for this no evidence or analogy has been found. In *bicched bones* applied to dice, some have suggested a corruption of *Du. bikket* 'knuckle-bone, astragalus, cockal, bone-plaything, dice, marbles'; *Ger. bichel* 'ankle, ankle-bone, astragalus, die, dice'; this is possible, but would suppose an Eng. series **bikkel*, **bicchel*, *bicche*, *bicched* bone, of which the most important links are neither represented nor accounted for, and it would only show assimilation of **bikkel* to the opprobrious *bicched*, leaving the latter unexplained. That *bicched bone* could be for a *Du. *bikched* been 'bone picked with holes or pips,' is highly improbable: moreover, this would not connect the expression with *Du. bikket*, since the latter (whether or not connected with *bikkel* a pickaxe, *bikken* to pick, or notch) certainly did not mean 'bone picked with holes,' but was a name of the ankle, and of the astragalus or knuckle-bone used in play, long before it passed over to dice. See *Grimm s.v.*]

Bice (bois), *a. and sb.* Forms: 4-5 bis, 5-6 byce, 6 byse, bysse, bisse, bize, 5-7 biso, 6-bice. [A. F. *bis* brownish-grey, dark-coloured = *Pr. bis*, It. *bigio*; of unknown origin: see *Dicz* and *Littre*. From the combination *azur bis* dark blue, 'blew byce,' *vert bis* dark green, 'green bice,' *bice* was erroneously transferred in Eng. to blue or green pigments, and the shades of blue or green which they yield.]

+ *A. adj.* Brownish grey, dark grey. *Blewe-bis*: dark or dull blue. *Obs.*

1330 *R. BRUNNE Chron.* 230 At Westmynstere he lis tumbled richly, In a marble bis of him is mad story.

c 1450 *Sloane MS.* 73 lf. 201 b, Triste wel þ it is not lapus lazuly, but it is lapis almanic of whiche men maken a blewé bis azure.

B. sb. (also *attrib.*) 1. Short for *blewe bis* 'blue bice': indicating a shade of blue obtained from smalt, duller or inferior to ultramarine or azure, with which however it was often loosely identified.

c 1430 *LYDG. Bochas* iv. xv. (1554) 116 There is a difference of colours . . . Twene gold and gold, atwene bis and asure, All is not gold that shineth bright. 1490 *Will of Bukwell* (Somerset Ho.), Canapie colowrid with goold and bise. 1519 *HORMAN Vulg.* 81 b, Scryueners write with blacke, redde, purple, gren, blewé or byce. 1523 *SKELTON Garl. Laurel* 1158 The margent was illumyned with golden raiiles And byse. 1598 *FLORIO, Turchino*, blue, azure, watchet, or bisse colour. 1753 *CHAMBERS Cycl. Supp.*, *Bice* . . . of all bright blues . . . is the palest in colour.

2. The pigment which yields this colour, prepared from smalt; also a green pigment (*green bice*) made by adding yellow orpiment to smalt.

1548 *HALL Chron.* 605 The Florishyng Bise was comparable to the riche ammel. 1573 *Art Limming* 4 Grinde azure or bize on a painters stone with clene water. 1634 *J. BATE Myst. Nature* 132 Colours to be used . . . blew and greene Bise. 1676 *NEWTON in Rigaud Corr. Sci. Men* (1841) II. 391 Red and blue powders (as Minium and Bice). 1875 *URR Dict. Arts* I. 341 Bice, a light blue colour prepared from smalt. There is a green bice prepared by mixing some yellow orpiment with smalt.

Bicentenary (boise'nt'nārī, -sēnt'nārī), *a. and sb.* [f. *Bi-pref.* 2 + *CENTENARY*, ad. *L. centēnārius* consisting of or relating to a hundred, f. *centēni* a hundred each. As to the form and pronunciation, see *CENTENARY*.]

A. adj. Consisting of or relating to two hundred (in use, confined to years, as if confused with *bicentennial*). *B. sb.* Used for: The bicentennial, or two hundredth anniversary (of an event); also *attrib.*

1862 *Congreg. Year Bk.* 72 The 24th day of August, 1862 the Bicentenary day of the ejection of 2000 ministers. 1872 *Daily News* 18 June 5/5 The bicentenary of Czar Peter's birth. 1884 *Athenæum* 4 Oct. 441/2 The bicentenary festival of the founder of Danish literature.

Bicentennial (boise'nt'nāl), *a. and sb.* [f. *Bi-pref.* 2 + *CENTENNIAL*, f. *L. *centennium* (cf. *biennium*) space of a hundred years.] *A. adj.* Occurring every two hundred years; lasting two hundred years. *B. sb.* = *BICENTENARY* (and etymologically more correct than that word).

1883 *Harper's Mag.* Dec. 160/1 Bicentennial of German Colonisation in the United States.

Bicephalous (boise'fāləs), *a.* [f. *Bi-pref.* 2 + *CEPHALOUS*, f. *Gr. κεφαλή* head.] Two-headed.

1803 *WILLOUGHBY in N. & Q. Ser.* III. III. 17 Two other bicephalous monsters. 1869 *Sat. Rev.* 13 Feb. 215 The bicephalous calf . . . of the showman.

Biceps (boise'ps), *a. and sb.* [a. *L. biceps*, *bicipit-*, f. *bi-* two + *-ceps* = *caput* head.]

A. adj. Having two heads or summits; *spec.* applied to muscles (see *B*).

1634 *READ Body of Man* 77 The 1. muscle of the cubit, cald Biceps. 1717 *BERKELEY in Fraser Life* (1871) 588 In Strabo's time it (Vesuvius) seems to have been neither biceps, nor to have had a hollow. 1863 *READ in All Y. Round* 3 Oct. 123/2 A gentle timidity that contrasted prettily with her biceps muscle.

B. sb. A muscle with two heads or tendinous attachments; *spec.* that on the front of the upper arm, which bends the fore-arm; also the corresponding muscle of the thigh; the former of these is often humorously referred to as the type or standard of physical strength.

1650 *READ Muscles of Body*, The ulna is bended by two [muscles], to wit, biceps and brachizus internus. 1865 *Daily Tel.* 8 Nov. 4/5 The training which gives him back his healthy sleep, his appetite, and his biceps. 1873 *MIVART Elem. Anat.* viii. 293 The biceps is the well known muscle used in flexing the arm.

+ **Bicha'nt**, *v. Obs.* [f. *bi-*, *BE-* 4 + *CHANT*.] *trans.* To enchant, bewitch.

1330 *Arth. & Merl.* 721 And the eldest [soster] to bichaunte Yong mannes loof for to haunte.

+ **Bicharre, bicherre, v. Obs.** Forms: 1 becerr-an, -cierran, -cyrran, 2-3 bioherr-en, 2-4 bicharren, 3 bichearr-en, bicheorr-en. [OE. *becerran*, f. *BE-* 1 + OE. *cyrran*, *cierran* to turn; cf. OHG. *bikērran*, mod.G. *bekchren*.]

1. *trans.* To turn, turn round. (Only in OE.)

a 1000 *Boeth. Metr.* xiii. 156 Wonne hio ealles wyrð utan becerred.

2. To turn from duty or right; to pervert, seduce. *a* 1100 *O. E. Chron.* (Cotton MS.) an. 1011 Ælfmar hi becyrde þe se arceb' Ælfeah ær generede æt his life. *c* 1200 *Trin. Coll. Hom.* 105 Þe þu deuel muȝe man bi-charre, he ne mai no man nederen. *c* 1305 *Old Age in E. E. P.* (1862) 149 Ic wene he be bi-charred þat trusteþ to 3uþe.

3. To entice, wile.

c 1175 *Lamb. Hom.* 53 Puri þe sweate smel of þe chese: he bicherred monie mus to þe stoke.

Bich (e), obs. form of *BITCH* and *PITCH*.

Biched: see *BICCHED*.

Bicherm: see *BE-pref.*

Bichloride (boi'klō'rōid). *Chem.* [see *Bi-pref.* 2 III.] A compound in which two equivalents of chlorine are combined with a metal, etc.

1810 *HENRY Elem. Chem.* (1826) II. 136 Bi-chloride of mercury . . . is a violent poison.

Bichop, obs. form of *BISHOP*.

Bichotomously, erroneously f. *DICHOTOMOUSLY*. 1830 *LINDLEY Nat. Syst. Bot.* 204 Cymes, branched bi- or trichotomously.

Bichromate (boi'krō'māt). *Chem.* [see *Bi-pref.* 2 III.] A salt containing two equivalents of chromic acid, e.g. the *Bichromate of potash*, used in photography and other arts; whence *Bichromated*, *Bichromatised ppl. a.*

1854 *SCOFFERN in Orr's Circ. Sc. Chem.* 447 Heating bichromate of potash to whiteness. 1869 *Echo* 15 Dec. The bichromated gelatine. 1870 *Eng. Mech.* 14 Jan. 428/3 A second bichromatised film is poured upon the first.

Bicipital (boisi'pītāl), *a.* [f. *L. bicipit-* (see *BICEPS*) + *-AL*.]

1. Having two heads; = *BICEPS a.*

1646 *SIR T. BROWNE Pseud. Ep.* 77 The bicipit[al] muscle of either parties arme. 1843 *J. WILKINSON Swedenborg's Anim. Kingd.* I. ii. 59 Sometimes a bicipital muscle.

2. Of or pertaining to the biceps (muscle).

1831 *R. KNOX Clogwell's Anat.* 207 The bicipital tuberosity.

Bicipitous (boisi'pītəs), *a.* [f. as *prec.* + *-OUS*.]

Having two heads or terminal extremities. 1646 *SIR T. BROWNE Pseud. Ep.* iii. v. 141 Bicipitous Serpents with the head at each extreme. *Ibid.* 140 A bicipitous conformation.

Bick, *Sc. form* of *BITCH*, female dog.

1808 in *JAMIESON*. 1826 *J. WILSON Noct. Ambr.* Wks. 1855 l. 217 See how the wee bick is worrying him again now.

Bicker (bikər), *sb.* 1 Also 5 biquere, 6 biquour. [*Sc. form* of *BEAKER*.] 'A bowl or dish for containing liquor, properly one made of wood.' *Jamieson*. Formerly, a drinking cup of any material; in modern Scotch applied also to vessels made of wooden staves for holding porridge, etc.

1458 *Will of Russel* (Somerset Ho.), Meum biquere argenti. *c* 1505 *DUNBAR Test. Kennedy* 47 But and I hecht to tume a Bicker. *a* 1774 *FERGUSON Farmer's Ing. Poems* (1845) 37 The cheering bicker gars them glibly gash. 1814 *Scott Rob Roy* xxiv, 'It will be a heavy deficit—a staff out o' my bicker, I trow.' 1884 *U. P. Mag.* July 337 Coopers found employment in making or mending 'bickers' for brose or porridge.

b. attrib. and comb., as *bickerful*, *bickermaker*.

1813 *W. BEATTIE Tales* 37 (JAM.) A brown bickerfu' to quaff. 1822 *SCOTT Pirate* I. 265 (JAM.) A bickerfu' of meal. 1851 *J. M. WILSON Tales Borders* VIII. 162 He followed the profession of a cooper or bicker-maker.

Bicker (bikər), *sb.* 2 Forms: 3-4 biker, 4-5 bekir, bikre, bykkir, 4-6 byker, 5 bekur, bikir, -kyr, bykere, bykker, bikkar, 6 bikker, bikar, 6- bicker. [*ME. biker*, like the associated verb *bikeren*, of uncertain origin: nor can it be said whether the *sb.* is derived from the verb or *vice versa*. So far as evidence goes, the *sb.* appears earlier, and might, as in *battle*, *quarrel*, *skirmish*, be the source. On the other hand, the verb has the form of a frequentative, as in *sputter*, *toller*, *flutter*, etc., which is in favour of its priority. Mätzner and Skeat would see in it the freq. of the rare and somewhat doubtful *bike* 'to thrust, strike with a pointed weapon,' noted under *BEAK v.* 3, q.v. The obs. Welsh *bicra* is not native.]

1. Skirmishing; a skirmish, encounter, fight; exchange of blows.

1297 *R. GLOUC.* 538 Bituene the castel of Gloucetre & Brumefeld al so Ther was ofte biker gret, & muche harm ido. *c* 1400 *Dest. Troy* xx. 8363 Mony bold in the bekur were on bent leuit! 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 35/2 Bikyr of fytynge [1490 bykere or feightinge]. *pugna*. 1530 *PALSGR.* 198/1 Bicker fytynge, *escarmouche*.

2. *esp.* An encounter with missiles; anciently an attack with arrows; in later *Sc.*, a street or school fight with stones and the like.

c 1470 *HENRY Wallace* iv. 547 Twenty he had yat nobill archars war. On Wallace sett a bykker bauld and keyne. *c* 1505 *DUNBAR Gold. Terge* 145 A wonder lusty bikkir [i.e. r. bikar] me assayit. 1535 *STEWART Cron. Scot.* III. 322 With tha stanis thir stalwart carlis strange ane bikkir maid. 1810 *SIR A. BOSWELL Edinb.* 164 From hand and sling now fly the whizzing stones. The bicker rages. 1861 *J. HANNAV Ess. fr. Q. Rev.* 371 He went to the High School, and joined in the street fights called bickers.

3. Quarrel, contention; angry altercation.

1330 *R. BRUNNE Chron.* 79 Gospatrik þat suffred biker, he reft boþe lond & liþe. *c* 1385 *CHAUCER L. G. W.* 2661 If thou sey nay we two shul have a bekir [i.e. r. byker, biker, bekir, bikre, bykkir]. *c* 1430 *Hymus Virg.* (1867) 46 Þe bolder in bikir y bidde him bataille. 1883 *Academy* 15 Sept. 175/2 The rise and progress of the colony, its bickers with autocratic Governors and Chief Justices.

4. Noise as of contention, rattle of light guns, sound of a rapid stream descending over a stony channel, etc. Cf. *BICKER v.* 4.

1870 *Daily News* 7 Dec. No bicker of mere field artillery. 1872 *BLACKIE Lays Highl.* 47 Leap the white-maned fountains With lusty bicker to the vale below.

b. Sc. A short rapid run.

1765 *BURNS Dr. Hornbook v.*, Leeward whyles, against my will, I took a bicker.

Bicker (bikər), *v.* Forms: 4-5 bi-, byker (e), 4 bi-, bykkir, -yr, 4-6 bekir, -ir, 5 bekire, bikre, bikore, byccer, -ker, bykre, -kir, bykker, -kyr,

byger, 6 becker, bikker, -ar, 5- bicker. [See BICKER sb.]

1. *intr.* To skirmish, exchange blows; to fight. 1330 R. BRUNNE *Chron.* 256 Pan is tyme to bikere with þe kyng of France. 1393 LANGE P. Pl. C. xxiii. 78 Ther toabyde and bykere 33eysn beliaes children. 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 36 Bekeryn or fyghtyn, *bugno, dimico.* 1630 J. TAYLOR (Water P.) *Wks.* 1. 100/1, I have bickered with the French at Brest and Deepe. 1635 N. R. tr. *Camden's Hist. Eliz.* iii. 231 After they had bickered together a little while... and neither of them hurt, they dranke a carowse and so parted friends. 1848 KINGSLEY *Saint's Trag.* ii. xi. 138 Slaughtered bickering for some petty town.

† b. Said esp. of archers and slingers, before battle was joined. *Obs.*

1400 *Destr. Tray* xvii. 7400 Paris... With his bowmen full bold bykryt with the grekes. 1470 HENRY WALLACE iv. 556 Ynglis archaris... Amang ye Scottis bykeryt with all thair mycht. 1505 DUNBAR *Gold. Terge* 194 Thay... bikerit vnabaisitly: The schour of arowis rappit on as rain. 1534 tr. *Pol. Verg. Eng. Hist.* (1846) I. 67 Bee fore hand strokes thier firste bickered with darters and slinges.

C. *fig.* 1593 *Bacchus Bountie in Harl. Misc.* (1809) II. 264 Bickering with the broth of bountifull Bacchus. 1647 W. BROWNE *Poet.* ii. 46 They (passions) have not such ability as to bicker with absence.

† 2. *trans.* To attack with repeated strokes; esp. to assail with missiles. *Obs.*

1355 MINOT *Poems* 51 A bore es boun 3ow to biker. 1375 BARBOUR *Brace* ix. 152 Thair archaris... thai send To bykkir thame. 1400 *Destr. Tray* 10685 Pan he braid out a brand, bickrid hym hard. 1550 *Christis Kirke* Gr. xix, The buschment hail about him brak And bikerit him with bowis.

3. *intr.* To dispute, quarrel, wrangle.

1450 *Chester Pl.* (1847) II. 51 All againste us boote he not to becker. 1614 B. JONSON *Barth. Fair* v. iii, You'd have an ill match on't, if you bicker with him here. 1647 MILTON *Ch. Discip.* ii. Wks. (1851) 46 Though their Merchants bicker in the East Indies. 1753 MISS COLLIER *Art Torment.* 157 To keep on bickering on this irksome subject, till you have put her in a passion. 1859 TENNYSON *Enid* 174 Tho' men may bicker with the things they love.

4. *transf.* Applied to the making of any rapidly repeated noisy action, suggesting the showering of blows, as the brawling of a rapid stream over a stony channel, the pattering of rain, etc.

1748 THOMSON *Cast. Indol.* iii. 26 Glittering streamlets play d. as they bicker d' thro' the sunny glade. 1817 COLLENGER *Sibyl. Leaves* (1862) 218 Against the glass The rain did beat and bicker. 1860 SCOTT *Monast.* ix. At the crook of the glen, Where bickers the burnie. 1855 TENNYSON *Brook* 20 And sparkle out among the fern, To bicker down a valley. 1874 HOLLAND *Mistr. Mause* v. 33 The swallow bickered 'neath the eaves.

b. *Sc.* To make a short quick run; describing the rapid vigorous action of the feet. Cf. *pell, skelp.*

1790 BURNS *Wks.* II. 404 The dreary glen through which the herd-callen maun bicker. 1879 JAMIESON s.v., I met him coming down the gait as fast as he could bicker.

5. *poet.* Applied to the quick movement of flame and light: To flash, gleam, quiver, glisten. Cf. *flicker.*

1667 [See BICKERING p. 3.] 1813 SHELLEY *Q. Mab* ix. 154 The restless wheels... Whose flashing spokes Bicker and burn to gain their destined goal. 1867 KEBLE *Chr. Y. Marit.* Those fires That bicker round in wavy spires. 1859 TENNYSON *Enid* 1298 She saw Dust, and the points of lances bicker in it. 1876 BROWNING *Packiarotto* 150 And bicker like a flame.

Bickerer (bik'kərər). [f. prec. + -ER.]

1611 COTGR., *Escarmoucheur*, a bickerer, skirmisher. 1755 in JOHNSON.

Bickering, *vbl. sb.* [f. as prec. + -ING.]

1. Skirmishing, a skirmish.

1297 R. GLOUC. 540 Ther was ofte bituene hom gret biker-ing. 1494 FABIAN vii. 373 Atwene theym were had many bykerynges and skyrmysses. 1530 PALSGR. 197 Beckeryng, scrimysse. 1622 HEYLIN *Cosmogr.* ii. (1682) 198 The first bickering between the Soldiers of Caesar and Pompey. 1670 MILTON *Hist. Eng.* ii. Wks. (1851) 55 Then was the Warr shivered... into small frays and bickeryngs. 1763 BYRON 3 *Black Crows* 19 Disputes of ev'ry size... from bick'ring, up to battle. 1867 FREEMAN *Norm. Cong.* (1876) I. iv. 229 Smaller wars and bickeryngs still went on.

2. Wordy sparring, wrangling, altercation.

1573 G. HARVEY *Letter-bk.* (1884) 5 Ful oft hath he bene at gud whot bickeryngs with sum others. 1593 SHAKS. 2 *Hen. VI.* i. 144 If I longer stay, We shall begin our ancient bickeryngs. 1742 RICHARDSON *Pamela* IV. 54 The Tears a poor Wife might shed in matrimonial Bickeryngs. 1821 SYD. SMITH *Wks.* (1867) I. 349 The parchment bickeryngs of Doe and Roe. 1882 E. GOSSE *Gray* iv. 81 The... bickering which went on in the combination-room.

Bickering, *ppl. a.* [f. as prec. + -ING.]

1. That bickers; wrangling, contentious.

1808 J. BARLOW *Columb.* x. 60 With bickering strife inflame their furious bands. 1811 SCOTT *Roderick* i. xxxv, From court intrigue, from bickering faction far. 1843 CARLYLE *Past & Pr.* (1858) 80 Such waste-bickering Saxondom.

2. That makes a bickering sound.

1789 D. DAVIDSON *Seasons* 156 (JAM.) The once bick'ring stream... low-growing, runs. 1821 JOANNA BAILLIE *Elder Tree* xvii. 3 Rattle the windows with bickering hail.

3. Coruscating, flashing, quivering.

1667 MILTON P. L. vi. 767 Smoak and bickering flame, and sparkles dire. 1766 tr. *Beckford's Vathek* (1868) 112 Their bickering sabres. 1825 SCOTT *Talism.* (1854) 475 Spread not the flag before a bickering torch. 1876 FARRAR *Marib. Seru.* xxxiv. 343 Who... played with the red fire and the bickering flames.

Bickermēt (bik'kəmənt). [f. as prec. + -MENT.] = BICKERING sb.

VOL. I.

1596 WEBBE *Eng. Poetrie* (Arb.) 46 Dreery byckermēts of warres. 1682 BUNYAN *Holy War* 91. 25 Thus the bickermēt went awhile: at last they passed from words to blows. 1876 BLACKIE *Songs Relig. & Life* 142 The priesthood... rent the ears O' the fevered time with fretful bickermēt.

Bickern (bik'kən). Forms: 6 byckorne, 8 biokhorn, 9 bickorne, 7- bickern. [a. F. *bigorne* (= Sp. *vigornia*, It. *bicornia*) = L. *bicornia*, pl. of *bicornis* two-horned, f. bi- two + cornu horn.] *orig.* An anvil with two projecting taper ends; later (under the influence of popular etymology; see BEAK-IRON) applied to: One such taper end of an anvil.

1547 SALESBURY *Welsh Dict.*, *Eingion gyriac*, a byckorne. 1677 MOXON *Mech. Exerc.* (1703) 3 A Black Smith's Anvil... is sometimes made with a Pike, or Bickern, or Beak-iron, at one end of it. 1781 J. T. DILLON *Trav. Spain* 145 They have no other word in the Spanish language for a bickhorn, or a bench vice, than *Vigornia*. 1814 *Archæol.* XVII. 292 And nails with a bickorne.

Bickron, obs. form of BEAK-IRON.

Bi-clagged, -clart, -clepe, come, etc.: see BE-CLAGGED, etc.

Bi-colligate (bik'pligət), a. [f. Bi- pref² 2 + COLLIGATE, ad. L. *colligatus* bound together.] In *Ornith.* of the anterior toes of birds: United by a basal web; web-footed. 1847 in CRAIG.

Bi-coloured, -concave, -vex: see Bi- pref² 1, 2.

Bi-conjugate (bik'kɔndʒʊgət), a. [f. Bi- pref² 2 + CONJUGATE, ad. L. *conjugatus* united, paired.] Twice paired: applied e.g. in *Bot.* to a petiole that forks twice.

1847 in CRAIG. 1880 GRAY *Bot. Text-bk.* 398.

Bicorn (bik'kən), a. (and sb.) [ad. L. *bicornis* two-horned, f. bi- two + cornu horn, prong.]

A. *adj.* Having two horns or horn-like processes. B. *sb.* A two-horned animal; cf. *unicorn*.

[1753 CHAMBERS *Cycl. Supp.*, *Bicornes* os, or two-horned bone, in anatomy, the same with the os hyoides.] 1823 LAMB *Elia*, *Vis. Horns*, Bicornes, Tricornes, and so on up to Millecorns. 1847-9 TODD *Cycl. Anat. & Phys.* IV. 209 The divided and bicorn uterus. 1872 NICHOLSON *Palaont.* 426 *Rhinoceros Etruscus* is also bicorn.

† **Bicornes**. *Obs. rare* = 1. In 5 byckorne. [a. OF. *bicorne* = L. *bicornis* (see prec.) two-pronged (fork).] A two-pronged fork, a pitchfork.

1420 *Pallad.* i. 1161 Crookes, adses and bycornes.

Bicorned (bik'kənd), a. [see -ED.] = BICORN.

1606 SYLVESTER *Columnes Wks.* 1879 I. 379 In form of Ram with golden fleece they put the bi-corn'd Signe. a 1654 BROME *To Potting Pr.* (R.) Your body being revers'd did represent (Being forked) our bicorned government. 1859 TODD *Cycl. V.* 614 The... bi-corned condition of the uterus.

Bicornous (bik'kənəs), a. [f. as prec. + -OUS.] Two-horned; = BICORN.

1646 SIR T. BROWNE *Pseud. Ep.* (1650) 263 The letter Y, or bicornous element of Pythagoras. 1690 RAY *Philos. Lett.* (1718) 232 *Alpinum luteum* is... only bicornous. 1851 BALFOUR *Bot.* 625.

Bicornute (bik'kəni't), a. [f. Bi- pref² 1 + CORNUTE, ad. L. *cornutus* horned.] = BICORN.

1810 in GRAY *Bot. Text-bk.* 398. 1881 *Jrnl. Linn. Soc.* XVIII. 312 The peculiar bicornute labellum.

Bicorporal, -ate, -eal: see Bi- pref² 1.

Bicrenate (bik'kri'nət), a. *Bot.* [f. Bi- pref² 3 + CRENATE.] Of (leaf-) margins: Crenate or scalloped, with the scallops themselves crenate.

1835 LINDLEY *Introd. Bot.* (1848) II. 358. 1870 BENTLEY *Bot.* 152.

Bicrescentic, -cristate: see Bi- pref² 2.

Bicrural (bik'krū'rāl), a. [f. Bi- pref² 1 + CRURAL, f. L. *crūr* (crūr-) leg.] Two-legged.

1847 in CRAIG.

Bicuspid (bik'kəspid), a. and sb. [f. L. bi- two + cuspid-em point, spike, CUSP.] A. *adj.* Having two cusps or points. B. *sb.* A premolar tooth in man.

Bi-cuspidate [see -ATE] = prec. *adj.*

1836-9 TODD *Cycl. Anat. & Phys.* II. 533/1 From being more decidedly divided into two lips [this valve of the heart] is termed bicuspid. 1873 MIVART *Elem. Anat.* vii. 252 The fourth and fifth teeth of the lower jaw are called bicuspid molars. 1878 T. BRYANT *Pract. Surg.* I. 579 The enamel on the bicuspid. 1847 CRAIG, *Bicuspidate*, having two points. 1870 HOOKER *Stud. Flora* 417 Beak bicuspidate.

Bi-cwete, obs. form of BEQUEATH.

Bicycle (baisik'l), sb. [mod. f. (first in Fr.) Bi- pref² 11 + Gr. κύκλος circle, wheel.] A machine for rapid riding, consisting of a saddle-seat surmounting two wheels, to which the rider communicates motion by means of treadles; a two-wheeled velocipede.

1868 *Daily News* 7 Sept., Bysicles and trysicles which we saw in the Champs Elysées and Bois de Boulogne this summer. 1869 MAQ. HARTINGTON in *Daily News* 14 May, The practice of riding or driving upon bicycles does not form any part of the examination of the Civil Service Commissioners. 1882 *Pall Mall G.* 20 June 5/2 The bicycle trade is particularly brisk.

Bicycle, v. [f. prec.] To ride on a bicycle.

1869 [cf. BICYCLING] 1883 *Harper's Mag.* Apr. 692 2 Many enterprising souls... would have... bicycled, or canoed. Hence **Bicyoler**, **Bicyolian**, **Bicyoling**.

1869 *Latest News* 5 Sept. 15 (paragraph heading), Bicycling. 1876 B. RICHARDSON in *Good Wds.* 716 Rowing, or gymnastics, or bicycling. 1880 *Scribn. Mag.* Feb. 497

Bicyclers sped along its shore. 1880 J. G. DALTON *Lyrra Bicyclia*, Bicyclian bards. 1884 *Harper's Mag.* Jan. 304/2 You wish to be a bicycler.

Bicyclic (baisik'lik), a. [f. BICYCLE sb. + -IC.] Of or connected with bicycles. So **Bicyclicol**.

1876 *Daily News* 8 Nov. 5/3 Parties of bicyclic enthusiasts.

Bicyclism. [see -ISM.] The practice or art of bicycling.

1876 *World V.* 12 That ne plus ultra of snobbishness—bicyclism. 1881 *Philada. Rec.* No. 3466. 2 Great and valuable principles are emphasized by bicyclism.

Bicyclist (baisiklist). [see -IST.] One who rides a bicycle.

1876 *Daily News* 8 Nov. 5/2 Bicyclists sometimes make themselves a dangerous nuisance. 1881 *Philada. Rec.* No. 3466. 2 The bicyclist realizes... the old myth of the Centaur.

Bicycular (baisik'kylār), a. [f. BICYCLE, after *vehicular*.] Of the nature of a bicycle or pertaining to bicycling.

1869 *Sci. American* 20 Feb. 117 Her skilful management of the bicycular velocipede. 1886 *Cyclist* 21 Apr. 618/2 Matters bicycular appear to be progressing... in Norway.

Bid (bid), v. *str.* Pa. t. bad bade, (bæd), bid. Pa. pple. bidden, bid. Here there are combined two originally distinct verbs; viz.

A. *Bidan*; *beden*, *bede*. Forms: 1 *béodan*, 2-3 *beoden*, 3-5 *beden*, 3-6 *bede*, 4-5 *bedde*, 7 *dial. bede*. Pa. t. sing. 1 *béad*, 2-3 *bead*, 2-4 *bed*, 3-4 *bedd*, 4-5 *bede*; also 3-6 *bod*, 4-6 *bode*. Pl. 1 *budon*, 2-3 *buden*; a so 3-4 *bedde(n)*, 4 *bede*, *beode*, 5 *beede*; also 3-4 *boden*, 5-6 *bode*. Pa. pple. 1-6 *boden*, 4-in, -un, 4-5 -yn, *bode*, 5 *bodden*, -yn, 6 *bouden*, *bod*, 9 *dial. bodden*, *Sc. budden*.

B. *Biddan*; *bidden*, *bidde*; *bid*. Forms: 1 *biddan*, 2-5 *bidden*, (2-3 *biden*, 3 *bedden*), 3-6 *bidde*, 4-6 *bydde*, (4 *bedde*, *bide*), 4-5 *bidd*, 4-6 *byd*, (5 *byde*), 4- *bid*. Pa. t. sing. 1 *bæd*, 2-9 *bad*, 3-5 *badd*, 4 *baad*, 4-6 *badde*, (6 *Sc. bald*), 4- *bade*; also 3-6 *bed*, 4 *bedd*, 5 *bede*, *Sc. baide*; also 6 *bidde*, *bydd*, 7-9 *bid*. Pl. 1 *bédon*, 2-3 *beden*, 3-5 *bede*; also 3 *bad*, 4-5 *baden*, 4-9 *bad*, *bade*; also 6-9 *bid*. Pa. pple. 1-5 *beden*, 3-5 -in, -yn, (y) *bede*, 4-5 *bedun*, 4 *bedd*; 3- *bidden*, (4 -in, 5 *bed*, *byden*, 6 *bad*), 7-9 *bid*.

[A. OE. *bíðan*, *bíad*, *budon*, *boden*, = OS. *bíðan* (MDu. and Du. *bieden*), OHG. *bītan* (MHG. and mod.G. *bieten*), ON. *bíða*, Goth. *bīdan* (pa. t. *baup*, *budum*, pple. *budans*): -OTeut. **beudan* 'to stretch out, reach out, offer, present', hence 'to communicate, inform, announce, proclaim, command'; pre-Teutonic **bheudh-*, cogn. with Skr. *budh* 'to present, and perh. with Gr. *πύθω* (for *φύθω*) in *πύθισθαι* 'to inform oneself'. From the pa. pple. *boden* was derived the sb. *boda* messenger, whence the vb. *bodian* to BONE, announce. The normal ME. forms were *bide(n)*, pa. t. *bead*, *bíd*, *bed*, pl. *buden*, pa. pple. *boden*. But by form-levelling, the pa. t. had also pl. *báden*, *bíd(e)* from the sing.; and later also *bod(e)*, by assimilation to the pa. pple.

B. OE. *biddan*, *bæd*, *bédum*, *beden*, = OS. *biddian* (MDu. and Du. *bidden*), OHG. and mod.G. *bitten*, ON. *bíða*, Goth. *bīdan* (pa. t. *baþ*, *bédum*, pple. *bidans*): -OTeut. **bīðjan*, assigned to a pre-Teutonic **bhedh-* 'to press' (cf. Skr. *bádhat* 'to press'), whence the senses 'to ask pressingly, beg, pray, require, demand, command.' (Osthoff would connect *bīðjan* with Gr. *πείθω*.) The normal ME. forms were *bide(n)*, pa. t. *bad*, pl. *beaden*, *bede(n)*, pa. pple. *beden*. By form-levelling the pa. t. had also occasionally sing. *bead*, *béd*, *beed*, and at length pl. *baden*, *bade*, *bad*; and the pa. pple. became *bidden*, whence also a later pa. t. *bid*.

C. Thus the sense 'command' had been developed in both verbs already in OE. The past tenses were further confused in form in ME. The result was the frequent substitution of the forms of one verb for the other, in other senses also, and their total confusion after 1400-1500. As a whole, the forms of *biddan*, *bid* are those which survive in literary Eng., but in the dialects these are quite mixed, in such conjugations as *bid*, *bad* or *bod*, *bodden* or *budden*. Senses survive from both verbs, though mostly archaic, or in certain unanalysed phrases, as to 'bid farewell', 'bid a truce', 'bid fair'; the chief modern use is that of 'bid at an auction', 'bid for votes or support', which belongs to *bede*. The senses of 'invite' and 'order' are in every-day use in the north, but archaic in southern speech, where 'bid him do it' is regularly made 'tell him to do it'. Particular forms of the pa. t. and pa. pple. are preferred with particular senses.]

A. Senses originating from OE. *bíðan*, ME. *bede*, but taking eventually the form *bid*.

The *bede* quotations are marked α, the *bid* quotations β.

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I. To offer, present.

† 1. *trans.* To offer. *Obs.* in the general sense.

a. *a 1000 Cadmon's Gen.* (Gr.) 2435 Hafa árna þanc þara, þe ðu unc bude. *c 1000 Ælfric Deu.* xx. 10 Beod him ærest sibbe. *a 1225 Ancr. R.* 156 Heo wule . . . æ 3ein þe smitare beoden uorð hire cheoken. *a 1240 Ureisan in Coll. Hom.* 201 þu beoð þin elning al wið-ute bone. *c 1250 Gen. & Ex.* 1069 Loth hem bead is doðtres two. *a 1300 Cursor M.* 12360 Leons . . . bede til him þus þair seruise. *c 1386 Chaucer Clerk's T.* 304 Thilk honour that ye me bede. *c 1440 York Myst.* ix. 170 Som bote us bede.

b. *c 1250 Gen. & Ex.* 2653 He bad þis child brennen to colen. *c 1230 How Gd. Wiif tawte D.* 32 in *Babes Bk.* (1868) 39 If ony man biddiþ þe worschip, and wolde wedde þee. *c 1235 Torr. Portugal* 794 A knyghtes dowghttyr wase hym bed.

† b. *intr.* with *dative infin.* *Obs.*

a. *a 1225 Ancr. R.* 390 He . . . bead for to makien hire cweue of al þet he ouhte.

† c. *spec. (trans.)* To offer (treatment); *intr.* to offer to act. *Obs.* With *dat.* of person.

a. *c 1175 Lamb. Hom.* 13 þet uile mon scal beoden oðre alswa he wile þet me him beode. *1354 Chart.* in Arnold *Chron.* I nyl suffer, y^a ony man you any wrongis beed.

2. *trans.* † To bid (any one) battle, arms: to offer battle to, challenge to fight. *Obs.* To bid defiance (still in use). (With *pa. t.* *bade*, *pple.* *bidden*.)

a. *a 1300 Cursor M.* 7472 Ilk dai he come . . . and batail 108 Uppon the soudan thei beode bataile. *c 1250 Long-lich Grail* xlv. 517 Aþens the miscreants bataille to bede.

b. *1570 Marr. Wit. & Sc.* iv. i. in Hazl. *Dods.* II. 364 When you feel yourself well able to prevail, Bid you the battle. *1590 MARLOWE and Pt. Tamburl.* II. ii. An hundred Kings . . . bid him arms. *1611 SPEED Hist. Gl. Brit.* vii. xlv. 371 Edmund . . . two dayes after at Brentford bad them bataille. *1666 MASSINGER Rom. Act.* iv. i. We, undaunted yet . . . bid defiance To them and fate. *1699 FULLER Holy War* II. xxvii. (1840) 98 Whom he bade battle, and got the day. *1848 MACAULAY Hist. Eng.* II. 15 That spirit which had bidden defiance to . . . the House of Valois.

† b. *ellipt.* To challenge, defy. *Obs.*

a. *1375 BARBOUR Bruce* vii. 103. I trow he suld be hard to sla, And he war bodyn all evynly.

† c. To bid the base: to challenge to a run at prisoners' base; hence *fig. Obs.* See *BASE sb.*²

b. *1591 SHAKS. Two Gent.* I. ii. 98 Indeede I bid the base for Proteus.

3. *trans.* To offer (a certain price) for, to offer as a price one is prepared to give for. (Sometimes with *dative obj.* of person: 'you bid me too little'.)

† In this sense the *pa. t.* and *pple.* are now *bid*; Scotch writers retain the past, *bad*, *bade*, used by Dr. Johnson.

a. *c 1200 Trin. Coll. Hom.* 213 þe sullere loueð his þing dere . . . þe beyer þet litel þar fore. *1297 R. GLOUC.* 378 He sette hys londres to ferme wel vaste Wo so mest bode vore.

b. *c 1470 HENRY WALLACE Ham.* II. ii. 372 There was . . . no money bid for argument. *a 1704 T. BROWN Two Oxf. Scholars* Wks. 1730 I. 9 If I . . . farm out my Tythes, my Parishioners will bid me half the worth of them. *1751 JOHNSON Rambl.* No. 161 P. 10 [They] bade her half the price she asked. *1834 Ht. MARTINEAU Each & All* III. 37 Starving thousands . . . bid their labour against one another for bread. *Mod.* Who bids five shillings for this lot?

b. *intr.* (*ellipt.*) To offer (any one) a price, to make an offer (for a thing), as 'to bid at an auction.' To bid against (a person): to compete with (him) in offers. Often *fig.* as in 'to bid for the Irish vote.' Also with indirect pass., *To be bid for*; and with complemental object, *To bid (a thing) up*: to raise its price by successive bids.

b. *1611 SHAKS. Cymb.* III. vii. 71. I bid for you, as I do buy. *1776 ADAM SMITH W. N. I.* 90 Masters bid against one another in order to get workmen. *1777 SHERIDAN Sch. Scand.* v. iii. I stood a chance of . . . being knocked down without being bid for. *1848 MACAULAY Hist. Eng.* I. 669 The intolerant king and the intolerant church were eagerly bidding against each other for the support of the party. *1851 J. M. WILSON Tales Border XX.* 256 Some other individuals bade, and the bodes had arrived at £14,000. *1864 BURTON Scot. Abr.* II. 264 They bade them up until they reached 10,000 livres.

4. *intr.* To bid fair: to offer with reasonable probability, to present a fair prospect, seem likely. Orig. with *for* and object; now also with *infin.* (With *pa. t.* *bade*, *pple.* *bidden*.)

b. *1646 S. BOLTON Arraignm. Err.* 360 Two things would bid fair for it, if not wholly accomplish this desired accommodation. *1738 J. KEILL Anim. Econ.* 24 The Bones of all the Parts . . . seem to bid the fairest for Solidity. *1786 T. JEFFERSON Corr.* (1830) 4 The present reign bids fair to be a long one. *1869 FREEMAN Norm. Cong.* (1876) III. xiv. 334 The proposed expedition . . . bade fair to be successful.

II. To announce, proclaim, threaten.

† 5. To proclaim, announce. *Obs.* exc. in one or two arch. phrases, as 'to bid the saints' days': see 1725. In *Bid the banns*, it is doubtful whether the original sense was 'proclaim,' or 'ask' as in 7; the phrase seems to go back only to the 16th c., and thus exists only in the *β* form.

a. *a 1000 Guthlac* (Gr.) 716 Geðas gear budon. *c 1340 Cursor M.* 13363 (Fairf.), A brideale was þer bodin an. *1398 TREvisa Barth.* De P. R. xii. viii. [The stork] is messenger of spryngynge tyme, and in hire comynge sche bedep [1335 tokeneth, *Lat. prædicat*] nouelte of tyme. *c 1440 Morie Arth.* (Roxb.) 2 A turnement the kinge lett bede.

b. *1483 Cath. Angl.* 31 To byde halydayes, *Indicere.* *1599 Br. Hall Sat.* IV. i. 124 Go bid the baines and point the bridall day. *1622 SPARROW Bk. Com. Prayer* (1661) 150 Upon the Sundais before these Fastis, the Priests . . . bid the solemn Fast. *1725 POPE Odys.* xvii. 148 The herald . . . To bid the banquet interrupts their play. *1725 tr. Dupin's Eccl. Hist.* 16th C. I. v. 67 This Custom of bidding the Pass-over on the Day of the Epiphany. *1803—Const. & Canons Ch. Eng.* 64 Ministers solemnly to bid Holy-days.

† b. To proclaim, declare, threaten (war). *Obs.* Preserved in to bid a truce (in *fig. sense*).

a. *1330 R. BRUNNE Chron.* 49 Now is Eilred buried, þat mykelle wo beade [printed bade].
b. *c 1590 1st Pt. Jeronimo in Dodsley* (1780) III. 77. I bid you sudden wars. *1596 CHAPMAN Iliad* I. 155. I was not injur'd so By any Trojan, that my powers should bid them any blows. *1805 SOUTHEY Madoc in Ast.* iii. At this late hour, When even I shall bid a truce to thought.

† 6. To make known, indicate, declare. *Obs.*

a. *a 1300 Cursor M.* 8026 (Gott), Pat stede þat him was bodin in his bede. *c 1430 Syr Gener.* 1160 The Quene . . . most nede To Generis hir folie bede.

B. Senses originating from OE. *biddan*, (afterwards occasionally expressed by forms from *bede*).

III. To ask pressingly.

7. To ask pressingly, beg, entreat, pray.

† a. *trans.* with *acc.* of person and *genitive* of thing; with *dative* of person and *acc.* of thing; passing into two objects. *Obs.*

a. *893 K. ÆLFRED Oros.* vi. xxxiv. § 4 Hi hiene bædon ryhtes geleafan and fulwites bædes. *971 Blickl. Hom.* 21 Ne bidden we urne drihten þyses lænan welan. *a 1000 Andreas* (Gr.) 353 Pá . . . Andreas ongann mereliðendum miltsa biddan. *c 1175 Lamb. Hom.* 1335 . . . helpes me biddað. *c 1200 Trin. Coll. Hom.* 139 A maiden bad to kinge his heued. *c 1305 St. Edward in E. E. P.* (1862) 106 Me ne scholde him noping bidde.

b. To press, entreat, beg, ask, pray (a person). Const. for a thing, or *infin.*, *subord. cl.*, or *object sentence*; also *simply*, to pray to (God, saints, etc.).

a. *1000 Ags. Gosp.* John iv. 31 His leorning-cnihtas hine bædon [*Rushtu.* bedon] and þus cwædon. *c 1175 Lamb. Hom.* 17 Bide hine luueliche þet he þe do riht. *a 1240 Lofsong in Lamb. Hom.* 207 Ich bide þe . . . bi þe þornene crununge. *c 1250 Gen. & Ex.* 2509 For godes luue 3et bid ic þu . . . wið þu ben mine bones boren. *1297 R. GLOUC.* 337 Icham Swythyn, wam þou byst. *a 1300 E. E. Psalter* cvii. 19 And a kalf in Oreb maked þai, And baden þe grave. *c 1300 Becket* 1085 And weþinge ech halewe bad: hir help forto beo. *c 1314 Guy Warw.* (MS. A.) 1628 Ich þe bidde, par charite þat þou this bodi vnder-fo. *c 1374 CHAUCER Troylus* III. 826. I bidde god I neuere mot haue loye.

† c. To ask, beg (a thing); to ask, beg, or pray for. Const. *simply*, or *of*, from a person, etc. *Obs.*

a. *971 Blickl. Hom.* 21 Se blinda . . . bæd his eazena leotes. *c 1000 Ags. Gosp.* Luke xiv. 32 He sent ærynd-racan and bitt sibbe. — Matt. xx. 20 Sum þing fram him biddende. *c 1200 Trin. Coll. Hom.* 103 Forlet þine sunnes . . . and bide milce þerof. *c 1250 Gen. & Ex.* 3011 Moyses bad meðe here on. *c 1300 Becket* 1678 Thider ich wole wende And bidde mi mete for Godes love. *c 1330 Roland & V.* 534 Roland . . . Po bad leue to fite. *c 1340 Cursor M.* 19054 (Trin.) He bad of hem som god. *c 1420 Chron. Vilod.* 65. To haue of God what y^a he bedde. *1513 DOUGLASS Æneis* xi. xv. 55. I ask na trophe . . . Nothir byd I theof spulpe nor renown. [1678 PHILLIPS App.] To Bid a boon (old word), to ask a Boon.

† d. *intr.* To beg, entreat, pray; to offer prayer. Const. *simply*, for a person or thing, *subord. cl.* or with *so*, *thus*, etc. *Obs.*

a. *971 Blickl. Hom.* 19 He . . . geornor bæd þæt Hælend him miltade. *c 1175 Lamb. Hom.* 17 Bide for him duwamliche. *Ibid.* 167 He is wis þe beet and bit and bet bi-fore dome. *a 1225 Ancr. R.* 228 Ure Louerd sulf . . . techeð us to bidden, 'Et ne nos inducas in tentationem.' *c 1300 Becket* 423 We biddeth nigst and dai for the. *1377 LANGL. P. Pl.* B. vii. 68 He þat beggeth or bit but if he haue nede, He is fals. *1387 TREvisa Higden* (1865) I. 115 Criste went ynnne ful ofte for to bidde and praye. *c 1400 Prymer* in Maskell *Mon. Rit.* II. 11 Preie for the people: bidde for the clergie. *1458 in Dom. Archit.* III. 43 Now every good body that gothe on this briage, Bid for the barbour gentil Jeffray.

† e. *trans.* (with *cognate obj.*) To bid a *bene*, *bone*, *bede*, *prayer*, etc.: orig. to pray, or offer a prayer; later 'to move the people to join in prayer,' as in BIDDING PRAYER. *arch.*

a. *c 1175 Lamb. Hom.* 67 Hu mazen heo bidden ene bene. *c 1305 St. Christoph.* 71 in E. E. P. (1862) 61 þu most . . . to church go: & þi beden bidde also. *c 1375 Wyclif Sermon.* Sel. Wks. II. 270 Men bidden to God þer preier. *c 1386 CHAUCER Milleres T.* 455 Stille he sitt, and biddeth his preyere. *c 1400 Rom. Rose* 7374 A peire of bedis eke she bere Upon a lace, alle of white threde, On which that she her bedes bede. *c 1420 Avow. Arth.* xiii. To Jhesu a bone he bede. *1535 COVERDALE Jer.* vii. 16 Thou shalt nether geue thanks, nor byd prayer for them. *1562 J. HEYWOOD Prov. & Epigr.* (1867) 108 Commanduid By his Curate his pater noster to bid. *1621 BOLTON Stat. Ircl.* 134 (*Act 28 Hen. VIII.*) [They] shall bid the beades in the English tongue. *1764 GRAY in Mason Life* (ed. 2) 381 And bidding his beads for the souls of his benefactors. [1859 JEFFERSON Britanyii. 15. I observed persons 'bidding their beads,' or engaged in silent devotion.]

a. Forms from OE. *beoden*. *Obs.*

a. *c 1250 Gen. & Ex.* 3169 Quat-so he boden . . . Egipte folc hem lenen dat. *a 1300 Leg. Rod* (1871) 22 Bede him þat ich deie mote. *a 1330 R. BRUNNE Chron.* 29 Pat he wild bede his bone, vntille þe Trinite. *1362 LANGL. P. Pl.* A. ix. 96 3if Dobest beede [*v. r.* bede, bidde] for [hem]. *c 1380 Wyclif Wks.* (1880) 167 Bi louynge & bedynge as who wold selle a worldly þing. *c 1440 Morie Arth.* (Roxb.) 90 An holy man had boddyn that bone. *1591 RAY N. C. Words, Bid, Bede*, to pray.

8. To ask (any one) to come, to invite (to a

feast, wedding, burial, etc.). *arch.* but common *dial.*

a. *1225 Ancr. R.* 414 Ane beggare . . . þet bede men to feste. *a 1300 Cursor M.* 7250 Sampson was to be bridal bedd. *c 1300 K. Alis.* 5823 Alisaundre, and his meynnee, Comen, and badden hem entree. *1393 LANGL. P. Pl.* C. iii. 56 Al þe riche retynance . . . Were bede [*v. r.* beden, ibede, boden] to þat brudale. *1483 Cath. Angl.* 311 To byd to mete, *Inuolare.* *1577 NORTHBROOKE Dicing* (1843) 102 They vsed commonly to bidde their guesates a whole yeare before. *1580 BARET Alw.* B 644. I was bidde to an other place to dinner. *1611 BIBLE, Zeph.* i. 7 He hath bid his ghests. — Luke xiv. 9 He that bade thee and him. *1633 BROME North. Lasse* i. i. I hope you'll see our Marriage. I sent indeed to bid you. *a 1810 TANNAHILL Kibbuckston Wed.* I'se warrant he's bidden the half of the parish. *1848 TENNYSON Sisters* iii. I made a feast; I had him come.

The double sense of bid is played on in Shirley's *Wedding* i. i, where Belface asks his servant Isaac whether he has invited the guests:—Isaac. I have commanded most o' them. Belf. How, sir? Isaac. I have bid them, sir.

a. Forms from OE. *beoden*. *Obs.*

a. *c 1200 Trin. Coll. Hom.* 159 We ben alle boden þider. *1377 LANGL. P. Pl.* B. ii. 54 Alle þe riche retenauns . . . were boden [*v. r.* bede, a-bede] to be bridle. *1483 CAXTON Gold. Leg.* 209/2 Gladder therof than he were boden to a feste. *1541 ELVOT Image Gov.* 96 She bode the emperour unto a supper. *1546 LANGLEY Pol. Verg. de Invent.* II. vi. 45 b. He was boden to a banquet. *1864 ATKINSON Whitty Gloss.* s. v. *Bid*, I niver was bodden.

9. In to bid welcome, adieu, farewell, good bye, good morning, the original notion was probably that of 'pray,' 'invoke,' or 'wish devoutly'; the phrases are now used without analysis, 'bid' being little more than = 'say, utter, express'.

a. *1300 Cursor M.* 15060 [*Vr laured*] biddes þe welcum hame. *1413 LYDC. Pilgr.* Soule II. lxx. (1850) 59. I bad hym adieu. *1485 CAXTON St. Wenefryde* 9 She toke leue of this holy man and bad hym fare well. *1579 SPENSER Sheph. Cal.* Sept. i. I bidde her God day. *1593 SHAKS. Rich. II.* I. iv. 32 A brace of Dray-men bid God speed him well. *1632 MILTON L'Allegro* 46 At my window bid good morrow. *1721 STEELE Spect.* No. 27 P. 4 He'll bid adieu to all the Vanity of Ambition. *1844 Mem. Babylonian P'ces* II. 311. I now . . . respectfully bid the British public farewell. *c 1600 FAIRFAX Tasso* vii. xiii. 119. I bod the court farewell.

C. Senses originating independently from the two verbs. (Now referred in form to *biddan*.)

IV. To command, enjoin.

10. To command, enjoin, order, tell with authority. (Still literary; also in every-day use in the north; but in the south colloquially expressed by *tell*, as 'tell him to sit down,' for 'bid him sit down'.)

a. with personal obj. (sometimes absent), and clause with *that*, or object sentence.

a. *971 Blickl. Hom.* 15 þa fore-ferendan him budon þæt he swigade. *1398 TREvisa Barth. De P. R.* vi. xxiv. (1495) 215 It is boden that they . . . sholde not slepe. *1598 SYLVESTER Du Bartas* (1681) 385 And then he bod . . . That daily once they all should march the round about the city.

b. *c 1000 ÆLFRED E. E. P.* xxxiii. 12 Ðu bist me þæt ic læde ut tis folc. *c 1200 Trin. Coll. Hom.* 41 He . . . bit us . . . þat we shule þis notien. *1297 R. GLOUC.* 29 Ich bidde þe Sey me al clene þin herte. *a 1400 Reliq. Pieces fr. Thornton MS.* 2 He byddes . . . þat þay here and lere þise ilke sex thynges. *c 1460 Towneley Myst.* 50 Another [commandment] bydes thou shalt not swere. *a 1500 Myrr.* Our Ladye 89 The same Pope ordeyned and badde that so y^a shulde be done. *1593 SHAKS. Rich. II.* I. l. 164 Obedience bids I should not bid agen.

b. with personal obj., and *infin.*

a. *c 1200 Trin. Coll. Hom.* 87 þis laze sette ure drihten bi þe patriarche abraham, and bed him holden hit. *c 1250 Gen. & Ex.* 3544 Aaron and vr . . . boden hem swilc ðrowtes leten. *a 1300 K. Horn* 504 Horn he dubbede to knigte . . . And bed him beon a god knigt. *c 1375 Wyclif Sermon.* Sel. Wks. I. 259 As God hap bodyn hem to do. *c 1400 Destr. Troy* II. 380 The Kyng . . . Bede his daughter come downe. *1477 EARL RIVERS (Caxton) Dictes* 57 He that wil holde his peas till he be boden speke is to be preyed. *1529 MORE Conf. agst. Trib.* iv. Wks. 263/1 Who hath not bod them do wel. *1592 WARNER Alb. Eng.* viii. xli. 199 He bod me buy thy loue.

b. *c 1175 Lamb. Hom.* 109 Godes laze bit ec mon wurðie efre his feder and his moder. *c 1200 Trin. Coll. Hom.* 139 þe king . . . bad binden him and don him into prisune. *a 1300 Cursor M.* 3177 þe angel . . . bade him . . . tak A scepe his sacrifice to mak. *c 1470 HENRY WALLACE* iv. 763 He . . . baide hyr haif no dreide. *1549 Compl. Scot.* vi. 40 The maister bald the marynalis lay the cabli to the cabilstok. *1581 MARBECK Bk. Notes* 91 Christ bidde the Church to baptise in the name of the Father, the Sonne and the holie Ghost. *1592 SHAKS. Rom. & Jul.* II. v. 83 Thou . . . bad'st me bury Loue. *1684 BUNYAN Pilgr.* II. 71 [He] bid them turn aside. *1751 JOHNSON Rambl.* No. 171 P. 10 He . . . bad me cant and whine in another place. *1833 Ht. MARTINEAU Briery Cr.* II. 24 Bid them begone. *1848 THACKERAY Van. Fair* vii. Having wakened her bedfellow, and bid her prepare for departure. *1871 FREEMAN Norm. Cong.* (1876) IV. xvii. 73 The two Earls were . . . bidden to be diligent. *1876 GREEN Short Hist.* I. 3 Custom bade him blow his horn.

c. with the thing bidden as obj., with or without *dative* of person. (Formerly used also in sense of 'to order' goods, dinner, etc.).

a. *c 1000 Ags. Gosp.* John xv. 17 Ðas þing ic eow beode; þæt ge lufion eow gemænlice. *1393 GOWER Conf. Prol.* I. 12 When Criste him self hath bode pees. *c 1400 Rom. Rose* 2721 Whanne Love alle this bade boden me.

b. *971 Blickl. Hom.* 39 Ne bæd he no þæs forþon þe him ænig þearf wære. *a 1300 Cursor M.* 12639 þat þai comaund wald or bide . . . he didde. *c 1375 Wyclif Sermon.* Sel. Wks. II. 229 He is not dispensour of service þat God hap boden.

1401 *Pol. Poems* (1850) II. 35 How might ye for shame pray the pope undo that the Holy Ghost bit. 1599 *Mirr. Mag.*, Worcester viii. Did execute what euer my king did byd. 1610 SHAKS. *Temp.* I. ii. 195 Hast thou, Spirit, Performed to point, the Tempest that I bad thee. 1638 MASSINGER *City Mad.* III. i. A chapman That in courtesy will bid a chop of mutton.

d. with personal obj. only; treated at length as the direct obj.

a. c1430 *Life St. Katherine* (1884) 19 Than Adrian baptized hir as our lady had bode hym. 1541 *Elvot Image Gov.* (1556) 143 b. So philosophie beareth you.

b. a1300 *Cursor M.* 5202 Quat art pou me beddes sua? 1375 BARBOUR *Bruce* VI. 91 Thai did as he thame biddin had. 1483 *Kings Angl.* 31/1 To bydde, admonere. 1535 COVERDALE 2 *Kings* IV. 24 Do as I byd the. 1599 SHAKS. *Much Ado* III. iii. 32 He will not stand when he is bidden. 1601 *All's Well* IV. ii. 53 He be bid by thee. 1647 SANDERSON *Serm.* II. 216 They that were about Him, though bidden and chidden too, could not hold from sleeping. c1680 BEVERIDGE *Serm.* (1729) I. 529 Nobody... bad him.

e. with no object; often with *so*, *as*, and the like.

f. a1000 *Beowulf* 2467 Druncne dryht-guman dōð swa ic bidde. a1300 *Cursor M.* 387 He baad, and it was don. 1340 HAMPOLE *Pr. Consc.* 2009 Haf God in mynde... Als þe prophet biddes.

†11. To bid not to do, to forbid, interdict, ban. a. and b. c1400 *Apol. Loll.* 31 As þe olde Testament to þe redars, so is þe dun to deknun to prech þe newe. *Ibid.* 45 Till þu lefe þi þat þu art bodun bi þe bidding of Crist, what þing þat þu werkyst is vnþankful to þe Holi Goost. 1622 HEYLYN *Cosmogr.* III. (1673) 104/2 And by so doing did bid entrance unto the rest, till it were removed.

†**Bid**, v.2 *Obs. exc. dial.* Also **bidde**. [A variant of **BUD**, *behod*, *behoved*. Still in mod.Sc. as a present tense.] = **Must** (by moral obligation, logical or natural necessity).

a1300 *Havelok* 1733 Of the mete for to telle, Ne of the metes bidde I nout dwelle; That is the storie for to lenge. [*Mod. Sc. (Roxb.)*] 'The man bid to be a fool to gang on that way.' 'It's a bid-be', i.e. a must-be, a natural necessity.]

Bid (bid), *sb.* [f. **BID** v.1 3.] The offer of a price, the amount offered; *spec.* at an auction.

1768 T. JEFFERSON *Corr.* (1830) 342 He... thought to obtain a high bid by saying he was called for in America. 1837 *Penny Mag.* 1 Apr. 124 The salesman rapidly naming a lower price until he gets a bid. 1850 Mrs. Stowe *Uncle Tom* XII. 101 Half-a-dozen bids simultaneously met the ear of the auctioneer.

fig. 1858 GEN. P. THOMPSON *Audi Alt.* II. lxxvii. 31 This time it will be a 'bid' between two opposite political parties.

†**Bid-ale**. *Obs.* Also 5 **bede-ale**. [See **BID** v. 8 and **ALE**.] An 'ale' or entertainment for the benefit of some person, to which a general bidding or invitation was given.

c1468 in *N. & Q.* (1865) VIII. 436/1 None hereafter... shall make or procure to be made, any Ale commonly called 'Bede Ale' within the liby nor within this Towne. 1534 *Act 26 Hen. VIII.* vi. (5) No person... shall... within Wales... gather or leue any Commorth, Bydalle, tenantes ale, or other collection or exactions. 1656 BLOUNT, *Bide-ale* is when an honest man decayed in his estate is set up again by the liberal benevolence and contribution of friends at a Feast, to which those friends are bid or invited. 1733 NEAL *Hist. Purit.* II. 246 The Justices assembled at Bridgewater ordered That no Church Ale, Clerk Ale, or Bid Ale be suffered. 1857 TOULM. SMITH *Parish* 504.

Bidaw, early form of **BEDAW**.

Bidcock. 'The Water-rail.' Halliwell.

1613 DRAYTON *Polyolb.* xxv. 107 The pallat-pleasing Snite The Bidcocke, and like them the Redshanke.

Biddable (bidāb'l), *a.* Also **bidable**. [f. **BID** + **-ABLE**. Of Scotch origin.] Ready to do what is bidden, obedient, willing, docile.

1806 J. WILSON *Noct. Ambr.* Wks. 1864 I. 259 Judicious, regular... and biddable contributors. 1848 DICKENS *Domby* (C. D. ed.) 61, I never saw a more biddable woman. 1862 H. KINGSLEY *Ravenshoe* xlv. (1864) 265 A more gentle and biddable invalid... can hardly be conceived.

Hence **Biddableness**, **Biddably** *adv.* *Sc.*

Biddakil, *obs.* form of **BINNACLE**.

Biddance (bidāns). [f. **BID** v. + **-ANCE**, Romanic suffix: cf. **ABIDANCE**.] Bidding, invitation.

1836 *Fraser's Mag.* XIV. 495 The proud are humbled at his biddance. 1857 *Blackw. Mag.* LXXXI. 123 Right quickly did she send To lords and ladies biddance her son's marriage to attend.

Bidde, *obs.* form of **BED**.

†**Bidde-lian**, **-ellian**, **Bidellian**. *Obs.* *exc. Hist.* A follower of John Biddle (died 1662), styled the father of the English Unitarians.

1780 KIPPIS *Biogr. Brit.* II. 307/2 *note*. The adherents to Mr. Biddle were called Biddellians; but this name was lost in the more common appellation of Socinians, or, what they preferred, Unitarians. 1882-3 SCHAFF in *Hervog's Encycl. Rel. Knowl.* I. 296.

Bidden, *pa. pple.* of **BID** and **BIDE**.

Bidden (bid'n), *ppl. a.* [f. **BID** + **-EN**.] Invited; commanded, ordered.

1614 KING *Vitis Palat.* 12 And Christ must bee a bidden guest. 1637 MILTON *Lycidas* 118 The worthy bidden guest. 1718 POPE *Iliad* v. 890 On the bright axle turns the bidden wheel of sounding brass. 1837 CARLYLE *Fr. Rev.* (1872) III. i. 12 Where Force is not yet distinguished into Bidden and Forbidden. 1875 *Lanc. Gloss.* (E. D. S.) 38 *Bidden-wedding* (N. Lanc.) a wedding to which it was formerly the custom in North Lanc. to invite the whole country-side.

Bidder (bid-dər). [f. **BID** v. + **-ER**.]

†1. One who asks or begs; *bidders and beggars*

is frequent in *P. Plowman*, referring to those who made a trade of begging. *Obs.*

1362 LANGE *P. Pl.* ProL. 40 Bidders [v. r. bydderes] and Beggars 'faste a-boute eoden. 1393 *Ibid.* C. x. 61 Beggars and bydders bep nat in [þat] bulle.

2. One who commands or orders.

1340 HAMPOLE *Pr. Consc.* 3679 Onence þe bidder it standes in nede. 1632 SHERWOOD, A bidder, *commandeur*.

3. One who invites, or delivers an invitation.

1548 UDALL, etc. *Erasm. Par. Matt.* xxii. 4 They agayne neglected the bidder. 1705 STANHOPE *Paraphr.* III. 205 On the Bidder's Part every Circumstance conspires to magnify his Condescension. 1876 *Whitby Gloss.* Pref. 9 To the burying the parish clerk was the usual Bidder.

4. One who makes an offer for a thing, *esp.* at a public auction; also *fig.* (The usual sense.)

1685 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 2050/4 The Bidder to advance 6d. per Gross upon each bidding. 1702 *Ibid.* No. 3832/4 To be sold to the highest Bidder. 1710 STEELE *Tatler* No. 195 ¶ 5 This over-stock of Beauty, for which there are so few Bidders. 1776 GIBSON *Decl. & F. I.* 109 The Roman world was to be disposed of to the best bidder by public auction. 1868 M. PATTISON *Academ. Org.* § 5. 203 The Universities will be the only bidders for such eminent qualities.

Biddery, variant form of **BIDRI**.

Biddikil, *obs.* form of **BINNACLE**.

Bidding (bid-ing), *vbl. sb.* [f. **BID** v. + **-ING**.]

1. The offering of a price for an article; a bid.

a1300 *Cursor M.* 8819 (Gott.) Bot for na bidding [v. r. be-ting, beeding, profur] þat þai bidde Ne miht þai do it stand in stede. 1685 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 2050/4 The Bidder to advance 6d. per Gross upon each bidding. 1865 GEO. ELIOT *Romola* (1880) I. i. 15 Let me have the bidding for that stained suit of yours, when you set up a better. 1878 BLACK GR. *Past.* 310 He had listened to one or two of the biddings.

†2. The action of asking pressingly, of begging or requesting; request, desire, entreaty. *Obs.*

a1225 *Ancre. R.* 108 Er þen þet biddunge arere eni schaunde. c1340 *Cursor M.* 7131 (Trin.) Þat bruyd was of bidding bolde, Sampson al þe soþe hir tolde. 1340 *Ayenb.* 194 No þing ne is zuo diere y-bort; ase þet me heþ be biddinge.

†3. The action of praying; prayer. *Obs.*

1297 R. GLOUC. 280 Þoru byddynge of Seyn Dunston, ys soule com to blys. 1340 *Ayenb.* 219 Moyses ouercom amalec... be his holy biddings. c1440 *Promp. Parv.* 35 Byddynge or praynre, oracio, deprecacio, supplicacio.

4. Invitation, summons.

1810 TANNIAHILL *Kebleston Wed.* We a' got a bidding, To gang to the wedding. 1860 *Times* 18 Aug. The Pope sent a bidding to the Patriarch of Constantinople... the Patriarch returned a distinct refusal. *Attrib.* 1863 MISS SEWELL *Chr. Names* II. 401 The beed-stick—bidding-stick, or summons to the muster.

5. A command, order, injunction. *To sit any one's bidding* (*Sc.*): to neglect his order to go.

a1300 *Cursor M.* 3093 Þi bidding wil we do ful fayn. 1398 TREVISIA *Barth. De P. R.* xv. xxix. (1495) 499 By byddynge of his fader. 1526 *Pilgr. Perf.* (W. de W. 1531) 34 b, I haue not founde the disobedynt to my byddynge. 1601 SHAKS. *All's Well* II. v. 93, I shall not breake your bidding, good my Lord. 1634 RUTHERFORD *Let.* xliii. (1862) I. 132, I would... swim through the water ere I sat his bidding. 1867 FREEMAN *Norm. Cong.* (1876) I. App. 790 What-euer Godwine did he did at the bidding of his lord.

6. *Bidding of beads, beads-bidding; bidding of prayers, bidding prayer.* As to these expressions there has been a series of curious misapprehensions. The original meaning down to the Reformation was 'praying of prayers,' i.e. saying of prayers, praying; cf. **BID** v. 7 e. From an early date in the Christian church, it was the custom to request the prayers of the faithful in behalf of certain persons and things; and in the 16th c., in England, forms of allocation or direction to the congregation, telling them whom and what to remember in 'bidding their beads' or 'prayers' were authorita-

tively put forth. As *bid* in the sense of 'pray' was now becoming obsolete, the meaning of the expression was forgotten after the Reformation, and *bid* taken in the sense of 'order, direct,' so that in the reign of Elizabeth the 'bidding of prayers' was applied to the allocation itself, as if = 'the directing or injoining of prayers.' With the later use of the *vbl. sb.* as a gerund directly governing an object, we have in the 17th c. 'the form of bidding prayers' or 'prayer' (= *precatio-nem hortandi*); and later still, a misunderstanding of the grammatical construction in this phrase has given rise to the vulgar error of calling this exhortation to the people (in which 'conciatores populum hortabantur ut secum in precibus concurrat' Sparrow *Collect. Articles*, 1671) 'the bidding-prayer,' as if it were itself a kind of prayer qualified by the attribute 'bidding.'

c1175 *Lamb. Hom.* 69 Þurh festing and þurh wacunge, and ec þurh biddeness biddunge. [1349 in *Coxe Forms Bid. Prayer* 11 Ye shoulde stonde up and bydde your bedys... Ye shall also bydde for the stat of Holy Cherche, etc.] 1535 *Act 27 Hen. VIII.* xxv, In al... their sermons, collacions, biddings of the beades. 1539 HILSEY *Primer*, An order and form of bydding by the Kynges Commandment. Ye shoul prayre for the whole congregation, etc. 1563 *Homilies* II. *Idolatry* (1859) 236 For the which [the cross] they pray in their beards bidding. a1746 LEWIS in *Coxe Forms Bid. Prayer* Pref. 12 Two ancient forms of bidding the beades or praying the prayers on Sundays and Holydays 1349, 1483.

c1550 *Injunct. Edw. VI.* in R. Glouc. (Hearn) 624 *The forme of bidding of the common prayers.* Fyrst you shall pray for the whole congregatyon of the true chrysten and catholyke churche of Chyrste. And specially for the churche of Englande and Irelande, etc. 1559 *Injunct.* Div. The forme of bidding the prayers to be used generally in this unforme sorte. Ye shall prayre for Christs holy catholic church, etc. 1622 SPARROW *Bk. Com. Prayer* (1661) 257 This form of bidding Prayers is very ancient. 1680 *Old Puritan Detect.* 5 A Form... of Bidding Prayer, wherein the Priest was not to speak to God, but only to the people, exhorting them to pray instantly for such and such persons and things. 1685 STILLINGFL. *Orig. Brit.* iv. 224 At the Bidding of Prayers, which was a direction for the People what to pray for in their private Devotions. 1732 NEAL *Hist. Purit.* I. 49 The custom of bidding prayer, which is still in use in the Church, is a relic of Popery. 1782 PRIESTLEY *Corrupt. Chr.* II. viii. 126 What they call bidding prayers, or an exhortation to pray for such and such things. 1823 *Oxford Univ. Cal.* 31 The Form of Bidding Prayer before the Latin Sermons.

1753 CHAMBERS *Cycl. Suppl.* We have a form of these bidding-prayers in the apostolical constitutions. 1840 COXE *Forms Bid. Prayer* Pref., A concise view of the history of the Bidding Prayer. 1879 WACE *Bampt. Lect.* vi. 157 The bidding prayer read at the commencement of these Lectures is but an echo of this ancient supplication. 1885 *Public Opin.* 9 Jan. 36/2 That there should not be wanting, in the language of the bidding prayer, a due supply of fit persons qualified to discharge the functions of Royalty.

Biddy¹ (bid-i). [Familiar abbrev. of **BRIDGET**.] Used chiefly in U. S. for an Irish maid-servant.

Biddy² (bid-i). *Obs. exc. dial.* [Of uncertain origin: it has been variously conjectured to be an instinctive sound used in calling chickens, a form of Gaelic *bideach* 'very small,' and the same word as *prec.* Cf. **CHICKABIDDY**.] A chicken, a fowl. Also *dial.*, a louse.

1601 SHAKS. *Twel. N.* III. iv. 128 To. Why how now my bawcock? how dost y' chuck. *Mal. Sir.* To. I biddy, come with me. 1875 *Lanc. Gloss.* (E. D. S.), *Biddy*, a louse. 1881 *Isle of Wight Gloss.* (E. D. S.), *Biddy* or *Chickabiddy*, a chick. 1884 *Harper's Mag.* May 930/2 When a biddy wished to sit, she was removed at night upon the nest.

Bide (baid), *v.* Forms: 1 **bidan**, 2-6 **biden**, 3- **bide**; also 3-6 **byde**(n), 4 **bidde**, 5 *Sc. byd*. *Pa. t.* 1 **bād**, *pl.* **bidon**, 3-5 **bad**(e), *pl.* 2-4 **biden**, 3-6 **bod**, 4-5 **bood**, 5 **boode**, 6-7 **boad**, 3- **bode**; 6 **bid**, 7- **bided**; also *north.* 3-4 **badd**, 3-6 **baid**, 4 **badde**, 5 **bayd**, 6 **bed**, 8 **bade**. *Pa. pple.* 1-4 **biden**, 4-7 **bidden**, 6 **bid**; also 3-4 **biden**, 4-6 **bydden**, 5 **beddyn**, 6 **byden**, 9 *dial.* **bodden**. [*Com. Teut.*: OE. *bidan* (*pa. t.* *bād*, *bidon*; *pple.* *biden*) = OS. *bidan* (MDu. *biden*), OHG. *bītan* (MHG. *bītan*, mod. *dial. G. beiten*), ON. *bīða*, Goth. *beidan*:—OTeut. **bidan* to wait. Mostly replaced in mod. Eng. by its compound **ABIDE**, but regularly preserved in northern Eng. and Sc., and also employed by 19th c. poets, partly perhaps as an archaism, partly as an appetized form of *abide*.]

I. *intr.*

1. To remain in expectation, to wait. Often with an adverbial adjunct of time. (Chiefly northern, but used by modern poets.)

c1000 *Ag. Ps.* lvij. 6 Swa min sawl bad. a1300 *Cursor M.* 10991 Quen þai had beden til þai war irk þai com þanself in-to þe kyrk. c1325 E. E. *Allit. P.* B. 82a Ones ho bluschet to þe burge, bot bod ho no longer. a1400 *Sir Perc.* 569 The childe thoghte he longe bade That he ne ware a knyghte made. 1483 *Cath. Angl.* 31 To Byde, expectare. 1624 MALORY *Arthur* (1816) II. 307 He shall receive by thee his health, the which had bidden so long. 1816 SCOTT *Old Mort.* xxiii, 'Bide a wee, bide a wee,' said Cuddie. 1864 TENNYSON *En. Ard.* 435 Will you not bide your year as I bide mine? 1865 DICKENS *Mut. Fr.* xvi, 'Bide a bit.'

† b. *Const. for, to; on, upon* (*north.*). *Obs.*

a1300 *Vox & Wolf* 135 Ich hedde so ibede for the. 1609 SKENE *Reg. Mag.* 124 Except he fraudfullie absent himselfe, and in that case, he sal be bidden vpon... be the space of fourtie dayes.

2. To remain or continue in some state or action; to continue to be (something). *arch.*

c893 K. ALFRED *Orat.* III. iii. § 3 Seo corpe giniende bād. c1000 *Ag. Ps.* ciii. 11 Bidað assan eac onpurste. a1300 *Cursor M.* 1907 Yet he baid seuen dais in rest. c1340 *Ibid.* 19836 (Trin.) In orison he lay and bode. 1413 *Lyoc. Pylgr. Soule* v. i. (1859) 68 Ful longe there I boode in my torment and payne. c1530 *Yacob & 12 Sonnes* (Collier) 12 Rachel bod long barrain. 1611 BIBLE *Rom.* xi. 23 If they bide not still in vnbeliefe. 1633 P. FLETCHER *Purple Isl.* vi. xlii, And thirstie drinks, and drinking thirstie bides. 1871 R. ELLIS *Catullus* viii. 10 Nor follow her that flies thee, or to bide in woe Consent.

b. *To bide by* (rarely *at*): to stand firm by, adhere to, stick to, maintain. † *To bide upon*: to dwell or insist upon (a point). *Obs.*

1494 FABIAN *vi. civ.* 214 For this [battle] was so strongly bydden by, that men coude nat iudge whiche parte had the better. 1526 TINDALE *Mark* x. 7 And for this thingis sake shall a man leue father and mother and byde by his wife. 1536 SIR R. MORVSON in *Strype Eccl. Mem.* I. App. lxxii, Many things... which be both truly spoken and cannot but do good being bydden by. 1559 KENNEDY *Let. in Misc. Wedrow Soc.* (1844) 266 He gait me nevir answir to my wryttings, nor 3it baid at his sayings. 1611 SHAKS. *Wint. T.* I. ii. 242 To bide upon t': thou art not honest. 1847 TENNYSON *Poet* v. 316 Worthy reasons why she should Bide by this issue.

Cf. *To be a bidden by*, prop. *abidden by*: to be

maintained; also *adub.* = undoubtedly, we may be sure.

1549 LATIMER *Serm. bef. Edu. VI.* v. (Arb.) 133 To be a bidden by he would have done much good in that part.

3. To remain in a place, or with a person, as opposed to going away; to stay. Often with the idea of remaining behind when others go. *arch.*

c 893 K. ALFRED *Oras.* II. v. § 7 Þonne he þær leng bide. [c 1000 *Ag. Gosp.* Matt. xxvi. 38 Gebidab her and waciab mid me.] c 1200 *Trin. Coll. Hom.* 149 Wuo is mi soule þat ich bide here swo longe. a 1300 *Cursor M.* 16744 Durst naman wit him bide. 148a *Monk of Evesham* (Arb.) 34 Y thought to haue byddyn ther in the same place tyl the mornynge. 1515 BARCLAY *Eclages* i. (1570) Av. 4 Better were for suche to haue bid at home. 1560 ROLLAND *Crt. Venus* II. 399 He baid. . . Vpon that hill. . . Him to refresche. 1596 SPENSER *F. Q.* VI. xi. 40 So there all day they bode, till light the sky forsooke. 1668 CULPEPPER & COLE *Barthol. Anat.* I. ii. 3 Such as diue and bide long under the Water. 1857 EMERSON *Poems* 89 Who bides at home, nor looks abroad. 1868 MORRIS *Earthly Par.* I. 68 While we bided on that flowery down.

4. Of things: To remain, be left. *To let a thing bide:* to leave it where it is; to leave it alone for the present, to let it stand over.

c 1235 E. E. *Allit. P. B.* 449 Þa3 þe kyste in the cragez wern closed to byde. 1398 TREVISIA *Barth. De P. R.* xix. lxxix. (1495) 913 Yf they byde in the stomak they torne sone to fumosity and corrupcion. c 1470 HENRY WALLACE v. 166 A gret power at Dipplyn still thar baid. 1581 MARBECK *Bk. of Notes* 154 Heauen and earth shal sooner perish, then one iot bide behind of that he hath promised. a 1631 DONNE *Poems* (1650) 72 Waters stinke soone, if in one place they bide. 1866 KINGSLEY *Herew.* iv. 97 We will let the crow bide.

5. To remain in residence; to sojourn, dwell, reside. *arch.*

c 1280 *Fall & Passion* 40 in F. E. P. (1862) 13 Nedis he most wend to helle. . . þere he most bide an dwelle. c 1386 CHAUCER *Cokes T.* 35 This ioly prentys with his maister bood [v. r. bode]. 148a *Monk of Evesham* (Arb.) 26 Than bode with hym a certeyn brother. 1591 SPENSER *M. Hubberd* 400 The world, in which they bootles boad. 1621 BURTON *Anat. Mel.* II. ii. iii. (1651) 258 Some. . . will know. . . what God did. . . Where did he bide. 1667 MILTON *P. L.* III. 321 All knees to thee shall bow, of them that bide In Heauen, or Earth, or under Earth in Hell. 1798 COLERIDGE *Anc. Mar.* v. xxv. The spirit who bideþ by himself In the land of mist and snow. 1821 JOANNA BAILLIE *Mel. Leg.*, *Lady G. B.* xii. 9 Many his wants who bideþ lonely there.

II. trans.

6. To wait for, await. Now only in the phrase, *To bide one's time:* to await one's opportunity.

c 950 *Lindisf. G. Matt.* xi. 3 Oðer we bidas. 971 *Blickl. Hom.* 7 Drihtnes engel bideþ þinre zefafunga. c 1230 *Hali Meid.* 11 Eauer bide his grace. c 1325 E. E. *Allit. P. B.* 622 We byde þe here. 1381 WYCLIF *Ps.* cxviii. [cxix.] 166, I bod thin helthe þiure, Lord. c 1400 *Avow. Arth.* xxii. Atte Tarnewathelan Bidus me Sir Gauan. 1513 DOUGLAS *Aeneis* vii. x. 122 Now at the durdey redy bydis me. 1611 BIBLE *Wisd.* viii. 12 When I hold my tongue they. . . shal bide my leisure. 1853 ROBERTSON *Serm.* Ser. III. xvii. 218. § 1 They bide their time and then suddenly present themselves. 1873 SMILES *Huguenots Fr.* I. ix. (1881) 191 They held their peace and bided their time.

7. To await in resistance, to face, encounter, withstand; = ABIDE 14.

[a 1000 *Beowulf* 3241 Se þe ær æt sæcce gebád wīg-hryre wráðra.] c 1340 *Gaw. & Gr. Knt.* 376 He baldly hym bydez. 1480 *Robt. Deyll* 23 None durst hym byde there at all. 1523 LD. BERNERS *Froiss.* I. cccxxix. 532 Some of the capitayns wolde that thenglishmen shulde be byden, and some other sayd nay, bycause they were nat strong ynough to abyde them that were freshmen. 1664 *Flodden F.* ix. 83 Yet for defence they fiercelly frame And narrow dint with danger boad. 1813 SCOTT *Rokeby* v. xxxii. They dare not, hand to hand, Bide buffet from a true man's brand. 1877 BRYANT *Odys.* v. 583 Two men and three, in that abundant store, Might bide the winter storm.

† 8. To await submissively, submit to. *Obs.*

c 1203 LAV. 4721 Þæt ne sulde he naure ibiden þe while þe he mihte riden. c 1400 *Yvain & Gau.* 545 The kynges wil wald he noght bide, Worth of him what may bytde.

† 9. To endure, suffer, bear, undergo; = ABIDE 16. *Obs. exc. dial.*

c 1200 *Trin. Coll. Hom.* 33 Ne wot no man hwat blisse is þe naure wowe ne bod. c 1250 *Gen. & Ex.* 3105 Maniþe þor sorþe on liue bead. c 1400 *Sir Perc.* 627 The sorowe that the kinge bade Mighte no tonge telle. 1530 PALSGR. 454/2, I can nat byde this payne. 1601 SHAKS. *Thet. N.* II. iv. 304 There is no womans sides Can bide the beating of so strong a passion. 1691 MILTON *P. R.* I. 59 Wherein we Must bide the stroak of that long threatn'd wound. 1748 THOMSON *Cast. Indol.* I. xxii. Who bides his grasp with that encounter rue. 1816 SCOTT *Antiq.* xl. I wonder how younger folk bide it—I bide it ill.

† b. *To bide out:* to endure to the end. *Obs.*

1637 RUTHERFORD *Lett.* 85 I. 217 To bide out the seige.

10. To tolerate, endure, put up with; = ABIDE 17.

c 1250 *Gen. & Ex.* 1594 If iacob took her also a wif, Ne bode ic no lengere werdes lif. 1325 E. E. *Allit. P. B.* 32 For he. . . May not byde þat burne. 1810 TANNAHILL *Poems* (1846) 25, I cou'dna bide the thought. 1816 SCOTT *Antiq.* xii. I could never bide the staying still in ae place. 1884 TENNYSON *Becket* 84 Tho' I can drink wine I cannot bide water, my rock.

† *Bide, byde, sb. Obs.* [f. prec. vb.]

1. A dwelling, dwelling-place, habitation.

a 1300 *Salomon & Sat.* (1848) 273 Ne make þe nout for þy to wroþt, þa3 þou byde borewe. c 1435 *Torr. Portugal* 1463 With wyld bestis to have byde.

2. Delay, stay.

a 1000 *Riddles* iv. 3 (Gr.) Hwulum mec min frea. . . on bid wiced. a 1300 *Cursor M.* 1761 Quen al was tift was þar na

bide, þe stormes ras on ilka side. c 1325 *Leg. Rood* (1871) 113 Vp he rase wi-outen bide.

Bidel, obs. form of BEADLE.

Bidele, ME. form of BEDEAL.

† *Bideme*, v. *Obs. rare*—1. [f. bi-, BE- + ME. *denien* = OE. *dēman* to DEEM.] *trans.* To condemn.

a 1000 *Moral Ode* 107 in *Lamb. Hom.* 167 Ech Mon scal him solve þer bicleppe and bidenen.

Bident (boid'ent). [ad. L. *bident-em* (nom. *bidentis*) adj. 'having two teeth, two-pronged, forked,' sb. 'a two-pronged fork, a sheep or other animal for sacrifice whose two rows of teeth are complete,' f. bi- two + *dentem* tooth.]

1. An instrument or weapon with two prongs.

1575 COTTON *Poet. Wks.* (1765) 232 The blust'ring Aeo for his Bident. 1850 LAYARD *Nineveh* v. 94 A half-moon, a bident, and a horned cap.

2. A two-year-old sheep. *rare.*

1881 THURN in *Academy* No. 491. 252 The timid bident has usurped the place of the bellower.

Bidental (boidental), a. [f. L. *bident-em* (see prec.) + -AL¹.] 'Belonging to a Fork, or Instrument with two teeth.' Bullokar, 1676.

|| *Bidental*, sb. *Rom. Antig.* [L. *bidental*, f. *bident-em* (see BIDENT), according to some called from the forked lightning (see *bidental* = *fulmen bifidum* in Du Cange), according to others from the *bidentis* or sheep sacrificed at its consecration.] A place struck by lightning, consecrated by the haruspices, and enclosed. Also fig.

1622 COLES, *Bidental*, also a place where sheep were sacrificed. 1753 CHAMBERS *Cycl. Supp.* s. v., Festus represents the bidental as a temple, where sheep of two years old were offered in sacrifice. 1794 MATTHIAS *Parr. Lit.* (1798) 29, I would only set up the bidental at the bookseller's door at Wimbledon. 1873 BLACKMORE *Cradock N.* xxvii, The scene of his ruin and despair,—the 'bidental' of his destiny.

Bidentate, -ated (boident'at, -éd), a. [f. L. *bident-em* (see BIDENT) + -ATE.] Having two teeth or tooth-like processes.

† *Bidentated*, a. = prec.

1756 P. BROWNE *Jamaica* 321 The seeds are all bidentated. 1826 KIRBY & SP. *Entomol.* III. xxxii. 314 The male mandible is more bidentate at the apex than the female. 1828 SOUTHEY *Life* (1850) V. 366 A fork bidentated, and a trenchant knife. 1866 TATE *Brit. Mollusks* iv. 76 The uncini of *Limax agrestis* are bidentated.

Bidental (boidental), a. [f. L. *bident-em* (see BIDENT) + -IAL.] Two-pronged.

1730 SWIFT *Let. Gay* 10 Nov., Ill management of forks is not to be helped when they are only bidental.

Bider (boid'ar). [f. BIDE v. + -ER¹.] One who stays or remains.

1535 STEWART *Cron. Scot.* III. 440 [Seldom is] ane myding tuler in ane hattell bydar. 1577 NORTHBROOKE *Dicing* (1843) 95 Saint Paule admonisheth women—to be byders and taries at home.

Bidery, variant of BIDRI.

Bidet (bidg, bidet). [a. F. *bidet* pony; of unknown origin: cf. OF. *bider* (Godefroy) to trot. In 16th c. the F. word meant also some small kind of dagger. (The Celtic comparisons made by Diez and Littré are rejected by Thurneysen.)]

1. A small horse.

1630 B. JOHNSON *Chlorid. Wks.* (1838) 656, I will return to myself, mount my bidet, in a dance, and curvet upon my curtal. 1828 DISRAELI *Chas. I.* I. ii. 18 Then there are thanks for two bidets which Henry sends him. 1853 SALA *Capt. Dangerous* II. vi. 202, I trotted behind on a little Bidet.

2. 'A vessel on a low, narrow stand, which can be bestridden' (*Syd. Soc. Lex.*) for bathing purposes.

Bid-hook, variant of BEAD-HOOK.

1607 DEKKER *Knts. Conjur.* (1842) 43 He has split one of his oares and broken his bid-hook. 1867 SMYTH *Sailor's Word-Bk.* *Bid-hook*, a small kind of boat-hook.

Bidigitate (boidi'dzitet), a. [f. BE- pref. 3 + DIGITATE, f. L. *digitus* finger.] Having two digits, fingers, or finger-like processes. *Bidi-gital* a. = prec.

1854 DANA *Crust.* I. 649 Small bi-digitate sacs. 1881 MIVART *Cat* 103 The skeleton of the fore-leg. . . is divisible into a tri- and a bi-digitate series, placed side by side.

Biding (boid'in), vbl. sb. [f. BIDE v. + -ING¹.]

1. Awaiting, expectation; remaining, tarrying.

1340 HAMPOLE *Pr. Consc.* 4708 And men sal wax dry. . . for lang bydyng þar-in. 1483 *Cath. Angl.* 31 A Bydyngge, expectacion, perseverancia. a 1657 SIR J. BALFOUR *Ann. Scot.* (1825) II. 315 His longe delay and bydyng out. 1862 BARNES *Rhymes Dorset Dial.* II. 182 But biding up till dead o' night. . . do soon consume The faice's bloom.

† b. *concr.* The object of expectation. *Obs.*

1382a WYCLIF *Jer.* xiv. 8 Thou biding [Vulg. expectation] of Israel, his sauoeur in tyme of tribulacioun.

2. Stay, residence, dwelling.

c 1400 *Cov. Myst.* 22 In erthliche paradys withoutyn woe I graunt the bydyng. 1553 MILTON *Ps.* v. 11 Evil with thee no biding makes. 1713 ROWE *7. Shore* I. ii, At Antwerp has my constant biding been. 1866 [sec 3].

† b. *concr.* An abode, dwelling, habitation. *Obs.*

1600 HAKLUYT *Voy.* III. 809 (R.) They brought us to their bidings about two miles from the harborough. 1605 SHAKS. *Learn* iv. vi. 228 I'll lead you to some biding. a 1687 COTTON *Voy. Irel.* I. 66 Three miles ere we met with a biding.

3. *attrib.*, as *biding-place*, place of abode.

1557 PARNELL *Barclay's Jugurth* 17 b, They had no certayne bydyng place. 1626 MILTON *Death Fair Inf.* 25

He. Unhoused thy virgin soul from her fair biding-place. 1866 MRS. WHITNEY L. *Goldthwaite* i, How many different little biding-places there are in the world.

Biding, ppl. a. [f. as prec. + -ING².] Lasting, continuing, enduring. (Now usually ABIDING.)

1430 *LYDG. Chron. Troy* I. ii, And though the ginning be but casuell The biding frete is passingly cruell. 1536 LYNDESAY *Answ. Kyngis Flyting* 38 Beleif richt weill, it is ane bydand gam. 1633 W. STRUTHER *True Hap.* 5 We have need of some biding substance to supply these losses.

† *Bidowe*. *Obs. rare*—1. [Referred by Prof. Skeat (*Notes to Piers Plowman*) to med.L. *bidu-bium*, a bill-hook or bush-hook (which has been conjectured to be of Celtic origin, from Gaulish **vidu* wood); others have compared Welsh *bidog* dagger: but the meaning and derivation are alike uncertain.] ? A weapon of some kind.

1362 LANGL. *P. Pl.* A. XL. 211 A bidowe or a baselard he berþ be his side.

Bid-prayer = *Bidding prayer*: see BIDDING 6.

1691 WOOD *Ath. Oxon.* (R.) He lays by the text for the present and. . . addressed himself to the bid-prayer.

|| *Bidri*, *bidree*, *bidry* (bid'ri). Also 8-9 *biddery*, *bidery*. [Urdu *bidri*, f. *Bidar* or *Bedar* a town in the Nizam's dominion in India.] An alloy of copper, lead, tin, and zinc, used as a ground for inlaying with gold and silver, in the manufacture of *Bidri*- or *Biddery*-ware.

1794 *Europ. Mag.* 209 You may have heard of Bidry Work. 1813 *Ann. Reg.* 499/1 The alloys for the gurry and the Biddery ware. 1875 *URE Dict. Arts* I. 341 Bidry does not rust, yields little to the hammer, and breaks only when violently beaten. 1883 *Daily News* 3 July 2/2 The 'bidri' ware is now almost as well known in England.

Bidrep (e, -ripe, var. *BEDRIP*, *Obs.*, boon service.

† *Bidstand*. *Obs.* [One who *bids* travellers stand and deliver.] A highwayman.

a 1637 B. JOHNSON is cited by Halliwell. 1863 SALA *Capt. Dang.* II. vii. 225 Rogues, Thieves. . . Bidstands, and Clapper-dudgeons. . . infested the outskirts of the Old Palace.

Biduons (bidu'ons), a. [f. L. *bidu-um* space of two days (f. bi- two + *dies*, *diu-* day) + -OUS.] Lasting for two days. 1866 in *Treas. Bot.*

Bidwoolien, early form of BEDWEL v. *Obs.*

Bie, obs. form of BEE 32, BUY, BY.

Bief (e), obs. form of BEEF.

Bieften, early form of BAFT.

Biel, obs. form of BEAL, BOIL sb.

Bield (bield), sb. *Obs. exc. dial.* Forms: 1 *byldo*, 4-5 *beld* (e, 5 *beelde*, 6 *beald*, 5-7 *beeld*, 4-9 *beild* (e, 5 *beild*, (6 *beill*, *bele*, *beale*, 8-9 *biel*). [Common Teut.: OE. *bieldo*, in WSax. *bieldo*, *byldo* boldness, courage = OHG. *baldf*, MHG. *belde* confidence, feeling of security, Goth. *balpei* boldness, confidence:—OTeut. **balþjōn*-, n. of quality from **balþo-z*, Goth. *balps*, OHG. *bald*, OE. *bald*, *beald*, *BOLD*. The evidence appears to show that mod.Sc. *bield*, *beild* is the same as the ME. *belde*, the connexion being through sense 3. But the matter is not without difficulty, and the derivation of Sc. *bield* has been sought elsewhere, esp. in connexion with *build*, though without much success.]

† 1. Boldness, courage. *Obs.*

c 890 K. ALFRED *Bada* I. vii, He sceolde ða byldo anescian. a 1300 *Cursor M.* 12237 A barn wit-uten beild [v. r. beilde, *beilde*]. c 1340 *Gaw. & Gr. Knt.* 649 Quen he blushed þerto, his belde neuer payred. 1470 HARDING *Chron.* cxxxv. iv, His brother bastard, with strong beild, Had putte hym out.

† 2. Confidence, assurance, feeling of security; hence, comfort. Often in alliterative connexion with *bliss*. *Obs.*

a 1300 *Cursor M.* 605 A land o lijf, o beld, and blis, þe quilk man clepes paradis. c 1325 *Metz. Hom.* 162 This trouchoun for relic scho held Al hir lif, with worship and beild. *Ibid.* 166 Ic haf tinte werdes, mensc, and belde. c 1400 *Melayne* 324 With mekill blysse & belde.

† 3. Resource, help; often in alliterative connexion with *bote* (BOOT); succour, defence, relief.

c 1325 *Metz. Hom.* 7 Mankind in prison he held, With outen help, wit outen belde. c 1360 *Yesterday* in E. E. P. (1862) 136 Vnsweire I schal, Whi god sent suche men boote and belde. c 1440 *Bone Flor.* 1721 A woman dyscown-fortyd sare, Wythouten bote or belde. 1535 STEWART *Cron. Scot.* II. 549 Mony berne wist nother of bute no beild. 1570-87 HOLINSHED *Scot. Chron.* (1806) II. 51 Quhan Kings and princes hes na other beild bot in thair awin folks.

† b. A means of help or succour. *Obs.* (Often transferred to a person.)

a 1300 *Cursor M.* 20815 Again þat fa scho be vr beild. c 1352 MINOT *Poems* vi. 27 Alweldand god. . . He be his beld. c 1425 WYNTOUN *Cron.* vii. vi. 15 He wes þe Beld of all hys kyn. c 1440 *Bone Flor.* 764 Sche cryed to hym. . . Thou be my fadurs belde.

† 4. Resource against hunger; 'cheer,' sustenance.

(Only Sc.) *Obs.*

1513 DOUGLAS *Aeneis* xii. ix. 50 His fader eyrit and sew ane peice of feild, That he in hyregang held to be his beild. 1552 LYNDESAY *Monarchie* 1087 For fude thow gettis none uther beild Bot eait the herbis upone the feild.

5. a. Refuge, shelter. b. A place of shelter.

(Only Scotch and north. dial.)

c 1450 HENRYSON *Mor. Fab.* 82 He ran restlesse; for hee

-wist of no bield. 1513 DOUGLAS *Æneis* II. x. (ix.) 16 Hecuba thidder.. for bield Ran all in vane. 1570-87 HOLINSHED *Scot. Chron.* (1806) I. 8 The Scotchmen call it [Cromart haven] beill of shippmen. 1594 *Scot. Poems* 16th C. II. 352 Argyll.. Wpone ane hill had tane bield. 1600 FAIRFAX *Tasso* II. lxxxiv. 36 This is our bield, the blustering windes to shun. 1691 RAY *N. Country Wds.* 7 Bield, shelter. 1792 BURNS *Wks.* II. 397 Better a wee bush than nae bield. *Ibid.* III. 216 Jamaica bodies, use him weel, An' hap him in a cozie bield. 1818 SCOTT *Rob Roy* xxv. 'The oppressors that hae driven me to tak the heather-bush for a bield.' 1823 W. NAPIER *Pract. Store-farm.* 117 The most valuable... shelter.. is derived from the bield of a close, well built, stone dike. 1864 ATKINSON *Whitby Gloss.* Bield, a shelter or shed. 'A bit of a bield in a field neuk.'

C. A lodging, dwelling; a den.

1570 LEVINS *Manip.* 207 A Beale, den, *spelmca.* 1585 AND. SANDYS *Serm.* iii. The fox will not worry near his bield [*v.r.* bele]. 1815 SCOTT *Guy R.* viii. 'There's thirty yonder.. that ye have turned out of their bits o' bields.'

Bield (bīld), *v.* Obs. exc. dial. Forms: 1 bieldan, byldan, beldan, 2-5 belden, *Orm.* beoldenn, 3-5 beld(e, s, bylde, beilde, beelde, beold, beyl, bild, 6 beald, 7-9 beal, 4- beild, bield. *Pa. pple.* beld, beild, beald, bield. [*Com. Teut.*: OE. (Anglian) *beldan*, (W.Sax.) *byldan*, *byldan* = OS. *beldjan*, OHG. *baldēn*, MHG. *belden*, Goth. *balpan* 'to make bold,' f. OTeut. **balp-oz* BOLD. The sense-development in ME. was evidently influenced by that of the cognate sb. (see prec.), which it closely follows. In senses 1 and 2, ME. had another vb. of precisely the same meaning, *bealden*, *baldēn*, *baldēn* = OE. *bealdian* (see BOLD *v.*); but the latter never got the senses of 'protect, shelter.'

†1. *trans.* To make bold, encourage; to confirm. 897 K. ALFRED *Past. Care* xviii. 128 Ne tyht nan man his hieremonna mod ne ne bielt [*v.r.* bilt] to gastlicum weorcum. 993 *Byrhtnoth* 209 Swa hi bylde forð bearn Elfrices. 1200 *ORMIN* 2614 Wipþ ihwille mahht To beoldenn itt and strengenn. — 2745 *Purh* Goddess milce beldedd. a 1225 *Aucr. R.* 162 Ure Louerd sulst stont þer bi þe uichte, and beldeð [*v.r.* bealdeð] ham. 12330 *Lai Le Freine* 231 The abbess her gan techē & belde. 1400 *Destr. Troy* x. 4541 Of the Bisshop go buernes beldid were þen. †2. *intr.* To grow bold or strong; to be bold, have confidence. *Obs.*

1230 R. BRUNNE *Chron.* 135 Long myght he not regne, ne on his lif belde. a 1400 *St. Alexius* (Laud) 29 As he bigon to Belde And was i-come to monnes elde. a 1500 *MS. Harl.* 1701, lf. 64 (Halliwell) Thys maye wax and bygan to belde Weyl ynto womans elde.

3. *trans.* To defend, protect, shelter. *Sc.* and *north. dial.*

c 1300 in Wright's *Lyric P.* iv. 24 He shal him birowen that he hire belde. c 1400 *Pwaine & Gaw.* 1220 None es so wight wapins to welde, Ne that so boldly mai us belde. c 1440 *York Myst.* I. 35, I beelde þe here baynely in blis for to be. — 107 We þat were beelded in blis, in bale are we now. 1470 *HARDING Chron.* cxl. vii. Kyng Philip cowardly with royall hoste hym belde. 1570 LEVINS *Manip.* 208 To Beald, succour, adumbrate, *protector*. 1500 *Felon Sow of Rokeby*, The fryar leaped.. And bealed him with a tree. 1823 SCOTT *F. M. Perth* xii. That.. beilded me as if I had been a sister.

4. *intr.* (for *refl.*) To find refuge, protection, or shelter; to shelter oneself; to lodge, dwell. (In this sense possibly confused with BUILD, *q.v.*)

c 1400 *Destr. Troy* xiv. 5864 And bowet fro the batell.. flor to belde hym on þe bent, & his brethe take. 1400 *Morte Arth.* 8 Ewyre to belde and to byde in byllyse with hym selven. *Ibid.* 1242 The baronage, that bieldēz thare-in. c 1400 *Melayne* 1496 Under the cante of a hille Oure Bretons beldis & bydis stille. c 1440 *York Myst.* i. 61 All blis es here beeldande a-boute vs. — xxxii. 1 Pees, bew-scheres, I bidde you, þat beldis here aboute me. c 1460 *Towneley Myst.* 135 Alas! Where may we weylde?

†5. *transf.* To cover, cover over. (Only *Sc.*) a 1455 *Holland Houlat* xix. 9 Braid burdis & benkis, our-beld with bancouris of gold. c 1495 *DUNBAR Tua Mariit Women* 164 Now sall the byle all out brist, that beild has bein so lang. c 1550 SIR J. BALFOUR *Practicks* 618 To see the ship tyit and beiled.

†6. To sustain, nourish, feed. *Obs.*

c 1470 *HENRY Wallace* xi. 43 This land is purd off fud that suld ws beild. 1513 DOUGLAS *Æneis* i. xl. 21 Fyfty damicellis.. To graith the chalmeris, and the fyris beild.

Bield, *pple. a. Sc.* Also *biel* [*f. prec. verb.*] Sheltered, comfortable, cosy.

1792 BURNS *Bessie & Spin. Wheel* i. And haps me biel and warm at e'en. 1795 MACNEILL *Will & Jean* 92 Neat and bield, a cot-house stood.

Bielding (bīldin), *vbl. sb. north.* Also 5 beel-, beyldyng. [*f. asprec.* + -ING¹.] Protection; shelter. c 1440 *York Myst.* I. 38 In his blis sall be 3hour bealdyng. c 1460 *Towneley M.* 122 That I may have som beyldyng by In my travaylle. 1724 RAMSAY *Tea-t. Misc.* (1733) II. 198 Nae beilding can she [the hare] borrow In Sorrel's field.

† **Bieldly**, *a. Obs. north. dial.* In 5 beyldly. [*f. BIELD sb.* + -LY¹.] Of the nature of a shelter.

c 1440 *York Myst.* xli. 336 Welcome to thy beyldly boure.

Bieldy (bīldi), *a. Sc.* Also 8 beildy, biely. [*f. as prec.* + -Y¹.] Affording shelter.

1755 RAMSAY *Poems* II. 485 (JAM.) Beildy holes when tempests blaw. 1789 D. DAVIDSON *Seasons* 176 (JAM.) An' Spring peeps cautious on the biely braes. 1823 SCOTT *Nigel* xxvii. When I came here first.. England was a bieldy bit.

Bi-emarginate: see BI-3.

Bien, variant of BEIN; or obs. f. of BUY.

Bield, obs. form of BEND sb.¹

Bienfait, -volence: see BENE-.

† **Biennial**. *Obs.* [*ad. late L. biennāl-e* (sc. *officium*), neuter of *biennālis* of two years (see next).] The saying of masses for a departed soul during the period of two years.

1362 LANGE *P. Pl.* A. viii. 156 Biennals [*v.r.* biennales, by-ennals] and Triennals and Busschopes lettres.

Biennial (bi'enniāl), *a. and sb.* [*f. L. bienni-s* of two years, *bienni-um* space of two years (*f. bi-two + annus* year) + -AL.] *A. adj.*

1. Existing or lasting for two years; changed every two years.

1621 HOWELL *Lett.* I. l. xli. The Duke is there [at Genoa] every two years. 1711 KEN *Hymn.* Poet. Wks. 1721 III. 12 Biennial Stores they [ants] treasure under Earth. 1854 WOODWARD *Mollusca* (1856) The land-snails are mostly biennial.

b. *esp.* of plants; see B.

1691 RAY *Creation* I. (J.), Some.. very long lived, others only annual or biennial. 1755 *Genl. Mag.* XXV. 69 The common hemlock is biennial. 1805 KNIGHT in *Phil. Trans.* XCV. 262 Annual and biennial plants.

2. Recurring, happening, or taking place once in every two years.

1750 JOHNSON *Rambl.* No. 61 p. 6 Whom he condescends to honour with a biennial visit.

b. *sb.* *Bot.* A plant which springs from seed and vegetates one year (or growing season), and flowers, fructifies, and perishes the next.

1770 WARRING in *Phil. Trans.* LXI. 385 Biennials.. are the natural.. product of such places. 1815 *Encycl. Brit.* (ed. 5) III. 610 Of the esculent kinds, the cabbage, savoy, carrot, parship, beet, onion, leek, etc., are biennials.

Biennially, *adv.* [*f. prec.* + -LY².] Every two years; once in two years.

1775 BURKE *Sp. Conc. Amer. Wks.* III. 98 Through whose hands the acts pass biennially in Ireland, or annually in the colonies. 1820 SCOTT *Abbot* iv. The Professor's cast-off suit, which he disparts with biennially.

|| **Bienseance** (biēnsēāns), [*Fr.* *f. bienséant*, *f. bien* well + *séant*, *pr. pple.* of *seoir* to befit. Rather common in Eng. use about end of 18th and beginning of 19th c.] Decorum; propriety.

1665 BOYLE *Occas. Refl.* (1675) Pref. 20 The Laws of Decorum or, as the French call it *Bienséance*. 1788 *Wal-poliiana* lxviii. 34 Those northern countries are rigid in the bienseance. 1818 SCOTT *Rob Roy* xiv. Bred in a country where much attention is paid.. to bienseance. 1823 BYRON *Juan* xiv. lxxvii. At least as far as bienseance allows.

|| **Bienveneue**. *Obs.* Also 5 beneveneuew, 6 bienveneue, 6-7 benvenue, 7 bienvenue. [*Fr.* (*biēnvēnu*), *f. bien* well + *venue* coming. Formerly as frequent in Eng. use as *adieu*.]

1. Welcome.

1393 GOWER *Conf.* I. To ben upon his bienvenue The firste, which shall him salue. c 1440 *York Myst.* xxx. 280 Now bene-veneuew, beuscher, What boodword haste bou brought? 1599 NASH *Lent. Stuffe* (D.), I having no great pieces to discharge for his ben-venue. 1629 MASSINGER *Picture* II. ii. They have.. given him the bienvenu.

2. A fee exacted from a new workman. 1793 *Ann. Reg.* 251/1 The composers demanded of me Bienveneue afresh.

Bier (biēr). Forms: 1 biēr, ber, 2-3 bære, 2-6 bære, 3 bære, 4-7 beer/e, 5-6 Sc. beyr, 5-7 beare(e, 6 beir(e, 6-7 biere, 6- bier. [*Com. Teut.*: OE, WSax. *bēr*, Anglian *bēr*, = OS, OHG. *bāra* (MHG. *bāre*, mod.G. *bahre*), OTeut. **bērd* fem. *f. beran* to bear; cf. ON. *barar* fem. pl., also BARROW. The modern spelling (since 1600) appears to be due to imitation of the F. form *bière*, *ad.* OHG. *bāra* (cf. *Pr. bera*, *It. bara*.)]

†1. A framework for carrying; a handbarrow; a litter, a stretcher. *Obs.* exc. *list.*

c 890 K. ALFRED *Badv.* xix. (BOSW.) On his begna handum on bære boren was. c 975 *Rushw. G.* John v. 8 Aris & zinim bere ðine & gaa. c 1300 *Beket* 899 Ibare in barewe other in bere. 1535 COVERDALE 2 *Macc.* iii. 27 They toke him vp and bare him out vpon a bære. 1583 STANVURST *Æneis* iv. (Arb.) 108 On beers her softye reposing. c 1600 SHAKS. *Sonn.* xii. Sommers greene all girded vp in sheaves Borne on the bære with white and bristly beard. 1821 TURNER *Dom. Arch.* I. iv. 140 Horse litters or beers were also in use.

2. The movable stand on which a corpse, whether in a coffin or not, is placed before burial; that on which it is carried to the grave.

a 1000 *Elene* (Gr.) 873 And zefarenne man [hi] Brohton on bære. c 1200 *ORMIN* 8167 All the bære was blessegd With baten gold and silferr. a 1300 *Cursor M.* 20703 Four of papostles ber þe bere. 1382 WYCLIF 2 *Sam.* iii. 31 Forsothe David folwede the beere (Cov. bere). 1565 JEWEL *Repl. Harding* (1611) 211 Whosoever was chosen Bishop there, should come to the Beare, and lay his Predecessours hand upon his head. 1621 BIBLE 2 *Sam.* iii. 31 King David himselfe followed the beere. — *Luke* vii. 14 Hec came and touched the beere. 1628 SIR T. BROWNE *Hydriot.* i. 7 Feretra or Beers of Wood. 1793 MAUNDRELL *Journ. Jerus.* 100 He had seiz'd the Bier. 1877 BRYANT *Lit. People Snow* 303 Following the bier, Chanted a sad and solemn melody.

b. Put for the corpse on the bier. *rare.*

1596 SPENSER *Astraph.* 149 The dolefull beare that euer man did see, Was Astrophel.

3. *transf.* A tomb, a sepulchre.

1513 DOUGLAS *Æneis* III. i. 116 To Polidorus wp a beir We erectit. 1535 STEWART *Crom. Scot.* II. 600 Tuke the Scottis in the field war slane, To Crissin bereis in the tyme thame buir. 1596 SPENSER *F. Q.* III. iii. 21 He was surprisid,

and buried under beare. 1808 SCOTT *Marm.* i. Introd., Drop upon Fox's grave a tear, 'Twill trickle to his rival's bier.

†4. To bring to, on, or upon (one's) bier: to bring to the grave or to death, to put to death; in *passive*, to meet one's death, die. *Obs.*

c 1480 *Childe Bristowe* 132 in *E. P. P.* (1864) 116 Sone, now y pray the, myn attourney that thu be, when y am broght to bere. 1513 DOUGLAS *Æneis* x. x. 138 This Dardane prince Sa mony doughty corpsis brocht on beyr. 1530 LYNDSEY *Papynge* 405. 1559 *Mirr. Mag.* *Dk. Suffolk* xvi. Through privy murder we broght him to his beere. *Ibid. Mempr.* v. When I had my brother broght on beire.

5. *Comb. and Attrib.*, as *bier-carrier*; † *bier-balk*, a balk in a field where there is a right of way for funerals; *bier-cloth*, a pall; † *bier-right*, an ordeal in which a person, accused of murder, was required to approach the corpse, and clear himself on oath; † *bier-tree*, the frame of a bier.

1563 *Homilies* II. *Rogation Wk.* iv. (1640) 237 Where their ancestors left of their land a broad and sufficient 'beere-balk' to carry the corps to the Christian sepulture. 1654 TRAPP *Comm.* Job xxxiii. 22 His life.. to the 'Bier-carriers, say the Tigrines. 1549 *Invent. Ch. Goods* in *Norfolk Archæol.* (1865) VII. 34 Item ij 'beer clothes, whereof the on is of blacke worsted, the other of canvasse. 1693 *Land. Gaz.* No. 2845/4 Two black 'Bier Cloths. 1808 SCOTT *F. M. Perth* II. 237 I have heard of the 'bier-right, Sir Louis. c 1440 *Bone Flor.* 1350 Broght hym home on a 'bere-tree.

Bier, obs. form of BEAR, BEER, BIER, BUYER.

Bierd, variant of BURD, *Obs.*, lady.

Bierdly, *bierly*, variants of BURDLY *a.*

Bierlin, variant of BIRLING, a galley.

Biern, -en, variants of BERNE, *Obs.*, warrior.

Bies, variant of BYSS, *Obs.*, fine linen.

Bieste, *biestings*, obs. ff. BEAST, BEESTINGS.

Bieu, obs. form of BEAU *a. fair.*

Bieves, obs. form of BEVES, pl. of BEEF.

Biewaile, obs. form of BY-WAY.

Bifacial, *bifanged*: see BI-*pref.*² 1.

Bifarious (biēfāri-ūs), *a.* [*f. L. bifāri-ūs* two-fold, double.]

1. Two-fold, double, ambiguous. *arch.* or *Obs.* 1656 BLOUNT *Glossogr.* *Bifarious*, that which may be spoken two ways. 1707 E. WARD *Had. Rediv.* II. vii. 3 Some strange, mysterious Verity In old bifarious Prophecy. 1770 *Month. Rev.* 18 To exercise her bifarious talents.

2. *Bot.* Ranged in two rows.

1846 DANA *Zooph.* (1848) 645 Polypys seriate, or bifarious. 1876 HARLEY *Mat. Med.* 380 Turmeric.—Leaves bifarious.

Bifariously, *adv.* [*f. prec.* + -LY².] In a bifarious manner: *a.* In two ways; ambiguously. *b.* In two rows. *Bifariously pubescent* in *Bot.*: having the hairs on each internode ranged in two opposite rows at right angles to the rows on the two adjacent internodes.

1657 TOMLINSON *Renou's Disp.* 556 Polypody must be bifariously prepared. 1870 HOOKER *Stud. Floræ* 268 *Veronica arvensis*.. branches.. bifariously pubescent.

† **Bifel-e**, *v. Obs.* [*Com. WGer.*: OE. *be-feolan* = OS. and OHG. *bifelhan* (MHG. *bevelen*, mod.G. *befehlen*, MDu. and Du. *bevelen*), *f. bi-*, BE- + *felhan*, in ON. *fela* to hide, bury, entrust, Goth. *filhan* to hide, bury. An important vb. in Ger. and Du., but early lost in Eng.]

trans. To commit, entrust, consign, grant.

c 1000 *Ag. Ps.* lxxii. 14 [lxxiii. 18] Þu him for inwite, yfel befeale. c 1175 *Lamb. Hom.* 123 On helle þe we weren in bifolen þurh ure eldra gult.

Bifer (bi-far). [*a. L. bifer* adj. 'bearing fruit twice in the year,' *f. bi-* twice + *fer* bearing.] A plant which produces fruit or flowers twice a year.

Biferous (bi-fē-rūs), *a.* [*f. as prec.* + -OUS. Cf. F. *bifère*.] *a. Bot.* Bearing fruit or flowers twice in a year. *b. Crystallog.* (see quot.)

1656 in BLOUNT *Glossogr.* a 168a SIR T. BROWNE *Tracts* 70 Some are biferous and triforous which bear twice or thrice in the year. 1816 R. JAMESON *Char. Min.* (1817) 220 Biferous (*bifère*), when every angle and edge suffers two decrements. Example, Biferous grey copper-ore.

Biffin (bi-fin). Also *beefen*, -in, -ing, *beaufin*. [*A dial. pronunc. of beefing*, *f. BEEF*, in reference to the deep red colour of the apple; see -ING. The spelling *beaufin* has been fabricated to give colour to a fictitious derivation from F. *beau* beautiful + *fin* fine.]

1. A variety of cooking apple, cultivated especially in Norfolk.

1794 GODWIN *Cal. Williams* 63 Frost-bitten cheeks, as red as a befen from her own orchard. 1820 PEACOCK *Misf. Elphin* 180 This archetype of a Norfolk befen. 1834 *Penny Cycl.* II. 190/1 For drying, the Norfolk Beaufin. 1844 DICKENS *Christm. Carol* 82 Norfolk Biffins, squab and swarthy, setting off the yellow of the oranges and lemons.

2. A baked apple, of the preceding variety, flattened in the form of a cake.

1822 KITCHENER *Cook's Orac.* 500 Dried Biffins from Norfolk. 1837 *New Month. Mag.* XLIX. 555 Beat his enormous head as flat as a biffin. 1858 R. HOGG *Veg. Kingd.* 308 Baked in ovens, and flattened in the form of round cakes, they [apples] are called Beefings.

Bifid (bi-fid, bi-fid), *a.* Also 8 bifid. [*ad. L. bifidus*, *f. bi-* two + *fid-*, stem of *findere* to cleave, split.] Divided into two parts by a deep cleft or notch. *Bi-fidly* *adv.*, in a bifid manner.

1661 LOVELL *Hist. Anim. & Min.* Introd., Amongst serpents... the tongue is... bifid in the end. 1766 *Phil. Trans.* LVI. 213 A land tortoise in which was found a bifid wind-pipe. 1834 MRS. SOMERVILLE *Connex. Phys. Sc.* (1849) 404 The bifid tail of the comet. 1849 *Proc. Berw. Nat. Club* 11. 371 Bifidly divided at the apex.

Bifidate (bi-fid'et), *a.* [f. prec. + -ATE.] A bad variant of prec. 1847 in CRAIG.

Bifidated, *a.* [f. as prec. + -ED.] = prec.

1755 in JOHNSON; hence in mod. Dicts.

Bifidity (bi-fid'i-ti), *f.* [BIFID + -ITY.] The quality of being bifid.

1870 ROLLESTON *Anim. Life* 106 Antero-posterior bifidity.

Bifidous, **bifideous**, *a.* Obsolete by-forms of BIFID.

1657 TOMLINSON, *Renou's Disp.* 456 Bifideous hooves. *Ibid.* 457 Bifidous angles, like a Goat. 1715 *Phil. Trans.* XXXIX. 307 Quadrupeds... multifidous and bifidous.

Bifilar (bi-fil'ar), *a.* [f. BI- pref.² + FILAR, *f. L. fil-um* thread + -AR.] Fitted or furnished with two threads; *spec.* applied to apparatus for measuring minute distances or angles; also for suspending a body so that it has a very slight directive force in a definite plane, with a view to the measurement of minute forces, etc. **Bifilarly** *adv.*, in a bifilar manner, by means of two threads.

1870 R. FERGUSON *Electr.* 26 Gauss's bifilar magnetometer. 1879 THOMSON & TAIT *Nat. Phil.* I. i. § 435 The Bifilar Suspension... was used also by Gauss in his bifilar magnetometer for measuring the horizontal component of the terrestrial magnetic force. 1884 *Harper's Mag.* Sept. 644/1 A copper disc suspended bifilarly.

Bifistular (bi-fis'ti-lar), *a.* [f. BI- pref.² + FISTULAR, *f. L. fistula* tube.] Having two tubes. 1870 HOOKER *Stud. Flora* 224 *Lobelia Dortmanna*; leaves all radical, submerged, subcylindrical, bifistular.

Bifistole, *v.*, to flow round: see **BI- pref.** 4.

Bifistolate (bi-fis'to-lat), *a.* [f. as next + -ATE.] = next.

Biflorous (bi-flo'ras), *a.* [f. mod. *L. biflor-us* two-flowered (*f. BI- + flor-em* flower) + -OUS.] Bearing two flowers or blooms; two-flowered.

1794 MARTYN *Rousseau's Bot.* xxv. 357 Tangier Pea, another of the biflorous section. 1880 GRAY *Bot. Text-bk.* 399 **+ Bifol.** *Obs. Herb.* [ad. med. *L. bifolium*, *f. bi- two + folium* leaf; cf. *trefoil*, *cinquefoil*.] *Obs.* name of the Twayblade (*Listera ovata*).

1633 GERARD *Herbal* II. lxxxvii. 402 *O* Twayblade, or herbe Bifoile. 1860 MAYNE *Med. Lex.* 121.

Bifold (bi-fold), *a.* [f. BI- pref.² + FOLD.] Double, twofold; of two kinds, degrees, etc.

1609 SHAKS. *Tr. & Cr.* v. ii. 144 (*Qo.*) O madness of discourse, that cause sets up with and against it selfe, By-fould authority. [1 *Fol.* By fould authority. *Globe* Bi-fold authority!] 1828 J. BROWN *Psyche* 85 Like Janus with his bifold faces. 1876 EMERSON *Ess.* Ser. I. vii. 186 The scholar shames us by his bifold lie.

Bifole, *obs.* form of BEFOOL.

Bifoliate (bi-fol'iat), *a.* [f. mod. *L. bifoli-us* two-leaved (*f. BI- + folium* leaf) + -ATE.] Having or consisting of two leaves.

1876 PENNY *Cycl.* V. 251. 1870 BENTLEY *Bot.* 164 A leaf is said to be binate, bifoliate, or unijugate, if it consists of only 2 leaflets springing from a common point.

Bifoliolate (bi-fol'io-lat), *a.* [f. BI- pref.² + mod. *L. foliol-um*, dim. of *folium* leaf + -ATE.] Having or composed of two leaflets: see quot.

1835 LINDLEY *Introduct. Bot.* (1848) II. 360 Bifoliolate, when in leaves the common petiole is terminated by two leaflets growing from the same point.

Bifollicular: see **BI- pref.** 2 1.

Bifor, -an, -en, *obs.* forms of BEFORE.

Biforate (bi-fō'rat, bi-fō'ret), *a.* [f. BI- pref.² + FORATE, ad. *L. foratus* pierced.] 'Having two openings' (Gray *Bot. Text-bk.* 1880); having two perforations, as the anther of the rhododendron. 1842 in BRANDE.

Biforine (bi-fō'rein), *Bot.* [f. *L. bifor-is* having folding doors or two openings (*f. bi- two + foris* door) + -INE.] A minute oval sac found in the green pulpy part of some leaves; so called from discharging its contents by an opening at each end. 1842 in BRANDE. 1870 BENTLEY *Bot.* 34 Such cells have been called Biforines.

Biforked (bi-fō'kt), *a.* [f. BI- pref.² + FORKED.] Having, or divided into, two forks, branches, or peaks; = BIFURCATE *a.*

1576 BANISTER *Hist. Man* I. 20 The same posterior Process of the second Vertebre is clouen or biforked. 1685 MORDEN *Geog. Rect.* 198 A steep biforked mountain. 1873 LONGF. *Aftermath* Prel. 72 [Birds that] flying write upon the sky the biforked letter of the Greeks. 1876 BROWNING *Poets Croisic* xlviii. The biforked hill betwixt.

Biform (bi-fō'm), *a.* [ad. *L. biformis*, *f. bi- two + forma* shape, form.] Having, or partaking of, two distinct forms.

1816 R. JAMESON *Char. Min.* (1817) 202 A crystal is said to be bi-form, when it contains a combination of two remarkable forms. 1825-36 MONTAGU tr. *Bacon's Sap. Vet.* (1860) 209 Of a biform figure, human above, half brute below. 1864 SWINBURNE *Atalanta* 1253 The biform bull.

Biformed, *a.* [f. as prec. + -ED.] = prec.

1586 WARNER *Alb. Eng.* III. xviii. 81 Bi-formed Janus. 1607 TOPSELL *Four-f. Beasts* 437 The Epithets of a Mule

are... dirty, Spanish, rough, and bi-formed. 1656 in BLOUNT *Glossogr.*; and in mod. Dicts.

Biformity, [f. as prec. + -ITY.] Biform nature. 1611 COTGR., *Biformitē*, biformitie, double forme. 1642 H. MORE *Song of Soul* I. III. lxx. Strange things he spake of the biformity Of the Dizioians.

Biform(e), *obs.* form of BEFORE.

+ Biformys, *adv.* *Obs.* [= *beforen-es*, *f. beforen*, BEFORE + -es of *advb. genitive*.] Before, in front. 1420 *Pallad. on Husb.* VII. 43 This teeth wol bite hem so that both biformys And fere hem in.

Bifront (bi-fō'nt), *a.*; also 7 byfront. [ad. *L. bifront-em*, *f. bi- two + front-em* (nom. *frons*) forehead, face.] Having two faces or aspects; double; *absol.* = Janus.

1598 MARSTON *Pigmal.* I. 141 This Ianian-bifront hypocrite. 1640 T. CAREW *Poems* 111 But, Byfront, open thou no more, In his blest raigne, the temple dore. 1658 COKAINE *Poems* (1669) I The bifront hill. 1880 SWINBURNE *Gard. Cy-modoc* 244 One sheer thread of narrowing precipice Bifront.

Bifrontal (bi-fō'ntal), *a.* = prec.

1876 HUMPHREYS *Coil Coll. Man.* xxi. 259 Bifrontal Janus.

Bifronted, *a.* [f. as prec. + -ED.] = prec.

1598 MARSTON *Pigmal.* I. 137 Yee vizarded-bifronted-Ianian rout. 1680 *Protest. Petit. agst. Popery in Roxb. Ball.* (1881) IV. 207 A bi-fronted Conscience. 1817 GODWIN *Mander.* II. 106 The bifronted imputation of cowardice and treachery.

Bifurcal (bi-fō'rkāl), *a.* rare. [f. *L. bifurc-us* two-forked, two-pronged + -AL.] = BIFURCATE *a.* 1861 READE *Cloister & H.* III. 145 A little bifurcal dagger to the meat.

Bifurcate (bi-fō'rik-et), *v.* [f. med. *L. bifurcāt-us* two-forked (cf. BIFURCIOUS and -ATE); at first only in the pa. pple., which is also generally used as an adj.] To divide into two forks, branches, or peaks; *a. trans.*

1615 CROOKE *Body of Man* 905 The utter of these two vnequall branches... is presently byfurcated.

b. intr.

1812 R. KNOX *Cloquet's Anat.* 746 Sometimes, at its termination, it (Vena Azygos) bifurcates.

Hence **Bifurcated**, **Bifurcating** *ppl. a.*

1615 CROOKE *Body of Man* 977 The spinal processes of the necke are byfurcated. 1811 PINKERTON *Petril.* II. 345 Which renders the summit of Etna properly bifurcated. 1845 DARWIN *Voy. Nat.* xx. (1873) 478 [The] atoll is divided by a bifurcating channel. 1853 Th. Ross *Humboldt's Trav.* III. xxv. 17 The northern branch of the bifurcated river.

Bifurcate (bi-fō'rik-et), *a.* [f. med. *L. bifurcāt-us*; see prec.] = BIFORKED; see also quot. 1880.

1835 LINDLEY *Introduct. Bot.* (1848) I. 342 The filament... is in Crambe bifurcate. 1880 GRAY *Bot. Text-bk.* 399 *Bifurcate*, two-forked... But it may mean *bis furcatus*, forked and again forked.

Bifurcation (bi-fō'rik-ē-shən), *n.* of action *f.* BIFURCATE *v.*: see -ATION.]

1. Division into two forks or branches (viewed either as an action or a state).

1646 SIR T. BROWNE *Pseud. Ep.* 93 A byfurcation or division of the roote into two parts. 1879 RUTLEY *Stud. Rocks* ix. 79 A bifurcation of the rays is no longer induced. *b. fig.*

1849 GROTE *Greece* II. xlv. *marg.*, Bifurcation of Grecian politics between Sparta and Athens. 1876 DOUSE *Grimm's Law* App. E. 206 An incipient bifurcation of meaning.

2. *concr. a.* The point at which the division into two forks takes place. *b.* The bifurcating branches or one of them.

1615 CROOKE *Body of Man* 905 The greater and vter part of that byfurcation descendeth along the Brace. 1761 STILES in *Phil. Trans.* LV. 263 The tube... lessens gradually as far as the bifurcation. 1855 MAURY *Phys. Geog. Sea* II. § 128 To regard them as bifurcations of the Gulf Stream. 1860 MOTLEY *Netherl.* (1868) II. ix. 23 The island... at the bifurcation of the Rhine and the Waal.

Bifurcous, *a.* 1 *Obs.* -o [f. *L. bifurc-us* two-forked (*f. BI- I twice + furca* fork) + -OUS.] = BIFURCATE *a.* 1656 in BLOUNT *Glossogr.* 1847 in CRAIG and mod. Dicts.

Bifurked, *a.* A mixture of *biforked* and *bifurcate*.

1563 BALE *Sel. Wks.* (1849) 440 The disciples of Antichrist with their bifurked ordinaries. 1879 DIXON *Windsor* II. i. 5 His beard... was bi-furked and short.

Big, *sb.* *Obs. exc. dial.* Also **bigg**, **biggo**. [Deriv. unknown. (Some refer it to **BIG a.**; some compare Cornish *begel*, Breton *bigel* the navel.)]

1. A teat. Now *dial.*

1573 TUSSEY *Husb.* xxxiii. (1878) 74 Lamb, bulchin, and pig, geld vnder the big. 1601 HOLLAND *Pliny* I. 558 With bigs or duggs. 1705 HICKERINGILL *Priest-Cr.* II. v. 48 If they had sucked in the Whimsie from the Bigg with their Mother's Milk. 1797 BRADLEY *Fam. Dict.*, *Bigg*, a Pap or Teat in some Country Places. 1875 LANC. *Gloss.* (E. D. S.) *Big*, a teat, where the 'familiar' was said to draw blood from the body of a witch.

+ 2. A boil. *Obs.*

1601 HOLLAND *Pliny* II. 444 Good for the swelling piles and bigs. 1646 GAULE *Cases Consc.* 6 If you will not admit a big, or a boy.

Big (big), *a.* Forms: 4 *byge*, 4-6 *byg(g)*, *bygge*, 4-7 *bigg(e)*, 3- *big*. [ME. *big*, *bigg*, *bigge*, first known in end of 13th c. in writers of Northumbria and north Lincolnshire: hence perh. of Norse origin; but its derivation is entirely unknown. (See Skeat: E. Müller's suggestion that it

may be short for **BIGLY a.** is not favoured by the history of the senses; but the latter is itself uncertain, and the arrangement here may require change.)]

+ 1. Of living beings: Of great strength or power; strong, stout, mighty. *Obs.* *L. validus, potens.*

15300 *Havelok* 1774 Bernard stir up, þat was ful big. 1558 MINOT *Poems* VI. 29 To batall er thai baldly big. 1575 *Joseph Arim.* 452 A-non tholomers men woxen þe biggore; Sone beeren hem a-bac and brouhten hem to grounde. 1577 LANGE *P. Pl.* B. vi. 216 Bolde beggeres and bigge þat mowe her bred biswynke. 15400 *Destr. Troy* VIII. 3971 A felle man in fight, fuisse on his enymys, And in batell full bigge. 1470-85 MALORY *Arthur* (1816) II. 367 Within four or five days, sir Launcelot was big and strong again. 1530 PALSGR. 306/1 Bygge of strength, *robuste*. Bygge of power or myght, *puissant*. 1599 SHAKS. *Hen. V.* IV. ii. 43 Bigge Mars seemes banquet out in their begger'd Hoast.

+ b. Powerful in resources, rich, wealthy. (Cf. OE. *rice*.) *Obs. rare.*

1540 HAMPOLE *Pr. Consc.* 1460 Now er we bigg [*v. r.* *riche*], now er we bare.

+ 2. Of things: Strong, stout; stiff; forceful, violent, vehement. (This passes into the sense of 'great,' cf. 'a great or violent storm.') *Obs.*

1525 E. E. ALLIT. P. B. 43 Ful bygge a boffet. *Ibid.* A. 374 Much þe bygger 3et waitz my mon. 15400 *Destr. Troy* XV. 6548 Big was the batell vpon bothe halys. 1477 EARL RIVERS (CAXTON) *Dictes* 84 He is of bygge & strong corage. 1523 FITZGER. *Husb.* § 10 Bigge and styffe grounde, as cley, wolde be sown with bigge stuffe, as beanes. 1574 HULL *Weather* vii. The redder the Rainbow appeareth, even so much the bigger doth the winde ensue. 1604 SHAKS. *Oth.* III. iii. 349 Farewell the bigge Warres That makes Ambition Vertue!

3. Of great size, bulk, or extent; large. (The first appearance of this sense is doubtful. Quot. 1386 probably, 1490 possibly belong to 1.)

[1386 CHAUCER *Prolog.* 548 Ful byg he was of brawn and eek of bones. 1490 CAXTON *Entoylos* xv. 60 The grete cytees and bygge townes. 1494 FARYAN *v. cxxxii*. Precious stones of a great bygnesse and value.] 1558 HULOET *Bigger* parte or syde, *bona pars*. 1580 BARET *Adv.* B. 648 The Epistle was as bigge or as great as a booke. 1597 SHAKS. *2 Hen. IV.* III. ii. 277 Care I for... the stature, bulke, and bigge assemblance of a man? 1648 MILTON *Apol. Smect.* Wks. (1851) 305 The biggest and the fattest Bishop-arch. 1665 BOYLE *Occas. Refl.* IV. iii. (1675) 185 For the loss of the biggest Fortune in the East. 1719 W. WOOD *Surv.* Trade 220 In a Condition to have a bigger Trade. 1816 BYRON *Ch. Har.* III. xciii. The big rain comes dancing to the earth. 1839 TENNYSON *Enid* 489 Apt at arms and big of bone. 1884 JESSOP in *19th Cent. Mar.* 389 Big ships, big hotels, big shops, big drums, big dinners.

b. esp. Grown, large, tall, grown up.

1558 HULOET, Bygge to be, or waxe of stature lyke a man. 1607 SHAKS. *Cor.* V. iii. 128 Ile run away Till I am bigger, but then Ile fight. 1653 WALTON *Angler* 133 The Salmon... never grows big but in the Sea. 1871 M. COLLINS *Mrg. & Merch.* I. iv. 127 After some years of bullying by big girls... Amy... became a 'big girl' herself.

c. Having comparative bulk, greater or less.

1547 BOORDE *Introduct. Knowl.* 198 Sardyns... a lytle fysha as bydg [bygg] as a pylcher. 1570 DEE *Math. Pref.* 21 The vnskillfull man, would iudge them [Sun and Moon] a like bigge. 1592 SHAKS. *Rom. & Jul.* I. iv. 55 She comes In shape no bigger than an Aggat stone. 1648 MILTON *Apol. Smect.* Wks. (1851) 311 Seeming bigger then they are through the mist and vapour. 1753 HOGARTH *Anal. Beauty* xii. 85 Statues... bigger than life. 1847 TENNYSON *Princ.* iv. 7 No bigger than a glow-worm shone the tent.

d. quasi-*adv.*

1563 HULL *Art. Garden.* (1593) 7 Made more fruitfull and plentifuller or bigger yielding. 1658 ROWLAND *Mouffet's Theat. Ins.* 928 The Hornets... dig their nests bigger and bigger, as the family grows greater and greater. 1871 MORLEY *Voltaire* (1886) 48 Such enormities bulked big in the vision of the father.

4. Great with young, far advanced in pregnancy; ready to give birth. *Const. with*, rarely *of*.

1535 COVERDALE *Hos.* xiii. 16 Their women bygge with childe. 1593 DONNE *Sat.* iv. Like a big wife... ready to travail. 1811 SHAKS. *Cym.* I. i. 39 His gentle Lady Bigge of this Gentleman. 1711 ADDISON *Spect.* No. 7 P. 3 One of our female companions was big with child.

5. *transf.* and *fig.* Filled, full so as to be ready to burst out or bring forth; distended, swollen; teeming, 'pregnant' *with*.

[1580 BARET *Adv.* B. 648 Bigge vaines standing out.] 1598 SHAKS. *Merch.* V. ii. viii. 44 His eye being big with teares. 1679 DRYDEN *Comp. Granada* II. i. Shining Mountains big with Gold. 1713 ADDISON *Cato* I. i. Th' important day, big with the fate Of Cato and of Rome. 1790 BURKE *Fr. Rev.* 79 The mind of this political preacher... big with some extraordinary design. 1876 BLACKIE *Songs Relig. & Life* 169 Fateful moments, Big with issue.

6. Full in voice or sound, loud. + *To speak* or *talk big*: to speak or talk loudly, or with full voice. *Obs.* (Cf. also 8 b.)

1581 J. BELL *Haddon's Answ. Oser.* 360 b. They... fashion theyr voyces bigge like olde men. 1591 SPENSER *Virgil's Gnat.* II. This Muse shall speak to thee In bigger notes. 1656 DUGARD *Gate Lat. Unl.* § 701 The voice of striplings, before they begin to speak bigg. 1709 Col. *Records Penn.* II. 501 It was necessary to talk bigg & sound aloud that usefull Language. 1859 TENNYSON *Enid* 1390 [He] cried out with a big voice.

7. Of high position or standing; great, important. (Colloquial or humorous, for *great*.)

1577 HOLINSHED *Chron.* III. 1146/1 Such... vuturance, as pulled manie teares out of the eyes of the eies of them. 1586 SHAKS. *L. L. L.* v. ii. 555, 'I Pompey am, Pompey sur-

nam'd the big.' 1670 PRNN *Liberty Consc.* Wks. I. 446 Let no Man therefore think himself too big to be admonish'd. 1879 THOLLORE *Thackeray* 50 Thackeray had become big enough to give a special éclat to any literary exploit.

8. Haughty, pompous, pretentious, boastful.

1570 ASCHAM *Scholem*. (1863) 43 To the meaner man... to seeme somewhat solemne, coye, big, and dangerous of looke. 1581 J. BELL *Haddon's Answ. Osor.* 495 b. Not dasht out of countenance for any bygge looke. 1624 MASSINGER *Renegado* I. iii. For all your big words, get you further off. 1705 STANHOPE *Paraphr.* I. 243 All such big Pretensions are false and groundless. 1868 BURTON *Bk. Hunter* II. 142 A mere platitude delivered in the most superb climax of big words.

b. *esp.* in the quasi-advb. use. To talk, look big.

1596 SHAKS. *Tam. Shr.* II. ii. 230 Nay, looke not big, nor stampe, nor stare. 1685 BAXTER *Paraphr. Matt.* xviii. How big soever he now look and talk. 1741 MIDDLETON *Cicero* II. vii. 248 Pompey... always talked big to keep up their spirits. 1818 *Examiner* 5 Oct. 631/2 He heads his troops and looks big.

B. Comb., chiefly adjectives. 1. General: a. parasynthetic, as (of size or bulk) *big-bearded*, *-bodied*, *-boned* (also *-bone obs.*), *-bosomed*, *-bulked*, *-wombed*; (of sound, etc.) *big-mouthed*, *-voiced*, *worded*; also *big-wordiness* sh.; b. quasi-advb. with ppl. adjs., as *big-buzzing*, *-looking*, *-made*, *-sounding*, *-swollen*.

1857 HUGHES *Tom Brown* I. v. A great 'big-bearded man. 1611 SPEED *Theat. Gl. Brit.* ix. (1614) 171 'Many bigge-bodied streames. 1610 ROWLANDS *Martin Mark-all* II. A stout sturdy and 'bigbone knave. 1588 SHAKS. *Tit. A.* IV. iii. 46 'Big-bon'd men, fram'd of the Cyclops size. 1818 SCOTT *Hrt. Midl.* iii. Handcuffs... too small for the wrists of a man so 'big-boned. 1599 MARSTON *Scot. Villanie* II. vi. 201 Ye 'big-buzzing little-bodied Gnats. 1885 G. MEREDITH *Diana* I. v. 118 He was a 'big-chested fellow. 1634 MALORY'S *Arthur* (1816) I. 360 A young man, and a 'big made. 1644 MILTON *Apol. Smect.* Wks. 1738 I. 125 It was 'big-mouth'd, he says; no marvel, if it were fram'd as the Voice of three Kingdoms. 1874 F. HALL in *N. Amer. Rev.* CXIX. 388 The gratuitous 'big-wordiness of Sir Thomas Browne and Henry More.

2. Special combinations: *big-bellied a.*, having a large belly, corpulent; pregnant; *big-endian a.* (humorous), pertaining to the large end (of an egg); also *sb.*; *big-horn*, a species of sheep inhabiting the Rocky Mountains. Also in various collocations which have come to have specific force, as *big drum*, *big game*, *big toe*; *big coat* (*Sc.*), an over-coat; *big daisy*, the Ox-eye daisy, and similar flowers; *big dog*, a watch dog; also *fig.*: *big trees*, the Sequoias or Wellingtonias of the Sierra Nevada, N. America. See also BIG-WIG.

1561 STOW *Eng. Chron.* an. 1087 (R.) (William Rufus) was... not of any great stature, though somewhat 'big bellied. 1670 BROOKS *Wks.* (1867) VI. 174 A 'big-bellied mercy, a mercy that has many thousand mercies in the womb of it. 1721 ADDISON *Spect.* No. 127 ¶ 6 Waddling up and down like 'big-bellied Women. 1794 BURNS *Wks.* III. 299 A 'big-bellied bottle's a heav'n of care. 1752 in *Scots Mag.* (1753) June 200/2 The said Allan Breck had no 'big coat on. 1884 *Gd. Words* June 400/1 He was 'big-dog to a disorderly house. 1736 SWIFT *Gulliver* iv. The books of the 'Big-endians have been long forbidden. 1832 CARLYLE in *Fraser's Mag.* V. 254 Its dome is but a foolish 'Big-endian or Little-endian chip of an egg-shell compared with that star-fretted Dome. 1864 *Spectator* No. 1874, 627 Versed in wood craft and the destruction of 'big game. 1840 W. IRVING *Astoria* 240 The 'big-horn is so named from its horns; which are of a great size, and twisted like those of a ram. 1883 *Harper's Mag.* Jan. 103/1 The 'big trees' proper are confined to certain groves on the western flank of the Sierra Nevada.

Big, bigg (big), *v.* Obs. exc. north. dial. Forms: 3-5 *bigg(en)*, (3 *biggenn*), 4 *big(en)*, 4-6 *byge*, 5 *bygg(en)*, 4- *big*, *bigg*. [ME. *biggen*, *bygg*, a. ON. *byggja* to inhabit, dwell in, build, cognate with OE. *būian* to dwell, inhabit, cultivate, from same root as BE.]

† 1. *trans.* To dwell in, inhabit. Obs.

c1300 E. E. *Psalter* xxxviii. 3 (Mätz.) Big þe erþe [*Vulg.* inhabitat terram] and best fede in his riches.

† 2. *intr.* To dwell; to have an abode. Obs.

c1200 ORMIN 12734 Lef maystre, where biggest tu. 1330 R. BRUNNE *Chron.* 339 Biside his broþer to bigge. *Ibid.* 330 To biggen in pays.

† 3. *refl.* (and *passive*). To place or locate oneself, take up one's position. Obs.

c1352 MINOT *Poems* vii. (1795) 35 Bigges him right by 30wre side. c1400 *Deutr. Troy* v. 1598 With barbers bigget in bouders of the stretes. c1485 *Digby Myst.* (1882) III. 2024 Pou hast bygyd þe here among spyns.

4. *trans.* To build. Still in Sc. and north. dial.

a1300 E. E. *Ps.* lxxviii. 36 God... sal... bigge þe cites of Jude. c1325 *Allit. P.* B. 1666 I haf bigged Babiloyne. 1375 BARBOUR *Bruce* v. 453 To byg the castell vp agane. c1440 *Prompt. Parv.* 35 Byggyn, or bildyn, edifico. 1458 *Test. Ebor.* II. 225 The chapell... bigged and made be the said sir Thomas. 1609 SKENE *Reg. Maj.* 83 Gif ane man... hes there bigged houses and biggings. 1646 ROW *Hist. Kirk* (1842) 12 Down with those crow nests, else the crows will big in them againe! 1865 WAUGH *Lanc. Sk.* 205 in *Lanc. Gloss.*, They bigged yon new barn. 1884 *U. P. Mag.* Apr. 156 Bigging the fold dyke.

5. *trans.* and *fig.* To erect, rear, pile up.

a1300 E. E. *Psalter* xxxviii. 5 In barhand-werkes þam fordo. And nocht big þam þou salt als so. c1430 *LYDG. Min. Poems* (1840) 264 Thy place is biggyd above the sterys cleer. 1513 DOUGLAS *Eneis* IV. xii. 73 This funeral fire with thir deads biggit I. 1663 SPALDING *Troub. Chas. I.* (1829) 14 Seats of deads, for the purpose bigged of three degrees. 1716 in *Wodrow Corr.* (1843) II. 134 A young lad... was bigging corn in the wain.

† 6. To construct, form, fashion. Obs.

c1325 E. E. *Allit. P.* C. 124 Hit may not be þat he is bylynde þat bigged vche y3e. 1430 *LYDG. Chron. Troy* II. x. So ryche coloures byggen I ne may. To enchant.

Big, variant of BIGG, barley.

|| **Biga** (bē'gā) *Rom. Antiq.* [L.; later form of *bigg*, contr. from *bijug*, f. *bi-* two + *jug-um* yoke, collar.] A two-horsed chariot.

1850 LEITCH *Maller's Anc. Art* § 245. 253 A biga, the king therein. 1857 BIRCH *Anc. Pottery* (1858) II. 202 A man standing in a biga.

† **Bigale**, *v.* Obs. Also i begalan. [OE. *begalan*, f. *BE-* + *galan* to sing, GALE *v.*] *trans.* To charm with incantations, etc.; to enchant.

c1000 *Sax. Leechd.* I. 192 Gyf hwylc yfel dæde man þurh ænigæ æþþancan oþerne begaleþ. c1200 *Trin. Coll. Hom.* 107 And te londes-men hire bigaleð. c1205 *Lay.* 19255 Heo bigolen þat child mid galdere swiðe stronge.

† **Bigam(e)**, *a.* and *sb.* Obs. Also 5-6 *bygame*. [a. OF. *bigame*, ad. med.L. *bigamus*, f. *bi-* two, twice + Gr. *-γᾶμος* married.] Having at the same time two wives or husbands. *sb.* A man or woman so married. In *Eccle. Law* applied also to one who marries a second time.

a1300 *Cursor M.* 1528 Lamech... was þe first o liue þat bigam was wit dubul viife. a1460 PECCOCK in *Lewis Life* 286 (T.) St. Paul's ordaining that a bigamist should be a deacon. 1491 CAXTON *Vitas Patr.* (W. de W.) i. cxviii. 140a/1 In the sayd cite was a man bygame. 1502 *Ord. Crysten Men* (W. de W.) iv. xxi (1506) 234 If he were... excommunicate, bygame, illegitimate.

|| **Bigama**, *Obs. rare*—1. [med.L., fem. of BIGAMUS.] A woman living in bigamy.

1597 WARNER *Alb. Eng. Æneidos* 320 Greater is the wonder of your strict chastitie, than it would be a nouell to see you a Bigama.

Bigamic, *a.* Of or belonging to bigamy.

1868 *Newspaper*, Not with any bigamic intentions.

Bigamist (bigāmist). [f. as BIGAMY + -IST.] A man or woman living in bigamy: *a.* in the usual acceptation; cf. BIGAMY 1. Hence Bigamistio *a.*

a1631 *DONNE Septuagint* 202 (T.) Lamech the prime bigamist and corrupter of marriage. 1840 THACKERAY *Paris Sk. Bk.* (1872) 237 Old La Vauballière was a bigamist. 1834 *Fraser's Mag.* IX. 332 He had actually gone through a bigamistic sham with her.

b. in *Eccle. Law*; cf. BIGAMY 2. Obs. exc. *Hist.* 1696 BLOUNT *Glossogr.* *Bigamist*, he that hath married two wives. 1726 AVILFIE *Parerg.* 116 Much less can a Bigamist have such a Benefice. 1844 LINGARD *Anglo-Sax. Chr.* (1858) II. i. 17 The bigamist, though he were a widower... was excluded... from the rank of bishop, etc.

Bigamous (bigāmos), *a.* [f. med.L. *bigamus* (see BIGAM) + -OUS.] Living in bigamy; involving bigamy. **Bigamously** *adv.*, so as to commit or involve bigamy.

1864 *Times* 17 Aug. (reviewing 'Enoch Arden'), Arden's bigamous wife. 1866 *Standard* 2 June 7/4 He deserted her and contracted a bigamous marriage. 1882 *Ibid.* 14 Oct. 2/7 Charged with bigamously intermarrying with one L—.

|| **Bigamus**, *a. (sb.)* Obs. Pl. *bigami*. [med.L.] = BIGAM(E).

c1375 BLOUNT *Sol. Wks.* (1869) I. 87 Crist was not bigamus ne braken his matrimony. 1543 BERTHELET *Act 4. Edu.* I. Concerning men twice married, called bigamy. c1555 HARPSFIELD *Divorce Hen. VIII.* (1878) 43 So doth he dispense with a bigamus. 1706 tr. *Dupin's Eccl. Hist.* 16th C. II. 395 Tonsured Clerks, provided they be not Bigami.

Bigamy (bigāmi). Forms: 3-7 *bigamie*, 4 *byggyme*, 6 *byggam*, 6- *bigamy*. [a. F. *bigamie*, f. *bigame*; see BIGAM(E) and -Y.]

1. Marriage with a second wife or husband during the lifetime of the first; the crime of having two wives or husbands at once.

c1250 *Gen. & Ex.* 449 Bigamie is unkinde þing. On engleis tale, twice-wifing. c1386 CHAUCER *Wife's Prol.* 54 Ofshrewed Lamech and his bigamie. 1460 CAPGRAVE *Chron.* (1858) 5 Lamech, that broute in first bigamie. 1660 STANLEY *Hist. Philos.* (1701) 97/2 The occasion, whereupon the Athenians... allowed bigamy. c1725 POPE *Mart. Scrib.* xiii. A suit against Martin for Bigamy. 1884 *Pall Mall G.* 4 Mar. 3/2 Bigamy cases seldom have any legal interest for lawyers at the present day.

b. (Used *fig.* or *loosely*.)

1635 J. TAYLOR (Water P.) *Old Parr* D J, Each man had many wives, which Bigamie, was such increase to their Posterity. a1658 CLEVELAND *Gen. Poems* (1677) 70 But is this Bigamy of Titles due? Are you Sir Thomas and Sir Martin too?

2. *Eccle. Law.* Re-marriage after the death of a first wife (or husband); marriage of, or with, a widow (or widower). Obs. exc. *Hist.*

1345 *Act* [in Rastell 1537] 18 *Edu.* III. ii. De trier par enquestes ou en auter maner la bygamie. 1528 MORE *Conf. agst. Trib.* III. Wks. 229/1 The forbidding of bigamy by y^e wedding of one wife after another. 1543 GRAFTON *Cont. Harding* 504 It is... a greute blemishe to the sacred maiestie of a prince... to be defiled wth bigamy in his first marriage. 1594 SHAKS. *Rich. III.* VII. vii. 189 Seduc'd... To base declension, and loath'd Bigamie. 1723 FIELDING *Amelia* vi. vii. I shall not enter into the question concerning the legality of bigamy. Our laws certainly allow it. 1865 NICHOLS *Britton* II. 25 note, Bigamy (in the ancient and proper sense of the word) involved the loss of the benefit of clergy.

Bigam(e): see BEGIN and BEGO.

† **Bigape**, *v.* Obs. rare—1. [f. *bi-*, BE- +

ME. *gāpen* to GAPE; cf. Du. *begāpen*, LG. *be-gaffen*.] *trans.* To gape or stare at.

a1225 *Leg. Kalk.* 1262 Pes keiser bigapede ham, as mon þæt bigon to weden.

Bigarreau, -roon (bi'gārōn, -rūn). Also 7 *biguar*, 7-8 *bigarro*, 7-9 *biguarreau*. [a. F. *bigarreau*, pl. *-eaux*, f. *bigarré* variegated. *Bigarreau* seems to be an Eng. change.] The large white heart-cherry, one side of which is pale yellow, and the other red. See also quot. 1859.

1675 *Phil. Trans.* X. 404 Cherry of that kind which we call Bigarreux. 1688 HOLME *Armory* II. iii. 49 The Biguar Cherry is a fair kind. 1693 EVELYN *De la Quint. Compl. Gard.* I. 73 The backward Cherries or Bigarros. 1729 LONDON & WISE *Compl. Gard.* 87 The Bigarro, or Heart-Cherry, is a Fruit both firm and crackling. 1849 LOUDON *Encycl. Gard.* § 4485 At the present time all the heart-shaped cherries which have the flesh firm... are arranged under the head of Bigarreux. 1875 M. COLLINS *Sweet & Tw.* I. i. xii. 166 Under the great bigaroon cherry-trees.

† **Bigate**, *a. (sb.)* [ad. L. *bigātus*, f. *biga*: see BIGA.] (A coin) bearing the figure of a biga.

1600 HOLLAND *Livy* xxxiii. xxiii. 838 Hee had... of silver coine in bigate pieces [L. *bigātī*] 532000. 1666 BLOUNT *Glossogr.*, Bigat (*bigātus*) was a piece of Roman silver Coyn.

Bizeme, *v.*: see BIZEME.

Bigeminal (bi'dʒemīnāl), *a.* [f. *Bi-* pref.² 6 + GEMINAL, f. L. *geminus* twin.] Existing or arranged in two pairs; *spec.* in *Phys.* applied to the *corpora quadrigemina* of the brain, lying beneath the cerebral hemispheres.

1836 TODD *Cycl. Anat. & Phys.* I. 583/1 Their medullary fibres... enter the bigeminal bodies. 1870 ROLLESTON *Anim. Life* Intro. 53 The bigeminal hollow optic lobes.

Bigeminate (-īnēt), *a.* [f. as prec. + GEMINATE, ad. L. *geminātus* doubled, f. *geminus* twin.] = prec. (Chiefly in *Bot.*) Also **Bigeminated** *ppl. a.* (See quot.)

1817 R. JAMESON *Char. Min.* 205 Bi-geminated calcareous spar is a combination of two rhomboids and two dodecahedrons. 1835 LINDLEY *Intro. Bot.* (1848) II. 361 [Decomposed leaves are] bigeminate, when each of two secondary petioles bears a pair of leaflets.

Bigener (bi'dʒenər), *Bot.* [a. L. *bigener*, f. *bi-* two + *gener-* (nom. *genus*) kind.] A cross or hybrid between two genera.

1835 LINDLEY *Intro. Bot.* (1848) II. 242 Bigeners, that is to say mules between different genera. 1883 *Nature* XXVII. 570 A true bigener.

† **Bigenerous**, *a.* Obs. [f. as prec. + -OUS.] Partaking of two genera or species; hybrid.

1610 GUILLIM *Heraldry* III. xxv. (1660) 255 A bigenerous beast of unkindly procreation. 1688 HOLME *Armory* II. 208 Bigenerous Creatures, Monsters by Nature's Generation.

† **Bigeng**, *Obs. rare*—1. [OE. *bigeng* 'worship, cultus', the subst. form belonging to *begdan*, in sense of *colere* to worship: see BEGO *v.*] Worship. c1000 ÆLFRIC *Gram.* xi. 79 Cultus, bigeng. c1175 *Lamb. Hom.* 110 We beoð þurh crist to heouene ibroht, 3if we his bigenge haldað.

Bigent, variant of BEJAN.

Bigential (bi'dʒenjāl), *a.* [f. *Bi-* pref.² 1 + L. *gent-em* race + -IAL.] Composed of or containing two races or peoples.

1846 WORCESTER cites *N. Amer. Rev.*

† **Bigern**, *v.* Obs. rare. [f. *bi-*, BE- + *girn*, GRIN to snare.] *trans.* To ensnare.

c1400 *Apol. Loil* 64 Per oune findigis... bi gernyn hem þæt þey may not out.

† **Bigeten**, *bijecten*, *v.* Obs. *Inf.* 1 *be-geotan*, 3 *bijecten*. *Pa. t.* 1 *begeat*. *Pa. pple.* 1 *begoten*, 3 *bigoten*, -joten. [Com. WGer.: OE. *bigētan*, *begeotan* = OS. *bigiotan* (Du. *begieten*), OHG. *bigiozan* (MHG. *begieren*, mod.G. *begießen*), f. *bi-*, BE- + *giutan*, in OE. *geotan* to pour. (The mod. form would be *be-yeet*.)

trans. To pour about or over; to suffuse.

a1000 O. E. *Chron.* an. 734 Swelce he wære mid blode begoten. a1225 *Juliana* 27 Þat ha al were bigoten of þe blode. a1240 *Saules Warde* in *Lamb. Hom.* 261 Ich isch þe apostles... bijecten al of unimete blisse.

Bigeten, -je(o)ten, -jiten, obs. ff. BEG².

Bigg, *big* (big). *Sc.* and *dial.* Also 5 *byge*, 6 *bygg*, 6-7 *bigge*. [a. ON. *bygg* barley (Da. *byg*, Sw. *bjug*), corresp. to OE. *blōw* grain:—OEut. **beuwo-m*, f. Old Aryan root **bheu* to grow, to be (whence BE; cf. Gr. *phōs*, Skr. *bhū*).]

1. The four-rowed barley, an inferior but harder variety of the six-rowed or winter barley (*Hordeum hexastichon*), of rapid growth, and suited to inferior soils and more northern latitudes. (*Barley* is generic; *bea* includes the six-rowed and four-rowed kinds; *bigg* the four-rowed only. But *bea* interchanges in local use, now with *barley*, now with *bigg*.)

c1430 in Wv. Wülcker *Voc. 796 Hoc exaticum, hec mixtilio*, byge. 1547 *Wills & Invent.* N. C. (1835) 127 I gyue to George Bayts a chaldre of Bygg & a chaldre of hauer. 1568 TURNER *Herbal* II. (1568) 16 The seconde kinde is called in Latin Hordeum Tetrastichum, in Englishe, bigge barley or beare or bigge alone. This kind groweth muche in y^e North country. 1570 LEVINS *Manif.* 118 Bigge, corne, *hordeum quadratum*. 1633 *Acts Durham High Commiss.* Cr. 57 And did violently carrie awaie the tieth beare or bigge. 1845

Statist. Acc. Scotl. XII. 453 Oats & bear or big with a little barley, are the kinds of grain. 1886 *Proc. Berw. Nat. Club* IX. 444 Used for husking big, or four-rowed barley.

2. *attrib.*, as in *bigg-barley*, -*market*, -*riddle*. 1597 *GERARD Herbal* i. xlv. § 2. 64 Called . . . of our English northerne people. . . Big Barly. 1864 *Sat. Rev.* 29 May, Most strangers would be inclined to think that the 'Bigg Market' meant the large one. 1446 *Wills & Inv. N. C.* (1835) I. 95 Item j whetridell, j bigridell.

Bigg(e), obs. form of **Big**.

† **Biggand**, *ppl. a. Obs.* [north. dial. pres. pple. of **Big v.**] Building; *sb.* a builder.

a 1300 *E. E. Psalter* cxviii. 22 *pe stane whilk biggand forsake*. [a 1340 *HAMPOLE Psalter* cxlviii. 2 Biggand ierusalem oure lord.]

† **Bigge**, *Obs. rare*—1. [Of unknown etymology and doubtful genuineness, like most of the words in the list quoted.] An alleged name of the hare. c 1300 *Names of Hare* in Wright *Rel. Ant.* I. 133 The hare, the scotart, The bigge, the bouchart.

Bigge(n), obs. form of **BUY**.

† **Biggel**, *Obs.* Apparently the *Nyl-Ghan*.

1745 *PARSONS Quadr.* in *Phil. Trans.* XLIII. 465 Among the Horses in the Stables of the Viceroy of Goa, he saw a Beast called a *Biggel*, a creature much about the Colour and Bigness of a Rain-deer. 1771 *PENNANT Synop. Quadr.* 29 *Antelope Tragacamelus*, Biggel.

Biggen (big'n), *v. Obs. exc. dial.* [f. **Big a.** + -EN².] *Perh.* sense 3 was the earliest.]

1. *trans.* To make big; to increase, enlarge.

1643 *TUCKNEY Balm of G.* 35 Our sinnes . . . are very great, and if circumstances can biggen them, of the largest size. 1674 *N. FAIRFAX Bulk & Selv.* 185 Those things feed and biggen us. 1862 *MISS CHARLESWORTH Minst. Children* ii. 22 I can biggen them a bit when they get too small.

2. *intr.* To become big, to increase in size.

1649 *BLITHE Eng. Improv. Impr.* (1652) 53 All waters biggen the further they run. 1674 *N. FAIRFAX Bulk & Selv.* 127 Some bigning or growing. 1701 *STEELE Chr. Hero* (1711) 45 His great heart . . . rose and biggined in proportion to any growing danger that threatened him. 1830 *GALT Laurie T. v. vii.* (1849) 222 My heart biggined in my bosom.

3. To recover strength after confinement. *dial.*

Obs. Cf. **Big a. i.** Hence **Biggining vbl. sb.** 1674 *RAY N. C. Wds.* 6, I wish you a good biggining. 1721 *BAILEY, Biggining*, the Up-rising of Women after Child-Birth. *Country Word.*

Bigger, *sb. Obs. exc. north. dial.* Also **biggar** (e). [f. **Big v.** + -ER¹.] A builder.

c 1440 *Bone Flor.* 8 The furste byger of Anteoche. 1552 *ABP. HAMILTON Catech.* (1884) 28 Ane biggare can nocht make ane evin up wal without direction of his lyne.

Bigger (big'gə), *a., compar.* of **Big**. Also *sb.* One who is bigger; a superior in size.

1562 *J. HEYWOOD Prov. & Epigr.* (1867) 39 His biggers or betterers. 1582 *N. T. (Rhem.) Acts* xiv. 22 *note*, As if they should translate. . . Maioir of London, the Bigger of London. 1865 *Mrs. WHITNEY Hitherto* iv. 50 Its own capacity to take in sunshine as fast, in proportion, as its biggers and betterers.

Biggermost, *a. dial.* = **Biggest**.

1803 *S. PEGGE Anecd. Eng. Lang.* 102 The biggermost man in the parish.

† **Biggerness**, *Obs. rare*—1. [f. as prec. + -NESS.] The quality of being bigger; larger size. 1674 *PETTY Disc. bef. R. Soc.* 27 Wetting of Sails . . . doth make the Sail, as it were, bigger; which biggerness may be known and measured.

Biggin¹ (big'in). Also 6 **begin**, **byggon**, 7 **biggon**, -**ging**, 6-9 **biggen**. [a. f. *beguin* child's cap. See **BEGUINE**, *note*.]

1. A child's cap.

1530 *PALSGR.* 1987 *Byggen* for a chyldes heed, *begynne*. 1552 *MORE Confut. Tindale* Wks. 577.2. 1639 *MASSINGER Unnat. Combat* iv. ii, Would you have me Transform my hat to double clouts and biggings? 1755 *CONNOISSEUR* No. 80 (1774) III. 71 Such a store of clouts, caps . . . biggins . . . as would set up a Lying-in Hospital. 1819 *SCOTT Ivanhoe* xxviii, My brain has been topsy-turvy . . . ever since the biggin was bound first round my head.

b. Taken as the sign of infancy.

1609 *B. JONSON Sil. Wom.* iii. vi, [You have] beene a courtier from the biggin, to the night-cap. 1638 *QUARLES Hieroglyph.* iii. 215 How many dangers meet Poor man between the biggin and the winding sheet.

2. A cap or hood for the head, a night-cap; also the coif of a Serjeant-at-law.

1562 *BULLEYN Bk. Simples* 102, Put into a Forhead clothe or Biggin. 1589 *Paphe w. Hatchel* Bijb, [His] head is swolne so big, that he had neede send to the cooper to make him a biggin. 1597 *SHAKS. 2 Hen. IV.* iv. v. 27 Hee whose Brow (with homely Biggin bound) Snores out the Watch of Night. 1610 *MARKHAM Masterp.* ii. xvii. 245 Make the horse a biggin of canuase to close in the soare. 1639 *CITY-Match* iv. vii. in *Hazl. Doddsley* XIII. 288 Ha' made him barrister, And rais'd him to his satin cap and biggon. 1808 *SCOTT F. M. Perth* xvii, Reduced . . . to biggen and gown, in a night bawl.

† 3. The amnion enveloping the foetus. *Obs.*

1611 *COTGR.*, *Agueliere* . . . called by some Midwives, the Coyfe, or Biggin of the child; by others, the child's shirt.

Biggin². [See quot.] A kind of coffee-pot containing a strainer for the infusion of the coffee, without allowing the grounds to mix with the infusion.

1803 *GENTS. Mag.* LXXIII. 1094 Mr. Biggin some years ago invented a new sort of coffee pot which has been ever since extensively sold under the name of coffee biggins. 1817 *Specif. of Ogle's Patent* No. 4173, for Improvements in tea and coffee pots or biggins.—'The tea or coffee being put into the canister, placed within the pot or biggin, the boil-

ing water is then poured upon it, and the extract is filtered through the strainer into the exterior pot or biggin.' a 1803 *MOORE in Mem. & Corr.* (1853) I. 97, I had yesterday a long visit from Mr. Biggin . . . By the bye it is from him the coffee biggins take their name.

† **Biggined**, *a. Obs.* Wearing a biggin.

1607 *R. C. tr. Stephens's World Wond.* 235 To see a man biggined with a hood vpon his head. 1655 *tr. Francion* 24 This old Biggin'd ape?

† **Bigging**, *vbl. sb. dial.* [f. **Big v.** + -ING¹.]

† 1. The fact of dwelling; sojourn, stay.

c 1250 *Gen. & Ex.* 718 Long bigging is here no3t god.

b. Dwelling-place, habitation, home. *Obs.*

c 1250 *Gen. & Ex.* 3163 Do was non biging of al egipte lichles. c 1400 *Epiph.* (Turnb. 1843) 156 Bryng hus all to that bygging bryghth. c 1425 *Emare* 709 When he come to his bygginge, He welcomed fayr that lady yynge.

2. The action of building. *north. dial.*

c 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 35 Bygginge, or beeldyng, *edificatio, structura*. 1597 *Lanc. & Chesh. Wills* (1854) 34 Sufficient reparations and bydgginges of howses. c 1550 *SIR J. BALFOUR Practicks* (1754) 34 For the bigging, mending and reparatioun of parochie kirkis. 1816 *SCOTT Antig.* iv, 'Prætorian here, Prætorian there, I mind the bigging o't.'

3. *concr.* A building, an edifice; also, an out-building as distinguished from a house. *north. dial.*

a 1300 *Cursor M.* 1774 *pe bigginnes* fel bath hey and lau. c 1400 *Destr. Troy* xxxv. 13452 Betwene the biggynng on *pe buerne* & *pe burgh riche*. c 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 35 Bygginge . . . *edificium*. 1533 *BELLENDEN Livy* v. (1822) 432 Magnificent housis and biggignis. 1681 *BLOUNT Glossogr.*, *Biggin*, or *Bigging* in the northern parts is used for a fair house or Gentlemans Seat. 1790 *BURNS Capt. Grose* iii, By some auld houlet-haunted biggin' Or kirk deserted by its rignin'. 1849 *C. BRONTE Shirley* xxx. 442 About to fall asleep wi' the length of the sermon and the heat of the biggin'. 1876 *GRANT Burgh Sch.* Scot. i. i. 25 Certain houses, crofts, biggings, lands and gardens.

Biggish, *a.* [f. **Big a.** + -ISH.] Rather big.

a 1606 *W. SCLATER Exp.* 2 *Thess.* (1632) 150 The volume growes biggish. 1867 *CARLYLE Remin.* (1881) I. 100 A biggish, simple house on the sands.

† **Biggit**, *ppl. a. Obs. Sc.* [f. **Big v.**] a. Inhabited, cultivated (*obs.*). b. Built, erected. *north. dial.* 1375 *BARBOUR Bruce* xiv. 383 Quhen thai come in biggit land, Wittale and mete yneuch that fand. 1815 *SCOTT Guy R. M.* III. 150 (JAM.) 'Bred in biggit wa's.'

Biggonet, *Sc.* [Dim. of **BIGGIN**; cf. *OF. beguinet* in same sense.] A woman's cap or headress.

1725 *RAMSAY Gent. Sheph.* i. ii, Good humour and white biggonets shall be Guards to my face, to keep his love for me. 1818 *SCOTT Hrt. Midl.* xxiv, The queen tore her biggonets for perfect anger.

Bight (beit). Also 4 **byzt**, 5 **bycht**, 6 **byght**, 7 **beight**, 7-9 **bits**. [*OE. byht* bend, masc., corresp. to *MLG. bucht* (whence *mod. G. bucht* 'bay, bight', *mod. Du. bocht*, also *Da., Sw. bugt*):—*OTeut. *buhiti-z*, f. *būgan* to Bow. *OE. byht* 'bend' appears to occur in *Cod. Dipl.* 538 and App. 308. It is to be distinguished from the poetic *byht* abode, corresp. to *ON. bygð*, from *byggja* to dwell, inhabit. See also **BOUGHT sb.**]

1. A bending or bend; *esp.* an angle, hollow, or fork in the human or animal body; a corner.

1907 *Cod. Dipl.* 538 (Bosw.), Andlang norþgardeas ðæt hit cymþ in ðone byht. c 1340 *Gauw. & Gr. Ant.* 1349 Bi þe byzt al of þe byztes. c 1400 *Rel. Ant.* I. 190 In the byzt of the harme. 1523 *FITZHERB. Husb.* § 132 Dresse the wodde and bowe it clene and cutte it at euery byghte. 1674 *RAY N. C. Words.*, *Beight* of the Elbow: Bending of the Elbow. *Cheshire.* 1721 *BAILEY, Bight* [of a Horse] is the inward bent of the Chamberel: also the bent of the Knees in the Fore-legs. [So in subseq. Dicts.]

2. *esp.* The loop of a rope, as distinguished from its ends; the part between the ends.

1622 *R. HAWKINS Voy. S. Sea* (1847) 132 With our capten [we] stretched the two byghtes. 1769 *FALCONER Dict. Marine* (1789), *Bight*, the double part of a rope when it is folded . . . as, her anchor hooked the bight of our cable. 1812 *Examiner* 9 Nov. 720/1 The bite of a whale-line having caught his leg. 1833 *MARRVAT P. Simple* (1863) 242 To put the little beast into the bight of a rope, and tow him overboard. 1875 *BUCKLAND Log-bk.* 290 Catch him round the neck with the bight of a rope.

3. A bend or curve as a geographical feature, *e.g.* an indentation in a coast line, a corner or recess of a bay, a bend in a river, etc.

1481 in *Ripon Ch. Acts* 344 Sleningford Bygh. 1555 *EDEN Decades W. Ind.* (Arb.) 381 In the byght of a bay. 1622 *HAWKINS Voy. S. Sea* (1847) 180 We found presently in the western bight of the bay a deepe river. 1725 *DE FOR VOY. round World* (1840) 146 In the very bite or nook of the bay there was a great inlet of water. 1852 *CONYBARE & H. St. Paul* (1862) I. v. 135 The town was situated on a bight of the coast. 1876 *MORRIS Sigurd* II. 165 The bight of the swirling river. *Ibid.* III. 326 Far off in a bight of the mountains.

b. *transf.* and *fig.* 1851 *SIR F. PALGRAVE Norm. & Eng. I.* 30 Bights and bends in the great stream of Time. 1878 *Masque Poets* 121 Larded with talk and tallow In the bight of the afternoon.

4. The space between two headlands, a bay, generally a shallow or slightly-receding bay; *spec.* in the Bights of Benin and Biafra, and the Australian Bight; also *transf.* a bay-like segment.

1555 *EDEN Decades W. Ind.* (Arb.) 380 There is a byght or bay as though it were a harborow. 1725 *Dz Fox Voy. round World* (1840) 104 We ran boldly into the bay, and came to an anchor in that which they call the Bite, or little bay. 1769 *FALCONER Dict. Marine* (1789), *Bight*, is also a

small bay between two points of land. 1833 *M. SCOTT Tom Cringle* xvii. (1859) 447 The glowing mirror of the calm bight. 1864 *D. MITCHELL Wet Days Edgew.* 43, I see there is a bight of blue in the sky. 1878 *K. JOHNSTON Africa* xi. (1884) § 15 Fernando Po, near the head of the Bight of Biafra. 1879 *STEVENSON Trav. Cevennes* 190, I spied a bight of meadow . . . in an angle of the river.

Bigin(e), -**ne**, **bigirde**, *obs. f. BEGIN, BEGIRD.*

Biglandular: see **Bi-pref.**² 1.

Biglot (boi'glɒt), *a. rare*. [f. **Bi-pref.**² 6 + *Gr. γλῶττα*, tongue, language; cf. *Gr. δι-γλωττος*, Eng. *polyglot*.] In two languages, bilingual.

1883 *N. & Q.* 29 Sept. 254/2 The biglot edition . . . is a translation into Italian . . . with the Latin text in parallel columns.

† **Bigly**, *a. Obs.* Also **bygly**, **byggly**. [f. **Big v.** to inhabit + -LY¹.] Habitable, fit or pleasant to dwell in; hence *gen.* pleasant.

c 1325 *E. E. Allit. P. A.* 962 Bryng me to þat bygly bylde, & let me se þy bysful bor. c 1440 *York Myst.* vi. 42 To bygly blys we bothe were brought. c 1440 *Bone Flor.* 220 He wyll dystroye thy bygly landys. c 1450 *HENRYSON Bludy Serk* 13 Scho wynt in a bigly bour, On feld wes none so fair. [a 1803 *Erlington* I. in *Child Ball.* i. (1882) 107/1 He has built a bigly bower, An a' to put that lady in.]

Bigly (bi'gli), *adv.* [f. **Big a.** + -LY².]

† 1. With great force or violence; firmly, strongly, violently. *Obs.*

c 1325 *E. E. Allit. P. C.* 321 *pe barrez* of vche a bonk ful bigly me haldes. c 1400 *Destr. Troy* xiv. 6035 Knyt hom with cables . . . And bound hom full bigly on hor best wise. 1470-85 *MALORY Arthur* (1816) I. 416 So roughly and so bigly, that there was not one that might withstand him. 1556 *J. HEYWOOD Spider & F.* lxxviii. 140 A serious argument: Whether I should lue or die, was biglie bent.

2. Loudly, boastfully, haughtily, pompously.

1532 *MORE Confut. Tindale* Wks. 397/1 And bereth it out bigly wth shameles deuchelyshe heresie. 1585 *ABP. SANDYS Serm.* (1841) 104 Goliah thought bigly of himself. 1602 *WARNER Alb. Eng.* ix. xlv. 218 Oftentimes Authoritie looks bigger than a Bull. 1741 *JOHNSON Debates in Parl.* (1787) II. 246 Talking bigly, indeed, of vindicating foreign rights. 1846 *LANDOR Exam. Shaks.* Wks. II. 299 He spoke as bigly and fiercely as a soaken yeoman at an election feast.

Bigness (big'nes). [f. **Big a.** + -NESS.]

1. Large size or bulk.

1494 *FABYAN V. CXXXI.* 114 Most precious stones of a great bygnesse and value. 1509 *HAWES Past. Plas.* xxxviii. viii. 197 A poynted diamonde of mervayulous bygness. 1614 *MARKHAM Cheap Husb.* i. i. (1668) 4 Not grosse with much flesh but with the bignesse of his bones. 1827 *HARE Guesses* (1859) 381 Bigness with the bulk of mankind is the nearest synonym for greatness. 1878 *TAIT & STEWART Unseen Univ.* ii. § 85 But we must not be terrified at mere bigness.

b. *fig.* Haughtiness, pompousness, swagger.

1681 *H. MORE Exp. Dan.* Pref. 57 The worldly bigness and downbearing Dominion of a tyrannical Clergy. 1847 *L. HUNT Men, Women, & Bks.* II. i. 15 A puffed and uneasy pomp, a bigness instead of greatness.

2. Size, magnitude, bulk (large or small).

1529 *RASTELL Pastyme* (1811) 105 They be of one bygness. 1667 *MILTON P. L.* II. 1052 This pendant world, in bigness as a Starr. 1779 *JOHNSON Blake* Wks. IV. 375 Seven forts with cannon proportioned to the bigness. 1826 *KIRBY & Sr. Entomol.* III. xxix. 78 The bigness of a large pea.

† **Bignonia** (big'nō-niā). *Bot.* [Named by Tournefort after the Abbé Bignon, librarian to Louis XIV.] A genus of plants, *N.O. Bignoniaceæ*, natives of hot climates, remarkable for the beauty of their trumpet-shaped flowers. Hence **Bignoniaceous**, **Bignoniæ**.

[1700 *TOURNEFORT Inst. Rei Herb.*, Bignoniam appellavi.] 1835 *Penny Cycl.* IV. 391/2 The . . . Bignonia, many species of which are common in our gardens. 1865 *PARKMAN Huguenots* iv. 52 The scarlet trumpets of the bignonia.

† **Bigold**, *Obs. rare*—1. *Bot.* [*perh. f. by-* in sense of 'inferior' + **GOLD**.] The Corn Marigold.

1636 *GERARD Herbal* Supp., Bigold, *Chrysanthemum segetum*. 1863 *Prior Plant-n.* 21 *Bigold*, tinsel, false gold, applied to a plant that is not the genuine *Gold*.

Bigot (bi'gɒt, -t), *sb. and a.* [a. *f. bigot*, of unknown origin: see below.] *A. sb.*

† 1. a. A hypocritical professor of religion, a hypocrite. b. A superstitious adherent of religion.

1598 *SPEIGHT Chaucer, Bigin, bigot*, superstitious hypocrite [1602 *adds* or hypocritical woman]. 1653 *URQUHART Kibela's* i. xl, He is no bigot or hypocrite. 1656 *BLOUNT Glossogr.*, *Bigot* (Fr.), an hypocrite, or one that seems much more holy then he is, also a scrupulous or Superstitious fellow. 1664 *H. MORE Myst. Iniq.* 436 One part of their Church becomes Sotts and Bigots.

2. A person obstinately and unreasonably wedded to a particular religious creed, opinion, or ritual.

1661 *COWLEY Cromwell* Wks. II. 655 He was rather a well-meaning and deluding Bigot, than a crafty and malicious Impostor. 1741 *WATTS Improv. Mind* i. Wks. (1813) 14 A dogmatist in religion is not a long way off from a bigot. 1844 *STANLEY Arnold* II. viii. 13 [Dr. Arnold] was almost equally condemned, in London as a bigot, and in Oxford as a latitudinarian.

b. *transf.* (Of other than religious opinions.) 1687 *CONGREVE Old Bach.* i. v, Yet is adored by that bigot Sir Joseph Wittol as the image of valour. 1838 *HALLAM Hist. Lit.* i. vii. § 14 I. 395 Lord Bacon, certainly no bigot to Aristotle. 1863 *KINGSLEY Water-Bab.* vi. 290 The children of Prometheus are . . . the bigots, and the bores.

3. *Comb.*, as **bigot-maker**.

a 1720 *SHEFFIELD (Dk. Buckhm.) Wks.* (1753) II. 155 The best of all the Bigot-makers that ever I read of.

B. *adj.* [Often merely *attrib.* use of *sb.*]

1623 *LD. HERBERT in Ellis Orig. Lett.* i. 298 III. 164 The most common censure, even of the bigot party. 1660 *Dry-*

den Kind Kp. Ep. Ded., In a Country more Bigot than ours. 1751 SMOLLETT *Per. Pic.* lxii, The crazed Tory, the bigot Whig. 1844 KINGLAKE *Eothen* xxvii. (1878) 345 Old bigot zeal against Christians.

[In OF. *Bigot* appears first in the romance of *Girart de Roussillon* (12th c.) as the proper name of some people, apparently of the south of Gaul. Hence already in the 17th c. it was suggested by Caseneuve, that it might be an OF. form of *Wisigoth*, Visigoth; the relations between the Visigoths of Toulouse who were Arians, and the Franks who were Catholics, being such as readily to attach to the name of the former the connotation of 'detestable foreigner' or 'foreign heretic.' But modern Romanic scholars find phonetic difficulties, besides that there is no evidence that the name *Wisigoth* was preserved in the vulgar tongue. Slender support to some connexion with the Goths is suggested by the med. L. form *Bigothi* (Du Cange). Whether the Sp. *bigote*, moustache, is in any way connected, cannot be decided. According to Wace *bigos*, *bigos* was applied opprobriously by the French to the Normans, which shows that the word had then acquired some connotative force; the legend that it originated in the refusal of Hrolf or Rollo to kiss the foot of Charles the Simple, when, in the words of the 12th c. chronicler, 'lingua Anglica (!!) respondit *Ne se, bi got, quod interpretatur Ne per Deum*' (No by God!), is absurdly incongruous with facts. The opprobrious sense in Wace was certainly not that of 'superstitious' or 'hypocrite', as in later F. and Eng.; materials to show how the latter was developed are wanting, but there is evidence to show that the feminine *bigote* was subsequently applied in opprobrium to the *Beguines* (see *Beguta*, *Bignita*, in Du Cange): our first quotation identifies *bigot* with *bigin* or *beguine*. In early times the word became a Norman family name as in Roger Bigod earl of Norfolk.]

Bigote. [Sp.] The moustache.

1663 MASSE *Aleman's Gussman d'Alf* ii. 332 It seeming perhaps unto them that... the bearing their Bigotes high, turn'd vp with hot yrons... should be their salvation and bring them to heaven.

Bigoted (bigotéd), *a.* Also 7-8 big(g)otted. [f. BIGOT + -ED. (In 17th c. pronounced *bigotted*.)] Obstinately and blindly attached to some creed, opinion, or party; unreasonably devoted to a system or party, and intolerant towards others.

1645 EVELYN *Mem.* (1857) I. 102 Though the least bigoted of all Roman Catholics. 1688 S. PORDAGE *Medal Rev.* 336 One bigotted in the Romish way. 1759 DILWORTH *Pope* 69 A bigotted Jacobite. 1848 H. MILLER *First Impr.* vii. 107 His bigoted, weak-minded sister, the bloody Mary. 1875 H. E. MANNING *Mission H. Ghost* ix. 236 We are thought to be intolerant and bigoted, because we will keep no peace with heresy.

b. Const. to.

a 1704 T. BROWN *Sat. Antients* Wks. 1730 I. 22 Men who are bigotted to the opinions they have imbibed under their teachers. 1788 MISS BURNEY *Cecilia* iv. v. (1783) 199 Mr. Harrel has been so strangely bigotted to his friend. 1816 BYRON *Ck. Har.* ii. xiv. So nursed and bigoted to strife.

Bigottedly, *adv.* In a bigotted manner.

1831 J. WILSON in *Blackw. Mag.* XXX. 405 Your notions are as bigottedly aristocratic as ever.

Bigotic, *a.* Obs. [f. BIGOT + -IC.] = BIGOTED.

So **Bigotical** *a.*, **Bigotically** *adv.*, **Bigotish** *a.*

1678 CUDWORTH *Intell. Syst.* i. iii. § 38. 177 Some noble and generous truth which the bigotick religionists endeavour to smother and oppress. *Ibid.* i. l. § 19. 18 Some Bigotical Religionists. *Ibid.* i. iv. § 15. 274 Bigotically zealous for the worship of the gods. 1852 EVELYN *State France* Misc. Writ. (1805) 82 The Roman Catholics of France are nothing so... bigotish as are... the Recusants of England.

Bigotism, *Obs.* [a. F. *bigotisme*.] Bigotry.

1681 HICKERINGILL *Vind. Naked Truth* ii. 24 'Tis this Bigotism that undoes us. 1705 — *Priest-cr.* i. (1721) 52 The additional Bigotism of Sabbatizing.

Bigotly, *adv.* Obs. [f. BIGOT + -LY.]

1646 BAILLIE *Anabapt.* (1647) Pref. A. 2 a, The most of the Cantons are bigotly popish.

Bigotry (bigotri). Also 7 bigottry. [a. F. *bigoterie*, f. *bigot*: see -RY.] The condition of a bigot; obstinate and unenlightened attachment to a particular creed, opinion, system, or party.

a 1674 CLARENDON *Hist. Reb.* xiv. (1706) III. 423 The present Duke was with more than ordinary Bigottry zealous in the Roman Religion. a 1755 WATTS (J.) Bigotry to our own tenets. 1800 T. JEFFERSON *Writ.* (1859) IV. 319 We see the bigotry of an Italian to the ancient splendor of his country. 1876 GREEN *Short Hist.* vii. § 6 (1882) 406 The bigotry of Philip was met by a bigotry as merciless as his own.

b. concr. A specimen or act of bigotry.

1715 BENTLEY *Serm.* x. 351 These Bigotries were yet without any mixture of Craft and Knavery.

Bigurdel, -gyrdel, variants of BYGIRDLE, Obs., a moneysack.

Bigurt, obs. form of BEGIRT.

Bigwig (big'wig). [f. BIG + WIG, from the large wigs formerly worn by men of distinction or importance.] A man of high official standing, or of note or importance. (*humorous or contemptuous*.) Hence **Bigwigged** *pl. a.*, wearing officially a big wig; **Bigwiggedness**, **Bigwiggery**, **Bigwiggism**, official display of importance.

1792 SOUTHEY *Lett.* (1856) I. 12 Though those big-wigs have really nothing in them, they look very formidable. 1815 SCRIBBLEMANIA 221 As poet-translator, no big wig ranks stouter. 1865 TROLLOPE *Belton Est.* vii. 75 Some big-wig has come in his way who is going to dine with him. 1866 Mrs. H. WOOD *Channings* iii. 17 If any big-wigged Lord Chancellor could take away the money. 1884 *Athenaeum* 28 June 831/3 Characteristic big-wiggedness... pervades many of these pages. 1893 *Househ. Wds.* XII. 250 All this solemn bigwiggy—these triumphs, ovals, VOL. I.

sacrifices, orations. 1878 GEO. ELIOT *Middlem.* (1878) I. n. 265, I didn't like... so much empty bigwiggyism.

Bigyle, obs. form BEGUILLE.

Bi: see under BY-.

Biha-lve, -en, -es, *adv.* and *prep.* Obs. [OE. *be healf* 'by (the) side', a phrase construed with a dative; treated in ME. as an *adv.* and *prep.* The ME. ending -en seems due to form-association with words like *beforen*, *betwixen*, etc., in which the -en was historical; -es imitated the *adv.* genitives. Cf. BESIDE, *bisiden*, BESIDES (perhaps the direct model for *bihalven*, *bihalves*.)]

A. phrase. By the side, beside.

a 1000 *Metr. Boeth.* xxix. 43 (Gr.) Be healf heofones bisses. — *Byrhtnoth* 152 Him be healf stod hyse unweaken cniht. *Ibid.* 318 Be healf minum hláforde.

B. adv. Beside, near, by.

c 1205 *Lav.* 571 Pe bi-halves were. *Ibid.* 8170 Enne hendlicne mon Pe per stod bi-haluen. c 1305 *St. Katherine* in E. E. P. (1862) 90 Heo stod bihalues and bihuld.

C. prep. Beside, close to, by.

c 1205 *Lav.* 8136 Enne gume... him bihalves. *Ibid.* 9313 Bihalues þan fhte.

Biha-lven, *v.* Obs. [f. *bi-*, BE- + *halve*, HALF, side: cf. OHG. *behalben* surround.] *trans.* To surround on all sides.

c 1205 *Gen. & Ex.* 3355 Harde he bi-haluen ðer moyses. a 1300 *Havelok* 1834 A red thei taken hem bitwene, That he sholde him bi-halue, And brisen.

Biharite, *Min.* [f. the Biharberg, in Hungary, where found.] A hydrous silicate of magnesium and aluminium, of yellowish, green, or brown colour, and greasy feeling.

Bihate, variant of BEHATE.

Biha-ld, *v.* Obs. [f. *bi-*, BE- + ME. *healden*.

trans. To pour over, to sprinkle.

c 1225 *Leg. Kath.* 1400 þæt tes meiden moste... wið halwende wettes bihaelden [v. r. biheolden] ham alle.

Bihe-de, *v.* Obs. *Pa. t.* and *pple.* bihædde.

[OE. *behēdan*, f. BE- + *hēdan* to HEED; cf. OFris. *bihāda* (Du. *behoeden*, LG. *behöden*), OHG. *bihuoan* (mod.G. *behüten*.)]

1. trans. To take notice of, notice, perceive.

c 1205 *Lav.* 27672 Pe eorl þæt bihædde, an heorte him wes unneðe. *Ibid.* 28398 Arður þæt bihædde, þe king wes abolþe.

2. To pay attention to, take care of.

c 1250 *Lav.* 25900 Ich was hire fostermoder and faire hire bihædde [c 1205 *uostredde*]. a 1400 in *Rel. Ant.* II. 225 Thorou wyldernesche ich ladde the, And vourty 3er bihædde the.

3. To guard against.

a 1250 *Owlt & Night.* 635 Hwat can þæt jongling hit bihede 3if hit misþeð hit mot neðe.

4. To procure or prepare (for), offer, give (to).

c 1205 *Lav.* 12101 Meiga nom Oriene... and scorne hire bihædde. c 1420 *Chron. Vilad.* 1113 Wherfore þe kyng by hedde hym no grace.

Biheest(e), -hete, -hight, hiȝt, hote, etc.: see BEHIGHT.

Bihelwe, obs. form of BEHALF.

Bihe-ve, *a.* Obs. Forms: 1 behoeve, behefe,

3 biheue. [OE. *behefe*, earlier *bihēfe*: — **bihōfo-*, adj. f. **bihōf-* BEHOOF, meaning 'of behoof, of use.']

Profitable, useful, needful.

c 975 *Rukw. Gosp.* Mark xi. 3 Cweoðas ðætte drihtne bihoeve [Lindisf. *behoofic*] *we* ned-darf is. c 1000 *Ag. G.* Luke xiv. 28 *Pa* and-fengas þe him behefe synt. a 1225 *Juliana* 46 Nis nawi þe biheve.

Bihe-ve, *sb.* Obs. Forms: 1 behēfe, 3 biheue.

[subst. use of prec. adj.] Behoof; advantage.

a 1225 *Ankr. R.* 96 Vor moni vuel ich iseo perinne, & none biheue. c 1230 *Cast. Love* 1425 Ac heore doute was vre biheue. c 1320 *Assump. Virg.* 676 He wist he was to godes biheue.

Biho-fth(e), *Obs.* Forms: 2-3 bihofþe, 3 bihoupe, biofte, byefþe, 3-4 byofþe, 4 byhofþe.

[f. OE. *bi-*, *behofian* to need, BEHOVE + -TH.] Need, behoof; use, service.

c 1175 *Lamb. Hom.* 19 To þere saule bihofþe. c 1250 *Gen. & Ex.* 1408 Rebecca wile ic hauen, To ysac-is bi-ofte wile ic crauen. 1297 R. GLOUC. 348 To hys byefþe. *Ibid.* 354 To Wyllammes byofþe. 1393 *LANGL. P. Pl. C.* xiii. 187 To mannes byhofþe. a 1400 *Eng. Gilds* 354 To here owne by-ofþe.

Biho-zi-en, *v.* Obs. [OE. *behozian*, f. BE- + *hogan* to think, consider: see HOWE *v.*] *trans.*

To be anxious about, be careful for.

a 1000 *Benedict. Rule* 58 (Bosw.) Behozian, *solicitem esse*. c 1175 *Lamb. Hom.* 113 De lauerd scal bihozian þæt he habbe godes fultum. c 1205 *Lav.* 17369 Bruttes... heore gode wepen 'wurðliche bihojeden.

Bihowe, *v.* Obs. [OE. *behawian*, f. BE- + OE. *hawian* to look, view.] *trans.* To view; to see.

c 1000 *Ag. G.* Matt. vii. 5 Þu licceter... behawa [1160 *Halton* behawe]. þæt mot of þines broður eagan. 1330 R. BRUNNE *Chron.* 11165 (Stratm.) Þe folk to bihowe.

Bihynde, *Bii*, obs. f. of BEHIND, BUY.

Biis, *bijce*, *bija*, var. BYSS, Obs., fine linen.

Bi-ischiatic (bi:iski:æ'tik), *a.* Phys. [f. Bi-

pref. 2 + ISCHIATIC, f. Gr. *ischion* hip joint.] Joining the two hip-joints.

1878 BARTLEY *Tr. Topinard's Anthropol.* ii. 83 The biischiatic line, or width of the seat.

Bijou (bi'zu). Pl. bijoux. [F. *bijou* (16th c.

in Littre): prob. a Breton *bizou*, formerly *besou* 'ring with a stone' (cf. Cornish *bison* 'finger-ring' in 13th c.), f. Bret. *biz*, *bes* = Cornish *bis*, *bys*, *bes*, Welsh *bys* finger. See other conjectures in Diez, Littre, Scheler.] A jewel, a trinket; a 'gem' among works of art. Also attrib.

1838 MACAULAY *Lett.* in Trevelyan *Life* (1881) 269 The bijou of his gallery. 1868 MISS BRADDON *Dead-Sea Fr.* II. l. 3 Owner of... the bijou house in Park Lane. 1876 GEO. ELIOT *Dan. Der.* III. xx. 154 The farthing buckles were bijoux.

Bijouterie (bi'zʊəri). [Fr.; f. prec. + -erie see -RY. The -i- is analogical.] Collective appellation for jewelry, trinkets, and articles of vertu.

1831 DISRAELI *Eng. Duke* (1878) 317 The furniture, and the bijouterie, produced a most respectable fund. 1863 R. BURTON *Abokuta* I. 106 The bijouterie was coral, in necklaces and wristlets.

Bijugate (bi'dʒʊgeɪt), *a.* [f. Bi- pref. 2 + L. *jugal-us* yoked.]

1. Of a coin: Bearing two heads side-facing, one overlapping the other.

1725 W. STURLEY in *Mem.* (1882) I. 87 Bijugate coin of Carausius.

2. Two-paired, 'as a pinnate leaf of two pairs of leaflets' (Gray *Bot. Text-bk.* 1880).

1846 in WORCESTER.

Bijugous (bi'dʒʊgʊs, bi-), *a.* [f. L. *bijug-us* yoked two together (f. *bi-* two + *jugum* yoke) + -OUS.] = BIJUGATE 2. 1836 *Penny Cycl.* V. 252.

Bik, *Bikalle*, see BIKH, BECALL.

Bike (bɔik), *sb.* north. dial. Also 5-9 byke, 6

byik, byk, 8 beik. [Etymology unknown. The sense 'bees' nest' is the original; hence a conjecture that it represents an OE. *blōc*, contr. from **blowlc* 'bee-dwelling'; but the phonetic repr. of that would have been *beke*, *beek*. The sense 'building' (4) is apparently erroneous; some, assuming it to be the original, compare *big*, *bike* with *dig*, *dike*.]

1. A nest of wasps, hornets, or wild bees, as distinct from the *hive* or *skep* of domestic bees. Also, the whole nestful of bees; a swarm.

a 1300 *Cursor M.* 76 Suetter... þon hony o bika. c 1460 *Towneley Myst.* 325 Wormes shalle in you breds as bees dos in the byke. a 1500 *MS. Cott. Calig. A. ij.* 100 (Halliwell) A byke of waspes bredde in his nose. 1756 BELLENDEN *Cron. Scot.* (1821) II. 271 Ane tod was ourset with a bane of fleis. a 1758 RAMSAY *Poems* (1844) 89 Like bumbes brike their bykes. 1790 BURNS *Tam O'Shanter*, As bees bizz out wi' angry fyke, When plundering herds assail their byke. 1863 BLACK *Black Bothy* v, They had thoroughly dug out that wasps' byke.

2. *fig.* A place likened to a bees' nest, e.g. a subterranean retreat or 'hole', a well-filled storehouse.

1513 DOUGLAS *Eneis* viii. iv. 26 3one fendlych hole... A hellis byke, quhair sonnys beme nevyr schane. 1806 R. JAMIESON *Poet. Ballads* I. 293 (JAM.) Nocht but a house-wife was wantin' To plensish his weel foggit byke.

3. *fig.* Applied contemptuously to a swarm of people; a teeming crowd, a 'crew.'

1554 LYNDSEY *Monarchie* 5803 In that court sall cum mony one Off the blak byik of Babylone. 1765 BURNS *Jolly Beggars*, The glowrin' byke. 1818 SCOTT *Hrt. Midl.* xii, A bonny bike there's o' them! 1818 — *Rob Roy* xxvi, A bike o' the maist lawless unchristian limmers that ever disturbed a douce, quiet... neighbourhood.

4. ? A building, a habitation. Jamieson. Obs. (But the quotation may mean 'populous centre,' or 'swarm of men'.)

c 1440 *Gaw & Gologras*. II. viii, Mony burgh, mony bour, mony big bike; mony kynrik to his clame cumly to know.

5. (See quot.) Obs. or local.

1771 PENNANT *Tour Scotl.* (1794) 202 The corn is thrashed out and preserved in the chaff in bykes, which are stacks in shape of bee-hives, thatched quite round.

Bike, *v.* Sc. [f. BIKH *sb.*] To swarm like bees.

1805 A. SCOTT *Poems* 16 (JAM.) The lads about me biket.

Bike, obs. form of BEAK *v.*

Bikeche, variant of BECATCH.

Biken, obs. form of BEACON, BECKON.

Bikenned, *pa. pple.* Obs. rare. [f. *bi-*, BE- + ME. *kennen* to beget: cf. AKENNED.] Begotten.

a 1250 *Creed* in *Rel. Ant.* I. 234 Datt of de holigost biken-nedd was.

Biker, *bikkyr*, obs. ff. BEAKER, BICKER.

Bikh. Also bik, bish. [Hindi, Nepali, *bikh*, Bengali, *bish* poison:—Skr. *viṣa* poison.] The

poison of various species of Aconite, esp. *Aconitum ferox*; also the root or plant yielding it.

1830 LINDLEY *Introd. Bot.* 7 The root of the Aconitum of India, one of the substances called Bikh, or Bish, is a most virulent poison. 1833 *Penny Cycl.* I. 881 The dreadful Bikh or Bish of Nepal, the *Aconitum ferox*.

(The same name is given by the natives to the effect of the rarefied atmosphere at great heights in the Himalaya, which they attribute to poisonous exhalation from the ground or from plants.)

Biknaw, *bikome*, etc.: see BEKNOW, etc.

Bil(e), obs. form of BILL.

Bilabial (bi:lz'bi:əl), *a.* = next.

1862 DANA *Man. Geol.* i. v. 160 Having a bilabial form.

Bilabiate (bi:lz'bi:ət), *a.* [f. Bi- pref. 2 + L. *labi-a* lip + -ATE¹.] Two-lipped.

1794 MARTYN *Rousseau's Bot.* xxxi. 479 The nectaries are bilabiate. 1839 TODD *Cycl. Anat. & Phys.* II. 113/2.

† **Bilacche**, *v. Obs.* Pa. t. *bela(u)ght*. [f. *bi-*, BE- + ME. LACCHE to take.] To take away. [c. 1000 *Ag. Gosp.* Mark ix. 18 Swa he hine gelæcð.]

Bilacinate (bōlāsī-nī-āt), *a. Bot.* [f. *Bi-* pref.² + LACINATE, f. L. *lacinia* lappet, flap.] Of leaves: Doubly lacinate; *i. e.* divided into flaps or lappets which are themselves similarly divided.

Bilamellar, *a. = next.*

1852 DANA *Crust.* II. 1035 The organ has a bilamellar termination.

Bilamellate, -ated (bōlāe-mē-lēt, -tēd), *a.* [f. *Bi-* pref.² + LAMELLATE, f. L. *lāmella*, dim. of *lāmīna* thin plate.] Having or consisting of two lamellæ or small thin plates.

1846 WORCESTER *Cities Brande*. 1870 HOOKER *Stnd. Flora* 260 Verbascum . . stigma undivided or bilamellate. 1876 HARLEY *Mat. Med.* 476.

Bilaminar, *a. = next.*

Bilaminated, -ated (bōlāe-mī-nēt, -tēd), *a.* [f. *Bi-* pref.² + LAMINATE, f. L. *lāmīna* thin plate.] Having or consisting of two thin plates.

1839-47 TODD *Cycl. Anat. & Phys.* III. 568/1 The fascia on reaching its anterior edge, is bi-laminated.

Biland, variant of BYLAND *Obs.* peninsula.

Bilander (bi-lāndər, bō-lāndər). Also 7 bilander, 7-9 bylander, 8 belande, belandre, billinder. [ad. Du. *bijlander* 'a vessel with one large mast, sailing on the coast,' 'a lighter,' f. Du. *bij* By + *land* LAND. Adapted in Fr. as *belandre*.] A two-masted merchant vessel, a kind of hoy, distinguished by the trapezoidal shape of the mainsail; used in Holland for coast and canal traffic.

1665 (title) The Opening of Rivers for Navigation . . a Mediterranean Passage by Water for Billanders of thirty tun, between Bristol and London. 1666 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 37/4 Here are three small Billanders from Bruges in Flanders. 1676 TEMPLE *Let. Wks.* 1731 II. 351 Their baggage is already laden in a By-lander in this Canal. 1687 DRYDEN *Hind & P.* I. 128 Like bilanders to creep Along the coast. 1731 BAILEY, *Belander, belandre*. 1755 *Mem. Capt. P. Drake* II. iii. 62, I agreed for a Billinder, which is a kind of Dutch Vessel. 1833 SOUTHEY *Naval Hist. Eng.* IV. 295 In little boats and bylanders to steal along the shore by night.

† **Bilary**, *a. Obs. = BILIARY.*

1681 tr. *Willis' Med. Wks. Voc.*, *Bilary*, belonging to bile or choler. 1797-51 CHAMBERS *Cycl.* The bilary pore.

Bilateral (bōlāe-tērāl), *a.* [f. *Bi-* pref.² + LATERAL, f. L. *later-* (nom. *latus*) side.] Of, pertaining to, affecting, or arranged upon two sides; disposed on opposite sides of an axis.

1775 ASH *Bilateral*, Having two sides, both by the father and mother's side. 1854 H. MILLER *Footpr. Creat.* ix. (1874) 162 That bilateral symmetry of the skeleton.

b. Law. Pertaining to or affecting two parties. 1818 COLEBROOKE *Obligations* I. 16 Contracts are either unilateral or bilateral. 1850 ALISON *Hist. Europe* V. xxvii. § 99. 78 Bound to perform the other side of the bilateral engagement.

Hence **Bilaterally** *adv.*, in a bilateral manner, on both sides. **Bilateralism**, **Bilaterality**, **Bilateralness**, bilateral condition, arrangement on opposite sides of an axis.

1849 MURCHISON *Siluria* App. D. 540 Growing bilaterally and branching regularly. 1875 POSTE *Gains* I. (ed. 2) Intro. 8 A judgement may be bilaterally penal . . may both impoverish the defendant and enrich the plaintiff. 1852 TODD *Cycl. Anat. & Phys.* IV. 850/1 The idea of bilateralism is by no means included in our definition of symmetry. 1880 *Nature* XXI. 262 The phenomenon of bilateralism in the prothallia of ferns.

† **Bilauh**, -lauh, *v. Obs.* Forms see LAUGH. [Com. Teut.: OE. *bihliahhan*, -*hlehhhan* = OHG. *bihlahhan* (MHG. and mod. G. *belachen*, Du. *belaghen*), Goth. *bihlahjan* to laugh at, deride, f. *bi-*, BE- + *hlahan*, in OE. *hleghan*, to LAUGH.]

trans. To laugh at; mock, deride. a. 1000 *Guthlac* (Gr.) 1331 Huru ic swiðe ne þearf hinsið bihlehan. 1297 R. GLOUC. 64 Atte laste ys tricherie wel lutel he by lowz. a. 1300 K. Horn 681 þe fys me so bylaute (= laughte) þat ich nawt ne kauete.

Bilaw, obs. form of BY-LAW.

Bilboacatch: see BILBOQUET.

Bilbergia, variant of BILLBERGIA.

Bilberry, **billberry** (bi-lberi). Also 7 bilberry. [App. of Norse origin; cf. Da. *bölle-bær*, f. *bölle* (used separately for bilberry) + *bær* BERRY. (The origin of Da. *bölle* is unknown; the suggestion that it is:—ON. *bpllr* BALL is phonetically improbable, since this gives Sw. *boll*, Da. *bold*.)]

1. The fruit of a dwarf hardy shrub (*Vaccinium Myrtillus*), abundant on heaths, on stony moors, and in mountain woods, in Great Britain and Northern Europe; the berry is of a deep blue black, and about a quarter of an inch in diameter. So called chiefly in the Midlands; other names are WHORTLEBERRY and BLAEBERRY. The name is applied also to the plant, and used attrib.

1577 DEE *Relat. Spir.* I. (1659) 171 The cloth, Hair-coloured, Bilbery juyce. 1594 BARNFIELD *Aff. Sheph.* II. xii, Straw-

berries or Bil-berries, in their prime. 1598 SHAKS. *Merry W. v. v.* 49 There pinch the Maids as blew as Bill-berry. 1810 WORDSW. *Descr. Lakes* I. (1823) 29 The bilberry, a ground plant, never so beautiful as in early spring. 1821 CLARE *Vill. Minstr.* I. 87 In misty blue, Bilberries glow on tendrils weak. 1860 TYNDALL *Glac.* I. § 6. 45, I lay down upon the bilberry bushes.

2. Applied with or without qualification to other species of *Vaccinium*; e.g. in Britain to the Great Bilberry or Bog Whortleberry (*V. uliginosum*).

1640 PARKINSON *Theat. Bot.* 1455 *Vaccinia nigra fructu majore*. The greater Bilberry. 1829 R. BURTON *Centr. Afr. in Jm. R. G. S. XXIX.* 84 Garlands of small red bilberries. 1864 WEBSTER *s. v.*, The species of American bilberry are referred to the sub-genus *Eu-vaccinium*.

Hence **Bilberrying** *vbl. sb.*, gathering bilberries. 1859 W. COLEMAN *Woodlands* (1866) 92 A party of rustic children 'a bilberrying.'

Bilbo¹ (bi-lbow). Forms: 6 bilboa, 6-7 bilboe, -bowe, 7 bilbow, 6- bilbo. [App. (as stated by Blount in 1656) from *Bilbao* in Spain, long called in Eng. *Bilboa*. 'Bilbow blades' were, according to a marginal note to Drayton *Agincourt* (1631) p. 10, 'blades accounted of the best temper.' Cf. *Damascus blade*, *Toledo blade*. The swords of Bilbao, according to Moll's *Geogr.* 1701, 'are famous over all Europe.']

1. A sword noted for the temper and elasticity of its blade. Now only *Hist.*

1598 SHAKS. *Merry W.* III. v. 112 Compass'd like a good Bilbo in the circumference of a Pecke, hilt to point. 1603 DRAYTON *Odes* xvii. 81 Downe their Bowes they threw And forth their Bilbowes drew. 1625 MARKHAM *Souldiers Accid.* 2 Sharpe and broad Swords (of which the Turke or Bilboe are best). 1826 SCOTT *Woodst.* iii. My tough old Knight and you were at drawn bilbo. 1860 J. KENNEDY *Rob of Bowl* xv. 174 We shall come to bilbo and buff before long.

b. Often used as the proper name of a sword personified; esp. that of a bully or swash-buckler.

1676 SHADWELL *Libertine* I. Wks. 1720 II. 106 Stand, you dog! . . I'll put Bilbo in your guts. 1749 ABP. RHYS *Spain* (1760) 20 Bilbo is an humorous term for a Bully's Sword.

c. Phrase. *Bilbo's the word.*

1687 CONGREVE *Old Bachel.* III. vii, Bilbo's the word and slaughter will ensue. 1713 *Guardian* No. 145 Bilbo is the word, remember that and tremble. 1859 THACKERAY *Virgin.* xxxvii. 294.

2. *transf.* One who bears a bilbo. (Doubtful.) 1598 SHAKS. *Merry W.* I. i. 165, I combat challenge of this Latine Bilboe. 1690 CROWNE *Eng. Frier* v. 41 This bilboe has shew'd more brains then our Statesmen do.

3. *Attrib. and Comb.*, as *bilbo-blade*, -*man*, -*mettle*, -*smith*; bilbo-lord, a bully, swash-buckler.

1592 GREENE *Disput.* Wks. (Grosart) X. 236 Let them doe what they dare with their 'bilbowe blades. 1656 BLOUNT *Glossogr.*, 'Bilbo blade from Bilbao . . in Spain where the best blades are made. 1621 FLETCHER *Wild-G. Chase* III. i, That this 'bilbo-lord shall reap that maidenhead That was my due. 1611 BEAUM. & FL. *King & No King* v. 59 You are much bound to your 'Bil-bow-men. 1632 B. JONSON in Brome *North. Lasse* Pref. Verses, An honest 'Bilbo-Smith would make good blades.

Bilbo², Pl. bilboes (bi-lbowz). Also 6 bilbows, 7 bilbowes, bylboes, 8 (comb.) bilboos. [Of uncertain derivation. It is usually, like the prec., referred to *Bilbao*, on the alleged ground that many of these instruments were manufactured there, and shipped on board the Spanish Armada, for the confinement of English prisoners expected to be made; but the word occurs in English many years before 1588.] A long iron bar, furnished with sliding shackles to confine the ankles of prisoners, and a lock by which to fix one end of the bar to the floor or ground.

1557 in Hakluyt's *Voy.* I. 295, I was also conveyed to their lodgings . . where I saw a pair of bilbowes. 1591 J. HORTON *Narr.* in Arb. *Garner* V. 316 Whom he presently commanded to be set in the bilbows. 1602 SHAKS. *Ham.* v. ii. 6 Me thought I lay Worse then the mutines in the Bilboes. 1723 MRS. CENTLIVRE *Basset-Table* I. i. 205 For every fault that she commits, he'll condemn her to the Bilboes. 1879 SALA in *Daily Tel.* 26 June, The . . prisoner kneeling to show how . . the bilboes and the neckstocks were put on him.

b. attrib.

1772-84 Cook *Voy.* (1790) V. 1597 Carrying with him the shackle of the bilbo-bolt that had been put about his leg.

Bilboquet (bilbōkēt). Corrupted forms in sense 2, 9 bilboketch, -catch, bilboacatch, bilverketoh, bilbercatch. [a. Fr. *bilboquet*, in same senses and various intermediate ones; in OF. *bilboquet*, -*baquet*, of doubtful origin: see Diez, *Littre*.] † 1. 'A cord or line, having at either end, and in the middle, a stick fastened vnto it wherewith Gardeners measure out their beds.' Cotgr.

1616 SURFL. & MARKH. *Countr. Farm* 256 For round workes, you must haue an instrument, commonly called the Gardners Bilboquet. 1688 R. HOLME *Acad. Armory* II. 118 A Bilboquet, an Instrument made of Lines and sharp pointed Sticks or Iron Pins, to square out Beds.

2. The plaything called Cup-and-ball; the game played with it, which consists in catching the ball either on the cup or spike end of the stick.

[A typical example of popular etymology is afforded by the corruption of *-quet = ket*, to *ketch*, *catch*, so as to associate it with the action of the game; in *Bilbao catch* we have the more deliberate perversion of pseudo-scholarship.] 1743 WALPOLE *Let. H. Mann* (1834) I. lix. 253 To set

up the noble game of bilboquet. 1801 MAR. EDGEWORTH *Good Fr. Gov.* (1832) 109 Bilboquets, battledores, and shuttle-cocks. 1808 JANE AUSTEN *Let.* (1884) II. 26 Bilbocatch, at which George is indefatigable. 1812 *Month. Mag.* XXXIII. 26 He made great use of a bilbo-catch (*note*, said to have come hither from Bilbao, in Spain, and thence to have its name) or ivory cup and spike. 1832 HONE *Year Bk.* 1297 To the hautboy succeeded the bilbo-catch, or bilver-ketch. 1875 PARISH *Sussex Gloss.*, *Bilber-catch*.

Bilcock (bi-lkpk). A bird: the Water-rail.

1678 RAY *Willughby's Ornith.* 314 The Water-Rail, called by some the Bilcock or Brook-Ouzel. 1841 PENNY *Cycl.* XIX. 283/1 The . . Bilcock . . of the modern British.

Bild, etc., obs. form of BUILD, etc.

† **Bilder**, *Obs. rare*. 'A kind of horse, a nag.'

1570 LEVINS *Manip.* 71 A Bilder, horse, *equulus, equila*. 1653 URQUHART *Rabelais* I. xii. l. 48 That suffer your bilder [Fr. *courtaud*] to fail you, when you need him most.

Bilders (bi-l'dəz). *Herb.* Forms: 5 byllerne, billure, 6 bylders, bilders, 6-8 belders; mod. dial. bilders, billers, beillers.

A name given by the old herbalists to some water plant or plants, cruciferous or umbelliferous (perk. *Helosciadium* or *Nasturtium*). In modern dialects applied locally to Water Cress, co. Derry; Water Dropwort (*Enanthe crocata*), Cornwall; Cow Parsnip, Devon. See Britten and Holland.

c. 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 36 Byllerne, watyr herbe, *berula*. Roy. MS. A. vl. f. 69 b in *Promp. Parv.* 36 *note*, *Billure*, an herbe that me clepyth billure. 1545 ELYOT *Dict.*, *Lauer*, an herbe growyng in the water, lyke to alysaunder, but hauyng lesse leaues. Some do call it bylders. [1548 COOPER *Bibl. Eliota*, bilders; 1573 — *Thesaurus*, belders.] 1598 FLORIO, *Gorgogliestro*, of some called . . belders, or bell-rags.

Bilge, obs. form of BILGE.

Bile (bōil). [a. F. *bile*, ad. L. *bilis*.]

1. The fluid secreted by the liver, and poured into the duodenum, as an aid to the digestive process. It is bitter, of a brownish yellow colour, passing sometimes into green, and of a highly complex structure. (It was one of the 'four humours' of early physiology, and was, till the beginning of the 18th c., commonly termed *choler*.)

1665 G. THOMSON *Med. Ignor.* 147 Blood, Bile, Phlegme, and Melancholy. 1700 DRYDEN *Cock & Fox* 147 These foolish Fancies . . Are certain Symptoms. Of boiling Choler, and abounding Bile. 1723 ARBUTHNOT *Rules of Diet* 267 Livers of Animals, because of the Bile which they contain. 1810 HENRY *Elem. Chem.* (1826) II. 441. 1861 HULME tr. *Mo quim-Tandon* II. iii. 95 Bile . . is secreted by the liver, and is received into a special receptacle termed the gall-bladder.

b. Excess or derangement of the bile.

1803 PITT in G. Rose *Diaris* (1860) II. 10, I am . . quite free both from gout and bile.

2. *fig.* Anger, ill temper, peevishness. Cf. CHOLER, GALL, SPLEEN.

1836 MARRVAT *Midsh. Easy* viii, His bile was raised by this parade and display in a lad. 1838 HALLAM *Hist. Lit.* I. i. iv. § 45. 289 After all this bile against those whom the royal bird represents.

3. **Black Bile** = *atrabilis, choler adust, or melan-choly*, the fourth of the 'humours' of early physiology; see ATRABILE.

1797 GODWIN *Enquirer* I. x. 88 He had been . . accumulating . . black bile.

4. *Comb. and Attrib.*, as *bile-cell*, -*cyst*, -*duct*, etc.; *bile-pigment*, one of the colouring substances of bile; *bile-stone*, a calculus formed in the gall-bladder, a gall-stone.

1674 GREW *Anat. Trunks* III. ii. § 17 In the Liver, it were hard to say, which is a Blood-Vessel, and which is a Bile-Vessel. . . if it were not for the Contents of them both. 1774 E. DARWIN in *Phil. Trans.* 346 The bile-duct was tied before it was taken out of the body. 1796 — *Zoon.* II. 4 Where these bile-stones are too large to pass. 1880 J. W. LEGG *Bile* 87 In health no bile-pigment can be detected in the blood.

Bile, obs. f. BOIL tumour, and BUILD.

Bilection, variant of BILECTION, a moulding.

Bilefy, obs. form of BILIFY.

Bileman, etc.: see BY-.

† **Bilenge**, *a. Obs. rare*—1. [Only in Ormin, taking place of OE. *gelenge*, f. *ge-* prefix + *lenge*, secondary form of *lang* long:—OE. **langjo-*. Cf. *bilong*, BELONG *a. for* OE. *gelang-*] Belonging, related to (with *dat.*).

c. 1200 ORMIN 2230 Bitwenenn þatt Iudisskenn þeod þatt Jacob wass bilenge.

Bilek, biloc, biloken, biluken, etc.: see BE-LOOK and BELOUKE.

Bileue, -leve, variants of BELEAVE *v. Obs.*

† **Bileven**, *Obs. rare*—1. [perh. for *biliven*, pa. pple. of BELIVE, to remain; perh. a plural sb.] That which is left; remainder, remains.

c. 1250 *Gen. & Ex.* 3154 Ðe bi-leuen brennen he bead.

† **Bilewhit**, *a. Obs.* Forms: 1 bilewit(e, bilwit, 1-2 bylewite, 2 bylewhit(t), 3 bilewhit, -ehwit. [Etymology doubtful: prob. f. OE. **bili-*, cogn. w. OIr. *bil* good, mild, and found in OHG. *billich*, mod. G. *billig* just, reasonable + WIT; giving the sense 'mild of wit or mind.' Cf. G. *bilweis* 'a good friendly house-spirit,' Grimm *Germ. Myth.* (ed. 4) III. 137 (Eng. ed. II. 473), and BILLY-BLIND. The interpretation 'white of bill,' like a young bird (f. OE. *bile* + *hwit*), was current at an

early date, as shown by 12th c. spellings; cf. *F. bec-jaune, G. gelb-schnabel*, though these are depreciative rather than laudatory; and it must be noted that the earlier spellings had not *hwilt*, but *wite*.] Mild, gentle, clement; innocent, simple.

c. 890 K. ÆLFRED BADA IV. xxiv. In Sweet Reader 50 Swa swa he hluttre mode and bilewite ond smyltre willsumnesse Dryhtne ðeowde. *c. 950 Lindisf. Gosp. Matt. xi. 29* Biluit [ic] am. [*c. 975 Rushw. G. mild, c. 1000 Ags. G. bilwite, v. r. bylwite, c. 1150 Royal MS. bylewit, c. 1160 Hatton bylehwit.*] *c. 975 Rushw. G. Matt. x. 16* Bilwite swa swa culfra. [*c. 1000 Ags. G. bylwite, c. 1150 Royal MS. bylwite, c. 1160 Hatton bylehwite.*] *1123 O. E. Chron. (Laud MS.) an. 1041* He was swiðe god man and swiðe bilehwit. *c. 1200 ORMIN 6654* Shepisse & bilewhit, All clene off ille þohhtess. *a. 1225 St. Mark. 22* þe engles.. sungon on hire bodi bilehwit and blesceden hit.

Bilge (bildz), *sb.* Also 7-8 bildge, billage. [Prob. a corruption of *BULGE*, ad. OF. *boulge* = mod. *F. bouge*, shown not only by the occurrence of *BULGE* and *BULCH* as synonyms of *BILGE*, but also by the fact that *bouge* in *F.* still means 'bilge' both with reference to a cask and to a ship. *Billage* must be a further corruption, due to the rarity of the ending *-lge* in Eng.; this form seems in later times to be preferred where the word denotes a measure, from form-association with *tonnage, storage*, and other abstracts in *-age*.]

1. The bottom of a ship's hull, or that part on either side of the keel which has more a horizontal than a perpendicular direction, and upon which the ship would rest if aground; also the lowest internal part of the hull.

1513 DOUGLAS Æneis v. iv. 78 The mychty kervell schuderit.. Doun swakkand fludis ondir hir braid bilge of aik. *1621 in Capt. Smith's Seaman's Gram. i. xvi. 75* The Bilge, the breadth of the place the Ship rests on when she is a ground. *1696 PHILLIPS, Billage* of a Ship is the breadth of the Floor when she lies aground; and billage-water is that which cannot come to the pump. *1786 COWPER Odys. xv. 579* She pitched headlong into the bilge Like a sea coot. *1866 Daily Tel. 7 Nov.* We were only blown over on our other bilge, and remained fast.

b. The foulness which collects in the bilge. *1809 SOUTHEY O. Neuman iii.* To breathe again the air With taint of bilge and cordage undefined. *1856 EMERSON Eng. Traits ii. 35* Nobody likes to be.. suffocated with bilge, mephitis, and stewing oil.

2. The 'belly' of a cask or other vessel of similar shape; cf. *BELLY* 10, 11.

1513 DOUGLAS Æneis ii. i. 11 Of chost men.. thai tuik Ane greit numir, and hid in bilgis derne Within that best. *1797 NELSON in Nicolas Disp. VII. 143* The great weight of stores laid on the casks.. has pressed the bilges.

3. *Comb. and Attrib.*, as *bilge-block, -board, -coad, -keelson, -plank; bilge-fever* (see quot.); *bilge-free a.* (of a cask), stowed so that the bilge does not come in contact with the floor; *bilge-piece* = *BILGE-KEEL*; *bilge-pump*, a pump to draw off the bilge-water; *bilge-stringer*, a shelf or line of beams running round the bilge; *bilge-ways* (see quot.). Also *BILGE-KEEL, -WATER*.

1867 SMYTH Sailor's Word-bk. **Bilge-fever*, the illness occasioned by a foul hold. *1869 SIR E. REED Ship-build. ii. 47* The iron-clad frigates of our Navy.. have numerous.. 'bilge-keelsons'. *1880 Times 25 Dec. 7/5* The vessel rolled 'deeper' than before the removal of the 'bilge-pieces, the increase of the ballast, etc. *1867 SMYTH Sailor's Word-bk.* **Bilge-planks*, certain thick strengthenings on the inner and outer lines of the bilge. *1866 G. MACDONALD Ann. Q. Neigh. xi. (1878) 226* It's better.. to keep a look-out on the 'bilge-pump. *1869 SIR E. REED Ship-build. i. 10* The butts of the angle-irons forming the fore and aft 'bilge-stringers, were not sufficiently connected. *1769 FALCONER Dict. Marine (1780) H iij b.* The 'bilge-ways or cradles, placed under the bottom, to conduct the ship.. into the water whilst launching.

Bilge, v. [*f. prec. sb.*]

1. *trans.* To stave in a ship's bottom, cause her to spring a leak.

1557 A. JENKINSON in Hakluyt Voy. I. 333 The Trinitie came on ground.. and was like to be bilged and lost. *1658 USSHER Ann. 662* Euphranor.. had bilged and sunk one of the enemies ships. *1762-9 FALCONER Shipw. iii. 642* A second shock Bilges the splitting vessel on the rock. *1836 MARRYAT Midsh. Easy xxxi.* It was one of the Sicilian government galleys bilged on the rocks.

2. *intr.* (for *refl.*) To suffer fracture in the bilge; to be broken or stove in, spring a leak. Also *fig.*

1728 MORGAN Algiers ii. v. 301 The Ships.. were running ashore and bilging on the Rocks. *1748 ANSON Voy. ii. iii. 146* She struck on a sunken rock, and soon after bilged. *1870 LOWELL Among my Bks. Ser. I. (1873) 223* On which an heroic life.. may bilge and go to pieces.

3. *trans. and intr.* To bulge or swell out.

1807 VANCOUVER Agric. Devon (1813) 369 These narrow ways are.. by the traffic of the lime-carts, bilged, and forced out upon their sides. *1849-52 TODD Cycl. Anat. & Phys. IV. 941/2* The whole apparatus is capable of bilging outwards in the movements of respiration.

Bilged, ppl. a. In 6 *Sc. bilgeit*. [*f. BILGE sb. + -ED*.] Having a large bilge; broad-bottomed.

1513 DOUGLAS Æneis ii. iv. [iii.] 65 Alkyn portage quihlk was hider brocht In barge or bilgeit ballingare our se.

Bilge-keel (bi'ldz-kil). See quot. 1850. *c. 1850 Rudim. Navig. (Weale) 97* Bilge-Keels, the pieces of timber fastened under the bilge of boats or other vessels, to keep them upright when on shore, or to prevent them

falling to leeward when sailing. *1884 E. Fishbourne in Pall Mall G. 23 Sept. 2/2* A large number of our ships have deep bilge-keels to reduce their rolling propensities.

Bilge-water. The water that collects in the bilge of a ship through leakage or otherwise, and becomes disgustingly foul and noxious.

1706 PHILLIPS, Bilge-Water, that water which.. cannot come to the Well in the Ship's Hold. *1751 SMOLLETT Per. Pic. ix.* May I be bound to eat oakum and drink bilge-water for life. *1840 R. DANA Bef. Mast ii. 3* That inexpressibly sickening smell, caused by the shaking up of the bilge-water in the hold.

† **Bilgres.** *Obs.* A plant: perhaps = *BILDERS*. *c. 1460 J. RUSSELL Bk. Nurture in Babes Bk. (1868) 185* Scabiose, Bilgres, wildflax, is good for ache.

Bilgy (bi'ldzi). [*f. BILGE sb. + -Y*.] Characteristic of a bilge: e.g. 'a bilgy smell.'

Bili- (baili), combining form of the *L. bilis* bile, used in various compounds and derivatives, esp. in the names of bile-pigments; as *bili-cyanin, -rubin, -verdin*, etc. Hence also *Bililation*, 'the production or secretion of bile.' *Syd. Soc. Lex. 1880.*

Biliferous a., producing bile. † **Bilification**, the action or process of making bile. † **Bilify, v.** to form bile; **Bilifying ppl. a.** bile-forming.

1880 J. W. LEAG Bile 49 Bilicyanin they always find in human gall-stones. *1876 GAMGEE tr. Hermann's Phys. (ed. 2) 138* Yellow bile becomes green through the oxidation of bilirubin to biliverdin. *1836-9 TODD Cycl. Anat. & Phys. II. 483/2* In many insects.. the biliferous organs consist of fluid sacs. *1862 SIR T. BLOUNT Ess. 113* The nature of sanguification, Bilification, Separation of Urine. *1657 TOMLINSON Remon's Disp. 526* So much Vinegar must be added.. as will correct that bilifying faculty.

Biliary (bi'lîari), *a.* [*ad. F. biliaire*; cf. mod. *L. biliâris*, and see *-ARY*.]

1. Of or pertaining to the bile.

1731 ARBUTHNOT Aliments i. § 4 Voracious Animals.. have the Biliary Duct inserted into the Pylorus. *1807 CARLYLE Misc. (1857) 51* Derangement in the biliary organs.

2. = *BILIOUS* 2.

1837 CARLYLE Fr. Rev. (1871) III. vi. vi. 234 The biliary face seems clouded with new gloom. *1860 — Remin. I. 97* Not sanguine and diffusive he, but biliary and intense.

† **Bilibre.** *Obs. rare.* [*ad. L. bilibra, f. bi- + libra* pound.] A weight of two pounds.

1388 WYCLIF Rev. vi. 6 A bilibre of whete, that is a weygt of two pound, for oo peny, and thre bilibres of barley for oo peny.

Bilif, -liue, var. ff. of *BYLIFE, Obs.*, sustenance.

|| **Bilimbi** (bi'limbi). Also 8 *blimbi*, 9 *blimby*, *blimbing*. [*Tamul bilimbi, Malay bilimbing, Cingalese bilin.*] A tree (*Averrhoa Bilimbi*, N.O. *Oxalidaceæ*), growing in India and Ceylon, which yields a juice used by the natives for the cure of skin-diseases; also its fruit.

1772-4 COOK Voy. (1790) I. 247 There are fruits of various kinds, and particularly the bilimbi, which has a sharp taste, and is a fine pickle. *1852 F. NEALE Resid. Siam xii.* To see the fruit trees.. the callacca, and the bilimby, the custard apple and the pomegranate. *1866 Treas. Bot. 112* *Averrhoa Bilimbi*, the Blimbing.

† **Biliment.** *Obs.* Forms: 6 *beliment, bellemente, billament, billemente, billyment, bylli(ament), 6-7 billiment(e), 7-8 billement, 8 biliment*. [aphetic form of *ABILIMENT, HABILIMENT* (also *abillement, habillament, abylyment*, etc.), used in specific senses of that word.]

1. *gen.* An ornamental article of (female) attire, an ornament worn by women; = *HABILIMENT* 6.

1530 LD. BERNERS Arth. Lyt. Bryt. (1814) 8 Pyers.. bought for them abyementes and jewelles. *1589 Lanc. Wills (1861) 155* I give unto my said wife all her chaynes of goolde.. bilimentes and all apparell. *1611 CORG. Dorset*, a jewell, or prettie trinket, as.. aglet, button, billement, etc. wherewith a woman sets out her apparell, or decks herself. *1720 Stow's Surv. (ed. Strype 1754) II. v. ix. 270/1* Many Biliments, Chains, Tablets, Buttons, and such like which were commonly worn. *1721-30 BAILEY, Biliments* (*i. e.* the Habilliments), Ornaments and Cloaths of a Woman.

2. *spec.* in 16th c.: 'The attire or ornaments of a woman's head or neck; or a bonnet; a French hood; a paste or such like.' *Baret Alvearie 1580.* 'The jewelled fronts of the ladies' head-dresses, as we see them in the portraits of Queen Anne Boleyn, etc.' *J. G. Nicholls.*

1555 Faride Facions ii. vii. 161 The abillementes of their heades are much like the frontettes that their Magi doe weare. *a. 1553 UDALL Royster D. ii. iii. (Arb.) 35* We shall go in our frenche hoodes. In our tricke ferdeweys and biliments of golde. *a. 1556 Chron. Gr. Friars (1552) 43* Thene [*1539*] beganne alle the gentylwomen of England to were Frenche whooddes with bellementes of golde. *1583 GOLDING Calvin on Deut. lxxvii. 472* Women weare biliments of gold, and other costly attyes vpon their heades. *1611 CORG. Bavolet*, a Biliment, or head-attire, worn by the women of Picardie.

3. *Biliment lace*: an ornamental lace used in the 16th c. for trimming.

1578 Inv. Jas. Backhouse in Draper's Dict. 187 Lace 5d to 9d per dozen. vij doz. and a d. of byllament, 8s.. x ounces of sylke byllament, 12s. *1588 Lanc. Wills (1861) 139* One velvet jerkin laid one wth bilim lace. *1600 Queen's Wardrobe in Nichols Progr. Q. Eliz. III. 501* One frocke of clothe of golde.. with a billement lace of Venice Golde.

Bilimien, -limpen, etc.: see *Bx.*

Bilin (bi'lin). [*f. BILE + -IN*.] A gummy pale yellow mass, formerly considered to be the principal constituent of the bile.

1849-52 TODD Cycl. Anat. & Phys. IV. 844/2 Bilin and biliary colouring matter. *1878 HUXLEY Phys. v. 122* Bilin.. is a mixture of two acids in combination with soda.

Bilinear (bi'lînar), *a. rare.* [*f. Bi- pref. 2 + LINEAR, L. linea* line.] Of, pertaining to, or contained by, two (straight) lines.

1851 MANSELL Proleg. Log. (1860) 24 There is no difficulty in understanding the meaning of the phrase 'bilinear figure'.. though the object is inconceivable.

Bilingual (bi'lîngwâl), *a.* [*f. L. bilingu-* speaking two languages (*f. bi- two + lingua* tongue, language) + *-AL*.]

1. Having, or characterized by two languages.

1862 ANSTED Channel Isl. 543 A constitution of bilingual islands. *1871 EARLE Philol. § 20* Cock-boat is probably a bilingual compound.

2. *spec.* Of inscriptions, etc.: Written or inscribed simultaneously in parallel versions in two different languages. Also quasi-*sb.*

1847 GROTE Greece ii. xxxiv. IV. 352 The inscriptions were bilingual, in Assyrian characters as well as Greek. *1869 BALDWIN Preh. Nations viii. (1877) 340* The bilingual stone of Thugga. *1881 Athenæum 1 Oct. 433/3* Our bilinguals are as yet scanty.

Hence **Bilingually adv.**, in two languages. So **Bilingual a.** = *BILINGUAL*. **Bilinguist**, one who speaks two languages. **Bilinguous a.** = *BILINGUAL*.

1871 EARLE Philol. § 77 Not an unfrequent thing in Chaucer for a line to contain a single fact bilingually repeated. *1839 Fraser's Mag. XX. 202* The bilingual monument of Rosetta. *1884 Pall Mall G. 4 Jan. 3/1* A genuine bilinguist is as rare a prodigy as a two-headed calf. *1730 BAILEY Bilinguist*; (whence also in mod. Dicts.)

† **Bilious**, *a. Obs.* [*ad. L. biliôsus* = next.

1710 Phil. Trans. XXVII. 34 The Biliose Liquor.. being of a whitish yellow colour.

Bilious (bi'lîas), *a.* Also 6 *bilious, byluous, 7 bilieous, 8 biliose*. [*ad. F. bilieux* = *L. biliôsus, f. bili-* *BILE*: see *-OUS*.]

1. Of, pertaining to, or connected with, the bile; = *BILIARY. Obs.*

1542 R. COPLAND Gaylen's Terap. 2 Gijb, Cankers cometh of byluous excrementes. *1651 CULPEPPER Astral. Judgem. Dis. (1658) 133* Caused by cholerick or bilious matter. *1677 DOWNING Disord. Horned Cattle 35* This medicine.. cleanses the bilious passages.

2. Of diseases and temperament: Affected by, or arising from, too great a secretion of bile, or from bilious derangement.

1651 BIGGS New Disp. 74 Bilious diseases. *1671 H. STURGE Def. Phlebot. 36* His natural habit, be it bilious, melancholy, or phlegmatick. *1732 ARBUTHNOT Rules of Diet i. 245* An excellent Drink in bilious Fevers. *1866 DISRAELI Viv. Grey iv. v. 159* Rise in the morning as bilious as a Bengal general. *1842 DICKENS Lett. (1880) I. 67.*

3. *Choleric, wrathful, peevish, ill-tempered.*

1561 T. FORTESCUE Forest (1571) 52 A great note of temperance is it not to waxe or bilious or angrie for the injurie that is done us. *1662 FULLER Worthies (1840) III. 374* Here bilious Bale lets fly without fear. *1866 Sat. Rev. 20 Jan. 76/1* The outpouring of a bilious cynicism.

Biliously adv. [*f. prec. + -LY*.] In a bilious or ill-tempered manner.

1865 Pall Mall G. 27 July 11/1 He wishes heartily—if not biliously—that some biped English boar might come to the same fate.

Biliousness. Bilious quality or condition; *fig.* peevishness, ill-temper.

1821 DE QUINCEY Confess. I. 67 The suffering from biliousness. *1884 GEN. GORDON Trul. Kartoum 8 Oct. 1* hope Stewart will cut out all this biliousness.

Bilis, *obs.* form of *BYLES*, a game.

Bilateral (bi'lîtêral), *a.* [*f. Bi- pref. 2 + LITERAL, f. L. litera* or *littera* letter.] Having or consisting of two letters; quasi-*sb.* a linguistic root consisting of two letters. **Bilateralism**, a bilateral condition of language.

1787 SIR W. JONES Anniv. Disc. iv. (1824) I. 43 It is the genius of the Sanscrit.. that the roots of verbs be almost universally bilateral. *1863 R. TOWNSEND Mod. Geom. I. 2* The former or bilateral notation is.. more convenient. *1874 SAYCE Compar. Philol. ii. 78* The so-called bilaterals are.. the result of phonetic decay. *1860 FARRAR Orig. Lang. x. 212* The supposition of an original bilateralism.

Bilk (bilk), *sb.* [Of uncertain origin; nor can it be determined whether the *sb.* or the *vb.* was first in use. The verb was at first a technical term in the game of Cribbage, where it interchanged with *balk*; hence a conjecture that it may have originated in a mincing pronunciation of the latter. Blount's assertion that the word is Arabic is altogether erroneous; and the derivation 'from Mæso-Goth. bi-laikan to mock, to deride,' given in some dicts., belongs to a pre-scientific age.]

1. *Cribbage.* A balking or spoiling of an adversary's score in his crib.

1791 J. WILLIAMS (A. Pasquin) Cribbage 63 To assist your own Crib better, or to throw a greater bilk into that of your adversary. *Ibid. 65* A King is, in general, a great bilk with almost any other card.

2. A statement having nothing in it. *Obs.*

1633 B. JONSON T. Tub i. i. Tub. He will have the last

word, though he talk bilk for 't. *Hugh. Bilk!* what's that? *Tub.* Why, nothing: a word signifying Nothing; and borrowed here to express nothing. 1681 BLOUNT, *Bilk* is said to be an Arabick word, and signifies nothing: cribbage-players understand it best. a 1733 NORTH EXAM. i. iii. p. 139. 213 Bedloe was sworn, and, being asked what he knew against the Prisoner, answered, Nothing. Bedloe was questioned over and over, who still swore the same Bilk. *Ibid.* i. iii. p. 46 The Words in a common Acceptation are a meer Bilk, and signify nothing.

3. A hoax, a deception, a 'take in.' 1 Obs. 1664 BUTLER *Hud.* ii. iii. 376 Spells, Which over ev'ry month's blank-page In th' Almanack strange Bilks presage. 1694 CONGREVE *Double Deal.* iii. x. There he's secure from danger of a bilk. a 1733 NORTH LIVES I. 260 After this bilk of a discovery was known.

4. A person who bilks or cheats: a cheat. 1790 SHERIDAN in *Sheridaniana* 109 Johnny W.—lks, Johnny W.—lks, Thou greatest of bilks. 1836 MARRYAT *Japhet* ix. The wagoner drove off, cursing him for a bilk.

† *Bilk*, a. Obs. [See prec.]

a 1733 NORTH EXAM. i. iii. p. 129 To that and the Author's bilk account of it, I am approaching.

Bilk (bilk), v. [See BILK sb.]

1. trans. In Cribbage: To balk or spoil any one's score in his crib.

1651 CLEVELAND *Poems* 24 So many Cards, i'th stock, and yet be bilkt! 1680 COTTON *Compl. Gamester* viii. If he find no Games in them, nor help by the Card that was turn'd up, which he takes into his hand, then he is bilkt, and sometimes it so happens that he is both bilkt in hand and crib. 1791 J. WILLIAMS (A. Pasquin) *Cribbage* 65 Bilking the Crib of your adversary is a very essential part of the game of Cribbage. any cards which are not likely to make sequences, are proper cards to bilk your adversary. 1850 BOHN's *Hand-bk. Games*, 'Baulking' or 'bilking' the crib.

2. To balk (hope, expectation); to cheat, deceive, betray.

1674 MARVELL *Rel. Transp.* i. 27 When we have search'd all over, we find ourselves bilk'd in our expectation. a 1683 OLDHAM *Wks. & Rem.* (1686) 48 Hopes often bilkt, and Sought Preferment lost. 1774 WESTM. MAG. II. 145 Hapless woman. Bilk'd while she's young, and ancient without friends! 1825 HAZLITT *Table-t.* II. xv. 351 Native talents at work. to bilk their consciences, and save their reputation. 1859 CARLYLE *Misc.* (1857) I. 293 Fate may be to a certain extent bilked.

3. To 'do (a person) out' of (his due); to cheat, defraud; to evade payment of (a debt).

1674 LOCKE in *Fox Bourne Life* I. v. 268 A man that had bilked one of the most considerable men of the place. 1692 LUTTRELL *Brief Rel.* (1857) II. 412 Believing the persons therein would bilk the coachman. a 1704 T. BROWN *Praise Poverty* Wks. 1730 I. 98 A scoundrel who knows no pleasure beyond. bilking baunds and coaches. 1723 DE FOE *Col. Jack* (1840) 198 We bilked the captain of his ransom money. 1766 NEW BATH GUIDE VI. (1807) 40 'Tis hard to be bilk'd of our fare. 1765 COWPER *Tiroc.* 327 His skill. In bilking tavern bills. 1853 MERIVALE *Rom. Rep.* viii. (1867) 224 In bilking a creditor or negotiating a loan.

4. To elude, evade, escape from, 'give the slip to.' 1679 R. W. CROMWELL'S *Ghost* 2, I bilkt my Keeper, and. Once more I mount my Native Soyl again. 1713 GUARDIAN No. 124 (1756) II. 159 The country lass! who, her cow bilking, leaves her milking, For a green gown on the grass. 1790 GAY *Poems* (1745) II. 64 She scorn'd to bilk her assignation. 1826 SCOTT *Woodst.* xxviii. I bilked Everard in order to have my morning draught. 1854 THACKERAY *Esmond* II. i. 161 'T'other recollected how a constable had been bilked.

Bilked, [f. prec. + -ED.] Also bilkt. Cheated, 'done out' of one's due or expectation.

1682 DRYDEN *Mac Fl.* 104 Bilkt stationers for yeomen stood prepar'd. — (J.) The pleasing sight Of your bilk'd hopes.

Bilking, vbl. sb. [f. as prec. + -ING.] The action of cheating or 'doing out' of one's due.

1687 T. BROWN *Saints in Upr.* Wks. 1730 I. 77 A pack of vermin, bred up to. bilking of their landladies. 1796 GRAY'S *Inn Jnl.* I. 177 The. bilking of Waiters at Places of Entertainment.

Bilking, ppl. a. [f. as prec. + -ING.] Balking, disappointing, cheating.

1721 FIELDING *Lottery* ii. Wks. 1784 II. 140 Dear Madam, be not in such a passion, I am no bilking younger brother.

Bill (bil), sb. 1 Forms: 1-7 bil, 5-6 byl, bylle, bille, 1- bill. [Com. WGer.: OE. *bil*, *billes* neut., sword, falchion = OS. *bil*, the same, OHG. *bill* neut. (MHG. *bil* neut., mod.G. *bille* fem., pickaxe) prob.: -O Teut. **biljo-m* (with WGer. *il* for *ij*), connected by some with Skr. *bhil* to split, cleave. Applied to various cutting weapons and implements, the relations of which to each other are not satisfactorily ascertained. (Ger. *beil*, OHG. *bihal*, is an entirely different word.)

† 1. A weapon of war mentioned in OE. poetry, a kind of broadsword, a falchion. Obs. (Probably passing with modified shape into sense 2.)

a 1000 BEOWULF 4126 Æfter billes bite. c 1050 AGS. GLOSS. in Wr.-Wülcker *Voc.* 376 *Chalibem*, bill. 1205 LAY. 1740 Per wes bil ibeat: per wes balu muchel. 1867 FREEMAN *Norm. Cong.* (1876) I. v. 273 note. The bill here [in *Death of Briktmoth*] spoken of was a sword and not an axe.]

2. An obsolete military weapon used chiefly by infantry; varying in form from a simple concave blade with a long wooden handle, to a kind of concave ax with a spike at the back and its shaft terminating in a spear-head; a halberd.

Distinct forms of bills seem to have been painted or varnished in different colours; hence the *black* and *brown* bills of the 16th and 17th centuries.

c 1300 K. ALIS. 1624 With longe billes. They carve heore

bones. 1465 MARG. PASTON *Let.* 518 II. 215 The tentantes. havyn rusty polexis and byllys. 1495 ACT II *Hen. VII.* lxiv. Pream. Armour's Defensives, as. Howes, Billes, Hauberts. 1593 SHAKS. *Rich. II.* iii. ii. 118 Distaffe-Women manage rustie Billes. 1598 BARRET *Theor. Warres* i. i. 2 Inveterate opinion. touching blacke bills and bowes. 1603 DRAYTON *Bar. Warres* ii. xxxvii. Wer't with the Speare, or Browne Bill, or the Pike. 1813 SCOTT *Trierm.* i. xiii. When the Gothic gateway frown'd, Glanced neither bill nor bow. 1834 PLANCHÉ *Brit. Costume* 33.

b. A similar weapon used by constables of the watch till late in the 18th cent. Also attrib.

1589 PAPPE *W. Hatchet* (1844) 28 All weapons from the taylors bodkin, to the watchmans browne bil. 1599 SHAKS. *Much Ado* iii. iii. 44 Hane a care that your bills be not stolne. 1626 FLETCHER *Cust. Country* ii. i. 9, 1. Off. He was still in quarrels, scorned us Peace-makes, And all our bill-authority. 1799 S. FREEMAN *Town Off.* 176 Every watchman carries a staff with a bill fastened thereon.

3. Short for BILL-MAN.

1495 HEN. VII. in *Ellis Orig. Lett.* i. ii. I. 21 For. an archer or bille on horsback vijid. by the day. 1513 HEN. VIII. in *Strype Eccl. Mem.* i. ii. App. i. 4 A hundred able men. wherof threescore to be archers and forty bills on foot. 1532 HERVERT *Xenophon's Househ.* (1768) 33 Billes, and archers, the which folowe their capitaynes in good arraye. 1825 SCOTT *Talism.* x. A strong guard of bills and bows.

4. An implement used for pruning, cutting wood, lopping trees, hedges, etc., having a long blade with a concave edge, often ending in a sharp hook (cf. BILL-HOOK), and a wooden handle in line with the blade, which may be long as in the *hedging-bill*, or short as in the *hand-bill*. (The form of the 'bill' varies greatly in different localities.)

c 1000 ÆLFRIC *Gloss.* in Wr.-Wülcker *Voc.* 106 *Falcstrum*, sipe, *net* bill. 1481 CAXTON *Reynard* xxxiii. § 1 The men. cam out with staups and byllys, with flaylis and pyk-forkes. 1554 HULOT, Byll called a forest bil, or bushithe. 1570 WILLS & INV. N. C. (1835) 334 Ij paire of wood skeles, one bilstaffe iijij. a 1604 HANMER *Chron. Irel.* (1633) 103 Having a Forrest Bill on his shoulders. 1643 W. GREENHILL *Axe at Root* 19 It is not Falk, a Bill or Hooke, to chop off some Armes or Bowes. 1740 SOMERVILLE *Hobbinol* ii. 80 And with his crooked Bill Cut sheer the frail Support. 1868 TRENCH *Monk & Bird* xxxiii. Poems 28 The woodman's glittering bill.

† 5. A digging implement; a mattock or pickaxe. [c 1050 AGS. GLOSS. in Wr.-Wülcker *Voc.* 361 *Bidubium*, *marra*, bill.] c 1235 POL. SONGS (1839) 151 Thah y sulle mi bil ant my borstax. c 1400 YVAINNE & GAW. 323 Thai had broght bath bil and spade. 1468 MEDULLA *Gram. Fossorium*, a byl or a pykeys. 1483 CATH. ANGL. 31 A Bille (a Byll or a pyccoss), *fossorium*, *ligo*.

6. Comb. † Bill-hager (?); BILLMAN, q. v.

c 1460 TOWNLEY *Myst.* 85 Both bosters and bragers God kepe us fro. From alle bylle hagers with colknifes that go.

Bill, sb. 2 Forms: 1-4 bile, 4 beele, bil, 4-5 bylle, 5-6 bille, 6 byl, 4- bill. [OE. *bile* masc., not found elsewhere in Teut.; prob.: -O Teut. **bili-*, and possibly a derivative of the same root as BILL sb. 1]

1. The horny BEAK of certain birds, especially when slender, flattened, or weak.

In Ornithology, *beak* is the general term applicable to all birds; in ordinary language *beak* is always used of birds of prey, and generally when striking or pecking is in question; *beak* and *bill* are both used of crows, finches, sparrows, perching birds and songsters generally, *bill* being however more frequent; *bill* is almost exclusively used of humming-birds, pigeons, waders, and web-footed birds.

a 1000 AGS. GLOSS. in Wr.-Wülcker *Voc.* 318 *Rostrum*, bile. c 1200 TRIN. COLL. HOM. 49 Duue ne harmed none fugele ne mid bile ne mid fote. 1387 TRIVISA *Hiden* Rolls Ser. II. 421 þe byrdes woundep hem wip hire greie beeles. c 1440 PROMP. PARV. 36 Bylle of a byrde, *rostrum*. 1486 Bk. St. Albans A vj b. Ye shall say this hauke has a large beke. And call it not bille. 1563 B. GOOGE *Eglogs* (Arb.) 109 To moue the Byll and shake the wings. 1601 DENY *Pathw. Heaven* Dd, As the Eagle reneweth her bill. 1642 HOWELL *For. Trav.* (Arb.) 80 Noah's dove brought the branch of Olive in her Bill. 1847 CARPENTER *Zool.* § 454 The duck tribe are distinguished by the breadth and depression of the bill. 1866 WOOD *Nat. Hist.* II. 3 A peculiar horny incrustment, called the beak or bill. This bill is of very different shape in the various tribes of birds.

b. The horny beak of the Platypus.

1847 CARPENTER *Zool.* § 317 (*Ornithorhynchus*) Its muzzle is converted into a bill, closely resembling that of a duck.

† c. To hold (one) with his bill in the water: to keep him in suspense. Obs. = Fr. *tenir le bec dans l'eau*, Littré.

1579 TOMSON *Calvin's Serm.* Tim. 1041/1 What meant God to holde the fathers with their billes in the water (as wee say) so long, and sent not the Redeemer sooner?

† 2. trans. The beak, muzzle, or snout of other animals; the human mouth or nose (cf. BEAK).

a 1000 ÆLFRIC *Gloss.* in Wr.-Wülcker *Voc.* 118 *Promuscida*, ylpes bile vel wrot. c 1330 POEM TEMP. EDW. II. 353 Ne triste no man to hem, so false theih bethin the bile. c 1380 SIR FERUMB. 2654 To hewe þe Sarasyns bope bok & bil. 1621 SHAKS. *Wint.* T. i. ii. 183 How she holds vp the Neb, the Byll to him! a 1645 BOYS *Wks.* (1630) 498 A third most resembled his progenitors, having his fathers bill and his mothers eye.

3. A beaklike projection; a spur, tooth, spike. Applied to some narrow promontories, as *Portland Bill*, *Selsea Bill*. *Naut.* in pl., see quot. 1850.

1382 WYCLIF *Zech.* iv. 12 The two eris. of the olyues that ben bysides the two golden bilis [*Vulg.* rostra aurea]. 1388 — *Isa.* xli. 15 A newe wayn threischynge, hayingne sawynge bilis. c 1400 DESTR. *Troy* xv. 6407 He brauid out a brond with a bill felle. 1770 WITHERING *Brit. Plants* (1796) I. 43

Beak, or Bill (rostrum), a long projecting appendage to some seeds like the beak of a bird. c 1850 *Rudim. Navig.* (Weale) 97 Bills, the ends of compass or knee timber.

4. *Naut.* The point of the fluke of an anchor. Hence *Bill-board*, a board fastened edgewise to the side of a ship for the bill of the anchor to rest upon; also a board to protect the timbers of the ship from being damaged by the bill when the anchor is weighed.

1769 FALCONER *Dict. Marine* (1789) *Bill*, the point or extremity of the fluke of an anchor. 1825 H. GASCOIGNE *Nar. Fame* 51 Another tackle on the Bill they place. c 1860 H. STUART *Seaman's Catech.* 70 What are the bill-boards for? For the flukes of the anchors to rest on. 1875 BEDFORD *Sailor's Pocket Bk.* x. (ed. 2) 364 The strain is applied. on the palm, at a spot which, measured from the extremity of the bill, is one-third of the distance between it and the centre of the crown.

5. Comb. *Bill-fish* (*Belone truncata*), a small anadromous sea-fish of N. America. Also called *Sea-pike*, *Silver Gar-fish*, etc.; † *bill-fodder*, † *bill-fodder*; *bill-twisted a.*, having a twisted bill.

1782 P. H. BRUCK *Mem.* xii. 424 The sea hereabouts (Bahamas, etc.) abounds with fish unknown to us in Europe. . . bill-fish, hound-fish, etc. c 1850 *Wilt. Palerme* 188 His bag wip his bilfodur wip he best be lafte. 1649 G. DANIEL *Tri-narch* To Rdr. 148 From some Trees Byll-twisted Barnacles, ripen to Geese.

Bill (bil), sb. 3 Forms: 4-7 byll(e), bille, 6-7 byl, bil, 4- bill. [ME. *bille*, in Afr. *bille*, (Anglo-L. *billa*, an alteration of L. *bulla* in its mediæval sense. In cl.L. *bulla* was 'a bubble, a boss, a stud, an amulet for the neck'; whence, in med.L., 'a seal' esp. 'the seal appended to a charter', etc.; thence, *transf.* 'a document furnished with a seal' e.g. a charter, a papal 'bull'; and, by extension, any official or formal document, 'a bill, schedule, memorandum, note, paper.' It was in these latter senses that *bulla* became in England *billa*, *bille*. Being a word of common use (see Du Cange), *bulla* was probably pronounced with *i*, passing into Eng. *y*; though no direct evidence of this has been found.]

† 1. A written document (originally sealed), a statement in writing (more or less formal); a letter, note, memorandum (cf. BILLET sb.). Obs. in general sense, but retained in numerous legal and commercial terms: see 10.

[H. KNYGHTON *Chron.* iii. i. an. 1272 Decanus Lincolnensis propositum unam billam excusatoriam.] c 1344 CHAUCER *Troilus* ii. 1081 Scribe nor bill. that touchith suche matere, Ne bring me none! 1393 GOWER *Conf.* III. 304 But eche of hem to make a bille He bad and-wrote his own wille. 1424 E. E. WILLS (1882) 55 I. 21. I send you, closed in this bille the copie of un frendly lettre. c 1460 STANS *Puer* 92 in *Babes Bk.* (1868) 32 Go, liell bille, bareyn of eloquence, Pray yonge children that the shal see or Reece, etc. 1512 ACT 4 *Hen. VIII.* xi. Every thing. . . expressed in this bill of petition. 1531 W. T. EPIST. JOHN 10 It is called. . . an Epistle because it is sent as a letter or a byll. 1599 HAKLUYT *Voy.* II. i. 25 To cast over the wals into the campe of the Christians, certaine bills written in Hebrue, Greeke, and Latine. 1797 SWIFT *Furth. Acc. E. Curll* Wks. 1755 III. i. 156 To whom he gave the following bill of directions, where to find them. 1755 MAGENS *Insurance* II. 122 A Bill containing the Reasons of the Citation shall be left with the Person that is summoned, or at his House.

† b. A letter or 'bull' of the Pope. Obs.

1450 MYRC 709 All þat falsen the popes lettres or billes or seales. c 1500 COCKE *Lorells B.* 7 The pope darlaye hath graunted in his byll That every brother may do what he wyl.

† c. A writing circulated reflecting upon any person; the analogue of the later printed pamphlet or lampoon. Obs.

1424 PASTON *Let.* 4 I. 13 Manages of deth. . . maden. . . by billes rymed in partye. 1532 MORE *Confut. Tindale* Wks. 622/1 By sclauderous bylles blowe abroad an euyl noughty tale. 1542 UDALL *Erasm.* Apoph. (1877) 273 Augustus had written a great ragmans rewe, or bille, to be soung on Pollio in derision and skorne of hym by name. 1553-87 FOXE *A. & M.* (1596) 812/2 Many billes and rimes were set forth in diuers places against them.

† d. A deed. Obs.

1548 FORREST *Pleas.* Poes. 95 And then I dare to this Byll sett my hande. c 1590 MARLOWE *Faust.* v. 74 Consummatum est; this bill is ended. 1613 R. C. *Table Alph.*, *Scedule*, obligation, or bill of ones hand.

† 2. A formal document containing a petition to a person in authority; a written petition. Obs.

[1321 *Liber Custum.* (Rolls Ser.) 379 Come eis elient requis par bille a voz Justices eiraunz en la Tour de Loudres remede dun tort.] 1377 LANGL. *P. Pl.* B. xiii. 247 Hadde iche a clerke þat couthe write I wolde caste hym (the pope) a bille. 1423 JAS. I. *King's Q.* lxxxii. A ward of folk. . . With bilis in thaire handis, of one assent Vnto the Iuge thaire playntis to present. 1555 FARDLE *Faciens* i. v. 56 In the morning. . . it behoued him to peruse al lettres supplications, and billes. 1681 NEVILLE *Plato Rediv.* 111 That no Parliament should be dismist, till all the Petitions were answered; That is. . . till all the Bills (which were then styled Petitions) were finished. 1728 FORGE *Dunc.* ii. 89 All vain petitions. . . Amus'd he reads, and then returns the billes.

† b. A supplicatory address (not necessarily in writing); a prayer, supplication, request. Obs.

c 1386 CHAUCER *Doctor's T.* 166 Doth me right upon this pitous bille, In which I pleyne upon Virginie. c 1430 LYDG. *Bochas* vi. i. (1554) 145 b, This was the bille which y

John Bochas Made unto Fortune. 1570 *Scot. Poems* 16th C. II. 234 Diligent to heir the pure mannis bill.

† *c.* To put (up) a bill: to present a petition. 1387 TREVISIA *Hidden Rolls* Ser. V. 141 The bishops at Nicæa, putte up billes to be emperor. 1414 BRAMPTON *Penit. Ps.* xxviii. 11 And mekely putteth to the this bylle. 1450 *Paston Lett.* I. 153. I cend yow a copy of the bylle that my Lord of Yorke put unto the Kyng.

8. The draft of an Act of Parliament submitted to the legislature for discussion and adoption as an 'Act.' Historically, this has passed through the senses of a. A petition to the Sovereign, as in sense 2; b. A petition, containing the draft of the act or statute prayed for; c. The draft act without the petitionary form, as is now the case with all *Public bills*, or such as affect the interests of the public generally. *Private bills*, i.e. such as grant relief to or confer privileges upon individuals or corporations, are still introduced in the form of petitions. The nature and scope of a bill is expressed by such phraseology as 'a bill to reform the representation of the people,' 'a Bill of Indemnity,' a 'Reform Bill,' 'Manchester Waterworks Bill.'

1366 LANGL. *P. Pl.* A. v. 45 Thenne cam pees in-to parlement and putte vp a bylle. How bat wrong wilfulliche hadde hus wif for-leyen. 1484 *Act 1 Hen. VII* (1780) X. App. 103 Item quedam alia Billā . . cum cedula eidem annexa exhibita fuit coram Domino Rege in Parlamento prædicto. 1512 *Act 4 Hen. VIII*, viii. Pream., To putte forth certeyn bylles in this present parliament. 1577-87 HARRISON *England* II. viii. (1877) 176 The clerke of the parlement, whose office is to read the billes. 1598 SHAKS. *Merry W.* II. 1. 29 He Exhibit a Bill in the Parliament for the putting downe of men. 1709 *London Gaz.* No. 4534/1 A Message to the House of Commons . . to desire the House to come up . . to be present at the passing the said Bills into Acts. 1798 T. JEFFERSON *Writ.* (1859) IV. 217 Congress has nothing of any importance before them, except the bill on foreign intercourse. 1813 *Parl. Deb.* in *Examiner* 21 May 1813/1 [He] moved, that the Insolvent Debtors' Bill be re-committed. 1858 LD. ST. LEONARDS *Handy Bk. Prof. Law* xxi. 163 The bill . . passed the House of Lords. 1884 GLADSTONE in *Standard* 29 Feb. 2/5 We knew . . that the Bill must remain a Bill, and could never have become an Act of Parliament.

† *4. Law.* A written statement of a case; a pleading by the plaintiff or defendant (but generally by the former), e.g. a *bill of complaint* in Chancery; an indictment. *Obs.* exc. in certain phrases, chiefly, *To find a true bill, to ignore the bill*, said of a Grand Jury, whose duty it is, in criminal Assizes, to declare that there is, or is not, sufficient evidence to justify the hearing of a case before the judge and ordinary jury.

1400 MAUNDEV. xv. 172 Both parties written here Causes in 2 Billes. 1480 *Black Bk. Admiralty* (Rolls) I. 305 [Les querelles et billes de l'appellant et du defendant seront plaides a la court.] *transl.* The quarell and billes of the appellant and of the defendant shall be pletid in the Court. 1495 *Act 11 Hen. VII*, vii. Justices . . have auctorite . . to here and determyn the rehersed causes . . upon bill before theym. 1531 *Act 23 Hen. VIII*, xv. Any action, bill, or playnt of trespass. 1607 COWELL *Interpr.*, *Bille* is . . a declaration in writing, that expresseth either the griefe and the wrong that the complainant hath suffered, by the party complained of, or els some fault, that the party complained of, hath committed against some law or statute of the common wealthe. *Ibid.* *Ignoramus*, is a word properly used by the Grand Enquest . . and written vpon the bill. 1660 STANLEY *Hist. Philos.* (1701) 89/1 Anytus . . procured Melitus to prefer a bill against him. 1788 J. POWELL *Devises* (1827) II. 485 Sir T. Plumer, M.R. . . accordingly dismissed the bill.

b. *Scotch Law.* Any summary application by way of petition to the Court of Session.

† *5.* A written list or catalogue, an inventory. *Obs.* exc. in specific combinations.

1340 HAMPOLE *Prose Tr.* (1866) 7 The abbote tuke bat byll bat pay were wrettyen in and lukeke thereone. 1400 *Cor. Myst.* (1841) 41 Synne . . scrappth hym out of lyvys bylle. That bylssyd book. 1500 E. E. *Misc.* (1855) 64 Thay schalle be wrytten in a bylle. 1523 LD. BERNERS *Froiss.* I. xviii. 26 Than the knyghtis . . made a byll of their horses, and suche other stuffe as they had lost. 1605 SHAKS. *Macb.* III. I. 100 Whereby he does receiue Particular addition, from the Bill, That writes them all alike.

† *b. Med.* A list of drugs, etc. to be mixed to form a medicine, a medical prescription or recipe. 1520 MORE *Conf. agst. Trib.* I. Wks. 1142/2 After the billes made by the grete physician God, prescrybynge the medicines hymselfe. 1602 WARNER *Alb. Eng.* ix. xlv. (1612) 209 Physicians bylles not Patients but Apothecaries know. 1663 BUTLER *Hud.* I. I. 603 Like him that took the Doctor's Bill And swallow'd it instead o' th' Pill. 1754 SMELLIE *Midwif.* III. 540 The Apothecary . . went home to bring the billes.

c. *Naut.* A list of persons appointed to duties. 1830 MARRIAT *King's Own* xiii. Turn the hands up to muster by the quarter-bill. 1840 R. DANA *Bef. Mast* xxiii. 63 Each man had his station. A regular tacking and wearing bill was made out.

d. *Typogr.* A scale or list of the proper quantities of each letter required for a fount.

1824 J. JOHNSON *Typogr.* II. 29 We will now give . . a regular bill, perfect in all its parts. 1875 *URE Dict. Arts* III. 640 Typefounders have a scale or bill, as it is called, of the proportional quantity of each letter required for a fount.

6. A note of charges for goods delivered or services rendered, in which the cost of each item

is separately stated; also known as a *bill of parcels*.

In modern use, confined in this sense to the professions and to retail trade, and implying a demand for payment. In wholesale transactions, an 'invoice,' containing the usual particulars of a bill, is supplied on delivery of the goods, and the formal demand for payment is made by a 'statement of account' sent in when the money is due. *Bill* is however often loosely used for 'invoice,' and *vice versa*.

1480 E. E. *Wills* (1882) 53 Pat [they] be paid of their billes for making off a liuerey. 1526 LINDALE *Luke* xvi. 6 Take thy bill . . and wryte fiftie. 1600 B. JONSON *Ev. Man out of Hum.* iv. v. Farewell, good haberdasher. Well, now, Master Snip, let me see your bill. 1671 *Lex Talionis* 10 Apothecaries Bills, which . . amount to very great Sums. 1712 *London Gaz.* No. 5079/3 Several other Notes and Bills of Parcels. 1748 SMOLLETT *Rod. Rand.* IV. I did myself the pleasure of discharging the bill. 1837 DICKENS *Pickw.* x. Call a hackney-coach directly, and bring this lady's bill.

† *7. A label. Obs.*

1474 CAXTON *Chesse* 130. I haue put on eche keye a bylle and wrytyng. 1600 SHAKS. *A. Y. L.* I. ii. 131 Three proper yong men . . With bills on their neckes.

8. A written or printed advertisement to be passed from hand to hand (hence also called *hand-bill*), or posted up or displayed in some prominent place; a poster, a placard.

1480 CAXTON *Chron. Eng.* cccxiii. 109 The scottes made a bylle that was fastned vpon the churche dores of seynt petre. 1563 GRINDAL in *Syrpe Life* (1821) 122 [They] did then daily, but especially on the holidays, set up their billes, inviting to plays. 1599 SHAKS. *Much Ado* i. i. 39 He set vp his bills here in Messina, and challenged Cupid at the flight. 1621 MOLLE *Camerar. Liv. Libr.* iv. xv. 291 It was cried to be hired or sold, and Bills were set up to that purpose. 1666 *Perry's Diary* (1879) IV. 193 Walked . . to the temple thinking to have seen a play . . but there missing of any bills concluded there was none. 1698 N. WANLEY *Wond.* vi. xxix. 619/3 Bills set upon the Church-dores to inquire for things lost. 1750 ADDISON *Tatler* No. 240 ¶ 6 To be seen both upon the Sign where he lived, and in the Bills which he distributed. 1797 SWIFT *Gulliver* II. ii. Put out bills in the usual form, containing an exact description. 1836 DICKENS *Sk. Bos* iii. A newly-posted bill informed us the house was again 'To Let.'

† *b.* An announcement to be publicly read. *Obs.*

1642 *Scots Scouts Disc.* in *Pharix* (1732) I. 464 One Sunday, at one Mr. Shute's Parish Church, a Bill was delivered that John Commonwealth of England, being sick of the Scots Disease, desires the Prayers of the Congregation. 1797 SWIFT *Furth. Acc. E. Curll* Wks. 1755 III. I. 155 She privately put a bill into several churches, desiring the prayers of the congregation for a wretched stationer.

9. (More fully *Bill of Exchange*) A written order by the writer or 'drawer' to the 'drawee' (the person to whom it is addressed) to pay a certain sum on a given date to the 'drawer,' or to a third person named in the bill, known as the 'payee.'

A true bill of exchange is given in consideration of value received (and this is usually stated upon the bill), but a bill is sometimes drawn, not against value received, but merely as a means of raising money on credit, and is then known as an *Accommodation Bill* (see ACCOMMODATION 8).

1599 FENTON *Guicciard.* VI. (1599) 237 The merchants making difficultie . . to accept the billes of exchange that were sent out of Fraunce. 1661 *Perry's Diary* 27 Mar., I did get him to promise me some money upon a bill of exchange. 1682 SCARLETT *Exchanges* 23. 1713 STEELE *Guardian* No. 2 He gave me a bill upon his goldsmith in London. 1768 BLACKSTONE *Comm.* II. 466. 1809 R. LANGFORD *Introd. Trade* 20 An Inland Bill is when the drawer and person drawn upon live in the same country or kingdom. 1848 THACKERAY *Van. Fair* xviii. His bills were protested; his act of bankruptcy formal. 1880 B. PRICE in *Fraser's Mag.* May 1880 Bills impart a valuable convenience to trade . . they borrow the goods without payment for a time more or less long.

† *b.* Loosely used for: A promissory note. *Obs.*

Hence, *Bill of debt or bill obligatory*: a bill acknowledging a debt and promising to meet it at a specified date. Also applied (with specification) to various promises to pay at a future date, or at sight, issued by Banks, and by the Government; cf. BANK-BILL, EXCHEQUER BILL.

1613 DEKKER *Bankrouns Bang.* Wks. 1884-5 III. 371 Next, came in Bills obligatory, a thousand in a cluster. 1685 BAXTER *Paraphr. Philemon* 19, I here give thee a Bill under my hand, that I will repay all that he oweth thee. 1712 *London Gaz.* No. 4869/3 Navy, Victualling, Ordnance, and Transport Bills. 1721 *King's Sp.* 19 Oct. in *London Gaz.* The Navy and Victualling Bills are at very high Discount.

10. With specification: *Bill of fare*, a list of dishes to be served at a banquet, or which may be ordered at a restaurant (in the latter case with the prices attached), a 'menu'; often *fig.* a programme; *bill of health*, an official certificate given to the master of a vessel sailing from a port liable to infection, stating whether at the time of sailing any infectious disease existed on board or in the port (hence a *clean bill*: one certifying total absence of infection; *suspected or touched bill, foul bill*); also a similar document required of travellers in some foreign ports; *bill of lading*, an official detailed receipt given by the master of a merchant vessel to the person consigning the goods, by which he makes himself responsible for their safe delivery to the consignee. This document, being the legal proof of ownership of the goods, is often deposited with a creditor as security for money advanced; cf. CHARTER-PARTY;

† *bill of mortality or weekly bill*, a periodically published official return of the deaths (later, also of the births) in a certain district; such a return began to be published weekly by the London Company of Parish Clerks in 1592 for 109 parishes in and around London; hence this district (the precise limits of which were often modified) became known as 'within the bills of mortality'; *bill of sale*, a written instrument effecting a transfer of personal property; *spec.* a document given as security for money borrowed, authorizing the lender to seize the property in case of the non-payment of the money by a specified time; *bill of sight*, permission from the custom-house officers to land goods for inspection in their presence, when, from want of precise information, the consignee is unable to enter them accurately; *bill of store* (see *quots.*); † *bill of sufferance* (see *quots.*). Also *bill of attainder*, *attorney* (= letter of attorney), *bill of conformity*, *credit*, *debt*, *discharge*, *exceptions*, *indictment*, *payment*, *receipt*, *remembrance*, *review*, *rights*, etc. for which see these words.

[1577-87 HARRISON *England* II. xv. (1877) 272 Which 'bill [of dishes] some doo call a memoriall.] 1636 MASSINGER *Baskf. Lovers* Prolog., 'Tis no crime . . To please so many with one bill of fare. 1748 MRS. S. HARRISON *House-hprs. Pocket-bk.* Pref., The Bill of Fare is a new and admirable contrivance. 1861 MRS. BERTON *Bk. Househ. Managem.* 954 A menu or bill of fare should be laid by the side of each guest. 1844 EVELYN *Mem.* 12 Oct., Having procur'd a 'bill of health (without which there is no admission at any town in Italy) we embark'd on the 12th. 1753 HANWAY *Trav.* (1762) I. v. lx. 279 Upon his giving us a bill of health, I went on board. 1851 M. CULLOCH *Dict. Comm.* 1084 Were the said bills of health clean, unclean, or suspected? 1599 HAKLUYT II. ii. 44 We . . caused one of them to fetch vp his 'bills of lading. 1607 CAPT. SMITH *Seaman's Gram.* xiii. 62 Come aboard . . with their . . cockpit, or bills of lading. 1875 JEVONS *Money* (1878) 207 A bill of lading entitles the legal holder of it to certain cases or packages of goods. 1645 BP. HALL *Remed. Discontent.* 26 Pleasure dies in the birth, and is not therefore worthy to come into this 'bill of Mortality. 1681 *London Gaz.* No. 1651/4 The second of September was taken up within the Bills of Mortality, a Deal Box. 1698 CONGREVE *Way of W.* III. xv, We could have the gazette . . and the Weekly Bill. 1709 STEELE *Tatler* No. 54 ¶ 7 Living within the Bills of Mortality. 1724 *Abstr. Act 10 Geo. I.* in *London Gaz.* No. 6270/7 All Chocolate . . must be brought to be stamped . . within the Weekly Bills in 14 Days. 1854 THACKERAY *Newcomers* viii. He was as scrupulously whitened as any sepulchre in the whole bills of mortality. 1608 DEKKER *Belman London* Wks. (Grosart) III. 150 By 'bills of sale . . get the goods of honest Citizens into their hands. 1765 *Phil. Trans.* LV. 46 He sold the boy to his present master . . I saw the bill of sale. 1875 BEDFORD *Sailor's Pocket Bk.* (ed. 2) 225 The Bill of Sale is the instrument by which a Vessel is transferred to a purchaser. 1852 M. CULLOCH *Dict. Comm.* 147 The East India Company are authorised . . to enter goods by 'bill of sight. 1670 BLOUNT *Law Dict.*, 'Bill of Store, is a kind of Licence granted at the Custom-house to Merchants, or others, to carry such Stores or Provision as are necessary for their Voyage Custom-free. 1833 *Act 3 Will. IV.* lii, It shall be lawful to re-import into the United Kingdom . . any goods . . which shall have been legally exported . . and to enter the same by bill of store. 1670 BLOUNT *Law Dict.*, 'Bill of sufferance, is a Licence granted at the Custom-house to a Merchant, to suffer him to trade from one English Port to another, without paying Custom.

11. *Comb. and Attrib.*, as (in sense 8) *bill-poster*, *-sticker*, *-sticking*, *-patched*, etc.; (in sense 9) *bill-book*, *-broker*, *-broking*, *-discounter*, *-holder*, *-trade*; (in sense 2) † *bill-maker*; *bill chamber* (sense 4), a department of the Scottish Court of Session, to which suitors may repair at all times (including vacations) in emergencies requiring summary proceeding; *bill-head* (sense 6), paper ruled for a tradesman's bills, having his name, etc. printed at the top.

1774 HENLEY in *Phil. Trans.* LXIV. 426 A large book . . ruled in the manner of a 'bill-book, used by tradesmen. 1833 HT. MARTINEAU *Vanderput & S.* iv. 58 The 'bill-brokers can tell how nearly the debts of different countries balance each other. 1764 WESLEY *Jrnl.* 2 July (1827) III. 179 That wretched trade of 'bill-broking. 1857 *Sat. Rev.* III. 345 To create a fortune by banking, brewing, or 'bill-broking. 1866 CRUMP *Banking* 135 A very common custom among bankers . . who style themselves 'bill-discounters. 1847 C. ADDISON *Contracts* II. v. § 1 (1883) 783 Securities . . available to the 'bill-holders if both drawer and acceptor become insolvent. 1520 MORE *Supplic. Souls* Wks. 302 They had leuer see their 'bylmaiker burned, than their supplication spedde. 1590 MARSTON *Sco. Villanie* III. ix. 218 Th' Ape . . is as malecontent As a 'bill-patch'd doore. 1864 *Times* 24 Dec., A corps of 'bill-posters, painters, etc., to put advertisements on the prominent rocks. 1774 *Westm. Mag.* II. 323 'Bill-stickers, pickpockets, and chimney-sweepers. 1866 SHIRLEY *Nugæ Crit.* § 2. 117 Written in large and prominent type, like that employ'd by 'bill-stickers. 1864 *Realm* 23 Mar. 6 With . . the progress of civilisation, 'bill-sticking has expanded into bill-posterism. 1791 WESLEY *Wks.* 1872 VIII. 309 That base practice of raising money by coining notes (commonly called the 'bill-trade).

Bill, *sb.* rare. [For *beel*, *beal*, dial. form of *BELL*, *BELLOW*.] *Bellowing*; the boom of the bittern. 1789 WORDSW. *Even. Walk* 21 When first the bittern's hollow bill was heard.

Bill (bil), *v.* 1 [f. *BILL sb.* 1] *trans.* To work at or on with a bill; to hoe, hack, chop, lop.

1440 *Prompt. Parv.* 36 Byllen wythe mattocks, *ligonizo*,

marro. 1647 H. MORE *Ad Paron.* Poems 319 Busily billing the rough outward rinde. 1833 M. SCOTT *Tom Cringle* xix. 534 A small footpath that had been billed in the bush.

Bill, *v.* 2. Forms: 3 billen, 4 bilen, 5 byll-en, -yn, (bollyn), 7 bile, 6- bill. [f. BILL sb.²]

†1. *intr.* To strike with the bill; to peck. *Obs.* c1200 *Bestiary* 82 in O. E. Misc. 3 Danne goð he [the eagle] to a ston, and he billed ðer on, billed til his bec biforn haucð ðe wrenge forloren. 1398 *Trevisa Barth. De P. R.* xii. xxxii. The sparrow . . . biteþ and bileth [1535 byllyth] for to haue nestes of swalowes. c1440 *Promp. Parv.* 36 Bollyn or jowyn [v. r. byllen or iobbyn] wythe the bylle as byrdys, *rostr.* a 1678 *MARVELL Unfort. Lover* 51 As one cormorant fed him, still Another on his heart did bill.

†2. *trans.* with out, away, etc. 1496 *Doves & Pamp.* (W. de W.) iv. iii. 163/1 She [the Pelly-cane] beteth & byllyeth and casteth them out of her company.

3. To stroke bill with bill (as doves). 1598 *SHAKS. Ven. & Ad.* 366 Like two silver doves that sit a-billing. 1637 *HEYWOOD Dialogues* 309, I observ'd but late Two Turtles bill, and either court it's mate. 1687 *DRYDEN Hind & P.* iii. 950 Voracious Birds, that hotly Bill and breed. 1850 *MRS. JAMESON Leg. Monast. Ord.* (1863) 20 Two doves billing upon the roof above.

3. *transf.* To caress, make show of affection; usually (of reciprocal action) to bill and coo.

1606 *SHAKS. Tr. & Cr.* iii. ii. 60 What, billing againe? 1678 *BUTLER Hud.* iii. l. 687 Still amorous, and fond, and billing, Like Philip and Mary on a shilling. 1718 *STEELE Spect.* No 300 P 1 Tom Faddle and his pretty spouse wherever they come are billing at such a Rate. 1854 *THACKERAY Newcomes* i. 295 Jenny and Jessamy . . . billing and cooing in an arbour.

Bill, *v.* 3 [f. BILL sb.³]

†1. *trans.* To enter (in a bill, book, catalogue, account, or reckoning). *Obs.*

1395 *Leg. Holy Rood* (1871) 138 Pardon in book is billed. 1615 *Br. Hall Content.* (1645) 58 There is none of all our cates here, but must be billed up. 1699 *H. BURTON Babel no Beth.* 52 The Authours billed and catalogued by Brierly. 1656 *JENKYN On Jude* (1845) 85 The impenitent are billed and booked by God, and at length God will call in his debts.

b. *U. S.* To enter in a railway book or way-bill; to 'book.'

1867 *Vermont Rep.* XL. 326 The station agent . . . billed the plaintiff's goods through to C. 1882 *Chicago Times* 16 Apr. There were four hundred cars of grain billed to St. Louis. 1883 *St. James's Gaz.* 15 Mar. It was a young lady . . . about nineteen years of age, and billed from Selma, Alabama, to New York.

†2. To enter (a person) in a list (e.g. of soldiers for service), to enroll. *Obs.*

1460 *CANIGRAVE Chron.* (1858) 278 And officeres inquired whi he was so bold for to bille hem. 1542 *UDALL Erasme.* *Apoph.* 190 a There was one persone bewrailed, that had billed hymself in the noubre of the zickfolkes. 1567 *GRINDAL Let. Wks.* (1843) 292 He might bill three or four grave men, whereof her Majesty might make choice. 1633 *T. ADAMS Exp. 2 Pet.* ii. 3 As if they were booked, enrolled, and billed to this confusion.

†3. To make (one) the subject or object of a bill; to libel, lampoon; to indict; to petition. *Obs.* c1450 *Pol. Poems* (1859) II. 228 Yt is myche lesse harme to bylle thanne to kyll. 1537 *State Papers Hen. VIII.* I. 547 We haue neither billed any suche number of persones . . . ne purpose to call uppe any oon persone. 1728 *RAMSAY Wks.* (1848) III. 137 Poor Pousies . . . bill'd the judge, that he wad please To give them the remaining cheese.

4. To announce or advertise by bill. 1694 *R. L'ESTRANGE Fables* cccc. (ed. 6) 429 A Composition that he Bill'd about, under the name of a Sovereign Antidote. 1871 *Daily News* 21 Mar. At the Opera to-night Flick and Flock is 'billed.' 1884 *Manch. Exam.* 1 Oct. 5/5 The leading feature of the Pall Mall Gazette 'special' . . . so loudly billed to-night.

5. To plaster over, occupy, or crowd with bills. 1851 *Househ. Wds.* II. 601 All traces of the broken windows were billed out, the doors were billed across. 1884 *Harper's Mag.* Sept. 309/2 The . . . agent thought this town . . . would be a good place for his man, and so he 'billed' it.

Bill, *obs.* Sc. form of BULL.

Billable (bi'lāb'l), *a.* rare-1. [f. BILL *v.* 3 + -ABLE.] Liable to be served with a bill; indictable. 1579 *Rep. Commis. Border Causes* in *Egerton Papers* 234 Certifying such as shall resett the same upon their ground, that they shalbe billable for their so doing.

Billage (bi'lēdʒ), *sb.* A variant of BILGE. 1627 *CAPT. SMITH Seaman's Gram.* ii. 4 A ships Billage is the breadth of the floore when she doth lie aground. 1708 *HARRIS Lexicon Techn.*, *Billage*, of a Ship, is the bottom of her Floor . . . and *Billage* is the breadth of her Floor when she lies aground.

Billage, *v.* [See prec.] To BILGE. 1627 *CAPT. SMITH Seaman's Gram.* ix. 41 The ship may . . . Billage on a rocke. 1628 *DIGBY Voy. Medit.* 43 My boate was billaged and all of vs tumbled in the sea.

Billament, variant of BILIMENT, *Obs.*

Billander, *obs.* form of BILANDER.

†**Billard**, *Obs.* or *dial.* [Derivation unknown: it is not easy to connect it in sense with F. *billard* stick with a knob or hook.]

1. The Coal-fish, a fish allied to the Cod; cf. BILLET sb.³

1661 *RAY Itin.* (1760) 173 There are the same sorts of Fish taken at Whitby as at Scarborough; and some others they named to us, as Dabs, Billards. 1753 *CHAMBERS Cycl. Suppl.*, *Billard*, in ichthyology, an English name for the young fish of the coal-fish . . . up to a certain size. 1865 *COUCH Brit. Fishes* III. 84.

2. (See quot.) [probably distinct from 1.] 1669 *WORLDGE Syst. Agric.* (1681) 322 *Billard* is in some

places used for an imperfect or Bastard Capon. 1674 *RAY S. & E. C. Wds.* 59 *Billard*, a Bastard Capon. *Sust.*

Billards, *obs.* form of BILLIARDS.

Billbergia, *bilbergia*. [Named after Billberg, a Swedish botanist.] A genus of ornamental and fragrant epiphytes (N.O. *Bromeliaceæ*), natives of the forests of tropical America.

1858 *Penny Cycl.* 2nd Supp. 66/1 *Billbergia*, a genus of plants . . . all natives of South America. 1882 *Garden* 17 June 428/2 The cultivation of *Billbergias* is so very simple.

Billberry, variant of BILBERRY.

Billed, *pp. a.* [f. BILL sb.¹ and 2.] Furnished with a bill; having a beak, spike, etc. (Usually in composition, as *long-, broad-, soft-billed*, etc.)

1399 *LANGL. Rich. Redels.* iii. 37 All billid breddis pat þe bough spareth. 1513 *DOUGLAS Æneis* xi. xiii. 20 The weil stelit and braid billit ax. 1582 *D. INGRAM Narr.* in *Arb. Garner* v. 257 It is bigger than a goose, billed like a showeler. 1625 *BACON Goodness, Ess.* (Arb.) 201 A longe Billed Fowle. 1770 *G. WHITE Selborne* xxxvi. Hard-billed birds subsist on seeds. 1847 *CARPENTER Zool.* § 385 *Dentirostris*, or toothed-billed Birds, which are characterized by a notch or tooth near the extremity of the upper mandible.

Billement(e), variant of BILIMENT. *Obs.*

†**Billier**. *Sc. Obs.* [? a. F. *belier*, in 16th c. also *bellier* ram.] ? A ram.

c1560 *A. SCOTT Moneth May*, In May gois damosells and dammis In gyardynnis grein to play lik lammis, Sum at the barris thay brace like billers.

Billers, variant of BILBERS.

Billet (bi'lēt), *sb.* 1. Forms: 5 bylet, 5-6 billette, 6 billet, billette, 7 bullet, 6- billet. [ME. and AF. *billette*, AngloL. *billette*, dim. of *billa*, *bille*, BILL sb.³ (But *billette* occurs also in continental OF., apparently as a variant of *bullette*, in med.L. *bullette*, dim. of L. *bulla*; and this may have contributed to the Eng. form.)]

†1. *gen.* A short written document; a small paper, notice, or note; a label. *Obs.*

[1371 in *Dugdale's Monast. Angl.* I. 654 Secundum quod continetur in quadam billette inter sigillum & scriptum ante consignationem affixa.] c1440 *Promp. Parv.* 36 Bylet, scrowe [v. r. Bille], *matricula*. 1495 *Act 11 Hen. VII.* x. § 2 Acquittance, writings, billes, or billetes, whereby it may appere. [that] the said Commissioners . . . have receyved the somme. 1555 *Fairde Facions* ii. iv. 142 Thei caried vpon their foreheades . . . pretie billetes of Paper . . . these were called their Philacteries.

†b. A bill of fare. *Obs.* rare. 1577 *HARRISON England* ii. xv. (1877) 272 Which bill [of dishes] some doo call a memoriall, other a billet.

2. *spec.* A short informal letter, a 'note.' *arch.*

1579 *FENTON Guicciard.* v. (1599) 218 Writing to him billets and letters full of office and humanitie. a 1674 *CLARENDON Hist. Reb.* III. x. 58 The King . . . receiv'd little Billets, or Letters . . . without any Name, which advertised him of wicked designs upon his life. 1712 *STEELE Spect.* No. 366 P 2 The Lady . . . writ this Billet to her Lover. 1807 *T. JEFFERSON Corr.* (1839) 78 Once in a winter, he usually wrote him a billet of invitation to dine. 1822 *MACAULAY Hist. Eng.* II. 49 Carrying billets backward and forward between his patron and the ugliest maids of honour. 1877 *MERIVALE Rom. Triumv.* viii. 166 They thrust billets into his hand, inscribed 'Brutus, thou sleepest.'

†3. A written permission to enter a theatre, public place, etc.; an order, a pass. *Obs.* or *arch.* 1697 *Cress D'Aunoy's Trav.* (1706) 33 Although I had a Passport . . . I was oblig'd to take a Billet from the Toll-House. 1816 *J. SCOTT Vis. Paris* 335 The conductor examined the billets of admission [to the catacombs]. 1823 *LAMB Elia* Ser. i. xvi. (1865) 124 A pretty liberal issue of those cheap billets in Brinsley's easy autograph.

4. *Mil.* An official order requiring the person to whom it is addressed to provide board and lodging for the soldier bearing it. (The ordinary modern sense.) Hence billet-master, the official whose duty it is to make out billets; billet-money, the cost of quartering soldiers; also fig. *Every bullet has its billet* (i.e. its destination assigned): only those are killed whose death Providence has ordained.

1644 in *Rushw. Hist. Coll.* iii. II. 649 That no Billet shall be granted upon any of the Inhabitants without their consent. 1723 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 6152/3 His Officers and Soldiers; who were by those Billets dispersed into Quarters in several Parts of the Town. 1821 *WELLINGTON Let.* in *Curw. Disp.* VII. 140 A Billet is a legal order from a competent authority to the person to whom it is addressed to provide lodging for the bearer of it. 1640-4 *King's Sp.* in *Rushw. Hist. Coll.* iii. (1692) I. 614 That which is owing to this County for Billet-Money. 1765 *WESLEY Trnl.* 6 June, He never received one wound. So true is the odd saying of King William, that 'every bullet has its billet.'

†5. A voting-paper used in voting by ballot. *Act of Billets* (Scotch Parl. 1662): a measure by which the twelve persons excepted from the King's Indemnity were to be chosen by secret voting.

1627 *Lindsay & Cal.* ix. 195 Three billets were made with their threenames which were all put into a cask. 1676 *W. Row Contn. Blair's Autobiog.* 450 That . . . unjust, unreasonable, and illegal Act of Billets. c1690 *LAUDERDALE Speech* in *Mackenzie Mem.* 85 Some Republicks use the Billet, or the Ballot, in giving places. 1781 *J. MOORE View Soc. It.* (1790) I. xi. 121 Each elector . . . throws a little billet into an urn . . . On this billet is inscribed the person's name.

†6. A bank-note. [French; used by Carlyle for local colouring.]

1827 *CARLYLE Fr. Rev.* I. v. iii. 207 Billets of a new National Bank.

¶ See other senses which may belong here, at the end of BILLET sb.²

Billet, *sb.* 2 Also 4-6 billette, 5 bylet, 5-6 belet, 6 bylet, 8 billet. [a. F. *billette* (OF. *billete*), and *billet*, diminutives of *bille* 'trunk of a tree, length of round timber'; in 12th c. med.L. *billa* and *billus* 'branch, trunk of a tree': of unknown origin. (The Celtic derivation given by Littré and others is erroneous. The alleged Irish *bille* 'trunk of a tree,' is only one of the innumerable figments of O'Reilly's Dictionary. Whitley Stokes.)]

1. A thick piece of wood cut to a suitable length for fuel.

[1361 in *Rymer's Fodera* VI. 316 Quatuor Milia Billeto-rum . . . Emi & Provideri.] c1440 *Promp. Parv.* 36 Bylet, schyde, *tedula*. 1635 *W. AUSTIN Medit.* 36 Surely many sticks together, burne more vehemently, then a single Billet. 1748 *ANSON Voy.* ii. ii. 133 Some of our men . . . were employed in cutting down trees, and splitting them into billets. 1846 *PRESOTT Ferd. & Is.* II. v. 349 He slept on the ground with a billet of wood for his pillow.

†b. *collect.* Wood so cut for fuel; billet-wood. *Obs.* 1465 *Mann. & Househ. Exp.* 482 Payd fore a cartfulle of belet at Eltam, ijs. viiij. 1559 *FABIAN* vii. 705 The maior . . . solde to the poore people billet and faggot, by the peniworth. 1642 *CHAS. I* in *Let. Student Oxfo.* 1 Where . . . was fuel and billet enough. 1664 *EVELYN Sylva* (1679) 27 The smaller trunchions . . . make billet, bavin, and coals.

†c. Fire-wood of size regulated by law. *Obs.* 1502 *ARNOLD Chron.* (1811) 98 Item that every Essex belet of one [shide] contayn in length with the Carl ij fote and half of assise and in gretnes in y^e middes xv inches. 1542-3 *Act 24-35 Hen. VIII.* iii. The yntreme lengthe and quantite of faggotte talwood, and billette. 1581 *LAMBARDE Eiren.* ii. vii. (1588) 208.

2. A (thick) stick used as a weapon. †*Single billet*: single stick. 1603 *SHAKS. Meas. for M.* iv. iii. 58 Or they shall beat out my braines with billets. 1613 *BEAUM. & FL. Captain* II. i. 53/1 Fighting at single billet with a barge-man. [1741 *RICHARDSON Pamela* (1824) I. 88 Nan . . . was taking up a billet to knock me on the head.]

3. A small bar of metal. †a. A 'bar' or ingot of gold or silver. b. Of iron or steel: see quot. [1553 *Act 27 Edw. III.* ii. § 14 Plate dargent, billetes dor et tut autre maner dor.] 1670 *BLOUNT Law Dict.*, *Billets of Gold*, Wedges or Ingots of Gold. 1882 *RAYMOND Mining Gloss.*: *Billet* i. Iron or steel, drawn from a pile, bloom, or ingot, into a small bar for further manufacture. 2. A small bloom. 1883 *Daily News* 8 Oct. 2/5 In Bessemer steel . . . hoops and billets are somewhat easier to buy.

4. *Arch.* An ornamental moulding used in Norman architecture, consisting of short cylindrical pieces placed lengthwise at regular intervals in hollow mouldings; sometimes in two or more rows, breaking joint. Also *attrib.* 1835 *T. HOPE Hist. Ess. Archit.* xiii. (1840) I. 139 Never extended beyond the jejune form of the lozenge . . . or the zig-zag, and the billet. 1870 *F. WILSON Ch. Lindisf.* 69 Their billet ornamentation and its chequered shade. 1879 *SIR G. SCOTT Lect. Archit.* II. 86 The chamfers of a string or label relieved with the billet or short piece of roll left projecting from them at intervals.

5. *pl.* The excrements of a fox. (cf. BILLETING 3.) ¶ The following senses belong doubtfully to this or the prec. word.

6. *Her.* A bearing of the shape of a rectangle placed on end. (Variously conjectured by early writers to represent a folded letter, a brick, and a cloth of gold.)

1592 *WYRLEY Armorie* 153 A siluer ses 'tween many bil-lets gold. 1610 *GUILLIM Heraldry* iv. v. (1660) 279 This Billet in Armory is taken for a paper folded up in form of a letter. 1724 *Ibid.* (ed. 6) Dict., *Billets*. Tresor Heraldique says, most Authors take them for Bricks. 1727-41 *CHAMBERS Cycl.*, *Billets*, in Heraldry, are supposed to represent pieces of cloth of gold or silver. 1852 *MISS YONGE Cameos* (1877) II. ii. 24 The eleven argent billets on their azure shield.

†7. *transf.* and *fig.* *Obs.*

1548 *HALL Chron.* (1809) 613, xii persones all ridyng on coursers barded and appparelled in white Sattin and blacke broched with gold and silver with cuttes and culyppes muche after tawny and blacke Sattin Billetes. c1600 *G. WYATT in Cavendish's Wolsey* (1825) II. 200 So many cross billets of cunning polities, surmounted by the guiding providence of God.

8. *Saddlery.* a. A strap which enters a buckle. b. A pocket or loop which receives the end of a buckled strap.

1481-90 *Howard Househ. Bks.* 195, Ij. peyr of brode reynys, and ij. new bellet-thongs. 1794 *W. FELTON Carriages* (1801) I. 137 The tassels, the plated buckles, and the leather billets. *Ibid.* 138 The tassels, and the billet and buckle to complete it, is also 32.

9. *Comb.* and *Attrib.*, as *billet-dealer*, -wood, etc.; *billet-head*, a piece of wood at the bow of a whale-boat, round which the harpoon line runs; also 'a carved prow bending in and out, contrariwise to the fiddle-head (scroll-head)' *Smyth Sailor's Word-bk.*; *billet moulding* = BILLET sb.² 4.

a 1625 *FLETCHER Noble Gent.* iii. i. 35 There's not the least of the *billet dealers But have it in measure delicate. 1840 *R. DANA Bef. Mast* xxxv. 134 The cornucopia which ornamented her *billet-head. 1851 *RUSKIN Stones* Ven. I. xxiv. § 3 What is called the Norman *billet moulding. 1759 *B. MARTIN Nat. Hist. Eng.* II. Norf. 70 A Fire of clean *Billet-wood. 1772 *Phil. Trans.* LXII. 90 *Billet-wood for fewel.

Billet, *sb.*³ Also **billit**. [perh. a corruption of **BILLARD**; perh. the correct form, and identical with prec. word.] A coal-fish, when one year old. Cf. **BILLARD** 1.

1769 **PENNANT Zool.** III. 153 They [the fry of the coalfish] are called at Scarborough **Parrs**, and when a year old, **Billets**. 1832 J. COLE *Scarbor. Guide* 108 The principal fish... for sale are... parr, billits, coal fish. 1883 *Fisheries Exhib. Catal.* 10 Mounted Lines for... Billet, and all surface fish.

Billet (bi'lét), *v.* Also 7 **billit**, **billett**. Pa. t. and pple. **billeted**. [f. **BILLET sb.¹]**

† 1. *trans.* To enter in a list; to enroll. *Obs.*

1607 **SHAKS. Cor.** iv. iii. 48 The Centurions, and their charges distinctly billeted... and to be on foot at an hours warning. 1618 *Select. Harl. Misc.* (1793) 218 He billeted the said pioneers for several ships. 1669 R. HILL *Pathw. Piety* I. Pref. 11 Blessed and billeted up by them in Heaven.

2. To assign quarters to (soldiers) by a note or ticket; to quarter (troops) in, at, on, upon, with.

1599 **NASHE Lent. Stuffe** (1871) 10 For ten weeks together this rabble-roust... are billeted with her. 1604 **SHAKS. Oth.** II. iii. 386 Go where thou art billeted. 1674 **CLARENDON Hist. Reb.** I. i. 33 They refused to suffer the Soldiers to be billeted upon them. 1849 **MACAULAY Hist. Eng.** I. i. 85 Companies of soldiers were billeted on the people.

b. *gen.* To assign or appoint quarters to; to locate. (With 1837 cf. **BILLET sb.¹ 4.)**

1606 **SYLVESTER Du Bartas, Columes** iv. ii. 643 In what bright stary Signe, th' Almighty dread, Dayes Princely Planet's dayly billeted. 1690 R. GELL *Serm.* 15 We finde the twelve Tribes... billeted according to the four Quarters of heaven. 1837 **DICKENS Pickw.** xix. Shots... cast loose upon the world and billeted nowhere.

† c. To give quarters to, lodge. *Obs.*

1637 **QUARLES Elegy Wks** 1881 III. 15 Sorrow is the Guest Which I must entertaine, and billet in my breast.

† 3. *intr.* (for *refl.*) To have quarters. *Obs. rare.*

1668 in *Parr's Lett.* 400 (L.) He billets in my lodgings.

4. *trans.* To serve (a person) with a billet.

1833 **MARRVAT P. Simple** xxiv. 'Conscript!' said the woman of the house... 'I am billeted full already.'

† 5. To select by billet (see **BILLET sb.¹ 5); to ballot. *Obs.***

c. 1690 **SIR G. MACKENZIE Mem. Aff. Scotland** 75 Lauderdale... askt the King. 'What if they billet me, Sir?' Then Lauderdale told him that he was billeted.

|| **Billet-doux** (bi'lédū). [Fr.; = sweet note.]

A love-letter. (Now usually *jocular*.)

1673 **DRYDEN Marr. à la Mode** II. i. 261 He sings and dances en François, and writes the billets doux to a miracle.

a. 1688 **VILLIERS (Dk. Buckhm.) Ep. Julian Wks** 1705 II. 94 Strephon's Billet-doux's have made them sport.

1712 **POPE Rape Lock** I. 138 Here files of pins extend their shining rows, Puffs, powders, patches, bibles, billet-doux.

1848 **THACKERAY Van. Fair** iv. To see whether there was a billet-doux hidden among the flowers.

Billeté, -etté, -etty (bi'léti). Also 6 bil-, billetté, 9 billettée, billettée. [a. F. *billetté*, in same sense, f. *billet*: see **BILLET sb.¹ 7.]**

Her. Charged with billets: see quot. 1766.

1572 **BOSSEVELL Armorie** II. 27 He beareth quarterly, Saile and Argent engrailed, Billettée. 1766 **PORNY Heraldry** (1787) Gloss., *Billettée*, Billettée... is used in blazoning Billets that exceed ten.

1864 **BOUVELL Heraldry Hist.** 9 Pop. vii. 33 A field semé of Billets is *Billettée*.

Billeted (bi'létéd), *pp. a.* [f. **BILLET v.** and *sb.*]

† 1. Furnished with billets or strips of metal. *Obs.*

1666 T. H. CAUSSIN'S *Holy Cr.* 189 The Cymbal was... composed of thinn plates of brasse, with certayne small barres of iron, fastned, and crosse billeted in the plates.

2. Quartered by billet.

1668 **MOUNDEFORD MSS.** in *Forster Gr. Remonstr.* 221 The billeted souldiers. 1866 **MORN. Star** 12 July, In Saxony each billeted soldier pays five silbergroschen.

Billetter. [f. **BILLET v.** + *ER.*] a. An officer who makes out billets. b. A soldier with a billet. c. One who selects by billet: see **BILLET v.** 5.

1640-4 in *Ruskw. Hist. Coll.* III. (1692) I. 206 Officers or Billiters of Souldiers, dead or run away. 1643 **BRAMHALL Wks** 1842-4 III. 450 So soon as he was gotten into Hull to fill their house with billetterers. 1663 W. SHARP in *Lauderd. Papers* (1884) I. 127 The billetterers may be disappointed.

Billeting (bi'létin), *vbl. sb.* [Consists of what are really different words f. **BILLET v.** and *sb.*]

1. The quartering of soldiers by billet.

1640 *Petit. to King in Harl. Misc.* (1811) VII. 215 Your subjects burdened with... billeting of soldiers, and other military charges. 1810 **WELLINGTON in Gurw. Disp.** VI. 72 As long as the system of billeting continues.

† 2. Selection by billet or voting-paper. *Obs.*

1662 R. LAW *Mem.* (1817) 12 An act of billeting, by which he would have cut off some nobles in the land from all public trust. 1662 W. SHARP in *Lauderd. Pap.* (1884) I. vi. The billeting being agreed to in the articles yesterday.

3. See quot. (Cf. **BILLET sb.² 5.)**

1706 **PHILLIPS, Billiting**, (among Hunters), the Ordure, or Dung of a Fox. [So in *BAILEY* and later Dicts.]

4. *Billeting-roll* (Iron-working), a set of rollers for reducing smelted iron to the form of bars.

Billetless, a. Without a billet.

1868 *Once a Wk.* No. 14. 300 A billetless bullet from the old flint rifle.

Bill-fish: see **BILL sb.²**

Billful (bi'lful). As much as fills a bird's bill.

1616 **SURF. & MARK. Countr. Farm** 718 Giue her a birds bill full four times a day. 1863 **BUCKLAND Cur. Nat. Hist.** Ser. II. 329 He takes a billfull of mud.

Bill-hook (bi'lhook). [f. **BILL sb.¹ + **HOOK sb.]****

A heavy thick knife or chopper with a hooked end, used for pruning, cutting brushwood, etc.

1621 **COTGR., Riveran**... a Welsh hooke, or hedging bill made with a hooke at the end... we call it a Bill-hooke. 1837 **HOWITT Rur. Life** vi. xviii. (1862) 608 The billhook of the Midland counties, with a back edge as well as a front one. 1857 S. OSBORN *Quedah* ix. 118 Each carried a sharp bill hook, with which to cut his way through the underwood.

Billiards (bi'lyárdz), *sb. pl.* Also 6-7 **balliards**, 7 **billards**, **billiards**, **billiards**. The sing. **billiard** is used only in comb. (see 2). [a. F. *billiard*, OF. also *billart*, the game; so named from *billard* 'a cue', orig. 'a stick with curved end, a hockey-stick', dim. of *bille* piece of wood, stick: see **BILLET sb.² and **ABD.** In Eng. introduced only as the name of the game, and made pl. as in *draughts, skittles, bowls*, and other names of games.]**

1. A game played with small solid ivory balls on a rectangular table having a smooth cloth-covered horizontal surface, the balls being driven about, according to the rules of the game, by means of long tapering sticks called cues.

1591 **SPENSER M. Hubberd** 803 With all the thriftles games that may be found... With dice, with cards, with balliards. 1598 **FLORIO, Trucce**, a kinde of play with balles vpon a table, called billiards. 1606 **SHAKS. Ant. & Cl.** II. v. 3 Let it alone, let's to billiards. 1611 **COTGR., Billiard**, a short and thicke truncheon, or cudgell: hence... the stickes wherewith we touch the ball at billiards. 1712 **ARBUOTHNOT John Bull** (1755) 5 You sot, says she, you... spend your time at billiards, etc. 1873 **BENNETT & CAVENDISH Billiards** 2 Nothing is known about Billiards prior to the middle of the sixteenth century.

2. *Comb. and Attrib.*, as **billiard-ball**, **-club**, **-cue**, **-player**, **-room**, **-sharper**, **-sharps**, **-stick**; **billiard-cloth**, fine green woollen cloth used for covering billiard-tables; **billiard-mace**, or **-mast**, a rod furnished with a head or knob used to propel the ball in billiards; **billiard-marker**, a person who marks the 'points' made by each player, and keeps account of the progress of the game; also, a counting apparatus for registering results; so **billiard-marking**; **billiard-table**, the large table on which the game of billiards is played; usually 12 ft. by 6, covered with fine green cloth, surrounded by a cushioned ledge, and provided with six 'pockets' at the corners and sides for the reception of the balls.

a. 1637 B. JONSON *Celebr. Charis*, And cheek... Smooth as is the 'billiard-ball'. 1871 **TYNDALL Fragm. Sc.** (ed. 6) II. xv. 408 Not all the sense of pain or pleasure in the world could lift a stone or move a 'billiard-ball'. 1775 **SHERIDAN Rivals** II. i. Seven... waiters, and thirteen 'billiard-markers'. 1785 **COWPER Task** iv. 221 What was an hour-glass once Becomes a dice-box, and a 'billiard-mast' (1806 - mace) Well does the work of his destructive scythe. 1848 **THACKERAY Van. Fair** viii. Tall doors with stags' heads over them, leading to the 'billiard-room and the library. 1865 *Pall Mall G.* 11 Aug. 2/2 He meant to climb in the world to all that was pure and heroic by 'billiard-sharps'. 1817 **COLERIDGE Biog. Lit.** (1817) 52 When... the 'billiard-stick strikes the first or white ball. 1677 **EVERLYN Mem.** 10 Sept., The gallery is a pleasant, noble room: in the... middle, is a billiard-table. 1711 **STEELE Spect.** No. 54 P 4 Bowling-Greens. 'Billiard-Tables, and such like Places. 1867 **BAKER Nile Tribut.** viii. 100 An immense tract of high grass, as level as a 'billiard-table'.

Billie, variant of **BILLY** 1.

Billimonte, variant of **BILMENT**. *Obs.*

Billinder, obs. form of **BILANDER**.

† **Billin**, *vbl. sb.*¹ *Obs.* [f. **BILL v.**¹ + **ING** 1.]

Working with a bill or mattock; hoeing.

c. 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 36 Byllynge of mattocks, *ligonisacio*.

Billin (bi'lin), *vbl. sb.*² [f. **BILL v.**² + **ING** 1.]

† 1. The pecking of a bird. *Obs.*

c. 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 36 Byllynge of byrdys, *rostratus*. 1598 **FLORIO, Imbecata**, an embilling, a billing or feeding. 1599 *Broughton's Lett.* i. 6 The billing of such filthy garbage.

2. The caressing of doves; kissing; love-making.

1587 **WARNER Alb. England** VI. xxxi. (1612) 153 First blend they heard, and forthwith lips, and after billing fell To other Sport. c. 1630 **DRUMM. OF HAWTH. Poems** Wks. (1711) 21 Come, let us teach new billing to the dove. 1732 **FIELDING Miser** I. iii. Here's fine billing, and cooing, I warrant. 1815 L. HUNT *Fest of Poets* 10, I never much valued your billings and cooings.

Billin, *vbl. sb.*³ [f. **BILL v.**³ + **ING** 1.] The action of entering in a list, enrolling, indicting, lampooning, etc.

1884 *Manch. Exam.* 14 Nov. 5/4 The proceedings in connection with the billing of the Sheriffs.

Billin, *pp. a.* [f. **BILL v.**² + **ING** 2.] That bills or caresses like a pair of doves.

1720 **GAY Espousal**, Let me be The billing dove, and fondling lamb to thee. 1729 T. COOKE *Tales*, etc. 67 Hear the billing Turtles coo. 1801 **MOORE The Kiss**, Give me, my love, that billing kiss I taught you.

Billingsgate (bi'linsgət). Also 3 **Bellingsgate**, 7 **Bellings gate**, **Belin'sgate**, 7-8 **Billingsgate**. [The proper name (presumably from a personal name *Billin*) of one of the gates of London, and hence of the fish-market there established. The 17th c. references to the 'rhetoric' or abusive language of this market are frequent, and hence foul language is itself called 'billingsgate.']

1. One of the gates of the city of London; the fish-market near it; the latter noted for vituperative language.

c. 1250 **LAV.** 15070 And ladde to Londene... besides Belinges-gate [c. 1205 *Belyes*]. 1285 **PILKINGTON Exp. Nchem.** (1841) 345 The gates of cities have their names... of them that builded them, as Lud-gate and Billings-gate, of Lud and Billins. 1658 R. NEWCOURT *Title Map Lond.*, Billings gate Founded by Belen y^e 23rd British Kinge. 1672 **MARVELL Rel. Transp.** I. 167 There is not a scold at Billings-gate but may defend herself. 1705 **HICKERINGILL Priest-cr.** I. (1721) 56 The Rhetoric of Billingsgate, viz. Lying and Slandering. 1795 **WINDHAM Speeches Parl.** (1812) I. 266 The scolding of a fishwoman in Billingsgate. 1848 **THACKERAY Van. Fair** xiii, Mr. Osborne... cursed Billings-gate with an emphasis worthy of the place.

b. *attrib.* (in reference to language.)

1652 **CULPEPPER Eng. Physic.** With down-right Billings-gate-Rhetoric. 1726 **AMHERST Terræ Fil.** x. 48, I know nothing that he is fit for, but Billingsgate sermons. 1750 **WESLEY Wks.** (1872) IX. 87 Low, Billingsgate invectives.

2. Scurrilous vituperation, violent abuse.

1676 **WYCHERLEY Pl. Dealer** III. i. (1678) 35 With sharp Invectives - *Wid.* (Alias Belin'sgate). 1710 **SHAFTESB. Charac.** (1737) III. ii. 15 Philosophers and Divines, who can be contented to... write in learned Billingsgate. 1799 T. JEFFERSON *Writ.* (1859) IV. 289 We disapprove the constant billingsgate poured on them officially. 1867 **FREEMAN Norm. Cong.** (1876) I. App. 625 This is mere Billingsgate.

† 3. A clamouring foul-mouthed person, a vulgar abuser or scold. *Obs.*

1683 **TRYON Way to Health** 480 Neither have we any Billings-gates, all that sort of People are our hewers of VVood and drawers of Water. 1715 **BOWEN Trag.** in *Yorksh. Anthol.* (1851) 18 Words not fit for a Billingsgate. 1721-90 **BAILEY, Billingsgate**, a scolding impudent Slut.

Hence † **Billingsgate** *v. rare*. † **Billings-gatry**, scurrilous language.

1673 *Remarks upon Rem.* 56 (Boucher) A great deal of Billingsgatry against poets. 1715 A. LITTLETON *Lat. Dict.*, To Billingsgate it. *Arripere maledictum ex trivio*.

Billion (bi'lyon). [a. F. *billion*, purposely formed in 16th c. to denote the second power of a MILLION (by substituting *Bi-* pref.² for the initial letters), *trillion* and *quadrillion* being similarly formed to denote its 3rd and 4th powers. The name appears not to have been adopted in Eng. before the end of the 17th c.: see quot. from Locke. Subsequently the application of the word was changed by French arithmeticians, figures being divided in numeration into groups of threes, instead of sixes, so that F. *billion*, *trillion*, now denote not the second and third powers of a million, but a thousand millions and a thousand thousand millions. Eng. retains the original and etymological use.]

1. In Great Britain: A million millions. (= Fr. *trillion*.)

1690 **LOCKE Hum. Und.** II. xvi. § 6 But to show how much distinct names conduce to our well reckoning, let us see all these following figures in one continued line:—

Nonillions Octillions... Trillions Billions Millions Units

857324,162486... 235421,261734,368149,623137.

The ordinary way of naming this number in English, will be the often repeating of millions of millions of millions, etc. a. 1711 **KEN Prepar. Poet. Wks.** 1721 IV. 67 A Star will run, Of Miles a Billion round the Sun. 1778 **MASERES in Phil. Trans.** LXVIII. 807 A billion, or the square of a million. 1870 **PROCTOR Other Worlds** ix. 200 The aggregate weight of the various meteoric systems... must be estimated by billions of tons.

2. In U.S. (as in France): A thousand millions.

1864 See **WEBSTER, s.v. Numeration**.

Billionaire (bi'lyonē-ri). [f. prec., after *millionaire*.] The possessor of property worth a billion or more of the recognized standard coin of the realm; (see next).

1861 O. W. HOLMES *Elsie V.* vii, One would like to give a party now and then, if one could be a billionaire. 1865 E. LOTT *Governess Egypt* 7 The billionaire merchant Prince.

Billionism (bi'lyoniz'm). *nonce-wd.* [f. as prec. + *-ISM*.] The financial position of a billionaire.

1861 O. W. HOLMES *Elsie V.* vii, Billionism, or even millionism, must be a blessed kind of state.

Billionth (bi'lyonθ), a. and sb. [f. as prec. + *-TH*.] A. *adj.* The ordinal adjective corresponding to 'billion.' B. *sb.* The billionth part.

1778 **MASERES Converg. Series in Phil. Trans.** LXVIII. 900 The billionth root of 10 will be = 1,000,000,000,000,302,585,093. 1865 **DRAPER Int. Devel. Europe** xxv. 607 The vibrations which thus occasion light are, at a mean, 525 in the billionth of a second.

Billman (bi'lman). [f. **BILL sb.¹ + **MAN**.]**

a. A soldier armed with a bill. b. A watchman similarly armed. c. A labourer using a bill.

1530 **PALSGR.** 198 Bylman in a batayle, *halebardier*. 1550 **HULOET, Byll man, Jalcarius**. 1581 **SAVILLE Tacitus' Hist.** I. xxiv. (1591) 15 Cocceius Proculus, a bilman of the Garde.

1604 **DEKKER Honest Wk. Wks.** 1873 II. 163 Enter Constable and Bilmen. 1606 **SYLVESTER Captaines** 242 A sort of lusty Bill-men, set... to sell a Cops. 1801 **STRUTT Sports & Past.** II. 62 Four thousand whiffers and bilmen. 1861 **DIXON Bacon** iv. § 17 The Bowmen of Cressy, the bilmen of Boulogne.

Billon (bi'lön). [a. F. *billon* 'debased metal', originally certainly meaning 'mass' (Littre), i. e. 'l'or et l'argent en bille', bullion, f. *bille*, **BILLET** of wood, etc.: cf. **BILLOT**. F. *billon* is cogn. w.

Pr. *billo*, Sp. *vellon*, It. *biglione*, med.L. *billi-onem*. In Eng., of modern adoption from French, where its sense-development has not been clearly traced; it had at one time the sense now expressed by Eng. *bullion*, med.L. *bullionem*, and the two words have mutually influenced each other, though they are distinct in origin: see *BULLION*.]

1. A mixed metal used in coinage, consisting of gold or silver with a preponderating admixture of a baser metal. Also *attrib.*

1797 CHAMBERS *Cycl.*, *Billon*, *Billio*, in coinage a kind of base metal either of gold or silver, in whose mixture copper predominates. Note. We don't find 'tis naturaliz'd among us: but the necessity we are frequently under of using it in the course of this work, requir'd its being explain'd. 1797 *Encycl. Brit.* s.v. *Billon*, Gold under twelve carats fine, is called billon of gold. 1876 MATHEWS *Coinage* xxii. 231 For Martinique... small coins of silver and gold washed billon were struck in France during parts of the last century

2. *esp.* An alloy of silver with copper, tin, or other base metal, in which the latter predominates.

1819 REES *Cycl.* s.v. *Billon*. The writers on numismatic science appropriate the term billon to signify metals of copper alloyed with a very small quantity of silver. 1854 WRIGHT *Cell. Rom. & Saxon* (1861) 378 Of these Richborough coins... fifteen [are] of billon or debased silver. 1883 *Antiquary* July, James III. issued several denominations of billon coins, as placks, half-placks, farthings.

Billot (bi-lot). [a. Fr. *billot* a wooden block.]

1. Obs. form of *BILLET* sb.²

2. 'Bullion in the block or bar previous to being coined.' 1846 in WORCESTER; and in mod. Dicts.

Billow (bi-low), sb. Also *6* *bellow* (e, 6-7 *billow*). [Not known bef. 1550, but may have been in dial. use. App. a. ON. *bylgja* billow (in Da. *bølge*, Sw. *bölga*); cf. MHG. *bulge*; OHG. **bulga* and OE. **bylge* are not found; f. com. Teut. *belgan* to swell, swell up: see *BELL* v.¹]

†1. The swell on the ocean produced by the wind, or on a river or estuary by the tide. *Obs.*

1560 JENKINSON in Hakluyt *Voy.* (1589) 358 And much adoe to keepe our barke from sinking, the billow was so great. 1614 RALEIGH *Hist. World* i. iii. § 13 That branch of Indus... [is] so large and deepe, and by reason thereof so great a billow, as it endangered his whole Fleet.

2. *prop.* A great swelling wave of the sea, produced generally by a high wind; but often used as merely = Wave, and hence poetically for 'the sea.'

1552 HULOET, *Bellowe* or waue of water. 1566 GASCOIGNE *Jocasta* iii. (1575) 99b, His barke with many a billowe beaten. 1596 SPENSER *Prothala.* 48 The gentle stream... bad his billowes spare To wet their silken feathers. 1601 SHAKS. *Jul. C.* v. i. 67 Why now blow winde, swell Billow, And swimme Barke. 1611 BIBLE Ps. xlii. 7 All thy waues, and thy billowes [WYCLIF flodis, COVERD. waterfloods] are gone ouer me. 1712 HUGHES *Spect.* No. 467 ¶ 2 The Waves and Billows thro' which he has steered. 1799 *Scotland Descr.* (ed. 2) 12 The appulse of the billows of the open Atlantic. 1817 WOLFE *Buriall Sir J. Moore*, The foe and the stranger would tread o'er his head, And we far away on the billow.

3. *fig. esp.* of death as an overwhelming flood. 1592 tr. *Junius on Rev.* xii. 18 And provoke the nations that they might with their furious bellows toss up and down. 1807 CRABBE *Par. Reg.* iii. 15 Till the last strong billow stops the breath. 1857 HEAVYSEGE *Saul* (1863) 429 The billows black of death's deep gulf.

3. *transf.* A great wave of flame, air, sound; a body of men sweeping onward, etc.

1677 MILTON *P. L.* i. 224 On each hand the flames... rowld In billows, leave i' th' midst a horrid Vale. 1854 RUSSELL *The War* xxvi. (ed. 17) 173 Huge stately billows of armed men. 1860 TYNDALL *Glac.* i. § 25. 185 Billows of air... rolled over us with a long surging sound. 1872 BLACKIE *Lays Highl.* 104 Let the billow of your peans To Dunolly's tower be borne.

4. *Comb. and Attrib.*, as *billow-crest*, *-roll*, *-swell*, *billow-beaten* adj.; *billow-bred* a., reared or brought up on the sea; *billow-rife* a., full of, or beset with many, billows.

1597 MIDDLETON in Farr's *S. P.* (1845) II. 536 The swans forsooke the quire of billow-roule. 1749 WEST *Pindar* in Johnson *Life* Wks. IV. 202 The billow-beaten side Of the foam-besilver'd main. 1855 SINGLETON *Virgil* I. 229 Upon the billow-crest hang these.

Billow, v. [f. prec. sb.]

1. *intr.* To rise in billows; to surge, swell.

1597 DRAYTON *Mortimer* 94 A poole of tears... Billow'd with sighes, like to a little maine. 1655 H. VAUGHAN *Silva Scint.* 39 When his waters billow thus, Dark storms and wind incite them. 1794 COLERIDGE *Dest. Nations*, Ocean behind him billows. 1868 TENNYSON *Lucretius* 31 A riotous confluence of watercourses Blanching and billowing in a hollow of it.

2. *fig. and transf.* To surge, swell, undulate, roll with wavy motion.

1658 FELTHAM *Resolves* i. xxxvi. (1647) 119 Vexations when they daily billow upon the minde. 1713 YOUNG *Last Day* iii. 249 It soars on high, Swells in the storm, and billows through the sky. 1795 SOUTHEY *Joan of Arc* v. 120 The yellow harvest billow'd o'er the plain. 1865 G. MACDONALD *A. Forbes* xviii. 75 A laugh... billowed and broke thro' the whole school. 1871 ROSSETTI *Last Confess.* 407 The pain comes billowing on like a full cloud of thunder.

Billowiness. [f. *BILLOWY* + *-NESS*.] Undulating nature; succession of crested elevations.

1826 CARRINGTON *Dartmoor* Pref. 12 The singular billowiness of the ground causes... some delicious varieties of light and shade.

Billowing (bi-'lowin), ppl. a. [f. *BILLOW* v. + *-ING*.] Rolling or rising in billows; undulating. 1718 PRIOR *Solomon* iii. 129 The billowing Snow. 1812 SIR R. WILSON *Diary* I. 42 The background... was formed by billowing mountains. 1854 DE QUINCEY *Joan of Arc* Wks. III. 242 The fiery smoke rose in billowing volumes.

Billowy (bi-'loi), a. [f. *BILLOW* sb. + *-Y*.]

1. Characterized by billows.

c 1615 CHAPMAN *Odys.* v. 345 The billowie ocean. 1798 *Anti-Jacobin* 21 May (1832) 142 Biscay's billowy bay. 1865 GEIKIE *Scen. & Geol. Scot.* ii. 75 Crests and troughs of a billowy sea.

2. Of, pertaining to, or of the nature of billows. 1792 HUDDSFORD *Salmag.* i. 24 And elevate his trembling mast Above the billowy precipice. 1860 TYNDALL *Glac.* i. § 4. 36 The horizon of the lake presented a billowy tumultuous appearance. 1884 W. C. SMITH *Kildrostan* 87 The bounding sea, And billowy roll of life.

3. *transf.* Cf. *BILLOW* sb. 3.

1796 THOMSON *Winter* 273 O'er the hapless flocks... The billowy tempest whelms. 1799 COLERIDGE *Nose*, On billowy flames of fire I float. 1847 L. HUNT *Men, Women, & Bks.* i. viii. 133 The great blue billowy domains of heather.

4. *comb.* (advb. and parasyntetic.)

1855 BROWNING *Men & Wom.*, *Last Ride*, Some western cloud All billowy-bosomed. 1876 SWINBURNE *Erechth.* (ed. 2) 45 Broad strength of billowy-beating war.

Billy, *billie* (bi-li). *Sc. and north. dial.* [Of unknown derivation. (It has been compared with *BULLY* and *G. buhle*, but to little purpose.)]

1. Fellow; companion, comrade, mate.

c 1505 DUNBAR *In secret place* 31 Be nocht our bosteous to your billie. 1570 GRAEME & BEWICK in Scott *Minstr.* (1812) II. 292 Your son... is but bad, And billie to my son he canna be. 1786 BURNS *Let. J. Tennant*, My auld school-fellow, preacher Willie, The manly tar, my mason Billie. 1808 CUMRIAN *Ball.* xlii. 96 My billy Aye thought her the flow'r o' them aw. 1863 ATKINSON *Provinc. Danby*, *Billy*, a comrade, familiar acquaintance.

2. 'Fellow,' in the wider sense (*familiar*).

a 1774 FERGUSON *Hallowfair*, Here chapman billies take their stand And show their bonny wallies. 1790 BURNS *Tam O'Shanter*, When chapman billies leave the street. 1815 SCOTT *Guy R.* xxv, 'There I met wi' Tam o' Todshaw, and a wheen o' the rest o' the billies on the water side.'

3. Brother. (The corresponding feminine is *tittie*. Both are now considered rude.) Hence *Billyhood*, brotherhood.

1794 RAMSAY *Treat. Misc.* (1733) I. 22 His minny Meg up her back Bare bath him and his billy. a 1748 DICK *O' the Cow* ii. (in Scott *Minstr.*), Johnie Armstrong to Willie did say—'Billie, a riding we will gae.' 1828 HOGG *Brownie* II. 31 (JAM.) That's a stretch of billyhood that I was never up to afore.

Billy² (bi-li). [f. *Billy*, familiar perversion of *Willie*, hypocoristic or pet form of *William*: cf. *Bobby* = *Robby* = *Robert*.]

1. A term applied to various machines and implements: as, a. a slubbing or roving machine; b. a highwayman's club; c. an Australian bushman's tea-pot. Cf. uses of BETTY, JACK, JEMMY, JENNY.

1795 *Edin. Advert.* 6 Jan. 15/1 Five common carding engines... four pickers, four roving billies, twenty-one spinning jennies. 1865 *Times* 28 Apr., The man struck Mr. Seward on the head with a billy. 1872 BADEN POWELL *New Homes* 48 Men travelling about... invariably carry their billy or quart tin pot, wherein to make tea. 1875 *USE Dict. Arts* III. 1165 The slubbing machine, or billy, 1881 *Cheq. Career* 361 To cook dampers... and boil a 'billy' are works of art.

2. *Comb.* In names of animals, plants, etc., mostly local: as *billy-biter*, the Blue Titmouse; *billy-button*, local name of the Bachelor's Button, Field Scabious, Double Daisy, Red Campion, and various other plants; *billy-wix*, the Tawny Owl. *Billy* roller, the wooden roller of a slubbing 'billy' (see quot.). See also the following words.

1843 *Penny Cycl.* XXV. 4/1 Draws back his hand... well pecked by the irritated matron. Hence he calls it 'Billy Biter.' 1834 *Blackw. Mag.* XXXV. 297 Down came on his head... the patriotic billy-roller. 1875 *USE Dict. Arts* III. 1166 This is the billy-roller, so much talked of in the controversies between the operatives and masters in the cotton-factories, as an instrument of cruel punishment to children, though no such machine has been used in cotton-mills for half a century at least.

Billyards, obs. form of *BILLIARDS*.

Billy-blind (bi-li-blind). *Sc.* [Of uncertain origin: see *BELLY-blind*.]

1. In ballads, the name of a benevolent household demon or familiar spirit. (See *Child Eng. & Sc. Ballads* I. 67, Grimm *Teut. Myth.* (Eng. ed.) II. 473.) a 1802 *Willie's Ladye* xiv. (in Scott *Minstr.*), Then out and spak the Billy Blind, He spak aye in a gude time. a 1806 R. JAMIESON *Pop. Ball.* II. 130 (JAM.) Up it starts the Billy Blind, And stood at her bed feet.

2. The game of 'Blind-man's-buff'; = *BELLY-BLIND*. Hence, *Billyblinder*, he who blindfolds the chief actor in this game; *fig.* a hoodwinker.

1822 HOGG *Perils Man* III. 387 (JAM.) Ay weel I wat that's little short of a billyblinder.

Billyboy (bi-li-boy). [Derivation unknown: it has been conjecturally compared with *BILANDER*; also with *BULLY-BOY*.]

'A Humber or east-coast boat, of river-barge build, and a try-sail; a bluff-bowed north-country trader, or large one-masted vessel of burden.' Smyth.

1855 R. KNOX *E. Yorksh.* 62 Small flat-bottomed sloops called Billy boys or Humber-keels. 1879 *Hartf. Merc.*

1 Mar. 2/7 The large tanned-sail barges, sometimes called billy-boys, coming from Rochester or other places on the Kentish coast. 1884 *Mchale* viii. 116 The pay was too small to entice a youth, who owned a vessel, a billy-boy, and oyster pans.

Billycock (bi-'likpk). [App. the same as *bully-cocked*, used 1721, prob. meaning 'cocked after the fashion of the bullies' or hectoring blades of the period: see *BULLY* and *COCKED*.] A colloquial term for a round low-crowned felt hat worn by men, and sometimes also by young women. Also *attrib.*

1721 AMHERST *Terr. Fil.* No. 46. 246 He [the Oxford 'smart'] is easily distinguish'd by a stiff silk gown... a flaxen tie-wig... a broad billy-cocked hat, or a square cap of above twice the usual size. 1862 *Life among Colliers* 35, I was told to take off my bonnet, and tie a billy-cock (wide-awake) tight down. *Manx Newspaper*. She... is masculine from the crown of her billycock hat, to the point of her laced-up double-soled boots.

Billy-goat (bi-'ligout). [f. *Billy* (a male name) + *GOAT*.] Familiar term for: A male goat.

1861 T. PEACOCK *Gryll Gr.* 108 There is nothing to eat in Greece but tough billy goats. 1882 *Standard* 11 Feb. 3/2 Hair turning grey, hazel eyes, billygoat beard.

Billement, obs. form of *BILLEMENT*.

Bilobate (bi-'lobet), a. [f. *Bi-* pref.² + *LOBATE*, f. mod.L. *lobus*, Gr. *λοβός*.] = *BILOBED*.

1794 MARTYN *Rousseau's Bot.* xxi. 293 The petals are... bilobate. 1877 COUES *Fur Anim.* iii. 77 Bilobate tips.

Bilobated, a. [f. as prec. + *-ED*.] = next.

1770 PENNANT *Zool.* IV. 85 Nose bilobated. 1837 *Penny Cycl.* VII. 78/2 The anterior lamella being deeply bilobated.

Bilobed (bi-'lobed), ppl. a. [f. *Bi-* pref.² + *LOBED*.] Having, or divided into, two lobes.

1756 P. BROWNE *Jamaica* 214 They... contain each a bilobed kernel. 1880 BASTIAN *Brain* 97 The Brain of the Crab is represented by a rather small bilobed ganglion.

Bilobular (bi-'lobulär), a. [f. *Bi-* pref.² + *LOBULE* + *-AR*.] Having, or divided into, two lobules or small lobes.

1859 TODD *Cycl. Anat. & Phys.* V. 540/1 Slightly cleft so as to indicate a bilobular tendency.

Bilocation (bi-'lokə-'shən). [f. *Bi-* pref.² + *LOCATION*.] The fact or power of being in two places at the same time.

1858 FABER *Life Xavier* 336 It was in fact a case of bilocation. 1871 TYLOR *Prim. Cult.* i. 404 The word 'bilocation' has been invented to express the miraculous faculty of being in two places at once.

Bilocellate (bi-'selleit), a. [f. *Bi-* pref.² + *LOCULLUS*, dim. of *loculus*: see next.] Having, or divided into, two minute cells.

1880 GRAY *Struct. Bot.* vi. § 6. 254 The cells of anthers... are bilocellate.

Bilocular (bi-'loiklär), a. [f. *Bi-* pref.² + *LOCULAR*, f. L. *loculus*, dim. of *locus* place.] Having, divided into, or consisting of two cells or small receptacles.

1783 DAVIDSON in *Phil. Trans.* LXXIV. 455 The germen is... bilocular. 1836 TODD *Cycl. Anat. & Phys.* I. 107/2 The molluscan classes... [have] a bilocular heart.

Biloculate, a. [f. as prec.: see *-ATE*.] = prec.

1874 JONES & SEV. *Fathol. Anat.* 365 This kind is of more frequent occurrence than the biloculate.

Bilong, obs. form of *BELONG*.

Bilooche, obs. form of *BELOW*.

Biloquial (bi-'lokwäl), a. [f. *Bi-* pref.² + *-LOQUIAL*, after *colloquial*.] Speaking with two different voices.

a 1810 C. B. BROWN *Carwin* (1822) I. 135 The confession of my biloquial powers.

Biloquist (bi-'lokwist). [f. *Bi-* pref.² + *-LOQUIST*; cf. *ventriloquist*.] One who can speak with two different voices.

a 1810 C. B. BROWN (title) *Carwin*, the Biloquist. 1884 *Sat. Rev.* 12 July 54 As a biloquist Mr. Maccabe's powers are very considerable.

Bilouen, *-lufen*, *-luuen*, etc., obs. ff. *BELOVE*.

Biltong (bi-'lɔŋ). Also (corruptly) *belong*, *bell-tongue*. [S. African Dutch, f. *bil* buttock + *tongue*, 'because it is mostly cut from the buttock, and in appearance somewhat resembles a smoked neat's-tongue' (Changuion).] Strips of lean meat (of antelope, buffalo, etc.) dried in the sun.

1815 A. PLUMTRE *Lichtenstein's Trav.* II. 77 He lived almost entirely upon dried mutton and biltong. 1863 BALDWIN *Afr. Hunting* 111, I... converted the most of them into bell-tongue. 1879 ARTHURLEY *Boetland* 149 Cut up into strips, and hung to dry on the tree for biltong.

Bilverketch: see *BILBOQUET*.

† **Bilwise**, a. *Obs.* App. *bill-wise* or clever of mouth, as opposed to *poll-mad*.

1577 STANYHURST *Descr. Irel.* in *Holins.* II. 12/1 Marcus Cicero... perceiving his countrymen to become changelings, in being bilwise and polmad, and to sucke with the Greeke [tongue] the conditions of the Grecians, as to be in words talkative, in behaviour light.

Bilyne, variant of *BLIN* v. *Obs.* to cease.

† **Bilynge**, *Obs.* rare—1. [Cf. OE. *bile* beak of a ship.] The beak or prow of a ship.

151400 *Morie Arth.* 3664 The bilynge and the beme brestys in sondyre.

Bimaculate, *-ated* (bi-'makülät, -ätet), a. [f. *Bi-* pref.² + L. *maculatus* spotted, f. *macula* spot.] Marked with two spots.

1769 PENNANT Zool. III. 205 Bimaculated Wrasse. 1848 C. JOHNS *Week at Lisard* 333 Bimaculated Duck.

|| **Bimana** (bi-mānā, bai-), *sb. pl. Zool.* [mod. L. neut. pl. of **bimanus* two-handed (sc. *animalia*), the latinized form of Buffon's *bimane*, f. L. bi- two + *manus* hand.] Two-handed animals: Cuvier's name for the highest order of Mammalia, of which man is the type and only species.

[1766 BUFFON *Hist. Nat.* XIV. 18 Faisons pour les mains un nom pareil à celui qu'on a fait pour les pieds, et alors nous dirons avec vérité et précision que l'homme est le seul qui est bimane et bipède. 1785 SMELLIE *Transl.* (1791) VIII. 52 We might then say that man was the only biped and bimanus.] 1839 PENNY *Cycl.* XIV. 353/2 Class *Mammifères*. Order I. *Bimana*, Man. 1871 DARWIN *Desc. Man* L. vi. 190 The greater number of naturalists have placed man in a separate order, under the title of *Bimana*.

Bimanal, *a. Zool.* = BIMANOUS.

1859 TODD *Cycl. Anat. & Phys.* V. 173/2 The bimanal... Reptiles. 1880 OWEN in *Longman's Mag.* I. 67 The highest (Caucasian) variety of the Bimanal order.

Bimane (bi-mānē), *Zool.* [a. F. *bimane*; see BIMANA, to which this supplies a singular.] A two-handed animal; one of the *Bimana*.

1835 KIRBY *Hab. & Inst. Anim.* II. xvii. 215 He [man] is the only Bimane. 1880 *Libr. Univ. Knowledge* III. 632 Bimanes, including mankind.

Bimanous (bi-mānōs, bai-), *a.* [f. mod. L. *bimanus* or *F. bimane* + -OUS.] a. Two-handed. b. Of or belonging to the *Bimana*.

1834 LYELL *Princ. Geol.* II. 15 Transformed into bimanous animals. 1878 BARTLEY tr. *Topinard's Anthropol.* ii. 79 The anthropoid ape... is bimanous, but he has the assistance of his hands in walking.

Bimarginate, Bimembral: see Bi-*pref*² 1.

† **Bimarian**, *a. Obs. rare*—*o.* [f. L. *bimaris* (see BIMARINE) + -AN.] 'Of or pertaining to two seas.' Bailey 1731, vol. II.

† **Bimarine**, *a.* 'Of two seas.' Coles 1692.

1721 in BAILEY, etc.

Bimarine (bi-mā-rīn), *a.* [f. L. *bimaris* (f. bi- two + *mare* sea) after *marine*.] Between two seas.

1854 GROTE *Greece* II. lxiv. IX. 425 note, The bimarine road or region [Gr. τῆν ἀμφιόλου].

† **Bimatical**, *Obs.*—*o.* [f. L. *bimātus* the age of two years.] 'Two yeeres space.' Cockeram 1623.

Bi-matter, *obs. form of BY-MATTER.*

Bimbo (bi-mbō), *a. kind of punch.*

1880 *Barman's Man*, Bimbo is made nearly in the same way as Arrack punch, except that Cognac brandy is substituted for arrack. [See also BUMBO.]

Bimeane, -mene, *obs. ff. BEMOAN.*

Bimedial (bi-mē-dī-āl), *a. (and sb.)* [f. Bi-*pref*² + MEDIAL, f. L. *medi-* middle.]

† **a. Algeb.** (See quot. 1557.) *Obs.* b. *Geom.* The sum of two medial lines; a medial line being the geometric mean between two incommensurable lines, which have commensurable squares.

1557 RECORDER *Whetst.* Ppiv. The numbers that be compounded with +, be called *Bimedialles*. And if the *Bimedialles* have all their numbers and partes of one denomination, then bee they called only by their general name *Bimedialles*. But if their partes be of 2 denominations, then are they named *Bimedialles* properly. Howbeit, many vse to call *Bimedialles* all compounde numbers that have +.

1570 BILLINGSLEY *Euclid* x. lxvii. 278 A line commensurable in length to a *bimediall* line, is also a *bimediall* lyne and of the selfe same order. 1797 CHAMBERS *Cycl.* s.v. *Bimedial*. When two medial lines, as AB and BC, commensurable only in power, and containing a rational rectangle, are compounded; the whole AC shall be irrational, and is called a first *bimedial* line. [See in later Encycl.]

† **Bimeiden**, *v. Obs. rare*—*l.* [f. bi-, Bz- + ME. *melden*—OE. *meldian* to indicate, inform against, betray. Cf. Ger. *bemelden*.] *trans.* To inform against, betray.

a 1300 *Sirix* 37 (Mätz.) Bote on that thou me nout bimeide, Ne make the wroth, Min hernde willi to the bede.

† **Bimeñ**, *Obs. rare*—*l.* [ME.: f. *bimenen* = BEMOAN.] A complaint, a lament.

c 1250 *Gen. & Ex.* 2894 [He] to god made hise bimen.

† **Bimēnsal**, *a. Obs.*—*o.* [f. Bi-*pref*² + L. *mensis* month.] 'During the space of two moneths.' Bullokar 1676.

† **Bimensical**, 'Two moneths space.' Cockeram.

Bimeridian (bi-mē-rī-dī-āl), *a.* [f. Bi-*pref*² + 4, 6 + MERIDIAN.] Belonging to, or recurring at, midday and midnight.

1869 PHILLIPS *Vesuv.* vi. 169 Before accepting as probable bimeridian influences.

Bimestrial (bi-mē-strī-āl), *a.* [f. L. *bimestris* (f. bi- two + *mensis* month) + -AL.] Of two months' duration; occurring every two months.

1846 WORCESTER cites *Q. Rev.* 1870 LOWELL *Among my Bks.* Ser. II. (1873) 11 An office which the Florentines had made bimestrial in its tenure.

Bimetallic (bi-mē-tāl-ik), *a.* [ad. F. *bimétallique*, f. bi- two, twice, double + *métallique* METALLIC: used for the nonce by M. Cernuschi in addressing the Soc. of Pol. Econ. in Paris, on Jan. 5, 1869; and in its Eng. form in his paper, 'Silver Vindicated,' read before the Social Sc. Assoc. at Liverpool in 1876, after which it was universally adopted as the proper word for the system in VOL. I.

question.] Of, pertaining to, or using a 'double standard' of currency, i. e. one based upon the two metals gold and silver, in opposition to a monometallic currency based upon gold or silver alone.

1876 (title) 'La Monnaie bimétallique,' par Henri Cernuschi, Paris—Eng. *Transl.* 'Bi-metallic Money and its bearing on Monetary Crises in Germany, France, England and the United States.' 1876 S. WILLIAMSON *Let. S. Smith* 19 We may find no satisfactory adjustment... without adopting a dual or bimetallic standard. 1877 S. HORTON *Silver & Gold* 149 The relative amounts of the stock of Bi-metallic countries and of Mono-metallic countries. 1879 H. H. GIBBS *Silver & Gold* 33 In point of fact the world is already bimetallic; but it is an unregulated and haphazard bimetallicism which prevails among us.

Bimetallicism (bi-mē-tāl-iz'm), [f. as prec. + -ISM.] The system of allowing the unrestricted currency of two metals (e. g. gold and silver) at a fixed ratio to each other, as coined money.

1876 H. CERNUSCHI *Silver Vind.* 9 The Anglo Indian Exchange, thanks to French bi-metallicism, would still be at its old level. 1881 *Times* 7 May, If bimetallicism be adopted, the ratio of gold and silver apparently should be 1 to 15½.

Bimetallist, *sb.* [— + -IST.] An advocate or supporter of bimetallicism. Also *attrib.* or as *adj.*

1879 *Sat. Rev.* 20 Sept. 355 Mr. Gibbs and all reasonable bi-metallicists admit this. 1885 D. BARBOUR *Bimetallicism* Intro. 12 The bimetallicists... advocate a system of currency which has the advantage of rendering the market ratio of gold and silver nearly constant.

Bimillenary (bi-mi-lī-nā-rī), [f. Bi-*pref*² II + MILLENNARY, f. L. *millennarius* containing a thousand.] Properly (like *millenary*) an *adj.*, meaning: Of or pertaining to two thousand, two thousand strong; but taken to express: A space of two thousand years (for which *bimillennium* or some derivative of it would be the proper term).

1850 J. H. NEWMAN *Diffic. Anglic.* 130 To testify the very truth of revelation to a fallen generation, or rather to almost a bi-millenary, which has been in unintermittent traditional error.

Bimodulus (bi-mō-dū-lūs), *Math.* [f. Bi-*pref*² II + MODULUS.] The double of the modulus of a system of logarithms. **Bimodular** *a.*, of or pertaining to the bimodulus.

1881 *Nature* XXIII. 379 A bimodular method is one founded on the familiar proposition, that if the bimodulus... be multiplied by the difference and divided by the sum of two numbers, the result would be approximately the difference of their logarithms. 1881 *Athenaeum* 12 Feb. 237/2 An Improved Bimodular Method.

† **Bimong, bymong**, *prep. Obs.* [A parallel form to AMONG, IMONG; f. bi, be, By *prep.* + mong, aphetic f. IMONG, OE. *gemang* 'mingling, concourse, crowd.'] Among.

a 1225 *Anscr.* R. 108 Pu ueir bimong wummen. a 1225 *St. Mark.* 1 Bimong worldliche men. c 1300 in Wright *Lyric P.* ix. 35 Baloyng mengeth al by-mong.

Bimonthly, Bimascular: see Bi-*pref*² 4, 1.

Bin (bin), *sb.* Forms: 1 *binne*, 2-3 *binne*, 4-6 *bynne*, *byn*, 5-7 *bene*, 7-8 *bin*, 1- *bin*. [OE. *binne* (str. fem. 'manger, crib, hutch, bin'. In later times a good deal confused with BING.]

Francq compares Du. *beun*, MDu. *binne* fem. 'fish-cauf.' Others would refer OE. *binne* directly to late L. *binna*, applied to various vessels or receptacles, among others to a 'hamper' and a 'vivarium' for fish, and apparently identical with *binna*, given by Festus as a Gaulish name for a kind of vehicle (cf. Welsh *ben* 'cart, wagon'), inferred to have been a wicker- or basket-cart, which sense, with that of 'panier for pack-horse', 'large creel', etc., is preserved in It. *binna* wicker-work sleigh, dung-cart, f. *binne* 'grape-gatherer's creel, fish-cauf, basket-cart for charcoal', *binne* panier, basket-cart (also mod. G. *binne*, Du. *binne*, *ben*, large basket, adopted from Fr., It., or med. L.). IF Oceltic *binna* orig. meant a wicker-work panier (with or without wheels), a root **ben-*, **bun-* to twist, plait, may as Franch suggests have been common to Celtic and Teutonic. (See Diez, Du. *Cange binna*, in Littré, Scheler *binne*, in Franch *ben*, *beun*.)

1. gen. A receptacle (orig. of wicker- or basket-work): still used dialectally and technically in the most diverse senses, as seen in the following quotations.

1570 LEVINS *Manif.*, A Binne, *scrinium vimineum*. 1676 WORLIDGE *Cider* (1691) 101 The boards that descend from the hopper or bin. 1767 W. MARSHALL *Rural Econ. E. Norf.* (E. D. S.) *Bins*, applied provincially to the receptacles of straw in a farm-yard; cow-cribs. 1803 J. SIBBALD *Chron. Sc. Poetry Gloss.* (JAM.) *Binne*, a temporary inclosure or repository made of boards, twigs, or straw-ropes for containing grain or such like. 1863 MORTON *Cycl. Agric.*, *Bin* or *Bing*, a space in a barn partitioned off at the side: also a wooden receptacle of any kind.

The following are the chief specific uses:

† 2. The receptacle in a stable for the provender of the beasts; the manger or crib; loosely (?) a stall. *Obs. exc. ? dial.*

c 950 *Lindisf. Gosp.* Luke ii. 7, And eft gebez hine in binnæ [Rushw., *Ag.*, & *Hutton G. binne*]. 971 *Blickl. Hom.* 11 Arweorþian we Crist on binne asetene. a 1000 ÆLFRIC *Collog.* Q. 8 Ic sceal syllan binnan oxan mid hig. c 1305 *Leg. Rood* (1871) 145 Beestes gan Belwe in eueri binne. a 1400 *Cov. Myst.* 159 In a bestys bynne Bestad in a stalle. c 1425 *Leg. Rood* 211 God was borne with beest in bynne.

3. A receptacle for holding corn, meal, bread, fruit, and other articles of consumption; a hutch. Also, in later use, for dust (*dust-bin*), coal, or other things requiring storage for a time.

c 1386 CROUCHER *Prolog.* 595 Wel cowde he kepe a gerner and a bynne. 1481-90 HOWARD *Househ. Bks.* 407 A pece of tymbr for the bene in the pantry iij d. 1580 BARET *Adv.* B 700 A Binne or place to put bread in. 1648 HERRICK *Poems* (1869) 267 A little bin best fits a little bread. a 1688 SIR T. BROWNE *Tracts* 43 They put up their corn in granaries and bins. 1695 KENNETT *Par. Antig.* Gloss. s.v. *Abunda*, *Bin*, or *Bing*, a Safe, an Aumbry or Cupboard in a Buttery or Larder. 1871 J. WALSH ('Stonehenge') *Horse* xiii. (1877) 193 A bin for oats, beans, and chaff.

4. A partitioned case or stand for storing bottles in a wine-cellar; *transf.* wine from a particular bin. Also *attrib.*

1758 T. WARTON in *Idler* No. 33 ¶ 5 To remove the five-year-old Port into the new bin on the left hand. 1808 KIRBY & SP. *Entomol.* III. xxix. 80 Piled on their sides like bottles of wine in a bin. 1864 TENNYSON *Aylmer's F.* 405 His richest beeswing from a bin reserved For banquets. 1872 LEVER *Ld. Kilgobbin* lxix. 380 He tasted that 'bin.'

b. in a forcing-house for plants.

1861 DELAMER *Kitch. Gard.* 104 Though less convenient than the open bins, it is a good plan for economizing space.

5. A large receptacle used in hop-picking. (Cf. Fr. *binne* 'hotte a l'usage de vendangeurs'.)

1737 MILLER *Gard. Dict.* s.v. *Lupulus*, A long square Frame of Wood call'd a Binn, with a Cloth hanging on Tenter-hooks within it, to receive the Hops. 1880 *Times* 10 Sept. 9/5 Merry parties of pickers round the bins. 1883 J. STRATTON *Hops & Hop-pick.* 20 The hops are picked into bins or baskets.

¶ By confusion of spelling = BING.

1695 KENNETT *Par. Antig.* Gloss. s.v. *Abunda*, A Binne of hides or skins is in some countries a quantity for common sale, consisting of thirty three skins or hides.

Bin, *v.* [f. prec. sb.] *trans.* To stow in a bin.

1841 MARRVAT *Poacher* xxxviii. You may bottle and bin it here. 1844 R. E. WARBURTON *Hunt. Songs*, Sawyer v, We binn'd him like a bottle of old Sherry in sawdust.

† **Bin, binne**, *adv. and prep. Obs.* Forms: 1 *binnan*, (*north*, *binna*, *blonna*), 2-3 *binnen*, 2 *binnon*, 3 *binnenn*, 2-4 *binne*, 4-5 *bynne*, 5 *byn*. [Com. WGer.: OE. *binnan*, *binna* = OFris. *binna*, OS. **binnan* (MDu., Du. *binnen*), OHG. *binna*, *binnān* (MHG., mod. G. *binnen*):—**bi-*innana, f. bi-, Bz- of position + OTeut. **innana* (in Goth. and OHG.) within, from within, f. *in* prep. + -ana advb. suffix. Both adv. and prep.: the latter in OE. with dat. and acc. motion. (Cf. BEN.)]

A. *adv.* Within, inside. Hence † *binward adv.* c 950 *Lindisf. G. Matt.* xxxiii. 25 Binna fulle sint nednima [Rushw. *binne*, *Ag.* G. *innan*]. — *John* xx. 26 Ueeron ðegnas his binna [Rushw. *binna*]. 1123 O. E. *Chron.* (Laud MS.) an. 1122 Ealle þa gersumes þe þær binnen wæron. c 1205 LAY. 5920 Binnen heo i-wenden. c 1325 E. E. *Allit.* P. B. 452 Þat þe burne bynne lorde byhælde þe bare erpe. c 1425 *Seven Sag.* (P.) 3058 He lokyd both forth and bynne.

B. *prep.* 1. Within, inside of; in, into. c 1000 *Ag.* *Gosp.* John xi. 30 Ne com se hælend binnan þa ceastre. c 1175 *Cott. Hom.* 225 Þa þe binnon þane arce were. a 1250 *Prov. Alfred* 24 in O. E. *Misc.* 133 Swich mon mai. ofte binnon þine burie bliþe wenden.

2. Of time: Within, in the course of, during. c 1000 *Ag.* *Gosp.* John ii. 19 Ic hit arære binnan þrym dagum. c 1175 *Cott. Hom.* 235 Eft bine fece and þes lare and laze swide acodele. c 1250 *Gen. & Ex.* 1731 Ten sibbes ðus binnon. vi. 3er. c 1400 *Yvaine & Gaw.* 1214 Byn this fowtenyght.

Bin, *obs. and dial. form of been*, pa. pple. etc. of Bz *v.*, and *obs. f. BEN*, peak.

Bin, *pref.*, treated as a euphonic form of Bi-*pref*², used before vowels. Not found in L.: it seems to have originated in Fr. with the word *binocle*, which was probably formed from L. *bin*i two together, a pair of (*boves bini* a pair of oxen yoked together). From *binocle*, *binocular*, *bin-* has been extended in English to other words, esp. chemical compounds (see Bi-*pref*² III) as *binacetate*, *biniodide*, *binoxalate*, *binoxide* (for which Fr. has *bioxyde*). The phonetic analogy of a-*an*, co-*con-*, has probably influenced this Eng. use.

1808 WOLLASTON in *Phil. Trans.* XCVIII. 100 The common binoxalate, or salt of sorrel. 1810 HENRY *Elem. Chem.* (1826) II. 107 Binacetate of copper. c 1860 FARADAY *Forces* Nat. iii. 3. 195 note, Binoxide of nitrogen. c 1865 J. WYLD in *Circ. Sc.* I. 375/1 The proto-, and biniodide.

Binacid (binæ-sid), *a. ? Obs.* = BIACID.

1808 WOLLASTON in *Phil. Trans.* XCVIII. 99 Examples of binacid salts.

Binacle, *obs. form of PINNACLE.*

c 1325 *Coer de L.* 4150 Thomas, another stone i-slong To Ser Mahouns habitacle, And smot out a gret binacle.

Binacle, *obs. form of BINNACLE.*

Binal (bi-nāl), *a.* [mod. L. *binālis* twin, f. L. *bin-i* two together, a pair: see -AL.] Twin, double, twofold.

1658 FORD *Witch Edmond.* iii. ii. Wks. (1811) 457, I have 'em already... Binal revenge, all this. 1806 W. HERSCHEL in *Phil. Trans.* XCVI. 227 Periodical binal revolution of stars about a common centre of gravity.

Binam, *obs. pa. t. of BENIM.*

† **Binarchy**, *Obs.*—*o.* [a. F. *binarchie* (Cotgr.), f. L. *bin-i* twin + -archie, ultimately Gr. -*apxia* rule: form influenced by *monarchie*.] = BIARCHY.

1656 in BLOUNT *Glossogr.* 1678-96 in PHILLIPS.

† **Binarious**, *a. Obs.*—*o.* = BINARY.

1656 in BLOUNT *Glossogr.* 1721 in BAILEY, etc.

Binarium: see **BINARY** *sb.*

Binary (bainəri), *a.* and *sb.* [ad. *L. bināri-us*, *f. binī* two together.]

A. adj. Of, pertaining to, characterized by, or compounded of, two; dual: *a. gen.* **Binary system** (of classification): one by which each group and sub-group is perpetually divided into two, the one with a positive and the other with a negative character, till individuals (or genera) are reached.

1766 CROKER, etc. *Compl. Dict.*, The cubitus... is composed of a binary number of bones. 1835 W. SWAINSON *Geogr. & Class. Anim.* § 250 Binary or dichotomous systems, although regulated by a principle, are among the most artificial arrangements that have ever been invented. 1885 J. LECKY in *Proc. Philol. Soc.* 19 Dec., A stress-group might have a ternary effect when only containing two syllables, and a binary effect when containing three.

b. in **Music**. **Binary measure**: that which has two beats to a bar. **Binary form**: the form of a movement which is founded on two principal themes or subjects.

1597 MORLEY *Introd. Mus.* Annot., That circle... with the binary cipher following it, signified the lesse moode perfect, and time vnperfect. 1609 DOULAND *Ornithop. Micro.* 50 The Song is... [to] end in a Binary measure. 1788 BURNEY *Hist. Mus.* II. v. 454 All measure was then, as at present, reducible to two standards of proportion, the Ternary and Binary, or perfect and imperfect, which we now call Triple and Common Time. 1875 OUSELEY *Mus. Forms* 70 Handel's longer airs are written in... the ancient binary form.

c. in **Astron.** **Binary stars or system**: two stars or suns, one of which revolves round the other, or both of which revolve round a common centre.

1802 W. HERSCHEL in *Phil. Trans.* XCII. 481 The binary sidereal system which we are now to consider. 1878 LOCKYER *Star-gas* xxiv, The binary stars, those compound bodies, those suns revolving round each other.

d. in **Chem.** and **Min.** **Binary compound**: one consisting of two elements. **Binary theory**: that which considers all acids as compounds of hydrogen with a radicle simple or compound (as H + Cl, H + NO₂), and all salts as similar compounds with a metal replacing hydrogen (as K + Cl, K + NO₂).

1812 SIR H. DAVY *Chem. Philos.* Pref. 12 Acidiferous substances... and their binary combinations with oxygene. 1833 LYELL *Princ. Geol.* III. 365 Mica-schist... is a binary compound of quartz and mica. 1863 WATTS *Dict. Chem.* I. 42 In 1816 Dulong proposed the theory, since known as the binary or hydrogen-theory of acids.

e. in **Crystallog.** (See *quot.*)

1816 R. JAMESON *Char. Min.* (1817) 216 A crystal is named binary, bibrinary, tribinary, when it experiences one, two, or three decrements by two rows.

f. in **Math.** **Binary arithmetic**: a method of computation in which the binary scale is used, suggested by Leibnitz. **Binary scale**: the scale of notation whose ratio is 2, in which, therefore, 1 of the ordinary (denary) scale is expressed by 1, 2 by 10, 3 by 11, 4 by 100, etc. **Binary logarithms**: a system invented by Euler for use in musical calculations, in which 1 is the logarithm of 2, and the modulus is 1.442695.

B. sb.

1. A combination of two things; a couple, pair, 'two'; duality. ? *Obs.*

1460 CAPGRAVE *Chron.* 3 Make eke three binaries. As for the first, think that ye be mad of to natures—body and soule. a 1619 FOTHERBY *Atheom.* II. x. § 4 (1622) 307 If you desire to make Two, or a Binary. [1667 BACON *Sylva* § 608 This same Binarium of a Stronger and a Weaker... doth hold in all Living Bodies.] 1788 BURNEY *Hist. Mus.* I. 65 The Alpha, or unit... and the Beta, or binary. 1837 FRASER'S *Mag.* XVI. 405 The invariable opposition... of the binaries of boats and Anubises.

2. **Astron.** A binary star or system. Cf. *A. c.* 1868 LOCKYER *Heavens* 351 The elliptical or oval form of this binary [§ in *Ursa Major*]. 1882 *Athenæum* 27 May 670/1 Binaries, or stars known to be physically double.

Binatē (bainet), *a.* [ad. mod. *L. bināt-us* (cf. *late L. combinātus*), *f. L. binī*: see **BINAL**.] Arranged in couples. **Binatēly** *adv.*, in pairs.

1807 J. E. SMITH *Bot.* 176 *Binatum*, binate, is a fingered leaf consisting of only two leaflets, as in *Zygophyllum*. 1857 BERKELEY *Cryptog. Bot.* § 119. 147 The binate ramification. 1870 HOOKER *Stud. Flora* 4 Leaves binately pinnate.

Binaural (binōrāl), *a.* [*f. BIN-* (or *L. binī* two by two) + *AURAL*, *f. L. auris* ear.] Of or pertaining to one's two ears; used with both ears, as the *binaural stethoscope*.

1881 LE CONTE *Light* 265 A kind of binaural audition, by means of which we judge imperfectly of direction of sound. 1881 *Nature* XXV. 208.

Bind (baind), *v.* *Pa. t.* and *pple.* **bound** (baund). **Forms**: 1 *bind-an*, 2-4 *bind-en*, 2-7 *binde*, (3-6 *bynd(e)*, 4 *bynd-en*, 5 *-yn*), 3- *bind*. *Pa. t. sing.* 1-6 *band*, 1-5 *bond*, (3-5 *bonde*, 4-5 *boond(e)*, 4-6 *bande*, *bounde*), 5- *bound*, (7 *bind*; *Sc. band*, *ban'*); *pl.* 1 *bundon*, 2-3 *-en*, 3- *-o*, 3-4 *bounden*, (4-5 *bonde(n)*, 5- *bound*, *north*, 4-5 *bande*, 5- *band*, *ban'*). *Pa. pple.* 1-4 *bunden*, (1-2 *gebunden*, 2-3 *ibunden*, 3-4 *ibounden*, 4 *ybounde(n)*, 6 *ybound*), 4- *bounden*, 4-6 *bounde*, 5- *bound*, (also 3-4 *bonden*, 4- *-in*, *boundoun*, 4-5 *bonde*, *-yn*,

boundon, *-yn*, 4-6 *bownde(n)*, 5 *bowndene*, *-yn*), 6- *-on*, 7 *bind*; *north*. 4-6 *bundin*, 5 *-yn*, *bwndyn*, 6-7 *bund*, 5- *bun*). [Com. Teut.: OE. *bindan*, *pa. t. band* (*bōnd*), *pl. bundon*, *pple. bunden* = OS. *bindan* (MDu., Du. *binden*), OFris., ON. *binda* (Sw. *binda*, Da. *binde*), OHG. *bindan* (MHG., mod. G. *binden*), Goth. *bindan*, *pa. t. band*, *bundum*, *pple. bundans*; cogn. with Skr. *bandh*:—Aryan **bhēndh* to bind. As in other words with *-nd*, the originally short vowels of *bind*, *bunden* (still retained in the north. dial., as in the cognate langs.) have been lengthened and diphthongized in midl. and south. Eng. The north. dial. also retains the original past form *band* (which it has extended to the *pl.*), while in the standard speech *band* was supplanted already in the 15th c. by *bound*, proper to the *pl.* and to the *pa. pple.*] **General sense**: To make fast with a band or bond.

I. To tie fast.

1. trans. To make fast with a tie; to fasten, tie up. [c 1000 ÆLFRIC *Gen.* xlii. 24 He... nam Simeon and band hine beforan him.] c 1250 *Gen. & Ex.* 2216 Do breðere seckes hauen he fild. And bunden ðe muðes. a 1300 *Cursor M.* 15871 His hend þai band and ledð him forth. 1535 COVERDALE *Gen.* xxii. 9 Abraham... bande his sonne Isaac, layed him on the altare. 1562 J. HEYWOOD *Prov. & Epigr.* (1867) 7 Fast binde fast finde. 1804 ABERNETHY *Surg. Observ.* I. 215 The fascia, which binds it down in its situation. 1855 THACKERAY *Rose & Ring* xvii, They... bound his legs tight under his horse.

b. To tie fast to (*on*, *upon*). 1205 LAY. 16684 Samuel... lette hine swiðe sterke to a ne stake binde [1250 *bynde*]. 1480 CAXTON *Chron. Eng.* xcvi. 75 They... take peeces of tunder and of fire, and bonde it to the sparres fete. 1611 BIBLE *Deut.* vi. 8 Thou shalt bind them for a seal upon thine hand.

c. *fig.* 1382 WYCLIF *Prov.* vi. 21 Bind hem bisili in thin herte. 1563 *Mirr. Mag.* Induct. xxxviii, To this poore life was Miserie ybound. 1620 HEALEY *St. Aug. City of God* 438 To binde incomprehensible effectes to the lawes of nature. 1700 OZELL *Verul's Rom. Rep.* II. xiv. 328 To bind Cæsar faster to their Interest. 1810 SCOTT *Lady of L.* II. xxx, Distrust, and grief, Will bind to us each Western Chief. 1866 *Ecce Homo* xiv. (ed. 4) 166 To bind men to their kind.

d. *esp.* said of spiritual or ecclesiastical binding. (In reference to Matt. xvi. 19.)

c 975 *Rukhu. Gosp.* Matt. xvi. 19 Swa hwæt swa þu bindes on eorðan gebunde biðon and in heofonum. c 1200 *Trin. Coll. Hom.* 65 Al þat prest bindeð soðlice buð ibunden. a 1340 HAMPOLE *Pr. Cons.* 13850 'Alle þat þou byndes in erthe', says he, 'Sal in heven bunden be.' 1340 *Ayeneb.* 172 He seel zeche zuch ane confessor bet conne bynde and onbynde. c 1400 *Apol. Loll.* 28 If ilk prest mai vse þe key... to assoile him, or ellis to bind him fro grace. 1611 BIBLE *Matt.* xvi. 19 Whatsoever thou shalt bind on earth, shall be bound in heauen.

¶ See also **Branch IV.**

2. esp. To make fast (any one) with bonds or fetters; to deprive of personal liberty, make a captive or prisoner.

971 *Blickl. Hom.* 23 Hie hine swungon, & bundon, & spætleðdon on his onsyne. c 1200 *Trin. Coll. Hom.* 23 He ferde in to helle and... bond þe deul. 1382 WYCLIF *Jer.* xxxix. 7 He... bond [1388 *bound*] hym in gyues. — *Matt.* xiv. 3 Forsothe Eroude helde Joon, & bounde hym, & putte him in to prisoun. 1535 COVERDALE *Isa.* lxi. 1 Y! I might... open the prison to them that are bounde. 1697 *Dryden Virg. Georg.* iv. 574 Surprize him first, and with hard Fetters bind. 1742 POPE *Dunciad* iv. 32 Too mad for mere material chains to bind. 1875 JOWETT *Plato* (ed. 2) I. 318 My father bound him hand and foot and threw him into a ditch.

b. fig. Said of sickness, sin, passion, affection, intellectual embarrassment, a magic spell, etc.

[c 1000 *Ag. Gosp.* Luke xiii. 16 þas abrahamas dohtor þe satanas geband nu eahtayne gear.] c 1200 *Trin. Coll. Hom.* 63 Pennie bie we bunden of widerfulnessse. a 1225 *Ankr. R.* 408 Luue bint so ure Louerd. 1382 WYCLIF *Luke* xiii. 16. c 1400 *Destr. Troy* xxiii. 954 Achilles... lay in his loge all with loue boundon. c 1450 *York Bid. Prayer in Layfolks Mass Bk.* 70 We sall pray... for all þaes þat er bun in dette or in dedely syn. 1634 CANNE *Necess. Separ.* (1849) 174 The magistrate (say they)... hath no power to bind the conscience. 1853 LYTON *My Novel* viii. ii, The magician will release the fair spirit he has bound to his will.

¶ See also **Branch IV.**

II. To tie about, bandage, gird, encircle.

3. To tie (a knot *obs.*); hence *fig.* to conclude (a story *obs.*, a bargain or agreement), to make (any contract) fast or sure. † To bind an end (*Naut.*): to finish up (*obs.*).

a 1300 *Sarmun* 53 in *E. E. P.* (1862) 6 þe last word bint be tale. c 1300 *Sir Tristr.* i. v, A forward fast thai bond. c 1375 BARBOUR *Bruce* x. 825 That cunnand band thai sekirly. 1567 *Declar. Lordis Quarrel* (Daltzell) II. 274 Syne with his Burrio band ane new mariage. 1591 SHAKS. 1 *Hen. VI.* v. 1. 16 The sooner to effect. And surer binde this knot of amitie. a 1649 DRUMM. or HAWTH. *Hist. Scot.* (1655) 7 None of the Subjects should bind up a league together. 1677 *Act Frauds* xvii, Give something in earnest to bind the bargain. 1883 T. HARDY in *Longm. Mag.* July 259 A shilling is passed to bind the bargain.

4. To hinder the natural flux of the bowels, to make costive. *J.* Cf. *to confine*.

[c 1050 *Ag. Gloss.* in *W. Wülcker Voc.* 342 *Astringentes*, *gebundene*.] 1597 GERARD *Herbal* i. xxix. § 2. 40 It heateth moderately and bindeth. 1656 BACON *Sylva* § 19

Rubarb hath manifestly in it... parts that bind the body. 1683 SALMON *Lond. Disp.* i. i. (1702) 11/1 Hyacinthi... bind the Belly. 1815 *Encycl. Brit.* (ed. 5) IV. 197/1 The fruit [Medlar-tree]... is somewhat austere, and binds the bowels.

5. To bandage (the body, etc. with something); to put a bandage on (any part of the body); to 'swaddle' a child, to 'wind' a corpse.

c 1000 *Ag. Gosp.* John xi. 44 Hys nebb was mid swat-line gebunden. c 1175 *Lamb. Hom.* 121 Summe þer weren þet his eȝan bundan. a 1300 *Cursor M.* 11236 Wit suilk [clathes] sco suedeld him and band. 1382 WYCLIF *John* xix. 40 Thei token the body of Jhesu, and bounden it in linnen clothis. 1694 SALMON *Latrica* i. v. 284/1 To bind her Belly with a large swathing-band. 1837 *Penny Mag.* No. 335 A schöppe... bound his eyes and led him to where the court was sitting. 1838 S. COOPER *Surg. Dict.* 691 This graduated compress is then to be bound on the part with a roller.

6. 'To cover a wound with dressings and bandages.' *J.* Usually with *up*.

c 1175 *Lamb. Hom.* 79 An helendis Mon... bond his wundon. 1377 LAMBL. *Pl. B.* xvii. 70 [The Samaritan] embawnded hym and bonde his hed. 1382 WYCLIF *Luke* x. 34 He comyng nyȝ bond to gidere his woundis. 1490 CAXTON *Eneydos* li. 145 He made his thye to be dressed and bounden vp. 1568 BIBLE (Bishops') *Hosea* vi. 1 Hee hath wounded vs, and hee will binde vs vp. 1594 SHAKS. *Rich. III.* v. iii. 177 Giue me another Horse, bind vp my Wounds. 1766 T. JEFFERSON *Corr.* (1830) 50 Who can so softly bind up the wound? 1836 CRABBE *Eng. Synon.* 161/2 A wounded leg is bound but not tied; a string is tied but not bound.

7. To fasten round, to gird, encircle, wreath (the head, etc. with something; something about, round the head, etc.).

c 1000 ÆLFRIC *Leo.* viii, And band his heafod mid clape. c 1386 CHAUCEER *Reveres T.* 33 Hys tyyet y-bounde aboute his heed. 1554 HULOET, *Bynde* vp, as a woman doth her heade. 1594 SHAKS. *Rich. III.* iv. iv. 333 Bound with Triumphant Garlands will I come. 1607 — *Cor.* i. iii. 16 His browes bound with Oake. 1697 *Dryden Virg. Past.* viii. 89 Bind those Altars round With Fillets. 1704 POPE *Windsor For.* 178 A belt her waist, a fillet binds her hair. 1870 TENNYSON *Holy Grail* 159, 1, maiden, round thee, maiden, bind my belt.

8. To secure with a border or edging of some strengthening material, as a box or jewel with metal, a garment with braid, etc.; also *fig.*

c 1380 WYCLIF *Wks.* (1880) 349 Hem failen charite to bynde her schelde in ordre. 1454 *Inv. Dk. Suffolk in Dom. Archit.* III. 113 A gret standard of the chapel bounde with ierne. 1535 COVERDALE *Ecclus.* xlv. 11 A golde... set with costly precious stones, all bounde with worke. 1667 MILTON *P. L.* xi. 881 A flowrie verge to binde The fluid skirts of that same watrie Cloud. 1682 *Dryden Mac Fl.* 64 Close to the walls which fair Augusta bind. 1808 R. PORTER *Trav. St. Russ. & Swed.* ii. (1813) 1. 17 A sort of low beef-eater had bound with yellow. *Mod.* Silk binding to bind coats and vests.

III. To tie together, to unite.

9. To tie (a number of things) so as to hold them together, or to form them into a single mass; *esp.* to tie up (sheaves of corn).

c 1000 *Ag. Gosp.* Matt. xiii. 30 Gadriað ærest þonne coccel, and bindað sceafmælum. a 1225 *Ankr. R.* 254 Heo schulen beon ibunden togederes. 1382 WYCLIF *Matt.* xiii. 30 Gedre ȝee to gedre dernelles, and byndeth hem to gidre in knytechis [1611 binde them in bundels] for to be brent. 1580 BARET *Atv.* B 686 To binde with osiers or twigs, as hoopers do. 1611 BIBLE *Ps.* cxxix. 7 Hee that bindeth sheaves. 1632 MILTON *Allegro* 87 Her bow'r she leaves, With Thestylis to bind the sheaves. 1750 FRANKLIN *Wks.* (1840) 238 Bind the pieces of glass together from end to end with strong silk thread. a 1832 CRABBE *Posth. Tales* Wks. 1834 VIII. 162 What time the reaper binds the burden'd sheaf. 1865 O. W. HOLMES *Elsie V.* xxviii, Old Sophy... bound up her long hair for her sleep.

absol. 1770 A. YOUNG *Towr N. Eng.* I. 189 A man follows every two scythes to bind.

b. fig.

1568 BIBLE (Bishops') 1 *Sam.* xxv. 29 The soule of my lorde shal be bounde in the bundel of the liuing. 1697 *Dryden Virg. Past.* iv. 20 The jarring Nations he in peace shall bind. 1765 T. JEFFERSON *Corr.* (1830) 417 Friendships which had bound their ancestors together. c 1854 STANLEY *Sinai & Pal.* ii. (1858) 116 The situation of Palestine is remarkably bound up with its future destinies.

10. To cement (particles) together, or cause them to cohere in a firm mass.

a 1000 *Exon.* 78 a (Bosw.) Hrusan [*MS.* hruse] bindeþ wintres wóma. a 1300 *Cursor M.* 355 Þis elementz þat al thinges bindes Four er þai. c 1440 *Anc. Cookery in Househ. Ord.* (1790) 435 Qwhen the sawse is boundon to the felettes, then take hom out of the pot. c 1760 SMOLLETT *Blue cy'd Ann* 3 When Lybian sands are bound in frost. 1787 WINTER *Syst. Husb.* 218 Stiff and loamy soils, which become hardened and bound. 1871 RUSKIN *Fors. Clav.* II. xvi. 10 That rain and frost of heaven; and the earth which they loose and bind. *Mod.* To bind the loose sand.

b. intr. (for *refl.*) To stick together, cohere in a mass.

1674 GREW *Luctation* II. § 15 Their Alkaly binds in with some preternatural Acid in the Stomach. 1677 *Plot Ox-fordsh.* 240 Soiling it [chalk land] with the best mould... to keep it from binding. 1677 *Moxon Mech. Exerc.* (1703) 37 The Metall running closer to the Spindle binde on that place. 1709 STEELE *Tatler* No. 179 ¶ 8 A spacious Walk of the finest Gravel, made so to bind and unite so firmly. 1838 N. PATERSON *Mause Gard.* III. 210 The coarse [gravel], it is true does not bind.

c. intr. **Hawking.** To grapple or close with. 1575 TURBERV. *Falconry* 255 As diuers times it happeneth to the falcon... when they bind together in the ayre. 1615 G. SANDYS *Trav.* 76 Nothing flieth in the aire that they will not bind with. 1836 SEBRIGHT in 'Stonehenge' *Brd.*

Sports i. iv. l. 10 When one of the hawks seizes his prey, the other soon binds to him.

11. trans. To fasten together the sheets of (a book), and put it into a stiff cover. Technically 'binding' is covering with leather, vellum, or other durable material; though in ordinary language we say 'bound in cloth.' A book is *half-bound* when it has a leather back, and the sides covered with cloth or paper.

Ya 1400 Morte Arth. 3317 The sexte had a sawtere semliche boundene. *1509 Barclay Skyp of Polys* (1874) i. 20 I haue them [my books] in great reverence. Full goodly bounde in pleasaunt couerture. *1588 Marprel. Epist.* (Arb.) 34 That no Byble should be bounde without the Apocrypha. *1637 Decree Star-Chamb.* § 7 in *Milton's Areop.* (Arb.) 13 No person... shall bind, stitch, or put to sale, any such booke. *1797 Swift Further Acc. E. Curll Wks.* 1755 III. l. 156 He always binds in sheep. *1851 Longf. Gold. Leg.* II. 123 A huge tome, bound in brass and wild-boar's hide.

b. To bind up: i.e. together into one volume. *1650 R. Stapylton Strada's Low C. Warres* iv. 95 It is printed, and bound up with her life. *1688 GREW Anat. Plants* Ep. Ded., An Animal is... several Plants bound up into one volume. *1875 E. WHITE Life in Christ* II. xvi. (1878) 183 The fragment on Hades, formerly bound up with the works of Josephus.

12. Hedging. To interlace stakes with edder. *1553 FITZGER. Husb.* (1534) 54 Set thy stakes within ii. foote and a halfe together, excepte thou haue very good edderynge, and longe, to bynde with. *Ibid.* The better the stake will be dryen, when he is wel bounden.

13. trans. To fasten together or connect in various ways, as to harness a horse or chariot (*obs.*), to fasten parts of dress (*poetic*), to connect distant places (*rhet.*); and in various *fig.* uses.

1535 COVERDALE Eccles. vii. 8 Bynde not two synnes together. — *Ex.* xiv. 6 He bounde his charets fast (Wyclif, ioynded the chare). *1611 Bible Micah* i. 13 Bind the chariot to the swift beast. *1790 GAY Ep. T. Snow.* A sharpen'd skewer cross his bare shoulders bound A tattered rug. *1836 O. W. HOLMES Poems, My Aunt.* She strains the aching clasp That binds her virgin zone. *1855 MOTLEY Dutch Rep.* (1884) I. 3 To bind by watery highways with the furthest ends of the World, a country disinherited by nature of its rights. *1860 KEBLE Hymn 'The voice that,'* Thou didst bind two natures In Thine eternal bands.

IV. To restrain or unite by non-material bonds. (Closely connected with the *fig.* uses of 1, 2, from which these senses spring.)

14. To tie, restrain, confine, restrict by a non-material bond or force of any kind.

a 1300 Cursor M. 23748 We ar bunden vnder hair au. *1330 R. BRUNNE Chron.* 35 Pe Walsch men he band With homage and faute. *1606 SHAKS. Ant. & Cl.* II. ii. 90 When poysoned houres had bound me vp From mine owne knowledge. *1647 CAMPION Art Decant.* II. 27 No Tune... can have any grace or sweetness unless it be bounden within a proper Key. *1713 DERRHAM Phys. Theol.* VIII. ii. The great Contriver of Nature is not bound up to one Way only. *1836 MACAULAY in Trevelyan Life* (1876) II. vii. 14, I have no official business to bind me.

15. To tie (a person, oneself) up in respect to action; to oblige by a covenant, oath, promise or vow. Const. *to, from, an action, to do something.*

a 1225 Ancr. R. 6 Hwoa se... bihat hit God also heste to donne, heo bint hire bertu. *c 1374 CHAUCER Compl. Mars* 47 He bynt him to perpetual obeisance. *c 1440 York Myst.* xxxii. 217, I will me bynde to be your man. *1535 COVERD. Numb.* xxx. 2 Yf eny man... swears an oath, so that he binde his soule. *1651 HOBBS Leviath.* 71 A Covenant, if lawfull, binds in the sight of God, without the Oath. *1654 EARL ORRERY Parthenissa* (1676) 640 What I bind myself from now, I will abjure for ever for your sake. *1832 CHAMBERS Pol. Econ.* v. A landed proprietor may bind himself to a future payment, in a written deed.

† b. intr. (for *refl.*) To agree, pledge oneself. *c 1470 HENRY Wallace* vi. 927 Than bund thai thus; thar suld be no debat. *c 1817 HOGG Tales & Sk.* II. 215 He would voluntarily bind for it.

16. trans. To oblige or constrain with legal authority.

a 1663 Paston Lett. 473 II. 133 Your certificat... shall bynd any of the parties to sey the contrary. *1526 Pilgr. Perf.* (W. de W. 1531) 161 For the lawe of the churche... byndeth vs to syngre or saye our seruyce diligently. *1583 STANYHURST Aeneis* II. (Arb.) 48 What law can bynd mee, to be trew to so wycked a country? *1775 JOHNSON Tax. no Tyr.* 45 Whether the English laws could bind Ireland. *1849 MACAULAY Hist. Eng.* I. 375 Every parish was bound to repair the highways which passed through it.

17. To subject to a specific legal obligation.

a. To make (a person or estate) liable for the payment of a debt, or fulfilment of an obligation. Usually *passive*: To be made or become surety.

1462 Mann. & Housch. Exp. 149 My mastyre and Thomas Howe are boundyne... to my lord of Essex, lx. li. *1596 SHAKS. Merch. V.* i. iii. 5 For the which, as I told you, Antonio shall be bound. *1650 T. BAYLEY Worcester's Apoph.* 60 Offering to bind her estate for the repayment. *1797 Swift Wonder of W. Wks.* 1755 II. ii. 54 He has hardly one acquaintance, for whom he hath not been bound. *1773 MACKENZIE Man of World* II. ix. (1823) 476, I will become bound to make up all your losses.

b. To lay under obligation to answer or prosecute a charge (usually to *bind over to appear*, etc.), or *gen.* to perform a stated act or pursue a line of conduct.

1549 Bk. Com. Prayer, Matrim., Yf any man... will be bound, and sureties with him to the parties. *1592 GREENE Art Conny-catch.* II. 12 They were apprehended, and bound over to the Sessions at Westminster. *1648 FULLER Holy &*

Prof. St. iv. xii. 209 He is not to be bound to the peace. *c 1708 J. P. New Guide Constables* 106 Such Parents may be bound over... to answer their said default. *1837 DICKENS Pickw.* xiii. 109 The Mayor... declared he would... bind them over to keep the peace.

c. To bind one (over) to his good behaviour. lit. and *fig.*

1648 ROGERS Naaman 40 Till the Lord binde the soule to her good behaviour. *1644 MILTON Areop.* (Arb.) 79 It pretended to bind books to their good behaviour. *1760 Life of Cat* 108 Sufficient... to bind him down to his good behaviour. *1829 SOUTHEY Sir T. More* I. 142 The members would virtually be bound to their good behaviour. *1825 MACAULAY Hist. Eng.* III. 559 He thought it unjust... to bind him over to his good behaviour.

d. colloq. *I dare, or will be bound:* I undertake the responsibility of the statement, I feel certain.

1557 NORTH Guevara's Diall Pr. (1582) 399 b. I dare be bound... he shall not want infinit troubles. *1589 Theses Martiniana* Introd., Ille boe bounde hee shall not loose his labour. *1611 SHAKS. Cymb.* IV. iii. 18, I dare be bound hee's true. *1773 GOLDSM. Sloops to Conq.* v. ii, I'll be bound that no soul here can budge a foot to follow you. *1850 Mrs. STOWE Uncle Tom* xxviii, You've been stealing something, I'll be bound.

18. To be bound: to be under obligation, to have it as a duty, moral or legal, to do something.

c 1360 Deo Gratias in *E. E. P.* (1862) 125 To jonke and blesse hym we be bounde. *c 1386 CHAUCER Knts. T.* 291 Thou art ybounden... To helpen me. *1484 CAXTON Chyvalry* 15 So moche arte thou more bonde and bounden to be good. *1595 SHAKS. John* II. i. 522 That she is bound in honor still to do. *1607-12 BACON Counsel, Ess.* (Arb.) 318 Princes are not bound to communicate all matters. *1772 Junius Lett.* liv. 283, I am not bound to assign the motives of his hatred. *1852 McCulloch Taxation* II. i. 158 Government... is bound to treat all its subjects alike.

19. To engage or unite in matrimony.

1330 R. BRUNNE Chron. 40 He wild him bynd to som berde in boure. *1388 WYCLIF 1 Cor.* vii. 27 Thou art boundyn to a wyf. *1580 BARET Alv.* B 1027 Moreouer I am bounde to my wife. *1600 SHAKS. A. Y. L.* v. iv. 59 As marriage binds and blood breaks. *1807 CRABBE Par. Reg.* i. 338 To bind in law, the couple bound by love.

20. To indenture (any one) to a master, or to a trade, as an apprentice or learner; to apprentice. Sometimes with *out* or *over*.

c 1500 in Halliwell. Nuga P. 20 The preste that bounde me prentys. *1586 in Wadley's Bristol Wills* (1886) 251 Twenty shillings to John Stinchome yf he be bounde. *1604 Life T. Cromwell* I. ii. 80 Had I bound him to some honest trade. *a 1672 Wood Life* (1848) 89 note, Employing the yearly profits... in binding forth apprentices into other parishes. *1710 STEELE Tatler* No. 196 ¶ 3 (I) have bound him to a Shoemaker. *1845 STEPHEN Lavus Eng.* II. 230 Apprentices are usually bound out by their friends; though their own consent is essential. *1848 THACKERAY Van. Fair* II, Rebecca... was bound-over as an attached-pupil.

21. To attach to (a person) by ties of duty, gratitude, affection, etc.

1530 PALSGR. 362, I am bounden to no man. *1595 SHAKS. John* III. iii. 29, I am much bounden to your Maiesty. *1634 W. WOOD New Eng. Prosp.* Ded. Note, The good assurance of your native worth... hath so bound my thankful acknowledgement. *1688 Pepys Diary* VI. 147, I am infinitely bound to my friends... for their thoughts of me. *1765 BURKE Corr.* (1844) I. 71 The way in which you take up my affairs binds me to you in a manner I cannot express. *1828 SCOTT F. M. Perth* II. 181 Simon Glover, to whom the Fair City is so much bounden.

Bind (baind), *sb.* Also 4-6 bynde: see BINE. [*f. BIND v.*]

1. Anything used to bind or tie; a band or tie.

Our Lady's binds (*obs.*): confinement at childbirth. Cf. *BEND sb.* 1 d, *BAND sb.* 1 c. *a 1000 Cod. Dip.* (Kemble) VI. 133 (Bosw.), Hio an Ceol-drype hyre betsan bindan. *c 1400 Bidding Prayer in York Manual* (1874) App. 221 Wymmen bat bethe in oure lady byndes.

b. A connecting timber in a ship. *1803 Hull Advert.* 9 Apr. 2/1 The ship... had new binds and new top sides. *1833 RICHARDSON Merc. Mar. Arch.* 6 The best place for the upper bind is about 2 of the midship height.

c. Music. 'A curved line (also called *tie*) placed between two notes of the same degree, to denote the continuance of the sound, during the value of both, instead of the repercussion of the second note.' *Grove Dict. Mus.* 1880. Also applied by some to the BRACE or ACCOLADE.

1880 GROVE Dict. Mus. I. 242/2 The employment of the bind is a necessity whenever a sound is required to be of a duration which cannot be expressed by any single note.

2. A twining or climbing stem of a plant; a flexible shoot. *a. esp.* The climbing stem of the hop-plant. **b.** Used to name varieties of the hop, as *grey-bind, red-bind, white-bind*. Now *BINE*.

c 1325 E. E. Allit. P. C. 444 God... ded growe of bat soyle þe fayrest bynde... þat euer burne wyste. *c 1440 Prompt. Parv.* 36 Bynde, a twyste of a wyne. *1792 Gentl. Mag.* Apr. 343 Hop Stalks or Binds. *1815 Encycl. Brit.* III. 618 *Bind*, a country word for a stalk of hops. [See *BINE*.]

3. Hence, used as the name of certain climbing plants that wind round the stems of other plants or trees. **† a.** Honeysuckle or WOOD-BINE. **b.** = BINDWEED (*Convolvulus* and *Polygonum*).

c 1440 Prompt. Parv. 36 Bynde or Wode bynde, *corrigiola, vitella*. *1575 GASCOIGNE Wks.* (1587) 189 Tares and Byndes can pluck good grayne adowne. *1876 BRITTON & HOLLAND Plant-n.*, *Common Bind*, *Convolvulus* [wild].

4. Indurated clay, occurring between coal-strata. *1799 KIRWAN Geol. Ess.* 297 Indurated clay, which the miners commonly call clunch, and when much mixed with calx of iron, bind. *Ibid.* 301 Black shale, iron stone, shale, blue bind. *1844 H. HUTCHINSON Pract. Drainage* 173 Red clay and skerry or bine. *1864 Derby Merc.* 7 Dec., The fall of bind suddenly liberating a quantity of bad air.

b. A thin stratum of shale or stone.

1748 Phil. Trans. XLV. 126 The upper Pillars... lying between two Binds of Stone like Seams of Coal.

5. A measure of quantity in salmon and eels.

1477 Sc. Act. Jas. III. (1597) § 76 Of the bind of Salmond. *1487 Ibid.* § 131 The Barrell bind of Salmond sould... contain the assyse and mesour of fourteen gallonis. *1667 E. CHAMBERLAYNE St. Gt. Brit.* i. iii. ii. (1743) 154 Eels have 25 to the Strike; 10 Strikes to the Bind. *a 1728 KENNETT Gloss.* (MS. Lansd. 1033) A Bind of eels... consisted of ten sticks, and every stick of twenty five eels. [In mod. Dicts.]

6. Capacity, measure, limit, size. *Aboun my bind:* beyond my power. *Sc.* Cf. *BEND*.

1551 Acts Mar. xi. (JAM.) The wyld Guse of the greit bind, iis. *1560 ROLLAND Cri. Venus* i. 122 His hois they war... Of biggest bind. *1823 SCOTT St. Roman's* i, Their bind was just a Scots pint over-head, and a tappit-hen.

† Bindbalk. *Obs. rare.* A tie-beam.

c 1425 Voc. in Wr.-Wülcker Voc. 668 *Trapecula*, a bynd-balk.

† Bindcorn. *Herb. Obs.* [*f. BIND v. + CORN.*] Black or Corn Bindweed (*Polygonum Convolvulus*).

1577 HOLINSHED Chron. II. 16/2 It will bring forth weeds, bindcorne, cockle, darnell. *1580 BARET Alv.* B 1424 Renning Bucke, or binde corne... like vnto withwinde.

† Bind-days. *Obs.* Days on which tenants were bound to render stated unpaid service to their feudal lord; boon-days.

1664 SPELMAN Gloss., Precaria... vulgo bind dayes. *1706 PHILLIPS, 'Bind-Days.'* See *Precaria*.

† Binded, ppl. a. Obs. rare. [A weak pa. pple. of *BIND*.] Bound together, connected.

1650 J. GREGORY Notes & Obs. Pref. 7 That invisible Harmony and binded discord of the Parts.

Binder (baindər), [*f. BIND v. + -ER.*]

I. Of persons.

1. gen. One who binds. (See senses of the verb.) *a 1000 Riddles* (Gr.) xxviii. 6 Ic eom bindere and swingere. *a 1300 Havelok* 2050 Bynderes loue ich neuere mo. *c 1450 Gloss.* in *Wr.-Wülcker Voc.* 688 *Hic ligatur*, a bynder. *1651 HOBBS Govt. & Soc.* viii. § 4. 129 The binders supposes him that is bound not to be sufficiently tied by any other obligation. *1846 TRENCH Huls. Lect.* Ser. II. vi. 235 The true binder up of the bleeding hurts of humanity.

2. spec. a. A bookbinder.

1556 Chart. Stationers' Comp. in *Entick London* (1766) IV. 227 Any... printer, binder or seller of any manner of books. *1705 HEARNE Diary* (1885) I. 57 This was discovered by the binder. *1862 BURTON Bk.-hunter* i. 26 There are binders who have immortalized themselves.

b. One who binds sheaves behind the reapers. *1612 CHAPMAN Iliad* XVIII. (J.) Three binders stood, and took the handfult reapt From boys that gather'd quickly up. *1799 J. ROBERTSON Agric. Perth.* 159 One man follows the two binders, to stook the corn. *1870 BRYANT Iliad* XVIII. II. 226 Binders tied them fast With bands, and made them sheaves.

c. 'One who undertakes to keep a mine open.' *Weale Dict. Terms* 1849.

II. Of things.

3. Anything used to bind; a band, bandage, etc.; in *Med.*, a piece of calico or a special apparatus used in obstetric surgery.

1695 MOTTEUX St. Olon's Morocco 94 Nothing on their Heads but a single Veil or Binder. *1787 Mrs. TRIMMER Econ. Charity* 79 Plain linen caps, with binders herring-boned with coloured cruel. *1861 Year-bk. Med. & Surg.* 359 The use of the obstetric binder. *1868 Daily News* 3 Sept., The binder and wimple were placed on the head [of a nun]. *1885 Cheshire Gloss.* (E. D. S.), *Binders*, narrow strips of thick hempen cloth... put round cheeses... to prevent them bulging.

b. fig. (Cf. *f.*)

1621-31 LAUD Ser. Serm. (1847) 99 Justice and judgment is the greatest binder up of a State. *1667 Br. Halli Medit. & Vows* II. 29 Performance is a binder. *1643 CARL Sac. Court.* 5 A Covenant is a binder of affection.

4. A connecting piece that holds the several parts of any structure together; as, **a.** A long pliant with or branch used in fencing, etc. (cf. *BIND v.* 12); **b. Carpentry.** A tie-beam or binding joint; **c.** A principal part of a ship's frame, such as keel, transom, beam, etc.; **d.** A long stone that passes quite through a wall, and gives support to the smaller stones, a 'bond' stone.

1642 FULLER Holy & Prof. St. III. xxlii. 212 Though batchelours be the strongest stakes, married men are the best binders in the hedge of the Commonwealth. *1666 J. SMITH Old Age* (ed. 2) 207, I compare... the Sinews or Nerves to the binders of the hedge; which fasten and unite all the other parts. *1848 GUILT Archit.* (1876) 601 By the 14th century the system of girders, binders, and joists was perfected. *1845 Proc. Bern. Nat. Club* II. 122 It makes an admirable binder of the moveable sands.

5. In various technical applications:

a. A band of straw, etc. for binding sheaves of corn; **b.** A contrivance attached to a reaping-machine to bind up the grain as cut into sheaves; **c.** An appliance attached to a sewing-machine for putting binding on cloth; **d. Weaving.** A lever fixed in the shuttle-box to arrest the shuttle and

prevent its recoil; e. A detachable cover or binding for unbound magazines, music, papers, etc.

1865 *Morn. Star* 30 May, A policeman produced a steel binder belonging to a sewing machine.

† 6. *Med.* Anything which produces astriction or constipation of the bowels. *Obs.*

1558 *PAYNELL Salerne Regim.* N. iv, Hit scoureth away the dropsye. neuer the lesse it is a bynder. 1651 *BURTON Anat. Mel.* II. iv. l. i. (1651) 364 They would prescribe binders for purgatives. 1678 *SALMON New Lond. Disp.* I. vi. (1702) 140/1 Where binders and strengtheners are used.

† 7. Anything which causes bodies to adhere or stick together; a cement. *Obs.*

1678 *SALMON New Lond. Disp.* III. xii. (1702) 416/2 The Bone-Binder. speedily glews broken Bones together. 1727-51 *CHAMBERS Cycl.* s. v. *Elements*, The elements of metals and sulphur as the binder, or cement.

8. *Comb.*, as binder's-board, hard smooth pasteboard used in bookbinding.

Bindery (baind'eri). [*f. prec. + -Y*: see *-ERY*.] A bookbinder's workshop or establishment. (First in use in U. S.)

1898 In *WEBSTER*. 1833 *Penny Cycl.* I. 449/1 s. v. *Americanism*; Bindery, meaning 'a place where books are bound' is not a bad word. 1879 *Academy* 11 Oct. 265 The bindery at the Boston Public Library. 1888 *Encycl. Brit.* s. v. *Libraries*, Provision for work-rooms, librarians' offices, cataloguing rooms, and a Bindery.

Binding (baind'ing), *vbl. sb.* [*f. BIND v. + -ING* 1.] I. Abstract.

1. The action of the vb. BIND in various senses.

a. 1240 *Lofsong in Lamb. Hom.* 207 Ich bede þe . . bi his nimunge. and bindunge. c. 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 36 Byndunge, ligacio. 1577 in *Glosscock Rec. St. Michael's, Stortford* 35 Pd. for flower and woode for the bynding of the books, i. d. 1633 G. HERBERT *Temple, Sacrifice* xii, I suffer binding, who have loosed their bands. 1651 *HOBBS Govt. & Soc.* xvii. § 25. 324 What binding and loosing, or remitting and retaining of sinnes, is, admits of some scruple. 1706 *PHILLIPS, etc.*, Binding (in Falconry) signifies tiring or when a hawk seizes (cf. BIND v. 9 c). 1832 C. HOWARD *Sel. Farms* 8 By . . large sheaves, and tight binding. 1881 *GREENER Gux* 257 The wood screws. are always soaped before turned in, to prevent their binding in the wood.

b. Engagement for service, or as an apprentice. 1834 *Penny Cycl.* II. 194/1 The binding is to a carpenter for six years. 1868 *Lond. Rev.* Oct. 42 At the annual bindings [for service].

2. The state or condition of being bound (in various senses of the vb.).

c. 1380 *WYCLIF De Dot. Eccl. Sel. Wks.* III. 431 Byndyng to siche signes lettib freedom of Crist. 1630 *VENNER Via Recta* vii. 115 In case of binding they are best to be eaten before meate. 1632 *RUTHERFORD Lett.* (1862) I. 83 What think ye to take binding with the fair Corner-stone, Jesus? † 3. A quantity bound up; a bundle, bunch. *Obs.* 1388 *WYCLIF 1 Sam.* xxx. 12 Twei byndyngis [*Vulg.* ligatura] of dried grapes.

II. Concrete.

4. That with which anything is bound; a bond, band, bandage; a fastening.

a. 1300 *E. E. Psalter* cxiv. [cxxxv]. 5 Haldand in bindinges Laverd lede sal. 1398 *TREvisa Barth. De P. R.* xvii. xlv. (1495) 629 The tame cucurbita. byndyth it self wyth certen fastynnges and byndynges as a vyne dooth. 1607 *TORSELL Four-f. Beasts* 379 The same bindings being again bound upon the wound. infect it. 1611 *BIBLE Dan.* v. 6 The joints [*marg.* bindings or knots] of his loins were loosed.

5. *Spec.* a. The strong covering of a book, which holds the sheets together, and protects the volume.

1647 *CRASHAW Steps Temp.* 61 A little volume, but great book. the rest of a rich binding. 1709 *STEELE Tatler* No. 80 P. I Provided always, that the Binding be of Calves-Skin. 1707 *BURNS Book Worm* i, Spare the golden bindings. 1844 *N. & Q.* IX. 423 Receipt for varnishing the binding of old books.

b. A protective covering for the raw edges of a fabric; the braid or other material of this.

1598 *FLORIO, Cordicella*, a little cord. .an inkle, a binding. 1747 *Gentl. Mag.* XVII. 284 The boys and girls hats are white, and tied round with red binding. 1885 *Price List*, Bindings. .Silk, 2d. per yard.

c. *Arch. & Shipbuilding*. A band of masonry and brickwork; a connecting timber, etc.

1626 *CAPT. SMITH Accid. Yng. Seamen* to Planks, bindings, knees, boulds. 1730 A. GORDON *Maffei's Amphil.* 223 The three Fasciae or Bindings, which serve as a Parapet. c. 1850 *Rudim. Navig.* (Weale) 97 Bindings, the iron links which surround the Dead-Eyes. 1884 *Congregational Year Bk.* 401 The ceiling of roof over the nave is. divided by arched bindings.

6. *Attrib. and Comb.*, as binding shrub, binding factory; binding-cloth, fancy cloth (usually dyed and stamped muslin) for covering books; binding-guide, a contrivance fitted to sewing-machines for adjusting the binding to the material to be bound; † binding-Tuesday, the Tuesday in Hocktide, the second Tuesday after Easter. (See also the *ppl. adj.*)

1591 *PERCIVALL Sp. Dict.*, Retama, a kinde of binding shrubbe or broome. 1664 *SPELMAN Gloss.* s. v. *Hocday*, Alii in hac celebrata alios obsident, capiant, ligant (præsertim viros femine) atque inde, binding Tuesday, i. Diem Martis ligatorium appellat. 1845 *STRUETT Sports & Past.* IV. iii. 350 [*tr. Spelman*].

Binding, *ppl. a.* [*f. as prec. + -ING* 2.]

1. That binds together or up; causing or tending to cohere; astrigent, styptic.

1388 *WYCLIF Dan.* iii. 69 Byndyng frost and colde, blesse 3e to the Lord. 1398 *TREvisa Barth. De P. R.* vii. lxix. (1495) 289 Byndyng medycynes. .as. .Acacia. 1606 B. JONSON *Hymenai*, We see The binding force of Vnitie. 1626 *SURFL. & MARKH. Countr. Farm* 539 As for the mixt soyles, if they be binding, as the clays. 1824 *LOUDON Cycl. Garden*, § 1958 Choosing the best coloured good binding gravel.

2. *fig.* Obligatory, restrictive, coercive.

1611 *BIBLE Num.* xxx. 13 Every binding othe to afflict the soule. 1708 *PRIESTLEY Corrupt. Chr.* II. ix. 224 No promise made to an heretic is binding. 1859 *MILL Liberty* IV, Laws of conduct binding on ourselves and on all others.

3. *Comb.* (some of them *perh.* from the *vbl. sb.*), as binding-joint, a joint resting on the wall-plates and carrying other joists; † binding-note, a bind or tie in musical notation; binding-plate, one of a series of iron plates used to strengthen or arm a puddling-furnace; binding-rafter, a longitudinal timber lying upon the principals of a roof and enabling them to support the covering; binding-screw, a screw used in various instruments for purposes of clamping or adjustment.

1677 *MOXON Mech. Exerc.* (1703) 132 The binding Joists marked cc. 1879 *SIR G. SCOTT Lect. Archit.* I. 266 The beams and binding-joists are shown. 1788 *BURNEY Hist. Mus.* II. 454 Semicircular marks, called binding-notes, and slurs. 1875 *URE Dict. Arts* II. 997 Bolted upon both sides to the cast-iron binding plates of the furnace. 1848 *GWILT Archit. Gloss.*, Binding Rafter, The same as Furlins. c. 1805 J. WYLDK in *Circ. Sc.* I. 258/1 From these springs the two wires proceed, ended by binding-screws.

Bindingly (baind'ingli), *adv.* [*f. prec. + -LY* 2.]

In a binding manner; so as to be obligatory.

1851 G. S. FABER *Many Mansions* 10 Nothing is bindingly to be received and believed as an Article of Faith, unless, etc.

Bindingness. [*f. as prec. + -NESS*.] Binding or obligatory quality.

1874 *SIDGWICK Meth. Ethics* viii. 87 The truth and bindingness of. .these current rules.

Bindle. *Sc.* [*f. OE. bindela* a binding, a tying.]

'The cord or rope that binds anything, whether made of hemp or of straw.' Jamieson.

Bindweed (baind'wid). *Bot.* Also 6 bind(e)-weede, bynd-, 7 binde-, 9 bine-. [*f. BIND v. + WEED*. (*Perh.* sometimes for BINDWITH.)]

1. The English name for the species of the N.O. *Convolvulus*; as Greater Bindweed (*C. sepium*), Lesser Bindweed (*C. arvensis*), Seaside Bindweed (*C. Soldanella*).

1548 *TURNER Names of Herbes* (1881) 30 Conuolulus is called. . in english wythwynde or byndweede. 1568 *Herbal* II. 128 Bindweed. . is as it wer an vnperfytt worke of nature lerning to make lilies. 1626 *SURFL. & MARKH. Countr. Farm* 531 Bind-weed, both great and small, do proceed partly of drinnesse. 1783 *AINSWORTH Lat. Dict.* (Morell) 1, Sea bells, sea bind weed, or withwand, *Soldanella*. 1814 *WORDSW. Excurs.* I. 761 The cumbersome bind-weed, with its wreaths and bells.

attrib. 1855 *TENNYSON Brook* 203 The fragile bindweed-bells and briony rings.

2. Applied dialectally or vaguely to various other climbing plants, as species of *Smilax*, *Honeysuckle*, *Tamus*, etc. See also BINWEED.

1601 *HOLLAND Pliny* xvi. xxxv, Like unto Ivie is that plant which they call Smilax, or rough Bindweed. 1671 *SALMON Syn. Med.* III. xxii. 432 Smilax. Bindweed; it opens the belly, dissolves hard swellings.

3. *Black, Corn, or Ivy Bindweed, Polygonum Convolvulus*; Blue Bindweed, Bittersweet or Woody Nightshade.

1617 B. JONSON *Vis. Delight*, The blue bindweed doth itself infold With honeysuckle. 1794 *MARTYN Rousseau's Bot.* xix. 261 Black Bindweed. frequent weed among corn.

Bindwith (baind'wip). *Bot.* [*f. BIND + WITH* (a flexible twig: cf. BENDWITH).] A name given by some recent writers (perhaps erroneously) to *Clematis Vitalba*, or Traveller's Joy.

1797-1804 *MILLER Gard. Dict.* (ed. Martyn). 1863 *Prior Planch.* 21 Bind-with, a with used to bind up faggots, the Traveller's Joy.

Bindwood. *Bot.* Also binwood. [*f. BIND + WOOD*.] Scotch and north Eng. name for Ivy; also *occas.* for Honeysuckle.

1790 *TRELFOED in Burns Wks.* I. 370 The rocky how Where binwood bushes o'er them flow. 1808 *JAMIESON Sc. Dict.*, Bindwood, the vulgar name for ivy.

Bine (boin). Also 4-5 bynde, 8-9 bind. [*A dial. form of BIND sb.*, recently adopted as the literary form in the following senses.]

1. A flexible shoot of any shrub, a shoot of the year's growth; the flexible stem of a climbing plant.

1807 *VANCOUVER Agric. Devon* (1813) 186 When the crop is heavy, the lower parts of the bines (of vetches) will be less inviting than the upper part. 1880 *Standard* 12 Nov. The first frosts. shrivel the bines of white briony. 1880 *JEFFERIES Gr. Ferne F.* 194 A trailing bine of honeysuckle.

b. *Spec.* The climbing stem of the hop.

1797 *BRADLEY Fam. Dict.* s. v. *Hop Gard.*, When you find the Binds very vigorous. . you must forbear giving them any more Earth. a. 1845 *Hood Ode R. Wilson*, What Kentish boor would tear away the prop So roughly as to wound, nay, kill the bine? 1864 *TENNYSON Aylmer's F.* 112 When burr and bine were gather'd. 1884 G. ALLEN in *Longm. Mag.* V. 43 The 'fly' . . on hops, is an aphid specialized for that particular bine.

c. Hence, used to name varieties of the Hop;

e.g. *White-bine* (formerly *-bind*, corruptly *-vine*).

1732 *MILLER Gard. Dict.* s. v. *Lupulus*, The grey Bind. . is a large square Hop. 1835 *Penny Mag.* 453 The hop-plant . . has several varieties, such as the red-bind, the green-bind, the white-bind. 1866 *Treas. Bot.* 602 Several varieties are known, the finest of which are the White Bines, etc.

2. Entering into names of plants: e.g. *WOOD-BINE*. Cf. BIND sb. 3.

Bine, *obs. form of BIN*, within.

Binervate (baind'rvet), *a.* [*f. Bi- pref.* 2 + *NERVATE*, *f. L. nervus* NERVE.] Having two nerves: applied a. in *Bot.* to leaves having two longitudinal ribs; b. in *Ent.* to insect-wings supported by two nerves only.

1848 in *BRANDK. Dict. Sc.*

Binethe, *obs. form of BENEATH*.

Binewood, variant of BINDWEED.

Bing (bin), *sb.* 1 Also 5-6 bynge, 6-7 bing, byng, 7 bings. [*a. ON. bing-r* masc. 'heap'; cf. *Sw. bing* masc. 'heap'. *Da. bing* has the sense not of 'heap,' but of 'bin'; and in Eng. bing has also been used dialectally for BIN in various senses since the 15th c. In *Da.* this change can only be explained by transference of the name from a 'heap' to the place where a heap is contained; the Eng. use of *bing* for *bin* may be partly of Danish origin, but is prob. largely due to phonetic contact of the two words.]

1. A heap or pile: formerly of stones, earth, trees, dead bodies, as well as of corn, potatoes, and the like, as still in northern dial.

1513 *DOUGLAS Æneis* IV. ix. 45 Of treis thow big a bing To be a fyre. *Ibid.* IV. vii. 80 Lyk emetis gret Quhen thai depulze the meikle bing of quheit. 1528 *LYNDESAY Dream* II. 173 The men of Kirk lay boundin into byngis. a. 1547 *SURREY Æneis* IV. 529 Like ants when they do spoile the bing of corne. 1707 *BURNS Brigs of Ayr* 27 Potato-bings are snugged up frae skaith Of coming Winter. 1880 *Antrim & Down Gloss.* (E. D. S.), *Bing*. a heap of potatoes in a field covered with earth: a heap of grain in a barn.

2. *Spec.* A heap of metallic ore, of alum; a definite quantity (8 cwt.) of lead ore.

1815 *Encycl. Brit.* III. 619 Bing in the alum-works denotes a heap of alum thrown together in order to drain. 1876 *Mid Yorks. Gloss.* (E. D. S.), *Bing*, a bing of ore contains eight weighs, a weigh being a hundred weight. *Nidd.* 1885 *Trans. Cumbria & Westm. Archæol. Soc.* VIII. 19 In one year eighty workmen raised 12,000 bings of ore in this mine.

b. *Bing ore* (or simply *bing*): the best lead ore.

1679 *Plot Staffordsh.* (1686) 166 The best (lead-ore) being call'd Bing. 1851 *TAPPING Manlove's Chron. Gloss.*, *Bing*. . ore is the Derbyshire mining term for the purer, richer, and cleaner part of the fell or boose.

3. = BIN, in various applications. Now dial.

c. 1325 *Mettr. Hom.* 97 King hafs riuell gold in bing. c. 1440 *Promp. Parv.*, Byng, theca, cunera. 1539 *Indent. Berwick Castle in Archæol.* XI. 440 In the panthe, a large bynge of okyn tymbar with 3 partitions. 1575 *TURBERV. Venery* 28 Prety little Binges or baskets of woodde to put theyr breade in. 1677 *MARKHAM Caval.* v. 6 In . . the stable shall be placed close bings or hutches for the keeping of prouender. 1695 *KENNETT Par. Antig. Gloss.* s. v. *Abunda*, The Cistern into which they throw their crystallized Allom, for the water to drain from it, is call'd a Bing. 1775 E. BARRY *Observ. Wines* 82 To cover the Bottles in the Bings with Saw-Dust. 1879 *MISS JACKSON Shropsh. Word-Bk.* (E. D. S.), *Bing*, a place railed off from the cow-house in which fodder is kept.

4. 'The kiln of the furnace wherein they burn their Charcoal for the melting of metals.' Kennett *Par. Antig.* 1695.

1658 *RAY Itin.* (1760) 127 Then they carry it [silver ore]. . to each Smelter's several Bing, where it is melted with Black and White Coal. 1674 *— Prep. Tin Coll.* 123 Throwing on Charcoal, then upon that Black Tin, and so interchangeably into a very deep bing (which they call the house).

5. *Comb.* † Bing-ale; † bing-brine, brine of a pickling trough; bing-hole (see quot.); bing-place, bing-stead, the place to which the 'bing' or round lead ore is brought to be crushed; also, a place for ashes.

1735 *PRICE Kenticisms* (E. D. S.), *Bing-ale*, the liquor which the fermor of a parsonage gives to the fermours. . when he has gathered their tythe. 1745 W. THOMPSON *R. N. Advoc.* (1757) 9 *Bing Brine*. . composed of the entire Juices of the Flesh and Salt, when boiled. . is of a sweet Smell, and quite transparent. 1881 *RAYMOND Mining Gloss.*, *Bing-hole*, a hole or shoot through which ore is thrown. 1653 *MANLOVE Lead Mines* 129 To fine such. . as. . digg or delve in any Mans *Bing-place*. 1747 W. HOOSON *Miner's Dict.* Bijb, *Bingsstead*, the place where the largest and best of the ore. . is thrown. 1793 *SMEATON Edystone L.* 198 Cinders are thrown. . into a *Bing-stead* in the court-yard.

|| **Bing**, *sb.* 2 *Obs.* [*Chinese bing*, dial. form of *ming*, the name of a Chinese character often denoting the leaves of the tea-plant, and especially the tender leaves or leaf-buds. Prof. Legge.] A kind of tea.

1701 *Phil. Trans.* XXIII. 1205 The Bohe. . is the very first bud gather'd. The Bingtea is the second growth in April. 1721 *Lond. Gas.* No. 5934/3 One Chest Bing per Carnarvan.

Bing (bin), *v.* 1 To pile or put up in a bing.

1513 *DOUGLAS Æneis* VIII. Prol. 57 The burges byngis in his biuth, the broun and the blak. 1825 *Blackw. Mag.* Dec. (JAM.) The hairst was over. The 'tatoes ling'd.

Bing, *v.* 2 *dial.* Also byng. *intr.* Of milk: To begin to turn sour, to be on the turn.

1867 *HARLAND Lanc. Folk-lore* 165 in *Lanc. Gloss.* (E.

D. S.) The milk is bynged or will not churn, though a hot poker has been used to spoil the witchery. [cf. BLINK.]

† **Bing**, *v. 3* Obs. [Slang. ? Gipsy.] *intr.* To go. 1567 *HARMAN Canest* 84. Byng a waste, go you hence. 1609 *DEKKER Lanth. & Candle-Lt.* Wks. 1884-5 III. 198 And bing we to Rome vile. 1622 *BROME Jew. Crew* iv. ii. 431 Bing awast, bing awast. 1815 *SCOTT Guy R.* xxviii. 'Bing out and tour, ye auld devil.' 1822 — *Nigel* xxiii. 'You shall be carted for bawd... and bing off to Bridewell.'

Binge, *v. Sc.* Also 6 bynge, 8 beenge, 9 beenje. [Of late formation, app. with a feeling for the initial sound of *baw*, *bend*, *beck*, and the closing sound of *cringe*; cf. *whinge*. The dial. *binge* to soak (Lincoln) appears to be a different word.]

intr. To make a low obeisance, to curtsey; also to fawn, cringe. *Bingeing vbl. sb. and ppl. a.*

1562 A. SCOTT *N. Yere Gift Quene*, They bad thame bek and bynge at deid mennis banes. 1722 *ARBUOTHNOT John Bull* ii. iv. (1755) 51, I mun stand beeking and binging, as I gang out and into the hall. 1724 *RANSAY Tea-L. Misc.* (1729) 17 The Maiden blusht and bing'd fu' law. 1805 J. NICOL *Poems* I. 187 (JAM.) Beenjin slaves ca' them divine. 1879 *JAMIESON Sc. Dict.* s. v. *Beck*, 'A great deal of beeking and beenging' is a phrase still used among the vulgar.

Binge, *sb. Sc.* In 5 bing, 6 benge, 7 beinge. [f. prec. vb.] A servile bow or obeisance.

c 1450 *HENRYSON Mor. Fab.* 24 (Quod hee) with many bing and many becke. 1535 *STEWART Cron. Scot.* III. 105 With mony beking and bek, He salust him. 1681 *R. LAW Mem.* (1818) 190 With many a scrape, becke and beinge.

Bingle-bangle (bɪŋɡl̩ˈbæŋɡl̩), *a. dial.* [A reduplicate formation from *BANGLE* v.] Fickle, vacillating, irresolute; cf. *shilly-shally*.

1825 *R. WARD Tremaine* II. xxvi. 234 He is but a bingle bangle man... no good will come on him.

Bingo (bɪŋɡoʊ), [App. a humorous formation from *B.* for 'brandy' (cf. 'B. and S.') and *STINGO*.] A slang term for brandy.

1861 *HUGHES Tom Brown Oxf.* xxxiii. (D.) Some soda water with a dash of bingo clears one's head in the morning.

Bingy (bɪŋɡi), *a. north. dial.* [f. *BING* v. 2 + *-Y*.] Said of milk: In the incipient stage of sourness.

1857 *MRS. GASKELL C. Brontë* (1857) I. 70 The milk, too, was often 'bingy,' to use a country expression for a kind of taint which is far worse than sourness. 1884 *Cheshire Gloss.* (E. D. S.), *Bingy*, a peculiar clouty or frowsty taste in milk. The first stage of turning sour.

† **Binhead**, *Obs.* A kind of fresh-water fish; perch, the Bull-head or Miller's-thumb.

1581 *LAMBARDE Eiren.* iv. iv. (1588) 450 Angling is excepted, and so is the taking of Smelts, Loches, Minnows, Binheads, Gudgeons, and Eeles.

Binime(n, var. *BENIM* v. *Obs.* to take away.

† **Binity**, *Obs. rare*—1. [f. *L. binī* two by two + *-ITY*; cf. *trinity*.] A pair.

1575 *LANHAM Let.* (1871) 54 What a sort of friendly biniteez we our seluez doo consist & stond vpon, Fyrst, our too feet, too legs, too kneez, so vpward.

Bink (bɪŋk), *Sc. and north. dial.* Forms: 3 bennk, 3-5 benke, 3-4 bino, binck, 4 bengk, bynk, 5 bynke, 4- bink. [Later form of *ME. benk* = *BENCH* sb.]

1. A bench or form to sit on; = *BENCH* 1.

c 1200 *ORMIN* 1523; Wipþ þinne benckess benkedd. a 1300 *Curator M.* 521 He kist and sett on binc him bi [Cott. bink, *Fairf.* bink, *Trin.* benche]. 1375 *BARBOUR Bruce* vii. 238 The gud vif on the bynk sytand. c 1440 *York Myst.* xxvii. 188, I schall buske to be benke. a 1548 *Thrie Priests Pablis* 24 (JAM.) Hal binks ar ay slizzer. 1603 *Philotus* xviii. His wyle may ay sit forrest down, At eyther burde or bink. 1855 *Whitby Gloss.* s. v., The summer binks, a benched alcove or summer-house in a garden.

2. A seat of justice; = *BENCH* 2.

1330 *R. BRUNNE Chron.* 58 At London at þe benke schewe þer þin askyng. c 1460 *Towneley Myst.* 317 When ye were set as syres on bynke. 1862 *Histop Prov. Scot.* 63 For faut o' wise men fools sit on binks.

3. A shelf; particularly, a long flat slab of stone fixed to a wall, used either as a seat or as a shelf; also, a plate-rack; a dresser.

1535 *Richmond, Wills* (1853) 12 A cobbord with a dysbynk. 1657 *COLVIL Whigs Supplic.* (1751) 67 The Good-man keeps it, as we think, Behind a dish, upon the bink. 1816 *SCOTT Antig.* xxvi. Ony thing... frae the roof-tree down to a crackit trencher on the bink. 1818 — *Hrt. Midl.* xiv. Nor the bowies put up on the bink. 1864 *ATKINSON Whitby Gloss.*, *Bink*, a bench. Upon those of stone at cottage doors, the fresh scoured milkpails and other dairy utensils are oft seen placed to dry and sweeten.

4. A bank (of earth); = *BENCH* 6.

c 1500 *DUNBAR Flying* 289 Na fowlis... amangis tha binkis Biggis, nor abydis. 1807 *HEADRICK Arran* 153 On putting down a bore in moss binks, water spouted up.

5. = *BENCH* 7, *BANK* sb. 1. 7.

1679 *Plot Staffordsh.* (1686) 136 A Workman in another Bink hard by fear'd the roof would have fallen in.

† **B** = *BING*, in sense of *BIN*. *Obs.*

1534 *Eng. Ch. Furniture* 190 A bynke to ley colis in.

¶ In south of Scotland = *BIKE*, wasps' nest.

Binman, Also *binsman*. The man in charge of a bin during hop-picking.

1823 *J. STRATTON Hops & Hop-pick.* 31 The pickers are divided into companies... the chief of which is the binman, who is commonly the pole-puller. 1884 *Sunday Mag.* Sept. 578/2 The 'bin-man'... is alone permitted thus to go backwards and forwards.

Binna, *Sc.* form of *be not*: see *BE* v.

Binnacle (bɪˈnækl̩), *Forms*: a. 7 bitiole, bittake, -kle, -kell, biddikil, 7-8 bittackle, 7-9 bittacle; β. 8- binaole, binnacle. [The current *binnacle* first appears after 1750, as a corruption of the earlier *bittacle* (still found 1839), apparently ad. Sp. *bitacula*, *bitdora* 'a place where the compasse or light is kept in a ship' (Minsheu), or Pg. *bitdola*, cogn. w. It. *abitacolo*, Pr. *abitacle*, *habitacle*, F. *habitacle*:—*L. habitaculum* habitation, lodge, f. *habitare* to inhabit. (A direct adoption of F. *habitacle*, and subseq. shortening to *bittacle* in Eng., is phonetically less probable.) The 17th c. *biddikil* appears to be a transitional form.]

A box on the deck of a ship near the helm, in which the compass is placed.

1622 *Recon. Ship Bristol* in Arb. Garner IV. 584 Watch the biticle, attend the compasse. 1627 *CAPT. SMITH Seaman's Gram.* ii. 11 A square box nailed together with wooden pinnes, called a Bittacle, and in it alwaies stands the Compasse. 1684 *I. MATHER Remark. Provid.* (1856) 65 The compasse in the biddikil. 1762 *FALCONER Shipw.* ii. 458 Companion, binnacle, in floating wreck, With compasses and glasses strew'd the deck. [1769 — *Dict. Marine* (1789) F 2 This is called *bittacle* in all the old sea-books.] 1836 *MARRYAT Midsh. Easy* xiii, Then they went aft to the binnacle again. 1839 — *Phant. Ship* xii, The shrine of the saint at the bittacle. 1870 *R. FERGUSON Electr.* 24 To place pieces of soft iron or magnets in the immediate neighbourhood of the binnacle.

b. *attrib.*

1834 *H. MILLER Scenes & Leg.* xxviii. (1857) 422 In inventing binnacle lamps. 1856 *OLMSTED Slave States* 142 The binnacle-compass was a sort of fetish to him.

Binn-an, -en, *obs.* forms of *BIN*, within.

Binny (bɪni), *Ichthyol.* The barbel of the Nile (*Barbus bynni*).

Binocle (bɪˈnɒkl̩), [a. F. *binocle* (= It. *binocolo*), f. *L. binī* two each + *oculī* eyes.] A field-glass or opera-glass having tubes for both eyes.

1696 *PHILLIPS, Binocle* (Fr.), a double Prospective glass... to see at a distance with both eyes at the same time. 1721 in BAILEY. 1871 *Echo* 18 Jan., My friend took his umbrella and I my binocle.

Binocular (bɪnˈkʊlær), *a. and sb.* [f. *L. binī* two each + *oculī* eyes + *-AR*; cf. F. *binoculaire*.]

† 1. Having two eyes; binocular. † *Obs.*

1713 *DERHAM Phys. Theol.* viii. iii. (1754) 361 Most animals are binocular, Spiders for the most Part octonocular.

2. Performed by or adapted to both eyes.

1738 *R. SMITH Opticks* 387 A binocular telescope. 1876 *FOSTER Phys.* iii. ii. (1870) 502 Binocular vision... affords us a means of judging of the solidity of objects. 1879 *RUTLEY Stud. Rocks* vii. 47 Many observers prefer to work with binocular microscopes. 1879 *ROOD Chromatics* 160 Binocular mixture of colours produces more or less lustre.

B. *sb.* (Short for *binocular glass*.) A field-glass or opera-glass in the use of which both eyes are employed in viewing an object; a BINOCLE. Also applied to a binocular microscope.

1872 *M. COLLINS Mrg. & Merch.* III. iv. 114, I shall keep this binocular. 1877 *W. THOMSON Voy. Challenger* I. i. 15 One of Smith and Beck's binoculars is more convenient for observing... large foraminifera, by reflected light.

Binocularity (bɪnˈkʊlærɪtɪ), [f. prec. + *-ITY*.] Binocular quality or conditions; simultaneous employment of both eyes.

1854 *J. HOGG Microsc.* i. ii. (1867) 113 Obtaining binocularity with the compound achromatic microscope. 1882 *LE CONTE Light* 120 Perception of depth of space, so far as this is connected with binocularity.

Binocularly, *adv.* [f. as prec. + *-LY*.] By the simultaneous employment of both eyes.

1881 *LE CONTE Light* 146 Where we... binocularly perceive depth of space.

Binoculate (bɪnˈkʊlət), *a.* [f. as *BINOCULAR* + *-ATE*.] Having two eyes. 1847 in CRAIG.

Binodal: see *Bi-pref.* 1.

Binom, -nume(n), etc.: see *BENIM* v. *Obs.* to take away.

Binomial (bɪnɒˈmiəl), *a. and sb.* [f. late *L. binōmī-us* (see *BINOMY*) + *-AL* 1; cf. F. *binôme*.]

A. adj.

1. *Math.* Consisting of two terms; see *B. Binomial theorem*: the general algebraic formula, discovered by Newton, by which any power of a binomial quantity may be found without performing the progressive multiplications.

1570 *BILLINGSLEY Euclid* x. xxxvi. 258 If two rational lines commensurable in power only be added together: the whole line is irrational, and is called a binomial, or a binomial line. 1706 *PHILLIPS* s. v., A binomial Quantity or Root, i. e. a Quantity or Root that consists of two Names or Parts joyn'd together by the Sign + as $a+b$, or $3+2$. 1725 *J. KERSEY Algebra* 137 Production of Powers from Roots Binomial, Trinomial, etc. 1870 *BOWEN Logic* xii. 410 The Binomial Theorem... is a true Law of Nature according to our definition.

2. Having or characterized by two names; = *BINOMINAL*.

1656 in BLOUNT *Glossogr.* 1850 *Gard. Chron.* 404 The binomial system adopted in every department of science since the days of Linnæus. 1880 *HUXLEY Crayfish* 16 The terms of this binomial nomenclature.

B. *sb.* An algebraic expression consisting of two terms joined by the sign + or -; formerly

only when connected by +. (Cf. *binomium*, *BINOMY*.)

1557 *RECORD Whetst.* Pp i v a, The numbers that be compounde with + be called Bimediales... If their partes be of 2 denominations, then are they named Binomialles properly. Howbeit many vse to call Binomialles all compounde numbers that haue +. 1790 *RAPHSON Arith.* 223

The Binomial $a - \frac{a^2}{3a^2}$, or $a + b$. 1806 *HUTTON Course Math.* I. 214 To extract any Root of a Binomial.

† **Binomical**, *a. Obs.* [f. as prec. + *-ICAL*.] 'Of two names.' Coles 1692.

Binominal (bɪnɒˈmɪnəl), *a.* [f. *L. binōmīn-is*, f. *bi-* two + *nōmīn-* (nom. *nōmen*) name + *-AL* 1.] Having or characterized by two names, esp. those of genus and species in scientific nomenclature.

1880 *GUNTHER Fishes* 10 Applying binominal terms to the species. 1881 *Trans. Vict. Inst.* 24 In this way the binominal system is growing.

Binomiated (bɪnɒˈmɪneɪtəd), *a.* [f. *Bi-* *pref.* 2 + *L. nomen* name, *nōmīnāl-us* named: cf. *nominatēd*.] Having or bearing two names.

1857 *M. LOWER Eng. Surnames* (ed. 4) II. App. 170 A binomiated person.

Binomious, *a.* [f. *L. binōmīn-is* (see *BINOMY*) + *-OUS*.] = prec.

1612 *T. JAMES Jesuits' Downfall* 52 Hee was binomious; sometimes called Rob. Parsons, sometimes Rob. Cowbucke. 1662 *FULLER Worthies* II. 274 Many of them are binomious. [In mod. Dicts.]

† **Binomious**, *a. Obs.* [f. late *L. binōmīus* (see *BINOMY*) + *-OUS*.] 'Of two names.' Coles 1692.

† **Binomy**. Also 6-7 in *L.* form *binomium*. [ad. mod. *L. binōmīus*, -um, in algebraical use in 16th c., but common in late Latin in the general sense of 'having two personal names'; see *Du Cange*. For this, the classical *L.* word was *binōmīnīs*: *binōmīus* may be compared with *homicida*.] = *BINOMIAL* sb.

1571 *DIGGES Pantom.* Yij b, An irrational call Binomium, retaining proportion to the side, as $\sqrt{2} + \frac{1}{2} \sqrt{2}$ vnto 1. *Ibid.* Ccja, His conteyned Icosaedrons side is an irrational Binomye. *Ibid.* Ccjjb, By reduction of the former Trinomye to a Binomye. 1670 *NEWTON in Rigaud Corr. Sc. Men* (1841) II. 298 The extraction of cubic roots out of imaginary binomiums.

Binormal (bɪnɒˈrml̩), *Math.* [f. *Bi-* *pref.* 2 + *NORMAL*.] (See quot.)

1848 *SALMON Analyt. Geom.* (1865) § 353 The normal perpendicular to that (the osculating) plane... being normal to two consecutive elements of the curve, has been called by M. Saint-Venant the Binormal. 1857 *PRICE Infinit. Calculus* I. 512 The former [line] has the distinctive name of binormal.

¶ **Binot** (bɪnoʊ), [F.] (Not in Eng. use.)

1825 *LOUDON Encycl. Agric.* § 2620 The binot is almost the same thing as the double mould-boarded plough.

Binoternary (bɪnɒtɜːˈnəri), *a.* [f. *L. binī* two by two + *TERNARY*; cf. F. *binoternaire*.] Combining binary and ternary characteristics.

1817 *R. JAMESON Haüy's Crystallog.* in *Min.* 217 Binoternary (*binoternaire*), when there is one [decrement] by two, and the other by three rows.

Binotonous (bɪnɒˈtʌnəs), *a.* [f. *L. binī* (see *BIN-*) + *ton-us*, Gr. *τόν-ος* *TONE* + *-OUS*; ? after *monotonous*.] Consisting of two tones or notes.

1802 *G. MONTAGU Ornith. Dict.* (L.) During the breeding season their [the Lesser Pettychaps] binotonous cry is incessant. 1847 in CRAIG.

Binous (bɪˈnʌs), *a.* [f. *L. bin-i* + *-OUS*.] = *BINATE*. 1832 in WEBSTER.

Binoxalate, **Binoxide**: see *BIN-*.

† **Bind**, **binde**, *Obs.* (Meaning and derivation doubtful: cf. *Du. bindte* 'joint, crossbeam'.)

1629 *Sheretogenbosch* 21 The French were... very busie, making that night three binds of their Gallery neere the great Sconce. *Ibid.* 28 The ninth binde of the other Gallery on the South side of the said Bulwarke.

Binuclear, -ate: see *Bi-pref.* 2. 1.

Binweed, corruptly *Bindweed*: see *BUNWEED*.

Binwood, variant of *BINDWOOD*.

Bio (bɪoʊ), repr. Gr. *βίο-* stem and comb. form of *bíos* 'life, course or way of living' (as distinct from *ζῷον* 'animal life, organic life'). Hence, in compounds formed in Greek itself, as *biography*, *βιογραφία*; and in modern scientific words in which *bio-* is extended to mean 'organic life'.

Bio-bibliographical, *a.*, dealing with the life and writings of an author. **Bioblast** [Gr. *βλαστός* sprout, germ], (*Biol.*) a minute mass of amorphous protoplasm having formative power. **Biocentrism**, treating life as a central fact. **Bioclimic**, -al *a.*, pertaining to the chemistry of life. **Biodynamics**, -al *a.*, of or relating to biodynamics. **Biodynamics**, that part of biological science which treats of vital force, or of the action of living organisms. **Biogen** (see quot.). **Biogeny**, a proposed general term for the 'life-sciences'. **Biokinetos** (see quot.). **Biolytic** *a.*, life-destroying. **Biomagnetic** *a.*, of or pertaining to animal magnetism. **Biomagnetism**, animal magnetism. **Biometer**, a measurer of life. **Bio-**

metry, the measurement of life; the calculation of the average duration and expectation of life. **Biophysicologist**, an investigator of the physiology of living beings. **Biroscope**, a view of life; that which affords such a view. **Biostatist**, -**al** *a.*, of or pertaining to biostatistics. **Biostatistics**, that part of biological science which treats of structure as adapted to act, as distinguished from *biodynamics* or *biokinetics*.

1809 SOUTHEY *Lett.* (1856) II. 162 This collectanea may be formed into a biobibliographical and critical account. 1880 *Athenaeum* 25 Dec. 845/3 One more instalment will complete the biobibliographical part. 1869 WALLIS *Delitsch's Bibl. Psychol.* 273 To substitute for Scripture a knowledge of that biochemical process. 1874 LEWES *Prob. Life & Mind* I. 129 The biostatistical and the biodynamical—i. e. the consideration of the structure ready to act; and the consideration of the structure acting. 1882 E. COUES *Biogen* (1884) 62 The substance of the soul, to which I apply the name 'biogen,' seems to correspond closely to what Prof. Crookes calls the 'fourth state of matter'... It is the 'od' of Prof. Reichenbach. 1883 C. A. CUTLER (Boston) *Classif. Nat. Sci.* 4 In Biogeny the special (Phytogeny, Zoogeny) contain subdivisions brought together in a group for convenience of treatment. 18. LONG in *Education* III. 587 Biokinetics will consider them [organisms] in the successive changes through which they pass during the different stages of their development. 1865 *Reader* 25 Feb. 213/1 A life table... is an instrument of investigation; it may be called a *biometer*, for it gives the exact measure of the duration of life under given circumstances. 1882 *Pop. Sci. Monthly* XXII. 159 The eminent physiologist, William B. Carpenter. 1844 W. BAYLEY (title) Bagman's Biroscope: Various Views of Men and Manners. 1874 LEWES *Prob. Life & Mind* I. 115 These may be classed (by a serviceable extension of the term *Statics*) under the heads of *Biostatistics* and *Psychostatics*. 1885 *Athenaeum* 28 Feb. 285/1.

Biocellate (bai'p'selett), *a.* [f. *Bi-* pref.² + *Ocellate*, ad. *L. ocellatus* marked with eyelets, *f. ocellus* eyelet, dim. of *oculus* eye.] Marked with two small eye-like spots, as a butterfly's wing.

1847 in *Craig*.

Biote, var. *f.* **BIOTHE**. *Obs.*

Biogenesis (bai'odjenezis). [f. *Gr. Bio-*, *Bro-* + *γένεσις* birth, production.] (See quot.) Hence **Biogenist**, one who holds the theory of biogenesis.

1870 HUXLEY *Addr. Brit. Assoc. in Nature* 15 Sept. 401 The hypothesis that living matter always arises by the agency of pre-existing living matter... to save circumlocution, I shall call the hypothesis of Biogenesis. 1878 TAIT & STEWART *Unseen Univ.* vii. § 243 To receive the law of Biogenesis as expressing the present order of the world.

Biogenetic (bai'odjnetik), *a.* [f. as prec. + *Gr. γενετικός, f. γένεσις*: see prec.] Of or pertaining to biogeny.

1879 tr. *Haeckel's Evol. Man* I. i. 8 The text of the biogenetic first principle is vitiated. 1879 tr. *K. Semper's Anim. Life* Pref. The popular cant about Biogenetic principles.

Biogenist (bai'odjnist). [f. next + *-ist*.] One skilled in biogeny.

Biogeny (bai'odjzini). [mod. *f.* *Gr. Bio-*, *Bro-* + *γενεα* birth.]

1. The history of the evolution of living organisms. 1879 tr. *Haeckel's Evol. Man* I. 6 Biogeny (or the history of organic evolution in the widest sense).

2. = **BIOTHE**.

1870 HUXLEY *Crit. & Addr.* x. (1873) 233 If the doctrine of Biogeny is true, the air must be thick with germs. **Biograph** (bai'ograft), *sb. rare*. [cf. *biography*, and *photograph*.] A biographical sketch or notice.

1865 E. BURRITT *Walk Land's End* 8 The thoughts submitted on the subject of biographies.

Biograph, *v. rare*. [f. prec., after *photograph*; or deduced from *biograph-er*.]

1883 *Kendal Merc. & Times* 19 Oct. 5/1 It will be impossible to 'biograph' these great men, without, etc.

Biographe (bai'ograft). [Formed as the correlative of **BIORAPHER**: see *-ER*.] One who is the subject of a biography.

1841 *Blackw. Mag.* XLIX. 757 The family... are too nearly connected with the biographe. 1879 *Athenaeum* 29 Nov. 687/1 There is too much of the biographer in it, and not enough of the biographe.

Biographer (bai'ograft). [f. **BIOGRAPHY** (or its *Gr.* source) + *-ER* (cf. *astronomer*): taking the place of the earlier *biographist*.] A writer of biographies, or of the 'life' of a particular person.

1715 ADDISON *Freeholder* No. 35 (1751) 209 Grub-street Biographers... watch for the Death of a great Man. 1790 BOSWELL *Johnson* (1831) I. Intro. 48, I flatter myself that few biographers have entered upon such a work as this with more advantages. a 1849 H. COLERIDGE *North. Worthies* (1852) Intro. 18 He would be a local biographer. 1855 MILMAN *Lat. Chr.* viii. viii, The seven or eight contemporary biographers of Becket.

Biographic (bai'ograftik), *a.* [f. as **BIOGRAPH** + *-ic*: cf. *Gr. γραφικός* of or pertaining to writing.] Of, pertaining to, or of the nature of biography.

c 1794 WOLCOTT (P. Pindar) *Bozzy & P. Wks.* I. 351 He now could meet more biographic scrap. a 1859 DE QUINCEY *Bentley Wks.* VI. 178 A biographic record. 1879 FARAR *St. Paul* I. 206 The biographic retrospect in the Epistle to the Galatians.

Biographical (bai'ograftikāl), *a.* [f. as prec. + *-AL*.] Of, relating to, or dealing with biography. 1738 OLDYS *Life Raleigh Wks.* 1829 I. 13 As the biographical fry who follow have nibbled out of him. 1749 *Biogr.*

Britan. Pref. 13 In this Biographical Dictionary. 1860 *Sat. Rev.* IX. 301 This is the true biographical temper.

Biographically, *adv.* [f. prec. + *-LY*.] After the manner of, or with reference to, biography.

1760 STERNE *Tr. Shandy* II. viii. 57 This plea, tho' it might save me dramatically, will damn me biographically. a 1849 H. COLERIDGE *North. Worthies* (1852) Intro. 19 The facts of the same life may be considered either biographically or historically.

Biographist (bai'ograftist). [See **BIOGRAPHY**: and cf. *-IST*.] = **BIORAPHER**.

1862 FULLER *Worthies* iii, The Biographists of these Saints. 1877 Mrs. OLIPHANT *Makers Flor.* i. 30 Wanton biographists assailed her with... slanders.

Biographize (bai'ograftaiz), *v.* [f. as **BIOGRAPHY** + *-IZE*.] *trans.* To write a biography of. 1800 SOUTHEY *Lett.* (1856) I. 115 As a Latin poet, I biographise him. 1868 *Spectator* 14 Nov. 1340 The Royal Family of England has been quite sufficiently biographized.

Biography (bai'ografti). [This word and its numerous connexions (see above) are recent. No compounds of the group existed in Old Greek: but *βιογραφία* 'writing of lives' (f. *Bio-* life + *-γραφία* writing, f. *γράφειν* to write, *-γράφος* writer), is quoted from Damascius c 500, and *βιογράφος* 'writer of lives' is cited by Du Cange as med. *Gr.* *Biographus*, *biographia*, were used in mod. *L.* before any words of the group appeared in Eng., where *biographist* was used by Fuller 1662, *biography* by Dryden 1683, *biographer* by Addison 1715, *biographical* by Oldys 1738; all the others are later. It is doubtful whether *biographist* was formed directly from the *Gr.* elements, or after mod. *L. biographus*; *biography* appears to have been an adaptation of *L. biographia*. The first appearance of *biographie*, *biographie* in *Fr.* is not recorded; so that their immediate relation to the Eng. words is not yet determined.]

1. The history of the lives of individual men, as a branch of literature.

1683 DRYDEN *Life Plutarch* (1712) 55 Biographia, or the History of particular Mens Lives, comes next to be considered. *Ibid.* 59 In all parts of Biography... Plutarch equally excell'd. a 1774 FINDES *Life Wolsey* Intro. 15 That Distinction or particular Branch of History, which is termed Biography. 1803 SCOTT in *Lockhart* xi, Biography, the most interesting perhaps of every species of composition. 1883 HALLIWELL-PHILLIPS *Life Shaks.* Pref. 1, At the present day, with biography carried to a wasteful and ridiculous excess.

2. A written record of the life of an individual. c 1791 WOLCOTT (P. Pindar) *Bozzy & P.* (1812) 361 Bid her a poor biography suspend, Nor crucify through vanity a friend. 1814 PINKERTON *Voy. XVII.* Index, Biography of Haller.

1883 HALLIWELL-PHILLIPS *Life Shaks.* Pref. 12 John Aubrey... was the author of numerous little biographies.

b. Comb.

1860 *Sat. Rev.* IX. 301 If it had come from the hands of a regular biography-monger.

3. *transf.* The life-course of a man or other living being; the 'life-history' of an animal or plant.

1844 H. MILLER *Footpr. Creat.* xv. (1874) 268 In studying the biography, if I may so express myself, of an individual animal. 1883 HALLIWELL-PHILLIPS *Life Shaks.* Pref. 8 The scanty records of the poet's biography that yet remain.

Biographing, *vbl. sb.* [f. prec.: cf. *speechifying*.] The writing of biographies.

1828 CARLYLE *Frederick* II. x. ii. 579 Endless writing and biographing... about this man.

Biologic (bai'olodjik), *a.* [f. **BIOLOGY** + *-IC*.] Of, belonging to, or of the nature of biology.

1864 H. SPENCER *Illustr. Univ. Progr.* 374 The biologic history of the supposed new continent. 1884 J. B. THOMAS in *Homiletic Monthly* June 532 Features so conspicuous in the biologic realm.

Biological (bai'olodjikāl), *a.* [f. prec. + *-AL*.] Of, or relating to, biology or (quot. 1874) 'electro-biology.'

1859 G. WILSON *F. Forbes* ii. 43 Natural History... the biological half of natural science. 1874 CARPENTER *Ment. Phys.* (1876) 555 The psychical phenomena manifested during the persistence of the Biological state. 1877 W. THOMSON *Voy. Challenger* I. i. 5 The physical and biological conditions of the sea-bottom.

Biologically, *adv.* [f. prec. + *-LY*.] In a biological manner; with reference to biology.

1875 *N. Amer. Rev.* CXX. 255 Human nature, either biologically or psychologically considered. 1888 G. ALLEN *Vignettes, Fall of Year*, Africa... cut almost in two, biologically speaking, by the... Sahara.

Biologist (bai'olodjist). [f. **BIOLOGY** + *-IST*.] One who studies biology or (quot. 1874) a 'professor' of 'electro-biology.'

1813 J. STANFIELD *Biography* ii. 57 If the Biologist (should a distinctive term be allowed) come not to his study with the same spirit of impartiality that is required from the Biographer. 1874 CARPENTER *Ment. Phys.* (1876) 553 In the public exhibition of professed Biologists. 1879 WRIGHT *Anim. Life* The Biologist has to study both Plants and Animals.

Biologize, *v.* [f. **BIOLOGY** + *-IZE*. In sense 1, referring to 'electro-biology.' Hence **Bio-logized** *pl. a.*, **Biologizer**.

+1. *trans.* To mesmerize. *Obs.*

1862 LYTTON *Str. Story* 26 A select few, whom he first fed and then biologized. 1874 CARPENTER *Ment. Phys.* (1876)

553 The Mind of the Biologized 'subject' seems to remain entirely dormant. *Ibid.* The relationship between the Biologizer and his 'subject'

2. *intr.* and *trans.* To cultivate biology; to deal with biologically.

Biology (bai'olodgi). [mod. *f.* *Gr. Bio-* life + *-λογία* discoursing (see *-LOGY*); according to Littré invented by the German naturalist Gottfried Reinhold (Treveranus) in his *Biologie* 1802, and adopted in *Fr.* by Lamarck in his *Hydrologie* 1802; it was used in Eng. by Stanfield in 1813, but in a sense directly repr. *Gr. Bios* (see *BIO-*), and *βιολόγος* 'one who represents to the life.']

+1. The study of human life and character. *Obs.*

1813 J. STANFIELD *Biography* Intro. 12 There exists, what might be called *biology*, as well as *biography*.

2. The science of physical life; the division of physical science which deals with organized beings or animals and plants, their morphology, physiology, origin, and distribution; sometimes, in a narrower sense = *Physiology*; see *Rolleston Brit. Assoc. Rep.* 1870, II. 96.

1819 LAWRENCE *Lect. Man* ii. (1844) 42 A foreign writer has proposed the more accurate term of biology, or science of life. 1847 WHEWELL *Philos. Induct. Sc.* I. 544 The term Biology... has of late become not uncommon, among good writers. 1880 A. WALLACE *Isl. Life* i. i. 9 One of the most difficult and interesting questions in geographical biology—the origin of the fauna and flora of New Zealand.

+3. = 'ELECTRO-BIOLOGY,' or 'animal-magnetism,' a phase of mesmerism.

1874 CARPENTER *Ment. Phys.* (1876) 551 'Electro biology,' or 'Biology' (as it came to be very commonly designated)... became a fashionable amusement in some circles, at ordinary evening parties.

Biolitic, -magnetic, etc.: see *BIO-* pref.

Bioplasm (bai'oplæzm), *a.* [f. *BIO-* + *Gr. πλάσμα* a thing moulded.] Prof. Beale's term for: The germinal matter of all living beings; living 'protoplasm.'

1872 BEALE *Bioplasm* i. § 14 As the germ of every living thing consists of matter having the wonderful properties already mentioned, I have called it germinal matter; but the most convenient and least objectionable name for it is living plasma or bioplasm. 1882 *Spectator* 30 Sept. 1251 A bit of bioplasm, or a minute parasitical organism.

Hence **Bioplastic** *a.*

1872 NICHOLSON *Biol. Phys.* (1876) 551 Bioplastic matter is colourless, transparent, and apparently wholly destitute of structure. 1883 WRIGHT *Dogm. Script.* 12 Bioplastic theories.

Bioplast (bai'oplast), *a.* [f. *BIO-* + *Gr. πλάστ-ος* moulded, formed.]

A small separate portion of Bioplasm generally less than the thousandth of an inch in diameter. (Beale).

1883 WRIGHT *Dogm. Script.* 9 Lionell Beale, who originated the valued method of staining red all bioplasts in living tissues. 1884 HAYWARD in *Daily News* 19 Sept. 7/3 Some maintaining that the germs were vegetable spores, whilst others assert that they were animal bioplasts.

Hence **Bioplastic** *a.*

1877 SAINTSBURY in *Academy* 10 Feb. 112 The third volume, where a Woman's College and a bioplastic professor are introduced.

Biordinal (bai'ordināl), *a. (sb.) Math.* [f. *Bi-* pref.² + *ORDINAL*, f. *L. ordo, ordin-*, rank, order.]

Adj. Of the second order.

1853 DE MORGAN *Camb. Philos. Trans.* IX. iv. 2 It is desirable to invent single words to stand for the phrases 'of the first order,' 'of the second order,' etc. I propose *prim-ordinal*, *biordinal*, etc. The word *differential* may be dispensed with, since these adjectives are understood to apply to differential equations only.

Sb. A linear differential equation of the second order: see *ORDINAL*.

1881 SIR J. COCKLE in *Athenaeum* 268 [Paper entitled] 'Supplement on Binomial Biordinals.'

Biorlinn, variant of **BIRLING**.

Biostatic, **biotaxy**, etc.: see *BIO-* pref.

Biotic, *a. rare*. [ad. *L. biōtik-us*, a. *G. βιωτικός* pertaining to life, f. *Bios* life.]

+1. Of or pertaining to (common) life, secular.

1600 J. MELVILL *Diary* (1842) 331 The quihik to serve for all those biotik matters, I thought well to be heir insert.

2. Of animal life; vital. So **Biotic**.

1874 MARTIN *Keil's Min. Proph.* I. 408 The idea that there is a biotic rapport between man and the larger domestic animals. 1847 CARPENTER in *Todd Cycl. Anat. & Phys.* III. 151 Organization and biotical functions arise from the natural operations of forces inherent in elemental matter. 1882 *Pop. Sc. Monthly* XXII. 168 The phenomena of irritability, assimilation, growth, and reproduction, which we may comprehensively designate as biotical.

Biotite (bai'itit), *Min.* [after *Biol*, a French mineralogist.] Hexagonal or magnesia mica.

1862 ANSTED *Channel Isl.* II. x. (ed. 2) 259 note, The ordinary varieties of mica (not biotite). 1876 LAWRENCE *Cotta's Rocks Class.* 21 The geological area of biotite.

Bioue, obs. form of **BEHOUE**.

Biouac, **biovac**, obs. forms of **BIVOUAC**.

Bipalmate (bai'palmæt), *a. Bot.* [f. *Bi-* pref.² + *PALMATE*, f. *L. palma* palm (of the hand).] Doubly or subordinately palmate: applied to compound leaves having a palmate arrangement

on secondary petioles which are themselves palmately arranged on the primary petiole.

1864 in WEBSTER. 1876 MASTERS *Hensley's Bot.* 63 Bi- or tripalmate leaves are very rare (*Araliaceae*).

Biparietal (bipari'etāl), *a.* [f. *Bi-* pref.² 5 + *PARIETAL*, f. *L. pariet-em* wall.] Joining the two parietal bones of the skull.

1857 (see *BITEMPORAL*). 1859 TODD *Cycl. Anat. & Phys.* V. 183 1/2 The bi-parietal diameter of the fetal head.

Biparous (bi'pā-rūs), *a.* [f. *Bi-* pref.² 2 + *L. parus* producing (*parere* to produce) + *-OUS*.] Producing two at once (in time or place).

1731 in BAILEY II. 1880 GRAY *Bot. Text-bk.* 399 Biparous, as a cyme of two rays or axes.

† **Bipartation**, *Obs.* f. *BIPARTITION*.

Biparted (bi'pārt'ed), *a.* [f. *Bi-* pref.² 1 or 6 + *PART*, -ED; cf. following words.] = *BIPARTITE*.

1896 J. HOOKER *Girald. Irel. in Holinshed II.* 5/2 His arms and ensigne... were biparted, being of two sundrie changes. 1896 WARNER *Alb. Eng.* iv. xx. (1597) 93 Our byparted crowne, of which the Moyette is mine. 1735 BRADLEY *Fam. Dict. s.v. Umbone*, An Umbone which they call double-pointed, or biparted, as in the Peony.

Bipartible (bi'pārt'ib'l), *a.* [f. *L. bipartire* after *L. partibilis*.] Divisible into two parts.

1847 in CRAIG. 1880 in GRAY *Bot. Text-bk.* 399.

Bipartient (bi'pārt'iēnt), *a.* and *sb.* [ad. *L. bipartient-em*, pp. pple. of *bipartire* to divide into two parts, bisect, f. *bi-* two + *partire* to divide.]

A. adj. That divides into two parts.

1678 in PHILLIPS. 1857 FALCONER in *Q. J. Nat. Geol. Soc.* 318 The longitudinal, mesial, bipartient cleft.

B. sb. A number which divides another into two equal parts, without leaving any remainder.

1819 REES *Cycl. s. v.*, Thus 2 is a bipartient to 4.

Bipartile (bi'pārt'il), *a.* [f. *L. bipartire* (see *prec.*), after *L. partilis*.] = *BIPARTIBLE*.

1847 in CRAIG.

Bipartite (bi'pārt'it), *a.* Also 6 bipertite, bypartite. [ad. *L. bipartitus*, pa. pple. of *bipartire*; see *BIPARTIENT*.]

1. Divided into or consisting of two parts.

1574 NEWTON *Health Mag.* Pref. 1 Such indications [are] bipartite and divided into two parts, that is to witte Conservation, and Preservation. 1604 FULBECKE *Pandectes* 3 A bipartite diuision of the yeare into winter and sommer. 1635 SWAN *Spec. M.* viii. § 2 (1643) 386 A bipartite hoof. 1836 TODD *Cycl. Anat. I.* 307 1/2 A corresponding gland... of large size and bipartite.

b. Divided between or shared by two.

1618 BOLTON *Florus* i. ix. 22 The authoritie... should bee now but from yeere to yeere and bipartite. 1658 W. BUSTON *Itin. Anton.* 65 This bipartite, or joint-power.

c. Bot. Divided into two parts nearly to the base.

1864 in WEBSTER. 1872 OLIVER *Elem. Bot.* ii. 162 Observe also the... bipartite calyx of Common Furze.

2. in *Law*, of a contract, indenture, etc.: Drawn up in two corresponding parts, one for each party.

1506 Bury Wills (1850) 106 My present testament and last will bipartite. 1592 West *Symbol.* i. § 47 These deedes indented are not only bipartite... but may be tripartite.

Bipartitely, *adv.* [f. *prec.* + *-LY*.] In a bipartite manner; in or into two parts.

1836 Du Gard *Gate Lat. Unl.* § 584 A Man is divided bipartitely into Soul and Body.

Bipartition (bi'pārti'fən), [*n.* of action f. *bipartire*; see *prec.* and *-TION*.] Division into two parts; (viewed either as action or result).

1652 SPARKE *Prim. Deuot.* (1663) 321 These imitating fire... may easily be conceived into a bipartition. 1684 T. BURNET *The Earth* 284 The form, qualities, and Legisl. viii. § 1 note, Done in the way of bipartition, di-bipartition of the primeval earth. 1865 W. PALGRAVE *Arabia* I. 352 The fact of the great bipartition of the Arab race is certain.

† **Bipatent**, *a.* *Obs.* [ad. *L. bipatēnt-em*, f. *bi-* twice, in two ways + *patēnt-em* lying open.] 'Open on both sides.' Blount *Glossogr.* 1656.

† **Bipeche**, *v.* *Obs.* Forms: 1 *bepēcan*, 2-3 *bipeche(n)*. *Pa. t.* 2-3 *bipehte*. *Pa. pple.* 1 *bepēht*, 2-3 *be-*, *bipaht*, -*pauht*, 3 *bipelyhte*. [OE. *bepēcan*, f. *bi-*, BE- + *pēcan* to deceive.]

trans. To cheat, deceive, delude.

c. 1000 *Ag. Gosp. Matt.* ii. 16 For þam þe he beþeçt was fram þam tungel-witegum. 1554 O. E. *Chron.* (Laud MS.) an. 1132 Te king was welneh beþaht. c. 1300 *Trin. Coll. Hom.* 213 In chepinge man bipeched ober. a. 1300 *Fragm. Sen. Sins* in E. E. P. (1862) 19 þer is mani man bipeçte.

Hence † *Bipeching* *vbl. sb.*, deception, fraud.

c. 1300 *Trin. Coll. Hom.* 213 þe grune of hindre þat is of bipeching.

Bipectinate, -ated (bi'pēkti'nāt, -ētd), *a.* [f. *Bi-* pref.² 1 + *PECTINATE*, f. *L. pecten*, *pectin-em* comb.] Having two margins toothed like a comb.

1836-9 TODD *Cycl. Anat. & Phys.* II. 892 The bipectinate antennae of many moths. 1870 ROLLESTON *Anim. Life* 40 The four bipectinate gills.

Biped (bi'pēd), *sb.* and *a.* [ad. *L. bipēd-em*, f. *bi-* two + *pedem* (nom. *pēs*) foot; cf. *F. bipède*.]

A. sb. A two-footed animal.

1646 SIR T. BROWNE *Pseud. Ep.* iii. iv. 114 Neither biped nor quadruped oviparous have any [stones] exteriorly. 1699 'Yvon *Orange-Out.* 91 Our Pygmie is... tho' a Biped, yet of

the Quadrumanus-kind. 1844 MISS MITFORD *Village Ser.* i. (1863) 39 Those fastidious bipeds, men and women.

B. adj. Having two feet; two-footed.

1793 SOUTHEY *Nondesc. i. Wks.* III. 59 His drivers goad the biped beast. 1849-52 TODD *Cycl. Anat. & Phys.* IV. 1297 1/2 The purely biped progression of Man.

Bipedal (bi'pēdāl), *a.* [ad. *L. bipēdālem* two feet long, f. *bi-* two + *pedem* (*pēs*) foot. The modern senses are derived from *prec. sb.*]

† 1. Two feet long. *Obs. rare.*

c. 1420 *Pallad. on Husb.* vi. 185 Brik bipedal chaneled bryng on lofte.

2. Having two feet, two-footed, biped.

1607 TOPSELL *Four-f. Beasts* 425 Three kinds of Mice, of the which some are called Bipodal or two-footed. 1760 *Life of Cat* 106 His bipodal fellow-creatures. 1830 LVELL *Princ. Geol.* (1875) I. i. ix. 153 These bird-reptiles... were more or less completely bipedal.

3. Of, pertaining to, or caused by a biped.

1833 LVELL *Elem. Geol.* xxi. (1874) 371 The bipedal impressions are for the most part trifid. 1872 NICHOLSON *Palaeont.* 467 Man is distinguished... by his... bipedal progression.

Bipedality (bi'pēdāl'itē), [*f. prec.* + *-ITY*.]

The quality of being two-footed.

1847 LEWES *Hist. Philos.* (1853) 301 Rationality, morality, bipedality, and all the other substantial attributes. 1882 *Academy* 15 July 41 1/2 Personality no more 'involves' mortality... than it involves bipedality.

† **Bipedaneous**, *a.* *Obs.* -o [f. *L. bipēdāneus*.]

= *BIPEDAL*. Blount *Glossogr.* 1656.

† **Bipedical** (l), *a.* *Obs.* -o 'Two foot long.'

Cockeram 1623.

Bipeltate (bi'pēlt'et), *a.* [f. *Bi-* pref.² 1 + *PELTATE*, ad. *L. peltātus*; f. *L. pelta*, a. Gr. *πέλη* shield.] Having a defence like a double shield.

1846 in BRANDE.

Bipennate, -ated (bi'pēn'et, -ētd), *a.* [f. *Bi-* pref.² 1 + *PENNATE*, ad. *L. pennātus*, f. *penna* feather, wing.] Two-winged.

1713 DERHAM *Phys. Theol.* viii. iv. note, All bipennate Insects have Poyes joyn'd to the body.

Bipenniform (bi'pēnif'orm), *a.* [f. *Bi-* pref.² 1 + *PENNIFORM*.] Feather-shaped on both sides.

1842 E. WILSON *Anat. Vade M.* 136 Or bipenniform, converging to both sides of the tendon.

Bipertite, *obs.* f. *BIPARTITE*; cf. *L. bipertite*.

Bipetalous: see *Bi-* pref.² 1.

† **Biphyllous**, *a.* *Obs. rare* -l. [f. *Bi-* pref.² 1 + *Gr. φύλλον* leaf + *-OUS*.] Two-leaved, bifoliate.

1796 P. BROWNE *Jamaica* 153 A very small exterior bi-phyllous cup.

† **Bipil(en)**, *v.* *Obs.* [f. *BE-* 3 + *ME. pīlen* to PEEL.] *trans.* To deprive of the peel or bark.

Hence *Bipiliung vbl. sb.*, peeling.

a. 1225 *Ancr. R.* 148 Heo hæued bipiled mine figer. *Ibid.* 150 Vor þe uormeste bipiliunge... nis buten of prude.

Bipinnate (bi'pinn'et), *a.* [ad. mod. *L. bipinnātus*; see *Bi-* pref.² 3 and *PINNATE*, f. *pinnā* wing.]

1. Doubly or subordinately pinnate; see *quot.*

1794 MARTYN *Rousseau's Bot.* xxi. 301 The leaves are doubly winged or bipinnate. 1872 OLIVER *Elem. Bot.* i. vii. 77 A leaf becomes twice pinnate (bi-pinnate) when the common petiole, instead of bearing leaflets, bears secondary petioles upon which the leaflets are pinnately arranged.

2. Zool. Having feathery appendages in opposed pairs.

1856-8 W. CLARK *Van der Hoeven's Zool.* II. 63 Tail... without spur, bipinnate above. 1868 WRIGHT *Ocean World* vi. 142 Pennatula... with polypes on bipinnate wings.

Bipinnated, *a.* [f. as *prec.* + *-ED*.] = *prec.* 1.

1842 RICHARDSON *Geol.* (1856) 182 Leaves bipinnated.

Bipinnatifid (bi'pinnat'ifid), *a.* Bot. [f. *Bi-* pref.² 3 + *PINNATIFID*.] Of leaves: Pinnatifid, with the primary lobes or pinnae themselves similarly divided. So *Bipinnatifid*, -*partite*, *Bipinnatisect*, -*sected*.

1830 LINDLEY *Nat. Syst. Bot.* 83 Leaves... sinuate-pinnatifid, or bipinnatifid. 1870 BENTLEY *Bot.* 153 If the divisions are themselves divided in a similar manner to the lamina itself, the leaf is said to be bipinnatifid, bipinnatifid, or bipinnatisect.

Biplicate (bi'p-, bi'plik'et), *a.* [f. *Bi-* pref.² 2 + *-PLICATE*, ad. *L. plicātus* folded.] Twice folded.

1861 in HENSLOW.

Biplicity (bi'plicitē), [*f. Bi-* pref.² II; cf. *duplicity*.] Twofold state or quality.

1731 in BAILEY II; whence in mod. Dicts.

Bipolar (bi'pōlār), *a.* [f. *Bi-* pref.² 1 + *POLAR*.] Having two poles or opposite extremities; in *Phys.* applied to nerve-cells connected with the nerve-fibres by two prolongations.

1859 TODD *Cycl. Anat. & Phys.* V. 282 1/2 The vaso-ganglions of the eel... are bipolar. 1865 MANSFIELD *Salts* 4 This bipolar, two-membered system.

fig. 1830 COLERIDGE *Friend ix.* (ed. 3) III. 171 Philosophy being necessarily bipolar. 1875 E. WHITE *Life in Christ* iii. xix. (1878) 254 The Divine Nature is revealed as bi-polar, or of double aspect.

Bipolarity (bi'pōlār'itē), [*f. prec.* + *-ITY*.]

Bipolar quality or state.

1865 MANSFIELD *Salts* 53 The voltaic bipolarity of each.

Bipont, *bipontine*, *a.* [ad. *L. Bipontinus*, f. *Bipontium*.] Of editions of the classics, etc.:

Printed at Zweibrücken (Deuxponts, *Bipontium*) in Bavaria, in the latter half of the 18th c.

Biporose: see *Bi-* pref.² 1, 2.

† **Biprene**, -*preone*, *v.* *Obs.* [ME. f. *bi-* BE- pref. 2 + *preon-em* to PREEN.] To pin, or nail fast, to fasten down.

c. 1275 *Signs Death* 10 in O. E. Misc. (1872) 101 Leyp be on bere. And bi-preone þe on here. And doþ þe ine putte.

Bipunctate (bi'pŭŋkt'et), *a.* [ad. mod. *L. bipunctātus*, f. *bi-* twice + *punctātus* pointed.]

Having or marked by two punctures or points.

1864 in WEBSTER.

Bipunctual (bi'pŭŋkt'izāl), *a.* [f. *Bi-* pref.² 1 + *PUNCTUAL*, f. as in *prec.*] = *prec.*

1731 in BAILEY; whence in mod. Dicts.

Bipupillate, -pyramidal: see *Bi-* pref.² 1.

Biquadrate (bi'kwōdr'et), *a.* and *sb.* *Math.* [f. *Bi-* pref.² 2 + *QUADRATE*, ad. *L. quadrātus* squared.]

The square of the square (power or root); the fourth power in arithmetic and algebra; = *BICUADRATIC*.

1706 PHILLIPS, *Biquadrate*,... the fourth Power in Arithmetic and Algebra. 1806 HUTTON *Course Math.* I. 171 Its... cube (*a*³), or biquadrate (*a*⁴). *Ibid.* I. 203 The biquadrate root of $16a^4 - 96a^2x + 216a^2x^2 - 216ax^3 + 81x^4$.

Biquadrate, *v.* *Math.* [f. *prec.*] *trans.* To raise (a number) to its fourth power.

1694 *Phil. Trans.* XVIII. 70 Performed by squaring, cubing, biquadrating, etc. of the terms.

Biquadratic (bi'kwōdr'et'ik), *a.* and *sb.* *Math.* [f. *Bi-* pref.² 2 + *QUADRATIC*; see *prec.*]

A. adj. Pertaining to the square of a square, or fourth power, of a number.

Biquadratic equation: an equation in which the unknown quantity is raised to the fourth power. *Biquadratic parabola*: a curve of the third order, having two infinite legs tending the same way. *Biquadratic root*: the square root of the square root (of a number).

1668 PELL in Rigaud *Corr. Sci. Men* I. 132 The Latin paper concerning biquadratic equations. 1694 *Phil. Trans.* XVIII. 70 By extracting... the Cubick, Biquadratick Roots, etc. of the Terms. 1804 YOUNG in *Phil. Trans.* XCV. 74 Determined by the solution of a biquadratic equation.

B. sb. a. The fourth power of a number. *b.* A biquadratic equation.

1661 PELL in Rigaud *Corr. Sci. Men* I. 132 This biquadratic hath not four possible roots. 1797 CHAMBERS *Cycl.* *Biquadratic*, the next Power above the Cube. 1798 Wood in *Phil. Trans.* LXXXVIII. 369 In cubics and biquadratics, the imaginary roots were found to be of this form, $a + \sqrt{-b}$. 1838 HALLAM *Hist. Lit.* I. i. ix. § 5 The method of solving biquadratics.

Biquarterly: see *Bi-* pref.² 4.

Biqueste, *biqueste*: see *BQ*.

Biquintile (bi'kwint'il, -il), *Astrol.* [f. *Bi-* pref.² 2 + *QUINTILE*.] An aspect of the planets, when they are distant from each other twice the fifth part of a great circle,—that is, 144 degrees.

1647 LILLY *Chr. Astrol.* iii. 32 Kepler... hath added some new ones (aspects), as follow... A Biquintill *Bq* consisting of 144 degrees. 1686 GOAD *Celest. Bodies* i. ii. 39 The Biquintile will look for some Respect. 1797 in CHAMBERS *Cycl.*; and in mod. Dicts.

Biquour, *obs.* form of *BICKER sb.* 1

† **Bir**, *v.* *Obs. impers.* Forms: *Pres.* 1 *byrēð*, 3 *burp*, *birp*, 4 *birt*, *birs*, *beres*, *bers*. *Pa. t.* 1 *byrede*, 3-4 *burd(e)*, *bird(e)*, *byrd*. [OE. *byrian* impers. (more usually *gebyrian*), cogn. w. ON. *byrja*, OHG. *purjan*, MHG. *burnen*, *burn* to lift or hold up, MDu. *bōren*, *boren*, Du. *beuren* to lift;—OTeut. **burjan*; f. root *ber-* BEAR. Franck connects the primitive sense of 'lift, raise' with that of OE. *gebyrian* (*byrian*), Ger. *gebühren*, by supposing the latter to have been orig. 'to arise, come up (as an event), occur, happen, befall, fall to as an occurrence, whence "fall to as a share, right, duty, etc."'] To fall to, pertain, belong; to behave, be proper.

c. 950 *Lindisf. G.* Mark iv. 38 Ne to ðe byrēð (*Rusku. zibyrēð*) þæt we sie deað? c. 975 *Rusku. G.* Matt. xii. 4 Þa þe ne byrede him [*Lindisf. neron* gelefed, *Ag. G. nærun* him alyfed] to etanne. a. 1300 *Cursor M.* 17164 Birt þe thinc apon mi pine. c. 1325 *Met. Rom.* 2 On the bird be his mast thouht. *Ibid.* 10 Forthi bers us trow thaim. *Ibid.* 84 Wel birs us blis the derworthelye. c. 1375? *Barbour St. Marth* 152 Me byrd be blyth þat sycht to se.

Bir, *obs.* form of *BIRE*.

Biradiate, -ated: see *Bi-* pref.² 1.

Birall, -ell, *obs.* forms of *BERYL*.

Biramous (bi'rāmōs), *a.* [f. *Bi-* pref.² 1 + *L. rāmus* branch.] Two-branched.

1877 HUXLEY *Anat. Int. An.* vi. 276 Biramous swimming feet. *Ibid.* 277 The first pair of biramous appendages.

† **Birb**. *Obs. rare* -l. A minute barb or beard.

1658 R. FRANK *North. Mem.* (1821) 183 Their... birbs as stiff and as strunt as bristles.

Birbine, variant form of *BEARBINE*.

1860 PIERRE *Lab. Chem. Wond.* 113 Wild roses and birbine, two stragglers of my walk.

Birch (bōrtʃ), *sb.* Forms: *a.* 1 *berc*, *beorc* (*1 beoroh*), *byrc*. *β.* 1 *birclao*, *byroe*, *birce*, 3-6 *birche*, 5-6 *byrche* (*4- birch; north.* 4-5 *byrk(e)*, 4- *birk*). [OE. had two forms: (1) *herc*, *beorc* str. fem. = ON. *björk*

OTeut. *berk- str. fem.; (2) OE. *birce*, *byrce*, *birce*, in Epinal Gl. *birce*, wk. fem. = OHG. *bir* (2) *cha* (MHG., mod.G. *birke*) :—OTeut. **birjōn*- wk. fem., a derivative of **berk-* (cf. the two forms *bōk-* and *bōkōn*- BRECH). An Indo-Germanic tree name :—OArvan **bhergo*-, **bhergā*- : cf. Skr. *bhūrja* a species of birch, Lith. *beržas*, Oslav. *brza*. The OE. *birce* gave ME. *birche*, mod. *birch*; the northern form *birke* reaches to Morecambe Bay and Lincoln : cf. CHURCH, KIRK.]

1. A genus of hardy northern forest trees (*Betula*), having smooth tough bark and very slender branches. *a. esp.* The common European species (*B. alba*) which grows from Mt. Etna to Iceland, and from Greenland to Kamtschatka, and is distinguished among the other forest trees by its slender white stem; its twigs, bound in bundles, have furnished brooms, and the 'birch' for flogging. Also called Lady Birch, Silver B., White B.; the Weeping or Drooping Birch (*B. pendula*) is a variety.

(In OE. Vocabularies *berc*, *birce*, translate both L. *betula* and *populus*.)

a 700 Epinal Gl. 130 (also Erf. & Cott.), *Betula*, *berc arbor dictus*, = 700 *Populus*, *birce* [*Corpus birce*]. *a 1000 Rune Poem* 18 *Beorc* byð *bleda leas*. *a 1000 ÆLFRIC Gloss.* in W. Wülcker *Voc.* 138 *Populus*, *byrc*. *Betulus*, *byrc*. *c 1000 Sax. Leechd.* II. 332 *Nim* *seps rinde*. *berc rinde*. *c 1050 W. Wülcker Voc.* 361 *Betulus*, *byrc*. — *469 Populus*, *byrc*. *c 1300 K. Alis.* 5242 *Beches*, *birches* of the fairest. *1375 BARBOUR Bruce* xvi. 394 *Byrkis* on athir syde the way. *c 1386 CHAUCER Knts.* I. 2063 *As oke*, *fir*, *birch*, *aspe*, *alder*, *holm*, *poplere*. *1398 TREVISAR Barth. De P. R.* xvii. cliz. (1495) 708 *Therwyth* houses *ben swete* and *clensyd*. and many called this tree *Byrche*. *1551 TURNER Herbal* (1568) 66 *Byrche* . . . serueth . . . for betyng of stubborne boyes. *1577 B. GOODE Heresbach's Husb.* (1586) 102 *Birch* . . . is a tree very meete for woodes. *1601 SOUTHEY Thalaba* xi. xxiii. *The Birch* so beautiful, *Light* as a lady's plumes. *1609 SOUTHEY Sir T. More* I. 121 *Directly* opposite there are some . . . steps of herbage, and a few *birch*. *1830 TENNYSON Diver* i. *Shadows* of the silver *birch* Sweep the green that folds thy grave. *1874 BLACKIE Self-Cult.* 42 *The fragrant* breath of *birches* blowing around him.

b. Dwarf Birch (*B. nana*), a low wiry shrub found on Scottish moorlands and in continental Europe and North America; *Paper Birch* or *White B.* of America (*B. papyracea*), a North American species, so called from the brilliant white colour of the bark, of which the Indians build birch-bark canoes; *Cherry Birch* (*B. lenta*), also called *Sweet Mahogany*, or *Mountain B.*, a native of N. America, with fragrant leaves. Numerous other species are known: and the name is popularly applied to other genera, as the *West Indian Birch* (*Bursera gummifera*, NO. *Amyridaceæ*).

1875 HIGGINSON Yng. Folks' U. S. Hist. iii. 17 *The canoe* was made of the bark of the white-birch.

c. The wood of this tree.

a 1400 Sir Perc. 772 *A fyre* byrnnande *Off byrke* and of *akke*. *1823 P. NICHOLSON Pract. Build.* 262 *Birch* is also a very common wood.

d. The plural birks is often used in the north in the name of a wood or grove of birches.

a 1744 D. MALLEY Song 'The Birks of Endermay.' 1794 *BURNS Birks Aberfeldy*, *Let us spend* the lightsome days *In the birks of Aberfeldy*. *1845 WHITBY Gloss.* *Birks*, a coppice or small wood in which the growth chiefly consists of birches.

2. A bunch of birch-twigs bound together to form an instrument for the flagellation of school-boys and of juvenile offenders; a birch-rod.

[c 1440 Rome Flor. 1518 *He bete* hur wyth a yerde of *byrke*. *1603 SHAKS. Meas. for M.* i. iii. 24 *The threatening* twigs of *birch*.] *1648 HERRICK Upon Pagget*, *Hesp.* (1860) 67 *Pagget*, a school-boy, got a sword, and then *He yow'd* destruction both to *birch* and *men*. *1730 SWIFT Sheridan's Subm.* Wks. 1755 IV. i. 260 *I've nothing* left to vent my spleen *Bur ferula* and *birch*. *1831 CARLYLE Sart. Res.* II. iii. *Were he* (the Schoolmaster) to walk abroad with *birch* *girt* on thigh. *1835 MARRVAT Jac. Faithf. v.*

3. A canoe made of the bark of the Canoe or Paper Birch (*Betula papyracea*).

1864 LOWELL Fireside Trav. 129 *Never* use the word *canoe*. . . if you wish to retain your self-respect. *Birch* is the term among us backwoodsmen. *1884 E. HALE Christmas in Narrag.* i. 20 *To paddle* a *birch* across the lake.

4. *Comb.* and *Attrib.*, as *birch-broom*, *-knowe*, *-leaf*, *-stalk*, *-tree*, *-wand*, *-wood*; *birch-fringed*, *-shaded*, *adjs.*; *birch camphor*, a resinous substance obtained from the bark of the Black Birch (*B. nigra*); *birch oil*, an oil extracted from the bark of the birch, and used in the preparation of Russia leather, to which it gives its smell; *birch-rod* = *BIRCH* 2; *birch-water*, the sap obtained from the birch-tree in spring; *birch-wine*, wine prepared from birch-water.

1768 CHURCHILL Ghost II. 306 *Hark!* something scratches round the room! *A cat*, a rat, a stubb'd 'birch-broom. *1796 Mrs. GLASSE Cookery* xxii. 348 *Scrub* them well with a little 'birch-broom or brush. *1831 CARLYLE Sart. Res.* II. iii. *That it* (the soul). . . could be acted on through the muscular integument by appliance of 'birch rods. *1879 Act 42-3 Vict.* xlix. § 10 *Such young person* to be . . . privately whipped with not more than twelve strokes of a 'birch rod by a constable. *1830 PALSGR.* 198/1 **Byrche* tree, *bouliav.* *1876 GRANT Burgh Sch. Scot.* II. v. 196 *Striking* some on the hand with

a 'birch-wand. *1663 BOYLE Usefulness Nat. Philos.* II. iv. 103 *The great commendation* . . . given to this 'Birch-water. *1769 Mrs. RAFFALD Eng. Housekpr.* (1778) 325 *Boil* twenty gallons of 'birch water. *1681 Lond. Gaz.* No. 1616/4 **Birch*-Wine rightly prepared, and made of the Sap of Birch Trees. *1853 LINDLEY Veg. Kingd.* (ed. 3) 252 **Birch* Wine has a popular reputation as a remedy for stone and gravel. *1849 SOUTHEY Com-pl. Bk.* Ser. II. 615 *Horns* made of 'birch-wood. *1860 G. H. K. Vac. Tour* 135 *The old* 'birch-woods still linger here and there.

Birch, *v.* [f. prec. sb.]

1. *trans.* To punish with a birch rod; to flog. [Not in RICHARDSON; nor in TODD 1818.] *1830 MARRVAT King's Own* xlvii. *Like* a school-boy ordered up to be birched. *1845 THACKERAY Bk. Snobs* v. At Eton . . . he was birched with perfect impartiality.

2. To drive (knowledge) into (a boy) by flogging. *1883 American VI.* 214 *Greek and Latin* were birched into them while they were young.

Birchen (bō'tŋ'n), *a.* Forms: 5-6 *birkin*, *byrchen*, *-in*, 6-7 *birchin*, 7 *byrchen*, 5- *birchen*, (north.) *birken*. [f. *BIRCH* sb. + -EN¹.] Of, pertaining to, or composed of birch; of or pertaining to the birch used in flogging.

c 1440 Gaw. & Golograsi. 3 (Mätz.) *Birkin* bewis about boggis and wellis. *1481 CAXTON Reynard* (Arb.) 41 *Two birchen* trees. *1556 TINDALE Wks.* (1573) 166 *We say* of a wanton child. . . he must be annoyed with byrchin salve. *1556 J. HEYWOOD Spider & F.* iii. 19 *Our maide* with hir birchin broome. *1611 BEAUM. & FL. Knt. Burn.* Pistle iv. 64 *And now* the *Burchin* Tree doth bud that makes the Schoolboy cry. *1740 FIELDING Tom Jones* v. xi. *Unless* you had the same birchen argument to convince me. *1808 J. MAYNE Siller Gun* 28 (JAM.) *Birchen* chaplets not a few *And yellow* broom. *1833 Fraser's Mag.* VII. 137 *Boydhood* sheds its flood of birchen tears. *1865 PARKMAN Champlain* ix. (1875) 300 *Canoe-men*, in their birchen vessels.

Birching, *obl. sb.* [f. *BIRCH* v. + -ING¹.] A whipping with a birch rod, a flogging. + *To send one to Birching* (*Birchin*, *Birchen*) *Lane*: i. e. for a whipping (with a punning reference to *Birchin Lane* in London). *Nares*.

a 1845 Hood To I. Walton 33, *I poked* his rods and lines in the fire, and his father gave him a birching.

Bird (bārd). Forms: 1-5 *brid*, 1 north. *bird*, 3-5 *bridd*, 3-6 *bryd*, 4-5 *bridd*, *bred* (e, 4 *berd*, 4-6 *byrd* (e, 5 *brydde*, 5-7 *birde*, 5- *dial.* *brid*, 5- *bird*. Pl. *birds*: formerly *briddas*, *-es*, *-is*, *-ys*, *-us*; *birdas*, *-es*. [ME. *byrd*, *bryd*:—OE. *brid* masc. (pl. *briddas*), in Northumbrian *bird*, *birdas* 'offspring, young', but used only of the young of birds. There is no corresponding form in any other Teutonic lang., and the etymology is unknown. If native Teut., it would represent an original **briddo*-: this cannot be derived from *BROOD*, *BREED*, and even the suggestion that it may be formed like these from the root **bru-* (see *BROOD*) appears to be quite inadmissible.]

+ **I. 1. orig.** The general name for the young of the feathered tribes; a young bird; a chicken, eaglet, etc.; a nestling. The only sense in OE.; found in literature down to 1600; still retained in north. dial. as 'a hen and her birds.'

a 800 Corpus Gl. (O. E. Texts) 1687 *Pullus*, *brid*. *c 1000 Ags. Gosp.* Luke ii. 24 *Twa turtlan* oððe *twegen culfran* briddas [*Lindisf. & Rushw.* *birdas*, *Hafton* briddes]. *a 1100* in W. Wülcker *Voc.* 318 *Pullus*, *cicen* oððe *brid*. *c 1200 Trin. Coll. Hom.* 49 *Duue* feded briddes. *a 1300 E. E. Psalter* lxxxiii. (iv.) 4 *And þe turtil* (finde). . . a neste *þar* he mai with his briddes [*Wyclif*, *briddis*, *bryddis*] reste. *1377 LANGL. P. Pl.* B. xi. 348 *Some*. . . bredden, and brougten forth her bryddes so 'al about þe grounde. *1506 Pilgr. Perf.* (W. de W. 1531) 13 *He*. . . cherysseth vs, as the eagle her byrdes. *1599 WARNER Alb. Eng.* viii. cxli. (1597) 200 *The Pellicane* theare neasts his *Bird*. *1593 SHAKS. 3 Hen. VI.* II. i. 91 *That Princely* Eagles *Bird*. *1828 GALT Entail* lxxv. *The* *craw* thinks its ain *bird* the whitest.

+ **b. The young of other animals. Obs.**

1388 Wyclif Matt. xxiii. 33 *3e eddris*, and *eddris briddis*. *1398 TREVISAR Barth De P. R.* xii. v. (1495) 415 *In* temperat yerre *ben* fewe byrdes of been [= been]. *Ibid.* xiii. xxvii. (1495) 458 *All fysshe*. . . fede and kepe theyr byrdes. *c 1440 Gesta Rom.* i. vii. 16 *A serpent*—made his nest . . . and brogt forth his briddis there. *1591 BRUCE 11 Serm.* Yviiia (JAM.) *They* *wald* ever be handled as *Teds* birds. *1597 Act 7 Jas. I.* 1427 (title) *The Woolfe* and *Woolfe-birds* suld be slaine.

+ **c. transf.** A young man, youngster, child, son.

Obs. (In later times only fig.: cf. *chick*, *chicken*.)

a 1300 Cursor M. 22381 [*Anticrist*] þat ilk *warlau* bridd [*Fairf.* *warlagh* bridd, *Trin.* *pulke* fendes bridd]. *Ibid.* 9811 *Qua-sum* on sulik a *bird* [*Jesus*] *wald* thinc [*Gott.* bridd]. *c 1330 Amis & Amil.* 15 *The berdes* bold of chere. *1559 Homilies i. Good Wks.* II. (1859) 54 *To follow* his own phantasie, and (as you woulde saye) to fauoure his owne byrde. *1566 Knox Hist. Ref.* Wks. 1846 I. 125 *His* *bastard* byrdis bear some witness. *1571 Scot. Poems* 16th C. (1801) II. 280 *Thea* *dispar* birds of Beliall.

d. A maiden, a girl. [In this sense *bird* was confused with *burde*, *BURD*, originally a distinct word, perhaps also with *bryd* (e *BRIDE*); but later writers understand it as fig. sense of 1 or 2.]

a 1300 Cursor M. 7131 [*Delilah*] þat *birde* [*r. r.* *bride*, *bryde*, *brydd*] was biddande bald. *Ibid.* 10077 [*Mary*] þat blisful *bird* [*r. r.* *berde*, *byrd*, *bryrde*] of grace. *c 1325 E. E. Allit. P. A.* 768 *Maskellez* *bryd* þat *bryst* *com flambe*. *c 1400 Yvaine & Gau.* 3313 *That he* might wed that *bird* bright. *c 1485 Digby Myst.* (1882) III. 356 *3e* *bewtews* *byrd* [*Luxuria*], *I must* *yow* *kyss*. *1611 SHAKS. Cymb.* IV. ii. 107 *The Bird* is dead *That* we haue made so much on. *1864*

CAMPBELL Ld. Ullin's Daw. vi. *And by my word!* the bonny *bird* *In* danger shall not tarry. *1816 Scott Old Mort.* xli. *'Peggy, my bonny bird,* . . . addressing a little girl of twelve years old.

2. Any feathered vertebrate animal: a member of the second class (*Aves*) of the great Vertebrate group, the species of which are most nearly allied to the Reptiles, but distinguished by their warm blood, feathers, and adaptation of the fore limbs as wings, with which most species fly in the air.

Now used generically in place of the older name *Fowl*, which has become specialized for certain kinds of poultry, and by sportsmen for wild ducks and wild geese. In this sense, *bird*, ME. *brid*, is found in the south c 1300; it appears to have been extended from the young of birds (sense 1) at first to the smaller kinds, Chaucer's 'smale foules.' So late as a century ago, Dr. Johnson says (1755-73) 'In common talk *fowl* is used for the larger, and *bird* for the smaller kind of feathered animals'; and this distinction still obtains to some extent dialectally. (In Scotland *large birds* e.g. hawks, herons, are 'fowls', *small birds*, as well as chickens, are 'birds'.) A further process of specialization (cf. the histories of *fowl*, *deer*, *beast*), seems still to be in progress in regard to *bird*, as witness its technical use by game-preservers (sense 3).

a 1225 Ancr. R. 102 *Eni* *toutle* *ancre* . . . þet bekeð *euer* *utward* *ase* *untowe* *brid* *ine* *cage*. *Ibid.* 134 *Peos* *briddes* *habbed* *nestes*. *c 1385 CHAUCER L. G. W.* 1753 *On* *morwe*, *whanne* the *brid* *began* to *syng*. *1398 TREVISAR Barth. De P. R.* v. xxviii. (1495) 138 *Amonge* *brides* the *popyniaye* and the *pellican* use the *foie* in *stede* of an *honde*. *c 1438-50 tr. Higden* (1865) I. 99 *A brydde* *callede* *fenix*. *1475 Bk. Noblesse* 59 *By* *augures* and *divinations* of *briddis*. *1526 TINDALE Matt.* viii. 20 *The bryddes* of the *aier* *haue* *nestes*. *1613 SHAKS. Hen. VIII.* IV. i. 89 *The* *rod*, and *Bird* of *Peace*, and all such *Emblemes*. *1631 T. POWELL Tom All Trades* 166 *As* *free* as *bird* in *ayre*. *1770 M. BRUCE Cuckoo* v. *Sweet* *bird!* *thy* *bower* is *ever* *green*. *1798 COLERIDGE Anc. Mar.* v. *He* *loved* the *bird* that *loved* the *man* *Who* *shot* *him* with his *bow*. *1850 TENNYSON In Mem.* cxiv. *The* *happy* *birds* that *change* their *sky* *To* *build* and *brood*.

3. *Sport.* A game bird; with game-preservers *spec.* a partridge. *fig.* Prey, object of attack.

1596 SHAKS. Tam. Shr. v. ii. 46 *Am* *I* *your* *Bird*, *I* *meane* to *shift* my *bush*. *1609 DEKKER Lanth. & Candle-Lt.* Wks. 1884-5 III. 243 *The Bird* that is *preid* *vpon*, is *Money*. *1833 M. SCOTT Tom Cringle*, *The* *Lieutenant*. . . was my *bird*, and *I* *had* *disabled* him by a *sabre-cut*. *1877 Daily News* 1 Oct. 5/1 *It* is *impossible* to *admire* *admiring* the *bird*—for although the *partridge* has *usurped* the *designation*, after all the *pheasant* is a *bird*—which can *inspire* such *masterpieces* of *felonious* skill. *Mod.* Reports from the northern moors say the *birds* are *very* *wild*.

4. In various *fig.* applications, chiefly from sense 2; as in reference to the winged or noiseless flight, or soaring of birds; to their confinement in cages (cf. *GAOL-BIRD*); to their song; to the Latin *rara avis* rare fowl, rarity. *Arabian bird* = phoenix.

1588 Marprel. Epist. (Arb.) 30, *I hope* to *see* you in for a *bird*. *1593 Pass. Morrice* 79 *She* *song* *ere* *long* *like* a *bird* of *Bedlam*. *1597 SHAKS. 2 Hen. IV.* v. v. 113 *We* *beare* our *Ciuill* *Swords*. . . As *farre* as *France*. *I* *heare* a *Bird* *so* *sing*. *1606 — Ant. & Cl.* iii. ii. 12 *Oh* *Anthony*, *oh* *thou* *Arabian* *Bird!* *1610 — Temp.* iv. i. 184 *Prosper*. *This* *was* *well* *done* (my *bird*). *c 1799 Miss Rose* in *Rose Diaries* (1860) I. 212 *There* *were* *strange* *birds* *getting* *about* my *father*. *1833 MARRVAT P. Simple* xxxix. *A* *little* *bird* *has* *whispered* a *secret* to *me*. *1875 B. TAYLOR Faust* I. xvi. 159 *There* *must* *be* *such* *queer* *birds* *however*.

5. *Phrases.* + *A bird of one's own brain*: a conception of one's own. + *The bird in the bosom*: one's own secret or pledge, one's conscience. *Birds of a (= one) feather*: those of like character. + *John Grey's bird* (see *quot.*).

1550 Hall Chron. 2 *Saiyng*, when he was *dyng*: *I* *haue* *saue* the *birde* in my *bosome*: meaning that he had kept both his promise and other. *c 1575 GASCOIGNE Fruits Warre* cxvii. *The* *Greene* *knight* was *amongst* the *rest* *Like* *John* *Greys* *birde* that *ventured* *with* the *best*. *1580* in *Hazlitt Prov.* (1869) 263 *Perceiving* them to *cluster* together like *John* *Grays* *bird*, *ut* *dictur*, who *always* *loved* *company*. *1594 T. B. La Primaud. Jr. Acad.* II. 523, *I* *take* it to be a *bird* of their *owne* *brain*. *1600 HOLMES Live* xxvi. xl. 615 *As* *commonly* *birds* of a *feather* *will* *flye* *together*. *1608 D. T[UVILLI] Ess. Pol. & Mor.* 90 b. *A* *prying* *eye*, a *listening* *ear*, and a *prating* *tongue* are *all* *birds* of *one* *wing*. *1632 D. LUPTON Lond. & Carbon.* 57 *The* *Taylor* and *Broker* are *Birds* of a *feather*. *1757 W. THOMPSON R. N. Advoc.* 13 *note*, *Birds* of a *feather* *flock* *together*. *1818 Scott Hrt. Midl.* xxxii. *I* *trow* *thou* *best* a *bird* of the *same* *feather*. *1830 — Abbot* viii. *Thou* *hast* *kept* *well*. . . the *bird* in *thy* *bosom*.

6. In many proverbial expressions.

c 1440 Generydes 4524 *Some* *bete* the *bush* and *some* the *byrdes* *take*. *1523 SKELTON Garl. Laurel* 1452 *Who* *may* *haue* a *more* *ungracious* *lyfe* *Than* a *chylidis* *bird* and a *knauis* *wyfe*? *a 1529 — Agst. Garnesche* 199 *That* *byrd* *ys* *nat* *honest* *That* *flythe* *hys* *owne* *nest*. *c 1530 R. HILLES Com-pl. Bk.* (1858) 140 *A* *byrde* *yn* *honde* *ys* *better* *than* *three* *yn* the *wode*. *c 1530 H. RHODES Bk. Nurture* 579 in *Babees Bk.* (1868) 98 *A* *byrd* in *hand* . . . is *worth* *ten* *flye* *at* *large*. *c 1600 Timon* IV. ii. (1842) 62 *Tis* *well*.—An *olde* *birde* is *not* *caught* with *chaffe*. *1652 ASHMOLE Theatr. Chem.* lxii. 225 *A* *Chylidis* *Byrde*, and a *Chorlys* *Wyne*, *Hath* *ofte* *sythys* *sorow* and *mischance*. *1655 GURNALL Chr. in Arm.* (1845) 46 *Man*. . . *knows* *not* *his* *time*. . . he *comes* *when* the *bird* is *flown*. *1656 HOBBS Liberty*, etc. (1841) 117 *T. H.* *thinks* to *kill* *two* *birds* with *one* *stone*, and *satisfy* *two* *arguments* with *one* *answer*. *1823 GALT Entail* lvi. *It's* a *foul* *bird* that *flies* *it's* *ain* *nest*. *Prov.* *The* *early* *bird* *catches* the *worm*.

II. In combinations.

7. With some defining word connected by *of*, as *bird of Jove*, the eagle; *bird of Juno*, the pea-

cock; also, a hawk; bird of paradise, a bird belonging to the family *Paradiside*, found chiefly in New Guinea, and remarkable for the beauty of their plumage; Bird of passage, any migratory bird; bird of Washington, the American Eagle (*Falco leucocephalus*); bird of wonder, the phoenix.

1613 SHAKS. *Hen. VIII.* v. v. 41 The Bird of Wonder dyes the Maiden Phoenix. 1600 MELTON *Astrolog.* 21 Impostors .. like the Birds of Wonder, flye the light of the Citie. [1603 PURCHAS *Pilgrims* II. vii. They brought vs. two Paradise Birds.] 1638 WILKINS *New World* I. (1634) 175 The Birds of Paradise. .. reside Constantly in the Air. 1667 MILTON *P. L.* xi. 185 The Bird of Jove, stooped from his aerie tour. 1733 POPE *Song Person Qual.*, See the bird of Juno stooping. 1791 E. DARWIN *Bot. Gard.* II. 26 note, The arrival of certain birds of passage. 1850 *Jrnl. Ind. Archipel.* IV. 182 The birds of passage are natives of New Guinea. 1868 Wood *Woods without H.* xviii. 532 The well known Bald-headed Eagle, sometimes called the Bird of Washington.

B. General combinations: a. objective with pres. pble., vbl. sb., or agent-noun, as *bird-alluring*, *-angler*, *-batting* (= BAT-FOWLING), *-catcher*, *-catching*, *-echoing*, *-fancier*, *-netting*, *-seller*, *-stuffer*, *-stuffing*, *-tinting*. b. instrumental, as *bird-conjuror*, *-divination*, *-diviner*, *-ridden*, *-speller*. c. parasyntetic and similitive, as *bird-eyed*, *-fingered*. d. attrib. (of or pertaining to birds), as *bird-architecture*, *-chorus*, *-flight*, *-music*; (connected with the scaring, catching, selling, or training of birds), as *bird-boy*, *-fair*, *-man*, *-net*, *-pole*, *-shop*. Also *bird-like*, adj.

1653 WALTON *Angler* xi. 206 This *Bird-Angler standing upon the top of a steepie to [catch swallows]. 1743 FIELDING *J. Andrews* II. x. *Bird-batting. .. is performed by holding a large clap-net before a lantern, and at the same time beating the bushes. 1850 *Househ. Wds.* I. 545 You shall be *bird-boy when the sowing season comes on. 1880 HOLLYBAND *Treas. Fr. Tong.* *Pippe*, a little pipe the which *bird catchers do use. 1887 R. LESTRANGE *Answ. Diss.* 7 The Skill and Address of *Bird-catching. 1384 WYCLIF *Deut.* xviii. 14 Thes gentils .. brydd conuierers and dyuynours heren. — *Jer.* xxvii. 9 Sweeneyers, and *bird deuyneres. 1870 GALE *Crt. Gentiles* II. iii. 68 Now this *Bird-divination was gathered chiefly by the flying or singing of Birds. 1590 *Pasquill's Apol.* I. Cij. The fellowe is *bird eyed, he startles and snuffes at euery shadow. 1773 BARRINGTON in *Phil. Trans.* LXIII. 283 The *bird-fanciers will not keep them. 1807 GOLDING *De Mornay* xvii. 270 Reteynynge nothing. of her *birdlike nature. 1876 GEO. ELIOT *Dan. Der.* viii. lxi. 550 His *bird-like hope .. soared again. 1867 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 3269/4 At Black Joe's, the German *Bird-man .. canary-birds. 1799 M. BROWNE *Pisc. Eclog.* viii. (1773) 119 The Fisher on the green-sea-deep, And *Birdsman in the osier copse. 1796 MORSE *Amer. Geog.* II. 17 The *birdmen or climbers .. bringing away the birds and their eggs. 1533-4 *Act 25 Hen. VIII.* vii. By means of any wele, butte, net, *berd net of heare. 1571 GOLDING *Calvin on Ps.* xiv. 4 Birdspellers and other heathen soothsayers. 1835 BECKFORD *Recoll.* 163 These *bird-ridden dominions. 1861 DU CHAILLU *Equat. Afr.* xv. 274 After dinner *bird-stuffing goes on. 1864 *Times* 18 May, *Bird-tenting in England means shooting birds or scaring them away .. in Australia .. preserving birds with the most assiduous care.

B. Special comb.: bird-oall, an instrument for imitating the note of birds, in order to attract or decoy them; Bird- (or bird's) cherry, a wild fruit tree or shrub (*Prunus Padus*) bearing a small astringent drupe; but formerly, the Wild Cherry (*P. Avium*); Bird-fly, a fly (*Ornithomyia*) which lives under the plumage of birds; bird-fountain, a glass vessel of special construction for caged birds to drink out of; +bird-gaze, auspice; +bird-gazer, an augur; bird-mouthed a., having a mouth like a bird; hence, unwilling to speak out, inclined to mince matters (*obs.*); +Bird-nut, a variety of walnut; bird-organ, a small organ used in teaching birds to sing; Bird-pepper, kinds of capsicum (*C. baccatum* and *frutescens*); bird-seed, canary-seed, hemp, millet, plantain, or other seeds given to caged birds; bird-spit, a spit for roasting birds on, +fig. a rapier; bird-witted a., lacking the faculty of attention, flitting from subject to subject. Also BIRD-BOLT, BIRD-CAGE.

a 1605 FLETCHER *Bl. Brother* iv. ii. 'Tis Pippeau That is your *bird-call. 1773 BARRINGTON in *Phil. Trans.* LXIII. 272 Easily imposed upon by that most imperfect of all instruments, a *bird-call. 1597 GERARD *Herbal* III. cxxx. § 9 The Birds Cherry-tree, or the blacke Cherry-tree. .. used for stockes to graft other Cherries vpon. 1863 KINGSLEY *Water Bab.* (ed. 2) 15 The *bird-cherry with its tassels of snow. c 1865 LETHBRIDGE in *Circ. Sc.* I. 110/1 Constructed on the principle of the *bird-fountain. 1587 GOLDING *De Mornay* xxii. 335 Cato wondered how two *Birdgazers could meet .. or looke one vpon another without laughing. 1610 HEALEY *St. Aug. Cite of God* 746 They [the disciples] were not *bird-mouthed unto him [Christ]. 1837 GALT in *Fraser's Mag.* XVI. 24 I am not deemed *bird-mouthed on peremptory occasions. 1676 WORLIDGE *Cyder* (1691) 227 Called the *Bird-nut, from the resemblance the kernel hath to a bird, with its wings displayed. .. after the nut is slit in the middle. 1796 P. BROWNE *Jamaica* 176 *Bird Pepper. The capsule and seeds .. are used by most people in these colonies. 1607 *Miseries Enf. Marr.* in *Hazl. Dods.* IX. 563 Put up your *bird-spit, tut, I fear it not. 1605 BACON *Adv. Learning* II. (1861) 228 If a child be *bird-witted, that is, hath not the faculty of attention, the Mathematics giveth a remedy thereunto. 1658 USSHER, *Ann.* vi. 360 [He] proved .. but a *bird-witted man.

10. Combinations of *bird's* (chiefly similitive): Vol. I.

a. *gen.*, as *bird's-beak* moulding (see *quot.*); *bird's-mouth*, an interior or re-entrant angle cut out of the end of a piece of timber.

1853 P. NICHOLSON *Pract. Build.* 191 Fitted .. to its bearings, and to the newel, with a re-entrant angle, or bird's mouth. 1865 RICKMAN *Goth. Archit.* 15 The most complex of all mouldings is the bird's-beak. 1876 GWILT *Archit. Gloss.*, *Bird's-beak* moulding, a moulding which in section forms an ovolo or ogee with or without a fillet under it followed by a hollow.

b. *esp.* in plant-names; e.g. Bird's bill, *Trigonella ornithorhynchus*; Bird's bread, the Small Yellow Stone-crop (*Sedum acre*); Bird's eggs, the Bladder Campion (*Silene inflata*); Bird's Orochis; Bird's Pease; Bird's tare, a species of Arachis; Bird's tongue, applied to numerous plants, usually in reference to the shape of their leaves, as the Greater Stitchwort (*Stellaria holostea*), the Common Maple, Scarlet Pimpernel, Great Fen Ragwort (*Senecio paludosus*), Ornithoglossum; also the fruit of the ash-tree. See also BIRD'S EYE, BIRD'S FOOT, BIRD'S NEST.

1597 GERARD *Herbal* I. cxiii. (1633) 213 *Birds Orchis. The flowers .. like in shape unto little birds, with their wings spread abroad ready to fly. 1713 J. PETIVER in *Phil. Trans.* XXVIII. 211 Winged *Birds Pease or Ochre. 1597 GERARD *Herbal* Table Supp., *Birds Tongue is Stitchwort. *Ibid.* II. cxi. Knot grasse is called .. in the North *Birds tongue. 1770 WITHERING *Brit. Plants* (1830) III. xix. 939 *Senecio paludosus*. *Bird's-tongue Groundsel.

Bird (bôid), v. Also 6 bryd. [f. *prec.*]

1. *intr.* To pursue birdcatching or fowling. 1576 GASCOIGNE *Steel Gl. Epil.*, Till they have caught the birds for whom they bryded. 1580 BARET *Atv.* B 707 To birde, foule, or hauke.

+2. To bird off: to 'pick off' with a musket, etc. (as a sportsman a bird). *Obs. rare.*

1700 RYCAUT *Hist. Turks* iii. 151 Their Men wading over a marshy Ground .. sticking in the Mire, were birded off and killed with Musquet-shot.

Bird, pa. t. of BIR v. *Obs.* to pertain, befit.

+Bird-bolt. *Obs.* Also 6-7 burbolt, 7 birdbolt. [f. BIRD sb. + BOLT.] A kind of blunt-headed arrow used for shooting birds.

c 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 50 Brydbolt or burdbolt, *epitulum*. a 1553 UDALL *Royster D.* (1869) 43 *Mery.* He hath in his head. *Custance*. As much braine as a burbolt. 1601 SHAKS. *Twel. N.* I. v. 100 To take those things for Bird-bolts, that you deeme Cannon bullets. 1659 in *Burton Diary* (1828) III. 111. 41 You can never make a bird-bolt of a pig's tail. 1863 TYLOR *Early Hist. Man.* viii. 209 The wooden headed bird-bolts of the Middle Ages.

b. *attrib.*, as in *birdbolt-shot*.

1553-7 FOXE *A. & M.* (1596) 1887/1 Only one, which was a byrdbolt shot off. 1656 BACON *Sylva* § 249 Some Bird-bolt shot, or more, from the River of Seane.

Bird-bolt, variant of BURBOLT sb.

Bird-cage (bôid,kædʒ). [f. BIRD sb. + CAGE sb.]

1. A cage or coop for a bird or birds. Hence Bird-cage-like a.

1490 *Test. Ebor.* III. 57 De j lex bird-cage. 1666 GERBIER *Princ.* 17 Those who seem to have had for Models Bird-Cages. 1784 COWPER *Acc. Hares in Poems* (1811) II. 425 I was cleaning a bird-cage while the hares were with me. 1663 GERBIER *Counsel* 46 Fit for substantial Structures, but not usual in Lime and Haire Birdcage-like-Buildings. c 1666 EVELYN *Lett. to T. Chiffing in Memoirs*, etc., Rare Beasts & Fowls .. presented to his Majesty, & which are daily sent to his Paradise at St. James's Parke. 1691 MOSES *Pitt Cries of the Oppressed* 105, I built a great House in Duke street, just against the Bird-Cages in St. Jame's Park. [Hence the name *Birdcage Walk*.]

2. *Sporting*. The paddock at the Newmarket race-course in which horses are generally saddled. 1884 *St. James's Gaz.* 1 May 7/1 All the favourites were brought into the birdcage.

Bird-dom. *nonce-wd.* [f. as *prec.* + -DOM.] Birds collectively; 'the feathered creation.'

1824 G. FENN *Sw. Macc.* i. 5 All bird-dom breaks into song. +Birds. *Obs.* [App. short for **gebirde* :-OL. *gebirde* 'birth, lineage'; cf. BIRTH (of which Mätzner and Stratmann treat this as a variant).]

1. Birth; offspring. (ME. instances doubtful.) [a 1000 *Crist* (Gr.) 65 Witzan cydon Cristes *gebirde*.] a 1225 *Anscr. R.* 158 Pauh be engel Gabriel hefde his burde [other MSS. *burde*] ibocked. a 1200 *Cursor M.* 20281 (Götl.) He þat I bare, þat blisful brid [Cott. *brid*, *Laud* *breth*, *Trin.* *birpe*. But see BIRD sb. 1c.]

2. Family; nation.

[c 890 K. ALFRED *Bada* II. vii. (Bosw.), Of ðære cyneliccan *gebirde*.] c 1200 ORMIN 2052 An þatt wass off hire kinn, 2: all off hire birde. *Ibid.* 8358 Far till Issrazless land Inntill þin aghenn birde.

Birder (bôidə). [f. BIRD v. + -ER.]

+1. A bird-catcher, a fowler. *Obs.*

1481-90 *Howard Macc.* Bks. 379 My Lord gaff to a byrder of the Quenes xx. d. 1551 TURNER *Herbal* I. F.v.b. Byrders. .. lyme the twygges and go a batfolyng with them. 1622 BRETON *Strange News* (1876) 13 And like good birders kindly knew a Bunting from a Lark.

2. A breeder of birds.

1827 CARLYLE *Germ. Rom.* III. 151 His father .. who in winter had been a birder.

3. A local name for the wild cat. 1864 *Northampton Herald* 2 July, In the woods of Rockingham and Burghley, it is known by the name of birder.

Birdery. *nonce-wd.* [f. BIRD sb. + -ERY.] A collection of birds; birds collectively.

1831 *Blackw. Mag.* XXX. 260 The Birdery of North America, it may be said, belonged to him.

Birdhood. *rare.* [f. BIRD sb. + -HOOD.] The state or condition of a bird.

1884 *Cent. Mag.* XXVIII. 483 The vigor of waxing birdhood thrills my throat.

Birdie (bôidī). [f. BIRD sb. + -IE, -Y.] A little bird, a dear or pretty little bird.

1792 BURNS *Braes o' Ballochmyle*, Ye birdies dumb, in withring bowers. 1864 TENNYSON *Sea Dreams* 281 She sang this baby song. What does little birdie say In her nest at peep of day?

Birdikin (bôidikin). *rare.* [f. *prec.* + -IK, *dimin.*] A little bird.

a 1864 THACKERAY is cited by WEBSTER.

Birding (bôidin), vbl. sb. *arch.* [f. BIRD v.]

1. The action or sport of bird-catching or fowling. 1559 J. SANFORD *Agrippa's Van. Artes* 122 An other exercise of Hunting, which is termed Fowling, or Birding. 1602 VERSTEGAN *Dec. Intell.* iii. (1628) 63 The great pleasure hee tooke in his youth in birding. 1799 M. BROWNE *Pisc. Eclog.* viii. (1777) 110 Two Swains who are exercised in Birding. [1852 THACKERAY *Edmond* I. 178 Lord Castlewood would take the lad .. a-hunting or a-birding.]

b. *fig. and transf.*

[c 1460 *Towneley Myst.* 79, I have .. of hir byrddyng hir upbrade, And she not gylty is.] 1624 FLETCHER *Rule a Wife* v. i. (1776) 55 Do you go a birding for all sorts of people? 1656 in *Burton Diary* (1828) I. 178 They .. go a birding for sheriffs every year. 1708 MAS. CENTLIVRE *Busie Body* I. i, A birding thus early!

+2. A taking aim, as at a bird. *Obs.*

a 1678 MARVELL *Loyal Scot.* [He] entertains .. his time, .. With birding at the Dutch.

3. *attrib.*

1588 *Lanc. & Chesh. Wills* III. 12 To Robt. Leftwiche my birdinge piece with a little hore flasse. 1598 SHAKS. *Merry W.* IV. ii. 59. 1613 J. [DENNY] *Angling* in *Arb. Garner* I. 133 Like to the pellet of birding bow. 1669 J. ROSE *Eng. Vineyard* (1675) 28 When the fruit is of the size of birding-shot. 1673 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 751/4 A plain Birding Gun, in a Red Leather Case. 1816 SCOTT *Antiq.* xxv, To crack off his birding-piece at a poor covey of partridges.

Birding, -yne, *obs.* forms of BURDEN.

Birdinsek, *obs.* form of BURDENSACK.

Birdless (bôidless). [f. BIRD sb. + LESS.]

Void of birds; deserted or unfrequented by birds.

1508 *Balade* in Sibbald's *Scot. Poetry* I. 155 A birdless cage; a key withouten lok. 1797 HOLCROFT *Stolberg's Trav.* (ed. 2) II. lxiii. 426 The Greeks gave it the appellation of *Aornos*: or birdless.

Birdlet (bôidlet). [f. as *prec.* + -LET.] A

little or tiny bird.

1867 LONGF. *Dante's Purg.* xxxi. 61 The callow birdlet.

Bird-lime (bôidlime), sb. [f. as *prec.* + LIME sb.]

A glutinous substance spread upon twigs, by which birds may be caught and held fast.

c 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 50 Brydelyme, *viscus*. 1576 LYVE *Dadoens* 701 With the barkes of Holme they make Bird-lyme. 1697 *Phil. Trans.* XIX. 368 It would draw out into long tough strings, like Bird-lime. 1863 THORNBURY *True as Steel* II. 152 Love .. is like birdlime; the more we struggle, the more entangled our wings get.

b. *fig. and transf.* Also *attrib.*

1568 A. SCOTT *N. Yere Gift*, Kirk-mennis cursit substance semis sweet Till land-men, with that leud burd-lyme are knyttit. 1666 T. H. tr. *Cassini's Holy Crt.* 86 O what a strong birdlime is a benefit! All generous birdes are taken with it. 1705 VANBRUGH *Confeder.* v. 2 That birdlime there stole it. *Ibid.* III. ii, My rogue of a Son has laid his birdlime fingers on it.

Bird-lime, v. [f. *prec.* sb.] *trans.* To smear or catch with (or as with) bird-lime. Hence Bird-limed ppl. a.

1580 HOLLYBAND *Treas. Fr. Tong. Englut.* birdlimed. 1618 HOLYDAY *Juvenal* vi. 100 It bird-limes her poor husbands lips. 1791 WOLCOTT (P. Pindar) *Rights of Kings* Wks. 1812 II. 427 Some .. bird-limed Fly. 1802 SOUTHEY *Lett.* (1856) I. 195 If .. any very desirable house were vacant .. that would perhaps birdlime me.

Bird-limy, a. [f. as *prec.* + -Y.] Of the nature of bird-lime; sticky.

1658 ROWLAND *Mouffet's Theat. Ins.* 1069 They smear it over with a birdlimy glutinous spittle.

Birdling (bôidling). [f. BIRD sb. + -LING.]

A little or young bird, a nestling.

1856 Mrs. BROWNING *Aur. Leigh* 250 Nestled birdlings. 1876 *Masque Poets* 36 The birdling in the tree.

Bird-nest: see BIRD'S-NEST.

Bird's-eye, sb. and a. Also bird-eye.

1. sb. 1. A name given to several plants with small round bright flowers.

a. A species of Primula (*P. farinosa*) having pale lilac flowers with a yellow eye; formerly called *Bird's eyen*, and now also more fully *Bird's-eye Primrose*. The American *Bird's-eye* is a kindred species (*P. pusilla*).

b. Germander Speedwell (*Veronica chamaedrys*).

c. Species of *Adonis* (more usually *Pheasant's eye*).

d. Robert's Geranium, and many other plants locally: see Britten and Holland.

1597 GERARD *Herbal* II. cclxi. 638 In the middle of euery small flower appeereth a little yellowe spot, resembling the eie of a bird, which hath moued the people .. to call it Birds Eine. 1731 MILLER *Gard. Dict.*, *Adonis*, or Flos Adonis, Bird's-Eye, or Pheasant's-Eye. 1771 *Ibid.* Primula (*Farinosa*), called Bird's eyen. 1859 C. JOHNS *Flowers Field* 465 *Veronica Chamaedrys*. A well-known plant, which,

under the popular names of Blue Speedwell and Birds-eye, is a favourite with everyone. 1868 *BURGESS Old Eng. Wild Fl.* 104 The Bird's eye Primrose is .. somewhat like an auricula. 1885 *Longm. Mag.* 311 Blue Veronica .. sometimes called germander speedwell, sometimes bird's-eye.

2. A variety of manufactured tobacco in which the ribs of the leaves are cut along with the fibre. 1861 *SALA Two round Clock* 40 A pipeful of the best Bristol Bird's-eye.

II. attrib.

3. Of or belonging to a bird's eye; as in *Bird's-eye view*: a view of a landscape from above, such as is presented to the eye of a bird; a perspective representation of such a view; also *fig.* a résumé of a subject.

1766-71 H. WALPOLE *Vertue's Anecd. Paint.* (1786) II. 145 It exhibits an almost bird's-eye view of an extensive country. 1790 *BURKE Fr. Rev.* 96 A bird-eye landscape of a promised land. a 1797 — *Let. Wks.* 1845 V. 148 The government .. have .. as it were a bird's-eye view of everything. 1849 C. BARKER *Assoc. Princ.* i. 2 Presenting a résumé or bird's-eye view of a subject.

4. Marked as with bird's eyes; spotted. *Bird's-eye limestone*: a lower Silurian rock of North America, with eye-like markings. *Bird's-eye maple*: the wood of the sugar maple when full of little knotty spots, used in cabinet-making. *Bird's-eye Primrose, Tobacco*: see 2, 3.

1665 *PAPPS Diary* (1879) III. 156 My wife very fine in a new yellow bird's-eye hood, as the fashion is now. 1689 *London. Gas. No. 2440/4* A third [pair of stays] of Olive coloured Birds-eye Silk. 1841 *THACKERAY Yellowpl.* P. 22 He wore a white hat, a bird's-eye handkerchief, and a cut-away coat. 1837 *HAWTHORNE Amer. Note-bks.* (1871) I. 81 Finished off with bird's-eye maple and mahogany.

Bird's-foot, bird-foot.

1. Applied to objects having the shape of a bird's foot, as various plants. a. A small yellow vetch (*Ornithopus*); b. A small fern (*Cheilanthes radiata*); c. = Bird's-foot Trefoil.

1576 *LYVE Dodoens* 486 Birdes foote is lyke to .. the wilde vetch, but far smaller. 1794 *MARTYN Rousseau's Bot.* xxv. 366 The wild species (*Lotus corniculatus*) is called common Bird's foot. 1859 *MISS YONGE T. Thumb* xiv. 91 There the scented thyme .. the glowing bird's-foot, and the tufted milk-wort grow. 1865 *GOSSE Land & Sea* (1874) Among Ferns of humbler pretensions, the pretty little Bird-foot.

2. *Bird's-foot Trefoil* or *Lotus*: a yellow leguminous plant (*Lotus corniculatus*), a native of Britain; also applied to other species. So *Bird's-foot Fenugreek*, *Bird's-foot Violet*.

1833 *Proc. Berw. Nat. Club* I. 29 *Lotus decumbens*, Spreading Bird's-foot Trefoil. 1861 *MISS PRATT Flower. Pl. II.* 97 *Trigonella ornithopodioides*, Bird's Foot Fenugreek .. a very little plant .. and bearing very small yellow flowers. 1882 *GARDEN* 29 Ap. 286/2 The Bird's-foot Violet (is) one of the sweetest flowers we have seen.

3. *Bird's-foot star, sea-star*: an echinoderm related to the star-fish.

1845 *KINGSLEY Glaucus* (1878) 167 The bird's foot star (*Palinurus membranaceus*) .. crawling by its thousand sucking-feet .. a pentagonal webbed bird's foot, of scarlet and orange shagreen. 1865 *ANSTED Channel Isl.* II. ix. (ed. 2) 237 The Cribella, the sun-stars .. and the birds' foot sea-star, are all represented.

Bird's-nest, bird-nest, sb.

1. (Usually two words): The nest of a bird; *spec.* the edible nest of certain species of swallow found in the Chinese Sea. Also *attrib.*, as in *bird's-nest soup*.

1599 *SHAKS. Much Ado* II. i. 229 A Schoole-boy .. overjoyed with finding a birds nest. 1760 *GOLDSM. Cit. W.* xcvi. I am for a Chinese dish of bear's claws and bird's nests. 1865 *LONGF. Hiaw.* Intro. 25 In the bird's-nests of the forest. 1864 R. REID *Glasgow & Env.* 354 The [cotton] yarns .. were imported in globular balls, pretty similar to a bird's nest, and got the name of Bird-nest Yarns. 1871 M. COLLINS *Mrg. & Merch.* II. iii. 82 Ideas .. as strange to an .. Englishman's brain as bird's-nest soup to his palate.

2. A cask or similar shelter fixed at the mast-head of ships in the Arctic regions to protect the man on the look-out; a crow's nest. 1867 *SMYTH Sailor's Word-bk.*

3. A name given to several plants: a. The Wild Carrot (or its concave umbel); b. *Monotropa Hypophytis*; c. = Bird's-nest Orchid.

1597 *GERARD Herbal* i. cccxii. Wilde Carrot .. The whole tuft is drawne together when the seede is ripe, resembling a birdes nest, whereupon it hath been named of some Birds nest. *Ibid.* i. cvii. 176 *Nidus avis*, Birdes nest .. hath many tangling rootes platted or crossed one ouer another verie intricately .. It is esteemed a degenerate kinde of Orchis. 1848 W. GARDINER *Flora Forfar.* 84 *Wild Carrot*. This is the origin of our garden carrot, and is sometimes called Bird's nest. 1861 *MISS PRATT Flower. Pl. V.* 200 Order *Orchidæ* .. (Common Bird's nest). 1870 *HOOKE'S Stud. Flora* i. xlv. § 12 *Monotropa*, Bird's-nest .. a saprophyte feeding on decayed vegetable matter.

4. *Bird's-nest fern*, a name given to various exotic ferns from their habit of growth; *Bird's-nest Orchid* (*Neottia Nidus-avis*), a plant, wild in Britain, entirely of a brown feuilletmort colour.

1838 W. ELLIS *Vis. Madagascar* xi. 285 The large bird's nest ferns might sometimes be seen at the end of the trunk of a dead tree. 1875 *MISS BIRD Sandwich Isl.* (1880) 82 The glossy, tropical-looking bird's-nest fern, or *Asplenium Nidus*. 1883 *Good Words* Dec. 791/1 The Bird's-Nest Orchid wears the livery of withered leaves.

Bird's-nest, bird-nest, v. [Inferred from the gerund *bird's nesting*, which was much earlier in use; cf. *nutting*, to *nut*, etc.] *intr.* To search for bird's nests.

1856 J. GRANT *Black Drag.* xlv. A thicket of fir-trees, in which I had often bird-nested. 1875 A. HORR *My Schoolboy Fr.* 148 They went to birdnest in the morning. 1877 *Hon. Miss Ferrard* II. ii. 227 A solitary magpie, birdnesting.

Bird's-nesting, bird-nesting, vbl. sb. [f. BIRD'S NEST sb. + -ING; cf. *nutting*.] The action or occupation of searching for bird's-nests.

1774 BARRINGTON in *Phil. Trans.* LXII. 314 note, Bird-nesting is confined almost entirely to hedges, and low shrubs. 1806 DUNCAN *Nelson* 9 He .. went out a bird's-nesting. 1881 *Macm. Mag.* XLIV. 347 Where is the schoolboy who has not a strong love for bird-nesting?

b. *attrib.* and *ppl.* a.

1848 *Proc. Berw. Nat. Club* II. 273 A man .. whose bird-nesting days were spent in the woods near Gifford. 1849 *HELPS Friends in C.*, Ser. II. II. viii. 157 Not that he is a bird's-nesting boy.

† **Bird's-nie, -nye, Obs.** [*Nye* for *EYE*, as in *my nye* = *my eye*.] An obsolete vulgar term of endearment; cf. *pig's-nie*.

1861 R. DAVENPORT *City Night-C.* II. in *Dodsley* (1780) XI. 289 Ob, my sweet birds-nie! What a wench have I of thee! *Ibid.* 306 Prythee, sweet birds-nye, be content.

Bire, obs. form of BYRE.

Bireade, -rede, bireain: see *BEREDE, BERAIN*.
† **Bire'dien, v. Obs.** [ME., f. *bi-*, *Be-* + *redien* to make READY.]

c 1205 *LAV.* 4198 We scullen ou bi-redien.

Bireme (bî'rîm), a. and sb. [ad. L. *bîrēmis*, adj. and sb., f. *bi-* two, twice + *rēmus* oar.] A. adj. Having two banks of oars. B. sb. A galley having two banks of oars.

1600 *HOLLAND Livy* VII. vi. 1399 note, The forme of a bireme gally. 1664 J. BARGRAVE *Pope Alex. VII.* (1867) 118 Their byremes & tryremes being but pitiful boats. 1697 *POTTER Antiq. Greece* III. xiv (1715) 125 Betwixt an Unireme and Bireme, consisting of a Bank and a Half. 1828 *RAWLINSON Herodotus* I. 290 note, Biremes were probably a Phœnician invention.

† **Bireme, v. Obs.** [ME., f. *bi-*, *Be-* + *remen*: — OE. *hrēmen* (in WSax. *hrīeman*, *hrīman*) to cry out.] *trans.* To call out at.

c 1200 *Trin. Coll. Hom.* 29 Nu shalt [þu] .. biremen him mid euel wordes.

Biretta (bîrē'tā). Also 6 berretta, barretta, 9 beretta, birretta. [a. It. *berretta* and Sp. *birreta* (= Pr. *berreta*, *barreta*, F. *barrette*), found beside the masc. forms Pr. *birret*, Béarn. *berreto*, Catalan *barret*, F. *béret*: — late L. *birretum* cap, f. *birrus* (*byrrhus*) a cloak or cape of silk or wool, prob. ad. Gr. *ὑρρός* flame-coloured, yellow.] The square cap worn by clerics of the Roman Catholic Church; that of priests being black, of bishops purple, of cardinals red.

1598 *Br. Hall Sat.* iv. vii. 52 Or his berretta [1599 *Barretta*] or his towred felt. 1865 *Pall Mall G.* 3 Oct. 11 Near his church, he should of course wear the beretta or priest's cap. 1881 *Athenæum* 21 May 693/2 He has a black shock of hair escaping under a red biretta.

† **Bireu'sy, v. Obs.** Forms: 1 *behréowsian*, 2 *bireusien*, 3 *bireowsen*, *Orm.* *bireowwsenn*, *-rewwsenn*, *bi-*, *byreusy* (cf. OE. *behréowsian*, f. *Be-* + *hréowsian* to be sorry; cf. MHG. *beriuwesen*, *beriusen* to be sorry for.)

1. *trans.* To be sorry for, repent of (a sin, etc.) c 1000 *ÆLFRIC Gram.* xxxiii. 207 *Panitentia*, *behréowsian*. c 1175 *Lamb. Hom.* 97 Þa þet heore sunnan bireusað. c 1200 *ORMIN* 13631 Birewseþþ inn hiss herre .. hiss missdede. c 1215 *SHOREHAM* 43 Ac senne .. To bi-reusy he proveth.

2. To feel sorry for, have pity on (a person).

c 1275 *Sinners Beware* 341 in *O.E. Misc.* 83 þe milde and þe clene .. Nulleþ heo neuer ene By-reusy ne bimene.

† **Bireu'sing, vbl. sb. Obs.** Also 1 *behréowsung*, 2 *bireusinge*, *bireusunke*, 3 *bireousinge*, *-unge*, *birewsunge*. [f. *prec.* + -ING; cf. *repentance*, *compunction*, *ruth*.]

c 1000 *ÆLFRIC Gram.* xxxiii. 207 *Panitentia*, *behréowsung*. c 1200 *Trin. Coll. Hom.* 49 Bireusinge of ure fule sinnes. a 1225 *Ancr. R.* 372 þe uormeste bitternesse is bi-reousunge & dedbote uor sunne.

† **Birewe, v. Obs.** Forms: 3 *bireowen*, *birewen*, 4 *birue*, 4-5 *birewe*, 5 *birwe*. [ME. *bireowen*, *birewen*, f. *bi-*, *Be-* + *reowen*, *rewen*: — OE. *hréowan* to RUE.]

1. *trans.* To repent of, rue; also *impers.* c 1200 *ORMIN* 14506 Whase ma33 .. innwardli3 bireowenn itt. 1377 *LANGLE P. Pl.* B. xii. 250 þough þe riche .. birewe þe tyme þat euere he gadered so grete and gaf .. so litel

2. To feel sorry for, pity (a person).

a 1300 in *Wright Pop. Treat.* Sc. 137 Thu makest the se [=so] hej her, and noman nelt bi-rue. c 1449 *Pecock Repr.* II. xvii. 253 Y schal neuere birwe 300.

† **Birewnesse, Obs.** Only in 3 *bireawnesse*. [f. ME. *rewnesse*, after the *prec.* vb. Cf. MHG. *beriuwenisse*.] Commiseration, compassion, *ruth*, *pity*.

a 1225 *Ancr. R.* 66 Uor þi þæt [he] .. þurh þe bireawnesse crie Crist inwardliche merci uor ou.

Birgander, obs. form of BERGANDER.

Birges, obs. form of BRUGES (satin).

Birie(n, Biri(e), obs. ff. BURGH, BURY, BURIAL.
Birimose (bî'rîmō's), a. [f. *Bi-* *pref.* 1 + *RIMOSE*, ad. L. *rimōsus* full of cracks.] 'Opening by two slits.' *Gray Bot. Text-bk.* 1880.

† **Biripe, v. Obs.** [ME., f. *bi-*, *Be-* + *ripen*: — OE. *ripan* to REAP.] *trans.* To pluck the fruit of. a 1300 *E. E. Psalter* lxxix. 13 [lxxx. 12] And bi-ripe it [the vineyard] alle þat gane for-bi þe wai.

† **Birise, v. Obs.** [ME., f. *bi-*, *Be-* + **risen* = ONorthumb. *risa*, short for *gerisa*, OE. *gerisan* to become.] To become, befit (only in 3rd pers.).

c 1175 *Lamb. Hom.* 111 Wisdom birised wera and clesene birised wifan. c 1205 *LAY.* 9821 Þingges þe birised [c 1250 bi-comeþ] to selche kinge.

Birk, -en, -in, north. forms of BIRCH, BIRCHEN.

† **Birken, v. Obs. rare.** [f. *prec.*] *trans.* To beat with a birch-rod, to birch.

Chr. Relig. Appeal Bar Reason 91 (L.) They .. birkened those they met with, from the rump to the crown of the head.

Birkie (bî'ki, Sc. bî'rki), sb. and a. Sc. Also *birky*. [Connexion has been suggested with ON. *berkja* to bark, boast, which might do for the sense, but the form is uncertain.]

A. sb. 1. A familiar or jocular term for a man, often connoting self-assertion, crustiness, or the 'having a mind of his own'; sometimes slightly depreciatory = 'strutting fellow,' but often, like 'fellow,' 'carle,' 'chield,' without definable force. 1724 *RAMSAY Poems* (1800) 92 (JAM.) Spoke like ye'rell, auld birky; never fear. 1795 *BURNS A Man's a Man* iii, Ye see yon birkie ca'd 'a lord, 'Wha struts, an' stares, an' a that. 1816 *SCOTT Old Mort.* xli, Folks may speak out afore they birkies now. 1836 J. MAYNE *Siller Gun* in *Chambers' Hum. Sc. Poems* 126 Auld birkies, innocently slee, Wi' cap and stoup.

2. A game at cards, 'Beggar-my-neighbour.'

1777 *BRAND Pop. Antiq.* (1849) II. 396. 1827 J. WILSON *Noct. Ambr. Wks.* 1855 I. 302 Catch me at the cards, unless it be a game at Birky, for I'm sick o' 'Whust itself.

B. adj. Somewhat irrepressible, active, spirited.

1821 *Ann. Par. Dalmailing* 40 (JAM.) Kate, being a nimble and birky thing, was .. useful to the lady. 1822 *Steam-Boat* 38 (JAM.) A gay and birky callan, not to be set down by a look or a word. 1830 *GALT Lawrie T.* vi. viii. (1849) 289 A very fashionable trade that of school-maistering either hardy lasses or birky boys.

† **Birl, v. Obs.** [Etymology unknown; perhaps two words: with the latter quot. cf. *BIRL*.] *trans.* To prick, pierce, or stab; to cover with punctures. c 1200 *Destr. Troy* xxii. 9061 Mony birlt on the breast, & the backe birlt. 1555 *HULOT, Birlt*, powldred, orspangled, clausus [ed. 1579 clausus].

Birl (bîrl, Sc. bîrl), v. Sc. [A modern word: apparently onomatopœic; having probably association with *birr*, *whirr*, *whirl*, *hurl*, and Sc. *dirl*, *pirl*, in all of which there is a reference to vibration or rotation and its sound.]

1. *intr.* To move on with rotatory motion, as a rifle bullet; also *fig.* 1769 D. DAVIDSON *Seasons* 39 (JAM.) Now through the air the auld boy birl'd.

2. To revolve or rotate rapidly and with characteristic noise.

1790 *MORISON Poems* 6 (JAM.) The temper pin she g'ies a tirl, An' spins but slow, yet seems to birl. 1806 R. JAMIESON *Pop. Ball.* II. 356 (JAM.) Coming frae the hungry hill, He hears the quernie birlin.

3. *trans.* To cause anything to rotate rapidly; to spin (a coin in the air or on the table); hence to toss a coin on the table as one's contribution to a joint fund, to contribute one's share.

1724 *RAMSAY Poems* I. 262 Now settled gossies .. Did for fresh bickers birl. a 1774 *FERGUSON Cauler Oyst. Poems* (1845) 8 There we adjourn wi' hearty foulk To birl our bodies. 1818 *SCOTT Rob Roy* xxviii, I'll pay for another .. and then we'll birl our bawbees a' round. 1879 *JAMIESON Sc. Dict.* s.v. *Birl*, Children put half-pence on their fingers to birl them .. in the low game of Pitch-and-toss.

Birlady, -lakin: see *BYRLADY, -LAKIN*.

Birlaw, obs. form of BYRLAW.

† **Birle, sb. Obs.** Also 1 *byrele*, *byrle*, 2-3 *birle*, 3 *borle*, (*Orm.*) *birrle*. [OE. *byrle*, *byrle*, str. masc., of uncertain etymology (perh. for earlier *byrel*: — OTeut. type **burilo-z*, f. *beran* to BEAR). The ON. *byrli* 'cupbearer,' *byrila* 'to pour out,' were prob. adopted from OE.] One who pours out drink; a cupbearer, butler.

a 1000 *Beowulf* 2327 Byrelas sealdon win of wunder-fatum.

c 1000 *ÆLFRIC Gen.* xl. 20 Þara byrila caldor. c 1200 *ORMIN* 14053 Acc wel þe birrless wisstenn. c 1205 *LAY.* 24604 Beduer, þas kinges hæ3e birle [c 1250 borle, and so always].

Birle (bîrl), v. Obs. except *dial.* Forms: 1 *byrlian*, 3 (*Orm.*) *birrleann*, 3-4 *birlen*, 5 *byrlynn*, 5-6 *byrle*, 6 *biril*, 8 *birle* (9 *dial.* *buril*), 6- *biril*. [OE. *byrrelian*, f. *byrrele*: see *prec.*]

1. To draw or pour out (drink, to or for any one). a 1000 *Guthlac* (Gr.) 840 Þone bitran drync, þone E we fynn Adame 3eaf, byrelade bryd 3eong. c 1200 *ORMIN* 15396 Þuss birleþþ defell & hiss þeww A33 werre & werre drinnchess. c 1380 *WYCLIF Sel. Wks.* III. 43 Þei drinke .. and birlen it to opere men. c 1435 *Torr. Portugal* 92a Sche byrlyd whyt wyne and rede. c 1510 *SKELTON Elynour Rym.* 268 Dame Elynour entrete To byrle them of the best. 1548 *HALL Chron.* (1809) 605 Bacchus birling the wyne which by

the Conduytes in therth ranne to all people. 1851 *N. & Q. Ser.* i. 111. 204/2 'Told me to burl out the beer... and I burl out a glass and gave it to him.' 1875 *Lanc. Gloss.* (E. D. S.) 40 'Birl out th' beer.'

2. To supply or ply with drink.

a 1225 *Ans. R.* 226 He beonne mid tet, birlēd him ilome. a 1295 *Met. Hom.* (1863) 121 Than birlēs he thaim wit waikere [win]. a 1800 *Earl Richard* iii. in *Scott Minstr.*, She birlēd him wi' the ale and wine.

3. *intr.* To carouse; *trans.* to drink and pass (the cup). (A modern pseudo-archaism.)

a 1800 *Ballad Sir P. Spens* i. Hie sits oor king in Dumfermline, Sits birlin at the wine. 1816 *Scott Old Mort.* x. Birling the brown bowl wi' the fowler and the falconer. 1818 — *Rob Roy* xiv. Thetwa loons that did the deed birling and drinking wi' him.

† **Birler**, *Obs.* or *dial.* Also **burler**. [*f.* **BIRLE** v. + *-ER*.] One who pours out drink.

a 1440 *Prompt. Parv.* 51 Bryllare of drynke, or schenkare [1499 *drinkschankere*], *propinacior*. c 1450 in *W. Wülcker Voc. 685 Hic exelariarius*, byrlir. 1857 *Wright Dict.*, *Birler*, the master of the revels at a bidding-wedding in Cumberland. 1873 *R. Ferguson Cumberl. Gloss.*, *Burler*, who carries round the ale at the festivities in the Lake district.

Birlit, variant of **BURLET**, a coil or kerchief.

Birle, birlay, *Sc.* A corrupted form of **BYRLAW**, used in comb. *birley-court*, *birle-man*. (See also **BURLEY**.)

1609 *Skene Reg. Maj.* 74 Birlaw courts, the quhills are rewiled be consent of neighbours. 1609 *Hume Admon.* in *Woodr. Soc. Misc.* 587 Birlay Courtis. 1790 *C. CAMPBELL in Scots Mag.* (1753) 454/2 I think it is quiteright to have birlie-men. 1791-9 *Statist. Acc. Scot.* IV. 512 (JAM.) *Crawford* This towne consists of above 20 freedoms.—This little republic was governed by a birley court, in which every proprietor of a freedom had a vote. 1798 *D. GRAHAM Hist. John C. Wks.* 1883 II. 102 The good man being a sworn birley-man of that barony. 1814 *Scott Wav.* xlii. Jamie Howie, wha's no fit to be a birlie-man, let be a bailie. 1866 *Proc. Berv. Nat.* 261 Birley Courts, in the traditions of the Borders a name for any particularly stormy meeting.

Birling (bɜːrlɪŋ), *vbl. sb.* *Obs. exc. dial.* [*f.* **BIRLE** v. + *-ING*.] The action of drawing or pouring out liquor; also *fig.*

a 1340 *Hampole Psalter* lxxiv. 7 [lxxv. 8] Chalis of clere wyn that is, birlinge of rightwis dome. c 1440 *Prompt. Parv.* 51 Bryllinge of drynke, *propinacio*. 1818 *Scott Br. Lamm.* xxiii. The Tod's-hole, an house of entertainment where there has been mony a blithe birling.

† **Birlinn** (bɜːrlɪn). Forms: 6- birling, 7- birlin, 8 birline, bierlin, 9 bierlin, birlinn, bierlenn. [*Gaelic birlinn, bierlenn.*] A large barge, or rowing boat, used by the chieftains of the Western Islands of Scotland.

1595 in *Tytler Hist. Scot.* (1864) IV. 236 Running their galleys, boats and birlings into a little harbour. a 1639 *SPOTTISWOOD Hist. Ch. Scot.* VI. (1677) 468 With a number of Birlings (so they call the little vessels those Isles-men use). 1799-9 *Statist. Acc. Scot.* VI. 292 He.. kept always a bierlin or galley in this place with 12 or 20 armed men, ready for any enterprise. 1815 *Scott Guy M.* xl. A place where their bierlins and galleys, as they ca'd them, used to lie. 1873 *BURTON Hist. Scot.* VI. lxx. 39 No single chief should keep more than one birling. 1883 *STEWART Nether Lochaber* lxi. 398 Receiving in return an eight-oared birlinn.

Birnbank, variant of **BERNBANK**.

Birme, *obs.* form of **BARM**.

Birmingham (bɜːrɪŋhæm). A town in Warwickshire, in England. Used as a nickname for the supporters of the Exclusion Bill in 1680; cf. **ANTI-BIRMINGHAM**. Also, *Birminghamize*, to artificialize, make up artificially. Cf. **BRUMMAGEM**. 1849 *MACAULAY Hist. Eng.* I. 343 In allusion to their spurious groats, the Tory party had fixed on demagogues who hypocritically affected zeal against popery, the nickname of Birmingham. 1856 *EMERSON Eng. Traits* v. 102 The manners and customs of society are artificial—made-up men with made-up manners; and thus the whole is Birminghamized.

Birn¹ (bɜːrn). *Mus.* [*a. Ger. birn* pear, from the resemblance in shape.]

Mus. The portion of a clarinet or similar musical instrument into which the mouth-piece is inserted.

Birn² (bɜːrn, *Sc. berrn*). *Sc.* The charred stem of burnt heath, which remains after moor-burning. Hence **Birny** *a.*, abounding in birns.

1715 *PENNECUK Poems* 25 (JAM.) Toasting bannocks at the birns. 1848 *W. GARDINER Flora Forfar*. 88 The fuel used for boiling the water is either peats or birns. 1789 *D. DAVIDSON Seasons* 4 (JAM.) O'er the birny brae.

Birn(e): see **BERNE**, **BURN** v. and *sb.*

Birneist, *obs.* form of **BURNISHED**.

Birnie, birny, variant of **BYRNIE**, *Obs.*, cuirass.

Birostrate, -ated (bɜːrɒstret, -əd), *a.* [*f.* **BI**-*pref.*² + **ROSTRATE**, *ad.* *L. rostratus*, *f. rostrum* beak.] Two-beaked; having a double beak or two beak-like processes. 1847 in *CRAIG*.

Birotate (bɜːrɒtət), *a.* [*f.* **BI**-*pref.*² + **ROTATE** *a.*, *f. L. rota* wheel.] Two-wheeled.

1880 *Scribner's Mag.* XIX. Feb. 483 The birotate chariot.

Birr (bɜːr, *Sc. berr*). Forms: 4 bur, burre, bire, 4-6 bir, 4-5 bure, byre, 5 byrre, ber(e), beere, beare, 5-6 byr, birr, 7 burr(e), beir(e), biere, 7-8 birre, *dial.* beer, 9 bir, *dial.* ber, 8- birr. [*a. ON. byrr* favouring wind (*Sw.*, *Da. bōr* fair wind, foul gale):—*OTeut. *burjo-s* (or *burj-s*), *f.*

beran to bear. Sense 3 is, in part at least, of independent origin, imitating the sound which it names, and is to be compared with **BURR**.]

† 1. A strong wind; *esp.* one that carries a vessel on. *Obs.*

a 1225 *Conception in Met. Hom.* Introd. 17 The bir it blew als he wald bid. c 1225 *E. E. Allit. P. C.* 148 Pe bur ber to hit baft, þat braste alle her gere. c 1400 *Destr. Troy* 12488 Thai.. puld vp hor sailles, Hadyn bir at þere backe.

2. The force of the wind, or of any moving body; momentum, impetus; rush. *To take or fetch one's birr*: to gather impetus for a leap by a short run or 'ram-race.'

1382 *WYCLIF Isa.* v. 28 His wheles as the byre [1388 *feersnesse*] of the tempest. — *Matt.* viii. 32 Loo! in a greet bire, al the droue wente heedlyng in to the see. 1400 *Morte Arth.* 3662 Brethly besomes with byrre in byrnes sailles. c 1450 *LONELICH Graill* xiv. 419 And to hire he ran with a ful gret ber. 1580 *SIDNEY Arcadia* 54 Carried with the Beere of violent loue. 1609 *HOLLAND Amm. Marcel.* xxii. viii. 197 And giving way backward fetch their fesse or beire againe. 1611 *COTGR. s.v. Saunter*, *Il recule pour mieus saunter*. He goes backe to take burre, or to leape the better. 1790 *BURNS Election Ball* iii. Thus I break aff wi' a' my birr. 1867 *E. WAUGH Oud Blanket* ii. 37 in *Lanc. Gloss.*, Thae'd no need to come i' sich a ber.

† b. A charge in battle; an attack, a fight. *Obs.* c 1340 *Gaw. & Gr. Knt.* 290 I schal bide þe fyrst bur, as bare as I sitte. 1382 *WYCLIF a Sam.* xi. 23 We, the bure made [*Vulg. impetu facto*], pursueden hem into the 3ate. c 1400 *Destr. Troy* 11141 All the bent of þat birr bloody beronnen. c 1440 *Bone Flor.* 659 Garcy.. arayed hys batels in that bere.

c. A thrust, a violent push or blow; also *fig.* c 1225 *E. E. Allit. P. A.* 176 Such a burre myrt make myn herte blunt. c 1400 *Destr. Troy* 1244 A sponge knight.. suet to þe Duke With a bir on þe brest, þat backward he jode. 1830 *GALT Lawrie T.* iii. xvi. (1849) 137 Dashed my head with such a bir against the branch of a prostrate tree.

d. Bodily force exerted against anything, might. c 1340 *Gaw. & Gr. Knt.* 2261 With alle þe bur in his body he ber it on lofte. 1382 *WYCLIF James* iii. 4 Shippes.. ben born aboute of a litel gouernayle, where the bire [*impetus*] of a man dressinge shal wole. 1674 *RAY N.C. Wds.* 5 *Beer, Birre, Beare*, force, might. *With aw my beer* (*Chesh.*), with all my force. 1823 *GALT Entail* III. vii. 70 Ye need na mair waste your bir about it.

e. Force of pronunciation, energetic utterance. 1825 *LD. COCKBURN Mem.* ii. 133 What the Scotch call the Birr.. the emphatic energy of his pronunciation. 1827 *J. WILSON Noct. Ambr.* Wks. 1855 I. 118 Just such a voice.. in its laigh notes there's a sort of birr.. that betokens power. 1883 *W. JOLLY J. Duncan* xvii. 181 He told Charles the story with great birr.

3. An energetic whirring sound, such as that of a moor-fowl's flight, the running-down of a clock, or the vigorous trilling of the letter r. 1837 *R. NICOLL Poems* (1842) 82 The birr o' Scotland's spinnin'-wheel. 1856 *STRONG Glasgow & Clubs* 207 Never did a Parisian badaud rattle the R with greater birr. 1876 *SMILES Sc. Natur.* viii. (ed. 4) 136 The birr of the moorcock and the scream of the merlin.

Birr (bɜːr), *v.* [*f. prec.*] *intr.* To emit a whirring noise; to move rapidly with such a noise. Hence **Birring** *vbl. a.*

1513 *DOUGLAS Æneis* ix. ix. 134 Ane gret staf slung, byr-ran wyth felloun wecht. 1786 *BURNS Tam Samson's El.* viii. Boice ye birring pairicks a'. 1791 *A. WILSON Lawrel Disp.* Poet. Wks. 125 The lasses' wheels, thrang birring round the ingie. 1800 *A. CAMPBELL in Tales Borders* (1863) I. 157 They were both seated in the gig, and birring it on merrily towards Carlisle.

Birretta, variant of **BIRETTA**.

Birse (bɜːrs, *Sc. berr*), *sb.* *Sc.* Forms: 1 byrast, 4 burst, 6 byrs, 6 byrs, 6 byrs, 6 byrs, 6 byrs, 6 byrs. [*In 16th c. birs, birrs, for earlier birst*:—*OE. byrst*, cogn. with *OHG. burst*, *bursti*, *ON. burst* (*Sw. burst*, *Da. birste*) 'bristle.' Only *Sc.* in later times.]

1. = **BRISTLE**. (*To lick the birse*: to pass a small bunch of hog's bristles through the mouth—as is done on being made a 'soutar of Selkirk'.)

a 700 *Epinal Gl.* 905 Seta, byrst. c 1000 *Sax. Leechd.* I. 156 Swylce swineene byrst. c 1330 *Rouland & V.* 860 No is worþ þe burst of a swin. 1513 *DOUGLAS Æneis* viii. iv. 181 The rough byrsts on the brest and crest of that.. beist. 1721 *J. KELLY Sc. Prov.* 338 (JAM.) The souter gae the sow a kiss; 'grumph', quo she, 'its a' for the birse. 1724 *RAMSAY Ever-Green* (1761) I. 253 Knights of the Birs and Thumble. 1815 *SCOTT in Lockhart* xxxvi. (1839) V. 123 I am still puzzled to dispose of the Birse. Note. A birse or bunch of hog's bristles forms the cognizance of the Sutors. 1882 *Society* 14 Oct. 5/1 Mr. G. O. Trevelyan.. will require to 'lick the birse' at Selkirk.

b. Short hair of the beard or body. a 1572 *KNOX Hist. Ref.* Wks. 1846 I. 147 Many of thame lacked beards.. and therefore could not bukkill other by the byrse. 1786 *BURNS Addr. Beelzebub*, They lay aside all tender mercies, An' tirl the hallions to the birses.

2. *fig.* In the phrase *To set up the birse*, etc.: Temper, rage, anger, in allusion to animals that bristle up when irritated.

1822 *Course Conformitie* 153 (JAM.) Now his birse rise when he heareth the one. 1816 *SCOTT Antiq.* xxi. He wad set up the tother's birse, and maybe do mair ill nor gude. 1830 *GALT Lawrie T.* iii. xl. (1849) 122 To smoothe the birses of their husbands. 1871 *GUTHRIE Speech Westm.* Hotel 19 July, This set up my birse.

Hence **Birst** *a. Sc.*, bristled, bristly.

1513 *DOUGLAS Æneis* vii. i. 35 The birst baris and beris in thair styis Roring all wold.

Birse, *v. Sc.* [*Sc. variant of birz = BRUISE.*]

trans. a. To bruise, crush. *b.* To press, push. 1513-75 *Diurn. Occurr.* (1833) 293 Borne to jybbit, nichas he wes birst with the buttis [the 'Boots']. 1790 *SHIRREF Poems* 348 (JAM.) For they're ay birsing in their spurs Where they can get them. 1879 *JAMIESON s.v. Birse*, I saw Sisyphus.. Birsing a heavy stane up a high brae.

Birse, *sb.* *Sc.* Also *g birz*. [*as prec.*]

a. A bruise. *b.* 'The act of pressing; the pressure made by a crowd.' (Jamieson.)

1821 *SIR A. WYLLIE III.* 292 (JAM.) My brother has met wi' a severe birz and contusion.

Birsle (bɜːsl, *Sc. berrsl*), *v. Sc.* Also *6 brissale*, *brissil*, *byrsle*, *7 north. dial. brusle*. [*Derivation and etymological form uncertain: the mod. Sc. is birstle, but 16th c. Eng. had brissill, and 17th c. north. dial. brusle.*]

trans. To scorch (the surface) with radiant heat; to toast hard; also *fig.* Hence **Birsled** *vbl. a.*

1513 *DOUGLAS Æneis* vii. xiii. 36 Feill echirris of corn thik growing, Wyth the new sonnys heit byrsyllit. *Ibid.* vii. ix. 109 Blunt styngis of the byrsillit [1553 *brissillit*] tre. 1692 *RAY North Co. Wds.*, *Brusle*, to dry; as 'the sun brusles the hay'; and 'brusled pease', parch'd pease. 1716 *Woodrow Corr.* (1843) II. 137 He was sorry he got not the old dog's bones to birsle in the flames. 1818 *MISS FERRIER Marriage* II. 132 Than ye maun sit an' birsle yoursels afore the fire at hame. 1833 *M. SCOTT Tom Cringle* xvi. (1859) 409, I trained best on birsled peas and whiskey.

Birsle, *sb. Sc.* [*f. prec.*] 'A hasty toasting or scorching' (Jam.). the toasted or scorched surface (of a potato, etc.).

Birst, *birstit*, *obs.* forms of **BURST**.

Biray (bɜːrs, *Sc. berr*), *a. Sc.* [*f. BIRSE sb.*¹ + *-Y*.] = **BRISTLY**, **BRISTLING** *lit.* and *fig.*

1513 *DOUGLAS Æneis* x. iv. 127 The monstre.. With byrsy body. 1810 *TANNAHILL Poems* (1846) 145 His black birsie beard. 1836 *Scot. Month. Mag.* July 183 The creature was a birsie bode.

† **Birt, burt**. *Obs.* Forms: 6 birte, byrte, burte, 7 byrt, berte, 6-8 birt, burt. [*Derivation and etymological form uncertain: written also birt'e, brut, brytte, BRRT, q.v.* Cotgrave has 'bertonneau a bret or turbot. Norman.' This may be related.] A fish identified with the Turbot.

1552 *HULOET*, Byrte, fische, *rhombus*. 1573 in *Nichols' Progr. Q. Eliz.* I. 362 Item, for a burte.. 3s. 8d.. for two brites.. 6s. 1600 *VENNER Via Recta* iv. 74 Turbot or Birt is meetly pleasant to the taste. 1678 *R. HOLME in Babees Bk.* (1868) 157 note, He beareth Azure a Birt or Burt, or Berte. 1700 *PHILLIPS, Bret, Brut, or Burt*, a Fish of the Turbot-kind. 1783 *AINSWORTH Lat. Dict.* (Morell) ii, *Rhombus*, a fish called a birt, or turbot.

Birth (bɜːp), *sb.* Forms: 3 burde(u) birde, 3-4 burpe, birp(e), 4 byrpe, burp, berpe, (br)p, breth, 4-5 burth(e), birt(e), 4-6 byrth(e), 5 bryth, 6-7 berth, 3- birth. [*Early ME. byrp(e), burd(e), birp(e)*, probably, since the form is assimilated to *OE.*, *a. ON. *byrd(i)r* str. fem. (*OSw. byrp*, *Da. byrd*), genit. *burðar* (on which Icelandic formed a new nominative *burðr* masc.); = *Goth. ga-baurps*:—*OTeut. *(ga-)burp-i*, *f.* the stem of *ber-an* to BEAR, with suffix *-pi* (= *Aryan -ti-s*, cf. *Skr. bhytis*, *OIr. brith*). The *OTeut.* word had shifting stress, and consequently, according to Verner's law, *p* and *d* interchanged in the inflexion: in *ON.* and *Goth.* these were levelled under *p*, but in *WGer.* under *d* (*High G. t*), in *OS.* *giburd*, *OHG. giburt*, *burt* (*MHG.*, mod. *G. geburt*), *OE. geburd*. The latter was prob. the source of *ME. BIRDE*, *burde*, 'race, descent'; but could hardly be that of *birth*, unless the latter was assimilated to *sbs.* in *-p*, *pe*, or influenced by *ON.* For the final *-o* of *ME. byrpe*, cf. *ME. derpe* *a. ON. dyrd*, and see *-TH*.]

1. The bearing of offspring. Viewed as an act of the mother: a. Bringing forth, giving birth. Now chiefly in 'several young) at a birth.'

a 1300 *Cursor M.* 10575 Quen Anna was cummen to time of birp, Sco bar þat maiden. 1382 *WYCLIF Gen.* xxxv. 17 For the hardnes of birth [1388 *childberyng*] she bigganne to perishe. 1593 *SHAKS. 2 Hen. VI.* iv. ii. 147 By her he had two children at one birth. 1631 *MILTON Epit. M'chess. Winchester* 67 Who, after years of barrenness The highly-favoured Joseph bore.. And at her next birth.. Through pangs fled to felicity. 1749 *FIELDING Tom Jones* ii. ii. The birth of an heir by his beloved sister. 1789 *GARTHSHORE in Phil. Trans.* LXXVII. 357 The lady.. produced at one birth eight perfect children. 1881 *W. GREGOR Folk Lore N.E. Scot.* 4 One.. wished God speed to the birth.

† b. Conception or gestation. *Obs.*

c 1375 *WYCLIF Serm.* cxxvii. Sel. Wks. II. 7 Boþe in birpe in wombe and in birpe of þe wombe.

c. Viewed as a fact pertaining to the offspring: The fact of being born, nativity, beginning of individual existence, coming into the world. *To give birth to*: to bear, bring forth (offspring).

c 1200 *Trin. Coll. Hom.* 47 On þe ehteþe ða efter his burpe. c 1250 *Gen. & Ex.* 1484 Ðe fader luuede esau wel for firme birde & swete mel. a 1340 *HAMPOLÉ Pr. Cons.* 2193 Better es þe day of dede þan þe day of burthe. c 1387 *CHAUCER Mother of God* 74 The birthe of Cryst our thraldom putte vs fro. 1595 *SHAKS. John* iii. i. 51 At thy birth, deere boy, Nature and Fortune ioynd to make thee great. 1732 *Pope Hor. Sat.* ii. ii. 97 Why had not I in those good

times my birth? 1855 TENNYSON *Maud* l. xiv. iv. Mine by a right, from birth till death.

2. *fig.* Of things: Origin, origination, commencement of existence, beginning.

[1588 SHAKS. *L. L. L.* v. ii. 521 When great things labouring perish in their birth.] 1611 — *Wint. T.* iv. iv. 80 Not yet on summers death, nor on the birth Of trembling winter. 1712 ADDISON *Spect.* No 267 P 6 Aeneas's Settlement . . gave Birth to the Roman Empire. 1789 BENTHAM *Princ. Legist.* xvii. § 17 Offences which owe their birth to the joint influence of indolence and pecuniary interest. 1875 HAMERTON *Intell. Life* x. viii. 376 The birth of a powerful idea.

3. The product of bearing, that which is born; offspring, child; young (of animals). *arch.* (Cf. AFTERBIRTH.)

a 1400 *Cursor M.* 10886 (Trin.) For þi of þe beþ born a burþ. 1483 CAXTON *Gold. Leg.* 433/2 The moder shold be deluyerd of hyr byrthe. 1597 SHAKS. 2 *Hen. IV.* iv. iv. 122 Vnfather'd Heires, and loathly Births of Nature. 1647 CRASHAW *Poems* 129 Saturn. . . deuour'd that birth he fear'd. 1703 FARQUHAR *Inconst.* iii. (1728) 43 The woman's birth was spirited away. 1711 ADDISON *Spect.* No. 120 P 5 Others hatch their Eggs and tend the Birth, 'till it is able to shift for it self. 1883 W. G. BLACK *Folk-Med.* viii. 128 The next birth will be a boy.

† b. That which is borne in the womb; 'fruit of the womb.' *Obs.*

c 1550 *Gen. & Ex.* 1697 Rachel non birde ne nam. 1500 *Will of Treffry, Cornwall* (Somerset Ho.), I bequeath to the byrth being in the belly of Elyn Danyel. 1535 COVERDALE *Jer.* xx. 15 That the byrth might not haue come out, but remayned still in her. 1657 W. COLES *Adam in Eden* liv. It expelleth the dead Birth.

† c. *collect.* Children, offspring. *Obs.*

1614 CHAPMAN *Odyss.* viii. 337 When you come To banquet with your wife and birth at home.

d. *fig.* Of things: Product, creation, 'offspring.' 1645 BACON *Innovations, Ess.* (Arb.) 526 Innouations, which are the Births of Time. 1697 DRYDEN *Virg. Georg.* i. 106 The fruitful Earth was free to give her unexacted Birth. 1745 YOUNG *Nt. Th.* ii. 156 Teaching we learn; and, giving, we retain The births of intellect. 1884 W. C. SMITH *Kildrostan* 66 It was a foolish jest, The birth of vacant brains.

† 4. A race, a nation. (transl. *L. natio.*) *Obs. rare.* a 1300 *E. E. Psalter* lxxviii. 10 And in berthes unknowne be, Bi-foure oure eghen þat we se. *Ibid.* cxlix. 7 In berthes wrekkes for to do.

5. Parentage, lineage, extraction, descent; *esp.* rank, station, position inherited from parents.

a 1240 *Wokunge in Cott. Hom.* 269 Noblesse and hehnesse of burde. 1374 CHAUCER *Boeth.* iii. vi. 78 Al þe lineage of men þat ben in erpe ben of semblable burde. 1599 SHAKS. *Much Ado* ii. i. 172 She is no equal for his birth. a 1687 PETTY *Pol. Arith.* x. (1691) 115 To live according to their Birth and Breeding. 1752 JOHNSON *Rambler* No. 201 P 9 A young man whose birth and fortune give him a claim to notice. 1839 THIRLWALL *Greece* xii. 94 Marriages contracted between parties of unequal birth.

b. *spec.* Good family, noble lineage.

1595 SHAKS. *John* ii. i. 430 If loue ambitious fought a match of birth. 1752 HUME *Ess. & Treat.* (1777) i. 96 Birth, titles, & place, must be honoured above industry & riches. 1876 J. H. NEWMAN *Hist. Sk.* i. iv. 201 There is nothing men more pride themselves on than birth.

† c. *transf.* One born in such a position. (Cf. 3.) 1604 WARNER *Ab. Eng.* xi. lxii. 270 Such Births as she not else must loue, but as they licens't are.

† 6. Nature, kind, sex; natural character. *Obs.*

c 1250 *Hali Meid.* 13 þis mihte . . athalt hire burde i licnesse of heuenliche cunde. 1374 CHAUCER *Boeth.* iii. vi. 79 3if he norisse his courage vnto vices and forete his propre burde. 1384 WYCLIF *Wisd.* xiv. 26 The mischancing of birthe [1611 changing of kinde, *marg. sexe*]. 1558 Q. ELIZ. in *Strype Ann. Ref.* i. ii. App. vi. 11 Her highness, beyng a woman by birthe and nature. 1599 SHAKS. *Rom. & Jul.* ii. iii. 20 Nor ought so good, but strain'd from that faire vse, Results from true birth.

7. Conditions or relations involved in birth.

c 1400 *Destr. Troy* xxxii. 12826 Teucro . . Pat was brother of birthe to þe bold Thelamon. 1697 DRYDEN *Aeneid* vii. 1001 A foe by birth to Troy's unhappy name. 1816 J. WILSON *City of Plague* ii. iii. 346 By my very birth I am a creature sinful as yourselves. 1875 JOWETT *Plato* (ed. 2) v. 31 He was an Athenian by birth, and a Spartan citizen.

† 8. *First (firme) birth:* rights of primogeniture; BIRTHRIGHT. *Obs.*

c 1250 *Gen. & Ex.* 1497 Dat ic ðin firme birðehe gete. *Ibid.* 1501 Firme birde was wurð wune ðe fader dede ðe firme sune. 1387 TREVISA *Hiden* Rolls Ser. II. 301 Þe furste burbe [primogenitura] were special profitzes and worschippes to the eldest sones. 1597 *Ibid.* ii. xi. 69 Jacob. . . had boughte the firste byrthes and slyly geten his faders blessinge.

† 9. Nativity; 'fortune' as influenced by the aspect of the planets at the moment of birth. *Obs.* 1593 SHAKS. 2 *Hen. VI.* iv. i. 34 A cunning man did calculate my birth, And told me that by Water I should dye.

10. *Theol.* in phr. *New birth:* regeneration.

1535 COVERDALE *Tit.* iii. 5 He saued vs by the fountayne of the new byrth. 1597 HOOKER *Ecc. Pol.* v. l. § 1 The Church is to us that very Mother of our new birth. 1678 R. BARCLAY *Apol. Quakers* v. § 24 (1701) 175 The New Birth cometh not by the outward Knowledge of Christ. 1875 H. E. MANWING *Mission H. Ghost* i. 16 Baptism confers a new birth.

11. (See quot.) 1616 SURFEL & MARKH. *Countr. Farm* 141 In the paine of the bellie [of a horse], vvhich some call the Birth, you shall take the seeds of vild Rue, etc.

12. *attrib.* = 'native, natal,' and in *comb.*: a. relating to sense 1, as *birth-carol*, *-city*, *-date*, *-hour*, *-land*, *-note*, *-pang*, *-peal*, *-robe*, *-song*, *-spot*, *-stead* (*obs.*), *-struggle*, *-throe*, *-town*, *-year*, also BIRTHDAY, BIRTHPLACE; *birth-brought*, *-favouring*,

-strangled *adjs.*; b. in sense of 'belonging to one from birth,' as *birth-blindness*, *-blot*, *-mark*, *-name*, *-poison* (= original sin), *-sin*, *-tongue*, BIRTHRIGHT; c. with astrological reference, as *birth-planet*, *-sign*, *-star*.

1264 *Soc. Sc. Rev.* i. 302 A case of 'birth blindness. 1599 WARNER *Ab. Eng.* vi. xxix. 142 Whose 'birth-brought Nature. 1641 J. JACKSON *True Evang. T.* iii. 190 That Angelicall 'birth-Carroll of our blessed Lord. 1593 SHAKS. *Lucr.* 537 Worse than a slavish wipe or 'birth-hours blot. 1580 NORTH *Plutarch* (1676) 150 A certain 'birth-marke he had upon one of his lips, like a little wart. 1821 BYRON *Sardan.* ii. i. 66 'Tis thy natal ruler—thy 'birth-planet. 1598 TINDALE *Doctr. Treat.* (1848) 301 By the reason of original sin, or 'birth-poison, that remaineth in him. 1568 39 *Articles* ix. (title) Of Original or 'Birth-sin. 1848 H. E. MANNING *Serm.* (1848) i. 8 All that lies wrapped up in his 'birth-sin. 1566 DRANT *Horace Sat.* i. vii. E b. What unstable starres, what 'byrthe-synes once he had. 1641 J. JACKSON *True Evang. T.* ii. 140 [Homer] whom nine Cities strove about, which should be his 'birth-spot. 1583 STUBBS *Anat. Abus.* ii. 64 Neither fate, destonie, 'birthstar, signe or planet. a 1300 *Cursor M.* 22092 Right sūa sal þe feind . . ches him a 'birth-sted i-wiss. 1605 SHAKS. *Macb.* iv. i. 30 Finger of 'Birth-strangled Babe. 1837 CARLYLE *Fr. Rev.* i. iv. iv. 164 And so, with death-throes and 'birth-throes, a new one is to be born. 1387 TREVISA *Hiden* in *Craik Lit. & Learn. Eng.* (1844) 109 This aparyng of the 'birthe tonge is by cause of twey thynges.

13. *Special comb.*: † *birth-bearing*, *parturition*; † *birth-brief*, a genealogical table, a family tree; † *birth-child*, child by birth (in a place), native; † *birth-cord*, the umbilical cord; † *birth-gazer*, † *birth-lotter*, a calculator or caster of nativities; *birth-puffed a.*, proud of one's descent; *birth-roll*, a list of persons born in one place; *birth-root*, the *Trillium erectum* or Indian Balm; *birth-state*, condition by birth; *birth-stool*, a stool for assisting in parturition; † *birth-tide* = BIRTH-TIME.

a 1300 *Pains of Hell* 135 in *O. E. Misc.* 215 Slowyn here childe in 'burbering. 1708 J. CHAMBERLAYNE *St. Gt. Brit.* n. ii. iv. (1743) 374 All. . . Legitimations, 'Birthbriues, Presentations, etc. 1608 SHAKS. *Per.* iv. iv. 41 The earth Hath Thetis 'birth-child on the heavens bestow'd. c 1630 RIDSON *Surv. Devon* § 104 (1810) 99 Very notable hath this town been for her 'birthchild Winefride. 1586 T. B. LA PRIMAVERA *Fr. Acad.* (1594) 40 *marg.* Sorcerers, magicians, and 'birth gazers. 1549 CHALONER *Erasm. Moris Enc.* A. 4v. An evident argument and token of good lucke, as these 'byrthlotters saie. 1861 MAINE *Anc. Law* iv. (1876) 94 The current language concerning the 'birth-state of men. 1687 DRAYTON *Agnicourt*, etc. 154 Bring forth the 'Birth-stoole. a 1240 *Wokunge in Cott. Hom.* 277. I þi 'burðit. a 1631 DRAYTON *Dudley to Lady J. Gray* (R.). No ominous star did at thy 'birthtide shine.

† *Birth*, *sb. 2* *Obs.* [Perh. the same word as *prec.* with the general sense of 'bear'; perhaps a. ON. *byrðr* burthen: the derivation being the same.] Burthen, weight, bulk.

c 1425 WYNTOUN *Cron.* i. xiii. 17 (JAM.) Thare bwyis bowys all for byrth. 1513 DOUGLAS *Aeneis* v. iii. 31 The buesteus barge. . . Sa huge of birth a cetie semit sche. 1535 STEWART *Cron. Scot.* II. 246 For birth and wecht, hir furing wes so hie, With thame ilkane scho sank into the se.

Birth, *v. rare.* [f. BIRTH *sb. 1*; the ME. vb. may be *birthen*.] *intr.* To have birth, be born.

c 1250 *Gen. & Ex.* 1471 He wrosten and figt, Queðer here sulde birðen bi-foren. 1865 J. H. STIRLING *Secret Hegel* i. 147 It is difficult to perceive how I am related to it, how I birth from it, or decaase into it.

Birth, *obs. form* of BERTH.

Birthday (bɜːpdeɪ). [f. BIRTH + DAY.]

1. The day on which any one is born; also *fig.* that of regeneration; *transf.* (of things), the day or date of origin or beginning.

1580 BARET *Adv. B* 711 The daye that the cite was first founded on the birth day. 1599 DAVIES in *Farr's S. P.* (1845) i. 102 We. . . That haue bene euer from our birth-day blind. 1709 STEELE *Tatler* No. 130 P 10 The Anniversary of the Birth-day of this Glorious Queen. 1784 COWPER *Task* l. 18 The birthday of Invention. 1838 SEARS *Atham.* viii. 68 Now therefore comes the second birthday of man.

2. The anniversary or annual observance of the day of birth of any one; sometimes *spec.* that of the sovereign.

[c 1000 *Agg. Gosp. Matt.* xiv. 6 On Herodes gebyrð-dage]. 1384 WYCLIF *Mark* vi. 21 Eroude in his birthe day [1388 birthday] made a soper to the princes. 1579 FULKE *Refut. Rastel* 796 To celebrate his Martys birth day. 1601 SHAKS. *Jul. C.* v. i. 71 This is my Birth-day; as this very day Was Cassius borne. 1755 *Connoisseur* No. 117 This suit . . was made up for a noble lord on the last birthday. 1859 TENNYSON *Enid* 633 A costly gift . . given her on the night Before her birthday.

3. *attrib.* and *comb.*, as *birthday card*, *gift*, *present*, *wish*, etc.; *birthday-book*, a book in diary form with spaces for recording birthdays; † *birthday* ('s mind, the commemoration of a birthday; *birthday suit*, a dress worn on the King's birthday.

1606 HOLLAND *Sueton.* 265 Because he had celebrated the Birth-dayes-minde, of Otho the Emperour. *Ibid.* 201 His birth-day-mind [natalium suum] falling out in the time of the Plebeian games. 1791 SWIFT *What Pass.* *Lond.* Wks. 1755 III. l. 184 So many birth-day suits were countermanded the next day. 1830 GEN. P. THOMPSON *Exerc.* (1842) i. 314 The time that a birthday ox takes in roasting. 1868 W. COLLINS *Moost.* (1871) 61 Your uncle's birthday gift.

† *Birthdom*. *Obs. rare*—[f. BIRTH + DOM.] Inheritance, birthright.

1605 SHAKS. *Macb.* iv. iii. 4 Let vs . . like good men, Bestride our downfall Birthdom.

† *Birtheil*, *a. Obs.* [f. BIRTH + -EL.] Fruit-bearing.

c 1250 *Gen. & Ex.* 119 Ilk gres, ilc wurt, ilc birðeltre, His owen sed beren bad he.

Birthen, *-an*, *obs. forms* of BURDEN.

† *Birthful*, *a. Obs. rare.* [f. BIRTH + -FUL.] Prolific, productive.

1483 *Cath. Angl.* 33 Birthfulle, fetosus. 1596 J. DALEYMPLE *Leslie's Hist. Scot.* (1884-5) 9 The ane parte lyeng to the South is mekle birthfuller, throuch fertilitie of the ground.

† *Birthhood*. *Obs.* = BIRTHDOM.

1633 T. WHITFIELD *Treat. Sinf.* Men ix. 42 That Jacob should get the birth-hood and blessing.

Birthing, variant of BERTHING *vb. sb.*

Birthless (bɜːpless), *a.* [f. BIRTH + -LESS.]

a. Abortive. b. Without the advantages of 'birth.'

1649 OWEN *Serm.* Wks. 1851 VIII. 234 Their plots have proved tympanous and birthless. 1859 TROLLOPE *Dr. Thorne* 238 Poor Mary was such a birthless founding.

Birthnight (bɜːpnait). [f. BIRTH + NIGHT.]

1. The night on which any one is born.

1671 MILTON *P. R.* iv. 506 The Angelic Song in Bethlehem field, On thy birth-night. 1849 SOUTHEY *Com. Pl. Bk. Ser.* ii. 420 The fire . . was extinguished on the birth-night of the Prophet.

2. 'The night annually kept in memory of any one's birth' (J.).

1668 DRYDEN *Relig. Laici Pref.*, Now they celebrate Queen Elizabeth's birthnight. 1798 T. JEFFERSON in *Harper's Mag.* (1885) Mar. 536/2 Subscription for General Washington's birth night 5 D. a 1845 HOOD *Sea of Death*, They lay in loveliness, and kept the birthnight of their peace.

† 3. *spec.* The evening of a royal birthday (see BIRTHDAY 2); the court-festival held thereon. *Obs.*

1712 BUDGELL *Spect.* No. 277 P 9 That you may not be surprised at my appearing a la mode de Paris on the next Birth-night. 1730 SWIFT *Vind. Carteret Wks.* 1755 V. ii. 181 To . . dance at a birth-night.

b. *attrib.*

1712 POPE *Rape Lock* l. 23 More glitt'ring than a Birth-night Beau. 1800 MAR. EDGEMOND *Belinda* iii, The crape petticoat of her birthnight dress. 1818 SCOTT *Hrt. Midl.*, Dropped a curtsy as low as a lady at a birth-night introduction.

Birthplace (bɜːpplɛs). [f. BIRTH + PLACE.]

The place where a person (or fig. a thing) is born.

1607 SHAKS. *Cor.* iv. iv. 23 My Birth-place hate I, and my louses vpon This Enemy Towne. 1789 BURNS *Farewe. Highlands* i, The birth-place of valour, the country of worth. 1814 WORDSW. *Excurs.* iii. 90 How gracefully that slender shrub looks forth From his fantastic birthplace! 1849 W. IRVING *Golden.* 19 In this house Goldsmith was born, and it was a birthplace worthy of a poet.

Birthright (bɜːpɹait). [f. BIRTH + RIGHT.]

1. Right by birth; the rights, privileges, or possessions to which one is entitled by birth; inheritance, patrimony. (Specially used of the special rights of the first-born.)

1535 COVERDALE *Gen.* xxv. 31 Sell me this daye thy byrth-right. 1593 SHAKS. 2 *Hen. IV.* ii. ii. 62 Be we the first That shall salute our rightfull Soueraigne With honor of his Birth-right to the Crowne. 1651 HOBBS *Leviath.* ii. xxi. 110 Their Private Inheritance and Birthright. 1718 POPE *Iliad* xv. 185 Our elder birthright and superior sway. 1849 MACAULAY *Hist. Eng.* i. 445 The prince whom a faction . . had tried to rob of his birthright.

attrib. 1652 T. HODGES *Heavy Head* Cr. 18 Jacob . . got the birth-right blessing. 1850 SCOTT *Lady of L.* ii. x. In Scotland's court, thy birthright place.

fig. 1684 R. WALLER *Nat. Exer.* To Rdr., Among all the Creatures of Divine Wisdom, the Birthright doubtless belongs to the Idea of Truth.

2. Native right; lot to which birth entitles.

1659 MILTON *Civ. Power* Wks. 1738 I. 555 The new Birth-right of every true Believer, Christian Liberty. 1719 W. WOOD *Surv. Trade* 296 Freedom of Trade is their undoubted Birth-right. 1820 COLERIDGE *Friend* (1805) 157 The laws of the land are the birth-right of every native. 1875 FARRAR *Silence & V.* viii. 136 Work is the best birthright which man still retains.

Birth-time (bɜːptaim). Also 3 birde-, 3-4 bur-, buyr-, burpe-. Date or moment of birth.

1597 R. GLOUC. 9 From oure Lordes burpe time to þe worldes ende. *Ibid.* 443 Our Louerdes byrtime. c 1300 *Life of Jesus* 295 (Mätz.) Þet opur byrtyrme þat scholde beo þo he gan hem þat here. a 1564 BECON *Com. Pl. Holy Script.* Wks. (1844) 302 If they did perceive in the birth-time that it was a boy. 1860 HAWTHORNE *Marble Faun* (1879) i. xviii. 183 The birth-time of Christianity.

Birthun, *obs. form* of BURDEN.

Birthwort (bɜːpɹwɔrt). *Bot.* [f. BIRTH + WORT.] The genus of shrubs ARISTOLOCHIA.

[1548 TURNER *Names Herbes* (1881) 15 Aristolochia or round hertworte.] 1551 — *Herbal* (1568) 43 Aristolochia rotunda . . may be called in Englyshe . . round byrthworte: because it helpeth wyemen to brynge furth their byrth. 1712 tr. *Pomet's Hist. Drugs* i. 44 The long Birthwort is a Root like a Radish. 1861 DELAMER *Fl. Gard.* 110 Birthwort—Aristolochia.

Birthy, *a. Sc.* [f. BIRTH + -Y.] Prolific.

1680 R. LAW *Mem.* (1818) 159 The last year's crop . . was not birthy.

† *Birtle*. *Obs.* Forms: 5 birtyle, byrtyl, 6 brytyl. A sweet apple. Also in *comb.* *birtle-tree*.

1483 *Cath. Angl.* 33 A Birtyle, malomellum; a Birtyle tre, malomellus. 1500 *Ortus Voc.*, Malomellus, a brytyl tre. [1847 HALLIWELL, *Birtle*, a summer apple. *Yorksh.*]

Biry, etc., obs. form of **BURY**, etc.

|| **Bis**, adv. [Fr. and It., a. L. *bis* twice.] Encore, again: used a. in *Music* as a direction that a phrase or passage is to be repeated. b. Twice; calling attention to the occurrence of a number, word, etc., twice.

1819 REES *Cycl.* s.v. *Bis*. The word *bis* placed over such passage, implies that the whole is to be repeated. 1837 CARLYLE *Fr. Rev.* (1872) III. iii. vii. 127 Marat like a musical *bis* repeating the last phrase. 1877 F. HALL *Eng. Adjs.* in -able 48 See for the verb, pp. 175 (*bis*), 302.

Bis, pref.¹ The prec. adv. used in late L., Fr., It., before *s*, *c*, or a vowel, in place of *Bi-* pref.²; hence occas. in Eng., as in *bisacromial* = *BIACROMIAL*, *bisalternate* alternate in two ways.

Bis, pref.², Chem., abbreviation of *BISMUTH*, used in comb., as *bisethyl*, *C₂H₅Bi*, *bistriethyl*, etc.

1863 WATTS *Dict. Chem.* I. 596.

Bis: see **BICE**, **BYSS**.

Bisaccate (boise-két), a. [f. *Bi-* pref.² + *SACCATE*, f. L. *saccus* bag.] Having two sacs, or pouches. 1864 WEBSTER cites *LOUDON*.

† **Bisalt** (boi-sôlt). [f. *Bi-* pref.² + *SALT*.] 1810 HENRY *Elem. Chem.* (1826) II. ix. 110 This certainly does away with an anomaly, that all the salts of copper are bi-salts, or contain 2 atoms of acid united to one of base.

† **Bisannual**, a. and sb. Obs. [f. *Bi-* + *ANNUAL*.] = *BIENNIAL*.

1725 BRADLEY *Fam. Dict.*, *Scabious* .. are call'd *Bis-Annual*, hardy plants, by reason they seldom flower till the Second Year after Sowing and then Dye. *Ibid.* s.v. *Herb*, Which bear the Name of *Bis-annuals*.

Bisantler. [variant of *BEZANTLER*.] The second branch of a deer's horn.

1863 KITTO & ALEX. *Cycl. Bibl. Lit.* 99/1 Barbary stag—distinguished by the want of a bisantler.

† **Bisaumple**, v. Obs. [f. *bi-*, BE- + *saumple*, ME. form of *SAMPLE*.] To moralize (about); bring forward 'instances' in illustration, palliation, etc.

a 1225 *Ancr. R.* 88 *Bisaumple* longe abuten uor te beon þe betere ileued. *Ibid.* 316 *Schrift* zet schal beon naked: þet is, nakedliche imaked, and nout *bisaumple* feirb.

Bisawe, variant of *BYSAWE*, Obs., proverb.

† **Bisay**, **bisey**, v. Obs. [f. *bi-*, BE- + *sazzen*, *sezen* = OE. *sagan* to cause to sink = OS. *sagjan*, OHG. *seigan* = OTeut. **saigan*, causal of *sigan* to sink.] *trans.* To cause to fall or stumble, to entrap. c 1200 *Trin. Coll. Hom.* 213 *Biswiked* her aïder oðer, and beð þanne *bisaid* in þe grune of hinder. *Ibid.* 215 Mid fele folde grunen þe werse hine *biseid* and henteth.

|| **Biscacha** (bis-kat'fā). Zool. Also *bis-*, *vis-*. [a. Sp. *biscacha*.] A species of the *Chinchillidae*, a burrowing rodent of South America.

a 1837 BENNETT in *Penny Cycl.* VII. 88/1 The *Biscachas* live in society, in burrows. 1847 CARPENTER *Zool.* § 235 The burrows of the *Biscacha* are also inhabited by small owls. 1850 DARWIN *Orig. Spec.* xiv. (1878) 379 Of all Rodents the *biscacha* is most nearly related to the *Marsupials*.

Biscainer, obs. form of *BISCAYNER*.

† **Biscake**, Obs. Also 7 *biskake*. [f. *biscuit* and *cake*.] = *BISCUIT*.

1657 TOMLINSON *Renou's Disp.* 171 Little long masses of bread, which they commonly call *Biskakes*. 1681 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 1606/4 William Marshall, a Sea-Biscake Baker.

Biscayan (bis-kān), a. Also 7 *biscan*, 8 *biskaine*. [f. *Biscay* + *-AN*.] Belonging to, or characteristic of, the province of Biscay; also as sb., an inhabitant or native of Biscay. So **Biscayanism** (6 *biscanism*), the Basque language. **Biscayen** [ad. F. *biscayen*], a. A long heavy musket, first used in Biscay; b. One of its balls (see quot.).

Biscayner (*Biskiner*, *Biscainer*, *Biscayneer*), a native of Biscay, a Biscayan ship.

1634 MASSINGER *Very Wom.* iv. iii. *Almira*. What country are you of? *Antonio*. A Biscan, lady. 1769 PENNANT *Zool.* III. 39 The cargo of two great Biskaine ships. 1875 *URE Dict. Arts* II. 936 There are three varieties of this forge (in which malleable iron is obtained directly from the ore), the Catalan, the Navarrese, and the Biscayan. 1596 NASH *Haue With You Wks.* (Grosart) III. 78 Biscanism the most barbarous Spanish. 1812 *Examiner* 14 Sept. 581/2 He was struck on the shoulder by a Biscayen. *Ibid.* 588/1 A Biscayen is a cannon ball of a small calibre. 1601 J. KEYMOR *Dutch Fish.* in *Phenix* II. 225 Fish taken by the Biscainers. 1813 *Simond's Lit. Europe* (1846) I. xii. 342 From the wicked Biscayneer.

Biscent, **-schent**, obs. pa. pples. of *BESCHEND*.

Bisceop, **bischop**, obs. ff. *BISHOP*.

Bischadwe, and other obs. vbs. in *Bi-*: see *BE-*.

† **Bischun**, v. Obs. Also 3 *bisounien*, *bisunien*. [ME., f. *bi-*, BE- + *schunien* to *SHUN*.] The mod. repr. would have been *beshun*.] *trans.* To shun, avoid (a thing); also with refl. pron.

c 1200 *Moral Ode* 132 in *Lamb. Hom.* 169 Wið þet þe mihte helle pine bifliden and bisunien [*Egerton MS.* *bisunien*]. a 1250 *Prov. Alfred* 368 in *O. E. Misc.* 124 From lesynge þu þe wune and alle vnþwes þu þe *bischune*.

Biscot, **-oot**, obs. forms of *BISCUIT*.

† **Biscot**, v. Obs. rare⁻¹. [a. F. *biscoter*.] *trans.* To caress amorously.

1653 URQUHART *Rabelais* II. xxiii. Wheresoever they should biscot and thrum their wenches.

† **Biscot**, sb. Obs. [f. *SCOT* = payment: the prefix is doubtful; see the authorities cited.] A

fine formerly exacted from the owners of marsh lands for failure to repair banks, ditches, etc.

1668 DUGDALE *Hist. Embanking and Draining Fens* 254 a. 1691 BLOUNT *Law Dict.* s.v., And if he should not by a second day given him, accomplish the same; then he should pay for every Perch ijs, which is called *Bi-scot*. 1790 BAILEY, *Biscot*, a Fine.. to be paid on Default of repairing of Banks, Ditches, etc.

† **Biscotin**. Obs. [a. F. *biscotin*, ad. It. *biscottino* little biscuit, f. *biscotto*: cf. *BISCUIT*.] A kind of sweet biscuit made of flour, sugar, eggs, etc.

1757 BRADLEY *Fam. Dict.* s.v. *Gimbels*, Bake 'em in the same manner as you do *Biscotins*. 1819 *Banquet* 17 *Biscuit*, bisk, and biscotin Swam in one indescribable tureen.

Biscuit (bis-kët). Forms: 4 *besquite*, 5 *bys-qwyte*, *-cute*, 5-6 *bysket*, 6-8 *bisket*, 8-*biscuit*. (Also, casually, 6 *biskett*, *-kette*, *-ked*, *-kitte*, *-kott*, *-ky*, *-quette*, *-quite*; 6-7 *bisquet*; 7 *bisquett*, *biscot*, *-oot*.) [a. OF. 12th c. *bescoit*, 13th c. *bescuit*, 16th c. *biscuit*, mod. F. *biscuit*, a common Romanic word (= Pr. *bescuit*, Cat. *bescuyt*, Sp. *biscocho*, Pg. *biscuto*, It. *biscotto*) on L. type **biscutum* (*panem*), bread 'twice baked,' from the original mode of preparation. The regular form in Eng. from 16th to 18th c. was *bisket*, as still pronounced; the current *biscuit* is a senseless adoption of the mod. French spelling, without the Fr. pronunciation.]

1. A kind of crisp dry bread more or less hard, prepared generally in thin flat cakes. The essential ingredients are flour and water, or milk, without leaven; but confectionery and fancy biscuits are very variously composed and flavoured. Even the characteristic of hardness implied in the name is lost in the sense 'A kind of small, baked cake, usually fermented, made of flour, milk, etc.' used, according to Webster, in U.S.

1330 R. BRUNNE *Chron.* (1810) 171 Armour þei had plente, & god besquite to mete. c 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 48 *Bys-qwyte*, *biscotus*. 1555 *Fardle Facions* II. vii. 159 Their daily foode.. is hard *Bisquette*. 1569 CRAWLEY *Soph. Dr. Watson* II. 169 The bread was such as was provided to serue at neede, or in warres, for it was *Bisket*, that is twice baked, and without leuen or salt. 1595 SIR J. GILBERT in *N. & Q.* Ser. III. (1864) Feb. 109/1, 1400 tones off corn too be bakyd unto *bysky*. 1600 SHAKS. *A. Y. L.* II. vii. 30 As drie as the remainder *bisket* after a voyage. 1697 DAMPIER *Voy.* (1729) I. 303 Bread of fine Wheat Flower, baked like *Bisket*, but not so hard. 1755 JOHNSON, *Bisket*: see *BISCUIT*. 1770 FITZ-HENRY *Observ. Barrett's Journ.* i. 90, I call for a *bisket* and a glass of Madeira. 1860 *All Y. Round* No. 63. 302 Munching an *Abernethy biscuit*.

2. *Pottery*. The name given to porcelain and other pottery-ware after having undergone the first firing, and before being glazed, painted, or otherwise embellished; also *fig.*

1791 E. DARWIN *Bot. Gard.* i. 87 The kneaded clay refines, The biscuit hardens, the enamel shines. 1864 J. HARMFOR *Recoll. Wilberforce* I. 21 'What an interesting creature is Dunn! he is formed of the finest biscuit.' 1880 CH. M. MASON *Forty Shires* 158 Potter's 'Biscuit' is the dough after it has been made into vessels and baked.

3. *Comb. and attrib.* a. attrib., as (in sense 1) *biscuit-bag*, *-box*, *-cask*, *-figure*, *-manufactory*, *-sack*, *-worm*; (of the colour of a biscuit, light-brown), as *biscuit satin*; also *dry-biscuit-jest*, *-rogue*; (in sense 2) *biscuit-body*, *-china*, *clay*, *oven*, *stage*, *state*, *ware*. b. objective, as *biscuit-baker*, *-baking*, *-beater*, *-cast*, *-maker*, *-making*, *-throw*, *-toss* (cf. *STONE'S THROW*). c. parasynthetic and similitive, as *biscuit-brained*, *-coloured*, *-like*, *-shaped*.

1837 CARLYLE *Fr. Rev.* I. iii. viii. 132 A sinking pilot will fling out... his very 'biscuit-bags'. 1707 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 4332/8 Caleb Claggett, 'Biscuit Baker'. 1864 L. SIMPSON *Handbk. Dining* II. (ed. 3) 27 'Biscuit bakers'.. hold a middle path between pastry cooks and confectioners. 1783 WEDGWOOD in *Phil. Trans.* LXXXIII. 285 Mixed with porcelain 'biscuit body'. 1886 *Times* 24 Feb. 9/6 Constructing the 'biscuit-box' redoubt under fire at Gubat. 1853 KANE *Grinnell Exp.* xlix. (1856) 461 Within short 'biscuit-cast'. 1862 MAYHEW *Crim. Prisons* 129 As white as slabs of 'biscuit-china'. 1599 B. JONSON *Ev. Man out Hum.* Grex 157 [He] breaks a drie 'bisquet-jest', Which.. He steeps in his owne laughter. 1836 TODD *Cycl. Anat. & Phys.* I. 746/1 The rough 'biscuit-like' surface of the bone. 1835 *Penny Cycl.* IV. 452/1 Our description of 'biscuit-making'. *Ibid.* The largest 'biscuit-manufactories are those.. for supplying the navy. 1600 FLETCHER *Fr. Lawyer* II. i. 58 Ze dry 'bisket rogue'! 1779 JOHNSON *Drake Wks.* IV. 410 A sail made of a 'bisket sack'. 1884 *Pall Mall G.* 8 Apr. 4/2 In dinner and evening dresses the biscuit colour is equally popular. An evening dress of 'biscuit satin'. 1865 *Daily Tel.* 3 Nov. 5/5 It is fired for about sixty hours.. and is then in what is called the 'biscuit' state. 1833 MARRYAT *P. Simple* (1863) 340 Running the brig within 'biscuit-throw' of the weather schooner. 1782 WEDGWOOD in *Phil. Trans.* LXXXII. 307 The kiln in which the 'biscuit ware' is fired. 1798 COLERIDGE *Anc. Mar.* I. xvii. The mariners gave it 'biscuit-works'.

4. *Biscuit bread*. Formerly used as = *BISCUIT*. c 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 37 *Byscute brede*, *biscotus*. 1555 EDEN *Decades W. Ind.* I. iii. (Arb.) 77 The vytayles (especially the byskette breade) corrupted. 1616 SURFL. & MARKH. *Countr. Farm* 583 Physitians appoint *bisket bread* for such as are troubled with rheumes. 1684 tr. *Bonell's Merc. Compit.* x. 364 *Adust humours*, which are increased by *Biscot Bread*.

Hence *Bi'scuiting* vbl. sb., the first baking of earthenware or similar material.

1871 *Echo* 6 Jan., This first burning is technically termed 'biscuiting.'

Biscutate (boi-skiär'tet), a. [f. *Bi-* pref.² + *SCUTATE*, ad. L. *scūtātus*, f. *scūtum* shield.] Having two shields; resembling two bucklers.

1838 *LOUDON Encycl. Pl. Biscutella*, Silicle flat, *biscutate*.

|| **Bise** (bîz, bîz). Also 6 *bisa*. [a. F. *bise*, in same sense. Also found in med. L., Pr., Piedmontese *bisa*; OHG. *bîsa*, MHG. *bîse*, mod. G., Swiss *bîse*, *beiswind*, Breton *biz*. Origin and native lang. unknown: Diez (s.v. *Bigio*) and Scheler incline to refer it to *bis* dark, blackish. In mod. Eng. only an alien French word.]

A keen dry N. or NNE. wind, prevalent in Switzerland and the neighbouring parts of France, Germany, and Italy.

a 1300 *Havelok* 724 That it ne bigan a wind to rise Out of the north, men calleth *bise*. 1594 GREENE *Look. Glasse* (1861) 134 Our sails were split by *Bisas* bitter blast. 1834 Mrs. SOMERVILLE *Connex. Phys.* Sc. xxvi. (1849) 292 The cutting north wind called the *bise* in Switzerland. 1885 RUSKIN *Prater.* II. 38 The *bise*, now first letting one feel what malignant wind could be.

Bise, obs. f. *BICE*.

Bisect (boise-kt), v. Also 7 *bisseot*. [Apparently of Eng. formation, from *bi-*, *bis-* two + *sect*- ppl. stem of *secare* to cut: cf. *intersect*, etc.]

1. *trans.* To cut or divide into two equal parts. (The earlier and usual sense.)

1646 SIR T. BROWNE *Pseud. Ep.* 292 The rationall Horizon.. bissecteth the Globe into equal parts. 1660 BARROW *Euclid* I. x. To bisect a right line. 1879 WALLACE *Australas.* xviii. 347 Borneo is nearly bisected by the equator.

2. To cut in two, divide into any two parts.

1769 BENTHAM *Princ. Legis.* xviii. § 56 The logical whole.. has been bisected in as many different directions as were necessary. 1853 GROTE *Greece* II. lxxxv. XI. 249 Attacking them while thus disarrayed and bisected by the river.

3. *intr.* To divide in two; to fork.

1870 *Daily News* 5 Oct., On the *chaussée* just before it bisects, is a village named Belle-Croix.

Bisected, ppl. a. [f. prec. + *-ED*.]

a. Divided into two (usually equal) parts. b. Forked (as a road).

1666 in BLOUNT *Glossogr.* 1794 T. TAYLOR *Pausanias* III. 5 The bisected road belonging to the Phocenses. 1866 HUTTON *Cours. Math.* I. 312 The two other sides including the bisected angle. 1880 GRAY *Bot. Text-bk.* 399 Bisected, completely divided into two parts.

Bisection (boise-k'jən), [n. of action f. *BISECT* v., after L. *sectionem*; see *-TION*.]

1. Division into two equal parts.

1656 tr. *Hobbes's Elem. Philos.* (1839) 307 By perpetual bisection of an angle. 1837 WHEWELL *Hist. Induct. Sc.* II. 209 Continued bisection and other aliquot subdivisions.

2. Division into any two parts.

1822 DE QUINCEY *Confess.* (1862) 97, I wished to bisect the journey.. such a bisection was attained in a clean roadside inn. 1876 E. MELLOR *Priesth.* iv. 182 The theory which requires the bisection of the chapter into two unequal parts.

3. Division into two branches; forking.

1870 *Daily News* 5 Oct., It stands a little to the south of the great *chaussée* from Metz to Saarouis and Saarbruck, while as yet the bisection has not taken place.

Bisectional (boise-k'jənāl), a. [f. prec. + *-AL*.] Of, pertaining to, or of the nature of bisection.

Bisectionally adv., by bisection, so as to divide into two equal parts.

1809 TROUGHTON in *Phil. Trans.* XCIX. 109 How to render the usual divisions of the quadrant bisectional. *Ibid.* 110 Contrived the means of dividing bisectionally.

Bisector (boise-k'tar, -tār), [f. *BISECT* v.] One who or that which bisects; a bisecting line.

1864 *Reader* 5 Oct. 483/2 The internal and external bisectors of the angle. 1883 PROCTOR in *Knowledge* 6 July 14/2 The bisector of the vertical angle.

Bisectrix (boise-k'triks), [f. prec.: see *-TRIX*.] = prec.; *spec.* in biaxial polarization, the line bisecting the angle between the two axes of polarization (= *linea bisectrix*).

1854 DANA *Min.* Introd. 20 A line bisecting the.. angle between these optical axes is called a bisectrix.

Bisee, **Bisege**, **-seige**: see *BESKE*, *BESIEGE*.

Bisegment (boise-g'ment), [f. *Bi-* pref.² + *SEGMENT*: the sense follows that of *BISECT*.] One of the two equal parts into which a line or other magnitude is divided. 1847 in CRAIG.

Biseke, **biseme**, obs. ff. *BESERCH*, *BESSEM*.

Bisemar(e), **-mere**, obs. forms of *BISMER*.

Bisen, variant of *BISSON* and *BYSEN*.

Bisench, **bisend**, etc., see *BE-*.

Biseptate (boise-ptet), a. [f. *Bi-* pref.² + *SEPTATE*, f. L. *septum* enclosure, wall.] Having two *septa* or partitions.

1871 M. COOKE *Fungi* (1874) 40 Similar biseptate spores.

Biserial (boisi-riāl), a. [f. *Bi-* pref.² + *SERIAL*, f. L. *series* SERIES.] Arranged in two rows or series. **Biseriate** a. = prec. **Biseriately** adv., in biserial order, in a double row.

1839 *Proc. Berw. Nat. Club* I. 109 Suckers of the arms biserial. 1870 ROLLESTON *Anim. Life* 144 Biserial rows of

ambulacral ampullae. 1846 DANA *Zooph.* (1848) 215 With cellules interruptedly uniseriate, and occasionally biserrate. 161d. 223 Septa biserially cellular.

Biserrate (boiser'et), *a.* [f. *Br.* *pref.* 3 + *SERRATE*, ad. *L.* *serratus* notched like a saw, *f. serra* saw.] Notched like a saw, with the notches themselves similarly minutely notched.

1835 LINDLEY *Introd. Bot.* II. 358 When these teeth are themselves serrate, we say *biserrate*. 1870 BENTLEY *Bot.* 252.

|| **Biset** (biz, bi'zet). [*a.* *Fr.* *biset*, *f. bis* dark-grey, greyish brown.] The wild rock-pigeon.

1834 R. MUDIE *Feather. Tribes* (1841) I. 74 *Biset*, a kind of fancy pigeon. 1837 *Penny Cycl.* VII. 370/1 The ring pigeon... and the rock pigeon or *biset* (*Columba livia*).

Bisetous (bois'et), *a.* [f. *Bi-* *pref.* 2 + *L.* *seta*, *seta* bristle + *-ous*. (*L.* had *bisētus* - *a.* and *setōs* - *us*.)] Having or furnished with two *setæ* or bristles. So **Bisetose** *a.* the same.

1849-52 BRANDE *Dict. Sc.* *Bisetous*, in Zoology, when an animal or part is furnished with two bristle-like appendages. 1847 CRAIG, *Bistose*.

+ **Bisexual**, *a.* *Obs.* [f. *Bi-* *pref.* 2 + *SEX*.] Of both sexes. So **Bisexuals**.

1866 SYLVESTER *Du Bartas* (1608) 267 Our bisexual Parents, free from sin, In Eden did their double birth begin. 1846 SIR T. BROWNE *Pseud. Ep.* 149 That the whole species or kind should be bisexual. 1846 in BLOUNT *Glossogr.*

Bisexual (boiseks'iuäl, -juäl), *a.* [f. *Bi-* *pref.* 2 + *SEXUAL*, *f. L.* *sexus*.] Of two sexes; *spec.* having both sexes in the same individual.

1844 COLERIDGE *Aids Refl.* (1848) I. 204 The very old tradition of the *homo androgynus*, that is, that the original man... was bi-sexual. 1850 TODD *Cycl. Anat. & Phys.* V. 116/2 In all the bisexual Crustacea the ova are fecundated while still within the body of the female parent. 1880 GRAY *Struct. Bot.* vi. § 3. 191 A flower which possesses stamens and pistils is Bisexual.

Bisexuality. [f. *prec.* + *-ITY*.] Bisexual quality or condition.

1850 TODD *Cycl. Anat. & Phys.* V. 595/2 The elements of the male, as well as of the female, reproductive apparatus, without any true exhibition of bi-sexuality.

Bigay, *dial.* [var. of *BESAGUE*.] Somersetshire name for a double ax, having the two faces opposite and transverse to each other.

Bish, variant of *BIKH*.

Bishemel, *obs.* form of *BECHAMEL*.

Bishop (bi'shōp), *sb.* Forms: 1 *biscop*, -*soep*, -*soep*, 2-3 *biscop*, 3-6 *bishop*, 4-5 *bisschop*, 3-*bishop*. Also 1 *biscob*, 2 *bish*-, *bishup*, 2-3 *bischoop*, *bischoop*, -*kop*, 2-4 (*s. c.*) *bissop*, 3-*byssop*, 3-7 *bishoppe*, 4 *bisschop* (-*oppe*, *bi*(*a*)*shoppe*, -*opp*, -*up*, *busschop*, 4-5 *byschop*, 4-6 *bisch*-, *bisschopp*, *busschop*, *bysschop*, *bish*-, *bisschop*, -*opp*, 4-7 *byshop*, 5 *bis*-, *byschoppe*, -*oppe*, -*upp*, -*yp*, *buschop*(*e*), 5-6 *bysch*-, *bysschopp*, -*ope*, -*oppe*, 6 *bischolpp*, *bisschop*, -*oppe*, *busschop*(*e*, *byahe*-, *bya*-, *bysschopp*(*e*, 6-7 *bishoppe*, *bushop*, 7 *biship*, *busschoppe*. [*OE.* *biscop* (also in North. *biscob*), *biscop*, *biscop*, an early adopted word (cf. *OS.* *biscop*, *MDu.* *biscop*, *Du.* *bisschop*), *OHG.* *biscof*, *piscof* (*MHG.*, *mod.G.* *bischof*), *ON.* *biskup* (*Sw.* *biscop*, *Da.* *bish*), *a.* Romanic **biscopu* or vulgar *L.* (*e*)*biscopu* :—*L.* *episcopu*, *a.* Gr. *ἐπισκοπος* overlooker, overseer, *f. ἐπί* on + *-σκοπος* looking, *σκοπός* watcher; used in Greek, and to some extent also in Latin, both in the general sense, and as the title of various civil officers; with the rise of Christianity it gradually received a specific sense in the Church, with which it passed into Slavonic, Teutonic, and Celtic. With the form *biscopu*, *biscobu*, which passed into Teutonic, cf. also *It.* *vescovo*, *OF.* *vesque*, *Pg.* *bispo*, *Pr.* *vesque*, *bisbe*. Cf. *BISP*.]

1. A spiritual superintendent or overseer in the Christian Church.

a. Used in the New Testament versions to render the Gr. word *ἐπισκοπος*, applied to certain officers in early Christian churches, either as a descriptive term, or as their actual title. In Wyclif, the Rhemish, and Revised Versions, the Gr. word is so rendered in every instance; but in the other versions from Tindale to 1611, it is in Acts xx. 28 (where applied to the *πρεσβύτεροι* or 'elders' of Ephesus) rendered 'overseers.' Also applied to Christ, as descriptive of his office. (Sometimes applied by those who do not recognize the episcopal order, to their pastor or chief elder, but only as a descriptive term, or as identifying his office with that of the New Testament 'bishop'.)

1382 WYCLIF *Acts* xx. 28 Al the folk in which the Holy Gost sette 300 bischops. [TINDALE overseers, CRANMER overseers, *Geneva* Overseers, *Rhem.* bishops, 1611 overseers, 1881 bishops (*marg.* or overseers).] — 1 *Peter* ii. 25 3e ben conuertid now to the sheperde and bischop of 30ure soules [1881 the Shepherd and Bishop (*marg.* or Overseer) of your souls]. c1383 — *Sel. Wks.* III. 310 Crist veriest bischop of alle. 1535 COVERDALE *Phil.* i. 1 Paul & Timotheus... vnto all the sayntes... with the Bischoppes & mynisters. 1647 JRR. TAYLOR *Lib. Proph.* vii. 130 The Holy Ghost hath made them Bishops or Over-seers.

1868 LIGHTFOOT *Philippians* 93 It is a fact now generally recognized by theologians of all shades of opinion, that in the language of the New Testament the same officer in the Church is called indifferently 'bishop' *ἐπίσκοπος* and 'elder' or 'presbyter' *πρεσβύτερος*.

b. spec. In the Eastern, Western, Anglican, and other churches of episcopal order: A clergyman consecrated for the spiritual government and direction of a 'diocese,' ranking beneath an archbishop (where these exist) and above the priests or presbyters, and deacons. (This is the sense in which the word passed with Christianity into all the Teutonic langs., and thus the earliest sense in English.)

Bishop in *partibus infidelium* in R. C. Ch., one dignified with the title of a bishopric, whose district or diocese is in the possession of infidels or heretics; originally applied to those expelled from the Holy Land by the Saracens.

c1897 K. ALFRED *Gregory's Past.* (Hutton MS.) 1 Alfred kynning hatoð gretan Wærfærd biscop. 1121 O. E. Chron. 984 (Laud MS.) Her forðferde se halga biscop Adelwold. c1175 *Cott. Hom.* 237 Archebiscopos. and biscopos. 1297 R. GLOUC. 376 He huld... Byssopes & abbotes to hys wyllde chon. c1380 WYCLIF *Wks.* 417 Bishops... shulden not amersy pore men. 1473 WARKW. *Chron.* 3 The Kyng put oute of the Chauncelerschepp the Bysschoppe of Excetre. 1548 PATTEN *Exped. Scott.* Arb. Garner III. 68 That venemous *aspis*... the Bishop of Rome. c1600 NORDEN *Spec. Brit.* (1728) 32 Former times afforded Cornwall a peculiar Bishop. 1641 SNEYTMUNUS *Vind. Answ.* § 16. 208 King James of blessed memory said, *no Bishop, no King*: it was not he, but others that added, *no Ceremony, no Bishop*. 1738 BOLINGB. *On Parties* 170 Another Man wears... Lawn Sleeves, and sits in a purple Elbow-Chair, to denote that he is a Bishop. 1753 CHAMBERS *Cycl. Supp.* s.v. *Bishop*, By the canon law, a bishop in *partibus* is qualified hereby to be a coadjutor of another bishop. 1844 LINGARD *Anglo-Sax. Ch.* (1858) I. iv. 133 These ministers [of religion] were at first confined to the three orders of bishops, priests, and deacons. 1882 FAR-*rar* *Early Chr.* I. 529 James lived to furnish the nearest approach to a bishop to be found in the Apostolic age.

+ 2. *transf.* Formerly applied to: A chief priest of any religion; *e. g.* a chief priest or High Priest of the Jews, a Roman pontiff ('high' or 'principal bishop' = *pontifex maximus*), Mohammedan Caliph, etc. *Obs.*

c1893 K. ALFRED *Orig. v. iv.* § 1 Lucinius Crassus... was eac Roman ieldesta biscop. c930 *Lindisf. Gosp.* Mark xv. 11 Da biscopas donne geegedon done gret. c1000 ORMIN 1022 Te biscop self Wiþþ blod... þær sholde comenn. 1382 WYCLIF *Mark* xv. 11 Forsothe the biscopis stireden the compenye of boken, that more he schulde leue to hem Barabas. 1447 BOKENHAM *Seyntys* 49 At that tyme byshop was isakar in the temple. c1460 *Towneley Myst.* 57 Now am I set to kepe... Bysschoppe Jettyr shepe. 1541 PAYNELL *Catiline* xvii. 24 b, P. Scipio, the hyghe bysschoppe... slewe Tiberius Gracchus. 1586 T. B. *La Primaud. Fr. Acad.* 597 The caliphaes of the Sarasins were chiefe bishops in their religion. 1600 HOLLAND *Livy* xxii. ix. 437 c, The Colledge of the Bishops or Prelates [*pontificum*]. 1613 BEDWELL *Arab. Trudge*, Sultan, The Byshop of Egypt is called the Souldan. 1647 R. STAPYLTON *Juvenal* 101 Suppositious children, bishops pull'd From the foule lake.

+ 3. As a literalism of translation:

a. Overlooker, inspector, watchman. 1590 ANDREWES 96 *Serm.* v. (1843) 516 No pinnacle so high but the devil is a bishop over it, to visit and overlook it.

b. For *L.* *episcopu* in its most common civil sense of: Superintendent or overseer of the public victualling. [Cf. *Charisius* in *Roman Digest*, 'Episcopi qui præsumt panem et ceteris venalibus rebus quæ civitatum populis ad quotidianum victum usui sunt.']

1808 *Month. Mag.* XXVI. 109 They gave away corn, not cash; and Cicero was made bishop, or overseer, of this public victualling.

4. Applied ludicrously to the chief of the company in the 'Festival of Fools.' Cf. the *Boy Bishop* of St. Nicholas Day: Brande *Pop. Antiq.* I. 232.

1801 STRUTT *Sports & Past.* iv. iii. 303.

5. One of the pieces in the game of chess, having its upper part carved into the shape of a mitre; formerly called *archer*, and in still earlier times *alfin* or *alfyn*.

1562 ROWBOTHAM in *Archæol.* XXIV. 203 The Bishoppes some name Alphins, some foolles, and some name them Princes; other some call them Archers. 1581 SIDNEY *Def. Poesie* (1622) 520 Giving a peece of wood the reuerend title of a Bishop. 1656 F. BEALE *Chess-play* 2 A Bishop or Archer, who is commonly figured with his head cloven. 1801 STRUTT *Sports & Past.* iv. ii. 275 The *alfin* was also denominated... with us an archer, and at last a bishop.

6. 'The little spotted beetle commonly called the Lady-cow or Lady-bird.' Ray *S. & E. Country Wds.* 1674.

1775 PARISH *Sussex Dial.* s.v., 'Bishop, Bishop-Barnabee, Tell me when my wedding shall be; If it be to-morrow day, Ope your wings and fly away.

+ 7. (See *quot.*) *Obs.*

1611 FLORIO, *Fungo*... that fry round in a burning candle called the Bishop.

8. A sweet drink variously compounded, the chief ingredients being wine, oranges or lemons, and sugar; mulled and spiced port.

1738 SWIFT *Wom. who cry Oranges* Wks. 1755 IV. i. 278 Well roasted, with sugar and wine in a cup, They'll make a sweet bishop. 1790 BOSWELL *Johnson* (1831) I. 235 A bowl of that liquor called bishop, which Johnson had always liked. 1801 COLERIDGE *Poems* II. 160 Spicy bishop, drink divine. 1834 CAMPBELL *Mrs. Siddons* II. viii. 191 Unacquainted with the language of taverns, Miss Burney made

her King exclaim, in an early scene, 'Bring in the Bishop!' and the summons filled the audience with as much hilarity as if they had drank of the exhilarating liquor.

9. Articles of attire: *a.* A bustle (*U.S.*). *b.* A smock or all-round pinafore worn by children (*north. dial.*).

a 1860 *The Bustle* (Bartlett), I sing the bishop, alias the bustle. a 1860 *Saxr Progress* (Bartlett) If, by her bishop, or her 'grace' alone, A genuine lady or a church is known. 1874 E. WAUGH in *Lanc. Gloss.* (E. D. S.) Here; tak him, an wesh him; an' put him a clen bishop on.

10. *Comb.*, as *bishop-coadjutor*, -*commissioner*, -*seat*, -*see*; *Bishops' Bible*, the version of the Bible published in 1568 under the direction of Abp. Parker; *Bishop's court*, an ecclesiastical court held in the cathedral of a diocese; *bishop-designate* (see *quot.*); *bishop-elect*, a bishop elected, but not yet consecrated; *bishop's length* (*Painting*), a certain size of canvas.

1835 *Penny Cycl.* IV. 375/1 The instructions... were, that they should adhere to the 'Bishops' Bible. 1883 *Manch. Guardian* 18 Oct. 4/6 The representative clergy and laity... assembled in conference... under the presidency of 'Bishop-coadjutor Ryan. 1751 CHAMBERS *Cycl. Supp.*, **Bishop-designate* (*designatus*) denoted a coadjutor of a bishop, who in virtue of his office is to succeed at the incumbent's death. 1883 *FREEMAN* in *Longm. Mag.* II. 488 The 'Bishop Designate' is one who has simply received a letter from the Prime Minister, which as yet makes no difference whatever in his actual legal or ecclesiastical position. 1844 LINGARD *Anglo-Sax. Ch.* (1858) I. ii. 86 The two 'bishops-elect' gave satisfaction. c1870 *Winsor & Newton's Adv.*, Bishop's length, 4 ft. 8 in. by 3 ft. 8 in.; whole length, 7 ft. 10 in. by 4 ft. 10 in. 1330 R. BRUNNE *Chron.* 248 Pe olde chartres & titles... Of ilk a 'bisschoppe & ilk a prioure. 1650 R. STAPYLTON *Strada's Low-C. Warres* I. 18 He appointed fourteen Cities... for 'Bishops-sees.

b. Plant-names: *bishop's-cap*, the genus *Mitella* or *Mitrewort*; *bishop's elder* = *bishop-weed*; *bishop's-hat*, *Epimedium alpinum*; *bishop's-leaves*, Water Figwort (*Scrophularia aquatica*); *bishop's weed*, *bishop-weed*, a name for the genus *AMMI*; also *Ægopodium*; *bishop's* wort, Wood Betony, *Stachys betonica*; also Devil-in-a-bush, *Nigella damascena*.

1839 LONGF. *Voices of Nt.* Part. viii. When... 'Bishops-caps have golden rings. 1597 GERARD *Herbal* II. ccxlv. 715 Called in English Water Cheate, in Yorkshire *Bishops-leaves. 1614 MARKHAM *Chenop. Husb.* i. Table, Amos, Comin royal, is a Herb of some called Bulwort, *Bishops-weed, or Herb-william. 1861 MISS PRATT *Flower. Pl.* III. 26 Order Umbelliferæ... (Common Gout-weed, or 'Bishop's-weed. c1000 *Sax. Leechb.* I. a Betonica bet is 'biscopwyr. c1490 *Roy. MS.* 18 A. vi. f. 68 in *Præp. Farr.* 24 note, [Betony] also clepyd 'byschuppwort. 1862 PRIOR *Plant-s.* 23 *Bishop's-wort... is now... applied to the Devil-in-a-Bush.

Hence *Bishopful* *a.* (cf. *worshipful*, *masterful*).

+ *Bishopist*, an adherent of episcopacy. *Bishopless* *a.*, without bishops. *Bishoplet*, -*ling*, a little or petty bishop. *Bishopship*, the office or dignity of a bishop. + *Bishopwick* = *BISHOPRIC*.

1866 NEALE *Seq. & Hymns* 116 Oye, His chosen servants, in bishopful array. 1590 J. DAVIDSON *Repl. Bancroft* in *Wodr. Soc. Misc.* 516 This sort of the generation of Bishopists. 1662 FULLER *Worthies* II. 560 (D.) Landaff... lay Bishopless for three years. 1838 *Fraser's Mag.* XVIII. 546 The doctor was totally ignorant of this custom, ours being a bishopless land. 1876 *All Y. Round* 9 Nov. 449 What a bishoplet it must have been that presided there. 1570 LEVINS *Manip.* 141 Byshopship, *episcopatus*. 1641 MILTON *Ch. Govt.* iii. Wks. (1851) 110 The superiority of Bishopship. 1837 CARLYLE *Fr. Rev.* (1857) I. ii. vii. 258 The abolition of Most-Christian Kingship and Most-Talleyrand Bishopship. 1570 LEVINS *Manip.* 121 Bishopwick, *diocesis*.

Bishop, *v.* 1 *arch.* [*OE.* *biscopian* to exercise the office of a bishop, *f. biscop* *Pop. BISHOP*.]

1. To administer the rite of confirmation to (a person); to confirm. *arch.* or *Obs.*

c1000 *Thorpe's Laws* II. 348 (Bosw.) Se biscoop biþ gesett... to biscoopenne cild. c1315 SHOREHAM 5 Wanne the bishcop, bishscopeth the, Tokene of marke he set on the. 1393 LANCEL. *P. Pl.* C. xviii. 268 [Christ] baptised, and busshopped with þe blode of hys herte. 1622 W. YONGE *Diary* (1848) 50 The Marquis of Buckingham and his wife were both bishopped, or confirmed by the Bishop of London. 1786 J. ROBERTS *Life* 29 How many of them have been bishop'd?

b. jocularly. To confirm.

1603 WARNER *Alb. Eng.* s. liv. (1612) 241 Why sent they it by Felton to be bishopped at Pauls? 1648 HERRICK *Hesper.* I. 87 'Tis good confirm'd, for you have bishop't it. 1700 DRYDEN *Cymon & Iph.* 243 He... chose to bear The name of fool confirm'd and bishop'd by the fair.

2. To appoint to the office of bishop.

1540 LATIMER *Serm. bef. Edw. VI* (Arb) 138 *marg.*, Thys hath bene often tymes... sene in prechers, before they were byshoppyd. 1641 MILTON *Prot. Epis.* 6 This tradition of Bishopping Timothy over Ephesus was but taken for granted. 1861 *Sat. Rev.* 23 Nov. 537 There may be other... matters to occupy the thoughts of one about to be bishopped.

3. To supply with bishops.

1865 *Daily Tel.* 6 Dec. 5/3 Italy would be well bishopped if her episcopacy... did not exceed fifty-nine.

4. To bishop it: to act as bishop.

1655 FULLER *Ch. Hist.* ix. ii. § 12 *marg.*, Harding and Saunders bishop it in England. *Ibid.* xi. ii. § 7 He bishopped it over all the Romish Catholics.

5. To let (milk, etc.) burn while cooking. In allusion to the proverb 'The bishop has put his foot into it.' *north. dial.*

[a 1536 TINDALE Wks. 166 (T.) If the porage be burned to, or the meate over roasted, we say the bishop hath put his foote in the pottle or the bishop hath played the cooke, because the bishops burn who they lust and whosoever displeaseth them. 1641 MILTON *Animadv.* § 1 (D.) It will be as the bishop's foot in the broth. 1738 SWIFT *Polite Conv.* i. (D.) This Cream is burned too—why Madam, the bishop has set his foot in it.] 1863 Mrs. GASKELL *Sylvia's L.* (ed. 2) l. 64 She canna stomach it if it's bishopped e'er so little. 1875 in *Lanc. Gloss.* 40 Th' milk's bishopped again!

Bishop, *v.* [f. the name of persons who initiated the several practices.]

1. *trans.* To file and tamper with the teeth of (a horse) so as to make him look young; to improve his appearance by deceptive arts.

1797 [see BISHOPING?]. 1840 E. NAPIER *Scenes & Sp. For. Lands* l. v. 138, I found his teeth had been filed down and bishopped with the greatest neatness and perfection. 1884 *Illustr. Lond. News* 23 Aug. 171/2 To bishop... a term... signifying the use of deceptive arts to make an old horse appear like a young one.

2. To murder by drowning. [From one Bishop who, with a confederate, drowned a boy in Bethnal Green in 1831, in order to sell his body for dissection.] 1 Obs.

1840 BARNHAM *Ingol. Leg.* 201, I Burked the papa, now I'll Bishop the son. 1864 *Athenaeum* 559/1 We have 'to Burke' and 'to Bishop.'

Bishopdom (bi'fəp'dəm). Also 6 -dome. [f. BISHOP + -DOM; cf. OE. *biscopdōm* bishopric.]

† 1. = BISHOPHOOD. Obs.

a 887 O. E. Chron. an. 660 Wine heold þone biscopdom iii gear. 1635 J. SKIDMORE in *Lee Valid. Anglic. Ord.* (1869) 86 He giveth power of bishopdom to the party consecrated.

2. Episcopal order; episcopate; also *concr.* bishops collectively.

1641 MILTON *Animadv.* Wks. (1851) 104 The succession, and divine right of Bishopdom. 1807 W. TAYLOR in *Ann. Rev.* v. 578 A real bishopdom prevails in the allied sect. 1868 GEN. P. THOMPSON *Audi Alt.* i. xxxix. 150 Bishopdom is up in arms.

† 3. The personality of a bishop. Obs.

1589 *Marprel. Epit.* (1843) 4 The Puritans... Crushe the very braine of your Bishopdomes. 1589 *Hay any Work* (1844) 60 Though they have none of your Bishopdomes.

Bishopess (bi'fəp'əs). [f. BISHOP + -ESS.]

1. The wife of a bishop. (Only a nonce-word.)

1678-5 *Comber Comp. Temple* (1702) 240 The Councils of that age call their Wives by the name of (Episcopas) the Bishopess. 1748 Mrs. DELANY *Life & Corr.* 489 We... found the bishop and his bishopess very well. 1805 Q. Rev. July 184 note, Sophia did not take the title of Bishopess or even Princess of Usabrock.

2. A female- or she-bishop. (Here used jestingly.)

1854 THACKERAY *Newcomers* l. 30, I enclose you a rude scrap representing the bishopess of Clapham. 1880 *Macm. Mag.* Dec. 149 Can you conceive such a thing as the notion of a bishopess?

Bishophood (bi'fəp'hud). Forms: 1-3 -had(e), 3-5 -hed(e), 4-5 -od, -hode, 4- -hood. [OE. *biscophead*; cf. -HOOD, -HEAD.] The office, condition, dignity, or rank of a bishop.

c 1000 *Ag. Ps.* cvi. (ix). 8 His biscophead brucan feondas. a 1300 *Cursor M.* 21248 For his liuelode Siben þan toke he biscophead. 1388 WYCLIF *1 Tim.* Prol. The apostle... techeth of the ordynance of bishophood. c 1383 - *Sol. Wks.* III. 315 He mynistre (M.S. mysurde) be orde of bishophod. c 1400 *Apol. Loll.* 2 He þat desirþ bishoped, he desirþ a good werk. c 1440 *Pecock Repr.* iii. xvi. 380 Offis of bishophode or lougher presthode. 1840 *Rock Ch. of Fathers* IV. ii. 47 Before he may reach the bishophood.

Bishoping, *vbl. sb.* [f. BISHOP + -ING.]

† 1. The action or rite of confirmation. *arch.*

c 1175 *Lamb. Hom.* 101 Heom com to be halga gast þurh heore biscopunge. c 1315 *SHOREHAM* 7 Cristendom, and bishoppunge. a 1535 *MORE Wks.* (1557) 378 That they call confirmation, y^e people call bishopping. 1738 *NEAL Hist. Purit.* l. 505 Bishoping of children, Organs, etc. 1884 *Chr. Commonw.* 13 Nov. 63/2 A considerable time often elapsed between the baptism and the bishoping.

2. *collog.* The performing of the duties of a bishop.

1857 *TROLLOPE Barchester* T. (1861) 28 The archdeacon... really understood the business of bishoping.

Bishoping, *vbl. sb.* [cf. BISHOP + -ING.] The deceptive treatment of the teeth of horses.

1797 *BRADLEY Fam. Dict.* s.v. *Horse*, This way of making a horse look young is... called Bishoping. 1847 *YOUATT Horse* viii. 200 A method of prolonging the mark in the lower nippers... is called bishoping.

Bishoplike (bi'fəp'lik), *a. adv.* [see -LIKE.]

A. adv. Like a bishop; formerly, of or pertaining to a bishop, episcopal.

[c 890 (see BISHOPLY).] 1544 *Suppl. Hen. VIII.* 28 This... worldly byshoplike estate. 1564 *FENNER Def. Ministers* (1577) 73 Bishoplike iurisdiction. 1641 *PRYNNE Antip.* 260 A Bishop like application. 1868 *FREEMAN Norm. Cong.* (1876) II. vii. 114 The new prelate did nothing bishoplike.

B. adv. After the manner of a bishop.

c 1555 *HARFIELD Divorce Hen. VIII.* (1878) 115 He did full well and bishoplike. 1621 P. BAYNES *Dioces. Tryall* Pref. 3 Telling him very bishoplike, that it were a good turn to lay him by the heels for so doing.

Bishoply, *a.* [f. BISHOP + -LY; -OE. *biscoplic*.] Episcopal.

c 890 K. ALFRED *Bada* v. xviii. (Bosw.) Dæt biscoplice lff. c 1475 *Found. St. Barthol.* Ch. l. vii. (1886) 55 Byshoply auctoryte. 1549 *LATIMER Sermon* bef. *Edw. VI* (Arb.) 25 Byshoplye duties and orders. 1600 *HOOKE Eccl. Pol.* vii. iv. § 3 The same kind of bishoply power. 1643 *SIR E. DER-ING Sp. Relig.* 88, I never liked the bishoply injunctions.

Bishopric (bi'fəp'rik). Also formerly -rice, -riohe, -rich, -rick, -rik. [OE. *biscoprice*, f. *biscop* + *rice* realm, province. Cf. ON. *biskups-riki*.]

1. The province of a bishop; a diocese.

c 890 K. ALFRED *Bada* ii. vii. (Bosw.) Mellitus feng to ðam biscoprice. c 1150 *Gloss.* in Wright *Voc.* 87 *Diocesis* uel *parochia*, biscoprice. 1297 R. GLOUC. 417 Pe byssopryche of Salesbury. 1333-4 *Act 25 Hen. VIII.* xx. Archebischoprices and bishoprices. 1777 *WATSON Philip II.* (1839) 107 The regular clergy still continued to complain as loudly as ever of the new erection of bishoprics.

2. The office or position of a bishop.

1394 P. PL. *Crede* 360 þey biþþeh hem bishoprices wip bagges of golde. 1565 *JEWELL Repl. Harding* (1611) 166 To him Bishopricke was first given in the Church of Christ. 1711 *ADDISON Spect.* No. 89 § 7 A virtuous woman should reject the first offer of marriage as a good man does that of a bishopric. 1790 *BURKE Fr. Rev. Wks.* v. 271, I know well enough that the bishopricks... are sometimes acquired by unworthy methods. 1851 *KINGSLEY Yeast* xiv. 276 They promised him something—some prince-bishopric, perhaps.

† 3. Overseership, office. (for Gr. *ἐπισκοπή*.) Obs.

a 1300 *Cursor M.* 18892 Anoper most haf his biscop-rike. 1388 *WYCLIF Acts* i. 20 Another take the bishopruche of him. 1535 *COVERDALE* *ibid.*, His bishoprike another take. 1611 *ibid.*, His Bishopricke [marg. office: or, charge] let another take. [1881 *Revised* *ibid.*, His office [marg. Gr. overseership] let another take.] 1598 Bp. ANDREWES *66 Sermon* v. (1843) 515 He may see Ananias... buying his bishopric for money.

† 4. High-priesthood: see BISHOP 2. Obs.

1480 *CANTON Chron. Eng.* i. (1520) 6b/1 Heleazar succeeded in the byshopricke.

† 5. The seat or residence of a bishop. Obs.

1663 *LISLE Ælfric on O. & N. T.* 35 He entertained him... at y^e byshopricke.

† **Bishopry**. Obs. Sc. [f. BISHOP + -RY.]

a. = BISHOPRIK. *b.* Episcopacy.

1535 *LYNDESAY Satyre* 3045 That thair be giuen to na man bishopries. 1665 *BROWN Apologet. Relation* 35 (JAM.) They did protest against bishopry and bishops.

Bishopstool (bi'fəp'stūl). [OE. *biscopstōl* bishop's seat: see STOOl.] The throne, seat, or see of a bishop. Obs. since 13th c., but taken up by some recent historical writers.

c 1065 *Chart. Eadweard in Cod. Dipl.* IV. 197 De ðone biscopstol gestaðelodon. a 1300 O. E. *Misc.* 145 Wes... imaked þer [at Bath] Biscopstol. 1868 *FREEMAN Norm. Cong.* (1876) II. App. 604 The Bishop had his see, his Bishopstool, in some particular church. 1876 *GREEN Short Hist.* i. § 3 (1882) 31 The old bishop-stool of the West-Saxons had been established... at... Dorchester.

Biside, *Bisie*, obs. ff. BESIDE, BUSY.

† **Bisiliqueous**, *a. Obs.* [f. Bi- + *silique* 2 + L. *siliqua* pod.] Two-podded.

1731 *BAILEY II. Bisiliqueus* (Bot.), plants... whose seed is contained in two distant pods succeeding one flower, as in... Periwinkle, etc. Hence 1775 *ASH, Bisiliqueous*; and in mod. Dicts.

Bisin (e, -sink, -sit: see BYSEN, BESINK, BESIT.

Bis-ischiatic, *a.* = BI-ISCHIATIC.

1857 *BULLOCK Cascaus Midwif.* 32 The bis-ischiatic space.

Bisk (bisk), *sb.* Forms: 7 biske, 8-9 bisque, bisk. [a. *f. bisque* crayfish soup.]

a. A rich soup made by boiling down birds, etc. *b. spec.* Crayfish soup.

1647 R. STAPYLTON *Jwenal* 267 Beccafico... one of the great rarities they [the Italians] can put into a bisk or olio. 1715 *Panciroli's Rerum Mem.* l. iv. x. 181 A Bisk of all sorts of Fish. 1731 *BAILEY, Bisk, Bisque* [in Cookery], a rich kind of pottage, made of Quails, Capons, fat Pullets, and more especially of pigeons roasted. 1741 *Compl. Fam. Piece* i. ii. 138 To make a Bisque of Pigeons. 1882 Mrs. H. REEVE *Cookery* xiii. 90 Bisque or Crayfish Soup.

† **Bisk**, *v. Obs.* [No etymology known: perhaps an error of Calamy's, followed by Southey.]

a 1732 E. CALAMY *Nouconf. Mem.* 581 (Boucher) To be bisk'd, as I think the word is, that is to be rub'd over with an ink brush. 1847 *SOUTHEY Doctor* chap. extra. (D.) The chapter... has not been bisked but semirubbed.

Bisk, variant of Bisque.

Biskaine, **biskake**, **bisket**, etc.: see BISC.

Bismar (bi'smār). *Sc. dial.* Also bismar, -more, bysmer, bismar. [a. Da. *bismar*, ON. *bismari* steelyard; in LG. of Holstein *besemer*, Sw. *besmar*; a Slavo-Lithuanic word; in Lettish *besmers*, *besmers*, Lith. *bismāras*, Russ. *besmen*, Pol. *bezmian*.]

1. A kind of steelyard used in the north-east of Scotland, and in Orkney and Shetland.

1805 G. BARRY *Hist. Orkney* (1808) 220 The bysmer is made use of for ascertaining the weight of butter, oil, salt, wool. 1814 *Statist. Acc. Scot.* VII. 563 (Kirkwall) The instruments they have for the purpose of weighing, are two in number; and the one of them is called a pundlar and the other a bismar. 1880 *TYLOR in Academy* 18 Sept. 204/1 A rude kind of steelyard or bismar, to weigh out pounds of cheese with.

2. The fifteen-spined stickle-back: (see quot.).

1805 *BARRY Hist. Orkney* 289 (JAM.) The Fifteen-spined stickleback (*Gasterosteus spinachia*) is here denominated the bismar, from the resemblance it is supposed to bear to the weighing instrument of that name. 1859 *YARRELL Brit. Fishes* l. 101 Bismore.

Bismarine (bi'smār'īn), *a. rare*. [f. Bism- + MARINE, L. *marinus*, f. *mare* sea.] Between or washed by two seas.

1806 G. S. FABER *Gen. & Connect. View* (1808) II. 191 In the same bismarine region.

† **Bisme**. Obs. [aphetic form of *abisme*, ABYSM.] An abyss; a deep pit.

1513 *DOUGLAS Æneis* vi. v. 3 Fra thine strekis the way... Deip onto hellis flude... With holl bisme, and hiddous swelth wnrude. 1663 *GERBIER Counsel* 51 For burning of Bricks... Noblemen care not to make a Bisme in their Parks.

Bisme, **bismeoruwe**, obs. ff. BESOM, BISSON, BESMEAR.

† **Bismer**, *sb. Obs.* Also 1 bysmer, -mor, bismor, 3-4 bismar, busemare, 3-5 bis-, bysmer(e), 4 bismemare, busmar, 4-6 bismere, 6 (Sc.) bysmeyr, bismeir. [West Germanic: OE. *bismer*, -or (str. neut.), identical with OHG. *bismer* 'ridicule,' f. *bi*, Br (in its strong or accented form) + *-smer*, which Schmeller connects with MHG. *smier* a smile, laughing, *smieren* to smile. Others have compared OHG. *smero*, OE. *smeoru*, OTent. **smeruo*-(m, 'fat, grease, butter,' which seems, on phonetic as well as other grounds, less probable.)]

1. Shame, disgrace; reproach, mockery; scorn. c 893 K. ALFRED *Oros.* iii. vii. § 1 Seo stow [Caudine Forks] gewearþ swiþe mære... for Romana bismere. c 1275 *Lamb. Hom.* 91 Þa seiden þa iudeiscen men a bismere, Ðas men beoð mid miste forendre. a 1285 *Ancr. R.* 132 He lauhwæð hire to bismere. c 1325 *E. E. Allit. P.* B. 653 Þenne þe burde byhynde þe dor for busmar layed. c 1386 *CHAUCER Reeves T.* 45 As ful of hokir, and of bismemare. c 1460 *Launfal* 923 Thy barouns dryveth the to bysmare.

2. A reproach, taunt, insult.

971 *Blickl. Hom.* 23 He... æt bæm unlædum Iudeum manig bysmer geprowade. 1593 *LANGL. P. Pl. C.* xxii. 294 Bold of abyding 'busemares to suffer.

3. A person worthy of scorn; a lewd person, a pander or bawd. Cf. BESOM 2.

a 1300 *Cursor M.* 22009 Anticrist... sal be born... of bismere brem and bald. a 1400 *Cov. Myst.* (1841) 140 Se this bolde bysmare wolde presume, Ageyn God to preve his myght. 1513 *DOUGLAS Æneis* iv. Prol. 191. *Ibid.* viii. Prol. 72 Get ane bysmeyr ane barn, than all hir blys gane is. 1535 *LYNDESAY Satyre* 4234 That bismar, war scho thair, withoutin dowl Out of hell the Devill scho wald ding out.

† **Bismar**, *v. Obs.* Forms: 1 bysmerian, bysm-, bismrian, bismarian, bysmorian, bysmrian, 2 bysmerian, 4 bismere. [OE. *bysmerian*, f. prec.]

trans. To treat with scorn, mock, deride, insult.

c 1000 *Ag. Gosp.* Mark iii. 29 Se þe ðone halgan gast by-smereð [Haltom bysmerieð]. c 1160 *Haltom G. Matt.* xxvii. 41 Eac þare sacerde ealdres hyme bysmeredon. 1340 *Agenb.* 22 [þe proude] bismereþ and scornþ þe guode men. **Bismethyl**: see Bis- + *pref.* Chem.

† **Bismi'llah**. [Arab. *بسم الله* bi-'sm-illah(i

'in the name of God.')] In the name of Allah or God; a common Mohammedan exclamation.

1813 *BYRON Giaour* 568 They reach the grove of pine at last: Bismillah! now the peril's past. 1850 *THACKERAY Pendennis* liii, He... is all for the sack practice, Bismillah!

† **Bisming**, *vbl. a. Sc. Obs.* 1 Abysmal.

1513 *DOUGLAS Æneis* vii. vi. 110 Pluto... reputis That bisming belch haitfull to se.

Bismite (bi'smit, biz-). *Min.* [f. BISM(UTH) + -ITE.] The native oxide of bismuth, called also *bismuth-ochre*, an earthy, or foliated mineral, of yellowish or dirty white colour.

Bismite, **bismoke**, etc.: see BS-

Bismuth (bi'smūþ, biz-). Also 7 bismute, bismuto, bismutum, 8 bismuth. [a. Ger. *bismuth*; the present Ger. form is *wismuth* or *wismut*, a reversion to *wismuth*, the form in which the word first occurs in G. Agricola (1629), though he latinized it as *bismutium*. Derivation unknown.]

One of the elementary bodies; a reddish white metal, found native, and also in combination in numerous ores; it is brittle and melts at a low temperature. (Chemically, Bismuth (Bi) is closely allied to ANTIMONY, and is, in different combinations, a triad and a pentad. Its chief use in the arts is as an alloy; the oxide and some salts are used in medicine.)

Acicular B. = AIKINITE, also called *needle-ore*; † *Butter of B.*, bismuth chloride; *Flowers of B.*, an efflorescence of the oxide on minerals containing metallic bismuth; *Magistery of B.*, *White B.*, the subnitrate or basic nitrate of bismuth, used as a paint and cosmetic under the name of Pearl White, Pearl Powder; *Regulus of B.*, an old name for the metal; *Telluric B.* (see a); *Mineral B.*, *Native B.*, bismuth occurring as a brittle mineral in crystals, etc.

1668 *WILKINS Real Char.* 66 Imperfect kinds of Metal... used for Making of Pewter, being of shining brittle substance: *Bismute*, Tin-glass. 1674 *Phil. Trans.* IX. 189 In the mountains of Sudnos in Bohemia there was some years ago found a metal, by them called Bismuto. 1678 *PHILLIPS, Bismutum*, that which is called Tingloss, differing both from Tin and Lead. 1755 *Gentl. Mag.* XXV. 454 It perfectly resists the destructive power of lead, bismuth, and the antimonial semi metal. 1870 R. FERGUSON *Electr.* 42 Among diamagnetic substances is bismuth.

b. attrib. Of or combined with bismuth, as *bismuth alloys*, *compounds*, *ores*, *salts*, etc.; esp. in Chem., in systematic names of compounds, as *bismuth carbonate*, *pentoxide*, *silicate*, *trisulphide*; and in *Min.*, *bismuth-blende*, native silicate of bismuth or EULYTITE; *bismuth-glance* = Bismuth.

MUTHINITE; bismuth-nickel, a native ore of bismuth and nickel in union with sulphur, = **GRU-NAUITE**; bismuth-ochre, the native oxide of bismuth, = **BISMITE**; bismuth-silver, a native alloy of bismuth and silver, Ag₂Bi, = **CHILENITE**; bismuth-tellurium (*telluric bismuth*), a native alloy, Bi₂Te₃, = **TETRADYMIT**.

1847 E. SEYMOUR *Severe Dis.* I. 8, I recommended the bismuth mixture. 1863 WATTS *Dict. Chem.* I. 597 A bismuth-silver from the mine of San Antonio, Chili. 1869 *Daily News* 12 June, Those wondrous demoiselles with low hair [and] bismuth eyebrows.

Bismuthal (bi'smūpāl, bi-z-miūpāl), *a.* [f. prec. + -AL.] Of or pertaining to bismuth.

So **Bismuthane**, Davy's name for chloride of bismuth. **Bismuthate**, a salt of bismuthic acid.

Bismuthic (bi'smū'pik), *a.*, of bismuth, applied to compounds in which bismuth combines as a pentad, as *bismuthic oxide*, Bi₂O₅. **Bismuthide** (*Chem.*), a primary compound of bismuth with another element or an organic radical, as *bismuthide of potassium* or of *ethyl*; (*Min.*) Beudant's name for a family of minerals of the bismuth type.

Bismuthine, a compound of bismuth having the structure of an amine, as *triethyl-bismuthine* (cf. *arsine*); also = **Bismuthinite** (*Min.*), native sulphide of bismuth, or *bismuth-glance*, a lead-grey lustrous mineral, isomorphous with stibnite. **Bismuthous** *a.*, combined with bismuth as a triad, as *bismuthous oxide*, Bi₂O₃. **Bismutite**, **Bismuthite** (*Min.*), the native hydrous carbonate of bismuth, Bi₂C, of various forms and colours.

1818 SIR H. DAVY *Chem. Philos.* 407 It has been called butter of bismuth. It may be called bismuthane. 1799 KIRWAN *Geol. Ess.* 428 Bismuthic, cobaltic, arsenical pyrites. 1854 J. SCOFFERN in *Orr's Circ. Sc. Chem.* 469 The peroxide of bismuth, or bismuthic acid. 1881 *Athenaeum* 12 Nov. 634/3 The synthesis of bismuthous iodide.

Bison (bi'sən, bi'sən, bi'zən). Pl. 4-6 in Latin form, *bisontes*, *bisontes*; sing. 7- *bison*. [Adopted, directly or through *F. bison*, (Cotgr. 1611) from *L. bison* (pl. *bisontes*), ad. OTeut. **wi-sand*, *wisund* str. masc., the native name, in OHG. *wisunt*, *-int*, MHG. *wisant*, *-ent*, MGER. *wesant*, OE. *wesend*, ON. *visundr*, pl. *visundar* (with *i* afterwards lengthened). The Old English *wesend* having been long obsolete, the word has come back to us through Latin, in which guise it can hardly be looked upon as Eng. before the 17th c., and has become familiar only in connexion with the American Bison. It is in Minshew, Coles, Phillips 1678-1706, and Kersey; but not in Cockeram, Blount, Bailey 1721-90, Johnson, nor Richardson 1836-55: it was added by Todd to Johnson, 1818. Etymologically *bi'sən* is the most correct, but *bi'sən* is the prevailing pronunciation.]

The name of two species of Wild Oxen, which some naturalists separate from the genus *Bos*, and make a distinct genus *Bison* or *Bonassus*.

1. *orig.* A species of Wild Ox (*Bos Bison* Gesn., *B. bonassus* Linn.), formerly prevalent in Europe, including Great Britain, and still existing in a protected state in forests of Lithuania. (This was the *Bison* of Pausanias and Oppian, the *Bovaeos* of Aristotle and Aelian, the *bison* and *bonassus* of Pliny and Solinus, the *bison* of Seneca and Martial; pl. *bisontes*, in later writers *visontes*, *vesontes*, *bisontes*. It is now sometimes called the *Aurochs*, a name belonging rightly to the extinct *Bos Urus*, the Urus of Caesar. See the exhaustive article *Wisunt*, in Schade, *Altd. deutsches Wbch.*)

1398 TREVISA *Barth. De P. R.* xv. xxx. (1495) 499 There ben many bestes of dyuers kynde in Beme [= Bohemia] as beeres, hartes, bubali and bisontes. *Ibid.* xv. lxxviii. (1495) 521 In Karinthia ben many beers, bysontes and other wonderfull bestis. 1601 HOLLAND *Pliny* ii. 323 Those neat or buffles called uri or bisontes. 1611 BIBLE *Deut.* xiv. 5 The pygarg (*marg.* bison), and the wild ox, and the chamois. 1617 MINSHAW s.v. *Bison*, a wilde oxe, great eied, broad-faced, that will neuer be tamed. 1661 LOVELL *Hist. Anim.* 4 *Min.* 23 Hereto may be referred the Bison: and Ure-oxe. 1860 GOSSE *Rom. Nat. Hist.* 203 In the forests of Lithuania there yet linger a few herds of another enormous ox, which at one time roamed over the whole of Europe, including even the British Isles—the European bison.

2. The North American species *B. Americanus*, popularly called 'Buffalo,' which roams in vast herds over the interior of the continent, chiefly in the neighbourhood of the Rocky Mountains.

1693 RAY *Synops. Animal.* 71 *Bison*... hujusmodi bovem aliquando vidimus in vivario regio Westmonasteriensis unde allatum nescio; ni forte ex Florida regione Americana.] 1774 GOLDSM. *Nat. Hist.* II. 12. 1777 ROBERTSON *Hist. Amer.* (1783) II. 107 The bison of America. 1810 CAMPBELL *Poems* II. 16 We launch'd our quivers for the bison chace. 1841 CATLIN *N. Amer. Ind.* (1844) I. iv. 24 The buffalo (or more correctly speaking bison) is a noble animal, that roams over the prairies. 1877 J. ALLEN *Amer. Bison* 449 The height of the American bison... is found to be sixty-six inches.

† **Bisocne**. *Obs.* Also 3 bisockne, -sokne. [ME., an analogical formation upon *besechen*, be-

sehen, *BESKECH*, after the relation that *socne*, *SOKEN*, OE. *sōcn*, already bore to *sehen*, *sehen*, *SECK*.]

1. Beseching entreaty. a 1225 *Anscr. R.* 376 Puruh Marie bone & bisocne was water... went to wine. 1297 R. GLOUC. 495 Ac thoru bisocne of the king delayed it was zute.

2. Visiting, frequenting, attendance. c 1175 *Lamb. Hom.* 45 Ne beo in hire naping iwrat bute chirche bisocnie and beode to criste.

† **Bisognio, bisogno**. *Obs.* [a. It. *bisogno* 'need'; also, a needy fellow, a raw recruit'; also in Sp. *bisoño*, Pg. *bisonho*, in same sense.] Early form of *BESONIO*, *BEZONIAN*.

1501 GARRARD *Art Warre* 176 The name of a raw souldier, and Bisognio. 1598 BARRETT *Theor. Warres* II. i. 17 Many inconveniences and disorders which rawe Bisognios will commit. *Ibid.* Gloss. 249 Bisognio or Bisognio, a Spanish or Italian word. 1612 CHAPMAN *Widdowes* 7: Plays 1873 III. 17 Spurn'd out by Groomes like a base Bisognio. 1636 ABR. WILLIAMS *Holy T.* (1637) 218 Being as yet Gods Bisognos, as it were, *Tyrone's Det.*

† **Bisonant**, *a.* [f. Bi- pref. 2 + SONANT, ad. L. *sonantem* sounding.] Having two sounds.

1876 F. DOUSE *Grimm's L.* § 16. 31 Which attributes to the primitive aspirates a bisonant and oscillating character. **Bisonian**, *obs.* form of *BESONIAN*.

† **Bisouze**, *obs.* pa. t. of *BESIECH*.

† **Bisop**, *sb.* *Obs.* Also *bysp*, *bissp*, *bysb*. [A phonetically contracted form of *biscop*, *BISHOP*, in early ME.: cf. mod. Da. *bisp* with ON. *biskup*, Sw. *biskop*; also Pg. *bispo*.] = *BISHOP*.

a 1300 *Passion Our Lord* 76 in O. E. Misc. 39 Pe bysopes and pe maystres hi were swiþe wroth. *Ibid.* 471 Pe bisopes of þe Gywes seyden Pilatus. [Biscop occurs in sing. in this poem.] 1330 R. BRUNNE *Chron.* 114 Thurstan sent his sonð, tille a bisop [*printed bissh*] sauage, Rauf of Orkeney.

Hence *Bispriche*, -ryche = *BISHOPRIC*.

a 1300 *Shires & Hundr.* in O. E. Misc. 145 Þis bispriche was hwylen two bispriche. [*Biscopryche* also occurs.]

† **Bisyp, bysp, bysb, v.** *Obs.* [Cf. prec.] *trans.*

To bishop, to confirm.

c 1450 MYRC 158 Do þat they I-bysbede were. Tyl the byschope haue bysbede hyt.

Bispele, variant of *BYSPEL*, *Obs.*, parable.

Bisperre: see *BESPAR* v. *Obs.* to shut up.

Bispnose, -ous: see *Bi- pref. 2*.

† **Bisque**¹ (*bisk*). Also 7 *biscaye*, 8 *bisk*. [a. F. *bisque*, of same meaning; of unknown origin. Littré compares *It. bisca* a gaming-place, a 'hell.' 1. *Tennis*. A term for the odds which one player gives the other in allowing him to score one point once during the 'set' at any time he may elect. Also in *Croquet*: An extra turn allowed to a weaker player.

1611 COTGR., *Biscaye*, a vantage at Tennis. *Bisque*, a fault at Tennis. 1666 BLOUNT *Glossogr.*, and 1678 PHILLIPS, *Bisque* (Fr.), a fault at Tennis. 1679 SHADWELL *True Widow* I. Wks. 1730 III. 124 We'll play with you at a bisk, and a fault, for twenty pound. 1721 BAILEY, *Bisk, Bisque*, odds at the play of Tennis: a stroke allowed to the weaker player. *French*. 1874 *Paris Croquet* 56 Mr. Hale made the happy suggestion of adopting the bisque as a means of equalizing a strong and a weak player. 1874 HEATH *Croquet* Pl. 77 Example of how to take the Bisque.

2. fig. † To have a bisque in one's sleeve: to have something to fall back upon, another resource, another string to one's bow. To give one fifteen, etc. and a bisque: to give him long odds, to 'leave him nowhere' in a contest or comparison.

1713 *Flying-Post* 24 Nov. 26 He (like a compleat Politician) reserves always a Bisk in his sleeve (a Phrase we Tennis-players use). 1717 BULLOCK *Wom. a Riddle* II. 18 Before the game's up, I have a Bisk in my sleeve, an appeal to the House of Peers. 1881 *Sat. Rev.* 30 July 136/2 If alliteration be a mark of study and finish, the latest school of English poetry can give Byron thirty and a bisque.

Bisque². [f. *BISCUIT*.]

1. † *BISCUIT* (bread).

2. In *Pottery*, = *BISCUIT* 2; also a variety of unglazed white porcelain used for statuettes, etc.

1664 EVLYN *Sylva* (1776) 619 Be sure never to carry your Bottle and Bisque into the field without your Style and Tablet. 1864 *Daily Tel.* 28 Sept. He had... seen vast numbers of statuettes in plaster of Paris and in bisque.

Bisque, variant of *BISK*, soup.

Bisquet (te, -quit(e), *obs.* forms of *BISQUIT*.

Biss, var. of *BYSS* v. *Obs.* to sing to sleep.

Bisschop (e, -choppe, -cop, *obs.* ff. *BISHOP*.

† **Bisse**¹. *Obs.* [a. med. L. (also OF.) *bisse*, L. *bes* two thirds of an as, etc., explained as *be-is* = *binæ partes assis*.] Two thirds.

1398 TREVISA *Barth. De P. R.* viii. xvii. (1495) [The money] abydeþ in every signe ii dayes & vi houres and bisse. *Ibid.* And full endyth his course in xxvij dayes and viij houres.

† **Bisse**². *Obs. rare.* [a. OF. *bisse, bisce, bische*, mod. F. *biche* hind, doe.] A female deer, a hind. c 1450 *Venerdy de Twetyin Rel. Ant.* I. 154 Bestes of venery? Sire, of hertis, of bisses, of bukkes, and of doos.

† **Bisse**³. *Obs. rare.* Some odoriferous substance. [Watts *Dict. Chem.* I. 597 has 'bissa-bol' a gum-resin from Arabia, resembling myrrh.]

1608 R. JOHNSON *Seven Champ.* II. Cij b. As though the heavens had rained downe showers of Campheare, Bisse or Amber greece.

Bisse, *obs.* form of *BICE*, *BYSS*.

Bisseling, bissemare: see *BEZZLING*, *BISMER*. † **Bisset**. *Sc. Obs.* [a. F. *bissette* 'plate of gold, silver, or copper, wherewith some kinds of stuffe are striped' (Cotgr.). Cf. Littré.] Lace or binding of gold, silver, silk, etc.

1561 *Invent.* (1815) 154 (JAM.), Three curtenis of crammose dames, enrichet upon the seams with a litle bisset of gold. *Ibid.* 221 And wrocht with small silver bissetis wantand bodeis. 1568 in Chalmers *Life Q. Mary* (1818) I. 285, 300 elms of small silken bissets.

† **Bissext**. *Obs.* In 4-6 *bisext* (e, 6 (*bisex*), *bysext*. [ad. L. *bi(s)sextus* (*dies*), f. *bis* twice + *sextus* sixth, the name given to the intercalary day inserted by the Julian calendar every fourth year after the sixth day before the calends of March, or 24th of February.] *prop.* The intercalary day in leap-year; but also taken as = *BISSEXTILE*.

1398 TREVISA *Barth. De P. R.* ix. iii. (1495) 348 The Bisexte is gaderynge of eyghtene houres whyche comyth in thre yeres wyth syxe houres of the fourth yere to make a ful daye... and the yere Bisextilis hath that name. 1530 ELYOT *Gov.* I. xxv. (1883) 265 Bisext, called the lepe yere. 1618 *Sheph. Kal.* (1656) ii. In four yeres, there is one Bysext.

Bissextile (*bisekstil*), *a.* and *sb.* [ad. L. *bi(s)sextilis* (*annus*), i.e. (the year) of the *bissextus*: see prec.]

A. *adj.* Containing the *bissextus* or extra day which the Julian calendar inserts in leap-year. *Bissextile day* (= L. *bissextus dies*; see above).

1398 The yere Bisextilis (see prec.). 1594 BLUNDEVIL *Exerc.* III. i. xii. (ed. 7) 355 The Bisextile or leape yere, containing 366 daies. 1606 WHISTON *Th. Earth* II. (1722) 158 The Julian Calendar... intercalates the Bisextile Day immediately after the Terminalia. 1768 BLACKSTONE *Comm.* II. 140 In bisextile or leap-years. 1854 TOMLINSON *Arago's Astron.* 189 Thus 1600 was bissextile, 1700 and 1800 were not so.

B. *sb.* Leap-year.

1581 LAMBARDE *Eiren.* IV. v. (1588) 491 The Bissextile (or Leape yere) which happeth once in every four yeres. 1601 HOLLAND *Pliny* I. 586. 1834 MRS. SOMERVILLE *Commer. Sys. Sc.* xii. 95 If in addition to this, a bissextile be suppressed every 4000 years, the length of the year will be nearly equal to that given by observation.

Bissh: see *BISH*.

Bissie, bissy, obs. forms of *BUSTY*.

Bissome, *obs.* form of *BESOM*.

† **Bisson**, *a.* *Obs.* Also 1 *bisene*, 1-4 *bisne*, 4 *bisen*, 5 *byson* (e, *bysom*, 6 *bysome*, *bisme*, 7 *beasom*, *beesome*, (*north. dial.* *beesen*, *beesen*.) [OE. (*Northumb.*) *bisene*, a difficult word, of doubtful etymology. Comparison with Du. *bij-siend* short-sighted, lit. 'near-seeing, seeing (close) by,' has suggested that it was a corruption of *blisende*, f. *bi-*, Br + *slende* seeing. Another suggestion is that the original form was *bisene*, f. *bi-* pref. + (*ge*) *stene*, -*syne*, -*sene* manifest, conspicuous, visible. See Skeat. The former explanation has various etymological difficulties; the latter appears to fail in the sense, since 'visible close by' is not = 'seeing only close at hand, still less = 'blind.']

1. Destitute of sight; blind.

c 950 *Lindisf. Gosp.* Matt. ix. 27 Gefylzdon hine tuoege bisene. c 1250 *Gen. & Ex.* 2822 Quo made bisne, and quo lockende? c 1400 *Chron. Vilod.* 682 A byson mon dwelt fast hym by; þe whyche hadde ben bleynte alle his lyve. 1548 UDALL *Erasm. Par. Mark* viii. 22 Not porebynde, or a littel appayred, and decayed in sight, but as bysome as was possible to be. 1559 HULOET *Blynde* or beasom borne, *cacigenus*. 1559 *Mirr. Mag.* 478 As thou art bisme, so are thy actions blind.

b. In the following the sense is perh.: Purblind.

a 1250 *Owl & Night.* 243 A dai thu art blind oðer bisne. c 1450 in *Rel. Ant.* II. 240 Now the byson ledy the bleynde. 1607 SHAKS. *Cor.* II. i. 70 What harme can your beesome Conspicuitys gleane out of this Character.

2. † Blinding.

1608 SHAKS. *Hann.* II. ii. 529 [The mobled queen] Threatning the flame With Bisson Rheume.

† **Bisson**, *v.* *Obs. rare.* In 7 *bisen*, *byson*. [f. prec.] To make blind. Only in ppl. adj. *Bissoned*. c 1600 DAY *Begg. Bednell Gr.* iv. 2 Peace; heaven may give my byson'd eyes their light. 1674 RAY *N. C. Words* 6 *Bisen'd*, blinded.

† **Bissursolid**. *Math. Obs. rare.* [f. L. *bis* twice, double + *SURSOLID*.] The second or double sursolid, the seventh power of a number.

1557 RECORDE *Whetst.* H. iv. a. Those numbers... commonly are called bussolidos, or bussolidos, that is, seconde bussolidos, or double bussolidos.

Bissyllable. *Obs.* = *DISSYLLABLE*.

1529 PUTTENHAM *Eng. Poetrie* (Arb.) 82 To euery bissyllable they allowed two times, and to a trissyllable three times, and to euery polisyllable more.

Bist, *obs.* or *dial.* = *art*: see *BE* v.

Bistard, *obs.* form of *BUSTARD*.

Bistare, bister, -sterre: see *BESTARE*, *BESTIR*.

† **Bisteke**, *v.* *Obs.* [f. *bi-*, *BE-* 2 + *steke*, *STERK* to fix, shut; cf. Du. and LG. *besteken*, mod. G. *bestechen*.] *trans.* To shut (firmly).

a 1225 *Anscr. R.* 62 þæt heo muhten bistenen deað þer vte. a 1240 *Sawles Warde* 247 Alle... bistenen brute.

† **Bistepp**, *v.* *Obs.* [ME. *bisteppen*, f. *bi-*, *BE-* + *steppen* to STEP.] *infr.* To step, walk, go.

a 1225 Ancr. R. 174. Vor beo heo bistedd þer ute.
† Bistighe. *Obs. rare.* [f. *bi-*, *By prep.* + *stige* path: see *STYGE*.] By-way, by-path.
c 1340 SHOREHAM Ps. xlii(i). 3 in *Wyclif's Bible* Pref. 4 The bistiges of rihtfulnes.

† Bistint, v. *Obs.* [ME. *bistinten*, f. *bi-*, BE-4 + *stinten* to be dull or weary, to slacken; cf. *STINT*.] *trans.* To cause to slacken, to check.
c 1300 K. Alis. 1183 Was nere lambe in no land lower of chere... þen was þe blonk to þe beurn þat hym bistint.

Bistipuled: see *BI-pref.* 2 1.

Bistort (bi'stɔrt). [(a. F. *bistorte*), ad. L. *bistorta*, f. *bis* twice + *torta* twisted, fem. pa. pple.]

1. A species of Polygonum (*P. bistorta*), named from the twisted form of its large root, bearing a cylindrical spike of small flesh-coloured flowers; also called *Snakeweed*. See *ADDERWORT*.

1578 LYVE Dodoens 21 There be two sortes of Bistorte... the Great Bistorte (and) the Small Bistorte. *1722 tr. Pomet.* *Hist. Drugs* I. 44 Bistort is a Plant that has a Root roll'd upon itself. *1872 H. MACMILLAN True Vine* v. 180 The common bistort... is supposed to have bloomed on Calvary, and to have been sprinkled with the drops of blood that fell from Christ's side. Hence the pink stains on its white flower-heads, and the dark blotches on its green leaves.

2. *Surgery.* = *BISTOURY*.

1655 CULPEPPER Riverius vi. vii. 143 Open the imposthume with a crooked incision Knife called a Bistort.

Bistoury (bi'stɔri, bi'sturi). Also *5 bystourye*, *8-9 bistorie*, *9 bistouri*. [a. OF. *bistorie* (in sense 1), ad. mod. F. *bistouri* (in sense 2): origin uncertain: see *Littre*. (Said in some books to be from *Pistorium*, now *Pistoja*; but this is merely a conjecture from the similarity of the words.)]

† 1. A mediæval weapon, a large knife or dagger.
1490 CANTON Eneydos xvi. 65 Eneas had a bystourye or wepen crysolite, as it were a lityl swerde crosseles.

2. *Surgery.* A scalpel; made in three forms, the straight, the curved, and the probe-pointed (which is also curved).

1748 Phil. Trans. XLV. 133 An Incision made with a Bistoury. *1764 SMELLIE Midwife* I. Intro. 31 He must... amputate with a bistoury. *1804 ABERNETHY Surg. Observ.* 214 They were divided by the crooked bistoury. *1859 F. MAHONEY Rel. Father Prout* ii. 546 The surgeon's bistouri. *1873 TRISTRAM Moab* v. 92 Screwing my courage to use a bistoury.

Bistre (bi'stɔr). Also *bister*. [a. F. *bistre*, in same sense: see below.] A brown pigment prepared from common soot; the colour of this.

1727-51 CHAMBERS Cycl., *Bister*, or *Bistre*, among painters... a colour made of chimney-soot boiled, and afterwards diluted with water. *1808 SOUTHEY Lett.* (1856) II. 58 One set, of six folios, is lettered in gold upon bister. *1853 KANE Grinnell Exp.* xlix. (1856) 467 A dark sky, something between the bister of the frost-smoke and the indigo of our thunder clouds at home.

b. *attrib.* and in *comb.*

1853 KANE Grinnell Exp. xxix. (1856) 241 The frost-smoke is all around us in bister-colored vapor. *1866 THORNBURY Turner* I. 79 Published in aqua-tinta, in imitation of bister or India-ink drawings. *1881 Nature* XXIII. 223.

[In form, *bistre* comes near to a series of Teutonic words, ON. *bistr* angry, knitting one's brows, Sw. *Da. bister* angry, fierce, raging, grim, Du. *bijster* bewildered, LG. *bister* having lost one's way; also 'dark, dismal, gloomy'; Flügel. Of these Fränk takes the Flemish *bijster* as apparently the most etymological form, and would refer it to an OTeut. **bi-stiuri* with the notion of 'deranged, disturbed, amazed.' If this be the derivation, these words can hardly be related to the Fr. *bistre*, as they might be if 'gloomy, dark' were the radical notion. Mr. H. Bradley compares OF. *béistire*, *béistire*, var. of *béistire* bissexile, meaning, 1. the bissexile day in February, 2. unlucky event, disaster, calamity, 3. 'a horrible storm or tempest in the air' (Cotgr.); whence the notions of 'dismal, gloomy, grim, raging, etc.' might be plausibly derived; but historical evidence as to connexion between the various words is wanting.]

Bistred (bi'stɔrd), *pp. a.* [f. *prec.* + -ED 2.] Stained with or as with bister.

1876 MISS BROUGHTON Joan xx. 186 A keener look in her stained and bistered eyes.

Bistrete, bistroad: see *BESTREW, BESTRIDE*.

† Bisulc, a. (and *sb.*) *Obs.* Also *7 bisulke* (e. [ad. L. *bisulcus* two-furrowed, two-cleft, f. *bi-* two + *sulcus* furrow.] *A. adj.* Cleft in two; *spec.* having a cloven hoof. *B.* quasi-*sb.* A cloven-hoofed animal.

1650 BULWER Anthropol. xiv. 142 The tongue of man is not double, or trisulke or bisulke. *1661 LOVELL Hist. Anim. & Min.* Those that are horned, are commonly bisulks. *1693 Phil. Trans.* XVII. 850 The Cloven-hoof'd are either Bisulc... or Quadrisulc.

So **Bisulcate, Bisulcated, Bisulcous** *a.*, in same sense.

1833 LYELL Elem. Geol. xvi. (1874) 256 Tracks of the Anoplotherium with its bisulcate hoof. *1839-47 TODD Cycl. Anat. & Phys.* III. 241/2 Feet bisulcate. *1857 TOMLINSON Remon's Disp.* 468 A Scorpion hath... arms and fore-cleaves bisulcated. *1846 SIR T. BROWN Pseud. Ep.* III. xxv. § 5. 175 The Swine... being bisulcous... is farrowed with open eyes as other bisulcous animals.

† Bisulien, v. *Obs.* [f. BE-1 + *sulien*, OE. *sulian* to pollute, soil; perh. in OE.: cf. OHG. *bisullan*, MHG. *besulin*.] To pollute, make filthy.
c 1200 Trin. Coll. Hom. 37 Pan he fulle ben, [he] bisulicð hem on þe fule foddri of drunkenness.

Bisuyte, *obs.* form of *BESOIL*.

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† Bisweligh, v. *Obs.* Pa. pple. *bisuelid*. [f. *bi-*, BE-2 + ME. *sweljen*, OE. *swiġan*, *swiġan* to swallow.] To swallow up.

a 1300 Cursor M. 16484 (Götl.), Allas! þat þe erd þe time þat i was born ne had bisuelid me.

Bisy, bisshop, obs. forms of *BUSY, BISHOP*.

Bit (bit), *sb.* 1. Forms: 1-4 bite, 3-5 bytt, 4 byte, 4-6 byt, bitte, 6 bytte, 7-9 bitt, 6- bit. [Com. Teut.: OE. *bite* str. masc., 'bite, biting', OFris. *bit*, *bite*, *biti*, OS. *biti*, (MDu. *bete*, Du. *beet*), OHG., MHG. *biz* 'piece bitten off', mod. G. *bisz* 'biting', ON. *bit* 'bite, biting' (Sw. *bett*, Da. *bid*, *biden* 'bite') :- OTeut. **biti*-2 str. masc., f. *bitan* to BITE. As will be seen on comparing the next word, there were two OTeut. sbs. derived from this verb, of which the senses 'act of biting', 'piece bitten off', were not uniformly distinguished in the different langs. In OE., *bite* 'act of biting, bite', and *bita* 'piece bitten off, morsel, bit', were distinct, but both became *bite*, *bit* in ME., and both are now *bit*, so that they can be distinguished only by tracing the history of their senses. In the general sense the former is now represented by the later sb. BITE, but *bit* is retained in numerous specific uses, esp. that of the biting part of a tool.]

† I. Biting; what one bites. All *Obs.* or *dial.*
 † 1. The act or action of biting; a BITE. At a bit: at one bite; also *fig.* *Obs.*

c 893 K. ALFRED Orosius i. vii. Gnættas comon ofer eall þæt land... mid fýrsmortendum bitum. *c 1000 Sax. Leechd.* I. 370 Hundes heafod gebærned to acxan... þa wedendan bitas gehæleþ. *a 1300 Cursor M.* 8500 Adam... thoru a bitte (v. r. bitt, bite, bit) broght all in blam. *c 1300 K. Alis.* 5436 Her bytt envenymed was. *c 1440 Promp. Parv.* 37 Bytt, or bytunge, morsus. *1577 tr. Bullinger's Decades* (1592) 735 The fretting bit of the tooth of sin. *1639 FULLER Holy War* III. xviii. (1647) 138 He... requested their aid only for forty days, hoping to chop up those Albigenes at a bit. *1653 WALTON Angler* 55 You may, if you stand close, be sure of a bit, but not sure to catch him.

† b. *fig.* The 'bite' or 'sting' of death, disease, etc.; hence, To be one's bit: to be inimical or destructive to one. *Obs.*

c 1175 Lamb. Hom. 123 Morsus tuus ero inferne... þu helle ic wulle beon þin bite. *a 1225 Ancr. R.* 288 Peonne he... bit deaðes bite. *c 1449 PROCKOK Repr.* II. x. 204 A bitte to helle [inferni morsus]. *1609 BIBLE* (Douay) Hosea xiii. 14 Thy bitte wil I be ð hel.

† 2. *transf.* The cutting or penetrating action of an edged weapon. *Obs.*

a 1000 Beowulf 4126 Efter billes bite blod-fag swefeð. *a 1000 Fata Apost.* (Gr.) 34 Purh swordes bite. *a 1225 Leg. Kath.* 2436 Ich abide her þe bite of swordes egge. *c 1400 Destr. Troy* xv. 6494 Two speirus... of fell bite.

† b. A catching hold with a sharp edge; grip.
c 1400 Destr. Troy xi. 4702 Þai... cast ances with cables þat kene were of byt.

† 3. The action of biting food; eating; grazing. Hence *† bit-grass.* *Obs.*

1523 FITZHERB. Surv. 4 The whole comen is his owne, and his tenants haue... onely bytte of mouthe with their catell. *a 1600 in Risdon's Surv. Devon* § 308 (1810) 315 Bitt grass for all hys beasts. *1624 SANDERSON Serm.* (1681) I. 244 An heifer... going alwayes at full bit. *1635 — 2 Serm. St. Paul's* i. 57 An idle servant... good at bit, and nothing else.

4. Food to bite, victuals. Chiefly *dial.*
1719 Scot. Presbyt. Elog. 36 (JAM.) He desires no more in the world, but a bit and a brat; that is only as much food and raiment as nature craves. *a 1845 Hood Sweep's Compl.* Here's a precious merry Christmas; I'm blest if I can earn either bit or sup! *1863 KINGSLEY Water Bab.* I. 41 Some one will give me a bit and a sup.

II. The 'biting' part of anything.

† 5. The cutting blade or edge of an edged tool, ax, spade, etc. (*obs.*): the point of a pickaxe.

c 1330 Arth. & Merl. 4808 The Bite was to fet long. *c 1400 Destr. Troy* xvi. 7316 With the bit of his blade... He clefe hym to the coler. *1660 SHARROCK Vegetables* 109 Get a strong hoe, of a good broad bit. *1677 GREW Anat. Seeds* iv. § 14 The Lobes... are shaped like the Bitt of a Spade. *1747 HOOSON Miner's Dict.* Oijj, We strike or hit... with the Bit or Point of the Hack.

6. The biting or cutting end or part of a tool; *spec.* the movable boring-piece of a drill (e.g. brace and bit, stock and bit), or a similar tool for use with the ratchet, drilling machine, boring machine, etc.; the borer for clearing the vent of a gun; the cutting-iron of a plane, the nipping parts or jaws of tongs, pincers, and similar tools.

1594 PLAT Jewell-ho. i. 27 A long Auger or Percer, with seuerall large bittes which he may put on and take off at his pleasure. *1677 MOXON Mech. Exerc.* (1703) 94 The Gimblet... hath a Worm at the end of its Bitt. *1693 LISTER in Phil. Trans.* XVII. 869 The superlative hardning of the Heads and Bits of Tools. *1769 FALCONER Dict. Marine* (1789) K. The bit, or priming-iron, is a kind of large needle... serving to clear the inside of the touch hole. *1823 P. NICHOLSON Pract. Build.* 253 The Stock is accompanied with several bits, or cutters, made of steel. *1881 GREENER Gwn* 234 The fine-boring bit... tends in a great measure to set the barrel tolerably straight.

b. *Comb.*, as *bit-brace*, *-holder*, *-stock*.

1881 Mechanic § 266. 100 The bit-brace or stock-and-bit is the principal tool in the second division of boring tools.

7. The part of a key, at right angles to the barrel or shank, which grips the levers of the lock.

1644 MS. Louth (Lincoln.) Churchw. Acc. For one new bit for a key ad. *1677 MOXON Mech. Exerc.* (1703) 24 To every Ward on the Plates, you must make a Slit, or Ward in the Bit of the Key. *1855 A. HOBBS Locks* v. (1868) 58 Bit or Bitt, is the name given, somewhat indefinitely, either to the whole flat part of a key, or to the small stepped portions of it.

8. The mouthpiece of a horse's bridle, consisting of the metal *bit-mouth*, and adjacent parts, to which the reins are attached. (It is not clear whether the word in this sense signifies that which the horse bites, or that which bites or grips the horse's mouth. OE. had *bitol* bridle, *frænum*; ON. *bitull*, *bitill* bit of a bridle; the Da. is *bid*, Sw. *bett*, Du. *gebit*, Ger. *gebiss*.)

c 1340 Gaw. & Gr. Knt. 2310 With þe barbe of þe bitte bi þe bare nek. *c 1385 CHAUCER L. G. W.* 1208 The fomy brydil with the bit (v. r. bittel) of gold. *c 1440 Promp. Parv.* 37 Bytt of a brydylle, *lupatum*. *1613 SHAKS. Hen. VIII.* v. iii. 23 Stop their mouths with stubborn Bits & spurte 'em. *1731 BAILEY Dict.*, *Bit* [with Horsemen], in general signifies the whole machine of a bridle, as the bit-mouth, the branches, the curb, the sevil holes, the trancheil, and the cross-chains; sometimes it is used only for the bit-mouth in particular. *1850 Mrs. BROWNING Prometh. Bd.* I. 160 Steeds that love the bit They champ at.

b. *fig.*
1562 J. HEYWOOD Prov. & Epigr. (1867) 139, I wyll brydell the with rough byt, wife. *a 1649 DRUMM. OF HAWTH. Wks.* 8/1 Not feeling honour's bit, nor reason's rein. *1789 WOLCOTT (P. Pindar) Wks.* (1812) II. 118 Now calmly Camden takes the bit, And trots so mildly under Master Pitt.

c. *transf.* A like contrivance in any apparatus.

1660 MRQ. WORCESTER Water-comm. Engine 15 The... Engine [has] A Helm or Stern with Bitt and Reins, where-with any Child may... controul the whole Operation.

d. To draw bit: to stop one's horse by pulling at the reins; hence *fig.*, to stop, slacken speed. To take the bit in his teeth (of a horse): i.e. so that it cannot hurt the mouth; hence, to become unmanageable, to be beyond restraint; also *fig.*

1600 ABP. ABBOT Exp. Jonah 521 Neither yet taking the bit perversely in his teeth. *1664 BUTLER Hud.* II. iii. 560 And for three years has rid your Wit And Passion without drawing Bit. *1788 COWPER Table Talk* 685 Spend-thrift... never drawing bit. *1857 RUSKIN Pol. Econ. Art* 28 If he takes the bit fairly in his teeth.

e. *comb.*, as *bit-bridle*, *-maker*, *-mouth-rein*.

1577 HELLOWES Guevara's Ep. 72 Alexander the Great did write unto Pulion his Bitmaker. *1676 Lond. Gaz.* No. 1098/4 A brown leather Saddle... and a Bitt Bridle. *1766 ENTICK London* IV. 73 This company of Loriners or Bitt-makers. *1833 Regal. Instr. Cavalry* I. 44 The bridoon is to be taken in the same manner as the bit reins.

9. *techn.* Applied to parts of various mechanical contrivances; e.g. the copper head of a soldering-iron; a short sliding piece of tube in a comet for modifying the tone; the joint connecting the stretcher and rib of an umbrella; the earlike projections above the bowl of a spoon.

1703 Lond. Gaz. No. 3895/4, 7 Silver Spoons, no Marks, but branched on the tops, and the outsides of the Bits, etc.

Bit, sb. 2. Forms: 1 bita, 2 bite, 3-6 byte, 6 bytte, 6- bit. [Com. Teut.: OE. *bita* wk. masc., morsel, bit = OFris. *bila*, OS. **bito*, (MDu. *bete*, Du. *beet* bit, morsel), OHG. *bizzo* biting, MHG. *bizzo*, mod. G. *bisse*, *bissen* piece bitten off, bit, ON. *biti* bit, mouthful (Sw. *bit*, Da. *bid* bit, morsel) :- OTeut. **biton*- wk. masc., f. *bitan* to bite. As to the relation of this to BIT *sb.* 1, see that word; both became in ME. *bite*, mod. Eng. *bit*, so that the two words can now be separated only in sense. In the strict sense of 'the portion bitten off', the later sb. BITE is now used.]

† 1. The portion of food bitten off at once; as much as is taken in the mouth at once; a mouthful; = BITE *sb.* 4. *Obs.*

c 1000 Ags. Gosp. John xiii. 27 Þa æfter þam bitan [Hotton, bite] satanas eode on hync. *1297 R. GLOUC.* 207 And yspyt hym þoru out myd an yrene spyte, And rosted in þys grete fure to abbe þe folle byte. *1377 LANGL. P. Pl.* B. xviii. 200 Þe bite þat þei eten. *1570 LEVINS Manih.* 148 Bit, *buccella*, *minutal*. *1590 SPENSER F. Q.* I. viii. 41 His bare thin cheekes for want of better bits. *1622 FLETCHER Span. Curate* II. iv. 33 He'll eat but half-a-dozen bits, and rise immediatly. *1665 BOYLE Occas. Refl.* iii. ad fin. When we dip them in vinegar, we may, for sauce to one bit, devour alive a schole of little animals.

† b. A bite or mouthful of grass for cattle. *Obs.*

1523 FITZHERB. Husb. § 70 And there be to moche grasse in a close, the cattel shall fede the worse, for a good bytte to the erthe is suffyciente. *1579 TOMSON Calvin Serm. Tim.* 151/2 The verie asses may haue a bit there, as we say in common prouerbes.

This passes into the sense of:

2. Morsel, small piece (of food), without actual reference to biting. Hence *dainty bit*, *tit-bit*, etc.

c 1200 ORMIN 8640 He badd tatt 3ho sholld him ec An bite brædss bringenn. *c 1550 Scot. Poems* 1614 C. II. 197 Gif God was made of bits of breid. *1588 SHAKS. L. L. L.* I. 26 Dainty bits Make rich the ribs, but bankerout the wits. *c 1626 Dick of Devon* I. ii. in Bullen O. Pl. II. 15 England that yeare was but a bit pickd out to be layd on their Kinges Trencher. *1684 BUNYAN Pilgr.* II. 67 Come, said Christiana, will you eat a bit? *c 1850 Arab. Nts.* (Rldg.) 615, I had not had a bit of meat for a long time in my house. *1860 TYNDALL Glac.* I. § 11. 80 We had not a bit of bread nor a drop of wine left.

By extension to other things :

3. A small piece formed by cutting, breaking, or other process; a morsel, a fragment.

1606 SHAKS. *Tr. & Cr.* v. ii. 159 The fragments, scraps, the bits, & greazie reliques, Of her ore-eaten faith. 1611 COTGR., *Picette*, a shred, bit, morsell, manmooke; a small parcell, or peece. 1694 SALMON *Latrica* l. v. 303/1 Cut also the root of Peony into little bits. 1716-18 LADY M. W. MONTAGUE *Lett.* l. x. 35 There is not the least bit of linen to be seen. 1838 COOPER *Surg. Dict.* 1470 To remove [from the wound] any extraneous matter, such as gravel, bits of glass or china.

b. *By bits*: a little at a time. *Bit by bit*: = prec., gradually, piecemeal; also *attrib.* and *quasi-sb.* † *At bits and starts*: irregularly, intermittently (cf. *by fits and starts*).

1596 SPENSER *F. Q.* iv. ii. 33 Workes of heavenly wits Are quite devoured, and brought to nought by little bits! 1644 CATAKER *Transubst.* 176 His grace is not consumed by bits. 1632 SHERWOOD, *By bits, par morceaux*. 1704 SWIFT *T. Tub* (1768) l. 142 He writ it in a week at bits and starts. 1849 HARE *Par. Serim.* ii. 180 To pick it up in this way bit by bit. 1871 FREEMAN *Hist. Ess.* Ser. i. ii. 45 This sort of bit-by-bit reform, going on for six hundred years.

4. A small portion or quantity, a little (of anything material or immaterial). Also applied to complete objects, viewed as portions or samples of a substance. *To give any one a bit of one's mind*: (colloq.) to express one's candid (and uncomplimentary) opinion of his conduct, etc.

1740-61 MRS. DELANY *Life & Corr.* (1861) III. 239, I shall be only allowed bits and scraps of time for it. 1787 'G. GAMBADO' *Acad. Horsem.* (1809) 20 Nothing now is to be seen but bred horses; every apprentice must bestride a bit of blood. 1815 SCOTT *Guy M.* xi. There was never a prettier bit o' horseflesh in the stable o' the Gordon Arms. 1859 JEPHSON *Britannia* xv. 244 Picturesque little bits of scenery. 1867 FREEMAN *Norm. Cong.* (1876) l. App. 606 The vigorous little bit of English. 1873 H. SPENCER *Stud. Sociol.* vii. (1877) 154 The peasant was called from his heavily-burdened bit of land. 1876 TREVELYAN *Macaulay* II. ix. 122 This bit of criticism shows genuine perspicacity. 1864 LD. CAMPBELL in *Times* 12 Apr. (Hoppe) He had given the house what was called a 'bit of his mind' on the subject.

b. *ellipt.*

1862 ANSTED *Channel Isl.* i. iv. (ed. 2) 63 The rocky bits to be seen at the back of Herm. 1879 FURNIVALL *Rep. E. Eng. Text Soc.* 6 The Preface has an interesting bit... about Wine-growing in England.

c. Used depreciatively or pitifully in Sc. and north Eng., as in 'bits of children' = poor little children. Also in colloquial Eng., in singular, as 'a bit of a coward' = somewhat of a coward; 'a little bit of a place' = a place comparatively petty.

1677 RUTHERFORD *Lett.* lxxix. (1862) l. 201 What is behind... but that sinners warm their bits of clay houses at a fire of their own kindling. 1815 SCOTT *Guy M.* xxvi. When Ailie has had her new gown and the bairns their bits o' duds. 1855 CARLYLE in *Froude's Life* (1885) II. xxii. 170 Thy bits of debts paid. 1861 GEO. ELIOT *Silas M.* 110 As to washing its bits o' things. 1885 *Illustr.* *Lond. News* 9 May 401/1 A bit of a landslip somewhere down the line. 1885 *Manch. Exam.* 28 May 5/3 If Riel proved himself to be a bit of a coward.

5. *colloq.* A very small measure or degree, a jot, a whit; used *advb.* in the expressions *a bit*: a little, somewhat, rather; *not a bit*: not in the least, not at all; *every bit*: entirely, quite.

1675 COTTON *Poet. Wks.* (1765) l. I had not wrong'd the Gods a bit. 1719 T. GORDON *Cordial Low Spir.* 174 An Aspect every Bit as terrible. 1749 FIELDING *Tom Jones* ix. vi. He loves her not a bit the worse. 1860 GEO. ELIOT *Mill on Pt.* II. ii. 71 You should have sent me to school a bit more. 1865 TROLLOPE *Belton Est.* iii. 26 The old tower out there. It isn't changed a bit! 1869 TREVELYAN *Horace at Univ. Athens* 61 He sings a sparkling song, can write a bit. 1885 *Illustr.* *Lond. News* 14 Feb. 184/1, I am a little bit afraid of him.

6. *colloq.* A short while; a short space of time. 1653 WALTON *Angler* 211 There we sit For a bit Till we fish intangle. 1794 GODWIN *Cal. Williams* (1849) 86, 'I think we may as well stop here a bit.' 1800 MAR. EDGEWORTH *Castle Rackrent* Wks. 1832 l. 70 'It's no time for punch yet a bit.' 1884 *Poess Alice Mem.* 41, I cannot tell you what pleasure it has been to have that dear child a little bit.

b. *Sc.* The exact point or 'nick' of time. 1785 BURNS *Addr. Deil* xi, When the best wark-lume i' the house... Is instant made no worth a louse, just at the bit.

7. *Sc.* A small piece of ground, a 'spot'.

1814 SCOTT *Wav.* III. 237 It's a bieldy enough bit. 1826 *Antiq.* xxv. What gars ye stop [digging] now?—ye're just at the very bit for a chance. 1879 JAMIESON *Sc. Dict.* s. v., He canna stan' in a bit [i. e. still, in one spot].

8. In reference to money:

a. *Thieves' slang.* Money. Cf. BITE sb. 5. 1607 DEKKER *Tests to make Meric* Wks. (Grosart) II. 328 If they... once knew where the bung and the bit is... your purse and the money. 1608 *Belm. Lond.* II. 122 To learne... what store of Bit he hath in his Bag. 1832 *Mirror* 17 Nov. 333 Coiners... vulgus, Bit-makers.

b. Applied in the Southern States of N. America, in the West Indies, etc., to small silver coins forming fractions of the Spanish dollar, or (when these are obsolete) to their value in current money.

Last century the *bit* was generally the old Mexican real = $\frac{1}{2}$ of a dollar or about $\frac{1}{4}$ sterling; later values assigned are a half pistareen or $\frac{1}{10}$ of a dollar, $\frac{1}{16}$ of a dollar, and (in some colonies) the value of $\frac{1}{16}$ sterling.

1683 *Col. Rec. Penn.* l. 85 Their Abuse to y^e Governm^t, in Quining of Spanish Bitts and Boston money. 1730

SOUTHALL *Bugs* 8, I would give him... a Bit, (a Piece of Spanish Money, there current at Seven-pence Half-Penny). 1780 COOK *Voy.* (1785) l. 18 The meat is... sold for half a Bit (three pence sterling) a pound. c 1782 T. JEFFERSON *Autobiog.* Wks. 1859 l. App. 165 The tenth [of the dollar] will be precisely the Spanish bit, or half-pistareen. a 1848 MARRVAT *R. Reefer* liii, I... gave my sable nurses a handful of bits each. 1883 *Century Mag.* XXVII. 29 With six bits in his pocket and an axe upon his shoulder.

c. *colloq.* A small coin or 'piece' of money, the value being generally named, as *seven-shilling bit* (an obs. Eng. gold coin), *sixpenny*, *fourpenny*, and *threepenny bit*. In slang = fourpence.

1809 MARRVAT *F. Mildmay* ii, A seven shilling bit would be thought handsome.

9. In Scotch *bit* is used for *bit of* ('a bit bread'; cf. Ger. *ein Stück Brod*), and for *bit of a* ('a bit bairn'); in the latter use it approaches the nature of an adj. = little, tiny, small.

1785 BURNS *Cotter's Sat.* Nt. iii, His wee bit ingle blinkin bonillie. 1787 BEATTIE *Scotticisms* 13 A bit bread, a bit paper.—A bit of bread, a bit of paper. 1816 SCOTT *Antig.* vii, I heard ye were here, frae the bit callant ye sent. 1883 J. HAWTHORNE in *Harper's Mag.* Nov. 926/1, I can take a bit draw of the pipe.

10. *Comb.* *Bit-wise*, little by little, a bit at a time, piecemeal.

1832 AUSTIN *Jurisp.* (1879) II. 1064 Codified law does not adapt itself to the successive wants of successive ages so easily as law made bit-wise.

† *Bit sb.* 3 *Obs.* Forms: 1 *byt*, *bytt*, 2 *butte*, 3-5 *bitte*, 4 *bit*. [OE. *byt(t)* str. fem., cogn. w. ON. *bytta* pail, MDu. MLG. *butte* (Du. *but*, LG. *but*, but water-bucket, cask; adopted, at some period, from med.L. *buttitis*, *butta* (cf. It. *botte*, Sp. *Bot.*, Fr. *botte*, *boute*), of uncertain origin: see Diez, Littré, Scheler. OE. had also *byden* fem., a butt, cogn. w. OHG. *butina*, MHG. *büten*, *bute*, mod.G. *butte*, adopted from med.L. *butina*, **budina*, dim. of *butta*. The phonetic forms show that these words are not Teutonic. Cf. BUTT, BOTTLE.] A leathern bottle or flask; the uterus or womb; a fire-bucket.

c 1000 *Agg. Gloss.* in Wr.-Wülcker *Voc.* 336 *Uter*, *byt*. c 1000 *Agg. Gloss.* Matt. ix. 17 Ne hig ne doð niwe win on ealde bytta. 1271 *hi* doð þa bytta beoð tobroke. a 1200 in Wr.-Wülcker *Voc.* 552 *Uter*, *butte*. c 1230 *Hali Meid.* 35 Inwið þi wombe swelin þe bitte [v. r. butte]. c 1467 E. E. *Gilds* 382 That the bittens be redy with hur horses and bittes to brynge water... when eny parelle of fuyre ys.

Bit (bit), v. [f. BIT sb. 1.]

1. *trans.* To furnish with a bit, to put the bit into the mouth of (a horse); to accustom to the bit. 1593 GOLDING *Calvin on Deut.* clvi. 962 Wee be as coltes that were neuer sadled nor bitted. 1602 WARNER *Alb. Eng.* xii. lxxii. (1612) 298 Till when the Horse was neuer back't nor bitted. 1814 SCOTT *Wav.* xxxix, The horses were not trained to the regular pace... nor did they seem bitted (as it is technically expressed) for the use of the sword.

2. *fig.* To curb, restrain.

1824 COLERIDGE *Aids Refl.* (1848) l. 82 It is not women and Frenchmen only that would rather have their tongues bitten than bitted. 1858 BRIGHT *For. Pol.*, *Sp.* (1876) 468 At the Revolution the monarchy of England was bridled and bitted.

Bit, pa. t. and pple. of BITE v.

Bitacnie, *bitaght*, etc.: see BE-.

Bitale, variant of BYTAL, *Obs.*, parable.

† *Bit-alt*, v. *Obs.* rare-1. [ME., f. *bi-*, BE- + *alten* = OE. *tealtian* to shake.] *trans.* To shake. c 1235 E. E. *Allit.* P. A. 1160 Bot of þat munt I watz bitalt.

Bitamen, obs. form of BITUMEN.

† *Bitavele*, v. *Obs.* rare-1. [f. *bi-*, BE- + *TALE*, *to talk*.] To overthrow (in argument). a 1225 *Leg. Kath.* 1284 An anlepi meiden, wið hire anes muð, hæuð swa biteuelt [v. r. bitauelt ow], itemet, and ite.

Bitch (bitf), sb. 1 Forms: 1 *bicce*, *bioge*, 3-4 *bicche*, 4 *bycche*, *bicche*, 5 *bych(e)*, (begoch), 5-6 *byche*, 9 *Sc. bich*, 6- *bitch*. [OE. *bicce*, elsewhere in Teutonic only in ON. *bikkja*: it is altogether uncertain what is the relation of the two words, whether they are cognate, or if not, which is adopted from the other. If the ON. *bikkja* was the original, it may, as shown by Grimm, be ad. Lapp. *pittja*: but the converse is equally possible. Ger. *betze*, *petze* (only modern), if related at all, must be a germanized form of *bitch*. The history of the F. *biche* *bitch*, and *biche* fawn, and their relation, if any, to the Eng. word, are unknown. There is a Sc. form *bick* sometimes affected in the pronunciation of sense 1, to avoid association with sense 2.]

1. The female of the dog.

c 1000 *Ælfric Gloss.* in Wr.-Wülcker *Voc.* 120 *Canicula*, *bicce*. c 1000 *Sax. Leechd.* l. 362 Bicecan meole. c 1300 *K. Alis.* 5394 Comen tigris many hundre; Graye bicchen als it waren. 1387 TREVISAN *Higden* Rolls Ser. III. 141 He fonde a bicche zeue þe childe souke. 1398 *Barth. De P. R.* xviii. i. (1495) 742 The bytche bringeth forth blynde whelpes. 1542 BRINKLOW *Complaynt* xxiv. (1874) 63 As chaste as a sawt bytch. 1598 SHAKS. *Merry W.* III. v. 11 A kinde bitches Puppies, fiftene i'th litter. a 1680 BUTLER *Rem.* xvii. (1750) 12. 1842 LEVER *Handy Andy* II. 14 All the dogs are well, I hope, and my favourite bitch.

b. The female of the fox, wolf, and occasionally of other beasts; usually in combination with the name of the species. (Also as in sense 2.)

1555 EDEN *Decades W. Ind.* III. ii. (Arb.) 144 The dogge tiger beyng thus kylled they... came to the denne where the bytche remayned with her two younge suckynge whelpes. 1569 SPENSER *Sonn.* vii. a 1687 COTTON *Aeneid Burlesqued* (1692) 70 I saw Mischievous bitchfox Helena. 1749 FIELDING *Tom Jones* x. vii, We have got the dog fox, I warrant the bitch is not far off. 1800 SCOTT *Monast.* xxxvi, As if ye had been littered of bitch-wolves, not born of women. 1825 Bro. Jonathan III. 265 The whelp of a bitch-catamount.

2. Applied opprobriously to a woman; strictly, a lewd or sensual woman. Not now in decent use; but formerly common in literature.

† a 1400 *Chester Pl.* (1843) 181 Whom calleste thou queine, skabde biche? 1575 J. STILL *Gamm. Gurlton* II. ii, Come out, thou hungry needy bitch. 1675 HOBBS *Odyssey* xviii. 310 Ulysses looking sourly answered, You Bitch. 1712 ARBUTHNOT *John Bull* (1755) 9 An extravagant bitch of a wife. 1790 WOLCOTT (P. Pindar) *Adv. Fut. Laureat* Wks. 1812 II. 337 Call her Prostitute, Bawd, dirty Bitch. 1803 MARRVAT *P. Simple* (1834) 446 You are a... son of a bitch.

b. Applied to a man (less opprobrious, and somewhat whimsical, having the modern sense of 'dog'). Not now in decent use.

a 1500 E. E. *Misc.* (1855) 54 He is a schrewed bytche, In fayth, I trow, he be a wyche. 1749 FIELDING *Tom Jones* xvii. iii, Landlord is a vast comical bitch.

3. *Comb.* and *attrib.*, as (sense 1) *bitch-puppy*, *-whelp*; (sense 2) *bitch-baby*, *-clout*, *-daughter*, *-hunter*, *-son*; † *bitch-daughter* (*obs.*), the night-mare; *bitch-fou a. (Sc.)*, as drunk and sick as a bitch, 'beastly' drunk.

a 1400 *Cov. Myst.* 218 Come forth, thou hore, and stynkyng bytche-clowte. 1483 *Cath. Angl.* 31 Pe *Bych-doghter, *epialta*, *nox*. 1786 BURNS *Interv. Ld. Dars.* I've been... bitch-fou 'mang godly priests. 1787 HUNTER in *Phil. Trans.* LXXVII. 255 My Lord Clanbrassil purchased a *Bitch-puppy. c 1330 *Arth. & Merl.* 848 *Biche sone! thou drawest amis. c 1480 *Gloss.* in Wright *Voc.* 251 *Hec catula*, a *bytche qwelpe. 1601 HOLLAND *Pliny* l. 220 The *bitch-whelpes that commeth of the first litter.

Bitch, sb. 2 *Mining.* Also *biche*, *BECHÉ*, q. v.

1747 HOOSON *Miner's Dict.* s. v. *Boring*. For drawing up the Kods, we have, to hold them, an Iron Instrument called a Bitch, and, for unscrewing them, two more we call Dogs. 1881 RAYMOND *Mining Gloss.*, *Biche*, a tool ending below in a conical cavity, for recovering broken rods from a bore-hole.

† *Bitch*, v. 1 *Obs.* [f. BITCH sb. 1 sense 2.] *intr.*

a. To frequent the company of lewd women. b. To call any one 'bitch'.

1675 C. COTTON *Poet. Wks.* (1765) 177 Jove, thou now art going a Bitching. 1687 *Aeneid Burl.* (1692) 43. 1709 *Ramb. Fiddle-Caps* 6 In wonderful Rage went to Cursing and Bitching.

Bitch v. 2 [perh. f. BITCH sb. 1 sense 1.]

1. *trans.* To hang back. *rare.*

1777 BURKE *Lett. in Corresp.* (1844) II. 157 Norton [Speaker] bitched a little at last; but though he would recede, Fox stuck to his motion.

2. *trans.* To spoil, to bungle.

Mod. colloq. 'What a mess he made of it! he thoroughly bitched the business.'

† *Bitchery*, *Obs.* [f. BITCH sb. 1 + -ERY.]

Lewdness, harlotry.

1532 MORE *Confut. Tindale* Wks. 648/1 Such mariage is very vnlawfull lechery and plain abhominable bychery. 1599 MARSTON *Scot. Villanie* l. iv. 188 He will vnline himselfe from bitchery. a 1704 T. BROWN *Wks.* (1760) III. 94 (D.) The roguery of their lawyers, the bitchery of their paramours.

Bite (bait), v. Pa. t. *bit* (bit). Pa. pple.

bitten (bit'n); also *bit. arch.* Forms: *Inf.*

1-2 *bitan*, 2-4 *biten*, (4-6 *byte*, 6-7 *bight*), 4-*bite*. Pa. t. 1-4 *bát*, 3-5 *bot*, 4-5 *boot*, 4-6 (and 9 *dial.*) *bote*, (5 *bought*); 7- *bit*; *pl.* 1 *biton*, 2-4 *biten*; also *sing.* 4 *bett*, *bited*, 5 *bete*; *Sc.* 4 *bayte*, 6 *bait*, 6- *bate*. Pa. pple.

1-4 *biten*, 4 *byten*, *bittin*, (*ybite*, *ibytan*), 8-9 *bit*, 7- *bitten*. [Com. Teut.: OE. *bitan*, pa. t. *bát*, *biton*, pa. pple. *biten* = OS. *bitan* (MDu. *bitem*, Du. *bijten*), OFris. *bita*, ON. *bíta* (Sw. *bita*, Da. *bide*), OHG. *bitzan* (MHG. *bitzen*, mod.G. *beissen*).

Goth. *beitan*, pa. t. *bait*, *bitum*, pple. *bitans*:—O'Teut. **bitan*, cogn. w. Skr. *bhid-*, L. *fid-* (*findere*) 'to cleave, split'. Originally infected like *write*; but since 16th c. the regular pa. t. *bote*, still used in Lancashire, etc., has been superseded in standard Eng. by the form *bit*, which (though it has the original vowel of the plural) is not a continuation of that form, but formed either after the pa. pple., or on the analogy of some other verbs of the same class.]

I. Said of the teeth.

1. *trans.* To cut into, pierce, or nip (anything) with the teeth.

To bite is the function of the front teeth (incisors and canines); the back teeth (molars) chew, crush, or grind.

a 1000 *Beowulf* 1488 He gefeng hraðe... slæpendne rinc bāt bān-locan. a 1400 *Cov. Myst.* (1841) 29 Adam flor thou that appyl boot Agens my byddynge. c 1420 *Anturs Arth.* xliii, The burlokkest blonke ther euyr bote brede. a 1500 in *Retrospr. Rev.* (1853) Nov. 104 The appulle that Adam bett.

1526 *Pilgr. Perf.* (W. de W. 1531) 208 b, He that doth bite a thyng dothe not viterly destroye it but mynysshe it.
1598 SHAKS. *Ven. & Ad.* 316 He stamps and bites the poor flies in his fume. 1733 SWIFT *On Poetry* 90 Be mindful, when invention fails, To scratch your head and bite your nails.

b. with adverbial complement. *To bite away* or *off*: to remove or detach by biting. *To bite through, asunder, in two*, etc.: to divide by biting. c 1250 *Gen. & Ex.* 2926 Here aldre heuedes he of bot. c 1374 CHAUCER *Boeth.* II. vi. 53 His free man boot of hys owen tunge, and cast it in þe visage of pilke woode tyraunte. 1460 CAPGRAVE *Chron.* (1858) 178 His hed was byten fro the body. 1480 *Robt. Devyll* 155 in Hazl. E. P. I. 225 Hys teeth grewe so peryllously, That the norysshe nypples he bote a waye. a 1529 SKELTON *P. Sparrow* 302 The selfe same hounde . . . Myght bite asondre thy throte. [1861 E. WAUGH *Birtle Carter's T.* 11 His wife bote her tung i' two.] 1870 GEO. ELIOT *Armstrong*, II. Truth has rough flavours if we bite it through.

c. with cognate object.
c 1300 *Cast. Love* 1343 A gret bite he bot of helle.
c. *intr.* or *absol.* in same sense. Const. *of, on, upon* (obs.). *To bite at*: to make an attempt to bite, to snap with the teeth at.

c 1275 *Lamb. Hom.* 123 Ne nom he na alle . . . ah ane dale alsua me bit of ane epple. a 1300 *Cursor M.* 18732 He . . . Pat neuer o þat appel bate. 1308 *TREVISAR Barth. De P. R.* v. xx. (1495) 126 Sharpe teeth grown or the brode teeth . . . for it nedeth to bite rather than to grynde. c 1450 *Knt. de la Tour* (1868) 148 She bote upon the appille. 1596 SPENSER *State Irel.* 46 [They] bite at the dudge from which they sucked life. 1668 *Pervy Diary* 11 Feb., [It] makes me mad to see them bite at the stone, and not at the hand that flings it.

3. *trans.* To wound or lacerate with the teeth.
a 1000 *Riddles* (Gr.) lvi. 4 Aghwa . . . biteð mec on þær lic. c 1300 *K. Alis.* 5435 Hy biten [A. t.] bothe man and hors. 1340 *Ayenh.* 66 Þe felle dog þet byt and beþerkþ alle þo þet he may. c 1400 *Destr. Troy* xxix. 12150 Scho bete hom biturly with hir bare teth. c 1440 *Gesta Rom.* (1879) 399 The greswounde . . . greuously bote hym. 1557 *K. Arthur* (Copland) iii. v. The whyte brachet bote hym by the buttocke and pulled out a pecc. 1640 SHAKS. *Temp.* II. ii. 10 Sometime like Apes, that moe and chatter at me, And after bite me. 1766 *Goldsm. Elegy Mad Dog*, The dog . . . Went mad, and bit the man. 1845 *Ford Handbk. Spain* I. 42 The last man is the one the dog bites.

b. with cognate object.
1607 TOPSELL *Serpents* 613 The Spider . . . biteth into his head a mortal wound.

c. *fig.* (cf. *wound, sting, prick*).
c 1200 *ORMIN* 15580 Hat lufe toward godness hus Me biteþ i min herrie. c 1325 *Metr. Hom.* 105 Penanz bites man ful sare. 1531 *ELYOT Gov.* I. ix. (1557) 24 Hym a lytle chydying sore byteth. 1649 FULLER *Just Man's Fun.* 18 An affrighted conscience . . . biting of them. 1675 *HOBBS Odys.* VIII. 186 So much your words me bite.

d. *absol.* or *intr.*
c 1375 *Wyclif Sel. Wks.* III. 440 Lettþ [þe houndis] boþe to berke and to bite. 1531 *PALSCR.* 456/1 A woman can defende her selfe no better than to scratche and bite. 1580 *NORTH Plutarch* (1676) 820 A dead man biteth not. 1591 SPENSER *M. Hubbard* 424 Yet spite bites neare. 1647 *MAY Hist. Parl.* I. vii. 73 Would faine be at something were like the Masse, that will not bite; a muzzled Religion. 1790 WATTS *Div. & Mor. Songs* xvi. Let dogs delight to bark and bite. 1855 *MACAULAY Hist. Eng.* IV. 666 It was better to die biting and scratching to the last.

4. *trans.* To 'sting' as a serpent, or an insect that sucks blood.

a 1300 *Cursor M.* 5955 (Götl.) Hungri flies . . . þat bath þai bat bæth man and best. 1385 *Wyclif Prov.* xxiii. 32 It [wine] shal bite as a shadewe eðdre [1535 COVERD. it byteth like a serpent. So 1611]. 1483 *CAXTON Gold. Leg.* 113/4 Saynt machaire kyde a flee that bote hym. 1535 *COVERDALE Numb.* xxi. 6 Fyrie serpentes . . . which bote [Gen. and 1611 bit] the people. 1730 *SOUTHAL Bugs* 19 This Sucking the Wound . . . is what we improperly call biting us. 1793 T. BEDDOES *Calculus* 185 He employed more than three thousand vipers, and caused to be bit more than four thousand animals. 1871 B. TAYLOR *Faust* I. v. (1886) 64 We crack them [fleas] and we crush them, At once, when'er they bite.

† 5. *trans.* To go on nipping (portions of food), to nibble; to eat. *Obs.*

c 1205 *LAV.* 15340 Ne moste he nauere biten mete. c 1250 *Bestiary* 262 Ne bit 3e nowt þe barlic beren abuten. 1590 SPENSER *F. Q.* I. i. 23 As gentle shepheard . . . Markes which doe bite their hasty supper best.

† b. *absol.* or *intr.* Const. *on, upon*. *Obs.*
c 1286 CHAUCER *Pard. Pro.* 36 Her at this alestake I wil both drynke and biten on a cake. 1535 *COVERD. Mich.* iii. 5 When they haue eny thinge to bite vpon. c 1600 Z. BOYD *Zion's Flowers* (1855) 49 He . . . Shall . . . neither haue to bite, nor yet to sup. 1840 BR. HALL *Chr. Moder.* (Ward) 28/2 Fain to bite upon beans to keep himself from sleeping.

† c. *trans.* Of liquid food: To taste, to drink.
a 1225 *Ancr. R.* 364. a 1300 *K. Horn* 1130 No beer nulloch ibite Bote of coppe white. a 1300 *Havelok* 1731 No page so lite, That euer wolde alite bite.

6. *intr.* Of fish: To seize or snap at the bait of the angler.

1653 *WALTON Angler* 86 He thought that Trout bit not for hunger but wantonness. *Ibid.* 131 He will bite both at the Minnow, the Worm, and the Fly. 1711 *ADDISON Spect.* No. 108 ¶ 2, I intend to . . . see how the Perch bite in the Black River. 1878 *JEVONS Prim. Polit. Econ.* 29 The angler . . . in the early morning . . . when the fish will bite.

b. *fig.* To take or be caught by any bait.
1752 *CARTE Hist. Eng.* III. 247 The council bit eagerly at the proposal. 1786 T. JEFFERSON *Corr.* (1830) 51 Do not bite at the bait of pleasure till you know there is no hook beneath it.

† 7. *To bite in*: to repress (what one has to say); to restrain (one's feelings, etc.). *Obs.*

1608 BR. HALL *Epist.* I. v. How manly he could bite-in his secret want; and dissemble his over-late repentance. 1650 — *Cases Consc.* 380 Content to bite in their hidden grievances.

II. Said of other things.

8. *trans.* To cut into or penetrate as a sharp-edged weapon. Also *fig.*

a 1000 *Riddles* (Gr.) lxxxviii. 13 Blod ut ne com . . . þeah mec heard bite stid-ecg style. c 1374 CHAUCER *Ancl. & Arc.* 270 The swerde of sorowe byte My wooful harte. a 1450 *Syr. Egiam.* 490 Ther was no knyfe that wolde hym byte. 1611 SHAKS. *Wint. T.* I. ii. 157 My Dagger muzzel'd, Least it should bite it's master. 1700 *DRYDEN Melchior & A.* 86 No sounding ax presum'd those trees to bite. 1859 *TENNISON Enid* 573 Who heaved his blade aloft, And crack'd the helmet thro', and bit the bone.

b. *absol.* or *intr.*

a 1000 *Beowulf* 5150 Sio ecg zewac bat unswiðor. c 1314 *Guy Warr.* 123 He hem smot With his fauchon that wele bot. c 1386 CHAUCER *Syrs. T.* 150 Þoruhe oute his armour it wil kerue and bite. c 1400 *Epiph.* (Turnb. 1843) 743 Gret axes . . . full scharpe bytend. 1535 *STEWART Cron. Scot.* II. 35 The fedder flanis . . . Outthrow their birneis bait. 1598 SHAKS. *Merry W.* II. i. 136, I haue a Sword; and it shall bite vpon my necessitie. 1842 *MACAULAY Battle Lake Reg.* viii. Camerion knows how deeply The sword of Aulus bites.

† c. Const. *in, into, to, of, on, upon*. *Obs.*
c 1205 *LAV.* 7513 Þet swerd in bat. c 1340 *Gaw. & Gr. Knt.* 426 Þe bit of þe broun stel bot on þe grounde. c 1386 CHAUCER *Knts. T.* 1776 The jelous strokes on here helmes byte. c 1430 *Syr. Trygam.* 1221 To hys herte hys spere can bite. 1596 SPENSER *F. Q.* II. v. 1, There the steel stayd not, but inly bite Deepe in his flesh. 1634 *Malory's Arthur* (1816) II. 255 There would no sword bite on him, no more than upon a gad of steel.

9. *trans.* and *intr.* To cause a sharp smarting pain (to): as a sharp stroke, a blister, caustic, etc.
c 1325 E. E. *Allit. P. C.* 373 Heter hayrez pay hent þat asperly bite. 1377 *LANGL. P. Pl. B. xx.* 359 Fro lentre to lentre He lat hise plastes bite. c 1485 *Digby Myst.* (1882) III. 735 Thys hard baly on þi botokkys xall byte! 1594 *LYLY Moth. Bomb.* I. i. 73 These medicines bite hot on great mischiefs. 1637 *RUTHERFORD Lett.* lxxxiv. I. 215 Our crosses would not bite upon us if we were heavenly-minded.

b. To make (the mouth, throat, etc.) smart.

1552 *HULOET, Bite* as . . . ginger and peper the tonge. 1580 *BARET Ato. B.* 731 This mater biteþ me by the stomacke. 1803 R. DALLAS *Hist. Maroons* I. iv. 92 Offering a . . . man . . . his choice of wine or rum . . . he chose the latter, with this answer: 'Oh! Sir, any thing that bites the throat.'

† c. *intr.* To have a 'nip'; to taste of. *Obs.*
1713 *Lond. & Countr. Brew.* I. (1742) 47 It makes the Ale bite of the Yeast.

10. *trans.* and *absol.* To affect painfully or injuriously with intense cold. Cf. *frost-bitten*.

1552 *HULOET, Bite*, as frost biteþ the grasse. 1553 *EDEN Treat. New Ind.* 19 Thei are nether byten with colde in winter nor burnt with heate in somer. 1600 SHAKS. *A. Y. L.* II. vii. 186 Freeze, freeze, thou bitter skie that dost not bite so high as benefitts forgot. 1609 *DEKKER Guls Horn-bk.* Wks. 1884-5 II. 219 Vlesse that Freezeland Curte, cold winter, offer to bite thee. 1866 *TENNISON Window*, Frost is here And has bitten the heel of the going year.

11. *trans.* and *intr.* To corrode, or eat into, as a strong acid or other chemical agent; to act upon chemically as a mordant.

1603 *FAVINE Theat. Hom.* II. xiii. 236 An Antique inscription, but bitten and worn with age. 1677 *MOXON Mech. Exerc.* (1703) 242 Being washed three or four times, it Bites or Eats not, but dries quickly. 1684 T. BURNET *Th. Earth* II. 44 And stony mountains, which no fire can bite upon. 1822 *IMSON Sc. & Art* II. 428 Those lines which are not intended to be bit any deeper must now be stopped up. 1875 *URE Dict. Arts* II. 286 The sal-ammoniac . . . has the peculiar property of causing the aqua-fortis to bite more directly downwards. 1879 *Cassell's Techn. Educ.* IV. 299/2 The workman immerses the articles . . . in this solution, until the acid no longer 'bites' the metal.

b. *To bite in* in *Engraving*: to eat out the lines of an etching on metal with an acid.

1821 *CRAIG Lect. Drawing* vii. 401 The cracks . . . when bit in, form . . . the grain of the work. 1875 *URE Dict. Arts* II. 283 Dürer's etching appears to have been bitten in, or corroded with the acid at once.

c. *refl.* (*fig.*)

1876 *GEO. ELIOT Dan. Der.* II. xxix. 238 A man whose slight relations with her had . . . bitten themselves into the most permanent layers of feeling.

12. *trans.* and *intr.* Used to express the proper or improper action of various tools, implements, and parts of mechanism, in gripping or taking hold, either by penetrating or by friction. a. Of a plough: To run too deeply into the ground. b. Of a file, saw, etc.: To make an impression upon (the substance). c. Of an anchor: To enter and take hold of the bottom. d. Of the wheels of a locomotive and other parts of machinery depending for their effectiveness upon friction: To 'grip' the rails or surface. e. Of a skate on the ice.

1523 *FITZHERB. Husb.* § 4 A reste balke is where the plough byteth at the poynte of the culture and share, and cutteth not the ground cleane to the forowe. 1625 *SWAN Spec. M.* vi. (1643) 291 Of such hardness that the file can scarcely bite it. 1762 tr. *Duhamel's Husb.* I. ix. (ed. 2) 49 If the share is apt to bite, or run too deep into the ground. 1769 *FALCONER Dict. Marine* (1789), *To bite*, to hold fast in the ground; expressed of the anchor. 1849 J. R. JACKSON *Min. & Uses* xxvi. 308 So hard that a steel tool will hardly bite upon it. 1864 *Daily Tel.* 23 Dec., The engines did not bite, owing to the 'greasiness' of the metals. 1883 *Harper's Mag.* Jan. 192 His anchor biting in the golden sand.

1884 *Sunday Mag.* May 30/1 The oil . . . prevented the driving-wheels from 'biting.'

1. *Typogr.* (see quot.)

1824 J. JOHNSON *Typogr.* II. 521 He examines whether the frisket bites; that is, whether it keeps off the impression from any part of the pages. 1882 *Print. Times* 15 Feb. 36/1. 13. *fig.* (*trans.* and *intr.*) 'To take hold of (the mind, etc.), seize, impress, come home to. *arch.*

c 1325 E. E. *Allit. P. A.* 356 Þy pryner may his pyte byte. 1532 *FAITH Mirror* (1829) 273, I will allege another text of the wise man, which shall . . . bite them better. 1535 *JOYNS Apol. Tind.* 18 This reason did so byght Tindal and stoke so fast upon him. 1642 *ROGERS Naaman* 198 That worship which bites not the spirit, is most specious to the eye. 1687 tr. *Bacon's Life & Death* (1651) 24 'Those thoughts, which seeing they are severed from the affairs of the world, bite not. 1864 *Macm. Mag.* Oct. 467 Speaking of Algebra, in comparison with . . . Geometry, he [Chalmers] said . . . he could not take to it, for he could not make it bite like the other.

† 14. *trans.* To speak sharply or injuriously against; to calumniate (cf. *backbite*); to carp at. *intr.* To find fault sharply or severely, speak bitterly, jibe.

1330 R. BRUNNE *Chron.* 335 Here now þe grette despit . . . þat to þer bak, gan bite of Scotland þe clergie. 1586 T. H. La Primaud. *Fr. Acad.* To Rdr., Seeking out what to bite at, and to reprehend in other mens works. 1605 *VERSTEGAN Dec. Intell.* (1628) Pref. Verses, If Enuie bite what thou hast here set forth. 1683 J. BARNARD *Life Heylyn* 40 It does not become any Son of the Church . . . to bite and snarl at the Name of Protestant.

15. *trans.* (*collog.*) To deceive, to overreach, 'take in.' Now only in *passive*. Cf. *BITE sb.* 9.

1709 *STEELE Tatler* No. 12 He has bit you fairly enough. 1722 *POPE Ep. Bathurst* 143 The Judge shall job, the Bishop bite the town. 1798 W. HUTTON *Autobiog.* 31 The workmen saw my ignorance, and bit me as they pleased. a 1847 *MRS. SHERWOOD Lady of Manor* V. xxxii. 320 Both parties had been in some degree bitten in the reciprocal attempt to deceive each other. 1852 *THACKERAY Esmond* III. iii. 340 Miss Beatrix was quite bit (as the phrase of that day was). *Mod. phrase.* 'The biter bit.'

16. *Phrases.* † *To bite upon the bridle*: to champ the bit like a restless horse, to wait impatiently. *To bite the dust, ground, sand*, etc.: to fall in death, to die. *To bite the lip*, or (obs.) *upon the lips*: to press the lip between the teeth, in order to restrain the expression of anger or mirth.

† *To bite one's tongue*: to hold it between the teeth so as to repress speech (cf. 'to hold one's tongue').

† *To bite the thumb at*: 'to threaten or defy by putting the thumb nail into the mouth, and with a ierke (from the upper teeth) make it to knock,' (COTGR. s.v. *Nique*); to give the 'ficio,' to insult.

† *To bite the teeth*: to gnash or grind them. † *To bite one's ear or one by the ear*, i.e. as a sign of fondness, to caress fondly.

1514 *BARCLAY Cyt. & Uplondysm.* (1847) 41 These courtiers . . . Smelling those dishes, they bite upon the 'bridle.' 1600 *ABT. ABBOT Exp. Jonah* 342 Bite upon the bridle, that . . . he may be wiser afterward. 1870 *BRYANT Iliad* II. 55 May his fellow warriors . . . Fall round him to the earth and bite the 'dust.' a 1771 *GRAY Poems, Ode* viii, Soon a King shall bite the 'ground.' 1813 *BYRON Giaour* xxii, The foremost Tartar bites the ground! 1830 R. BRUNNE *Chron.* 155 Philip bote on his 'lippe. 1366 *LANGL. P. Pl. B. v.* 84 His body was to-bolle for wratthe þat he bote his lippes. 1475 *CAXTON Jason* (1477) 52 He frowned . . . and bote on his lippe. 1613 *SHAKS. Hen. VIII.* II. ii. 113 He bites his lip, and starts, Stops on a sodaine. 1800 *KEATS Isabella* xxii, And many times they bit their lips alone. 1718 *POPE Iliad* v. 51 First Odus falls, and bites the bloody 'sand.' 1592 *SHAKS. Rom. & Jul.* I. i. 58 No, sir, I do not bite my 'Thumb' at you sir: but I bite my Thumb sir. 1593 — 2 *Hen. VI.* I. i. 230 So Yorke must sit, and fret, and bite his 'tongue. 1535 *COVERDALE Lament.* II. 16 Thine enemies . . . bytinge thy 'teth sayenge: let vs deuoure. 1592 *SHAKS. Rom. & Jul.* II. iv. 81, I will bite thee by the 'eare for that iest. 1610 B. JONSON *Alch.* II. iii, Slave, I could bite thine Ear. 1611 *COTGR., Mordre l'oreille* a, as much as *flatter on carresser mignonnement*, wherein the biting of th' 'eare is, with some, an usuall Action.

Bite (bait), *sb.* Also 5 *byte*. [*f. BITE v.* Taking the place of *BIR sb.* 1 and 2, in several of their original and more literal senses, first in 15th c. in sense 1, and at various later dates in the other senses. (As *BIR* was earlier spelt *bite*, with short *i*, it is not possible always to distinguish the two words, at the period when *bite* was coming in.)

1. The act or action of cutting, piercing, or wounding, with the teeth; also *fig.*
1499 *Promp. Parv.* (Pynson), *Byte, morsus*. 1570 *LEVINS Manib.* 150 A *Byte, morsus, rictus*. 1697 *DRYDEN Virg. Georg.* II. 522 Their venom'd Bite [*durique venenum Dentis*]. 1735 *POPE Prolog. Sat.* 106 Of all mad creatures . . . It is the slaver kills, and not the bite. 1799 *SOUTHEY King Crocod.* II. King Crocodile . . . show'd his teeth, but he miss'd his bite. *Mod. Prov.* His bark is worse than his bite.

b. The keen cutting effect of a harsh wind.

1681 *Daily Tel.* 28 Jan., A thin scattering of sleet in the air which gave a peculiar edge to the bite of the wind.

c. The action of a machine indenting metal, etc.
1876 E. CLARK *Japan* 102 Stamping machines . . . closed upon each of them [blank coins] with a 'bite.'

d. The corrosive action of acid upon the metal plate in etching.

1875 *URE Dict. Arts* II. 286 If . . . the engraver finds that the acid has acted as he wishes, he has secured what is technically termed 'a good bite.'

e. A downward jerk of a horse's head.

1861 WHYTE-MELVILLE *Market Harb.* xii. (ed. 12) 98 'Hold up, you brute,' he added, as Hotspur made an egregious 'bite,' that nearly landed him on his nose.

2. The biting of food or victuals; *concr.* food to eat; chiefly in the phrase *bite and sup.*

1564 J. Heywood *Prov. & Epigr.* (1867) 34 One penny.. That euer might either make me bite or sup. 1816 Scott *Old Mort.* vi. There's puir distressed whigs enow about the country will be glad to do that for a bite and a soup. 1861 Miss BRADDON *Trail Serp.* vi. vi. 301 He had lain concealed for fourteen days without either bite or sup.

b. The biting of grass; herbage to bite. 1765 TUCKER *Li. Nat.* i. 618 Little seeds, each whereof cannot throw up herbage enough to make a bite for a sheep. 1799 J. ROBERTSON *Agric. Perth* 302 It.. gives sheep a good bite early in the season. 1834 *Brit. Husb.* i. viii. 216 They are then again turned out as soon as there is a bite of grass in the spring. 1881 *Daily News* 4 June 5/5 Grass lands were terribly backward; there was little bite for cattle.

3. *Angling.* The seizure of the bait by a fish. 1653 WALTON *Angler* 169, I have knowne a very good Fisher angle.. for three or four dayes together for a River Carp, and not have a bite. 1836 MARRYAT *Midsh. Easy* vi. I have another bite.. ah! he's off again. 1863 BURTON *Bk. Hunter* 102 The chance of these excites him, like the angler's bites and rises, and gives its zest to the pursuit.

4. A piece bitten off (usually to eat); a mouthful. 1535 STEWART *Cron. Scot.* iii. 476 To mak him remeid, Or him support with ane byte of gra breid. 1784 Mrs. A. ADAMS *Lett.* (1848) 203 Although he longs for a morsel, he has not yet agreed for a single bite. 1817 *Ballad 'Susan Pye'* xx. *ibid.* 472/2 Tell him to send one bite of bread. 1857 SCOTT *Two Drovers* Take it all, man—take it all—never make two bites of a cherry.

† 5. *Thieves' slang.* Cash, money. *Obs.* Cf. *BIT sb.* 2 8 a.

1534 *Dice Play* (1850) 30 So proud.. because he hath gotten a new chain.. and some store of byte. 1599 GREENE *Def. Conny-catch.* Wks. 1881-3 XI. 44 Some.. would venter all the byte in their boung at dice.

6. A wound made with the teeth. 1736 BAILEY, *Bite*, an hurt made by the teeth. 1766 GOLDSM. *Elegy Mad Dog*, The man recovered of the bite, The dog it was that died. 1830 TENNYSON *Dream Fair Wom.* 160 Thereto [her breast] she pointed with a laugh, Showing the aspicks bite. 1838 *Penny Cycl.* XII. 400/1 The bite of a rabid animal generally heals up like that of a healthy one.

7. The grip or hold of an edge surface in various mechanical contrivances. *Also fig.*

1865 MASSON *Rec. Brit. Philos.* iii. 176 His system.. may have lost its bite upon the British mind. *Mod.* In wet weather sand is sprinkled under the wheels of a locomotive to increase their bite upon the rails.

8. *Typogr.* A blank left in printing through the accidental covering of a portion of the 'forme' by the frisket.

1677 Moxon *Mech. Exerc.* in *Savage Dict. Print.* s.v. *Bite*, If the frisket is not sufficiently cut away, but covers some part of the forme, so that it prints on the frisket, it is called a bite. 1882 BLADES *Caxton* 130 In 'Speculum Vitæ Christi' we actually find 'a bite,' half of the bottom line remaining unprinted.

† 9. *slang.* An imposition, a deception; what is now called a 'sell'; passing from the notion of playful imposition or hoax, to that of swindle or fraud. *Obs.* (Cf. *BITER*, 2.)

1711 STEELE *Spect.* No. 156 P 2 It was a common Bite with him, to lay Suspicions that he was favoured by a Lady's Enemy. 1726 AMHERST *Terræ Fil.* ix. 43 Sharpers would not frequent gaming-tables, if the men of fortune knew the bite. 1755 M. MASTERS *Lett. & Poems* 260 What the wittlings term'd Bite in the Spectator's time is now call'd Humbug. 1815 SCOTT *Guy R.* iii. What were then called bites and bams, since denominated hoaxes and quizzes. 1860 *Sat. Rev.* 14 Apr. 475/2 That form of practical joking which in the time of 'The Spectator,' was known as a bite.. in the popular slang of the day, is designated 'a sell.'

b. A sharper, a swindler: see also quot. 1846. 1748 FIELDING *Miss Lucy* (1762) 176 Is this wench an idiot, or a bite? marry me, with a pox! a 1787 S. JENYNS in *Doddley* III. 169 The fool would fain be thought a bite. 1846 BRACKENRIDGE *Mod. Chiv.* 21 The jockeys suspected that the horse was what they call a bite, that under the appearance of leanness and stiffness, was concealed some hidden quality of swiftness.

10. *slang.* A nickname for a Yorkshireman. (Origin disputed: see *Daily News* 11 Sept. 1883; *Yorksh. Post* 9 Jan. 1884.)

1883 *Daily News* 4 Sept. 5/6 The great and puissant race known indifferently as 'tykes' or 'bites.'

11. *Comb.* bite-beast (*nonce-wd.*), a beast that bites; bite-free *a.*, free from, or not liable to, bites; Biteless *a.*, that does not bite, unbiting. 1730 SOUTHWALL *Bugs* 30 They will no longer think themselves bite-free. 1850 BLACKIE *Eschylus* i. 163 A torpedo, that with biteless touch Strikes numb who handles. 1877 BROWNING *Agamem.*, Calling her the hateful bite-beast. 1884 *Century Mag.* XXVII. 780 Speechless and biteless.

Biteable, bitable (bei'tā'bl), *a.* rare. [*f.* BITE *v.* + *-ABLE*.] That may be bitten.

1823 *Cath. Angl.* 33/1 Biteable, morsalis.

Biteach, -teche, var. of *BETEACH v.* *Obs.*

† **Bitel, a. *Obs.* [*ME.*, prob. representing an OE. **bitol* 'mordacious', *f. bitan* to BITE; cf. *etol*, *drincol*, etc.] Biting, cutting with a sharp edge. c 1800 ORMIN 10073 Wipb bitell wrachess axe. c 1805 LAV. 19503 Mid bitele stelen**

Bitel(e, -le, -yl), *obs.* forms of *BEETLE*, *BETELL*.

Bitemporal (bitē'mpōrāl), *a.* [*f.* *Bi-* *pref.* 2

5 + *TEMPORAL*, *f. tempora* (sb. pl.) temples.] Joining the two temporal bones.

1857 BULLOCK *Cazaux' Midwif.* 221 The transverse diameters are two.. the Bi-parietal, and the Bi-temporal.

Biten, -teon, variants of *BETE v.* *Obs.*

Biter (bi'tar), [*f.* BITE *v.* + *-ER* 1.]

1. One who or that which bites. (See the vb.) c 1300 *Names of Hare in Rel. Ant.* i. 133 The hare.. The gras-biter, the goibert. 1496 *Bk. St. Albans, Fysshynge* 28 A statly fysshe.. a stronge byter. 1594 CAREW *Tasso* (1881) 42 A biter at the backe, of such quaint wayes As when he carpeeth most, he seemes to prayse. 1607 TOPSELL *Four-f. Beasts* 445 Otters are most accomplished biters. 1696 J. EDWARDS *Exist. Prov. God* ii. 22 These biters, these cutters, are made with a very acute edge. 1870 SPURGEON *Treas. Dat.* Ps. vii. 15 This biter who has bitten himself.

2. *spec.* A deceiver; one who amuses himself at another's expense; a sharper. (*Obs.* exc. in 'the biter bit,' a traditional quotation.)

1680 COTTON *Compl. Gamester* 333 Shoals of huffs, hectors, setters, gills, pads, biters, etc.. may all pass under the general appellation of rooks. 1711 ADDISON *Spect.* No. 47 P 8 An ingenious Tribe of Men.. who are for making April Fools every Day in the Year. These Gentlemen are commonly distinguished by the name of Biters. 1712 STEELE *ibid.* No. 504 § 3 A Biter is one who thinks you a Fool, because you do not think him a Knave. 1812 COMBE (Dr. Syntax) *Picturesque* xix, To think we have so little wit, As by such biters to be bit. 1885 *Illustr. Lond. News* 14 Nov. 492/2 An excellent instance of 'the biter bit' was furnished.

Biter, *obs.* form of *BITTER*.

Biterate (bi'tē'rat), *a.* [*f.* *Bi-* *pref.* 2 + *TERNATE*.] Doubly or subordinately ternate; see quot. 1870. Hence *Biterately adv.*

1794 MARTYN *Rousseau's Bot.* xxi. 304. 1870 BENTLEY *Bot.* 166 If the common petiole divides at its apex into 3 partial ones, each of which bears 3 leaflets, the leaf is termed biterate. 1870 HOOKER *Stud. Flora* 167 Leaves biterately pinnate.

† **Bite-sheep.** *Obs.* Forms: 6 bitesheepes, bytesheep, 7 bite-shappe, 6-7 bite-sheep. [*f.* BITE *v.* + *SHEEP sb.* Cf. Ger. *beisschaf*, *beischaf*.]

A once-favourite pun upon *bishop*, as if=One who bites the sheep which he ought to feed. *Also attrib.* 1553-87 FOXE *A. & M.* II. 466 Ye are become rather bitesheeps than true bishops. c 1575 *Leg. Bp. St. Androis* (Dalyell) II. 313 Then to the court this craftie lown, To be a bitesheep himdoun. 1683 J. BARNARD *Life Heylyn* 184 Your Bishops are bite-Sheep, Your Deans are Dunces.

† **Bithe'che**, *v.* *Obs.* 1 be-, bipecan. *Pa. t.* 1 -pæhte, 3 -pæhte, -pæhte, -pahte. [*Com.* WGer.: OE. *biþec(e)an* = OS. *biþekkjan*, OFris. *biþekka*, *bidekka*, OHG. *bidecchan* (MHG. and mod.G. *bedecken*); *f. bi-*, BE- + OTeut. **pakjan* (ON. *þekja*, OE. *þecc(e)an*) to cover, THETCH.]

trans. To cover over; to bedeck. c 1000 *Guthlac*. 1255 Þystrum biþehte. c 1205 LAV. 19216 Al mid pælle bi-þæht (c 1250 bi-þehte). *Ibid.* 22338 Arðures men weoren mid wæpen al bi-þehte.

Bitheism (bi'thē'iz'm), *rare.* [*f.* *Bi-* *pref.* 2 + *THEISM*.] A recognition of two deities (i.e. a god and an evil). 1884 L. TOLLEMACHE *Stones of Stumbl.* 83 note, At bottom, every such system is Bitheism.

Bitink, bitoght, etc.: see *BETHINK*, etc.

† **Bithe't** (t, ppl. *a.* *Obs.* rare. [*f.* *bi-*, BE- + *ME. threten* to THREAT.] Menaced, threatened. a 1300 *Churlen M.* 10102 Wit thrin fas bi-thrett.

† **Bithring, v.** *Obs.* Only in pa. ppl.: 1-3 be-, biþrungen, 3 biþrungen(n). [*OE.* *beþrangan*, *f. bi-*, BE- + *þrangan* to THROG; cf. MHG. *bedringen*.] *trans.* To throg about, to press hard. *Also fig.*

c 1000 *Élène* 1245 (Gr.) Ic was.. bysgum beþrungen. c 1200 ORMIN 14825 Wipb waundrab biþrungen. c 1205 LAV. 9435 Per binnan was Aruiarag ærmliche biþrungen (1250 biþrungen).

† **Bitynch, bethunch, v.** *Obs.* [*f.* *bi-*, BE- + *punchen*, OE. *þyncan*, THINK *v.* 2 Cf. Ger. *bedünkt*.] *impers.* To seem right or good.

a 1225 *Ancr. R.* 346 Sum lutel hwat he mei leggen on þe 3if him so biðunched.

Biticle, *obs.* form of *BINNACLE*.

† **Bitight, pa. ppl.** *Obs.* rare. In 3 bitijt, bituht. [*Cf.* *BETE*, *TIGHT*.] Clad, attired.

a 1250 *Owl & Night*. 1013 Hi gop bituht (*MS.* Col. bitijt) mid ruse felle.

Bitime, -s, var. of *BETIME*, *BETIMES*.

Biting (bi'tiŋ), *vbl. sb.* [*f.* BITE *v.* + *-ING* 1.]

1. The action of the vb. BITE in its various senses. c 1175 *Lamb. Hom.* 33 A þer [in helle] is waning and gram-ing.. and feonda bitinga. c 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 37 Bytyng, morsura. 1534 LD. BERNERS *Gold. Bk. M. Aurel.* (1546) E viii, It is like the bytyng of a madde dogge. 1577 tr. *Bullinger's Decades* (1592) 48 The enuomed bytynges of the Serpents. 1867 F. FRANCIS *Angling* ii. (1880) 70 The fish begin to slacken in their biting.

b. *fig.* 1383 WYCLIF *Isa. Prol.* 224 Opene to the bitingus of manye men. 1398 TREVISAN *Barth. De P. R.* v. xxvi. (1495) 136 By the sharpenes and bytyng therof ache bredyth in the synewe of felyng. c 1440 HYLTON *Scala Perf.* (W. de W. 1494) l. xxxiv, Bityng of conscience. 1627 J. DOUGHTY *Serm.* (1628) 17 Hence those bitings and censures against others.

† 2. The wound made by a bite; the part bitten. 1527 ANDREW *Branswyke's Distyll. Waters* Cijv, Cloutes wet therin and layd upon the bytyng. 1607 TOPSELL

Serpents 788 Spiders applyed and laid upon their own bitings.. do heal and help those hurts. 1669 WORLIDGE *Syst. Agric.* (1681) 192 The same it will effect on the bitings or stings of Snakes.. and on the bitings of mad Dogs.

3. *Biting in* (cf. BITE *v.* 11 b). 1821 CRAIG *Lect. Drawing* vii. 390 The corroding with the aquafortis is also called biting in. 1828 IMISON *Sc. & Art* II. 428 The biting-in of the plate is the most uncertain part of the process.

Biting, ppl. a. [*f.* BITE *v.* + *-ING* 2.]

1. That bites (in the various senses of the vb.). a 1300 *Cursor M.* 5954 Hungre flees, sare bitand. 1483 *Cath. Angl.* 33 Bytyng, mordens, mordax. 1607 HIERON *Wks.* i. 234 A sharpe axe, which hath a bytyng edge. 1607 TOPSELL *Four-f. Beasts* 445 It hath very sharp teeth, and is a very biting Beast. 1865 DICKENS *Mut. Fr.* 114 The bitingest and tightest screw in London.

2. That causes pain or smart; keen, pungent. 1340 *Ayemb.* 143 Pet zed o mostard is wel smal.. hit is wel strang and wel bitunde. 1554 HULOET, Bytyng.. as gynger or Peper. 1579 E. K. in *Spenser's Sheph. Cal.* Feb. 231 The bytyng frost nipt his stalke dead. 1808 SOUTHEY *Thalaba* x. vi, Louder grows the biting wind. 1843 DICKENS *Christm. Carol* i. 12 It was cold, bleak, biting weather.

b. In names of plants: Acrid, hot, pungent. 1597 GERARD *Herbal* ii. cccxxvii. 890 White Clematis or Biting Periwinkle. 1861 MISS PRATT *Flower. Pl.* II. 324 The Biting Stenocrep.

3. That wounds the mind or feelings; stinging, caustic; bitter, painful.

c 1374 CHAUCER *Boeth.* iii. vii. 99 Of whiche children how bytyng is euery condicioun. c 1400 *Apol. Loll.* 105 Pei are.. glosandist flaterars & bitandist bacbitars. 1598 SHAKS. *Merry W. v.* v. 178 To repay that money will be a biting affliction. 1611 RICH *Honest. Age* (1844) 29 They will say wee are too bitter, too bytyng, too satirical. 1711 SWIFT *Lett.* (1767) III. 187, I writ him lately a biting letter. 1749 FIELDING *Tom Jones* i. xiii, So biting a calamity. 1868 FREEMAN *Norm. Cong.* (1876) II. vii. 129 Full of the insolent and biting wit of their nation. 1879 BLACK *Adv. Phaeton* xii. 171 Casting about for some biting epigram.

Bitingly, adv. [*f.* *prec.* + *-LY* 2.] In a biting manner; bitterly, sorely; caustically, acridly; keenly, penetratingly.

c 1374 CHAUCER *Boeth.* ii. vii. 59 Pat ober man answered(e) a3ein ful bityngly. 1564 JEWEL *Apol. Ch. Eng.* iv. vi. (1845) 74 To utter these things more bitterly, and bitingly, than it becometh divines to do. 1673 HICKERINGILL *Creg. Greyb.* 302 With teeth bitingly set. 1705 - *Priest-cr.* iv. (1721) 211 To be bitingly wise as Serpents. 1873 GEIKIE *Gl. Ice Age* xxx. 427 Every wind.. is bitingly cold.

Bitle, *obs.* form of *BETLE*.

Bitless (bi'tlēs), [*f.* *BIT sb.* 1 8 + *-LESS*.] Not having a bit.

1605 SYLVESTER *Du Bartas* (1621) 102 The.. bit-less Horse I ride. 1859 *Blackw. Mag.* Sept. 270/1 With his bitless halter. *Ibid.* 271/1 The Anazeh, bitless, and almost reckless.

† **Bitling**, [*f.* *BIT sb.* 2 + *dim.* -*LING*.] A very small bit, a particle.

1674 N. FAIRFAX *Bulk. & Selv.* 56 The cleavesom bitlings of body.. can never make up an Immensity.

Bitogen, -3e(n, -wen, pa. ppl. of *BETE v.* *Obs.*

Bitok, Bitoken: see *BETAKE*, *BETOKEN*.

† **Bitop, a.** *Obs.* rare-1. [*f.* *Bi-* *pref.* 2 + *TOP*.] With two tops.

1681 COTTON *Poet. Wks.* (1765) 338 She took a greater Leap, against her Will, Than Pegasus from t'other Bi-top Hill.

Bitorn, -tourne, *obs.* forms of *BETURN*.

† **Bitought, pa. ppl.** *Obs.* rare. [*Cf.* *BITIGHT*.] Attired, arrayed.

c 1314 *Guy Warw.* (1840) 232 With armes the maiden him had bitought.

Bitour(e, obs. form of *BITTER*.

Bitraie, -traise, -trap, etc.: see *BE*.

Bi-tri- (bi'trī), *pref.* compounded of *Bi-* *pref.* 2 and *TRI-*, expressing a possibility of either a double or triple degree of the conformation specified; as in *bitripartite*, divided into two or three parts, *bitripinnatifid*, *bitriseptate*, etc.

1845 LINDLEY *Sch. Bot.* iv. (1858) 28 Leaves tripartite, or bi-tripartite. 1851 RICHARDSON *Geol.* (1855) 182 Leaves bitripinnatifid. 1870 HOOKER *Stud. Flora* (1878) 490. 1871 M. COOKE *Fungi* (1874) 40 The spores are bi-triseptate.

† **Bitru'fle, v.** *Obs.* rare-1. [*ME.*, *f. bi-*, BE- + *truffen* to TRIFLE.] *trans.* To befool, delude.

c 1225 *Ancr. R.* 106 Þeos ant oðre truffes þet he bitruffed monie men mide.

† **Bitrum, v.** *Obs.* Forms: 1 betrymian, 2 betremien, 3 bitrum(i)en (ū). [*Late OE.* *betrymian*, *f. BE-* + **trymian*, earlier *trymian* to strengthen, fortify, *f. trum* firm, strong. Cf. the earlier OE. *ymb-trymian*, *ymb-trymian*. The sense passed from that of 'fortify all round' to that of 'surround' simply, and 'beset, besiege.']

trans. To surround, beset. c 1000 *Ag. Gosp.* Luke xix. 43 Pine synd þe betrymiab. *Ibid.* xxi. 20 Þonne ge zeseoð hierusalem mide her betrymede (*Latton* betremed). a 1225 *St. Marher.* 6 Helle houndes.. habbeð bitrumet me. a 1225 *Leg. Kath.* 1659 A burh.. al abuten bitrumet wið a deorewurðe wal.

Bit, usually in *pl.* *bitts* (bits). *Naut.* Also 6 beetes, 7-9 bits. [*Derivation* uncertain: some form of the word is now found in most European languages, but its history is not clear in any: in Fr. *bitte*, Sp. *bita*, It. *bitta*; cf. med.L. *bitus* a whipping-post, 'lignum quo vincti flagellantur' Erfurt Gloss. In Sw. *betting*, Da. *beding*; LG. and

Du. *beting*, Ger. *bätig* (perh. from Sw.) 'bitts'; with which cf. OE. *bätig*, *bätig* 'a cable, a rope, anything that holds or restrains.' Cf. also ON. *biti* 'a cross-beam in a house or ship, transtrum', according to Vigfusson, the same word as *biti* bit, mouthful = OE. *bita*, BTT sb.²

(Franck concludes that the word is of Teutonic origin, and from the root of *bitan* to bite.)

One of the strong posts firmly fastened in pairs in the deck or decks of a ship, for fastening cables, belaying ropes, etc.; generally used in the plural. The chief pair, the *riding bits*, are used for fastening the cable while the ship rides at anchor; others are the *topsail-sheet bits*, *carrick-bits*, *wind-lass bits*, etc. Also attrib., as *bitt-head*, *pin*.

1593 P. NICHOLS *Drake Revived* in Arb. Garner V. 509 Two or three yonkers, which were found afore the beetes. 1612 WOODALL *Surg. Mate Wks.* (1653) 398 A Cable as it was running out of the bits of the ship (as the Sea-men terme it). 1667 CAPT. SMITH *Seaman's Gram.* ii. 10 The Bits are two great peeces of timber, and the Crossepece goeth thorow them. 1769 FALCONER *Dict. Marine* (1789), *Tour-et-choque*, a weather-bit of the cable, or a turn and half-turn about the bits. 1836 MARRYAT *Midsh. Easy* ix, Jack stood . . . not far from the main bits. 1850 *Rudim. Navig.* (Weale) 97 *Bits*. . . It consists of two upright pieces of oak, called *Bitt-Pins*, when the bits are large, or of knees, when the bits are small, with a cross-piece fastened horizontally near the head of them. 1869 SIR E. REED *Shipbuild.* xv. 276 To keep the bitt in its proper position.

Bitt (bit), *v.* [f. prec.]

trans. To coil or fasten (a cable) upon the bitts.

1769 [see BITTING *vbl.* 182.] 1833 MARRYAT *P. Simple* xv, See it [the Cable] double bitted. 1840 R. DANA *Bef. Mast* x. 24 The chain is then passed round the windlass, and bitted.

b. *Sailor's slang.*

1833 MARRYAT *P. Simple* iii, Come, Mr. Bottlegreen, rouse and bitt. 1836 — *Midsh. Easy* (1863) 130 'Come, Easy, you are not on board now. Rouse and bitt.'

Bittacle, obs. form of BINNACLE.

Bittayne, obs. form of BETONY.

Bitted (bit'ed), *pp. a.* [f. BIT sb.¹ + -ED².] Furnished with or having a bit.

1450 *Pallad. on Husb.* i. 1162 And double bited axes for thees thornes. 1653 CHAPMAN *Odys.* xxi. 8 The key, Bright, brazen, bitted passing curiously.

Bitten (bit'n), *pp. a.* [pa. pple. of BITE *v.*]

1. Cut into, pierced, or wounded with the teeth. 1613 SHAKS. *Hen. VIII.* v. iv. 64 Youths that . . . fight for bitten Apples. 1789 J. O'DONNELL in *Med. Commun.* II. 299 His face on the bitten side was . . . swelled.

2. *fig.* Infected, seized with a mania.

1847 L. HUNT *Men, Women, & B.* II. vii. 89 Readers not bitten with the love of verse. 1873 MORLEY *Rousseau* II. 186 Readers of the Social Contract, and . . . bitten by its dogmatic temper.

3. Often combined with instrumental sbs., as *frost-, hunger-, vice-bitten* (-bit), etc.

1599 H. C. in *Greenham's Wks.* To Rdr., The thirstie soule . . . Or hunger-bit. 1669 WOODWARD *Syst. Agric.* (1681) 93 The leaves . . . before they are frost-bitten. 1754 RICHARDSON *Grandison* VI. xxvii. 164 A man vice-bitten.

4. *actively.* Having bitten, biting. (Used with qualifying adverb: cf. *fair-spoken*.) Obs. rare.

1616 SURFL. & MARKH. *Countr. Farm* 674 They [Greyhounds] are of all dogs the sorest bitten and least amased with any cruelty in their enemy.

Bitter (bit'ar), *a.* and *sb.* Forms: 1-4 *biter*, 1- *bitter*. (Also 1 *bitor*, -yr, *bittor*, 3 *Orm*, *bitterr*, 3-5 *bittir*, -ur, 4 *byter*, 4-5 *bytyr*, 4-6 *bytter*, 5-ir, -ur, *bytyr*. *Definite* 1-4 *bitre*, 1-5 *bittre*.) [Com. Teut.: OE. *biter* = OS. and OHG. *bittar*, ON. *bitr* (MDu., Du., MHG., mod. G., Sw., Da. *bitter*), Goth. (with different vowel) *baitrs*; prob. f. root of *bitan* to BITE, with the original meaning 'biting, cutting, sharp,' but within the historical period only used of taste, and in modern use no longer even 'biting' or 'acid' in taste: see sense 1.]

a. *adj.*

1. One of the elementary sensations of taste proper (i.e. without any element arising through the nerves of touch): obnoxious, irritating, or unfavourably stimulating to the gustatory nerve; disagreeable to the palate; having the characteristic taste of wormwood, gentian, quinine, bitter aloes, soot: the opposite of *sweet*; causing 'the proper pain of taste' (Bain).

1000 *Guthlac* (Gr.) 840 Bone bitran drync. 1175 *Lamb. Hom.* 129 Det weter of egipte . . . he wes sur and bitere. 1300 *Cursor M.* 6349 Water bitter sum ani brin. 1400 MAUNDEV. viii. 99 A lytille Broke of Watre, that was wont to ben byttere. 1591 SHAKS. *Two Gent.* II. iv. 149 When I was sick, you gaue me bitter pills. 1606 BACON *Sylva* § 21 The Second [water will have] more of the Tast, as more bitter or Biting. 1756 BURKE *Subl. & B.* Intro. Wks. I. 100 All men are agreed to call vinegar sour, honey sweet, and aloes bitter. 1868 BAIN *Ment. & Mor. Sc.* I. ii. 38 Taste proper comprehends sweet and bitter tastes. . . The acrid combines the fiery with the bitter. 1884 *Cornh. Mag.* 628 Bitter things in nature . . . are almost invariably poisonous.

b. *fig.* Unpalatable to the mind; unpleasant and hard to 'swallow' or admit.

1820 COLERIDGE *Friend* (1865) 166 Some bitter truths, respecting our military arrangements.

2. *transf.* Of anything that has to be 'tasted' or endured: Attended by severe pain or suffering; sore to be borne; grievous, painful, full of affliction.

971 *Blickl. Hom.* 229 Du me ne syile on bone biterestan dead. 1205 LAY. 9685 Her heo sculeð ibiden bitterest alre baluwen. 1340 *Cursor M.* 4827 (Trin.) For bittur hongur pat is bifalle. 1400 *Destr. Troy* vi. 2502 Soche bargens are bytter pat hafe a bare end. 1583 STANYHURST *Aeneis* II. (Arb.) 65 Soom Greeks shal find yt bitter, before al we be slaghtred. 1848 SCOTT *F. M. Perth* xxvi, The time of separation now approached. It was a bitter moment. 1839 THIRWALL *Greece* VII. 285 For Eurydice she still reserved what she thought a bitterer death. 1850 TENNYSON *In Mem.* vi, That loss is common, would not make My own less bitter, rather more.

b. *To the bitter end*: to the last and direst extremity; to death itself. So commonly used: but the history is doubtful: see BITTER sb.³

3. Hence, of a state: Intensely grievous or full of affliction; mournful; pitiable.

1485 *Digby Myst.* III. 997 Thys sorow is beytterar þan ony galle. 1588 SHAKS. *Tit. A.* v. iii. 89 Nor can I vtter all our bitter griefe. 1611 BIBLE *Job* iii. 20 Wherefore is light giuen to him that is in misery, and life vnto the bitter in soule? 1816 WORDSW. *White Doe* II. 115 Concealing In solitude her bitter feeling.

c. 'Sour,' morose, peevish. Obs.

1225 *Anscr.* R. 118 A3ein bittre ancren Dauid seið þis uers.

4. Expressing or betokening intense grief, misery, or affliction of spirit.

1230 *Hali Meid.* 43 Marie Magdalene wið bittre wopes birowesed hare gultes. 1330 *Arth. & Merl.* 1018 His moder . . . swithe bitter ters lete. 1611 BIBLE *Gen.* xxvii. 34 Esau . . . cried with a great and exceeding bitter cry. 1650 R. STAPVLTON *Strada's Low-C. Warren* II. 29 No complaints were bitterer then the Abbots and Monks. 1853 KINGSLEY *Hypatia* iv. 42 Bursting into bitter tears. 1884 (*title*) 'The Bitter Cry of Outcast London.'

5. Causing pain or suffering; injurious, baleful, cruel, severe. Obs.

1000 *Beowulf* 5377 Draca . . . heals ealne ymbefeng biteran bānum. 1225 *St. Marher.* 11 Þet balefulle wurm ant þet bittre best. 1300 *Cursor M.* 697 Þe nedder was noght bitter. 1330 R. BRUNNE *Chron.* 35 He tok bittre Estrild, dukes doughter Orgare. 1603 SHAKS. *Meas. for M.* iv. ii. 81 It is a bitter Deputie. 1635 N. R. CAMDEN's *Hist. Eliz.* II. 183 The government of the French was bitter.

b. of instruments of torture.

1225 *Juliana* 17 Ibeaten wið bittre besmen. 1596 SHAKS. *1 Hen. IV.* i. 1. 27 Nail'd For our aduantage on the bitter Crosse.

6. Characterized by intense animosity or virulence of feeling or action; virulent.

971 *Blickl. Hom.* 25 Onbærnde mid þære biteran æfeste. 1377 *LANGL. P. Pl. B.* xviii. 64 For a bitter bataille . . . Lyf and deth in þis derknesse her one fordoth her other. 1384 WYCLIF *James* iii. 14 If þe han bittir zeel, or eny, and striuynges ben in þoure hertis. 1655 FULLER *Ch. Hist.* III. 44 No medium betwixt not loving and bitter hating. 1737 WHISTON *Josephus' Hist.* II. iii. § 1 Sabinus . . . made a bitter search after the kings money. 1838 MACAULAY in *Trevelyan Life* (1876) I. vii. 9 In politics a bitter partisan. 1848 — *Hist. Eng.* I. 446 The bitter animosity of James.

b. Const. *to*, against.

1384 WYCLIF *Col.* iii. 19 Men, loue þe þoure wyues, and nyle þe be bitter to hem [1611 against them]. 1606 SHAKS. *Tr. & Cr.* iv. i. 67 You are too bitter to your countrywoman. 1833 HT. MARTINEAU *Tale of Tyne* I. 20 She had . . . been bitter against them.

7. Of words (or the person who utters them): Stinging, cutting, harsh, keenly or cruelly reproachful, virulent.

1175 *Lamb. Hom.* 95 He ne remde ne of bitere speche nes. 1200 ORMIN 9786 Fulle of bittir speche. 1289 PUTTENHAM *Eng. Poetrie* (Arb.) 41 To taxe the common abuses and vice of the people in rough and bitter speeches. 1600 SHAKS. *A. Y. L.* III. v. 69 As fast as she answers thee with frowning looks, ile sauce her with bitter words. 1605 — *Learn* I. iv. 150 A bitter Foole! 1611 BIBLE *Job* xiii. 26 For thou writest bitter things against mee. 1712 ADDISON *Spect.* No. 433 ¶ 6 They would reproach a Man in the most bitter Terms. 1848 CARLYLE *Misc.* (1857) I. 124 Faust is no longer the same bitter and contemptuous man.

8. Of wind, cold, etc.: Sharp, keen, cutting, severe; hence of the weather: Bitingly cold.

1600 SHAKS. *A. Y. L.* II. vii. 184 Freize, freize, thou bitter skie. 1667 BOYLE *Orig. Formes & Qual.* The Night proving very bitter . . . I found the Glasse crack'd . . . by the violence of the Frost. 1697 DRYDEN *Virg. Georg.* III. 466 To fend the bitter Cold. 1796 MORSE *Amer. Geog.* II. 308 The frosts are consequently bitter in winter. 1837 CARLYLE *Fr. Rev.* (1871) III. v. II. 180 A cold bitter drizzling rain. 1875 M. PATTERSON *Casabon* 255 He caught his death in the boat on a bitter Palm Sunday.

B. quasi-sb.¹

1. That which is bitter; bitterness. *lit.* and *fig.*

1000 *Elene* (Gr.) 1245 Weorcum fah, synnum asæled, sofgum zewæled, bitrum zebunden. 1240 *Loftong* in *Lamb. Hom.* 215 Euer bið þet swete about mid twofold of bitre. 1362 *LANGL. P. Pl. A.* v. 99 Pat al my breste Bollep for bitter of my galle. 1650 LOCKE *Hum. Und.* II. xxi, A little bitter mingled in our Cup, leaves no relish of the sweet. 1749 FIELDING *Tom Jones* III. vi, Surfeited with the sweets of marriage, or disgusted by its bitters. 1830 TENNYSON *Dream Fair Wom.* 286 All words . . . Failing to give the bitter of the sweet.

2. A bitter medicinal substance: now usually in pl. BITTERS, *q. v.*

1711 SWIFT *Lett.* (1767) III. 101, I still drink Dr. Radcliffe's bitter. 1711 *Vind. Sacheverell* 63 He . . . might . . . be provok'd

to mix a little Bitter with his Wine. *Mod.* Camomile yields a useful bitter.

C. Comb.: see after the *adv.*

Bitter (bit'ar), *adv.* Forms: 1-4 *bitre*, *bittre*, *bitere*, 4 *bittere*, *byttre*, 2- *bitter*. [OE. *bitere*, *bitre*, f. BITTER *a.* with which it is now identified in form.] = BITTERLY: *arch.*, *poet.*, and *dial.*

971 *Blickl. Hom.* 195 Hit weorþeþ þe swiþe bitere forgolden. 1300 *Sarmun* xxxvii. in *E. E. P.* (1862) 5 Pou salt hit rew bitter and sore. 1393 *LANGL. P. Pl. C.* xvii. 220 The biter-our he shal a-bygge bote yf he [well] worche. 1608 SHAKS. *Ham.* I. i. 7 'Tis bitter cold, And I am sick at heart. 1721 CIBBER *Doub. Gallant* I. Sp. 63 [A servant says] 'my Lady's bitter young and gamesome.' 1824 CAMPBELL *Wound. Hussar*, How bitter she wept o'er the victim of war! 1886 STEVENSON *Dr. Jekyll* viii. 73 [A butler says] 'This drug is wanted bitter bad, sir.'

Bitter, *a.* and *adv.* in combination.

1. adverbial and parasynthetic, as *bitter-biting* (biting bitterly), *bitter-blessed*, *-hearted*, *-heartedness*, *-pungent*, *-rinded*, *-tasted*, *-well*.

1740 FIELDING *Tom Jones* iv. ii, 'Bitter-biting Eurus. 1766 BURNS *Daisy* iii, The 'bitter-biting north. 1848 KINGSLEY *Saint's Trag.* II. xi. 135 The day I found the 'bitter-blessed cross. 1775 ADAIR *Amer. Ind.* 277 'Bitter-hearted foes. *Ibid.* 43 Their word, which expresses 'sharp,' conveys the idea of 'bitter-heartedness. 1884 BROWNING *Ferishah* 3 Sage-leaf is 'bitter-pungent. 1832 CARLYLE *Sart. Res.* II. ii. 107 A prickly, 'bitter-rinded stone-fruit. 1850 MRS. BROWNING *Poems* II. 71 He laughed out 'bitter-well.

2. (*adv.*) In many names of plants and other productions, some merely denoting a particular bitter variety of that to which the name is properly given, bitter almond, bitter bay, bitter beer, bitter oak; in others specifying a distinct plant or substance, as bitter-apple (= *bitter-gourd*) bitter-ash, a West Indian tree, *Simaruba excelsa*; bitter-blain, a name given by the Dutch Creoles in Guiana to *Vandellia diffusa* (Treas. Bot.); bitter-cress, a book-name for the genus *Cardamine*, and esp. the species *C. amara*; bitter-cup, a cup made of quassia wood to impart some of its bitter principle to water poured into it; bitter-cucumber or bitter-gourd, the *Colocynth* (*Citrullus Colocynthis*), a plant of the gourd family, which furnishes a well-known cathartic drug; bitter-damson, a West Indian tree, *Simaruba amara*; bitter earth, magnesia; bitter-fitoh (= *bitter-velch*); bitter herb, the British plant *Erythraea Centaurium*; bitter-king, a tree, *Soulamea amara*, of the Eastern Archipelago, excessively bitter in all its parts; bitter-nut, the Swamp Hickory, *Carya amara*, of North America; bitter-salt, obs. name of Epsom salts; bitter-spar, a mineral, a variety of dolomite; BITTER-SWEET, *q. v.*; bitter-vetch, a book-name for species of *Lathyrus* and *Vicia* formerly *Orobos*; bitter-weed, obs. name of species of poplar, also, a N. American species of wormwood; bitter-wood, the timber of a tropical American genus of trees *Xylopia*, or the trees themselves; bitter-wort, species of gentian, esp. the Fell-wort (*G. amarella*).

1631 MASSINGER *City Mad.* iv. ii, Quite forget their powders And 'bitter almonds. 1865 *Morn. Star* 23 June, He gave the bearer half an ounce of powdered colocynth commonly called 'bitter-apple. 1755 SMOLLETT *Quix.* (1803) I. 98 Crowned with garlands of cypress and 'bitter-bay. 1871 M. COLLINS *Mrg. & Merch.* I. v. 161, I supped on . . . cold beef and 'bitter beer. 1876 HARLEY *Mat. Med.* 675 'Bitter cups turned out of the wood are used as a ready means of furnishing the infusion. 1551 TURNER *Herbal* Pivv, 'Bitter fitches, or bitter tars. 1886 LLOYD *Treas. Health* Giv, Decoctyon of Lichepeasen or 'bitterfitch. 1755 *Gentl. Mag.* XXV. 408 If we plant cucumbers . . . near the 'bitter-gourd, the fruits of the first will be as bitter as gall. 1843 PORTLOCK *Grol.* 214 'Bitter spar, or Brown spar, occurs in small but well-defined crystals. 1661 LOVELL *Hist. Anim. & Min.* 44 The simples are Vineger, Betony . . . 'bitter vetch with Wine. 1876 in BRITTEN & HOLL. *Plant-n.* 45 Fir, saugh, and 'bitterweed. 1597 GERARD *Herbal* c. § 4. 352 Named in English Felwoort Gentian; 'Bitterwoort; Baldmoine, and Baldmoney.

3. **Bitter**, sb.² Obs. [f. BIT sb.³ + -ER¹.] One who has charge of a 'bit' or fire-bucket; a fireman. 1467 *E. E. Gilds* 371 That the Bitters be redy when eny parylle of fuyre ys. *Ibid.* 382 That the bitters be redy with hur horses and bittes to brynge water.

Bitter, sb.³ *Naut.* [f. BITT + -ER (prob. as in *header, rounder, cropper, whopper*).] (See quot.)

1667 CAPT. SMITH *Seaman's Gram.* vii. 30 A Bitter is but the turne of a Cable about the Bits, and veare it out by little and little. And the Bitters end is that part of the Cable doth stay within board. 1630 J. TAYLOR *Wks.* (N.) To let fall an anchor, which being done, the tide running very strong, brought our ship to so strong a biter, that the fast which the 'Portugals had upon us brake. 1867 SMYTH *Sailor's Word-bk.* 103 A ship is 'brought up to a bitter' when the cable is allowed to run out to that stop. . . When a chain or rope is paid out to the bitter-end, no more remains to be let go.

Hence, perh. *bitter end*: but cf. BITTER *a.* 2 *b.* *Mod.* If he refuse to come to terms, we will fight it out to the bitter end.

Bitter (bit'ar), *v.* 1 [ME. *bitt(e)re* (n) = OE. *biterian*, f. *biter*, BITTER *a.*; = OHG. *bittaren*, MHG. *bittern* to be bitter.]

1. *intr.* To be or become bitter. (Only in OE.)

897 K. ALFRED Gregory's Past. 425 Dætte us biterige sio hreowsung.

2. *trans.* To make bitter; *fig.* to embitter (*obs.*).

c 1775 Lamb. Hom. 23 A lutel ater bitteret(h) muchele swete. a 1225 Ancr. R. 308 Uour pinges, 3if me penched. muwen maken him to seourwen, & bittren his heorte. a 1619 FOTHERBY *Atheom.* i. xii. § 5 (1622) 132 Men in sad taking, bitter'd with affliction. 1622 H. SYDENHAM *Serm. Sol. Occ.* (1637) 309 Shall I bitter vertue, & sweeten vice? 1713 Lond. & Country Brew. i. (1742) 7 Such hasty Dryings, or Scorchings, are also apt to bitter the Malt. 1815 *Encycl. Brit.* (ed. 5) IV. 131 This plant [Bog-bean] is used in the north of Europe to bitter the ale.

Bitterbump, var. of BUTTERBUMP, bittern.

† **Bitterful**, *a. Obs.* [f. BITTER *sb.* + -FUL.] Full of bitterness.

a 1200 *Lament. Mary Magd.* 53 (Chaucer's Wks.) Remembryng this bitterfull departing. 1552 HULOET, *Bytterful*, or full of bytternes. 1628 *Sheph. Cal.* (1656) xlviii, Pilate condemned him to the most bitterfull death.

† **Bitterhede, biterhede.** *Obs.* [f. BITTER + -hede, -HEAD: cf. Da. *bitterhed*.] = BITTERNESS.

1340 *Ayemb.* 28 Pe moup of pe enuious is uol of corsinge and of biterhede.

Bittering, *sb.* [f. BITTER + -ING¹.] A preparation used to adulterate beer; = BITTERN *sb.* 2. 2. 1864 in WEBSTER.

Bitterish (bit'ris), *a.* Rather or somewhat bitter. Hence Bitterishness *sb.*

1605 TIMME *Quersit.* ii. vii. 141 The biterish Guaiacum. 1684 BUNYAN *Pilgr.* ii. 194 The Water . . tasted a little Biterish to the Palat. 1849-52 Todd *Cycl. Anat. & Phys.* IV. 858/1 A slightly biterish sensation is produced. 1702 FLOYER in *Phil. Trans.* XXIII. 1164 Its . . taste, which is crude and styptic, with a biterishness in the Seed.

Bitterly (bit'li), *adv.* [ME. *bit(t)erliche*, -like, OE. *biterlice*, f. *biter*, BITTER *a.* + -like, -liche, -ly².] In a bitter manner; with bitterness. (See the senses of BITTER *a.*)

c 1000 *Ag. Gosp.* Matt. xxvi. 75 Petrus . . eode ut, and weop biterlice [v. r. bytyrice]. c 1200 ORMIN 9726 Forþi toþ Johan wiþ hem Full biterlicly to mæleinn. c 1250 *Gen. & Ex.* 3896 Hem cam wirm-kin among, 8at hem wel biterlike stong. c 1275 *Serving Christ* 56 in O. E. Misc. 92 Hwo ysah euer blisse byterluker ibouht. c 1400 *Gamelyn* 198 And bigan biterly his hondes for to wrynge. c 1440 *Bone Flor.* 1628 A scharpe knyfe . . That bytterly wolde byte. 1593 SHAKS. *Rich. II.* i. iv. 7 The Northeast wind Which then grew biterly against our face. 1611 BIBLE *Ruth* i. 20 For the Almighty hath dealt very biterly with me. 1709 ADDISON *Tatler* No. 152 ¶ 12 Achilles is not more biterly lamented among us than you. 1847 GROTE *Greece* ii. xlv. (1862) IV. 94 Exiles . . biterly hostile to Athens. 1865 *Freunde Hist. Eng.* (1858) i. iii. 265 He complained biterly of the Italians. 1865 TROLLOPE *Belton Est.* xxii. 263 It came on to rain biterly, — a cold piercing February rain.

Bittern (bit'ain), *sb.* 1. Forms: *a.* 4 botor, -ur(e), 5 botor, -oore, -owre, butture, -ir, 5-7 butor, 6 buttour, buttur, -our, buture, 7 bewter, botor. *b.* bitoure, biture, 4-5 bi-, bytore, betoure, 5 betore, -owre, bytturre, 5-7 bittor, 6 bi-, bytture, bittarde, byture, byter, bytter, 6-7 bittor, bitour, byttour, 6-8 bittour, 7 byt-ur. *c.* 6 bittorn, 7 bitturn, -erne, -orne, 7-bittorn. (Also *dial.* 7-bitterbump, BUTTERBUMP.) [ME. *botor*, *a.* OF. *butor*, of obscure origin, perhaps related to rare L. *bitūn-em* in same sense. (The med.L. *butorius*, *bitorius* are f. the mod. langs.) The Eng. forms in *byt-, bit-* prob. represent Fr. *ū*. The Fr. had a fem. *butorde*, with which cf. 16th c. Eng. *bittarde*. The final -n in 16th c. *bit-torn*, mod. *bittorn*, is due to some mistaken analogy: cf. *alder*, *aldern*, *elder*, *eldern*, etc. The mod.L. zoological name *botaurus*, is an adaptation of the OF. and ME. *botor*, with a reference to a fanciful derivation from *bos taurus*, *taurus* being applied by Pliny (x. xlii), to a bird that bellows like an ox, and the bittern being called *taureau d'etang*, *boeuf de marais*, *meerrind*, *mooschse*, and similar names in many langs.]

A genus of grallatorial birds (*Botaurus*), nearly allied to the herons, but smaller. *spec.* The species *B. stellaris*, a native of Europe and the adjoining parts of the Old World, but now rare in Great Britain on account of the disappearance of the marshes which it frequents. It is noted for the 'boom' which it utters during the breeding season, whence its popular names *mire-drum*, and *bull of the bog*, and the scientific term *botaurus* (see above).

a, b. [c 1000 in Wr. Wülcker *Voc.* 131 *Bitorius*, *pintorius*, *wrenna*. (App. some mistake.)] c 1330 *Arth. & Merl.* 3130 Swannes, peckes and bators. c 1386 CHAUCER *Wife's T.* 116 As a Bitore [v. r. bytore, bitor, betoure] bombleth in the Myre. 1388 WYCLIF *Isa.* xlii. 22 And bitouris [1382a 3ellende foules; *Vulg.* ululæ; 1611 wild beasts of the islands] schulen answer there. c 1420 *Liber Cocorum* (1862) 35 To wodcock, snype, curlew also, The betore in fere with hom schalle goo. c 1430 *LYDG. Min. Poems* (1840) 202 The botoro that etith the greet eel. 1486 *Bk. St. Alban's* Fvj. A Sege of betouris. a 1529 SKELTON *Ph. Sparowe* 432 The bitter with his bumpe. 1530 *PALSGR.* 202/1 Buttoura a byrde, *butor*. 1533-4 *Act 25 Hen. VIII.* xi. § 5 Euery egge of euery bittor, heroune, or shouelarde. vii. 1543 TRAHERN *Vigo's Chirurgery* ii. ix. 42 Cranes, geese, bittardes. 1627 P. FLETCHER *Locusts* i. viii, Their hoarse-base-hornes like fenny Bittours sound. 1646 Sir T. BROWNE *Pseud. Ep.* iii. xxv. § 4 That

a Bittor maketh that mugient noyse, or as we terme it Bumping by putting its bill into a reed.

7. 1515 BARCLAY *Eglog.* ii. The partriche, plover, bittorn and heronewe. 1611 BIBLE *Isa.* xxiv. 21 The cormorant and the biterne shall possesse it. 1638 SUCKLING *Aglaure* iii. i, A Bitterne whooping in a reed is better music. 1641 J. JACKSON *True Evang.* T. iii. 209 The Hawk hath struck down the Bittorn. 1770 GOLDSM. *Des. Vill.* 44 The hollow-sounding bittorn guards its nest. 1810 SCOTT *Lady of L.* i. xxxi, And the bittorn sound his drum, Booming from the sedgy shallow. a 1857 LONGF. *Sunr. on Hills* 18 The noisy bittorn wheeled his . . way.

Bittern (bit'ain), *sb.* 2 [f. BITTER *a.* (perh. *dial.* form of *bittering*.)]

1. The mother water or lye which remains after the crystallization of common salt from sea-water or the brine of salt-springs. It contains sulphate and chloride of magnesium, bromine, iodine, etc.

1682 COLLINS *Salt in Eng.* 54 The Bittern in Refining of French Salt, is a Liquor separated from it, that resembles Sack in Colour, but Gall in Taste. 1811 HENRY *Elem. Chem.* i. 415 The uncrystallizable part called bittorn. 1879 G. GLADSTONE *Salt in Cassell's Techn. Educ.* IV. 354 The deliquescent and non-crystallisable ingredients constitute . . the bittorns which drain from the stacks of sea salt. 1883 *Knowledge* 15 June 354/2 The . . bittorn is employed as a source from which other substances are prepared, as . . bromine.

b. attrib. 1755 HALES in *Phil. Trans.* XLIX. 327 The saline spirit arises chiefly from the bittorn salt. 1772 MONRO *ibid.* LXII. 30 Sea salt mixed with a bittorn and oily matter.

2. A name applied to bitter substances used for different purposes; *spec.* (also *bitterin*, *bittering*) an old trade name for a mixture of quassia and other drugs employed in adulterating beer.

1775 ADAIR *Amer. Ind.* 403 The water is sufficiently impregnated with the intoxicating bittorn.

Bitterness (bit'ainēs), [OE. *biteryns*, f. *biter*, BITTER + -NESS.] The quality or state of being bitter: *a.* to taste; *b.* to the mind or feelings; *c.* deep sorrow or anguish of heart; *d.* animosity, acrimony of temper, action, or words; *e.* intensity of frost or cold wind.

971 *Blickl. Hom.* 115 Pes middangeard flyhþ from us mid mycelre biterness. c 1000 *ÆLFRIC Ex.* xv. 23 Mara . . þæt ys on ure Lyden biteryns. c 1200 *Trin. Coll. Hom.* 45 Mirre for ure biterness. 1382 WYCLIF *Isa.* xxxviii. 15 In the biterness of my soule. — *Rom.* iii. 14 The mouth of whom is ful of cursing, or wariying, and biterness. 1477 EARL RIVERS (CAXTON) *Dietes* 68 The biterness of the aloë tre. 1535 COVERDALE 1 *Sam.* xv. 32 Thus departeth the bytternesse of death. 1597 SHAKS. 2 *Hen. IV.* i. ii. 198 You measure the heat of our Livers with the biterness of your gals. 1617 MARKHAM *Caval.* i. 4 All the biterness and sharpness. . . of the Winter. 1711 STEELE *Spect.* No. 262 ¶ 6 The Bitterness of Party. 1732 ARBUTHNOT *Rules of Diet* i. 249 A small degree of Bitterness, extremely agreeable to the Stomach. 1814 SCOTT *Wav.* xxxiii, A sentiment of bitterness rose in his mind against the government. 1851 DIXON *W. Penn.* xxvi. (1872) 237 A prince who had tasted the biterness of persecution.

† *f. concr.* A trait of bitterness, anything bitter. 1382 WYCLIF *Job* xiii. 26 Thou writist aȝen me biternessis [1611 bitter things]. 1790 G. WALKER *Serm.* II. xx. 104 The disappointments, vexations, and biternesses of life.

Bitters (bit'ain), *sb. pl.* [f. BITTER *sb.* 1.] Bitter medicines generally, as Peruvian bark, quinine, etc.; *spec.* alcoholic (or other) liquors, impregnated with the extract of gentian, quassia, wormwood, orange peel, etc. and used as stomachics, anthelmintics, etc. (Also in singular: see BITTER *sb.* 2.)

1713 *Guardian* No. 131 (1756) II. 188 Two hogsheds of bitters. 1784 J. SIMS in *Med. Commun.* i. 422 He took vomits, purgatives and bitters. 1822 J. FLINT *Lett. Amer.* 54 Some Americans drinking their morning's bitters (spirits with rice, wormwood, or other vegetable infusion). 1836 HOR. SMITH *Tin Trump.* i. 16 Misfortunes are moral bitters, which frequently restore the healthy tone of the mind. 1880 *New Syd. Soc. Lex.* s.v. *Bitters*, Medicinal substances . . distinguished into the aromatic, pure, and styptic bitters.

Bitter-sweet (bit'ainswit), *a.* and *sb.*

A. adj. Sweet with an admixture or aftertaste of bitterness. *fig.* agreeable or pleasant with an alloy of pain or unpleasantness.

1611 COTGR., *Amer-doux*, a bitter-sweet apple. 1633 ROWLEY *Match Midn.* in O. Pl. VIII. 373 (N.) Till then adieu, you bitter-sweet one. 1641 MAISTERTON *Serm.* 18 Bitter-sweet delights, or pleasures mixt with pain. 1749 FIELDING *Tom Jones* v. iii, To compose a draught that might be termed bitter-sweet. 1855 BRIMLEY *Ess.* 92 It awakes all the fountains of bitter-sweet memory.

B. sb. 1. A thing which is bitter-sweet; sweetness or pleasure alloyed with bitterness.

1386 CHAUCER *Chan. Ycom.* Prol. & T. 325 Vn-to hem it is a bitter-swete. 1627 FELTHAM *Resolves* 295 'Tis something like Love, a kinde of bitter-swete. 1878 SYMONDS *Sonn. M. Angelo* xi, A bitter-sweet sways here and there my mind.

2. A kind of apple. 1393 GOWER *Conf.* III. 281 Lich unto the bitter swete, For though it theken a man first swete, He shall well felen ate laste, That it is soure. 1483 *Cath. Angl.* 33 A Bittyswete, *amarumellum*, *muscum*. 1552 HULOET, *Apple* called a bytter swete, *amarumellum*. 1797 BRADLEY *Fam. Dict.* s.v. *Cyder*, The best sort of Cyder . . made of . . the Bitter-sweet.

3. *Herb.* The Woody Nightshade, *Solanum Dulcamara*, a common shrubbing plant in Britain. (A translation by Turner of the med.Latin name.) 1568 TURNER *Herbal* iii. 2. 1597 GERARD *Herbal* lviii. 278

Bitter sweete bringeth forth wooddie stalks as doth the Vine. 1671 SALMON *Syn. Med.* iii. xxiii. 390 Bittersweet helps the jaundies. 1821 CLARE *Vill. Minstr.* II. 198 Ramping woodbines and blue bitter-sweet. 1882 *Times* 6 July 10/4 The bitter-sweet is a twining shrub with scarlet berries.

† **Bitter-sweeting**, *Obs.* [f. *prec.* + -ING¹.]

The Bitter-sweet Apple. (In SHAKS. allusively.) 1592 SHAKS. *Rom. & Jul.* ii. iv. 83 Thy wit is a very Bitter-sweeting. It is a most sharpe sawce.

Bitill (1, bittle, *obs.* forms of BETTLE.

Bitting (bit'ing), *vbl. sb.* 1 [f. BIT *v.* + -ING¹.]

The putting of the bit in a horse's mouth. 1611 COTGR., *Embouchement* . . the bitting, or bridling of a horse. 1833 *Regul. Instr. Cavalry* i. 83 On first bitting, the bridle is to be used.

Comb. bitting-rigging (*Saddlery*), a bridle, surcingle, back-strap, and a crupper placed on young horses to give them a good bearing. (Knight.) **Bitting**, *vbl. sb.* 2 [f. BITT *v.* + -ING¹.] *Naut.* 1769 FALCONER *Dict. Marine* (1789), *Tour de bitte au cable*, a turn of the cable about the bits; the bitting of a cable.

† **Bittock**, *Obs.* [f. BITT *sb.*: the rest is doubtful; cf. next, for which it may be an error.] A fragment, a small piece. 1400 *Chester Pl.* i. 124 [Call] after Trowle And byde hym some of our bittocks.

Bittock (bit'tok), *north. dial.* [f. BITT *sb.* + -OCK, *dim. suffix.*] A little bit, a small piece or portion. 1802 J. WILSON (Congleton) *MS. Let. to J. Boucher*, *Bittock*, a small Piece or small Bit; *Cheshire*. 1815 SCOTT *Guy M. i.* The 'three mile' diminished into 'like a mile and a bittock'. 1818 — *Rob Roy* xviii, 'My ain parish of Dreep-daily, that lies a bittock farther to the west.'

Bittonie, -y, *obs.* forms of BETONY.

Bittor, -our, etc., *obs.* ff. BITTERN, the bird.

Bitts, *sb.* *Naut.*: see BITT *sb.*

Bitueizen, var. form of BITWIEN, betwixt.

Bituen, -tux, -twix, *obs.* ff. BETWEEN, -TWIXT.

Bituzen, pa. pple. of BETTE *v.* *Obs.*

† **Bitume**, *v.* *Obs. rare.* [f. *bitume*, *obs.* form of BITUMEN.] To smear or spread with bitumen.

1601 SHAKS. *Per.* iii. i. 72 We have a chest beneath the hatches, caulk'd and bitumed ready. *Ibid.* iii. ii. 56 How close 'tis caulk'd and bitumed [*Other edd.* bottomed].

Bitumen (bitiū'men, bit'iū'men). Forms: 5 bithumen, bethyn, (betune), 6 betumen, 7 bitamen, bitum(e), bithumen, bytumen, 6-bitumen. [a. L. *bitūmen* (stem *bitūmin-*). Cf. F. and It. *bitume*, Pg. *betume*, Pr. *betum*, Sp. *betun*, from which some of the *obs.* Eng. forms were taken.]

1. Originally, a kind of mineral pitch found in Palestine and Babylon, used as mortar, etc. The same as asphalt, mineral pitch, Jew's pitch, *Bitumen judaicum*.

1460 CAPGRAVE *Chron.* 30 A vessel of wykryis, filled the joyntis with tow erde, cleped bithumen. 1480 CAXTON *Ovid's Met.* xv. iv, The . . bethyn & sulphur brennyng. 1577 J. FRAMPTON *Joyf. Neues* 6 Betumen which is a kind of Pitch. 1601 HOLLAND *Pliny* i. 101 Asphaltites, or the lake of Sodom . . bringeth forth nothing but Bitumen. 1609 BIBLE (Douay) *Gen.* vi. 14 Thou . . shalt pitch it [the arke] within, and without with bitume. 1610 HOLLAND *Camden's Brit.* i. 519 Coles, being of the nature of hardened Bitumen. 1656 BLOUNT *Glossogr.*, *Bitume*, a kind of clay or slime naturally clammy, like pitch, growing in some Countries of Asia. 1817 BYRON *Manfred* i. 1. 90 The lakes of bitumen rise boilingly higher. 1849 GROTE *Greece* ii. lxx. (1862) VI. 239 [The Wall of Media] was of bricks cemented with bitumen.

2. In modern scientific use, the generic name of certain mineral inflammable substances, native hydrocarbons more or less oxygenated, liquid, semi-solid, and solid, including naphtha, petroleum, asphalt, etc. *Elastic bitumen*: mineral caoutchouc or Elaterite.

1605 TIMME *Quersit.* i. xlii. 52 There are also manie kindes of . . bitumen. 1635 SWAN *Spec. M.* vi. (1643) 297 Naphtha, is a liquid Bitume. 1677 MOXON *Mech. Exerc.* (1703) 243 Morter used . . at Rome . . called Maltha, from a kind of Bitumen Dug there. 1835 *Penny Cycl.* IV. 473/2 Elastic bitumen is soft and elastic like caoutchouc. 1857 PAGR *Adv. Text-bk. Geol.* xx. (1876) 441 The bitumens—naphtha, petroleum, asphalt—have been long known and used in the arts.

3. A pigment prepared from asphalt. 1855 J. EDWARDS *Paint, in Oil* 26 Bitumen . . is Asphaltum ground in strong drying oil . . for the painter's use.

† 4. Used by Turner, for the sap of the birch-tree.

1551 TURNER *Herbal* (1568) F v b, The frenche men seth out of it a certain iuce or suc otherwise called bitumen.

5. *attrib.*

1816 SHELLEY *Alastor* 85 Bitumen lakes. 1837 CARLYLE *Fr. Rev.* III. iii. i. 150 Here lay the bitumen stratum, there the brimstone one.

Bitumene (bitiū'min). *Chem.* [f. BITUM-EN + -ENE, suffix of the hydrocarbon class.] Name given by Berthelot to the least volatile of the hydrocarbons obtained by passing benzene vapour through a red-hot porcelain tube. *Watts Dict. Chem.* 1873 FOWNES *Chem.* 758 Bitumene, a blackish liquid, remains in the retort at a dull red heat, and solidifies on cooling.

Bituminate (bitiū'mināt), *v.* [f. L. *bitūmināt*-ppl. stem of *bitūmināre*, to treat with BITUMEN.] Hence Bituminated *ppl. a.*

† 1. *trans.* To cement with bitumen (as mortar). 1628 FELTHAM *Resolves* i. xlv. (R.) The bituminated walls

of Babylon. 1856 BLOUNT *Glossogr.*, Bituminated, soldered or done with bitumen.

2. To convert into or impregnate with bitumen.

1799 KIRWAN *Geol. Ess.* vi. 294 Trees carbonated, or bituminated sometimes repose on Coal. *Ibid.* 297 A bituminated clay. *Ibid.* 319 This carbonaceous part would never be bituminated and converted into coal if real bitumen were not present.

Bituminiferous (bitiū'mini-fēros), *a.* [f. *L. bitūmin-* + *-iferous*.] Yielding bitumen.

1799 KIRWAN *Geol. Ess.* xiv. 259 Bituminiferous and Cupriferos Sand. 1857 PAGE *Adv. Text-bk. Geol.* xiv. (1876) 251 Caking or coking coal, a highly bituminiferous sort.

Bituminization (bitiū'minīzē'shən), *n.* Also **bituminisation**. [f. next + *-ation*.] The process or state of conversion into bitumen.

1804 in *Phil. Trans.* XCIV. 407 The process of bituminization (if I may be allowed to employ such a term). 1884 *Harper's Mag.* Mar. 522/1 Hard jet is of two distinct formations, being both wood and petroleum, now in a high state of bituminization.

Bituminize (bitiū'minīz), *v.* Also **bitumenise**. [f. *L. bitūmin-* + *-ize*.] *trans.* To convert into, or impregnate with, bitumen; to cover or varnish with bitumen. Hence **Bituminized**, **Bituminizing** *ppl. adjs.*

1751 STACK in *Phil. Trans.* XLVII. 273 Wax bituminized by burning. 1816 *Edin. Rev.* XXVI. 165 Trunks of bituminized wood. 1854 H. MILLER *Footpr. Creat.* x. (1874) 193 Injured by compression or the bituminizing process. 1861 GLADSTONE in *Times* 3 May 6/3 This is a bituminized pipe.

Bituminoid (bitiū'minoid), *a.* [f. as prec. + *-oid*.] Approaching the character of bitumen.

1876 GREEN *Coal* v. 167 It differs very widely from the adjoining bituminoid portions.

Bituminose, *a.* ? Obs. [ad. *L. bitūminōsus*, f. *bitūmin-* BITUMEN: see *-ose*.] = BITUMINOUS. 1691 RAY *Creation* (1714) 87 They [the waters] are .. bituminose.

Bituminous (bitiū'minōs), *a.* Also **7-ēnos**. [a. *f. bitūminēus*, ad. *L. bitūminōsus*: see *-ous*.] 1. Of the nature of or resembling bitumen, consisting of or containing bitumen. (Sometimes with reference to the 'burning lake' of Hell.)

1600 VERNER *Via Recta* Introd. 8 Which rise from sulphurous, bituminous, or metalline places. 1640 JER. TAYLOR *Gr. Exemp.* II. x. 133 The liquid flames of pitch and a bituminous bath. 1667 MILTON *P. L.* XII. 41 The Plain, wherein a black bituminous gurge Boiles out from under ground, the mouth of Hell. 1774 J. BRYANT *Mythol.* I. 279 In Seleucia .. there was a like bituminous eruption. 1826 SCOTT *Woodst.* xvi. Others swore they had smelt savours of various kinds, chiefly bituminous. 1830 M. DONOVAN *Dom. Econ.* I. 135 This coal .. has a bituminous fracture.

b. *spec.* in the scientific or technical names of various minerals, manufactures, etc., as **bituminous coal**, **limestone**, **schist**, **shale**; **cement**, **mastic**.

1830 LYELL *Princ. Geol.* I. 219 Bituminous shales. 1842 MILLER O. R. *Sandst.* II. (ed. 2) 55 Dark-coloured bituminous schist. 1875 *Ure Dict. Arts* I. 755 The bituminous or black cement for bottle-corks consists of pitch hardened by the addition of resin and brick-dust. *Ibid.* III. 119 Bituminous limestone .. containing various hydrocarbon compounds, diffusing by the action of fire a bituminous odour. 1879 *Cassell's Techn. Educ.* I. 67 Bituminous coals .. burn .. with a brilliant flame.

† 2. ? Cemented with bitumen. Obs.

1658 J. BURBURY *Christina Q. Swed.* 112 The walls .. are strong and bituminous and abound with ancient towers. 3. *fig.* (cf. *sulphurous*.)

1876 N. Amer. *Rev.* 329 It is only about a hundred years since Jonathan Edwards dropped his bituminous rhetoric upon the tender sensibilities of the unconverted.

† **Bitun**, *v.* Obs. Forms: 1 **bitun**, 2-3 **bitun(en, -tuinen)**. [OE., f. *bi-* BE- + *tynan* (== *OTeut. tñian*), f. *tun* enclosure, TOWN; cf. Du. *betuinen*, OHG. *biānen*, MHG. *beziunen*.] *trans.* To enclose; to shut up.

c 1000 *Ag. Gosp.* Matt. xxi. 33 Sum hircos caldor wæs, se plantode win-gerd, and betynde hyne. c 1175 *Lamb. Hom.* 83 þe muclehe laured .. bitunde him solue in ane meidenes inlepe. a 1225 *Ancre R.* 164 Ancren wise, þet habbeð wel bituned ham ægin þe helle leun. 1250 *Lav.* 1919t 3e þisne castel: bitunep swiþe faste.

Biturn(en, obs. form of RETURN.

Bituxen, *n.* **twexen**, **twixen**, *n.* **twuxen**, variants of **BETWIXEN** *prep.* Obs.

† **Bitwixes**, *prep.* Obs. [ME. for **bitwixes*, **bitwixes*, f. *bitwix*, *betwix* + genitival *-es*: it is the *-es* form corresponding to *bitwix-en*: see **BETWIXEN**.] = **BETWIXT**, **BETWEEN**.

c 1300 *Thrusk & Night* 7 in *Hazl. E. P. P.* 50 Hic herde a strif betwixes two.

† **Bitwih**, *prep.* Obs. [OE. Anglian *bi-*, *betwih*, Saxon *betwih*, *-twioh*, *-twuh*, *-tuh*, *-twioh*, *-twyh*, f. *bi-*, BE *prep.* + *twh*, etc., prob. shortened from the old accusative form **twhinn* (*twhinn*, *twiohn*; *twhon*, *twhon*) mentioned as one of the sources of **BETWEEN**. The original construction of *twh* is seen in the phrase *mid unc twih* 'amid us twain', i.e. 'between us'; from a parallel *bi (unc) twih*, *bi twih*, came the combined *betwih*. In *bitwih*, the *-t* must have been added on the analogy of *betwixt*. Only in OE.; superseded in ME. by the expanded form **BETWIXEN**.] = **BETWIXT**, **BETWEEN**. c 888 K. ÆLFRED *Boeth.* xxxix. § 13 Sio sunne and se mona

habbaþ todeled betwuh him þone dæg and þa niht. c 893 — *Oros.* I. iii. § 1 Betuh Arabia and Palestina. c 950 *Lindisf. Gosp.* Luke x. 3 Ic sendo iuih sua lombro bituih [*Ruskw. bitwih*]ulfum. a 1000 *Boeth. Metr.* xxviii. 104 Betweoh him.

† **Bitwihen**, **twiwe**, *prep.* Obs. Forms: 1 **bitwihen**, 2-3 **bitwihen**, 3 **bitwihen**, *-twiwe*, *-tuh(h)en*, *-tuh(h)se*, *-twhwe*. [First found in 12th c. as *bitwihan*; it took the place of OE. *bitwih*, of which it was apparently a later extension, in accordance with the analogy of *betwix*, *betwixan*, *betweon*, *betweonan*. The variant *bitwizen* appears to have been influenced by *twezen* TWAIN; cf. also **BITWEIES**.] = **BETWIXT**, **BETWEEN**.

c 1175 *Lamb. Hom.* 37 He is iset bi-twihan god almihtin and þe. c 1205 *Lav.* 784 Lufe þe us bi-twizen līð. *Ibid.* 20947 Bitwize Angielonde and Normandie. a 1240 *Sauvies Warde in Cott. Hom.* 255 Bitwihen heard ant nesche, bituhte wa of his world ant to moche wunne. a 1250 *Ouel & Night* 1747 Maister Nichole. Bitwihen us deme schule.

Bityl, **Bityme**, obs. forms of **BETLE**, **BETIME**. **Biuncinate** (bi'i'nsinēt), *a.* [f. *Bi-* pref.² I + *UNGINATE*, ad. *L. uncinatus* hooked, f. *uncus* hook, barb.] Having two hooks or barbs.

1854 DANA *Crust.* II. 905 Biuncinate at apex.

Biunguiculate (bi'i'ngwi'ki'let), *a.* [f. *Bi-* pref.² I + *UNGUICULATE*, f. *L. unguiculus*, dim. of *unguis* nail, claw.] Having two little claws.

1854 DANA *Crust.* II. 935 The outer [branch] .. at apex bi-unguiculate, claws recurved.

Bi-unial (bi'i'niāl), *a.* [f. *Bi-* pref.² 6 + *L. un-us* one + *-ial*.] Consisting of two (e.g. optic tubes) combined in one.

1883 *Eng. Mechanic* 6 Apr. 104 The expensive lanterns of the bi-unial and triple types.

Bi-unity. ? Obs. [f. *Bi-* pref.² II + *UNITY*.] A unity or oneness of two members or parts.

1646 *Game at Scotch & Eng.* 8 This unity .. admits of no addition; for so the property of that Bi-unity were lost.

Biurne, **-an**, **-on**, *pa. t. & pple.* of **BURN** *v.* Obs.

Bivalency (bi'vālēnsi), *Chem.* [f. next; see *-ENCY*.] The quality of being bivalent.

1880 CLEMENSHAW *Wurtz' Atom. The.* 181 The bivalency of certain metals.

Bivalent (bi'vālēt), *a.* *Chem.* [f. *Bi-* pref.² III + *-valent*, ad. *L. valentem*, pr. pple. of *valere* to be worth.] Combining with two atoms of an element or radicle; also *divalent*.

1869 *Eng. Mechanic* 12 Nov. 1883 The elements are classified as .. diatomic or bivalent .. as sulphur. 1880 CLEMENSHAW *Wurtz' Atom. The.* 121 Mercury, cadmium, and probably other bivalent metals.

Bivalve (bi'vælv), *a.* and *sb.* [f. *Bi-* pref.² I + *VALVE*, ad. *L. valvæ* folds of a door, folding-doors.] *A. adj.*

† 1. Having two leaves or folding parts, as a shutter or door. Obs.

1677 *Plot Oxfordsh.* 271 Great bivalve wooden Windows.

2. *Zool.* Having two shells united by a hinge.

1661 LOVELL *Hist. Anim. & Min.* Introd. Fishes which are .. bivalve, as the Chama, oyster, pectines. 1756 C. LUCAS *Ess. Waters* III. 123 Several small bivalve shells. 1848 CARPENTER *Anim. Phys.* 33 The ligament which holds together the shells of the bivalve Mollusca.

3. *Bot.* (A seed vessel) Having two valves.

1737 MILLER *Gard. Dict.* s.v. *Chelidonium majus*, The Flowers .. are succeeded by many bivalve Pods. 1794 MARTYN *Rousseau's Bot.* xvi. 191 The capsule bivalve.

B. *sb.* 1. *pl.* Folding-doors. Obs. exc. *Hist.*

1834 GELL *Pompeiana* I. ii. 22 Doors seem to have been called bivalves where only formed of two folds.

2. *Zool.* A molluscous animal having a shell consisting of two halves joined together by an elastic ligament at the hinge, so as to open and shut like a book: such as the oyster, mussel, etc. Also the shell of such animal.

1683 *Phil. Trans.* XIV. 507 Distinction of shells into Univalves Bivalves and Turbinate. 1771 *Ibid.* LXI. 230 Four .. species, like the sea bivalve. 1847 CARPENTER *Zool.* § 876 Lamellibranchiata .. To this group belong all ordinary bivalves. 1865 TYLOR *Early Hist. Man.* viii. 192 The refuse-mounts consist of oysters, mussels, and other bivalves.

3. *Bot.* A bivalve capsule or seed-vessel.

Bivalved, *a.* [f. as prec. + *-ED*.] = **BIVALVE** *a.*

a. in *Zool.*; *b.* in *Bot.*

a. 1755 *Centl. Mag.* XXV. 31 A shell is said to be bivalved when it consists of two parts or leaves. 1872 NICHOLSON *Palaeont.* 150 Small Bivalved Crustaceans.

b. 1854 E. HAMILTON *Flora Homacop.* 185 A thin, bivalved, white, ligneous shell (endocarp).

Bivalvular, *rare*. = **BIVALVE** *sb.* 2.

1863 RUSSELL *Diary North & S.* 274 We went into one of the great oyster saloons, and .. had the opportunity of tasting those great bivalvians.

Bivalvous (bi'vælvəs), *a.* [f. *BIVALVE* + *-OUS*.] = **BIVALVE** *a.*

1696 *Phil. Trans.* XIX. 188 Testaceous Animals of the turbinate and bivalvous kinds. [In mod. Dicts.]

Bivalvular (bi'vælv'ylār), *a.* (and *sb.*) [f. *Bi-* pref.² I + *VALVULAR*.] = **BIVALVE** *a.* in *Zool.*; also quasi-*sb.*; *b.* in *Bot.*

a. 1677 *Plot Oxfordsh.* 100 The bivalvular Conchæ, such as Cockles. 117 Bivalvulars .. found with their shells apart. b. 1830 LINDLEY *Nat. Syst. Bot.* 294 Those species of Panicum that have the lower flower neuter and bivalvular.

Bivaulted: see *Bi-* pref.² I.

† **Bive**, *v.* Obs. Forms: 1 **bifan**, **beffan**, **byfan**, **beofan**, 3 **beouien**, **buuien**, **biuien**. [Com. Teut.: OE. *bifan* = OS. *bifon* (MDu., Du. *beven*), OHG. *bibēn* (MHG. *biben*, mod.G. *beben*), ON. *bifa*:—*OTeut. *bīdai-*, identified by Kluge with Skr. *bīhēmi*, reduplicated pres. of *bhi* to fear. Cf. **BEE**, **BEVER** *v.* 2.] *intr.* To shake, tremble.

c 888 K. ÆLFRED *Boeth.* xxxv. § 6 þa wudas bifodon. c 1000 *Ag. Ps.* xcvi. 9 For his ansyne sceal eorðe beofian. c 1160 *Halton Gosp.* Matt. xxvii. 51 Sio eorðe befode [r. r. byfode], and stanes toburstun. c 1205 *Lav.* 23530 Burhmen gunnen beouien [1250 buie]. *Ibid.* 28084 þa gon ich to biuien: swulc ich al fur burne. c 1250 *Gen. & Ex.* 2280 Wot ic þor mon ðat he ne biueð.

Biventer (bi'ventər), *Phys.* [f. *Bi-* pref.² II + *L. venter* belly.] A muscle, distinguished by its two bellies or bulges; esp. the digastric muscle.

1706 in PHILLIPS. 1740 B. MARTIN *Bibl. Technol.* xi. (ed. 2) 371 Muscles .. as the Biventer, which hath two Bellies. 1843 J. WILKINSON *Swedish Anim. Kingd.* I. ii. 62 The biventer, or digastricus .. arises from the incisure under the mastoid process.

Biventral (bi'ventrəl), *a.* *Phys.* [f. *Bi-* pref.² I + *VENTRAL*; see *prec.*] Having two bellies; digastric.

1706 in PHILLIPS. 1839-47 *Todd Cycl. Anat. & Phys.* III. 689/2 Behind the amygdala is the biventral lobe.

† **Biventrous**, *a.* *Phys.* Obs. [See *prec.*] Having two ventricles.

1706 W. COWPER in *Phil. Trans.* XXIII. 1182 All Animals, that have Biventrous Hearts.

Biverb (bi'verb), *rare*. [f. *Bi-* pref.² + *L. verbum* word.] A name composed of two words.

1831 SIR W. R. HAMILTON in *Life* (1882) I. 457 [In a letter to Lord Adare] My dear Adare (you see that .. your name is not with me, a biverb any longer).

Biverbal (bi'verbəl), *a.* *rare*. [f. *Bi-* pref.² 6 + *VERBAL*; cf. *prec.*] Relating to two words; punning.

1853 LAMB *Elia* Ser. II. xxiv. 411 This biverbal allusion.

Bivial (bi'viāl), *a.* *Phys.* [f. *BIVI-UM* + *-AL*.] Of or pertaining to the *bivium*.

1877 HUXLEY *Anat. Inv. An.* 570 The bivial ambulacra.

Bivious (bi'viəs), *a.* [f. *L. bivius* having two ways or passages (f. *bi-* two + *via* way) + *-OUS*.] 'That leadeth (two) different ways' (T.); having or offering two ways or courses.

a 1644 QUARLES *Virgin Wid.* III. i, I stand even balanc'd .. Beneath the burden of a bivious brest. 1682 SIR T. BROWNE *Chr. Mor.* (1756) 86 In bivious theorems .. let virtuous considerations state the determination. 1719 J. AUBREY *Surrey* IV. 189 This Vault is bivious.

|| **Bivium** (bi'viəm), *Phys.* [a. *L. bivium* a place where two ways meet; see *prec.*] The two hinder ambulacra of Echinoderms.

1877 HUXLEY *Anat. Inv. An.* ix. 570 It is possible in any of the Echinidea, to separate the three anterior ambulacra, as the *trivium*, from the two posterior, the *bivium*; and in the fossil genus *Dysaster*, this separation of the ambulacra into *trivium* and *bivium* exists naturally.

Bivocal (bi'vōkəl), [f. *Bi-* pref.² II + *VOCAL*, ad. *L. vocalis* adj. 'of the voice, vocal', *sb.* 'a vowel', f. *vox* VOICE.] A combination of two vowels, a diphthong. **Bivo-calized** *ppl. a.*, placed between two vowels.

1813 J. C. HOBHOUSE *Journey* 1098 Vossius .. the principal advocate of the ancient bivocals. 1876 DOUSE *Grimm's L.* App. D. 199 The softening process clearly originated .. in the interior or bivocalized position.

Bivon, variant of **BEPONG** *v.* Obs. to grasp.

Bivouac (bi'vwek, bi'vuæk), *Forms:* 8 **bi-ouac**, **bihovac**, **biovac**, 9 **bivouack**, **bivouack**, (**bivouake**), **bivouaque**, 8- **bivouac**. [In Dictionaries since c 1700, but hardly in use before the French War: a. *F. bivouac*, *bivac*, generally said to have been introduced during the Thirty Years' War. It has with probability been referred to a dialectal (Swiss) Ger. *beiwacht*, according to Stalder, *Versuch eines Schweizerischen Idiotikon* (1812) II. 426, used in Aargau and Zürich to denote the patrol of citizens (*Schaarwache*) added (*beigegeben*) to assist the ordinary town watch by night at any time of special commotion. This remaining of a large body of men under arms all night explains the original sense of bivouac.]

1. *Mil.* Originally, a night-watch by a whole army under arms, to prevent surprise; now, a temporary encampment of troops in the field with only the accidental shelter of the place, without tents, etc.; also the place of such encampment.

1706 PHILLIPS, *Bionac* or *Bihovac*, an extraordinary Guard perform'd by the whole Army, when .. it .. continues all night under Arms. to prevent Surprise, etc. To Raise the Bivouac, is to return the Army to their Tents, or Huts, some time after break of Day. 1753 CHAMBERS *Cycl. Suppl.*, *Bivouac*, *bivouac*, *bivouac* .. is formed by corruption from the German *beiwacht*, a double watch or guard; *Freiwach*. 1754 JOHN-SON, *Bivouac*, *bihovac*, *bivouac* [as in Phillips]. 'Not in use.' 1772 SIMES *Milit. Guide*, *Bivouac*, a night guard, performed by the whole army, when there is any danger from the enemy. 1811 WELLINGTON in *Gurw. Disp.* VIII. 21 The bivouac which Hill quitted this morning appears to be an excellent situation for the cavalry to-morrow. 1813 *Examiner* 7 June 356/1 (transl. from French), The army had taken its

bivouaques. 1850 Prescott *Peru* II. 151 Almagro, afraid of stumbling on the enemy's bivouac. 1885 *Times* 16 May 7/1 Our troops recrossed... and went into bivouac. fig. 1839 Longf. *Ps. Life* v. In the world's broad field of battle, In the bivouac of life.

2. *transf.* An encampment for the night in the open air; a camping out.

1853 De Quincy *Sp. Mil. Nun* § 6. 11 Withered leaves, which furnished to Kate her very first bivouac. 1872 C. King *Sierra Nev.* iii. 49 Morning dawned brightly upon our bivouac among a cluster of dark firs.

Bivouac, *v.* [f. prec. sb.]

1. *Mil.* Of troops: To remain, *esp.* during the night, in the open air, without tents or covering. Also *To be bivouacked*: to be so posted or disposed.

1809 Sir J. Moore *To Ld. Castlereagh* 13 Jan., In two forced marches, bivouacking for six or eight hours in the rain, I reached Betanzos on the 10th instant. 1815 J. Croker in *Croker Papers* (1884) I. iii. 61 The Carrousel, where about 2000 Prussians are bivouacked. 1882 Pebody *Eng. Journalism* xxii. 180 As if the British army were bivouacked on the Hog's Back.

2. *transf.* To rest or pass the night in the open air. 1814 Scott *Wav.* II. i. 8 These distinguished personages bivouacked among the flowery heath, wrapped up in their plaids. 1860 Tyndall *Glac.* I. § 3. 29 That night we bivouacked together.

Hence **Bivouacking** *vbl. sb.*

1818 *Examiner* 7 Dec. 771/2 Night bivouacings are very injurious. 1861 C. Anderson *Okavango Riv.* xvii. 192 We could not have selected a worse spot for bivouacking.

Biw-: see BEW-, BYW-.

† **Biwait**, *v.* Obs. [f. *bi-*, BE- + WAIT; cf. AWAIT *v.*] a. *trans.* To watch, look at. b. *intr.* To look about or out, be circumspect.

1550 Owl & Night. 1322 Hwat canstu wrecche þing of steorre Bute þat þu biwaitest (MSS. bihaiteſt) hi feorre. c. 1456 *How wise Man taught Son* 92 in Hazl. E. P. P. I. 173 Thou wyse bywait, and wele awaye.

Biway, *biword*: see BY-.

Biweekly, **Biwhirl**: see BI-*pref.* 4, 1.

Biwelle, **biweep**, etc.: see BEWAIL, etc.

† **Biwere**, *v.* Obs. Forms: 1 *bewerian*, 2-3 *biwerian*. [OE. *bewerian* = OHG. *biwarjan*, *biwerjan*, MHG. *beweren*, mod.G. *bewehren*, f. *bi-*, BE- + OTeut. *warjan*, OHG. *warian*, *wegian*, ON. *verja*, OE. *wegian* to defend, protect: see WERE.] *trans.* To defend, shield, protect.

1000 *Ælfric Ex.* ii. 17 Ða aras Moises & bewerde þa madenu. c. 1175 *Lamb. Hom.* 115 He scal biwerian wide-wan and steopbern. a. 1250 Owl & Night. 1126 Ðu... mid þine ateliche sweore Biwerest manne corn from deore.

† **Biwern**, *v.* Obs. [f. *bi-*, BE- + WERN *v.* to refuse.] *trans.* To refuse or deny.

1213 *Lydg. Pylgr. Soule* l. xv. (1859) 14 Was neuer done yet, to whom it was biwernyd.

† **Biweve**, *v.* 1. Obs. Forms: 1-2 *bewēfan*, (2) *bewafen*, 3 *biwefen*, -*wæuen*, -*wæiuen*, 3-5 *bi-*, *byweuen*, -*ven*. [OE. *bewēfan* = Goth. *biwāifjan*, f. *be-*, *bi-*, BE- + *wāifjan*, in OE. *wāifan* to wind.]

1. *trans.* To wrap up, envelop, clothe.

1000 *Ælfric Gen.* xxiv. 65 Heo nam rabe hyre wæfels and bewæfde hig. c. 1205 *LAV.* 28475 Me hire hafð bi-wefde mid ane hall rite. c. 1314 *Guy Warw.* 303 Poverliche he was biweved.

fig. c. 1205 *LAV.* 130 Mid wintre he was biweaved. c. 1275 in *O.E. Misc.* 55 Fort ye beon byweved of heueliche myhte.

2. To entwine, weave.

c. 1300 *K. Alis.* 4085 The croune, of gold byweved, He set on his fadir heved. c. 1400 *Rowland & Ol.* 1202 With golde abowte it was by-wevede.

† **Biweve**, *v.* 2. Obs. [f. *bi-*, BE- + ME. *weven* to twist, hurl: see WEVE.]

1. *trans.* To whirl or drive away.

a. 1300 *Cursor M.* 24109 Misoru... Biwist þat word awai.

2. *intr.* To hurry away.

c. 1205 *LAV.* 30856 Forð he bi-wafde, Þene pic he bilafde.

† **Biwihele**, *v.* Obs. Also *biwijelien*. [f. *bi-*, BE- + ME. *wijelien*:-OE. *wigelian* to soothsay.] To overcome by witchcraft; to bewitch.

c. 1205 *LAV.* 669 Heo willeð us biwijelien [c. 1250 *bi-cheorre*] þurh heora wileðe craftes. a. 1225 *Juliana* 56 Wenestu þat we beon so eð to biwihelen [v. r. biwihelin].

† **Biwile**, *v.* Obs. Also 4 *bi-*, *bywylen*. [f. *bi-*, BE- + WILE *v.* Cf. BEGUILE.] *trans.* To overcome with wiles, ensnare, beguile.

a. 1275 *Prov. Alfred* 327 in *O.E. Misc.* 123 Hue weped ofer wile, þen hue þe wille biwilen. a. 1300 *Cursor M.* 28522 Wende i woman to be wile. c. 1340 *Gaw. & Gr. Knt.* 2425 Alle þay were biwyled With wynnmen.

† **Biwit**, *v.* Obs. Pa. t. *biwiste*, -*wuste*. Pa. pple. *biwist*, -*wust*. [OE. *bewitan*, f. *bi-*, BE- + OE. *witan* to look.] *trans.* To look after, keep, take charge of, guard, protect, keep in safety.

c. 1000 *Ælfric St. Oswald* in *Sweet Reader* 97/76 An ðæs cyniges þe 3na ðe his ælmeſſan bewiste. c. 1175 *Lamb. Hom.* 23 Ðu scoldest heo [þi limen] biwiten al swa clenliche swa crist ha þe bitahte. c. 1275 *Pass. Our Lord* 538 in *O.E. Misc.* 52 Hyne biwusten knyhtes voure oper vyue.

¶ Also found with strong inflexions, apparently by form-association: see next, and cf. AT-WITE.

c. 1205 *LAV.* 13028 He... spæc wið þæne abboð þe þat munster biwat. *Ibid.* 20505 Twa hundred scipene: þer weoren wel biwitene.

† **Biwite**, *v.* Obs. [A strong vb.: cf. OE. *gewitan* to depart.] *intr.* To go, go away.

c. 1300 *K. Alis.* 5203 That no man ne shulde y-wite, Whiderward hy were biwite.

† **Biwiti(e)**, *v.* Obs. Also *biwittien*, -*wittejen*, -*wittejen*. [OE. *bewitian*, f. *bi-*, BE- + *wittian*: see WITIE.] *trans.* To watch over, observe, guard, keep.

c. 1200 *Beowulf* 2860 Ða [nicras] on undern mæl 'oft bewitizad sorhfulne sið on sægl-rade. c. 1200 *Trin. Coll. Hom.* 195 Ðe deuel... is gredi uppen worlde richeise... and ziep him to biwitiende. c. 1205 *LAV.* 27198 Bi-halues he sende... wel iwepene men þene wude to bi-wittejen.

† **Biwlaſſe**, *v.* Obs. [A confusion of *bewraſſe* and *laſſe*, ME. *lappen*.] = BEWRAP.

1388 *Wyclif Job* xviii. 11 Dredis...schulen biwlaſſe hise feet [v. r. bewrappe].

† **Biwrenche**, *v.* Obs. [OE. *bewrencan*, f. BE- + *wrencan* to WRENCH.] To cheat, deceive. a. 1225 *Anscr. R.* 92 3e schulen iseon alle þes deofes wicles: hu he biwrencheð & bicherreð wrecches.

Biwreo, -*wrien*, var. BEWRY *v.* Obs. to cover.

† **Biwrixle**, *v.* Obs. [ME., f. *bi-*, BE- + WRIXLEN, OE. *wrixlan*, -*ian*, to change.] *trans.* To change, transform.

a. 1225 *Anscr. R.* 262 He... scheaweð him to ou flesliche and licamliche iðe messe, biwrien [biwrixlet] hauh, in oðres like—under breades heouwe. *Ibid.* 310 He is him sult al biwrixled, & bicumen, of Godes child, þes deofes bearn.

¶ **Bixa** (*biksā*). [Native name in Central America.] A genus of small trees, natives of tropical America, from the fruits of one species of which (*B. orellana*) the dye anatta is prepared. Hence **Bixia**, a. The colouring principle of anatta; b. A variety of anatta of greatly increased colouring power.

1870 *Watts Dict. Chem.* I. 600. 1880 *Syd. Soc. Lex. s.v.* [Bixwort, 'an herb,' is apparently an error of some kind, in Phillips 1706, and Bailey's Folio of 1730, whence copied by Johnson and modern dictionaries. It is unknown to the herbalists.]

Biys, var. of BYSS 'fine linen.' Obs.

† **Biſule**, *v.* Obs. [for *bi-ſule*(n), f. *bi-*, BE- + *ſule*(n)-OE. **gēolēlian*, in *gēolēlere* a juggler, cogn. w. OHG. *gungulāri*, mod.G. *gaukler*.] *trans.* To BEGUILE.

a. 1225 *Anscr. R.* 268 Vor þet is his unwrenh... þet he haeuð monie holi men girmliche biſuled. a. 1225 *Leg. Kath.* 1054 þurh wileles & wichecretes wurched Summe wundres & biſuled [v. r. biſulid] unwiten.

Bisant, **Bisantine**, obs. ff. BEZANT, BYZANTINE.

Bizarre (*bizā*), or as Fr. *bizar*), a. and sb. Also 7 *bizare*, *bizzar*. [mod.Eng. (17th c.), a. F. *bizarre* 'odd, fantastic,' formerly 'brave, soldier-like'; cf. Sp. and Pg. *bizarro* 'handsome, brave,' lit. *bizzarro* 'angry, choleric,' dial. Fr. (Berry) *bigearrer* to quarrel. Littré suggests that the Spanish word is an adaptation of Basque *bizarra* beard, in the same manner as *hombre de bigote* mustached man, is used in Sp. for a 'man of spirit'; but the history of the sense has not been satisfactorily made out.

1667 *Evelyn Mem.* (1857) III. 161 We have hardly any words that do so fully express the French... *naivete*, *ennui*, *bizarre*, *concert*, *emotion*, *deſer*, *effort*. let us therefore (as the Romans did the Greek) make as many of these do homage as are like to prove good citizens.]

1. At variance with recognized ideas of taste, departing from ordinary style or usage; eccentric, extravagant, whimsical, strange, odd, fantastic.

a. 1648 Ld. Herbert *Life*, Her attire seemed as bizarre as her person. 1668 *Dryden Maid. Queen Pref.*, The Ornament of Writing, which is greater, more various and bizarre in Poésie than in any other kind. 1757 *Hume Stand. Taste*, *Ess.* (1875) I. 270 Ariosto pleases; but not... by his bizarre mixture of the serious and comic styles. 1825 *Scott Talism.* (1863) 42 Such oddity of gestures and manner as befitted their bizarre and fantastic appearance. 1879 *Farrar St. Paul* I. 352 The bizarre superstitions by which he was surrounded.

b. *esp.* At variance with the standard of ideal beauty or regular form; grotesque, irregular.

1824 *Dibdin Libr. Comp.* 577 The bizarre wooden cuts of Caxton. 1851 *Ruskin Stones Ven.* I. xi. § 14 If the arch be of any bizarre form, especially ogee. 1861 *N. Woods Pr. Wales in Canada* 359 The capitol is a bizarre Græco-American building which runs much to windows.

c. *absol.* or quasi-sb.

1850 *Leitch tr. Müller's Anc. Art* § 99 An intentional striving at the bizarre. 1851 *R. Wornum Exhib. a Lesson in Taste* 5/2 In the Renaissance [architecture], we have... a prevalence of the bizarre and a love of profusion of parts.

2. *Hort.* Applied to variegated species of garden flowers, as tulips and carnations. Often as sb.

1753 *Chambers Cycl. Supp.*, Bizarre, a term used among the florists for a particular kind of carnation, which has its flowers striped or variegated with three or four colours. 1843 *Penny Cycl.* XXV. 343/2 Bizarre tulips have a yellow ground marked with purple or scarlet of different shades. 1883 *Athenæum* 30 June 825/3 The 'streaked gillyflower' is the clove so crossed as to become a 'bizarre.'

¶ **Bizarrie** (*bizā*, *rizā*, *bizā-rēri*). [F. *bizarrie*.] Bizarre quality.

1741-70 *Lett. Mrs. Carter* (1808) 207 The bizzarries which arise from the mixture of good and bad which makes up

the composition of most folks. 1828 *Scott Tapestr. Chamber*, Rich in all the bizzarrie of the Elizabethan school. 1844 *For. Q. Rev.* XXXIII. 60 Bizzarries. 1858 *Bagehot Lit. Studies* II. 194 The bizzarrie of Mr. Dickens's genius.

Biscacha variant of BISCACHA.

Bise, obs. form of BICE.

Bizel, -le, obs. forms of BEZEL, BEZZLE.

Bizygomatic (*bai:zigomā:tik*), a. [f. *Bi- pref.* 2 + ZYGOMATIC.] Joining the two zygomatic arches.

1878 *Bartley tr. Topinard's Anthropol.* II. ii. 252 The maximum transverse or bizygomatic diameter of the face.

Bizz, -ard, -ie, Sc. ff. of BUZZ, BUZZARD, BUST.

Bl(a), **Blaad**: see BLAE, BLAD, BLADE.

Blab (*blæb*), sb.¹ Forms: 4-7 *blabbe*, C-*blab*. [The history of *blab* and *blabber*, and the question of their mutual relations, if any, is very obscure. *Blabbe* sb. 'chatterer' occurs in Chaucer c. 1374, and is very common thenceforth; *blab* sb. 'chatter, loose talk' is in *Tale of Beryn* (c. 1400), but has not been found elsewhere before the 16th c., when appears also *blab* vb. 'to chatter' (1535), followed in course by its agent noun *blabber*. But the vb. *blabber* is earlier than any of these; it occurs in *Piers Ploughman* (1362), and is (with its deriv. *blabberer*) very common in Wyclif; the facts thus forbid us to take *blabber* as a frequentative derivative of *blab* vb.; while no analogy exists for the formation of either (of the only two early words) *blabbe* sb., *blabber* vb., from the other. It would be hardly justifiable to assume *blabbe* to be a 14th c. abbreviation of *blabberer*. For forms akin to *blabber* in other langs. see that word. With *blabbe* we have to compare a sb. *labbe* 'revealer of secrets, blabber,' in Chaucer, and a vb. *labbe* of same age in P. Ploughman, with pple. *labbyng* 'blabbing, open-mouthed,' also in Chaucer, identical with ODu. *labben* to chatter 'garrire' (Stratm.). *Blabbe* might be a mixed form due to association of *labbe* and *blabber*; but may also be purely onomatopoeic. Cf. BABBLE.]

1. An open-mouthed person, one who has not sufficient control over his tongue; a revealer of secrets or of what ought to be kept private; a babbler, tattler, or tell-tale; used also of the tongue. (Exceedingly common in 16th and 17th c.; unusual in literature since c. 1750.) c. 1374 Chaucer *Troilus* III. 251 Proverbis canst thi self ynow, and wost Ayeinst that vice for to bene a labbe. c. 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 37 *Blabbe*, *labbe*, wreyare of counselle, *futillis*, *anubicus*. 1496 *Dives & Paup.* (W. de W.) v. iv. 199/2 Thou shalt be noo tale teller ne labbe to defame man or woman falsely. 1535 *Coverdale Prov.* xvi. 29 He y^e is a labbe of his tonge, maketh deuyſion amonge prynces. 1577 *Holmes Chron.* IV. 933 Now I will plaie the lab. 1583 *Stanyhurst Æneis* IV. (Arb.) 105 Fame, the lab vnciuil. 1600 *Heywood a Edw. IV.* 148 This tongue was never knowne to be a lab. 1656 *Dugard Gate Lat. Unt.* § 644. 197 A long-tongued blab, uttering the secrets committed to him. 1671 *Milton Samson* 491 To be excluded all friendship, and avoided as a lab. 1853 *C. Auchester* I. 290 Miss Lawrence is a lab. 1869 *Spurgeon J. Ploughm. Talk* 42 Some men are quite as bad blabs as the women.

2. Loose talk or chatter; babbling; divulging of secrets. c. 1400 *Beryn* 3022 Leve thy blab, lewd fole! 1548 *Hall Chron. Rich.* 171 an. 2 If he had taryed styl, the duke had not made so many blabbes of his counsaill. a. 1604 *Hanner Chron. Irel.* (1633) 127 Thus the blabbe of his tongue, turned to his confusion. 1679 *Observ. last Dutch Wars* 8 You with your blustering blabs. 1863 *W. Whitman Elem. Drifts* 2 All that blab whose echoes recoil on me.

3. ? as *adj.* Incontinent of speech. Obs.

1554 *Huloet*, *Blabbe*, *linguax*. 1590 *Greene Mourne. Garm.* (1616) 20 Fame is blab. 1598 *Sylvester Du Bartas* (1621) 250 Phrenzic, that makes the vaunter insolent; The talk-full, blab.

4. *Comb.* See after BLAB *v.*

† **Blab**, sb.² Obs. exc. dial. [A variant of BLEB, BLOB.] A bubble; a blister, a swelling.

1656 *Trapp Comm. Acts* viii. 9 Such a blab the devil had blown up there, as a small wind may blow up a bubble. 1861 *Ramsay Remin.* v. (ed. 18) 115 I've had... the blabs [note, Nettle-rash].

Hence **Blab-lipped** = BLABBER-LIPPED.

c. 1430 *Chester Pl.* (1878) 41 If any blabb-lipped boyes be in my way They shall rue it by mighty Mahowne. 1591 *Harington Orf. Fur.* XLIII. cxxviii, Blab-lipt, beetle-browd, and bottle-nosed.

Blab, *v.* 1. Also 6-7 *blabb(e)*, (6) *blobbe*. [App. f. *blabbe*, *BLAB* sb.¹; prob. under the influence of *BLABBER* *v.*] To talk or utter as a blab.

† 1. *trans.* To utter with open mouth; usually with *out*. Also *absol.* To talk much or ineptly; to chatter, babble, 'blether.' Obs.

1535 *Coverdale Prov.* xv. 2 A foolish mouth blabbeth out nothinge but foolishnesse [1568 *Bishops*, *babbleth*; 1611 *poureth out*, *marg.* Heb. *belcheth* or *bubbleth*]. 1570 *Levin's Mani.* 1 *Blab*, *garrire*, *multiloqui*. 1598 *Deloneye Jacke Newb.* vii. 87 He blabbed out this broken English.

2. *trans.* To open one's mouth about (a thing better kept in); to tell, or reveal indiscreetly.

1583 *Stanyhurst Æneis* II. (Arb.) 48, I do hold yt lawfull

.. to blab theyre secrecy priuat. 1589 *Paphe v. Hatchet* B iij b, He blabb all, and not sticke to tell. 1591 *Tronb. Raigue K. John* (1611) 22 Must I recount my shame, Blab my misdeeds? 1618 R. CARPENTER *Soules Sent.* 101 To blab or blaze a dead mans follies. 1660 *Suetnam Arraign'd* (1880) 28 What will not women blab to those they love. 1741 RICHARDSON *Pamela* 1. 38 It will be said I blab every thing. 1834 PRINGLE *Afr. Sk.* xiv. 459 One of the Boors... afterwards blabbed the real facts of the transaction. 1848 MACAULAY *Hist. Eng.* II. 179 This pushing talkative divine, who was always blabbing secrets.

b. Often with out (forth, abroad).

1548 UDALL *Erasm. Par. Matt.* xiii. 44 He blabbeth it not abroad to others. 1580 NORTH *Plutarch* (1676) 822 He blabbed not out all the conspiracy. 1635 Camden's *Hist. Elis.* III. 269 He had blabbed forth somewhat to the prejudice of the King. 1741 R. BLAIR *Grave* 433 Oh! that some courteous ghost would blab it out. 1869 DIXON *Tower* (1870) II. xiv. 141 He blabbed out the secret to his priest.

3. *intr.* To talk indiscreetly about what should be kept secret, to reveal or betray secrets.

1601 SHAKS. *Twel. N.* i. ii. 63 When my tongue blabs, then let mine eyes not see. 1733 SWIFT *Poetry Wks.* 1755 IV. i. 188 If you blab, you are undone. 1747 B. HOADLY *Suppl. Husb.* III. ii. Mum's the Word, I never blab. 1864 CARLYLE *Fred. Gr.* IV. II. 18 His Brother... had blabbed upon the Prince. 1890 LOWELL *Among my Bks.* Ser. i. (1873) 202 We certainly should not have guessed it, if he had not blabbed.

4. *trans. (transf.)* To reveal otherwise than by talking; to betray, bewray.

1597 SHAKS. 2 *Hen. IV.* III. i. 154 Beauforts red sparkling eyes blab his hearts mallice. 1646 J. HALL *Poems* i. 14 His age is blab'd by silver haire. 1654 E. JOHNSON *Wond.-wkg. Provid.* 103 Least his watry eyes would blab abroad the secret conjunction of his affections.

5. *Comb.*, as *blab-mouth*, *-tongue*.

1600 S. NICHOLSON *Acolastus* (1876) 14 O blab-tongue Tantalus, why dost not eat? 1683 CHALKHILL *Theatma & Cl.* 34 Report, the blab-tongue of those tell-tale times. 1865 *Washington Star* 29 Apr., Such a shallow-pated blab-mouth.

† **Blab**, *v.* 2 *Obs.* [f. *BLAB* *sb.* 2; cf. *BLEB*, *BLOB*.] *trans.* To swell, make swollen (the cheeks). Hence *Blabbed* *ppl. a.*

1601 HOLLAND *Pliny* I. 427 Some of them looke pale, with a pale of flaggie blab-cheeks. 1719 RAMSAY *Content Wks.* 148 I. 148 [She] Blabs her fair cheeks till she is almost blind. Poor Phillis' death the briny pearl demands.

Blab-lipped: see after *BLAB* *sb.* 2

Blabber (*blæ'ba:*), *sb.* [f. *BLAB* *v.* + *-ER* 1.] One who blabs; one who reveals secrets, a tell-tale.

1557 NORTH *Guenara's Diall Pr.* (1582) 94a, He was... a great blabber of his tongue. 1644 HEYWOOD *Captives* v. iii, in Bullen O. P. IV. Peace, fellowe Godfrey. I'll now play the blabber. 1793 T. JEFFERSON *Writ.* (1830) IV. 491 The indiscretion of this blabber. 1841 D'ISRAELI *Amen. Lit.* (1867) 236 Time, that blabber of more fatal secrets.

† **Blabber**, *a.* Also 5 *blabyr*, 6-7 *blaber*. [First in comb. *blabyr-lyppyd*, in the *Catholicon* 1483, the *Prompt.* c. 1440 having the earlier *babbyr-lyppyd*, used also by Langland 1377 (see *BABBER-LIPPED*). But there was also a 15-17th c. form *blab-lipped* (see *BLAB* *sb.* 2), which is of more simple explanation: cf. *BLOB*, *BLOBBER*, *BLUBBER*, *BUBBLE*, all expressing the sense of swelling or inflation.] Swollen, protruding; said of the lips (e.g. of negroes), and sometimes the cheeks.

1558 HULOT, *Blabber lypyes, dimissa labra*. 1610 HOLLAND *Camden's Brit.* i. 530 The divels of Crowland, with their blabber lips [*labii pendentes*]. a 1607 MIDDLETON *Sp. Gypsy* IV. iii, She has full blabber cheeks. 1687 SHADWELL *Juvenal* 108 What ugly blabber-lips had he! 1833 COLERIDGE in *Fraser's Mag.* VII. 177 A waxy face and a blabber lip. [In *Poems* III. 87 (1834) 'blubber lip'.]

Hence *Blabber-lipped* *ppl. a.*

[1377, 1440, 1607; see *BABBER-LIPPED*.] 1483 *Cath. Angl.* 33 *Blabyrlyppyd, broccus, labrosus*. c 1485 *Digby Myst.* III. 927 Ye... blabyr-lyppyd bychys. 1601 HOLLAND *Pliny* XI. xxxvii, Others againe who are blabber-lipped are named in *Latine Labiones*. 1653 GRAVES *Serraglio* 101 The most... blabber-lipped, and flat nosed girls that may be had through all Egypt. 1704 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 4034/4 Run away... a short Negro Man... blabber Lip'd... long Heel'd.

† **Blabber**, *v. Obs.* Forms: 4 *blaberen*, *blabber*, 5 *blaberyn*, *-veryn*, *blabir*, *-yr*, 5-6 *blaber*, 6 *blabbar*, 7-*or*, 6-7 *blabber*. [ME. *blaberen*, late 14th c. Words of similar form appear in other Teut. langs.: cf. ON. *blabbra* (cited by Rietz), Da. *blabbre* to babble, gabble, Sw. dial. *blaffra* to prattle, G. *blappern* (Grimm), *plappern* to blab, babble, prate. But the evidence is not sufficient to show whether any of these were actually connected with the English word, or whether they agree only in being natural expressions of the action involved, which seems to be essentially that of producing a confused repetition or combination of labial (*b*) and lingual (*l*, *r*) sounds. It is noteworthy that in the earliest instance quoted, *blaberde* varies in the MSS. with *babeled*, *bablide*, etc.: cf. *BABBLE*. See further under *BLAB*.]

1. *intr.* To make sounds with the lips and tongue as an infant (cf. sense 3); to speak inarticulately or indistinctly; to babble, to mumble.

1364 LANGL. *P. Pl.* A. v. 8 So I blaberid [*v. r. blaberid*, *belide*, *-ed*, *blabide*] on my Beodes. 1385 WYCLIF *Exdr. Prol.*, The tunge kut of it shal blaberen. c 1505 KENNEDIE *Flying* 344 And blaberis that noyis mennis eris to here. VOL. I.

1530 PALSOR. 456 My sonne dothe but blabber yet, he can nat speke his wordes playne. a 1800 *Ballad 'Ld. Ingram'* xxi, in Child's *Ballads* III. 131/2 A' was for the bonnie babe That lay blabbering in her bleed.

b. *trans.*

c 1505 DUNBAR *Flying* 112 Fairer Inglis... Than thow can blabbar with thy Carrik lippis.

2. *intr.* To chatter, babble, talk idly or senselessly.

c 1375 WYCLIF *Serm. Sel. Wks.* I. 376 þei blaiberen þus for defaute of witt. a 1400 *Cov. Myst.* 164 Boys now blaberyn. c 1430 *Life St. Kath.* (1884) 53 þat oper cristen peple presume not to blaber agenset oure goddes. c 1440 *Prompt. Parv.* 37 Blaberyn, or speke wythe-owte resone, blatera. 1483 *Cath. Angl.* 33 To Blabyr, blaterare.

b. *trans.*; also with out, forth. Cf. *blab*, *blurt*.

c 1380 WYCLIF *Wks.* (1880) 168 Prestis... blabren out matyns and masse... wip-outen deuocion and contemplacion. 1611 73 þei prechen not cristis gospel... but blaberen forþe anticristis bullis. 1850 SIDNEY *Arcadia* IV. 417 Did blabber out what he had found. 1864 A. H. in *J. Davies' Wks.* (1878) II. 81 And blabber forth His Funeral, in Rimes.

† 3. To move the tongue between the lips in mockery. *Obs.* Cf. *BLEAR* *v.* 2

1530 PALSOR. 456, I blaber, I put forth the lyppe, as one dothe his tonge in his heed... his tonge blabred in his heed, *Ye babye*. 1611 COTGR., *Baboyer*, to blabber with the lips: to fumble, to falter. 1629 *Schoole Gd. Manners* (Halliiv.) To mocke anybody by blabbering out the tongue is the part of... lewd boyes.

† **Blabberer**, *Obs.* One who blabbers.

c 1375 WYCLIF *Serm. Sel. Wks.* II. 234 For to speke as blabberers may take here.

† **Blabbering**, *vbl. sb.* [f. *BLABBER* *v.* + *-ING* 1.] Inarticulate, imperfect or foolish speaking; babble.

c 1375 WYCLIF *Serm. Sel. Wks.* I. 127 And so to blaberyng in þis speche mannis voicis ben not sufficient. a 1400 *Cov. Myst.* 384 Ces nous your blaberyng in the develis name. 1513 DOUGLAS *Æneis* Prol. 33 This ignorant blabbing impertye. 1795 T. TAYLOR *Apuleius* (1822) 234 The vain blabbering of that iniquitous knave.

† **Blabbering**, *ppl. a.* [f. as prec. + *-ING* 2.] Speaking inarticulately or irrationally; babbling.

c 1410 *Love Bonavent. Mirr.* xl. 88 (Gibbs MS.) He þat is vnkownyng and blaberyng. c 1430 *Hymns Virg.* (1867) 108 þat blaberyng are wip opes blent. 1509 BARCLAY *Shyp of Folly* (1570) 38 Blabbering foolis superflue of language. 1540 *Compl. Scot.* vi. 38 Blabberand eccho.

Blabbing, *vbl. sb.* [f. *BLAB* *v.* 1 + *-ING* 1.] Indiscreet talking; publishing or revealing of secrets.

1601 WARNER *Alb. Eng.* XII. LXXV, For his blabbing him to her the which had had his Ring. 1716 ADDISON *Freeholder* No. 9 (1751) 52 Many here wish you would forbear blabbing. a 1791 WESLEY *Husb. & Wives* III. § 8 Wks. 1811 IX. 67 He strange to one whom experience has convinced of blabbing. 1876 SEERLEY *Stein* II. 536 Blabbing of secrets.

Blabbing (*blæ'bin*), *ppl. a.* [f. as prec. + *-ING* 2.] That blabs or publishes secrets.

1593 SHAKS. 2 *Hen. VI.* IV. i. 1 The gaudy, blabbing, and remorsefull day. 1637 MILTON *Comus* 138 The blabbing eastern scout, The nice morn. 1795 HICKERINGILL *Priest-Cr.* II. viii. 85 This blabbing and talkative old Fellow. 1855 TENNYSON *Maud* II. v. 11, Curse me the blabbing lip.

† **Blabbiish**, *a. Obs.* [f. *BLAB* *sb.* + *-ISH* 1.] Of the nature of a blab, given to blabbing.

1604 T. WRIGHT *Passions* IV. i. 119 So simple and blabbiish. **Blabry**, *obs. form of BLAEBERRY*.

Blacchoe, *obs. form of BLATCH*, *blacking*.

Black (*blæk*), *a.* Forms: 1 *blæc* (def. *blæc*), 1-4 *blao*, 2-6 *blake*, 3-5 *blak*, 5 *blak* (e, 4-7 *blacke*, 5- *black*. [OE. *blæc*, *blac* (def. *blace*) = OHG. *blah*, *blach* (in comb.); a word of difficult history. In OE., found also (as the metres show) with long vowel *blæc*, *blācan*, and thus confused with *blād* shining, white:—O Teut. **blaike* (see *BLAKE*), as is shown by the fact that the latter also occurs with short vowel, *blād*, *blācum*; in ME. the two words are often distinguishable only by the context, and sometimes not by that. (Cf. ¶ 7.) ON. *blakkr* is not an exact phonetic equivalent, but, if native, points to an O Teut. **blakko* (for *blakno*: see Kluge *Beitr.* ix. 162). Sievers suggests that the original Teutonic types were **blēkno*, **blakko*, subsequently levelled to *blēko*, *blako*, *blakko*, giving the OE. and ON. words; in this case **blēkno* might be pa. ppl. of a vb. **blēkan* to burn (cogn. v. Gr. *φλέγω*), and the original sense 'burnt, scorched.' Cf. *BLATCH*, which points to an O Teut. **blakkjo*, from *blakko*. In Eng. *black* has quite displaced the original colour-word *SWART*, which remains in the other Teutonic languages.]

1. *literal*. The proper word for a certain quality practically classed among colours, but consisting optically in the total absence of colour, due to the absence or total absorption of light, as its opposite *white* arises from the reflection of all the rays of light.

1. As a colour pertaining to objects, even in full light: Absorbing all light; 'of the colour of night' (J.); 'of the colour of soot or coal'; 'of the darkest possible hue'; swart. (Perfect blackness being a rare attribute of objects, those from the surface of which very little light is reflected are commonly called *black*.)

Beowulf 3606 Hrefn blaca heofenes wynne. c 890 K. ÆLFRED *Beda* II. xvi. (Bosw.) He hæfde blac feax, and blacne andwlitan. c 1000 ÆLFRED *Gram.* vi. 12 *Niger cornus*, blac hrem. c 1205 LAV. 17699 Ane blake clade. c 1300 K. ALIS. 6259 Al blak so colebrond. c 1380 *Sir Ferumb.* 2461 Pan lai he þar so blac so pych. c 1385 WYCLIF *Song Sol.* v. 11 Blac (1388 blake) as a crowe. c 1440 *Prompt. Parv.* 38 Blak, niger, ater. c 1440 *York Myst.* xlviii. 143 In helle to dwellle with feendes blake. 1536 WHIOTHESELEY *Chron.* (1875) I. 51 Hattes of blake velvet and whyte feathers. 1568 SHAKS. *L. L. L.* IV. iii. 266 To look like her as Chimney-sweepers blacke. 1611 BIBLE *Matt.* v. 36 Thou canst not make one haire white or blacke. 1674 R. GODFREY *Id.* 4 *Ab. Physic* 71 She had been in the black Box (meaning the Coffin) e're now. 1710 J. CLARK *Rohault's Physique* (1729) I. 223 The Black Body... absorbs and choaks all the Rays. 1807 ROBINSON *Archæol. Græca* v. v. 425 They put on mourning garments, which were always black. 1844 TENNYSON *Gardener's D.* 28 That hair more black than ashbuds in the front of March. 1885 LD. BLACKBURN in *Times* 9 July 3/2 It has been observed... that no number of black rabbits would ever make a black horse.

b. Of a very dark colour closely approaching black.

c 1400 *Liber Cocorum* 7 Take black suger for mener menne. 1718 POKK *Iliad* 1. 608 The priest himself. Pours the black wine. 1853 C. KNIGHT *Once upon Time* (1859) 417 On every road-side was what was familiarly termed 'the black ditch.' In every alley was a lesser black ditch. 1899 JERFISON *Brittany* i. 3 The blackest of port-wine.

c. Having an extremely dark skin; strictly applied to negroes and negritos, and other dark-skinned races; often, loosely, to non-European races, little darker than many Europeans.

890 (see 1). a 1225 *Ancr. R.* 234 Blac as a bloamon. a 1225 *St. Marher.* 10 Muchele del blacore pen euer eni blamon. c 1380 *Sir Ferumb.* 2785 Among þe Saraynz blake. 1553 EDEN *Treat. New Ind.* (Arb.) 14 The bodies of men begin to waxe blacke and to be scorched. 1591 SHAKS. *Two Gent.* v. ii. 12 Blacke men are Pearles, in beauteous Ladies eyes. 1666-7 PEPYS *Diary* 27 Jan., Her little black boy came by him. 1768 *India Gaz.* 30 Mar. (Y.) The black officers... were drummed out of the cantonments. 1844 PRICHARD *Nat. Hist. Man* 24 Forrest says the Pappua Caffres are as black as the Caffres of Africa. 1856 OLDMSTED *Slave States* 141 The 'old Ab' was manned by one black boy, sixty years old.

d. *fig.* Of or pertaining to the negro race.

1852 T. HUGHES in *J. Ludlow's Hist. U. S.* 342 The 'black law,' by which coloured people were excluded from the territory. 1885 STEVENSON *Dynamiter* 152 The black blood that I now knew to circulate in my veins.

2. With the names of various objects prefixed, by way of comparison, as *coal*-, *jet*-, *pitch*-, *raven-black*.

c 1600 SHAKS. *Sonn.* CXXVII, My mistress eyes are raven-black. 1710 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 4782/4 Stolen or strayed... a cole black Horse. 1771 P. PARSONS *Newmarket* II. 89 On his head, observe the jett-black glossy velvet cap.

3. Characterized in some way by this colour.

a. Having black hair; dark-complexioned. (Cf. the surnames *Black*, *Blackie*.) *arch.* or *Obs.*

a 1607 *Chart. Eadweard in Cod. Dipl.* IV. 242 And Ælfwynnes gherde ðe blake. c 1190 *Vita S. Godrici* § 510 (1845) 417 Mulier pedisequa... cognomento Blache, id est Nigri, mercenaria. c 1375 BARBOUR *Bruce* XIX. 556, I dreed me sair for the blak dowlglass. 1604 SHAKS. *Oth.* II. i. 233 How if she be Blacke and Witty? 1661 PEPYS *Diary* 30 Apr., Took up Mr. Hater and his wife... I found her to be a very pretty, modest, black woman. 1715 R. NELSON *A Kempis' Chr. Exerc.* VII. 13 The Fair, the Black, the Learned, the Unlearned, do all pass away. 1815 *Hist. Univ. Camb.* I. 144 The portrait in the Master's lodge represents him as a handsome black man.

b. Wearing black clothing, armour, etc.

1298 (see *BLACK MONK*). c 1305 *Edmund Conf.* 184 in *E. E. F.*, Blake monkes, he se3, As hit crowen and chozen were. a 1400 *Sir Perc.* 40 The rede kyngthe ne the blacke. 1750 CARTE *Hist. Eng.* II. 73 Clement... retained only 200 horse and 2000 foot of the black bands so called from their being clad in mourning. 1877 BROCKETT *Cross & Cr.* 154 The black, or monastic clergy.

4. Characterized by absence of light.

a. Enveloped in darkness; dark, dusky, swart. 1393 GOWER *Conf.* I. 81 The blacke winter night. c 1400 *Rom. Rose* 5359 The blak shadowes. 1595 SHAKS. *John v.* vi. 17 Heere walke I, in the black brow of night. 1637 MILTON *Comus* 61 In thick shelter of black shades imbower'd. 1790 BURNS *Tam O'Shanter* 66 That hour, o' night's black arch the key stone. 1840 R. DANA *Bef. Mast* 2, The rain fell fast, and it grew black. 1883 J. PARKER *Apost. Life* II. 168 Storms howling down the black chimney in the blacker night.

b. Of deep water, clouds, the clouded sky, etc.: Reflecting and transmitting little light; dark, sombre, dusky, gloomy.

c 1374 CHAUCER *Boeth.* v. ii. 153 Þe nyȝt ne wylstondeþ nat to hym þe blake cloudes. c 1400 *Ysaie & Geru.* 369 The wederwex than wonder blak. 1611 BIBLE *1 Kings* xviii. 45 The heauen was blacke with cloudes. 1666 BACON *Sylva* § 874 Water of the Sea... looketh Blacker when it is moved, and Whiter when it resteth. 1646 BUCK *Rich.* III. III. 84 The young Princes were imbarqued in a Ship at Tower wharfe, and conveyed... to Sea, so cast into the Blacke deeps. 1818 BYRON *Yuan I.* lxxiii, The blackest sky Foretells the heaviest tempest.

5. Deeply stained with dirt; soiled, dirty, foul.

a 1300 *Havelok* 555 In a poke ful and blac. c 1384 CHAUCER *H. Fame* 1637 But he [i.e. Eolus] Toke out hys blake trumpe of bras That fouler than the Devil was. 1397 TREVISA *Hidden Rolls* Ser. V. 229 Blake flokkes of Scottes [*tetri Scotorum greges*]. *Mod. Proverb.* *Rime.* I'd rather have black hands, and plenty of meat, Than never such white ones, and nothing to eat.

6. *Black* is used in naming varieties or species

of animals naturally distinguished by this colour, as *black bear*, *beetle*, *duck*, *rat*; also varieties or species (or what are popularly so considered) of plants characterized by darkness of stem, leaf, etc., as *black bindweed*, *hellebore*, *parsley*, *spleenwort*, etc. See these and the like under the generic names *BEAR*, *BEETLE*, *BINDWEED*, *HELLEBORE*, etc.

¶ 7. In ME. it is often doubtful whether *blac*, *blak*, *blake*, means 'black, dark,' or 'pale, colourless, wan, livid' = OE. *blac*; see farther under *BLAKE*.

c 1205 LAY. 10890 Enne stunde he wes blac! and on heuwe swide wak. Ane while he wes reod. a 1240 *Sevles Warde in Cott. Hom.* 249 His leoc deaðliche ant blac and elheowet. c 1305 E. E. *Allit. P. B.* 747, I am bot erpe ful euel, & vsle so blake. c 1330 *Roland & V.* 434 (Charlemagne was) of a stern sight, Blac of here and rede of face. [He had 'la chevelure belle' (Martin, from Eginhard).] c 1400 *Anters of Arth. ix*, Alle bare was the body, and blak by the bone.

II. fig.

8. Having dark or deadly purposes, malignant; pertaining to or involving death, deadly; baneful, disastrous, sinister.

1203 STUBBS *Anat. Abus.* II. 22 Many a black curse have they of the poore commons for their doing. 1599 SHAKS. *Hen. V.* II. iv. 56 That black Name, Edward, black Prince of Wales. 1640 HABBINGTON *Castara* II. II. xxxii, The blacke edict of a tyrant grave. *Ibid.* II. II. xi, By Fate rob'd even of that blacke victory. 1713 STEELE *Guardian* No. 18 ¶ 1 Think it madness to be unprepared against the black moment. 1758 H. WALPOLE *Catal. R. Authors* (1759) I. 142 The throne. usurped by the Queen's black enemy, Philip. 1821 BYRON *Sardan.* v. i. 195 That's a black augury!

9. Foul, iniquitous, atrocious, horribly wicked.

1581 LAMBARDE *Eivem.* (1588) App., You will have a blacke soule. if you doe not the sooner forsake the Queene. and her heresies. 1590 GREENE *Groatw. Wit* (1617) 33 Black is the remembrance of my blacke works. c 1600 J. DAVIES in FARR'S *S. P. I.* 255 Red Seas to drowne our blacke Egyptian Sins. 1690 BENTLEY *Boyle Lect.* 23 The portion of the blacke criminals. 1713 S. PYCROFT *Free-thinking* 25 He has vented the blackest Calumnies. 1738 A. M'AULAY in *Swift's Lett. chix.* I shall never be guilty of such black ingratitude. 1740 FIELDING *Tom Jones* xvii, vii, Concealing facts of the blackest dye. 1839 BAILEY *Festus* v, Die with the black lie flapping on your lips.

10. Clouded with sorrow or melancholy; dismal, gloomy, sad.

1659 HAMMOND *On Ps.* xlii. 9 What a black gloomy condition am I now in? 1715 BURNET *Own Time* (1766) II. 234 He had also very black fits of the spleen. 1809 J. BARLOW *Columb.* I. 16 The slow, still march of black despair.

b. Of the countenance, the 'look' of things, prospects: Clouded with anger, frowning; threatening, boding ill; the opposite of *bright* and *hopeful*.

1709 STANHOPE *Paraphr.* IV. 190 When the Face of affairs looked blackest and no glimpse of Comfort appeared. 1830 HT. MARTINEAU *Each & All* II. 25 His countenance was black as night. 1840 E. ELLIOTT *Corn-Law Rhymes* 119 The crew will no longer regard my child with black looks.

c. Hence *To look black*: to frown, to look angrily (at or upon a person).

1814 MISS AUSTEN *Mansf. Ph.* (1870) I. vi. 50 My brother-in-law... looked rather black upon me. 1845 THACKERAY *Rose & Ring* xv, Black as thunder looked King Padella at this proud noble. 1855 BROWNING *Fra Lippo*, The monks looked black.

11. Indicating disgrace, censure, liability to punishment, etc. Cf. *BLACK BOOKS*, *BLACK LIST*, etc. Often accompanied by some symbol actually black, as in quot. 1840.

1612 BRINSLEY *Lud. Lit.* 286 To punish by a note, which may be called, the Black Bill. c 1830 A. PICKEN *Chang. Charlie*, When mounted... on the top of the black stool, he seemed... delighted. 1840 DICKENS *Barn. Rudge* viii, Write Curzon down, Denounced... Put a black cross against the name of Curzon.

III. Phrases and combinations.

12. Phrases. *To say black is anyone's eye* (*eyebrow*, *nail*, etc.): to find fault with, to lay anything to his charge (*1 obs.*). *Black in the face*: having the face made dark crimson or purple by strangulation, passion; or strenuous and violent effort.

1528 ROY *Sat.* (1845) They ate their belies full. And none sayth blacke is his eye. 1589 *Hay any Work* 36 If you were my chaplains once, I trowe John Whitgift... durst not once say blacke to your eyes. 1675 BROOKS *Gold. Key* Wks. 1867 V. 250 He knew that the law could not say black was his eye, and that the judge upon the bench would pronounce him righteous. 1790 *Vade-mec. Malt-Worms* 11 None can say that black's his eyebrow to him. 1799 FIELDING *Tom Jones* ix. iv, I defy anybody to say black is my eye. 1799 WOLCOTT (P. Pindar) *Ep. Falling Minist.* Wks. 1812 II. 121 Swore himself black in the face. 1828 CARR *Craven Dial.* II. 2 'Thou cannot say black's my nail'. *Cut tu nihil dicas rutili.* Ter. 1826 DICKENS *Pickw.* v, Mr. Winkle pulled... till he was black in the face. 1870 LOWELL *Study Wind* 67 Though we should boast... till we were black in the face.

13. *Black and blue*, orig. *blak and bla*, *blak and blo*, of which the present form is a corruption arising when *blo* became obsolete after 1550. The proper *black and bla* remains in the north, though often supplanted there also by the literary form.

esp. Of the human body: Discoloured by beating, bruising, or pinching, so as to have black and 'blue' or livid bruises: as *to beat (any one) black and blue*. Also *absol.*

a 1300 *Cursor M.* 8073 Four sarrins.. Blac and bla [*Trin.* blak and blo] als led pai war. c 1314 *Guy Warw.* (A.) 506 Pe leches ben to him y-go. Gy pai finde blaie and blo. c 1460 *Towneley Myst.* 206 Betr pai finde blaie and blo. 1552 HULCOT, Beaten blacke and bloo, *suggilatus*. 1563 HVL. *Arte Garder.* (1593) 68 The black and blew of a stripe. 1663 BUTLER *Hud.* I. ii. 942 Flew To rescue Knight from black and blue. 1690 *Lond. Gas.* No. 2577/4 His right Eye black and blue with a Blow. 1705 BURNS *Twa Herds* xii, Aft hae made us black and blaie. a 1845 HOOD *Happy New Year* xii, He's come home black and blue from the cane.

14. *Black and tan* (of a kind of terrier dog): Having black hair upon the back, and tan (yellowish brown) hair upon the face, flanks, and legs. Also *ellipt.* as *sb.*

1863 KINGSLEY *Water-Bab.* vi. 272 Out jumped a little black and tan terrier dog. 1884 *Harper's Mag.* Aug. 464/4 A jealous little black-and-tan stood by.

15. *Black and white*: a. *adj.* Having a surface diversified with black and white.

1878 STEVENSON *Int. Voy.*, Black-and-white cattle fantastically marked.

b. *sb.* Black characters upon white paper; writing. In (*under*) *black and white*: in writing or in print. (*Black on white* is a fanciful alteration.)

1599 SHAKS. *Much Ado* v. i. 314 Moreouer sir, which indeede is not vnder white and black, this plaintif here... did call me asse. a 1656 Br. HALL *Rem. Wks.* (1660) 136 We stay not till we have gotten it under black and white. 1712 STEELE *Spect.* No. 286 ¶ 3 Give us in Black and White your Opinion in the Matter. 1830 GALT *Laurie T.* IV. x. (1849) 180 A confirmed black and white agreement. 1845 CARLYLE *Cromwell* (1871) IV. 117 In Authentic black-on-white against them. 1866 W. COLLINS *Armada* IV. xv, The whole story of her life, in black and white.

c. *Art.* (A sketch or drawing in) black or dark tint on white paper, or with white colour used.

1805 *Athenaeum* 21 Feb. 251/1 Pictures and drawings in black and white.

16. Often prefixed to other adjectives of colour, indicating a blackish shade of the latter, as *black-brown*, *grey*, etc.

c 1000 *Ælfric Gloss.* in Wr.-Wülcker *Voc.* 152 *Ferrugo*, black purpur. 1468 *Test. Ebor.* II. 254 Unum equum coloris le black-gray. 1685 *Lond. Gas.* 2037/4 Stolen or strayed... a black-brown Gelding. 1844 KINGLAKE *Eothen* xxvii. (1878) 343 A long low line of blackest green. 1863 BROWN *Pippa* P. 1, Its black-blue canopy seemed let descend. 1877 G. NEVILLE *Horses* xv. 105 A black-chestnut will clip the same colour he was before.

17. *quasi-adv.* with an *adj.*, as in *black babbling*, babbling maliciously, slanderous; *black boding*, of ill omen, inauspicious; *black fasting*, enduring a very severe fast; *blacklooking*, etc.

1604 QUARLES *Job* (1717) 168 Earths 'black-babbling daughter (she that hears And vents alike, both truth and forgeries). 1748 YOUNG *Ni. Th.* IV. 8 'Black-boding man Receives, not suffers, death's tremendous blow. 1664 *Flood-dan* F. vii. 66 'Black fasting as they were born. 1824 SCOTT *St. Roman's* xvi, To sit for ten hours together, 'black fasting. 1854 J. ABBOTT *Napoleon* (1855) I. xx. 328 He was a little, 'black-looking man.

18. In parasynthetic comb., as *black-aproned*, *-backed*, *-bearded*, *-berried*, *-bodied*, *-bordered*, *-capped*, *-coated*, *-coloured*, *-cornered*, *-edged*, *-favoured*, *-footed*, *-gowned*, *-hafter*, *-haired*, *-headed*, *-hearted*, *-hilted*, *-hoofed*, *-legged*, *-lipped*, *-margined*, *-plumed*, *-robed*, *-skinned*, *-stooled*, *-throated*, *-visaged*, etc., etc. Most of these are later than 16th c.: their number may be increased indefinitely, and they may have derivatives, as *blackheartedness*.

1590 SHAKS. *Mids. N.* III. ii. 387 For aye consort with 'blacke browd night. 1871 *Member for Paris* II. 67 A sort of 'black-coated Mephistopheles. 1528 PAYNELL *Salerne Regim.* F. iv, 'Blacke colored wyne. 1607 SHAKS. *Timon* v. I. 47 When the day serues, before 'blacke-corner'd night. 1805 MISS YONGE *Clever Wom. of Fam.* I. I. 5 Hurry to the drawing-room, and tear open the 'black-edged letter. 1682 *Lond. Gas.* No. 1668/4 A middle siz'd, 'Black Favour'd [man]. c 1400 *Destr. Troy* VIII. 3780 Telamon truly was a tulke full faire, 'Blake horit. 1771 BURKE *Powers of Juris* Wks. X. 122 Whether a 'black-haired man or a fair-haired man presided in the Court. 1774 G. WHITE *Selborne* xlii. 106 The great 'black-headed titmouse. 1863 *Times* 10 Apr., The 'black-hearted traitors' of the North... worse than the 'black-hearted miscreants' of the South. 1871 MORLEY *Crit. Misc.* Ser. I. (1878) 250 Downright malignity and 'blackheartedness. 1815 SCOTT *Ld. of Isles* II. xxii, The 'black-stoled brethren. 1860 G. H. K. *Vac. Tour* 126 Hearing the hoarse cry of the 'black-throated diver. 1631 WEEVER *Ans. Fun. Mon.* 238 An house of 'blacke veyled Nunnes. 1710 *Lond. Gas.* No. 4605/3 This William Charlton is a 'black visag'd Man. 1628 FELTHAM *Resolves* (1647) 41 Styx, and 'black-wav'd Acheron.

19. Specialized comb. (For such as *black cattle*, *black coal*, *black draught*, etc. see *CATTLE*, *COAL*, *DRAUGHT*, etc.) *Black-aprony*, the wearers of black aprons, the clerical and legal professions; *black-band*, an earthy carbonate of iron found in the coal measures, and containing coaly matter sufficient for calcining the ore; *black bowl*, a drinking bowl; *black canon*, a canon regular of St. Augustine; *black character* = *BLACK-LETTER*; *black-coat*, a depreciative term for clergyman, parson; *black-choler*, one of the four humours of early physiologists, melancholy; see *CHOLER*; *Black Country*, parts of Staffordshire and Warwickshire grimed and blackened by

the smoke and dust of the coal and iron trades; *black-crop*, a crop of peas or beans as opposed to one of corn; *black damp*, the choke-damp of coal mines: see *DAMP*; *black-fellow*, an Australian aboriginal; *black-gown*, a collegian or learned man; *black-heart*, (for *black HEART-CHERRY*), a dark sort of cultivated cherry; *black-hood*, a non-regent member of the senate of the University of Cambridge; *black humour*, black choler, melancholy: see *HUMOUR*; *black literature*, that printed in 'black letter'; *black quarter*, a disease of cattle (= *BLACK-LEG 1*); *black rent*, black mail, an illegal tribute; *black-seed*, a popular name of the black Medick; *black-sole* (Sc.) = *BLACKFOOT*; *black strap* (or *stripe*), an inferior kind of port wine, also a mixture of rum and treacle taken as a beverage; *black sugar* (Sc.), Spanish or Italian (liqueur) juice; *Black Watch*, the 42nd Highland regiment of the British army (see *quot.*); *black-wort*, a popular name of the common Comfrey (*Symphytum officinale*).

1832 MAGINN in *Blackw. Mag.* XXXII. 427 The absurd etiquette which prevents [them] from following any profession save the Army, the Navy, 'Black-aprony, and Black-leggery. 1857 PAGE *Adv. Text-Bk. Geol.* xiv. (1876) 252 Admixture of coaly matter which confers on these 'black-bands their especial value. 1863 SMILES *Indust. Biog.* 160 The 'Black Band ironstone. 1509 HAWES *Past. Pleas.* xxix. 136 He never drank but in a fayre 'blacke boule. 1568 *Like to Like* in Hazl. *Dods.* III. 324 From morning till night I sit tossing the 'black bowl. a 1672 *Wood Life* (1848) 156 The abbey there, originally built for 'Black Canons. 1722 J. STEVENS *Addit. Dugdale's Monast.* II. 69 By reason of their black Habit, worn over their white Surplices... generally call'd either 'Black Canons, or Canons of St. Augustin. 1751 JOHNSON *Rambl.* No. 177 ¶ 6 Books... printed in the 'black character. 1667 R. PERROT *Jacob's Vow* 52 Let us take heed how these 'blackcoates get the day of us. 1818 SCOTT *Hrt. Midl.* I, You are the 'black-coat's son of Knockartlilie. 1870 EMERSON *Soc. & Solit.* ix. 197 The 'black-coats are good company only for 'black-coats. 1834 J. C. YOUNG *Mem. C. M. Young* (1871) 212 In the densely-populated 'black country. 1864 *Daily Tel.* 12 Dec., By night the 'Black Country blazes up lurid and red with fires which... are never extinguished. 1831 TVERMAN & BENN. *Voy. & Trav.* II. xxxvii. 158 In his opinion, the best use which could be made of the 'black fellows' would be, to shoot them all. 1865 *Intell. Observ.* No. 37. 15 Panther-like approach of the 'Blackfellow. 1710 TOLAND *Ref. Sacheverell's Sermon* 12 That great Company of 'Black-Gowns, commanded in chief by... Doctor Lancaster. 1833 TENNYSON *Blackbird* 7 The unnetted 'black hearts ripen dark... against the garden wall. 1797 *Camb. Univ. Calend.* 147 The Non-Regents or 'Black-hoods are those who have taken their master of arts' degree five years or upwards. 1797 *Month. Rev.* XXII. 345 Multitudinous porers in 'black literature. 1879 WRIGHTSON in *Cassell's Techn. Educ.* I. 78 Land drainage is... followed by the disappearance of 'black-quarter' or inflammatory fever. 1533 *Calend. Carrow MSS.* (Rolls Ser.) No. 39 The 'black rents and tributes which Irishmen by violence have obtained of the King's subjects. 1612 SIR J. DAVIES *Why Ireland* etc. 179 To abolish the 'black-rents and tributes exacted by the Irish upon the English colonies. 1827 HALLAM *Const. Hist.* (1876) III. xviii. 359 The inhabitants... were hardly distinguishable from the Irish, and paid them a tribute called 'black-rent. 1863 PRIOR *Plant-n.* 24 'Black-seed, the Nonesuch, from its black head of legumes. 1795 RAMSAY *Gentle Sheph.* III. iii, This too fond heart o' mine... a 'black-sole true to thee. 1785 GROSE *Dict. Vulg. Tongue*, 'Black strap, bene carlo wine, also port. 1821 *Blackw. Mag.* X. 105 What champagne is to homely 'black strap. 1823 LOCKHART *Reg. Dalton* I. x. 60 Do they give you good 'black strap at Oxford? 1824 ANDERSON *Creol.* I. 5 The planter being content to... make an evening's finish with bub or 'black-strap. 1787 BEATTIE *Scotticism* 15 'Black sugar, Licuorice juice. 1864 J. BROWN *Plain Wds. Health* v. 76 A bit of 'black sugar. 1822 D. STEWART *Sk. Highlanders* III. § 1 The 42nd Highland Regiment... was originally known by the name of 'Black Watch. It arose from the colour of their dress. 1830 SCOTT *Tales Grandf.* lxxiv, Another measure... was the establishment of independent companies to secure the peace of the Highlands... Black soldiers as they were called, to distinguish them from the regular troops, who wore the red national uniform. 1871 P'CESS ALICE *Mem.* 12 Sept. (1884) 273 We did not see the 42nd Highlanders, the 'Black Watch' to-day. 1597 GERARD *Herbal* II. colxiv, It is called... in English, Comfrey... of some Knitbacke, and 'Black-wort. 1611 in *Corcor.*

Black, *sb.* [The *adj.* used *absol.* or *elliptically*.]

1. Black colour or hue. It may have a plural, as in 'different blacks,' i. e. kinds or shades of black.

a 1225 *Ancr. R.* 282 Biholden euer his blake & nout his white. 1506 *Pilgr. Perf.* (W. de W. 1531) 290b, Knowe what whyte is, and it is soone perceived what blacke is. 1645 RUTHERFORD *Trial & Tri. Faith* (1845) 56 All his blacks are white. 1821 CRAIG *Lect. Drawing* III. 175 We must take black and white into our list, as colours with the painter though not with the optician. 1856 RUSKIN *Mod. Paint.* IV. v. iii. § 14. 45.

2. A black paint, dye, or pigment. In senses a, b, see also *BLECK*, *BLATCH*, *BLETCH*.

† a. Black writing fluid, ink. *Obs.* *Black and White*: see *BLACK* a. 15, b, c.

a 1000 *Canons K. Edgar* in *Anc. Laws* II. 244 And we lerað þæt hi... habban blac & bœ-fel to heora gerednessum. c 1000 *Ælfric Gloss.* in Wr.-Wülcker *Voc.* 154 *Incaustum vel atramentum*, blaec.

b. A preparation used by shoemakers, curriers, etc. for staining leather black.

1661 LOVELL *Hist. Anim. & Min.* 277 Shoemakers black with vinegar.

c. A black pigment, dye, or varnish; many different preparations are used by artists, as *ivory black*, *lamp black*, *Spanish black*, etc.; in the industrial arts several black varnishes and pigments are similarly distinguished, as *Berlin black*, *Brunswick black*.

1573 HULOT, Blacke, called paynters blacke, *atramentum tectorium*. 1581 *Act 23 Elias* ix. 83 Clothes... dyed with a galled and mathered Black. 1670 W. SIMPSON *Hydrol. Ess.* 75 Dyers in the making of their Blacks, use not Alom but Vitriol. 1825 *Specif. J. Taylor's Patent* No. 3020, a Bones converted either into ivory or bone black. 1849 G. WRIGHT *Scientif. Knowl.* 46 Ivory black is... ivory or bones thoroughly burnt, and afterwards ground. c. 1860 WINSOR & NEWTON *Handbk. Water-Col.* 31 Lamp Black is not quite so intense, nor so transparent, as that made from ivory.

3. A particle of some black substance, a black speck; a. *spec.* the dark-coloured fungus which attacks wheat, smut.

1303 R. BRUNNE *Handl. Synne* 11869 Yche blak, y dar wel telle Pat hyt was a fende of helle. 1607 TORSSELL *Four-f. Beasts* 259 They have also little blacks in the middle of their teeth. 1615 MARKHAM *Eng. Housew.* (1660) 110 You shall take the blacks of green Corn either Wheat or Rye. 1783 AINSWORTH *Lat. Dict.* 1. s. v. *bean*, The black of a bean, *Hilum*. 1883 *Id. Words* 735 Who has not observed the smut, or blacks, among corn.

b. A small particle or flake of soot, a smut. Usually in plural.

c. 1816 *Yng. Woman's Comp.* 196 Let the blamange settle before you turn it into the forms, or the blacks will remain at the bottom. 1843 F. PAGET *Pageant* 84 She carefully covered over... any articles that were likely to be damaged by blacks. 1866 GOULBURN *Pers. Relig.* iii. viii. (1873) 223 The blacks of the world have settled down upon it. 1865 DICKENS *Mut. Fr.* II. 149 If you see a black on my nose, tell me so.

4. The dark spot in the centre of the eye, the pupil. *Obs.*

1307 TREVISA *Higden Rolls Ser. II.* 189 Dese hauen in eueriche yje tweie blackes. 1398 — *Barth. De P. R. v.* vii. (1495) 113 The blacke of the eye syttyth in the mydle as a quene. 1541 R. COPLAND *Guydon's Quest. Chirurg.*, In the region of the blacke of the eye. a. 1648 DIGBY (J.) As big as the black or sight of the eye.

5. Black fabric or material.

a. Black clothing, especially that worn as a sign of mourning, in which sense the plural was formerly used, as still in Lowland Sc. (*Blacks*, in modern use, sometimes = black or dress trousers.)

c. 1400 *Rom. Rose* 1759 And eke as wel be amorettes In mourning blacke, as bright burnettes. c. 1500 *Merch. & Son* in Halliwell *Nugae P.* 28 Fadur, why appere ye thus in black, ar not yowre synns foryeveyn? 1580 NORTH *Plutarch* (1656) 20 Ten moneths... was the full time they used to wear black for the death of their fathers. 1596 FEATLY *Clavis Myst.* xix. 247 Neither are all that weare blackes his mourners. 1641 R. BROOKE *Eng. Episc.* i. iv. 17 Some to Ministers, as Cossackes, Gownes... Canonick Coats, Blackes. 1699 LUTTRELL *Brief Rel.* (1857) IV. 557 The King... has ordered all his subjects to goe into black. 1748 RICHARDSON *Clarissa* (1811) VI. 54 Whom dealest thou with for thy blacks? 1866 THACKERAY *Philip I.* 174 My old blacks show the white seams so, that you must... rig me out with a new pair.

b. pl. Hangings of black cloth used in churches, etc., at funerals; funeral drapery.

1608 MIDDLETON *Mad World* ii. ii, I'll pay him again when he dies in so many blacks; I'll have the church hung round with a noble a yard. 1611 COTGR., *Littre*... the blacke wherewith the vpper part of a Church is compassed, at the funeral of a great person. 1711 J. DISTAFF *Char. Sacheverell* 16 The Company of Upholders are not able to furnish Blacks enough for the Deceased.

c. Often in comb., as *black-robed*.

1608 WARNER *Alb. Eng.* x. lvi. 250 The black-clad Scaffold. 1803 MISS WHATELY *Ragged Life Egypt* iv. 23 Her black-robed female relatives support her on each side. 1870 MORRIS *Earthly Par.* I. i. 375 Her friends black-clad and moving mournfully.

d. = Black man or woman.

a. A man of 'black' skin; an African negro, or Australasian negrito, or other member of a dark-skinned race. In this sense it appears to be a translation of *Negro*, which was in earlier use.

1605 PURCHAS *Pilgrims* ix. xiii. § 1. 1570 The mouth of the Ruer [Gambra], where dwell the Blacks, called Mandingos. 1679-88 *Secr. Serv. Money Chas. & Jas.* (1851) 58 To Randall M. Donnell, for a black his s' Ma^{ty} bought of him, 50^l. 1688 BUNYAN *Holy War* 20 This giant was one of the Blacks or Negroes. 1780 GEORGE PR. WALES in *Cornwallis Corr.* II. 99 (Y.) The Adaulet of Benares... now held by a Black named Ali Caun. 1805 *Ann. Rev.* III. 289 They exclude from suffrage the blacks and the paupers. 1826 OLIVEST *Slave States* 129 The free black does not, in general, feel himself superior to the slave.

b. One of a band of poachers who went about their work with blackened faces. *Obs. attrib.* in *black-act*, a severe law (9 Geo. I. xxii) against poaching, trespassing, etc.

1722 *Act 9 Geo. I.* xxii, Whereas several ill-designing and disorderly Persons have of late associated themselves under the name of Blacks. 1783 G. WHITE *Selborne* vii, The Waltham blacks... committed such enormities, that Government was forced to interfere with that severe and sanguinary Act called the Black Act. 1809 TOMLINSON *Law Dict.* s.v., A virtual repeal of the punishment inflicted by the Black Act.

c. A black-haired person. *Obs.*

c. 1686 *Yng. Mans C.* in *Roxb. Ball.* II. 558 The pleasant Blacks and modest Browns, their loving Husbands please.

d. A mute or hired mourner at a funeral. *Obs.*

1629 FLETCHER *M. Thomas* iii. i, I do pray ye To give me leave to live a little longer: Yestand before melike my Blacks.

7. In various elliptical applications: a. *Typogr.* (see quot.) b. *Chess & Draughts*. The player using the black or coloured pieces. c. *Archery*. A shot which hits the target in the black ring surrounding the inner white circle.

188a *Print. Times* 15 Feb. 36/1 *Blacks* is a term applied to any mark on a sheet made by pieces of furniture, catches, etc. rising to the level of the form. 1837 *Penny Cycl.* VII. 52/1 Black's fourth move was a very bad one. 188a *Standard* 31 Aug. 6/4 The Vice-President's Prize to ladies for most blacks.

Black (black), *v.* Forms: 3-4 *blak-en*, *blak-in*, *black-en*, 3-6 *blake*, 5 *blak*, *black-yn*, 5-7 *blaoke*, 7- *blaoke*. [f. BLACK *a.*]

1. *intr.* To be or become black. *Obs.*

a. 1235 *Juliana* 48 þat him eoc each neil & blakede of þe blode. c. 1340 *Cursor M.* (Trin.) 14747 To blake [Cott. blaken] þo bigan her brewes. c. 1380 *Sir Ferumh.* 2388 Wanne þe nyst gyt blake. a. 1400 *Syr Percy.* 688 Now sone... sille wee see Whose browes schalle blake! c. 1460 *Towneley Myst.* 107 So my browes blaky To the doore wyll I wyn.

2. *trans.* To make black; now *esp.* to put black colour on. Cf. BLACKEN.

c. 1315 SHOREHAM 155 The wyte the vayter hyt maketh, And selve more hyt blaketh. c. 1386 CHAUCER *Monkes T.* 141 Til that his fleisch was for the venym blaked. a. 1400 *Syr Percy.* 1056 Thare he and the sowdane sille mete, His browes to blake. 1532-3 *Act 24 Hen. VIII.* i. § 6 Every coriari shall well and sufficiently corie and blacke the said Leather tanned. 1690 R. STAPYLTON *Strada's Low-C. Warres* ix. 26 Having blackt his face, and died his hair. 1748 FRANKLIN *Wks.* (1840) 207 The paper will be blacked by the smoke. 1823 J. BADDOCK *Dom. Amusem.* 49 Crown-glass, blacked on one side. 1848 TENNYSON *Simcox Styl.* 75 I lay... Black'd with thy branding thunder.

b. *spec.* To clean and polish shoes and other black leather articles with BLACKING.

1557 NORTH *Guevara's Diall Pr.* (1582) 369 a In varnishing hys sword and dagger, blacking his bootes. 1684 *Foxe's A. & M.* III. 907 Causing his shoes to be blacked. 1812 J. & H. SMITH *Ref. Addr.* ii. (1873) 12 My uncle's porter, Samuel Hughes, Came in at six to black the shoes.

c. To drape with black. *Obs.*

1664 LAMONT *Diary* 25 Nov., The isle being blacked—with a number of dependants on the pall of black velvet.

3. *trans.* a. To draw or figure in black.

1840 BROWNING *Sordello* iv. 374 The grim, twynecked eagle, coarsely blacked With ochre on the black wall.

b. To black out: to obliterate with black.

1820 BROWNING *Christmas Eve* Wks. 1868 V. 175 If he blacked out in a blot Thy brief life's pleasantness. 185. GEN. GORDON *Lett.* 121 The Russian censor who blacks out all matter that is displeasing to the Government.

4. *fig.* To stain, sully; to defame, represent as 'black'. (Usually *blacken*.)

c. 1440 *Promp. Part.* 38 Blackyn' or make blake, *vituperatio*, *increp.* 1625 FLETCHER *At. Walker* ii. 216 Thy other sins which black thy soul. 1683 D. A. Art *Converse* 16 To black his repute. a. 1845 HOOD *Trumpet* xxx, Not that elegant ladies... ever detract, Or lend a brush when a friend is black'd.

5. *intr.* To poach as one of the 'Blacks': see BLACK sb. 6 b. *Obs. rare.*

1709 G. WHITE *Selborne* vi, As soon as they began blacking, they [the deer] were reduced to about fifty head.

Comb. † *black-shoe* (boy) = SHOE-BLACK.

1732 FIELDING *Covent Gard. Fm.* No. 61 A rebuke given by a blackshoe boy to another. 1746 W. HORSLEY *The Fool* (1748) I. 5 [He] reduces himself to the Level of Highwaymen, Footmen, and Black-shoe Boys.

† **Black-acre.** *Law. Obs.* An arbitrary name for a particular parcel of ground, to distinguish it from another denominated 'white acre'; a third parcel being, when necessary, similarly termed 'green-acre' (= parcel a, parcel b, parcel c). The choice of the words 'black', 'white', and 'green' was perhaps influenced by their use to indicate different kinds of crops.

1608 COKE *On Litt.* 148 b. 1698 [R. FERCUSSON] *View Eccles.* 10 Foolish comparisons, of... the Exchanging of Black-Acre by A for White-Acre from B.

Hence **Black-acre, v. Obs.** to litigate about landed property. (Wycherley's *Double Dealer* has a Mrs. Blackacre, a litigious widow, whose name may be immediately alluded to in the quotation.) 1751 MRS. DELANY *Life & Corr.* 67 She is now gone to town, black-acreing, to her lawyers.

† **Black-a-lyre.** *Obs.* A fabric. See LYRE.

Blackamoor (blæk'mū-, mō-). Forms: 6 *blake More*, *Blacks Moryn*, *blak a Moore*, 6-7 *blake Moore*, *blackmoor*(e), 7 *Black-Moor*(e), *-More*, *-moor*, *black Moor*, *Blackmore*, *-moore*, *Blackemore*, *Black-a-Moore*, *Black-amooore*, *blackeamooore*, 7-8 *Blackamoor*, *Blackamoor*(e), 7- *blackamoor*. [= *Black Moor*, a form actually used down to middle of 18th c. *Blackamoor* is found 1581: of the connecting a no satisfactory explanation has been offered. The suggestion that it was a retention of the final -e of M.E. *black-e* (obs. in prose before 1400) is, in the present state of the evidence, at variance with the phonetic history of the language, and the analogy of other *black-* compounds. Cf. *black-a-vised*.]

1. A black-skinned African, an Ethiopian, a Negro; any very dark-skinned person. (Formerly without depreciatory force; now a nickname.)

1547 BOORDE *Introd. Knowl.* 212, I am a blake More borne in Barbary. 1548 THOMAS *Ital. Gram.*, *Ethiops*, a blake More, or a man of Ethiops. 1552 HULOET, *Blacks Moryns* or *Mores*. 1581 T. HOWELL *Druides* (1870) 184 Like one that washeth a black a Moore white. 1599 SANDYS *Europa Spec.* (1632) 239 Shee is painted like a blackmoore. 1604 DEKKER *Honest Wk.* Wks. 1873 II. 98 This is the Blackmore that by washing was turned white. 1606 SHAKS. *Tr. & Cr.* i. l. 80, I care not and she were a Black-a-Moore. 1614 RALEIGH *Hist. World* i. 95 The Negro's, which we call the Blacke-Mores. 1631 BRATHWAITE *Eng. Gentlman* (1641) 308 The Blackmoore may sooner change his skin, the Leopard his spots. 1666 PERKS *Diary* (1879) VI. 46 For a cook maid we have used a blackmoore. 1702 C. MATHER *Magn. Chr.* III. III. (1852) 576 The instruction of the poor blackmoore. 1771 SMOLLETT *Humph. Cl. Lett.* Ap. 26 The first day we came to Bath, he... beat two black-a-moors. 1806 R. VAUGHAN *Mystics* (1860) 1. 271 As far below the reality as a blackamoor is unlike the sun.

b. *attrib.*

1580 SIDNEY *Arcadia* 36 A Coach drawne with foure milke white horses... with a black-a-Moore boy vpon eury horse. 1676 HOBBS *Iliad* i. 403 To Blackmoor-land the Gods went yesterday. 1706 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 4238 8 A Blackamoor Man called Caesar. 1716 *Ibid.* No. 5434/3 Run away... a Black Moore Boy.

† c. **Blackamoor's teeth:** cowry shells. *Obs.*

1700 W. KING *Transcription* 36 He has Shells called *Blackmoors Teeth*, I suppose... from their Whiteness. 1719 W. WOOD *Surv. Trade* 334 Known by the Name of Cowries amongst Merchants, or of Blackamoor's Teeth among other Persons.

2. *fig.* A devil.

1603 COWLEY *Cmt. Coleman St.* iv. vi, He's dead long since, and gone to the Blackmoors below.

3. *attrib.* Black-skinned, quite black.

1813 J. FORBES *Orient. Mem.* I. 325 The first blackamoor pullen I ever saw was here; the outward skin of the fowl was a perfect negro. 1856 CAPERN *Poems* (ed. 2) 90 Some blackamoor rook.

† **Blackamorian, sb. and a. Obs.** [f. BLACK + MORIAN (in Coverdale).] Ethiopian, Negro.

1526 *Pilgr. Perf.* (W. de W. 1531) 78 b, Out of the chirche þou blake moryan, out of the chirche thou man of ynde. a. 1563 BALE *Sel. Wks.* (1849) 177 When the blackamorian change his skin, and the cat of the mountain her spots. 1631 HEYWOOD *F. Maide West Wks.* 1874 II. 328 To the black a Morrian king.

Black art. [Probably 'black' refers primarily to the dark and secret nature of the magician's art, or to the popular belief in the association of the magician with the devil; but the name is also associated with the med. L. *nigromantia*, corruption of *necromantia* (= Gr. νεκρομαντία, i. νεκρός dead body), as if this contained L. *niger*, *nigro-* black.] 1. The art of performing supernatural acts by intercourse with the spirits of the dead or with the devil himself; magic, necromancy.

c. 1590 MARLOWE *Faust.* ix. 53, I have heard strange report of thy knowledge in the black art. 1611 COTGR., *Nigromance*, nigromancie, conjuring, the blacke Art. 1674 R. GODFREY *Inj. & Ab. Physic* 178 He useth Astrology, (which the Vulgar call the Black Art). 1775 SHERIDAN *Rivals* i. ii, I'd as soon have them taught the black art as their alphabet! 1831 BREWSTER *Nat. Magic* iv. (1833) 69 A native of Pistoia, who cultivated the black art.

† 2. *Thieves' slang.* Lock-picking, burglary. *Obs.*

1592 GREENE *Conny-Catch.* II. Wks. 1883 X. 72, I can set downe the subtiltie of the blacke Art, which is picking of lockes. 1608 DEKKER *Belman Lond.* Wks. 1884-5 III. 137 This Blacke Art... is called in English Picking of Lockes.

Hence, † **Black-a-rtist, Obs.,** a necromancer.

† **Black-a-rtship, Obs. nonce-wd.**

1600 SYLVESTER *Lit. Barts* (1877-80) 408 (D.) Those Black-Artists that consult with Hell. 1607 MOUNTFORT *Faustus* i. ad fin., I came only to ask your Black Artship a Question. 1825 CARLYLE *Schiller* II. (1845) 66 Spectres... the terror-struck black-artist cannot lay them.

† **Black-a-top, a. Obs.** Black-headed.

1733 BAILEY *Erasm. Colloq.* (1877) 31 (D.) Can you fancy that black-a-top, snub-nosed, paunch-bellied creature?

Black-a-vised (blæk'āvīst), *a. north. dial.* Also *-viced*, *-vised*. [f. BLACK *a.* and F. *vis* face; perh. originally *black-à-vis*, or *black d' vis*; but this is uncertain.] Dark-complexioned.

a. 1753 RAMSAY *Poems* (1800) II. 362 (JAM.) A black-a-vic'd snod dapper fallow. 1816 SCOTT *Old Mort.* xi. 1848 C. BRONTË *J. Eyre* (1857) xvii, I would advise her black aviced suitor to look out. 1881 BLACK *Sunrise* (ed. 5) III. 99 The fat black-a-vised Italian.

Blackback. A species of sea-gull; the black-backed gull (*Larus marinus*).

1855 KINGSLEY *Westw. Ho.* xxxii. (D.) The great black-backs laughed querulous defiance at the intruders. 1863 *Reader* 29 Aug., Mer and shearwater, blackback and herring-gull.

Black-ball, bla'ckball, sb.

1. A composition, also called *heel-ball*, used by shoemakers, etc., and also for taking rubbings of brasses and the like.

1847 in CRAIG.

2. A black ball of wood, ivory, etc. put into the urn or ballot-box to express an adverse vote; hence, an adverse secret vote, recorded in any way.

1869 *Spectator* 3 July 779 They have exercised precisely the same right which is exercised by every man who drops

a blackball into the urn. 1824 *Harper's Mag.* June 148/3 Three blackballs used to make a gentleman wince.

Blackball (blæk'bôl), *v.* [see prec.]

1. To exclude (a person) from a club or other society by adverse votes, recorded by the placing of black balls in the ballot-box, or in other ways.

1770 *Mrs. DELANY Lett.* Ser. II. I. 262 The Duchess of Bedford was at first black-balled, but is since admitted. 1826 *DISRAELI Viv. Grey* IV. i. 135, I shall make a note to blackball him at the Athenæum. 1880 *BESANT & RICE Seamy Side* xi. 83 There are no rules in this club... nobody is ever blackballed, nobody is ever proposed.

2. To exclude from society; to ostracize, taboo. 1840 *MACAULAY Clive, Ess.* (1854) 534 The Dilettante sneered at their want of taste. The Macaroni black-balled them ['nobobs'] as vulgar fellows. 1861 *Crt. Life Naples* 88 All foreigners are not to be blackballed.

3. To blacken with black-ball. 1818 *COBBETT Pol. Reg. XXXIII.* 92 With big black-balled whisks under his nose.

Hence **Blackballer**, **Blackballing** *vbl. sb.* and *ppl. a.*

1869 *Spectator* 3 July 779 The blackballer declines to associate with the person blackballed, if he can help it. 1826 *SCOTT in Lockhart* (1839) IX. 43 Here is an ample subject for a little blackballing in the case of Joseph Hume. 1865 *Times* 23 Aug. The most inexorable blackballing club.

Black-bean, *v.* 1 *Obs.* [f. *black beans*, used instead of black balls in balloting.] = **BLACKBALL** *v.*

1829 T. C. CROKER *Leg. Lakes* I. 94 Geoffrey Lynch of Drummin, who was black beaned at the Club-room. 1838 *New Month Mag.* LIII. 122 To have ruined half a score of tailors... does not black-bean, in the very best company.

Blackberry (blæk'berri).

1. The fruit of the bramble (*Rubus fruticosus*) and its varieties. This being almost the commonest wild fruit in England is spoken of proverbially as the type of what is plentiful and little prized.

c 1200 *ÆLFRIC Gloss.* in Wr. Wülcker *Voc.* 139 *Flaut, nel mori*, blackberian. c 1250 *Gloss. ibid.* 518 *Morum*, blackberie. c 1350 *WILL. PALMER* 1809 *Blake-berries* bat on breces growen. c 1400 *OCCLEVE De Reg. Princ.* 4715 He sette the not therby a blackberie. 1555 *EDEEN Decades W. Ind.* III. viii. (Arb.) 172 Bramble bushes bearynge blacke berries or wyld raspes. 1556 *SHAKS. 1 Hen. IV.* II. iv. 265 If Reasons were as plentie as Black-berries, I would giue no man a Reason vpon compulsion. 1713 *CAY Past.* vi. Blackberries they pluck'd in deserts wild. 1859 *Gard. Chron.* 3 A real novelty... in the form of what is called a White Blackberry.

b. *attrib.* 1578 *LYTTE Dodoens* vi. iv. 661 The Bramble or Blacke berie bush. 1580 *BARET Adv.* B 1111 Bramble, the blacke berry tree. 1846 *SOWERBY Brit. Bot.* (1864) III. 164 Who... has not in his day, been a Blackberry-gatherer? 1847 *HAL-LOWELL Dict.* *Blackberry summer*, the fine weather... at the latter end of September and the beginning of October, when the blackberries ripen. *Hants.* 1880 *BESANT & RICE Seamy Side* xxiii. 290 'Real jam, blackberry-jam.'

2. The trailing shrub which bears this fruit; the bramble. 1579 *LANGHAM Gard. Health* (1633), Bramble breer or Blackberry. 1688 *R. HOLME Acad. Armorie* II. 119 Spinous or thorny shrubs... Bramble, Blackberry, Rose. 1849 *Mrs. SOMERVILLE Phys. Geog.* II. xxvi. 163 Of the seven species of bramble which grow at the Cape, one is the Common English bramble or blackberry.

3. Now, in the north of England and south of Scotland, the Black Currant (*Ribes nigrum*), the 'blackberry' of sense 1 being there called 'Brambleberry'; formerly in some localities the Bilberry, or Blueberry; also, according to some, but perhaps erroneously, the sloe or fruit of the Blackthorn.

1567 *MAPLET Gr. Forest.* The blackberie tree is after his sort bushy bearing that fruit that effsones refresheth the Shepherd. 1597 *GERARD Herbal* (1633) 1417 We in England [call them] Wortes, Whortleberries, Black-berries, Bill-berries. 1721 *BAILEY, Black-berries*... the Berries of the Black-thorn. 1783 *AINSWORTH Lat. Dict.* (Morell) II. *Vaccinium*, a blackberry, as some say. 1859 *Gard. Chron.* 54 In speaking of blackberries about Kelso, black currants are understood. 1885 *Scot. Border Rec.* 6 June, The red currant and blackberries have suffered somewhat.

Blackberrying, *vbl. sb.* [Really formed directly on **BLACKBERRY** *sb.*, but coming to be treated as a gerund, implying a vb. to blackberry. See **NUTTING**.] The gathering of blackberries.

1861 J. BENNET *Winter Medit.* I. i. (1875) 35 The days when they go blackberrying. 1885 *MISS YONGE Two Sides Shield* i. We never had such a blackberrying.

Blackbird (blæk'bôrd). [The only BIRD in an earlier sense (before crows and rooks were included) which is black (or rather dark brown).] A well-known European song-bird, a species of thrush (*Merula turdus*, L.). In North America the name is given to other birds, e.g. the *Gracula quiscalis*, and *Oriolus (Agelaius) phoeniceus*.

1486 *Bk. St. Albans* Dja, For the blacke bride and the thrush. 1552 *HULOET*, blacke byrde or owsyl, *turdus*. 1616 *SURFL. & MARKH. Countr. Farm* 729 The strongest and stoutest bird that can be, is the Blacke-bird. 1766 *PENNANT Zool.* (1768) I. 412 The blackbird continues in Italy the whole year. 1879 *JEFFERIES Wild Life S. County* 131 In glass cases are... a white blackbird, and a diver. *Nursery Rime*, Four and twenty blackbirds baked in a pie.

b. *loosely* = Songster. 1634 *MASSINGER Very Wom.* III. i, You never had such black-birds.

2. *fig.* Cant name for a captive negro or Polynesian on board a slave or pirate ship.

1881 *Chequered Career* 180 The white men on board knew that if once the 'blackbirds' burst the hatches... they would soon master the ship.

Blackbirding, *vbl. sb.* [f. prec. *sb.* (sense 2) but implying a vb.] The kidnapping of negroes or Polynesians for slavery. Also as *ppl. adj.*

1883 *Academy* 8 Sept. 158 [He] slays Bishop Patteson by way of reprisal for the atrocities of some 'black-birding' crew. 1884 *Pall Mall G.* 19 Aug. 2/2 Years ago blackbirding scoundrels may have hailed from Fiji.

Black board, blackboard. A large wooden board, a tablet of papier-maché, etc., painted black, and used in schools and lecture-rooms to draw or write upon with chalk.

1823 *PILLANS Contrib. Cause Educ.* (1856) 378 A large blackboard served my purpose. On it I wrote in chalk. 1835 *Musical Libr.* Supp., Aug. 77 The assistant wrote down the words... on a blackboard. 1846 *Rep. Inspect. Schools* I. 147 The uses of the black board are not yet fully developed.

Black book.

1. An official book bound in black.

1644 *BEDELL Lett.* xi. 141 The Copie of the record of Doctor Parkers Consecration... which... you saw in a blacke Booke. 1815 *Encycl. Brit.* (ed. 5) III. 261/1 He keeps the black book of receipts, and the treasurer's key of the treasury. 1823 T. LANE *Stud. Guide Lincoln's Inn* 122 Curious regulations... are to be found in their Black Books.

2. The distinctive name of various individual books of public note, referring in some cases to the colour of the binding.

a. *Black Book of the Exchequer*: a book preserved in the Exchequer Office, containing an official account of the royal revenues, etc. at the time of its compilation (c 1175).

1479 *Mem. Ripon* (1885) II. 158 In libro... nuncupato blakboke. 1561 *Stow Eng. Chron.* an. 1176 (1615) 154 This yeere was compiled a booke of the orders and rules of the Exchequer, now commonly called there the Blacke booke. 1605 *CAMDEN Rem.* 6 It is written in the Blacke booke of the Exchequer, that our Ancestors termed England, a Store-house of Treasure. 1631 T. POWELL *Tom All Trades* 169 Search the Blacke Booke in the Exchequer.

b. *Black Book of the Admiralty*: an ancient code of rules for the government of the navy, said to have been compiled in the reign of Edw. III.

1769 *FALCONER Dict. Marine* (1789), *Oleron*, a code of... rules relating to naval affairs... formed by Richard I... are still preserved in the black book of the admiralty.

3. An official return prepared during the reign of Henry VIII, containing the reports of the visitors upon the abuses in the monasteries.

1581 T. NORTON *Let. in Dugdale Warw.* (1730) II. illi. T. Cromwell, having... thus searcht into their lives, which by a Black Book, containing a world of enormities, were represented in no small measure scandalous. 1815 *Encycl. Brit.* (ed. 5) III. 641/1 The black-book of the English monasteries was a detail of the scandalous enormities practised in religious houses. 1878 *DIXON Hist. Ch. Eng.* I. v. 341.

4. A book recording the names of persons who have rendered themselves liable to censure or punishment.

1592 *GREENE Black Bks. Messenger* Wks. 1881-3 XI. 5 Ned Browne's villanies... are too many to be described in my Blacke Booke. 1595 *SPENSER Sonn.* x. Al her faults in thy black booke enroll. 1657 *REEVE God's Plea* 20 This Day-book will prove a black-book to him. 1726 *AMHERST Terrae Fil.* 115 The black book is a register of the university, kept by the proctor, in which he records any person who affronts him, or the university; and no person, who is so recorded, can proceed to his degree. 1816 C. JAMES *Mil. Dict.* (ed. 4) 57/2 The black book is a sort of memorandum which is kept in every regiment to describe the character and conduct of non-commissioned officers and soldiers.

b. + *To be in the black book(s)*: to be in disgrace. *To be in (any one's) black books*: to have incurred his displeasure, to be out of his favour.

1785 *GROSE Dict. Vulg. Tongue*, s.v. He is down in the black book, i. e. has a stain in his character. 1861 *PAYN From Exile* 89 This unfortunate youth is so deep in your black books.

5. A book of the 'black art,' of necromancy.

1842 *BARHAM Ingol Leg., Raising the Devil*, A 'Magician'... has brought him [Cornelius Agrippa] and his terrible 'Black Book' again before the world.

Black-browed (blæk'broud), *ppl. a.* Having a dark brow or front; frowning, scowling.

1590 *SHAKS. Mids. N.* III. ii. 387 They... must for aye consort with blacke browd night. 1607 *DAVIDEN Hind & P.* III. 1144 Black-brow'd, and bluff, like Homer's Jupiter. 1806 *Sheridaniana* 317 Sheridan was dining with the black-browed Chancellor. 1882 *Athenæum* 1 Apr. 421/3 A ruffian is not of necessity a black-browed... scoundrel.

Black cap, black-cap, blackcap.

1. *Black cap*: spec. that worn by English judges when in full dress, and consequently put on by them when passing sentence of death upon a prisoner.

1838 *DICKENS O. Twist* III, The jury returned... The judge assumed the black cap.

2. One who wears a black cap or head-dress.

1826 J. GRANT *Bl. Dragon* v, The old blackcaps frowned terribly at... this fashion.

3. *Blackcap*: A name given to various birds having the top of the head black; esp. by English writers to the small bird also called Blackcap Warbler, *Curruca* (or *Motacilla atricapilla*).

Also applied locally to: a. Several species of *Parus*, as *P. major* the Great Tit, *P. palustris* the

Marsh Tit, *P. ater* the Cole Tit, and in U. S. *P. atricapillus* the Blackcap Tit, or Chickadee; b. the Black-headed Bunting; c. the Black-headed Gull; d. the Stonechat; and casually to others.

1678 *RAY Willughby's Ornith.* 241 The Marsh Titmouse or Black-cap. *Ibid.* 347 The Pewit or Black-cap, called in some places, the Sea-Crow and Mire-Crow. 1768 *PENNANT Zool.* II. 262 The black cap is a bird of passage, leaving us before winter. 1789 G. WHITE *Selborne* (1853) 145 The black-cap has... a full sweet deep loud and wild pipe. 1802 G. MONTAGU *Ornith. Dict.* (1833) 350 Great Black-headed Tomtit, Blackcap. *Ibid.* 415 *Black-bonnet, Black-cap*, prov. names for the Black-headed Bunting, *Emberiza schaniulus*. 1863 *Yng. England* Aug. 127 In Wiltshire I have heard the red-backed shrike... called the black cap. 1883 G. ALLEN in *Knowledge* 25 May 304/1 Blackcaps are above everything hangers-on of civilisation.

4. *Black-cap pudding*: a boiled batter pudding into which a handful of currants or raisins is dropped before boiling, which sink to the bottom, and form a black capping when the pudding is reversed out of the basin or mould.

1822 *KITCHENER Cook's Oracle* 517.

Blackcock (blæk'kɒk). The male of the Black Grouse or BLACK GAME.

1477 *Scot. Acts Jas. I* (1597) § 108 Patricks, plovers, black-cockes. 1753 *Stewart's Trial* App. 21 He would make black cocks of them, before they entered into possession, by which the deponent understood shooting them. 1815 *SCOTT Ld. Isles* v. xiii, The black-cock deem'd it day, and crew. 1832 *Proc. Berw. Nat. Club* I. 5 The blackcock (*Tetrao tetrix*) was heard harshly calling to his mates.

Black currant. The fruit of the *Ribes nigrum*; also the shrub. Often used *attrib.*, as in *black-currant jam, jelly, tea, wine*, etc.

1768 *WALES in Phil. Trans.* LX. 119 These shrubs consist of willows... gooseberry, and black currants. 1769 *Mrs. RAFFALD Engl. Housekpr.* (1778) 211 To make Black Currant Jelly. 1836 *DICKENS Sk. Box* II. (1850) 5 Anonymous presents of black-currant jam, and lozenges.

Black death: see **DEATH**.

Black dog.

1. A cant name, in Queen Anne's reign, for a bad shilling or other base silver coin. *Obs.*

1706 *LUTTRELL in Ashton Reign Q. Anne* II. 225 The Art of making Black Dogs, which are Shillings, or other pieces of money made only of Pewter, double Wash'd. 1724 *SWIFT Drapier's Lett.* Wks. 1755 V. II. 44 Butchers' half-pence, black-dogs, and others the like.

2. *fig.* Melancholy, depression of spirits; ill-humour; (in some country places, when a child is sulky, it is said 'the black dog is on his back').

1826 *SCOTT in Lockhart* (1839) VII. 335 A great relief from the black dog which would have worried me at home. 1882 *STEVENSON New Arab. Nts.* II. 111 He did not seem to be enjoying his luck... The black dog was on his back, as people say, in terrifying nursery metaphor.

Black drop.

1. *Med.* A dark-coloured liquid medicine, chiefly composed of opium, with vinegar and spices.

1823 *BYRON Juan* ix. lxxvii, A quintessential laudanum or 'black drop.' 1876 *Cycl. Med.* XVII. 844 Black drops, Godfrey's Elixir... etc. all contain opium.

2. *Astron.* A dark drop-like appearance observed at solar transits of Venus and Mercury immediately after apparent internal contact at ingress, and before it at egress, giving to the planet a pear-shaped appearance, elongated towards the sun's edge.

1869 E. DUNKIN *Midd. Sky* 252 The formation of the black-drop... was very clearly observed at... Greenwich. 1878 *NEWCOMB Pop. Astron.* II. iii. 189 Father Hell's black drop, seen before the limbs [of Sun and Venus] were in contact.

Blacked (blækt), *ppl. a.* [f. **BLACK** + **-ED**.] Made or coloured black, blackened.

1552 *ABR. HAMILTON Catech.* 122 Gif thai see their face blekkit. 1716 *ADDISON Drummer* v. Mourning paper, that is black'd at the edges. 1815 *SCOTT Guy R.* III. Do you see that blackit and broken end of a sheeling?

Blacken (blæk'n), *v.* [ME. *blakne*, *blackone* (n f. **BLACK** a. + **-EN**.)

1. *intr.* To become or grow black. *lit.* and *fig.*

a 1300 *Cursor M.* 17430 To blacken þan bigan þair brous. c 1400 *Destr. Troy.* xxii. 9134 Blaknet with bleryng all hir ble quite. *Ibid.* xxvii. 10706 All blackonet his blode, & his ble chaunget. 1758 *JOHNSON Idler* No. 17 P. 2, I... believe that rain will fall when the air blackens. 1871 *MORLEY Crit. Misc.* Ser. I. (1878) 193 It may blacken into cynicism.

2. *trans.* To make black or dark. *lit.* and *fig.*

1552 *HULOET*, To make blacke, or blacken, *denigro*. a 1649 *DRUMM. OF HAWTH. Jas. V.* Wks. (1711) 85 Calumnies, tho' they do not burn, yet blacken. 1660 *Trial Regic.* 45 To draw up that Impeachment so, as to Blacken Him. 1712 *STEELE Spect.* No. 518 P. 2 You ought to have blackened the edges of a paper which brought us so ill news. 1863 *KINGSLEY Water Bab.* vi. The Birds... blackening all the air.

Hence **Blackened** *ppl. a.*, **Blackening** *vbl. sb.* and *ppl. a.*

c 1400 *Apol. Loll.* 55 Corrupting cold and blakning. 1513 *DOUGLAS Æneis* III. l. 122 Crownit... with the bleknyt cypres deidlie bewis. 1660 *Trial Regic.* 55 The Blackening of the King. 1725 *Pope Odys.* VII. 161 Some dry the black'ning clusters in the sun. 1793 *HOLCROFT Lavater's Physiog.* xxix. 144 Smellfungus views all objects through a blackened glass. 1818 *BYRON Ch. Har.* IV. xxiv, The blight and blackening which it leaves behind. 1824 *MILL Nonconf.* II. 249 More than they fear a blackened reputation.

Blackener. [f. prec. + **-ER**.] He who or that which blackens.

1632 [see next]. 1748 *RICHARDSON Clarissa* (1811) VII.

364 A partial whitener of his own cause, or blackener of another's.

Black-er. [f. BLACK v. + -ER¹.] One who or that which blacks.

1632 SHERWOOD, A Blacker, or Blackener, *noircisseur*. 1882 Punch 1 Mar., An elderly lady had had her boots blacked. And gave to the blacker a nice little tract.

Blackey, var. of BLACKY, a black man.

Black eye.

1. An eye of which the iris is black or very dark-coloured; esp. as a mark of beauty, a dark lustrous eye; hence **Black-eyed a**.

a 1667 COWLEY *Lover's Chron.* ix, Black-eyed Bess, her viceroy-maid. 1773 SHERIDAN *Diogenes* i. v, Egad, a very pretty black-eyed girl! 1839 Penny Cycl. XIV. 363/2 The Mongolian variety:—characterised by olive colour . . . and black eyes. 1842 TENNYSON *May Queen* ii, There's many a black black eye, they say, but none so bright as mine.

2. A discolouration of the flesh around the eye produced by a blow or contusion.

1604 DEKKER *Honest Wh.* II. Wks. 1873 II. 122, I do not bid you beat her, nor give her blacke eyes. 1819 BYRON *Juan* II. cxii, Just like a black eye in a recent scuffle.

Black-face. One who has a black face; a black-faced sheep or other animal.

1844 W. H. MAXWELL *Sports & Adv. Scott.* i. (1855) 21 We . . . added a black-face to our sea-stock. 1879 WRIGHTSON *Sheep in Cassell's Techn. Educ.* IV. 321/1 The Black Faces are found on the moors of Yorkshire.

Black-faced, a.

1. Having a black or dark-coloured face. Also fig.

1594 SHAKS. *Rich. III.* i. ii. 159 Black-faced Clifford shooke his sword at him. 1773 G. WHITE *Selborne* lvi. (1851) 172 The black-faced poll-herp have the shortest legs. 1876 TENNYSON *Q. Mary* II. i. 54 The black-faced swains of Spain.

2. Of things: Dark, dismal, gloomy.

1594 SHAKS. *Ven. & Ad.* 773 This black-faced night, desires foul nurse. 1611 R. CHESTER *Ann. Gt. Brit.* (1878) 79 The Sunne did frowne, Fore-shewing to his men a blacke-fac'd day.

Black fish.

1. A name given to several varieties of English and American fishes; e.g. the Black Ruff (a kind of perch), *Centrolophus pompius* (a kind of mackerel), *Tautoga Americana* (a species of wrasse).

1754 BORLASE *Cornwall* 271 Black ruffe, synonym Black fish. 1861 J. BRIGHT *Week Land's End* 142 During the mackerel-season the blackfish of Gesner, *Coryphæna Pompius*, is not of rare occurrence.

2. A small species of whale.

1796 MORSE *Amer. Geog.* I. 398 Black fish, a sort of whale 'of about five tons weight.' 1879 WALLACE *Australas.* 428 The people of Solor . . . capture the small whales called blackfish.

3. A name given to salmon just after spawning. Hence **Black-fisher**, one who catches salmon when in this condition. **Black-fishing**, the taking of such salmon; especially applied in Scotland to their capture at night by torchlight, whence the term is sometimes explained.

1808 WALKER *Prize Essays* II. 364 (JAM.) The salmon in these states are termed in our acts of Parliament, *Red and Black Fish*. 1841 Penny Cycl. XX. 363/1 The females are dark in colour and are as commonly called black-fish. 1809 St. Patrick III. 42 (JAM.) Ye took me aiblins for a black-fisher. 1848 *Life Normandy* (1863) II. 55 Black-fisher . . . is the name given to the poachers who kill salmon when they are out of season. 1794 *Forfar Statist. Acc.* XII. 294 (JAM.) Black-fishing is so called because it is performed in the night-time, or perhaps because the fish are then black or foul. 1815 SCOTT *Guy R.* II. ii, The holding of a black-fishing, or poaching court.

Black flag. A flag of black cloth, used with some reference to death or deadly purpose: e.g. as a sign that no quarter will be given or asked, as the ensign of pirates, and as the signal of the execution of a criminal. Also in *plur.* applied to the pirates of the Chinese Sea, the opponents of the French in Tonquin, etc.

1593 NASHE *Christ's T.* (1613) 7 The black-flag was set vp, which signified there was no mercy to be looked for. 1840 MARRYAT *Poor Jack* xlv, I would hoist the black flag.

Black foot.

1. The name of a tribe of North American Indians.

1842 PRICHARD *Nat. Hist. Man* 404 The Black-feet are a very powerful and numerous people.

2. Sc. A go-between in a love affair; a match-maker.

1814 Saxon & Gael I. 161 (JAM.) Thinkin' ye might be black-fit, or her secretar. 1823 SCOTT *Nigel* xxxiv, I could never have expected this intervention of a *proteneta*, which the vulgar translate blackfoot, of such eminent dignity. 1830 GALT *Laurie T.* VII. ix. (1849) 344.

Black friar. A member of the order of Dominican friars, founded at the beginning of the 13th century by St. Dominic, so called from the colour of their dress.

c 1500 *God speed Plough* 55 Then commeth the blak freres. 1530 PALSGR. 198/2 Blacke frere, *jacobin*. 1556 *Chron. Grey Friars* (1852) 95 The bysschopp of Rochester, Morys, that was some tyme a blacke freere. 1655 FULLER *Ch. Hist.* vi. III. 269 Of these, Dominicans were the first friars which came over into England anno 1221 . . . they were commonly called Black friars, Preaching friars, and Jacobin friars. 1786 *Ann. Reg.* 210/2 He was originally a Black-friar.

Hence, in *pl.*, the quarters of these friars in various cities and towns, e.g. the part of London where their convent was.

1581 PLAT *Divers New Exp.* (1594) 32 An expert Jeweller, dwelling . . . in the Black friers. 1613 SHAKS. *Hen. VIII.* II. ii. 139 The most convenient place, that I can thinke of For such receipt of Learning, is Black-Friers.

Black game. Black Grouse (*Tetrao tetrix*), of which the male is called BLACKCOCK, and the female grey hen.

1678 RAY *Willughby's Ornith.* 173 The Heathcock or Black game or Grouse, called by Turner the Morehen. 1787 G. WHITE *Selborne* vi. 1818 SCOTT *Rob Roy* vii, The law against unauthorized destroyers of black-game, grouse, partridges, and hares. 1879 *Daily News* 12 Aug. 5/1 The Twentieth when black game are (legally) fair game.

Blackguard (blæ'gärd), sb. and a. (Written 6-8 as two words, 7-8 with hyphen, 8-9 as one word.) [lit. *Black Guard*, concerning the original application of which there is some doubt. It is possible that senses 1 and 2 began independently of each other; or the one may have originated in a play upon the other, *black* being taken with a different sense; it would be difficult to assign priority to either. It is even possible that there may have been a guard of soldiers at Westminster called the *Black Guard*, or that, as some suggest, the attendants or torch-bearers at a funeral, or the link-boys of the streets, may have had this name.]

The following quotations, including the earliest known, show this uncertainty: they may belong to ascertained senses, but cannot be certainly located:

1532 MS. *Churchw. Acc. St. Marg. Westm.* (Receipts for burials), Item Receyvid for the lycens of iiii. torchis of the blake garde vjd. 1568 FULWELL *Like will to like* B iii, Thou art served as Harry hangman captain of the black garde. Nay, I am served, as Haman, etc. 1576 H. KILLIGREW in *Cal. State Pap., Dom. Add.* Rolls Ser. 530 A woman has been murdered in Court by the black guard [cf. p. 532 certain soldiers, for the murder of a woman were condemned to die]. 1621 BURTON *Anat. Mel.* i. ii. 1. ii. (1651) 42 Inferiour to those of their own rank . . . as the black guard in a Princes Court. 1633 SHIRLEY *Tri. Peace* 280 There rush in a carpenter, a painter, one of the black guard.

A. sb. I. A body of persons.

†1. The lowest menials of a royal or noble household, who had charge of pots and pans and other kitchen utensils, and rode in the wagons conveying these during journeys from one residence to another: the scullions and kitchen-knives. *Obs.*

1538 SIR W. FITZGERALD 17 Aug. in *Cal. State Pap.*, Two of the ring-leaders had been some time of the Black Guard of the Kings kitchen. 1599 FULKE *Refut. Rastell* 779 They ought not, nor yet any of the scullerie or blacke garde. 1621 WESTON *White Devil* i, A lousy slave, that . . . rode with the black guard in the dukes carriage, amongst spits and dripping-pans. 1631 BRAINTHAU *Whimies* 56 In progress time . . . shee follows the court; and consorts familiarly with the black-guard. 1678 BUTLER *Hud.* III. i. 1407 Thou art some paltry Black-guard Sprite, Condemned to drudgery in the night.

†2. Those who held a similar position in an army; the servants and camp-followers; the rabble of irregular hangers-on and followers. Also fig. *Obs.*

1560 JEWELL *Corr. Cole* iii, Haue the learned men of your side none other Doctors? for alas these that ye alleage . . . are scarcely worthy to be allowed amongst the blacke garde. 1640 DAY *Part. Bess* iv. (1881) 29 Such silken clowes, When wee with blood deserve, share our reward—We held scarce fellow-mates to the blacke guard. 1640 FULLER *Joseph's Coat* (1867) 46 The black guard of Romish traditions, which lag still behind. 1654 TRAPP *Comm. Ps.* xviii. 13 Ye have lyen among the Pots, black and sooty, as the black guard of an army. 1702 *Eng. Theophrast.* 8 The Muses Black-guard, that like those of our Camp, have no share in the Danger or Honour, yet have the greatest in the Plunder.

†3. A guard of attendants, black in person, dress, or character; a following of 'black' villains. *Obs.*

1563 FOXE *A. & M.* (1583) II. 801 The Blacke gard of the Dominike friers . . . were not all mute, but laide lustily from them. 1583 FULKE *Defence* x. 386 Pelagius, Celestius, and other like heretics of the devils black-guard. 1609 DEKKER *Lanth. & Candle-Lt.* Wks. 1884-5 III. 214 The great Lord of Limbo did therefore commaund all his Blacke Guard that stood about him, to bestirre them. 1676 HALE *Contempl.* 97 An Apostle, one of the twelve, he it is that conducts this black Guard. 1705 HICKERINGILL *Priest-Cr.* II. iii. 28 This Black-guard [Jays and Hangmen] is the only Life-guard of a High-flown, Persecuting . . . Ceremony-monger.

†4. The vagabond, loafing, or criminal class of a community; the blackguardry. *Obs.*

1683 in *N. & Q.* Ser. i. (1854) IX. 15/2 A sort of vicious idle and masterless boyes and rogues commonly called the Black-guard . . . do usually haunt and follow the Court. 1688 SIR J. KNATCHBULL *Diary in N. & Q.* Ser. III. (1864) VI. 2/2 For fear of some of the black guard of Canterbury that had horsed themselves, and had been padding on the road ever since Sunday. 1704 in *Stow's Surv.* (ed. Strype) i. xxvi, Such who are commonly known by the name of the Black Guard, who too commonly lived upon Pilfering Sugar and Tobacco on the Keys, and afterwards became Pickpockets and House Breakers. 1768 TUCKER *Lt. Nat.* II. 143 How prevent your sons from consorting with the blackguard?

†5. esp. The vagrant children of great towns; the 'city Arabs,' who run errands, black shoes, etc.

1715 NELSON *Addr. Pers. Qual.* 214 The distressed Children called the Black-guard. *Ibid.* App. 53 The Children commonly call'd, Blackguard Boys, are destitute of all manner of Provision for Instruction. 1725 DE FOE *Everybody's Bus.* 20 Above ten thousand wicked idle pilfering vagrants . . . called the black-guard, who black your honour's shoes, etc.

1776 BAILEY, *Black-guard*, dirty tatter'd Boys, who ply the Streets to clean shoes.

II. An individual.

†4. A guard or soldier black in person, dress, or character. Also fig. Cf. 2. *Obs.*

1563 R. BAKER in Hakluyt *Voy.* (1589) 133 The Captein now past charge of this brutish blacke gard. 1606 BROOKHOUSE *Temple Open.* 6 Satan . . . placed his Black Guards there. 1745 *Lond. Mag.* 391 He was oblig'd to set up his corps of Black-Guards to escorte him to and from the Senate.

†5. A soldier's boy; a street shoe-black; a 'city Arab' picking up a living by blacking boots, and other jobs, or in less honest ways. *Obs.*

1608 BOVER *Fr. Dict.* (1719), *Goujat*, a soldiers boy, a Black-guard. 1725 SWIFT *Wood's Petiti.* Wks. 1755 IV. i. 285 The little black-guard Who gets very hard His halfpence for cleaning your shoes. 1793 GOSSE *Dict. Vulg.* *Tongue*, *Black guard*, a shabby dirty fellow; a term said to be derived from a number of dirty tattered and roguish boys, who attended at the horse guards . . . St. James's park, to black the boots and shoes of the soldiers, or to do any other dirty offices, these . . . were nick-named the black guards.

†6. One of the idle criminal class; a 'rough'; hence, a low worthless character addicted to or ready for crime; an open scoundrel. (A term of the utmost opprobrium.)

1736 HERVEY *Mem. Geo.* II. i. 284 This step so strengthened his majesty's enmity that 'scoundrel, rascal or black-guard' never failed of being tacked to his name. 1773 BARRINGTON in *Phil. Trans.* LXIII. 259 If the singing of the ploughman in the country is . . . compared with that of the London blackguard. c 1780 BURNS *Two Dogs*, And cheat like any unhang'd blackguard. 1830 MACAULAY *Bunyan*, A man whose manners and sentiments are decidedly below those of his class deserves to be called a blackguard. 1836 MARRYAT *Midship. Easy* x, You impudent blackguard, if you say another word, I'll give you a good thrashing.

†7. A name for a kind of snuff. Also called *Irish blackguard*.

[The story runs, that Lundy Foot, the Dublin snuff-merchant, when a shop-boy, made a mistake in the preparation of some snuff, for which his master called him an 'Irish Blackguard'; but the mistake turning out a fortunate one, the new preparation obtained the name given to its author.] 1792 WOLCOTT (P. Pindar) *Odes K. Long Wks.* 1812 III. 155 An ounce of blackguard or a yard of cloth. 1821 L. HUNT in *Examiner* 12 Oct. 643/1 Knowing the snuff to be real blackguard. 1871 FORSTER in *Lit. World* 370/1 Taking in moderate quantities the snuff called Irish blackguard.

B. attrib. or adj.

†1. Of or pertaining to the shoe-black or street Arab class. *Obs.* (In 1670 applied to a link-boy.)

c 1670 EARL DORSET *Song* 'Dorinda's sparkling wit,' Her Cupid is a blackguard boy, That runs his link full in your face. 1724 SWIFT *Drapier's Lett.* Wks. 1755 V. II. 91 What is written we send to your house by a black-guard boy. c 1735 — *Direct. Servants, Cook*, Let a blackguard boy be always about the house to send on your errands. 1821 H. MACKENZIE *Life Home*, Idle and blackguard boys bawl through the streets.

†2. Of or pertaining to the dregs of the community; of low, worthless character; brutally vicious or scurrilous; blackguardly.

1784 CORNWALLIS *Corr.* (1859) I. vi. 166 The Duchess of Devonshire is indefatigable in her canvas for Fox; she was in the most blackguard houses in Long Acre by eight o'clock this morning. 1786 BURNS *Earnest Cry & Pr.* viii, A blackguard smuggler right behind her. 1788 WOLCOTT (P. Pindar) *Peter's Pens.* Wks. 1812 II. 13 Instead of that vile appellation, Devil, So blackguard, so unfriendly, and uncivil. 1818 BYRON *Lt. Wks.* (1846) 397/2, I have heard him use language as blackguard as his action. 1857 HUGHES *Tom Brown* viii. (1871) 163 Marking certain things as low and blackguard.

Blackguard (blæ'gärd), v. [f. prec. sb.]

1. *intr.* To act the blackguard (sense 3, 6); to 'loaf,' play the vagabond.

1786 BURNS *Holy Fair* ix, An' there a batch of wabster lads, Blackguardin frae Kilmarnock, For fun this day.

2. *trans.* To treat as a blackguard; to abuse or revile in scurrilous terms.

1823 CORBETT *Weekly Reg.* XLVIII. 642/2 You, in your quality of Saint, may claim a right to becall and to black-guard, as much as you please, any portion of the rest of mankind. 1837 SOUTHEY *Lett.* (1856) IV. 518 The 'Monthly Review,' . . . turned against me afterwards and literally blackguarded 'Madoc.' 1871 LEVER *Ld. Kilgobbin* xxi. (1875) 130 I'd bear a deal of blackguarding from the press.

Hence **Blackguarding** *vbl. sb.* (see above).

Blackguardism (blæ'gärdiz'm). [see -ISM.]

1. The characteristic behaviour or manner of a blackguard; blackguardly conduct, ruffianism.

1813 *Edin. Rev.* XXI. 283 There is a tone of blackguardism both in his indecency and his profanity. 1828 MACAULAY *Hallam, Ess.* (1854) I. 87 This . . . blackguardism of feeling and manners. 1869 *Athenæum* 28 Aug. 265 The blackguardism which is making horse-racing . . . detestable.

2. Blackguardly language.

1799 T. JEFFERSON *Writ.* (1859) IV. 281 They wish to hear reason instead of disgusting blackguardism. 1827 *Blackw. Mag.* XXI. 754 The revolting scurrilities, and brutal blackguardism . . . heaped upon Lord Eldon.

Blackguardize, v. [f. as prec. + -IZE.] *trans.* rare. To reduce to the condition of a blackguard.

1846 *Blackw. Mag.* LX. 594 At last we became . . . a good deal blackguardised in our taste.

Blackguardly, a. and adv. [f. as prec. + -LY.]

A. adj. Characteristic of a blackguard; ruffianly; brutal; scurrilous, 'low.'

1847 in CRAIG. 1863 DICEY *Federal St.* II. 17 The essen-

tially blackguardly nature of the... war. 1881 Miss YONGE *Lads & L. v.* 177 The most blackguardly boys in the place.

B. adv. After the manner of a blackguard.
1827 Scott in *Lockhart* (1839) IX. 146 Want of that article blackguardly called pluck.

Blackguardry. [see -RY.] rare. The community of blackguards; = BLACKGUARD sb. 3.
1853 *Blackw. Mag.* LXXIV. 669 The impertinent question at one time current amongst the blackguardry of London.

Black-head (blæk'hed).
1. A name given to various black-headed birds; e.g. a kind of white pigeon with a black head, the Black-headed Gull (*Larus ridibundus*), etc.
1658 ROWLAND Moullet's *Theat. Ins.* 1088 Meal-worms... seem to be bred to catch black-heads and Nightingales.

1741 *Compl. Fam. Piece* III. 512 The Black-Head is a white Pigeon with a black Head. 1806 P. NEILL *Tour Orkn. & Shetl.* 201. 1844 W. H. MAXWELL *Sports & Adv. Scotl.* xx. (1855) 174 What obliging birds the blackheads are!

2. **Angling.** A variety of the Marsh-worm.
1875 'STONEHENGE' *Brit. Sports* i. v. ii. § 3 A variety of this [the marsh] worm... is called in Scotland the Black-head.

3. **pl.** Name for the Reed Mace (*Typha latifolia*).
Black-hole, Black Hole. (Beside obvious application to any dark hole or deep cell.)

1. **Mil.** The punishment cell or lock-up in a barracks; the guard-room. (The official designation till 1868.)

(The name has become historic, in connexion with the horrible catastrophe in 1756 at the black hole of the barracks in Fort William, Calcutta, into which 146 Europeans were thrust for a whole night, of whom only 23 survived till the morning.)

1758 J. HOLWELL *Black Hole Calcutt.* 8 The guard... ordered us to go into the room at the southernmost end of the barracks, commonly called the Black-Hole prison. 1758 J. BLACK *Plan Mar. Syst.* 49 What happened lately in the black-hole at Bengal. 1816 C. JAMES *Mil. Dict.* *Black-hole*, a place in which soldiers may be confined by the commanding officer... In this place they are generally restricted to bread and water. 1844 *Regul. & Ord. Army* 121 Confinement to the Black Hole... to be reserved for cases of Drunkenness, Riot, Violence, or Insolence to Superiors. 1868 *Ibid.* p. 78 note, The term lock up room and black hole is to be abolished.

2. **gen.** A place of confinement for punishment. (Often with allusion to that at Calcutta.)

1831 A. WATTS *House-Hunt.* The bed-chambers (the black-holes of her establishment). 1848 THACKERAY *Van. Fair* ii. Do you think Miss Pinkerton will come out and order me back to the black hole?

3. The deep dark pool under a waterfall; as 'the Black Hole at Aira Force.'

Hence **Black-hole v.**, to confine to the black-hole.

1866 *Pall Mall G.* 9 He was blackholed for twelve hours.

Blacking (blæk'ing), *vbl. sb.* [f. BLACK v.]

1. The action of making black by applying some substance.

1609 DOUGLASS *Ornithop. MicroL* 45 The blacking of the Notes. 1823 J. BADDOCK *Dom. Amusem.* 49 This blacking may be effected with the smoke of a lamp.

2. The unconsumed carbon of flame; 'lamp-black.' *Obs.*

1594 PLAT *Jewell-ho.* III. 72 The blacking of a Lampe tempered with oyle.

3. Any preparation used for making black, as 'shoemakers' black,' which is a stain used to blacken the originally brown leather.) *Obs.*

1591 *Buchanan's Detect.* Mary in H. Campbell's *Love-lett.* Mary Q. Scotts (1824) 127 As it were washed with sowlers blacking. 1850 HOLLYBAND *Treas. Fr. Tong.* *Encre*, ou *noire penicure*... blacking. 1603-4 *Act 1 Jas I.* xx. § 2 It shall... be lawfull... for any of the Companie of Plasterers... to lay and use Whitinge, Blacking, Red Leade. 1622 CORON, *Noir*, blacke colour; blacking.

b. *spec.* A preparation for giving a shining black surface to boots and shoes.

1598 FLORIO, *Folligine*, blacking for shoes. 1712 STEELE *Spect.* No. 461 P. 13 The ingenious Authors of Blacking for Shoes, Powder for colouring the Hair. 1814 MOORE *Parod. Let.* vi. 94, Like the vendor of Best Patent Blacking.

c. *attrib.*, as in *blacking ball*, *bottle*, *brush*, *manu-facturer*, etc.

1753 *Scotts Mag.* Oct. 490/2 My pumps were varnished... with the new German blacking ball. c. 1860 H. STUART *Seaman's Catech.* 81 Scrubbing brush, and blacking brushes.

4. **Blacking, sb. dial.** A black pudding.

1674 N. FAIRFAX *Bulk & Selv.* 159 Thus shall we sort out eternity... as the Darbyshire huswife does her puddings, when she makes whittings and blackings and liverings.

Blackish (blæk'ish), *a.* [f. BLACK a. + -ISH.] Somewhat black; inclining to black.

1486 *Bk. St. Albans* B. iij. As longe as yowre hawkes fete be blakysch and rough: she is full of grece. 1611 BIBLE Job vi. 16 As the streame of brookes... Which are blackish by reason of the yce. 1803 HATCHETT in *Phil. Trans.* XCIII. 65 A blackish-brown colour. 1884 BROWNING *Ferish-tah* 109 Till blackish seems but dun, and whitish-grey.

Hence **Blackishly adv.**, **Blackishness sb.**

1850 HOLLYBAND *Treas. Fr. Tong.* *Noircissure*, blackishness. 1607 GREW *Anat. Plants* vii. § 17 By their Blackishness well enough remark'd. 1670 H. STUBBS *Plus Ultra* 147 But the blood turned blackish-red.

Black Jack, black-jack.

1. A large leather jug for beer, etc. coated externally with tar. *Obs.*

1591 NASH *Prognost.* 24 Cuppes, cannes, pots, glasses, and black iacks. 1619 PASQUILL *Palin.* (1877) 157 The

great blacke Iack well filld with Sack. 1645 MILTON *Colast. Wks.* (1851) 367 Hee runs to the black jack, fills his flagon, spreads the table, and serves up dinner. 1672 DAVENANT *Unfort. Lovers* (1673) 121 He looks as if he had a black Jack under His Cloak. 1822 SCOTT *Nigel* xxii. Ale which he brought in a large leathern tankard or black-jack. ['Used under this name at Winchester College in 1840.' C. B. Mount.]

2. A miner's name for zinc sulphide or blende.
1747 HOOSON *Miner's Dict.* Nij b. It is most commonly found in hard Veins and Pipes, some do call it Black-Jack. 1762 *Grat. Mag.* 400 Blende, called by the miners black-jack or mock ore. 1812 SIR H. DAVY *Chem. Philos.* 373 Zinc is procured... from blende or black-jack.

3. **U. S.** A shrubby kind of oak (*Quercus nigra*).
1856 OLMSTED *Slave States* 383 The gray beech, and the shrubby black-jack oak. 1863 *Times* 16 June The intrenchments and abatis in the black jack thicket. 1879 TOURGEE *Foot's Err.* xv. 75 The wide fire-place, in which the dry hickory and black-jack was blazing brightly.

4. **Sc.** A black leather jerkin: see JACK. *Obs.*
1513 DOUGLAS *Aeneis* viii. Prol. 99 Some garris wyth a ged staf to jag throw black jakkis. 1820 SCOTT *Monast.* x. With their glittering steel caps, and their black-jacks.

5. A popular name of the mustard beetle.
1886 *Standard* 24 May 2/1 The mustard beetle (*Phaedon betular*), commonly known as the Black Jack.

Black lead, black-lead, blacklead.

1. A black ore of LEAD. *Obs.*

2. The ordinary name of the mineral called also plumbago or graphite; a substance of greyish-black colour and metallic lustre, consisting of almost pure carbon with a slight admixture of iron; it is chiefly used (made into pencils) for drawing and writing, and for giving a black metallic polish to iron-work. (The name dates back to days before the real composition of the substance was known.)

1583 PLAT *Divers New Exp.* (1594) 39 Some... draw thereon with black lead. 1610 HOLLAND *Camden's Brit.* i. 767 That mineral kind of earth or hardened glittering stone (we call it Black-lead). 1612 BRINSLEY *Lud. Lit.* 47 Note them with a pencil of black lead. 1683 PETRUS *Fleta Min.* II. *Lead*, Of late it [black lead] is curiously formed into cases of deal or cedar, and so sold as dry pencils. 1732 DE FOS, *see Tour Gt. Brit.* (1769) III. 320 The Black-lead is found in heavy Lumps, some of which are hard, gritty, and of small Value, others soft and of a fine Texture. 1866 RUSKIN *Eth. Dust.* 18 There is a little iron mixed with our black lead.

b. This substance in the form of a pencil.

1656 DUGARD *Gate Lat. Unt.* § 725. 225 Have with you always a table-book (or black-lead and paper). 1832 CARLYLE in *Fraser's Mag.* V. 390 Boswell is there with ass-skin and black-lead to note thy jargon.

c. Writing done with a black-lead pencil.

1867 PERRY (1877) V. 276 Having done it without looking on my paper, I find I could not read the black-lead.

d. A preparation of inferior quality for domestic use in polishing grates and other cast-iron utensils.
1849 CHAMBERS *Inform. People* II. 788/2 Stove-grates are cleaned with black-lead mixed with turpentine.

3. **Attrib. and Comb.** (black-lead), as *black-lead pen*, *pencil*, *study*, etc.; + *black-lead oomb*, a comb used to darken the hair.

1655 GURNALL *Chr. in Arm.* ix. § 3 (1669) 145 He could not bear the sight of his own grey hairs, and therefore used a 'black-lead-comb to discolour them. 1716 SWIFT *Progr. Beauty* Wks. 1755 III. ii. 166 To think of 'black-lead combs is vain. 1612 BRINSLEY *Lud. Lit.* 247 Being noted with a line with a 'blacklead pen. 1807 M. CLIFFORD *Notes Dryden* II. 5, I... put up my 'Black Lead Pen. 1877 MOXON *Mech. Exerc.* (1703) 36 With a 'Black-lead Pencil, draw a line from that Mark to the second Mark. 1790 BOSWELL *Johnson* (1831) I. 162 He had marked the passages with a 'black-lead pencil. 1813 *Examiner* 17 May 311/2 S. Terry... 'black-lead-maker. 1865 THORNBURY *Turner* I. 87 His... 'blacklead studies of trees.

Blacklead, black-lead, v. [f. prec.] *trans.*

To colour or rub with black-lead; to trace or draw in black-lead. Hence **Black-leaded ppl. a.**, **Black-leading vbl. sb.**

1839 C. BROWNE *Let.* 21 Dec. in *Life*, I am much happier black-leading the stoves. 1861 BYCROFT *Agony Point* (1862) 154 The same hands that had black-leaded the grate. c. 1865 G. GORE in *Circ. Sc. I.* 220/1 Zinc deposits spread over blackleaded surfaces. *Ibid.* 234/1 The mould may... be prepared... by blackleading.

Black-leg, -legs.

1. A disease in cattle and sheep which affects the legs. (Better *black-legs*.)

a. 1722 LISLE *Observ. Husb.* (1757) 347 They have a distemper in Leicestershire frequent among the calves, which in that country they call the black-legs. It is a white jelly settling in their legs, from whence it has its name of black-legs. 1884 *Illustr. Sydney News* 26 Aug. 15/2 A cattle disease, known as blackleg, is stated to have killed a number of cattle in the Mount Alexander district.

2. A turf swindler; also, a swindler in other species of gambling. (Formerly also *black-legs*.) [As in other slang expressions, the origin of the name is lost: of the various guesses current none seem worth notice.]

1772 B. PARSONS *Newmarket* II. 163 The frequenters of the Turf, and numberless words of theirs are exotics everywhere else; then how should we have been told of *black-legs*, and of *town-tops*, *taken-in*, *beat-hollow*, etc. 1774 R. CUMBERLAND *Note of Hand* II. i. Gentlemen of the turf; what sort of gentlemen are they? *Francis*. These fellows are gamblers, black-legs, sharpers. 1812 *Examiner* 14

Sept. 591/1 Any blackleg or pickpocket in the land. 1813 *Ibid.* 17 May 319/1, I was... posted as a black-legs. 1857 THACKERAY *Eng. Hum.* v. (1858) 245 You see noblemen and black-legs bawling and betting in the Cockpit.

3. A local name of opprobrium for a workman willing to work for a master whose men are on strike. (Also called *black-neb*.)

1865 *Pall Mall G.* 29 Oct. 7 If the timber merchants persist in putting on 'blacklegs,' a serious disturbance will ensue.

4. **Sc.** = BLACKFOOT, a match-maker. *rare*.

Hence (in sense 2) **Black-leggery, Blackleg-ism**, the profession or practice of a black-leg.

1832 MAGINN in *Blackw. Mag.* XXXII. 427 From following any profession save the Army, the Navy, Black-aprony, and Black-leggery. 1832 *Pall Mall G.* 9 Dec. 20 The two baronets resemble each other only in cowardice, spite, and blackleggery. 1845 *Blackw. Mag.* LVIII. 204 There was a fair amount of black-legism on both occasions.

Blacklet. [f. BLACK sb. + -LET, dim. suffix.]

A tiny speck of soot or dirt.

1861 WYNTER *Soc. Bees* 25 Those finer blacklets that invisibly permeate the air.

Black-letter, black letter, blackletter.

1. A name (which came into use about 1600) for the form of type used by the early printers, as distinguished from the 'Roman' type, which subsequently prevailed. A form of it is still in regular use in Germany, and in occasional use (under the name of 'Gothic' or 'Old English') for fancy printing in England.

1640-4 *Charge agst. Abp. Canterb.* in Rushworth *Hist. Coll.* III. (1692) I. 115 His diligence to send for the Printer, and directing him to prepare a Black Letter, and to send it to his Servants at Edinburgh, for Printing this Book. 1712 ARBUTHNOT *John Bull* II. vii. (1727) 60 The Seven champions in the black-letter. 1871 EARLE *Philol. Eng. Tong.* § 99 The form which is known to us as 'Black Letter,' and which was hardly less rectilinear than the old Runes themselves.

2. That which is printed in this type.

1811 BYRON *Hints fr. Hor.* 101 note, This is the millennium of black letter. 1860 HAWTHORNE *Morb. Fawn* I. xxiv. 263 Like a page of black letter, taken from the history of the Italian republics.

3. *attrib.* (Usually with hyphen, or as one word.)

1791 MAXWELL in Boswell *Johnson* an. 1770. He loved... the old black-letter books. 1800 RITSON *Rob. Hood* II. iv. From an old black-letter copy. 1808 W. IRVING *Salmag.* xviii. (1860) 410 There was a certain black-letter dignity in the name. 1800 — *Sketch Bk.* II. 90 He was a complete black-letter hunter. 1845 LD. CAMPBELL *Chancellors* (1857) IV. lxxiv. 6 Not much of a lawyer compared with the black-letter men of these days. 1855 MACAULAY *Hist. Eng.* III. 31 He scornfully thrust aside... all that blackletter learning. 1862 BURTON *Bk. Hunter* I. 18 He was not a black-letter man, or a tall-copyist, or an uncut man. 1864 *Reader* 23 July 105/1 The collection of black-letter ballads.

4. **Black letter day:** an inauspicious day; as distinguished from a red letter (or auspicious) day: the reference being to the old custom of marking the saints'-days in the calendar with red letters.

1757 SMOLLETT *Reprisal* I. ii. (1777) 135 O! the month of November, She'll have cause to remember, As a black letter day all the days of her life.

Hence **Black-lettered ppl. a.**

1800 SCOTT *Abbot* xxxii. Endeavouring... to fix her... attention on the black-lettered Bible which lay before her.

Black list.

1. A list of persons who have incurred suspicion, censure, or punishment; cf. BLACK a. 11.

1692 WASHINGTON tr. *Milton's Def. Pop.* x. Wks. (1851) 228 If ever Charles his Posterity recover the Crown... you are like to be put in the Black List. 1774 MRS. A. ADAMS *Let.* (1848) 26 Mr. Boylston and Mr. Gill the printer, are held upon the black list.

2. *fig.* A list of bad cases.

1853 KANE *Grinnell Exp.* xxxi. (1856) 267 Eight cases of scorbutic gums were already upon my black-list.

Hence **Black-list v.**, to enter in a black list.

1718 HICKES & NELSON *J. Kettlewell* III. § 10. 212 This Method of Black-Listing had its original from a certain notion. *Mod. Newspaper*, S. was expelled and black-listed last night.

Blackly (blæk'li), *adv.* [f. BLACK a. + -LY 2.]

In a black, gloomy, or frowning manner; darkly, gloomily, dismally.

1563 *Mirr. Mag.* (Induct.) lvi. With visage grym, sterne lookes and blackeley hewed. 1639 FULLER *Holy War* v. xi. (1840) 262 This project so blackly blasted with perjury. a. 1824 CAMPBELL *Dead Eagle* 38 His shape distinct Was blackly shadow'd on the sunny ground. 1876 GEO. ELIOT *Dan. Der.* iv. xxx. The pool blackly shivering.

4. **Black-mack, Obs.** A blackbird.

1519 HORMAN *Vulgaria* 101 § 10 The blackmacke or an oyll [*merula*] feeth alone. 1598 FLORIO, *Merula*, a birde called a black-mack, and owzell, a mearle, a black-bird.

Black mail. Also *black-mail*, *blackmail*. [f. MAIL = rent, tribute.]

1. **Hist.** A tribute formerly exacted from farmers and small owners in the border counties of England and Scotland, and along the Highland border, by freebooting chiefs, in return for protection or immunity from plunder.

1555 ABP. HAMILTON *Catech.* (1884) 98 Quhay takis over sair mail, ouer mekle ferme, or ony blake mailis, fra thair tennands. c. 1561 R. MAITLAND *Thievis Lidded*, vi. Common taking of blak mail. 1567 *Scot. Act Jas. VI.* (1597) xxi. Diuers subjects of the Inland, takis and sithis vnder their assurance, payand them black-mail, and permitand them to reif, herrie, and oppresse their Nichbouris. 1601 *Act 43 Eliz.*

xiii. Sundry of her Majesties loving Subjects within the sayd [4 northern] Counties... have been inforced to pay a certaine rate of money, come, cattell, or other consideration, commonly there called by the name of Blacke maile. 1707 *Addr. fr. Cumbrld. in Lond. Gas.* No. 432/2 There is, now, no Debatable Land to contend for; no Black Mail to be paid to the Leaders of the Robbers, as a Ransom. 1768 *BLACKSTONE Comm.* IV. 263. 1824 *Scott War.* I. 222 The boldness of them will never steal a hoof from any one that pays black-mail to Vich Ian Vohr. 1875 *Sturges Const. Hist.* II. xvi. 344 Preferring to pay blackmail to the Scotts.

2. By extension: Any payment extorted by intimidation or pressure, or levied by unprincipled officials, critics, journalists, etc. upon those whom they have it in their power to help or injure.

1840 *MACAULAY Clive, Ess.* (1854) II. 503 Even the wretched phantom who still bore the imperial title stooped to pay this ignominious black-mail. 1860 *Mrs. HARVEY Cruise Claymore* II. 216 Arabs infesting the country, and levying black-mail on all passers-by. 1863 *Longf. Birds Killingw.* 36 Marauders who, in lieu of pay, levied black mail upon the garden beds.

† 3. *Law.* Rent reserved in labour, produce, etc., as distinguished from 'white rents', which were reserved in 'white money' or silver. *Obs.* (Coke's and Blackstone's explanation of *redditus nigri*, which Camden appears to have taken for rents in 'black money' or copper.)

1805 *CAMDEN Rem.* 205 Black money (what that was I know not, if it were not of Copper, as *Mail and Black-mail*). 1848 *COKE Inst. II. Magna Ch.* viii. Work-days, rent cummin, rent corn, etc. ... called *Redditus nigri*, black maile, that is, black rents. 1768 *BLACKSTONE Comm.* II. 42.

Black-mail, v. [*f. prec.*] *trans.* To levy black mail upon; to extort money from by intimidation, by the unscrupulous use of an official or social position, or of political influence or vote.

1880 *L. OLIPHANT Gilend ix.* 265 The sheikh... black-mails travellers. 1882 *W. WEEKEND Soc. Law Labor* 176 The chief... would protect and blackmail him.

Hence **Black-mailer**, **Black-mailing** *vbl. sb.* and *ppl. a.* (modern words referring chiefly to the levying of BLACK-MAIL in sense 2.)

1868 *N. York Herald* 24 Apr. The Quixotic enterprise of the lobbyists and blackmailers. 1879 *J. HAWTHORNE Laugh. Mill* 108 Were I to lose all my fortune, I could, by turning black-mailer, ensure a permanent income twice as large. 1884 *Pall Mall G.* 27 Feb. 4/1 Introducing a system of blackmailing even worse than that which prevailed before. 1884 *Harper's Mag.* Mar. 567/1 The black-mailing vixen.

* > **Black mark.** A black cross or other mark made against the name of a person who has incurred censure, penalty, etc. Also *fig.*

1845 *DISRAELI Sybil* (1863) 129 Who's pushing on there? I see you, Mrs. Page. Won't there be a black mark against you? 1874 *BLACKIE Self-Cult.* 60 Note such a fellow... with a black mark, as a disloyal and disaffected subject.

Hence **Black-mark v.**

1873 *MASSON Drumm. of Hawth.* xiii. 278 Ostracise and black mark all who do not come into their confederacy.

Black Monday, black money: see **MONDAY, MONEY.**

Black Monk. A monk of the order of St. Benedict, so called from the colour of the habit worn. See **MONK.**

1297 *R. GLOUC.* 433 *Pe priorye*... of blake monkes. 1517 *TORRINGTON Pilgr.* (1884) 10 The Monastery of blake monks call'd Seynt Nicholas De Elío. 1722 *J. STEVENS Adit. Dugdale's Monast.* I. 169 The Benedictine Monks in England, who were call'd Black Monks.

Black moor, more: see **BLACKAMOOR.**

Black-mouth. A black-mouthed person or animal; *fig.* a foul-mouthed person, a slanderer.

1642 *Lond. Apprent. Decl. in Harl. Misc.* (Malh.) V. 307 As some blackmouths have uncharitably belched out against us. 1656 *TRAPP Comm. John ix.* 28 Every black-mouth cast dirt upon Christ's disciples.

† **Black-mouthed** (-mau'ðd), *a.* Having a black mouth; *fig.* slanderous, calumnious.

1595 *Polimantia* (1881) 33 Blackmouthed enuie. 1633 *T. STAFFORD Pac. Hib.* iii. (1821) 256 Blacke mouthed railing Rabshakeh. 1689 *Lond. Gas.* No. 2427/4 One black brindled Bull-Bitch. Black Mouth'd. 1697 *Snake in Gr.* (ed. 2) 281 All the Black-Mouth'd and Hellish Venom.

Black-neb. dial. [See **NEB, beak, bill.**]

1. A popular name for various black-billed birds, as the Crane and the Common Crow.

1802 *G. MONTAGU Ornith. Dict.* (1832) 47. 1837 *MAC GILLIVRAY Hist. Brit. Birds* I. 516. 1884 *Chand. Jnl.* 29 Mar. 204/2 Swarms of diminutive 'black nebs.'

† 2. *Sc.* A person charged with democratic sympathies at the time of the French Revolution. *Obs.*

1816 *SCOTT Antiq.* vi. Take care, Monkbarns! we shall set you down among the black nebs by and by. 1821 *GALT Ann. Parish* 269 (JAM.) Many of the heritors considered me a black-neb. 1864 *McKAY Hist. Kilmarnock* 107.

Blackness (blæk'nēs). [*f. BLACK a. + -NESS.*] The quality or state of being black.

1340 *Cursor M.* 8077 (Fairf.) Foure sarasinis con pai mete... of paire blaknes hit was selcoups. 1388 *WYCLIF Nahum* ii. 10 The face of alle as blacknesse of a pott. 1606 *SHAKS. Ant. & Ch.* I. iv. 13 The Spots of Heauen, More ferie by nights Blacknesse. 1611 *BIBLER Jude* 13 The blacknesse of darknesse. 1710 *H. BEDFORD Wind. Ch. Eng.* 35 The different blackness of the Ink. 1712 *ADDISON Spect.* No. 459 P. 13 The Blackness and Deformity of Vice. 1856 *KANE Arct. Expl.* I. xv. 167 You steer through the blackness for a lump of greater blackness.

Black nob, ox: see **NOB, Ox.**

† **Black-pot. Obs.** Also blackpot, black pot. A beer-mug (cf. **BLACK-JACK**); a toper.

1590 *GREENE Fr. Bacon* v. 122 I'll be Prince of Wales over all the blackpots in Oxford. 1636 *HEYWOOD Love's Mistr.* II. Iugg, what's shee but sister to a black-pot. 1818 *SCOTT Ht. Midl.* xxxii. A whole whisken, or black pot of sufficient double ale.

Black Prince.

1. A name given (apparently by 16th c. chroniclers) to the eldest son of Edward III. [As to the origin of the appellation, many guesses are current, but published sources afford no evidence.]

1563 *GRAFTON Chron.* (1569) 324 Edward prince of Wales, who was called the blacke Prince. 1587 *HOLINSHED Hist. Eng.* 348 b. 1599 *SHAKS. Hen. V.* II. iv. 56 All our Princes capti'd, by the hand Of that blacke Name, Edward, black Prince of Wales. 1621 *SPEED Theat. Gt. Brit.* ix. xii. an. 1329 By-named (not of his colour, but of his dreaded acts in battle) the Blacke Prince. 1688 *J. BARNES Hist. Edu.* III. i. iii. § 5. 46 Surnamed by the French le Noir, or the Black-Prince. [But cf. 1724 *COSTE Ess. de Montaigne* I. i. (1836) I. 3 note, Edouard, prince de Galles, que les Anglois nomment communément le black-prince.] 1762 *HUME Hist. Eng.* (1770) II. xvi. 513 Denominated the Black Prince, from the colour of his armour. a 1824 *E. M. STEWART Lond. City T. Q. Phillips* xvi. 139 The surcoat of black velvet emblazoned with three white ostrich feathers, and the motto 'Ich Dien', which gave rise to the epithet of the Black Prince.

† 2. The prince of darkness, the devil. *Obs.*

1829 *R. HARVEY Pl. Perc.* 7 To entitle those Browne secretaries of the Blacke Prince, with the name of traitors.

Black pudding. (Also with hyphen.) A kind of sausage made of blood and suet, sometimes with the addition of flour or meal.

1568 *FULWEL Like to like* Bj, Who comes yonder puffing as what as a black pudding. 1634 *HEYWOOD Maiden.* lost III. Wks. 1874 IV. 142 We will haue... sixe Black-Puddings to bee serued vp in Sorrell-sops. 1664 *BUTLER Hud.* II. III. 380 In Lyrick numbers write an Ode on His Mistress eating a Black-pudden. 1873 *E. SMITH Foods* 80 Sausages and black puddings.

Black Rod. Short for *Gentleman Usher of the Black Rod* (so called from the black wand surmounted by a golden lion which he carries as his symbol of office). The chief Gentleman Usher of the Lord Chamberlain's department of the royal household, who is also usher to the House of Lords and to the Chapter of the Garter. Also, a similar functionary in colonial legislatures.

1621 in *SHERWOOD*. 1646 *EVANCE Noble Ord.* i. Ely is committed to the Black Rod. 1668 *MARVELL Corr.* ci. Wks. 1872-5 II. 257 The Lords... sentenced Sir Samuel Barnardiston... to pay 300 *li.* fine, and be under black rod without baile till he payd it. 1724 *Lond. Gas.* No. 6284/1 The Black Rod kneeling held the Gospels. 1861 *HUGHES Tom Brown Ox.* I. iii. 40 Lords and ladies in waiting, white sticks or black rods. 1865 *Times* 25 Aug. (Quebec), The Usher of the Black Rod... was directed, after the manner of St. Stephen's, to summon the members of the Lower House.

Black salts. In the old potash-making process: Wood ashes after lixiviation and evaporation; impure potassium hydrate. Hence **Black-salter**, one who makes black salts.

1880 *E. KIRKE Garfield* 6 Our future President became prime-minister to a black-salter. 1881 *THAYER Log Cab. to White Ho.* x. Potash... in its crude state, was called 'black-salts.' The manufacturer of the article was called a 'black-salter.'

† **Black sanctus. Obs.** A burlesque hymn or anthem; 'rough music.' See **SANCTUS.**

Black sheep: see **SHEEP.**

Blacksmith (blæk'smip). A smith who works in iron or black metal, as distinguished from a 'whitesmith' who works in tin or white metal.

1243 *Act x. Rich. III.* xii. § 1 Artificers of the said Realm... Bladesmiths, Blacksmiths, Spurriers, Goldbeaters. c 1500 *Coke Lorell's B.* 9 Brydel bytters, blacke smythes, and ferrars. 1709 *STERLE Tailor* No. 31 P. 3 Having got a Black-Smith of Lemnos to make her Son's Weapons. 1813 *Parl. Debate in Examiner* 24 May 326/2 If this should be decided to be a valid marriage, the poor Gretna green Blacksmith would be ruined. 1860 *TYNDALL Glac.* II. § 19 A clever blacksmith can make a nail red-hot by hammering it.

Hence **Blacksmithing sb.**

1830 *GALT Lawrie T.* II. i. (1849) 43 For blacksmithing a prime hammer. 1861 *DU CHAILLU Equat. Afr.* xxvi. 464 In their blacksmithing operations. 1876 *GEO. ELIOT Dan. Der.* IV. lvii. 169 If he doesn't like the blacksmithing.

Black-snake.

1. A name given to several dark-coloured snakes; as in U.S. to the *Coluber constrictor* and *C. Alleghaniensis*; in Jamaica to the *Natrix atra*.

1688 *J. CLAYTON Virginia in Phil. Trans.* XVIII. 135 The Black Snake, is the largest I think. 1802 *BINGLEY Anim. Biog.* (1813) II. 462 The black snake... able to fascinate birds. 1883 *Harper's Mag.* Oct. 708/1 None of my venomous acquaintances... black-snake, whip-snake, coral-snake, or viper.

2. *U.S.* A long whip-lash.

1883 *Harper's Mag.* Mar. 495/1 The... drivers trudged beside them... cracking huge 'black-snakes' at the animals.

† **Blacksome, a. Obs. rare** -1. [*f. BLACK + -SOME.*] Of black character, dusky, darksome.

1597 *TORTE Laura in Alba* (1880) Introd. 29 Like to the blacksome night I may compare My Mistres gowne.

Black-tail.

† 1. A sea fish not identified; the *μελάνουρος*, *melanurus*, of ancient writers. *Obs.*

1661 *LOVELL Hist. Anim.* 4 Min. 232 Black-taille, *Melanurus*. Was counted a poore fish.

2. A name for certain varieties of the perch.

1734 *MORTIMER in Phil. Trans.* XXXVIII. 316 *Perca marina, cauda nigra*, the Black-Tail.

Black-thorn (blæk'thɔrn).

1. A common thorny shrub, bearing white flowers before the leaves and very small dark purple plums; called also the Sloe (*Prunus spinosa*): the name is probably due to the dark colour of the naked branches, with which the white flowers strongly contrast. Its wood is prized for walking-sticks.

1388 *WYCLIF Dan.* xiii. 58 Vndur a blak thorn (1388 plum tree). 1496 *Bk. St. Albans, Fysshynge* 8 Take a fayr shote of blacke-thorn; crabbe tree; medeler. 1576 *LYTE Dodoens* vi. xlviii. 721 The wilde Plumme tree, Blacke thorne, and Sloo tree. 1634 *HABINGTON Castara* II. § 2. xix, Love shall in that tempestuous showre Her brightest blossom like the blacke-thorne show. 1842 *TENNYSON May Queen* II. 8, I shall never see The blossom on the black-thorn, the leaf upon the tree. 1882 *Garden* 8 Apr. 241/1 One of the best flowering shrubs we know is the double-flowered blackthorn.

b. A walking-stick or cudgel made of the stem of this shrub.

1849 *W. H. MAXWELL Stories Waterloo*, An hundred blackthorns rattled above my head.

c. *attrib.*, as in *blackthorn leaves, winter*.

1789 *G. WHITE Selborne* (1813) II. 292 Blackthorn... usually blossoms while cold N.E. winds blow; so that the harsh rugged weather obtaining at this season, is called by the country people, blackthorn-winter. 1824 *SCOTT St. Roman's* xv, Tea, madam! I saw none. Ash leaves and black-thorn leaves were brought in.

2. *U.S.* A species of hawthorn (*Crataegus tomentosa*), also called Pear-thorn. Webster 1864, and Miller *Plant-n.* 1884. In W. Indies, a species of *Acacia* (*A. Farnesiana*).

Black vomit. The dark matter vomited in the last stage of yellow fever; also, the fever itself. See **VOMIT.**

Black-wash. Also black wash.

1. *Med.* A lotion composed of calomel and lime-water; grey lotion.

1818 *A. COOPER Surg. Ess.* I. (ed. 3) 166 Under the black-wash poultice. 1824 *J. SCOFFER in Orr's Circ.* Sc. Chem. 495 The lotion known in medical and surgical practice, as the black wash.

2. Any black composition used for washing over and blackening. (Also *blackwash*.)

1861 *Times* 12 July, The blackwash was removed from the paintings; bad taste and want of means caused the whitewash to be left. [See next.]

Blackwash, v. [*f. prec. sb.*]

1. *trans.* To wash or colour with a black liquid. c 1770 Used by H. WATPOLE. 1861 *Times* 12 July, The Gueux... whitewashed the façades. But they also black-washed the paintings of Van Eyck and Memling.

2. *fig.* To blacken the character of; to asperse, calumniate. (Cf. *whitewash*.)

1869 *ST. CLAIR & BR. Resid. Bulgaria* Pref. 7 The Rayah has been too much whitewashed... whilst the Turk has been too much blackwashed by his enemies. 1875 *HELPS Soc. Press.* xii. 160 He 'black-washes'... the whole human race.

Black-wood, blackwood. A name applied in different parts of the world to various trees and their timber: in New South Wales, *Acacia melanoxylon*; East Indies, *Dalbergia latifolia*; St. Helena, *Melbania melanoxylon*; West Australia, *Acacia penninervis*. (Miller *English Plant-names*.)

1631 *SPEED Prosp. Fam. Parts World* 43 Cedars, Palmetoes, Black-wood, White-wood. 1693 *Phil. Trans.* XVII. 621 The... Blackwood of those of Barbados. 1779 *FORREST Voy. N. Guinea* 381 They carry to China great quantities of blackwood, which is worked up there into furniture, &c. 1841 *ELPHINSTONE Hist. India* I. 9 Sissoo (or blackwood trees). 1883 *MISS BRADDON Gold. Calif.* xi. 144 The pretty carved Indian tea-table—a gem in Bombay blackwood.

Blacky (blæk'ki), *sb. colloq.* Also blackie, -ey. [*f. BLACK, with -Y, dim., as in Tommy.*]

1. A black, a negro: often used without the article after the fashion of a proper name. Cf. *darkey*.

1815 *MOORE Epist. Tom Cröb* 1 Aye, even Blackey cries shame. 1824 *THACKERAY Newcomes* I. 35 He swore he would demolish blackey's ugly face. 1863 *Athenaeum* No. 1858 737/2 Overseers who... flog their blackies unmercifully.

2. *Sc. and north.* = Black one; also = blackbird.

Blacky (blæk'ki), *a.* [*f. BLACK a. + -Y.*] Somewhat black, blackish.

1594 *CAREW Tasso* (1881) 75 From his fell mouth such blacky belches came. 1877 *Hon. Miss Ferrard* I. vii. 234 Of jute and blacky-brown silk.

Blad, sb. 1 Sc. [*f. BLAD v.*] A firm flat blow.

a 1715 *Jacobite Relics* II. 139 (JAM.) They lend sic hard and heavy blads, Our Whigs nae mair can crawl, man. 1789 *D. DAVIDSON Seasons* 79 (JAM.) Wha gied them mony a donsy blad... that day.

Blad (blad), *sb. 2 Sc.* Also blaud. [Possibly the same as *prec.*, or at least from *BLAD v.*: thus there is also *dad vb.* to beat, thump, and *dad* a large piece, a 'thumping' piece.] A fragment, portion, piece, bit, or lump.

c 1527 *STEWART Soutars Anst.* in *Evergreen* I. 121 Grit blads and bitts thou staw [= stole] full oft. 1574 *J. MELVILL Autobiog.* (1842) 33 He [John Knox] was lyk to ding that pulpit in blads. 1573 in *Thomson's Invent.* 187 (JAM.)

Black Maria (not given under the name, as in the Cambridge & in Webster's dictionaries)

Take the fyve bladdis of tapestrie. 1705 BURNS 2nd Ep. *Lapraikiv*, I'll write, and that a hearty blaud, This vera night. 1824 SCOTT *Redgunt*, xi, Dougal would hear nothing but a blaud of Davie Lindsay. 1845 *Blackw. Mag.* LI. 181 Dabs of gum, blads of orange, and lumps of putty.

Blad, *v. Sc.* Also 8 blaud. [prob. onomatopoeic.] *trans.* To deal a blow to, to slap heavily.

1524 *Vision* xiv. in *Evergreen* I. 220 They'll jade hir and blad hir Untill scho brak hir Tether. 1786 BURNS *Ordination* ii, He's the boy will blaud her! 1837 R. NICOLL *Poems* 110, I like the healthfu' gale That blads fu' kindly there.

Hence **Bladding** (also **blauding**), *ppl. a.*

1785 BURNS Ep. *J. M. Math* i, The shearsers cower To shun the bitter blaudin' show'r.

Bladder (blæ'dar). Forms: 1 blædræ, (blædre), blædre, -ddre, 3-4 blæddre, 4-5 blæddere, blæddre, 5 blæd, blæddyr, blæddur(e), blowre, 5-6 blædder, 6 blæder, blæddare, 6-7 blæther, (Sc. 6 blæddir, 8- blæther, blæther), 5- bladder. [Com. Teut.: OE., WSax. *blædre*, *blæddre*, Anglian *blædre*, wk. fem. = OSax. **blædra*, (MLG. *blæder*, *blædder*, MDu. *blæder(e)*, Du. *blaar*, Flem. *bladder*), OHG. *blātara* (MHG. *blātere*, *blāttere*, mod.G. *blatter*), ON. *blādra* (Sw. *blåddra*, Da. *blære*) :—OTeut. **blæ-drōn*-, f. verb. stem *blæ-* to Blow + *-drōn* suffix denoting instrument, cogn. w. Gr. *-rpa*, *-rpor*. The dialectal variation in OE. *blædre*, *blæddre*, remained in the ME. *blædder*, *blædder* (both having the vowel shortened by position); *blæther*, *blæther* (still used in Scotland) may represent the ON. form, but is more probably an instance of the fluctuation of *d* and *ð* in conjunction with *r*, seen in comparing *father*, *mother*, *feather*, *hiither*, with ME. *fader*, *moder*, *feder*, *hider*.]

1. A membranous bag in the animal body.

a. *orig.* The musculo-membranous bag which serves as the receptacle of the urinary fluid secreted by the kidneys. Called also **urinary bladder**.

a 700 *Epinal Gloss.* (O. E. Texts) 1077 *Vessica*, *bledrae*, *Corpus Gl.* 2101 *Vessica*, *bledre*. c 1000 Sax. *Leechd.* I. 360 Wið blæddran sære genim eoferes blæddran mid þam micgan. 1398 *Trivisa Barth.* De P. R. v. xlv. (1495) 161 Euery beest that gendryth hath a bladder. *Ibid.* vii. lv. 268 Yf they come of the bladder. c 1400 *Pallad. on Husb.* i. 54 Yf langoure in thaire bladders ought awake. 1519 *Horman Vulg.* iii. 32 The payne of the stone that cometh of dropynge of the bladder. 1530 *Palsgr.* 904 The bladder, *la vessie*. 1570 *Levins Maniþ.* 28 Blæddare, Blader, *vessica*. 1607 *Topsell Four-f. Beasts* 546 The bladder of a wilde Boar. The blather of a Goat. 1728 *Pore Liad* v. 88 Between the bladder and the bone it pass'd. 1782 BURNS *Death Poor Mailie* 64 For thy pains, thou'se get my blather. 1785 — *Sc. Drink* xvii, May gravels round his blather wrench! 1824 E. WILSON *Anat. Vade M.* 541 The Bladder is an oblong membranous viscus of an ovoid shape.

b. Any membranous bag in the animal body; usually with distinctive adjunct, as *gall*-, *air*-, *swimming*-bladder.

1661 *LOVELL Hist. Anim.* & *Min.* 232 A bladder in them full of spawn. 1668 *CULPEPPER & COLE Barthol. Anat.* II. vi. 106 The first bladder of the Heart. 1797 *BAILLIE Morb. Anat.* (1807) 250 The gall-bladder is sometimes distended with bile. 1847 *CARPENTER Zool.* § 527 In the organisation of Fishes, the swimming bladder is situated in the abdomen. 1869 *NICHOLSON Zool.* xxv. (1880) 250 *Rotifera*. In the hinder part of the body, is a sac or vesicle, which is termed the 'contractile bladder'.

† 2. A morbid vesicle containing liquid or putrid matter; a boil, blister, pustule. *Obs.*

c 1000 *ÆLFRIC Ex. ix.* 9 On mannun and on nytenum beoð wunda and swellende blæddran. c 1000 Sax. *Leechd.* I. 86 Uncunum blæddrum ðe on mannes nebbe sitað. 1388 *Wyclif Ex. ix.* 10 Woundis of bolnynges blæddris weren maad in men & in werk beestis. 1523 *FITZHERB. Husb.* § 62 A bladder full of water two inches longe and more. 1577 B. GOOGE *Heresbach's Husb.* (1586) 167 All swelling as it were with little bladders. 1606 *SHAKS. Tr. & Cr. v.* i. 24 Dirt rotten livers, bladders full of imposthume. 1607 *Topsell Four-f. Beasts* 419 The pimples or bladders which arise in the bites of a Shrew. 1880 *Syd. Soc. Lex. s.v.*, *Bladder* in the throat, old American term for cynanche.

b. (see quot.)

a 1722 *LISLE Observ. Husb.* (1757) 343 (E. D. S.) A distemper that falls on a bullock in the spring, which they in their country call the bladder; the bullock will be taken with a swelling of his lips, and running of his mouth, and swelling of his eyes, and running of them.

3. The prepared bladder of an animal, which may be inflated and used from its buoyancy as a float; also as the wind-bag of a simple kind of bag-pipe, as a receptacle for lard, etc.

a 1225 *Ancr. R.* 282 A blæddre ibollen ful of winde ne duued nout. c 1425 *Seven Sag.* (P.) 218 Grete blowne blæddys he brake And thay gave a gret crake. a 1500 *Myrr. Our Ladye* 17 Though hys harte were stretched out, as a blather full of wynde. 1595 *SPENSER Col. Clout* 717 Bladders blown up with wynd, That being prickt do vanish into noughts. 1613 *SHAKS. Hen. VIII.* iii. 359 Little wanton Boyes that swim on bladders. 1717 *LADY M. W. MONTAGU Lett.* xxvii. l. 145 As if a foreigner should take his ideas of English music from the bladder and string. 1782 *WOLCOTT (P. Pindar) 3rd Ode to R.A.'s*, Learn to squeeze the colours from the bladders. 1783 *COWPER Task* i. 585 With dance, And music of the bladder and the bag. 1862 *MRS. BESTON Cookery Bk.* § 194 Put it [lard] into small jars or bladders for use.

4. The substance of a sheep's or ox's bladder used for air-tight coverings.

1769 *MRS. RAFFALD Eng. Househpr.* (1778) 347 Tie them

down with a bladder and paper over it. 1796 *MRS. GLASSE Cookery* xviii. 294 Cover them close with a bladder and leather. 1807 *FARADAY Chem. Maniþ.* xviii. 477 Moistened bladder is in constant requisition.

5. A filmy cavity full of air, a vesicle, a bubble.

1708 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 3776/4 Looking-Glass Plates, free from Bladders, Veins, and Fowlness. 1761 *CHURCHILL Rosciad* 870 Behold the pipe-drawn bladders circling swim. 1856 *Enquire Within* (1862) 82 If little bladders appear, it has attained that degree.

6. fig. Anything inflated and hollow, like a blown-up bladder.

1589 *Pope w. Hatchet* (1844) 27 A bladder of worldlie winde which swells in their hearts. 1607 *SANDERSON Serm.* I. 283 Prick the bladder of our pride. 1649 G. DANIEL *Trinarch.*, *Rich. II.* clxvii, Hee, With former Titles swolne, vnwillingly Would loose that Bladder. 1734 *Pore Donne Sat.* iv. 205 Such as swell this bladder of a court.

b. An inflated pretentious man; a wind-bag. 1579 *TOMSON Calvin's Serm. Tim.* 279/2 Them that are harebraines and bladders full of winde. 1616 R. C. *Times Whis.* iii. 1115 Thou bladder full puffed vp with vanity. 1840 *DICKENS Barn. Rudge* lxii, My friend the noble captain—the illustrious general—the bladder.

7. Bot. a. The inflated pericarp of some plants. 1578 *LYTE Dodons* III. xc. 444 The flowers bring forth rounde balles, or blasted bladders. 1867 *BAKER Nile Tribut.* ii. 30 This vegetable silk is contained in a soft pod or bladder about the size of an orange.

b. A hollow vesicle occurring as an appendage of several plants, as the genus *Utricularia*, and various sea-weeds. Cf. **AIR-BLADDER**.

1709 *LIGHTFOOT Flora Scot.* II. 904 Bladder Fucus. In the disc or surface are immersed hollow spherical or oval air-bladders. 1854 *BALFOUR Bot.* § 973. 473 Bladderworts, so called on account of the utricle or bladders connected with the leaves. 1875 *DARWIN Insect. Pl.* xvii, The real use of the bladders is to capture small aquatic animals.

† 8. † A plant. *Obs.*

a 1500 in *W. Wülker Voc.* 568 *Berula*, *Bleddere*. [*Berula* = 'a herb, called also cardamine.']

9. *Attrib.* and *Comb.*, as *bladder chops*; *bladderless*, *-like*, *-puffed*, *adjs.*

1349 *LATIMER Serm. bef. Edw. VI.* (Arb.) 66 These bladder puffed vp wylie men. 1670 *HEALEY St. Aug. Cille of God* 607 All the bladder-like humors of vaine glory. 1611 *Wom.* is *Weather Cock* iv. ii, in *Hazl. Dods.* II. 67 Thy bladder-chops and thy robustious words. 1698 J. PETIVER in *Phil. Trans.* XX. 324 A turgid bladder-like Pod. 1847 *TODD Cycl. Anat. & Phys.* III. 253/2 The bladder scirrhous of Dr. Benedict is nothing more than this form of hydatid disease. 1881 *Jrnl. Botany* X. 28 Bladderless and thick-leaved.

10. Special comb., as **bladder-angling**, fishing with a hook fixed to an inflated bladder; **bladder-brand**, a local name of the Bunt; **bladder-campion**, the common book-name of *Silene inflata*, from the inflated calyx; **bladder-fern**, a fern of the genus *Cystopteris*, from their bladder-like indusia; **bladder-fish**, apparently a variety of the globe-fish, *Tetraodon ocellatus*; **bladder-glass**, a glass vessel covered at one end with a piece of bladder, for showing the atmospheric pressure, by the bursting in of the bladder when the air is exhausted from the vessel; **bladder-green**, a green pigment obtained from the Common Buckthorn (*Rhamnus catharticus*), sap-green; **bladder-herb**, a name of the Winter Cherry, from its inflated calyx; **bladder-hole** (see quot.); **bladder-kelp** (= **bladder-wrack**); **bladder-nose**, a species of seal; **bladder-nut**, the fruit of a kind of shrub, *Staphylea pinnata*, contained in bladder-like pods; also the shrub itself; **bladder-plum** (see quot.); **bladder-pot**, English name of the *Physolobium*, a species of Leguminosæ of South-west Australia; the American Bladder-pod is *Vesicaria Shortii*; **bladder-seed**, English name of the *Physospermum*, from the loose outer coating of the undeveloped fruit; **bladder-senna**, the *Colutea arborescens*, so called from its distended pods, and the fact that its leaves are sometimes mixed with senna leaves; *Sutherlandia frutescens*, a showy shrub of the Cape of Good Hope is found in English gardens under the name of the Cape Bladder-senna (*Treas. Bot.*); **bladder-snout** (= **bladder-wort**); **bladder-tangle** (= **bladder-wrack**); **bladder-tree**, the North American species of the Bladder-nut tree (*Staphylea trifoliata*); **bladder-weed** (= **bladder-wrack**); **bladderwort**, a genus of water-plants, *Utricularia* [of which the word is a mod. transl.], distinguished by the small bags on roots, stems, and leaves, filled with air, which keep them afloat during the period of flowering; **bladder-wrack**, a species of sea-weed (*Fucus vesiculosus*), with air bladders in the substance of the fronds.

1883 *Gd. Words* Nov. 736/1 Bunt, is known by various names, as smut-balls, bladder-brand, stinking-rust, &c. 1770 in *Phil. Trans.* LX. 526 The property of rendring the poison of the 'bladder-fish' more virulent. 1854 J. SOEFFERN in *Orr's Circ.* Sc. Chem. 296 If a bladder-glass be laid flat on the plate of an air-pump, the full force of atmospheric pressure will take place externally on the tense membrane. 1830 *LINDLEY Nat. Syst. Bot.* 114 The green colour known under the name of 'Bladder-green.' 1789

MILLS in *Phil. Trans.* LXXX. 97 Higher up the hill is an hard chert, with a kind of 'bladder-holes.' 1825 *KIRBY Hab. & Inst. Anim.* I. ix. 294 [Periwinkles] appear to make the 'bladder-kelp', a kind of submarine pasture. 1578 *LYTE Dodons* vi. lx. 735 Of the 'Bladder Nut.' 1741 *Compl. Fam. Piece* II. iii. 374 Several other Trees and Shrubs, are now in Flower, as, 'Bladder Nut.' 1869 *MASTERS Veg. Terat.* 465 The stone of plums is occasionally deficient, as in what are termed 'bladder-plums'; some of these, consisting merely of a thin bladder, are curiously like the pods of *Colutea*. 1794 *MARTYN Rousseau's Bot.* xxv. 360 Common 'Bladder-Sena' has an arborescent stem. It grows twelve or fourteen feet high. 1827 *KINGSLEY Two P. Ago* I. 259 Every sea-snail crept to hide itself under the 'bladder-tangle.' 1815 *Encycl. Brit.* (ed. 5) IV. 90/1 Common 'bladder-wort, or hooded milfoil, grows in stagnant waters. 1839 G. FRANCIS *Eng. Flora* I. The curious 'Bladderwort', the roots of which are furnished with little air bags. 1789 *LIGHTFOOT Flora Scot.* II. 904 'Bladder Fucus' or Common Sea Wrack. 1810 *Edin. Rev.* XVII. 146 The prickly tang, often grows intermixed with the 'bladder-wrack.'

Bladder, *v.* Also 6 blader, 7 blather. [f. prec.]

† 1. *intr.* To swell out like, or into, a bladder.

c 1440 in *Halliw. Nuga* P. 66 Avarissia ys a souking sore, He bladdyrth and byldeth alle in my boure. 1543 *TRANSMON Vigo's Chirurg.* II. x. 23 Everye, pustle that bladereth.

† 2. *trans.* To inflate; to puff up, swell out.

1610 G. FLETCHER *Christ's Vict.* II. lviii, A hollow globe of glasse. She full of emptiness had bladdered. *Ibid.* I. lxvii, Bladder'd vp with pride of his own merit. a 1605 *BEAUM. & FL. I. li.* (Halliw.) Fame Gathers but wind to blather up a name. 1649 G. DANIEL *Trinarch.*, *Hen. IV.* xxiv, To amuse the world, and bladder out Light Braines. *Ibid.* *Rich. II.* xv, Bladder'd with Ambition.

3. To put into a bladder, as 'bladder'd lard.'

Hence **Bladder'd** *ppl. a.*, **Bladder'd** *vbl. sb.* and *ppl. a.*

1633 P. FLETCHER *Elisa* I. xxvi, Lest these goods might swell my bladder'd minde. 1679 *DRYDEN Comq. Granada* v. i. 168 'Till they have burst the bladder'd Cloud. 1697 — *Vergil* Ded., They affect greatness in all they write: but it is a bladder'd greatness. 1803 *Fall Mall* G. 3 Sept. 4 A line of glittering bladder'd olive-green seaweed. 1612 *WOODALL Surg. Mate* (1653) 32 Bladderings of the skin.

Bladderdash. (A mixture of bladder and balderdash.)

1826 J. WILSON *Noct. Ambr. Wks.* 1855 I. 221 His Spital sermon, the most empty bladderdash that ever attempted to soar without gas.

Bladderet (blæ'doret). *Phys. rare.* [f. **BLADDER** sb. + **-ET**.] A small bladder; a vesicle.

1615 *CROOKE Body of Man* 200 Many vesicles or bladderets. 1656 *DUGARD Gate Lat. Unt.* § 230. 63 The longish bladderet of the gall. 1823 W. JOLLY *Life J. Duncan* xvii. 172 The utricle or bladderets that give it its name.

Bladderskate, obs. form of **BLETHERSKATE**.

Bladdery (blæ'deri), *a.* [f. **BLADDER** sb. + **-Y**.]

1. Of the nature of a bladder; thin and inflated; inflated and hollow. *lit.* and *fig.*

1794 *MARTYN Rousseau's Bot.* xxv. 370 A berry, with a bladdery pulp. 1810 *CRABBE Borough* ix, Th' entangled weeds, upborne on bladdery beads. 1831 *Fraser's Mag.* III. 343 Bladdery laudations. 1870 *HOOKER Stud. Flora* 51 Calyx bladdery.

2. Abounding in bladders or vesicles.

1798-9 *COLERIDGE Lines to Lady* ii, In dim cave with bladdery seaweed strewed. 1880 *BROWNING Pan & Luna* 60 The bladdery wave-worked yeast.

Bladdry, *-ie*, variant of **BLATHERY** *Sc.*

Blade (blæd). Forms: 1 blæd, 4-5 blæd, 5 blæde, blæad(e), blæyd, 6 blæid, 3- blæde. [Com. Teut.: OE. *blæd*, neut., (pl. *blado*, *bladu*) = OFris. *bled*, OS. *blad* (MDu. *blad*, Du. *blad*, LG. *blad*), OHG., MHG. *blat* (mod.G. *blatt*), ON. *blað* (Sw., Da. *blad*) :—OTeut. **blado-* m; perh. a ppl. formation (with suffix *-do-* do:—Aryan *-do-*) from OTeut. verbal stem **blō-*, see **BLOW** v. 2, cognate with L. *flōs*. The long vowel in ME. and modern Eng. appears to be derived from the oblique cases and plural, *blād-es*, *blād-o*, made in ME. into *blā-des*, *blā-de*. The 15th c. northern spellings *blayd*, *blaid*, and Chaucer's dissyllabic *blade*, *blæde*, require explanation. The sense-history is notable: in German *blatt* is the general word for 'leaf', *laub* being the foliage collectively of trees; in Norse 'herbs or plants have *blāð*, trees have *lauf*'; but in OE. *lāf* is the general word for 'leaf' and 'foliage'; *blæd* occurs only once, (as it happens, poetically, in the *brād blado* of the plant of wickedness), and this sense is quite absent in ME., while that of the 'blade' of an oar (also in OE.), of a sword or knife, is frequent. It would almost seem then that the modern 'blade' of grass or corn is a later re-transfer from 'sword-blade'; while in regard to corn, there is some reason to suspect influence of med.L. *bladum*, OF. *bled* corn, wheat; at least these were evidently supposed to be the same word. The mod.Sc. 'cabbage-blade' also is prob. not directly connected with the OE.; but Norse influence may possibly have contributed to a retention of the vegetable sense in the north.]

I. Of plants.

1. The leaf of a herb or plant; originally perhaps (as in Icelandic) applied to those of all herbs, while *leaf* was used of the foliage of trees. Now

applied *dial.* (e.g. in south of Scotland) to a broad flat leaf, as the outer leaves of cabbage or lettuce, the leaves of rhubarb, tobacco, etc.; in literary Eng. only poetically and vaguely for 'leaf.' a 1000 *Cadmon's Gen.* (Gr.) 994 Brád blado. 1705 *BURNS Dr. Hornbook* xix, In a kail-blade. send it. 1804 *SWINBURNE Atalanta* 1357 The low lying melilote And all of goodliest blade and bloom that springs. 1877 *BRYANT Lit. People of Snow* 350 In shape like blades and blossoms of the field.

2. *spec.* The flat lanceolate leaves of grass and cereals; esp. such as spring from the root and appear first above ground; also the whole of such plants before the spike or ear appears. (Cf. 4: botanically the leaves of grass are all 'blade'.)

c 1450 *Gloss.* in Wr.-Wülcker *Voc.* 583 *Festuca*, the blade of corn or a strawe. 1503 *FITZGERALD Husb.* § 84 Red wheate . . is the greatestte corn and the broadeste blades, and the greatestte strawe. 1577 *B. GOODE Herebark's Husb.* i. 27 The ear . . fyrst appeareth enclosed in the blade. 1597 *GERARD Herbal* i. xi, From whence shoot fourth grassie blades or leaves. 1611 *BIBLE Mark* iv. 28 First the blade, then the ear, after that the full come in the ear. 1670 *JANNA Ling.* xii. § 92 Corn raiseth it self up into a blade. 1707 *SWIFT Gulliver* ii. vii, Who ever could make two ears of corn, or two blades of grass, to grow . . where only one grew before, would deserve better of mankind . . than the whole race of politicians. 1849 *ROBERTSON Sermon* Ser. i. ii. (1866) 37 Disappointed at the delay which ensues before the blade breaks the soil.

b. *In the blade:* while there is as yet only blade or leaf, not yet in the ear. Also *fig.*

1504 *R. SCOT Disc. Witcher* i. iv, Transfere come in the blade from one place to another. 1589 *Paphe w. Hatchet* D iij b, Vnripened youtthes, whose wisdomes are yet in the blade. 1601 *SHAKS. All's Well* v. iii. 6 Naturall rebellion done it'h blade of youth. 1834 *PRINGLE Afr. Sk.* xiv. 472 His corn was in the blade. 1847 *TENNISON Princess* i. 31, I had been, While life was yet in bud and blade, betroth'd.

† c. The grassy leaves of other endogens. *Obs.* 1576 *LYTE Dodoens* ii. xxxvi. 195 The small floure Deluce, hath narrow long blades, almost like the leaves of the right Gladyne. *Ibid.* v. lxxiii. 640 Onyon hath leaves or blades almost like garlike. 1805 *LLOYD Treas. Health* Qj, Take borage and leke blades. 1811 *GUILLIM Heraldrie* iii. x. 115 The held is sable, three Lilies slipped, their . . blades argent.

† d. Corn, growing corn, corn-crop. *Obs.* [Taken as a translation of med. L. *bladum*, F. *bled*, *blé*.]

1553 *EDEN Treat. New Ind.* (Arb.) 56 Nere vnto the cite of Calgui groweth plentie of blade and ryce. 1555 *Decades W. Ind.* ii. ix. (Arb.) 130 Lykewyse blades, settes, slippes, grasses, sugar canes.

† 3. ? A pointed shoot or 'spire' of any plant. *Obs.* c 1440 *Anc. Cookery in Househ. Ord.* (1790) 445 Take the blades of fenell. c 1440 *Prompt. Parv.* 37 Blade of an herbe [1499 blad or blade], *tirsus*. 1552 *HULOET*, Blade of a chiboll or onyon, *talia*. 1570 *LEVINUS Manib.* 8 Blade of an herb, *talia*. 1634 *T. HORNE Janna Ling.* Index post., The blade of an hearb, *talia*.

† b. Applied by *Grew* to the 'style' of composite flowers. *Obs.* 1674 *GREW Anat. Plants* v. § 20 The Sheath, after some time, dividing at the top, from within its Concave the Third and innermost part of the Suit, sc. the Blade, advances and displays itself.

4. *Bot.* The broad, thin, expanded part of a leaf, as opposed to the petiole or foot-stalk; the lamina or limb; also the corresponding part of a petal. 1835 *LINDLEY Introd. Bot.* (1848) i. 260 The Blade . . is subject to many diversities of figure and division. 1870 *HOOKE & GARDNER Floras* 52 Petals with an appendage at the base of the blade. 1872 *OLIVER Elem. Bot.* i. i. 5 Foliage-leaves . . consist of petiole and blade, or of blade only; the blade being spread out horizontally.

II. Of other things.

5. The broad, flattened, leaf-like part (as distinguished from the shank or handle) of any instrument or utensil, as a paddle, oar, battledore, bat, spade, forceps; from that of a paddle or oar (a very ancient sense) extended to the parts of a whale's tail, a paddle wheel, or screw propeller, which act similarly upon the water.

c 1000 *ÆLFRIC Gloss.* in Wr.-Wülcker *Voc.* 167 *Palmula*, roðres blæd. c 1050 *Agg. Gloss.* *ibid.* 182 *Palmula*, arblæd. 1674 *PETTY Disc. Def. R. Soc.* 59 Suppose, that the Oars remain the same length, but that the Blade be doubled. 1770 *ROBERTSON in Phil. Trans.* LX. 321 The tail, as in all the whale tribe, was placed horizontal a little forked; the blades were of a wedge shape, and fourteen feet from tip to tip. 1835 *TODD Cycl. Anat. & Phys.* i. 224/2 Seized between the blades of a forceps. 1844 *G. B. RICHARDSON Univ. Code* v. 7602 How many blades have you to screw propeller? 1880 *V. L. CAMERON Fut. Highw.* II. xiii. 274 A spade with a blade the size of the palm of one's hand. 1886 *HOLMES Mortal Antip.* ii, Their blades flashed through the water.

b. The front flat part of the tongue.

1877 *SWEET Handbk. Phonetics* 2 Of the tongue we distinguish . . the 'blade' which includes the upper surface of the tongue immediately behind the point. 'Lower blade' implies . . the lower . . surface. *Ibid.* 48 A blade consonant rather advanced.

6. The thin cutting part of an edged tool or weapon, as distinguished from the handle.

1330 *R. BRUNNE Chron.* i. 350 Calibore, bat gode bond . . Ten fote longe was þen þe blade. c 1386 *CHAUCER Reeves T.* to And of a swerd ful trenchant was the blade. c 1450 *Nominate* in Wr.-Wülcker *Voc.* 735 *Sindula*, a blayd (among parts of a knife). 1530 *PALSGR.* 198/2 Blade of a knyfe, *atumele*. 1611 *BIBLE Judges* iii. 22 The haft also went in after the blade. 1677 *MOXON Mech. Exerc.* (1703) 114 Pricker. Is vulgarly called an Awl: Yet . . it hath most commonly a square blade, which enters the Wood better than

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a round blade will. 1700 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 2852/12 Lost . . a . . Sword . . the Blade a little rusty. 1831 *J. HOLLAND Manuf. Metals* i. 280 A penknife blade is formed at two heats. 1849-50 *TODD Cycl. Anat. & Phys.* IV. 913 The blade of the sutorial tooth. 1880 *BIRDWOOD Ind. Art* II. 3 The blades of Damascus . . were in fact of Indian iron.

7. The blade being the essential part of such weapons etc. is often put for the whole, esp. in poetry and literary language.

c 1325 *E. E. Allit. P. B.* 1105 Nauber to cout ne to kerue, with knyfe ne wyth egge, For-by brek he þe bred blades wythouten. c 1386 *CHAUCER Prolog.* 618 A long surcoat of pers vp on he hade [v. r. haade, hadde] And by his syde he bare a rusty blade [so 4 MSS.; v. r. blade, blade]. c 1450 *Towneley Myst.* 40 The shynynge of youre bright blayde It gars me quake for ferd to dee. 1583 *STANFURD Aeneis* i. (Arb.) 23 Theyre blades they brandishit. 1599 *SHAKS. Much Ado* v. i. 190 You breake iests as braggards do their blades. 1776 *GIBSON Decl. & F. I.* 13 He drew his sword . . a short well-tempered Spanish blade. 1832 *MACAULAY Armada* 28 Ho! gunners, fire a loud salute: ho! gallants, draw your blades.

b. *fig.* (Cf. *weapon*.) 1504 *A. PITCAIRNE Babel* 287 He did his trustie tongue unsheath. It was a blade that he could trust. 1735 *OLDYS Life Raleigh* Wks. 1829 i. 384 Cecyll . . play'd a smooth edge upon Raleigh throughout the trial; his blade seemed ever anointed with the balsam of compliment or apology.

8. a. A broad flattened bone or part of a bone, as the cheek blades, jaw-blades; esp. the flat, triangular-shaped bone of the shoulder called the shoulder-blade or blade-bone, the scapula; also the corresponding bone of the fore leg of animals.

b. One of the scythe-shaped plates in which whalebone occurs.

a 1300 *Havelok* 2644 Bi the shudre-blade The sharpe swerd let wade. 1398 *TREVISA Barth. De P. R. v. xxvi.* (1495) 135 Sholder blades ben . . hight blades for they ben shape as a brode swerde. 1535 *COVERDALE Tob.* vi. 3 Take him by the cheke blade, and drawe him to the. 1600 *CHAPMAN Iliad* v. 577 Attrides lance did gore Pylemens shoulder in the blade. 1663 *BUTLER Hud.* i. i. 20 Nor put up Blow, but that which laid Right worshipful on Shoulder-blade. 1802 *BINGLEY Anim. Biog.* (1813) II. 22 A Whale, the longest blade of whose mouth measures nine or ten feet. 1876 *J. MARSHALL Anat. Artists* 17 The two scapulae, shoulder bones, or blade-bones.

9. Used of other things; as a blade of mace.

1653 *WALTON Angler* 158 Mixt, with a blade or two of Mace. 1677 *MOXON Mech. Exerc.* (1703) 231 Put the blades of the Quadrants into two Slits. a 1728 *PENN Tracts* Wks. 1726 i. 498 That he ever took . . one Clove, Nutmeg, Blade of Mace, or Skain of Silk . . I utterly deny. 1825 *S. & S. ADAMS Compl. Servant* 9 Put a blade of mace, and a quartered nutmeg into a quart of cream. 1856 *KANE Art. Exp.* II. i. 17 Take a blade of bone, and scrape off all the ice from your furs.

10. Senses of doubtful origin: a. *Arch.*

1851 *Dict. Archit.*, Blade, a word sometimes applied, as well as Back, to the principal rafter of a roof. 1879 *Shropshire Gloss.* (E. D. S.), Blade, that timber in a roof which goes at an angle from the top of the 'king-post' to the beam of the 'principal'.

† b. A staff, pole, shaft. Also found as *blede*.

1550 *WILLS & INV. N. C.* (1853) 170 Two long wayne blayds . . 9 ashiltreese and a plowe. 1607 *JACKSON Creed* vii. xviii. § 12 To receive the prize, or (as the original word imports) to snatch it from the blede or staff whereto they run.

† c. *Blades:* a spindle for winding yarn upon.

c 1475 *Gloss.* in Wr.-Wülcker *Voc.* 794 *Hoc girgillum*, a blayds. *Hic virgillum*, a yerwyndylleblad. 1520 *PALSGR.* 184 *Vnes tournelles*, a payre of wyndynge blades. *Ibid.* 646. 1 ontwyne yarne of the spyndel or blades. 1552 *HUTOET*, Blades or yarne wyndles, an instrumente of huswifery, *girgillus*, *volutorium*.

III. Applied to a man. [Prob. connected with senses 6, 7, though whether as a fig. use of these, or as a wielder of a blade, does not appear from the 83 earliest quotations examined.]

11. A gallant, a free-and-easy fellow, a good fellow; 'fellow', generally familiarly laudatory, sometimes good-naturedly contemptuous. (The original sense is difficult to seize: Bailey 1730 says, 'a bravo, an Hector; also a spruce fellow, a beau'; Johnson 'a brisk man, either fierce or gay, called so in contempt'.) (Now colloquial or slangy: in literature, chiefly a reminiscence of last century.)

1592 *SHAKS. Rom. & Jul.* ii. iv. 31 By Iesu a very good blade, a very tall man. 1640 *NABBES Bride* ii. i, Go carry the blades in the Lion a pottle of Sack from me. 1658 *USSHER Ann.* 159 Sending for such . . as he knew to be blades, and had good hearts and head-peeces of their owne. 1667 *PETTS Diary* (1879) IV. 354 As the present fashion among the blades is. 1705 *HICKERINGILL Priest-Cr.* ii. v. 57 These are the Blades most do all, though they do all ill. 1760 *Lond. Mag.* XXIX. 224 Gentlemen of the town, as a sort of Blades may be well y'clep'd. 1818 *COBBETT Resid. U. S.* (1822) 354 A blade whom I took for a decent tailor.

b. usually taking force and colour from an attribute: e.g. brave, stout, gallant, fighting, swaggering, swashing, bullying, blustering, dashing, rattling, roaring, roistering, jolly, lively, wild, comical, fantastical, cynical, crafty, knowing, saucy, worthy, old, young, etc.

c 1600 *Rob. Hood* (Ritson) ii. vi. 73 This is a mad blade, the butchers then said. 1650 *FORD Lover's Melanch.* i. ii. (1839) 4 He's an honest blade, though he be blunt. 1646 *EVERLY Mem.* (1857) i. 243 A true old blade, and had been a very curious virtuoso, etc. 1649 *C. WALKER Hist. Indep.* ii. 184 Those fierce spirited Blades whom Oliver raised into a Mutiny. 1682 *N. O. tr. Boileau's Lutrin* i. Arg. 2

Three swashing Blades. 1714 *ELLWOOD Autobiog.* (1765) 143 These two Baptists were topping Blades. 1766 *ANNEST TERRY Fil.* 185 [In] All-Souls college one afternoon, several jovial blades . . were sitting there over a pipe and a bottle. 1779 *JOHNSON Lett.* II. cxviii. 75 When we meet we will be jolly blades. 1818 *SCOTT Hist. Midl.* i, Two dashing young blades. 1822 *W. IRVING Braceb. Hall* ix. 75 He was one of the most roaring blades of the neighbourhood. 1840 *DICKENS Barn. Rudge* v, He's a knowing blade. 1857 *SIR F. PALGRAVE Norm. & Eng.* II. 443 The clever old crafty blade spoke out with . . a thorough knowledge.

c. sometimes with local or official attribute.

c 1606 *Dick of Devon* ii. i. in Bullen *O. Pl.* II: 26 My Devonshire blade, honest Dick Pike. 1630 *SUCKLING Goblins in Fragm. Aur.* (1646) 35 [He] asks much after certain British blades, One Shakespeare and Fletcher. 1663 *Hist. Cromwell in Select. Harl. Misc.* (1793) 367 [Cromwell] packs up a juncto of army blades . . who constitute a high court of justice. 1755 *CARTE Hist. Eng.* IV. 406 Exposed to any sudden attempt from . . the Buckinghamshire blades. 1882 *J. GREENWOOD Tag, Rag & Co.* xiii. 106 Adventures of a keen Yorkshire blade.

IV. 12. *Comb. and Attrib.*, as blade-forged, -metal, -mill, -smith, etc.; blade-like, -wise adj. and adv.; also blade-bone, the shoulder-blade, the corresponding bone of animals and 'joint' of meat; blade-fish, one of the Ribbon-fishes (*Trichiurus lepturus*).

a 1676 *MARVELL Life Wks.* 1776 III. 463, I shall have the sweet 'blade-bone broiled. 1845 *DISRAELI Sybil* III. iv, A deformity occasioned by the displacement of the 'bladebone. 1831 *J. HOLLAND Manuf. Metals* i. 300 Hammers . . used by the 'blade-forgers. 1850 *TODD Cycl. Anat. & Phys.* V. 157/1 The shaft being long and 'blade-like. 1645 *MILTON Colast. Wks.* (1851) 357 The men of Toledo had store of good 'blade-mettle. c 1400 *Destr. Troy* v. 1592 Bochers, 'bladsmythis, baxters. 1569 *WILLS & INV. N. C.* i. (1835) 301 John Tedcastle of Gatisheid, 'bladsmyth.

Blade (blē d), v. [f. prec. sb. Cf. Ger. *blatten* in sense 1.]

1. *trans.* To take off the blades (senses 1, 3). *dial.* c 1440 *Prompt. Parv.* 37 Bladyn herby, or take away the bladys, *delirio*. 1818 *Edin. Mag.* Sept. 155 (JAM.) When she had gane out to blade some kail for the pat. 1880 *Antrim & Down Gloss.* (E. D. S.), To Blade mangies, to take the outside leaves off growing mangolds.

2. To provide with a (cutting) blade.

c 1440 *Prompt. Parv.* 37 Bladyn hafty, *scindulo*. 1801 *W. TAYLOR in Month. Mag.* XII. 590 To blade the prow of the gondola of embassy.

3. *intr.* To put forth blades or leaves.

1601 *HOLLAND Pliny* xviii. xvii, Otherwise the corn would never spind, but blade still, and run all to leafe. 1633 *P. FLETCHER Elisa* ii. xxxv, Down falls her glorious leaf, and never more it bladet. 1869 *BLACKMORE Lorna D.* iv, Grass was blading out upon it.

† 4. To blade it: to fight. To blade it out: to fight a matter out with the sword. *Obs.*

1571 *R. EDWARDS Damon & P.* in *Dodley* (1780) i. 194 Rather than I wyll lose the spoyle, I wyll blade it out. 1589 *Paphe w. Hatchet* 15 None dare blade it with thee.

Bladed (blē d'ed), ppl. a. [f. BLADE + -ED.]

1. Formed as a blade, lanceolate.

1576 *LYTE Dodoens* ii. xxxvii. 195 The stinking flagge or Gladyn hath long narrow bladed leaves.

2. Having, producing, or abounding in blades.

1590 *SHAKS. Mids. N.* i. i. 211 Decking with liquid pearle the bladed grasse. 1687 *DRYDEN Hind & P.* i. 225 Nor bladed grass, nor bearded corn succeeds. 1707 *THOMSON Summer* 57 From the bladed field the fearful hare limps, awkward. 1814 *WORDSW. Excurs.* i. 740 The soft and bladed grass, Springing afresh.

b. *Her.* Having blades distinctly tintured.

1611 *GUILLIM Heraldry* III. ix. 111 He beareth . . three Wheate stalkes, Bladed and Eared.

3. Enclosed in the blade, not yet in full ear.

(Cf. 'in the blade'; and see discussion in *Furness*.)

1605 *SHAKS. Macb.* iv. i. 55 Though bladed Corne be lodg'd, and Trees blown downe.

4. Stripped of the blades.

1611 *COTGR., Porrean scetill*, the cut Lecke. . bladed Lecke. *Mod. Sc.* A bladed cabbage.

5. Having a blade, as an oar, a sword, etc.

1837 *New Month. Mag.* XLIX. 477 The broad bladed spear. 1859 *Merr. Mar. Mag.* (1860) VII. 17 The Prince was supplied with a three-bladed fan.

6. *Min.* Having a structure characterized by long narrow plates.

Bladelet (blē d'let), [see -LET.] A small blade.

1859 *TODD Cycl. Anat. & Phys.* V. 288/2 The corresponding secondary veins on the opposite side of the bladelet.

† **Blader.** *Obs.* [f. BLADE + -ER.]

1. A maker of blades; a blade-smith.

1598 *Stow Surv.* xxviii. (1603) 247 Ordinances . . made betwixt the Bladers, and the other Cutlers. 1746 *ENTICK London* IV. 357 Smiths, forgers of blades, and therefore called bladers.

2. The user of a blade; a swordsman.

1577 *tr. Bullinger's Decades* (1592) 398 That the sanctuaries should be a safegarde . . not to bladers and cutters.

3. *Comb.*, as three-blader = three-bladed (knife).

1870 *Daily News* 12 July, Fancy the embarrassment of . . having to cut anything with a twenty blader.

Blader, *obs.* form of **BLADDER**.

Blading (blē d'ing), vbl. sb. [f. BLADE + -ING¹.]

1. The shooting out into blade; sprouting.

1548 *UDALL, etc. Erasmus Par. Luke* viii, In the first blading it perished. 1633 *T. BAILEY Life Fisher* i. (1655) 7 The blading of the Field.

† 2. Fighting with blades or swords. *Obs.*

1577 *HOLINSHED Descr. Irel. in Chron.* II. 17/2 He maketh

blading his dailie breakfast. *a1664 Br. M. Smith Serm.* (1632) 278 Whence are quarrels, blading, wounds without cause?

Bladish (blādīf), *a. rare.* [f. **BLADE** *sb.* + -ISH.] Of or belonging to a 'blade'; blade-like. *1819 R. RABELAIS Abeillard & Hel.* 15 That old beaux with bladish tricks.

Blady (blādī), *a.* [f. **BLADE** *sb.* + -Y.] Characterized by a blade or blades; blade-like.

1612 DRAYTON Polyolb. xix. (1748) 333 The blady grass unwholesome... and harsh. *1645 DIGBY Nat. Bodies* xxiv. (1658) 267 How should a bone here be hollow, there be blady. *a1758 J. DYER To Aaron Hill* 41 With curling moss and blady grass o'ergrown.

Blae (blē, blī, blī), *a. (sb.) Obs. exc. Sc. and north. dial.* Forms: 3-5 *bla*, *blaa*, 3 *blaa*, 3-6 *blo*, 4 *blows*, 4-6 *bloo*, 5 *bloo*, 6- *blaa*, (*dial.* 7 *bley*, 9 *blay*, *bleea*, 7- *blea*). [ME. *blo*, *blou*, in north. dial. *bla*, *blaa*, *a.* ON. *blā* (sing. masc. *blār*) dark blue, livid (Sw. *blå*, Da. *blaa* blue), cogn. W. OHG. *blāo* : **blāw* (MHG. *blā*, *blāwer*, mod. G. *blau*), MLG. *blāw*, OFris. *blāw*, *blāu* (MDu. *blā*, *blāu*, Du. *blauw*), OE. (rare) *blāw* (or *blēw*, whence *blāwen* : *blāwin*) : OTeut. **blāwo* = blue. The German *blāw* was adopted in Romanic (med. L. *blāvus*, OSP. *blavo*, Pr. *blau*, *blava*, F. *bleu*), whence it also passed into Eng. in the form *blaw*, now *BLUE*, with the sense 'caeruleus,' while *bla*, *blo* retained the ONorse sense 'lividus.' The midland and southern Eng. form was *blo*, *blow*, which survived till the 16th c.; but the word is now only northern Eng. and Sc. in the forms *blae*, *blea*, *bleac*, *bley*, *blay*. (These dialects have also *blue* in its ordinary sense, distinct from *blae*.)

A. adj. 1. Of a dark colour between black and blue; blackish blue; of the colour of the *blae*-berry (*Vaccinium Myrtillus*); livid; also, of a lighter shade, bluish grey, lead-coloured. (Sometimes *perh.*, in early writers, simply = Blue.)

a1250 Gen. & Ex. 637 Rein-bowe, men cleped reed and blo. *1330 R. BRUNNE Chron.* 173 Pe sailes... som were blak & blo, som were rede & grene. *c1375 BARBOUR St. Justine* 733 Blac pic gert & byrystane bla. *c1384 CHAUCER H. Fame* 1647 Suche a smoke gan out wende... Blak bloo (v. r. blo) grenyssh swart rede. *c1440 PROMPT. Parv.* 40 Bloo, coloure, *lividus*. *c1460 TOWNSELEY Myst.* 224 My barne... Bete as blo as lede. *1513 DOUGLAS Eneis* vii. 14 That wondrous monstre, wyth wyd chafis bla. *1565 GOLDING Ovid's Met.* iii. (1593) 56 Licking with his blo And blasting toong their sorie wounds. *1641 BEST Farm. Bks.* 99 It is usually a blea, flinty, wheate... the meale of it is of a darkish, bley, and flinty colour. *1781 J. HUTTON Tour to Caves* Gloss. (E. D. S.), *Blea*, a lead colour. *1796 J. MARSHALL Yorksh.* (ed. 2) ii. 65 The blue, blow, or lead-coloured flax—provincially, 'blea-line.' *1833 SMUGGLER* 34 Knee-breeches and blay-thread stockings. *1875 ROBINSON Whitley Gloss.* s.v. *Blea*, As blea as a whetstone. (Hence, the names of the *Blea* or *Blas* Tarns, in Langdale, Eskdale, and Borrowdale, of *Blea Water* in Mardale, and the *Bleas* by Ullswater, in the Lake district.)

b. esp. Applied to the complexion or colour of the human body; as affected by cold, or contusion: Livid. Hence *black and blae*, now altered to *black and blue*: see **BLACK** *a.* 13.

1a1200 Leges Quat. Burgorum (Acts Parl. Sc. I.) Si quis verberando fecerit aliquem blaa et blodi [cf. transl. 1600]. *c1300 in Wright Lyric P.* xxix. 86 Ant thi bodi colde, thi ble waxeth blo. *a1340 HAMPOLE Pr. Consc.* 5260 Alle bla and blody als he pan was, When he deyed for mans trespass. *a1400 Isumbras* 311 Made his flesche fulle bla! *c1430 Hymns to Virg.* (1867) 10 Hise sidis bloo and blodi were. *a1500 SKELTON Prayers* Wks. I. 140 Thy body wan & blo. *1599 SKENE Reg. Maj.* 130 Gif ane man strikes ane other, and makes him bla and bloudie. *1709 M. BRUCE Soul-Conf.* 11 (JAM.) You will stand with a blaie countenance before the tribunal of God. *1785 BURNS Two Herds* xii. Aft ha'e made us black and blaie, Wi' vengefu' paws. *Mod. Sc.* Blaie wi' cauld.

Hence †*blae-making*. *1538 Aberd. Reg. V.* 16 (JAM.) Conwict [=convicted] for the blud drawing, blamaking & strubliens.

c. Applied to the colour of the sea. *c1325 E. E. Allit. P. C.* 134 Blowes bope at my bode vpon blo watteres. *c1400 Emare* 318 in Ritson *Metr. Rom.* II. The water so blo. *1503 HAWES Examp. Virt.* x. 180 Ner lettyng of this water blo.

2. Of the weather: Bleak, sunless. [From the prevailing colour of the landscape.] *1513 DOUGLAS Eneis* vii. Prol. 130 The mornyng bla, wan, and har. *1789 BURNS Ep. J. Tennant* 3 This blaie eastlin wind. *1818 Edin. Mag.* 503 (JAM.) It was in a cauld blaie hairst day. *1821 CLARE Vill. Minstr.* II. 119 Though floods of winter bustling fall Adown the arches bleak and blaie.

†**3.** Dark, black: only in the early comb. *blamon*, *bloman* 'a blackamoor' [ON. *blámaðr*].

†**4.** Tawny. *Obs. rare.*

a1400 Gloss. in Rel. Ant. I. 8 *Fulvus*, bloo. **5.** Dingy-coloured, 'grey,' as opposed to white; unbleached. [So OSP. *blavo*, though = F. *bleu*, meant 'yellowish grey.'] *1869 Dublin Gen. Advert.* 24 Dec., Twilled and plain white calico sheets... blay ditto.

B. sb. A bluish grey indurated clay occurring in thin slaty strata. [c1440 *Prompt. Parv.* 40 Blo erpe, argilla.] *1724 FRASER in State* 345 (JAM.) The mettals I discovered were a coarse free stone and blaes. *1757 Phil. Trans.* L. 145 Another

mineral that the miners call blaes is a cliffy stratum of a blueish colour. *1821 Statist. Acc. Hebrides* 149 (JAM.) Blaie (which is a kind of soft slate).

Blae, *Sc.* form of **BLEA** *v.* to bleat.

Blaeberry (blā-berī, blī-). Also (5 *blaberry*), 6 *ble*, 9 *blea*, *blay*, *bleaberry*. [f. **BLAE** + **BERRY**: in ON. *blāber*, Sw. *blåbär*, Du. *blaaber*.]

1. The common name in Scotland and the north of England of the **BILBERRY** or whortleberry (*Vaccinium Myrtillus*). Applied to fruit and plant. [c1483 *Cath. Angl.* 33 A Blabery.] *1562 TURNER Herbal* II. Lj, Takyng the bleberries or hurtel berries. *a1758 RAMSAY Poems* (1800) II. 107 (JAM.) Gif I could find blaeberris ripe for thee. *1822 BEWICK Mem.* 256 The creeping groundlings, the blaeberry, the wild strawberry, the harebell. *1861 GEIKIE in Gd. Words* Feb. 76/1 Yonder pastoral glens, where we boys were wont to gather blaeberris and junipers. *1866 Corn. Mag.* V. 457 Branches loaded with the tiny purple blaie berry, the bloom yet fresh on them.

2. Also applied to cognate species. *1833 KANE Grimell Exp.* xix. (1856) 143 Here I saw the blaeberry (*vaccinium uliginosum*) in flower and in fruit. *1861 Miss Pratt Flower.* Pl. III. 352. †**Blad-fast**, *a. Obs.* [OE. *blād-fest*, f. *blād* prosperity + *-fest*, -FAST.] Prosperous; glorious. *a1000 Beowulf* 2602 Heo... abreat blād-fæstne beorn. *c1205 LAY.* 6986 *Blad-fest* king. *Ibid.* 10100 He wes swiðe blād-fest.

Blaseness, *north. dial.* (Frequent in ME. in the form *bloness*.) [f. **BLAE** + -NESS.] 'Blae' quality; lividness as of a wound or stripe. *1382 WYCLIF Ex.* xxi. 25 Wounde for wounde, blones for blones. *1398 TREVISAR Barth. De P. R. v.* xvii. (1495) 122 Bloness of lypes. *Mod. Sc.* The blaseness of his lips.

†**Blaff**, *v. Obs.* [perh. a. Du. and LG. *blaffen*, an imitative word (cf. *BAFF* *v.*): cf. also ME. *wlaffen* in same sense.] To bark (as a dog). *1699 CAPT. COWLEY Voy.* (1729) 6 Seals, which would rise out of the water, and blaff like a dog.

Blafum, *sb. Sc.* Also *blefium*, *blephum*, *blawfum*, *blafum*. Deception, imposition, hoax. *a1661 RUTHERFORD Lett.* (1765) i. ii. (JAM.) Many... when they go to take out their faith, they take out a fair nothing... a blafume. *a1661 R. BAILLIE Lett.* (1775) i. 201 (JAM.) All his act was but a blafum. *1788 E. PICKEN Poems* 63 (JAM.) Fine blaw-fums o' teas That grow abroad. *1880 PATTERSON Antrim & Down Gloss.* (E. D. S.), *Blafum*, *blafum*, nonsense; something said to mislead.

Hence **Blafumery**, *blafumery*. *1819 A. BALFOUR Campbell* I. 328 (JAM.) A' that blafumery that's makin sic a haliballou in the world.

Blafum, *v. Sc. trans.* To impose upon. *1788 RAMSAY Wks.* (1848) I. 221 The chair Which bears him to blafum the fair.

†**Blague** (blag), *sb.* [Fr.] Pretentious falsehood, 'humbug.' *1837 CARLYLE Fr. Rev.* (1857) II. iii. v. vi. 313 The largest, most inspiring piece of blague manufactured, for some centuries. *1865 Day of Rest* Oct. 580 That is all blague. *1886 HUXLEY in Pall Mall G.* 13 Apr. 13/2 It believes in shibboleths and sentimental blague.

†**Blague**, *v.* [F. *blaguer*, f. the *sb.*] To tell lies. *1823 Century Mag.* 743 She laughed and said I blagued. **Blak** (e, var. *BLAYKE* *a.* bleak, pale.

Blaiken, *v. Sc.* [f. prec.] To make pale. *1570 Sempill Ballades* (1872) 50 Faill of the face, baith blaknit, blude and ble.

Blain (blāin). Forms: 1 *blejen*, 3 *blein* (e, 3-5 *bleyn* (e, 3-8 *blane*, 5-6 *blayn* (e, 6-7 *blaine*, 6- *blain*). [OE. *blegen* str. fem., = MDu. *bleine*, Du. *blein*, LG. *bleien*, Da. *blegn*; OTeut. form possibly **blegand* : cf. OHG. *blehin-ugi* 'lippus.']

1. An inflammatory swelling or sore on the surface of the body, often accompanied by ulceration; a blister, botch, pustule; applied also to the eruptions in some pestilential diseases. Cf. **CHILBLAIN**. *c1200 Sax. Leechd.* I. 380 Wið þa blezen genim nigon ægra and seof hig fæste. *a1225 St. Marher.* 18 Barst on to bleinen þæt hit aras up oueral. *c1250 Gen. & Ex.* 3027 Blein on erue and man. *1382 WYCLIF Job* ii. 7 He smot lob with the werste stinkende bleyne [1388 wickid botche, COVERD. sore byles]. *c1440 Bone Flor.* 2024 The fowlest messell bredd of pokkys and bleyneys bloo. *1509 MORE Comfort agst. Tribulac.* III. Wks. 1224/1 Yf his synger dooe but ake of an hoate blaine. *1544 ASCHAM Toxoph.* (Arb.) 49 A little blaine... in his finger, may kepe him. *1583 STUBBES Anat. Abus.* (1877) 96 It bringeth ulcerations, scab, scurf, blain. *1612 WOODALL Surg. Mate* Wks. (1653) 332 The third manifest and demonstrative sign of [the Plague]... is the Pestilential Blain. *1667 MILTON P. L.* xii. 180 Botches and blaimes must all his flesh imbloss. *1850 LAYARD Nineveh* vii. 154 Children... covered with discoloured blains.

Fig. *1866 Lond. Rev.* 10 Mar. 276/1 Some moral blain has suddenly broken out on... a fair character.

2. A distemper incident to beasts, consisting in a bladder growing on the root of the tongue against the wind-pipe, which at length swelling, stops the breath' (Chambers *Cycl.* 1727-51).

†**3.** Jamieson's sense 'A mark left by a wound,' is apparently erroneous.

3. Comb. †*blain-grass*, †*clover*; †*blain-worm*, some parasitic insect; also *fig.*

1570 LEVINS Manih. 35 Blaynegrasse, trifolium. *1657 BROME Quere* v. viii. 123 Are you so tart, Court Blain-worm? *1658 ROWLAND Mowbray's Theat. Int.* 1000 In English it [the Buprestis] is called a Blainworm, or Troings.

a1722 LISLE Husb. (1752) 342 If the blain-worm be broken in the mouth of the cow... he knows no cure for it.

* The root sense seems to be to blow, like a bubble, cf. *blister*.

Blain, *v.* [f. prec.] *trans.* To affect with blains; to blister. Hence *Blained ppl. a.*, *Blain'ng ppl. sb.* [c1000 Sax. *Leechd.* II. 4 Wip zeblegnadre tungan.] *1394 P. Pl. Crede* 299 Nou han þei buclad schon for bleynyng of her heles. *1830 GALT in Fraser's Mag.* I. 269 The recoiling boughs had... sorely blained... his cheeks.

Blaise, -se, *Blait*, *Sc.* var. **BLAZE**, **BLATE**, **BLEAT**. **Blait**, *obs.* form of **BLATE**.

Blaithe, -dry, variants of **BLATHERY**.

Blak, *obs.* form of **BLACK** and of **BLAKE**.

†**Blake**, *a. Obs. exc. dial.* Also 3-4 *blao*, *blak*. [Chiefly northern: probably therefore, since OE. *d* remained in the north as *ā* (e.g. *ake*, *stane*, *mare*), *blake* was the direct phonetic descendant of OE. *blāc* pale (in early southern ME. *blac*, *bloke*), a common Teut. adj. = OS. *blāc*, ON. *bleikr*, OHG. *bleih*, OTeut. **blaike* = shining, white, pale, f. root of *blifan* to shine, *BLIKE*. Cf. the synonyms *BLEAK*, *BLEYKE*, *BLEKE*. In Eng. the notion of 'shining,' i.e. white from excess of light, passed entirely into that of 'pale,' i.e. white from deficiency of colour, dead white. This added to the formal confusion with **BLACK**, since 'dark' and 'pale' alike express deficiency or loss of colour.]

1. Pale, pallid, wan: implying deficiency or loss of colour, esp. of the ruddy hue of health, or of the full green of vegetation; of a sickly hue: thus passing on one side into 'ash-coloured, livid,' on another into 'withered yellow,' whence sense 3.

(Many early instances of *blake* may be examples of *blak* black, with final *e* inflexional or phonetic, the context leaving the sense uncertain. Some early forms written *blac*, *blak*, also stand for *blāh*, *blake*, and belong here. See what is said under **BLACK** of the confusion of the forms of *blac* and *blāc* already in OE.)

c1205 LAY. 1888 Whil heo weoren blake... whil heo weoren reade. *1890 Æne stunde* he was blac... while he was reade. *c1400 St. Alexius* (Cott.) 236 So was he lene and blake of hewe. *c1400 Asture Arkh.* li, Thaire blees weren so blake. Alle blake was thaire blees. *c1490 Pallad. on Husb.* i. 187 The vynes blake awaie thow take, eke greene And tender vynes kyte. *1530 PALSGR.* 306 *Blake*, wan of colour. *c1550 King & Barker* 7 in Hazl. E. P. I. 4 *Blake* how heydyd sat he upon.

2. Yellow. (Current in north England, from Cumberland to the Humber; but app. unknown in Scotland, and in the Eng. midlands.)

1693 RAY N. C. Wds., *Blake*, Yellow, spoken of Butter and Cheese. As blake as a Paigle. *1851 Cumberland Gloss.* s.v., As blake as a marigold. *1864 ATKINSON Whitley Gloss.* s.v., As blake as butter. *1877 Holderness Gloss.* 30 *Blake* (Hornsea and Bridlington), of a light yellow colour.

†**Blake**, *v. Obs.* Forms: 1 *blācian*, 2-3 *blakien*, 3-4 *blaken*, 3-5 *blake*. [ME. *blāke(n)*, was app. the north. repr. of OE. *blācian* to become pale, f. *blāc* shining, white, pale: see **BLAKE** *a.*

The normal southern form would have been *blokien*, *bloke(n)*, of which there are a few 13th c. instances: see **BLEKE** *v.* In spelling, this vb. was confounded with *blākien*, *blāken* to grow black or dark (see **BLACK** *v.*); and at length became *obs.*, its place being taken by *bleyke(n)*, *bleike(n)* from ON. and by the cognate *bleke(n)* and *BLEACH*.]

1. intr. To become pale. *1205 LAY.* 1799 His neð bigon to blakien [1250 *blokie*]. *Ibid.* 754 He ne blakede no. *a1255 St. Marher.* 9 Hire bleo bigon to blakien. *1330 R. BRUNNE Chron.* 183 Po Normans... of contenance gan blaken. *c1460 Bone Flor.* 579 Hur ble beganne to blake.

2. trans. To make pale. (Doubtful: Mätzner's example belongs to **BLACK** *v.* 2.)

Blake, early ME. form of **BLACK** *a.* and *v.*

†**Blakeberyed**, *Obs.* Used by Chaucer with uncertain meaning. Skinner in 17th c. suggested 'sent to the realms of darkness'; others would connect it with **BLACKBERRY**.

c1386 CHAUCER Pard. 78, I rekke neuere when they been beryed, Though that hir soules goon a blakeberyed [so 5 MSS., *Lansd.* a blakberied, *Persu.* o blakburied].

Blakenes (s, obs. f. of **BLACKNESS**. **Blaky**, *obs.* form of **BLEAKY**.

Blamable: see **BLAMEABLE**.

Blamange, -manger, *obs.* forms of **BLANC-MANGE**.

Blame (blām), *v.* Also 3-4 *blam*, 3-6 *blamen*, (5 *Caxton blasmen*). [a. OF. *blāmer*, *blasmer* (= Pr. and OSP. *blasmar*, It. *blasimare* (= *-blasimare*) to blame) : late L. *blasphēmāre* to revile, reproach, ad. Gr. *blasphemēin* to **BLASPHEME**; introduced into L. in the lang. of the New Test. The phonetic changes in *blasphemāre*, *blasimāre*, *blasmar*, *blasmer*, *blāmer*, *blāme*, and the modified sense, are due to the continuous popular use of the word; the original form and sense are reproduced in the learned or semi-popular *blaspheme*.]

1. trans. To find fault with; to censure (an action, a person for his action): the opposite of *to praise*.

c1200 Trin. Coll. Hom. 73 Drede letteð þe mannes shrifte... swiche men blaimeð þe prophete on þe seafm boc. *a1225 Ancr. R.* 64 Ne he ne cunne ou nouðer blamen [v. r. lastin,

* The root sense seems to be to blow, like a bubble, cf. *blister*.

laste] ne preisen. c 1386 CHAUCER *Man Lawes* T. 8 Thow blamest crist, and seist ful bitterly, He mysdeparteth riches temporal. 1483 CAXTON *Cato* Biiij. Thow oughtest not to blame ne dyspreyse other. 1533 LD. BERNERS *Froiss.* I. clxxxvi. 221 Of this adventure the prouost was greatly blamed. 1596 SHAKS. *Tam. Shr.* iii. ii. 27 Goe girl, I cannot blame thee now to weepe. 1633 HEYWOOD *Eng. Trav.* iii. i. Wks. 1874 IV. 43 Who can blame him to absent himself from home? 1676 RAY *Corr.* (1848) 123, I had not blamed him had he acknowledged his authors. 1797 DE FOR *Syst. Magic* i. iii. (1840) 84 All they can blame him for. 1848 MACAULAY *Hist. Eng.* II. 77 To blame the revocation of the Edict of Nantes. 1875 JOWETT *Plato* (ed. 2) I. 80 We blame our fathers for letting us be spoiled.

† 2. To address with rebuke; to reprove, chide, scold. *Obs.*
1297 R. GLOUC. 163 Bi fore hym he lette brynge ys men, & bi gan hem faste blame. 1388 WYCLIF *Luke* viii. 24 And he risynge blameye the wynd, and the tempest of watir. 1483 CAXTON *G. de la Tour* Fivb. She shalle not make herself to be blamed ne to be bete. 1528 MORE *Herseyes* i. Wks. 1161/2 The good kinge Dauid . . . blamed his folishe wife. 1559 *Mirr. Mag.*, *Jack Cade* v. No reproche can be to much to blame her.

† 3. To bring into disrepute or discredit. *Obs.*
1596 SPENSER *P. O.* vi. iii. 11 This ill state . . . To which she for his sake had weestingly bow brought herself, and blam'd her noble blood. 1612 BIBLE 2 *Cor.* vi. 3 Giuing no offence in any thing, that the ministry be not blamed.

† 4. To charge; to accuse (of, with a fault, etc.).
c 1340 *Cursor M.* 13027 (Trin.) He com to blame be kyng of synne. c 1400 MAUNDEV. vi. 69 A fayre Maiden was blamed with wrong, and scaundered, that sche hadde don Fornycayoun. 1483 *Cath. Angl.* 34 To blame, *accusare, culpate.* 1583 GOLDING *Calvin on Deut.* viii. 44 So would men blame him of unfaithfulness. 1609 DRUMM. *Jas. III.* Wks. (1711) 61 He is blam'd of avarice.

5. To lay the blame on, reproach; to fix the responsibility upon; to make answerable.

a 1300 *Cursor M.* 1102 To blam be broier was þam laith. 1393 GOWER *Conf.* III. 158 Wherof full ofte netheles a king is blamed giletes. 1481 CAXTON *Reynard* i. viii. (Arb.) 14, I should be blamed yf they dyde you any harme. 1601 SHAKS. *All's Well* iii. vi. 54 That was not to be blam'd in the command of the service: it was a disaster of warre. 1621 HOBBS *Leviath.* iii. xl. 255 Blaming sometimes the Policy, sometimes the Religion. 1711 ADDISON *Spect.* No. 89 P. 2 She has no body to blame for it but herself. 1835 *Fraser's Mag.* XI. 617, I call this bad management, and I blame it upon you.

6. The dat. infin. to blame is much used as the predicate after *be*. In the 16-17th c. the *to* was misunderstood as *too*, and blame taken as adj. = blameworthy, culpable.

a 1235 *Ancr. R.* 232 [He] is swuðe to blamen. 1393 LANGL. *P. Pl. C.* iv. 308 If yt be payed prestliche the payer is to blame. 1594 SHAKS. *Rich. III.* ii. 12 The King mine Vncle is too blame for it. 1596 — *1 Hen. IV.* iii. 1. 177 In faith, my Lord, you are too willfull blame. 1631 W. SALTONSTALL *Mayde* iv. Perhaps Potentia wanted to be blame. 1633 HEYWOOD *Eng. Trav.* iii. Wks. 1874 IV. 58 The Girl was much too blame. 1633 HARRINGTON *Ephig.* i. 84 b. Blush and confesse that you be too too blame. c 1710 LADY M. W. MONTAGU *Lett.* xciv. II. 154, I am not so much to blame as you imagine. 1875 JOWETT *Plato* (ed. 2) I. 93, I was to blame in having put my question badly.

Blame (blām), *sb.* Also 3-4 *blam*. [a. OF. *blāme*, *blasmer* (= Pr. *blasme*, OSP. *blasmo*, It. *blasimo*), on Romanic type **blasimo*, f. **blasimare*; — L. *blasphemāre*: see prec. Cf. L. *blasphemus*, Gr. *βλάσφημος* adj. 'blasphemous, reviling.']

1. The action of censuring; expression of disapprobation; imputation of demerit on account of a fault or blemish; reproof; censure; reprehension.
c 1325 *E. E. Allit. P. B.* 43 With many blame, ful bygge a boffet, perauunter. 1393 GOWER *Conf.* I. 347 Thus more and more arose the blame Aycin Egiste on every side. 1526 *Pilgr. Perf.* (W. de W. 1531) 8 Moche worthy blame is that chrysten man. 1709 STEELE & SWIFT *Tatler* No. 67 P. 12 The contrary to Fame and Applause, to wit, Blame and Derision. 1866 FROUDE *Hist. Eng.* (1858) I. iii. 282 Even Henry himself [Latimer] did not spare where he saw occasion for blame.

† b. The condition of being blamed. *Obs.*
c 1230 *Hali Meid.* 33 Wið unworð ne wið uel blame. c 1374 CHAUCER *Ann. & Arc.* 278 And putte yowe in scaundre nowwe and blame.

† 2. A charge, an accusation. *Obs.*
c 1340 *Cursor M.* 19335 (Trin.) Wol 3e dryue on vs þe blame þat we haue slayn him wiþ wronge. 1388 WYCLIF *Titus* ii. 3 Not baciteris, or seyinge fals blame on othere men. c 1386 CHAUCER *Man Lawes* T. 542 Immortal god þat sauedest susanne fro false blame. c 1450 *Merlin* 121 She was ledde to be brente for a blame that was put upon hir. 1581 SIDNEY *Apol. Poetrie* (Arb.) 71 The blames laid against it (Poesie), are either false or feeble.

3. Blameworthiness, culpability; fault. *arch.*
1297 R. GLOUC. 432 Py loured ssal abbe an name . . . vayr wyput blame. c 1314 *Guy Warw.* 1737 Gij of Warwike . . . a knist he was wiþ-out blame. 1398 TREvisa *Barth. De P. R.* i. xix. He enticeth or enflameth vnto crymes and blames. 1586 WARNER *Ab. Eng.* ii. ix. (1597) 38 Ofner thought she it more blame not to haue erred so. 1601 SHAKS. *All's Well* v. iii. 36 My high repented blames Deere soueraigne pardon to me. 1611 BIBLE *Ephes.* I. 4 That we should be holy and without blame before him. 1859 TENNYSON *Mech. & Viv.* 648 Is thy white blamelessness accounted blame?

4. Responsibility for anything wrong, culpability; esp. in to lay the blame on, to bear the blame.

1393 GOWER *Conf.* I. 76 The blame upon the duke they laide. 1544 UDALL *Erasm. A. Aph.* 62 b. I am not in the blame, quoth he, but Dionisius. 1580 BARET *Alv. B* 777 The faulte and blame is in thee. 1665 MANLEY *Grotius'*

Low-C. Warres 87 He . . . casts the blame upon the Prince of Aurange. 1873 MORLEY *Romans* I. 274 He took all the blame on himself. 1883 FROUDE *Short Stud.* IV. 53 They laid the blame of the quarrel on the archbishop's violence.

† 5. ? Injury, hurt. *Obs.*
1549-62 STERNHOLD & H. Ps. I. 15 Then call to me When ought would worke thee blame. 1596 SPENSER *P. O.* i. ii. 18 Glauncing down his shield from blame him fairly blest.

Blameable, **blamable** (blām'əb'l), *a.* [f. BLAME v. + -ABLE. cf. F. *blâmable*, and see -BLE.] Worthy to be blamed; giving cause for fault-finding or reproach; faulty, culpable; reprehensible.

1387 TREvisa *Higden* vi. xxv. I am nou3t blamable ne gilty in þise þinges. 1530 PALSGR. 306/2 Blameable, *culpable.* 1586 W. WEBBE *Eng. Poetrie* (Arb.) 55 It is their foolysh construction, not hys wryting that is blameable. 1711 ADDISON *Spect.* No. 256 P. 2 In the blameable Parts of his Character. 1784 FRANKLIN *Autobiog.* Wks. 1840 I. 104 My conduct might be blameable. 1848 MACAULAY *Hist. Eng.* I. 160 Such feelings, though blameable, were natural. 1857 RUSKIN *Pol. Econ.* Art. 36 One fault which . . . is unnecessary, and therefore a real and blameable fault.

Hence **Blameableness**, **blamableness**.
1644 WHITLOCK *Manners* Eng. 505 (T.) Without the least blameableness. 1684 J. GOODMAN *Wint. Econ.* Conf. 2 (R.) If he had not freedom of will there could be no . . . blameableness. 1838 ARNOLD *Life & Corr.* II. viii. 123 The degree of blameableness in those who do not embrace this belief.

Blameably, **blamably** (blām'əb'l), *adv.* [f. prec. + -LY.] In a blamable manner; culpably.
1766 AYLIFFE *Parerg.* 181 A Person, that is maliciously or blameably absent. 1766 GOLDSM. *Vic. W.* xiv. (1806) 69 Blameably indifferent as to doctrinal matters. 1836 *Fraser's Mag.* XIII. 458 Blamably democratic in tone.

Blameful (blām'fūl), *a.* [f. BLAME + -FUL.] 1. Imputing or conveying blame or censure; blaming, fault-finding.

c 1386 CHAUCER *Melibeus* P. 161 He þat is Irouis and wroþ, as seith Senek, ne may nat speke bi blameful thynges. 1860 RUSKIN *Mod. Paint.* V. ix. xii. § 4, I never saw him look an unkind or blameful look; I never knew him let pass . . . a blameful word spoken by another.

2. Fully meriting blame; blameworthy; guilty.
c 1430 WYCLIF *Esther* xvi. 6 (MSS. I. & S.) Malicious men gessynge othere men bi her owen kynde blameful. c 1430 *Life St. Katherine* (Gibbs MS.) 106 For þe blamefull chaungeableness of þe queene. 1594 SHAKS. *Rich. III.* i. ii. 110 Is not the causer of the timelesse death. As blameful as the Executioner. 1738 GLOVER *Leonidas* x. 95 To die, uncalled, is blameful. 1838 *New Month. Mag.* LIV. 374 'Now Venus screen us!' 1806 b'd the blameful dame.

Hence **Blamefully**, **blamefulness**.
c 1400 *Apol. Loll.* 112 Ne man schuld blamefully bi idulnes . . . bring him self to swilk nede. 1648 MILTON *Apol. Smect.* Wks. 1738 I. 130 Those who . . . blamefully permitted the old leuen to remain.

Blameless (blām'ls), *a.* [f. BLAME + -LESS.] 1. Exempt from censure or blame; free from charge or reproof; uncensured. *Obs.*

1377 LANGL. *P. Pl. B.* xi. 306 Neyther is blameles . . . þe bisshop ne þe chaplayne. For her eyther is ended. 1566 TINDALE *Matt.* xii. 5 The prestes in the temple breake the sabbath day and yet are blameles. So 1611.

2. Giving no cause for blame; undeserving of reproach; faultless, guiltless.
1535 COVERDALE *Titus* i. 6 Yf eny be blamelesse, the husbande of one wife. A Bisshope must be blamelesse. 1641 J. JACKSON *True Evang.* T. ii. 124 The blamelesse behaviour of the Christians. 1821 DIXON *W. Penn* xxviii. (1872) 262 John Hough, a man of blameless life. 1839 TENNYSON *Mech. & Viv.* 152 The blameless King.

b. Const. of.
1611 BIBLE *Josh.* ii. 17 Wee will bee blamelesse of this thine oath. 1747 MALLET *Amynt.* & *Theod.* i. 9 Blameless still of arts That polish to deprave.

† 3. Not imputing or containing blame. *Obs.*
1595 SPENSER *Col. Clout* 749 Blame is . . . more blamelesse generally, Then that which priuate errors doth pursue.

Blamelessly, *adv.* In a blameless manner.
1611 COTGR. *Irreprehensiblement* . . . blamelessly, vnreproably. 1648 MILTON *Tetrach.* Wks. 1738 I. 256 As blamelessly as They in Heauen. 1861 MILL *Utilit.* v. 66 That any law, judged to be bad, may blamelessly be disobeyed.

Blamelessness. Blameless quality or condition.

1670 BAXTER *Narrative* iii. § 35 A man of the Primitive sort of Christians for Humility, Love, Blamelessness. 1754 EDWARDS *Freed. Will* iv. iii. (ed. 4) 293 The notion of plain and manifest Blamelessness. 1872 SYMONDS *Grk. Poets* iii. 77 The soul be restored to its pristine blamelessness.

Blamer (blām'ər), [f. BLAME v. + -ER.] He who blames or finds fault; a censurer, reprover.

1387 WYCLIF *Isa.* I. 6 My face I turnede not awei fro the blamers (*ab increpantibus*). 1566 T. STAPLETON *Ret. Univ. Jewel* Ep. Blamers should allwaie be Blamelesse. c 1620 DONNE *To Cress. Bedford* iii. Blamers of the times they mard. 1867 SWINBURNE *Ess. & Stud.* (1875) 120 Casual praisers and blamers.

Blameworthy (blām'wəð'i), *a.* Worthy or deserving of blame, culpable.

1387 TREvisa *Higden* vi. xxvii. Bote he was i-founde blameworthy in his answer. c 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 38 Blame-worthy, *culpabilis*. 1533 MORE *Apol.* xi. Wks. 869/2, I am not gratelye blame woorthy therein. 1699 BURNET *39 Art.* xvii. (1700) 167 All men are so far free as to be praise-worthy or blame-worthy for the Good or Evil that they do. 1876 J. GROTE *Eth. Fragm.* iii. 58 Every action which is wrong or blameworthy.

Hence **Blameworthiness**.

1880 SIDNEY *Arctadia* (1622) 15 The blame-worthiness is, that to heare them, he rather goes to solitariness. 1754

EDWARDS *Freed. Will* iv. xiii. (1762) 282 The nature of Blame-worthiness or ill-desert. 1868 BROWNING *King & Bk.* 1355 Blame I can bear, though not blame-worthiness.

Blaming (blām'ing), *vbl. sb.* [f. BLAME v.] The action of the verb BLAME; censure, reproach.

1388 WYCLIF *Job* xxiii. 4 My mouthe I shal fille with blamyngis. 1393 GOWER *Conf.* II. 176 In blaminge of the Grekes feith. 1613 R. C. *Table Alph.* (ed. 3), Castigation, chastisement, blaming.

attrib. 1583 FOXE *A. & M.* 337 The Captayne . . . in blaming wise sayde vnto hym: Did I not, etc.

Blaming, *ppl. a.* That blames. Hence **Blamingly**, *adv.*, with imputation of fault.

1832 CARLYLE in *Fraser's Mag.* V. 380 Speak blamingly of 'Carteret being used as a dactyl.'

Blamishere, *obs.* form of BLEMISHER.

Blamon, *var.* of BLOMAN, *Obs.*, negro.

Blan(ne), *pa. t.* of BLIN v. *Obs.* to cease.

Blanc, *obs.* form of BLANK.

|| **Blanc** (blān). [F. *blanc* white: see BLANK.] 1. White paint (*esp.* for the face). Cf. BLANCH *sb.* 1.

1764 MRS. HARRIS in *Priv. Lett.* 1st *Ld. Malmesbury* I. 112 She . . . would look very agreeable if she added blanc to the rouge instead of gamboge. 1869 *Pall Mall G.* 29 Sept. 10 Tattooed blue with woad instead of being smeared with rouge and blanc. 1869 ROSCOE *Elem. Chem.* 222 Barium Sulphate is used as a paint, and the precipitated salt is termed *blanc fixe*.

2. A rich stock or gravy in which tripe, etc. is stewed.

3. See BLANK.

Blancard (blān'kɑ:d). [a. F. *blancard* (also *blanchard*), f. *blanc* white + -ARD.] A kind of linen cloth manufactured in Normandy, the thread of which is half bleached before it is woven.

1848 in WEBSTER.

Blanch (blān), *sb.* [partly from BLANCH *a.* (or its French source), partly from BLANCH *v.*]

† 1. White paint, *esp.* for the face. *Obs.* Cf. BLANC 1.

1601 HOLLAND *Pliny* II. 520 This . . . serueth to make an excellent blanch for women that desire a white complexion. 1612 *Ibid.* 529 Their blanch of cerusse for complexion. 1620 FOLKINGHAM *Art of Surgery* i. xl. 35 Woad and Blanch would haue a strong ground.

† 2. A white spot on the skin. *Obs.*

1607 TOPSELL *Serpents* 765 In the neck thereof are two blanches. 1609 *Man in Moone* (1849) 38 Ulcers, filth and blanches, will breed upon you.

3. *Min.* 'Lead ore mixed with other minerals.'

Raymond *Mining Gl.* 1881.
1747 HOOSON *Miner's Dict.* M ij, They break by following some Blanch of Ore or Spar.

Blanch, *a. Obs. exc. Hist.* Forms: 4-6 *blaunch* (e, 4-*blanche*, 6-*blanch*; Sc. 7 *blensach*, *blenshe*, 7-*blench*. [a. OF. *blanche*, fem. of *blanc* white; see BLANK. Occurring originally only where the fem. would be used in French.]

† 1. White, pale. Chiefly in specific uses, as *blanch fever*, *blanch powder*, *blanch sauce*. *Obs.*

1330 R. BRUNNE *Chron.* 40 (Mätz.) He wedded þe dukes douhter, faire Emme þe blanchche. c 1374 CHAUCER *Troilus* I. 916 And some þow seydist had a blaunch feure. 1393 GOWER *Conf.* III. 9 Thanne cometh the blanchche feuer with chele. c 1400 *Liber Cocorum* 28 Blanche sauce for capons. c 1460 J. RUSSELL *Bk. Nurture in Babes* Bk. (1868) 122 Affur sopper, roasted apples, peres, blanchche powder, your stomak for to ese. 1475 CAXTON *Jason* 17 Affayed with the blanchche feures. 1586 COGAN *Haven Health* (1636) 125 A very good blanch powder, to strow upon roasted apples.

2. *Her.* White, argent.

1697 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 3287/4 Robert Dale, Gent., Blanch-Lion Pursuivant. 1805 SCOTT *Last Ministr.* iv. xxx, For who . . . Saw the blanchche lion e'er fall back?

3. *Blanch*, Sc. *blench*; more fully *blanch farm*, *blench ferme* [OF. *blanche ferme*]; according to Spelman and Coke, Rent paid in silver, instead of service, labour, or produce; in Scottish writers extended to a merely nominal quit-rent, not only of money, as a silver penny, but of other things, as a white rose, pair of gloves, pair of spurs, etc. paid in acknowledgement of superiority.

1609 SKENE *Reg. Maj.* 36 Frie tennents, haldand their lands, be blenshe ferme. [1607 SPELMAN 232 *Firma alba*, ea est quae argento penditur, non pecude.] 1648 COKE *Inst.* ii. 19 Redditus albi, White rents, blanch farms, or rents, vulgarly and commonly called quit rents . . . called white rents, because they were paid in silver, to distinguish them from work-days, rent cummin, rent corn, etc. 1768 BLACKSTONE *Comm.* II. 42. 1864 *Glasgow Daily Her.* 24 Sept., Changing the tenure of the castle . . . to free blench farm, for payment of a penny silver, if asked only.

1608 K. JAS. I. *Law Free Mon.* in *Life* (1830) I. ix. 294 The King changeth their holdings from tack to feu, from ward to blanch, etc. 1609 SKENE *Reg. Maj.* 31 Gif anie man hes lands haldin in frie soccage (in *blensch* or *feu*). 1670 BLOUNT *Low Dict.* s.v., To hold Land in Blench, is, by payment of a Penny, Rose, Pair of Gilt Spurs, or such like thing, if it be demanded; In name of Blench. 1799 J. ROBERTSON *Agric. Perth* 45 The blanch, feu, and other casualties of superiority payable to the crown. 1814 SCOTT *Wav.* iii. 8 The holding of the Barony of Bradwardine is of a nature alike honourable and peculiar, being blanch. 1868 *Act* 31-32 *Vict.* ci. § 6 The lands are . . . to be holden of the grantor in free blench.

b. as *adv.* = In blench.

1868 TYTLER *Hist. Scot.* (1864) I. 254 A grant of land . . . either for military service or to be held blench for the

payment of a nominal feu-duty. 1860 J. I. IRVING *Dumbartonsh.* 386 The coronatorship of the County to be held blench of the crown for one penny.

c. So *blanch duty, blanch holding, blanch cane*; *blanch holden* adj.

1634-46 Row *Hist. Kirk* (1842) 345 All blench holden lands. 1793 W. BUCHANAN *Fam. Buchanan* (1820) 245 Payment of four pennies of blench-duty if demanded. 1753 *Scots Mag.* XV. 49/1 To change all ward holdings of the principality of Scotland into blanch holdings. 1754 ESKINZ *Princ. Sc. Law* (1809) 150 Blanch-holding... is that whereby the vassal is to pay to the superior an elusory yearly duty, as a penny money, a rose, a pair of gilt spurs, &c. merely in acknowledgment of the superiority, *nomine alba firmas*. 1872 E. ROBERTSON *Hist. Ess.* 137 note, The obligations... commuted for a money payment, known as *Blanche Kane*.

Blanch (blanch), *v.* Forms: 4-6 *blanchoe*, 5 *blawnohe*, *blanch-yn*, 6 *blancho*, 7 *blaunch*, 6- *blanch*. [a. F. *blanch-ir* to whiten, f. *blanc* white. Cf. also *BLANK v.*]

1. *trans.* To make white, whiten: chiefly, in mod. use, by depriving of colour; to bleach. Also *fig.* 1400 *Morte Arth.* 3040 Chirches and chapelles chalk white blawnochede. 1607 DEKKER *Sir T. Wyatt* 126 Patience has blancht thy soule as white as snow. 1797 BRADLEY *Fam. Dict.* s.v. *Guaiacum*, The Salt of Guaiacum, which you may blanch by calcining it with a great fire in a Crucible. 1805 SOUTHEY *Madeo in W.* viii. His bones had now been blanch'd. 1839 MERIVALE *Rom. Emp.* (1865) VII. iv. 15 Age had blanch'd his hair. 1875 BROWNING *Aristoph.* *Apol.* 120 All at once, a cloud has blanch'd the blue.

b. To make (metals) white: in *Alchemy* by 'alabation,' or 'alabification'; in *techn.* use, to tin. 1582 HESTER *Secr. Phioran.* iii. civ. 130 Orpiment... doeth blanch all mettals. 1710 PALMER *Proverbs* 102 Like them that pass base money, blanch it to cover the brass. 1798 RUTTY *Tin-Plates in Phil. Trans.* XXXV. 635 Till... you would tin them, or in the Term of Art, blanch them.

c. To remove the dark crust from an alloy after annealing.

1803 *Phil. Trans.* XCIII. 187 Gold alloyed with one-twelfth of silver... may be stamped without being annealed; it consequently does not require to be blanch'd.

2. *Cookery.* To whiten almonds, or the like, by taking off the skin; hence (as this is done by throwing them into boiling water), to scald by a short rapid boil in order to remove the skin, or for any other purpose.

1398 *REVISIA Barth. De P. R.* xvii. cix. They [Hazel-nuts] engender moche ventosite, yf bey ben ete with be small skynnes; perfore... it is good to blanchie hem in hoot water. c. 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 38 Blanchyn almandys, or oþer lyke. *debalbo, decortico.* 1530 PALSGR. 456/a He can blandysse better... than blanch almondes. 1681 CHERHAM *Angler's Vade-m.* xxxix. § 5 (1689) 257 Before you put on the Sawce, blanch off very neatly the skins of the Peach and Tench. 1769 MRS. RAFFALD *Eng. Housekpr.* (1778) 88 Blanch your tongue, slit it down the middle, and lay it on a soup plate. 1796 MRS. GLASSE *Cookery v.* 41 After boiling your palates very tender... blanch and scrape them clean.

b. *humorously.* To strip. 1675 COTTON *Poet. Wks.* (1765) 261 Come, Ladies, blanch you to your Skins.

3. To whiten plants by depriving them of light, so as to prevent the development of chlorophyll.

1669 WORLIDGE *Syst. Agric.* (1681) 169 If you have a desire to have them white, or *blanch* them, (as the French term it)... you may cover every Plant with a small Earthen-pot, and lay some hot Soyl upon them. 1807 J. E. SMITH *Phys. Bot.* 206 The common practice of blanching Celery. 1861 DELAMER *Kitch. Gard.* 73 Blanching the shoots by a covering of sweet earth.

4. To make pale with fear, cold, hunger, etc.

1605 SHAKS. *Macb.* iii. iv. 116 And keepe the naturall Rubie of your Cheekes When mine is blanch'd with feare. 1791 COWPER *Iliad* iii. 41 Fear blanches cold his cheeks. 1857 RUSKIN *Pol. Econ. Art* 17 The famine blanches your lips.

5. To give a fair appearance to by artifice or suppression of the truth; to palliate, to 'whitewash.' Now only with *over* (with reference to i. b.).

1549 LATIMER *Ploughers* (Arb.) 37 Blanchers... that can blanch the abuse of Images. 1601 DENT *Pathw. Heaven* 165 Howsoever you mince it and blanch it ouer. 1621 SPEDD *Hist. Gt. Brit.* iii. xlv. 373 The Author... blancheth the matter, saying, that he died a naturall death. 1641 MILTON *Ch. Discip.* i. (1851) 11 To blanch and varnish her deformities. 1709 SACHEVERELL *Serm.* 15 Aug. 10 Men... that... can Hypocritically Blanch and Palliate... Iniquities. 1880 RUSKIN *Lett. Clergy* 367 To take the punishment of it [wrong], not to get it blanch'd over by any means.

6. *intr.* To turn or become white (chiefly by loss of colour); to bleach; to pale.

1768 TUCKER *Lt. Nat.* i. 12 If wax blanches in the sun. 1839 MARRYAT *Phant. Ship.* xxix. Their cheeks blanch'd. 1852 BRIGHT *Amer. Sp.* (1876) 111 Left the bones of her citizens to blanch on a hundred European battlefields. 1863 TENNYSON *Boadicea* 76 As when the rolling breakers boom and blanch on the precipices.

Blanch (blanch), *v.* 2 [A variant of *BLEACH*, which see for the derivation and history.]

† 1. *trans.* To deceive, cheat, bilk. Cf. *BLEND v.* 1. To *blanch of*: to cheat or do out of. *Obs.*

1592 WARNER *Alb. Eng.* vii. xxxix. 193 But so obscurely hath beene blancht of good workes elsewhere done. 1608 *Ibid.* xii. lxxi. (1612) 296 Dallying Girles... that intertaine... All Louers... And hauing blanch'd many so, in single life take pride.

† 2. To shut the eyes to, leave unnoticed, shirk, 'blink' (a fact); to pass without notice, miss, omit. *Obs.* (Cf. *BLANCH v.* 1 5.)

1605 BACON *Adv. Learn.* ii. 69 In Annotations... it is ouer

vsual to blanch the obscure places, and discoarse vpon the playne. 1628 RALPH *Prerog. Parl.* (1628) 52 You blanch my question, and answer mee by examples. 1638 SIR H. WOTTON in *Four C. Eng. Lett.* 53, I suppose you will not blanch Paris in your way. 1671 EVELYN *Mem.* (1857) III. 240 Whether I am to blanch this particular?

3. *intr.* To shrink, start back, give way. *arch.* (Later users apparently mix it up with *BLANCH v.* 1 6, in sense of 'turn pale, change colour for fear'.)

1572 in Neal *Hist. Purit.* (1732) i. 285 'Tis no time to blanch. 1632 MASSINGER & F. *Fat. Dowry* ii. 1, What! Weep ye, soldiers? Blanch not! 1640-1 Ld. Digby *Parl. Sp.* 9 Feb. 13 A man of a sturdy conscience, that would not blanch for a little. 1870 EDGAR *Runnymede* 126 The saints forbid that I should ever blanch at the thought of battle.

4. *trans.* To turn (anything) off, aside, or away; in *Venery*, to 'head back' the deer in his flight.

1592 LVLV *Galathea* ii. i. 231 Saw you not the deare come this way... I beleeve you have blancht him. 1657 F. E. *Hist. Edu.* II. (1680) 117 He would not blanch the Deer, the Toyl so near. 1741 *Compl. Fam. Piece* ii. i. 310 When he [the deer] swarves, or is blanch'd by any Accident. 1793 SKEATON *Edystone L.* § 323 The lantern was secured by... the Cornice; which when the sea rose to the top of the house, blanch'd it off like a sheet. 1875 'STONEHENGE' *Brit. Sports.* i. x. § 1.

† **Blanch**, *v.* 3 *Obs.* [App. worn down from *blandish* (like *blench* from *BLEMISH v.*); but approaching certain senses of both *BLEND v.* 1 and *BLEND v.* 2, with which it was probably confounded.] *intr.* = *BLANDISH v.* 2.

1572 R. H. *Lavaterus' Ghostes* (1596) 19 b, Men which blanchie and flatter with us, are alwayes suspicious. a. 1587 *Foxe Serm.* a. Cor. v. 10 If I should say that nothing therein were amisse, I should indeede blanch and flatter too much. 1622 BACON *Counsel, Ess.* (Arb.) 326 Books will speake plaine, when Counsellors blanch [in adulationem lapsuri].

† **Blanchard**, *art.* a. *Obs.* [a. OF. *blanch-art* whitish, bordering upon white, also as name of a white horse; f. *blanc*, *blanch*-white; see -*ARD*.] White; a white horse; often as a quasi-proper name. (Cf. *bayard* = bayhorse.)

c. 1440 *Generides* 2458 Vpon my stede blanchard thu ridest here. c. 1440 *Gaw. & Col.* ii. 19 (JAM.) On stedis stalwart and strang, Baith blanchart and bay.

Blanche, *obs.* form of *BLANCH*.

Blanch'd (blancht), *a.* [f. *BLANCH v.* 1 + -ED.] 1. Whiten'd (now, chiefly, by loss of colour).

1401 *Pol. Poems* (1859) II. 50 Blanchid graves ful of dede bones. 1633 P. FLETCHER *Purple Is.* xii. xxxi. Her loathsome face, blanchid skinnie and snakie hair. 1800 KEATS *St. Agnes* xxx. Blanch'd linen, smooth and lavender'd.

b. *Blanch'd copper*: an alloy of copper and arsenic (cf. *BLANCH v.* 1 b.).

1603 KNOLLES *Hist. Turkes* (1621) 1203 A cup of blancht copper.

2. Whiten'd (as almonds) by removal of the skin; peeled.

c. 1420 *Liber Cocorum* (1862) 28 Take blanchid almondis and small hom grynde. a. 1666 A. BROOME *Horace's De Arte P.* (1671) 391 Him that buys chiches blanch't.

3. Of plants: Whiten'd by exclusion of light.

1793 T. BEDDOES *Calculus* 199 Blanch'd plants lose their green colour, and become whitish and sickly. 1834 MRS. SOMERVILLE *Connex. Phys.* Sc. xxvii. (1849) 301 They [Plants] are found in caverns almost void of light, though generally blanch'd and feeble.

4. Pale with fear or other emotion, hunger, etc.

1828 SCOTT *F. M. Perth* i. 50 They looked on each other with fallen countenances and blanch'd lips.

† 5. ? Colourless, feeble; or ? perverted. *Obs.*

1553-57 FOXE *A. & M.* (1566) 86/a Now marke (good reader) what blanch'd stuffe here followeth.

† **Blanchen**, *Obs.* [f. F. *blanc*, *blanche* white.] ? White flour of fine quality.

1601 HOLLAND *Pliny* i. 564 A Modius of meale comming of the French Siligo, called Blanchen, or Ble-blanch.

Blancher (blanchr). Also 6 *blancher*, *branchar*, 7 -*er*. [f. *BLANCH v.* 1 + -ER.]

1. He who or that which blanches or makes white. 1852 D. MOIR *Miner Peru Wks.* II. 171 The tottering step, Proclaim'd Time's ravages, blancher of the hair.

2. *spec.* One who blanches metals or money (see *BLANCH v.* 1 b. and c.).

1578 *Ord. R. Housch.* 2 *Eliz.* 256 The Mynte.. Branchars 2; see apiece 13. 6s. 8d. 1647 HAWARD *Crown Rev.* 23 Two Blanchers [in the Mint]. 1728 RUTTY in *Phil. Trans.* XXXV. 635 Kept... a Secret by the Blancher. 1766 ENTICK *London* IV. 342 Melters, blanchers, moniers.

b. A chemical agent used for blanching.

1477 NORTON *Ord. Aick.* iii. in Ashmole (1652) 39 In Malgams, in Blanchers and Citrications. 1594 PLAT *Jewell-ho.* i. 20 The Alchemists giue a blancher vnto Venus with the salt of Tartar. 1667 BOYLE *Orig. Formes & Qual.* To make Blanchers for Copper.

Blancher 2. Forms: 6 *blawnsher*, *blawnsherr*, *blawnshere*, *blawnsher*, 6- *blancher*. [f. *BLANCH v.* 2 + -ER.]

† 1. One who causes to turn aside; a perverter; an obstructor, hinderer. *Obs.*

1549 LATIMER *Ploughers* (Arb.) 33 Not for the continuance of the Masse as the blanchers have blanch'd it and wrested it. *Ibid.* 36 Certeyne blanchers longyng to the markette, to lette and stoppe the lyght of the Gospel.

† 2. *Venery.* A person or thing placed to turn the deer from a particular direction. *Obs.*

1535 R. LAYTON in Ellis *Orig. Lett.* Ser. II. 61 Getheryng up part of the said bowke leiffs... to make him sewells or blawnshers to kepe the deere within the woode. 1580

SIDNEY *Arcadia* 64 Zelmane was like one that stood in a tree waiting a good occasion to shoot, and Gynecia a blancher, which kept the dearest deere from her. 1608 WARNER *Alb. Eng.* ix. li. (1612) 230.

3. One who starts or balks at (any thing). a. 1659 OSBORN *Q. Elis. Wks.* (1673) 465 So as the wall-eyed blanchers at them [ceremonies] were followed more out of reproach than approbation.

† **Blanchet**, *Obs.* Also *blanchette*. [ME., a. OF. *blanchet* dim. of *blanc*: see -*ET.*] White flour or powder for the face.

c. 1175 *Lamb. Hom.* 53 Heo smurieð heom mid blanchet þet is þes deoffles sape. c. 1330 R. BRUNNE (MS. Bowes) 20 (Halliiv.) With blaunchette and other flour, To make thaim qwyttir of colour.

Blanchet, *obs.* form of *BLANKET*.

Blanchimeter (blanchim'itər). [f. *BLANCH* + -*METER*.] An instrument for measuring the blanching power of chloride of lime and potash; a chlorometer. 1847 in CRAIG, etc.

Blanching (blanch'ing), *vbl.* sb. 1 [f. *BLANCH v.* 1] The action of making white: see the vb.

1600 HOLLAND *Livy* XL. 1091 b, The polishing, blanching and whitening... of the temple of Iupiter. 1657 *Phys. Dict.* *Blanching*, is the separation of the skins and hulls from divers seeds and kernels. 1868 SEYD *Bullion* 545 The furnaces for... blanching are on the first floor.

Blanching, *vbl.* sb. 2 [f. *BLANCH v.* 2 + -ING 1.]

† 1. Telling of falsehoods. *Obs.*

1581 J. BELL *Haddon's Answ. Osor.* 73 These blasphemous flatteries, detestable and horrible blanchings. *Ibid.* 155 Your impudent usage in lyeng and blanchyng.

† 2. Shirking, evasion. *Obs.*

1642 ROGERS *Naaman* 529 [Balaam] should have returned home, and abhorred his blanching with Gods command.

Blanching, *ppl.* a. [f. *BLANCH v.* 1 + -ING 2.] Whitenyng; becoming white.

c. 1800 K. WHITE *Poet Wks.* (1837) 77 When old age shall shed its blanching honours on thy weary head. 1847 TENNYSON *Princ.* ii. 182 On the blanching bones of men.

Blanch(e), *obs.* form of *BLANK*.

Blanket, *obs.* form of *BLANKET*, *BLUNKET*.

Blancmange, *-manger* (blānmā'ng, -mɒ'ng, -mā'ng). Forms: 4 *blancmanger* (e, blank(e)-manger (e, bla-, blam-, blan-, blaumanger, blamyngere, 5 *blanc maungere*, *blaunche*, *blonc*, *blawemanger*, *blanger mangere*, 6 *blowmanger*, 7 *bla*, *blanoh*, *blanok*, *blanke-manger*, 8 *blomange*, 9 *blamange*, 8- *blanco-mange*, *-manger*. [In 14th c. *blancmanger*, a. OF. *blanc-manger* (earlier *-mangier*), lit. 'white food or dish,' f. *blanc* white + *manger* to eat, eating, food. *Blanc* fell already in 14th c. to *blam*, *bla*, *blaw*, later *blawe*, *blow*, *blo*, *bla*, and *manger* was in 18th c. abridged to *mange*. The present spelling is a half attempt at restoring the French, but the pronunciation is that of the 18th c. *blomange*, *blamange*, often garnished with a French nasal, by those who know French.]

† a. Formerly: A dish composed usually of fowl, but also of other meat, minced with cream, rice, almonds, sugar, eggs, etc. *Obs.*

b. Now: A sweetmeat made of dissolved isinglass or gelatine boiled with milk, etc., and forming an opaque white jelly; also a preparation of cornflour and milk, with flavouring substances. 1377 LANG. *P. Pl.* B. xiii. 91 Pat neither bacoun ne braune... blanchmangere ne mortwres is noither fische [ne] flesche... but sode for a penaunte. c. 1386 CHAUCER *Prolog.* 387 for blankmanger [v.r. blankmangere] that made he with the beste. c. 1420 *Liber Cocorum* 19 Blanc maungere of fysshe. c. 1460 J. RUSSELL *Bk. Nurture in Babes Bk.* (1868) 165 Two potages, blanger mangere, & Also Jely. 1483 *Cath. Angl.* 34 Blawemanger, peponus. 1530 *Ortus Voc.* Blawmanger. 1603 HOLLAND *Plutarch's Mor.* 680 Their blamangers, jellies, chawdres. 1606 BACON *Sylva* § 48 Blanch-Manger or Jelly. 1769 MRS. RAFFALD *Eng. Housekpr.* (1778) 195 To make Blomange of Isinglass. 1772-84 *Cook Voy.* (1790) I. 54 Its flavour was something like blanc mange. 1801 WOLCOTT (P. Pindar) *Eph. Ct. Rumford Wks.* 1812 V. 137 Soap-suds to Syllabubs and Trifles change, And Bullocks' Lights and Livers to Blamange. 1812 L. HUNT in *Examiner* 21 Dec. 801/1 Trembling at it's fate, like blanc-manger. 1862 MRS. BEETON *Cookery Bk.* 44/1 Loosen the edges of the blanc-mange from the mould.

c. *fig.* (cf. 'flummery'). 1790 BURKE *Corr.* (1844) III. 157 Whenever that politic prince made any of his flattering speeches... when he served them with this, and the rest of his blanc-mange, of which he was sufficiently liberal.

† **Bland**, *sb.* 1 *Obs.* [a. ON. *bland*, in phr. *l. blana* in union, together, whence ME. *in bland*: cf. OE. *bland* mixture, f. stem of *BLAND v.* 1]

In phr. *In bland*: in mixture, in union, a. *adv.* together; b. *prep.* among.

c. 1325 E. E. *Allit. P.* B. 885 þay blwe a buffet in blande þat banned people. c. 1340 *Gaw. & Gr. Knt.* 1205 Boþe quit and red in-blande. a. 1400 *Alexander* (Stev.) 2786 In batail... in-bland with þe Grekis.

Bland (bland), *sb.* 2 [a. ON. *blanda* (fem.) a mixture of fluids, *spec.* 'a beverage of hot whey mixed with water,' Vigfusson: cf. OE. *bland* (neut.) 'mixture'.] The name in Orkney and Shetland of a beverage made of buttermilk and water.

1703 M. MARTIN *Descr. W. Isles* (1716) 374 Their drinking

of bland [in Shetland]. 1772 De For. etc. *Tour Gt. Brit.* (1769) IV. 337. 1822 Scott *Pirate* vi. (D.) She filled a small wooden quag from an earthen pitcher which contained bland, a subacid liquor made out of the serous part of the milk. 1827 R. DUNN *Ornith. Ork. & Shet.* 13.

Bland (blænd), *a.* [ad. L. *bland-us* soft, smooth, caressing.]

1. Of persons, their actions, etc.: Smooth and suave in manner; mildly soothing or coaxing; gentle. 1661 *Perry's Diary* 12 Sept., With some bland counsel of his. 1667 MILTON *P. L.* ix. 855 With bland words at will. 1774 GOLDSM. *Retal.* 140 His manners were gentle, complying, & bland. 1801 SOUTHEY *Gaici Ferrand* ii. iii, Winning eye and action bland. 1808 CARLYLE *Misc.* (1857) I. 93 Bland satire on his friends. 1855 MACAULAY *Hist. Eng.* III. 439 A bland temper and winning manners. 1876 BLACK *Green Past.* xv. 120 A bland and benevolent face.

2. Of things: Soft, mild, pleasing to the senses; gentle, genial, balmy, soothing.

1667 MILTON *P. L.* v. 5 Temperat vapours bland. 1800 KEATS *St. Agnes* xi. The sound of merriment and chorus bland. 1872 C. KING *Sierra Nev.* vi. 122 The air was bland, the heavens cloudless.

b. Of medicines: Mild, unirritating. Of food: Not stimulating. (Cf. quot. 1667 in 2.)

1836 TODD *Cycl. Anat. & Phys.* I. 671/2 A very small force only is requisite to cause bland fluids to follow the course of blood. 1876 DUNNING *Dis. Skin* 92 Bland oils are serviceable in softening scales and crusts. 1876 HOLBROOK *Hyg. Brain* 111 The food should be bland.

¶ *quasi-advb.* (in poetry).

1596 SPENSER *Hymn to Beauty* 171 That base affection, which your eares would bland commend to you by Loves abused name. 1850 Mrs. BROWNING *Poet's Vow* ii, They clasping bland his gift.

† **Bland**, *v.* 1. *Obs.* Also *blond*. [Common Teut. str. vb.: OE. *blandan*, *blondan*, pa. t. *blond*, pple. *blanden* = OS. *blandan*, OHG. *blantan*, ON. (and Sw.) *blanda*, Goth. *blandan*, *baifandan*, *blandan*, to mix. Only once exemplified in OE., and in ME. superseded by BLEND *v.* 2 The two later instances here may be accidental; if genuine, they perh. represent the ON. rather than the OE. vb.] *trans.* To mix, intermingle, blend.

a. 1000 *Riddles* (Gr.) xli. 59 Swētra, þonne þu beobread blēnde mid hunige. c. 1340 *Gaw & Gr. Knt.* 1931 Blande(n) al of blaunner were bope al aboute. c. 1400 *Liber Cocorum* 24 Blonde hit with mylke and put alle in panne. 1513 DOUGLAS *Aeneis* iii. ix. 83 Blude blandit with wyne.

† **Bland**, *v.* 2. *Obs.* Also *blaud*, *blond*. [a. OF. *blaud-ir* = L. *blandiri* to soothe, flatter: see BLANDISH.] *trans.* To soothe, flatter; a by-form of BLANDISH.

c. 1315 SHOREHAM 73 Ac blondeth. c. 1505 DUNBAR *Schir*, 31t *remembris* 77 Nor 31t with benifice am I blandit.

Bland, var. of BLEND (E. *Obs.* pa. pple).

† **Blandation**. *Obs.* rare. [app. carelessly formed from BLAND *v.* 2 (or † BLAND *a.*) + -ATION.]

1. Flattery.

1605 CAMDEN *Rem.* (1637) 325 One had flattered William Longchampe... with this blandation.

2. A deception, illusion.

1624 CHAPMAN *Widowes T.* v. For the corpse, sir... there's no body; nothing. A mere blandation; a *deceptio visus*.

† **Blander**. *Obs.* rare. Only in ME. form *blondere*. [f. BLAND *v.* 2 + -ER.] A flatterer.

1340 *Ayemb.* 60 þe blondere byþe þe dyueles noriches. *Ibid.* 61 Huanne þe blondere defendeþ and excuseþ and wryþe þe kuedes and þe zennes of ham þet he wyle ulateri.

Blandiloquentia (blændi:lkwēns), *rare*. [ad. L. *blandiloquentia*, f. *blandi-loquent-em* smooth-talking; cf. next and -ENCE.] Smooth speech, flattering talk. So *Blandiloquent a.* = next.

1656 in BLOUNT *Gloss.* 1779 T. TWINING in *Parr's Wks.* (1828) VIII. 264 Even the blandiloquence of Mr. Bland is now converted into railing. 1865 *Pall Mall G.* 9 May 9/4 He swallows a great quantity of blandiloquence.

† **Blandiloquous**, *a.* *Obs.* rare. [f. L. *blandiloqu-us* (f. *blandus* BLAND + stem of *loqui* to speak) + -OUS.] Smooth-speaking, flattering, fair-spoken. So (in same sense) *Blandiloquious a.* [f. L. *blandiloquium*.]

1615 T. ADAMS *Blacke Dev.* 44 Though he flatter... and give blandiloquous proffers. 1689 T. PLUNKET *Char. Gd. Command.* 1 As hath that Blandiloquious Colonel R.

† **Blandiloquy**. *Obs.* rare = °. [ad. L. *blandiloquium*.] 'Flattering speech.'

1683 in COCKERAM. 1699 in COLES.

† **Blandiment**. *Obs.* Also 6 blandimento, blandimento. [a. OF. *blandiment*, ad. L. *blandimentum*; see -MENT.] By-form of BLANDISHMENT.

c. 1310 BARCLAY *Mirr. Good Mann.* (1570) A j. Sweete blandiment of wordes amiable. c. 1310 MORE *Picus Wks.* 4/2 Womens blandimentes. 1599 NEWTON *Cicero's Old Age* 32 These blandiments of pleasure.

b. *fig.* Soothing or healing action. (So L.)

1684 tr. *Bonell's Merc. Compit.* xiv. 509 Upon the first Blandiment of the Fomentation the pain grows milder.

† **Blanding**, *vbl. sb.* *Obs.* [f. BLAND *v.* 2 + -ING.] Flattery, blandishment.

c. 1315 SHOREHAM 14 That he may nauzt y-weid be With blanding ne with boste. 1340 *Ayemb.* 10 þet is zenne of blondinge, oþer of lozengerie.

† **Blanding**, *ppl. a.* *Obs.* [f. as prec. + -ING.] Flattering, blandishing.

c. 1315 SHOREHAM 59 The fend Wyth hys blaundyng stevene.

Blandish (blændif), *v.* Forms: 4 blandise, -isse, -ishe, blandisse, -isse, bloundise, -iss, 4-6 blaundysh, 5 blandysh (e, -yssh, -yssh, blandish, -iss, -yssh, 6 blandesh, Sc. blandys, 5-6 blandish. [a. F. *blandiss-* lengthened stem of *blandir* = L. *blandiri* to flatter, f. *blandus* smooth, soft: see -ISH.] Rare in 17th and 18th c.: Johnson says 'I have met with this word in no other passage' than the quotation from Milton (see BLANDISHED).]

1. *trans.* To flatter gently by kind words or affectionate actions, to coax; to act upon with caressing action or complaisant speech; to cajole.

c. 1305 [see BLANDISHING *vbl. sb.*] c. 1430 LYDC. *Bochas* i. viii. (1544) 15 b. She can them blandishen with her flattery. c. 1530 *Proverbs* in *Pol. Rel. & L. Poems* (1866) 31. Also repelle that seruante that wist to blandysh the. 1598 RICHARDSON *Clarissa* II. xi. 68 You must then blandish him over with a confession, that all your past behaviour was maidenly reserve only. 1831 CARLYLE *Sart. Res.* ii. v. By this fairest of Orient Light-bringers must our Friend be blandished. 1837 — *Pr. Rev.* II. iii. vii. ii. 353 To blandish down the grimness of Republican austerity.

b. *fig.* Of things.

1758 J. G. COOPER *Aristippus* i. (R.) In former days a country life... Was blandish'd by perpetual spring.

2. *intr.* (absol.) To use blandishments; to act or speak with gentle allurements or flattery.

a. 1340 HAMPOLE *Psalter* i. i. He speiks of crist & of his folowers, bloundisand til vs. *Ibid.* xc. 13 The dragoun... that bloundis with the heuyd and smytes with the tayle. c. 1386 CHAUCER *Parron's T.* 302 If he flater or blandis [v. r. blandisse, blandisse, blandisse, blandisse] moore than hym oghte for any necessity. 1612 DRAVTON *Poly-olb.* xiii. 220 How shee blandishing, By Dunsmore drives along.

† 3. *trans.* To offer blandly (cf. to smile thanks). c. 1630 DRUMM. OF HAWTH. *Wks.* 11 Though they [flowers] sometime blandish soft delight. a. 1638 R. JAMES *Wks.* (1880) 254 That knew not how to menace speare, Or blandish words that ravish sense.

† **Blandish**, *sb.* *Obs.* rare. Blandishment. c. 1475 *Found. St. Barthol.* i. ix. (1886) 91 When with flattery blandysh, a goodwhy she hadde flatteryd.

Blandished, *ppl. a.* [f. as prec. + -ED.] Invested with flattery or blandishment.

1671 MILTON *Samson* 403 With blandish'd parleys, feminine assaults.

Blandisher (blændifær), [f. as prec. + -ER.] One who blandishes, a flatterer.

1611 COTGR. *Blandisser*, a blandisher, glosier, soother.

Blandishing (blændifj), *vbl. sb.* [f. as prec. + -ING.] Blandishment, flattery.

c. 1305 *St. Kath.* 165 in E. E. P. (1862) 94 Al þi blandisinge Ne þi tourmentz ne schulle ene fram him myn hurte bringe. a. 1340 HAMPOLE *Psalter* ii. 3 Dispipe we thaire bloudisynge & thaire manauces. 1485 CAXTON *Curial* I b. Fayr langage... or blandysingh of flaterers. 1648 JOS. BEAUMONT *Psyche* vi. iii. (T.) Double-hearted friends, whose blandishings Tickle our ears, but sting our bosoms.

Blandishing, *ppl. a.* [f. as prec. + -ING.] Softly flattering, soothing, coaxing.

c. 1374 CHAUCER *Boeth.* ii. l. 30 þe see... calme and blaundyshing wip smole water. 1483 CAXTON *Gold. Leg.* 117/2 The blaundyshing wordes of wyemen. 1566 STUDEY *Seneca's Medea* (1581) 135 With countenance bright and blandishing. 1840 DICKENS *Humphrey's Clock* 48 Would the blandishing enchanter still weave his spells around me.

Blandishment (blændifment), [f. as prec. + -MENT: cf. OF. *blandissement*.]

1. Gently flattering speech or action; cajolery.

1595 SPENSER *M. Hubbard* 1274 He can enquire... of the Foxe, and his false blandishment. 1622 BACON *Henry VII.* Wks. (1860) 477 He... would use strange sweetness and blandishments of words. 1711 ADDISON *Spect.* No. 128 ¶ 4 Nature has given all the Arts of Soothing and Blandishment to the Female. 1800 L. STEPHEN *Pope* iv. 96 He was not... inaccessible to aristocratic blandishments.

2. *fig.* Attraction, allurements. *concr.* Anything that pleases or allures.

1594 GREENE *Look. Glasse* (1861) 142 Bear hence these wretched blandishments of sin (Taking off his crown and robe). 1660 STANLEY *Hist. Philos.* (1701) 609/1 If any external blandishments happen, they increase not the chief good. 1875 J. BENNET *Winter Medit.* ii. xi. 360 His thoughts... were ever on the blandishments of imperial Rome.

† **Blanditude**. *Obs.* rare. [f. L. *blandus* BLAND + -TUDE; but with reference to BLANDISH.]

Flattering or blandishing behaviour; blandness.

1689 T. PLUNKET *Char. Gd. Command.* Ded. Yet shall you meet with... Rubs, Censures, Cavils, and base blanditude. — 24 Blanditude Desert shall overthrow.

Blandly (blændli), *adv.* [f. BLAND *a.* + -LY.]

In a bland manner; with gently flattering or soothing words or actions; mildly, gently, pleasingly.

1807 CARLYLE *Misc.* (1857) I. 7 It is seldom so much rugged energy can be so blandly attempted. 1853 C. BROWN *Villette* i. 2 Time always flowed... blandly, like the gliding of a full river through a plain. 1863 LANDOR *Heroic Idylls*, *Myrtis*, Friends whom she lookt at blandly from her couch.

Blandness (blændnēs), [f. as prec. + -NESS.] The quality or state of being bland; suavity, mild or soothing quality.

1846 BROWNING *Luria* ii. i. This hating people, that hate each the other, And in one blandness to us Moors unite. a. 1859 MACAULAY *Hist. Eng.* V. 82 Envy was disarmed by the blandness of Albemarle's temper. 1864 G. WILSON *Relig. Chem.* 10 What water is among liquids, in blandness, neutrality, and indifference, nitrogen is among gases.

Blane, pa. t. of BLIN *v.* *Obs.*; and *obs.* f. BLAIN.

Blank (blænk), *a.* Forms: 5-7 blanke, 6-7 blanck (e, 7-8 blano, 5- blank. [F. *blanc* white, a common Romanic adj. (Pr. *blanc*, *blanca*, Sp. *blanco*, Pg. *branco*, It. *bianco*, med.L. *blancus*), a. OHG. *blanch* (MHG. *blanc*): = OTeut. **blanko-* shining, referred by etymologists generally to the verbal stem BLINK, as a nasalized form of *blisk* in *bltikan*, OHG. *bltikan*, OE. *bltican* to shine. But **blink*, **blinch* is not actually found in any of the old dialects; and the origin of **blanko-* thus remains obscure.]

1. White (*obs.*), and chiefly in specific uses, e.g. *blank plumb* white lead, *blank falcon* a 'white hawk,' i.e. one in its third year; pale, colourless.

c. 1325 *Coer de L.* 6526 A robe i-furryd with blawn [? blauc] and nere. c. 1440 *Prompt. Parv.* 38 Blanke plumbe [K. H. blawnblumbe, 1499 blawnblumbe, otherwise called whyte lede]. a. 1500 in *Rel. Ant.* I. 108 Tempur blank chalke, plum or ceruse, with gleyre. 1566 LEIGH *Armorie* (1597) 133 b. The Herehaught... in a chemise blanke, powdered and spotted with mullets Sabie. 1575 TURBERV. *Bt. Falconry* 212 The blanke falcons are flegmaticke. 1615 LATHAM *Falconry* (1633) 25 In your blanke Hawks. 1667 MILTON *P. L.* x. 656 To the blane Moone Her office they prescrib'd. 1796 THOMSON *Winter* 124 Rising slow, Blank, in the leaden-colour'd east, the moon. 1821 BYRON *Juan* iv. ix. The blank grey was not made to blast their hair.

2. Of paper, etc.: Left white or 'fair'; not written upon, free from written or printed characters, 'empty of all marks' (J.); said also of orders, cheques, deeds, and official documents left with an empty space for special signature or instruction; not 'filled up.' See 10.

1547 LYNDESAY *Trag. Cdl. Betoun* 121 Ane paper blank his Grace I gart subscribe. 1598 SHAKS. *Merry W.* ii. i. 77, I warrant he hath a thousand of these Letters, writ with blanke-space for different names. 1687 *Lond. Gas.* No. 2209/4 A Copy-Book of Letters... about one half of it being Blank paper. 1708 *Ibid.* No. 4499/3 His Grace sent him a blank Passport. 1712 ADDISON *Spect.* No. 549 ¶ 1 When I look upon the Creditor-side, I find little more than blank Paper. 1855 MACAULAY *Hist. Eng.* IV. 178 Requesting the King to send a blank safe conduct in the largest terms.

b. *Const. of.*

1842 TENNYSON *St. Simeon* 156 That God hath now Sponged and made blank of criminal record.

c. *In blank*: without names specified.

1836 KENT *Comm. Amer. Law* xlv. (1873) III. 89 A note endorsed in blank is like one payable to bearer. 1845 STEPHEN *Law* Eng. II. 129 Policies being made in blank, that is, without specifying the names of the persons, for whose benefit they were made. 1861 GOSCHEN *For. Exch.* 37 Bills which are technically said to be drawn in blank.

3. *gen.* Empty, without contents, void, bare.

1748 THOMSON *Cast. Indol.* i. xxix. Wide o'er this ample court's blank area. 1840 HOOD *Up Rhine* (1860) 245 The Figure... strode forth into the blank darkness. 1849 KUSKIN *Srv. Lambs* 201 The blank lancet arch on the one hand, and the overcharged cinquefoiled arch on the other. 1855 BAIN *Senses & Int.* ii. ii. § 6 The blank sensation of the naked body is owing principally to the deprivation of touch. 1856 DOVE *Logic Chr. Faith* v. i. § 1. 261 Issuing out of a universe in which there was only blank space.

b. *Blank practice*: practice with 'blank' or empty cartridges (see 10). Also *fig.*

1873 MORLEY *Rousseau* I. 66 Rousseau... changed the blank practice of the elder philosophers into a deadly affair of ball and shell.

4. *fig.* Void of interest or event; vacant, 'having nothing in it'; as a *blank look-out*.

1799 BUTLER *Serm.* Wks. 1874 II. 189 Various kinds of amusements... serve to fill up the blank spaces of time. 1803 BRISTED *Pedest. Tour* II. 481 They... suffered us to talk Irish to ourselves all the evening, without the least interruption, so that we had but a blank night of it. 1867 FREEMAN *Norm. Cong.* (1876) I. App. 753 A year which the Chronicles leave quite blank.

b. Void of result, unsuccessful, fruitless, nugatory; amounting to or producing nothing.

a. 1553 UDALL *Royler D.* ii. ii. (Arb.) 34, I weene I am a prophete, this geare will proue blanke. 1607 E. F. *Hist. Edw. II.* (1680) 47 The King doubles his pace homewards; instead of Triumph, glad he had got loose from so imminent a danger... This blank return filled the Kingdom with a fretting murmur. 1643 *Lanc. Tracts* 165 The two Colonells being blank in their treaty, spent their stay in wise instructions. 1699 BOYER *Fr. Dict.* (1753). A blank (or bad) come-off. *Une méchante défaite.* 1832 EG. WARBURTON *Hunt. Songs* ii. (1883) 7 The man... Whose heart heaves a sigh when his gorse is drawn blank. *Ibid.* 163 But I felt inclin'd in my inmost mind, To wish for a blank day.

c. Of the face or look: Void of expression, expressing no attention, interest, or emotion; vacant.

1809 TENNYSON *Elaine* 816 While he roll'd his eyes Yet blank from sleep. 1884 Mrs. EWING *Story Short Life* i. Lady Jane's face was blank because she was trying not to laugh. 1884 W. C. SMITH *Kildrostan* i. iii. 85 To look with blank fixed gaze at these old books.

5. Of persons: (Looking) as if deprived of the faculty of speech or action; 'shut up,' utterly disconcerted, discomfited, resourceless, or non-plussed; now chiefly in *To look blank*: cf. prec.

1544 UDALL *Erasm. Aphor.* 61a, Beeyng confounded and made blanke in a disputation of a certain fclow. 1580 BARNT *Atk.* B 781 These fellows be blanke or out of hart and courage. 1640 MILTON *Ekoon.* 184 The Damsell of Burgundy at sight of her own letter, was soon blank. 1654 Br. HALL *Invis. World* iii. § 3 How blank must Moses needs have looked to see his great works patterned by

those presumptuous rivals! 1667 MILTON *P. L.* ix. 890 Adam...amaz'd, Astonied stood and Blank. 1711 ADDISON *Spect.* No. 7 p. 1 Upon this I looked very blank. 1797 THOMSON *Summer* 1050 The blank assistants seem'd, Silent, to ask, whom Fate would next demand. 1833 KINGSLEY *Hyperion* xi. 134 The two old men looked at each other with blank and horror-stricken faces.

6. Of emotions: Prostrating the whole faculties; unrelieved, helpless, stark, sheer.

1634 MILTON *Comus* 452 Noble grace that dashed brute violence With sudden adoration and blank awe. 1717 POPE *Eloisa* 148 'Tis all blank sadness, or continual tears. 1809 W. IRVING *Knickerbocker* vii. xi. (1849) 437 Blank terror reigned over the community. 1837 DICKENS *Pickwick* v. Gazing on each other with countenances of blank dismay. 1875 HAMERSON *Intell. Life* l. vii. 39, I well remember the blank despair which I felt.

7. *gen.* Pure, unmixed, utter, downright, sheer, absolute (with a negative or privative force).

1839 DE QUINCEY *Murder* Wks. 186a IV. 59 The blank impossibilities of Lilliput. 1856 KANE *Arct. Exp.* I. xviii. 222 The red sandstones contrast most favorably with the blank whiteness. 1871 FARRAR *Witt.* ii. 54 The blank atheism...of recent controversialists.

† b. Mere, bare, simple. *Obs.*

1596 NASHE *Saffron-Wald.* Wks. (1883-4) 103 None is privity to a blank maintenance he hath, and some maintenance of necessity he must have. 1640 BROWNE *Antip.* v. iv. Wks. III. 327 Did you not warrant me upon that pawne...your blank honour, That you would cure his jealousy?

8. *Blank verse*: verse without rhyme; *esp.* the iambic pentameter or unrhimed heroic, the regular measure of English dramatic and epic poetry, first used by the Earl of Surrey (died 1547).

1590 NASHE in Greene *Menaph.* Pref. (Arb.) 6 The swelling bumbast of bragging blank verse. 1608 SHAKS. *Ham.* II. ii. 339 The Lady shall say her minde freely; or the blank verse shall halt for't. 1739 CHESTERF. *Lett.* I. xxv. 93 Those that have no rhymes are called blank verses. 1784 COWPER *Lett.* 13 Dec., Blank verse is susceptible of a much greater diversification of manner than verse in rhyme. 1874 SAYCE *Compar. Philol.* ix. 385 Our greatest poems have been written in blank verse.

† b. Hence *blank versifier*.

1746 W. HORSLEY *The Fool* (1748) II. 96 Rebus-Men, Punsers, and Blank Versifiers.

9. *Comb.*, as *blank-eyed*, *blank-looking* adjs.

1881 H. JAMES *Portr.* Lady xxxvi. It was her habit to interpose a good many blank-looking pauses. 1884 J. PARKER *Apoc.* Life (1884) III. 63 The blank-eyed villagers.

10. In various specific collocations: as (in sense 2) *blank acceptance*, *blank cheque*, one not having the amount filled in; *blank bar*, 'a Plea in Bar, which in an Action of Trespass is put in to compel the Plaintiff to assign the certain place where the Trespass was committed' (Blount *Law Dict.* 1670); *blank bond*, a bond in which a blank is left for the creditor's name; *blank charter*, a document given to the agents of the crown in Richard II.'s reign, with power to fill it up as they pleased; hence *fig.* liberty to do as one likes; *blank credit*, 'an authorized permission given to draw on an individual or firm to a certain amount' (Ogilvie); *blank indorsement*, a bill in which the indorsee's name is omitted. Also (in sense 3) *blank-cartridge*, a cartridge containing no ball; *blank-door* (*Arch.*), an imitation of a door; *blank-tire*, a tire without a flange; *blank-tooling* = *blind-blocking*; see *BLIND* 14; *blank-window*, an imitation-window. Also *Blank-form*: see *BLANCH*; *point blank*: see *POINT*.

1866 *Gentl. Mag.* May 458/2 Their carbines...were only loaded with 'blank cartridges. 1398 *Hist. Croyland. Cont.* in *Rev. Angl. Script. Vet.* (1684) I. 493 Quadam alba charta vocata 'Blankechartre...quod utique Regis Richardi in posterum causa exitii magna fuit. 1593 SHAKS. *Rich. II.* i. iv. 48 Our Substitutes at home shall have 'Blanke-charters. 1593 DUNNE *Sat.* iii. That God hath with his hand Sign'd kings 'blank-charters, to kill whom they hate.

† B. *quasi-adv.* Absolutely, unreservedly. *Obs.* 1677 *Temple Let.* Wks. 1731 II. 434 The Allegations on either side are blank contrary one to the other.

Blank (blæŋk), *sb.* Forms: 6-7 *blanc*, *blanke*, *blank* (6, 7-*blank*). [*f.* prec. The senses consist of a number of absolute or elliptical uses of the adj., not mutually connected. (The arrangement here is chiefly chronological.)]

† 1. A small French coin, originally of silver, but afterwards of copper; also a silver coin of Henry V current in the parts of France then held by the English. According to Littré, the French *blanc* was worth 5 deniers. The application of the name in the 17th c. is uncertain. *Obs.*

1399 ARNOLD *Chron.* (1811) 14 Yelding therof by yere CCC li. of sterlyng of blankis. 1480 CAXTON *Chron. Eng.* ccxlii. 298 The frenshmen playde owre kyng and his lordes at the dise and an archer alwey for a blank of hir money. For they wenden al had ben heres. 1523 L. BERNERS *Froiss.* I. ccxcvii. 776 Whosoever brought a fagot before the kynges tent, he shulde have a blank of France. 1577 HELLWES *Gentl. Mag.* 204 He did rather leave his woodes vnsoled, then abate one blank of his price. 1669 *Shertogenbosch* 45 Candles 12 stivers a pound, an Egge two blanks. 1670 BLOUNT *Law Dict.*, *Blanks*, a kinde of Money, coyned by King Henry the Fifth, in the parts of France, which were then subject to England, the value whereof was 8d...The reason why they were called Blanks,

was because...this of Silver, was in name distinguished by the colour. 1753 CHAMBERS *Cycl. Suppl.*, *Blank* also denotes a small copper coin, formerly current in France, at the rate of five deniers Tournois. 1863 *Spring & Sum. in Lapland* 81 A specie dollar, or 'blank', as they call it here, will rouse the apathy and greed of a Lap when paper currency will have no effect.

2. The white spot in the centre of a target; hence *fig.* anything aimed at, the range of such aim.

1554 *Interl. Youth* in Hazl. *Dods.* II. 35 Pink and drink, and also at the blank. And many sports mo. 1598 BARRETT *Theor. Warres* III. i. 35 To cause them to leuell, and discharge at the blanke thereof. 1837 COL. WISEMAN *Fun. Ora.* Cdl. *Weld* 23 Rome, the very blank and aim of religious partizanship in our country.

† Cf. the following with b, as illustrating its origin: 1608 SHAKS. *Ham.* IV. i. 42 (Globe) As level as the cannon to his blank Transports his poisoned shot. 1604 — *Oth.* III. iv. 128, I have stood within the blanke of his displeasure.

† b. 'Level line mark for cannon, as point-blank, equal to 800 yards.' Smyth *Sailor's Wrds.* bk.

1747 *Centl. Mag.* XVII. 398 Fired at the Bellona, which Capt. Barrington...did not return (being but just within blank).

† 3. A nonplus. *Obs.*

1548 UDALL *Erasm. Apoph.* 61a, Aristippus was nothingy greued to take a blanke in disputation. 1548 UDALL, etc. *Erasm. Par. Acts* vi. 10 The inward griefe...whiche they had conceiued for the blanke they wer put unto. 1550 LVLV *Euphues* (Arb.) 362 Such a place, as turned them all to a blanke.

4. A lottery ticket which does not gain a prize.

1667 in Kempe *Loseley MSS.* (1835) 188 A verie rich Lotterie...without any blankes. 1607 SHAKS. *Cor.* v. ii. 10 It is Lots to Blankes, My name hath touch't your eares. 1779 J. MOORE *View Soc.* II. xcv. 426 All the tickets he had in the lottery had proved blanks. 1824 W. IRVING *T. Trav.* I. 4 When one has drawn a blank.

5. A blank space in a written or printed document.

1570 *Leg. Bp. St. Andrews in Scot. Poems* 16th C. II. 343, I sall leive blankis for to imbrow thame. 1632 *Star Chamb. Cases* (1886) 119 Warrantes...with blankes for names of plaintiff and defendant. 1677 MARVELL *Growth Popery* Wks. I. 555 Which blank...shall be filled up with the Christian name of such King or Queen. 1745 SWIFT (J.) I cannot write a paper full as I used to do; and yet I will not forgive a blank of half an inch from you. 1859 MACAULAY *Hist. Eng.* V. 138 Full powers must be sent...with blanks left for the names of the plenipotentiaries.

† b. Provisional words printed in italics (instead of blank spaces) in a bill before Parliament, being matters of practical detail, of which the final form will be settled in Committee.

1827 *Parl. Debates* 583/2 The blanks of the bill were then filled up in the committee. 1863 H. COX *Inst.* i. ix. 167 In going through the bill (in committee), words printed in italics, commonly called 'blanks', stand, unless objected to.

† 6. A document, 'paper', or 'form' with spaces left blank to be filled up at the pleasure of the person to whom it is given (e.g. a blank charter), or as the event may determine; a blank form.

1596 T. B. *La Primaud.* *Fr. Acad.* 708 The citie of Athens was constrained to sende a blanke for capitulations of peace. 1593 SHAKS. *Rich. II.* II. i. 250 And daily new exactions are deu'd, As blankes, beneuolences, and I wot not what. 1621 BEAUM. & FL. *Maid's Trag.* v. iii. Throw him the blank. Melantius, write in that Thy choice. 1711 in *Land. Gas.* No. 4817/7 The several Blanks...are printed...at the Crown and Scepter. 1780 J. REED in Sparks *Corr. Amer. Rev.* (1853) III. 23 We have furnished the Commissioners with blanks of various kinds of returns, and directed them to send us a weekly account.

† b. An empty form without substance; anything insignificant; nothing at all.

1700 DRYDEN (J.) She has left him The blank of what he was. 1704 PENN in *Pa. Hist. Soc. Mem.* IX. 308 People might have thought...I was gone with him a blank, he being called governor. 1749 *Young Mt. Th.* II. 80 No blank, no trife, nature made, or meant. 1828 SCOTT *Hrt. Midl.* i. His debts amount to blank—his losses to blank—his funds to blank—leaving a balance of blank in his favour.

7. *fig.* A vacant space, place, or period; a void.

1601 SHAKS. *Twel. N.* II. iv. 113 Duke. And what's her history? *Vio.* A blanke, my lord. 1667 MILTON *P. L.* III. 48 For the Book of knowledge fair Presented with a Universal blanc Of Natures works to mee expung'd and ras'd. 1759 FRANKLIN *Ess.* Wks. 1840 III. 525 The remainder of that day was wasted...The next was a blank likewise. 1793 LD. SPENCER in *Ld. Auckland's Corr.* (1862) III. 124 The interval till then will be a complete blank in my life. 1815 J. HUSLO *Scott. Sac.* Sabb. vii. The blanks in family circles fill'd again. 1876 MOZLEY *Univ. Sermon* vi. 142 The future is a blank, or a dark enigma to them.

8. *Blank verse*; cf. *BLANK* a. 8.

1580 GREENE *Menaph.* Wks. 1881-3 VI. 27 Let...they bewaile in weeping blankes the wane of their Monarchie. 1667 FELTHAM *Resolves* I. lxx. Wks. (1677) 108, I hold it better put in prose, or Blanks. 1793 SOUTHEY *Nondescri.* I. Wks. III. 58 In Miltonic blank bemoanth'd. 1809 BYRON *Bards & Rev.* ix. Rhyme and blank maintain an equal race.

9. *Mech.* A piece of metal, cut and shaped to the required size of the thing to be made, and ready for the finishing operations; *esp.* in *Coinage*, the disc of metal before stamping.

1596 J. BUREL *Entry O. Edinb.*, Brail blancis hang above thair eis, With jewels of all histories. 1655 in *Ruding Ann. Coinage* ed. 2) III. 423 The Blanks for Farthings cast. 1753 CHAMBERS *Cycl. Suppl.*, *Blank*, in coinage, a plate, or piece of gold, or silver, cut and shaped for a coin, but not yet stamped. 1821 J. HOLLAND *Manuf. Metals* I. 201 The blanks for wood screws are generally forged by the nailors. 1881 GREENER *Cum* 296 The blank (for a cartridge case) is...forced by a descending plug through a tapering aperture.

10. The *seed* of a grain.

1680 MORDEN *Geog. Rect.* (1685) 279 The Monyers Divide the Perit into 24 Blanks. 1725 BRADLEY *Fam. Dict.* II. s.v. *Weights*, The Moneyers subdivide the grain thus: 24 Blanks make 1 Perrot; 20 Perrots 1 Dwit; 24 Dwits 1 Mite; 20 Mites 1 grain.

11. In the game of dominoes: A piece which is without points on one or both of its divisions.

12. A dash written in place of an omitted letter or word. Thus, — Esq. of — Hall, read *Blank Blank* Esquire of Hall. Cf. *DASH*.

Blank (blæŋk), *v.* Forms: 6 *blanch* (6, 6-7 *blanke*, 6-*blank*). [*f.* prec. Cf. ONFr. *blanchir*, -*quir*, F. *blanchir*, OCat. *blanquir* to make white.] The senses are mixed up with those of *BLANCH* v. 1 and 2, and *BLENCH*, *BLENK*, *BLINK*.

† 1. *trans.* To make white, whiten; to make pale. 1483 CAXTON *C. de la Tour* liv. A baronesse...the whiche as men saide blanked and popped or peynted her self. 1605 SYLVESTER *Du Barlas* I. vi. (1621) 119 His brow Was never blankt with pallid fear. 1652 BENLOWES *Theoph.* ix. li. The coral die is blankt at lips so red.

† 2. To put out of countenance; to nonplus, disconcert, 'shut up.' Cf. *BLANK* a. 5. *arch.*

1548 UDALL, etc. *Erasm. Par. Mark* xii. 28 The Saduceis were put to a foyle and blanked. 1587 GOLDING *De Mornay* xxix. 464 At this R. Eliezer was blankt and held his peace. 1611 COTGR., *Bejaune*...a doul, noddie; one that's blankt, and hath nought to say, when hee hath most need to speak. — *Confuter vñ tesmoing*, to disgrace, confound, puzzle, blanke him; to put him out of countenance, or, drive him to a Non-plus. 1653 URQUHART *Rabelais* (1807) I. 179 If I do not blank and gravel you...and put you to a non plus. 1800 SCOTT *Abbot* xviii. Which fairly blanked the bold visage of Adam Woodcock.

† 3. To frustrate, make void, invalidate, bring to nought, disconcert (plans, etc.). *arch.*

1566 T. STAPLETON *Ret. Untr.* Jewell, iv. 104 To dasel the Readers eyes withall, or to blanke his...Argument. 1596 SPENSER *State Irel.* Wks. (1862) 536/1 All former purposes were blanked. 1659 CLEVELAND *To Ald. Hoyle* 8 And thus...blanks the Reckning with their Host. 1814 SCOTT *Wav.* II. i. Their sports blanked by the untoward accident.

† 4. To turn away. *Obs.* (Cf. *BLANCH* v. 2 4.)

1640 YORKE *Union Hon.* 49 This unexpected aversion...blankt the Scots. 1659 GAUDEN *Tears Ch.* 139 Nor are people to be blanked or scared from any thing which they list to call their Religion.

† 5. To render blank or void; to veil from sight.

1763-5 CHURCHILL *Gotham* III. Poems II. 20 When dreary Night...blank'd half the Globe. 1881 MISS BRADDON *Asph.* III. 331 An obelisk...blanking out earth and heaven with its gigantic form.

† b. To indicate by a blank or dash (—).

1789 BENTHAM *Wks.* X. 189 *Dele Fœdical*, I doubt it is hardly safe; or blank it thus F—ical.

† c. *Blank* (often printed —, but read 'blank') is also, for decorum's sake, substituted for a word of execration.

1873 C. READE *Simpleton* xxiii. Blank him! that is just like him; the uneasy fool! 1878 MRS. EDWARDS *Jel* iii. 272 — the colonel of the regiment! exclaims Mark... 'Blank the colonel of the regiment!' With slow unmistakable gusto she lingers over the monosyllable 'Blank.'

† 6. *intr.* To be disconcerted; to blench; to shrink back. *Obs.*

1655 GURNALL *Chr. in Arm.* xiii. § 2 (1669) 49/1 If thou canst...blank no more than a cold suitor doth, when he hears not from her whom he never really loved. 1642 ROGERS *Naaman* 423 But these would shed the blood of such and no whit blanke.

† 7. (?) To blanch = to strip off the skin. *Obs.*

1515 J. ROBSON *Scot. Field in Chetham Misc.* II. We blanked them with billes, through all their bright armor.

Blanked (blæŋkt), *pp. a.*

† 1. Whiten, made white. *Obs.*

1559 SKELTON *Elyn. Rum.* in *Harl. Misc.* (Malh.) III. 479 She hobbles like a goose, with her blanked hose.

† 2. Nonplussed. *Obs.*

1611 COTGR. s.v. *Camus*, *Des harangues bien camus*, blanked, grauelled, or driven to a Non-plus.

Blanket (blæŋkɛt), *sb.* Forms: 4 *blenket*, 4-6 *blankette*, 5-7 *blankett*, 6-7 *blanquet*, *blanchet*, *blancket*, 3-*blanket*. [*a.* OF. *blankete*, *blanquette* blanket, *f.* *blanc* white + *dim.* suffix *-ette*; see *blanchetus*, -*um* in Ducange. Cf. *BLUNKET*. (The *Thomas Blanket* to whom gossip attributes the origin of the name, if he really existed, doubtless took his name from the article.)]

† 1. A white or undyed woollen stuff used for clothing. *Obs.*

1300 *Beket* 1167 Blak was his cope above: his curtel whit blanket. 1420 *Anturs Arth.* xxix. Her belte was of blenket...Beten with besandus, and bouclet ful bene. 1440 *Prompt. Parv.* 38 Blankett, lawngelle, langellus. 1866 ROGERS *Agric. & Prices* I. xxii. 575 Blanket being undyed stuff. *Ibid.* 576 Blanket, or coarse woollen cloth, was woven at Witney nearly 500 years ago.]

2. A large oblong sheet of soft loosewoollen cloth, used for the purpose of retaining heat, chiefly as one of the principal coverings of a bed; also for throwing over a horse, and, by savages or destitute persons, for clothing. *Tossing in a blanket* was a rough irregular mode of punishment.

'Blankets' are now also made of cotton, of paper, etc. 1346 *Test. Ebor.* I. (1836) 23. Ij. lintheamina cum uno blanket. 1350 LAMBL. *P. Pl.* C. x. 254 Noþer blankett in

hus bed. 1444 *Test. Ebor.* II. (1855) 111 A pair of blanket-tis. 1597 *SHAKS. 2 Hen. IV.* II. iv. 241 A rascally Slaue, I will tosse the Rogue in a Blanket. 1606 *HOLLAND Sueton.* 17 Annot., A light blanquet or quilt. 1630 J. W. tr. *Guibert's Char. Physic* II. 66 Three or foure blanchets of Cotton hemmed. 1688 *DRYDEN Mac Fl.* 42 The like was ne'er in Epsom blankets tost. 1711 *BUDGELL Spect.* No. 150 P. 3 Had Tully himself pronounced one of his Orations with a Blanket about his Shoulders. 1713 *STEELE Guardian* No. 72 (1756) I. 319, I have... more than once seen the discipline of the blanket administered to the offenders. 1876 *JEVONS Logic Prim.* 9 People are so accustomed to use blankets to make themselves warm that they are surprised to see blankets used to keep ice cold.

b. fig.

1605 *SHAKS. Macb.* I. v. 54 Nor Heauen peepe through the Blanket of the darke. To cry, hold, hold. 1782 *WELCOTT (P. Pindar) Ode R. Acad.* v. Wks. 1812 I. 23 The black blanket of Old Mother Night. 1858 *CARLYLE Misc.* (1857) I. 215 The blanket of the Night is drawn asunder.

3. Phrases: *A wet blanket*: a person or thing that throws a damper over anything, as a wet blanket smother's fire. *Born on the wrong side of the blanket*: said of an illegitimate child.

1771 *SMOLLETT Humph. Cl.* II. 185 (D.) I didn't come on the wrong side of the blanket, girl. 1815 *SCOTT Guy M.* I. 83 (D.) 'Frank Kennedy,' he said, 'was a gentleman, though on the wrong side of the blanket.' 1830 *GALT Lawrie T.* III. xiii. (1849) 128, I have never felt such a wet blanket before or syne. 1879 *H. SPENCER Data of Ethics* xi. § 72. 194 He [a melancholy man] is called a wet blanket.

4. *Printing*. A woollen cloth used to cover the platten, so as to deaden and equalize its pressure. 1824 J. JOHNSON *Typogr.* II. 648 The blankets must be of fine broad-cloth, or kerseymer. 1846 *Print. Apparatus Anat.* 11 The platten is therefore covered with a piece of thick woollen cloth called the blanket.

5. (See quot.)

1816 C. JAMES *Mil. Dict.* (ed. 4) 53 Blankets, combustible things made of coarse paper steeped in a solution of salt-petre, which, when dry, are again dipt in a composition of tallow, resin, and sulphur. Used only in fire-ships.

6. *transf.* A layer of blubber in whales. 1825 *WOOD in Longm. Mag.* V. 548 The layer of blubber... called by whalers the 'blanket.'

7. *Attrib.* and *Comb.*, as *blanket-bag*, *-cloth*, *-making*, etc.; † *blanket-love*, illicit amours; *blanket-slut*; *blanket-weed* (see quot.).

1856 *KANE Arch. Exp.* I. xvi. 193 Skins and 'blanket-bags. 1860 *SIR R. ELVOT Will in Elvot's Gov.* (1883) App. A, 'Blanket cloth for blankets. c 1683 (Title of Ballad) A true description of 'Blanket Fair upon the river Thames in the time of the Great Frost. 1649 G. DANIEL *Trinarch. Rich. II.* ccxvii, Such 'Blanket-Love. 1857 *RUSKIN Pol. Econ. Art.* I. 72 It is 'blanket-making and tailoring we must set people to work at. 1868 H. C. JOHNSON *Argent. Alps* 113 Learning we had no beef, he ordered a fine 'blanket piece' to be cut off the entire side of the animal. 1887 *RAYMOND Mining Gloss.*, 'Blanket-slut', sluces in which coarse blankets are laid, to catch the fine but heavy particles of gold, amalgam, etc., in the slime passing over them. 1879 G. FENNEL in *Castell's Techn. Educ.* IV. 153 Weeds are often... troublesome in tanks or ponds... particularly the green filmy weed *Cladophora*, known as 'blanket-weed.' 1711 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 4262/7 Her Majesty... hath been... pleased to incorporate the 'Blanket Weavers.

Blanket, *v.* Pa. t. and pple. -sted. [f. the sb.] 1. *trans.* To cover with or as with a blanket.

1605 *SHAKS. Lear* II. iii. 10 My face Ile grime with filth, Blanket my loines, elfe all my haies in knots. 1865 *PARKMAN Champlain* I. (1875) 194 The rocks, the shores, the pine-trees... all like were blanketed in snow. 1884 *ROS in Harper's Mag.* Feb. 452/2 The horses were sheltered as well as possible, and heavily blanketed.

2. *Yachting*. To cover a yacht with the sail of another passing to windward; to take the wind out of the sails of.

1824 G. C. DAVIES *Norfolk Broads* xxv. 191 It is difficult to pass to leeward while blanketed by the sail of a yacht to windward.

3. To toss in a blanket (as a rough punishment.) 1609 B. JONSON *Sil. Wom.* v. iv. (1616) 595 We'll have our men blanket 'hem' i' the hail. 1634 *HERWOOD Maidenh. lost* III. Wks. 1874 IV. 143, I would tosse him, I would blanket him i' th' Ayre, and make him cut an Italian caper in the Clouds. 1867 *Cornh. Mag.* Apr. 455 The memorable inn... where Sancho was blanketed.

Blanket, *a.*: see BLONKET, BLUNKET.

Blanketed (blæŋkɛtəd), *ppl. a.* [f. *prec.*]

1. Covered with, or wrapped in or as in, a blanket. 1864 *SALA in Daily Tel.* 5 May, 'A horde of blanketed banditti.' 1876 *TENNYSON Q. Mary* III. ii, Who dream'd us blanketed in ever-closing fog.

2. Applied in U. S. to cattle having a broad belt of white round the middle, also called *belled* and *sheeted cattle*.

3. Tossed in a blanket.

† **Blanketeer**. *Obs.* [f. BLANKET + -ER.]

a. One who uses a blanket. One who tosses in a blanket. b. *plur.* A body of operatives who met at the so-called Blanket Meeting in St. Peter's Fields near Manchester, on 10th March 1817, provided with blankets or rugs, in order to march to London and press their grievances upon the attention of the Government. Hence *Blanketeering* *vbl. sb.*

1755 *SMOLLETT Quix.* (1803) I. 156 God grant there may be neither blankets nor blanketeers. 1822 *COBBETT Rural Rides* (1885) I. 222 These base landlords laughed... at the blanketeers. 1830 *MORIARTY Husband Hunter* III. 230 On returning from her blanketeering adventure. 1833 *SOUTHEY*

in *Life & Corr.* VI. 203 The projected expedition of the Blanketeers.

† **Blanketer**. *Obs.* A blanket-maker.

1677 *Plot Oxfordsh.* 278 The Blanketers, whereof there are at least threescore in this Town [Witney]. 1707 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 4393/4 John Brookes, of Witney... and Thomas Brookes.. Blanketers.

Blanketing (blæŋkɛtɪŋ), *sb.* [f. BLANKET.]

1. Material for blankets; supply of blankets.

1677 *Plot Oxfordsh.* 25 No place yields Blanketing so notoriously white, as.. Witney. 1735 *Phil. Trans.* XXXIX. 42 A narrow Ring of thick Blanketing. 1830 F. BARHAM *Adamans Exul* 42 Love Night's pitchy blanketing. 1879 *M'CARTHY Own Times* II. xxvii. 317 Clothing, blanketing, provisions... were destroyed in vast quantities.

2. Taking the wind out of the sails of a yacht by passing to windward of it. Cf. BLANKET *v.* 2.

1823 *Times* 27 Aug. 8/2 The Marjorie then went on and gave the Neptune a blanketing.

3. The punishment of tossing in a blanket.

1577 *HOLINSHED Chron.* II. 547 Testing, plaining, blanketing, and... such other filthy and dishonorable exercises. 1621 *FLETCHER Thierry* II. Wks. 457 The worst that can come is blanketing; for beating... I have been long acquainted with. a 1754 *FIELDING To keep Wife at H. l.* I, This affair, Sir, may end in a blanketing. 1808 *HURSTONE Piccadilly Ambul.* II. 53 The chance of undergoing a blanketing.

4. *Mining*. The catching of ore in suspension by a blanket-slut; the ore thus caught.

1824 *Athenæum* 3 May 570/3 Yield of gold... from pyrites and blanketing's operated on 4,387 ounces.

Blanketless, *a.* Without a blanket.

1863 S. L. J. *Life in South* II. ii. 36 Footsore soldiers, campless and blanketless. 1880 *Daily Tel.* 4 Nov., The blanketless bed on the floor.

Blankety (blæŋkɛtɪ), *a.* Of or like a blanket.

1879 *MISS SEDGWICK Hope Leslie* II. 132 Kept on her Indian mantle in that blankety fashion.

Blankish (blæŋkɪʃ), *a.* [f. BLANK *a.* + -ISH.]

Somewhat blank; hence (*obs.*) whitish, palish.

1580 *HOLLYBAND Treas. Fr. Tong. Besant*, dried vp, withered, blankish.

† **Blankless**, *a. Obs.* [f. BLANK *sb.* + -LESS.]

Without spot or blemish.

1529 R. ROBINSON *Gold. Mirr.* (1851) 4 No blotte of blame Their banners blankles, of any euill part.

Blankly (blæŋkli), *adv.* [f. BLANK *a.* + -LY.]

1. In a blank manner, vacuously; with helpless passivity, resourcelessly, aimlessly.

1863 *FROUDE Hist. Eng.* VIII. 65 They were looking blankly in each other's faces. 1867 *MORLEY Burke* 63 The once blind souls of men and women who had laboured blankly, as brute beasts labour. 1881 H. JAMES *Portr. Lady xxxvii*. The latter smiled blandly, but somewhat blankly.

2. Starkly, utterly (in privative sense).

1823 *LAMB Elia* (1860) 213 So blankly divested of all meaning. 1870 E. J. B. BROWN *Ecl. Truth* 230 Blankly

atheistic doctrines.

3. Point-blank, flatly, nakedly, merely.

a 1859 *DE QUINCEY Mackintosh* Wks. XIII. 89 It could not be blankly denied.

Blankmanger, *obs. form of BLANCMANGE.*

Blankness (blæŋknɛs), [f. BLANK *a.* + -NESS.]

Blank quality or condition.

1850 *Fraser's Mag.* XLI. 503 The pale silver, midway between the lustre of the gold and the blankness of the lead. 1868 *HOLME LEE B. Godfrey* xviii. 105 Kempe's... face fell into final blankness and silence. 1876 *GLADSTONE Synchr. Homer* 134 The blankness and vagueness of Greek tradition.

Blann(e), *pa. t. of BLIN v. Obs.* to cease.

Blanquet, *obs. form of BLANKET.*

Blare (blɛr), *v.* Forms: 5 bleren, 6 blær, Sc. blair, 8-9 blair, 8-blare. [Identical in form and sense with MDu. *blaren*, LG. *blaren* (*blarren*, *blaeren*), MHG. *blären*, *blarren* (mod.G. *plärren*); not found in the older stages of Teutonic, and generally taken as an imitative word. Cf. BLEA.]

1. *intr.* To roar with prolonged sound in weeping, as a child; to bellow as a calf. Now chiefly *dial.*

c 1440 *Prompt. Parv.* 40 Blorynn, or wepyn [1499 bleren], *ploro*, *floro*. 1535 *COVERDALE Isa.* xv. 4 The worthies also of Moab bleared and cried for very sorrow. — 1 Sam. vi. 12 The kyne... wente on blearynge. a 1586 R. MATTLAND *New Year*, Thoch all their barnes suld blair. 1677 *LITTLETON Lat. Dict.*, To blare, *clamarare*, *muginari*. 1783 *AINSWORTH Lat. Dict.* (Morell) 1, To blare like a cow, *mugio*. 1791 *COWPER Odys.* x. 499 Blaring oft, With one consent all dance their dams around. 1868 *BARNES Rhymes Dorset Dial.* I. 162 The calves did blairy to be sar'd.

2. To sound a trumpet, to trumpet. (Now the ordinary word for this sound.)

1782 *COWPER Lett.* 27 Apr., Blairing like trumpeters at a fair. 1837 *CARLYLE Fr. Rev.* II. i. 2. 60 Innumerable regimental bands blare off. 1865 — *Freder. Gl.* V. xiii. ix. 97 Those 'subsidised 6,000, who go blaring about on English pay. 1865 *TENNYSON Welcome Alexandra* 14 Warble O bugle and trumpet blare.

3. *trans.* To utter in blaring.

1859 *TENNYSON Elaine* 939 A tongue To blare its own interpretation. 1863 *Tyneside Songs* 4 He blaired out his last Cuckoo.

† 4. 'To sweal, or melt away, as a Candle does.' Bailey 1721 [cf. *flare*]. *Obs.* -

Blare (blɛr), *sb.* [f. the vb.] The weeping of a child, the bellowing of calves (*dial.*); the noise of trumpets and similar instruments.

1809 J. BARLOW *Columb.* III. 22 Sigh for battle's blare.

1825 *TENNYSON Ode Wellington* 115 With blare of bugle, clamour of men. 1861 *LYTTON Str. Story* II. 369 One cry alone more wild than their own savage blare [said of a herd of bisons].

2. *transf.* of 'loudness' of colour; cf. *glare*.

1824 G. H. BOUGHTON in *Harper's Mag.* Sept. 530/2 The womenkind did not... put on much 'blare' of color.

Blare, *sb.* A paste of hair and tar for caulking the seams of boats. *Smyth Sailor's Word-bk.* 1867.

Blaring (blɛrɪŋ), *vbl. sb.* [f. BLARE *v.* + -ING.]

1. = BLARE *sb.* 1.

c 1440 *Prompt. Parv.* 40 Blorynne or wepyng, *ploratus*, *flatus*. 1841 *BEST Farm. Bks.* (1856) 118 That they [kyne] may not hear the rowtinge and blaringe one of another. 1855 *Whitby Gloss.*, *Blairing*, bellowing, crying or squalling as a child. 1879 *JEFFRIES Wild Life S. County* 104 The blaring of trumpets, the tootling of pan-pipes.

2. *fig.* Clamour, noise, outcry.

1837 *Fraser's Mag.* XVI. 129 No people... make such a blaring about apostasy, and such a clamour about consistency, as the Liberals. 1840 *CARLYLE Heroes* iii. 158 What uproar and blaring he made in this world.

Blaring, *ppl. a.* [f. as *prec.* + -ING.]

1. Uttering a loud noise: bellowing. As said of the *tongue* cf. also BLEARING.

1566 J. STUDLEY *Seneca's Medea* (1581) 133 In fiery foming blaring mouth his forked tongue hee waga. 1615 *Curry-c.* for *Coxe-c.* v. 237 Blaring label-lolling tongue. 1814 *SOUTHEY Roderick* xviii. 8 The blaring horn.

2. *transf.* of a 'loud' colour; cf. *glaring*.

1866 *Sat. Rev.* 4 Aug. 146 A painter who should exclude every colour but a blaring red.

Blarney (blɑːni), *sb.* [f. *Blarney*, name of a village near Cork. In the castle there is an inscribed stone in a position difficult of access. The popular saying is that any one who kisses this 'Blarney stone' will ever after have 'a cajoling tongue and the art of flattery or of telling lies with unblushing frontery' (Lewis *Topog. Dict. Ireland*).] Smoothly flattering or cajoling talk. (*Colloquial*.)

1819 *CRABBE T. of Hall* xx. 378 Bah!—both—blarney!

What is this about? 1833 *MARRYAT P. Simple* (1863) 71

With promises and blarney he got credit for all I wanted.

1884 *RUSKIN in Pall Mall G.* 17 Nov. 11/2 It was bombastic English blarney—not Irish.

Blarney, *v.* [f. *prec.*] *a. trans.* To assail with blarney, to overcome or beguile with flattery.

b. *intr.* To use flattering speech.

1803 *SOUTHEY Lett.* (1856) I. 246 On the occasion of some prize, blarneying (Mrs. King will explain the word), and assuring him that he must get it. 1833 *MARRYAT P. Simple* (1863) 302 But I won't blarney you, Peter. 1837 *HAWTHORNE Amer. Note-Bks.* (1871) I. 43 Then would she wheedle and laugh and blarney.

Hence **Blarneyed** *a.*, seasoned with blarney.

Blarneyer, one who blarneys, a flatterer. **Blar-**

neyfied *a. (slangy)*, blarneyed. **Blarneying** *vbl.*

sb., flattering talk; *ppl. a.* flattering.

1861 *CLINGTON Frank O'Don.* 12 Whose blarneyed tongues and good looks proved irresistible passports. 1882 *Cornh. Mag.* June 671 All these avocats are arch blarneyers. 1830 *Fraser's Mag.* I. 508 No balderdash of blarneyed botheration. 1884 *MARY HICKSON Irish in 17th C.* I. 162 To follow... in the wake of their blarneying orators.

† **Blas**. *Obs.* Also 3-4 blas, 7 blas. [In ME. use either a phonetic variant or parallel form of BLAST, f. OE. **blāsan*, ON. *blāsa*, etc. to blow. In sense 2 it was invented by Van Helmont, probably with a reference to the same root; cf. his other term GAS.]

1. A blast, breath.

c 1205 *LAV.* 27818 Pa corde gon beouien for bon vnmete blas. a 1225 *Anscr. R.* Pes deoiles blas, & his owene stefne. c 1370 *Clene Maydenk.* 30 Hit wendeþ away as wyndes blas. c 1380 *Sir Perumb.* 2648 Pay herde þat blas [of horns].

2. Van Helmont's term for a supposed 'flatus' or influence of the stars, producing changes of weather.

1662 J. CHANDLER *Van Helmont's Oriat.* 78 The Stars... cause the changes, seasons, and successive courses or interchanges. To which end, they have need of a twofold motion... I signifie both these by the new name of Blas.

1669 W. SIMPSON *Hydrol. Chym.* 120 The next arbitrary Blas or flatus.

1812 *SIR H. DAVY Chem. Philos.* 10 Van Helmont has used a term not so applicable or so intelligible as gas, viz. Blas.

1875 *WHITNEY Life Lang* vii. 120.

Blase, earlier form of BLAZE *sb.* and *v.*

|| **Blasé** (blɑːze), *a.* [Fr.; pa. pple. of *blaser* to exhaust by enjoyment, a modern word of unknown etymol.: see Littre, Scheler.] Exhausted by enjoyment, weary and disgusted with it; used up.

1819 *BYRON Juan* xii. lxxxii, A little 'blasé'—'tis not to be wonder'd At, that his heart had got a tougher rind. 1860 *All. Y. Round* No. 46. 474 Blasé, knowing airs. 1884 *LADY VERNEY in Contemp. Rev.* Oct. 554 The somewhat blasé, artificial, conventional stage of [society] in the old world.

† **Blaseness**. *Obs.* [f. *blase* *obs.* form of BLAZE *sb.* + -NESS.] Brilliancy, brightness.

1398 *TREVISA Barth. De P. R.* xix. xix. (1495) 875 Blacke tempyryth the shedyng blaseness of redde [*rubedinis disgregatium claritatem*].

Blasfeme, etc., *obs. form of BLASPHEME*, etc.

Blash (blæʃ), *dial.* [A modern word or series of words of onomatopoeic formation; with reminiscences of *plash*, *splash*, *dash*, etc., and probably of *blow*; in sense 4 perhaps of *blaze* and *flash*.]

1. A dash or plash of liquid, as when rain appears to fall in sheets; a mixture of *blow* and *splash*.

[1795 cf. BLASHV.] 1805 A. SCOTT *Harvest Poems* 36 (JAM.) Where snaws and rains w' sleety blash. 1827 J. WILSON *Noct. Ambr. Wks.* I. 156 A snaw storm came down frae the mountains... noo a whirl, and noo a blash.

2. Watery stuff; said of very liquid mud, poor tea, watered milk. *fig.* Wisly-washy talk. *dial.*

1835 MRS. CARLYLE *Lett.* 1883 I. 52 Dear Mother, excuse all this blash. 1864 ATKINSON *Whitby Gloss.* s.v., 'It's all blash,' or 'blish blash'; nonsense. *Mod. Sc.* No proper meal; only a blash of tea.

3. A gash or smash due to a blow; a bash.

1860 G. H. K. *Tour* 169 A...skull, with a tremendous blash across it.

4. A broad flash; a blaze flashing up.

1873 *Lanc. Gloss.* (E. D. S.), *Blash*, a sudden flame. *Ibid.*, *Blash-beggar*, a fire-goblin, or flash-goblin; that is, a goblin that flashes and disappears. It is more commonly used figuratively, and is applied to persons who are fiery, wild, or strange in appearance.

Blash (blash), *v. dial.* [f. as prec.] *trans.* To dash a quantity of liquid; to dash (a thing) broadly with liquid. *intr.* To plash, to splash heavily in, work in, water.

1788 PICKEN *To Cowslip Poems* 91 (JAM.) When...blashan rains, or cranreughs fa'. 1861 *Fam. Herald* 16 Feb. 672 'How much water does your mistress...put in our...milk?' 'I'm sure,' replied the rogue, 'I don't know...she just blashes it in.' 1864 ATKINSON *Whitby Gloss.*, *Blash*, to splash with water. Also in sense of going or having gone to sea. 'What he has got, he has blash'd for,' as property obtained by a seafaring life.

Blashy, *a. dial.* [f. BLASH *sb.* + -Y¹.]

1. Of or characterized by sudden heavy showers; heavily splashy.

1795 RAMSAY *Gent. Sheph.* I. ii, Thick-blawn wreaths of snaw, or blashy thows. 1863 *Robson's Bards of Tyne* 487 The day was drizzly wet an' drear, And blashy under feet, man. 1864 ATKINSON *Whitby Gloss.* s.v., Blashy weather.

2. Consisting too much of liquid; watery, thin. 1860 *Blackw. Mag.* Nov. 154 (JAM.) Thae blashy vegetables are a bad thing. 1867 CHAMBERS *Inform. People* II. 677 When a young man...fills his stomach with a great blashy meal. 1864 ATKINSON *Whitby Gloss.* s.v., Blashy ale.

Blason, *obs.* form of BLAZON.

† **Blasphematiōn**. *Sc. Obs.* [ad. L. *blasphematiōn-em* (in Tertullian), f. *blasphēmāre*.]

1. Insult, reviling, calumny.

1533 BELLENDEN *Liuy* II. (1822) 176 To the mair schame and blasphematioun of Romane linge. 1538 LYNDSEY *Papynge* 881 Thy...bositit hir, with blasphematioun. 1560 ROLLAND *Crt. Venus* IV. 182 Caus Ladeis to get blasphematioun.

2. Blasphemy.

1549 *Compl. Scot.* xvii. 155 Ther blasphematioun of the name of god corruptis the ayr. 1554 ABP. HAMILTON *Catech.* 284 It can nocht be said without blasphematioun.

† **Blasphematory**, *a. Obs.* [f. on type of a L. *blasphematori-us*, f. *blasphēmātor*; see prec. and -ORY; cf. F. *blasphématoire*.] Blasphemous.

1611 COTGR., *Blasphematoire*, blasphematorie, blasphemous. 1795 tr. *Dupin's Eccl. Hist.* 16th C. I. vii. i. 285 He would have no part in their Blasphematory Doctrine.

† **Blasphemator**. *Obs.* Also 6-ature. [a. F. *blasphémateur*, ad. late L. *blasphēmātor-em*, agent noun f. *blasphēmāre*; see below.] A blasphemer.

1483 CAXTON *Gold. Leg.* 431/3 Swerars and blasphemators. 1581 N. BURNES *Admon. Deform.* *Kirk Scott.*, That drunken blasphemature.

Blaspheme (blasfīm), *v.* Forms: 4 blasfeme(n), 5 -yn, (blasfēme), 7 blasphem, 4-blaspheme. [ME. *blasfeme-n*, a. OF. *blasfeme-r* (= Pr., Sp. *blasfemar*), ad. L. *blasphēmā-re*, ad. Gr. *blasphēmēin* to speak profanely, f. *blasphēmos* evil speaking, blasphemous (-phēmos speaking). Transferred to L. in the Vulgate and eccles. writers, and preserved liturgically in the modern langs. The same word became popular in late L. in sense of 'revile, reproach,' whence Romanic **blasimāre*, It. *blasimare*, Pr. *blasmar*, F. *blasmer*, *blāmer*, Eng. *blame*.]

1. *intr.* To utter profane or impious words, talk profanely. Const. *against* (in Wyclif also *in, upon*).

1340 *Ayenb.* 30 Ha...blasfemeþ aye god and his halzen. 1386 WYCLIF *Mark* iii. 29 He that shal blasfeme azeins [1611 blasfeme against] the Holy Gost. — *Sel. Wks.* III. 170 3if freres by gabbingis blasfeme upon Crist. *Ibid.* 349 Pei blasfemen in Crist. c 1440 *Gesta Rom.* 381 Then the soule began to blasfeme. 1595 SHAKS. *John* iii. i. 161 Brother of England, you blasfeme in this. 1711 ADDISON *Spect.* No. 99 ¶ 7 One may tell another he whores, drinks, blasphemous. 1821 BYRON *Cain* i. i. 35 Blaspheme not; these are serpents' words. 1835 J. G. DOWLING *Lett. Dr. Maitland* 17 They...blaspheme against the precious cross.

2. *trans.* To speak irreverently of, utter impiety against (God or anything sacred.)

1386 WYCLIF *Isa.* i. 4 Thei blasfemenen the hoeli of Israel. 1566 *Pilgr. Perf.* (W. de W. 1531) 4 b, They not onely despyed hym, but also they blasphemed the holy goost. 1593 SHAKS. 2 *Hen. VI.* iii. ii. 372 Blaspheming God, and cursing men on earth. 1795 BURKE *Lett. Wks.* VII. 350 He is ready to blasphemise his God, to insult his king. 1873 RUSKIN *Eagle's N.* § 240 New foulness with which to blasphemise the story of Christ.

3. *gen.* To speak evil of, revile, calumniate, abuse. c 1386 CHAUCER *Sompn. T.* 475 As that this olde cherl

with lokkes hoore Blasphemed hath oure hooley Couent eke. 1605 SHAKS. *Macb.* iv. iii. 108 Since that the truest issue of thy Throne...do's blasphemise his breed. 1654 EARL ORRERY *Parthen.* (1676) 327 As soon as this fatal news came to Pacorus's knowledge, he blasphem'd them for it. 1795 POPE *Odys.* xiv. 462 While those who from our labours heap their board, Blaspheme their feeder and forget their lord. 1847 TENNYSON *Princ.* iv. 119 So they blasphem the muse!

† *b. intr.* To rail, to utter words of abuse. *rare.* a 1590 GREENE *Arbusto* vi, Doralicia chafed much in her choller, blaspheming bitterly both against me and her sister.

† **Blaspheme**, *a. and sb. Obs.* Also 4-5 blasfem(e). [a. F. *blasphème*, ad. L. *blasphēmus*, ad. Gr. *blasphēmos*; see prec.] *A. adj.* Blasphemous.

1386 WYCLIF 2 *Macb.* x. 4 To barbaris, or heithen, and blasfeme men. c 1420 LOVE *Bonavent. Mirr.* xxxiv. 66 (Gibbs MS.), To haue stoned hym as blasfeme [1530 a blasphemur].

B. sb. A blasphemer.

1386 WYCLIF *Sel. Wks.* III. 347 Shulden sicke blasfemes be stoned to deeth. 1401 *Pol. Poems* (1859) II. 93 The Pharisees, pursued Crist to the dethe, 3e, callid hym a blasfeme.

† **Blaspheme**, *sb. Obs.* [a. F. *blasphème* (in 12th c. also *blasfeme*; — L. *blasphēmia* BLASPHEMY. (In Chaucer also accented *blaspheme*.)] The earlier word for BLASPHEMY.

1384 CHAUCER *Env. Scogan* 15 In blasfeme of the goddis? c 1386 — *Parl. T.* 265 Cursed forswerynges, Blaspheme of crist, manslaughter. 1566 *Pilgr. Perf.* (W. de W. 1531) 138 With many such blasfemes and prouocacyons to impiety. 1593 T. WATSON *Poems* (Arb.) 153 Yet glorious heauns, 8 pardon my blasfeme.

† **Blasphemously**, *adv. Obs.* In 4-5 blasf-. [f. BLASPHEM *a.* + -LY².] Blasphemously.

c 1380 *Serm. agst. Mir.-Plays* in *Rel. Ant.* II. 55 And therefore blasfemely thei seyen, that sicke pleying doith more good than the word of God. 1595 PURVEY *Remonstr.* (1851) 45 Principis...applied blasfemel to a synful man.

† **Blasphemement**. *Obs. rare.* Blasphemy.

1544 BALE *Chron. Sir J. Oldcastell* in *Hark. Misc.* (Malh.) I. 249 Romish blasphemement—long hyd in the darke.

Blasphemer (blasfīmār). Forms: 4 blasfemer(e), blasphemour, -femour, 5 blasfemare, 6- blasphemur. [a. OF. *blasfemour*, -eur (AF. -our), in nom. *blasphemere*; — L. *blasphēmātor-em*.] One who blasphemes.

c 1386 CHAUCER *Sompn. T.* 505 This false blasphemour that charged me To parte that wol nat departed be. c 1400 *Apol. Loll.* 7 Pus was Crist callid a synnar & blasfemer. 1535 COVERDALE 2 *Macb.* ix. 28 That murtherer and blasphemur of God. 1770 BURKE *Pres. Discout.* Wks. II. 298 A common slaughter of libellers and blasphemers. 1870 R. ANDERSON *Missions Amer.* Bd. III. xx. 348 The recent blasphemur cried out in agony.

Blasphemeres. *rare.* [a. OF. *blasphemeresse*; see -ESS.] A woman who blasphemes.

1548 HALL *Chron.* 158 A diabolical Blasphemeresse of God.

Blaspheming (blasfīmīng), *vbl. sb.*

1. The uttering of blasphemy; profane speaking. c 1430 *Life St. Kath.* (1884) 30 Pe blasfemynghe whiche she spake azeins her goddes. 1514 BARCLAY *Cyt. & Updond.* yshm. (1847) 26 There is blaspheming of Gods holy name. 1648 JENKYN *Blind Guide* iv. 105 Take heed...of blaspheming.

† 2. Railing, calumnyation. *Obs.*

1677 GALE *Crt. Gentiles* II. iii. 18 Blasphemings of each others reputation.

Blaspheming, *ppl. a.* That blasphemes.

1569 SPENSER *Visions* i, The vile blaspheming name. 1605 SHAKS. *Macb.* iv. i. 26 Luer of Blaspheming Lew. 1805 SOUTHEY *Madoc* in *Asi.* x, These blaspheming strangers.

Blasphemous (blasfīmās), *a.* Also 6 blasphemose. [f. L. *blasphēm-us* (see BLASPHEME *a.*) + -OUS, or perh. immed. a. OF. *blasphemeus*, AF. -ous. Marlowe and Milton accented it, after L. *blasphēm-us*.]

1. Uttering or expressing profanity, impiously irreverent.

1535 COVERDALE *Isa.* lviii. 9 Yf thou...ceasest from blasphemous talking. 1590 MARLOWE 2 *Pt. Tamburl.* ii. i, And scourge their foul blasphemous paganism. 1667 MILTON *P. L.* v. 809 O argument blasphemous, false and proud! 1788 PRIESTLEY *Corrupt. Chr.* II. ix. 187 John...pronounced it to be a...blasphemous doctrine. 1871 MORLEY *Voltaire* (1886) 42 The history of a prolonged outrage upon these words by blasphemous and arrogant persons.

† 2. Abusive, slanderous, defamatory. *Obs.*

1604 SIR D. CARLETON in *Winwood Mem.* II. 52 (L.) Stone was well whipped in Bridewell, for a blasphemous speech, 'that there went sixty fools into Spaine besides my lord admiral and his two sons.' 1610 SHAKS. *Temp.* i. i. 43 You bawling, blasphemous incharitable Dog.

Blasphemously, *adv.* [f. prec. + -LY².] In a blasphemous manner; impiously, profanely.

1531 FRITH *Judgm. Tracy* (1829) 245 Against the which many men...have blasphemously barked. 1611 BIBLE *Luke* xxii. 65 And many other things blasphemously spake they against him. 1665 WITHER *Lord's Prayer* 99 A woman, blasphemously termed her self the Virgin Mary. a 1745 SWIFT (J.) He would blasphemously set up to controul the commands of the Almighty. 1874 SPUERGEON *Treas. Dav.* Ps. cxviii. 5 'This infectious frenzy of psalm-singing,' as Warton almost blasphemously describes it.

Blasphemousness. [f. as prec. + -NESS.] The quality of being blasphemous.

1854 DUFF in *Life* xxi. (1881) 342 Such God-defying blasphemousness.

Blasphemy (blasfīmī). Forms: 3 blasphemie, 4 blasfemie, -y(e, blasfamy, blasfe-

femy, 4-6 blasphemye, (5 blasfemy), 6-7 blasphemie, 7 blasfemy, 5- blasphemye. [ME. *blasfemie*, *blasphemie*, a. OF. *blasfemie*, a learned adaptation of L. *blasphēmia*; — Gr. *blasphēmia* slander, blasphemy, abstr. sb. f. *blasphēmos* BLASPHEMOUS. In Spenser accented *blasphemye* (F. Q. VI. xii. 25). Cf. BLASPHEME *sb.* 2.]

1. Profane speaking of God or sacred things; impious irreverence.

a 1225 *Ancre. R.* 198 Pe seouede hweolp is Blasphemie. 1555 *Wheolpes nurice* is be þet swereð greate odes. c 1325 E. E. *Allit. P. B.* 1661 Þenne blynyes he not of blasfemy on to blame þe drytyn. 1488 CAXTON *Chast. Goddess Chylil.* 46 Some haue fallen in to blasphemie whiche ben they that spoken unonestly of god. 1526 *Pilgr. Perf.* (W. de W. 1531) 118 b, Mocyons of infidelite, and blasphemies. 1629 MILTON *Civil Power* in *Eccl. Causes* Wks. 1738 I. 548 Blasphemy or evil speaking against God maliciously. 1768 BLACKSTONE *Comm.* IV. 59 Blasphemy against the Almighty, by denying his being or providence. 1853 ROBERTSON *Serm.* Ser. iv. v. (1876) 64 It is all blasphemy; an impious intrusion upon the prerogatives of the One Absolver.

b. fig. (against anything held 'sacred'.)

1605 BACON *Adv. Learn.* i. ii. § 9 (1873) 17 He was well punished for his blasphemie against learning. 1873 MORLEY *Rousseau* I. 165 You are drawing an indictment against nature,—no trifling blasphemy in those days. 1875 HAMILTON *Intell. Life* ix. i. 302 This doctrine sounds like blasphemy against friendship.

† 2. *gen.* Slander, evil speaking, defamation. *Obs.*

1656 WHALLEY in Burton *Diary* (1808) I. 103 To speak evil of any man is blasphemy. a 1656 Bp. HALL *Tracts* 5 Blasphemy...is a blasting the fame or blaming of another.

† *b. trans.* A thing evil spoken of, an occasion of evil speaking. *Obs.*

1609 BIBLE (Douay) *Ezek.* v. 15 Thou shalt be a reproch, and blasphemie.

3. *Comb.*

1828 E. IRVING *Last Days* 68 A blasphemy-enduring ear.

† **Blasphemy**, *a. Obs.* [perh. f. ME. BLASPHEME *sb.* 2 + -Y.] Blasphemous.

c 1384 WYCLIF *Wks.* (1880) 158 A more blasphemye ground. *Ibid.* 1 But on this blasphemye heresie schullen alle cristene men crien out.

Blast (blast), *sb.* Forms: 1-3 blást, 3- blast, 4 blest, 6 (Douglas) blíst, 4-6 blaste. [Com. Teut.: OE. *blēst* str. masc. = OHG. *blāst*, ON. *blǫstr*; — OTeut. **blēst-tu-2* str. m.; f. OTeut. **blēsan*, (Goth. *-blēsan*, ON. *blása*, WGer. *blāsan*) to blow; see BLAZE *v.* 2 Cf. L. *flā-tu-s*.] The original long vowel was shortened by position in ME.]]

1. A blowing or strong gust of wind.

a 1000 *Cædmon's Ex.* 290 (Cr.) Sæ grundas súþ wind for-nam bæþwæges blást. a 1300 in Wright *Pop. Treat.* Sc. 136 A dunt other a blast of grete mȝite. 1340 *Ayenb.* 203 Be zuych blast and be zuych wynd. c 1374 CHAUCER *Troilus* II. 1338 Reed that bloweth down with every blaste. c 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 38 Blaste of wynde, *flatus*. 1573 G. HARVEY *Lett.-bk.* (1884) 34 Two March blasts. 1603 KNOLLES *Hist. Turks* (1621) 1336 Those that fortune advanced by the favour of her blasts. 1697 DRYDEN *Virg. Georg.* I. 325 Frosts and Snows, and Bitter Blasts. 1840 R. DANA *Def. Mast* xxvii. 132 Broken by the blast of a hurricane. 1847 LONGF. *Ev.* II. iii. 184 Blown by the blast of fate like a dead leaf over the desert.

2. A puff or blowing of air through the mouth or nostrils; a breath. *Obs.* or *arch.*

c 1250 *Gen. & Ex.* 201 His licham of erbe he nam, And blew dor-in a liues blast. c 1325 *Coer de L.* 1779 Unnethe he might draw his blast. 1387 TREVISIA *Higden* (1865) I. 223 A lanterne brennyng alway, þat no man couthe quenche wip blast noþer wip water. 1504 T. B. LA *Primand. Fr. Acad.* II. 567 As when we breathe, we make a blast. 1611 BIBLE *Ex.* xv. 8 With the blast of thy nostrils the waters were gathered together. 1642 T. TAYLOR *God's Judgem.* I. II. xxvi. 276 Breathing his last blast. 1741 MIDDLETON *Cicero* (1749) III. 304 The empty blast of popular favor.

† *b. Angry breath, rage. Obs.*

1535 COVERDALE *Jud.* viii. 2 When he had sayde this, their blast was swaged from him.

3. The sending of a continuous puff of breath through a wind-instrument, so as to make it sound; the blowing (of a trumpet, or the like); hence, the sound so produced; any similar sound. Also *fig.*

c 1205 LAV. 19926 Þa wes bemene blást. a 1300 *Cursor M.* 18075 Þar come a steuen als thoner blast. a 1340 HAMPOLE *Pr. Cons.* 4990 When þai here þe grete bemes blast. c 1400 *Destr. Troy* xi. 4614 Iche buerne to be bun at the blast of a trumpe. 1509 HAWES *Past. Pleas.* i. xiv, Of a great horne I harde a royal blast. 1513 DOUGLAS *Æneis* II. vii. [vi.] 31 Wpsprang the cry of men and trumpis blíst [*clangorque tubarum*]. 1611 BIBLE *Josh.* vi. 5 When they make a long blast with the rammes-horne. 1667 MILTON *P. L.* xi. 76 Th' Angelic blast filld all the Regions. 1782 HAN. MORE *Daniel* vii. 114 Were thy voice loud as the trumpet's blast. 1851 D. MITCHELL *Fresh. Glean.* Wks. (1864) 304 The postilion had given two blasts on his bugle.

† *b. fig.* Boasting: cf. the phrase *to blow one's own trumpet. Obs.*

1494 FABYAN *v. cxi.* 127 To kele somewhat theyr hyghe corage, or to oppresse in partye theyr brutiisse blastis.

† *c. At one blast* (L. *uno flatu*): at once, at the same time. *For a blast*: for once.

c 1380 *Sir Ferumb.* 2487 Hure hornes þai gunne þo to blowe: ful many at one blaste. 1579 TOMSON *Cadwin's Serm.* *Tim.* 94/2 Let vs glorifie him...and that not onely for a blast, but let vs continually preach and set forth the praises of God. 1638 T. WHITAKER *Blood of Grape* 57 Both indeed at the first view or blast will seeme to shake both my foundation and edifice also. 1790 BEATSON *Nav. & Mil.*

Mem. I. 193 Plunging a number of gallant men at one blast into eternity.

† *d.* A company (of huntsmen). *Obs.*

1486 *Bk. St. Albans* Fvija, A Blast of hunters.

4. A strong current of air produced artificially.

a 1618 *RALEIGH Rem.* (1644) 137 The Organ hath many Pipes, all which are filled with the same blast of wind. 1667 *MILTON P. L.* l. 708 As in an Organ from one blast of wind To many a row of Pipes the sound-board breaths. 1837 *FARADAY Chem. Manip.* iv. 97 By which the blast was to be thrown in.

b. *spec.* The strong current of air used in iron-smelting, etc.

1697 *Phil. Trans.* XIX. 482 To give very strong and lasting Blasts for Iron Forges. 1793 *BRADLEY Fam. Dict.* s.v. *Steel*, As soon as the Coal is thoroughly kindled, give the Blast. 1875 *URE Dict. Arts II.* 945 The blast is conducted through sheet-iron or cast-iron pipes... into the tuyères.

Hence *c.* In blast, at or in full blast: at work, in full operation. *Out of blast*: not at work, stopped.

1796 *MOORE Amer. Geog.* I. 652 At present there are four or five furnaces in the state that are in blast. 1833 *Ht. MARTINRAU Hill & Vall.* vii. 114 The day when yonder furnaces are out of blast will be the day of your ruin. 1854 *J. ABBOT Napoleon* (1855) l. xxvi. 412 All the foundries of France were in full blast. 1858 *HAWTHORNE Fr. & It. Jynls.* II. 143 The organ... was in full blast in the church. 1874 *SPURGEON Treas. Dav.* lxxxviii. l. IV. 130 They burned perpetually like a furnace at full blast.

† 5. The sudden stroke of lightning, a thunder-bolt. *Obs.*

1650 *Mrs. HUTCHINSON Mem. Col. Hutchinson* (1846) 351 He... died by a blast of lightning. 1751 *FRANKLIN Lett. Wks.* 1840 V. 224 The end entered by the electric blast points north.

6. A sudden infection destructive to vegetable or animal life (formerly attributed to the blowing or breath of some malignant power, foul air, etc.).

a. Blight; also an insect which causes blight. b. *spec.* A disease of the sugar cane. *arch.* or *Obs.*

1577 *B. GOOGE Heresbach's Husb.* (1586) 29 b. To preserve it from blast and mildew. 1702 *C. MATHER Magn. Chr. v.* iv. (1824) 316 Our wheat and our pease, fell under an uncontrollable blast. 1750 *G. HUGHES Barbados* 245 It [the sugar-cane] is liable to one disorder hitherto incurable, the Yellow Blast. 1756 *P. BROWNE Jamaica* 435 The Blast. This insect... is generally pernicious to all the plants on which it breeds. 1815 *Encycl. Brit.* (ed. 5) III. 658/2 Blast is also used in agriculture and gardening, for what is otherwise called a blight.

c. *transf.* and *fig.* Any blasting, withering, or pernicious influence; a curse.

1547 *BOORDE Brev. Health* C21 b. A Blast in the Eye. 1559 *T. BRYCE in Farr's S. P.* (1845) l. 176 When shall thy spouse and turtle-dove Be free from bitter blast? 1659 *HAMMOND On Ps. xxxiv.* 14 Must needs be the forfeiting of God's protection, and bring his blasts and curses. 1737 *Dr. FOR ENG. Tradem.* (1745) l. xiii. 101 Turns the blessing into a blast. 1752 *JOHNSON Rambl.* No. 204 P2 Resistless as the blasts of pestilence.

d. A dialectal name of erysipelas. e. A fatal disease in sheep.

1845 *W. BUCHAN Domest. Med.* xxv. 202 The country people... call this disease (erysipelas) a blast, and imagine it proceeds from foul air, or ill wind.

† 7. A blasted bud or blossom; blasted state.

1579 *LYLY Euphues* (Arb.) 190 Thou shalt hang like a blast among the faire blossomes. *Ibid.* 196 As in all gardeins, some flowers, some weedes, and as in al trees some blossoms, some blasts. 1795 *SOUTHEY Occas. Pieces* i. Thy youth in ignorance and labour past, And thine old age all barrenness and blast.

8. A 'blowing up' by gunpowder or other explosive; an explosion.

1635 *J. BABINGTON Pyrotechn.* lvi. 63 Holding your head under the horizontal line of your Piece, for feare the blast annoy you. 1748 *ANSON Voy.* i. vii. 72 The blast was occasioned by a spark of fire from the forge. 1853 *KANE Grinnell Exp.* xxxiii. (1856) 285 A noise like a quarry blast, explosive and momentary.

b. The quantity of gunpowder or other explosive used in a blasting operation.

1885 *Daily News* 12 Oct. 5/2 When Hallett's Reef in Hell Gate was destroyed... the blast was the largest ever used.

9. Sc. A smoke (of tobacco). Cf. *K. James's Counterblast to Tobacco* (1604).

Mod. South Sc. He takes his blast after dinner.

10. Comb. and *Attrib.*, as (in sense 1) blast-borne, -puff; (in sense 3) blast-horn; (in sense 4) blast-bloomery, -cylinder, -engine, -machine, -meter; also † blast-bob, the stroke of a blast of wind; blast-fan, a fan for producing a blast of air; blast-hearth, a hearth for reducing lead-ore; blast-hole, the hole by which water enters a pump, the wind-bore; blast-pipe, in a locomotive, a pipe conveying the steam from the cylinders into the funnel and so increasing the draught.

1860 *W. FORDYCE Hist. Coal* 110 Besides the orifice or chimney at the top, there were two openings, one large in front, the other of smaller dimensions behind, for the insertion of the bellows pipe. Such was the 'Blast Bloomery.' 1883 *STANYHURST Aeneis* iv. (Arb.) 110 Thee boughs frap whurring, when stem with 'blast-bob' is hacked. 1830 *TENNYSON Poems* 124 'Blast-borne hail. 1875 *URE Dict. Arts II.* 949 There are 3 'blast-engines... They have 66-inch blast- and 40-inch steam-cylinders. 1879 *Cassell's Techn. Educ.* IV. 339/2 To... blow either hot or cold air through it by means of a 'blast-fan. 1844 *Camp of Refuge* l. 27 Sounding all the 'blast-horns on the house-top. c 1865 *J. WYLD*

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in *Circ. Sc. I.* 315/1 The combustion... is rapidly effected by means of the 'blast-pipe' of the cylinder.

Blast (blast), *v.* Also 3. 7 **blaste**. [*f.* the sb.]

† 1. *intr.* To blow, to puff violently. *Obs.*

c 1300 *K. Alis.* 5348 Dragouns... grisely whistleden and blasten. 1483 *CAXTON Gold. Leg.* 397/3 Ther came a grete multitude of fendes blastyng and roryng. 1530 *PALSGR.* 457/1 To blaste with ones mouthe or with belowes. 1768 *Ross Helenore* 23 (JAM.) Twa shepherds out of breath, Rais'd-like and blasting.

† b. *trans.* To blow (out, forth, abroad); to breathe (out), utter loudly, proclaim. *Obs.*

1536 *LATIMER Serm. bef. Convoc.* i. 35 Counterfeit doctrine, which hath been blasted and blown out by some. 1548 *HALL Chron.* Hen. VI. an. 14 (R.) They blasted amongst themselves, that the Calicians would leave the town desolate. 1631 *WEEVER Anc. Fun. Mon.* 712 The winde... whereby this fire was... blasted abroad.

c. *notice-wd.* To emit blasts.

1848 *DICKENS Amer. Notes* (1850) 14/1 The engine which had been clanking and blasting in our ears incessantly for so many days.

† 2. a. *intr.* To blow (on a trumpet or other wind instrument). b. *trans.* To blow (a trumpet, etc.). c. with the hearers as object: To din or denounce by trumpeting. *Obs.*

1384 *CHAUCER H. Fame* 1866 Toke his blake trumpe faste And gan to pufen and to blaste. 1530 *PALSGR.* 457/1 He blasted his horse so hygh that all the wodde dyd shake. 1606 *SHAKS. Ant. & Cl.* iv. viii. 36 Trumpeters With brazen dinne blast you the Cities eare. 1858 *POLSON Law & L.* 197 'Blasting you at the horn,' 'pointing your estate.'

3. *intr.* To boast, 'blow one's own trumpet.' *Sc.*

1824 *Saxon & Gael I.* 100 (JAM.) I am no gien to blast.

† 4. a. *trans.* To blow (up), inflate. b. *intr.* (for refl.) To swell up. *Obs. exc. dial.*

1578 *LYTE Dodoens* i. xc. 137 The same herbe... slaketh the [bowels] when they are blasted vp and swollen. *Ibid.* ii. xxv. 177 A yong Catt whereunto I haue giuen of these floures to eate... blasted immediately, and shortly after died. 1874 *HARDY Madding Crowd* I. xxi. 228 [A rustic says] 'They [the sheep] be getting blasted...' 'Joseph,' he said, 'the sheep have blasted themselves.'

5. *trans.* To blow up (rocks, etc.) by explosion.

1758 *BORLASE Nat. Hist. Cornwall* xv. § 1. 161 The miner is generally obliged to blast the rock. 1858 *FROUDE Hist. Eng.* III. xv. 314 His shallow schemes were blasted to atoms. 1859 *HAWTHORNE Fr. & It. Jynls.* II. 279 The ledge of rock had been blasted and hewn away.

6. (*dial.*) To smoke (tobacco). Cf. *blow*. (The usual word in S. Scotl.)

II. To blow on perniciously.

7. *trans.* To blow or breathe on balefully or perniciously; to wither, shrivel, or arrest vegetation; to blight. Said of a malignant wind, lightning, flame, and (formerly) of a 'malignant' planet.

1532 *FRITH Mirror* (1820) 277 By blasting thy fruits, or such other scourges. 1576 *LAMBARDE Peramb. Kent* (1826) 271 This lately advanced building was blasted with flame. 1606 *BARET Alt. B.* 786 To Be Blasted or stricken with a planet. 1645 *MILTON Death Fair Inf.* i. O fairest flower, no sooner blown but blasted. 1634 *T. JOHNSON Flawer's Chirurg.* xxviii. (1678) 682 Every body that is blasted or stricken with lightning. 1697 *DRYDEN Virg.* Past. ii. 84 Southern Winds to blast my flowry Spring. 1862 *STANLEY Jew. Ch.* (1877) l. ii. 38 The fertile vale of Siddim was blasted with eternal barrenness.

8. *transf.* and *fig.* (Blasting withers up the brightness, freshness, beauty, vitality, and promise of living things: hence) a. To blight or ruin (hopes, plans, prosperity).

1639 *FULLER Holy War* iii. iv. (1840) 121 Oftentimes heaven blasteth those hopes which bud first and fairest. 1759 *ROBERTSON Hist. Scot.* I. ii. 90 The death of Henry blasted all these hopes. 1834 *PRINGLE Afr. Sk.* x. 338 My personal prospects in the colony were for the present entirely blasted. 1871 *R. ELLIS Catullus* lxiv. 397 When heinous sin earth's wholesome purity blasted.

b. To bring infamy upon (character, reputation); to discredit effectually, ruin, destroy.

1566 *DRAYTON Leg. iv.* 21 Would you forbear to blast Me with Defame. 1660 *WINSTANLEY Engl. Worthies* (1684) 174 So hath this worthy Prince been blasted by malicious traducers. 1713 *STEELE Englishman.* No. 5. 31 This Query... is designed to blast the Memory and Title of King William. 1769 *JUNIUS Lett.* xxxiv. 148, I did not attempt to blast your character. 1877 *CONDER Bas. Faith* iv. 194 To blast this evidence with suspicion of untrustworthiness.

† c. To affect injuriously or perniciously with.

1605 *CAMDEN Rem.* (1637) 166 Some of the greatest Romans were a little blasted with this foolerie. 1750 *JOHNSON Rambl.* No. 157 P6, I was blasted with sudden imbecility.

d. To strike (the eyes or vision) with dimness or horror. *arch.*

a 1771 *GRAY Poems* (1775) 24 He saw; but blasted with excess of light, Clos'd his eyes in endless night. 1803 *MISS PORTER Thaddeus* ix. (1831) 83 Wherever he turned his eyes they were blasted with some object which made them recoil. 1857 *COLERIDGE Sibil. Leaves* (1862) Still Edmund's image rose to blast her view.

† e. *intr.* To wither or fall under a blight. *Obs.*

1880 *LYLY Euphues* (Arb.) 236 The Easterly winde maketh the blossomes to blast. a 1618 *RALEIGH in Farr's S. P.* (1845) I. 235 Tell Beauty how she blasteeth. c 1630 *RISDON Surv. Devon* § 44 (1810) 51 This bud soon blasted in the blossom.

10. *trans.* To strike or visit with the wrath and curse of heaven; to curse. Often in imprecations.

1640-4 in *Rushworth Hist. Coll.* iii. (1692) l. 130 Blasted may that tongue be, that shall... derogate from the glory of those Halcyon days. 1659 *HAMMOND On Ps.* iv. 3 His enemies... blasted him as a man of blood. 1706 *ADDISON*

Rosamond i. i. My wrath like that of heav'n shall... blast her in her Paradise. 1849 *MACAULAY Hist. Eng.* I. iii. Calling on their Maker to curse them... blast them, and damn them.

b. *absol.* To curse, to use profane language.

1768 *Gentl. Mag.* 130 On they go... swearing, blasting, damning.

-blast [*ad. Gr.* *βλαστ-ús* sprout, shoot, germ], used as the second element in technical terms, esp. in Biology, in sense of 'germ, embryo' as in *epiblast*, *mesoblast*, and *hypoblast*; cf. *BLASTODERM*.

Blasted (blast'ed), *pp. a.*

1. Balefully or perniciously blown or breathed upon; stricken by meteoric or supernatural agency, as parching wind, lightning, an alleged malignant planet, the wrath and curse of heaven; blighted.

1552 *HULOET*, Blasted corne. 1594 *SHAKS. Rich. III.* iii. iv. 71 A blasted Sapling, wither'd vp. 1605 - *Macb.* i. iii. 77 Vpon this blasted Heath you stop our way. 1667 *MILTON P. L.* x. 412 The blasted Stars lookt wan. 1797 *THOMSON Summer* 1152 Stretched below A lifeless groupe of blasted cattle lie. 1850 *Mrs. STOWE Uncle Tom* xxxvi. 318 A black, blasted tree.

2. *transf.* and *fig.*; cf. *BLAST v.* 8.

1742 *COLLINS Ode to Fear*, Lest thou meet my blasted view. 1768 *HUME Hist. Eng.* (1806) V. lxix. 168 The blasted credit of the Irish witnesses. 1855 *MACAULAY Hist. Eng.* IV. 548 Driven... from public life with blasted characters.

3. Cursed, damned. In low language as an expression of reprobation and hatred.

1682 *DRYDEN Medal* 260 What Curses on thy blasted Name will fall. 1750 *CHESTERF. Lett.* 8 Jan. (1870) 169 Colonel Chartres... who was, I believe, the most notorious blasted rascal in the world. 1874 *PUSEY Lent. Serm.* 79 Balaam, after the success of his blasted counsel. 1884 *Ed. Words* Nov. 767/1 Jim Black states that the 'blasted' railway has done away with those journeys.

|| **Blastema** (blast'émá). Pl. *blastemata*.

[a. *Gr.* *βλάστημα* a sprout, also, in Hippocrates, a morbid humour causing scab or disease; f. *vbl.* stem *βλαστειν*, *βλαστα-* to sprout, bud.]

1. *Biol.* The primary formative material of plants and animals; protoplasm. Now applied *spec.* to the initial matter or growth out of which any part is developed.

1849 *TODD Cycl. Anat. & Phys.* IV. 100/2 The structureless fluid just referred to is termed blastema. 1855 *OWEN Skel. & Teeth* 5 The primitive basis, or 'blastema,' of bone is a subtransparent glairy matter. 1879 *tr. De Quatrefages' Human Spec.* 124 Adam, who sprang from a primordial blastema called clay in the Bible.

transf. 1870 *HUXLEY Lay Serm.* xiii. (1874) 309 A nebular blastema.

2. *Bot.* The budding or sprouting part of a plant; the thallus of a lichen.

1830 *GRAY Bot. Text-bk.* 399.

Blastemal, *a.* [*f.* *prec.* + *-AL*]. Of or pertaining to blastema.

1849 *TODD Cycl. Anat. & Phys.* IV. 102/1 The blastemal elements within the vessels.

Blastematic, *a.* [*f.* *as prec.* + *-IC*] = *prec.*

1879 *Syd. Soc. Lex.*, *Blastematic mass*, a name given by some... to organs still in a state of imperfect development.

Blaster (blast'ar). [*f.* *BLAST v.* or (in sense 7) *sb.* + *-ER*].

1. One who blows or emits blasts.

1664 *COTTON Poet. Wks.* (1765) 18 You there [Boreas], Goodman Blaster. 1854 *BLACKIE in Blackw. Mag.* LXXVI. 261 That fiery blaster, Typhoon.

† 2. A trumpeter. *Obs.*

1575 *LANEHAM Lett.* (1871) 33 Triton, Neptunes blaster.

3. He who or that which blights, or ruins.

1599 *MARSTON Sco. Villanie, To Detract.* 165 Vile blaster of the freshest bloomes on earth... Detraction. 1760 *FOOTE Minor* i. l. Dead to pleasures themselves, and the blasters of it in others.

† 4. One of a sect of free-thinkers in Ireland about 1738. *Obs.*

c 1738 *Rep. Irish Comm. Relig.* in *Fraser Berkeley* vii. 254 Loose and disorderly persons have of late erected themselves into a Society or Club under the name of Blasters.

5. One who blasts rocks.

1776 *PENNANT Tour Scotl.* (1790) III. 34 A blaster was kept in constant employment, to blast with gunpowder the great stones. 1884 *Pall Mall G.* 10 Oct. 8/2 A rock blaster... explaining the working of a dynamite cartridge.

6. An iron borer used for rocks to be blasted.

7. Anything designed to produce a blast or draught of air.

1830 *M. DONOVAN Dom. Econ.* I. 353 The smoke and soot... are carried up the funnel over the mouth of the oven, the ascent being promoted by laying a blaster over the mouth: the blaster is a large piece of sheet-iron.

8. *dial.* (*Sc.*) A smoker.

Blasterand, *obs. Sc.* form of *BLUSTERING*.

† **Blasterous**, *a.* *Obs. rare.* In 6 -terus.

Blasting, blighting.

1883 *STANYHURST Aeneis* ii. (Arb.) 53 Corneshocks sindred with blasterous hurling of Southwynd whizzling.

Blastful (blast'fúl), *a.* [*f.* *BLAST sb.* + *-FUL*]. Full of or exposed to blasts of wind.

1883 *Blackw. Mag.* Oct. 520 Breery hills and blastful mountains.

Blast-furnace. A furnace in which a blast of air is used; *spec.* the common furnace for iron-smelting, into which a blast of compressed and highly heated air is driven by a blowing-engine.

1706 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 4241/2 A new invention of Smelting .. of Black Tin-Ore into White Tin .. in a Blast Furnace.
1807 *FARADAY Chem. Manip.* iv. 94 The wind-furnace may generally be replaced with advantage by the blast-furnace.
1860 *W. FORDYCE Hist. Coal, etc.* 116 The blast furnace consists of two truncated cones, united at their bases.

Blastid (blæst'id). *Palmont.* [f. Gr. *βλαστ-ός* sprout, bud; cf. *BLASTEMA*.] (See quot.)

1877 *LE CONTE Elem. Geol.* (1879) 299 Stemmed Echinoderms, or Crinoids may be divided into three families, viz.: 1. Crinids; 2. Cystids; 3. Blastids. *Ibid.* 301 Blastids .. had a bud-shaped body, with five petaloid spaces .. radiating from the top, and reaching half way down the body.

Blastide. *Biol.* [f. Gr. *βλαστ-ός* germ + *εἶδος* resemblance.] 'The clear space in each segment of a dividing impregnated ovum, which precedes the appearance of a nucleus' (*Syd. Soc. Lex.* 1880).

Blastie. *Sc. rare.* [f. *BLAST* v. + *-ie*, *-y* dim. suffix.] A little blasted creature; a dwarf.

1707 *BURNS To Louse vii.* Ye little ken what cursed speed The blastie's makin'!

Blasting (blæst'ing), *vbl. sb.* [f. as prec. + *-ING* 1.]
+1. The production of blasts of wind or breath.
1535 *COVERDALE Isa. lvi.* 16 Y^e blastinge goeth fro me, though I make the breath. — *Ps. xvii.* 15 At the blastinge & breth of thy displeasure.

+2. Flatulence; breaking of wind. *Obs.*
c. 1460 *J. RUSSELL Bk. Nurture* 304 in *Babes Bk.* (1868) 136 Alle wey be ware of by hyndur part from gunnes blastinge. 1579 *LANGHAM Gard. Health* (1633) 28 Windnesse, belching, and blasting of the stomach and belly.

2. The blowing of a wind-instrument.

1854 *Guardian* 23 Apr. 403/3 The ruthless blasting of horns and beating of drums.

3. Withering or shrivelling up caused by atmospheric, electric, or unseen agency.

1535 *COVERDALE Hagg. ii.* 17, I smote you with heate, blastinge & hale stones. 1554 *HULOET, Blastyng* or Sear-ynge, as of corne, herbes, fruite, and trees. 1607 *HIERON Wks. I.* 452 In thy husbandry, blasting may vndoe thee. 1616 *SURFL. & MARKH. Countr. Farm* 313 Blasting, which is a corruption happening to hearbes and trees by some euill constellation. 1669 *WORLDGE Syst. Agric.* (1681) 15 Blasting hath commonly been mistaken for Mildew. 1870 *H. MACMILLAN Bible Teach.* vi. 114 Blasting and mildew .. had no place in the Divine ideal of a pure and holy world.

+4. A similar affection of the animal body. *Obs.*
1579 *LANGHAM Gard. Health* (1633) 1, To heale inflammations, blastings and swellings of the eyes. 1607 *TORSELL Four-f. Beasts* 378 The fat .. doth keep the skin of the face free from all blastings and blemishes. 1662 *LOVELL Hist. Anim. & Min.* 43 It cureth shrinking of the joints, and blasting.

c. *fig. and transf.*
1677 *GILPIN Demonol.* (1867) 286 They have also so great a blasting upon their understanding.

+5. Calumnious whisper; scandal. (Cf. next word quot. 1603.) *Obs.*

a. 1608 *F. GREVILLE Sidney* (1652) 89 Saves Sir Francis Drake from blastings of Court. 1665 *Surv. Aff. Netherl.* 165 About which matter there are not a few blastings and factions.

5. The operation of blowing rocks to pieces; also its result or material produce.

1824 *Encycl. Brit. Suppl. II.* 317 *Blasting* .. the application of the explosive force of gunpowder, in opening or rending rocks. 1885 *R. CHRISTISON Autobiog.* I. iv. 96 Finding prehnite among the blastings of a trap cliff.

6. *Comb. and Attrib.* (sense 5), as *blasting-charge*, *-fuse*, *gelatine*, *-powder*, *-tools*; *blasting-needle*, a taper piece of metal to make an aperture for a fuse; *blasting-oil*, nitro-glycerine.

1881 *RAYMOND Mining Gloss.*, *Blasting-stick*, a simple form of fuse. 1883 *Forin. Rev.* May 645 *Blasting gelatine* .. consists of nitro-cotton .. dissolved in nitro-glycerine. 1884 *Pall Mall G.* 5 Sept. 111/t An article on the manufacture of dynamite and nitro-glycerine, and .. the still more powerful 'explosive of the future'—*blasting gelatine*.

Blasting, *pl. a.* [f. as prec. + *-ING* 2.]

1. That blasts, in various senses of the vb.; blighting, striking with baleful effect, defaming, etc.

1591 *PERCIVALL Sp. Dict., Sereno*, the blasting aire .. *sideratio*. 1603 *SHAKS. Meas. for M.* v. i. 122 A blasting and a scandalous breath. 1607 *MILTON P. L.* iv. 929 The blasting vollied Thunder. 1810 *SOUTHEY Kehama* iii. ii. 1s he left .. alone, To bear his blasting curse? 1861 *GEN. P. THOMPSON Audi Alt.* 111. cxlv. 131 Every blasting abomination to be raked up in the middle ages.

2. *fig.* Boastful. (*Sc.*)
1706 *Har't Rtg.* in *Chambers Pop. Scot. Poems* (1862) 44 When in a blasting tiff.

Blastment (blæst'mēt). [f. as prec. + *-MENT*.] = *BLASTING* *vbl. sb.* (sense 3).

1603 *SHAKS. Ham. I.* iii. 39 In the Morn and liquid dew of Youth, Contagious blastments are most imminent. 1803 *BRISTED Pedest. Tour* II. 368 The pestilential blastments of contagion. 1877 *COLERIDGE Prol. Zapholya* ii. Wks. IV. 193 False glory, thirst of blood and lust of rapine .. Shall shoot their blastments on the land.

Blasto- (blæsto), repr. Gr. *βλαστο-* stem and comb. form of *βλαστός* sprout, germ. Used as the first element in many technical terms, chiefly in Biology, with the sense of 'germ' or 'bud'. Thus *Blastocarpous a. Bot.* [Gr. *καρπός* fruit], of the nature of a seed which germinates before escaping from the pericarp. *Blastocoele* (-sīl), [κελός spot], the germinal spot. *Blastochele* (-kēm), [ὄχημα vehicle], a Medusa in which a

generative body is developed in the radiating canals. *Blastochyle* (-kōil), [χῆλος juice], the clear mucilaginous fluid in the embryonal sac of the ovule of plants. *Blastocoele* (-sīl) [κοῖλος hollow], the central cavity which forms in the ovum after segmentation. *Blastocolla, Bot.*, [κόλλα glue], the gummy substance which coats certain buds, as those of the horse-chestnut.

Blastocyst (-sist), *Blastocystinx* (-sistinks), [κύστις bladder, κύστις little bladder], the germinal vesicle, *BLASTODERM*. *Blastodisc*, the germinal disc of the ovum of birds. *Blastogenesis*, reproduction by buds. *Blastogeny* (-p'dz'ni), Hæckel's term for the evolution of bodily form, the 'germ-history of persons.' *Blastography*, the scientific description of the buds of plants. *Blastomere* (-mīr), [Gr. μέρος part], each of the segments into which the impregnated ovum at first divides. *Blastophor* (-phōr), [Gr. φέρω bearing, -bearer], a more or less centrally placed portion of the spermatopore, which is not used up in the process of division to form spermatoblasts, but serves to carry these; hence *Blastophoral a.*, as in *blastophoral cell*. *Blastophore* (-phōr), *Bot.*, Richard's name for the part of the embryo with a large radicle which bears the bud.

Blastophyly (-p'hili), [Gr. φύλη tribe], Hæckel's term for the 'tribal history of persons.' *Blastopore* [πῶρος passage], the orifice produced by the invagination of a point on the surface of a blastula, or blastosphere, to form the enteron. *Blastosphere*, a name for the impregnated ovum, when after segmentation, it has acquired a blastocoele and blastoderm. *Blastostroma* [Gr. στρώμα a stratum, a bed], the germinal area. *Blastostyle* [στυλος pillar], a stalk upon which gonophores or generative buds are developed in the Hydrozoa.

1877 *HUXLEY Anat. Inv. An.* iv. 213 The central cavity of the body of the embryo *Tenia* simply represents a 'blastocoele'. 1883 *Knowledge* 24 Aug. 123/2 A mass of nucleated cells .. within which there is a cavity or 'blastocoele'. 1876 *Encycl. Brit.* (ed. 9) IV. 81 The 'blastocolla, which covers the bud. 1877 *HUXLEY Anat. Inv. An.* Intro. 16 Tracing the several germ layers back to the 'blastomeres of the yolk. 1881 *Jrnl. Microsc. Soc.* Jan. 147 There are two kinds of 'blastomeres, the larger form the lower half of the egg, the smaller ones the upper half. 1880 *HUXLEY Cray-Fish* iv. 409 Its external opening termed the 'blastopore. 1877 — *Anat. Inv. An.* iii. 131 In some 'blastostyles .. the ectoderm splits into two layers.

Blastoderm (blæstod'rm). *Biol.* [f. *BLASTO-* + Gr. *δέρμα, δέρμα* - skin.] The germinal skin or membrane surrounding the yolk in the impregnated living ovum, and constituting the superficial layer of the embryo in its earliest condition. It divides into two and afterwards three layers of cells (the *epiblast*, *mesoblast*, and *hypoblast*: cf. *-BLAST*), from one or other of which all the parts of the new animal are developed.

Hence *Blastoderma-tio*, *Blastodermie a.*, of or pertaining to the blastoderm.

1859 *TODD Cycl. Anat. & Phys. V.* 461 A layer of nucleated organised cells, named by Pander *Blastoderm* or germinal membrane. 1877 *HUXLEY Anat. Inv. An.* iii. 110 The cells of the blastoderm give rise to the histological elements of the adult body. 1881 *MIVART Cat.* 319. 1836 *TODD Cycl. Anat. & Phys. I.* 786/2 The arteries begin to show themselves .. in the substance of this same blastodermic lamina. *Ibid.* IV. 975/1 In one germinal membrane or blastodermic vesicle. 1877 *HUXLEY Anat. Inv. An.* iv. 200 The homologue of the blastodermic disk or vesicle.

Blastous (blæst'əs), *a.* [f. Gr. *βλαστ-ός* (see above) + *-OUS*; cf. *F. blastueux*.] Belonging to a germ or bud; germinal.

1880 in *Syd. Soc. Lex.*

Blastule (blæst'ul). [dim. (on *L.* type) f. Gr. *βλαστ-ός*.] A small germ; a blastosphere.

1882 *C. K. PAUL in 10th Cent.* Oct. 515 We may trace their development from the first organic blastules.

Blasty (blæsti), *a.* [f. *BLAST* sb. + *-Y* 1.]

1. Characterized by blasts of wind; gusty.

1593 *STANYHURST Ancis* iii. (Arb.) 84 On a suddeny thee doors winds blastye doe batter. 1870 *HAWTHORNE Eng. Note-Bks.* (1879) II. 160 This bleak and blasty shore. 1872 *Mem. R. Paul* ix. 98 An unsteady blasty wind.

+2. Causing blight; blasting vegetation. *Obs.*
1667 *BEALE in Phil. Trans.* II. 424 [Giving] notice of a blasty Noon (it being then a Sultry weather), and within a day or two shewing the proof upon the Cherry-blossom.

Blasyn, blasynge, *obs. ff. BLAZE*, *-ING*.

+3. *Blat. Obs.* An adaptation of *L. BLATTA*.

Blatancy. [f. *BLATANT*, after forms from *L.* *blat* in *-antia*; see *-ANCY*.] Blatant quality.

1610 *FOLKINGHAM Art of Survey* To Rdr. 3 Who can be secured from base carping Blatancy? 1884 *Punch* 1 Nov. 213 Birmingham blatancy.

Blatant (blæ'tant), *a.* Also 6-7 *blattant*. [Apparently invented by Spenser, and used by him as an epithet of the thousand-tongued monster begotten of Cerberus and Chimera, the 'blatant' or 'blattant beast', by which he symbolized

calumny. It has been suggested that he intended it as an archaic form of *bleating* (of which the 16th c. *Sc.* was *blaitand*), but this seems rather remote from the sense in which he used it. The *L. blatre* to babble, may also be compared. (The *a* was probably short with Spenser: it is now always made long.)

1. In the phrase 'blat(t)ant beast', taken from Spenser (cf. *F. Q.* v. xii. 37, 41; vi. i. 7, iii. 24, ix. 2, x. i. xii. *advt.*, xii. 2): see above.

1596 *SPENSER F. Q.* v. xii. 37 Unto themselves they [Envie and Detraction] gotten had A monster which the blaitant beast men call, A dreadful feend of gods and men ydrad. — vi. i. 7 'The blaitant beast,' quoth he, 'I doe pursue.' 1608 *Return fr. Parnass.* v. iv. (Arb.) 69 The Ile of Dogges, where the blaitant beast doth rule and raigne. 1636 *FITZ-GEFFREY Bless. Birthd.* (1881) 128 That blaitant beast So belched forth from his blaspheming breast. 1658 *CLEVELAND Gen. Poems* (1677) 60 Cub of the Blaitant Beast. 1708 *TUCKER Lt. Nat. I.* 596 The blaitant beast .. with his unbridled tongue. 1812 *BYRON Ch. Har.* i. xxvi. (Orig. MS.) Then burst the blaitant beast [note, a figure for the mob], and roard, and raged. 1856 *MISS MULOCK F. Halifax* (ed. 17) 340 He was one of the most 'blaitant-beasts' of the Reign of Terror.

2. *fig.* Of persons or their words: Noisy; offensively or vulgarly clamorous; bellowing.

1656 *BLOUNT Glossogr.*, *Blatant*, babbling, twatling. 1674 *MARVELL Reh. Transp.* II. 371 You are a Blatant Writer and a Labrant. 1821 *SOUTHEY Vis. Judgem.* x. Wks. X. 223 Maledictions, and blaitant tongues, and vipers hisses. 1872 *BACKHOT Physics & Pol.* (1876) 92 Up rose a blaitant Radical. 1874 *H. REYNOLDS John Bapt.* viii. 515 A blaitant, insolent materialism threatens to engulf moral distinctions.

b. Clamorous, making itself heard.

1790 *COWPER Odys.* vii. 267 Not the less Hear I the blaitant appetite demand Due sustenance. 1863 *GEO. ELIOT Romola* (1880) I. ii. xxix. 359 An orator who tickled the ears of the people blaitant for some unknown good. 1866 *WHIPPLE Char. & Charac. Men* 166 All agree in a common contempt blaitant or latent. 1867 *J. MACGREGOR Voy. Alone* 65 A mass of human being whose want .. misery, and filth are .. patent to the eye, and blaitant to the ear.

3. Bloating, bellowing (or merely, loud-voiced).

1791 *COWPER Iliad* xxiii. 39 Many a sheep and blaitant goat. 1866 *J. ROSE Ecl. & Georg. Virg.* 69 Rooks rejoicing, and the blaitant herds.

b. Noisily resonant, loud.

1816 *SCOTT Old Mort.* xiv. A blaitant noise which rose behind them. 1867 *Cornh. Mag.* Jan. 30 The vibrating and blaitant powers of a hundred instruments.

+B. as sb. One who has a blaitant tongue. *Obs.*
1610 *FOLKINGHAM Art of Survey* Intro. Poem, Couch rabid Blatants, silence Surquedry.

Blatantly (blæ'tantli), *adv.* [f. prec. + *-LY* 2.] In a blaitant manner.

1851 *R. BURTON Goss* 292 Sated with the joys of the eye and mouth, you .. inquire blaitantly what amusement it has to offer you. 1876 *MISS BRADDON Open Verand.* vi. 47 A stone sun-dial with a blaitantly false inscription to the effect that it recorded only happy hours.

+ **Blatch**. *Obs.* Forms: 5 *blacche*, 6 *blatche*, *blache*. [ME. *blacche*, answering to an OE. **blæcce*, not found, but pointing to an OTeut. **blakkjo-* or **blakkjd-*, f. **blakkō-* 'black': see *BLACK a.*, and cf. *BLACK sb.*, *BLEACH sb.*, *BLECK*, and *BLETCH*.] *Blacking*. Hence *Blatch-pot*, *blacche-pot*.

a. 1500 *Metr. Voc.* in *W. Wülcker 628 Attramentorium* (blacchepot), *sumt attramentum* (blacche), *sed atrum* (blacke). 1519 *HORMAN Vulg.* 81 b. Wryters nyne shulde be fyner than blatche [*lectus esset sutorio*]. 1554 *HULOET, Blache* that shomakers vse *Attramentum sutorium*.

+ **Blatch**, *v.* *Obs.* [f. prec.: cf. *BLACK v.*, *BLEACH v.*, *BLETCH v.*] *trans.* To smear with blacking or other black substance.

[c. 1205 *LAV.* 17700, Iblacched he hæfede his licame swulc ismitte of cole.] 1597 *J. HARMAR tr. Beza's Sermon* 195 (R.) No man can like to be smuted and blatched in his face. 1607 *Schol. Disc. agst. Antichr.* II. ix. 110 It is with the enemies crosse that we are blatched.

Blate (blæt, dial. blæt, blit), *a. Sc. and north. dial.* Also 6 *blait*, 7 *bleat* (e), *bleit*. [Found in *Sc.* late in 15th c. It answers phonetically to OE. *blāt* livid, pale, ghastly; but the connexion of meaning, though possible, is not attested by the evidence. The general sense since 16th c. is 'blunt,' 'not sharp or ready' in feeling, courage, discernment, manner, action, etc. (Connexion with OE. *blāt* miserable, wretched, is not justified: still less with *blēa* soft, weak, timid. These words gave *blete*, *blethe*, in ME.)]

+1. Pale, ghastly. (In OE. In the second quotation the sense is quite uncertain: cf. sense 3.)

c. 1200 in *Cod. Vercell.* i. (1843) 63 Hungres on wenum blates beodgastes. c. 1450 *HENRYSON Mor. Fabl.* 34 The fauour of thy face, For thy defence is foule and disfigurete, Brought to the light, blased, blunt, and blate.

+2. Void of feeling, physically insensible, feelingless. (Perhaps, like a dead body.) *Obs.*

1513 *DOUGLAS Ancis* i. viii. 129 The Phenitians nane sa blait breistis hes. a. 1548 *Thrie Priests Publis in Pinkerton* (1792) I. 29 (JAM.) In sa far as the saull is forthy Far worthier than the blait body.

+3. Void of spirits, abashed, having the courage blunted or daunted, spiritless, timid. *Obs.*

1535 *STEWART Cron. Scot.* II. 632 Als blait and basit as ane scheip. *Ibid.* 639 So blunt, so blait, berand himself so law.

1560 ROLLAND *Crt. Venus* Prol. 55 Soft, blait, and blunt, of curagon.

4. Not 'sharp' in discernment, stupid.

[1513 see BLATELY.] **1581** N. BURNES *Disput.* 96 b (JAM.) As the Italianis had bene sa blait, that thay could nocht discern betuix ane man and ane woman. **1811** *Statist. Acc. Nairn & Moray* (JAM.) Blate, easily deceived.

† 5. Blunt in manner, curt. *Obs.*

1663 in Spalding *Troub. Chas. J.* (1792) I. 143 (JAM.) They got a bleat answer, and so tint their travel.

6. Bashful, backward, esp. from natural diffidence or awkwardness; slow to come forward or assert oneself; diffident, sheepish, shamefaced.

1600 Rob. Hood (Ritson) I. iii. 40 If they have supt e'er I come in, I will look wondrous blate. **1674** RAY *N. C. Wds.* Coll. A toom purse makes a bleit Merchant. *Scot. Prov.* **1795** RAMSAY *Gent. Sheph.* I. i. Be nae blate, Push bauldly on and win the day. **1797** BURNS *Ep. Mrs. Scott* I When I was beardless, young, and blate. **1808** *Cumbr. Ballads* xxix. 67 I' God's name step forret; nay, dunnet be bleate. **1823** SCOTT *Quentin D.* II. xiv. You are not blate—you will never lose fair lady for faint heart. **1865** *Cornh. Mag.* Mar. 328 He's 'no blate,' as they used to say in Scotland, and made himself quite at home to-night.

† 7. Of a fight, a market: Dull, slow. *Obs.*

1597-1605 MONTGOMERIE *Poems* (1821) 46 But 3it his battil will be blate, Gif he our forns refuse. **1768** ROSS *Helmore* 55 (JAM.) Gang hame again? Na, na, That were my hogs to a blate fair to ca'.

Hence **Blately adv.**, **Blateness**.

1513 DOUGLAS *Æneis* Prol. 251 The last sax buikis of Virgill... Caxtoun sa blaitlie lettis ourslip. **1823** GALT *Enslat* III. iii. 41 It will be ill put on blateness.

Blate (blāt), *v. rare*. [A late word, perhaps arising out of BLEAT (sense 2 b), influenced by BLATANT. *Blat* was formerly pronounced (blāt), as in *great*.]

trans. and *intr.* To babble, prate, give mouth (about), talk blatanly.

1666 PEPYS *Diary* (1879) IV. 46 He blates to me what has passed between other people and him. **1878** GILDER, *Poet & Master* 38 They peddle their petty schemes, and blate and babble and groan.

Blate, var. of BLEAT, cry like a sheep.

† **Blaterate**, *v. Obs.*—[f. L. *blaterāt*—ppl. stem of *blaterāre* to babble: cf. F. *blätirer* and BLATTER.] 'To babble or talk vainly.' Bullokar 1676.

Blateration (blätər-ən). Also **blatt**. [ad. late L. *blateration-em*, n. of action f. *blaterāre*: see prec. Cf. BLATTER *v.*] Babbling chatter.

1665 BLOUNT *Glossogr.* *Blateration*, vain-babbling, flatterring in speech. **1864** R. BURTON *Dakome* II. 260 Heralds proclaimed the royal titles with normal blateration.

† **Blateroon**, *n. Obs.* Also **blatt**. [ad. L. *blatero*, -ōnem babbling, f. *blaterāre*.] A babbler.

1645 HOWELL *Lett.* (1650) II. 117 I hate such blateroons. **1666** BLOUNT *Glossogr.*, *Blateron*, or *Blateroon*, a babler, an idle-headed fellow.

† **Blathe**, *v. Obs. rare*—1. † To cry out.

1640 J. GOWER *Ovid's Fest. vi.* 127 The poore young child for help and socour blathed.

Blather, *v.* To talk voluble nonsense: see BLETHER.

Blather, variant of BLADDER.

Blatherskite. A blustering, talkative fellow (*U. S. colloq.*): see BLETHERSKATE.

Blathery, *sb.* and *a. Sc.* Also **bladarie**, **bladdrie**, **bladry**, **blaidry**, **blathrie**. [Etymological form and history uncertain: perh. a derivative of BLADDER, and more properly spelt *bladder*. It has with less likelihood been referred to BLETHER to speak nonsense.]

A. sb. Something unsubstantial, hollow, or deceptive; flummery; phlegm from the bronchial tubes.

1591 R. BRUCE *Serm.* (JAM.) The inward heart is full of bladarie, quhillk bladarie shal... multiply thy tormentis.

1605 MONTGOMERIE *Poems* (1821) 75 This barme & blaidry buists up all my bees. **1703** D. WILLIAMSON *Serm. bef. Gen. Ass.* 42 It was a fair horse that came into Troy, but there was meikle blathery in his Belly which the Trojans saw not.

1709 M. BRUCE *Soul Confirm.* 23 (JAM.) Nothing... but bladdrie instead of wholesome food. **1721** J. KELLY *Scot. Proverbs* 296 Shame fall the gear and the blad'ry o't. **1758** RAMSAY *Poems* (1800) I. Life 44 (JAM.) Frae ilka vice and blaidry free.

B. adj. Unsubstantial, rotten, trashy.

1708 M. BRUCE *Lect.* 28 (JAM.) A 4th sort of blathrie were we bring to Christ's grave, is a number of ill-guided complaints. **1863** ATKINSON *Danby Provinc.* *Bladry*, muddy, dirty. **1875** ROBINSON *Whitby Gloss.* (E. D. S.), *Blathery*... 'It's blathery walking.'

|| **Blatta**. [L.] Also anglicized in 7 *blat*.

1. By Roman writers and their translators applied to various insects shunning the light: a kind of moth, mite, or beetle. Vaguely and empirically used by 17th c. writers, but at length specialized as the generic name of the Cockroach.

1601 HOLLAND *Pliny* II. 370 Two or three of these flies called *Blattæ* souden in oile, make a souveraine medicine to cure the eares. **1658** ROWLAND *Mouffet's Theat. Ins.* 998 There are three sorts of *Blattæ*; the soft Moth, the mill Moth, and the unsavoury or stinking Moth. *Ibid.* The worms of the belly some call *Blattæ*. Cardanus in one place calleth the worms that breed in meal or bran, *Blattæ*. The *Blatta* is an insect flying in the night, like to a

Beetle, but wanteth the sheath wings. **1796** STEDMAN *Surinam* (1813) II. xxiii. 179 Destroyed by the *blatta* or cockroaches. **1816** KIRBY & SP. *Entomol.* (1843) I. 222 The all devouring *Blatta* or cockroach. **1830** LYELL *Princ. Geol.* (1832) II. 148 The devastation of the ants and *blattæ*.

2. Purple; purple silk.

1658 ROWLAND *Mouffet's Theat. Ins.* 990 Much variety of opinion there is... of the colour of the *Blat* Moth, or the *Blattean* colour. For if these Insects... are the *Blattæ* truly so called, why should not the black be the *Blat* colour, rather than red purple colours? **1876** ROCK *Text. Fabr.* v. 39 The costly purple-dyed silks called 'blatta.'

† **Blattean**, *a. Obs.* [f. L. *blatte-us* purple + -AN.] Purple.

1658 ROWLAND *Mouffet's Theat. Ins.* 998 The *Blattean* colour is died with worms which come out of the grain of Cockle, out of whose bloud is produced a... colour, not black, as some think, but a bright purple or scarlet.

Blatter (blät-ər), *v.* Also 6-7 *blotter*. [In sense 1, ad. L. *blaterāre* to talk idly, babble, prate, perhaps partly through F. *blätirer*. But the use of the word is probably largely influenced by its phonetic suggestiveness of forcible and repeated noise: cf. *batter*, *chatter*, *clatter*, *patter*, and *bl-* words expressing impetus, like *blow*, *blash*, *blast*.]

1. *intr.* To speak or prate volubly. (Also with *it*.)

1555 LATIMER *Serm. & Rem.* (1845) 358 Procuring also certain preachers to blatter against me. **1579** FULKE *Heskins' Parl.* 224 Boyes and girls can blatter it against Christes presence in the sacrament. **1603** HOLLAND *Plutarch's Mor.* 193 If peradventure it [the tongue]... will blatter out and not tarrie within, we might bite it. **1656** CROWWELL *Lett. & Sp.* (Carl.) Sp. 17 Sept. It is to be clamoured at, and blattered at. **1865** PUSEY *Eiren.* 375 They blatter... that the Church forms new dogmas at will.

b. trans. Often with *out*, *abroad*.

1556 ABP. PARKER *Palter* xciv. 294 They blatter out even what they list. **1590** C. S. *Right Relig.* 16 Hee blattereth out his owne traditions. **1615** CHAPMAN *Odys.* Ep. Ded. 51 What the brain head blatters abroad. **1645** G. DANIEL *Poems* Wks. II. 101 Noe matter tho' Ignorance blatter folle. **1705** HICKERINGILL *Priest-Cr.* II. ii. 21 Be not rash with thy Mouth, to blatter out any thing before God.

2. *intr.* To hurry or rush with clattering noise. (*Sc.*)

1790 A. WILSON *To W. Mitchell* Poet. Wks. (1846) 113 Down the brae, It blattert wi' a blash I' the burn that day. **1840** HOGG *Tales & Sk.* VI. 53 Maxwell's feet blattered down the lowest stair. **1852** J. BROWN *Horæ Subsec.* Ser. III. (1882) 202 The snow blattered in his face.

Blatter (blät-ər), *sb. Sc.* [f. prec.] A volley of clattering words, or sound of rapid motion.

1816 SCOTT *Antig.* ix. 'Oot cam sic a blatter' Latin about his lugs, that poor Rab Tull... was clean overwhelmed.' **1865** LIVINGSTONE *Zambesi* x. 211 Hundreds of turtle doves rise, with great blatter of wing.

Blatteration, variant of BLATERATION.

Blatterer (blät-ər), [f. BLATTER *v.* + -ER.]

A voluble prater or babbler; a blusterer.

1627 SCOTLER *Expos. 2 Thess.* (1632) 206 Blatterers and bablers in prayer they would make us. **1867** N. Y. *Nation* 3 Jan. 2/2 All the famous blatterers and swindlers.

Blattering, *vbl. sb.* [f. as prec. + -ING.]

1613 R. C. *Table Alph.* (ed. 3), *Blattering*, vaine babbling.

Blattering (blät-ər), *ppl. a. Sc.* [f. as prec. + -ING.] That blatters.

1721 RAMSAY *Poet. Wks.* (1848) III. 72 The blattran hail-stones.—*Lyric P., Ode fr. Hor.*, The blattering winds dare nae mair move.

Blatteroon, variant of BLATEROON. *Obs.*

Blau, *obs.* form of BLOW.

Blaud, variant of BLAD. *Sc.*

Blaunc, **Blaunch** (e, -er, **Blaundish**, etc.,

obs. ff. BLANK, BLANCH, -ER, BLANDISH, etc.

Blaunchmer, **blaundemere**: see BLAUNNER.

† **Blaundrell**. *Obs.* Forms: 5 **blawnd** (e)-

relle, **blauderel** (le, 6 **blaudrelle**, (brandrel),

7 **blaudrell**. [a. OF. *blaudrel* the apple now

called 'calville blanc'.] A kind of white apple,

formerly in much repute.

1440 *Prompt. Parv.* 38 **Blawndrelle**, frute [v. r. *blaud-*

derel], *melonis*. **1423** *Lib. Nig. Edw. IV* in *Househ. Ord.*

(1790) 82 Pourveyours of blauderelles, pepyns, and all other

fruytes. **1494** FAYAN *Chron.* vii. 605 Quynces, blauder-

ellys, peches, and other fruytes. **1611** COTGR., *Blaudrelle*,

the white apple, called in some part of England a blaudrell.

† **Blaundisore**. *Obs.* A dish in cookery. Cf.

Warner *Antiqu. Culin.* (1790) 55.

1430-50 *Gregory's Chron.* 170 The thyrdy course of thys

ryalle feste... Quynsys in composit. **Blaundisore**. **c. 1631**

Turn. Tottenham 268 in *E. P. P.* (Hart.) III. 95 Bell

clapurs in blawndisore, With a nobull cury.

† **Blaunner**. *Obs.* Forms: 4 **blsunner**, -ier,

5 **blsuner**; also 5 **blaudemere**, **blaunchmer**.

[app. *blau(n)er* was the same as *blaudemere*,

which in its turn suggests a Fr. **blanc de mer*

'sea white,' though the application of the name

seems to be lost.] A species of (? white) fur used

to line hoods, etc.

c. 1330 *Syr Degarré* 701 (Halliwell) He ware a cyrcote that

was grene; With blaunchmer it was furred, I wene. **c. 1340**

Gaw. & Gr. Knt. 155 A mere mantile abof... With blype

blauncher ful brygt, & his hod boke. **1460** *Lybeaus Disc.*

117 in *Ritson Metr. Rom.* II. 6 Sche was clodeth in Tars,

Rownie and nodyng skars, Pelured wyth blauncher. *Ibid.*

128 in *Furniv. Percy Fol.* II. 420 (Mätz.) Cladd all in greene

and furred with blaunchemere.

Blaunsher, *obs.* form of BLANCHER.

|| **Blauwbok** (blāw-bok). [Du. *blauwbok*, f.

blauw blue + *bok* buck, he-goat.] A name given by the Dutch settlers to a large Antelope (*A. leucophaea*) in South Africa, on account of the effect produced by its black hide showing through its ashy-grey hair.

1786 tr. *Sparman's Voy.* II. 219 The *blauw-bok* is also one of the large species of gazel. **1832** *Penny Cycl.* II. 68/1 The *Blauwbok*... is six feet in length.

† **Blaver**, *v. Obs. rare*. A variant of BLABBER. **1461** *Paston Lett.* 402 II. 28 He and hys wyfe and other have blavered here of my kynred.

Blaw, north. and Sc. form of BLOW.

Blawneche, **blawnsher**, *obs.* ff. BLANCH, -ER.

Blawort. *Sc.* [f. *bla*, BLAE + wort herb, plant.]

The name in Scotland of two plants: the Harebell

(*Campanula rotundifolia*), and the Corn Blue-

bottle (*Centaurea Cyanus*). Cf. BLEWART.

1728 RAMSAY *Poet. Wks.* (1848) III. 137 Of colour like a

blawart blue. **c. 1774** FERGUSSON *Poems* (1845) 35 Een as

blue's a blawort wi' straits. **1824** SCOTT *St. Rovan's* II.

165 (JAM.) His poor wizened houghs as blue as a blawart.

Blay, variant of BLEA *v.* to bleat.

Blay, **bley** (blē), Also 7 (*rare*) **blea**. [OE.

blæge (wk. fem.) is cogn. w. Ger. *blei(h)*, MDu.

bleie, mod. Du. *blei*:—Oteut. **blaijōn*. Franck

thinks it may be derived from the same root as

Ger. *blei* lead, and OE. *blō*, BLEER, complexion.]

The name of a small fish, the bleak.

c. 1000 *Ælfric Gloss.* in Wr. Wülcker *Voc.* 180 *Gobio*, blæge

1611 COTGR., *Able*, a blay, or bleake, fish. **1720** *Stow's Surv.*

(ed. Strype 1754) II. v. xxvii. 479/2 No such person shall

within the said bounds or limits fleet with any Bleay net.

1707 *Brst Angling* (ed. 2) 4 Alburnus, the Bleak or Blay.

1822 LEMON *Sc. & Art* II. 336 The blay, or bleak fish which

is very common in the rivers near London. **1849** *Sidonia*

Sorc. II. 47 We have taken bley: the nets are all loaded.

Blay, -berry, dial. variant of BLAE, -BERRY.

Blaying, **bleying**, *vbl. sb.* [See BLEA.] The

bleating of lambs or kids; crying of children.

† **Blayke** (e, a. *Obs.* Also 3-4 **bleik** (e, 5 **bleyke**.

[ME. *bleik*, a. ON. *bleikr* shining, pale, cogn.

w. OE. *blāc*, OS. *blēc* (MDu. *bleec*, Du. *bleek*),

OHG. *bleih* (MHG. and mod. G. *bleich*):—Oteut.

**blaiko-z*, f. the stem of *blīkan*, pa. t. *blaiht*, to shine.

Cf. the synonyms BLAKE, BLEAK, BLOKE.]

a. Pale. b. Yellow.

c. 1300 *Havelok* 470 That weren for hunger grene and

bleike. **c. 1325** E. E. *Allit. P.* A. 27 Blomez blayke & blew

& rede. **1440** *Prompt. Parv.* 39 Bleyke of colour, *pallidus*.

1570 LEVINS *Manip.* 198 *Blayke*, *flavus*.

Blayle, *obs.* variant of BRAIL.

1622 R. HAWKINS *Voy. S. Sea* (1847) 188 His sayles..

prevented with martens blayles and caskettes.

Blayn (e, *obs.* form of BLAIN.

Blase (blāz), *sb.* 1 Forms: 1 **blæse**, 1-7

blase, 3 **blasse**, 6- **blase**; north. and Sc. 3-6 **bles** (e,

4 **blöse**, 6 **bleis** (e, **bleiss**, 7- **bleese**. [OE.

blase, *blæse*, wk. fem., chiefly in sense of 'torch'

(Oteut. type **blasn-*), is cogn. w. MII. *blas*

neut., a torch, with OHG. *blasse*, mod. G. *blasse* 'pale,

whitish' (originally 'shining'), and with **BLAZE**

lest the blaze of charity . . . should die away. 1874 STOUGH-
TON *Ch. of Rev.* xii. 279 Which fanned the Lower House
into a blaze of resentment.

4. Brilliant light, brightness, brilliancy; a glow
of bright colour.

1564 HARRINGTON *To Isabella Markham* 4 Eyes that
mock the diamonds blaze. 1586 M. ROYDON *Elegy* 169 in
Spenser's Wks. (1842) V. 283 The blaze whereof when Mars
beheld. 1671 MILTON *Samson* 80 O dark, dark, dark, amid
the blaze of noon. 1801 SOUTHEY *Thalaba* x. xiv. The rich
geranium's scarlet blaze. 1848 MACAULAY *Hist. Eng.* II.
587 The theatres were . . . one blaze of orange ribands.

5. *fig.* 8. = BLAZING STAR 2, cynosure.
1579 LVLV *Euphues* (Arb.) 102 Thy beaute hath made
thee the blaze of Italy.

b. Glory, splendour, brilliant display.

1579 LVLV *Euphues* 180 'Beauty, where is thy blaze?'
1712 ADDISON *Spect.* No. 369 ¶ 8 A most glorious Blaze of
Poetical Images. 1850 TENNYSON *In Mem.* xcvi. Sadness
flings Her shadow on the blaze of kings. 1875 JOWETT
Plato (ed. 2) II. 160 Enveloping in a blaze of jests the most
serious matters.

c. Clear or full light, as of noon.

1748 RICHARDSON *Clarissa* (1811) I. i. 3 Now to your re-
gret, pushed into blaze, as I may say. 1869 LECKY *Europ.*
Mor. II. i. 64 The blaze of publicity. 1879 FARRAR *St.*
Paul (1883) 150 In the full blaze of contemporary knowledge.

6. Comb., as *blaze-trailing*.

1809 J. BARLOW *Columb.* vii. 231 Blaze-trailing fuses vault
the night's dim round.

Blaze (blāz), *sb.* 2 [Appears first in 17th c.;
no corresponding form occurs in OE. or ME.
But clearly identical with ON. *blesi* 'white star on a
horse's forehead,' MDu. *blesse*, Du. *bles*, mod.G.
blässe, *blesse*, all in same sense, from stem *blas-*,
blas-shining, white; cf. OHG. *blāss* whitish, MHG.
blas bald, mod.G. *blas* pale. It is possible that
the ON. word was adopted in north. dial., and
thence passed at a later date into general use;
but the Du. or LG. form may also have been
introduced as a technical term c. 1600.

(In either case the spelling has to be explained: the
regular repr. of ON. *blesi* would have been *blesse*, *blesse*; if
this occurred in north. dial., it would be identical with the
northern form of BLAZE¹, and might, like it, be made *blaze*
in the literary language; if adapted from Du. or LG., *blaze*
must be a phonetic spelling.)

1. A white spot on the face of a horse or ox.

1639 DE GREY *Compl. Horsem.* 23 If the blaze be not too
broad. 1650 FULLER *Pisgah* iv. vii. 128 A black bull . . . with
a fair square blaze in his forehead. 1685 *Lond. Gaz.* No.
2030/4 A black Mare about 12 or 13 hands high, having a
Blaze in her right Eye. 1858 HUGHES *Scour. White Horse*
17 If it wasn't for the blaze in her face, and the white feet.
1854 *Blackw. Mag.* Aug. 170/2 Herefords with great 'blazes'
of white on their honest faces.

2. *transf.* A white mark made on a tree, generally
by chipping off a slice of bark, to indicate a path
or boundary in a forest; also a track indicated by
a line of such marks. (First in U.S.)

1737 WESLEY *Wks.* (1872) I. 68 We then found another blaze
and pursued it. 1813 MRS. SCHIMMELPENNICK tr. C. *Lan-*
celot's Tour (1816) I. 123 A little blaze here and there, on
particular trees, is the only direction. 1850 SOUTHEY *Wes-*
ley I. 123. 1855 DE QUINCEY *Confess.* (1862) 243 A blaze
of white paint upon a certain elite of the trees marked out
by the forester as ripe for the axe. 1830 GALT *Laurie* T.
viii. iii. (1849) 365 We had come to the sixth mile blaze, a
boundary mark on a pine. 1885 *Pall Mall G.* 7 May 4/2
Tracked by the land surveyor's blazes on the huge trunks.

Blaze (blāz), *v.* 1 Forms: 3 *blas-ies* (n, 4-5
blas-en, 5-*yn*, 4-6 *blas-e*, 5-7 *blaise*, -*se*, 6-
blaze; Sc. 5-6 *blese*, 6-7 *bleise*, 8- *bleese*.
Pa. t. and *pple. blazed*. [f. BLAZE *sb.* 1: no cor-
respond. vb. in OE., or in any other Teut. lang.]

1. *intr.* To burn with a bright fervent flame.
Often with *away*, *forth*, *out*. To *blaze up*: to
burst or flash into a blaze.

a 1225 *Ancre. R.* 206 Al þet hus blasie uoðer me lest wene.
1393 LANGL. *P. Pl. C.* xx. 185 A kyx oper a candelie Pat
Cuhnt hab fuyr, and blasieþ. 1393 GOWER *Conf.* I. 258 The
sparks . . . blaseth out on every side. 1513 DOUGLAS *Æneis*
xii. iv. 30 The altar blesand of hayt fyre. 1570 LEVINS
Manip. 36 *Blaze, efflammare*. 1718 POPE *Iliad* ii. 369 We
raised Our verdant altars, and the victims blazed. 1790
BURNS *Tam O'Shan.*, Fast by an ingle bleezing finely.
1813 SCOTT *Rokeby* ii. xx. When that spark blazed forth to
flame. 1866 TYNDALL *Glac.* i. § 16. 106 In one of these
[clefs] a pine-fire was soon blazing briskly.

b. *transf.* Said of the place lighted by the blaze.
1876 GREEN *Short Hist.* vii. § 6 (1882) 408 The streets of
London blazed with bonfires.

2. *trans.* To cause to blaze, to give to the flames.
rare. To *blaze up*: to set a-blaze.

c 1485 *Digby Myst.* (1882) iii. 745 They be blasyd both body
and hals. c 1505 SKELTON *Reph.* 294 Doubtlesse ye shall
be blasd And be brent at a stake. 1805 *Sat. Rev.* 16 Dec.
754 If some new Guy Faux were to succeed in blazing up
the Houses of Lords and Commons.

3. *intr.* To burn with the fervour of devotion,
excitement, or passion: said of persons and their
feelings. To *blaze up*: to 'fire up' in wrath.

a 1225 *Ancre. R.* 426 Luue is Jesu Cristes fur þet he wule
þet blasie in vre heorte. 1393 LANGL. *P. Pl. C.* xx. 188 Til
þe holy gost by-gynne to glowe and blasie. 1593 SHAKS.
3 Hen. VI. v. iv. 71. I need not adde more fuell to your fire,
for well I wot, ye blaze to burne them out. 1841 D'ISRAELI
Amen. Lit. (1867) 306 His anger too easily blazed forth.
1878 SEELEY *Stein.* III. 528 Stein . . . blazed up, and there
was an exchange of hot words.

4. To *blaze out* (trans.): to cause to flare away,
to exhaust in a blaze of passion or excess (*arch.*);
(*intr.*) to go out with a flare, subside from its blaze.

1779 JOHNSON *Rochester, L. P.* (1816) 179 He . . . blazed out
his youth and his health in lavish voluptuousness. 1844
DIBDIN *Libr. Comp.* 718 He blazed out his life. 1884 *L'pool.*
Daily Post 27 June 5 The temporary excitement . . . had
blazed out, and numbers were leaving the House.

5. *intr.* To shine like flame or fire; to shine
brightly, glitter, be resplendent. Also with *forth*.

1393 LANGL. *P. Pl. C.* xxi. 243 Tho þis barn was ybore
þer blased a sterre. 1398 TREVISIA *Barth. De P. R.* xvi. iv.
(1495) 553 It is kyndly that shynynge of metall blase the
more yf they be shynyd wyth other lyght. 1667 MILTON
P. L. i. 104 Eyes That sparkling blaz'd. 1718 POPE *Iliad*
ii. 527 The dreadful ægis . . . Blaz'd on her arm. 1831
CARLYLE *Sart. Res.* ii. ix. But Half-men, in whom that
divine handwriting has never blazed forth. 1835 LYTTON
Rienzi ix. i. 371 Robed in scarlet that literally blazed with
gold. 1877 A. B. EDWARDS *Up Nile* xxi. 608 The sun blaz-
ing over head.

b. *trans.* with cognate object.

1607 MILTON *P. L.* x. 65 The Father . . . on the Son Blaz'd
forth unclouded Deitie. 1697 CONGREVE *Mourn. Bride* i.
iii. All conspired to blaze promiscuous light.

6. *intr.* To shine or be conspicuous with brilliancy
of character, splendour of position or talents,
grandeur, renown. Also with *out*.

1387 TREVISIA *Hidden Rolls* Ser. I. 5 Blasēþ and schineþ
clerliche þe riht rule of þewes. 1639 FULLER *Holy War* ii.
xxx. (1840) 89 The less his flame blazed, the more his devotion
burned. 1756 BURKE *Subl. & B.* Wks. I. 170 In this de-
scription . . . the terrible and sublime blaze out together. 1859
HELPS *Friends in C.* Ser. ii. I. i. 20 To blaze out into a suc-
cessful marriage. 1865 CARLYLE *Frederick* I. iii. iv. 158
Cardinal Albert Kur-Mainz . . . blazes widely abroad, in the
busy reign of Karl V.

7. *trans.* 1 To dazzle or daze with light; *fig.*
to blind. *Obs.*

c 1450 HENRYSON *Moral Fables* 34 The fauour of thy face,
For thy defence is foule and dishgurate, Brought to the
light, blased, blunt and blate. 1570 *Pitkny Note Papists*
(Collier) 15 As though Ye would the People blase, And make
them think I did not wel: this said he without maze.

8. *intr.* To *blaze away*: to fire continuously with
guns or artillery; *fig.* to work at anything with
enthusiastic vigour (*colloq.*). Cf. *fire away*.

1806 *Sheridaniana* 331 Sheridan blazed away, right and
left. 1843 DICKENS in *Life* 141 I went at it again, and . . .
blazed away till 9 last night. 1857 LIVINGSTONE vii. 140
We . . . blazed away at the lions.

Blaze (blāz), *v.* 2 Forms: 4-5 *blas-en*, 5 *blasin*,
-*yn*, 6-7 *blase*, 6- *blaso*. *Pa. t.* and *pple. blased*
(*pa. pple.* once in 6 *blasen*; cf. Ger. *geblasen*,
Du. *geblasen* blown). [In sense 1 apparently the
same word as ON. *blāsa* to blow (as the wind,
with the mouth, bellows, a trumpet), OHG. *blāsan*
(MHG. and mod.G. *blasen*), MDu. and Du. *blāzen*,
Goth. *blāsan* (in *uf-blāsan* to blow up, puff up):
O Teut. **blāz-an*, f. root **blā-* (Aryan **bhlē-*, L.
flā-re: see *Blow*) with suffixal -*an* (perhaps from
the present stem) taken into the root. The verb
(**blāz-an*) was not preserved in OE., where it
was represented only by the derivative *sb. blāz-f*,
BLAST 'blowing.' The ME. vb. was prob. a. ON.
blāsa (unless direct connexion with LG. or Du.
blasen, *blāzen*, can be traced). Its later history is
confused with that of BLAZON, evidently through
associating the infinitive *blas-en* with the pre-
existing *sb. blason*, BLAZON 'shield, heraldic
shield.' The proper senses of *blaze* and *blason*,
acted and reacted upon each other in the 16th c.:
see senses 3-6, and BLAZON *v.* 4-6. In later uses
of sense 2, there may also be often traced an
association with BLAZE *v.* 1, as if to 'blaze abroad,'
were to 'expose to the full blaze of publicity.']

1. To blow (e.g. with a musical instrument);
to puff. Also with *out*. *Obs.*

c 1384 CHAUCER *H. Fame* (1866) With his blake clarioun
He gan to blasen (v. r. -yn, -in) out a soun As lowde as
beloweth wynde in helle. 1481 CAXTON *Reynard* (Arb.) 78
They (beer and wulf) conne wel huylen and blasen, stele
and robbe. 1535 [cf. BLAZING *pple. a.*]

2. *trans.* To proclaim (as with a trumpet), to
publish, divulge, make known.

c 1450 [see BLAZER¹]. 1541 BARNES *Wks.* (1573) 198 Then
were you first of all, assayed of your allegiance, and that
absolution was blasen and blowen, preached, and taught,
throughout all the world. 1548 UDALL, etc. *Erasm. Par.*
Pref. 11 In blasynge the Antichristian decrees. 1580 SIDNEY
Arcadia ii. 227 What ayles this ardour To blasie my onely
secrets? 1588 GREENE *Pandosto* (1843) 14 This proclamation
being once blased through the country. 1613 HEYWOOD
Silv. Age iii. i. Wks. 1874 III. 139 Through all our Ebbes
and Tides my Trump hath blaz'd her. 1753 FOOTE *Eng.*
in Paris ii. (1763) 26 The Secret might soon be blaz'd.
1823 SCOTT *Peveril* (1885) 37 What I have to tell you is
widely blazed. 1850 TENNYSON *Vivien* 593.

b. with *abroad* (*forth*, *about*). The prevalent use.

1555 HULOET *Blaze* abroad, *publico*. 1564 *Brief Exam.* *iiij.
Rather to be lamented . . . then to be blased abroad in wordes.
1601 SHAKS. *Jul. C.* ii. ii. 31 The Heavens themselves blaze
forth the death of Princes. 1611 BIBLE *Mark* i. 45 He went
out, and beganne to publish it much, and to blaze abroad
the matter. 1622 WITHER in FARR'S *S. P.* (1848) 220 I know
his worth To be the same which I have blazed forth.
1791 BOSWELL *Johnson* (1816) II. 346 note, Fearing . . . that

I should blaze it abroad in his lifetime. 1824 W. IRVING
T. Trav. I. 335 The affair was blazed about next morning.

† c. with *clause*: To spread the report *that*. *Obs.*
1553-87 FOXE *A. & M.* (1684) II. 47/1 They falsely accuse
him, which blaze, that he began with plausible matter. 1578
T. N. tr. *Conq. W. India* 90 Fame flew abroad, blazing
that Mutezuma feared the Christians.

† d. To decry, defame, hold up to infamy. *Obs.*
1580 NORTH *Plutarch* (1676) 6 Minos was alwayes blazed
and disgraced throughout all the Theaters of Athens.

† 3. To describe heraldically, to BLAZON. *Obs.*

c 1440 *Prompt. Parv.* 38 Blasyn or dyscry armys, *describo*.
1530 PALSGR. 456 He can blasie armes as well as any
herault. 1572 BOSSEWELL *Armorie* ii. 24 His Armes are
thus to be blazed . . . He beareth a Shielde Argente, etc.
1605 VERSTEGAN *Dec. Intell.* v. (1628) 120 Our mixed manner
of blasyn armes in broken French and English put to-
gether. a 1608 F. GREVILLE *Sidney* (1652) 44 What Herald
[can] blaze their Arms without a blemish?

† b. *absol.* *Obs.*

1586 FERRIS *Blas. Gentrie* 163 Able to blaze by all those
waies . . . whereby Armes were euer blazoned.

† c. (*fig.*) To *blaze one's arms*, was used in sense 2
= to publish, celebrate, describe. *Obs.*

1573 G. HARVEY *Letter-bk.* (1884) 17 A veri frend . . . hath
dun mi arrand and blasd mi arms abroad. 1579 TOMSON
Calvin's Serm. Tim. 735/2 Let their armes bee blased, that
euery man may detest them.

4. With mixture of senses 2 and 3.

† a. To describe, set forth with éclat, celebrate.

[1553 DOUGLAS *Æneis* xiii. Prol. 165 And forthmore, to
blasin [MSS. *read* blason] this new day, Quhay nicht dis-
cryue the birdis blisful bay? 1566 T. STAPLETON *Ret. Untr.*
Jewell iii. 131 Haue you . . . blased out the Apostle of that
people, with these Charitable Titles: Hypocrite, etc.? 1574
tr. *Marlorat's Apocalips* 15 This title agreeth to god only,
according as he blazeth himselfe by it saying: I am God
almighty. a 1625 CORBET *Poems* (1807) 65 He . . . that would
write And blaze thee thoroughly, may at once say all, Here
lies the anchor our admiral.

† b. To describe pictorially, depict, portray. *Obs.*
1579 E. K. in *Spenser's Sheph. Cal.* Ep. Ded. § 1 They
use to blaze and portraict . . . the lineaments. 1642 R.
CARPENTER *Exper.* vi. vii. 169 In blazing the Transfigu-
ration of Christ, they put it off without any blazing figure,
without a transfiguration of words.

† 5. To paint or adorn with armorial bearings
or heraldic devices; to BLAZON. *Obs.*

1600 *Unton Inn.* 18 One hanginge table blazed with armes.

† 6. To emblazon. *poet. rare.* (in quot. *fig.*)
1813 SCOTT *Rokeby* iv. xvi. High was Redmond's youthful
name Blazed in the roll of martial fame.

Blaze, *v.* 3 [f. BLAZE *sb.* 2] *trans.* To mark
(trees) with white by chipping off a piece of bark.
Also to indicate (a spot or path) by such marks.
1812 J. HENRY *Camp. agst. Quebec* 24 A path tolerably dis-
tinct, which we made more so by blazing the trees. *Ibid.*
Blazing every carrying-place. 1850 *Fraser's Mag.* XLI.
22 The settlers . . . blazed roads through the woods, by chip-
ping the bark off the trees. 1859 HOLLAND *Gold F.* iii. 42
Plunge into the eternal forest that sleeps in front, and blaze
the trees. 1878 H. M. STANLEY *Dark Cont.* II. xiii. 366
We 'blazed' very many of the largest with our hatchets.

Blazed, *pple. a.* 1 *rare.* [f. BLAZE *v.* 1] Set in
flames; *fig.* inflamed.
1631 R. H. *Arraignm. Whole Creat.* xi. § 1. 97 Or Orall
and Vocall [Organs], beared and blazed from the Hell-
inflamed tongue.

Blazed, *pple. a.* 2 [f. BLAZE *v.* 2] Published,
made famous.
1590 SPENSER *Muipotmos* 266 Her blazed fame. 1671
MILTON *Samson* 528 The sons of Anak, famous now and
blazed.

Blazed (blāz), *pple. a.* 3 [f. BLAZE *sb.* 2 and *v.* 3]
1. Having a blaze or white mark on the face.
1685 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 2030/4 A Brown bay Gelding . . . blaz'd
down his Face. 1727 BRADLEY *Fam. Dict.* s.v. *Horse*. He is
prized far That is Cole-black, and blazed with a Star.

2. U.S. Of trees: Marked with white by cutting
off a patch of the bark. Of a path or boundary
line: Indicated by blazed trees.
1737 WESLEY *Wks.* (1872) I. 68 A line of blazed trees, (that
is, marked by cutting off part of the bark). 1822 J. FLINT
Lett. Amer. 154 To follow the blazed lines marked out
by the surveyor. 1883 BRET HARTE *Carmichael* viii. 176 At
right angles with the 'blazed' tree.

Blazeless, *a.* Without blaze or flame.
1820 *Blackw. Mag.* VII. 176 A bright but blazeless fire.
† **Blazen**, *v.* *Obs.* A by-form of BLAZE *v.* 1

1716 M. DAVIES *Athen. Brit.* II. 74 Had not the Repre-
sentation . . . prov'd abortive, and expir'd like a blazening
Star.

Blazer¹ (blāz-er). [f. BLAZE *v.* 1 + -ER¹]

1. Anything which blazes or shines; as a comet
(*obs.*), or (*familiarly*) a very bright day.

a 1635 CORBET *Poems* (1807) Thus we leave the blazers
coming over. 1875 MISS BRADDON *Hostages Fort.* I. iii. 88
The day . . . a blazer, cloudless blue.

b. A light jacket of bright colour worn at
cricket or other sports.

1880 *Times* 19 June. Men in spotless flannel, and club
'blazers.' 1885 *Durham Univ. Jnl.* 21 Feb. 91 The latest
novelty . . . for the river is flannels, a blazer, and spats.

Blazer². Also 4 *blasour*, 5 -*eyr*, 5-6 -*er*.
[f. BLAZE *v.* 2 + -ER¹]

1. One who proclaims or publishes; a 'trumpeter.'

c 1450 *Test. Love* i. (1560) 280 b/1 The loveden blasours,
tho currieden glosours, the welcomed flatterers. 1550
HULOET, *Blaser* of brute or fame. 1617 HIERON *Wks.* (1620) II.
354 A blazer of that worth & excellencie which is in God.

a 1618 RALEIGH *Maxims St. in Rem.* (1661) 74 To have their blazers abroad to set out their virtues.

† 2. A blazer. *Obs.*

1486 *Bk. St. Albans* B iv b, The blaseyr shall . . . blase the colour sentri. 1587 *GOLDING De Mornay* iii. (1617) 37 The first blazer of their Pedegrees.

Blazery, [*f. BLAZE sb.¹ or v.¹ + -ERY; cf. finery.*]

Splendour, adornment; jewellery.

1883 *Harper's Mag.* Mar. 520/2 Buy . . . the biggest diamond ring . . . and wear such blazery wherever you go.

Blazing (blā'zɪŋ), *vb.* sb.¹ Also 5 **blazyng**.

[*f. BLAZE v.¹ + -ING¹.*]

a. A flaming, burning. b. Shining, splendour.

c 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 38 Blazyng or flamyng of fyre.

1486 *Bk. St. Albans* Homilies ii. *Excess. Appar.* (1859) 316

The more thou garnish thy selfe with these outward blazings.

1639 *Fuller Holy War.* ii. (1840) 2 A fading comet, whose blazing portended the ruin of that nation. 1859 G. WILSON

E. Forbes iv. 99 No needless blazings of phosphorus.

Blazing, *vb.* sb.² [*f. BLAZE v.² + -ING¹.*]

1. a. Proclaiming or 'trumpeting.' b. Boasting.

1563 *Homilies* ii. *Idolatry* (1850) 237 Blasphemous bold

blazing of manifest Idolatry. 1589 *NASH Anat. Absurd.*

7 The blazing of Womens slender praises. 1688 *FELTHAM*

Resolves i. lxxx. (1647) 248 The blazings of the proud will

goe out in a stench and smoke.

† 2. = BLAZONING. *Obs.*

c 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 38 Blazyng of armys, *descriptio.*

1486 *Bk. St. Albans* *Her. A. J.*, Folowryth the Blasyng of all

maner armys. 1530 *PALSGR.* 165 *Blason*, a blasyng or dis-

cryvng of ons armes. 1583 *GOLDING Calvin on Deut.* x.

56 Some painted picture or blasing of armys.

Blazing, *vb.* sb.³ [*f. BLAZE v.³.*] The marking

of trees by chipping off a patch of the bark.

1818 *COBBETT Resid. U. S.* (1822) 273 We soon lost all

appearance of the track . . . and of the 'blazing' of the trees.

Blazing, *ppl. a.¹* In northern M.E. **blesand**;

for other forms see the vb. [*f. BLAZE v.¹ + -ING².*]

1. Flaming with force.

c 1400 *Rom. Rose* 3706 Of brennyng fyre a blasyng bronde.

1513 *DOUGLAS Æneis* xiii. ix. 103 The blesand torchys

schayn. 1667 *MILTON P. L.* i. 728 Blazing Cressets fed With

Naphtha and Asphaltus. 1855 *MACAULAY Hist. Eng.* III.

340 The sight of the blazing dwellings.

fig. 1850 *Mrs. STOWE Uncle Tom xxxiii.* 299 She . . . fixed

a flame blazing with rage and scorn on the driver.

2. Shining vehemently; bright-coloured, glaring.

1587 *TEVISA Higden Rolls Ser. VI.* 297 Gay blasyng

clopes. 1423 *Ord. Whittington's Alman.* in *Entick*

London IV. 354 That the overcloathing . . . be dark and brown

of colour, and not staring ne blasyng. 1848 *THACKERAY*

Van. Fair i. Horses in blazing harness. 1855 *DICKENS*

Dorrit i. A blazing sun upon a fierce August day.

b. fig.

1576 *LAMBARDE Peramb. Kent* (1826) 134 The fame thereof

is . . . above all other most blasing and glorious. 1596

SPENSER F. Q. i. iv. 8 Her bright blazing beauty.

3. *Vener.* Of scent: Very strong; as opposed

to a cold scent, i.e. a weak one.

1875 *'STONEHENGE' Brit. Sports* i. ii. i. § 2. 149 They . . . can

hunt a cold scent, and yet with a blazing one they run

breast high.

Blazing, *ppl. a.²* [*f. BLAZE v.² + -ING².*]

† 1. Blowing. *Obs.*

1535 *COVERDALE Wisdom* xvii. 18 Whether it were a

blasyng wynde, or a swete song of y^e byrdes.

† 2. Boastful ('blowing their own trumpet').

1533 *TINDALE Answ. to More's Dial. Wks.* III. 107 The

blazing hypocrites. 1549 *COVERDALE Erasm. Par. 2 Cor.*

xii. 12 Let them never so muche with their blasyng wordes

boaste themselves.

Blazingly (blā'zɪŋli), *adv.* [*f. BLAZING ppl. a.¹*

+ -LY².] In a blazing manner.

1830 *FRASER'S Mag.* II. 434 The interior . . . was blazingly

illuminated. 1874 *MASSON Three Devils* 313 The lesson . . .

may be enforced, less blazingly perhaps, but still clearly.

Blazing star.

† 1. A comet. *Obs.*

1502 *ARNOLDE Chron.* (1811) 36 This yere . . . a blasing

Sterre. 1587 *FLEMING Cont. Holinshed* III. 344/1 In the

moneth of Maie . . . a blasing starre appeared, descending in

the north-west, the beard whereof streamed into the south-

east. 1601 *SHAKS. All's Well* i. iii. 91 And wee might haue

a good woman borne but ore euerie blasing starre, or at an

earthquake, 'twould mend the Lotterie well. 1640-1 *LD. J.*

Digby Sp. in Ho. Com. 9 Feb. 7 I looked upon it . . . with

terror, as upon a Comet, a blasing starre. 1711 *ADDISON*

Spect. No. 127 ¶ 5 The same Prognostication as the

Tail of a Blazing Star. 1766 *FALCONER Shipw.* iii. 563

Advances to the sun some blasing star.

2. fig. The brilliant centre of admiration; 'cynos-

sure,' 'star.' *arch.*

1460 *Pol. Rel. & L. Poems* (1866) 54 Heyle blasyng starre

withoute peer! I beseeche the as thou art moder of mercy.

1559 *Mirr. Mag., Mowbray's Ban.* xiii. Proud I that would

alone be blasyng starre. 1611 *BARKSTED Hiren* (1876) 106

Her beauty like a blasing starre admired. 1634 *S. R. Noble*

Soldier iii. i. in *Bullen O. PL.* (1882) I. 201 But that I must

be held Spaines blasing Starre. 1818 *SCOTT Hri. Midl.*

xlvi. She has been the ruling belle—the blasing star—the

universal toast of the winter.

† 3. = BLAZE sb.² 1.

1705 *London Gaz.* No. 4183/4 A bay Gelding. . . 3 white Feet,

a Blazing Star.

4. The popular name of three different North

American plants: *Alteris farinosa*, *Chamælium*

lutum, and *Liatris squarrosa*.

Blazon (blā'zən), *sb.* Forms: 4 **blasoun**,

blasen, 4-7 **blasoun**, 5 *Sc.* **blasowne**, 6- **blasoun**.

[*a. F. blason* (found in other Romanic langs., as

Sp. blason, Pg. *braso*, It. *blasone*, Pr. *blezo*, *blizo*). By Diez and Littré referred to a Teut. word identical

either with Eng. BLAZE sb.¹ flame, with BLAZE sb.²

a conspicuous mark, or with Ger. *blasen* to blow

(BLAZE v.²), OHG. *blāsd* a trumpeter. But the

original meaning of OF. *blasoun* was not, as these

conjectures assume, 'glory' or 'proclamation,' or

even 'armorial shield,' but simply 'shield' in the

literal sense. This is proved by the earliest quotations

in Fr. and Eng., and by the derived OF. sense

of 'shoulder-blade.']

I. Proper senses.

† 1. A shield used in war. *Obs.*

c 1340 *Gaw. & Gr. Knt.* 828 His bronde & his blasoun

bope bay token. 1440 *Morte Arth.* 1860 Blasoun blode

and blankes they hewene. 1445 *WYNTOUN Cron.* viii.

xxxiii. 21 Willame of Spens percit a Blasowne. [see also 2.]

2. *Her.* A shield in heraldry; armorial bearings,

coat of arms; a banner bearing the arms. (The

first 3 quotations connect this with sense 1.)

c 1325 *Coer de L.* 5727 In his blasoun, verrayment, Was

i-paynted a serpent. c 1350 *Will. Palerne* 3572 Bereth in

his blasoun 'of a brit hewe a wel huge werwolf' wonderli

depeinted. 1377 *LANGL. P. PL. B.* xvi. 179 A ful bolde

bachelor 'I knewe hym by his blasen.

1575 *TURBURY Vener.* iii. 7 The authour of that booke

which amongst other things gaue this blasoun to the hounds

of that Lords kennel. 1605 *CAMDEN Rem.* (1637) 228 The first

Christians used no other blasoun in their shields then the

name of Christ and a crosse. 1700 *WELTON Suff. Son of God*

I. vii. 138 To stamp their Escutcheon with a Blazon of the

most high Descent to future ages. 1824 *SCOTT Ld. of*

Isles iii. xx. With St. George's blazon red. 1832 *MACAULAY*

Armada 20 Slow upon the labouring wind the royal blazon

swells.

fig. 1601 *SHAKS. Twel. N.* i. v. 312 Thy tongue, thy face,

thy limbes, actions, and spirit, Do giue thee five-fold blazon.

b. *Sc. Law.* The badge of office worn by a

king's messenger on his arm. (Jamieson.)

1773 *ERSKINE Inst. Law Scot.* iv. iv. § 33 (JAM.) The libel

will be cast, if it do not expressly mention that the mes-

senger . . . displayed his blazon.

3. Description or representation, according to

the rules of Heraldry, of armorial bearings.

1650 *GUILLM Heraldry* i. ii. (1660) 13 Blazon is taken . .

strictly for an explication of Armes in apt and significant

terms. 1667 *E. CHAMBERLAYNE St. Gt. Brit.* i. ii. ii. (1743)

53 The blazon of the Arms of Great Britain . . . is as follows.

1722 *A. NISBET (title) A System of Heraldry* . . . With the

True Art of Blazon, according to the most approved Heralds

in Europe. 1864 *BOUTELL Heraldry Hist. & Pop.* xix. 300

The earliest blazon of a Royal Banner . . . occurs in the Roll

of Caerlaverock.

II. The following show more or less influence

of BLAZE v.²

4. *transf.* A description or record of any kind;

esp. a record of virtues or excellencies.

1577 *HELLOWES Guevara's Fam. Ep.* 60 It doth not seeme

to me a man may haue better blason in his house, than to

be, & also descended of, a blood vnspotted. c 1600 *SHAKS.*

Sonn. cvi. In the blazon of sweet beauties best. 1631 *B.*

Jonson New Inn i. iii. Fair mien, discourses, civil ex-

ercise, And all the blazon of a gentleman. 1748 *THOMSON*

Cast. Indol. ii. lxiii. Beyond the blazon of my mortal pen.

1854 *PATMORE Angel in Ho. II.* ii. iv. Their many gentle

virtues miss Proud virtue's blazon.

5. 'Show, divulgence, publication' (Johnson);

= BLAZING *vb.* sb.² 1.

1602 *SHAKS. Ham.* i. v. 21 But this eternall blason must

not be to eares of flesh and blood. a 1734 *NORTH Examen*

i. ii. ¶ 141 If the facts are not true . . . the adverse Party

soon make a Blazon of them abroad.

¶ 1 Cf. prec. quot. from *Hamlet*, and BLAZE sb.¹ 4.

1857 *SEARS Athan.* vi. 56 The prophet could not bear the

sudden blazon, and fell as one dead beneath the too ardent

effulgence.

Blazon (blā'zən), *v.* [*f. prec. sb.*, or directly

from *F. blasonner* (similarly *f. F. blason*) in use

in 15th c. As shewn under BLAZE v.², that vb.

was in earlier use in this sense; and in the 16th c.

the two words acted and reacted on each other:

cf. 4-6 below, and senses 3-6 of BLAZE v.² Indeed

so far as the evidence goes, the non-heraldic senses

are the earlier, though the heraldic use of *blasyn*

(BLAZE v.² sense 3) in the *Promp. Parv.* makes it

likely that *blazon* in sense 1 may go back to c 1500.]

I. Heraldic, and extensions.

1. *trans.* To describe in proper heraldic language.

Also *absol.*

1586 *FERNÉ Blas. Gentrie* 202 If this following be blazoned

by you. 1610 *GUILLM Heraldry* i. i. 5 To blazon is to ex-

press what the shapes, kinds, and colour of things born in

Armes are together with their apt significations. 1775 *T.*

WARTON Hist. Eng. Poetry i. 455 They pretend to blazon

the arms painted in the glass windows. 1815 *SCRIBBLEMANIA*

303 In the same book we find the exact arms properly

blazoned of Semiramis, Queen of Babylon.

2. To depict or paint (armorial bearings) accord-

ing to the rules of heraldry.

1570 *Sempill Ballades* (1872) 65 With Guldiss and Rukis,

blasnit equalle Is the auld armes of the Hammiltounis.

1593 *Rites & Mon. Ch. Durh.* (1842) Having his armes

verte excellentie blazoned in fine colored glasse. 1864

SKEAT tr. Uhland's Poems 381 In colours bright and fair,

Each warrior's name and scutcheon is duly blazoned there.

1875 *FURNIVALL in Thynne's Animadv.* 98 The arms of the

count of his luffing. 1642 R. CARPENTER *Exper.* v. vii. 243 Be not so large in the blazoning of your due Obedience.

Blazoning, *ppl. a.* [f. as prec. + -ING².] That paints or describes heraldic devices.

1864 BURTON *Scot. Abr.* II. 814 Man is a blazoning animal.

† **Blazonize**, *v. Obs.* [see -IZE.] To celebrate. 1614 *Scot. Venus* (1876) 22 Whose loue may . . blazonize thy wanton sports.

Blazonment. [f. as prec. + -MENT.]

1. Blazoning, setting forth in bright colours. 1883 *Ed. Words* 238 The . . chapel, with its lovely reredos and its blazonment of colour.

2. The action of proclaiming or publishing.

1876 GEO. ELIOT *Dan. Der.* v. xxxvi. 332 A blazonment of herself as the infelicitous wife who had produced nothing but daughters.

Blazonry (blā'zənri). [f. as prec. + -RY.]

1. The description or depicting of heraldic devices.

1662 PEACHAM *Compl. Gentl.* xv. (1634) 158, I purpose not here to enter into a large field and absolute discourse of Blazonry. 1889 SCOTT *Demonol.* iii. 98 Those who practise the art of blazonry.

2. A heraldic device, or collection of heraldic devices; armorial bearings.

a 1649 DRUMM. OF HAWTH. *Disc. Impresas Wks.* (1711) 228 The old impresa or arms, blazonry of the house and family. 1805 SOUTHEY *Madoc in W. x.* Madoc approach'd, and saw the blazonry. 1845 CARLYLE *Cromwell's Lett. & Sp.* (1873) I. 19 The Cromwell blazonry . . has given place to Montague blazonry.

b. *fig.*

1850 BLACKIE *Æschylus* II. 273 Brodered vestments torn in many a shred, Grief's blazonry. 1877 FARRAR *My Youth* xxxiv. 342 To make you . . read on your souls the heraldic blazonry of their high origin from God.

3. *fig.* Display by brilliant colouring, setting forth with artistic skill.

1814 SOUTHEY *Roderick* III. 14 That vision floated still Before his sight with all her blazonry. 1816 J. SCOTT *Via Paris* (ed. 5) 173 The blazonry, in stone or canvass, of the exploits that have wasted their blood and treasure. 1878 Mrs. STOWE *Pogonuc* F. III. 19 No pageants, no sights, no shows, except the eternal blazonry of nature.

† **Blazure**. *Obs.* = BLAZON *sb.* 3, BLAZONRY.

1593 LX BERNERS *Froiss.* I. cclxxxi. 421 The blasure of his armes was goulles, two fesses sable, a border sable.

Blaze (blā'zi), *a.* [f. BLAZE *sb.* 1 + -Y.] Full of blaze, blazing.

1838 P. PARLEY *Tales ab. Christm.* xxxii. 293 A great blaze fire. 1840 CLOUGH *Remains* (1869) I. 167 In the grimy or the blazy period, in the imprisonment or deliverance of the gases.

Ble, *obs.* f. BLEA *sb.*; var. BLEE, *Obs.*, colour, etc.

-ble, *a. OF.* -ble: -L. -bilem, nom. -bili-s, suffix forming verbal adjs., with the sense 'given to, tending to, like to, fit to, able to'; as in *sta-bili* 'like, fit to stand.' After consonant stems, -ibili-, as *vend-i-bili*, *vinc-i-bili*; after stems ending in

a, e, i, o, u, -abili-, -ibili-, -ibili-, -ibili-, -ibili-, as *honōrā-bili*, *delē-bili*, *sepeli-bili*, *nō-bili*, *volū-bili*. Some of these L. words lived on into OFr., e.g. *noble*, *amable*, *feble*, *meuble*; later, these became models for the extensive adoption of others from the Latin of literature. Many of both sorts were from 12th to 15th c. adopted in Eng. from Fr., and here served as models for the direct adoption or formation of others from Latin, a process which has gone on to the present day. By far the most numerous of the -ble words are those in -able. In L., -abili- adjs. arose only from verbs in -āre; but, in Fr., all pres. pples. in -ant may give rise to an adj. in -able, and as -ant is now the universal form of pres. pple., -able is the universal form of the adj. suffix as a living element; -ible being only a fossil survival in words from L. like *horrible*, *possible*, *visible*, not directly attached to a living Fr. verb. When the verb lives in Fr., a modern adj. in -able has always taken the place of the earlier -ible form, as in *vendable*, *croyable*, *préférable*, for L. *vendibilis*, *credibilis*, **præferibilis*. But in Eng. there is a prevalent feeling for retaining -ible wherever there was or might be a L. -ibilis; while -able is used for words of distinctly Fr. or Eng. origin, as *conceivable*, *movable*, *speakeable*. Hence, where there is a verb in French and English, as well as in Latin, English usage is distracted by conflicting and irreconcilable analogies. Thus in the compounds of -fer, L. *fero*, Latin analogy requires *preferible*, *referible* (Walker, *Rhym. Dict.*), *sufferible*; French example gives *preferable*, *referable*; Fr. and Eng. analogy *sufferable* (cf. *suffering*); Eng. analogy (cf. *refer-ring*) gives *referable* (Bailey), *conferable*, *deferable*; there is also a mongrel spelling *referrible*, sanctioned by Dr. Johnson, but defensible on no analogy. So with the variant spellings: *admittable*, -ible, *tractable*, *contractible*, *partable*, -ible. These discrepancies no mere etymological grounds can settle; though their number might be lessened by following French precedent, and extending -able to all words having a

verb (with the same accent) in Eng., thus *admittable*, *contractable*, *corruptable*, *exhaustable*, *vendable*, etc., leaving -ible in *credible*, *intelligible*, *legible*, *possible*, etc. See -ABLE, -IBLE. The omission or retention of a final e mute before -able is also to a certain extent optional. In words directly from L. it is etymologically absent, as in *excusable*, *declinable*; in words from Eng. (beside cases where it must be orthographically retained after c, g, as *peccable*, *changeable*, *chargeable*, the latter also in Fr.), there is a prevalent feeling for retaining the e in monosyllables, as *tameable*, *nameable*, *saleable*, which otherwise would have their meaning obscured (e.g. *tamable*, *namable*, *salable*). This produces ambiguity of form in such words as *blamable* (F. *blâmable*), *blameable*, *movable*, *moveable*, *lovable*, *loveable*, *sizable*, *sizeable*, etc. As much reason can be given and as much authority cited for one spelling as for the other, and until a reform of Eng. spelling is made, the double form of these words must continue. In words of English formation, a final consonant is usually doubled before -able, when doubled in the pres. pple., as *clubbable*, *biddable*, *defferrable*. As to the meaning, Palsgrave (1530) says (p. 302):

'Of every adjective participle . . in *ant* may be formed an adjective by chaunging of *ant* into *able*, as of *muant*, *muable*; *honourant*, *honorable*; . . whose significacion may serve bothe actively and passively, as *muable*, apte or mete or able to chaunge, or . . to be chaunged; *honorable* apte or mete or able to honour or . . to be honoured. . . In this thyng the french tonge is moche more parfyte than our tonge is, for where as they may forme of every participle in their tonge an adjective endyng in *ble*, in our tonge we have none suche, but must nedes use circumlocution by . . apte, mete, or able, and our infinitive mode; save that we have admitted as well adjectives of the french tonge endyng in *able* and *ible*, as *commendable*, *visible*, etc.'

As here stated, adjs. in -bili-, -ble, were originally active (and neuter) as well as passive. Many of the former exist in Eng., e.g. *capable*, *comfortable*, *suitable*, *agrecable*, *conformable*, *companionable*, *durable*, *equable*; but the majority have become obsolete or remain only with a passive force, as in *credible*, *audible*, *flexible*, which is also the only use of -able as a living formative, e.g. *bearable*, *catale*, *likeable*, *preferable*, *insufferable*, *saleable*. (For exhaustive treatment of these words see F. Hall *Eng. Adjectives* in -able; London 1877.)

Blea (blī), *sb. rare*. Also 8 ble(e). [Perh. from *blea*, BLAE *a.* in sense of 'livid, pale.'] The young wood of a tree under the bark; the alburnum or white wood.

1730-6 BAILEY (*fol.*) *Ble*, *Blea*, *Blee* (in Chirurgery), the inward Bark of a Tree, or that Part of the wood, which was last form'd. 1753 CHAMBERS *Cycl. Suppl.* s.v. While the blea remains yet soft . . it may maintain a feeble vegetation. 1830 J. G. STRUTT *Sylvia Brit.* 20 The blea and the inner bark.

† **Blea**, *v. Obs. exc. dial.* Also 6 blay, 7 bloy, blee; 8-9 *Sc. blaē*. [Prob. imitative of the sound; perhaps with associations of *bleat*, *blab*, *blabber*, etc. Jamieson compares F. *bêler*, L. *balāre*: cf. Oslav. *blejati* to bleat, also Gr. *βληγδομαι* I bleat, *βληγῆ* bleating, with the same initial sound. Various pronounced in dialects (blē, blī, blī).]

intr. To bleat as a lamb or kid; to cry piteously as a child. Hence *blaying*, *bleying* *vbl. sb.*

1568 *Jacob & Esau* iv. vi. in Hazl. *Doddsley* II. 237 Methinketh I hear a young kid blea! 1581 SIDNEY *Astr. & Stella* ix. Tell her in your piteous blaying Her poor slaves unjust decaying. 1601 HOLLAND *Pliny* I. 242 In their sleepe, they seeme to low or blea, and thereupon they be called Sea-calues. 1617 F. MORYSON *Itin.* III. i. 10 The bleying of Sheepe. 1633 J. TAYLOR (Water P.) *Merry Wh.* (1885) 15 Cocks did crow, and lambs did bleat and blee.

Blea, -berry, *obs. form* of BLAY, BLAE, -BERRY.

Bleach (blīʃ), *sb.* 1 Also in 4 bleche. [Sense 1 is perh. the same as OE. *blæco* paleness, f. *blæc*, *blēc*, shining, pale. Sense 3 is directly from the vb.: cf. 'a wash.']

† 1. Whiteness, paleness. *Obs.*

c 1050 *Cott. Cleop. Gloss.* in Wr. Wülcker *Voc.* 465 *Pallor*, *blæco*. 1400 *Pol. Rel. & L. Poems* (1866) 255 Brest & hert was bete to bleche.

† 2. A disease of the skin. Cf. OE. *blæce* leprosy. 1601 HOLLAND *Pliny* I. 391 A certaine gum that is passing good for the bleach, scabs and scals in little children.

3. An act of bleaching; as 'a thorough bleach in the sun.'

4. *Comb.* (See BLEACH *v.* 1) as *bleach-croft*, *-field*, *-green*, *-grounds*, *-works*, *-yard*. Cf. BLEACHING.

1852 TOMLINSON *Encycl. I.* 133/2 Across the 'bleach croft. 1753 *Scots Mag.* Sept. 468/2 Indicted for stealing . . some stockings from a 'bleachfield. 1774 *Chron. in Ann. Reg.* 114/4 The workmen employed at a neighbouring 'bleach-green. 1815 *Encycl. Brit.* (ed. 5) III. 678 Who has large 'bleach-grounds at Glasgow. 1818 COBBETT *Resid. U. S.* (1822) 296 Some oil of vitriol works near to my 'bleach-works. a 1788 Mrs. DELANY *Life & Corr.* (1861) III. 515 This place is . . much enriched with 'bleach yards.

† **Bleach**, *sb.* 2 *Obs.* Also [5] *blek(e)*, 5-6 *bleche*,

bleeche, *bletche*. [A derivative of BLACK, but the etymological formation is obscure. ME. *bleche* looks like the southern form of *blek*, *bleke* in same sense, prob. identical with Icel. *blek*, Sw. *bläk*, Da. *blæk* blacking, ink: see BLECK. But it may go back to an OE. *blæce* or *blæce*: see BLACK. *Bleech*, *bleach* are later spellings of *bleche*. But *bletche* implies a ME. *blecche*, OE. **blæce*, parallel to BLATCH, ME. *blacche*, OE. **blæce*, on the OTeut. types **blakja* and **blakkja*: see BLACK.]

1. Any substance used for blacking; e.g. ink, soot, lamp-black, and esp. shoemakers' or curriers' black used for leather.

[c 1440 *Prompt. Parv.* 39 *Bleke*, *atramentum*. c 1483 *Cath. Angl.* 34 *Blek*.] a 1500 in Wr. Wülcker *Voc.* 566 *Atamentum*, *anglice*, *bleche*. 1530 PALSGR. 199/1 *Bleche* for souters, *atrament*. 1576 BAKER *Gesner's Jewell of Health* 101 b, Shoemakers yncke or bleche. 1580 BARRET *Alt. B* 794 Courriers bleach. *atramentum sutorum*. 1611 COTGR., *Atament*, ink; or bleach for Shoemakers. — *Swee*, soot of a chimney; any bleach.

† 2. Hence, in the old 'Compagnys of beestys [etc.]' the term for, a company of sutors. *Obs.*

1486 *Bk. St. Albans* F vjb, A Bleche of sowteris, a Smere of Coryouris, a Clustre of Grapys.

† **Bleach**, *a. Obs.* Also 4-5 *bleche*. [ME. *bleche* was prob. the continuation of OE. *blæc*, variant form of *blāc* shining, white, pale (usually explained as: — OTeut. **blaike-z* and **blaike-z* respectively).]

1. Pale = BLEAK *a.* 1.

1340 *Ayenb.* 53 Al huet þou art bleche and lhen. 1393 GOWER *Conf.* II. 210 She is pale and bleche.

2. = BLEAK *a.* 2.

1598 FLORIO, *Piaggioso*, medowie, large, bleach, fieldie. 1655 FULLER *Ch. Hist.* i. vi. § 4 A bleach barren place.

Bleach (blīʃ), *v.* 1 Forms: 1 *blēcan*, 2-5 *blechen*, 6 *bleche*, *bleache*, 8 *bleech*, 6- *bleach*. See also the (northern) form BLEAK. *Pa. t.* and *ppl.* *bleached* (blītʃt) in ME. *blayte*, *blayt*, *bleyt*: cf. *teach*, *taht*, *teight*, now *taught*. [Com. Teut.: OE. *blæc(e)an* wk. vb. = ON. *bleikja*, OHG. *bleichen* : — OTeut. **blaikejan* to bleach, f. **blaike-z*, *blaike-z* white: see prec. and BLAKE *a.*]

1. *trans.* To whiten (linen, etc.) by washing and exposure to sunlight, or by chemical processes.

c 1200 *Trin. Coll. Hom.* 57 Sume bereð clene clōð to watere to blechen. a 1225 *Ancr. R.* 324 Wule a weob beon, et one cherre, mid one watere wel bleched. c 1440 *Prompt. Parv.* 39 Blechen clothe [v. r. *blekyn*], *candido*. 1588 SHAKS. *L. L. v.* ii. 916 When . . Maidens bleach their summer smockes. 1632 MASSINGER *City Mad.* iv. iv, Some chandlers daughters, Bleaching linen in Moorfields. 1797 POPE, etc. *Art Sinking* 108 Say that his linen was finely spun, and bleached on the happy plains. 1832 BABBAGE *Econ. Manuf.* vi. (ed. 3) 41 Bleaching linen in the open air.

b. *fig.* To free from stain, purify, sanctify. *rare*.

1868 HEAVYSEGE *Saul* 428 She may still live, be bleached with pious sighs, And showers of tears.

2. *gen.* To blanch or make white, to deprive of colour, esp. by exposure.

1593 STANYHURST *Æneis* II. (Arb.) 58 [The adder] his slough vncasing, hym self now youthfully bleaceth. 1664 DRYDEN *Wild Gall.* v. i. (1725) 156 'To have me Face bleach'd like a Tiffany with thy Brimstone.' 1791 BURNS *Lament Earl Glencairne* II, His locks were bleached white with time. 1810 SCOTT *Lady of L.* III. v, The bones of men . . bleached by drifting wind and rain. 1837 CARLYLE *Fr. Rev.* (1872) I. v. ix. 179 His old head which seventy-four years have bleached.

b. To make pale with fear, etc.

c 1760 SMOLLETT *Ode to Indef.* 8 Immortal Liberty, whose look sublime Hath bleached the tyrant's cheek.

3. *intr.* To become white, whiten; to become pale, pallid, or colourless.

1611 SHAKS. *Wint. T.* iv. iii. 5 The white sheete bleaching on the hedge. 1709 ADDISON *Tatler* No. 154 P. 11 Virgil . . describes some Spirits as bleaching in the Winds. 1853 KANE *Grinnell Exp.* xxxi. (1856) 266 To see the faces around him bleaching into waxen paleness. c 1865 LETHBRV in *Circ. Sc.* I. 98/1 Different kinds of wax bleach with different degrees of facility. 1865 MISS BRADDON *Sir Jasper* i. I. 22, Bones of travellers bleaching amongst the yellow sand.

b. *fig.* To become free from stain, be purified.

1799 SOUTHEY *Wks.* III. 63 The poor souls that bleach . . In that great Purgatory crucible. 1823 LAMB *Elia* Ser. i. xxi. (1865) 167 Where does the taint stop? Do you bleach in three or four generations?

† **Bleach**, *v.* 2 *Obs.* [f. BLEACH *sb.* 2, or perhaps cogn. with it, and repr. an OE. **blæcan*. Cf. BLETCH *v.*] *trans.* To blacken, make black.

1611 COTGR., *Poisle*, smeared, bleached, begrymed with soote. — *Noircir*, to blacke, blacken; bleach, darken.

Bleach *v.* 3 (misprint) for *beach* = BELCH.

1557 NORTH *Guesnara's Diall* Fr. (1582) 102 b, To bleache and breake wind after his surfetie.

Bleached (blītʃt), *ppl. a.* Also 4-5 *blayt*, *bleyt*; see the vb. [f. BLEACH *v.* 1 + -ED.] Whiten (esp. by exposure to light and air), blanched; pale.

c 1225 E. E. *Allit. P. A.* 212 Her ble more blayt þen whallez bon. 1384 CHAUCER *Former Age* 45 No down of fetheres ne no bleched shete Was kyd to hem. 1398 TREVIS *Barth. De P. R.* xvii. xcvi, Than þe bred is sode, bleyt, and boukid. a 1400 *Alexander* (Stev.) 54 As blayt ere thaire wedis As any snyppend snaw. 1601 WEEVER *Mirr. Mart.* Fjb, Vnto my bleached cindars she might come. 1845

DARWIN *Voy. Nat.* iv. (1879) 68 Bleached bones of horses. 1833 KANE *Grinnell Exp.* xxix. (1856) 240 The bleached faces of my mess-mates. 1859 GEO. ELIOT *A. Bede* 87 Her little store of bleached linen.

Bleacher (blītʃəi). [*f.* as prec. + -ER¹.]

1. One who bleaches.

1550 COVERDALE *Spir. Perle* vi. (1588) 75 The dier, blecher, or the laundresse. 1703 VAN LEUWENHOEK in *Phil. Trans.* XXIV. 1526 A bleacher cast Water with his Scoop. 1850 MRS. JAMESON *Leg. Monast. Ord.* (1863) 382 Wool-combers, bleachers, and fullers. 1863 J. MURPHY *Comm. Gen.* i. 26.

2. A vessel used in bleaching.

1883 *Century Mag.* XXVI. 812 Poured into the bleachers—boxes with perforated bottoms.

Bleachery (blītʃəri). [*f.* as prec. + -ERY.] A place where bleaching is done.

1714 *Fr. Bk. Rates* 191 No Bleachers shall receive into their Bleacheries any Linens which are not so mark'd. 1816 W. PHILLIPS *Mineral.* (1823) Pref. 49 Chloride of lime consumed in the bleacheries of Britain.

Bleach-form, *erron.* form of *bleach-farm*: see BLANCH *a.* 3.

Bleaching (blītʃɪŋ), *vbl.* sb. 1. [*f.* BLEACH *v.* 1.]

1. The art or process of whitening or cleansing by washing and exposure, or by chemical agents.

1550 HULOT, *Bleachinge, insolation.* 1598 SHAKS. *Merry W.* iv. ii. 126 Behold what honest cloathes you send forth to bleaching. 1878 HUXLEY *Physiogr.* 109 It is this oxygen which is the really active agent in bleaching.

† 2. A bleaching. *Obs.*

1677 YARRANTON *Engl. Improv.* 135 There are... by the River Avon side, convenient places to make Bleachings.

3. *Attrib.* and *Comb.*, as *bleaching-croft*, *field*, *fluid*, *ground*, *liquor*, *powder*; *bleaching-clay* (see quot.).

1818 SCOTT *Rob Roy* xxi. The large open meadow which serves at once as a bleaching-field and pleasure-walk for the inhabitants. 1822 IMISON *Sc. & Art* II. 161 The rationale of the bleaching processes. 1833 HT. MARTINEAU *Vanderput & S. v.* 85 In yonder bleaching ground. 1854 J. SCOFFERN in *Orr's Circ. Sc. Chem.* 422 Commercial bleaching-powder, or so-called chloride of lime. 1865 *Athenaeum* No. 1957, 584*t.* The bleaching-crofts of Lancashire. 1881 RAYMOND *Mining Gloss.*, *Bleaching-clay*, Kaolin, used with size, to whiten cotton goods.

† **Bleaching**, (*vbl.*) sb. 2. *Obs.* [*f.* BLEACH *v.* 2.] (Shoemakers') blacking.

c. 1500 COCKE *Lovelles R.* i. The currier and cobler... offered Cocke a bleaching pot.

Bleaching, *ppl.* *a.* [*f.* BLEACH *v.* 1 + -ING².]

a. That bleaches or whitens: *fig.* cleansing, purifying. *b.* Becoming white from exposure.

1824 J. COLBORNE *With Hicks Pasha* 204 The ground... was strewn with the bleaching bones of the slain.

† **Blead**, *Obs.* [*OE.* *blēd* str. masc. = OHG. *blāt*: -WGer. **blād*: -OTeut. **blēdu-2*, *f.* stem *blē-* BLOW: cf. *L. flātus-1*.] Blowing, breath, inspiration.

c. 890 K. ÆLFRED *Bæda* iv. iii. Mare blād windes. a. 1000 CYNWULF *Phænix* 549 (Gr.) Pūrh gastes blād. c. 1175 *Lamb. Hom.* 97 He mid his bleade on-ealde eorðlichen monnan heortan.

Bleat, *obs.* form of BLEED.

Bleak (blīk), *sb.* Forms: 5 *bleke*, 7 *bleake*, 7-*bleak*. [The 15th c. *bleke* points to an unrecorded OE. **blēce* weak fem. = ON. *bleikja*, OHG. *bleicha*: -OTeut. **blaijōn-1*, *f.* *blaijo*-white, shining: see next word. But the only known OE. name is *blæge*, BLAY, which is not directly connected with *bleak*; and it is possible that *bleke* was from ON., although *bleyke*, *blayke* would then have been the expected form.] A small river-fish, called also the Blay (*Leuciscus alburnus*), and scientifically the genus to which it belongs; also an allied sea-fish.

1496 Bk. *St. Albans*, *Fysshynge* 32 The bleke is but a feble fysshe, yet he is holson. 1597 BRETTON *Wit's Trenchm.* (1876) 7 Little fishes, as Bleakes, Roches. 1653 WALTON *Angler* 205 There is also a Bleak, a fish that is ever in motion. 1655 MOUTFET & BENN. *Health's Improv.* (1746) 237 Bleaks of the Sea, or Sea-Bleaks... are as... wholesome, as any Carp. *Ibid.* 269 Bleyes or Bleyes are soft flesh'd, but never fat. 1707 BEST *Angling* 59 The bleak, on account of its eagerness to catch flies, is called by some, the river swallow. 1830 GÜNTHER *Fishes* 604 'Bleak' are numerous in Europe and Western Asia, fifteen species being known, the common Bleak is found north of the Alps only.

Bleak (blīk), *a.* Forms: 6 (*bleke* in *bleke-ly*) *bleeke*, 6-7 *bleake*, 7-*bleak*. [A form (not found before the 16th c.) parallel to the synonymous *bleche* (*bleach*), *bleyke* (*blayke*), *blake*, *bloke*, in earlier, and partly in contemporary use. Its exact relation to these normal forms is not easily determined. *Bleke*, *bleak* may have been the northern form of *bleche*, BLEACHA; cf. BLEAK *v.* = BLEACH *v.*; but there is no evidence of its having originated in the north. It is also possible that it was a 16th c. spelling of *bleyke*, *blayke*, from ON., or even of the northern dial. *blake*; or that it resulted from a blending of *bleach*, with *bleyke* or *blake*. Cf. BLAKE, BLEACH, BLEYKE *a.*]

† 1. Pale, pallid, wan; deficient in colour, esp. deficient in the ruddy bloom of health, or the full green of vegetation; of a sickly hue: also used like *pale* to modify other colours (see *b.*). Still dial. 1506 PAINTER *Pal. Pleas.* i. 198 b, [She] began to recolour her bleake and pale face with a vermilion teinte and roseall

rudde. 1578 LYTE *Dodoens* i. xlviii. 69 The floures be... more pale or bleaker. 1597 GERARD *Herbal* i. xxxv. § 1. 48 This Iris hath his flower of a bleake white colour. 1625 HART *Anat. Ur.* i. iv. 43 She was of a whitish bleake colour, and of a cachectical disposition. 1633 G. HERBERT *Church-rents* ii. in *Temple*, Calamities Turned your ruddie into pale and bleak. 1840 FORBY *Norw. & Suff. Wds.*, *Bleek* is still used in Norfolk to signify pale and sickly.

b. 1578 LYTE *Dodoens* i. lxxix. 117 Small pale or bleake yellow floures. *Ibid.* ii. xxvi. 277 Sometimes a bleake or faynt yellow. 1629 J. PARKINSON *Parad. in Sole* xc. 388 Of a faire bleake blew Colour, and in others pure white. 1665-76 RAY *Flora* 78 The flowers are of a bleak ash colour.

2. Bare of vegetation; exposed: now often with some mixture of sense 3, wind-swept.

1538 [see BLEAKLY]. 1574 R. SCOT *Hop Gard.* (1578) 3 Many... lay their Gardens very open and bleake to the South. 1608 SHAKS. *Per.* iii. ii. 14 Our lodgings, standing bleak upon the sea. 1697 DRYDEN *Virg. Georg.* iii. 543 The bleak Meotian Strand. 1750 JOHNSON *Rambl.* No. 80 ¶ 5 Bleak hills and leafless woods. 1783-94 BLAKE *Songs Ex.*, *Holy Thursd.* 10 Their fields are bleak and bare. 1824 W. IRVING *T. Trav.* i. 44 On a bleak height in full view.

b. In transferred use. *rare.*

1764 GOLDSM. *Trav.* 167 Where the bleak Swiss their stormy mansion tread. 1866 MRS. BROWNING *Musical Ins.* iii. in *Last Poems* 55 With his hard bleak steel.

3. Cold, chilly; usually of wind or weather.

1595 SHAKS. *John* v. vii. 40 To make his bleake windes kisse my parched lips. 1671 MILTON *P. R.* ii. 72 Scarce a shed... to shelter him or me from the bleak air. 1795 SOUTHEY *Joan of Arc* ii. 267 The cold wintry wind Bleak blew. 1814 WORDSW. *Excurs.* i. 688 In bleak December, I retraced this way. 1828 HAWTHORNE *Fr. & Ital. Jmils.* i. 3 The wind was bleak.

4. *fig.* Cheerless, dreary.

a. 1719 ADDISON (J.) Bleak and barren prospects. 1824 H. MILLER *Scenes & Leg.* xiv. (1857) 212 His course... lying barely beyond the bleak edge of poverty. 1846 KEBLE *Lyra Innoc.* (1873) 126 Firmest in the bleakest hour.

b. quasi-*adv.*

1596 SPENSER *F. Q.* i. ii. 33 Where Boreas doth blow full bitter bleake.

† **Bleak** (blīk), *v.* *Obs.* Forms: 5 *blek-yn*, *bleke*, 6-*bleak*. [Strictly we have here 2 or even 3 formations. In sense 1, *bleak* is the normal northern form of BLEACH *v.* 1; in 3 it is treated as a direct derivative of BLEAK *a.*; sense 4 is a variant of BLEACH *v.* 2, ME. *bleache* to blacken.]

1. To make white or pale by exposure to light; = BLEACH, *v.* 1, 2.

1398 TREVISA *Barth. De P. R.* xvii. cxvii, *De* pred is sode, 11ey3 [1495] blekyd, 1535 bleked and boukid. c. 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 39 Bleyk clope or qwysters [i.e. blechen clothe, blekyn], *canidito*. 1612 WOODALL *Surg. Mate* Wks. (1653) 215 As white wax is made of yellow wax, by the bleaking it in the ayr.

2. *intr.* To grow pale; to pale; = BLEACH, *v.* 1 3.

1606 SYLVESTER *Du Bartas* (1641) 108/2 The Bedlam Bacchanalian froes, Who... Bleaking and blushing, panting, shrieking, swooning. — *Trophies* 1272 Blushing and bleaking, betwixt shame and fear.

3. *trans.* To chill or make livid with cold.

1605 HEYWOOD *Know not me* Wks. 1874 i. 291 'Tis better to be bleakt by winters breath, Then to be stifed vñ with summers heat.

4. To blacken, darken; = BLEACH *v.* 2

1611 COTGR., *Haler*... to bleak, or make swart, a thing, by displaying it in a hot Sunne.

† **Bleaked**, *ppl.* *a.* *Obs.* [*f.* BLEAK *v.* 1 + -ED.] Made pale, bleached.

1548 UDALL, etc. *Erasm. Par. Rev.* vi. 8 (R.) Pale and bleaked for very sorrow and heynynes.

† **Bleaker**, *Obs.* [*f.* BLEAK *v.* 4.] (See quot.)

1611 COTGR., *Ternisseur*, bleaker, blemisher, discolourer.

† **Bleaking**, *vbl.* *sb.* *Obs.* [*f.* BLEAK *v.* 1.] Bleaching. Also *attrib.*, as in *bleaking-house*.

a. 1607 MIDDLETON *No Wit*, etc. iv. ii. Left at Shoreditch, as a pledge for rosa solis, in a bleaking house.

Bleakish (blīkʃi), *a.* [*f.* BLEAK *a.* + -ISH¹.]

† 1. Rather pale. *Obs.*

1579 STUDEV. *Seneca's Hippol.* (1581) 67 A faynting fallow pale his bleakish cheekes disgrace.

2. Rather bleak or exposed.

1862 *Times* 18 Feb. 9/2 Kingsdown and Lansdown—two bleakish heaths in the West of England.

Bleakly (blīkli), *adv.* [*f.* as prec. + -LY².]

† 1. Palely. *Obs.*

1611 COTGR., *Pallément*, palely, bleakly, wanly.

2. In a bleak or exposed situation.

1538 LELAND *Itin.* v. 99 Standing veri blekely and object to all Wynddes. 1798 PENNANT *Hindostan* II. 353 The lake is... situated bleakly. 1857 MRS. GASKELL *C. Brontë* i. iv. 61 The moors, stretching bleakly and barely far up from the dwelling.

3. Coldly, chilly.

1795 COLERIDGE *Soldier's Wife* in Southey *Lyr. P.* II. 140 Bleakly the blinding snow beats in thy hagg'd face.

Bleakness (blīknēs), [*f.* as prec. + -NESS.] The quality of being bleak; chilly bareness.

1600 F. WALKER tr. *Span. Mandoville* 136 a. The bleeknes [printed bleatenes] of this wind... is cause that... the Rivers, ponds, and Lakes are all frozen. 1695 WOODWARD *Nat. Hist. Earth* ii. (1723) 81 The great Bleakness and Cold of those Countries. 1851 NICHOL *Archit. Heav.* 27 The awful bleakness of space.

Bleaky (blīki), *a.* [*f.* BLEAK *a.*; cf. *chilly*, *whitly*, *blacky*, *goody*, and similar forms.] Inclining to BLEAK (in senses 2 and 3).

1607 DRYDEN *Hind & P.* iii. 612 Bleaky plains, and bare

unhospitable ground. 1695 BLACKMORE *Pr. Arth.* iv. 203 Bleaky Continents and frozen Isles. a. 1701 SEDLEY *Virgil's Past. Wks.* 1722 i. 313 Ye bleaky Winds! your wonted Rigour spare. 1797 BURNS *Death R. Dundas*, Lone on the bleaky hills.

Bleat (blī), *a.* Forms: 5-6 *blere*, 6-7 *bleare*, 7 *bleer* (e), 7-*blear*. [ME. *blere*, an epithet of the eyes: this and the cognate verb are of uncertain origin. There are no corresponding words in OE., and the only cognates in other Teutonic langs. are the mod.G. *blerr* soreness of the eyes, LG. *blarr-oged*, *bleer-oged* blear-eyed. Sw. *plira*, Da. *plire* to blink, leer, can hardly be connected. Though the vb. appears in our quotations before the adj., the form of the words and general analogies make it probable that the vb. was formed on the adj.]

1. Of the eyes or sight: Dim from water or other superficial affection.

1398 TREVISA *Barth. De P. R.* viii. xxi. (1495) 333 The syghte of a candyll is seen without lette of an eye that is hole, but of a blere eye it is nat seen wythout lykenesse and shape of a manere rayne bowe. 1547 BOORDE *Brev. Health* ccv. 70 b, Blere eyes which is when the under lyd of the eye is subverted. 1561 DAUS tr. *Bullinger on Apoc.* (1573) 60 A medicine... to lay to sore and blere eyes. 1621 BURTON *Anat. Mel.* i. ii. 11. 1. (1651) 71 It causeth bleer eyes. 1840 THACKRAY *Paris Sk.-Bk.* (1872) 49 Her eyes grew watery and bleat. 1843 AINSWORTH *Tower Lond.* (1864) 47 His eyes were bleat and glassy.

fig. 1641 MILTON *Ch. Discip.* i. (1851) 30 If our understanding... be bleat with gazing on other false glistenings.

2. *transf.* Dim, misty, indistinct in outline.

1634 MILTON *Comus* 153 To cheat the eye with bleat illusion. 1809 J. BARLOW *Columb.* i. 596 The bleat ice... sheds a dazzling glare. 1830 AIRD in *Blackw. Mag.* XXVIII. 813 On the bleat autumn eves, When small birds shriek adown the wind.

Hence BLEAR-EYED *a.* q. v.; *blear-witted*, having the mental faculties dimmed.

1599 B. JONSON *Ev. Man out of Hum.* v. ii. They were very bleat-witted, i' faith, that could not discern the gentleman in him.

Bleat, *sb.* *rare.* [*f.* the adj. or vb.] Bleating, bleariness; in *pl.* blearedness of eyes, bleared eyes.

1603 *Philotus* vi, I think ane man sir, of your seiris, Sould not be blyndit with the bleir. 1868 BUSHNELL *Serm. Living Subj.* 125 The bleat of our sin.

Bleat (blī), *v.* 1 Forms: 3 *bleri*, 4-6 *blere*, 6 *bler* (blirre), 6-7 *bleer* (e), *bleare*, 6-*blear*.

[The ME. forms point to an OE. **blerian* or **blerian* intr. in sense 1, *f.* the adj.; but no such form is known: see BLEAR *a.* Cf. also BLUR.]

† 1. *intr.* To have watery or inflamed eyes, to be bleat-eyed. (Said also of an albino.) *Obs.*

a. 1300 *Old Age* in *E. E. P.* (1862) 149, I stunt i stomere, I stoble. i blind, i bleri. 1430 LYDG. *Chron. Troy* i. x. For she... Unwarely can do blere a mannes eye. 1483 *Cath. Angl.* 34 To Blere, *lippire*, *lippiscere*. a. 1560 ROLLAND *Crt. Venus* iv. 667 Quhat may zone fell freik be, [that] With the quhite berd and scarlat ene dois bleri? 1570 LEVINS *Manip.* 209 To Bleare, *lippire*.

b. with complemental object.

1649 G. DANIEL *Trinarch.*, *Hen. V.* clxxxvii, The new-raised morne (like Eyes ill-wak't) Blears through the Deaw faint Raies.

2. *trans.* To dim (the eyes) with tears, rheum, or inflammation; to dim the vision of.

1340-1345 [see BLEARED]. 1528 MORE *Heresyes* iii. Wks. 206/2 The brightnesse blered myne eye. 1530 PALSGR. 457/2 His eyes be so bleared with drynkyng that they be as reed as a fyret. 1606 SYLVESTER *Du Bartas* (1641) 2/2 The Suns bright beams do bleat the sight Of such as fix'dly gaze against his light. 1728 T. SHERIDAN *Persius* iii. (1739) 45, I used to find out Ointments to bleat my Eyes. 1851 LONGF. *Gold. Leg.* i. lviii, He... bleared his eyes with books.

b. To blur (the countenance) as with tears.

c. 1400 *Destr. Troy* 9132 The teris... blaknet with bleyryng all hir ble quite. 1837 CARLYLE *Fr. Rev.* II. iii. l. vii. 170 The Earth smiles not on us, nor the Heaven; but weeps and blears itself, in sour rain. 1861 TEMPLE & TREVOR *Tannhäuser* 8 That tremendous Doom... Shatter'd the superstitious dome that bleat'd Heaven's face to man.

3. (*fig.*) To bleat the eyes: to deceive, blind, 'hoodwink,' 'throw dust in the eyes.' Very common in 16th c.

c. 1325 *Coer de L.* 3708 So queyntly to blere myn eye. c. 1386 CHAUCER *Manuc. T.* 148 For al thy waytyng, blered is thin ye. a. 1400 *Octouian* 1387 For to blere the Soudanes ye Queynte lesynges he gan to lye. 1537 T. CROMWELL in Froude *Hist. Eng.* III. 229 You have bleared my eyes once. Your credit shall never more serve you so far to deceive me the second time. 1596 SHAKS. *Tam. Shr.* v. i. 120 While counterfeit supposes bleer'd thine cine. 1774 ELLWOOD *Autobiogr.* 220 To bleat Mens Eyes with Fopperies. 1815 SCOTT *Guy R.* xxxix, 'I want name o' your siller... to make ye think I am bleating your ee.' 1860 MOTLEY *Netherl.* (1868) i. iii. 91 Henry III was seeking to bleat the eyes of the world.

† *b.* In the same sense the simple vb. was used.

1530 PALSGR. 457/2, I bleare, I begyle by dissymulacyon. 1570 LEVINS *Manip.* 142 To blirre, *fallere*. 1613 SIR E. HOBY *Counter-sh.* 14 Blearing his Reader, that these are but worme-eaten sayings. 1642 T. TAYLOR *God's Judgem.* i. l. xvii. 54 He was so besotted and bleared with them.

† **Bleat**, *v.* 2. *Obs.* Forms: 4-7 *blere*, 5 *bleore*, 6 *bleare*, 6-*blear*. [app. distinct from the prec.: perhaps onomatopœic, but naming a gesture rather than a sound, though some inarticulate sound may have originally been implied. Cf. BLARE *v.*] *intr.*

To protrude the tongue in mockery. Also *To* *blear* (with the tongue. *trans.* *To* *blear* (out) the tongue (at, against, upon).

a 1340 HAMPOLE *Pr. Cons.* 2226 And grymly gryn on hym and blear. *c* 1430 *Hymns Virg.* (1867) 60 While pou art a child, With þi tunge on folk þou bleere. 1481 CAXTON *Reynard* (Arb.) 86 The asse . . . blyerd, grennyd and songe. 1530 FALSGR. 457/2 I blear with the tonge. *Ibid.* The knave blearth his tonge at me. 1535 COVERDALE *Isa.* lvii. 4 Vpon whom gape ye with youre mouth, & bleare out youre tonge? 1550 — *Spir. Perle* xxix. (1588) 279 Not once to blear or to open their mouths against it. 1605 BR. ANDREWES *Serm.* ii. 173 Wagging their heads, writhing their mouths, yea blearing out their tongues.

¶ Cf. the following, and BLARE *v*.

1616 T. SCOTT *Christ's Polit.* 7 All that the silly sheep can do, is only to blear and bleate a little with his tongue.

Bleared (blēard), *vbl.* *a.* Forms: 4 *blēried*, 4-5 *blērid*, 4-6 *blēred*, 5 *blēryd*, *blēryed*, (*Sc.*) *blērit*, 6 *blēride*, *blēried*, 6-7 *blēard*, 8 (*Sc.*) *blērit*, 6- *blēared*. [*f.* BLEAR *v*.1 + -ED.]

1. Of the eyes: Dimmed with tears, morbid matter, or inflammation. Also *fig.*; see BLEAR *v*.1. *c* 1340 *Gauw. & Gr. Knt.* 962 Þe twayne yēn were . . . sellyly bled. 1368 LANGE. *P. Pl.* A. v. 109 Bitel-brouwed with twei bled [i. e. *v. r. blērid*]. *c* 1388 WYCLIF *Gen.* xxix. 17 Lya was with blērid eyen. 1525 LD. BERNERS *Froiss.* II. x. 21 Kyng Robert of Scotlande . . . with a payre of reed bled eyen. 1579 GOSSON *Sch. Abuse* (Arb.) 27 Searching for moats with a pair blearde eies. 1792 BURNS *Duncan Gray*, Duncan . . . Grat his een baith blear't and blin'. 1848 LYTTON *Harold* i. 307 The witch . . . looking into her face with blear'd and rheumy eyes.

2. Said of the face or person: Blurred with running from the eyes; blear-eyed.

1500 *Ort. Voc.* in *Promp. Parv.* 39 *note*, *Lippus* dicitur . . . bled of the eye. 1596 SHAKS. *Merch. V.*, iii. ii. 59 With blear'd visages come forth to view The issue of th' exploit. 1793 BURNS *Meg o' the Mill* ii, The Laird was a widdiefu', blearit knurl. 1863 KINGSLEY *Water-Bab.* viii. (1878) 369 Mr. Grimes so sooty and blear'd and ugly.

† 3. *fig.* Mentally blinded, deceived. *Obs.*

1540 CHEKE *Hurt. Sedib.* (1641) 31 So much bled, that you did think impossible things.

Bleardness (blēardness), [*f.* *prec.* + -NESS.]

1. Bleared condition.

1398 TREvisa *Barth. De P. R.* xvii. clxxxv. (1495) 726 The drunkel mannes . . . eyen ben full of whelkes and pyples and of blyerdnesse. *c* 1475 *Found. St. Barthol. Hosp.* ii. 1. (1886) 81 This man putte a syde blyerdnes of yen. 1563 T. GALE *Antidot.* ii. 36 It amendeth the bleardnes, and consumeth the teares.

transf. 1881 W. RUSSELL *Ocean Free L.* i. v. 195 There was a haziness about the azure, a bleardness resembling the film on a sick man's eyes.

2. *fig.* Affection of the mental or moral vision.

1678 R. BARCLAY *Apol. Quakers* v. § 21. 165 The Bleardness of the Eyes of our Minds. 1851 S. JUDD *Margaret* iii. (1871) 401 Will unkindness, traducement, insinuation, bleardness never cease?

Bleare-eyed (blēar'ēd), *a.* [*f.* *blear eye* + -ED.]

1. *lit.* Having blear eyes.

1388 WYCLIF *Lev.* xxi. 20 If crokid-rigge or bleereyed [i. e. *bleareyed*]. 1393 LANGE. *P. Pl.* C. xx. 306 Þoww smoke and smorþre . . . Til he be blear-eyed oþer blynde. 1506 *Pilgr. Perf.* (W. de W. 1531) 153 b, Lya was blear-eyed, & myght not se clerely. 1568 TURNER *Herbal* ii. 133 The iuce [of Aygrene] . . . is good for them that are blear eyed. 1642 T. TAYLOR *God's Judgem.* i. i. ii. 3 Those who . . . being blear eyed and tender sighted are rather dazled and dimmed by the Sunnes beames. 1787 WOLCOTT (P. Pindar) *Wks.* 1812 I. 458 The wrinkled blear-eyed, good old Granny.

2. *fig.* Having the mental vision dimmed; dull of perception, short-sighted.

1561 T. NORTON *Calvin's Inst.* iii. xvii. (1634) 395 The judgement of God farre surmounteth the blear-eyed sight of men. 1821 J. BELL *Hadison's Answ. Osor.* 221 Their blear eyed dulnes. 1863 J. SPENCER *Prodigies* (1665) 340 Men quickly hated this blear-eyed Religion.

Hence **Bleare-eyedness**.

c 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 39 *Blyerdnesse* [1499 *blere eyednesse*], *Lippitudo*. 1611 COTGR. *Chacie*, blear-eyednesse; a running, or waterishness of the eyes. 1653 GAUDEN *Hierasp.* 96 That darkness and blear-eyedness, which prejudice and perverseness carry with them. 1877 WRAXELL *V. Hugo's Miserables* i. Contemporary admiration is blear-eyedness.

Bleariness (blēariness), [*f.* BLEARY + -NESS.] = BLEARDNESS.

1398 TREvisa *Barth. De P. R.* vi. xxi. (1495) 211 Wyne . . . dooth awaye webbes and blearines of eyen. 1468 *Medulla Gram.* in *Cath. Angl.* 34 *Lippitudo*, blyernes off the eye. 1832 *Blackw. Mag.* XXXI. 118 The small bleariness of their opaque optics.

Blearing (blēaring), *vbl.* *sb.*1 [*f.* BLEAR *v*.1]

1. The condition of being bleared, bleardness.

1548 UDALL *Erasm. Apoph.* 59 a, *Lippitudo* Atticæ, that is, the blyering of Attica.

2. The action of making blear; *fig.* deception.

c 1386 CHAUCER *Reeves T.* ii. Ful wel coude I the quyte With blyering of a proud mylleres ye. *c* 1400 *Destr. Troy* 9134 The teris þat trickil on her tryet chekes . . . blaknet with blyering all hir ble qwite.

3. *transf.* The guttering of a candle; as resembling the rheum which blears the eyes.

1705 BERKELEY in *Fraser Life* (1871) 509, I know not what more fitly to compare it to than to the blearings of a candle.

† **Blearing**, *vbl.* *sb.*2 *Obs.* [*f.* BLEAR *v*.2 + -ING.] The protruding of the tongue or making of mouths in mockery.

c 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 39 *Blyerynge* or mowynge wythe the mowthe, *valgia*.

Bleatness, *arch.* or *Obs.* [*f.* BLEAR *a.* + -NESS.] Blearedness (of the eyes).

1543 TRAHERON *Vigo's Chirurg.* ii. ii. 50 Blerenes of the eyeliddes. 1585 LLOYD *Treas. Health* A j, There shal many be troubled with blerenesse. 1748 *Vegetius' Distemp.* Horses 157 A great Blearness of the Eyes.

Bleary (blē'ri), *a.* [*f.* BLEAR *a.* (or *1 sb*) + -Y.] In the 14th c. quot. all MSS. save one read *bled*, -id, -yd: so that *bleary* is of slight authority; but cf. BLEARINESS.] More or less blear of the eyes.

1393 LANGE. *P. Pl.* C. vii. 198 He was bytelbrowed and baderupped with two blear eyen. 1655 *Francion* 24 The glutinous quality of that blearie humour. 1770 ARMSTRONG *Imitat.* (1859) 82 He with blearie eye Blazons his own disgrace. 1810 TANNHILL *Poems* (1846) 117 The comers were cheery, the gangers were blearie. 1830 *Blackw. Mag.* XXVII. 436 His little red blearie eyes.

Bleary (blē'ri), *sb.* *rare*—1. (See quot.)

1812 J. HENRY *Camp. agst. Quebec* 65 Boiling a blearie, which was no other than flour and water.

Bleat (blēt), *v.* Forms: 1 *blētān*, 3 *Orm.* *blētenn*, 4-5 *blēte*, 6 *Sc.* *blait*, 6-7 *bleate*, (*blate*), 7 *bleet*, 7- *bleat*. [*Com.* WGer.: OE. *blētan* = OHG., MHG. *blāzen*, mod.Du. *blaten* = WGer. *blātan*, of imitative origin: cf. mod.G. *blöken*; also Oslav. *blejati*, to bleat, and see BLEA.]

1. *intr.* To cry, as a sheep, goat, or calf.

a 1000 *Riddles* (Gr.) xxv. 2 Ic . . . blāte swā gāt. *c* 1000 *ÆLFRIC Gram.* xxii. 129 Scēp blāt. *c* 1200 ORMIN 1315 Itt [lamb] cann cnaewenn swiþe wel Hiss moderr þær 3ho blāteþþ. *a* 1300 E. E. *Psalter* lxiv. 14 Schepe þat blēte. 1549 *Compl. Scot.* vi. 39 The scheip began to blait. 1611 SHAKS. *Wint.* 7. l. ii. 68 We were as twyn'd Lambs, that did . . . bleat the one at th' other. 1735 SOMERVILLE *Chase* iii. 30 The mournful Ewe Wanders perplex'd, and darkling bleats in vain. 1859 GEO. ELIOT *A. Bede* 60 Our friends the calves are bleating from the homecroft.

b. trans. (with cognate object.) Also *To* *bleat* *out*: to give forth with a bleat.

1719 D'URFEE *Pills* (1872) IV. 337 The tender Flocks their Pasture mourn, and bleat a sadder Moan. 1864 SWINBURNE *Atalanta* 936 Let her . . . stretch her throat for a knife, Bleat out her spirit and die. 1871 B. TAYLOR *Faust* i. v. (Chandos) 61 An old he-goat . . . Should his good-night in lustful gallop bleat her.

2. *transf.* Used contemptuously of the human voice.

a 1563 BECON *Jewel of Joy* Wks. (1844) 429 Nourishing many idle singing-men to bleat in their chapels. 1569 E. HAKE *Newses Houses Churchy.* F vj, Thus bleate the Popish Balamites. 1869 HEAVYSEGE *Sand* 312 If she bleats now, Why, 'tis her nature, and the gift of women.

b. trans. To give mouth to, babble, prate. Cf. BLATE.

1692 WASHINGTON tr. *Milton's Def. Pop.* vi. (1851) 165 You, who bleat what you know nothing of [Lat. *qui ea blatis*].

c. Used of sounds likened to the cry of a sheep.

1880 HOWELLS *Undisc. Country* viii. 123 Their bells were bleating everywhere.

Bleat (blāt), *sb.* Also 4 *blet*, 6 *Sc.* *bleit*, 8 *blate*. [*f.* *prec.* vb.] The cry of a sheep, goat, or calf.

[1388 WYCLIF *Ps.* lxxviii.] 70 Fro the afir berende blet he to hym [1388 fro bihynde sheep with lambren; Vulg. *de post fatantes accipit eum*].

1590 SHAKS. *Much Ado* v. iv. 51 A Calfe . . . Much like to you, for you have iust his bleat. 1697 DRYDEN *Virg. Georg.* iii. 846 The Rivers, and their Banks, and Hills around, With Lowings, and with dying Bleats resound. 1795 SOUTHEY *Ocas. Pieces* iii, His barkings loud and quick Amid their tremulous bleat. 1842 TENNYSON *Ode Memory* v, The livelong bleat Of the thick-leece sheep.

b. transf. Any similar cry; *spec.* that of a snipe.

1863 KINGSLEY *Water-Bab.* 131 The owl's hoot and the snipe's bleat and the fox's bark.

c. A similar sound made by the human voice.

c 1505 DUNBAR *Flying* 204 Thay bickerit the with mony bæ and bleit. 1799 *Month. Rev.* XXIX. 142 The inarticulate vulgarity, the calf's blate of those speakers.

Bleat (e, obs. form of BLATE *sc.*

Bleater (blētar), [*f.* BLEAT *v.* + -ER.]

1. An animal that bleats, as a sheep, calf, etc.

1567 MORTON *Gl. Bull in Hart. Misc.* (1811) VII. 536 Some calves with black faces, as blacke soule and hys fellows common bleaters. 1755 *Gentl. Mag.* XXV. 568 Swift o'er the lawns the little bleaters bound. 1808 JAMIESON, *Bleater*, the cock snipe, *Ettr. For.*; denominated from its bleating sound. 1855 SINGLETON *Virgil* i. 87 Plunge the flock of bleaters in the healthful stream.

† 2. *Thieves' slang*: (see quot.) *Obs.*

1609 DEKKER *Lanthorne Wks.* 1884-5 III. 290 They that are Cheated by lacke in a Boxe, are called Bleaters.

Bleating (blēting), *vbl.* *sb.* [*f.* as *prec.* + -ING.] The crying of a sheep, goat, or calf; also contemptuously said of human utterances.

1398 TREvisa *Barth. De P. R.* xvii. xli. (1495) 807 A kydde . . . knowyth and sekyth his moder wyth bletyng. 1578 *Gude & Godlie Ballates* (1868) 163 Sing on guk, guk, the blating of zour queir. 1611 BIBLE *Judges* v. 16 To heare the bleatings of the flocks. 1781 COWPER *Convers.* 588 Known by thy bleating, Ignorance thy name. 1808 SCOTT *F. M. Perth* III. 343 The brute beasts in their lowing and bleating.

b. attrib. (passing into the *vbl.* *a.*)

1773 G. WHITE *Selborne* xxxix, In breeding time the cock-snipes make a bleating noise. 1834 J. FORBES *Laennec's Dis. Chest* 429 The voice, having the bleating character strongly marked.

Bleating, *vbl.* *a.* [*f.* as *prec.* + -ING.] That bleats; also *fig.*

c 1380 WYCLIF *Serm.* Sel. Wks. I. 139 Bletyng sheep. 1595

SPENSER *Col. Clout* 955 To draw their bleating flocks to rest. 1651 CALDERWOOD *Hist. Kirk* (1843) 11. 157 The queene . . . and her bleeting preests. 1884 BLACK *Jud. Shaks.* xxxi, Lambs, with bleating oratory, craved the dams' comfort.

† **Bleaut.** *Obs.* Forms: 4 *blhant*, -and, *blehand*, *bleaut*, *bleeaut*. [*ad.* OF. *bliaut*, -aud, *blia*, earlier *blialt*; found also in other Romanic langs., Pr. *blial*, *bliau*, *bliaut*, *blizaut*, Sp., Pg. *bríal*, mod.L. *blialdus*, *bliaudus*, *blisaudus*, an article of dress, a tunic worn both by men and women often richly embroidered; also in MLG. *bliaut*, *blyant*, MHG. *bliaut*, *bliaut* a silk gold-stuff for clothes, bed-covers, etc. Of uncertain origin: see Diez and Mahn. The appearance of the *n* in the English and MLG. is unaccounted for. *Bleaut* for **bliaut*, may be compared with ME. *graunt* = *giant*.]

A kind of tunic or upper garment; also a rich stuff or fabric used for this garment.

c 1314 *Guy Warw.* (Turnb.) 208 His blhant he curf, his schert also. *c* 1320 *Sir Tristr.* i. xxxviii, In o robe Tristrem was boun . . . Was of a blhant broun The richest that was wrought. *Ibid.* i. xli, In blehand was he cledde. *c* 1325 E. E. *Allit. P. A.* 163 A mayden . . . Blysnande whyt watz hyr bleaut. *c* 1340 *Gauw. & Gr. Knt.* 879 A mere mantyle . . . Of a broun bleaut enbrouded ful ryche. *a* 1400 *Alexander* (Stev.) 167 A blew bleaut above brade him all over.

Bleb (bleb), *sb.* Also 7 *blebb*. [*app.* like BLOB and BLUBBER, from the action of making a bubble with the lips. In relation to *blob*, *bleb* expresses a smaller swelling; cf. *top*, *tip*, etc.]

1. A blister or small swelling on the skin; also a similar swelling on plants.

1607 TOPSELL *Four-f. Beasts* 319 Wingless . . . be little swellings like blebs or bladders, on either side the joynt. 1677 *Plot Oxfordsh.* 174 The blebs or blisters we find on the leaves of many Trees and Shrubs. 1876 DUHRING *Dis. Skin* 228 Blebs may occur in the place of vesicles.

fig. 1651 MORE *Enthus. Triumph* (1656) 180 You blebs of venery, you bags of filth!

2. A bubble of air in water, glass, or other substance at some time fluid.

1647 H. MORE *Song of Soul* Notes 165/2 Dancing blebs and bubbles in the water. 1716 DESAGULIERS in *Phil. Trans.* XXIX. 447 The Lens ought to be . . . without Veins or Blebs. 1861 FURNIVAL *San Graal* (Roxb.) Pref. 8 A . . . green vessel . . . showing by a bleb in it that it was of glass.

3. A vesicular body.

1775 ELLIS in *Phil. Trans.* LXVI. 15 *note*, The cell-like divisions . . . are only a row of single blebs of pith. — CLAYTON *Ibid.* 105 From the surface oozes out a gum in round blebs. 1880 J. E. BURTON *Handbk. Midwives* § 38. 25 The ovum, or egg, is at first a little bladder, or bleb.

Bleb, *v.* [*f.* *prec.* sb.] To furnish with blebs.

1801 CLARE *Vill. Minstr.* II. 84 While big drops . . . bleb the withering hay with pearly gems.

Bleberry, *obs.* form of BLAEBERRY.

Blebbly (ble'bi), *a.* Full of blebs or bubbles.

1754 LEWIS in *Phil. Trans.* XLVIII. 687 The mass, when cold . . . appeared very porous, blebbly, of a dull grey colour. 1880 DANA *Mineral.* 431 [It] fuses to a white blebbly glass.

Blec (e)en, *obs.* f. BLESS *v*.1

Bleccre, *var.* form of BLECCURE.

† **Bleche**, *v.* *Obs.* [*a.* north.F. *blechier* = OF. *blecier* (mod. *blesser*, whence the later BLESS *v*.2) to wound.] *trans.* To wound, hurt, injure.

1340 *Ayrb.* 40 Sacrilege is huanne me brech, oþer blecheb, . . . þe holy þinges. *Ibid.* 147 Huanne me smit þane uot: þe moup zayþ, þou me blechest.

Bleche, -er, *obs.* forms of BLEACH, -ER.

† **Blechure**. *Obs.* Also 5 *bleccre*. [*a.* ONF. *blechüre*, OF. *bleccüre*, (mod.F. *blesure*), wound, from *blechier*, *blecier*, *blesser* to wound: see BLECHE.] A wound.

1483 CAXTON *Gold. Leg.* 109/4 Thys hurte and blechure of thys peple. *Ibid.* 303/4 In al our hurtes, blechures and sores. *c* 1500 *L'artienay* 3572 Without hurt or bleccre any.

Bleck, *sb.* *Obs.* *exc. dial.* Also 5 *blek* (e), *blecke*.

[The OE. *blæc* looks like the adj. *blæc*, BLACK, used subst. If so, ME. *blek* (e) must be unrepresented in OE., and correspond to ON. *blæk* ink (Sw. *bläck*, Da. *blæk* ink), OTeut. type **blakjo(m)*, f. **blak*- BLACK.]

1. Black fluid substance; *spec.* ink (*obs.*); a preparation used by curriers and shoemakers for blacking leather (also called *blech*, *blatch*, *bleach*) (*obs.*); black grease round an axle or other revolving part. *north. dial.*

[*c* 970 K. EADGAR *Canons* (Anc. Laws II. 244) We lærað þæt hi . . . habban blæc and bocfell to heora gearædnessum. *a* 1000 *ÆLFRIC Gloss.* Wv. Wulker *Voc.* 164 *Incantrum vel atramentum*, blæc.] *c* 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 39 *Bleke* [1499 *blecke*], *atramentum*. 1483 *Cath. Angl.* 34 *Bleek*, *atramen.*, *atramentum*. *c* 1505 DUNBAR *This Nycht in my Sleip* vii, 'Ey, quod the Feynd, 'thou [sowtar] sairis of blek, Go clenge the clene, and cum to me.' 1590 LEVINS *Manip.* 47 *Blecke*, *bleche*, *atramentum*. 1855 *Whitby Gloss.*, *Bleck*, the dirty-looking oil or grease at the axle of a cart-wheel. 1876 in *Mid. Yorksh. Gloss.* 1877 in *Holderness Gloss.*, etc.

2. Soot or smut, a particle of soot. (*Still Sc.*)

c 1590 A. HUME *Ep. G. Moncrief*, The Censor is impropre to correct, That in himself has only kinde of bleck.

3. *a.* A blackamoor. *b.* A blackguard. *mod.Sc.*

4. Comb. as + **Bleck-fat** (=vat), **blek-pot**, a vessel for holding 'bleck.'

1468 *Medulla Gram.* in *Cath. Angl.* 34 *Atramentarium*, an ynhorne or a blek pot. 1483 *Cath. Angl.* 34 *Blek potte*, *atramentarium*. 1562 *Richmond, Wills* (1853) 156 In a litill house, stocks of a bedde and bleckfatts.

Bleck, *v.* Obs. exc. dial. Also 5 **blekkyn**, 5-6 **blek**. *Pa. t.* 6 *Sc. blekkitt*. [App. f. *blek BLECK sb.*: but cf. the parallel *BLECH v.*, of which this may be the northern form, going back to an OE. **bleccan*:—O^{Teut.} **blakjan*, f. **blako-BLACK*.]

1. *trans.* To make black; esp. to blacken with ink, soot, tar, or the like. Still in *north. dial.*

1382 *Wyclif Job xxx. 30* My skin is blekkid up on me. 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 39 *Blekkyn* wythe blek 1499 *blackyn* with bleckle, *atramento*. 1570 *LEVINS Mani.* 47 To blecke, blech, *nigrare*. 1646 *Row Hist. Kirk* (1842) 440 It was his comfort on his death-bed that he never blecked nor disfigured the well-favoured face of the Kirk of Scotland. *Mod. Sc.* How hae ye blekkitt yer face?

2. To enter or inscribe with ink; to write.

1460 *Towneley Myst.* 311 Thus told I your tax, thus ar my bokys blekitt. 1570 *Leg. Bp. St. Andrews in Scot. Poems* 16th C. II. 340 Not all the paper of this towne, And blekkitt baith vnder and abone, May had the half that he hes done.

3. *fig.* To blacken morally, to make or declare guilty; to defile. (Still *dial.*)

1380 *Wyclif Sel. Wks.* III. 211 Bope partis ben blekkid with his synne. 1535 *STEWART Cron. Scot.* II. 715 Quither or nocht he wes thair of blek. 1552 *ABP. HAMILTON Catech.* (1884) 139 Syn. that fylis and blekkis our saulis.

4. Here perhaps representing ON. *blekkja* 'to impose upon, deceive,' = OE. *blencan* to *BLEND*.

1573 *Sege Edinb. Cast.* in *Scot. Poems* 16th C. II. 307 Sen ye are wairned, I wald not ye were blekkitt.

+ **Bleckert**. Obs. [Evidently containing *BLECK sb.*: cf. *bleck-fast*, *bleck-pot*.]

1562 *Richmond, Wills* (1853) 152 A bleckert vis. viij. iij coldrons and a kettill xxxiij. iij. 1588 *Inu. T. Atkinson, Kendal*, 11m a bleckert iij.

Bled, **bledde**, **blede**: see *BLEED*.

Bladder (*a*), obs. form of *BLADDER*.

+ **Blede**. Obs. [OE. *bleded*, *bled* (*bled*) str. fem. 'flower, blossom, fruit' = OHG. *bluot*, MHG. *bluot* pl. *bluete*, Ger. *blüte*:—O^{Teut.} **blōdi-s* fem. root *blō-* in *BLOW*, *BLOOM*, etc.; cogn. with OIr. *blō-th*, L. *flō-s*.] A flower, blossom; fruit.

1575 *Rusku. Gosp. Matt.* vii. 17 Yfe þonne treow yfe westmas zel bled berep. 1500 *Sax. Leech.* II. 228 þenim þreo croppan laures bleda. 1505 *LAV.* 2883 þa bleden [1506 bledes] uorð comen. 1520 *Owl & Night*, 1042 He is wod þat soweþ his sed þar never gras ne springþ ne bled. 1530 *Hymn Virg.* in *Trin. Coll. Hom.* 256 Of þe sprong þeð ed bled þe holi gost hire on þe seuz.

Bledsed, -*sung*, obs. forms of *BLESSED*, -*INO*.

Blee (*blī*). *arch.* Forms: 1 *blīo*, *blīoh*, *blōo* (h), 1-4 *bleo*, (3 *blo*), 3-9 *ble*, 4-7, 9 *blee*, (6 *bleye*). [OE. *blō* (*blōh*, after *floh*) str. neut. = OS. *blī*, OFris. *blī*, *blie*, north. Fris. *blāy*:—O^{Teut.} **blifjo* (*m*) colour, hue. (Not connected with *BLAE*, *BLUE*.) A purely poetical word in ME., which gradually became obs. in the course of the 16th or early in the 17th c. (not in *Shakspeare*); but being frequent in ballads and metrical romances, it has been used by one or two modern poets. Cf. *dial.* *BLY*, thought by some to be a survival of *ble*.]

1. Colour, hue. *arch.*

1388 *K. ALFRED Boeth.* xv. Ne seolocenra hrægla mid misticum bleowum hi ne zindon. 1500 *Metr. Boeth.* xxxi. 7 Habbad blioh and fæst þu ungelice. 1500 *ÆLFRIC Amb.* xi. 7 Hwites bleos swa cristalla. 1520 *Gen. & Ex.* 749 A water of lodlic ble. 1525 *E. E. Allit. P.* A. 76 As blaw as ble of ynde. 1460 *Lybeaus Disc.* 458 In armes bright of ble. 1623 *LISLE Ælfric on O. & N. T. Ded.* 9 Greene, Red, Yellow, Blew, Of sundry ble; more sad, or light, in graine. 1850 *MRS. BROWNING Poems* II. 57 The captain, young Lord Leigh, with his eyes so grey of ble.

2. Colour of the face, complexion; visage. *arch.* 1525 *St. Mark.* 9 Hire bleo bigon to bliaken. 1540 *Wokunge* 269 3if hit to bi blisful bleo mihte beo euenet. 1535 *E. E. Allit. P.* A. 212 Her ble more blast þen whaller-bon. 1540 *York Myst.* xxviii. 259, I will no more be abashed For blenke of thy ble. 1500 (*M.S.* 16th c.) *Chester Pl.* II. 187 Wer is my bleye that was so bright? 1557 *Tottell's Misc.* (Arb.) 100 Who nothing louses in woman, but her ble. 1615 *T. ADAMS Spirit. Navig.* 42 Of a fresher ble than Daniel. 1570 *Lovers Quarrel* 2 in *Hazl. E. P. P.* II. 253 Ladies that been so bright of ble. 1834 *Blackw. Mag.* XXXV. 715 His daughter bright of ble.

+ 3. *transf.* Appearance, form. Obs.

1500 *Salomon & Sat.* (1848) 144 Hu monizes bleos bið ðæt deofol. 1530 *Arth. & Merl.* 1988 Where that Merlin dede him se In o day in thre ble.

Bleea, -*berry*, *dial.* var. of *BLAE*, -*BERRY*.

Bleeaunt, variant of *BLEAUNT*, Obs., a tunic.

Bleeche, -*er*, etc., obs. forms of *BLEACH*, -*ER*.

Bleed (*blīd*), *v.* *Pa. t.* and *pple. bled*. Forms: 1 *blēdan*, 3-5 *blede* (6 *Sc. bleid*, *blead*, *bleth*), 7 *bleede*, 6- *bleed*. *Pa. t.* 1 *blēdde*, 2-5 *bledde*, 3 *blede*, 3-5 *bledd*, 7 *bleeded*, 3- *bled*. *Pa. pple.* 1-4 *blēded*, 7-8 *bleeded*, 5- *bled*. [OE. *blēdan* VOL. I.

:—O^{Teut.} **blōdjan* to bleed (whence also ON. *blēða*, mod. G. *bluten*), f. O^{Teut.} **blōdo* (*m*) *BLOOD*.]

1. *intr.*

1. To emit, discharge, or 'lose' blood; to drop, or run with, blood. Said of a person or animal, a part of the body, a wound, etc.

1500 *Salomon & Sat.* 144 *Blēdab* ædran. 1505 *LAV.* 752 Þat hæfð [hæfde, 1520 heufd] bledde. 1500 *K. Alisunder* 1845 His woundes bledde. 1460 *CAPRAVE Chron.* (1858) 162 Thei. founde the Prince bledying, and the Sarasin ded. 1596 *SHAKS. Merch. V. iv.* 1. 258 To stop his woundes, least he should blede to death. 1607 *DEKKER Wk. Babylon Wks.* 1873 II. 264 They are no common droppes when Princes blede. 1658 *A. Fox Wurtl. Surg. v.* 333 The wound bledde vehemently. 1715 *BURNET Oum Time* (1766) II. 217 He fell a bleeding at the nose. 1808 *SCOTT Tales Grandf. Ser.* II. xxxvii. 153/1 Bleeding to death from the loss of his right hand.

2. The body of a murdered man was supposed to bleed afresh when the murderer approached, and thus to reveal his guilt: hence, of a crime: to bleed = to come to light (obs.).

1591 *Murder Ld. Bourgh* (Collier) 10 Wherunto he was no sooner approached. but his woundes bled more freshlie then when they were first giuen; whereby the people in the house. made forth to search, for surlie they supposed the murder was not farre off. 1628 *EARLE Microcosm. v.* 13 His fear is, lest the carcass should bleed. 1645 *HOWELL Lett.* (1650) I. 31 The murdering of her Marquis of Ancree will yet bleed, as some fear.

3. The heart bleeds, used *fig.* to express great anguish, sorrow, or pity. So to bleed inwardly.

1574 *CHAUCER Troylus iv. Pro.* 12 For which myn herte now right gynneth to blede. 1607 *SHAKS. Timon* I. ii. 211, I bleed inwardly for my Lord. 1610—*Temp.* I. ii. 63 O my heart bleedes To thinke oth' teene that I haue turn'd you to. 1792 *BURKE Corr.* (1844) IV. 24 My heart bleeds for the poor emigrants, whose case is truly deplorable. 1860 *KINGSLEY Misc.* II. 349 What heart would not bleed for a beautiful woman in trouble.

4. To lose blood from severe or fatal wounds; to be severely wounded in battle, or the like; to shed one's blood or die by bloodshed.

1500 *Havelok* 2403 Crist þat wolde on rode blede. 1577 *LANGL. P. Pl. B. xix.* 103 So comed ihesu, Tyl he had alle hem þat he fore bledde. 1500 *Sir Isumb.* 621 Wel a sevene score garte he blede. 1500 *Destr. Troy* 14044 He. þat bled for our Syn. 1602 *SHAKS. Jul. C. II. i.* 171 Cesar must bleed for it. 1732 *POPE Ess. Man* I. 81 The Lamb thy riot dooms to bleed to day. 1787 *J. BARLOW Oration 4th July* 10 Those who bled in so glorious a field. 1830 *THIRLWALL Greece* II. 349 Those who had fought and bled in the cause. 1665 *Perry's Diary* 1 Apr., The King's service in the manantime lies a-bleeding.

5. Of plants: To emit sap when wounded.

1574 *GREW Anat. Trunks* II. i. § 12 The Trunk or Branch of any Plant being cut, it always bleeds at both ends. 1711 *KEN Blondina Wks.* 1721 IV. 526 The Trees. When in their Stems a wound is made, In odorous Balsam bleed away. 1796 *C. MARSHALL Gardening* xii. (1813) 160 Cutting branches or shoots in summer is apt to make them bleed as it is called. 1840 *To lose blood medicinally* (J.). Obs. (now, *To be bled*).

1625 *HART Anat. Ur.* II. iv. 73, I caused him bleed oftner then once. 1607 *J. D. in Tutchin Search Honesty* A ij, Goe Bleed, use Hellesore, and shave thy head.

6. *fig.* a. Of corn, etc. To bleed well: to give a large yield. *dial.*

1645 *BEST Farm. Bks.* (1856) 143 Att such times when corne bleeds not well. 1691 *RAY N. C. Wds.* 8 Corn Bleeds well; when upon threshing it yields well. 1786 *Harst Rig* in *Chambers Pop. Sc. Poets* 51 It should bleed weel, and mak prime food Frae 'neath the flails. 1808 in *JAMIESON*.

b. Of persons: To lose or part with money to an extent that is felt; to have money drawn or extorted; to 'pay through the nose' for. *collog.*

1668 *DRYDEN Even. Love* iv. i, He is vehement, and bleeds on to fourscore or an hundred. 1680 *COTTON in Singer Hist. Cards* 337 They will purposely lose some small sum at first, that they may engage him the more freely to bleed (as they call it). 1751 *SMOLLETT Per. Pic.* lxi, To whom he was particularly agreeable, on account of his. bleeding freely at play. 1848 *THACKERAY Van. Fair* xiv, A City man, immensely rich, they say. Hang those City fellows, they must bleed. 1885 *Manchest. Even. News* 23 June 2/2 Men who give bills have to bleed for the accommodation.

7. Said of blood, etc.: To drop, flow, ooze forth. 1505 *Song Mercy* in *E. E. P.* (1862) 120 Myn herte blood for þe gan blede. 1713 *POPE Windsor For.* 393 For me the balm shall bleed, and amber flow.

b. with *away*, *into*: To pass by bleeding.

1505 *SHAKS. John* v. iv. 24 Retaining but a quantity of life, Which bleeds away, even as a forme of waxe Resolueth from his figure 'gainst the fire. 1650 *FULLER Pique* 401 This wound, whence so much precious wealth did bleed forth. 1865 *BUSHNELL Vicar. Sacr.* iv. ii. 517 If the good that is in him will get into men's bosoms, it must bleed into them.

7. With cognate obj.: To emit as blood.

1500 *Cursor M.* 16775 For þe mikel blod he bled. 1577 *LANGL. P. Pl. B. xix.* 320 Of his blode þat he bledde on Rode. 1483 *CAXTON Gold. Leg.* 233/3 His hede was al to brused and bledde moche blood. 1607 *DRYDEN Virg. Georg.* III. 759 Roapy Gore, he from his Nostrils bleeds.

b. *transf.* of other liquids.

1611 *SHAKS. Wint. T. v.* ii. 96 Shee did (with an Alas) I would faine say, bleed Teares; for I am sure, my heart wept blood. 1667 *MILTON P. L.* vi. 331 Nectarous humour, such as Celestial Spirits may bleed. 1753 *CHURCHILL Proph. Famine* Poems I. 119 And the grape bleed a nectar yet unknown. 1850 *B. TAYLOR On Leav. Californ.* (1866) 273 Thy tawny hills shall bleed their purple wine.

8. *fig.* To appear bleeding, to be as red as blood.

1833 *BROWNING Pauline* 17 Her. lips which bleed Like a mountain berry.

II. *trans.*

9. To draw or let blood from, esp. surgically.

1530 *Syr Tryam.* 686 For at the justying wolde y bene. My body for to blede. 1500 *Spirit. Remed.* in *Halliw. Nuga P.* 67 For us thou letteste thy breste be bled. 1674 *R. GODFREY Inj. & Ab. Physic* 102 Her Husband was Bledde by an Apothecaries order. 1737 *POPE Hor. Epist.* II. ii. 197 That, from a patriot. Have bled and purg'd me to a simple vote. 1804 *ABERNETHY Surg. Observ.* 177 As he was perfectly well he was but slightly bled.

10. To draw or extort money from. *collog.* Cf. § 5 b.

1680 *COTTON in Singer Hist. Cards* 343 When they intend to bleed a coll to some purpose. they always fix half a score packs of cards before. 1849 *THACKERAY Pendennis* lxxviii, By Jove, sir, you've bled that poor woman enough.

11. Naut. To bleed the buoys: to let the water out.

1833 *MARRIAT P. Simple* vi, 'And, Mr. Chucks, recollect this afternoon that you bleed all the buoys.' Bled the boys! thought I, what can that be for?

12. To make bloody, to smear with blood.

1634 *Malory's Arthur* (1816) I. 309 Sir Tristram he bled both the upper sheet, and the nether sheet, and pillows.

Bleeder (*blīdar*). [*f. prec.* + -*ER*.]

1. One who draws blood.

1788 *M. WATSON in Med. Commun.* II. 276 These accidents seldom hurt the reputation of the bleeder. 1823 *LAMB Elia* (1860) 226 Submits to the scythe of the gentle bleeder Time. 1848 *THACKERAY Van. Fair* lxi, The bleeders and cuppers came.

2. *Med.* A person subject to hæmophilia, i.e. disposed by natural constitution to bleed.

1803 *Otto Med. Repos.* VI. 3 Some persons. suppose they can distinguish the bleeders. even in infancy. 1824 *Brit. Med. Tral.* in *Standard* 4 Apr. 3/5 Free blood in the knee-joints of a bleeder.

Bleeding (*blīdin*), *vbl. sb.* [*f. BLEED* + -*ING*.]

1. The flowing or dropping of blood (from a wound, etc.); hæmorrhage.

1574 *CHAUCER L. G. W.* 849 Thou shalt feele as well the blood of me As thou hast felt the bleeding of Tisbe. 1598 *TREVISIA Barth. De P. R.* xvii. cxxvii. 1495 693 Powder of drye roses staunchyth bledynge at the nose. 1617 *HIERON Wks.* II. 309 Bleeding of the person slaine, at the presence of the murderer. 1808 *SCOTT F. M. Perth* (1860) Pref. 15 He. applied some lint to stop the bleeding.

b. Of plants: The emission of sap (from a wound). Also *attrib.*, as in *bleeding-season*.

1574 *GREW Anat. Trunks* II. i. § 8 The Bleeding of Plants. properly enough expresses, The eruption of the Sap out of any Vessels. 1712 tr. *Pomet's Hist. Drugs* I. 161 The Bleeding of the Vine. 1822 *VINES Sachs' Bot.* 677 The phenomenon known as the 'bleeding' of wood cut in the winter.

2. Drawing or 'letting' of blood. Also *attrib.*

1500 *Promp. Parv.* 38 Bledynge, sanguinacio, *flabotomia*. *Ibid.* 39 Bledynge yryn, *flabotomium*. 1541 *R. COPLAND Guydon's Quest. Chirurg.* Mj, What is bledynge or blode lettynge. 1690 *COTTON Espernon* III. xii. 647 His Physician resolv'd upon a Bleeding. 1782 *W. STARK in Med. Commun.* I. 38 Bleeding is the appropriated remedy for a cough. 1837 *Hogg Elfr. Skel. Tales* III. 35 The butcher came up with his bleeding-knife.

fig. 1796 *SOUTHEY Lett. Spain & Port.* 427 This bleeding is more dreadful, because the Holy Office is the bleeder. 1850 *ALISON Hist. Europe* II. viii. § 54 In the language of the times. a new bleeding was required for the state.

Bleeding, *ppl. a.* [*f. BLEED* + -*ING*.]

1. Losing or emitting blood, or *transf.* sap.

1525 *Ancr. R.* 118 Bledinde mon is grislich. 1598 *TREVISIA Barth. De P. R.* v. xxii. (1495) 129 A bledynge wounde. 1703 *ROWE Ulysses* iv. i. 1706 That poor bleeding King. 1787 *WINTER Syst. Husb.* 45 Thistles. cut close to the ground, are destroyed by scattering soaper's ashes over the bleeding stumps.

b. Running or suffused with blood.

1505 *Leg. Road* (1871) 133 Bounden. in bledynge bondes. 1595 *SHAKS. John* II. l. 304 Whose sonnes lye scattered on the bleeding ground.

2. *fig.* a. Full of anguish from suffering, deep pity, or compassion.

1506 *SPENSER F. Q.* I. vii. 38 These bleeding words she gan to say. 1507 *HOOKER Eccl. Pol.* v. xlii. § 2 With bleeding hearts. 1608 *FELTHAM Resolves* l. lxi. (1647) 180 Calamities that challenge a bleeding eye. 1687 *N. N. Old Popery*, Compassionate and Bleeding Thoughts. 1713 *Guaradian* No. 31 (1756) I. 134 All those good-natured offices that could have been expected from the most bleeding pity.

b. *metaphor.* Obs.

1597 *SHAKS. Lover's Compl.* 153 Experience for me many bulwarks builded Of proofs new bleeding. 1674 *CLARENDON Hist. Reb.* I. v. 387 Cruelty. of which they every day received fresh and bleeding evidence.

3. *fig.* and *transf.* Said of nations devastated by war or the like, etc. Also, as in *BLEED* § 5 b.

1668 *DRYDEN Even. Love* iv. i, This is the Folly of a bleeding Gaster. 1674 *CLARENDON Hist. Reb.* I. v. 537 The relief of bleeding and miserable Ireland. 1689 *LUTTRELL Brief Rel.* (1857) I. 503 The bleeding condition of Ireland. 1843 *MARY HOWITT tr. F. Bremer's Greece* I. i. 9 Greece herself, bleeding and exhausted after her efforts in the War of Liberation.

4. *quasi-adv.* (Cf. § 2 b.)

1607 *SHAKS. Timon* I. ii. 80 So they were bleeding new my Lord, there's no meet like 'em.

5. Comb. *bleeding-heart*, the popular name for several plants; e.g. the Wallflower (*Cheiranthus Cheiri*), the *Aristolelia peduncularis*, *Colocasia esculenta* of the Sandwich Islands, *Dicentra formosa*, and a variety of Cherry (Miller); *bleeding root* = *BLOOD-ROOT*.

1714 *Phil. Trans.* XXIX. 64 The root call'd the Bleeding Root, curing the Jaundies. 1863 *Prior Plant.* n. 24.

Bleer (e, Bleet, obs. forms of BLEAR, BLITE.

Blees, obs. pa. t. of BLOW v.1

Bleeze, Sc. form of BLAZE sb. and v.1, used in all their senses. The verb is also used (by Scott) in a sense which appears to be influenced by BLAZE v.2: To declaim, talk loudly.

1816 *Scott Old Mort.* xxxv. Ye're bleezing awa about marriage. 1818 — *Rob Roy* xxvii. Ye're no to be bleezing and blasting about your master's name and mine.

Bleeze, v.2 Sc. trans. To turn (milk) a little sour, to 'blink.' Also intr. Jamieson.

Bleery (blī'zi), a. Sc. [cf. prec.] Affected in the eyes, as by alcoholic excitement. Jamieson has also *Bleered*, explained as 'a little flustered.'

1830 *Galt Lawrie T.* vii. vii. (1849) 282 A red face and bleery eyes. 1833 *Fraser's Mag.* VII. 622 Their faces grew red, and their eyes bleery.

Blefede, bleft(e), pa. t. and pple. of BLEAVE v. Obs., to remain.

Blefum, obs. form of BLAFLUM, Sc.

Blehand, var. of BLEAUNT, Obs., a tunic.

Bleib, **Bleid**, obs. forms of BLEB, BLEED.

Bleike, a. and v.: see BLEYKE.

Bleine, obs. form of BLAIN.

Bleinerite (blōinērīt). Min. = BINDHEIMITE.

† **Bleise**. Obs. rare-1. ?A blay or bleak.

1598 *Florio*, *Pescerello*, a fish called a bleise.

Bleise, **bleit**, obs. ff. BLAZE, BLATE, BLITE.

Blek, **bleke**, **blekk**, var. BLECK. Obs. or dial.

Blek (e), obs. form of BLEAK a. and v.

Blellum. Sc. A blab or blabber.

1790 *Burns Tam o' Shanter* 20 A bletherin, blusterin, drunken blellum.

† **Blely**, adv. Obs. rare. [A worn down form of BLETHELY.] Willingly, cheerfully.

c1380 *Wyclif Wks.* (1880) 417 An-ober fend þat wole blely robbe pore men. c1440 *Parlour* 771 He wole not blely aspyed be.

Blemish (ble'mif), v. Forms: 4 blemys, -iss, -ess, -ysh, -ysh, 4-5 blenssch, blench, 5 blemish, -esh, -ysh, 5-6 blemysch(e), 6- blemiah.

Pa. t. and pple. blemished, in 4 blemest(e), -yst, 5 blemischyd, 6- blemisht. {a. OF. blemiss-, extended stem of blemir (also blesmir, blaismir, in Pr. *blasmar*, *blesmar*) to render livid or pale, f. *blaisme*, *blesme*, *blème* 'livid, pale,' of uncertain origin: see Diez, Littré. The syncopated forms *blemischyd*, *blensch*, caused partial confusion with BLENCH: see senses 2, 5.]

†1. To hurt, damage, do physical damage or injury to, deface. Obs.

c1325 *E. E. Allit.* P. B. 1421 Wine. Breybed vype in to his brayn & blemyst his mynde. c1350 *Will. Palerne* 2471 Bihuld aboute on his bodi 3if it blenchid were. 14200 *Morte Arth.* 2578 He þet es blemeste with his brade brande.

1494 *Fabyan Chron.* vii. cccxiii. 249 Such holdes and castells, as the Scottis by theyr warrys had blemysched and apayed. 1617 *Diogenes Pantom.* i. xxxv. Lij, Blemishing all the . . . lines . . . drawn with black lead or such like, that you maye easely put oute or rase awaye.

1607 *Torsell Four-f. Beasts* 129 He cut off his tail. . . Being demanded why he so blemished his beast, etc.

†2. To dim or darken (the eye-sight). Obs.

1440 *Promp. Parv.* 39 Blenschyng [1499 blemyschen], *obfusco*. 1496 *Dives & Paup.* (W. de W.) iv. x. 173 They blemysche theyr eye in lokinge ayenst the sonne. 1526 *Pilg. Perf.* (W. de W. 1531) 297 My corporal eye . . . shall be blemysched or derked by the reason of the lyght. 1677 *Lover's Quar.* 82 The salt tears blemished his eye.

†3. To mar, spoil, or injure the working of.

c1460 *Lydg. Min. Poems* (1840) 14 Pitē blemeshithe the swerd of rightwinesse. a 1555 *Latimer Serm. & Rem.* (1845) 261 Ye do blemish the annunciation of the Lords death till he come. 1645 *Sir H. Finch Law* (1636) 338 That the people be not . . . troubled . . . nor the peace blemished. 1635 *Wentworth in Ellis Orig. Lett.* ii. 276 III. 282 To overthrowe or at least to blemish the proceedings. 1846 *Froude Hist. Eng.* (1858) I. iii. 253 An expedient, which though blemished in the execution, was itself reasonable and prudent.

†b. To disconcert, put out. Cf. BLENCH v.1 5.

1544 *Bale Chron. Sir J. Oldcastell in Harl. Misc.* (Malh.) I. 264 At this, the archbishop and hys companye were not a lytle blemysched.

4. To impair or mar the beauty, soundness, or perfection of; to damage.

c1460 *Towneley Myst.* 223 Alle blemysched is thi ble. 1530 *Palsgr.* 457/1, I blemysche, I hynder or hurte the beautye of a person. 1594 *Shaks. Rich. III.* i. ii. 128 These eyes could not endure y^e beauties wrack. You should not blemish it, if I stood by. c1746 *Hervey Medit. & Contempl.* I. 183 Without blemishing their Beauty, or altering their Nature.

b. To impair morally or ideally; to sully, stain, spoil.

c1380 *Wyclif Serm. Sel. Wks.* I. 178 Coveitise of wicked preestis blemiship hem. 1593 *Hooker Eccl. Pol.* Pref. i. 3 Let not the faith . . . be blemished with partialities. 1660 *Boyle Seraph. Love* 2 That the extraction of your freedom may no ways blemish it. 1735 *Oldys Raleigh Wks.* 1829 I. 270 Nothing . . . that might blemish reputation. 1866 *Howells Venet. Life* (1883) II. xx. 163 The admixture of ruffianism which blemishes most loafers.

c. To cast a slur upon, asperse, defame, discredit, disable. Obs. exc. in Law.

1414 *Brampton Penit. Ps.* xlvii. 18 Ne with here tungys blemysch my name. 1593 *Bilson Govt. Christs Ch.* 394 To blemish and reproch so many. 1649 *Mrs. Hutchinson Mem. Col. Hutchinson* (1846) 341 Blemish not a man that is innocent. 1699 *Dryden To J. Dryden* '31 Not that my verse would blemish all the fair. 1715 *Burnet Own Time* II. 331 Anything that would . . . blemish the management of the treasury. 1768 *Blackstone Comm.* II. 291 Whether a man should be permitted to blemish himself, by pleading his own insanity.

†5. intr. To turn pale, change colour, blench. (Cf. mod. F. *blémir*.) Obs. rare. Cf. BLENCH v.2

1530 *Palsgr.* 457/1, I blemysche, I chaunge colour. . . Sawe you nat howe he blemysched at it.

6. A hunting term: see quot. and cf. BLEMISH sb. 4.

1575 *Turberv. Venery* 104 Blemishing against or over the slot or viewe of the deare. 1798 *W. Osbaldiston Brit. Sportsm.* *Blemish*, a hunting term, used when the hounds or beagles, finding where the chase has been, make a proffer to enter but return.

Blemish (ble'mif), sb. Also 6 blemysch, blemish(e). [f. the vb.]

1. Physical defect or disfigurement; a stain. (Used spec. of the mark of injury to a horse, as the scar of a broken knee.)

1535 *Coverdale Tob.* xi. 13 Then beganne the blemysch to go out of his eyes, like as it had bene the whyte skynne of an egg. — *Lev.* ix. 3 A calf and a shepe, both . . . without blemysch [Wyclif, *wenne, wem*; 1611 *blensh*]. 1579 *Langham Gard. Health* (1633) 97 Face spots, or blemishes, anoint with the iuice of the roots. 1597 *Shaks. 2 Hen. IV.* ii. iii. 34 Speaking thicke (which Nature made his blemish). 1718 *Freethinker* No. 37. 270 One never sees the least Blemish of ink upon his Nails. 1827 *Hare Guesses* Ser. II. (1873) 500 Nothing hides a blemish so completely as cloth of gold.

2. trans. A defect, imperfection, flaw, in any object, matter, condition, or work.

1555 *Fardle Facions* i. i. 23 A moste blessed life without blemishe of wo. 1611 *Bible Pref.* 8 Some imperfections and blemishes may be noted in the setting forth of it. 1771 *Junius Lett.* xlv. 244 The minor critic. . . hunts for blemishes. 1863 *H. Rogers J. Howe* (ed. 2) Pref. 5 The work has now received a careful revision, and it is hoped that . . . such blemishes are removed. 1869 *J. Martineau Ess.* II. 222 The divine light is without blemish.

3. fig. A moral defect or stain; a flaw, fault, blot, slur.

1526 *Pilgr. Pref.* (W. de W. 1531) 64 A blemysche, which semeth to disteigne all his vertues. 1590 *Baret Adv.* B 796 A blemishe in ones good name. 1598 *Baret Theor. Warres* ii. i. 27 No blemish vnto any Gentleman to serue as a common souldier in the Captaines squadron. 1611 *Shaks. Wint. T.* i. ii. 341 He giue no blemish to her Honor, none. 1656 *Bramhall Replie* i. 51 Some abuses are . . . rather blemishes than sinnes. 1859 *Tennyson Vivien* 681 If they find Some stain or blemish in a name of note.

†4. *Venery*. (See quot.) Obs.

1575 *Turberv. Venery* 94 The same huntsman shall go backe to his blemishes immediately. 1611 *Blemishes* . . . are the marks which are left to knowe where a deare hath gone in or out. 1627 *Taylor (Water P.) Wks.* (1630) I. 93/1 Blemishes, Sewelling, Auant-laye, Allaye, Relye . . . and a thousand more such Vtopian fragments of confused Gibberish. 1656 in *Blount Glossogr.* 1721-90 in *Bailey*.

Blemished (ble'mif), ppl. a. Also 6- blemisht. [f. BLEMISH v. + ED.] Damaged or disfigured; marred by defect, flaw, or stain; spoiled.

c1440 *Promp. Parv.* 39 Blemischede [1499 blemysched], *obfuscat.* a 1450 *Knt. de la Tour* (1868) 25 She might not for shame shewe her visage, it was so foule blemished. 1594 *Shaks. Rich. III.* iii. vii. 122 The corruption of a blemisht Rock. 1612 *T. Taylor Comm. Titus* i. 8 No blind or blemished person might come. 1865 *M. Arnold Ess. Crit.* v. (1875) 222 He died and has left a blemished name.

Blemisher (ble'mif), [f. as prec. + -ER.] He who or that which blemishes.

1423 *James I King's Q.* cxi. He that suld of hir gude fame Be blemishere. 1594 *Greene Look Glasse* (1861) 124 Nocturnal cares, ye blemishers of bliss. 1630 *Brathwaite Eng. Gentl.* (1641) 5 A great darkener and blemisher of the internal glory and beauty of the mind.

Blemishing (ble'mif), vbl. sb. [f. as prec. + -ING.] The action of the verb BLEMISH; physical or moral impairment.

1413 *Lydg. Pilgr. Soule* v. xiv. (1483) 109 Withouten blemyschyng. 1447 *Bokenham Seyntys* (1835) 120 Wyth out blemyschyng of my virgynite. 1645 *Tombes Anthropol.* 2 Evill . . . tending to the . . . blemishing of the Christian profession. 1727-31 *Chambers Cycl.* s. v. *Abatement*. [In heraldry] Diminution is the blemishing any part by adding a stain or mark of diminution.

Blemishing, ppl. a. That blemishes.

1603 *Florio Montaigne* (1634) 502 Blemishing deformities. 1868 *Geo. Eliot Sp. Gyssy* I. 89 Fedalma's soul was free from blemishing purpose.

Blemishless (ble'miflēs), a. [f. BLEMISH + -LESS.] Without blemish.

1583 *Babington Commandm.* 429 Our blemishlesse God. 1850 *Neale Med. Hymns* 154 Spotless, blemishless, eternal.

Blemishment (ble'mifmēt), [f. BLEMISH + -MENT.] Damage, injury; flaw; impairment.

1596 *Spenser F. Q.* iv. ii. 36 For dread of blame and honours blemishment. 1640-4 in *Rushw. Hist. Coll.* iii. (1692) I. 96 To the great dishonour of this Kingdom, and blemishment to the Government thereof. 1884 *Law Times* 1 Mar. 322/2 That a man should allege . . . he was not of sane memory in blemishment of himself.

Bleematrope (ble'mātrōp). [f. Gr. *βλέμμα* look, glance, f. *βλέπειν* to look & *τροπός* turning, f. *τρέπειν* to turn.] 'An apparatus for illustrating

the various positions of the eye' (*Catal. Sci. Appar. S. Kensington*, 1876).

† **Blemmere**. Obs. rare. ?A plumber.

c1450 *Chron. Vilod.* 3644 Mony werkemen he sette to amende þat chirche . . . & masonus & carpenters & blemmeres also.

† **Blench**, sb. Obs. Also (in sense 1) 3-4 blenk, blenc. [f. BLENCH v.1 Cf. BLENK sb.2]

1. A trick, stratagem. To do or make a blenk or blench: to play a trick.

a 1250 *Owl & Night.* 378 He [the fox] haveþ mid him blenches 3arewe. a 1300 *Havelok* 307 Hope maketh fol man ofte blenkes. c 1325 *E. E. Allit. P. B.* 1201 þe kyng . . . a counsayl hym takes . . . A blench for to make. 1330 *R. Brunne Chron.* 274 þe Scottis now þei þenk of gile. . . How þei mot do a blenk tille Edward & hise. 1340 *Ayenb.* 130 And uerliche makeþ his blench.

2. A turning of the eyes aside, a side glance. rare. c 1600 *Shaks. Sonn.* cx. Most true it is, that I have lookt on truth Asconce and strangely: But by all aboute, These blenches gaue my heart an other youth.

Blench, a., Sc. form of BLANCH a., where see *Blench-farm*, etc.

Blench (blenf), v.1 Forms: 2-3 blenchen, 3 (blinche), 3-5 blenche, 4- blench. Pa. t. 3-4 bleinte, 4 bleynte, blynchid, 4-5 blent. [A word or series of words of very obscure history. Sense 1 is evidently:—OE. *blencan* to deceive, cheat = ON. *blekkja* (= *blenkja*) to impose upon, which point to an OTeut. type **blankjan*, assumed to be the causal of a strong **blinkan* to BLINK; but, as no trace of the latter occurs in early times, the origin of *blencan* is thus left uncertain. The northern form was BLENK, q.v. The sense-develop-

ment is involved, from confusion of *blenk* and *blink*, of *blench* and *blanch*, prob. also of the pa. t. *blent* with *blent* pa. t. of BLEND v.1, and other causes: little can be done at present except to exhibit the senses actually found in use.] To cheat, elude, turn aside. Related to BLENK and BLINK.

†1. trans. To deceive, cheat. Obs.

a 1000 *Be monna mōde* 33 (Gr.) Wrenceð he and blenceð. c 1175 *Lamb. Hom.* 55 Abuten us he is for to blenchen. [c 1400 *Destr. Troy* vi. 2483 Let no byndnes you blenke.]

2. intr. To start aside, so as to elude anything; to swerve, 'shy'; to flinch, shrink, give way.

c 1205 *Lay.* 1460 Corineus bleinte. a 1225 *Ancre R.* 242 þe horse þet is scheuþ, & blencheð uor one scheade. a 1250 *Owl & Night.* 170 Ich am war, and can well blenche. c 1386 *Chaucer Knt's T.* 226 Ther with al he bleynte and cride A! 1398 *Trevisa Barth. De P.* iii. xvii. [Rays that] passeth not alwaye forþe ry3te, but blencheþ [1522 swarue] sum wheþer of þe streite wey. c 1500 *Parthenay* 4268 Apart Gaffray . . . Somewhat blent, the stroke . . . passing by With hym noght mette. 1523 *Bale Gardiner's Obed.* C vij. He obeyeth truly, which . . . blenchet not out of the waye of Goddes commaundementes. 1603 *Shaks. Meas. for M.* iv. v. 5 Hold you euer to our speciall drift, Though sometimes you doe blench from this to that As cause doth minister. a 1605 *Fletcher False One* iv. iv. Art thou so poor to blench at what thou hast done? 1808 *Scott Marm.* vi. xii. Foul fall him that blenches first. 1876 *Emerson Ess.* Ser. I. xi. 262, I blench and withdraw on this side and on that.

†b. Of a ship: To turn or heel over. Obs.

a 1300 *K. Horn* 1411 þe schup bigan to blenche.

3. trans. To elude, avoid, shirk; to flinch from; to blink. [The first quot. perhaps in form belongs rather to BLINK.]

[c 1300 *Beket* 2184 He nas no3t the man that wolde: his heved enes withdrawe, Ne fonde for to blinche a strok.] 1663 *Evelyn Mem.* (1857) III. 142 He now blenched whilst before . . . he affirmed to me. 1822 *Hazlitt Table-t.* I. v. 100 Will not suffer me to blench his merits.

†4. trans. To turn aside or away (the eyes). Obs.

c 1400 *Roland* 402 He kest up his browes & blenchid his eye. [c 1400 *Melayne* 570.] See BLENK v. 3.

†5. trans. To disconcert, foil, put out, turn aside. Cf. BLENK v. 4. Obs.

[a 1400. See BLENK v. 4.] 1485 *Caxton Trevisa's Higden* iv. xxxiii. (1527) 181 The enemyes were blente thrugh goddes myghte. 1577 *Stanyhurst Descr. Irel.* in *Holinshead* VI. 16 Heere perchance M. Cope may blench me, in replying that *Anguis* may be construed generallie. 1602 *Carew Cornwall.* Carrying vp great trusses of hay before them to blench the defendants sight & dead their shot. a 1640 *Jackson Wks.* (1844) VIII. 122 Being blenched in his right course by the shadow.

6. intr. Of the eyes: To lose firmness of glance, to flinch, quail. [The first quot. may belong to 2.] [c 1430 *Lydg. Min. Poems* (1840) 215 This royal bridle . . . Blenchithe never for al the clere light.] 1775 *Burke Amer. Tax.* Wks. II. 404 That glaring and dazzling influence at which the eyes of eagles have blenched. 1837 *Howitt Rur. Life* ii. v. (1862) 150 His eyes seemed to blench before her still fixed gaze.

Blench, v.2 [A variant of BLANCH v.1 (The confusion is partly phonetic, as in BLANCH, BLENCH a.; partly of sense, since, with fear, the cheeks *blench*, the eyes *blench*.)]

1. intr. To become pale.

1813 *Hogg Queen's Wake* 26 Where the vexed rubies blench in death, Beneath yon lips and balmy breath. 1840 *Barham Ingol. Leg.* 286 That little foot page he blenched with fear.

2. trans. To whiten, make pale. rare.

1839 *Bailey Festus* (ed. 3) 16/1 The northern tribes Whom ceaseless snows and starry winters blench.

Blench, *v.* 3, obs. variant of **BLEMISH** *q. v.*

Blencher (blen'jə). [*f.* **BLENCH** *v.* 1 + **-ER** 1.]

† 1. A person or thing employed to turn or frighten away, *e.g.* a scarecrow: in *Hunting*, one placed to turn the deer from going in particular directions. Cf. **BLANCHER** 2. *Obs.*

1331 *ELYOT Gov.* i. xxiii. (1883) 247 The good husbände .. settethe up cloughtes or thredes, whiche somecall. blenchars .. to feare away birdes. 1375 *TURBERV. Veneri* 192 To set up blenchers or sewels (which are white papers). 1365 *FLETCHER Love's Pilgr.* ii. i. 8/2 Hurt those That stand but by as blenchers.

2. One who blenches or finches.

1873 *MORRIS Love is enough* 55 No blencher in battle.

Blenching (blen'jɪŋ), *vbl. sb.* [*f.* as prec. + **-ING** 1.] The action of the verb **BLENCH**: † a. Turning to one side, swerving, shying; † b. turning away of the eyes († blinking, winking); c. finching, quailing, loss of courage.

1393 *GOWER Conf.* III. 8, I stonde still, withoute blenching of min eye. 1398 *TREVISA Barth. De P. R.* ii. v. (1495) 32 Angels .. beholde streight .. in god .. without blenchynge of theyr eyen. *Ibid.* xii. xxxix. (1495) 436 The remercous fleeth in the eue tyde wyth brekyng and blenchynge and swyfte meuyng. 1868 *DORAN Saints & Sin.* II. 186 He saw without blenching the rope by which he was to be strangled.

Blenching, *ppl. a.* [*f.* as prec. + **-ING** 2.] Causing the eyes to turn away or finch.

1833 *Mrs. BROWNING Prometh. Bound Poems* (1850) I. 186 Let him now hurl his blenching lightnings down. — *Grief* *ibid.* I. 326 Under the blenching, vertical eye-glare Of the absolute Heavens.

Blenchingly *adv.* = *blenchingly*: see **BLENCH** *v.* 2

1850 *Mrs. BROWNING Poems* II. 476 This mask of me (Against which, years have beat thus blenchingly With their rains!)

Blencorn, var. of **BLEND-CORN**: see **BLEND** *sb.* 2.

† **Blend**, *v.* 1 *Obs.* Forms: 1 *blendan*, 2-4 *blendē*, 3-5 *blendē*, 4-6 *blend*. *Pa. t.* 1-3 *blende*, 4 *blend(e)*. *Pa. pple.* 1-4 *blend*, 3-4 *i-blend*, 4 *blende*, 4-5 *i-blent*, *blente*, 5 *i-blende*, *blended*, 3-7 *blent*, 6-7 *arch. y-blent*. [*Com. WGer.*: OE. *blendan* = OFris. *blenda*, OS. **blendan* (MDu. *blendēn*), OHG. *blentan* (MHG., mod. G. *blenden*): — OTeut. type **blandjan* 'to make blind', a factitive verb apparently formed with ablaut upon the adj. *blind-*, since no trace is found of a strong vb. *blindan*. See **BLIND**. (The *pa. t.* *blent* coincided with that of *blench*; whence some confusion in sense 1 b.)]

1. *trans.* To make blind: a. permanently.

1a 1200 *O. E. Chron.* an. 1036 Man hine blende, and hine swa blindne brohte to ðam munecon. 1225 *Juliana* 48 Ich habbe i-blent men. 1386 *CHAUCER Miller's T.* 622 With that strook he was almost i-blent.

b. temporarily, *e.g.* with bright light: To dazzle. 1888 *K. ALFRED Boeth.* xxxviii. v. Se deðz blent .. hiora eazan. 1297 *R. GLOUC.* 407 Pe smoke .. him ssolede bope steneche and blende. 1377 *LANGL. P. Pl. B.* v. 502 And thorw the lyte. Lucifer was blent. 1259 *SKELTON Image Hypocr.* Wks. III. 236 A virgin flayre and gent That hath our yees blent. 1596 *SPENSER F. Q.* iv. iii. 35 The swownd which him did blent. 1600 *FAIRFAX Tasso* xii. lxxxvi. What hath thy eyesight blent?

2. *fig.* To blind the understanding, judgement, or moral sense; to 'throw dust in the eyes' of.

1200 *ORMIN* 4525 Gredignesse. blendeþþ manness heortte. 1230 *CURSOR M.* 819 (Gött.) Pe feind had adam blent. 1386 *CHAUCER Pers. T.* 603 Envye blentid the hert of a man. 1450 *MYRC* 370 Thus wyth the fende he ys i-blende. 1579 *SPENSER Sheph. Cal.* Apr. 155 Ah foolish boy, that is with loue yblent. 1591 — *Virgil's Gnat.* xxxix. Feare and yre Had blent so much his sense.

3. To put out of sight, hide, conceal.

1430 *LYDG. Chron. Troy* i. ii. Under coloure was the treason blente.

Blend (blend), *v.* 2 Forms: 3-4 *blend-en*, 5-7 *blende*, 4- *blend*, (5 *blynde*, 5-6 *blenne*, 6 *blynnē*, *blente*). *Pa. t.* 3-5 *blend(e)*, 5- *blent*, *blended*. *Pa. pple.* 3-5 *blend*, 4 *blende*, *blente*, 4- *blent*, 6- *blended*, (8 *arch. yblent*). [*ME. blend-en* *wk. vb.*, appears c1300, at first in northern writers. Evidently akin to **BLAND** *sb.* mixture, and the OE. strong vb. *bland-an*, ON. *blanda* (Sw. *blanda*, Da. *blande*) to mix: see **BLAND** *v.* But the ME. vb. (however the change of vowel may be explained) can hardly have been a continuation of the OE. *blandan*, since this was all but obsolete already in OE., while *blenden* was a common word from the 14th c. More probably the latter was an adoption of the ON. *blanda* (which though originally strong, had subsequently weak inflexions); the change of vowel may also have been due to the ON. sing. present *blendr*: whether any association with **BLEND** *v.* 1 (with which it entirely coincides in forms) or other extraneous influence contributed, does not appear. But later identification with **BLEND** *v.* 1 is shown by the occasional use of *blynde* for this verb also. The 16th c. *blenne* was either phonetic, like the converse *len*, *lend*, or deduced from the *pa. pple.* *blend*.]

1. *trans.*

1. To mix, to mingle: a. things material; b. things immaterial. *Obs.* exc. as in d, or with some colouring from the other senses (esp. 4).

a. 1300 *CURSOR M.* 16768 Vinegre & gall be jews blend. *Ibid.* 18019 (Gött.) Aisel haue i blend wid gall. 1400 *DESTR. Troy* 3492 To se .. the blode .. blend with the erthe. 1450 *LIBER Cocorum* (1862) 50 Grynde tansy, þo iuse owte wrynge, To blynde with þo eggess. 1530 *PALSGR.* 457/2 Wyll you blenne wyne and ale together? 1585 *LLOYD Treas. Health* B vii, Putte therin .. whyte Lead and Common Salt, and blynnē them well together. 1601 *HOLLAND Pliny* II. 394 These beeing dried in the Sun .. they vse to blend with bean flour. 1733 *CHEYNE Eng. Malady* ii. ix. § 3 (1734) 208 Opiates .. blended with small proportion of .. Aromatick Medicines.

b. 1400 *Pes may stond* (Turnb. 1843) 155 Were luf and charite with hus blend. 1430 *Hymns Virg.* (1867) 108 Pat blaberyng are wip opes blent.

c. To mingle with a company or crowd. *Obs.* 1325 *E. E. Allit. P. A.* 385 In blysse I se þe blyþely bent. 1579 *TOMSON Calvin's Sermon.* Tim. 1010/1 These backsliders .. haue beene blended amongst vs. 1773 *STEELE Englishman.* No. 6. 39 We are blended with the Nobility.

d. To mix (sorts of spirits, tea, wines, etc.), so as to produce a certain quality.

1a 1400 *Chester Pl.* ii. (1847) 82 All mashers, minglers of wyne in the nighte Brewinge so blendenge againste daye lighte. 1583 *STRUBBS Anat. Abus.* ii. 25 [Vintners] make of one hoghead almost two .. by mixing and blenting one with another, and infusing other liquor. *Ibid.* 28 To intermix and blente the good and naughtie wooll together. 1884 *Pall Mall G.* 5 Sept. 6/2 A number of brands (varied by the blending of the tobaccos).

† 2. To mix or stir up (a liquid); hence sometimes, to render turbid, pollute, spoil, destroy; sometimes, to agitate, trouble: to disturb (joy, peace, beauty, weather).

1300 *CURSOR M.* 13767 Par-in was won for to descend Angels þe water for to blend. 1384 *CHAUCER Truth & Pries* hathē envye and wele is blent over al. 1593 *SPENSER Sonnet.* lxii. These stormes, which now his beauty blend, Shall turn to calmes. 1594 *GREENE Look Glasse* (1874) 137 When mildest wind is loth to blend the peace. *Ibid.* (1861) 124 My Hesperus by cloudy death is blent. 1596 *LODGE Marg. Amer.* 65 Thy sap by course of time is blent.

† b. Applied (according to ancient physiology) to disturbance or agitation of the blood (from its supposed normal state of rest): *pass.* and *intr.* To rush, flow; also *active*, To shed. *Obs.*

1300 *CURSOR M.* 17333 Pilate was þar, his blod was blend, Quen he wessen had his hend. 1340 *Gau. & Gr. Knt.* 2371 Alle þe blode of his brest blende in his face. 1460 *Towneley Myst.* 225 To be in payn thus broght, Thi blissid blode to blende.

3. To mingle intimately or closely with.

1591 *SPENSER M. Hubberd* 1330 Thy throne royall [is] with dishonour blent. 1788 *J. POWELL Devices* (1827) II. 95 If a testator has blended his real with his personal fund. 1800 *WORDSW. Hart-leap Well* ii. xxi. Never to blend our pleasure or our pride With sorrow of the meanest thing that feels. 1863 *Geo. ELIOT Romola* lii. (1868) 405 It blent itself as an exalting memory with all her daily labours.

4. To mix (components) intimately or harmoniously so that their individuality is obscured in the product; *esp.* of qualities, properties, effects, etc.; now the most frequent *trans.* use.

1601 *SHAKS. Twel. N.* i. v. 257 Tis beauty truly blent, whose red and white, Natures owne. hand laid on. 1662 *FULLER Worthies* (1840) II. 261 Providence hath so wisely blended the benefits of this county, that .. it is defective in nothing. 1771 *ADDISON Spect.* No. 128 ¶ 11 Thy Virtues are blended in their Children. 1816 *BYRON Ch. Har.* iii. xxix. Rider and horse, — friend, foe, — in one red burial blent. 1835 *LYTTON Rensai* i. iii. 13 In one of those wide spaces in which Modern and Ancient Rome seemed blent together. 1848 — *Harold* i. i. 4 In that beauty were blended two expressions. 1876 *GREEN Short Hist.* ix. § 2. 610 A common persecution soon blended the Nonconformists into one.

† 5. To mix up in the mind, regard as the same, confound with. *Obs. rare.*

1780 *COXE Russ. Discov.* 74 Six islands .. to the North West of the Fox Islands .. must not be blended with them.

II. *intr.*

6. To mix, mingle; *esp.* to unite intimately, so as to form a uniform or harmonious mixture.

1325 *E. E. Allit. P. B.* 1788 Boþe his blod & his brayn blende on þe cloþes. 1340 *CURSOR M.* 5690 Moses sagh þai dide ham wrange & sone he blende ham a-mange. 1400 *DESTR. of Troy* xxiv. 9642 The blorbernd blode blend with the rayn. 1713 *YOUNG Last Day* iii. 251 Cities and desarts in one ruin blend. 1799 *WORDSW. Descr. Sk. Poet.* Wks. I. 83 All motions, sounds, and voices .. Blend in a music of tranquillity. 1871 *R. ELLIS tr. Catullus* lxxviii. 18 She whose honey delights blend with a bitter annoy.

7. To pass imperceptibly into each other by assimilation or confusion of contiguous parts, *esp.* in reference to colour. To blend away: to pass away by blending.

1812 *J. WILSON Isle of Palms* i. 211 Oh! ne'er did sky and water blend In such a holy sleep. 1820 *IRVING Sketch Bk.* I. 9 In Europe, the features and population of one country blend almost imperceptibly with those of another. 1860 *TYNDALL Glac.* i. § 27. 196 The distant peaks gradually blended with the white atmosphere above them. 1862 *DARWIN Fertile Orchids* v. 159 The division between them, in this their leading character, blends away.

Blend, *sb.* [*f.* prec. *vb.*] A blending; a mixture formed by blending various sorts or qualities (*e.g.* of spirits, wines, tea, tobacco, etc.).

1883 *Academy* 14 Apr. 253/2 It resembles a blend made by

imitating the later style of Lever and the earlier style of Lord Beaconsfield. 1885 *Pall Mall G.* 28 Sept. 2/1 Public-houses, with flaming bills in their windows announcing .. the sale of American Blend.

† **Blend(e)**. Also bland. *Obs. pa. pple.* of **BLEND** *v.* 2 Also used as *adj.* = **BLENDED**.

1300 [see **BLEND** *v.* 2 b.] 1571 *Wills & Inv. N. C.* (1835) 352, XXX⁴ boles of maid malt being half bland. 1616 *SURFL. & MARKH. Countr. Farm* 93 Take two parts straw, and one part hay, and mix it together, which is called blend fodder. 1679 *Plot Staffordsh.* (1686) 161 The third sort of Iron .. they call blend-metall.

2. *esp.* in blend corn, blencorn, wheat and rye sown and grown together; blend-water, a urinary disease of cattle (Chambers *Cycl. Supp.* 1753).

1523 *FITZHERB. Husb.* § 34 Vppon that ground sowe blend come, that is both wheate and rye. 1583 *Wills & Inv. N. C.* ii. (1860) 78 In bygge 8l. In ottes 40l. In blandcome 40l. 1616 *SURFL. & MARKH. Countr. Farm* 550 You shall not lead your blend-corne so soone as you doe your cleane Wheat, or your cleane Rie. 1798 *W. HURTON Autobiog.* 11 A sixpenny loaf of coarse blencorn bread. 1855 *Whitby Gloss.*

Blende (blend), *Min.* Also 8 *blend*. [*a. Ger. blende*, from *blenden* to deceive: so called 'because while often resembling galena, it yielded no lead' (Dana); = *blendendes erz* 'deceiving ore' (Grimm). Hence also called *pseudogalena*, and *sphalerite* from *σφαλερός* 'deceitful'.] Sulphide of zinc occurring as a native crystalline mineral.

1683 [cf. **BLENDY**]. 1753 *CHAMBERS Cycl. Supp.* *Blende* .. called by some mock-lead. 1780 *Specif. M. Sanderson's Patent* No. 1243, 3 Decomposed or calcined blend. 1812 *Sir H. DAVY Chem. Philos.* 373 Zinc is procured from blende by a similar operation. *Ibid.* 377 In the blende or supposed sulphurets of zinc. 1869 *ROSCOE Elem. Chem.* 230 The chief ores of zinc are the sulphide or blende, etc.

b. † Formerly used of other metallic sulphides, or worthless ores. (Cf. **HORN-BLENDE**.)

1701 *J. DILLON Trav. Spain* 231 There is no doubt but that it is cobalt, of which that state is the blend.

Blended, *ppl. a.* [*f.* **BLEND** *v.* 2 + **-ED**.] Mingled, intermixed.

1621 *H. KING Sermon* 26 A blended mixture of the qualities. 1656 *MILTON State Lett.* Wks. (1851) 375 The confus'd and blended havock of Fire and Sword. 1796 *BURKE Regic. Peace* iii. Wks. VIII. 370 Flowing in one blended stream. 1869 *J. MARTINEAU Ess.* II. 175 The blended hymn of past, present, and future.

Blender (blendər). One who or that which blends; an implement for blending pigments.

1872 *C. KING Sierra Nev.* x. 208 He neatly rubbed up the white and sienna with his 'blender'. 1884 *Pall Mall G.* 5 Sept. 6/2 A blender (of tobaccos) is born not made.

Blending (blendɪŋ), *vbl. sb.* [*f.* as prec. + **-ING** 1.] The process of mixing intimately; the resulting state; a harmonious mixture.

1795 *Act. Geo. III.* civ. § 25 in *Oxf. & Camb. Enactm.* 109 The blending of money belonging to different Colleges. 1816 *BYRON Ch. Har.* iii. xlvj. A blending of all beauties. 1855 *Whitby Gloss.*, *Blendings*, a minglement of beans and peas. 1876 *GREEN Short Hist.* ii. § 6 (1882) 88 This blending of the two races.

Blending, *ppl. a.* That blends.

1642 *W. PRICE Sermon* 41 The Text may be meant of a blending mixture in Religion. 1812 *Examiner* 30 Nov. 763/2 Gradations .. soft and blending. 1873 *TRISTRAM Moab* iii. 50 Parted .. without any blending belt of .. scrub.

Blendous (blendəs), *a. Min.* [*f.* **BLEND** + **-OUS**.] Pertaining to or containing blende.

1847 in *CRAIG*.

Blendure (blendjūr), *rare.* Blending, mixture.

1701 *Answ. P. Hurly's Vind.* 6 The blendure and conjunction of things at some distance from each other.

1806-31 *A. KNOX Rem.* (1844) I. 55 The aristocratic character has been injured by a neutralizing blendure.

Blendy (blendɪ), *a.* [*f.* **BLEND** + **-Y**.] Containing blende.

1683 *PETTUS Flea Min.* i. (1686) 290 Lead oars .. taken from flinty, blendy, or mountainous places.

† **Blenge**, *v.* *Obs. rare* 1. [*cf.* *blend* and *menge* to mingle.] *trans.* To mingle, mix up.

1573 *TUSSER Husb.* (1878) 190 Backbiting talk that flatter-ing blabs know wily how to blenge.

Blenheim (blen'em, -im). Name of the Duke of Marlborough's house, near Woodstock, Oxfordshire; used to distinguish, a. a breed of spaniels; b. *Blenheim Orange*, a golden-coloured apple.

1851 *MAYHEW Lond. Lab.* ii. 62 (Hoppe) A good fancy breed of 'King Charleses' or 'Blenheims'. 1879 *JEFFERIES Wild Life S. County* 173 In the fork of a great apple tree — a Blenheim orange — the missel-thrush has built her nest. 1882 *Garden* 13 May 321/1 The Blenheim Orange is not a good bearer when young.

† **Blenk**, *v.* *Obs.* Forms: 4 *blenken*, 4-7 *blenk*. *Pa. t.* 4 *blyente*, *blenkede*, *blenkyt*, -it, *blenknyt*, 4-6 *blenked*. *Pa. pple.* 5 *blent*.

[Partly the northern equivalent of **BLENCH** *v.*, partly the earlier equivalent of modern **BLINK**, presenting the etymological difficulties of both words.]

I. = **BLENCH**.

1. *trans.* To blind, deceive, cheat; = **BLENCH** I. a 1000 *Blence* [see **BLENCH** 1]. 1400 *DESTR. Troy* 2483 Let no blyndnes you blenke.

2. *intr.* To start aside, so as to elude anything; to flinch, swerve; = **BLENCH** *v.* 1 2.

1300 *CURSOR M.* 7668 [Saul] þan hent a sper scarp to stair him þoru vnto þe wau, bot dauid sagh and blenked lau [v. r. blenkid, blenched *dis*]. 1330 *R. BRUNNE Chron.* 115 For

bise ne sille 3e blenk, bot hold vp ber honoure. *a 1330 Otuel*
460 He wolde haue smiten otuwel, & he blenkte swiwe wel,
And roudond smot be stede broun.

3. *trans.* To turn aside, raise (the eyes, eyebrows);
= BLEND *v.* 1. 4.

4. *1400 Melayne* 570 He wolde noghte say 'good morn-
ynge', ne ones his browes blenke.

4. To cheat, disappoint, disconcert, balk; or ? to
turn aside or away. *rare.*

1. *a 1400 Morte Arth.* 285 We sille blenke theire boste, for
alle theire bold profre.

5. *trans.* To make pale, to blanch. Cf. BLEND *v.* 2.

1. *1400 Melayne* 1350 A newe tydynge That blenkede all
his blee. *a 1600 Felon Sowe Rokeby*, The Sewe... rudely
rushed at the freer That blinkd all his blee.

II. = the later BLINK.

6. *intr.* To shine, glitter, gleam.

1303 R. BRUNNE *Handl. Synne* 428 A nytt whan bou
sleepys. Before by ygen hit blenkys. *c 1340 Gaw. & Gr. Knt.*
799 Vp on bastel-rouez, bat blenked ful quyte. 1375 BAR-
BOUR *Bruce* viii. 217 The sone... That blenknyt on
the scheldis braid. 1535 STEWART *Cron. Scot.* I. 349 Bemis
bricht blenkand on euerilk bench. 1605 in *Foxe's A. & M.*
(1684) III. 942 The Sun blenks often hottest to foretel a
following shour.

7. To glance, cast a glance, give a look; to look
up (from sleep); = BLINK 3, 4 a.

1. *1350 Will. Palerne* 3111 Pei lokede a boutte & bleynte bi
hinde be busch & sejen. 1375 BARBOUR *Bruce* vi. 633 The
King... blenkitt hym by And saw the twa-some. *Ibid.* vii.
203 The kyng blenkitt vp hastily, And saw his man slepand
him by. *c 1450 HENRYSON Mor. Fab.* 83 The Wolfe was
ware, and blenkend him behind. 1501 DOUGLAS *Pal. Hon.*
I. 326 Backwert he blent to give them knowledging. *a 1605*
Jas. I. in D'Israeli Cur. Lit. (1866) 174/1 Scarsie, but at
stolen moments, having the leisure to blenk upon any paper.

Blenk, sb. 1 north. f. BLEND, trick, stratagem.

1. *Blenk*, sb. 2 north. Obs. [f. BLEND *v.*; now,
like the vb., represented by BLINK.]

1. A sudden gleam of light.

1. *1340 Cursor M.* 10648 (Fair.) Nost a blenke must he se.
1513 DOUGLAS *Æneis* vii. ix. 113 The bricht mettell... Qu-
haron the son blenkis betis clere.

2. A glance of the eye; usually, a bright, cheer-
ful glance.

1. *1440 York Myst.* xxviii. 259, I will no more be abashed for
blenke of thy blee. *c 1450 Wisd. Sol. in Ratis Rav.* 21
Na wys men suld behald the bewte of women that thai be
nocht tan with thair suet blenkis. 1535 STEWART *Cron.*
Scot. I. 31 The young virgins with blenkis amorus.

1. *Blenking*, vbl. sb. Obs. [f. BLEND *v.* +
-ING.] Glancing, blinking.

1. *1450 HENRYSON Test. Cruseide*, The swete visage and
amorous blenking.

Blenne, obs. form of BLEND *v.* 2

1. *Blennioid* (blennioid), a. and sb. A. adj.
Allied to the BLENNY. B. sb. A fish of this kind.
1865 *Reader No. 110* 143/2 Fishes which resemble at first
Gadoids or Blennioids.

1. *Blenno*, *blenn*, a. Gr. βλέννο-ς, βλέννα,
mucus, in which sense it is extensively used in
combination in *Pathology*; as in *Blennogeno*,
Blennogenous a., generating or producing mucus.
Blennoid a., resembling mucus. *Blennor-*
rhea, *glia*, *Blennorrhoea* (-rīā), discharge of
mucus; hence *Blennorrhagic* (-rædʒik), *Blenn-*
orrhoeic a.

1. *1859 Todd Cycl. Anat. & Phys.* V. 617/2 Catarrh or blen-
norrhoea of the mucous membrane. 1861 BUMSTAD *Ven.*
Dis. (1879) 142 Five of these cases were not blennorrhagic.

1. *Blenny* (bleni). [ad. L. *blennius* (in Pliny),
f. Gr. βλέννος; so called from βλέννος slime, in
reference to the mucous coating of its scales.]

A genus of small spiny-finned fishes, of which
several species frequent the British coasts.

1. *1713 CHAMBERS Cycl. Supp.* s.v., The common Blennius of
authors. 1759 PENNANT *Zool.* III. 173 1774 GOLDSM. *Nat.*
Hist. (1862) II. iii. 295 The Blennius or Blenny. 1863 H.
PENNELL *Angler-nat.* 394 Viviparous fishes, such as the
Sharks, Blennies, etc.

1. *Blench*, obs. form of BLEND, BLEMISH.

1. *Blent*, ppl. a. [f. BLEND *v.* 2] Mingled.

1. *1875 Geo. Eliot Middlem.* xliii. The habits of the different
ranks were less blent than now. 1876 — *Dan. Der.* viii.
lxiii. 566 That blent transmission must go on.

1. *Blent*, obs. form of BLEND *v.* 2 (Perhaps sense 2
is meant by the following:

1. *1530 Palsgr.* 457/2, I blente, I lette or I hynder... This
terme is to moche northerne.

1. *Blent*(e), obs. pa. t. and pple. of BLEND, BLEND,
BLEND, *BLENK*, *v.*

1. *Bleo*, *Bleoman*: see BLEE, BLOMAN.

1. *Blepharo* (blefáro), a. Gr. βλεφαρο-ν eyelid;
used in numerous terms of *Pathology*, etc.; as
Blepharitis, inflammation of the eyelids. *Ble-*
pharoplasty, the operation of supplying any
deficiency caused by wound or lesion of the eyelid;
hence *Blepharoplastia* a. *Blepharospasm*,
spasm of the orbicular muscle of the eyelids.
Blepharostat, an instrument for fixing the eyelid
during operations in the eye. (*Syd. Soc. Lex.*)

1. *1875 F. THOMAS Dis. Women* 137 The same relation which
blepharospasm (bears) to the lids. 1875 H. WALTON *Dis.*
Eye 332 Blepharospasm, by which the eyelids are violently
and persistently closed.

1. *Blere*, obs. form of BLEAR.

1. *Bles*, obs. form of BLAZE sb.

1. *Bles-bok* (blesbók). Also *bles bok*, *bles-*
buck. [Du., f. *bles* blaze on forehead + *bok* goat.]
A South African antelope, the *Gazella albifrons*.
1884 BURCHELL *Trav.* II. 335 The Blesbok is so called
from having a white mark on its forehead. 1869 E. GRAY
Guide Brit. Museum 2 The Blesbok, Hartbeest, and
Sassaybe of South Africa. 1879 ATCHERLEY *Boerland* 73
The bles-buck, a larger antelope than the (spring-buck).

1. *Blesoe*, obs. form of BLESS *v.* 1

1. *Blesche*, v. Obs. Also 3 *blesen*, *blissen*.
[ME. *bleschen*, *blesen*, identical with MDu. *bles-*
chen (mod. Du., and LG. *blussen*) to extinguish
or quench, taken to represent an OTeut. **bi-*
laskjan, f. bi-, BE- + *laskjan*, OHG. *lesken* to
quench, extinguish (MHG., MLG. and late MDu.
lesschen, mod. G. *löschen*), causal of OHG. *leskan*
(MHG. *leschen*, mod. Ger. also *löschen*) to 'go out'
as fire. How it came into ME. does not appear.]

1. *trans.* To quench, extinguish; *fig.* to put a stop
to, blot out.

1. *1250 Gen. & Ex.* 553 So cam on werlde wreche and
wrake for to blissen swic sinnes same. *Ibid.* 363 Fier is
on hem bisiden list... Moyses it blesede wið his bede.
c 1440 Promp. Parv. 39/2 Bleschyn, or qwenchyn [1499
bleschyn], *extinguo*.

1. Hence *Blesching* vbl. sb.

1. *c 1440 Promp. Parv.*, Bleschynge, or qwenchynge of fyre.

1. *Blese*, obs. f. BLAZE sb. 1 and BLESS *v.* 1

1. *Blesiloquent*, a. Obs. *rare*—[ad. L.
**blesi-loquent-em*, f. *blesus* lisping, stammering +
loquent-em speaking.] 'Broad-spoken, or that
speaks stammeringly,' Blount *Glossogr.* 1656.

1. Thence in PHILLIPS and BAILEY.

1. *Blesome*, obs. form of BLISSOM.

1. *Bless* (bles), v. 1 Forms: 1 *blódsian*, *bléd-*
sian, *blétsian*, 2 *blétsien*, *blétsen*, *bleoen*,
bleocen, 2-3 *bledsen*, *blétsen*, (*Orm.*) *bletoenn*,
blettenn, 2-4 *blesoen*, 2-5 *blesen*, 3 *blet-*
sejen, *blesoi*, *blieon*, 3-4 *blizen*, *blissen*, 4
blisce, *blis*, *blist*, 3-7 *blesse*, *bliss* (e, 5 *blysch* (e,
blyssh (e, 5-6 *blysse*, 7- *bles*. *Pa. t.* and *pple.*
blesse, *blest* (*arch.* and *poet.*); in 1 *blédsoed*,
blésoed, 2-3 *bledsoed*, 2-5 *bletsed*, *blecoed*,
blesoed, *bliscoed*, 2- *blesse*, 5- *blest*. {OE.
blódsian, *blédsian*, *blétsian*: not found elsewhere in
Teutonic, but formed on the OTeut. type **blódsi-*
jan, f. **blódo-m* (OE. *blod*) blood: cf. OE. *mildsian*,
mildsian, ME. *MILCE*, to be mild, show pity; also,
for the formation, OE. *rlétsian* to rule=OHG.
rlétsion—OTeut. **rlétsian*, f. **rléts*, Goth.
reiks ruler, king. (An equally satisfactory deriva-

1. *tion of blétsian*, if it were the original form, would
be from *blót* sacrifice, on OTeut. type **blótsi-*
jan; but besides that *blédsian* actually occurs earlier,
the change of *ds* to *ts* is phonetically natural,
while the reverse is not.) The etymological
meaning was thus 'to mark (or affect in some
way) with blood (or sacrifice); to consecrate'.
But the sense-development of the word was greatly
influenced by its having been chosen at the Eng.
conversion to render L. *benedicere*, and Gr. εὐλογεῖν,
which started from a primitive sense of 'speak
well of or to, eulogize, praise,' but were themselves
influenced by being chosen to translate Heb.
בָּרַךְ, primarily 'to bend,' hence 'to bend the knee,
worship, praise, bless God, invoke blessings on,
bless as a deity.' Hence, a long and varied series
of associations, heathen, Jewish, and Christian,
blend in the Eng. uses of *bless* and *blessing*. Senses
4-6 arise mainly from *benedicere*, εὐλογεῖν. At a
very early date the popular etymological con-
sciousness began to associate this verb with the sb.
BLISS 'benignity, blitheness, joy, happiness,' which
affected the use of both words (see esp. senses 7,
8), and led to occasional ME. spelling of the vb.
with *i*, *y*.

1. The *pa. t.* and *pple.* are now generally spelt *blesse*, though
always pronounced (blest) in modern prose; the *pple.* may
be pronounced (ble'sed) in verse, or liturgical reading. As
an adj. *blesse* (ble'sed) is now the regular prose form, but the
archaic *blest* is frequent in verse, and traditional phrases as
e.g. 'the Isles of the Blest.'

1. *Orig. meaning* (prob.), To make 'sacred' or 'holy'
with blood; to consecrate by some sacrificial rite
which was held to render a thing inviolable from
profane use of men and evil influence of men or
demons. (The streaking of the lintel and door-
posts with blood, *Exod.* xii. 23, to mark them as
holy to the Lord and inviolable by the destroying
angel, was apparently the kind of idea expressed
by *blódsian* in pre-Christian times. Cf. also the
history of the Latin words *consecrāre* and *sacri-*
ficium.) Hence, in historical use:

1. I. To make sacred, consecrate, hallow.

1. *trans.* To consecrate (a thing) by a religious

rite, the utterance of a formula or charm; in later
times by a prayer committing it to God for his
patronage, defence, and prospering care, as in *to*
bless food, to ask God's blessing on it (cf. 5).

1. *c 1000 Ags. Gosp. Matt.* xxvi. 26 Se Hærend nam hlaf and
hyne bletsode and bræc. *c 1300 ORMIN* 17193 Patt watt
patt iss att to sunnt Blettcedd wiþþ Godes wordess. 1377
LANGLE, *P. Pl.* B. xi. 229 Tyl he blessed and brak be bred
bat þei eten. *c 1400 Apol. Loll.* 30 If þe prest sacre Crist
wan he blessiþ þe sacrament of God in þe auter. *a 1593*
H. SMITH *Serm.* (1637) 376 Before thou hast blessed it with
prayer, thou hast no promise it shall prosper. 1596 SHAKS.
Merch. V. iii. ii. 79. 1637 GILLESPIE *Eng. Pop. Cerem.* iv.
iv. 20 It was behoofull for their cause, distinctly and
severally to blisse those Elements. 1649 MILTON *Edon.*
Wks. 1738 I. 427 Where the Master is too resty, or too rich
to. bless his own Table. 1798 SOUTHEY *Bp. Bruno* Wks.
VI. 149 And now the bishop had blest the meat.

1. *† b.* To consecrate (a person) to a sacred office.
1254 O. E. *Chron.* (Laud MS.) Pa was he [Henry II] to
king bletsed in Lundene. *c 1400 Chron. Vilod.* 563 And
was bletsud Abbas in þe same place. *Ibid.* 1168 Pen was
Alfyne y bletsud Abbas of þe place.

1. *2. spec.* To sanctify or hallow by making the sign
of the cross; usually as a defence against evil agen-
cies. esp. *refl.* and *absol.* To cross oneself. *arch.*

1. *c 950 Lindisf. Gosp.* John viii. 48 Ahne bloedsade ue usic
vel sægnade [mistakenly, of nonne bene dicimus nos?] *a 1225*
Ancre. R. 290 Braid up þene rode stef, & sweng him æþean
a uour halue—þene helle dogge. Þet nis nout elles bote
blesce þe al abuten mid te eadie rode tocn. *c 1500 Yng.*
Children's Bk. in *Babees Bk.* (1868) 17 Aryse be tyme oute
of thi bedde, And blyse þi brest & thi forhe. 1564 J.
HEYWOOD *Prov. & Epigr.* (1867) 91, I nother nod for sleepe
... nor blisse for spirites. 1577 HOLINSHED *Chron.* I. 157/2
Blesse your eies with the signe of the crosse, and trie
whether you can see that I see. 1653 URQUHART *Rabelais*
I. xxxv, When they heard these words, some... blest them-
selves with both hands, thinking... that he had been a devil
disguised. 1719 LADY M. W. MONTAGUE *Lett.* II. xlvii. 47,
I fancy I see you bless yourself at this terrible relation.

1. *b.* To bless oneself from: see 3 b.

1. *† c.* To bless into, out: to change into, cast out,
by making the sign of the cross. Obs.

1. *1534 MORE Passion Wks.* (1557) 1273/1 When the dyuell
fyrste casteth any proude wayne thoughte into our mynd...
let vs forthwith make a crosse on our breast, and blesse it
oute. 1589 NASHE *Pasquils Rel.* Wks. 1885 I. 93 One Pope
or other... blest me into a stone to stoppe my mouth.

1. *d.* Not to have a penny to bless oneself with: in
allusion to the cross on the silver penny (cf.
Ger. *Kreuzer*), or to the practice of crossing the
palm with a piece of silver.

1. *1557 NORTH Guevara's Diall Pr.* (1610) 625/2 The pesti-
lence of penny... he hath in his purse to blisse himself with.
1564 J. HEYWOOD *Prov. & Epigr.* (1867) 73 He had not...
one penny to blisse him. 1861 GEO. ELIOT *Silas M.*, I have
not a shilling to bless myself with.

1. *† e.* humorously (with allusion to holy water).
1609 MAN in the MOONE 11 Bless his beard with a bazeen
of water, least he burne it.

1. *† f.* To protect or guard, save, keep from (evil):
said of God, supernatural influence, a charm or
prayer; also loosely of other things. Obs.

1. *c 1175 Lamb. Hom.* 59 From alle, uuele he scal blecen us.
1543 BECON *New Y. Gift Wks.* (1843) 315 With such I love
not to meddle. God blesse me from hym! 1594 NASHE
Unfort. Trav. 43 Kisse the ground as holy ground which
she vouchsafed to blesse from barrennes by her steppes.
1594 SHAKS. *Rich. III.* iii. iii. 5 God blesse the Prince from
all the Pack of you. 1595 SPENSER *F. O.* i. ii. 18 Glancing
down his shield from blame him fairly blest. 1630 MILTON
Penseroso 83 Or the bellmans drowsy charm To blesse
the doors from nightly harm. 1646 FULLER *Wounded Consc.*
(1841) 349 God bless you and yours from fre. 1650 BR.
HALL *Cases* 181 Doubtlesse, the Devil is a most
skillfull Artist... but God blesse us from imploying him. 1855
KINGSLEY *Westw. Ho!* ii. (*Traditional Spell*) 'Matthew,
Mark, Luke, and John, Bless the bed that I lie on.'

1. *† b. refl.* To guard oneself (with God's help)

from, keep out of the way of, give a wide berth to,
shun, eschew. (Sometimes, probably, by crossing
oneself, as in sense 2.) Obs.

1. *c 1449 PEOCKE Repr.* iii. xix. 411 If thilk doctor... hadde
blesid him self fro this... perel. 1530 PALSGR. 458/1, I wyll
never medle with hym, if I may blesse me from hym. 1549
CHALONER *Erasm. Moriz Enc.* E. iv. b, Whiche of you woulde
not lothe and blisse you from the company of suche manner
a man. 1618 RALEIGH *Rem.* (1644) 97 From Suretieship, as
from a Man-slayer, or Enchanter, blesse thy self. 1622
FLETCHER *Span. Curate* i. i. 27 Blesse yourselves from the
thought of him and her. 1651 MORE *Enthus. Triumph.*
(1656) 172 Bless thee from madness, Tom, and all will be
well. 1753 SMOLLETT *Ct. Fathom* (1784) 137/2 He blessed
himself from such customers.

1. II. To hold or call holy; to extol as holy (see
Isa. vi. 3, Rev. iv. 8), divine, gracious.

1. 4. To call holy; to extol, praise, or adore (God)
as holy, worthy of reverence.

1. *a 1000 Cardmon's Daniel* 400 (Gr.) We ðec bletsiað, Fæder
ælmihtig. *c 1000 Ags. Psalter* xcvi. 2 Singað nu drihtne
and his soðne naman bealde bletsiað. *c 1175 Lamb. Hom.*
57 Þi nome beo blecced. *c 1305 Deo Gratias in E. E. P.*
(1862) 125 To þonke and blesse hym we be bounde. 1382
WYCLIF *Yas* iii. 9 In it we blessen God the fadir, and in it
we cursen men. 1593 HOOKER *Ecl. Pol.* i. iii. § 4 The
Creator... alone to be blessed, adored and honoured of all
for ever. 1651 HOBBS *Leviath.* ii. xxxi. 189 The subject of
Magnifying and Blessing, being Power. 1825 J. MONT-
GOMERY *Hymn 'Stand up and bless'* 6 Stand up and bless
the Lord, The Lord your God adore.

1. 5. *esp.* with an added notion of thanksgiving or

acknowledgement of gracious beneficence or goodness: To praise or extol with grateful heart; 'to glorify for benefits received' (J.).

a. *orig.* God or his attributes.

c 1000 *Agg. Gosp.* Luke i. 68 Gebletsod [*Lindisf.* gebloet-sad] si drihten israhela god, forþam þe he geneosode. 1388 WYCLIF *ibid.* Blesid be the Lord God of Israel, for. [CRANMER, Prayed be]. c 1440 *York Myst.* xii. 217 Blesid be þou ay, For þe grace þou has me lence. 1526 *Pilgr. Perf.* (W. de W. 1531) 251 To laude and blesse god for his goodnes. 1596 SHAKS. *Tam. Shr.* iv. v. 18 Then God be blesid, it is the blessed Sunne. 1795 SOUTHEY *Joan of Arc* ii. 309, I..blest my God I was not such as he. 1843 NEALE *Hymns for Sick* 44 But Thy Love—Oh give me grace to bless it every hour!

b. other influences, e.g. one's stars, one's fortune or luck, the day of one's birth, etc. Now generally in a more or less ludicrous sense: To thank, attribute one's good fortune to.

c 1440 *Ywaine & Gau.* 3344 Folk..blissed the time that he was born. a 1845 Hood *Pamper's Christmas Carol* iii, Ought not I to bless my stars? 1846 *Punch* ix. 13 Let me bless my prudence.

c. persons: see 6 b, which sometimes passes into 'praise or extol with grateful regard.'

III. To declare to be supernaturally favoured; to pronounce or make happy.

6. To pronounce words that confer (or are held to confer) supernatural favour and well-being.

a. Said of a superior, i.e. of one entitled to speak in God's name, a priest or sacred person (e.g. Balaam, Moses), an aged or dying parent (e.g. Isaac, Jacob); also of God himself. When said of men, the sense has passed into that of officially or paternally commending to divine protection and favour.

c 1000 *Ælfric Gen.* xxvii. 4 Bring me þæt ic etc, and ic be bletsige ær þam þe ic swelte. c 1000 *Agg. Gosp.* Mark x. 16 Ða beclupte he hi, and his handa ofer hi settende bletsode [*Lindisf.* gebledsade, *Rusku.* gibletsade, *Haltst.* bletsede] hi. c 1205 *LAY.* 32157 Me and mine wiue! he scal bletsigen & scriue. a 1300 *Cursor M.* 637 God ham blesset and bad ham brede, and multiply. c 1383 WYCLIF *Sel. Wks.* iii. 323 Þei cursen hem þat God blisseþ. 1388—*Numb.* xxiii. 11 What is this that thou doist? Y clepide thee that thou schuldist curse myn enemies, and ægneward thou blesist hem [1388 blesset to hem]. c 1410 *Love Bonavent.* *Mirr.* xv. 38 (Gibbs MS.), After he hadde i blesset hem wente vppe aȝayne to heuene. 1549 *Bk. Com. Prayer, Confir.*, Then shal the Busshop blisse the children, thus saying. 1810 SCOTT *Lady of L.* iii. vii, Stood prompt to bless or ban.

b. Of one not a superior: Piously to invoke God's blessing upon, to commend gratefully and affectionately to God's favour, to load with one's devout good wishes; to speak well of and wish well to.

1330 R. BRUNNE *Chron.* (1810) 97, I blisse Anselme þerfore. c 1330 *Amis & Amil.* 344 Men blisted him, bothe bon and blod, That euer him gat and bare. 1613 SHAKS. *Hen. VIII.* iii. i. 54 To taint that honor euer good Tongue blesset. 1667 MILTON *P. L.* x. 821 So disinherited how would ye bless Me now your Curse! 1718 STEELE *Spect.* No. 264 P. 1 The Fatherless...and the Stranger bless his unseen Hand in their Prayers. 1748 W. COLLINS *Ode* vi, By all their country's wishes blest. 1850 TENNYSON *In Mem.* cxix, I..think of early days and thee, And blest thee.

7. To confer well-being upon; 'to make happy; to prosper, make successful' (J.): *orig.* said of God; in later use also of men and things, but generally with an implication of their conferring instrumentally a divine blessing. (Here the association of *bless* with *bliss* becomes apparent.)

a 1000 *Cadmon's Gen.* 237 (Gr.) Ic Ismael estum wille bletsian. a 1300 *Hymn to God* 16 in *Trin. Coll. Hom.* App. 258 Louerd þu vs blesce. 1388 WYCLIF *Gen.* xxxix. 5 And the Lord blesside the hows [1388 to the hows] of Egipcion for Joseph. 1549 *Bk. Com. Prayer, Matrim.*, Look, O Lord, mercifully upon them from heaven, and bless them. 1578 *Gude & Godlie Ballates* (1868) 65 Blis, blisid God, this gites gude Quhilk thow hes geuin to be our fude. 1596 SHAKS. *Merch.* v. i. 186 It [mercy] is twice blest, it blesseth him that giues, and him that takes. 1597—*2 Hen. IV.* i. ii. 248 Heauen blesse your Expedition. 1697 DRYDEN *Virg. Georg.* iv. 729 But she return'd no more, to bless his longing Eyes. 1718 POPE *Iliad* i. 144 When first her blooming beauties blest'd my arms. 1813 BYRON *Ginour* 1115, I have possess'd, And come what may, I have been blest. 1848 THACKERAY *Van. Fair* xxxi, 'God bless the meat,' said the Major's wife, solemnly. 1850 LYNCH *Theo. Trin.* v. 68 To say that good gives pleasure seems poor expression of the truth that it blesses us.

b. To make happy with some gift: *orig.* of God as the giver; also of persons or things. (In the first example, *blissian* may be really = *blissian*, BLISS.)

a 831 *Charter of Oswulf* (Sweet O. E. T. 444) Ðaette ze sien zeblissude mid ðem weorlðcundum godum. 1598 B. JONSON *Ev. Man out of Hum.* ii. iii, Shee was blest with no more copie of wit. 1608 *Return fr. Parnass.* ii. v. (Arb.) 30, I will blesse your eares with a very pretty story. 1610 SHAKS. *Temp.* ii. i. 124 You may thank your selfe... That would not blesse our Europe with your daughter. 1650 BAXTER *Saint's R.* iii. (1654) 4 Return him hearty thanks upon my knees, that ever he blesst his Word in my mouth with such...success. 1718 ARBUTHNOT *John Bull* (1755) 30 Mrs. Bull..blesst John with three daughters. 1767 FORDYCE *Serm. Yng. Wom.* i. i. 14 Are you...blest with parents? 1839 BAILEY *Festus* i, To bless him with salvation.

8. *refl.* To account or call oneself supremely

happy; to congratulate or felicitate oneself, *with, in, that.*

1611 BIBLE *Jer.* iv. 2 The nations shall blesse themselves in him, and in him shall they glorie. 1674 N. FAIRFAX *Bulk & Selv.* To Rdr., I..blisist my self that I was there. 1684 BUNYAN *Pilgr.* ii. (1879) 246 Old men have blesst themselves with this mistake. 1839 BAILEY *Festus* iv, To..bask, and bless myself, Upon the broad bright bosom.

¶ In ME., and above all by Wyclif, *bles* was construed with *to*, app. in imitation of *benedicere alicui* of the Vulgate.

a 1300 *Cursor M.* 17890 To oure lord iesu crist 3e blisse. c 1380 WYCLIF *Serm.* Sel. Wks. II. 249 Cristene men shulden blesse to oþer þat pursuen hem here. 1388—*Gen.* i. 21 And God..blisside to hem, seynge, Growith, etc. *Ibid.* xii. 3, I shal blis to thoo that blissen thee.

IV. Exclamatory, elliptical and ironical uses.

9. In exclamatory invocations and ejaculations of surprise; a. in sense 3, as *God bless me!* elliptically *bless me! bless* (also *save*) the mark! (see MARK). b. in sense 7, as (God) *bless you!*

a. 1590 SHAKS. *Mids. N. iv. ii.* 14 A Paramour is (God blesse vs) a thing of nought. 1646 MILTON *Sonn.* xi. 5 Cries the stall-reader, 'Bless us! what a word on a title-page is this!' 1709 STEELE *Tatler* No. 25 P. 10 Bless me! Sir, there's no Room for a Question. 1752 MRS. LENNOX *Fem. Quix.* I. iii. v. 161 'Lord bless me, madam!' said Lucy, excessively astonished. 1844 DICKENS *Mart. Chuz.* v. 50 'Bless my life!' said Mr. Pecksniff, looking up. 1849—*Dav. Copp.* xii. 138 'Bless and save the man...how he talks!' 1851 RUSKIN *King Gold.* Riv. i. (1856) 12 'Bless my soul!' said Schwartz when he opened the door.

b. 1688 SHAKS. *L. L. L.* ii. 77 God blesse my Ladies, are they all in love? 1732 FIELDING *Miser* v. i. (1777) 67 Bless her heart! good lady! 1840 MARRIAT *Poor Jack* xxix, Bless you, my child, bless you! 1875 RUSKIN *Fora Clav.* II. xx. 8 The Colonel might have said 'Bless you, my children,' in the tenderest tones.

10. Hence, *To bless oneself*: to ejaculate 'God bless me!' or other exclamation of surprise, vexation, or mortification.

1615 T. ADAMS *Black Dev.* 71 He..would blesse himselfe to think that so little a thing could extend itself to such a capacity. 1665 PEPYS *Diary* i Apr., How my Lord Treasurer did bless himself, crying he could do no more, etc.

¶ 11. In many senses (esp. 5 b, 7, 8, 9, 10) *bles* is used euphemistically or ironically for a word of opposite meaning, 'curse, damn,' etc.

1812 MISS AUSTEN *Mansf.* P. xviii, Could Sir Thomas look in upon us just now, he would bless himself. 1838 DICKENS *O. Twist* xiii, An emphatic and earnest desire to be 'blesst' if she would. 1876 H. SMART *Play or Pay* viii. (ed. 3) 156 Fuming, blessing himself, dashing himself.

V. Comb., as *+bless-beggar*, a thing to bless a beggar with. (*ironical*.)

1580 R. HARVEY *Pl. Perc.* (1860) 33 My quarter staffe, is it not a blesse-begger thinke you?

+ *Bless*, v. 2 *Obs.* Also 4-6 *blyss* (e, bliss).

[a. F. *blesse-r* = OF. *blecier* to injure, wound: cf. BLECHE. Often associated with *BLESS* v. 1, either humorously or in ignorance. (The sense of the second quotation is doubtful: cf. *BLESS* v. 3)] To wound, hurt; to beat, thrash, drub.

[c 1325 *Coer de L.* 546 Whenne I hym had a strok i-fet, And wolde have blyssyd hym bet. c 1350 *Will. Palerne* 1192 [He] blesst so wip his brist bront' aboute in eche side þat, what rink so he rauyt' he ros neuer after. 1526 SKELTON *Magnyf.* 1641, I have hym coryed, beten and blyst. 1545 ASCHAM *Toxoph.* (Arb.) 145 As though they woulde tourne about and blysse all the feelde. 1575 J. STILL *Gamm. Gurton* iii. iii, Tarry, thou knave. I shall make these hands blesse thee. 1577 HELLOWES *Guevara's Fam.* Ep. 237 When he did leuell toshoote, he blesst himselfe with his peece, and killed them with the pellet. 1612 SHELTON *Quix.* I. iii. 173 That of the Battle...when they blesst'd your Worship's Cheek Teeth.

+ *Bless*, v. 3 *Obs.* Also 6 *blesse*, *bliss*. [Much affected by Spenser: perhaps taken from such a use as that quoted from *William of Palerne* under *BLESS* v. 2; perhaps, as others think, 'to flourish as in making the sign of the cross': cf. *BLESS* v. 1 a (quot. 1225), also 3 (quot. 1596). In any case it can hardly be an independent word.] *trans.* and *absol.* To wave about, brandish; also *trans.* to brandish round (an object with a weapon).

1596 SPENSER *F. Q.* i. v. 6 They..burning blades about their heades doe blesse. *Ibid.* i. viii. 22 His sparkling blade about his head he blest. *Ibid.* vi. viii. 13 And with his club him all about so blist, That he which way to turne him scarcely wist. 1600 FAIRFAX *Tasso* ix. lxvii, His armed head with his sharpe blade he blest.

+ *Bless*, sb. *Obs.* [f. *BLESS* v. 1; but perhaps confused with *BLISS* sb.] A blessing.

1596 *Pilgr. Perf.* (W. de W. 1531) 45 The viii beatitudes, otherwise called the viii blesces. 1725 POPE *Odyss.* xv. 202 This promised blesse.

Bless, *obs.* form of *BLISS*.

Blessbok, -buck, var. of *BLES-BOK*, antelope.

Blessed, blest (ble's'd, blest), *apl.* a. [f. *BLESS* v. 1 + -ED. For the forms and pronunciation see note under *BLESS* v.]

1. Consecrated, hallowed, holy; consecrated by a religious rite or ceremony.

c 1000 *Trin. Coll. Hom.* 25 Blesst be þi name on us, sanctificetur nomen tuum. a 1300 *Cursor M.* 21677 Pat blisced lambs blod. 1504 *Will in Ripon Ch. Acts* 295 Afore the blisced rode. 1566 *Chron. Gr. Friars* (1852) 95 A proclamation for the blyssyd sacrament. 1578 *Gude &*

Godlie Ballates (1868) 177 Mariage is ane blesst band. 1688 STRADLING *Serm.* 195 Who receive him worthily in the Blessed Sacrament. 1830 MARRIAT *Phant. Ship* i, I..dipped my finger in the blessed water. 1855 BROWNING *Holy Cross Day*, Blessedest Thursday's the fat of the week.

2. That is the object of adoring reverence, adorable, worthy to be blessed by men.

c 1230 *Hali Meid.* 47 Ihesu crist leue þe þurh his blescede nome. a 1240 *Lofsong in Cott. Hom.* 209 Þurh þine eadi flesche and þine iblescede blode. c 1380 WYCLIF *Serm.* (Sel. Wks.) I. 131 Crist..in his blesstid passioun. a 1400 *Relig. Pieces fr. Thornton MS.* (1867) 39 In his Godhede so blyschede. 1493 *Petrionella* 32 Oure blyssyd lorde Iesu. 1556 *Will in Ripon Ch. Acts* 361 Our blisstid lady saunte Mary. 1666 H. MORE *Antid. Ath.* iii. x. (1662) 119 Crying out, 'Blessed God, what's here to do.' 1868 Br. Wordsworth *Hymn*, 'Hark, the sound of Holy voices,' In the Beatific Vision of the Blessed Trinity.

3. Enjoying supreme felicity; happy, fortunate.

c 1175 *Lamb. Hom.* 47 Ædie and blescede beon alle þeo þe ihered. a 1300 *Cursor M.* 16655 Þe baraigne blisced sal man call. c 1400 *Ave Regina* (Turnb. 1843) 145 Heyle be tho bleste that euer bare chyld. c 1450 OCCLEVE *Mother of God* 24 Among all women blesstid thow be. 1598 SHAKS. *Ven. & Ad.* 466 Blessed bankrupt, that by love so thriveth. 1640 HOWELL *Dodona's Gr.* (1645) 69 The blesstid of mortal Wights. 1790 BURNS *Tam o' Shanter*, Kings may be blest, but Tam was glorious. 1875 JOWETT *Plato* (ed. 2) I. 14 If to beauty is added temperance, then blesstid art thou.

b. Enjoying the bliss of heaven, beatified (cf. 5).

1475 Bk. *Noblesse* 3 Men..whiche as verray trefw martins and blisid souls have taken their last ende by werre. 1578 R. H. LAVATERUS *Ghostes* (1596) 102 Cælum Empireum..which they say is the seate ordeined for the blesstid sort. 1591 SHAKS. *Two Gent.* ii. vii. 38 And there lie rest, as after much turmoile A blesstid soule doth in Elizium. 1667 MILTON *P. L.* iii. 136 The blesstid Spirits elect.

c. *absol.* The beatified saints; those in paradise.

c 1800 *Trin. Coll. Hom.* 173 Cumeð iblescede and underfod eche lif. 1551 ROBINSON tr. *Moré's Utop.* (1860) 148 It were an vnconvenient thinge that the blesstid should not be at libertie to goo whether they woulde. 1675 DRYDEN *Aurengz.* I. i. 144 T' augment the number of the Bliss'd above. 1810 SOUTHEY *Kehama* xii. i, The joys which Heaven hath destin'd for the blest. 1863 TENNYSON *Wages* 8 She desires no isles of the blest, no quiet seats of the just.

4. Bringing, or accompanied by, blessing or happiness; pleasurable, joyful, blissful.

1458 MS. *Christ's Hosp. Abington in Dom. Archit.* III. 41 Another blisid besines is brigges to make. 1526 *Pilgr. Perf.* (W. de W. 1531) 150 There foloweth the moost blesstid effecte. 1660 PEPYS *Diary* 23 May, The Royalle company by themselves [dined] in the coach, which was a blesstid sight to see. 1679 BURNET *Hist. Ref.* Ep. Ded., The short, but blesstid reign of king Edward. 1719 YOUNG *Busiris* iv. l. (1757) 72, I have thought..thirst and toil blest objects of ambition. 1863 FR. KEMBLE *Resid. Georgia* 10 The blesstid unconsciousness and ignorance of childhood.

b. Of plants and herbs: Endowed with healing virtues; hence in plant names (= Lat. *benedictus*), as *blessed rose*, the peony; *blessed thistle*, *Carduus benedictus*; (erroneously) *C. Marianus*.

1563 HULL *Art Garden.* (1593) 102 The stalk..beareth big and reddish flours, of some named the blessed Rose. 1576 LYKE *Dodoens* iv. lxx. 532 This Blessed Thistell is sowen in gardens. 1608 *Metamorph. Tobacco* (Collier) 44 The blessed Thistle and Herbe-grace Had lost their names, and been accounted base. 1608 SHAKS. *Per.* iii. ii. 35 The blest infusions That dwell in vegetives. 1863 PRIOR *Plant-n.* 24 Blessed thistle..from the milk of the Virgin having fallen upon its leaves, as she nursed the infant Jesus.

5. Euphemistically or ironically used for 'cursed' or the like.

[cf. 1526 Bp. J. CLERK *Let.* 13 Sept. in *Brewer Lett. & Pa.* IV. 1109 Circa istud benedictum divorcium.] 1806 WINDHAM *Let. in Speeches* (1812) I. 77 As one of the happy consequences of our blessed system of printing debates, I am described to-day..as having talked a language directly the reverse of that which I did talk. 1865 tr. *Sjohr's Autobiog.* I. 221 The whole of the members..must attend every blessed evening in the theatre.

6. quasi-*advb.* Blessedly.

c 1600 SHAKS. *Sonn.* xcii, Whats so blessed faire that feares no blot.

7. Comb. as *blessed-making*.

1657 R. CARPENTER *Astrology Proved Harmless* 36 The benign and blessed-making Aspect of God.

+ *Blessedful*, a. *Obs.* Also *blestful*. [f. prec. + -FUL: an unusual formation.] Full of blessing, either as imparting it or as enjoying it.

a 1300 *Cursor M.* 11234 (Görl.) Þat blifissidful birth in betheleem. c 1400 *Lay-Folks Mass-Bk.* App. iii. 123 Þis hooly and blesstidful sacramente. c 1400 *Epiph.* (Turnb. 1843) 123 Unto the..we clepe and call, Thou blestful queene. 1556 VERON *Gadly Sayings* (1846) 153 That blesstidful and everlastyng lyfe. a 1618 RALEIGH *Pilgr.* (1651) 136 That happy blestful day.

Hence *Blessedfully adv.*, *Blessedfulness*.

a 1500 in Wright's *Songs & Carols* (1847) 22 (Mätz.) The branch so blessedfully sprong. 1526 TINDALE *Rom.* iv. 6 David describeth the blessedfulness of a man. [So in 1557.]

+ *Blessedhede*, *Obs.* [f. *BLESSED* + -hede, -HEAD.] Blessedness, beatitude.

a 1300 *Cursor M.* 6852 A land of blisshed-hede. *Ibid.* 23372 Fourten blisced hedes. 1340 *Ayenb.* 97 Virtue of zope blisshedhede.

Blessedly (ble'sdli), *adv.* Also *blestly*. In a blessed manner; fortunately, happily.

1388 WYCLIF *Gen.* xxx. 10 Lya seide, Blesidly. c 1400 *Chron. Vilod.* 2711 Blesstedlocurre..he ladde hurte lyff. 1561 T. NORTON *Calvin's Inst.* ii. l. (1634) 104 To make him live well and blessedly. 1610 SHAKS. *Temp.* i. l. 63 Blesstidly holpe hither. 1640 FULLER *Abel Rediv.* (1867) I. 35 By

John Huss Jerome was blestly aided. 1741 RICHARDSON *Pamela* I. iii. 383 All blessedly met once more! 1870 SPURGEON *Treas. Dav.* Ps. xl. 10 Blessedly blended in the gospel.

Blessedness (ble'sédnes). [f. as prec. + -NESS.] The state of being blessed, esp. with Divine favour; felicity; beatitude. Also *concr.*

a 1300 *Cursor M.* 17080 Qua mai tel þe teind part þe bliscd-nes o þe! c 1400 *Epiph.* (Turnb. 1813) 124 We may not have full the blessednes Of thi vysage nor of thi presence. a 1500 *Myrr. Our Ladye* 73 Delivered from the seven dedly synnes. and so to come vnto the seven blessednesses. 1613 SHAKS. *Hen. VIII.* iv. ii. 66 He... found the Blessednesse of being little. c 1746 *HERVEY Medit.* (1753) II. 18 An Antepast of eternal Blessedness. 1823 LAMB *Elia* (1860) 305, I have a quiet homefeeling of the blessedness of my condition.

b. *Single blessedness*: used by Shaks. to express 'divine blessing accorded to a life of celibacy'; hence (more or less jocularly), the unmarried state.

1590 SHAKS. *Mids. N.* i. 78 Earthlier happie is the Rose distill'd, Then that which withering on the virgin thorne, Growes, lues, and dies, in single blessednesse. 1823 LAMB *Elia* (1860) 109 She was one whom single blessedness had soured. 1836 DICKENS *Sk. Bos* (1850) 265/1 Single blessedness, as bachelors say, or single cursedness, as spinsters think.

c. Used as a title of honour. Cf. *holiness*.

1670 G. H. *Hist. Cardinals* i. iii. 94 The Popes began to usurp the Titles of Holiness, and Blessedness. 1848 KINGSELEY *Saint's Trag.* n. iii. 78 The Landgrave Lewis With humble greetings prays his blessedness To make, etc.

Blessor (ble'sar). One who blesses.

1570 VAUTROULLIER *Luther's Ep. Gal.* 120 Abraham had him for hys blesser and Sauour. 1651 JER. TAYLOR *Holy Living* (1727) 87 The... blesser of the action.

Blessful, etc., obs. or improper f. BLISSFUL, etc.

Blessing (ble'sing), *vbl. sb.* Forms: 1 *bled-sung*, *bletsung*, -unge, 2 *blescunge*, *bles-sunge*, 3 (*Orm.*) *bletoeing*, *bliscing*, *blesing*, *blising*, 3-4 *blesyng*, 4 *blissinge*, *bluseing*, *blys(e)ing*, *blisteing*, 3-6 *blesinge*, *blissing*, 4-6 *blissyng*, *blyssinge*, *blesyng*, 6 *blyssyng*, 4- *blesing*. [f. BLESS *v.* + -ING¹.]

+ l. *Hallowing*, consecration. *Obs.*

1070 O. E. *Chron.* (Parker MS.) Swa Thomas to þam timan agean ferde buton bletsunga. c 1205 LAV. 13261 Na man... þat mihte blesunge don in [1250 vpp] þan kinge.

+ b. The making the sign of the cross; crossing oneself. *Obs.*

1564 J. HEYWOOD *Prov. & Epigr.* (1867) 91 This busy blissing and noddying. 1563 FOXE in Latimer's *Serm. & Rem.* (1845) *Introd.* 23 The fashion of their mass... with such... kissing, blissing, crouching, beeking, crossing, knocking.

2. a. Authoritative declaration of divine favour and countenance, by God or one speaking in his name; benediction; passing into b. Invocation of divine favour by any one. c. The form of words used in this declaration or invocation.

a 825 O. E. *Chron.* an. 813 (Parker MS.) Mid bledsunge [Laud MS. bletsunge] ðæs papan. a 1131 *Ibid.* an. 1123 Se papa... sende him ham ða mid his bletsunge. c 1250 *Gen. & Ex.* 1568 Fader dere, bidde ic ðe, ðat sum blissing gif ðu me. 1297 R. GLOUC. 421 He 3af hym hys blesyng, & al hys tresour perto. c 1315 SHOREHAM 57 The signe hys of this sacrament The bisschopes blesyng. c 1380 WYCLIF *Sol. Wks.* III. 453 Blyssyngs of bischopis, it is a feyned þing. 1549 *Bk. Com. Prayer, Commun.* Rubr., The Priest... shall let them depart with this blessing. 1620 SHAKS. *Temp.* v. i. 179 All the blessings Of a glad father, compass thee about. 1678 N. WANLEY *Wonders* vi. xxvii. 613/2 Having taken a blessing from the Priest, he enters the house. 1837 *Ann. Reg.* 9 July 77 The dean now read the collect and the blessing. 1838 T. JACKSON *Early Methodists* (1846) I. 380 He gave them his dying blessing.

+ d. *pl.* The beatitudes pronounced by Christ.

c 1400 MAUNDEV. viii. 96 There... our Lord sat, when he preached the 8 Blessynges. 1508 A. KING *Canisius' Catech.* 186 These quibllis S. Ambrose callis our Lords beatitudes and blissings.

+ e. A charm, spell, incantation. *Obs.*

1572 R. H. LAUTERUS *Ghostes* (1596) He that is superstitious vseth some blessing (as they call it) to heale his Horsses disease.

3. The bestowal of divine favour and prospering influence; favour and prospering influence of God.

c 805 *Vesp. Psalter* iii. 9 Dryhtnes is haelu, & ofer folc ðin bledsung ðin. 971 *Blüchl. Hom.* 51 He us sendeþ ufán his bletsunga. c 1200 ORMIN 4019 Drihtin hafide 3ifenn himm Swille bletsung. c 1380 WYCLIF *Wks.* (1880) 41 Wip þe blissing of god. 1568 J. HEYWOOD *Prov. & Epigr.* (1867) 55 Out of gods blessing into the warme sunne. 1601 SHAKS. *All's Well* II. iii. 97 Blessing vpon your vowes. 1789 BURNS *John Anderson* I, But blessings on your frosty pow. 1881 FLOR. NIGHTINGALE *Nursing* II. 25 'With God's Blessing he will recover,' is a common form of parlance.

b. In this sense we now say 'to ask a blessing' on food; though 'to say a blessing' or 'the blessing of meat' originally belonged to a.

1738 WESLEY *Wks.* (1872) I. 87 Mr. Kinchin told them... that gentleman would ask a blessing for them. 1838 T. JACKSON *Early Methodists* (1846) I. 387 At breakfast, dinner, etc., he never asked a blessing sitting. 1884 *Harper's Mag.* Mar. 562/2 The child said blessing.

4. A beneficent gift of God, nature, etc.; anything that makes happy or prosperous; a boon.

1340 *Aenb.* 97 Þise zeue þinges toure yzed byþe cyleped blyssynges, nor hy makeþ man byllyssed ine þise wordle... and more byllyssed ine þe ðre. 1413 *Lydg. Pylgr. Soule* IV. xx. (1483) 65 My blissing in to payne retourned is. 1613 SHAKS. *Hen. VIII.* iii. 30 Eminence, Wealth, Souerainty; Which, to say sooth, are Blessings. 1634 MILTON *Comus* 772 Nature's full blessings would be well-dispensed. 1709 ADDISON *Tatler* No. 100 P. 1 Wealth, Honour, and all other

Blessings of Life. 1752 JOHNSON *Ramb.* No. 204 P. 2 Wilt thou not partake the blessings thou bestowest? 1844 LD. BROUGHAM *Brit. Const.* iii. (1862) 52 The blessings of a regular and tranquil government. 1875 JOWETT *Plato* (ed. 2) V. 165 Aged relatives are a blessing to the good. *Mod. Colloq.* What a blessing to be rid of them all!

+ b. A gift or favour bestowed, a present. (A Hebraism of Bible translation.) *Obs.*

1382 WYCLIF *Sam. xxv.* 27 Wherefor tak this blesyng (1611 blessing) that thin hood woman hath brougt to thee. 1611 BIBLE 2 *Kings* v. 15, I pray thee, take a blessing of thy sunder.

6. The rendering of grateful adoration. Now chiefly gerundial, as 'in praising and blessing God.'

1382 WYCLIF *Rev.* v. 12 The lomb that is slayn is worthi for to take... honour and glory and blessing. 1393 GOWER *Conf.* I. 271 All was thanking, all was blessing. a 1586 SYDNEY in Farr's *S. P.* (1848) I. 60 When from their lippes most blessing flows.

6. A euphemism for: A curse.

1876 H. SMART *Play or Pay* iv. (ed. 3) 68 Richardson's name rose once to his lips, coupled with a blessing of dubious import.

Blessing, *ppl. a.* [f. -ING².] That blesses.

1659 HAMMOND *On Ps. xlii.* 1 The blessing beames of thy countenance. 1870 MORRIS *Earthly Par.* III. iv. 429 With his small blessing voice the hushed air thrilled.

Blessingly, *adv.* In a way that blesses.

1836 MRS. BROWNING *Poems* (1850) I. 257 While you pardon me, all blessingly, The woe mine Adam sent.

Blessum, obs. form of BLISSOM.

Blest, pa. t. and pple. of BLESS *v.* 1

Blester, obs. form of BLISTER.

Blethly, obs. form of BLESSEDLY.

Blet (blet), *v.* [Adopted by Lindley from F. *blett-ir* 'devenir blet', f. *blet*, *blatte* 'sleepy' as an over-ripe pear.] *intr.* To become 'sleepy', as an over-ripe pear, a special form of decay to which fleshy fruits are subject. Hence *Bletting* *vbl. sb.*

1835 LINDLEY *Introd. Bot.* (1848) II. 257 After the period of ripeness, most fleshy fruits undergo a new kind of alteration; their flesh either rots or blets. *Ibid.* Bletting is... a special alteration. 1864 *Reader* 21 May 653 The decomposition... of the pericarp begins with fermentation, and, after having passed through the intermediate stage of bletting (to use Dr. Lindley's word), ends in the total obliteration of the cellular structure.

Blet, *sb.* [f. prec. in Webster (where the only authority cited is Lindley's use of the verb). But this would not give 'A decayed spot on fruits', as erroneously stated, but, That form of decay which is commonly called 'sleepiness' (in which there are no external spots to indicate the change).]

Blet, obs. form of BLEAT *sb.*

+ **Bletch** (e), *sb.* *Obs. rare.* [*Bletche*, 16th c., implies a ME. **blecche*, OE. **blecce*, OTeut. **blakjo-*, from **blako*-BLACK: cf. BLATCH and BLEACH *sb.* in same sense. (It may also be the southern form of northern *blek*, *bleck*.) Shoemaker's blacking.

1570 LEVINS *Manip.* 88 *Bletche*, *atramentum*.

+ **Bletch**, *v.* *Obs. rare*—1. [f. BLETCH *sb.*, or repr. a ME. **blecchen*, OE. **blecce*(an), OTeut. type **blakjan*: cf. BLATCH and BLACK.] To BLACK.

1570 LEVINS *Manip.* 47 To Blecke, bletch, *nigrare*.

+ **Bletchy**, *a. Obs.* [f. prec. *sb.* + -y.] Smutted with 'bleth'; inky, sooty, dirty.

1590 WHITTINTON *Vulg.* (1527) 25 Thou blurrest and blot-test them as thou wert a bletchy sowter [atramentosi sarctoris]. 1633 J. CLARKE *Two-f. Praxis* 43.

+ **Blete**, *a. Obs.* In 1 *bleat*, 3 *blete*. [Com. Teut.: OE. *bleat* ? miserable, ? naked, = OFris. *blät* miserable, MDu. *blot*, Du. *bloot* naked, poor, OHG., MHG. *blot*, mod.G. *blasz* naked.] Naked, bare.

a 1000 *Guthlac* 963 (Gr.) Done bleatan drync deopan deapweges. a 1250 *Out & Night* 57 Bare, And... blete. *Ibid.* 616 Treon wel grete, Mid picke boje no þing blete.

Blete, var. of BLITE.

+ **Blethe**, *a. Obs.* In 1 *bleas*, 3 *bleð* (e). [Com. Teut.: OE. *blæð* weak, gentle, timid = OS. *blōði* (MDu. *blōde*, Du. *bloed*), OHG. *blōdi* (MHG. *blāde*, mod.G. *blōde* weak), ON. *blauðr* soft, weak, Goth. **blauþs* (in *blauþjan* to make of no force):—OTeut. **blauþi-s* without force, weak.] Spiritless, timid.

a 1000 *Riddles* xli. 15 (Gr.) Ic eom to ðon bleaððæt mec mæg grima abregan. c 1205 LAV. 23620 And moni ænne gode wifmon iworht to bledere widewe. c 1250 *Gen. & Ex.* 3907 Frizti nam forð ðis folc and blæð.

+ **Blethely**, *adv. Obs.* [ME. *blethli*, in form a deriv. of BLETHE, but apparently associated, in later use at least, with BLITHLY.] a. Gently, kindly, graciously, benevolently. b. Blithely, gladly, fain. a 1300 *Cursor M.* 11958 Iesus wel blethli wald þai warn. c 1300 *Vox & Wolf* 171 in E. P. P. (1864) 63 Tho he herde spoken of mete, He wolde bletheliche ben there. a 1340 HAMPOLE *Pr. Consc.* 184 Many has lykynge trofols to here, And vanites wille blethly lere. c 1380 WYCLIF *Serm.* Sel. Wks. I. 107 Iesus blepeli dide mercy when he was clepid David sone. c 1430 *Hew. Wif* taught D. 11 in E. P. P. (1864) 180 Blethly geue thi tythys... The pore men at thi dore... geue hem blethely of thi good.

Blether, *blather* (ble'ðar, blæ'ðar), *v. Sc. and north. dial.* Also (!) 6 *blother*. [ME. *blather*, a. ON. *blāþra* to talk stupidly, f. *blāþr* nonsense. *Blather* is the etymological form,

blether being Sc. and north. Eng. (like *gether* = *gather* etc.). But in mod. Eng., the word is generally accepted as Scotch (from Burns, Scott, Carlyle, etc.) and in the Scotch form. In U.S. *blather* appears to be more frequent.

1. *intr.* To talk nonsense loquaciously.

1534 A. SCOTT *Vision* xix, And limpand Vulcan bletthers. [1536 SKELTON *Magnyf.* 1049, I blunder, I bluster, I blowe and I blother.] 1787 BURNS *Holy Fair* viii, Some are busy blethrin Right loud that day. 1867 E. WAUGH *Owd Bl.* iv. 89 in *Lanc. Gloss.*, He blether't abeawt religion. 1884 *Punch* 1 Mar. 102 Fluent folly may maunder and blether.

b. *trans.* To babble.

1850 TANNAHILL *Poems* (1846) 145 She blethered it round.

2. *intr.* To cry loudly, to blubber. *dial.*

1863 MRS. TOOGOOD *Yorksh. Dial.* s.v., What's thou blethering at? child. 1855 *Whitby Gloss.*, *Blether*, to blubber, to weep aloud.

Blether, *blather* (ble'ðar, blæ'ðar), *sb.* [f. prec., or a. ON. *blāþr* nonsense.] Voluble talk void of sense.

1787 BURNS *Vision* iv, Stringin bletthers up in rhyme, For fools to sing. 1843 MRS. CARLYLE in *Lett.* I. 257 Untormented by his blether. 1863 *Tyneside Songs* 36 'Mang the noise and the blether. 1865 *Richmond* (U.S.) *Exam.* in *Morn. Star* 3 Feb., All the eloquence and all the blather in the world will not alter the facts.

Blethering (ble'ðar), *vbl. sb.* [f. BLETHER *v.* + -ING¹.] Voluble senseless talking; = prec.

a 1834 COLERIDGE *Cholera* cured Wks. 1847 II. 143 So without further blethering, Dear Mudlarks! my brethren!

Blethering, *ppl. a.* [f. as prec. + -ING².]

Volubly and foolishly talkative.

1759 *Fordun Scottish Chron.* II. 376 (JAM.) Blyth and blether-and. 1790 BURNS *Tam o' Shanter* 20 A bletherin, blusterin, drunken blellum. 1816 SCOTT *Old Mort.* xiv. Listening to twa blethering auld wives. 1864 ATKINSON *Whitby Gloss.* s.v. *Blethering*, A coarse blethering fellow.

Bletherskate, *blatherskite*, *dial.* and U.S. *colloq.* [f. BLETHER *v.* + SKATE in Sc. used contemptuously. The Scotch song *Maggie Lauder*, in which this word occurs, was a favourite ditty in the American Camp during the War of Independence (J. Grant Wilson, *Poets and Poetry of Scotl.* I. 82); from this, *bletherskate* or, as more commonly used, *blatherskite*, became a familiar colloquialism in U.S.] A noisy talkative fellow; a talker of blatant nonsense. Hence also a *vbl. sb.* *Blatherskiting*; *Bletherumskite* (Ir. *dial.*) = BLETHER *sb.*

c 1650 F. SEMPILL *Maggie Lauder* i, Jog on your gait, ye bletherskate (v. r. bladderskate). 1825 C. CROKER *Tradit. S. Ireland* 170 He was, as usual, getting on with his bletherumskite about the fairies. 1848-60 BARTLETT *Americanisms* 35 *Blatherskite*, a blustering, noisy, talkative fellow. 1864 WEBSTER, *Blatherskite* (Local U.S.). 1864 *Spectator* No. 1884, 906 A muddle-headed 'bletherskite' called Colorado Jewett. 1880 *Echo* 28 Dec. 3/5 What is expressed by the slang word 'blatherskiting,' consumed three of the five days.

Bletonism. (See quot.) Hence *Bletonist*.

1821 *Month. Mag.* LI. 315 Bletonism is a faculty of perceiving and indicating subterraneous springs and currents by sensation; the term is modern, and derived from a Mr. Bleton, who for some years past has excited universal attention by his possessing the above faculty.

Bletsien, *bletteen*, -sen, *obs. ff. BLESS.*

Bleve, var. of BELIEVE *v.* *Obs.* to remain.

+ **Blevindeliche**, *adv. Obs.* [f. *blevinde*, pr. pple. of *bleven*, BELIEVE, to remain, continue + -LY².] Perseveringly.

1340 *Aenb.* 141 Wip guode wille and bleuindeliche. *Ibid.* 208 Diligentliche and... bleuindeliche.

+ **Blevinge** (e), *vbl. sb. Obs.* [see BELIEVING.]

a. Remaining. b. Persevering.

Blew, *bleu*, pa. t. of BLOW *v.*

Blew (e), *obs. form of BLUE.*

Blewart. *Sc. rare.* [prob. = *blawort*, f. BLAE a. + WORT: cf. BLAWORT.] The Germaner Speed-well (*Veronica chamaedrys*). Britten and Holland.

1821 HOGG *When Kye comes Hame*, When the blewart bears a pearl, And the daisy turns a pea.

Blewits (bli'wits). [prob. f. BLUE, in reference to the colour: cf. F. *bleuet*, applied to various flowers.] A kind of edible mushroom.

1830 WITHERING *Brit. Plants* (ed. 7) IV. 192 *note*, This species [*Agaricus violaceus*]... is sold in Covent-Garden market under the name of Blewits, for making catsup. 1871 M. COOKE *Fungi* (1874) 91 *Lepista personata* used to be sold in Covent Garden Market under the name of blewits. 1883 *Gd. Words* 589/2 Chantarelles, and morels, and blewits.

+ **Blexter**. *Obs.*— [for *blekster*, f. BLECK *v.*]

One who blackens.

c 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 39 *Blextere*, *obfuscator*.

Bley, var. of BLAY, BLEE.

Bleyjt, *obs. form of BLEACHED.*

+ **Bleyke**, *bleike*, *a. Obs.* [ME. *bleik*, a. ON. *bleikr* shining, white. See BLAYKE.] Pale.

a 1300 *Havelok* 470 For hunger grene and bleike. c 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 39 *Bleyke* of colour, *pallidus*.

+ **Bleyke**, *bleike*, *v. Obs.* [f. prec. adj.; cf. the analogy of BLAKE a. and v. But ON. had *bleikja* to whiten, bleach, f. *bleikr* pale.]

intr. To become pale; = BLAKE *v.* 1.

c 1307 *Poem Times of Edw. II. in Pol. Songs* 397 Thanne gan bleiken here ble. a 1475 *Play Sacram.* 477 Now am I bold with batayle him to bleyke (*prime-wd. stryke*).

† **Bleykster.** *Obs.* [f. prec.] A bleacher. c 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 39 Bleystare or wytstare [*K. bleyster, H. bleystare or qwyistare; 1499 bleykster or whytster, candidarius. 1499 — 525 (Fynson). Whytstar or blykstar.*]

† **Bleymes.** *Obs.* [a. F. *bleime* (*blatime* in Cotgr.), of same meaning, identified by Littré, etc., with *blême* adj. pale: see *BLEMISH*.] (See quot.)

c 1725 *Bradley Fam. Dict.*, *Bleymes*, an inflammation between the Sole and Bone of the Foot of a Horse towards the Heel. *Ibid.* This sort of Bleymes may be prevented by keeping his Feet clean and moist, etc.

Bleyn(e), *obs.* form of **BLAIN**.

Bleyn(e), *obs.* form of **BLANCH**.

† **Blichening.** *sb. Obs. rare*—1. [perh. vbl. sb. from **blichen*, a southern form of *blikne*, **BLIKEN**, to become pale. Cf. **BLIGHT**.]

Mildew, rust, or blight in corn.

c 1400 *Pallad. on Husb.* 1. 827 For blichenyng [*rubigine*] and must take chaf and raf, And ley it on this lande.

Blick (*blik*). [a. Ger. *blick* shining, sheen.] 'The brightening or iridescence appearing on silver or gold at the end of the cupelling or refining process.' Raymond *Mining Gloss.* 1881.

Blissom, *obs.* form of **BLISSOM**.

Blife, var. of **BELIVE**.

Bligh, *bliht*, *obs.* forms of **BLITHE**.

Blight (*blait*), *sb.* Also 7-8 *blite*. [A word of unknown origin, which entered literature, apparently from the speech of farmers or gardeners, in the 17th c.; literary men were at first doubtful as to its proper spelling, and seem to have thought of the plant *BLITE*.]

(Among suggestions as to its origin are: that it is somehow related to *BLICHENING* above; that it may possibly represent an ON. **blekt-r*, the antecedent of Icel. *blettir* stain, spot, blot; that it is a derivative of the verb *blike*, or of the stem *black* or *bleike*, *bleach*, *bleak*; or onomatopoeic, with a feeling for *blow*, *blast*, and kindred *bl*-words.)

1. *gen.* Any baleful influence of atmospheric or invisible origin, that suddenly blasts, nips, or destroys plants, affects them with disease, arrests their growth, or prevents their blossom from 'setting'; a diseased state of plants of unknown or assumed atmospheric origin.

c 1669 *Worldwide Syst. Agric.* viii. § 3 (1681) 159 Spoiled by the various mutations of the Air, or by Blights, Mildews, etc. c 1697 *Dryden Virg. Georg.* iv. 468 With Blites destroy my Corn. — *Palamon & Arc.* ii. 59 So may thy tender Blossoms fear no blite. c 1699 *GARTH Dispens.* vi. 78 Their blissful Plains no Blites, nor Mildews fear. a 1700 *Temple Miscell.*, *Gardening* Wks. 1720 I. 188 (not in ed. 1690) A Soot or Smutiness upon the Leaves [of Wall fruit]. I complained to the oldest and best Gardeners, who esteemed it some Blight of the Spring. 1790 *GAY Poems* (1745) II. 87 Fade not with sudden blights or winter's wind. 1737 *MILLER Gard. Dict.* (R.) Blights are often caused by a continued easterly wind. 1812 J. WILSON *Isle of Palms* iv. 762 Flowers .. Unharm'd by frost or blight.

2. Specifically applied to: a. Diseases in plants caused by fungoid parasites, as mildew, rust, or smut, in corn. (App. the earliest use.)

1611 *COTGR.*, *Brutture*, blight, brancorne; (an hearbe). 1671 *SKINNER Etymol.*, *Blight*, idem quod *mildew* .. quæ fruges corrumpit. 1807 *VANCOUVER Agric. Devon* (1813) 434 Wheat .. very much smitten with the blight, or rust, as it is generally called in this neighbourhood. 1830 *LINDLEY Nat. Syst. Bot.* 337 The blight in corn, occasioned by *Puccinia graminis*. 1859 W. COLEMAN *Woodlands* (1866) 75 If a tuft of this blight as it is called be closely examined.

b. A species of aphid, destructive to fruit-trees. [Cf. 1797 *BRADLEY Fam. Dict.* s.v., The common People .. are well satisfy'd that Blights are brought by the East Wind, which brings or hatches the Caterpillar.] 1808 *PALEY Nat. Theol.* xxvi. (1819) 423 What we call blights are oftentimes legions of animated beings. 1888 *Garden* 11 Feb. 99/a The worst insect enemy to the attacks of which the Apple is liable is what is termed the American blight. 1885 *Contemp. Rev.* Oct. 561 It thinks there are some 'blight' among the blossoms at the top, and if there are it will eat them.

c. A close hazy overcast state of the atmosphere, which sometimes prevails in summer or autumn. 1848 *LYTTON Harold* iv. 194 In that smoke as in a blight the wings withered up.

3. Applied to affections of the face or skin: a. An eruption on the human skin consisting of minute reddish pimples, 'a form of Lichen urticatus.' 1864 in *WEBSTER*. 1880 in *Syd. Soc. Lex.*

b. Facial palsy arising from cold. *Syd. Soc. Lex.*

c. *Blight in the eye*: extravasation of blood under the conjunctive membrane.

4. *transf.* and *fig.* Any malignant influence of obscure or mysterious origin; anything which withers hopes or prospects, or checks prosperity. a 1661 *HOLIDAY Juvenal* 246 Let Isis with her timbre strike me blind (not properly with the sistrum it self, but with its invisible power, with a blite). 1797 *GODWIN Enquirer* i. v. 35 Genius .. may .. suffer an untimely blight. 1873 *BURTON Hist. Scot.* VI. lxx. 212 A strange mysterious punishment, which seemed like a blight or judgement of a higher power. 1884 *Fortn. Rev.* Jan. 79 The withering blight of Turkish rule.

5. *Comb.*, as *blight-beetle*.

1852 T. HARRIS *Insects New Eng.* 79 This insect, which

may be called the blight-beetle, from the injury it occasions, attacks also apple, apricot, and plum trees.

Blight (*blait*), *v.* [f. the sb.]

1. *trans.* To affect with **BLIGHT** (see the sb., sense 1).

1695 J. WOODWARD *Nat. Hist. Earth* iv. 212 It then blasts Vegetables, .. blights Corn and Fruits, and is sometimes injurious even to Men. 1797 *BRADLEY Fam. Dict.* s.v. *Blight*, Some do conjecture, that it is the East Wind of itself that Blights. 1803 R. ANDERSON *Cumberland. Ballads* 79 She bleets the cown wi' her bad e'e. 1834 *PRINGLE Afr. St.* iv. 186 A sharp frost .. blighted all our early potatoes. 1842 *TENNYSON Poet's Mind* 18 There is frost in your breath Which would blight the plants.

b. *transf.* of parts of the body.

1811 *SCOTT Roderick* v. li, Blighted be the tongue That names thy name without the honour due.

2. *fig.* To exert a baleful influence on; to destroy the brightness, beauty, or promise of; to nip in the bud, mar, frustrate.

1712 *ADDISON Spect.* No. 457 ¶ 3 It [Lady Blast's whisper] blights like an easterly wind. 1735 *OLDYS Life Raleigh* Wks. 1829 I. 357 Yet could [they] .. blite them [brave and active spirits] from advancing to any fruitful or profitable conclusions. 1834 *LEWIS Use & Ab. Pol. Terms* iii. 34 Deprivation of rank .. which blights so many prospects. 1863 *GEO. ELIOT Romola* ii. iv. (1880) II. 44 The delusion which had blighted her young years.

Blighted (*blaited*), *ppl. a.* [f. prec. + -ED.] Affected with blight; blasted.

1664 *Phil. Trans.* I. 28 Vegetables growing on blighted Leaves. 1674 *RAY S. E. Co. Wds.* 59 Blighted corn, blasted corn. *Sussex.* 1750 *JOHNSON Rambl.* No. 5 ¶ 17 A blighted spring makes a barren year. 1855 *MACAULAY Hist. Eng.* III. 380 The blighted prospects of the orphan children. 1857 *S. OSBORN Quedah* iv. 56 The aged trunk of a blighted tree.

Blighting, *ppl. a.* [f. assumed vb. **blighen*.]

1743 *MAXWELL Impr. Agric.* 266 (JAM.) Blighting winds. **Blighter** (*blaiter*). Anything that blights.

1822 *DE QUINCEY Confess.* (1886) 16 Old age .. is a miserable corrupter and blighter to the genial charities of the human heart. a 1845 *Hood Spring* ii, The Spring I .. I find her breath a bitter blighter!

Blighting (*blaiting*), *vbl. sb.* The action of the vb. **BLIGHT**; the fact of being blighted.

1669 *WORLDWIDE Syst. Agric.* (1681) 214 Very much differing from Mildews is the blighting of Corn, the Mildews .. happening only in dry Summers, when on the contrary Blighting happens in wet. 1693 *EVELYN De la Quint. Compl. Gard. Dict.*, *Blighting* is said of Flowers or Blossoms, that shed or fall without knitting for Fruit.

Blighting, *ppl. a.* [f. as prec. + -ING².] That blights; blasting, withering.

1706 *COLERIDGE 'Pang more sharp'* 50 One pang more blighting-keen than hope betrayed. 1805 *SOUTHEY Madoc in W. ix*, Cold winds .. and blighting seasons. 1850 *PRES-COTT Peru* II. 351 Pining .. under the blighting malaria.

Blightingly (*blaitingly*), *adv.* [f. prec. + -LY².] In a blighting manner; with blighting influence.

Bliland, *-ant*, var. of **BLEAUNT**, *Obs.*, a tunic.

† **Blik**, *blike*, *v.* *Obs.* In 1 *blican*; 3

blikien, *blykyen*, 4 *blikien*, *blikken*. [Here there appear to be two or more cognate forms: (1) OE. *blican* to shine, gleam, a com. Teut. str. vb. = OS. *blikan* (MDu. *blikien*, Du. *blijken* to look, appear), OHG. (in comp.) -*blithhan* (MHG. *blicchen*, mod.G. -*bleichen*), ON. *blika* str. vb. = OTeut. **blik-an* 'to shine, gleam,' pointing to Aryan **bhlig-*: cf. OSlav. *bli-sk-at* to sparkle, Gr. *phlegyein* to burn, L. *fulgere* to shine. (2) The cognate ON. *blika* (wk. v.) found beside the str. *blika* to shine, glitter: cf. Sw. *blicka*, also MDu. and mod.G. *blicken* to glance, Du. *blikken* to twinkle, turn pale. The early ME. *blikien* points back to an OE. **blician* wk. vb., answering to ON. *blika*.]

intr. To shine, glisten, glitter.

a 1000 *Sol. & Sat.* 235 (Gr.) Du. .. gesihst Hierusalem weallas blican. c 1205 *LAV.* 27360 Isejen .. sceldes blikien. a 1225 *St. Mark.* 9 His lockes ant his longe berd blikede al o gold. c 1300 *Wright's Lyric* P. xvi. (1842) 52 Hire bleo blykyeth so bryht. c 1325 *E. E. Allit. P.* B. 603 Bryzt blykked be bem of be brode heuen. 1340 *Alex. & Dind.* 411 Hur face to enoine, For to blikien of hur ble.

† **Bliken**, *-ne*, *v.* *Obs.* [ME. *blykne(n)*, a. ON. *blika* to become pale, inchoative deriv. of vb. stem *blik*: see prec.]

1. *intr.* To turn pale.

c 1325 *E. E. Allit. P.* B. 1759 Penne blykned be ble of be bryzt skwes. a 1400 *Pol. Kel. & L. Poems* 224 His lippes shulle bliken.

2. To shine; = prec. vb.

c 1325 *E. E. Allit. P.* B. 1467 For alle be blomies of be bojes were blykande perles.

Blimbi(ng), variant of **BILIMBI**.

† **Blin**, *blinn*, *v.* *Obs.* Forms: 1 *blinn-an*, 3 *blinnen*, (*bline*, 4-5 *bilynnne*, *bylynnne*, *blym*, 6 *blinn*, *blene*), 3-6 *blinne*, (4-6 *blyne*, *blyn*, 3-7 *blynnne*), 3-8 *blin*. *Pa. t.* 1 *blann*, 2-3 *blann*, 4-5 *blan(e)*, 4-8 *blanne*, 6 *blinned*. *Pa. ppl.* *blunnen*, *blun* (*rare*). [OE. *blinn-an* str. vb., syncopated from **bi-linnan* = OHG. *bi-linnan* to cease, leave off, f. *bi-* BE- pref. + OE. and com. Teut. *linnan* to cease (found in Goth. in *af-linnan* to depart, and in ON. *linna* wk. vb.,

to leave off, cease, stop), ME. *linnen*: see **LINN** v. In the 14-15th c. the resolved form *bi-*, *by-lynnne* (not preserved in OE.) frequently occurs.]

1. *intr.* To cease, leave off, desist.

[c 950 *Lindisf. Gosp. Matt.* xiv. 32 Geblann þæt wind.] c 1250 *Gen. & Ex.* 1963 Nile he blinnen. c 1325 *E. E. Allit. P.* A. 728 Per is þe blys þat cannot blynnne. 1330 R. BRUNNE *Chron.* 48 Neuer he blanne. c 1386 CHAUCER *Chan. Yem. Prolog.* 4 T. 618 Til he had torned him, couthe he nought blynnne. c 1430 *Hymns Virg.* (1867) 60 His childhode blynnnes Whanne he is fourtene 3eer olde. 1557 *Mylnor of Abingt.* 258 in Hazl. E. P. P. III. 110 My litell brother blinned nought, Ere their horse was home brought. 1642 H. MORE *Song of Soul* i. iii. vi, The heavy hammers never blin. 1799 *Old Song in Ramsay Ten-t. Misc.* 18 The Minstrels they did never blin. a 1765 in *Child Ballads* iii. (1885) 53/r Till he had oretaken King Estmere, I wis he never blanne.

b. Const. of (*about, on, from*), *infin.* with to.

a 1000 *Cod. Vercell.* i. (1843) 80 Þær þu .. wuldres blunne. c 1200 *ORMIN* 14564 Ne blann itt noht to 3eppenn. a 1300 *Cursor M.* 265 Nou of his proulog we bline. *Ibid.* 14089 (Fairf.) A-boute seruisse dide ho neuer blyn. a 1460 *Towneley Myst.* 255 Of shynnyng blan bothe son and moyne. 1567 *TURBERV. Poems* in Chalmers *Eng. Poets* II. 589/r And from their battaile blin. 1587 — *Trag. T.* (1837) 199 Her teares did never blin To issue from her cristall eyes. a 1765 *Ballad 'Glasgerion'* iii. in *Child Ballads* iii. (1885) 138/r Strike on, Glasgerion, Of thy striking doe not blinne.

2. *trans.* To cease from, stop; put a stop to.

c 1314 *Guy Warw.* (1840) 255 Of alle night he no blan rideinge. c 1460 *Towneley Myst.* 133 This chyld .. Alle baylle may blyn. 1506 *SPENSER F. Q.* iii. v. 22 Nathemore .. Did th' other two their cruell vengeance blin. 1601 *Death Earl Huntingt.* v. ii. in Hazl. *Dodd.* VIII. 320 She never would blin telling, how his grace Sav'd, etc.

3. *intr.* To delay, tarry, stay.

a 1300 *Cursor M.* 20004 Langer bline nu i ne may. 1590 *GREENE Poems* (1861) 303 When in the Balance Daphnes leman blins.

4. To cease speaking, keep silence.

a 1300 *E. E. Psalter* xxviii. i. Mi God, ne blinne fra me. — xxxii. 3 For I blin [*Vulg. tacui*].

† **Blin**, *sb.* *Obs.* [f. prec. vb.] Cessation, end; delay, fail. (In phr. *without(en blin)*.)

a 1300 *Cursor M.* 881 Sco me bedd, wit-outen blin. *Ibid.* 1897 [Pe doue] come again, wit-outen blin. [1863 *SALA Capt. Dang.* I. i. 8 Of sins likewise without blin, and grievous ones.]

Blinche, *obs.* form of **BLENCH** v. (or **BLINK** v.).

Blind (*blind*), *a.* Forms: 1- *blind*, (4 *blynt*, 4-6 *blynd(e)*, 4-7 *blinde*, 8- *Sc. blin*). [A com. Teut. adj.: OE. *blind* = OS. *blind* (MDu. *blind(d)*, Du. *blind*), ON. *blindr* (Da., Sw. *blind*), OHG. *blint*, (MHG. *blint(d)*, mod.G. *blind*), Goth. *blinds*: = OTeut. **blindo-s*, of which the Aryan form would be **bhlendh-*: cf. Lith. *blinda-s* blind, *blisti* to become dark, Lettish *blendu* I do not see clearly, OSlav. *blidu* pale, dim, pointing perhaps to an earlier sense 'become dim or dark' (Frank).]

I. *Literat.*

1. Destitute of the sense of sight, whether by natural defect or by deprivation.

c 1000 *Ag. Gosp. Mark* x. 46 Bartimeus sæt blind wið þone wez weðla. c 1200 *ORMIN* 1859 He wass ænnes wurpenn blind. c 1365 CHAUCER *A. B. C.* 105 O verrey light of eyen that ben blynde. c 1400 *Chron. Vilod.* 3632 As blynde as a betulle. 1562 J. HEYWOOD *Prov. & Epigr.* (1867) 60 Blinde men should iudge no colours. 1571 *GOLDING Calvin on Ps.* xvi. 5 Blynd folke runne gadding hither and thither like mad Bedlems. 1618 LATHAM *2nd Bk. Falconry* (1633) 50 After the old Prouerbe, Who so blinde, as he that will not see? 1705 *HICKERINGILL Priest-cr.* iv. (1721) 238 Hittee Missee, happy go lucky, as the blind Man kill'd the Crow. 1712 *ADDISON Spect.* No. 464 ¶ 5 Jupiter .. left him to strole about the World in the blind Condition wherein Chremylus beheld him. 1859 *MASSON Milton* I. 737 Galileo, frail and blind.

b. Temporarily deprived of sight, as when dazzled with a bright light.

1483 *CAXTON Cato* Fij, Lyke hym whyche is blynde of the rayes of the sonne.

c. Used punningly of a needle: *Eyeless*.

a 1800 *COWPER Manual more anc. Art of Poetry*, The smaller sort, which matrons use, Not quite so blind as they.

d. *absol.* A blind person, esp. as pl. Those who are blind, as a section of the community.

c 1000 *Ag. Gosp. Matt.* xx. 30 And þa sæton twegen blinde wið þone wez. a 1300 *Cursor M.* 13527 Wit þis blind þar can he mete. *Ibid.* 14370 Crepels gan, be blind haf sight. 1611 *BIBLE Matt.* xv. 14 If the blinde lead the blinde, both shall fall into the ditch. *Mod.* The Royal Asylum for the Blind.

e. (*attrib.* of prec.) Of, pertaining to, or for the use of the blind as a class: as *blind asylum*.

1881 *Durham Univ. Jnl.* 12 Nov., The question of blind education. 1888 *Pall Mall G.* 8 June 7/a The requirements for the blind scholarships are similar.

II. *fig.* Without perception.

2. Of persons, their faculties, etc.; also *transf.* of things: Lacking in mental perception, discernment, or foresight; destitute of intellectual, moral, or spiritual light.

c 1000 *Ag. Gosp. Matt.* xxiii. 17 Ealð ge dysegan and blindan. c 1200 *ORMIN* 16954 Unnwis mann iss blunnt and blind. a 1340 *HAMFOLLE Pr. Comc.* 240 Four thynges. Pat mase a mans wytt blynd. c 1385 *WYCLIF Sermon*. Wks. II. 230 Blynde judgement of men. 1594 T. B. *La Primaud. Fr. Acad.* ii. 2 They are called blind in holy scripture, that have not the true knowledge of God. 1645 *MILTON Tr. track.* Wks. (1851) 273 The blindest and corruptest times

of Popedom. 1775 SHERIDAN *Duenna* II. ii. 201 How blind some parents are! 1877 MOZLEY *Univ. Sermon*. i. 8 That would be a blind and mistaken inference.

b. Const. to (in obs.).

1666 GERBIER *Brief Disc.* (1665) 8 Surveyours who... are blind in the faults which their Workmen commit. 1759 FRANKLIN *Ess. Wks.* 1840 III. 368 The assembly chose... to be blind to the artificial part of his speech. 1856 TREVELYAN in *Life Macaulay* II. xiv. 460 To be blind to the merits of a great author.

c. Blind side: the unguarded, weak or assailable side of a person or thing, weakness; also, formerly, the unsightly or unrepresentable side.

1655 GURNALL *Chr. in Arm.* (1845) 27 The imperfect knowledge Saints have here is Satan's advantage against them: he often takes them on the blind side. 1711 SWIFT *Lett.* (1767) III. 147 This is the blindside of my lodging out of town; I must expect such inconveniences. 1884 *Chr. World* 4 Sept. 657/1 The forts which they were enabled... to approach on their blind side.

3. Undiscriminating, for which no reason can be given; inconsiderate, heedless, reckless.

c 1340 *Cursor M.* 4116 (Trin.) To haue her wille blynde c 1450 *Crt. of Love* ciii, Blind appetite of lust. 1615 BEDWELL *Moham. Imp.* II. § 65 The Disciples... became blind and fearless. 1753 HOGARTH *Anal. Beauty* xi. 91 The blind veneration that generally is paid to antiquity. 1822 HAZLITT *Table-t.* I. xi. 254 Self-will and blind prejudice. 1854 DICKENS *Hard T. v.* 24 Who came round the corner with such blind speed. a 1859 MACAULAY *Hist. Eng.* V. 254 His enemies struck at him with blind fury.

b. Purposeless; fortuitous, random.

1873 BROWNING *Red Cott. Night-C.* 177 Service that's blind and objectless—A servant toiling for no master's good.

4. Not possessing intelligence or consciousness; acting without discernment.

1692 BENTLEY *Boyle Lect.* vi. 198 It is the Product not of blind Mechanism or blinder Chance. 1853 MAURICE *Proph. & Kings* ix. 152 It is Will and not a blind necessity which rules in the armies of heaven. 1865 MOZLEY *Mirac.* vii. 292 note, Throughout the whole realm of nature blind agents or physical laws have been discovered.

† 5. That blinds or misleads: false, deceitful. Obs.

1393 GOWER *Conf.* I. 73 He... with blinde tales so her ladde That all his will of her he hadde. 1506 PILGR. *Perf.* 34 His blinde prophecies and deceyfull myracles. 1559 *Mirr. Mag.*, Jack Cade v. 3 Justly called false and blynde.

III. Transferred.

6. Enveloped in darkness; dark, obscure. *arch.*
a 1000 *Be Domes Dage* 230 Sauwle on lige On blindum scæfe byrnad & yrnad. a 1300 *Cursor M.* 3463 Bituix yn-born a batel blind. 1571 tr. *Buchanan's Delect. Mary* in H. Campbell's *Love-lett.* Mary (1824) 152 Go hide yourself in a blind hole. 1606 HOLLAND *Sueton.* 237 Meeting noe bodie [they] searched... euerie blind corner. 1650 R. STAPYLTON *Strada's Low-C. Warres* viii. 11 The blind and darksome night. 1666 *Prvys Diary* (1879) IV. 94 The little blind bed-chamber. 1809 J. BARLOW *Columb.* III. 251 Dark fiend, that hides his blind abode.

† b. Not lighted, having its light extinguished or cut off. *Blind lantern*: a dark lantern.

1393 LANGL. *P. Pl. C. xx.* 228 3e brennep, ac 3e blaseþ nat' and þat is a blynde bekne. 1521 B. RICHE *Farewell Mil. Profession* (1846) 168 One of these little Lanterns, that thei call blinde Lanterns (because they tourne them, and hide their light when they liste). 1591 in *De Foe Hist. Ch. Scot.* Addend. 56 Two Candlesticks with Two Blind Candles. 1705 HICKERINGILL *Priest-Cr.* II. v. 55 They adore the bare Altar, and blind Candles.

7. Dim, as opposed to bright or clear; dim, like faded writing; indistinct, obscure. Now mostly *fig.*

c 1325 *E. E. Allit. P. A.* 83 Þe sunnes bemeþ bot blo & blynde. 1398 TREvisa *Barth. De P. R.* xlv. xlvii. (1495) 569 We vse to call al manere of precyous stones, that ben not precyous and shynynge, blynde. 1536 BELLENDEN *Cron. Scot.* (1821) I. 254 Auld bukis... writtin craftly on rude and hard parchment; bot thay wer sa blind, we nicht nocht reid ilk tent wound. 1555 HULOT, Blynde letters or wrytynge, *caduca littere*. 1852 HAWTHORNE *Grandf. Chair* II. iv. 20 Written in such a queer, blind... hand.

b. of a road or path: (see quot.)

1815 SCOTT *Guy M.* xxii, Let him look along that blind road, by which I mean the track so slightly marked by the passengers' footsteps, that it can but be traced by a slight shade of verdure from the darker heath around it, and being only visible to the eye when at some distance, ceases to be distinguished while the foot is actually treading it. 1820 — *Monast.* xxiii. 1854 H. MILLER *Sch. & Schm.* i. 1 A blind pathway... winding through the stunted heath.

c. Used of a letter indistinctly or imperfectly addressed. *Blind man, officer, reader*, a post-office employé who deals with such letters.

1864 W. LEWINS *Her Maj. Mails* 204 The 'blind Letter Office' is the receptacle for all illegible, misspelt, and misdirected or insufficiently addressed letters or packets. 1883 *Pall Mall G.* 20 Aug. A few specimen letters which have recently racked the brains of the 'blind readers' at the Post Office. 1885 *Pall Mall G.* 13 May 5 The ingenuity of the 'blind' men of the Post Office.

8. Out of sight, out of the way, secret, obscure, privy. With *blind alley* cf. 11.

c 1386 CHAUCER *Chan. Yem. Prol. & T.* 105 Lurkyng in hermes and in lanes blynde. 1557 NORTH *Guevara's Diall Pr.* (1582) 409a, Feasting... their secret friends in gardeins and blind taurns. 1593 STANYHURST *Eneis* II. (Arb.) 66 Through crouse blynd allye we iumble. 1660 BLOUNT *Boscobel* II. (1680) 13 To a blind Inn in Charnmouth. 1661 *Prvys Diary* 15 Oct. To St. Paul's Churchyard to a blind place where Mr. Goldsborough was to meet me. 1814 SCOTT *Wav.* xliii, Bailie Macwhieble having retired to... some blind change-house.

b. Of a way or path: the notion of 'secret, ob-

scure,' is often mixed up with those of 'difficult to trace, confused or confusing, intricate, uncertain.'

a 1593 H. SMITH *Wks.* (1866-7) I. 218 Like a mark of knowledge in the turnings that lead unto blind by-ways. 1603 KNOLLES *Hist. Turks* (1621) 316 He... went by certain blind ways through the mountains and woods. 1634 MILTON *Comus* 181 In the blind mazes of this tangled wood. 1719 DE Foe *Crusoe* (1858) 357 Inaccessible, except by such windings, and blind ways, as they themselves only who made them could find. 1870 MORRIS *Earthly Par.* II. III. 76 Through blind ways of the wood he went.

9. Covered or concealed from sight.

1513 DOUGLAS *Eneis* III. x. 100 Blynd rolkis of Libie. 1555 EDEN *Decades W. Ind.* I. i. (Arb.) 66 The keele... ranne vpon a blynde rocke couered with water. 1614 MARKHAM *Cheap. Husb.* To Rdr., By evry high-way side or blinde ditch. 1650 R. STAPYLTON *Strada's Low-C. Warres* 47 The place was full of blind Pits covered over with Rubbish. 1796 MORSE *Amer. Geog.* II. 631 Surrounded with blind rocks, sunk a few feet below the water. 1822 *Standard* 16 Nov. 3/5 The ditches, overgrown with long grass and trailing brambles, were very 'blind.'

10. Having no openings or passages for light.

a. Arch. Of walls, etc.: Without windows or openings; (a window or door) walled up.

1603 KNOLLES *Hist. Turks* (1621) 516 The Cloister... shut in on euerie side with high and blind walls. 1736 CARTE *Ormonde* I. 273 Some of the inhabitants who let the rebels into the place through an old blind door that was broke open for them. 1820 L. HUNT *Indicator* No. 38 (1822) I. 297 This tower... seemed as blind as it was strong. 1870 F. WILSON *Ch. Lindisf.* 41 The north walls of both nave and vestry were blind. 1874 PARKER *Illustr. Goth. Archit.* I. III. 61 In... Christ Church Cathedral, Oxford... the clerestory window has a smaller blind arch on each side of it.

b. Of hedges and the like: Too thick or leafy to be seen through.

1718 POPE *Iliad* XI. 595 Some huntsman... From the blind thicket wounds a stately deer. 1863 *Spring & Sunn. Lapland* 54 The hedges were getting too blind for hunting.

11. Closed at one end. So *blind alley* in its present sense: for early use see 8.

1662 DRYDEN *Wild Gall.* II. i. (1725) 113 He must meet me in a blind Alley. 1668 CULPEPPER & COLE *Barthol. Anat.* I. 303 Yet could I not... find the Anastomoses of Vena Cava and Vena Porta open, but all blind. 1678 SALMON *New Lond. Dispens.* 818 They are of use in the blind Alembick. 1724 SWIFT *Irish Manuf. Wks.* 1755 V. II. 7 A hedge-press in some blind-alley about Little Britain. 1847-9 TODD *Cycl. Anat. & Phys.* IV. 736 The cæcum towards its blind termination. 1878 JEFFERIES *Gamekpr.* at H. 116 Cross-passages, 'blind' holes and 'pop' holes.

b. Blind holes in Mechanics: holes not coincident in plates to be riveted together.

1869 SIR E. REED *Shipbuild.* x. 194 The greater number of what are termed blind, or half-blind, holes are found in the edges.

12. Of plants: Without buds or eyes, or without a terminal flower. *Blind bud*, one that bears no bloom or fruit, an abortive bud.

1824 J. E. TAYLOR *Sagac. & Mor. Plants* 70 Should such flowers fail to be crossed, no fruit is borne, and the flowers are then blind. *Mod.* These asters have turned out 'blind.'

13. Blind story, one without point.

1699 BENTLEY *Phal.* Pref. 64 He insinuates a blind Story about something and somebody. 1762-71 H. WALPOLE *Virtues Anecd. Paint.* (1786) II. 75 This story which in truth is but a blind one.

† 14. *transf.* from sight to sound. Obs.

1398 TREvisa *Barth. De P. R.* XIX. cxxxi. (1495) 942 The blynde voyc stynteth soone 'and is stuffyd and dureth not longe: as the sowne of erthen vessell.

IV. Combinations.

15. General, as *blind-born*, -hearted; *blind-drunk* (Sc. *blin'-fou*), so intoxicated as to see no better than a blind man.

c 975 *Rushw. Gosp.* John ix. 32 Ego 82es blinda-borones. a 1225 *Ancr. R.* 178 Þu ert blind iheorted, & ne isihst nout hwu þu ert poure & naked of holinesse. a 1300 *Cursor M.* 13601 3e sai þat blind-born man was he. 1720 WELTON *Suff. Son of God* II. xxii. 670 The poor, Blind-Born Man.

16. Special comb., as blind area (*Arch.*), a clear space around the basement wall of a house; blind-axe, one that turns but does not move any other part of the mechanism, = *dead-axe*; blind-ball, the Puff-ball (*Lycoperdon bovista*), a fungus containing dust which is supposed to blind the eyes; blind-beetle, a popular name for beetles which are apt to fly against people, esp. by night; hence *blind-beetledness*; also, a small beetle found in rice; blind-blocking, -tooling (*Bookbind-ing*), ornamental impressions on book-covers produced by heated blocks, or tools, without gold-leaf; blind-fish, the *Amblyopsis spelæus*, a fish without eyes found in the Mammoth Cave of Kentucky; blind-gallery (see BLIND a. 10); blind-harry (*Sc.*), blind-man's-buff; blind-hazard, a game at cards; blind-hob, some game unknown; blind-hokey, a game at cards; blind-level (see quot.); † blind-mouse, the mole; also the water shrew-mouse; blind-shaft, a winze; blind-shell (*Artillery*), a shell containing no powder, also one that fails to explode when fired; blind-spot, the spot on the retina which is insensible to light; blind-story (*Arch.*), a triforium or series of arches below the clerestory of a cathedral, admitting no

light; blind tooling = *blind-blocking*; blind-window, ? a window that admits no light; an arch of the blind-story. Also BLIND-COAL, -GUT, -HEAD, -NETTLE, -WORM, q.v.

1649 LIGHTFOOT *Battle w. Wasps* N. (1825) 389 If you must shame any body for 'blind beetledness. 1880 GÜNTHER *Fishes* 618 The famous 'Blind Fish of the Mammoth Cave in Kentucky... is destitute of external eyes. 1816 SINGER *Hist. Cards* 263 We are informed the modern name of this game [Bankrout] is 'Blind Hazard. a 1845 MRS. BRAY *Warleigh* xvii. (1884) 135 In the servants' hall, playing at 'blind hob and hot cockles. 1862 THACKERAY *Philip* II. 100 Victimized by his own uncle... at a game called 'blind hookey.' 1881 RAYMOND *Mining Gloss.*, 'Blind level, 1. A level not yet connected with other workings. 2. A level for drainage, having a shaft at either end, and acting as an inverted siphon. 1607 TOPSELL *Fours. Beasts* 563 It hunteth Moles or 'blinde Mice. 1770 PENNANT *Zool.* IV. 83 It [the water shrew-mouse] is called, from the smallness of its eyes, the 'blind mouse. 1864 *Daily Tel.* 4 May, The day was closed with... 'blind shells for the purpose of completing the tables of ranges. 1872 HUXLEY *Phys.* ix. 219 So long as the image... rests upon the entrance of the optic nerve, it is not perceived, and hence this region of the retina is called the 'blind spot. c 1250 MYLW *Vizt Dunkeld. Episcop.* in Parker *Goth. Arch.* I. 57 Construxit usque secundus arcus, vulgariter le 'blyndstors. 1848 RICKMAN *Goth. Archit.* Introduct. 18, There is a passage in the thickness of the wall of the clerestory as well as in the triforium or 'blind-story. 1847 L. HUNT *Men, Women, & Bks.* II. vi. 78 The charms of... tall copies, and 'blind tooling. 1566 *Bury Wills* (1850) 107, I bygueth toward the mayking of ij 'blynde wyndowes in the seid monasterij... xlii.

Blind (bländ), v. Also 4-5 blynd(e. *Pa. t.* and *pple.* blinded: *pple.* in 4 blind, ibland, (5 blynyd). [f. BLIND a., first in ME.: taking the place of the earlier equivalent BLEND v. 1; or rather perhaps to be viewed as a phonetic variation of the latter, caused by assimilation to the adjective.]

1. *trans.* To make blind, deprive of sight: a. permanently.

a 1300 *Cursor M.* 7246 Þai blinded him and prisund bath. c 1440 *Prompt. Parv.* 40 Blyndyn, or make blynde, *exceco*. a 1450 *Syr Eglam.* 318 To the yeant he gafe a sowe And blyndyd hym in that tyde! 1753 HANWAY *Trav.* I. v. lxxvii. 347 Ali was taken prisoner and blinded. 1875 MAINE *Hist. Inst.* II. 37 He had been accidentally blinded of one eye.

b. temporarily, e.g. by dazzling with a bright light, or by bandaging the eyes: To render insensible to light or colour.

1388 WYCLIF *Ecclus.* xliiii. 4 The sunne blyndith iþen. 1530 PALSGR. 458/1 This great light blyndeth my syght. 1632 MASSINGER & FIELD *Fatal Dow.* IV. iv, Fear nothing, I will only blind your eyes. 1827 HOOD *Hero & L.* xlv, His eyes are blinded with the sleety brine. 1866 TYNDALL *Glac.* I. § 5. 38 The effect... upon the eye is to blind it in some degree to the perception of red.

2. *fig.* To close the eyes of the understanding or moral perception; to deceive, 'throw dust in the eyes' of (persons and their faculties). *refl.* To shut one's (mental) eyes to.

a 1300 *Cursor M.* 17452 To man þat couatith has blind. 1382 WYCLIF *Ex.* xliiii. 8 3iftes, that also blynden wise men. 1538 BALE *Three Lawes* 979 To blynde the rulers and deceyve the commynalte. 1611 BIBLE 2 Cor. iii. 14 But their mindes were blinded. 1700 OZELL tr. *Verot's Rom. Rep.* II. ix. 92 A great Presumption blinded him from seeing his own Incapacity. 1709 BUTLER *Serm.* Wks. 1874 II. 123 Good-will to another may... blind our judgement. 1775 SHERIDAN *Duenna* III. vi. 224 How jealousy blinds people! 1856 FROUDE *Hist. Eng.* I. II. 98 Wolsey could not blind himself to the true condition of the church.

3. To put out of sight, hide, conceal; make difficult to see or trace.

a 1340 *Cursor M.* 21357 (Fairf.) Þe iewes hid hit efter-sone fra cristen men hit to blinde. 1709 C. PLACE in *Bibl. Topogr. Brit.* III. 106 The way [is] cunningly blinded by diversions. 1813 SCOTT *Rokeby* II. iv, Oft doubling back in many train, To blind the trace the dews retain. 1822 KEATS *Lamia* 373 Wherefore did you blind Yourself from his quick eyes.

† b. To hide from the understanding, to obscure; to represent as obscure. Obs.

1622 HEVLIN *Cosmogr.* III. (1682) 166 Those desarts which Ptolomy blindeth under the name Terra Incognita. a 1700 STILLINGFL. (J.) The state of the controversy... he endeavoured with all his art to blind and confound.

† 4. To come in the way of; to intercept. Obs.

1303 R. BRUNNE *Handl. Synne* 12152 Oure shyryfte þe deuyll blyndep. c 1450 LONELICH *Grai!* lvi. 174 From here schepis we scholen hem blynde.

5. To deprive (things) of light; to darken.

a 1643 W. CARTWRIGHT *Lady Errant* I. iii. (1651) 10 They have laid aside their Jewels, and so Blinded their garments. a 1700 DRYDEN (J.) Such darkness blinds the sky. 1847 J. WILSON *Chr. North* (1857) I. 146 Let the honeysuckle... blind unchecked a corner of the kitchen-window.

b. To dim by excess of light; to eclipse.

1633 P. FLETCHER *Pisc. Eclog.* VI. (L.) Her beauty all the rest did blind. 1822 TENNYSON *Tithonus* 38 Thy [Aurora's] sweet eyes... blind the stars.

6. *Gunnery.* To provide with blindages.

1850 ALISON *Hist. Europe* XIV. lxxxvii. § 4 Extraordinary precautions... to render nugatory the effects of a bombardment, by blinding the ships... with turf, wet blankets, and... other articles. 1870 *Standard* 12 Dec, Guns blinded with iron mantelets.

7. *intr.* To be or become blind or dim. *arch.*

c 1305 *Old Age* ix. in *E. E. P.* (1862) 149, I blind, I blieri. c 1315 *E. E. Allit. P. B.* 1126 Ho blyndes of ble. 1822 BEDDOES *Bride's Trag.* II. iv, Thy bright eye would blind at sights like this!

Blind (blɔɪnd), *sb.* Also 4 blynde, 6 blynd, 6-7 blinde. [f. BLIND *v.* (1 or *adj.*)]

1. Anything which obstructs the light or sight.
1708 C. MATHER *Magn. Chr.* vii. iv. (1852) 522 Blinds to keep light from entering into the souls of men. 1768 BLACKSTONE *Comm.* II. 402 If I have an ancient window overlooking my neighbour's ground, he may not erect any blind to obstruct the light. 1825 BYRON *Parisina* xvii. To bind Those eyes which would not brook such blind.

2. *spec.* A screen for a window, made of woven material mounted on a roller, of wire gauze, etc.; used to prevent the entrance of too much light, or to keep people from seeing in. *Venetian blinds*: those made of light laths fixed on strips of webbing.

1765 tr. Beckford's *Vathek* (1868) 19 The women . . . flew to their blinds to discover the cause. 1768 LD. AUCKLAND *Corr.* (1861) II. 67 The making visits . . . is done in a carriage with blinds. 1855 DICKENS *Dorrit* i. Blinds, shutters, curtains, awnings were all closed and drawn.

3. A blinker for a horse; cf. 8.

4. *Fortification.* A blindage.

1644 in Rushw. *Hist. Coll.* III. 11. 739 Massey caused a blind to be made across the street. 1710 *Lond. Gas.* No. 4692/1 We had thrown up some Blinds to cover our Men. 1808 C. JAMES *Mil. Dict.* s.v.

5. Any means or place of concealment. *Obs.*

1646 SHIRLEY *On Death of C. Dalby*. So will they . . . sleep Till the last trumpet wake 'em, and then creep into some blind. 1697 DRYDEN *Virg.* (1806) III. 52 The watchful shepherd, from the blind, Wounds with a random shaft the careless hind.

6. *fig.* Any thing or action intended to conceal one's real design; a pretence, a pretext.

1664-94 SOUTH 12 *Serm.* II. 208 A Practice, which duly seen into, and stript of its Hypocritical Blinds, could not, etc. 1713 STEELE *Guardian* No. 150 (1756) II. 263 Her constant care of me was only a blind. 1738 SWIFT *Wks.* (1841) II. 127 These verses were only a blind to conceal the most dangerous designs of the party. 1833 COLERIDGE *Table-t.* 14 May, There is one sonnet [of Shakspeare's] which, from its incongruity, I take to be a purposed blind.

7. *Naut.* A spritsail [= *Du. blinde*]. *Obs.*

1535 STEWART *Cron. Scot.* (1858) I. 90 With fuksaill, top-saill, manesall, musall, and blind.

8. *Comb.* chiefly attrib., as (in sense 2) *blind-cord*, *-pulley*, *-roller*, etc.; (in sense 3) *blind-halter*, *-winkers*; *blind-bridle*, a bridle with blinkers.

1771 *Lond. Gas.* No. 4875/4 Galled on both sides of her Head with a blind Halter. 1866 YOUTT *Horse v.* (1872) 113 Last of all, the blind winkers. 1881 *Mechanic* § 714 How to make a blind-roller. 1883 CABLE *Dr. Sevier* vi, A quarter circle of iron-work set like a blind-bridle.

Blindage. [f. prec. + -AGE.] A screen or other structure used in fortification, sieges, etc. to protect from the enemy's firing; a mantelet. = BLIND *sb.* 4.
1812 WELLINGTON in Gurw. *Disp.* IX. 196 Troops are well protected from the effects even of the heaviest fire of shells, by what are called blindages. 1888 E. O'DONOVAN *Mero Osis* II. xxxiii. 69 The Turcomans having constructed blindages in connection with their huts.

9. **Blindation**. *Obs.* [f. as prec. + -ATION: cf. *starvation*.] = BLINDING, BLIND *sb.* 4-6.

1588 J. HARVEY *Discursive Probl.* 52 The pretended cloke of Incubus, or such like glozing blindation. 1617 COLLINS *Def. Bp. Ely* ii. vii. 260 That's the blindation. a 1724 NORTH *Exam.* i. iii. § 106. 196 These Authors . . . build up blindations before one of the foulest Knots of Inquiry that ever defiled the Sun's Light.

Blind-coal. Non-bituminous coal, or anthracite, which burns without flame.

1802 PLAYFAIR *Illustr. Hutton*. The 148 Coal may exist without bitumen as in the instance of blind-coal. 1831 J. HOLLAND *Manuf. Metals* I. 129 Blind-coal is used in the smelting establishments in the South of Wales with great advantage. 1849 J. JACKSON *Minerals* xxii, Anthracite . . . called in Staffordshire, Stone coal, in Scotland Blind coal.

Blinded (blɔɪndɪd), *pp. a.* [f. BLIND *v.* and *sb.* + -ED¹.]

1. Made blind, deprived of sight or light.

1566 SPENSER *Astroph.*, *Thest.* 134 The blinded archer-boy. 1821 CLARE *Vill. Minstr.* I. 198 Each eye . . . In blinded slumber closes.

2. *fig.* Having the understanding darkened; deluded; deceived, benighted, foolish.

1535 COVERDALE *Numb.* xiv. 44 They were blynded to go vp to the toppe of the mountaine. 1558 KNOX *First Blast* (Arb.) 49 The approbation and consent of a blinded multitude. 1660 BAXTER *Call Unconv.* Pref., Thou art a blinded Atheist. 1826 SCOTT *Woodst.* (1832) 178 The blinded Papists.

3. With the window-blinds drawn down.

1709 ADDISON *Tatler* No. 120 P. 5, I found the Windows were blinded. 1876 MISS YONGE *Woman*. xxx. 267 The drawing-room is left blinded and tenantless.

4. Provided with blindages.

1877 *Daily News* 22 Oct. 6/1 Its summit was surrounded with breastworks, ditches, rifle-pits, and blinded batteries. 1884 GEN. GORDON *Let.* 24 Aug. in *Standard* 24 Feb. (1885) 5/7 Our steamers are blinded and bullet-proof.

Blinder (blɔɪndɪ), *sb.* [f. BLIND *v.* + -ER¹.]

1. He who or that which blinds. Also *fig.*

1507 GOLDING *De Mornay* ii. (1617) 22 The same Sunne is the lightner of our eyes . . . and . . . the blinder of them. 1829 CARLYLE in Froude *Life* (1882) II. 75 To the bodily eye Self is a perpetual blinder.

2. A blinker for a horse. (Chiefly in U.S.)

1809 J. BARLOW *Columb.* x. 414 Shake off their manacles, their blinders cast. 1836 EMERSON *Eng. Traits* v. 92 In common, the horse works best with blinders. 1860 TRISTRAM *St. Sahara* ii. 39 The blinders, worn for show and not

for use, as none of them reached forward as far as the horse's eyes.

Blindfold (blɔɪndfɔld), *v.* Forms: 3 blind-fellen, 4 blyndfelle(n), blynfelle, 5 blyndfellyn, -feyld, blynfelde, 6 blyndfelf, -felde, blindfeld, blyndfold, 6- blindfold. *Pa. ppl.* 3 iblyndfelled, 4 blindfelled, -feld, blynd-felde, blynfeld, yblyndfelled, 5 blynd(e)-fellyd, -fyld, 5-6 blynd(e)felde, 6 blind-felded, -felded, 6- blindfolded. [ME. *blind-felle(n)* to strike blind, f. *fellen* to strike, *FELL*; occurring mostly in the *pa. ppl.* *blindfelled*, -feld, -fuld, -fyld, whence the -d was, in the 15th c., erroneously admitted into the stem of the vb. Hence the 16th c. perversion *blindfold*, associated with the notion of *folding* something round the eyes, which had come to be the common use of the word.]

1. *trans.* To strike blind; to blind. *Obs.*

a 1300 *Cursor M.* 19615 Blinfeild (v. r. blenfelld, blindfeld, blyndfelle) he was als he sua lai. c 1320 R. BRUNNE *Chron.* 54 He suore . . . pat neuer Alfred his broper porgh him was dede No blynfeld, no slayn. c 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 40 Blyndyn, or make blynde. *Blindfellen*, *idem est.*

2. To cover the eyes, esp. with a bandage.

a 1225 *Anscr. R.* 206 He polede . . . bet me hine blindfellede . . . Pauh pu pin eien . . . blindfelle on eorðe. 1388 WYCLIF *Luke* xxii. 64 And thei blynfelden hym, and smyten his face. 1483 *Cath. Angl.* 35 To Blyndfeyld [blindfelle], *velare*. 1494 FABYAN vi. ccx. 225 She was blynde felde & lad vnto the place. c 1510 BARCLAY *Mirr. Good Mann.* (1570) Civ. Here eyne blindfelled. 1526 TINDALE *Luke* xxii. 64 And blyndfolded hym. 1526 *Pilgr. Perf.* (W. de W. 1531) 259 Ye cloth with ye whiche our Sauyur was blyndfelde. 1530 PALSGR. 458, I blynde felde one, I cover his sight. 1599 *Life Sir T. More* in Wordsw. *Ecol. Biog.* (1853) II. 17 He tooke a napkin . . . wherewith he blindfolded his own eyes. 1797 SWIFT *Wonder of Wond.* Wks. 1755 II. 11. 58 He . . . gives any person leave to blindfold him. 1835 ANSTER *Faust* 314 They bind and blindfold me.

3. *fig.* To darken the understanding or judgement.

1581 MARBECK *Bk. Notes* 1037 They are blindfolded, they are snared. 1674 ALLEN *Dang. Enthus.* 60 If Prejudice do not blindfold you. 1790 BURKE *Fr. Rev.* 34 They . . . blindfold themselves, like bulls that shut their eyes when they push. 1879 H. GEORGE *Progr. & Prov.* II. iv. (1881) 125 Men ignore facts when blindfolded by a pre-accepted theory.

Blindfold, *a.* Forms: see prec. (in *pa. ppl.*); also 5-6 blynfeld(e), blyndfeld(e), blind-feld(e), blynde felde, blynde felde, 6 blyndfeld, 7 blindfold, 6- blindfold.

1. Having the eyes bandaged so as to prevent vision. (Rarely attrib.; often *advb.*)

1483 CAXTON *Gold. Leg.* 88/1 He fonde them on theyr knees and blyndfeld. 1553 T. WILSON *Rhet.* 115 b. Shall some gentelman playe blynde felde at the chesse. 1555 EDEN *Decades W. Ind.* (Arb.) 347 They can in maner go thyther blyndfelde. 1768 TUCKER *Lt. Nat.* II. 606 He that follows another blindfold. 1792 S. ROGERS *Pleas. Mem.* I. 36 And turned the blindfold hero round and round.

b. *transf.*

1593 SHAKS. *Rich. II.* i. iii. 224 My inch of Taper will be burnt and done, And blindfold death not let me see my sonne.

2. *fig.* With the mind blinded; without perception; without forethought, heedless, reckless. Cf. BLIND *a.* 3.

c 1450 *De Degueville's Pilgr.* in *Cath. Angl.* 35 Of paine that er blynfelde and eras blynde. 1570 B. GOOGE *Pop. Kingd.* i. 3, But blynde felde every man must take, whatsoever he settes out. 1592 SHAKS. *Ven. & Ad.* 554 With blindfold fury she begins to forage. 1607 DRYDEN *Horat. & P.* I. 324 The blind-fold blows of ignorance. 1876 MORLEY *Crit. Misc.* Ser. I. 158 Sailing blindfold and haphazard.

3. Dark. Cf. BLIND *a.* 6. *Obs.*

1601 YARINGTON *Two Traj.* Prol. 7 in Bullen *O. Pl.* IV, Each statelie streete, And blinde-fold turning. **Blindfold**, *sb.* [f. the *adj.*: in sense 2 leaning upon FOLD *sb.*]

1. That which is blindfold. *Obs.*

1643 *Myst. Inq.* 14 Where blindfold is the onely play. 2. A bandage over the eyes; *fig.* anything which takes away perception or judgement.

1880 L. WALLACE *Ben-Hur* II. v. 106 To the excellences of other peoples the egotism of a Roman is a blindfold.

Blindfolded, *pp. a.* [f. BLINDFOLD *v.* + -ED¹.] = BLINDFOLD *a.*

1570 E. K. in *Spenser's Sheph. Cal.* Mar. 89 Gloss., He is described . . . to be blindfolded. 1661 BURNIEY *Kepd.* Δωροφ 131 Blindfolded luges. 1730 A. GORDON *Maffei's Amphit.* 250 Those who did any thing in a blindfolded manner. c 1860 C. S. BROOKS *Marnulo in Casquet Lit.* (1877) I. 390/2 To tell his story to the blindfolded girl.

Blindfoldedness. Blindfolded condition. 1863 SALA *Capt. Dang.* I. x. 295 That Blindfoldedness of Ignorance.

Blindfolder. [f. BLINDFOLD *v.* + -ER¹.] One who blindfolds or hoodwinks.

a 1649 DRUMM. of HAWTH. *Speech Wks.* (1711) 219 The malicious blind-folders. 1861 GEN. P. THOMPSON *Audi Alt.* P. III. clxiii. 180 The political blindfolders.

Blindfolding, *vbl. sb.* In 3-fellunge, fal-lunge. [f. as prec. + -ING¹.] The action of covering up the eyes; hoodwinking; the apparatus used in the action; the state produced.

a 1225 *Anscr. R.* 96 Uor hore blindfallunge. *Ibid.* 188 Godes piten . . . buffetes, spotlunge, blindfellingunge. 1583 GOLDING *Cabyn on Dent.* xvi. 94 Lustes and likings . . . bee as blindfoldings to keepe vs from seeing God. 1793 T. BEDDOES *Math. Evid.* 65 Actual blind-folding and muffing.

Blindfoldly, *adv. rare.* [f. BLINDFOLD *a.* + -LY².] In a blindfold manner, blindly.

1642 J. EATON *Honey-combe* 218 The matter, which they daily, like Parrots, doe blindfoldly prattle of. 1 Blindful, *a. Obs. rare.* Blind, blinded.

1641 SYLVESTER *Mottoes* 74 Man . . . brute and blindfull. **Blind gut**. [See BLIND *a.* 11.] One of the intestines closed at the lower end; the *cæcum*.

1594 T. B. La Primaud. *Fr. Acad.* II. 350 The first of these great ones is called the blinde gut, because . . . it hath but one way, both to receive in, and to let out the matter received. 1758 J. S. Le Dran's *Observ. Surg.* (1771) B b 2 b, The blind Gut, so called from being perforated at one End only.

1 Blind-head. *Obs.* A cover for an alembic or retort; a retort with such a cover.

1662 R. MATHEW *Unl. Alch.* § 108. 176 Put on a blind head, and let it stand in ashes, or Balneo Maria. 1667 BOYLE *Orig. Formes & Qual.*, A Glasse Body, with a blind head luted to it. 1736 BAILEY *Housh. Dict.* 129 Clap on a blind-head, lute it well. 1743 *Lond. & Country Brev.* IV. 305 Hops that have been . . . stewed on Purpose in a blind Head.

1 Blindhead, -hood. *Obs.* [f. BLIND *a.* + -HEAD, -HOOD.] Blindness.

a 1340 HAMPOLE *Psalter* xcvi. 2 Til ill men, cloudy & myrke in syn, for thaire blynhede, he semys myrk.

Blinding (blɔɪndɪŋ), *vbl. sb.* [f. BLIND *v.*]

1. The action of making blind.

1668 FREEMAN *Norm. Conq.* (1876) II. vii. 79 So striking an event as the blinding of an Emperor.

2. *fig.* Darkening of the mental or moral sense. c 1380 WYCLIF *De Dot. Eccl.* Sel. Wks. III. 439 Love of God is quenched bi blyndyng of þe world. c 1449 PECOCK *Repr.* v. xv. 563 Pointis of wicchecraft and blindingis. 1705 STANHOPE *Paraphr.* I. 37 The blinding of Passion.

3. = BLINDAGE.

1829 *Sun* 17 Sept. 1/5 It was proposed . . . to cover the low batteries with a strong blinding.

Blinding, *pp. a.* [f. as prec. + -ING².] That blinds. (See the vb.)

1784 BURNS *Winter* i, The blinding sleet and snaw. 1860 GOSSE *Rom. Nat. Hist.* 42 A dense fog of blinding sand.

Blindingly, *adv.* [f. prec. + -LY².] In a blinding manner; so as to blind.

1849 HARE *Par. Serm.* II. 153 The darkness which lay blindingly on the hearts and souls of mankind. *Mod. News-paper*, The snow flying blindingly.

Blindish (blɔɪndɪʃ), *a.* [f. BLIND *a.* + -ISH¹.] Somewhat blind.

1611 FLORIO, *Ceculiente*, blindish, dimme of sight. 1636 *Ariana* 230 'Tis a passion something blindish. 1855 BROWNING *Men & Wom.* I. 179 An old dog, bald and blindish.

1 Blindled, *pp. a. nonce-ud.* Darkened.

1606 SYLVESTER *Du Bartas* I. i. (1641) 5/2 Or whether else some other Lamp he kindled Upon the Heap (yet all with Waters blindled).

Blindless, *a.* [f. BLIND *sb.* + -LESS.] Of a window: Having no blind.

1853 C. BRONTË *Villette* xx. (D.) The high blindless windows. 1859 TENNYSON *Enid* 71 The blindless casement.

Blindling, *sb.* [f. BLIND *a.* + -LING: cf. *weaking*.] A blind person.

1549 J. PONEY *Def. Marr. Priests* 44 God . . . hath scattered those blyndlynges to their vter confusion. 1563-87 FOXE *A. & M.* II. 310 A sort of blindlings.

Blindling, -lings, *adv. north. dial.* Forms: 3 blindlunge, 6 -lingis, -lings, -ling, -lynge, 9 Sc. blin(d)lins. [f. BLIND *a.* + -LING(s) *advb. suffix*.] Blind-wise, blindly, heedlessly.

a 1225 *St. Mark.* 15 Ich habbe ablend ham þat ha blind-lunge gað. 1513 DOUGLAS *Æneis* II. vii. [vi.] 74 Quhen blindlingis in the battell fey thai fycht. 1544 BALE *Chron. Sir J. Oldcastell* in *Harl. Misc.* I. 275 They will . . . leade you blindelynge into hell with themselves. 1858 M. PORTEOUS *Souter Johnny* 31 Blindlins did the carline speak it.

Blindly (blɔɪndli), *adv.* [f. BLIND *a.* + -LY².]

1. In a blind way; after the manner of the blind; *fig.* without foresight or reason, deludedly.

c 873 K. ÆLFRED *Oros.* I. x. § 6 Hu blindlice monege þeoda sprecað ymb þone cristendom. c 1380 WYCLIF *Antecrist & Meynce* 152 If þe puple . . . folowe hem blindly. 1594 SHAKS. *Rich. III.* v. v. 24 The Brother blindly shed the Brothers blood. 1607 DRYDEN *Virg. Ecol.* vi. 52 How Seas, and Earth, and Air and active Flame . . . Were blindly gather'd in this goodly Ball. 1832 CARLYLE in *Fraser's Mag.* V. 390 Whigs struggling blindly forward, Tories holding blindly back. 1855 LONGF. *Hiaw.* Intro. 96 Groping blindly in the darkness.

2. Dimly, indistinctly. *Obs.* Cf. BLIND *a.* 7. 1686 *Lond. Gas.* No. 2168/4 A Dun Gelding . . . R. B. blindly upon the same Leg.

3. Without an opening. Cf. BLIND *a.* 11.

1872 HUXLEY *Phys.* viii. 202 The scala media . . . at its opposite end terminates blindly.

1 Blindman. Now written as two words.

c 1325 *Chron. Eng.* 769 in Ritson's *Metr. Rom.* II. 302 Ant a blindmon hede sihte. 1599 SHAKS. *Much Ado* II. I. 205 You strike like the blindman.

Hence **Blind man's ball**, a local name of the Puff-ball fungus, or Blind-ball; see BLIND *a.* 16.

1812 WITHERING *Brit. Plants* (1830) IV. 349.

Blind-man-buff, *v. nonce-ud.* [f. next, in its earlier form.] *trans.* To blindfold, hoodwink.

1705 HICKERINGILL *Priest-cr.* IV. (1721) 209 The best Engine that ever Priest-craft invented, to Blind-man-buff the silly Laity.

Blind-man's-buff (blɔɪnd mænʒ bʊf). Also 6-7 blindman-buff(e), (-buffet, -bough,

-bluff, 7-9 blindman's-buff. [f. BLIND-MAN + BUFF = buffet, blow, stroke.]

1. A game in which one player is blindfolded, and tries to catch and identify any one of the others, who, on their part, push him about, and make sport with him.

1600 ROWLANDS *Let. Humours Blood* iv. 64 At hot-cockles, leape-frogge, or blindman-buffe. 1628 GAULE *Pract. The.* (1629) 231 Others make him [Christ] no better then their Pastime, at no more discreet a Sport then Childs, or Fooles Blind-man-Buffet: *Prophecie unto us, who is he that smote thee?* 1634 J. TAYLOR (Water-P.) *Gl. Eater Kent*, Gregorie Dawson, an English-man, devised the unmatchable mystery of Blind-man-buffe. 1666 *Month. Mercury* VII. 55 They oblig'd him to play with 'em at Blindman-Buff. 1766 GOLDSM. *Vic. W.* xi. Mr. Burchell set the boys and girls to blindman's buff. 1866 R. CHAMBERS *Ess.* Ser. I. 186 The whole parlour put into disorder by blind man's buff.

2. *fig.*
1599 *Three Lords Lond.*, Ile to my stall; Love, Lucre, Conscience, blindman buffe to you all. 1643 BRAMHALL *Serpent Salvage* § 1 We desire to see what they have done, before we go to blindman's buffet one with another. 1648 C. WALKER *Hist. Indop.* 1. 55 Me thinks... we are compelled to play at blind-man-bough for our lives. 1837 CARLYLE *Rev.* I. vi. iii. 278 Government by Blind-man's-buff.

Blind man's holiday. A humorous phrase for the time just before candles are lighted, when it is too dark to work, and one is obliged to rest or 'take a holiday'; formerly used more widely.

1599 NASHE *Lent. Stuffe* in *Hart. Misc.* VI. 167 (D.) What will not blind Cupid doe in the night, which is his blindmans holiday. 1611 in FLORIO. 1796 PEGGE *Anonym.* iii. § 18 The twilight, or rather the hour between the time when one can no longer see to read and the lighting of the candle, is commonly called blindman's holiday. 1866 *Aunt Judy's Mag.* Oct. 358 At meal-times, or in blindman's holiday, when no work was to be done.

Blindness (blaindness). [f. BLIND + -NESS.]

1. Blind condition; want of sight.

1000 *Ælfric Deut.* xxviii. 28 Sende þe Drihten on... blindnesse, þæt þu gropic on midne dæg. a 1300 *Cursor M.* 20957 A jugelar with blindnes he [Paul] smat. 1398 *Trevisa Barth. De P. R.* vi. xxiv. (1495) 213 Blyndnesse is pryacyon of syghte. c 1440 *Pronch. Parv.* 40 Blyndnesse, cecitas. 1611 *Bible Deut.* xxviii. 28 The Lord shall smite thee with madness and blindness. 1671 MILTON *Samson* 196 That which was the worst now least afflicts me, Blindness. 1859 *Masson Milton* I. 717 Galileo's blindness had become total.

2. *fig.* Want of intellectual or moral perception; delusion, ignorance; folly, recklessness.

971 *Blickl. Hom.* 23 þæt we ongyton þa blindnesse ure ælpeodignesse. a 1340 *Hampole Prose Tr.* (1866) 19 A naked mynde... of Ihesu... withouten lyghte of knawynge in resoune, es bot a blyndnes. 1526 *Pilgr. Perf.* (W. de W. 1531) 243 b. Tempestes of desperacyon or blyndnes of mynde. 1611 *Bible Rom.* xi. 25 Blindnesse in part is happened to Israel. 1796 *Br. Watson Apol. Bible* 209 The blindness of your rage. 1837 *Dickens Pickw.* (1847) Pref. 11 A host of petty jealousies, blindnesses, and prejudices.

3. *transf.* Concealment. *Obs. rare.*
1590 *Shaks. Com. Err.* iii. ii. 8 Muffle your false loue with some shew of blindness.

Blind-nettle. *Herb.* [f. BLIND + a. 12; from its wanting the characteristic stinging quality of nettles proper.] The Dead-nettle; also the Hemp-nettle and Hedge Nettle or Wood Woundwort.

c 1000 *Ælfric Gram.* 311 *Archangelica*, blindnetle. 1398 *Trevisa Barth. De P. R.* xvii. cxliii. (1495) 730 The deed nettyll or the blynde nettyl. 1578 *Lyte Dodones* i. lxxxviii. 131 At this present time it is called... in English Blinde Nettle. 1736 *Bailey Househ. Dict.* 113 Blind Nettle... is of a heating, drying, digestive and incisive quality. 1878 *Britten & Holland Plant-n.*

4. *Blinds.* *Obs.* (See quot.)

1674 *Ray Smelting Silt.* 118 There is a white Fluor about the vein which they call Spar and a black which they call *Blinds*. This last covers the vein of Oare, and when it appears they are sure to find Oare.

5. *Blindwharved, ppl.* *Obs.* In 4 blynt-wharuet, blyntwharued. [f. BLIND + a. + wharven, wharven to turn.] Blinded, blindfolded.

c 1320 *Cast. Love* 1146 His ejen weore blynt-wharuet bo.

Blind-worm (blaind-wōrm). *Zool.* [Cf. *Da blindorm*: so called from the smallness of its eyes.] A reptile (*Anguis fragilis*) also called Slow-worm. (Formerly applied also to the Adder.)

c 1450 *Gloss.* in *Wr. Wulker Voc.* 706 *Hec scutula*, a blyndworme. c 1480 *Ibid.* 766 *Idrus, idra*, matrix, a blyndworme. 1590 *Shaks. Mids. N.* ii. ii. 11 Newts and blinde wormes do no wrong. 1712 H. SLOANE in *Phil. Trans.* XXVII. 491 We caused a Whelp to be bit by a Blind-Worm. 1763 *Brit. Mag.* IV. 352 He was stung by a blind-worm, for so they call them here. 1772 *Pennant Tours Scotl.* (1774) 240 Any kind of serpent except the harmless blind worm. 1810 *Scott Lady of L.* iii. v. There the slow blind-worm left his slime.

Blink (blink), *v.* Forms: (4) blynke, 6-7 blinke, 7 blynok, 7- blink. [In ME., only as an occasional variant of BLENK, esp. in Robert of Brunne; and perh. in the form *blinche* (once, in *Beket*), also in a sense of *blench*. Otherwise exclusively mod. English (since c 1575). It coincides in its late appearance, as well as in form and sense, with MDu. and mod.Du. *blinken*, mod.Ger. *blinken*, the origin of which is equally obscure. They are conjecturally regarded as nasalized forms of the stem *blik-* to shine (see *BLIKE*), but no

satisfactory account can be given of their late appearance. In ME., *blenke* was used regularly where *blink* now takes its place: see BLENCH, BLENK.]

I. To deceive, elude, turn away.

1. *trans.* To deceive. *Obs. rare.* [For ME.

BLENCH *v.* 1, BLENK *v.* 1.]

1303 R. BRUNNE *Handl. Synne* 4169 We Englys men þeron shulde blynke þat enuye us nat blynke.

2. *intr.* To start out of the way, so as to elude anything; = BLENCH *v.* 2, BLENK 2. *Obs. rare.*

a 1300 *Cursor M.* 7626 (Gott.) Þoru he had his bodi born Ne had he blinkid him biforn [v. r. blinkid (2), blenched].

3. *trans.* To avoid, flinch from.

Cf. *blinche* c 1300 in BLENCH *v.* 1 3.

II. To move the eyelids, twinkle, peep, wink.

3. *intr.* To look, look up from sleep, open the eyes. [Only in this author; otherwise BLENK *v.* 6.]

1303 R. BRUNNE *Handl. Synne* 5675 Pers of hys slepe gan blynke, And gretely on hys dreame gan blynke.

4. To twinkle with the eye or eye-lids. In various shades of meaning which run into one another: in the earlier, the notion of 'glancing' predominates; in the later, that of 'winking.'

a. To glance, cast or let fall a glance, have a peep; to look with glances (and not steadily).

1590 *Shaks. Mids. N.* v. i. 178 Sweet and louely vvall, Shew me thy chinke, to blinke through vwith mine eine. 1592 *Jas. VI.* in *Ellis Orig. Lett.* ii. 236. III. 163 Turne your eyes a littell... to blinke upon the necessaire cace of youre Friend. c 1650 *Ld. of Learne* 428 in *Furniv. Percy Folio* I. 197 Rather... then all the gold that ere I blinket on with mine eye. 1729 in *Ramsay's Tea-t. Misc.* 16 On him she did na gloom, But blinkit bonnie.

b. To look with twinkling eye-lids, as one half-awake or dazzled with light.

1600 J. LANE *Tom Tel-truth* 132 It blinds the sight, it makes men bleare-eyd blinke. 1806 *Coleridge Christabel* ii. xxii. A snake's small eye blinks dull and shy. 1850 *Mrs. Stowe Uncle Tom ix.* 77 Holding the candle aloft, and blinking on our travellers with a dismal and mystified expression. 1861 *Mrs. Norton Lady La G.* iv. 176 The babe... with tender eyes Blinks at the world a little while, and dies. 1863 *Miss Braddon J. Marchmont* III. l. 2 A brown setter... lay upon the hearth-rug... blinking at the blaze.

c. To shut the eyelids momentarily and involuntarily; to wink for an instant.

1828 M. PORTEOUS *Souter Johnny* 30 Or silly mortal blinks an ee. 1865 *Dickens Mut. Fr.* 269 London was blinking, wheezing and choking. 1876 *Foster Phys.* iii. v. (1879) 544 When we stimulate one of our eyelids with a sharp electrical shock, both eyelids blink.

5. To cast a sudden or momentary gleam of light; to twinkle as a star; to shine with flickering light, or with a faint peep of light; to shine unsteadily or dimly.

1766 *Burns Ep. J. Smith* ii. Ev'ry star that blinks aboon. 1807 *Crabbe Par. Reg.* i. 378 Where blinks through paper'd panes the setting sun. 1821 *Clare Vill. Minstr.* l. 76 As stars blink out from clouds at night. 1828 *Scott P. M. Perth* II. v. 164 The very tapers are blinking, as if tired of our conference. 1872 *Black Adv. Phaeton* xxx. 398 The sun was... blinking on the windows.

6. *trans.* To shut the eyes to; to evade, shirk, pass by, ignore: *orig.* a sporting phrase.

1722 *Fielding J. Andrews* i. xvi. (1815) 39 There's a bitch... she never blinked a bird in her life. 1812 *Byron Hints fr. Hor.* 555 Dogs blink their coverts. 1823 *De Quincey Lett. Educ.* i. (1860) 20 Children, however, are incidents that will occur in this life, and must not be blinked. 1859 *Geo. Eliot A. Bede* 114 It was no use blinking the fact.

b. With at (improperly).

1827 *Sears Athan.* vi. 43 Why have these passages... been blinked at and ignored?

7. *trans.* To turn (milk, beer, etc.) slightly sour.

[The origin of this use has been sought in the glance of an evil eye, the 'blinking' of milk being formerly ascribed to witchcraft; also in the effect of lightning, since thunder generally 'blinks' milk.]

1616 *Surfl.* & *Markh. Countr. Farm* 589 Bottle ale... must not only be coold sufficiently, but also blyncet a little to give it a quick & sharp tast. 1689 *Gazophyl. Anglic.* s. v. To blink beer; a word frequently used in Lincolnshire. 1713 *Lond. & Countr. Brew.* iv. (1743) 263 They are apt to blink or give a little sourish Taste to their Drink.

b. *intr.* To turn slightly sour.

a 1648 *Digby Closet Open.* (1677) 91 There let the wort... stand till it begin to blink and grow long like thin syrup. 1769 *Mrs. Raffald Eng. Househpr.* (1778) 317 Wine... if you let it stand too long before you get it cold... summer-beams and blinks in the tub.

8. *trans.* To cause one to blink; to blindfold.

[A pseudo-archaism in Lander.]

1846 *Lander Exam. Shaks.* II. 278 He who blinketh the eyes of the poor wretch about to die doeth it out of mercy. 1853 *Kane Grinnell Exp.* xii. (1856) 376 With the sun... blinking my eyes.

9. See BLENK *v.* 6-7.

1. *Blink*, sb.¹ *Obs.* [f. BLINK *v.* 1, and like it in ME. only in Robert of Brunne, for the BLENK, BLENCH of his contemporaries.]

1. A trick, stratagem; = BLENCH, BLENK, sb.¹.
1303 R. BRUNNE *Handl. Synne* 4185 He shal blynke or to do þe a wykkede blynke.

2. *pl.* Boughs thrown to turn aside deer from their course; also, feathers, etc. on a thread to scare birds. Cf. BLENCHER.

1611 *Cotgr., Brisees*, boughes... left in the view of a deere, or cast ouerthwart the way to hinder his running... Our wood-men call them, *Blinkes*. 1611 *MARKHAM Countr. Content.* i. xi. (1668) 59 They are like blinks, which will ever chase your game from you. 1625 — *Farew. Husb.* 96 The nearer that these Blinks... come to the ground... the better it is, lest the fowle finding a way to creep vnder them, begin not to respect them.

Blink (blink), sb.² Forms: 4 blynke, 6 blinck, 7 blinke, 7- blink. [f. BLINK *v.* 3-4; like which it is found in ME. in Robert of Brunne, where contemporaries used BLENK.]

1. A sudden or momentary gleam of light from the sun, a fire, etc.; a slight flash; a peep of light; a twinkling gleam, as of the stars; a gleam of sunshine between showers: also *poet.* 'glimmer.'

1727 *Protest. Mercury* 5 July 6 A terrible Fire... caus'd... by a Blink of Fire that issued from some adjoining Chimney, and lodg'd in the Thatch. 1818 *Scott Hist. Midl.* xi. Creep out of their holes like blue-bottle flies in a blink of sunshine. 1833 *Wordsw. Sonn.* vii. Not a blink of light was there. 1834 R. MUDIE *Brit. Birds* (1841) i. 253 The blink of reddish orange displayed by the flirt of the tail. 1855 *Browning Statue & Bust*, In a bed-chamber by a taper's blink.

b. *fig.* A 'glimmer' or 'spark' of anything good. c. A brief gleam of mental sunshine.

1303 R. BRUNNE *Handl. Synne* 4449 Þe leste boghte... þat of godenesse hadde any blynke. 1730 T. BOSTON *Mem.* vi. 132, I sometimes have blinks of great joy. a 1752 R. ERSKINE in *Spurgeon Treas. Dav. Ps.* ci. I will sing of my blinks and of my showers. 1833 M. SCOTT *Tom Cringle* xix. (1859) 542, I shall always bless heaven for my fair Blinks.

2. A glance (usually, a bright, cheerful glance); a glimpse. (Chiefly Sc.)

1594 *Carew Tasso* (1881) 7 Lookes downe, and in one blink, and in one vew, Comprizeth all what so the world can shew. *Ibid.* 95 Her eyes Sweet blinck. 1715 *Let. in Woodrow Corr.* (1843) II. 66 We have had a sweet blink at the sacrament last Sabbath. 1790 *Burns Tam O'Shanter*, For ae blink o' the bonnie burdies. 1816 *Scott Old Mort.* xxxvii. I wish my master were living to get a blink o' t. 1839 *Bailey Festus* xviii. (1848) 185 By the blink of thine eye.

3. *transf.* The time taken by a glance; an instant, the twinkling of an eye; = Ger. *Augenblick*. (Chiefly Sc.)

a 1813 A. WILSON *Hogmenae*, The liquor was brought in a blink. 1827 *Scott Two Drovers*, Stay Robin—bide a blink. 1864 *Hawker Quest Sangraal* 24 Whole Ages glided in that Blink of Time.

4. = ICE-BLINK: a shining whiteness about the horizon produced by reflection from distant masses of ice. Also, loosely, a large mass or field of ice, an iceberg.

1778-84 *Cook Voy.* (1790) V. 1854 A brightness in the northern horizon, like that reflected from ice, usually called the blink. 1818 *Edin. Rev.* XXX. 17 The blink from packs of ice, appears of a pure white. 1837 *MacDougall tr. Graah's Greenland* 80 During the three hours we took to pass this blink, it calved about twenty times. 1856 *Kane Arct. Exp.* I. v. 49, I ascended to the crow's-nest, and saw... the ominous blink of ice ahead.

Blink (blink), a. Also 7 blinok. [Cf. BLINKED.]

1. Of the eyes: Habitually blinking. Hence blink-eyed a.

1823 *Thacher Yrnl. Amer. Rev.* 320 It was the doctor's misfortune to have one blink eye.

c 1590 *Marlowe and Pt. Tamburl.* i. i. The blink-ey'd burghers heads. a 1695 *Wood Life* (1848) 220 A blink-eyed bookseller in Cheapside. 1695 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 3041/4 Blink Ey'd, high Nos'd.

2. Of milk, etc.: Slightly sour. Cf. BLINK *v.* 7.
1883 C. F. SMITH *Southernisms in Trans. Amer. Philol. Soc.* 45 *Blink milk*, 'milk somewhat soured.' *West Virginia*.

Blinkard (blin'kard). Also 6 blincarde, blinkarde, blenkart. [f. BLINK *v.* + -ARD.]

1. A reproachful name for one who habitually blinks or winks; one who has imperfect sight.

c 1510 *Barclay Mirr. Good Mann.* (1570) B3, An one eyed blincarde. 1580 *Baret Ato. B* 819 A Blincarde, he that hath such eyes that the liddes cover a great part of the apple. 1665 *Char. Holland in Hart. Misc.* (1745) V. 575 Among the Blind, the one-ey'd Blinkard reigns. 1688 R. HOLME *Armoury* ii. xvii. 427 *Blinkard* or *Blinking*, is to have the Eye-lids ever moving: so that there is no perfect sight. 1706 *Wolcott (P. Pindar) Ode to R.A.'s* xi. Wks. 1812 I. 157 Yes Blinkards: and with Lustre shine.

b. *transf.* A star that shines dimly.

1627 *Hakewill Apol.* iii. vii. § 2 In some parts wee see many glorious... starres... in some none but blinkards and obscure ones.

2. *fig.* One who lacks intellectual perception.

1523 *Skelton Carl. Laurel* I. 610 Brainles blenkart that blow at the cole. 1855 *Kingsley Westw. Ho.* (1861) 180 Calling himself an ass and a blinkard. 1882 *Blackie in Gd. Words* Oct. 640 A race of blinkards, who peruse the case And shell of life, but feel no soul behind.

3. One who 'shuts his eyes' to what is happening, who blinks facts. *Obs.*

1823 *Golding Calvin on Deut.* xiv. 82 So as God should play the blinkard or shut his Eyes.

4. *attrib. or adj.* usually *fig.*

a 1599 *Skelton Ballettes* 24 Thou blinkerd blowball; thou wakest to late. 1652 *Urquhart Jewel* Wks. (1834) 254 Look out with both their eyes, and have no blinkard minds. 1837 *Carlyle Misc.* (1857) IV. 92 A blinkard precipitancy.

Blinked, ppl. a. [f. BLINK *v.* + -ED.] Affected with a blink or blinking.

1596 *Spenser F. Q.* III. ix. 5 And keepe continually spy Upon her with his other blink'd eye.

Blinker (blínkar). [f. as prec. + -ER¹.]

1. One who blinks; a blinking or purblind person. 1636 ABP. J. WILLIAMS *Holy Table* (1637) 219 He was but a blinker, and saw... but with half an eye. a 1704 T. BROWN *Cupid turn'd* T. Wks. 1730 I. 113 What does our sly graceless blinker? 1833 BROWNING *Paracel.* 1. 20 As earnest blinkers do Whom radiance ne'er distracted.

b. One who casts blinks or sly glances. Sc. 1766 BURNS *Ep. to Mayor Logan* x. The witching, cursed, delicious blinkers Hae put me hyte.

2. pl. A kind of spectacles for directing the sight in one direction only, so as to cure squinting, or for protecting the eyes from cold, dust, etc.; = GOGGLES.

1732 M. GREEN *Grotto* 10 (R.) Bigots who but one way see Through blinkers of authority. 1803 BRISTED *Pedest. Tour* I. 38 A little fellow, with blinkers over his eyes. 1851 THACKERAY *Eng. Hum.* iv. (1858) 205 Who only dare to look up at life through blinkers.

b. Leather screens attached to a horse's bridle on each side, to prevent his seeing in any direction except straight ahead.

1769 W. GILPIN *Tour Lakes* II. 124 (R.) On being pressed by her friends... to go to court; 'By no means,' said she, 'unless I may be allowed to wear blinkers.' 1861 MUSGRAVE *By-Roads* 174 An old female hostler, who gave us neither cruppers, blinkers, or breeching.

3. The eye. (slang.)

1816 'Quiz,' *Grand Master* I. 11 A patent pair of goggle winkers, Conceal'd from public view his blinkers.

Hence **Blinkerless** a. (sense 2 b.)

1872 *Daily News* 23 Oct., Fleet blinkerless horses.

Blinker, v. [f. prec. sb.] trans. To put blinkers on; fig. to blind, hoodwink, deceive.

1865 W. PALGRAVE *Arabia* I. 140 But Telal was not so easily to be blinkered, and kept to his first judgment.

Blinking (blínkin), vbl. sb. [f. BLINK v.]

1. The action of the vb. BLINK in its various senses.

1875 JOWETT *Plato* (ed. 2) III. 84 Something they are able to behold without blinking. 1878 MORLEY *Crit. Misc.* Ser. 1. 248 There is no blinking of the eyes to the part which... sordid or foul circumstances play in life.

2. spec. in *Brewing*: The operation of giving a sharp taste to beer by letting the wort stand for some time. Also of beer: Turning sour during fermentation. (Cf. BLINK v. 7 and 7 b.)

1713 *Land. & Countr. Brew.* iv. (1743) 271 Souring of the Grains, or what some call Blinking or Charing, is prevented. 1757 BRADLEY *Fam. Dict.* s.v. *Brewing*, In the North of England... they let their first Wort stand in their Receivers till it is very clear... which they call Blinking.

Blinking, ppl. a. [f. as prec. + -ING².]

1. Looking with twinkling or half-open eyelids; winking; weak-eyed.

1568 T. HOWELL *Arb. Amittie* (1879) 29 A Furious God: an Archer blinking boy. 1566 SHAKS. *Merch. V.* II. ix. 54 The portrait of a blinking idiot. 1718 POPE *Iliad* II. 264 One eye was blinking, and one leg was lame. 1870 MORRIS *Earthly Par.* III. iv. 39 Stood with blinking gaze Before a fire's unsteady blaze.

b. Sc. Glancing pleasantly.

1724 RAMSAY *Tea-T.* Misc. (1733) I. 90 Blinkin daft Barbara M'Leg. *Ibid.* II. 119. His blinkin eye and gate sae free. 1822 SCOTT *Nigel* xvii. Guided by one of these blinking Canymedes.

2. Shining dimly or intermittently, twinkling, flickering.

1681 COTTON *Poet. Wks.* (1765) 327 By a blinking and promiscuous light. 1765 SHAKS. *Merch. V.* II. iii. His wee bit ingle, blinkin bonillie. 1820 W. IRVING *Sketch Bk.* I. 233 A solitary lamp to throw its blinking rays athwart his effigy.

3. **Blinking Chickweed**; = BLINKS 2.

1775 LIGHTFOOT *Flora Scot.* (1789) 110.

Blinkingly, adv. With blinking eyes.

1876 MISS BRADDON *J. Haggard* II. 15 The sisters... regarded him blinkingly, like owls in a zoological collection.

Blinks (blínks). [f. BLINK sb.]

1. A nickname for one who blinks.

1616 HOLYDAY *Pervius* 298 And winks At him, whose sight is bad, calling him blinks.

2. *Herb.* The Water Chickweed, or Blinking Chickweed, *Montia fontana*.

1835 HOOKER *Brit. Flora* 59 Water Blinks. 1863 PRIOR *Plant-n.* 25 Blinks or blinking-chickweed, from its half-closed little white flowers peering from the axils of the upper leaves, as if afraid of the light.

Blinky (blínki), a. Inclined to blink.

1861 RUSSELL in *Times* 11 June (L.) One's eyes became quite blinky watching for the flash.

† **Blirre**, sb. Obs. rare. [Origin uncertain; prob. a variant of BLEAR v.] A deception.

1570 LEVINS *Manip.* 142 A Blirre, *deceptio*.

† **Blirre**, v. Obs. [see prec.] To deceive.

1570 LEVINS *Manip.* 142 To Blirre, *fallere*.

Blirt (blārt), v. north. dial. [prob. an onomatopoeic word nearly identical with BLURT: with the bl-, cf. blow, blast, blash, etc.; with the rest, cf. spirt, squirt, expressing the forcible emission of liquid.] To burst into tears, weep violently; disfigure with tears.

1721 in Kelly *Sc. Pron.* 397 (JAM.) 'Ill gar you blirt with both your een.' 1879 JAMIESON *Sc. Dict.*, 'She's a' blirted w' greeting.' *Fife*.

Blirt, sb. [f. prec.]

1. An outburst of tears, a sudden fit of weeping. (Sc.)

a 1796 BURNS *Braw Lads of Gala W.* iii. The lassie lost a silken snood, That cost her mony a blirt and bleary.

2. A short dash of rain coming with a gust of wind. (Sc. and Naut.)

1820 [see BLIRT v.] 1867 SMYTH *Sailor's Word-Bk.*, *Blirt*, a gust of wind and rain.

Blirty, blirtie, a. north. [f. prec. + -Y⁴.]

Characterized by blirts or gusts of wind and rain.

1820 TANNAHILL *Poems* (1846) 16 O poorth is a wintry day! Cheerless, blirtie, cauld, and blae.

Blisse (blis), obs. form of BLESS v. 1

Bliss (blis), sb. Forms: 1 blifls, blids, bliss, blis; 3-7 blisse, 4-6 blyasse, blis, 6- bliss; occas. 4-7 blisse, blisse. [OE. blifls (acc. blifse) str. fem. = OS. blidsea, blitsea, blizza: -O Teut. type *blifpsjā - f. *blifpi-s, Goth. blieps, OS. blifhi, OE. blifbe blithe, joyous + suffix -jā-, standing, after dentals, for original -tjā (cf. L. lētitia). Goth. has, instead, the parallel form bliep-ei: -O Teut. *blifp-m-. In later OE. by assimilation and vowel-shortening blifls became bliss, blis, ME. blisse: cf. OE. milds, milts: -O Teut. *mild-sjā = *mild-tjā-) mildness, clemency, ME. milse, milce, milse. The meaning of bliss and that of bless have mutually influenced each other since an early period; cf. BLESS v. 1; confusion of spelling is frequent from the time of Wyclif to the 17th c. Hence the gradual tendency to withdraw bliss from earthly 'blitheness' to the beatitude of the blessed in heaven, or that which is likened to it.]

† 1. Blitheness of aspect toward others, kindness of manner; 'light of one's countenance,' 'smile.' (Only in OE.)

a 1000 *Metr. Bath.* ii. 30 Hi me towendon heora bacu bitere and heora blisse from.

2. Blitheness; gladness; joy, delight, enjoyment:

a. physical, social, mundane: passing at length into b.

971 *Blickl. Hom.* 3 Maria cende pone Drihten on blisse. a 1000 *Cotton Psalm* I. 99 (Gr.) Sæle nu blisse me, bilewit dryhten. a 1200 *Trin. Coll. Hom.* 115 Hie weren swo blifbe pat hie ne mihten mid worde here blisse tellen. c 1340 *Cursor M.* 1013 (Trin.) Mony opere blisses elles. Floures pat ful swete smelles. c 1380 WYCLIF *Serm.* Sel. Wks. II. 234 Two blissis ben,—blisse of þe soule and blisse of þe bodi. c 1386 CHAUCER *Man Law's T.* 1021 This glade folk to dyner they hem sette; In joye and blisse at mete I lete hem dwelle. a 1450 *Knt. de la Tour* (1868) 55 She lost alle worshippe, richesse, ese, and blyasse. 1533 STEWART *Crom. Scot.* III. 268 The rough rillings, of blis that war full bair. 1593 SHAKS. *A Hen. VI.* I. i. 31 And all that Poets faine of Blisse and Ioy. 1667 MILTON *P. L.* iv. 508 These two imparadis't in one wordsw. *Ord. Inmortalitay* 86 Behold the Child among his new-born blisses. 1841 L. HUNT *Ser* (1864) 54 He does not sufficiently sympathise with our towns and our blisses of Society.

b. Mental, ethereal, spiritual: perfect joy or felicity, supreme delight; blessedness. (Early instances difficult to separate from prec.)

c 1375 *Lamb. Hom.* 15 Blisse and lisse ic sende. a 1300 *Cursor M.* 605 A land o' lif, o' beld, and blis, Pe quilk man clepes paradys. c 1380 WYCLIF *Serm.* Sel. Wks. I. 142 To lyve evere in blis wipouten payne. 1483 CAXTON *G. de la Tour Fij.* The grete reame of blyssed and glory. 1591 SHAKS. *1 Hen. VI.* v. 64 The contrarie bringeth blisse, And is a paterne of Celestiall peace. 1597 HOOKER *Ecl. Pol.* v. xxiii. § 13 To them whose delight... is in the Law... that happiness and bliss belongeth. a 1649 DRUMM. of HAWTH. *Cypre Grove* Wks. 31 O only blest, and Author of all bliss. *Ibid.* 26 All bless returning with the Lord of bliss. 1667 MILTON *P. L.* viii. 522 The sum of earthly bliss which I enjoy. 1747 GRAY *Ode Eton Coll.*, Where ignorance is bliss, 'Tis folly to be wise. 1764 GOLDSM. *Trav.* 62 May gather bliss, to see my fellows blest. 1875 B. TAYLOR *Faunt* I. xii. 141 The purest bliss was surely then thy dower.

c. esp. The perfect joy of heaven; the beatitude of departed souls. Hence, the place of bliss, paradise, heaven.

971 *Blickl. Hom.* 25 We maxon... ece blisse geearnian. a 1225 *Juliana* 21 Ich schal blide bicumen to endelesse blissen. a 1300 *Cursor M.* 17972 Fro helle to paradys pat blis. c 1384 WYCLIF *Set. Wks.* III. 344 He [the pope] is not blisid in his lif, for blis fallip to the topr lyf. 1509 HAWES *Examp. Virt.* I. 12, I wyll... bryngte thy soule to blesse eterne. 1593 SHAKS. *3 Hen. VI.* iii. iii. 182 By the hope I haue of heauenly blisse. 1607 WALKINGTON *Opt. Glass* 65 The soul is... wrapt up into an Elysium and paradise of blisse. 1667 MILTON *P. L.* I. 607 Far other once beheld in bliss. 1765 COWPER *Truth* 301 The path to bliss abounds with many a snare. 1871 MORLEY *Voltaire* (1886) 255 Any one who accepted them in the concrete and literal form prescribed by the church, would share infinite bliss.

d. concr. A cause of happiness, joy, or delight.

a 1000 *Ag. Ps.* (Spelm.) xxxi. 9 (Bosw.) Eð eart blis min. c 1386 CHAUCER *Nonnes Pr.* T. 346 Woman is mannes Ioye and al his blis. 1850 TENNYSON *In Mem.* xcvi. 26 A wither'd violet is her bliss.

† 3. Glory. (Translating gloria and κλέος.) Obs.

c 1200 *Trin. Coll. Hom.* 115 Quis est iste rex glorie? hwat is þis blissene king. a 1300 *Cursor M.* 8100 Pe king o' blis. 1387 TREvisa *Higden* II. 363 Hercules is i-seide of heros pat is a man, and of cleas pat is blisse; as þey Hercules were to menyngne a blisful man and glorious.

† 4. A bliss of birds: a blithe singing, a 'choir.'

c 1430 LYDG. *Min. Poems* 228 A blysse of bryddes me bad abyde, For cause there song mo then one.

5. Comb. a. objective, as bliss-giving, bliss-making adjs.; b. adverbial, as bliss-bright.

1620 HEALEY *St. Aug. Citie of God* 359 This blisse-af-

fording good. 1645 BR. HALL *Content.* 103 The blisse-making vision of God. 1839 BAILEY *Festus* xiv. (1848) 147 The bliss-bright stars. 1876 GEO. ELIOT *Dan. Der.* II. xxvii. 184 The bliss-giving 'yes.'

† **Bliss**, v. Obs. Forms: 1 bliflsian, blissian, -izan, 2 blissien, 2 blissen, (blesoien), *Orm.* blissen, 3-4 blisse(en), 4 blesse. [OE. bliflsian, blissian = OS. blidsean, blizzen, f. blifls, bliss sb. Now blended in the verb BLESS.]

1. intr. To be blithe or glad, to rejoice.

c 897 K. ELFRID *Gregory's Past.* xlix. 385 Bliflsa, cniht, on ðinum ziozohade. c 1000 *Ag. Gosp.* Luke xv. 9 Blyssiað mid me. a 1225 *Ancre. R.* 360 Gif we polied mid him, we schulen blissen mid him. 1377 LANGL. *P. P.* B. xii. 187 Wel may þe barne blisse [C. text blesse] pat hym to boke sette.

b. refl.

c 1175 *Lamb. Hom.* 33 Ne mei nan man... blissien him mid þisse worde. [a 1225 *Ancre. R.* 358 Blescieð ou & gledið.]

2. trans. To give joy or gladness to (orig. with dative); to gladden, make happy. (In 16-17th c. blended with bless.)

a 1000 *Hymns* vii. 34 (Gr.) Du engla God eallum blissast. c 1200 *Trin. Coll. Hom.* To gladden, and to blissen us. a 1300 *Cursor M.* 12779 (Götl.) To blissen þaim vte of þair wa. 1594 CONSTABLE *Diana* vi. x. She stands wotlesse whom so much she blisseth. 1636 FITZ-GEFFRAY *Holy Transport.* (1881) 189 To thee, who com'st from heauen to blisse the earth.

Bliss (e), obs. form of BLESS v. 1

Blissen, var. of BLESCHEN v. Obs. to quench.

Blissful (blisful), a. Forms: 2-4 blisful(le), 4-uolle, blyasfol, 4-6 -ful, blissful(l), blesseful(l), 6 blisseful(l), blisfull, 7 blisfull, blesseful, 3-blissful. [f. BLISS sb. + -FUL.]

1. Of persons: Full of bliss, joyful; happy or joyous in the highest degree.

a 1240 *Sawles Warde* in *Lamb. Hom.* 259 Hu he sit blisful on his fader riht half. c 1386 CHAUCER *Frankel. T.* 362 O blisful artow now thou Dorigen. That hast thy lusty housbonde in thyne Armes. 1388 WYCLIF *Eccles.* iv. 3 Y demyde hym, that was not bornit zit. to be blisfuler than euer eithir. 1646 CRASHAW *Steps Temp.* 65 Let the blissful heart hold fast Her heavenly armful. 1863 TENNYSON *Walc. Alexandra* 27 Blissful bride of a blissful heir.

2. Of things: Full of or fraught with bliss.

c 1175 *Lamb. Hom.* 77 Pe engel hire brohte þe blisfulle tidinge. c 1385 CHAUCER *L. G. W.* 682 From that blisful our. 1589 GREENE *Menaph.* (1616) 47 To turne my blissefull sweet to balefull sowre. 1667 MILTON *P. L.* i. 5 Till one greater Man Restore us, and regain the blissful Seat. 1776 GIBSON *Decl. & F.* I. 205 To live with Ormusd in a blissful eternity. 1881 MORLEY *Cadden* I. 14 All blessed by nature with a kind of blissful mercurial simplicity.

† 3. Blessed, beatified; sacred, holy. Obs.

a 1225 *St. Marher.* 21 Beo þu a blescet and ti blisfulle sune iesu crist. a 1300 *Cursor M.* 8906 Pe lauerd of hele, pat blisful king. 1340 *Ayenh.* 186 Pe blisfulle blode of Iesu Crist. 1396 *Dives & Paup.* I. (W. de W.) liii. 93/2 Marye Magdaleyn anoynted the blisful fete of our lorde Ihesu. 1534 I.D. BERNERS *Gold. Bk. M. Aurel.* (1546) Mijib, It is ordeyned by the holy senate, by consente of blisful men.

† 4. Glorified, transfigured; cf. BLISS sb. 3. Obs.

1387 [see BLISS sb. 3]. 1398 TREvisa *Barth. De P. R.* viii. xl. A bodi pat is blisful [L. glorificatus]. *Ibid.* xiv. xlv. In toppe of þis mounte oure Lorde schewid him selfe blisful.

† 5. Having power to bless. Obs.

1598 FLORIO *Dict. Ep. Ded.* 4 Laie then your blissefull handes on his head (right Honorable).

† **Blissfulness**, **blissfulness**. Obs. [f. prec. + -ness, -HEAD.] Blissful condition, joy, beatitude.

a 1340 HAMPOLE *Psalter* I. 4 *Beatus vir*... Highland blissfulness til rightwise men. c 1340 *Cursor M.* 6832 (Trin.) A londe of blisfulhede. 1413 LYDG. *Pylgr. Soule* II. xli. (1859) 46 Al bounte, beaute, joye and blisfulhede.

Blissfully (blisfuli), adv. [f. as prec. + -LY².]

In a blissful manner, happily, joyously.

a 1225 *Ancre. R.* 360 Jif we wulde a domesdei blisfulliche arisen. a 1300 *Cursor M.* 9111 A quile regnd king salamon Blisfully ouer al þat land. 1386 CAXTON *Faytes of A.* iv. vii. 246 The sowles ben blyssfully in paradise. a 1721 KEN *Anodynes* *Poet. Wks.* 1721 III. 462 Wrapt Blissfully with God below. 1820 KEATS *St. Agnes* xxvii. Blissfully haven'd both from joy and pain. 1824 *Harper's Mag.* Sept. 648/1 Blissfully ignorant.

Blissfulness (blisfulness). [f. as prec. + -NESS.] The quality or state of being blissful; joyfulness, happiness.

c 1374 CHAUCER *Boeth.* iv. ii. 113 Blissfulness is þilke same goode þat men requeren. 1386 WYCLIF *Gen.* xxx. 13 Lya seide, That for my blisfulness. 1548 UDALL, etc. *Erasm.* *Par. Mark* iii. 35 To be rewarded with euerlasting blisfulness. 1580 SIDNEY *Arcadia* (1622) 3 It is not for me to attend so high a blisfulness. 1633 FORD *Broken H.* i. iii. (R.) My better stars, that offer'd me the grace Of so much blisfulness. 1898 NEALE *Bernard de M.* 19 In blisfulness and mirth. 1891 PALGRAVE *Lyr. Poems* 71 A peace more deep disclosed its blisfulness.

Blissing, obs. f. BLESSING.

Blissless, a. [f. BLISS sb. + -LESS.] Without bliss; hapless, miserable.

1580 SIDNEY *Arcadia* iii. 352 So many have come to my blissless lot. 1591 KYD *Span. Trag.* iv. in Hazl. *Dodley* V. 155 Barren the earth, and blissless whosoever Imagines not to keep it unmanur'd!

Blissom (blisom), a. [a. ON. *blasma* adj. (a ewe or goat) in heat; ODu. *blesme* (Kolkar).] Of a ewe: In heat. (See quot.)

1668 WILKINS *Real Char.* II. ix. § 2. 234 Carnal, fleshy, blisom, clicket, proud. 1797 BRADLEY *Fam. Dict.* s.v.

BLISSOM.

Ewe, Ewe is Blissom, a Term peculiar to Shepherds, signifying that the Ewe has taken Tup.

Blissom, *v.* [f. as prec.]

1. *trans.* Of a ram: To couple with a ewe; to tup. In *pass.* said of the ewe.

1430-50 *tr. Higden Rolls Ser. II.* 303 Jacob putte the roddes... afore the sighte of schepe when thei scholde be blissomed. 1483 *Cath. Angl.* 34 To Blessum, *arietare*. 1523 *FITZHERB. Husb.* § 37. 1616 *SURFL. & MARKH. Countr. Farm.* i. xxv. 111 One Ramme will serue to blesome fiftie Ewes. 1656 in *BLOUNT Glossogr.*; 1781 in *BAILEY*, and in later Dicts.

2. *intr.* 'To caterwaul, to be lustful.' J.

Hence **Blissoming** *vbl. sb.*, **Blissomed** *ppl. a.* a 1300 *E. E. Psalter* lxxviii. 70 Of after-blissmed, [Vulg. *de post fatantes*], him name he. 1781 *BAILEY*, *Blissoming*, the Act of generation between a Ram and a Ewe. 1766 *RIDER Dict. s.v.*, To go a blissoming is to desire the Ram.

Blisht, var. of *blyschit* (see *BLUSH v.*); obs. form of **BLEST**, of **BLESS v.**, and **BLISS sb.**; obs. Sc. form of **BLAST**.

Blisteing, obs. form of **BLESSING**.

Blister (*blis'tai*), *sb.* Also 3 **blester**, 6 **bluster**, **blyster**. [ME. *blester*, *blister*, perh. a. OF. *blestre* ('tumeur, bouton,' Godef.), also *blastre*: the double form may be explained as an adoption of ON. *blastr*, dat. *blæstri* 'swelling,' also 'a blast, blowing,' f. *blāsa* to blow (whence also mod. Sw. *blåsa*, Ger. *blase*, *blister*). The 16th c. variant *blaster* suggests the MDu. or Flemish *bluyster* (*Kilian*), which points to earlier **blāstra*, from same root (cf. ON. *blistra* to whistle). An OE. *blæster*, *blæster* or *blyster*, cogn. with the ON. or Du., might have been expected, but is not found.]

1. A thin vesicle on the skin, containing serum, caused by friction, a burn, or other injury, or the action of a vesicatory.

a 1300 *Cursor M.* 6011 (Gött.) Bile and blester [v. r. blister], bolnand sare. 14500 *Flower & Leaf* lix. For blisters of the Sunne brenninge, Very good... ointmentes. 1523 *FITZHERB. Husb.* § 61 There is a blister ryse under the rounge. 1561 *HOLLYBUSH Hom. Apoth.* 22 b. Good... agaynst blisters or reed pustula. 1664 *DRYDEN Riv. Ladies* iii. 1. (1725) 216 This Hand would rise in Blisters shouldst thou touch it. 1810 *HENRY Elem. Chem.* II. 371 Acetic acid, thus prepared... raises a blister when applied to the skin. 1884 *W. C. SMITH Kidrostan* 88 Your wet ropes And clumsy oars... give blisters first And then a horny hand.

2. A similar swelling, containing fluid or (more usually) air, on the surface of a plant, on metal after cooling, a painted surface, and the like.

1597 *GERARD Herbal* iii. cxvi. (1633) 1480 On these leaves... grow blisters or small bladders. 1671 *RAY Philos. Lett.* (1718) 97, I had thought that the Kermes-berry had been a Blister of the Bark of the Oak. 1678 *RIPLEY Reviv'd* 155 Our compound in this heat riseth in blisters. 1799 *G. SMITH Laborat.* i. 148 The paste would be cloudy and full of blisters. 1885 *ATHENARUM* 30 May 704/2 Nor is this cracking all the mischief which has lately befallen this picture... there is rather a large blister.

3. *Med.* Anything applied to raise a blister; a vesicatory.

1541 *R. COPLAND Guydon's Quest. Chirurg.*, And the blisters potencyall cauteris be applied. 1798 *WHYTT in Phil. Trans.* L. 570, I advised blister to be applied. 1875 *H. WOOD Therap.* (1879) 561 Blisters are especially useful in inflammations of serous membranes.

4. *Comb.*, as **blister-beetle**, *fly*, an insect used for raising blisters, spec. the Spanish fly (*Cantharis vesicatoria*); **blister-copper**, copper having a blistered surface, obtained during smelting; before the final operation; hence attrib. **blister-copper ore**; **blister-plant**, a name for different species of *Ranunculus*, esp. *R. acris*, *R. sceleratus*; **blister-plaster**, a plaster for raising a blister; **blister-steel**, steel having a blistered surface, obtained during the process of converting iron into shear-steel or cast-steel; attrib. **blister-steel furnace**.

1816 *KIRBY & Sp. Entomol.* (1843) I. 31 If the apothecary cannot distinguish a... blister-beetle from a Carabus. 1861 *J. PERCY Metall.* I. 325 The 'blister-copper' is tapped into sand-moulds. 1875 *URE Dict. Arts* (ed. 7) I. 358 **Blister Copper-ore*, a botryoidal variety of copper-pyrites. 1886 *COLEMAN Woodlands* 23 The brilliant 'blister-fly'... is only very sparingly met with in this country. 1796 *WOLCOTT (P. Pindar) Sat. Wks.* 1812 III. 390 He Gilead's Balm; but you a **Blister-plaster*. 1837 *BREWSTER Magnet.* 319 Needles of shear steel received a greater magnetic force than those of **blister steel*. 1880 *C. M. MASON Forty Spires* 65 When the bars are removed from the furnace they are in a blistered state; they are known as **blister-steel*. 1831 *J. HOLLAND Mannf. Metals* I. 230 When the iron has absorbed a quantity of carbon in the **blister steel furnace*.

Blister (*blis'tai*), *v.* [f. prec.]

1. *trans.* To raise blisters on. Also *absol.*

1541 *R. COPLAND Guydon's Quest. Chirurg.*, Those that blyster make no scarre. 1610 *SHAKS. Temp.* i. ii. 324 A south-west blow on yee and blister you all ore. 1664 *CAPT. SMITH Virginia* iii. vii. 69 The Axes... blistered their tender fingers. 1776 *WITHERING Bot. Arrangem.* (1801) III. 496 It is very acrid, and easily blisters the skin. 1822 *SCOTT Nigel* xxiii. Patients might be bled, cupped, or blistered. 1842 *S. LOVER Handy Andy* ii. 18 I'll slap at him... I'll blister him. 1866 *J. H. NEWMAN Gerontius* iv. 33 Ice which blisters may be said to burn.

fig. 1603 *SHAKS. Meas. for M.* ii. iii. 12 Who, falling in the flaws of her own youth, hath blistered her report. 1605 *Mab.* iv. iii. 12 This tyrant whose sole name blisters our

tongue. 1884 *BROWNING Ferishtah* (1885) 33 Abominable words which blister tongue.

2. *transf.* To raise blisters on (iron bars, etc.) in the process of conversion into steel.

3. *intr.* To be or become covered with blisters.

1496 *Bk. St. Albans, Fysshynge* 3 He blowyth tyll his lypes blister. 1611 *SHAKS. Wint. T.* ii. ii. 33 If I proue hony-mouth'd, let my tongue blister. 1734 *ATWELL in Phil. Trans.* XXXIX. 399 The Wound has blister'd. 1799 *J. ROBERTSON Agric. Perth* 168 The bark blisters and rises from the reed. 1821 *COOK'S Oracle* (ed. 3) 92 Otherwise it [roast sucking-pig] will be apt to blister.

† 4. To rise in or as a blister. *Obs.*

1644-7 *CLEVELAND Char. Lond. Diurn.* (1677) 102 Our Modern Noble Men; those Wens of Greatness, the Body Politick's most peccant Humours, Blistered into Lords.

Blistered (*blis'taid*), *ppl. a.* [f. prec. + -ED.]

1. Affected with blisters, covered with vesicles.

1563 *HVLL Art Garden.* (1593) 116 This hearb... healeth the blistered lungs. 1886 *STEVENSON Dr. Jekyll* i. 4 The door... was blistered and distained.

b. Of steel, etc.: cf. **BLISTER sb.** 4.

1750 *FRANKLIN Wks.* (1840) 225 Sometimes the surface... of the needle... appears blistered. 1821 *R. TURNER Abridgm. Arts & Sc.* 227 The iron combines with a quantity of carbon, and is converted into blistered steel. 1870 *Eng. Mech.* 18 Feb. 547/3 Blistered copper is recognised by... being covered with scales of the oxide.

2. Ormented with puffs, puffed.

1598 *NASH P. Penitence Wks.* 1884 II. 39r His back... blistered with light sarcenet bastings. 1613 *SHAKS. Hen. VIII.* i. iii. 31 Short blistered Breeches.

Blistering (*blis'terjng*), *vbl. sb.* [f. as prec. + -ING.]

1. The action or result of the vb. **BLISTER**.

1563 *HVLL Art Garden.* (1593) 95 The same water helpeth... the blister of the mouth. 1660 *BR. HALL Rem. Wks.* 188 Not a scorching and blistering but... full torrefaction. 1711 *ADDISON Spect.* No. 195 P. 2 Blistering, Cupping, Bleeding are seldom of use. 1842 *S. LOVER Handy Andy* ii. You'll get such a blistering from me. 1863 *KINGSLEY Water Bab.* iv. 172 Bullies, Bumpings, Blisterings, Bleedings.

Blistering, *ppl. a.* [f. as prec. + -ING.] That causes blisters. Hence **Blisteringly** *adv.*

1568 *TURNER Herbal* ii. Dii j. Without blistring mustarde plasters. *Ibid.* Tv j. Byting and very blistring. 1859 *TENNISON Enid* 1364 Till she... Had bared her forehead to the blistering sun. 1877 *SPURGEON Treas. David* Ps. cxxx. 1 In the chamber of despair, the floor of which is blisteringly hot.

Blistry (*blis'tari*), *a.* [f. **BLISTER sb.** + -Y.]

Characterized by blisters.

1743 *Lond. & Country Brew.* iv. 329 When such frothy black blistry Head is first... put into the small Beer. 1843 *CARLYLE Past & Pr.* (1858) 98 A little blistry friction on the back! 1845 *NEWBOLD in Trn. Anat. Soc. Bengal* XIV. 283 Lined with blistry and stalactitic hematite.

Blite (*blait*; also *blit*). *Herb.* Also 6 **blete**, **bleit**, **blite**, **blites**, 6-7 **bleot**, (8-9 **blight**), 7-9 **blit**. [ad. L. *blitum* orache, spinach, a. Gr. *βλίτον* perh. strawberry blite, or amaranth blite.] Book-name for various plants of the N.O. *Chenopodiaceæ*: esp. Wild Spinach (*C. Bonus-Henricus*), *Amaranthus blitum*, various species of *Atriplex*, and the genus *Blitum* (*STRAWBERRY BLITE*). Formerly also for Garden Spinach.

c 1400 *Pallad. on Husb.* iv. 291 Iche erthe ywrought nowe blite wol multiplie. 1551 *TURNER Herbal* (1568) i. F vi b. It may be called in englyshe a blite or a blete. 1586 *COGAN Haven Health* lxxiv. (1636) 87 Bleet is used for a Pot-hearbe among others. 1601 *HOLLAND Pliny* II. 76 Bleetes seeme to be dull, vnsauorie and foolish Woorths, hauing no

Give 'em' 1796 *ADNEY Fam. Dict.* s. v. Mulberry blight, or more properly blite... whose fruit resembles a red unripe mulberry. 1853 *SOVER Pantroph.* 68 Blit was eaten boiled, when nothing better was to be had.

Blite, obs. form of **BLIGHT**.

Blithe (*blait*), *a.* (*sb.* and *adv.*) Forms: 1-3 **blithe**, (3 **blith**, **bligh**), 4 **blip**(e), **blype**, (**blise**, 5 **blyde**), 3-7 **blith**, 3-8 **blyth**, 4-9 **blythe**, 3-**blithe**. [Com. Teut.: OE. *blithe* = OS. *blidi* (MDu. *blide*, Du. *blide*, *blij*, LG. *blide*, *blyde*), OHG. *blidi* (MHG. *blide*), ON. *blithr* mild, gentle, kind, (Sw., Da. *blid*), Goth. *bleips* kind, merciful: -O Teut. **blipi-z*; possibly f. verbal stem **blif-* to shine, but no cognates are known outside Teutonic. The earlier application was to the outward expression of kindly feeling, sympathy, affection to others, as in Gothic and ON.; but in OE. the word had come more usually to be applied to the external manifestation of one's own pleased or happy frame of mind, and hence even to the state itself.]

A. adj.

† 1. Exhibiting kindly feeling to others; kind, friendly, clement, gentle. *Obs.*

a 1000 *Elene* 1317 (Gr.) Him biþ engla weard milde and blide. c 1340 *Alex. & Din.* 624 God is spedful in speche Bop blessed & blype. c 1400 *Deut. Troy* 2342 Your bidding to obey, as my blithe fader. 1570 *LEVINS Manip.* 151/46 Blythe, blandus.

† b. *fig.* (Of the waves). *Obs.*

c 1000 *Ag. Psalter* cvij(i). 28 Pa yða swygið, blide weorþaþ.

2. Exhibiting gladness: jocund, merry, sprightly, gay, mirthful. In ballads frequently coupled with *gay*. Rare in mod. Eng. prose or speech.

a 1000 *Cadmon's Poems, Christ* 739 (Gr.) Hleahre blide.

BLITHELY.

a 1300 *Cursor M.* 7255 Quils þai war blithest at þat fest. *Ibid.* 11066 When John was borne also swyþe His frendes was ful gladd and blipe. c 1470 *HENRY Wallace* ii. 222 The birds, blyth as bellis. 1616 *BULLOKAR, Blith*, merry, frolicke, joyfull. 1632 *MILTON Allegro* 24 So buxom, blithe, and debonair. 1725 *POPE Odys.* xx. 199 Magnificent, and blithe, the suitors come. 1754 *RICHARDSON Grandison* (1766) V. 277 Emily; good girl! quite recovered, and blyth as a bird. 1766 *Campaigns* 1793-4 II. viii. 53 Forth we instantly sallied, so blythe and so gay. 1807 *CRABBE Par. Reg.* iii. 957 Thus brides again and bridegrooms blithe shall kneel.

b. *transf.* of things. (More common.)

a 1300 *Cursor M.* 828 Alle blured þat was for-wit blipe. c 1340 *Gaw. & Gr. Knt.* 155 With blype blauner ful bryt. 1621 *BEAUM. & FL. Thierry & Theod.* v. i. A bonny countenance and a blithe. 1808 *SCOTT Marm.* i. x. A blithe salute The minstrels well might sound. 1825 *PRESGOTT Philip* II. I. i. iv. 50 Blithe sounds of festal music. 1857 *H. REED Lect. Eng. Poets* xiii. II. 136 The rightful gayety of those blithe early years.

3. Of men, their heart, spirit, etc.: Joyous, glad, some, cheerful; glad, happy, well pleased. Rare in Eng. prose or colloquial use since 16th c., but frequent in poetry; still in spoken use in Scotland. 971 *Blithl. Hom.* 7 Blipe mode heo sang. c 1000 *ÆLFRIC Ex.* xviii. 9 Pa was lethro blide for eallum ðam þingum ðe Drihten dyde Israela folce. c 1205 *LAY.* 1636 He was swide blide for his mucchele biþate. c 1306 *CHAUCER Knts.* T. 1020 With good hope and herte blithe. c 1440 *York Myst.* xv. 86 Breder, bees all blythe and glad. 1599 *SHAKS. Hen. V.* ii. iii. 4 Bardolph, be blythe. 1663 in *Spalding Troub. Chas. I.* (1829) 25 Blyth to win away with his life. 1667 *MILTON P. L.* ix. 625 To whom the willie Adder, blithe and glad. 1715 *ROWE Lady J. Gray* iv. (1746) 217, I trust that we shall meet on blither terms. 1816 *SCOTT Old Mort.* 114 'I'm blythe to hear ye say sae,' answered Cuddie. 1871 *MORLEY Voltaire* (1886) 40 His spirit was blithe and its fire unquenchable. 1871 *R. ELLIS Catullus* ix. 11 Know ye happier any, any blither?

† 4. Yielding milk. *Obs.* or *dial.*

1656 *BLOUNT Glossogr.*, *Blith* (Brit.), that yeelds milk. milky. 1669 *WORLDICE Syst. Agric.* 322 Blith, yielding Milk.

B. sb.

† 1. A blithe one: cf. *fair. Obs.*

a 1548 *Song, Murning Maiden* xvii, Into my armes swythe Embrasit I that blithe.

† 2. a. Compassion, mercy, good-will; b. Gladness, mirth, pleasure, delight. *Obs.*

c 1325 *E. E. Allit. P. A.* 354, & sech his blype ful swefte & swyþe. c 1400 *Deut. Troy* 2197 Ger hom bowe as a berslet & þi blithe seche. c 1400 *Liber Cocorum* 36 Coloure hit with safrone, so have þou blythe. c 1450 *Bk. Curyse* 47 in *Babees Bk.* (1868) 300 Loke thy naylys ben clene, in blythe. 1505 *Will A. Robinson, Kendal* (Somerset Ho.) To William Pott wyfe for her grete blythe of drinket.

C. adv. [OE. *blithe*.] † a. Kindly, benignantly.

Obs. b. Blithely, cheerfully.

c 1000 *Ag. Ps.* liv. [iv.] 17 Þu me milde and blide... ahluttra. a 1300 *Cursor M.* 11635 Iesus leked on her blith. c 1435 *Torr. Portugal* 338 The chylidry namys I wolte telle blythe. 1486 *Bk. St. Albans* E vij b. The man to his mayster spekyth full blyth. 1705 *COWPER Faithf. Bird* 7 They sang, as blithe as finches sing.

D. Comb., as **blithe-hearted**, † **blithelike**, **blithe-looking** *adjs.*

1570 *Sempill Ballates* (1872) 77 Ze plesand Paun & Pa-pingaw Cast of zour blythlyke coulour. 1848 *LYTTON Harold* xi. vii, Leafwine, still gay and blithe-hearted. 1848 *DICKENS Dombey* (C. D. ed.) 47 A blithe-looking boy.

† **Blithe**, *v.* *Obs.* [f. the adj.]: a later formation, instead of OE. *blithian*, *blissian*, *BLISS*.]

1. *intr.* To rejoice, to be merry; = **BLISS v.** 1.

a 1300 *Cursor M.* 17870 (Gött.) Adam... bigan þan forto blith [v. r. to glade] in hast. 1563 *SACKVILLE Compl. Dk. Buckhm.* 108 Take hede by me that blithd in baleful blisse.

2. *trans.* To make blithe, gladden, delight; = **BLISS v.** 2 and **BLITHEN**.

c 1400 *Deut. Troy* 2554 Hit blithet all the buernes þat aboute stode. c 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 40 Blythyn or welle cheryn, exchillero. 1627 *FELTHAM Resolutes* i. lxxxi. Wks. (1677) 124 Hope flatters Life. She blythes the Farmer.

Blithful (*blai'tful*), *a.* [f. **BLITHE sb.** or *1 a.*

+ *FUL*; cf. *blissful*.]

† 1. Kindly, friendly. Cf. **BLITHE a.** 1. *Obs.*

a 1300 *Cursor M.* 4078 Ne wald þai apom him sei... with blithful ei. *Ibid.* 8547 And... spak wit blithful [v. r. blissful] chere. a 1300 *E. E. Psalter* cxii. 5 Blithful man he es for-þi.

2. Joyous, joyful; = **BLITHE a.** 2, 3.

1530 *LYNDESAY Papyngo* 607 Edinburgh... Within quhose boundis rycht blythfull haue I bene. 1648 *HERRICK Poems* (1869) I. 245 Live here blithfull, while yemay. 1837 *Blackw. Mag.* XLII. 552 That blithful noise.

Blithfully, *adv.* Joyously, cheerfully.

1864 *SALA in Daily Tel.* 26 Feb., He sallies out more or less blithfully.

Blithely (*blai'tli*), *adv.* Forms: 1 **blithelice**, 2 **blythelice**, 2-3 **blupeliche**, **blitheliche**, 3 **blithe-like**, **blithlik**, -li, 3-4 **blythly**, **blitheliche**, 4 **bly-**, **blipely**, 4-5 **blithly**, 6 *Sc.* **blythlye**, -lyke, 6-8 **blythely**, 6- **blithely**. [f. **BLITHE a.** + *-LY*.]

† 1. With kindness, benignantly. *Obs.*

c 1000 *Ag. Gosp.* Luke xix. 6 Ða efste he and hine blipelice onfengc. c 1400 *Deut. Troy* xxii. 9109 There the body of the bold blithly was set, Of honorable Ector, as I ere said. 1502 *GREENE Poems* 137 Astraea... 'Can blythely comfort me.

2. In a blithe manner; joyfully, joyously, merrily; gladly.

c 1175 *Lamb. Hom.* 23 Þu gast to chirche blipeliche. c 1230 *Hali Meid.* 3 Pat... heo him as fader þe blipeliker lustni. a 1300 *Cursor M.* 3243 Blithli, sir, it sal be don,

1375 BARBOUR *Bruce* viii. 437 He vald ysche fer the blithyer.
1513 DOUGLAS *Æneis* iii. 40 Tell thi awne fadir blythlie
Thir thingis. 1791 BURNS *Craigieburn Wood* i. And blythely
awakens the morrow. 1794 SOUTHEY *Lyric P.*, To *Hymen*,
Returning blithely home. 1800 SCOTT *Monast.* x. I listened
blithely enough.

Blithemeat. ? *Obs.* *Sc.* An entertainment
provided upon the birth of a child; the dainties
then partaken of.

1681 in R. Law *Mem.* (1818) 191 (JAM.) Sabbath days
feastings, blythemeats, banquetings. 1823 GALT *Entail* i.
xxxiii. 295, I hope, poor thing, she'll hae an easy time o't,
and that we'll hae blithes-meat before the sun gangs down.

† **Blithemod.** *a. Obs.* [OE. *blithemod*, f. *blithe*
Blithe + *mod* disposition, *MOOD*.] Of blithe
mood; of cheerful disposition.

1665 O. E. *Chron.* (Cott. MS.) Wes & blithe mod bealuleas
kyng. c. 1205 LAY. 29701 Pa wes he ful blithemod.

Blithen (blai'ðn), *v.* [mod. f. *BLITHE* *a.* +
-EN²: cf. *gladden*.] *trans.* To make blithe.

1824 GALT *Rothelan* II. v. ix. 255 To blithen the morning
with cheerful revellies. 1830 LAURIE *T.* iii. xv. (1849)
124 Glimpses of merriment... which blithen the fire-side.

Blitheness (blai'ðnes). [OE. *blithnes*, -*nys*:
f. *blithe*, *BLITHE* + -*nes*: see -*NES*.] The state of
being blithe; joyousness, cheeriness, merriness,
happiness. (*Orig.* a synonym of *bliss*.)

c. 1000 *Sax. Leechd.* III. 212 Wineard wyrcen blithnesse lif
getacnad. a. 1275 *Prov. Alfred* in O. E. *Misc.* 105 He is
one blisse ouer alle blithnesse. c. 1374 CHAUCER *Boeth.* ii. iii.
37 Vnder the blythesene of people. 1570 Gude & Godlie
Ballades (1868) 109 Giue me the blythnes & the blis Of my
sweet Sauour. 1647 W. BROWNE *Poet.* ii. 177 Give over
your teares, and put on againe your former blithnesse.
1725 RAMSAY *Gent. Sheph.* v. iii. What double blithenes
wakens up this day. 1874 HARDY *Madding Crowd* II. i. 14
Troy's blitheness might become aggressive.

† **Blither.** *Obs. rare.* [f. *BLITHE* *v.* + -*ER* 1.]
One who makes blithe; a gladdener.

a. 1455 *Houlate* xxiv. Hail, blyther of the Bapteist.
Blithesome (blai'ðsəm), *a.* [f. *BLITHE* *a.* +
-*SOME*: cf. *gladsome*.] Cheery.

1724 RAMSAY *Teat.* *Misc.* (1733) I. 89 The blythsome
Bridal. 1794 SOUTHEY *Botany-B.* *Eclog.* ii. Blithesome as
the lark. 1868 LYTTON *Str. Story* II. 176 The solitudes of
that blithesome and hardy Nature.

Blitter, dial. f. *BITTERN*: cf. *BOG-BLUTTER*.

1768 BURNS *My Hoggie* ii. But the howlet cry'd frae the
castle wa' The blitter frae the boggie.

Blive, *obs.* form of *BELIVE* *adv.* quickly.

Blizzard (bliz'zəd). *U. S.* [A modern word,
prob. more or less onomatopœic; suggestive words
are *blow*, *blast*, *blister*, *bluster*: the Fr. *blessor* to
wound, has also been conjectured, but there is no-
thing to indicate a French origin. As applied to
a 'snow-squall,' the word became general in the
American newspapers during the severe winter of
1880-81; but according to the *Milwaukee Repub-*
lican 4 Mar. 1881, it had been so applied in the
Northern Vindicator (Esherville, Ill.) between
1860 and 1870. It was apparently in colloquial
use in the West much earlier; but whether Col.
Crockett's use of it in 1834 (sense 1) was *fig.*, taken
from the stifling blast, or was the earlier sense, and
subseq. transferred to the blast, is not determined.]
1. 'A poser. (Not known in the Eastern States).'
Bartlett. (? *perh.* a *fig.* use of 2, as if a blast
they could not stand, a 'stiffer', 'choker', 'settler'.)
1834 CROCKETT *Tour down East* 16 (Bartlett) A gentleman
at dinner asked me for a toast; and supposing he meant to
have some fun at my expense, I concluded to go ahead,
and give him and his likes a blizzard.

2. A furious blast of frost-wind and blinding
snow, in which man and beast frequently perish;
a 'snow-squall'. Hence *Blizzardily*, *Blizzar-*
dous *a.*

1880 *Let.* 20 Dec. fr. Chicago in *Manch. Even. News*,
24 Jan. 1881. The thermometer was 17 degrees below zero
last night, and it was blowing a blizzard all the time. 1881
Standard 22 Jan. 5/1 The region (Manitoba) is swept by
those fearful blasts known as 'blizzards' which send the
'poudre', or dry snow, whirling in icy clouds. 1881 *N. Y.*
Nation 184 The hard weather has called into use a word
which promises to become a national Americanism, namely
'blizzard'. It designates a storm (of snow and wind) which
men cannot resist away from shelter. 1883 *Contemp. Rev.*
Sept. 350 Those bitter 'blizzards' so justly dreaded by all
who have to do with live stock. 1883 *Let. in Advance* 1
Mar. Driving snow, with very blizzardily tendencies.

† **Blō**, *a. Obs.* Also *bloo*, *blow*, *blow*. [The
midland and southern form of the word still pre-
served in north-Eng. and *Sc.* as *blae*, *blea*:—ON.
blā livid. *Blō* died out in literary Eng. during
the 16th or 17th c.: for the etymology and senses,
see *BLAE*.] Blackish blue, livid, leaden-coloured.
(In early writers sometimes = *BLUE*.)

c. 1250 *Gen. & Ex.* 637 Rein-bowe, men cleped reed and
blo. c. 1314 *Guy Warw.* (A.) 341 Tristor he hete wiþ þe berd
blowe. c. 1325 *E. E. Allit. P.* C. 221 In bluber of þe blo
flood. 1377 *Langl. P.* PL B. iii. 97 Al to blo (C. iv. 125 blew)
askes. c. 1430 *Pol. Rel. & L. Poems* (1866) 206 Nowe ligth
he ded þoþe blok and blo. c. 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 40 Blo
erþe, *argilla*. 1526 SKELTON *Magnyf.* 2080, I wax bothe
wanne and blo. 1530 *Palsgr.* 306/2 Blo, blew and grene
coloured, as ones body is after a drike stroke. 1565 *Golding*
Ovid's Met. iii. (1593) 56 Licking with his blo and blasting
toong their sorie wounds. 1654 RIPLEY *Comp. Alch.* in Ash-

mole 188 *The Crows* byll bloe as lede. 1788 W. MARSHALL
Yorksh. (1796) II. 65 The blue, blow, or lead-coloured flax.

Hence *Blo-wipe*, a blow or stroke causing a bruise.
1622 R. CALLIS *Stat. Seueri* (1647) 169 If one be presented
in a Leet Court for a Blowipe or any other personal wrong.

† **Bloached**, *ppl. a. Obs.* [? a corruption or
modification of *BLUTCHED*.] Blotched with yellow
or white, variegated; hence *bloached-leaved* *adj.*

1795 BRADLEY *Fam. Dict.* s.v. *Phyllirea*, The plain
Phyllirea, and the bleach'd leav'd one, are very quick
Growers. 1769 H. T. CROKER *Dict. Arts & Sc.* III. s.v.
Variation, Those leaves whose middles are variegated
with yellow or white, in spots, are called *bleached*.

Bl oak, variant of *BLOKE*, *slang*, man.

Bloomon, var. of *BLOMAN*, *Obs.*, a blackamoor.

Bloat, *sb.* [? from *BLOAT* *a.* 2 or *v.* 2] 'A hammer
swelled at the eye.' Raymond *Mining Gloss.* 1881.

Bloat (blōt), *a.* 1 Also 3-6 *blote*, 7 *bloate*.

[The spelling *bloat* occurs in this sense earlier
than in that of next word, with which this is often
identified, though in the present state of our know-
ledge it is safer to keep them distinct. The ME.
blote is perhaps identical with ON. *blaut-r* in the
sense 'soft with moisture, soaked, wet'; or from a
parallel form **blōt*: cf. the ME. vb. *blotne*, ON.
blotna to soften, moisten (see *BLOTEN*), also Sw.
blöt soft, moist, yielding. But it would also answer
in form to OE. *blāt* 'livid, pale', though this
sense is less likely. Sense 2 recalls ON. *blautr*
fiskr, i.e. 'soft fish', applied to 'fresh' fish, but
in Sw. *blöt fisk*, to 'soaked' fish (*Vigf.*). Though
evidence of actual connexion is wanting, it is
conjectured that the Eng. 'bloat herring' is, in some
way, identical with these, and means, etymologi-
cally, either 'soft (moist) herring', in opposition
to 'dried', or else 'soaked, steeped herring', in
reference to part of the process of curing the
herrings so termed. In *Act 18 Chas. II.* ii. 'bloat-
ed' is opposed to 'dried', and it is explained by
Blount as 'half-dried'; but most of the quota-
tions give it as meaning (in actual use) 'smoked',
(smoking being an important part of the process).
One at least (1613 below) appears to identify it
with 'puffed up', and thus with sense 2 of the next
word, whereas Sylvester, in 1616, says 'Herrings
shrink in bloating'; but moist herrings are natu-
rally plumper than those more thoroughly dried.
See also next word, and *BLOAT* *v.* 1]

† 1. ? Soft with moisture (or livid, pale). *Obs.*
c. 1300 *Of Men Lif* xiii. in *E. E. P.* (1862) 154 3e suttors
[suttors=sutors], wiþ 3our blote hides of selcup bestis.

2. *Bloat herring*: a smoked half-dried herring,
cured by the process described in *BLOAT* *v.* 1;
a bloated herring, a bloater. Also a term of
contempt for a human being. ? *Obs.*

a. 1596 *SIDNEY Remed. for Love* 65 (Grosart II. 276) Her
compound, or electuary, Made of olde linge or caviare,
Blote herringe, cheese. 1608 DEKKER *Satrom.* 245 Bloate
herring dost here? a. 1613 OVERBURY *A Wife* (1638) 177
He'll bee puffed up to your hand like a bloat Herring. 1621
B. JONSON *Masque Augurs*, You stink like so many bloat-
herrings newly taken out of the chimney! 1661 *Perrys*
5 Oct., To the Dolphin, and there eat some bloat herrings.

Bloat (blōt), *a.* 2 Forms: 1. 'oute, 6-7
blowt, 7- *bloat*. [Apparently distinct at first
(as an Eng. word) from the prec., since the earlier
form of that was *blote*, but of this *blout*; though
of parallel origin, and, since the 17th c., identified
in form, and often associated in meaning. ME.
blout, *blout*, was the regular adopted form of ON.
blaut-r soft (as a baby's limbs, a bed, silk; see
Vigf.); cf. Sw. *blöt* 'soft, yielding, pulposus, pulpy'.
The later form *bloat* does not answer phonetically
to *blout*, *blout*, yet its modern use is largely owing
to the 'blowt king' of Hamlet having been
printed 'bloat' by editors since Warburton, 1747;
G. Daniel had also spelt the word in this way
c. 1640-50. Possibly *BLOAT* *a.* 1 in 'bloat herrings',
(found as early as 1602) was in the 17th c. a much
better known word than this, and being, rightly or
wrongly, identified with it, influenced its form.
It is to be noted that *BLOAT* *v.*, and its derivatives
BLOATED, *BLOATING*, are all of earlier use as ap-
plied to the herring, than in senses connected with
this word. Sense 2 is a natural enough extension
of 1; but it may have been influenced by asso-
ciation with *blow*, *blown*; the mutual influence of
this and the prec. since 1600, cannot be settled
without more definite knowledge of the exact
notion at first attached to 'bloat herring'.]

† 1. *Blowt*, *bloute*: ? Soft, soft-bodied, flabby,
pulpy; passing into 'puffy, puffed, swollen'. *Obs.*

c. 1300 *Havelok* 1910 He luyden on... [blows]. He maden
here backes al so bloute Als he[re] wombes, and made hem
rowte Als he weren kradel-barnes. 1608 SHAKS. *Ham.* iii.
iv. 182 Let the blowt king tempt you againe to bed. [So all
the Quartos, exc. Q 1, where wanting; the Folios read
blunt.] 1603 H. CROSSE *Vertues Commw.* (1878) 145 The
body I say is subject to so much pestilence... the face

blowt, puffed up, and stuff with the flockes of strong
beere.

2. *Bloat*: Puffed, swollen, inflated, esp. with
self-indulgence. Hence *bloat-faced* *adj.* (In
modern writers an echo of Shakspeare's word since
that has been written *bloat*. *BLOATED* occurs in
the same sense from 1664.)

1638-48 G. DANIEL *Eclog.* iii. 83 The foolish rites Of bloat-
fac'd Bacchus. 1649 — *Trinarch.*, *Hen. V.*, ccxcii, The
Bloat Face of Rusticitie, Smuggs, looking in A Mirrour.
1747 [WARBURTON printed *bloat* for *blout* and *blunt* in
Hamlet.] 1832 *Blackw. Mag.* XXXII. 661 The bloat and
ugly villain. 1857 *HEAVYSEGE Saul* (1869) 332 To fetch a
calf or sheep, That its bloat master may it stick and slay?
1861 TEMPLE & TREVOR *Tannhäuser* 11 From foul embrace
Of that bloat Queen.

b. *transf.*

[1635 QUARLES *Embl.* 1. *Invoc.*, Scorn, scorn to feed on
thy old bloat desires. (? cf. *bloat herring*.)] 1646 G. DANIEL
Poems Wks. 1878 I. 89 What I loose or win To bloat
opinion, that below my fate I ever value.

Bloat, *v.* 1 Also 7 *blote*. [App. f. *BLOAT* *a.* 1,
with the sense 'to make bloat'.]

trans. To cure (herrings) by a process which leaves
them soft and only half-dried. This is now done by
leaving them in dry salt on a floor for 24 hours,
washing in fresh water, spitting, and smoking them
over an oak fire for a period varying from 24 hours
to 3 or 4 days, according to the time they are to
be kept before being eaten. (Earlier authorities
speak of their being steeped for a time in brine
before smoking; which has to be remembered in
discussing the original meaning of *bloat*.)

Bloated herrings are opposed to *dried* or *red* herrings,
which are left in dry salt for 10 days, and smoked for 14
days, whence their deep colour and shrivelled dryness.

1611 COTGR., *Fumer*, to... bloat, besmoake, hang, or drie
in the smoake. 1618 FLETCHER *Isl. P.* 102, I have
more smoke in my mouth then would Bloat a hundred her-
rings. 1682 J. COLLINS *Salt & Fishery* 109 Of Bloated and
Dried Fish. These the Fishmongers say are bloated as fol-
loweth, to wit, they sink them 3 or 4 hours in a Brine... and
then hang them up drying in Chimnies.

Bloat, *v.* 2 [app. f. *BLOAT* *a.* 2: its identity with
or distinctness from the prec. depends of course
upon the relation of the two adjectives.]

1. *trans.* To blow out, inflate, swell, make turgid.
Also *absol.*

1677 DRYDEN *Circe* Prol. 25 Encourage him, and bloat
him up with praise, That he may get more bulk before he
dies. 1711 ADDISON *Spect.* No. 127 ¶ 6 To see so many
well-shaped innocent Virgins bloated up, and waddling up
and down like big-bellied Women. 1797-51 CHAMBERS *Cycl.*
s.v. *Epispastic*, Of epispastics, there are some which...
swell and bloat the skin. 1748 CHESTERF. *Let.* II. civiii.
64 All malt-liquors fatten, or at least bloat. 1815 *Encycl.*
Brit. III. 549 Butchers have a kind of blast or bellows... by
which they bloat or blow up their meat when killed. 1834
H. MILLER *Scenes & Leg.* xvi. (1857) 240 Dead bodies...
bloated by the water. a. 1878 STIRLING-MAXWELL in *Edin.*
Rev. No. 323, 19 Excess, both in eating and drinking... had
bloated his cheek.

2. *intr.* To swell, become swollen or turgid.

a. 1735 ARBUTHNOT (J.) If a person of a firm constitution
begins to bloat. 1813 T. JEFFERSON *Corr.* (1830) 221 No
man knows what his property is worth, because it is
bloating while he is calculating. 1839 *Fraser's Mag.* XIX.
94 Who shut me up In darkness... to fatten, swell, and
bloat.

Bloated (blōtəd), *ppl. a.* 1 [f. *BLOAT* *v.* 1 +
-ED.] Of fish: Cured by the process described in
BLOAT *v.* 1; half-dried in smoke.

1648 HERRICK *Oberon's F.* *Poems* (1869) I. 127 A newt's
stew'd thigh, A bloated earwig. 1666 *Act 18 Chas. II.* ii,
Any Ling, Herring, Cod or Pilchard, fresh or salt, dried or
bloated. 1670 BLOUNT *Law Dict.*, *Bloated Fish* or *Her-*
ring... are those which are half-dried. 1753 CHAMBERS
Cycl. Supp. s.v., Bloated herrings are made by steeping
them in a peculiar brine, and then hanging them in a chim-
ney to dry. 1830 M. DONOVAN *Dom. Econ.* II. 239 A new
flavor... in which that of a bloated herring is sometimes
distinguishable.

Bloated, *ppl. a.* 2 [f. *BLOAT* *v.* 2 + -ED.]

1. Of the body, face, etc.: Swollen, puffed up,
turgid; esp. as describing the effect of gluttony
and self-indulgence.

1664 H. MORE *Myst. Iniq.* 475 Disguised in some uncouth
habit with circumsised crowns, and moaped or bloated
looks. 1711 F. FULLER *Med. Gymn.* 56 A Bloated Habit
of Body. 1713 *Guardian* No. 17 (1756) I. 79 The tender
fool has wept till her eyes are swelled and bloated. 1782
COWPER *Prog. Err.* 495 Bloated spiders. 1800 KEATS *St.*
Agnes xxxix, The bloated wassailers will never heed.

2. *transf.* and *fig.* a. Of things: Swollen, in-
flated, crammed; overgrown, of excessive size.

1711 *Werensfelsius' Meteors of Stile* 235 He affected the
Eloquence of bloated and high-sounding Words. 1785
COWPER *Task* 1. 739 His overgorged and bloated purse.
1846 PRESCOTT *Ferd. & Is.* III. xvi. 104 The bloated mag-
nificence of succeeding monarchs. 1862 DISRAELI in *Han-*
sard Ser. III. CLXVI. 1426 Those bloated armaments which
naturally involve states in financial embarrassments. 1879
Geo. ELIOT *Theo. Such* ii. 47 Its bloated, idle charities.

b. Of persons or their attributes: Swollen with
pride of rank or wealth; puffed up, pampered.

1731 SWIFT *To Gay* Wks. 1755 IV. 1. 169 A statesman...
A bloated minister. 1863 STANLEY *Jew.* Ch. xiii. 311 The
bloated pluralists of the mediæval Church. 1868 J. H.
BLUNT *Ref. Ch. Eng.* I. 355 The 'bloated aristocracy' of a
republican ideal.

3. *Comb.*, as *bloated-bellied* adj.
1875 B. TAYLOR *Faust* I. xxi. 180 Is't the salamander pushes Bloated-bellied through the bushes?

Bloatedness (blō'tednēs). [*f. prec. + -NESS.*]
Bloated quality or state.

1660 H. MORE *Myst. Godl.* x. xiv. 538 Unsound bloteness and ventosity of Spirit. 1732 ARBUTHNOT *On Diet* ii. (R.) Bloatedness, scorbutical spots. c 1875 BESANT & RICE *Harp* 4. Cr. xx. 209 To paint the bloatedness of our prelates.

Bloater (blō'tar). [*f. BLOAT a. + -ER*: app. like the vulgar *deader, liver, four-wheeler*.]
A 'bloat' or bloated herring: see BLOAT a. 1, v. 1

1822 S. TYMMS *Family Topogr.* III. 142 Herrings, at Yarmouth where the method of curing is unrivalled, called 'Yarmouth bloaters.' 1871 M. COLLINS *Mrg. & Merch.* II. iv. 97 He had been breakfasting on a bloater. 1882a BUCKLAND *Notes Anim. Life* 202 Real Yarmouth bloaters are herrings very slightly salted, and smoked for three or four hours only.

Bloating (blō'tin), *vbl. sb.* 1 [*f. BLOAT v. 1 + -ING*]. The process of curing (fish) by smoking for a short time; the preparation of bloaters.

1616 SYLVESTER *Tobacco Batt.* 499 Herrings, in the Sea, are large and full, but shrink in bloating, and together pull.

Bloating, *vbl. sb.* 2 [*f. BLOAT v. 2 + -ING*]. 'A puffing up or inflation of the exterior habit of the body, lodged chiefly in the adipose cells.' Chambers *Cycl. Supp.* 1753.

Bloating, *ppl. a.* That bloats or (?) blotches.
1759 W. WILKIE *Epigon.* v. (1769) 106 His crooked form he reared with horror pale, with bloating clay besmeared.

† **Bloaty**, *a. Obs. rare.* [In this and the prec. it looks as if *bloat* were confounded with *blot*, and 'bloated' taken as 'disfigured with blotches'.]
1705 HICKERINGILL *Priest-Cr.* II. viii. 76 Dashing out those bloody and bloaty Colours, wherewith Superstition has portrayed and arrayed him [the Creator].

Blob (blɒp), *sb.* Also *g. Sc. blab*. [The *vb.* appears in 15th, the *sb.* in 16th c. Like *BLEB*, expressing the action of the lips in producing a bubble. Some feeling of association with *Blow* may have helped the formation or perpetuation of the word. Cf. *BLAB*, *BLOBBER*, *BLUBBER*.]
1. A bubble. *Obs. exc. north. dial.*
1536 BELLENDEN *Cron. Scot.* (1821) I. p. xliii. Gif thay be handillit, thay melt away like ane blob of watter. 1570 *Levens Mani.* 154 Blob on the water, *bull.* 1863 Mrs. TOOGOOD *Yorksh. Dial.* *Watter-blobs*, bubbles of soap and water made with a pipe by children. 1875 *Whitby Gloss.* (E. D. S.) *Bleb* or *Blob*, a bubble.

2. A pimple, pustule. *north. dial.* Also *fig.*
1597 LOWE *Chirurg.* (1634) 82 Little blobs upon the skin, produced of an ebullition of the blood. 1614 *Sc. Venus* (1876) 32 O filthy blob and staine.

3. A drop or globule of liquid or viscid substance.
1785 RAMSAY *Gentle Sheph.* II. ii. Her een the clearest blob o' dew outshines. 1823 GALT *Entail* I. xxiii. 201 Haud it [a humble bee] till I take out the honey blob. 1837 HUGHES *Tom Brown* III. The letter was... stuck down with a blob of ink. 1866 ANGLYLL *Reign of Law* II. (ed. 4) 120 Animals which are mere blobs of jelly.

b. Applied to a soft round fruit, as a gooseberry; also *dial.* to globular or drop-like flowers, as the Globe-flower, Foxglove, etc.

c 1750 LD. BALMERINO in Ramsay *Remin.* (ed. 18) 254 Gie nie a ha'porth of honey blobs [yellow gooseberries]. 1868 HOLME *Lee B. Godfrey* xlix. 275 The scarlet blobs [= cherries] that they... loved.

4. A small rounded mass of colour.
1863 *Reader* 31 Oct. 502 In the design one of the wrestlers [is] destitute of eyebrows... but adorned with compensating blobs of hair upon the forehead. 1872 BLACK *Adv. Phaeton* v. 54 A little blob of strong colour. 1880 BIRDWOOD *Ind. Art* II. 9 Worthless gems which have no value as precious stones, but only as barbaric blobs of colour.

5. A solid oval mass of iron forming the base of one of the iron beams or posts which support the deck of a ship.

1863 *Times* 19 Mar. 14/2 The tee, the beam, and the blob were made separately in lengths, and then welded together.

6. *fig.* A pouting lower lip.
1762 COLLINS *Misc.* 122 (Halli.) Wit hung her blob, ev'n Humour seem'd to mourn.

b. *slang phrase.* On the blob: by word of mouth. Cf. *BLAB*.

1851 MAYHEW *Lab. I.* 311 Those [professional beggars] who 'do it on the blob' (by word of mouth) and those who do it by 'screwing', that is, by petitions and letters.

7. *Comb.*, as *blob-checked*, *-headed* adjs.

1552 HULOET, *Blobbe checked, buccines.* 1553 T. WILSON *Rhet.* 78 b. A man with a bottell nose, blobb checked. 1865 *Morn. Star* 8 May, A blob-headed man with mauve-coloured hair.

Blob, *v.* Chiefly *north.* Also *6 blab*. [*f. prec. sb.*]

1. *trans.* To mark with a blob of ink or colour; to blot or blur.

1429 *Sc. Acts Yas.* I. II. 17/2 Swa bat bai halde be forme of the breif. & be nocht rasi na blobit in suspect place. 1599 PORTER *Angry Wom.* *Abingd.* (1841) 91 She will not have one of those pearly stars. To blab her sable metamorphosis. 1609 SKENE *Reg. Maj.* 114 Gif the libell or summons is blobbed, or rased in suspect places.

2. *intr.* To rise in a bubble or bubbles.

1855 *Whitby Gloss.*, *Blob*, to boil or bubble up like water, when anything acts upon it by plunging or otherwise.

3. *intr.* To produce blobs or bubbles; to 'flop' in the water.

1875 *Whitby Gloss.* (E. D. S.) *Blob*, to plunge into the

water. 1884 *Blackw. Mag.* Mar. 346/1 The wretched trout.. blobbing and jumping on the stream.

Blobbered, *ppl. a.* [*f. BLOB sb. + -ED*]. Affected with pimples or swellings.

1486 *Bk. St. Albans* C v j b. When thou seest thy hauke vpon his mouth and his chekis blobbed.

Blobber (blɒbər), *a.* [A variant of *BLABBER*, perh. influenced by *BLOB*.]
Of the lips: Thick, swollen, protruding. Hence *blobber-lipped* *a.* Cf. *BLUBBER* *a.*

1593 *Pass. Morrice* 83 She was monstrous blobber lippt. 1674 GREW (J.) A blobber-lipped shell seemeth to be a kind of mussel. 1682 DRYDEN *Lucrinius* *Misc. Wks.* (1760) II. 457 Hanging blobber lips but pout for Kisses. 1692 R. LESTRANGE *Fables* i. (1714) 1 Some will have his Person deformed. Blobber-Lipp'd. 1818 *Blackw. Mag.* III. 282 Lazy streams of delight from their blobber lips falling.

Blobber, *obs.* and *dial.* *f. BLUBBER sb. and v.*

Bobby (blɒbi), *a.* [*f. BLOB sb. + -Y*]. Characterized by blobs; resembling a blob.

1882a *Garden* 10 June 399/3 A delicious bunch of Pinks.. fringed petals—bobby flowers. 1884 *American* VII. 253 Flat and bobby fragments.

Blaber, *-ure*, *-yr*, *obs.* forms of *BLUBBER*.

† **Blab-tale**, *Obs.* [*f. blob*, var. of *BLAB + TALE*. Cf. the *combs.* in *BLAB v. 1* 5.] A tell-tale.

a 1670 HACKET *Abp. Williams* II. (1692) 67 These blot-tales, when they could find no other news to keep their tongues in motion, laid open our Bishop for a malignant.

Bloc, variant of *BLAKE a.* *Obs.* pale; black.

† **Bloucz**, *Obs.* [a. 16th c. *F. blocus*, now *blockhaus*, *BLOCKHOUSE*.] A fortification, a bulwark.

1600 HOLLAND *Livy* VIII. xxv. 299 e By certayne skonces and blocuzes [muniments] betweene the enemies fortes and forces, one part was cut from the other.

Block (blɒk), *sb.* Forms: 4-5 *blok*, 5 *blokke*, 5-7 *blooke*, 6 *block*. [In sense 1, app. a ME. adoption of *F. bloc*, of same meaning; but in senses 17-20 taken directly from *Block v.* OF. *bloch* is, according to Diez and Littré, a. OHG. *bloh* (MHG. *block*, mod. Ger. *block*) in same sense (MDu. *blot*, Du. *blok*, MLG. *block*, Sw. *block*, Da. *blok*), the origin of which is uncertain. Grimm and others identify it with MHG. *block*, OHG. *biloh* (MDu. *beloc*, *beloke*) 'closure, obstruction, shut place,' referred to *bi-lukan*, *f. lukān* to close, shut. Kluge considers it a distinct word, and possibly related farther back to *balk BALK*.]

1. A solid piece of wood.

1. A log of wood; part of the trunk of a tree, a stump.

c 1305 *Leg. Rood* (1871) 141 Whon crist was knit with corde on a stok His bodi bledde a-jein bat blok. 1393 GOWER *Conf.* I. 314 This king.. made. Of grete shides and of blockes Great fire. 1482 CAXTON *Reynard* (Arb.) 27 They drewe hym ouer stones and ouer blockes without the village. 1552 HULOET, *Blocke, truncus.* 1594 T. B. *La Primaud.* *Fr. Acad.* II. 131 [No] more motion or feeling then is in a blocke or stone. 1830 DISRAELI *Home Lett.* x. 84, I looked at the wood fire and thought of the blazing blocks in the hall at Bradenham. 1884 FROUDE *Carlyle* II. xxiii. 176 Sitting patient on a big block—huge stump of a tree-root.

b. Often used in similes as a type of inertia, senselessness, stupidity. Cf. sense 15; also *POST*.
c 1420 *Sir Cliges* 440 He yaffe the styward sech a stroke, That he fell down as a bloke. 1676 RIPLEY *Reviv'd* 283 They are as stupid as Blocks. 1718 POPE *Anth. Successio* 10 When you like Orpheus, strike the warbling lyre, Attentive blocks stand round you and admire. 1875 BUCKLAND *Log-Bk.* 68 As deaf as a block.

† c. *contemptuously.* An idol, a 'stock'.
1563-67 FOXE *A. & M.* (1596) 1340/1 His great God was not exalted.. ouer the altair, nor his blocke almighty set seemly in the roode loft.

† d. Contrasted with 'straw' in some obsolete proverbial phrases. Cf. sense 11; also *BEAM* and *MOTE*. *Obs.*

1566 *Pilgr. Perf.* (W. de W. 1531) 93 Lest of a strawe we make a blocke. 1551 CRANMER *Ansv. Bp. Gardiner* 201 (T.) You can spy a little mote in another mans eye, that cannot see a great block in your own. 1562 J. HEYWOOD *Prov. & Epigr.* (1867) 76 Ye stumbled at a strawe, and leapt ouer a blocke.

† 2. The stump or trunk of a figure without the limbs.

1535 COVERDALE *1 Sam.* v. 5 The block laie there onely.

3. A large solid piece of wood, of which the top or surface is used for various operations:

a. A piece of wood on which a butcher chops his meat, or on which firewood is cut, or which is used for beettling or hammering on, or otherwise in various mechanical crafts. *Between the beetle and the block*: see *BEETLE* 1 c.

c 1485 *Digby Myst.* (1882) i. 157 If I fynde a yong child I shall choppe it on a blocke. 1766 ENTICK *London* IV. 65 Stalls for butchers, with.. blocks. 1849 DICKENS *Dav. Copp.* xix. He looked such a very odourate butcher as he stood scraping the great block.

b. The piece of wood on which the condemned were beheaded or mutilated.

1541 *Act* 33 *Hen. VIII.* xii. § 18 The sericant.. shal bring to the said place of execution a blocke with a betill a staple & cordes to binde the saide hande vpon the blocke. 1597 SHAKS. *2 Hen. IV.* IV. ii. 122 Some guard these Traitors to the Block of Death. a 1674 CLARENDON *Hist. Reb.* (1704)

III. xiv. 384 He laid down his head upon the Block. 1809 H. NEEDLE *Lit. Rem.* 25 The sovereign who sent Raleigh to the block. 1876 GREEN *Short Hist.* vii. § 1 (1882) 341 It was by bills of attainder.. that the great nobles were brought to the block.

c. A stump by which to mount, or dismount from, a horse. Also *fig.*

1614 MARKHAM *Cheap Husb.* I. ii. (1668) 12 Observing to mount and dismount at the block only. a 1650 OSBORN *Observ. Turks* iii. (1673) 265 The promoters of Sedition, are seldom found to take Horse at any other block than what they perceive the People aptest to stumble at. 1841 ORDESON *Creol.* viii. 76 [He] rode dashingly up to the block.

d. The stump on which a slave stood when being sold by auction.

1823 *Chamb. Jmnl.* Oct. 39 Boy mounts the block.. the auctioneer kindly lends him a hand. 1866 BRYANT *Death Slavery* vii. There shall the grim block remain, At which the slave was sold.

e. A falcon's perch.

1844 *Proc. Berw. Nat. Club.* II. 97 The hawk.. was soon receiving.. a good meal of beef upon her block.

4. A piece of wood or other substance on which something is moulded, shaped, or fashioned: *spec.*

a. A mould for a hat.

1575 GASCOIGNE *Hearbes, Weedes, etc.* Wks. (1587) 154 A coplanke hat made on a Flemish block. 1604 DEKKER *Honest Wh.* I. xiii. Wks. 1873 II. 79 We have blockes for all heads. a 1680 BUTLER *Rem.* (1759) II. 217 His Head is, like his Hat, fashioned upon a Block. 1828 HAWTHORNE *Fr. & It. Jmnl.* I. 81 Wolsey's hat.. might have been made on the same block.

Hence *b. fig.* Shape, style, fashion (of hat).

1580 LVLV *Euphues* (Arb.) 323 A hat of the.. best block in al Italy. 1599 SHAKS. *Much Ado* I. i. 77 He wears his faith but as the fashion of his hat, it euer changes with y^e next block. 1612 ROWLANDS *More Knaves Yet* 6 Hats of newest blocke. 1820 SCOTT *Abbot* xxv. A beaver hat of the newest block.

c. *Barber's block*: a wooden head for a wig.

1688 R. HOLME *Armoury* II. xviii. 464 A *Finishing Block* is a Wooden head set on a Stand, on which the rounds of hair are sowed on the Cawl. 1754 *Connoisseur* No. 36 Their heads.. have worn as many different kinds of wigs as the block at their barber's. a 1843 SOUTHEY *Ep. A. Cunningham* Wks. III. 318 From such a barber.. was that portrait made, I think, or per adventure from his block.

d. *transf.* A head. (*slang.*)

1635 SHIRLEY *Lady of Pleas* II. i. Buy a beaver For thy own block.

e. *generally.* A substratum or core.

1691 RAY *Creation* I. (1704) 119 To serve as a Form or Block to sustain the succeeding annual Coat.

5. *Mechanics.* A pulley or system of pulleys mounted in a case, used to increase the mechanical power of the ropes running through them; employed esp. for the rigging of ships, and in lifting great weights. They take various names from their shape, position, or use, as *fiddle block*, *sister block*, etc.

1622 MALYNES *Anc. Law-Merch.* 143 Damages sustained by bad Hooks, Ropes, Blockes, or Lines. 1697 CAPT. SMITH *Seaman's Gram.* v. 19 Blocks or Pullies are thick peeces of wood haining shuiers in them. 1752 SMEATON *Tackle in Phil. Trans.* XLVII. 494 An inconvenience arises, if above 3 pullies are framed in one block. 1762 FALCONER *Shipwre.* II. 58 Thro' rattling blockes the clue-lines swiftly run. 1824 W. IRVING *T. Trav.* II. 236 The stump of a mast, with a few ropes and blocks swinging about.

b. *Naut. phrase.* *Block and block* (see *quot.*).

1627 CAPT. SMITH *Seaman's Gram.* v. 19 When we hale any Tackle or Halseyard to which two blockes doe belong, when they meet, we call that blocke and blocke. 1769 FALCONER *Dict. Marine* (1789) *Block and block*, the situation of a tackle when the two opposite blocks are drawn close together, so that the.. power becomes destroyed.

6. A piece of wood which acts as a support:

a. *Carpentry.* A square piece of wood glued into the angle at a joint to strengthen it; = *BLOCKING* 3.

b. A piece of scantling for elevating cannon; called a *whole*, *half*, or *quarter block*, according to its thickness.

c. A frame to support the end of a log in a saw-mill.

d. *Carriage-making* (see *quot.*).

1801 FELTON *Carriages* I. 120 Those platforms, raisers, or blocks, are added to a carriage, either as matter of necessity or appearance.. their use is to elevate and support the budget, boot, hind foot-board, and springs.

7. A piece of wood on which lines, letters, or figures are engraved, in order to be printed from it in ink or colours on paper, calico, etc., or to be stamped by pressure on any yielding surface.

1732 S. PALMER *Hist. Printing* VI. (title), An enquiry into the first books printed on blocks of wood. 1797-51 CHAMBERS *Cycl.* s. v. *Cutting*, The cutters in wood begin by preparing a plank or block. 1760 R. BURROW *Comp. Ladies Diary* 6 Engraving wooden blocks for printing pictures with the letter-press. 1837 WHITLOCK *Bk. Trades* (1842) 94 [*Calico-printer*] They have from the earliest period used blocks and stencils to produce the pattern. 1880 *Print. Trades Jmnl.* xxx. 10 Printed in four colours, from engraved blocks.

8. Various solid pieces of wood about a ship: see *quots.*

c 1850 *Rudim. Navig.* (Weale) 97 *Block*, the large piece of elm out of which the figure is carved at the head of the ship. *Blocks* for building the ship are those solid pieces of oak timber fixed under the ship's keel, upon the groundways. *Blocks* for transporting the ship are two solid pieces of oak or elm, one fixed on each side of the stern above the taff-

rail, and a snatch with a large score cut each way in the middle. *a* 1856 *Longf. Build. Ship* 95 Thus, said he, we will build this ship! Lay square the blocks upon the slip.

†9. The peg or 'hob' aimed at in throwing quoits; the 'Jack' at bowls. *Obs.*

1598 *Florio, Buttira*, a maister or mistres of boules or coites, wherat the plaiers cast or play; some call it the blocke.

II. A bulky piece of any substance.

10. *gen.* Any solid or compact mass of matter with an extended surface.

1530 *Palsgr.* 199/1 Block of tynne, *saumon destain*. 1577 *Harrison Descr. Brit.* v. 12 These huge blocks were ordeined and created of God. 1670 *J. CLARIDGE Sheph. Banbury's Rules* (1744) 38 A block of this kind of stone as big as a large rolling stone. 1758 *BORLASE Nat. Hist. Cornwall* xv. § 18. 182 The metal when hardened is called a block of tin. 1799 *KIRWAN Geol. Ess.* 166 Granite is most commonly found in huge blocks. 1813 *Gentl. Mag.* LXXXIII. 1. 609/2 A square block of masonry has been raised to support the stone. 1860 *TYNDALL Glac.* i. § 2. 17 The more solid blocks of ice shoot forward in advance of the lighter debris.

b. A large quantity of anything dealt with at once. Hence *In block*: in the mass, as a whole, 'wholesale'; = *Fr. en bloc*.

1876 *HOLLAND Serv. Oaks* xxiv. 331 The combination began by selling large blocks of the Stock for future delivery. 1876 *GLADSTONE in Contemp. Rev.* June 3 Puritans... who rejected in block the authority of creeds.

11. A lump of wood, stone, or other matter, that obstructs one's way; a bar; *fig.* an obstacle or obstruction. Now only in *stumbling-block*.

a 1500 *Songes & Carols* 154 C. (Wright) 81 (Mätz.) Ale mak many a mane to stumbyle at the blokkes. 1573 *G. HARVEY Lett. Bk.* (1884) 32 I tould him there was a certain block in the wai. 1597 *J. PAYNE Royal Exch.* 38 At which common block many weaklings do stumple. 1649 *SELDEN Latus Eng.* i. xv. (1739) 29 This was... a block in the way of Prelacy, and a clog to keep it down. a 1718 *PENN Life Wks.* 1726 I. 2 A Block in the Way to Preferment. 1845 *S. AUSTIN Ranke's Hist. Ref.* i. 531 By maintaining these passages he laid a stumbling block in his own path.

12. *spec.* a. A mass or lump of rock or stone in its natural or unhewn state. *Erratic block*, a boulder transported by physical agencies far from its native site.

1847 *TENNYSON Princ.* vii. All her labour was but as a block left in the quarry. 1851 *RUSKIN Stones Ven.* (1874) I. i. 19 The glacier stream[s] of the Lombards and... Normans left their erratic blocks wherever they had flowed. 1871 *JENKINSON Guide Eng. Lakes* (1879) 149 The Bowder Crag from which the immense block has fallen, is directly above.

b. A solid piece of stone, etc., prepared for building purposes; also the 'bricks' with which children build toy-houses.

c 1854 *LONGF. Builders* iii. Our to-days and yesterday are the blocks with which we build. 1865 *R. L. STEVENSON Child's Garden* 63 *Block City*, What are you able to build with your blocks, Castles and palaces, temples and docks? †13. A whetstone. *Obs.*

1592 *GREENE Grontzo. Wit* (1617) 28 He served but for a blocke to whet Robertes wit on.

14. A compact or connected mass of houses or buildings, with no intervening spaces; (esp. in U.S. and Canada) the quadrangular mass of buildings included between four streets, or two 'avenues' and two streets at right angles to them. b. A portion of a town or space of ground so bounded, whether occupied by buildings or not.

1851 *Housch. Narrative* Mar. 69 The blocks... are rapidly filling up by the erection upon them of large houses. 1855 *Act 18-19 Vict.* cxx. § 74 A group or block of contiguous houses... may be drained more economically... in combination. 1881 *FREEMAN in Longm. Mag.* I. 89 American towns are built in blocks. 1884 *Boston (Mass.) Journal* 12 Sept. When the matinee between brother and sister had closed Blossum was about two blocks away.

III. Figurative senses.

15. A person resembling a block or log of wood: a. in unintelligence: A blockhead. b. in want of feeling: A hard-hearted person.

a 1553 *UDALL Royster D.* iii. iii. Ve are suche a calfe, suche an asse, such a blocke. 1601 *SHAKS. Jul. C.* i. i. 40 You Blockes, you stones, you worse than senseless things. 1681 *N. O. tr. Boileau's Lutrin* II. 16 See how the Stupid Block stands mute, and moping! 1803 *BRISTED Pedest.* Tour II. 661 In vain we endeavoured to move the compassion of these two blocks in female shape. 1820 *TANNAHILL Poems* (1846) 88 The greatest dunce, the biggest block.

16. Phrases. A chip of the (same or) old block: a piece of the same stuff; a descendant reproducing the qualities of a parent or ancestor. *As deaf (etc.) as a block*: (see I b.) To cut blocks with a razor: (a metaphor describing absurdly incongruous and futile application of abilities or means: 13).

1627 *SANDERSON Serm.* I. 283 Am not I a child of the same Adam, a vessel of the same clay, a chip of the same block, with him? 1655 *LESTRANGE Chas. I.* 126 Episcopacy, which they thought but a great chip of the old block Popery. 1774 *GOLDSM. Retal.* 42 'Twas his fate unemployed or in place, sir, To eat mutton cold and cut blocks with a razor.

IV. Senses from BLOCK v.

†17. 'A scheme, contrivance; generally used in a bad sense.' (Jamieson.) *Sc. Obs.*

1513 *DOUGLAS Æneis* v. xi. 12 Rolling in mynd full mony cankarit blok.

†18. A bargain, bartering, exchange. *Sc. Obs.* 1568 *Sempill Ballades* (1872) 232 Abydand on sum merchand blok. 1637 *RUTHERFORD Lett.* cxx. (1862) I. 300

What a sweet block was it by way of buying and selling, to give and tell down a ransom... for grace and glory to dyvours! a 1800 *Ballad 'Fair Isabella'* xvi. in *Child's Ballads* III. (1885) 216/2 So many blocks have we two made, And ay the worst was mine.

19. A blocking up. a. An obstruction or stoppage of traffic or progress. b. The obstruction of the free passage of a bill through the House of Commons: see *quot.*

1860 *W. CLARK Vac. Tour* 19 Naples is the only continental capital which is liable to blocks. 1863 *Cornh. Mag.* Feb. *Life Man-of-War*, It is after you have become lieutenant, that the 'block' makes itself felt. 1881 *Pall Mall G.* 14 July 2/2 What is the practical effect of the notice that a bill will be opposed—which is what is known as a block? Simply this, that it prevents any stage of a bill being taken during (1) the last ten minutes of a morning sitting, or (2) the last fifteen minutes of a Wednesday afternoon sitting, or (3) after half-past twelve o'clock at any other sitting.

c. Block system (on Railways): a system by which the line is divided into short sections, having at the end of each a signal, and a connexion with the electric telegraph, so worked that no train is allowed to pass into any section till it is wholly clear; thus securing an absolute interval of space between successive trains. So *block signal*, *block signalling*, *block instrument*, etc.

1864 *Realist* 29 June 1 The only remedy for the danger is the adoption of what is technically called the 'block system.' 1865 *Lond. Rev.* 18 Mar. 309 Mr. William Henry Preece... recommends the adoption, in connection with the electric telegraph, of the 'block system' of ensuring the safety of railway trains. 1881 *Oracle* 20 May 313 The method of working electric block-signals. Mr. Tyer produced his first block-signalling instrument in 1852. *Ibid.* A modification of the single needle as a block instrument.

20. Cricket. The position in which a batsman blocks balls; that in which he holds his bat in front of the wicket before striking, otherwise called the *centre*; hence *block-hole* (or shortly *block*), a mark made in the ground to indicate this position.

Mod. The ball pitched right in his block. He asked the umpire to give him block.

V. *Attrib. and Comb.*

21. *attrib. or adj.* Taken in the block, aggregated, lump.

1864 *L.D. LYTTELTON in Morn. Star* 22 Jan. 3/6 The first cost requires a block sum, which... is just what the working classes cannot command.

22. General comb., chiefly attrib., as *block-coal*, *-ice*, *-shot*, *-stone*; (sense 5) *block-maker*, *-pulley*, *-sheave*, *-stop*; *block-faced*, *-like* adjs.

1751 *SMOLLETT Per. Pic.* (1779) I. v. 37 A squinting, 'block-faced, chattering piss-kitchen. 1881 *Chicago Times* 4 June, 'Block ice is never created in the river rapids to clog or impede machinery. 1561 *J. HEYWOOD Seneca's Hercules* (1581) 16 Her head from 'blocklike body gone Is quight. 1861 *L. NOBLE Icebergs* 85 Numbers of block-like bergs. a 1687 *PETTY Pol. Arith.* (1690) 78 Many Artisans... are employed upon Shipping: viz. Painters, 'Block-makers, Rope-makers. 1793 *SMEATON Edystone L.* § 122 note, An ingenious blockmaker at Plymouth. 1884 *Harper's Mag.* Jan. 220/2 The block-maker and sail-maker each a sixteenth. 1864 *CHAMBERS Bk. of Days* II. 684 [Brunel's] plan for making 'block-pulleys for ships by machinery. 1883 *Fisheries Exhib. Cat.* 42 Projectile Anchors, Cone 'Block Shot to throw Rope or Messenger Line. 1879 *SIR G. SCOTT Lect. Archil.* I. 270 If he used 'blockstone... he studied to use [it] so as to look well. 1769 *FALCONER Dict. Marine* (1789) E liij. It is bound with a sort of rope-ring... which is called a 'block stop.

23. Special comb. Block-battery (see *quot.*); block-brush, a bunch of BUTCHER'S-BROOM, used by butchers to clean the blocks, and borne in the insignia of their Company; block-chopper, a workman who trims a block of stone; block-cutter, an artificer who cuts in relief the blocks used in printing or engraving (see sense 7); block-flute (see *quot.*); block-furnace = BLOOMERY; block-letters, printing-types of large size cut out of wooden blocks; block-machine, a machine for making the 'blocks' associated with 'tackle' in ships; so *block-machinery*; block-ornament (*slang*) = BLOCKER 3; block-pate = BLOCKHEAD; block-printing, printing from wooden blocks, instead of movable types, as in the BLOCK-BOOKS, now also used for printing calico, paper-hangings, etc.; so *block-printed a.*; block-ship, a ship moored to block the entrance to a harbour, an old man of war used as a store-ship, etc.; block-tin, see TIN; † *block-wheat*, buckwheat.

1801 *C. JAMES Mil. Dict.* (1816) 54/1 'Block-battery, in gunnery, a wooden battery for two or more small pieces mounted on wheels, and moveable from place to place. 1883 *Stonemason* Jan., It is then trimmed (or scalped) into shape by men called 'block-choppers', who adroitly wield heavy axes. 1859 *CHADWICK in Smiles Workmen's Earnings* (1861) 21 'Block-cutters and printers in calico-printing. 1852 *SEIDEL Organ* 91 'Block-flute... is a flute-register sometimes open, sometimes stopped, and... imitates the tone of a flute. 1853 *MAYHEW Lond. Labour* I. 52 They buy 'block-ornaments... as they call the small dark-coloured pieces of meat exposed on the... butchers' blocks. 1598 *R. BERNARD Terence* (1607) 251 To be called a 'blockpate, a dulhead, an asse, a lumpish sot. 1816 *SINGER Hist. Cards* 75 note, The Portuguese Missionaries on their first visit to Japan,

in 1549, found the art of 'block printing in use there. 1883 *Standard* 26 Jan. 3/6 Mere 'block-printed papers. 1801 *Hist. Europe in Ann. Reg.* 113/1 There was not on board their 'Block ships a single surgeon. 1611 *COTGRA, Drage aux chevaux*, 'blocke-wheat or bolimong.

Block (blɒk), v. [a. F. *bloquer* (15th c. in Littre), of same meaning, f. *bloc* BLOCK sb., the orig. sense being apparently to put 'blocks' in a way; but in later senses, 8-11, directly from BLOCK sb.]

1. *trans.* To obstruct or close with obstacles (a passage). Predicated either of the personal agent, or of the obstructions. Also *fig.*

[c 1425 *WYNTOUN Cron.* vii. Prof. 21 Swa my wan-wyt... A matere gud suld block or spyle.] 1645 *QUARLES Sol. Recant.* v. 24 All his ways are blockt with troubles. 1860 *STANLEY Jew. Ch.* (1877) I. xi. 208 The mouth of the cave was blocked by huge stones. 1881 *Chicago Times* 12 Mar., The Illinois Central Road is again blocked.

b. with *up*. 1580 *NORTH Plutarch* (1566) 926 They shut and blocked up all the ways from the one sea to the other, with mighty great pieces of timber across. 1719 *Dr. Foe Crusoe* (1840) I. iv. 65 I blocked up the door... with some boards. 1823 *Ht. MARTINEAU Br. Creek* iv. 91 Were the avenues of the temple blocked up?

2. To shut up or in by obstructing ingress and egress, to prevent access to or exit from. Predicated of the agent or the obstruction, as in 1.

1630 *PRYNNE God No Impostor* 9 Blocking vp their hearts against the Lord. 1631 *GOUGE God's Arrows* ii. § 22. 160 Blocking up people within narrow compasses. 1733 *Swift's Lett.* (1766) II. 187 We are throwing down a parcel of walls, that blocked us up every way. 1853 *KANE Grinnell Exp.* xxii. (1856) 178 Our little harbor was completely blocked in by heavy masses [of ice].

3. *spec.* To blockade, invest. [So *F. bloquer*.]

1591 *UNTON Corr.* 30 All Poictou is reduced... excepte Poictiers, by the Prince Conty, who hath also blocked that. 1796 *NELSON in Nicolas Disp.* (1845) II. 228, I ought not to have less than four vessels to block the Port. 1871 *Browning Balaustr.* 103 Back must you, though ten pirates blocked the bay!

b. usually with *up*. 1639 *MASSINGER Unnat. Combat* I. i. Our navy should be blocked up. 1709 *STEELE Tatler* No. 40 P 10 The Blockade of Olivenza was continued... it is at present so closely blocked up that, etc. 1790 *BRATSON Nav. & Mil. Mem.* I. 334 The British fleet... bombarded and blocked it up by sea. 1839 *THIRLWALL Greece* II. 303 The danger of being defeated and blocked up in Salamis.

4. To obstruct the way or course of.

1865 *BUSHNELL Vicar. Sacr.* III. iii. 238 One [attribute in God] totally blocking another, and refusing to allow a step of movement till it has gotten its complete satisfaction. 1875 *J. HEATH Croquet-player* 16 A ball is blocked when another ball lies in the way. 1884 *Boston (Mass.) Jrm.* 20 Dec. 2/2 Their little game was blocked.

5. Cricket. To stop (a ball) with the bat, so as merely to protect the wicket, without attempting to hit so as to score runs; also *absol.*

1773 *Gentl. Mag.* Nov. 568 The modern way of blocking every ball at play. 1807 *E. NEALE Living & Dead* 165 I've heard of him. Blocked well—best long stop in England. 1837 *DICKENS Pickw.* (1847) 55/1 He blocked the doubtful balls, missed the bad ones, took the good ones. 1879 *W. G. GRACE in Cricketer's Ann.* 32 When you hit, hit hard; when you block, do not be deterred from using vigour even in this movement.

6. Parliament. To prevent or postpone the passage of a bill; *spec.* to give notice of opposition to a bill in the House of Commons, which prevents it from being taken after half past twelve (midnight). (See BLOCK sb. 19 b.)

1884 *Mr. SPEAKER in Times* 4 Apr. 6 The term 'blocking' is a colloquial expression recognized in this House. 1884 *Dr. ST. ALBANS in Contemp. Rev.* Aug. 171 The House of Lords, by blocking the Bill, has denied to two million persons the right of having votes.

7. *intr.* To bargain. *Sc.*

c 1570 *Leg. Bp. St. Andrews in Scot. Poems* 16th C. II. 334 Eftir that he had long tyme blockit, With grit difficultie he tuk thame. 1637 *RUTHERFORD Lett.* cvi. (1862) I. 269 God forbid that there were buying and selling and blocking for as good again, betwixt Christ and us.

8. *trans.* To shape on a block: see BLOCK sb. 4.

1611 *ROWLANDS Gd. News & Bad* 33 His hat new block'd. 1637 *HEYWOOD Roy. King* III. iii. The haberdasher will sooner call us blockheads than block us.]

b. To hammer smooth or into a particular shape on a block.

1831 *J. HOLLAND Manuf. Metals* I. 338 The saw is once more submitted to the hammer... but it is now termed blocking. 1884 *Law Times Rep.* LI. 274/2 The hammering carried on in the process of tin blocking. *Mod.* Blocking-down, in silver manufacture, is the first process when the article has to be made from a flat piece of metal.

c. To emboss the covers of books by pressure with a device from a block.

1869 *G. DODD Dict. Manuf.* 38 In blocking, the tools are fixed into a frame to form a device for the whole cover of a book; it receives the name of gold blocking or blind blocking according as gold is or is not used.

9. To sketch out, mark out roughly (work to be finished afterwards); to lay out, plan. Now usually with *out*; also *in*.

1525 *JAMES I. Ex. Poetic* (Arb.) 55, I tuke earnist and willing panis to blok it [this short treatise]. 1651 *URQUHART Jewel Wks.* (1834) 264 Which designe, though intended, essayed, and blocked by many others. 1837 *LOCKHART Scott* (1839) III. 15 The latter Cantos having... been merely blocked out when the first went to press. 1881 *Academy*

8 June 33/2 The head... seems scarcely to belong to the rather rudely blocked limbs; but it is a nice little picture. 1884 LADY MAJENDIE *Out of Element* I. viii. 111 Pictures blocked in roughly.

10. To cut out or make into blocks.

1863 SMILES *Indust. Biog.* 305 Making wooden wedges used in pitwork, and blocking out segments of solid oak required for walling the sides of the mine. *Mod.* Coal is always blocked from the bottom of the seam.

11. To support or fit with blocks of wood.

1881 *Mechanic* § 765 When the top of any table of this kind is a fixture, it is generally blocked, that is to say rectangular blocks of wood... are glued at short intervals into the angle formed by the meeting, etc.

Blockade (blɒkə'deɪd). [*f.* BLOCK *v.*, on the pattern of words in -ADE from Fr. The Fr. equivalent *bloquer* dates to 16th c. *Blockade* sb. must have been used before 1684, when the vb. appears.]

1. The shutting up of a place, blocking of a harbour, line of coast, frontier, etc., by hostile forces or ships, so as to stop ingress and egress, and prevent the entrance of provisions and ammunition, in order to compel a surrender from hunger or want, without a regular attack. *Paper blockade*: one that is declared by a belligerent party to exist, but is not effective.

1693 *Mem. Cl. Techely* III. 55 This Blockade was turn'd into a formal Siege in the beginning of March. 1773 R. MONTGOMERY in *Sparks Corr. Amer. Rev.* (1853) I. 485 Were a blockade alone to be the measure adopted. 1836 MACGILLIVRAY tr. *Humboldt's Trav.* III. 42 On account of the blockade by the English. 1863 Ld. RUSSELL *Lett. Mr. Mason* (Bernard 293) The Declaration of Paris was in truth directed against what were once termed 'paper blockades', that is, blockades not sustained by any actual force, or sustained by a notoriously inadequate naval force. 1880 W. E. HALL *Internat. Law* (1884) 339 What is called *pacific blockade* has been used as a means of constraint short of war. 1885 *Times* 20 Feb. 5/1 The coast is really only patrolled at intervals. The use of the word 'blockade' is, therefore, an abuse of the term.

b. To raise a blockade: to withdraw the investing forces, or to compel them to withdraw. To break a blockade: to enter a blockaded port by force. To run a blockade: to enter or leave a blockaded port by eluding the blockading force, esp. for the purpose of conveying supplies, or carrying on trade.

1810 WELLINGTON in *Gurw. Disp.* VI. 349 To induce him to raise the blockade of La Puebla. 1869 *Overland Monthly* 47 (*title*) How we ran the blockade.

2. *transf.* A blockading force; a party of blockade-men.

1888 FLEET *Glimpses Ancestors* Ser. I. 84 The chief boatman of the Blockade was killed.

3. *transf. and fig.*

1742 POPE *Dunciad* IV. 191 Broad hats and hoods, and caps, a sable shawl; Thick and more thick the black blockade extends. 1833 MACAULAY *Walpole's Lett., Ess.* (1854) I. 269 The blockades laid by the Duke of A. to the hearts of the Marquise de B. and the Comtesse de C. 1835 T. HOOK *G. Gurney* I. III. (L.) This was a blockade which even the ingenuity of the wit could not evade. 1881 *Chicago Times* 12 Mar. The snow blockade told more severely in the produce trade. 1881 *Ibid.* 16 Apr. (A railway accident) causing a blockade of the road for several hours.

4. *Attrib. and Comb.*, as *blockade force*; *blockade-man*, a member of the force employed to prevent smuggling; a coastguardman; *blockade-run*, *running*, the action of running a blockade; *blockade-runner*, a vessel which runs or attempts to run into a blockaded port; the owner, master, or one of the crew of such a vessel. (These words obtained special notoriety during the American War of Secession, when many British ships were engaged in running the blockade of Richmond and other southern ports.)

1888 FLEET *Glimpses Ancestors* Ser. I. 83 A *Blockade force of 40 men. *Ibid.* 82 Constant conflicts between the 'blockade-men and the smugglers. 1836 DICKENS *Sk. Bos* (1850) 214 Blockade-man after *blockade-man had passed the spot, wending his way towards his solitary post. 1863 *St. James's Mag.* VIII. 246 My first and last *blockade run. 1876 *N. Amer. Rev.* CXXVII. 381 The English *blockade-runners passed through the American blockading squadron. 1879 *Cassell's Techn. Educ.* IV. 371/2 Steel was used extensively in 'blockade-runners' built during the American civil war.

Blockade, v. [*f.* prec. sb.]

1. *trans.* To subject to a blockade as an incident of war; to beset by a hostile force, so as to prevent ingress or egress.

c 1680 in *Somers Tracts* I. 471 Those who were set to blockade the Castle. 1684 *Scanderbeg Rediv.* v. 95 To quarter round about Caminiec, and strictly Blockade that place. 1781 T. JEFFERSON *Corr. Wks.* 1859 I. 299 The enemy are... blockaded by land. 1836 MACGILLIVRAY tr. *Humboldt's Trav.* xx. 294 The port was... strictly blockaded. 1880 M'CARTHY *Own Time* III. xliii. 289 A state cannot blockade its own ports.

2. *transf. and fig.* To block up, obstruct.

1732 POPE *Ep. Bathurst* 57 Huge bales of British cloth blockade the door. 1814 SCOTT *War.* xxxvii. All precautions to blockade his view were... abandoned. 1846 PRES-COTT *Ferd. & Is.* II. xix. 185 Every avenue to the hall was blockaded.

Blockaded, *pp. a.* [*f.* prec. + -ED.] Invested with a blockade; completely beset, blocked up.

1846 ARNOLD *Hist. Rome* II. xxviii. 114 note, A besieged or blockaded army. 1850 ALISON *Hist. Europe* V. xxxiii. § 9. 487 A blockaded port is to be understood only when such a force is stationed at its entrance as makes it dangerous to enter.

Blockader, [*f.* as prec. + -ER¹] One who blockades; a blockading vessel.

1849 GROTE *Greece* II. I. VI. 317 To repel with spears and darts all approach of the blockaders. 1863 *Glasgow Her.* 8 Sept. All the blockaders are hung up for want of coal.

Blockading, *pp. a.* [*f.* as prec. + -ING²] That blockades; besetting.

1708 *Chron.* in *Ann. Reg.* 85/2 The general of a blockading army. 1844 THIRLWALL *Greece* VIII. lxiv. 284 The blockading squadron.

Blockage (blɒkədʒ). [*f.* BLOCK *sb.* + -AGE: cf. *F. blockage*.] A blocked (up) state; obstruction.

1874 GLADSTONE in *Contemp. Rev.* Oct. 660 The mutilations and blockages of the fabrics. 1883 *Pall Mall G.* There was a blockage in the traffic.

Block-book, [*f.* BLOCK *sb.*] + *a.* A book of wooden tablets. *Obs.* b. A book printed from engraved wooden blocks.

1707-51 CHAMBERS *Cycl. s.v. Book*, Block Books... those written on wooden planks or tablets, smoothed for that purpose with an ascia, and a plane. 1816 SINGER *Hist. Cards* 109 These Block books excited the idea of the invention of moveable characters. 1859 *Encycl. Brit.* (ed. 8) XVIII. 522 The design and execution are very superior to those of the St. Christopher and the block-books.

Blocked (blɒkt), *pp. a.* [*f.* BLOCK *v.* + -ED.] Shut up by obstructions, blockaded, obstructed, stopped in a course; shaped on or with a block, roughly shaped; furnished with blocks.

1850 KANE *Arct. Exp.* I. xxx. 408 A square, blocked-out aspect. [*see* BLOCK *v.*]

Blocker (blɒkər). [*f.* BLOCK *v.* + -ER¹] One who blocks. *spec.* in *Shoemaking and Bookbinding*.

1609 SKENE *Reg. Maj.* Table 69, Fishers, Foresters, Regraters, Sutours, Kemesters, Blockers. 1866 *Land. Rev.* 27 Oct. 459/2 There are various epithets for shoemakers... there are welters... clickers, blockers, runners, &c. 1884 *Pall Mall G.* 4 Jan. 10/1 A blocker, in the employ of Messrs. —, bookbinders. 1884 *Manch. Exam.* 8 Aug. 5/7 The inveterate blocker.

2. A tool for blocking.

1407 *Test. Ebor.* I. 347 Lego Petro apprenticio meo J. chipax... J. blocker, J. twybyll.

3. *collog.* A small piece of meat placed for sale on the butcher's block, as opposed to the 'joints' hung on hooks.

1848 *Fraser's Mag.* XXXVII. 396 Forced to substitute a 'blocker' of meat, with its cheap accompaniment of bread and vegetables... for poultry and rump-steaks.

Blockhead (blɒk'hɛd). [*f.* BLOCK *sb.* + HEAD.] + 1. A wooden head, a wooden block for hats or wigs; hence, a head with no more intelligence in it than one of these, a blockish head. *Obs.* (This would now be written *block head* or *block-head*.)

1549 (implied in BLOCKHEADED). 1589 *Hay any Work B.* The ofspringes of your owne blockheads. 1607 *Shaks. Cor.* II. iii. 31 Your wit... 'tis strongly wadg'd vp in a blocke-head. c 1680 BUTLER *Rem.* (1759) I. 217 To maintain their own Hypotheses, Broke one another's Blockheads, and the Peace. 1698 VANBRUGH *Prov. Wife* v. v. How long would my blockhead have been a-producing this!

2. Hence, One whose head is blockish or 'wooden'; an utterly stupid fellow.

1549 COVERDALE *Erasm. Par.* v. Cor. xi. 14 A blockheade that hathe loste the judgemente of nature. 1593 NASHE *Christis T.* 69 b, Bee he the veriest block-head vnder heauen. 1668 CULPEPPER & COLE *Barthol. Anat.* I. xxiv. 59 Block-heads and dull-parted Asses. 1712 BUDGELL *Spect.* No. 307 P 12 Being dismissed as an hopeless Block-head. 1875 JOWETT *Plato* (ed. 2) I. 222 He might think me a blockhead, and refuse to take me.

+ *B. adj.* Blockheaded, stupid. *Obs.*

1606 in *Bullen O. Pl.* (1884) III. 32 The block-head heart of a woman. 1705 HICKERINGILL *Priest-cr.* IV. 230 Oh! the Block-head World we live in! 1719 D'URFEY *Pills* (1872) IV. 2 All such Blockhead fools.

Hence **Blockheadness**, *nounce-wd.* [*see* -NESS.] A female blockhead.

1827 LADY MORGAN *O'Briens & O'Fl.* IV. 361 All the blockheads and blockheadesses think themselves printable.

Blockheaded (blɒk'hɛdɪd), *a.* [*f.* BLOCK-HEAD (sense 1) + -ED².] Having a 'block-head'; obtuse of intellect, dull, stupid. Of persons (rarely their productions). Hence **Blockhead-dness**.

1549 OLDE *Erasm. Par. Ephes.* Prol. Cijj, Blockheaded asses... doublefaced frendes. 1594 CAREW *Huarts Exam.* Wits xlii. (1596) 233 He is block-headed and dull. 1657 FLATMAN *Cordial* 1/2 See, how the block headed Multitude wonders! 1702 *Eng. Theophrast.* 377 Old men are only great block-headed boys with beards. 1860 MISS YONGE *Stokesley Secr.* viii. (1880) 252 My father said I was too block-headed to beat navigation into.

1776 M. DAVIES in *Atk. Brit.* II. 158 The loudest piece of blockheadness, and the last shift of Dunce.

Blockheadish (blɒk'hɛdɪʃ), *a.* [*see* -ISH.] Of the nature of a blockhead; stupid, obtuse. Hence **Blockheadishness**.

1833 *Fraser's Mag.* VIII. 741 A dull, proud, prosy, block-headish person. 1863 CARLYLE in *Froude Life* II. xxvi. 280, I feel myself to have become foul and blockheadish. 1866 EARL MONM. *Adv. fr. Parnass.* 405 By their supine blockheadishness.

Blockheadism (blɒk'hɛdɪzəm). [*see* -ISM.]

The characteristic action, conduct, or condition of a blockhead; stupidity.

1753 SMART *Notes to Hilliard* (R.) Though now reduced to that state of blockheadism. 1823 *Blackw. Mag.* XIV. 698 One of the most delightful pieces of self-satisfied blockheadism. 1843 CARLYLE *Past & Pr.* 46 They set no quackeries and blockheadisms anywhere to rule over us.

+ **Blockheadly**, *a.* *Obs.* [*f.* as prec. + -LY¹.] Of or pertaining to, or like a blockhead; stupid.

1612 CHAPMAN *Widdowes T. Dram.* Wks. 1873 III. 18 Your blockheadly tradesman. 1693 SHADWELL *Volunteers* IV. Plays 1720 IV. 467 This is made up by some block-headly Fellow! 1694 ECHARD *Plantus* 4 What a block-headly question... for a Deity to ask!

Blockhouse (blɒk'həʊs). [*Common since* c 1500: of uncertain history. The Ger. equivalent *blockhaus* ('einen steinen Blockhaus') is quoted by Grimm 1557 and 1602; the Du. *blokhuis* is in Kilian 1599; Fr. *blokus*, generally considered to be the same word, and orig. in same sense, is quoted by Littré in the 16th c. (cf. *BLOCCUZ*). So far as evidence goes, the Eng. is thus the earliest; but we should expect it to be of Du. or Ger. origin. In any case the sense was not originally (as in modern notion) a house composed of blocks of wood, but one which blocks or obstructs a passage. The history and age of the Ger. *blockhaus* and F. *blokus* require more investigation.]

a. *orig.* A detached fort blocking or covering the access to a landing, a narrow channel, a mountain pass, a bridge, or other strategic point. b. In later use: An edifice of one or (formerly) more storeys, constructed chiefly of timber, loop-holed and embrasured for firing.

1512 *Act 4 Hen. VIII.* i. § 1 Nother pile blockhouse ne Bulwork is made to greve or annoyne theym at theyr landyng. 1538 LELAND *Itin.* III. 21 There is a Blok House and a fair Pere in the Est side of the Peninsula. 1550 LEVER *Serm.* 94 Block houses and bulwarkes, made and kepte... for the saue garde of thys realm. 1577 HOLINSHED *Chron.* III. 946/2 All the havens to be fensed with bulworks, and blockhouses. 1597 GERARD *Herbal* xli. § 4. 257 It... groweth by the blockhouse of Tilberie. 1615 G. SANDYS *Trav.* 210 At the end of the peir stands a paltry blockhouse furnished with suitable artillery. 1712 *Land. Gaz.* No. 5014/1 The Highway between Highgate Gatehouse... and Barnet Blockhouse. 1813 WELLINGTON *Disp.* X. 502 A strong stone block house which served as a head to the bridge. 1816 C. JAMES *Mil. Dict.* 541/1 Block-house... a kind of wooden fort or fortification, sometimes mounted on rollers, or on a flat-bottomed vessel, serving either on the lakes or rivers, or in counterscarps or counter-approaches. 1829 TURNER *Dom. Archit.* III. II. vii. 322 Calshot Castle is one of the block-houses erected by Henry VIII. to defend the coast. 1878 *Black Green Past.* xlv. 356 A curious little inn which had originally been a blockhouse against the Indians.

c. *slang.* A prison. [*cf.* 1644 CAPT. SMITH *Virginia* III. xi. 85 To stop the disorders of our disorderly Theues... built a Blockhouse.] 1796 GROSE *Dict. Vulgar Tongue*, Block Houses, prisons, houses of correction, &c.

d. A house of squared logs of timber.

1827 *Penny Mag.* VI. 437 Block-houses, which are built of blocks, or squared logs of timber. 1878 LADY HERBERT tr. *Hübner's Ramble* I. II. 18 The Backwoodsman who begins by building a blockhouse.

2. *transf. and fig.*

1559 *Mirr. Mag.*, *Rudacks* i. 7 Bloudshead a blockhouse to beat away ill. 1615 *Curry-c. for Cox-c.* v. 230 The Scripture is a sufficient shelter against Atheisme, were the Block-houses of your Miracles battered to the ground. 1856 KANE *Arct. Exp.* I. xxix. 385 Flour, beans, and dried apples make a quadrangular blockhouse on the floor.

Blocking, *vb. sb.* [*f.* BLOCK *v.* or *sb.* + -ING¹.]

1. The action of the vb. BLOCK.

1637 [*see* BLOCK *v.*]. 1659 in *Rushw. Hist. Coll.* I. 69 The besieging of Mannheim, and the blocking of Frankendale. 1706 *Land. Gaz.* No. 4242/1 Orders... for the close blocking up of that Place. 1850 'BAT *Cricket Manual* 31 It was totally useless for blocking. 1864 *Times* 13 Oct. Detained by the blocking up of the line. 1870 *Daily News* 6 Sept. 5 The blocking of Bazaine at Metz. *attrib.* 1884 *Pall Mall G.* 7 Apr. 3/1 Mr. Warton... has returned to his blocking habits.

2. The product of this action; the thing blocked.

1505 JAMES I. *Ess. Poesie* (Arb.) 21, I haue put in, the French on the one side of the leif, and my blocking on the other. 1853 KANE *Grinnell Exp.* xvii. (1856) 130 The square blocking of the rugged precipices.

3. *Carpentry*, etc. (*see* *quots.* and cf. BLOCK *v.* II.)

1823 P. NICHOLSON *Pract. Build.* 192 With blockings glued in the internal angles. 1876 GWILT *Encycl. Archit.* Gloss., *Blockings*, small pieces of wood fitted in and glued to the interior angle of two boards or other pieces, for the purpose of giving additional strength to the joint. 1883 *Harper's Mag.* 937/2 The blocking is knocked away.

4. *Blocking-course* or *blocking*: 'the plain course of stone which surmounts the cornice at the top of a Greek or Roman building: also a course of stone or brick forming a projecting line without mouldings at the base of a building.' *Gloss. Goth. Archit.* 1845.

1760 RAPER in *Phil. Trans.* LI. 815 The height of the blocking was probably intended for a Roman feet. 1899 *Encycl. Brit.* III. 508 *Blocking course*, a deep but slightly projecting course in an elevation, to act as cornice to an arcade, or to separate a basement from a superior story.

Blockish (blɒkɪʃ), *a.* [*f.* BLOCK *sb.* + -ISH.]

1. Of the nature of a block.

1565 CALPHILL *Astru. Treat. Crosse* (1846) 20 The blockish Images, the dead Crosse. 1869 LOWELL *Cathedral Poet.* Wks. (1879) 446 Fear, That makes a fetish and misnames it God (Blockish or metaphysical, matters not).

2. Like a senseless block in the want of apprehension; excessively dull, stupid, obtuse.

a. of persons.

1548 UDALL, etc. *Erasm. Par. Luke* iii. 7 The grosse and blockish ignorant multitude. 1587 GOLDING *De Mornay* ix. 136 With the allowance even of the blockiest. 1680 HICKERINGILL *Meros* 38 To Gull the Blockish English. 1756 WESLEY *Wks.* (1872) X. 489 We see... dull, heavy, blockish Ministers. 1868 NETTLESHIP *Browning* i. 23 While the other seems morose and blockish, this man is kindly.

b. of personal qualities, productions, etc.

a 1555 RIDLEY *Wks.* 225, I will make it evident how blockish and gross your answer is. 1670 MILTON *Hist. Eng.* iv. Wks. (1851) 172 Left only to obscure and blockish Chronicles. 1741 OLDYS *Eng. Stage* v. 63 Blockish Stupidity, as in Rusticks. 1835 BROWNING *Paracels.* 101 Whose innate blockish dullness.

3. Blocklike in form; roughly blocked out, rude, clumsy.

1880 SWINBURNE *Stud. Shaks.* ii. (ed. 2) 100 Such a blockish model as this. 1880 GRANT WHITE *Every-Day Eng.* 295 Our speech would be clumsy, the forms of our thought blockish.

Blockishly, *adv.* [f. prec. + -LY².] In a blockish manner; stupidly, dully.

1553 GRIMALDE *Cicero's Offices* i. (1558) 57 That... nothing blockishly or carterly we do. 1590 C. S. *Right Relig.* 9 So blockishly blind. 1650 A. B. *Mutat. Polemo* 14 Blockishly impudent. 1734 A. WELWOOD *Glimpse Glory* 167 What Sweetness before I experienced blockishly and in Part.

Blockishness, [f. as prec. + -NESS.] The quality of being blockish; gross stupidity or dullness.

1561 T. NORTON *Calvin's Inst.* i. v. 9 Such is our grosse blockishness. 1620 HOLLAND *Camden's Brit.* i. 109 O desperate dullness, and blind blockishness of mind. 1651 FULLER *Abel Rediv.*, *Melancthon* 235 Wonder at the insensit and blockishness of the man. 1700 C. MATHER *Magn. Chr.* iv. ii. 42 Extreme blindness and blockishness.

† **Blockman**, *Obs.* A watcher, a coast-guard.

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Blond, blonde (blond), *a.* and *sb.* Forms: 5 blonde, 7- blonde, 8- blond. [a. F. *blond*, *blonde* yellow-haired, 'a colour midway between golden and light chestnut' (Littre), = Sp. *blondo*, It. *biondo*:—med. L. *blondus*, *blundus* yellow (explained in a passage quoted by Du Cange 'flavus qui vulgo dicitur blondus'). Origin uncertain: see Diez and Littre. In English used by Caxton (in form *blounde*); reintroduced from mod. Fr. in 17th c., and still so far treated as French, as to be usually written with final *e* when applied to a woman, esp. substantively, a blonde; otherwise commonly written blond like the Fr. masculine.

Cf. OE. *blanden-sear*, *blonden-sear* having mixed or grizzly hair, grey-haired, old; also *beblonden*, given in Bosworth as 'dyed', both from *blondan* to mix, BLAND *v.* Hence Du Cange, s.v. *Blundus*, conjectures the original sense to be 'dyed', the ancient Germans being accustomed to dye the hair yellow.]

A. adj. Properly (of the hair): Of a light golden brown, light auburn; but commonly used in sense of light-coloured, 'fair', as opposed to 'dark', or 'brunette', and extended to the complexion of those who have hair of this colour.

1481 CAXTON *Myrr.* ii. xvii. 103 The rayes of the sonne make the heer of a man auburne or blonde. 1484 Ryall *Bk. O. V.* They arraye theyr heer lyke wymmen and force it to be yellowe, and yf they be blacke, they by crafte make them blonde and auburne. 1683 EVELYN *Mem.* (1857) II. 192 Prince George of Denmark... had the Danish countenance, blonde. 1798 *Life Cath.* II. (ed. 2) i. iv. 426 A fine blond head of hair. 1834 CAMPBELL *Life Mrs. Siddons* II. ii. 55 A delicate and blonde beauty. 1860 GEO. ELIOT *Mill on F.* v. iv. 306 If the blond girl were forsaken.

b. of flowers, poet.

1865 M. ARNOLD *Thyrsis* xiii, Red loosestrife and blond meadow-sweet.

c. *Blond(e) lace*: see B 2.

1772 SMOLLETT *Humph. Cl.* (1815) 84, I missed three quarters of blond lace. 1840 LADY BLESSINGTON *St. & Fragm. in Casquet Lit.* (1877) i. 216/2 Wore my new Parisian robe of blonde lace.

d. *Comb.*, as *blonde-complexioned*, -locked, adjs.; *blond-metal*, a variety of clay ironstone of the coal measures.

1831 J. HOLLAND *Mannf. Metals* i. 33 In the neighbourhood of Wednesbury is dug that peculiar species of iron ore called blond metal. 1837 CARLYLE *Fr. Rev.* II. i. xi. 73 That little blonde-locked too hasty Dauphin. 1880 GRANT ALLEN *Anglo-Sax. Brit.* 56 We know that the pure Anglo-Saxons were a blonde-complexioned race.

B. sb.

1. A person with blond hair; one with light or 'fair' hair and the corresponding complexion; esp. a woman, in which case spelt *blonde*.

1853 *Edin. Rev.* 199 Brenda, the laughing blue-eyed blonde. 1833 *Penny Cycl.* s.v. *Albinos*, The blonds of the European race. 1858 O. W. HOLMES *Ant. Breakf.* i. 212 Negative or washed blonds, arrested by Nature on the way to become albinos.

2. (More fully *blonde lace*): A silk lace of two threads, twisted and formed in hexagonal meshes; orig. of the colour of raw silk, but now white or black: see quot. 1882. Now usually written *blonde*, as always in Fr. (*sc. dentelle*).

1755 MRS. DELANY in *Harper's Mag.* (1884) July 260/1 A French cap... of blond. 1760 *Land. Mag.* XXIX. 389 Raving about gauze, Blon, Brussels, and ruffles. 1766 ANSTY *Bath Guide* iii. 87 Fringes, Blonds, and Mignonets. 1828 MOORE *Prop. Gynaec.* Wks. (1862) 549 Burdets in blonde, and Broughams in bustles. 1883 BECK *Draper's Dict.* s.v., Blonde laces were first made in 1745, and being produced from unbleached silk, were known as 'Nankins' or 'Blondes'.

b. *attrib.* Of blonde.

1816 SCOTT *Antiq.* vi, Triple blond ruffles. 1837 CARLYLE *Fr. Rev.* III. i. viii. 78 Beautifullest blonde-dresses and broadcloth coats.

Blond, *obs.* variant of BLOND *v.*

Blonder, -dre, *obs.* ff. of BLUNDER.

Blonder, -ding, *var.* of BLANDER, -DING. *Obs.*

Blondine, *a. rare*⁻¹. [a. F. *blondin*, -e, It. *biondino*.] Diminutive of BLOND.

1866 CARLYLE *Remin.*, E. Irving 265 The milky, smaller blondine figure... was Emerson (Tennent).

Blondness, [f. BLOND *a.* + -NESS.] Blond quality; lightness of complexion or hair.

1873 GEO. ELIOT *Middlem.* xvi. (D.) With this infantine blondness.

† **Bloness**, *Obs.* [f. *BLO a.* + -NESS.] Blackish blue quality; lividness; also, a wound of that colour made by a blow: see also BLAENESS.

1382 WYCLIF *Ex.* xxi. 25 Wounde for wounde, blones for blones.

† **Blonk**, *Obs.* Forms: 1 blanca, 3 blank, 3-6 blonk. [OE. *blanca*, *blanca*, def. form of **blanc* = OHG. *blanch* white (cf. OHG. *blanc ros* white horse, and the neut. adj. *planchaz*, *planchis*, used subst. in same sense), meaning properly 'white horse', but used as a poetic synonym for 'horse' generally. Cf. ON. *blakkr* poet. for a horse (Vigf.).] Poetic word for 'horse'; steed.

a 1000 *Beowulf* 1716 Beornas on blancum. c 1205 LAY. 586a Lihted of eowre blanken [1250 hors]. *Ibid.* 13512

Fortiger hæhte his sweines sadeli his blonken [1250 stedes]. c 1350 *Will. Palerne* 3306 Pe nobil blonk bat him bar. c 1440 *Gaw. & Gologr.* ii. 19 (JAM.) Bery bronne was the blonk. 1535 STEWART *Cron. Scot.* II. 478 Mony bald man of his blonk was borne.

Blonket, variant of BLUNKET.

Bloo, *var.* of *BLO Obs.*, blackish-blue.

Blood (blød), *sb.* Forms: 1 blōd, 2-5 blod (ð), 4-6 blode, 4- blood. Also 4 blodde, 5 bloods, 6-7 bloude, 6-8 bloud, 6 bludde, blud; Sc. 4-6 blud, 5-8 blude, 8-9 bluid, Sc. *n.e. dial.* bleid, bleed. [Com. Teut.: OE. *blōd* = OFris. OS. *blōd* (LG. *blōd*, Du. *bloed*), OHG. *blōt*, *bluot* (mod. Ger. *blut*), ON. *blōð* (Sw., Da. *blod*), Goth. *blōþ*:—OTeut. **blōdo(m)*, answering to an Aryan type **bhlātōm*, not found with a suitable sense outside Teutonic, there being no general Aryan name for 'blood'; doubtfully referred to verbal root *bhlō* 'blow, bloom', which suits the form, but is less certain as to the sense. Like some other words in OE. long *ō*, *blood* has undergone more than the normal phonetic change; this would have left it (*blūd*), riming with *food*, *wooded*; early in 16th c. the vowel was shortened (*blud*, *blud*), as in *good*, *wood*, and this subsequently changed to *u* (*blūd*), as in *flood* and Sc. *wud* = *wood*, etc.]

I. Literally.

1. *prop.* The red liquid circulating in the arteries and veins of man and the higher animals, by which the tissues are constantly nourished and renewed; also (by later extension) the corresponding liquid, coloured or colourless, in animals of lower organization.

c 1000 *Ag. Gosp.* John vi. 55 Min blod is drinc. a 1200 O. E. *Chron.* an. 1012 His halige blod on ða eorðan feoll. c 1175 *Lamb. Hom.* 187 ði blod isched on þe rode. a 1300 *Cursor M.* 9999 It es rede als ani blod. c 1360 *Song Mercy* in E. E. P. (1862) 120 Myn herte blood 'ran from me doun. c 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 40 Blode. 1483 *Cath. Angl.* 35 Blude. 1538 WRIOTHESLEY *Chron.* (1875) I. 90 Yt was no bloude. 1563 *Homilies* II. *Rebellion* i. (1859) 558 No shedder of our bloods. 1580 BARET *Alt.* B 840 Bludde, *sanguis*. 1595 SHAKS. *John* II. i. 48 We shall repent each drop of blood. 1611 *Bible Lev.* xvii. 14 Ye shall not eat the blood of no maner of flesh: for the life of all flesh is the blood thereof. 1654 TRAPP *Comm. Ps.* iv. 3 The blood of a Swine might not be offered in Sacrifices. 1711 *Land. Gaz.* No. 4793/1 On the 16th the Blood of St. Januarius was exposed as usually. 1786 BURNS *Wks.* III. 21 But feels his heart's bluid rising hot. 1861 HULME tr. *Moguin-Tandou* II. i. 38 The blood, or nutrient fluid, is a liquid of a more or less intense red... at other times it is almost colourless, as in most of the invertebrated animals.

b. *Flesh and blood*: the distinctive characteristics of the animal body; hence = 'humanity' as opposed to 'deity or disembodied spirit'. See FLESH.

† c. *To the blood*: through the outer skin, 'to the quick', till the blood flows; also *fig. Obs.*

a 1300 *Cursor M.* 16230, I rede men... bete him to be blod. 1666 *Pervs Diary* 10 Oct., I could not get on my boots, which vexed me to the blood.

† d. *To let blood* (in Surgery): to open a vein so as to let blood flow from the body; to bleed; also *transf.* to shed the blood of, to put to death. With *indirect passive*, 'he was let blood'. *arch.*

c 1000 *Sax. Leechd.* III. 184 Mona se ðrida... nis na god mona blod lætan. 1483 *Cath. Angl.* 35 To latt Blude, *feobotomare*. 1556 *Pilgr. Perf.* (W. de W. 1531) 107 b. Spared not to suffer hym selfe to be let blode. 1588 SHAKS. *L. L. L.* II. i. 186 Is the soule sick?.. Alacke, let it blood. 1594 *Rich. III.* III. i. 180 His ancient Knot of dangerous Adversaries To morrow are let blood at Pomfret Castle. 1614 MARKHAM *Cheap Husb.* i. i. (1668) 7 It is good whilst a horse is in youth... to let him blood twice in the year. 1679 *Jesuites Ghostly Ways* She was the next morning early to be let blood. 1755 BRADLEY *Fam. Dict.* s.v. *Garden*. Let them Blood in the Neck-Vein. c 1819 KEATS *Ode to Fanny* Physician Nature! let my spirit blood! O ease my heart of verse and let me rest.

e. Formerly used in oaths and forcible ejaculations, as *God's blood!* *Christ's blood!* *'S blood!* and *Blood!* (cf. *'s wounds*, *ZOUNDS*.)

a 1541 WYATT *Defence Wks.* (1861) Pref. 39 God's blood, the King set me in the Tower. c 1590 MARLOWE *Faust* (2nd vers.) 1028 Blood, he speaks terribly! 1599 SHAKS. *Hen. V.* iv. viii. to 'Sblud, an arrant Traytor as any es in the Viuersall World. 1607 HEYWOOD *Wm. Kilde Wks.* 1874 II. 119 Sbloud sir I loue you. 1762 STERNE *Tr. Shandy* V. xxi. 89 Blood an 'ounds, shouted the corporal. 1822 BYRON *Juan* VIII. i, Oh blood and thunder! and oh blood and wounds! These are but vulgar oaths.

2. *fig. and transf.* Applied, always with conscious reference to prec., to liquids or juices in some way resembling or suggesting it, as a. to a blood-like juice; b. *poet.* to the water of a river personified; c. by partially scientific analogy, to the sap of plants.

1382 WYCLIF *Gen.* xlix. 21 He shal washe... in blood of a grape his mantil. 1607 SHAKS. *Timon* iv. iii. 432 Go, sucke the subtle blood o' th' Grape. 1807 J. E. SMITH *Phys. Bot.* 45 It [the sap] is really the blood of the plant, by which its whole body is nourished. 1822 C. JOHNSON *Farmer's Cycl.* s.v. *Aortal*, The elaborated juice or blood of plants. 1844 B. TAYLOR *Poems Orient* (1866) 128 I from the flood Of his own brown blood Will drink to the glory of ancient Nilus! *Ibid.* 162 Golden blood of Lebanon.

3. Blood shed; hence, bloodshed, shedding of blood; taking of life, manslaughter, murder, death.

c 1000 *Ælfric Gen.* iv. 10 Dines broðor blod clypað up to me of eorðan. 1288 *Wyclif Isa.* i. 15 3oure hondis ben ful of blod. 1593 *Hooker Eccl. Pol. Pref.* ii. § 5 Either my blood or banishment shall sign it. 1594 *HAMMER Chron.* (Douny) *Nakum* iii. 1 Wo to thee ð cite of bloods. 1599 *W. WHATELEY Prototypes* ii. xxix. (1640) 144 Beware of Bloods. 1648 *Resol. Officers of Parl. Army*. That it is our duty . . . to call Charles Stuart, that man of blood, to an account for that blood he has shed . . . in these poor nations. 1711 *Addison Spect.* No. 99 ¶ 7 An Affront that nothing but Blood can expiate. 1866 *FELTON Anc. & Mod. Gr.* i. xi. 205 Then blood doth blood Demand. 1878 *MORLEY Crit. Misc.* (1886) i. 107 The true inquisitor is a creature of policy, not a man of blood by taste.

b. Often used in the Bible and theological language for blood shed in sacrifice; esp. the atoning sacrifice of Christ.

c 1000 *Ælfric Exod.* xxiv. 8 Dis ys þære treowðe blod þe drihten eow bebet þe eallon þison sprecon. 1388 *Wyclif Ex.* xxiv. 8 This is the blood of the boond of pees, that the Lord couenaunte with 3ow [1611] the blood of the Couenant. 1598 — *Ephes.* ii. 13 3e that weren sun tyme ferr, ben maad nys in the blood of Crist [1611] by the blood of Christ. 1644 *Direct. Publ. Worship* 26 The new Testament in the blood of Christ. 1848 *CHALMERS Lect. Romans* lxix, The sin . . . now washed away by the blood of a satisfying expiation.

c. The guilt or responsibility of bloodshed.

c 1000 *Ag. Gosp. Matt.* xxvii. 25 Sy hys blod ofer us, and ofer ure bearn. 1388 *Wyclif Lev.* xx. 11 Thurȝ deð dien thei bothe; the blood of hem be vpon hem. 1611 *BIBLE Matt.* xxvii. 25 His blood be on vs, and on our children! — *Josh.* ii. 19 His blood shalbe vpon his head, and we will bee guiltlesse.

II. Properties, attributes, and states of body or feeling connoted by blood. (Often derived from earlier superficial or erroneous notions of its character and action.)

†4. The vital fluid; hence, the vital principle, that upon which life depends; life. †b. *For the blood of him:* for the life of him, though his life were involved. *Obs.*

a 1300 *Cursor M.* 21462 His blod to sell. 1535 *COVERDALE Ps.* lxxi. [lxxii.] 14 Deare shal their bloude be in his sight. 1598 *SHAKS. Rom. & Jul.* iii. i. 188 He slew Mercutio, Who now the price of his deare blood doth owe. 1679 *Trial Wakerman* 83 These mens Bloods are at stake. 1694 *R. LESTRANGE Fables* 12 A Royston Crow . . . could not for his blood break the shell. 1734 *tr. Rollin's Anc. Hist.* (1827) vi. xv. § 18. 299 This silver was no other than the blood of nations. 1740 *Christmas Entertainm.* v. (1884) 51 He could not get over the Stile for the Blood of him.

5. The supposed seat of emotion, passion; as in 'it stirs the blood', 'it makes the blood creep' or 'run cold', 'his blood is up', 'my blood boils'; whence, Passion, temper, mood, disposition; emphatically, high temper, mettle; anger. Very frequent in Shakspeare: now chiefly in certain phrases, as *To breed bad or ill blood:* to stir up strife, cause ill-feeling. *In cold blood:* not in the heat of passion, deliberately.

a 1300 *Cursor M.* 5054 Quen þe tan þe tober sei Na wight moht þair bloddes lei. 1330 *Ornel 70 Tydinges.* Pat a-moueue al here blod. 1526 *Pilgr. Perf.* (W. de W. 1531) 27 b. Theyr blod and imaginacyon is sore troubled. 1596 *SHAKS. Merch.* v. i. ii. 20 The braine may deuise lawes for the blood, but a hot temper leapes ore a colde decree. 1597 — *2 Hen. IV.* iv. iv. 38 When you perceiue his blood enclin'd to mirth. 1603 — *Lear* iv. ii. 64 Were't my fitness To let these hands obey my blood. 1606 *MASSINGER Rom. Actor* iv. ii. Carry her to her chamber. till in cooler blood I shall determine of her. 1646 *Buck Rich.* iii. ii. 61 High in blood and anger. 1704 *SWIFT Batt. Bks.* (1711) 232 Hot words passed . . . and ill Blood was plentifully bred. 1787 *T. JEFFERSON Corr.* (1830) 273 It would not excite ill blood in me. 1823 *LAMB Elia, Poor Relat.* Bad blood [was] bred. 1868 *FREEMAN Norm. Cong.* (1876) ii. viii. 271 The taking away of human life in cold blood. 1879 *FROUDE Caesar* vii. 65 The blood of the people was up.

6. The supposed seat of animal or sensual appetite; hence, the fleshly nature of man.

1597 *SHAKS. Lover's Compl.* 162 Nor gives it satisfaction to our blood, That we must curb it upon others proof. 1620 — *Temp.* iv. i. 53 The strongest oaths, are straw To th' fire ith' blood.

7. Hunting phrase, *In blood:* in full vigour, full of life. *Out of blood:* not vigorous, lifeless. (As applied to hounds the expression refers perhaps to the tasting of blood.)

1588 *SHAKS. L. L. L.* ii. 3 The Deare was . . . sanguis in blood, ripe as a Pomwater. 1596 — *1 Hen. IV.* iv. ii. 48 If we be English Deere, be then in blood. 1781 *P. BECKFORD Hunting* (1802) 308 When hounds are out of blood, there is a kind of evil genius attending all that they do . . . while a pack of fox-hounds well in blood, like troops flushed with conquest, are not easily withstood.

III. Race and kindred as connoted by blood.

8. Blood is popularly treated as the typical part of the body which children inherit from their parents and ancestors; hence that of parents and children, and of the members of a family or race, is spoken of as identical, and as being distinct from that of other families or races.

Blue blood: that which flows in the veins of old and aristocratic families, a transl. of the Spanish *sangre azul* attributed to some of the oldest and proudest families of Castile, who claimed never to have been contaminated by

Moorish, Jewish, or other foreign admixture; the expression probably originated in the blueness of the veins of people of fair complexion as compared with those of dark skin. *Fresh blood:* the introduction in breeding of a new strain or stock not related by blood to the family; fig. new members or elements, with new ideas and experiences, admitted to a society or organization.

1377 *LANGL. P. Pl.* B. xi. 193 For alle are we crystes creatures. And bretheren as of o blode. c 1440 *Gesta Rom.* i. xlii. 141 The othir too bethe bastardes, and not of his blode. 1543 *EARL OF ANGUS Let.* in *Tytler Hist. Scot.* (1864) III. 8 note, Considering the proximitie of blude that was betwix us. 1608 *Yorksh. Trag.* i. ii. 199 You are a gentleman by many bloods. 1611 *BIBLE Acts* xvii. 26 [God] hath made of one blood all nations of men. a 1631 *DONNE Poems* (1658) 1 And in this flea our two bloods mingled be. 1734 *POPE Ess. Man* iv. 201 Your antient but ignoble blood Has crept thro' Scoundrels ever since the Flood. 1768 *BLACKSTONE Comm.* II. 203 So many different bloods is a man said to contain in his veins, as he hath lineal ancestors. 1776 *GIBSON Decl. & F. I.* 34 The pure blood of the ancient citizens. 1834 *MAR. EDGEWORTH Helen* xv. (D.) One [officer] . . . from Spain, of high rank and birth, of the *sangre azul*, the blue blood. 1838 *ARNOLD Hist. Rome* i. ii. 25 A mixed race in which other blood was largely mixed with that of the Latins. 1879 *FROUDE Caesar* xi. 120 A young nobleman of the bluest blood. *Mod.* You want some fresh blood to give new life and activity to your society.

9. Hence, Blood-relationship, and esp. parentage, lineage, descent; also in a wider sense: Family, kin, race, stock, nationality. *Blood royal* or *the blood:* royal race or family.

Whole blood: race of relationship by both father and mother, as distinguished from that of *half blood*, relationship by one parent only. Hence *concr. half-blood:* one whose blood is half that of one race and half that of another, e.g. the offspring of a European and an Indian.

c 1250 *Gen. & Ex.* 1451 He was bigeten of kinde blod. c 1400 *Dest. Troy* 6266 His brother of blud. c 1430 *Syr Tryam.* 430 Sche was of gentylle blode. 1513 *MORE Edu.* v. (1641) 5 The Queene or the Nobles of her Blode. 1608 *WARNER Alb. Eng.* xi. lxxvii. (1612) 284 This Ladie also of the blood, and heire vn to her Father, A mightie Prince. 1608 *VERSTEGAN Dec. Intell.* Ded. Your Maestie is descended of the chiefest blood Royall of our antient English-Saxon Kings. 1650 *R. STAPYLTON Strada's Low-C. Wars* iii. 6 Anthony of Bourbon, being the first Prince of the blood. 1697 *POTTER Antig. Greece* i. viii. (1715) 40 The distinction . . . between those of the whole, and those of the half blood of Athens. 1798 *Bay Amer. Law Rep.* (1809) i. 100 Covenant to stand seised cannot be supported except by consideration of blood. 1807 *CRABBE Par. Reg.* iii. 528 They proved the blood, but were refused the land. 1850 *COLERBROOKE Hindu Law Inherit.* 180 The distinction regarding the whole and the half blood is contradicted, etc. 1880 *SCOTT Monast.* xiii. The old proverb. 'Gentele deede makes gentile blode' (with play on sense 1). *Proverb.* Blood is thicker than water.

10. *concr.* Persons of any specified 'blood' or family collectively; blood-relations, kindred, family, race.

1388 *Wyclif Sel. Wks.* III. 515 Alle lordis and ladies and here blod and affinite. 1413 *LYDG. Fyler. Sowle* iv. xxxi. (1483) 80 His kynrede that is the royal blood of the reame. 1475 *Bk. Noblesse* 2 Arthur, king of the Breton bloods. 1595 *SHAKS. John* iii. i. 301 *Daul.* Father, to Armes! *Blanch.* Vpon thy wedding day? Against the blood that thou hast married? a 1649 *DRUMM. or HAWTH. Hist. Scot.* (1655) 2 He being now matched with the Royall blood of England in Marriage. 1681 *DRYDEN Abs. & Achil.* 641 By that one Deed Enobles all his blood. 1838 *ARNOLD Hist. Rome* i. 107 He [Brutus] had loved justice more than his own blood. 1884 *W. C. SMITH Aildrostan* 66 Your ancestors were . . . mated with the best blood of the land.

†b. A family descended from a common ancestor; a clan or sept. *Obs.*

1612 *DAVIES Why Ireland* (1787) 79 Five principal bloods, or septis, of the Irish, were by special grace enfranchised.

c. *To run in the (formerly a) blood:* i.e. in a family or race.

1621 *SANDERSON Serm.* i. 178 Tempers of the mind and affections become hereditary, and (as we say) run in a blood. 1642 *MILTON Ch. Govt.* iv. Wks. (1851) 112 Unless we shall choose our Prelats only out of the Nobility, and let them runne in a blood. a 1703 *BURKITT On N. T. Matt.* xiv. 5 Cruelly runs in a blood. 1774 *SHERIDAN Rivals* iv. ii. Tell her 'tis all our ways—it runs in the blood of our family.

11. More particularly: Offspring, child, near relative, one dear as one's own offspring. Formerly in sing., with pl. *bloods*.

c 1374 *CHAUCER Troilus* ii. 545 Now beth nought wroth, my blode, my nece. 1525 *LD. BERNERS Froiss.* II. cxxlii. [cxxxviii.] 748 To se suche difference within y^e realme, and bytwene his nepheus and blode. 1688 *DRYDEN Mac Fl.* 166 Thou art my blood where Jonson has no part. 1741 *H. WALPOLE Corr.* i. 99 I have so many cousins, and uncles, and aunts and bloods that grow in Norfolk.

b. (*Own*) *flesh and blood:* near kindred, children, brothers and sisters. See *FLESH*.

12. Blood worth mention, good blood; good parentage or stock. (Cf. *BIRTH* sb. 1 b.) a. Of human beings: Noble or gentle birth, good family.

1393 *GOWER Conf.* III. 330 They be worthy men of blood. 1526 *Pilgr. Perf.* (W. de W. 1531) 92 Bostynge hym selfe of his honesties and kynrede, or of his rychesse or blode. 1648 *FULLER Hist. & Prof.* St. v. xix. 436 Others were upstarts, men of blood. 1789 *Mrs. Piozzi Journ. France & It.* i. 97 Blood enjoys a thousand exclusive privileges. 1855 *MACAULAY Lit. Eng.* III. 209 The highest pride of blood. 1860 *EMERSON Cond. Life* v. (1861) 104 The obstinate prejudice in favour of blood, which lies at the base of the feudal and monarchical fabrics of the old world.

b. Of bred animals: Good breed or pedigree.

1817 *J. SCOTT Paris Revisit.* (ed. 4) 188 That quality which may be termed the nobility of animal nature; which is called blood, and game, in the inferior creatures. 1846 *EG. WAR-*

BURTON Hunt. Songs, Gros-Veneur. In horses and hounds there is nothing like blood. 1859 *Blackw. Mag.* Sept. 269/1 The limbs . . . of a cleanness and beauty of outline enough alone to stamp blood on their possessor.

c. *attrib.* Also ellipt. *blood* = blood-horse.

1800 *A. CARLYLE Autobiog.* iii. (1860) 146 A couple of groomes leading four fine blood-horses. 1818 *SCOTT Rob Roy* vii. A bit of a broken-down blood-tit condemned to drag an over-loaded cart. 1824 *W. IRVING T. Trav.* i. 228 A politely spoken highwayman on a blood mare. c 1865 *R. SULIVAN Lady Betty's Pocket-bk.*, A spark of quality, who drove four bloods.

13. *To restore in or to blood:* to readmit to forfeited privileges of birth and rank those who by attainder of themselves or their ancestors lie under sentence of 'corruption of blood'; see *ATTAINDER*.

1591 *SHAKS. 1 Hen. VI.* iii. i. 159 Our pleasure is, That Richard be restored to his blood. 1633 *T. STAFFORD Pac. Hib.* iii. (1821) 47 His Vncle Sir Edmond is not restored in blood. 1752 *JOHNSON Ramb.* No. 192 ¶ 7 A kind of restoration to blood after the attainder of trade.

IV. A person.

†14. [from 1.] One in whom blood flows, a living being. *Obs.*

c 1250 *Gen. & Ex.* 1192 A shusant plates of siluer god Gaf he sarra ðat faire blod. a 1300 *Cursor M.* 1055 Pis abel was a blissed blod. c 1324 *Guy Warw.* (1840) 154 Thou fel trey-tour, unkinde blod. 1388 *Wyclif Dent.* xxvii. 26 That he smyte the soule of the innocent blode.

15. 'A hot spark, a man of fire' J.; a 'buck', a 'fast' or foppish man, rake, roisterer. [Generally appearing to arise out of sense 5, but in many cases associated with sense 12 as if = aristocratic rowdy.] *Obs.* in Great Britain except as a reminiscence of last century.

1566 *BULLEYN Sicks Men.* 4c. 73 a, A lustie blood, or a pleasaunte brave young roister. 1595 *SHAKS. John* ii. i. 278 As many and as well-borne bloods as those. 1622 *BACON Hen. VII.* 49 The Newes . . . put diuers Young Bloods into such a furie. 1740 *H. WALPOLE Corr.* (1837) i. 140 Anecdotes of the doctor's drinking, who, as the man told us, had been a blood. 1763 *Brit. Mag.* IV. 261 The buck and blood [suppose wisdom to consist] in breaking windows and knocking down watchmen. 1774 *GOLDAM. Author's Bed-Ch.* 4 The drabs and bloods of Drury-lane. 1824 *W. IRVING T. Trav.* i. 321 I now . . . became a blood upon town. 1848 *THACKERAY Van. Fair* x, A perfect and celebrated 'blood' or dandy about town. 1882 *Harper's Mag.* Mar. 490 The [privatereers] were commanded and manned by the bloods of the city [of New York].

b. 'Young blood' no longer implies a rake or 'fast' man, but simply a youthful member of a party, who brings to it youthful freshness and vigour; cf. 8.

1862 *Sat. Rev.* 8 Feb. 159 To give the young bloods of the present day a notion of what the Northern Circuit was in the year 1825. 1885 *Manch. Exam.* 13 July 5/6 The younger bloods in the Irish party are looking forward with eager delight to the occurrence of a scene.

V. Technical senses.

†16. A disease in sheep and in swine. *Obs.*

1523 *FITZHERB. Husb.* § 48 There is a sickness among shepe . . . called the bloude. 1741 *Compl. Fam. Piece* iii. 495 The Blood in Sheep . . . we take to be a sort of Measles or Pox. *Ibid.* 501 The Blood in Swine, or the Gargut, as some call it. 1787 *WINTER Syst. Husb.* 223 A disorder [in swine] generally called (in this part of the country) the blood.

17. A commercial name for Red Coral.

1861 *HULME tr. Moquin-Tandon* ii. iii. 28 Five varieties of Coral are known in commerce . . . 1, the Froth of Blood; and the Flower of Blood; 2nd, 4th, and 5th, Blood of the first, second, and third quality.

VI. *Comb. and Attrib.*

18. General combinations (These being formed at will, only a few samples are given): a. attributive, as (sense 1) *blood-beat*, *-circulation*, *-clot*, *-corpuscle*, *-drop*, *-mark*, *-spot*, *-stream*; (senses 3, 4) *blood-field*, *-rite*, *-sacrifice*, *-spirit*, *-trade*, *-value*; (senses 8, 9) *blood-affinity*, *-bond*, *-brother*, *-brotherhood*, *-descendants*, *-friend*, *-friend*, *-kinship*, *-name*. b. objective, with pres. pple., n. of agent or action, as (sense 1) *blood-circulating*, *-spiller*, *-spilling*, *-sprinkling*, *-sweating*; (senses 3-4) *blood-loving*, *-offering*, *-monger*, *-seller*, *-wrecker*; (sense 5) as *blood-curdling*, *-stirring*, hence *-stirringness*. c. instrumental and locative, as (sense 1) *blood-bedabbled*, *-besprinkled*, *-bubbling*, *-discoloured*, *-drenched*, *-died*, *-filled*, *-flecked*, *-frozen*, *-gushing*, *-plashed*, *-tinctured*; (senses 3, 4) *blood-bought*, *-cemented*, *-defiled*, *-fired*, *-polluted*. d. parasyntetic and similitive, as *blood-coloured*, *-faced*, *-hued*, etc.

1865 *TYLOR Early Hist. Man.* x. 278 The seventh degree of 'blood-affinity' is the limit. 1621 *QUARLES Argalus & P.* (1678) 119 She prostrate lay Before their 'blood-bedabbled feet. 1593 *SHAKS. 2 Hen. VI.* v. i. 117 O 'blood-bespotted Neopolitan. 1601 *YARRINGTON Two Lament. Trag.* ii. v. in *Bullen O. Pl.* IV, His dissevered 'blood-besprinkled limbs. 1645 *RUTHERFORD Tryal & Tr. Faith* (1845) 178 'Blood-bonds, nature-relations are mighty. 1779 *COWPER Hymn*, 'There is a Fountain', A 'blood-bought free reward. 1879 *TODD Cycl. Anat. & Phys.* IV. 668/1 In which [apartment] are located the 'blood-circulating organs. 1818 *CARLYLE Sart. Res.* iii. vii, A 'blood-circulation, visible to the eye. 1859 *TODD Cycl. Anat. & Phys.* V. 562/2 The 'blood-clot . . . generally found contained within the ruptured aortic. 1768-71 *H. WALPOLE Vertue's Anecd. Paint.* (1786) V. 97 A 'blood-coloured ribbon with Death's head, swords, &c. 1593 *SHAKS. 2 Hen. VI.* iii. ii. 61 Might . . . blood-consuming sighs recall his Life. 1875 *B. TAYLOR Faust* II. iii. 171 With 'blood-discoloured eyes. 1823 *BYRON Island* iii. iv,

*Blood-drops, sprinkled o'er his yellow hair. 1873 SYMONDS *Grk. Poets* vii. 227 Hound not those "blood-faced, snake-encircled women on me. 1898 FROUDE *Hist. Eng.* IV. xviii. 8 A "blood-feud, deep and ineffaceable divided the Douglasses and the Hamiltons. 1835 COVERDALE *Matt.* xxvii. 8 Wherefore the same felde is called the "bloodfelde vnto this daye. 1645 G. DANIEL *Poems* Wks. 1878 II. 9 Though the "blood-fir'd Rufian, raging come. 1896 SPENSER *P. O.* I. ix. 25 Yet nathemore... Could his "blood-frozen heart emboldened bee. 1711 KEN *Hy. Evang.* Poet. Wks. 1721 I. 57 "Blood-gushing Veins. a 1849 MANGAN *Poems* (1859) 121 That lone flower, "blood-hued at heart. 1835 COVERDALE *Mark* v. 25 There was a woman which has a "bloudeysue twelve years. 1803 A. LANG in *Contemp. Rev.* Sept. 420 Exogamy is the prohibition of marriage within the supposed "blood-kinship, as denoted by the family name. 1807 BYRON *Sardan.* i. ii. 238 That "blood-loving beladme, My martial grandam, chaste Semiramis. 1858 GLADSTONE *Home* I. 163 In the fourth and fifth of the divisions in the Trojan Catalogue Homer specifies no "blood-name or name of race whatever. 1725 POPE *Odys.* I. 40 A "blood-polluted Ghost. 1808 WARNER *Alb. Eng.* xi. lxxv. 279 Not of the Samoeds... "Blood-Rites will we tarry. 1801 MOORE *King* lvi. 221 He saw the "blood-scrawled name. a 1674 CLARENDON *Hist. Reb.* III. xi. 204 They had... terrified the People with "Blood-Spectacles. 1818 SCOTT *Rob Roy* xxvi. Honour is a homicide and a "blood-spiller. 1825 ABP. SANDYS *Serm.* (1841) 257 We shall behold nothing but rape, spoil, "blood-spilling. 1861 GEN. P. THOMPSON *Audi Alt.* III. cxliv. 128 Keeping down the "blood-spirit unhappily inherent in all mankind. 1860 G. H. K. *Vac. Tour* 118 There is many a broad "blood-spout in your country. 1880 SAINTSBURY in *Academy* 4 Dec. 397 This same quality of "blood-stirringness. c 1205 LAY. 28359 Surten pa stanes mid þan "blood-stremes. c 1240 *Lofsong in Lamb. Hom.* 207 In his "blood-sweatung. 1860 GEN. P. THOMPSON *Audi Alt.* III. c. 2 It is all the same where the war is, so the "blood-trade flourishes. 1880 BROWNING *Muleykeg* Ten thousand camels the due, "Blood-value paid for tribute for a murder done of old. 1828 WYCLIF *Josh.* xx. 5 Whanne the "bloodwreker hym pursue.

19. Special comb.: † blood-band, a bandage for stopping bleeding; blood-baptism, in reference to the early Christians, the martyrdom of converts who had not been baptized; blood-bath, 'a bath in warm blood... supposed to be a very powerful tonic in great debility from long-continued diseases, etc.' (*Syd. Soc. Lex. s. v. Bath*); also (as in Ger., Du., Da., Sw.) a wholesale slaughter, a massacre; blood-bay *a.*, a reddish bay (colour); † blood-boltered *ppl. a.*, clotted or clogged with blood, *esp.* having the hair matted with blood; [see BALTER]; † blood-bulk (cf. BULK); † blood-craft, murderous plot; † blood-eyes, blood-shot eyes; blood-fine, a fine paid as whole or part compensation for murder; blood-flower (*Bot.*), *Hemanthus*; blood-frenzy, a frenzy for shedding blood, homicidal mania; blood-hot, excited for bloodshed; † blood-hunter, one who tracks the authors of crimes of blood, one who tracks criminals; † blood-pudding, a black-pudding; blood-rain, rain which has acquired a red colour; also an appearance produced by the rapid growth of a minute plant which has been referred to the Algae, *Palmella prodigiosa* (Treas. Bot.); blood-raw *a.*, (of meat) so lightly cooked that the blood remains red and liquid; blood-ripe *a.*, (of fruit) so ripe that the juice has become blood-coloured, hence blood-ripeness; † blood-run *a.*, bloodshot; blood-sausage, a black-pudding; † blood-shrunk *a.*, having the blood or vital principle dried up, withered; blood-stick (see quot.); blood-tree (*Bot.*), *Croton gossypifolium*; blood-vein, a kind of moth (*Bradycetes amatariata*); † blood-weed (*Bot.*), a species of *Polygonum*; † blood-wipe, a wound, also a kind of small club or truncheon; blood-wood; a name applied to several foreign trees, e.g. in Jamaica *Gordonia hæmatoxylon*, in Norfolk Island *Baloghia lucida*, in Australia various species of *Eucalyptus*, in India *Lagerstramia reginæ*; blood-worthy *a.*, sufficient to warrant bloodshed; blood-wound, a wound from which blood flows, as distinguished from one in which the skin is not broken.

a 1225 *Ancre. R.* 420 Ne "blod-bendes of seolke. a 1400 *Morte Arth.* 2576 Us bus have a "blodebande. 1837 CARLYLE *Fr. Rev.* I. vi. iii. 277 A Great Personage worn out by debauchery was believed to be in want of "Blood-baths. 1867 FREEMAN *Norm. Cong.* I. vi. 454 The marriages of Emma would seem to have required a "blood-bath as their necessary attendant. 1709 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 4521/4 Stohn... a "blood-bay Mare. 1605 SHAKS. *Macb.* iv. i. 123 Now I see 'tis true, For the "Blood-bolter'd Banquo smiles vpon me. 1848 MILLER *First Impr.* ii. (1857) 23 The old "blood-boltered barons. 1863-77 FOXE *A. & M.* (1896) 711/1 His "bloudbulke was broken by reason they had so vily beaten him and brused him. 1575 TURBERV. *Bk. Venerie* 129 Up to the mydryffe betweene the "Bloudbouleke and the sides. 1561 DAUS tr. *Bullinger on Apoc.* (1573) 225 b, Fornications, wonderful surfering, "bloudcraftes and counselles. 1607 TOPSELL *Serpents* 695 An Eye-salve against the whitenesse and "bloud-eyes. 1851 SIR F. PALGRAVE *Norm. & Eng.* I. 489 The Were or "bloodfine for every Dane who had been killed. 1880 BURTON *Reign Q. Anne* III. xv. 80 The "blood-frenzy called in the East running amuck. 1865 KINGSLEY *Hervey* xviii. 227 He would not allow his men to enter the city while they were "bloodhot. 1794 GODWIN *Cal. Williams* 262 The sordid and mechanical occupation of a "blood-hunter. 1803

PLAT *Diver's new Exper.* (1594) 13 Boile this blood... until it come to the nature and shape of a "bloodpudding. 1741 RICHARDSON *Pamela* I. 94, I hope to make my hands as red as a "Blood-pudden. 1866 BERKELEY in *Trans. Bot.* I. 150 One curious point about the fungous "Bloodrain... when cultivated on rice paste. 1888 GREIKIE *Text-bk. Geol.* III. II. § 2. 326 Rain falling through such a dust-cloud mixes with it, and... is popularly called "blood-rain. c 1590 MARLOWE *Faust.* iv. 9 He would give his soul to the devil for a shoulder of mutton though it were "blood-raw. 1871 M. COLLINS *Mrg. & Merch.* III. xi. 249 An aged mulberry-tree... overlaiden with "blood-ripe fruit. 1886 E. IRVING *Babylon* II. 325 The vine of the earth, which hath brought her grapes to "blood-ripeness. a 1674 CLARENDON *Hist. Reb.* II. vii. 342 When the eyes of the mind, no more "blood-run with passion, did discern things right. 1634 FORD *Perkin Warb.* I. i. (1839) 99 Sending to this "blood-shrunk commonwealth A new soul. 1879 YOUATT *Horse* xxii. 458 A "blood-stick—a piece of hard wood loaded at one end with lead—is used to strike the flea into the vein. 1885 LADY BRASSEY *The Trades* 112 The "blood-tree... when wounded, sends forth a juice like blood. 1808 J. RENNIE *Butterflies and M.* 115 The "Blood Vein... appears at the end of June. 1821 COTGER, *Playe*, a wound, "bloudwipe, sore cut. 1661 RAY *Itin.* (1760) 144 A small Mace for the Water-Bailiff; also another little one called the "Blood-wipe, which they use in parting of Frays. 1880 SILVER *Handbk. Australia* 275 "Blood-wood and turpentine both hard and durable. 1888 SOUTHEY in *Q. Rev.* XXXVIII. 575 In their opinion, the differences between the Roman Catholic and the Protestant are what they call "bloodworthy. 1841 TYTLER *Hist. Scot.* (1864) III. 238 The bodies of both... were unscathed by fire or powder, and... no "blood-wound appeared on either.

Blood (blɒd), *v.* [f. prec.]

1. *trans.* To cause blood to flow from; *esp.* in *Surg.*, to 'let blood', to BLEED (which is more common).

1633 P. FLETCHER *Purple Isl.* vii. lxx, His horse he bloods, & pricks a trembling vein. 1746 W. THOMPSON *R. N. Advoc.* (1757) 41 They [slaughtered oxen] are neither sufficiently blooded, nor dressed in any tolerable manner. 1780 JOHNSON *Lett.* II. cxlii. 158 Yesterday I fasted and was blooded, and to day took physick and dined. 1840 DICKENS *Barn. Rudge* lxxiii, Being promptly blooded... he rallied. 1857 LIVINGSTONE *Trav.* xii. 223 They had scruples about eating an animal not blooded in their own way.

† *b. trans.* To let sap flow from (trees). *Obs.*

1623 *Althorp MS.* in *Simpkinson Washingtons* Pref. 50 Nov. 22 To Dunkley for... one daie blouding trees 600 ois.

2. To wet or smear with blood. † *Obs.* or *dial.*

c 1593 SPENSER *Sonn.* xx, Let none ever say, That ye were blooded in a yeilded pray. 1691 SHADWELL *Scourers* iv. i. 359 She has scratched and blooded me all over. a 1700 DRYDEN *Fables* (J.) Reach out their spears afar, And blood their points. 1749 FIELDING *Tom Jones* vii. xii, Having blooded his waistcoat. 1868 BORROW *Wild Wales* II. 31 One of the hardest battles which ever blooded English soil.

3. *Vener.* To give a hound its first taste, or sight and smell of the blood of the game it is to hunt. Also *fig.*

1781 P. BECKFORD *Hunting* (1802) 97 Here they are blooded to fox. 1848 MACAULAY *Hist. Eng.* II. 513 It was most important... that his troops should be blooded.

4. To raise the blood of, i.e. to make eager for combat or bloodshed, to exasperate; *esp.* soldiers at the beginning of a fight. *Obs.*

1622 BACON *Hen. VII.* (J.) The auxiliary forces of French and English were much blooded one against another. 1677 *Govt. Venice* 61 The consideration of a Sequin... for every Turks head they bring in has... blooded them against those Infidels.

Blooded (blɒdɪd), *a.* [f. BLOOD *v.* or *sb.* + -ED.]

† 1. Stained with blood. *Obs.*

c 1250 LAY. 26811 Blodede feldes, fawede nebbes. 1637 EARL MONMOUTH *Romulus & Tarquin* 155 Rather to haue his hands blooded than his head crowned.

2. Having (hot, cold, or other) blood.

1805 W. SAUNDERS *Min. Waters* 14 Greater... in the warm, than in the cold blooded animals. 1835 MARRYAT *Olla Podr.* xiv, Being... all cold-blooded animals.

3. Of horses: Of good breed.

1858 GEN. P. THOMPSON *Audi Alt.* I. lxii. 241 A few thoroughly-blooded [horses] of the English breed. 1858 O. W. HOLMES *Aut. Breakf.* (1865) 14 Let me beg you... not to speak of a 'thorough-bred' as a 'blooded' horse, unless he has been recently phlebotomised. 1883 A. S. HARDY *But yet Wom.* 118 He had in his stables... blooded animals of the purest race.

† **Bloodier**. *Obs.* [f. BLOOD *v.* + -IER.] He who or that which draws or lets blood.

1398 *Revisa Barth. De P. R.* vii. xxix. (1495) 244 *Sanguis-suga* is a bloder other a leche.

Blood-guilt. [f. BLOOD + GUILT, after next.] The guilt of unrighteous bloodshed.

1826 F. HARRISON *Crisis in Egypt* 9 It would be blood-guilt in this country to enforce these guarantees at the cost of war.

Blood-guilty, *a.* [f. as prec. + GUILTY.] Guilty of bloodshed; responsible for the murder or death of any one.

1507 DRAVTON *Mortimer* 34 Murdered by her owne blood-guilty hands. 1795 SOUTHEY *Joan of Arc* ix. 24 That proud prelate, that blood-guilty man. 1858 GEN. P. THOMPSON *Audi Alt.* I. lvi. 221 Look at Spain... and see whether no solemn lesson has been read to the blood-guilty.

Hence **Blood-guiltiness**, blood-guilt. So also **Blood-guiltless** *a.*, guiltless or innocent of bloodshed or murder.

1535 COVERDALE *Ps.* I. [II.] 14 Delyuer me from bloudgylytynesse o God. 1649 MILTON *Eikon* xix. Wks. (1851) 478 Hee hath confess'd... the bloodguiltiness of all this Warre to lie upon his own head. 1753 H. WALPOLE *Lett. H. Mann* (1833) III. 40 (D.) I am glad you have got rid of your duel blood-guilt-

less. 1884 *Weekly Times* 10 Oct. 3/3 It would be blood-guiltiness.

Blood-heat. The ordinary heat of blood in the healthy human body, commonly marked in thermometers at 98° 6° Fahr., though really rising in the interior of the body to 100°. Also *fig.*

1828 L. HUNT in *Examiner* 23 May 322/3 It has a knack... of being at blood-heat. 1849 TODD *Cycl. Anat. & Phys.* IV. 115/1 Fibrin... subjected to a blood-heat, begins to change into matter, such as that now described.

attrib. 1868 *Lessons Mid. Age* 48 The opinions we held so feverishly... in the blood-heat season of youth.

Bloodhound.

1. A large, very keen-scented dog (*Canis sanguinarius*), formerly much used for tracking large game, stolen cattle, and human fugitives. There are three important breeds, the English, Cuban, and African.

c 1350 *Will. Palerne* 2183 Seize blod-houndes bolde. c 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 40 Bloode hownde, molosus. 1483 *Cath. Angl.* 35 A Blude hunde. 1548 *Hall Chron. Rich. III.* an. 3. 26/1 Pleying the parte of a good blood hunde. 1604 CAPT. SMITH *Virginia* II. 32 They follow him like blood-hounds. 1774 GOLDSM. *Nat. Hist.* II. 166 The bloodhound was a dog of great use & high esteem among our ancestors. 1880 KEATS *St. Agnes* xli, The wakeful bloodhound rose, and shook his hide.

2. *fig.* applied to men: A hunter for blood.

a 1400 *Morie Arth.* 3641 And gere theme brotheleche blenke, alle 3one blod-hondes. 1550 COVERDALE *Spir. Perle* xi. Wks. 1844 I. 128 Manasses... was a very bloodhound and a tyrant. 1818 SCOTT *Hst. Midl.* xxxiii, The blood-hounds of the law were so close after me.

3. *attrib.*

1880 BYRON *Mar. Fal.* iv. ii. 248 To have set The bloodhound mob on their patrician prey. 1864 *Times* 17 Nov., Possessing an almost bloodhound instinct in following up the very faintest tracks.

Bloodied (blɒdɪd), *ppl. a.* [f. BLOODY *v.* + -ED.] Made bloody; smeared with blood.

1597 SHAKS. 2 *Hen. IV.* i. i. 38 A Gentleman... That stopp'd by me, to breath his bloodied horse. 1631 HEYLYN *Hist. St. George* 256 Raging with bloodied swords. 1814 SCOTT *Ld. of Isles* vi. xxxv, Broken plate and bloodied mail. 1871 ROSETTI *Staff & Scrip* xxxii, His bloodied banner crossed his mouth.

† **Bloodierly**, *adv.* *Obs.* [cf. *former-ly*.] A rare and obsolete formation for: More bloodily.

1608 WARNER *Alb. Eng.* ix. li. (1612) 230 A bloodier Law vsde bloodierly was never heard or shall.

† **Bloodiful**, *a.* *nonce-ud.* Full of blood, bloody.

1583 STANVHURST *Aeneis* i. (Arb.) 29 Bluddyful altars.

Bloodily (blɒdɪli), *adv.* [f. BLOODY *a.* + -LY.] In a bloody manner (see senses of the adj.); with blood (shed); as blood (*obs.*); bloodily.

1564 JEWEL *Repl. Harding* (1611) 248 Christi Blood is not Really or Bloodily Present. 1594 SHAKS. *Rich. III.* iii. iv. 92 Mine Enemies To day at Pomfret bloodily were butcher'd.

1649 BP. HALL *Cases Cons.* (1650) 95 This false and bloodily uncharitable ground. 1654 GATAKER *Disc. Apol.* 69 All of that Religion or bloodilie minded. 1749 FIELDING *Tom Jones* xi. ix, 'You are always so bloodily wise,' quoth the husband. 1780 BURKE *Speech Bristol* Wks. III. 384 Bloody executions (often bloodily returned). 1830 G. S. FABER *Diff. Romanism* 386 Christ... who once, upon the altar of the cross, offered himself bloodily. 1867 PEARSON *Early & M. Ages Eng.* 170 The Welsh were bloodily beaten back.

Bloodiness (blɒdɪnɪs), [f. as prec. + -NESS.]

1. Bloody state or condition.

1591 PERCIVALL *Sp. Dict.*, *Ensanguentamento*, bloodiness. a 1617 HIRSON *Wks.* (1620) II. 472 The brine... to be purged from the bloodiness it hath sucked out of the flesh. 1617 MARKHAM *Caval.* vi. 9 And bloodines of sides [of a horse].

2. Sanguinary quality, tendency to bloodshed.

1620 HEALEY *St. Aug. Cille of God* 784 What goodness they changed into bloodiness. a 1674 CLARENDON *Hist. Reb.* III. xi. 156 War... carried on... with some circumstances of bloodiness. 1685 BAXTER *Paraphr. N. T.* Acts xv. 29 Do nothing that... savoureth of cruelty and bloodiness.

Blooding (blɒdɪŋ), *vbl. sb.* [f. BLOOD *v.*]

1. The letting of blood, bleeding; wounding with loss of blood.

1597 LOWE *Chyrurg.* (1634) 369 Blouding, which the Greekes call *Phlebotomia*. 1651 WITTIE tr. *Primrose's Pop. Err.* iv. 255 Blooding is never good for a Flegmatick man. 1741 MONRO *Anat.* (ed. 3) 68 Surgeons... trust to the Blooding. 1854 JAMES *Pequinillo* I. 97 The young baronet... received, himself, a far more severe blooding.

attrib. 1685 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 2079/4 A Chesnut Mare... with a swelling on her neck, about her blooding place.

2. The action of giving hounds a first taste of and appetite for blood (see BLOOD *v.* 3).

1875 'STONEHENGE' *Brit. Sports* i. ii. iv. § 5, 175 The necessity for blooding the hounds is the... most immediate object of cub-hunting. 1896 WHYTE-MELVILLE *Katerfelto* xxv. 273 The honour of blooding a pack of hounds.

† **Blooding**, *sb.* *Obs.* [f. BLOOD *sb.*, app. after *pudding*; cf. BLACKING, LIVERING.] A black-pudding.

c 1460 *Towneley Myst.* 89 Oure mete now begyns... Two blydynges, I trow, a liveryng betweene. 1560 *Apol. Priv. Masse* (1850) 10 Will ye inhibit the folks to eat bloodings, or pigeons, or capons, such as are killed by stifling? 1639 HORN & ROBERTSON *Gale Lang. Unl.* xxxvi, The pudding-maker... maketh puddings and sawsages... chitterlings, liverings, bluddings. 1703 AINSWORTH *Lat. Dict.* (Morell) 1, A blooding, or blood pudding, *apezabo*.

† **Blood-iron**. *Obs.* [f. BLOOD *sb.* + IRON *sb.*]

An instrument for letting blood; a lancet.

c1440 Promp. Parv. 40 Bloodeyryn, bledynge yryn. *1457 Invent. in Test. Ebor.* III. 118 De blode yrens et launcettes in 1 case. *1503 FITZHEAB. Husb.* § 58 Take a blood yren .. and smyte hym bloude on bothe sydes.

† **Bloodish**, *a. Obs.* [f. BLOOD + -ISH.] Of the nature or appearance of blood.

1530 PALSGR. 306/2 Blodishe, sanguinolent. *1547 BOORDE Brev. Health* lxxiii. 23 Yf the blode do come frome the lyver the urine is clere blouddyshe.

† **Blood-lets**, *sb. Obs.* In 1 blódlés(s, 4 blodles; [OE. *f. blóð blood + lés letting*:-O Teut. **lēs-si-s*, for **lēt-si-s*, f. *létan* to let. Cf. OE. *blóð-létan* to let blood.] Letting of blood.

c1000 Sax. Leechd. II. 146 Blodles is to forganne fiftyne nihtum ær hlafmæsse. *1307 TREVISIA Higden* Rolls Ser. VI. 115 Þe nynþe day after his blodles [post phlebotomy].

Bloodless (blódlés), *a.* [f. BLOOD sb. + -LESS.] 1. Without blood; hence, lifeless; also fig.

a1225 St. Marher. 18 Blodles ant banles, dumbre ant deaue. *1550 HULOET*, Bloules, or wythout blood. *1594 SHAKS. Rich. III.* l. ii. 7 Thou bloodlesse Remnant of that Royall Blood. *1658 A. Fox Wurtz Surg.* III. xiii. 256 These things .. do befall wounds, excicated by the Suns heat. insomuch that they are left bloodless. *1882 Internat. Rev.* XI. 76 A slave to a dry and bloodless system.

b. Pale from a diminished supply of blood to the surface of the body; pallid.

1590 SHAKS. Ven. & Ad. 1037 Overcome by doubt and bloodless fear. *1593 - 2 Hen. VI.* III. ii. 162 A timely-parted Ghost, Of ashy semblance, meager, pale and bloodlesse. *1718 Pops Liad* xiii. 365 He stands .. a bloodless image of despair. *1871 PALGRAVE Lyr. Poems* 45 She knotted her hands behind her in a knot of bloodless gray.

2. Not attended with bloodshed.

1601 SHAKS. Twel. N. II. v. 117 Silence like a Lucretia knife: With bloodlesse stroke my heart doth gore. *1604 Hieron Wks.* I. 569 How can a masse a pardon bring, Sith 'tis a blood-lesse offering? *1858 FAULDE Hist. Eng.* III. xiii. 119 A bloodless victory.

Hence **Bloodlessly** *adv.*, **Bloodlessness**.

1800 BYRON Mar. Fal. v. iii. 48 She .. Shall .. bloodlessly and basely yield Unto a bastard Attila. *1863 LE FANU House by Church.* (ed. 2) III. 174 Glaring bloodlessly at the justice. *1883 MISS BRADDON Gold. Calif.* xxviii. 309 Hands almost transparent in their bloodlessness.

† **Blood-let**, *ppl. a. Obs.* In 3 blod-leten [from the phrase *to let blood*; see BLOOD sb. 1 d.] Bled (surgically).

a1225 Ancr. R. 260 Two maner men habbed neode uorte eten wel, & drinken wel—swinkinde men, & blod-letene.

Blood-letter (blódlétar), [OE. *blóð létære* (see prec.)] He who or that which lets blood.

c1000 ÆLFRIC Voc. in Wr. Wulcker Voc. 117 *Phlebotomarius*, blodlétære. *c1440 Promp. Parv.* 40 Bloode latere. *1612 WOODALL Surg. Male Wks.* (1653) 19, I have seen the like once done by an ignorant blood letter. *1840 HOOD Up Rhine* 10 It's a self-acting blood-letter.

Blood-letting (blódlétin), [see prec.] The action or process of letting blood; phlebotomy.

a1225 Ancr. R. 14 Þe uttre riwle .. of ower werkes, & of ower blod letunge. *c1400 Poem Blood-lett. in Rel. Ant.* I. 183 Maystris that uthyth blode letyng. *1603 COCKERAM Phlebotomie*, blood-letting. *1651 WITTIC tr. Primrose's Pop. Err.* IV. 236 There are many that .. use purging and blood-letting every year. *1866 A. FLINT Princ. Med.* (1880) 134 The evils of bloodletting arise from its spoliative effect.

b. fig. *1883 Scotsman* 6 Sept. 5/3 Extracting the fines incurred .. a form of bloodletting which would be at once wholesome and effective.

Blood-like (blódléik), *a.* [f. BLOOD sb. + LIKE.] 1. Resembling blood.

c1225 WYNTOUN Cron. VII. v. 184 Þe Mone all rede was sene Blw lyk. *1855 BROWNING Serenade at Villa*, Blood-like, some few drops of rain.

2. Like one of good blood; like a blood (horse). *1885 Bell's Life* 15 June 1/3 A brown horse .. with immense bone and muscular development, and fine blood-like style.

† **Blooding**, *Obs.* [f. as prec. + -ING.] A black-pudding or blood-pudding.

1598 FLORIO, Insanguinacci, bloodings, or blood-puddings.

† **Bloodily**, *a. Obs. rare.* [+ -LY.] = BLOODY.

1575 Brieff Disc. Troubl. Franckford (1846) 45 This bloodily, cruell and outrageous attempt. *1591 HORSEY Trav.* (1857) 257 The race of that bloodily generation.

Blood-money, [f. as prec. + MONEY.]

Money paid as the price of blood: a. A reward for bringing about the death of another; money paid to a witness who gives evidence leading to the conviction of a person upon a capital charge. b. Money paid to the next of kin as compensation for the slaughter of a relative.

1535 COVERDALE Matt. xxvii. 6 It is not laufful to put them in to the Gods chest for it is bloodmoney. *1818 COBBETT Resid. U. S.* (1822) 228 Spies and blood-money bands. *1864 H. MARRYAT Year in Sweden* I. 160 [She] received a thousand marks of pure silver as blood-money for the massacre of her husband and her two sons. *1864 R. PATTERSON Ess. Hist. & Art* 186 The village benefited by the blood-money that was brought home; the Zemindar, or headman, was paid a tribute or hush-money. *1864 MARY E. ROGERS Dom. Life Palestine* 295 He was .. condemned to pay a certain sum, as 'blood-money', to the heirs of the deceased.

Blood-red (blódréd), *a.* Red like blood.

1597 R. GLOUC. 313 An robe .. of blodrede scarlet. *c1440 Sir Cowther* 452 in Utterson *E. P.* I. 180 God sent Sir Goughier. A blode rede stede, and armour bryght. *1657 N. BILLINGSLEY Brachy-Martyr.* xxvi. 94 A blood-red comet with a flaming beard. *1807 HERBER Hymn St. Stephen's*

Day, His blood red banner streams afar. *1855 KINGSLEY Heroes* v. 61 Drinking the blood-red wine.

Blood-relation, [see RELATION.] A person related (to another) by birth or consanguinity; a kinsman. Hence **Blood-relationship**, consanguinity, kinship; also fig.

1846 GROTE Greece I. xx. II. 113 Cousins, and the more distant blood-relations. *1837 MARRYAT Olla Podr.* xxxiv. Blood relationship has nothing to do with it. *1878 BELL tr. Gegenbauer's Comp. Anat.* 5 The Blood-relationship of Organisms or Phylogeny.

Blood-relative, = prec.

1863 HAWTHORNE Our Home I. 26 They .. announced themselves as blood-relatives of Queen Victoria.

Blood-root. A popular name of several plants: esp. the Tormentil (*Potentilla Tormentilla*); Crimson Crane's Bill (*Geranium sanguineum*), and Red Puccoon (*Sanguinaria canadensis*) of N. America.

1578 LYTE Dodoens 48 The sixth [kind of Geranium] is called Sanguine roote, or Blood roote. *1722 DUDLEY in Phil. Trans.* 295 Remedies for the sting of a Rattle-snake; among others .. is a Root they call Blood-root. *1865 PARKMAN Champlain* ix. (1875) 307 The white stars of the bloodroot gleamed among dank, fallen leaves.

Bloodshed (blódrjéd), *sb. (a.)* [f. the phrase *to shed blood*.]

1. The spilling or shedding of blood; slaughter.

1536-40 Pilgrim's T. 396 in Thyne *Animadv.* App. 88 For by blood-shed they hop to be kept in stall. *1541 Act* 33 *Hen. VIII.* xii. (title), An acte for murther and malicious bloodshed within the court. *1711 STEELE Spect.* No. 139 ¶7 He took the French Lines without Bloodshed. *1876 GREEN Short Hist.* VI. § 3 (1882) 295 The accession of Henry the Seventh ended the long bloodshed of the Civil Wars.

2. A single act of bloodshedding, a slaughter, a murder. (With plural.) *Obs.*

1594 HOOKER Eccl. Pol. IV. (1617) 167 Mutuall combustions, blood-sheds and wastes. *1600 J. WILKINSON Coroners & Sheriffs* 67 A sherife may inquire of blood-sheddes in his turne. *1677 HALE Prim. Orig. Man.* II. x. 226 The violent bloodsheds of the Papists upon the Protestants.

3. The shedding or parting with one's own blood; orig. said of the death of Christ, who in voluntarily submitting to death is said to have 'shed his blood' for the salvation of men. 1 *Obs.*

? a1500 Chester Pl. I. (1843) 6 His scourging, his whipping, his bloude shedd and passion. *1597 GOLDING De Mornay* xxxii. 513 The countries are conquered to Jesus Christ by those few Disciples preaching his bloodshed and shedding their owne. *1869 BLACKMORE Lorna* D. II. (ed. 12) 10 He came up to me—with a piece of spongy coral-line to ease me of my bloodshed.

4. = BLOOD-SHOT sb. and adj. *Obs.*

1684 tr. Bonet's Merc. Compit. III. 68 Who .. hath not suffered the least Taraxis (or Blood-shed) in his Eye. *1702 Lond. Gas.* No. 3853/4 Had a little Bloodshed in the inside Corner of his right Eye.

1658 A. Fox Wurtz Surg. II. ix. 82, I undertake to heal .. wounded Eyes and eye-lids, though they be never so much bloodshed. *1697 Lond. Gas.* No. 3254/4 Light grey Eyes often Bloodshed.

Bloodshedder (blódrjédar), One who sheds blood, one who commits slaughter; a murderer.

1530 TINDALE Pract. Prelates Wks. II. 264 A cruel and unrighteous bloodshedder. *1611 BIBLE Eccles.* xxxiv. 22 Hee that defraudeth the labourer of his hire, is a bloodshedder. *1864 MAYHEW Crim. Prisons* 145 The bloodshedder who was passing the prison yard moodily.

Bloodshedding (blódrjédin), *vbl. sb.*

1. The shedding of blood, slaughter.

a1225 Ancr. R. 50 Mid hore blodsheddinge irudded & ireaded, ase þe martirs weren. *1597 R. GLOUC.* 548 Perafter com muche blodshedding. *1594 RABYAN V. LXXVI.* 64 The Kyng whiche is cruell and full of blode shedyng. *1593 SHAKS. 2 Hen. VI.* IV. vii. 108 These hands are free from guiltlesse bloodshedding. *1868 GLADSTONE Juv. Mundi* x. (1870) 284 With respect to blood-shedding, the morality of the Greeks of Homer was extremely loose.

† b. The shedding of one's own blood; submission to a bloody death. Cf. BLOODSHED 3. *Obs.*

a1533 FRITH Disput. Purgat. (1820) 136 Jesus Christ .. hath delivered us through his blood-shedding. *1583 STUBBS Anat. Abus.* II. 116 ¶ precious death, passion, bloodshedding, and obedience of Christe Jesus.

Bloodshedding, *ppl. a. rare.* That sheds blood, that causes death by bloodshed.

1633 Costlie Whore IV. iii. in Bullen *O. Pl.*, The halter, poyson, or bloodshedding blade. *1826 E. IRVING Babylon* II. vii. 183 To deliver them with a blood-shedding vengeance.

Bloodshot (blódrjót), *a. and sb.* [Shorter form of BLOOD-SHOTTEN (shot being the later form of the pa. ppl.)] *A. adj.*

1. Of the eye: Over-shot or suffused with blood; having the exposed part of the eyeball more or less tinged with blood from inflammation of the blood-vessels of the conjunctiva.

[1550 HULOET, Bloudshot in the eye.] a1618 RALEIGH Rem. (1664) 124 Those whose Eyes are blood-shot. *a1679 T. GOODWIN Wks.* (1865) X. 149 As we say of the eye that it is blood-shot, so we may of the heart that it is sin-shot. *1780 GAY Poems* (1745) I. 44 Pale cheeks and blood-shot eyes her grief express. *1824 W. IRVING T. Trav.* I. 110 His eyes were bloodshot; his cheeks pale and livid.

2. *fig. and transf.*

1851 THACKERAY Eng. Hum. I. (1858) 43 What fever was boiling in him, that he should see all the world blood-shot? *1879 Q. Rev.* Apr. 412 The papal sac assumed a novel and a bloodshot hue. [Cf. BLOODSHOT v. quot. 1593.]

† **B. sb.** [The adj. used absolutely.] *Obs.*

† 1. An effusion of blood, resulting from inflammation of the conjunctiva of the eye.

1607 TOPSELL Four-f. Beasts 582 Very profitable for the bleardness or blood-shot of the eyes. *1671 SALMON Syn. Med.* I. lii. 128 Ophthalmia, Inflammation of the Eyes, is that which is called by some Blood-shot.

† 2. An effusion of blood in any other part. *Obs.*

1611 CORG., Engleure, a chilblane; or, the blood-shot which cold settles, and congeales, vpon the fingers.

† **Blood-shot** (blódrjót), *v. Obs.* Also 7 blood-shoots. [App. the original form was *blood-shot*, from the adj. without analysis (cf. *to blind*); *blood-shoot* being a later 'rational' alteration founded on analysis, as we might from *panic-stricken* deduce a verb to *panic-strike*.] To make blood-shot.

1576 [cf. BLOOD-SHOTTING]. 1593 NASHE Christ's T. (1613) 69, I will blood-shot mine eyes, that all may seeme sanguine they looke on. *1632 HERWOOD Iron Age* II. v. I. Wks. 1874 III. 423 This sad spectacle, Which blood-shoots both mine eyes. *1643 ANSW. Ld. Digby's Apol.* 22 All that might blood-shot other mens eyes.

Blood-shotten (blódrjót'n), *a. (sb.) arch.* [An instrumental combination like *panic-stricken*, *blood-stained*, f. *shotten*, pa. ppl. of SHOOT v.; thus meaning 'shot' or suffused with blood.]

A. adj. Earlier form of BLOOD-SHOT: now arch.

1597 COMMUNY. (W. de W.) Bij, My ghostly eyen .. ben blodshotten with fleshy luste. *1544 PHAËR Regim. Lyle* (1546) CVj. A wete cloute thereof .. healeth blood-shotten eyes. *1641 LD. J. DIGBY 54 in Ho. Com.* 21 Apr. 11 Let us take heed of a blood-shotten eye of Judgement. *1820 B. TAYLOR Eldorado* xliii. (1862) 431 My eyes .. were strongly blood-shotten.

† **B. sb.** = BLOOD-SHOT sb. *Obs.*

1578 LYTE Dodoens II. xxvi. 279 It is good against the webbe and bloodshotten of the eyes.

Hence † **Blood-shottenness**.

1659 GAUDEN Tears Ch. (1659) 60 Bring down such a Rheume and blood-shottenness into mens eyes. *1684 tr. Bonet's Merc. Compit.* xiii. 391 Pain of the eyes, Inflammation, Bloodshottenness.

† **Blood-shooting**, *vbl. sb. Obs.* Also 6 -shoting, 6-7 -shooting. [f. BLOOD-SHOT v., and similarly varied in form.] = BLOODSHOT sb. 1.

1578 LYTE Dodoens, Good agaynst the bloodshooting of the eyes. *1579 LANGHAM Gard. Health* (1633) 568 Apply it to the eyes .. to stop the flux of blood of the same, or blood-shooting. *1601 HOLLAND Pliny* II. 42 To cure .. the blood-shooting or red streaks, in the white [of the eyes].

Blood-spavin: see SPAVIN.

Blood-stain (blódrstén), *sb.* [An attrib. comb. of BLOOD and STAIN sb.; cf. *blood-stained*.] A stain or discolouring mark made by blood.

1838 DICKENS O. Twist (1850) 257/2 Whether it is a wine-stain, fruit-stain .. or blood-stain. *1864 Derby Mercury* 14 Dec. Species of plants and animals which put on the appearance of blood stains.

So **Blood-stain**, *v.* [A poetic formation, deduced from *blood-stained*.] To stain with blood.

1826 BYRON Siege Cor. xxii. Your fellows .. in a fiery mass, Bloodstain the breach through which they pass.

Blood-stained (blódrsténd), *a.* [An instrumental comb.: see BLOOD sb. VI, and STAINED.] Stained with blood. *lit. and fig.*

1596 SHAKS. 1 Hen. IV. I. iii. 107 Swift Seemeres blood .. Blood-stained with these Valiant Combatants. *1793 POPZ Odys.* xv. 301 The blood-stain'd exile, ever doom'd to roam. *1870 BRYANT Iliad* x. I. 303 O'er his shoulders threw the blood-stained hide.

Blood-stone (blódrstón).

1. A name applied to certain precious stones spotted or streaked with red, supposed in former times to have the power of staunching bleeding, when worn as amulets; particularly the modern HELIOTROPE, a green variety of jasper or quartz, with small spots of red jasper looking like drops of blood; also the *heliotrope* of Pliny, 'a leek-green stone (prase or plasma) veined with blood-red (jasper), the latter so abundant as to give a general red reflection to the whole when it was put in water in the face of the sun.' Dana.

1551 T. WILSON Logike 43 The bloodstone stoppeth blood. *1597 in Wadley Bristol Wills* (1886) 251 To the said Thomas my blood stone. *1685 Lond. Gas.* No. 2040/4 Lost .. a Necklace of Green Blood-stones. *1747 DINGLEY Gems in Phil. Trans.* XLIV. 505 The Blood-Stone, is green, veined or spotted with red and white. *1874 WESTROFF Prec. Stones* 51, 113. *1879 Cassell's Techn. Educ.* IV. 309/2 The opaque [stones], white and coloured, such as the opal, the sardonyx, the agate, the onyx, the blood-stone.

2. Hematite, a red iron-ore. (Perhaps only in Dicts., as a verbal rendering of *hematite*, applied by Pliny also to the gem: see HEMATITE.)

1864 in WEBSTER. 1880 LEWIS & SHORT Lat. Dict., Hematites, bloodstone, a kind of red iron-ore.

Blood-strange, *Herb.* [Skinner suggested 'as if = blood-strange, from its checking bleeding (a stringendo sanguinem)'; and Parkinson speaks of its use as a styptic: but -strange, -stringe, can hardly have been taken, for the nonce, from *L. stringere*. It may possibly be a corruption of ME. *streng* 'string, tie'; hardly of early ME. *streng* 'strength, force', or of *staunch*. The word looks rather like an Eng. adaptation of a German or

Dutch name: cf. Ger. *harnstrenge* morbid retention of urine, dysuria, to which **blutstrenge* would be analogous, though no evidence of its use has been found.] An obsolete name of the Moustail (*Myosurus minimus*). Found in the Herbals since Lyte, but apparently never in popular use.

1576 LYTE *Dodoens* i. lxx. 96 It is called in English Mouse taylor and Blood strange. 1597 GERARD *Herbal* xcv. § 4. 246 Moustetale is called... in English Bloodstrange. 1640 PARKINSON *Theat. Bot.* 501 *Blood-strange*, I think corruptly from blood-staying. 1863 PRIOR *Plant-n.* 25.

† **Blood-suck, v. Obs.** [f. BLOOD sb. + SUCK v.] *trans.* To suck blood from; said of leeches. Also *fig.* To extort money from, rob by extortion.

1541 R. COPLAND *Guydon's Quest. Chirurg.*, Howe ought he to be ruled that hath ben blood sucked. 1592 GREENE *Upst. Courtier* in *Harl. Misc.* (Malh.) II. 245 Thus blood-sucketh he the poore for his owne private profite.

Blood-sucker (blw'dsɜ:kə). [f. BLOOD sb. + SUCKER: cf. prec.]

1. An animal which sucks blood; *esp.* the leech.

1387 TREVIS *Hyden* Rolls Ser. IV. 243 Virgill brews a goldene blood soukere in to be botme of a pitte. 1533 ELYOT *Cast. Helth* (1541) 61 Evacuation by wormes founde in waters called bloudd suckers, or leaches. 1579 LANGHAM *Gard. Health* (1633) 66 If one haue drunke a Horse-leech, or Bloodsucker. 1698 VAN LEEUWENHOEK in *Phil. Trans.* XX. 174 A small Gnat, of that sort that... are no Blood-Suckers. 1840 E. NAPIER *Scenes & Sp. For. Lands* I. Pref. 32 The blood-sucker, a large kind of lizard, though perfectly harmless, is so called from his ferocious appearance and bloodstained countenance.

† 2. One who draws or sheds the blood of another; a blood-thirsty or blood-guilty person. *Obs.*

1561 DAUS tr. *Bullinger on Apoc.* (1573) 92 He hath reserved this time to himself, when he will reward the blood suckers. 1577 tr. *Bullinger's Decades* (1592) 315 The seventh blood-sucker after beaustie Nero, was Decius. 1699 CLEVELAND *On O. P. Sick* in Craik II. 31 Fall Thou subtle bloodsucker, thou cannibal!

3. *fig.* One who extorts or preys upon another's money or substance; an extortioner; a sponger.

1668 R. LESTRANGE *Viz. Quere* (1708) 13, I... cast my Eye upon a certain Tax-gatherer... ask'd the Devil, whether they had not of that sort of Blood-suckers among the rest, in their Dominions. 1794 SWIFT *Wks.* (1841) II. 3 While there is a silver sickness left, these blood-suckers will never be quiet. 1857 S. OSBORN *Quedah* xx. 276 A floating population... of pirates and those bloodsuckers who lived upon them.

Blood-sucking, *vbl. sb. and ppl. a.* [cf. prec.]

1593 SHAKS. 3 *Hen. VI.* iv. 22 The rising of blood-sucking sighes. 1601 YARRINGTON *Two Lament. Traj.* II. ii. in *Bullen O. Pl.* IV. Blood-sucking Avarece. 1648 *Hunting of Fox* 17 Cannibals... compar'd with the Blood-sucking Secretaries, lose the style of cruelty. 1683 *Addr. fr. Boston* in *Lon. Gaz.* No. 1857/3 Not contented with the Blood-sucking of a Monarch so matchless Merciful. 1836-9 Todd *Cycl. Anat. & Phys.* II. 907/2 The mouth is formed... as in the blood-sucking Diptera.

† **Blood-supper.** *Obs.* [f. BLOOD sb. + SUP v.] A blood-thirsty person. (Frequent in 16th c.)

1544 S. FISH *Supplic. Begg.* (1599) 5 A cruell, deuillish bloodsupper. 1593 BALE *Ser. Wks.* (1849) 324 Killed by these unsciate blood-souppers for his truths sake.

Blood-thirst (blw'dθɜ:st). Thirst for blood, eagerness for bloodshed.

1597 *Mirr. Mag.*, *Malin* xii. Bloodthirst cries for vengeance, at his hand. 1610 HEALEY *St. Aug. Cille of God* (1620) 91 Sylla's... intollerable pride and blood-thirst. 1828 L. BRACE *Gesta Chr.* 273 It could control... the passions and hate and blood-thirst of men.

† **Blood-thirster.** *Obs.* One who thirsts for blood; a bloodthirsty man.

1560 DAUS tr. *Slidane's Comm.* 251 b, The cruell counsellors of bloodthirsters. 1564 HAWARD *Eutropius* 95 He demeaned himselfe wyth great cruelty, and as a bloodthyrster. So † **Blood-thirsting** *ppl. a.* = next.

1617 HIERON *Wks.* I. 20 The malicious and blood-thirsting humour of Cain. 1642 S. ASH *Best Refuge* 7 Blood-thirsting Saul. 1763 CHURCHILL *Duelliist* III. 68 (D.) Assassination, her whole mind Blood-thirsting, on her arm reclin'd.

Bloodthirsty (blw'dθɜ:stɪ), *a.* [see THIRSTY a.] Thirsting for blood, eager for bloodshed.

1535 COVERDALE *Ps.* xxv. 9 O destroye not my soule with the synners, ner my life with the bloodthirstie. 1581 MARBECK *Bk. of Notes* 753 God will abhorre those bloodthirstie and deceptifull men. 1639 G. DANIEL *Ecclus.* xxii. 86 Some busines for blood-thirsty Swords. 1809 SYN. SMITH *Wks.* (1867) I. 160 The rage of an insane and bloodthirsty faction.

Hence **Bloodthirstily**, **Bloodthirstiness**.

1880 J. HAWTHORNE *E. Quentin, etc.* II. 12 Gentlemen... wore long swords with basket hilts, and were blood-thirstily polite in using the same. 1649 Bp. REYNOLDS *Serm. Hasea* III. 9 The bloodthirstiness of the Leech. 1862 SHIRLEY *Nugz Crit.* § 5. 209 Even the bloodthirstiness of Alva could not rival his master's.

Blood-vessel (blw'dves:əl). One of the flexible tubes (veins or arteries) in the bodies of animals which convey the blood throughout the system.

1694 SALMON *Patrica* i. v. 244/4 Some of the Blood-vessels, chiefly the Arteries... must be broken. 1718 J. CHAMBERLAYNE *Relig. Philos.* (1830) I. iv. § 3 A Tunicle full of Blood-Vessels; that is of Veins and Arteries. 1836 DICKENS *Sk. Bos v.* 19/1 She burst a bloodvessel one mornin', and died.

Blood-warm, a. As warm as blood; of the normal temperature of blood in the body.

1577 B. GOOGE *Hereshack's Husb.* (1586) 130 b, Seeth them together... and give it him bludwarne in the morning. 1719 HAUKEBER *Phys.-Mech. Exper.* Supp. 255, I caus'd some Water to be heated about Blood-warm.

b. *fig.*

1837 EMERSON *Misc.* (1855) 94 This writing is blood-warm. **Blood-wite** (blw'dwɪt). Also (incorrectly) -wit. [OE. *blōdwite*, f. *blōd* blood + *wite* punishment, penalty, fine.]

1. A penalty for bloodshed: a. in *Old English Law*, A fine for shedding blood, to be paid to the alldorman or king, in addition to the *were-gild*, or legal value of the life destroyed, paid to the family of the person killed.

[a 1000 *Lamb. Ps.* xv. 4 (Bosw.) Of blodum oððe of blōdwitum.] 1228 *Mem. Ripon* (1882) I. 52 Blodewyt. c 1250 *Gloss. Law Terms* in *Rel. Ant.* I. 33 Blodwite, quite de sanc espondit. 1609 SKENE *Reg. Maj.* 67 Bludewit hes na place within burgh. 1614 SELDEN *Titles Hon.* 263 Wite... is a Punishment or Mult, as in our words occurring in old monuments, *Blodwite*, *Frithwite*, and the like. 1754 ERSKINE *Princ. Sc. Law* (1809) 45 He might, by our later practice, have judged... in riots and bloodwits. 1814 SCOTT *Wav. xlviii.* The bloodwit was made up to your ain satisfaction by assythment. 1876 GREEN *Short Hist.* i. 2 The blood-wite or compensation in money for personal wrong.

b. *generally*. A penalty for murder.

1881 CLOUSTON *Arab. Poetry* Intro. 27 In the Sunnat... the amount of the bloodwit was increased to one hundred camels. 1888 J. PAYNE 1001 *Nights* II. 202 That my son's head be paid with the bloodwit of Sherkan's head only.

2. *contextually*. a. The right of levying the foregoing fine. b. The privilege of exemption from it. a 1087 *Chart. Eadward* in *Cod. Dipl.* IV. 216 Ic an heom ðerofor sace and socne... and blodwite and werdwite. 1641 *Termes de Ley* 42 Bloodwit, that is, to bee quit of amerciements for blood-shedding.

Blood-worm (blw'dwɜ:m). a. A small bright-red earth-worm used by anglers. b. The scarlet larva of a genus of crane-flies (*Chironomus*) found in rain-water cisterns and pools.

1741 *Compl. Fam.-Piece* II. ii. 350 They will bite freely at the small Red-worm called the blood-worm. 1799 G. SMITH *Laboratory* II. 280 In the winter season, the fittest baits for the New River are bloodworms. 1833 J. RENNIE *Angling* 37, I mean here water blood-worms, and not the smaller bright red earth-worms sometimes so named in books on angling. 1840 BROWNING *Sordello* II. 289 Circling blood-worms, minnow, newt, or loach.

Blood-wort (blw'dwɜ:t). [f. as prec. + WORT.]

A name applied to various plants having red roots or leaves, or popularly supposed to stanch blood or to draw blood. Among these are the

Bloody Dock (*Rumex sanguineus*), the Dwarf Elder or Danewort (*Sambucus Ebulus*); also Burnet

(*Sanguisorba officinalis*), the American Blood-root

(*Sanguinaria canadensis*), and genus *Hæmorrhoidium*.

c 1250 *Gloss.* in Wright *Voc.* 140 *Bursa pastoris*, sanguinaria, blodwurt. 1538 LELAND *Itin.* V. 4 A certain Bloodeworth growth ther wher the Bloode was shedde.

1552 HULOET, *Bludwort* herb, or that which stoppeth blood. 1576 LYTE *Dodoens* III. xlv. 380 This herbe is called... in Englishe Walwort, Danewort, and Bloodwort. 1671 SALMON *Syn. Med.* III. xxiii. 405 *Lapathum Sanguineum*...

Bloodwort, cleanses the blood much. 1812 WITHERING *Bot. Arrangem.* (1830) II. iv. 235 *Sanguisorba officinalis*, Wild Burnet, Bloodwort. 1872 ROSSETTI *Ho. of Life* (1882) II. With tear-spurge wan, with blood-wort burning red.

Bloody (blw'di), *a.* and *adv.* Forms: 1 blōdiz, 3-4 blōdi, 3-7 bloody, (4 blode, bloide), 6 blōudid, bluddie, -y, 6-7 bloudie, -y, bloodie, 6-bloody. *Sc.* 5 bludy, 6 bludie, 8-9 bluidie, -y.

[Com. Teut.: OE. *blōdig* = OFris. *blodich*, OS. *blōdag*, -ig (Du. *bloedig*), OHG. *bluotag* (MHG. *bluotec*, mod. Ger. *blutig*), ON. *blōdag-r*, -ig-r; = OTeut. **blōdag-o-z*: see BLOOD and -y.]

A. *adj.*

1. Of the nature of, composed of, or like blood.

a 1000 *ELFIC Glass* in Wt. Wülcker *Voc.* 113 *Dissenteria*, blōdig utsiht. c 1240 *Lofting* in *Lamb. Hom.* 207 Bi his blōdie wounde... Bi his blōdi Rune þet ron inne monie studen. c 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 40 *Blody*, sanguinolentus. 1526 *Pilgr. Peril* (W. de W. 1531) 260 In great agony he swet bloody droppes. 1815 *Encycl. Brit.* (ed. 5) III. 461 Some authors speak of bloody baths... prepared especially of the blood of infants. 1818 BYRON *Ch. Har.* IV. cxlii. Here, where Murder breathed her bloody steam. 1875 B. RICHARDSON *Dis. Mod. Life* 15 The phenomenon called, in early times, 'bloody sweat,' has been disputed.

b. Pertaining or relating to the blood.

1716 M. DAVIES *Dissert. Physick* 4 in *Athen. Brit.* III, Cæsalpinus had a proper Opportunity to speak at large of that Bloody discovery (i. e. of the circulation of the blood).

2. Covered, smeared, stained, with blood; bleeding.

a 1117 O. E. *Chron.*, Wearð se mona lange nihtes swylce he eall blōdig wære. 1297 R. GLOUC. 311 Here ys þat knyft al blōdy. a 1400 *Relig. Pieces* fr. Thornton MS. 85 His blōdy woundes was reuthe to see. 1530-1 *Act 22 Hen. VIII.* xii. To be beten with whippes... till his body be blōdy. 1593 SHAKS. 3 *Hen. VI.* II. v. 71 My Teares shall wipe away these bloody markes. 1636 H. MORE *Antid. Ath.* III. ix. (1662) 117 Dirty bloody spots. 1757 GRAY *Bard* I. iii. 48 Weave with bloody hands the tissue of thy line. 1800 WINDHAM *Sp. Parl.* (1812) I. 336 That scuffle, amongst Englishmen, would have terminated in a black eye or a bloody nose.

b. *Bloody grave*: the grave of one who has died by bloodshed. † *Bloody hand*, in *Forest-law* (see quot.; cf. *RED-HAND* (ED); in *Heraldry*, the armorial device of Ulster, derived from the O'Neils; hence borne by baronets.

1800 SCOTT *Eve St. John* xli. By Eildon tree, for long

nights three, In bloody grave have I lain. 1885 *Sat. Rev.* 25 Apr. 525/2 Gordon sleeps in his bloody grave.

1598 MANWOOD *Latus Forest* xviii. § 9 Bloody hand is, where a man is found coursing in the Forest... and is any manner of way imbrewed with blood, or, that is found imbrewed with blood... in the Forest, although he be not found Hunting or coursing there. 1727-51 CHAMBERS *Cycl.*, *Bloody Hand*, one of the four kinds of trespasses in the king's forest. 1835 MARRIAT *Pacha* I, The bloody hand in the dexter chief of a baronet. 1862 *Househ. Wds.* V. 8 One sunbeam, coming through a grimed window, and illuminating a bloody hand. There had been a murder done there. 1874 *Student's Home* xx. 367 Hence baronets bear on their shields the arms of Ulster, a bloody hand.

3. Of animals, or parts of their bodies: Having blood in the veins; containing blood. *arch.* or *Obs.*

1398 TREVISA *Barth. De P. R.* xviii. cviii. (1495) 850 In all beestes that haue bloody lounes is a bladder. 1595 SHAKS. *John* IV. ii. 210 Slaues, that take [Kings] humors for a warrant, To breake within the bloody house of life. 1607 TORSELL *Serpents* 507 A Serpent [is]. A Bloody Beast without feet. 1818 *Art. Preserv. Feet* 53 The bloody corn... is apt to yield blood on the first touch of the knife.

4. Accompanied by or involving the flowing or spilling of blood.

c 1385 CHAUCER *L. G. W.* 1388 Or hadde in armys manye a blodi box. 1530 PALSGR. 150/1 Blody mensyn sicknesse. 1605 SHAKS. *Macb.* II. iv. 23 Is't known who did this more then bloody deed? c 1600 Z. BOYD *Zion's Flowers* (1855) 155 Our bloody blowes assuredly he feesles. 1828 CARLYLE *Misc.* (1857) I. 94 Their bloody idolatry, and stormful untutored energy. 1853 KINGSLEY *Hyperion* xxi, I have offered for years the unbloody sacrifice to Him who will perhaps require of me a bloody one.

b. *esp.* Attended with much bloodshed and slaughter; sanguinary.

1593 BILSON *Govt. Christ's Ch.* 306 The bloudie stormes of tyrants. 1597 HOOKER *Ecl. Pol.* v. xlviii. § 10 A bitter and a bloody conflict. 1678 N. WANLEY *Wonders* v. i. § 102 That long and bloody War in the Empire of Germany. 1711 ADDISON *Spect.* No. 70 § 4 The Poet... describes a bloody Battle and dreadful Scene of Death. 1848 MACAULAY *Hist. Eng.* I. 227 The most bloody day of the whole war.

5. Of thoughts, words, etc.: Concerned with, portending, decreeing bloodshed.

a 1225 *Ancr. R.* 288 Ruben, þu read þeof, þu blodi delit. c 1300 *Beket* 537 Alto blodi was that word: and deore it was i-bougt. c 1384 CHAUCER *H. Fame* 1239 That maken bloody soun in trunpe, beme, and claryoun. 1561 T. NORTON *Calvin's Inst.* Pref., Without hearyng the cause bloody sentences are pronounced against it. 1610 SHAKS. *Temp.* IV. i. 220, I do begin to haue bloody thoughts. 1766 POKRY *Heraldry* III. (1777) 23 A print of the bloody Warrant for the execution of K. Charles I.

6. Addicted to bloodshed, blood-thirsty, cruel; tainted with crimes of blood, blood-guilty.

1563 Bp. BONNER in Foxe *A. & M.* 1254/2 They reporte me to seek bloud, and call me bloudye Boner. c 1577 NORTH-BROOKE *Dicing* (1843) 179 Howe the bloudie Papistes murder and slaughter in all places rounde aboute vs our poore brethren. 1611 BIBLE *Ps.* v. 6 The Lord will abhorre the bloudie and deceitfull man. 1681 *Addr. fr. Radnor* in *Lon. Gaz.* No. 1671/4 The Facious Schismatics, and Bloody Romanists. 1795 WINDHAM *Speeches Parl.* (1812) I. 278 The administration of the bloody Robespierre. 1853 DICKENS *Child's Hist. Eng.* xxx. As Bloody Queen Mary, this woman has become famous, and as Bloody Queen Mary, she will ever be remembered with horror and detestation. 1862 *Sat. Rev.* 8 Feb. 154 Our native bloody villains.

7. Of the colour of blood, blood-red.

1591 SHAKS. 1 *Hen. VI.* II. iv. 61 *Yorke*. Now Somerset, where is your argument? *Som.* Here in my Scabbard... that Shall dye your white Rose in a bloody red. 1671 *Lon. Gaz.* No. 627/4 A Bloody Bay Gelding... was stolen out of Stamford Fields. 1755 *Genil. Mag.* XXV. 280 Near the spot where this accident happened, an anchor was immediately dropped, and a red buoy (called the bloody buoy) fixed to it. 1798 COLERIDGE *Anc. Mar.* II. vii. The bloody sun at noon, Right up above the mast did stand. 1823 LOCKHART *Sp. Ballads*, *Moore Cal.* IV. his banner... Whereon revealed his bloody field its pale and crescent moon.

† 8. Allied by blood. (In *Langland*, with *fig.* reference to the blood of Christ.) *Obs.*

1362 LANGL. *P. Pl.* A. VII. 196 Heo beop my blodi breþeren, for god bouyte vs all. [Also B. vi. 10; xi. 195; C. ix. 17.]

9. *dial.* Of good blood, well descended.

1877 PEACOCK *Lioc. Gloss.* (E. D. S.), He comes of a bloody stock; that's why he's good to poor folks.

10. In foul language, a vague epithet expressing anger, resentment, detestation; but often a mere intensive, *esp.* with a negative, as 'not a bloody one'.

[Prob. from the *adv.* use in its later phase.]

1840 R. DANA *Bef. Mast* II. 2 You'll find me a bloody rascal. *Ibid.* xx. 61 They've got a man for a mate of that ship, and not a bloody sheep about decks! 1880 RUSKIN *Fiction Fair & F.* § 29 The use of the word 'bloody' in modern low English is a deeper corruption, not altering the form of the word, but defiling the thought in it.

B. *adv.* † 1. *Bloodyly*; with blood. *Obs.*

c 1400 *Destr. Troy* 10424 Buernes on þe bent blody be-roren.

2. As an intensive: Very... and no mistake, exceedingly; abominably, desperately. In general colloquial use from the Restoration to c 1750; now constantly in the mouths of the lowest classes, but by respectable people considered 'a horrid word', on a par with obscene or profane language, and usually printed in the newspapers (in police reports, etc.) 'b — y'.

[The origin is not quite certain; but there is good reason to think that it was at first a reference to the habits of the 'bloods' or aristocratic rowdies of the end of the 17th and

beginning of the 18th c. The phrase 'bloody drunk' was apparently 'as drunk as a blood' (cf. 'as drunk as a lord'); thence it was extended to kindred expressions, and at length to others; probably, in later times, its associations with bloodshed and murder (cf. a bloody battle, a bloody butcher) have recommended it to the rough classes as a word that appeals to their imagination. We may compare the prevalent craving for impressive or graphic intensives, seen in the use of *jolly, awfully, terribly, devilish, damned, ripping, rattling, stunning, thundering*, etc. There is no ground for the notion that 'bloody', offensive as from associations it now is to ears polite, contains any profane allusion or has connexion with the oath 's blood!'

1676 *ETHERIDGE Man of Mode* i. i. (1684) 9 Not without he will promise to be bloody drunk. 1684 *DRYDEN Prol. Southern's Disappointment*. 59 The doughty Bullies enter bloody drunk. 1693 *SOUTHERNE Maid's last Pr.* ii. ii. 31 Faith and troth, you were bloody angry. *Ibid.* iii. i. 38 She took it bloody ill of him. 1757 *SWIFT Poison. E. Curll* Wks. 1755 III. i. 149 His wife... said, 'Are you not sick, my dear?' He replied 'Bloody sick.' 1742 *RICHARDSON Pamela* III. 405 He is bloody passionate. I saw that at the Hall. 1743 *FIELDING Wed. Day* iii. vi. This is a bloody positive old fellow. 1753 *FOOTE Eng. in Paris* ii. (1763) 29 She's a bloody fine Girl.

C. In combination.

1. Obvious combinations, as *bloody-black*; chiefly parasynthetic, as *bloody-backed, -eyed, -faced, -handed, -hearted, -minded, -sceptred*, with their derivatives, as *bloody-mindedness*; also others somewhat analogous, as *bloody-intended* having bloody intentions; or adverbial, as *bloody-crying* (crying for blood); *bloody-hunting* (hunting for blood).

1884 *SCOTT Redgauntlet* ch. xv. They have the 'bloody-backed dragons'... with them. 1772 *CULUM in Phil. Trans.* LXII. 466 Half a pint of a 'bloody-black water' in the thorax. 1617 *HIERON Wks.* II. 317 They are all 'bloody-crying-sinners, and such as to which belongs an especial wo. 1597 *SHAKS. 2 Hen. IV.* i. iii. 22 In a Theame so 'bloody fac'd, as this. 1801 *BYRON Sardan.* iv. l. 115 A... bloody-eyed, and 'bloody-handed, ghastly, ghostly thing. 1654 *GATAKER Dic. Apol.* 91 How poor a curb... to keep men from being 'bloody-hearted, and bloodie-handed. 1599 *SHAKS. Hen. V.* iii. iii. 41 Herods 'bloody-hunting slaughter-men. 1606 *Bk. Com. Prayer, Prayer 5th Nov.*, The most traitorous and bloody-intended Massacre by Gunpowder. 1593 *SHAKS. 2 Hen. VI.* iv. l. 36 Yet let not this make thee be 'bloody-minded. 1845 *DARWIN Voy. Nat.* vii. (1873) 140 When the old 'bloody-minded tyrant is gone to his long account. 1870 *LOWELL Study Wind.* 214 What a difference between the straight-forward, 'bloody-mindedness of Orestes and the metaphysical punctiliousness of the Dane. 1605 *SHAKS. Macb.* iv. iii. 104 O Nation miserable! With an untitled Tyrant, 'bloody Sceptred.

2. Special combinations: *bloody fall*, an ailment of the feet similar to chilblains; *bloody flux* (formerly *flux*), dysentery; hence *bloody-fluxed a*; *bloody nose beetle*, the popular name of *Timarcha* (see quot.); *bloody-water*, a disease, *hematuria*.

1601 *HOLLAND Pliny* II. 76 The angry chilblanes and 'bloody-fals that trouble the feet in the night season. 1473 *WARKW. Chron.* (1839) 23 Unyversale fevers, axes, and the bloody flux. 1579 *LANGHAM Gard. Health* (1633) 441 'Bloody fluxe. 1611 *BIBLE Acts* xxviii. 8 The father of Publius lay sick of a fever and of a 'bloody-fluxe. 1706 tr. *Lemery's Treat. Foods* ii. vi. 161 They make use of its (the sheep's) suet inwardly taken to stop the 'Bloody-flux. 1615 *Br. Hall Contempl. N. T.* iv. iii. It was free and safe for the leper and 'bloody-fluxed to touch thee. 1806 *KIRBY & Sp. Entomol.* III. 142 In that of the 'bloody-nose beetle that segment is bifid. 1847 *CARPENTER Zool.* § 660 The *Timarcha lavigata*... emits a reddish yellow fluid from the joints when disturbed; from which circumstance it is commonly known by the name of the Bloody-nose Beetle. 1734 *ARBUOTHNOT in Swift's Lett.* (1766) II. 205, I had forborn (to ride) for some years, because of 'bloody water.

b. In popular names of plants, as *bloody finger*, the Foxglove; *bloody man's finger*, the same; also the Arum or Wake-Robin; *bloody rain*=Blood rain (see BLOOD sb. 19); *bloody dook* (*Rumex sanguineus*); *bloody twig*, the Dogwood (*Cornus sanguinea*); *bloody warrior*, a dark Wall-flower. (See Prior, Britten and Holland.)

1758 *BORLASE Nat. Hist. Cornwall* xix. § 9. 235 The bloody sea-dock. 1838 *Econ. Vegetation* 156 The 'gory dew', *Palmella cruenta*, and 'bloody rain', *Lepraria kermesina*... are referable to these humble and harmless tribes of vegetation. 1861 *MISS PRATT Flower. Pl.* III. 108 The branches were so red, so like twigs of coral, that... its name of Bloody Twig... seemed appropriate.

Bloody (blu'di), v. [f. the adj. Not etymologically identical with OE. (*ge*)*blodegian*, *-blodgian* (in 3rd c. *blodeke*, with suffix *-eg-*, *-ek-*) which preceded in the same sense.]

1. *trans.* To make bloody by causing to bleed or by smearing with blood.

[a 1000 *Beowulf* 5378 He geblodegod wearð sawul-driore. 1225 *Ancre. R.* 418 Ne mid breres ne ne biblodege (T. blodeke) hire sulfi. 1530 *PALSGR.* 458/1 This parker bloodyeth his clothes. 1633 *T. STAFFORD Pac. Hib.* xxi. (1821) 421 No man did bloody his sword more than his Lordship did that day. 1814 *CARY Dante* (Chandos) 122 There came I, Pierc'd in the heart... And bloodying the plain. 1820 *SOUTHEY in Life & Corr.* (1849) I. 4 The sword which was drawn (not bloodied, I hope) in this unlucky quarrel.

b. *trans.* and *fig.* To make blood-red; to stain with bloodshed.

1647 *W. BROWNE Polix.* i. 197 His shield was black in many places, and the rest bloodied with the long tresse of a Comet. 1655 *J. JENNINGS Elise* 12 Nor the only instrument

of these tragick businesses, the which bloodies the course of this History.

† 2. To exasperate; = BLOOD v. 4. *Obs.*

1633 *T. ADAMS Exp. 2 Peter* i. 14 Saul, being so bloodied against David... became as unmerciful to himself.

Bloody-bones (blu'di, bō-nz). Formerly -bone. A phrase used, generally in conjunction with *Rawhead*, as the name of a bug-bear to terrify children; also *fig.* 'bug-bear, terror.' (Possibly associated with the apparition of a murdered man supposed to haunt the scene of his murder.)

c 1550 *Wyll of Dewyll* (Collier) 13 Our faythfull Secretaries, Hobgoblyn and Bloodybone. 1508 *FLORIO, Mani*... imagined spirits that nuroes fraie their babes withall to make them leaue crying, as we say bug-beare, or els rawe head and bloodie bone. 1622 *FLETCHER Prophetess* iv. v. But now I look Like Bloody-Bone and Raw-head, to frighten children. a 1680 *BUTLER Rem.* (1759) i. 77 To terrify those mighty Champions, As we do children now with Bloody-bones. 1817 *T. JEFFERSON Corr.* (1830) 301 Hancock and the Adames were the raw-head and bloody bones of Tories and traitors. 1830 *T. HAMILTON C. Thornton* (1845) 293 As if he had come back from the wars a mere raw-head and bloody-bones.

Bloom (blūm), sb. 1. Forms: 3-4 *blom*, 3-6 *blome*, 4-6 *Sc. blwme*, 6 *bloume*, *Sc. blume*, 6-7 *bloume*, 7- *bloom*. [ME. *blom*, *blome*, only northern (or north. midl.); a. ON. *blōm* neut. 'a flower, bloom, blossom', and *blōmi* masc. 'bloom, prosperity', pl. 'flowers, blossoms', the latter = OS. *blōmo* masc. (MDu. *bloeme*, Du. *bloem* fem.), OHG. *bluemo* masc., *bluoma* fem. (MHG. *bluome* masc. and fem., mod.G. *blume* fem.), Goth. *blōma* m. :—OTeut. **blōmon-* m., from the vb. stem **blō-* 'blow', with the suffix *-mon-* of nouns of action. The OE. *blōma* (masc.), in form the same word, had only the sense of BLOOM sb. 2, the sense 'flower' being expressed by *blōstm*, *blōstma*, *blōsma*, BLOSSOM.]

1. The blossom or flower of a plant. (Not extended like 'flower' to a whole 'flowering plant', and expressing a more delicate notion than 'blossom', which is more commonly florescence bearing promise of fruit, while 'bloom' is florescence thought of as the culminating beauty of the plant. Cherry trees are said to be in *blossom*, hyacinths in *bloom*.)

c 1800 *ORMIN 10773 Nazareth* bitacnebb uss Onn. Ennglish brodd and blome. c 1325 *E. E. Allit. P. B.* 1467 Alle be blomes of þe boȝes were blyknande perles. 1375 *BARBOUR Bruce* v. 10 The treis begouth to ma Burgconys and brycht blwmys alsua. c 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 40 Blome flowre, *flor.* 1556 *Pilgr. Perf.* (W. de W. 1531) 206 The fruytes of the holy goost... be more lyke... to be called blomes and floures than fruytes. 1570 *Sempill Ballades* (1872) 77 Thou grene Roismary hyde thy heid, Schaw not thy fair blew blumis. 1667 *MILTON P. L.* v. 25 How the Bee Sits on the Bloom extracting liquid sweet. 1697 *DRYDEN Virg. Georg.* i. 273 If odorous Blooms the bearing Branches load. 1770 *GOLDSM. Des. Vill.* 4 Parting summer's ling'ring blooms. 1828 *Bazaar* 15 Feb. 173 To preserve cut blooms for some length of time.

† b. (*fig.*) To bear the bloom: to flourish. *Obs.*

1330 *R. BRUNNE Chron.* 322 Pei were born in Rome alle þe Columpeis, Pat kynde bare þe blome, riche men & curteis.

c. *collect.* Blossom, flowers, florescence.

a 1300 *Cursor M.* 9328 þe wand bar lef and frut and blom. a 1400 *Sir Isumb.* 176 Playe the with the blome. 1667 *MILTON P. L.* iii. 43 Not to me returns Day, or the sweet approach of Ev'n or Morn, Or sight of vernal bloom. 1821 *SHELLEY Prometheus* Unb. i. 840 The yellow bees in the ivy-bloom. 1878 *GILDER Poet & Master* 14 Not yet the orchard lifted its cloudy bloom to the sky.

d. *In bloom*: in flower, flowering, blossoming.

1644 *FARY God's Severity* (1645) 8 Blossomes that be all in a bloume, as we say. 1735 *OLDYS Life Raleigh* Wks. 1829 I. 383 Like some flowers which are sweeter in their fall than others in their bloom. 1820 *W. IVING Sketch Bk.* I. 182 It was the month of May, when every thing was in bloom. 1864 *TENNISON Islet* 32 For the bud ever breaks into bloom on the tree.

e. *transf.* of persons. Cf. 'flower'.

a 1300 *Havelok* 63 He was Engelondes blome. c 1460 *Towneley Myst.* 81 Welcom, Mary, blyssed blome. c 1750 *SHEPSTONE Elegies* iv. 32 The frailty of so fair a bloom. 1871 *R. ELLIS Catullus* lxiv. 4 A chosen array, rare bloom of valorous Argos.

2. *fig.* State of greatest beauty or loveliness, most flourishing condition or season, prime, perfection.

c 1325 *E. E. Allit. P. A.* 577 More haf I of ioye & blysse here-inne, Of ladyschyp gret & lyuez blom. 1599 *SHAKS. Much Ado* v. i. 76 Despight... His Maie of youth, and bloome of lusthood. 1712 *ADDISON Spect.* No. 164 ¶ 3 While her Beauty was yet in all its Height and Bloom. 1742 *POPE Dunciad* iv. 513 Poor W., nipp'd in folly's broadest bloom, Who praiseth now? 1850 *LEITCH tr. Müller's Anc. Art* § 159 The real bloom of this art was past when the Romans conquered the East. 1875 *HAMERTON Intell. Life* vi. i. (1876) 195 The bloom of perfect manhood.

3. The crimson tint of the cheek; flush, glow.

Also *fig.* 1752 *FIELDING Amelia* Wks. 1775 X. 136 Miss Bath had not only recovered her health but her bloom. 1793 *T. BEDDOES Consumption* 117 That vermilion bloom, which... is the harbinger or attendant of an incurable disease. 1847 *TENNISON Princ.* iv. 364 Over brow And cheek and bosom brake the wrathful bloom. 1879 *FARRAR St. Paul* (1883) 332 Those simple, faithful natures which combine the glow of courage with the bloom of modesty.

b. *gen.* Suffusion of glowing colour over a surface.

1832 *L. HUNT Sir R. Esler* (1850) 148 The colours of the awnings over head struck down a bloom over the whole scene.

4. The delicate powdery deposit on fruits like the grape, plum, etc., when fresh-gathered, and on certain plant-leaves. (So called perh. from prec.)

[Cf. *Song*. Meet me in the evening When the bloom is on the rye.] a 1639 [see BLOOMY a. 1. 3.] 1678 [see Bloom-coloured in 7.] 1755 *JOHNSON, Bloom*, the blue colour upon plums and grapes newly gathered. 1860 *DELAMER Kilch. Gard.* (1861) 156 Tying grapes in muslin bags assists their ripening... The pity is, that the taking them off spoils the bloom. 1882 *VINES Sachs' Bot.* 99 Very frequently the wax extends... over the cuticle... constituting the so-called 'bloom' on fruits and some leaves. 1883 *P. FITZGERALD Recreat. Lit. Man* 170 And before the end of those weary hours the bloom is off the rye—he is stale and stupid.

b. *fig.* Freshness, delicate charm or beauty. To take the bloom off (a thing): to deprive it of its first freshness or beauty.

1777 *JOHNSON in Boswell* (1831) I. 159 It [the Plan of Dictionary] would have come out with more bloom if it had not been seen before by any body. 1859 *HELPS Friends in C. Ser.* II. I. 182 The bloom of his regard would be rubbed off.

c. In various spec. senses, e.g. The yellowish deposit on well-tanned leather, the powdery appearance on newly-struck coins, the fluorescence exhibited by petroleum, etc. Cf. BLOOMING vbl. sb. 1. 2.

1842 *Penny Cycl.* XXIV. 38/2 This bloom [on leather] consists of the finer portion of the gelatin from the interior of the skin. 1882 *Pharmaceut. Tral.* 343 Petroleum having a bloom or fluorescence. 1884 *Times* 1 Mar., The 'bloom' on the wall... around the actual spot of the explosion, was sufficient to show that the material used was not gunpowder. 1885 *Eng. Mech.* 20 Feb. 532 Until the bud is covered with 'bloom', or the so-called ellagic acid. 1885 *Cornh. Mag.* Mar. 281 That coating of indigo and gypsum which imparts [to tea leaves] the bloom so highly prized in the European market.

5. A fine variety of raisin.

1841 *Penny Cycl.* XIX. 274/1 Different kinds of raisins are distinguished... as muscates, blooms, sultanas. 1875 *Uræ Dict. Arts* III. 692 These are muscates or blooms.

6. Used attributively to denote a certain appearance or state assumed by sugar in the process of clarifying and refining.

1825 *S. & S. ADAMS Compl. Servant* 113 It may then be boiled to any degree you please, as smooth, bloom, feathered, crackled, and caramel.

7. *Comb.* and *Attrib.*, as *bloom-colour*, *slender-hour*, *stem*; *bloom-bright*, *coloured*, etc., *adjs.* Also *bloom-fell*, a plant; according to Britten and Holland, *Lotus corniculatus*.

1833 *TENNISON Hesperides*. A slope That ran 'bloom-bright into the Atlantic blue. 1797-1804 *Bewick Brit. Birds* I. 112 The breast, belly and sides are of a fine pale rose or 'bloom colour. 1678 *Land. Gas.* No. 1273/4 The Hood lined with 'bloom-coloured Silk. 1799-1804 *Prize Ess. in High. Soc. Trans.* III. 524 (JAM.) Ling, deer-hair, and 'bloom-fell, are also scarce. 1840 *BROWNING Sordello* III. 345 Her ivory limbs are smothered by a fall, 'Bloom-flinders, and fruit-sparkles, and leaf-dust. 1850 *LYNCH Theo. Trin.* xi. 208 The maiden... in the 'bloom-hour of her life.

Bloom (blūm), sb. 2. [—OE. *blōma* in same sense; identical in form with the word for 'flower' in the other Teut. langs. (OS. *blōmo*, etc.: see BLOOM sb. 1), but the history of the sense is not ascertained. No examples of the word have been found between OE. times and the end of 16th c.]

1. 'A mass of iron after having undergone the first hammering.' Weale. *spec.* An ingot of iron or steel, or a pile of puddled bars, which has been brought, by passing through one set of 'rolls', into the form of a thick bar, and left for further rolling when required for use.

a 1000 *In Wt. Wülcker Voc.* 141/36 Massa, daß, uel bloma. 1524 (cf. BLOOMERY). 1674 *RAY Iron Work* 127 At the Finery by the working of the hammer they bring it into Blooms and Anconies. 1679 *Plot Staffordsh.* (1686) 163 They work it into a bloom, which is a square bar in the middle, and two square knobs at the ends, one much less than the other, the smaller being call'd the Ancony end, and the greater the Mocket head. 1719 *Glossogr. Nova*, Bloom, in the Iron-Works, is a four-square Mass of Iron about two Foot long. 1845 *New Statist. Acc. Scoll.* VI. 79 An extensive forge for the manufacture of blooms was erected. 1862 *Times* 12 Aug., Lord Dudley presents numerous specimens of fractured blooms and bars. 1881 *Academy* 6 Nov. 350 It may possibly be a 'bloom' from a prehistoric foundry. 1882 *Engineer* 24 Feb. 133/1 The blooms from the hammer are then heated and rolled down to make puddled bar.

¶ 2. Sometimes improperly applied to the 'ball' or mass of iron from the puddling furnace which is to be hammered or shingled into a bloom.

1865 *Derby Merc.* 15 Feb., An immense bloom of iron, looking like a huge egg, and weighing 5 cwt., showing the state of the iron as delivered by the furnace. 1875 *Uræ Dict. Arts* II. 1013 The bloom or rough ball from the puddle-furnace. 1879 *Cassell's Techn. Educ.* I. 410 After pig-iron has been puddled, the 'blooms', as the masses of iron are termed, while still white-hot from the puddling furnace, are dragged to the helve.

3. *Comb.*, as *bloom-shearing*; *bloom-hook*, an implement used for handling heated blooms; so *bloom-tongs*; *bloom-smithy*, a forge or smithy where blooms are made.

1601 *HOLLAND Pliny* I. 459 This kind of charcole serueth only the Bloom-smithies and furnaces. 1831 *J. HOLLAND Manuf. Metals* I. 18 At the suppression of the bloomaries (or

iron smithies) the tenants charged themselves with the payment of this rent, which is called Bloom Smithy, or Wood rent. 1884 *Imp. & Mach. Rev.* 1 Dec. 6719/2 A large bloom-shearing machine, capable of cutting steel blooms.

† **Bloom**, *sb.* 3 *Obs. rare*—1. [App. connected with *BLOW* v. 1; cf. *BLOOMY* a. 2.] A hot wind.

1899 *DAMPPIER Voy.* 1. 529 I have always observed the Sea-winds to be warmer than Land-winds; unless it be when a bloom, as we call it, or hot blast blow from thence.

Bloom (*blūm*), *v.* 1 Forms: 3-5 *blome* (n), (4 *Sc. blume*), 5 *blomyn*, *blume*, 5-6 *blome*, *bloume*, 6 *bloume*, (7 *blowm*, 8 *Sc. blume*), 7-*blom*. [ME. *blomen*, f. *BLOOM* *sb.* 1]

1. *intr.* To bear flowers; to be in flower, come into flower; to blossom.

c 1290 *Gen. & Ex.* 2061 Orest it blomed, and siden bar ðe berries ripe. a 1300 *Cursor M.* 10743 þat his wand suld blome. 1398 *TREVISIA Barth. De P. R.* xvii. lxiv. (1495) 641 In Thessalia felides that beenes growe in ben eerid when the beensy bloume. c 1440 *Prompt. Parv.* 40 *Blomyn, floreo, floescor.* 1523 *FITZHERB. Herb.* § 24 Hasell. begynneth to blome as soon as the life is fallen. 1667 *MILTON P. L.* iii. 355 A Flour which once In Paradise, fast by the Tree of Life Began to bloom. 1797 *BRADLEY Fam. Dict.* s. v. *Coriander*, This Plant. . . blooms in July and August. 1821 *SHELLEY Prometh. Unb.* 1. 170 Blue thistles bloomed in cities.

2. *fig. and transf.* To come into full beauty; to be in fresh beauty and vigour; to flourish.

c 1200 *ORMIN* 3636 Goddess beowess blommenn a33 Inn alle gode þewess. c 1225 *Festivals Ch.* 245 in *Leg. Rood* 218 A childe þat choisly chees in maydenes blode to blome. 1513 *DOUGLAS Æneis* xi. xii. 103 Forgame the speris so bustius blomyt he. 1590 *GREENE Fr. Bacon* (1830) 42 For fancie blooms not at the first assault. 1738 *GLOVER Leonidas* 1. 224 With all my honours blooming round my head. 1759 *JOHNSON Rasselas* xviii. (1787) 81 The daughter begins to bloom before the mother can be content to fade. 1831 *CARLYLE Sart. Res.* ii. vi. *blome* (ed. up with happiness and hope. 1875 *JOWETT Plato* (ed. 2) II. 486 Your beauty is fading away, just as your true self is beginning to bloom. 1878 H. H. GIBBS *Ombre* 2 Quadrille also has faded away, or blooms only in some old-fashioned nooks of England.

3. *trans.* To bring into bloom; to cause to flourish. Chiefly *fig. Obs. or arch.*

1593 *GREENE Poems* 108 Each fair thing that summer bloomed. 1597 *HOOKER Eccl. Pol.* v. iii. § 4 Rites & customs . . . in their first original beginnings when the strength of virtuous, devout, or charitable affection bloomed them. 1612 *BIBLE Numb.* xvii. 8 The rod of Aaron. . . brought forth buds, and bloomed blossoms. 1667 *MILTON P. L.* iv. 219 The Tree of Life. . . blooming Ambrosial Fruit Of vegetable Gold. 1743 *YOUNG Mt. Th.* ix. 385 Tenderness divine. . . That planted Eden, and high bloom'd for man A fairer Eden.

4. *intr.* To glow with warm colour.

1860 *TYNDALL Glac.* i. § 11. 75 Heaps of snow. . . as the day advanced, bloomed with a rosy light. 1884 *CHRISTM. Graphic* 4/2 A little salon, in which a circular iron stove bloomed red-hot all round.

5. *trans.* To give a bloom to; to colour with a soft warm tint or glow.

a 1821 *KEATS Autumn* 25 While barred clouds bloom the soft-dying day. 1844 *TUPPER Prov. Philos.* (1852) 179 The eye is bright with truth, the cheek bloomed over with affection.

6. *techn.* To cloud a varnished surface. (See *quot.*, and cf. *BLOOMING* *vbl.* *sb.* 1 2.)

1899 *GULLICK & TIMBS Paint.* 214 Whatever varnish may be employed . . . a current of cold or damp air, which 'chills' or 'blooms' them (paintings) should be avoided.

Bloom, *v.* 2 [f. *BLOOM* *sb.* 2.] To hammer or squeeze the ball or lump of iron from the puddle-furnace into a 'bloom'; to shingle.

1875 *URE Dict. Arts* II. 1012 To prepare the puddle balls for the rolling mills, they have to undergo the process of 'shingling' or 'blooming'; this is effected either by the hammer or by the squeezer: the latter has almost entirely superseded the former.

Bloomage (*blūmédʒ*). [f. *BLOOM* *sb.* 1 + *-AGE* 1; cf. *leafage*.] Blooms or blossoms in the mass.

c 1871 J. ADDIS *Elisab. Echoes* (1879) 66 Rushing through lavish bloomage of the brake.

Bloomary, variant of *BLOOMERY* 1.

Bloomed (*blūmd*, *poet.* -ēd), (*pp.*) *a.* [f. *BLOOM* *sb.* and *v.* + *-ED*.] Covered with, bearing, or having bloom; in bloom. Also *fig.*

c 1505 *DUNBAR Gold. Targe* 55 Hard on burd vnto the blomyt medis. . . Arrivyt sche. 1523 *FITZHERB. Surv.* xxxvi. (1539) 54 When it is full bloomed. 1646 *CRASHAW Steps to Temp.* 29 A mouth, whose full-bloom'd lips. . . are roses. 1830 *TENNISON Recoll. Arab. Nts.* ii. Rustling thro' The low and bloomed foliage.

Bloomer 1 (*blūmər*). [f. *BLOOM* *v.* 1 + *-ER* 1.] 1. A plant that blooms (in some way).

1730-6 *BAILEY Bloomers*, blooming buds. 1822 *Garden* 7 Jan. 8/2 Those that have a tendency to be shy bloomers are pined in the lightest part of the house. 1885 *Harper's Mag.* Apr. 710/2 A New England white rose, a perennial bloomer.

2. *Comb.* *bloomer-pit*, a tan-pit or large vat in which hides are treated with a strong infusion of tanning liquor or ooze; a 'layer.'

Bloomer 2. [After Mrs. Bloomer, an American lady who introduced the costume.]

1. (More fully *Bloomer costume, dress*): A style of female attire consisting of a short skirt and long loose trousers gathered closely round the ankles. So attrib. *Bloomer principles, movement.*

1868 *READE True Love* II. iv. 154 At sight of Miss Courtenay in a Bloomer he was ravished. 1875 *MISS BIRD Sandw. Isl.* (1880) 85 Deborah looked very piquante in a bloomer dress of dark blue.

2. A woman who wears this dress.

1868 *READE True Love* II. ii. 153 She then burst out crying, which was an unfair advantage the Bloomer took over poor Reginald.

3. A kind of hat with a broad brim worn by ladies. 1883 *LIFE Mrs. Prentiss* vi. 177 A small shawl and my bloomer on.

Hence *Bloomerism*, the principles of Mrs. Bloomer as to female costume.

1897 C. READE *Course True Love* II. ii. 134 She was pretty far gone in bloomerism. 1882 *LADY HARBERTON Dress Reform in Macm.* Mag. XLV. 456 'Bloomerism' still lurks in many a memory.

Bloomery 1, -ary (*blūməri*). Forms: 6-7 *blomarie*, 7-8 *blomary*, 7- *bloomery*, -ary. [f. *BLOOM* *sb.* 2 + *-ERY*, -ARY.] The first forge in an iron-works through which the metal passes after having been melted from the ore, and in which it is made into blooms.

1824-5 *Act 27 Elis.* xix. Any manner of Yron Milles, Furnaces, Hammer, Finarie, Forge or Blomarie. 1872 *PERRY Pol. Anat.* 374 There are in Ireland. . . above twenty forges and bloomeries. 1893 *LISTER in Phil. Trans.* XVII. 866 Those Bars which are wrought out of a Loop, taken up out of the Finney Harth, or second Forge, are much better Iron than those which are made in the Bloomary or first Harth. 1762 *ELIOT ibid.* LIII. 56 It is wrought or smelted in a common bloomery. 1821 *TURNER Dom. Archit.* II. Intro. 30 The bloomeries of Furness. . . were in full operation in the thirteenth century. 1866 *JEVONS Coal Quest.* (ed. 2) 217 When the charcoal bloomary and forge gave place to the coke blast furnace.

Bloomery 2, *nonce-wd.* [f. *BLOOM* *sb.* 1 + *-ERY*.] A collection or place full of blooms.

1832 J. WILSON in *Blackw. Mag.* XXXI. 864 Leading you sometimes into a greenery of glade, and sometimes into a bloomery of sweet-briars.

Blooming (*blūmɪŋ*), *vbl.* *sb.* 1 [f. *BLOOM* *v.* 1]

1. The action or state of coming into or being in bloom. Also *fig.*

1398 *TREVISIA Barth. De P. R.* xvii. xcvi. (1495) 663 All codware louty water tofore the blossom and drinnesse after the blowmyng. c 1630 *DRUMM. OF HAWTH. Wks.* (1711) 12 A virgin in the blooming of her prime. 1684 *Scanderberg Rediv.* i. 2 To know the first Blooming of a Tree which has yielded such happy Fruit. 1709 *POPE Ess. Crit.* 501 Like some fair flow'r. . . That gayly blooms, but ev'n in blooming dies.

† *b. concr.* A blossom, inflorescence. *Obs.*

1622 *WITHER Mistr. Philar.* (1633) 590 Low Sallows on whose bloomings Bees do fall. 1657 W. COLLES *Adam in Eden* ix. Small heads. . . which are the bloomings or Flowers.

c. attrib., as in *blooming-time*.

1398 *TREVISIA Barth. De P. R.* xvii. clxxvii. (1495) 718 Vynes haue a specyall euyl when they ben spronge wyth euyl dewe or reyne in blowmyng tyme. 1823 C. MONKHOUSE in *Academy* No. 577. 358/3 A true, if not a complete, view of English song-writing in its blooming-time.

2. *Painting.* A cloudy appearance on a varnished surface, esp. of a picture. Cf. *BLOOM* *v.* 6.

1859 *GULLICK & TIMBS Paint.* 204 The vehicles of the oil painter subject him to innumerable perplexities by their bad drying, change of colour, cracking, and blooming. 1879 *Cassell's Techn. Educ.* IV. 222/2 Spotting, blooming, pin-holing.

Blooming, *vbl.* *sb.* 2 [f. *BLOOM* *v.* 2 + *-ING* 1.] The reducing of cast- or pig-iron into 'blooms.'

1812 *SIR H. DAVY Chem. Philos.* 392 In the process for reducing cast iron into malleable iron called blooming. 1875 *Trans. Amer. Inst. Mining Eng.* I. 203 This first reduction or blooming is usually done in this country in a 30-inch 3-high rolling mill.

attrib. 1884 *Imp. & Mach. Rev.* 1 Dec. 6719/2 Adjacent to this. . . the roughing mill, together with a. . . blooming mill.

Blooming, *pp.* *a.* [f. *BLOOM* *v.* 1 + *-ING* 2.] 1. That blooms, or is in flower.

1664 *EVELYN Kal. Hort.* (1729) 219 Old unthriving, or over-hastily blooming Trees. 1798 *THOMSON Spring* 10 When Nature all is blooming and benevolent. 1866 *Geo. Eliot F. Holt* 3 Pots full of blooming balsams or geraniums.

2. *fig.* In the bloom of health and beauty, in the prime of youth; flourishing.

1675 *DRYDEN Aureng.* i. 177 That Character. . . Of Valour, which in blooming youth he gain'd. 1774 T. BLACKLOCK *Graham* II. xiv. His blooming bride. 1855 *MACAULAY Hist. Eng.* IV. 329 Again England was given over; and again the strange patient persisted in becoming stronger and more blooming.

b. Of things: Flourishing, full of fair promise.

c 1375 *BARBOUR St. Adrian* 232 His hart wes ful of bleumand blis. a 1674 *CLARENDON Hist. Reb.* III. xi. 155 Their blooming hopes. 1684 *Scanderberg Rediv.* i. 6 [He] gave in early Youth all the blooming Presages of a growing Hero.

c. Bright, shining.

1513 *DOUGLAS Æneis* xi. xv. 12 In broone sangwane weill dycht Abuf hys onkouth armour bloumand brycht. 1830 *CUNNINGHAM Brit. Paint.* I. 285 Who purchased blooming works, which were destined to fade in their possession. 1847 *TENNISON Princ.* vi. 129 Wan was her cheek With hollow watch, her blooming mantle torn.

† *d.* Of style: Florid, flowery. *Obs.*

1685 F. SPENCE *House Medici* 360 Machiavell. . . whose stile is so blooming and correct that it's tax'd with being too finical and tawdry.

† 3. That produces blooms or blossoms. *rare.*

1587 *TURBURY Trag. T.* (1837) 284 By meanes of heate mixt with the blooming raine.

† 4. *slang.* Full-blown; often euphemistic for *BLOODY* (sense 10) or the like. Cf. *BLESSED* (5).

1822 *MACM. Mag.* XLVI. 441 Oh, you blooming idiot! 1885 *Scotsman* 20 Aug. 5/4 You asks me no bloomin' imper'nt questions, an' I tells yer no bloomin' lies.

5. **Blooming Sally** [i.e. *sallow*], a Willow-herb (*Epilobium angustifolium*, rarely *E. hirsutum*).

Hence *Bloomingly adv.*, *Bloomingness*.

1831 *Blackw. Mag.* XXIX. 809 As bloomingly beautiful as at the time of her marriage. 1859 G. MEREDITH *Song of Courtesy* in *Once a Wk.* 9 July 1. 30 'Shall I live bloomingly?' Said she. 1847 *CRAIG, Bloomingness*.

Bloomless (*blūmless*), *a.* [f. *BLOOM* *sb.* 1 + *-LESS*.] Without bloom or blossom; flowerless.

1593 G. FLETCHER *Licia* (1876) 14 Like bloomelesse buds, too base to make compare. 1622 *WITHER Prayer Habak.* Bloomlesse shall the fig-tree bee. 1860 C. PATMORE *Faithful for Ever*, Among the bloomless aftermath.

Bloomy (*blūmi*), *a.* 1 [f. as *prec.* + *-Y* 1.] 1. Full of blooms or blossoms, flowery. *poet.*

1593 *DRAYTON Eclog.* iv. Wks. (1793) 594/1 The bloomy brier. c 1640 *MILTON Sonn.* i. O Nightingale that on yon bloomy spray Warblest at eve. 1710 *PHILIPS Pastoral* vi. 24 The bloomy Season of the Year is nigh. 1808 *STERLING Ess. & Tales* (1848) ii. 199 Over meadow and bloomy bank.

2. *fig.* Blooming, in the beauty or flower of youth.

1651 *DAVENANT Gondibert* III. iii. Thou who. . . thy bloomy bride Lead'st to some temple. 1795 *POPE Odys.* x. 331 On his bloomy face Youth smil'd celestial. 1807 *CRAIG Par. Reg.* ii. 356 What if, in both, life's bloomy flush was lost.

† *b.* Of language: Flowery, florid. *Obs.*

1685 F. SPENCE *House Medici* 282 He top'd him. . . by strewing his discourse with blossoms, flourishing expressions.

3. Covered with bloom, as a plum; of the colour of this bloom.

a 1639 T. CAREW *Inquiry* iii. In bloomy peach, in rosy bud, There wave the streamers of her blood. 1700 *DRYDEN Flower & L.* 343 Florence satin, flowered with white and green, And for a shade betwixt the bloomy gridelin. 1844 *HOOD Haunted H.* xxii. Showers of bloomy plums. 1860 T. MARTIN *Horace* 267 Rush-bound cucumbers. . . with their sides of bloomy green. 1881 *MRS. H. HUNT Childr. Yerus.* 40 A soft bloomy colour, like corroded old copper.

4. *Comb.* *bloomy-down*, Sweet William (*Dianthus barbatus*), Britten and Holland.

† **Bloomy**, *a.* 2 *Obs.* [app. f. *BLOOM* *sb.* 3 + *-Y* 1.] Of the nature of a Bloom (*sb.* 3): Hot, close.

1620 *VENNER Via Recta* Intro. 5 The north winde might in the Summer passe in, to coole the bloomie aire. 1681 *GLANVILLE Sadducismus* II. 99 The room was presently filled with a bloomy noisome smell, and was very hot.

b. *quasi-adv.* After the manner of a bloom.

1620 *VENNER Via Recta* (1650) 225 You must beware that the room be not bloomie hot.

Bloones: see *BLAENESS, BLONESS*.

Blooms, *obs.* form of *BLOSSOM*.

Blooth, variant of *BLOWTH*, bloom.

Bloother, dial. variant of *BLUBBER*.

Blore (*blōr*), *sb.* *arch.* [app. related to *blow*, *blast*; but the form does not seem capable of etymological explanation; perhaps it is partly onomatopoeic (an 'expressive word,' Johnson). The last quot. is of course an echo of Chapman, who was evidently addicted to the word.]

A violent blowing, a blast or gust; also *fig.* stormy breath, bluster.

c 1440 *York Myst.* xxvi. 188 Byde me here bewchere Or more blore be blowen. 1559 *Mirr. Mag.* 838 Hurried headlong with the south-west blore. 1598 *CHAPMAN Iliad* ix. 5 The west wind and the north. . . join in a sudden blore. 1616 — *Musæus* 306 Take heed that no ungentle blore The torch extinguish. 1755 *JOHNSON, Blore*, act of blowing; blast; an expressive word, but not used. 1872 *BLACKIE Lays Highl.* 9 A cloud came darkling From the west with gusty blore.

b. *transf.* The air. [*L. aura*.]

c 1614 *CHAPMAN Odys.* iv. 1138 She, through the key-hole of the door, Vanish'd again into the open blore.

Blore, *v.* *Obs. exc. dial.* [A variant or parallel form of *BLARE*.] *intr.* To cry, cry out, weep; of animals, to bleat, bray, bellow.

c 1440 *Prompt. Parv.* 40 Bloryn or wepyn, *bloro, floo*. 1605 *Cornh. Mag.* July 38 [The peasant] possesses a series of imitative sounds for the cries of various animals. . . Cattle are said to 'blore,' and sheep 'rout.' 1877 *PEACOCK Lincoln. Gloss.* *Bloro*, to bellow as oxen do; to cry loudly; commonly used with regard to children.

Blosme, Bloomy, *obs.* forms of *BLOSSOM*, -y.

Blossom (*blōsəm*). Forms: 1 *blostm*, *blostma*, 1-2 *bloasma*, 2-4 *blostme*, 2-5 *bloasme*, 3 *bloasem*, *Orm.* *blostme*, 4-5 *blossum*, 4-8 *blossome*, (5 *bloasle*), 6 *bloasme*, *blossum* (m), 7 *blosom*, 4- *blossom*. [OE. *blōstm* str. masc., *blōstma*, *blōasma* wk. masc., cognate w. MDu. and Du. *bloesem*, MLG. *blosem*, *blossem*; cf. also ON. *blōmst-r* masc. Generally referred to the same root as *BLOOM* (*blō*); some consider *blor* an extended stem = *L. flos, flor*; others with greater probability take the -st as well as -m as a suffix.]

1. 'The flower that grows on any plant, previous to the seed or fruit. We generally call those flowers *blossoms*, which are not much regarded in themselves, but as a token of some following production.' (J.)

Blostm, blosme was the OE. word for 'flower,' previous to the adoption of ON. *blōm* (*BLOOM*), and OF. *flor, fleur* (*FLOWER*). See *BLOOM* *sb.* 1

a. An individual flower (with *plural*).

971 *Blickl. Hom.* 7 Mid callum missenlicum afeddum blossom sy se Cristes brydbur gefrætwod. c1000 *Sax. Leechd.* I. 236 Genim þysse ylcen wyrt blossom. c1175 *Lamb. Hom.* 109 Iliche þan treo þe bereð lef and blosman. and nane westmas ne bereð. a1225 *Ancr. R.* 276 Breres bereð, rosen, & berien, & blosmen. c1285 *CHAUCER L. G. W.* 143 The braunches ful of blossomes softe. 1600 *SHAKS. A. Y. L.* II. iii. 64 Thou prun'st a rotten tree, That cannot so much as a blossome yeelde. 1667 *MILTON P. L.* IV. 148 Blossoms and Fruits at once of golden hue Appeerd. 1756 *BURKE Subl.* 4 B. Wks. I. 209 An orange-tree, flourishing at once with its leaves, its blossoms, and its fruit. 1822 *BYRON Heav. & Earth* I. iii. 730 Yet quivers every leaf, and drops each blossom.

b. *collectively.* The mass of flowers on a fruit-tree, etc. (Cf. *BLOOM sb.* 1 c.) Hence *in blossom*. a1300 *Cursor M.* 8256 Was neuer tre suilk blossom bare. a1400 *Morte Arth.* 6 (Roxb.) Hyr rode was rede as blossom on brece. c1440 *Promp. Parv.* 41 Blossme, or blossom, frons. 1709 *Mrs. Piozzi Journ.* France I. 120 One plum tree have I seen in blossom. 1878 B. TAYLOR *Denkation* III. i. 107, I go with the flying blossom, as I came with the flying seed.

c. *fig. (by simile).* 1709-14 *Blake Songs Exp., Lit. Girl Lost* 34 O the dismal care That shakes the blossoms of my hoary hair. 1842 *Tennyson Enone* 76 He prest the blossom of his lips to mine. 1860 *Tyndall Glac.* I. 8 18. 130 Nature. . . showered down upon us those lovely blossoms of the frost [snow-crystals].

2. *fig. a.* An attribute, product, or token, compared in its character to the preceding.

c1330 *Hali. Meid.* 11 Meidenhad is te blossom þat beo ha eanes fullliche forcoruen ne spruteð ha neauer eft. 1596 *Spenser F. Q.* VI. Introd. iv. Amongst them all grows not a fairer flower Than is the blossom of comely courtesie. 1652 *Dryden St. Evremont's Ess.* 259 Which takes away all the Blossom of the good they do us. 1775 *Sheridan Duenna* I. iii. 192 The rich blossoms of my daughter's beauty. 1843 *Prescott Mexico* II. i. (1864) 67 The first blossoms of that literature which was to ripen into so rich a harvest.

b. One lovely and full of promise.

c1440 *York Myst.* xxxvi. 138 Allas! þat his blossome so bright Vntrewly is tugged to his tree. 1588 *SHAKS. Tit.* IV. ii. 72 Sweet blowse, you are a beauteous blossom sure. 1591 — *Hen. VI.* IV. vii. 16 There di'de My Icarus, my Blossome, in his pride. 1847 *Tennyson Princ.* v. 79 My babe, my blossom, ah, my child.

c. A stage of development which answers to that of blossom. Cf. *flower, bloom*.

a1225 *Ancr. R.* 192 Ine blomste of ower 3uweðe. 1602 *SHAKS. Ham.* I. v. 76 Thus was I. . . Cut off euen in the Blossomes of my Sinne. a1656 *Br. Hall Rem. Wks.* (1660) 8 Mine hopes nipt in the blossome. 1662 J. BARGRAVE *Pope Alex. VII.* (1867) In the blossom of his popedom, he did one of the worthiest actions of his life.

3. *techn. a.* Mining. 'The oxidized or decomposed outcrop of a vein or coal-bed, more frequently the latter.' (Raymond *Mining Gloss.*) b. The colour of a horse whose hairs are white interspersed with sorrel or bay, peach-colour; a horse so coloured.

4. *Comb. and Attrib.*, as *blossom-ball*, *-bough*, *-time*; *blossom-bearing*, *-bordered*, *-bruising*, *-laden* adjs.; *blossom-faced a.*, having a red bloated face; *so blossom-nosed*; *blossom-headed a.*, (of a parrot) having a rose-coloured head.

1854 *Tennyson Aylmer's F.* 87 He. . . Had. . . to pleasure Edith. . . Made 'blossom-ball or daisy-chain. 1847 — *Princ.* v. 353 Above the garden's glowing 'blossom-belts. 1839 *Bailey Festus* xix. (1848) 197 'Blossom-bordered, silvery paths. a1845 *Hood Depart. Summ.*, Under the hawthorn's 'blossom-bough. 1784 *Cowper Task* v. 141 'Blossom-bruising hail. 1859 *Tennyson Vivien* 131 Foot-gilt with all the 'blossom-dust of those Deep meadows. 1865 *DICKENS Mut. Fr.* IV. ix. Half a dozen 'blossom-faced men. 1867 *JEAN INGELOW Dreams came true* I, The 'blossom-laden trees. 1713 *Lond. & Countr. Br.* III. (1743) 166 'Blossom-time is accounted dangerous for brewing. 1860 J. KENNEDY *Horse Shoe R.* VII. 89 Up to the 'blossom-time of life.

Blossom (blɒsəm), v. [OE. *blōstmian*, ME. *blōsmen*, f. prec. sb. Cf. Du. *bloesemen*, and *BLOOM v.*, *FLOWER v.*]

1. *intr.* To put forth blossoms, bloom, flower.

c890 K. ÆLFRED *Bada* v. xii. (Bosw.) Dæss blōstmianðan feldes. c1386 *CHAUCER Merch. T.* 218 Though I be hoor I fare as dooth a tree That blossometh er þat fruyt ywoken bee. c1440 *Promp. Parv.* 40 Blomyn, or blosmy. 1527 *ANDREW BRUNSWYKE's Distyll. Waters* A ij b, Whan it begynneth to blossom. 1604 *SHAKS. Oth.* II. iv. 383 Fruits that blossom first, will first be ripe. 1704 *Pope Spring* 42 Now hawthorns blossom, now the daisies spring. 1864 *Tennyson En. Ard.* 587 Huge trees that branch'd And blossom'd in the zenith. 1882 *Vines Sachs' Bot.* 935 Parasites and saprophytes. . . which vegetate below and blossom above ground.

2. *transf. and fig.*

1377 *LANGL. P. Pl.* B. v. 140 Sithen þei blossmed obrode in boure to here shriftes. 1388 *Wyclif Pr.* lxxij. 16 Thei schulen blossom (1388 *floure*) fro the citee, as the hey of erthe doith. 1613 *SHAKS. Hen. VIII.* III. ii. 353 This is the state of Man; to day he puts forth The tender Leaves of hopes, to morrow Blossomes, And beares his blushing Honors thicke vpon him. 1664 *BUTLER Hud.* II. i. 458 'Tis Beauty always in the Floure That buds and blossoms at fourscore. 1847 *Lowry. Ev.* I. iii. One by one. . . Blossomed the lovely stars, the forget-me-nots of the angels.

b. *Const. into.* 1852 *LONGF. Gold. Leg.* I. 28 They make the dark and dreary hours Open and blossom into flowers. 1884 *Manch. Exam.* 27 Oct. 5/3 The historic craft of the barber. . . has blossomed into an art.

Blossomed, ppl. a. [f. *BLOSSOM sb.* and *v.* + *-ed*.] Full or covered with blossoms; in full bloom, opened into flower.

c1374 *CHAUCER Parl. Foules* (MS. FF.) 183 A garden saw I full of blossommede bowes. 1503 *HAWES Examp. Virt.* III. 32 A royall tre With buddys blossommed of grete beaute. 1593 *BARNES Elegies* in Arb. *Garner* V. 455 The blossomed Hawthorn, white as chalk. 1824 *MISS MITFORD Village Ser.* I. (1863) 79 Bright tufts of blossomed broom. 1830 *TENNYSON Circumstance* 2 Two graves. . . Wash'd with still rains and daisy-blossomed.

fig. 1645 *QUARLES Sol. Recant.* II. 20 Thus fool'd with vain pursuit Of blossom'd happiness that bears no fruit. 1862 B. TAYLOR *Poet's Jnrl.* (1866) 67 The fragrance of a blossommed heart.

Blossoming (blɒsəmin), vbl. sb. [f. as prec. + *-ING*.] The putting forth of blossoms, coming into flower; blooming, flowering.

c1440 *Promp. Parv.* 41 Blossmyng, or blossommyng, frondositas. a1821 *KEATS To Moon* 34 In the summer tide of blossoming. 1860 *RUSKIN Mod. Paint.* V. 327 Colour is. . . especially connected with the blossoming of the earth.

fig. 1625 *FULBECKE 1st Pt. Paral.* 18, I desire greatly to know the original and first blossoming of other seignories. *attrib.* 1603 *SHAKS. Meas. for M.* I. iv. 41 Blossoming Time That from the seednes the bare fallow brings To teeming foison.

Blossoming, ppl. a. [f. as prec. + *-ING*.] That blossoms or puts forth flowers; flowering, blooming; also fig.

1430 *LYDG. Chron. Troy* I viii, When euery bushe is freshe and blossomynge. 1579 *SPENSER Sheph. Cal.* May 8 Bushes with blossoming Buds. 1606 *SHAKS. Ant. & Cl.* IV. xii. 23 [They] melt their sweets On blossoming Caesar. 1828 *SCOTT F. M. Perth* III. 109 Confidence in the blossoming virtues of his successor.

Blossomless (blɒsəmləs), a. [f. *BLOSSOM sb.* + *-LESS*.] Without blossoms.

1837 *New Month. Mag.* LI. 115 Budless, and blossomless. 1845 J. COOPER *Purgat. Suicides* (1877) 16 Weeds huge and dank, And blossomless as stones.

Blossomy (blɒsəmi), a. Also *poet. blomzy*. [f. as prec. + *-y*.] Covered or adorned with blossoms; flowery.

c1374 *CHAUCER Troylus* II. 772 With blomzy bowis grene. c1386 — *Merch. T.* 219 And blomzy tree nys neither drye ne deed. 1798 *COLERIDGE Nightingale* 79 On blomzy twig still swinging from the breeze. 1824 *MISS MITFORD Village Ser.* I. (1863) 31 That bit of grassy and blossomy earth. . . is very dear to me. 1831 *ALFORD in Life* (1873) 68 The blom' my groves of paradise.

fig. 1828 *CARLYLE Fredk. Gt.* II. x. i. 570 Leafy, blossomy Forest of Literature. 1877 *BLACKIE Wise Men* Cr. 93 What he knew he sung With blossomy phrase.

Blot (blɒt), sb. 1 Also 4-6 blotte, 5-7 blott, 6 blote. [Appears first in 14th c.: no corresponding form is known outside English, and the word may be really connected with *Plot*, or may unite a notion of *spot* with some words in *bl*. It has been compared with ON. *blattr* blot, stain, plot, spot of ground, Da. *plet* spot, blot, stain; and with Ger. *blets*, Goth. *plats* patch of cloth: but no normal phonetic relation to these words can be affirmed.]

1. A spot or stain of ink, mud, or other discolouring matter; a disfiguring spot or mark.

c1325 [see 2]. c1440 *Promp. Parv.* 41 Blotte vpon a boke, oblitum. 1530 *PALSGR.* 158 *Vne paste*, a blotte made with ynke. 1593 *SHAKS. Rich. II.* II. i. 64 Inky blottes and rotten Parchment bonds. 1714 *GAY Trivia* II. 172 Whose dashing Hoofs. . . mark, with muddy Blots, the gazing Squire. 1866 R. M. BALLANTYNE *Shift. Winds* XI. (1872) 110 A globe of ink, which fell on the paper. . . making a blot as large as a sixpence. 1876 E. JENKINS *Blot Queen's Head* 31 The ruthless hand had painted in an ugly black crown, which. . . only looked like a great blot.

b. An obliteration by way of correction.

1704 *SWIFT T. Tub* Author's Apol., Which he could have easily corrected with a very few Blots. 1788 *BURNS Let. clxvii.* Wks. (Globe) 437 Glance over the foregoing verses and let me have your blots.

c. *transf.* Any black or dark patch, especially as contrasted with light surroundings; also, anything that sullies or mars a fair surface, a blemish or disfigurement.

1578 *LYTE Dodoens* III. cxliii. 306 It taketh away the hawe or webbe in the eye & al spotted or blottes in the same. 1595 *SHAKS. John* III. i. 45 If thou. . . wert grim, Full of vnpleasing blots, and sightlesse staines. 1634 *MILTON Comus* 133 When the dragon womb Of Stygian darkness. . . makes one blot of all the air. 1730 *THOMSON Autumn* 1143 Distinction lost; and gay variety One universal blot. 1823 *LAMB Elia* Ser. I. xxii. (1865) 169, I have a kindly yearning towards these poor blots [little sweeps]. 1853 *KANE Grinnell Exp.* xix. (1856) 148 There are the black hills, blots upon rolling snow. 1878 *BLACK Adv. Phaeton* xix. 262 That plain gilt cross. . . is rather a blot, is it not?

2. *fig.* A moral stain; a disgrace, fault, blemish.

c1325 E. E. *Allit. P.* A. 781 Vnblemyst I am wyth-outen blot. c1386 *CHAUCER Parson's T.* 936 But lat no blotte be bihynde, lat no synne been vntoolde. 1523 *STARKE Eng. land* 193 Thys. . . ys a grette blot in our pollicy. 1671 *MILTON Samson* 411 O indignity, O blot To honour and religion! 1790 *BURKE Fr. Rev.* Wks. V. 61 Do these theorists. . . mean. . . to stain the throne of England with the blot of a continual usurpation? 1876 *GREEN Short Hist.* IV. 3 (1882) 186 The execution of Wallace was the one blot on Edward's clemency.

b. Imputation of disgrace; defamation.

1597 *Mirr. Mag. Forreix* IV. 7 Without the blots of everlasting blame. 1605 *Tryall Chm.* IV. i. in *Bullen O. Pl.* III. 324 Of all that ever liv'd deserv'd she not The worlds reproch and times perpetual blot. 1788 *YOUNG Love Fame v.* (1757) 139 If you your fame our sex a blot has thrown, 'Twill ever stick, thro' malice of your own.

3. *Comb.*, as blot-book (*Sc.*) = blotting-book;

blot-sheet (*Sc.*), a sheet of blotting-paper; blot-headed adj.

1857 *Mrs. CARLYLE Lett.* (1883) II. 313 She will find Mrs. Cook's bill in my blot-book. 1866 R. M. BALLANTYNE *Shift. Winds* XI. (1872) 106 The Bu'ster stood by with the blot-sheet, looking eager, as if he rather wished for blots.

Blot, sb. 2 [Origin conjectural: the sense suggests Da. *blot*, Sw. *blott* bare, naked, uncovered, Du. *blot* naked, exposed (cf. *blotstellen* to expose), if the history of backgammon should support such an origin. (The word is not used as a sb., nor app. in this special sense in any of these langs.)]

In *Backgammon*: An exposed piece or 'man' liable to be taken or forfeited; also, the action of so exposing a piece. To hit a blot: to 'take' the piece so exposed.

1598 *FLORIO, Caccia*, a hunting, a chasing. . . Also. . . a blot at tables. 1599 *PORTER Angry Wom. Abing.* (1841) 12 You neuer vse to misse a blot, Especially when it stands so faire to hit. 1672 *WYCHERLEY Love in Wood* v. v. Tho' I made a blot, your oversight has lost the game. 1880 *Boy's own Bk.* 620 The frequent occurrence of this taking of a blot gives an adversary a great advantage.

b. *fig.* An exposed or weak point in one's procedure; a fault or failing; also, a mark, butt.

1649 G. DANIEL *Trinarch.* *Hen. IV.* 367 Vpon termes gave over in the Sett, For Orleans, had the Dice, to save his Blot. 1698 *DRYDEN Æneid* Ded. (J.) He is too great a master of his art, to make a blot which may so easily be hit. 1734 *Pol. Ballads* (1860) II. 248 Its faults. . . have taught him the wit, The blots of his neighbours the better to hit. 1761 *COWPER Hope* 558 The very butt of slander, and the blot For every dart that malice euer shot. *Mod.* Here the critic has undoubtedly hit a blot.

Blot (blɒt), v. 1 [f. *BLOT sb.* 1]

1. *trans.* To spot or stain with ink or other discolouring liquid or matter; to blur.

c1440 *Promp. Parv.* 41 Blottyn bokys, oblitato. 1530 *PALSGR.* 458, I blotte as a writer dothe with an yvele penne, je barbouille. 1698 *DRYDEN Æneid* II. 203 His holy Fillets the blue Venom blots. c1750 *SHENSTONE Elegies* III. 8 And blots the mournful numbers with a tear. 1837 *DICKENS Pickw.* x. His note-book, blotted with the tears of sympathising humanity, lies open before us.

b. *absol.* To make blots.

1447 *BOKENHAM Seyntys* (1835) 27 Evne as he [my pen] goth he doth blot. 1570 *ASCHAM Scholom.* (Arb.) 116 Like pennens ouer full of incke, which will soner blotte, than make any faire letter at all. 1612 *BRINSLEY Lud. Lit.* 29 Inke. . . which wil not run abroad, nor blot.

c. *intr.* To become blotted, contract a blot.

1860 *TRENCH Serm. Westm. Abb.* xiii. 144 The soul in this resembling paper which, where it has been blotted once, however careful the erasure of the blot may have been, there more easily blots and runs anew than elsewhere.

d. *trans.* To write with blots or blottesquely. 1870 *LOWELL Among my Bks.* Ser. i. (1873) 242 Trammels and pot-hooks which the little Shearjashubs and Elkanahs blotted and blubbered across their copy-books.

2. To cover (paper) with worthless writing; to disfigure. *arch.* or *Obs.*

1494 *FABIAN VII.* 592 Whose oppynions, for the heryng of them shuld be tedious & vnfrutefull, I therfore wyll nat w^t them blot my booke. 1596 *SHAKS. Merch. V.* III. ii. 253 Heere are a few of the vnpleasantst words That euer blotted paper. 1607 *TOPSELL Four's. Beasts* 367, I spare to blot much paper with the recital of those things. a1652 J. SMITH *Sel. Disc.* i. 14 They are not always the best men that blot most paper.

b. To paint coarsely, to daub. (Cf. *BLOTTESQUE*.)

1844 *RUSKIN Mod. Paint.* Pref. 67 Catermole. . . began his career with finished and studied pictures, which never paid him; he now prostitutes his fine talent. . . and blots his way to emolument and oblivion.

3. *fig. a.* To cast a blot upon (good qualities or reputation); to tarnish, stain, sully. *arch.* or *Obs.*

1566 T. STAPLETON *Ret. Untr. Jewel* Ep., And Blotted your-selfe so much, intending to Blemish your Adversarie. 1596 *SHAKS. Tam. Shr.* v. II. 139 Vnkmit that threathing vnkinde brow. . . It blots thy beautie. 1644 *MILTON Judgm. Bucer* Wks. (1851) 301 To dome honour in that very thing, wherein these men thought to have blotted me. a1718 *ROWE (J.)* Blot not thy innocence with guiltless blood.

absol. 1588 *SHAKS. L. L. L.* IV. iii. 241 She passes prayse, then prayse too short doth blot.

† b. To stigmatize, calumniate, throw dirt at.

1521 E. CAMPION in *Confer.* (1584) A a ij, Neyther doeth Paul blotte the holy Ghost when he saide that he was *rudis sermone*. 1595 *SHAKS. John* II. i. 132 Theres a good mother, boy, that blots thy father! 1621 *Bible Pref.* 2 He hath been blotted by some to bee an Epitomisist.

4. To make a blot over (writing) so as to make it illegible to obliterate, efface. (Usually with *out*.)

1530 *PALSGR.* 458/b Who hath blotted out this worde. 1542-3 *Act* 34 & 35 *Hen. VIII.* I, Persons, hauinge anie bibles. . . with anie suche annotations or preambles shall. . . cutte out or blotte the same, in such wise, as they cannot be perceiued nor red. 1593 *SHAKS. Rich. II.* I. iii. 202 My name be blotted from the booke of Life. 1709 *STEELE & ADD. Tatler* No. 75 ¶ 8 By Culture, as skilful Gardiners blot a Colour out of a Tulip that hurts its Beauty. a1764 *JOHNSON in Boswell* (1831) I. 307 He submitted that work to my castigation; and I remember I blotted a great many lines. 1859 *Tennyson Vivien* 328, I took his brush and blotted out the bird.

absol. 1737 *Pope Hor. Epist.* II. i. 281 The last and greatest art, the art to blot.

5. *fig.* To efface, wipe out of existence, sight, or memory; to annihilate, destroy. (Usually with *out*.)

1561 T. NORTON *Calvin's Inst.* I. 19 Viterly to blot and deface it out of mennes remembrance. 1611 *Bible Acts* III. 19 Repent yee therefore. . . that your sins may be blotted

out. 1667 MILTON *P. L.* xl. 891 Not to blot out mankind. 1856 FROUDE *Hist. Eng.* (1858) I. ii. 178 One, the tragedy of whose fate has blotted the remembrance of her sins. 1875 BYRCE *Holy Rom. Emp.* vii. (ed. 5) 113 As the Persian monarchy had been blotted out by Alexander.

b. To put out of sight, obscure, eclipse; also fig. 1598 SHAKS. *Ven. & Ad.* 184 Like misty vapours when they blot the sky. 1718 ROWE *Lucan's Pharsalia* i. (R.) The moon . . . Was blotted by the earth's approaching shade. 1760 COWPER *Table T.* 270 No shades of superstition blot the day. 1868 WISE *New Forest*, Neither sea nor sky is seen—nothing but a dense haze blotting everything.

c. To dry with blotting-paper. 1854 W. COLLINS *Hide & Seek* I. 214 (Hoppe) Here Mr. Thorpe carefully blotted the first page of the letter.

Blotch (blɒtʃ). [A comparatively recent word, with no cognates outside Eng. App. an onomatopoeic modification of BLOT, for which it is commonly used dialectally: the sound seems to express a broader spreading blot, of the nature of a patch. But in sense 1 there may have been association with the earlier BOTCH. The suggestion that it is a variant of BLATCH 'blackening', finds no support in the history of either word.]

1. An inflamed eruption, or discoloured patch, on the skin; a pustule, boil, or botch.

1604 [see BLOTCHED]. 1669 W. SIMPSON *Hydrog. Chym.* 72 In its road it leaves its character of Spots, Stains, Blisters, Buboes, Ulcers, &c. in . . . the skin. 1711 ANDERSON *Spect.* No. 767 2 Healing those Blisters and Tumours which break out in the Body. 1740 CHRYNE *Regimen* Pref. 34 The Diseases of Infancy are generally Scabs, Blisters and Blains over the Face, etc. 1866 ROGERS *Agric. & Prices* I. xv. 293 Dark blotches appear on the skin.

fig. 1865 FARRAR *Early Chr.* II. 109 Which showed that they regarded Gentiles as worthless, and even Proselytes as little better than a blotch on the health of Israel.

b. spec. A disease in dogs.

1824 *Annals Sporting* VI. 265, I found his haunches exhibited appearances of a disease . . . termed the 'blotch'.

2. A large irregular spot or blot of ink, colour, etc.; a dab or patch.

1768 TUCKER *Li. Nat.* II. 396 To brush off the soil . . . and not suffer it to gather in pithy blotches upon the surface. 1807 SIR R. WILSON in *Life* II. vii. 83 The snow fell in large blotches. 1870 H. MACMILLAN *Bible Teach.* x. 201 Its leaves are covered with brown unsightly blotches. 1873 MOGGIDGE *Ants & Spiders* II. 76 Four blotches of paler colour.

b. fig. = BLOT 2.

1860 HAWTHORNE *Marble Faun* (1879) II. xii. 122 Ignoring all moral blotches.

c. transf. A rude clumsy daub.

1860 SMILES *Self-help* iv. 71 The artist . . . attempting to produce a brilliant effect at a dash, will only produce a blotch.

d. A shapeless object.

1872 BROWNING *Five* lxxxix. 17 Catch the puniest . . . And, as you nip the fiftine 'twixt thumb and fingernail, etc.

3. = BLOT (of ink). (North of Eng. and Scot.)

1863 ATKINSON *Provinc. Danby, Blotch*, a blot, in a copy-book, or on a clean piece of paper. *Blotch paper*, blotting paper. [Cf. BLOTCHING, BLOTCHY.]

Blotch (blɒtʃ), *v.* [f. prec. sb.]

1. *trans.* To mark or cover with blotches.

1604 [see BLOTCHED]. 1774 GOLDSM. *Hist. Earth* v. 79 The tail is . . . irregularly barred and blotched with an obscure ash colour. 1853 KANE *Grinnell Exp.* xxxii. (1856) 281 A great plain, blotched by dark, jagged shadows. 1865 BARING-GOULD *Herpetology* vi. 75 Its walls were blotched with lichen.

2. = BLOT *v.* 1 (Common in Scot. and north of Eng., as 'He has blotched two pages of his book.')

Cf. BLOTCHING, BLOTCHY.

Blotched (blɒtʃt), *pp. a.* [f. prec. vb. + -ED.] Marked, discoloured, or covered with blotches.

1604 DRAYTON *Moses* II. 328 To give their blotch'd and blister'd bodies ease. 1765 BURNS *Ep. J. M'Math* xii. The blotch'd and foul w' mony a stain. 1870 HOOKER *Stud. Flora* 252 *Pulmonaria officinalis*, Leaves . . . always blotched with pale green.

Blotching, *vbl. sb.* [f. as prec. + -ING.] The action of marking with blotches; discolouring.

1767 *Specif. T. Long's Patent* No. 869 A machine for the blotching, printing . . . colours on . . . calicoes, etc. 1872 DANA *Corals* II. 137 A blotching of the rock with various shades of pink and purple.

b. *concr.* Botch, disfigurement, smudging.

1865 CARLYLE *Fredk. Gt.* IX. xx. i. 6 Read him with a Map; and divine for yourself what the real names are, out of the inhuman blotchings made of them.

Blotching, *pp. a.* That makes blotches.

1865 RUSKIN *Sesame* 32 Owing to the spread of a shallow, blotching, blundering, infectious 'information' everywhere, and to the teaching of catechisms and phrases at schools.

Blotchy (blɒtʃi), *a.* [f. BLOTCH *sb.* + -Y.]

Characterized by blotches or blotching.

1824-9 LANDOR *Wks.* (1853) II. 107 Slim, straddling, blotchy writers. 1860 *All Y. Round* 545 The vaults themselves have . . . got blotchy and beplumbed.

† **Blote, blot.** *Obs.* [† Connected with *blow* in *blow-fly, fly-blown*. (The sense can hardly be explained from OE. *blāt* 'livid, pale', to which the form answers.)]

The egg or larva of flies and other insects.

1657 S. PURCHAS *Pol. Flying Ins.* 44 The Kings (i. e. queen-bees) do at certain seasons cast forth worms in multitudes as flies their fly-blotes. *Ibid.* 48 As the blotes of the flies are nourished by the flesh wherein they are blown. *Ibid.* II. 214 If the Bees be few, [Moths] will breed their blots in their combs.

VOL. I.

Blote, *obs. form of BLOAT, BLOT.*

† **Bloten, blotne, v.** *Obs. rare.* [a. ON.]

blotna to become soft or moist: see BLOAT.]

trans. To soften or moisten; to anoint.

c. 1325 *Metz. Hom.* (1862) 17 Scho wiped his feet wit her hare . . . And blotned thaim wit smersles suete.

Blotter, *obs. form of BLUTHER.*

Blotless (blɒtləs), *a.* [f. BLOT *sb.* 1 + -LESS.]

Without blot or stain; pure, immaculate.

1 a 1400 *Chester Pl.* i. (1843) 202 Cleaner than ever was any one, Blotless of blude and bone. 1664 *Floddon F.* v. 45 Knowing his blotless blood unblam'd. 1885 *Manch. Guard.* 28 Aug. 5 Clean and blotless pages.

Blotted (blɒtəd), *pp. a.* [f. BLOT *v.* + -ED.] Spotted or stained with ink, etc.; blurred.

1499 *Promp. Parv.* 41 Blottyd, obliteratus. 1597 THYNE *Names & Arms in Animadv.* (1865) Introd. 100 And for . . . the blotted and rude wrytinge, I craue your Lordship also to passe yt ouer. 1751 JOHNSON *Rambl.* No. 160 P. 11 The blotted manuscripts of Milton now remaining. 1876 BLACKIE *Songs Relig. & Life* 201 Gorgeous Nature's pictured show is now a blotted book.

b. fig. Soiled, tarnished, stained.

1596 SPENSER *F. Q.* II. l. 20 Now therefore Ladie . . . see the saluing of your blotted name. 1817 JAS. MILL *Brit. Ind.* II. iv. ix. 304 Consideration of his services, blotted by offences, yet splendid and great.

Blotter (blɒtər), [f. as prec. + -ER.]

1. One who, or that which, blots.

a. A scribbler, a sorry writer; b. One who stains or defiles; c. *Blotter out*: a quencher, extinguisher, annihilator.

1601 CORNWALLYSS *Ess.* xv. These blotchers of paper. a 1631 HARNETT *Serm. in Stuart's Serm.* (1656) 131 (L) Thou tookest the blotting of Thine image in Paradise as a blemish to Thyself; and Thou saidst to the blotter, Because thou hast done it, on thy belly shalt thou creep. 1827 HOOD *Hero & L.* lxxxiv, Blank Oblivion—Blotter-out of light.

2. A thing used for drying wet ink-marks, as a piece of blotting-paper or a blotting-pad.

1591 PERCIVALL *Sp. Dict.*, *Borrador*, a blotter, a blotting paper. 1859 R. BURTON *Centr. Afr. in J. Nat. Geogr. Soc.* XXIX. 78 Paper—soft and soppy by the loss of glazing—acts as a blotter. 1884 *Boston Lit. World* 19 Apr. 132/2 His pen spluttered . . . and he used no blotter.

3. 'A term applied in counting-houses to a waste-book' (Craig 1847); also to a rough copy of a letter.

Blotter, *obs. form of BLATTER *v.**

Blottesque (blɒtəsk), *a.* [f. BLOT *v.* + -ESQUE,

after *grotesque, picturesque*, etc.] Of painting:

Characterized by blotched touches heavily laid on. fig. of descriptive writing. (It belongs to the 'phraseology' of Art-Criticism.)

1880 *Daily News* 3 Jan. 2/2 The Landscape . . . is powerful in the unaffected blottesque manner. 1885 *Spectator* 24 Jan. 119/1 The fashionable blottesque school, wherewith modern painters smear their way to 'emolument and oblivion.' 1886 *Athenaeum* 19 June 808/3 The manner of relation [of the novel] might not inaptly be described as blottesque.

b. quasi-*sb.* A roughly-executed picture, a daub.

1886 F. G. FLEAY in *J. Nat. Educ.* May 146 To produce showy blottesques for framing in drawing-rooms.

Hence *Blottesquely adv.*, with blottesque effect.

1886 RUSKIN in *Pall Mall G.* 19 Jan. 2/1 Putting my pen lightly through the needless, and blottesquely through the rubbish.

Blotting (blɒtɪŋ), *vbl. sb.* [f. BLOT *v.* + -ING.]

1. The action of the verb BLOT; *concr.* a blot, smear, obliteration.

c. 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 41 Blottinge, obliteracio. 1548-3 Act 34-35 *Hen. VIII.* i. The blotting or cutting out of anie quotation. 1656 *Artif. Handsomeness* (1662) 47 The most accurate pencils were but blottings which presumed to mend Zeuxis or Apelles works. 1791 BOSWELL *Johnson* (1831) I. 350 Blottings, interlineations, and corrections.

1842 BROWNING *Waring* III. There were certain jottings, stray-leaves, fragments, blurs and blottings.

2. *Blotting out*: obliteration of writing, etc.; also, effacement, destruction, annihilation.

1808 SYD. SMITH *Plymley's Lett.* Wks. 1859 II. 159/2 [No] one of his conquered countries the blotting out of which would be as beneficial to him. 1861 *Mill Repr. Com.* 137 The virtual blotting out of the minority is no necessary or natural consequence of freedom. 1879 CALDERWOOD *Mind & Brain* 306 A blotting out of impressions.

3. *Comb.*, as blotting-book, a book consisting

of leaves of blotting-paper for drying the ink of letters and the like; also, a rough note-book in which entries of transactions are made as they occur, a waste-book; blotting-case, a case or cover enclosing blotting-paper; blotting-pad, a pad consisting of a number of sheets of blotting-paper joined at the edges, used for the same purpose as a blotting-book. Also BLOTING-PAPER.

1857 W. COLLINS *Dead Secret* (1861) 21 She signed these lines with her name,—pressed them hurriedly over the blotting-pad.

Blotting, *pp. a.* [f. as prec. + -ING.] That

blots or smears.

1828 LAMB *Corr.* cxxviii. 522 The blotting pen.

Hence *Blottingly adv.*

1653 GAUDEN *Hierasp.* 248 That pen, which now writes blottingly.

Blotting-paper. A bibulous paper made without size, used to absorb superfluous ink.

1519 HORMAN *Vulg.* 80 b, Blottynge papyr serueth to drye

wrote wrytynge lest there be made blottis or blurris. 1628 BRINSLEY *Lud. Lit.* 29 Each to have a blotting paper to keep their books from soiling, or marring vnder their hands. 1755 MAUDUIT in *Phil. Trans.* XLIX. 207 It is less bibulous than the common blotting paper.

Blotty (blɒti), *a.* [f. BLOT *sb.* 1 + -Y.] Disfigured with blots; dauby.

1856 *Sat. Rev.* II. 125/2 [Those pictures] blotty and hasty as they all are.

Bloubred, *obs. form of BLUBBERED.*

Blou(e), *obs. form of BLOW, BLUE.*

Blough, variant of BLUFF *a.*

† **Blought**, *a. Obs.*— [Deriv. and meaning uncertain: see quot. Cf. BLOAT *a.* 2.] Swollen, plump.

1611 CORGR. s.v. *Glas*, *Blad glas*, blought wheat. 1632 SHERWOOD s.v. *Wheat*, Blought wheate, *bledglas*, *townelle*, *townelle*. [1611 CORGR., *Townelle*, fine wheat, white winter wheat; a head of smooth wheat, which hath an vpright stalk, and a very white graine.]

† **Bloughty**, *a. Obs. rare*—1. [var. of prec.]

Swollen, bulky.

1620 Bp. HALL *Hon. Mar. Clerg.* l. § 2 One dash of a penne might thus iustly answer the most part of his bloughtie volume.

Bloume, *obs. form of BLOOM.*

Blouchet, *obs. form of BLANCHÉD.*

Bloure, var. of BLURE *Obs.* blister.

Blouse (blauz), [a. mod.F. *blouse* (pron. bluz)]

of obscure etymology: see Littré and Scheler.]

1. A light loose upper garment of linen or cotton,

resembling a shirt or smock-frock; properly applied (as an alien term) to the well-known blue blouse of the French workman, but in England sometimes used loosely to designate more or less similar garments.

[1834 PLANCHÉ *Brit. Costume* 89 A garment called *bliant* or *bliaus*, which appears to have been only another name for the surcoat or super-tunic. In this *bliaus* we may discover the modern French *blouse*, a tunic or smock-frock.]

1840 THACKERAY *Paris Sketch Bk.* (1872) 6 Another has a shooting dress, a third has a blouse. 1875 J. CURTIS *Hist. Eng.* 153 The lower classes wore a blouse or kind of small frock, made of canvas or fustian. 1879 KINGSTON *Australian Abn.* II. 11 A blue blouse, tied with a sash around the waist.

2. *transf.* A French workman.

1865 G. BERKELEY *Life* II. 281 No wealth of gold would tempt a blouse to risk a charge from an old boar at such close quarters. 1872 LYTTON *Parisians* xi. xi. (1878) II. 223 De Mauléon came on a group of blouses.

3. *Comb.*, as blouse-like adj., blouse panier.

1874 BOUTELL *Arms & Arm.* 107 The body armour is . . . a long, narrow, blouse-like garment. 1883 MYRA'S *Jrnl. Aug.*, Narrow box-pleated blouse paniers.

Blouse, Blousy, variants of BLOWZE, BLOWZY.

Bloused (blauzd), *pp. a.* [f. prec. + -ED.]

Wearing a blouse, dressed in a blouse.

1840 KINGSLEY *All. Locke* xxxiii. (D.) There was a bloused and bearded Frenchman or two. 1860 *All Y. Round* No. 54. 79, I have seen baby London short-coated, and frocked, and breeched, and jacketed, and bloused.

Blout (blast), *sb. Sc.* [App. onomatopoeic:

cf. *blow, blast, blash*, etc.]

1. The sudden breaking of a storm; a sudden downpour of rain, hail, etc., accompanied by wind.

1766 *Harvest Rig* in Chambers *Hum. Sc. Poems* (1862) 52 For 'tis a blout will soon be laid, And we may hap us in our plaid, Till it blows over. 1804 TARRAS *Poems* 63 (JAM.) Vernal win's, w' bitter blout, Out owre our chimlas blaw.

2. Cf. *gouts* (of blood).

1827 J. WILSON *Noct. Ambr.* Wks. 1855 I. 338 Wringing her hauns as if washin them in the cleansin dewe frae the blouts o' blood.

† **Blout**, *a. Sc. Obs.* Also blowt. [Cf. Du.

blout naked, bare, ON. *blaut-r* soft, wet. The ON. accounts best for the form, but the Du. agrees in sense.] Naked, bare, desolate.

1513 DOUGLAS *Æneis* VII. Prol. 65 Woddiss, forestis, wyth nakyt bewis blout, Stud strypt of their weyd in every hout. *Ibid.* XI. xviii. 8 The baneris left all blout and desolait. *Ibid.* XIII. vi. 227 Planys . . . blout of bestis; and of treis bayr.

Blout(e), *obs. form of BLOAT.*

Blouter, *Sc.* [f. BLOUT *sb.*] A blast of wind.

1804 TARRAS *Poems* 129 (JAM.) An' blew a maikless blouter.

Blouth, *sb.* [? Cf. BLOWTH.]

1643 LIGHTFOOT *Cleanings* (1648) 10 He had hazzarded their lives . . . both of them [mother and new-born child] being in their blouth and blood.

Blouse, *obs. form of BLOWZE.*

Blow (blɔː), *v.* 1. Pa. t. blew. Pa. pple.

blown (also in sense 29 blowed). Forms: 1

bláwan, 2-3 blawen, (1 blauwen), blouwen,

3 bloawen, 5 blowen, blowyn, 3-7 blowe, 5-

blow; (north.) 3-4 blau, 4-6 blawe, 3- blaw.

Pa. t. 1 bléow, bléw, 2-3 bleu, 4 blwe, blees,

ble3, 3-5 blu, 5 blue, 4-6 blewé, 4- blew.

Also 4 blowide, 7 blowed, blowede, 6- blowed.

Pa. pple. 1 bláwen, blouen, 4-7 blowen, 6-7

blowne, 7- blown; also 4 y-blowe, blowun,

blowe, 4-6 i-blowe, 7 bloun; *north.* 3 blawn, 4

blawun, 4-5 blawen, 6 blawne, blawin, blawen,

blaw, 6- blawn. Also 6- blowed. [OE. *bláwan*,

pa. t. *bléow*, pple. *bláwen*, elsewhere as a strong vb.

only in OHG. *blā(h)an* (pa. pple. *blāhan, blān*);—

Goth. type **blāian*, **baibld*, OTeut. **blējan*,

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cogn. w. L. *flā-re* to blow. (In OHG. this, like other verbs with *ai* in Gothic, passed into the weak conj. *blāen*, *blāhen*, *blājen*, *blāwen*, *blān*, MHG. *blājen*, *blāwen*, *blān*, Ger. *blāhen*.) In OE. only in a few senses: see 1, 2, 14; but an immense development of sense and constructions has taken place in middle and modern Eng., and in later times distinct senses have influenced each other, or run together, in a manner difficult to exhibit in a linear series.]

I. *properly*. To produce a current of air; to set in motion with a current of air.

* *intransitively*.

1. *intr.* The proper verb naming the motion or action of the wind, or of an aerial current. Sometimes with subject *it*, as 'it blows hard', and often with complement, as 'it blew a gale, a hurricane'. To blow great guns: to blow a violent gale. To blow up: to rise, increase in force of blowing.

c1000 *Ag. Gosp.* Luke xii. 55. *Ponne 7e geseoð sudan blawan.* c1175 *Lamb. Hom.* 167. *Lutel he hit scaweoð . . hu biter wind per blaweoð.* a1225 *Ancre R.* 124. *3if a wind bloweoð a lutel toward us.* a1300 *Cursor M.* 532. *Wynd pat blawoð o loft.* 1388 *Wyclif Eccl.* xliii. 22. *The cold northerne wind bleeoð [1388 blew].* 1530 *Palsgr.* 130. *Il uente, it bloweth.* 1880 *Baker At.* B 829. *I turne saile that way as the winde bloweth.* 1883 *WALTON Angler* 208. *Heark how it rains and blows.* 1897 *Dryden Virg. Georg.* iii. 549. *All the Weste Allies of stormy Boreas blow.* 1705 *BURNS Cotter's Sat.* Nt. ii. *November chill blawo loud wi' angry sugh.* 1793 *SMEATON Edystone L.* § 313. *It blew very hard, especially on the night of lighting.* 1800 *Gouv. MORRIS in Sparks Life & Writ.* (1832) III. 166. *Straws and feathers . . show which way the wind blows.* 1840 *MARRYAT Poor Jack* x. *The gale had blown up again.* 1854 *H. MILLER Sch. & Schm.* (1858) 14. *It soon began to blow great guns.*

2. To send from the mouth a current of air (stronger than that produced by ordinary breathing); to produce a current of air in any way, *c.g.* said of bellows. (Cf. sense 7.)

c1000 *Ag. Gosp.* John xx. 22. *Pa blew he on hi and cwæð to him under-foð haline gast.* a1300 *Cursor M.* 12540. *He . . hent his hand and blew þar-in.* 1388 *Wyclif Eccl.* xxi. 31. *In fier of my wodes Y shal blowe in thee.* 1566 *Pilgr. Perf.* (W. de W. 1531) 263 b. *She waueth with her wynges and so bloweth, that by her mounge she engendreth an hete in them.* 1572 *GASCOIGNE Wks.* (1587) i. *My lights and lungs like bellows blow.* a1600 *J. DYKE Sol. Sermon.* (1640) 63. *When the word is preached, then the Bellows blowes to kindle the fire.* 1646 *Sir T. BROWNE Pseud. Ep.* 176. *Serious or jarring motion like that which happeneth while we blow on the teeth of a comb through paper.* 1715 *DESAGULIERS Fines Impr.* 42. *I blowed upon the Thermometer.* a1856 *LONGF. Vill. Blacksmith* 14. *You can hear his bellows blow.*

b. To blow hot and cold: (*fig.*) to be or to do one thing at one time, another at another; to be inconsistent or vacillating. (In reference to one of Æsop's Fables.)

1577 *tr. Bullinger's Decades* (1592) 176. *One which out of one mouth, doeth blowe both hoat and colde.* 1638 *CHIL-lingw. Reliq. Prot.* i. ii. § 113. 95. *These men can blow hot and cold out of the same mouth to serve severall purposes.* 1690 *W. WALKER Idioms. Anglo-Lat.* 61. *With the same breath to blow hot and cold.* [1694 *R. LESTRANGE Fables* (J.) Says the satyr, 'If you have gotten a trick of blowing hot and cold out of the same mouth, I've e'en done with ye.'] 1866 *MOTLEY Dutch Rep.* v. v. 750. *Being constantly ordered "to blow hot and cold with the same breath."*

†3. To make a blowing sound; to hiss, whistle. 1340 *Ayeb.* 32. *Pe childe þet ne dar guo his way vor þe guos þet blaup.* c1400 *Avow. Arth.* 64. *Alle wrothe wex that sqwyne, Blu, and brayd vppe his bryne.* 1535 *COVERDALE Zech.* x. 8. *I wil blowe [1621 hisse] for them & gather them together.*

4. To breathe hard, pant, puff. To blow out; to be winded. (Cf. sense 8.)

c1440 *Erle Tolous* 442 in *Ritson Met. Rom.* III. 111. *The thrydd fled, and blew owt faste.* The erle ovyrtok hym at the laste. 1533 *DOUGLAS Æneis* xii. 234. *At sic debat that bayth that pant and blaw.* 1530 *Palsgr.* 458/2. *He bloweth lyke a horse that came newe from gallopyng.* 1608 *ARMIST Nest Ninn.* (1842) 23. *They puffed and they blowed, they ran as swift as a pudding would creepe.* 1718 *POPE Iliad* ii. 465. *Each spent courser at the chariot blow.* 1847 *TENNYSON Princ.* v. 20. *The huge bush-bearded Barons heaved and blew.*

b. To breathe; to take breath. *dial.* To blow short: (of a horse) to be broken-winded.

c1440 *York Myst.* xxxi. 142. *Nowe gois a-bakke both, and late þe boy blowe.* 1523 *FITZHERB. Husb.* § 84. *Pursy is a disease in an horses bodye, and maketh hym to blowe shorte.* 1647 *WARD Simp. Cobler* 36. *They gave him such straynes as made him blow short ever since.* 1706 *BURNS To Auld Mare* *Thou never lap, and stent an' breastit, Then stood to blaw.* 1800 *HOLLAND Miss Gilbert* ii. 29. *I'll sit here and blow, till he comes around.*

5. Of whales, etc.: To eject water and air from the 'blow-holes', before taking in fresh air; to spout.

1725 *DUDLEY in Phil. Trans.* XXXIII. 261. *Once in a Quarter of an Hour . . they are observed to rise and blow, spouting out Water and Wind, and to draw in fresh Air.* 1779 *FORREST Voy. N. Guinea* 128. *Many porpoises blowing near us.* 1851 *H. MELVILLE Whale* xlvii. 239. *The Sperma Whale blows as a clock ticks.*

6. To utter loud or noisy breath, to bluster: a. To boast, brag (chiefly *dial.*); b. To fume, storm, speak angrily (chiefly *collog.*)

c1400 *Apot. Loll.* 97. *Blouing veynly wip fleschli wit.* c1400 *Avow. Arth.* xxiii. 1. *Kay, that thou knawes, That owte*

of tyme bostus and blawus. 1519 *Four Elements* in *Hazl. Dodsley* I. 41. *Why, man, what alleth thee so to blow?* 1709 *BURNS Tam Glen* iii. *He brags and he blawo o' his siller.* 1863 *Mrs. C. CLARKE Shaks. Char.* x. (1876) 270. *He has been blowing and storming about this drum.* 1873 *TROLLOPE Australia* xxv. *In the colonies . . when a gentleman sounds his own trumpet he 'blows.'* 1878 *Cornh. Mag.* June 680. *'My sister ain't the best,' the child declared, 'she's always blowing at me.'*

†1. *dial.* To smoke a pipe: see 9 b.

* *causal uses of the preceding.*

7. Beside the expressions to blow with bellows, and the bellows blow (see 2), one is said to blow the bellows, i.e. to work them so as to make them blow.

c1440 *Leg. Rood* (1871) 85. *Scho blew þe belise ferly fast.* 1509 *HAWES Past. Pleas.* xxxvi. xxiii. *Afrycus Auster made surfection, Blowing his bellows by great occasion.* 1577 *NORTHROOKE Dicing* (1843) 81. *Many which lacke armes may worke with their feete, to blowe smithes bellows.* 1880 *GROVE Dict. Mus.* II. 577. *The four bellows are blown in a manner which we here meet with for the first time.*

†b. *fig.* To blow the bellows: to stir up passion, strife, etc. *Obs.* (Cf. to blow the coals, 17 b.)

1596 *SPENSER F. Q.* ii. iii. 9. *He cast for to . . blow the bellows to his swelling vanity.* a1657 *Sir J. BALFOUR Ann. Scott.* (1825) II. 263. *The bishops blowing the bellows, and still craying fyre and sword.*

8. (causal of 4.) To cause to pant, to put out of breath: usually of horses.

1641 *DAVENANT Gondibert* ii. xliii. *From thence, well blown, he [i.e. Stag] comes to the Relay.* 1760 *Hist. Europe in Ann. Reg.* 24/1. *They came up five miles on a full trot without being blown.* 1771 *P. PARSONS Newmarket* i. 108. *How much water, given to a horse before he starts, will blow him.* 1816 *SCOTT Old Mort.* xii. *Move steadily, and do not let the men blow the horses.* 1859 *Blackw. Mag.* Mar. 306/1. *The Russians . . were . . pretty well blown in the pursuit.*

* *trans.* (with the air, breath, etc., as obj.)

9. *trans.* To breathe out, emit, produce (a current of air, breath, etc.) with the mouth; to give forth by breathing; also to force or cause to pass (a current of air) through, into, upon, by other means. Also *fig.*

c1175 *Lamb. Hom.* 75. *Dan depliche atter þet þe alde deouel blou on adam.* *Ibid.* 99. *[Crist ablowe þana halga gast ofer þa apostlas.]* c1375 *Wyclif Antecrist* (Todd) 148. *Pei blown on hem a styndand brepe.* 1388 *— Wicl. xv.* 11. *That blye [1388 blowed] in to hym a lifli spirit.* 1509 *HAWES Past. Pleas.* xxxvi. iii. *A fende . . Blowing out fyre.* 1591 *SPENSER Belay's Ruines Rome* xxvi. *Where colde Boreas blowes his bitter stormes.* 1651 *HOBBS Leviath.* vi. i. ii. *Good thoughts are blown into a man by God.* 1704 *J. ADAMS Diary Wks.* 1851 III. 388. *If inflammable air were blown through the pipe.* 1848 *LONGF. Wreck Reep.* 19. *He blew a whiff from his pipe.* 1866 *HUXLEY Phys.* iv. (1869) 96. *If a pipe be now fitted into the bronchus, and air blown through it.*

b. To smoke (tobacco); also *intr.* (*dial.*) But to blow a cloud is a common figurative expression for to smoke a pipe.

1808 in *JAMIESON*, To blow Tobacco; to blow. c1855 *HAWTHORNE Mother Rigby's Pipe* i. *Smoke, puff, blow thy cloud.*

10. To blow off: (*trans.*) to allow (steam or the like) to escape forcibly with a blowing noise; also *fig.* to get rid of (superfluous energy, emotion, etc.) in a noisy way; *intr.* (for *refl.*) of steam, gas, etc.: to escape forcibly.

1837 *MARRYAT Dog-Fiend* xi. *The widow . . sat . . fuming and blowing off her steam.* 1865 *JEVONS Coal Quest.* (ed. 2) 65. *Carburetted gas . . is liable to blow off and endanger the lives of hundreds of persons.* 1884 *Chr. Commonw.* 24 Jan. 248/1. *Blowing off their superfluous energy in singing and shouting.*

†11. To utter: also with *out*. Most frequently in a bad sense: To utter boastfully, angrily, etc. To blow into one's ear: to whisper privily. *Obs.*

1375 *BARBOUR Bruce* iv. 122. *The gret bost that it [wyrd] blawis.* c1380 *Wyclif Three Tracts* i. 60. *Censuris þat þe fend bloweþ (as ben suspensis and interdicynis).* c1380 *Sir Ferumbe.* 521. *Pan wax þe Amyrall glad . . & gan to blowe bost.* c1440 *HYLTON Scala Perf.* (W. de W. 1494) ii. xlii. *Blownye psalmes & lounynges to Jhesu.* 1540 *Compl. Scot.* vi. 38. *That samyn sound as thay beystis hed blauen.* a1563 *BECON New Catech. Wks.* (1844) 344. *He blowed out many furious and unseemly words.* 1643 *T. TAYLOR God's Judgem.* i. i. xii. 35. *Threats were blowne out on every side against the Faithful.* 1652 *COTTERELL Cassandra* (1676) iv. 61. *These things which malicious Roxana blew into Statira's ears.*

* *trans.* To drive or transport by blowing.

12. *trans.* To drive or carry (things) by means of a current of air; also *fig.* Const. simply, or with preps. or adverbs of direction, as away, down, from, off, to, etc.

a1300 *Cursor M.* 22922. *Pof his bodi al war brint, And blawu ouer al þe puder tint.* c1300 *K. Alis.* 5630. *The wynde you may theder blawen, In lesse than in twenty dauen.* 1388 *Wyclif Mal.* i. 13. *3e han blowe it away.* c1400 *Dest. Troy* 1982. *[Pai] were blowen to þe brode se in a bir swithe.* 1577 *HAMMER Anc. Eccles. Hist.* (1619) 174. *The heate of persecution was blowne against vs.* 1593 *SHAKS. 3 Hen. VI.* iii. i. 84. *Looke, as I blow this Feather from my Face, And as the Ayre blowes it to me againe.* 1597 *— 2 Hen. IV.* v. iii. 90. *Fal. What winde blew you hither, Pistoll? Pist. Not the ill winde which blows none to good.* 1697 *Dryden Virg. Georg.* iii. 217. *Winnow'd Chaff by Western Winds is blown.* 1712 *ADDISON Spect.* No. 269 ¶ 7. *The Wind . . blew down the End of one of his Barns.* 1865 *TYLOR Early Hist. Man.* iii. 38. *What children call 'blowing a kiss.'* 1870 *F. WILSON Ch. Lindisf.* 68. *The roof was blown off.*

b. *intr.* (for *refl.*) To be driven or carried by the wind; to move before the wind. Same const.

1848 *TENNYSON Goose* 51. *Her cap blew off, her gown blew up.* 1848 *— Day-Dream* 141. *The hedge broke in, the banner blew.*

c. To blow over (formerly in perf. to be blown over): (of storms or storm-clouds) to pass over a place without descending upon it; to pass away, come to an end; also *fig.* of misfortune, danger, etc. Also To blow off in same sense.

1617 *J. FOSBROKE Englands Warr.* (1633) 25. *When the storm is blown over, they return to their old bias again.* 1641 *SMECTYMNIUS Vind. Ansv.* § 13. 131. *This cloud will soone blow over.* 1692 *SOUTH 12 Sermon.* (1697) I. 564. *Do they think that . . this dreadful Sentence [shall] blow off without Execution?* 1794 *Gouv. MORRIS in Sparks Life & Writ.* (1832) II. 399. *The affair is blown over.* 1852 *ALISON Hist. Europe* VIII. liv. § 18. *The danger had blown over.*

13. *trans.* (*fig.*) To proclaim, publish, blaze, spread abroad, about, (out obs.), etc.

c1205 *LAY. 27021* *Pe king of Peytouw, har[d] mon iblowen.* c1384 *CHAUCER H. Fame* 1139. *And her fames wide yblowe.* 1513 *DOUGLAS Æneis* (ad fin.) Direction 129. *Thy fame is blaw, thy prowes and renoun Dyvulgat ar.* 1541 *Act 33 Hen. VIII.* xxi. *They shal not openly blid at brode.* 1603 *KNOLLES Hist. Turks* (1621) 429. *These news . . being blown out of the campe into the cite.* 1819 *SCOTT Ivanhoe* II. xi. 199. *As soon as Richard's return is blown abroad.* 1859 *TENNYSON Guinevere* 151. *A rumour wildly blown over.*

II. To act upon an object, by blowing air into, upon, or at it.

* To blow a musical instrument.

14. *trans.* To make (a wind-instrument) sound. (Formerly also with *up*, *out*.) To blow one's own trumpet: (*fig.*) to sound one's own praises, to brag.

b. To sound (a note or blast) on or with an instrument. c. To sound the signal of (an alarm, advance, retreat, etc.) on an instrument. d. Predicated of the instrument.

c1000 *Ag. Gosp.* Matt. vi. 2. *Ne blawu man byman beforan þe.* c1200 *Trin. Coll. Hom.* 115. *Pe benene drem þe be engles blewen.* c1384 *CHAUCER H. Fame* 774. *When a pipe is blown sharpe The aire ys twyst with violence.* c1450 *LYDGE Mer. Misce* 171. *Pryd gothe beforen And schame comythe aftyr, and blawythe horne.* 1490 *CAXTON Eneydos* xlii. 139. *They . . blew vp their trompettes for to gyue a sharpe sawte.* 1535 *COVERDALE 1 Mac.* iii. 54. *They blew out the trompettes.* 1611 *BIBLE Psalm* lxxxi. 3. *Blow vp the trumpet in the new Moone.* *Ibid.* Hosea v. 8. *Blow yee the cornet in Gibeah.* 1842 *TENNYSON Pal. of Art* 63. *The belted hunter blew His wreathed bugle-horn.*

b. c1340 *Gaw. & Gr. Knt.* 1141. *Blwe byggy in bugler þre bare mote.* 1486 *Bk. St. Albans* E v b, 11j. *motis shal ye blaw booth lowde and shill.* c1600 *Rob. Hood* (Ritson) ii. ix. 60. *Let me have my beugle horn, And blow but blasts three.* 1793 *BURNS Soldier's Ret.* i. *When wild war's deadly blast was blawn.* 1843 *CAROLINE Fox Frail.* II. 12. *Though he has blown so loud a blast.*

c. c1320 *Sir Tristr.* i. xlviii. *Pe tokening when þai blew.* c1400 *Anturs of Arthure* v. 10. *The king blew a recharge.* 1552 *HULOT, Blowe the Retreat* in *battayle.* 1561 *DAUS tr. Bullinger on Apoc.* (1573) Pref. 5. *The Deuill . . bloweth the onset.* 1634 *Malory's Arthur* (1816) I. 112. *Then king Arthur blew the prize, and dight the hart there.* 1681 *Br. MOUNTAGU Diatribe* 398. *Wee must goe blow the Seeke, and cast about againe.* a1641 *— Acts & Mon.* (1642) 385. *He tels they were Grecians born . . where, when, upon what termes, you must, if you will, goe blow the seek.* 1805 *SOUTHEY Madoc in Ast.* xviii. *Ye blow the fall too soon!*

d. 1593 *SHAKS. 2 Hen. VI.* v. ii. 43. *Let the generall Trumpet blow his blast.* 1667 *MILTON P. L.* i. 540. *Sonorous metall blowing Martial sounds.* 1761 *BEATTIE Ode to Peace* ii. 3. *The hoarse alarms Her trump terrific blows.*

15. *intr.* a. Of a wind-instrument: To give forth a sound by being blown. Also with *up* (obs.).

a1225 *Ancre R.* 210. *Pe englene bemen . . þet schulen . . biuoren þe grureful dome grisliche blowen.* a1340 *HAMPOLE Pr. Consc.* 4677. *Pe beme þat blaw sal on domsday.* c1430 *Syr Tryam.* 1092. *The kyng . . herde a bewgulle blowe!* 1535 *STEWART Cron. Scot.* II. 181. *All the trumpettis blawand vp in tune.* 1606 *SHAKS. Tr. & Cr.* i. iii. 256. *Trumpet, blow loud, Send thy Brasse voyce through all these lazze Tents.* 1647 *FANSHAW Pastor Fido* (1676) 52. *But list a little, doth not a Horn blow?* 1875 *O. W. HOLMES Old Camb. Poems* (1884) 306. *Our trumpets needs must blow.*

b. Of the blower: To sound a blast.

c1205 *LAY. 8054* *Pe king lette blawen & bonnien his ferdin.* 1375 *BARBOUR Bruce* iii. 484. *Quhen he hard sa blaw and cry.* c1400 *Dest. Troy* 1308. *Pe kyng . . henttes his horne and hastily blowes.* 1533 *LD. BERNERS Froiss.* 410. *At the houre of ix. they mynstrels blew vp on highe.* 1530 *Palsgr.* 459/1. *He bloweth in a trompet.* 1602 *Return fr. Parnass.* ii. v. (Arb.) 29. *There is an excellent skill in blowing for the terriers.* 1611 *BIBLE Judg.* vii. 18. *I blow with a trumpet.* a1882 *LONGF. M. Angelo*, *Blow, ye bright angels, on your golden trumpets.*

c. Of the blast or note: To sound.

1599 *SHAKS. Hen. V.* iii. i. 5. *When the blast of Warre blowes in our eares.* 1852 *TENNYSON Ode Wellington* iii. *Let the mournful martial music blow.*

* *To blow a fire, and the like.*

16. *trans.* To direct a current of air against (anything) so as to cool, warm, or dry it. Sometimes with complementary words expressing the effect of the action, as to blow (something) dry.

1398 *TEVISA Barth. De P. R.* xv. cxxxviii. (1495) 539. *Stones ben dygged and ben strongly blowen wyth fyre and tome to brasse and metall.* 1566 *DRANT Horace Sat.* ix. E iiij. *All the reaste might blow their nayles.* 1592 *SHAKS. Ven. & Ad.* 52. *To fan and blow them dry again she seeks.* a1639 *CLEVELAND News fr. Newcastle* 120. *And in embroidered Buck-skins blows his Nails.* 1841 *MARRYAT Poacher* xxiv. *The winter was cold . . and he blew his fingers.* 1850 *TENNYSON In Mem.* lxxii. *Blasts that blow the poplar white.*

17. *esp.* To direct a current of air into (a fire), in order to make it burn more brightly. Also with *up*.

a 1300 *Havelok* 913 Ywile. The fir blowe, anful wel maken. 1530 *Palsgr.* 458/2 Where be the bellows, I praye the, blowe the fyre. 1611 *Bible Isa.* liv. 16 The smith that bloweth the coales in the fire. 1631 *Gouge God's Arrows* iv. xiii. 391 Yet were... the sparkes of that fire so blowne up, as dazled the eyes. 1677 *Moxon Mech. Exerc.* (1703) 7 The Phrase Smiths use... is, Blow up the Fire, or sometimes, Blow up the Coals. 1781 *Hayley Tri. Temper* i. 374 Chemic fires, that patient labour blows. 1830 *tr. Aristophanes' Acharn.* 29 The sparkes, blowed with a favourable puff of the bellows, leap aloft.

b. *fig.* To blow the coals or the fire: to stir up or promote strife; to fan the flame of discord.

1581 *Let. in Tytler Hist. Scot.* (1864) IV. 41 After every effort to 'blow the coals,' as he [Bowie] expressed it. 1670 *Cotton Espemum* ii. vii. 309 The Chancellor... had also help'd to blow the fire. 1775 *Ramsay Gent. Sheph.* iv. i. To thole An ethercap like him to blow the coal.

c. To blow out: (a.) *trans.* to extinguish (a flame) by a current of air; (b.) *intr.* to be extinguished by a current of air.

1377 *Langl. P. Plow.* B. xvii. 212 As how seest some tyme sodeynliche a torch, The blase here-of yblow out. 1556 *Shaks. Tam. Shr.* ii. i. 136 Though little fire grows great with little winde, yet extreme gusts will blow out fire. 1617 *P. Bayne in Spurgeon Treas. David Ps.* cxix. 29 As candles new blown out are soon blown in again. 1665 *Boyle Occas. Refl.* (1675) 353 A Candle... inclos'd in a Lanthorn... is in less danger to be blown out. 1830 *Dickens Nick Nick.* viii. Squeers... opened the shutters and blew the candle out. 1848 *Tennyson Goose* 49 The glass blew in, the fire blew out.

† 18. *fig.* To excite, inflame, arouse, fan (feeling, passion, discord, etc.; rarely, a person to some feeling or action). Usually with *up*. *Obs.*

a 1285 *Ancre.* R. 256 3if þe weond blowed bitweonen ou eni wæddæ. 1654 *G. Goddard in Burton Diary* (1828) i. 93 These two interests... being constantly blown up by the enemies beyond the seas. 1677 *Yarranton Engl. Improv.* To Rdr., They... blow up a War betwixt England and Holland. 1700 *Ozell Vertol's Rom. Rep.* i. ii. 118 Finding the People were blown up again to their former Animosity. 1776 *Gibson Decl. & F.* i. vi. 127 Some trifling accident blew up their discontent into a furious mutiny.

19. In Metallurgy. To blow in: (trans.) to put a blast furnace in operation. To blow out: to put a blast furnace out of blast, by ceasing to charge it with fresh materials, and by continuing the blast, until all the contents have been smelted. Also said *intr.* of the furnace.

1864 *Daily Tel.* 26 Oct., It was a question... of allowing half the furnaces in the district to blow out. 1881 *Sat. Rev.* 1 May 565, 127 new furnaces have now been blown in. 1885 *Law Times* LXXIX. 188/2 A few workmen only were kept on until the furnaces could be blown out.

† 20. *trans.* To cast (of molten metal). *Obs.*
a 1300 *Cursor M.* 6503 A goldin calf þar-of þai blu. 1483 *Caxton Gold. Leg.* 61/3 They haue made to them a Calf blown and haue worshipped it.

*** To clear (a pipe, etc.) by blowing.

21. *trans.* To clear from mucus or other adherent matter by sending a current of air through; as, to blow the nose, to blow eggs, gas or water pipes.

c 1532 *Dewes in Palsgr.* 906 To blowe the nose, le moucher. a 1613 *Overbury Char. Wks.* (1856) 120 He hath learnt to cough and spit, and blow his nose. 1795 *Wolcott (P. Pindar)* *Pindar.* Wks. 1812 IV. 209 He blows his mean pug-nose. 1828 *W. Sewell Oxf. Prize Ess.* 80 Socrates... had done what he rarely did, washed, put on a pair of shoes, and blown his nose. 1880 *Wood in Boy's Own Paper* 24 Apr., Do not worry yourself about blowing the eggs at the time. *Mod.* The plumber will try whether the obstruction can be removed by blowing the pipe.

**** To inflate by blowing.

22. *trans.* To swell (up or out) by sending a current of air into; to inflate, puff up.

c 1420 *Liber Cocorum* (1862) 26 þe skyn þou opon... blaw hym with penne; Penne rysses þo skyn before. 1425 *Seren Sag.* (P.) 1523 Hys body was jo to blaw. 1550 *Balfour Practicks* 379 Challenge of Fleshouris... That they blow the flesh, and cause it seme fat and fair. 1674 *Ray N. C. Wds.* 48 *Tharm.*... guts prepared, cleansed and blown up for to receive puddings. 1770 *A. Young Tour N. Eng.* i. 65 Boys blowing bladders. 1875 *Jowett Plato* (ed. 2) III. 38 Because a man has blown himself out like a bladder.

b. To form or shape by means of inflation, as to blow bubbles, glass. Const. simply, or *up*, *out*.

1590 *Pappe w. Hatchet* D iiiij. Not like to glasse mettall, to be blowne in... fashion of euerie mans breath. 1660 *Boyle New Exp. Phys. Mech.* ii. 40 Glass bubbles, which are wont to be blown at the flame of a Lamp. 1869 *Tyndall Light* ii. (1873) 66 Spending his days in blowing soap-bubbles. 1875 *Ure Dict. Arts* II. 659 The bulb of glass being put into the mould, and blown while very hot.

† 23. *fig.* To inflate or puff up (a person) with pride or vanity. Also *absol.* *Obs.*

1388 *Wyclif 1 Cor.* iv. 19 The word of hem that ben blowun with pride. — viii. 1 Kunnyng blowith, charite edifith. c 1430 *Hymns Virg.* (1867) 115 Charite... Ne blown is with pride. 1594 *T. B. La Primaud. Fr. Acad.* 147 *Croesus*... he perceived to be blown and puffed up with pride. 1651 *Hobbes Leviath.* ii. xxv. 135 When they blow one another with Orations. 1715 *Burnet Own Time* (1766) II. 78 Blown up with popularity. 1718 *Hickes & Nelson 7. Kettlewell* iii. § 110. 462 Never Capable of Blowing up his Mind with the least Vanity.

† b. *fig.* To inflate, enlarge, magnify; to make (a thing) appear greater or grander than it really

is. Also, To invent a report of. Usually with *up*. *Obs.*

1536 *Starkey Let. in England* (1871) Life 37 Blowing up that authority with such arrogancy. 1666 *Perry's Diary* (1879) IV. 198 That we at Court do blow up a design of invading us. 1699 *Bentley Phal.* Pref. 6, I had no apprehension... that the Business could have been blown to this Height. 1711 *Addison Spect.* No. 39 ¶ 6 A vulgar [sentiment] that is blown up with all the sound and energy of expression.

***** To explode by blowing.

24. *trans.* To shatter, destroy, or otherwise act upon by means of explosion. Const. with various adverbs of direction, *esp.* *up*; also with such phrases as *to atoms*; in technical use often simply *to blow*, like 'to blast'.

1599 *Sandys Europa Spec.* (1632) 76 They may... blow uppe the mines of their adversaries. 1608 *Shaks. Ham.* iii. iv. 209, I will delve one yard below their mines and blow them at the moon. 1605 *Act 3 Jas.* i. iv, That more than barbarous and horrible attempt to have blownen up with Gunpowder the Kinge Queene Prince Lordes and Commons. 1679 *Sec. Serv. Money's Chas. & Jas.* (1851) 50 To Thomas Silver, Gunner, for a reward... in blowing up several buildings, and suppressing the late fire. 1709 *Steele Tatler* No. 80 ¶ 9 One of our Bombs fell into a Magazine... and blew it up. 1799 *J. Robertson Agric. Perth* 366 The small expense of blowing a few yards of rock. 1801 *Wellington in Gurw. Disp.* I. 361 After blowing open the gates. c 1880 *Grant Hist. India* I. lxxv. 399/1 The breaching guns... were blown in the touch-hole.

b. To blow any one's brains out: to shoot him through the head (with fire-arms). Cf. *Brain sb.* 1 b. 1816 *Scott Old Mort.* xiv. If they attempt an escape, blow their brains out.

25. *fig.* To blow up: † a. to destroy, put an end to; to ruin. *Obs.*

1660 *Sir H. Finch in Cobbett Parl. Hist.* (1808) IV. 146 He could not think any thing more dangerous than the writing this Book... it blew up this parliament totally, and damned the Act of Oblivion. 1746 *Chesterf. Lett.* II. cciii. 270 A despatch with less than half these faults would blow you up for ever. 1791 *J. Hampson Mem. Wesley* I. 105 It was reported, that the college censors were going to blow up the Godly Club.

b. To scold, rail at. *collog.*
1827 *Lytton Pelham* iv. (L) Lord Gravelton... was blowing up the waiters. 1882 *B. Ramsay Recoll. Mil. Serv.* i. iii. 55 He began to blow me up for not having provided quarters for his men and horses.

26. *intr.* To undergo explosion; to go to pieces by explosion; to erupt. Usually with *up*. † b. *trans.* To give way, collapse.

1694 *Land. Gaz.* No. 2994/3 Two Magazines blew up. 1783 *Page in Phil. Trans.* LXXIV. 13 The work... from the weight upon one part only, might have blown. 1803 *Kingsley Water-bab.* vi. 242 The mountain had blown up like a barrel of gunpowder.

c. To blow out (see quot.).

1881 *Raymond Mining Gloss.*, *Blow-out*... a shot or blast is said to blow out when it goes off like a gun and does not shatter the rock.

III. Senses of doubtful position.

27. *trans.* To expose, betray, inform upon. (Formerly sometimes *blow up*.) Now *slang*. Cf. 30.

1575 *Appius & Virg.* in Hazl. *Dodley* IV. 136 Was all well agreed I did nobody blow ye? 1702 *Vanbrugh False Fr.* iv. ii, So! she's here! Now we are blown up! 1742 *Richardson Pamela* IV. 275 Thou deservest to be blown up, and to have thy Plot spoiled. 1770 *Langhorne Putarch* (1879) II. 1035/1 So near was the great secret being blown. c 1805 *Mar. Edgeworth Wks.* (Rldg.) I. 185 He was afraid that the mulatto woman should recollect either his face or voice, and should blow him. 1821 *Lockhart Valerino* I. xi. 202 The time is not yet come to blow his private doings. 1833 *Marryat P. Simple* xliii, I wasn't going to blow the gaff [= let out the secret].

b. *absol.* To tell tales, 'peach'. (See also 30.)

a 1837 *L. Hunt Country Lodging in Casquet Lit.* (1877) I. 41, I D—n me, if I don't blow. I'll tell Tom Neville.

28. Said of flies and other insects: To deposit their eggs. [This sense is apparently connected with old notions of natural history. It has nothing to do with the notion of blowing or inflating meat.]

† a. *trans.* (with 'blotes' or eggs as obj.) *Obs.*

1607 *Topsell Four-f. Beasts* 49 Worms... which are not bigger then such as flies blow in rotten flesh. 1657 *S. Purchas Pol. Flying-Ins.* 44 They [bees] then blow in it [a cell of the comb] a thing less then, or as little as a flye-bloze.

† b. *absol.* or *intr.* *Obs.*

1604 *Shaks. Oth.* iv. ii. 67 As Sommer Flies... that quicken euen with blowing. 1657 *S. Purchas Pol. Flying-Ins.* 44 The matter in which they [bees] blow or breed is something that they gather of the flowers. 1692 *T. Wagstaffe Wind. Chas.* i. xii. 83 It is the Nature of Flies to be ever buzzing, and blowing upon any thing that is raw. 1771 *Gullett in Phil. Trans.* LXII. 350 This blows in the ear of the corn, and produces a worm.

c. *trans.* To deposit eggs on or in (a place); to fill with eggs. Cf. *FLY-BLOWN*.

1588 *Shaks. L. L. L.* v. ii. 409 These summer flies Haue blowne me full of maggots ostentation. 1610 — *Temp.* iii. i. 63 To suffer The flesh-flie blow my mouth. 1650 *B. Discolim.* 50 When Eagles are deplum'd, the flies will blow their breech.

† d. with *up*. *rare. Obs.*

1650 *Fuller Pigrah* ii. viii. 172 No wonder if Worms quickly deuoured him [Herod], whom those flesh-flies had blown up before. [A word-play on sense 23.]

29. Used in imprecations: To curse, 'confound', 'hang'. *vulgar.* (The pa. pple. is *blowed*.)

1835 *Marryat Olla Podr.*, If I do, blow me! 1881 *Daily Tel.* 28 Jan., 'Isn't it rather risky?' I asked. 'Blow risks,' he answered. 1882 *Three in Norway* xxiv. 207 Retributive justice be blowed!

30. To blow upon (a person or thing) has been used in various senses (see a.); among others: To take the bloom off; to make stale or hackneyed; to bring into discredit, defame; also, to tell tales of, inform upon, expose (cf. 27). With indirect passive, *To be blown upon* (see b.). In this latter sense the simple *blow* also occurs *trans.* (see c.)

a. † a 1400 *Morte Arth.* (1819) 47 A monge hem all be fore the dese He bloweth oute vpon the queene, To haue hys ryght. 1470-85 (ed. 1634) *Malory Arthur* (1816) II. 438 Then Sir Gawaine made many men to blow upon Sir Launcelot, and all at once they called him 'False recreant Knight!' 1808 *Jamieson Dict. s.v. Blow*, To Blow out on one, formally to denounce one as a rebel by three blasts of the king's horn at the market-cross of the head-borough of the shire; an old forensic phrase. 1876 *J. Weiss Wit. Hum.* *Shaks.* ii. 51 Why... does she not blow upon the doctor?

b. c 1645 *Howell Lett.* i. § 6 (1726) 277, I thank you for the good opinion you... have of my fancy of Trees: It is a maiden one, and not blown upon by any one yet. 1678 *Norris Misc.* (1699) 325, I wave these, and fix upon another account less Blown upon. 1679 *Penn Addr. Prot.* App. 246 A Man of Wisdom, Sobriety and Ability... if a Dissenter, must be blown upon for a Phanatick. 1788 *Mrs. Centlivre Busie Body* ii. ii. (1749) 36 If I can but keep my Daughter from being blown upon 'till Signior Babinetto arrives. 1711 *Addison Spect.* No. 105 ¶ 5 He will... whisper an Intrigue that is not yet blown upon by common Fame. 1712 *Ibid.* No. 464 ¶ 1, I am wonderfully pleased when I meet with any Passage in an old Greek or Latin Author, that is not blown upon. 1749 *Fielding Tom Jones* x. ii, The reputation of her house, which was never blown upon before, was utterly destroyed. 1845 *Ford Handbk. Spain* i. 7 If once blown upon, no one would employ them. 1848 *Macaulay Hist. Eng.* II. 48 The credit of the false witnesses had been blown upon. 1877 *A. M. Sullivan New Ireland* xxiii. 276 They had got word that the plot was 'blown upon' by some traitor.

c. 1864 *Dk. Manchester Crit. & Soc. Elis.* to Anne I. 80 Puebla's character had been somewhat blown.

† 31. To blow a bowl or in a bowl: to tipple, to be a habitual drunkard. *Obs.*

c 1500 *Blowbol's Test.* in Halliwell, *Nugae P.* 1 Many a throw of good ale bolys that he had i-blowe. 1515 *Barclay Eglow.* i. (1590) A iv/3 To blowe in a bowle, and for to pill a platter. 167 *Phrase-key.* b abroad, about 13; b away 12; b bellows 7; b brains out 24 b; b bowl 31; b bubbles 22 b; b coals 17; b down 12; b eggs 21; b fire 17; b flies' eggs 28; b from 12; b glass 22 b; b great guns 1; b hot and cold 2 b; b in (furnace) 19; b into 9; b into one's ear 11; b nose 21; b off 10, 12, 12 c; b out 4, 11, 13, 14, 17 c (=extinguish), 19 (furnace) 22 (=inflate), 26 c; b over 12 c; b short 4 b; b through 9; b to 12; b to atoms 24; b trumpet 14; b up 1, 14, 15, 18, 22-3 (=inflate), 24-6 (=explode), 25 b (=scold), 27, 28 d; b upon 9, 30.

Blow- in combinations as blow-tube, blow-bowl, blow-coal, etc.: see after *Blow sb.*

Blow (blōw), v. 2. Pa. t. blew (blū, blū). Pa. pple. blown (blōwn). Forms: 1 blōwan, 2-5 blowen, 3-7 blowe, 6- blow. Pa. t. 1 blōw, 3 bleou, (bloude). Pa. pple. 1 (3e) blōwen, (3-4 blowe), 6- blown. [OE. blōwan, 3rd sing. blēwp, pa. t. blēow, pa. pple. blēwen, represented in the other W. Ger. langs. by weak vbs., OS. *blījan* (MDu. and Du. *bloien*), OHG. *bluojan* (MHG. *blūen*, *blūen*, mod.G. *blühen*), pointing to an OTeut. str. vb. **blījan*, from root *blō*, cogn. with L. *flōs*, *flōrem* flower, *flōrere* to bloom; cf. BLOOM, BLOSSOM, BLADE, BLEDE. Already in OE. the pa. t. coincided with that of *blōwan*, BLOW v. 1, and in ME. the two verbs ran together in form.]

1. *intr.* To burst into flower; to blossom, bloom.

c 1000 *Sax. Leechd.* i. 98 ðonne heo grewð & blewð. c 1200 *Trin. Coll. Hom.* 177 Trewes growen, blowen and bereð blostmen. c 1205 *Lay.* 203 Bi-held he bene wode hu he bleou [1250 bloude]. c 1400 in *Househ. Ord.* (1790) 472 April, May, and June, while that trees blowen. 1578 *Lyte Dodoens* v. xxi. 578. 1590 *Shaks. Mids. N.* ii. i. 249, I know a banke where the wilde time blows. 1667 *Milton P. L.* vii. 319 These scarce blown, Forth flourish' thick the clustering Vine. 1697 *Dryden Virg. Past.* iii. 83 The Blossoms blow; the Birds on Bushes sing. 1855 *Tennyson Daisy* 16 Here and there... A milky-bell'd amaryllis blew.

b. *transf.*

c 1430 *Hymns Virg.* (1867) 69 Now seip he, he loued me to longe, For myn heer bigynneþ to blowe.

2. *fig.* To flourish, bloom; to attain perfection.

1610 *Guillim Heraldry* iii. ix. 110 Our flowry youth. It grows, it blowes, it spreads—it sheds her beauty in one day. 1695 *Dryden Aureng.* Prol. 33 Wit in Northern Climates will not blow. 1830 *Tennyson Talk. Oak* 76 In these latter springs I saw your own Olivia blow.

3. *trans.* To cause to blossom. *lit.* or *fig.* † *Obs.*

a 1645 *Habington Elegie* viii, The enamour'd Spring by kissing blows Soft blushes on her [the rose's] cheek. 1745-6 *Mrs. Delany Autobiog.* (1861) II. 417 Houses built up for blowing auriculas. 1801 *Mar. Edgeworth Early Less., Rosamond* (1827) 158 Directions for blowing bulbous-rooted flowers.

Blow (blōw), sb. 1. Forms: 5 *Sc.* and *north.* blaw, 6 blōe, 6-7 blowe, 6- blow. [First found in 15th c., the earliest instances being *Sc.* and *north.* Eng. with form *blaw*. Origin doubtful.]

(The etymology of *blow* has been naturally sought in the stem of the OTeut. vb. **blēwan*, Goth. *bligēwan* to beat (which is not related to L. *fligere*), in OHG. *blīwan*, MHG. *blīwen*, mod.G. *bläuen* 'to beetle, batter, beat, drub' (whence *bläuel* a beetle), MDu. and mod.Du. *blow-*

were 'to beat, thrash, drub', now esp. 'to brake or swingle flax or hemp' (whence *blowel* a brake for flax). The OE. cognate would have been **blowan*, but of this no trace is found, and it is not easy on any theory to understand its giving rise to a substantive in the 15th c. without ever appearing itself. It is still less likely that an English substantive could be formed from the Du. *blowen* or its Ger. equivalent, when there is no such substantive in these langs. ('Du. *blowe*' in J. is a figment.)

Another suggestion which suits the form and accounts also for the early Sc. and north. English variant *blaw*, is that this is the same word as *Blow sb.*, or at least, like it, derived from *Blow v.* The difficulty is, that, as to the sense, early uses of the word do not indicate any such origin, while historically, *Blow sb.* (in its own undoubted senses) is of later appearance. The analogy of Fr. *soufflet*, also, in which a word for 'a blow with the flat of the hand' arises out of the vb. *souffler* 'to blow wind', though striking at first sight, proves on examination of the history of *soufflet* to be merely superficial.]

1. A stroke, esp. a firm stroke; a violent application of the fist or of any instrument to an object. c. 1450 *Towneley Myst.* 195 Bot I gif hym a blow my hart wille brist. c. 1470 *HENRY Wallace* l. 348 He gat a blow, thoct he war lad or lord, That proferryt hym ony lyctlynes. 1509 *HAWES Past. Pleas.* xxxiii. xviii. Upon the side I gave him such a blow That I right nere did him overthrow. 1555 *Parde Facions* II. xii. 279 The Bishoppe [in confirming]... giueth hym a blow on the left cheike. 1590 *SHAKS. Com. Err.* III. i. 56 Well strooke, there was blow for blow. 1611 *BIBLE Ps.* xxxix. 10, I am consumed by the blowe of thine hand. 1643 *BURROUGHS Exp. Hosea* iv. (1652) 66 It is not the last blow of the axe that fells the oak. 1754 *RICHARDSON Grandison* IV. iv. 28 Before hard blows are struck, that will leave marks. 1860 *TYNDALL Glac.* II. § 17. 317 A loud dull sound, like that produced by a heavy blow. 1866 *KINGSLEY Heren.* xiii. 178 He felled him with one blow.

b. fig. Cf. 'stroke'.

1605 *SHAKS. Lear* IV. vi. 225 A most poore man, made tame to Fortunes blows. 1609 *Ev. Wom. in Hum.* II. i. in Bullen O. Pl. IV. Y^e are a wag, Flavia, but talk and you must needs have a parting blowe. 1791 *BOSWELL Johnson* 97 The hard blows which the great man had given me. 1883 *FOURDE Short Stud.* IV. i. ix. 100 A direct blow at the authority of the young king.

2. fig. A severe disaster, a sudden and painful calamity; especially as sustained or felt by the sufferer, a sudden and severe shock.

1678 *N. WANLEY Wonders* v. i. § 94. 467/2 The Hungarians... received from the Turks that terrible blow. 1841 *MACAULAY in Trevelyan Life* II. ix. 130 His death will be a terrible blow. 1847 *L. HUNT Far Honey* (1848) Pref. 10 They have never recovered the blow given them by the invidious heaviness of the Puritans.

3. 'An act of hostility.' (J.) Usually in pl. *blows* = 'combat, fighting, war', in the phrases *to be at blows*, *come (or go), fall to blows*, *exchange blows*.

1593 *SHAKS. 2 Hen. VI.* II. iii. 81 Come, leaue your drinking, and fall to blowes. 1606 — *Ant. & Cl.* II. vi. 44 When Caesar and your Brother were at blowes. 1647 *W. BROWNE Poles.* II. 226 Wee... wished for nothing else then to be at blowes with our enemies. 1651 *HOBBS Leviath.* I. v. 19 Their controversie must either come to blowes, or be undecided. 1848 *MACAULAY Hist. Eng.* I. 322 Too young to have themselves exchanged blows with the cuirassiers of the Parliament. *Ibid.* 556 There was reason to fear that the two parties would come to blows.

4. Phrases.

a. *At a blow*, or *at one blow*: by one stroke; fig. by one vigorous act; suddenly; at once.

1593 *SHAKS. 3 Hen. VI.* v. i. 50, I had rather chop this Hand off at a blow. 1697 *DRYDEN Virg. Georg.* III. 365 To redeem his Honour at a Blow. 1837 *DICKENS Pickw.* xi. What it is at one blow to be deserted by a lovely and fascinating creature. 1839 *TENNYSON Elaine* 42 Each had slain his brother at a blow.

b. fig. *To strike a blow*: to make an attack, take vigorous action. So, *To strike the first blow*. *Without striking a blow*: without a struggle.

1790 *BRATSON Nav. & Mil. Mem.* II. 211 A good blow might be struck here. 1825 *BYRON Ch. Har.* II. lxxvi. Who would be free, themselves must strike the blow. 1848 *MACAULAY Hist. Eng.* I. 261 But neither side dared to strike the first blow. *Ibid.* 542 Deputies, without whose consent no great blow could be struck.

c. Comb., as *blow-giver*, *-reach*, *-striking*.

1548 *UDALL, etc. Erasm. Par. John* xviii. (R.) Our Lord Jesus might... haue letted this blowgeuer. 1596 *T. B. La Primaud. Fr. Acad.* 54 To submit themselves willinglie... without blow-striking. 1871 *Member for Paris* II. 17 [He] was within blow-reach of them.

¶ This may have some association with *Blow sb.* 2. 1596 *SHAKS. Tam. Shr.* I. ii. 209 A womans tongue, That gives not halfe so great a blow to heare, As wil a Chesse-nut in a Farmers fire.

Blow (*blō*), *sb.* 2 [f. *BLOW v.* 1 Not certainly found bef. 17th c., which separates it from *BLOW sb.* 1]

1. A blowing; a blast.

a. of the wind. *To get a blow*: to expose oneself to the action of a fresh breeze.

1660 *STANLEY Hist. Philos.* (1701) 8/1 The Etesian (yearly winds... beginning the blow from the North. 1777 *W. DALRYMPLE Trav. Sp. & Port.* xlv. Rain or blow. 1840 *R. DANA Bef. Mast* iv. 8 The first blow that I had seen which could really be called a gale. 1857 *R. TOMES Amer. in Japan* I. 31 The 'Mississippi', in doubling the Cape of Good Hope... escaped any very heavy blow, altho' hardly a week passes without a gale from some quarter. *Mod. colloq.* Went down to Gravesend by the steamer to get a blow.

b. of whales.

a. 1841 *F. COOPER in Casquet Lit.* (1877) V. 211/1 There is the blow of a whale. 1853 *KANE Grinnell Exp.* xxxix.

(1856) 359 It had more of voice mingled with its sibilant 'blow' than I had ever heard.

c. of a wind-instrument; of the nose.

1723 *STEELE Com. Lovers* I. i. (1735) 16 You went to dinner... when the great Blow was given in the Hall at the Pantry-door. 1835 *MARRIAT Jac. Faithf.* iii. The astonishing effects of a blow from Domine Dobiensis's sonorous and peace-restoring nose. 1849 *DICKENS Dav. Copp.* v. 'Have a blow at it (a flute)', said the old woman coaxingly.

† d. of gunpowder, or other explosive. *Obs.*

1694 *Lond. Gas.* No. 2994/3 Hearing some guns go off first, and presently after several Blows. 1790 *Stow's Surv.* (ed. Strype 1754) I. ii. iii. 375/2 This Church was... ruined by a lamentable Blow of 27 Barrels of Gunpowder.

2. fig. A boast; vaunting, boastfulness.

1684 *Roxb. Bal.* (1885) V. 464 They followed their blows, In Musick and Gaming, and acting of Shows. 1883 *19th Cent.* Nov. 848 Colonial blow, bounce, and impudence.

3. The oviposition of flesh-flies or other insects.

1611 *CHAPMAN Iliad* XIX. 24, I much fear lest with the blows of flies His brass-inflicted wounds are fill'd. 1875 *HOUGHTON Sk. Brit. Insects* 114 By depositing its eggs (fly-blows). [cf. *FLY-BLOW*.]

4. Metallurgy. 'A single heat or operation of the Bessemer converter' (*Raymond Mining Gloss.* 1881); also the quantity of metal dealt with at a single operation.

1883 *Daily News* 20 Sept. 2/1 Instead of blows of three or four tons, we have now to deal with twelve to fifteen tons.

Blow in comb.

For convenience of reference all the combinations are treated here, although those under 3, certainly, and 2, apparently, are formed from the verb.

1. With adverbs, denoting actions; as *blow-down*, a gust of wind and smoke down a chimney; *blow-out*, an outbreak of anger, a quarrel; also, a 'good feed', feast, entertainment (*slang*); *blow-up*, an explosion; fig. a disturbance, a quarrel.

1884 *Health Exhib. Catal.* 52/1 Chimney Can for curing a 'blow-down'. 1886 *SCOTT in Lockhart* (1839) IX. 44 At dinner we had a little 'blow-out on Sophia's part. 1840 *R. DANA Bef. Mast* xxvi. 87 They had a grand 'blow-out, and... drank in the fore-castle, a barrel of gin. 1856 *F. PAGET Owllet of Owlst.* 174 Such a jolly 'blow-out as there was when the Bishop was here. 1813 *L.D. CASTLEREAGH Let. in Sir R. Wilson Diary* (1861) II. 201 W. and he must not have any connexion together or there will be a 'blow up. 1834 *J. WILSON Noct. Ambr.* (1864) IV. 133 O'Connell and Littleton had a 'blow-up and abused each other like pickpockets.

2. With sb., qualified by *blow-* (the verb-stem) in sense of 'blowing', or 'that blows' or 'is blown', as *blow-ball*, the globular seeding head of the dandelion and allied plants; also fig.; *blow-cock*, a cock or tap by which to blow off steam; *blow-george* (see quot.); *blow-gun* = *BLOW-PIPE* 2; *blow-line* (*Angling*), a fishing line of the lightest floss silk, used with the living fly, so web-like as to allow the wind to blow it out over the stream; *blow-post*, a system of conveying letters and parcels by pneumatic tubes; *blow-tube* = *BLOW-PIPE* 2; also a tube used in glass-blowing; *blow-valve*, the snifting valve of a condensing engine; *blow-well* (see quot.) Also *BLOW-HOLE*, *BLOW-PIPE*.

1578 *LYTE Dodona* v. xvi. 568 Condrilla hath... double flowers; the whiche past, they turne into rounde 'blowballes, like to fine downe or cotton. 1640 *SHIRLEY Impost.* IV. ii. I'm your blow-ball, Your breath dissolves my being. a. 1670 *HACKETT Alb. Williams* II. (1692) 90 Shake him from his stalk, like a downy blow-ball. 1885 *Standard* 28 May 6/3 Joint of 'blowcock of boiler gave way. 1871 *Trans. Amer. Inst. Mining Eng.* I. 303 Ventilated in the driving by a 'blow george' (hand-fan). 1864 *Athenaeum* No. 1929. 504/2 The 'blow-gun, thro' which short poisoned arrows are propelled by the breath. 1857 *KINGSLEY Two Y. Ago* Introd. (D.) Great anglers... who could do many things besides handling a 'blow-line. 1867 *F. FRANCIS Angling* (1876) 260 Having baited the hook as in blow-line fishing. 1881 *Daily News* 8 Nov. 5/5 A writer... advocates the extension of the 'blow-post.' 1885 *Pall Mall G.* 5 Mar. 4/1 In Paris the blow post is being steadily developed. 1871 *TYLOR Prim. Cult.* I. 60 Nearly the same may be said of the 'blow-tube. 1854 *N. & Q. Ser. I.* IX. 283/1 Natural springs in the northern slope of the Chalk in Lincolnshire... called 'blow-wells, which may be considered as naturally Artesian.

3. With sb., which is the object after *blow* (in the sense of 'one who blows'), as *blow-bottle*, *blow-bowl*, a habitual drinker, tippler, sot (cf. *BLOW v.* 1 31); † *blow-coal* (fig.), one who stirs up or promotes strife (cf. *BLOW v.* 1 17 b); † *blow-point*, a game (see quot. 1801).

1580 *BARET Adv.* A 270 A common haunter of alehouses... an aleknight: a tippler... a 'blowbottell. 1530 *PALSGR.* 109/1 'Blowbole, yvrouigne. 1682 *H. SYDENHAM Sermon.* Sol. Occ. (1637) 262 These are... the common 'blow-coales in Ecclesiastick tumults. 1580 *SIDNEY Arcadia* II. 224 How shepherds spend their days At 'blow-point, hot cockles, or else at keeles. 1640 *SHIRLEY Hum. Courtier* v. iii. Do not trust the Archduke: he cozened me at blow-point. 1801 *STRUTT Sports & Past.* IV. iv. (1876) 513 Blow-point was probably blowing an arrow through a trunk at certain numbers by way of lottery.

Blow (*blō*), *sb.* 3 [f. *BLOW v.* 2: of recent origin.]

1. A state of blossoming; bloom; chiefly in phrases in *blow*, in full blow, etc.

1750 *B. STILLINGF. in Misc. Tracts* (1762) 149 The wood-anemone was in blow. 1799 *J. ROBERTSON Agric. Perth* 216 When the plants are in full blow, and before their

flowers begin to fade. a. 1845 *Hood Two Peacocks of B. viii.* I were sorely vext To... cut short the blow Of the last lily I may live to grow.

b. fig.

1753 *RICHARDSON Grandison* (1781) I. ii. 4 Her beauty hardly yet in its full blow. 1770 *LANGHORNE Plutarch* (1879) II. 1031/1 This amour was in full blow about the time. 1834 *MAR. EDGEWORTH Helen* 236 She is not out of blow yet, only too full blown rather for some tastes.

2. A display of blossoms; fig. a display of anything brilliant.

1710 *ADDISON Tatler* No. 218 ¶ 4 Such a blow of tulips, as was not to be matched. 1857 *H. MILLER Test. Rocks* I. 49 It exhibits no rich blow of colour.

3. Manner, style, or time of blossoming. Also fig.

1748 *RICHARDSON Clarissa* (1811) V. 285, I have... added to it all the flowers of the same blow. 1857 *H. MILLER Test. Rocks* xi. 500 Flowers of richer colour and blow.

4. Blossom.

1797 *DOWNING Disord. Horned Cattle* 31 Take Fox-glove blows. 1866 *Morn. Star* 2 Oct., The blow of the cotton-wood borne by the winds of spring.

Blowe, variant of *BLO a.* *Obs.* livid, blue.

Blowed, occasional pa. t. and pp. of *Blow v.* 1

Blowen, *slang*. Also *blowing*. A wench, trull.

1812 *J. H. VAUX Flash Dict.*, *Blowen*, a prostitute; a woman who cohabits with a man without marriage. 1883 *BYRON Juan* xl. xix. With black-eyed Sal (his blowing). 1851 *KINGSLEY Yeast* xi. A short simple service... that might catch the ears of the roughs and the blowens.

Blowen, obs. pa. pp. of *BLOW v.* 1

Blower (*blōw-er*). [OE. *blāwere*, f. *blāwan* to BLOW 1: see -ER 1.]

1. *gen.* One who, or that which, blows. Usually followed by *of* (the object blown).

c. 897 *K. ALFRED Gregory's Past.* xxxvii. 268 Idel was se blawere. c. 1320 *Sir Tristr.* I. xlix. The best blow of horn. 1545 *Ludlow Churchw. Accts.* (1860) 21 To the blower of the organs. 1775 *Phil. Trans.* LXV. 67 An expert blower of the German flute. 1872 *TENNYSON Last Tourn.* 540 O hunter, and O blower of the horn.

2. *spec.* A marine animal which 'blows' (see *BLOW v.* 1 5); e.g. a whale. 1854 *BUSHNAN in Circ. Sc. I.* 140 The common cetaceans, popularly known as blowers.

3. A mechanical contrivance for producing a current of air; e.g. a plate or sheet of metal fixed before a fire to increase the draught.

1795 *Specif. Crook & German's Patent* No. 2032 The blower was let down close to the top of the grate, so that no air could pass otherwise than through the grate. 1869 *Eng. Mech.* 24 Dec. 344/1 It can... be hung in front of the fire to act as a blower. 1881 *RAYMOND Mining Gloss.*, *Blower*, a fan or other apparatus for forcing air into a furnace or mine. 1885 *Manch. Exam.* 21 July 8/1 The sweepings [were]... put through the blower instead of the winnow.

4. An escape of inflammable gas through a fissure in a coal-mine; the fissure itself; a similar current of air escaping through a fissure in a glacier.

1822 *IMISON Sc. & Art* II. 59 It is disengaged from fissures in the strata... called by the miners *blowers*. 1860 *TYNDALL Glac.* 87 While cutting away the surface further, I stopped the little 'blower'. 1862 *SMILES Engineers* III. 111 The explosive gas was issuing through a blower in the roof of the mine with a loud hissing noise. 1866 *Reader* 21 July 671 'Blowers' as they are called in the north of England... streams of inflammable gas issuing from the ground.

5. fig. A boaster. *dial.* and in *U. S. and colonies*.

1863 *MANHATTAN in Even. Standard* 10 Dec., General Grant... is not one of the 'blower' generals. 1864 *Spectator* 22 Oct. 1202:1 Notorious among our bar and the public as a 'blower'.

6. Comb. with various adverbs (cf. *BLOW v.* 1), as *blower forth*, *in*, *up*.

1550 *J. COKE Debate Her. Eng. & Fr.* (1877) 121 Blowers forth of fayned fables. 1601 *SHAKS. All's Well* I. i. 132 Bless our poore Virginity from vnderminers and blowers vp. 1635 *SWAN Spec. M. v.* § 2. 176 The winds... the blowers in of rain.

Blower 2, [f. *BLOW v.* 2 + -ER 1.] A plant which blows or blooms. (Cf. *blower*.)

1796 *C. MARSHALL Garden.* xx. (1813) 402 Biennials and perennials, if late blowers, may yet be transplanted.

Blowess, variant of *BLOWZE sb.*

Blow-fly (*blōw-flī*). [f. *BLOW v.* 1 28 + *FLY*.]

A recent popular name of the *Flesh-fly*.

1852 *T. HARRIS Insects New Eng.* 490 Various kinds of flesh-flies, blow-flies, house-flies. 1858 *Sat. Rev.* 20 Nov. 500/2 Linnaeus said... that a blowfly would consume the carcass of a horse faster than a lion. [According to Kirby and Spence, L. said 'three flesh-flies and their progeny'.]

Blow-hole (*blōw-hōl*). [See *BLOW v.* 1 5.]

1. Each of the two holes (constituting the nostrils) at the top of the head in whales and other cetaceans, through which they breathe or 'blow'.

1707 *HUNTER in Phil. Trans.* LXXXVII. 380 The blow-holes are two in number in many, in others only one. 1822 *I. PLATTS Bk. Curios.* 205 A double opening, called the spout-holes, or blow-holes. 1861 *J. LAMONT Seahorses* v. 75 They give one spout from their blow-holes, take one breath of fresh air... and then they are all down.

† 2. = *AIR-HOLE* 2. *Obs.*

1691 *T. H[ALE] Acc. New Invent.* 96 Certain defects in Cast-lead... called by the Plumber Blow-holes.

3. A hole through which air or gas escapes; *spec.* for the escape of foul air from underground passages, of steam from railway tunnels, etc.

1875 *MISS BIRD Sandwich Isl.* (1880) 56 An intermittent jet of lava... kept cooling round what was possibly a blow-

hole. 1883 *Pall Mall G.* 1 June, The erection of the blow-holes on the Embankment. 1884 *Ibid.* 15 Mar. 2/2 Can no doubt 'construct' the Parks Railway without blowholes.

4. A hole in the ice to which whales and seals come to breathe.

Blowing (blō'ing), *vbl. sb.* [f. BLOW *v.* 1 + -ING¹.]

1. *gen.* The action expressed by the vb. to BLOW. c 1000 *Ælfric Judges* vii. 16 (Bosw.) Heora byman him to ðære blawunge. 1398 *Trevisa Barth. De P. R.* xviii. civii. (1495) 708 Wyth blowynge of wynde. a 1488 *Le Venery de Twety in Rel. Ant.* l. 153 Ye shul change your speche and blowynge booth too. 1621 *Sir R. Boyle in Lis-more Pap.* (1886) II. 17 My 2 new furnaces... had fier to begin their blowing put into them. 1710 *Palmer Proverbs* 178 This impious blowing upon other people's reputations. 1799 *J. Robertson Agric. Perth* 279 Saving... boring and powder... avoiding the trouble and danger of blowing.

2. *Breathing*; hard breathing; esp. of animals. c 1175 *Lamb. Hom.* 75 Hore loking, hore blawing, hore smelling, heore felling. 1398 *Trevisa Barth. De P. R.* xviii. civii. (1495) 847 Brookes holdeth in the brethe and blowynge. 1533 *Fitzherbert. Husb.* § 87 Broken wynded, and pursynes, is but shorte blowynge. 1591 *Percivall Sp. Dict., Bufido*, the puffing and blowing of a horse. 1815 *Scott Guy M.* xiv. Listening for the blowing of an otter. 1883 *G. Davies Norfolk Broads* xix. (1884) 143 Until they see the 'blowing' of an eel, as the bubbles issuing from the mud are termed.

† b. Swelling, tumefaction. *Obs.* 1398 *Trevisa Barth. De P. R.* xvi. lxxxvi. (1495) 582 The saphire hath singular vertue to swage blowynge.

3. The oviposition of flesh-flies, and formerly of other insects. † b. *concr.* The 'blote' or egg of a flesh-fly or other insect (*obs.*).

1558 *Br. Watson Ser. Sacr.* xxiv. 153 A fleshe flye... wyll leue flythly blowinges in the fleshe. 1577 *Holinshead Chron.* iii. vi. 292 Beyond the seas... they stampe and streine their combs, bees, and young blowings altogether into the stuffe. 1616 *Surrel. & Markh. Count.* Farm 320 Bees are bred of Bees, either of their blowings, or some other matter of their generation. 1677 *Haile Prim. Orig. Man.* ii. ix. 209 The blowings of Flies, and almost all kind of Insects.

4. *Blowing up*, an explosion; *collog.* a scolding. 1779 *Phil. Trans.* LXIII. 44 The blowing up of a magazine of gun-powder. 1839 *Haliburton Letter-bag Gt. West* iv. 42, I would give him a good blowing-up. 1874 *Mass. Wood 7. Ludlow Ser.* i. xxv. 448, I... received a good blowing up from Mr. Brandon for my pains.

5. *Comb.*, as *blowing-cylinder*, the air-cylinder of a blast-engine; *blowing-engine* (= *blowing-machine*); *blowing-furnace*, a blast furnace used in glass-working; † *blowing-house*, a tin-smelting house; *blowing-iron*, -*pipe*, -*tube* (*Glass-working*), an iron tube used in blowing glass; *blowing-machine*, any mechanical contrivance for producing a blast of air.

1875 *Use Dict. Arts* II. 654 A blowing furnace for blowing the pear-shaped balls... into large globes. 1674 *Ray Prepar. Tin Coll.* 120 The black tin is smelted at the blowing house with Charcoal. 1875 *Use Dict. Arts* III. 1005 Formerly in Cornwall nearly all the tin was smelted in blast-furnaces; these works were called blowing-houses. 1855 *tr. Labarte's Arts Mid. Ages* ix. 352 Gathers with the blowing-iron a small quantity of white glass.

Blowing, *vbl. sb.* [f. BLOW *v.* 2 + -ING¹.] The action of blossoming or blooming. † b. A bloom or blossom: also *fig. (obs.)*.

c 1175 *Wyclif Sermon.* Sel. Wks. I. 220 þe blowinge of þes fruitis must faille. 1578 *Lyte Dodones* 692 Clustering together lyke the caten tayles or blowings of the Nut tree. 1609 *C. Butler Fenn. Mon.* (1634) 58 At the blowing of Palm... they [wasps] fly abroad for food. 1666 *E. Waterhouse Arms & Arm.* 184 These buds and blowings of Nobility and Centry. 1797 *Holcroft Stolberg's Trav.* (ed. 2) III. lxxx. 58 Flowers... whose periodical blowing is advertised in our newspapers.

Blowing, *ppl. a.* [f. BLOW *v.* 1 + -ING².] That blows (see the vb.); *esp.* windy.

Blowing adder, snake, a snake of Virginia, remarkable for inflating and extending the surface of its head before it bites.

c 1175 *Lamb. Hom.* 87 Eislis swei... and blawende beman. 1604 *Friar Bacon's Prop.* 290 in Hazl. E. P. P. IV. 278 No butcher now can keepe His flesh from blowing flies. 1678 *Lond. Gas.* No. 1365/1 His Majesties Ships... are kept in this Harbor by the blowing weather. 1688 *J. Clayton in Phil. Trans.* XVIII. 134 The Blowing-Snake, an absolute Species of a Viper. 1794 *Nelson in Nicolas Dis.* (1845) I. 411 It had the appearance of blowing weather. 1845 *Gard. Chron.* 107 Blowing-Sands... or hills of moveable sand which are accumulated by the winds. 1870 *Swinnburne Ess. & Stud.* (1875) 347 With rounded mouth and blowing hair. 1884 *Public Opinion* 5 Sept. 305/1 The blowing adder was formerly common in... Orange County, New York.

Blowing, *ppl. a.* [f. BLOW *v.* 2 + -ING².] Blossoming, in bloom.

917 *Blickl. Hom.* 57 Fægerness... swylc þes blowenda wudu. 1667 *Milton P. L.* ix. 629 One small Thicket... Of blowing Myrrh and Balme. 1835 *Wordsworth Death C. Lamb*, Green, untrodden turf, and blowing flowers.

Blowing, variant of BLOWEN *sb.*

Blow-wipe, a blow causing a bruise: see BLO.

Blown, *obs. form of BLOOM* *v.*

Blown (blō'n), *ppl. a.* [pa. pple. of BLOW *v.* 1]

1. Fanned, driven or tossed by the wind. 1555 *Abp. Hamilton Catech.* 286 Saffit, swa as be ane blawin fyre. 1746 *Collins Ode Liberty* 70 To the blown Baltic. 1866 *Amsted Channel Isl.* iv. xx. (ed. 2) 462 Blown sea-sand covers the soil.

2. Out of breath. 1874 *Marvell Rel. Transp.* II. 33 And chase the blown

Deer out of their Heard. 1735 *Somerville Chase* III. 461 Now the blown Stag... Has measur'd half the Forest. 1873 *Black Pr. Thule* x. 162 Too blown to speak.

† 3. Stale, flat, that has lost its freshness; tainted. 1600 *Rowlands Let. Humours Blood* vi. 75 Blowne drinke is odious, what man can disiest it? 1640 *Br. Hall Episc.* II. x. 139 Some blowne ware out of the pack of his Recognitions.

4. Breathed out, whispered, hinted. 1604 *Shaks. Oth.* III. iii. 182 When I shall turne... To such exufficate, and blown [*fol. blow'd*] Surmises.

5. Inflated; swollen; formed by inflation. Also *blown-up*.

c 1425 *Seven Sag.* (P.) 2181 Grete blowne bladdys he brake. 1556 *Shaks. 1 Hen. IV.* iv. ii. 53 How now blowne lack? how now Quilt? 1618 *Bolton Florus* III. v. 183 Floing on a blowne Bladder. 1830 *M. Donovan Dom. Econ.* I. 93 Too quick a heat of the kiln expels the water from the malt in a state of steam, with such force as to burst the grain. This is called blown malt. 1831 *Brewster Optics* xii. 100 The thinnest films of blown glass. 1870 *Swinnburne Ess. & Stud.* (1875) 347 A boyish torch-bearer with blown cheeks.

b. *fig.* Inflated with pride or the like. *arch.*

1483 *Caxton Gold. Leg.* 154/3 Ambrose can not be so blown and [s]wollen as thou arte. 1605 *Shaks. Lear* iv. iv. 26 No blowne Ambition doth our Armes incite. 1866 *Kingsley Heron.* i. 37 More of a blown-up ass than thou art already.

Blown, *ppl. a.* [see BLOW *v.* 2] In bloom; that has blossomed. Cf. FULL-BLOWN.

c 1000 *Sax. Leechd.* II. 146 Geblowenne wyrt. a 1250 *Owl & Night.* 1636 þe nihtegale... hupte upon on blowe ris. 1606 *Shaks. Ant. & Cl.* III. xiii. 39 The blowne Rose. 1842 *Tennyson Lotus-Eaters* 47 Petals from blown roses on the grass. 1865 *Swinnburne Poems & Ballads, Match* 5 Blown fields and flowerful closes.

Blow-pipe, *blowpipe*. [f. BLOW *v.* 1 + PIPE.]

1. a. A tube through which a current of air (or other gas) is blown into a flame to increase the heat, for the purpose of fusing metals, etc.; especially employed in chemical experiments, analysis, etc. (Hence, often *attrib.*, as in *blowpipe analysis*, *character, flame*. b. *Glass-blowing*. A tube by means of which the molten glass is blown into the required shape.

1683 *Boyle Effects of Motion* iv. 36 A small crooked pipe of metal or glass, such as Tradesmen... call a Blow-pipe. 1765 *Douglas in Phil. Trans.* LVIII. 185 The flame of a candle was directed to it by means of a blow-pipe. 1830 *Herschel Stud. Nat. Phil.* II. vi. (1851) 162 These great masses are made up of watch-glassfuls, and blowpipe-beads. c 1865 *J. Wyld in Circ. Sc.* I. 396/2 Much art is required in using the blow-pipe. 1868 *Dana Min. Intro.* 20 Physical and Blowpipe characters. 1879 *Watts Dict. Chem.* I. 616 A blowpipe flame of great power.

2. A long tube through which American Indians and other races propel arrows or darts by force of the breath.

1865 *Waterson Wand. S. Amer.* i. l. 89 They will... send the poisoned dart from the blow-pipe true to its destination. 1840 *Murray Olla Podr.* (Ridg.) 291 Like an arrow from the blow-pipe of a South American Indian.

Blowre, variant of BLURB, *Obs.*

Blowse, -*sed*, -*sy*: see BLOWZE, BLOWZED, -Y.

Blowt, var. of BLOUT. *Obs.*, naked.

Blowt(e), *obs. form of BLOAT* *a.*

† **Blowter**, *v.* *Obs.* [cf. BLUTHER, BLOUTER, BLUTTER.] *intr.* To blubber; to weep effusively.

Agm. Strickland Queens Scot. (1851) II. 257 Denied the tears, which [Duke of Norfolk, 1560] elegantly terms the blowtering, of Mary of Lorraine.

† **Blowth**. *Obs. exc. dial.* Also 7 blouth, 7- (s.w. dial.) blooth. [f. BLOW *v.* 2 + -TH; cf. *growth*.] Blowing or blossoming; blossom, bloom.

1608 *Carew Cornwall* in *Wither Prosop. Brit.*, The tree which forth this blouth hath brought. 1614 *Raleigh Hist. World* I. 155 The seeds and effects... were as yet but potential, and in the blouth and bud. 1769 *Month. Rev.* XLII. 185 The thorn's first blouth. 1859 *Caperon Ball. & Songs* 129 The furze-blouth on the hill. 1866 *Barnes Rhymes Dorset Dial.* II. 95 A summer hedge in blouth.

Blowy (blō'vī), *a.* [f. BLOW *v.* 1 + -Y.] Characterized by blowing.

1830 *Miss Mitford Village Ser.* iv. (1863) 269 It was a raw blowy March evening. 1840 *Willis Loiterings* III. 239 A very cold, blowy and rough night. 1864 *Ld. Palmerston in Daily Tel.* 26 Aug. I had at one time nearly 1,000 acres of blowy sand where no blade of grass grew.

Blowze (blauz). Also 6 blowesse, 6-7 blowse, 7 blowse, 8 blowse, 6- blowse. [Of unknown origin: cf. various Du. and LG. words with the sense of 'red' or 'flushed' under BLUSH; but some of the uses appear to be influenced by BLOW *v.* 1. Perhaps originally a cant term. Cf. BLOWEN.]

† 1. A beggar's trull, a beggar wench; a wench. 1573 *Tusser Husb.* (1878) 43 Whiles Gillet, his blowse, is a milking thy cow, Sir Hew is a rigging thy gate or the plow. 1821 *Burton Anat. Mel.* III. iv. ii. (1651) 628, I had rather marry a fair one, and put it to the hazard, than be troubled with a blowse. 1831 *Braithwaite Whimsies* 144 His bonny blowse or dainty doxie, being commonly a collapsed tinker's wife or some highway commoditie taken up upon trust. 1839 *Ford Lady's Trial* III. i. 266 Wench is your trull, your blowse, your dowdie. 1868 *Herrick Heper.* (1869) 278 Yet he'll be thought or seen, So good as George a. Green; And calls his blowze, his queene. 1799 *Ramb. Fiddle-Cups* 8. 1719 *D'Urvey Pills* (1872) I. 5 That keeps a blowz And beats his spouse.

2. A fat, red-faced, blotted wench, or one

whose head is dressed like a slattern.' Bailey 1731; 'a ruddy fat-faced wench.' J. b. Hence *blowse-like* *adj.*

1588 *Shaks. Tit. A.* iv. ii. 72 Sweet blowse, you are a beautilous blossome sure. 1600 *Heywood 1. Edu.* IV. Wks. 1874 I. 60 My Besse is fair, And Shores wife but a blowse, compared to her. 1608 *Witmer Brit. Rememb.* vi. 644 Their flaring curles about their shag shorne browes Doe, of the fairest Lady, make a blowse. 1638 *Heywood Iron Age* II. i. l. Wks. III. 364 As fayre a blowse As you, sweete Lady. 1647 *Let. in Harrington Nugae Ant.* 126 The woman, bravest prized, now blowse-like woud appear.

Blowzed (blauzd), *a.* Also blowzsed. [It has the form of a pa. pple. of a vb. to *blowze*, in the sense of 'to make blowzy': cf. *prec.*]

1. Rendered blowzy in the face; excited; disordered in dress or hair; dishevelled, frowzy.

1766 *Goldsm. Vic. W.* x. I don't like to see my daughters trudging up to their pew all blowzed and red with walking. *Ibid.* xi. My eldest daughter was hemmed in and thumped about, all blowzed in spirits, and bawling for fairplay. 1847 *Tennyson Princ.* iv. 260 Huge women blowzed with health and wind and rain And labour. 1884 *Longm. Mag.* June 175 The cook came out with tolerably 'blowzed' hair.

† 2. *Blowzed off* (see *quot.*). *Obs.*

1748 *Richardson Clarissa* (1811) VIII. xli. 156 The paint lying in streaky seams not half blowzed off, discovering coarse wrinkled skins.

† **Blowzing**, *a.* *Obs.* [In form a pr. pple. of a vb. to *blowze*: cf. *prec.*] Tending to be blowzy.

1753 *Richardson Grandison* (1781) V. ix. 48 Aunt Nell, who has naturally a good blowing north-country complexion, turned as pale as ashes. a 1851 *Joanna Bailie* (O). That blowing wig of his.

Blowzy (blauzi), *a.* Also blowsy, blowisy. [f. BLOWZE + -Y.]

1. Like a blowze; having a bloated face; red and coarse-complexioned; flushed-looking.

1776 *Mad. D'Arblay Diary & Lett.* I. 149 Thinking herself too ruddy and blowzy, it was her custom to bleed herself three or four times against the Rugby races. 1797 *Wolcott (P. Pindar) To Laureate Wks.* 1812 I. 476 Large-red-poll'd, blowzy hard two-handed jades. 1830 *Blackm. Mag.* Feb. 221 Like a common-place blowzy dairymaid.

2. Of hair, dress: Dishevelled, frowzy, slatternly.

c 1770 *T. Erskine The Barber in Post. Repr.* (1810) 328 Long his beard, and blowzy hair. 1854 *Thackeray Newcomes* I. 137 Smiled at him from under her blowzy curl-papers.

3. Coarse, rustic.

1851 *Helps Comp. Solit.* v. (1874) 64, I cannot fancy the blowzy wisdom of the country.

† **Blowsterous**, *a.* (Cf. *boisterous*, *blusterous*.)

1568 *T. Howell New Sonets* (1879) 144 Do blowsterous

blastes that blow, compell to hoysse thy sayle.

Blub, *v.* [A variant or parallel form of BLOW *v.*]

† 1. *trans.* To swell, puff out with weeping

or otherwise. *Obs.*

1559 *Mirr. Mag.* 112 My face was blown and blub'd with

dropsy wan.

† 2. *intr.* To swell, protrude. *Obs.*

1864 *Southerne Disappointm.* II. i. Wks. (1721) 101 Her

eyes and lips, see how they blubb and pout.

II. 3. Short for BLUBBER *v.* in sense 4. (*collog.*)

1804 *Tarras Poems* 124 (JAM.) Your cheeks are sse bleer't, and sse blubbit adown?

† **Blub**, *a.* *Obs.* An attrib. use of BLUB *v.*, chiefly

used in combination (cf. *knock-knee'd*) with sense

'Swollen, puffed, protruding', as in *blub-cheeks*,

-*lips*; whence in *comb.* *blub-cheeked*, *blub-faced*, etc.

1603 *Knolles Hist. Turkes* (1621) 175 Blub cheeked, and exceeding red faced. 1600 *Shelton Quix.* III. x. 64 A Country Wench... blub-fac'd, and flat-nosed. 1679 *Shad-well True Widow* II. Wks. 1720 III. 147 You have a pretty

pouting about the mouth... and fine little blub-lips.

Blubber (blɒbɪ), *sb.* Also 4 bluber, 4-6

bluber, 5 bloubre, bloubyr, blubbir, 7 bllobber,

(bloubter). [ME. *bluber*, *bluber sb.*, *blubren*.

bluber vb. are both found in 14th c.: it is uncertain

which was of prior formation; perhaps the

verb. Being so much earlier than *blub*, they

cannot be extensions of the latter; but are prob.

onomatopoeic, from the action of the lips in making

a bubble, or imitating various bubbling sounds or

motions of liquids. Cf. the parallel BLABBER.

There is also a dial. Ger. *blubbern*, said of water

casting up bubbles, and a LG. *blubbern* in *herüt*

blubbern to babble or 'blether'. See other analogo-

us forms in Wedgwood. The relation to *bubble* is

seen also in the fact that in north. dial. 'bubble'

is used for the vb. in senses 3, 4, as Sc. 'to bubble

an' greit' = to blubber and weep.]

† 1. The foaming or boiling of the sea. *Obs.*

c 1325 *E. E. Allit. P. C.* 221 In bluber of þe blo flod

bursten her orea. *Ibid.* C. 266 How for þe bot in-to þe

bluber watz with a best latched.

† 2. A bubble of foam or air upon water. *Obs.*

exc. dial.

c 1440 *Prompt. Parv.* 40 Bloubre [1499 bloubyr], *turbulium*.

c 1450 *Henryson Test. Cress.* 192 And at his mouth a blubbir

stode of some. 1550 *Palsgr.* 109/1 Bluber upon water,

boiteillie. *State. Lettie of Powis* 136 (JAM.) That he has

seen blubbers upon the water... that by blubbers he means air-

bubbles. 1830 *Forby East. Angl. Gloss.*, *Blubber*, a bubble.

3. A jelly-fish or Medusa, also called sea-nettle.

1608 *Carew Cornwall* 34 b, There Swimmeth also in the

Sea, a round slymic substance, called a Bllobber, reputed

noysome to the fish. 1775 DALRYMPLE in *Phil. Trans.* LXVIII. 393 There were many blubbers in the ship's wake, which made a very luminous appearance. 1835 MARRVAT *Jac. Faithf.* xxxi. The sailors call them blubbers, because they are composed of a sort of transparent jelly.

4. The fat of whales and other cetaceans, from which train-oil is obtained.

1664 *Phil. Trans.* I. 12 The Oyl of the Blubber is as clear and fair as any Whey. 1666 *Land. Gaz.* No. 47/1 She. had in her about twelve hundred weight of Bloother for Oyl. 1671 RAY in *Phil. Trans.* VI. 2275 The fat, which . . . our Seamen call the Blubber. 1746 W. THOMPSON *R. N. Advoc.* (1757) 43 Not properly Flesh, but Slush, or Blubber, like Whales Blubber. 1870 YEATS *Hist. Comm.* 281 In a large whale the blubber will weigh thirty tons.

5. The action of blubbering or weeping.

1805 *Bro. Jonathan* I. 85 Jotham . . . whose every breath was a hoarse blubber. 1805 CARLYLE *Fredk. Gt.* III. ix. xi. 180 All in a blubber of tears.

6. Comb. and *Attrib.* (chiefly in sense 4), as *blubber-boat*, *-cask*, *-chopper*, *-fork*, *-oil*, *-room*, *-ship*; *blubber-fed* adj.; also, *blubber-guy*, a large rope, or 'guy', suspended between the fore and main masts of a whaler, to assist in securing and supporting the carcass of a whale; *blubber-lamp*, a lamp which burns blubber-oil; *blubber-spade*, a spade-like knife used by whalers.

1835 SIR J. ROSS *N.-W. Pass.* vi. 83 We passed a blubber cask. 1849 *Todd Cycl. Anat. & Phys.* IV. 1316/1 The fat, blubber-fed . . . Esquimaux. 1856 KANE *Arct. Exp.* II. ii. 29, I carried in our blubber-lamp. 1884 *Gd. Words* Jan. 40/2 A wooden jerry, a blubber-boat, and a pile of casks.

Bl'ubber, sb.² One who blubs.

1835 CARLYLE in *Fraser's Mag.* V. 393 The purify sand-blind labourer and blubber, with his open mouth, and face of bruised honeycomb.

Bl'ubber, a. [Altered from the earlier **BLABBER**, **BLÖBER**, probably under the influence of *blub* and *blubber* sb.] Swollen, protruding; esp. said of the lips. (Often with hyphen.)

Hence *blubber-lipped*, *-cheeked* a.

1667 DAVENANT & DRYDEN *Tempest* III. iii. My dear Blubber-lips; this observe my Chuck. 1677 *Land. Gaz.* No. 1211/4 Henry Blomfield . . . of a ruddy complexion, having full blubber lips very remarkable. 1690 *Ibid.* No. 2550/4 George Crockett . . . with short black Hair . . . and Blubber-Lipped. 1711 J. GREENWOOD *Eng. Gram.* 178 Blubber-cheek't. 1853 SCOTT *Talism.* (1863) 106 A Negro, is he not . . . with black skin . . . a flat nose, and blubber lips? 1845 HOOD *Doves & Crows* iii. Stretch ev'ry blubber-mouth from ear to ear.

Blubber (bl'ubər), v. [For forms and etymology see the sb.]

† 1. *intr.* To bubble, bubble up; to give forth a bubbling sound, as a spring, boiling water. *Obs.*

c 1325 *E. E. Allit. P. B.* 1017 Bio, blubrande, & blak, vn- blype to neze. c 1340 *Gaw. & Gr. Knt.* 2174 Pe borne (= rivulet) blubred penne, as hit boyled hade. 1750 R. PUT- rock *Life P. Wilkins* xii. (1883) 38/2 My kettle . . . had been boiling, till hearing it blubber very loud . . . I whipped it off the fire.

2. *trans.* +a. To allow (tears) to bubble forth, to give copious vent to (tears). *Obs.* b. To utter or cry out with copious tears and sobs.

1583 STUBBS *Anat. Abus.* (1877) 108 Blubbering forth seas of tears. 1590 GREENE *Never too late* (1600) 26 The teares trickled down the vermilion of her cheeks, and shee blubbed out this passion. 1750 GAY *Poems* (1745) II. 63 She thus begins, And sobbing, blubbers forth her sins. 1749 FIELDING *Tom Jones* xvii. iii. Western, whose eyes were full of tears . . . blubbered out 'Don't be chicken-hearted'.

3. *intr.* To weep effusively; to weep and sob unrestrainedly and noisily. (Generally used contemptuously and in ridicule for 'weep'.)

c 1400 *Test. Love* II. (1560) 283/1 Han women none other wrech . . . but blober and wepe till hem list stint. 1530 PALSGR. 458/1, I blober, I wepe, je pleure. 1553 UDALL *Royster D.* III. iv. What, weep? Fie for shame! And blubber? 1564 PHAER *Æneid* ix. B biv b, Shee blubberyng still, and kindlyng further greif. 1605 B. JONSON *Volpone* II. vii. Wks. (1616) 477 What, blubberyng? Come, drie those teares. 1748 SMOLLETT *Rod. Rand.* xlv. (1804) 292 He blubbered like a great school-boy who had been whipt. 1806 SCOTT *Woodst.* iv. Phoebe Mayflower blubbered heartily for company. 1857 HUGHES *Tom Brown* viii. (1871) 179.

4. *trans.* To wet profusely or disfigure (the face) with weeping; to beweepe. Also *fig.* (The notion of 'swell with weeping' is later, and influenced by **BLUBBER** a.)

1584 GREENE *Card of Fancy* Wks. 1882 IV. 164 Whome he found all blubbered with tears. 1596 SPENSER *F. Q.* II. i. 13 Her face with teares was fowly blubbered. 1631 DONNE *Serm.* iv. 553 God sees Teares in the heart of a man before they blubber his face. 1638 SUCKLING *Aglaure* v. i. (1646) 56 The pretty flowers blubber'd with dew.

b. *transf.*

1870 LOWELL *Among my Bks.* Ser. I. (1873) 242 Tram- mels and pot-hooks which the little . . . Elkanahs blotted and blubbered across their copy-books.

Blubberation, = **BLUBBERING** + *-ATION*.

1812 H. & J. SMITH *Rej. Addr.* (1833) 155 They sung a quartetto in grand blubberation.

Bl'ubered, ppl. a. Also 6 bloubred. [f. **BLUBBER** v. + *-ED*.] Flooded with tears; said of the eyes, cheeks, face; in later usage also, swollen and disfigured with weeping.

c 1575 *Cambyes* in Hazl. *Dodsley* IV. 208 With blubb'ed eyes into my arms I will thee take. 1591 SPENSER *Daphn.*

551 Did rend his haire, and beat his blubbred face. c 1630 DRUMM. OF HAWTH. *Wks.* 51 A blubber'd band Of weeping virgins. 1718 PRIOR *Poems* 96 Dear Cloe, how blubber'd is that pretty Face? 1860 HAWTHORNE *Marb. Fawn* (1878) I. vii. 86 Representing the poor girl with blubbered eyes.

† 2. Loosely used for **BLUBBER** a.: Swollen; a. said of thick protruding lips. *Obs.*

1624 SIR T. HERBERT *Trav.* 14, I omit their flat noses, and blubber'd lips, bigge enough without addition. 1697 DRYDEN *Virg. Eclog.* III. 35. 1714 GAY *Sheph. Week* III. 39 Her blubber'd Lip by smutty Pipes is worn.

† b. *fig.* Inflated like a bubble. *Obs. rare.*

1699 POMFREY *Poems* (1724) 72 Swell'd with Success and blubber'd up with Pride.

Blubberer (bl'ubərər). [f. as prec. + *-ER*¹.] One who blubbers or weeps violently.

1786 *tr. Beckford's Vathek* (1868) 29 Without the counsels of that blubberer. 1848 MARRVAT *R. Keefer* xxxi. The blubberer in the smock-frock.

Blub'bering, vbl. sb. [f. as prec. + *-ING*¹.] The action of weeping profusely and noisily.

1580 NORTH *Plutarch* (1676) 172 Lamentations made at the funerals of the dead, with blubbering and beating them- selves. 1741 RICHARDSON *Pamela* (1824) I. xi. 22 He was angry, and said . . . Cease your blubbering. 1873 DARWIN *Emotions* vi. 156 Paroxysms of violent crying or blubbering.

Blub'bering, ppl. a. Also 4-5 bloberond. [f. as prec. + *-ING*².]

† 1. Blubbling, gurgling (like a spring). *Obs.*

c 1400 *Destr. Troy* 96/2 Till the bloberond blode blend with the rayn. 1646 CRASHAW *Steps to Temp.* 33 At my feet the blubbing mountain, Weeping, melts into a foun- tain. 1863 BARRING-GOULD *Iceland* xxi. 363 The bottom of this is also full of little blubberyng springs.

2. Shedding tears profusely (*obs.*); weeping and sobbing noisily and unrestrainedly. A contem- ptuous expression for 'weeping'.

1581 NEWTON *Seneca's Thebais* 49 b, My trickling teares, my blubberyng Eyes, may put you out of doubt. 1753 JANE COLLIER *Art. Torment.* 46 Begone out of my sight, you blubberyng fool. 1868 *Sat. Rev.* 13 Sept. 301 The some- what scornful astonishment which is aroused in the unde- veloped English mind when it is first called upon to sym- pathize with the blubberyng demigods of Ilium.

Hence *Blub'beringly* adv.

1835 BECKFORD *Recoll.* 116 Donna Inez was called . . . and embraced by his right reverence most blubberyngly. 1844 TUPPER *Cock of G.* xxv. 202 She . . . kept calling blubberyngly for 'Simon, -poor dear Simon'.

Blub'berous, a. = **BLUBBER** a.

1863 SALA *Capt. Dang.* II. ii. 65 They went Raving Mad, gnawing their Tongues and poor blubberyng Lips to pieces.

Blubbery (bl'ubərī), a. [f. **BLUBBER** sb. + *-Y*¹.] Of the nature of (whale's) blubber. Also *fig.*

1791 E. DARWIN *Bot. Gard.* I. 44 Spears and javelins pierce his blubbery sides. 1853 LANDOR *Last Fruit* (1853) 345 Democracy is the blubbery spawn begotten by the drunkenness of aristocracy. 1880 *Daily Tel.* 20 Sept., The gelatinous and blubbery surface of the whale's body.

Blucher. [Named after the Prussian com- mander Field-Marshal von Blücher (blüx'ér), but commonly mispronounced (blut'fər) or (blü'kər).]

1. A strong leather half-boot or high shoe, the actual pattern varying with the fashion.

1831 CARLYLE *Sart. Res.* I. iii. (1838) 25 Ink-bottles alter- nated with . . . tobacco-boxes, Periodical Literature, and Blücher Boots. 1854 THACKERAY *Newcomes* I. 130 My own bootmaker wouldn't have allowed poor F. B. to ap- pear in Bluchers. 1859 *Sat. Rev.* 19 Feb. 20/2 If they [ladies] will trample on us with a hobnailed blucher.

2. (See *quots.*)

1854 *Soc. Sc. Rev.* I. 406 The railway companies recog- nize two other classes of cabs, called the 'privileged', and the 'Bluchers' named after the Prussian Field Marshal who arrived on the field of Waterloo only to do the work that chanced to be undone. 1870 *Athenaeum* 5 Mar. 328 Non-privileged cabs, which are admitted to stations after all the privileged have been hired, are known as Bluchers.

† **Blud'der**, v. *Obs.* Perhaps = To blunder; perh. To talk stuff; cf. **BLEETHER**, **BLUTHER**. (Much used by Bale.) Hence *Blud'dering* ppl. a.

1553 BALE *Vocabryon* in *Harl. Misc.* (Malh.) I. 359 The blinde bludderinge papistes. 1554 — *Declar. Bonner's Ar- ticles* xxxvi. (D.) This bussard, this beast, and this blud- dering papiste.

Bludder, variant of **BLUTHER** v.

Blude, Sc. and north. dial. form of **BLOON**.

† **Blude-black**. *Obs. rare*¹. (See *quot.*)

1647 LILLY *Chr. Astrol.* viii. 60 The Bat or Blude-black, Crow, Lapwing. [? for *blinde & black*.]

Bludgeon (bludʒən). [Not found before the 18th c.: origin unknown.]

Blogon (with *g=j*) is quoted by Dr. Whitley Stokes from the Cornish drama *Origo Mundi* (? 14th c.), but its rela- tion to the English is uncertain. Other Celtic etymologies sometimes proposed are on many grounds untenable. A Du. vb. *bludsen* to bruise, has also been compared; and it has been suggested that the word is of cant origin, con- nected with *blood*.]

A short stout stick or club, with one end loaded or thicker and heavier than the other, used as a weapon.

1730 BAILEY, *Bludgeon*, an oaken stick or club. 1755 *Genll. Mag.* XXV. 135 These villains . . . knocked him down with a bludgeon. 1798 in *Ld. Auckland's Corr.* (1862) III. 413 They were attacked by nine men . . . armed with swords and short bludgeons. 1818 SCOTT *Hrt. Midl.* (1873) 59 Scarce any weapons but knives and bludgeons had been yet seen among them. 1875 STUBBS *Const. Hist.* III. xviii. 103 Called by the annalists the parliament of bats or bludgeons.

b. Comb. *bludgeon-man*, one armed with a bludgeon; *bludgeon-work*, fighting with blud- geons, hand-to-hand fighting.

1797 W. TAYLOR in *Month. Rev.* XXII. 528 Assisted by the bludgeon-men of some powerful faction. 1813 WELLING- ton *Let.* 3 Aug. in *Gurw. Disp.* X. 602 The battle of the 28th was fair bludgeon work.

Bludgeon, v. [f. prec. sb.] *trans.* To strike or fell with a bludgeon or similar weapon.

1868 DORAN *Saints & Sin.* I. 295 Such a preacher . . . would be bludgeoned into a mummy. 1884 *Pall Mall G.* 15 Oct. 3/1 To bludgeon an opponent who has a sharp tongue.

Bludgeoned, a. [f. **BLUDGEON** sb. + *-ED*².] Armed with a bludgeon, or with bludgeons.

1780 *Hist. Europe* in *Ann. Reg.* 194/2 They had a blud- geoned mob waiting for them in the street. 1831 *Fraser's Mag.* IV. 505 The bludgeoned fury of the rabble.

Bludgeoner, -er. [f. as prec. + *-ER*¹, *-EER*.] One who uses, or is armed with, a bludgeon.

1853 *Blackw. Mag.* 224 Those brutal bludgeoners . . . go out . . . in gangs to poach. 1855 TROLLOPE *Warden* xiv. 144 Old St. Dunstan with its smiting bludgeoners has been removed.

Blu(e, obs. pa. t. of **BLOW** v.)

Blue (blū, blü), a. Forms: 3 bleu, 3-8 blew, 4 blu(e, bluw(e, 4-5 blwe, 4-6 blew(e, 7- blue. [ME. *bleu*, a. OF. *bleu*, a Common Romanic word (=Pr. *blau*, *blava*, OSP. *blavo*, It. dial. *biavo*, med.L. *blāvus*), ad. OHG. or OLG. *blāw* :-OTeut. *blāwō-z* blue, whence also ON. *blā*, like- wise adopted in ME. as *bla*, *blo*, now *BLAE*. The corresponding OE. form *blāw* (or **blēw*) is known only in *Erfurt Gloss.* 1152, 'blata, pigmentum: havi-biaum', and the derivative *blāwen* (:=*blā- wīno-*) 'perseus'. But neither of these survived into ME., where their place was supplied by the adoption of ON. *blā*, in sense of 'lividus', and of F. *bleu* in sense of 'caeruleus'. The OTeut. *blāwō* was perh. cognate with L. *flāvus* yellow (though *blāwō-z* would be the expected Teutonic form), the names of colours having often undergone change in their application; thus OSP. *blavo* was 'yellowish-grey'. (The guess that *blāwō* was derived from the stem **bluwan*, Goth. *bligg- wan* to beat, as 'the colour caused by a blow' is not tenable.) The present spelling *blue* is very rare in ME., and hardly known in 16-17th c.; it became common under French influence only after 1700. In pronunciation, nearly all the diction- aries still recognize (blū), but the more easily pronounced (blü) is general in educated speech.]

I. Properly.

1. The name of one of the colours of the spec- trum; of the colour of the sky and the deep sea; cerulean.

c 1300 [see **BLUE** sb. 1]. c 1325 *E. E. Allit. P. A.* 423 Art pou pe quene of heuenez blwe. 1366 *Test. Ebor.* (1836) I. 81. Unam robam blue. 1394 *Ibid.* I. 128 Un drape de blew saye. 1388 WYCLIF *Ex.* xxvi. 14 Another couertour of blew skyngnes. c 1386 CHAUCER *Spr.* 7. 636 And by hire beddes heed she made a mew, And couered it with veluettes blew. [v. blue, blwe]. 1486 *Bk. St. Albans* A ij b. It had need to be died other green or blwe. 1590 LEVINS *Manip.* 94 Blewe, ceruleus. 1596 SPENSER *Astroph.* 185 The gods . . . Transformed them . . . Into one flowre that is both red and blew. 1669 BOYLE *Contn. New Exp.* I. xlv. (1682) 153 Between blew and green. 1718 POPE *Iliad* xv. 195 And to blue Neptune thus the goddess calls. 1797 COLERIDGE *Christabel* I. Concl., The blue sky bends over all. 1855 DICKENS *Dorrit* I. A sea too intensely blue to be looked at. 1884 W. SHARP *Earth's Voices*, etc. 142 Blue'r than bluest summer air.

b. Said of the colour of smoke, vapour, distant hills, steel, thin milk.

1608 SHAKS. *Ham.* v. i. 277 The skyish head Of blew Olympus. 1708 POPE *Dunciad* III. 3 Him close the cur- tain'd round with vapours blue. 1809 J. BARLOW *Columb.* VII. 400 His blue blade waved forward. 1831 LYTTON *Godolph.* xxiv. That chain of hills . . . stretched behind . . . their blue and dim summits melting into the skies. 1859 DE QUINCY *Wks.* (1863) II. 14 Skimmed or blue milk being only one half-penny a quart—in Gramere. 1860 DICKENS *Uncomm. Trav.* xi. 107 Sails of ships in the blue distance.

c. Said of a pale flame or flash without red glare (as of lightning, etc.); e.g. in phr. *To burn blue*, which a candle is said to do as an omen of death, or as indicating the presence of ghosts or of the Devil (perh. referring to the blue flame of brimstone: see *De Foe, Hist. Devil* ch. x.).

1594 SHAKS. *Rich.* III. v. iii. 180 The Lights burne blew! It is now dead midnight. 1601 — *Jul. C.* I. iii. 50 The crosse blew Lightning. 1611 BRAUM. & FL. *Knt. Burn.* *Pestle*, Ribands black and candles blue For him that was of men most true. 1649 BR. REYNOLDS *Serm. Hosea* i. 54 In a mine, if a damp come, it is in vaine to trust to your lights, they will burn blew, and dimme, and at last vanish. 1796 DE FOE *Hist. Devil* x. That most wise and solid sug- gestion, that when the candles burn blue the Devil is in the room. 1844 BYRON *Yvan* xvi. xxvi. His taper Burnt, and not blue, as modest tapers use . . . Receiving sprites.

d. Said of the veins as they show through the skin. Cf. *blue blood* (see **BLOOD** 8).

1606 SHAKS. *Ant. & Cl.* II. v. 29 There is Gold, and heere My blewest vaines to kisse: a hand that Kings haue lipt. 1845 BROWNING *Bishop orders Tomb*, Some lump . . . of lapis lazuli . . . Blue as a vein o'er the Madonna's breast. 1885

Mrs. OLIPHANT *Madam* II. xxvi. 50 Blue veins showing distinctly through the delicate tissue of his skin.

6. Often taken as the colour of constancy or unchangingness (with regard to the blue of the sky, or to some specially fast dye). Hence *true blue* (*fig.*): faithful, staunch and unwavering (in one's faith, principles, etc.): sterling, genuine, real. See also 6 b.

a 1500 *Ballade agst. Women Unconst.* in Stow's *Chaucer* (1561) 340 To newe things your lust is euer kene. In stede of blew, thus may ye were al grene. 1672 *WALKER Parv.* 20 in *Hazl. Eng. Prov.* True blue will never stain. 1674 *N. FAIRFAX Bulk & Selv.* 171 It being true blew Gotham or Hobbes ingrain'd, one of the two. 1705 *HICKERINGILL Priest-Craft* II. viii. 86 The Old Beau is True-Blew, to the Highdown Principles (of) King Edward's First Protestant Church. 1783 *AINSWORTH Lat. Dict.* I. s.v. *Blue*.

7. The particular shade is expressed by words prefixed, as *clear, dark, deep, intense, light; azure, indigo, lavender, plum, sky, slate, ultramarine, violet*; also by arbitrary words, as *Prussian, Berlin, royal, navy*. See also BLUE 2 b.

1415 *Test. Ebor.* (1836) I. 382 Lectum de worstede de light blewte et sadde blewte. 1547 *Sqr. Iowe Degre* in *Dom. Archit.* II. 140 Damaske whyte and asure blewte. 1509 *HAWES Past. Pleas.* xviii. xii. Velvet, al of Indy blewte. 1611 *COTGR., Couleur perse*, skie-colour, azure colour. light blue. 1622 *PEACHAM Compl. Gentl.* I. xxiii. (1634) 78 That which we call skye colour or heavens-blew. 1882 *Garden* 18 Mar. 183/3 Rich azure blue, dark blue. violet blue, rich blue.

2. Livid, leaden-coloured, as the skin becomes after a blow, from severe cold, from alarm, etc.; = obs. *Blo*, and dial. *BLAE*. *Black and blue*: see BLACK a. 13, BLAE I b. Cf. also BLUE EYE.

1393 *LANGL. P. Pl. C.* IV. 125 Pat fur shal falle and forebrenne al to blewte [1377 blo] asks The houses and pe homes of hem pat taken yfite. c 1485 *Digby Myst.* (1882) I. 340, I shuld bete you bak and side tyll it were blew. 1598 *SHAKS. Merry W. v. v.* 49 There pinch the Maids as blew as Bill-berry. 1634 *MILTON Comus* 434 Blue meagre hag, or stubborn unlaid ghost. 1748 *SMOLLETT Rod. Rand.* II. 23 My fingers cramped and my nose. blue. 1814 *SCOTT Ld. of Isles* v. xxvi. His trembling lips are livid blue.

3. *fig.* Affected with fear, discomfort, anxiety, etc.; dismayed, perturbed, discomfited; depressed, miserable, low-spirited; esp. in phr. *To look blue*. *Blue funk* (slang): extreme nervousness, tremulous dread.

a 1550 *Pebilis to Play* II. 6 Than answerit Meg full blew. c 1600 *Rob. Hood* (Ritson) II. xxxvi. 84 It made the sunne looke blew. 1682 *N. O. Boileau's Lutrin* I. 316 But when he came to't, the poor Lad look't blew. 1783 *AINSWORTH Lat. Dict.* (Morell) I. s.v. *Blue*, He looked very blue upon it, *valde perturbatus fuit*. 1840 *DISRAELI Corr. w. Sister* (1886) 15 Great panic exists here, and even the knowing ones. look very pale and blue. 1861 *Sat. Rev.* 23 Nov. 534 We encounter. the miserable Dr. Blandling in what is called. a blue funk. 1871 *MAXWELL in Life* (1882) xii. 382 Certainly *χλωρον δέος* is the Homeric for a blue funk. 1883 *Harper's Mag.* Mar. 600/1 I'm not a bit blue over the prospect.

4. Of the colour of blood; ? purple. *Obs.*

1483 *Cath. Angl.* 35 Blew (A. blowe), *blodins*.

II. *transf. and fig.*

5. Dressed in blue; wearing a blue badge. 1598 *B. JONSON Ev. man in Hum.* II. iv. We that are Blue-waiters. 1605 *ARMIN Foole upon F.* (1880) 42 Blew John, that gives Food to feede worms. 1647 *MAY Hist. Parl.* III. vi. 112 The blew auxiliary Regiment. 1709 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 4508/2 Two Battalions of the blue Foot-Guards. 1883 *READE Tit for Tat* I. Gainsborough's blue boy.

b. *Blue Squadron*: one of the three divisions made of the English Fleet in the 17th c.

1665 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 3/3, 17 or 18 sail of English Men of War (of the Blew Squadron). 1689 *Ibid.* No. 2467/4 This day Mr. Edward Russell, Admiral of the Blue Squadron, sailed from St. Helens. 1703 *Ibid.* No. 3896/3 John Leake, Esq. [is advanced] from Rear-Admiral of the Blue, to be Vice-Admiral of the same Squadron. 1840 *Penny Cycl.* XVI. 160 Admirals of the red, white, blue, squadrons. bear a square flag of the colour of their squadron at the main. top gallant mast.

c. Blue was formerly the distinctive colour for the dress of servants, tradesmen, etc., also of paupers, charity-school boys, almsmen, and in Scotland of the king's almoners or licensed beggars; cf. *blue apron* (see 13), *BLUE-BOTTLE*, *BLUE-COAT*, *BLUE-GOWN*.

1609 *B. JONSON Case Altered* I. ii. (N.) [A serving-man] Ever since I was of the blue order.

d. See BLUE 2 b. 9.

6. Belonging to the political party which, in any particular district, has chosen blue for its distinctive colour. (In most parts of England the Conservative party.)

1835 *DISRAELI Corr. w. Sister* (1886) 35, I. have gained the show of hands, which no blue candidate ever did before. 1868 *HOLME LEE B. Godfrey* II. 292 She had not won his promise to vote blue. *Ibid.* III. 297 This was a blue demonstration, a gathering of the Conservative clans.

b. *True blue*: (see above 1 c) specifically applied to the Scottish Presbyterian or Whig party in the 17th c. (the Covenanters having adopted blue as their colour in contradistinction to the royal red); but also with any use of blue, as in quot. 1860 where it = 'staunchly Tory'.

1863 *BUTLER Hud.* I. I. 191 For his Religion it was fit To match his Learning and his Wit; 'Twas Presbyterian true

Blew. 1785 *BURNS Author's Earn. Cry* xiii, Dempster, a true blue Scot I see warrant. 1818 *SCOTT Hrt. Midl.* (1873) 75 A tough true-blue Presbyterian, called Deana. 1860 *TROLOPE Framley P. i.* 10 There was no portion of the county more decidedly true blue.

7. Of women: Learned, pedantic. See BLUE-STOCKING. (Usually contemptuous.)

1768 *MAD. D'ARBLAY Diary* (1842) IV. 219 Nobody would have thought it more odd or more blue. 1813 *MAR. EDGEWORTH Patron* II. xxvi. 117 They are all so wise, and so learned, so blue. 1834 *SOUTHEY Doctor* xv. (1862) 37 A Lady. bluer than ever one of her naked, wood-stained ancestors appeared. 1842 *DICKENS Amer. Notes* (1850) 38/2 Blue ladies there are, in Boston. 1864 *Spectator* No. 1875. 660 A clever, sensible woman, rather blue.

8. *fig.* Often made the colour of plagues and things hurtful. Cf. senses 1 c., 3 b., and BLUE DEVIL.

1742 *YOUNG Ni. Th.* v. 157 Riot, pride, perfidy, blue vapours breathe. 1742 *R. BLAIR Grave* 628 Racking pains, And bluest plagues, are thine. 1783 *AINSWORTH Lat. Dict.* (Morell) I. s.v. *Blue*, It was a blue bout to him, *istud illi fatale fuit*. 1847 *BARNHAM Impl. Leg., Black Mousquet.* II. xv. Those mischievous Imps, whom the world. Has strangely agreed to denominate 'Blue'. 1856 *BAYANT ON Revisit. Country* v. The mountain wind. Sweeps the blue streams of pestilence away.

9. *colloq.* Indecent, obscene. Cf. BLUENESS 4.

10. Phrases (*colloq.*). *Till all is blue*: said of the effect of drinking on the eyesight. *By all that's blue*: cf. *Fr. parbleu* (euphem. for *par Dieu*).

1616 *R. C. Times' Whit.* v. 1835 They drink. Vntill their adle heads doe make the ground Seeme blew vnto them. 1838 *FRASER'S Mag.* XVII. 313 Cracking jokes and bottles, until all is blue. 1840 *MARVAT Poor Jack* xiii. 'The black cat, by all that's blue' cried the captain. 1860 *BARTLETT Dict. Amer.*, *Blue*, a synonym in the tippler's vocabulary for 'drunk'. To drink 'till all's blue' is to get exceedingly tipsy. 1867 *SAYTH Sailor's Word-bk.* s.v., *Till all's Blue*: carried to the utmost—a phrase borrowed from the idea of a vessel making out of port, and getting into blue water.

III. *Comb.*

11. General combinations: a. qualifying the names of other colours, as *blue-green, grey, lilac, purple, roan, violet, white*; also *BLUE-BLACK*.

1855 *SINGLETON Virgil* I. 211 His eyeballs, flashing with a 'blue-green glare. 1859 *Geo. ELIOT A. Bede* 61 The keen glance of her 'blue-grey eye. 1882 *Garden* 2 Dec. 481/2 The colour varies from a deep 'blue-purple to a bright violet-purple. 1887 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 2224/4 A Mare of a 'blue roan colour. 1881 *Daily News* 24 Feb. 3/1 A blue roan. which won at Oxford last summer. 1879 *ROOD Chromatics* ix. 122 The three fundamental colours. red, green, and 'blue-violet.

b. parasynthetic and instrumental, as *blue-aproned* [f. *blue apron* + -ED²], *-backed, -blooded, -bloused, -chequed, -coloured, -faced, -flowered, -haired, -laid* [see LAID], *-lined, -mantled, -stained, -throated, -veined, -washed, -winged; blue-glancing, -glimmering*.

1640 *BP. HALL Chr. Moder.* 33/1 A separatist, a 'blue-aproned man, that never knew any better school than his shop-board. 1643 *CLEVELAND Poems* 51 On 9. W. 17 A fair blew-apron'd Priest. 1845 *Proc. Berw. Nat. Club* II. 174 A 'blue-backed gull, and a curlew. 1863 *KINGSLEY Water Bab.* iii. 129 Like an old 'blue-blooded Hidalgo of Spain. 1813 *SCOTT Guy M.* xxxix, The Dominie, taking his 'blue-checked handkerchief from his eyes. 1858 *W. ELLIS Visits Madagasc.* xi. 280 The little. 'blue-flowered lobelia appeared in great abundance. 1647 *H. More Song of Soul* II. III. i. xxii, The Sun, the Moon, the Earth, 'blew-glimmering Hel. 1634 *MILTON Comus* 29 This isle. He quarters to his 'blue-haired deities. 1855 *KINGSLEY Heroes* v. 167 Poseidon the blue-haired king of the seas. c 1865 *J. WYLD in Circ. Sc.* I. 153/1 Cream and 'blue-laid paper. 1658 *MAY Old Couple* I. i. in *Doddsley* (1780) X. 448 The blushing rose, 'blue-mantled violet. 1866 *ANSTED Channel Isl.* II. ix. (ed. 2) 205 note, The 'blue-throated warbler (*Sylvia suecica*) may be named as a rare visitor. 1593 *SHAKS. Ven. & Ad.* 125 These 'blue-veined violets, whereon we lean. 1797 *COLERIDGE Christabel* I. ix, Her blue-veined feet unsandaled were. 1876 *Geo. ELIOT Coll. Breakf.* 60 A 'blue-winged butterfly.

12. Used more or less descriptively and distinctively, in forming the names of natural objects: a. *Animals*, as *blue-back*, a species of bird; *blue-breast*, the Blue-throated Redstart or Warbler; *blue bull*, the Nyl-gau or Nilgai of India; *blue cat*, a Siberian cat valued for its fur; *blue cocks*, the *Salmo albus*; *blue fox*, a variety of the Arctic fox, and its fur; *blue hawk*, (a.) the Peregrine Falcon (*F. peregrinus*); (b.) the Ring-tailed Harrier (*Circus cyaneus*), also called *blue glade* and *blue kite*; *blue-head*, a worm used as bait; *blue poker*, a kind of duck, the Pochard; *blue-poll*, the *Salmo albus* (= blue cocks); *blue-rock*, a kind of pigeon; *blue-throat*, a bird, the *Sylvia suecica*; *blue tit*, the Blue Titmouse; = *BLUE CAP* 4; *blue-wing*, name of a genus of ducks. Also *blue goose, jay, linnet, shark*, etc.; and in the names of many artificial angling flies, as *blue dun, blue gnat, blue jay*, etc. Also *BLUE-BIRD, BLUE-BOTTLE, BLUE-CAP, BLUE-FISH*.

c 1532 in *PALSGR.* 912 The 'blewe back and redbrest, *la pienne*. 1883 *Century Mag.* Sept. 684/1 The blue-back's nest was scarcely a foot from the ground. 1863 *BARING-GOULD Iceland* 324 We disturbed a 'blue Arctic fox. 1884 *Daily News* 27

Oct. 2/1 Costly fur, such as sable, blue fox, otter, or beaver. 1875 *'STONEHENGE' Brit. Sports* I. v. xi. 683. 312 The Marsh-worm or 'Blue-head is found in moist. localities. 1530 *PALSGR.* 911 The 'blewe kyte, *sault perdrier*. 1780 *G. WHITE Selborne* xlv. 111, I readily concur with you in supposing that house-doves are derived from the small 'blue rock pigeon. 1863 *H. KINGSLEY A. Elliot*, A cage containing five-and-twenty 'blue-rocks'. 1845 *Gard. Chron.* 86 The robin. seems to fear the 'blue-tit.

b. *Plants*, as *blue-berry*, the name of various species of *Vaccinium*, especially the American *V. corymbosum*; *blue-blaw*, *blue-cup*, *Centaurea cyanus*; = *BLUEBOTTLE* 1; *blue chamomile* or *blue daisy*, the Sea Starwort, and other blue composite flowers; *blue-gage*, a kind of plum; *blue-grass* (U.S.), 'various species of *Carex*' (Miller *Plant-names*); also *WIRE-GRASS*, *Poa compressa*, of N. America; *blue gum* (tree), the *Eucalyptus globulus* of Australia; *blue-hearts*, *Buchnera americana*; † *blue-pipe*, the Lilac; † *blue poppy* (*dial.*), *BLUEBOTTLE* 1; *blue rocket*, *Aconitum pyramidalis*; *blue tangles*, *Vaccinium frondosum*; *blue-weed*, Viper's Bugloss, *Echium vulgare*. Also in numberless specific names, as *blue Crane's-bill*, etc. See also *BLUEBELL*, *BLUE-BONNET*, *BLUEBOTTLE*.

1772-84 *COOK Voy.* (1790) VI. 281 'Blue-berries, black-berries, cran-berries, and crow-berries. 1883 *Harper's Mag.* Mar. 603/2 We are feasting now upon blue-berries. 1578 *LYTE Dodona* II. xiii. 161 This flour is called. of Turner Blew bottell, and 'Blewblaw. 1601 *HOLLAND Pliny* II. 92 No sooner hath the Rose plaid his part, but the blew-blaw entereth the stage. 1611 *COTGR., Blewblaw*, Blew bottles, Blew blawes, Corne-flowers. 1597 *GERARD Herbal* lxxxviii. 334 Women that dwell by the sea side, call it. 'blew Daisies, or 'blew Camomill. 1881 *MISS BRADDON Asph.* II. 95 The purple bloom of grapes and 'blue-gages. 1879 *Sir G. CAMPBELL Black & Wh.* 14 The 'blue grass of Kentucky is famous; though it is not blue at all, but green, and very like our common natural grass. 1883 *Harper's Mag.* Oct. 715/1 The blue-grass country is reached by traversing central Virginia and Kentucky. *Ibid.* 719/2 The blue-grass. is not blue at all. It is 'blue limestone grass' properly. 1808 *HOWE in Phil. Trans.* XCVIII. 305 The tender shoots of the 'blue gum tree. 1845 *DARWIN Voy. Nat.* xix. (1873) 435 The trees with the exception of some of the Blue-gums. 1884 *19th Cent.* Feb. 321 The *Eucalyptus globulus* or Blue Gum tree of Australia, has a special power of antagonising the spread of malaria. 1697 *J. PERRIN in Phil. Trans.* XIX. 679 The Common Lilac or 'Blew Pipe Tree.

c. *Minerals*, as *blue asbestos* = *CROCIDOLITE*; *blue-billy* (see QUOTE.); *blue copper*, *blue malachite*, = *AZURITE*; *blue copperas*, *blue stone*, *blue vitriol*, sulphate of copper (see *VITRIOL*); *blue felspar*, *blue spar*, = *LAZULITE*; *blue iron* = *VIVIANITE*; *blue lead* (see QUOTE.); *blue metal*, name given by the workmen to a sulphide of copper obtained during the process of copper-smelting; *blue slipper*, local name of the Gault clay. Also *blue Verditer*, etc. See also *BLUE-JOHN*. c 1865 *LETHEBY in Circ. Sc.* I. 118/1 Carbonic acid, cyanogen, and sulphuretted hydrogen, are extracted from the gas; these combine with the lime, and produce a compound, which is technically termed 'blue-billy. 1881 *RAYMOND Mining Gloss.*, *Blue-billy*, the residuum of cupreous pyrites after roasting with salt. *Ibid.*, 'Blue-lead (pronounced like the verb to lead), the bluish auriferous gravel and cement deposit found in the ancient river-channels of California. 1875 *URE Dict. Arts* I. 407 'Blue Lead, a name used sometimes by the miners to distinguish galena from the carbonate, or white lead. 1881 *Daily News*, A great deal of the most charming scenery of the Undercliff. is due to the freaks of what is locally called the 'blue slipper. 1883 *Knowledge* 1 June 323/2 Crystals of pure 'bluestone (sulphate of copper, CuSO₄). 1770 *WATSON in Phil. Trans.* LX. 332 'Blue vitriol, corrosive sublimate. 1856 *Farmer's Mag.* Jan. 90 The qualities of blue vitriol used for soaking wheat.

13. Special combinations or phrases. † *blue apron*, one who wears a blue apron, a tradesman; *blue blanket*, the banner of the Edinburgh craftsmen; *fig. the sky*; *blue blood* (see *BLOOD* 8); *blue dahlia*, an expression for anything rare or unheard of; *blue disease*, a popular name for *Cyanosis*; *blue fire*, a blue light used on the stage for weird effect; hence *at-trib.* sensational (cf. sense 1 c); *blue flint* (see QUOTE.); *blue heat*, a temperature of about 550° Fahr., at which ironwork assumes a bluish tint; *blue jacket*, a sailor (from the colour of his jacket); esp. used to distinguish the seamen from the marines; *blue jaundice* (= *blue disease*); *blue laws*, severe Puritanic laws said to have been enacted last century at New Haven, Connecticut, U.S.; hence *fig.*; *blue light*, a pyrotechnical composition which burns with a blue flame, used also at sea as a night-signal; *blue line* (in *Tennis*), the service-line (so coloured); *blue mantle*, the dress, and the title, of one of the four pursuivants of the English College of Arms; *blue Monday*, (a.) the Monday before Lent; (b.) a Monday spent in dissipation by workmen (cf. *Ger. der blaue Montag*); *blue moon* (*colloq.*), a rarely recurring period; *blue-mould*, the mould of

this colour produced upon cheese, consisting of a fungus, *Aspergillus glaucus*; hence blue-moulded, -moulding *a.*; blue ointment, mercurial ointment; Blue Peter, a blue flag with a white square in the centre, hoisted as the signal of immediate sailing; hence, in *Whist*, The playing a higher card than is needed, as a signal or 'call' for trumps; blue pill, a mercurial pill of antibilious operation; hence blue-pilled *a.*; blue point (see POINT); blue pot, a pot made of a mixture of clay and graphite, a black-lead crucible; blue ruin (*slang*), gin, usually of bad quality; blue water, the open sea. See also BLUE-BEARD, BLUE-BOOK, etc.

1766 AMHERST *Terra Fil.* xliii. 230 For, if any saucy *blue apron dares to affront any venerable person... all scholars are immediately forbid to have any dealings or commerce with him. 1599 JAS. I. Basil. *Doron* (1603) 51 If they in any thing be controlled, up goeth the *blew-blanket. 1780 (*title*) Historical Account of the Blue Blanket or Craftsmen Banner, with the Prerogatives of the Crafts of Edinburgh. 1828-41 TYTLER *Hist. Scotl.* (1864) II. 224 Calling out the trained bands and armed citizens beneath a banner presented to them on this occasion (1482) and denominated the Blue Blanket. 1796 DE FOE *Hist. Devil* i. v. We must be content till we come 'tother side the Blue-blanket, and then we shall know. 1875 C. L. KENNEY *Mem. Balfe* 131 The same theatre... set up a formidable opposition... in the shape of a *blue fire melodrama. 1861 J. SHEPPARD *Fall Rome* vi. 309 Many persons living can recollect that their English auxiliaries were termed *Blue Flints by the peasants of Vendée, from the unusual colour of the flints in their musket-locks. 1793 SNEATON *Edystone L.* § 328 The iron came to about, or rather above, a *blue heat. 1879 Cassell's *Techn. Educ.* IV. 400/1 A temperature known as a blue or black heat. 1830 MARRYAT *King's Own* ii. Every *blue jacket would walk over. 1859 L. OLIPHANT *Elgin's Miss. China* I. 128 The ladders... were soon swarming with marines and blue-jackets. 1876 EMERSON *Ess.* Ser. i. viii. 204 Simple hearts... play their own game in innocent defiance of the *Blue-laws of the world. 1805 NELSON *Disp.* (1846) VII. 57, I had rather that all the Ships burnt a *blue-light. 1833 MARRYAT *P. Simple* (1863) 51 *Blue lights and Catharine wheels... all firing away. 1816 BULLOCKER, **Blewmantle*, the name of an office of one of the Pursuivants at arms. 1766 ENTICK *London* IV. 27 The four pursuivants... are Rouge-croix, Bleumantle, Rouge-dragon, and Portcullis. 1824 SCOTT *Wav.* ii. A tie which Sir Everard held as sacred as either Garter or Blue-Mantle. 1885 *Harper's Mag.* 873/1 The workman getting sober after his usual *blue Monday. 1876 MISS BRADDOCK *Haggard's Dan.* xxiv. 246 A fruit party once in a *blue moon. 1869 E. YATES *Wrecked in Port* xxii. 242 That indefinite period known as a *blue moon. 1664 *Phil. Trans.* I. 28 *Blew mould and Mushrooms. 1863 *Cornh. Mag., Roundab. Papers* xxvii. Carps... with great humps of blue mould on their old backs. 1864 C. O'DOWD *Men & Women* 7 The Austrians, as Paddy says, are *blue-moulded for want of a beating. [The expression is usually *blue-mouldy for want of a beating.] 1876 *Daily News* 3 Nov. 5/5 If this [bad weather] continues there is a danger of us all getting blue-moulded. 1829 BYRON *Yuan* xi. lxxxiii. It is time that I should hoist my *blue Peter. And sail for a new theme. 1866 MAYHEW *Crim. Prisons* 23 At the foremast head... the *blue Peter was flying as a summons to the hands on shore to come aboard. c. 1875 Beeton's *Handy Bk. Games* 358 Since the introduction of Blue Peter, the necessity of leading through your adversary's hand has become less and less. 1794-1824 D'ISRAELI *Cur. Lit., Med. & Mor.* The most artificial logic... may be swallowed with the *blue pill, or any other in vogue. 1861 E. MAYHEW *Dogs* 102 A few years ago... blue-pill with black draught literally became a part of the national diet. 1871 PLANCHÉ *K. Christmas*. There are blue devils which defy blue pills. 1827 FARADAY *Chem. Manip.* iv. 85 The... crucibles for this purpose are known by the name of *blue-pots. 1819 MOORE *Epiet. Jr. T. Cribb* 15 One swig of *Blue Ruin is worth the whole lot! 1831 CARLYLE *Sart. Res.* iii. x. 334 This latter [Potteen] I have tasted, as well as the English Blue-Ruin, and the Scotch Whisky. 1833 MARRYAT *P. Simple* (1863) 202 When we once are fairly out of harbour, and find ourselves in *blue water.

Blue, sb. [the adj. used absol. or elliptically.]

1. Blue colour. (It may have a plural.)

a 1300 *Cursor M.* 9920 Pe toijer... Es al o bleu, men cals Ind. c. 1500 *Maid & Magpie* in Halliwell. *Nugz P.* 43 His love was as a paynted blew. 1599 GREENE *George a Gr.* (1601) 258 Right Coventry blue. a 1656 BP. HALL *Occas. Medit.* (1851) 59, I do not like these reds and blues. 1810 HENRY *Elem. Chem.* (1826) I. 224 Its solution... first reddens, and then destroys, vegetable blues. 1821 CRAIG *Lect. Drawing* v. 270 Begin with the blue of the sky. 1846 RUSKIN *Mod. Paint.* I. ii. l. vii. § 21 The blue of distance, however intense, is not the blue of a bright blue flower.

2. A pigment of a blue colour: usually with some defining word prefixed, as *Prussian, French, cobalt, small, ultramarine, royal*.

1866 *Handbk. Water-Col.* (Winsor & Newton) 19 French blue or Imitative Ultramarine. 1866 *Lond. Rev.* 26 July 87 Another highly valued and brilliant variety of Prussian blue, commercially known as Turnbull's blue.

b. *spec.* A blue powder used by laundresses.

1618 ROWLANDS *Nt. Raven* (1620) 34 Set her to starch a band, (I vow tis true) She euer apoyles the same with too much blew. 1800 *New Ann. Direct.* 231 Walton & Mitchel, Blue-makers, 10 Silver-street. 1822 KITCHENER *Cook's Oracle* 500 As much powder Blue as will lie on a sixpence.

3. Blue clothing or dress; *spec.* a kind of stuff.

1428 CAXTON *Chron. Eng.* ccli. 321 The kyng... clad in blew. 1527 *MS. Invent. T. Cromwell*, A rydyng cote of browne blew weyted with tawney vellet. 1611 BIBLE *Ezek.* xxiii. 6 The Assyrians... Which were clothed with blew. 1721 C. KING *Brit. Merch.* II. 96 Plunkets, Violets, and Blues, formerly made in Suffolk. 1759 B. MARTIN *Nat.*

Hist. Eng. II. 53 Needham... which had a good trade once for Blues and Broad Cloths.

4. Elliptically, for blue species or varieties of animals, objects, or substances, the nature of which is explained by the context, *e.g.* one of the blue butterflies (*Polyommatus*); a blue artificial fly used in angling; a blue potato, etc.; blue china, etc.

1707 *BEST Angling* (ed. 2) 115 The sky-coloured blue... is a neat, curious, and beautiful fly. 1838 DICKENS *Mem. Grimaldi* ii. 22 Capturing no fewer than four dozen Dartford Blues. 1845 *Morn. Chron.* 22 Nov. 5/2 The potatoes were salmon and blues. 1866 *Gosse Rom. Nat. Hist.* 5 On the... open downs the lovely little 'blues' are frisking in animated play. 1884 *Ibid.* Nov. 833/2 Bits of old Nankin 'blue'.

5. a. The sky; b. The sea.

1647 H. MORE *Song of Soul* II. App. lxxxvii. 99 Ne any footstep in the empty Blew. 1738 WESLEY *Psalm* cxlvii. iv, Thro' the etherial blue. 1821 BYRON *Cain* II. i. 144 Oh, how we cleave the blue! 1850 TENNYSON *In Mem.* cxiv, Drown'd in yonder living blue The lark becomes a sightless song. 1861 L. NOBLE *Iceberg* 63 Far out upon the blue were many sails. 1876 GEO. ELIOT *Dan. Der.* IV. liv. 102 Where one may float between blue and blue.

6. = *Blue Squadron* (see BLUE a. 5 b).

1703 [see BLUE a. 5 b]. 1797-41 CHAMBERS *Cycl.* s. v. *Admiral*, Thus we say the Admiral of the red, the Admiral of the blue. 1806 A. DUNCAN *Nelson* 72 Sir Horatio Nelson, as rear-admiral of the blue, carried the blue flag at the mizen.

7. *pl.* Applied to various companies of troops, distinguished by wearing blue. a. The Royal Horse Guards, in 1690 distinguished from b as the 'Oxford Blues', from their commander, the Earl of Oxford. b. Dutch troops of William III. c. The troops of the French Republic of 1792.

1766 WESLEY *Jrnl.* 16 July, A whole troop of the Oxford Blues... kept them in awe. 1812 *Examiner* 12 Oct. 652/2 The Blues are about to embark for Spain. 1813 WELLINGTON *Let. in Gurw. Disp.* X. 69, I have been appointed Colonel of the Blues. 1848 MACAULAY *Hist. Eng.* xvi, While vainly endeavouring to prevail on their soldiers to look the Dutch Blues in the face. *Ibid.* l. 294 Another body of household cavalry distinguished by blue coats and cloaks, and still called the Blues, was... quartered in the neighbourhood of the capital. 1876 TRIMEN *Regiments Brit. Army* 12 It was also known as the 'Blue Guards' during the campaign in Flanders 1742-45, and is now commonly called 'The Blues'.

8. As the colour worn by a party or faction (identified with different principles at different times and places); hence, *transf.* an adherent of such party. Also *true blue*: see BLUE a. 1 e, 6.

1755 *Gentl. Mag.* XXV. 339 The blues being in the old interest, and the yellows in the new. 1766 *Ibid.* 442 Honest true blues, a staunch, firm, chosen band. 1790 BURNS *Election Ballad* ix, As Queensberry blue and buff unfurld. 1835 DISRAELI *Corr. w. Sister* (1886) 35 Labouchere has picked up many blues (my colour). 1881 MORLEY *Cobden* I. 91 Making citizenship into something loftier and more generous than the old strife of Blues and Yellows.

9. Light blue and dark blue have become the distinctive colours of the representatives both of Eton and Harrow Schools, and of Cambridge and Oxford Universities, in their rival athletic contests. So the 'Dark Blues' denote Oxford men or Harrow boys; 'to win his blue', or 'to be a Blue', is to be chosen to represent his University or School in rowing, cricket, etc.; 'an old Blue' is one who has rowed or played in an inter-University contest.

1879 *Daily News* 7 Apr. 3/2 At the Creek... the Light Blues were all but clear of their opponents. 1882 - 28 Jan. 2/2 Ainslie, of Oriel... may be successful in winning his blue. 1883 *Standard* 8 May 3/7 There are five 'Old Blues' playing. *Ibid.* 19 June 3/8 He has... received his 'blue'. 1884 *Q. Rev.* No. 316. 485 What [Eton] boy who has 'won his blue', etc.

10. A 'Blue-coat boy'; a scholar of Christ's Hospital.

1834 W. TROLLOPE (*title*) Christ's Hospital, with Account of the Plan of Education... and Memoirs of Eminent Blues.

11. Short for 'blue-stocking'.

1768 MAD. D'ARBLAY *Diary* (1842) IV. 219 His literary preference of reading to a blue. 1813 BYRON *Br. Abydos* II. v. note, Perhaps some of our own 'blues' might not be worse for bleaching. 1824 W. IRVING *T. Trav.* I. 203 The company of village literati and village blues. 1832 DISRAELI *Corr. w. Sister* (1886) 6 There were a great many dames there of distinction, and no blues. 1849 MISS MULOCK *Ogilvie* II. (1875) 12 Every one talked of her as a 'clever woman'—'a blue'.

b. *transf.* Female learning or pedantry. 1824 BYRON *Yuan* xvi. xlvii, She also had a twilight tinge of 'Blue'.

12. The blues (for 'blue devils'): depression of spirits, despondency, *collog.*

1807 W. IRVING *Salmag.* (1824) 96 In a fit of the blues. 1883 *Harper's Mag.* Dec. 55 Come to me when you have the blues.

13. *Archery.* (The second ring from the centre of the target is coloured blue.)

1882 *Standard* 31 Aug. 6/4 The prize for the lady making the most blues... was won by Mrs. E., who made eight blues. *Ibid.* The Lady Paramount's prize for most blues.

Blue, v. [the adj.]

1. *trans.* To make blue; *spec.* to heat (metal) so as to make it blue.

1606 SYLVESTER *Du Bartas* (1621) 466 Plaid the painter, when hee did soild The turning globes, blew'd seas, and green'd the field. 1727 MATHER *Yng. Man's Comp.* 309 To Blew Skins. 1826 W. TAYLOR in *Month. Mag.* XLI. 330 He rivets coats of mail, Or the bright sword-blade in his oven

blues. 1855 BROWNING *Statue & Bust*, The blood that blues the inside arm. 1881 GREENER *Gun* 253 Any amateur may blue by placing the pan of charcoal upon a fire, and burying the work to be blue'd in it.

2. To treat (linen) with blue (see BLUE sb. 2 b). 1866 *Lond. Rev.* 16 Aug. 154 The articles of dress... being well starched, blue'd, and rough dried.

† 3. To cause to look blue, (or † to blush). *Obs.* 1719 OZELL tr. *Misson's Trav. Eng.* 170 (D.) This action set many of the company a laughing, which very much blew'd the Countess.

† 4. *intr.* To blush. (*slang.*) *Obs.*

1709 STEELE & SWIFT *Tatler* No. 71 ¶ 8 If a Virgin blushes, we no longer cry she Blues.

Bluebeard (blū-bēard). A personage of popular mythology, so called from the colour of his beard. References are frequent in literature to the locked turret-chamber, in which hung the bodies of his murdered wives.

1822 DE QUINCEY *Confess.*, That room was to her the Blue-beard room of the house. 18... CARLYLE (*in Brewer*) The Bluebeard chamber of his mind, into which no eye but his own must look. 1854 BADHAM *Hallent.* 29 About half a mile from the town [Naples], are certain Bluebeard-looking towers... erected for the purpose of snaring wood-pigeons.

† **Blue-beat**, *v. Obs. rare*¹. To beat black and blue (cf. BLUE a. 2).

a 1606 W. SCLATER *Three Serm.* (1629) 9 Therefore S. Paul kept his body in subiection, and, that he might keepe it vnder, blue-beat it.

Blue bell, blue-bell. [see BELL sb. 1. 4.]

The popular name of two widely different flowers.

1. A species of Campanula (*C. rotundifolia*) which grows on open downs, hills, and dry places, and flowers in summer and autumn, with a loose panicle of delicate blue bell-shaped flowers on slender peduncles. This is the 'blue bell of Scotland', and of the north of England, and of the Elizabethan herbalists. (Usually blū-bēl, or as two words.)

1598 LYRZ *Dodoens* II. xxiii. 174 Blew Belles [with a figure of Campanula] when their plante beginneth first to spring up... haue small rounde leaves. 1763 AINSWORTH *Lat. Dict.* (Morell) 1, Blue bells, or bell flowers, *Campanula floris carulea*. 1795 BURNS *Thorn Groves o' sweet Myrtle* II, Where the blue-bell and gowan lurk. 1837 LOCKHART *Scott* (1839) VII. 178 He had scrambled to gather blue bells and heath flowers. a 1872 W. MILLER *The Blue Bell in Poets & Poetry of Scotl.* 1877 II. 340 For glaucomie is round the sweet blue bell.

2. In the south of Eng. generally and in many modern Eng. poets: (blū-bēl) a bulbous-rooted plant, *Scilla nutans* (*Hyacinthus non-scriptus* Linn.), growing in moist woods and among grass, and flowering in spring, with a nodding raceme of drooping narrow bell-like flowers.

(Those who call this 'blue-bell' or 'bluebell', generally call the other 'hair-bell' or 'hare-bell'.)

1794 MARTYN *Rousseau's Bot.* xviii. 250 The Wild Hyacinth or Blue-Bells of the European woods. 1802 SOUTHEY *Thalaba* IV. xxiii, Amid the growing grass The blue-bell bends, the golden king-cup shines, And the sweet cowslip scents the genial air. 1846 KEBBLE *Lyrz Innoc.* IV. vii. 221 Forest bluebells in a row stoop to the first May wind. 1851 MARY HOWITT *Sk. Nat. Hist.* 83 The nodding Bluebell's graceful flowers, The Hyacinth of this land of ours.

Blue-bird.

1. A small perching bird allied to the Warblers (*Motacilla sialis* Linn., *Sylvia sialis* Wilson, *Erythra Wilsonii* Swainson), common in the United States, where it appears in early spring, taking its departure in the autumn. Its upper part is sky-blue; breast and throat reddish-chestnut.

1688 J. CLAYTON in *Phil. Trans.* XVII. 996 A Bird they call a Blew-bird, of a curious azure colour, about the bigness of a Chafinch. a 1813 A. WILSON (*title*) The American Blue-Bird. 1846 LONGF. *Not always May* I, The blue-bird prophesying spring. 1881 J. HAWTHORNE *Fort. Fool* I. xxxiii, Blue-birds, with a flash of sky on their backs.

2. ? A species of albatross (*Diomedea fuliginosa* 'albatross of China,' *Penny Cycl.*).

1731 MEDLEY *Kolben's Cape G. Hope* II. 152 The description... of the Cape Blue-bird.

Blue-black, a. and sb.

A. adj. Black or dark with a tinge of blue.

1853 *Q. Rev.* Mar. 309 The coarse blue-black locks of the North American squaw. 1871 M. COLLINS *Mrg. & Merch.* II. i. 11 Face closely shaven, chin blue-black where the beard was... repressed.

B. sb. A pigment of this colour.

1823 P. NICHOLSON *Pract. Build.* 416 Blue-Black is the coal of some kind of wood burnt in a close heat. 1857 RUSKIN *Elem. Drawing* 41 Take cakes of lake, of gamboge, of sepia, of blue-black, of cobalt.

Hence **Blue-blackness.**

1830 L. WALLACE *Ben-Hur* II. iv. 96 A bank of blue-blackness over in the west which they knew to be mountains.

Blue bonnet, -bonnet. [cf. BLUE-CAP.]

1. *spec.* A broad round horizontally flattened bonnet or cap of blue woollen material, formerly in general use in Scotland. Hence **Blue-bonneted a.**

1682 and *Plea Nonconf.* 4 In a Jesuit's long Robes, and a Scottish blew Bonnet. 1859 MASSON *Milton* I. 667 The blue-bonneted and plaided peasantry of the shires.

2. *transf.* A blue-bonneted peasant, or soldier.

1828 SCOTT *Rob Roy* xxvi, Rob soon gathered an unco

band o' blue-bonnets at his back. 1800 — *Monast.* xxv. When the Blue Bonnets came over the Border.

3. A Scotch name of species of *Centaurea*, as the Bluebottle; also of species of Scabious and other round-headed blue flowers.

1863 MARG. PLUES *Rambl. Wild Fl.* 168 The corn blue bottle. Its brilliant colour entitles it to its Scotch appellation of Blue bonnet. The French call it *bleuet*.

4. Dial. name of the Blue Tit-mouse; = BLUE-CAP.

Blue book, blue-book. A book bound in blue; now *spec.* one of the official reports of Parliament and the Privy Council, which are issued in a dark blue paper cover.

1715 ASHMOLE *Hist. Ord. Gart.* vi. 155 The second of these Books is called the Blue Book; so called, being bound in Blue velvet; it begins with the first year of Queen Mary, and ends at the 18th of King Jac. I. 1844 (*title*) The Royal Blue Book (published by T. Gardner & Son, Princes St.). 1845 DISRAELI *Sybil* (1863) 185 On another table were arranged his parliamentary papers, and piles of blue books. 1881 SEELEY in *Macm. Mag.* XLV. 51/1 History.. is the great Blue-book of the statesman.

b. U.S. 'A printed book containing the names of all persons holding office under the government of the United States, with their place of birth, amount of salary, etc.' Bartlett *Dict. Amer.* (1860).

Blue-bottle.

1. The common name for the Blue Corn-flower (*Centaurea cyanus*).

1551 TURNER *Herbal* i. Niv. Blewbottel groweth in the corne. 1611 FLORIO, *Battisregola*, the weed blewbottle, Cornflower, or hartsickle. 1673 T. JORDAN *Lond. Tri.* in *Heath Graces' Comp.* (1860) 494 Grain .. intermingled with yellow flowers, Blew-bottles and erratick Poppies. 1794 MARTYN *Rousseau's Bot.* xxvi. 402 Blue Bottle .. whose beautiful blue colour would have attracted regard, had it been rare. 1863 PRIOR *Plant-n.* 26.

b. Applied vaguely to other blue flowers.

1696 RIDGLEY *Pract. Physic* 118 Made of the flowers of Succory or Blew-bottles. 1884 W. MILLER *Plant-n.* 15 Blue Bottle, *Scilla nutans*, *Centaurea cyanus*, and various other blue flowers.

2. A nickname for a man in a dark blue uniform, as a beadle or policeman. Also *attrib.*

1597 SHAKS. 2 *Hen. IV.* v. iv. 22 (*Addressing a beadle*) I will have you as soundly swindled for this, you blue-bottle [1st Fol. *blew Bottel'd*] Rogue. 1607 *Miseries Enforced* Marr. in *Hazl. Dodsley IX.* 471 How now, blue-bottle, are you of the house? 1864 SALA in *Daily Tel.* 13 Sept. Caught in his own toils by the bluebottles of Scotland-yard.

3. *Bluebottle fly*: a fly (*Musca vomitoria*) with a large bluish body; the Meat-fly or Blow-fly.

c 1790 PRIOR *Flies Poems* (1741) 158 A Fly upon the Chariot-Pole Cries out 'What Blue-bottle alive Did ever with such fury drive!' 1817 BYRON *Beppo* lxxiv, Humming like flies around the newest blaze, The bluest of bluebottles you e'er saw. 1882 W. IRVING *Braceb. Hall* II. 199 The buzzing of a stout blue-bottle fly.

Bluebuck, transl. the Dutch name BLAUWBOK.

1834 *Penny Cycl.* II. 88/2.

Blue-cap. [Cf. BLUE-BONNET.]

1. A cap of blue material; formerly worn by servants and tradesmen (see BLUE a. 5 c.); the 'blue bonnet' of Scotchmen. Also *attrib.*

1674 FLATMAN *Belly God* 114 The Kentish Pippin's best, I dare be bold, That ever blew-cap Costard monger sold.

2. *transf.* One who wears this head-dress; † a Scotchman, a BLUE-BONNET (*obs.*).

1596 SHAKS. 1 *Hen. IV.* ii. iv. 302 Well, hee is there too, and one Mordake, and a thousand blew-Cappes more. 1607 E. F. *Hist. Edw. II* (1680) 39 (D.) A rabble multitude of despised Blue-caps encounter, rout, and break the flower of England. 1663 in *Select. Harl. Misc.* (1793) 367 The precipitate blue-cap .. would needs fall upon them at Dunbar.

3. *dial.* A salmon in its first year, a grilse; so called because it has a blue spot on its head.

1677 in *Ray's Corr.* (1848) 127 These [salmon] have a broad blue spot on their heads, and are therefore called Blue-caps. 1865 COUCH *Brit. Fishes* IV. 220 In the west of the Kingdom the name of Blue cap is applied by some fishermen to the Salmon in the first year of its growth.

4. The Blue Titmouse (*Parus ceruleus*).

1804 WORDSW. *Kitten & Falling L.* 64 Where is he that giddy sprite, Blue-cap with his colours bright, Who was blest as bird could be. 1837 MACGILLIVRAY *Hist. Brit. Birds* II. 431 Blue Titmouse .. Blue-cap, Blue bonnet, etc.

5. The Blue Corn-flower; = BLUE BONNET 3.

1801 CLARE *Vill. Minstr.* II. 131 Till summer's blue-caps blossom mid the corn.

6. A kind of ale.

1822 KITCHENER *Cook's Oracle* 60 The Irishman loves Usquebaugh, the Scot loves Ale called Blue-Cap.

† 7. A kind of stone. *Obs.*

1679 PLOT *Staffordsh.* (1686) 158 A sort of stone from its colour call'd blew-cap, good for nothing.

Blue coat, blue-coat.

1. Formerly the dress of servants and the lower orders; hence of almoners and charity children.

† c 1600 *Distr. Emperor* i. i. in *Bullen O. Pl.* III. 169 Thou that has worn thy selfe and a blew coat To equal thyddbareness. 1608 EARLE *Microcosm.* liv. 117 His antient beginning was a blue coat, since a livery.

2. One who wears a blue coat; e.g. an almsman, a beadle; a blue-coated soldier or sailor.

1593 SHAKS. 1 *Hen. VI.* i. iii. 47 Draw men .. Blew Coats to Tawny Coats. 1598 E. GILPIN *Skial.* (1878) 52 A .. swag-gering blew-coat at an ale-house doore. 1608 DEKKER *Helman Lond.* Wks. 1885 111. 149 This counterfeit Blew-coate, running in all haste for his masters cloake-bag. 1699

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BENTLEY *Phal.* 222 That the fame.. could so soon reach Phalaris' ear in his Castle, through his Guard of Blue-coats. 1866 *Sat. Rev.* 8 Feb. 159 The admiral .. became .. gracious and condescending to his brother bluecoats.

b. *attrib.* (for quot. 1821 cf. BLUE-STOCKING.)

a 1653 G. DANIEL *Idyll* v. 115 In Blue-Coat Philosophy. a 1704 T. BROWN *Pleas. Ep.* Wks. 1730 i. 110 The blue coat infantry. 1801 BYRON *Juan* iv. cix. The blue-coat misses of a coterie.

3. (More fully *Blue-coat boy*): A scholar of a charity school wearing the almoner's blue coat. Of these schools there are many in England; the most noted being Christ's Hospital in London, whose uniform is a long dark blue gown fastened at the waist with a belt, and bright yellow stockings. So *attrib.*, as in *Blue-coat Hall, Hospital*.

1665 *Perry's Diary* 1 June, We .. saw all the funeral; which was with the blue-coat boys and old men, all the Aldermen, and Lord Mayor. 1691 WOOD *Ath. Oxon* i. 164 Among the blew coats in Ch. Ch. Hospital. 1701 DE FOE *True-born Eng.* i. (1703) 13 From Blewcoat Hospitals. 1711 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 490/3 A General Meeting .. will be held at Blue-coat-Hall in Christ's-Hospital. 1861 NICHOLSON *Annals of Kendal* 195 The Blue Coat School and Hospital .. The advancement of the Charity and maintenance of the blue-coat boys.

Blue-coated, a. Wearing a blue coat.

1691 WOOD *Ath. Oxon* II. 591 He .. became Teacher of the Blew-coated-children in Ch. Ch. Hospital. 1800 SCOTT *Abbot* xxi, A pair or two of blue-coated serving-men.

Blue devil.

1. A baleful demon (cf. BLUE a. 3, 8).

1616 R. C. *Times Whistle* vii. 3443 Alston, whose life hath been accounted evil, And therefore calde by many the blew devill. 1870 LOWELL *Among my Bks.* Ser. i. (1873) 364 He .. keeps a pet sorrow, a blue-devil familiar, that goes with him everywhere.

2. *fig.* in pl. *Blue devils*: a. Despondency, depression of spirits, hypochondriac melancholy.

1707 [see *Blue devilism* below]. 1798 G. COLMAN (*title*) *Blue Devils*, a Farce. 1800 W. RHODES *Bom. Fur.* i. (1836) 8 Do the blue devils your repose annoy? 1810 T. JEFFERSON *Writ.* (1830) IV. 144 We have something of the blue devils at times. 1883 BYRON *Juan* x. xxxviii, Though six days smoothly run, The seventh will bring blue devils or a dun.

b. The apparitions seen in *delirium tremens*.

1823 CORBETT *Resid. U. S.* 42 Just the weather to give drunkards the 'blue devils'. 1830 SCOTT *Demonol.* i. 18 They, by a continued series of intoxication, become subject to what is popularly called the Blue Devils.

Hence *Blue-devillage*, *Blue-devilism*.

1787 BURNS *Lett.* lxxviii. Wks. (1875) 355 In my bitter hours of blue-devilism. 1816 ELPHINSTONE in *Edin. Rev.* (1884) July, He styles Childe Harold exquisite blue-devillage.

Blue eye.

† a. = BLACK EYE 2 (cf. BLUE a. 3). † b. A blueness or dark circle round the eye, from weeping or other cause. c. An eye of which the iris is blue.

1524 HULOET, When a wife hathe a blew eye, she sayth she hath stombled on hir good man his fyste, *suggillatio*, *linor*. 1600 SHAKS. A. Y. L. III. ii. 393 A leane cheek .. a blew eye and sunken. a 1639 S. WARD *Serm.* 150 (D.) To whom are wounds, broken heads, blue eyes, maimed limbs? 1735 POPE *Mor. Ess.* II. 284 When those blue eyes first open'd on the sphere. 1800 SCOTT *Ivanhoe* iii, His face was broad, with large blue eyes.

Hence *Blue-eyed a.*, now in sense c.

1610 SHAKS. *Temp.* i. ii. 269 This blew ey'd hag, was hither brought. 1696 COWLEY *Pind. Odes* (1669) 2 The blew-eyed Nereides. 1736 THOMSON *Liberty* iv. 670 Strong and yellow-haired, the blue-ey'd Saxon came. 1868 WOOD *Homes without H.* xxviii. 531 The pretty Blue-eyed Yellow Warbler.

Blue-eyed grass: *Sisyrinchium Bermudianum*.

1824 W. MILLER *Plant-n.*

Blue-fish. [f. BLUE a. + FISH.]

a. A fish, a species of *Coryphæna*, found about the Bahamas and on the coast of Cuba. b. (See quot.)

1734 MORTIMER in *Phil. Trans.* XXXVIII. 318. 1782 P. H. BRUCE *Mem.* XII. 424 The sea hereabouts [Bahamas] abounds with fish unknown to us in Europe. parrot-fish, blue-fish, sucking-fish. 1848-60 BARTLETT *Dict. Amer.*, *Blue-Fish* (Temnodon saltator), a salt-water fish of the mackerel order, but larger in size. 1873 *Echo* 11 Mar. 2/2 Large quantities of halibut, bass, blue fish, flounders, and weak fish are also caught. 1880 GÜNTHER *Fishes* 447.

Blue gown, blue-gown. [cf. BLUE-COAT.]

† 1. A blue gown was: a. 'The dress of ignominy for a harlot in the house of correction' (Nares);

b. The dress of an almoner, in Scotland of a king's bedesman or licensed beggar. *Obs.*

1654 DEKKER *Honest Wh.* Wks. 1873 II. 165 Your Puritanicall Honest Whore sits in a blue gowne. 1707 BURNS *Ep. J. Rankine* iv, It's just the blue-gown badge an' claiting O' saunts.

2. One who wears this dress: in Scotland, a king's bedesman or licensed beggar, who wore the dress as a badge. Also *attrib.*

1816 SCOTT *Antiq.* xxiv, 'Edie Ochiltree, nae maister—your pair bedesman and the king's', answered the Blue-Gown. *Ibid.* xxxvii, Here has been an old Blue-Gown committing robbery!

Blueing, bluing (blū'ing), *vbl. sb.* [f. BLUE v.]

1. A making blue; *spec.* the process of giving a blue colour to metals. Also *attrib.*, as *blueing-pan*.

1766 CROKER, etc. *Dict. Arts & Sc.* (1768) I., *Blueing* of Metals is performed by heating them in the fire, till they assume a blue colour. 1851 *Art Jnrl. Catal. Gl. Exhib.* 63/3 The [sword-] blade .. combines embossing with engraving, blueing, and gilding. 1884 F. BRITTON *Watch & Clockm.* 34 The articles to be blue'd are placed in a blueing pan.

2. In U.S., A substance that gives a blue tint, laundresses' blue.

Blueism (blū'iz'm). Also bluisim. [f. BLUE a. + -ISM.] The characteristics of a 'blue' or 'blue-stocking'; feminine learning or pedantry.

1822 *Blackw. Mag.* XII. 589 What was heroism with our Chatham, was but blueism and cant in De Staël. a 1841 T. HOOK *Man of Many Fr.* (D.) He had .. fallen a victim to her beauty and blueism. 1848 *Fraser's Mag.* XXXIX. 542 She had prejudiced him against bluisim in women.

Blue-John.

† 1. = AFTER-WORT. Hence *fig. Obs.*

1672 MARVELL *Reh. Transp.* 1. 82 His Defence was but the blew-John of his Ecclesiastical Policy, and this Preface the Tap-droppings of his Defence. 1683 SALMON *Doron Med.* i. 242 Brewers Afterworts, or Wash, called 'Blew-John'.

2. A local name of the blue Fluor-spar found in Derbyshire.

1772 GILPIN *Lakes Cumberland* (1788) II. 217 It .. is known in London by the name of the Derbyshire drop. But on the spot it is called Blue John, from the beautiful blue veins which overspread the finest parts of it. 1840 HUMBLE *Dict. Geol. & Min.* (1843) s. v., The blue-john or fluor spar mine near Castleton in Derbyshire.

Bluey, adv. [f. BLUE a. + -LY 2.]

1. With a blue colour or tinge.

1647 H. MORE *Song of Soul* II. App. xciv, Then blewly pale, then duller still, till perfect dead. 1818 KEATS *Endym.* i. 605 Her hovering feet, More bluey veind .. Than those of sea-born Venus. 1844 HOOD *Haunted Ho.* lxiii, The taper burning bluey. 1852 D. MOIR *Graves of Dead* i.

† 2. Badly, with bad success; only in phrase *To come off bluey*. *Obs.*

c 1650 and *Narrat. late Parl.* in *Select. Harl. Misc.* (1793) 425 Yet [he] .. came off bluey in the end. 1653 URQUHART *Rabelais* iv. xxxv, He still came off but bluey by reason of the Care and Vigilance of the Chitterlings. 1710 T. WARD *Eng. Ref.* i. 67 (D.) We shall come off but bluey here. 1783 AINSWORTH *Lat. Dict.* (Morell) i, Bluey [badly], male. He came off but bluey, male res successit.

† **Blue-man.** *Obs.* [A late form of BLOMAN, due to the original identity of blo, BLAE, and BLUE.]

A negro; = BLOMAN.

1307 TREVISA *Hidden Rolls* Ser. I. 157 Pe men of be lond [Ethiopia] bat bep blew men. *Ibid.* VI. 379 Pe Blewman changeþ nouȝt listliche his skyn. 1468 *Mann. & Househ. Exp.* 578 Richard Fyrthyng, a blewmane.

Blueness (blū'ness). Forms: 5 bluness, 5-7 blewness, 6-7 blewnesse, 8- blueness. [f. BLUE a. + -NESS.]

1. The state or quality of being blue, blue colour.

1600 FAIRFAX *Tasso* VI. xc, His azure robe the orient blueness lost. 1742 RICHARDSON *Pamela* IV. 35 The .. fine thin Blueness given to the first Milk. 1802 HOWELLS in *Longm. Mag.* I. 51 A .. sky .. of more than Italian blueness.

2. The quality or state of being livid, as a bruise; the mark of a bruise.

† 1401 CAXTON 15 *Oes* in *Blades Caxton* 353 The blewness of thy wounds. 1577 tr. *Bullinger's Decades* (1592) 47 And with the blewness of his stripes are we healed. 1678 OTWAY *Friendship in Fash.* 14 Ay, and then that blewness under the eyes.

3. *fig.* The quality of a blue-stocking; feminine learning or pedantry.

1881 M. A. LEWIS *Two Pretty G.* III. 37 They might go in for some other line—fastness, or blueness, or music.

4. Indelicacy, indecency. (Cf. BLUE a. 9.)

1840 CARLYLE *Diderot, Ess.* 240 (L.) The occasional blueness of both [writings] shall not altogether affront us.

Blue-nose. (Chiefly in U.S.)

1. A purplish potato grown in Nova Scotia.

1837-40 HALIBURTON *Clockm.* 1861 *Illustr. Lond. News* 15 Jan. 564.

2. A nick-name for a native of Nova Scotia.

1837-40 HALIBURTON *Clockm.* (1862) Pref. 7 When blue-nose hears that, he thinks he's got a bargain. 1842 *United Serv. Mag.* II. 328 Of the nation of Bluenoses.

3. A kind of clam shell-fish.

1883 *Leisure Hour* 252/1 The coarsest is the mud clam, or blue nose.

Bluer. [f. BLUE v.] One who blues metal.

1747 *Gentl. Mag.* XVII. 101 The gun-makers business .. is divided into 21 different branches .. viz. barrel-forger, brich-forger .. bluer [printed blue].

Blue ribbon, riband.

1. A ribbon of blue silk worn as a badge of honour; esp. the broad dark blue ribbon worn by members of the order of the Garter.

1651 *Lett. fr. France in Proc. in Parl.* No. 116. 1800 The Queen [of France] hath sent to the Count of Doignon .. promising him the staffe of the Marshall of France, and of a blew Ribbon. 1690 TEMPLE *Ess. Health* Wks. 1731 I. 274 A White Staff will not help gouty Feet .. nor a Blue Ribband bind up a Wound so well as a Fillet. 1867 MORLEY *Burke* 56 Rising to thunderous denunciations of 'the noble lord in the blue ribbon'.

2. The greatest distinction, the most distinguished place, the first prize.

1848 DISRAELI in *Harper's Mag.* Aug. (1883) 340/2 'You do not know what the Derby is!' 'Yes, I do. It is the Blue Ribbon of the Turf.' 1875 POSTE *Gains* i. § 7. 37 The blue ribbon of the profession should never be conferred on any lawyer who had antiquarian notions of constitutional law. 1883 *Standard* 21 May 2/1 The Blue Riband of the Turf is destined to go to Heath House.

3. A small strip of blue ribbon worn by certain abstainers from alcoholic beverages, as a means of mutual recognition, and as a public indication of

their principles; hence to take the blue ribbon. *Blue Ribbon Army*: the association of such Total Abstiners. Hence *Blue-ribboner*, *Blue-ribbonism*, *Blue-ribbonist*, *Blue-ribbonite*.

1878 *Christian* 16 May (heading) Gospel-Temperance in Hoxton—A 'Blue Ribbon Army'. 1880 *Society* 11 Nov. 22/2 He has joined... the Blue Ribboners. *Ibid.* 30 Dec. 20/1 [It] would make even a blue-ribbon man think kindly of spirits. 1884 *Graphic* 9 Aug. 134/2 At an hotel it might be supposed that most people have taken the Blue Ribbon. 1885 *Athenaeum* 31 Oct. 567/3 Such forms of extravagance as ritualism and blue-ribbonism. 1885 C. Lowz *Life Birmingham* II. 488 Not his the heart that could be cheered by blue-ribbon liquors.

Blue-stocking (blū'stɒkɪŋ), *sb.* [As an attributive phrase, with the sense of 'wearing blue stockings', this is found as early as the 17th c. (see 1 a.); in its transferred sense it originated in connexion with re-unions held in London about 1750, at the houses of Mrs. Montague, Mrs. Vesey, and Mrs. Ord, who exerted themselves to substitute for the card-playing, which then formed the chief recreation at evening parties, more intellectual modes of spending the time, including conversation on literary subjects, in which eminent men of letters often took part. Many of those who attended eschewed 'full dress'; one of these was Mr. Benjamin Stillingfleet, who habitually wore grey or 'blue' worsted, instead of black silk stockings. In reference to this, Admiral Boscawen is said (Sir W. Forbes *Life of Beattie* (1806) I. 210 note) to have derisively dubbed the coterie 'the Blue Stocking Society' (as not constituting a dressed assembly). The ladies who supported the reform were at first called *Blue Stockingers*, *Blue Stocking Ladies*, and at length, about 1790, when the actual origin of the term was remembered by few, *Blue Stockings*, in later slang abbreviated to *Blues*.]

1. *attrib.* Wearing blue worsted (instead of black silk) stockings; hence, not in full dress, in homely dress. (*contemptuous*.)

a. Applied to the 'Little Parliament' of 1653, with reference to the puritanically plain or mean attire of its members.

a 1683 *Autobiog.* Sir J. Bramston (1845) 89 That Blue-stocking Parliament, Barebone Parliament, a company of fellows called together by Cromwell, the armie and council thereof pickt out for the purpose.

b. Applied depreciatively to the assemblies that met at Montagu House, and those who frequented them or imitated them.

[1757 MRS. MONTAGUE *Let. in Doran Lady of Last C.* (1873) He [Mr. Stillingfleet] has left off his old friends and his blue stockings. 1780 MAD. D'ARBLAY *Diary* (1842) I. 326 Who would not be a blue stockinger at this rate? 1791 BOSWELL *Johnson* viii. 86 These societies were denominated *Blue-stocking Clubs*. 1885 F. Cuss *E. Barnett* 113 A member of the... Blue Stocking coterie.

c. Hence, Of women: Having or affecting literary tastes; literary, learned.

1804 *Edin. Rev.* IV. 219 To hear blue-stocking ladies jingle their rhymes. 1844 MACAULAY *Misc. Writ.* (1860) I. 127 The travelled nobles and the blue stocking matrons of Rome.

2. = *Blue Stocking lady*: *orig.* one who frequented Mrs. Montague's 'Blue Stocking' assemblies; thence transferred sneeringly to any woman showing a taste for learning, a literary lady. (Much used by reviewers of the first quarter of the 19th c.; but now, from the general change of opinion on the education of women, nearly abandoned.)

1790 WOLCOTT (P. Pindar) *To Apollo* Wks. 1812 II. 277, I see the band of Blue Stockings arise, Historic, critic, and poetic Dames. 1807 *Edin. Rev.* X. 192 This would scarcely go down... even among the blue stockings of Montagu house. 1822 HAZLITT *Table-t.* II. vii. 168, I have an utter aversion to blue-stockings. I do not care a fig for any woman that knows even what an author means. 1858 DE QUINCEY *Autobiog. Sk.* Wks. 1862 I. xiii. 353 note, 'The order of ladies called Bluestockings, by way of reproach, has become totally extinct amongst us.

b. *attrib.* 1832 *Edin. Rev.* LV. 521 A blue-stocking contempt for household cares. a 1859 DE QUINCEY *Wks.* (1863) II. 133 A blue-stocking loquacity.

3. 'The American Avocet (*Recurvirostra americana*). A common bird in the Northern states.' Bartlett *Dict. Amer.*

Hence (from sense 2) *Blue-stocking v.* (*nonce-vod.*), *Blue-stocking'd a.*, † *Blue-stocker* (see above in 1 b), *Blue-stockingish a.*, *Blue-stockingism*, *Blue-stockingship*.

1784 H. WALPOLE *Corr.* (1833) IV. 381 [To Hannah More] When will you blue-stocking yourself, and come amongst us? 1818 *Blackw. Mag.* III. 286 The tawdry blue-stockingship of a young lady from the manufacturing district. 1820 *Ibid.* VIII. 99 Blue-stockingism was in its cerulean altitude. c 1822 J. Wilson in *Byron's Wks.* (1846) 232/2 note, The women... are blue-stockingish. 1824 SCOTT *St. Ronan's* xxvii. That d—d vindictive, blue-stocking'd wild cat. 1858 DE QUINCEY *Autobiog. Sk.* Wks. 1862 II. v. 316 The utter want of pretension, and of all that looks like Bluestockingism, in the style of her habitual conversation.

Bluet, *etc.* Also 3 blouet. [Strictly two

words: 1. a. F. *bluette*, fem. dim. of *bleu*, *bleue*, 'bluette du Rhin, basse laine d'Allemagne' (Boiste), in med. L. *bluetum*, *bluetum*; 2. a. F. *bleuet*, *bluet*, in same sense, masc. dim. of *bleu*.]

† 1. A kind of woollen cloth of bluish colour. *Obs.* [a 1300 *Chron. de Mailros* in Gale *Rer. Angl. Script. Vet.* (1684) I. 236 Inter suos domesticos contentus erat amictu roseti, inter majores terræ raro Scarleti, frequenter vero bloueti vel burneti amiciebatur indumento.] 1437 *Bury Wills* (1850) 10 Item lego Gilberto Skut xxs. et togam meam de bluet furr'. [1866 ROGERS *Agric. & Prices* I. xxii. 575 Bluet is quoted by the yard, and by the pannus or piece.]

2. The Corn Bluebottle (*Centaurea Cyanus*). Also applied to other blue flowers, as in U. S. to *Oldenlandia cœrulea*, 'a delicate little herb producing in spring a profusion of light blue flowers fading to white, with a yellowish eye' (Gray), and to a species of Bilberry (*Vaccinium angustifolium*). 1727 BRADLEY *Fam. Dict.*, *Blue-Bottle*, or *Bluet*... grows amongst Wheat and other Corn.

Blueth, *nonce-vod.* *Blueness*.

1754 H. WALPOLE *Corr.* (1820) I. 347 (D.) Now in the height of its greeneth, blueth, gloomth.

Bluey (blū'i), *a.* and *sb.* [f. *BLUE a.* + *y-1*.]

A. adj. Inclined to blue; more or less blue; also as *adv.*

1802 SOUTHEY *Thalaba* II. v. The lips were bluey pale. 1830 *Blackw. Mag.* XXVIII. 26 Pale bluey bodies.

B. sb. (In Australia): A bushman's bundle, the outside wrapper of which is generally a blue blanket.

Bluff (blɒf), *a.* Also 7 rarely blough. [A nautical word of uncertain origin: it has been compared with an obsolete Du. *blas* (given by Kilian 1599, in *blas aensicht* broad flat face, *blas van voorhoofd*, rendered by L. *fronto* 'having a broad forehead'). This appears to be identical in sense with the Eng. word; but, outside Kilian, nothing is known of it.]

1. Presenting a broad flattened front; *esp.*

a. Of a ship: Opposed to *sharp* or *projecting*, having little 'rake' or inclination, nearly vertical in the bows.

1627 CAPT. SMITH *Seaman's Gram.* II. 4 If her stem [printed stern] be vpright as it were, she is called Bluffe, or Bluffe-headed. *Ibid.* xi. 55 If shee haue but a small Rake, she is so bluffe that the Seas meet her... suddenly. 1674 PETTY *Disc. bef. R. Soc.* 29 The chief cause, why short, bluff, undermasted Vessels sail cheaper than others. 1769 FALCONER *Dict. Marine* (1789) G iiij, The former of these is called by seamen a *lean*, and the latter a *bluff* bow. 1861 G. BERKELEY *Sportsman, W. Prairies* ix. 149 The steamer brings her bluff bows alongside. 1867 SMYTH *Sailor's Word-bk.*, *Lean*, used in the same sense as *clean* or *sharp*; the reverse of *full* or *bluff* in the form of a ship. 1873 *Brit. Q. Rev.* Jan., Shorter and bluffer, but handier ships.

b. Of a shore or coast-line: 'Presenting a bold and almost perpendicular front, rather rounded than cliffy in outline.' Smyth *Sailor's Word-bk.*

1628 R. FRANK *North. Mem.* (1821) 165 The pleasant banks of Ilay... where... the water runs most on a level, and the banks very blough. 1769 FALCONER *Dict. Marine* (1789) G iij, Côte en écore, a bluff or bold shore. 1772-84 COOK *Voy.* (1790) V. 1823 An elevated bluff point, which we called Rock Point. 1791 COWPER *Odys.* v. 486 The rude coast a headland bluff Presented. 1849 MURCHISON *Siluria* vii. 129 This rock frequently forms bluff cliffs. 1872 DANA *Coralis* ii. 144 Every variety of slope, from the gradually inclined bed of corals to the bluff declivity.

† c. Of a broad face or forehead of men or animals. *Obs.*

1664 *Phil. Trans.* I. 12 The head pretty bluff, and full of bumps on both sides. 1687 DRYDEN *Hind & P.* III. 1144 A son of Anak for his height... Black-browed and bluff, like Homer's Jupiter. [Cf. sense 2.]

† d. *transf.* To stand bluff: to stand firm or stiff. 1 *Obs.*

1777 SHERIDAN *Sch. Scand.* II. iii. 255 That he should have stood bluff to old bachelor so long, and sink into a husband at last.

2. *fig.* Of persons and their manner, actions, etc.:

a. in an unfavourable sense: 'Big, surly, blustering' (J.); toned down in later use into 'rough, abrupt, blunt', and so into b.

1705 MRS. CENTILVRE *Camester* I. 141 As bluff as a mid-night constable. 1742 *Pol. Ballads* (1860) II. 278 Cock your great hat, strut, bounce, and look bluff. a 1745 SWIFT *Dan Jackson's Reply* Wks. 1755 IV. i. 259, I maul'd you, when you look'd so bluff. 1762 H. WALPOLE *Vertue's Anecd. Paint.* (1786) I. 136 That capital picture... of Henry VIII... The character of his majesty's bluff haughtiness is well represented. 1788 — *Reminisc.* vii. 55 A bluff Westphalian accent. 1829 J. TAYLOR *Enthus.* ix. 241 Martial arrogance... fanatical zeal, and... bluff devotion. 1848 LYTTON *Harold* vii. 156 Finally wound up with a bluff 'Go, or let alone.'

b. Good-naturedly blunt, frank, or plain-spoken; rough and hearty; usually giving the notion of personal power or energy exhibiting itself in an abrupt but good-natured way. (Perhaps the shifting of sense is due to the notion attached to the designation 'Bluff King Hal': cf. 1762 in a.)

1808 SCOTT *Marm.* vi. xxxviii, That bluff King Hal the curtain drew. 1819 — *Ivanhoe* xxxii, I greatly misdoubt the safety of the bluff priest. 1820 W. IRVING *Sketch Bk.* II. 370 A bluff but not unpleasant countenance. 1867 LYTTON *Pelham* xxxvi, A bluff, hearty, radical, wine mer-

chant. 1863 KINGLAKE *Crimea* (1877) II. xiv. 240 The potentate dealt with England in a bluff, kindly, Tudor-like way. 1865 *Sat. Rev.* 5 Aug. 181/1 Typical of bluff downright honesty.

3. *Comb.*, as *bluff-bowed*, *bluff-headed* (see sense 1 a); **bluff-head**, a bluff headland, the top of a bluff; also *fig.* as a term of contempt (cf. *blockhead*).

1699 DAMPIER *Voy.* III. 137 When we came abreast of the Bluff-head... we had but 7 Fathom. 1794 J. O'KEEFE *Wild Onts* i. i, How dare you sit in my presence, you bluff-head? 1823 BYRON *Island* II. xxi, From the bluff-head... I saw her in the doldrums. 1823 T. HOOK *Parson's Dan.* III. vii. 423 As short and as bluff-bowed as a collier, or as sharp and as choppy as a wedge. 1867 SMYTH *Sailor's Word-bk.*, *Bluff-headed*, when a ship has but a small rake forward on, being built with her stem too straight up.

Bluff (blɒf), *sb.* 1 [f. *BLUFF a.*] A cliff or headland with a broad precipitous face. (First used in N. America, and still mostly of American landscapes.)

1757 WESLEY *Wks.* (1830) I. 63 Savannah stands on a flat bluff, so they term any high land hanging over a creek or river. 1776 L. MCINTOSH in Sparks *Corr. Amer. Rev.* (1853) I. 150 A bluff or sandhill thirty feet high or more above the water. 1830 LYEAL *Princ. Geol.* xv. (1850) 211 The... boundaries of the alluvial region... consist of cliffs or bluffs, which on the east side of the Mississippi are very abrupt, and are underminded by the river at many points. 1837 W. IRVING *Capt. Bonneville* (1849) 45 The wild and picturesque bluffs in the neighborhood of his lonely grave. 1842 TENNYSON *Gold. Year* 76, I heard... the great echo flap And buffet round the hills from bluff to bluff. 1865 GEIKIE *Scen. & Geol. Scot.* vii. 188 Bold bluffs, that mark the limits of an ancient shore.

Bluff, *sb.* 2 *Obs. or dial.* [Belongs to *BLUFF v.* 1: analogically with *bridle*, *bit*, *blind*, *cover*, either the verb or the *sb.* might come first and give rise to the other; here the accessible evidence is in favour of the priority of the verb, though, in the obscurity of the etymology, certainty is not at present possible.]

1. A blinker for a horse.

1777 DARWIN *Squinting in Phil. Trans.* LXVIII. 88 Bluffs used on coach-horses. 1831 EVANS *Leicestersh. Gloss.* (E. D. S.) *Bluff*, anything used to cover the eyes, such as a blinker for a horse, a board fastened in front of the eyes of a bull or cow to prevent its running, the handkerchief used to bandage the eyes in blind-man's-buff, etc.

2. *slang.* 'An excuse.' Mayhew *Lond. Labour* I. 217 (in a list of slang words). † A false excuse intended to blindfold or hoodwink, a 'blind'.

3. The action of bluffing at cards, in the game of *poker*; see *BLUFF v.* 1 and cf. *BRAG*. Hence, challenging or boastful language or demeanour, not intended to be carried out, but merely 'tried on' with the design of frightening or influencing an opponent who allows himself to be imposed upon by it. (First used in U.S.)

1848-60 BARTLETT *Dict. Amer.*, *Bluff*, a game of cards. So in WEBSTER 1864. 1866 *Harvard Mem. Biographies* I. 400 It is a very magnificent game of Bluff that we are playing. 1883 *L'pool Daily Post* 22 Jan., The whole is a bluff to influence the... election next week. 1889 *Pall Mall G.* 3 Nov. 1/1 A bold bit of play in the game of bluff... between St. Petersburg and Sophia. 1894 *Boston (U.S.) Jm.* 25 Sept., The offer was only a bluff.

Bluff, *v.* 1 [Immediately related to *BLUFF sb.* 2 'a blinker for a horse', which, as it appears later than the verb, was presumably named from it, though the reverse is also possible. The etymology is quite unknown: the meaning 'blind-fold, hoodwink' does not appear to have any possible connexion with *BLUFF a.* or *sb.* 1; the word is probably one of the numerous cant terms (see *BAM*, *BAMBOOZLE*) which arose between the Restoration and the reign of Queen Anne. Sense 2 had certainly originally the same meaning; but it looks as if recent users imagined a connexion with *BLUFF a.* or *sb.* 1, and made it mean 'to blindfold or hoodwink by assuming a fictitious bold front'.]

1. *trans.* 'To blind-fold or hood-wink'. Bailey.

1674-91 RAY *N. C. Wds.*, *Bluff*, to blind-fold. 1706 in PHILLIPS. 1721 in BAILEY: [so in all edd. to 1800. Not in JOHNSON, not in ASH.] 1881 EVANS *Leicestersh. Gloss.* (E. D. S.) s.v. *Bluff*, 'Ah'm glad yew'n got that ther bull o' yourn bluffed.'

2. In the game of *poker*: To impose upon (an opponent) as to the value of one's hand of cards, by betting heavily upon it, speaking or gesticulating or otherwise acting in such a way as to make believe that it is stronger than it is, so as to induce him to 'throw up' his cards and lose his stake, rather than run the risk of betting against the bluffer. (Of U.S. origin.) Hence, *transf.* of other wagering, political tactics, international diplomacy, etc. *To bluff off*: to frighten off or deter (an opponent) by thus imposing upon him as to one's resources and determination.

1864 SALA in *Daily Tel.* 29 Sept., How can you hope to 'bluff' those who are such consummate masters of the game of brag? 1871 *Daily News* 4 Jan., The great point... is the shutting in of Paris, and the 'bluffing off' of France. 1885 *N. York Weekly Sun* 13 May 2/7 He went his whole heart, soul, and pocket on three aces and was bluffed by his opponent with a pair of trays.

3. *intr.* To practise or attempt the imposition

described in 2; to assume a bold, big, or boastful demeanour, in order to inspire an opponent with an exaggerated notion of one's strength, determination to fight, etc.

1885 *Sat. Rev.* 1 July 4. Nor is a Government always to be reproached because when it bluffs it fails. Sometimes a great country is entitled to take the benefit of ancient policy of courage, and to see what effect it can produce by the mere terror of its name. 1883 *Longm. Mag.* Sept. 498 By sheer bluffing—in other words, by lying. 1884 *St. James's Gas.* 12 Jan. 4/1 There seems little reason for one party to keep on 'bluffing' when the other party has 'called'.

Hence *Bluffable* *a.*, capable of being imposed upon or influenced by bluffing.

1885 *Sat. Rev.* 30 May. The whole thing is... a game of bluff against a player who is known to be bluffable.

Bluff, *v.* 2. *Obs.* or *dial.* [! Onomatopoeic, associated with *blow*, *puff*. According to Halliwell, 'A tin tube through which boys blow peas in the Suffolk called a "bluff".' Cf. *BLOUGHT*, *BLOUGHTY*.] *intr.* To swell out, become distended.

1773 *Liste Husb.* (1757) 483 Pigs would bluff & swell much with their feeding the first six or seven days.

Bluff, *v.* 3. *rare.* [f. *BLUFF* *a.*]

trans. To make bluff, raise bluff.

1809 *J. BARLOW Columb.* 1. 643 Where dread Niagara bluffs high his brow.

Bluffer. [f. *prec. verbs.*]

†1. 'An Host or Landlord. *Country word.*' Bailey 1721-1800; Ash 1775; Halliwell 1878.

2. One who bluffs at *poker*, etc.

Bluffy (*blv'fi*), *adv.* [f. *BLUFF* *a.* + *-LY*.]

1. With a bluff or bold face, abruptly.

1870 *Daily News* 28 Dec. The lofty summit of Noisy.. standing bluffy up against the horizon.

2. Abruptly, bluntly, offhandedly.

1794 *WOLCOTT* (P. Pindar) *Rowl. for Oliver Wks.* II. 427 Turns bluffy from the charms that taste adores. 1852 *HAWTHORNE Blithed. Rom.* I. x. 190 'You shall do no such thing'.. said Hollingsworth, bluffy. 1883 *Standard* 18 May 3/2 Both canvases present us with bluffy picturesque figures.

Bluffness (*blv'fnes*). [f. as *prec.* + *-NESS*.]

Abruptness; bluntness of manner, offhandedness.

1863 *MRS. C. CLARKE Shaks. Char.* xvii. 419 His soldierly bluffness. 1865 *Fraser's Mag.* Oct. 434 He told his story with all the bluffness of a sailor.

Bluffy (*blv'fi*), *a.* [f. *BLUFF* *sb.* + *-Y*.]

1. Full of bluffs, precipitous.

1872 *BLACKIE Lays Highl.* 7 Cliff, and bay, and bluffy foreland. 1882 *Century Mag.* Sept. 707 The Penobscot winds around the bluffy headlands.

2. Rather bluff, inclining to bluffness.

1844 *Tupper Crook of G.* xxii. 176 A fat, sturdy, bluffy old woman.

Bluish (*blv'if*), *a.* Forms: 5 *blewyssh*, 6 *-ishse*, 6-8 *-ish*, 6- *bluish*, 8- *blueish*. [f. *BLUE* *a.* + *-ISH*.] Somewhat blue.

1398 *TREVISIA Barth. De P. R.* xix. xix. (1495) 875 The colour is blew or blewysch. 1806 *WARNER Alb. Eng.* iv. (R.) Her snowish neck with blewish vaines. 1722 *tr. Pomet's Hist. Drugs* 1, Tending to a little blewish Colour. 1713 *Rowe J. Shore* v. Wks. 1792 II. 180 A waving flood of blueish fire. 1860 *TYNDALL Glac.* II. § 7. 261 Thin milk, when poured upon a black surface, appears bluish.

b. *Comb.* modifying other colours, as *bluish-brown*, *-green*, *-purple*, *-red*, *-white*, etc.; also *bluish-coloured*.

1769 *SIR J. HILL Fam. Herbal* (1812) 1 The leaves are of a bluish green. 1792 *Gentl. Mag.* LXII. 1. 113 The capitulum is.. bluish brown. 1836 *Todd Cycl. Anat.* 4 *Phys.* I. 443/2 A bone.. exhibits a bluish-grey colour. 1858 *W. ELLIS Visits Madagasc.* viii. 199 The dark bluish-coloured original limestone.

Hence also *Bluishly* *adv.*, *Bluishness*.

1612 *COTGR.*, *Lividit*, roanennesse, bleakenesse, palenesse, blewishnesse. 1790 *WEDGWOOD in Phil. Trans.* LXXX. 313 The usual bluishness, arising from the iron always found in the common acids. 1875 *HOWELLS Foregone Concl.* 4 That transparent bluishness, which comes from much shaving of a heavy black beard.

Bluism, var. of *BLUEISM*.

Blumbering, *vbl. sb.* [? Onomatopoeic.] Rumbling, lumbering noise.

1556 *J. HEYWOOD Spider & F.* iii. 13 What is this buzzyng, blumberinge, trow we: thunder?

Blume, *obs.* form of *BLOOM*.

†**Blund**, *v.* *Obs. rare*¹. [cf. *ON. blunda* to doze.] *intr.* †To stagger, to flounder.

c 1325 *E. E. Allit. P. C.* 273 Til he blund in a blok as brod as a halle.

Blunder (*blv'ndar*), *v.* Forms: 4-5 *blondren*, *blundren*, 5 *blundir*, *-yr*, 5-6 *blondre*, *-er*, *blounder*, *blundre*, 7- *blunder*. [ME. *blondren*; of uncertain origin: a good deal depends upon whether the ME. *-on-* here, as often (cf. *wonder*, *sunder*), stands merely graphically for *-un-*, or is etymological. In the latter case an explanation of *blonder* as a frequentative of *blond*, *BLAND* *v.*, to mix, would well account for the transitive senses. The suggestion that it is a frequentative from Icel. *blonda* to doze (Sw. *blunda* to shut the eyes), suits the intransitive senses, but is otherwise doubtful; cf. however *BLUND*. Perhaps there are really two

distinct verbs, with their later senses affected by each other.]

1. To confuse, confound.

†1. *trans.* To mix up or mingle confusedly; to confuse, disturb; to make (water) turbid. *Obs.*

c 1440 *York Myst.* xvi. 4 Blonderand per blastis, to blow when I bidde. 1530 *FALSGR.* 458/2 I blonder, *Ye perturbe*.. Who hat blonderd these thynges on this facyon? 1586 *FERNÉ Blas. Gentry* Ded., The whole.. frame of this earth seemeth blundered and confounded with the innumerable Catalogues of Interpreters. 1636 *BAKER tr. Balsac's Lett.* iii. vi. (1654) 75, I blunder the water of all Rivers I cross.

†b. To confound, distract (in understanding).

1540 *Morte Arth.* 3976 'Blyve,' sais thies bolde mene 'Thow blondirs bi selfene.' 1740 *DITTON On Resurrect.* 63 (R.) So as by any means whatsoever to blunder an adversary.

†c. To put out of order, derange, injure. *Obs.*

1440 *J. SHIRLEY Deths K. Jas.* (1818) 15 The lokes ver so blundrid, that thay nethir couth ne myght shut hit [a door].

2. To confound (in one's mind) stupidly.

a 1699 *STILLINGF.* (J.) He blunders and confounds all these together. 1848 *S. R. MAITLAND Remarks* 9 That ingenious writer also blunders him with Arnold of Brescia.

II. To move, act, or perform, blindly or stupidly.

3. *intr.* To move blindly or stupidly; to flounder, stumble. Often with *on*; also to *blunder one's way along*; and in senses partaking of 7, as to *blunder into*, *against*.

c 1386 *CHAUCER Chan. Yem. Prol. & T.* 861 Bayard the blynde, That blundreth [v.r. blondreth] forth, and peril casteth noon. 1520 *WHITTINTON Vulg.* (1527) 2 Wandre bloundryng as a blynde man. a 1700 *DRYDEN Pal. & Arc.* 1. 435 The sot.. blunders on and staggers every pace. 1766 *New Bath Guide* i. 67 To see them blund'ring by my side.

1858 *HAWTHORNE Fr. & It. Yrnl.* I. 79 We had blundered into the carriage-entrance. 1869 *PARKMAN Disc. Gt. West* v. (1875) 55 A large fish.. blundered against Marquette's canoe. 1869 *FREEMAN Norm. Cong.* (1876) III. xii. 175 They.. blundered on hopelessly through the unknown.. country.

1880 *MISS BIRD Japan* II. 143 The horses had to blunder their way along a bright, rushing river.

b. *fig.* To flounder, stumble.

1641 *MILTON Ch. Discip.* 1. Wks. (1818) 30 Blundering upon the dangerous and suspectful translations of the Apostol Aquila. 1798 *YOUNG Love Fame* v. (1757) 132 Puzzled learning blunders far behind. 1735 *POPE Prol. Sat.* 186 He who now to sense, now nonsense leaning, Means not, but blunders round about a meaning. 1817 *BYRON Beppo* xxvii. He had somehow blunder'd into debt. 1871 *LOWELL Study Wind.* A tempest is blundering round the house.

c. To blunder upon: to come upon by a blunder or 'fuke'.

1710 *H. BEDFORD Vind. Ch. Eng.* 78 Our Discoverer has.. happen'd to blunder upon the truth. 1798 *WOLCOTT* (P. Pindar) *Tales Hoy Wks.* 1812 IV. 418 Who never so much as blundered on a bon-mot.

d. *trans.* To blunder out: to produce by mere blundering or blind action.

1678 *CUDWORTH Intell. Syst.* I. v. 679 The things of the world.. not.. made by the previous counsel, contrivance, and intention of any understanding Deity.. blunder'd out themselves, one after another, according to the train or sequel of the fortuitous motions of matter.

†4. *intr.* To deal blindly and stupidly. *Obs.*

c 1386 *CHAUCER Chan. Yem. Prol. & T.* 117 We blondren [v.r. blondren, blundren, blunderen] eue, and pouren in the fuyt. 1471 *RIPLEY Comp. Alch.* v. xli. in Ashm. (1652) 157 These Phylosophers.. Medlyth and blondryth wyth many a thyng.

5. *trans.* To utter thoughtlessly, stupidly, or by a blunder, to blurt out. Usually with *out*.

1483 *Cuth. Angl.* 35 To Blundir, [A. blundyr, blandior]. 1570-87 *HOLLINSHED Scot. Chron.* (1806) II. 81 The same began to be blundered from one to another of the train. 1587 *Censure lay. Subject* (Collier) 28 He blundered forth his prognostication. 1701 *SWIFT Mrs. Harris's Petit. Wks.* 1755 III. ii. 61 Before I was aware, out I blunder'd; 'Parson,' said I. 1755 *SMOLLETT Quix.* (1803) II. 33 Sancho blundered out—Then, in good faith, Mr. Licentiate, etc.

6. *refl.* (in sense of 3 or 7.)

a 1652 *J. SMITH Sel. Disc.* iii. 51 Herein all the Epicureans.. do miserably blunder themselves.

7. *intr.* To make a stupid and gross mistake in doing anything. To blunder away (trans.): to throw away, lose by blundering: cf. to *fool away*.

1771 *SWIFT Lett.* (1767) III. 101 See how I blundered, and left two lines short. 1792 *Anecd. W. Pitt* I. ii. 36 The wretch that, after having seen the consequences of a thousand errors, continues still to blunder. 1801 *W. TAYLOR in Month. Mag.* XII. 588 Mr. Fox has never blundered away the interests of his country. 1855 *TENNISON Charge Lt. Brigade* 12 The soldier knew Some one had blunder'd.

8. *trans.* To mismanage, make a blunder in.

1805 *WELLINGTON in Owen Disp.* 789 They must have blundered that siege terribly. 1816 *SCOTT Antig.* vi. The banker's clerk, who was directed to sum my cash-account, blundered it three times. 1876 *HUMPHREY Coin Coll. Man.* xxvi. 391 Inscriptions blundered by the die engraver.

†*COCKERAM* (1623) has 'Blunder, to bestir ones selfe.'

Blunder (*blv'ndar*), *sb.* Forms: 4 *blondyre*, 5 *blondre*, *blonder*, *blundur*, 6 *blounder*, 4- *blunder*. [app. f. the vb.: though extant instances of the sb. are earlier.]

†1. Confusion, bewilderment, trouble, disturbance, clamour. *Obs.* (The early quotations are vague in sense: the latest shade off into 2.)

c 1340 *Gaw. & Gr. Knt.* 18 Oft bope blysse and blunder Ful skete hatz skyfted. c 1375 *BARBOUR St. Theodora* 542 Pat wald bring me in sik blondyre. c 1440 *York Myst.*

xxxiii. 94 With his blure he bredis mekill blonde. c 1450 *Agst. Friars in Rel. Ant.* I. 322 Amonges men of holy church, thai maken mochel blonder. c 1460 *Towneley Myst.* 30 I shalle make ye stille as stone, begynnar of blunder. 1529 *HORMAN Vulg.* 270 Hoste that is out of araye and in a blounder scatered. 1600 *HOLLAND Lity* x. xlii. 383 He heard a confused crie and blunder [*clamorem*] in the cite. *Ibid.* xlii. 1124 The brute was also blowne to Rome, and blunder there was of the death of Eumenes. 1774 *GOLD-SMITH Retal.* 21 Then, with chaos & blunders encircling my head, Let me ponder.

2. A gross mistake; an error due to stupidity or carelessness.

The words of Talleyrand as to the murder of the Duc d'Enghien—'ces paroles stoiquement politiques, "C'est plus qu'un crime, c'est une faute"' (Lucien Bonaparte *Mem.* an. 1804 (1882) I. 432) have been enlarged, 'It is worse than a crime, it is a blunder,' and are often quoted or alluded to.

1706 *PHILLIPS, Blunder*, a mistake, fault, or oversight. 1711 *SWIFT Lett.* (1767) III. 209 The twenty pounds I lend you is not to be included; so make no blunder. 1726 *DE FOE Hist. Devil* I. v. (1840) 63 Another mistake, not to call it a blunder. 1848 *MACAULAY Hist. Eng.* I. 239 The numerous crimes and blunders of the last eighteen years. 1865 *EARL DERBY in Parl.* 3 May, If the Confederate authorities had directly or indirectly sanctioned this assassination.. it would be on their part worse than a crime, it would be a blunder. a 1867 *BUCKLE Misc. Wks.* (1872) I. 25 Ingratitude aggravated by cruelty must.. be a blunder as well as a crime.

†1729 *WOOLSTON Disc. Miracles* I. 28 Nowadays dull and foolish and absurd stuff we call Bulls, Fatlings and Blunders.

Blunderbuss (*blv'ndabvss*). Also 7 *blunderbush*, 7-8 *-bus*. [ad. Du. *donderbus* with same meaning, f. *donder* thunder + *bus* gun (orig. box, tube); perverted in form after *blunder* (perhaps with some allusion to its blind or random firing).]

1. A short gun with a large bore, firing many balls or slugs, and capable of doing execution within a limited range without exact aim. (Now superseded, in civilized countries, by other fire-arms.)

1654 *GAYTON Fest. Notes* iv. xi. 244 In the ancient wars, before these Bomards, Blunderbusses, Peters. 1659 *COLVIL Whigs Supplic.* (1751) 25 A blunderbush hang'd at his back, Of terrible report and crack. 1682 *LUTTRELL Brief Rel.* (1857) I. 164 Two of which fired two blunderbusses at him, charg'd with severall shott. 1774 *MRS. DELANY Life & Corr.* Ser. II. (1862) II. 60 Lord Berkeley.. attacked by a Highwayman.. shot him with a blunderbuss. 1808 *SV. SMITH Plymley's Lett.* x. A tithe proctor in Ireland collects his tithes with a blunderbuss. 1863 *KINGSLEY Water-Bab.* viii. 329 A tremendous old brass blunderbuss charged up to the muzzle with slugs.

2. *transf.* †a. A blustering noisy talker (*obs.*).

b. A blundering fellow, a blunderhead.

1682 *ANSCU. Dk. Buckhm. on Lib. Conc.* 23 Securing the Person of his Prince, and the Peace of his Country from Religious Rumbals, and Conventicling Blunderbusses. 1692 *WASHINGTON tr. Milton's Def. Pop.* Pref. (1851) 18 Not such a hair-brain'd Blunderbuss as you. 1706 *Ref. on Ridicule* 129 Those blunderbusses that talk loud and long. 1768 *TUCKER Lt. Nat.* I. 475 He must be a numskull, not to say a beetle, nor yet a blunderbuss.

†3. †A blunder; trouble. *Obs. rare.*

1726 *AMHERST Terra Fil.* xviii. 259 More horrors still! Yea, verily! & a new blunderbuss into the bargain.

4. *attrib.*

1864 *R. BURTON Dahome* II. 76 The Agbary or blunderbuss-women are the biggest and strongest of the force.

Blunderbuss, *v.* To shoot with a blunderbuss.

1870 *Daily News* 4 June. The risk of being pistolled or blunderbussed by a patriot.

Blunderbussed, *a.* [f. *prec. sb.* + *-ED*.]

Armed with a blunderbuss.

1851 *H. D. WOLFF Pict. Sp. Life* (1853) 30 The blunderbussed guard.

Blunderbussier (*blv'ndabvssier*). *rare.* [see *-IER*.] A man armed with a blunderbuss.

a 1734 *NORTH Exam.* 302 (D.) Some of the blunderbussiers of the Rye.

Blundered, *ppl. a.* [f. *BLUNDER* *v.* + *-ED*.]

†1. Mixed, muddled, turbid. *Obs. exc. dial.*

1855 *Whitby Gloss.*, *Blunder'd*, render'd thick and muddy as liquids appear when the sediment is shaken up.

2. Done or made wrong by blundering; bungled.

1880 *H. N. HENFREY in Antiquary* No. 1. 20/1 Pennies of this type with blundered legends.. I have noted eight different blundered reverses. 1884 *Athenaeum* 26 Jan. 123/3 A Saxon or Dano-Saxon penny with a blundered legend.

Blunderer (*blv'ndarar*). [f. as *prec.* + *-ER*.]

†1. One who flounders about blindly in his work; a blind or stupid worker. *Obs.*

c 1440 *Prompt. Parv.* 41 Blunderer or blunt warkere, *hebe-factor*, *hebe-ficus*. 1523 *Carl. Laurel* (R.) What blunderer is yonder that playeth diddill? 1678 *CUDWORTH Intell. Syst.* 853 Meer Blunderers in that Atomick Physiology.

2. One who makes gross mistakes by incompetence or negligence.

1741 *H. WALPOLE Lett. H. Mann* (1834) I. xiii. 41 'Take care you don't get my old name.' 'What's that?' 'Blunderer.' 1782 *COWPER Progr. Err.* 539 Your blunderer is as sturdy as a rock. 1855 *MACAULAY Hist. Eng.* IV. 87 At best a blunderer, and too probably a traitor.

Blunderful, *a.* [f. *BLUNDER* *sb.*; cf. *wonderful*.] Full of blunders.

1861 *Academy* No. 502. 449 As to spoken English, everybody knows how slovenly and blunderful that is.

Blunderhead (*blv'ndahed*). [f. *BLUNDER* *sb.* or *v.* + *HEAD*: probably an alteration of the earlier

blunderhead, as *blunderbuss* represents *donderbus*.
A blundering muddle-headed fellow.

1697 VANBROUGH *Relapse* IV. i. (1730) 72 My Fellow's a Blunderhead. a 1704 LESTRANGE (J.) This thick-skulled blunderhead. 1804 *Academy* 22 Mar. 199 That order of good-natured blunderheads wherein certain lady novelists ..delight.

Hence *Blunderhead* a., blundering, stupid, muddle-headed; *Blunderheadness*.

1763 *Brit. Mag.* IV. 418 The blunder-headed fellow had laid the white-stone plates. 1835 SIR J. ROSS *N.-W. Pass.* lvi. 720 With the blunderheadedness of men on such occasions, he assured me that I had been dead two years.

Blundering, *vbl. sb.* [f. BLUNDER *v.* + -ING¹.]
+1. Bungling or stupid action. *Obs.*

c 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 41 Blunderynge or blunt warkynge, *hebefaccio*.

+2. Confusion, disturbance. *Obs.*

c 1566 SKELTON *Magnyf.* 406 I hate this blunderynge thou dost make.

3. The making of gross mistakes.

1857 TOULM. SMITH *Parish* 169 There is no check on carelessness or blundering.

Blundering, *ppl. a.* [f. as prec. + -ING².]
+a. Blindly staggering. b. Making or characterized by gross mistakes.

1367 TREVISA *Hidden Rolls* Ser. II. 169 Pe men bech to fore be dede blunderynge [L. *importuna*] and hasty. 1730 H. BEDFORD *Vind. Ch. Eng.* 184 His blundering account of it. 1828 SCOTT *F. M. Perth* III. 175 A piece of blundering valiancy. 1861 WRIGHT *Ess. Archæol.* II. xxii. 226 Blundering citations and erroneous interpretations.

Blunderingly, *adv.* [f. prec. + -LY².] In a blundering manner.

1807 G. CHALMERS *Caledonia* I. ii. 248 This king .. is mentioned, blunderingly, by Langhorn. 1838-9 HALLAM *Hist. Lit.* I. ii. § 30 A calendar .. blunderingly ascribed to Roger Bacon. 1879 G. MEREDITH *Egoist* II. iii. 46 She perceived how blunderingly she had acted.

+ **Blunderkin**, *Obs. rare.* [f. BLUNDER, taken in sense of 'blunderer' + -KIN.] A blundering fellow, a muddlepate.

1596 NASHE *Saffron Walden* Ded., Two blunderkins having their brains stuffed with nought but balderdash.

+ **Blunderly**, *a. Obs. rare.* [f. BLUNDER *sb.* + -LY¹.] Clumsily or badly made.

1746 in *Leisure Hour* (1880) 23 The front window .. was a great blunderly thing.

Blundersome, *a.* [f. BLUNDER *sb.* + -SOME.] Of the nature of, or tending to, blunders.

1837-40 HALIBURTON *Clockm.* (1862) 225 You should know all about fixin' the sails the right way for the wind—if you don't, it's blundersome.

Blunesse, *obs. form of BLUENESS.*

Blunge (blɒndʒ), *v. Pottery.* [app. onomatopoeic: with a feeling for *plunge*, and perhaps for *blend*, *bludgeon*, *blow*, or other *bl*-words] *trans.* To mix (clay, powdered flint, etc.) up with water. Hence *Blunging vbl. sb.*

c 1830 *Potter's Art*, First we blunge (amalgamate and blend) the liquid flint and moistened clay .. With wielded paddle-staff in blunger call'd Until the blended matter, all afloat, Thin slip becomes. 1839 G. PORTER *Porcelain* 36 The mixing of the clay, which is called blunging, is effected in a trough. 1879 *Cassell's Techn. Educ.* xii. 346 For pottery .. the clay is what is termed 'blunged'—that is—beaten up in tanks of water by means of powerful revolving arms or cutters.

Blunger (blɒndʒə), [f. prec. + -ER¹.] An appliance for blunging; formerly 'A long, flat, wooden instrument, with a cross handle at the top' (Halliwell); now an apparatus driven by power.

c 1830 [see BLUNGE]. 1879 J. YOUNG *Ceram. Art* 67 The ingredients are mixed in a 'blunger'. 1883 BINN *Worcester Porcelain Wks.* 17 Several vats, containing blungers, which are worked by machinery.

Blunk, *sb. Sc.* [Cf. BLUNKET.] In *pl.* 'Linen or cotton cloths which are wrought for being printed; calicoes' (Jamieson).

1830 *Chamb. Jnrl.* (1836) 31 Dec. 392 That Catrine blunks wad hae a chance To tak the lead; Nocht like them can be got frae France Sae cheap an' guid.

Blunk, *v. Obs. or dial.* [app. a corruption of *BLUNK* or *BLINK*.]
+1. *intr.* To turn aside, blench, flinch, shrink. *Obs.*

1655 GURNALL *Chr. in Arm.* ix. § 2 (1669) 56/1 The presumptuous sinner .. goes on & never blunks. 1680 HICKERINGILL *Meros* 27 That can swallow Oath upon Oath .. and still their Consciences blunk no more than a piece of Brass?

2. *(trans.) Sc.* 'To spoil a thing, to mismanage any business' (Jamieson).

Blunk, variant of *BLONK*, *Obs.*, *stead.*

Blunker (blɒŋkə), *Sc.* [f. BLUNK *sb.* or *v.*] 'One who prints cloths' (Jamieson).

1815 SCOTT *Guy M.* iii. Dunboy is nae mair a gentleman than the blunker that's biggit the bonnie house down in the town.

+ **Blunket**, *a. and sb. Obs.* Forms: 5-7 *blanket*, 6 *blunket*, *blancket*, *bloncket*, *bloncat*, 7 *blonket*, 5-8 *blunket*. [It is uncertain whether the adj. sense gave its name to the fabric, or whether the name of the fabric was transferred to its colour. The original form of the word is also doubtful, though *blunket* is both the earliest and by far the most frequent. This makes it doubtful whether it

can have been an adoption of OF. *blanquet*, var. of *blanchet*, dim. of *blanc* white (and thus originally the same as *BLANKET*), a derivation which would to some extent suit the sense.]

A. adj. Grey, greyish blue, light blue.

1488 *Lord High. Treas. Accts.* (JAM.) For x elne and j quarter of blanket caresey to be hos. c 1534 *Pol. Verg. Eng. Hist.* (1846) I. 74 They were called Pictes .. ether of their blunket heres, ether of certayne markes made with whot irons. a 1552 LELAND *Brit. Coll.* III. 138 Cæsius, gray of colour, or blunket. 1552 HULOET, *Blanket* colour, cæsius. 1579 SPENSER *Sheph. Cal.* May 5 Our bloncket liueryes [glass. gray.coates] bene all to sadde. 1611 COTGR., *Couleur perse*, skie colour, Azure colour, a Blunket, or light blue. 1622 PEACHAM *Compl. Gentl.* (1661) 155 Blanket colour, i.e. a light watchet. 1657 W. COLES *Adam in Eden* cxxxv. Gilloflowers of such variable colours .. Horseflesh, blunket, purple, and white. 1783 AINSWORTH *Lat. Dict.* Cæsius, gray, sky-coloured, with specks of gray blunket.

B. sb. A fabric presumably of light grey or blue colour; possibly the same as *BLANKET sb. 1.*

c 1440 *Gaw. & Galar.* ii. 3 (JAM.) Here belte was of blunket. 1541 *Aberd. Reg.* (JAM.) Three elln of bloncat. 1600 *Queen's Wardrobe* in *Nichols Progr. Q. Elis.* III. 506 One rounde kirtle of white clothe of silver chevernd, with blunket, with lace of golde.

Blunt (blʌnt), *a. and sb.* Also 3 *Orm.* *blunnt*, 5-6 *blont*. [Etymology unknown: found in *Ormin* c 1200, in a sense which has suggested some connexion with ON. *blunda* to doze, *blunda augum* to shut the eyes, *blundr* dozing, sleep (Vigfusson). It has been proposed to explain the form as a contracted pa. pple. for *blunded*, *blund*, ON. *blundad*, *blundat*; but pa. pples. in -nt from -nd are not found so early as 1200; *Ormin* has none. And this would hardly give the required sense, since *blunda* was intransitive in ON., and the pple. could hardly exist there. Other suggestions are that *blunt* might be some kind of side-form of *blind*, or a nasalized deriv. of an OTeut. root **blut*-, whence ON. *blaut* soft, weak, mod.G. *blasz* naked, Fris. *blat*, *bleat* naked, OE. *blāt* wretched. But in the present state of the question these are mere conjectures, having no contact with the history of the word.]

A. adj.

1. Dull, insensitive, stupid, obtuse: said, it appears, originally of the sight, whence of the perceptions generally, and the intellect. (Now generally with some antithesis to *sharp*, as in sense 2.) c 1200 *Ormin* 16954 Unnwis mann iss blunnt, & blind Off herress ege sihlpe. c 1305 E. E. *Allit. P.* A. 176 Such a burr myr make myn herte blunnt. c 1386 CHAUCER *Pers. T.* 7649 Undevocioun thurgh which a man is so blunnt, and .. hath such a langour in soule, that he may neyther rede ne synge in holy chirche. c 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 41 Blunt of wytte, *hebes*. 1594 CAREW *Huarts's Exam. Wits* (1616) 319 Others, who of ordinarie are borne blunnt and void of iudgement. 1596 SPENSER *F. Q.* I. x. 47 All were his earthly eien both blunnt and bad And through great age had lost their kindly sight. 1597 SHAKS. a *Hen. IV.*, Induct. 18 The blunnt Monster, with vncounted heads, The still discordant, wauering Multitude. 1766 JOHNSTONE in *Phil. Trans.* LVII. 125 The feelings are by no means acute, but blunnt and confused. 1844 CAMPBELL *Love & Madn.* 30 Ill can your blunnter feelings guess the pain. 1846 RUSKIN *Mod. Paint.* I. ii. iii. § 3 They are but the blunnt and the low faculties of our nature.

2. Of an angle, edge, or point: Not sharp, obtuse. Of a tool or weapon: Without edge or point.

For this notion *blunt* is now the proper word; and this is also now the leading literal sense, which tends to influence the other senses.

1398 TREVISA *Barth. De P. R.* xii. xviii. (1495) 426 The capon is more coward of herte .. his spores ben made blunnt. c 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 41 Blunt of edge. 1530 PALSGR. 306/a Blunnt nat sharpe, *rabatu*, *agasse*. 1562 TURNER *Herbal* II. M iij a The poyntes of the leues wer blunnter. 1594 BLUNDEVILLE *Exerc.* II. (ed. 7) 119 The middle letter doth alwayes signifie the angle propounded, bee it right, sharpe, or blunnt. 1611 BIBLE *Eccles.* x. 10 If the yron be blunnt. 1753 *Scotts Mag.* June 280/t A blunnt pencil. 1885 *Where Chinese Drive* 140 The hatchet was too blunnt to be of any service.

b. *transf.* To the effect.

1656 COWLEY *Davidis* IV. 144 Its least and blunntest stroke.

c. *fig.*

1562 J. HEYWOOD *Prov. & Epigr.* (1867) 210 Great difference betwene blounnte wordes and sharp swordes. 1635 QUARLES *Embl. v.* (1718) 311 Lord, what my dull, my blunnt belief. 1831 HEIMDGER *Didon.* IX. 270 Invention's blade is made sharper, and not blunnter, by much use.

+3. Barren, bare. *Obs.*

1553 DOUGLAS *Æneis* (ed. 1710) xiii. vi. 227 The large plains .. Stude blunnt [MSS. & ed. 1874, *blowt*] of beists and of treis bare. 1596 SPENSER *F. Q.* vi. xi. 9 Merchants .. Arrived in this isle though bare & blunnt T inquire for slaves. 1599 PORTER *Angry Wom. Abingd.* (1841) 22 Our blunnt soyle offords none such.

+4. Rude, unpolished, rough, without refinement. *Obs. or arch.*

1477 NORTON *Ord. Alch.* vii. in Ashm. (1652) 106 In English blunnt and rude. 1513 DOUGLAS *Æneis* I. Prol. 314 Thocht myne be blunnt his [Vergil's] text is maist perfyte. 1530 PALSGR. 306/a Blunnt in maners or rude—*rude*. 1555 FULLER *Hist. Camb.* (1840) 152 This blunnt preaching was in those dark days admirably effectual. 1700 POPE *Jan. & May* 742 Tho' not in phrase refin'd; Tho' blunnt my tale. c 1750 SMOLLETT *Ode Indag.* 57 He steeld the blunnt Bata-vian's arms. 1865 SCOTT *Woodst.* viii. His demeanour was so blunnt as sometimes might be termed clownish.

+b. Rough, harsh; unfeeling, unsparing. *Obs.*
1592 SHAKS. *Ven. & Ad.* 884 The blunnt boar, rough bear or lion proud. 1593 — 3 *Hen. VI.* v. i. 86 Trowest thou .. that Clarence is so harsh, so blunnt, vnnatural?

5. Abrupt of speech or manner; plain-spoken; curt; without delicacy; unceremonious.

1590 GREENE *Neuer too late* (1600) 51 One blunnt fellow amongst the rest that was plaine and without falshood, told her the whole cause. 1599 SHAKS. *Hen. V.* iv. vii. 185 By his blunnt bearing he will keepe his word. 1635 K. LONG *Barclay's Argenis* (1636) B iv a, A rude and blunnt people, wont to call a Figge a Figge, and a Boat a Boat. 1704 POPE *Ess. Crit.* 577 Blunnt truths more mischief than nice falsehoods do. 1797 MRS. RADCLIFFE *Italian* xiii. (1824) 606 Be pretty blunnt with them if they want to come in here. 1865 TROLLOPE *Belton Est.* iii. 17 He was blunnt in his bearing, saying things which his father would have called indelicate and heartless. 1871 DIXON *Tower* III. xxviii. 312 The blunnt and earnest speaker .. was Cromwell.

6. *Comb.*, chiefly parasynthetic, as *blunt-angled*, *-edged*, *-ended*, *-headed*, *-hearted*, *-nosed*, *-pointed*, *-sighted*, *-witted*; adverbial, as *blunt-spoken*; *blunt-file*, a file with very little taper; *blunt-hook*, a surgical instrument used in midwifery; *blunt-point*, a tool used in aquatinting; *blunt-sharp a.*, sharp but not pointed with malice; + *blunt-worker*, a blunderer; + *blunt-working*, blundering.

1551 RECORDE *Pathw. Knowl.* II. xiii. A *blunnte angled triangle. 1836 TODD *Cycl. Anat. & Phys.* I. 312/a *Blunnt-edged bills. 1845 DISRAELI *Sybil* (1863) 61 A selfish husband, at once sharp-witted and *blunnt-hearted. 1778 FORSTER in *Phil. Trans.* LXIII. 151 The common *blunnt-nosed Sturgeon of Germany. 1834 PENNY *Cycl.* II. 203/a Every line of the design is .. gone over with an instrument called a *blunnt point. 1613 HAYWARD *Norm. Kings* 150 Colomannus the eldest, who was lame, bunch-backed, crab-faced, *blunnt-sighted. 1668 FULLER *Worthies* (1840) II. 464 Excellent at *blunnt-sharp jests, and perchance sometimes too tart in true ones. 1878 BLACK *Green Past.* iv. 34 Something more than *blunnt-spoken .. a trifle too anxious to tread on people's corns. 1593 SHAKS. 2 *Hen. VI.* iii. ii. 210 Blunnt-witted Lord, ignoble in demeanour. c 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 41 Blunderer or *blunnt warkere, *hebefactor*. *Ibid.* Blunderynge, or *blunnt warkynge, *hebefaccio*.

B. sb.

+1. A blunt sword for fencing, a foil. *Obs.*

1611 COTGR. s.v. *Fer. Batre le fer*, to play at blunnt, or at foyles. 1694 SIR W. HOPE *Swordsmen. Vade Mec.* 25 The only Safe and Secure Play, with either Blunts or Sharps.

2. A size or make of needle.

1833 J. HOLLAND *Manuf. Metals* II. 360 The latter [needles with broken points] are generally reported as blunts. 1862 MORRALL *Needle Making* 39 The Blunts are half a size thicker and a size shorter than Betweens, and have still stronger points, being suited for the heaviest work, such as bed-ticks, shoe-binding, stay-making, etc.

3. *slang.* Ready money.

1812 J. H. VAUX *Flash Dict.*, *Blunt*, money. 1823 SCOTT in *Lockhart* (1839) VII. 99, I will remit the blunnt immediately. 1838 DICKENS *O. Twist* 202/1, I must have some blunnt from you to-night. a 1845 HOOD *Tale Tramp.* xx, You must fork out the blunnt.

Blunt, *v.* Also 4-5 *blont*. [f. BLUNT *a.*]

1. *trans.* To dull, or make less sharp (an edge or point).

1398 TREVISA *Barth. De P. R.* xvi. xlv. (1495) 568 When the egge of yren is dulled and blunted. 1580 HOLLYBAND *Treas. Fr. Tong* s.v. *Reboucher*, To blunnt the edge or point of a thing. 1596 DRAYTON *Legends* I. 610 That Blade .. Was too much blunted. 1713 SWIFT *Cadenus & V.* Wks. 1755 III. ii. 3 Cupid now .. blunts the point of ev'ry dart. a 1866 G. P. MORRIS *Poems* (ed. 15) 61 Let us by this gentle river Blunnt the axe and break the quiver.

b. To weaken the sharpness of (anything acid or corrosive); to neutralize partially; to dilute.

1732 ARBUTHNOT *Rules of Diet* 25 They operate by blunnting the Acrimony of the Salts. 1771 J. S. LE DRAN'S *Observ. Surg.* (ed. 4) 48 To touch it with the mercurial Solution .. blunnted with common Water. 1787 WINTER *Syst. Hush.* 333 It did not effervesce in, nor blunnt the acidity of vinegar.

c. *intr.* To become dull of edge or point.

1684 BUNYAN *Pilgr.* II. 174 Its edges will never blunnt. 1805 SOUTHEY *Madoc in W.* vii. The flint-edge [will] blunnt and break.

2. *trans.* To make dull (the feelings or faculties).

1597 SHAKS. 2 *Hen. IV.* iv. iv. 27 Blunnt not his Loue .. By seeming cold, or carelesse of his will. 1683 BURNET tr. *Mori's Utopia* 49 Necessity and Poverty blunts them, makes them patient, and bears them down. 1835 SIR J. ROSS *N.-W. Pass.* xvii. 270 Our long conviction of the inevitable event had blunnted those feelings. 1866 GEO. ELIOT *Felix Holt* (1868) 20 The mother's love is at first an absorbing delight, blunnting all other sensibilities.

+3. To blunnt out or forth; to utter blunntly or abruptly. *Obs.* Cf. *BLURT*.

a 1535 MORE *Wks.* (1557) 76/1 It were paradvnture good rather to keepe a good silence thyself than blunnt forth rudely.

Blunted, *ppl. a.* [f. prec. + -ED¹.] Made blunnt; having point or edge dulled; also *fig.*

1677 MOXON *Mech. Exerc.* (1703) 349 With the blunnted point of a Needle. 1697 DRYDEN *Virg.* (1806) III. 249 Part New grind the blunnted axe. 1853 F. HALL in *Leslie's Misc.* II. 176 A man whose moral judgment has become altogether blunnted. 1871 PALGRAVE *Lyr. Poems* 14 The blunnted souls by lust defiled.

+ **Blunten**, *v. Obs. rare.* [f. BLUNT *a.* Cf. *sharpen*.] *trans.* To blunnt, take off the edge of.

1615 J. STEPHENS *Ess. & Char.* in Halliwell *Charact.-Bks.* 171 Good for nothing but to blunten a Cheaters pollicy.

Blunter. [f. BLUNT *v.* + -ER¹.] One who blunts or dulls.

1609 W. M. *Man in Moone* in Halliwell. *Charact. Bks.* (1857) 87. He is his own beauties blemisher, his wittes blunter.

Blunting, *vbl. sb.* [f. BLUNT *v.* + -ING¹.] The action of making or of becoming blunt; anything in which this action is realized.

1611 COTGR., *Espointment*, an vnpointing; a blunting; a breaking the point of. 1656 *Artif. Handsomeness* 72 Not impediments or bluntings, but rather as Whetstones, to set an edge on our desires. 1870 *Eng. Mech.* 7 Jan. 397/2 We remarked this blunting of the... horn.

Bluntish (bluntish), *a.* [f. BLUNT *a.* + -ISH.] Rather blunt, somewhat blunt.

1576 T. PROCTER *Gorg. Gallery* in *Heliconia* I. 182 To Bluntish blocks I see I doo complayne. 1713 DERHAM *Phys. Theol.* To Rdr. 5 He hath represented it as tubular, or bluntish at the Top. 1880 WATSON in *Jrnl. Linn. Soc.* XV. 99 Apex bluntish, and a little obliquely rounded.

Hence **Bluntishness**.

1691 WOOD *Ath. Oxon* (1815) II. 582 An honest bluntishness, far from court insinuation.

Bluntly (bluntli), *adv.* [f. BLUNT *a.* + -LY².]

†1. Stupidly; with dulled perception; without quickness of wit. Cf. BLUNT *a.* 1. *Obs.*

1557 Tottell's *Misc.* (Arb.) 136 For he that blontly runnes, may light among the breers. 1823 STANVHURST *Æneis* II. (Arb.) 45 Al our senses weare... blontlye benumbed. 1711 C. M. *Let. to Curat* 75 You may guess how blontly I look'd, upon being taken up so sharp.

2. Without a sharp point or edge; obtusely.

1576 LYTE *Dodoens* II. ciii. 90 Leaves blontly lagged rounde about the edges. 1760 PARSONS in *Phil. Trans.* LVIII. 793 Blontly serrated. 1817 HOOKER *Flora Scot.* II. 22 Pileus deep buff, blontly conical.

3. Rudely; without ceremony or delicacy; abruptly, curtly.

1579 TOMSON *Calvin's Serm.* Tim. 706/2 Because we come blontly to it. 1605 SHAKS. *Lea* I. iv. 36, I can... deliuer a plaine message blontly. 1617 HIERON *Wks.* (1600) II. 415 Neuer fall blontly to any religious dutie which God requires. 1741 H. WALPOLE *Let. H. Mann* (1834) I. x. 32 They blontly refused to go. 1873 BLACK *Pr. Thule* xvii. 269 Ingram had come prepared to state harsh truths blontly.

Bluntness. [f. BLUNT *a.* + -NESS.]

†1. Dullness of wit, stupidity. *Obs.*

1483 *Cath. Angl.* 35 A Bluntnesse, *ebitudo*. 1623 COCKE-
RAM, *Hebetudo*, bluntnesse, dullness.

2. Obtuseness or dullness of point or edge.

1530 PALSGR. 109/1 Bluntnesse of any edged toole. 1655 GURNALL *Chr. in Arm.* xiii. (1669) 92/2 His worldly employments do not turn the edge of his affections, & leave a bluntness upon his spirit. 1794 G. ADAMS *Nat. & Exp. Philos.* III. xxxi. 243 Rounded with a fine bone... which causes a sufficient bluntness or rolling edge.

3. Rudeness, absence of delicacy or refinement; abruptness of manner or address, curtiness.

1605 SHAKS. *Lea* II. ii. 102 Who hauing beene prais'd for bluntnesse, doth affect A saucy roughness. 1674 CLARENDON *Hist. Reb.* III. x. 36 The bluntness and positiveness of the few words he spoke. 1751 FIELDING *Amelia* Wks. 1775 X. 124 Bluntness, or rather rudeness, as it commonly deserves to be called, is not always so much a mark of honesty as it is taken to be. 1833 MARRYAT *P. Simple* (1863) 237 The bluntness with which he used to contradict and assert his disbelief of Captain Kearney's narratives.

Blunty, *-ie, a. Obs. or dial.* [f. BLUNT *a.*]

1. Of blunt nature or tendency.

1598 YONG *Diana* 206 Thou that art of blunty lead, Strike thou some womans hart so dead In cruell hate, that she shall neuer feeles The sense of loue.

2. as *sb.* A stupid fellow; one not sharp of wits.

1768 ROSS *Helenore* 26 (JAM.) I... like blunty sat. 1794 BURNS *O for one an' twenty* ii. They snoo me sair, and haud me down, And gar me look like blunty, Tam.

Blur (blūr), *sb.* Forms: 6-7 **blurre**, 7- **blurr**, **blur**. [*Blur sb. and vb. appear about the middle of the 16th c.:* their mutual relation is doubtful, and the origin of both unknown: they have been conjecturally viewed as a variant of BLEAR, and may perhaps be onomatopoeic, combining the effect of *blaar* and *blot*. The mod.Sc. is *blare*.]

1. A smear which partially obscures, made with ink or other colouring matter, or by brushing the surface of writing while still wet.

1601 HOLLAND *Pliny* II. 306 With it a man may wash away any blots or blurs of ink. 1640 QUARLES *Enchirid.* III. xiii. He that clenches a blot with blotted fingers makes a greater blurre. 1665 PEPYS *Diary* (1879) III. 151, I minded it so little as to sleep in the middle of my letter to him, and committed forty blots and blurs. 1705 in PERRY *Hist. Coll. Amer. Col.* Ch. I. 178 The Blots, Blurs, and Defacements of many of the Pages. 1871 BROWNING *Pr. Hohent.* 392 Why keep each fool's bequeathment, scratch and blurr Which overscrawls and underscores the piece?

2. *fig.* A stain which bedims moral or ideal purity, a blemish; an aspersion on character.

1548 UDALL, etc. *Erasm. Par. Luke* xviii. 144 Sette a great blurre on myne honestie. 1593 SHAKS. *Lucr.* 222 This blur to youth. 1641 MILTON *Ch. Discip.* I. Wks. (1851) 21 These blurs are too apparent in his life. 1866 CORNH. *Mag.* May 557 The place from a distance, compared with the surrounding country, was a blur and a blemish as it were. 1883 *Contemp. Rev.* June 784 Many a blur of human error.

3. An effect like that of blurred writing or painting; an indistinct blurred appearance; indistinctness, confused dimness.

1860 EMERSON *Cond. Life* (1868) 281 The fine star-dust and nebulous blur of Orion. 1870 LOWELL *Study Wind.* 39 The vast blur of a north-northeast snow-storm. 1873 BROWNING *Red Cott. Night-c.* 878 The face, to me One blurr of blank.

Blur (blūr), *v.* [See prec.]

1. *trans.* To obscure or sully (what has been fair) by smearing with ink or other colouring liquid.

1592 LVLV *Midus* IV. ii. To blurre his diademe with blood. 1612 R. CARPENTER *Soules Sent.* 54 His... black booke, blurde and blotted with the register of sin. 1650 FULLER *Pisgah* IV. ii. 20 A full paper blurred over with falsehoods. 1884 BROWNING *Ferishtah* 117 Blacks blur thy white?

2. *intr.* To make blurs in writing.

1622 MABBE *Aleman's Guesman D'Al.* II. 134 My pen did so blur, that I did despair, to come off cleanly with it. 1689 EVELYN *Mem.* (1857) III. 314, I see how I have blurred: but tis not worth the writing fairer. 1878 BROWNING *Poets Croisic* xxxvii. Over the neat crowquill calligraph His pen goes blotting, blurring.

3. *fig.* To stain, sully, blot, or blemish the purity, beauty, or truth of (anything); to disfigure, befoul, defile, asperse.

1593 SHAKS. 2 *Hen. VI.* IV. i. 39 Neuer yet did base dishonour blurre our name, But with our sword we wip'd away the blot. 1608 — *Ham.* III. iv. 41 Such an Act That blurres the grace and blush of Modestie. 1663 BUTLER *Hud.* I. iii. 876 Sarcasms may eclipse thine own But cannot blur my lost renown. 1674 FLATMAN *To Orinda* 3 A weeping evening blurs a smiling day. 1794 SULLIVAN *View Nat. V.* 28 Irish history, blurred... with extravagancy and fable. 1805 COLERIDGE *Let. Convers.* etc. II. 237 The human face divine is blurred and transfigured by being made the impress of the mean and selfish. 1885 W. C. SMITH *Kildrostan* 74 To blur a father's memory.

4. *To blur out:* to efface (writing, etc.) by blurring it. *To blur over:* to put out of sight, or obscure by a blur. Mostly *fig.*

1581 J. BELL *Haddon's Answ.* *Osor.* 13 If the lively authority of the holy scriptures have so utterly quashed and blurred out this bald ceremonie. 1611 QUARLES *Ethier* (1638) 123 And from remembrance blurre his Generation. 1648 MILTON *Apol. Smet.* Wks. 1738 I. 121 To blur over, rather than to mention that public triumph. 1663 SIR G. MACKENZIE *Relig. Stoic* vii. (1685) 54 Blur the names... out of the Book of Life. 1690 LOCKE *Hum. Und.* I. iii. (1695) 125 Concerning innate Principles, I desire these Men to say, whether they can, or cannot... be blurr'd and blotted out. 1803 ALCOCK *Capit. Tycoon* I. 159 A constant tendency to blur out distinctions.

5. *To make indistinct and dim, as writing is by being blurred.* Also *fig.*

1611 SHAKS. *Cymb.* IV. ii. 104 Time hath nothing blurr'd those lines of Faunour Which then he wore. 1681 *Ess. Peace & Truth* Ch. 2 The Blurring these Impressions. 1859 TENNYSON *Guinevere* 5 One low light... Blurr'd by the creeping mist. 1871 ROSSETTI *Stream's Sec.* viii. Thine eddy's rippling race Would blur the perfect image of his face.

6. *transf.* To dim (the sight or other senses, the perception, or judgement), so that they no longer receive or form distinct impressions.

c 1600 Z. BOYD *Zion's Flowers* (1855) 112 Feare... Blurres your senses. 1791 COWPER *Ilud* xx. 392 With shadows dim he blurr'd the sight Of Peleus' son. 1871 ROSSETTI *Staff & Scrip* xxvii. Our sense is blurr'd With all the chants gone by. 1876 MORLEY *Crit. Misc.* Ser. I. 264 Social equity in which charity is not allowed to blur judgement.

7. *Comb.*, as † **blur-paper**, a writer who merely blurs paper; a scribbler.

1603 FLORIO *Montaigne* II. xxxii. (1632) 404 Scriblers and blur-papers which now adays stuffe Stationers shops.

† Cf. BLARE, BLORE *v.*

1611 COTGR., *Grailler*, to winde a Horne hollowly; to blurre a Trumpet.

† **Blure, bloure, blowre, sb.** *Obs.* [App. from root of *Blow v.*: cf. BLADDER.] = BLADDER *sb.* 2; blister, swelling.

c 1440 *York Myst.* xi. 294 Grete loppis ouere all bis lande bei flye. That with bytyng makis mekill blure [*Towneley Myst.* viii. 294 Where thay byte thay make grete blowre]. c 1460 *Towneley Myst.* 310 So many Thus brought I on blure. c 1499 GARLANDIA *Equiv.* in *Promp.* Parv. 43 *Bulla, tumor, laticum*, i.e. *aguarum*, a bollynge or a blowre.

† **Blurre**. *Obs.* 1 = prec.; cf. also BLUR, BLOW, BLORE.

1526 SKELTON *Magnyf.* 1194 Mary, as thou sayst, he gaue me a blurre.

Blurred (blūrd), *ppl. a.* [f. BLUR *v.* + -ED¹.]

1. Smeared with or as with ink, as when wet writing is rubbed or brushed.

1553 DK. NORTHUMB. in *Four C. Eng. Lett.* 22 To whom I have also sent my blurred letters. 1660 W. SECKER *Nonsuch Prof.* 189 There is no removing of blots from the paper by laying upon it a blurred finger. 1790 BURKE *Fr. Rev.* Wks. 1842 V. 167 Paltry blurred shreds of paper about the rights of man. 1875 STUBBS *Const. Hist.* II. xvii. 625 The writing of the fourteenth century is coarse and blurred.

2. Stained, sullied, befouled.

1708 MOTTEUX *Rabelais* IV. xii. A Country all blurr'd and blotted. 1856 MRS. BROWNING *Aur. Leigh* VIII. 362 His cheeks all blurred with tears and naughtiness.

3. Made indistinct and dim like blurred writing.

1701 *Lond. Gas.* No. 3746/4 The W. a little blurr'd. 1842 DICKENS *Amer. Notes* (1850) 132/2 A blurred lithograph of Washington. 1876 BLACK *Green Past.* vii. 54, I don't know... what blurred image or idol he had in his mind.

Hence **Blurredness** (blūrdnēs).

1864 FURNIVALL in *Reader* 22 Oct. 511/2 The frequent blurredness [of the type] and missing of dots and strokes in this reduction.

Blurrer (blūrēr), [f. BLUR *v.* + -ER.] He who or that which blurs.

1681 RYCAUT *Critic* 117 Their tongues [turned to] blurrers of fame.

Blurring (blūrīng), *vbl. sb.* [f. BLUR *v.* + -ING¹.]

The action of the vb. BLUR.

1601 HOLLAND *Pliny* I. 393 [The Paper] would not hold inke... and was euermore in danger of blurring and blotting. c 1638 MEDE *Wks.* IV. xxix. 784 Everlasting mending, blurring, and pausing at every sentence to alter it. 1804 SIR F. PALGRAVE *Norm. & Eng.* III. 440 The blurring of the lime, on the greensward.

Blurring, *ppl. a.* [see -ING².] That blurs.

1851 MRS. BROWNING *Casa Guidi Wind.* 88 For men to spit at with scorn's blurring brine.

Blurry (blūrī), *a.* [f. BLUR *sb.* + -Y¹.] Full of blurs; faultily indistinct in features.

1884 *Leads Mercury Wkly. Supp.* 15 Nov. 1/6 The tutti music was wanting in tone... and the execution was frequently very blurry.

Blurt (blūrt), *v.* [app. a modern onomatopoeia, expressive of a discharge of breath or fluid from the mouth after an effort to retain it; with the *bl-* element, cf. *blow, blast, blash*, etc.; with the rest cf. *spurt, spirt, squirt*, etc.: see also BLIRT.]

1. *intr.* To emit the breath eruptively from the mouth; to snort in sleep. Also *trans.* with *out*. Now *dial.*

1611 COTGR., *Souffler les choux en dormant*, to puff, or blurt out puffs, in sleeping. c 1825 *MS. Poem* (JAM.) He blortit an' startit.

†2. To make a contemptuous puffing gesture with the lips, to puff in scorn, to 'pooh'. *Obs.*

a. *intr.* Also with indirect pass. *to be blurted at.* 1596 *Edw. III.* IV. vi. (N.) All the world will blurt and scorn at us. 1601 SHAKS. *Per.* IV. iii. 34 None would look on her But cast their gazes on Marinas face; Whilst ours was blurted at. 1611 FLORIO, *Boccheggare*... to make mouths or blurt with ones lips. 1654 GAYTON *Fest. Notes* IV. xvii. 259 The other part... sneeze and blurt... make mouths, and flowt in Spanish postures.

b. *trans.* To treat contemptuously.

1621 FLETCHER *Wild-G. Chase* II. ii. I never was so blurted, Nor ever so abused. c 1663 SANDERSON *Serm.* (1681) 92 Baffled and Blurted by every lewd companion.

3. *trans.* (commonly with *out*): To utter abruptly, and as if by a sudden impulse; to ejaculate impulsively; to burst out with.

1573 G. HARVEY *Letter-bk.* (1884) 9 Blurring out sutch iests as he had gottin together for the nons. 1666 H. MORE *Enthus. Tri.* (1712) 35 Blurring out any garish foolery that comes into their mind. 1768 TUCKER *Lt. Nat.* II. 566 Sometimes people will blurt out things inadvertently, which if judgment had been awake it would have suppressed. 1772 GOLDSM. *Stoops to Conq.* II. i. To blurt out the broad staring question of, Madam will you marry me. 1848 MACAULAY *Hist. Eng.* II. 180 They are fortunate if they possess an indiscreet friend who blurts out the whole truth. 1844 MRS. GASKELL *North & S. v.* 'Papa is going to leave Helstone!' she blurted forth. 1876 BLACKIE *Songs Relig. & Life* 147 To blurt a dash of broad-cast Scottish truth, Athwart his lipping lips.

fig. 1611 TOURNEUR *Ath. Trag.* IV. iv. 124, I should ha' don't sily without discouery, and now I am blurted upon 'em before I was aware.

b. *absol.*

1641 MILTON *Animadv.* Wks. (1851) 189 To blurt upon the eares of a judicious Parliament with such a... Proem.

4. *transf.* To thrust out abruptly.

1818 *Religio Clerici* 52 Fled is the genuine Muse, and in her place A brisk pretender blurts her shameless face.

5. To burst out into weeping.

1843 W. CARLETON *Traits* I. 139 Able-bodied spalpeens blurring, like overgrown children, on seeing their own blood.

Blurt (blūrt), *sb.* [f. the vb.: see also BLIRT.]

†1. An eruptive emission of breath from the mouth, esp. as expressive of contempt. *Obs.*

1520 NORTH *Plutarch* (1676) 633 Meaning to give Cassander a slampant and blurt. 1621 FLORIO, *Chicchere*, a... blurt with ones mouth in scorn or derision.

2. An abrupt impulsive utterance or outburst.

1865 CARLYLE *Fredk. Gt. VI.* xvi. ix. 245 This blurt of La Mettrie's goes through him like a shot of electricity.

Blurt, *adv. and int.* [The verb-stem used without const., as in 'to go bang', 'to cut bang off'.]

A. *adv.* Blurring, with a blurt.

1698 VANBRUGH *Prov. Wife* III. iii. When they come blurt out with a nasty thing in a play.

†B. *interj.* An exclamation of contempt: 'pooh!' 'a fig for!' See BLURT *v.* 2. *Obs.*

1592 LVLV *Midus* II. ii. 21 Blirt to you both. 1602 MIDDLETON (*title*) (N.) Blurt, Master Constable. 1604 DEKKER *Honest Wk.* Wks. 1873 II. 22 Blurt on your sentences. 1606 in *N. Riding Records* (1883) I. 37 Will. Forde fined for using evil speeches to the Constable saying 'Blirt, Mr. Constable'.

Blurting, *vbl. sb.* [f. BLURT *v.* + -ING¹.]

†a. The contemptuous abrupt emission of breath from the lips (*obs.*). b. The uttering of words abruptly and heedlessly.

1598 FLORIO, *Smorfia*, a mowing, a mocking, or pish with ones mouth... a blurring.

Blurting, *ppl. a.* [f. as prec. + -ING².]

a. Bursting forth in short sudden puffs. b. Making abrupt unexpected utterances; impulsively communicative.

1840 MRS. BROWNING *Drama Exile* Poems I. 87 Shall the horse's nostrils steam the blurring breath. 1863 GEO. ELIOT *Romola* III. xiv. (1880) II. 156 He would be suddenly blurring and affectionate. 1879 — *Middlev.* v. 187 The blurring, rallying tone with which he spoke.

Blush (blūz), *v.* 1 Pa. t. and ppl. **blushed**, **blusht** (blūst).

Forms: 4-6 **blusche**, **blushe**, **blusht**, **blust**.

4 **blusche**, 4-5 **blysche**, 5 **blushe**, 6 **bluss**, 6-

blush. (Rare pa. t. in 5 *blis* = *blysoht*). [Evidently related to a series of words found in Old Norse and Low German, but not known in OHG. or Gothic, pointing back to a stem **blusi-* from verbal root **blūs-* in sense of 'burn, glow, be red'. Cf. OE. **blyssian* in *ablišan* to blush, *ablyssung*, *ablyssung* 'redness of confusion, shame', with MDu. *blösen*, *blösen* (from earlier *bleusen*), Du. *blozen* to blush, *blos* (formerly *bleus*) blush, MLG. *blosen*, *bloschen*; also OE. *blysa* wk. masc., *blysig* wk. fem., ON. *blys* neut. 'torch' (Sw. *bloss* torch, *blossa* to blaze, Da. *blus* torch, *blusse* to blaze, to blush), LG. *blüse* flame, *blüsen* to set on fire, *blüsteren* to inflame, glow, become red. The nearest relatives of ME. *blusche*, *blosche*, *blysche*, are app. MLG. *bloschen*, LG. *blüsen* (Brem. Wb. I. 105): and its antecedent form is perhaps to be found in OE. *blyscan*, *bliscan* 'rutilare' (in the *Alahelm Glosses*, Mone Q. und F. 355): but its comparatively late appearance in ME., apparently first in the north, its various vowel-forms, and the doubtful relations of the senses, esp. sense 2, all combine to leave the history of the word very obscure. OE. *blyscan*, *bliscan*, has also been conjectured to be for **blyscian*, from root **blik-* to shine, in which case it would not be related to the *blüsi-* words, nor to ME. *blusche*. (The Da. deponent *bluse* to blush, may also be compared.)]

(The order of the senses is uncertain; with 1 and 2 cf. BLINK.)

† 1. *intr.* To shine forth. (in allit. poetry.) Obs. c 1340 *Gaw. & Gr. Knt.* 1817 Pat here blusschande bemez, as þe bryt sunne. c 1400 *Destr. Troy* 4665 The bremes abatid; blussit the sun.

† 2. To cast a glance, glance with the eye, give a look. (in allit. poetry.) Obs.

c 1345 *E. E. Allit. P.* B. 998 Ho blusched hir bihynde, þa3 hir forþoden were. *Ibid.* C. 343 þe bonk þat he blosched to, & bode hym bisyde. 1a 1400 *Morte Arth.* 116 The kynge blyschit one the beryne with his brode eghre. c 1400 *Ywaine & Gaw.* 3163 The lion bremely on tham blist. c 1400 *Destr. Troy* 1316 He blussched ouer backward to þe brode see. c 1450 *Merlin* xvi. 259 [Thei] ne wiste no worde till soðeðly thei blussched vpon a grete parte of saignes.

b. To blush to the earth: to glance to the earth, i.e. to fall face downwards.

c 1450 *Merlin* vii. 120 The stroke descended on the horse .. and ydiars and his horse blusschet to the erthe. *Ibid.* 137 Thei smot so v of the first that thei metten that thei blussit to the erthe.

c. To blush on: to approach in look or appearance. Cf. BLUSH sb. 3.

c 1530 *Ld. Berners Arth. Lyt. Bryt.* (1814) 381 A lyghte kyrtell of chaungeable vyolet tartorne, somewhat blussyng on a red colour.

3. *intr.* To become red in the face, (usually) from shame or modesty; to 'colour up'. Often with compl. to blush red, etc., also with cogn. object.

c 1450 *Crt. Love* clxxii, Shamefastnes was there .. That blushed red, and durst not ben aknow She lover was. 1514 *Barclay Cyl. & Uplondysk.* (1847) 11 Anone she blussched, revolyng in my mynde .. That it was token of to great carnal lust. c 1530 *Ld. Berners Hun* 550 She changed colour and blussyd as rudly as a rose. *Ibid.* 286 He blussched in the face for the gret yre that he was in. 1588 *Shaks. Tit. A. v. l. 122*, What canst thou say all this and neuer blush? 1611 *Bible Jer.* vi. 15. 1667 *Milton P. L.* vii. 511 To the Nuptial Bowre I led her blushing like the Morn. 1709 *Pope Est. Crit.* 545 And virgins smiled at what they blushed before. 1769 *Junius Lett.* xxxv. 153 That prince .. used .. to blush for his .. ignorance. 1808 *Scott F. M. Perth* III. 53 Catharine blushes a blush of anger. 1879 *Darwin Emotions* xiii. 311 The young blush much more freely than the old. Women blush much more than men .. The tendency to blush is inherited. 1888 *Bresant All Sorts* 137 She blushed a pretty rose red.

fig. 1750 *Gray Elegy* xiv, Full many a flower is born to blush unseen.

† b. To look on with a blush. Obs.

1593 *Shaks. Lucr.* 1339 Blushing on her.

c. *trans.* With extended force: To express, exhibit, make known by blushing. Chiefly poetic.

1592 *Warner Alb. Eng.* viii. xli. 201 She blusht out beauty. 1611 *Shaks. Wint. T.* iv. iv. 505 Ile blush you Thanks. 1651 *Fuller Abel Rediv.* 224 Many unworthy Schollars .. whose scarlet Gowns might seeme to blush the wearers Ignorance. 1800 *Moore Anacreon* lxiii. 4 The boy, who breathes and blushes flowers! 1845 *Tennyson Maud* xvii. 16 Pass the happy news, Blush it through the West.

d. To make or turn into, out of, by blushing.

1636 *R. Durham in Ann. Dubrensis* (1877) 55 Whom chaste Diana blusht into a beast. 1660 *Fuller Mist. Comtempl.* (1841) 188 They will blush themselves out of their former follies. a 1848 *Marryat R. Refler* xx, I should blush myself black in the face.

4. *fig.* To be ashamed. Const. *inf.*, at or for.

1530 *Palsgr.* 459/1, I blusshe, I waxe ashamed. 1593 *Sturges Anat. Abus.* ii. 33, I blush to tell you. 1593 *Shaks. 2 Hen. VI.* ii. iv. 48 Be thou milde, and blush not at my shame. 1692 *Bentley Boyle Lect.* vii. 241 So monstrous an Absurdity, as even They will blush to be charged with. 1734 *Bolingb.* in *Swift's Lett.* (1766) II. 109, I do not blush to own, that I am out of fashion. 1791 *Burke Corr.* (1844) III. 332 As one of the people, I blush for what has followed. 1871 *Freeman Hist. Ess.* Ser. I. iii. 76.

5. *transf.* To become or be red, or roscate.

1679 *Est. Test.* 38 If our streets .. should blush with the blood of Massacred Protestants. 1697 *Devden Virg. Georg.* ii. 601 Trees of Nature .. with red Berries blush. 1791-1804 *D'Israeli Cur. Lit.* (1806) 523/1 Hills .. blushing with vines. 1866 *B. Taylor Thro' Baltimore* Poems 402 The streets .. Blushed with their children's gore. 1866 *Alger Solit. Nat. & Man* i. 19 Whole orchards of apple-blossoms blush in correspondence.

6. *trans.* To make red.

1593 *Shaks. 2 Hen. VI.* iii. ii. 167 Ne're returneth, To blush and beautifie the Cheeke againe. 1747 *T. Gibbons Elegy* xiii. in *Doddridge Col. Gardiner App.* ii. 216 A Robe of spotless White, But where the Saviour's flowing Vein Had blusht'd it with a sanguine Stain. 1800 *Keats St. Agnes* xxiv, A shielded scutcheon blushed with blood of queens and kings.

Blush (blʊʃ), sb. (a.) [f. the vb.: cf. Du. *blus*.]

A. sb. + 1. A gleam, a blink. Obs.

c 1340 *Gaw. & Gr. Knt.* 520 A blysful blusch of þe bryt sunne. 1661 *Burney Keph.* 200/4 Their Prerogative, which is not a blush from the people, but 'tis a beam resultant from Gods Majesty, and reflects upon the people for their good.

2. A glance, glimpse, blink, look. Obs. exc. in phr. at, on, etc. (the) first blush: at the first glance.

a 1375 *Joseph Arim.* 657 Aftur þe furste blusch we ne myhte him biholden. c 1530 *Ld. Berners Arth. Lyt. Bryt.* (1814) 404 As the emperor looked in at a windowe .. he had a blushe of Florence. a 1563 *Bale Sel. Wks.* (1840) 579 The two horns are like the lambs horns at a blush. 1583 *Sturges Anat. Abus.* ii. 7 Hir Grace is .. able at the first blush to discearne truth from falsehood. 1611 *Br. Andrews Sermon.* *Nativity* vi. Wks. 1841 I. 94 Vidimus. And that not .. 'at a blush', passing by; but had a full sight. 1624 *Bedell Lett.* v. 82 This discourse hath a prettie shew at the first blush. a 1641 *Br. Mountagu Acts & Mon.* 402 Looking pale, wan, and meagre, that men might say of them, at the blush, This man fasts to day. 1838 *G. S. Faber Inquiry* 308 The very vagueness of the allegation .. may well, even on the first blush, induce a full presumption that, etc. 1844 *Disraeli Coningsby* II. i. 58 At the first blush, it would seem that little difficulties could be experienced.

† 3. A look, appearance, resemblance. Obs. exc. dial. In *Bk. St. Albans* a 'company' of boys.

[1486 *Bk. St. Albans* Fvib, A blush of boyes.] 1600 *N. Brent Hist. Convent.* *Trent* (1676) 204 Which followed .. without any blush of absurdity. 1640 *Fuller Joseph's Coat* (1867) 13 Reports relish of their relations, and have a blush and a smack of their partial dispositions. [1824 *Craven Dialect* 15 Shoe wod a hed a feul blush of her mother.]

4. The reddening of the face caused by shame, modesty, or other emotion.

1593 *Shaks. 3 Hen. VI.* iii. iii. 97 Bewray thy Treason with a Blush. 1599 - *Hen. V.* v. ii. 253 Put off your Maiden Blushes. 1718 *Pope* *Iliaid* iv. 403 The hero's warmth o'erspread His cheek with blushes. 1828 *Wordsw. Triad*, But her blushes are joy-flushes. 1876 *Geo. Eliot Dan. Der.* III. xxxv. 37 A blush is no language: only a dubious flag-signal which may mean either of two contradictories.

b. To put to the blush: to cause to blush, put to shame.

1649 *Selden Latius Eng.* i. iv. (1739) 10 They do it with that solemn reverence as may put all the Christian world to the blush. 1711 *J. Distaff Char. Don Sacherello* 7 It has put to the blush .. the best Performances of an Apelles. 1858 *Hawthorne Fr. & It. Trm.* (1872) I. 11 Puts London to the blush, if a blush could be seen on its dingy face.

5. *transf.* A rosy colour or glow, as that of the dawn; in wider sense, a flush of light or of colour.

1590 *Greene Arcadia* (1616) 70 Pleusidippus .. seeing Samela come forth like the blush in the morning. 1618 *Dekker Owles Alman.* And the Vintners latisses must have a new blush. 1667 *Milton P. L.* xi. 184 Aire suddenly eclips'd, After short blush of Morn. a 1773 *Lyttelton Uncertainty* I. (R.) And light's last blushes ting'd the distant hills. 1850 *Mrs. Jameson Leg. Monast. Ord.* (1863) 313 The little cemetery .. all one blush of roses.

B. *adj.* (or the sb. used attrib.) Of the colour of a blush.

1633 *Gerard's Herbal* ii. lxxviii. 357 A pale purple tending to a blush colour. 1665-76 *Ray Flora* 82 Flowers .. white, a little inclining to blush. 1699 *Waper in Phil. Trans.* LV. 51 Some tincture of a blush or sanguine complexion. 1888 *Garden* 1 Apr. 223/2 Blossoms of a delicate blush tint.

C. *Comb.*, as blush-pink, -white; blush-coloured, -tinted, -compelling adjs.; blush-rose, a variety of rose of a very delicate pink.

1606 *Bacon Sylva* § 513 Blossomes Blush-Coloured. 1713 *J. Pettiver in Phil. Trans.* XXVIII. 37 Beautiful Blush-coloured Flowers. 1811 *W. Spencer Poems* 71 Pillow'd on her blush-rose bed. 1818 *Keats Endym.* i. 619 Blush-tinted cheeks, half smiles, and faintest sighs. 1888 *Garden* 18 Nov. 451/3 Large, broad-sepal'd flowers, blush-white.

Blusher (blʊʃə), [f. BLUSH v. + -ER.] One who blushes or exhibits a sense of shame; a thing which blushes, i.e. is red or roscate.

1665 *Boyle Occas. Refl.* v. vii. (1675) 320, I envy not Arabia's Odours, whilst't that of this fresh Blusher [a Nosegay] charms my sense. 1879 *Darwin Emotions* 315 A lady, who is a great blusher.

† **Blushet.** Obs. [f. BLUSH sb. + dim. -ET (app. confined to B. Jonson).] Little blusher; modest girl. 1625 *B. Jonson Stapl. News* ii. i. Though mistress Baud would speak, Or little blusht Wax be ne'er so easy. a 1637 *Wks.* (1692) 319 Go to, little Blushtet, for this, anan, You steal forth a Laugh in the shade of your Fan.

Blushful (blʊʃfʊl), a. [f. BLUSH sb. + -FUL.]

1. Full of blushes, apt to blush, modest, bashful. 1618 *Corcor. Vergongeness* .. shamefull, shame-fac'd, bashfull, blushfull. 1794 *Wolcott (P. Pindar) Row, for Oliver* Wks. II. 154 Thously and blushful maid. 1871 *M. Collins Mrq. & Merch.* II. 130 Amy's shy, quiet, blushful face.

† 2. Calling for a blush, shameful. Obs.

1656 *Trapp Comm. Matt.* xvi. 11 Ignorance under means is a blushful sin.

3. *transf.* Blush-coloured, rosy, ruddy.

1804 *Wolcott (P. Pindar)* in *Beauties Eng. Poetry* I. 135 The berry .. hides beneath a leaf its blushful hue. 1877 *Blackie Wise Men* 66 The blushful peach.

Hence **Blushfully** adv., **Blushfulness**.

1873 *M. Collins Sgr. Silchester's* I. xii. 167 Silvia's bosom was blushfully buttoned. 1813 *Herwood Bras. Age* II. ii. Wks. 1874 III. 185 Let me in your face Reade blushfull-ness and feare.

Blushiness (blʊʃɪnəs), [f. BLUSHY + -NESS.]

The quality of being given to blushing.

1865 *S. Philip New York*, The peculiar blushiness of pretty servants when they have a message to deliver to nice gentlemen.

Blushing (blʊʃɪn), vbl. sb. [f. BLUSH v. + -ING.] The action of the vb. BLUSH.

1581 *R. Goade in Confer.* ii. (1584) Lij b, Worthy of hissing, and of blushing too. 1648 *Jenyns Blind Guide* i. 6 Even the sectaries read it with blushing. 1663 *J. Spenser Prodiges* (1665) 146 As the blushings of the Evening. 1879 *Darwin Emotions* xiii. 310 Blushing is the most peculiar, and the most human of all expressions.

Blushing, ppl. a. [f. as prec. + -ING.]

1. That blushes; modest.

1613 *R. C. Table Alph.* (ed. 3) *Bashfull*, blushing, or shamefast. 1764 *Golds. Trav.* 408 The modest matron, and the blushing maid. 1803 *Jane Porter Thaddeus* xlvii. 428 Her blushing eyes were shedding tears of delight.

2. Ruddy; roscate.

1593 *Shaks. Rich. II.* iii. iii. 63 The blushing discontented sun. 1648 *Herrick Hesper.*, To *Phyllis*, The blushing apple, bashful pear. a 1721 *Prior Garland* (R.) The dappled pink and blushing rose. 1805 *Southey Madoc in W.* xiv. Antic trees Shone with their blushing blossoms.

† 3. Causing blushes, shameful. Obs.

1605 *Bacon Ess. Friendsh.* (Arb.) 181 Things .. Gracefull in a Friends Mouth, which are Blushing in a Mans Own.

Blushingly, adv. [f. prec. + -LY.] With blushing; modestly; as if ashamed.

1598 *Florio Dict.* Ep. Ded. 3 Made me blushinglie confesse my ignorance. 1692 *Villiers (Dk. Buckhm.) Chances* Wks. (1714) 171, I must blushingly beg leave to say, etc. 1804 *Harper's Mag.* Nov. 914/2 Blushingly conscious of the admiring eyes that followed her.

Blushless (blʊʃləs), a. [f. BLUSH sb. + -LESS.]

Without a blush, unblushing; impudent, shameless.

1566 *Painter Pal. Pleas.* I. 60 With blushless face and vntained penne. 1608 *Tourneure Rev. Trag.* iii. v. So Some darken'd blushless Angle. 1635 *Quarles Embl.* i. viii. (1718) 34 But bold-fac'd mortals in our blushless times Can sing and smile, and make a sport of crimes. a 1743 *Savage Wks.* II. 123 (Jod.) Not blushless Henley less abash'd appears. 1806 *Blackie What does Hist. Teach* 31 Aristocratic Poland did this in a much more blushless way than democratic Greece.

Hence **Blushlessly** adv.

1604 *Marston Malcont.* i. 1, Contested blushlessly he loved you but for a spurt or so.

Blushy (blʊʃi), a. [f. BLUSH sb. + -Y.]

a. Blush-coloured; b. Suffused with blushes.

1606 *Bacon Sylva* § 507 Blossomes .. of Apples, Crabbs, Almonds, and Peaches, are Blushy, and Smell sweet. 1666 *G. Harvey Contemp.* (J.) A blushy colour in his face. 1748 *A. Aston Brief Suppl. Colley Cibber* 9 Black sparkling eyes, and a fresh blushy complexion. 1805 *S. Philip New York* 140 She answered .. with a very pleasant blushy smile.

Blusne, var. of *BLYSNE* v. Obs. to shine.

Bluster (blʊstə), v. Also 4-5 *blustre*, 4-6 *blustre*, 6 *blaster*. [It is very doubtful whether the obsolete ME. sense 1 has any connexion with the later word in the other senses. With the former Mätzner compares the LG. *blustern*, *blistern* 'to flutter or flap the wings in alarm like a frightened dove, etc.', which perhaps may be a parallel onomatopoeia. The 16th c. word has evident relations both in form and sense with the verbs *BLOW*, *BLAZE* v. 2, and *BLAST*: cf. especially ON. *blástr* sb. 'blast, breath, blowing, hissing' with the form *blasterand* in G. Douglas (= *BLUSTERING* ppl. a.). Prof. Skeat also compares an East Frisian *blüsteren* to bluster, from *blüsen* to blow, akin to *blasen*; and it is worthy of note that the Sc. pronunciation is (blüster). But evidence is wanting as to the actual introduction of the word about 1500.]

I. The ME. verb.

† 1. *intr.* To wander or stray (or ! to rush) blindly or aimlessly. Obs. Cf. BLUNDER v. 3.

c 1345 *E. E. Allit. P.* B. 886 Pay blustered as blynde as bayard watz euer. 1377 *Langl. P. Pl.* B. v. 521 Ac þere was wy3te non so wys þe wey þider couthe, But blustreden [1393 *blustrede*] forth as bestes ouer banks and hilles.

II. The modern verb.

2. *intr.* Of the wind: To blow boisterously or with stormy violence. Also said of water agitated by wind or flood.

1530 *Palsgr.* 459/1 This wynde blustereth a pace. 1579 *Gosson Apol. Sch. Abuse* (Arb.) 65 The wynde blustereith about the hilles yet can not remove them from their place. 1621-31 *Laud Sermon.* (1847) 207 If God provide not a fence for this light of justice against the winds of temptation that bluster about it. 1795 *Pope Odys.* xii. 342 Loud winds arise, Lash the wild surge, and bluster in the skies. 1842 *Tennyson Dream Fair Wom.* 38 When to land bluster the winds and tides the self-same way. 1863 *Baring-Gould Ice-land* 118 The winter storms began to bluster up the glen.

b. *fig.* of the storm or tempest of the passions.
1540 COVERDALE *Erasm. Par. James* 25 When the storme
of sorowes cometh blustering in. 1645 BP. HALL *Content*.
109 The . . . passions which daily bluster within us.

c. *trans.* To blow about, disarray, dishevel.
rare. † To bluster down: to blow down with
violence (*obs.*).

16. . . Seasonable *Serm.* 26 (T.) Doth the devil, by a tem-
pestuous gust, bluster down the house? 1876 G. MEREDITH
Beauch. Career II. iii. 42 A south-western autumnal gale . . .
made threads of Cecilia's shorter locks . . . blustering the curls
that streamed . . . from the silken band.

† 3. *intr.* Of persons: To blow, breathe hard.
1530 PALSGR 459/t He blustereth as though he had
laboured sore.

† b. Of a wind-instrument: To blow or blast
boisterously. *Obs.*

1590 RANDOLPH in M'Crie *Life Knox* II. 41 Six hundred
trumpets continually blustering in our ears.

† 4. *trans.* To utter with a blast, or with stormy
violence and noise. Usually with *out* or *forth*.

1535 MORE *Wks.* 374 He bloweth and blustereth out at
last his abominable blasphemy. 1548 CRANMER *Catech.* 23
These more then deuylis swerers . . . do blowe & bluster oute
of theyr vngodly mouthes such blasphemies. 1604 T. WRIGHT
Passions IV. i. 110 Foolish mouthes . . . bluster forth follies.

5. *intr.* Of persons: To storm or rage boisterously;
to talk with inflated violence; to utter loud empty
menaces or protests, to hector, play the bully.

1494-1531 [see BLUSTERING *vb.* 1. 2]. 1633 T. ADAMS
Exp. 2 Peter i. 18 There stalks pride, blustering through the
streets. 1688 VILLIERS (Dk. Buckham) *Milit. Couple* Wks.
1775 128 Sir John . . . swore and bluster'd like a hero in
one of our modern tragedies. 1690 BP. HOPKINS *Wks.*
739 (R.) When they storm and bluster at the difficulties of
salvation. 1773 JOHNSON *Lett.* 79 (1788) I. 136 Boswell blustered,
but nothing could be got. 1835 MARRVAT *Jac. Faithf.*
xxix, Monsieur Tagliabue stormed and blustered. 1866
FELTON *Anc. & Mod. Gr.* II. ix. 154 He [Cleon] could talk
and bluster on the bema.

b. *trans.* To force, or drive, by blustering.
1661 FULLER (Webster), He meant to bluster all princes
into a perfect obedience. 1753 RICHARDSON *Grandison* (1781)
I. ii. 5 We have . . . blustered away between us half a score
more of her admirers. 1867 E. YATES *Fort. Hope* xxviii, The
one point on which he could neither satisfy himself by a
feeling of pity, nor bluster himself into a fit of indignation.

Bluster (blɪstər), *sb.* [f. prec. *vb.*]

1. Boisterous blowing; a rough and stormy blast.

1583 STANYHURST *Ensign* I. (Arb.) 21 These northern bluster
approching These sayls tears tag rag. 1611 SHAKS. *Wint. T.*
III. iii. 4 The skies looke grimly, And threaten present
blusters. 1667 MILTON *P. L.* x. 665 To the Winds they set
Their corners, when with bluster to confound Sea, Aire, and
Shoar. 1748 RICHARDSON *Clarissa* (1811) II. 139 Could we
but direct the bluster, and bid it roar when . . . we pleased.

† b. *fig.* Tempest of wrath, blast of envy, etc.
1607 SHAKS. *Timon* v. iv. 41 The bluster of thy wrath.
1665 MANLEY *Grotius' Low-C. Warres* Ep. Ded., Able to
bear up against the Malevolent Blusters of Envy

c. *fig.* A noisy and stormy commotion; a
violent disturbance.

1656 H. MORE *Antid. Ath.* (1712) Pref. 11 The laying or
preventing the usual blusters of Christendom. 1773 CRADOCK
in Goldsm. *Stoops to Cong. Epil.* In town I'll fix my station
And try to make a bluster in the nation. 1876 BLACKMORE
Cripples v. (1877) 26 The footman . . . ran in a bluster of rage
and terror.

2. The boisterous blast of a wind instrument, or
any similar sound.

1724 SWIFT *Prometh.* Wks. 1755 III. II. 151 The brazen
trumpets' bluster. 1868 HAWTHORNE *Amer. Note-Bks.*
(1879) II. 156 The locomotive . . . making a great bluster.

3. Boisterous inflated talk, violent or angry self-
assertion, noisy and empty menace, swaggering.

1704 LESTRANGE (J.) A coward makes a great deal more
bluster than a man of honour. 1798 MORGAN *Algiers* I.
Pref. In spite of all the Blusters of the . . . Ignorant. 1840
CARLYLE *Heroes* v. 301 Mirabeau has much more of bluster;
a noisy, forward, unresting man. 1868 M. PATTISON *Academ.*
Org. § 1. 7 A great deal of foolish bluster was talked about
interference with private property.

4. *Comb.*, as † bluster-master, a great blusterer.
1670 HACKET *Abp. Williams* II. (1692) 99 A book pub-
lish'd by a bluster-master . . . call'd, A Coal from the Altar.

Bluster, *obs.* form of BLISTER.

Blustation, *dial.* and *collog.* [f. BLUSTER
v. + -ATION.] A blustering, bluster.

1803 R. ANDERSON *Cumbrid. Ballads* 73 He . . . talks o'
stocks and Charley Fox, And makes a blustation. 1864
WEBSTER says 'collog. U.S.'

† Blustered, *pp.* a. *Obs.* (See the *vb.*)

1668 R. BAILLIE *Lett.* I. 125 (JAM.), I read to them out of
my blustered papers that which I sent you of Arminianism.

Blusterer (blɪstərər), [f. BLUSTER v. + -ER 1.]
One who or that which blusters.

a. One who utters loud empty boasts or menaces;
a loud or violent inflated talker, a braggart.

1597 SHAKS. *Lover's Compl.* 58 A reverend man . . . Sometime
a blusterer, that the ruffe knew of court, of city. 1624
CATAKER *Transubst.* 68 You see what substantial proofs
this great Blusterer hath brought. 1722 STEELE *Spect.* No.
484 ¶ 5 We live in an age wherein a few empty blusterers
carry away the praise of speaking. 1833 LAMB *Elin* (1860)
401 Milton has made him at once a blusterer, a giant, and
a dastard. 1836 FRASER'S *Mag.* XIII. 195 A mixture of the
blusterer and the sneak.

b. A blustering wind.

1877 BRYANT *Among Trees* 18 When he, The exhausted
Blusterer, flies beyond the hills?

Blustering, *vb.* 1. [f. as prec. + -ING 1.]

1. Boisterous blowing of the wind; tempest.

1530 PALSGR 199/t Blustering of wyndes, behovrdit. 1577
tr. *Bullinger's Decades* (1592) 414 Then suddenly came a
whirlwind with a wonderful storme and blustering.

2. *fig.* Of a person: Raging, storming; violent
or turbulent speech; noisy and windy talk; loud
swaggering insolence.

1494 HYLTON *Scala Perfr.* (ed. W. de W.) II. xlv, The
soule dredeth no more the blusteringe of the fende, than
be styringe of a mows. 1562 COOPER *Annu. Def. Truth*
1850 Quietly and calmly, without storming or tempestuous
blustering at you. 1608 EARLE *Microcosm.* lxiii. 135 His
labour is meer blustering and fury. 1631 R. H. ARNAULD,
Whole Creat. xviii. 326 These tossings, tumbings, bluster-
ings, bickerings . . . of the unruly passions. 1711 ADDISON
Spect. No. 40 ¶ 5 Their Swelling and Blustering upon the
Stage. 1837 CARLYLE *Fr. Rev.* I. i. vi. v. 184 That thick
mirk of Journalism, with its dull blustering.

† Blustering, *vb.* 2. *Obs.*

1400-1560 *Test. Love* I. (1560) 273 b, Truly in the bluster-
ing of her look she yave gladnesse and comfort suddenly
to all my wits.

Blustering, *pp.* a. [f. as prec. + -ING 2.]

1. Blowing boisterously; stormy, tempestuous.

1513 DOUGLAS *Ensign* I. iii. 15 Ane blusterand [ed. 1553
blasterand] bub, out fra the north braying. 1599 SPENSER
Sheph. Cal. Dec. 132 His blustering blast eche coste doth
scoure. 1633 G. HERBERT *Temple* 90 While blustering windes
destroy the wanton bowres. 1747 HERVEY *Medit. & Con-
templ.* (1818) 134 If the . . . flowers should presume to come
abroad in the blustering months. 1876 BLACK *Green Past.*
xviii. 143 These moist and blustering November days.

2. *fig.* Tempestuous, stormy; turbulent.

1897 BRYSKETT *Mourn. Muse* *Thyristis* 78 Whose blustering
sighs at first their sorrow did declare. 1633 BR. HALL
Hard Texts 503 The blustering and unsteady state of all
these earthly Kingdoms. 1656 — *Rem. Wks.* (1660) 149
Gods Spirit leads not in a blustering and hurrying violence.

3. Violent in speech and demeanour; loud-talk-
ing, self-assertive, hectoring, boastful, swaggering.
1654 WHARTON *Rothmann's Chiron.* Ded. 2 The Blustering
noise of an Empty Title. 1770 JUNIUS *Lett.* xxviii. 187
Such . . . were the blustering promises. 1884 *Sat. Rev.* 14 June
766/2 A turbulent and blustering diplomatist.

Blusteringly, *adv.* [f. prec. + -LY 2.] In a
blustering manner.

1554 HULOET, Blowe vehementlye or blusteringelye. a 1714
M. HENRY *Wks.* (1835) I. 145 To do it blusteringly. 1835
FRASER'S *Mag.* XII. 269 Silently, not blusteringly and
boisterously, or with threats.

Blustereous (blɪstəreəs), *a.* Also 6 blustereus,
blustereous, 7 blustereus. [f. BLUSTER *sb.* + -OUS.]

1. Boisterous, rough, stormy.

1548 UDALL, etc. *Erasm. Par. Luke* vi. 48 (R.) Agaynste
any blustereous storme or tempeste. 1608 SHAKS. *Per.* III. i. 28
Mild may be thy life! For a more blustereous birth had never
babe. 1841 MARRVAT *Poacher* i, A blustereous windy night.

2. *fig.* Violent, truculent; given to blustering.
1663 BUTLER *Hud.* I. III. 880 Benigne, and not blustereous
Against a vanquishd Foe. 1866 *Sat. Rev.* 21 Apr. 473 His
rude and blustereous wrath. 1877 MOTLEY *Barnveld* II.
xvii. 324 A certain blustereous gentleman.

Hence **Blustereously**, *adv.*

1548 UDALL, etc. *Erasm. Par. Luke* xxiv. 37 If lyke perill
had blustereously come upon them. 1576 NEWTON tr. *Lem-
nie's Complex.* (1633) 149 Northerne blasts (which some-
time blustereously blow in the Summer season).

Blustery (blɪstəri), *a.* Also blustry. [f.
BLUSTER *sb.* + -Y 1.]

1. Boisterously blowing.

1804 JACO *Beauties Eng. Poetry* I. 120 The blustry tempest
and the chilling snow. 1874 ALDRICH *Prud. Palf.* xvii, It
was a blustry, frosty morning.

2. *fig.* Stormy, noisily self-assertive, swaggering.
1850 CARLYLE *Lett. day* P. v. 41. 1858 — *Fredk. Gl.* III.
xii. I. 211 He seems to have been of a headlong, blustry,
uncertain disposition. *Ibid.* xii. x. IV. 236 The once very
haughty, blustry, and now much humiliated man.

† **Bluter**, *a. Obs.* 'Dirty' (Halliwell).

1554 Rob. Hood (Ritson) I. iii. 171 That we two can be
dug with any bluter base beggar. That has nought but a
rune. [cf. 1724 RAMSAY *Ten-i. Misc.* (1733) I. 89 And there
will be I am the bluter With Andrew the Tinkler, I trow.]

Bluther (blɪðər), *v.* *Sc.* and *north. dial.*

Also bluther, bludder. [An onomatopoeic word,
of similar formation to BLUBBER, with which it
is often synonymous, though perhaps expressing
more specifically the sound of air and liquid in the
mouth, nose, and throat: cf. also BLETHER, and
esp. its form bluther in Skelton. Wedgwood com-
pares, as of similar formation, LG. *plodern* to
sound like water gushing, Bavarian *pludern* to
guggle like water gushing out of a narrow open-
ing (cf. MHG. *blödern* to rush, rustle); also mod.
Ger. *plaudern*, Bav. *blodern*, *plodern*, LG. *plüdern*
to gabble, jabber, chatter. See also bluther as a
variant of BLUBBER (of the whale).]

1. *intr.* 'To raise wind-bells in water', Jamieson.
(rather the bubbling sound made in doing so.)

2. *intr.* To cry with a voice smothered with
tears and sobs; to blubber. *To bluther out* (*trans.*):
to weep out.

1697 W. CLELAND *Poems* 35 (JAM.) Heraclitus, if he had
seen, He would have bluther'd out his een.

3. *trans.* To make wet, mucous, and foul with
weeping, etc.

1637 RUTHERFORD *Lett.* cv. (1862) I. 267 Christ . . . hath
wiped a bluthered face which was foul with weeping. 1768
ROSS *Helene* 28 (JAM.) His een . . . bluddered now with styries
of tears and sweat. 1790 A. SHIRREY *Poems* 42 (JAM.) And
drunken chapins bluther a' his face.

4. To blur and disfigure (writing, etc.) with
wetting (Jamieson); also *fig.*

1797 P. WALKER *Remark. Passages* 57 (JAM.) That his
faithful contending for . . . reformation, should be blotted and
bluthered with these right-hand extremes, and left-hand
defections.

Hence **Bluthered** *pp.* a. (see above), **Bluthere-**
ment *dial.* (in *Whitby Gloss.*).

† **Blutter**, *v. Obs.* [Of onomatopoeic origin,
with association of *blurt* and other *bl-* words;
and perh. of *utter*, *mutter*, etc. Cf. also *blatter*,
splutter, *sputter*.]

trans. To give hasty utterance to, to blurt out.

1680 BAXTER *Cath. Commun.* (1684) 12 If the Minister
should blutter out any Errour or Undecency. 1705 HUCKER-
INGILL *Priest-cr.* IV. (1721) 227 Let not thine Heart . . . blutter
any thing before God.

Blw-, see BLU-, BLOO-.

† **Bly**, *Obs. exc. dial.* Also 7 blye. [Still
common in eastern and S.E. dial.: perh. a variant
of *blee*; though the phonetic relation is not clear.]
'Likeness, resemblance' (Halliwell), look, aspect,
species, character.

1615 W. HULL *Mirr. Maiestie* 81 The indignities which
the tumultuous Iewes wrought against our Lord were of
this blye. 1847-76 in HALLIWELL (as *Eastern*) 1875 PAR-
RISH *Sussex Dial.* 19, I see a bly of your father about you.

Bly- in numerous words; see BLI-.

Blykstar: see BLEYKSTER.

† **Blym**, *v. Obs.* Also blyym. [prob. error for
blyyin = *blypin*: see BLITHE v.] To gladden.

c 1440 *Prompt. Parv.* 40 Blym, or gladdre, or make glad
[K. blyym or glathyn in herte, 1499 blithen or gladen].

Blype, *Sc.* [Of unknown etymology: cf.
FLYPE.] A pellicle, shred.

1787 BURNS *Halloween* xxiii, Till skin in blypes cam
haurin' Aff's nieves that night.

† **Blysne**, *v. Obs.* Also 4 blysane. [ME.
blysn-en, an inceptive deriv. of verb-stem *blys-* to
shine; see BLUSH.] *intr.* To shine, to gleam.

c 1325 E. E. *Allit. P.* A. 163 Blysnande whyt watz hyr
bleaunt. *Ibid.* 1047 Purz hym blysned þe borz al bryzt.
Ibid. B. 1404 Brode baneres þer-bi blysnande of gold.

Blyve, var. of BELIVE *adv.* and *v.*

† **Bo**, *a. (pron.) Obs.* Forms: *Nom.* and *Acc.*

masc. 1 bezen, 2-3 *Orm.* be3zen, 3 beien,
beien(e), beine, bele, beye, 4 baye, bayne,
beyne; *fem.* in ME. common and neuter, 1 bá,
2-3 ba, 3 boe, 3-4 bo, 5 boo; neuter, 1 bu;
Genitive. 1 be3(r)a, 2 beira, 2-4 beire, 3 beyre,
4 bayer; *Dative*. 1 bām, bām, 3 ba. [OE.
begen, *ba*, *bu*, answer to Goth. *nom. masc. ba*,
neut. *ba*, acc. *masc. bans*, dat. *baim*, the stem being
a Gothic *ba-*, OTeut. *bo-*, which occurs also with
a prefixed element in Skr. *u-bha-*, Gr. *ἀμ-φο-*, L.
am-bo-, OSlav. *o-bo-*, both. In the other Teutonic
langs. (exc. for the ON. gen. pl. *beggyr*) this simple
form is replaced by one with a suffixal extension:
see BORN.] The earlier word for BORN.

a. as simple adjective.

c 1200 Sax. *Leachd.* II. 258 Micel sar on bam sidum.
c 1205 LAY. 9804 A ba [c 1275 boþe] halue. c 1275 *Ibid.* 22588
His sonas beine. a 1290 *Owl & Night.* 990 þat ut berste
bo þin(e) ege. a 1330 Syr *Degeart* 2 Maken him lesen hise
stiroþes bayne.

b. in concord or apposition with a pronoun.

c 1000 Ags. *Gosp.* Matt. xv. 14 Hig feallað bezen on ænne
pytt. c 1275 *Lamb. Hom.* 103 Hi ba habbeð unafillendliche
greddinesse. c 1200 ORMIN 15091 þatt Hallþhe Frofre Gast
þatt cumeþ off hemm be3zen. c 1205 LAY. 14811 Hali men
heo weoren beien [c 1275 beiene]. 1297 R. GLOUC. 284 Seyn
Edward and Aeldred, þat kynges were beye. a 1300 *Floris
& Bl.* 730 3e schulle deie togadere bo. c 1325 *Chron. Eng.*
348 in Ritson *Met. Rom.* II. 284 Hy were beyne yfond.
c 1330 *Art. & Merl.* 1529 Ther thai gun to rest baye.
c 1377 TREVISA *Higden* (1865) I. 419 There were Merlyns
tweyne And prophced alle beyne. 1450 MYRC 3 In to þe
dyche þey fallen bo.

c. gen. pl. *oure*, *pure*, *here beyre*: of us, you,
them both. Cf. *sure calra, oure aller*, etc. in ALL D4.

c 1275 *Lamb. Hom.* 99 þe feder, and his sunne and heore
beira gast. a 1290 *Owl & Night.* 1582 On thare beire nede.
c 1300 *Beket* 2455 Bi here beire rede. 1393 LANGL. *P. Pl.*
C. xxi. 36 And deme here beyer ryght.

d. *absol.*

a 1000 *Elene* 889 (Gr.) Gadur bu samod lic and sawl. c 1205
LAY. 281 þat boe sculde fallen: fader & his moder. *Ibid.*
17952 þu scalt beien [c 1275 beiene] slæ þer Passent and Gillo-
mar. a 1225 *Ancr. R.* 60 Bo beod heaued sunne. c 1230
Hali Meid. 7 Godes brude & his free dohter, for ba to
gederes ha is.

e. Frequently strengthened by the addition of
two: OE. *bā twā*, *butu*, ME. *bo two*, of all genders.
[Cf. It. *ambidue*.]

a 1000 *Cædmon's Gen.* 765 (Gr.) Soredon bā twā, Adam
and Eue. a 1200 O. E. *Chron.* an. 871 (Laud MS.) Æðered
and Ælfred his broðor . . . hi butu geþymdon. c 1205 LAY.
2399 Mid childe heo woren bā twā [c 1275 boþe two]. a 1225
Ancr. R. 212 Heo sleaþ adun bo twa heore earen.

† **Bo**, *conj. Obs.* In 1-3 ba. [The neuter

or common form of prec. used with *and*. The transition to the conjunctive use is seen in Bo a. d. quots. 1000 and 1205, and in 1225 here. See BOTH.] The earlier word for BOTH.

a 1225 *Ancr. R.* 22 Siggeð Pater Noster & Ave Maria, bo biuoren & efter. a 1225 *Leg. Kath.* 50 Poure ba & riche comen ber. a 1240 *Saules Warde in Lamb. Hom.* 247 Ba wið eie ant wið luue. c 1300 in Wright *Lyric P.* xviii. 58 Thin werkes bueth bo suete ant gode.

Bo, boh (bōu), *int.* Also 6-7 boe, 7 bough. [A combination of consonant and vowel especially fitted to produce a loud and startling sound: cf. L. *bo-are*, Gr. *boá-eu* to cry aloud, roar, shout.] An exclamation intended to surprise or frighten.

c 1230 *Lydg. Smyth & Dame* 407 in Hazl. E. P. P. III. 216 Speake now. And say ones, bo. 1275 *CHURCHYARD Chippes* (1817) 153 Beyond the reach of common peoples boe. 1275 *R. Wild Poet. Licent.* 26 The Pope's Raw-head-and-bloody-bones cry Boh Behind the door! 1289 *Scott Demol.* vi. 178 We start and are afraid when we hear one cry Boh! 1295 *Browning Holy-Cr. Day*, Boh, here's Barnabas!

b. Proverbial phr. To say or cry 'bo' to a goose, (also occas.) a battledore: to open one's mouth, speak.

1288 *Marfrel. Ep.* (Arb.) 43 He is not able to say bo to a goose. 1291 *Br. Mountagu Diatribe* 118 The clergy of this time were... not able to say bo to a battledore. 1294 — *Gagg To Rdr.* 8, I could say... not so much as bough to a goose. 1748 *SMOLLETT Rod. Rand.* liv, I could not say Bo to a goose. 1264 *MISS YONGE Cless Kalevii.* 125 Dear me, Mary, can't you say bo to a goose! 1266 *BLACKMORE Cradock N.* xxx. (1883) 166 Bob could never say 'bo' to a gosling of the feminine gender.

† **Bo, v. Obs. rare.** [f. prec.] *intr.* To cry 'bo'; hence, to shout (at, against, on).
c 1295 *DUNBAR Tua Mariit Wem.* 276 Weil couth I... with a bukky in my cheik bo on him behind.

Boa (bōā). Also 5 boua, 5-6 boas, 6 boath. Pl. boas (occas. in Lat. form boas). [a. L. *boa* (Pliny *N.H.* viii. xiv), of unknown origin: Pliny and St. Jerome derived it from *bos* an ox, for different reasons.]

1. *Zool.* A genus of serpents native to the tropical parts of S. America, distinguished for their large size and immense muscular strength. They are destitute of poison fangs, and kill their prey by constriction or compression. Popularly the name is extended to all the large serpents of similar habits, including the Pythons of the Old World.

1268 *TREvisa Barth. De P. R.* xviii. ix. (1495) 759 Enidris that is a water adder... many men call it Boua, for the dyrt of an oxe is remedy therfore. *Ibid.* 761 Boas... hath that name Boas of Bos: an oxe... and settyth hymselfe gylefully to the vdders of the beestys that ben full of mylke and suckyth and sleeth them. 1263 *COCKERAM III.* *Boa*, a Serpent of that bignesse, that being found dead, there was a childe found whole in his belly. 1264 *Phil. Trans.* XCIV. 71, I was shown... in the Hunterian Museum, two colubers, and three boas. 1265 *MOORE Lalla R. Veiled Proph.* iii, Not the gaunt lion's hug, nor bo's clasp. 1266 *Penny Cyc.* v. 209 The Boas have a spur on each side of the vent. 1266 *Gosse Rom. Nat. Hist.* 123 The American species belonging to the genus *Boa*, and those of Africa and Asia to *Python*. *fig.* 1268 *W. Irving Braceb. Hall* (1849) 93 It was the lion of trees perishing in the embraces of a vegetable boa.

† 2. *Her.* The representation of a serpent used as a device or portion of a 'charge'. *Obs.*

1272 *BOSSEWELL Armorie* II. 63 P. beareth, Gold, a Boath, Sable, betwene two barres Gemewes Azure. 'Boas' is a Snake in Italie, great of bodye.

3. A snake-like coil of fur worn by ladies as a wrapper for the throat.

1266 *DICKENS Sk. Bos* (1850) 225/1 Ladies' boas, from one shilling and a penny half-penny. 1237 *HAWTHORNE Twice-told T.* (1851) II. xii. 190 Red cheeks set off by quilted hoods, boas, and sable capes. 1270 *YEATS Nat. Hist. Comm.* 276 The tail is used in the manufacture of boas.

4. *Comb.*, as *boa-form a.*, of the shape of a boa. 1249 *MRS. SOMERVILLE Phys. Geog.* (1862) 459 Known species of serpents... Fresh-water 33, Boaform 15.

Hence *Boa'd ppl. a.*, provided with, or wearing a lady's boa.

1231 *Blackw. Mag.* XXX. 967 Furred, muffed, and boa'd, Mrs. Gentle adventures abroad.

Boa-constrictor (bōā kōnstriktōr). [f. *BOA* + *L. constrictor*, one who squeezes or draws together.]

1. The specific name of a large Brazilian serpent of the genus *Boa*, of which it was supposed by Linnaeus to be the largest species; though this is not the case, the name (partly no doubt from its meaning) has taken hold of the popular fancy as that of the largest and most terrible of the serpents, and is commonly applied to any great crushing snake, whether a *Boa* or *Python*.

12788 *LINNAEUS Syst. Nat.* I. iii. 1083 *Boa*, (B) constrictor, *rex serpentum*. 12809 *GEN. P. THOMPSON Let. fr. Sierra Leone* 26 Jan., The *Boa Constrictor* is described by the Natives and our Colonists with evident marks of the magnifying power of fear. 12811 *L. SIMOND Tour & Resid. Gt. Brit.* (1817) II. 252 The *Boa Constrictor* is a gigantic Snake. 12836 *Penny Cyc.* v. 271 The name of *Anaconda*, like that of *Boa Constrictor*, has been popularly applied to all the larger and more powerful snakes. 12872 *BAKER Nile Tribut.* x. 161 We came upon a fine *boa-constrictor* (python).

2. *fig.* 12866 *DISRAELI Viv. Grey* iv. i. 138 [His letters] are...

perfect epistolary *Boa Constrictors*. I myself have suffered under their voluminous windings. 12848 *H. ROGERS Ess.* (1874) I. vi. 320 He feels himself within the coils of a great logical *boa-constrictor*.

Hence *Boa-constrictorish*, *-constrictorlike a.* 12835 *CLOUGH Poems & Prose Rem.* (1869) I. 58 All the physic which has lengthened the doctor's bill to a most *boa-constrictor-like* size. 12881 *Blackw. Mag.* July 123 Many a *boa-constrictorish* adventurer... virtually himself for many days to come.

Boad, obs. f. *BODE v.*, and pa. t. of *BIDE*.

Boak, obs. and dial. f. *BOLK*, *BOKE*, *BULK*.

Boal(e), obs. form of *BOLE* and *BOWL*.

Boaling, variant of *BOLING*. *Obs.*

Boan, **boand**, obs. ff. *BONE*, *BONED*.

1292 *NASHE P. Penitence* (1842) 69 To dig a pit... right in the way where this big boand gentleman should passe.

|| **Boanerges** (bōānērgēz), *proper name*. Also 4 **Boenargēs**, **Boonergēs**, 6 **Bonargēs**. [a. Gr. *Boanergēs* (*Mark* iii. 17), probably representing Heb. בְּנֵי רָעַשׁ *b'nēy regesh* (or its Aramaic equivalent), explained as 'sons of thunder'.] The name given by Christ to the two sons of Zebedee. Hence, often as a sing. (pl. *-es*, *-esses*), a loud vociferous preacher or orator.

1282 *WYCLIF Mark* iii. 17 He putte to hem names Boonerges [1288 *Boenargēs*, COVERD. *Bonargēs*, 1211 *Boanergēs*]. a 1267 *HIERON Wks.* II. 465 The crying out of some Boanerges, some sonne of thunder. 1260 *B. Discolliminius* 26 So wise... as to chuse no more Boanerges, but such as are right and true *Helias*. 1267 *H. MORE Div. Dial.* v. v. (1713) 416 Thunderstruck by the powerful Boanergesses of the Gospel under the last Vial. 1260 — *Apocal. Apoc.* 1265 *R. S. HAWKER Cornish Ballads* 28 Loud laughed the listening surges... You might call them Boanerges From the thunder of their wave.

comb. 1281 *MORLEY Cobden* II. 371 The politicians who most disliked what one of them called Boanerges-Liberalism.

Hence **Boanergism**, † **Boanergy** [see *-ISM*, *-Y*], loud oratory, vociferous denunciation.

1261 *SALA in Temple Bar* III. 25 He turned away from cant, and howling Boanergism. 1278 *Saints* 18 Boanergy on Mobs to make Impression.

Boanthropy (bōāntrōpi). [f. Gr. *βοάνθρωπος* (f. *βοῦς* ox + *ἄνθρωπος* man) + *-Y* 3; cf. *misanthropy*.] A form of madness in which a man believes himself to be an ox (see *Daniel* iv. 33).

1264 *PUSEY Lect. Daniel* vii. 427 The exact form of the disease, which would be Boanthropy, I have not found any notice of. 1266 *Athenaeum* No. 2004. 393/2 The traditions of kunanthropy and boanthropy.

Boar (bōā). Forms: 1-3 *bār*, 3-7 *bor*, 4-7 *boor*, *boore*, *bore*, 5-7 *boare*, 7- *boar*. Also 3 *Lay. bær*, *ber*; *north.* 4 *bar*, 4-6 *bare*, 6 *baire*, *bayre*. [Known only in W. Ger.: OE. *bār* = OS. *bēr* (-*swin*), MDu. and Du. *beer*; OHG., MHG. *bēr*, mod. G. *bär*, on OTeut. type **bairo-z*. Ulterior etymology unknown; cf. Russ. *borovū* Boar.]

1. The male of the swine, whether wild or tame (but uncastrated).

c 1000 *ÆLFRIC Gram.* viii. 27 *Aper*, bar. a 1223 *O. E. Chron.* an. 1086 He forbead þa heortas swylce eac þa baras. a 1200 *Havelok* 1989 Was neuere bor þat so faut so he fault þanne. c 1235 *E. E. Allit. P.* B. 55 For my boles & my bores an bayted & slayne. 1277 *LANGL P. Pl.* B. xv. 294 Nothber bere, ne bor ne other best wilde. 1298 *TREvisa Barth. De P. R.* xviii. lxxxvii. (1495) 836 The wyld male swyne ben callyd Boores. 1213 *DOUGLAS Æneis* xiii. iii. 21 As quhen that the fomy bayr hes bet With his thunderand awfull tuskis gret. 1253 *FITZHERB. Husb.* § 221 Let them be bores and sowes all, and no hogges. 1267 *SHAKS. Timon* v. i. 168 Who like a Bore too sauge, doth root vp His Countries peace. 1267 *DRYDEN Virg. Georg.* iii. 625 The bristled Rage Of Boars. 1260 *W. IRVING Sketch-Bk.* II. 114 The old ceremony of serving up the boar's head on Christmas day.

b. The flesh of the animal. c 1260 *J. RUSSELL Bk. Nurture* 489 in *Babes Bk.* (1868) 147 Venesoun bake, of boor or outhur venure. 1278 *MORLEY Diderot* II. 9 Savoury morsels of venison or boar.

c. *spec.* **Wild Boar**: usual name of the wild species (*Sus Scrofa*) found in the forests of Europe, Asia, and Africa.

c 1205 *LAY.* 16094 þat beoð a wilde bar [c 1275 *bor*]. a 1225 *Ancr. R.* 280 þe wilde bor ne mei nout buwen him. c 1400 *Destr. Troy* 6523 As wode as a wild bore. 1295 *DUNCAN Append. Etymol.* (E. D. S.) *Verres. porcus non castratus*, a baire; *aper*, a wilde baire. 12671 *MILTON Samson* 1138 Bristles... that ridge the back Of chaf'd wild boars. 1263 *LYELL Antiq. Man* 23 The tame pig... had replaced the wild boar as a common article of food.

d. *fig.* (or *heraldically*) applied to persons.

1297 *R. GLOUC.* 133 Cornewalles bor... þat was Kyng Arthur. 1294 *SHAKS. Rich. III.* iv. v. 2 In the styte of the most deadly Bore, My Sonne George Stanley is frankt vp in hold. 1264 *Proc. in Parl.* No. 122 The Wild Boare of Antichristianity.

2. *Comb.*, as *boar-dog*, *-hound*, *-hunt*, *-hunting*, *-pig*, *-skin*; † *boar-cat*, a male cat, a tom-cat; *boar's-ears* (a corruption of *bear's ears*), a plant = *AURICULA* 3; *boar's-foot*, a plant, *Helleborus viridis* (cf. *bear's-foot*); † *boar-frank* (see *quot.*); *boar-seg* (*dial.*) = *boar-stag*; *boar-spear*, a spear used in boar-hunting; † *boar-staff* (= *boar-spear*); *boar-stag* (*dial.*), a castrated boar; *boar-thistle*, (?) a corruption of *bur thistle*, com-

mon name of *Carduus lanceolatus*, the Spear Thistle, also of *C. arvensis*.

12607 *TORSSELL Four-f. Beasts* 87 The males will kill the young ones, if they come at them like as the *Bore cats. 12797 *BRYDGES Homer Travestie* II. 293 Scratch and bite and tear and kick Like two *boar-cats hung 'cross a stick. 12792 *OSBALDISTONE Brit. Sportsm.* 431 All dogs whatsoever, even from the terrible *Boar-dog to the little *Flora*, are all one in the first creation. 12880 *HARTING Ext. Brit. Anim.* 1. 96 In olden times the enclosure in which the Boars used to be fattened was termed a *'Boar-frank.' 1284 *LADY BRASSEY in Gd. Words* May 316/1 Close-by her was an enormous *boarhound. 1243 *MRS. H. GRAY Tour Sepul. Etruria* iv. 193 There are friezes representing *boar-hunts. 12768 *HAMILTON in Phil. Trans.* LIX. 20 His Sicilian Majesty takes the diversion of *boar-hunting. 1297 *SHAKS. 2 Hen. IV.* ii. iv. 250 Thou whorson little tydie Bartholmew *Bore-pigge. 12747 *Scheme Equiv. Men of War* 36 A strong, fat, well-grown *Boar Pig. 12686 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 2114/4 A large black *Boar Skin, lined with new Canvas. 12465 *MARG. PASTON Lett.* 503 II. 129 Imprimis, a peyr briggyandrys, a salet, a *boresper. 12600 *HOLLAND Liuy* xxv. ix. 552 k, Nicomenes thrust him through with his borespear (*venabulo*). 1216 *SCOTT Antiq.* xviii. 123 Snatching his boarspear from the wall... Martin Waldeck set forth. 1279 *NORTH Plutarch* 400 Perswading them to use the pyke and shielde, in steade of their litle target, speare, or *boresstaffe. 1274 *Let. in Phil. Trans.* XXIX. 64 A Thistle call'd the *Boar-Thistle; very short and prickly.

† **Boar, v. Obs.** [f. prec. sb.] Of swine: To copulate, to be in heat. *trans.* and *intr.*

1258 *PAYNELL Salerne Regim.* G ij, Hogges... that hath nat boored a sowe. 12607 *TORSSELL Four-f. Beasts* 139 In years that will prove moist, they will ever be boring. *Ibid.* 519 We in English call it 'Boaring'.

Boar, obs. f. *BORE*, *BOOR*.

Board (bōārd), *sb.* Forms: 1-7 *bord*, (4-6 *borde*), 4-7 *board*, (5-6 *boorde*, *beurde*, 6-7 *bourd*, 6 *board*), 6- *board*; *north.* 4-8 *burd*, 4-7 *burde*, 4 *Sc. buird*, 6- *Sc. brod*; cf. *BRED*. [A word or agglomeration of words of complicated history, representing two originally distinct sbs., already blended in OE., and subsequently reinforced in ME. by French uses of one of them, and possibly by Scandinavian uses of one or both. (1) OE. had *bord*¹ neut. 'board, plank, shield, table', a Common Teut. str. neut. sb., = OFris. and OS. *bord* (MDu. *bort* -*de*, Du. *boord* 'board', *bord* 'shelf, plate, trencher'), MHG. and mod. G. *bort* 'board', Goth. *baurd* in *fofubaurd* 'foot-stool', ON. *borð* 'board, plank, table, maintenance at table' (Sw. and Da. *bord* table) :- OTeut. **bord-o(m)*, repr. an Aryan **bhr̥dham*, Skr. **bṛdham*: see *BRED sb.* (2) OE. had *bord*² 'border, rim, side, ship's side', esp. in phrases *innan, utan border*, also a Common Teut. sb., orig. str. masc. but often also (by confusion with *bord*¹) neuter: cf. OS. *bord* masc. († neut.), MDu. *bort*, *boort* -*de*, Du. *boord* masc., 'border, edge, ship's side', OHG., MHG. *bort* masc., mod. G. *bord* masc. (and neut.) 'margin, border, ship-board', ON. *borð* neut. 'margin, shore, ship-board' (Sw., Da. *bord* 'ship-board') :- OTeut. **bord-oz* side, border, rim. (3) Relationship between these two words is uncertain: Franck suggests that *bord*² is a ppl. form from vbl. root *ber-* to raise, representing an Aryan **bhr̥tós* 'raised, made projecting'. But the two were associated and confused at an early date: in most of the Teutonic langs., some of the senses of the masc. word, in ON. and perh. in OE. all of them, have gone over to the neuter. It is certain that the sense 'side or board of a ship' belongs to *bord*²; so prob. did that of 'shield', the original sense being 'rim, limb, or border of the shield'; the sense 'table' is doubtful. (4) The WGer. *bord*² masc. 'border, edge, coast, side, ship's side' was adopted in Romanic, giving med. L. *bordus*, It., Sp., Pg. *bordo*, F. *bord*. In the ME. period, and subsequently, the French use of the word has in return greatly influenced the Eng., so that certain modern uses and phrases of *board* are really from French. It is also possible that the development in ME. was in some points (see branch II.) due to Scandinavian uses.]

I. A board of wood or other substance. [OE. *bord*¹ :- OTeut. *bordo(m)*.]

1. A piece of timber sawn thin, and having considerable extent of surface; usually a rectangular piece of much greater length than breadth; a thin plank. Rarely used without the article, as in *made of board*, i. e. of thin wood.

Technically, *board* is distinguished from *plank* by its thinness: it ought to be more than 4 inches in width, and not more than 2½ in thickness, but is generally much thinner. c 1000 *ÆLFRIC Gen.* vi. 14 *Wirc ðe nu ænne arc of aheavenum bordum.* c 1200 *K. Alls.* 6415 Al so hit were an oken bord. 1275 *BARBOUR Bruce* iv. 126 Fyre all cleir Soyn throu the thik bord can apides. 1293 *LANGL P. Pl.* C. xii. 239 He shop þe ship of sheldes and of bordes. c 1440 *York Myst.* viii. 97 To hewe þis burde I wyl begynne. 1235 *COVERDALE Zeph.* ii. 14 Bordes of Cedre. 1296 *SHAKS. Merch. V.* i. iii. 32 Ships are but boards. 1211 *BIBLE Acts*

xxvii. 44 Some on boards, and some on broken pieces of the ship. 1661 S. PARTRIDGE *Double Scale Proport.* 36 A plain Superficies, as a Board or Plank. 1716-8 LADY M. W. MONTAGUE *Lett.* I. xxxviii. 149 Covered . . with boards to keep out the rain. 1798 SOUTHEY *Ballads, Cross Roads* 25 They carried her upon a board in the clothes in which she died. 1806 J. WILSON *Noct. Ambr.* Wks. 1855 I. 122 The cheeks never move, nae mair than gin they were broda. 1881 *Mechanic* 50. § 146 Floor boards are, or ought to be, an inch in thickness. Boards are generally distinguished as 'half-inch board', 'three-quarter board', etc.

b. A flat slab of wood fitted for various purposes, indicated either contextually, or by some word prefixed, as *ironing-board*, *knife-board*, etc., the *backing*, *burnishing*, *cutting*, *gilding boards*, used by bookbinders, etc., the *bare boards* (of a floor). So BACK-BOARD, etc.

1554 HULOET, Bourde or shelf whervpon pottes are sette. 1837 G. KENNEDY *Anna Ross* 144 Lying on a board to keep her figure straight. 1845 ELIZA ACTON *Mod. Cookery* xvi. (1852) 336 Dust a little flour over the board and pastroller. 1864 TENNYSON *Grandmoth.* 70 Pattering over the boards, she comes and goes at her will. 1866 HOLME *Læx Silver Age* 128 Laces fresh from the ironing-board.

c. *spec.* in *pl.* The stage of a theatre; hence in various phrases. Cf. STAGE.

a 1779 GARRICK in Boswell *Johnson* (1848) 490/x The most vulgar ruffian that ever went upon boards. 1815 *Scribblemania* 120 To gain a footing upon the theatrical boards. 1838 DICKENS *Mem. Grimaldi* 1, He was brought out by his father on the boards of Old Drury. 1883 *Fortn. Rev.* 470 One of the most honest actors that ever trod the boards.

2. A tablet or extended surface of wood, whether formed of a single wide board, or of several united at the edges.

Used e.g. for educational purposes (*black board*), for stretching paper on in drawing, for moulding, for modelling, for kneading or making pastry on (*bake-board*, *paste-board*), for arithmetical calculations (see ABACUS), for reflecting or reinforcing sound (*sounding-board*), for standing on (*foot-board*), for springing or diving from (*spring-board*, *diving-board*), for temporarily closing an aperture, chimney-place, window, etc., etc. Also extended to tablets of other material, e.g. papier-mâché, similarly used.

d. *esp.* (= *notice-board*.) A tablet upon which public notices and intimations are written, or to which they are affixed.

To keep one's name on the boards: to remain a member of a college (at Cambridge).

c 1340 *Cursor M.* 1664 Abovyn his hed . . a borde was made fast There-on was the tittle wretyn. c 1400 *Ywaine & Gaw.* 186 A burde hung us biforn . . nowther of yren, ne of tre. 1566 KNOX *Hist. Ref.* Wks. 1846 I. 227 Compelled to kyss a paynted brod (which they called 'Nostre Dame'). 1666 BACON *Sylva* § 145 The strings of a Lute . . do give a far greater Sound, by reason of the Knot and Board, and Concaue underneath. 1692 WASHINGTON tr. *Milton's Def. Pop.* vii. Wks. (1851) 179 Go on, why do you take away the Board (*abacum*)? Do you not understand Progression in Arithmetick? 1847 TENNYSON *Princ.* II. 60 Which [statutes] hastily subscribed, We enter'd on the boards. 1870 F. WILSON *Ch. Lindisf.* 100 On a board amidst the fir . . is a second notification. 1883 *Daily Tel.* 15 May 2/7 This hit [at cricket] caused three figures to appear on the board. 1885 *Free Ch. Coll. Calendar* 21 The matriculation takes place in the Senate Hall at times indicated on the Board at the gate.

e. *spec.* The tablet or frame on which some games are played, as *chess-board*, *draught-board*, *bagatelle-board*, *backgammon-board*; the frame used for scoring at cribbage. Often fig.

1474 CAXTON *Chesse* 6 The manner of the table, of the chesse borde. 1647 WARD *Simp. Cobler* 67 They will play away King, Queen, Pawns, and all, before they will turn up the board. a 1674 CLARENDON *Hist. Reb.* (1704) III. xv. 497 There is scarce any thing but pawns left upon the board. 1844 MISS MITFORD *Village Ser.* I. (1863) 217 I cannot help suspecting that, board for board, we cribbage-players are as well amused as they [chess-players]. 1880 DISRAELI *Endym.* viii. 35 The Tories . . were swept off the board.

3. A kind of thick stiff paper; a substance formed by pasting or squeezing layers of paper together; usually in combinations, as *pasteboard*, *cardboard*, *mill-board*, *Bristol board*, *perforated board*.

1660 *Act 12 Chas. II.* iv. Sched., Boards vocat. Past-boards for bookes.

4. *Bookbinding.* Rectangular pieces of strong pasteboard used for the covers of books. A book in boards has these only covered with paper; if they are covered with cloth it is in *cloth boards*; if with leather, parchment, or the like, the book is *bound*. Formerly (still occas.) the boards were of thin wood, as 'an ancient tome in oaken boards'.

1533 MORE *Apol.* iv. Wks. 850/a, I will be bounden to eate it, though the booke be bounden in boardes. 1533-4 *Act 25 Hen. VIII.* xv. § 1 Printed bookes . . bounden in boardes, some in leather, and some in parchment. 1549 *Bk. Com. Prayer* (Colophon), [To] sell this present booke . . bounden in paste or in boardes. 1790 SCOTT in *Lockhart* (1839) I. 233 The bookseller . . had not one in boards. 1838 *Athenæum* No. 241. 375 Published in a neat pocket volume, cloth boards. 1858 *Househ. Wds.* VI. 290 A little drab volume in boards. 1883 *Fortn. Rev.* Apr. 495 In the case of really good books, 'boards' should always be regarded as temporary inadequate coverings.

II. A table. [A doubtful sense of OE. *bord*; but common already in 12th c. Cf. ON. *borð*, used also as in sense 7, Sw., Da. *bord*.]

† 5. *gen.* A table. *Obs.* (exc. in specific senses.) VOL. I.

a 1000 *Ag. Ps.* (Spelm.) lxviii[ix]. 23 (Bosw.) Geweorpe bord oððe mese [*mensa*] heora beforan him. a 1300 *Cursor M.* 14733 [Jesus] þair bordes ouerkest, þair penis spilt. c 1400 *Apol. Loll.* 57 Þe auteris of Crist are maad þe bordis of chaungia. c 1400 *Destr. Troy* 1657 There were bordis full bright . . of Sedur tre syn. c 1470 HENRY WALLACE II. 279 Sche gart graith up a burd . . With carpetts cled. 1771 P. PARSONS *Newmarket* II. 24 That board of green cloth, the billiard-table.

(With the following cf. also sense 2 G.)

b. *Above board*: open, openly, in the sight of all the company; see ABOVE-BOARD. Similarly † *Under board*: secretly, deceptively (*obs.*).

1603 SIR C. HEYDON *Jud. Astrol.* II. 67 After the fashion of jugglers, to occupie the minde of the spectatour, while in the meane time he plaies vnder board. 1600 R. CARPENTER *Conscionable Chr.* (1623) 118 All his dealings are square and above the board. 1886 W. DE BRITAINS *Hum. Prud.* xvi. 74 Keep formality above board, but Prudence and Wisdom under Deck. 1841 L. HUNT *Ser.* II. (1864) 61 All . . was open and above-board.

c. To sweep the board (at cards): to take all the cards, to pocket all the stakes.

1680 COTTON in Singer *Hist. Cards* (1816) 346 He who hath five cards of a suit . . sweeps the board. 1711 POPE *Rape Lock* III. 50 Spadillio first . . Led off two captive trumps, and swept the board. 1822 SCOTT *Nigel* xxi, 'Tis the sitting gamester sweeps the board.

d. *spec.* A table used for meals; now, always, a table spread for a repast. Chiefly *poetical*, exc. in certain phrases, esp. in association with *bed* to denote domestic relations; see BED I c. † *God's board*: an old name of the Lord's table, or Communion table in a church. † To begin the board: to take precedence at table.

a 1300 *Moral Ode* 307 in *Lamb. Hom.* 179 Be-fore godes borde. c 1300 *Trin. Coll. Hom.* 93 Mi bord is makid. Cumeð to borde. a 1325 *Ancr. R.* 324 Hwon gredie hundes stondeð biuoren þe borde. 1340 *Ayeb.* 575 Hi serueþ at godes borde. c 1386 CHAUCER *Prol.* 52 Miul ofte tyme he hadde the bord bigonne. c 1400 *Gesta Rom.* (1879) 259 Afor mete, whenne the bordes er sette and made redye. c 1450 *Sir Beues* (1887) 1957 Palmer, thou semest best to me . . Begyn the borde, I the pray. 1484 *Ripon Ch. Acts* (Surtees Soc.) 162 Here I take the, Margaret, to my hansef wif, to hold and to have, at bed and at bord. 1506 *Pilgr. Perf.* (W. de W. 1531) 10 With humble & reuerent loue go to the borde of god. 1553 *Primer in Liturgies* *Edw. VI.* (1844) 375 Pray we to God the Almighty Lord . . To send his blessing on this board. 1561 HOLLYBUSH *Hom. Apol.* 27 a, And when thou wilt ryse from the borde or supper. 1606 HOLLAND *Smeton* 38 In-uiting a friend to his board. 1636 FEATLY *Clavis Myst.* 340 To present ourselves at the Lord's board. 1815 SCOTT *Ld. of Isles* II. xvii, Gleaning o'er the social board. 1862 TROLOPE *Orley F.* viii. (ed. 4) 56 He looked at the banquet which was spread upon his board. 1869 FREEMAN *Norm. Conq.* (1876) III. xl 12 The wife whom he had once driven away from his hearth and board.

b. † A wooden tray. (Cf. sense 2.)

† c 1475 *Syr. loue Degre* 464 There he them warned . . To take up the bordes everychone . . Full lowe he set hym on his kne, And voyded his borde full gently.

7. *transf.* Food served at the table; daily meals provided in a lodging or boarding-house according to stipulation; the supply of daily provisions; entertainment. Often joined with *bed* or *lodging*.

[Cf. ON. *verað borð* mēð to be at board with.]

c 1386 CHAUCER *Chan. Yem. Prol.* § 2 464 Sche wolde suffre him no thing for to pay For bord ne clothing. 1465 MARG. PASTON *Lett.* 505 II. 193 He payte for hys borde wykely xxd. 1466 *Mann. & Househ. Exp.* 211 For v. menses bord . . ijs. xd. 1575 *Brieff Disc. France, Franckford* (1846) 145 In a great deale off dett. for their necessary board. 1636-45 *Row Hist.* *Kirk* (1842) Pref. 26 Till I suld see how his burd suld be payit. 1895 *Olmedad Slave States* 47 Let them find their own board.

b. The condition of boarding at another's house.

a 1658 CLEVELAND *Gen. Poems* (1677) 29 Or break up House, like an expensive Lord, That gives his Purse a Sob, and lives at Board. 1632 FIELD & MASS. *Fatal Dow.* iv. i, Young ladies appear as if they came from board last week out of the country.

8. A table at which a council is held; hence, a meeting of such a council round the table.

1575-6 *Lansdowne MS.* 21 in Thynne *Animadv.* (1865) Introd. 53 Called before the highe boorde of these counsell. a 1674 CLARENDON (L.) Better acquainted with affairs than any other who sat then at that board. 1702 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 3840/1 One of the Clerks of Her Majesty's Board of Green-Cloth. 1828 SCOTT *F. M. Perth* II. 5 Taking a place at the council board. 1848 MACAULAY *Hist. Eng.* I. 443 The new King . . took his place at the head of the board. *Ibid.* II. 75 His gloomy looks showed how little he was pleased with what had passed at the board.

b. Hence: The company of persons who meet at a council-table; the recognized word for a body of persons officially constituted for the transaction or superintendence of some particular business, indicated by the full title, as *Board of Control*, *B. of Trade*, *B. of Commissioners*, *B. of Directors*, *B. of Guardians*, *Local (Government) Board*, *Sanitary Board*, *School Board*.

1613 SHAKS. *Hen. VIII.* I. i. 79 The Honourable Board of Councell. 1635 NAUNTON *Fragm. Reg.* in *Phanix* (1707) I. 190 In the ordinary course of the Board. 1712 STEELE *Spect.* No. 478 P. 14, I would propose that there be a board of directors. 1780 BURKE *SA. Econ. Reform* Wks. 1842 I. 249 We want no instructions from boards of trade, or from any other board. 1796 (*title*) Report of the Board of Health, at the first annual Meeting, May 27. 1804 Han-

sard's *Parl. Deb.* I. 1168 By command of the Master General and Board of Ordnance. 1838 DICKENS *O. Twist* II. 'Bow to the board,' said Bumble. Oliver . . seeing no board but the table, fortunately bowed to that. 1848 MACAULAY *Hist. Eng.* II. 195 The treasurer had been succeeded by a board, of which a Papist was the head. 1863 H. COX *Instil.* III. ix. 732 It is carried into execution by local Boards.

9. Any piece of furniture resembling a table; with various defining words, as *dressing board* a dresser, *sideboard* a side table; also, the platform on which tailors sit while sewing, etc.

1400 *Test. Ebor.* (1836) I. 260 Unum platyngborde . . vi. brade bordes beste in domo. 1602 F. TATE *Househ. Ord.* *Edw. II.* (1876) 68 Every messe that commeth from the dressing board. 1807 CRABBE *Par. Reg.* II. 162 By trade a tailor . . again he'd mount the board.

III. A shield. [OE. *bord*²: if orig. 'border' or 'rim'.]

† 10. A shield. *Obs.*

a 1000 *Elene* 114 (Gr.) Þær was borda gebrec. c 1205 LAY. 9283 His gold illeired bord. c 1400 *Destr. Troy* 587 He hit hym so heturly . . on the shield, þat he breke þurgh the burd. 1535 STEWART *Crow. Scot.* III. 457 Content he wes . . On fit to fecht withoutin any hors, Doublet alane, withoutin any board.

IV. A border, side, coast. [OE. *bord*²; lost in ME. and replaced by F. *bord*.]

11. The border or side of anything; a hem; an edge; a coast. *Obs.* exc. in *seaboard*, *sea-coast*.

c 897 K. ALFRID *Gregory's Past.* Pref. 2 (Sw.) Hu hi . . sibbe innan bordes gehieldon . . and hu mon utan bordes . . lare hider on lond sohte. c 1340 *Gaw. & Gr. Knt.* 159 Spures vnder, Of bryzt golde vpon silk bordes. c 1400 *Pal-lad. on Husb.* iv. 149 In other place a borde of hem [plants] let make. 1513 DOUGLAS *Æneis* XI. ii. 36 Twa robbis . . Of rich purpore and styf burd of gold. 1535 STEWART *Crow. Scot.* I. 369 Out of Denmark be se burd mony myle. 1600 DYMOK *Ireland* (1843) 34 The approaches . . should be . . carried to the board of the counterscarp. 1874 MAHAFFY *Soc. Life Greece* viii. 243 To venture down from the hill forts to the sea board.

V. A ship's side. [OE. *bord*²: reinforced by OF. *bord*, and perh. by ON. *borð*, Da. *bord*.]

12. *Naut.* The side of a ship. (See ABOARD.) Now only in phrases, as *within board*, *without board*; *over (the) board*, over the ship's side, out of the ship, into the sea; *weather-board* (see quot.). (See also the following, and cf. LARBOARD, STARBOARD, etc.)

a 1000 *Cædmon's Gen.* 1354 (Gr.) Ða be-utan beoþ earce bordum. c 1305 LAY. 1518 Ne cume 3e neauer wiðutan scipes bord. c 1325 E. E. *Allit. P.* C. 211 Berez me [Jonah] to þe borde & bæþes me þer-oute. 14200 *Morte Arth.* 1609 Broghte us . . to Bretayne . . with-in [schippe]-burdez. c 1400 *Chron. Vilod.* 867 Fast by þe shippis bord. c 1420 *Syr Gener.* 364 Shuld cast hem ouer the ship bord. 1470-85 MALORY *Arthur* (1816) II. 328 They came within board. 1513 DOUGLAS *Æneis* III. x. 21 And within burd hes brocht That faithfull Greik. c 1532 LD. BERNERS *Huon* 478 Huon . . stode lenyngre ouer the shyppre bord beholding the sea. 1620 WADSWORTH *SA. Pilgr.* v. 38 They . . brought vs from the Prow to the board of the Gally to help them in rowing. 1650 T. FROVELL *Gale of Oppor.* (1652) 31 The Martines they cast him ouer Ship-board. 1800 MARRYAT *F. Midway* x. I. kept . . my anger within board. c 1850 *Rudim. Navig.* (Weale) 160 *Without-board*, without the ship. *Within-board*, within the ship. 1867 SMYTH *Sailor's Word-bk.*, *Weather-board*, that side of the ship which is to windward.

b. *By the board*: (down) by the ship's side, overboard, as *To slip by the board*: 'to slip down a ship's side' (Smyth *Sailor's Word-bk.*). *To come, go, etc. by the board*: to fall overboard, to go for good and all, to be 'carried away'. *To try by the board*: to try boarding. Also fig.

1630 J. TAYLOR (Water P.) *Wks.* III. 40/1 In this fight their Reare-Admirals Maine Mast was shot by the board. 1666 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 60/3 Our Main-stay, and our Main Top-Mast, came all by the board. 1666 *Pers. Diary* 11 Feb. The storms . . have driven back three or four of them with their masts by the board. 1705 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 4098/3 All her Masts came by the board. 1806 MARRYAT *Midsh. Easy* (1863) 210 Captain Lowe, therefore, resolved to try her by the board. 1806 LOWE *Wreck Hesp.* xix, Her rattling shrouds, all sheathed in ice, With the masts, went by the board. 1809 *Autobiog. Beggar Boy* 14 Every instinct and feeling of humanity goes by the board. 1875 WHITNEY *Life Lang.* vi. 103 A class of grammatical distinctions which have gone by the board.

c. *On board*: on one side, close alongside (of a ship or shore); also as *prep.*, short for *on board of*. (See also 14.) *To lay (a ship) on board*: to place one's own ship alongside of (it) for the purpose of fighting. *To run on board (of)*, *to fall on board (of)*: *lit.* to run against, fall foul of (a ship); *fig.* to make an attack, fall upon (a person or thing). *On even board with*: exactly alongside with; *fig.* on even terms with, 'square' with.

c 1505 DUNBAR *Gold. Targe* 55 Hard on burd vnto the blomyt medis. Arvyit scho. 1620 BRATHWAIT *Eng. Gentl.* (1641) 351 Hee hath kept himselfe on even board with all the world. 1655 GURNALL *Chr. in Arm.* I. (1669) 2/5 His hungry soul for want of better food, falls on board upon the Devil's cheer. 1677 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 1502/3 The *Glorious* . . laid the *Arms of Lyden* on Board, which took Fire, and was burnt. 1707 *Ibid.* No. 4380/3 We saw . . a cluster of 5 or 6 Ships on board each other. 1720 DE FOE *Capt. Singlton* III. 40 Keeping the coast close on board. 1777 NELSON in A. DUNCAN *Life* (1806) 41 The San Nicholas luffing up, the San Josef fell on board her. 1809 MARRYAT *F. Midway* 120

iii. A large frigate ran on board of us. 1860 *Merc. Mar. Mag.* VII. 172 It is better to keep the land on board as far as Solitary Isle.

d. *Board on board*, (corruptly) *board and board*, *board by board*: side by side, close alongside of each other. [= *Fr. bord à bord* 14th c. in Littre, also *ON. bord vid bord*.]

c. 1450 *LONELICH Graill xxxix.* 370 It [a ship] aproched so ny, tyl bord on bord they weren. 1614 *RALEIGH Hist. World* v. i. § 6 When they were (as we call it) board and board, that is when they brought the Gallies sides together. 1634 *W. Wood New Eng. Prosp.* i. i. Room for 3 Ships to come in board and board. 1697 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 3278/3 A Fight of several hours Board by Board. 1761 *Chron. in Ann. Reg.* 64/2 The Ships were board and board three different times, which occasioned great slaughter on both sides.

†13. (poetically in OE.) A ship. *Obs.*
a. 1000 *Élène* 238 (Gr.) Bord oft onfeng . . . yða swengas. a. 1000 *Gnomic* 188 (Gr.) He . . . druzad his ar on borde. c. 1235 *E. E. Allit. P. B.* 470 Brynges þat bryt vpon borde.

14. *On board* (beside the technical sense in 12 c) has now, in common use, the meaning: On or in a ship, boat, etc.; into or on to a ship. That this expression is elliptical, is witnessed by the fuller form *on ship-board* (cf. *ME.* 'within schippe burdez' in 12), and the construction 'on board of the ship', or 'on board the ship' (where it is perhaps often supposed that 'board' means the deck).

On board appears to be a later expansion (cf. *afoot, on foot*) of *ABOARD, a-board*, and this to have been taken directly from *Fr. à bord*, as in *aller on monter à bord, être à bord*, short for *au bord du vaisseau*, in which *bord* 'ship's side' comes contextually to be equal to 'ship' itself. Similar phrases are used in other modern Teut. langs., as *Du. aan boord*, *Ger. an bord*, *Sw. Da. om skibsbord*. Although *on borde* occurs poetically in OE., and *upon borde* in *ME.*, in sense of 'in, upon ship', these appear to have no historical connexion with the later *a-board*, which begins about 1500, and *on board*, which appears late in the 17th c.

1688 *LUTTRELL Brief Rel.* (1857) I. 450 Sir John Narborough . . . died on ship board. 1705 *ADDISON Italy* 6 A Capuchin who was on Board with us. 1768 *TUCKER Lt. Nat.* II. 528 The common sailor will not return on board. c. 1800 P. HOARE *Song*, On board of the Arethusa. 1835 *MARRYAT Jac. Faithful* i. He went on shore for my mother, and came on board again. 1840 — *Poor Jack* xxiii, The captain . . . had his grog on board.

b. *On board* is used as prep. for *on board of*.
1693 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 2847/3 They . . . put on board her to French Men. 1711 *Ibid.* No. 4887/3 From on Board Sir Edw. Whittaker, off the Lizard. 1790 *DE FOE Capt. Singleton* xvi. 270 Nor would we let any of our men go on board them, or suffer any of their men to come on board us. 1847 *GROTE Greece* II. xlvii. IV. 189 They were placed on board a fleet. 1875 *JOWETT Plato* (ed. 2) I. 74 This man Stesilaus has been seen by him on board ship.

c. *transf.* (in U.S.). In or into a railway train, tram-car, omnibus, etc.

1872 *MARK TWAIN Innoc. Abr.* xii. 79 Once on board, the train will not start till your ticket has been examined. 1881 *Daily News* 7 Sept. 5/4 (U.S. *Corresp.*) The train started at 6.30 having on board Mrs. Garfield and her daughter. 1883 *Harper's Mag.* 847/1 She . . . found herself . . . on board the other train.

15. *Naut.* Sideward direction (in reference to the ship's course); the course of a ship when tacking. *To make boards*; to tack. *To make short boards*: to tack frequently. Also in some *fig.* phrases, as † *To sail on another board*: to take another course of conduct. Cf. *TACK*.

[Of *Fr.* origin: cf. *Fr. virer de bord* to turn the ship's side in another direction; *courir des bords* to tack. Cf. *STARBOARD* and *LEEWARD* used as directions in reference to a ship's course.]

1533 *BELLENDEN Lity* i. (1822) 73 Seing her husband wes dede, scho began to sail on ane uthir burde. 1535 *STEWART Cron. Scotland* (1858) I. 17 Thai sailit . . . Ay be ane burd fyve dais and fyve nycht. 1596 *SIR F. VERE Comm.* 30 Making still toward them upon one board. 1684 *COTTON Montaigne* III. 456 To this and that side I make tacks and boards. 1772-84 *COOK Voy.* (1790) IV. 1404 We passed the night in making short boards. 1837 *MARRYAT Dog-Friend* xlii, Standing in . . . to make a long board upon the next tack. 1862 *HARPER'S Mag.* (1884) Jan. 229/1 The tendency was to give her a stern board [i. e. to sail her stern first]. 1875 'STONEHENGE' *Brit. Sports* II. viii. i. § 5 The vessel will do it in two boards if there be room in the channel.

VI. In *Coal-mining*.
16. The name given in some colliery districts to each cutting or excavation in the direction of the working in the method called 'board-and-pillar', or 'post-and-stall' work; 'a passage driven across the fibres or grain of the coal'. *Newcastle Mining Terms*.

[Found in beginning of 18th c.: the coal was then dragged from the 'face' in sledges over wooden boards or deals laid down as 'ways'. It is suggested that *board* thus came to mean 'way', 'passage'. Cf. *Boardways Course* in 18.]

1708 *Compleat Collier*, A yard and quarter wide for a headways . . . and out of this it is we turn off the boards or other workings for every particular hewer. 1839 *Penny Cycl.* XV. 247 A series of broad parallel passages or boards about eight yards apart, communicating with each other by narrower passages or 'headways'. 1860 *FORDYCE Coal, etc.* 32 The hewers working at the face of the boards or the pillar workings. 1875 *USE Dict. Arts* III. 326 Working with pillars and rooms or boards, styled post and stall. There are 'narrow-boards', 'travelling-boards', 'stow-boards', the 'mother's gate' or common going board', etc. — R. Oliver Heslop, Corbridge.)

VII. Comb. and Attrib.

17. General comb., chiefly attrib., as (sense 1) *board-lining*, -work; *board-built*, adj.; (sense 6) *board-end*, -head, -knife; (sense 8) *board-house*, -minister, -officer, -room.

1837 *HAWTHORNE Amer. Note-Bks.* (1871) I. 46 *Board-built and turf-buttressed hovels. a. 1652 *BROME Damselle* iv. i. A *Boardsend-King, a pay-all in a Tavern. 1800 *Scott Abbot* xxiii, Take thy place at the board-end, and refresh thyself after thy journey. 1637 *RUTHERFORD Lett.* civ. (1862) I. 264, I wonder what He meaneth to put such a slave at the *board-head. a. 1758 *RAMSAY Poems* (1844) 82 Sat up at the board-head. 1779 *WILSON in Phil. Trans.* LXIII. 62 The *Board-house, which is a large building for the use of the *board-officers. c. 1440 *Promp. Part.* 44 *Boordeknyfe, mensacule. 1530 *PALSGR.* 200/1 Borde knyfe, couteau de escuier. 1879 *JEFFERIES Wild Life in S. County* 159 The same *board-lining of the window. 1801 *HUNTINGTON Bank of Faith* 30 They were *board-ministers, or ministers belonging to the board. 1836 *DICKENS St. Bos.* i. A miserable-looking woman is called into the *board-room. 1845 *Bro. Jonathan* I. 8 The snow . . . driving thro' every nook and crevice of the *board-work.

18. Special comb. *board coal*, a kind of coal resembling wood in its markings; *board-fellow*, a companion at table, a messmate; † *board-form*, a trapezium; † *board-land* (see *BORD-LAND*); *board-man*, a man who carries advertisement boards, a 'sandwich man'; *board-measure*, superficial measure applied to boards; *board-money* = *BOARD-WAGES*; *board-nail*, a spike or large brad; *board-rule*, a scale for finding the superficial area of a board without calculation; † *boardstock*, a piece of timber to be sawn into boards; *boardway's course*, 'the direction perpendicular to the cleavage of the coal' (*Coal-trade Terms, Northd. & Durh.*, 1851). Also *BOARD-CLOTH*, -SCHOOL, -WAGES.

1760 *MILLES in Phil. Trans.* LI. 537 That which they call the wood coal, or *board coal, from the resemblance which the pieces have to the grain of deal boards. 1811 *J. PINKERTON Petrar.* I. 596 Straight flat pieces, three or four feet in length, which are called board-coal. 1382 *WYCLIF Judg.* xiv. 11 Thei zounen to him *bordfelawis thretti. 1741 *RICHARDSON Pamela* (1824) I. 102 Be you once more bed-fellows and board-fellows. 1551 *RECORDE Patku. Knowl.* i. Def. Called of the Grekes trapezia . . . may be called in englishe 'borde formes. 1884 *Castell's Fam. Mag.* Dec. 32 The announcements were borne by a gang of unhappy *board-men. 1656 *H. PHILLIPS Pursh. Patt.* (1676) 142 Draw the like line for *Board measure. 1809 *R. LANGFORD Intrud. Trade* 62 *Board Money, and Small Charges. 1866 *ROGERS Agric. & Prices* I. xx. 498 The spike or *board-nails of the records. 1619 *SIR R. BOYLE in Lismore Papers* (1886) I. 217, 240 tumber trees . . . wherof most is squared and reserved for *boardstocks. 1623 *E. WYNNE in Whitbourne Newfoundland* 105 Wee got home as many boardstocks, as afforded vs above two hundred boards.

Board (bōrd), *v.* Forms: 4-6 *borde*, 5-7 *bord*, 6-7 *boord*, *bourd*, 6 *board*, *Sc. burd*, 6-*board*. [f. prec. sb.: cf. *F. border*; in senses 4 to 9 influenced by *F. aborder*. Cf. *ABORD*.]

1. Related to *board* = side of a ship, coast.

trans. a. To come close up to or alongside (a ship), usually for the purpose of attacking; to lay on board, or fall on board of. *b.* In later use, To go on board of or enter (a ship), usually in a hostile manner.

1494 *FABYAN* vii. 450 So cruelly assaylyd y^e they were borded or they myght be rescowyd. 1530 *PALSGR.* 460/1, I borde a shyppes. *Jaborde une navire.* 1601 *SHAKS. Twel. IV.* v. i. 65 This is he that did the *Tiger* board. 1679 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 700/4 The Cambridge boarded one of the biggest of them, having beaten all her Men from the Decks, but . . . did not venture to let any of her Men enter her. 1706 *Ibid.* No. 4204/3 A . . . Privateer came up with her . . . boarded her, and lash'd her fast, in which manner they fought two hours. 1797 *NELSON in A. Duncan Life* (1806) 43 In boarding the San Nicholas . . . we lost about seven killed. 1882 *HAMLEY Traseaden Hall* II. 251 The English vessel had . . . grappled the enemy and finally boarded her, the boarding party being led by the captain.

fig. 1580 *LIVY Euphues* 333 Ladies pretende a great skyrmishe at the first, yet are boarded willinglye at the last.

† *c.* *intr.* *To board with* (in sense a.) *Obs.*
c. 1460 *FORTESCUE Abs. & Lim. Mou.* (1714) 45 All the Kyngs Navye shall not suffice to bord with Caryks, and other grete Schippis. 1622 *R. HAWKINS Voy. S. Sea* (1847) 102 We had taken the Vice-Admirall, the first time shee boarded with us.

d. absol. (in sense b.)
1753 *HANWAY Trav.* (1762) I. II. xvi. 70 Their general practice is to board immediately. 1803 in *Nicolas Disp. Nelson* V. 186 note, Lieutenant Jones, in boarding, was mortally wounded. 1845 *ARNOLD Hist. Rome* II. xl. 575 To enable their men . . . to decide the battle by boarding.

2. *trans.* To go on board of, embark on.
1597 *WARNER Alb. Eng., Eneidos* 325 Hee boarding his Shippes . . . left Carthage. 1883 *H. M. KENNEDY tr. Ten Brink's E. E. Lit.* 232 The fisherman prepares a ship, which he boards with his wife and children.

b. transf. (in U.S.) To enter (a railway train, etc.); to enter in a hostile or forcible way.
1879 *Good Words* Jan. 50 The tramps had boarded a train 50 miles away.

† 3. *trans.* To put or take on board ship. *Obs.*
1542 in *Harl. Misc.* (Malh.) I. 243 A great nombre of the Spanyardes beyng caryed and boarded. 1593 *P. NICHOLS Drake Revived* in *Arb. Garner* V. 558 Boarding and stowing our provisions.

4. *fig.* To approach, 'make up to', accost, address, 'assail'; to make advances to. Cf. *ACCOST*.
a. 1547 *EARL SURREY Eneid* iv. 395 At length her self bordeth Aeneas thus. 1580 *LIVY Euphues* (Arb.) 332 Philautus . . . began to board hir in this manner. 1596 *SPENSER F. Q.* II. ii. 5 Whom thus at gaze the palmer gan to bord With goodly reason. 1600 *FAIRFAX Tasso* xix. lxxvii, With some courtly tearmes the wench he boards. 1642 *R. CARPENTER Experience* I. Med. III. 56 When the body is . . . boarded by a sickness. a. 1706 *VANBRUGH False Fr.* I. i. 97 What . . . do you expect from boarding a woman . . . already heart and soul engag'd to another?

5. *intr.* Of a ship: To tack; to sail athwart the wind on alternate sides, so that the general course is against the wind. Also *to board to and again*, *to board it*, *to board it up*.

1607 *CAPT. SMITH Seaman's Gram.* ix. 39 This we call boarding or beating it vp upon a tacke in the winds eye. a. 1631 *DONNE Sermon* (1839) IV. 307 It is well . . . if we can beat out a Storm at Sea with Boarding-to-and-again. 1682 *WHEELER Journ. Greece* III. 286 They resolved . . . to bord it till Morning. 1692 in *Capt. Smith's Seaman's Gram.* I. xvi, To make a board, or board it up, is to turn to Windward.

† 6. *trans.* To border on, approach; *intr.* to lie close by, border upon.

1596 *SPENSER F. Q.* IV. xi. 43 The stubborn Newtre [Nore], whose waters gray By faire Kilkenny and Rossepoente board. 1610 *P. HOLLAND Camden's Brit.* I. 242. 1636 *FAMES Tier Lanc.* 4 In a wan fainte paleness boarding death.

II. Related to *board* = thin wood, etc.

7. *trans.* To cover or furnish with boards. *To board over*: to cover with boarding. *To board up*: to close with boarding.

1530 *PALSGR.* 460/1 Let your parlour be boarded. 1677 *MOXON Mech. Exerc.* (1703) 153 The Floors being Boarded. 1885 *HOWELLS S. Lapham* I. iii. 77 Many of the householders had boarded up their front doors. *Ibid.* iv. 89 The floors were roughly boarded over.

† *b.* To put in a coffin; to bury. *Sc. Obs.*
1535 *STEWART Cron. Scot.* II. 689 Syne in Tynmouth . . . Tha burdit him thair richt solemnitly.

c. *Bookbinding.* To bind (a book) in boards.

1813 *SCOTT Let. in Lockhart* (1839) IV. 51 The demand for these continuing faster than they can be boarded. 1857 *BUCKLE in A. Huth Life* I. 132, I should prefer having the whole impression boarded at once.

III. Related to *board* = table, regular meals.

8. *trans.* To provide (a lodger, etc.) with daily meals; now generally to supply with both food and lodging at a fixed rate. See also *BOARDING vbl. sb.* 7.

1599 *SHAKS. Hen. V.* II. i. 35 We cannot lodge and board a dozen or fourteen Gentlemen. 1662 *FULLER Worthies* (1840) III. 308 In his own house he boarded and kept full four and twenty scholars. 1724 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 6265/4 At Mrs. Grandmaison's School . . . young Gentlemen are Boarded.

9. *intr.* To have stated meals as a lodger at another person's house; to be supplied with food and lodging at a fixed rate; to live with a family as one of its members for a stipulated charge.

1556 *J. HEYWOOD Spider & F.* lxiii. 48 To paie for board, where euer this flock boards. 1667 *PERYS Diary* (1879) IV. 332 My boy's time, when I boarded at Kingsland. 1712 *STEELE Spect.* No. 296 ¶ 6 Gentlemen and Ladies, who board in the same House. 1850 *W. IRVING Goldsmith* xxiv. 324 He had engaged to board with the family.

10. *causal.* To place at board. So *to board out*.
1655 *Francion* 69 He . . . boarded me with the Master of the College at Lysieux. 1876 *LOWELL Among my Bks.* Ser. II. 203 The boys were boarded among the dames of the village. *Mod.* Many workhouse children are now boarded out with cottagers.

Boardable (bōrdāb'l), *a.* [f. prec. + -ABLE.] That can be boarded, as a ship; *fig.* that can be approached or accosted; approachable, affable. 1611 *COTGRA.* *Abordable*, affable, abordable, approachable, boardable. [In *mod. Dicts.*]

Boardage, *obs. form* of *BORDAGE*.

† *Board-cloth.* *Obs.* or *north dial.* Also 5 *borclothe*. A cloth used to cover a table, a table-cloth.

c. 1200 *Trin. Coll. Hom.* 163 Hire bord cloðes ben makeðe wite. 1411 *E. E. Wills* (1882) 19 A boorde clope with .ij. towelles of deaunt. c. 1505 *DUNBAR Flyting* 206 Thy burd clath neidis no spreading. 1552 *HULOET*, Bourde cloth, or carpet. 1839 *Cumberland & Westmoreland Dialogues* 13 Spin tow for bord clathes in sheets.

Boarded, *ppl. a.* [f. *BOARD v.* + -ED.]

1. Made of or furnished with boards or planks.
1444 *Test. Ebor.* (1855) II. 100 Lego eidem optimum bordet in le withdrawing-chambre cum cubens pendentibus circa idem. 1557 *BOORDE Sleep in Babes Bk.* (1868) 248 Nor lye in no lowe Chambre, excepte it be boarded. 1662 *GERBIER Princ.* (1665) 29 The first Stories ought rather to be vaulted than boarded. 1763 *PRIESTLEY in Phil. Trans.* LIX. 65 A dry boarded floor. 1806 *A. DUNCAN Nelson's Fun.* 13 A boarded partition . . . was erected.

2. Bound in boards.

1842 *Penny Mag.* XI. 381 A boarded book is attached to its covers . . . by the boards being pasted to the blank leaves.

3. Provided with board (i. e. stated meals) as a lodger at another person's house.

1854 *H. M. STANLEY in Pall Mall G.* 8 Aug. 1/2 Boarded justice would soon become mockery.

† *Boarden*, *a. Obs.* [f. *BOARD sb.* + -EN.]

Made of boards.
1454 *Test. Ebor.* (1855) II. 173 Y^e borden bed that I lye in. c. 1470 *HENRY Wallace* iv. 509 Burdyn durs and loks. 1485 *Inv. in Ripon Ch. Acts* 365 Borden bedde.

† **Boarden**, *v.* *Obs.* [f. as prec. + -EN².] *trans.* To floor or lay with boards.

1553 HULOET, Bourden, or make of bourdes. 1641 Best Farm. Bks. (1856) 24 The room where the wooll lyeth shoulde allwayes bee bordered under foote.

Boarder (bōr'dar). Forms: 6-7 boarder, 6 boarder, *Sc.* buirdir, 7 border, 7- boarder. [f. BOARD *v.* + -ER¹.]

1. One who boards, or has his food, or food and lodging, at the house of another for compensation; one who lives in a boarding-house or with a family as one of its members, at a fixed rate. *Spec.* a boy who boards and lodges at a school, as distinguished from the day-boy who comes and goes daily, and the day-boarder who remains at school for dinner, but goes home at night.

1530 PALSGR. 199/2 Boarder that gothe to borde, commensal. 1576 NEWTON tr. *Lemmi's Complex.* (1633) 43 Some Schoole-masters... pinch their poore Pupils and Boarders by the belly. 1680 R. SETON *Hist. M. & S. Rep. Eglington Papers* (1885) No. 128. 45 Hes preceis price of his buirdirs sitting at tabill is tuo hunder merk. 1740 J. CLARKE *Educ. Youth* 190 A Boarding-school, where none but Boarders are received. 1883 J. HAWTHORNE *Fort. Fool* i. xiv, This woman... did not pretend to know who those boarders of hers really were.

2. One who boards (an enemy's) ship.

1769 FALCONER *Dict. Marine* (1789) Fij b. If the boarder is repulsed. 1797 NELSON in A. Duncan *Life* (1806) 41 The boarders, [I] ordered them to board. 1868 THORNBURY *Turner* i. 337 The French... closing their lower-deck port, for fear of the boarders.

3. One who puts the boards on books.

1883 *Daily News* 28 Dec. 5/2 'Boarders', or they who 'board' books, stitchers, and other toilers.

Boarder, var. of **BOURDER** *Obs.* a joust.

Boarding, *vbl. sb.* [f. BOARD *v.* + -ING¹.]

1. *Naut.* The action of coming close up to, or of entering (a ship), usually in a hostile manner.

1591 RALEIGH *Last Fight Rev.* 21 The volles, boardings, and entings. 1691 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 2719/3 He thrice repulsed the Enemy, who boarded him, but at the fourth boarding was taken. 1801 NELSON in A. Duncan *Life* (1806) 196, I directed the attack to be made by four divisions of boats, for boarding.

† 2. The action of approaching or accosting.

1546 St. *Peters Hen. VIII.* XI. 49 The bording of th' Emperour soo playnly in the matter of the warre. 1636 HEALEY *Theophrast.* 49 A troublesome bording and assailing of those, with whom we have to doe.

† 3. *Naut.* The action of tacking. *Obs.*

a 1613 RALEIGH *Royal Navy* 10 That shee stay well, when bording and turning on a wind is required.

4. The act of covering or furnishing with boards; the mass of boards so used, a structure of boards.

1553 HULOET, Bourdinge, or ioyninge of bourdes together. 1663 GERBIER *Counsell* 22 The bording... is much subject to rott. 1847 GROTE *Greece* (1862) III. xli. 460 The wooden palisades and boarding... took fire.

5. *Currying.* The treatment of leather with a graining-board. (See *Ure Dict. Arts* III. 97.)

1870 *Eng. Mech.* 11 Feb. 534/3 When dry, repeat the boarding, and you will have a good Memel grain. 1885 *Harper's Mag.* Jan. 278/1 The 'boarding' makes them [hides] very pliable.

6. The supplying of stated meals; the obtaining of food, or food and lodging, at another person's house for a stipulated charge.

1531 *Dial. Laws Eng.* II. xxiv. (1638) 102 To pay for the chamber and boarding a certain summe, etc. a 1667 COWLEY *College Wks.* 1710 II. 621 For the lodging and boarding of young scholars. 1861 *Rebel War Clerk's Diary* (1866) 255 The boarding of my family comes to more than my salary.

7. *Comb.*, as (sense 1) *boarding-brand*, *bridge-netting* (a netting put round the ship to hinder the enemy's attacks), *-pike*; (sense 4) *boarding-shop*; *boarding-book*, a register for recording particulars of every ship boarded (Smyth *Sailor's Word-bk.*); *boarding-house*, a house in which persons board; *boarding-out*, the obtaining of stated meals at another person's house; the placing of destitute children in families where they are treated as members. Also **BOARDING-SCHOOL**.

1875 BEDFORD *Sailor's Pocket-bk.* vi. (ed. 2) 223 When boarding foreign men-of-war the 'boarding book' should not be taken on board. 1814 BYRON *Corsair* i. vii, Be the edge sharpen'd of my 'boarding-brand. 1876 BOSW. SMITH *Carthage* 105 Had they been less afraid of the 'boarding-bridges, [the left wing] must ere this have been victorious. 1883 BENTHAM *Not Paul* 355 The priests, in whose 'boarding-house he was. 1837 HAWTHORNE *Amer. Note-Bk.* (1871) I. 71 A nice, comfortable, boarding-house tavern without a bar. 1883 *Harper's Mag.* Jan. 235/1, I was calling on a friend in a high and narrow city boarding-house. 1823 MARRVAT *P. Simple* (1863) 252 The 'boarding nettings... were tied up to the yard-arms, and presented a formidable obstacle to our success. 1863 FAWCETT *Pol. Econ.* IV. vi. (1876) 608 The 'boarding-out system has lately been engrained on our poor-law. 1886 *Pall Mall G.* 1 Jan. 4/1 *Boarding-out*... means the placing in select homes, and with select foster-parents, destitute healthy children under the age of twelve years. 1801 *Hist. Europe in Ann. Reg.* 269/1 Our men were provided with 'Boarding-pikes, tomahawks and cutlasses only. 1835 MARRVAT *Pacha* v, We received them with... boarding-pikes. 1843 *Penny Mag.* XI. 378 The 'boarding-shop', wherein all the operations are conducted for binding books in cloth boards.

Boarding, *ppl. a.* [f. as prec. + -ING².]

1. That boards (a ship).

1797 HOLCROFT *Stolberg's Trav.* (ed. 2) IV. xci. 163 The boarding Romans. 1829 MARRVAT *F. Mildmay* v, He had not been of the boarding party.

2. That boards in another person's house.

c 1860 Mrs. SPOFFORD *Pilot's Wife in Casquet Lit.* (1877) IV. 7/2 She despised these boarding people.

Boarding-school. A school in which scholars are boarded as well as taught. Also *attrib.* 1677 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 1180/4 In Oxford there is set up a Boarding School for young Gentlemen (by John Waver, Master in the Art of Dancing). 1713 SWIFT *Cadellus and V.* 767 A blockhead with melodious voice In boarding-schools can have his choice. 1812 *Examiner* 28 Dec. 827/1 Every... boarding-school miss. 1884 *Pall Mall G.* 30 Aug. 5/1 History treated from the boarding-school point of view.

Boardless, *a.* [f. BOARD *sb.* + LESS.] Without a board or table.

1377 LANGL. *P. Pl. B.* XII. 201 But sitte as a begger bordeless (C. bordles) bi my-self on þe grounde.

Boardly, Anglicized spelling of **BOIRDLY** *a.* *Sc.* c 1817 HOGG *Tales & Sk.* VI. 105 Interposing his boardly frame between the combatants. 1881 *Autobiog. J. Younger* xl. 116 A crying Shame to talk of hanging a boardly Man.

Board-school. [f. BOARD *sb.* + SCHOOL.]

† 1. A boarding-school. *Obs.*

1740 J. CLARKE *Educ. Youth* (ed. 3) 204 To have a Board-school in his House.

2. A school under the management of a School-board, as established by the Elementary Education Act of 1870. Also *attrib.*, as in *Board-school mistress*, *education*, etc.

1873 FAWCETT in *Hansard* 17 July. I would far sooner that the child were attending the Board school. 1883 BESANT *All Sorts* i. (1884) 15 In Well-close Square, next to the Board Schools.

Board-wages, *board wages.* Wages allowed to servants to keep themselves in victual.

1530 *Housch. Ord.* (1790) 211 Bills of allowance... for Wages and Boardwages. 1557 *Order of Hospitals* Fvj. 169a *SOUTHERNE Wives Etc.* l. i. Dram. Wks. (1721) 270 Starve under the tyranny of a Housekeeper, and never know the comfort of boardwages again. 1695 CONGREVE *Love for L.* i. 12 If you please, I had rather be at Board-wages. 1875 JOWETT *Plato* (ed. 2) III. 46 They are on board wages.

Boar-fish (bōr'fīsh). A fish (*Capros aper*, *Zeus aper*) akin to the Mackerel; so called from the shape of its snout, which is turned up.

1836 *Penny Cyc.* VI. 274/2 The boar-fish... may be distinguished by its mouth being more attenuated and protractile. 1861 BLIGHT *Week Land's End* 130 Off the Runnel Stone, the boar fish, *Zeus aper*, though an exceedingly rare British fish, is abundant.

Boarish (bōr'ish), *a.* [f. BOAR *sb.* + -ISH¹.] Of or pertaining to a boar; resembling a boar; sensual; cruel. (As *borish* was a former spelling of both *boarish* and *boorish*, the two were often confounded; and it is hard to say to which word many passages ought to be referred.)

1550 BALE *Apol.* 65 Ye beastlye boryshe buggerers. 1593 NASHE *Christ's T.* 57 a. Therefore we call a lecherous person, a boarish companion. 1643 MILTON *Divorce* ix. Wks. (1851) 45 A grosse and borish opinion. 1645 *Sacred Decretal* 21 His Boarish Tusks, his huge great Iron fangs. a 1718 PENN *Life Wks.* 1726 I. 33 To have expected this Boarish Fierceness from the Mayor of London. 1834 J. WILSON in *Black. Mag.* XXXV. 1003 Boarish bristle and leonine hair.

Hence **Boarishly** *adv.*, **Boarishness**. (Formerly often confused with *boorishly*, *-ness*.)

a 1563 BECON *Cast. Comfort Wks.* (1844) 558 The wicked papists, which so boarishly sweat to maintain their usurped power. 1688 H. MORE *Annot. Glanvill's Lux* O. 55 The roughness and boarishness of his style.

Boarship (bōr'ship), *humorous.* [see -SHIP.]

The personality of a boar.

1796 SOUTHEY *Lett. Spain & Port.* (1799) 140 His boarship remained unhurt, and was suffered to go to his den.

Boar-spright, *obs.* variant of **BOWSPRIT**.

Boart, variant of **BOAT**.

Boas, *obs.* form of **BOA**.

Boast (bōst), *sb.* Forms: 3-7 *bost*, 4-6 *boste*, 4-5 *boost*, 6 *Sc.* *boist*, 6- *boast*. [ME. *bōst sb.*, *bōsten vb.* are both found before 1300: their mutual relation and origin are unknown. (The Celtic words, Welsh *bostio*, Gael. *bōsd*, etc., which have been hastily assumed as the source, appear to be merely adopted from English.) Various conjectures and comparisons may be seen in Wedgwood, and E. Müller, but nothing to purpose. The phonetic history of *bost*, showing ME. long *o* surviving as mod. Eng. long *o* (as) in north, as well as standard Eng., shows that *bost* is not:—OE. **bōst*, which would have given north ME. *bost*, mod. *boist* (cf. *ghaist*, *maist*, *Sc.* for *ghost*, *most*); nor:—OE. **bōst*, which would have given mod. *boost*, north. *buist*; nor:—OE. **bōst*, which would have retained short *o* (cf. *froist*); but from a word of later (foreign) introduction. Its phonetic analogues are the Romanic words in *-ost*, with the *o* lengthened in later Eng., *coast*, *roast*, *loast*, *hōst*, *pōst*, which would lead us to expect an OF. **boster*; but of this no trace has been found.]

† 1. Loud noise of the voice, outcry, clamour. c 1300 K. *Alis.* 590 Now ariseth cry and boost Among Alisaunders oost Of scorpions and adders. c 1330 *Arth. & Merl.* 3147 Vp that sterten with gret boist, Euerich king with al his oost. 1377 LANGL. *P. Pl. B.* XIV. 247 And whether be lihter to breke? lasse boste it maketh, A beggeres

bagge þan an yren-bounde coffre! c 1385 CHAUCER *L. G. W.* 887 Tesbe rist vppe withouten noyse or booste. c 1430 *Life St. Kath.* (Halliiv.) 8 Maxent then with grette boste, Made hur to be bownde to a poste. 1813 WHITAKER *P. Ploum.* XVII. 89 note, *Boast*, a noise; a provincial word still familiar in the midland counties.

† 2. Speaking big, threatening, menace. *north.*

1375 BARBOUR *Bruce* ix. 231 Thair bost has maid me haill and fer. c 1460 *Towneley Myst.* 178 For his bost be not abast. c 1470 HENRY Wallace xi. 389 Scho wald nocht tell, for bost, nor 3eit reward. 1578 Gude & Godlie Ballates (1868) 91 3our bludie boist na syth can satisfie. 1600 J. MELVILL *Diary* (1842) 54 He could nocht be broken be bost. 1637 RUTHERFORD *Lett.* cl. (1862) I. 258 Slip not from it [the truth of Christ] for any bosts or fear of men.

3. Proud or vain-glorious speech; 'tall talk'; vaunt, brag; the expression of ostentation.

c 1300 *Song* 92 in *E. E. P.* (1862) 132 Vr bost vr brag is some ouerbide. c 1460 in *Ellis Orig. Lett.* I. I. 15 The King maketh right grette bostes of you for the trust and the feithfullest man that any Christen Prince may have. 1611 SHAKS. *Cymb.* v. v. 162 The swell'd boast Of him that best could speake. 1709 STEELE & ADD. *Tatler* No. 93 p. 2 One of the Gentlemen, told me by Way of Boast, That there were now seven Wooden Legs in his Family. 1871 FREEMAN *Norm. Cong.* (1876) IV. xviii. 266 They soon found such a boast was vain indeed. 1884 CHILD *E. S. Ballads* II. 282/1 If they cannot make good their boasts.

† b. Ostentation, pomp, vain-glory. *Obs.*

1297 R. GLOUC. 258 Þe kyng... bynome al ys bost. c 1300 *Cursor M.* 6224 Quen (pharaon) had mad al bun his ost, He went wit mikel prid and bost. c 1325 E. E. *Allit. P.* B. 179 As for bobounce & bost & bolnande pryde. 1387 TREVISAN *Hiden* (Rolls Ser.) VI. 167 Guthlacus þe confessor forsook armes and þe boost and pompe of his world. c 1440 *Gesta Rom.* (1879) 119 When thou forsakist the devil, & al his bostys, & pompis.

o. 'A cause of boasting, an occasion of pride, the thing boasted.' J.

1593 SHAKS. *Lucr.* 1193 My resolution, love, shall be thy boast. 1737 POPE *Hor. Epist.* II. i. 7 Edward and Henry, now the boast of fame. 1798 *Aneid. W. Pitt* II. xxix. 125 It is my boast, that I was the first Minister who looked for it [merit]. 1848 MACAULAY *Hist. Eng.* I. 332 Those divines who were the boast of the universities and the delight of the capital.

4. Phrases. † *To blow (a) boast*: to boast, brag (cf. *BLOW*, *BLAST*, *BLAZE*). *To make (one's) boast*: to boast of, to glory in; also *absol.*; so † *To shake boast*: cf. *L. jactari*.

1375 BARBOUR *Bruce* iv. 122 The gret boist that it [pryde] blawis. c 1385 CHAUCER *L. G. W.* 267 Mak of 3oure trouthe in loue no bost ne soun. 1509 BARCLAY *Shyp of Follys* (1570) 45 He shaketh boast and oft doth him auante Of fortunes fauour. 1550 LYNDSEAY *Melidrum* 266 Thair was into the Inglis oist Ane campion that blew greit boist. a 1560 ROLLAND *Crt. Venus* III. 341 Blaw forth 3our boist busteous. 1611 BIBLE *Ps.* xxxiv. 2 My soule shall make her boast in the Lord. 1850 TENNYSON *In Mem.* xlii. vii, How often shall... she... bring her babe, and make her boast.

Boast (bōst), *v.* Forms: 4 *bost* (en), 4-5 *boost* (e), 5 *boaste*, 5-6 *boste*, 6 *Sc.* *boist*, 6-7 *bost*, 6- *boast*. [See the *sb.*] The primary sense was prob. 'to lift up one's voice', 'speak with a loud voice'.

1. To threaten.

† 1. *intr.* To utter a threat, to threaten. Also with *cogn. object* of the thing threatened. *Obs.*

c 1300 K. *Alis.* 2597 They bostodyn... Alisaunders hed of to smyte. 1513 DOUGLAS *Eneis* II. xi. (x.) 119 The tree branglis, bosting to the fall. 1558 ABP. HAMILTON *Catech.* 28 Punitions... that God in haly scripture bostis and schoris aganis all the brekaris of his commandis. c 1650 SIR J. MELVILL *Mem.* (1683) 70 She boasted to marry the Archduke Charles.

† 2. *trans.* To threaten; to bully, terrify. *Sc.*

1513 DOUGLAS *Eneis* x. xiv. 122 Quhat wenyis thou so to effray and bost me? 1533 BELLENDEN *Livy* I. (1822) 101 And sum time begun to boist hir with deith. 1588-8 *Hist. James VI.* (1804) 137 He was boistit with toirtour unless he should tell. 1645 RUTHERFORD *Tryal & Tri. Faith* (1845) 371 Yonder standeth our Creator boasting us, and therefore we will obey. 1756 Mrs. CALDERWOOD *Jrnl.* v. (1884) 147 Some others near him boasted him for it.

II. To speak ostentatiously.

3. *intr.* To speak vaingloriously, extol oneself; to vaunt, brag; to brag of, about, glory in. (So *To boast it*: to practise boasting.)

c 1340 *Cursor M.* 22289 (Trin.) Pat anticrist... he sal men do of him to boost Ouer alle opere to preise moost. 1377 LANGL. *P. Pl. B.* II. 80 To bakbite and to bosten' and bere fals witness. c 1400 *Avow. Arth.* xxiii. I, Kay, that thou knowes That owte of tyme bostus and blawus. 1507 *Mirr. Mag.* *Slater* v. 5, I neede not of honour or dignitie boast. 1591 SHAKS. *1 Hen. VI.* III. iii. 23 Nor should that Nation boast it so with vs. 1611 BIBLE *Ps.* xlii. 8 In God we boast all the day long. 1645 *Theophania* 80, I can never consent that [he] should boast in any favor of mine. 1711 ADDISON *Spect.* No. 73 p. 2 He has not much to boast of. 1844 LD. BROUGHAM *Brit. Const.* x. (1862) 131 To boast of the honours enjoyed by their remote ancestors.

4. *refl.* in same sense. [Cf. *Fr. se vanter*.]

a 1300 *Cursor M.* 17983 Iesu... Pat boost him goddes sone to be. c 1400 *Apol. Loll.* 92 Pat he boost him self in his dede. 1477 EARL RIVERS (Caxton) *Dictes* 86 To preysse and boste him self of his goode dedis. 1536 *Pilgr. Perif.* (W. de W. 1531) 92 Whan he bosteth hymselfe to haue y' whiche he hath not. 1536 COVERDALE *Ps.* li. 1 Why boastest thou thy self... that thou canst do myschief? 1611 BIBLE *Prov.* xxvii. 1 Boast not thy selfe of to morrow. — *Ps.* lii. 1 Why boastest thou thyselfe in mischief, O mightie man? 1755 JOHNSON in *Boswell* (1816) I. 242 That dream of hope, in which I once boasted myself. 1876 GREEN *Short Hist.* 120-2

ii. § 6 (1882) 88 The descendants of the victors at Senlac boasted themselves to be Englishmen.

b. trans. To extol; to speak of with pride or ostentation; to brag of, vaunt.

a. with obj. clause, usually with *that*. (? orig. intrans.)

c. 1380 WYCLIF *Sel. Wks.* III. 53 To booste not þat we ben of holy chirche. *c. 1600* SHAKS. *Sonn.* cxliii. No! Time, thou shalt not boast that I doe change. *1718* POPE *Iliad* II. 577 We guess by rumour, and but boast we know. *1873* MORLEY *Rousseau* I. 234 Voltaire boasted that if he shook his wig, the powder flew over the whole of the tiny republic.

b. with simple object.

1543 GRAFTON *Contn. Harding* 524 When the duke beganne fyrste to prayse and boaste the Kyng. *1603* B. JONSON *Sejanus* v. xxiv. 63 Forbear, you thinges. To boast your slippery height. *1674* tr. *Rollin's Anc. Hist.* (1827) II. II. § 2. 11 He boasted his having vanquished the enemy.

c. To display vaingloriously or proudly. *arch.*

1590 GREENE *Orl. Fur.* (1599) 23 Kinde Flora boast thy pride. *1681* DRYDEN *Abd. & Achil.* 162 Would steer too high the Sands, to boast his Wit. *1793* MAUNDRELL *Journ. Yerns.* (1732) 126 A short Chain cut in Stone; of what use I know not, unless to boast the Skill of the Artificer. *1777* SIR W. JONES *Pal. Fortune* 28 In vain, ye flowers, you boast your vernal bloom.

7. fig. To possess as a thing to be proud of, to have to show.

1697 DRYDEN *Virg. Eclog.* VIII. 10 Whatever Land or Sea thy Presence boast. *1795* SOUTHEY *Joan of Arc* IV. 463 A humble villager, who only boasts The treasure of the heart. *1810* SCOTT *Lady of L.* xvi. The clematis, the favoured flower, which boasts the name of virgin-bower. *1871* R. ELLIS *Catullus* xiii. 8 He boasts but a pouch of empty cobwebs.

Boast, v. 2 [Of uncertain etymology: F. *bosse* swelling, relief, as in *ronde bosse* 'full relief', has been suggested; but with little apparent fitness.]

1. Masonry. To pare stone irregularly with a broad chisel and mallet.

1823 [see *BOASTING* *vbl. sb.*] *1876* SIR E. BECKETT *Building* 167 More trouble is taken to work the stone with small chisels... than it would take to 'boast' (as they call it) into a fairly level surface.

2. Sculpture. To shape (a block) roughly before putting in details.

Boasted (*bō'stəd*), *ppl. a. 1* [f. *BOAST* *v. 1* + *-ED*.] Vaunted, bragged of.

1667 MILTON *P. L.* I. 510 Heav'n and Earth Thir boasted Parents. *1871* FREEMAN *Norm. Cong.* (1876) IV. xvii. 43 As illustrating the boasted clemency of William.

Boasted, ppl. a. 2 [f. *BOAST* *v. 2* + *-ED*.] Rough-hewn with a broad chisel.

1884 *Congregational Year Bk.* 400 The best white Holmfirth ashlar and wallstones, clean boasted.

Boaster (*bō'stər*). Forms: 4 *bostere*, *booster*, *bostour*, *boosteere*, 4-6 *boster*, 5 *boister*, *bostare*, *bostoure*, 5-6 *boastar*, 6 *bostar*, 6- *boaster*. [f. *BOAST* *v. 1* + *-ER*.] One who boasts; + *a.* a loud talker (*obs.*); *b.* one who threatens (*obs.*); *c.* one who extols his own deeds or excellences, a braggart, vaunter, arrogant person.

c. 1325 E. E. *Allit. P.* B. 1499 Now a boster on benche biddes þerof. *c. 1375* WYCLIF *Notew. in Three Treat.* (Todd) 131 Þei chesen to hem bosters sotil men & sylwe, riche, proude, & Japers. *121400* *Chester Pl.* 106, I wotte, by this bosters beare that tribute I muste paye. *1580* BARET *Adv.* B. 664 A craker, a boster, a glorious personne. *1747* LADY M. W. MONTAGUE *Lett.* xxxviii. 111. 63 Complainers are seldom pitied, and boasters are seldom believed. *1758* JOHNSON *Idler* No. 14 p. 9 The boaster... blusters only to be praised. *1870* SPURGEON *Treas. Dav.* Ps. ix. 6 He plucks the boaster's song out of his mouth.

Boaster (*bō'stər*). [f. *BOAST* *v. 2* + *-ER*.] A broad-faced chisel used by masons in making the surface of a stone nearly smooth.

1876 in G.W.L.R.

Boastful (*bō'stʃʊl*), *a.* [f. *BOAST* *sb.* + *-FUL*.]

1. Of words or actions: Full of boasting.
c. 1325 *Coer de L.* 3827 Bostful wurdos for to crake. *c. 1440* *Bone Flor.* 270 My doghtur gete ye noht, For all yowre bostfull fare. *1599* SHAKS. *Hen. V.* IV. Cho. Stead threatens Stead, in high and boastfull Neighs. *1867* EMERSON *Lett. & Soc. Aims* vii. (1875) 171 We have had enough of these boastful recitals.

2. Of persons, or things personified: Given to boasting, ostentatious, self-praising. *Const. in. off.*
c. 1380 WYCLIF *Sel. Wks.* I. 2 Þis riche man was boastful in speche. *1486* Bk. *St. Albans, Her.* A v. a. That he be not to bostfull of his manhod. *1779* JOHNSON *L. P. Wks.* 1816 X. 20 Boastful of his own knowledge. *1859* W. WHITMORE *G. Marlowe* to Time wears to dust the boastful monuments.

3. Menacing. *Obs.*
1380 WYCLIF *2 Sam.* xii. 31 [David] sawede the puple of it, and ladde about upon hem boastful-yren carris.

Boastfully, adv. [f. *prec.* + *-LY*.] In a boastful manner; vauntingly.

c. 1430 *Life St. Kath.* (Gibbs MS.) 55 Where yn bostfully she enhaunceth hir self. *1845* LD. CAMPBELL *Chancellors* (1857) III. li. 4 Observing boastfully, 'We inherit all our genius from our mother.'

Boastfulness. [f. as *prec.* + *-NESS*.] The quality of being boastful.

1810 COLEBRIDGE *Friend* (1865) 168 With all the boastfulness of national prepossession. *1879* FARRAR *St. Paul* I. 8 Driven... to an appearance of boastfulness of which the very notion was abhorrent to him.

Boasting (*bō'stɪŋ*), *vbl. sb. 1* [f. *BOAST* *v. 1* + *-ING*.]

1. Ostentatious or vainglorious speaking.
c. 1380 WYCLIF *Serm. Sel. Wks.* I. 408 Þe gospel telliþ of boasting of a proude man. *1526* *Pilgr. Perf.* (W. de W. 1531) 90 b. Iactance or bostynge, ypocrysy or fayned holynes. *1607* SHAKS. *Cor. II.* i. 23 Topping all others in boasting. *1830* TENNYSON *Poems* 32 Is not my human pride brought low? The boastsings of my spirit still?

+ 2. Threatening, menacing language. *Obs.*
1600 J. MELVILL *Diary* (1842) 68 He braks out in coler & boasting.

Hence + **Boastingful** *a.* *1552* in HULOET.

Boasting, vbl. sb. 2 [f. *BOAST* *v. 2* + *-ING*.] *1823* P. NICHOLSON *Pract. Build.* 581 Boasting; in stone-cutting, paring the stone irregularly with a broad chisel and mallet; in carving, the rough cutting of the outline, before the minuter parts.

Boasting, ppl. a. [f. *BOAST* *v. 1* + *-ING*.]

1. That boasts or brags.

1552 HULOET, Boastynge or that doth boast, *gloriosus*. *1608* N. BRETTON *Mothers Bless.* xiv. A boasting tongue is like a heard-mans home. *1769* BURKE *Pres. St. Nat. Wks.* II. 117 After all the boasting speeches... of his faction.

+ 2. Threatening. *Sc. Obs.*

1646 Row *Hist. Kirk* (1842) 324 Whilk occasioned the King to writ doune a verie sharp and boasting letter. *1800* SCOTT *Abbot Note* L. Lindsay was arrived in a boasting, that is, threatening humour.

Boastingly. [f. *BOASTING* *ppl. a.* + *-LY*.] In a boasting or bragging manner, boastfully.

1552 HULOET, Boastynge, *gloriosus*. *1561* NORTON *Calvin's Inst.* Pref. [They] doo boastynge sett oute to sale their owne woork. *1765* BURKE *Sp. Nab. Arcot's Debts* Wks. IV. 272 He boastingly tells you, that he has seen, read, digested, compared every thing. *1862* TROLLOPE *N. Amer.* I. 73, I do not say this boastingly or with pride.

+ Boastive, a. *Obs. rare.* [f. *BOAST* *v. 1* + *-IVE*.] Given to boasting, boastful.

a. 1763 SHENSTONE *Wks. & Lett.* (1768) I. 278 How must his fellow streams Deride the tinklings of the boastive rill.

Boastless, a. *rare.* [f. *BOAST* *sb.* + *-LESS*.] Without boasting.

1622 QUARLES *Div. Fanc.* IV. xciv. (1660) 170 A boastlesse hand; A Charitable purse. *1797* THOMSON *Summer* 1644 Diffusing kind beneficence around, Boastless.

Boaston, var. of BOSTON, a card-game.

+ Boasty, a. *Obs.* ? Clamorous; boastful.

a. 1300 in Wright's *Pop. Treat.* Sc. 138 Hynder and bosti y-nous, hardi and wel he.

Boat (*bōt*). Forms: 1-3 *bát*, 4 *bot*, 4-5 *boot*, (4-6 *boote*), 4-7 *bote*, 6-7 *boate*, (6 *botte*, *boitt*, 7 *Sc. pl. bottles*), 6- *boat*; *north.* 4-6 *bate*, 5-6 *bait*, *bayt*, (5 *pl. bat(t)is*). [OE. *bát*: the subsequent phonetic history in Eng. is perfectly normal; but the origin of the OE. word, and its relation to forms in other languages presents difficulties.

OE. *bát* (unless onomatopoeic) must have been either the regular representative of an OTeut. **baitō-* (*-u-*), or an adoption of a word *bát* from some other language. (1) The chief relevant fact in Teutonic is that ON. had also *bát-* in the sense 'small boat', whence regularly Sw. *bát*, Da. *baad* 'boat'. But the OE. and ON. words were not cognate, since the ON. form corresponding to OE. *bát* would have been **bait-*, while the OE. form corresp. to ON. *bát-* (= OTeut. **baitō-*) would have been **bát*, *bét*, giving mod. Eng. *beet*. In one of the two langs., therefore, *bát-* must have been adopted from the other: the accessible evidence is on the whole in favour of its priority in OE. This is further favoured by the actual occurrence in ON. of a neuter sb. *bait* 'boat' (*Hávamál* st. 90, etc.), which, exc. in gender, is the required form corresponding to OE. *bát*, from OTeut. **baitō-*. It is therefore highly probable that the OE. *bát* is original, and *bát* an ON. adoption of it. (2) In any case the absence of the word from continental West Germanic is remarkable: here an OTeut. **baitō-* would have given OS. *bét*, Du. *beet*, OHG. *beiz*, Ger. *beiss*; an OTeut. **baitō-* would have given OS. *bát*, Du. *baat*, OHG. *bás*, mod. G. *bass*. No such forms exist; on the contrary, mod. Du., LG. and mod. G. have actually *boot*: of these the Ger. word is a recent adoption from LG. or Du. *boot*, found in early MDu. *c. 1250*, the *o* of which can be accounted for only by its adoption from early ME., or from Scand., at a date when the *o* of these langs. had already become *ö*. (3) A stem *bát-* or *bait-* must have had an early diffusion in Romanic: cf. F. *bateau*, OF. *batel*, Pr. *batelh*, Cat. *batell*, Sp. *batel*, It. *batello* (Florio), now *battello*, diminutives from a primitive **bāto*, *batto* (the latter actually used in It. in sense of 'small sea-vessel'), OF. *bat* 'small boat' found in 12th c.; med. L. had also *bātus*, *battus* (the former app. only in English documents, the latter (as well as *batellus*) continental. But no etymology of these is found in Romanic; on the contrary Diez can only refer them back to OE. *bát*: this is extremely improbable; and the difficulties are only a little lessened by substituting ON. *bát* as the presumed source. Moreover this derivation requires **bātus* as the original type, while the form really indicated by OF., med. L., and It. is **battus*. Unless the latter could be a *neben-form* of *bātus* (cf. It. *tutto*, beside L. *tūtus*, Sp. *todo* etc.), it could hardly have any etymological connexion with English-Norse *bát-*. A Celtic source has been frequently attributed to both the OE. and Romanic words; but Celtic scholars now know that the cited OWelsh *bat*, Welsh *bad*, is merely an adoption of the OE. word. (4) Campbell points out that, in MDu., *boot* fem. meant 'cask', as in mod. Sc. *meal-boat* = 'cask, barrel, tub', prob. identical with F. *botte*, Pr. and Sp. *bota*, It. *botte*, med. Lat. *bota*, *butta*, Butt; and suggests that this may bear at least upon the Du. and LG. *boot*: it is true that words of general sense like 'vessel', *vaisseau*, and specific words like 'tub', have been applied to ships and boats; but besides that no vestige of any such sense as 'cask, tub', etc. appears either in ON. or OE. *bát*, these last could in no way be connected in form with

bota, *botta*, or *butta*. (5) The conclusions at present tenable are, therefore, that apparently there was an OTeut. **baitō-*, preserved only in ON. *bait* and OE. *bát*; that the latter was also adopted in ON. as *bát-r*, and that either from Eng. or Norse the word was adopted in Low Ger. and Dutch, as *bát*, *boot*. But that the Romanic *batto*, *báto*, and its family, arose out of the English-Norse word is very doubtful.]

1. A small open vessel in which to traverse the surface of water, usually propelled by oars, though sometimes by a sail.

891 O.E. *Chron.* (Parker MS.) *Prie* Scottas cuomon to Ælfrede cynyng on anum bate. *Ibid.* 1046 (Laud MS.) His sciperes wurpon hine on pone bat, and... reowan to scipe. *a. 1225* *Juliana* 60 Buten brugge ant bat. *1330* R. BRUNNE *Chron.* 156 Philip... To boote mad him bone. *c. 1340* *Cursor M.* 13280 (Fairf.) Petre & Andrew... laft þaire batis [Cott. scipps, *Gilt. schippis*] twin. *1375* BARBOUR *Bruce* III. 408 Na bat fand thai. *1423* JAS. I. *King's Q.* xvii. My feble bote full fast to stere and rowe. *1513* DOUGLAS *Æneis* IV. xi. 8 Othir schip or bait. *1552* LYNDSEY *Monarchie* II. 3039 Two thousand boittis with hir scho carais. *1592* SHAKS. *1 Hen. VI.* IV. vi. 33 To hazard all our lues in one small Boat. *1616* R. C. *Times' Whis.* v. 2066 Being olde, One foote already within Charons bote. *1798* COLEBRIDGE *Anc. Mar.* VII. vii. The boat came close beneath the ship. *1820* TENNYSON *In Mem.* cxi. iv. The market boat is on the stream.

b. Extended to various vessels either smaller than, or in some way differing from, a 'ship'; esp. small sailing vessels employed in fishing, or in carrying mails and packets, and small steamers. (Sometimes applied to large ocean steamers, though these are more properly 'steam ships'.)

1571 HAMMER *Chron. Irel.* (1632) 140 Some thirtene botes out of Waterford. *1793* *Lond. Gaz.* No. 3888/4 Boats to Convey Letters and Paquets between England and the Islands of Barbadoes, Antego, etc. *1764* TUCKER in *Phil. Trans.* LIV. 83 At King-Road... the officers observed the king's boat to float suddenly. *1861* SALA *Two round Clock* 14 Boats from Hartlepool, Whitstable, Harwich, Great Grimsby, and other English seaports. They are all called 'boats', though many are of a size that would render the term 'ship'... far more applicable. *1880* *Whitaker's Alman.* Advt. 22 White Star Line... the Boats are uniform and vary very little in point of speed. *Mod.* To take the boat to Gravesend. Waiting at Margate Pier for the 'husbands' boat' on Saturday afternoon.

c. With qualifications: as COCK-BOAT, FERRY-BOAT, GUNBOAT, STEAMBOAT, etc. q.v.

d. Phrases. *To take boat*: to embark in a boat. *To have an oar in another's boat, in every boat, etc.* (fig.): to meddle with other people's affairs, to be a busybody. *To be in the same boat* (fig.): to be in the same position or circumstances. *To sail in the same boat* (fig.): to pursue the same course, act together.

1548 HALL *Chron.* (1809) 279 Duke Charles of Burgoyne... would nedes have an Ower in the Erle of Warwick's boate. *1576* LAMBARDE *Peramb. Kent* (1826) 179 Thomas Becket secretly tooke boate at Rumney. *1577* HOLINSHED *Chron.* II. 173 The pope must have his ore in everie mans bote, his spoone in everie mans dish. *1584* HUDSON *Judith* III. 352 (D.) Haue ye pain? so likewise pain haue we; For in one boat we both imbarked be. *1668* R. LESTRANGE *Viz. Queer.* (1708) 30 Medlers... that will have an Oar in every Boat. *1857* HUGHES *Tom Brown* 131 'But my face is all muddy', argued Tom. 'Oh, we're all in one boat for that matter.'

2. A vessel or utensil resembling a boat in shape:

a. A dish used to serve sauces, etc. in.
1684 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 1900/4 A Silver Tankard... and a silver Boat and silver Spoons. *1796* Mrs. GLASSE *Cookery* III. 18 Make some good apple-sauce, and send up in a boat. *1834* D. FOX *Pregnancy* 102 The child should be obliged to receive its food in this manner, instead of from a spoon or boat. *1875* *Chamb. Jnrl.* No. 133. 13 There being some sauce in the boat.

b. 'The vessel that holds the incense before it is put into the censer.' *Lee Direct. Angl.* 352.

3. Comb., chiefly attrib., as boat-bedding, -builder, -building, -head, -hire, -keeper, -load, -pole, -race, -racing, -rowing, -shop, -side, -song, -work; boat-green, -less, -like, -shaped adjs.; *boat-fashion, -wise* advs.; also *boat-bone*, a bone of the carpus and tarsus, *os naviculare*; *boat-bridge*, a bridge of boats; *boat-chain*, a chain by which a boat is moored; *boat-cloak*, a large cloak worn by officers on duty at sea; + *boat-haw* (see quot.); *boat-hook*, an iron hook and spike fixed at the end of a long pole, by means of which a boat is pulled towards, or pushed off from, any fixed object; *boat-house*, a house communicating with the water, in which boats are kept; *boat-insect*, the BOAT-FLY; *boat-launch*, a place or contrivance for launching a boat; *boat-master*, the captain of a boat; *boat-plug*, a plug in the bottom of a boat to let water out when on shore; *boat-rope* (see quot.); *boat-setter*, a steersman; *boat-shell*, the genus *Cymba* of molluscs; *boat-slide*, a double inclined plane (with rollers), over which a boat may be drawn, instead of passing through a lock; *boat-slip* = *boat-launch*; *boat-tail*, a genus of birds (see quot.); *boat-train*, a railway train timed to meet a boat, a tidal train; + *boat-ward*, a boat-keeper; *boat-wright*, a boat-builder. Also BOAT-BILL, BOAT-FLY, BOATFUL, BOATSWAIN, BOAT-WOMAN, q.v.

1615 CROOKS *Body of Man* 1007 The outside of this 'Boat-bone' is large, round and situated... It... endeth into an internal narrow process [Fig. 10], resembling the prow of a ship. **1679** BEDLOR *Popish Plot* 19 A Fire... which began... in a 'Boat-Builders-yard'. **1803** FAWCETT *Pol. Econ.* i. v. (1876) 57 'Boat-building has not hitherto required any great division of labour. **1773** *Gentl. Mag.* XLIII. 144 All hid in a captain's 'boat-cloak'. **1821** SHELLEY *Fugitives*, One 'boat-cloak' did cover The loved and the lover. **1766** EMERICK *London* IV. 365 The church... took its... name from a 'boat-haw, or boat-builder's-yard'. **1832** TENNYSON *L. Shalott* IV. 24 As the 'boat-head' wound along, The willow hills and fields among. **c. 1440** *Promp. Parv.* 45 'Boothyrt, *potomium*. **1675** HOBBS *Odyss.* (1677) 188 Somewhat else boat-hire to pay. **1611** COTGR., *Havet*... a 'boat-hooke, a pole having a hooke at th' ende. **1840** R. DANA *Bef. Mast*. xxiii. 71 The bow-man had charge of the 'boat-hook and painter. **1824** MISS MITFORD *Village Ser.* i. (1863) 90 A point of view presenting the 'boat-house, the water, the poplars. **1769** FALCONER *Dict. Marine* (1789) 'Boat-keeper, one of the rowers, who remains... to take care of any boat. **1792** *Gentl. Mag.* LXII. 1. 270 The natives... stole away the cutter one night, murdered the 'boat-keeper who was in her. **1872** TAUNT *Sh. Guide Thames* 41 There is a 'boat-launch here... It consists of a series of rollers down an incline. **1824** St. Nicholas II. 373 Left 'boatless on a desert-isle. **1630** DRAYTON *Noah's Flood* (R.) His [the swan's] 'boat-like breast. **1836-9** TODD *Cycl. Anat. & Phys.* II. 73/2 A person having a heavy 'boat-pole in his hands. **1861** HUGHES *Tom Brown Oxf.* i. xiii. 244 To get a man into training for a 'boat-race now-a-days. **1828** BLACK *Shandon Bells* xxiii. At the Bell Inn at Henley, when all the confusion of the boat-races was about. **1831** DISRAELI *Yng. Duke*, There was no end to 'boat-racing. **1687** CAPT. SMITH *Seaman's Gram.* vi. 28 The 'Boat rope is that which the ship doth tow her Boat by, at her sterne. **1840** MARRYAT *Poor Jack* vi. The 'boatsetter dodged him. **1871** ALABASTER *Wheel of Law* 269 'Boat shops... moored in close lines on one of the smaller canals. **1828** TAUNT *Sh. Guide Thames* 4 Ifley Lock... a new 'boat slide on the mill stream... saves waste of time for small boats. **1886** Act 49 *Vict.* xvii. 7 The Commission may construct... any pier, quay, 'boat-slip, or landing-place. **1818** SCOTT *Hrt. Midl.* xlvii. The... melancholy 'boat-song of the rowers, coming on the ear with softened and sweeter sound. **1868** WOOD *Homes without H.* xxv. 473 A group of birds... scientifically known as *Quiscalinae*. They are also called 'Boat-tails because their tail-feathers are formed so as to take the shape of a canoe. **1824** *Pall Mall G.* 3 Apr. 8/1 He proceeded at once to Victoria by 'boat train. **c. 1445** WYNTOUN *Cron.* vi. xvi. 63 Scho a 'Batward eftyrt pat Tyl hyr spowsyd Husband gat. **1697** DAMPIER *Voy.* (1729) I. 29 Canoes... are nothing but the tree it self made hollow 'Boat wise. **1767** W. LEWIS *Statius' Thebaid* vi. (R.) Vessels boat-wise form'd. **c. 1440** *Promp. Parv.* 45 'Botwryght [1490 botwright], *navicularius*. **1606** Wily Beguiled in *Hazl. Doddsley* IX. 308, I am a boat-wrights son of Hull.

Boat (bōt), *v.* [f. prec. sb.]

1. *trans.* To place in a boat; to carry in a boat.

To boat the oars: see *quat.*; cf. *to ship oars*.

1613 SHERLEY *Trav. Persia* 19 [They] left me not until I was boated. **1681** *Discourse of Tanger*, 22 The Horses... were boated ashore. **1810** J. T. in *Ridson's Surv. Devon* Intro. 33 The rubble boated out of the tunnel. **1849** *Blackw. Mag.* LXVI. 697, I was going to be boated off to a transport. **c. 1860** H. STUART *Seaman's Catech.* 6 To... toss their oars and boat them. **1867** SMYTH *Sailor's Word-bk.*, To boat the oars, is to cease rowing and lay the oars in the boat.

† 2. *intr.* To take boat; to embark. *Obs.*

1610 J. MELVILLE *Diary* (1842) 670 No small concourse of people to see thame boat.

3. *intr.* To go in a boat, to row; to conduct a freight-boat (*U. S.*).

1673 RAY *Yourn. Low C.* 19 We boated to Antwerp. **1842** TENNYSON *E. Morris* 108 The friendly mist of morn Clung to the lake. I boated over, ran My craft aground. **1861** *Sat. Rev.* 14 Dec. 612 There is a large mass who... well managed, go on reading, and who form friendships and boat, and ride, and enjoy the sweet spring of their life. **1871** M. COLLINS *Mry. & Merck* III. xiii. 301 They... boated on the river.

b. To boat it (in same sense).

1687 *Addr. Thanks* 10 [They] would Boat it over to Lambeth. **1813** SOUTHEY *Life Nelson* II. 110 Nelson himself saw the soundings made... boating it upon this exhausting service, day and night, till it was effected. **1853** KANE *Grinnell Exp.* vi. (1856) 45 They boat or sledge it from post to post.

4. To go in a boat upon, sail upon, navigate.

1740-99 [see BOATED.] **1850** CARLYLE *Latter-day Pamph.* V. 32 Said river... can be waded, boated, swum, etc.

Boatable (bō'tāb'l), *a.* [f. BOAT *v.* or sb. + -ABLE: app. first in U. S.] Navigable by boat.

1683 PENN *Descr. Pennsylv.* Wks. 1782 IV. 315 The Schuylkill being an hundred miles boatable above the Jules. **1766** MORSE *Amer. Geog.* I. 536 The boatable waters of the Allegany. **1807** VANCOUVER *Agric. Devon* (1813) 383 Where the tidal waters flow, and are always boatable. **1864** MARSH *Man & Nat.* 420 A boatable channel.

Boatage (bō'tēdʒ), [f. as prec. + -AGE.]

1. Carriage by boat; a charge or customs paid on such carriage.

1611 COTGR., *Droit de Rivage*, shorage, or boatage; the custome, or toll for wine, or other wares, put upon, or brought from, the water, by boats. **1810** J. T. in *Ridson's Surv. Devon* Intro. 31 Sixpence a ton per mile, even if we include the boatage. **1861** OLMDST *Cotton Kingd.* I. 17 Longhaulage and boatage to market.

† 2. Boats and similar craft collectively. *Obs.*

1668 FULLER *Worthies* (1840) III. 304 He cut a passage... into the river Petteril, for the conveyance of boatage into the Irish Sea.

Boat-bill [f. BOAT sb. + BILL sb. 2] A genus of birds (*Cancroma*) belonging to the Heron tribe;

esp. the species *C. cochlearia* of South America, so called from the shape of its bill.

1776 P. BROWN *Illustr. Zool.* 92 The Boat-Bill. **1836** PENNY *Cycl.* V. 28/2 The common boat-bill is about the size of a domestic hen. **1826** WOOD *Nat. Hist. Birds* 678 The very remarkable Boat-bill Heron inhabits Southern America.

Boated (bō'tēd), *pp. a.* [f. BOAT sb. + -ED.] Furnished with boats; navigated by boats.

1740 H. WALPOLE *Corr.* (1820) I. 50 Our little Arno is not boated and swelling like the Thames. **1799** W. TAYLOR in *Robberds Mem.* I. 268 To bepraise the boated lake.

Boater, *rare.* [f. BOAT *v.* + -ER.] One who rows or manages a boat: a. a canal-boat man; b. one who goes a boating for pleasure.

1605 *Ayr Session Records* 14 Jan., John Boyd, boater and his wyfe. **1883** *Athenaeum* 22 Dec. 222 1 A Thames-side subject, with boaters loitering at the bank. **1824** G. SMITH in *Pall Mall G.* 8 Apr. 12/2 Interfering with the boaters and their earnings.

Boatewe, *obs.* form of BOTREW, a kind of boat.

Boat-fly, [f. BOAT sb.] A species of water-bug (*Notonecta glauca*), whose body resembles a boat.

1753 CHAMBERS *Cycl. Supp.*, Boat-fly, a water-insect... he swims, says Moutet, on his back. **1860** GOSSE *Rom. Nat. Hist.* 15 The merry little boatflies are frisking about, backs downward, using their oar-like hind feet as paddles.

Boatful (bō'tūfūl), *pl.* boatfuls, formerly boatful. [f. BOAT sb. + -FUL.] The quantity or number which fills a boat.

1622 *Season Exp. Netherl.* 9 Loaden by Boats full. **1873** SYMONDS *Grk. Poets* ix. 289 A boatful of careless persons. **1883** *Contemp. Rev.* June 851 Whole boatfuls of women.

Boath, *obs.* form of BOA, BOTH.

Boating (bō'ting), *vbl. sb.* [f. BOAT sb. and *v.*]

† 1. Boats, in a collective sense. Cf. *shipping*. *Obs.* **1610** J. MELVILLE *Diary* (1842) 707 Taking the first convenient boiting com by watter to Westminster. *Ibid.* 711 We tuk boiting the 2 of July.

2. The action of going by boat, or of rowing; now esp. rowing as an amusement.

1788 FALCONBRIDGE *Afr. Slave Tr.* 18 Another mode of procuring slaves... by what they term boating... The sailors... go in boats up the rivers, seeking for negroes. **1856** KANE *Arch. Exp.* I. ix. 92 We came to the end of our boating. **1874** BLACKIE *Self-Cult.* 45 Boating... is a manly and characteristically British exercise.

b. *attrib.*

1835 MARRYAT *Olla Podr.* v. We were on a boating expedition. **1881** W. E. NORRIS *Matrim.* I. 290 To change his boating flannels.

† 3. A punishment in ancient Persia, in which the offender was tied down in a boat, and left to perish, or be eaten by vermin.

1753 CHAMBERS *Cycl. Supp.*

Boating, *pp. a.* [f. as prec. + -ING 2] Admitted to boating.

1824 J. HATTON in *Harper's Mag.* July 229/2 Celebrated as boating men.

† **Boation** (bō'ti-ōn), *Obs.* [n. of action f. L. *boāre* to bellow: see -ATION.] Bellowing, roaring.

1646 SIR T. BROWNE *Pseud. Ep.* III. xxvii. 142 Whether the large perforations... may not much assist this mugency or boation. **1713** DERHAM *Phys. Theol.* (1727) 133 To send their Minds at great Distances, in a Short Time, in loud Boations.

Boatman (bō'tmæn), [f. BOAT sb. + MAN.]

1. A man who manages a boat.

1513 DOUGLAS *Æneis* VI. v. 41 This sorofull boitman. **1514** FITZHERB. *Just. Peas* (1538) 39 Enquire of botemen, and bargemen. **1600** C. SUTTON *Disce Mori* xxix. (1838) 297 Do not as boatmen are wont, who row one way but look another. **1855** SINGLETON *Virgil* II. 105 The boatman from the Stygian wave. **1871** MORLEY *Voltaire* (1886) 78 Meeting a boatman one day on the Thames.

2. = BOAT-FLY.

1841 E. NEWMAN *Hist. Insects* 106 The boatman dives under the water, occasionally coming to the surface for a supply of air. *Ibid.* 267 Water-boatmen or Notonectites.

† **Boatmanage**, *Obs.* [f. prec. + -AGE.] The occupation of a boatman; charge for his services.

1720 *Stow's Surv.* (Sturpe 1754) II. v. xxii. 421/2 Any boatman... that taketh more for Boatmanage... than is ordained.

Boatmanship, [f. as prec. + -SHIP.] The art of, or skill in, managing a boat.

1822 J. HENRY *Camp. agst. Quebec* 56 What skill in boatmanship! **1865** G. MACDONALD *A. Forbes* xli. 184 They greatly improved his boatmanship.

† **Boatsman**, *Obs.*

1. A boatswain.

1549 *Compl. Scot.* vi. 40 The master of the galiass part the botis man pas vp to the top. **1622** MALYNE *Anc. Lew Merck*. 135 The persons that are in a Ship may bee thus in order... The Master of the Ship, the Pilot, the Masters mate, the Shipwright or Carpenter, the Boats-man, the Purser, the Chirurgion, the Cooke, and the Ships boy.

2. = BOATMAN 1.

1598 W. PHILLIP *Linschoten's Trav.* in Arb. Garner III. 30 Some of the boatmen were Indians. **1624** DRAYDEN *Ovids Met.* xv. *Fables* (1700) 520 Boatmen, through the Water, show To wond'ring Passengers the Walls below.

Boatswain (bō'tswān, usually bō't's'n), *Forms*: 5 botswayne, 6 boteswayne, -son, boteswayne, 6-7 boteswaine, boatswaine, 7 botswan, boatswaine, -son, batsuein, boatswayne, -son(ne, 7-8 boson, 7- boatswain.

[f. BOAT + SWAIN, a. ON. *sveinn* boy, lad, servant.] The alleged OE. *bōt-svān is app. a figment.]

1. An officer in a ship who has charge of the

sails, rigging, etc., and whose duty it is to summon the men to their duties with a whistle.

c. 1450 *Pilgrim's Sea-Voy.* 21 in *Stations Rome* (1867) 38 Bestowe the boote, bote-swayne, anon. **1463** *Mann. & Househ. Exp.* 191 To the boteswayne of the Mary Talbot a jaket. **c. 1500** *Coke Lovell's B.* (1843) 14 The bote swayne blew his whystell full shrill. **1610** SHAKS. *Temp.* I. i. 10 Good Boteswaine haue care: where's the Master? **1635** BREKERTON *Trav.* (1844) 165 Boatswain, corruptly called boson. **1635** J. HAYWARD *Banish'd Virg.* 172 Obeying the boatsonne. **1682** DRAYDEN *Albion & Alb.* II. Wks. 1725 V. 396 The merry Boson from his Side His whistle takes. **1760-9** FALCONER *Shipwre.* I. 604 Thrice with shrill note the boatswain's whistle rung. **1864** TENNYSON *En. Ard.* 123 His vessel China-bound, And wanting yet a boatswain.

2. The Arctic Skua (*Cataractes parasiticus*).

1835 SIR J. ROSS *N.-W. Pass.* iii. 40 We also saw... many of the birds called boatswains. **1876** DAVIS *Polaris Exp.* xvi. 378 On the 14th, Joe shot a bird called a boatswain.

3. *Comb.* boatswain's-mate, a boatswain's deputy or assistant; boatswain-bird (see *quat.*).

1622 *Proc. in Parl.* No. 170 A Boatswains mate 12. 152. **1829** MARRYAT *F. Mildmay* xi. Among our killed, was a Dutch boatswain's mate. **1867** SMYTH *Sailor's Word-bk.*, Boatswain-bird, *Phaeton atherus*, a tropical bird, so called from its sort of whistle. It is distinguished by two long feathers in the tail, called the marling-spike.

Boat-woman, [f. BOAT sb. + WOMAN.] A woman who manages a boat.

c. 1843 SOUTHEY *Com.-Pl. Bk.* Ser. II. 316 Perhaps Spenser remembered the portrait of Idillness when he so beautifully painted the wanton boatwoman. **1883** *Harper's Mag.* Oct. 674/2 The most famous boatwomen are the girls of the parish of Rättvik.

Boaty (bō'ti), *a. colloq.* [f. BOAT sb. + -Y: cf. *horsey*.] Fond of or given to boating.

1886 MEHALAH 66 Mehalah is quite of another kind... She is more boaty than you are.

Bob (bɒb), *sb.* 1 [Of unknown origin; Ir. *baban* tassel, cluster, Gael. *baban*, *babag*, have been compared. Some of the senses are from BOB v. 1.]

1. A bunch or cluster (of leaves, flowers, fruit, etc.). *north.* Still in Scotland the name for a bunch, nosegay, or small bouquet of flowers.

c. 1340 *Gaw. & Gr. Knt.* 206 In his on honde he hadde a holyn bobbe. **c. 1400** *MS. Lincoln A.* i. 17. f. 42 (Halliwell) With wondere grete bobbis of grapes, for a mane myste unnethez bere one of them. **c. 1460** *Towneley Myst.* 118 A bob of cherys. **1483** *Cath. Angl.* 36 A Bob of grappys, *botrus*. **c. 1540** *Thrie Priests Peltis* 21 (JAM.) The King the bob of birkis can wave. **1570** LEVINS *Manip.*, A bobbe of leaves, *frondetum*. A bob of flowers, *floratum*. **1807** HOGG *Mount. Bard* 198 (JAM.) The rose an hawthorn sweet I'll twine, To make a bob for thee. *Mod. Sc.* To gather a bob of primroses.

† 2. A rounded mass or lump at the end of a rod or the like; a knob. *Obs.* in general sense.

1601 HOLLAND *Pliny* I. 252 (Lobsters) hornes... have a round point or bob at the end. **1607** CAPT. SMITH *Seaman's Gram.* xiv. 66 A Rammer is a bob of wood at the other end to ramme home the Powder. **c. 1650** OSBORN *Misc.* (1673) 589 Instead of an unsightly Bob, to form a sharp comely Bone.

b. *spec.* The weight at the end of a pendulum.

1752 *Phil. Trans.* XLVII. 519 A pendulum... at the end of which is the bob or weight. **1828** HUTTON *Course Math.* II. 222 A portable pendulum, made of painted tape with a brass bob at the end. **1862** H. SPENCER *First Princ.* II. xvii. § 139 A pendulum... though unaffected in its movements by a change in the weight of the bob, alters its rate of oscillation when taken to the equator.

c. The plummet or weight on a plumb-line; the shifting weight on the graduated arm of a steel-yard (*dial.*); a beam or other oscillating part in a pumping engine (*dial.*).

1832 MRS. OPIE in *Life* (1854) 288 There is here the largest steam engine, perhaps, in Europe; when I entered the room, I went up to see the immense beam or bob. **1867** DENISON *Astron. without Math.* 16 Seeing how much the plumb bob is pulled aside by the attraction of a mountain. **1881** RAYMOND *Mining Glas.*, Bob (Cornwall), a triangular frame, by means of which the horizontal motion imparted from an engine is transformed into a vertical motion of the pump-rods in a shaft.

† 3. An ornamental pendant; an ear-drop. *Obs.*

1648 GAGE *West Ind.* xii. (1655) 57 Their bare... breasts are covered with bobs hanging from their chaines of pearls. **1733** FIELDING *Quixote in Eng.* I. iv. Two bobs that my wife wears in her ears. **1734** MRS. DELANY *Life & Corr.* I. 432 A green diamond to hang as a bob to her necklake. **1773** GOLDSM. *Stoops to Conq.* III. i. My cousin Con's necklaces, bobs, and all.

4. A knot or bunch of hair such as that in which women sometimes do up their back hair; also, a short bunch or tassel-like curl: cf. *bob-curl*. Hence (b.) bob-peruke, -periwig, -wig, a wig having the bottom locks turned up into 'bobs' or short curls, as opposed to a 'full-bottomed wig'; often (c.) abbreviated to bob.

1668 R. HOLME *Armoury* II. xviii. § 118. 463 A Peruke... with a Curled Foretop, and Bobs. This is a kind of Traveling Wig, having the side or bottom locks turned up into Bobs or Knots, tied up with Ribbons. *Ibid.* A Campaign Wig, hath Knots or Bobs (or a Dildo on each side) with a Curled Forehead. *Mod.* The old lady has her hair twisted up in a bob.

b. **1684** *Lond. Gaz.* No. 2076/4 John Rixon... wears a light bob Wigg. **1686** *Ibid.* No. 2175/4 A light coloured close Coat and a brownish Bob-Periwig. **1688** SHADWELL *Sgr. Alantia* II. i. 36 Bob peruke. **1753** *Scotts Mag.* Oct. 490/2, I... procured a brown bob periwig. **1840** DICKENS *Barn. Rudge* 12/1 His three-cornered hat and bob-wig.

c. 1668 R. HOLME *Armoray* 463 A short Bobb, a Head of Hair, is a Wig that hath short locks, and a hairy Crown. 1704 STEELE *Lying Lover* iv. (1747) 56 What shall I do for Powder for this smart Bob? 1752 FOOTE *Taste* i. i. 17 Let your Bob be bushy, and your Bow low. 1815 MAR. EDGEWORTH *Patron*. (1832) I. xx. 339 A decent powdered doctor's bob.

5. A horse's tail docked short; a short knob-like tail.

1711 *Lond. Gas.* No. 4934/4 A high bob unusual in Horses. 1721 DUDLEY *Moost-Deer* in *Phil. Trans.* XXXI. 166 He has a very short Bob for a Tail.

6. A knob, knot, or bunch of coloured yarn, ribbons or the like; a weight on the tail of a kite.

1701 STERNE *Tr. Shandy* III. xxix. 142 An old... chair... fringed around with... worsted bobs. 1837 HOCCE *Eitrick Sheph.* T. III. 265 Capering with her bobs of crimson ribbons. 1849 LOWELL *Biglow P. Wks.* (1879) 165 To delay attaching the bobs until the second attempt at flying the kite. 1861 RAMSAY *Remin.* II. 121 A broad Scottish blue bonnet, with a red 'bob' on the top.

7. A bunch of lob-worms threaded on pieces of worsted, somewhat like a small mop, used to catch eels. Called in East Anglia a *bab* or *clod*.

1660 HEXHAM *Du. Dict.*, *Penwren*, to take Eeles in the night with a bob of worms. 1669 WORLIDGE *Syst. Agric.* (1681) 260 When you perceive by moving of your Bob, that the Eels do tug at it. 1882 *Blackw. Mag.* Jan. 99 It is only occasionally it takes the 'bab', the bunch of worms strung on worsted with which the eel-babber works. 1883 G. C. DAVIES *Norfolk Broad* xxxi. (1884) 243 The babber sits in his boat through the night, with a short rod in each hand, and every now and then lifts the bab a little.

8. A small roundish or knob-like body: † a. A seed vessel of flax or other plants (*obs.*). b. A lump or nodule of clay used by potters.

1613 MARKHAM *Eng. Housew.* II. v. (1668) 132 The round bells or bobs which contain the seed [of flax]. 1679 PLOR *Staffordsh.* (1686) 124 Pieces of clay called Bobbs for the ware to stand on, to keep it from sticking to the Shragers. 1725 BRADLEY *Fam. Dict.* s. v. *Hemp*, Breaking off from the stalks, the round bells or Bobbs that contain the seed. 1866 HOWELLS *Venet. Life* iii. 35 A small pot of glazed earthen-ware having an earthen bob.

† 9. An insect: a. The grub or larva of a beetle used as bait for fish. b. A beetle: chiefly in comb., as *black-bob*, *blind-bob* (also *fig.*). *Obs.* or *dial.*

1599 PASQUILL'S *Ret.* D. iij. It is neither losse of liuing nor life, nor so blind a bob as Blind Asse, that will scare a Caulierio. a 1613 J. DENNIS *Angling* in *Arb. Garner* I. 176 Yellow bobs turned up before the plough are chiefest baits. 1653 WALTON *Angler* 62 A Bob which you will find [under cow-dung]... and in time will be a beetle. 1713 *Lond. & Country Brew.* iv. (1743) 259 A further Account of the Wevil... At Winchester, they call this Insect, Pope, Black-bob, or Creeper. 1787 *Best Angling* (ed. 2) 19 Bobs... are worms as big as two maggots, have red heads. 1790 G. WHITE *Selborne* (*Blatta orientalis*), Her house was overrun with a kind of black beetle, or as she expressed herself with a kind of black-bob [cockroach]. 1792 OSBALDISTONE *Brit. Sportsm.* 662 All sorts of worms are better for being kept, except earth-bobs.

10. Comb., as *bob-curl*, ? a short curl like a tassel; *bob-jerom*, a bobwig; *bob-pendulum*, -balance, a pendulum or balance with a bob or bobs; *bob-periwig*, -peruke, -wig: see 4. See also BOB-TAIL.

1684 *Lond. Gas.* No. 2017/8 A large Gold Watch... with a Steel Chain and a Bob Pendulum. 1701 *Ibid.* No. 3710/4 Stolen... a Silver Minute bob Pendulum Watches. 1701 *Ibid.* No. 3717/4 Lost... a Silver Pendulum Minute Watch... with a Bob Balance. 1782 MISS BURNAY *Cecilia* ix. i. (D.). To suppose a young lady of fortune would marry a man with a bob jerom. 1867 MISS BROUGHTON *Cometh up as Fk.* xl. 106 Mamma in a sad coloured gown, with bob curls.

11. The refrain or burden of a song (? as if a pendant to each stanza). To bear a bob: to take up the refrain, join in the chorus.

1606 *Choice, Chance, etc.* (1881) 69 Can beare the Bob, while other play and sing. 1692 LESTRANGE *Fables* 283 (1708) I. 299 To Bed, to Bed will be the Bob of the Song. 1752 FIELDING *Amelia* Wks. 1775 XI. 121 We'll sing it next Sunday at St. James's Church, and I'll bear a bob. 1788 *Lond. Mag.* 398 The real ass... bore a-bob in the chorus.

b. (In modern writers) The short line (often of 2 syllables only) at the end of the stanza in some old forms of versification; sometimes it introduces riming lines in a distinct measure, called the WHEEL.

1838 GUEST *Eng. Rhythms* (1882) 573 The bob is a very short and abrupt wheel or burthen. — 620 Of all the wheels known to our language, the most important are those fashioned on the bob, that is on the short and abrupt wheel, which came into fashion during the 12th and 13th centuries. — 621 The simplest kind of bob-wheel consists of the bob, and a long verse following, and riming with it. 1842 ROBINSON *Three Metr. Romances* Intro. 19.

† Bob, sb. 2. *Obs.* [f. BOB v. 1], to befool, cheat, make sport of; possibly a. OF. *bobe* deception, mocking (*faire la bobe* = *faire la moue*, Godef.), f. OF. *bober*, the source of BOB v. 1] A trick, deception, befoolment. To give (any one) the bob: to mock, make a fool of, impose upon.

a 1528 SKELTON *Image Hypocr.* iv. Wks. II. 444 To blinde us by bobbes. 1589 PAPPE *w. Hatchet* (1844) 14 The vile boy hath manie bobbes, and a whole fardle of fallacies. 1589 GREENE *Menaph.* (Arb.) 85 He smiled in his sleeve to see howe kindly hee had given her the bobbe. 1682 *New News fr. Bedlam* 39 When the Pope and his Party shall give him the bob.

2. This runs together with the fig. use of BOB sb. 3 in the sense of 'taunt, bitter jest, scoff'.

Bob (bpb), sb. 3 [f. BOB v. 2]

† 1. A blow with the fist; a firm rap. *Dry bob*: a blow that does not break the skin. *Obs.*

1571 ASCHAM *Scholem.* (Arb.) 47 So cruellie threatened, yea presentlie some tymes with pinches, nippes, and bobbes, and other waies. 1589 PAPPE *w. Hatchet* (1844) 21 Giue thee as many bobs on the eare, as thou hast eaten morsels. a 1604 CHURCHYARD in Nichols *Pragr. Q. Elis.* III. 437 They feel fowl bobs that for their bucklars strives. 1616 SURFL. & MARKH. *Countr. Farm* 711 Give him many a drie bob. a 1626 BP. ANDREWES *Serm.* (1856) I. 261 They... then gave Him a bob blindfold. 1721 CIBBER *Rival Fools* III. ad fin., I only find Bobs, Blows and Noise In my poor Wooing.

† 2. fig. A 'rap' with the tongue, a sharp rebuke, a 'rap over the knuckles'; often (by uniting with the sense of BOB sb. 2), a taunt, bitter jest or jibe, scoff. (Also *dry bob* as in 1.) *Obs.*

1571 *Damon & P.* in Dodsley (1874) IV. 81 You are like to bear the bob, for we will give it. 1580 LONGE *Answ. Gosson* 19 Here is the greatest bob I can gather out of your booke. 1600 SHAKS. *A. Y. L.* II. vii. 55 Hee, that a Foole doth very wisely hit. Doth very foolishly, although he smart, Seeme senselesse of the bob. 1606 SIR G. GOOSCAPPE v. i. in Bullen *O. Pl.* III. 75 Marry him, sweet Lady, to answer his bitter bob. 1611 COTGR. *Ruade seiche*, a drie bob, jeast, or nip. 1709 RAMBL. *Fiddle-Cups* 7 Keep your Flirts to your self, and your merry dry Bobs. 1731 BAILEY, *Dry Bob*, a Taunt or Scoff. a 1734 NORTH *Exam.* II. v. P. 164 So here is a Bob for the Court, and they deserve it.

3. A light or elastic blow as with anything rebounding; a tap. [Influenced by next word.]

1611 COTGR. *Mantonnierre*, a chocke, or bob vnder the chinne.

¶ Hence perh. *blind-bob*, an old name of *blind-man's-buff*: cf. BOB v. 1 3.

1783 AINSWORTH *Lat. Dict.* s. v. *Myinda*, Bond-man-blind, blind-bob.

Bob (bpb), sb. 4 [f. BOB v. 3]

1. An act of bobbing, or suddenly jerking up and down; a light rebounding movement.

2. A Scotch name applied to some dances.

1550 WEDDERBURN *Godly Ballates, Popische Mes*, Dustift and Bob-at-evin Do sa incres. 1727 RAMSAY *Wks.* II. 252 If ye'll go dance the Bob of Dunblane. 1828 SCOTT *Hrt. Midl.* xl.

3. A curtsy.

1825 BRO. *Jonathan* I. 138 With a bow, or a bob. *Mod.* The village girls made a 'charity bob' as they passed.

Bob (bpb), sb. 5 Bell-ringing. [perh. connected with BOB sb. 4] 'A term used by change-ringers to denote certain changes in the working of the methods by which long peals of changes are produced.' *Treble bob* is a method in which the bells, and more especially the 'Treble', have a dodging course. A *bob minor* is rung upon 6 bells, a *bob triple* upon 7, a *bob major* upon 8, a *bob royal* upon 10, a *bob maximus* upon 12. (Grove *Dict. Music* s. v. *Change*.)

1671 *Tintinnologia* Pref. Verses (title) Upon the Presentation of Grandsire Bob To the Colledge-youths By the Author of that Peal. *Ibid.* 102. 1677 F. STEDMAN *Campanologia* 82 Upon six bells there are also single and double Courses, viz. twelve changes in every single Course, as in Grandsire Bob, etc. and twenty four changes in every double Course, as in Colledg Bob, etc. 1702 *Campanologia Impr.* 26 The word Extream we must confess is the most proper Signification, in regard to the Change, but there is now and for some time has been a word call'd Bob, instead of Extream, upon what account the word was chang'd, we know not. 1807 W. IRVING *Salmag.* (1824) 197 A great hand at ringing bob-majors. 1822 BYRON *Juan* vii. lxxxv. The next shall ring a peal to shake all people, Like a bob-major from a village steeple. 1837 CARLYLE *Fr. Rev.* II. vi. iii. 336 A distracted empty-sounding world; of bob-minors and bob-majors, of triumph and terror. 1872 ELLACOMBE *Bells of Ch.* iii. 43 Perhaps the most remarkable is one of 12,000 Treble bob royal which was rung in 1784.

Hence Bob-majoring. *nonce-wd.*

1865 CARLYLE *Frederick* Gt. (1873) V. 139 Huge huzzahing, herald-trumpeting, bob-majoring bursts forth from all Prussian towns.

Bob (bpb), sb. 6 An apparatus for polishing silver, plated goods, or other burnished metal surfaces, consisting of a disc or discs of leather or cloth, or a wooden disc with a tuyere of buff leather, revolving rapidly on a spindle, and used with or without emery-powder, sand, etc., according to the class of work in hand.

1879 CASSELL'S *Techn. Educ.* IV. 414/5 They will first be 'bobbed'... the finishing 'bobs' are made of a number of loose discs of cloth placed close together and threaded on the spindle like an old fashioned mop, the spoon is pressed against the soft pad, dressed with grease and fine powder. 1881 GREENER *Gun* 252 The bobs and laps should be driven by steam power, as is the case in Birmingham.

Bob (bpb), sb. 7 A pet form of the name Robert. Hence, perhaps, the use of the word, in various combinations, denoting persons: as *dry-bob*, a boy (at Eton) who devotes himself to land-sports, as cricket, football, etc.; *wet-bob*, one who devotes himself to boating; *light-bob*, a soldier of the light infantry, or of a light company.

1721 MRS. CENTLIVRE *Platon. Lady Epil.* Some Cheap-side-Bobbs too trudge it to our play. 1844 W. H. MAXWELL *Sports & Adv. Scotl.* xxxv. (1855) 282 Me, that never... listened to a light-bob. 1848 THACKERAY *Van. Fair* xxiv. (1853) 192 Mr. Stubble, as may be supposed from his size and slenderness, was of the Light Bobs. 1865 W. L. C.

Etoniana xi. 172 Of course a 'dry-bob' boats occasionally, and a 'wet-bob' plays cricket. 1886 *Sat. Rev.* 27 Mar. 'Reformed Eton,' We are not even informed whether he is a wet bob or a dry bob.

Bob (bpb), sb. 8 slang. [Origin unknown; in OF. *bobe* was a coin, apparently about 1½ pence (deniers) of the 14th c.: see Godef. But its survival in English slang is very unlikely.] A shilling.

1812 J. H. VAUX *Flash Dict.*, Bob, or Bobstick, a shilling. 1837 DICKENS *Pickw.* (1847) 35 1/2 Will you take three bob? 1840 T. HOOK *Fitzherbert* II. vi. 150, I haven't a bob to pay for the hire of these skates. 1864 *Athenaeum* 55/3 'Bob' is thought to have first distinguished the shilling in Sir Robert Walpole's time.

Bob, sb. 9, var. of BUB, *Obs.*, storm, gust.

Bob, a. [In sense app. due to taking bob in bobtail as an adj.: cf. BOBBISH.]

1. Cut short (as a horse's tail); bobbed.

1709 *Lond. Gas.* No. 4571/4 A Mare... with a grised Mane and Tail full bob.

2. slang. † Lively, 'nice'. Cf. BOBBISH.

1721 CIBBER *Refusal* I. sp. 109 Yesterday, at Marybone, they had me all Bob as a Robin. 1864 MISS YONGE *Trial* I. 113 'That's a nice girl'... 'Bobber than bobtail'.

† Bob, v. 1 *Obs.* [ME. *bobben*, 14th c., a. OF. *bobe-r* to befool, mock, deceive; cf. Sp. *bobo* fool.]

1. trans. To make a fool of, deceive, cheat.

c 1320 *Scynyn Sages* (W.) 226 Tha bobbed the pie bi night. c 1380 WYCLIF *Domination* Wks. (1880) 291 þe fend may hide mennis wittis & bobbe hem in here resoun. c 1430 LYDG. *Min. Poems* 261 Bete and eek bobbid by fals illusion. 1567 TURBERV. *Pretie Epigr.* (R.) To play her pranks, and bob the foole the shrowish wife begon. 1622 PASQUILL'S *Night-Cap* (1877) 70 I'll not be bob'd with such a slight excuse. a 1716 SOUTH *12 Serm.* III. 100 The Devil stands Bobbing and Tantalizing Men's Gaping hopes with Some Preferment in Church, or State. 1725 SWIFT *Wood's Pettit* Wks. 1755 IV. i. 285 And so you may daintily bob him.

b. To bob of, out of: to cheat (out) of. To bob off: to get rid of by fraud.

1603 TRYALL *Cher.* i. i. in Bullen *O. Pl.* III. 273, I had rather dye in a ditch than be bobd of my fayre Thomasin. 1606 SHAKS. *Tr. & Cr.* III. i. 75 You shall not bob vs out of our melody. a 1652 BROME *City Wit* III. iv. If you could bob me off with such payment. 1676 *Packet Adv. Men of Shaftesbury* 8 Had I been bobbd out of All.

c. To take by deception, to filch.

1604 SHAKS. *Oth.* v. i. 16 Gold, and Jewels, that I bob'd from him.

2. To make sport of, mock, flout. Also intr. with to.

1382 WYCLIF *Esdr.* I. 51 Thei weren bobbende his profetes. — *Jer.* xxxviii. 19 Thei bobbe to me [388 thei scorn me].

3. Comb. † bob-fool, † bob-her, † bob and hit, names of games or forms of diversion; to play bob-fool with, to make a fool of, to befool. (But these may belong to BOB v. 2.)

1599 GREENE *Alphonsus* Wks. 1831 II. 49 Do they think to play bobfool with me? 1611 COTGR. *Savate*... the play called Bob and Hit, or Hodman Blind. 1631 *Celestina* xv. 162 Thou hast plaid bob-foole with mee, by thy vaine and idle offers. 1702 *Burlesque of R. Lestrang's Vis. Quevedo* 269 Useful and skilful Knight at Bob-her.

Bob (bpb), v. 2 [ME. *bobben*, *bobben*, found in the 13th c.; of uncertain origin; perhaps onomatopoeic, expressing the effect of a smart, but not very weighty blow. In its frequent early application to the buffeting of Christ, there may have been association with BOB v. 1 sense 2.]

† 1. To strike with the fist, to pommel, buffet. *Obs.* c 1380 *Fall & Pass.* 59 in *E. E. P.* (1862) 14 He was ibobid an i-smitte, an hi spette in is face. 1432-1450 tr. *Hyden Rolls* Ser. I. 241 [The slave in the triumphal car] scholde bobbe besily the victor. 1493 *Festival* (W. de W. 1515) 172 Our moost benygne elyvor... was bobbed, buffeted and spytte upon. 1531 *Elvot Gov.* i. vii. (1557) 20 If anye man hapned... to shewe hymselfe to be wery, he was sodeynly bobbed on the face by the seruantes of Nero. 1576 *Chr. Proverbs* in *Priv. Prayers* (1851) 508 Thou wast... buffeted, blindfolded, bobbed with fists. 1605 ARMIN *foole upon F.* (1880) 23 The fellow... got the foolies head vnder his arme, and bobd his nose.

† 2. To strike with anything rounded or knobbed. c 1400 *Destr. Troy* 7316 With the bit of his blade he bobbit hym so. 1589 NASHE *Martinus Months* M. 2, I haue... bobbe them with their own bable. [Still in dialect use.]

3. To rap or tap with a slight (usually elastic) blow.

a 1745 SWIFT *Wks.* (1841) II. 361 When you carry a glass of liquor to any person... do not bob him on the shoulder. *Mod.* (Parlour Game) 'Brother, I am bobbed'.

4. To cause (anything) to rap or bounce against, at, etc. This sense blends gradually with BOB v. 3.

1612 SHELTON *Quix.* I. Pref. 13 There is nothing else to be done, but to bob into it some Latin Sentences. 1748 RICHARDSON *Clarissa* (1811) V. 377 An unfledged Kite... wanting to swallow a chicken, bobbed at its mouth by its marauding dam. 1840 W. IRVING *Wolfert's R.* (1855) 185 Bobbing their cups together, as if they were hob-or-nobbing. *Mod.* Wasps bobbing their heads against the window pane.

Bob (bpb), v. 3 [Used since the 16th (? 14th) c. Apparently onomatopoeic, expressing short jerking or rebounding motion. There is an obvious association with certain senses of BOB sb. 1, esp. those of the ball of a pendulum, plummet, tassel, pendant, all of which 'bob' when moved; but it is doubtful whether this is original or subsequent. There is also contact with the senses of BOB v. 2.]

1. *intr.* To move up and down like a buoyant body in water, or an elastic body on land; hence, to dance; to move to and fro with a similar motion, esp. said of hanging things rebounding from objects lightly struck by them.

[1286 CHAUCER *Manciples Prolog.* 2 A litel toun, which that cycled is Bobbe up and down Under the Blee in Caunterbury weye.] a 1550 *Christis Kirke Gr. vi.* Platefute he bobbit up with bendis, For Mald he made requiest. 1611 CORVAT *Crudities* 64 Many tassels bobbing about. 1663 COCKERAM III, *Tantalus*. hath Apples bobbing at his nose. 1719 D'URFEE *Pills* (1872) II. 271 The fruit was bobbing at his chin. 1794 HERSCHEL in *Phil. Trans.* LXXXV. 54 Solid bodies bobbing up and down in a fiery liquid. 1830 *Gentl. Mag.* Jan. 49/2 With what consummate craft he bobbed in and out, as to office. 1858 HAWTHORNE *Fr. & It. Journals* (1872) II. 164 A postilion .. bobbing up and down on the offhorse. 1872 BLACK *Adv. Phaeton* ix, A bottle bobbing about in the sea.

b. *To bob for apples, cherries, etc.*: to snatch with the mouth at apples, or other fruit, floating on water, or dangling from a string, the fruit in either case generally eluding the mouth of the would-be captor.

1863 LAMB *Lett.* xviii. 175, No. 92 may bob it as she likes but she catches no cherry of me. 1868 *Sat. Rev.* 31 July 98 Like a schoolboy who fruitlessly bobs in the tub of water after the apple.

2. *intr.* To move up or down with a bob or slight jerk; *spec. curtsy.* Also, with cognate obj., *To bob a curtsy.*

a 1794 *Old Song*, When she cam ben she bobbit. 1848 THACKERAY *Van. Fair* i, Bobbing, and curtsying and smiling. 1873 BLACK *Pr. Thulex*. 156 The servant .. bobbed a curtsy to her. *Mod.* He bobbed down, and the stone missed him. The end of the pole bobbed up and struck me.

3. *trans.* To move (a thing) up or down with a bob or slight jerk. Cf. BOB v. 2 4.

1665 *Abridgm. Eng. M.H. Discip.* 67 Take care not to bob up the Spear of your Pike. 1818 KEATS *Endym.* i. 291 Dolphins bob their noses through the brine. 1845 DARWIN *Voy. Nat.* iii. (1879) 56 The Carrancha takes little notice, except by bobbing its head.

4. *Comb. (sbs.)*, as bob-apple, a game in which children bob for apples, either floating in water, or suspended; bob-cherry, a game in which the player tries to catch with his teeth a cherry suspended at the end of a string; † bob-ohin, one who bobs his chin; bob-fly, in angling, a second artificial fly that bobs on the surface of the water, to indicate the position of the end-fly; † bob-wood, a bob or float used with a harpoon.

1681 *Reply Mischief of Imposil.* 2 To see their Children play at *Bob-apple. 1714 ARBUTHNOT, etc. *Martinus Scribl.* v. (1756) 24 *Bob-cherry .. teaches at once two noble virtues, patience and constancy. 1805 *Pall Mall G.* 15 July 10 Lord Robert Montagu .. described Government, upon the question of Reform, as 'playing at bob-cherry with the nation'. 1614 B. JONSON *Barth. Fair*, Keepe it during the Fayre, *Bobchin. 1832 E. JESSE *Gleanings Nat. Hist.* Ser. i. 300 You can easily find the 'bob-fly' on the top of the water, and thus be sure that the end-fly is not far off. 1883 *Century Mag.* 378 He looped on for dropper, or bob-fly, a 'Lord Baltimore'. 1697 DAMPIER *New Voy.* (1699) I. 35 At the other end of his stay [for a Harpoon] there is a light piece of wood called *Bob-wood, with a hole in it, through which the small end of the staff comes.

Bob (bɒb), v. 4 Also 9 *dial.* bab. [f. BOB sb. 1 7.] *intr.* To fish (for eels) with a bob. (Hence humorously, 'to bob for whales'.)

1614 MARKHAM *Cheap Husb.* (1623) 178 Other wayes .. to take Eeles, as .. with bobbing for them with great wormes. 1672 DAVENANT *Vac. in Lond.* Wks. (1673) 290 All day on Thames to bob for Grig. 1766 H. WALPOLE *Acct. Giants* Wks. 1798 II. 94 These giants .. seldom come down to the coast; and then I suppose only to bob for whales. 1833 *Fraser's Mag.* VII. 54 He .. bobs and dabbles till he hooks his prey. 1883 G. C. DAVIES *Norfolk Broad* iii. (1884) 22 The eel is the support of numbers of fishermen, who 'bob' for it with bundles of worms threaded on worsted.

b. *fig.* To seek to capture or obtain by artifice; to 'fish for'.

1672 DAVENANT *Wits Wks.* (1673) 183 He lies not there To bob for Griggs, but to bob for the People. 1840 E. NAPIER *Scenes & Sp. For. Lands* II. v. 163 Even captains are not catchable every day; she bobs away at them for a couple of years.

Bob (bɒb), *adv.* The verb stem of BOB v. 2 or 3, used to denote sudden action.

1673 MARVELL *Rel. Transp.* II. 253 Turne but over the Leal and you meet full bob; 'Reverendissimo in Christo Patri et Domino'. 1872 BAKER *Nile Tribut.* ii. 32 Bob! and away it went.

|| Bobak (bɒˈbæk). Also boback, bobak. [Pol. *bobak*.] A burrowing-squirrel found in Poland and adjoining countries, called also Polish Marmot.

1774 GOLDSM. *Nat. Hist.* II. 261 This animal (marmot) is found in Poland under the denomination of the bobak. 1802 BINGLEY *Anim. Biog.* (1813) I. 387 The burrows which the Bobaks form in the ground, are constructed obliquely.

Bo'badil. Name of a thronical character in Ben Jonson's *Every Man in Hum.*, used to designate a blustering braggart who pretends to prowess. Hence Bobadil'ian, Bo'badil'ish *adjs.* Bo'badil'ism.

1771 P. PARSONS *Newmarket* I. 82 Stay, stay, my good Bobadil, I have not done with you yet. c 1798 *Conquerors* 34 Such valiant Bobadils are caress'd and knighted. 1830 *Blackw. Mag.* XXVII. 735 This bluster and braggadocio, these burly Bobadilisms. 1832 *Fraser's Mag.* V. 163 A

Bobadilish bulletin. 1837 CARLYLE *Fr. Rev.* II. III. iii. 145 That Bobadil'ian method of contest.

† Bobance. *Obs.* Also 4-5 bob(b)ance. [a. OF. *bobance* (also *boban*, -ant) arrogance, pomp; cf. Pr. *bobansa* of same meaning. See Diez.]

Boasting, pride, pomp.

c 1325 E. E. *Allit. P. B.* 179 Bobaunce & bost & bolnande pryde. c 1380 *Sir Ferumb.* 383 Y. am y-come wyb be to figh: for al pygrete bobbaunce. c 1386 CHAUCER *Wifes Prolog.* 569 Certainly I sey for no bobance, Yet was I neuere withouten purueiance Of marriage. 1523 L.D. BERNERS *Froiss.* I. cccxcix. 693 For all the great pride and bobance that they were of before. 1534 — *Gold. Bk. M. Aurel.* (1546) A a vj b, How often we trust the bobance of this world.

b. *concr. in pl.* 'Pomps and vanities.' 1475 Bk. *Noblesse* 80 Escheweng alle costius arraiments of clothing, garments, and bobauences.

† Boban (t). *Obs.* [a. OF. *boban*, *bobant*, in same sense: see prec.] Pride, boasting; = BOBANCE. c 1314 *Guy Warw. (A.)* 2816 Pe riche soudan, So prout he is, & of grete boban. a 1450 *Knt. de la Tour* (1868) 38 Not having her herte to the bobant of the worlde. c 1489 CAXTON *Sommes of Amon* viii. 193 By this boban, Roulande and Olyver ben mounted in to so grete pride that, etc.

† Bobbed, *pp. a. Obs.* [f. BOB v. 2 + -ED 1.] Struck with the fist; ? swollen with blows.

1573 TUSSEY *Husb.* (1878) 206 What bobbed lips, what ierks, what nips! [but ? bobbed.]

Bobbed (bɒbd), a. [f. BOB sb. 1 + -ED 2.] Furnished with a BOB (in various senses); formed into a bob; cut short (as a horse's tail).

1628 J. ROBINSON *Eudoxa* III. 130 Frogs .. are .. metamorphosed into another shape .. from tailed to bobbed. 1675 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 990/4 A white Mane shorn, white Tail bob'd. 1696 *Ibid.* No. 3201/4 A Bright Bay Nag .. with .. a shorn Main and bob'd Tail.

† Bobber¹. *Obs.* [f. BOB v. 1, 2 + -ER 1.] 1. A deceiver.

1542 UDALL *Erasm. Apoph.* 6 a, Those persones he pronounced woorthie to be accounted deceyfull, bobbers of menne, whiche by fraude dyd make eche manne beleue, etc. 2. A mocker, one who taunts.

1576 NEWTON tr. *Lemnie's Complex.* (1633) 160 The Cholericke are bitter taunters, dry bobbers, nipping gibers, and scornfull mockers of others.

Bobber² (bɒbər), [(Two or more words) f. BOB v. 3, 4 + -ER 1.]

1. He who or that which bobs up and down or in and out; *spec.* a float used in angling, also the bob-fly (see BOB v. 3 4).

1837 LOCKHART *Life Scott* (1839) IX. 247 To catch one trout .. with the fly and another with the bobber. 1881 *Harper's Mag.* Oct. 654 You can see the bobber dance upon the ripples.

2. One who bobs for eels. (In East Anglia called *babber*.)

1882 *Blackw. Mag.* Jan. 99 The bunch of worms strung on worsted with which the eel-babber works. 1883 G. C. DAVIES *Norfolk Broad* (see BOB sb. 1 7).

3. *dial.* and *slang.* A fellow-workman, mate, or 'chum'. Cf. BOB sb. 7

1860 W. WHITE *Round Wrekin* 34 Bobber being the equivalent of chum. 1871 *Daily News* 19 May, As he sells these, the buyers or their 'bobbers' carry them off.

Bobbery (bɒbəri), *slang.* [According to Col. Yule, and others, an Anglo-Indian representation of Hindi *Bāp re!* O father!, a common exclamation of surprise or grief. Forby has it in 1830 as East Anglian dialect; and it has been plausibly (as to the form) referred to Sp. *boberia* folly; but the evidence for its origination in India is decisive.] Noise, noisy disturbance, 'row'.

1816 'Quiz' *Grand Master (Adventures in Hindostan)* xi. 48 The muse now blushes to disclose The bobbery that here arose. 1833 MARRIAT P. *Simple* xxvii, There'll be a bobbery in the pig-sty before long. 1867 SMYTH *Sailor's Word-bk.* Bobbery, a disturbance, row, or squabble; a term much used in the East Indies and China. 1879 *Punch* 17 May 227, I might in quiet hold my own, And not go kicking up a bobbery.

Bobbin (bɒbɪn), sb. 1 Forms: 6 bobbyn, 6-8 bobin, 7- bobbin. [a. F. *bobine* 'a quill for a spinning wheel; also a skane or hank of gold or silver thread' (Cotgr. 1611); origin unknown: see guesses in Littré and Diez.]

1. An article round which thread or yarn is wound, in order to be wound off again with facility, and as required, in weaving, sewing, etc.

a. 'A small pin of wood, with a notch, to wind the thread about when women weave lace.' J. (A cylinder 3 or 4 in. long, like a thickish pencil.)

b. A wooden or metal cylinder, perforated so as to revolve on a spindle, having a flange or 'head' at one or both ends (according to the purpose for which it is adapted), used to receive thread or yarn, and give it off by unwinding, in the processes of spinning, warping, weaving, frame-work knitting, etc.

c. A small spool for receiving the thread, placed within the shuttle, in some sewing machines.

d. In many parts of England: An ordinary 'reel' or 'spool', on which sewing cotton, silk, etc. are wound for sale and use, having the form of a small wooden cylinder, with a broad edge or rim at both ends.

1530 PALSGR. 199/1 Bobbyn for a sylke woman, *bobin*. 1603 HOLLAND *Plutarch's Mor.* 1220 Turned in manner of spindles or bobins, as folke spin or twist therewith. 1666 FULLER *Worthies* i. 246 Bone-lace it is named, because first made with bone (since wooden) bobbins. 1799 PULLKIN in *Phil. Trans.* LI. 23 The old method of reeling the silk over a bobin. 1736 SHERIDAN in *Swift's Lett.* (1768) IV. 165 If my skin were dry, my bones would rattle like a bag of bobbins. 1869 FALLISER *Lace* vii. 110 The oftener the bobbins are twisted the clearer and more esteemed is the Valenciennes. 1876 J. WATTS *Brit. Manuf.* III. 136 It draws out the cotton, twists it, and winds it upon a bobbin.

e. A reel round which wire is coiled in electrical instruments.

1870 R. FERGUSON *Electr.* 41 The thread .. is wound round a slender movable bobbin. 1871 TYNDALE *Fragm. Sc.* (ed. 6) II. xvi. 441 The bobbins, in which the currents are induced.

2. 'A fine cord in haberdashery' (Beck *Draper's Dict.*); 'round tape' (Webster).

1578 (Beck *Draper's Dict.* s.v., In 1578 we find 'Skotish bobin sylke', and 'bobbing' appearing in an inventory of that date in conjunction with twine and thread). 1641 MILTON *Animadv.* Wks. (1851) 191 To rumple her laces, her frizzles, and her bobins. 1843 LYTTON *Last Bar.* II. i. Tied with bobbins of gold thread. 1866 BLACKMORE *Craddock N.* xlv. 305 A leathern bag .. wash leather tied with bobbin.

† 3. *Sc.* The seed-pod of the birch. (Jamieson.)

c 1560 A. SCOTT *Month of May*, To bring in bowis and birkin bobbynis.

4. A rounded piece of wood attached to a string, which passes through a door, and is fastened to the latch, so as to raise it. Hence *bobbin-latch*.

Little Red Riding-hood (ed. 1820) 'Pull the bobbin and the latch will go up'. *Little Red Riding-hood* pulled the bobbin, and the door opened.

5. *Comb.*, as bobbin-mill, -turner; bobbin-lace, lace made on a pillow with bobbins; bobbin-stand, a frame for holding the bobbins of a weaving- or spinning-machine; bobbin-winder, a contrivance for winding thread, etc. on a bobbin; † bobbin-work, 'work woven with bobbins'. J. See also BOBBIN-NET.

1681 GREW *Museum* (J.) Not netted nor woven with warp and woof, but after the manner of bobbinwork. 1837 Mrs. GASKELL C. *Brontë* I. 68 A bobbin-mill .. where wooden reels were made. 1886 *Pall Mall G.* 23 Aug. 4/2 Born at Troutbeck .. he served his time to the trade of bobbin-turner.

Bobbin, sb. 2 *dial.* [Cf. BABBIN: but can it be the same as prec.?] A small bundle or fagot of fire wood.

Kent. dial. Buying wood, making it up into bobbins, and then selling it for fire-lighting.

Bobbin, v. [f. BOBBIN sb. 1] To wind on bobbins. Hence Bobbinning *vbl. sb.*

1883 *Glasgow Weekly Her.* 5 May 8/5 Rope yarn bobbinning machine wanted, 4, 6 or 8 spindles.

Bobbinet, var. of BOBBIN-NET.

Bobbing, *vbl. sb.* Also (in sense 3) babbing. [Several words, f. BOB v. in various senses.]

1. Beating, striking; also *fig.* the giving of a sharp 'rap' in speech. (See BOB sb. 3 2.) Hence bobbing-block.

1526 *Pilgr. Perf.* (W. de W. 1531) 250 b, With spytynges, bobbynges, and other turmentes many and dyuerse. 1558 PHAER *Aeneid* v. N iiij, Loude their breasts w^t bobbyngs rings. 1575 GASCOIGNE *Wks.* (1587) 296 A bobbyng blocke, a beating stocke, an owle. 1622 *Poems in Burlesque* 4 To leave off Stumming for dry Bobbing.

2. Movement up and down; dancing, curtsying, etc. (See BOB v. 3.)

a 1776 in *Herd Coll. Sc. Songs* II. 114 (JAM.) W^t bobbing Willie's shanks are sair. 1832 H. T. MARTINEAU *Each and All* v. 62 There was plenty of bobbing from the girls. 1865 *Englishman's Mag.* Oct. 310 Bees .. making a ceaseless bobbing in the flowers.

3. Fishing for eels with a bob. (In East Anglia *babbing*, which also signifies a method of catching crabs; see quot. 1867.)

1633 W. LAUSON *Secr. Angling* in *Arb. Garner* I. 195 There is a third usual way to catch Eels, called 'Bobbing'. 1673 MARVELL *Rel. Transp.* II. 205 This grave and ponderous creature may like Eeles be taken and pull'd up only with bobbing. 1867 SMYTH *Sailor's Word-bk.* Bobbing, an east-country method of catching crabs, by enticing them to the surface of the water with baited lines and then taking them with a landing net.

Bobbing, *pp. a.* [Several words, f. BOB v. in various senses.]

† 1. Mocking, flouting, satirical. *Obs.* 1605 CAMDEN *Rem.* 22 With these bobbing rimes.

† 2. Striking. *Obs.* 1567 STUDLEY *Seneca's Hippolytus* (1581) 65 Dash out on mee thy bobbing bolt.

3. That bobs up and down or from side to side; dancing; curtsying.

a 1700 DRYDEN (J.) *Jewels, rings, and bobbing pearls*, Pluck'd from Moors' ears. 1821 CLARE *Vill. Minstr.* I. 72 Bobbing rabbits, wild and shy. 1868 *Gd. Words* July 445 He took off his hat to bobbing apple-women.

b. *Bobbing Joan*: an old dance-tune. *Bobbing John*: a nickname of the Earl of Mar in 1715, referring to his behaviour to successive dynasties.

1796 *Hop Garland* (N.) Strike up Bobbing Joan, Or I'll break your fiddle. 1840 BARHAM *Incol. Leg., Nell Cook* Moral, Don't let your Niece sing 'Bobbing Joan'!

Bobbin-net, bobbinet (bɒbɪnˌnet, bɒbi-net). [f. BOBBIN + NET.] A kind of machine-

made cotton net, originally imitating the lace made with bobbins on a pillow. Also *attrib.*

1832 *Babbage Econ. Manus.* xxxiii. (ed. 3) 350 The bobbin-net machine occupies little space. 1836 *Scenes of Commerce* 217 The frame net lace, or bobbinet, is a recent invention, manufactured by machinery. 1884 *Stubbs' Mercant. Circular* 19 Mar. 270/2 The increasing supersession of pillow-made lace by lace bobbinet made by machine power.

Bobbish (bɒbɪʃ), *a. dial. and slang.* [Cf. *Bob a., Bob v.*] Well; in good health and spirits. 1833 [cf. *BOBBISHLY*]. 1819 SCOTT in *Lockhart* xlv. (1842) 394, I trust you will find me pretty bobbish. 1839 DICKENS *Nick. Nick.* lviii. 'The cows is well, and the boys is bobbish.' 1851 DE QUINCEY *Ld. Carlisle on Pope Wks.* XIII. 5 Finding himself 'pretty bobbish' on the morning after the memorable night in the Black Hole of Calcutta.

Hence *Bobbishly adv.* Well, fairly, briskly. 1813 SCOTT in *Lockhart* x. (Chandos) 223 The book has gone off here very bobbishly. 1819 — *ibid.* xlv. IV. 285 You will find me looking pretty bobbishly.

Bobble (bɒbəl), *v. colloq.* [frequentative of *Bob v.* (see -LE), helped by onomatopoeic suggestiveness: cf. also *BOBLE, BABBLE, BUBBLE*.] *intr.* To move with continual bobbing.

1812 W. TENNANT *Auster F.* l. xxxvi, Hobbling, bobbling round, and straining hard for Mag.

Bobble, sb. [f. prec. vb.] The movement of agitated water.

1880 BESANT & RICE *Seamy Side* xxviii. 236 Outside Swanage Bay there is always what the jocos captain of the Heather Bell calls a 'bit of a bobble'. 1884 *St. James's Gas.* 22 Mar. 6/2 There'll be a pretty bobble up across tide afore we get under the land.

Bobby (bɒbi), *sb.*

1. Pet form of *Bob*, familiar perversion of *Robert*. 2. [Hence probably in allusion to the name of Mr. (afterwards Sir) Robert Peel, who was Home Secretary when the new Metropolitan Police Act was passed in 1828.] A slang nickname for a policeman. See also *PEELER*.

1851 MAYHEW *London Labour* 16 (Hoppe) He could muzzle half a dozen bobbies before breakfast. 1877 BESANT & RICE *Son of Vulc.* II. xxiii. 367 [He] might have been killed only that the bobbies interfered. 1884 L. J. JENNINGS in *Croker Papers* II. xiv. 17 Frequently when the constables made their appearance... they were hooted and insulted, mobs following them crying out 'crusher', 'raw lobster', 'Bobbies', and 'Peelers'.

Bobby, v. Obs. rare. 1 = *Bob v.* 1, 2, or *Bob v.* 2, 1. 2. *M.S. Addit.* 11748 f. 145 (Halliwell) The cloth byfore bi even to, To bobby be [Christ] bay knit hit so.

Bob-cherry: see *Bob v.* 3, 4.

Bobet, sb. Obs. [f. *Bob sb.* 3 or *v.* 2; with the suffix cf. *buffet*.] A blow with the fist, a cuff. c. 1340 *Cursor M.* 16623 (Trin.) Siben in his honde bei sett: a muchel greet rede And to him pleiden a bobet: & bad him say in dede Wichche of hem 3af þe stroke. c. 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 41 Bobet, collafu, collafus. 1530 *Palsgr.* 199/2 Bobet on the heed, *coup de poing*.

Bobet, v. Obs. [f. prec.] *trans.* To strike with the fist; to cuff. Hence *Bobetting, vbl. sb.* c. 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 41 Bobetty, collaphizo. — *Bobettyng, collaphisacio.*

Bob-fool, Bob-her: see *Bob v.* 1, 4.

Bobinet, var. of BOBBIN-NET.

Boble, v. Obs. To babble. [But cf. also *BOBBLE, BUBBLE*.] Hence *Bobbling ppl. a.*

c. 1530 *BARCLAY Behaving in Church*, These foolcs... Are chatting and bobbling as it were in a fayre. 1566 *STUDLEY Seneca's Agamemnon* (1581) 156 There the head doth lye, With wallowing, bobbling, mumbling tongue.

Bobolink (bɒbəlɪŋk). Also *bobolincoln*, *lincon*, *bolink*, *(bob-o-lincoln)*, *bob-o-linkhorn*, *Audubon*. [app. at first *Bob Lincoln*, or *Bob o' Lincoln*, a free rendering of the note or call of the bird.] A North American singing-bird (*Dolichonyx oryzivorus*), which appears in the northern states in spring, and returns southwards at the end of summer. Called also *Reed-bird* and *Rice-bird*.

1796 MORSE *Amer. Geog.* I. 210 Bobolincoln. 1809 W. IRVING *Knickerb.* (1861) 75 In the merry month of June... [when] the luxurious little bobolincoln revels among the clover blossoms of the meadows. 1840 — *Wolfer's R.* (1855) 20 The happiest bird of our spring... is the Bobolincoln, or Boblink, as he is commonly called. 1849 T. PARKER *Wks.* VII. 243 Who listen to the whippoorwill and the bobolink. 1855 in *Life W. Irving* IV. 163 The history of the bobolink, or bob-o-lincoln. 1879 LOWELL *Poet. Wks.* 372 The bobolink has come.

Bobolyne. Obs. rare. [Cf. *Bob v.* 1, also *Sp. bobo fool*.] A fool, a gaby. a. 1558 *SKELTON Image Hypocr.* iv. Wks. II. 445 Be we not bobolyne Sutch lesings to beleve.

Bob-sled, Bob-sleigh. U.S. A sled or sleigh, made of two short sleds or sleighs coupled together; used in drawing logs from the forest to a river or public road, and for various other purposes. 1848-60 in *BARTLETT*.

Bobstay. [f. *Bob* (uncertain in what sense) + *STAY sb.*] 'A rope used to confine the bowsprit of a ship downward to the stem... [Its use] is to draw down the bowsprit and keep it steady; and to counteract the force of the stays of the fore-mast, which draw it upwards.' *Falconer Dict. Marine* (1769).

1798 *Chron. in Ann. Reg.* 78/1 They... passed the end of the mizen top sail sheet through the enemy's bobstay. 1840 R. DANA *Def. Mast* xxx. 111 New and strong bobstays [were] fitted in the place of the chain ones. 1879 'STONE-HENGE' *Brit. Sports* II. viii. l. 5 Heave down the bobstay, and then haul the topmast forward again.

b. attrib., as in *bobstay-collar, -hole, -plate*. 1867 SMYTH *Sailor's Word-bk.*, *Bobstay-collars*... are almost entirely superseded by iron bands. *Ibid.*, *Bobstay-holes*, those cut through the fore-part of the knee of the head, between the cheeks, for the admission of the bobstay; they are not much used now, as chain bobstays are almost universal, which are secured to plates by shackles.

Bob-tail. [f. *Bob sb.* 1 + *TAIL*.] 1. Properly two words (bɒb tɛɪl): The tail (of a horse) cut short.

[Must be earlier than 1577: when the vb. occurs.] 1667 *London Gas.* No. 211/4 A fine light Bay Stone-horse... with his Mayne shorn, and a bob tail. 1720 *Ibid.* No. 5818/4 A brown Nag... with a Bob Tail.

B. attrib. (bɒbtɛɪl). Having a bob tail. 1605 SHAKS. *Lea* III. vi. 73 Hound or Spaniel, Brache, or Lyn: Or Bobtail tight (like) or Troude (Q. trundle) tale. 1829 MARRYAT *P. Mildmay* xxiii. The bob-tail Cur. 1848 LOWELL *Biglow P.* i. Trainin' round in bobtail coats. 1883 *Philadelph. Even. Star* 13 Feb. 3/4 Bob-tail Courtesies... The old familiar bob-tail cars.

C. sb. (bɒbtɛɪl). 1. A horse or dog with its tail cut short.

1676 *London Gas.* No. 1115/4 A white Mare, and a black Nag... both Bob-tails. a. 1843 SOUTHEY *Ep. A. Cunningham* Wks. III. 309 Mongrel and cur and bob-tail, let them yelp. 1. b. A kind of arrow: see *quot.*

1544 ASCHAM *Tophog.* (Arb.) 126 Those that be lytle brested and big toward the hede called by theyr lykenesse taper fashion... and of some merrey fellows bobtayles.

2. *transf.* A contemptible fellow, a cur. *Obs.* 1619 FLETCHER *M. Thomas* II. ii. 390 I'll not be bob'd i' th' nose with every bobtail.

3. (See *quot.*) *Obs.*

1583 HIGINS *Junius' Nomenclator* 533 (D.) Cousins by marriage, or kinned (as they commonly terme it) by bobtail.

4. *collectively.* [Perh. referring to 2 and 3.] *Tag-rag and bob-tail, or tag, rag, and bob-tail:* the common herd, the rabble. See *TAG*.

1659-60 *Perry's Diary* 6 Mar., The dining-room... was full of tag, rag, and bobtail, dancing, singing, and drinking. 1788 WOLCOTT (P. Pindar) *Ode to R. A's* II. Wks. 1812 I. 80 Tagrags and Bobtails of the sacred Brush. 1800 COLQUHOUN *Comm. Thames* II. 75 That lowest class of the community who are vulgarly denominated the Tag-Rag and Bobtail. c. 1817 HOGG *Tales & Sk.* V. 255 The tag-rag and bob-tail part of the citizens of Edinburgh. 1820 BYRON *Blues* II. 23 The tag, rag, and bobtail of those they call 'Blues'. 1840 DICKENS *Barn. Rudge* xxxv, 'We don't take in no tagrag and bobtail at our house.'

Bobtail (bɒbtɛɪl), *v.* [f. prec.] *trans.* To dock the tail of; *fig.* to cut short, shorten, curtail. 1577 STANYHURST *Descr. Irel. in Holinshed* VI. 28 A noble man, having a surpassing good horse... did bobtail him, least anie of his friends... should craue him. a. 1680 BUTLER *Rem.* (1759) II. 168 He is very just to the first Syllables of Words, but always bobtails the last. a. 1700 *Songs Costume* (1849) 179 This Cloak... bobtay'd the gown, Put preclacy down, And trod on the mitre to reach at the crown.

Hence *Bob-tailed a.* [f. vb. or sb.], with tail cut short; short-tailed.

1640 *King & North. Man* 62 in *Hazl. E. P. P.* IV. 295 His bob-tailed dog he out did call. 1708 *London Gas.* No. 3850/4 A clubbed bob-tailed black Mare. 1863 HAWTHORNE *Our Home* I. 19 The bob-tailed coat and mixed trousers constituted a very odd-looking court-dress.

Bob-white (bɒbˌwaɪt). [So called from its note.] A popular name of the common partridge of North America (*Odontophorus virginianus*). 1864 in *WEBSTER*. 1883 *Century Mag.* Aug. 483/1 Of all the game birds of America, none is better appreciated by the sportsman than little Bob-white.

Bob-wig: see *Bob sb.* 1, 4.

Boc, boc-land, etc.: see *BOOK sb.*

Boc, obs. pa. t. of BAKE v.

Bocage. [mod.F. *bocage* (bokaʒ) wood: = OF. *boscage*.] Woodland: a by-form of *BOSCAE*. 1644 *EVERLYN Mem.* (1857) I. 68 Whole fields, meadows, bocages. 1869 *FREEMAN Norm. Cong.* (1876) III. xii. 147 The men of the bocage and the men of the plain.

Bocal (bokaɪ, bɔːkəl). [mod.F. and Sp. *bocal*, related to late L. *boccale*, ad. Gr. *βαυκάλις* vessel for cooling liquids in, *βαυκάλιον* narrow-necked vessel. Cf. It. *boccale*, and Ger. *pokal*.] A glass bottle or jar with a short wide neck.

1796 *Gentl. Mag.* XXVI. 8 There are now fourteen French ships in our mole, the greatest part of which are laden with bocalas. 1847 in *CRAIG*; and in *mod. Dicts.*

Bocane. Obs. [Fr., f. the name of the inventor, *Bocan*, dancing master to Queen Anne of Austria.] 'A stately figure-dance, much esteemed in the 17th cent.' *Littre*.

a. 1701 *SRIDLEY Grumbler* III. l. Wks. (1766) 225 You would have a grave, serious dance, perhaps?... the courante, the bocane, the sarabande?

Bo-cardizing, ppl. a. nonce-wd. [f. next: see -IZE.] Forming awkward or bad syllogisms; reasoning awkwardly.

1652 *Woman's Univ.* in *Watson Sr. Poems* III. 103 Her bo-cardising Captions are, From *wo*, or else from *wore*.

Bocardo, bokardo (bɒkɑːrdo). [In med. L. the logical term goes back to the 12th or 13th c.

On the question of its relation to senses 2, 3, there appears to be no evidence: the conjecture has been offered that the prison may have been named in jocular reference to the impossibility of directly reducing this mood to the First Figure, or because it was considered an awkward form of the syllogism to get out of. The mutual relation of senses 2 and 3 is also uncertain: so far as the evidence goes, 2 may be a specific use of 3, or 3 a generalized application of 2. If the prison was named from the scholastic term, there would be an appropriateness in the name being first given in Oxford.] 1. *Logic.* A mnemonic word, representing by its vowels the fifth mood of the third figure of syllogisms, in which the premises are a particular negative and a universal affirmative, and the conclusion a particular negative, the middle term being the subject of both premises: thus some M is not P; all M is S; some S is not P.

1509 *BARCLAY Shippe of Follys* (1874) I. 144 Another comyth in with bocardo and pheryson. 1838 SIR W. HAMILTON *Logic* xxii. I. 443 Bocardo, which... was the opprobrium of the scholastic system of reduction. 1870 *BOWEN Logic* 204 Baroko and Bocardo have been stumbling-blocks to the logicians.

2. The name of the prison in the old North Gate of the city of Oxford, pulled down in 1771.

1535 R. LAYTON in *Strype Eccl. Mem.* I. 1. 210 Wee haue set Dunce [Duns Scotus] in Bocardo, and haue utterly banished him Oxford for ever, with all his bynd gosses. 1555 LATIMER *Let. ibid.* III. ii. App. xxxvi. 99 An epistle sent by Mr. Latimer to all the unfayned lovers of Godds trewth the owte of a prison in Oxenford, called Bocardo. 1604 *STRYPE Abb. Cranmer* III. xi. 341 And so Cranmer was returned to Bocardo, and the other two [Ridley and Latimer] to other Places. 1772 WHARTON *Newman's Verses*, Rare tidings for the wretch whose ling'ring score remains unpaid, bocardo is no more. 1874 M. BURROWS *Worthies All Souls* iii. 37 His brother, who was confined in Bocardo, the famous old prison-gateway which formerly stood at the top of Cornmarket Street. 1875 M. PATTISON *Casabon* 415.

3. A prison, dungeon. In phr. *in, into (to) Bocardo*.

1535 [The quot. of this date in 2, may possibly have the general sense of 'in prison']. 1550 LATIMER *Serm. bef. Edw. VI.* 232 Elias had preached Gods word... Was not this a seditious fellow? was not this fellows preaching a cause of all the trouble in Israel? Was he not worthy to be cast into bocardo or little ease? 1593 STUBBES *Anat. Abus.* K. viij. If he have not to satisfise aswel the one as th'other then to Bocardo goeth he as round as a ball, where he shalbe sure to lye until he rotte. 1653 ROB. BAILLIE *The Dissuasive v. vindicated* (1655) 62 For myself, I care the less to be cast in these Bocardo's. 1709 *Let. to Ld Mayors* 6 Your Lordship cou'd... not put him in Bocardo.

Bocare, obs. f. BOOKER, scribe.

Bocasin (bɒkəˈsɪn). Also 5 *bokesy*, 6-7 *bococasin* (e. [a. Sp. *bocaci* cotton stuff used for lining, (also of its Fr. form *bocassin* (Cotgr.), now *boucassin*), a. Turk. *böhāsi* or *بوغاسي* bog-hāsi cotton cloth (Kieffer el Bianchi).] 'A kind of fine Buckeram, that hath a resemblance of taffata, and is much used for lining.' Cotgr.

1485 *Inv. in Ripon Ch. Acts* 366, viij. uijn de blakke bokesye. una toga lyned cum bokesy. 1611 *COTGR.*, *Bocassin*, Bocassin. 1714 *French Bk. Rates* 36 Bocassin-stuff per Piece of 12 Ells. 1721 *BAILEY*, *Bocassin*, fine Buckeram, a sort of Linen Cloth. 1755 JOHNSON, *Bocassin* [as in BAILEY]; and in later Dicts.

Bocca (bɒkə, bɒkɑː). [It. = 'mouth'.]

1. A circular opening in a glass-furnace, through which the melting-pots are inserted and withdrawn. 1799 G. SMITH *Laborat.* I. 167 The mouth of a glass furnace is called the bocca. 1832 G. PORTER *Porcelain* 159 The openings... serving for the introduction of the materials and for the removal of the melted glass, are called boccas.

2. (See *quot.*)

1881 *Pop. Sci. Monthly* XIX. 51 The active bocca or mouth of Vesuvius.

Boccarella (bɒkkərəˈlɑː, bɒkərəˈlɑː). [It., dim. of prec.] A smaller opening on either side of the 'bocca' in a glass-furnace.

1799 G. SMITH *Laborat.* I. 167 On each side of the bocca, is a smaller hole, or boccarella. 1832 G. PORTER *Porcelain* 158 Sometimes called a boccarella, but more generally by the familiar name of nose-hole.

Bocche, Bocher, obs. ff. BOTCH, BUTCHER.

1. **Boce**. *Obs. Ichthyol.* [ad. L. *bōx*, pl. *bōces*, the name of a fish in Pliny (*N.H.* XXXII. xi.); cf. Fr. *bocque* a 'great-eyed Cackerell fish' (Cotgr.).] An acanthopterygian fish (*Bax* or *Boops vulgaris*), also called Bogue (family *Sparidae*), found in the Mediterranean, and rarely on the British coast.

1617 *RIDER Dict.*, *Boces*, small fishes so called, *Leucomanides*. 1753 *CHAMBERS Cycl. Suppl.*, *Boce*, the name given by Aristotle, and many other of the ancient Greek writers to the fish commonly called by authors *boops*.

2. **Boce**. *Obs.* [a. OF. *bos* wood, bush.] A by-form of *BUSH*.

1485 *Monk of Evesham* (Arb.) 40 A full depe valeye and a derke set with bocis and brackys on euery syde.

Bocce, obs. form of BOOSE, BOSS, BOTCH.

Bochchare, obs. f. BOTCHER.

Bocher, -or, bochsar, etc., obs. ff. BUTCHER.

Bocht, obs. form of BOUGHT.

3. **Bocion.** *Obs. rare.* [irreg. f. mod.L. *bocium*,

f. F. *boc*: cf. BOSS sb.¹, BOTCH sb.¹] A glandular swelling in the neck.

1547 BOORDE *Brev. Health* xiv. 22 Bocium or Nauta be the latin wordes. In English it is a swelling the which doth grow in the throte and in the necke. naturall bociions commonly chylidren hath. accidental bociions commeth to age or by myschaunce.

Book, book-land, etc.: see BOOK sb.

Book, var. of BUCK and BULK v. to belch.

Bookeler(s), **bookler**, obs. f. BUCKLER.

† **Bookerel**, **bookeret**. Obs. [Origin unknown: cf. BAWREL, BAWRET.] Names said to be given to the male and female, respectively, of a kind of long-winged hawk.

1633 WALTON *Angler* 12 The Gersfalcon and Jerkin. the Bockerel and Bokeret. 1672 RAY *Philos. Lett.* (1718) 113 There are, besides. . . a Boccarell, and a Boccaret. They are the Names of the Male and Female. 1721-1800 in BAILEY.

Booket, obs. form of BUCKET.

Bookey (bō'ki). [Bartlett compares Du. *bokaal* (see BOCAL), of which it may be diminutive form.] 'A bowl or vessel made from a gourd. A term peculiar to the city of New York and its vicinity.' Bartlett *Dict. Amer.* (1860).

Booking (bō'kin). [f. the village *Bocking* in Essex.] A kind of coarse woollen druggot or baize. 1739 B. MARTIN *Nat. Hist. Eng.* II. Essex 23 Bays, of which this Village has a peculiar Sort, called Bookings. 1848-60 BARTLETT *Dict. Amer.*, *Bocking*, a kind of baize or woollen cloth. used to cover floor or to protect carpets.

Boole, **boocull**(s), obs. forms of BUCKLE.

† **Boo-leden**. Obs. [OE. *bōc* book + *leden*, *leden*, Latin, hence, literary language: see LEDEN.] Book-Latin, the Latin language; afterwards book-language.

a 1000 O. E. *Chron.* Introd., Her sind on þis iglande fīf 7eþode, Englice, and Britisc and Wilsce, and Scyttisc, and Pyhtisc, and Boc Leden. c 1175 *Lamb. Hom.* 117 Episcopus is gerkisc noma þet is on boc leden speculator. c 1200 *Trin. Coll. Hom.* 151 Iacob on boc leden is ioleped under-plantere.

Boosom, -um, obs. forms of BUXOM.

† **Bo'cspell**. Obs. [OE. *boc* book + OE. *spell* story.] A history or narrative. c 1205 *LAV.* 17487. *Ibid.* 19423 Nu ich þe wulle tellen a bissen boc-spellen [c 1275 *bisse* boc-spelle].

† **Bo'cstaff**, -stave. Obs. [OE. *bōcstaf* corresp. to OS. *bōcstaf* (MDu. *bocstaf*), OHG. *buchstab* (MHG. *buchstap*, mod.G. *buchstabe*), ON. *bókstafr* (Sw. *bokstaf*, Da. *bogstav*). Cf. Goth. **bōkastaf*, 'letter (of the alphabet)', f. *bōk* writing-tablet, book + *staf*, staff, letter; according to some, orig. 'beech-staff', but see BOOK. This interesting old word, still in full use in continental languages, survived in English only to the 13th c., when it was superseded by *letter*. Its modern form would have been *bookstaff* or *buckstaff*, as a connexion with *book* was or was not explicitly retained.] A letter (of the alphabet).

a 1000 *Elene* 91 (Gr.) Se blaca beam bocstafum awriten. c 1200 ORMIN 4305 Writenn o Grickiscne boc Rihht wipþ bocstafess sece. c 1205 *LAV.* 7637 Feole cunne boc-staunen se ðere hiltē wes igrauen [not in later text].

Bodd - see BOD.

Buddle, variant of BUDDLE, com marigold.

Bodder, **Boddom**, obs. f. BOTHER, BOTTOM.

Bode (bōd), sb.¹ [Com. Teut.: OE. *boda* = OFris. *boda*, OS. *bodo* (MDu. and Du. *bode*), OHG. *boto* (MHG. and mod.G. *bote*), ON. *bōði* :- OTeut. **bodon*-, f. *bod*- stem of *beud-an*: see next.]

One who makes an announcement; a herald, a messenger. Obs. from 12th c., but recently affected by some writers on OE. history.

c 888 K. ÆLFRED *Boeth.* xxxvi. i, þu þe eart bode and for-rynel ðes soþan lechter. c 1175 *Coll. Hom.* 219 *Angeli* (boden), *archangel* (hahboden). 1613 R. C. *Table Alph.* (ed. 3), *Bode*, a messenger. 1848 LYTTON *Harold* iii. i. 49 Fast. . . went the bodes and riders of the Earl. 1872 E. ROBERTSON *Hist. Ess.* 114 The Beadle. the Bode or messenger of the Court. 1880 *Blackw. Mag.* Mar. 344 Their bodes brought the news of the landing at Pevensey.

Bode (bōd), sb.² Also 1-4 bod, 6 bod. [Com. Teut.: OE. *bod* (chiefly northern for *gebod*; cf. *bebod*), neuter = OFris. *bod*, OS. *gibod* (Du. *ge-bod*), OHG. *gabot*, (mod.G. *gebot*, *bot*), ON. *bōð* (Sw., Da. *bud*) :- OTeut. **gabodo*(m, f. *bod*- pa. ppl. stem of *beudan* to offer, etc., see BID v.)

† 1. Command, order, behest. Obs.

a 1000 *Hymns* vii. 109 (Gr.) We. . . þine bodu bræcon. c 1205 *LAV.* 30121 Þat bod wes ihalden. c 1340 *Gaw. & Gr. Knt.* 852 Þere were boun at his bode burnes in-noye.

† 2. Message, tidings. Obs.

c 1205 *LAV.* 27999 He brohte boden swiðe gode. c 1330 *Arth. & Merl.* 2046 A bod com fram the sarrazin. c 1450 LOWELICH *Grail* xlv. 340 Thanne cam he to þe messengers . . . and of here bode 3af hem answerung. 1637 RUTHERFORD *Lett.* clxxvii. (1862) i. 419 His bode is ever welcome to me, be what it will.

† 3. Premonition, omen, augury. Obs.

c 1374 CHAUCER *Part. Foules* 343 The owl eke, that of death the bode ybringeth. 1613 PURCHAS *Pilgr.* i. iii. xvii. 285 It was a good bode and happy presage. 1632 SHIRLEY *Love in Mass Epil.* If no fate have an unlucky bode.

4. Presentiment, foreboding. arch.

VOL. I.

1597 FLEMING *Contn. Holinshed* III. 1338/1 With better boad of lucke and lot, receive thou now the same. 1637 HRAVVSKE *Saul* (1869) 214 Down black bodes, false flies.

5. An offer of a price, a bid. Still in north. dial. c 1200 *Trin. Coll. Hom.* 213 Þe beggere (=buyer) ecneð his bode. 1304 P. Pl. *Crede* 716 [Friars] bene at lone and at bode As burgeses vsithe. 1790 BURNS *Lett.* 62, I refused fifty-five shillings for her, which was the highest bode I could squeeze. 1816 SCOTT *Antig.* xxxix, 'Ye should never tak a fish-wife's first bode.' 1833 READ *C. Johnstone* 63 Half-a-crown was his first bode.

† 6. Prayer, petition. Obs. cf. BEDE.

c 1175 *Lamb. Hom.* 65 Wenne scal þos bode [v. r. boode] us god don.

† **Bode**, sb.³ Obs. Forms: 3-4 bod, 4-6 bode; north. 4-5 bad, 4-6 bade, (4 baide, 6 beed). [Not found in OE., and either formed at a later time on BIDE, on the analogy of *abide*, *abode*, or an aphetic form of *ABODE* itself. In later use chiefly Sc., in form *bade*, *baid*.] Biding, tarrying, waiting, delay. But bode: without delay.

a 1300 *Cursor M.* 2485 An auter [abram] raised wit-outen bad. *Ibid.* 2535 Wit-outen baide. c 1350 *Will. Paterne* 149 Boute bod he braydes to þe quene. 1375 BARBOUR *Bruce* vi. 403 [He] gert arme his men. . . foruten baide. c 1440 *Bone Flor.* 1018 Than was there no longer bode. 1535 STEWART *Crom. Scot.* i. 213 He dressit him. . . But only baide. 1593 FEELS *Chron. Edw. I.* (1874) 384 Make thou thy bode in resolution to revenge these wrongs.

† **Bode**, sb.⁴ Obs. [Origin and standing uncertain: see note in *Cath. Angl.*] A pole or perch. 1483 *Cath. Angl.* 36 A Bode; *pola*.

Bode (bōd), v.¹ Forms: 1 bodig(e)an, 1-2 bodian, 2-4 bodien, 4, 7 boden, 6-7 boad(e), 4- bode. [OE. *bodian*, f. *boda* messenger; cf. ON. *bōða* of same meaning.]

† 1. trans. To announce, proclaim, preach. Obs. a 1000 *Hymns* x. 23 (Gr.) Bododon englas, þæt accenned was Crist on eorðan. c 1000 *Ag. Gosp.* Matt. xxiv. 14 Þis godspel byð bodod [c 1160 *Hattun G.* bodod] ofer ealle eorðan. a 1205 *Leg. Kath.* 1480 Men schal boden & bodien hit ouer al.

† b. absol. To preach (the gospel). Obs. c 1000 *Ag. Gosp.* Matt. iv. 17 Syððan ongan se Hæland bodian, and cweðan, Doð dæd-bote. *Ibid.* Mark v. 20 He ongan bodizean [c 1160 *Hattun G.* bodigen] on decapolim. c 1175 *Lamb. Hom.* 93 [Hi] bodeden mid ane speche.

† 2. To proclaim authoritatively, decree, order, bid, command (a person) that. Obs.

c 1205 *LAV.* 23730 Leteð blawen bemen and bodien mine monnen þat æwer selc god mon to niht wakien. a 1225 *St. Mark.* 17, I bidde ant bodie þat tu wurchē mi wil.

3. To announce beforehand, foretell, predict, prognosticate, presage. arch. a 1000 *Elene* 1141 (Gr.) Þæt was oft bodod feor ær beforan fram fruman worlde. c 1175 *Cott. Hom.* 235 Hi. . . bodeden ures hlafores tocyeme. a 1250 *Out & Night.* 1155 Other thu bodes husas brune. . . Other thu bodes culum of orve. 1676 BULLOKER, *Bode*, to foretel, or prognosticate. 1735 *Forc. Hist.* i. 132 Prophet of plagues, for ever boding ill! 1771 FRANKLIN *Autobiog.* Wks. 1840 i. 79 There are croakers in every country, always boding its ruin.

4. Of things: To give promise of, be indicative of, betoken, portend.

1387 TREVISA *Higden* (1865) II. 293 It bodid grete merite and vertue. 1483 *Cath. Angl.* 36 To Bode, *portendere*. 1604 SHAKS. *Ham.* i. i. 69 This bodies some strange eruption to our State. 1650 R. STAPILTON *Strada's Low-C. Warres* iii. 60 All things seemed to bod a Civill warre. 1822 BYRON *Werner* ii. i. 248 So much haste bodes Right little speed. 1860 TYNDALL *Glac.* i. § 5-37 That lingering rosy hue which bodes good weather.

b. esp. (with *well* or *ill*) To give good or bad promise, to augur well or ill.

a 1700 DRYDEN (J.), Whatever now The omen proved, it boded well to you. 1832 WHATELY *Let. in Life* (1866) i. 159, I can see nothing that bodes well to the Church Establishment: I fear its days are numbered. 1870 DISRAELI *Lothair* lxxxiv. 454 Some think this bodes ill for the Church.

† 5. To signify, typify. Obs.

1387 TREVISA *Higden* Rolls Ser. III. 13 Solomon's temple, bodeð holy chirche [in figura presentis ecclesie].

6. To have a presentiment of; to forebode (generally evil).

1740 RICHARDSON *Pamela* (1824) i. 80 My presaging mind bodes horrid mischiefs. 1850 BLACKIE *Æschylus* II. 229 And my soul, dark-stirred with the prophet's mood, Bodes nothing good.

Bode, v.² Sc. [prob. f. BODE sb.² 5 = to make a 'bode'.] trans. To bid for, make an offer for.

Scotch *Adage*, Bode a robe and wear it, Bode a poke and bear it.

Bode, early var. of *bode*, BOOTH, and of BODEN.

Bode = behoved, pa. t. of BUS v.

Bodeful (bōd'fūl), a. [f. BODE sb.² + -FUL. A modern formation (not in Todd, Richardson, or Craig 1847) very frequent in modern poets and essayists.] Full of presage, boding, ominous. 1813 SCOTT *Rokeby* vi. xxi, Over Redesdale it came, As bodeful as the beacon-flame. 1816 FRASER'S *Mag.* VI. 39 The pause was bodeful. 1837 CHARLIE *Fr. Rev.* i. i. iii. iii. 55 A sign and wonder; visible to the whole world; bodeful of much. 1870 LOWELL *Among my Bks.* Ser. i. (1873) 186 The voice of the bodeful bird.

|| **Bodega** (bod'gā). [Sp.; = wine-shop :- L. *apotheca*, a. Gr. *ἀποθήκη* depôt, store.] A wine-shop in Spain; recently adopted as a specific name for a cellar or shop for the sale of wines only.

1876 *Vineyard to Decanter* 18 The bodega, unlike the English idea of a wine cellar, is a large building above ground. 1879 ESCOTT *England* i. 162 Wine-shades, bodegas, and saloons abound both above and under ground (in Liverpool). 1883 *Manch. Examiner* 14 July 5/3 An enterprising firm of wine merchants have popularised their specialities by the multiplication of bodegas.

Bodekyn(ne), obs. form of BODKIN.

Bodel, **Bodelich**, obs. form of BODLE, BODILT.

Bodement (bōd'mēt). [f. BODE v.¹ + -MENT (Romanic suffix).]

1. An omen, augury, presage.

1605 SHAKS. *Macb.* iv. i. 96 Who can impress the Forrest, bid the Tree Vnfixe his earth-bound Root? Sweet bodements, good. 1613 Br. HALL *Holy Panegyrr.* 61 It was a iust bodement of his future greatness.

2. Foreboding, presentiment.

1648 *Life G. Villiers in Harl. Misc.* (Malh.) V. 321 Whether he had never any secret bodements in his mind? 1820 H. COLERIDGE *Poems* II. 303 Bodements sweet of immortality.

† 3. Signification. Obs. rare.

1652 W. BURTON *Itin. Anton.* 200 Faustinus in the Latine . . . having the bodement or signification of felicity, or favour.

4. Prophecy, prediction, prognostication.

1826 Miss MITTFORD *Village Ser.* ii. (1863) 368 The blessed sun himself may have been rash enough to contradict her bodements. 1833 COLERIDGE *Poems* II. 367 Her deep prophetic bodements.

† **Boden**, v. Obs. [Extended form of BODE v.¹: see -EN. Much used by P. Holland.] = BODE v.¹

1561 DAUS tr. *Bullinger on Apoc.* (1573) 19 b, Any euill or fearful spirit, bodening any misfortune. 1600 HOLLAND *Livy* vii. 270, I dread to boden what it may import. *Ibid.* xxix. 736 As if they bodened and foretold by their arrival that they were come for a new pillage.

Boden, ppl. a. Sc. Forms: 5-9 bodin, 6-yn, boidin, 7 boddin, 9 boden. [*Boden* occurs in the Scottish Acts from 1429 in the sense of 'accounted, armed'. The form is that of the pa. pple. of BID, and it has been conjectured that in the formula 'all boden in feir of weir' it meant originally either 'offered' or 'summoned by proclamation'; but if this was so, it is difficult to account for the change in the use of the word. (The sense suggests some connexion with *boun*, BOUND, 'ready, prepared'.) See FEIR.]

† 1. Provided with arms, accounted, armed. Obs. [cf. 1375 BARBOUR *Bruce* viii. 103, I trow he suld be hard to sla, And he war bodyn all evynly.] 1490 *Scot. Acts Jas. I.* (1597) § 122 Ilk Barronne. . . sall see and ordaine his men to be bodin, as is before writen. And gif he dois not this. . . the Schireffe sall raise of ilk yeaman then not bodin, as is foresaid, a wedder. *Ibid.* § 123 Burgeses of twentie pundes in guds salbe bodin with hat, doublet, or habergeon.

c 1505 DUNBAR *Dance* 36 Bostaris, braggaris and barganaris. . . All bodin in feir of weir. 1513 DOUGLAS *Æneis* vii. xii. 126 For thai wald be lycht bodyne ay to ryn. 1535 STEWART *Crom. Scot.* II. 644 Weill boidin with bow, buklar and brand. 1639 *His Majesty's Procl. Scotl.* 6 Great troops and bands of men, all boddin in fear of war, with guns and pistoles. [1820 SCOTT *Monast.* xxxiii, Bodin in all that efforts to war. 1828 - F. M. Perth i. 20 Bodin in effeir of war.]

2. Provided, furnished, fitted out, prepared; dressed. Usually with *well* or *ill*.

c 1425 WYNTOUN *Crom.* vii. ix. 213 The Byschappys, and the gret Prelatis, thai war better bodyn to pay. a 1774 FERGUSSON *Election Poems* (1845) 40 'Where's Johnny gaun, That he's sae gaily bodin?' 1776 RAMSAY *Sc. Prov.* 32 (JAM.) He's well boden there ben, that will neither borrow nor lend: 1806 in R. JAMIESON *Pop. Ballads* i. 293 (JAM.) His pantrie was never ill-boden.

Boden, obs. pa. pple. of *bode*, BID, and BIDE.

Boder (bōd'ar). [f. BODE v.¹ + -ER.] One who or that which bodes.

c 975 *Rushw. Gosp.* Luke ix. 33 Bodere [*Lindisf.* bodare = *uag.* praecceptor], god is us her to wosane. 1692 E. WALKER *Epistetus Mor.* xxiii, You should suppose This Boder could Futurity disclose. 1846 LONDON *Hellenics* Wks. II. 485 The sunny circles. . . boder of a storm.

Boder, obs. form of BOTHER.

† **Bodeword**. Obs. exc. dial. [f. BODE sb.² + WORD. Only northern.]

† 1. Commandment, behest. Obs.

c 1200 ORMIN 4377 Þa tene bodewordess. c 1250 *Gen. & Ex.* 361 For ðhu min bodeword haues broken. a 1300 E. E. *Psalter* ii. 6 (Mätz.) Spelland his bodeworde.

† 2. Message, announcement. Obs.

c 1250 *Gen. & Ex.* 2880 Godes bode-wurd bringe ic. c 1325 *Metr. Hom.* 44 Hou sain Jon bodword broht bald. He was ryt Cristes messenger. 1375 BARBOUR *Bruce* xv. 423 Of this avow soyne bodword was brocht till schir lames of douglass. c 1460 *Towneley Myst.* 58 Gladly they wold me greyf, If I syche bodworde broght. 1513 DOUGLAS *Æneis* vii. vi. 4 Of peax and concord bodword brocht agane. a 1700 *Ballad Batt. Harlaw* Sent nae bodword back again.

3. Premonition, presage.

1832-33 *Whistle-binkie* (Sc. Songs) Ser. iii. 84 Sae braw a mornin' gae a bodeword fell, That some wanchance was no that far awa.

† **Bodge**, sb.¹ Obs. or dial. [f. BODGE v.: cf. BOTCH sb.².] A clumsy patch; a botched piece of work.

1599 *Paphe w. Hatchet* (1844) 20 You shall blush at your owne bodes. 1598 FLORIO, *Sboasi*, bodes, or bunger-like workes. 1877 FRACOCK *North Lincolnsh. Gl.*, *Bodge*, a botch, a clumsy patch.

† **Bodge**, sb.² Obs. Also 6 bogge. A measure used in selling oats, etc.; app. about half a peck. 1520 *MS. Acc. St. John's Hosp., Canterb.*, iij bushellis

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& iij bogges of benys. 1631 B. JONSON *New Inn* i. v. Wks. (1692) 726 To the last Bodge of Oats, and Bottle of Hay. 1683 *Rob. Conscience* in *Harl. Misc.* I. 50 Their bogdes, which for half-pecks go, They vowed at my head to throw. † **Bodge**, *v.* *Obs.* or *dial.* [An altered form of *BOTCH* *v.*; cf. *grudge* from *grutch*.]

1. *trans.* To patch or mend clumsily.

1554 HULOT, *Bodge* or botche olde clothes. 1570 LEVINS *Manip.* 156 To Bodge, *sarcine*. 1870 — [in *Leicester-sh.*, *Nth. Lincolnsh.*, *Shropsh.*, and other dial. Glossaries].

2. To bodge up: to put together clumsily; to botch up, to do or make up in a clumsy fashion.

1578 T. WHITE *Serm. St. Paulus Cross* 33 To bodge up a house which will never abide the trial. *Ibid.* 47 A disease is but boded or patched up that is not cured in the cause.

1593 NASH *Christ's T.* 55 b. They... that bungle and bodge vppw wicked verses. 1881 *Daily News* 31 Aug. 2/3 Gaps boded up by the rudest of post and pole barriers.

Bodge, *obs.* or *dial.* f. **BADGE** *v.* 2. **BUDGE**.

† **Bodged**, *ppl. a.* *Obs.* or *dial.* [f. **BODGE** *v.* + *-ED* 1.] Made up clumsily, botched.

1519 HORMAN *Vulgaria* in *Promp. Parv.* 42 Thou hast but bodchyd and countrefeat Latten, *imaginarie umbratilisque figure*. 1569 J. SANFORD *Agrippa's Van. Artes* 12 b. With bodged verses to delite the eares of fooles.

Bodger 1. *Obs.* or *dial.* [f. **BODGE** *v.* + *-ER* 1.] One who 'bodes'; a botcher.

1554 HULOT, *Bodger*, botcher, mender, or patcher of olde garments. 1567 HARDING in *Jewell Def. Apol.* (1612) 500 Be they... tinkers or Tapsters, coblers or Bodgers. [In modern dialects.]

Bodger 2. *Obs.* or *dial.* [? = **BADGER** *sb.* 1.]

! A travelling dealer, a pedlar.

1736 W. ELLIS *New Exper. Hush.* 49 (E. D. S.) The sheep-bodgers or dealers. 1810 CRABBE *Borough* v. Wks. 1834 III. 108 The warmest burgess wears a bodger's coat.

† **Bodgery**, *Obs.* Botched work, bungling.

1594 NASH *Strange News* Biv b. Doe you know your owne misbegotten bodgery?

† **Bodging**, *vbl. sb.* *Obs.* Also 6 and 9 *dial.* bogging. [f. **BODGE** *v.* + *-ING* 1.]

1. The action of patching clumsily.

1633 SANDERSON *Serm. ad. Aut.* iii. (1681) II. 36 The Bodging in of a course Shred into a fine garment.

2. Botching, bungling.

1618 BRINSLEY *Lud. Lit.* 107 To turne the prose of the Poets into the Poets owne verse, without any bodging.

Bodice (*bōdis*). Forms: 6-7 *bodies*, 8-9 *boddice*, 7- *boddice*. [A variant of *bodies* (see *BODY* 6), retaining the earlier sound of final -s, the original phrase being 'a pair of bodies'; even with the spelling *bodice* the word was formerly (like *pence*, *mice*, *dice*, *truce*) treated as a plural.]

1. Formerly. An inner garment for the upper part of the body, quilted and strengthened with whalebone (worn chiefly by women, but also by men); a corset, stays; freq. called a *pair of bodies* (*bodice* = 'a pair of stays').

1608 FLETCHER *Loyal Subj.* II. i. 31 If the bones want setting In her old bodies. a 1637 B. JONSON *Elegie* ix. (1854) 829 The whale-bone man That quilts those bodies I have leave to span. 1674 GREW *Anat. Plants* v. 3 A Flower without its Empelement, would hang as uncouth and taudry, as a Lady without her Bodies. 1679 LUTTRELL *Brief Rel.* (1857) I. 23 Mowbray... having a pair of bodice on, and falling down as if really dead, the assassinate fled. 1706 *Lond. Gas.* No. 4196/4 A pair of new blewish Bodice. 1779 JOHN-SON *Pope, L. P.* (1787) IV. 91 [Pope] was invested in boddice made of stiff canvass, being scarce able to hold himself erect till they were laced.

b. *fig.*

1773 FIELDING *Covent Gard. Yrnl.* No. 55 His sentiment, when let loose from that stiff bodice in which it is laced. 1855 MACAULAY *Hist. Eng.* xviii. (1872) III. 303/1 It was never... found politic to put trade into straitlaced bodices.

2. The upper part of a woman's dress, a tight-fitting outer vest or waistcoat, either made in a piece with the skirt or separate (cf. *BODY* *sb.*); also, an inner vest worn immediately over the stays.

1566-7 *Prec. Treas.* in *Chalmers Mary* (1818) I. 207 Of ormaise taffatis to lyne the bodies and sclevis of the gounne and vellicote. 1665 FLETCHER *Fair Maid* II. ii. 35 Nothing but her vpper bodies. 1688 WHEELER *Journ. Greece* I. 64 They wear a Bodies of Red or Green Velvet. 1712 STEELE *Spect.* No. 276 P. 3 He keeps me in a pair of Slippers, neat Bodice, warm Petticoats. 1873 BLACK *Pr. of Thule* VII. 98 She wore a tight-fitting bodice of cream-white flannel.

3. *Comb.* and *Attrib.*, as *bodice hand*, *bodice-maker*, -seller.

1674 R. WILD *Declat. Lib. Cons.* 2 A neighbouring Bodies-maker, that whistles a Psalm-tune. 1684 *Lond. Gas.* No. 1080/4 Mr. John Nichols Bodice seller at the Falcon on London Bridge. 1701 *Ibid.* No. 378/8 At Mr. Cade's, a Bodice-seller. 1758 JOHNSON *Idler* No. 40 P. 12 The taylor and boddice-makers of the present age.

Bodied (*bōdid*), *ppl. a.* [f. **BODY** + *-ED* 1.]

1. Having a body or trunk; usually with an adjective, forming a parasynthetic comb., as *big-bodied*, *ABLE-BODIED*, etc.

a 1547 SURREY *Enaid* IV. 582 Like to the aged boysteous bodied oke. 1590 SHAKS. *Com. Err.* IV. ii. 20 He is deformed... ill-fac'd, worse bodied, shapelesse euery where. 1665 PURCHAS *Pilgrims* II. 1421 The women in Camienitz goe with their Coates close bodied. 1668 FULLER *Worthies* (1840) II. 339 He [unicorn] is commonly pictured, bodied like a buck. 1799 T. COOKE *Tales, Propos.* etc. 121 Light body'd Cranes. 1875 BLACKMORE *C. Vaughan* xv. 49 Of moderate stature, gauntly bodied, and loosely built.

b. Having substance, strength, consistency, etc.

1611 SPEED *Theat. Gl. Brit.* x. (1614) 12/1 Springs... gathering still strength with more branches, lastly grow bodyed able to beare ships into the land. c 1645 HOWELL *Lett.* (1650) I. 372 The most firm, the best bodied, and lasting wine. 1666 EVELYN *Diary* (1827) II. 260 Drebbell, inventor of y^e bodied scarlet.

2. Endowed with material form or being; made corporeal or material; embodied.

1646 J. HALL *Poems* 39 Ne're a body'd nothing shall perceive How we unite, how we together cleave. 1840 CARLYLE *Heroes* III. 140 Bodied or bodiless, it is the one fact important for all men:—but to Dante, in that age, it was bodied in fixed certainty of scientific shape. 1855 BROWNING *One Word More*, in *Men & Wom.* II. 240 Like the bodied heaven in clearness Shone the stone.

† **Bodify**, *v.* *Obs.* [f. **BODY** + *-FY*.] To embody. 1685 *Roxb. Ballads* (1885) V. 541 Arch-Angels sure, leaving their glorious Sphere, Once more themselves have Bodified and here Resolve as English Nobles to appear.

† **Bodilych**, *Obs.* rare. [A compound used by Ormin; f. *bodig*, *BODY* + *LICH*, body; also used by him separately as synonymous terms.] = **BODY**.

c 1200 ORMIN 1694 Cristes halshhe bodilych. *Ibid.* 16340 Adam... Off whamm I toc mi bodilych.

† **Bodikin**, *Bodikie*, *Obs.* Also *bodkin*. [dim. of *BODY*: see *-KIN* 2, *-KIE*.]

1. A diminutive body; a corpuscle, an atom.

1668 CULPEPPER & COLE *Barthol. Anat.* II. vi. 106 Small Bodikies or indivisible Particles of the Blood... If any reliques of the said Bodikies did remain. 1781-1800 BAILEY, *Bodikin*, a little body. *Obs.*

2. (God's, o'ds) *bodikins!* *bodkins!* (*bodlikins!*) God's dear body!: an oath. Cf. *BODY* 4.

1585 SHAKS. *Merry W.* II. iii. 46 Body-kins M. Page. 1608 — *Ham.* II. ii. 554 Gods bodykins (*Qy.* Bodkin) man, better. 1733 FIELDING *Quix.* in *Eng.* II. viii. Odsbodlikins... you have a strange sort of a taste. 1753 SMOLLETT *Ct. Fathom* (1784) 63/1 As for the matter of dress, bodlikins!

Bodiless (*bōdiles*), *a.* [f. **BODY** + *-LESS*.]

1. Having no body, no material form or being; incorporeal; without substance, unsubstantial.

1598 TREVISA *Barth. De P. R.* II. ii. (1495) 27 Angel is substantia intellectuall alway mouable, free and bodylesse. 1561 T. NORTON *Calvin's Inst.* III. 266 A vain bodylesse shew of fayth doth not iustifie. 1608 SHAKS. *Ham.* III. iv. 138 This is the very cogainge of your Braine, This Bodiless Creation extasie Is very cunning in. 1610 W. FOLKINGHAM *Art Survey* II. vi. 58 Gum-water, very thynne and bodiless. 1733 SWIFT *Legion Club* Wks. 1755 IV. 1. 203 Phantoms bodiless and vain. 1868 ROBERTSON *Serm.* Ser. IV. xxix. 221 Man becomes for ever a bodiless spirit.

2. Wanting the trunk; trunkless.

1597 *Censure loyal Subj.* (Collier) 9 My eies saw their traitorous harts burned, and bodiless heads advanced to view. 1810 SOUTHEY *Kehama* XI. viii. Two winged Hands came in, Armless and bodiless. 1831 *Blackw. Mag.* XXIX. 219 The bodiless cherubs on our churchyard stones.

Hence *Bodilessness*.

1669 R. WALLIS *Delitsch's Bibl. Psychol.* 513 In contradiction to... bodilessness.

Bodilize, *v. nonce-wd.* [suggested by *spiritualize*.] *trans.* To make corporeal or material.

1843 SOUTHEY *Doctor* clxxiv. (D.) Unless we endeavour to spiritualize ourselves... age bodilizes us more and more.

Bodily (*bōdili*), *a.* Also 3-5 *bodili*, 4 *bodi-*, *bodilych*, 4-6 *bodely*, 4 *bodell*, 6 *bodelie*, *bodyle*, 7 *bodille*. [f. **BODY** + *-LY* 1.]

† 1. Of the nature of body, corporeal, material, physical; as opposed to *spiritual*. *Obs.*

a 1300 *Cursor M.* 428 Wit angel bat es gastli, And with man bat es bodili. a 1340 HAMPOLE *Pr. Cons.* 3129 Som clerkes, bat spekes of purgatory. Says bat pe fire pare is bodili, And nocht gastly as be saule es. c 1440 PECCOCK *Repr.* II. xvi. 243 The bodili heuen and hise seid bodili parties. 1528 MORE *Herseyes* I. Wks. 152/2 That any bodily thyng should drawe an other without touching. 1633 EARL MANCHE. *Al Mondo* 178 There are three bodily Inhabitants already gone to heaven. 1674 N. FAIRFAX *Bulk & Selv.* 108 The World... that bulk of bodily beings we see.

2. Of or belonging to the body or physical nature of man. *Bodily fear*: alarm for one's personal safety, apprehension of physical harm.

a 1300 *Cursor M.* 12929 (Göt.) Bodili fode. c 1305 E. E. ALLIF. P. A. 477 With bodily bale hym blysse to byye. c 1380 WYCLIF *De Pseudo-Febris* Wks. (1880) 305 Bodiliche chastite is ofte broken. 1454 E. E. WILLS (1882) 132 Beyng in good bodily helth. 1494 FABYAN VI. clxxxii. 179 The bysshop... myght departe thens without bodily harme. 1651 HOBBS *Leviath.* II. xxvii. 155 The fear... of corporeall hurt, which we call Bodily Fear. 1711 BUDGELL *Spect.* No. 161 P. 5 Fatigues of bodily Labour. 1765 REID *Int. Powers* 276 My memory is not limited by any bodily organ. 1837 DICKENS *Pickw.* xl. 'I'm in bodily fear.' 1838 — *Nich. Nick.* xxi. Bodily illness is more easy to bear than mental.

† b. Real; actual; physically carried out. *Obs.* 1607 SHAKS. *Cor.* I. ii. 5 What euer [counsels] haue bin thought one in this State That could be brought to bodily act, ere Rome Had circumuention.

† c. *Bodily oath*: = *CORPORAL OATH*. Perhaps, originally, an oath taken on the consecrated host or 'body' of Christ; but used also of oaths taken with a 'bodily touch' of other sacred things. *Obs.* c 1470 HENRY Wallace IV. 190 The bodelye ayth that maid him with gud will. 1639 COUNCIL *Rec.* in *Inverness Courier* (1884) 25 Oct. 3/4 The said A. B. has giuine his great and bodeli aith.

† d. Solid; of or pertaining to a solid. *Obs.*

1557 RECORDE *Whetst.* Cij b. Thereof be thei named bodily numbers, or sound numbers. The lease of them all is commonly called a Cube. 1570 BILLINGSLEY *Euclid* XI. Introd. 312 In these bookes following he entreteath of..

bodily figures: as of Cubes. 1601 HOLLAND *Pliny* I. 20 That they [clouds] be thick, grosse, and of a bodily consistence.

Hence † *Bodilize*, *Bo-dilize*, *corpore-*ality; *Bo-dily-wise* *adv.*, corporeally, in the body.

c 1440 HVLTON *Scala Perf.* (W. de W. 1494) II. xxxiii. The kynde of god that is... ferrest for bodily hede. 1507 GOLDING *De Mornay* xiv. 205 It behoueth the same [Soule] to be altogether bodylesse it selfe: for had it any bodyl-nesse at all, it could not receiue any body into it. 1869 LYNCH *Church & St.* 24 We cannot be in the country and in the town at the same time bodily-wise.

Bodily (*bōdili*), *adv.* [f. as *prec.* + *-LY* 2.]

† 1. In the manner of, or with regard to, the body; corporeally (often = 'unspiritually'). *Obs.*

c 1370 *Lay-Folks Mass-Bk.* App. iv. 630 God bat dized vppon be tre, bat be prest receyuede bodile. 1394 P. Pl. *Crede* 619 All bo blissed beþ bat bodiliche hungreþ. c 1440 LONELICH *Grail* (Roxb.) I. 450 Of man that in this world lyveth bodily. 1579 FULKE *Heskins' Parl.* 323 It fedde the faithfull, not onely bodily, but also spirituall. 1685 RAXTER *Paraph. N. T.* Mark vi. 53 That we could as bodily believe and trust him for our... Souls.

2. In or with the body; in the flesh; in person.

c 1440 *Three Kings* (1885) 26 Pe tyme was to-come bat he schulde ber appare bodilich. 1578 THYNNIS *Let. in Animadu.* Introd. (1865) 59 Since I ame... barred bodily to appoche your presence. 1640 SIR E. DERING *Prop. Sacr.* (1644) 45 Christ... bodily present. 1803 SOUTHEY *Wks.* VI. 173 This is our father Francisco, Among us bodily.

3. *transf.* With the whole body or bulk, 'body and all'; all together, in one mass, as a whole.

1793 SWEATON *Edystone* L. 322 The seas came in bodily over the Barbican wall. 1830 MRS. BROWNING *Poems* II. 4 As if that, over brake and lea, Bodily the wind did carry The great altar of St. Mary. 1877 A. B. EDWARDS *Up Nile* xviii. 520 A full-length portrait of Seti I., cut out bodily from the walls of his sepulchre.

Bodiment (*bōdiment*), *rare.* [f. **BODY** + *-MENT*.] Giving of form or body; embodiment.

1873 G. C. DAVIES *Monst. & Mere* iv. 25 No alive and outward bodiment.

Bodin, var. of *BODEN* *ppl. a.* *Sc.* provided.

† **Bodiness**, *Obs.* rare. [f. **BODY** + *-NESS*.]

The state or quality of having bodily form; corporeity, material condition.

1598 TREVISA *Barth. De P. R.* VIII. xl. In what manner wise þey beþ medlid togederes, askes and water, þe water abideþ in his bodiness [333 corporellesse]. 1674 N. FAIRFAX *Bulk & Selv.* 100 A full-length portrait of Seti I., cut out bodily from the walls of his sepulchre.

Boding (*bōding*), *vbl. sb.* [f. *BODE* *v.* 1 + *-ING* 1.]

† 1. Annunciation, proclamation, preaching. *Obs.* c 1000 *Ag. Gosp.* Matt. xii. 41 Hix dydon deaðbote on Ionas bodinge. c 1160 *Halton G.* *Ibid.*, Bodiunge. c 1175 *Lamb. Hom.* 89 Godspelles bodinge.

2. Premonition, presentiment; *concr.* prognostic, omen, portent.

1597 R. GLOUC. 428 Pe taylede sterre, bat gret bodynge ys. 1598 TREVISA *Barth. De P. R.* XVIII. l. (1495) 737 Beestes haue redynesse of wytte in bodynge of chaungynge of tyme and wedders. 1555 HARRSFIELD *Divorce* *Hen. VIII.* (1878) 280 A sorrowful boding of the... mischief that... did after-ward chance. 1768 GOLDSM. *Good Nat. Man.* v. i. I have had some boding of it these ten days. 1810 WORDSW. *Scenery Lakes* (1823) 115 A Shepherd accustomed to watch all mountain bodings.

3. Prediction, prophecy (generally of evil).

1668 TEMPLE *Let. Wks.* 1731 II. 169 Too much entertained with ill Bodings and Complaints. 1817 COLERIDGE *Sibyl.* *Leaves* (1862) 188 Better fate be thine And mock my boding! 1833 HT. MARTINEAU *Brooke P.* iv. 54 Norton... would listen to no evil bodings.

Boding (*bōding*), *ppl. a.* [f. *BODE* *v.* 1 + *-ING* 2.]

That bodes; presaging, portending, ominous.

1593 SHAKS. *Van. & Ad.* 647 My boding heart pants, beats, and takes no rest. 1594 — *Rich. III.* v. iii. 228 The sweetest sleepe, And fairest boding Dreames. 1708 ROWE *Amb. Step-Moth.* I. i. 434 Spight of my boding fears. a 1771 GRAY *Poems* (1775) 53 No boding Maid of skill diuine Art thou. 1785 COWPER *Task* I. 205 The boding owl That hails the rising moon. 1824 W. IRVING *T. Trav.* II. 257 Listening to the boding cry of the tree road.

Hence *Bodingly* *adv.*

1839 LOWELL *Summ. Storm* *Poet.* Wks. (1879) 81 All is so bodingly still. 1866 MOTLEY *Dutch Rep.* IV. iv. 619 Sorrowfully and bodingly Mansfeld withdrew to consult again.

† **Bodiship**, *Obs.* rare. [f. **BODY** + *-SHIP*.]

Corporeality, material substance or condition.

1674 N. FAIRFAX *Bulk & Selv.* 53 All bodiship, with those its belongers which make it sensible unto us.

Bodken, -kin, variants of *BAUDEKIN*, *Obs.*, cloth.

Bodkin (*bōdkin*). Forms: 4 *boidekyn*, *boy-*tekyn, *bode-*, *boydekynne*, 4-5 *boyde-*, *bode-*kyn, 5 *boddekyn*, 6 *boddikynne*, *botken*, -kin, *bodkyn*, *bodkine*, 7 (*boidkene*), 5- *bodkin*.

[Of unknown etymology: the orig. form in Eng. was *boydekyn*, *boidekyn*, in 3 syllables. The form naturally suggests a dim. in -kin; but no primitive of the required form appears in Eng. or other related language. The phonetic history is also difficult. (In default of finding it elsewhere, the derivation has been sought in Celtic. The Welsh *bodlyn* 'little dagger', fixed on by some, must be discarded, both because it is accented on the penult, and because the ME. word was itself adopted in Welsh as *buytkin*; but some still think it possible that *boydekyn* may have originated in some kind of corruption of Ir. *bideog*, Gael. *bidadag*, Welsh *bidadag* dagger.)]

† 1. A short pointed weapon; a dagger, poniard, stiletto, lancet. *Obs.*

1366 CHAUCER *Reveries* T. 40 Slayn of Symkyn With panade or with knyf or boidekyn [v. r. boydekyn, boytekyne, Boydekynne]. c. 1430 LYDG. *Bochas* vi. xii. (title), Victorious Julius Caesar... was murdered with bodkins. 1477 EARL RIVERS (Caxton) *Dietes* 49 One of his disciples took a boddekyn and pricked him in his feet. 1535 COVERDALE 1 *Kings* xviii. 28 They... prouoked them selues with knyues & bodkens (1611 lancet). 1547 SALESBURY *Dict. Eng. & Welsh*, *Budykin*, a bodkyn. 1580 SIDNEY *Arcadia* 276, l. 1. doedefie thee, in a mortall affray from the bodkin to the pike vpward. 1608 SHAKS. *Ham.* iii. i. 76 When he himself might his Quietude make With a bare Bodkin. 1657 TRAPP *Comm. Esther* iv. 3 This was now a bodkin at their hearts. [1890 Mrs. JAMISON *Leg. Monast. Ord.* (1863) 137 The long bodkin with which those wicked Jews pierced his side.]

2. A small pointed instrument, of bone, ivory, or steel, used for piercing holes in cloth, etc.

c. 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 42 Boydekyn or boidekyn, *subucula, perforatorium*. 1555 *Fayrde Facions* II. x. 212 About the poyncte of the chinne they haue a feawe beares as it were pricked in with Bodkins. 1589 *Pappe w. Hatchet* (1844) 28 Wee challenge him at all weapons from the taylors bodkin to the watchmans browne bil. 1608 PLAT *Delights for Ladies* iii. xxx. Make little holes in the Cowcumber first with a woddon or bone bodkin. 1609 A. CRAIG *Poet. Recreat.* 4 Who according to the antient custome hath bored his eare with a bodkene. 1785 *Reid Int. Powers* II. xix. 325 A spire at a very great distance seems like a point of a bodkin.

3. A long pin or pin-shaped ornament used by women to fasten up the hair.

1580 BARET *Alt.* B 875 A bodkine or big needle to crest the heares, *discriminale*. 1635 J. TAYLOR (Water P.) in *Hart. Misc.* IV. 218 Women's masks, busks, muffs, fans, perriwigs, and bodkins. 1714 *POPE Rape Lock* v. 95 Then in a bodkin grac'd her mother's hair. 1716 LADY M. W. MONTAGUE *Lett.* x. l. 32 Their hair is... set out with three or four rows of bodkins (wonderfully large, that stick out two or three inches from their hair). 1800 SCOTT *Monast.* xvii. She undid from her locks a silver bodkin around which they were twisted. 1864 LONGF. *King Olaf* viii. viii. 'Tis the bodkin that I wear When at night I bind my hair. 1853 D. WILSON *Presb. Ann.* II. iii. iv. 118 A rude bodkin of bone... employed in fastening the dress.

† b. A frizzling-iron. *Obs.*

1580 BARET *Alt.* B 874 A bodkine or fine instrument that women curl their heare withall... a frizzling iron.

4. A needle-like instrument with a blunt knobbed point, having a large (as well as a small) eye, for drawing tape or cord through a hem, loops, etc.

1714 *POPE Rape Lock* II. 128 Wedg'd whole ages in a bodkin's eye.

5. *Printing*. An awl-like tool used to pick out letters in correcting set-up type.

1846 *Print. Apparatus Amateurs* 17 The bodkin is used to pick out such of the types as are misplaced.

6. *transf. (colloq.)*. A person wedged in between two others where there is proper room for two only; esp. in phr. *to ride or sit bodkin*.

[1698 FORD *Fancies* IV. i. (1811) 186 Where but two lie in a bed, you must be—bodkin, bitch-baby—must ye?] 1798 *Loves of the Triangles* 182 (L.) While the pressed bodkin, punched and squeezed to death, sweats in the midmost place. 1848 THACKERAY *Van. Fair* II. 241 (Hoppe), He's too big to travel bodkin between you and me. 1872 FLOW. MONTGOMERY *Thronum Together* II. 62 The three called a hansom outside, and Cecily... sat bodkin.

7. *Comb. and Attrib.*, as *bodkin-case*, *bodkin-work*; *bodkin-wise* adv.; *bodkin-beard*, a pointed, dagger-shaped beard.

a. 1599 SKELTON *Elynour R.* ProL 82 Scarfes, feathers, and swords, And thin bodkin beards. 1591 LVLV *Endym.* III. iii. 36 Whether I shall frame the bodkin beard or the bush. 1565 GOLDING *Ovid's Met.* IV. (1593) 97 Both his shanks do grow In one round spindle bodkin-wise with sharpened point below. 1808 SCOTT *F. M. Perth* I. 41, I will have no more close hugs—no more bodkin work.

Bodkin, v. [*f. prec.*] *trans.* To make a bodkin of, squeeze in as a bodkin; cf. *BODKIN sb.* 6.

1791 GIBSON *Lett.* 31 May in *Mem.* (1839) 354 If you can bodkin the sweet creature into the coach.

Bodkin, (*Obs. bodkins*) var. of *BODIKIN*.

Bodkin, *bodkin-work*, variant of *BAUDEKIN*.

Bodkinise, v. = *WORKIN* v.

1833 HOOK *Parson's Dau.* II. v. 202 Seat him in the carriage 'bodkinized' between the two fair ladies.

Bodle ¹ (bɒd'l). *Sc.* Also 7 *bodel*, *bawdle*, 8 *boadle*, 8-9 *boddle*. [Reputed to be from the name of a mint-master *Bothwell*; but no documentary evidence is cited.] A Scotch copper coin of the value of two pennies Scots, or (c. 1600) one sixth of an English penny; the smallest coin; hence, like *farthing*, etc., in the phrase *not to care a bodle*.

1650 A. B. *Mutal. Poema* 12 Whom they valued not really at the estimation of 30000 Scotch bawdles. 1688 R. HOLME *Armoury* III. ii. 29/a A Bodel, three of them makes an half penny English. c. 1730 BURT *Lett. N. Scott.* (1818) I. 42 The bridge is... maintained by a toll of a bodle. 1800 SCOTT *Abbot* vi. It was not that I cared a brass bodle for his benison or malison either. 1834 H. MILLER *Scenes & Leg.* xix. (1857) 279 All the placks and boddles of the party.

Bodle, *obs. f.* *BUDDLE*, *com-marigold*.

1537 TUSSEY 100 *Points* *Husb.* lxxx. Bodle for barley, no weede there is such.

Bodleian (bɒdliən, bɒdli:ən). [*f.* the name of Sir T. Bodley, who in 1597 restored and refounded the Library of the University of Oxford.]

a. *adj.* Of or pertaining to Sir T. Bodley or the Library bearing his name; hence b. quasi-*sb.*

The Oxford University Library; also colloquially called *Bodley*. c. *fig. and transf.*

1663 COWLEY *Verses & Ess.* (1669) 7 The mysterious Library, The Beatifick Bodley of the Deity. 1710 H. BEDFORD *Vind. Ch. Eng.* 45 The Bodleian Copies of the Articles. 1868 WHYTE MELVILLE *Ins. Bar.* vi. (ed. 12) 297 The richest mental food the Bodleian itself can afford. 1884 SPURGEON *Clew of Mass* 33 It is a million-times magnified Bodleian of teaching.

Bodom, -ery, *obs. form* of *BOTTOM*, -RY.

† **Bodrag** (e. *Obs.* Also *bodrak* (e. *bordrag* (e. [prob. a corruption of some Ir. word: cf. *buaidhreadh* molestation, disturbance (O'Reilly), *buaire*, tumult (Stokes).] A hostile incursion, a raid. Hence, in same sense, *Bo[r]drag*.

1537 *St. Papers Hen. VIII.* II. 480 The castelles be not for our defence agaynst ther steltehe and bodrakes. 1586 J. HOOKER *Girald. Vert.* II. 173/4 Nothing liking the outrages, bodrages, and villanies dailie practised by Barrie, Condon, and others. 1595 SPENSER *Col. Clont* 35 No nightly bodrags, nor no hue and cries. 1596 — *F. Q.* II. x. 63 Yet oft annoyd with sondry bodragings.

Bodword, var. of *BODEWORD* *Obs.*

Body (bɒdi). Forms: 1 *bodis*, 3 *bodis*, 3-4 *bodi*, *bode*, 3-7 *bodie*, 4-6 *bodye*, 6 *bodey*, 3-*body*. [*OE. bodig* neut., elsewhere in Teut. only in OHG. *potah*, *botah*, MHG. *botich*, -*ech*, *potih* str. masc. 'body'; cf. mod. Bav. dial. *bottech* the 'body' of a chemise, Grimm. The word has died out of Ger., its place being taken by *leib*, orig. 'life', and *körper* from Lat.: but, in Eng., *body* remains as a great and important word.

Since Ger. *botah*, *potah*, with final *h*, is not the exact phonetic equivalent of *OE. bodig*, there is ground for supposing that the word has been adopted in both from some foreign source. E. Müller connects *botah* with *botakha* fem., mod. G. *botlich* masc. 'cask, tub, vat', identified by Wackernagel with med. L. *butica* = Gr. *βουτήκη*. But there does not appear to be any clear way of connecting the two words. (Fick's conjectural derivation from *bhadh* 'to bind' is out of the question. Gaelic *bodhaig* is from Eng.)

I. The material frame of man (and animals).

1. The physical or material frame or structure of man or of any animal; the whole material organism viewed as an organic entity. (In *Biol.* sometimes also used of plants.)

c. 890 K. ÆLFRED *Bada* III. xiv. (Bosw.) Was Oswine so cnyng on bodige heah. c. 1200 ORMIN 4773 Hiss bodis. All samenn, brest, and wambe, and þes, and cnes, and fet, and shannkes, etc. c. 1300 *Cursor M.* 869 Our bodis ar now all bare. 1480 CAXTON *Chron. Eng.* lxxviii. 64 He shold come fyght with hym body for body. 1523 Lb. BRANNERS *Froiss.* c. clv. 186 To fight body to body, or power to power. 1557 F. SEAGER *Sch. Vertue* 676 in *Babes Bk.* (1868) 247 Thy bodie vprighte, Thy fete iuste to gyder. 1665-9 BOYLE *Occas. Refl.* IV. xi. (1675) 174 A Lark, lighted among some clods of Earth... of the colour of her Body. 1755 JOHNSON *Ramb.* No. 208 P 10 A body languishing with disease. 1847 CARPENTER *Zool.* § 870 The common Oyster... always appears inclined to adapt its shell to the form of the body. 1881 HUXLEY in *Nature* XXIV. 346 The body is a machine of the nature of an army, not of that of a watch, or of a hydraulic apparatus. Of this army each cell is a soldier; each organ a brigade. 1895 DAWSON *Dawn of Life* viii. 214 Their bodies like those of plants... show tendencies to spiral modes of growth. 1896 HUXLEY *Physiol.* 222 The individual cells of which the body of the plant is made up.

(In early use almost always applied to that of man: hence)

b. often contrasted with the soul.

a. 1240 *Lofsong in Cott. Hom.* 205 Pauh þet werc nere i þe bodie þe wil was in þe heorte. 1398 TENNISON *Barth. De P. R.* ix. i. (1495) 345 The body meuyth as the soule woll. c. 1450 LOWELL *Graut* xlii. 112 Bothe body & soule destroyed þe be. 1651 *Lett. in Proc. Parliament* No. 81. 1241 A great comfort to the godly, both to their soules and bodies. 1732 POPE *Ess. Man* i. 268 All are but parts of one stupendous whole, Whose body Nature is, and God the soul. 1864 TENNISON *Aylmer's Field* 371 The foul adulteries That saturate soul with body. *Mod.* A hard struggle to keep body and soul together.

c. The corporeal or material nature or state of man, the material body and its properties.

c. 1200 ORMIN 15124 To clennenn þe 3333 bodis swa Off all þe bodis sinne. 1388 WYCLIF 2 *Cor.* xii. 2 Wher in body, wher out of body, I woot not, God woot. 1611 *ibid.* Whether in the body, I cannot tell, whether out of the body, I cannot tell. 1780 NORTH *Plutarch* (1766) 4 This Phoca was a woman robber... and naught of her body. 1816 SCOTT *Old Mort.* vi. While we are yet in the body. 1869 GOULBOURN *Purs. Holiness* ix. 78 By 'the body' is to be understood the mass of matter which we carry about with us, with all the various animal properties that belong to it.

2. Short (or euphemistic) for 'dead body', corpse. c. 1280 *Fall & Pass.* 76 in *E. E. P.* (1862) 14 Iosep of arimathie... nem þat swet bodi adun, an birid hir in a fair plas. c. 1300 *Cursor M.* 14309 And quar haf yee his bodie laid? c. 1400 *Destr. Troy* 7150 Pal... brent vp the bodies vnto bare askis. 1535 COVERDALE 1 *Kings* xiii. 24 The lyon stode by the body [1388 WYCLIF careyn, 1388 deed bodi]. 1595 SHAKS. *John* v. vii. 99 At Worcester must his bodie be interr'd. 1619 CROOKE *Body of Man* 19 Choose a bodie that is sound and vntainted, and either hanged, smothered, or drowned. 1835 HOOD *Dead Robbery* ii. To steal a body. 1853 TENNISON *Maud* i. i. 5 In the ghastly pit long since a body was found.

3. Applied symbolically or mystically to the bread in the sacrament of the Lord's Supper.

[1557 *Seven Sacr.* in *Lay-Folks Mass-Bk.* 118 The sacrament of the auter, cristes owen bodi in likeness of brede.] 1388 WYCLIF *Matt.* xxvi. 26 Take 3ee, and etc; this is my

bodi. 1440 *Bk. Com. Prayer, Commun.* Exhort. The holy communion of the body and blood of our Saviour Christ. 1568 39 *Articles* xxviii, The Body of Christ is given, taken, and eaten in the Supper, only after an heavenly and spiritual manner. 1579 FULKE *Heshins' Parl.* 82 He caried the Lords body in a wicker basket. c. 1800 J. CANDLISH *Sacraments* 98 All who believe in Him receive that one body that was broken for all.

† 4. Used in oaths and forcible ejaculations, as *body of me!*, *body of our Lord!*, *God's body!*, *by cocks body!*, etc. *Obs.* Cf. *BODIKIN*.

c. 1530 REDFORD *Play Wit & Sc.* (1848) 7 Oh the bodye of me! What kaytyves be those. 1573 *New Custom* II. ii. in *Hazl. Dodsley* III. 32 Body of our Lord, is he come into the Country? 1596 SHAKS. 1 *Hen. IV.* II. i. 29 Gods body! the turkeys in my panner are quite starved. 1613 — *Hen. VIII.* v. ii. 22 Body a me: where is it? 1695 CONGREVE *Love for L.* II. v. 35 Body o' me, I have a Shoulder of an Egyptian King, that I purloin'd from one of the Pyramids. 1808 SCOTT *F. M. Perth* (1860) 9 'Body of me' exclaimed Simon, 'I should know that voice!'

II. The main portion; the trunk.

5. The main portion of the animal frame, to which the extremities, etc. are attached; the trunk. Opposed to the members or limbs; also to the head, esp. as the seat of intelligence and guidance.

a. 800 *Epinal & Erf. Gloss.* 947 (O. E. Texts) *Spina*, *bodei*. — *Corpus* *Gl.* 1891 *Spina*, *bodei*. c. 1200 *Ag. Voc.* in *W. Wulker Voc.* 265 *Truncus*, *bodig*. c. 1000 *Ælfric Minster Hom.* 2038 in *Sax. Leechd.* III. 355 He næfdon þæt heafod to þam bodige. 1288 WYCLIF *Ephe.* iv. 16 Crist the heed; of whom all the body sett to-gidere, and boundyn to gidere by ech ioyniture of vndirseruynge. 1593 SHAKS. 3 *Hen. VI.* iv. vii. 26 When the Fox hath once got in his Nose, Hee'll soone finde meanes to make the Body follow. c. 1600 CRESS *SOUTHAMPTON in Shaks. C. Praise* 40 All heade and veri litel body. 1840 THIRLWALL *Greace* VII. iv. 86 A body without a head, unable either to act or to deliberate. 1867 F. FRANCIS *Angling* x. (1880) 364 Body, orange-yellow, merging into... burnt sienna at the shoulder.

b. The main stem, trunk, stock, of a plant or tree.

1523 FITZGER. *Husb.* § 133 Cut the boughs on bothe sydes a fote or two foote from the bodye of the tree. 1609 C. BUTLER *Fem. Mon.* II. (1623) E J, Boughs hanging out alone from the bodies. 1697 DRYDEN *Virg. Georg.* iv. 183 Cucumers... With crooked Bodies, and with Bellies deep.

† c. The wood under the bark. *L. corpus. Obs.*

1603 R. JOHNSON *Kindg. & Commw.* 167 The black rinde of a certaine tree... betweene the bodie and the barke.

d. *fig.* In biblical or theol. language, *The body of Christ*: the Church of which Christ is the head.

c. 1200 ORMIN 1555 Swa þatt tegg shulen alle ben An bodig and an sawle And Jesu Crist himm self shall ben Uppe þatt bodig hæfodd. 1288 WYCLIF *Ephe.* iv. 12 And he 3af summe sotheli apostlis, summe forsoth prophetis... into the work of mynisterie, into edificacioun of Cristis body. 1535 COVERDALE *Col.* I. 18 And he is the heade of the body, namely, of the congregacion. 1611 BIRLE 1 *Cor.* xii. 27 Now yee are the body of Christ, and members in particular.

6. The part of a dress which covers the body, as distinct from the arms; also the part of a woman's dress above the waist, as distinguished from the loose skirt. *A pair of bodies*: see *BODICE*.

1585 *Wills & Inv. N. C.* (1860) II. 114 One petticoate of house-wyfe clothe... An upper bodye of durance. 1611 in *Heath Grocers' Comp.* (1860) 92 That none should wear... any body or sleeves of wire, whalebone or with any other stiffing. 1696 J. F. *Merchant's Wareho.* 38 Cut of Ell & off of one of the half bredths... which take for the body of your Shifts. 1698 LASSELLS *Voy. Italy* II. 288 Twelve breast and back pieces (like womens close bodies). 1868 Q. VICTORIA *Life in Highlands* 124, I and the girls (were) in royal Stewart skirts and shawls over black velvet bodies.

7. The main, central, or principal part, as distinguished from parts subordinate or less important; the part round which the others are grouped, or to which they are attached as appendages, etc.

c. 1000 *Sax. Leechd.* I. 402 Nim þonne þæt sæd sete on þæs sules bodig. 1595 SHAKS. *John* iv. ii. 112 Neuer such a powre... Was leuiet in the body of a land. 1670 CORROW *Espernon* I. t. 35 The body of the Emblem was a figure of the Duke himself. 1719 Dk. FOX *Cruise* (1840) I. xx. 355 He got into the body of the tree. 1790 BURKE *Fr. Rev.* 234 The body of all true religion consists... in obedience to the will of the Sovereign of the world. 1863 H. COX *Instit.* II. x. 562 Crimes committed at sea, or on the coast out of the body of any County. 1874 BOUTELL *Arms & Arm.* ix. 173 The body of the blade.

8. *spec. a.* The middle aisle, or the whole nave, of a church. b. The part of a vehicle fitted to receive the load. c. In *Fortification* (see quot. 1862). d. The shaft of a pillar. e. The resonance box of a musical instrument. f. In *Anat.* The main portion of a bone, esp. of one of the vertebrae. g. The main portion of a document, as distinguished from the introduction or preamble, and esp. from an appendix, a codicil, or other supplementary matter.

1418 *E. E. Wills* (1882) 30 To the werkis of the body of the Parisshe Chirche. 1523 FITZGER. *Husb.* § 5 The bodye of the wayne of oke. 1558 *Bk. Com. Prayer, Commun.* Rubric, The Table... shall stand in the body of the church. 1599 ASP. *HETHE* in *Strype Ann. Ref.* I. II. App. vi. 7 The body of this acte touching the supremacy. 1580 BARET *Alt.* B 871 The bodie of a pillow, betweene the chapitre and the base. 1661 BRAMHALL *Just Vind.* iv. 80 The incroachments... mentioned in the body of that law. 1666 PERVS *Diary* (1879) VI. 68 There I do find a great many ladies sitting in the body of a coach. 1778 PRIDEAUX *Direct. Ch. wardens* (ed. 4) 24 In the City of London... the Parishioners repair the Chancel as well as the Body of the Church. 1736 KING in *Swift's Lett.* (1768) IV. 179 The

tracts... may be printed by way of appendix. This will be indeed less trouble than the interweaving them in the body of the history. 1831 R. KNOX *Cloquet's Anat.* 17 In every vertebra, there are distinguished a body, seven processes, four notches, and a hole. 1866 TROLLOPE *Orley* F. i. (ed. 4) 2 The body of the will was in the handwriting of the widow, as was also the codicil. 1866 F. GRIFFITHS *Artif. Man.* (ed. 9) 262 The body of the place, (or Enceinte) consists of the work next to, and surrounding the town, in the form of a polygon, whether regular, or irregular. 1878 H. H. GIBBS *Ombre* Pref. 7 Bringing the supplementary Chapter into the body of the Book.

h. *Naut.* The hull of a ship; the section of this as viewed from different positions.

1692 T. H[ALL] *Acc. New Invent.* 22 The whole Bodies of their Ships under Water. 1769 FALCONER *Dict. Marine* (1789) D. 17, The fore-body of the ship, i.e. before the mid-ship-frame. 1850 RUDIM. *Navig.* (Weale) 99 The figure of a ship, abstractedly considered, is supposed to be divided into different parts, to each of which is given the appellation of *Body*. Hence we have the terms *Fore Body*, *After Body*, *Cant Bodies*, and *Square Body*. Thus the *Fore Body* is the figure, or imaginary figure, of that part of the ship before the midsheep or dead-flat, as seen from ahead. The *Square Body* comprehends all the timbers whose areas or planes are perpendicular to the keel and square with the middle line of the ship; which is all that portion of a ship between the cant bodies.

9. The main portion of a collection or company; the majority; the larger part, the bulk of anything.

1599 SHAKS. *Much Ado* i. 1. 287 The body of your discourse is sometime guarded with fragments. 1603 KNOLLES *Hist. Turkes* (1621) 1359 The bodie of the Turkes armie followed behind. 1676 N. WANLEY *Wonders* v. ii. § 64, 471/2 The main body of the Empire. 1722 NEAL *Hist. Purit.* I. 19 The Body of the inferior Clergy were disguised Papists. 1848 MACAULAY *Hist. Eng.* I. 166 The great body of the people leaped to the royalists. 1865 FROUDE *Hist. Eng.* (1858) I. i. 66 Under Henry [VIII] the body of the people were prosperous.

+10. The vessel in which a substance to be distilled is placed; a retort. (There appears to have been a reference here to *spirit*.) 1 Obs.

1599 MORWYNG *Evonym.* 1 Moist things put into a body (for so do they call the bigger vessel from whence the vapour is lifted up) by the force of heate are extenuated into a vapour. 1594 PLATT *Jewell-ho.* II. 3 Put them into your pot, or body. 1641 FRENCH *Distill.* i. (1651) 28 Put this bread into a Glass-body, and distill it in *Balneo*. 1721-1800 BAILEY, *Body* (in Chymistry) is the Vessel which holds the Matter in distilling the Spirits of Vegetables.

11. *Type founding.* The breadth of the shank of the type, which is the same throughout the fount, while the thickness varies with the letter (e.g. I and W); hence, size of type.

1844 J. JOHNSON *Typogr.* II. ii. 11 The several bodies to which printing letters are cast... are nineteen in number.

III. Personal being, individual.

12. The material being of man, as the sign and tangible part of his individuality, taken for the whole; the person. Chiefly in legal phrases.

1393 GOWER *Conf.* III. 208 She hath her owne body feigned, For fere as though she wolde flee Out of her londe. 1549 Bk. Com. *Prayer, Matrimony*, With this Ring I thee wed... with my body I thee worship. 1603 KNOLLES *Hist. Turkes* (1621) 870 An armie... consisting of most choice bodies. 1652 Proc. *Parliament* No. 135, 2100 A Warrant in the nature of a Habeas Corpus... to bring without delay the body of the same prisoner. 1710 Lond. *Gaz.* No. 4695/3 A barbarous Murder was committed on the Body of Mr. Henry Widdrington. 1753 CHAMBERS *Cycl. Suppl.* s. v. A man is said to be bound or held in Body and goods; that is, he is liable to remain in prison; in default of payment. 1822 SCOTT *Nigel* xxvii, Two pages of the body.

b. *Heir of the body*: an heir who is a direct descendant.

a. 1666 BACON *Max. & Uses Com. Law* 51 The heires males of his body. 1722 NEAL *Hist. Purit.* (1822) I. 12 An act of Parliament for settling the crown upon the heirs of her body. 1768 BLACKSTONE *Comm.* II. 114 As the word *heirs* is necessary to create a fee, so, in farther imitation of the strictness of the feudal donation, the word *body*, or some other words of procreation, are necessary to make it a fee-tail. 1788 J. POWELL *Devises* (1827) II. 469 You here find a child described as an heir of the body.

13. A human being of either sex, an individual. Formerly, as still dialectally, and in the combinations ANY-, EVERY-, NO-, SOME-BODY, etc., exactly equivalent to the current 'person'; but now only as a term of familiarity, with a tinge of compassion, and generally with adjectives implying this.

1297 R. GLOUC. 489 The beste bodi of the world in bendes was ibroust. 1340 *Cursor M.* 3360 (Fairf.) A better body drank neyver wine. 1377 LANGL. *P. Pl.* B. x. 258 Ac blame þow neuere body and þow be blame-worthy. 1475 CAXTON *Yason* 90 Euery noble body ought soner chese deeth thene to do... thing that sholde be ayenst their honour. 1535 COVERDALE *Ps.* xlii[i]. 1 The foolish bodies saye in their hertes: Tush, there is no God. 1539 *Bury Wills* 137, I will that my executors gyve... in breade to iiii poore bodies j. d. 1598 SHAKS. *Merry W.* I. iv. 105 'Tis a great charge to come vnder one bodies hand. 1643 WALTON *Angler* 56 It shall be given away to some poore body. 1693 LOCKE *Educ.* § 143. iv. One angry body discomposes the whole Company. 1771 SMOLLETT *Humph. Cl.* (1815) 201 The countess was a good sort of a body. 1777 SHERIDAN *Triph. Scarb.* III. iv. Wks. 505 What do you din a body's ears for? 1833 HT. MARTINEAU *Loom and Lugg.* I. ii. 17 His wife was a more dry body.

IV. A corporate body, aggregate of individuals, collective mass.

14. *Law.* An artificial 'person' created by legal

authority for certain ends; a corporation; commonly a corporation aggregate, but also applied to a corporation sole (cf. *quots.* 1641, 1642). Always with defining adj. *body corporate*, *body politic*.

1461 Act 1 *Edw. IV.* i. § 4 Any Fraternitie, Guild, Company, or Fellowship, or other bodie corporate. 1528 PERKINS *Prof. Bk.* I. § 64 (1642) 30 A bodie politique, as a Maior and Communitie. 1641 *Termes de la Ley*, Bodies Politique are Bishops, Abbots, Priors, Deanes, Parsons of Churches, and such like, which have succession in one person only. 1642 MILTON *Arg. conc. Militia* 27 The King is a body politick, for that a body politique never dieth. 1768 BLACKSTONE *Comm.* I. 467 These artificial persons are called bodies politic, bodies corporate, or corporations. 1837 PENNY *Cycl.* VIII. 46/2 For the purpose of maintaining and perpetuating the uninterrupted enjoyment of certain powers, rights, property, or privileges, it has been found convenient to create a sort of artificial person, or body-politic, not liable to the ordinary casualties which affect the transmission of private rights, but capable, by its constitution, of independently continuing its own existence. This artificial person is in our law called an incorporation, corporation, or body-corporate.

b. *Body politic* has also the wider sense of 'organized society'.

1634 CANNE *Necess. Separ.* (1849) 185 To knit themselves together in a spiritual outward society or body politic. 1708 C. MATHER *Magn. Chr.* I. vi. (1852) 82 With mutual consent they became a body-politick, and framed a body of necessary laws and orders. 1839 YEWELL *Enc. Brit. Ch.* viii. 77 Associations and bodies politic within the church.

c. *spec.* The body politic: the nation in its corporate character; the state. (Orig. there appears to have been, in this use of *body*, a reference to the *headship* of the sovereign.)

1532-3 Act 24 *Henry VIII.* xii, This Realm of England is an Empire... governed by one supreme Head and King... unto whom a Body politick, compact of all Sorts and Degrees of People... been bounden and owen to bear a natural and humble Obedience. 1593 HOOKER *Ecl. Pol.* (Pref.) v. § 2 A law is the deed of the whole body politic. 1636 HEALEY *Epictetus' Man.* xxxi. 40 But what place shall I hold then... in the body politic? 1708 V. KNOX *Ess.* (1829) I. xii. 69 All conduct extensively injurious to individuals, is injurious to the body politic. 1874 REYNOLDS *John Bapt.* ii. 116 Radical changes in the body-politic.

d. (Cf. *L. totum corpus reipublice*.)

1570 Act 13 *Eliz.* xviii. Pream. Beneficial Causes... to issue to the Body of this Common Wealth. 1625 BURGESS *Pers. Titles* 20 The Lawes... enacted by the King and the whole Body of the Kingdome.

15. Number of persons taken collectively, usually as united and organized in a common cause or for common action, as for deliberation, government, business; a society, association, league, fraternity.

1689 BURNET *Tracts* I. 71 There are three different Bodies or Leagues. 1722 LEDIARD *Sethos* II. ix. 271 The Governor... had not time to form a defensive body. 1848 MACAULAY *Hist. Eng.* I. 165 It is seldom that a man inrolls himself in a proscribed body from any but conscientious motives. 1854 BRIGHT *Lect. in Speeches* (1876) 552 Grants of public money to any public body. 1866 LIDDON *Bampton. Lect.* I. (1875) 10 That little Body the disciples of Christ, and nucleus of His future Church. 1880 Chr. *Leader* 588/3 A preacher of the U. P. body.

16. An organized collection of fighting men acting together; a force. (The most general term that can be so applied.)

1597 SHAKS. 2 *Hen. IV.* I. iii. 66, I thinke we are a Body strong enough (Euen as we are) to equal with the King. 1641 Proc. *Parliament* No. 84, 1278 Leaving moving bodies behind to prevent their designs. 1693 *Mem. Cl. Tectely* II. 151 Some pierced even to the Body of Reserve. 1769 ROBERTSON *Chas. V.* IV. 390 Escorted by a body of horse. 1839 THIRLWALL *Greece* III. 117 The Athenians... sent a body of troops to garrison it. 1849 MACAULAY *Hist. Eng.* II. 4 The bodies now designated as the first six regiments of dragoon guards, etc.

17. (More loosely) An assemblage of units characterized by some common attribute, and thus regarded as a whole; a collective mass: a. of persons.

1598 GRENEWAY *Tacitus' Descr. Germ.* vi. 269 The Semnones... by their great body, they take themselves to be the head of the Suevians. 1663 GERBIER *Counsel* 10 A whole Body (consisting of number of Persons). 1677 C. HATTON in *Corr.* (1878) 152 The clergy did not goe in a body. 1755 JOHNSON in *Boswell* (1831) I. 275 We might go and drink tea with Mr. Wise in a body. 1832 HT. MARTINEAU *Life in Wilds* viii. 200 All formed in a body to go and meet the new arrivals.

b. of things.

1593 HOOKER *Ecl. Pol.* I. xiv. § 4 The entire body of the Scripture. 1796 BURKE *Lett. noble Ld. Wks.* 1842 II. 259 Since the total body of my services... have obtained the acceptance of my sovereign. 1874 MAHAFFY *Soc. Life Greece* x. 309 This large and respectable body of opinion. 1875 WHITNEY *Life Lang.* x. 181 The High-German body of dialects.

18. A comprehensive and systematic collection of the details of any subject; an arranged whole of information; hence, a pandect (cf. *L. corpus juris*); a text-book.

(Cf. 1593 in prec.) 1647 COWLEY *Mistr.* The Soul iii, If she do near thy Body prize Her Bodies of Philosophies. 1652 NEEDHAM *tr. Selden's Mare Cl.* 169 Whether they comment upon the bodie of Justinian. 1659 MILTON *Hirelings* 92 Som wholesome bodie of divinitie as they call it. 1699 BENTLEY *Phal.* 361 A Body of Laws. 1711 ADDISON *Spect.* No. 121 P. 8, I could wish our Royal Society would compile a Body of Natural History. 1830 HERSCHEL *Nat. Phil.* III. vi. (1851) 352 Digests and bodies of science. 1860 ASB. THOMSON *Laws Ta.* Introd. 10 Science is a body of principles and deductions, Art is a body of precepts.

V. Transferred from the material part of man to matter generally as opposed to the immaterial. 19. A separate portion of matter, large or small, a material thing; something that has physical existence and extension in space: a. in common language and *Physics*.

Heavenly bodies: (in modern use) the masses of matter that exist away from the earth, the sun, moon, planets, comets, meteors, stars, etc.; *orig.* a phrase of the astro-chemists, applied to the seven 'bodies celestial': see 22 a.

c. 1380 WYCLIF *De Dot. Eccl. Sel. Wks.* III. 437 Pe bemes of pe sonne... þat shyneþ freliche in bodies. c. 1391 CHAUCER *Astrol.* 15 To knowe the altitude of the sonne or of othre celestial bodies. a. 1568 COVERDALE *Hope Faithf.* xiv. (1574) 91 A wal is a body. 1586 T. B. La Primaud. *Fr. Acad.* 19 A bodie is a masse or lump, which, as much as lieth in it, resisteth touching, and occupieth a place. 1648 ROGERS *Naaman* 348 Cannot the Lord... restrain the influence of the upper bodies from the lower at his pleasure? 1678 CUDWORTH *Intell. Syst. Pref.* The onely Principles of Bodies, are Magnitude, Figure, Site, Motion, and Rest. 1754 JOHNSON *Rambd.* No. 207 P. 9 All attraction is increased by the approach of the attracting body. 1754 SHERLOCK *Disc.* (1759) I. iv. 159 The Magnitudes and Distances of the heavenly Bodies. 1842 Liebig's *Lett. Chem.* vi, The ultimate particles of bodies, or atoms, must occupy a certain space.

b. viewed metaphysically.

1666 tr. *Hobbes' Elem. Philos.* (1839) 102 A body is that, which having no dependence upon our thought, is coincident or coextended with some part of space. 1765 REID *Int. Powers* 186 What we call a body, is only a bundle of sensations. 1846 MILL *Logic* I. iii. § 7 A body... may be defined, the external cause to which we ascribe our sensations.

c. *spec.* In *Physiol.* often forming the base of nomenclature, as *pituitary body*, *pachionian body*. 1866 HUXLEY *Phys.* (1869) 143 Nothing certain is known of the functions of any of these bodies [the ductless glands]. *Ibid.* The spheroidal bodies called *corpuscles* of the spleen... consist of a solid aggregation of minute bodies.

+20. *Geom.* A figure of three dimensions; a solid. *Regular body*: one of the five Regular Solids. *Obs.* in modern Geometry.

1570 DEE *Math. Pref.* 3 A thicke Magnitude we call a Solide, or a Body. 1570 BILLINGSLEY *Euclid* I. def. xvi. 3 A superficies being moved maketh a solide or body. 1635 J. BABINGTON *Geometry* 42 The cube... is accounted one of the five regular bodies. 1796 HUTTON *Math. Dict.* I. 215 The five Regular Bodies... These bodies were called *platonic*, because they were said to have been invented, or first treated of, by Plato. a. 1864 tr. *Weisbach (W.)* The path of a moving point is a line, that of a geometric body is another body.

21. A compact quantity or mass; amount; bulk; quantity.

1650 FULLER *Pisgah* 388 Ezekiel's Temple had not the same body with Solomons, but greater. 1663 GERBIER *Counsel* 38 A proportionable Body to the... weight it is to bear. 1772 Town & Country *Mag.* 161 A large body of land, extending thirty miles up the Coofaw river. 1828 HUTTON *Course Math.* II. 139 Body is the mass, or quantity of matter, in any material substance. 1849 MURCHISON *Siluria* vi. (1867) 108 Another body of igneous rock lies subjacent. 1855 BAIR *Senses & Int.* II. ii. § 1 (1864) 224 A large body of light. 1878 HUXLEY *Physiogr.* 40 A body of cold air.

22. A distinct form or kind of matter:

+a. *Alchemy and Astrol.* The *Seven bodies terrestrial*: the seven ancient metals answering to the seven 'heavenly bodies' (the sun, moon, and five old planets). *Obs.*

c. 1386 CHAUCER *Chan. Yem. Prol.* 4 T. 267 The foure spirites and the bodies seene. The bodies seene eek loo hem here anon, Sol gold is, and luna silver, we threpe, Mars yren, Mercurie quik silver we clepe, Saturnus leed, and Iupiter is tyn, And venus copir, by my fader kyn. 1393 GOWER *Conf.* II. 84 The bodies, whiche I speke of here, Of the planettes ben begonne.

b. *Chem. and Min.* Any kind of 'substance', simple or compound, solid, liquid, or gaseous. *Simple bodies*: the chemical elements; *Compound bodies*: the substances formed by their combination.

1594 PLATT *Jewell-ho.* I. 13 Niter, and other Aromaticall bodies. a. 1688 Sir T. BROWNE *Tracts* 12 A gummous body and dissoluble in water. 1695 WOODWARD *Nat. Hist. Earth* (1723) 7 The said Metallick and Mineral Bodies. 1724 WATTS *Logic* 16 They supposed the heavens to be a quintessence, or a fifth sort of body. 1831 BREWSTER *Optics* xxiii. 204 Crystallised bodies, such as niter and arragonite. 1842 Liebig's *Lett. Chem.* iv. (1844) 63 The employment of symbols enables the chemist to express... the constitution of every compound body.

23. *abstractly* (in *Metaphysics*, formerly also in *Physics*). That which has sensible qualities, or is perceptible by the senses; matter; 'substance'.

1668 WILKINS *Real Char.* 413 Spirit. The Opposite to which... is Body. 1678 CUDWORTH *Intell. Syst.* 49 He that will undertake to prove that there is something else in the World besides Body, must first determine what Body is, for otherwise he will go about to prove that there is something besides He-knows-not-what. 1690 LOCKE *Hum. Und.* II. xiii. (1695) 164 The primary Ideas we have peculiar to Body, as contradistinguished to Spirit, are the Cohesion of solid, and consequently separable parts, and a power of communicating Motion by impulse. 1766 KAMES *Elem. Crit.* (1833) 475 Every substratum of tangible qualities is called body. 1794 J. HUTTON *Philos. Light*, &c. 288 Body in the abstract... must be inert. 1870 BOWEN *Logic* iii. 55 We cannot think of body without extension.

+24. Substance, as opposed to representation, shadow, etc.; reality. *Obs.* or *arch.*

1386 WYCLIF *Col.* II. 17 Whiche ben schadowe of thingis to come; forsoth the body is of Christ. c. 1386 CHAUCER

Merck T. 552 Parfumed hath the sonne his Ark diurne No longer may the body of hym sojourne On thorisonte. 1608 SHAKS. *Ham.* iii. ii. 26 To shew Vertue her owne Feature. and the verie Age and Bodie of the Time, his forme and pressure. 1708 *Eng. Theophrast.* 327 Men suffer themselves to be enchanted with the shadow and appearance of a thing whose real body does not so much as affect them.

26. 'Substance' or substantial quality, as opposed to insubstantiality, thinness, weakness, flimsiness, or transparency: said of colours, wine, paper, textile fabrics, etc.

c 1645 HOWELL *Lett.* (1650) I. 371 In Greece there are no wines that have bodies enough to bear the sea for long voyages. 1735 *Dict. Polygraph.* s.v. To bear a body, a term us'd of painting colours. capable of being ground so fine, and mixing with the oil so intirely, as to seem only a very thick oil of the same colour. 1784 J. BARRY *Lect. Art.* vi. (1848) 216 Those colours without body which are more immediately considered as transparent. 1851 H. MAYO *Philos. Living* i. 66 The vintages, differ in fullness of body and lusciousness. 1855 GULLICK & TIMBS *Paint.* 10 Less liable to be affected by damp than colouring with more body or substance. 1868 *Times* 12 Aug., Staffordshire cannot produce fine-grained iron equal to theirs in body, i.e. in its power of standing the fire.

fig. 1844-8 LANDOR *Imag. Conv.* (1846) 80, I hate both poetry and wine without body. 1864 *Spectator* 4 Oct. 1304/1 Metaphor and language... meant to conceal the want of body in the thought and emotion beneath.

26. Main substance; fundamental constituent.

1871 WINTER *Syst. Husb.* 109 Every soil must contain as sufficient a body for those manures to act upon. 1875 FORTNUM *Maioica* i. 3 The characteristics of the soft wares are a paste or body which may be scratched with a knife.

† 27. *Metaph.* An entity, a thing which has real existence; an agent or cause of phenomena. *Obs.*

1597 GOLDING *De Moray* ii. 21 To draw some peculiar good... out of another bodies workes... as out of Poysoun, health... from the night, rest. 1660 STANLEY *Hist. Philos.* (1701) 326/1 The Soul is a Body, because it maketh us to be living Creatures. *Ibid.* 326/2 Night and Day are Bodies. Voice is a Body, for it maketh that which is heard; in a word, whatsoever is, is a Body and a Subject.

VI. *Comb. and Attrib.*

28. *simple attrib.* Of body, physical, material. c 1200 [see 1 c]. 1674 N. FAIRFAX *Bulk & Setv.* 112 A fresh train of hangers on in the body kind.

29. General combinations: a. objective with pr. pple., vbl. sb., or agent-noun, as *body-bending, -breaking, -curer, -killing, -maker, -making, -wearing*; b. attributive: (a) pertaining to the human body, as *body-armor, -being, -blow, -case, -garment, -medicine, -play, -plague, -sin*; (b) reserved for personal attendance or use, as *body-carriage, -chariot, -coach, -coachman, -physician, -servant, -slave, -valet*, also *BODY-GUARD*; (c) in various senses of body, as *body-bolt, -girth, -lining, -scent, -wall*; *body-wise* adv.

1820-41 TYTLER *Hist. Scot.* (1864) I. 322 A breastplate and back-piece, etc., formed... the 'body-armor'. a 1653 J. SMITH *Sci. Disc.* iv. 105 If all 'body-being' in the world were destroyed. 1829 HUGHES *Tom Brown* ii. That 'body-blow' left Joe's head unguarded. 1886 *Ripon Chron.* 4 Sept. 3/5 The 'body bolt' of the phaeton suddenly gave way, and the occupants were thrown out. 1533 FRITH *Answ. More* (1829) 443 They believe not in his 'body-breaking and blood-shedding'. 1766 ENTICK *London* IV. 54 Wheels of 'body-carriages'. 1704 *Land. Gaz.* No. 4052/1 Her Majesty's 'Body Chariot'. 1708 *Ibid.* No. 3862/1 Then Her Majesty, habited in Purple... in her 'Body Coach' drawn by 8 Horses. 1735 SWIFT's *Lett.* (1768) IV. 135 Were his majesty inclined to-morrow to declare his 'body-coachman' his first minister. 1598 SHAKS. *Merry W.* iii. l. 100 Soule-Curer, and 'Body-Curer'. 1546 BALE *Eng. Volaries* ii. (1550) iv b. Fournished the Clergy there with such possessions and 'body-ease'. 1870 EMERSON *Soc. & Solit.* I. 14 Dressed in arts and institutions as well as in 'body-garments'. 1728 DE FOE *Voy. round World* (1840) 135 Wrapped round her very tight, like a 'body-girt' to a horse. 1761 STERNE *Tr. Shandy* III. iv. 14 Your jerkin... and the 'body-lining' to it. 1611 RICH *Honest.* Age (1844) 37 Then have we those that be called 'body-makers'. 1884 *Birmingham Daily Post* 24 Jan. 3/3 Coachmakers—Wanted, an experienced Bodymaker, for first-class work. 1544 LATIMER *Wks.* 1845 II. 481 The popish consecration, which hath been called Gods 'body-making'. 1881 *Genl. Mag.* CCL. 163 Ready equally for mind-play or 'body-play'. 1875 'STONEHENGE' *Brit. Sports* I. i. vii. § 8 Few retrievers can hit off the 'body-scent' of a dead cock. 1760 STERNE *Tr. Shandy* (ed. 2) II. v. 24 Besides what he gained... as a 'body-servant'. a 1240 *Ureitus* in *Lamb. Hom.* 189 Wasche mine fit wittes of alle 'bodi sunnen'. 1847 L. LINDSAY *Chr. Art* I. 25 The 'body-wall' bulging out and lopping over. 1884 *Homiletic Monthly* Apr. 409 If... man were 'body-wise' related by descent to the brute creation.

30. Special comb.: *body-bag*, a bag to sleep in; *body-chamber*, the outer and largest chamber of a shell occupied by the body of the animal; *body-cloth*, a cloth, or rug, to cover horses or other animals; *body-clothes*, -clothing, clothes for the body; *body-coat*, a coat fitting more or less closely to the body, † a dress-coat; *body-colour*, a colour that has consistency, or body, in distinction from a tint or wash (cf. 25); a colour rendered opaque by the addition of white; *body-hoop*, a hoop securing the arris pieces of a made mast; *body-horse* (still *dial.*), a shaft-horse; *body-lifter* = *body-snatcher*; *body-louse*, a species of louse, *Pediculus corporis*, which infests the body of the uncleanly; *body-plan*, in *Shipbuilding*, an end elevation of a

ship, showing the breadth, contour of the sides, timbers, etc.; *body-snatcher*, one who secretly disinters dead bodies in churchyards for the purpose of dissection, a 'resurrectionist'; so *body-snatching, -stealing*; † *body-stead*, the nave of a church; † *body-spirit* = *esprit de corps*; *body-tube*, the main tube forming the body of an organ-pipe; *body-whorl*, the last and largest whorl of a shell, containing the body of the mollusc.

1885 *Harper's Mag.* Apr. 820/1 A fur over-coat and 'body-bag'. 1844 *Woodward Mollusca* (1856) 79 The 'body-chamber' is always very capacious. 1865 *Land. Gaz.* No. 2021/4 Occasioned by the hindmost Buckles of a 'Body-Cloth'. 1706 *Ibid.* No. 4212/4 A white Streak down the Side, occasioned by 'Body-Clothes'. 1753 HANWAY *Trav.* (1762) II. l. ix. 46 They cover their cows with 'body-cloths'. 1860 SCOTT *F. M. Perth* v. God-a-mercy, wench, it were hard to deny thee time to busk thy body-clothes. 1856 KANE *Arct. Exp.* II. xvi. 168 Blankets were served out as the material for 'body-clothing'. 1820 T. MITCHELL *Aristoph.* I. Introd. 62 His ring, his seal, his 'body-coat', his perfume-box, his upper and under mantle. 1784 J. BARRY *Lect. Art* vi. (1848) 215 Employing stiff 'body colour' on a white ground. 1855 GULLICK & TIMBS *Painting* 107 The difficulty of calculating when 'wet' the difference of tone the body-colour will assume when dry. c 1430 *LYDG. Min. Poems* 201 A belfry for the 'bodyfaunt'. 1753 BACON *Courtiers Good & Evil* x. (Arb.) 154 The 'body-horse' in the Cart, that draweth more then the forehorse. 1832 SOUTHEY in *Q. Rev.* XLVII. 517 Not coming from a professional 'body-lifter'. 1861 RAMSAY *Remin.* Ser. ii. 133. 1775 J. STILL *Gamm. Gorton* ii. iv. She went as brag as it had been a 'bodolence'. a 1652 BROME *Crt. Beggar* Epil. As briske as a Body-louse in a new Pasture. 1861 HULME tr. *Moguin-Tandon* ii. vi. l. 294 The Body (or Clothes) Louse... was for a long time confounded with the former (the Head Louse). c 1850 *Rudin. Navig.* (Weale) 137 The plan of projection, commonly called the 'body plan', which exhibits the outline of the principal timbers, and the greatest heights and breadths of the same. 1834 SIR F. HEAD *Bubbles of Brummen* 126 Any one of our 'body-snatchers' would have rubbed his rough hands. 1863 *Reader* 22 Aug., At that time (1827-28)... 'body-snatching' became a trade. 1863 *Resol. Ch. Cartmell* in *Sat. Rev.* (1884) 5 July 14 The 'bodystead' of the Church shall be decently repaired. 1794 W. TAYLOR in *Month. Rev.* XIII. 39 He endeavoured to inspire the senate with a 'body-spirit'. 1880 S. WARREN *Grave Doings* in *Casquet Lit.* (1877) V. 185/1 My... exploit in the way of 'body-stealing'. 1854 BUSHNAN in *Circ. Sc.* (1865) I. 283/2 The air... passes out in undulating movements from the 'body-tube'. 1854 *Woodward Mollusca* (1856) 101 The last turn of the shell, or 'body-whorl', is usually very capacious.

Body (bɒdi), v. [f. prec.] trans.

1. To furnish or provide with a body; to embody.

c 1449 *PECOCK Repr.* 245 We... holden now oure God to be bodil and to be Bodied in a Maner which no Cristen man kan at the ful comprehend. 1611 BOLTON *Stat. Ir.* 315 (an. 11 *Elis.*) His head sundred from his bodie... and... bodied with a stake. 1634 HARRINGTON *Castara* 14 In some faire forme of clay Myself I'de bodied. 1656 COWLEY *Davidis* ii. Wks. 1710 l. 353. 1868 SHAKS *Athas.* iii. x. 335 The state where every man's real and dominant life is... bodied and robed according to its intrinsic quality.

† 2. To give body, consistence, or strength to. *lit. and fig. Obs.*

1563 T. GALE *Antidot.* n. 41 Boyle them... vntyll they bee well bodied and incorporate together. 1657 MAY *Satyr. Puffy* 43 Bodying each word with active emphasis.

† 3. To draw up or form (troops, etc.) into a body, to form in a body. (Also *intr.* for *refl.*) *Obs.*

1651 *Proc. Parliament* No. 80. 1215 The Earl of Sunderland... hath bodied above 500 of his tenants, & other people under his jurisdiction. *Ibid.* No. 104. 1603 But we could not hear of any bodying considerably, so that we could only disperse several parties. 1653 GAUDEN *Hierasp.* 14 Bodying into small Corporations.

4. To body forth: a. to represent to oneself as in bodily form; to give mental shape to.

1590 SHAKS. *Mids.* n. v. i. 14 Imagination bodies forth the forms of things Unknowen. 1800 SCOTT *Monast.* xiii. The *beast-ideal* which Dame Glendinning had been bodying forth in her imagination. 1855 BAIN *Senses & Int.* iii. iv. § 16 The power of bodying forth or realizing what is described in language, is one of the meanings of Conception.

b. To put (an idea) into outward shape or tangible form, to exhibit in outward reality.

1800-24 CAMPBELL *Chaucer & Windsor* 1 Long shalt thou flourish, Windsor! bodying forth Chivalric times. 1835 LYTTON *Rienzi* iv. i. 191 Wonderfully did her beauty... body forth the brightest vision that ever floated before the eyes of Tasso. 1840 CARLYLE *Heroes* iv. (1858) 277 The spiritual will always body itself forth in the temporal history of men.

5. To represent; to symbolize, typify.

1846 KEBLE *Lyra Innoc.* (1873) 54 One bodies forth a Virgin form Holding aloft a Cross of might. 1879 CHURCH *Spenser* iv. (1883) 30 The allegory bodies forth the trials which beset the life of man. 1883 *Spectator* No. 2874. 958 Both as egotist and as patriot M. de Lesseps bodies forth the age.

d. To indicate, betoken.

1831 SCOTT *Kenilw.* xvii. A sharp, lively, conceited expression of countenance, seemed to body forth a vain hair-brained coxcomb.

5. To body out: to give body or a body to; to fill out (a skeleton), to clothe (a mind) with bodily form.

1839 BAILEY *Festus* xxii. (1848) 285 If thus they bodied out The immortal mind. 1883 *Academy* 20 Oct. To body-out the meagre accounts of Thucydides.

Body-guard (bɒdɪgɑːd). [cf. F. *garde du corps*.]

1. A guard for the person (esp. of a sovereign or dignitary); a retinue or escort.

c 1735 ARBUTHNOT *Wks.* II. 107 (Jon.) Several bees go with him, as a bodyguard. 1738 F. MOORE *Trans.* II. 404 (Jon.) Troops... with increased pay and exclusive privileges under the denomination of bodyguards. 1768 TUCKER *Lt. Nat.* II. 182 That body-guard of Popery the Jesuits. 1860 SCOTT *Abbot* xxi. A page is a formidable addition to my body-guard of females. 1828 BYRON *Werner* i. l. 676 I'll promote you to the ranks in the prince's body-guard. 1847 GROTE *Greece* (1862) III. xlii. 513.

fig. 1850 J. MARTINEAU *Studies Chr.* 72 Defended by a body-guard of passions.

2. A soldier of the body-guard, a guard's-man.

1861 W. SARGENT *André* 390 The... execution... of one of the body-guards.

Bodyhood (bɒdɪhʊd). [f. *BODY* sb. + -HOOD.] The quality of having a body or of being body.

1674 N. FAIRFAX *Bulk & Setv.* 12 Upon the account of our animalities or beghosted bodyhood. *Ibid.* 46 Not only the things of body are given to things not body, but even bodyhood it self is. 1839 BAILEY *Festus* xx. (1848) 254 Spirit lives: And gloriously falsified are all Earth's cavered prophecies of bodyhood.

Bodily (bɒdɪli), vbl. sb. [f. *BODY* v. + -ING.] The action of the vb. *BODY*: embodiment.

1641 FRENCH *Distill.* v. (1651) 163 Vapours of Nitre... being near to congelation, and bodying. 1841 MIALI *Non-comf.* l. 401 The bodyings forth of that intelligence which is contained in the public mind.

Bodylet, *nonce-wd.* [After *armlet*, etc.: see -LET.] An ornamental ring for the body.

1870 LUBBOCK *Orig. Civilis.* ii. (1875) 55 The savage also wears necklaces and rings, bracelets and anklets, armlets and leglets—even, if I may say so, bodylets.

Body-like, a. and adv. Also 6 *bodilike*. [f. *BODY* sb. + LIKE.]

A. *adj.* Like a body; real, solid. 1570 BILLINGSLEY *Euclid* xi. def. 26. 320 The figure of the parallelepipedon, which appeareth more bodilike.

† B. *adv.* In bodily form, bodily. *Obs.*

1663 in Spalding *Troub. Chas. I.* (1829) 33 This monster was seen body-like swimming above the water. 1674 N. FAIRFAX *Bulk & Setv.* 29 It might then be cut a pieces body-like.

Bodum, obs. form of *BOTTOM*.

† *Bodysome*, a. *Obs.* [see -SOME.] Corporeal. 1674 N. FAIRFAX *Bulk & Setv.* 17 We and all body-some Beings.

Boe, obs. form of *BOUGH*, *Bow*, and *Bo int.*

Boec, *Boef*, obs. form of *BOOK*, *BEFF*.

Boehmenism (bō'mēniz'm). Commonly *Behmenism*. The doctrines taught by Jacob Boehme, a German mystic and theosophist (1575-1624); so *Boehmenist*, *Boehmite*.

1656 MORE *Euthus. Tri.* (1712) 49 Ranters and Quakers took their original from Behmenism and Familism. 1655 BAXTER *Quaker's Catech.* Pref. C liij b, I could tell you of abundance of Popery that the Quakers and Behmenists maintain. 1824 COLERIDGE *Aids Refl.* (ed. 2) 135 By any favouring the errors of the... Behmenists. 1846 BYRON'S *Wks.* 668 note, [founder of the sect called Behmenites].

Boel, obs. form of *BOWEL*.

Boeotarch (bō'otārk). [ad. Gr. *Βουαρράρχης*, f. *Βουαρ-ia* Boeotia + *-αρχης* ruler: cf. F. *Béotarque*.] A chief magistrate of the Boeotian league.

a 1222 SHELLEY *Edipus Tyr. Adv.* Before the duties... had been repealed by the Boeotarchs. 1838 THIRLWALL *Greece* V. xxxix. 108 The yearly term for which he held his office of Boeotarch had expired.

Boeotia (bō'otē'jā). A district of ancient Greece proverbial for the stupidity of its inhabitants: hence *fig.*

1786 WOLCOTT (P. Findar) *Ep. Barwell* Wks. 1794 I. 313 A dim Boeotia reigns in every skull. 1884 *Harper's Mag.* Nov. 895/2 Essex appears to be looked on as the Boeotia of England.

Hence *Boeotise* v., to become or make Boeotian.

1769 PARR *Wks.* (1828) VII. 410, I live quite in Boeotia, and Boeotize daily. 1846 GROTE *Greece* (1854) I. 183 These inhabitants of Orchomenos, before it became Boeotised.

Boeotian (bō'otē'jān), a. and sb. [f. prec. + -AN.]

A. *adj.* a. Of Boeotia. b. Dull, stupid.

1598 MARSTON *Pigm.* ii. 142, I dull-sprighted fat Boeotian Boore. 1809 BYRON *Bards & Rev.* 82 To be misled By Jeffrey's heart, or Lambe's Boeotian head. 1831 CARLYLE *Sart. Res.* iii. i, The earnestness and Boeotian simplicity... with which that 'Incident' is here brought forward.

B. sb. a. A native of Boeotia. b. A stupid clown, a 'thick-head'.

1649 G. DANIEL *Trinarch.* Hen. V. lix. These Trencher-Sta.; full-paunched Boeotians, Contemne all Bodies bred in pure Ayre, As Atticke leanness. 1821 LOCKHART *Valerius* II. x. 296 An opportunity... which I should have been a Boeotian indeed had I neglected. 1839 THIRLWALL *Greece* VIII. 465.

Boeotic (bō'otik), a. [ad. L. *Boeoticus*, ad. Gr. *Βουωτικός* Boeotian.] = prec. *adj.*

1676 CUDWORTH *Intell. Syst.* 741 The Dull Boeotick Air had too much Effect upon him. 1851 JELF *Creek Gram.* ii. § 10. 9 The dialects then are... The Doric, as spoken by the Dorians, The Boeotic, by the Boeotians. 1866 *Eng. Mech.* 19 Mar. 577/3 A... man of a very blunt Boeotic dull wit.

|| *Boer* (bū-). Formerly *boor*. [Du. *boer* 'countryman, peasant, farmer', the same word that in a general sense is spelt *Boor*. The latter was formerly used also for the Dutch settlers in South Africa, but in more recent times the Du. spelling *boer* has been appropriated to this sense.] A Dutch colonist in South Africa engaged in

agriculture or cattle-breeding. (In recent newspaper language, the name has been applied especially to those of the Transvaal and other districts beyond the British dominions.)

[See earlier quots. under BOOR 2 b.] 1834 PRINGLE *Afr. Sk.* i. 127 Tall Dutch-African boers... were bawling in Colonial-Dutch. *Ibid.* iv. 182 To begin the world respectably as a *Voi Boer*, or grazer. 1857 LIVINGSTONE *Trav.* ii. 29 The Boers of the Cashan Mountains... The word *Boer* simply means 'farmer', and is not synonymous with our word *boor*. 1865 TYLER *Early Hist. Man.* i. 11 Such a story... would be naturally referred to the Dutch boers.

Boerdom, the community or state of the Boers. 1864 *Pall Mall G.* 15 Oct. 6/1 Boerdom develops faster than British progress.

Boe-sprite, obs. form of BOWSPRIT.

† **Boethetic**. *Obs. rare* -1. [ad. Gr. *Boēthetikos*, f. *Boēthi-ew* to help.] Helpful, curative.

1660 STANLEY *Hist. Philas.* (1701) 164 Medicine is of five kinds; Boethetic, removeth disease.

Boezar, obs. form of BEZOAR.

Boff, **Bofet**, **boffet**, obs. ff. **BUFF**, **BUFFET**.

Bog (*bog*), *sb.* 1. Forms: 6-7 **bogg**, **bogge**, 7 **boghe**, 6- **bog**. [ad. Ir. or Gael. *bogach* a bog, f. *bog* soft, used in composition in the sense of 'bog', as *bog-luachair* bulrush. In Scotland apparently from Gaelic, in England from Irish.]

1. A piece of wet spongy ground, consisting chiefly of decayed or decaying moss and other vegetable matter, too soft to bear the weight of any heavy body upon its surface; a morass or moss.

c 1505 DUNBAR *Of James Dog* 15 Chassand cattell through a bog. 1552 LELAND *Brit. Coll.* (1774) II. 545 They... fledde alle, and levying theyr Horses, tooke the Martres, or Bogges. 1599 SHAKS. *Hen. V.* iii. vii. 61 They that ride so... fall into foule Bogges. 1611 SPEED *Theat. Gt. Brit.* (1614) 143/1 Certain places [of Ireland]... which of their softness are usually termed Boghes. 1631 *Star Chamb. Cases* (1886) 34 The Country of Ireland is full of bogges on the ground and mists in the aire. 1667 MILTON *P. L.* ii. 592 That Serbonian Bog Betwixt Damiatra and mount Casius old, Where Armies whole have sunk. 1751 CHAMBERS *Cycl. s.v.* The inconveniences of Bogs are... that they are a great destruction to cattle: they are also a shelter to Tories and Thieves. 1820 SCOTT *Lady of L.* iii. xiii, The trembling bog and false morass. 1846 McCULLOCH *Acc. Brit. Empire* (1854) I. 325 These bogs are included under the general designation of the Bog of Allen.

b. (without *pl.*) Bog-land, boggy soil.

a 1667 PERRY *Pol. Arith.* (1690) a Bog may by draining be made Meadow. 1846 McCULLOCH *Acc. Brit. Empire* (1854) I. 269 A large extent of hill pasture, moor, and bog. 1861 *Times* 29 Aug., Long brown gaps of stagnant-looking bog, where the piles of neatly-cut turf were stacked out in rough black cones.

c. *fig.* (Cf. 'fog'.)

1614 BR. KING *Vitio Palat.* 30 Quagmires and bogges of Romish superstition. 1707 BURNS *To Miss Ferrier* iii, Last day my mind was in a bog. 1840 C. DICKENS *Barn. Rudge* (1849) 331/1 He wandered out again, in a perfect bog of uncertainty. 1878 MORLEY *Diderot* I. 331 The Serbonian bog of dramatic rules.

II. *Attrib. and Comb.*

2. General comb., as *bog-bred* adj.; -*hay*, -*pit*, -*plant*, -*stalker*, -*turf*, -*water*, -*way*.

1850 MARC. FULLER *Wom.* 19th C. (1862) 324 Because that 'bog-bred youth... tells you lies. 1799 J. ROBERTSON *Agric. Perth* 222 In general 'bog hay... is about one third inferior in quality to that from sown grass. 1820 SCOTT *Abbot* xvi, The kelpie must sit from the black 'bog-pit. 1854 S. THOMSON *Wild Fl.* iii. (1861) 138 Our common 'bog-plants. a 1798 RAMSAY *Poems* (1800) II. 338 Ill-bred 'bog stalker. 1866 CARLYLE *Remin.* I. 205 A gush of 'bog-water. 1869 BLACKMORE *Lorna D.* iii. (ed. 12) 12 Before coming to the black 'bog-way.

3. In many names of plants growing in bogs: as *Bog Asphodel*, *Cinquefoil*, *Pimpernel*, etc.; *bog bean*, *bog nut*, or *bog trefoil*, also called *BUCKBEAN*; *bog berry*, the Cranberry; *bog moss*, various species of *Sphagnum*, by the growth and decay of which bogs are chiefly formed; *bog myrtle*, Sweet Gale (*Myrica Gale*); *bog orchis*, *Malaxis paludosa*; *bog pink*, Lady's Smock (*Cardamine pratensis*); *bog rush*, *Sclenus nigricans*; *bog violet* = *BUTTERWORT* (*Pinguicula*).

1821 G. ALLEN in *Academy* 13 Aug. 113/3 A little marsh... made room for 'bog-asphodel. 1794 MARTYN *Rousseau's Bot.* xvi. 176 Marsh Trefoil, Buckbean or 'Bogbean will discover itself to you immediately. 1857 HUGHES *Tom Brown* i, What the 'bog-bean and wood-sage are good for. 1858 ELIZ. TWING *Lect. Plants* 345 Our marsh 'Bog-bean which I described to you as an intensely bitter herb. 1884 Q. VICTORIA *More Leaves* 290 Bonnets with a black cock's tail and 'bog-myrtle.

4. Special comb.: *bog-blitter*, -*bluiter*, -*bumper*, provincial names of the Bittern; *bog-butter*, a fatty hydrocarbon found in the peat-bogs of Ireland; *bog-deal* = *bog-pine*; *bog-down*, Cotton-grass (*Eriophorum*); *bog-earth*, earth composed of, or largely mixed with, peat; *bog fir* = *bog pine*; *bog iron*, *bog iron ore*, a brittle, porous variety of brown hematite found in bogs; *bog-jumper*, (local) the Bittern; *bog-land*, marshy land, a boggy country; *humorously*, Ireland, hence *bog-lander*; *bog manganese* (see quot.); † *bog-mine*, *bog-mine-ore*, *bog ore* = *bog iron ore*; † *bog-mire*, a quagmire; *bog-mould* = *bog-*

earth; *bog oak*, the wood of oak preserved in a black state in peat-bogs, etc.; *bog-pine*, pine-wood found buried in peat-bogs; *bog-spavin*, an encysted tumour on the inside of the hock of a horse; *bog-timber*, *bog-wood*, the trunks of trees found buried in peat-bogs.

1815 SCOTT *Guy R.* i, The deep cry of the 'bog-blitter, or bull-of-the bog. 1866 *Inverness Courier* 4 Jan., The bitter of British Zoology; provincially the 'bog-bumper and mire-drum. 1863 WATTS *Dict. Chem.* I. 617 'Bog-butter, a fatty substance found in the peat-bogs of Ireland. 1794 G. ADAMS *Nat. & Exp. Philos.* IV. xlvii. 301 Touch the needle with a piece of 'bog-down, or a cork ball. 1865 *Pall Mall G.* 24 Oct. 5 Cloth made of bog-down (*Anglice*, cotton grass). 1787-8 *Botan. Mag.* II. 46 Soil, a mixture of loam and 'bog earth. 1769 BARRINGTON in *Phil. Trans.* LIX. 33 Why these 'bog-firs may be found in places where there is no such tree at present. 1789 MILLS in *Phil. Trans.* LXXX. 89 'Bog iron ore is met with in the mosses. 1690 DRYDEN *Prod. to Prophets* 31 Men without hearts, and women without hose. Each bring his love a 'Bogland captive home. 1730-6 BAILEY *Dict.* 'Bog-Landers, a nick-name given Irish-men. 1755 W. MOFFAT *Irish Hudib.* A bunch of three-leaved grass Called by the boglanders sham-rogues. 1875 *Ure Dict. Arts* III. 200 Wad, or 'Bog Manganese, is the old English name of the hydrated peroxide of manganese. 1590 R. PAYNE *Descr. Irel.* (1841) 6 There is... great plenty of Iron stone, and one sort more than we have in England, which they call 'Bogge myne. 1762 ELIOT in *Phil. Trans.* LIII. 56 Add some bog mine ore, which abounds with cinder. 1624 CART. SMITH *Virginia* ii. 32 They slew my men, and tooke me prisoner in a 'Bogmire. 1834 *Brit. Hudib.* I. 414 When brought to the decayed condition of 'bog-mould, or rich earth. 1857 PARSONS in *Phil. Trans.* L. 398 This is called 'bog-oak, or bog deal, well known to country people in many places. *Mod.* An extensive manufactory of bog-oak ornaments, as bracelets, brooches, etc. 1779 PENNANT *Tours Scat.* (1774) 219 That species of iron called 'bog-ore. 1842 S. LOVER *Handy Andy* xxxv. 336 A torch made of 'bog-pine. 1632 BRATHWAIT *Whimsey* 76 His stable is a very shop of all diseases; glanders, yellows... 'bogspavings, with a myriad more. 1802 D. BLAIR *Veterinary Art* (ed. 2) 499 *Bog Spavin*. This is only a bursal enlargement of the mucous capsule on the inner side of the hock. 1807 VANCOUVER *Agric. Devon* (1813) 52 These morasses are found frequently to abound with 'bog-timber. 1868 SCOTT *F. M. Perth* III. 107 A piece of lighted 'bog-wood which he carried in a lantern. 1833 *Longm. Mag.* iii. 48 A generation ago the old art of carving bog-wood was revived in Dublin.

† **Bog, bogge**, *sb.* 2. *Obs.* [Possibly a variant of *bugge*, *BUG* 'terror, bugbear', found in 14th c.: cf. *BOGLE*, *BOGGLE*, and *BOGGARD*.] A bugbear, a source of dread. To take bog: to *BOGGLE* v. 1, 2. Cf. *BOGGLE sb.* 1.

1527 *St. Papers Hen. VIII.* I. 206 Against whom... it shal not a litle confesse, that this man be a bogge. 1656 SANDERSON *Serm.* (1689) 128 Men who make no conscience of a lye, do yet take some bog at an Oath. 1676 ETHEREDGE *Man of Mode* I. i. (1684) 5 Farewell Bog.

† **Bog**, *a.* (*sb.* 3) *Obs. exc. dial.* [Derivation unknown. In Derbyshire, Lincolnshire, etc. the dialectal form is *bug*, pronounced (*bug*).]

A. adj. Blustering, bold, proud, saucy.

1592 WARNER *Alb. Eng.* vii. xxxvii. (1612) 184 The Cuckooe, seeing him so bog, waxt also wondrous wroth. 1648 ROGERS *Naaman* 18 Thy bog and bold heart to be abashed. 1691 RAY S. & E. *Countr. Wds.* 90 *Bogge*, bold, forward, saucy. So we say, a very bog Fellow. 1693 G. FIRMIN *Davies' Vind.* iv. 32 A bog fellow, forward to put forth himself.

B. sb. Brag, boastfulness. *dial.*

1839 C. CLARK *J. Noakes, &c.* 3 Their bog it never ceases. **Bog**, *sb.* 4 *vulgar*, = *BOG-HOUSE*, *latrina*.

Bog (*bog*), *v.* 1; also 7 *bogg*, 8 *bogue*. [f. *Bog sb.* 1.]

1. *trans.* To sink, submerge, or entangle, in a bog. Also *fig.*

1641 MILTON *Animadv. Wks.* (1851) 238 Whose profession to forsake the world... boggs them deeper into the world. 1730 T. BOSTON *Mex. it.* 245, I mistook the way and bogged my horse through the moss beyond R. 1865 J. LUDLOW *Epics Mid. Ages* II. 294 He is unskilled... and succeeds in bogging his cart.

b. (*passive*). To be bogged: to be sunk and entangled in a bog or quagmire; also = sense 2.

1603 [see *BOGGED*]. 1743-7 N. TINDAL *Contn. Rapin's Hist.* (1751) I. 136 His horse was bogged on the other side. 1828 SCOTT *F. M. Perth* I. 63 Any other horse and rider must have been instantly bogged up to the saddle-girths. 1841 ARNOLD *Lett. in Life & Corr.* (1844) II. x. 304, I hope to see some of my boys and girls well bogged in the middle of Bagley Wood.

2. *intr.* (for *refl.*) To sink and stick in a bog.

a 1800 *Trials Sess. Rob. Roy* (1818) 120 (JAM.) Duncan Graham in Gartmore his horse bogged; that the deponent helped some others to take the horse out of the bog.

† **Bog**, *v.* 2 *Obs.* [possibly related to *Bog a.*] *trans.* To provoke.

1546 *St. Papers Henry VIII.* XI. 162 If you had not written to me, we had broken now, the Frenchmen bogged us so often with departing. 1553 GRIMALDE *Cicero's Offices* iii. (1558) 164 A frenchman whom he [Manlius Torquatus] slew, being bogged [*provocatus*] by hym.

Bog, *v.* 3 [A low word, scarcely found in literature, however common in coarse colloquial language. Cf. *BOGGARD* 2 and *BOG-HOUSE*.] *intr.* To exonerate the bowels; also *trans.* to defile with excrement.

Bog, **Boge**, early form of *BOUGH*, *Bow*.

Boge, **Boget**, obs. form of *BUDGE*, *BUDGET*.

Bogen, obs. pa. pple. of *Bow v.*

Bogey, variant of *BOGIE*, *BOGY*, *BUDGE*, *fur*.

Boggard 1, -*art* (*bəgˈɑːd*, -*ɑːt*). Also 6 *bug-gard*, 8 *bag*. [A word in popular use in Westmoreland, Lancashire, Cheshire, Yorkshire, and the north midlands, and of occasional appearance in literature since c 1570. Evidently related to *BOGGLE*, *BOGLE*, and *Bog sb.* 2: if the status of the last-named were more assured, it would be natural to see in *boggard* a derivative with the augmentative suffix -*ARD*; or if the occasional variant *buggard* could be assumed as the etymological form, it might stand in the same relation to *Bug*. See *BOGLE*.]

1. A spectre, goblin, or bogey; in dialectal use, esp. a local goblin or sprite supposed to 'haunt' a particular gloomy spot, or scene of violence.

1570 LEVINS *Manip.* 30 A Boggard, *spectrum*. c 1730 BURT *Lett. N. Scotl.* (1818) I. 227 All that quarter of England is infested with boggards of all sorts. 1821 MRS. WHEELER *Westm. Dial.* 39 Sic a terrible boggard as I belev niver onny yan saw before. 1825 *Whitby Glass*, *Bogge*, *Boggart*, a fearful object, a hobgoblin. 1857 in Bohn's *Handbk. Proverbs* 152 He thinks every bush a boggard.

b. *fig.* A bugbear, a source of dread.

1575 *Brieff Disc. Troubl. Franchford* (1846) 160 Nor be such buggardes to the poor, yf they may not beare the bagge alone. 1666 *Kollocke's Hist. Passion* 132 (JAM.) Hell is but a boggard to scare children.

† 2. An object real or imaginary at which a horse shies or 'boggles'. *Obs.*

1617 MARKHAM *Caval.* ii. xii. 112 How to correct a horse that is skittish, and fearful and findeth many boggards. 1639 DE GREY *Compl. Horsem.* 28 The horse will... stare and see boggards in his keepers face. 1795 BRADLEY *Fam. Dict.* II. s.v. *Horses*, It betrays a weak, slight and unnecessary Starting, or finding of Boggards. [1862 *Standard* 1 Jan., When a horse takes fright at some object unobserved by its master the vulgar opinion is that it has seen the boggart.]

† **Boggard** 2. *Obs.* [f. *Bog v.* 3] A privy.

1554 HULOET, *Siege*, Jacques, bogard, or draught, *latrina*. 1628 SHIRLEY *Witty Fair* iv. vi. 1647 WARD *Simp. Cobler* 76 He [the Devil] thought it wisdom to keep the land [Ireland] for a Boggards for his unclean spirits.

Boggarty, *a. north. dial.* [f. *BOGGART* + *-Y*.] Haunted by boggards.

1867 *Cornh. Mag.* XV. 744, 'I darena come up the lone moor by night, for 'tis a very boggy bit.'

Bogge, variant of *BOO*, *BODGE* *sb.* 2

Bogged (*bogd*), *ppl. a.* [f. *Bog v.* 1 + *-ED*.] Plunged or entangled in a bog; bemired. Also *fig.*

1602 B. JOHNSON *Sejanus* iv. (1602) 142 Bogged in his filthy Lusts. 1824 HOOKER *Himal. Frs.* II. xxx. 323 My elephant got bogged in crossing a deep muddy stream.

Bogger, *dial.* See quot. So *Bogging vbl. sb.*

1828 M. PORTER *Souther Johnny* 18 It was then the custom for the country shoemaker, like the tailor, to go to the house of his employer, and there do his work. This practice was technically called 'boggling', and on such occasions the accommodating bogger would make shoes for the whole family.

† **Boggy**, *v. Obs. rare*. [f. *BOGGY a.* + *-FY*.] To make boggy.

1640 BLITH *Eng. Improv. Impr.* viii. (1653) 43 Such Mills... as are kept up, or dammed so high, as that they boggy all the Lands that lye under their Mill-head.

Bogginess (*boggines*). Boggy quality.

1640 BLITH *Eng. Improv. Impr.* (1653) 37. 1670 SHARROCK *Vegetables* 87 Bogginess... breeds the rush and other incommunities. 1824 *Standard* 2 Apr. 5/2 The 'haughs' are wet, almost to bogginess.

† **Bogging**, *vbl. sb. Obs.* [perh. an obs. spelling of *bogging*: see *BODGE*, *BADGE v.* 2] Peddling, hawking; going up and down as a dealer; also *fig.* 1554 PHILPOT *Exam. & Writ.* (1842) 308, I would they would... leave bogging of heresies to their own damnation & decaying of many. 1577 HOLMES *Chron.* III. 64 The busie bogging of the divell alwaies.

† **Boggish**, *a.* 1 *Obs.* [f. *Bog a.* + *-ISH*.] † Inclined to bluster or brag; puffed up; bold.

Hence *Boggishly adv.*, in a vaunting manner.

c 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 42 Boggyschyn [K. H. boggysche. 1499 boggisshe], *tumidus*. c 1350 *Will. Palerne* 1707 And bogeyliche as a boye bukto to be kychene. c 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 42 Boggyschely, *tumide*.

† **Boggish**, *a.* 2 [f. *Bog sb.* 1] Of boggy nature.

1633 T. STAFFORD *Pac. Hib.* xxi. (1821) 416 On the front a boggish Glyn.

Boggle (*bɒgˈl*), *v.* Also 6 *buggell*, 7 *bogle*. [app. f. *boggle*, var. of *BOGLE* a spectre, (such as horses are reputed to see). In later times there has been a tendency to associate the word with *bugle*, which appears in sense 4, and in the derivatives.]

1. *intr.* To start with fright, to shy as a startled horse; to take alarm, be startled, scared at.

1598 CHAPMAN *Iliad* x. 420 They [steeds] should not with affright Boggle, nor snore. 1601 SHAKS. *All's Well* v. iii. 232 You boggle shrewdly, every feather starts you. 1638 SUCKLING *Brennival* iv. 1. 35 Thou... boggest at every thing, fool. 1655 GURNALL *Chr. in Arm.* xiv. 221/1 Ba-laam... spurs on his conscience (that bogg'd more than the Ass he rode on). 1676 R. LESTRANGE *Seneca's Mor.* (1702) 426 We Boggle at our own Shadows, and Fright one another. 1769 WESLEY in *Wks.* (1872) III. 373 The shaft-horse then bogged and turned short toward the edge of the precipice. 1865 MISS BRADDON *Doctor's Wife* x. 93 Boggling a little when she turned the corners.

2. To raise scruples, hesitate, demur, stickle (*at*, *occas. about, over*, etc., or *to do a thing*).

1638 MEDE *Wks.* l. xxxvii. (1672) 202 A Sound and Loyal heart is not that which boggles and scruples at small sins. 1667 *Perry's Diary* (1877) v. 241, I find the Parliament still boggling about the raising of this money. 1681 CHETHAM *Angler's Vade-m.* xxxix. § 13 (1689) 287 They would not bogle to give 1000 sesterces. 1698 R. LESTRANGE *Josephus' Ant.* v. x. (1733) 125 He never shrunk or boggled for the matter. 1734 *North Exam.* II. iv. p. 115 He boggled at first against testifying at all. 1798 MARY WOLLSTONECRAFT *Wks.* IV. lxxviii. 8 Since you boggle about a mere form. 1868 *Browning Ring & Book* ix. 1378 Nor do thou Boggle, oh parent, to return the grace. 1876 GREEN *Short Hist.* vi. § 6. 336 One, who was known to have boggled hard at the oath.

3. 'To play fast or loose' J.; to palter, quibble, equivocate.

1613 OVERBURY *A Wife* (1638) 219 He doth boggle very often. 1649 DRUMM. OF HAWTH. *Skiamachia Wks.* (1711) 199 Are ye not afraid to boggle thus with God Almighty? 1674 CLARENDON *Hist. Reb.* (1704) III. xl. 206 He boggled so much in his answer, that they would be of opinion that, etc. 1816 HAZLITT *Modern Apost.* They have never sneaked nor shuffled, botched or boggled in their politics.

4. To fumble, bungle, make a clumsy attempt.

1536 LATIMER *Serm. & Rem.* (1845) 373 If I have one there to help me, I shall do the more good; if not I shall buggell myself as well as I can. 1853 C. ANCHESTER II. 9 He boggled at the lock for a minute or two, but at last admitted himself. 1880 L. STEPHEN *Pope* vii. 169 He uses only one epithet, but it is the right one, and never boggles and patches.

† 5. *trans.* To cause to hesitate, to scare. *rare.*

1663 *Flagellum* or *O. Cromwell* (1672) 155 This bogged at first three quarters of them.

Boggle (bɒɡl̩), *sb.* [f. prec. vb.]

1. The act of boggling as a horse. † To take boggle: to shy with fright, to take alarm.

1660 G. FLEMING *Stemma Sac.* 30 They had taken boggle at some State overtures. 1844 *Craven Dial.* 25 His skiddle tit, glentin its ee up at me, took boggle, maad a girl founder, an ran back.

2. Demur, scruple, objection, difficulty, fuss; chiefly in *to make boggle*. *Obs. or arch.*

1667 *Perry's Diary* (1879) IV. 459 The Dutch do make a further bogle with us about two or three things. 1768 TUCKER *Lt. Nat.* l. 140 The plain man makes no boggle at the ideas of creation, annihilation, or vacuity.

3. A bungle. *Boggle-de-botch*, *boggledy botch* (colloq.): a complete bungle, a 'mess'. See *BOTCH* v. and *sb.*

1834 MAR. EDGEWORTH *Helen* xxvi. A fine boggle-de-botch I have made of it. 1841 GRESLEY *C. Lever* 21 What a boggle he did make of it to be sure. 1860 *Sat. Rev.* XIII. 121 Jones of the 43rd, who got into that boggle in Armenia.

Boggle, dialectal variant of **BOGLE**, goblin.

Boggled, *pp. a.* [f. **BOGGLE** v. + -ED.] Clumsily attempted, bungled. Cf. **BOGGLE** v. 4.

1877 LYTTEL *Landmarks* l. iv. 32 *Canisstraddin*... being clearly a boggled form of *Kempu-staddin*.

Boggler. [f. **BOGGLE** v. + -ER.] One who boggles or hesitates; a stickler.

1666 SHAKS. *Ant. & Cl.* III. xlii. 110 You have been a boggler euer.

Boggling (bɒɡl̩ɪŋ), *vbl. sb.* [f. as prec. + -ING.] The action of the vb. **BOGGLE**.

1640 SHIRLEY *Arctidia* II. i. Leave your boggling & your trim-tram tricks. 1665 R. ROBINSON *Christall* 117 He keeps a huge boggling, he doth exceedingly dodge with Jesus Christ. 1834 C. GARVILLE *Memo. Geo. IV.* (1875) III. xxiii. 79 He made a great boggling of reading his petition.

Boggling, *pp. a.* [f. as prec. + -ING.] That boggles; starting with fright; sticking; bungling. 1645 W. LITTON *Siege Newcastle* (1820) 15 Like unto Calabrian Females with their boggling bushas. 1683 OLDHAM *Sat. Yewits Wks.* (1686) 10 Nice boggling consciences. 1870 MISS BROUGHTON *Red as Rose* 252, I can mend stockings in a boggling, sort of way.

Bogglingly (bɒɡl̩ɪŋli), *adv.* [f. prec. + -LY.] In a boggling manner.

1863 *All Y. Round* 422 [He] slowly and bogglingly reads... what has been written for him to say.

† **Bogglish**, *a. Obs.* [f. **BOGGLE** sb. + -ISH.] Inclined to **BOGGLE**; skittish.

1666 *Artif. Handsomeness* 172 Nothing is more sly, touchy and bogglish.

Boggy (bɒɡi), *a.* [f. **BOG** sb. + -Y.] Of the nature of, or characterized by, bog; swampy.

1586 J. HOOKER *Girald. Irel. in Holinshed* II. 168 Passed through the boggy mountaine of Slewlother into Kerrie. 1652 FRENCH *Yorksh. Sp.* II. 5 Drunk up by some boggie, spongyous earth. 1667 MILTON *P. L.* II. 939 Quencht in a Boggie Syrtis, neither Sea Nor good dry Land. 1797 BRADLEY *Fam. Dict.* I. s.v. *Fir tree*, Venice and Amsterdam are built on Piles of this timber driven into boggy Places. 1872 JENKINSON *Guide Eng. Lakes* (1879) 104 Composed of rocky hillocks and boggy hollows.

fig. 1644 QUARLES *Barnabas and B.* 44 Let me drain my boggy soul from those corrupted inbred humours.

b. *transf.* Of a soft, spongy consistency; flabby. 1664 H. POWER *Exp. Philos.* I. 66 Carried with the Blood... up into the Brain, and there by that lax and boggy substance are imbibed. 1852 *Fraser's Mag.* XLV. 639 The flesh boggy to the touch.

Bogh, boghed, etc.: see **BOUGH** and **BOW** v.

Bog-house, *dial. and vulgar.* [see **BOGGARD**.] A privy, 'a house of office' J. So **BOGGARD**.

1705 HICKERINGILL *Priest-Cr.* II. v. 48 The Jaques, the

Bog-house or House of Office. c 1724 ARBUTHNOT, etc., *M. Scriblerus* I. xiv. He cast them all into a bog-house near St. James'. 1765 *Brit. Mag.* II. 163 They had found the intrails of a body in the bog-house.

Boghsom, *obs. form of BUXOM.*

Boght, *obs. pa. t. and pa. pple. of BUY.*

Bogie (bɒgi). Also **bogy**, **bogey**. [A northern dialect word, which has recently been generally diffused in connexion with railways as applied to the plate-layer's bogie, but especially in sense 2. Of unknown etymology: notwithstanding absurd stories in the newspapers (invented *ad rem*), it has (as the sense might show) nothing to do with **BOGY**, which is not a northern word.]

1. *north. dial.* A low strong truck upon four small wheels, also called *trolly*, *hurlly*, etc. 'A kind of cart with low wheels and long shafts, used by masons to remove large stones' (Peacock *Lonsdale Gloss.*); 'a rude contrivance for moving heavy articles, consisting of a simple plank on low wheels' (*Lanc. Gloss.*). *esp.* in Newcastle, A strong low truck (about 1 ft. high) on 4 small wheels, used, since c 1817, for transporting a single cask or hoghead from the quay to the town; also a flat board with 4 very small wheels on which lads career down steep banks or roads, as in the Canadian sport of *tobogganing*. Hence, in general use, the low truck used by platelayers on a railway.

c 1817 (Remembered in Newcastle by living witnesses). 1835 A. GILCHRIST in *Robson Bards of Tyne* (1863) 416 In Dean Street, when carts or when bogies came down. 1840 T. WILSON *Poems* (1872) 93 A kind o' hearse on bogie wheels. 1869 *N. & Q. Ser.* IV. IV. 570/1 In Scotland in the engineering works they have a small carriage... which they call a 'bogie'. I find it has been known by that name for fully 60 years. 1874 *Trans. Amer. Inst. Mining Eng.* II. 82 The slag may be allowed to deposit itself in layers in the truck or bogie, placed underneath the rolls. 1885 *Birmingham Wkly. Post* 26 Sept. 4/7 This work has often had to be done with a plate-layer's bogie, propelled by feet touching the road. (See R. Oliver Heslop, in *Newcastle Daily Journal*, 1 Nov. 1886.)

2. A low truck or frame running on two or more pairs of wheels and supporting the fore-part of a locomotive engine or the ends of a long railway-carriage, to which it is attached by a central pivot, on which it swivels freely in passing curves; a revolving under-carriage.

1844 *Specif. J. Wright's Patent*, No. 20173 Constructing railway carriages by supporting the bodies near the ends on two eight-wheel, six-wheel, and four-wheel bogies or revolving under-carriages. 1865 *Railway News* 2 Dec. 579 The Bissell Bogie... for Locomotive Engines, so much prized on American and foreign Railroads. 1876 F. WILLIAMS *Midd. Railw.* 665 The new Midland passenger carriages... rest on two six-wheeled bogies. 1879 *Cassell's Techn. Educ.* XI. 307 In some engines the front part, instead of being mounted on a single pair of wheels, is supported on a 'bogie' or truck with two pairs.

3. *attrib.*, as in *bogie car, carriage, engine, truck*; **bogie-barrow** = sense 1 ('known in Fife for sixty years or more', Prof. W. Wallace).

1843 *Proc. Inst. Civil Eng.* 99 What is termed a 'bogie' engine, having a four-wheeled truck to support one end of the boiler, whilst the other rests upon the driving wheels. 1851 *Specif. C. Couper's Patent* No. 13705 Improvements in the fore carriages, or as they are sometimes called 'bogie frames', of locomotive engines. 1869 *Eng. Mech.* 19 Nov. 236/5 These engines are constructed with a bogie truck. 1880 *Birmingham Wkly. Post* 2 Oct. 1/6 He was in the last compartment of the last bogie carriage.

Bogie, variant of **BOGY**.

Bogle (bɒɡl̩). Forms: 5-6 **bogil** (l), 7 **bogell**, 8-**bogle**; 7-9 *north. Eng.* **boggle**. [Of the various names *bogle*, *boggard*, *bogy*, applied to a goblin, *bogle* is the earliest known, being common in Scottish literature since 1500. In the present century its use by Burns, Scott, Hogg, and others has introduced it into English literature; but the special English form seems to be *boggle* (with short o as in **BOGGARD**), found in north. Eng. dialects from Cumberland to Lincolnshire. The derivation of the whole group is uncertain: the primitive may be *bogge*, *Bog sb.* 2, and this may be a variant of *bugge*, *Bug*; which is not improbably a Welsh *bug* (= *bug*) ghost, bugbear, hobgoblin. The form of *bogle*, *boggle*, would still remain unexplained: it is perhaps worth while to compare Welsh *bugwul* (= *bugwul*) 'terror, terrifying' (whence *bygylu* *bugwul* to terrify), and *bygel* (or *bugail*) *nos* a hobgoblin of the night: see *Bug*. But there are also German words of similar form and meaning, *bogge* and *bogel-mann* 'a bogy, a bogle': so that uncertainty attaches to the source. Cf. **BOGGARD**.]

1. A phantom causing fright; a goblin, bogy, or spectre of the night; an undefined creature of superstitious dread. (Usually supposed to be black, and to have something of human attributes, though spoken of as *it*.) Also, applied contemptuously to a human being who is 'a fright to behold'.

c 1505 DUNBAR *Twa marrit Wem.* 121 The luif bleakis of that bogill fra his blerde ene. 1535 STUART *Crow. Scot.* III. 134 Like ane bogill all of ratland banis. 1646 R. BAILLIE *Anabapt.* (1647) 44 The Devils are nothing but only boggles in the night, to terrifie men. 1790 *Scots Mag.* (1753) Sept. 451/1 There used to be bogles seen. 1790 BURNS *Lam o' Shanter*, Whiles glow'ring round wi' prudent cares, Lest bogles catch him unawares. 1808 *Cumbrian Ball.* III. 8 A boggie's been seen wi' twee heads. 1814 SCOTT *Wav.* lxxi, I played at bogie about the bush wi' them. 1822 BRIDGES *Mem.* 20, I had not... got over a belief in ghosts and boggies. 1824 BYRON *Yuan* XI. lxxii, A sort of sentimental bogie, which sits for ever upon memory's crupper. 1832 SOUTHEY *Lett.* (1856) IV. 281 Boggles and Barguests are the only supernatural beings we hear of in these parts [Keswick]. 1864 TENNYSON *North. Farmer* viii, Their wur a boggie in it, I often 'eerd un mysen.

2. *fig. and transf.* a. A bugbear (not a phantom).

b. A thing unsubstantial, a mere phantom.

1663 LAUDERDALE in *Papers* (1884) I. cvi. 185, I have written so much that I doe feare my hand shall grow a bug-bear, or as we say heir a bogell. 1790 BURNS *Dispendency* iii, The sillie bogles, wealth and state, Can never make them eerie.

3. *transf.* A scarecrow. (In common use in north.)

1830 GALT *Laurie T.* VII. ix. (1849) 343 Bogles made of clouts. 1884 *Gd. Words* May 324/2 Potato bogles or scarecrows... vary in size... and dress, in nearly every parish.

Hence **Bogle-bo'** [see **BO**]. = **BOGLE**; **Bogle-dome**, the realm or domain of bogles.

1663 *Philotus* II, Quhat reck to tak the Bogill-bo, My bonie burd for anis. 1678 COLES *Lat. Dict.*, *Bogle-bo*... an ugly wide-mouthed picture carried about with May games. 1730-6 BAILLY, *Bogle-bo*, a bogbear to fright Children, a scare crow. 1800 *Rhymes in Proc. Bern. Nat. Club* I. v. 148 The bogie bo' of Billy Mire Wha kills our bairns a'. 1860 G. H. K. *Vac. Tour* 171 Donald! Donald! I keep out of the regions of bogledome.

Boglet (bɒɡl̩t). [see -LET.] A little bog.

1869 BLACKMORE *Lorna D.* lix. (1872) 399 Tufty flaggy ground, pocked with bogs and boglets.

Bog-shop, vulgar equivalent of **BOG-HOUSE**.

Bogt, *obs. pa. t. and pa. pple. of BUY.*

Bog-trot, *v.* [f. **BOG** sb. 1 + **TROT** v.: app. due to the earlier formation **BOG-TROTTER**.] *intr.* To trot over bogs; to live among bogs. Hence **Bog-trotting** *vbl. sb. and ppl. a.*

c 1734 *North Exam.* II. v. § 14 (1740) 323 Better... to bog-trot in Ireland, than to pick it in Preferment no better dressed. 1768 GOLDSM. *Cit. W.* II. lxxviii, Rock advises the world to beware of bogtrotting quacks. 1830 STONEHOUSE *Asholme* 398 It required very great care in stepping from tuft to tuft, which in Ireland, is called bog-trotting.

Bog-trotter (bɒɡ-trɒt-tɜː), [f. **BOG** sb. + **TROTTER**.]

† 1. One accustomed to make his way across bogs, or to run to bogs for refuge. *Obs.*

1700 RYCAUT *Hist. Turke* III. 276 Being very nimble and active, and a kind of Bog-trotter, Achmet escaped over a Marsh. 1755 JOHNSON, *Bog-trotter*, one that lives in a boggy country.

2. *spec.* Applied to the wild Irish in the 17th c.; continued in the 18th c. as a nickname for Irishmen.

1688 *Philanax Misopappas, Tory Plot* II. 18 An idle flam of shabby Irish Bogtrotters. 1733 *North Lives* I. 406 His friends were termed Bog trotters, wild Irish, or, which means the same thing, Tories. 1753 SMOLLETT *Cl. Fathom* (1784) 80/1 A beggarly Scot, and an impudent Irish bog-trotter. 1773 JOHNSON *Lett.* 79. I. 132 Moss in Scotland is bog in Ireland, and moss-trooper is bog-trotter. 1825 MACAULAY *Hist. Eng.* IV. 712 Two Irishmen, or, in the phrase of the newspapers of that day, bogtrotters.

Bogus (bɒɡʊs), (*sb.* 1) a. [A cant word of U. S., about the origin of which many guesses have been made, and 'bogus' derivations circumstantially given.

Dr. S. Willard, of Chicago, in a letter to the editor of this Dictionary, quotes from the *Painesville (Ohio) Telegraph* of July 6 and Nov. 2, 1827, the word *bogus* as a *sb.* applied to an apparatus for coining false money. Mr. Eber D. Howe, who was then editor of that paper, describes in his *Autobiography* (1878) the discovery of such a piece of mechanism in the hands of a gang of coiners at Painesville, in May 1827; it was a mysterious-looking object, and some one in the crowd styled it a 'bogus', a designation adopted in the succeeding numbers of the paper. Dr. Willard considers this to have been short for *tantrabogus*, a word familiar to him from his childhood, and which in his father's time was commonly applied in Vermont to any ill-looking object; he points out that *tantrabogus* is given in Halliwell as a Devonshire word for the devil. *Bogus* seems thus to be related to *Bog*, etc.]

† 1. *sb.* An apparatus for counterfeit coining. *Obs.* 1827 *Painesville Tel. (Ohio)* 6 July, That he never procured the casting of a *Bogus* at one of our furnaces. *Ibid.* 2 Nov. The eight or ten boguses which have been for some time in operation.

2. *adj.* Counterfeit, spurious, fictitious, sham: 'originally applied to counterfeit coin' (Webster).

1852 HUGHES in J. Ludlow *Hist. U. S.* 338 This precious house of representatives—the bogus legislature, as it was at once called. 1857 *Boston Daily Courier* 12 June, The learned Judge took occasion to manifest his abhorrence of the use of slang phrases... by saying that he did not know the meaning of 'bogus transactions'. 1866 *Cornh. Mag.* Nov. 582 A mere juggle, or as Americans would say, a 'bogus' parliament. 1874 M. COLLINS *Frances* III. 80 They've got some good money, as well as bogus notes. 1877 R. GIFFEN *Stock Exch. Securities* 65 A bogus Company... instead of paying dividends to its Shareholders, goes into Liquidation. 1878 *Black Green Past.* xxv. 202, I am not going to spend a penny in a bogus contest.

Bogus (bō'gəs), *sb.* ² U. S. [Has been conjectured to be ad. F. *bagasse* sugar-cane refuse; but perhaps is the same word as prec.] 'A liquor made of rum and molasses.' Bartlett *Dict. Amer.*

Bogy, bogey (bō'gi). Also *boguey, bogie*. Pl. *bogies*. [Found in literature only recently; old people vouch for its use in the nursery as early as 1825, but only as proper name (sense 1). Possibly a southern nursery form of *bogle, boggle*, and *bog-gard*, or going back like them to a simpler form which, as mentioned under *Boe* and *Boole*, may be a variant of *bugge*, Bug 'terror, bugbear, scarecrow'. But in the absence of evidence, positive statements concerning its relation to these words cannot be made. (That they are connected with the Slavonic *bog* 'god', is a mere fancy from the similarity of form, without any evidence.)]

1. As quasi-proper name: The evil one, the devil. 1836-40 BARNHAM *Ingol. Leg., Witches' Frolic*. But hears the words 'Scratch' and 'Old Bogey' and 'Nick'. *Ibid.* (1840) 322 Then Boguey'd have you sure as eggs is eggs. 1840 GEN. P. THOMPSON *Exerc.* (1842) V. 88 To admit to evidence such as avow their credence in 'old Bogie'. 1851 THACKERAY *Eng. Hum.* v. (1858) 239 The people are all naughty and Bogey carries them all off. 1865 E. CLAYTON *Cruel Fort.* III. 85 I'll put out the light and go away, and leave you all by yourself with Bogie. 1879 M. CONWAY *Demonol.* I. i. iii. 16.

2. A *bogle* or *goblin*; a person much dreaded. 1837 S. OSBORN *Quedah* ii. 17 Malay pirates... those bogies of the Archipelago. 1863 KINGSLEY *Water Bab.* (1878) 19 On the top of each gate post a most dreadful bogy. 1863 BARING-GOULD *Iceland* 118 The sheepwalks have got a bad name for bogies.

3. *fig.* An object of terror or dread; a bugbear. 1865 *Daily Tel.* 27 Nov. 2/3 Reform is not a bogy to cheat, but a blessing to recognise and regulate. 1876 *N. Amer. Rev.* 135 Men... who discover bogies in every measure.

Hence **Bogydom**, the domain of Old Bogy. **Bogyism**, the recognition of bogies. **Bogyphobia**, dread of bogies.

1880 *Daily Tel.* 2 Dec. A sulphurous odour... suggestive of bogydom. 1876 *Athenum* 14 Oct. 495/3 The author seems to be a spiritualist, or, at least, to have a leaning to banishes and bogyism. 1879 LIVINGSTONE in *Daily News* 20 July, I am not liable to fits of bogyphobia.

Bogy, var. **BOGLE**, obs. form of **BUDGE** *sb.*, fur.

Bogyl, obs. form of **BUCKLE**.

Boh, variant of **Bo int.**, obs. form of **Bow**.

Bohea (boh'ē), *a.* and *sb.* Also 8 *bohee*. [ad. Chinese *Wu-i-shan* the *Wu-i* hills in north of Fuhkien. Morrison gives 'Bohea Tea, *wu i cha*' (*cha*=tea), and Edkins, *Mandarin Gram.* 89, says that the Fuhkien dialect uses *b* for *w* or *v*. By some 18th c. writers accented *bo'hea*.]

A. adj. Of the *Wu-i* hills, whence black tea was first brought to England; applied also to tea of similar quality grown elsewhere.

1704 STERLE *Lying Lover* ii. (1747) 36 Set Chairs, and the Bohea Tea, and leave us. 1728 QUINCY *Compl. Disp.* 116 Bohee Tea.—This is one of those things which Luxury has introduced into Diet. 1773 *Gentl. Mag.* XLIII. 607. The infusion of the leaves of the same plant, which... is like common bohea-tea.

B. sb.

1. = *Bohea tea*. The name was given in the beginning of the 18th c. to the finest kinds of black tea; but the quality now known as 'Bohea' is the lowest, being the last crop of the season.

1701 J. CUNNINGHAM *Voy. Chusan* ii. in *Phil. Trans.* XXIII. 1205 The Bohe (or Voili, so call'd of some Mountains in the Province of Fokien)... is the very first bud gather'd in the beginning of March. 1727-8 MRS. DELANY *Life & Corr.* (1861) I. 172 Tea of all prices—Bohea from thirteen to twenty shillings, and green from twelve to thirty. 1852 McCulloch *Dict. Comm.* 1290 The black teas... beginning with the lowest qualities: Bohea, Congou, Souchong, and Pekoe.

2. An infusion of this tea taken as a beverage.

1706 ESTCOURT *Fair Examp.* i. i. 10 To dine at my Lord Mayor's, and after Dinner be entertain'd with a Dish of Bohea by my Lady Mayoress. 1714 PORR *Rape Lock* iv. 156 In some lone isle, or distant northern land... Where none learn ombre, none e'er taste bohea! 1728 YOUNG *Love Fame vi.* (1757) 152 How two red lips affected Zephyrs blow, To cool the Bohea, and inflame the Beau. 1841 L. HUMPHREY *Ser.* (1864) 19 Thy unsophisticated cup of bohea. 1851 THACKERAY *Eng. Hum.* v. (1858) 273 Richardson's goddess was... fed on muffins and bohea.

Bohemia (boh'mi-ä).

1. A kingdom of central Europe, forming part of the Austrian empire. (Earlier forms were *Boeme, Beme, Beeme, Bohem, Bohemy*.)

1449 PECKOC *Repr.* i. xvi. 86 The hoolle rewme of Beeme. 1527 ANDREW BRUNSWYKE'S *Distyll.* *Waters* Bi b, Bohemy glas. 1641 SNETYMNUS *Anst.* (1653) Post. 91 In Bohem, with the Schisme of the Hussites. 1836 *Penny Cycl.* V. 55/1 The circuit of Bohemia is estimated at about 810 miles.

2. Gipsydom: see **BOHEMIAN** *sb.* 2.

1871 M. COLLINS *Mrg. & Merch.* I. i. 25 Bohemia wanders, and steals.

3. The community of social 'Bohemians', or the district in which they chiefly live. So *F. la bohème*. [Both in Fr. and Eng. taken from the use of **BOHEMIAN** *sb.* 3.]

1861 THACKERAY *Adv. Philip* v. in *Cornh. Mag.* Feb. 186

What is now called Bohemia had no name in Philip's young days, though many of us knew the country very well. A pleasant land, not fenced with drab stucco, like Tyburnia or Belgravia, etc.

Bohemian (boh'mi-än), *a.* and *sb.* [*f. prec.* + *-AN*. The transferred senses are taken from French, in which *bohème, bohémien*, have been applied to the gipsies, since their first appearance in the 15th c., because they were thought to come from Bohemia, or perhaps actually entered the West through that country. Thence, in modern French, the word has been transferred to 'vagabond, adventurer, person of irregular life or habits', a sense introduced into Eng. by Thackeray.]

A. sb.

1. A native of Bohemia.

1603 SHAKS. *Meas. for M.* iv. ii. 134 A Bohemian borne: But here nurst vp & bred. 1845 S. AUSTIN tr. *Ranke's Hist. Ref.* II. 469 He acceded to the demand of the Bohemians.

2. A follower of John Huss, a Bohemian Protestant or Hussite.

1579 FULKE *Heskins' Parl.* 189 The Bohemians vsed this text, to proue the communion in both kinds.

3. A gipsy. [*F. bohème, bohémien.*]

1606 PHILLIPS, *Bohemians*, the same with Gypsies. Vagabonds that strowl about the Country. 1823 SCOTT *Quentin D.* xvi. I am a Zingaro, a Bohemian, an Egyptian, or whatever the Europeans... may choose to call me; but I have no country. 1841 BORROW *Gipsies of Spain* (1843) I. 38, I arrived at the resting place of 'certain Bohemians' by whom I was received with kindness.

4. A gipsy of society; one who either cuts himself off, or is by his habits cut off, from society for which he is otherwise fitted; especially an artist, literary man, or actor, who leads a free, vagabond, or irregular life, not being particular as to the society he frequents, and despising conventionalities generally. (Used with considerable latitude, with or without reference to morals.)

1848 THACKERAY *Fair* lxiv. She was of a wild, roving nature, inherited from father and mother, who were both Bohemians, by taste and circumstances. 1866 *Westm. Rev.* July & Oct. 32-33 The term 'Bohemian' has come to be very commonly accepted in our day as the description of a certain kind of literary gipsy, no matter in what language he speaks, or what city he inhabits... A Bohemian is simply an artist or litterateur who, consciously or unconsciously, secedes from conventional life in life and in art. 1865 *Cornh. Mag.* Feb. 241 There are many blackguards who are Bohemians, but it does not at all follow that every Bohemian is a blackguard. 1875 EMERSON *Lett. & Soc. Aims* x. 256 In persons open to the suspicion of irregular and immoral living,—in Bohemians.

5. Comb., as *Bohemian-like*.

1886 *Cyclists Tour. Club Handbk.* Apr. 5 The Bohemian-like contempt he harbours for all conventionalities.

B. adj. 1. Of or belonging to Bohemia.

2. Of or pertaining to the gipsies.

1848 THACKERAY *Fair* lxxv. The band of renowned Bohemian Valters and tumbler.

3. Of, or characteristic of, social Bohemians.

1861 THACKERAY *Adv. Philip* v. in *Cornh. Mag.* Feb. 186 Having... only lately quitted the Bohemian land. 1865 TROLOPE *Belton Est.* i. 3 The young man commenced Bohemian life in London. 1881 SAINTSBURY *Dryden* 105 Smith, the Bohemian author of *Phaedra* and *Hippolytus*.

4. Comb., as *Bohemian chatterer*, or *waxwing*, a bird of passage visiting Great Britain (*Ampelis* or *Bombicilla garrula*); *Bohemian glass*, a fine kind of glass, originally made in Bohemia, in which potash is the alkali used.

1725 BARRINGTON in *Phil. Trans.* LXII. 316, I always conceived the Bohemian chatterer was not observed in Great Britain but at very distant intervals of years. 1841 *Proc. Berw. Nat. Club* I. 252 That beautiful member of the *Ampelidæ*, the Bohemian waxwing (*Bombicilla garrula*). 1854 J. SCOFFERN in *Orv's Circ.* Sc. Chem. 433 Potash glass is less subject to crack... Bohemian glass is of this kind.

Bohemianism. [*f. prec.* + *-ISM*.] The characteristic conduct or manners of a Bohemian. So **Bohemianise** *v.*, to live as a Bohemian.

1861 SALA *Tw. round Clock* 180 Auctioneering is the Bohemianism of commerce. 1863 *Temple Bar* July 551 Henry Murger... the high-priest of Bohemianism avers that it exists and is possible only in Paris. 1868 MISS BRADDOCK *Dead-Sea Fr.* iv. 1. 73 There was even the faintest flavour of Bohemianism about her position, spotless though her reputation might be. 1883 *Punch* 8 Sept. 114/2 Those who want to Bohemianise a bit, and get away... from our venerated town-life.

† **Bohemie**, *a.* Obs. = **BOHEMIAN**, Hussite.

1612 BREREWOLD *Lang. & Relig.* Pref. 6 Some embracing the Waldensian, or the Bohemick, others the Augustane, and some the Helvetian Confession.

Bo-ho, bo-hoo, variants of **BOO-HOO**.

† **Bohourt**. Obs. rare. [*OF. bohourt, behourt* a place, a jousting.] Jousting, tilting: cf. **BOURDIS**.

1801 STRUTT *Sports & Past.* iv. iv. 336 The bohouts, the tournaments, and most of the other superior pastimes have been subjected to youthful imitation.

Boht (ə), obs. pa. t. and pple. of **BUY** *v.*

Bohu, boh, obs. forms of **BOUGH**.

Boi-, Sc. spelling of *bō-*: see **Bo-**.

† **Boie**. Obs. rare. [Identical with Walloon *boie*, in OSp. *boya*, It. *boja* executioner: Diez thinks it may be a transf. use of *boja, boia*, OF. *buie, boye* fetter, chain.] An executioner, a hangman.

c 1300 *Senyn Sag.* 503 'Blethliche!' the boies quathe. *Ibid.* 960 He het mani a wilke boie His son lede toward the hanging.

Boier, obs. f. **BOWTER** and **BEVER** *sb.* Obs.

† **Boiette**. Obs. [perh. for 16th c. F. *botte, botte*, variant of *bottle* box, chest, cask: cf. **BOIST**.] A case or casket.

1525 L.D. BERNERS *Froiss.* II. xxx. 87 Ther they founde in boiettes a thre M. frankes.

Boigh, obs. form of **BUOY**.

† **Boiguacu**. [in Tupi *boiguacu*, f. *boi, boya* serpent + *guacu, goacu* big.] A native Brazilian name of the Boa Constrictor or other large boa.

1774 GOLDSM. *Nat. Hist.* (1862) I. i. 148 The boiguacu, which is the largest of the serpent kind, is sometimes forty feet in length.

Boikin, obs. variant of **BODKIN**.

Boil (boil), *sb.* 1. Forms: a. 1 *byl*, (4 *bele*, *biel*, *byil*, 4-5 *bule* (ū), 5 *beel*, 4-7 *byle*, 6 *byelle*), 3-9 *bile*; β. 6-7 *boyle*, 7 *boile*, 7-*boil*. [*OE. byl*: com. Teut. = OS. **būlia* (MDu. and MLG. *bāle*, Du. *buil*), OHG. **bālia, bālla* (MHG. *biule*, mod.G. *beule*:-O. Teut. *baljā* str. fem., f. root *būl-* in Goth. *uf-bauljan* to blow up. A diphthongal form **baul-* is the base of the cognate ON. *beyla* hump, OF. *beil, bel*. The ME. form was regularly *bīle* (Kentish *bele*, s. w. *būle*), which still prevails dialectally: it is not clear whether *boil* is due to association with the verb *boil*, or influenced by the Du. or other form. Cf. **BEAL**.]

1. A hard inflamed suppurating tumour; a furuncle.

a. a 1000 *Gloss.* in Wt.-Wülcker *Voc.* 5 *Furunculus*, byl. a 1300 *Cursor M.* 6011 Bile, and blister, bolnand sare. 1340 *Ayrb.* 224 Goutes and beles. 1388 WYCLIF *Drut.* xxviii. 27 Smyit the Lord with the byl of Egypt. *Ibid.* 35 The moost yuel biel in knees. — Luke xvi. 20 Houndis camen, and... lickiden his bylis. 1393 LANCEL. P. Pl. C. xxiii. 84 Bules [v. r. byles, belis, bolis] and bocches. 1483 CAXTON *Gold. Leg.* 57/2 Ful of botchis, beelis and blaynes. 1566 BULLEVYN *Bk. Simples* 29 a, Painfull sores, Biles and pusshes. 1607 SHAKS. *Cor.* i. iv. 31 You Shames of Rome; you Heard of Byles and Plagues Plaister you o're. 1617 MARKHAM *Caval.* vii. 71 They rise betwene his chappes like a huge Byle. 1757 J. HERVEY *Life & Lett.* (1779) 212 Holy Jug healed of his biles. 1748 tr. *Vegetius' Disciph.* *Horses* 62 He will have... small Biles in his Back. (*Bile* or *Byle*, in nearly all the dialect glossaries.)

β. 1529 MORE *Supplic. Sonles* Wks. 292/2 One y^e hath but a poore boyle vpon hys finger. 1611 BIBLE 2 *Kings* xx. 7 They tooke and layd it on the boile, and he recovered. 1755 JOHNSON, *Bile*, this is generally spelt *boil*; but, I think, less properly. 1788 PRIESTLEY *Nat. & Rev. Relig.* II. 37 The boils... are said... to have been upon Pharaoh. 1858 CARLYLE *Fredk. Gt.* (1865) II. vii. iv. 285 The maddest boil... does at length burst, and become an abscess.

b. A swelling [= MDu. *bāle*].

1481 CAXTON *Reynard* (Arb.) 86 And with his feet made two grete bules aboute his eris.

c. *transf.* A swelling on a painted surface resembling a boil; a blister.

1840 DICKENS *Barn. Rudge* lxiv. 303 The paint on the houses... crackled up, swelling into boils.

2. *fig.*

1537 *State Papers Hen. VIII.* II. 410 The chief soare bile and hinderance of his obedience. 1579 J. STUBBS *Gaping Gulf* Cij, A politike bile enflaming the peace of a settled and euen state. 1655 FULLER *Ch. Hist.* vii. i. 21 The Rebellion... which from a small pustle might have proved a painful bile.

Boil (boil), *sb.* 2. [*f. BOIL* *v.*]

1. An act of boiling.

c 1440 *Anc. Cookery in Househ. Ord.* 470 Gif hom but a boyle. 1797 BRADLEY *Fam. Dict.* s. v. *Apricock*, Give em seven or eight smart Boils. 1845 ELIZA ACTON *Cookery* ii. (1850) 55 Give the sauce a minute's boil. 1875 *Univ. Dict. Arts* II. 655 The extrication of gas called the boil, which accompanies the fusion of crown-glass.

2. The state of boiling or being at boiling point; also *transf.* and *fig.* a state of agitation.

1813 HOGG *Queen's Wake* 302 The next [moment] nor ship nor shadow was there. But a boil that arose from the deep below. 1837 M. DONOVAN *Dom. Econ.* II. 341 As soon as the liquor comes to a boil. 1861 DICKENS *Gr. Expect.* I. 44 The pudding was already on the boil. 1870 *Daily News* 30 Dec., The coffee was near the boil.

3. That which is boiled, a boiling preparation.

1755 *Phil. Trans.* XLIX. 159, I put the linen... into a boil of soap.

Boil (boil), *v.* Forms: 3-4 *boille, boili*, *boile* (n, 4-7 *boyle*, 5-6 *boyll*, 6-7 *boyl*, 7 *boile*, 6-*boil*. Also 4 *buyle*, ? *bayl*, ? *bele*, 5 *bule*, *bulle*, *bylle*, *byle*, 5-6 *boil*, 6 *Sc. bull*. [*ME. boille-n, boile-n*, a. OF. *boill-ir* (*boill-ant*), mod.F. *bouillir*:-L. *bulli-re* to form bubbles, to boil.])

1. *intr.* Of a liquid: To bubble up in agitation through the action of heat causing the lowest portions of the liquid to pass into the gaseous form and escape; to roll about under the influence of heat; also said of the vessel containing the liquid.

b. To reach the boiling point, to turn from the liquid into the gaseous state. *To boil over*: to bubble up so as to run over the side of the vessel; also said of the vessel. Cf. *run over, overflow*, etc.

a 1225 *Juliana* 172 pis maide isei pis led boili. a 1225 *St. Marg.* 247 He let hete water oð seopinge: & þo hit boillede

faute. *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 11886 *Pai* fild a lede o pik and oyle, And fast *Pai* did it for to boile. 1393 *Gower Conf.* III. 32 Which hath ever his pottes hote Of love boyled on the fire. *c* 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 43 Boylyn ouyr, as pottys on pe fyre, *ebullio*. 1611 *Bible Isa.* lxiv. 2 The fire causeth the waters to boyle. 1813 *Domestic Cookery* 249 Room (for the liquor) to boil as quick as possible, without boiling over. 1860 *Tyndall Glac.* II. § 24. 356 Water deprived of its air will not boil at 212° Fahr. 1875 *Jowett Plato* (ed. 2) I. 53 Putting in anything that we like while the pot is boiling.

2. *transf.* To move with an agitation like that of boiling water; to bubble, to seethe. Also said of that from which something gushes tumultuously: To overflow with.

c 1300 *K. Alis.* 2464 Me myghte y-seo .. Heorten blede, braynes boyle. 1384 *Wyclif Job* xli. 22 He shal make the depthe of these to boilen as a pot. — *a* *Macc.* ix. 9 Wormes buylden out of the body of the vnypteous man. 1388 — *Ex.* xvi. 20 It bigan to buyle with wormes, and it was rotun. 1556 *Pilgr. Perf.* (W. de W. 1531) 201 b. Myghty newe wyne .. boyleth upward, as though it wolde brast the vessell. 1616 *R. C. Times' Whis.* v. 2061 When the poyson boyde In every veine. 1670 *Cotton Esperton* II. vi. 253 His blood boiling in great quantities out of his mouth. 1795 *Pope Odys.* III. 357 The storm thicken, and the billows boil. 1830 *Southern Lodore* 93 Recoiling, tumbling and toiling and boiling.

b. To undulate like a boiling fluid.

1882 *Observatory* V. 355 The Sun's limb was boiling all about it.

3. *fig.* Said of passions, persons under the influence of passion, their words, etc. Also to boil over. Cf. *The blood boils* in 10 b.

c 1386 *Chaucer Pers.* T. P. 272 The brennyng of lechery boyld in al his body. 1393 *Gower Conf.* I. 294 So boilen up the foule sawes. 1548 *Dall.* *Ex.* Par. Luke xli. 58 Whan his herte thus boiled. 1577 *Hamer Anc. Eccl. Hist.* (1619) 499 The people .. boyled with anger. 1625 *N. R. tr. Camden's Hist. Brit.* I. (1635) 88 O'Neal .. boyled in hatred against the English. 1667 *Milton P. L.* IV. 16 His dire attempt, which nigh the birth Now rowling, boiles in his tumultuous brest. 1761 — *Hume Hist. Eng.* (1806) IV. li. 60 Resentment was boiling in his sullen, unsociable mind. 1875 *Jowett Plato* (ed. 2) III. 55 He cannot chafe or boil or get into a state of righteous indignation. 1879 *Froude Caesar* xvii. 288 The political frenzy was now boiling over.

b. *trans.* To boil forth: to give forth in a boiling or agitated manner.

1609 *Bible* (Douay) *Prov.* xv. 2 The mouth of foolen boyleth forth follie.

4. *trans.* To cause (a liquid) to bubble with heat (see sense 1); to bring to the boiling point: *esp.* said of food, wholly or partly liquid, in the process of cooking; also of the containing vessel.

c 1400 *Liber Cocorum* 11 Boyle hit and sture lest hit brenne. *a* 1500 *E. E. Misc.* (1855) 34 Sume byllyd metayl. 1698 *London Gaz.* No. 2800/4 The Copper boyles betwixt 15 and 16 Hogheads at a time. 1831 *Carlyle Sart. Res.* II. ix. As kind housewives .. were boiling their husbands' kettles.

b. *intr.* (for *refl.*) Cf. to eat, cut, etc.

1845 *E. Acton Cookery* xxi. (1852) 493 The fruit should be finely flavoured, and .. should boil easily.

† 5. *fig.* To agitate and inflame, to make fervent (persons or their feelings). *Obs.*

1648 *Eikon Basilike* 115 Let no fire of affliction boil over my passion to any impatience. *a* 1661 *Holyday Juvenal* 237 Wrath boils thy breast! *a* 1704 *T. Brown Dk. Ormond's Recov.* Wks. I. 49 What lust of power, or what nefarious charms, Ferment your blood, or boil you into arms?

6. To act upon (anything) by continued immersion in boiling liquid; to subject to heat in boiling water. a. To cook (solid articles) in this way; b. To cleanse (clothes, etc.) by immersion in boiling water; c. To prepare, make, or produce by boiling. d. To put to death by boiling.

c 1325 *Coer de L.* 2831 In watyr we bayld the blood. *c* 1386 *Chaucer Prolog.* 383 A Cook they hadde .. To boille the chikens with the Marybones .. He koude rooste and sethe and boille and frye. 1556 *Chron. Gr. Friars* (1852) 45 The x. day of March was a mayde boyllyd in Smythfelde for poysonyng of dyvers persons. 1611 *Bible Ezek.* xlii. 20 The place where the Priests shall boyle the trespass offering. 1641 *J. Jackson True Evang.* T. II. 107 He is .. a Kid .. boyled in his Mothers milk. 1696 *London Gaz.* No. 3145/4 A silver-hilted Sword .. was lately Boiled, and the Handle gilt. 1697 *Dryden Virg. Georg.* I. 380 Some steep their Seed, and some in Cauldrons boil. 1842 *Penny Cycl.* XXIII. 232 The important improvement of boiling sugar in vacuo. 1842 *Tennyson Stylites* 51 Martyrs .. were stoned, or crucified, Or burn'd in fire, or boiled in oil. 1865 *Taylor Early Hist. Man.* I. Modes of making fire and boiling food.

7. *intr.* To undergo the action produced by immersion in boiling liquid.

1633 *P. Fletcher Purple Isl.* I. lvii, Boyling in sulphur, and hot-bubbling pitch. 1813 *Dom. Cookery* viii. 185 Set it (rice) to boil in milk.

8. To boil away (*intr.*): to evaporate in boiling. To boil down: to lessen the bulk of (anything) by boiling; *fig.* to condense, epitomize.

1845 *E. Acton Mod. Cookery* xxi. (1852) 464 For jams and jellies it (fruit) cannot be too soon boiled down. 1880 *Sat. Rev.* No. 1288. 28 It is surprising to see how much research Mr. S. has sometimes contrived to boil down into a single line.

† 9. *slang.* To betray. *Obs.*

1602 *Rowlands Greene's Comy-catchers* 16 His cloyer or follower forthwith boyles him, that is, bewrayes him. 1611 *Middleton & Dekker Roar. Girl.* Wks. 1873 III. 220 Wee are smokt .. Wee are boyld, pox on her!

Vol. I.

10. Phrases. a. To boil the pot: to supply one's livelihood. So to keep the pot boiling: also = to keep anything going. Cf. *Por.*

1808 *Wolcott* (P. Pindar) *Peep at R. Acad.* Wks. 1812 V. 352, I think this Piece will help to boil the pot. 1837 *Marryat Dog-Fiend* ix, Huzza, my lads! we'll keep the pot boiling.

b. The blood boils: phrase expressing strong emotion, esp. of anger or indignation.

1675 *Orway Alcibiades* 38, I am impatient, and my blood boyls high. 1848 *Macaulay Hist. Eng.* I. 230 The thought of such intervention made the blood, even of the Cavaliers, boil in their veins. 1859 *Jephson Britany* xv. 248 A sight which made his blood boil.

Boilable (boi-lá'b'l), a. That can be boiled.

1882 *W. M. Williams Science in Short Chap.* 23 They boiled everything that was boilable.

Boilary, obs. var. of BOILERY.

Boiled (boil'd), ppl. a. [f. BOIL v. + -ED.] Brought to the state of ebullition; subjected to boiling; cooked, cleansed, etc., by boiling.

† In quot. 1611 *boiled stuff* = harlots: with allusion to the sweating-tub.

c 1400 *Liber Cocorum* (1862) 43 Penne boylyd blode take pou shalle. 1556 *J. Heywood Prov. & Epigr.* (1867) 37 We went where we had boylyd beefe. 1611 *Shaks. Cymb.* I. vi. 125 Such boyld stuffe As well might poyson Poysoun. 1676 *London Gaz.* No. 1137/4 One Set of .. Plate Buttons newly boyld'd. 1863 *Kingsley Water Bab.* v. 185 To cut such capers as you eat with boyld mutton. 1881 *Morley Cobden* I. 245 Where men and women subsisted on boyled nettles. *fig.* 1611 *Shaks. Wint. T.* III. iii. 4 These boylyd-braines of nineteene and two and twenty.

b. *ellipt.* Boiled beef or mutton. *collog.*

1844 *Dickens Christm. Carol* (Hoppe) A great piece of cold boiled.

Boiler (boi-lar), [f. BOIL v. + -ER 1.]

1. One who boils (anything).

c 1540 *Househ. Ord.* 236 That the Cookes and Boylers doe dresse the Meate well. *a* 1691 *Boyle* (J.) The boilers of saltpetre. 1835 *Ure Philos. Manuf.* 204 Wool-sorters .. fullers or millers, boilers, giggers.

2. A vessel in which water or any liquid is boiled.

1795 *De For Voy. round World* (1840) 65 They had built several furnaces and boilers. *a* 1798 *Woodward* (J.) Several pots and boilers before the fire. 1815 *ELPHINSTONE Caubul* II. 187 Messes of ten each, who have a tent, a boiler, and a camel between them.

b. *spec.* In a steam-engine, the large vessel, usually of wrought-iron plates riveted together, in which the water is converted into steam; the tank or vessel commonly attached to a kitchen grate; the vessel in which clothes are boiled before washing. 1757 *Phil. Trans.* L. 54 The engine at the York-buildings Water-works, the boiler of which is 15 feet diameter. 1839 *R. Stuart Anecd. Steam Eng.* I. 305 Boilers built solely of cast iron. *Mod.* The boiler of a locomotive burst.

3. What makes anything boil, as in *pot-boiler*, a piece of work done to boil the pot: see BOIL v. 10 a.

4. A vegetable, fruit, etc. suited for boiling. 1812 *Examiner* 5 Oct. 634/1 Having but few Peas at Market .. fine boilers are 10s. per quarter dearer. 1864 *Times* 24 Dec. Peas in good demand for all descriptions, and boilers rather dearer.

5. *Comb. and Attrib.* (in sense 2 b) as boiler-house, explosion; boiler-alarm, an apparatus for indicating lowness of water in a boiler; boiler-feeder, an apparatus for supplying a boiler with water; boiler-float, a float which by its rising or falling turns the feed-water off or on; boilerfull, the amount of water or steam that will fill a boiler; boiler-iron, -plate, rolled iron of $\frac{1}{2}$ to $\frac{3}{4}$ -inch thickness, used for making steam-boilers, etc.; boiler-maker: a maker of boilers for engines; boiler-man, a man who attends to a boiler; boiler-protector, a coating to prevent the escape of heat from a boiler; boiler-smith, a boiler-maker; boiler-tube, one of the tubes by which heat is diffused through the water in a boiler. 1883 *Knowledge* 1 June 323/2 A "boilerful of steam. 1885 *Pall Mall G.* 14 Feb. 7/2 A "boiler explosion .. occurred at the Mid Kent Brickworks, Beckenham, yesterday. The "boiler-house was completely demolished. 1865 *Derby Mercury* 25 Jan., The principal engineers and "boiler makers in the united kingdom. 1834 *M. Scott Cruise Midge* (1859) 390 The cries of the "Boilermen to the fire makers. 1860 *V. Fordyce Hist. Coal.* &c. 112 Various descriptions of Iron, such as nail-roads, "boiler-plates, hoop and sheet iron. 1875 *Ure Dict. Arts* I. 410 The average resistance of boiler plates is reckoned at 20 tons to the square inch.

Boilery (boi-lari), Also 6 boillourie, boilary. [a. F. *boillerie* in same sense, f. *boillir* to BOIL: see -ERY.] A place where boiling or evaporation is carried on; a place for boiling anything, e.g. salt or sugar. Usually in comb., as sugar-boilery. See also BULLERY.

1668 *Coke On Litt.* 4 b. By the grant of the boillourie of salt, it is said that the soile shal passe, for it is the whole profit of the soile. 1670 *Blount Law Dict.*, Boilary or Bullary of Salt, a Salt House, or Salt-pit, where Salt is boiled and made. 1838 *Holloway Dict. Provinc.*, Boilary, a place where salt is boiled.

Boiling (boi-lin) vbl. sb. [f. BOIL v. + -ING 1.]

1. The action of bubbling up under the influence of heat; ebullition.

c 1380 *Wyclif Serm.* Sel. Wks. II. 202 Dis boylyng wole after quenche. 1398 *Trevisa Barth. De P. R.* VII. xxxvi. (1495) 251 The heete that makyth boylyngne and sethyng. 1556 *Huloet*, Bollynge or bubblyngne vp of water. 1878 *Huxley Physiogr.* 40 Evolved rapidly, with formation of bubbles, as in the ordinary process of boiling.

2. *transf. and fig.* a. A bubbling like that of boiling water; disturbance, turmoil, raging. b. Heating of the body or mind; violent agitation, inflammation, fever, etc.

1382 *Wyclif Jonah* i. 15 The se stode of his buylyng. 1398 *Trevisa Barth. De P. R.* xvii. xcii. (1495) 660 Letuse kelyth hete and boylyngne of blood. 1580 *Baret Alv.* B 889 The boyling or rising vp of water out of a spring. *c* 1660 *J. Gibbon in Spurgeon Tracts. David Ps.* cxix. 9 A young man all in the heat and boiling of his blood. 1676 *HALE Contempl.* I. 214 Tortures and boylings of mind. 1882 *Observatory* V. 357 It (a comet) shows a turmoil or boiling of the light about the nucleus.

3. The action of heating a liquid to boiling point; of subjecting (anything) to the action of a boiling liquid, esp. so as to cook it; of making or obtaining some substance by this process.

1482-90 *Howard Househ. Bks.* (1841) 422 For the dressyngne and boylyng of iij. saltes, ijs. 1631 *Jordan Nat. Bather* II. (1669) 13 The boyling of Beans. 1678 *N. Wanley Wonders* III. xliii. § 15. 224/1 The boyling and baking of Sugar as it is now used. 1719 *De For Crusoe* (1840) I. xvi. 288, I set Friday to work to boiling and stewing. 1785 *Bradley Fam. Dict.* I. s.v. Goose, Give them fourteen or fifteen Boilings. 1845 *E. Acton Cookery* vii. (1852) 153 The advantages of gentle simmering over the usual fast boiling of meat.

4. That which is boiled or being boiled, a decoction; a quantity boiled at one time: hence the whole boiling (slang): 'the whole lot'.

1674 *N. Fairfax Bulk & Selo.* 113 Syrup, steepings, boylings, settlings or extract. 1837 *Marryat Dog-Fiend* xiii, [He] may .. whip the whole boiling of us off to the Ingies. *c* 1842 *Lance Cottage Farm.* 13 This liquor is to be boiled until it is a thick syrup; skim the boiling.

5. *Comb. and Attrib.*, as boiling-like adj.: boiling-furnace, a reverberatory furnace sometimes employed in the decarbonization of cast-iron; boiling-house, a building for boiling (soap, sugar, etc.), a boilery; boiling-heat, -point, -temperature, the temperature at which anything boils, i.e. turns from the liquid to the gaseous state; *spec.* the boiling-point of water (at the sea level 212° Fahr., 100° Cent.); *fig.* a high degree of excitement, indignation, etc.

1875 *Ure Dict. Arts* II. 1001 The construction of the "boiling" furnace does not materially differ from that of the "puddling" furnace. 1846 *Punch* IX. 206 The maids have subsided from "boiling-heat to simmering. 1647 *Haward Cronm Rev.* 30 The "Boiling house. Two Yeomen. 1712 *Act to Anne in Lond. Gaz.* No. 5012/2 All Soap, Oil, Tallow .. in any private Boiling-house. 1835-6 *Todd Cycl. Anat. & Phys.* I. 629/1 The water .. was thrown into a "boiling-like motion. 1773 *Horsley in Phil. Trans.* LXIV. 227 M. de Luc's "boiling point. 1807 *Hutton Course Math.* II. 243 At the freezing point is set the number 32, and .. 212 at the boiling point. 1870 *Emerson Soc. & Solit.* iv. 55 One man is brought to the boiling-point by the excitement of conversation.

Boiling, ppl. a. [f. as prec. + -ING 2.]

1. Bubbling up under the influence of heat; at boiling temperature.

c 1300 *Senyn Sag.* 2460 A gret boiland cauderoun. 1501 *Douglas Pal. Hon.* 1318 Full of brimstone, pick, and boiling leid. 1788 *Gibbon Decl. & F.* (1827) VIII. lxiv. 34 Cast headlong into the boiling water. 1822 *Athenum* No. 210. 17 The cook with the boiling kettle in her hand. 1839 *Thirlwall Greece* III. 229 Two boiling sulphureous springs.

2. *transf.* Violently agitated, raging; fiercely hot; heaving with molecular disturbance.

1382 *Wyclif Isa.* lvii. 21 As the boilinge sea, that resten mai not. 1523 *Ld. Berners Froiss.* I. cccxiii. 501 None coude abyde there, for it was all a quycke boylyng sander. 1607 *Dryden Virg. Georg.* I. 443 Rocks the bellowing Voice of boiling Seas rebound. 1868 *T. W. Webb Celest. Objects* II. (1873) 39 [The comet] is quite hairy, luminous in the centre, and boiling (atmospherically unsteady).

3. *fig.* Inflamed, in a state of passionate agitation, bursting with passion, etc.

1579 *Tomson Calvin's Serm. Tim.* 238/2 Mens desires are too much boyling. 1600 *Holland Livy* xxi. 3. 398 A youth boyling in ambition. 1672 *Dryden Cong. Granada* II. (1725) 44 My boiling Passions settle and go down. 1742 *Young Nt. Th.* viii. 1175 His understanding 'scapes the common cloud Of Fumes, arising from a boiling Breast. 1836 *J. C. Young Mem. C. M. Young* (1871) 236 She found him in a state of boiling indignation. 1878 *Morley Diderot* I. 319.

4. *quasi-adv.*, in phrase boiling hot.

1607 *Topsell Four-f. Beasts* 312 Hogs grease and bran boiling hot. 1862 *Enquire Within* 83 It should be poured on boiling-hot.

Boilingly, adv. [-LY 2.] In a boiling manner. 1817 *Byron Manfred* I. i. 91 The lakes of bitumen Rise boilingly higher.

Boilloury, obs. var. of BOILERY.

+ Boiloun. *Obs.* [a. OF. *boillon*, mod.F. *boillon* bubble, f. *boillir* to boil.] A bubble.

c 1300 *Senyn Sag.* 2488 These boillions that boilen seuen.

Boily, sb. dial. [a. F. *boillie* in same sense, f. *boillir* to boil.] A decoction of flour and milk; gruel.

1819 *Anderson Cumblid. Ballads* 55. 1895 *Whitby Gloss.*

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Boily (boi'li), *a.* In 6 byly, 7 boylie. [f. BOIL sb. 1. + -y.] Full of, or characterized by, boils.

1559 MORWYN *Evonym.* 289 Certaine outwarde byly diseases. a 1603 T. CARTWRIGHT *Confut. Rhem. N. T.* (1618) 166 They would have turned stricken, made boylie, or some such thing.

† **Boin**, *v.* *Obs. rare.* [f. dial. 'boine a swelling, Essex' (Way and Halliwell), perhaps = OF. *bugne*, *beugne*, mod. F. *bigne* swelling from a blow: see BUNNY, BUNION.] *intr.* To swell.

1565 GOLDING *Ovid's Met.* viii. (1593) 206 And with exceeding mightie knubs her heels behind boind out.

Boin, var. of BOYNE *Sc.*, a tub.

† **Boinard**, *Obs.* Also boyne-. [a. OF. *buisnard*, *buinard* silly fellow.] A fool, simpleton; rogue, scoundrel.

a 1300 *Sir* 288 (Mätz.) Be stille, boinard. 1399 LANGE. *Rich. Redless* l. 110 Than wolde oþer boynardis 'haue ben abasshyd. 11. 164 Þe blemeyed boynard 'bat his bagg stall.

† **Boiny**, *a.* *Obs. rare.* [f. *boine* sb. (see BOIN *v.*) + -y.] Full of swellings, knotty.

1615 W. HULL *Mirr. Maestie* A 4 b, For Mercury is not earned out of euery boyne block.

Bois, **Boist**, *obs.* *Sc.* form of BOSS *a.* BOAST.

† **Boist**, *sb.* *Obs.* Forms: 3-5 *boist*(e), 4-7 *boyste*. Also 3 *buste*, 5 *bust*; 4, 6 *boist*, 6-7 *boost*(e); 4 *bouste*; 5 *bulst*, *buyste*, 9 *Sc. buist*. See BOOST, BUIST, BUST. [ME. *boiste*, a. OF. *boiste* 'box', in Pr. *boitia*, repr., through late L. *bossida*, *boxida*, *buxida*, L. *pyxida*, a. Gr. *ρυξίς*, acc. of *ρυξίς* box (Brachet). The phonetic history of the variant forms in Eng. and *Sc.* is obscure: but *uy* is prob. an early variant of *oi*, and the forms in *o, u*, seem due to simplification of the diphthong, as in 16th c. *Sc. jone* = *join*, etc.]

1. A box, a casket; chiefly used of a box for ointment, a vase or flask for oil, etc. (= Box sb. 2. 1.) a 1225 *Anscr. R.* 226 He haueð so monie bustes [v. r. *boistes*] ful of his leturaries. a 1300 *Cursor M.* 14003 (Götl.) A boist of smerles has scho nomin. 1368 LANGE. *P. Pl. A.* xii. 68, I haue a gret boyste At my bak, of broke bred þi bely for to fylle. c 1375 ? BARBOUR *St. Nicholas* 294 Scho has brocht A boyst of oyle. c 1400 *Destr. Troy* 883 He anyontide hym anon with his noble boyste. c 1450 LONELICH *Graill* xvii. 137 The awngel took a boist with oymment anon. 1633 *Treas. Hid. Secrets* cxv, Also of the wood of Rosemarie, make a boist to smell thereto.

b. *Bleeding-boist*: a cupping-glass.

c 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 38 Bledynge boyste, *uentosa, guma*.

2. Dialectal name for a rude hut. [same word.] 1840 *Times* 24 Apr. 3/6 Along the London and Brighton line of Railway there have been erected a great number of rude huts or cabins. For the use of these places to sleep in, the workmen pay, each 1s. or 1s. 6d. a week—two and not unfrequently three of them sleeping together in these 'boists'.

† **Boist**, *v.* *Obs. rare.* [f. prec. sb.] *trans.* To cup, to scarify. (Cf. BOIST sb. 1 b.)

c 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 42 Boyston, *scaro, ventoso*.

† **Boisterly**, *adv.* *Obs.* = BOISTEROUSLY.

1500 WHITTINTON *Vulg.* (1527) 41 Boysterly and rudely to anoye hym that sytthet next hym.

Boisterous (boi'sterəs), *a.* Forms: 5-8 *boistrous*, 6-7 *boystrous*, *boysterous*, 6 *bou-*, *bow-*, *strous*, 6-*boisterous*. [Used in the same sense as the earlier *boisteus*, *boistuons*, *Boistrous*, of which it appears to be a variant modified by some obscure analogy.]

1. Rough or coarse in quality.

† 1. Rough, coarse, as *e.g.* food. *Obs.*

1474 CAXTON *Chesse* iii. 1. The labourer of the erth vsyth grete and boistrous metis.

† 2. Of rough, strong, or stiff texture; stout, stiff, unyielding. *Obs.*

1579 tr. *Buchanan's Detect. Mary* in H. Campbell *Lovellet. Mary* (1824) 135 She could abide at the poop, and... handle the boisterous cables. 1577 HOLINSHED *Chron.* III. 915/1 Haung vpon him a great gowne of boisterous veluet. 1580 WARNER *Alb. Eng.* ii. viii. (1612) 37 About his boistrous necke full off their daintie armes they cast. 1594 T. B. La *Primaud. Fr. Acad.* ii. 33 Hee hath not made the ligaments... nor the sinewes of any such boisterous or stiffe matter. 1700 DRYDEN *Sigismunda* & G. 59 The leathern out-side, boistrous as it was, Gave way.

† 3. Roughly massive, bulky, big and cumbersome. 1566 SPENSER *F. Q. l.* viii. 10 His boystrous club. 1633 J. FOSBROKE *Warre or Conflict* 30 Goliah, notwithstanding... his huge and boisterous armour, etc. 1641 R. BROOKE *Eng. Episc.* l. x. 59 The Pandects of the Civill Law are too boystrous, and of too great extent for any Civilian to comprehend. 1644 MILTON *Apol. Smect.* Wks. (1851) 292 If the work seeme more triviall or boistrous then for this discourse.

† 4. Rough to the feelings; painfully rough. *Obs.* 1592 SHAKS. *Rom. & Jul.* i. iv. 26 Is loue a tender thing? it is too rough, Too rude, too boisterous, and it pricks like thorne. 1595 — *John* iv. i. 95 Feeling what small things are boystrous then [in the eye].

† 5. Rough in operation; not skillful or delicate. 1609 PAULE *Abp. Whitgift* 28 This bishop was not so boystrous a surgeon.

† 6. Strong- or coarse-growing, rank. *Obs.*

1633 WITHER *Philas.* in *Juv.* (1631) 590 [The pool] overgrown with boystrous Sedge. 1671 MILTON *Samson* 1164 As good for nothing else, no better service, With those thy boystrous locks.

II. Acting roughly, violent.

† 7. Violent in action or properties. *Obs.*

1544 PHAER *Regim. Lyfe* (1560) N ii b, The saide venime is so swift, so fierce, and so boistrous of itselfe. 1645 MILTON *Colast.* Wks. (1851) 349 A boisterous and bestial strength. 1695 WOODWARD *Nat. Hist. Earth* vi. (1723) 294 The Heat becomes too powerful and boisterous for them.

8. Of wind, weather, waves, etc.: Rough, the opposite of 'calm'.

1596 THYNNE *Ld. Burghley's Crest in Animadu.* App. iv. (1865) 113 In calme or boystrous tyde. 1596 DAYTON *Leg.* iii. 488 The boystrous Seas. 1604 *Contempl. State of Man* i. ii. (1699) 20 A boystrous Wind had blown away the Leaves. 1700-7 BOLINGBRO. in *Swift's Lett.* (1766) II. lxiii, This boisterous climate of ours. 1836 MACGILLIVRAY tr. *Humboldt's Trav.* xxi. 299 A boisterous passage of twenty-five days. 1843 PRESCOTT *Mexico* (1850) I. 194 Finding some difficulty in doubling a boisterous headland.

9. Of persons and their actions.

† a. Full of rough violence to others, violently fierce, savage, truculent. *Obs.*

1581 MARBACKE *Bk. of Notes* 753 Those boystrous Nemprothes, that neuer will be satisfied with the slaughter of Innocents. 1593 SHAKS. 3 *Hen. VI.* ii. i. 70 Oh...boystrous Clifford, thou hast laine The flower of Europe. 1682 E. SCLATER *Serm. Putney* 11 What care boisterous Enemies for what these can do unto them? 1713 POPE *Freney* 7. D. in *Swift's Wks.* (1755) III. i. 144 By your indecent and boisterous treatment of this man of learning, I perceive you are a violent sort of person. 1792 COWPER *Liad* v. 370 Distant from the boisterous war.

b. Rough and violent in behaviour and speech, turbulent; too rough or clamorous. (Orig. in a distinctly bad sense, but gradually passing into *c.*)

1568 T. HOWELL *Newe Sonets* (1879) 139 Feare not his boystrous vantage words. 1593 SHAKS. *Rich. II.* i. l. 4 Heere to make good ye boistrous late appeal. 1667 E. CHAMBERLAYNE *St. Gl. Brit.* i. i. iii. (1743) 8 The men are strong and boisterous, great wrestlers, and healthy. 1690 CROWNE *Eng. Friar* i. 3 Fox o' this boystrous fool. 1705 OTWAY *Orphan* v. xix. 2206 Stand off thou hot-brain'd boistrous noisy Ruffian. 1843 MARSDEN *Early Peril* 55 Every form of church government... had for awhile its boisterous advocates.

c. Abounding in rough but good-natured activity bordering upon excess, such as proceeds from unchecked exuberance of spirits.

a 1683 SIDNEY *Disc. Gov.* iii. § 25 (1704) 334 That boisterous humor being gradually temper'd by disciplin. 1709 STEELE *Tatler* No. 45 ¶ 8 Their boisterous Mirth. 1752 HUME *Ess. & Treat.* (1777) I. 5 It renders the mind incapable of the rougher and more boisterous emotions. 1828 W. IRVING *Braceb. Hall* xix. 167 A rich, boisterous, fox-hunting baronet. 1848 MACAULAY *Hist. Eng.* I. 213 Under the outward show of boisterous frankness.

† 10. quasi-adv. Boisterously. *Obs.*

1595 SHAKS. *John* iv. i. 76 Alas, what neede you be so boistrous rough?

Boisterously (boi'sterəsli), *adv.* [f. prec. + -ly.] Roughly; violently; tumultuously; with rough and superabundant energy.

a 1550 *Christis Kirk* K. xii, The buff so boisterously abast him, That he to the eard dusht down. 1595 SHAKS. *John* iii. iv. 136 A Scepter snatch'd with an vnurly hand, Must be as boisterously maintain'd as gain'd. 1670 MILTON *Hist. Eng.* Wks. 1738 II. 118 Godwin and his Sons did many things boisterously and violently. 1845 L.D. CAMPBELL *Chancellors* (1857) V. cxi. 201 Respectable politicians have seen reason...to join those whom they have been accus-tomed boisterously to assail. 1871 M. COLLINS *Mry. & Merch.* I. ii. 66 With Big Dog Boisterously bounding from side to side.

Boisterousness. [f. as prec. + -NESS.] Boisterous quality; rude strength (*obs.*); violence, tempestuousness; rough behaviour.

1589 WARNER *Alb. Eng.* vi. xxxi. (1612) 153 But checked off my boystrousness [I] was balked with a blush. 1618 BOLTON *Florus* iii. ii. (1636) 166 The thing which most frightened the Barbarous was the sight of the elephants, as those which matcht themselves in boisterousness. 1696 TRAPP *Comm. Thess.* iii. 15 A stoical sourness, or an imperious boisterousness. 1706 *Nat. Hist. Irel.* 28 The Irish sea...in regard of its boisterousness and...tempestuousness. 1873 HOLLAND *A. Bonnic.* iv. 71 Boys whose surplus vitality happened to lead them into boisterousness or mischief.

† **Boistly**, *adv.* *Obs.* = BOISTOUSLY.

c 1400 *Beryn* 104 The Preest & the clerk ful boistly bad me goon. *Ibid.* 163 Then passid they forth boistly, goglyng with hir hedis.

† **Boistness**, *boyste-*. *Obs.* = BOISTOUSNESS. 1398 TREvisa *Barth. De P. R.* xix. viii. (1495) 866 Some bodyes letteth all passage of syghte, so that no thyng is seen there thurgh, As boystness, stones, trees and metall.

† **Boistous**, *a.* *Obs.* Forms: 3-6 *boistous*, *boystous*, *boustous*(e), (also 4 *boistous*, *boystous*, *boystose*, *boistose*, *boistose*, *boistose*), *boustous*, *boystous*, (*boustous*, *boustous*), 5-6 *boystows*(e), *boi-*, *boysteous*, *-ious*, 6 *bulstous*, *boystuous*(e), (*boustous*). Also, *North.* 4 *bostwys*, *bustwys*, (*boustes*), 4-5 *boustous*, 5-6 *bustus*, *Sc.* *bustows*(e), *boustous*, *bousteous*, *-tious*, *busteous*, *-ious*, *-nous*, *-uus*. [Of uncertain etymology. Certainly not connected with *bost*, *BOAST* (as has been suggested on the ground of the 16th c. *Sc.* spelling *boist* for *bost*). The phonology and form suggest French origin, and in form the ME. word exactly answers to OF. *boisteus*, AF. *boistous*, mod. F. *boiteux* lame; but no connexion of sense appears to be traceable, at least if the etymology proposed by Diez for the French word from *boiste* 'box', 'knee-joint' holds good.

The essential meaning in Eng. from the first appears to have been 'coarse, rough', but senses 1-4 are all nearly equally early. The later variants *boisteus*, *boystuous*, led to the modern BOISTEROUS.

(The mod. Cornwall dialect has in W. Corn. *boist* corpulence, *boustis*, *bustious* stout, overfat, burdensome to oneself; in E. Corn. *boostis* fat, well-conditioned: cf. sense 3. This occurrence of a sense so long obs. in literary Eng., and esp. of an apparent radical sb. *boist*, not known at all in literature, is very curious: but there are no similar words known in Celtic Cornish. The Welsh 'boust' wildness' appears to be a figment of Owen Pugh, but *boustis* 'wild, ferocious' occurs in the 14th c., and may be a deriv. of an obs. 'boust' = L. *bestia*; or it may be merely the ME. *boystous*.)

1. Of persons, etc.: Rough, rude; untought, rustic; coarse, unpolished.

c 1300 K. *Alis.* 569 It is boystous folk. 1340 *Aeneid* 103 We þet byþe greate and boystouse to speken of zuo heze þinge. 1387 TREvisa *Hyden* Rolls Ser. II. 311 Men þat were vn-konnyng and boistous as bestes. 1388 WYCLIF 2 *Chron.* xiii. 7 Roboam was boystuous [Vulg. *rudis*, 1388a rude]. 1494 FABIAN v. cxix. 96 The state of holye Church in Brytayne was as yet rude and boystous. 1500 *Ortus Voc.* in *Promp. Parv.* 42 *Rudis*, *indoctus*, *inordinatus*, *quasi ruri datus*, boystous. 1513 DOUGLAS *Æneis* i. Prol. 48 Weill ma I schaw my burell busteous thoct. 1547 BOORDE *Introd. Knowl.* 160 They be rude & rusticall, & very boystous in theyr speche.

2. Full of rude strength and fierce vigour; rough, fierce, savage; powerful, violent in action. (Often an epithet of the *boar* or *bear*.)

c 1325 E. E. *Allit. P. A.* 910 Bustwys as a blose. 1387 TREvisa *Hyden* (1865) I. 291 Þe men þere of beep boistous men of dedes. *Ibid.* Rolls Ser. II. 251 Nemproth the boistuous [*robustus*] oppressor of men. 1420 *Morte Arth.* 774 A blake bustous bere. 1483 CAXTON *Gold. Leg.* 563 By strong hande he shal late you goo and in a boystous he shal caste you fro his land. 1539 TAVERNER *Erasm.* *Prov.* (1552) 5 A strong disease requyreth a stronge medecine...A boysteous horse, a boysteous snaffell.

3. Roughly massive; bulky; clumsy.

c 1325 E. E. *Allit. P. A.* 813, Brede vpon a bost-wys ben. 1420 *Morte Arth.* 2175 The boistous launce þe bewelles attamed. 1485 CAXTON *Chas. Gl.* 29 Of body he was moche ample & boystous of stature. a 1547 EARL SURREY *Æneid* iv. 582 Like to the aged boysteous bodied oke. 1567 TURBERV. *Poems* in Chalmers *English Poets* II. 616/2 Time makes the tender twig to boysteous tree to grow. (Still dial.; see note to Etymology.)

4. Coarse in texture, gross, rough; thick, stiff.

1388 WYCLIF *Matt.* ix. 16 No man putteth a clout of bystous clothe in to an elde clothing. 1398 TREvisa *Barth. De P. R.* iii. xvi, Þe laste and þe moeste boystous of alle [the senses] is gropyng, for þe kynde þerof is erþi. c 1450 *Mertyn* xl. 168 Grete boystous shewe of netes leder. 1578 LYTE *Dodoens* i. xxix. 41 Medesweete...hath...leaves...rough, boysteous and harde.

5. Rough, loud or violent in sound.

c 1430 LYDG. *Bochas* vi. xv. (1554) 143b The boystous thunder. c 1450 HENRYSON *Mor. Fab.* 30 Hee heard ane boystous Bugill blaw. c 1460 *Towneley Myst.* 195 Your words ar bustus. 1552 LYNDESAY *Monarchie* iv. 5597 That terribill Trumpet...That boistous blast theyr sall obey.

6. Of the wind, sea, weather: Rough and violent, BOISTEROUS.

1470 HARDING *Chron.* clxxxiv. ii, The wind was so boistous...houses and trees were blowe downe. 1548 UDALL, etc. *Erasm. Par. Matt.* xvi. 3 A foule and a boystuous day. 1553 EDEN *Treat. New Ind.* (Arb.) 33 The sea was very rough, and the wether stormie and boystous. 1571 GOLDING *Calvin on Ps.* xviii. 8 Boystouse violence of wyndes.

† **Boistously**, *adv.* *Obs.* For forms see prec. [f. prec. + -ly.] With rough violence, roughly, rudely, coarsely, violently, boisterously.

c 1386 CHAUCER *Clerkes T.* 735 He on a day in open audience ful boistously [*Harl. MS.* boystously] hab seyð hire this sentence. 1447 BOKENHAM *Seyntys* (1835) 68 Hys doughtir he smote ful bustously Up on the cheke. 1513 DOUGLAS *Æneis* i. ii. 53 Thai [winds] vmbeest the seis bustously. 1549 CHALONER *Erasm. on Folly* ii, Than cometh Silenus...with Poliphemus boistously stampyng. 1583 GOLDING *Calvin's Serm.* *Deut.* xl. 237 If we reproue them boystously without any charitable affection.

† **Boistousness**. *Obs.* [f. as prec. + -NESS.]

1. Rudeness, roughness, lack of polish, want of gentleness or courtesy.

† c 1450 *Chaucer's Drewe* 64 Of your gentillesse I you requyre my boistousnesse Ye let passe, as thing rude. 1506 *Pilgr. Perf.* (W. de W.) 110 Ungentylnesse or boystousnesse.

2. Coarseness, grossness, stiffness.

1398 TREvisa *Barth. De P. R.* vi. xxii, Þe whiche mete for his piknesse and boystousnesse may not passe þe narrow weyes...wip oute helpe of moysture of drynke. 1530 PALSGR. 199/1 Boystousnesse, *roydeur*.

3. Violence, boisterousness.

1530 PALSGR. 200 Boystousnesse, *impetuosit.* 1548 UDALL, etc. *Erasm. Par. Matt.* xiv. 30 (R.) The boystousnes of the winde. 1571 GOLDING *Calvin on Ps.* xxv. 17 Temptacions now and then cast us downe with their boystousnesse.

† **Boisture**. *Obs. rare* = BOISTEROUSNESS.

1667 WATERHOUSE *Fire London* 51 To proportion the fire to its breadth as well as boisture of fury.

Boit, *obs.* *Sc.* form of BOAT.

Bok, **Bokardo**, variant of BUCK, BOCARDO.

† **Boke**, *v.* *Obs. exc. dial.* Also *boak*. [Of uncertain origin, but app. akin to POKE *v.*] *intr.* and *trans.* To thrust or push out; to butt, to poke. 1601 HOLLAND *Pliny* i. 326 Armed with two long hornes boking out before them. 1610 — *Camden's Brit.* (1637) 99 On the reverse a bull boking with his hornes. 1649 BAXTER *Saints' R.* iii. xvi. § xi. *marg.* (1651) As Hens in a coop

alwaies boaking to get out. 1674 RAY *N.C. Wds.* 6 To Boke at one, to Point at one. *Chesh.* 1874 E. WAUGH *Chimney C.* in *Lauc. Gloss.*, I boked my finger at his open e'e.

Bok(e, Bokere, obs. ff. BOOK, BOOKER.

Bok(e, obs. pa. t. of BAKE v., north. var. BOK v. obs., to belch, and obs. f. BUCK.

† Bo-keik. Obs. Sc. [cf. KEIK.] = BO-PREP.

1535 LYNDSEY *Satyre*, They play bo-keik, even as I war a skar. [Now *Keikajou*.]

Bokel, Bokeler, obs. ff. BUCKLE, BUCKLER.

Bokeram, bokram, obs. ff. BUCKRAM.

Bokesy(e, early form of BOCCASIN.

Boket(t, obs. form of BUCKET.

Bokulle, bokyll, obs. ff. BUCKLE.

Bol, Bolace, obs. ff. BOLE, BULL, BULLACE.

Bolar (bō-lāi), a. [f. BOLE sb. + -AR: cf. F. *bolair*.] Consisting of, or of the nature of, bole.

1676 Phil. Trans. XI. 615 Some are marly... some bolar, some sandy, some talky, some limy. 1793 HAMILTON *Berthollet's Dyeing*, I. Intro. 20 Some of the bolar earths were likewise employed [in washing]. 1852 TH. ROSS tr. *Humboldt's Trav.* II. xxiv. 502 The bolar and sigillated earths of Lemnos, which are clay mingled with oxide of iron.

† Bolary, a. Obs. [f. as prec. + -ARY.] = prec. 1646 SIR T. BROWNE *Pseud. Ep.* 67 Chiefly consisting of a bolary and clammy substance.

|| Bolas (bō-las), sb. pl.; also used as a sing., with pl. bolases. [Sp. (and Pg.): pl. of *bola* ball; used in S. America in sense given.] A missile, used by the Patagonians and other S. American tribes, consisting of two or more balls or stones connected together by strong cord; these are swung round the head and discharged at the animal to be captured, so as to wind round and entangle it.

1843 CARLYLE *Misc.* (1857) IV. 270 Flourishing their nooses and bolases. 1860 GOSSE *Rom. Nat. Hist.* 201 The Guachos are able to entangle them [birds] with the bolas or weighted cord. 1865 LUBBOCK *Prth. Times* 430 The weapons which are most characteristic of the Patagonians... are the bolas. 1874 BOUTELL *Arms & Arm.* vi. 87 The Patagonians of Southern South America have the Bola and the Lasso.

Bolas, obs. form of BULLACE.

† Bolbanac, bolbonac. Obs. Herb. The plant 'Honesty' (*Lunaria biennis*).

1578 LYTE *Dodoens* II. vi. 154 The Herboristes... do call this herbe by a certayne barbarous and strange name Bolbonac 1597 GERARD *Herbal* cxvii. § 1 Bolbonac or the Sattin flower. 1640 PARKINSON *Theat. Bot.* 1366 *Viola Lunaria* sive Bulbonach.

† Bold sb. Obs. Also 2-3 bolde, 4 boolds. [OE. *bold*, dwelling, is, according to Sievers, prob. for **bodl*, **bodl*, **bopl*, which also appears as *boll*, identical with OSax. *bodl*, ON. *ból* (-*bōl*): -O Teut. **boplo*, from *bu*, *bo*, 'dwell' + instrumental suffix -*ilo* = -*tro* (Gr. -*tro*, -*tro*). Parallel examples are OE. *seid* = *seil*, north. *sepl* 'seat, settle', also *neld* = *neðl*, **nepl* 'needle', *dld* = *dll*, **dpl* 'disease'. It appears that original *p* before *l* and *m* became in certain circumstances (after short vowel) *t*; cf. *botm* for *bopm*, OHG. *bodam*. The ON. *ból* from *bodl* has many parallels: *mál* = *mabl*; *stál* = *staðl*, etc. See BOTTLE sb.1] A dwelling, habitation, building.

a 1000 *Beowulf* 1998 Wæs þæt beorhte bold tobrocen. c 1250 *Hymns Virg. in Trin. Coll. Hom.* 257 Bring us to pine bolde. c 1270 *Earth in E. E. P.* 152 Er erpe go to erpe bld þ long bold. 1297 R. GLOUC. 383 Þe fayre halle, & ober bold, þat hys fader let rer. 1307 Trevisa *Hiden* Rolls Ser. VI. 169 He made hem bulde meny boolds.

Bold (bōld), a. Forms: 1-4 bald, 3- bold, 4-7 bolde, 4-5 boold(e, 6 bould, 7 bould(e. Also, 1 WSax. beald, 2-4 beld, 3 beld; north. 3-6 bald, 3 baald, 4-5 balde (bowde), 5- bauld, 6 bawld(e. [Com. Teut.: OE. *bald* (in WSax. *beald*) = OS., OHG. *bald*, MHG. *balt-des* (whence mod. G. *bald* adv. 'quickly'), MDu. *bout-de*, Du. *boud*, ON. *ball-r*, Goth. **balps*, only found in derivatives, as *balpei*, *balpjan*: -O Teut. **balpo-s*. No related words appear outside Teutonic.]

1. Of persons: Stout-hearted, courageous, daring, fearless; the opposite of 'timid' or 'fearful'. Often, with admiration emphasized = *brave*.

a 1000 *Ag. Ps.* cxviii. [cxix.] 162 Ic blissige bealde mode. c 1205 LAY. 16325 Þus bæld Hængest... cnihten alre hændest. *Ibid.* 25410 Speke we of Arthur, baldest alre kinge. 1297 R. GLOUC. 465 King Stefne was the boldore. c 1314 *Guy Warw.* (A.) 669 Feir & beld to tellen by. a 1340 HAMPOLE *Pr. Cons.* 6855 Swa hardy es na man, ne swa balde. c 1380 WYCLIF *Serm.* Sel. Wks. II. 36 So mynjen boolden men seie, to þes ordri. c 1400 *Destr. Troy* 5952 So bold was no buerne his bir to withstond. c 1470 HENRY WALLACE II. 354 Baulder in battail. 1593 SHAKS. *Lycr.* 1430 When their brave hope, bold Hector, march'd to field. 1611 BIBLE *Prov.* xxviii. 1, The righteous are bolde as a lion. 1790 BURNS *Tam O'Shanter*, Inspiring bold John Barleycorn! 1842 TENNYSON *To S. S.* viii, A man more pure and bold and just was never born. 1863 C. ST. JOHN *Nat. Hist. Moray* vii. 171 The Cormorant... is a bold, confident bird. *fig.* 1611 SHAKS. *Wint. T.* iv. iv. 125 Pale Prime-roses... bold Oxlips, and the Crowne Imperiall.

b. absol. A bold man. Now only pl. the bold. a 1300 *Cursor M.* 16055 He behelde þa bitter bald. 1a 1400 *Morte Arth.* (Roxb.) 81 That many a bolde sythen a bought. c 1400 *Destr. Troy* 1210 Lamydon... Bare don

mony bolde. *Ibid.* 1405 Mony boldes (M) for þat bright in batell be kyld. 1852 TENNYSON *Ode Wellington* v, There he shall rest for ever Among the wise and the bold.

c. quasi-adv. = BOLDLY.

1593 SHAKS. *Rich. II.* i. iii. 3 The Duke of Norfolk, sprightly and bold, Stayes but the summons of the Appealants Trumpet. 1598-9 *Parimius* II. (1661) 24, I have the boldir presumed to detain you. 1786 BURNS *To Edinb.*, Bold-following where your fathers led!

2. Of words, actions, etc.: Showing or requiring courage; daring, brave.

a 1250 *Owl & Night.* 1715 Þurh belde worde. c 1300 *Senyn Sag.* (W.) 2042 A dede quite and beld. c 1340 *Cursor M.* 7033 Of troye & grece þo batailles bolde (*Cott. bald*). 1597 SHAKS. 2 *Hen. IV.* iv. v. 197 All these bold Feares... I have answered. 1667 MILTON *P. L.* II. 386 The bold design Pleas'd highly those infernal States. 1712 POPE *Rape Lock* l. 11 In tasks so bold can little men engage? 1844 THIRLWALL *Greece VIII.* lxx. 351 [He] ventured on a very bold step. 1875 JOWETT *Plato* (ed. 2) I. 11 My former bold belief in my powers of conversing.

3. Phrases. To make (so) bold, to be (so) bold: to venture, presume so far as, take the liberty (to do a thing). † To make or be bold with (obs.): to take liberties, make free with.

c 1385 CHAUCER *L. G. W.* 879 Ho hath been so bold... to sle myn lyf [i.e. Pyramus]. 1393 *Gower Conf.* II. 259 Iason... upon Medea made him bolde Of art magique. a 1535 MORRIS *Edw. V.* (1641) Ded., I am bould to crave your patronage herein. 1596 SHAKS. *Tam. Shrew* l. ii. 251 Sir, let me be so bold as aske you. 1598 - *Merry W.* II. ii. 262, I will first make bold with your money. 1599 - *Much Ado* III. ii. 8. 1601 - *Jul. C.* II. i. 86, I thinke we are too bold vpon your Rest. 1613 - *Hen. VIII.* III. ii. 318 You made bold To carry into Flanders, the Great Seal. 1676 A. RIVETUS, Jun. *Mr. Smirke* K ii b, Because they were all Christians, they thought... they might make the bolder with them, make bolder with Christ, and wound him again. 1699 BENTLEY *Phal.* 216 Whether of these our Author made bold with, I cannot determin. 1825 McCULLOCH *Taxation* II. ix. 337 We are bold to say that no instance can be found. 1870 GLADSTONE *Homeric Synchr.* 166 Nothing, I make bold to say, can be more improbable.

4. In bad sense: Audacious, presumptuous, too forward; the opposite of 'modest'.

c 1200 ORMIN 2185 Son se maydenn wurpþþ bald, 3ho wurpþþ some unþæwedd. c 1250 *Gen. & Ex.* 323 'Eue', seide he, ðat neddre bold. 'Quat oget nu ðat for-bode b-wold'. 1340 *Ayren.* 216 Na3t þe bolde ne þe na3t ssamuste. 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 43 Bolde, *presumptuosus, effrons*. 1501 DOUGLAS *Pal. Hon.* II. 987 Ane deuill of hell, Is na compar to the iniquitie, Of bald ween. 1505 *Anst.* *Secret Instr. Hen. VII* resp. Q. Naples, Not to bolde, but somewhat shamefast womanly. 1605 SHAKS. *Lea* i. iv. 263 Men so disorder'd, so debosh'd, and bold, That this our court... Shewes like a riotous Inne. 1733 POPE *Hor. Sat.* II. i. 106 The bold front of shameless, guilty men. 1847 TENNYSON *Princ.* III. 233 You are bold indeed: we are not talk'd to thus. *Mod.* A bold young woman.

† b. absol. A naudacious or shameless person. Obs. a 1300 *Cursor M.* 8693 Do me bote a-gain þis bald. *Ibid.* 1378 þat ilk es he, þat baald.

c. quasi-adv.

a 1300 *Cursor M.* 7131 Vn-to þat birde was biddand bald, Sampson al þe soth hir tal.

5. Strong, mighty, big. (obs.) Of grain, etc.: Well-filled, plump. Of fire or wind: Strong, fierce (Sc.).

c 1300 K. *Alis.* 3004 Wymmen there ben mychel and belde. c 1314 *Guy Warw.* (1840) 149 Forestes ful of hertes beld. a 1400 *Cov. Myst.* 3 He sent to Noe an Angel bolde. c 1505 DUNBAR *'Now cumis Aige'* ii, Trew luvys fyre nevir birnis bauld. 1513 DOUGLAS *Æneis* XIII. iv. 65 The bald flambe and brym blesis stowt. 1744 RAMSAY *Tea-t. Misc.* (1733) I. 114 Boreas with his blasts sae bauld. 1787 WINTER *Syst. Husb.* 186 Being a bolder and better grain, weighed heavier. 1818 SCOTT *Rob Roy* xxix, 'An the brandy hadna been ower bauld for your brain'. 1864 *Times* 8 Dec., Coffee... sold at 69s. to 72s. 6d., for good to fine ordinary bold.

† 6. Confident (in), certain, sure (of). Obs.

a 1300 *Cursor M.* 2675 Qua es not sua þai mai be bald, þai sal not o mi folk be talde. c 1400 *Yvaine & Gau.* 169 This ilk Knight, that, be ye balde, Was lord and keeper of that halde. c 1435 *Torr. Portugal* 2440 We wyll hym kepe and we may, Thereof be ye bold! c 1440 *York Myst.* viii. 119 He will be my beyde, þus am I bowde. 1526 *Pilgr. Perf.* (W. de W. 1531) 17 b, We sholde be bolde of his grace. 1588 SHAKS. *Tit. A.* v. i. 13 Be bold in vs, weele follow where thou lead'st. 1611 - *Cymb.* II. iv. 2, I would I were so sure To winne the King, as I am bold, her Honour Will remaine her's. 1600 HOLLAND *Ann. Marcell.* XVIII. iv. 109 Bearing himselfe bold of helpe from those nations. 1616 R. C. *Times Whis.* II. 703 These he dares be bolde, And more then these.

7. fig. Showing daring, vigour, or licence of conception or expression; vigorous, striking.

a 1667 COWLEY (J.) The figures are bold even to temerity. a 1687 WALLER (J.) Bold tales of gods or monsters. 1737 POPE *Hor. Epist.* II. ii. 165 Mark where a bold expressive phrase occurs. 1763 JOHNSON in *Boswell* xv. (1848) 137/1, I do not think Gray a first-rate poet. He has not a bold imagination.

8. 'Standing out to the view; striking to the eye' (J.); firmly marked, 'pronounced'.

1676 J. PHILLIPS *Tavernier's Trav.* II. i. x. 64 Had it been finish'd... it had excell'd all the boldest structures of Asia. 1753 *Scotts Mag.* July 318/4 Her pulse easy, bold, and regular. 1775 SHERIDAN *Rivals* III. iv. (1883) 115 I'll write a good bold hand. 1850 MRS. STOWE *Uncle Tom's C.* xxi. 225 His curling hair hung round a high, bold forehead. 1897 H. MILLER *Test. Rocks* III. 144 Standing out in bold relief. 1897 LADY HERBERT *Cradle L.* vii. 175 The walls are panelled with precious inlaid marbles, in bold patterns.

9. In Nautical lang., applied to a coast rising steeply from deep water; also, to the deep water

close to such a shore: also, in ordinary lang., to any broad, steep or projecting face of rock. Of a ship: Broad and bluff in the bows.

1668 DIGBY *Voy. Medit.* (1868) 13 It is a bold shore. 1697 DAMPIER *Voy.* (1729) I. 34 A bold Shore, that is, high land and deep water close home by it. 1787 T. JEFFERSON *Writ.* (1859) I. 96 At Honfleur... they can ride in bold water, in a good bottom. 1793 SMEATON *Edystone L.* § 170 Built unusually bold in their Bows. 1810 SCOTT *Lady of L.* I. v. 12 The pine-trees blue On the bold cliffs of Ben-venue. 1860 *Merc. Mar. Mag.* VII. 196 The soundings... show bold water, from 19 to 75 fathoms, close in shore. 1868 AMSTED *Chann. Isl.* I. v. (ed. 2) 111 The southern part of St. Owen's Bay is extremely bold. 1867 SMYTH *Sailor's Word-bk.*, *Bold-shore*, a steep coast where the water, deepening rapidly, admits the near approach of shipping without the danger of grounding. *Ibid.*, *Bold-to*, steep-to.

10. Comb., as bold-hearted, -spirited; BOLD-FACE.

1853 DE QUINCEY *Sp. Mil. Num Wks.* III. 23 Our bold-hearted Kate. 1897 HOOKER *Ecl. Pol. v. Ded.*, Confident and bold-spirited men. 1603 KNOLLES *Hist. Turks* (1638) 286 One of the souldiers... a rough bold spirited fellow.

† Bold, v. Obs. Forms: see BOLD a. [OE. *bealdian*, = OHG. *baldēn*, f. *bald* adj.: see prec.]

1. intr. To be, or show oneself, bold; to become bold, grow strong or big.

a 1000 *Beowulf* 4360 Swa bealdode beorn Ecgbeowes. a 1300 *Cursor M.* 7539 To gar þam wit hope to bald. c 1400 *Pallad. on Hush.* XII. 223 And ther is warme eke hugly thai [plum-trees] bold. c 1495 *Sven Sag.* (P.) 640 The wenche bygane to bolde. 1534 L.D. BERNERS *Gold. Bk. M. Aurel.* (1546) Kk vij, Oure hardines soo boldeth. 1706 DE FOR *Jure Div.* IX. 201 No tame Subjection did their Kingdoms yield, But boulding courted Freedom in the Field.

2. trans. To make bold, embolden, encourage.

c 1205 LAY. 4385 To balden pineleoden (c 1275 to boldi). a 1300 *Cursor M.* 10425 Men suld bald þam to be blith. c 1300 K. *Alis.* 2468 His Gregeys ful faire he boldith. 1377 LANGL. *P. Pl. B.* III. 198, I bateder hem on þe bakke and bolded here hertis. 1535 COVERDALE *Deut.* III. 28 Geue Iosua his charge, and corage him and Bolde him. c 1540 LADY BRIAN in *Ellis Orig.* Lett. II. 79 Now et boldetste me to shew yow my powt mynd. 1605 SHAKS. *Lea* v. i. 26 It toucheth us, as France invades our land, Not bolds the king.

b. To make (a fire) strong or fierce. north. dial.

a 1400 *Sir Perc.* 792 He tase the knyghte bi the swire, Keste hym righte in the fyre The brandes to balde. *Mod. Sc.* 'To balde the glad', to kindle the glowing coal, i.e. to make the fire bold, to blow it up. *Roxb.* (Jamieson).

Bold, obs. f. BOLT sb.1

† Bold-beating, a. Obs. App. a confusion of bold-faced and brow-beating.

1598 SHAKS. *Merry W.* II. ii. 28 You... will en-sconce your red-lattice phrases, and your bold-beating-oathes, vnder the shelter of your honor.

† Bolden, v. Obs. exc. dial. Also 6-7 boulden. [f. *BOLD* a. + -EN 2.]

1. trans. To make bold, embolden, encourage. refl. To take courage, 'make bold' (to do a thing).

1546 TINDALE 1 *Cor.* VIII. 20 Shall not the conscience of hym that is weake be boldened to eate those thynges. 1550 PALSGR. 459/2 It is good to bolden a boye in his youth. 1555 COVERDALE 1 *Sam.* XIII. 12, I boldened my selfe, & offered a burnt-offerynge. 1709 KENNET tr. *Eras. Fraise Folly* 46 These... bolden us likewise and spur us on.

2. intr. To take courage, be bold. dial.

1864 ATKINSON *Whitby Gloss.*, 'Bowden tiv her man! faint heart never won fair lady.'

Hence Boldened ppl. a., Boldening ppl. sb.

1575 TURBURY *Bk. Venerie* 182 For the better boldnyng and encouraging of them. 1595 SPENSER *Som.* v. Boldned innocence. 1681 BOLTON *Stat. Ircl.* 333 [Act 11 *Eliz.*], The boldening and encouraging of many offenders. 1688 FELTHAM *Resolves* I. lvi. Wks. (1677) 90 Vice braves it with a boldned face.

† Bolden, boldne, v. 2 Sc. Obs. Also bowden. [var. BOLNE to swell, with d generated between l and n.] intr. To swell.

a 1510 DOUGLAS K. *Hart* 78 Boldning to ryis the castell to confound. 1513 - *Æneis* I. viii. 73 The fluide boldnit fed. 1710 boldnynt, and stormy Orion... cachit ws anon. 1536 BELLENDEN *Cron. Scot. Excur.* Prentar (JAM.) Sum boldin at othir in maist cruelfeid. 1597 J. MELVILL *Diary* (1842) 428 Invy and Malice Did bowden in the brest of craftie men.

† Bolden, -in, pa. ppl. Sc. (obs.) Also boulden, bowden, -in. [var. of BOLDEN: cf. prec.] Swollen.

1536 BELLENDEN *Cron. Scot.* (1821) II. 112 The river... was be inundation of snawis, boldin above the brayis. 1553 LYNDSEY *Monarchie* 3885 They grew so boldin [MS. *L.* boldin], in thare breistis. 1567 *Sempill Ballates* (1872) 30 That bowdin bludy beist. c 1590 A. HUME *Thanks Summ. Day*, The birds, with boulden throats. 1768 ROSS *Helenore* 61 (JAM.) Her breast with wae was bowden.

Bolder, var. of BOULDER.

Bold-face (bōld-fēs), [f. BOLD a. + FACE sb.] One who has a bold face; an impudent person; also attrib.

1664 R. LESTRANGE *Fables* (1708) I. cclxiii. 279 How now Bold-Face, crys an Old Trot. 1741 RICHARDSON *Pamela* I. 43 If I have been a Sauce-box, and a Bold-face, and Pest, and a Creature, as he calls me. 1793 J. WOLCOTT (P. Pindar) *Apple-dumplings* Wks. I. 100 A ragged, bold-face, ballad-singing crew. 1850 DICKENS *T. Two Cities* III. ii, 'Well, I am sure, Boldface! I hope you are pretty well!'

Bold-faced (bōld-fēst), ppl. a. [f. as prec. + -ED.] Having a bold or confident face or look; usually impudent. Hence Bold-facedness sb.

1591 SHAKS. 1 *Hen. VI.* IV. vi. 12 Prowd desire Of bold-face Victorie. 1635 QUARLES *Embl.* I. viii. (1718) 34 Bold-face'd Mortals in our blushless times Can sing and smile, and

make a sport of crimes. 1818 SCOTT *Hrt. Midl.* xxxiii, A fine, gay, bold-faced ruffian. 1838 L. HUNT *Transl. Poems* 264 The least pain to thy bold-facedness.

† **Boldhede**. *Obs.* [f. BOLD a. + -hede, -HEAD.] Boldness, audacity.

a 1290 Owl & Night. 514 I-fallen is al his boldhede. 1330 R. BRUNNE *Chron.* 281 His boldhede did þam wyne. **Boldly** (bōldli), *adv.* [f. BOLD a. + -LY.] In a bold manner.

1. Courageously, daringly, fearlessly. a 1000 *Juliana* (Gr.) 492 Sume . . ic bealdlice . . minum hondum . . siog. c 1205 LAY. 1992 þer was Bruttene weored; baldeliche isomned [c 1275 boldeliche gadered]. c 1305 St. *Christ.* 36 in E. E. P. (1862) 60 Cristofre hem mette baldeliche. 1375 BARBOUR *Bruche* iii. 14 He bauldly thaim abaid. 1480 *Robt. Deryll* 30 He thought boldlyer for to abyde. 1611 BIBLE *Mark* xv. 43 Joseph of Arimathea . . went in boldly vnto Pilate, and craued the body of Iesus. 1728 YOUNG *Love Fame* iii. (1757) 101 They who boldly dare, Shall triumph o'er the sons of cold despair. 1876 GREEN *Short Hist.* v. § 1 (1882) 223 The Prince seized the opportunity to fall boldly on their front.

2. In bad sense: With effrontery, impudently, shamelessly; presumptuously.

1387 TREVISIA *Hidden Rolls* Ser. IV. 281 His sones . . stryue þe boldloker [vicentius]. c 1400 *Apol. Loll.* 108 Fro hem þat beggun wip out nede . . or for oþer vndu caus beggen baldly. c 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 43 Boldely or malapertly, effronter, presumptuose. 1586 THYNNIS *Animadu.* Intro. 70, I have like blind baiaid boldlie run into this matter. c 1666 Bp. HALL *Rem. Wks.* (1660) 150 He . . that can sin the boldlyest. 1784 T. JEFFERSON *Corr.* (1830) 423 Their principle is to lie boldly that they may not be suspected of lying.

3. Confidently, with assurance; without doubt, without hesitation; assuredly.

c 1275 *Lamb. Hom.* 125 Als wa baldeliche mei þe wrecchesta mon clepian drihtan him to federe. a 1300 *Cursor M.* 3586 Baldlik þat dar i sai. c 1384 CHAUCER *H. Fame* 581 Be ful assured boldly I am thy frende. c 1400 *Destr. Troy* 840 Ye shall boldly be blameles. c 1420 *Chron. Vilod.* 388 Wherefor y dar wryte and baldelyche say. 1563 *Homilies* ii. *Sacrament* (1850) 442 So may we the boldlier have access thither. 1605 LD. PRESTON *Boeth.* ii. 48, I dare boldly affirm, that, etc. 1810 COLERIDGE *Friend* (1865) 138 To hope too boldly of human nature.

4. With bold expression or handling; strongly, vigorously, strikingly.

1768 H. WALPOLE *Virtue's Anecd. Paint.* i. 158 Several other figures, boldly painted, but not highly finished. 1828 COLERIDGE *Eolian Harp* 18 Its strings Boldlier swept.

† **Boldly**, a. *Obs.* Also 3 baldli, 4 baldell. [f. BOLD a. + -LY; cf. goodly.] Bold-looking.

a 1300 *Cursor M.* 16032 (Gott.) Wid a ful baldli chere. *Ibid.* 8541 (Trin.) He was a boldly bachilere. 1810 *Blackw. Mag.* IV. 730 Scan ye near Those boldly lineaments.

Boldness (bōldnēs), [f. BOLD a. + -NESS.] The quality of being bold.

1. Courage, daring, fearlessness. c 1400 *Destr. Troy* 226 That the flese . . Were brought throw þi boldness into þis big yle. 1429 CAXTON *Faytes of A.* ii. xxxv. 151 The rommayns yssued ayenst hym by grete boldnes.

1577 tr. *Bullinger's Decades* (1592) 175 There is demaunded a boldnesse of stomacke to dare to doe the thing. 1597 SHAKS. 2 *Hen. IV.* ii. 134 You call honorable Boldnes, impudent Sawcinesse. 1600 LOCKE *Hum. Und.* ii. xxiii. (1695) 156 Boldness is the Power to speak or do what we intend, before others, without fear or disorder. 1876 GREEN *Short Hist.* v. § 3 The boldness of his words sprang perhaps from a knowledge that his end was near.

† b. To take (a or the) boldness: to venture, to take the liberty (to do a thing). *Obs.* or *dial.*

1566 *Pilgr. Perf.* (W. de W. 1531) 74b, The serpent toke a boldnesse to tempte the woman. 1650 FULLER *Pisgah* ii. x. 211 The Amorites took the boldness to keep possession thereof. c 1680 BEVERIDGE *Serm.* (1729) i. 273 Who are we, that we should take the boldness to ask any thing of him? [1864 *dial. (Epsom, Surrey)*, 'Father's boldness, Ma'am, and he've sent you a few flowers.']

2. Impudence, shamelessness, presumption. 1377 LANGL. P. PL. B. xviii. 386 þe boldnesse of her synnes. c 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 43 Boldnesse or homelynesse, presumption. 1594 SHAKS. *Rich. III.* i. ii. 42 Vnmanner'd Dogge . . He strike thee to my Foote, And spurne vpon thee Begger for thy boldnesse. 1601 — *All's Well* ii. i. 174 A strumpets boldnesse. 1602 MANNINGHAM *Diary* (1868) 10 Nov., I told her of her saucy boldness. 1850 TENNYSON *In Mem.* cxiii, Should licensed boldness gather force.

† 3. Confidence, assurance, security. *Upon boldness of:* in reliance on, on the security of. *Obs.*

1330 R. BRUNNE *Chron.* 40 For boldenes he wild him bynd to som berde in bour. 1447-8 SHILLINGFORD *Lett.* (1871) 91 Upon boldenyse of the said nywe charter. a 1535 MORE *Edw. V.* in Southey *Comm. pl. Bk.* Ser. ii. (1849) 91 Unthrifts riot and run in debt upon boldness of these places. 1603 SHAKS. *Meas. for M.* iv. ii. 165 In the boldnes of my cunning, I will lay my selfe in hazard. a 1656 Bp. HALL *Occas. Medit.* (1851) 28 Perfect righteousness shall give us perfect boldness both of sight and fruition. [1717 Dr. Fox *Hist. Ch. Scot.* 6, I take upon me with Boldness to assure the World, it is not so.]

4. *transf.* Vigour or freedom of conception or execution; forcibleness.

a 1700 DRYDEN (J.) The boldness of the figures is to be hidden, sometimes by the address of the poet. 1777 ROBERTSON *Hist. Amer.* (1783) ii. 209 Rivalling the great masters . . in boldness of design. 1826 DISRAELI *Viv. Grey* vi. 345 Brilliancy of colouring and boldness of outline. 1856 RUSKIN *Mod. Paint.* iii. iv. iii. § 20 There is as much difference between the boldness of the true and the false masters, as there is between the courage of a pure woman and the shamelessness of a lost one.

† **Boldship**. *Obs.* [see -SHIP.] Boldness.

c 1275 LAY. 24943 Hire baldsipe [c 1205 ræhsclpe] sal þam seolue: to moche roupe teorne.

Boldspreet, *obs.* form of BOWSPRIT.

Bole¹ (bōl). Also 7 boal(e), 7-8 boll. [a. ON. *bol-r* masc., also written *bulr*, trunk of a tree; cf. MHG. *bole* (fem.), mod.G. *bohle* plank.]

The stem or trunk of a tree.

c 1314 *Guy Warw.* (1840) 260 His nek is greter than a bole. c 1325 E. E. *Allit. P. B.* 622 By bole of his brode tre we byde þe here. 1521 FISHER *Wks.* (1876) 315 The shadowe of the bole of the tree. 1641 EVELYN *Mem.* (1857) i. 32 Five upright and exceeding tall suckers, or bolles. 1677 Plot *Oxfordsh.* 158 Whose boughs shoot from the boal fifteen or sixteen yards. 1797 BRADLEY *Fam. Dict.* s.v. *Dressing*, Boughs and Suckers, which have made themselves and the Boll knotty. 1848 LYTTON *Harold* i. 306 Gnarled boles of pollard oaks and beeches. 1870 BRYANT *Iliad* iv. i. 129 A fair, smooth bole, with boughs Only on high.

b. *transf.* Anything of a cylindrical shape like the trunk of a tree, as a roll, a pillar.

1676 *True Gentleman's Delight* (N.) Make it up in little long boles or rowles. 1884 *Pall Mall G.* 11 Jan. 1/2 The sky . . seen between the boles of stone.

c. Comb., as † *bole-fashion* *adv.*, *bole-like* *adj.*

1578 LYTE *Dodoens* iv. l. 508 Another Holy, whose roote is not bole-fashion. 1854 H. MILLER *Sch. & Schm.* (1858) 313 The bole-like stems of great plants.

Bole² (bōl). Also 4 bol, 5-6 boole. [ad. med.L. *bōlus*, a Gr. *βῶλος* clod of earth; first used in Eng. in *bole armeniac* or *armoniac*: thence extended to similar substances.]

1. The name of several kinds of fine, compact, earthy, or unctuous clay, usually of a yellow, red, or brown colour due to the presence of iron oxide.

1641 FRENCH *Distill.* iii. (1651) 78 Such things as will flow must have bole, or powder of brick mixed with them. 1645 EVELYN *Mem.* (1857) i. 143 A . . paper of a red astringent powder, I suppose of bole. 1686 *Phil. Trans.* XVI. 144 It may perhaps be better reckon'd amongst Boles than Stones. 1759 B. MARTIN *Nat. Hist. Eng.* i. 73 A red Bole, called by the Country People Redding, or Ruddle. 1843 PORTLOCK *Geol.* 152 A soft clayey amygdaloid, decomposing into a rich and deep red bole. 1868 DANA *Min.* 476.

b. *spec.* *Bole armeniac*, formerly also *armoniac*, etc.: an astringent earth brought from Armenia, and formerly used as an antidote and styptic.

c 1386 CHAUCER *Chan. Yem. Prolog.* & T. 238 Bol armoniak [armonyak, -ac, amoniak] verdegres, boras. 1547 BOORDR *Brev. Health* liii. 24 Take of Terre sigillate, of boole Armoniake, of eche an unce. 1558 WARDE *Alexis* Secr. (1568) 40 b. Take . . Bolearmenicke. 1591 PERCIVAL *Sy. Dict.*, *Bolearmenico*, Bolearminack. 1607 TOPSELL *Four-f. Beasts* 34 Plaister is made thereof with Bole-Armoric. 1610 MARKHAM *Masterp.* ii. cxxxii. 435 Take of bolearmony a quarteme. 1666 BACON *Sylva* § 701 Bole-Arminick is the most Cold of them. 1718 QUINCY *Compl. Disp.* 107 Bole Armonick . . is a natural Earth. 1758 J. S. Le Dran's *Observ. Surg.* (1771) 94 A Defensive composed of Bole Armenia. 1799 C. SMITH *Laborat.* II. 401 Take . . bole armenic, parched barley, etc. 1832 FRASER'S *Mag.* VI. 714 The best toothpowder in the world is Armenian bole.

† 2. A large pill, a BOLUS; also *fig. Obs.*

1601 HOLLAND *Pliny* II. 141 Thirty grains of Lentils swallowed down by way of Bole. 1649 JER. TAYLOR *Gl. Exemp.* iii. xvi. § 7 Ignorant . . persons, who swallow down the bole and the box that carries it. 1725 BRADLEY *Fam. Dict.* II. s.v. *Water Germander*, The plant . . may . . be prescribed in Boles as well as in infusion.

Bole³ (bōl). *Sc.* Also boal. [Origin unknown.]

a. A small square recess in the wall of a room for holding articles. b. An unglazed aperture in the wall of a castle, cottage, stable, etc., for admitting air or light; sometimes closed with a shutter.

1728 RAMSAY *Wks.* (1848) III. 167 Bring from yon boal a roasted hen. 1816 SCOTT *Antig.* xxxii, Open the bole w' speed, that I may see if this be the right Lord Geraldine. c 1817 HOGG *Tales & Sk.* VI. 97 We have been benighted, and have been drawn hither by the light in your bole. 1834 H. MILLER *Scenes & Leg.* xxv. 365 The gold, which you will find in the little bole under the tapestry of my room. 1875 J. VEITCH *Tweed* 95 A narrow bole High near the top.

Bole⁴. (See quot.)

1670 PETTUS *Fodina Reg.* Gloss. s. v., *Boles* or *Bolestids* are places, where in ancient time (before Smelting Mills were invented) the Miners did fine their lead. 1785 *Archæologia* VII. 170 (D.) There was a bole . . where in ancient times . . miners used to smelt their lead ores.

Bole, *obs.* form of BOLL, BOWL, BULL.

† **Bole-ax**. *Obs.* Also 3 bulaxe. [a. ON. *bol-ōx*, *bul-ōx* 'pole-ax', prob. f. *bolr*, *bulr* bole of a tree + *ōx* ax; cf. Sw. *bolyxa* 'great ax'.] A large ax; † a pole ax.

c 1200 ORMIN 9281 Nu33u iss bulaxe sett Rihht to þe treow-weess rote. c 1308 *Satire in Rel. Ant.* II. 176 Hail be 3e potters with 3ur bole-ax. a 1400 *Octonian* 1039 Two bole-axys grete and longe.

Bolection (bole'kʃən). *Arch.* Also 9 ba-, be-, bilection, bolextion. [Of uncertain form and unknown origin.] A term applied to mouldings which project before the face of the work which they decorate, as a raised moulding round a panel.

1708 [E. HATTON] *New View Lond.* i. 95/1 A Gallery . . the front of which is large Bolection, with raised Pannels. 1819 NICHOLSON *Archit. Dict.* i. 44 Bolection mouldings: see *Bolection*. 1823 RUTTER *Fonthill* 15 Large raised pannels and bolection mouldings. 1845 GLOSS. *Goth. Archit.* i. 56 *Bilection* Mouldings. 1876 GUILT *Archit. Gloss.*, *Bolection* or *Bolection Mouldings*, mouldings which project beyond the surface of a piece of framing.

† **Bole'ctioned**, a. *Obs.* Also 7 bellextioned, [f. prec. + -ED.] Having bolection moulding.

1693 MS. *Acc. bk. of Wills' Charity, Preston-next-Wingham, Kent*, The pews were also made uniform with new bellextion'd Deal-board work.

Boled, variant of BOLLED *ppl.* a. *Obs.*

|| **Bolero** (bolē'ro, -i'ro). [Sp.] A lively Spanish dance; also the air to which it is danced.

1707 J. TOWNSEND *Journ. Spain* (1792) i. 331 The happiness to see Madame Mello dance a volero. 1809 BYRON *Ch. Har.* i. lxxvii. (1st draught) Wks. 1846 14/1 *note*, She mingles in the gay Bolero (*rime-wd.* herol). a 1845 HOOD *Drink Song* iii. The jigs, the boleros, fandangos, and jumps. 1862 *Athenæum* 25 Jan. 117/3 The Fandango and Bolero are only a more decent form of an originally African dance . . the Bolero was invented in 1780.

fig. 1869 LD. LYTTON *Ordeal* 165 The new dance of the Libertines! Freedom's bolero.

Bolero, v. *nonce-wd.* To dance a bolero.

1834 BECKFORD *Italy* II. 364 Thirteen or fourteen couples started, and boleroed and fandangoed away.

Bolesprit, *obs.* form of BOWSPRIT.

† **Boletate**. *Chem. Obs.* [f. next + -ATE.]

1810 HENRY *Elem. Chem.* (1826) II. 241 With the alkalies and earths, it [boletic acid] unites, and forms a class of salts, which may be called boletates.

† **Boletic**, a. *Chem. Obs.* [f. next + -IC.] Of or pertaining to *Boletus*, as *Boletic acid*.

1819 J. CHILDREN *Chem. Anal.* 275 Boletic acid was obtained by M. Braconnot from the boletus pseudo ignarius. 1863 WATTS *Dict. Chem.* i. 618 *Boletic acid* . . since shown by Bolley and Dessaignes to be identical with fumaric acid.

Boletus (bolē'tūs). *Bot.* [a. L. *bōlētus* a mushroom, ad. Gr. *βῶλῆτις* of same meaning, perh. f. *βῶλος* lump.] A large genus of fungi, having the under surface of the pileus full of pores, instead of gills as in *Agaricus*.

1601 HOLLAND *Pliny* II. 133 Glaucias . . affirmeth, That the Mushromes Boleti be good for the stomacke. 1832 *Veg. Subst. Food* 336 Many species of fungi are . . considered edible. . . A species of boletus is raised by the Italians. 1862 W. COLEMAN *Woodlands* 32 On very old trees . . a massive fungus as large as a child's head, called the Birch Boletus.

Bolge (bōldʒ). *rare*—1. An adaptation of the It. *bolgia* 'gulf-hole' (Florio), applied by Dante to the gulfs of the eighth circle of the Inferno.

1881 *Contemp. Rev.* Dec. 849 The archetype of one bolge of the Inferno.

Bolge, *obs.* form of BULGE.

† **Bo'lghe**, *bolzen*, *ppl.* a. *Obs.* 1 (3e) *bolzen*, 2 (*Orm.*) *bolzhenn*, 3 *i-bolge*. [OE. *bolgen*, *gebolzen*, pa. *pple.* of *belgan* to swell, be proud or angry: see *BELL* v. 1 and *BOLLEN*.]

a. Swollen with rage, angry, wrathful. b. Physically swollen; = *BOLLEN*.

c 1000 *Ag. Gosp.* Matt. xxvi. 8 And wurdon gebolzene. c 1160 *Halton G.* *Ibid.*, And wurdun gebolzen. c 1200 ORMIN 7145 Herode King Wass gramm and grill and bolzhenn. a 1250 Owl & Night. 145 And sat toswolle and ibolze.

Bolgit, *obs.* form of BULGED.

Bolide (bō'leid). [a. F. *bolide*, ad. L. *bolid-em* (nom. *bolis*) large meteor, a. Gr. *βολίς* missile, f. stem of *βάλλω* to throw.] A large meteor; usually one that explodes and falls in the form of aerolites; a fire-ball.

1852 Th. Ross tr. *Humboldt's Trav.* I. x. 352 Not . . a space equal in extent to three diameters of the moon, which was not filled every instant with bolides and falling stars. 1870 PROCTOR *Other Worlds* ix. 192 Explode into small fragments, as bolides and fireballs have been observed to do. 1884 JEFFERIES *Life of Fields* 183 It was not for some seconds I thought of looking for the bolide.

Bolimong, variant of BULLMONG, *Obs.*

Bolin(e, -ing, *obs.* forms of BOW-LINE.

† **Bo'ling**, *vbl. sb.* *Obs.* [f. *BOLE* sb. 1 and assuming a vb.] The formation of the bole of a tree.

1610 FOLKINGHAM *Art of Survey* i. iii. 6 The boaling, spreading, arming, timbering and tapering of trees.

Bollno, early form of BURIN, for engraving.

Bollon, *obs.* form of BULLION.

Bolisme, -mus, *obs.* forms of BULIMY.

† **Bolk**, v. *Obs.* exc. *dial.* Forms: 4-6 bolke, 5 bulk, 5-6 bulke, 6 bolck, bolck, balk, balck, (Sc.) bok; (north.) 6-8 boke, book, 7- boak, bouk, bowk. [ME. *bolck-en*, cogn. w. mod.G. *bolken*, *böiken* 'to roar, bawl', and Du. *bulken* 'to bellow'; f. same root as *BELCH*; pointing to an OTeut. ablaut series *balkan*, *belkan*, *bolkan*; though perhaps of later formation.]

1. *intr.* To eructate; = *BELCH* i.

1387 TREVISIA *Hidden Rolls* Ser. II. 195 Somme þat bolked neuere. c 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 43 *Bolkyn*, *ructo*, *eructo*. 1559 HULOET, *Belke*, or *bolke*, or *brake* wynde vpwarde. 1674 RAY *N. C. Wds.* 6 To *bake* . . to *Belch*. *Lincoln.*

2. To *bolke* out (trans.): to give vent to, ejaculate, vociferate; = *BELCH* 2.

1382 WYCLIF *Ps.* xviii. [xix.] 3 Dai to the dai bolkeþ [1388 tellith] out word. — *Matt.* xiii. 35, I shal bolke out, or telle oute, hid thingus. 1553 BRENDEN *Q. Curtilus* vii. 4 Rashenes of wordes bulked out.

3. *trans.* To emit (wind) by belching; = *BELCH* 3. a 1535 MORE *Wks.* 1360 Bolk out y^e stinking sauer of thy rauensouy surfeting. 1616 T. ADAMS *Soul's Sickn.* Wks. 1861 I. 500 His own commendation rumbles within him, till he hath bulked it out; and the air of it is unsavoury.

4. *intr.* To vomit; to retch, or make efforts as in vomiting. Still *dial.*

1398 TREVISA *Barth. De P. R.* vii. clxxxv. (1495) 726 The dronklew mannys stomak bolkyth. c1480 *Babees Bk.* (1868) 18 Bulk not as a beene were yn bi throte. 1674 *RAY N. C. Wds.* 6 *Bolke*, to Nauseate, to be ready to vomit, also to Belch. 1764 T. BRYDGES *Homer Travest.* (1797) II. 369 Boaking as if I'd bring my pluck up. 1832 *Blackw. Mag.* XXXII. 647 He began to strain and to bolk. 1855 *Whitby Gloss.*, To *Bolk*, the effort to vomit, to reach.

b. *trans.* Also with *up. dial.*

1790 A. WILSON *Callamp. Elegy* Poet. Wks. 105 His vera guts he's bolked in blude this day. 1863 *Robson Bards of Tyne* 433 Whey, she had bowk't the sma' beer up.

5. *fig. and transf.* To emit as in vomiting, to eject (as a volcano).

1513 DOUGLAS *Eneis* III. viii. 136 It..will..Furth bok the bowalls..of the hill. 1561 *STUDLEY Seneca's Medea* (1581) 128 Etna balking stifling flames and dusky vapours up. 1787 *BURNS Winter Nt.*, Burns..thro' the mining outlet boked, Down headlong hurl.

6. *intr.* To heave or throb like a confined gas or fluid. To *bolk up*: to 'rise' in the stomach.

1561 HOLLYBUSH *Hom. Apoth.* 37a, The meate bulketh upagayne. a1679 T. GOODWIN *Wks.* (1861) III. 424 Humours..may stir and boake in the stomach, when yet they come not up, nor prevail unto vomiting.

7. *intr.* To gush, flow in gulps.

a1550 *Christis Kirke* Gr. xxi, Blude at breastis out bokkit. 1541 *BARNES Wks.* (1573) 251/2 Theyr plenteous wine presses and their full sellers bolkyng from thys vnto that. a1600 *Rob. Hood* (Ritson) I. iii. 131 At his mouth came boking out The blood of a good vain.

† **Bolk**, *sb.* *Obs.* Also 7- book. [f. *prec. vb.*] An eruption, a belch.

1377 *LANGL. P. Pl.* B. v. 397 He bygan benedicite with a bolke. 1697 W. CLELAND *Poems* 104 (JAM.) When he return'd he got it ov'r Without a host, a bolk, or glour. 1859 *Autobiog. Beggar Boy* 150 To relieve himself of the dry bolk.

Bolk, *obs. form of BULK.*

† **Bolken**, *v.* *Obs. rare.* Also 7 boaken. [f. *BOLK v.* + *-EN*: cf. *light, lighten.*]

1. *intr.* To gush, flow in gulps. = **BOLK** 7.

a1300 *E. E. Psalter* cxliiii[iv]. 13 Cleves..Bolkenand fra bat in to yit [?pis; v. r. from pis in bat; *Vulg. eructantia ex hoc in illud.*]

2. To throb. = **BOLK** 6.

1609 *Phil. Trans.* XIX. 379 The tops of my Fingers..did boaken and ake, as when after extream cold, one has the hot-ach in them.

† **Bolking**, *vbl. sb.* *Obs. exc. dial.* [f. **BOLK v.**]

1. Belching, eructation, retching, vomiting.

1398 TREVISA *Barth. De P. R.* vii. xlviii. (1495) 260 Vnsaurey bolkynges..by the whyche bolkynges the pacyente raureth. c1440 *Promp. Parv.* 43 Bolkyng, or bulkyng, orexis, eructacio. 1519 *HORMAN Vulg.* 32 b, It is a balkinge of yesterdays meate. 1561 HOLLYBUSH *Hom. Apoth.* 33 b, A balkinge or breakinge of winde. 1670 *LASSELLS Voy. Italy* (1698) II. 174 Stones, which..Vesuvius..had vomited up with such a boaking. 1822 *GALT Steamboat* 76 (JAM.) Even between the bockings of the sea-sickness.

2. Heaving, throbbing.

1655 *GURNALL Chr. in Arm.* II. 381 The invenomed head of sin's arrow, that lies burning in conscience, and by its continual boking and throbbing there, keeps the poor sinner out of quiet.

Boll (*bōl*), *sb.* 1. Forms: 1 *bolla*, 2-6 *bolle*, (6-7 *bowle*, 7 *bol*, *bole*), 7- *boll*. [A variant of **BOWL sb. 1: -OE. *bolla* = MDu. *bolle*, Du. *bol*, ON. *bolli* wk. masc., cognate with OHG. *bolla*, MHG. *bolle* wk. fem. 'bud, globular vessel'; see **BOWL**. Sense 2 may also be compared with L. *bulia*, It. *bolla*, F. *boule*, *bulle* bubble.]**

† 1. Earlier spelling of **BOWL sb. 1, q. v.**

† 2. A vesicle or bubble. *Obs.*

a1300 *Fragm. Pop. Science* (Wrt.) 331 As ic seide þou er of þreo follen, if 3e understode; In þe nyemeste bolle þer þe lyvre dop out springe. 1398 TREVISA *Barth. De P. R.* xix. cxviii. (1495) 935 The bolle that ryseth on the water that boyleth..highte *bulia*.

3. *spec.* A rounded seed-vessel or pod, as that of flax or cotton.

1a1500 *Med. MS. Cathedr. Hereford* 8 (Halliwell) Take the bolle of the poppy while it is grene. 1523 *FITZHERB. Husb.* § 146 The bolles of flaxe..made drye with the son to get out the sedes. 1561 *TURNER Herbal* II. (1568) 39a, These knoppes or heades [of flax] are called in Northumberland bowles. 1601 *HOLLAND Pliny* II. xix. 30 A second kind of poppie called black, out of the heads or bols whereof a white juice or liquor issueth. 1660 *SHARROCK Vegetables* 22 They thresh it [flax] not out of the boles till March. 1865 *LIVINGSTONE Zambesi* x. 214 They cultivate cotton..the staple being long and the boll larger than what is usually met with.

† 4. A round knob on any utensil, piece of furniture, or the like. *Obs.*

1a1600 *Turke & G.* 220 in Furniv. *Percy Folio* I. 98 Cawaines boy to it did leape, & gatt itt by the bowles great. 1660 *HOWELL Dict.* xii, The Bolle, *i. pomi, les pommes.*

† 5. The Adam's apple: see **THROAT-BOLL**. *Obs.*

6. *Comb.*, as † *boll-roaking* (see *quot.*); † *boll-weed*, the Greater Knapweed (*Centaurea Scabiosa*); *boll-worm*, an insect which destroys the cotton boll or pod.

1641 *BEST Farm. Bks.* (1856) 59 That [straw] which is layd in the filling overnight to save the stack from wettinge is called *boll-roaking* of a stacke.

Boll (*bōl*), *sb.* 2. Forms: 4-5 *bolle*, 5- *boll*, (6 *boull*, 6-7 *boule*, 7 *bole*), also *Sc.* 6- *bow*.

[app. distinct from the preceding, being pronounced (*bōu*, *bōu*) in modern Scotch, and vernacularly written *bow*, *bowe*, since 16th c., while *boll* is pronounced (*boul*). As it is entirely a northern word, it may possibly be a. ON. *bolli*, Da. *bolle*, the Scandinavian equivalent of OE. *bolla* **BOWL**.]

A measure of capacity for grain, etc., used in Scotland and the north of England, containing in Scotland generally 6 imperial bushels, but in the north of England varying locally from the 'old boll' of 6 bushels to the 'new boll' of 2 bushels. Also a measure of weight, containing for flour 10 stone (= 140 pounds). (A very full table of its local values is given in *Old Country and Farming Words* (E. Dial. Soc. 1880 p. 168).)

c1375 *BARBOUR Bruce* III. 211 Off Ryngis..He send three bollis to Cartage. 1536 *BELLENDEN Cron. Scot.* II. 298 He delt, ilk owik, iv bowis of quheit. 1570 *Wills & Inv. N. C.* (1835) I. 344 Sex bollis aitis and sex bollis beir. 1590 *Ibid.* (1860) II. 248, Xxij boules of otes there 44s. iij bouls of big there 10s. 1609 *SKENE Reg. Maj.* 57 The boll..salbe in the deipnes nine inches..And in the Roundnes aboue, it sall contain thrie score and twelue inches. 1630 J. TAYLOR (Water P.) *Penniless Pilgr.* Wks. I. 130/2 Euery Bole contains the measure of foure English bushels. 1651 *Proc. Parliament* No. 88. 1353 And [the Scots Forces] seized 20000 Boules of Come at Leith. 1691 *RAY N. C. Wds.*, *Boll* of salt, i. e. two bushels. 1725 *RAMSAY Gent. Sheph.* II. i. (1844) 18 Vestreen I brew'd a bow o' maut. 1799 J. ROBERTSON *Agric. Perth* 291 In Strathearn it [shell marle] is sold from eight to ten pence the boll, being eight cubical feet. 1820 *SCOTT Abbot* xxvi, You are owing to the Laird four stones of barleymeal and a bow of oats. 1851 *Coal-tr. Terms Northumbld. & Durh.* 8 The coal boll contains 9676.8 cubic inches, or 34.809 imperial gallons. 1875 *URE Dict. Arts* III. 1126 In Northumberland (Alnwick, Morpeth, and Hexham markets) [wheat is sold] per new boll of 16 gallons; in Bedford and Wooler markets by the old boll of 48 gallons. 1883 *Times* 9 Mar., Out of 65 towns selling by measure, only 35 used the Imperial quarter, the others selling by coombs, sacks, loads, bolls, etc.

Boll, *sb.* 3 *dial.* [Editors of Lancashire Glossary suggest connexion with **BOGLE**.] An apparition; a bogle, an object of fear. See **BOLLY**.

1847-78 in *HALLIWELL*. 1875 in *Lanc. Gloss.* (E. D. S.) 46.

† **Boll**, *v.* 1 *Obs.* Also 5 *bolle*. [ME. *boll-en* 14th c., found beside the earlier *bolnen*, of which it is prob. a phonetic modification (as in *mill* = *miln*).]

1. *intr.* To swell.

c1340 *Cursor M.* 6011 (Trin.) Bile & blister bollynge [3 earlier MSS. *bolnande*] sore. 1362 *LANGL. P. Pl.* A. v. 67 His Bodi was Bolled [other MSS. *bolind*]. 1397 TREVISA *Higden* (1865) I. 298 Bocches vnder þe chyn i-swolle and i-bolled. 1547 *BOORDE Brev. Health* xxviii. 19 b, The belly wyl boll and swel.

fig. 1388 *WYCLIF 1 Cor.* v. 2 3e ben bolnyd [v. r. *bolli*] with pride. 1480 *CAXTON Chron. Eng.* ccxxi. 211 Anone for wrath his hert gan bolle.

b. *fig.* To increase.

1580 *SIDNEY Arcadia* 158 Euen while the doubtis most bolled, shee thus nourished them.

† **Boll**, *v.* 2 *Obs.* Also 6 *bole*, *bowle*. [f. *boll*, **BOWL sb.] To quaff the bowl; to booze.**

1535 *COVERDALE Mich.* II. 11 They might syt bebbinge and bollynge. 1567 *HARMAN Caveat* 32 They bowle and bowse one to another. 1577 *KENDALL Flowers of Epigr.* (N.) Gull, bib, and bole..Eche can in Germany. 1586 J. HOOKER *Gerald. Irel.* II. 95/1 Parese caused such as kept the ward, to swill and boll.

† **Boll**, *v.* 3 *Obs.* [f. **BOLL sb. 1 (sense 3).] To be or begin to be in boll. Cf. **BOLLED ppl. a. 2****

1601 *HOLLAND Pliny* xix. vi. (R.) Garlic indeed should not be suffered to boll and run up to seed.

Boll, *obs. Sc. spelling of Bow sb.* 1

Bollandist (*bōlāndist*). [f. *Bolland*, name of a Flemish Jesuit of the 17th c. + *-IST*.] *pl.* The Jesuit writers who continued the work called *Acta Sanctorum*, begun by John Bolland.

1751 *CHAMBERS Cycl.*, *Bollandists*..certain Jesuits of Antwerp..employed in collecting the lives and acts of the saints. a1843 *SOUTHEY Comm. pl. Bk.* Ser. II. 15 A question which the Bollandists ask in a note. 1883 *Contemp. Rev.* Oct. 518 The history of St. Patrick's purgatory is..supported by the grave authority of the Bollandists.

Bollard (*bōlārd*). *Naut.* [Derivation unknown; possibly f. **BOLE sb. 1 + *-ARD*.] A wooden or iron post, on a ship, a whale-boat, or a quay, for securing ropes to. Also *attrib.*, as in *bollard-head*, -timber (see *quot.*).**

1844 A. KEY *Recov. Gorgon* (1847) 67 The threefold block taken close forward to a bollard on the forecastle. 1863 *Times* 19 Mar. 14/2 Like the Warrior she will have on each quarter strong iron towing bollards. 1867 *SMYTH Sailor's Word-bk.* 115 Bollard, a thick piece of wood on the head of a whale-boat, round which the harpooner gives the line a turn, in order to veer it steadily, and check the animal's velocity. 1880 T. HARDY *Trump. Major* in *Gd. Words* Oct. 66: Standing by a bollard a little farther up the quay. *attrib.* c1850 *Rudim. Navig.* (Weale) 127 *Knight-heads*, or *Bollard-Timbers*, large oak timbers fayed and bolted to each side of the stem, the heads of which run up sufficiently above the head of the stem to support the bowsprit. 1869 *SIR E. REED Shipbuild.* xv. 291 In iron ships bollard heads and towing bollards are frequently of cast iron.

Bolle, *obs. form of BOLL sb.* 1, also variant of **BOLLEN pa. ppl.**

† **Bolled**, *ppl.* a. 1 *Obs.* [f. **BOLL v. + *-ED*.]**

1. Swollen, inflated, gibbous; *fig.* swollen with pride, puffed up.

c1375 *Homily in Rel. Ant.* I. 39 Poure in spirit, that is, not proud ny bolled. 1578 *BANISTER Hist. Man* I. 29 The seuenth [bone]..hath some sides hollow, others boled, or gibbous. 1881 *EVANS Leicestersh. Words* s. v., The grains (of wheat) are so bolled, they are ready to jump out of the ear. Cf. **BOLD a.** 5, also **BOLLED ppl.** a. 3]

† 2. Embossed; embellished. *Obs.*

c1325 *E. E. Allit. P. B.* 1464 Al bolled abof with braunches & leues. 1400 *Pol. Rel. & L. Poems* (1866) 14, V. parafys grete & stoute Bolyd in rose red.

† **Bolled**, *ppl.* a. 2 *Obs. exc. dial.* [f. **BOLL v.** 3 or *sb.* 1 3 + *-ED*. Cf. *seeded, podded*.] Having bolls; *esp.* having seed vessels, in pod, in seed.

1535 *COVERDALE Ex. ix.* 31 Y^e flax was bolled. 1611 The flaxe was bolled; 1382 *WYCLIF*, The flax now buriownde coddies; 1388 The flax hadde buriownde thanne knoppis. 1639 *HORN & ROOTHAM Gate Lang. Unl.* xii. § 131 Garlick, onions, leekes..are bolled [round-headed].

† **Bollen**, *sb.* *Obs.* Also *bollien*, *bolline*, *bolyn*. [Only in Lyte: some kind of erroneous formation on **BOLL**.] = **BOLL sb. 1 3.**

1576 *LYTE Dodoms* I. xxxvii. 55 The seede [of Pimpernell] is contayned in small round littell bolliens or knappes. *Ibid.* I. lxxiii. 109 The stalkes..vpon the toppes whereof groweth small round knappes or bollines. *Ibid.* v. lxxviii. 645 The rounde bollens, or imbosseed heades of the right Squilla.

† **Bollen**, *ppl.* a. 2 *Obs.* Also 4-5 *bollian*, 5 *bolle*; and 6 *boln(e)*, *boalne*, *bowline*. [pa. *ppl.* of **BELL v.** 1 *Obs.* to swell; cf. **BOLGHEN**. In the 16th c. there was a monosyllabic variant *boln*, etc. (see *β*); also in *Sc.* a form **BOLDEN**, mod. *bowden*, with *d* generated between *l* and *n*.]

Swollen; inflated, puffed up.

a1225 *Anscr. R.* 282 A bledde ibollen ful of winde. c1340 *Cursor M.* 12685 (Trin.) His knees þerof were bollen so [v. r. *bolnd*, *bolined*]. 1382 *WYCLIF 2 Tim.* iii. 4 Bollun with proude thougtis. c1420 *LYDG. Bochas* viii. xv. (1554) 186 b, Tofore Bochas came Hermericus..Inflate and bolle. 1493 *Festynall* (W. de W. 1515) 99 His knees..were bollen out lyke a camell. 1593 *SHAKS. Lucr.* 1417 Here one, being thronged, bears back, all bollen and red.

β. *Boln*, *bolne*, *boalne*, *bowline*. [Cf. *swoln*.]

1509 *HAWES Past. Pleas.* 135 His breste fatte, and bolne in the wast. a1547 *SURREY Eneid* II. 346 Whose feet were bowlin With the strait cords. 1566 *STUDLEY Seneca's Medea* (1581) 133 His body boalne big, wrapt in lumpes. 1598 *SYLVESTER Du Bartas* II. iv. III. (1641) 225/1 With foaming fury swoln, With boystrous beasts of angry tempests boln. 1609 *HOLLAND Amm. Marcel.* xxviii. ix. 341 With a big and bolne necke of his owne.

Bollene, *obs. form of BOWLINE*.

† **Boller**, *Obs.* [f. *bolle*, earlier form of **BOWL**.]

1. One who continues at the bowl; a tippler, a drunkard. Cf. *bowl-fellow*.

c1320 R. BRUNNE *Medit.* 477 Both bollers of wyne and eche a gadlyng. c1340 *Alex. & Dind.* 675 Baccus þe boller. 1393 *LANGL. P. Pl.* C. x. 194 Bollers attene ale. 1413 *LYDG. Pylgr. Sowle* III. ix. (1483) 55 Bollers of wyn and ale. 1542 *UDALL Erasm. Apoph.* 33 a, A greate boller of wyne.

2. † A bowl-maker.

1415 *York Myst. Introd.* 25 Turnours, Hayresters, Bollers. **Bollett(e)**, **Bolletine**, *obs. ff. BULLET, BULLETIN*.

Bolling (*bōl'lin*), *sb.* [app. f. **BOLL sb. 1 trunk.]**

A pollard (tree).

1691 *RAY N. C. Words*, s. v. **BOLL**, *Bolling* trees is used in all countries for pollard trees, whose heads and branches are cut off, and only the bodies left. 1697 *Surrey. Bowyer Hall, Penitlow, Essex* (MS.), Bollings which y^e tenant hath liberty to cropp for firing. 1776 (June 1) *Boundaries*, Up the road and marked an Elm Bolling..Marked a Bolling Oak..Marked an old Bolling against Burnt-field. 1847 in *CRAIG*; and in mod. *Dicts.*

† **Bolling**, *vbl. sb.* 1 *Obs.* [f. **BOLL v.** 1 + *-ING*.] Swelling.

c1340 *Cursor M.* 10463 (Trin.) And of bollyng of hir herte She kest hir wordis ouerþwerte. 1362 *LANGL. P. Pl.* A. vii. 204 For bollyng of heore wombes. 1533 *ELYOT Cast. Helth* IV. iv. (1541) 85 A swellynge or bollyng of the bodye.

† **Bolling**, *vbl. sb.* 2 *Obs.* [f. **BOLL v.** 2 + *-ING*.] the mod. spelling would be *bowling*.] Excessive drinking, boozing.

a1550 *SKELTON Image Hypocr.* IV. 583 How they iest and iolt, With bowsing and bollinge. 1544 *ASCHAM Taxoph.* (Arb.) 93 Disynge cardyng and boouling. 1570-6 *LAMBARDE Peramb. Kent* (1596) 356 This vicious plant of unmeasurable boalling. 1574 *NEWTON Health Mag.* 59 Superfluous bollinge and beastle swilling of much wyne. 1583 *STANYHURST Eneis* III. (Arb.) 81 With whip cat bowling they kept a mytty carousing.

† **Bolling**, *ppl.* a. *Obs.* [f. **BOLL v.** 1] Swelling, protuberant.

1529 *HORMAN Vulg.* 26 b, Bollynge yes out, se but febelly. Womens brestis be bollynge out.

|| **Bolli-to**. ? *Obs.* [It. *bolli*to boiled, made to bubble.] (See *quot.*)

1753 *CHAMBERS Cycl. Suppl.*, *Bolli*to, in the glass-works, the calcined materials for glass-making. This is commonly called frit. 1799 G. SMITH *Laborat.* I. 170 Take of the crystal frit, called also bolli

Bollman (*bōl'mæn*), *dial.* [f. ON. *ból* an abode (cf. **BOLD sb.**) + *MAN*.] A cottager (in Orkney and Shetland). See also **BOUMAN**.

a1796 *Statist. Acc. Scot.* XV. 415-6 (JAM.) The amount of what a cottager or bollman, and his wife can earn annually. 1866 *EDMONDSTON Shetl. & Orkney Gloss.*, *Bollman*, a cottager, pronounced *bouman*.

Boll, *bolpece*, *obs. f. bowl-piece*: see **BOWL sb.** 1

Bolluga, obs. variant of **BELUGA**.

† **Bolly**, *sb.* Obs. or dial. [dim. of **BOLL sb.**]

A bogy, hobgoblin. Also **Bolleroy**.

1774 *Trial E. Arnold* in *Howell's State Trials* (1812) XVI. 137 (A Witness). He came... raving at the bollies and bolleroyes... and said, The bollies plagued him. *Ibid.* 162 (Mr. Justice Tracy) 'He asked... whether they were plagued with the bollies and bugs, as formerly?'

† **Bolly**, *a.* Obs. rare⁻¹. [*f.* **BOLL sb.** 2 + *-y*.]

Covered with bubbles.

1580 *BATMAN Barth. De P. R.* xi. ii. 159 The winde maketh the over parte of water bolly and unneuen.

Bollyon, obs. form of **BULLION**.

† **Bolm**, *Obs. Sc.* rare⁻¹. [Scotch spelling of *bōm*, *a.* Flem. or Du. *boom* (used in same sense); independent of the later English adoption of **BOOM** in other senses.] A pole (for punting, etc.).

1513 *DOUGLAS Æneis* v. iv. 93 With lang bolms of tre flit with irn.

† **Bolne**, *v.* Obs. Also 4 *bolne*, *boln*, 5 *bolnen*, 6 *bolune*. [*ME.* *bolne* (*n.*, *a.* Da. *bolne* = *ON.* *bolgna* (Sw. *bulna*) to swell (intr.); inchoative of *belg*, *pa.* pple. *bolg-en*, to inflate. (The *pa.* pple. *bolman* mixes up *bolned* with **BOLLEN.)]**

1. *intr.* To swell.

1500 *Cursor M.* 6011 Bile and blister, bolnand sare. *c.* 1305 *Metr. Hom.* (1862) 25 The first dai sal al the se Boln and ris. *c.* 1340 *Cursor M.* 12531 (Fairf.) A neder... stanged lam in his riht hande... He bulned grete. 1468 in *Cath. Angl.* 36 *Tumio*, to bolnyu. 1530 *PALSGR.* 460/1 Se howe this tode bolneth. 1576 T. NEWTON tr. *Lemnius's Complex.* (1633) 132 Immoderately to bolne, swell, and therewith thorowly to be cloyed.

2. *fig.* To swell with pride, anger, etc.

1575 *Wyclif Serm.* Sel. Wks. II. 266 Pe fise condicioun of his love is pat, it bolneþ not bi pride. 1580 — *1 Cor.* v. 2 And 3e ben bolnyn with pride. *c.* 1449 *Pecock Repr.* v. i. 480 Bolned with witt of his fleisch.

3. *trans.* To cause to swell; to inflate; also *fig.*

1540 *HAMPOLE Psalter* i. 5 Pride, that heghis & bolnes thaim as wynd dos. *c.* 1380 *Wyclif Confess.* Wks. (1880) 327 Mannes kunnyng bolnyn hym bi pride.

Boln, *bolne*, by-form of **BOLLEN a. Obs. swollen.**

† **Bolned**, *ppl. a.* Obs. Also *-et*, *-it*. [*f.* **BOLNE v.** + *-ED*.] Swollen; inflated; puffed up.

1500 *Cursor M.* 12685 Hes knes war bolnd [*v.* *bolned*]. *c.* 1380 *Wyclif Sel. Wks.* III. 20 Proude bolnyd maliciouse dampned men and women. *c.* 1440 *York Myst.* xli. 45 That blissid body blo is & bolned for betyng. 1483 *Cath. Angl.* 36 *Bolnyd*, *tumidus*, *tumidulus*.

† **Bolning**, *vbl. sb.* Obs. [*f.* as *prec.* + *-ING*.]

1. Swelling, state of being swollen; *concr.* a swelling, a tumour.

1540 *HAMPOLE Psalter* lxxxviii. 17 Grete bolnyng of water. *c.* 1430 *LYDG.* *Bochas* ii. xxviii. (1554) 64 a, Agayn such bolnyng, aualeth no triacle. 1483 *Cath. Angl.* 36 A Bolnyng, *tumor*, *inflacio*. 1530 *PALSGR.* 200/2 Boulnyng, swelling. 1610 *BARROUGH Meth. Physick* i. xii. (1639) 15 Distension and bolning in the head.

2. *fig.* (with *pride*, *anger*, etc.)

1500 *Cursor M.* 12083 Pe bolning of his hert. 1540 *HAMPOLE Psalter* l. 8 It [mekenes] purges him fro bolnyng of pride. 1540 *Relig. Pieces fr. Thorne*. MS. (1867) 12 Wrethe... es a wykkede stornyng or bolnyng of herte.

† **Bolning**, *ppl. a.* Obs. Swelling.

1500 *Cursor M.* 6011 Bile & blister bolnand sare. *c.* 1305 *E. Ælfr.* P. B. 179 Bobounce & bost & bolnande pryde.

Bologna (*bolōn'ya*). Also 5 **Bonony**, 6 **Bononye**, 8 **Bolonia**. A town in Italy, anciently called Bononia. Hence **Bolognan**, **Bononian a.**: also **Bologna bottle**, flask, phial, an unannealed bottle (see *quot.*); **B. phosphorus**, a phosphorescent preparation of Bologna stone and gum; **B. sausage**, a large kind of sausage first made at Bologna; **B. spar**, stone, native sulphate of baryta found near Bologna, having phosphorescent properties.

1563 *GRAFTON Chron.* 601 To forsake the cytie of Bonony. 1744 *Phil. Trans.* XLIII. 272 A Phenomenon, which is called of the Bologna *Bottle, because it was first discover'd at Bologna. If you let these Bottles fall perpendicularly from some Height upon a Brick-floor, they will not be broken; but if you drop into them some little hard Bodies, they will burst in Pieces. 1875 B. LOEWY tr. *Weinhold's Exp. Physics* 774 Bolognian *flasks are simply small glass bottles which, after being formed, have been suddenly cooled in the air. 1882 *IMISON Sc. & Art* II. 90 Sulphate of barytes... when calcined... forms the Bolognian *phosphorus. 1875 *URE Dict. Arts* I. 295 Bologna spar is notable for phosphorescence... when heated; the so-called 'Bologna Phosphorus' was made by powdering this stone, and cementing the powder into the form of sticks, by means of gum. 1596 *NASHE Saffron Walden* Wks. 1883-4 III. 162 As big as a Bolognian *sawcedge. 1848 'MEG DONS' *Cook & Housew. Manual* III. i. 267 note, Real Bologna sausages labour under the imputation of being made of asses' flesh. 1674 N. FAIRFAX *Bulk & Setv.* 196 Light may otherwise arise than from suns, as may be seen by... the Bononian *Stone. 1694 *Phil. Trans.* XVIII. 35 Method of Preparing the Bononian Stone or Phosphorus. 1791 E. DARWIN *Bot. Gard.* i. note, The Bolognian stone... has been long celebrated for its phosphorescent quality.

Bolok, obs. form of **BULLOCK**.

Bolometer (*bolōm'itai*). [*f.* Gr. *βολή* beam of light + *μέτρον* measure.] An electrical instrument of great sensitiveness for measuring radiant heat. Hence **Bolometric** (*bolōm'etrik*), *a.*

1881 *Nature* XXV. 14 An instrument... capable of indi-

cating a change of temperature as minute as 1-100,000th of a single Centigrade degree... is termed by its discoverer, Professor S. P. Langley, the *bolometer*, or actinic balance. 1880 *Athenæum* 2 Sept. 310/1 His 'bolometer', or radiation measurer—an instrument some twenty times more sensitive than the thermopile. 1881 C. A. YOUNG *Sci.* 306 Shown by the bolometric measures described above.

Bolotade, variant of **BALLOTADE**.

Bolpeze: see **BOWL sb.**

Bolster (*bōl'stai*), *sb.* Forms: 2-5 *bolstre*, 5 *bolstyr(e)*, (6 *bolstarre*, *boylster*), 6-8 *boulster*, 1, 5- *bolster*; *Sc.* 5 *bowstowre*, 6- *bowster*. [*Com. Tent.*: OE. *bolster* = MDu. and Du. *bolster*, OHG. *bolstar* (MHG. *bolster*, mod.G. *polster*). OE. *bolster* is cogn. w. ON. *bolstr* (Sw. *bolster* 'bed', Da. *bolster* 'bed-ticking') = OTeut. **bolstro-z*, *f.* OTeut. root **būl* to swell, the causal of which is found in Goth. *ufbauljan* to puff up.]

1. A long stuffed pillow or cushion used to support the sleeper's head in a bed; the name is now restricted to the under-pillow, stuffed with something firm, which extends from side to side, and on which the softer and flatter pillows are laid.

1000 *Beowulf* 2484 Beddum and bolstrum. *c.* 1200 *Trin. Coll. Hom.* 139 He... bare corde to bedde... and hard ston to bolstre. *c.* 1425 *Leg. Rood* (1871) 210 With hym on bedde, man, þou sat On þe bolstre of heuene blisse. 1444 *Test. Ebor.* (1855) II. 100 Lectum plumareum cum le bolster. 1479 *Will. Wall. Paston* in *Lett.* III. 249 Unum pulvinar vocatum le bolster. 1494 *Act 11 Hen. VII.* xix, Feather-beds, Bolsters, and Pillows. 1535 *STEWART Cron. Scot.* II. 445 But bed or bowster to lig on the stro. 1596 *SHAKS. Tam. Shr.* iv. i. 204 Heere lie fling the pillow, there the bolster. 1611 *BIBLE 1 Sam.* xix. 13 And Michal... put a pillow of goats hair for his bolster. 1640 *BRATHWAIT (title)* Art asleepe Husband? a Bolster Lecture; stored with witty Jest. 1688 *Lond. Gaz.* 22 Oct. 1/2 The said Deponent stood at the Queens Bolster. 1837 *HOWITT Rur. Life* iii. iii. (1862) 246 Propped up in bed with bolsters and pillows.

b. A cushion or pad for leaning or sitting upon, etc. *c.* 1275 *Death* 90 in *O. E. Misc.* 174 Neaver sitten on bolstre ne on benche. 1703 *MAUNDRELL Journ. Jerus.* (1732) 29 Furnished all round with Bolsters for leaning upon.

2. Applied to various things of the nature of a pad, used to obviate friction or chafing, or pad out hollows or deficiencies, etc.

† a. A surgical pad or compress to support or protect any injured part of the body. Obs.

1541 R. COPLAND *Guydon's Quest. Chirurg.*, Wherefore serueth the bolsters? To stay and conpryme the places discolued. 1607 *TORSSELL Four-f. Beasts* 327 Bolster the tent with a bolster of flax. 1758 *LAYARD in Phil. Trans.* L. 749 He applied bolsters dipped in warm red wine and water. 1813 J. THOMSON *Lect. Inflammation* 299 Application of bolsters or pads of lint... to prevent the matter exuding.

† b. A pad worn by porters. Obs.

1554 HULOET, Bolsters whyche bearers of burdens, as porters do weare for freatyng. 1580 *BARET Adv. B.* 905.

† c. A ridge of padding on a saddle. Obs.

1590 *GREENE Art Conny catch.* ii. 5 His saddle... hath canle and bolsters. 1611 *COTGR., Battle*, the bolster of a Saddle. 1753 *CHAMBERS Cycl. Suppl.*, Bolsters of a saddle... those parts which are raised on the bows, both before and behind, to rest the rider's thighs... Common saddles have no bolsters behind or even before.

† d. A padding in a garment used to fill up or round out some part. Obs.

1600 *ROWLAND Lett. Humours* Blood vii. 83 A bolster for their Buttocks, and such stuffe. 1731 *SWIFT Nymph going to Bed* Wks. 1755 IV. i. 147 Off she slips The bolsters, that supply her hips. 1753 *CHAMBERS Cycl. Suppl.* s.v., By a constitution, the clergy are forbidden to wear bolsters about their shoulders, in their gowns, coats, or doublets.

e. *Naut.* in *pl.* 'Small cushions or bags of tarred canvas, used to preserve the stays from being chafed by the motion of the masts.' Smyth *Sailor's Word-bk.* Also pieces of timber fixed in various positions to prevent chafing between ropes and other parts of the ship.

1769 *FALCONER Dict. Marine* (1789) *Bolsters*... are used to preserve the stays from being chafed or galled by the motion of the masts. *c.* 1850 *Rudim. Navig.* (Weale) 99 Bolsters for the Anchor Lining are solid pieces of oak, bolted to the ship's side... Bolsters for Sheets, Tacks, &c. are small pieces of fir or oak fayed under the gunwale, &c., with the outer surface rounded to prevent the sheets and other rigging from chafing. *c.* 1860 H. STUART *Seaman's Catech.* 76 The bolsters are bolted above the trussletrées.

f. A pad or cushion employed to deaden noise in pianofortes.

3. Applied to various parts of mechanism which form a solid support or base, on which other parts rest or exert pressure.

† a. Some part of a plough. Obs.

1523 *FITZHERB. Husb.* § 4 But their most speciall temper is at the bolster, where as the plough beame lyeth. 1733 J. TULL *Horse-hoing Husb.* xxi. 145 Sometimes we use a Piece of Shoe-Leather instead of an iron bolster.

† b. A support for a bee-hive. Obs.

1609 C. BUTLER *Fem. Mon. v.* (1623) K ij, Reare the full Hiue with three Bolsters, two on the West side, and one on the East, some foure or five inches high. *Ibid.* (1634) 47 Also rear the swarms, that being under-hived do lie forth, with a Skirt or Bolsters of that thickness, that may but let in the Bees.

g. The bearing for a water wheel shaft. *dial.*

1671 *Phil. Trans.* VI. 2108 A great beam, turned by an over-shoot-water-wheel on a bolsters.

d. A block of wood fixed on a siege-gun carriage, on which the breech rests during transport.

e. The transverse bar over the axle of a wagon, which supports the bed, and raises it from the axle. Also, the principal cross-beam of a railway truck or carriage body.

1606 *HOLME Armory* iii. viii. § 49 The Bolster is that on which the fore-wheels with the axle-tree turn in wheeling the waggon on a cross Road. 1834 *Brit. Husb.* I. 158 The shafts of the cart rest on the bolster of the waggon-wheels, to which they are secured; and a long copse, or fore-ladder resting also upon the bolster, projects over the shaft-horse.

f. The part of the pier or abutment on which a truss-bridge rests.

g. The spindle-bearing in the rail of a spinning-frame.

1805 *Specif. of Andrew's Patent* No. 5079 From the top of the spindle to the first bearing, which is denominated a bolster, is about 7 inches. 1873 *LEIGH Cotton Spin.* 219 The theory of the bolster rail lift is very plausible.

h. A horizontal cap-piece laid upon the top of a post or pillar, to shorten the bearing of the beam of a string-piece supported by it.

i. In the centering of an arch, each of the transverse pieces which lie across the ribs and support the voussours of the arch.

k. The plate or block in a punching-machine on which the metal to be punched is laid, and which is perforated or excavated to fit the punch.

1677 *MOXON Mech. Exerc.* (1703) 11 Your Punch will print a bunching mark upon the hole of a Bolster, that is, a thick Iron with a hole in it. 1790 *Specif. of Clifford's Patent* No. 1785 The nails are to be cut... by means of a punch... having a hollow bolster (commonly called a bed) the hollow and aperture of which must also be made to the size and form of the nail. 1856 *HOLTZAPFELL Turning* II. 929 Punches... used in combination with bolsters.

4. Applied to various things of the nature of a supporting or strengthening ridge.

a. The projecting 'shoulder' of a knife, chisel, etc., where the blade is inserted into the handle.

1807 *Specif. of Smith's Patent* No. 5470 To form the blade and bolster and tang at one and the same operation. 1831 J. HOLLAND *Manuf. Metals* I. 291 The bolster, or that prominent part of a common table knife which abuts upon the handle.

b. The metallic plate on the end of the handle of a pocket-knife.

c. A raised ridge on the wrestplank of a piano to give bearing to the strings by raising them.

5. *Arch.* One of the rolls forming the sides of an Ionic capital; = **BALUSTER** 5.

1876 *GWILT Archit. Gloss.*, Bolster or Pillow, the baluster part of the Ionic capital on the return side.

6. *Comb.* as *bolster-piece*.

1860 R. S. BURN *Handbk. Mech. Arts* (ed. 2) 197 Where the tie-rods... join the ring at the angles, bolster-pieces are inserted, against which the nuts are screwed hard up.

Bolster (*bōl'stai*), *v.* Also 6 *Sc.* *bowster*, 6-8 *boulster*, 7 *bolwaler*. [*f.* *prec.* sb.]

1. *trans.* To support with a bolster. (Usually in *pa.* pple.)

1610 *BARROUGH Meth. Physick* iii. ix. (1639) 113 Let your head be bolstered up high. 1791 E. DARWIN *Bot. Gard.* ii. 77 Bolster'd with down, amid a thousand wants. 1873 *BLACK Pr. Thule* xx. 328 She was bolstered up in bed.

† 2. *transf.* To support, prop up. Obs.

1567 *STUDLEY Seneca's Hippolytus* (1581) 61 Thunderpropping brawny shouldered sies, That heaved and bolstered up the Welkin throne. 1615 *CROOKE Body of Man* 118 Vnder the beginning of the duodenum is the Pancreas placed... to bolster them vp.

3. *fig.* To prop up, support, uphold. Also with *up*.

In later use usually with some approach to *a.* 1508 *FISHER Wks.* (1876) 175 Suche maner stronge and constaunt people dooth bolster and holde up bothe themselfe and other in crystes chyrche, they be lyke vnto pylers. 1548 *HALL Chron.* (1809) 432 To upholde, fortifye and bolster the enterpryse. 1591 *Troubl. Raigne K. John* (1611) 46 Arthur thou seest, Fraunce cannot bolster thee.

1664 H. MORE *Myst. Iniq.* 512 Bolstering up one another by reflexion upon their numerosity. 1813 T. JEFFERSON *Corr.* (1830) 185 To bolster themselves up on the revered name of that first of our worthies.

b. To uphold or bear out (evil doers, illegal action, crime, or error); to aid and abet, to countenance. Also with *out* (obs.) and *up*.

1523 [*cf.* **BOLSTERRA**], 1549 [*cf.* **BOLSTERING vbl. sb.**] 1593 *FULKE Defence* ii. 177 You frame your translations to bolster your errors and heresies. 1612 T. JAMES *Jesuits Downef.* 29 They haue bolstered, banded, bearded, and borne out many foule matters. 1821 *HORN Facetia* 18 There is... not a public job that he has not bolstered; not a public knave that he has not shielded.

1530 *Proper Dyaloge* (1863) 3 Which... They bolstered out vnder abusyon. 1586 *FERNE Blas. Gentrie* ii. 118 He bolstered out a murdurer in acquitting the murdurer by unlawful means. 1654 E. JOHNSON *Wood-worke. Provul.* 65 Yet were they bolstered out in this their wicked act by those who set them one worke.

1601 T. NORTON *Calvin's Inst.* iv. viii. (1634) 568 marg. To bolster up a most unlawful power in the Church. 1612 T. TAYLOR *Comm. Titus* ii. 12 (1619) 477 Can bolster vp their friends, children, and seruants in things worlthe punishment. 1640 *BP. HALL Episc.* ii. xviii. 193 Would in their very offices bolster up the pride of Antichrist. 1830 *ARNOLD Let. in Life & Corr.* (1844) I. vi. 285, I want to get

up a real Poor Man's Magazine, which should not bolster up abuses and veil iniquities.

6. Now usually (with some mixture of sense 4): To give fictitious support to (a thing unable to stand of itself). Commonly with *up*, rarely *out*.

1581 J. BELL *Haddon's Ansv. Osor.* 447 Wherewith they may bolster up not their creditt, but their false packyng. 1635 SWAN *Spec. M. i.* § 3 (1643) 18 These things have been bolstered out by Rabbinical traditions. 1641 MILTON *Ch. Discp.* II. Wks. (1851) 38 Bolstering, and supporting their inward rottenness by a carnal and outward strength. 1804 WELLINGTON in *Gurw. Disg.* III. 275. I have done every thing in my power to bolster up the credit of the government. 1868 M. PATTON *Academ. Org.* § 4. 81 What we teach requires to be bolstered up by bounties to the taught.

4. To pad, furnish, or stuff out with padding; to puff. Also with *out*, *up*.

1530 [cf. BOLSTERING *vbl. sb.* 2]. 1564 J. HEYWOOD *Prov. & Epigr.* (1867) 217 That breeche was bolstered so with such brode barres. 1576 GASCOIGNE *Steele Gl. Epil.* They bumbast, bolster, frisle, and perfume. 1609 *Man in Moore* (1849) 35 A white necke, if it be not plastered; a straight backe, if it be not bolstered. 1710 STERLE *Tatler* No. 245 ¶ 2 Three Pair of Stays, bolstered below the Left Shoulder. 1847 L. HUNT *Men, Wom. & Bks.* I. xiv. 277 For a lady to look like an hour-glass, or a huge insect, or anything else cut in two, and bolstered out at head and feet.

b. *fig.*
1598 *Sempill Ballades* (1873) 232 Bowstert with pryde. 1616 *Manif. Abp. Spalato's Motives* 31 Their Revenues are great, and bolstered out with secular dignities. 1806 SCOTT *Woodst.* iii. Whose sermons were all bolstered up with Greek and Latin.

† 5. *spec. in Surg.* To furnish with a pad or compress. Also *fig. Obs.*

1607 TOPSELL *Four-f. Beasts* 322 It will... not only require more business in bolstering it, but also put the Horse to more pain. 1649 G. DANIEL *Trinarch.* *Rich. II.* 332 Thus Broken Hearts are bolstered up, and none can tell their Smarts. 1666 SHARP *Fractures in Phil. Trans.* LVII. 84 With the common wooden splints (properly bolstered).

6. † *intr.* To lie on the same bolster.

1604 SHAKS. *Oth.* iii. iii. 399 If euer mortall eyes do see them bolster, More then their owne.

7. *trans.* (among schoolboys): To belabour with bolsters. Cf. *pillow-fight*.

1871 A. R. HOPKINS *Schoolboy Friends* (1875) 287 And then they bolstered us.

† 8. To pervert, abuse, or ?suspend (laws). *Obs.*

1494 FAYAN *vii.* 646 [They reported] how the lawes be delayed & bolstered by such as stande in his fauoure. 1538 STARKEY *England* II. iv. § 26 Materys are so borne and bolstered that justice can not have place wyth indifferency.

Bolstered (bōl'stərd), *pp. a.* [f. *prec.* + -ED.]

1. Propped up, supported.

1566 DEANT *Horace Sat.* iv. c. Mars broke brassen bars, bare bolstered bouldwarks backe.

2. Padded, stuffed out.

1636 *Artif. Handsomeness* 44 A bumbast or bolstered garment. 1840 *New Month Mag.* LVIII. 455 Privilege... in itself but the bolstered title for abuse.

Bolsterer (bōl'stə-rə), [f. as *prec.* + -ER.]

1. One who bolsters up (anything); a supporter, upholder. (Generally in bad sense.)

1523 LD. BERNERS *Froiss.* I. ccc. 561 Who durst begyn suche a ryot... without some bolsterer or comforter in their dede. 1554 LATIMER *Serm. Lincoln* II. 75 Magistrates ought not to be bolsterers and bearers with wickedness. 1640 A. HARNET *God's Summons* 224 Enemies would have said that God had beene a Bolsterer and Patron of Sinne.

2. Cf. **BOLSTER** *v.* 6.

† 1 a 1600 *Hye way Spytell Ho.* 831 in *Hazl. E. P. P.* IV. 60 Incestes, harlots, bawdes and bolsterers.

Bolstering, *vbl. sb.* [f. as *prec.* + -ING.]

1. The action of maintaining or upholding; almost always in bad sense; in modern use, the factitious propping up of what cannot stand of itself.

1549 LATIMER *Serm. bef. Edu.* VI (Arb.) 154 O Lord what bearyng what bolstering of naughtye matters is thys. 1552 *Serm. Lord's Prayer* III. 16 Yea in the place of iustice, there I haue seene bearing and bolstering. 1645 PAGITT *Heresiogr.* (1661) 75 Communicating with known offenders, bolstering of sins, and willing conniuenes. 1823 LAMB *Elia* (1860) 200 He let the passion or the sentiment do its own work without prop or bolstering.

2. (usually *concr.*): Padding, puffing; in *Surg.*

A pad or compress; = **BOLSTER** *sb.* 2 a.

1530 PALSGR. 199/2 Bolstering, stuffyng, fulsement. 1564 J. HEYWOOD *Prov. & Epigr.* (1867) 179 The barres of mens breeches haue... Such bolstering, such broyding. 1579 LVLV *Epiphany* (1636) Fijj. Take from them... their roles, their bolsterings, and thou shalt soon perceiue, that a woman is the least part of her selfe. 1612 WOODALL *Swrg. Mate* Wks. (1653) 406 Let him... be provided with... fitting bolstering and convenient bandage. 1808 STEUART *Planter's G.* 269 A strong Bolstering of double Mat, filled with hay or straw... so that the bark of the stem may not be injured.

3. Fight with bolsters (in school dormitories).

1857 HUGHES *Tom Brown* VII. (1871) 152 Great games of chariot-racing, and cock-fighting, and bolstering.

Bolt (bōlt), *sb.* 1 [OE. *bolt* (str. masc.) a cross-bow bolt, cogn. with OHG. *bolz*, mod.G. *bolz*, *bolzen* 'cross-bow arrow', also 'bolt for a door', MDu. and Du. *bout*, MLG. *bolte*, *bolten* bolt, fetter, piece of linen rolled up. The remoter etymology is unknown; but it cannot be referred to the verb stem *būl* to swell, be round.]

I. A projectile.

1. An arrow; especially one of the stouter and

shorter kind with blunt or thickened head, called also *quarrel*, discharged from a cross-bow or other engine. Often *fig.*, esp. in the proverbial phrase *A fool's bolt is soon shot*, so common from the 13th to 18th c. † *At first bolt*: at the first go off.

a 1000 *Gloss.* in Wr. Wülcker 508, 372 *Catapultas*, speru, boltas. a 1225 *Leg. Kath.* 54 3oure bolt is sone ischote. a 1275 *Prov. Afrid* 421 in O. E. Misc. 129 Sottis bold is sone i-scoten. c 1386 CHAUCER *Miller's T.* 78 Long as a Mast, and vprighte as a bolt. a 1400 *Cov. Myst.* 136 He that shett the bolt is lyke to be schent. c 1475 *Voc.* in Wr. Wülcker 812 *Hec sagitta*, a harrow; *hoc petulium*, a bolt. c 1485 CAXTON *Sonnes of Aymon* (1885) 529 But he made to be cast boltes of wilde fyre in to the galley of the admyrall. 1564 J. HEYWOOD *Prov.* (1867) 75 Than wolde ye mend, as the fletcher mends his bolte. 1612 *Pasquill's Night-Cap* (1877) 15 The grosser foole, the sooner shootes his bolt. 1676 'A. RIVETUS, JUN.' Mr. Smirke 5 At first bolt... he denounces sentence before inquiry. 1748 SMOLLETT *Rod. Rand.* liii. 'Zounds, I have done,' said he. 'Your bolt is soon shot, according to the old proverb,' said she. 1819 SCOTT *Vanhook* II. iv. 70 Look that the cross-bowmen lack not bolts. 1874 BOUTELL *Arms & Arm.* viii. 129 The cross-bowmen had to open the discharge of their bolts while their bow-strings were still wet from a heavy shower.

† b. Phrase. To make a shaft or a bolt of it: to risk making something or other out of it; to accept the issue whatever it may be, to run the risk, make the venture. (Cf. *To make a spoon or spoil a horn.*) *Obs.*

1598 SHAKS. *Merry W.* III. iv. 24 Ile make a shaft or a bolt on't, slid, tis but venturing. 1679 *Hist. Yetser* 17 Without any regard to the Displeasure... of God [they] resolv'd to make a shaft or a bolt of it. 1687 R. LESTRANGE *Ansv. Dis-senter* 46 One might have made a Bolt or a Shaft on't.

2. A discharge of lightning, a thunderbolt.

1535 COVERDALE *Ps.* lxxviii. 48 How he smote their... flocks with hote thunder boltes. 1586 M. ROYDON *Elegie* 178. 1667 MILTON *P. L.* vi. 491 That they shall fear we have disar-m'd The Thunderer of his only dreaded bolt. 1791 COWPER *Odys.* xiv. 370 Then, thund'ring oft, he hurl'd into the bark His bolts. 1802 CAMPBELL *Hohenlied.* And louder than the bolts of heaven Far flashed the red artillery. 1899 TENNYSON *Vivien* ad fin., Scarce had she ceased, when out of heaven a bolt... struck Furrowing a giant oak.

b. *fig.* So in *bolt from the blue*: see **BLUE** *sb.* 5. 1577 *iv. Bullinger's Decades* (1592) 601 The hote bolts of that thunder, euen sentences definitive of excommunication. 1803 JANE PORTER *Thaddeus* viii. (1831) 70 The undisturbing bolt of carnage. 1884 TENNYSON *Becket* 10 That so the Papal bolt may pass by England.

3. An elongated bullet for a rifled cannon.

1871 TYNDALL *Fragm. Sc.* (ed. 2) i. 17 In artillery practice the heat generated is usually concentrated upon the front of the bolt.

4. A cylindrical jet.

1842 H. MILLER *O. R. Sandst.* x. (ed. 2) 216 A bolt of water... came rushing after like the jet of a fountain. 1884 *Public Opinion* 11 July 17/1 The blowers skillfully gather the molten bolts of glass from the pots and blow huge cylinders.

II. A stout pin for fastening.

5. An appliance for fastening a door, consisting of a cylindrical (or otherwise-shaped) piece of iron, etc., moving longitudinally through staples or guides on the door, so that its end can be shot or pushed into a socket in the door-post or lintel.

b. That part of a lock which springs out and enters the staple or 'keeper' made for its reception. c 1400 *Destr. Troy* 1063 Pal... Barrit hom full bigly with boltes of yerne. 1463 *Mann. & Househ. Exp.* 155 To bye lokkys and bolts for my lordys schambre. 1570 LEVINS *Manib.* 218 V^o Boulte of a doore, *pesulius*. 1643 MILTON *Divorce* II. xx. Wks. (1851) 118 Forc't Vertue is as a bolt overshoot; it goes neither forward nor backward. 1688 R. HOLME *Armory* III. vii. § 8 In a Lock—The Bolt or Shoot... The Staples, those as holds the Bolt to the Plate. 1753 CHAMBERS *Cycl. Supp.* s. v. Bolt of a lock is the piece of iron which entering the staple, fastens the door. 1815 SCOTT *Ld. of Isles* v. iii. How came it here through bolt and bar.

† 6. An iron for fastening the leg, a fetter. *Obs.*

1483 CAXTON *Gold. Leg.* 191/1 Delyuere of theyr irons, as guyues, boltes, and other. 1530 PALSGR. 199/2 Bolte or shacle, *entrane*. 1590 MARLOWE *Edu. II.* I. i. l. ad fin., He shall to prison, and there die in bolts. 1598 GREENE *Art Conny-catch.* II. 31 Clap a strong paire of bolts on his heeles. 1649 JER. TAYLOR *Gl. Exemp.* I. iv. 128 Some wore iron upon their skin and bolts upon their legs. 1688 R. HOLME *Armory* III. vii. § 86 Prison-shackles or Prisoners Bolts; they are Irons fastned about the Legs of Prisoners.

7. A stout metal pin with a head, used for holding things fast together. It may be permanently fixed, secured by riveting or by a nut, as the bolts of a ship; or movable, passing through a hole, as the bolts of a shutter.

The bolts in ships, gun-carriages, etc. have various names according to their nature, purpose, or position, as *clinch-bolts*, *ring-bolts*, *set-bolts*; *bed-bolts*, *eye-bolts*, etc. See CLINCH, RING, etc.

1606 CAPT. SMITH *Accid. Yng. Seamen* 10 Bindings, knees, boulds, trunions. 1627—*Seaman's Gram.* II. 5 Set bolts for forcing the workes and plankes together. 1672 *Compl. Gunner* vi. 7 For fear any Bolts should give way or draw. 1769 FALCONER *Dict. Marine* (1780) I. iv. b. Breaching-bolts, with rings, through which the breaching pass. 1792 *Gentl. Mag.* Apr. 344 A machine for driving bolts... into ships. 1794 W. FELTON *Carriages* (1801) I. 103 The common bolt, which receives a screwed nut at the bottom. 1850 LAYARD *Nineveh* xiii. 344 Holes for bolts exist in many of the slabs.

III. Transferred uses.

8. A roll of woven fabric: generally of a definite

length; being, in various cases, 30 yards, 28 ells, or 40 feet.

1407 *Will of Wollbergh* (Somerset Ho.), Lego Isabelle Wollbergh... iiiiij boltes de Worstede. 1598 GREENE *Art Conny catch.* Q. 22 A bolt of Saten, velvet, or any such commoditie. a 1600 *Custom Duties*, Add. MS. 25097 Pol-davies, the bolte, containing xxx yards, xxx. 1638 T. VERNEY in *Verney Papers* 20 May 197 Fouer bolts of canvas to send cotton home in. 1721 BAILEY, *Bolt* of Canvas, a piece containing 28 ells. 1834 M. SCOTT *Cruise Midge* (1863) 18 Stiff and upright like a bolt of canvass on end. c 1860 H. STUART *Seaman's Catech.* 52 Canvas is made in lengths of 40 feet, called bolts. *Mod. Sc.* How many bowts of tape?

9. A bundle (of osiers, etc.) of a certain size; a bundle of reeds, 3 ft. in circumference.

1725 BRADLEY *Fam. Dict.* II. s.v. *Osier*, Such as are for white work being made up into Bolts as they call them. 1803 MORTON *Cycl. Agric.* (E. D. S.) *Bolt*, or *Boult*, of osiers. (*Berks.*), a bundle, measuring 42 inches round, 14 inches from the butts. (*Ess.*), a bundle, of which 80 make a load. (*Hants.*), 42 inches round at the lower band. 1879 *Standard* 17 Apr., To Rod Dealers, Basket Makers... 25 scores bolts of fine, well-grown, clean, Green Willow Rods.

10. Wood in special size for cleaving into laths.

1688 R. HOLME *Armory* III. iii. § 50 Boults, the sawed pieces into lengths, out of which Laths or Latts are cloven. 1753 CHAMBERS *Cycl. Supp.*, Bolts in carpentry denote pieces of wood cleft with wedges in order to be split into laths.

11. (See *quots.*)

1575 *Whitby Gloss.* (E. D. S.), Bolts, narrow passages or archways between houses; hiding-holes. In our former-day writings, the word applies to trenches or gutters. 1880 *Cornwall Gloss.* (E. D. S.), Bolt, a stone-built drain. 1884 *Local Govt. Chron.* 8 Mar. 191 A Local Board found it necessary, for the purpose of taking away the waste water, etc. of a village, to construct a covered bolt across a garden... The house... stands immediately over this bolt.

12. *Bookbinding*. The fold at the top and front edge of a folded sheet.

1875 *URE Dict. Arts* I. 423 Those leaves which present a double or quadruple fold, technically termed 'the bolt'.

13. An obsolete or local name for some plants.

a. The Globe-flower, *Trollius* (Gerard *Appendix* 1597), and Marsh Marigold. b. Species of Buttercup (Parkinson *Theatr. Bot.* 1640).

IV. *Attrib. and Comb.*

14. *attrib. quasi-adj.* Bolt-like, bolt-shaped.

1850 TENNENT *Ceylon* II. viii. v. 368 The smallest had a little bolt head covered with woolly brown hair.

15. *Comb.*, as *bolt-auger*, *-extractor*, *-header*, *-maker*, *-making*, etc.; *bolt-like*, *-shaped* *adjs.*; also † *bolt-bag*, a quiver for bolts; † *bolt-boat*, old term for a boat which makes good weather in a rough sea (Smyth *Sailor's Wd.-bk.*); † *bolt-chisel*, a cold chisel for cutting bolts; † *bolt-cutter*, one who cuts bolts; a machine for cutting bolts, or threads on bolts; † *bolt-glass*, ? = **BOLT-HEAD** 2; † *bolt-hole*, a hole through which a bolt passes; † *bolt-iron*, round bar iron; † *bolt's-shoot*, the distance to which a bolt can be shot (cf. *stone's throw*, *bow shot*); † *bolt-strake* (*Naut.*), certain strakes of plank which the beam fastenings pass through (Smyth *Sailor's Wd.-bk.*); † *bolt-threader*, a machine for cutting screw-threads on bolts. **BOLT-HEAD**, *-ROPE*. *Bolt-spright*; see **BOLT** *adv.*

1564 PHAER *Enchirid.* ix. Cciii. Radling noyne of 'boltbag fine. 1803 *Harper's Mag.* Feb. 440/1 The 'bolt-bearer of the gods. 1594 PLAT *Yewell-ho.* II. 44 Pour that which you haue... into a 'bolt glasse, hauing a long steale. 1691 T. H[ALE] *Acc. New Invent.* 45 To Plugg up the 'bolt-holes. 1793 SMERATON *Edystone L.* § 147 The 'Bolt iron composing the chain had been... five eighths of an inch in diameter. 1677 *Plot Ox-fordsh.* 336 About a 'Bolts-shoot off, on the other side the hedge.

Bolt (bōlt), *sb.* 2 [f. **BOLT** *v.* 2] The act of bolting.

1. A sudden spring or start.

1550 LYNDSEAY *Sgr. Meldrum* 146 Bolt with ane bolt on thame he bendit. 1577 HELLOWES *Guanara's Chron.* 335 The two Consuls gaue a boylt aloft on their chariots.

2. The act of suddenly breaking away; breaking away from a political party (*U. S. colloq.*).

a 1859 DE QUINCEY *Whiggrin* Wks. VI. 64 He suddenly made a bolt to the very opposite party. 1867 F. FRANCIS *Angling* i. (1880) 62 He will make a bolt to his hold. 1884 *Pall Mall G.* 7 July 11/2 It is the 'Blaine bolt' which lends so extraordinary an interest to the Chicago Convention.

3. The act of bolting food.

1835 J. WILSON in *Blackw. Mag.* XXXVII. 133 The difference between a civilized swallow and a barbarous bolt.

4. *Comb.* *bolt-hole* = bolting-hole.

† **Bolt**, *boult*, *sb.* 3 *Obs.* In 5 *bult* (e, 6 *bout*, 5-7 *boult*. [f. **BOLT** *v.* 1] A flour-sieve, a boulder. Hence (or from the verb-stem) † *bolt-cloth*, a cloth for bolting or sifting; a fabric suitable for this; † *bolt-feeder*, an apparatus for regulating the passage of meal to the flour-bolt; † *bolt-poke*, a bolter or bag for sifting.

c 1425 *Voc.* in Wr. Wülcker 663 *Hoc politrudum*, *bult-clathe*. c 1440 *Prompt. Parv.* 55 Bulte poke or bulstare... *politrudum*. 1598 *Wills & Inv. N. C.* (1860) II. 212, x yards of boutcloth &c. 1611 *Book of Rates* (JAM.) Boulte-clath, the eln xx. 1847 CRAIG, *Bolt*, a sieve.

Bolt, *boult* (bōlt), *v.* 1 Forms: 2-3 (*Orm.*) *bult*, 4-6 *bult* (e, 6 *boulte*, *bowit*, *boult*, 5-8 *boult*, 6-*bolt*. *north.* 5-6 *bowt*, 6 *bout*. [a. OF. *bulte-r* (now *bluter*):— earlier OF. *bulter*, which

(as appears from OF. *buretel* boultel, meal-sieve = mod.F. *bluteau*) is for **bureter* = It. *burattare*; no OF. **buret* is recorded, but It. *buratto* is a meal-sieve, and also 'a fine transparent cloth'. Diez and Littré refer it originally to *bura*, *bure*, a kind of cloth: see BUREAU, BURRELL. The historical spelling of the word is *boult*: unfortunately the dictionaries have confounded it with *BOLT* v.² (see JOHNSON) and authorized the spelling *bolt*: cf. BOULTEL.]

1. *trans.* To sift; to pass through a sieve or bolting-cloth. *To bolt out*: to separate by sifting. c 1200 [see BOLTED]. 1398 *TREVISA Barth. De P. R.* xvii. lxvii. The flour of be mele, when it is bultid [1535 bouted] and departed from be bran. 1568 J. Heywood *Prov. & Epigr.* (1867) 51. Fancy may bult bran, and make ye take it flour. 1617 *MARKHAM Caval.* iii. 38 Grinde all these together, and bult them through an ordinarie bolting cloth. 1633 *Gerard's Herbal* ii. cccxl. 912 Powder of the roots... seared or bolted into most fine dust. 1795 *Pope Odys.* xx. 134 To bolt the bran from the pure flour. 1871 *NAPHEYS Prev. & Cure Dis.* i. ii. 77 Flour has the bran bolted from it.

b. *transf. and fig.* 1599 *SHAKS. Hen. V.* ii. ii. 137 Such and so finely bouted didst thou seeme. 1611 — *Wint. T.* iv. iv. 375 The fan'd snow, that's bolted By th' Northerne blasts.

2. *fig.* To examine by sifting; to search and try. *To bolt out*: to find out, or separate by sifting.

c 1386 *CHAUCER Nonne Prestes T.* 420, I ne kan nat bulte it to the bren. 1544 *ASCHAM Toxoph.* i. 97 You Persians for your great wisdom can soon bolt out what they mean. 1553 Q. MARY in *Strype Eccl. Mem.* iii. App. xiv. 35 Whereby ye may the better bulte out the malicious. 1576 *LAMBARDE Peramb. Kent* (1826) 375 Neither may I... bult out the whole Etymologie (or reason) of every Townes name. 1640-4 *SIR B. RUDYARD in Rushw. Hist. Coll.* iii. (1692) i. 25 Let the matters bolt out the Men; their Actions discover them. 1791 *BURKE Let. Memb. Nat. Assemb. Wks.* vi. 49, I must first bolt myself before I can censure them. [1868 *BROWNING Ring & Bk.* i. 92] The curious few Who care to sift a business to the bran Nor coarsely bolt it like the simpler sort.]

Bolt (bôlt), v.² Forms: 3 bulten, 3-4 bult (3rd sing. pa. t.), 5 bult, 6 bolte, Sc. bowt, 6-7 bould, 7 bowlt, 8 Sc. bout, 4-bolt. [f. *BOLT* sb.¹ in its two main senses of 'a missile' and 'a fastening': the former has given rise to uses of the most diverse kinds, connected merely by the common notion of sudden or hasty motion or application of force, some of them being directly contrary to others: cf. 'to bolt a dart' 4 a, 'bolt a cony' 4 b, 'bolt a paraphrase' 5, 'bolt an egg', 'bolt the bill' 6, 'bolt the ticket' 7, besides 'bolt the door' 9, 'bolt a ship' 10.]

1. To spring, move suddenly, with its causal. **intr.* To go off like a bolt.

†1. To start, spring. *Obs.* †a. To spring back, rebound, recoil; to fall violently backward. *Obs.*

a 1225 *Ancr. R.* 366 Hit pulteð up [v.r. hit bultes] azean o þeo þet þer neih stondeð. c 1400 *Dest. Troy* 7476 Both went backward & bult vpon the erthe.

†b. To spring or start; esp. with *up*, *upright*. *Obs. or arch.*

c 1225 *WYNTOUN Cron.* ix. viii. 162 Suddanly He bolted up welle nere-hand þame by Wyth twelf displayed Baneris. 1283 *Cath. Angl.* 36 To Bolt up, *emergere*. 1594 *PLAT Jurell-ho.* iii. 74 They shall not be able to rise or bolt vp againe. 1621 *QUARLES Esther* (1628) 90 What made... thy haire Bolt up? a 1771 *SMOLLETT Humph. Cl.* (1815) 199 The patient, bolting upright in the bed, collared each of these assistants with the grasp of Hercules. 1813 *SCOTT Trium.* ii. x. Screaming with agony and fright, He bolted twenty feet upright.

2. To move or come as with a spring or sudden bound, to dart.

a. To come or spring suddenly upon (*obs.*); to enter with a spring or sudden bound in, into.

1666 *PERYS Diary* 20 Feb., Bolting into the dining-room, I there found Captain Ferrers. 1666 *BUNYAN Grace Ab.* p. 143 Suddenly this sentence bolted in upon me. 1709 *STEELE Tatler* No. 91 p. 1 Who came privately in a Chair, and bolted into my Room. 1779 *JOHNSON Lett.* 225 II. 96, I think to bolt upon you at Bath. 1839 *DE QUINCEY Murder Wks.* IV. 72 In therefore he bolted and... turned the key. 1840 *GEN. P. THOMPSON Exerc.* (1842) V. 92 Men were bolting in a hurry out of one religious tyranny, and it was not so wonderful they should bolt into another.

b. To dart forth, forward, out. (Often with the idea of start running, as in 3.)

1513 *DOUGLAS Aeneis* v. vi. 58 Furth bowtis with a bend Nisus. 1550 *LYNDESAY Sgr. Meldrum* 519 [He] bowtit forward with ane bend. a 1680 *BUTLER Rem.* (1759) I. 92 Bolting out of Bushes in the dark. 1697 *DRYDEN Virg. Georg. Ded.* (1721) I. 188 Some bolting out upon the Stage with vast applause. a 1779 *GARRICK Lying Valet* i. Wks. 1798 I. 42 Out bolts her husband upon me with a fine taper crab in his hand. 1834 *PRINGLE Afr. St.* viii. 259 With... a furious growl, forth he bolted from the bush.

3. To dart off or away, make off with himself, take flight, escape; to rush suddenly off or away.

a. *gen.* of men or beasts.

1611 *BEAUM. & FL. Philast.* ii. ii. Here's one bolted; I'll hound at her. 1616 *FLETCHER Hum. Lieut.* iv. viii. 142 He will bolt now for certain. 1838 *HAWTHORNE Amer. Note-Bks.* (1871) I. 156 The landlord of the tavern keeping his eye on a man whom he suspected of an intention to bolt. 1865 *DICKENS Mut. Fr.* iii, At once bolting off in cabs. 1879

F. POLLOK *Short. Brit. Burmah* II. 94 The rhinoceros bolted, and I got two shots as it crossed an open piece.

b. *spec.* Of a horse: To break away from the rider's control; to make a violent dash out of his course.

1280 *SCOTT Monast.* v. The mule... bounded, bolted, and would soon have thrown Father Philip over her head. 1877 A. B. EDWARDS *Up Nile* xxii. 683 My donkey bolted about every five minutes. 1884 E. L. ANDERSON *Mod. Horseman-ship* i. viii. 44 Bolting is the quick, determined movement, usually off the course and often against some obstacle, that a horse makes to break away from restraint.

c. *transf.* To break away from a political party. (*U. S. politics.*) Cf. 7.

1884 *Boston (Mass.) Trnl.* 11 July (heading) Belief that Butler and Tammany will bolt.

** *trans.* To send off like a bolt.

4. To let off or discharge like a bolt; to shoot. a 1200 *OCCLEVE De Reg. Princ.* 226 Disceyte... Bultethe out shame, and cause the grette smertnesse. 1581 J. BELL *Haddon's Answ. Osor.* 439 A frivolous devise bouted out of the forgeshoppe of Lumbarde. 1618 *Barnesvelt's Apol.* C. Against your woundless breast he bolts his dart in vaine. 1648 *MARKHAM Housew. Gard.* iii. viii. 71 One of these seeds put into the eye... will... bolt itself forth without hurt to the eye. 1799 *KIRWAN Geol. Ess.* 169 Some may have been bolted off by the shock of an earthquake.

b. To drive out suddenly or forcibly; to expel.

1620 *GUILM Heraldry* iii. xiv. (1660) 166 You shall say Bolt the Cony. 1612 *BEAUM. & FL. Cupid's Rev.* Wks. iii. 415 This is one of her Ferrets that she bolts business out withall. 1622 *FLETCHER Span. Curate* v. ii. 48 All your devils wee will bolt. 1805 *WORDSW. Prel.* iii. 77 To have been bolted forth, Thrust out abruptly into Fortune's way.

c. To bolt upright: to cause to stand on end.

1794 J. WOLCOTT (P. Pindar) *Ep. Bruce Wks.* II. 463 Tales... That bolt like hedge-hog-quills the hair upright.

5. To utter hastily, ejaculate, blurt out or forth.

1577 *HAMMER Anc. Eccl. Hist.* (1619) 392 He bolted out such rash and vnadvised sayings. 1634 *SIR T. HERBERT Trav.* 123 Mahomet-Ally-Beg undesired, bolted out, that hee knew, etc. 1640 G. DANIEL *Trinarch.* *Rich. II.* 347 The Rudest Head will bolt a Paraphrase. 1692 R. LESTRANGE *Josephus' Antig.* xvi. vi. (1733) 431 The Princes... bolted out at a Venture, whatever came at their Tongue's End. 1821 *COLORIDGE Lett., Convers.* q. xv. i. 161 What we struggle with inwardly, we find... easiest to bolt out.

6. *colloq.* To swallow hastily and without chewing, swallow whole or with a single effort, gulp down.

1794 J. WOLCOTT (P. Pindar) *Path. Odes Wks.* III. 401 Bolting his subjects with majestic gobble. 1818 *SCOTT Hrt. Midl.* xxviii, He... bolted the alcohol, to use the learned phrase, and withdrew. 1835 *MARRYAT Pacha* ix, Bolting them down to satisfy the cravings of... hunger. 1859 *DARWIN Orig. Spec.* xi. 362 Some hawks and owls bolt their prey whole. 1882 *Pall Mall G.* 2 June 3/5 It would be much simpler for the House of Commons to bolt the bill whole.

** *trans.* development of 3, 3 b, c.

7. To break away from (a political party or platform to which one has hitherto docilely adhered); = *bolt from* in sense 3. (*U. S. politics.*)

1884 *Boston (Mass.) Trnl.* 11 July, It is believed that Butler and Tammany will bolt the ticket. 1884 *U. S. News-Paper*, Several prominent Irishmen had bolted Cleveland. 1885 *HOWELLS in Harper's Mag.* July 1885/1 The Democrat-Republican... bolted the nomination of a certain politician of its party for Congress.

II. To make fast or confine with a bolt.

†8. *trans.* To fether, shackle; also *fig. Obs.*

1377 *LANGLE P. Pl.* b. vi. 138 If he be... bolted with ynes. a 1535 *MORE Wks.* (1557) 1246 He bolteth their arms with a pauls, that they cannot lift their hands to their heads. 1606 *SHAKS. Ant. & Cl.* v. ii. 6 That thing... Which shackles accidents, and bolts vp change.

9. *trans.* To secure (a door, etc.) with a bolt.

1580 *BARETT Adv.* B 906 The olde woman bolted the dore. 1611 *BIBLE 2 Sam.* xiii. 17 Put now this woman out from mee, and bolt the dore after her. 1663 *Br. PATRICK Parab. Pilgr.* 439 You have obstinately bolted your heart against all these pious stories. 1790 T. BOSTON *Hum. Nat.* (1794) 142 Labouring to enter into heaven by the door, which Adam's sin... bolted. 1805 *TROLLOPE Belton Est.* xiii. 147 The kitchen door, which he locked and bolted.

b. To bolt out, in, up: to exclude, shut in, shut up, by bolting a door, etc. Also *fig.*

c 1600 Z. BOYD *Zion's Flowers* (1851) 32 Vee grace barre out, and vanitie bolt in. 1691 E. TAYLOR *Behmen's Incarn.* 330 The Divine Substantiality did sit bolted up therein. 1839 *BAILEY Festus* v, Where God is bolted out from every house.

10. To fasten together or furnish with bolts.

1797-38 *CHAMBERS Cycl.* I. s.v. *Keel*, Into this are... the ground-timbers and hooks fastened, and bolted. 1780 *BURKE Sp. Bristol Wks.* III. 419 The... fabrick... is well cramped and bolted together in all its parts. 1787 *NELSON in Nicolas Disp.* (1845) I. 207, I have ordered her [a ship] to be new bolted. 1824 *URR Dict. Chem.* 9 A disc of cast-iron well fitted and firmly bolted to it. 1875 *McLAREN Ser.* Ser. II. iii. 55 A strong shaft of iron bolting together the two tottering walls of some old building.

Bolt, *adv.* [The sb. (*BOLT* 1) and stem of the vb. (*BOLT* 2), used to qualify adjectives and verbs.] 1. The sb. is used *similitively* (cf. *snow-white*, *sand-blind*) = 'as a bolt,' in *bolt up* (*obs.*), *bolt upright* (see UPRIGHT); whence *Bolt-uprightness* sb.

c 1386 *CHAUCER Reeve's T.* 346. c 1400 *Pallad. on Husb.* 1. 967 Bere it bolt upright... and ley her downe upright. 1580 *NORTH Plutarch* (1676) 706 His hair stood bolt upright upon his head. 1635 *BRATHWAIT Arcad.* Pr. 158 Epimonus all this while sat bolt-upright in a chaire. 1651 *CLEVELAND Poems* 12 On his knees... With hands bolt up to Heaven.

1824 W. IRVING *T. Trav.* I. 87, I suddenly sprang bolt upright in my chair, and awoke.

1796 *AMHERST Terra Fil.* xxix. 155 That bolt uprightness of mien. 1850 *MRS. STOWE Uncle Tom's C.* xv. 152 Stiffness and squareness, and bolt-uprightness.

2. The vb. stem is used *advb.* to express a sudden rapid motion; = 'bolting, with one bolt, straight'. a 1845 *HOOD Not a single Man* vi, Bolt up the stairs they ran. 1877 *BLACKIE Wise Men* 121 A pitchy pillar of thick-volumed smoke Shot bolt to heaven.

Bolted, bouted (bôultéd), *ppl. a.* 1 [f. *BOLT* v.¹ + -ED.] Sifted; *fig.* carefully selected, choice. c 1200 *ORMIN 992 Recles smec*, & bulted brad þatt bakenn wass inn ofne. c 1440 *Prompt. Parv.* 55 Bul[ly]yd, taratan-tarisatns. 1607 *SHAKS. Cor.* iii. i. 322 He... is ill-school'd in bouted Language.

Bolted, ppl. a. 2 [f. *BOLT* sb.¹ and v.² + -ED.]

1. Closed and fastened with a bolt; also *fig.*

1588 T. L. *To Ch. of Rome* (1651) 19 Those bar'd and bolted hearts of yours. 1687 H. MORE *Death's Vis.* viii. 200 Id'e Storm those Bolted Ears. 1784 *COWPER Task* iv. 304 The bolted shutter. 1828 *CARLYLE Misc.* (1857) I. 143 That bolted towers should encircle her.

2. Formed into or like bolts.

1747 T. GIBBONS *Elegy* vi, His shafted Lightnings, and his bolted Storms. 1860 T. MARTIN *Horace* 79 Bolted lightnings flash.

3. Fastened together with bolts.

1797 *Encycl. Brit.* s.v. *Ship*, They... have the beams, knees, and fore-hooks bolted into them. 1832 *DE LA BECHE Geol. Man.* 75 Blocks... squared and bolted together in the form of piers and jetties.

4. Bolted arrows: (app.) arrows with blunt heads, bird-bolts.

1864 *Reader* 24 Dec. 792/3 Shooting, with bolted arrows, partridge or pigeon.

Boltel (bôultél), *Arch.* Also 5 boltell, 5-9 bowtel, 6-7 bou(l)tell, bouldle, 8 bouldine, 9 boutel. [Conjectured to be f. *BOLT* sb.¹ 'from its resemblance to the shaft of an arrow or bolt' (*Gloss. Archit.*); but as *bolt* is a Teutonic word, and -el of Fr. origin, the conjecture is hazardous.] An old name for a plain round moulding; a shaft of a clustered pillar.

1463 *Bury Wills* (1850) 39 To sette here ageyn the bowtell there hire light stant. 1505 *COOPER Thesaurus* s. v. *Stria*, The boltell or thing that riseth up betweene the two chanelles. 1677 *MOXON Mech. Exerc.* (1703) 267 Ovolo, or Boltel. 1738 *CHAMBERS Cycl.*, *Bouldine* or *Boltel*, in architecture, the workman's term for a convex moulding, whose periphery is just 4 of a circle. 1848 T. RICKMAN *Archit.* xvii, The mouldings are good Norman, consisting merely of plain rounds, or bouldells. 1849 *FREEMAN Archit.* 381 We sometimes find such shafts or bowtells, with bases. 1876 *GWILT Archit. Gloss.*, *Bowtel* or *Boltel*.

Hence *Boltelled ppl. a.*, moulded with boltels.

1575 *LANEHAM Let.* 50 Each windo... parted from oother... by flat fayr bolteld columns. 1611 *COTGR.*, *Embouti*, bolteld; raised into, wrought with boltels.

Bolter, *boulter* (bôultar), *Forms*: 5 bul-ture, -tar, 5-7 bulter, 6 north. bowter, bultrre, boulder, 5- boulder, 7- bolter. [f. *BOLT* v.¹ + -ER¹: or ? a. OF. *bulletoir* one who sifts, f. *bulletoir* to *BOLT* v.¹]

1. One who sifts meal, etc.

c 1440 *Prompt. Parv.* 55 Bultrre [1499 bultrre]. c 1450 *Voc. in Wr.* Wulcker 688 *Hic polentradinator*, a bulter. 1481-90 *Howard Househ. Bks.* 27 John Xpofor, a bulter. 1548 *UDALL*, etc. *Erasm. Par.* Pref. to King 102, The bulter tryeth out the branne from the mele.

2. A piece of cloth used for sifting; a sieve, strainer; a bolting-machine. Also *fig.*

1530 *PALSGR.* 462/1, I boultre meale... in a bulter. 1546 *LANGLEY Pol. Verg. De Invent.* iii. i. 64 b, Bultrres of lynnyn in Spayne. 1564 *BAULDWIN Mor. Philos.* (Palf.) 169 b, Bee not like the Bulter that casteth out the flower and keepeth in the bran. 1596 *SHAKS. i Hen. IV.* iii. iii. 81, I have giuen them away to Bakers Wiues, and they haue made Boultrers of them. 1616 *SURFL. & MARKH. Countr. Farm* 574 The temze or bolter through which they passe. 1704 *SWIFT T. Tw* vii, By some called the Sieves and boulders of learning. 1880 T. HARDY *Trump-Major* II. xxii. 123 Bob opened the bolter... the result being that a dense cloud of flour rolled out.

b. The fabric used for this purpose.

1612 *Neworth Househ. Bks.* 43, 1ij yarges of bulter, ijs. vjd. 1754 *Stow's Surv.* (ed. Strype) II. v. xviii. 382/2 [Duty on] Bolters and Bewpers the dozen pieces 1d.

3. 'A boulder or a racket to play with, *reticulum*.'

Withals Dict. (1634) 615.

4. Comb., as *bolter-cloth*.

1586 *COGAN Haven Health* (1636) 125 Searsed through lawne, or a fine bolter cloth.

Bolter, *ppl. a.* 2 + -ER¹]

1. One that bolts or runs; esp. a horse that bolts.

1840 *THACKERAY Paris Sk. Bk.* (1872) 244 The engine may explode... or be a bolter. 1871 *LE FANU Checkmate* II. xiii. 123 Kickers and roarsers, and bolters and jibbers.

2. One who 'bolts' from his party. (*U. S.*)

1883 *Atl. Monthly* LII. 327 To whom a 'scratcher' or a 'bolter' is more hateful than the Beast. 1884 *American* VIII. 100 To denounce the twenty-seven as bolters from their party.

Bolter, var. *BOUL*, *BULTER*, a long fishing line.

Boltered: see *Blood-boltered* (*BLOOD* sb. 19).

†**Boltering, bouldtering.** *Obs.* [f. *BOLTER* sb.¹ + -ING¹.] The fabric used for bolters or sieves.

1609 C. BUTLER *Fem. Mon.* i. (1623) Cij, For the safeguard of your face... provide a purs-hood made of course

boultering. 1634 *Althorp MS.* in *Simpkinson Washingtons* 25 For other bolting and thinne canves.

Bolt-head, bolt's-head. Also 7 bolt head, bouldhead. [f. *BOLT* sb.1]

1. The head (a) of a bolt, or arrow; (b) of a bolt for holding parts together.

c 1475 *Voc.* in *W. Wülcker 812 Hec cuspiis*, a bolt-head. 1483 *Cath. Angl.* 36 A Bolte hede, capitellum. 1691 T. H[ALE] *Acc. New Invent.* 20 The Bolt-heads, etc., being fairly parcelled.

2. Chem. A globular flask with a long cylindrical neck, used in distillation.

1620 B. JONSON *Alch.* ii. ii. Blushes the bolts-head? *Ibid.* iv. iv. This doctor... Will close you so much gold in a bolt's-head. 1667 *BOYLE Orig. Formes & Qual.* Having plac'd the mixture in a Bolt-head or Glass-egg with a long neck. 1763 *Brit. Mag.* IV. 63 Put it into a large bolt-head, with a long neck. 1800 SCOTT *Abot xxvi*, Crucibles, bolt-heads, stoves, and the other furniture of a chemical laboratory. 1877 *GRIFFIN Chem. Handicr.* 146.

† 3. A dragon-fly. *Obs.*

1668 *WILKINS Real Char.* ii. v. § 2. 126 Naked winged Insects. 7 Dragon Fly, Bolts head.

† **Bolting.** Also boltin, bolton. [f. *BOLT* sb.1 (g)]. A bundle of straw.

1784 *WAMLEY Dairying* 120 Take a boltin, or bundle of Wheat or Rye-straw. 1886 *Blackw. Mag.* Aug. 224 Twenty boltings or bundles of straw, tied up from the thrashing machine.

Bolting, boul- (bōl'tin), *vbl. sb.1* [f. *BOLT* v.1]

1. The act of sifting. *Bolting*: the bran or coarse meal separated by sifting; siftings.

a 1300 W. DE BIBLESWORTH in *Wright Voc.* 155 Per bolenger (*glass. bultinge*) est ceveré La flur. 1335 in *Mem. Ripon* (1885) II. 115 Unum magnum doleum pro bultingues. 1606 *SHAKS. Tr. & Cr.* i. i. 18, *Troy*. Haue I not tarried? *Pan.* I the grinding; but you must tarry the bolting. 1638 *PENKETHMAN Artack.* A. b. 1877 *PEACOCK Lincolnsh. Gloss. Bolting*, the coarse meal separated from the flour.

2. *fig.* Sifting of evidence, etc.; close scrutiny. *Bolting out*: getting at by sifting.

1563-67 *FOXE A. & M.* (1596) 1286/1 The bolting out of the true signification of *ovoria*. 1683 *SANDERSON Serm.* (1681) I. 88 Means for the bolting out of the truth. 1771 *BURKE Corr.* (1844) I. 256 Among those in opposition, there has been of late a good deal of bolting.

† b. The private arguing of law cases for practice. *Obs.*

1598 *Stow Surv.* ix. (1603) 79 They frequent readings, meetings, boltinges and other learned exercises. 1670 *BLOUNT Law Dict.*, *Bolting*, at Greys-Inn. The manner is thus; An Ancient, and two Barristers sit as Judges, three Students bring each a Case, and the Judges chuse which of them shall be argued: which done, the Students first argue it, then the Barristers.

3. Comb., as (in sense 1) *bolting-cloth*, -house, -hutch, -machine, -mill, -pipe, -poke, -rub, -run.

1454 *Test. Ebor.* III. 137, 138 bultynge-clothes, iij. d. c 1500 *Ibid.* IV. 129, Xxix yerdes off bowtyng cloth xld. 1617 *MARKHAM Caval.* III. 38 Boulit them through an ordinarie bolting cloath. 1885 *Harper's Mag.* July 256/1 The finest... silk fabric made is bolting-cloth for the use of millers. 1531 *HERVET tr. Xenophon's Househ.* (1768) 40 The instrument that belongs... to the kitchen, to the bath, and to the 'boultyngge house. 1704 *Lond. Gas.* No. 4003/4 Wash-house, Boulting-house, Bake-house. 1506 *SHAKS. 1 Hen. IV.* ii. iv. 495 That 'Boulting-Hutch of Beastliness. 1641 *MILTON Animado.* Wks. (1851) 205 Saving this passing fine sophistical bolting hutch. 1807 *VANCOUVER Agric. Devon* (1813) 122 It has a pair of stones of about four feet in diameter, and a 'bolting machine. 1846 G. WRIGHT *Cream Sci. Knowl.* 49 The bolting-machine of a flour-mill... The flour is sifted... through a cloth of a peculiar texture, called a bolting-cloth. Instead of the cloth, a cylinder formed of wire-gauze of different degrees of fineness is sometimes used. 1766 *Kron. in Ann. Reg.* 130/1 They took an aversion to all 'bolting-mills, and accordingly destroyed 7 or 8. 1534 in *Eng. Ch. Furniture* (1866) 189 A 'bultynge pipe covered with a yarde of canvesse. 1588 *Lanc. Wills* (1857) III. 137 In the backe house and brewe house... a boltinge pype viij. d. 1554 *HULOET, Bultre*, or 'bultynge poke for fyne meale. 1530 *PALSGR.* 200/1 'Boultyng tubbe, *husche a bluter*. 1581 *a Inv.* in *Best Farm. Bks.* (1856) 172 In þe bowtinge house... one bowting tube. 1485 *Inv.* in *Ripon Ch. Act* 371, 1 'bultington.

Bolting, vbl. sb.2 [f. *BOLT* v.2 + -ING 1.]

† 1. Hasty utterance, sudden blurring out. *Obs.*

1692 R. LESTRANGE *Josephus Wars* i. xvii. (1733) 588 The Bolting of this Privacy made Herod stark mad.

2. A sudden starting off; making off, running away, flight; (in *U. S. politics*) sudden secession from a political party.

1800 SCOTT *Abot xvii*, These pretty wild-geese... have as many divings, boltings, and volleyings. 1860 G. H. K. *Vocat. Tour.* 169 The bolting of the Caithness men from the Sutherland men. 1884 *N. Y. Times*, This caucus system of ours is a despotism, tempered only by bolting.

3. Fastening with bolts.

1896 *KANE Art. Exp.* I. vii. 74 The pintles torn from their boltings.

4. Hasty swallowing.

1872 *MARK TWAIN Innoc. Abr.* xii. 79 No five-minute boltings of flabby rolls.

5. Comb., as *bolting-hole*, a hole by which to bolt or escape; *fig.* a means of escape.

c 1788 *BURKE Art. W. Hastings Wks.* 1824 XIV. 68 It afforded him two bolting holes, by which he is enabled to resist the authority of the Company. 1881 *Sat. Rev.* No. 1321, 238 A secluded spot in a clearing, where a bank is honeycombed with burrows and bolting-holes.

Boltless, a. Without a bolt or bolts, not formed into bolts, as 'boltless lightning'. *poet.*

VOL. I.

Boltonite, Min. A unisilicate mineral, a variety of Forsterite, found near Bolton, Mass. (*Dana Min.* 255.)

Bolt-rope (bōl't-rōp). *Naut.* [f. *BOLT* sb.1 + *ROPE*.] 'A rope sewed all round the edge of the sail, to prevent the canvas from tearing.' Smyth *Sailor's Word-bk.*

1606 *CAPT. SMITH Accid. Yng. Seamen* 14. 1667—*Seaman's Gram.* vi. 27 The Bolt ropes are those wherein the sails are sewed. 1762-9 *FALCONER Shipw.* II. 461 The... mizen... In fluttering fragments from its bolt-rope fled. 1830 I. TAYLOR *The Ship* 154. 1840 R. DANA *Bef. Mast* xxv. 82 The jib was blown to atoms out of the bolt-rope.

Boltspreet, -sprit, obs. var. of *BOWSPRIT*.

Bolt upright-ness: see *BOLT* adv.

Bolus (bōl'us). Pl. *boluses*: 7 *bolus*, 7-8 *bolus's*, 8-9 *bolusses*. [a. mod.L. *bōlus*, a. Gr. *bōlos* clod, lump of earth.]

1. *Med.* A medicine of round shape adapted for swallowing, larger than an ordinary pill. (Often used somewhat contemptuously.)

1603 *FLORIO Montaigne* (1634) 554, I will not have a Bolus, or a glister. 1681 *tr. Willis Rem. Med. Wks. Voc.*, *Bolus*, is a medicine made up into a thick substance to be swallow'd not liquid, but taken on a knives point. 1751 *SHENSTONE Wks. & Lett.* III. 178, I have been taking saline draughts and bolus's. 1832 *ANNA M. PORTER Hungar. Bro. v.* 53 Physic him to death with pills and boluses.

fig. 1637 *EARL MONM. Malvezzi's Romulus* 229 Cruell actions are so many bolus, which are never better taken than when wrapt up in gold. 1760 *COWPER Lett.* 3 May, Swallowing such boluses as I send you. 1876 *BLACK GREEN Past.* iii. 23 Resolved not to swallow your Home Rule bolus.

2. A small rounded mass of any substance.

1780 A. MONRO *Compar. Anat.* (ed. 3) 23 The bolus would be in danger of falling out of the mouth. 1835 T. HOOK *G. Gurney* (1850) I. i. 3 A round mirror, encircled with gilt boluses. 1867 F. FRANCIS *Angling* i. (1880) 9 A barley-meal bolus is the bait for roach. 1881 *Sat. Rev.* No. 1320, 206 One leaden bolus of the old ounce-of-lead pattern.

3. A kind of clay; = *BOLLE* 2.

1682 *GREW Anat. Plants* 242 Bolus's are the Beds, or as it were, the Materia prima, both of opacous Stones, and Metals. 1863 *BARING-GOULD Iceland* ii. 210 The soil is composed of soft bolus full of splinters of trachyte.

Hence *Bolus-ways*, -wise, *adv.*, as a bolus.

1689 *MOYLE Sea Chyrurg.* Pref. If the Patient cannot take a Medicine in one form (as Bolus-waies).

† *Bolwaie*. *Obs.* 1 A boil.

1688 P. M[ATHIEU] *Life Scianus* 88 His face full of pimples and Fistulas, knots and bolwaies.

Bolwark, obs. f. *BULWARK*.

Boly, obs. form of *BOIL* v.

† *Bolye*. *Obs. rare.* [ad. med.L. *bolis*, a. Gr. *bolis* sounding-lead.] (See quot.)

1552 *HULOET, Bolye* or plummet whyche mariners vse, *bolis*.

Bolyen, bolyon, obs. forms of *BULLION*.

Bolyn, var. of *BOLLEN* sb., and obs. f. *BOWLINE*.

Bolys, obs. form of *BULLACE*.

|| **Bom, boma**. Also *bomma*, *aboma*. The native name in Congo, W. Africa, of a huge non-poisonous snake swallowing deer, etc. (see *Merolla, Vocab.*; *Poryart*; *Cavazzi Congo, Matamba, & Angola*; *Magyar Süd-Afrika*). Apparently carried by the Portuguese from Congo to Brazil (*Roquete* has *bom bóma* 'serpent d'Angola et du Brésil'), and there applied to the largest boas, in which sense it appears in some English works. (The history has been traced for us by Dr. E. B. Tylor.)

1864 in *WEBSTER* and in other recent Dicts.

Bom, bomarang, obs. ff. *BUM*, *BOOMERANG*.

Bomaree, var. of *BUMABAREE*.

Bomb (bōm, bōm), *sb.* Forms: 6 *bome*, 7 *bombe*, *bombo*, *boom* (b, 7- *bomb*). [a. F. *bombe*, ad. Sp. *bomba* (see first quot.), prob. f. *bom-bo* 'a humming or humming noise' = L. *bombus*.

The word is thus ultimately identical with *boon*. Cf. the earliest Eng. instance *bome*, directly from Sp.; also 17th c. *bombo* from Sp. or It. Various pronounced: see the rimes: in the British army (*bōm*) is usual.]

† 1. Transl. of Sp. *bomba de fuego* 'a ball of wilde-fire'. *Minsheu. Obs.*

1588 R. PARKE *Hist. China* (transl. fr. Span.) 65 They vse... in their wars... many bomes of fire, full of olde iron, and arrowes made with powder & fire worke, with the which they do much harme and destroy their enemies.

2. An explosive projectile consisting of a hollow iron sphere filled with gunpowder or some other charge, and fired by a fuse ignited in the act of discharge from the mortar; a bombshell; now generally called a *shell*.

1684 *Lond. Gas.* No. 1037/2 They shoot their Bombes near two Miles, and they weigh 250 English Pounds a piece. 1867 *EVERLYN Mem.* (1857) II. 275, I saw a trial of those devilish, murdering, mischief-doing engines called bombs, shot out of the mortar-piece on Blackheath. 1867 *RYCAUT Hist. Turks* II. 196 The Turks threw... quantities of Bombes and Stink-pots. 1692 *Siege Lymeric* 5, 800 Carts of Ball and Bombs. *Ibid.* 6, 600 Bombs. a 1721 *Prior Alwa* III. 369 The longitude uncertain roams, In spite of Whiston and his bombs. c 1730 *Young Sea-Piece* Poems (1757) I. 246 A thousand deaths the bursting bomb Hurls from her disembow'd womb. 1809 *SOUTHEY Ing. Dragon* IV, The

hugest brazen mortar That ever yet fired bomb, Could not have check'd this fiendish beast As did that Holy Thumb.

b. *Whale-fishery*. A harpoon with an explosive charge in its head; hence *darting*, *rocket-bomb*.

1883 *Fisheries Exhib. Catal.* 199 The bomb-lance, darting-bomb, and rocket-bomb.

† 3. A mortar, a shell-gun. *Obs. rare*—

1684 J. PETER *Siege Vienna* 95 The enemy... play'd on us with their Cannon and Bombs.

† 4. A small war-vessel carrying mortars for throwing bombs. Called more fully *bomb-galliot*, *bomb-ketch*, *bomb-ship*, *bomb-vessel*, and *bombard*.

1704 *Lond. Gas.* No. 4029/3 Portsmouth Bomb. *Ibid.* No. 3992/3 Her Majesty's Ships the *Mortar* and *Terror* Bombs. 1747 J. LIND *Lett. Navy* i. (1757) 21 Those who have the command of sloops, bombs, fireships. 1806 *DUNCAN Nelson* 45 He proceeded with the Thunder bomb... to bombard the town. 1813 *Examiner* 18 Jan. 47/1, 18 sloops—4 bombs.

5. *Volcanic bomb*: a roundish mass of lava thrown out of a volcano.

1845 *DARWIN Voy. Nat.* xxi. (1852) 493, I noticed volcanic bombs, that is, masses of lava which have been shot through the air whilst fluid and have consequently assumed a spherical or pear-shape. 1876 *HUXLEY Physiogr.* 193 Sometimes the masses of lava... fall as... volcanic bombs.

6. Comb., as *bomb-battery*, -bed, -cart, -chest, -galliot, -quay, -ship, -vessel; *bomb-battered* adj.; *bomb-lance*, a harpoon with an explosive in its head. See also *BOMB-KETCH*, *BOMB-PROOF*, *BOMB-SHELL*.

1854 J. ABBOTT *Napoleon* (1855) I. xxxiv. 533 Having fled from their 'bomb-battered and burning dwellings. 1695 *Lond. Gas.* No. 3124/2 This day the 'Bomb-Battery was begun. c 1850 *Rudim. Navig.* (Weale) 100 The beams which support the 'bomb-bed in bomb-vessels. 1712 *Lond. Gas.* No. 4970/2 Two 'Bomb Carts... and five Pieces of Ordnance. 1755 *Gentl. Mag.* XXV. 377 Bomb-carts, filled with necessaries for the camp, were likewise sent. 1704 J. HARRIS *Lex. Techn.*, 'Bomb-chest, is a kind of chest, which being filled with Gunpowder and Bombs... is placed under Ground to blow it up into the Air, together with those that stand upon it. 1715 *Lond. Gas.* No. 5301/2 Some 'Bomb Galliot. 1752 *SMOLLETT Per. Pic.* (1779) II. lxiv. 210 The entertainers landed at the 'bomb-keys. 1695 *Lond. Gas.* No. 3086/2 Having been to view the 'Bomb ships in the *Masee*. 1806 *DUNCAN Nelson* 136 The bomb-ship and schooner gun-vessels made their escape. 1693 *Lond. Gas.* No. 2893/4 'Bomb vessels lately Launch'd. 1808 *SPEARMAN Brit. Gunner* (article), *Bomb-Vessels*.

Bomb (bōm, bōm), *v.* [f. prec.]

1. *trans.* To fire bombs at; to bombard.

1688 I. CLAYTON in *Phil. Trans.* XVII. 984 The Town could never be Bomb'd by Land. a 1704 *SEDLEY Poems* Wks. 1722 I. 78 While you Bomb Towns in France. 1797 *NELSON* in *Nicolas Disp.* (1846) VII. p. cxlvi, The intention of bombing us still goes on.

2. To throw with violence, let fly. *dial.*

Bomb, obs. form of *BOOM* and *BUM*.

† **Bombace, -ase**. *Obs.* Forms: 6 *bom-bage*, 6-7 *bombace*, -base. [a. OF. *bombace* cotton, cotton wadding; = late L. *bombāce-m*, acc. of *bombax* cotton, a corruption and transferred use of L. *bombyx* silk, a. Gr. *bōmbyx* silkworm, silk.]

1. The down of the cotton-plant; raw cotton.

1553 *EDEN Treat. New Ind.* (Arb.) 13 This cotton, is otherwise called *Bombage* or sylke of the trees. *Ibid.* 30 They tie the postes together with ropes of bombage cotton. 1576 *LYTE Dodoens* vi. xvii. 679 Fayre white cotton, or the downe that we call *Bombace*. 1579 *LANGHAM Gard. Health* (1633) 536 The oile is to be taken away with bombace or cotton dipt in it. 1609 *HARINGTON Schools Salerne* (1624) 358 To vse garments of Silke or Bombace.

2. Cotton fibre dressed for stuffing or padding garments; cotton-wool, cotton-wadding.

1592 *Wills & Inv.* N. C. (1860) II. 212, xx yds. of course harden 6s. 6d. v lbs. of bombace 5s. 1635 J. HAYWARD *Banish'd Virg.* 149 A body that needed not the common helpes of rectifying its proportion by bombace or the like.

3. *fig.* Padding, stuffing: see *BOMBAST* sb. 2 b, 3. 1662 *FULLER Worthies* (1840) III. 34 A sermon... to the university, the stuff, or rather bombace, whereof we have set down in our 'Ecclesiastical History'.

Bombaceous (bōmbā's-əs), *a. Bot.* [f. mod.L. *bombax* (f. L. *bombyx* silk) + -ACEOUS.] Of or pertaining to plants of the genus *Bombax*, or the Silk-cotton family.

1864 *BATES Nat. on Amazon* xvi. 139 The trees the dome-topped giants of the Leguminous and Bombaceous orders.

† **Bombal**. *Obs. rare*—1. [? Related to *BOMB*.]

a 1659 *CLEVELAND Sir I. Presbyter* (1677) 6 In Pulpit Fire-works, which the Bombal vents.

† **Bombance**. *Obs.* [a. F. *bombance*, variant of *bobance* boastfulness, ostentation: of uncertain deriv.: see *Littre*.] Ostentation, pride.

c 1325 *Coer de L.* 4494 Come prykand with bombance.

Bombard (bōm, bōmbārd), *sb.* Forms: 5-7 *bumbard*, 6 *boumbard*, 5-9 *bombarde*, 6-*bombard*. [a. OF. *bombarde* 'a murdering-piece' (Cotgr.), in med.L. *bombarda*, originally a mechanical engine for throwing large stones (see *Du Cange*); prob. f. L. *bombus* a humming noise + -arda, fem. form of Romance suffix -ARD.]

1. The earliest kind of cannon, usually throwing a stone ball or a very large shot.

c 1430 *LYDG. Bochas* i. iii. (1544) 6 a, That none engine may thereto attayne, Gonne, nor bumbard by no subtiltie. 1481 *CAXTON Reynard* 77 All them that ben archers, and haue bowes, gonnes, bombardes... to besiege Maleperduys. 1523 *LD. BERNERS Froiss.* I. clix. 172 Fortified with springalles,

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bombard, bow, and other artillery. 1573 *Sage Edinb Castel in Scot. Poems* 1614 C. (1801) II. 290 The bombard stans direct fell sa euin. 1623 COCKERAM, *Bombards*, great guns. 1664 *Flodden F. iii.* 22 With Bombard shot the walls he bet. 1874 BOUTELL *Arms & Arm.* 219 Towards the end of the 14th century pieces called *bombardes* were in existence, which threw balls of stone weighing as much as 200 lbs. These heavy bombards proved to be of very little practical use.

† b. *transf.* The ball or stone thrown by a bombard. *Obs. rare*—

1575 CHURCHYARD *Chippes* (1817) 153 A kind of shot that we great bombards call. And where that huge and mighty stone did fall. it did great wonders breed.

† c. Bombarding volley, shot. *Obs. rare*—

1809 J. BARLOW *Columb.* vii. 228 Then bids the battering floats his labors crown, And pour their bombard on the shuddering town.

2. A bomb-vessel or bomb-ketch; = BOMB sb. 4.

1799 NELSON in *Nicolas Disp.* (1845) IV. 65 Buonaparte has passed Corsica in a Bombard, steering for France. 1812 *Examiner* 23 Nov. 740/1 The vessels captured consisted of a bombard, a lugger, 3 feluccas. 1860 EARL DUNDONALD *Autobiog.* *Seaman* I. v. 99 A French bombard bore up, hoisting the national colours.

† 3. A leather jug or bottle for liquor; a black-jack. Probably from some resemblance to the early cannons. *Obs. exc. Hist.*

1595 SHAKS. 1 *Hen. IV.* ii. iv. 497 That huge Bombard of Sacke. 1610 — *Temp.* ii. ii. 20 Like a fowle bombard that would shed his liquor. 1635 Herwood *Philocolh.* The great black jacks and bombards at the Court, which, when the Frenchmen first saw, they reported . . . that the Englishmen used to drink out of their booties.

† b. *fig.* A toper. *Obs.* See also BUMBARD.

1617 J. TAYLOR in *Shaks. C. Praise* 126 This bezzeling Bombards longitude, latitude, altitude, and crassitude.

† II. 4. A deep-toned wooden musical instrument of the bassoon family. *Obs.* Also BOMBARDO.

1593 GOWER *Conf.* III. 358 Suche a sounne Of bombarde and of clarioune. 161475 *Sgr. loue Degre* 1072 With pypes, organs and bombarde. 1876 STATHAM in *Grove Dict. Mus.* I. 151 A class of instruments named bombards, pomers, or brummers . . . seems to have been the immediate predecessor of the bassoon.

III. 5. Comb., as † bombard-like adv.; † bombard-man, a servant who carried out liquor to customers, a pot-boy; † bombard-phrase (trans. of L. *ampulla*), inflated language, bombast.

1664 *Flodden F. vi.* 53 Bombard like, did boasts discharge. a 1616 B. JONSON *Love Restored* 86 A bombard man, that brought bouge for a Countrey Lady or two that fainted. 1640 — *Horace's Ars Poet.* VII. 173 (N.) They . . . must throw by their bombard-phrase, and foot and half-foot words.

Bombard (bɒmbɑːd), v. [f. F. *bombarder* (16th c.) 'to discharge a bombard, to batter or murder with bombards' (Cotgr.), f. *bombard* sb.: see prec. It has no immediate relation to *bomb*.]

† I. *intr.* To fire off bombards or heavy guns. *Obs.* (exc. as absol. use of 2.)

1598 FLORIO, *Bombardare*, to shoote off peals of guns, to bombard. 1665 *Land. Gas.* No. 3096/3 Colonel Richards, with nine English Bomb Vessels . . . began to Bombard.]

2. *trans.* To batter with shot and shell; to assault with ordnance so as to destroy, disable, or reduce to submission.

1686 *Land. Gas.* No. 2212/3 General Caraffa is making Preparations to bombard Agria. 1692 *Siege Lymeric* 7 We still continued to batter and bombard the Town very furiously. 1813 WELLINGTON *Let.* in *Gurw. Disp.* XI. 33 If the town is to be bombarded, it may as well be done from the sand hills. 1858 FROUDE *Hist. Eng.* IV. 427 The admiral . . . thought they might anchor and bombard the town.

b. *fig.* To assail with persistent force or violence.

1765 FALCONER *Demag.* 405 Where fulminating, rumbling eloquence . . . bombards the sense. 1853 BRIGHT *Admiss. Jews Parl.* in *Sp.* (1876) 527 Go on year after year bombarding the Lords with this Jew bill. a 1884 M. PATTISON *Mem.* 332 Milton . . . bombarding Salmasius with foul epithets.

3. *Cookery.* To stuff (a fillet of veal).

1769 MRS. RAFFALD *Eng. Housekeeper* (1778) 93 Bombarded Veal. Cut the bone nicely out of a fillet, etc. 1837 DISRAELI *Venetia* I. iv. (1871) 15 The tempting delicacies of bombarded veal.

Bombardier (bɒmbɑːdɪə), [f. prec. vb. + -ER I, or ad. F. *bombardier* (16th c. in Littré).] He who or that which bombards; a bombarding vessel. In early use = BOMBARDIER.

1583 *Exec. Treason* (1675) 29 The Popes Canonists being as his Bombardiers, do make his Excommunications . . . appear fearful. 1808 WHITBREAD in *Cobbett's Parl. Deb.* (1808) X. 799 The bombardiers of Copenhagen. 1866 *Daily Tel.* June, Stopped the bombardment by sinking the bombardier.

† **Bombardical**, a. *Obs.* [f. BOMBARD sb. + -ICAL.] 'Thundering, or roaring like a piece of ordnance.' Blount *Glossogr.* 1656.

c 1645 HOWELL *Let.* (1650) II. 72 He that entitles himself Most Puissant and Highest Monarch of the Turks . . . with other such bombardical titles.

Bombardier (bɒm-, bɒmbɑːdɪə). [a. F. *bombardier*, f. *bombard*: see BOMBARD and -IER.]

† 1. A soldier in charge of a bombard, an artilleryman. *Obs.* or *arch.*

1560 WHITEHORNE *Arte Warre* (1573) 82 Smithes, Masons, Ingeniers, Bombardiers. 1611 COTGR., *Bombardier*, a bombardier or gunner that useth to discharge murdering peeces; and, more generally, any gunner. 1691 LUTTRELL *Brief Rel.* (1857) II. 292 Our bombardiers are to practice the throwing bombs on ship board. 1709 *Tatler* No. 88 ¶ 3 The

bombardier tosses his balls into the midst of a city. 1779 G. SMITH *Mil. Dict.* 1836 MARRYAT *Midek. Easy* xxxix, Her two brothers are lieutenants in the bombardiers.

2. *spec.* † a. in 17th and 18th c.: One of the master-gunner's men, employed more especially about the mortars and howitzers. *Obs.*

1688 *List of (Jas. II's) Artillery Train*, Firemaster to Trayne, Chief Bombardier, 12 Bombardiers, Chief Petardier, 4 Petardiers. 1746 *Rep. Cond. Sir J. Cope* 55 He gave the Witness a Bombardier and four Gunners. 1769 FALCONER *Dict. Marine* (1789) Y y ij b, He has also the command of the gunners, matrosses, and bombardiers. [1855 SARGENT *Braddock's Exped.* 136 A matross is an artillery soldier of a rank inferior to the bombardier or gunner.]

b. In the British army: A non-commissioned officer in the artillery. Several are attached to each battery of artillery.

1844 *Queen's Regul. Ord. Army* 4, Bombardiers of the Royal Regiment of Artillery rank as Corporals.

† 3. A bomb-ship. *Obs.*

1686 *Land. Gas.* No. 2142/2, 20 Men of War, 2 Fire-Ships and 3 Bombardiers.

4. Comb., as bombardier beetle, a genus of beetles (especially *Brachinus crepitans*) which, when irritated, eject fluid with a sharp report and blue vapour; † bombardier-galliot, a kind of bomb-vessel.

1802 BINGLEY *Anim. Biog.* (1813) III. 147 The bombardier, or exploding beetle. When it is touched, we are surprised with a noise resembling the discharge of a musket in miniature, during which a blue smoke may be seen to proceed from its extremity. 1861 HULME in *Moquin-Tandon* ii. iv. 1. 214 The . . . Bombardier Beetles discharge a still more offensive fluid. 1805 *Chron.* in *Ann. Reg.* 391/2 A large flotilla . . . of Bombardier galliots, gun sloops and flat bottomed vessels completely armed.

Bombarding (bɒmbɑːdɪŋ), *vbl. sb.* [f. BOMBARD v. + -ING I.] An assailing with shot and shell; a bombardment.

1689 *Land. Gas.* No. 226/2 The preparations for the Bombarding of Agria. 1756 BURKE *Vind. Nat. Soc.* Wks. I. 31 The present perfection of gunnery, cannoning, bombard- ing, mining. 1800 MC-CARTHY *Own Times* III. xiv. 357 There were more murders and more bombardings yet.

Bombardment (bɒmbɑːdmənt), [f. BOMBARD v. + -MENT.] The process of bombarding; continuous attack upon a place with shot and shell.

1702 *Land. Gas.* No. 3807/3 Which gives us great Apprehensions of a Bombardment. 1790 BEATSON *Nav. & Mil. Mem.* II. 402 To destroy these vessels. . . by means of a bombardment. 1813 WELLINGTON *Let.* in *Gurw. Disp.* XI. 33 The Bombardment answered no purpose whatever, excepting to destroy the town.

|| **Bombardo**. [It.: 'a certain wind instrument resembling the oboe'.] = BOMBARD sb. 4.

Bombardon, -one, *Mus.* [a. It. *bombardone*, augmentative form of *bombardo*.] A brass instrument of the trumpet-kind, in tone resembling an ophicleide; also a bass reed-stop on the organ.

1856 MRS. C. CLARKE in *Berlioz Instrument.* 176 The Bombardon . . . is a low instrument without keys and with three cylinders. 1876 HILES *Catech. Organ* x. (1878) 71 *Bombardone, Bombardon, Bombarda*, a reed-stop of metal or wood. 1880 *Grove Dict. Mus.* I. 259 *Bombardon, bombard* . . . were originally names of the various varieties of the oboe or bassoon family; the bombardon, or largest instrument, reaching to contra F. From these the name was transferred to a bass reed-stop on the organ, with 16-foot tone.

† **Bombase, v.** *Obs.* Also 6 bum-, boombas; pa. pple. bombast. [f. BOMBACE sb.: stress orig. on the last, and afterwards on the first syllable.]

1. *trans.* To stuff with cotton-wool; to pad.

1558 *Will of R. Lee* (Somerset Ho.), My doublett of sacke clothe that is bumbase. 1598 FLORIO, *Imbottire*. . . to stuff, to quilt, to bumbase.

b. *fig. and transf.* To stuff, pad.

1572 GASCOIGNE *Voy. Holland* in *Southey Comm. pl. Bk.* Ser. II. (1849) 311 They march bumbase with buttered beer. 1577 B. GOOGE *Herresbach's Husb.* The camel . . . is bumbase upon the backe for bearing of burdens.

2. To stop (the ears) as with cotton-wool.

1583 STANYHURST *Æneid* iv. 107 What reason him leadeth to my suite too boombas his hearing?

Bombase, variant of BOMBACE sb.

Bombase, -base, variants of BOMBACE.

Bombasic, a. *rare.* [f. BOMBACE (or BOMBASIE) + -IC: perh. referring to the colour of Nankkeen cotton, or of raw silk.] Of a pale yellow or straw colour; bombycinous.

1825 J. FOSBROOKE *Observ. Pathol. Relat.* 53 Skin of a Bombasic tint. *Ibid.* 62 A fine straw-coloured or bombasic tint.

† **Bombasie**, *Obs.* Also 6 bombezies. [variant of BOMBACE or BOMBASINE.]

1. Raw cotton, cotton-wool.

1576 BAKER *Gesner's Jewell Health* 189 b, A feather or fine bombasie wette in the oyle. 1578 LYTE *Dodoens* vi. xlvii. 719 Dip a little Cotton or Bombasie in the sayde milke, and lay it to your tooth.

2. = BOMBASINE 2.

1598 *Record in Law Memorials* Pref. 33 note, 3 elles of bombezies.

Bombasine (bɒm-, bɒmbɑːzɪn). Forms: 6 bombasine, 6-9-in, 7 bombasine, 7-9 bombasine, 8 bombasine, 8-9 bombasine, 9 bombasine, 7-bombasine. [a. F. *bombasin*, ad. late L. *bombasinum*, var. of *bombycinum* (Isidore) a silk texture, neuter of *bombycinus* silken, f. *bombyx*, *ycem*

silk-worm, silk. On the later transfer of *bombyx*, *bombax*, and its derivatives to 'tree-silk' or cotton, *bombasin* was also applied to cotton fabrics, 'fustaine ou bombasin, et toute autre chose faicte de coton, xylinum', R. Estienne *Petit Dict.*]

† 1. Raw cotton; = BOMBACE 1. *Obs.*

1555 EDEN *Decades W. Ind.* I. 11. (Arb.) 69 marg., This Cotton the Spaniards call *Algodon* & the Italians *Bombasine*. 1580 HOLLYBAND *Treas. Fr. Tong.* Du *Bombasyn*, Bombasin, cotton.

2. A twilled or corded dress-material, composed of silk and worsted; sometimes also of cotton and worsted, or of worsted alone. In black the material is much used in mourning.

1572 *Wills & Inv.* N. C. (1835) I. 373 One doblat of white bombasine. 1611 COTGR., *Bombasin*, the stuffe Bumbazine; or any kind of stuffe that's made of cotton, or of cotton and linnen. 1660 *Act 12 Chas. II.* iv. Sched., Boro-toes or Bombasines—narrow the single piece not above 15 yards, vjl. 1747 MRS. DELANY *Autobiog.* (1861) II. 478 Black bombazeen will do very well in a sack. 1769 WOLCOTT (P. Pindar) *Expost. Ode* xv. Wks. 1812 II. 248 In Sorrow's dismal crape or bombazeen. 1820 MISS MITFORD in L'Estrange *Life* (1870) II. iv. 83 Crape and bombazin and broad-hemmed frills. 1831 G. PORTER *Silk Manufact.* 299 Bombasin . . . a twilled manufacture, having its warp of silk, and its shoot of worsted.

b. *attrib. and comb.*

1666 PERYS *Diary* (1879) III. 494 Putting on my black stuffe bombazin suit. 1766 ANSTWY *Bath Guide* xl. (1804) 94 Who is that bombazine lady so gay, So profuse of her beauties, in sable array? 1829 P. O. *Land. Directory* 19 Bombazeen Manufacturers. *Ibid.* 144 Bombazeen-dressers.

† **Bombasing**, sb. *Obs.* In 6 bum-. [f. BOMBACE v. + -ING I.]

1. = BOMBASINE 2 (perh. a corruption).

1585 BAREY *Alt.* Bumbaseing or anything made of cotten.

2. Padding with bombace.

1598 FLORIO, *Imbottitura* . . . a quilting, a bumbaseing.

Bombast (bɒm-, bɒmbɑːst), sb. Forms: 6 bom-, bumbase, 6-8 bumbase, 6- bumbase. [A variant of BOMBACE, *bombase* (F. *bombace*), in 16th c. pronounced (bom-bas), the t being either simply phonetic (the converse of *bass*, *bast*) or perhaps influenced by the pa. pple. *bombast* of BOMBACE v. Originally accented on second syllable, as still in Byron: but already in Shakspeare on the first. Most dictionaries make the first syllable bɒm-, but contemporary usage favours bɒm-.]

† 1. The soft down of the cotton-plant; raw cotton; cotton-wool. *Obs.*

1568 T. HOWELL *Arb. Amittie* (1879) 61 From all meate soft, as wool and flaxe, bombaste and winds that bloe. 1582 HESTER *Secr. Phiorav.* II. xx. 99 Wet a little Bumast in our Caustick. 1597 GERARD *Herbal* II. cccxxv. 901 Called in English & French, Cotton, Bombaste & Bombace. 1613 G. SANDYS *Trav.* 15 The head [of the Cotton plant]. ripening breakes, and is delivoured of a white soft Bombast. 1665 G. HAVERES *P. della Valle's Trav.* 23 Which linnen . . . is altogether of Bumast or Cotton, (there being no Flax in India).

† b. *attrib.* Cotton. *Obs.*

1599 HAKLUYT *Voy.* II. i. 222 Scarlet, or white Bumast cloth. 1600 DEKKER *Gentile Craft* 15 You bumast cotton-candle queane. 1653 UQUHART *Rabelais* III. xli. (1737) III. 139 The bumast and cotton bushes.

† 2. Cotton-wool used as padding or stuffing for clothes, etc. *Obs.* exc. *Hist.*

1572 GASCOIGNE *B. Withipoll.* To stuff thy doublet full of such bumbase. 1601 R. J. *Kingd. & Commu.* 140 Iacks quilted with bombast to resist arrowes. 1685 CROWNE *Sir C. Nice* II. 18 For the inside; do you like much bombast, madam? 1849 *Mem. Kirkaldy of Gr. viii.* 77 Their large . . . trunk-hose, being quilted and stuffed with bombast.

† b. *fig.* Padding, stuffing; stopping of the ears.

1575 GASCOIGNE *Wks.* (1878) 83 It hath no bumbase now, but skin and bones. 1588 SHAKS. *L. L. v.* ii. 791 As bumbase and as lining to the time. 1631 *Celestina* x. 120 Frame . . . for your eares the bumbase or stuffing of sufferance and bearing.

3. *fig.* Inflated or turgid language; high-sounding language on a trivial or commonplace subject; 'fustian'; 'tall talk'. [This sense has been erroneously supposed to have originated in the name of Paracelsus (P. A. T. Bombast von Hohenheim).]

1599 NASHE in *Greene Menaphon* (Arb.) Ded. 6 To out-brave better pens with the swelling bumbase of a bragging blanke verse. a 1625 FLETCHER *Chances* v. iii. I like his words well; there's no bumbase in 'em. 1770 POPE *Let.* Wks. 1736 V. 107 The ambition of surprising a reader, is the true natural cause of all fustian, or bumbase in poetry. 1768 KAMES *Elem. Crit.* iv. (1833) 124 False sublime known by the name of bumbase. 1811 BYRON *Hints from Hor.* 44 Another soars, inflated with bumbase. 1850 KINGSLEY *Alt. Locke* xxxiii. (1879) 342 Their eloquence is all bumbase.

b. *transf.*

1817 COLERIDGE *Biog. Lit.* 221 What might be called mental bumbase, as distinguished from verbal. 1821 CRAIG *Lect. Drawing* iv. 213, I have insuperable objections to this sort of bumbase in painting.

Bombast, v. *arch.* [f. prec. sb., which see for pronunciation: in the vb. the accent is more frequently on the final syllable.]

† 1. To stuff, pad, or fill out with cotton-wool, or the like. *Obs.*

1565 JEWEL *Repl. Harding* (1611) To Rdr. 2 To cover the smallnesse . . . of their bodies, [he] had bombeasted, a.d. embossed out their coats. 1576 GASCOIGNE *Steels Gl.* Epil. 82 [They] bumbase, bolster, frisle and perfume. 1650 BULWER *Anthropomet.* xvi. 162 They bumbase their Doublets. 1820

SCOTT *Abbot* xv. My stomach has no room for it; it is... too well bombasted out with straw and buckram.

2. *fig. and transf.* To stuff, swell out, inflate.
1566 STUDLEY *Seneca's Medea* (1581) 136 Her hawty breast bombasted is with pryde. 1599 NASH *Leit. Stuffe* (1871) 58 The first should have his gut bombasted with beef. 1607 CHAPMAN *Busy D'Ambo* Plays 1873 II. 43 A great man... that by his greatness Bombasts his private roofes, with public riches. 1644 T. SCOTT *Vox Dei* 68 A place and people that... bombasted their reputations with the winde of complement. 1633 Heywood *Eng. Trav. Prol.* Not so much... As Song, Dance, Masque, to bombaste out a Play. 1828 SOUTHEY in *Q. Rev.* XXVII. 34 The want of incidents... he has endeavoured to supply by invention, and in bombasting the fable with machinery.

b. To swell out, render grandiose (a speech or literary composition) with bombastic language.

1573 R. SCOT *Hof Gard.* (1578) Epist. Not bombasting the same with the figures and flowers of eloquence. 1599 Bp. HALL *Sat. I* iv. 9 Then strives he to bombast his feeble lines With farre-fetched phrase. 1603 FLORIO *Montaigne* i. xiv. (1632) 83 That doth... bombast his labours with high swelling and heaven-disimbowelling words.

Bombast, *ppl. a.* Also 6-7 **bumbast** (e. [pa. pple. of BOMBAST v. to stuff; but in later use hardly separable from the sb. used attrib.])

† 1. Stuffed, padded, puffed out. *Obs.*
1575 GASCOIGNE *Wks.* (1587) 157 Hys bombast hose wyth linings manifold. 1656 *Artif. Handsomeness* 44 A bumbast or bolstered garment.

2. *fig.* Puffed, empty, inflated; over-elaborate. Of language: Turgid, grandiloquent, bombastic.

1604 SHAKS. *Oth.* i. i. 13 A bumbast circumstance, Horribly stufft with Epithites of warre. 1616 *Pasquil & Kath.* iv. 316, I doe hate these bumbaste wits, That are puffed vp with arrogant conceit. 1674 R. GODFREY *Inj. & Ab. Physic* 122 He scorns to be frightened at a Bombast word, or Fustian Term. 1781 GIBSON *Decl. & F.* (1802) VI. 134 note, Forty bombast lines. 1834 *Fraser's Mag.* X. 435 A frothy, verbose, and bombast writer. 1842 MAITLAND *Notes &c.* II. 26.

Bombast (e. variant of BOMBAST v. *Obs.*

Bombasted, *ppl. a.* [f. BOMBAST v., which see for pronunciation.]

† 1. Stuffed or padded with cotton-wool; puffed out. *Obs.*

1583 STUBBS *Anat. Abus.* (1877) 55 Stuffed, bombasted and sewed. 1611 MARKHAM *Countr. Content.* (1649) 111 Which Hats are soft bombasted roules of leather. 1636 T. H. CAUSSIN's *Holy Cr.* 224 Your garments played, bombasted, loose hanged.

2. Inflated, turgid (language). *arch.*

1580 PUTTENHAM *Eng. Poetrie* (Arb.) 266 Using such bombasted wordes, as seeme altogether forced full of winde. 1631 R. H. ARRAIGN *Whole Creat.* xi. § 1. 99 With brag-dokean and bombasted words. 1829 SOUTHEY in *Q. Rev.* XXXIX. 103 The bombasted heroics of Dryden's tragedy.

† 3. Characterized by bombast. *Obs.*

a 1619 FOTHERBY *Atheism.* II. i. § 8. (1622) 190 Leontinus Gorgias, that bombasted Sophister. 1650 MELTON *Astrolog.* 15 The souldiers bombasted Tongue.

† **Bombaster** (see the vb.). *Obs.* [f. as prec. + -ER¹.] One who stuffs or pads.

1611 COTGR., *Embourreuer*, a stuffer, bumbaster or puffer up of things with flockes, etc. 1708 MOTTREUX *Rabelais' Pantag.* *Prognost.* v. Stuffers and Bumbasters of Pack-saddles.

Bombastic (bɒmbæstɪk), *a.* [f. BOMBAST sb. + -IC.]

1. Of the nature of bombast; inflated, turgid.

1704 *Key to Rhetoric* Pref. 4 Outdoing them in their Bumbastick Bills. 1756 NUGENT *Montesquieu's Spir. Larus* xviii. i. Frivolous in the substance, and bombastic in the style. 1855 MACAULAY *Hist. Eng.* IV. 600. 1861 TULLOCH *Eng. Parli.* ii. 326 His bombastic words signify nothing.

2. Given to the use of bombastic language.

1797 DE FOE *Hist. Appar.* iv. (1840) 30 A certain bombastic Author. 1864 KINGSLEY *Rom. & Teut.* iii. 59 Claudian, the poet, a bombastic panegyrist of Roman scoundrels.

Bombastical, *a.* [f. as prec. + -ICAL.]

† 1. Of or pertaining to the padding of garments.

1650 BULWER *Anthropomet.* xix. 195 If they be not corpulent (they) counterfeits (it) by the bombastical dissimulation of their garments.

2. = BOMBASTIC.

1649 BULWER *Pathomypot.* Pref. 7 Barbarismes... fit only for the bombastical Anatomy of Paracelsus. 1858 HALPIN in *Grosart's Spenser* (1882) III. Intro. 94 He was... pedantic and bombastical.

Bombastically, *adv.* [f. prec. + -LY².] In a bombastic manner, with bombastic language.

1803 *Edin. Rev.* II. 103 We are bombastically told that all the outcry... arose from the new philosophy. 1853 F. W. NEWMAN *Horace* 31 The strife between the two is bombastically terrific.

† **Bombasting**, *vbl. sb. Obs.* [f. BOMBAST v. + -ING¹.] Padding.

1603 FLORIO *Montaigne* (1634) 623 The bombasting of my doublet, serves me now for no more use then a stomacher. 1611 COTGR., *Embourrement*, a stuffing, or bumbasting with flockes, haire, etc.

Bombastious, *a.* † *Obs. rare.* [f. BOMBAST sb. + -IOUS.] Of or pertaining to cotton.

1844 GALT *Rothelan* II. iv. i. 98 The spindle... drawing in the bombastious rowan, and growing thicker and thicker.

† **Bombastly**, *adv. Obs.* = BOMBASTICALLY. (In H. Walpole.)

† **Bombastry**, *Obs. rare*—1. [f. BOMBAST sb. + -RY.] Bombastic composition.

1704 SWIFT *T. Tub Wks.* 1760 I. 27 Bombastry and buffoonry, by nature lofty and light, soar highest of all.

Bombax (bɒmbæks). [Altered from L. *bombyx* raw silk; see BOMBACE.] A genus of tropical trees (N.O. *Sterculiaceae*), which bear a fruit containing seeds surrounded by a beautiful silky fibre; esp. *B. Ceiba*, the Silk-cotton tree of West Indies. 1834 *Nat. Philos.* III. *Phys. Geog.* (U. K. S.) 46 Humboldt measured... a bombax ceiba more than 120 feet high. 1863 *Wanderings W. Africa* I. 143 Scattered with tall Bentangs or Bombax trees. 1884 *Edin. Rev.* July 159 Stately bombaxes, flecked with the snowy tufts of their bursting seed-pods.

Bombax, *obs. f. BOMBYX.*

Bombazeen, *-zin* (e. var. of BOMBASINE).

Bomb-boat, *obs. form of BUMBOAT.*

Bombéd (bɒmd, bɒmbéd), *ppl. a. rare.* [ad. F. *bombé* rounded like a bomb.] Rounded, convex. 1878 BROWNING *Fifine* ix. 22 That bombéd brow, that eye, a kindling chrysopras, Beneath its stiff black lash.

Bombic (bɒmbɪk), *a.* [f. L. *bombyx* silk-worm (see BOMBYX) + -IC.] Of or pertaining to the silk-worm; as in *bombic acid*, an acid secreted by the silk-worm, now believed to be nearly pure acetic acid (*Syd. Soc. Lex.*).

1816 Mrs. MARCET *Conv. Chem.* (1841) II. 335. 1836 TODD *Cycl. Anat. & Phys.* I. 471 There are also certain acids almost peculiar to individual animals, such as the bombic.

† **Bombice**, *Obs. rare.* [var. of BOMBACE, conformed to L. *bombyx*, *bombycem*.] Raw cotton.

1559 MORWYN *Evonym.* 6 Putting wull of woode, or bombice into the upper hoole of the aludel.

Bombilate (bɒmbɪlət), *v. rare*—o. [f. reputed L. **bombilare*, an erroneous reading (commonly accepted in med. L.) of *bombitare* to hum, buzz, f. *bombus* hum, buzz.] *intr.* To hum, to buzz. Only in mod. Dicts.

Bombilation (bɒmbɪləʃən). Also 7 **bombulation**. [f. as prec. : see -ATION. The L. word is *bombitatio*.] Humming, buzzing, droning sound.

1646 Sir T. BROWNE *Pseud. Ep.* 89 How to abate the vigour thereof, or silence its bombilation, a way is promised by Porta. 1656 BLOUNT *Glossogr.* *Bombilation*, a humming as of Bees. *Vul. Err.* 1885 *Pall Mall G.* 17 Feb. 2 A concerto of regurgitations and nasal bombilations.

Bombill, *bomble*, *obs. forms of BUMBLE.*

Bombinate, *v.* [f. L. *bombinare* a corrupt or doubtful variant of *bombitare*, or *bombisare*; see BOMBILATE.] To buzz, make a buzzing noise.

(RABELAIS u. vii. *Questio subtilissima*, utrum chimera in vacuo bombinans possit comedere secundas intentiones. (In ridicule of the subtle discussions of the Schoolmen.) 1830 SWINBURNE *Study Shaks.* iii. 109 (ed. 2) As easy and as profitable a problem to solve the Rabelaisian riddle of the bombinating chimera. 1880 *Daily News* 21 June The power of a chimera bombinating in a vacuum to eat second intentions is scarcely less suggestive of a solution.

Bombination (bɒmbɪnəʃən). [vbl. sb. from prec.; cf. BOMBILATION.] Buzzing, humming.

1816 KIRBY & Sp. *Entomol.* (1843) II. xxiv. 304 The larger humble-bees, whose combination, booming, or bombing, may be heard from a considerable distance.

Bombing (bɒmɪŋ, bɒmɪŋ), *vbl. sb.* [f. BOMB v. + -ING¹.] An attacking with bombs; bombarding.

1691 LUTTRELL *Brief Rel.* (1857) II. 195 The bombing of which had cost them a good sum of money and men. 1719 D'URFAY *Pills* (1872) II. 129 The General would leave Bombing, Of Towns in hot Campaigns.

Bombing, *obs. form of BOOMING.*

† **Bomb-ketch**, *Obs.* [See BOMB and KETCH.] A small ketch-rigged vessel, carrying one or two mortars for bombarding.

1693 *London Gas.* No. 2862/2 Several Bomb-ketches, Fire-ships, etc. 1764 *Gentl. Mag.* 341 Four French men of war and a bomb-ketch, entered the bay. 1830 I. TAYLOR *The Ship* 105 The bomb-ketch is contrived to carry one mortar, but is yet enough of a ship to bear the sea. 1875 JOHNSON'S *New Univ. Cycl.* (New York) I. 548/1 *Bomb-ketch*, an obsolete form of mortar-vessel... nearly seventy feet long and drew eight or nine feet of water. It carried two mortars.

Bombo, **Bomboat**, *var. of BUMBO*, **BUMBOAT**.

Bombous (bɒmbəs, bɒmbəs), *a.* [In sense 1, f. L. *bombus*, a Gr. βόμβος boom, hum + -OUS : in sense 2 f. BOMB sb.]

† 1. Booming, humming. *Obs.*

1715 tr. *Pancirolii Rerum Mem.* I. iv. xii. 202 The Indians... beating... Drums... made an horrible Noise, and a Bombous kind of Sound. *Ibid.* II. xviii. 383 Call'd Bombard, from the bombous kind of Noise they make.

2. Convexly rounded; having the shape of a fragment of a bomb or sphere.

1878 BELL *Gegenbauer's Anat.* 423 In some parts as, for example, on the head, they often have a bombous surface, and are set irregularly. 1884 in *Jrnl. Linn. Soc.* XVI. 195 Dorsal profile rather high and bombous over the disk.

Bomb-proof, *a. and sb.* [see PROOF.]

A. adj. Strong enough to resist bombs or shells. 1755 *Gentl. Mag.* XXV. 390 There is no magazine bomb-proof. 1858 BEVERIDGE *Hist. India* III. vii. 518 The grand mosque, which was supposed to be bomb-proof. 1865 F. GRIFFITHS *Artill. Man.* (ed. 9) 248 Casemates... are made bomb-proof.

B. sb. Bomb-proof shelter or structure.

1809 J. BARLOW *Columb.* vii. 618 And housed in bomb-proof all the host she bore. 1811 WELLINGTON *Lett. in Gurw. Disp.* VII. 262, I do not think bomb proof absolutely necessary. 1861 RUSSELL in *Times* 11 June, We entered a lofty bomb-proof, which was the bed-room of the commanding

officer. 1870 *Daily News* 12 Nov., In the rear of the bomb-proofs... were the earthworks... for batteries of field guns.

Bomb-shell (bɒm-ʃel, bɒm-ʃel), = BOMB 2.

1708 *London Gas.* No. 4467/3 Kill'd... by a piece of Bomb-Shell. 1860 MOTLEY *Netherl.* (1868) II. xiv. 206 The famous... letter, which descended like a bombshell, in the midst of the decorous council-chamber.

† **Bombus** (bɒmbəs). [L. *bombus* boom, hum.]

1. *Med.* A humming or buzzing noise in the intestines, ears, etc.

1753 CHAMBERS *Cycl. Supp.* s.v. 1880 *Syd. Soc. Lex.*, *Bombus*, a ringing noise in the ears. Also a sonorous movement of flatus in the intestines.

† 2. In music, an artificial motion with the hands, imitating, in cadence and harmony, the buzzing of bees. Chambers *Cycl. Supp.* 1753. *Obs.*

3. *Entomol.* The genus of insects containing the humble-bees.

† **Bombycine** (bɒmbɪsɪn), *a. Obs.* [ad. L. *bombycinus*, f. *bombyx* silk-worm, silk.]

1. Silken, silk; also as sb., a silk fabric.

1599 HAKLUYT *Voy.* II. ii. 90 Let vs proceed vnto the Silke or Bombycine fleece, whereof there is great plenty in China. 1730-6 BAILEY, *Bombycine*, Silk Yarn or silken Cloth, silken.

2. Of cotton, of paper made of cotton.

1886 W. M. LINDSAY in *Acad.* 4 Dec. 382/1 In No. 973 we have the oldest dated bombycine (i. e. cotton paper) MS... No. 1196, a cotton-paper MS., with leaves enlarged by linen-paper borders.

† **Bombycinous** (bɒmbɪsɪnəs), *a. Obs.* [f. L. *bombycinus* silken + -OUS.]

1. Made of silk, silken.

1656 in BLOUNT *Glossogr.* 1721 in BAILEY.

2. Of a pale yellow colour, like the silk-worm before it spins.

1794-6 E. DARWIN *Zoon.* (1801) II. 5 What is peculiar to this disease... is the bombycinous colour of the skin, which like that of full-grown silkworms, has a degree of transparency with a yellow tint. c 1820 T. SANDWITH *Venous Congest.* 10 That pale sickly hue which Darwin calls bombycinous.

† **Bombylius**, *a. Obs.* [f. L. *bombylius*, a. Gr. βόμβυλιός a humble-bee or other buzzing insect (f. βόμβος boom, hum), now made the generic name of a dipterous insect, the Humble-bee Fly.] Buzzing, humming, like a large bee.

1713 DERHAM *Phys. Theol.* iv. xiv. 249 The Horse Fly... is vexatious to horses—not by stinging them, but only by their bombylious noise. [mispr. *bombylicus*; *bombylious* is an error of recent Dicts.]

† **Bombyx** (bɒmbɪks). Also 5 **bombax**. [L. *bombyx* (in med. L. *bombax*), a. Gr. βόμβυξ the silk-worm, silk.]

1. The silk-worm.

1308 TREVISA *Barth. De P. R.* xviii. xviii. (1495) 777 The Bombax fyrste cometh forth as a worme... that gnawyth caul leuys and vyne leuys... and weuyth webbes as spynners doo. 1753 CHAMBERS *Cycl. Supp.*, *Bombyx* is... a name given to the silk-worm. 1837-40 HALIBURTON *Clockm.* (1862) 47.

† 2. Raw silk. *Obs.*

1308 TREVISA *Barth. De P. R.* xv. xciii. (1495) 524 In Mauritanea grown wonder hie trees... as it were wyth heere or wyth wulle... and therof ben clothes made by crafte: as it were bombax.

3. *Ent.* A genus of moths, of which the most important is the Silk-worm moth (*Bombyx mori*). Sometimes any moth of the sub-order *Bombycina*.

1847 CARPENTER *Zool.* § 710 The genus *Bombyx* is one of great interest and importance. 1857 J. GREENE *Pupa Digging* 21 The collector in want of any particular tree-feeding *Bombyx* or *Noctua*.

† 4. (See quot.) *Obs.*

1648 ROWLAND Moullet's *Theat. Ins.* 930 The Bombyx... is a creature resembling the Wasp, of a black hue, having a sting like as the Wasp hath. 1753 CHAMBERS *Cycl. Supp.* s.v. *Bome*, *bomme*, *obs. forms of BOMB*, *BOOM*.

Bomerang, *obs. form of BOOMERANG.*

Bomespar (bɒmˈspɑːr). Also 8 **bomspare**. [f. Du. *boom* tree, pole + *spar* spar.] 'A spar of a larger kind.' Smyth *Sailor's Word-bk.* 1867.

1660 *Act 12 Chas. II.* iv. Sched., Bomespars the hundred, containing 120. 1797 W. MATHER *Eng. Man's Comp.* 410 For which they import... Bomspares.

Bominable, *aphetic form of ABOMINABLE.*

† **Bomination**, *a. Obs.* [Aphetic form of ABOMINATION, used attrib.] Abominable.

1599 *Hay any Work* (1844) 10 By reason of his bomination learning. 1599 CHAPMAN *Hum. Days Myrrh* Plays 1873 I. 106 O bomination Idole, Ile none of them.

Bommeree, *variant of BUMBAREE.*

† **Bon** (bɒn), *a.* The French word for 'good'; adopted in ME. from OF., in the form *bon*, *bone*, *boon*, q.v.; also used in certain French phrases.

Bon-accord (bɒnˈækrəd). *Sc.* Agreement, goodwill, good-fellowship; an expression of good will.

1670 SPALDING *Troub. Chas. I.* I. 214 (JAM.) Articles of Bonaccord to be condescended upon by the magistrates of Aberdeen. *Ibid.* 216 A peremptory or present answer of bon-accord or mal-accord. *Ibid.* II. 57 During the time he was in Aberdeen, he got no bon-accord drunken to him. *Mod.* (Aberdeen is sometimes called 'the city of Bon-accord': the word is also frequent in the titles of Scottish charitable and convivial societies.)

Bon-chretien (bɒnˈkreʃjən). Also 6-7 **-chretien**, **-crestien**. [Fr. = 'good Christian'.] A name given to one or two kinds of pears.

c1575 *Arte of Planting* 39. Specially the Peare called bon Chretien. **1664** *EVERLYN Kal. Hort.* (1729) 191 Winter Bergamot, Winter Bon-crestien. **1673** — *Rapin's Garden.* (1795) 312 In Ameterna's rule the Sabine boors Added Bon-cretiens to their former stores. **1708** *MOTTEUX Rabelais* iv. liv. I'll call them bon-chretien or good-christian pears. **1829** *Lou-don Encycl. Gardening, Kitchen Pears* 60 Spanish bon Chretien, long known in France, probably from Spain.

Bon mot (bôn mo, pl. môtz). [Fr. = 'good saying'.] A clever or witty saying; a witticism, repartee.

1735 *KING in Swift's Lett.* (1768) IV. 115 What is he doing with his bon mots? **1762** *COWPER Truth* 307 The Scripture was his jest-book, whence he drew Bon mots to gall the Christian and the Jew. **1824** *BYRON Juan* xiii. xlvii. What unexpected woes Await those who have studied their bon mots. **1826** *DISRAELI Viv. Grey* iv. iv. 151 Come! a bon-mot. **1875** *EMERSON Lett. & Soc. Aims* vi. 146 The bon-mots that circulate in Society.

Bon-ton (bôn-tôn). *arch.* Good style, good breeding; polite or fashionable society; the fashionable world. Also *attrib.*

1771 *SMOLLETT Humph. Cl.* (1815) 120 She lives in the bon ton, and is visited by persons of the first fashion. **1807** *W. IRVING Salmag.* (1824) 356 To harangue the bon-ton reader. **1865** *Pall Mall G.* 1 Aug. 10/2 There was a word, or rather a phrase, in common use among them a century or so gone by which has fallen into desuetude with us. No one now speaks of bon ton.

Bon-vivant (bôn vivân); *fem.* bonne vivante (bôn vivânt). One fond of good living; a gourmand.

1798 *MAR. & R. L. EDGEWORTH Pract. Educ.* (1822) I. 357 The sympathy of bon vivants is... very lively and sincere towards each other. **1824** *BYRON Juan* xv. lxi. But though a 'bonne vivante'. Her stomach's not her peccant part. **1852** *Fraser's Mag.* July, 46 He was also a bon-vivant, a diner-out, and a story-teller.

See **BONAIB**, **BONALLY**, **BON-BON**, **BONCHIEF**, **BON-GRACE**, **BONGRE**, **BONHOMIE**, **BONHOMME**; cf. **BONNE**.

Bon, obs. f. *boun*, **BOUND**, ready, and **BOON**.

† **Bonable**, *a.* *Obs.* rare⁻¹. † A corruption of *boninable*, *abominable*. (Also conjecturally referred to **BAN** to curse, **BONE**, and **F. bon** good.)

1575 *J. STILL Gamm. Gorton* iii. ii. Diccon! it is a ven-geable knave, gammer, 'tis a bonable whoreson.

Bonace bark. The bark of a Thymelaceous shrub (*Daphnopsis tinifolia*) found in Jamaica.

1756 *P. BROWNE Jamaica* 372 Bonace-bark Tree. The bark makes very good ropes.

† **Bona fide**, *adv.* and *adj.* [L. *bonā fide* = 'with good faith'. Commonly anglicized in pronunciation as (bō-nā fōi-di), though classical scholars sometimes preserve the Latin quantity of the vowels, with or without the Latin vowel sounds.]

A. adv. In good faith, with sincerity; genuinely. **1542-3** *Act 34 & 35 Hen. VIII.* iv. The same to procede bona fide, without fraude. **1600** *HOLLAND Livy* xxxii. xxxiii. 830 He dealeth not soundly and bona fide [ueque cum fide agit] in treaties of peace. **1722** *Lond. Gaz.* No. 6082/3 A Horse... that is not Bona Fide his own. **1793** *SMERSON Edystone L.* § 177 Our men were really and bonā fide employed in the Edystone service.

B. adj. (orig. used with agent nouns, or those involving some quality, as in 'bona fide purchaser', 'bona fide poverty', 'bona fide traveller'.) Acting or done in good faith; sincere, genuine.

1768 *J. POWELL Devises* (1827) II. 17 Act not to extend to bona fide purchasers for a valuable consideration. **1865** *Sat. Rev.* 5 Aug. 170/2 Interfering with the bonā fide character of the proceeding. **1882** *Med. Temp. Jnrl.* No. 50. 83 The bona fide poor are benefited.

Hence **Bona-fidically**, *adv.* *nonce-wd.*

1822 *SOUTHEY Lett.* (1856) III. 214 Two men who love nonsense so cordially, and naturally, and bonafidically.

† **Bona fides** (bō-nā fōi-diz). *Law.* [L. *bona fides* good faith.] Good faith, freedom from intent to deceive.

1845 *Penny Cycl.* Supp. I. 214/1 Bona Fides is therefore opposed to fraud, and is a necessary ingredient in contracts. **1865** *Law Reports XXIX.* Chanc. Div. 468 It was said that this shewed bona fides on their part.

† **Bonage**. *Sc. Obs.* Also **bonnagge**. [app. variant of **BOONAGE**, perh. confused with **bondage**.]

Services rendered by a tenant to his landlord as part of rent.

1791 *Statist. Acc. Scotl.* I. 433 Bonnage is an obligation on the part of the tenant to cut down the proprietor's corn. This duty he must perform when called on. **1794** *DONALDSON Agric. Surv. Kincard.* 213 (JAM.) Another set of payments consisted in services, emphatically called Bonage (from bondage). These were exacted in seed-time, in ploughing and harrowing the proprietor's land... in harvest, in cutting down his crop. **1861** *C. INNES Sc. Scotch Hist.* iii. 384 A lease of a half-merk land of Port Loch Tay, with steelbow and 'bonage', according to custom.

† **Bonagh**. *Obs.* Also **bonogh**, **bonough**, **bonough**. [Irish: O'Reilly has *buana* a billeted soldier, also *buanaadh* a soldier; Keting in O'Curry II. 379 *buanaadh* 'permanent soldiers of the Kings of Erin'.] A permanent soldier.

1600 *DYMMOK Ireland* (1843) 51 (Tyrone's) wealth... will be in short time exhausted, by the maynteyninge of his Bonaghs. **1633** *T. STAFFORD Pac. Hib.* iii. (1821) 43 Three hundred were Bonoughes, the best furnished men for the warre.

† **Bonaght**. *Obs.* Also **6-7 bonaght**, **bonoght**, **7 bonaght**, **bonoght**. [Irish: O'Reilly has *buanaight* subsidy, quartering of soldiers; O'Donovan *buanaight* military service.]

A tax or tribute formerly levied by Irish chiefs for the maintenance of soldiers.

1568 in *Dyymok Ireland* App. (1843) 88 Bonaghtes due to the Queens Majesty for her Galloglasses. **1586** *J. HOOKER Girald. Irel. in Holinshed* II. 78/2 The Irish impositions of quinio and liverie, cartings, carriages... bonaght and such like. **1623** *T. STAFFORD Pac. Hib.* v. (1821) 69 Large promises, for increasing his Bonoght. **1807** *HALLAM Const. Hist.* (1856) III. xviii. 357 The barbarous practices of coshering and bonaght... borrowed from those native chieftains.

† **Bonair** (e, a. *Obs.* Forms: 4-5 **bonure**, 4-6 **boner** (e, -aire, -our, -ayr, -eyre, 6 **bonnair**, 6-7 **bonayre**, 4-7 **bonair**. [a. OF. *bonnaire* gentle, courteous, affable, shortened from *debonnaire*. The accent shifted in ME.]

1. Well-bred, gentle, courteous, kind, complaisant. **c1300** *K. Alix.* 6732 With wordes bonere, Heom answerith swithe faire. **c1325** *E. E. Allit. P.* B 733 Blessed be þow... so boner & þewed. **c1430** *How Gd. Wiif tawte Dau.* 103 in *Babees Bk.* (1868) 41 To bitter ne to bonour with hem þat þou ne be. **1460** *Lybeaus Disc.* 1727 Sche ys meke and boneyre. **1542** *Sarum Manual* 64 To be bonere and burum in bedde and at the borde. **1600** *HOLLAND Livy* iv. ii. 446 To have been... made more bonair and gracions. **1623** *COCKERAM* 1, *Bonayre*, gentle, milde. **1696** *PHILLIPS Bonair*, see *Debonair*.

2. quasi-adv. = **BONAIBLY**.

c1320 *Sir Tristr.* i. xxix. The mariner spac bonair. **c1350** *Will. Palerne* 332 Bere þe boxumly & bonure.

† **Bonaibly**, *adv.* *Obs.* [f. prec. + -LY²: cf. *F. bonnairement* (Cotgr.).] Courteously; meekly.

c1340 *Currair M.* 23872 (Fairf.) He þat can mare þen a noþer bonaibly [other MSS. debonerly] to teyche his broþer. **1340** *Ayeb.* 263 Lybbe we sobreylyche... an bonayrelyche. **1522** *World & Child* in *Hazl. Dodslay* I. 243 Look ye bow bonerly to my bidding.

† **Bonaibness**. *Obs.* [f. as prec. + -NESS: cf. next.] Gentleness, mildness, courtesy.

c1375 *WYCLIF Serm.* Sel. Wks. II. 357 Boneressse, þat is a vertue of mekenesse, whanne men done as þei ben conseilid. **1382** *WYCLIF* 1 *Cor.* iv. 21 Schal I come to þou... in spirit of boneressse, or myldeenesse?

† **Bonaibry**. *Obs.* Forms: 4 **boneryte**, -erte, -airete. [a. OF. *bonerte*, later *bon n'airete* (Cotgr.); see **BONAIB**.] = prec.

1303 *R. BRUNNE Handl. Synne* 1027 Twey wymmen... Of so moche boneryte. **c1325** *E. E. Allit. P.* A. 761 He calde me to hys boneryte. **c1386** *CHAUCER Melibee* 7 656 By pitē and by bonaibryte. **1656** *BLOUNT Glossogr.* *Bonaibryte*.

† **Bonally**, **bonaille** (bonē-ly, -ē-li). *Sc.* Also 5 (*pl.*) **bonalais**, 8 **bonaille**, **bonallie**, 9 **bonnail**. [ad. *F. bon* good + *aller* to go, going.] Good-speed, fare-well; as in 'to drink one's bonallie': cf. *bon voyage*, **BOON** a. 2.

c1470 *HENRY Wallace* ix. 45 Bonalais drank rycht gladly in a morow, Syn leiff thai tuk. **17**... *Trial for Witcher.* in *Statist. Acc. Scotl.* XVIII. 557 (JAM.) His son sailed... and gave not his father his bonallie. **1811** *SCOTT Biogr. Mem. Leyden* in *Edin. Ann. Reg.* IV. A party of his friends had met... to drink, in Scottish phrase, his Bonallie. **1830** — *Farewe. Mackenzie* 4, I drank his bonnail And farewell to Mackenzie, High Chief of Kintail.

Bonano, obs. form of **BANANA**.

† **Bonanza** (bonānsā). *U. S. colloq.* [Sp.; = fair weather, prosperity, f. L. *bon-us* good.]

1. (See quot.) The *bonanza* mines *par excellence* were the great silver ones on the Comstock lode. See *Sat. Rev.* 31 July 1866.]

1876 *N. Amer. Rev.* CXXVII. 12 The 'boss', the 'rail-road king', and the *bonanza* Croesus. **1881** *RAYMOND Mining Gloss.*, *Bonanza*, in miners' phrase, good luck, or a body of rich ore. A mine is in *bonanza* when it is profitably producing ore.

fig. **1878** *R. TAYLOR in N. Amer. Rev.* CXXVI. 239 If silence be golden, he was a 'bonanza'. **1883** *Harper's Mag.* Nov. 940/1 This... company... proved... a bonanza to its stockholders.

2. *attrib.*, as in *bonanza farm*, a farm which is a 'mine of wealth'; one on a large scale with all modern scientific appliances; so *bonanza farmer*.

1883 *Fisheries Exhib. Catal.* 79 The *bonanza* farms of America, where every kind of agricultural process is accomplished by steam. **1884** *Lisbon (Dakota) Star* 27 June, One of Ransom county's *bonanza* farmers.

† **Bonapartism** (bō-nāpartiz'm). [see -ISM.] Attachment to the government and dynasty founded in France by Napoleon Bonaparte.

1815 *T. JEFFERSON Writ.* (1830) IV. 247 Disgraced by an association in opposition with the remains of Bonapartism. **1831** *ARNOLD Let. in Life & Corr.* (1844) I. vi. 290 Nothing can be more opposite than Liberalism and Bonapartism. **1870** *Pall Mall G.* 17 Sept. 7 Germany will not move a finger in the cause of Bonapartism.

† **Bonapartist** (bō-nāpartist), *sb.* and *a.* Also **Bonapartist**. [see -IST.]

A. sb. An adherent of the government and dynasty of the Bonapartes in France.

1815 *J. W. CROKER in Papers* (1884) I. iii. 61 We drove into Abbeville, where the garrison were savage Bonapartists. **1873** *Daily News* 12 Sept. 4/4 A blank denial of the national sovereignty, hitherto a first article in the faith alike of Orleansists, Republicans, and Bonapartists.

B. adj. Adhering to Bonaparte or Bonapartism. **1869** *Pall Mall G.* 1 Sept. 2 A new Bonapartist pillar of Imperialism.

Bonarats, bonarate. Erroneous adaptations of the Russian *Baranets*, the Scythian Lamb, a fabulous plant. See **BAROMETZ**.

1598 *SYLVESTER Du Bartas* ii. i. 1. (1641) 86/1 True Beasts, fast in the ground still sticking, Feeding on grass... Such as those Bonarats in Scythia bred Of slender seeds, and with green fodder fed. **1621** *LODGE Summ. Du Bartas* ii. 33 Bonarate, which is as much to say as a little Lamb.

Bonarges, obs. form of **BOANERGES**.

† **Bona-ro'ba**. *Obs.* [a. It. *buonaroba* 'as we say good stuffe, that is a good wholesome plum-cheeked wench' (Florio), f. *buona* good, *roba* robe, dress, stuff, gear.] A wench; 'a showy wanton' J. **1597** *SHAKS. 2 Hen. IV.* iii. ii. 26 Wee knew where the Bona-Roba's were. **1680** *DRYDEN Kind Kpr.* i. i. Such food for Concupiscence, such Bona-Roba's. **1822** *SCOTT Nigel* xvi, Your lordship is for a frolic into Alsatia!... there are bona-robas to be found there.

† **Bona'sus, bona'ssus**. *Zool.* (Also 6 **bonasius**, **bonase**.) [a. L. *bonasus*, a. Gr. *Bónasos* bison.] A genus (or species) of the ox family (*Bovidae*): the **BISON**. See also **AUROCHS**.

1572 *BOSSEWELL Armorie* 56b, The field is of y^e Diamond, a Bonaze Perle... Bonasius is a Beaste in fourme like a Bull. **1774** *GOLDSM. Nat. Hist.* (1862) I. xiv. 234 The Cow kind, comprehending the Urus, the Buffalo, the Bison, and the Bonassus. **1790** *BRWICK Quadrupeds* (1824) 45 Whether it be the wild or the tame Ox, the Bonasus or the Urus.

† **Bonaventure**. *Obs.* [app. ad. It. *buonaventura* good luck; in quot. 1592 the name of a ship; of the generic use no explanation appears.]

1. A kind of boat or ship.

1592 *BRETTON Pilgr. Paradise Wks.* 1875-9 I. 15 The pilgrime must imbarke, Within a shippe the Buonaventure named. **1624** *Way to Wealth in Harl. Misc.* (Malh.) III. 235 Busses, bonadventures, or fisher-ships.

2. 'The old outer mizen, long disused,' Smyth, *Sailor's Word-bk.*

c1500 *Coché Lorettes B.* (1843) 12 Some pulled up the bonaventure, Some to bowes the tope sayle dyde entre. **1606** *CAPT. SMITH Accid. Yng. Seamen* (Arb.) 13. **1704** *J. HARRIS Lex. Techn.* s.v. *Missen-Mast*, Some great Ships require two (missens); then that next the Main-mast is the Main-missin; and that next the Poop, the Bonaventure-missin.

3. † An adventurer; cf. **BONEVENTOR**.

1598 *CHAPMAN Blinde Begg.* Plays 1873 I. 14 Oh sir, you are but bonaventure, not right spanish I perceive.

† **Bonavist** (bōnāvist). Also 8 **bonny-vis**. [ad. It. *buona vista* good sight.] A species of tropical pulse († *Lablab vulgaris*). **1700** *W. KING Transactioneer*, The Dr. resolves many Doubts and Difficulties... relating to... the Bonavists, and the Dildoe. **1750** *G. HUGHES Barbados* 216 The Buona Vista commonly called Bonny-vis. **1883** *Caval. & Roundh. in Barbados*, Bonavists are a species of kidney beans.

† **Bon-bon** (bōn-bōn, bōn-bōn). [Fr.; = good-good; a name originating in the nursery; cf. *goody*.]

1. A lozenge or other confection made of sugar. **1828** *MOORE Fudge Fam. Paris* v, The land of Cognac... Where for hail they have bon-bons, and claret for rain. **1831** *DISRAELI Yng. Duke* 3 Lady Fitz-Pompey called twice a week... with a supply of pine-apples or bon-bons.

† 2. A dainty, a delicacy. *Obs.*

1821 *Cook's Oracle* (ed. 3) 330 [In a Catalogue of Persian 'Bons Bons', there is a list of 28 differently flavoured Mustards. **1842** 'MEG DOONS' *Cook & Housew. Man.* ii. v. 125 note, They [onions] used to form the favourable bon-bons of the Highlander.

† **Bonbonnière** (bōnbōnyer). [Fr., f. *bon-bon*.] A small fancy box to hold sweets.

1862 *Cornh. Mag.* V. 441 A bonbonnière full of sweetmeats. **1883** *Harper's Mag.* 899/1 A huge floral offering... had innumerable pretty bonbonnières floating at its long ribbon.

Bonce, obs. form of **BANK sb.**

† **Bonce** (bōns). [Origin unknown; † related to **BOUNCE**.] a. A large marble for playing with.

b. A game played with such marbles. **1862** *Yng. England* I. 141 Bonce is played with very large marbles. One boy pitches his bonce, and another tries to strike it, each throwing by turns. **1865** *FURNIVALL in Reader* No. 146. 420/3 Little boys playing at bonce.

Bonche, obs. form of **BUNCH**.

† **Bonchief**. *Obs.* Forms: 4 **bonchef**, -chif, **bonchief**, 5 **boncheff**, -cheeff, -chyeff, -chief, **bonechief**, **bonnecheve**. [f. *F. bon* good + *chef* 'head', hence 'end, issue' (see **CHIEF**); opposed to, and perhaps formed on analogy of, **MISCHIEF**.] Good fortune, prosperity, easy circumstances.

c1340 *Gaw. & Gr. Knt.* 1764 Al watz blis & bonchef. **1397** *TREvisa Higden* Rolls Ser. I. i. xii. 87 Good happes and bonchief, as wel as yuel happes and meschief. **1563** *FOX A. & M.* I. 603/2 If I consented to do here after your will, for bonchief or mischief that may befall unto me in this life.

† **Bond** (bōnd), *sb.* Also 4-5 **boond**, 5-7 **bonde**, 6 **bound**. [ME. *bond*, a phonetic var. of **BAND sb.** (cf. *land lond, stand stond*, etc.), used interchangeably with it in early senses; but *bond* preserved more distinctly the connexion with *bind*, *bound*, and is now the leading or exclusive form in branch II.]

1. *lit.* That with or by which a thing is bound.

1. Anything with which one's body or limbs are bound in restraint of personal liberty; a shackle, chain, fetter, manacle. *arch.* (and only in *pl.*)

c1250 *Gen. & Ex.* 2230 Bondes ben leid on Symeon. **c1340** *Currair M.* 7202 (Trin.) Alle his bondes he brake in two [other MSS. bandes, -is]. **1382** *WYCLIF Acts* xvi. 26 The bondis of alle ben vnbounden. **1570** *LEVINS Manw.* 166 *Bonde, vinculum*. **1821** *BIBLE Acts* xxvi. 29 Altogether such as I am, except these bonds. **1785** *COWPER Task* ii. 36

I had much rather be myself the slave, And wear the bonds, than fasten them on him.

fig. 1808 BINGLEY *Anim. Zool.* (1813) I. 44 As soon as the parts of the animal, within the shell of the chrysalis, have acquired strength sufficient to break the bonds that surround it.

b. *abstr.* Confinement, imprisonment, custody. (In later times only in *plural.*) *arch.*

a 1295 *St. Mark.* 13 *Pu.* haldes me in bondes. c 1299 *Gen. & Ex.* 2075 Ic am..holden in bond. 1330 R. BRUNNE *Chron.* 123 Arnulf..was taken als thefe, & abrouht in bond. c 1400 *Camelyn* 401 Lese me out of bond. c 1430 *Hymns Virg.* (1867) 6 Let me neuere falle in bondis of þe queed I 1595 SHAKS. *John* III. iv. 74, I..will againe commit them to their bonds. 1667 MILTON *P.* L. II. 207 To endure Exile, or ignominy, or bonds, or pain. 1788 SEWEL *Hist. Quakers* (1795) I. 61 Drunkards, and fighters, and swearers, have their liberty without bonds. 1884 TENNYSON *Becket* 190 Prate not of bonds.

†c. *Our Lady's bonds*: pregnancy; confinement at child-birth, accouchement. *Obs.*

1504 *Will of W. Pryor App.*, I Alys beyng in the bondis of our lady. 1558 *Br. WHITE in Strype Eccl. Mem.* III. II. lxxii. 286 To dye in the bond, as they call it, of our Lady, and travail of child.

2. That with which a thing is bound or tied down, or together, so as to keep it in its position or collective form: formerly including metal hoops girding anything; still the regular name for the withe which ties up a fagot, and in various technical senses. Cf. also 13.

c 1340 *Cursor M.* 1671 (Trin.) Bynde [þe tymber] furste wip balke & bonde. 1400 E. E. *Wills* (1882) 46, 1 bord mausure with a bond of seluer. 1542-3 *Act 34 & 35 Hen. VIII.* III. The bonde of euery whiche faggotte to contene three quarters of a yarde. 1690 LOCKE *Hum. Und.* II. xxiii. What conceivable Hoops, what Bond he can imagine to hold this mass of Matter. 1879 JEFFERIES *Wild Life S. County* 123 Binding [the thatch] down with a crosswork of bonds, to prevent the gales..unroofing the rick.

†b. Formerly more generally, 'string, band, tie'. 1388 WYCLIF *Judges* xvi. 13 If thou platist seuene heiris of mayn heed with a strong bond. c 1450 *Merlin* xxiii. 425 Bounden to the saddell with two bonds. a 1550 *Kyng & Hermit* 466 in Hazl. E. P. P. 31 The frere gaff him bow in hond, Iake, he seyde, draw up the bond. 1674 *Pardon of Rome in Staveley Rom. Hordeleack* (1769) 55 In the Church of St. Crucis, there is a Bond that Chryst was led with to his Crucifyng.

fig. c 1290 *Gen. & Ex.* 2113 Non so wis..De kuðe undon ðis dremes bond.

†3. A bandage. *Obs.*

1388 WYCLIF *John* xi. 44 And anon he that was deed, cam forth, bounden the hondis and feet with bondis [1612 graue-clothes]. 1541 R. COPLAND *Guydon's Quest. Chirurg.* What quantite of length and brede ought the bondes to be? 1670 EACHARD *Cont. Clergy in Arb. Garner* VII. 259 To make a bond or give a gylster.

†4. A quantity bound together; bunch, bundle.

c 1460 *Wright's Chaste Wife* 226 Sche toke hym a bonde [of hemp]..And bade hym fast on to bete. 1483 CAXTON *Gold. Leg.* 671/1 Abygail toke..C bondes of grapes dreide.

II. *fig.* A restraining or uniting force.

5. (*fig.* from 1) Any circumstance that trammels or takes away freedom of action; a force which enslaves the mind through the affections or passion; in *pl.* trammels, shackles.

c 1290 *Gen. & Ex.* 2716 Moyses..hente ðe cherl wið hise wond, And he fel dun in dedes bond. 1398 TREvisa *Barth. De P. R.* III. xiii. (1495) 57 The soule..muste suffre for the bonde of the body that he is joynted to. c 1440 *Gesta Rom.* II. 7 Helde in the bond of seruitute of synne. 1526 *Pilgr. Perf.* (W. de W. 1531) 57 Thou must cutte away all outwarde bondes whiche..sholde be let or hynderaunce to perfeccyon. 1838 LANDER *Expd. Niger* II. vi. 129 Nor does the marriage ceremony break the bonds of the woman's slavery. 1871 MORLEY *Voltaire* (1886) 25 Hindered by the tight bonds of an old order.

6. A constraining force or tie acting upon the mind, and recognised by it as obligatory.

1330 R. BRUNNE *Chron.* 260 þe bondes of homage & feaute. 1598 WEST *Symbol* I. i. § 2 Therefore it is termed the bond of right or law. 1651 HOBBS *Leviath.* I. xiv. 65 The Bonds, by which men are bound, and obliged. 1769 JUNIUS *Lett.* I. 9 Justice is, perhaps, the firmest bond to secure a cheerful submission of the people. a 1876 J. H. NEWMAN *Hist. Sk.* (1876) I. I. iv. 172 What serves as a bond to-day will be equally serviceable to-morrow.

†b. Obligation, duty. *Obs.*

c 1440 PECCOCK *Refr.* III. vii. 316 The ensaumple..makith no bond that preestis..lyue withoute endewing of vnmouable possessions. 1526 *Pilgr. Perf.* (W. de W. 1531) 150 b, Prayers of bonde or duty. 1535 *Br. GARDINER in Strype Eccl. Mem.* I. II. App. lx. 148, I know my duty and bond to your highnes. 1643 BURROUGHS *Exp. House* v. (1659) 231 There is no such bond upon conscience..as this, etc.

7. A uniting or cementing force or influence by which a union of any kind is maintained.

1388 WYCLIF *Ephes.* iv. 3 Besy for to kepe vnite of spirit in the bond of pees. 1549 *Bk. Com. Prayer, Quinquag.* Sunday Collect, Charitie, the verie bonde of peace and all vertue. 1690 LOCKE *Hum. Und.* III. xi. Speech being the great Bond that holds Society together. 1769 BELSHAM *Ess.* I. viii. 163 An urgent and obvious want of some common bond of union. 1880 W. IRVING *Sk. Bk.* I. 43 The only bond that can keep hearts together—unreserved community of thought and feeling.

b. Senses 6, 7, and 8 seem to be present in the *bond's* of wedlock or matrimony.

1558 HULOET, Bonde of matrimonye or wedlocke. 1601 SHAKS. *Jul. C.* II. i. 280 Within the Bond of Marriage. 1645 MILTON *Tetrach. Wks.* 1738 I. 241 That divorce which

finally dissolves the bond, and frees both parties to a second Marriage. 1721 HUGHES *Spect.* No. 525 P. 1 He is ready to enter into the bonds of matrimony. 1859 TENNYSON *Elaine* 1200 Our bond is not the bond of man and wife.

8. An agreement or engagement binding on him who makes it. b. A covenant between two or more persons.

1330 R. BRUNNE *Chron.* 311 If þe Kyng..had mad þat bond, & drawn it. c 1386 CHAUCER *Frankl. T.* 806, I yow relese..euery surement and euery bond That ye han maad to me. c 1500 *Lancelot* 1673 O kingis word shold be a kingis bonde. 1535 COVERDALE *Josh.* ix. 11 We are your seruantes, therefore make now a bonde with vs. a 1564 BECON *Demands Holy Script.* in *Prayers*, &c. (1844) 618 This confirmation is as it were a discharge of the godfathers bounds. c 1610 SIR J. MELVIL *Mem.* (1735) 12 A Bond offensive and defensive. 1759 ROBERTSON *Hist. Scot.* I. VII. 496 To unite the party a bond of confederacy was formed. 1820 COLERIDGE *Friend* (1865) 171 The whole treaty of Amiens is little more than a perplexed bond of compromise respecting Malta. 1833 MARRYAT *P. Simple* (1863) 145 My word's as good as my bond. 1851 COAL-TR. *Terms Northumb.* & *Durk.* 8 Bond, the agreement to hire between coal owners and pitmen.

†c. To enter bonds: to give a bond, pledge oneself (*obs.*). To put under bonds: see quot.

1563-67 FOXE *A. & M.* III. 353 If I shall enter bonds, covenant, and promise to appear. 1809 KENDALL *Trav.* III. lxxii. 253 To put a prisoner under bonds is to order him to find bail.

III. Legal and technical senses.

9. *Eng. Law.* A deed, by which A (known as the *obligor*) binds himself, his heirs, executors, or assigns to pay a certain sum of money to B (known as the *obligee*), or his heirs, etc.

A may bind himself to this payment absolutely and unconditionally, in which case the deed is known as a *single* or *simple bond* (*simplex obligatio*): bonds in this form are obsolete. Or a condition may be attached that the deed shall be made void by the payment, by a certain date, of money, rent, etc. due from A to B, or by some other performance or observance, the sum named being only a penalty to enforce the performance of the condition, in which case the deed is termed a *penal bond*.

1598 WEST *Symbol* B. ij. § 31 For a written Bond, is a Contract whereby any man confesteth himselfe by his writing orderly made, sealed, and deliuered to owe any thing unto him with whom he contracteth. 1596 SHAKS. *Merch.* V. i. iii. 146 Goe with me to a Notarie, seale me there Your single bond. a 1665 *Br. Hall Rem. Wks.* (1660) 282 One cares to make his money sure by good bonds. 1805 J. POOLE *Reply R. Gardiner* 2 Devaux..having lost the original bonds..importuned him until he signed a fresh set. 1809 R. LANGFORD *Introduct. Trade* 105 A bond, for money lent..is a deed in writing, whereby one person binds himself to another, to pay a sum of money, or perform some other act. 1844 H. H. WILSON *Brit. India* I. 495 The Company petitioned the House of Commons for permission to raise two millions upon bond.

b. *Scotch Law.* A mortgage.

1864 BURTON *Bk. Hunter* II. 131 We [Scotch] speak of a bond instead of a mortgage.

10. A document of this nature (but not necessarily or usually in the form of an ordinary bond) issued by a government or public company borrowing money: in modern use synonymous with *debtenture*. 1651 *Proc. Parliament* No. 123. 1902 Large sums of Loan Money, Borrowed money on the Publick bonds. 1768 J. POWELL *Devises* (1827) II. 25 Bonds of turnpike commissioners, and navigation shares. 1873 *Law Rep.* 8 Q.B. 179 The bond numbered B. 499 was drawn as one of those to be paid off..according to the conditions printed on the back of the debtenture. 1881 MORLEY *Cobden* II. 221 Friends..recommended him only to hold bonds or paid-up shares.

11. Surety; one who becomes bail.

1634 *Star Chamb. Cases* (1886) 278 Some of them appeared by bond. 1667 *Peters Diary* (1879) IV. 266 The King of England shall be bond for him.

12. *In bond*: (goods liable to customs-duty) stored in special warehouses (known as *bonded* or *bonding warehouses* or *stores*) under charge of custom-house officers, till it is convenient to the importer to pay the customs-duty and take possession. The importer on entering the goods pledges himself by bond to redeem them by paying the duty. So to take out of bond, release from bond.

1851 HT. MARTINEAU *Hist. Peace* v. xiv. More foreign corn was let out of bond. 1858 McCulloch *Taxation* II. x. 350 Taking the price of bohea and low cougou in bond in London at 15. per lb. 1863 FAWCETT *Pol. Econ.* II. iii. (1876) 552 A merchant may not wish to sell immediately the goods he imports, he is therefore permitted to place them in bond.

13. Technical uses: a. *Bricklaying and Masonry.* The connexion or union of the bricks or stones in a wall or structure by making them overlap and hold together; a method of disposing the bricks in a wall by which the whole is bound into one compact mass: as in *English bond*, that in which the bricks are placed in alternate courses of 'headers' (bricks laid with their ends towards the face of the wall or structure) and 'stretchers' (bricks laid longitudinally); *Flemish bond*, that in which each course consists of alternate 'headers' and 'stretchers'; *garden bond*, etc.; also a brick or stone placed lengthways through a wall to bind and strengthen it, a binder, bond-stone. b. *Carpenry.* The jointing or fastening of two or more pieces of timber together; also in *pl.* the timbers used for strengthening the walls of a building,

c. *Slating.* The distance which the lower edge of one roofing-slate or tile extends beyond the nail of the one below it.

1677 MOXON *Mech. Exerc.* (1703) 157 When Workmen say make good Bond, they mean fasten the two or more pieces of Timber well together. *Ibid.* 259 Do not work any Wall above 3 foot high before you work up the next adjoining Wall, that so you may..make good Bond in the Work. 1793 SMEATON *Edystone L.* § 82 The tail of the header was made to have an adequate bond with the interior parts. 1823 P. NICHOLSON *Pract. Build.* 347 Bricks are laid in a varied, but regular, form of connection, or Bond. *Ibid.* 352 You will have proper bond; and the key-bond in the middle of the arches. 1869 PHILLIPS *Vesuv.* II. 34 York bond being made of broad bricks laid in several courses among squared small stone. 1878 YEATS *Techn. Hist. Comm.* 87 They used large thin bricks or wall-tiles as a bond for their rubble construction.

IV. 14. *Comb.*, as (sense 1) *bond-led*, -*stript* (stripped of bonds) *adjs.*; (sense 7) *bond-friend*; (sense 9) *bond-creditor*, -*debt*; (sense 13) *bond-piece*; *bond-stone* = *BONDER*; *bond-timber* (see quot.). Also *BOND-HOLDER*. For *bail bond*, *bond of caution*, *corroboration*, *marrent*, *presentation*, *relief*, *settlement*, etc., see under *BAIL* *sb.* 1, *CAUTION*, *CORROBORATION*, etc.

1710 *Land. Gas.* No. 4701/3 The *Bond Creditors of Philip, late Earl of Pembroke..are desired..to bring their Bonds. 1768 BLACKSTONE *Comm.* III. 397 In order to strengthen a bond-creditor's security. 1797 *Land. Gas.* No. 4343/8 The Bond-Creditors..are desired to meet the Administrator..to certify their said *Bond Debts. 1828 LD. ST. LEONARDS *Handy Bk. Prop. Law* xxiv. 186 Where an estate of a deceased debtor is liable to a bond debt, which binds the heir. 1860 RAWLINSON *Herodotus* VII. cccxxvii. IV. 195, Speaking ill of Demaratus, who is my *bond-friend. a 1618 SYLVESTER *Du Bartas, Maidens Blush* (1621) 843 The Father makes the Pile: Hereon he layes His *bond-led, blind-led Son. 1868 SMILES *Engineers* II. 29 The long pieces or stretchers were retained between the two headers or *bond-pieces. 1879 CASSELL'S *Techn. Educ.* I. 98 *Bond-stones are stones placed with their greatest length going through the thickness of the wall. 1885 SINGLETON *Virgil* I. 274 The other..Uplifted to the stars his *bond-stript hands. 1823 P. NICHOLSON *Pract. Build.* 219 *Bond-timbers, horizontal pieces, built in stone or brick walls, for strengthening them. 1765 BURKE *Nab. Arcot's Debts* Wks. IV. 233 So known and established a *bond-vendor, as the nabob of Arcot, one who keeps himself the largest bond warehouse in the world.

Bond (*bond*), *sb.*, *2* and *a*. Forms: 3-6 *bonds*, (5) *bounde*, 6 *band(e, bund)*, 3- *bond*. [Early ME. *bonde*:—OE. *bonda*, *bunda* husbandman, householder, husband, a. ON. *bōnde* (-i), contr. of *bōande*, *būande* 'occupier and tiller of the soil, peasant, husbandman; husband', ppl. *sb.* from *būa*, *bōa* to dwell, L. *colere*, and thus equivalent in sense and etymology to Ger. *bauer*. In Iceland the *bōnde* was a peasant proprietor 'including all owners of land from the petty freeholder to the franklin. In the more despotic Norway and Denmark, *bōndi* became a word of contempt, denoting the common low people; and in mod. Da. *bønder* means *peas.* In the Icelandic Commonwealth the word has a good sense, and is often used of the foremost men..this notion of the word (a franklin) still prevails in the mind of Icelanders' (Vigf.). In OE., *bonda*, *bunda* appears first in the Laws of Cnut, apparently in the same sense as in ON., and nearly, if not entirely, = OE. *ceorl*. When, through the effects of the Norman Conquest, the *ceorl* sank from the position of a free-man tilling his own land to that of a tenant bound to certain services to a lord (see *Freeman Norm. Cong.* V. 477), *bonde* became equivalent to 'villain', and so at length to 'serf, slave' (sense 3), and was thenceforth evidently associated with *BOND sb.* 1 and *BOUND*. Hence the occas. variant *bande*: but *bounde* may represent the OE. variant *bunda*.]

A. *sb.* *Obs.*

†1. Householder, master of the house; husband. (Only in OE.)

c 1205 *Laws of Cnut* pol. 8 (Bosw.) Swa ymbe friðes bote, swa ðam bondan [v. r. bundan] si selost. *Ibid.* pol. 70 And gif se bonda [bunda] beclypod wære. *Ibid.* pol. 74 Ne mæg nan wif hire bondan [bundan] forbeodan, ðæt he ne môte, etc. [the Latin versions have *bonda* i. e. *paterfamilias*.]

†2. Peasant, churl. Often used as a designation of rank or condition below *burgess* (and then also put collectively, or (!) as adjective).

c 1205 *LAV.* 15291 Per wes of Salesburi an oht bonde [c 1275 *Par* was a bond] icumen. c 1275 *Passion of our Lord* in O. E. *Misc.* 56 Heo..fullede kinges, eorles & bondes. c 1350 *Will. Palerne* 2128 Barouns, burgeys & bonde & alle oþer burnes. 1393 *LANGL. P. Pl. C.* IV. 201 Trewe burgeis and bonde to nauht hue bringeþ ofte. 1a 1450 *Chester Pl.* II. 187 When I soughte silver..Of baron, burgeis, or of bande.

†3. Base vassal, serf [transl. med. L. *nativus*]; one in bondage to a superior; a slave; also *fig.* (In late examples blending with the adjective use.)

c 1320 *Sir Tristr.* 971 To long ichaue ben hir bond. c 1340 *Cursor M.* 4188 Sel him forþ to yone chapmen..to be þair bonde [earlier MSS. thral] for euer-lastande. 1393 *LANGL. P. Pl. C.* XI. 263 A bastarde, a bounde, a begeneldes doughter. c 1440 *Prompt. Parv.* 43 Bonde as a man or woman, *seruus serua*. 1526 *Pilgr. Perf.* (W. de W. 1531) 83 A mayde seruauant, thral and bonde. 1535 STEWART *Cron. Scot.* II. 499

Tha war maid to be bondis and thrall. 1583 T. WATSON *Poems* (1870) 76, I lue her bond, which neither is my foe, Nor frend. 1618 BOLTON *Florus* (1636) 131 A very base fellow, unknown whether a free man, or a bond.

B. adj.

1. In a state of serfdom or slavery; not free; in bondage (to). Also *fig. arch.*

1330 R. BRUNNE *Chron.* 171 Lered men & lay, fre & bond of toun. c. 1440 *Partonope* 1497 The bonde kynred I made free. 1483 *Cath. Angl.* 36 Bonde, *nativus, servilis*. 1506 TINDALE *John* viii. 33 And were never bonde to eny man. 1551-6 ROBINSON *tr. More's Utop.* 125 He restoreth the bonde persone from seruitude to libertie. 1571 ANCHAM *Schoolm.* (1863) 70 Makynng them selves bonde to vanitie and vice. 1611 BIBLE 1 *Cor.* xii. 13 Whether wee bee Jewes or Gentiles, whether wee bee bond or free. a. 1683 BOYS *Wks.* (1630) 115 Christ was made bond vnto the law, to redeeme them that were bound vnto the law. 1866 FARRER *Grk. Philos.* I. x. 240 Sensation... is bond, not free.

† 2. Of or pertaining to slaves; servile, slavish. 1308 TREVISIA *Barth. De P. R.* vi. xi. (1495) 195 A seruyng woman of bonde condycion. 1526 *Pilgr. Perf.* (W. de W.) 73 This feare is called the seruyll feare, or the bonde feare. a. 1567 COVERDALE *Bk. Death* ii. 223 Is it not a bonde, gedy and voluptuous thinge to spoyle the deade coase.

|| **Bond**, *sb.* 3 [Du. *bond* league, confederation (= Ger. *bund*), f. *binden* to bind.] In reference to the Dutch-speaking population of South Africa: A league or confederation. Hence **Bondsmen**.

1884 *Times* 6 Mar. 76 The Afrikander Bond... was sending petitions that the Basutos should be handed back to the British Government. *Ibid.* The views of many members returned to parliament as Bondsmen. 1886 *Pall Mall G.* 22 Apr. 3/2 Whether the continued affiliation of the Bond beyond the boundary of the colony was advisable.

Bond (*bənd*), *v.* [f. *BOND sb.* 1]

1. *trans.* In *Building*: To bind or connect together (bricks, stones, or different parts of a structure) by making one overlap and hold to another, so as to give solidity to the whole; to hold or bind together by bond-stones, clamps, etc.

1677 MOXON *Mech. Exerc.* (1703) 260 Other Work adjoining, that should be bonded or worked up together with them. 1793 SWEATON *Edystone L.* § 82 The blocks of stone could be bonded to the rock, and to one another. 1858 NEALE *Bernard de M.* 27 Thine ageless walls are bonded With amethyst unpriced. 1864 SAILES *Engineers* II. 29 The best mode of bonding the blocks of stone to the rock.

b. To build up (coals, etc.) in a stack.

1865 *Times* 30 May, Instructions... that the coals were to be 'bonded'—i. e. built up by themselves.

2. *intr.* To hold together so as to give solidity. 1836 *Scenes Comm. by Land & S.* 288 In building, the bricklayer takes care to lay the bricks in a certain manner, to make them bond.

3. *trans.* To encumber with bonded debt; to mortgage.

1883 *Harper's Mag.* Nov. 938/1 They said the road... was too heavily bonded.

4. To put into bond (see *BOND sb.* 1 12).

[See *BONDED ppl. a.* 2.]

5. To subject to bondage.

1835 MARRIAT *Olla Podr.* xxiv, His wife... will be bonded in the same manner.

Bond (*ə*, obs. form of *BOUND*; obs. pa. t. *BIND v.*

Bondage (*bəndɪdʒ*). Also *5* *bondage*, 6-7 *bondage*. [ME. *bondage*, a. AF. *bondage*, or ad. Anglo-L. *bondagium*, f. *BOND sb.* 2 (in AF. *bond*, *bonde*, in Anglo-L. *bondus*) + -AGE. The natural English formation was *BONDEHEDE*, or *bondescipe*, *BONDSHIP*. In later times associated in thought with *BOND sb.* 1, as of a man 'in bonds', or constrained by a bond; see *esp.* senses 2 c, 3.]

† 1. The tenure of a *bonde* or *BOND* after the Norman Conquest; tenure in villenage; the service rendered by a *bonde*. *Obs.*

[a. 1200 *Leges Baron.* Scot. lvi. 3 Si autem nativi domino suo nēgent nativatem suam. sive Bondagium, tunc attachiuntur per Ministros Domini Regis. 1281 *Charter of Rich. II.* in Walsingham 254 (Du Cange) Et eorum quemlibet ab omni bondagio eximus, et quietos facimus. *Ibid.* 270 Quod nulla acra terræ quæ in Bondagio vel servitio tenebitur, altius quam ad 4 denarios habetur.] 1651 *Proc. Parliament* No. 126, 1951 Set free from their former dependencies and bondage services & shall be admitted as Tenants, Freeholders.

b. *Sc.* 'Services due by a tenant to the proprietor, or by a cottager [rather cotter] to the farmer.' Jam.

c. *esp.* The service of the *BONDAGER*.

(These are relics of sense 1 surviving to modern times in Scotland and adjacent parts of England.)

1818 *Edin. Mag.* Aug. 126-7 (JAM.) The farmer... holds his farm from the landlord... for payment of a certain sum of money;—a certain number of days' work with his horses, carts, and men... The very name that this service gets here, *bondage*, indicates the light in which it is viewed by the tenant. 1845 *New Statist. Acc. Scotl.* XII. 1004 What was termed *bondages* to the heritor, which embraced the labour of man and beast, long and short carriages, and the yearly payment of poultry, and in some cases of sheep, butter and tallow, are now abolished.

o. 1879 E. ROBERTSON *Hist. Ess.* 99 The *bondage*-system, entailing... the necessity of finding extra labour in field work.

1879 J. THOMSON *Peter Plough* 8 The bothy system there, like our *bondage* system here, is not as it should be. *Mod.* The hind's daughter does the *bondage* work for the house.

† d. Arbitrary or tyrannical impost. *Obs.*

c. 1850 and *Narr. late Parl.* in *Select. Harl. Misc.* (1793)

416 Appearing and standing... for right and freedom, against the *bondages*, which, contrary to engagements, covenants and promises, were put upon the good people of this land.

2. The position or condition of a serf or slave; servitude, serfdom, slavery.

1330 R. BRUNNE *Chron.* 71 In pat bondage, bat brouht was ouer þe se, Now ere þei in seruage fulle fele þat or was fre. 1398 *Barth. De P. R.* vi. xv. (1495) 199 Some seruautes ben bonde, and bore in bondage. 1460 CAPGRAVE *Chron.* 30 That wretched bondage of the Hebrew people in Egypt. 1593 SHAKS. *Rich. II.* i. iii. 89 Neuer did Captiue with a freer heart, Cast off his chaines of bondage. 1671 MILTON *Samson* 270 What more oft in Nations grown corrupt, And by their vices brought to servitude, Than to love Bondage more than Liberty. 1830 MACKINTOSH *Eth. Philos.* Wks. 1846 I. 52 Those who purchased them, nor those who hold them in bondage.

† b. Applied to the condition of being bound apprentice. (Cf. *service, servitude*.) *Obs.*

a. 1577 SIR T. SMITH *Commw. Eng.* III. x. (1609) 129 Another kind of seruitude or bondage is used in England... which is called apprenticeship.

c. *transf.* The condition of being bound or tied up; that which binds, *poet.*

1597 SHAKS. *Lover's Compl.* 34 Some [hair] in her threden fillet still did bide, And true to bondage would not break from thence. 1611 — *Cymb.* v. v. 306 *Cym.* Binde the Offender... *Bel.* Let his Armes alone, They were not borne for bondage. 1798 THOMSON *Spring* 649 The callow young Warmed and expanded into perfect life, Their brittle bondage break.

3. *fig.* Subjection to some bond, binding power, influence, or obligation.

a. 1450 *Knt. de la Tour* (1868) 55 One synne puttith her... into this seruage and bondage. 1540 COVERDALE *Old Faith* Prolog. (1844) 4 The bondage of sin and vice. 1651 CALDERWOOD *Hist. Kirk* (1843) II. 21 Subject to death, and to the bondage of the same. a. 1716 SOUTH (J.) To be brought under the bondage of observing oaths. 1866 ARGVILL *Reign Law* vii. (ed. 4) 362 The bondage under which all true Science lies to fact.

† b. Binding force, obligation. *Obs.*

1611 SHAKS. *Cymb.* II. iv. 111 The Vowes of Women, Of no more bondage be, to where they are made, Then they are to their Vertues.

Bondage (*bəndɪdʒ*), *v.* *Obs.* or *arch.* [f. *prec. sb.*] *trans.* To reduce to bondage, to enslave.

1611 HEYWOOD *Gold. Age* iv. i. Wks. 1874 III. 59 To bondage me that am a princesse free. 1803 J. BRISTED *Pedest. Tour* I. 354 Shackling and bonding the better sex.

Bondaged (*bəndɪdʒd*), *ppl. a. arch.* [f. *prec. + -ED* 1.] Reduced to bondage, enslaved.

1790 A. WILSON *Fly & Leech*, Mean, ugly lump of bondaged sloth. 1854 D. MOIR *Cast. Time* viii, Life forfeited, and bondaged land. 1853 LYNCH *Self-Improv.* vi. 150 [Christianity] presupposes the bondaged insufficiency of men.

Bondager (*bəndɪdʒər*), *sc.* [f. *BONDAGE sb.*

1 c + -ER.] One who performs bondage-service; *spec.* in recent times, in the south of Scotland and Northumberland, a female out-worker, whom the occupier of a cot-house on a farm, and generally also each 'hind' or married farm-worker occupying a 'hind's house', undertakes, as a condition of his tenancy, to supply from his own family, or else to engage, board, and lodge, to do regular field-labour on the farm.

[Not in JAMIESON 1808-25.] 1837 HOWITT *Rur. Life* II. iv. (1862) 119 These female hands in the fields... I heard these women called *Bondagers*. 1844 H. STEPHENS *Bk. Farm* II. 386 The first class of ploughmen were each bound to supply a field-worker for the farm during the year... these latter have long been designated by the odious name of *bondagers*. 1853 JOHNSTON *Nat. Hist. E. Nord.* I. 106 The row of *bondagers* on the haugh with the light rattle of their hoes. 1854 A. SOMERVILLE *Autobiog.* 6 When we lived in Springfield, the house rent was paid by finding one shearer for the harvest... also an outfield worker winter and summer for the farmer... [The latter] called the 'bondager' was paid ten-pence per day. 1869 *Pall Mall G.* 3 Aug. 12.

Bonded (*bəndəd*), *ppl. a.* [f. *BOND sb.* 1 + -ED.]

1. Held, pledged, or confirmed by bond.

1597 SHAKS. *Lover's Compl.* 279 That strong bonded oth. 1844 TUPPER *Proverb. Philos.* (1852) 384 Death... hath seized his bonded debtor.

2. Put into bond (see *BOND sb.* 1 12). Hence **bonded store, warehouse**, a store or warehouse in charge of Custom-house officials, in which goods may be kept in bond.

1809 R. LANGFORD *Introd. Trade* 130 *Bonded goods*, goods deposited in a warehouse till the duty is paid. 1851 HT. MARTINEAU *Hist. Peace* iv. xiv, The bonded stores connected with the Dublin custom-house. 1868 ROGERS *Pol. Econ.* xxii. (ed. 3) 289 Bonded warehouses, in which duty-paying goods, whether liable to customs or excise, are stored till they are needed for sale. 1884 *Pall Mall G.* 15 Aug. 5/2 Wholesale and bonded supplies of the article.

† **Bondedehede**. *Obs. rare.* [f. ME. *bonde*, *BOND sb.* 2 + -hede, -HEAD.] The condition of a bond or vassal; vassalage; bondage.

c. 1340 *Cursor M.* 5405 (Fair). Atte þou vs take in þi bondehede [v. r. thainhede, bundhede], In bondehede [v. r. thainhede, thraldome, praldome] take our landes alle.

Bondel (*l*, obs. form of *BUNDLE*).

Bonder (*bəndər*), [f. *BOND v.* + -ER.]

1. *Building*. A binding stone or brick; (see *quot.*)

1845 *Gloss. Goth. Archit.* I. 57 *Bonders*, *bond-stones*, *binding-stones*... reach a considerable distance into, or entirely through a wall for the purpose of binding it together.

2. A person who puts goods into bond, or owns goods in bond.

|| **Bonder** 2 (*bəndər*). [A wrong formation from Norweg. *bonde*, pl. *bønder*.] A Norwegian peasant farmer or petty freeholder. **Bonderman**.

1848 *Fraser's Mag.* XXXVIII. 182 On the white-scoured deal floors of the bonder's house. 1856 EMERSON *Eng. Traits* iv. 63 The 'Heimskringla'... is the Iliad and Odyssey of English history... The actors are bonders or landholders, every one of whom is named. 1870 MORRIS *Earthly Par.* II. III. 81 Knight, or fair lord... If thou mayst share a bonder's feast, Sit by me. 1884 *N. Brit. Rev.* No. 80. 425 So the Norwegian Olaf... forced his lendermen and bondermen... to overthrow the temples.

† **Bondhold**. *Obs. exc. hist.* [f. *BOND sb.* 2

+ *HOLD*: cf. *copyhold, freehold*.] Tenure in bond service, tenure of bond-land; a distinct sort of *copyhold*. Also *attrib.*

1611 *Auct. Customs Knaresboro' & Scriven* (1844) 4 If any bondholder there die seized of six acres of bondhold land.

† **Bondholder** 1. *Obs. exc. Hist.* [f. *prec.* + -ER; or f. *BOND sb.* 2 + *HOLDER*.] A tenant in bond service, or of bond-land.

1599 *Will T. Everard of Sizewell, Suffolk* (Somerset Ho.) [Witnesses described as Bond-holders]. 1611 [see *prec.*]

Bondholder 2 (*bəndhəʊldər*), [f. *BOND sb.* 1 9 + *HOLDER*.] A person who holds a bond or bonds granted by a private person or by a public company or government, as *Egyptian bondholder*, a holder of Egyptian government bonds.

So **Bondholding a.**

1844 *N. Amer. Rev.* Jan., A contract made by the State and the Banks with every bondholder. 1865 *Railw. News* Dec., A committee of preference bondholders. 1868 *Morning Star* 2 June, The Eastern 'bondholding' wing of the Democracy. 1880 LORD HATHURLEY *Law Rep.* 5 App. Cases 189 On behalf of the bondholders, who advanced their money upon the bonds of the company.

Bonding (*bəndɪŋ*), *vbl. sb.* [f. *BOND v.* + -ING 1.]

1. *Building*. The binding or connecting together (bricks, stones, or parts of a structure) by making them overlap and hold together; also, binding or strengthening by means of bonders.

1677 MOXON *Mech. Exerc.* (1703) 257 The well-working and bonding of Brick-walls conduces very much to their strength. 1879 SIR G. SCOTT *Lect. Archit.* II. 36 The bonding of [pilaster strips] by alternate vertical & horizontal stones.

b. *attrib.*

1825 WRIGHT *Celt. Rom. & Sax.* v. 158 The Roman bricks or tiles... were built in as bonding courses. 1864 *Even. Standard* Oct., A [Roman] wall... consisting of regular ashlar, alternating with rows of bonding tiles. 1884 *Health Exhib. Catal.* 93/a Bonding Bricks for hollow walls.

2. The action of pledging under bond to the repayment of money borrowed.

1877 BURROUGHS *Taxation* 407 The assent... of the taxpayers to the bonding of the town.

3. The storing of goods in bond; hence **bonding-house, -warehouse**.

1865 DRAPER *Intell. Dev. Europe* iv. 96 This implied an extensive system of depôts and bonding. 1863 FAWCETT *Pol. Econ.* IV. III. (1876) 552 Bonding-houses offer great... advantages to those who import taxed commodities.

Bond-land. [OE. *bondeland*, f. *bonda*, *BOND sb.* 2 + *LAND*.] Land held by *bondage* tenure; an early form of *copyhold* land.

[c. 1100 O. E. *Chron.* (Laud MS.) an. 777 2a let he Cuðbriht ealdormān [n]x bonde-land [terram x manentium] æt Swines heafde.] 1861 PEARSON *Early & Mid. Ages Eng.* 300 It is probable that the freemen upon bond-land were in the first instance Britons who retained their holding on condition of paying tribute. 1882 C. ELTON *Orig. Eng. Hist.* 192 In some places... there are two kinds of *copyhold* land, the one called 'Bond-land' and the other 'Soke-land'.

Bondless (*bəndləs*), *a.* [f. *BOND sb.* 1 + -LESS.]

Free from bonds; unfettered, unrestrained.

1839 BAILEY *Festus* iv. (1848) 33 Such as my bondless brain hath oft-times drawn.

† **Bondling**. *Obs. rare* 1. [f. *BOND sb.* 2 + -LING.] A slave; a slave-child.

1597 GOLDING *De Mornay* xxiii. (1617) 379 They sacrificed none but their... Changelings, Bastards and Bondlings.

† **Bondly**, *adv.* *Obs.* [f. *BOND sb.* + -LY 2.]

1. † By *bondhold*.

1465 MARG. PASTON *Lett.* 504 II. 191 They wold put hem owte of such londs as they huld bondly of the Lordshyp.

2. *Servilely*; as a slave or slaves.

1533 W. TURNER in *Strype Eccl. Mem.* III. i. iv. 49 If ye saw them [the bishops] how slavely and bondly they handle the rest of the Clergy.

Bondman (*bəndmən*), *arch.*; cf. *BONDSMAN*.

[f. *BOND sb.* 2 + *MAN*: cf. *husband, husbandman*; but in later times evidently connected in thought with senses of *BOND sb.* 1]

1. = *BOND sb.* 2. *Obs. exc. Hist.*

c. 1250 *Owl & Night*. 1577 Moni chapmon and moni cniht... And swa dep moni bondeman. a. 1300 *Havelok* 32 Hym louede... Knict, bondeman, and swain. 1503-4 *Act 19 Hen. VII.* xv. § 4 If any bondeman purchas eny landes... in fee symple. 1809 BAWDEN *Domesday Bk.* 289 The King has there sixteen villanes & two bordars & one bondman having four ploughs.]

2. A man in bondage; a villain; a serf, slave.

a. 1340 HAMPOLE *Pr. Cons.* 1155 Whar-to serves man þe world þan, And mas hym þe wordles bondman. 1477 EARL RIVERS (Caxton) *Dictes* 25 To be solde as a prysonner or a Bondeman. 1580 BARET *Adv.* B 920 A prysonner taken in

warre, a bondman, a captive. 1605 CAMDEN Rem. 181 That no Christian should be bondman to a Jew. 1645 MILTON *Tetrach. Wks.* (1851) 150 Instead of freeing us... make us bondmen. 1866 BYANT *Death of Slavery* II, Fields where the bondman's toil No more shall trench the soil.

3. *Bond-man-blind*: old name of *Blind-man's-buff*. 1783 AINSWORTH *Lat. Dict.* (Morell) v. *Myinda*. The play called bond-man-blind, blind-bob, or blind-man-buff.

Bondmanship. [f. prec. + -SHIP.] The state or condition of a bondman; serfdom, slavery.

1611 CORCORAN, *Esclavage*, slavery, bondmanship; villenage. 1880 McCARNEY *Own Times* IV. xlviii. 6 He consented to put himself into the comfortable bondmanship of subordinate office.

Bondship. *Obs.* or *dial.* [f. *BOND* sb.² + -SHIP.] 1. The condition of a 'bond'; serfdom, bondage (*obs.*). 2. Suretyship. (*dial.*)

c 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 43 Bondschepe, *natiuitas*. 1477 EARL RIVERS (Caxton) *Dictes* 20 Trust is in manner of a bondship, and mystrust is a libertie. 1542 UDALL *Erasm.* *Apoph.* 59 a, Phryne, who, this other day, Out of hir bondship did remove. 1808 R. ANDERSON *Cumberd. Ballads* (1819) 50 His fadder hed yence heaps of money, But bondship throwe monie frowk wrang.

Bondslave (*bɒndsləv*). [f. *BOND* a. + *SLAVE*.] A more emphatic term for slave or bondman.

1561 DAUS tr. *Bullinger on Apoc.* (1573) 79 We were... very bondslaves of the deull. 1577 tr. *Bullinger's Decades* (1592) 440 Now they, whome the Lorde delivere, are bondslaves. 1611 BIBLE 1 *Macc.* ii. 11 Of a free-woman shee is become a bondslave. 1671 MILTON *Samson* 38 Put to the labour of a beast, debased Lower than bondslave! 1848 KINGSLEY *Saint's Trag.* II. vi. 97 We are sold for bond-slaves.

Hence *Bond slavery*.

1835 MARRIAT *Olla Podr.* xiv. So are his children given in bond slavery to his debtor.

Bondman (*bɒndmæn*). [f. *BOND* sb.¹ + -MAN, the 's' being in sense 1 genitival; sense 2 is treated as a variant of *BONDMAN*, which in later times had come to be associated with *BOND* sb.¹: cf. the plural *bonds*.]

1. One who becomes surety by bond.

1754 RICHARDSON *Grandison* IV. iv. 26 Being the bondman for the duty of Mr. Beauchamp. 1808 E. IRVING *Last Days* 189 The disappointed creditors, the broken faith of bondsmen. 1871 *Standard* 20 Jan., Three of the leading men seized as security. The Mayor paid the sum... and the 'bonds' men were released.

2. A man in bondage; a villain; a serf, slave.

a 1735 DERHAM (J.) *Carnal greedy people*, without such a precept, would have no mercy upon their poor bondsmen and beasts. 1815 SCOTT *Id. of Isles* i. viii. From chieftain's tower to bondsmen's cot. 1851 MRS. BROWNING *Casa Guidi Wind*. 54 A bondsmen shivering at a Jesuit's foot. 1850 TENNYSON *In Mem.* iv. 2 To Sleep I give my powers away; My will is bondsmen to the dark.

Bondswoman. *rare*. Variant of *BONDWOMAN*.

1611 B. JONSON *Catiline* II. ad fin., My lords, the senators Are sold for slaves, and their wives for bondswomen.

|| **Bonduc** (*bɒndʊk*). [a. F. *bonduc*, a. Arab. *bundug*, now meaning 'hazel-nut', but formerly a foreign nut of some kind; prob. from Persian: OPers. had *pendak*, *fendak* (mod.Pers. *findug*, *fundug*, the latter also Arab.), perh. = Skr. *pinḍaka*, dim. of *pinḍa* 'ball, lump' (J. Platts).]

A tropical leguminous shrub of two species (*Gustlandina Bonduc* and *G. Bonducella*) bearing respectively yellow and lead-coloured seeds, hard and beautifully polished, also called Nicker-nuts. 1656 RAY *Philos. Lett.* (1718) 292, I have received... the Bean called the Ash Coloured Nicker or Bonduch. 1838 *Econ. Vegetation* 79 The bonduc, or nicker-tree. 1866 *Treat. Bot.* 556 The seeds are very hard and beautifully polished, and are called Nicker nuts or Bonduc nuts.

Bondwoman (*bɒndwʊmən*). [Orig. two words: see *BOND* a.] A female slave.

1307 TREVISIA *Higden* (1865) II. 97 (Mātrn.) Leyre wite, amendes for liggynge by a bondwoman. 1506 TINDALE *Gal.* iv. 30 Put away the bond woman. 1571 MILTON *P. R.* II. 308 The fugitive bondwoman, with her son, Outcast Nebaioth. 1780 BURKE *Reform Ho. Comm.* Wks. X. 102 Yorkshire, like the child of the bond-woman, is turned out to the desert. 1874 YEATS *Techm.* *Hist. Comm.* 143 The most exalted lady was no more exempt than the lowliest bondwoman.

Bone (*bɒn*), *sb.* Forms: 1 *bān*, *baan*, 2-3 *ban*, 3-5 *bon*, (4 *boen*, *buon*), 4-5 *boon*, (boone, 5 *bonne*), 3- *bone*; *north.* 3-9 *bane*, 5 *baan*, *bayne*; (9 *dial.* *bowne*, *byen*). [Com. Teut.: OE. *bān* corresp. to OFris. and OS. *bēn* (MDu., Du., LG. *been*), OHG. (MHG. and mod.G.) *bein*, ON. *bein* (Sw. *ben*, Da. *been*): -OTeut. **baino*(m), not appearing in Gothic, and (unlike names of parts of the body generally) not related to any words for 'bone' outside Teutonic. The ON., OHG., MHG., and Du., have, beside the general sense 'bone', the specific sense 'shank (of the leg)', which is the ordinary sense in mod.Ger. Hence it has been suggested that the original meaning was 'long bone'; and that the word may have connexion with the ON. adj. *beinn*, nom. masc. *beinn*, 'straight'. But this is a bare conjecture; the standing of the ON. adj. being itself obscure. In English there has never been any tendency to the specific sense, for which OE. had *scanca* SHANK.]

I. Properly.

1. The general name for each of the distinct parts which unitedly make up the skeleton or hard framework of the body of vertebrate animals.

They are distinguished, according to shape, as *long, short, flat, and irregular bones*; the long bones have an internal channel containing marrow. They are also named from their position, nature, form, etc., e.g. *ankle-, arm-, back-, blade-, breast-, collar-, jaw-, splint-, thigh-bone*, etc. c 1000 *Ag. Gosp.* John xix. 36 Ne for-brace ge nan ban on him. a 1300 *Cursor M.* 9405 He wrought a felau of his ban. 1340 *Ayeb.* 148 Ase þe buones bereþ þe tendre uless. 1388 WYCLIF *Esch.* xxxvii. 27 Bones wenten to boones, eche to his ioynture. 1398 TREVISIA *Barth. De P. R.* v. i. (1495) 99 The bones of the breaste defende the herte. 1403 *Cath. Angl.* 201 From bane to bane, *ossim*. 1549 *Compl. Scot.* 152 The corrupt flesche is consumit fra the banis. 1598 SHAKS. *Rom.* 4 *Jul.* II. v. 27 Fie how my bones ake. 1681 E. SCOTTER *Serm. Putney* 11 Weapons, that to be sure, draw no blood, nor break any bones. 1878 HUXLEY *Phys.* i. 10 The bones... are masses either of cartilage, or of connective tissue hardened by being impregnated with phosphate and carbonate of lime. 1873 MIVART *Elem. Anat.* II. 23 In the earlier stages of existence there are no bones at all. *Prov.* Hard words break no bones.

b. *pl.* as material for agricultural or industrial processes.

1814 SIR H. DAVY *Agric. Chem.* 289 Bones are much used as a manure. 1834 *Brit. Mus.* I. xix. 396 Turnips... manured with bones. 1870 YEATS *Nat. Hist. Comm.* 307 Bones are extensively employed by the cutler, comb and brush maker, chemist, confectioner, and agriculturist.

† c. Applied *spec.* to the fingers in the asseveration *By these ten bones*. *Obs.*

c 1485 *Digby Myst.* (1882) 4 note, By thes bonys ten thei be to you vntrue. 1589 *Papst w. Hatchet* Ciii b, Martin swears by his ten bones. 1593 SHAKS. 2 *Hen. VI.* I. iii. 193 By these tenne bones... hee did speake them to me.

d. Proverb. expression: *Hard, or dry, as a bone*.

1833 MARRIAT *P. Simple* i. It's as dry as a bone. 1837 R. NICOLL *Poems* (1843) 83 Dubs were hard as any bone.

2. *pl.* The whole bones of the body collectively, the skeleton; also, by extension, the bodily frame, body, person (with pathetically humorous force).

1398 TREVISIA *Barth. De P. R.* v. lviii. (1495) 172 The bones ben the sadnesse of the body. a 1400 *Sir Perc.* 267 Nothyng... That he myzte inne his bones hyde, Bot a gaytes skynne. c 1489 CAXTON *Sonnes of Aymon* iii. 108 Alarde... beganne to defende well hys bones. 1563-87 FOXE *A. & M.* III. x. 92/1 He [Latimer] ran as fast as his old bones would carry him. 1601 SHAKS. *Jul. C.* v. v. 41 Night hangs vpon mine eyes, my Bones would rest. 1605 *Chron. K. Lear*, What, breeds young bones already! 1604 LE-STRANGE *Esop's Fab.* (J.) Puss had a month's mind to be upon the bones of him. 1709 J. STEVENS *Quevedo's Wks.* 305 Feeding on me Day and Night, which has brought me to the very Bones. 1740 *Christmas Entertainm.* 16 Now (says she) take care of your bones between this and home. 1873 M. F. S. *Lily Merton's Summer* 28 Poor, pale, pretty little dear... she'll never live to make old bones.

† b. Exclamation: *bones of me!* *of you!*

1588 *Maryrel. Ep.* (Arb.) 44 The puritanes will be O the bones of you too badd for this kind of arguing. 1598 CHETTEL *Kind-harts Dr.* (1841) 70 Bones a me!

c. The bones being the most permanent parts of the dead body, 'bones' is put for 'mortal remains'.

c 1000 *ÆLFRIC Gen.* I. 25 And he cwæp Lædeþ mine ban of þison lande. c 1205 LAY. 32203 His ban beoð iloken faste i guldene cheste. 1368 LANGL. *P. Pl.* A. vii. 84 þe Chirche schal haue my Careyne And kepe mi Bones. 1598 NASHE in *Shaks. C. Praise* 5 Have his bones newe embalmed. 1616 *Inscr. over Shakspeare's Grave*, Blesste be y^e man y^e spares thes stones, And cvrst be he y^e moves my bones. 1651 *Proc. Parliament* No. 82. 1255 He will reduce the place, or leave his bones before it. 1750 GRAY *Elegy* xx, These bones from insult to protect Some frail memorial still erected nigh. 1880 TENNYSON *Columbus*, Then some one standing by my grave will say, 'Behold the bones of Christopher Colon'.

3. The bony structure or substance considered as one of the components of the body; esp. in the expressions, *blood and bone, flesh and bone, skin and bone, bred in the bone*, etc. (Used as *collect. sing.*)

c 1000 *ÆLFRIC Gen.* II. 23 Adam ða cwæð ðis is nu ban of minum banum. a 1300 *Cursor M.* 104 (Gott.) Iesu him rayssed in fless and ban. c 1430 *Hymns Virg.* (1867) 25 Loue byndiþ boþe blood & baan. 1566 J. HEYWOOD *Prov.* 4 *Epigr.* (1867) 72 It will not out of the fleshe that is bred in the bone. 1606 SHAKS. *Tr. & Cr.* III. iii. 172 High birth, vigor of bone, desert in service. 1611 BIBLE 1 *Sam.* xix. 23 Art thou not of my bone, and of my flesh? 1729 DR FOX *Cruace* (1840) II. i. 1 What is bred in the bone will not go out of the flesh. 1837 DICKENS *Pickw.* v, An immense brown horse displaying great symmetry of bone.

b. *To the bone*: through the flesh, so as to touch the bone; hence, to the inmost part, to the core. (Cf. *backbone*.) Also similarly *In the bone*.

a 1300 *Cursor M.* 15788 Ilk dint þat þai him gaf it reked to þe ban. c 1400 *Rom. Rose* 1059 They prile & poynten The folk right to the bare boon. 1709-10 *Tatler* (J.), There was lately a young gentleman bit to the bone. 1850 MRS. STOWE *Uncle Tom's C.* iv. 17 A cook she certainly was, in the very bone and centre of her soul. 1858 CARLYLE *Fredd. Gt.* (1865) I. III. xxi. 267 He being Calvinist... she Lutheran... and strict to the bone.

c. *fig.*

1573 R. SCOT *Hof Gard. Epist.* Greedy to tast of the marrow of gaines and loth to breake the bone of labour. 1874 BLACKIE *Self-Cult.* 84 The real blood and bone of human heroism. 1884 *Harper's Mag.* Mar. 517/1 The... bone and sinew of the country.

4. The material or substance of the bones (in *prec. senses*), which consists of animal matter, *ossein*,

and salts of carbonate and phosphate of lime in varying proportions.

1472 RIPLEY *Comp. Alch.* I. in Ashm. (1652) 129 Dry as askys of Tre or Bone. 1597 SHAKS. *Lover's Compl.* 45 Many a ring of poised gold and bone. 1814 SIR H. DAVY *Agric. Chem.* 290 The basis of bone is constituted by earthy salts. 1855 OWEN *Shel. & Teeth* 165 The primitive basis, or 'blastema', of bone is a subtransparent glairy matter. 1874 BOUTELL *Arms & Arm.* vi. 83 Implements and weapons formed exclusively of wood and bone and stone.

b. Applied to other animal substances more or less akin to bone; as the dentine of the teeth, the ivory of the tusks of the elephant, walrus, etc. (See *WHALEBONE*.)

a 900 *Erfurt Gloss.* 351 (O. E. T.) *Ebor*, elpendes ban. *Corpus Gl.* 712 *Ebor*, elpendbaan. c 1205 LAY. 23778 Ane siele gode he was al clane of olifantes bane. a 1450 *Sir Eglam.* 1083 Crystyabelle, yowre doghtur bryght, As whyte as bone of whale. 1588 SHAKS. *L. & L.* v. ii. 320 His teeth as white as Whales bone. 1616 W. BROWNE *Brit. Past.* II. 67 (N.) An ivory dart she held of good command; White was the bone. 1843 *Penny Cycl.* XXXVII. 295 There are upwards of three hundred of these plates of whalebone on each side of the jaw. 1870 NICHOLSON *Zool.* 462 The so-called 'bone' of the skeleton of Fishes is only occasionally true osseous tissue.

5. Applied to various articles, originally or usually manufactured of bone, ivory, whalebone, etc.

a. *pl.* Dice.

c 1386 etc. [see *BICCHED* b]. a 1599 SKELTON *Wks.* (ed. Dyce) I. 52 On the borde he whyled a payre of bones. 1604 FLETCHER *Rule a Wife* I. Wks. 1778 III. 433 Thou won't my money too, with a pair of base bones. 1724 SWIFT *Wood's Exec.* Wks. 1755 V. ii. 157 *Gameter*, I'll make his bones rattle. 1800 SCOTT *Nigel* xii, If thine ears have heard the clatter of the devil's bones. 1808 THACKERAY *Van. Fair* lxvii. No, no, Becky... We must have the bones in.

b. *pl.* Pieces of bone struck or rattled, to make rude music; esp. two pieces of bone or ivory held between the fingers of each hand and rattled together as an accompaniment to the banjo or other instrument; chiefly used by 'nigger minstrels'. Also humorously used as a name for the player. (Cf. also *MARROWBONE*.)

1590 SHAKS. *Mids. N.* iv. i. 33 Wilt thou heare some musick... Let vs hane the tongs and the bones. 1811 *Househ. Words* III. 245 Now, the Ethiopians... play old banjos and bones. 1865 *Times* 17 July, Amateur negro melodists... thumbed the banjo and rattled the bones. 1884 *Sat. Rev.* 7 June 740/1 A single row of negro minstrels seated on chairs... while at the end are Bones and Samba.

c. *pl.* A sort of bobbins, made of trotter bones, for weaving bonelace. J.

1601 SHAKS. *Twel. N.* II. iv. 46 The free maides that weane their thred with bones. 1691 RAY *N. C. Wds.* 9 *Bones*, bobbins, because probably made at first of small Bones. Hence *Bone-lace*.

d. A strip of whalebone used to stiffen stays, etc.; also attrib., as in *bone-casing*.

1595 GOSSON *Pleas. Quipps* in Hazl. E. P. P. IV. 256 These privie coates, by art made strong With bones. 1884 *Dress Cutting Assoc. Circular* ii, All the seams should be opened, the edges neatly over-handed, and bone casings put on. *Mod.* She had the misfortune to break one of the bones of her stays.

e. Also in various comb. as *Guilt bones, Ten-bones, Napier's bones*, etc., q.v. † *St. Hugh's bones*: see *quot.*

1600 DEKKER *Gentle Craft* iv. (1862) 15 Skoomaker, have you all your tools... your hand and thumb-leathers and good Saint-Hugh's bones to smooth up your work.

6. A bone (or part of one) 'with as much flesh as adheres to it, a fragment of meat' (J.). Often in comb. as *ailch-, knuckle-, marrow-bone*, etc.

c 1386 CHAUCER *Knights T.* 319 We struyen as dide the houndes for the boon. c 1400 *Proverb* in *Rel. Ant.* I. 233 Two dogges and one bone Maye never accorde in one. 1816 SCOTT *Antiq.* xxvii. 193 'I'll gie ye something better than that beef bone, man'. 1837 DISRAELI *Corr. w. Sister* (1886) 76, I...supped...with a large party off oysters, Guinness, and broiled bones.

b. *Bones* (*fig.*): something relished.

1884 TUPPER *Heart* vii. 61 'Now, that's what I call bones.' It was a currish image, suggestive of the choicest satisfaction.

c. *A bone to pick* or *gnaw*: something to occupy one as a bone does a dog; a difficulty to solve, a 'nut to crack'. *To have a bone to pick with one*: to have a matter of dispute, or something disagreeable or needing explanation, to settle with a person.

1565 COLPHILL *Answ. Treat. Cron.* (1846) 277 A bone for you to pick on. 1579 GOSSON *Sch. Abuse* (Arb.) 30 Some Archplayer... will cast me a bone or ii to pick. 1608 FULBECKE *Pandectes* 69 He...gaue them a bone to gnawe. Date quod est Caesaris Caesaris, and quod Dei Deo. 1783 AINSWORTH *Lat. Dict.* (Morell) I. s. v. *Pick*, To give one a bone to pick, *serupulum alicui injicere*. 1850 H. ROGERS *Ess.* II. II. (1874) 103 Many a 'bone' in these lectures which a keen metaphysician would be disposed to 'pick' with the author.

7. *Bone of contention, discord*, etc.: something that causes contention, discord, etc.; formerly also simply *bone* in phrase to cast a bone between: in allusion to the strife which a bone causes between dogs. a 1506 J. HEYWOOD *Prov. & Epigr.* (1867) 47 The diuall hath cast a bone to set stryfe Betweene you. 1576 LAMBARDE *Peramb. Kent* (1826) 425 This became such a bone of dis-sention between these deere friends. 1660 *Trial Regis.* 79 But you cast in Bones here to make some difference. 1698 R. LESTRANGE *Josephus' Antiq.* xvi. xl. (1733) 439 By this Means she...cast in a Bone betwixt the Wife and the

Husband. 1711 C. M. *Lett. to Curat* 33 The Liturgie, since it was first Hatched, has been the Bone of Contention in England. 1803 WELLINGTON in *Gurw. Disp.* I. 517 A great bone of contention between Scindiah & Holkar.

8. To make bones of or about (at, in, to do obs.): to make objections or scruples about, find difficulty in; have hesitation in or about. So *Without more bones*. Formerly also *To find bones in*, and similar phrases, referring to the occurrence of bones in soup, etc., as an obstacle to its being easily swallowed.

1450 *Paston Lett.* 331 I. 444 And fond that tyme no bony in the matere. a 1599 SKELTON *Elynour Rum.* 381 Supped it up at once; She founde therein no bones. 1548 UDALL etc. *Erasm. Par. Luke* i. 28 He made no maner bones ne sticking, but went in hande to offer up his only son Isaac. 1571 GOLDING *Calvin on Ps. lxxxiii.* 9 As for mans hand, they make no bones at it. 1581 MARBECK *Bk. of Notes* 325 What matter soever is intreated of, they never make bones in it. 1589 NASHE *Almond for P.* 12 b. A boule of Beere, which...you tooke...and trilled it off without anie more bones. 1598 SYLVESTER *Du Barlas* II. iv. 14. (1641) 227/1 Hee...makes no bone To swear by God (for, hee believes there's none). 1644 ROGERS *Naaman* 579 Who make no bones of the Lords promises, but devoure them all. 1670 G. H. *Hist. Cardinals* I. II. 40 The Pope makes no bones to break...the Decrees. 1850 THACKERAY *Pendennis* lxiv. (1884) 635 Do you think that the Government or the Opposition would make any bones about accepting the seat if he offered it to them? 1876 SIMPSON *Sch. Shaks.* I. 51 Elizabeth was thus making huge bones of sending some 7000 over for the general purposes of the government in Ireland.

9. To put a bone in any one's hood: an obs. humorous expression for To break (or ? cut off) his head; to have a bone in one's leg, throat, etc.: as a feigned objection to the use of one's legs, etc.

1548 UDALL *Erasm. Apoph.* 337 b. He refused to speake, allegeyng that he had a bone in his throte, & could not speake. 1560 *Nice Wanton* in *Hazl. Dodol.* II. 170 Then, by the rood, A bone in your hood I shall put, ere it be long. a 1738 SWIFT *Poet. Conv.* iii. (D.), I can't go, for I have a bone in my leg.

II. Transferred and fig. senses.

† 10. The stone of stone-fruit (transl. L. os). Obs. 1382a WYCLIF *Baruch* vi. 42 Wymmen. sitten in weyes, brennyngne boonys of olyues [Vulg. succedentes ossa olivarum]. c 1420 *Pallad. on Husb.* II. 394 Nowe sette in peches boon.

11. A callous growth in different parts of the legs of horses, becoming as hard as bone; as in *bone-spavin* (see 17), *ring-bone*, etc.

12. The hard framework or 'skeleton' of anything, e.g. of a ship.

1634 SIR T. HERBERT *Trav.* 209 The shipwracke of a Dutch Ship cald the Mauritias that laid her bones here. 1854 THACKERAY *Newcomes* I. 89 Curtains were taken down, mattresses explored, every bone in bed dislocated and washed. 1868 BAKER *Cast up by Sea* iii. 46 Steer straight between the fires...she'll break her bones if she follows. 1878 *N. Amer. Rev.* CXXVI. 106 The bones of the language gradually were weakened.

13. Min. 'The slaty matter intercalated in coal-seams.' Raymond *Mining Gloss.* 1880.

14. † a. To carry the bone, i.e. one half of the stake, at the game of BONE-ACE. Obs. [Perhaps a distinct word connected with *F. bon, bonne, good*.] 1680 COTTON *Compl. Gamester* in *Singer Hist. Cards* (1816) 342 He that hath the biggest card carries the bone, that is one half of the stake.

b. Naut. To carry a bone in the mouth or teeth: said of a ship, when she makes the water foam before her.

1627 CAPT. SMITH *Seaman's Gram.* II. 10 If the Bow be too broad, she will seldome carry a Bone in her mouth or cut a feather, that is, to make a bone before her. 1851 LONGR. *Gold. Leg.* v. See how she leaps...and speeds away with a bone in her mouth.

III. Comb. and Attrib.

15. simple attrib. (or adj.). Of bone. 1488 *Inv. Jas.* III. in *Tytler Hist. Scot.* (1864) II. 393 Item a bone cofre, and in it a grete cors of gold. 1875 *USE Dict.* Arts I. 419 A bone or ivory folding stick. 1879 LUBBOCK *Sci. Lect.* v. 150 These cavemen were very ingenious, and excellent workers in flint...their bone pins, etc. are beautifully polished.

16. General relations: a. attrib. (consisting of, pertaining to, made of, or obtained from bones) as *bone-cartilage*, *-cell*, *-gelatine*, *-glue*, *-knife*, *-knowledge*, *-pus*, *-salt*, *-snacks*, *-tissue*, *-yard*. b. objective with pr. pple., vbl. sb., or agent-noun, as *bone-boiling*, *-breaking*, *-crushing*, *-gnawer*, *-grinding*, *-piercing*, *-rotting*; c. similitative, as *bone-like*, *-dry*, *-white*, adjs.

c 1865 LETHBRV in *Circ. Sc.* I. 96/2 Refuse grease from glue-making and bone-boiling. 1868 BENTHAM *Sc. Reform* 50 The bone setting and bone breaking hundred-mile road. 1839-47 TODD *Cycl. Anat. & Phys.* III. 856/2 'Bone-cells appear in the ossified intercellular tissue. 1676 W. ROW *Contn. Blair's Autobiog.* x. (1848) 168 The burden of that congregation very ponderous and only not 'bone-crushing'. c 1865 *Circ. Sc.* I. 332/2 'Bone-gelatin is obtained by boiling bones in water. 1864 *Athenaeum* 6 Dec. 727/1 The 'bone-gnawer of Kent's Cavern'. 1839 H. ROGERS *Essays* (1874) II. iii. 143 Nothing would be gained but ridicule if we were to substitute 'bone-knowledge' for 'osteology'. 1849-50 TODD *Cycl. Anat. & Phys.* IV. 930/2 Covered with the 'bone-like substance. 1890 MARSTON *Sci. Villanie* I. iii. 183 A thrice-turn'd, 'bone-pick't subject gnaw. a 1639 W. WHATELEY *Prototypes* II. xxxii. (1640) 127 The 'bone-rotting vice of envy. 1849-50 TODD *Cycl. Anat. & Phys.* IV. 930

The cells...receiving into their interior the 'bone-salts. 1855 HOLDEN *Hum. Osteol.* (1878) 16 This mixture of earthy granules and animal matter we call 'bone-tissue'. 1856 C. BINDLEY *Pract. Horsemanship* (ed. 2) Intro. 13 She [a mare] is the 'milk-white'. Now there is a breed of 'bone-whites', of a bluish tinge, with blackish muzzles. 1883 *Century Mag.* XXVII. 3 Torture them [horses] in their last hours on the way to the 'bone-yard'.

17. Special comb.: † bone-ache, -ague, pain in the bones; bone-ash, the mineral residue of bones burnt in contact with air, a white, porous, and friable substance, composed chiefly of phosphate of lime; † bone-baster (see quot.); bone-bed, a geological stratum abounding with bones of animals; bone-black, the product of the carbonization of bones, extensively used as a decolorizing and deodorizing agent, as a pigment, etc.; bone-breaker, he who or that which breaks bones; a name of the Osprey (*L. ossifraga*, Ger. *Beinbrecher*); also attrib.; bone-breccia, breccia containing many fragments of bones; bone-brown, a pigment obtained from bones or ivory by roasting till rendered uniformly brown; bone-cave, a cave in which are found bones of extinct or recent animals; bone-charcoal = bone-black; bone-dog, a kind of Dog-fish; bone-dust, bones ground for manuring purposes; bone-earth = bone-ash; bone-fat, marrow; bone-fever, 'phlegmonous inflammation of the hand and arm, often seen in workers in bone' (*Syd. Soc. Lex.*); bone-fish (see quot.); bone-flower, dial. name of the daisy (J. Hutton *Tour Caves Gloss.*); bone-grease, or *Sc. bone-grease*, 'the oily substance produced from bones, bruised and stewed on a slow fire' (Jamieson); bone-grubber = bone-picker; bone-house, a charnel-house; a coffin; the human body; bone-manure, a manure prepared from bones; bone-mill, a mill for grinding or crushing bones or bone-black; bone-nippers (*Surgery*), 'cutting forceps, used in the removal of bone' (*Syd. Soc. Lex.*); bone-oil, a fetid, blackish-brown, thick oil obtained by the dry distillation of bones, and in the preparation of bone-black; bone-picker, one who lives by collecting bones from heaps of refuse, etc.; bone-polisher (*slang*), the cat-o-nine tails, or the man who wields it; bone-shaker, a humorous name given to the bicycle as it existed before the introduction of india-rubber tires and other improvements; bone-spavin, a bony excrescence or hard swelling on the inside of a hock of a horse's leg; bone-spirit, a crude ammoniacal liquor obtained from bone; † bone-work, work done with bone bobbins (applied to bone-lace). Also BONE-LACE, -SET, -SETTER, -SHAW, -WORT.

1606 SHAKS. *Tr. & Cr.* II. iii. 20 The vengeance on the whole Camp, or, rather the 'bone-ach. 1659 CLOBERY *Div. Glimpses* 35 (Halliwell) They a 'bone-ague get to plague their crimes. 1688 MALYNE *Ant. Law-Merch.* 284 The Assay-master took four coppies or teasts, which are made of 'Bone-ashes. 1823 J. PLATT *Bk. Curiosities* lxxiv. 719 The...cupel, which was composed of bone-ash. 1600 ROWLANDS *Let. Humours Blood* iv. 64 And lets him see 'Bone-baster; that his staffe. 1880 GUNTHER *Fishes* 194 In the upper Silurian Rocks, in a 'bone-bed of the Downton sandstone. 1825 *Specif. J. Taylor's Patent* No. 3929 Bones converted either into ivory or 'bone black, animal charcoal, or into white bone ash. 1861 HULME *Tr. Moquin-Tandon* II. III. 160 Known as animal charcoal, or bone black. 1598 FLORIO, *Ossifraga*, a kind of hauke or eagle called a 'bone-breaker. 1721-1800 BAILEY, *Bone-breaker*, a kind of Eagle. 1865 LUBBOCK *Preh. Times* 249 In a 'bone-breccia of this nature the flint-impliments would be relatively more abundant. 1863 Our knowledge of this ancient period is derived principally from...the 'Bone-Caves. 1876 A. RAMSAY *Phys. Geog.* xxviii. 459 Bone-caves...always occur in limestone strata. 1859 YARRELL *Brit. Fishes* (ed. 3) II. 519 The Picked Dog-fish...along the south-eastern coast...is almost universally called the 'Bone-Dog. 1834 *Brit. Husb.* I. 397 Effects of 'bone-dust and bones. 1848 *Gard. Chron.* 437 The clergyman had...put a handful of bone-dust under every tree and shrub. 1734 MORTIMER in *Phil. Trans.* XXXVIII. 317 *Mormyrus*, ex cinereo nigricans, the 'Bone-Fish. 1809 KENDALL *Trav.* II. lii. 204 The species of whale taken was...the bone-fish...valued for the article called in commerce whale-bone. 1866 MAYHEW *Crim. Prisons* 40 A black-chinned and lantern-jawed 'bone-grubber. 1799 *Chron.* in *Ann. Reg.* 3/2 The 'bone-house in the Churchyard. 1846 WALBRAN *Guide Ripon*, The celebrated 'Bone-house' no longer exists. 1870 EMERSON *Soc. & Sol.* vi. 119 This wonderful bone-house which is called man. a 1848 MARRYAT *R. Reefers* lvii, Master at arms, brush up the 'bone-polishers. 1857 *Old Commodore* II. 192 He became body servant and bone-polisher to No. 2. 1874 A. HOWARD *Bicycle* 10 In 1870 and 1871 the low, long 'bone-shaker' began to fall in public esteem. 1883 C. SPENSER in *Echo* 1 Sept. 1/6 The bicycle of the present day differs [greatly] from the 'bone-shaker' I introduced into England in 1868. 1607 TORSELL *Four-f. Beasts* 316 The dry spaven...is a great hard knob...in the inside of the hough...called of some the 'bone-spaven. 1577 HOLINSHED *Chron.* III. 1099/2 A faire hat of velvet, with a broad 'bone-worke lace about it.

Bone, a. *Thieves' cant.* [app. f. *F. bon* good; or a retention of ME. *bon, boom*: see BOON.] Good. 1851 MAYHEW *Lond. Labour* I. 364 A mark...placed on the door post of such as are bone or gammy in order to inform the rest of the school where to call.

Bone (bōn), v. 1 [f. BONE sb.]

† 1. intr. † To throw out spicules of bone. Obs. 1664 in *Pepys Diary* (1879) III. 96 [*Charm against a thorn*] Jesus...Was pricked both with nail and thorn; It neither wealed, nor belled, rankled nor boned.

2. trans. To deprive of the bone; to take out the bones, e.g. from meat, fish, etc.; also fig.

1494 *Act 11 Hen. VII.* xxiii, Fish...not boned or splatted. 1552 HULOET, Bonen, or plucke oute bones, *exosso*. 1674 *tr. Scheffer's Lapland* xviii. 92 Having boiled the fish they first bone them. 1853 SOVER *Pantroph.* 139 Cook a ham...then bone it. 1880 RUSKIN *Deucalion* No. 7 You give it [a book] to a reviewer, first to skin it, and then to bone it, and then to chew it, and then to lick it, and then to give it you down your throat like a handful of pilau.

3. To furnish with bones, as a. to manure with bones; b. to stiffen (stays) with whalebone.

1871 *Figure-Training* 49 Having my stays very fully boned and fitted with shoulder-straps. 1873 R. CALDECOTT in *Fall Mall G.* 11 June (1886) 4/1 A fine grass field...well boned last winter.

Bone (bōn), v. 2 *slang*. [Origin unknown: it has been conjectured to be a sense of prec., 'to seize as a dog does a bone'; also referred to BONE a.]

trans. To take into custody, apprehend; to lay hold of; to seize and take possession of, steal.

1819 J. H. VAUX *Mem.* II. 157 Tell us how you was boned, signifies, tell us the story of your apprehension. 1846 *Comic Jack Giant Killer* II. i. (ed. 3) 6 For not the slightest 'bones' made he Of 'boning' people's 'grub'. 1879 F. POLLOK *Sport Brit. Burmah* II. 22, I wounded a tusker...but the Karens...found it dead and boned the tusks.

Bone, v. 3. See BONING vbl. sb. 2

Bone, obs. form of BANE, BOON, BOUN.

† Bone-ace. Obs. [see BONE sb. 14.] A game at cards in which the third card dealt to each player is turned up, and the player who has the highest obtains the 'bone' or half the stake; also the name of the ace of diamonds, which is the highest card in this game.

1611 FLORIO, *Trattato*, a game at cards called one and thirtie, or bone-ace. 1617 *Mackiwell's Dogge* (Halliwell) What shall bee our game? Primero? Gleeke? Or one and thirtie, bone-ace, or new-cut? 1680 COTTON *Compl. Gamester* in *Singer Hist. Cards* (1816) 342 The ace of diamonds is Bone-Ace, and wins all other cards whatever. a 1726 VANBRUGH *Prov. Husb.* II. Plays (1730) 305 You, and I, and sister...may play at one and thirtie Bone-ace purely.

Boned (bōnd), ppl. a. [f. BONE + -ED.]

1. Having bones. Chiefly in composition, as *big-, high-, strong-boned*, etc.

1597 R. GLOUC. 414 Pycke man he was ynou...wel yboned & strong. 1413 LYDG. *Pylgr. Soule* IV. xxxii. (1483) 81 Wel ioynted and myghtly boned. 1588 SHAKS. *Tit. A.* IV. iii. 46 No big-bon'd-men fram'd of the Cyclops size. 1871 NAPHEYS *Prev. & Cure Dis.* I. iii. 95 Families raised on this water are larger boned than others.

fig. 1645 RUTHERFORD *Tryal & Tri. Faith* (1845) 165 Faith is sinewed and boned with spiritual courage.

2. Furnished with bone or bones; as a. manured with bone; b. stiffened with whalebone.

1834 *Brit. Husb.* I. xix. 394 Land of similar quality, but not boned. 1871 *Figure-Training* 58 A nicely-fitting and well-boned corset.

3. Deprived of the bones; esp. in *Cookery*.

1725 BRADLEY *Fam. Dict.* s.v. *Soles*, The flesh of Bon'd Soles. 1864 *Daily Tel.* 9 Feb., Boned turkey, ham, salad.

Bone-lace. [f. BONE sb. 5 c + LACE.]

1. Lace, usually of linen thread, made by knitting upon a pattern marked by pins, with bobbins originally made of bone; formerly called *bone-work lace*; now largely superseded by bobbin-net.

1574 HELLOWES *Guevara's Ep.* (1577) 316 To see her...take her cushion for bone lace, or her rocke to spinne. 1666 *Lond. Gas.* No. 94/3 Our Manufactures...of Points and Bone-laces. 1709 STEELE *Tatler* No. 61 ¶ 4 [They] should be sent to knit, or sit down to Bobbins or Bone-lace. 1807 VANCOUVER *Agric. Devon* (1813) 4 Its chief manufactures are the different kinds of woollen cloths, as also of bone-lace.

2. attrib. and in comb., as *bone-lace-edging*, *-maker*.

1634 *Simp. Reasons in Harl. Misc.* (Malh.) IV. 178 Davison a bonelace-maker. 1883 *Daily News* 26 June 5/7 An Innish-maccsaint body-trimming and a bone-lace edging.

Bone-laced, ppl. a. [f. prec. + -ED.] Trimmed with bone-lace.

1766 STERNE *Tr. Shandy* V. vii. 43 Her bone-laced caps.

Boneless (bōn'less), a. [OE. *bānless*, f. *ban*, BONE + *less*, -LESS.]

Without bones; destitute of bone.

c 1000 *Riddles* xlvi. 3 (Gr.) Pæt banleasse bryd. a 1225 *St. Mark.* 18 Blodles ant banles, dumbe ant deaue. 1605 SHAKS. *Macb.* I. vii. 5, I would...Haue pluckt my Nipple from his Bonelesse Gummies. 1618 CHAPMAN *Heriod* II. 25 The bonelesse fish [octopus] doth eat his feet for colde. 1854 BADHAM *Haliet.* 439 The boneless eel of Archestratus was no doubt the lamprey.

b. fig. Wanting 'backbone'; without 'stamina'; 'invertebrate'.

1881 A. B. HOPE *Brandreths* III. I. 280 The Lord Chancellor read a Queen's Speech jubilant with more boneless promises of gigantic reform. 1884 *Contemp. Rev.* May 630 Those boneless beings who repeat idiotically all they hear.

Bonelet (bōn'let). [see -LET.] A small bone. 1854 H. MILLER *Footpr. Crat.* v. (1874) 93 The carpal bonelets of the pectoral fins.

Boner(e, -eyre, variants of BONAIR a. Obs.

Boneset (bōn'set). [prob. f. BONE + SET *v.*, in allusion to reputed medicinal virtues.] + *a.* The common Comfrey, *Symphytum officinale*. *Obs. rare.* b. The popular name of a North American plant, *Eupatorium perfoliatum*, valued for its medicinal properties; thorough-wort. Also *attrib.*

1670 RAY *Catal. Plant. Angliæ* in Britten *Plant-n. s.v.*, Fracturas ossium consolidat, unde et Anglice à nonnullis *Boneset* dicitur. 1830 LINDLEY *Nat. Syst. Bot.* 199 *Eupatorium perfoliatum* is known in North America under the name of *Boneset*. 1866 Mrs. STOWE *Lit. Foxes* 51 Go into the kitchen and make yourself some good boneset tea.

Bone-setter (bōn'set-er). One who sets dislocated or broken bones; a surgeon; now applied *spec.* to one who makes a distinct calling of treating fractures, without being a certified surgeon.

c 1470 *Play Sacram.* 539 He ys also a bone setter. c 1520 BARCLAY *Mirr. Good Mann.* (1570) Dvj, A bone setter he hyreth. 1622 PEACHAM *Compl. Genil.* xi. (1634) 99 Accounted the best Bone-setter in the Country. 1706 HEARN *Rem. & Coll.* (1885) I. 226 An Eminent Bone-setter and a good Surgeon. 1884 *Pall Mall G.* 24 Sept. 5/1 A bone-setter is a sort of amateur surgeon, who has learnt the art of curing dislocations empirically, and who practises that particular branch of surgery in an informal, irregular manner. Of late, the art of the bone-setter has risen into some repute with the regular profession.

So Bone-setting *vb.* *sb.* and *ppl. a.*

1591 PERCIVAL *Sp. Dict.*, *Algebra*, bone setting. 1676 WISEMAN *Surg.* (J.) A fractured leg set in the country by one pretending to bonesetting. 1808 BENTHAM *Sc. Reform* 50 The bone setting or bone breaking hundred-mile road.

† Boneshawe. *Obs.* Forms: 4 *boon*-, 4-5 *bon*-, 5 *bane*-, *baynshawe*-, *boneshawe*-, 7 *boneshaw*-, 8 *boneshave*-. [f. BONE *sb.* 1; but the meaning of *shaw* does not appear: the Exmoor *-shave* appears to be due to popular etymology.]

1. Sciatica or hip-gout.

c 1350 J. ARDERNE *Chirurg.* in *Promp. Parv.* 44 note, Ad guttam in osse que dicitur *bonschawe*, multum valet oleum de vitellis ovorum, si inde ungatur. c 1400 *Sloan MS.* 100 f. 7 in *Promp. Parv.* 44 note, A good medycyn for *boonschawe*. c 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 44 *Bonschawe*, *sekenesse* .. *tesedo*, *sciasis*. 1483 *Cath. Angl.* 20/1 Pe *Bane schawe*, *ossed*. 1579 LANGHAM *Gard. Health* (1633) 93 For the *boneshaw* and gout, see the flowers with wine. a 1600 MONTGOMERIE in Watson *Coll. Sc. Poems* III. 13 With Bock-blood and *Benshaw*. a 1778 *Chorus* in *Exmoor Scolding* note, As the water runs by the stove Good for bone-shave.

2. = *Bone-spavin*: see BONE *sb.* 17. (? An error.) 1790 GROSE *Prov. E. Dict.*, *Boneshave*, a bony or horny excrescence or tumor growing out of horses heels.

Bonet (e, -tt(e), *obs.* forms of BONNET.

Bonetta, variant of BONITO.

† Boneventor. *Obs. rare.* [Can the name have arisen in some way from Fr. *bonne aventure* or It. *buonavventura* good luck, as if 'happy-go-lucky fellows, adventurers'.] See quot. Cf. *BONAVENTURE* 3.

1643 *Five Years K. Jas. etc.* in *Harl. Misc.* (Malh.) V 351 Divers sects of vicious persons .. as the sect of roaring-boys, boneventors, bravado's, quarterers, and such like, being persons prodigal .. having run themselves in debt.

† Bone-wort. *Obs.* Forms: 1 *banwyr*-, 3 *bonwurt*-, 5 *banworte*-, 6 *banwort*-, *banwurt*-, *banwoort*-, 7-8 *bonewort*-. [OE. *bānwyr*-, f. *bān*, BONE + *wyr*-, WORT.]

A name given, on account of their supposed bone-healing properties, to several different plants, as the common Daisy, Golden-Rod, Centaury (*Erythraea*), Yellow Mountain Pansy, *Consolida minor*, and Osmund Royal or Flowering Fern.

c 1000 *Ag. Voc.* in Wr. Wülcker 300 *Viola aurea et viola purpurea*, *banwyr*. c 1000 *Sax. Leechd.* I. 294 Deos *wyr* be man *violam*, & oðrum *naman* *banwyr* nemned, ys ðreora *cynna*. c 1265 *Voc.* in Wr. Wülcker 556 *Osmunda*, *osmund*, *bonwurt*. c 1400 *Roy. MS.* 18 A vi. f. 72 b in *Promp. Parv.* 52 note, Bryse-wort or bon-wort or dayseye. 1483 *Cath. Angl.* 20/1 *Banworte*, *consolidum*. 1513 DOUGLAS *Eneis* xii. ProL 115 In battill gyrs burgions the *banwort* wyld. 1565-73 COOPER *Thesaur.*, *Bellis*, the whyte daysey, called of some the *margarite*, in the North *banwoort*. 1736 BAILEY *Househ. Dict.* 2 Take adder's spear, alehoof .. bone-wort.

† Bonfacion. *a. Obs.* [f. F. *bonne* good + *facion* fashion.] ? In fashion, fashionable.

1584 *Three Ladies Lond.* i. in *Harl. Dods.* VI. 254 And art thou gotten so bonfacion and brave?

Bonfire (bōn'fai-er), *sb.* Forms: Sc. 5- *bane*-, 6 *bain*-, 5-8 *bone*-, 6- *bonfire*; also 6 *bonne*-, *boane*-, *boun*-, *bond*-, 7 *boon*-(e), 8 *burnfire*; north. and Sc. 5-9 *bane*-, 6 *bainfire*-. [f. BONE *sb.* 1 + FIRE = fire of bones. The etymological spelling *bone-fire*, Sc. *bane-fire*, was common down to 1760, though *bonfire* was also in use from the 16th c., and became more common as the original sense was forgotten. Johnson in 1755 decided for *bonfire*, 'from *bon* good, (Fr.) and *fire*'. But the shortening of the vowel was natural, from its position; cf. *knowledge*, *Monday*, *collier*, etc. In Scotland with the form *bane-fire*, the memory of the original sense was retained longer; for the annual midsummer 'banefire' or 'bonfire' in the burgh of Hawick, old bones were regularly collected and stored up, down to c. 1800.]

VOL. I.

† 1. A fire of bones; a great fire in which bones were burnt in the open air. *Obs.*

(The 17th c. quotations are chiefly allusive, implying a knowledge that *bonfires* ought to burn bones.)

1483 *Cath. Angl.* 20/1 A *banefyre*, *ignis ossium*. 1493 *Festivall* (W. de W. 1515) 105 In worshyppe of saynte Johan the people waked at home, & made iij maner of fyres. One was clene bones and noo woode, and that is called a bone fyre. a 1554 in Leland *Brit. Coll.* I. p. lxxvi, In some parts of Lincolnshire .. on some peculiar nights, they make great fires in the public streets of their Towns with bones of oxen, sheep, &c. which are heaped together before. I am apt to believe .. that from hence came the original of *Bonefires*. 1586 MARLOWE *1st Pt. Tamburl.* iii. iii, Making bonfires for my overthrow. But, ere I die, those foul idolaters shall make me bonfires with their filthy bones. 1684 DINELEY *Dk. Beaufort's Progr. Wales* 154 A fire of joy .. called a *Bonfire* .. being part wood and part bones. 1685 FULLER *Ch. Hist.* ix. 52 Both parties .. would in a bonfire of their general joy, have burnt this unhappy bone of dissection cast betwixt them. 1674 W. STANLEY *Rom. Horseleech* 82 (Skeat) Causing all the bones of Becket to be burnt .. and how his arms should escape that bonfire is very strange.]

† 2. A fire in which to consume corpses, a funeral pile, a pyre. (The ordinary transl. of L. *pyra*, *rogus* in 16-17th c.) *Obs.*

1554 HULOET, *Bonfire* .. *pyra*. 1565 GOLDING *Ovid's Met.* vii. Or els without solemnitie were burnt in bone-fires hie. 1583 STANYHURST *Æneid* iv. (Arb.) 119 *Madly* she [Dido] scaleth Thee top of her *banefyre*. 1639 HORN & ROBOTHAM *Gale Lang. Unl.* xvii. § 961 The dead corps is buried: they of old made a bone-fire, and therein burnt it. 1658 SIR T. BROWNE *Hydriot.* ii. 22 Burning [was] perhaps not fully dissu'd till Christianity fully established gave the final extinction to these sepulchral Bonfires.

3. A fire for immolation; a fire in which heretics, bibles, or proscribed books were burnt. Still familiarly applied to a great fire for burning up thorns, brushwood, or rubbish, though, as the purpose is not now specifically considered as constituting a bonfire, not distinguished from sense 4 b.

1581 J. BELL *Haddon's Answ. Osor.* 483/a You would have made bonefires with y^e blood of many good Preachers. 1611 SPEED *Hist. Gt. Brit.* vi. ix. (1632) 79 Their holy Bibles cast into Bone-fires. 1638 SHIRLEY *Mart. Soldier* iv. ii. in Bullen *O. Pl.* (1882) I. 228 Methinks Christians make the bravest Bonfires of any people in the Universe. 1640 BROME *Sparagus Gard.* l. v. 133 Making a Bone-fire in Smithfield. 1653 A. WILSON *Jas. I.* 47 He [James I.] thanks them for the Bonfire they made of certain Papers. 1678 BUTLER *Hud.* iii. li. 1543. 1711 ADDISON *Spect.* No. 98 ¶ 3 Many of the Women threw down their Head-dresses in the Middle of his Sermon, and made a Bonfire of them. 1845 S. AUSTIN *Ranke's Hist. Ref.* II. 9 Luther's writings were collected and publicly burned; but the emperor might be seen to smile ironically as he passed these bonfires.

† b. (Ireland) An incendiary fire. *Obs.*

1633 T. STAFFORD *Pac. Hib.* ii. (1821) 231 That .. the County of Clare might be freed from bonfires. *Ibid.* xvii. 183 They departed, before they had made any Bonfires in Mounster.

4. A large fire kindled in the open air for a celebration, display, or amusement:

a. (orig.) on certain anniversaries, esp. on the eves of St. John and St. Peter (cf. Fr. *feu de la Saint-Jean*, Ger. *Johannisfeuer*, and BALE-FIRE). These were originally *bone-fires* in sense 1 (where cf. quot. 1493), and appear to have come down from heathen times.

1493 *Privy Purse Exp. Hen. VII.* in Brand *Pop. Ant.* (1870) I. 174 To the making of the bonfyre on Middlesomer Eve, 10s. 1570 B. GOOGE *Pop. Kingd.* iv. 54 b, Then doth the ioyfull feast of John the Baptist take his turne, When bonfiers great with loftie flame, in every towne doe burne. 1575 *Ord. Cooks Newcastle* in Brand *Pop. Ant.* (1870) I. 178 The said Fellowship of Cookes shall yearelie .. mainteine and keep the Bone-fires .. that is to say, one Bone-fire on the Even of the Feast of the Nativite of St. John Baptist .. and the other on the Even of the Feast of St. Peter the Apostle. 1581 *Sc. Acts Jas. VI.* (1597) § 104 Setters out of Bone-fyers, singers of Carrales, .. and of sik vthers superstitious and Papistical rites. 1600 ROWLANDS *Let. Humours Blood* iv. 65 At leaping ore a Midsommer bon-fire. 1867 in Brand *Pop. Ant.* (1870) I. 177 Bonfires are still made on Midsommer Eve, in the northern parts of England and in Wales.

b. (In general modern use) in celebration of some event of public or local interest, or on some festive occasion, as a victory, jubilee, the birth or marriage of the heir to an estate, etc.; but also applied to any great blazing fire made for amusement, or combining amusement with the burning of rubbish, thorns, weeds, etc. (Cf. sense 3.)

(The Fifth of November bonfires combined various senses of the word.)

1530 PALSGR. 199/a *Bonne fyre*, *feu de behoordis*. 1556 *Chron. Gr. Friars* (1852) 32 Commandement .. that there shulde be a gret bonfyer at Powles church dore .. for the good tydynges. 1558 MAITLAND *Queens Maryage*, All burrows townis .. To maik bainfyres, fairseis and clerk-playis. 1584 NORTH *Guenara's Diall* Pr. 73 b Great bon-fires. 1591 RALEIGH *Last Fight Rev.* 17 Celebrate the victory with bonefiers in euerie town. 1603 DRAYTON *Bar. Warres* iv. xxiii, With Bells and Bone-fires welcomes her ashore. 1660 BOYLE *New Exp. Phys. Mech.* xxvii. 309 The People .. testified their Joy by numerous Bon-fires. 1710 ADDISON *Whig Exam.* No. 2 ¶ 9 The mob has huzza'd round bonfires. 1736 BYRON *Rem.* (1856) II. i. 35 You have had burnfies and bells and shooting and drinking. 1778 PRESTLEY *Inst. Relig.* (1782) I. 384 Our custom .. of making bon-fires on the fifth of November. 1836 W. IRVING *Astoria* (1849) 365 They built a great bonfire .. and men and women danced round it. 1848 MACAULAY *Hist. Eng.* I. 631.

c. *attrib. or comb.*

1596 SHAKS. 1 *Hen. IV.* iii. iii. 47 Thou art a perpetuall Triumph, an everlasting Bone-fire-Light. 1690 *Hist. Wars Ireland* 111 Bonfire-Works .. were no sooner lighted, but the Alarm-Signal was given.

Bonfire (bōn'fai-er), *v. rare.* [f. prec.]

1. *trans.* To illuminate with bonfires.

1605 ROWLANDS *Hell's broke Loose* 35 Boone-fier the streets; set Bells a worke to ring. a 1797 H. WALPOLE in J. Doran *Hanover Queens* The streets were illuminated & bonfired.

2. *intr.* To make bonfires. Hence *Bonfiring*.

1865 CARLYLE *Fredk. Gt. VI.* xv. xii. 96 That was the Old Dessauer's bonfiring for the Victory of Sohr.

Bong, Bongle, *obs.* forms of BUNG, BUNGLE, *v.*

† **Bongrace.** *Obs.* Also 6 *bun*-, 6-7 *bone*-, *boone*-, 7 *bond*-, *boun-grace*-. [a. F. *bonne-grace* 'th' vppermost flap of the down-hanging taile of a French-hood (whence belike our *Bon-grace*)' Cotgr.; f. *bonne* good, *grace* grace.]

1. A shade or curtain formerly worn on the front of women's bonnets or caps to protect the complexion from the sun; a sunshade. (See quot. 1617; the later one may consequently belong to 2.) 1530 PALSGR. 907 The bone grace, *le moufflet*. 1533 *Paradise & Fr.* in *Harl. Dods.* I. 203 Her bongrace which she ware, with her French hood, When she went out always for sun-burning. 1595 R. WILSON *Pedlar's Proph.* B. ij, Fillets and bungraces. 1604 DEKKER *King's Entert.* 311 This boon-grace hee made of purpose to keepe his face from heate. 1617 MORYSON *Itin.* iii. iv. i. 170 A French shadow of veluet to defend them from the Sunne, which our Gentlewomen of old borrowed from the French, and called them Bonegraces, now altogether out of vse with us. 1636 DAVENANT *Platon. Lovers Wks.* (1673) 411 Had she been but old enough to wear a Bongrace.

fig. 1609 HEYWOOD *Brit. Troy* vi. civ. 137 A Grove through which the lake doth run, Making his bowes a Bongrace from the Sun.

2. A broad-brimmed hat fitted to shade the face. *arch. or Obs.*

1666 HOLLAND *Suelon.* 75 A broad brim'd Hat [*marg.* or *Bond-grace*=*petasatus*] upon his head. 1678 *Songs Costume* (1849) 140 Straw hats shall be no more bongraces, From the bright sun to hide your faces. 1719 D'URFAY *Pills* (1872) IV. 107 Her Bongrace of wended Straw. 1815 SCOTT *Guy R.* iii, An old-fashioned bonnet called a *bon-grace*.

3. 'Junk-fenders; for booming off obstacles from a ship's sides or bows'. Smyth *Sailor's Word-bk.* † **Bongre**, *adv.* and *prep.* *Obs.* [a. F. *bon gré* (for *de bon gré* of good will), in *advb. phr. bon gré mal gré* willingly or unwillingly: cf. *maugre*.]

A. *adv.* With good will, agreeably. B. *prep.* Agreeably to.

c 1325 E. E. Allit. P. C. 56 Pe had bowed to his bode, bongre my hyure. 1598 TOLTE *Alba*, *The Months Minde* (1880) 30 His service is not tooke boun gree.

|| **Bonhomie** (bōn'om-ē). Also *bonhomie*. [mod. F. *bonhomie*, formerly *bonhomie*, f. *bon-homme*.] Good nature; the quality of being a good fellow.

1803 MAR. EDGEWORTH *Belinda* (1832) I. iii. 48 My lord swallowed the remedy .. with a bonhomie which it did me good to behold. 1815 SCOTT *Guy R.* xxxix, The bonhomie of his character. 1850 W. IRVING *Goldsm.* xiv. 174 That bonhomie which won the hearts of all who knew him. 1876 MORLEY *Diderot* II. 259 Diderot's candour, simplicity, happy bonhomie, and sincerity.

|| **Bonhomme** (bōn'om). Also 6-7 *bon*-, *bonhomme*. [Fr.; = good man.]

† 1. A member of an order of begging friars who came over to England in the 13th c.

c 1325 PYNSON (title) *The Extipacion of Ignorancy*. By Sir Paule Bussie preest and Bonhome of Edyndon. 1530 PALSGR. 199/a Bonhom a religious man, *bonhomme*. 1610 HOLLAND *Camden's Brit.* i. 244 William de Edmond .. erected a Colledge *Bonis hominibus*, Bon-homes, as they called them, that is for good men. 1656 FULLER *Ch. Hist.* vi. III. 278. a 1697 AUBREY *Wills Coll.* in *Sat. Rev.* (1864) XVIII. 462/1 This Country was very full of Religious Howses; a man could not have travelled but he must have mett Monkes, Fryars, Bonhommes .. in their several habits.

† b. A member of a reformed order of Franciscan friars, said by Littré to owe their name to the appellation *Bonhomme* given by Louis XI. to St. Francis de Paule, their founder; a friar minim.

1656 BLOUNT *Glossogr.*, *Bonhomies*, a religious order of Fryers entituled by Saint Francis de Paulo. 1678 PHILLIPS, *Bonhomies* .. were also called Fryer Minims, or Minorites.

† 2. A name given to the Albigenses. *Obs.*

1751 CHAMBERS *Cycl. s.v. Albigenses*, They were also known by various other names; as .. *Bons-hommes*, *Passagers*, etc.

|| 3. A peasant. *Jacques Bonhomme*: the French peasant.

1851 SIR F. PALGRAVE *Norm. & Eng.* (1864) III. 2 The bon-homme Sperling .. and house-folk, and the Duke and his circle each kept themselves to themselves.

Bonibel, variant of BONNIBELL.

Boniface (bōn'ifās). [Proper name.] The name of the jovial innkeeper in Farquhar's *Beaux' Stratagem* 1707; whence taken as the generic proper name of innkeepers; 'mine host', or 'the landlord' of the inn.

[Not in BAILEY, JOHNSON or TODD.] 1803 BRISTED *Pedest. Tour* I. 120 To give the characteristic features and to stamp the peculiar traits of honest Boniface. 1860 SCOTT *War.* Note 5, The devotion of the whole actual business .. of the Inn upon the poor guide wife was very common among

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the Scottish Bonifaces. 1861 EMERSON *Cond. Life* ii. 42. I knew a burly Boniface who for many years kept a public-house in one of our rural capitals.

Hence (*humorously*) Bonifa:cial a.

1899 SALA *Gaslight & D.* viii. 99 There is the landlord, in his bonifacial apron.

† **Bonifate**, a. Obs. — [ad. late L. *bonifātus* (= Gr. *εὐνοίος*), f. *bonum* good, *fātum* fate.] Lucky, fortunate, well-fated.

1896 BLOUNT *Glossogr.*, *Bonifate*, that hath good fortune.

Bonification (bōnifīk'āshn). [a. F. *bonification*, n. of action f. *bonifier*: see BONIFY.]

† 1. Amelioration, bettering; augmentation of the produce of a tax, etc. Obs.

1789 T. JEFFERSON *Corr.* (1830) 460 He showed that this could be made up without a new tax, by economies and bonifications which he specified.

2. The paying of a bonus.

1876 GOSCHEN in *Daily News* 4 Oct. 6/3 The bonification of 25 per cent. to the holders of the floating debt.

Boniform (bōnifōrm), a. [ad. mod. L. *boniformis* (f. *bonum* good + *-formis* having the form of), used by H. More (*Enchir. Ethic.* i. ii.) to translate Plato's *ἀγαθοειδής*.] Having the form of good; akin to the Good. Used by H. More to denote a faculty by which moral goodness is appreciated.

1677 GALE *Crt. Gentiles* II. iv. 254 The divine effulgence and operation is one essence, both simple, and impartible, and boniforme. 1678 CUDWORTH *Intell. Syst.* 204 Knowledge and Truth, may be said to be Boniform things, and of kin to the Chief Good. 1691 NORRIS *Pract. Disc.* 186 The Moral Taste and Relish, that which the Platonists call *ἀγαθοειδής*, the Boniform faculty of the Soul. 1793 T. TAYLOR *Orat. Julian* 21 The heavens are replenished from the sun with boniform powers. 1830 MACKINTOSH *Eth. Philos.* Wks. 1846 I. 93 Dr. Henry More... seems to have given the first intimations of a distinct moral faculty, which he calls 'the Boniform Faculty'.

Bonify (bōnifī), v. [ad. F. *bonifier* (in Cotgr.), f. L. *bonus* good + *-fer* = L. *-ficare* to make.]

† 1. *trans.* To do good to, benefit. Obs.

1603 FLORIO *Montaigne* (1634) 493 To bonifie or benefit.

2. To make good, turn into good.

1678 CUDWORTH *Intell. Syst.* 221 To be able to Bonifie Evils, or Tincture them with Good. *Ibid.* 876 The Divine Art... appeareth, in Bonifying these Evils. 1880 *Minerva* Aug. 177 The Romans did... bonify the air and soil of their city by filling up marshes and constructing sewers.

Boniness (bō'nīnēs). Bony quality.

1884 ANNE THOMAS in *West. Morn. News* 26 Aug. 6/4 The extra boniness... of bullocks.

Boning (bō'nīn), vbl. sb.¹ [f. BONE v. + -ING¹.]

1. The removing of bones from meat, fish, etc.

1495 *Act* 11 *Hen. VII.* xxiii. For bonying nappyn and packing of a barell fische, *jd.* 1884 *Girl's Own Paper* June 491/3 Boning meat and poultry.

2. The applying of bones to land as manure.

1875 *Agric. Holdings Act* xcii. § 5 An improvement comprised in following... Boning of land with undissolved bones.

Boning (bō'nīn), vbl. sb.² *Surveying, Building*, etc. The process of levelling or of judging of the straightness of a surface or line by the eye, as by looking along the tops of two straight edges or along a line of poles placed some distance apart; also attrib., as in *boning rod, stick, telescope*.

1785 ROY *Survey* in *Phil. Trans.* LXXV. 411 Twenty-four boning rods had been originally provided. 1795 *Trigon. Surv.* *ibid.* LXXXV. 477 Using the transit as a boning telescope. 1823 P. NICHOLSON *Pract. Build.* 581 Joiners try up their work by boning with two straight-edges, which determine whether... the surface be twisted or a plane. 1877 PEACOCK *N. W. Linc. Gloss.* (E. D. S.) *Boning-stick*, a simple instrument used for setting out the depth of drains or other cuttings in the soil. 1886 *Blackw. Mag.* Sept. 326/1 Spirit level, boning rod and telescope.

† **Bonish**, a. Obs. rare. [f. BONE sb. + -ISH.] Having large or prominent bones.

1530 PALSGR. 306/2 Bonyshe, that hath great bones, *ossu*.

Bonitarian (bōnīt'ārīan), a. *Rom. Law*. [f. late L. *bonitāri-us* (cited only in Greek spelling, *βονιτάριος* *Bonitārios*, Theophilus i. 5. 4), f. L. *bonus* good, or *bonitas* good quality, in reference to the classical in *bonis esse, in bonis habere*.] = next.

1861 MAINE *Anc. Law* viii. (1876) 295 The Roman distribution of rights over property into *Quiritarian* or legal, and (to use a word of late origin) *Bonitarian*, or equitable. 1876 DIGBY *Real Prop.* vi. 281 Beneficial, or, as it was barbarously called by the commentators, *bonitarian* ownership. 1880 MUIRHEAD *Gaius* 458.

Bonitary (bōnīt'ārī), a. [see prec.] Beneficial; having possession with all its benefits, but without a legal 'title'.

1833 J. KENRICK in *Philol. Museum* II. 634 They were compelled to concede to the revolted plebeians at first only the bonitary dominion of their lands, i. e. the power of using them liable to perpetual revocation. 1875 POSTE *Gaius* ii. com. 188 He [Theophilus] also calls bonitary dominion natural dominion, as opposed to statutory, civil, or quiritary dominion.

|| **Bonito** (bōnīt'ō). Forms: 7 bonuto, 7-9 -eto, 8 bineto, bonesto, -ite, -ata, 8-9 -eta, -ita, -etta, 6-bonito. [a. Sp. *bonito*, of doubtful origin: *bonito* adj. 'pretty good, pretty' is a native Sp. word; but the Sp. Academy derive the name of the fish from an Arabic *bainith*, which looks like an adaptation of the Spanish.]

The striped tunny; a fish growing to the length of three feet, common in tropical seas, living chiefly on the flying-fish. The name is also given to one or two other similar fish.

1590 HAKLUYT *Voy. II.* ii. 105 Bonitos and flying fishes. 1622 R. HAWKINS *Voy. S. Sea* (1847) 67 The bonito, or Spanish mackerell, is altogether like unto a mackerell, but that it is somewhat more grown. 1713 *Phil. Trans.* XXVIII. 234 We took... a Fish which some thought was a Boneta. 1773 COOK *1st Voy.* I. 98 The heaviest and most vigorous fish, such as bonettas and albicores. 1829 SOUTHEY *O. Newman* i. Wks. X. 275 Gay bonitos in their beauty glide. 1833 MARRIAT *P. Simple* (1863) 217 The bonetas and dolphins... chased the flying fish. 1845 DARWIN *Voy. Nat.* viii.

† **Bonity**. Obs. [ad. L. *bonitas* 'goodness', which it has been formed to represent in the original sense, no longer present in the living representative F. *bonité*, Eng. BOUNTY.] Goodness.

1895 R. PARSONS *Chr. Exerc.* ii. iii. 295 Bonitie, in hurting no man. a 1619 FOTHERBY *Atheom.* ii. x. § 3 (1622) 304 He is... a Super-good... as surpassing all other Bonitie. a 1670 HACKETT *Cent. Serm.* 797 The inherent bonity which is in our works. 1790 B. MARTIN *Bibl. Techn.* xi. 194 Goodness or Bonity is defined to be the Convenience or Agreement of things with the Law and Standard of their Nature.

Bonk (e, obs. form of BANK sb.¹)

† **Bonket**. Obs. rare. (See quot.)

1611 COTGR., *Astragale*, a huckle-bone or bonket; the first bone of the instep; the Gamethats played with huckle-bones.

Bon mot: see BON.

Bonnack, -ock, variants of BANNOCK.

c 1730 BURT *Lett. N. Scotl.* (1818) I. 246 The bonnack... baked on a plate over the fire. 1786 BURNS *Earnest Cry* xx, Two mashlum bonnocks.

Bonnage, variant of BONAGHT.

Bonnaght, variant of BONAGHT. Obs.

Bonnaile, variant of BONALLY. Sc.

|| **Bonne** (bon), a. and sb. [F. *bonne*, fem. of *bon* good; also sb. a nurse, i. e. 'good woman']

† A. adj. Good. Obs.

a 1599 SKELTON *Magnyf.* 1003 Her fethers donne, Well-fauredy, bonne.

B. sb. † 1. A good girl; ? a novice. Obs.

a 1599 SKELTON *Image Hypocr.* iv. 133 Systers and nonnes And litle pretty bonnes.

2. A (French) nursemaid.

1771 WILKES *Corr.* (1805) IV. 85 Do not forget me to your bonne. 1837 CARLYLE *Fr. Rev.* III. i. ii. 22 Old ladies... rang for their Bonnes and cordial-drops. 1848 THACKERAY *Van. Fair* xxvi, Her French bonne with her, the child by her side.

C. In certain French phrases, now or formerly in English use:

Bonne-bouche (bon buʃ). Pl. *bonnes bouches*. [F. *bonne* good, *bouche* mouth.] In French 'A pleasing taste in the mouth' (Littre): but in English taken for 'dainty mouthful or morsel' (in French 'morceau qui fait ou donne bonne bouche').

1762 SYMMER in *Ellis Orig. Lett.* ii. 495 IV. 455, I must give you a piece of good news by way of a *bonne bouche*.

1822 KITCHENER *Cook's Orac.* 343 Its high rank on the list of savoury *Bonnes Bouches*. 1870 *Eng. Mech.* 21 Jan. 449/1 Some early bird, to which a caterpillar is a *bonne bouche*.

† **Bonne mine** (bon mīn). Obs. Good appearance, good show. To make a *bonne-mine* (Mil.): to display oneself in force, to show a bold front.

1644 SIR G. DUDLEY *To Prince Rupert* 3 (D.) We expected they would have disputed our passage over the river Dun, but they only made a *bonne-mine* there and left us the Tounne.

1660 BLOUNT *Boscobel* 9 Sultan Oliver appear'd... on Redhill... where he made a *Bonne-mine* but attempted nothing.

Bonne, obs. form of BUN and BOON a.

† **Bonnering**, vbl. sb. Obs. [f. name of Bonner, bishop of London during the Marian persecution.] Burning for heresy.

1613 W. BROWNE *Brit. Past.* i. v. 38a The sacred Trine did bring Us out of bonds, from bloody Bonnering. 1627 BR. HALL *Holy Panegyrr.* 48a No Bonnering or butchering of Gods saints.

Bonnet (bōnēt), sb. Forms: 4-7 bonet, (4 bonat, 4-6 bonette), 6- bonnet, (5-6 bonett, 5 bonyte, Sc. bannate, 6 bonnette, bonete, bonnit, bunnet, 6-8 bonnett, Sc. bannet).

[ME. *bonet*, a. OF. *bonet, bounet, bonnet*, in same sense, short for *chapel de bonet* (of which see instances in Godef.), 'hat or cap of bonet', a material mentioned in med. L. documents, as *bon(n)etus, bon(n)etum*: see Du Cange. Ulterior history unknown.]

1. An article of apparel for the head; 'a covering for the head, a hat, a cap'. (J.)

a. A head-dress of men and boys; usually soft, and distinguished from the *hat* by want of a brim. In England, superseded in common use (app. before 1700) by *cap*, but retained in Scotland; hence sometimes treated as = 'Scotch cap'. To *vail* (or *vale*) the bonnet: to take it off in respect.

1375 BARBOUR *Bruce* ix. 506 He gert ay ber about Apon a sper ane red bonat. 1483 CAXTON *Gold. Leg.* 262/3 And couded his hede with a bonet. c 1530 LD. BERNERS *Arth. Lyt. Bryt.* (1814) 342 Than Arthur... wente to the Kyng, and dyde of hys bonet. 1532-3 *Act 24 Hen. VIII.* xiii, No man... [shall] weare... anye wollen clothe made out of this realme... except in bonnettes only. 1593 SHAKS. *Rich. II.* i. iv. 37 Off goes his bonnet to an Oyster-wench. 1673 R.

LEIGH *Transposer Reh.* 19 Many a Scotch Kirkman [loses] his Blue Bonnet. 1700 RYCAUT *Hist. Turks* III. 317 Having on his Head his Ducal Bonnet. 1704 in *Blackw. Mag.* (1818) Feb. 521/2 Most of the men... wear thrumb caps in Scotland, which they call bonnetts. 1785 BURNS *Cotter's Sat. Night* xii, His bonnet rev'rently is laid aside. 1814 SCOTT *Wav.* xviii, The martial air of the bonnet, with a single eagle's feather as a distinction. 1850 MRS. JAMESON *Leg. Monast. Ord.* (1863) 333 Wearing the lawyer's bonnet. 1862 COOPER *Annu.* (1850) 213 All to whom they be shewed, do vail their bonnets. a 1618 RALEIGH *Rem.* (1644) 204 It would make all Nations to vail the Bonnet to England. 1641 R. BROOKE *Eng. Episc.* 85 All Officers vaille bonnet, when the party giving them power is present. 1682 BUNYAN *Holy War* 204 To see men veil their Bonnets to that set, that have officed them. 1830 T. HAMILTON C. *Thornton* (1845) 73 The shepherd vailed his bonnet.

† b. A cap of mail, a kind of helmet. Obs.

c 1505 DUNBAR *Scv. Deadly Sins* 37 Iakkis, and stryppis and bonettis of steill.

† c. A night-cap. Obs. (F. *bonnet de nuit*.)

1513 Bk. *Keruyng* in *Babees Bk.* (1868) 283 Put on... his kercher and his bonet.

d. A head-dress of women out of doors; distinguished from a *hat* (at present) mainly by the want of a brim, and by its covering no part of the forehead.

1499 *Act.* in *Comm. place Bk.* 15th C. (1886) 167 It. for a bonet of welwete bowte for hyr at Norweche. c 1505 DUNBAR *Scv. Deadly Sins* 17 Pryd, With bair wyld bak and bonet on syd. 1530 *Papers Earls of Cumberland*, in Whitaker *Hist. Craven* 305 Three black velvet bonnets for women. 1716 S. MASTERS' *Patent* No. 403 A new way of working and staining in straw and... adorning hatts and bonnetts. 1786 *Lounger* No. 79 The progress of bonnets from the quaker to the Shepherdess and Kitty Fisher, and thence to the Werter, the Lunardi, and Parachute. 1836 DICKENS *Pickw.* x, You Rachael... get on your bonnet and come back. 1882 GRANT WHITE *Eng. Without & W.* ii. 55 A bonnet has strings, I believe, and a hat has not.

e. *Her.* The velvet cap within a coronet.

f. *Bonnet rouge* (Fr.): the red cap of the French sans-culottes of 1793, taken as a type of the revolutionary spirit.

1855 *Scribbleomania* 213 Gallia's red bonnet de nuit. 1855 MARRIAT *Olla Podr.* xix, The province... was among the first to receive... the bonnet rouge.

2. *Naut.* An additional piece of canvas laced to the foot of a sail to catch more wind. (It appears to have been formerly laced to the top of the sail, or to have been itself a top-sail.) Hence *To vale* (or *vail*) a bonnet: cf. 1 a.

1399 LAGL. *Rich. Redless* iv. 72 They bente on a bonet, and bare a tope saile Affore be wynde fresshly to make a good flare. 1 a 1400 *Morte Arth.* 3657 They... trussene up sailes, Bot bonnetez one brede. 1483 *Calh. Angl.* 36 A Bonet of a saile; *superus*. 1513 DOUGLAS *Emeis* v. xiv. 4 Fessyn bonettis beneth the mane saile doun. 1613 PURCHAS *Pilgr.* viii. iii. 740. a 1618 RALEIGH *Invent. Shipping* 16 We have lately added the Bonnett, and the Drabler. 1627 CAPT. SMITH *Seaman's Gram.* vii. 31 We say, lash on the bonet to the course, because it is made fast with Latches into the eyot holes of the saile, as the Drabler is to it, and vied as the wind permits. 1769 FALCONER *Dict. Marine* (1789). 1840 R. DANA *Bef. Mast* xxv. 84 A storm-jib with the bonnet off. 1867 SMYTH *Sailor's Wd.-bk.* s. v. Bonnets have lately been introduced to secure the foot of an upper topsail to a lower-topsail yard. 1884 G. C. DAVIES *Norfolk Broad* iv. 29.

1509 HAWES *Past. Pleas.* xxxvi. xvi, Her bonet she vayed, and gan to stryke sayle. a 1599 SKELTON *Agst. Venom. Tongues* Wks. I. 133 Then let them vale a bonet of their proud sayle.

3. *Fortification*. A portion of the works at any salient angle, raised 2 or 3 feet in height on the parapet between the guns. It assists in protecting from enfilade fire and ricochet.

1700 RYCAUT *Hist. Turks* III. 322 The Turks had formed a mine under the Bonnet. 1755 JOHNSON, *Bonnet*, a kind of little ravelin, without any ditch, having a parapet three feet high, anciently placed before the points of the salient angles of the glacis. 1877 KINGLAKE *Crimea* III. v. 364 Three out of the four remaining angles of the octagon were furnished with small bonnettes and barbettes.

4. The second stomach of ruminants.

1782 A. MONRO *Compar. Anat.* (ed. 3) 39 The second stomach... is called *κεντρώφαιος reticulum*, the bonnet, or king's-hood. 1836-9 TOWN *Cycl. Anat. & Phys.* II. 111/1 The second stomach... has received the appellation of... bonnet.

† 5. A weel or snare for fish. Obs.

1715 tr. *Pancirollus Rerum Mem.* i. i. 5 They cast abundance of them [Shell-fish] into the Sea, in Weels or Bonnets for that purpose.

6. Applied to a protective covering or defence in various technical uses:

a. The cowl at the top of a lighthouse, chimney, ventilating shaft, etc.; b. A wire covering over the chimney of a locomotive engine or steamer to prevent the escape of sparks (chiefly in U. S. where wood is largely burnt for fuel); c. A covering over the cage in mines for protection against objects falling down the shaft; d. A protecting cap for a safety lamp; e. An iron plate covering the openings in the valve-chambers of a pump.

1862 J. BLIGHT *Wk. Land's End* 93 The bonnet or corvel which crowns the structure [a lighthouse]. 1880 *Print. Times* 59/2 It is advisable to have a large cover or 'bonnet' for the [melting] pot. 1881 RAYMOND *Mining Gloss.* 1883 *Harper's Mag.* Jan. 198/2 The wire bonnet of the smoke-stack is worn on one side. 1884 *Athenum* 25 Oct. 533/2 Safety lamps... fitted with 'bonnets' or protectors.

7. A plant; = BLUE-BONNET.

1883 *Century Mag.* 383 Saw-grass water-lettuce, bonnets, or other aquatic plants.

8. A thing or person used to conceal or put a good face upon underhand proceedings; a pretended player at a gaming-table, or bidder at an auction, secretly in league with the proprietor or auctioneer to lure others to play or buy; a thimble-rigger's accomplice; a decoy. Also *fig.*

[1812 J. H. VAUX *Flash Dict.*, Bonnet, a concealment, pretext, or pretence; an ostensible manner of accounting for what you really mean to conceal.] 1833 *Fraser's Mag.* VIII. 342 His look and bearing are positively those of a bonnet at a fashionable hell. 1860 *All Y. Round* No. 41. 341 A sly smile, such as a thimble-rig man greets his 'bonnet' with. 1877 BESANT & RICE *Son of Vulc.* l. vii. 80 He [schoolmaster] is looking out for more boys. Ah, Myles! what a lovely bonnet that child of yours would make! 1884 SIR S. NORTHGOTE in *Parl. (Times)* 2 Apr. 8/5, My noble friend [Ld. R. Churchill] is very adroit and agile in the positions he has taken up, but this is the first time I have seen him perform the part of 'bonnet' to the Government. 1885 *Morn. Post* 5 Sept. 7/3 There was no distinct evidence to connect him with a conspiracy to defraud... He might have been used as a sort of 'bonnet' to conceal the utter worthlessness of propositions made by the others.

9. Phrases. To have a bee in one's bonnet: see BEE¹ 5. To fill a person's bonnet: to fill his place, equal him in any respect. To rise the bonnet of: to excel (Jamieson). To have a green bonnet: to have failed in business (Ogilvie).

1796 *Poems Comp. Archers* 33 (JAM.) May every archer strive to fill his bonnet... And praise like him deserve. 1836 SCOTT *Old Mort.* xvii. 'He's but a daidling coward body. He'll never fill Rumbleberry's bonnet'.

10. Comb., as bonnet-basket, -box, -folder, -lining, -maker, -sewing, -string; bonnet-fluke *Sc.*, a fish, the Brill; bonnet-headed *a.* (Arch.), of a window in which the outside of the arch is more splayed than the jambs; † bonnet-laird *Sc.*, a petty proprietor in Scotland, wearing a bonnet like the humbler classes; bonnet-limpet, the genus *Pileopsis* of gasteropodous molluscs, so called from the shape of the shell; bonnet-macaque, bonnet-monkey, a kind of monkey (*Macacus Sinicus*), so called from the arrangement of the hairs on its head; bonnet-man, the wearer of a bonnet, a Highlander; bonnet-pepper, a kind of Capsicum, with fruit shaped like a Scotch bonnet; bonnet-pieces, a gold coin of James V. of Scotland, on which the effigy of the sovereign is represented wearing a bonnet; bonnet-shape, the frame-work of a bonnet.

1871 *Mem. for Paris I.* 259 Papers, which had lain hidden in one of her 'bonnet-boxes'. 1879 SIR G. SCOTT *Lect. Archit.* I. 278 The 'bonnet-headed' window may be seen at Holy Trinity Church, Colchester. 1816 SCOTT *Antiq.* iv. It belonged to auld Johnnie Howie, a 'bonnet-laird' hard by. 1844 W. H. MAXWELL *Sports & Adv. Scotl.* i. (1855) 23 The humbler pinnacle of a 'bonnet-laird'. 1876 WALLACE *Distrib. Anim.* II. 511 The... 'Bonnet-limpets', are found on the coasts of all seas from Norway to Chili and Australia. 1886 MISS MITFORD *Village Ser.* III. (1863) 523 A blush that makes her 'bonnet-lining' pale. 1830 PALMER 189/2 'Bonnet maker, bonnetier'. 1811 C. JAMES *Mil. Dict.* (1816) 571/1 Bonnet worn by the Highlanders, hence called 'Bonnet-men'. 1702 BR. NICOLSON *Sc. Hist. Libr.* 300 (JAM.) The common gold coins of this reign well known by the name of 'Bonnet Pieces'. 1817 HOCCE *Tales & Sk.* VI. 284, I will halve this bonnet-piece of gold between us. 1837 DICKENS *Sk. Bos* (1850) 38/1 One [shop] was a 'bonnet-shape maker's'. 1848 — *Dombey* vi. Do untie your 'bonnet-strings' and make yourself at home.

Bonnet (bɒnɛt), *v.* [f. prec. sb.]

† *intr.* † To take off the bonnet in token of respect; to 'vail the bonnet'. *Obs.*

1607 SHAKS. *Cor.* II. ii. 39 Those, who having beene supple and courteous to the People, Bonnetted, without any further deed, to haue them at all into their estimation.

2. *trans.* To put a bonnet on.

1858 GEO. ELIOT *Scenes Cler.* Life 239 She was duly bonneted and pinafores.

3. To crush down a person's hat over his eyes.

1837 DICKENS *Sk. Bos* (1850) 239/1 Two young men... varied their amusements by 'bonneting' the proprietor of this itinerant coffee-house. 1882 *Sat. Rev.* LIV. 629 The Students hustled and 'bonneted' a new Professor.

Bonneted, *pp. a.* [f. BONNET *sb.* or *v.* + -ED.] Wearing a bonnet; having a bonnet.

1824 MISS MITFORD *Village Ser.* I. (1863) 15 Hooded, veiled, and bonneted as she is. 1860 J. KENNEDY *Rob of Bowl* II. 14 Buildings... of which several were bonneted like hay cocks. 1868 MISS BRADDON *Run to Earth* xiii. II. 281 Bonneted and cloaked for the journey.

Bonneting, *vbl. sb.* [f. BONNET *v.* + -ING.]

a. The action of putting on a bonnet. b. The act of crushing a person's hat over his eyes.

1826 MISS MITFORD *Village Ser.* II. (1863) 277 Oh, the lacing, the bracing, the bonneting, the veiling, the gloving. 1867 MRS. WOOD *Orville Coll.* (1879) 426 He had not enjoyed his bonneting.

Bonnetless (bɒnɛtˌləs), *a.* [f. BONNET *sb.* + -LESS.] Without a bonnet: in various senses. 1847 E. BRONTE *Wuthering H.* ix, Standing bonnetless and shawless. 1848 CLOUGH *Boothie* II, A capless, bonnetless maiden.

Bonnbell (bɒnbɛl). *arch.* Also 6 bonnbell,

7 bonnbell, 6 and 9 bonnbell, 8 bonnbell, 9 bonny belle. [app. f. BONNY *a.* + BELLE *a.* and *sb.*; but possibly f. F. *bonne et belle* good and fair: cf. the equivalent BELLIBONE.]

Fair maid, bonny lass.

1579 SPENSER *Sheph. Cal.* Aug. 62, I saw the bouncing, Bellibone; Hey ho Bonnbell. *Ibid.* Apr. 92 Gloss, A bellibone, or a Bonnbell, homely spoken for a fair mayde, or Bonnilasse. 1600 LODGE *Engl. Helicon* Ph, She simpered smooth like bonnie-bell. 1823 LOCKHART *St. Ballads, Vow Reduan* II, But bid a long farewell... To bower and bonnbell, thy feasting and thy wooing!

† **Bonnblass** (e). *Obs.* Also bonilass. Now written as two words: Bonny lass.

1546 BALE *Eng. Votaries* I. (R.) And so become byshoppes bonilasses. 1579 SPENSER *Sheph. Cal.* Aug. (L.) As the bonilasse passed by. *Ibid.* Aug. 78 Hey ho bonilasse.

Bonnyly (bɒnɪli), *adv.*, now *Sc.* [f. BONNY *a.* + -LY².] In a bonny manner; beautifully, finely, pleasantly.

1595 DUNCAN *Append. Etymol.* (E. D. S.) *Scite*, eleganter, pretulie, bonnie. 1673 DRYDEN *Assign.* I. i. Wks. 1725 III. 295, I am glad to see you look so bonny to-day. 1680 *Spir. Popery* 29 The work of Reformation went Bonnyly on. 1785 BURNS *Cotter's Sat.* Nt. iii, His wee bit ingle blinkin bonnie. 1818 SCOTT *Wrt. Midl.* xlii, It was a goodly and pleasant land, and sloped bonnyly to the western sun.

Bonnyness (bɒnɪnɛs), [f. as prec. + -NESS.] The quality of being bonny; beauty; healthy plumpness.

1603 *Philotus* i, Your bonnyness, your bewtie bricht. 1882 ANNIE THOMAS *Allerton T.* II. l. 6 Ethel seems to have lost the bonnyness and roundness of youth.

Bonnoght, variant of BONAGHT. *Obs.*

Bonny (bɒni), *a.* Forms: 3, 8 bonie, 6 bonny, bonye, 6- bonny, bonnie. [Of uncertain origin: presumably to be referred in some way to OF. *bon*, *bone* 'good', or its ME. naturalized form *bon*, *bone*, *boone* (see BOON *a.*); but no satisfactory account of the formation can be offered. In *Sc.* the pronunciation is often *bōnie* (bō'ni, bō'ni, in Border Counties even bū'ni). A notable coincidence in form and sense is presented by the Sp. *bonito* 'pretty, bonny', dim. of *bueno* 'good'; but there is no corresponding form in OF. to which ME. *bonie* might be referred. And analogy does not much favour the possibility of a derivative form from ME. *bon*, *bone*, *good*.]

1. Pleasing to the sight, comely, beautiful, expressing homely beauty. Now in common use only in Scotland and north or midland counties of England; occasionally employed, with local or lyrical effect, by English writers, but not a word of ordinary English prose. c. 1300 *K. Alis.* 3903 He wolde, after fyght, Bonie londis to heom dyght. 1552 ABP. HAMILTON *Catech.* 53 The ymage of our lady... beirand in her arme the bonny ymage of hir sone. 1570 LEVINS *Manip.* 102 Bonnye, *scitius*, *facetus*. 1589 GREENE *Menaph.* (Arb.) 43, I saw a little one, A bonny prey one. 1593 SHAKS. 2 *Hen. VI.* v. ii. 12 The bonnie beast he loued so well. 1602 — *Ham.* IV. v. 187 For bonny sweet Robin is all my joy. 1674 PLAYFORD *Skill Mus.* I. 64 Merry lads are playing Each with his bonny lass. 1790 BURNS *Tam O'Shanter*, Auld Ayr, wham ne'er a town surpasses For honest men and bonny lasses. c. 1800 SCOTT *Bonny Dundee*, For it's up with the bonnets of bonny Dundee. 1856 LONGF. *Bird & Ship* III, I greet thee, bonny boat. 1859 GEO. ELIOT *A. Bede* 23 Here Dinah turned to Bessy Cranage, whose bonny youth and evident vanity had touched her with pity.

b. Sometimes as a term of fondness or coaxing, as in 'my bonnie bairn'. 1540 *Pebbis to Play* 13 My bonny heart, how says the sang? † 2. a. In earlier Eng. it appears to have often had the sense: Of fine size, big (as a good quality). *Obs.* a. 1600 HOOKER *Serm.* vii. III. 878 Isachar though bonny & strong enough unto any labour, doth couch. 1600 SHAKS. *A. Y.* L. ii. iii. 8 The bonnie prifer of the humorous Duke. b. In mod. dialect, and to a certain extent colloquially, it has the sense of 'looking well (in health)', often connoting healthy plumpness: 'It seems to be generally used in conversation for plump' (J.).

1749 FIELDING *Tom Jones* XI. ix, The bonny housemaid begins to repair the disordered drum-room. 1877 *Holder-ness Gloss.* (E. D. S.) s.v., Hoo's thy wife? Oh, she's bonny. 1877 E. PEACOCK *Lincolnsh. Gloss.*, Bonny, well in health.

† 3. Pleasant-looking, smiling, glad, 'bright'.

1599 SHAKS. *Much Ado* II. iii. 63 Then sigh not so, but let them goe And be you blithe and bonnie. 1616 BRAUM. & FL. *Scornf. Lady* III. ii, Be blithe and bonny, steward. 1682 JORDAN *London's Joy* in *Heath Crocer's Comp.* (1869) 547 From torments or troubles of Body or Mind, Your Bonny Brisk Planters are free as the wind. 1682 BUNYAN *Holy War* 242 It will make you bonny and blith. 1800 SCOTT *Ivanhoe* v, Report speaks you a bonny monk.

4. *Sc.* and *Eng. dial.* A general epithet of eulogy or appreciation, answering nearly to 'fine' in its vaguest sense: like 'fine' also often ironical. Sometimes also = 'considerable in extent or amount'. To pay a bonny penny for: to give a long or heavy price for. A bonny row: a 'jolly' uproar. Bonny and: = 'fine and', 'nice and', considerably. a. 1548 *Thrie Priests* *Pebbis* 9 (JAM.), Quhilk... of many smals couth mak This bonie pedder ane gude fute pak. 1752 WALPOLE *Lett. H. Mann* (1834) III. 6 Mr. Chute cannot bear it; says it... looks bonny & Irish. 1823 LOCK-

HART *Reg. Dalton* VII. v. (1842) 425 Glenstroan... is a gay bonnie bit addendum. 1807 J. WILSON *Noct. Ambr.* xi. Wks. (1855) 283 You're a bonny fellow to ask that question. 1863 MRS. TOOGOOD *Yorksh. Dial.*, It will mak a bonny country-side talk. 1864 ATKINSON *Whitby Gloss.* s.v., A bonny building, and a bonny size—handsome and spacious. 1881 EVANS *Leicestersh. Wds.* Bonny, good, jolly, pretty, etc., an almost universally applicable epithet of eulogy.

† **B. absol.** or quasi-*sb.* A bonny one. *Obs.*

a. 1599 SKELTON *Elynour Rum.* 227 Wyth 'Bas, my pretty bonny'.

c. 1826 A. CUNNINGHAM 'The sun rises bright,' My hamely hearth burn't bonnie.

C. quasi-*adv.* Finely, beautifully.

c. 1826 A. CUNNINGHAM 'The sun rises bright,' My hamely hearth burn't bonnie.

† **Bonny**, *sb.* *Obs.* Mining. Also bonney.

[† Cf. BUNNY, a swelling.] (See *quots.*)

1671 *Phil. Trans.* No. 69. 2098, cited in *Chambers Cycl. Suppl.* (1753) who says, Bonny, a name given by our miners to a bed of ore not forming a vein, nor communicating with any other vein... They differ from the squats only in being round beds of ore, whereas those are flat. 1721 BAILEY *Bonny*, (with miners) is a distinct bed of Oar, that communicates with no Vein. [Hence in later Dicts.]

† **Bonny**, *sb.* variants of BONAGH. *Obs.*

1600 SIR E. CAREW in *Carew MSS.* (1869) 387 Strengthened with 1000 bonies. a. 1604 HAMMER *Chron. Ireld.* (1633) 28 Their bonnies were... active and venturesome soldiers.

Bonny, var. BONY, and of BUNNY, *Obs.*, a swelling.

Bonny-clabber (bɒniˌklæbɔː), *Anglo-Irish.*

Forms: 7 bonneyclabber, bon(n)clabber, bonny-clabber, bonny-clabo, 7-8 bonny clabber, 8 bonnaclabber, 7-9 bonniclapper, bonnyclabber. [a. Irish *bainne* milk, *claba* thick. (O'Reilly).]

Milk naturally clotted or coagulated on souring; called in Scotland *loppert* or *lappert* milk.

1631 B. JONSON *New Inn* I. i, To drink such balderdash, or bonny-clabber. 1631 R. H. ARRAIGN *Whole Creat.* v. 36 They would eate the sowrest Bonniclapper. 1635 STRAFFORD *Lett.* (1739) I. 441 All the comfort I have is a little Bonneyclabber... it is the bravest, freshest drink you ever tasted. 1691 TRYON *Wisd. Dictates* 152 Bonniclapper is nothing else but Milk that has stood till it is sower, and become of a thick slippery substance. 1716 T. WARD *Engl. Ref.* 234 Curds, Cream, and Hatted-Bonnaclabber, Wou'd make a hungry Parson Caper. 1730 SWIFT *Answ. Craftsman* ad fin., The people live with comfort on potatoes and bonny-clabber. 1803 *Harper's Mag.* Mar. 603/2, I had so much bonny-clabber, or curdled milk.

attrib. 1689 G. HARVEY *Cur. Dis. Expect.* vi. 38 These Bonny-Clabber Physicians are deservedly censured Criminal.

Bonnyish, *a. dial.* Rather bonny, pretty fair.

1864 ATKINSON *Whitby Gloss.* s.v., They're a bonnyish lot.

Bonny-vis, variant of BONAVIST.

Bonogh, variant of BONAGH. *Obs.*

Bonspiel (bɒnspiːl, -spɛl), *Sc.* Forms: 6 bonspeill, 8 -speel, 9 -spel, -spiel, -spiel. [Of uncertain origin and history: many conjectures may be seen in Jamieson and elsewhere; perhaps it represents a Du. **bondspel* f. *bond* = *verbond* 'covenant, alliance, compact', and *spel* 'play'. The word prob. entered Scotch as a whole, *spiel*, *spel*, having never been in common use for 'play'.]

† 1. A set match at some game. *Obs.*

c. 1565 R. LINDSAY *Cron. Scoll.* 348 (JAM.) The kingis mother... tuik ane waigour of archerie vpoun the Englishmanis handis, contrair the king hir sone... The king, heir-ing of this bonspeill of his mother, was weill content.

2. *spec.* A 'grand curling-match' between two distinct clubs or districts.

(The *spels*, and definition of them, in quot. 1831, are constructed by the writer from his own etymological fancies.)

a. 1772 J. GRÆME in *Anderson Poets* XI. 447 (JAM.) Some hoary hero... tedious talks... of many a bonspiel gain'd Against opposing parishes. 1815 SCOTT *Guy M.* xxxii, He never... gave another glance at the bonspiel, though there was the finest fun among the curlers ever was seen. 1831 *Blackw. Mag.* XXX. 972 Bonspiels or bonspels, in contradistinction to spiels, which may be defined to imply a game or match between members of the same society, or of a limited number of adversaries, are matches between rival parishes or districts. 1865 *Times* 22 Feb. *Quebec*, The grand 'bonspiel' of the Curling Club comes off tomorrow.

Bontay, -6, -18, *obs.* ff. BOUNTT.

Bontebok (bɒntɛbɒk). [Du. *bontebok*: f. *bont* pied + *bok* buck, goat.] A South African antelope (*Damalis Pygarga*, Gray) also called Pied-Antelope, and Nunki: closely allied to the Blesbok, and having a similar blaze on the face, so that both animals were formerly confused under the appellation *blesbok* and specific name *Pygarga*. 1786 tr. *Spartan's Voy.* II. 219 The bonte-bok, the painted or pied goat... somewhat less than the harte-beest. 1834 *Penny Cycl.* II. 85/1 The Blesbok (*a. Pygarga*), this splendid animal, which is likewise called *bontebok* or painted goat. 1869 E. GRAY *Guide Brit. Mus.* 3 The Bontebok, with its inscribed sides.

Bon-ton: see BOX.

Bonus (bɒˈnʌs). [An ignorant or jocular application of L. *bonus* 'good (man)', probably intended to signify a boon, 'a good thing' (*bonum*). Prob. originally Stock Exchange slang.]

A boon or gift over and above what is normally due as remuneration to the receiver, and which is therefore something wholly 'to the good'.

a. Money or its equivalent, given as a premium, or as an extra or irregular remuneration, in con-

sideration of offices performed, or to encourage their performance; sometimes merely a euphemism for *douceur*, *bribe*. Hence *bonus-fed* adj.

1773 MACKLIN *Man of World* III. i. Got my share of the clothing... the contracts, the lottery tickets, and all the political bonuses. 1808 *Edin. Rev.* I. 104 The bonus of one half per cent. interest will not mend the matter. 1854 McCULLOCH *Taxation* I. § 2. 68 Except their owners, none would occupy them [costly edifices] unless tempted by the offer of a considerable bonus. *Ibid.* III. i. 435 There have been large deductions from the loans for prompt payment, and bonuses of various descriptions. 1886 *Pall Mall G.* 23 Feb. 2/4 Bring a bonus-fed production from the West into competition with it.

(b.) fig.; cf. 'premium'.

1813 *Examiner* 17 May 319/1 As a bonus... the old gentleman engaged to pay off my debts. 1813 *Syd. Smith Wks.* (1867) I. 220 A bonus is given to one set of religious opinions. 1840 CARLYLE *Misc.* (1857) I. 291 A sort of bait and bonus to Satan.

b. An extra dividend paid to shareholders in a joint-stock company from surplus profits; a portion of the profits of an insurance company distributed, 'pro rata', to the policy-holders.

1808 SCOTT in *Lockhart* (1839) III. 134 The Editor... makes a point of every contributor receiving this Bonus. 1855 MACAULAY *Hist. Eng.* IV. 133 Every proprietor received as a bonus a quantity of stock equal to that which he held. 1861 *Sat. Rev.* 30 Nov. 553 To share, in the shape of interest and bonuses, in the profits realized.

c. A gratuity paid to workmen, masters of vessels, etc., over and above their stated salary.

1863 FAWCETT *Pol. Econ.* II. ix. 254 One half of the surplus profits are distributed amongst the labourers as a bonus.

d. attrib. or quasi-adj., as *bonus share*, *year*, etc.

1883 *Sir G. Jessel Law Times Rep.* XLIX. 149/1 He had accepted certain bonus shares, as they are called—that is, shares which were given him free from calls.

Bonus (bō'nus), *v.* [f. prec.] *trans.* To give a bonus to; to assist or promote by bonuses.

1886 *Pall Mall G.* 23 Feb. 2 To stimulate American exports by bonusing production. *Ibid.* Railroads have been so bonused by State money and land grants.

Bon-vivant: see **BON**.

Bonxie (bɔn'ksi). The name given in Shetland to the Skua Gull (*Lestrus catarractes*).

1808 G. MONTAGU *Ornith. Dict.* (1833) 49 *Bonsie*, a name for the Skua. 1882 SCOTT *Pirate* IV. The very sheerwaters and bonxies are making to the cliffs for shelter.

Bony (bō'ni), *a.* [f. *BONE* sb. + -Y.]

1. Of, pertaining to, or of the nature of bone or bones; consisting of made of bones.

a 1535 MORE *Wks.* (1557) 77 Ye lothely figure of our dead body bodies bitten away y^e flesh. 1607 TOPSELL *Four-f. Beasts* 91 A certain bony substance. 1804 ABERNETHY *Surg. Observ.* 103 Bony matter was deposited. 1840 FAIRCHILD *Nat. Hist. Man* 116 The bony structure of the head.

2. Abounding in bones; having large or prominent bones; big-boned.

1598 SYLVESTER *De Barts* (1621) 227 A lean, bare, bonny face [of a horse]. 1796 THOMSON *Winter* 394 Bony, and gaunt, and grim. 1836 DICKENS *Pickw.* V. A tall bony woman—straight all the way down. *Mod.* Neck of mutton is a very bony joint.

3. Comb., as *bony-skeletoned*; also *bony-hoof* (see quot.); *bony-pike*, a ganoid fish inhabiting rivers and lakes in America.

1768 CROKER, etc. *Dict. Arts & Sc.* II. Bony Hoof is a round bony swelling, growing on the very top of a horse's hoof, which is always caused by some blow or bruise. 1848 CARPENTER *Zool.* § 572 The Lepidosteus or Bony Pike... has many of the characters of the Pike, with the structure of the head of the Herring. 1871 HARTWIG *Subterr. W.* II. 13 Any bony-skeletoned fish of our days.

Bony, *v. nonce-ud.* [f. prec.] *trans.* To make bony; to harden.

1684 *Gl. Frost* p. xxix, [Thames says] Father Frost and Sister Snow have bonnyed my borders.

Bony, var. **BONNY**, and **BUNNY**, *Obs.*, a swelling.

Bonze (bɔnz). Forms: 6 bonso, 7 bose, pl. bosses, 7-8 bonsee, 7- bonse. [prob. a F. *bonze*, ad. Pg. *bonzo* (early mod.L. *bonsus*, *bonsius*); according to Col. Yule prob. ad. Japanese *bonzō* or *bonzi*, ad. Chinese *fan seng* 'religious person', or of Jap. *bo-zi*, ad. Ch. *fa-see* 'teacher of the law'. Some of the earlier Eng. forms appear to represent the Japanese word directly.]

A term applied by Europeans to the Buddhist clergy of Japan, and sometimes of China, and adjacent countries.

1555 XAVIER *Epist.* V. xvii. (1667) (Y.) Erubescunt enim et confunduntur Bonzii. 1588 PARKER *Hist. China* 379 (Y.) They have amongst them [in Japan] many priests of their idols whom they do call Bonzos, of the which there be great counts. a 1590 *Extr. Treat. China* in Hakluyt II. 580 In China called Cen, but with us at Japan are named Bonzi. 1618 COCKS *Diary* II. 75 (Y.) There is 300 boze (or pagon priests). *Ibid.* I. 143 Bonzes. 1688 *New Hist. China* 46 In these Temples... Bonzes have their Habitations. 1713 *Guardian* No. 3 (1756) I. 20 The Bonzes of China have books written by the disciples of Fo-he. 1756 BURKE *Vind. Nat. Soc.* Wks. I. 60 The absurd tricks, or destructive bigotry of the bonzees [of China]. 1876 LADY HERBERT *Tr. Hubner's Ramble* II. ii. 249 A bonze appears on the threshold of the temple.

Bonsery (bɔnzəri). *rare.* [f. prec. + -ERY, or a. F. *bonserie*.] A Buddhist monastery.

1768 PRIESTLEY *Lect. Hist.* v. liii. 453 There are more than six thousand bonzeries in the city and district of Peking.

Bonsess (bɔnzɛs). *rare.* [f. F. *bonzesse*, fem. of *bonze*, 18th c. in Littré.] A female bonze.

1860 *All Y. Round* No. 64. 322 Buddhism and Lamaism... permit women... to escape from the sorrows of social life by making a religious and monastic profession, under the title of Bonzesses.

Boo, booh (bū), *int.* (and *sb.*) A sound imitating the lowing of oxen; also used to express contempt, disapprobation, aversion. Used *subst.* as a name for itself, esp. as the sound of hooting. Cf. **Bo**, **Boohoo**.

1801 R. GILL in Chambers *Hum. Sc. Poems* (1862) 176 He heard a boo ahint a hedge. 1855 THACKERAY *Rose & Ring* viii. (1866) 48 He... fell asleep and snored horribly. Booh, the nasty pig! 1884 *Chr. World* 25 Sept. 717/1 The sibilant hiss and the contemptuous 'boo'. 1885 *Pall Mall G.* 6 Oct. 2/1 When the names of the agents... came out, you should have heard the roar of savage 'boos'.

Boo (bū), *v.* [f. prec.] *intr.* a. To low as a cow; to make a similar noise. b. To utter 'booh'; to hoot. Hence *Boohing* ppl. a. and *vbl. sb.*

1816 'Quiz' *Grand Master* VII. 188 At the Presidency. Some people boo with complacency. 1852 *Q. Rev.* Dec. 212 The poor neighbours... were wont to exclaim, 'There he [Wordsworth] is; we are glad to hear him boohing about again'. 1882 JEFFERIES *Bevis* II. 77 The boohing of distant cows. 1884 *Rept. Ld. Salisbury's Sp.* in *Times* 23 July 10/1 'We have been informed by Mr. Gladstone' (Great boohing and cheering). 1884 *Gd. Words* May 324/2 A voice boohing and hulloing.

Boo, variant form of **Bo** a. *Obs.* both.

† **Boobily**, *a. Obs.* [f. *BOOBY* + -LY.] Boobyish, booby-like.

1714 MANDEVILLE *Fab. Bees* (1725) I. 346 Raw ignorant country wenchies and booby fellows that can do, & are good for, nothing. 1790 CIBBER *Apol.* (1756) I. 115 The booby heaviness of Lolpoo in the 'Squire of Alsatia'.

Booby (bū'bi), *sb.* Also 8 boobee, 9 boobie. [probably ad. Sp. *boho*, used both in the sense of 'fool' and 'booby' (the bird), of doubtful origin. (The Ger. *bube*, MHG. *buobe*, is used frequently in the sense of 'fool, lubber'; but connexion with it is hardly possible: its LG. form is *boove*, *boef*.)]

1. 'A dull, heavy, stupid fellow: a lubber' (J.); a clown, a nincompoop.

1599-1603 *Patient Grisil* 48 [*Welshman* log.] Then, mace a pooby fool of Sir Owen. God's plude, shall I 1616 FLETCHER *Cust. Country* I. ii. Cry, you great booby. 1687 *T. Brown Saints in Up. Wks.* 1730 I. 74 Such a booby as thou art, pretend to dispute the precedence? 1711 STEELE *Spect.* No. 113 ¶ 3. I bowed like a great surprised Booby. 1776 JOHNSON in *Boswell* (1831) III. 352 We work with our heads, and make the boobies of Birmingham work for us with their hands. 1844 W. IRVING *T. Trav.* I. 260, I was so awkward a booby that I dared scarcely speak to her.

b. *spec.* The last boy in a school class, the dunce.

1845 LD. COCKBURN *Mem.* I. 4, I never got a single prize, and once sat boobie at the annual public examination. 1849 C. BRONTE *Shirley* III. iv. 75 He was the booby of.... grammar school.

c. attrib.

1798 YOUNG *Love Fame* II. (1757) 95 The booby father craves a booby son. 1798 RICHARDSON *Clarissa* XXXI. I. 205 Never was there booby squire that more wanted it [improvement]. 1818 SCOTT *Hrt. Midl.* iv. There is not a boy on the booby form but should have been scourged for such a solecism in grammar.

d. To beat the booby: see **BEAT** v. 1 41.

2. A name for different species of Gannet, esp. *Sula fusca*.

1634 *Sir T. Herbert Trav.* 10 One of the Sayers espying a Bird fitly called a Booby, hee mounted to the top-mast and took her. The quality of which Bird is to sit still, not valuing danger. 1707 SLOANE *Jamaica* I. 31 Boobies... so called of Seamen because they do not stir from you, but suffer themselves to be catch'd by the hand. 1819 BYRON *Juan* II. lxxxix, At length they caught two boobies, and a noddy. 1860 GOSSE *Rom. Nat. Hist.* 83 The booby and the noddy sit on the bare rock in startling tameness.

3. Comb., as *booby-hatch* (*Naut.*), a smaller kind of companion which lifts off in one piece, in use for merchantmen's half-decks; *booby-hut*, a hooded sleigh used in New England; *booby-hut*, a small clumsy cart or carriage used in some parts of England; see also quot. 1881; *booby-trap*, a kind of practical joke in vogue among schoolboys and others (see quot.).

1840 R. DANA *Bef. Mast* xxxiv. 130 The sky-light and 'booby-hatch' [are] put on. 1883 *Chamb. Jnl.* 141 The after or booby-hatch was covered with a network of lashings. 1818 HAN. MORE *Hist. Mr. Fantom* Stories (1830) I. 10 All that multitude of coaches, chariots, chaises, vis-a-vis, 'booby-hutches, sulkies, etc. 1881 EVANS *Leicester's Gloss.* (E. D. S.), *Booby-hutch*, a hand-barrow; a small deep cart; a sentry-box; any movable 'coop' or 'hutch' of any kind intended for the use of a single human occupant. The carts drawn by dogs before the passing of Martin's Act were often so called. 1868 *Chamb. Jnl.* A 'booby-trap'... it consisted... of books, boots, etc., balanced on the top of a door, which was left ajar, so that the first incomer got a solid shower-bath. 1882 *Sat. Rev.* 4 Nov. 600 Perpetually on the alert for booby-traps.

Booby, *v. rare*—1. [f. prec. sb.] In *To booby about*: to go about like a booby.

1807 W. IRVING *Salmag.* (1824) 53 Those brainless pert bloods... Who lounge and who loot, and who booby about.

Boobyish (bū'bi:ʃ), *a.* [f. *BOOBY* sb. + -ISH.] Savouring of the booby, awkwardly silly.

1776 Miss BURNBY *Evelina* (1794) I. 185 Till the violence of this boobyish humour is abated. 1839 HALLAM *Hist. Lit.* III. iii. vi. § 38. 305 Awkward and boobyish among civil people, but at home in rude sports.

Boobyism (bū'bi:z'm), [f. as prec. + -ISM.] The character or characteristic action of a booby.

1833 *Fraser's Mag.* VII. 112 The boobyisms of Bulwer. 1836 DICKENS *Sk. Bos.* (1850) 72/1 To exhibit their ignorance and boobyism on the stage of a private theatre.

Booce (obs. f. *BOSS*, and of *BOOSE*, cattle-stall.

Bood, obs. pa. t. *BIDE*; also = *behooved*: see **BUS** v.; also var. **BOUD**, a weevil; obs. f. **BUD**.

† **Boodge**. *Obs.* [App. a variant of *BOUGE* sb. 1.]

A prominence from the back of the body of a carriage to carry parcels in; the 'sword-case'. Felton.

1801 FELTON *Carriages* I. 15 The sword-case, so called from its length and convenience for carrying swords or sticks, is sometimes called a boodge; the ends are made of thick boards.

Boodge, obs. form of **BUDGE**.

Boodh, **booddha**, -ism, etc.: see **BUDDHA**, etc.

Boodie (bū'di), *sc.* [perh. ad. Gael. *bodach* ghost. But cf. *BOLLY*.] A spectre, a hobgoblin.

a 1700 *Ballad, Baronne* & *Gairly* in *Smith Hist. Aberdeensh.* (1875) I. 650 Nae gruesome gaist, nor black boodie Cud fleg that bold Baronne. 1765 *Jrnl. fr. Lond.* 6 in *Poems Buchan Dial.* (JAM.) About the time o' night that the boodies begin to gang. 1868 G. MACDONALD *R. Falconer* I. 12 He rins as gin I war a boodie.

Boodle (bū'dl), Also 7 **buddle**. [Origin and history obscure; but the mod. U. S. *boodle*, in sense 1, must be the same as Markham's *buddle*: sense 2 (also only in U. S.) may be a different word; it suggests Du. *boedel* 'estate, possession, inheritance, stock', which it is not so easy to connect with sense 1.]

1. Crowd, pack, lot: as in the contemptuous 'the whole boodle'.

1625 F. MARKHAM *Bk. Honour* IV. ii. Men curiously and carefully chosen out from all the Buddle and masse of great ones for their approved wisdom. 1848 O. W. HOLMES *Autocrat* 139 He would like to have the whole boodle of them (I remonstrated against this word, but the professor said it was a diabolical good word...) with their wives and children shipwrecked on a remote island.

2. Stock in trade, capital.

1884 *Boston (Mass.) Globe* 7 Oct. 'Sinews of war'... 'soap' and other synonyms for campaign boodle are familiar.

Boodle (bū'dl), *slang.* A stupid noodle. 1862 KINGSLEY in *Macm. Mag.* Dec. 96 A good many people... have seen all the world, and yet remain little better than blokes and boodles after all.

Boodle, var. of **BUDDLE**, corn-marigold.

Boody (bū'di), *v. rare.* [app. ad. F. *bouder* to pout, sulk.] *intr.* To sulk, mope, be sullen.

1857 TROLLOPE *Barchester T.* xxvii. Don't boody with me; don't be angry because I speak out some home truths. 1877 — *Prime Min.* lxxvi. (D.) Left to boody over everything by himself, till he becomes a sort of political hermit.

Booget, obs. form of **BUDGET**.

Boohoo (bū'hu), *int.* and *sb.* A word imitative of the sound of noisy weeping or laughter; also an expression of contempt (*sc.*).

c 1595 SKELTON *Repl. 75* Wyless wandring to and fro! With, Te he, ta ha, bo ho, bo ho! 1850 THACKERAY *Pendennis* II. 148 Warrington fairly burst out into a boo-hoo of laughter. 1808-79 JAMIESON *Roxb.* I wouldna gi' a boo-hoo for you. 1884 *Graphic* 11 Oct. 387/2 Shri! and dolorous boo-hoo's.

Boohoo, *v.* Also **bohoo**. [f. prec.] *intr.*

a. To weep noisily; b. to bellow, roar, shout, hoot.

1837-40 HALIBURTON *Clockm.* (1862) 49 The wenchies they fell to a cryin, wringin their hands, and boo-hoo-like mad. 1884 *Punch* 1 Nov. 216/1 Irish Members boo-hoo... and use shillelaghs. 1884 *Harper's Mag.* Oct. 697/1, I... boo-hooed like a baby.

Booit, dial. f. of **BOWET**, lantern.

Book (buk), *sb.* Forms: 1 bōc, booc, 2-4 boc, 3-5 bok, 4-6 boke, 4-7 booke, 4- book; (also 4-6 bock, 7 boock; north. 4 buk, 4-8 buke, Sc. 6-8 buick, 6- buik). Pl. books; in 1 bōc, bēc. [A com. Teut. word, differing however in gender and other points in the various langs. With OE. *bōc* monosyllabic fem. (pl. *bēc*) cf. OFris. and OS. *bōk* (pl. *bōk*) fem. and neut. (MDu. *boek* neut. and often masc., Du. *boek* masc.), OHG. *buoh* (pl. *buoh*) neut., also masc. and fem. (MHG. *buoch*, mod.G. *buch* neut.), ON. *bōk* (pl. *bōkr*) fem. (Sw. *bok*, Da. *bog*), all in sense of 'written document, book'. These forms indicate an OTeut. **bōk-s* str. fem., the plural of which was in OHG. and elsewhere sometimes made neuter (after the analogy of neuter monosyllabic plurals), and this gender extended to the sing. The original meaning was evidently 'writing-tablet, leaf, or sheet': cf. Venantius Fortunatus *Carm.* vii. 18, 19 'barbara fraxineis pingatur runa tabellis', also OS. *thia bōk* the writing-tablet, 'pugillaris' Luke i. 63 (in *Heiland* 232, 235), OE. *bōc* charter: in pl. tablets, written sheets, hence 'book,' a sense subseq.

extended to the singular. Gothic does not show *bōks, but an apparently derivative form *bōka* str. fem., in sense of 'letter' of the alphabet, pl. *bōkōs* litteræ, γράμματα, writing, document, book.

Generally thought to be etymologically connected with the name of the beech-tree, OE. *bōc*, *bēce*, ON. *bōk* (see Bæck), the suggestion being that inscriptions were first made on beechen tablets, or cut in the bark of beech-trees; but there are great difficulties in reconciling the early forms of the two words, seeing that *bōk*'s 'writing-tablet' is the most primitive of all.]

I. +1. A writing; a written document; esp. a charter or deed by which land (hence called *bōc-land*) was conveyed. *Obs.*

879-925 in Thorpe *Diplomat.* 168 (Bosw.) Ic him sealde ðæt lond on ece erfe and ða bec. 886-899 *Ibid.* 137 Heo cyððar on ðisse bec. 938 *Ibid.* 187 Dis is seo boc ðe Eðelstan cing gebocode. c. 1000 *Ag. Gosp.* Matt. v. 31 Swa hwylc swa his wilforlaet, he sylle hyre hyra hwiðgedales boc (*Rusku*, beec). 1288 *Wyclif* 1sa. i. 1 What is this boc of forsaking of 30ure moder. 1417 *E. Wills* (1882) 27 Excepte ham þat I haue ynnemmed in þis bok to-for. 1483 *Cath. Angl.* 36 A Boke, *carta*, *cartula*, *codex*, *codicillus*, *liber*, *libellus*, etc. 1553 *Edw. VI. Will in Strype Eccl. Mem.* II. ii. xxii. 431 All such as have paid their monies upon any bargain for lands, to have their books and bargains performed. 1596 *Shaks.* 1 *Hen. IV.* iii. i. 224 By that time will our Booke, I thinke, be drawne. 1611 *Bible Jer.* xxxii. 12 The witnesses, that subscribed the booke [1885 *R. V.* deed] of the purchase. [1818 *HALLAM Mid. Ages* (1872) II. 294 Might be conveyed by boc or written grant. 1876 *Dicuv Real Prop.* i. 12 The grants were effected by the king, by means usually of a 'book' or charter.]

+2. A (written) narrative or account, record, list, register. *Obs.* (In the Bible only a following of Greek and Latin precedents, in their rendering by βιβλος, *liber*, the Heb. קֶדֶשׁ, *sēpher*, סֵפֶר, *k'thāb* 'writing, written account'.)

a 1000 *Ælfric Gen. v.* 1 Dis is seo boc Adames mæcgrace. 1535 *Coverdale Matt. i.* 1 The boke of the generation of Jesus Christ. 1582-8 *Hist. James VI.* (1804) 123 The clerks and writers to the Lords of Session compellit to render the buiks of parliament unto thame. 1611 *Bible Gen. v.* 1 This is the booke of the generations of Adam. 1681 *BURNET Hist. Ref.* II. 14 He intended to create some new peers; and ordered him to write a book of such as he thought meetest.

3. *gen.* A written or printed treatise or series of treatises, occupying several sheets of paper or other substance fastened together so as to compose a material whole.

In this wide sense, referring to all ages and countries, a *book* comprehends a treatise written on any material (skin, parchment, papyrus, paper, cotton, silk, palm leaves, bark, tablets of wood, ivory, slate, metal, etc.), put together in any portable form, e.g. that of a long roll, or of separate leaves, hinged, strung, stitched, or pasted together.

a. *spec.* (In reference to modern things.) Such a treatise occupying numerous sheets or leaves fastened together at one edge called the *back*, so as to be opened at any particular place, the whole being protected by binding or covers of some kind. But, since either the form of the book or its subject may be mainly or exclusively the object of attention, this passes on either side into

b. The material article so made up, without regard to the nature of its contents, even though its pages are occupied otherwise than with writing or printing, or are entirely blank (cf. 9): e.g. 'a handsome book', i.e. a trophy of the binder's art, 'a tiny book', one that may be put in the waistcoat pocket.

c. A literary composition such as would occupy one or more volumes, without regard to the material form or forms in which it actually exists; 'an intellectual composition, in prose or verse, at least of sufficient extent to make one volume' (Littre s.v. *livre*). In this sense Carlyle described himself as 'a writer of books'.

It is not now usual to call a (modern) literary composition in manuscript a 'book', unless we think of its printing as a thing to follow in due course. In sense b every volume is a 'book'; whilst in sense c one 'book' may occupy several volumes; and on the other hand one large volume may contain several 'books', i.e. literary works originally published as distinct books. No absolute definition of a 'book' in this sense can be given: in general, a short literary composition (especially if ephemeral in character, and therefore also in form) receives some other name, as *tract*, *pamphlet*, *sketch*, *essay*, etc.

c 897 *K. Ælfred Gregory's Past.* inscr. on Hatton MS., Deos boc sceal to Wiozora ceastre. *Ibid.* (Sweet) 8 Ond ic bibiðode. þæt nan mon ðone æstel from þære bec ne doe, ne þa boc from þæm mynstre. c. 1000 *Ag. Gosp.* John xxi. 25 Ealle þa bec. c. 1175 *Lamb. Hom.* 101 Swa swa us seggeð bec. c. 1205 *LAY.* 7263 For mine bec [c. 1275 *bokes*] hit me seggeð. a 1300 *Cursor M.* 1470 Enoch, was þe first þat letters fand And wrot sum bokes wit his hand. a 1340 *HAMPOLE Pr. Cons.* 348 þis buk. I seuen partis diuised es. 1377 *LANG.* *P. Pl. B.* xi. 135 Baw for bokes! c. 1405 *WYNTON Cron.* v. xii. 278 Sum man may fall þis buk to rede. 1513 *MORE Edw. V.* (1641) Ded., There coming... into my hand a booke long since printed. 1510 *HORMAN Vulg.* 84 A volume is lesse than a boke, and a boke lesse than a coucher [L. *codice*]. 1534 *Ld. BERNERS Gold. Bk. M. Aurel.* (1546) B iv b. I, I will intitile this boke the Golden Boke. 1558 *Act 1 Eliz. ii.* Set forth in one boke entituled, The Booke of Common-prayer. 1600 *Register Stationers' Co. A.* As you like yt, a booke. 1611 *Bible Jer.* xxxvi. 2 Take thee a roule of a booke, and write therein. 1637 *Decree*

Star Chamb. in *Milton's Arcton* (Arb.) 9 Seditious, scismaticall, or offensive Bookes or Pamphlets. a 1649 *DRUMM.* of *HAWTH.* *Biblioth. Edinb. Lect. Wks.* (1711) 222 Books have that strange quality, that, being of the frailest and tenderest matter, they out-last brass, iron, and marble. 1710 *Act 8 Anne in Lond. Gaz.* No. 4686/3 Nine Copies of each Book... that from... the 10th of April, 1710, shall be printed... or re-printed with Additions, shall by the Printers thereof be delivered to the Warehouse-keeper of the... Company of Stationers. 1743 *TINDAL tr. Rapin's Hist. Eng.* II. xvii. 118 Books, as well printed as in Manuscript. 1865 *RUSKIN Sesame* 19 A book is essentially not a talked thing, but a written thing; and written, not with the view of mere communication, but of permanence. 1876 *GREEN Short Hist.* viii. § 1 (1882) 447 England became the people of a book, and that book was the Bible. 1884 *J. A. H. MURRAY in 13th. Addr. Philol. Soc.* 22, I do not know what a book is. Was Shakspeare the author of one book or of forty-four books? 1886 *Boston Literary World* 1 May 150/1 The first matter was to settle the seemingly easy but really difficult question, What is a book? This they solved by defining it as 'a literary work substantial in amount and homogeneous in character'.

fig. 1598 *SHAKS. Rom. & Jul.* i. iii. 87 This precious Booke of Loue, this vnbound Louer. 1595 — *John* ii. 485 This booke of beautie. 1847 *TENNISON Princ.* v. 136 Not ever would she love; but brooding turn The book of scorn.

4. fig. a. That in which we may read, and find instruction or lessons.

c 1449 *PECOCK Repr.* i. v. 25 The boke of mannis soule. 1532 *MORE Confut. Tindale Wks.* 408/a To call the ymages of holye sayntes... and the figure of Chrystes crosse, the boke of his bitter passion. 1600 *SHAKS. A. Y. L.* ii. 16 And this our life... findes tongues in trees, bookes in the running brookes, Sermons in stones. 1606 *BACON Adv. Learn.* i. vi. 16 Laying before us two Books or Volumes to study if we will be secured from error; first the scriptures, revealing the will of God, and then the creatures expressing his power. 1667 *MILTON P. L.* iii. 47 For the Boke of knowledge fair Presented with a Universal blanc. 1815 *SCOTT Guy R. M.* xix. 1830 *J. G. STRUTT Sylva Brit.* 2 That great poet to whom the book of Nature and of the human heart seemed alike laid open. 1876 *HAMERTON Intell. Life* x. 371 The infinite book of the world, and life.

b. An example taken as = book of precepts. c 1380 *WYCLIF Wks.* (1880) 61 Pe lif of prelati is bok & ensaumple of sugetis. *Ibid.* 92 þei techen to þe comunes bi here owen wickid lif þat is a bok to here sugetis.

c. (with allusive reference to various real or reputed books, records, etc., and in uses suggested by these.)

1593 *SHAKS. Rich. II.* iv. i. 236 Mark'd with a Blot, damn'd in the Booke of Heauen. — *2 Hen. VI.* i. i. 100 Blotting your names from Bookes of Memory. 1597 — *2 Hen. IV.* iii. i. 45 Oh Heauen, that one might read the Booke of Fate. 1611 — *Wint. T.* iv. iii. 131 My name put in the booke of Vertue. 1732 *POPE Ess. Man* i. 77 Heav'n from all creatures hides the book of fate.

4. Elliptically or contextually:

a. The Bible, sometimes as the 'divine book' or 'book of books'; frequently with reference to its use in the administration of oaths.

[c. 1200 *Trin. Coll. Hom.* 11 We raden on boc þet elch man haueð to fere on engel of heuene. c. 1250 *Passion Our Lord* 131 in *OE. Misc.* 41 Hit is write in þe bok. 1297 *R. GLOUC.* 472 Suerie vpe the bok. a 1300 *Cursor M.* 2042 A mantil, he toke, And ȝede backward, als sais þe bok. 1389 in *Eng. Gilds* (1870) 3 Eche of hem had sworn on þe bok to performe þe pointz. c. 1430 *LDGC. Bokes* ii. vii. (1554) 49 a. A sonne he had, Called Abia, the boke doth specifie. c. 1450 *Wky I can't be nun* 20 in *E. P.* (1862) 138 On a boke I dare well swere In gode feythe and on womanhode. 1598 *SHAKS. Merry W.* i. iv. 156 Ile be sworne on a booke thee loues you. 1678 *Trials of Ireland*, 6c. 3 Clerk of Crown. 'Sir Philip Matthews to the Book'. 1821 *CLARE Vill. Minstr.* i. 175 As the day closes on its peace and rest, The godly man sits down and takes 'the book'. 1850 *W. M. THOMSON (title)* The Land and the Book. 1864 *TENNISON En. Ard.* 843 'Swear', added Enoch sternly, 'on the book', And on the book, half-frighted, Miriam swore.

† b. The Book of Common Prayer; also the Mass-book, in the phrase *by bell, book, and candle*; see *BELL* sb. 1 8. *Obs.*

c 1340 *Cursor M.* 25038 (Fairf.) Pilate... be-takenis feinde of helle, cursed he is wiþ boke and belle. 1565 *Chron. Gr. Friars* (1852) 27 Sir Edmonde de la Poole was pronounced acursed openly wyth boke, belle, and candell, at Powles crosse at the sermone before none [1502]. 1588 *Martynel. Epist.* (Arb.) 141 Whosoever will or haue subscribed vnto the booke and Articles.

c. *Law. pl.* The Year Books; any books reputed of authority in the law of England.

1628 *COKE On Litt.* 1 b. So we commonly say it is holden in our bookes. 1826 *KENT Comm.* i. 476 It will be a bad example to the barristers and students at law, and they will not give any credit to the books or have any faith in them. 1886 *SIR N. LINDLEY Law Rep.* 33 *Chanc. Div.* 29 There are other cases in the books illustrating the same principle.

† 5. 'Benefit of clergy': from the fact that a person claiming this had to read from a book handed to him, to show his scholarship. *Obs.*

1601 *YARINGTON Two Lamet. Traj.* iv. ix. in *Bullen O. Pl.* IV, Williams and Rachell likewise are convict for their concealment; Williams craves his booke And so receiues a bond of infamie. a 1666 *BACON Max. & Uses Com. Law* (1635) 17 Some prisoners haue their bookes, and be burned in the hand and so delivered... This haueing their bookes is called their clergy. 1643 *HEALE Annu. Ferns* 5 Flat blasphemie without booke. 1770 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 4739/1 An Act for taking away the Benefit of Clergy in certain Cases, and for taking away the Book in all Cases.

† 6. Book-learning, scholarship, study, lessons, reading. In later use only *pl.* and passing into 3 c.

1297 *R. GLOUC.* 420 Vor þat he ȝongost was, to hoc hys fader hym drou, þat he was... god clerc ynou. 1377 *LANG.* *P. Pl. B.* xii. 187 Wel may þe barne blisse þat hym to boke sette. 1598 *SHAKS. Merry W.* iv. i. 15 My sonne profits nothing in the world at his Booke. 1660 *F. HENRY Diaries & Lett.* (1882) 281 Children at Book again, under Mr. Sam. Lewis. 1767 *FORDYCE Sermon. Eng. Wom.* II. viii. 7 An early love of books prevented this languor. 1864 *TENNISON Aylmer's F.* 460 His rushings to and fro, After his books, to flush his blood with air.

7. A main subdivision of a large treatise; being such as either (a) originally constituted a complete treatise of itself, or (b) occupied a separate roll or volume, when the whole treatise was for convenience written on several.

a. Each of the separate documents collected in the Sacred Scriptures, as the *Book of Genesis*, *Book of Psalms*.

c 1200 *ORMIN* 5810 þatt writenn... Godspell o fowwre bokess. c. 1250 *Gen. & Ex.* 2522 De boc ðe is hoten genesis. 1533 *FRITH Answ. More* (1829) 156 Let it [the Church] read these two books... (Sapience & Ecclesiasticus) unto the edifying of the people. 1599 *SHAKS. Hen. V.* i. ii. 98 In the Booke of Numbers is it writ. 1768 *PRIESTLEY Corrupt. Chr. I.* Pref. 23, I have almost always quoted the Book, & Chapter. 1863 *STANLEY Jew. Ch. Intro.* 33 The Books of Moses, Joshua, and Samuel.

b. A main division of the subject-matter of a prose treatise, or of a poem; now usually in prose only when further subdivided into chapters, or portions otherwise distinguished; but formerly used freely, where *chapter* would now be used. So *Gr. βιβλιον* little book, *L. liber*; as in the nine books of Herodotus, the twelve books of Vergil's *Æneid*.

a 1225 *Anscr. R.* Pref. 23 This an Boc is todecait in eahte lesse Boke. 1556 *Pilgr. Perf.* (W. de W. 1531) 1 This treatise... is distincte and diuuyd in to thre bokes, in the honour of the Trinite. 1555 *EDEN Decades W. Ind.* (Arb.) 278 To wryte particularly... of these regions it wolde requyre rather a hole volume then a booke. 1593 *HOOKER Eccl. Pol.* Pref. viii. § 2 The last boke of this treatise. 1635 *J. BABINGTON Geometry* 36 By the thirteenth of the sixth booke of Euclide. 1713 *STEELE Englishm.* No. 29. 186 The Poem consists of Three Books. 1818 *BYRON Juan* i. cc. My poem... is meant to be Diuided in twelve books. 1866 *Reader* 2 June 545 We find the twenty books (or chapters as we should now call them) relate to the following subjects.

8. The copy of words to which music is set; the libretto of an opera, oratorio, etc.

1768 *STERNE Sent. Journ.* i. 180 A small pamphlet, it might be the book of the opera. 1828 *Daily News* 18 July 2/2 Tuneful gems of a work which deserved a stronger book.

9. A number of sheets of blank writing-paper bound together to form a volume in which to keep records of commercial transactions, minutes of meetings, etc. Also a volume containing such records. *A merchant's books*: his account-books. Hence with numerous qualifications: as *bill*-, *cash*-, *day*-, *exercise*-, *minute*-, *note-book*, etc.; see *BILL*, *CASH*, *DAY*, etc.

1498-9 *Old City Acc. Bk. (Archæol. Trnl. XLIII.)* Itm p^a to Ric Magson for entryng of the Jewells and goods belonging to the Crafte into this Boke viij^d. 1557 *Order of Hospitalis* F iv b, You shall kepe... the Booke of Children, Which booke shall contayne th' admission of any childe into this Howse. 1580 *BARET Alv.* B 923 A reckening booke, *codex accepti & expensi*. 1605 *SHAKS. Lear* iii. iv. 101 Keepe... thy pen from Lenders Bookes. a 1628 *SIR T. BODLEY in D'Israeli Curr. Lit.* (1866) 254 Let all these riches be treasured up... in good writings and books of account. 1639 *CADE Sermon for these Times* 60 He keeps his books evenest... that every night books all his receipts and expenses. 1690 *W. WALKER Idiomatic. Anglo-Lat.* 65 He was highly in your books. 1753 *Scots Mag.* Apr. 165/1 To cause their books to be balanced. 1808 *MAR. EDGEWORTH Moral T.* (1816) i. xix. 154 If you received the note from us, it must be entered in our books. 1881 *MORLEY Cobden* i. 117 The books show that the nett profits of the firm had exceeded £23,000 for the year.

b. fig. (= *note-book*).

1380 *WYCLIF Ps. cxxxviii* [ix]. 16 In thi boc alle shul be written. 1611 *ibid.* In thy booke all my members were written... when as yet there was none of them. 1786 *BURNS Invent.* 71 Sae dinna put me in your buke.

10. *Betting*. A betting-book; a record of a number of bets made with different people, generally kept in a memorandum book.

1656 *LEVER Martins of Cro' M.* 490 You haven't skill enough to make what is called a 'good book', and you'll always be a sufferer. 1843 — *J. Hinton* xviii. 125, I have gone on adding wager to wager, until at last I find myself with a book of some eight hundred pounds.

11. *Whist*. The first six tricks taken by either party.

12. A packet of gold-leaf, containing 25 leaves, which are put up between leaves of soft paper.

II. Phrases.

13. *Book of God*: God's book, the Bible. *Book of lading* (see quot.). *Book of life* († *livers*, the living): in biblical language the record of the names of those who shall inherit eternal life (cf. *Phil.* iv. 3; *Rev.* xx. 12). *Book of rates* (see quot.). *Book of reference*: a book referred to for information, rather than read continuously.

971 *Blickl. Hom.* 21 Hwæt awriten is on Godes bocum. a 1300 *E. E. Psalter* lxxviii [ix]. 28 Of boke of liuand be þai done awai. a 1340 *HAMPOLE Psalter* cxlvi. 4 All þaire namys ere written in þe boke of life. 1380 *WYCLIF Ps. lxxviii* [ix]. 28 Fro

the bōc of lyueres. 1548 LATIMER *Ploughers* (1868) 17 All things that are written in the *Book*. 1611 BIBLE *Rev.* iii. 5, I will not blot out his name out of the booke of life. 1651 *Proc. Parliament* No. 119. 1850 According to the price of corn, and Book of Rates. 1809 R. LANGFORD *Introd. Trade* 130 *Book of lading*, book kept by the master of a vessel, containing particulars of the cargo. *Ibid.* *Book of rates*, books specifying the customary duties on all goods payable at the Custom-House. 1837 LOCKHART *Scott* (1839) VII. 407 Shelves filled with books of reference.

14. *By (the) book*: formally, in set phrase. *In a person's (good) books*: in favour with him, in his good opinion. *In a person's bad books, out of a person's books*: in disfavour with him (see also BLACK BOOK 4 b). †*Out of one's book*: out of one's reckoning, mistaken. *Without (†one's) book*: without authority; also *lit.* without the aid of a book, from memory, by rote.

1509 *Parr. Devylls* xlvii, He is out of our booke, and we out of his. 1549 LATIMER *Serm. bef. Edu.* VI. (Arb.) 68 If you folowe them, you are oute of your boke. a 1569 KINGSMYLL *Man's Est.* xii. (1580) 88 Saint Paule... speaketh not without booke, but of experience. 1598 SHAKS. *Rom. & Jul.* I. v. 112 You kisse by th' booke. 1601 — *Tuel. N.* I. iii. 28 He... speaks three or four languages word for word without booke. 1615 W. HULL *Mirr. Maiestie* 24 But, in so saying, he spake without his booke. a 1644 Br. M. SMYTH *Serm.* (1632) 4 Why he should be so odious to him, and so farre out of his booke. a 1659 CLEVELAND *Vit. Uxoris* xii, She... To scold by Book will take upon her, Rhetorically chide him. 1659 LOCKE *Toleration* ii. Wks. 1727 II. 272 To shew you that I do not speak wholly without Book. a 1707 Br. PATRICK *Autobiogr.* (1839) 87 The very prayers of the Liturgy, which I said without book. 1861 W. PERRY *Hist. Ch. Eng.* I. xii. 403 The Arminians, who at that time were in his bad books. 1870 LOWELL *Study W.* 257 To speak loosely and without book.

15. *To be upon the books* (of an institution, etc.): to have one's name entered in the official list of members, patients, etc.; hence *to take one's name off the books*. †*To drive to book*: to cause (a person) to give evidence on oath. *To bring to book*: to bring to account, cause to show authority (for statements, etc.); to examine the evidence for (a statement, etc.), investigate. *To close the books* (of a business concern): to make no further entries (for a time). *To shut the books*: to suspend business operations. *To speak like a book*: i.e. accurately, with full or precise information. *To take a leaf out of (a person's) book*: to take pattern from him, follow his example.

c 1460 *Lanval* 788 To say the soth, without les, Twelve knyghtes wer dryve to boke. 1508 H. WATSON in *Med. Commun.* II. 258 She... continued on the books as an out-patient. 1858 *Times* in *Merc. Mar. Mag.* V. 46 The oldest merchants are 'shutting their books', as they express it. 1861 HUGHES *Tom Brown Oxf.* I. ii. 32 It is a great pity that some of our instructors in more important matters... will not take a leaf out of the same book. 1868 HOLME LEE *B. Godfrey* xxiv. 118 The young scapegrace took his name off the college books. 1870 MISS BRIDGMAN *R. Lynne* II. v. 104 Well bring Sherborne to book. 1879 *Cassell's Techn. Educ.* IV. 215/1 By means of these figures we bring the matter, as it were, to book, and eliminate tangible results.

III. *Attrib. and Comb.*

16. *simple attrib.* Of or pertaining to books; entered in books; according to books; bookish. (Often written with hyphen as in 17, 18, but properly all cases where there are two distinct accents belong here.)

1865 *Boston (U.S.) Commonw.* 11 Mar., These lectures will... be published in book form.

17. General combinations: a. attributive, as *book-astronomer*, *-auction*, *-auctioneer*, *-birth*, *-cover*, *-desk*, *-education*, *-fair*, *-knowledge*, *-label*, *-language*, *-mania*, *-market*, *-package*, *-prayer*, *-prop*, *-prophecy*, *-quarrel*, *-rack*, *-rest*, *-room*, *-sale*, *-shelf*, *-shop*, *-speech*, *-stall*, *-store*, *-teaching*, *-title*, *-trade*, *-war*, *-word*, etc.

1837 WHEWELL *Hist. Induct. Sc.* (1857) I. 115 Euclid was merely a *book-astronomer*, who had never observed the heavens. 1809 KNOX & JEBB *Corr.* I. 532, I was at a *book-auction* of a deceased priest. 1880 J. L. WARREN *Book-plates* Pref. 3 The large *book-auctioneers*. 1597 *Gerard's Herbal* To Rdr., This *bookebirth* thus brought forth by Gerard. 1864 MRS. JAMESON, etc. *Hist. Our Lord*, &c. I. 22 The sculptured tablets applied as *book-covers* to the Sacred Volumes. 1679 *Plot Staffordsh.* (1686) 383 The most difficult piece of wood work... was a *Book-desk*. 1883 *Harper's Mag.* Nov. 903/2 The *book-education* they had while boys. 1863 W. WATERSTON *Cycl. Commerce* s.v. *Book*, Two great *book-fairs*... held annually at Easter and Michaelmas. 1844 SIR F. PALGRAVE *Truths & Fictions Mid. Ages* (ed. 2) 118 An ounce of mother wit, improved by observation, is worth a stone of *book-knowledge*. 1880 J. L. WARREN *Book-plates* i. 8 Another view of a *book-label* may now be taken... a precaution against... loss or theft. c 1645 HOWELL *Lett.* (1650) I. 394 The same fortune that the Greek and Latin tongues had, to become only school and *book-languages*. 1824 DIBDIN *Libr. Comp.* 39 The turnings and windings of the *Book-mania*. 1862 BURTON *Bk.-hunter* i. 55 Auctioneers were surprised at the gradual change coming over the *book-market*. 1647 SALTMARSH *Sparkl. Glory* (1847) 66 Those forms, as of Common-Prayer, *Book-prayers*, outward rules of worship. 1862 LYTTON *Str. Story* I. 214 The sofa... with *book-prop* and candlestick screwed to its back. a 1679 T. GOODWIN *Wks.* (1861) III. 213 The *book-prophecy*... hath this prologue or preface unto it. 1620 SANDERSON *Serm.* (1681) I. 44 Multiplying unnecessary *book-quarrels*. 1885 *Harper's Mag.* Mar. 543/1, I had made up my mind to

nothing but a *book-rack*. 1866 *Direct. Angl.* (ed. 3) 3 The Service Book placed on the *bookrest*. 1788 WESLEY *Wks.* (1879) IV. 439, I appointed a Committee for... superintending the business of the *Book-room*. 1871 M. COLLINS *Mrg. & Merch.* III. viii. 212 Away from his own beloved bookroom and laboratory. 1818 BYRON *To Mr. Murray*, Along thy spruce *bookshelves* shine The works thou deemest most divine. 1840 CARLYLE *Heroes* vi. 312 We will leave the Polemic stuff of a dead century to lie quiet on its *bookshelves*. 1862 BURTON *Bk.-hunter* i. 54 Works of ordinary literature to be found in every *book-shop*. a 1652 J. SMITH *Sel. Disc.* viii. 378 Some who may arrive at that *book-skill* and learning in divine mysteries. 1871 EARLE *Philol. Eng. Tong.* § 23 The Angles first produced a cultivated *book-speech*. 1800 *Ann. Reg.* 319/2, I one day happened at a *book-stall* to see a small dictionary. 1850 *Edin. Rev.* XVII. 121 Booksellers' shops passing under the name of *'Book Stores'*. 1884 *Harper's Mag.* Feb. 420/2 His bookstore in Boston. 1874 J. HEATH *Croquet Player* 11 *'Book-teaching'*... cannot equal in efficiency practical lessons given by a good player on the lawn itself. 1864 BURTON *Scot. Adv.* I. iv. 230 Accurate transcripts of *'book-titles'*. 1863 W. WATERSTON *Cycl. Commerce* s.v. *Book*, The modern *'book-trade'* dates from the discovery of the art of printing. 1670 WALTON *Life Hooker* 33 Mr. Hooker became at last, but most unwillingly, to be engaged in a *'book-war'*. 1851 KINGSLY *East* xi. 198 Those fine *'book-words'* and long sentences.

b. objective or obj. genitive, as *book-borrower*, *-breeder*, *-buyer*, *-collecting*, *-collector*, *-cutter*, *-dealer*, *-devouring*, *-fancier*, *-fancying*, *-folding*, *-hawker*, *-hawking*, *-hunter*, *-hunting*, *-lover*, *-manufacturer*, *-merchant*, *-monger*, *-ownership*, *-preservation*, *-printer*, *-printing*, *-protecting*, *-purger* (= *expurgator*), *-vender*, *-worship*, *-writer*, *-writing*, etc.

1880 J. L. WARREN *Book-plates* ix. 96 In the case of the *'book-borrowers'* there is no such Nemesis. 1605 CAMDEN *Rem.* (1637) 288 Sir Thomas Moore... and other *'Book-breeders'*. 1862 BURTON *Bk.-hunter* i. 47 *'Book-buyers'* among whom his great critical works are forgotten. *Ibid.* i. 59 The freaks of *'book-collecting'*. 1791-1824 D'ISRAELI *Curr. Lit.* (1839) III. 342 The most magnificent of *'book-collectors'*, the Duke de la Vallière. 1863 HOLME LEE *A. Warleigh* II. 311 Alice paused with a slender pearl *'book-cutter'* in her hand. 1876 GEO. ELIOT *Dan. Der.* IV. lviii. 172 The *'book-devouring'* Isabel. 1862 BURTON *Bk.-hunter* i. 69 The curious blunder which made one of them worth the notice of the *'book-fanciers'*. 1870 EMERSON *Soc. & Solit.* viii. 168 The annals of bibliography afford many examples of the delicious extent to which *'book-fancying'* can go. 1791-1824 D'ISRAELI *Curr. Lit.* (1839) III. 342 To what hard hunting these *'book-hunters'* voluntarily doom themselves. 1862 BURTON *(title)* The *Book-hunter*. 1863 GROSART *Small Sins* 78 A *book-worm*—the pest of *'book-lovers'*—has pierced... right through it. 1711 SHAFTESB. *Charac.* (1737) III. 15 *'Book-merchants'*... undoubtedly receive no small advantage from a right improvement of a learned scuffle. 1662 FULLER *Worthies* III. 168 He was a great *'Book-monger'*. c 1500 COCKE *Loreles* B. (1843) 9 *'Book-presses'*, *printers*, *bowers*. 1863 J. G. NICHOLS *Herald & Genial* II. 158 Our historical *'book-printing'* societies. 1666 W. CRASHAW *Rom. Forg.* I. 147 Instructions, given by the Pope... to all *'Book-purgers'*. 1701 H. WATSON in *Phil. Trans.* XXV. 1908 The Librarian or *'Book-writers'* were... a particular company of men, and their Business a Trade. *Ibid.* *'Book-writing'* was their profession. 1880 SCOTT *Monast.* *Introd.* 32 The *'irritable genus'* comprehends the bookselling as well as the *book-writing* species.

c. instrumental, as *book-formed*, *-lined*, *-sworn*, *-taught*, etc., adjs.

a 1851 JOANNA BAILLIE (Ogilvie), Every table-wit and *book-formed* sage. 1558 *Inv. A. Nycholson, Kendal* (Somerset Ho.), Bodely *'Buke sworn'*. 1642 CUDWORTH *Serm.* 1 John ii. 3 (1676) 40 Not he that is only *'book-taught'* but he that is God-taught. 1760 GOLDSM. *Cit. W.* II. lxvii, Our *'book-taught'* philosopher.

18. Special comb.: †*book-answerer*, a critic; *book-bearer*, one who carries a book, also a prompter (*obs.*), = *book-holder*; *book-board*, a book-shelf in a pew, pulpit, etc.; *book-bosomed* a., (used by Scott for) having a book in the bosom; *book-bound* a., set round with books; *book-club*, a subscription library (*obs.*), also a club in which the subscriptions are expended in the purchase or borrowing of books for the common use of the members; *book-crab* = *book-scorpion*; *book-credit*, an amount credited to a person's account in a ledger; *book-debt*, an amount debited to a person's account in a ledger, a debt owing to a tradesman as recorded in his account-books; *book-ghoul* (see *quot.*); *book-holder*, one who or that which holds a book, †*spec.*, a theatrical prompter, = *book-bearer*; †*book-house*, a library; *book-law*, written law; †*book-leiger*, one who confines his study to book-learning (cf. LEIGER); *book-louse*, a minute neuropterous insect (*Psocus pulsatorius*) destructive to books; *book-mark*, a mark or label placed in or upon a book to indicate ownership; also a piece of ribbon, paper, etc., inserted between the leaves of a book to mark a place; in this sense often called a *book-marker*; *book-mate*, school-fellow, fellow-student; †*book-matter*, a matter the adequate treatment of which would fill a book; †*book-money*, surplice-fees; *book-muslin*, a fine kind of muslin owing its name to the book-like manner in which it is folded when sold in the piece, also *elipt.* a dress made of such muslin; *book-oath*,

an oath sworn on the *'book'*; *book-packet*, a packet which may be sent through the book-post; *book-post*, the system and regulations under which books and printed matter may be sent through the post-office; *book-postage*, the price charged for carriage by book-post; = *book-rate*; *book-press*, a book-case; *book-scorpion*, an arachnid insect (*Chelifer cancrivorus*) resembling a scorpion, often found in old books; *book-slide*, an expanding holder or stand for books; *book-society* = *book-club*; *book-stand*, a stand or case for books; *book-work*, work at books, study of text-books; *book-wright*, a maker or author of books. Also *BOOK-BINDER*, *-CASE*, *-CRAFT*, *-FELL*, *-KEEPER*, etc.

1760 GOLDSM. *Cit. W.* xiii. (1837) 48 If he has much money, he may buy reputation from your *'book-answerers'*. 1530 PALSGR. 190/2 *'Boke bearer'* in a ploye, *prothocolle*. 1636 PRYNNE *Unbish. Tim.* (1661) 7 Timothy... being so much at Pauls beck, as to be... his Cloack-carrier, and Book-bearer. 1861 RAMSAY *Remin.* ii. (ed. 18) 42 A nail on the seat or *'book-board'*. 1805 SCOTT *Last Minstr.* III. viii, A *'book-bosom'd'* priest. 1863 JEAFFRESON *Sir Everard's D.* xiii. 224 His little *'book-bound'* parlour. 1792 A. YOUNG *Trav. France* 90 A *chamber de lecture*, or what we should call a *'book-club'*, that does not divide its books, but forms a library. 1804 W. TAYLOR in Robberds *Mem.* I. 485 People... wait till it comes to the library or the book-club. 1835 KIRBY *Hab. & Inst. Anim.* II. xvi. 90 In the scorpion and the *'book-crab'*... the mandibles... have a moveable joint. 1863 FAWCETT *Pol. Econ.* II. x. (1876) 261 Tradesmen fail in business, in consequence of their money becoming locked up in *'book-credits'*. 1669 *Land. Gas.* No. 2480/4 The Creditors... are desired to bring in an Account of their several Debts, whether on Judgements, Bond, or *'Book-Debts'*. 1809 R. LANGFORD *Introd. Trade* 12 Book Debts, if not legally demanded within the space of six years, cannot be recovered by law. 1881 A. LANG *Library* 56 The *'Book-Ghoul'* is he who combines the larceny of the bibliophile with the abominable wickedness of breaking up and mutilating the volumes from which he steals. 1585 HIGINS *Junius' Nomenclator* 501 (Halliwell) He that telleth the players their part when they are out and have forgotten, the prompter or *'book-holder'*. a 1800 *Elfric Voc.* in Wr. Wulker 185 *Librarianum*, *'bochus'*. 1340 *Aynb.*, This boe is dan Michels of Northgate, ywrite in... the bochouse of Saynt Austines of Canterbury. 1675 MARVELL *Corr.* cxxix. Wks. 1872-5 II. 466 A new Popish test for Book-Houses. 1837 CARLYLE *Fr. Rev.* II. vi. 357 A court of Law, not *'Book-Law'* but primeval Club-Law. 1672 T. VENN *Mit. & Marit. Discip.* xxii. 169 What can such who are mere *'Book-leigers'* do? 1880 J. L. WARREN *Book-plates* ix. 14 *Insigne librarium*... means simply the *'book-mark'*. 1883 *Harper's Mag.* Oct. 806/1 He would... insert a book-mark at the page he had last finished. 1858 *Brit. Postal Guide* 39 Together with *'Bookmarkers'*... or other articles usually appertaining to any such Book. 1588 SHAKS. *L. L. L.* IV. i. 102 The Prince and his *'Book-mates'*. 1548 HOOPER *Ten Commandm.* IV, There be many other causes... it were a *'book-matter'* to rehearse them. 1659 SRAVE *Relat. Young's Contriv.* in *Harl. Misc.* VI. 219 (D.) He had all the *'book-money'*, that is, the fees for marriages, burials, and christenings. 1856 *Scenes Comm.* by Land & S. 214 *'Book muslin'*... is the clearest and finest of all the muslins. 1839 DICKENS *Nick. Nick.* xiv, A low book-muslin dress and short kid gloves. 1884 *19th Cent.* Mar. 406 Think of a widow insisting on being provided with a book muslin. 1530 PALSGR. 199/2 *'Boke othe, forement de droict'*. 1575 J. STILL *Gamm.* Gurtion IV. ii, Else ich durst take a book-oath. My gammer had been slain. a 1613 OVERBURY *A Wife*, &c. (1638) 174 Should he be brought upon his Book-oath. 1866 *Post Office Guide* 3 A *'book-packet'* may contain any number of separate books. 1870 MISS BRIDGMAN *R. Lynne* II. x. 208 The... fool... sent... a bundle of tracts by the *'book-post'*. 1858 *Brit. Postal Guide* 9 A packet... is forwarded, charged with the deficient *'book-postage'*. 1611 COTGR., *Armoire*... cupboard; box; little *'book-press'*. 1812 SOUTHEY *Ess.* (1832) I. 150 Not subjects to be sent into circulating libraries and *'book-societies'*. 1848 CLOUGH *Bothie* viii. 72 He'll think me... Neither better nor worse for my gentleness and *'bookwork'*. 1881 FITCH *Lect. Teaching* 150 *Book-work* for lessons has obvious advantages. 1841 D'ISRAELI *Amen. Lit.* (1867) 88 An unskilful compilation... made by... a noted *'book-wright'* in the reign of Elizabeth.

19. Combinations of the type *common-place-book*, *Domesday Book*, *pass-book*, *pocket-book*, *statute-book* will be found under their first element.

Book (buk), v. Forms: 1 *bōcian*, 3-4 *boke(n)*, 4-7 *booke*, 4- *book*. [OE. *bōcian*, corresp. to OFris. *bōkia*, ON. *bōka*: from the sb.: see *prel.*]

†1. *trans.* To grant or assign (land) by charter: see *BOOK sb.* 1. *Obs.* (exc. *Hist.*)

966 in *Cod. Dipl.* 531 Oswald biscop bocap Winthelme his begne. 1844 LINGARD *Anglo-Sax. Ch.* (1858) I. App. 374 Ethelwulf, king of Wessex, books the lands of twenty families, not to a subject, but to himself. 1876 DICKIN *Real Prop.* i. 12 Land thus granted was said to be *'booked'* to the grantee, and was called *bocland* or *bookland*.

2. To enter in a book; to record, register.

a 1225 *Ancre R.* 158 Pauh be engel Gabriel hefde his burde i booked. 1593 GOWER *Conf.* I. 3 Some newe thing I shulde boke. 1594 NASH *Unfort. Trav.* 9, I haue done a thousand better iests, if they had been booke. 1610 HOLLAND *Camden's Brit.* i. 4 The Bardi... thought it not lawful to write and booke anything. 1710 *Land. Gas.* No. 4677/4 They... saw him [a horse] booke'd in the Market Book. 1854 HOOKER *Himal. Jnals.* I. x. 247 To seize and booke every object worth noticing. 1883 *Manch. Exam.* 26 Nov. 4/2 Not eager to book fresh orders.

b. *fig.*

1575 SIR N. BRETON in Fart S. P. (1845) i, How in your heart you may for ever booke it. a 1656 Br. HALL *Rem. Wks.* (1660) 183 The Almighty... books their number for an everlasting remembrance.

3. To enter in a list, to enrol, enlist.

1548 UDALL, etc. *Erasm. Par. Acts* v. 14 Which had not yet...booked themselves as soldiers. 1607 HIRRON *Wks.* I. 284 Enrolled and booked among Christians. 1612 J. DAVIES *Way Ireland*, &c. (1787) 176 He caused the marchers to book their men.

4. To engage for oneself by payment (a seat or place in a travelling conveyance or in a theatre or other place of entertainment). Also *absol.*

1826 DISRAELI *Viv. Grey* III. iv. 99, I will give them orders to book an inside place for the poodle. 1837 DICKENS *Pickw.* xxxv, Sam Weller booked for them all. 1878 F. WILLIAMS *Mid. Railw.* 628 When railways were first opened for passenger traffic...the traveller had to give his name...his seat was 'booked'. *Theatrical Adv.* Seats can be booked one month in advance.

b. To enter (the name of a passenger, etc.) for a seat or place; to issue railway tickets to; *refl.* to obtain a railway ticket for oneself.

1841 MARRIAT *Poacher* xli, He booked himself for the following day's coach. 1859 JEPHSON *Brittany* II. 8, I booked myself at the Waterloo Station for Jersey. 1884 *Gr. West. Railw. Time Table* July 53 Passengers are booked through from Warwick.

c. To enter and pay for the transmission of (goods, etc.) by any conveyance.

1829 LAMB in *Select. Bernard Barton* (1849) 139 The parcel is booked for you this 25th March. 1849 DE QUINCEY *Eng. Mail Coach* Wks. IV. 297 [It was] not in the way-bill and therefore could not have been booked. 1885 *Law Times* LXXX. 45/1 His drover...booked them [cattle] to the Nantwich station.

5. *transf.* To engage (a person) as a guest or the like. *colloq.* Cf. BOOKED 3.

1872 *Proc. Amer. Philol. Soc.* 18 It seems singular to the American to hear an Englishman speak of 'booking' his friend for dinner. *Mod.* I shall book you for that evening.

Book, obs. pa. t. of BAKE; obs. f. BUCK, BULK.

Bookbinder (bu'kbaɪndər). One who binds books.

1399 in *Eng. Gilds* (1870) 12 Noveritis nos...hoc presenti scripto nostro confirmasse Stephano Vant Bookbynder...totum predictum tenementum. c. 1400 *Destr. Troy* 1589 Belmakers bokebynders, brasiersfyn. 1544 ASCHAM *Toxoph.* (Arb.) 83 On whom I looked on by chance in the booke bynders shope. 1666 *Perrys Diary* 13 Aug., To treat with a bookbinder to come and gild the backs of all my books. 1825 MACAULAY *Hist. Eng.* IV. 361 Petitions...from book-sellers, bookbinders and printers.

So Bookbinding (U.S.), a bookbinding establishment [cf. BINDER]; Bookbinding *vbl. sb.*

1707 *Europ. Mag.* XII. 78 He tanned goat-skins...for bookbinding. 1854 CAR. THOMAS *Formingdale* 258 There was but one book-binding in the town. 1864 KNIGHT *Pass. Working Life* II. 152 Bookbinding is now one of the large manufactures of London. 1884 *Manch. Exam.* 29 Dec. 6/4 A large bookbinder in New York.

Bookcase (bu'k'keɪs). A case or cupboard for books; a set of bookshelves shut in by doors, glazed or otherwise. Hence Bookcased *ppl. a.*, Bookcase-maker.

1742 YOUNG *Nt. Th.* v. 257 This book-case, with dark booty almost burst. 1849 W. IRVING *Crayon Misc.* 225 On each side of the cabinet were book-cases, well stored with works of romantic fiction. 1861 *Our Eng. Home* 132 During the fifteenth century the introduction of bookcases, as articles of domestic furniture.

† Book-case. *Obs.* A law case found in the books or on record, a precedent. (Cf. BOOK 4 c.)

1552 HULOET *v. Prejudice*...It may be as the ruled cases and matters of the lawe be called bookcases. 1640-4 in *Rushw. Hist. Coll.* III. (1692) I. 597 Book-Cases and Precedents, which without doubt they would have cited. 1726 AVLIFER *Parrerg.* 204, I have not met with any Book-Case, that expressly warrants this opinion.

Book-case. A case or pair of boards covered with cloth or fancy paper, for binding a volume, or the periodical numbers or parts of a work; also a case for holding unbound serials, music, etc.

1825 C. MACKESON *Brit. Alm. Comp.* 94 In some parts of the country identical titles are very differently applied. Among the double meanings...[is] Book Case Maker for a Cabinet-maker or Bookbinder.

Book-craft. *Obs.* or *arch.* Book-learning, literary skill, literature: book-making, authorship.

c. 800 K. ALFRED *Boeth.* i, Boetius...was in boccraftum...se rihtwisesta. 1621 B. JONSON *Gipsies Metamorph.*, Some book-craft you have, and are pretty well spoken. 1831 SCOTT *Cl. Robt.* 17 The technical language of book-craft.

Booked (buk't), *ppl. a.* [f. BOOK *sb.* and *v.*]

† 1. Instructed in books. *Obs.*

1393 GOWER *Conf.* III. 319 She was wel taught, she was wel booked.

2. Entered in a book; registered; conveyed by charter.

1842 FOX *M. Roges* Wks. 1864 I. 236 The recognized and booked principles. 1875 MAINE *Hist. Inst.* IV. 115 Over his own domain and 'booked' land.

3. *colloq.* Engaged, destined, bound; certain.

1840 HOOD *Up Rhine* 6, I am booked for a much longer journey. 1841 DE QUINCEY *Homers & H.* Wks. VI. 339 He, at least, is booked for the doctor. 1849 R. LEVINGE *C. Doolan* II. ix. 186 [He] declared that 'they were booked to have fine weather'.

Bookeler, obs. form of BUCKLER.

Booker (bu'kər). Forms: 1-2 bōcere, 3 bokere, 3 bocare, 9 booker. [OE. *bōcere*, corresp. to OHG. *buohhəri*, Goth. *bōkaris*, = OTeut.

*bōkārjo-z, f. bok-book; but in the modern senses formed anew on Book *v.*]

† 1. A writer of books, a scribe. *Obs.*

c. 1000 *Ag. Gosp.* Matt. viii. 19 Da genealæhte him an bocere, and cwæð. c. 1175 *Cott. Hom.* 245 Pa sunder halþan and þa boceras. c. 1205 *LAV.* 32125 Alle þa boceres wise.

2. One who enters in a book; a book-keeper;

b. *spec.* (see quot. 1863.)

1863 *All Y. Round* 11 July 472/2 Persons technically known as 'bookers', who were, in fact, spies, travelling in the omnibus, and yielding to the company an account of every passenger. 1881 WHITEHEAD *Hops* 62 The number of bushels...is entered in a book by a booker. 1883 J. Y. STRATTON *Hops & Hop-p.* 31 All being carefully entered in the account kept by the booker.

3. *techn.*

1864 H. BRUCE in *Parlt.* 14 June, With regard to the finishers and bookers...representation had been made to the Government.

Bookery. [f. BOOK *sb.* + -ERY.]

† 1. Study of books. *Obs.*

1599 BP. HALL *Sat.* II. ii. 28 Let them alone for me Busie their braines with deeper bookerie.

2. A collection of books, a library.

1812 MAD. D'ARBLAY *Diary* VI. 346 The abbé...has a bookery in such elegant order that people beg to go and see it. 1870 *Pall Mall G.* 4 Oct. 5 If these bookeries were not saved in time...the town authorities have reason to be ashamed.

† Book-fell. *Obs.* (exc. *Hist.*) A skin prepared for writing upon, a sheet of vellum or parchment; a parchment or vellum manuscript.

a. 1000 in *Thorpe Laws* II. 244 (Bosw.) Dæt hi habban blæc and bocfel. a. 1225 *St. Mark.* 23 Pat ich hit write on bocfelle. 1863 FURNIVALL in *Reader* 28 Feb. 214 Those who love tall folios and book-fells. 1868 G. STEPHENS *Runic Mon.* I. ix, Our ancient bookfells.

Bookful (bu'kful), *sb.* [see -FUL.] As much as fills a book; the entire contents of a book.

1599 SHAKS. *Much Ado* v. ii. 32 A whole booke full of these quondam carpet-mongers. 1879 BAIN *Higher Eng. Gram.* 80 A bookful of problems.

† Bookful, a. *Obs.* rare. Full of knowledge gathered from books.

1709 POPE *Ess. Crit.* 616 The bookful blockhead, ignorantly read, With loads of learned lumber in his head.

† Book-board. *Obs.* [OE. *bōc*, BOOK, + *hord*,

HOARD.] A repository for books or documents. (An exclusively OE. word which was treated by Blount, and thence included in later Dicts.)

a. 1000 *Ag. Voc.* in W. Wülcker 194 *Bibliotheca*...boc-hord. [1670 BLOUNT *Law Dict.*, Boc-hord (Sax.), a place where Books, Evidences, Writings, or other like Monuments are kept, as the Rolls. SO PHILLIPS, BAILEY, etc.]

Bookhood (bu'khu:d), [see -HOOD.] † a. Knowledge of books, scholarship (*obs.*). b. The estate or dignity of a book.

1772 H. WALPOLE *Corr.* (1837) III. 46 Who has a better opinion of my bookhood than I deserve. 1881 *Southern Law Rev.* (St. Louis) VII. 289 This book dares to assert its bookhood independent of dress.

Bookie. *Sc.* bukkie, bukke (*u*). A small book. 1860 RAMSAY *Remin.* Ser. I. (ed. 7) 110 Before ye dee, ye should burn a' your wee bukies.

Bookiness. *rare.* [f. BOOKY a.] Bookishness. 1883 DIX in *Standard* 21 Mar. 6/3 Worship of pedantic bookiness.

Bookings (bu'kɪŋ), *vbl. sb.* [f. BOOK *v.* + -ING 1.]

† 1. The action of making into a book. *Obs.*

1643 HERLE *Answ. Ferne* 1 What hath bin all this while a bookings.

2. The action of entering in a book, *esp.* in order to engage a seat or place; also the issuing of tickets, entitling to the same.

1884 *Pall Mall G.* 5 Aug. 7/2 The number of bookings was much larger than...last year. 1884 *Daily News* 9 Apr. 5/3 The old second-class fares were retained...for first-class bookings.

3. *Sc. Law.* A tenure peculiar to the burgh of Paisley, whereby the proprietors held their lands under the magistrates, the conveyance being entered or 'booked' in the Burgh Register. (Abolished by 'The Conveyancing (Scotland) Act, 1874'. 1868 *Act* 31-2 *Vict.* ci. § 152 Lands in the burgh of Paisley, held by the peculiar tenure of booking.)

4. Comb. booking-clerk, the clerk or official

who books passengers or goods for a conveyance, or who sells tickets at a booking-office; booking-office, an office where places may be booked for a coach or other conveyance, or where goods may be booked for transit; also the place where tickets are sold at a railway or steam-boat station.

1836-7 DICKENS *Sk. Bos* (1850) 79/2 Sally forth to the booking-office to secure your place. *Ibid.* 80/1 You wonder what on earth the booking-office clerks can have been before they were booking-office clerks. 1882 R. GRANT WHITE *Eng. Within & W.* III. 60 At the 'booking-office' no booking is done...But as there were booking offices for the stage-coaches which used to run between all the towns...of England, the term had become fixed in the minds, and upon the lips of this nation of travellers.

Bookish (bu'kɪʃ), a. [f. BOOK *sb.* + -ISH.]

1. Of or belonging to a book or books; literary.

1567 DRANT *Hor. Epist.* xiii. Eij, Thou must retain thy bookish charge. 1594 *Ord. of Prayer in Liturg. Serv.* Q. *Eliz.* (1847) 657 Did not Saunders second his bookish treasons...by commotion in Ireland? 1816 Q. *Rev.* XVI. 1 A phenomenon, in these days of bookish luxury. 1817

COLERIDGE *Biog. Lit.* 10 Natural Language, neither bookish nor vulgar. 1870 S. COX *Salm. Mundi* (ed. 3) Pref. 8 To recast these Lectures into a more bookish form.

2. Addicted to the reading of books; studious.

1570 LEVINS *Manip.* 144 Bookish, studious. 1612 SHAKS. *Wint. T.* III. iii. 73 Though I am not bookish, yet I can read Waiting-Gentlewoman in the scape. 1665 D. LLOYD *State Worthies* (1670) 672 [Raleigh] An accomplished Gallant, and yet a bookish man. 1775 T. SHERIDAN *Art Reading* 330 Bookish men are remarkable for taciturnity. 1874 MAURICE *Friendship Bks.* I. 12 In this bookish time of James I.

b. Disparagingly: Acquainted with books only.

1593 SHAKS. 2 *Hen. VI.* I. i. 259 Whose bookish Rule, hath pull'd faire England downe. 1660 CROWNE *Misery Cule*, War II. 16 Under the reign of this tame bookish Henry. 1712 ADDISON *Spect.* No. 482 P. 2 A bookish man, who has no knowledge of the world. 1864 BURTON *Scot. Abr.* II. i. 68 A monkish, bookish person, who meddles with nothing but literature.

3. quasi-adv. = next.

1591 FLORIO 2nd *Frutes* A iv. b, To...speake bookish.

Bookishly (bu'kɪʃli), *adv.* [f. prec. + -LY 2.]

In a bookish way, studiously.

a. 1668 J. THURLOW *St. Papers* II. 104 While she...was more bookishly given. 1840 MRS. TROLLOPE in *New Month Mag.* LIX. 481 Whether bookishly disposed or not.

Bookishness (bu'kɪʃnəs), [see -NESS.] Bookish quality; fondness for books or study; learning. (Often somewhat contemptuous.)

a. 1586 SIDNEY *Apol. Poetrie* (1622) 521 A chain-shot against all learning or bookishness, as they commonly term it. 1665 BAXTER *Paraphr. Acts* xxvi. 24 Much Learning or Bookishness hath distracted thee. 1878 MORLEY *Diiderot* I. 210 Diderot despised mere bookishness.

Bookism. *rare.* [see -ISM.] = prec.

1708 MAD. D'ARBLAY *Diary* (1842) IV. 176 A character for bookism and pedantry.

Book-keeper (bu'k'kɪpər).

1. A person who keeps the accounts of a mercantile concern, public office, etc.

1555 *Act* 2-3 *Phil. & M.* vii. § 4 The parties to the bargain...shall come to the open place appointed for the toll taker, or for the book-keeper...and there enter...their names...in the toll takers book. 1848 DICKENS *Amer. Notes* (1850) 209/2 Melancholy ghosts of departed book-keepers, who had fallen dead at the desk.

2. One who hoards books; a book-miser. *rare.*

1884 *Harper's Mag.* Nov. 828/1 The old-fashioned book-keeper, who fears his precious books will be hurt by using.

Book-keeping (bu'k'kɪpɪŋ). The art of keeping a merchant's or tradesman's books or accounts.

1689 *Lond. Gas.* No. 2480/4 Merchants...who desire to be accomplish'd with the Famous Art of Book-keeping. 1817 J. SCOTT *Paris Revisit.* 82 What is poetry to one, may be book-keeping to another. 1849 J. FREESSE *Comm. Class-Bk.* III. 95 An introduction to book-keeping by single and double entry.

† Bookland. *Obs.* exc. *Hist.* Forms: 1 bōc-land; 2 *Antiq.* 7 book-, 8-9 boc-, 9 bok-, book-land. The Old English name for land taken from the folc-land or common land, and granted by bōc or written charter to a private owner; thus, at length, applied to all land that was not folc-land. (Hence the common place-name *Buckland*.)

a. 1000 *Laws of Edgar* i. 2 (Bosw.) De on his boclande cyrican hæbbe. 1641 *Termes de la Ley* 42 Bookland, in the Saxons time...was by that name distinguished from Folkland. 1670 BLOUNT *Law Dict.*, Bocland. 1768 BLACKSTONE *Comm.* II. 90 Book-land, or charter-land. 1860 C. INNES *Scotl. Mid. Ages* II. 54 Bocland or Charterland was such as was severed by an act of the government, that is, by the King with the consent of his parliament, from the public land. 1875 STUBBS *Const. Hist.* I. v. 76 As the primitive allotments gradually lost their historical character...the ethel is lost sight of in the bookland. 1876 FREEMAN *Norm. Cong.* V. xxiv. 368 The man who received a grant of book-land on such terms as made it practically as much his own as a primitive eōel.

Book-lare, -lear, *Sc.* forms of BOOK-LORE.

Book-latin: see BOO-LEARN.

Book-learned (bu'k'ɪlɪ:md), a. Learned in books or the knowledge acquired from them. (Now generally in disparaging sense). Hence Book-learnedness.

c. 1420 *Anturs Arth.* lv, Boke-lornut byrtnus, and bischop-pus of the beste. 1601 DENT *Pathw. Heaun* 328, I am somewhat ignorant, I am not book-learned. 1697 COLLIER *Ess. Mor. Subj.* I. (1709) 79 Your old Heroes in Homer (for want of being Book-Learned), were none of the Gentilest-Men. a. 1700 DRYDEN (J.) What'er these booklearn'd blockheads say. 1837 EMERSON *Misc.* 77 The book-learned class, who value books as such.

1661 K. W. *Conf. Charac.* (1860) 37 He hath obtained to so high a measure of book-learnedness.

So Boo'k-lea-rning, learning derived from books (merely), knowledge of books.

1589 *Hay any Work* 2 In my book learning, the one was some popish Trull. c. 1645 HOWELL *Lett.* (1650) III. 14 The extravagant humour of our Country is not to be altogether commended, that all men should aspire to booke learning. 1838 HAWTHORNE *Amer. Note-bks.* (1871) I. 157 Intelligent as respects book-learning, but much deficient in worldly tact. 1855 MACAULAY *Hist. Eng.* III. 308 He had as little book-learning as the most stupid ploughboys of England.

† Boo'k-lered. *Obs.* [see LERE *v.* to teach.] = BOOK-LEARNED.

c. 1205 *LAV.* 25624 Biscopos þis iherden & bocilerede men. a. 1275 *Prov. Alfred* 4 in O. E. *Misc.* 103. c. 1225 *Allit. P.* B. 1551 He bede his burnes bog to þat were bok lered.

Bookless (bu'klēs), *a.* [see -LESS.]

1. Ignorant of books, unscholarly. *poet.*

1773 *SOMERVILLE Chase* 1. 395 How mean, how low, The bookless saunt'ring Youth. a 1763 *SHENSTONE Wks.* (1764) I. 293 Why, with the cit, Or bookless churl, . . . deign'st thou to reside? 1847 *TENNISON Princess* II. 42.

2. Destitute of books.

1798 *COWPER Lett.* (1824) II. 123 Inform a bookless student in what region . . . his long-lost volumes may be found. 1865 *Pall Mall G.* 7 Oct. 11 The dusty tourist, lounging in the deserted streets of bookless Caceres, or Alcantara.

Booklet (bu'klēt), [*see* -LET.] A tiny book.

1859 *Sat. Rev.* 19 Feb. 220/1 The infant booklet, deprecating rigid criticism and modestly pleading the advice of friends. 1885 *Illustr. Lond. News* 19 Sept. 290/1 Booklets that we can carry in the pocket.

Booklike (bu'k-līk), *a.* and *adv.* Like a book. 1839 *BAILEY Festus* xii, It holds the starry transcript of the skies Booklike, within its bosom.

Bookling (bu'klīng), [*see* -LING.] A little book.

1803 *SOUTHEY Lett.* (1850) II. 230 The twelfth of the booklings [i. e. cantos] into which it [Madox] is now divided. 1821 *Blackw. Mag.* XII. 656 The dainty booklings of our poetesses. 1881 *Athenæum* 26 Mar. 425/3 The curious booklings which Eliot saw through the press during his lifetime.

Book-lore. [An OE. and early ME. comb. used again in our own day, with other combinations of LORE. In mod. use first in Sc., where perhaps it may have come down from early times.] Book-learning, knowledge gained from books.

a 1000 *Canons of Ælfric* 23 (Bosw.) Blind biþ se lærow, ȝif he ȝa boclare ne cann. c 1200 *Trin. Coll. Hom.* 155 Oðre lordeawes þe cunnen holie boc-lore. 1808 *JAMIESON Dict. s. v.*, 'I gat nae buik-lore'. 1818 *SCOTT Leg. Montrose* ii, My legs and arms stood me in more stead than either my gentle kin or my book-learn. 1863 *GILCHRIST Lett. Blake* I. 38 Education—as to book-lore neglected.

Book-maker (bu'kmē'kōr),

† 1. One who makes a book (as a material product); a printer and book-binder. *Obs.*

1515 in *Glasscock Rec. St. Michaels, Bp. Stortford* 34 Item pd. to th bokemaker and his servaunt . . . xxxiijs. iiijd. 1711 (*title*) J. DISTAFF *Character of Don Sackeverell*, Printed and Sold by Francis Higgins, Bookmaker.

2. One who composes or compiles a book; often disparagingly, one who makes a trade of this.

1533 *MORE Apol.* I. Wks. 928/2 For of newe booke makers there are now moe then ynough. 1841 *EMERSON Man the Reformer* Wks. 1875 II. 241 Better that the book should not be quite so good, and the bookmaker abler and better. 1849 *EARL LONSDALE in Croker Papers* (1884) III. xxvii. 202 He [Arthur Young] was spoilt by the success of his early works, and became a bookmaker. 1876 *MORLEY Diderot* I. 218 Cases in which he reproduced, as any mere bookmaker might have done, the thought of his authority.

3. A professional betting man. Cf. *BOOK sb.* 10. 1864 *Lond. Rev.* 30 Aug. 188 Betting there seemed to be none . . . we could not perceive a single book or book-maker. 1880 *W. DAY Racehorse in Train*. xxiv. 245 Bookmakers pursue a legitimate and lucrative trade by laying against all horses as they appear in the market.

Book-making (bu'kmē'kīng).

† 1. The manufacture of books (as material articles). *Obs.*

1487 *Ch. warden's Acc. St. Dunstan's, Canterb.*, John Casse hathe delyueryd . . . to the booke makynge iijjs. iiijd.

2. The compilation of books. (Now usually contemptuous: *see* *prec. word*.) Also *attrib.*

1569 *Marpell. Epit.* (1843) 8 Note here a new founde manner of bookmaking. 1615 *LATHAM Falconry* Ded., I am not so well experienced in the art of bookmaking. 1794 *MATTHIAS Pursuits* Lit. (1798) 384 It is mere book-making, beneath the character of so learned a gentleman as Dr. Warton. 1865 *Engliskm. Mag.* 220 Bookmaking now has got a bad name, or at any rate the term is used in a bad sense.

3. The making of a betting-book. 1886 *Boston (Mass.) Herald* 16 July, In England, book-making is rigidly prohibited elsewhere, but on the race tracks it is allowed.

Bookman (bu'kmän). A scholar, a student.

1583 *Exec. for Treason* (1675) 42 Scholars, or Book-men. 1798 *SHAKS. L. L. L. iv. ii.* 35 You two are book-men: Can you tell by your wit, etc. 1821 *BR. MOUNTAGUE Diatribes* 403 You, so great a booke-man, know well enough, etc. 1817 *MAR. EDGEWORTH Ormond* v. (1832) 51 Did you ever hear of the Stoics that the book-men talk of? 1859 *GEN. P. THOMPSON Audi Alt.* II. lxxxiii. 45 A certain Hermann, whom the book-men call Arminius. 1871 *MORLEY Crit. Misc.* (1886) I. 75 He figured as the philosopher and book-man of the party.

† **Book-pad**, *v.* *Obs.* [*f.* *BOOK* + *PAD*, after *foot-pad*.] *trans. & intr.* To steal matter from (a book), to plagiarize. Hence *Book-padding* *vbl. sb.*, (perh. confused with the other sense of padding.)

1685 *F. SPENCE House Medici* 281 He book-padded the ancient panegyrics of the noblest thoughts that suited with his subject. 1723 *S. MATHER Vind. Bible* Pref. 3 He charges Dr. Lightfoot with book-padding out of Aynsworth.

Book-plate (bu'kplāt). A label, usually pasted inside the front cover of a book, bearing the name or crest of the owner, or other device indicating ownership, position in a library, etc.

1791 *J. IRELAND Hogarth Illustr.* I. Intro. 22 The works of . . . Callot were probably his first models; and shop-bills and book-plates his first performances. 1850 *N. & Q.* I. 212 The book-plate with the following device—an eagle or vulture feeding with a snake another bird, nearly as large as herself. 1880 *WARREN Book-plates* i. 2 The word book-plate in its technical sense of exact equivalence to *ex-libris*.

Book-read, *ppl. a.* Well read in books, skilled in book-learning.

1591 *SPENSER M. Hubberd* 358 They forg'd another, as for Clerkes booke redd. 1876 *EMERSON Ess.* Ser. II. viii. 187 Rich, ignorant, book-read, conventional, proud men.

Bookseller (bu'kse:lār). A vender of books.

1557 *Hidden's Polycron.* (title), Imprinted . . . at ye expences of John Keynes bookseller. 1542-3 *Act* 34-35 *Hen. VIII.* i, Ani printer, bokebinder, bokeseller, or anie other person. 1615 *CROOKE Body of Man* 420 He dissected a Bookseller, and found his heart more then halfe rotted away. 1788 *Wal-poliiana* clxix. 77 One of those booksellers in Paternoster-row who publish things in numbers. 1816 *J. GILCHRIST Philos. Etym.* Intro. 4 He only glanced over it for a short time in a bookseller's shop.

Hence *Book-sellerish a.*, *Book-sellerism*.

1778 *R. POTTER in Parr's Wks.* (1828) VIII. 228 The common complaint against authoritarianism and booksellerism. 1815 *SOUTHEY Lett.* (1856) II. 414 It is impossible that any compositions can be more booksellerish.

Bookselling (bu'kse:līng), *vbl. sb.* The trade of a bookseller.

1530 *Royal Priv. in Palsgr.* p. xi, Medlyng with the faite of printyng or bokeselling. 1788 *Walpoliana* xxxiii. 17 The manoeuvres of bookselling are now equal in number to the stratagems of war. 1829 *HALLAM Hist. Lit.* i. ciii. § 145 The trade of bookselling seems to have been established at Paris and at Bologna in the twelfth century.

2. *attrib. or adj.* That sells books; pertaining to the selling of books.

1824 *DIBDIN Libr. Comp.* Intro. 17 The several great bookselling houses. 1839 *LOCKHART Ballantyne-humbug* 6 Scott lost a fortune by the bookselling speculation. — 25 The early period prior to the bookselling adventure. 1884 *Athenæum* 12 Jan. 54/1 The bookselling fraternity.

Bookspell, -staff, -stave: *see* *BOOSPELL*, etc.

Bookwards, *adv.* [*see* -WARDS.] In the direction of books, in print.

1850 *L. HUNT Autobiog.* II. xvi. 217 He . . . never modified or withheld any opinion (in private or bookwards) except in consideration of what he thought they . . . might not like.

Book-ways, *bookwise*, *adv.* In the manner or form of a book.

1866 *Lond. Gas.* No. 3228/2 Act allowing Securities, etc., to be written Book-ways.

Book-wise (bu'k-wōiz), *a.* Book-learned.

1616 *SURFL. & MARKH. Country Farm* 24 Your Farmer . . . need not to be Booke-wise. 1885 *Cassell's Fam. Mag.* Jan. 83 Wishing she had had more schooling, and that Peter might grow up 'book-wise'.

Book-worm (bu'k-wōrm).

1. *lit.* A kind of maggot which destroys books by eating its way through the leaves.

1855 *MRS. GATTY Parables fr. Nat. Ser.* XVIII. (1809) 66 The bookworm . . . had just eaten his way through the back of Lord Bacon's Advancement of Learning. 1886 *Bookseller* 6 Nov. 1180 A living specimen of a bookworm. Book-worms are the larvae of a small beetle (*anobiini*). . . I discovered that many of the volumes contained living bookworms.

2. *fig.* One who seems to find his chief sustenance in reading, one who is always poring over books.

1599 *B. JONSON Cynthia's Rev.* iii. ii, Perverted and spoiled by a whorison book-worm. a 1736 *Forre Lett.* Wks. 1736 V. 141, I wanted but a black gown and a salary, to be as meere a bookworm as any there. 1865 *MERIVALE Rom. Emp.* VIII. lxvii. 278 No sophist, no schoolman, no mere dreaming bookworm.

Booky (bu'ki), *a. colloq.* Characterized by or derived from books; given to books; bookish.

1880 *MARK TWAIN Tramp Abv.* II. 202 Lessons in morals . . . which come not of booky teaching, but of experience. 1884 *GRANT ALLEN Str. Stories* 105 Gladys was clever too, though not booky.

Bool, *modiSc.* form of *BOUL*, curvature, round, handle, and of *BOULE*, *BOWL*, ball, bowl, marble.

1826 *J. WILSON Noct. Ambr.* Wks. 1855 I. 170 Frae the size o' a peppercorn to that o' a boy's bools.

Bool, *obs.* form of *BAWL* *v.*

Boold (*e*, *obs.* form of *BOLD*).

Boole, *obs.* *f.* *BOLE sb.* 2, *BOWL sb.* 1 and *BULL*.

Boolie, *var.* of *BOWLY Sc.*, crooked.

† **Booly**, *Obs.* Also 6 *boolye*. [*ad.* Irish *buaile* cattle-fold, or its deriv. *buaillidh*; deriv. of *bo* cow, or *ad. L. boville*.] A temporary fold or enclosure used by the Irish who wandered about with their herds in summer; a company of people and their cattle thus wandering about. Hence *Spenser* has *Boo-ling* for the practice.

1596 *SPENSER State Irel.* (1809) 82 All the Tartarians and . . . Scythians, live in hordes; being the very same that the Irish boolies are, driving their cattle with them, and feeding only on their milk and white meats. *Ibid.* 494 By this custom of boolling there grow in the meantime many great enormities unto that commonwealth. 1610 *FOLKINGHAM Art of Survey* i. x. 25 In the North of Ireland, they do with much conuenience, by kreating [=creaghting] & shifting their Boollies from seed-fur til harvest bee inned, both depasture & soile their grounds. 1846 *W. H. MAXWELL Capt. Blake* I. vii, The tenants of the lonely *boullie*. (*Boullies*, are summer bivouacs, used by shepherds when depasturing their flocks in the mountains.)

Boom (būm), *sb.* 1 Also 6-7 *bomb* (*e*, [*f.* *BOOM v.*]) A loud, deep sound with much resonance or humming effect, as of a distant cannon, a large bell, etc.: also the usual word for the cry of the bitter.

1 a 1500 *Frere & Boye* 176 in *Ritson A. P. P.* 41 Tempre thy bombe, he sayd, for shame. 1656 *BACON Sylva* § 151 A Pillar of Iron . . . which, if you had struck, it would make a little flat noise in the Room where it was struck; but a great bomb in the Chamber beneath. 1795 *SOUTHEY Vis. Maid Orleans* i. xv, The bitter's boom was heard; hoarse, heavy, deep. 1816 *KIRBY & Sr. Entomol.* (1843) II.

301 This evening boom of beetles; this nocturnal buz of gnats. 1843 *LEVER J. Hinton* liv. 341 The loud boom of a gun struck upon my ear. 1846 *RUSKIN Mod. Paint.* (1848) I. II. II. i. § 21. 151 The dull boom of the disturbed sea. 1858 *HAWTHORNE Fr. & It. Frnls.* I. 232 The great bell of St. Peter's tolled with a deep boom.

Boom (būm), *sb.* 2 *Naut.* Also (in sense 3) 8 *bomb*. [*a.* Du. *boom* 'tree, beam, pole', corresp. to OHG., MHG. *boum*, mod.G. *baum*, also to OE. *blām*, and mod. *BEAM*: taken from Du. in senses in which the Eng. *beam* was not used.]

1. 'A long spar run out from different places in the ship, to extend or boom out the foot of a particular sail; as jib-boom, flying jib-boom, studding-sail booms.' *Smyth Sailor's Word-bk.* 1867.

1668 in *Birch Hist. Royal Soc.* (1756) I. 91 The violence of it snapt off their boom by the board. 1698 in *Capt. Smith's Seaman's Gram.* xvi. 76 A Boom, a long Pole used to spread out the Clew of the Studding-sail, etc. 1719 *DE FOE Crusoe* i. ii. 20 She sail'd with . . . a Shoulder of Mutton Sail; and the Boom gib'd over the Top of the Cabin. 1742 *ANSON Voy.* iii. v. 341 The mast, yard, boom, and outriggers, are all made of bamboo. 1850 *BLACKIE Æschylus* II. 252 With broken booms and fragments of the wreck.

2. *pl.* That part of a ship's deck where the spare spars are stowed.

1762-3 *FALCONER Shipwr.* II. 262 The yards secure along the booms were laid. 1803 *NELSON in Nicolas Disp.* (1845) V. 205 Hardy [is] rigging the main-yard on the booms. 1823 *MARRYAT P. Simple* (1863) 92 Mr. Chucks then sat down upon the fore-end of the booms by the funnel. 1867 *SMYTH Sailor's Word-bk.*, Booms, a space where the spare spars are stowed; the launch being generally stowed between them.

† 2. A pole set up to mark the course of the channel or deep water. ? *Obs.*

1705 *HARRIS Lexicon Techn.* s.v. *Boom*. The Poles with Bushes or Baskets on the Top, which are placed to direct how to steer into a Channel are called Booms, and by some Beacons. 1755 in *JOHNSON*; and in mod. Dicts. [Not in *SMYTH Sailor's Word-bk.*]

3. A bar or barrier consisting of a strong chain or line of connected spars, pieces of timber bound together, etc., stretched across a river or the mouth of a harbour to obstruct navigation.

c 1645 *HOWELL Lett.* (1650) I. 215 The sea-works and booms were traced out by Marquis Spinola. 1655 *LESTRANGE Chas. I.* 93 Before his coming the Cardinal had finish his prodigious Boom and Barricado [at Rochelle] through which it was impossible to break. 1883 *LUTTRELL Brief Rel.* I. 549 The Irish had laid a great chain with a boom across the river. 1702 *W. J. BRUNY Voy. Levant* x. 37 Anciently a Chain or Bomb lay across from Castle to Castle, to prevent the passing of Ships. 1769 *FALCONER Dict. Marine* (1789). 1855 *MACAULAY Hist. Eng.* III. xii, Large pieces of fir wood strongly bound together, formed a boom which was more than a quarter of a mile in length.

4. In the American lumber-trade: A line of floating timber stretched across a river or round an area of water to retain floating logs.

1702 *C. MATHER Magn. Chr.* vii. (1852) App. 592 She stole along by the river side, until she came to a boom, where she passed over. 1859 *D. CONWAY Norway, &c.* 190 The booms that are placed across the stream nearer its mouth. 1848 *THORAU Maine W.* i. (1864) 32 Showing no traces of man but some low boom in a distant cove reserved for spring use. 1865 — *Cape Cod*. vi. 105 The inhabitants visit the beach to see what they have caught as regularly as . . . a lumberer his boom. 1884 *S. E. DAWSON Hand-bk. Canada* 20.

5. *Comb.*, as *boom-sheet*, -stick, etc. (sense 4).

boom-boat, a boat stowed on the booms (see 1 b); *boom-brace pendant*, 'a rope attached to the extremity of a studding-sail boom, used to counteract the pressure of the sail upon the boom' (*Smyth*); *boom-cover*, a cover for the spars when stowed on deck; *boom-ended a.*, having the studding-sail booms rigged in, so that their ends do not project beyond the yard-arms; *boom-iron*, an iron ring fitted on the yard-arm, through which the studding-sail boom slides when rigged out or in; a similar ring by which the flying jib-boom is secured to the jib-boom, or this to the bowsprit; *boom-jigger*, a tackle for rigging the top-mast studding-sail booms out or in; *boom-sail*, a sail (foresail or mainsail) which is set to a boom instead of to a yard (opposed to *square foresail* or *mainsail*); *boom-sheet*, a sheet fastened to a boom; *boom-spar*, see *BOMESPAR*.

1840 *R. DANA Bef. Mast.* xxvii. 90 The studding-sail hal-yards were let go, and the yards 'boom-ended'. 1881 *Daily Tel.* 28 Jan., The propeller is fast taking the place of the old 'boom-foresail'. 1769 *FALCONER Dict. Marine* (1789) 'Boom-iron' . . . is employed to connect two cylindrical pieces of wood together, when the one is used as a continuation of the other. 1859 *MARRYAT F. Midland* viii, A tail block was attached to the boom-iron, at the outer extremity of each fore-yard-arm. *Ibid.* xx, She had a square mainsail, 'boom mainsail, and jib. 1769 *FALCONER Dict. Marine* (1789) *Chandeliers* . . . the crutches fixed on the stern or quarter of a 'boom-sail vessel. 1836 *MARRYAT Pirate* viii, Ease off the 'boom sheet. 1879 *Lumberman's Gas.* 18 June 6 It shall be unlawful for any person other than the owner thereof . . . to take possession of . . . any log, spar, 'boomstick', etc. . . in any waters in this State [Michigan].

Boom (būm), *sb.* 3 *U. S.* [This and its verb (*BOOM v.* 3) have arisen recently in U. S.: it is not clear whether the vb. is from the sb., or conversely. The actual origin is also a matter of conjecture;

probably, it consisted in a particular application of *Boom sb.*¹ and its vb., with reference not so much to the sound, as to the suddenness and rush, with which it is accompanied. Cf. esp. *Boom v.*¹ 1 c., and 2. But association, original or subsequent, with other senses of Boom, is also possible, and the actual use of the word has not been regulated by any distinct etymological feeling, so that no derivation will account for all its applications.]

1. A start of commercial activity, as when a new book, the shares of a commercial undertaking, or the like 'go off' with a 'boom'; a rapid advance in prices; a sudden bound of activity in any business or speculation.

1879 *Lumberman's Gaz.* 19 Dec., There has not been the boom upon lumber experienced in many other articles of merchandise. 1880 *World* 3 Nov. 5 The election of the American President is expected to be followed by a 'boom' that will take up prices. 1884 *St. James's G.* 26 Jan. 4/1 With the revival of prosperity in the United States the great boom in railway properties set in. 1884 *Times* 28 Nov. 4 Building 'Boom' in the United States. — MARSTON *Frank's Rancho* 36 One railroad spoils a town, two bring it to par again, and three make a 'boom'.

2. The effective launching of anything with éclat upon the market, or upon public attention; an impetus given to any movement, or enterprise; the vigorous 'running' or writing-up of a candidate for an election; a vigorously worked movement in favour of a candidate or 'cause'.

1879 *SALA in Daily Tel.* 26 Dec., The Grant 'Boom' may be succeeded by the Sherman 'Boom'. 1884 *Reading Morn. Herald* 15 Apr., Blaine's book was issued just at the critical moment in his boom for the Presidency. 1884 *Lisbon (Dakota) Star* 10 Oct., How Electioneering Booms are Worked Up by the Faithful.

Boom (*būm*), *v.*¹ Forms: 5 bombon, bum-myn, bumbyn, bome, 6 bomme, 7- bomb, (9 bome), 8- boom. [Of imitative origin; whether original in Eng. it is impossible to determine; cf. Ger. *bummen*, Du. *boemen*, of similar meaning, ODu. *bom* a drum; also BOMB, which in its origin is closely allied. The development of sense 2 is not quite clear; it may be a different word.

But in Sc., the equivalent 'bum' is used both of the hum of bees, etc., of the sound of a passing shot or stone, and of the rushing motion of a stone or the like, as 'to bum stones at any one', to kick an object and 'send it bumming' (i. e. spinning) away.]

1. *intr.* To hum or buzz, as a bee or beetle; to make a loud, deep sound with much resonance, as a cannon, a large bell, the waves of the sea, etc.; also the usual word to express the cry of the bittern.

c 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 55 Bombon as been [K., H., 1499 bumbyn or bumbyn], *bombiso*. 1653 *PALSGR.* 460/1 This waspe bommeth about myne eare. 1713 *YOUNG Last Day* i. 27 Booming o'er his head The billows close. 1815 *HOOGE Pilgrims of Sun II.* Poems (1822) II. 48 Swift as the wild-bee's note, that on the wing Bombs like unbodied voice along the gale. 1840 *BARHAM Ingol. Leg.* 407 Unless I get home, Ere the curfew bome. 1865 *MISS BRADDON Only a Clod* xxxvii. 303 All the machinery in London seemed buzzing and booming in her ears. 1879 *FARRAR St. Paul* II. 44 The bittern booms amid its pestilent and stagnant marshes.

b. *trans.* Usually with *out*. To give forth or utter with a booming sound.

1837 *CARLYLE Fr. Rev.* II. vi. 354 Saint-Antoine booming out eloquent tocsin, of its own accord. 1870 *MISS BRIDGMAN R. Lynne* I. xvii. 303 The ... clod boomed out twelve.

c. In *Curling*, etc. To move rapidly onward with booming sound. Cf. *BUM v.* Sc.

a 1835 *HOOGE in Whistle-binkie* (Sc. Songs) Ser. III. 34 We'd boom across the Milky Way, One tee should be the Northern Wain, Another bright Orion's ray, A comet for a Channel Stane!

2. *intr.* 'To rush with violence; as a ship is said to come booming, when she makes all the sail she can' (Phillips 1706, whence in J. etc.).

1817 *Fight at Sea in Arb. Garner* II. 200 The first of them booming by himself before the wind. 1706 *PHILLIPS*. 1876 C. D. WARNER *Winter on Nile* x. 130 We are booming along all night. 1879 *Lumberman's Gaz.* 19 Dec., The three drives ... with plenty of water come booming along at a most lively rate.

Boom (*būm*), *v.*² [f. *Boom sb.*²; in sense 1 b app. directly from Du. *boemen* 'to push with a pole'; as the sb. appears not to be used in this sense. Cf. *BOLM*.]

1. *Naut.* (*trans.*) a. To boom out: to extend (the foot of a sail) off with a boom. b. To boom off: to push (a vessel) off with a pole.

1807 *CAPT. SMITH Seaman's Gram.* ix. 41 With a Boome boome it out. 1840 *MARRYAT Poor Jack* xxxv. We boomed her off from the Wharf. 1857 S. OSBORN *Quedah* vi. 72 Our sails being at the time boomed out.

2. To furnish (a river or piece of water) with a boom to retain floating timber; to collect (logs or timber) in a boom. *N. America*. See *Boom sb.*² 4.

1879 *Lumberman's Gaz.* 1 Oct., Numerous lakes communicating with the main Slough have been boomed.

3. Cf. *BOOMING vbl. sb.* 2.

Boom (*būm*), *v.*³ *U. S.* [see *Boom sb.*³]

1. *intr.* To 'go off' with a 'boom'; to burst into

sudden activity or briskness; to make rapid (commercial) progress, to advance vigorously.

1879 *Lumberman's Gaz.* 15 Oct., Every one says business is booming. 1884 *Century Mag.* XXV. 101 The gay, storm-beleaguered camp, in the words of its exhibitory press, began to boom. 1883 *Leis. Ho.* 283/2 This metropolis ... has boomed into something highly commonplace and respectable.

2. *trans.* To give a 'boom' to; to push, puff, force upon public attention, 'write up'. Also *absol.* To work up a 'boom'.

1879 *Indianapolis Jnl.* 23 Apr., The rest are in varying degrees positive, if not 'all "booming" for U. S. Grant'. 1884 *Century Mag.* XXIV. 506 To 'boom' a town in Dakota is an art requiring ... no end of push and cheek ... Fargo is said to be the best-boomed town in Dakota. 1884 *Boston (Mass.) Jnl.* 22 Nov. 2/4 The World is booming Mr. Conkling for United States Senator.

Boom, boom, obs. forms of **BOMB**.

Boomage (*būmédj*). [f. *Boom sb.*² + *-AGE*.]

a. 'A duty levied to compound for harbour dues, anchorage, and soundage' (Smyth *Sailor's Word-bk.*). b. A toll levied by the owner of a boom on its use for storing logs.

1864 *Stat. Pennsylv.* 396 To prevent collecting boomage upon non-marked lumber.

Boombaz, variant of **BOMBASE v.** *Obs.*

Boomed, *ppl. a. Naut.* [f. *Boom sb.*² or *v.*² + *-ED*.] Furnished with or set to a boom.

1658 *DICKEY Voy. Medit.* (1868) 81 Then wee all chaced with all the sayle we could make (and we added seuerall boomed sayles).

Boomer¹ (*būmər*). [f. *Boom v.*³ 2.] One who 'booms' or pushes an enterprise. *U. S. slang*.

1883 *Times* 26 Sept. 8 (He) is a North-Western 'boomer' of great earnestness. 1885 *Boston (Mass.) Jnl.* 19 Aug. 2/4 The Oklahoma boomers.

Boomer². A name given in Australia to the male of the largest species of kangaroo.

1881 *Times* 28 Jan. 3/4 The marsupial with a body which surpassed in bulk that of the 'boomer'.

Boomerang (*būmərəŋ*). Also 8-9 boma-rang, bomerang, boomerang. [Adoption or modification of the native name in a lang. of the aborigines of N. S. Wales.

Collins (Judge Advocate of the colony when founded in 1788) collected a short vocabulary of Port Jackson words, in which *wo-mur-rang* occurs among 'names of clubs'. (He has also *wo-mur-ra* the throwing stick, which some later writers erroneously identify with the boomerang.) In a short vocabulary of the extinct language of George's River, Botany Bay, printed by Ridley, *Kamilaroi* 103, are *womurk* 'throwing stick for spear', *bamarin* 'boomerang'. *Boomerang* was given as 'the Port Jackson term' by Capt. King in 1827; its exact relation to *wo-mur-rang* and *bamarin*, and the relations of these to each other can perhaps not now be determined. A very graphic account of the use of the weapon (described as a bent, edged waddy resembling slightly a Turkish scimitar) is in the *Sydney Gazette* of 23 Dec. 1804: 'the name boomerang has not been found in that paper up to 1823.]

An Australian missile weapon: a curved piece of hard wood from two to three feet long, with a sharp edge along the convexity of the curve. It is so made as to describe complex curves in its flight, and can be thrown so as to hit an object in a different direction from that of projection, or so as to return to or beyond the starting-point.

[1798 *COLLINS Acc.* N. S. Wales, Vocab. 'names of Spears and other instruments', *Can-ni-cull, Car-ru-wang, Wo-mur-rang*, names of clubs.] 1807 *CAPT. KING Narr. Surv. Coasts Austral.* I. 355 Boomerang is the Port Jackson term for this weapon, and may be retained for want of a more descriptive name. 1830 *Mechanic's Mag.* XIII. 430 Captain Cook, when at Botany Bay, having seen the bomarang, concluded that it was a wooden sword. 1830 *Proc. R. Geog. Soc.* I. 27 The curl or boomerang is seldom used as a weapon [in W. Australia]. 1834 L. E. THRELBOLD *Austral. Gram., Vocab. Hunter Riv. Tur-ru-ma*, an instrument of war, called by Europeans *Boomerang* of a half-moon shape, which, when thrown, returns forming a circle in its orbit from and to the thrower. 1834 G. BENNETT *Wand. N. S. Wales*, 4c. 116 The males were armed with spears, clubs, and the 'womera' or 'boomerang'. 1838 S. FERGUSON in *Trans. R. Irish Acad.* XIX. 22 (*paper*), On the Antiquity of the Killiee or Boomerang. 1871 *TYLOR Prim. Cult.* I. 60 The Australian boomerang has been claimed as derived from some hypothetical high culture.

fig. 1845 *HOLMES Modest Reg. Poems* (1884) 42 Like the strange missile which the Australian throws, Your verbal boomerang slaps you on the nose. 1870 *LOWELL Among my Bks.* Ser. I. (1873) 219 The boomerang of argument, which one throws in the opposite direction of what he means to hit.

Booming (*būmɪŋ*), *vbl. sb.* [f. *Boom v.*¹, 2, 3.] 1. The emitting of a deep, resonant sound.

1774 *GOLDSM. Nat. Hist.* III. 214 Of all sounds there is none so dismally hollow as the booming of a bittern. 1855 *MACAULAY Hist. Eng.* IV. 535 The distant booming of cannon was heard ... from the batteries of the Tower. 1876 *BLACK Green Past.* xxviii. 226 The booming of the fog-horn at night is one of the most horrid sounds in the world.

2. 'The accumulation and sudden discharge of a quantity of water (in placer mining, where water is scarce)'. Raymond *Mining Gloss.* 1881.

1880 *Toronto Globe*, Miners in the Far West have a practice of conducting explorations by a means which they call 'booming'. It consists in damming up some gorge on a mountain side and allowing the water from melting snow to accumulate till an immense reservoir has been formed. When the pond is full an outlet is made, and the water

rushes down with irresistible force, overwhelming everything in its path ... Rich veins and deposits of ore are often uncovered by this process.

3. See *Boom sb.*³, *Boom v.*³

1881 *Chicago Times* 1 June, The Texas market is also advised as active, and in some cases excited, but ... this 'booming' tendency is at least a little premature.

Booming, *ppl. a.* [f. as prec. + *-ING*.]

1. Making a deep hollow reverberating sound.

1666 B. JONSON *Masques Wks.* 1662 647 Bombing sighs. 1764-9 *FALCONER Shipw.* II. 552 O'er The sea-beat ship the booming waters roar. 1853 *KANE Grinnell Exp.* xxxii. (1856) 279 One wild, booming, agonized note, made up of a thousand discords.

2. Of business, etc.: Flourishing, advancing on a tide of prosperity. (See *Boom v.*³) *U. S.*

1879 *Lumberman's Gaz.* 29 Oct., Salt is 'booming', as it has been all the season. *Ibid.* 12 Nov., New life and energy has been infused into all channels of business—things are booming. 1883 *Leis. Ho.* 283/1 Pueblo is the very centre of South Colorado traffic, and certainly booming.

Boomingly, *adv.* With a booming noise.

1839 *Fraser's Mag.* XX. 63 The billows of fire rolling boomingly past.

Boomkin: see **BUMKIN**.

Boomster. *U. S. slang*. = **BOOMER**¹; one who works up a 'boom'; a speculator.

1879 *Nation* 9 Oct. 236 The trickery and usurpation ... of the leading boomster. 1884 S. E. DAWSON *Hand-bk. Canada* 331 The speculators, called in vivid Western parlance, boomsters.

Boon (*būn*), *sb.*¹ Forms: 2-7 bone, 3-4 bon, (2, 5 bune, 3 bun, 3, 6 boun, 4 boyn, 5 boyne), 4-8 boone, (6 bowne, bound), 5- boon. [a. ON. *būn*, the etymological correspondent of OE. *bēn*, ME. *BENE*, prayer. Through such phrases as 'ask a boon', 'have one's boon', 'grant a boon', taken without analysis, the sense easily passed, by insensible transitions, from 'prayer', to 'favour asked', 'favour conferred', 'free gift', 'good thing received'. The adj. *boon* 'good' probably aided in this development.]

† 1. A prayer, petition, entreaty, request. *Obs.*

a. A prayer to God, Christ, etc.

c 1175 *Lamb. Hom.* 63 Ah lauerd god, her ure bone. a 1205 *Ancre R.* 28 Pe seoue bonen ipe Paternoster. a 1300 *Cursor M.* 3690 Godd ... has herd mi bon. *Ibid.* 25306 Hu wath it es to bid his bun. c 1380 *Sir Ferumb.* 3948 To ihesu panne he had a bone. c 1460 *Towneley Myst.* 12 Lord of heven, thou here my boyne [prime done]. 1513 *DOUGLAS Aeneis* x. v. 90 Ene ... can pray and maid hys bone.

b. A request addressed to a human being; esp. the asking of a favour.

c 1205 *LAY.* 14912 Pe king uor his fader bone 3ette hire hir bone [? bene]. c 1385 *CHAUCER L. G. W.* 1592 The kyng assented to his bone [v. r. boone]. c 1440 *Gesta Rom.* (1879) 153 He grauntid, that the trespassour shulde aske iij. bonys or he deyde. 1530 *PALSGR.* 199/2 Bone, a request, requeste. a 1581 *CAMPION Hist. Irel.* II. vii. (1633) 94 Her husband assented, and accomplished her boone effectually. 1653 *COCKERAM, Boone*, a request.

† 2. A request made with authority; a command or order couched in the form of a request. *Obs.*

c 1300 *St. Brandan* 631 Ich aros to don his holi bone. c 1305 *E. E. Allit. P.* B. 826 Agayne þe bone of þe burne þat hit forþoden hade. a 1400 *Cov. Myst.* (1841) 28 Why hast thou synnyd so sone, Thus hastily to brake my bone. c 1400 *Destr. Troy* 505 Sho obeit his bone. 1593 *SHAKS. 3 Hen. VI.* III. ii. 46 Wid. What you command, that rests in me to doe. *King.* But you will take exceptions to my Boone.

3. *transf.* The matter prayed for or asked; esp. in to have one's boon, to grant one his boon. (Cf. use of *prayer*, *request*.) *Obs.* or *arch.*

c 1175 *Lamb. Hom.* 37 3if þu wult habben bone to drihten. a 1300 *Cursor M.* 8414 He yatte hir freli al hir bone. c 1305 *CHAUCER L. G. W.* 2337 God ... sende the thyne bone. c 1385 — *Knts. T.* 1811 Mars hath his wille, his knyght hath al his boone. c 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 43 Bone, or graunte of prayer. 1488 *CAXTON Chast. Goddess Chyld.* 95 Thou shalt haue thy askynge and thy boone. 1513 *MORSE Rich. III.* Wks. 59/1 God loued her better, then to graunt her her bone. 1645 *MILTON Tetrach.* Wks. 1738 1 245 If the Law come down ... to grant lust his boon. 1823 *SCOTT Peveril* I. vi. 106 Cousin, you must grant me my boon.

b. A thing asked as a favour; a favour (asked for). *arch.*

c 1200 *ORMIN* 7606 Drihtin hafðe 3atedd himm þatt bone þatt he 3eornde. c 1205 *Pilate* 299 in *E. E. P.* (1862) 117 Grante me ane bone, 3if me an appel to etc. c 1400 *Yvaine & Gaw.* 2790 The yonger mayden than alsone Of the King askes this bone. c 1440 *York Myst.* xviii. 36 þis bone of þe I crave. 1483 *CAXTON G. de la Tour* C ij. I pray yow alle ... to graunte me a bone and a yefte. 1575 *APPUN & Virg.* in *Hazl. Dodol.* IV. 143 Then tender your child that craveth this bound. 1588 *SHAKS. Tit. A.* II. iii. 289 Vpon my feeble knee, I beg this boone, with teares, not lightly shed. c 1650 *Rob. Hood & Fryer* 116 A boone, a boone, said the curial fryer ... Give me leave to set my fist to my mouth. 1864 *TRENCH Mirac.* xxiii. 343 She has a boon to ask for her daughter.

† c. To pray (one) of a boon. *Obs.*

1393 *GOWER Conf.* I. 207 He ... praid him of a bone, To se this Custe. c 1440 *Gesta Rom.* (1879) 411, I pray the, .. of a bone, that thou wille herborow me this nyght. 1481 *CAXTON Reynard* (Arb.) 34, I pray you of a bone, that I may to fore you alle make my confession.

4. A favour, a gift, a thing freely or graciously bestowed: a. in response to asking. *arch.*

c 1460 *Towneley Myst.* 282 Send us, lord, this blissid bone. c 1500 *Adam Bel* 509 in *Hazl. E. P.* II. 160 Madame, yo myght have asked a bowne, That shuld have ben worth

them all three. 1630 PRYNNER *God No Impostor* 30 We deserve no boone, no fauor at his hands. 1712 ARBUTHNOT *John Bull* (1727) 71 What art thou asking of them, after all? Some mighty boon! 1839 THIRLWALL *Greece* VI. 319 A boon like that which Aristotle had obtained from Philip.

b. without the notion of asking. In 17th c. applied to a largess, gratuity or present; but now only fig. and arch.

1668 FULLER *Worthies* (1840) II. 508 The Queen... seldom gave boons, and never forgave due debts. 1677 MARVELL *Season. Argument* Wks. 1776 II. 558 He... has got by boones, at several times... 3000. 1679 PEPYS *Diary* VI. 130, I have never... done it to the obtaining sixpence from the Crown by any boon extraordinary. 1738 GLOVER *Leonidas* I. 144. The choicest boons of fate. 1830 D'ISRAELI *Chas. I.* III. viii. 161 The Earl... had accepted with difficulty, the boon of his freedom. 1845-6 TRENCH *Huls. Lect.* Ser. II. viii. 269 The gods had no better boon for him than an early death.

c. Grace, favour, rare. 1880 KEATS *St. Agnes* xxiv. Down she knelt for heaven's grace and boon. 1881 — *Isabel* xix. Of these we now should ask forgiving boon.

5. A gift considered with reference to its value to the receiver; a benefit enjoyed, blessing, advantage, a thing to be thankful for: sometimes without even the notion of giving, but always with that of something that one has no claim to, or that might have been absent. (The usual current sense.) 1767 T. HUTCHINSON *Hist. Prov. Mass. Bay* i. The character of Massachusetts was not so great a boon. 1880 KEATS *St. Agnes* xxxix. An elfin storm from faery land, Of haggard seeming, but a boon indeed. 1885 MAURY *Phys. Geog. Sea* iii. (1860) § 185 The presence of the warm waters of the Gulf Stream... is a great boon to navigation. 1896 SIR B. BRODIE *Psychol. Inq.* I. App. 270 The inestimable boon of articulate language. 1896 GREEN *Short Hist.* iii. § 3 (1882) 124 The boon of free and unbought justice was a boon for all.

6. An unpaid service due by a tenant to his lord. Cf. 'benevolence'. Obs. exc. dial. 1634 SANDERSON *Serm.* II. 294 Racking their rents, taking in their commons, overthrowing their tenures, diminishing their wages, increasing their boons. 1703 BR. T. WILSON in *Keble Life* v. (1863) 194 To leave all such carriages, Boones and services on the same foot as already provided for by Law. 1885 *Whitby Gloss.*, Boon, a stated service rendered to the landlord by the tenant.

b. Hence *boon-day*, -*loaf* (a loaf allowed to a tenant when working on a boon-day), -*man*, -*work*; also c. *boon-ploughing*, -*shearing*, a day's ploughing or shearing given gratuitously to a farmer by his neighbours on a special occasion. 1670 BLOUNT *Anc. Tenures* 153 The custom was here for the Natives and Cottagers to plow and harrow for the Lord, and to work one *boon-day for him every week in Harvest. 1708 MARSHALL *Rur. Econ. Yorksh.* (1796) I. 41 Tenant agrees... to perform the customary leadings, or boondays. 1885 ATKINSON *Provenc. Danby*, §c. 5. v. *Boon-days*. 1879 BLOUNT *Anc. Tenures* 143 Every plow was to be allowed four *boon-loaves. 1707 BR. T. WILSON in *Keble Life* ix. (1863) 680 The *boon-men i.e. they who owe him rent in the way of work. 1886 *Carlisle Jernl.* 23 Feb. 2/4 *Boon Ploughing at Burgh. 1875 *Lanc. Gloss.* (E. D. S.), *Boon-shearin (N. Lanc.), a quantity of shearing given as in the case of a boon-ploo [= boon-ploughing]. 1883 SEEBOM *Eng. Vill. Community* 78, *Precaria* or *boon-work, i.e. special work at request.

Occasionally *boon* appears to have the sense of 'good', but in the earlier instances at least the sense of 'favour asked' or 'conferred', is more or less apparent. Modern archaists complete the confusion with *Boon a*. 1325 E. E. *Allit. P.* B. 1089 Hade bodyly burne abiden bat bone... His lyf wer loste. 1630 *Came you not*, §c. 12 in *Furniv. Percy Folio* I. 254. I haue Land att durham will feitch my hart to boone. 1874 HOLLAND *Mistr. Manse* xxi. 83 The steps were scaled for boon or bale. 1884 SKRINE *Und. Two Queens* II. 34 Boon we mingle and bane.

Boon, sb.² Forms: 4 bon(e), 5-6 bunne, 9 boon: see also BUN. [Of unknown etymology: see BUN.] The stalk of flax or hemp after the fibre has been removed; the stalks of Cow-parsnip and other umbelliferous plants.

1388 WYCLIF *Isa. i.* 31 Joure strengthe schal be as a deed sparcle of bonys (v. r. stobil), ether of herdis of flex. 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 277 Kyx, or bunne, or drye weed. 1615 MARKHAM *Eng. Housew.* (1649) 182 All the loose buns and shivers that hang in the hemp or flaxe. 1838 PENNY *Cycl.* X. 305 The flax plants are passed between these cylinders... and the stalk, or boon, as it is technically called, is by this means completely broken without injuring the fibres.

Boon (būn), a. (and adv.) Forms: 4-9 bon, 4-7 bone, 4-5 bonne, (6 boun), 6-7 boone, (7 boune), 4- boon. [a. OF. *bon*, *bone* good: used esp. in what were orig. French phrases (e.g. *bone chere*, *bon sire*, *bone order*, *bon voiage*, *bone fortune*, etc.), but to some extent in general Eng. use from 14th to 17th c.; after 1600 it seems to have been consciously recognized as French, and gradually dropped, exc. in senses 3 and 4. In sense 3 it was probably associated with the Eng. sb. *Boon*¹, in its later sense of 'favour, benefaction, good gift'.]

A. adj. 1. Good, goodly. Obs. (in 17th c.) 1325 E. E. *Allit. P.* A. 28 He schal loke on oure lorde with a bone chere. 1325 *Coer de L.* 1540 They come to cyte boon. 1384 CHAUCER *H. Fame* 1022 Seint Julian!

lo, bon hostelle! c. 1425 *Seven Sages* (P.) 2013 Maugré have thow, bone sire. c. 1435 *Torr. Portugal* 2143 Of speche he is fulle bone. 1523 LD. BERNERS *Froiss.* I. cccxcix. 692 Euery man drewe in bone order into the felides. 1537 LATIMER *and Serm. bef. Convoc.*, Let vs all make bon chere (ed. 1635 good cheer). 1617 J. TAYLOR (Water P.) *Trav. Wks.* (1630) III. 78/1 Four pots of boone beere as yellow as gold. a. 1641 BR. MOUNTAGU *Acts & Mon.* (1642) 302 Nicolaus Damascenus; a great Orator and boon pleader. 1686 W. DE BRITAINNE *Hum. Prudence* xviii. (ed. 3) 83, I am of that boon Courage.

2. Advantageous, fortunate, favourable, prosperous: esp. in the once universal phrase *boon voyage* prosperous journey, also fig. good success. Hence, *To drink upon or in boon voyage*. Obs. 1494 FABIAN VI. ccx. 225 One broughte forthe a bolle full of mede... to drynke vpon bon vyage. 1563-7 FOXE *A. & M.* I. 384/2 Drinking one to another in boun voyage of the spoil of them whom they would take as their prisoners. 1590 GREENE *Never too Late* Wks. 1882 VIII. 20, I may wish boone fortune to thy journey. 1631 HEYWOOD *Maid of West* IV. Wks. 1874 II. 311 Quaffe unto the health of our boone voyage. c. 1645 HOWELL *Lett.* I. i. iv. (1726) 21. 1657 S. PURCHAS *Pol. Flying Ins.* 329 These cunning Philosophers... can... with Judas embrace a man with a courtly boone-congee, and at parting cut a mans throat. [1848 THACKERAY *Van. Fair* xxxii, *Bon voyage* as they say.]

3. Gracious, bounteous, benign; = L. *almus*, *alma*. poetic. a. 1612 HARRINGTON *Epigr.* II. (1633) 50 Our boon God did benignly heare. 1667 MILTON *P. L.* IV. 242 Flours... which Nature boon Powrd forth profuse. 1700 K. WHITE *Poems* (1837) 146 But may all nature smile with aspect boon. 1814 CARY *Dante* (Chandos) 301 Its boon influence. 1841 EMERSON *Method Nat.* Wks. 1875 II. 224 This wasteful hospitality with which boon nature turns off new firmaments. 1869 M. ARNOLD *Switzerland*, III. *Farewell* xxi, How sweet to feel, on the boon air, All our unquiet pulses cease!

4. In *boon companion*, lit. 'good-fellow', used in a jovial bacchanalian sense, transferred to other phrases, and occas. predicatively: Jolly, convivial. 1666 DRANT *Med. Morall* A v. He is my bone companion, its he that cheares up me. 1664 *Meet. of Gallants at Ord.* 21 A boone companion lighted amongst good fellows, as they call good fellows now a dayes, which are those that can drink best. 1688 DEKKER & MASSINGER *Virg. Martyr* II. i. Bacchus... this boon Bacchanalian skinker. 1667 MILTON *P. L.* IX. 793 Hight'nd as with Wine, jocund and boon. 1712 ARBUTHNOT *John Bull* (1755) 6 A boon companion, loving his bottle and his diversion. 1807 LYTTON *Pelham* xiv. He was also the boonest of companions. 1883 KANE *Grinnell Exp.* xxxi. (1886) 268 The effort of each man to... be very boon and jolly. 1884 TENNYSON *Becket* 61 My comrade, boon companion, my co-reveler.

b. Hence *boon companionship*; *boonfellow* (treated as a single word). 1844 DISRAELI *Coningsby* I. v. 23 All the resources of boon companionship. 1876 G. MEREDITH *Beauch. Career* II. ix. 171 A good friend and not a bad boonfellow.

† **B. adv.** Well, gently, favourably. *Old Song*, 'Oh! firm as Oak', While boon the wind blows, And smooth the tide flows.

Boon, v. Obs. or dial. Also 7 *beun*. [f. *Boon sb.*¹]

† 1. To pray for, ask as a boon. Obs. c. 1800 ORMIN 604 Part Zacariass Goddess preost... O Drihten hafide boned. 1612 Lef sadert, icc je bone, jiff me nu patt twifalde gast.

2. trans. To *boon away*: to give away in boons. c. 1661 in *Harl. Misc.* (1746) VIII. 27/1 What was got by Oppression, will be booned away by the King's Liberality.

† 3. intr. To do boon-work: see *Boon sb.*¹ 6.

1691 RAY *N. C. Wds.* 9 To Boon or Beun, to do Service to another as a Landlord.

† 4. trans. To repair (public roads). dial. Perhaps as one of the chief forms of *boon-work*: but there may be influence of *Boon sb.*¹ or a. in other senses.

1763 AINSWORTH *Lat. Dict.* (Morell) 1 To boon [repair the roads], vias hyeme corruptas estate reparare. 1877 E. PEACOCK *N. W. Linc. Gloss.*, Boon, to repair a highway, 'I'd hev' all cheches pull'd doon to boon th' roads wi'.'

Boon(e), a. (and adv.) Obs. or obs. ff. of *BOON*. Cf. **Boonage**. Obs. [f. *Boon sb.*¹ + -AGE. Cf. *BONAGE*.] = *Boon sb.*⁶; *boon-work*.

1610 FOLKINGHAM *Art of Survey* IV. iv. 84 Boonage, Fines, Heriots, Reliefs.

Boonfellow, boon companion; see *Boon a*. 4.

Boong, obs. form of *BUNG*.

Booning (bū'nin) *vbl. sb.* [f. *Boon v.* + -ING¹] Doing of boon-work; repairing of public roads.

1866 *Life Among Colliers* 29 The tenants took it in turn to lead our coals, which custom was known as booning. 1863 MORTON *Cycl. Agric.* II. Gloss., *Booning* (Linc.), carting material for repairing the highways.

Booning, ppl. a. [f. *Boon v.* + -ING²: prob. involving confusion with *Boon a*.] Giving boons.

1881 CLARE *Vill. Ministr.* I. 134 As labour strength regains, From ale's booning bounty given.

Boonk. A local name of the Little Bittern (*Botaurus minutus*).

1598 G. MONTAGU *Ornith. Dict.* (1833) 49.

Boonless (bū'nles), a. [f. *Boon sb.* + -LESS.] Without a boon. (In *boonless boon* (imitating Gr. *ἀδωρον δῶρον*) 'a gift that is no gift'.)

1863 P. S. WORSLEY *Phaethon, Poems & Transl.* 6 Thou hast asked a boonless boon. 1612 How boonless were the boon, if this were all.

Boopic (bo'p'ik), a. rare⁻¹. [f. Gr. *Boōnus* (f. *Boūs*, Bo-ox + *ōp' eye*.)] Ox-eyed.

1854 BADHAM *Halicut*. 66 A collyrium for the eyes of horses and to-opic patients.

Boor (bū'r). Forms: (5) boueer, 6-7 boore, bour, (7) bore, boar, 7-boor (9) bauer. [A word of involved history in and out of English, though the ultimate etymology is clear enough. The 16th c. *bour*, *boore*, may possibly have been native Eng., repr. an earlier **būr*, short for OE. *gebūr* 'dweller, husbandman, farmer, countryman' (Bosw.), a deriv. of *būr* 'dwelling, house, cottage, BOWER', f. the verb root, *bū* to dwell: cf. the compound *neighbour*:-ME. *nezebur*:-OE. *ndah-gebūr* 'nigh-dweller', also modern East Anglian *Boo* 'neighbour' as a form of address. But on the whole, in its literary use, the word is more likely to have been adopted from LG. *būr*, Du. *boer*: see the quots. under sense 2, and BOEM. These words are themselves etymological equivalents (or nearly so) of OE. *gebūr*; the OHG. form being *gibūr*, *gibūro*, MHG. *gebūr*, *gebūre*, MLG. *gebūr*, and *būr* (occurring 1365), mod.LG. *buur* (made *bauer* in mod.HG.), MDu. *ghebuere*, *ghebuer*, and *buer*; also (late) *geboer*, which was not properly a Du. form, but probably, according to Cosijn, adopted from Frisian, or, according to Franck, from the LG. on the eastern frontier of the Netherlands. This last is in mod.Du. *boer*. The original sense of WGer. *gibūr*, *gibūro*, was 'inmate of a *būr* or BOWER, fellow-occupier of a dwelling, farm, or village; neighbour, mate'. Partly from being preserved mainly in rural use, but largely from association with the vb. *būan* (MHG., MDu. *būwen*, Ger. *bauen*, Du. *bouwen*) to inhabit, cultivate, till (of which, as we have seen, it was not a derivative, though a cognate word from same root *bū-*), its original connexion with *būr*, BOWER, was lost, and the sense more and more confined to that of 'peasant, rustic', and thence 'clown'.

While mod. Ger. has merged the word in form with *bauer*, agent-noun from *bauen* 'to cultivate, to build', mod. Du., on the contrary, makes a distinction in use between the native *buur* (MDu. *ghebuere*, *ghebuer*) 'neighbour', and the adopted *boer* (MDu. *geboer*) 'peasant, husbandman, farmer, clown, knave at cards', and keeps both distinct from *bouwer* 'tiller, builder' (though in MDu. the latter was used in senses subsequently taken up by *geboer*, *boer*.)

1. A husbandman, peasant, countryman. Obs., exc. as in sense 3, into which it passes in later use. [1430 see BOWER sb.⁶] 1551 TURNER *Herbal* (1568) A iijij b. *Absinthium rusticum*, that is bours or pesantes worm-woode. 1598 R. JOHNSON *v. Worthies* B iv. A countrie Boore, a goodlie proper wayne. 1611 SHAKS. *Wint. T.* v. ii. 173 Not swear it?... Let Boores and Franklins say it, Ile swear it. 1766 HUME *Hist. Eng.* (1806) III. App. iii. 633 Some remains of the ancient slavery of the boors and peasants. 1798 MALTHUS *Popul.* (1878) 326 While the land is cultivated by boors. 1880 SCOTT *Monast.* xxxvii. Times of action make princes into peasants, and boors into barons. 1880 MRS. BROWNING *Via. Poets*, Poems I. 204 The boor who ploughs the daisy down.]

2. Particularly, a Dutch or German peasant. (For the latter more definitely *bauer* occurs.) 1581 J. BELL *Haddon's Answ. Osor.* 254 To accuse Luther for the uproars rayzed by the countrie Boores in Germany. 1612 WOODALL *Surg. Mate* Wks. (1653) 58 My self chanced in Holland into the house of a Boor (as they term him) to lodge. 1644 FULLER *Holy & Prof. St.* II. xviii. 116 Germany hath her Boores, like our Yeomen. 1645 PAGITT *Heresiogr.* (1662) 3 Upon this his preaching, about 40000 Bores and Trades-men rose up in Suevia. 1675 *Land. Gas.* No. 977/3 The Bores, assisted with 800 Spanish Soldiers. 1756 NUGENT *Gr. Tour, Netherl.* I. 41 The people of Holland may be divided into five classes. 1. The boors or husbandmen. 1800 COLERIDGE *Piccolom.* I. ii. The Boors Can answer fresh demands already [= der Bauer kann Schon wieder geben]. 1860 MOTLEY *Netherl.* (1868) II. ix. 11 Guarded by fifty men mostly boors of the country. [1879 BARING-GOULD *Germany* I. 50 Lands were divided and subdivided till the owners sank from being nobles to bauers.]

b. A Dutch colonist in Guiana, South Africa, etc. (For the latter BOER is now employed.) 1844 BURCHELL *Trav.* I. 13 The Boors must be heard, the Hottentots must be heard. 1838 Ht. MARTINEAU *Demerara* II. 23 The state of a boor as to health, comfort and security of property. 1834 PRINGLE *Afr. Sk.* iv. 184 Few but the very poorest boors.

c. Extended to foreign peasants generally. 1687 CLEVELAND *Rustick Ramp.* 488 What Boors of other Countrys could have compared with the Riches of our Peasants. 1764 GOLDSM. *Trav.* 3 The rude Carinthian Boor. 1798 CANNING in *Anti-Yacobin* 12 Mar. Russian boors that daily kick. 1798 MALTHUS *Popul.* II. iii. (1806) I. 368 The fortune of a Russian nobleman is measured by the number of boors that he possesses.

3. A peasant, a rustic, with lack of refinement implied; a country clown. 1598 MARSTON *Pygmal.* II. 142, I dull-sprighted fat Boetian Boore. c. 1610 ROWLANDS *Terrible Batt.* 38 A paltry rusticke peasant boore. 1750 WESLEY *Wks.* (1872) II. 207 Three or four boors would have been rude, if they durst. 1871 R. ELLIS *Catullus* xxii. 14 A dunce more boorish e'en than hedge-born boor. 1874 SAYCE *Compar. Philol.* viii. 336 The country boor is blind to the beauties of nature.

b. fig. Any rude, ill-bred fellow; a 'clown'.

1598 FLORIO, *Grassolano*, a lubber, a clowne, a boore, a rude fellow. 1793 DE FOE *Col. Jack* (1840) 4 He was as to manners a mere boor or clown. 1849 MISS MULOCK *Ogilvie* i. (1875) 4 Hugh Ogilvie is a common-place, stupid boor. 1878 BLACK *Adv. Phaeton* xiii. 177 An ill-conditioned boor, not fit for the society of well-bred ladies.

4. **Boor's Mustard.** [ad. early mod. Ger. *baurensen'se* peasant's mustard.] A name given by herbalists (since Turner) to *Thlaspi arvense*, a British wild plant; by Gerard to *Lepidium ruderale*.

1548 TURNER *Names of Herbes*, *Thlaspi*... is called in duche Baurensenfe... It may be named in englishe dysh-mustard, or triacle Mustard, or Bours Mustard. 1578 LYTE *Dodoens* 628 Turner calleth Thlaspi... Bowers mustarde. 1597 GERARD *Herbal* 204/5 Bowers or Bowers mustarde. 1598 BRITTEN & HOLL *Plant. IV.*, Boor's mustard.

Boor(e), obs. form of BOAR, BOWER.

Boord(e), obs. var. of BOARD, BORD(e), BOURD.

Boordly, variant of BUIRDLY *a. Sc.*

Boorelie, -lye, obs. forms of BURLY.

† **Boorinn**. Obs. rare⁻¹. [ad. Du. *boerin* countrywoman, fem. of *boer*, BOOR.] A peasant woman, a female boor.

1649 LOVELACE *Poems* 93 And th' blood in each veine doth appear Part thick Booreinn, part Lady Cleare.

Boorish (bū'rif), *a.* For forms see BOOR. [f. BOOR + -ISH¹.] Of or pertaining to boors; rustic, clownish, uncultured, rude, coarse, ill-mannered.

1564 TURNER *Herbal* ii. 51 Horehounded... growth... in such places as the boorish wormwood growth. c. 1600 [FLETCH. & MASS.] *Trag. Barnavelt*. i. i. in Bullen *O. P. L.* (1883) II. 210 With a boorish patience suffer The harvest that I labour for to be Another's spoile. 1660 PEREY *Diary* 29 May, Many Dutch boors eating of fish in a boorish manner. 1697 DRYDEN *Virg. Ded.*, The Boorish Dialect of Theocritus has a secret Charm in it. 1786 AMHERST *Terra Fil.* xlv. 245 You are the first... that ever call'd Oxford a boorish, uncivilized place. 1866 MRS. STOWE *Lit. Foxes* 105 Comparing... a polished rascal with a boorish good man.

† **b.** quasi-*sb.* The boorish: the vernacular of a boor; rude, illiterate speech. *humorous. Obs.*

1600 SHAKS. *A. Y. L. v.* i. 54 You Clowne... leane the societie: which in the boorish, is companie, of this female.

Boorishly (bū'rifli), *adv.* [f. prec. + -LY².] In a boorish manner.

1605 VERSTEGAN *Dec. Intell.* x. (1628) 330 A house boorishly built without carpentrie. 1866 SCOTT *Rev. Kemble's Life* (1849) 242 A young man... boorishly educated and home-bred. 1866 MISS BRADDON *Lady Audley* iii. 24 'Are you glad to see me?' 'Of course I'm glad, lass', he answered, boorishly.

Boorishness (bū'rifnēs), [f. as prec. + -NESS.] The quality of being boorish; rusticity, rudeness.

1794 GODWIN *Cal. Williams* 247 The boorishness of his rank in society. 1866 *Sat. Rev.* 13 Jan. 37/1 The curious mixture of feudal arrogance and clumsy boorishness... surviving among Prussian aristocrats.

† **Boorn**. Obs. [cf. 'Exmoor boorn yeast' (Halliwell).] 'Wort, or boiled liquor.' (Fuller.)

1609 C. BUTLER *Fem. Mon.* x. The end of boiling is thoroughly to incorporate the Boorne and the Honie. 1662 FULLER *Worthies* iv. 6 [in a receipt for methueglin] Take... one Gallon of the finest Honey, and put it into the Boorn.

Boorn(e), obs. form of BOURN, a brook.

Boor-tree, var. of BOUR-TREE *Sc.*, elder.

Boos, obs. form of BOSS.

Boosa, var. of BOZA, an oriental drink.

Boose (būz), *sb. north.* Forms: 5 booco, booce, buse, 5, 9 boos, boose, 5-9 boose, 9 boouse, boost. [First found in 15th c., but pointing to an OE. *bōs (whence bōsig, Boosy, cow-stall), corresp. to ON. *bīs-s*: -OTent. *banso-s: cf. Ger. *banse*, Gothic *bansts* barn. (The phonetic forms in mod. dialects, Eng. and Sc., cannot be derived from the ON. word, but require an OE. form with *ō*.)] A stall for a cow or (less usually) a horse; esp. the upper part of the stall, where the fodder is placed. See also BOOSY.

c. 1440 *Prompt. Parv.* 41 Booc or boos, netystalle [*K.* boce, *H.* 1499 boce]. 1483 *Cath. Angl.* 49 A Buse for a noxe, boetum. 1570 LEVINS *Manip.* 222 Boose, stall, bouile. 1781 J. HUTTON *Town Caves Gloss.* (E. D. S.) Boose, a stall for a cow or horse. 1808 JAMIESON, *Buse*, Boise, Boose, a cow's stall, a crib. 1875 *Lanc. Gloss.*, Boose, Boost, a cattle stall. Often used for the upper part of the stall where the fodder is placed: as 'Yo'll find him in th' cow's boose.'

Boose, variant of BOOZE.

Boosome, obs. f. BOSOM; obs. *Sc.* f. BESOM.

† **Boost**, *sb.* 1. Obs. Also 4-6 north. *boost*. A var. of Boist, box, pyx. Cf. the forms BOUSTE, BUIST.

a. 1300 *Cursor M.* 14003 A boist [*v. r.* boist] sco has o smerles nummen. 1535 STEWART *Cron. Scot.* III. 351 Tua boistis of gude wyne. 1570 LEVINS *Manip.* 222 A Booste, boxe, *pizis*. 1651 CALDERWOOD *Hist. Kirk* (1843) II. 33 Adoration... and keeping of bread in boxes or boostes.

Boost (būst), *sb.* 2. *U. S. colloq.* A lift, a shove up. 1828 DOW *Serm.* (Bartlett) Office-seekers ask you to give them a boost into the tree of office. 1879 LOWELL *Poet Wks.* 417 Bacchus that now is scarce induced To give Eld's lagging blood a boost. 1883 *Harper's Mag.* Nov. 943/1 Nor has its completion given that 'boost' to California... so fondly dreamed of.

Boost (būst), *v. U. S. colloq. trans.* To hoist; to lift or push from behind (one endeavoring to climb); to push up. (*Low*) Webster. Also fig. 1848-60 BARTLETT *Dict. Amer. s. v.*, Boost me up this tree,

and I'll hook you some apples. a. 1860 *N. Y. Herald* (Bartlett) Lord Palmerston was boosted into power by the agricultural interest of England. 1884 *Harper's Mag.* Aug. 484/1 To boost a jurist of so much helpless avoidupois in through the carriage door.

Boost, by-form of BOOSE; obs. f. BOAST.

Boosy (bū'zi). Chiefly *dial.* Forms: 1 bōsig, bōsih, 7 bousie, bowsey, boosey. [OE. *bōsig*, *bōsih*: see BOOSE *sb.*] An ox- or cow-stall, a crib; = BOOSE.

c. 950 *Lindisf. Gosp.* Luke xiii. 15 An eghuelc iuer on symbol-doez ne unbinded [he] woxo his oððe assald of bōsih. c. 975 *Rushw. G. ibid.*, Oxo his oððe eassald of bozge. 1601 HOLLAND *Pliny* i. 612 *Præsepia* [i. a. Crib, Cratch, Bowzey, or Manger]. *Ibid.* II. 285 They must be tied vp sure vnto their bousies. 1688 R. HOLME *Armory* II. ix. § 9, Boosy, the place where the Cow is tyed. 1777 BRAND *Pop. Antig.* (1849) I. 30 What is termed the boosy. 1847 G. SOANE *New Curios. Lit.* (1849) 19 Boosy... in the northern counties... is more generally applied to the upper part of the stall where the fodder lies.

Boot (būt), *sb.* 1. Forms: 1-5 bōt, 3-6 bote, 4-7 boote, 5- boot. Also 4 bott, bout(e), 5 both; north. 4-6 but(e), 5 boyte, buyt, 6 built. [Com. Teut.: OE. *bōt* fem., corresponds to OFris. *bōte*, OS. *bōta* (MDu. and Du. *bote*, LG. *bote*), OHG. *buoza* (MHG. *buoze*, mod. G. *buisse*), ON. *bōt* (Sw. *bōt*, Da. *bod*), Goth. *bōta* 'boot, advantage, good': -OTent. *bōtā- (Aryan type *bhadā-), prob. a derivative of root *bat-* (Aryan type *bhad-) 'good, useful': see BETTER. Hence the vb. BETT, to make good or better.]

I. Good, advantage, profit, use.

1. Good: in phrase *To boot*: 'to the good', to advantage, into the bargain, in addition; besides, moreover.

c. 1000 *Daniel* 200 (Gr.) Cuð gedydon, bet hie... noldon; oft hie to bote bealde gecwædon. 1330 R. BRUNNE *Chron.* (1825) 163 (Mätz), A hundred knights mo... and four hundred to bote, squieres of gode aray. 1377 LANGL. *P. Pl.* xiv. 268 Bi assent of sondry parties and syluer to bote. 1543 J. WILLOUGHBY in *Strype Cranmer* (1694) App. 66 Mr. Gardiner to sign for himself, and Series to boot. 1654 EARL MONMOUTH *Hist. Relations* 171 To boot that he had received many distastes from the French. *Ibid.* 9 To boot with the Council of the States General, the United Provinces have three Councils apart. 1653 *Tr. Carmentis Nissena* 42 To boot that it was commonly whispered about, etc. 1660 PEREY *Diary* 13 Feb., For two books that I had and 6s. 6d. to boot I had my great book of songs. a. 1670 T. GOODWIN *Wks.* (1861) I. 88 He shall have all things into boot. a. 1711 KEN *Damonet* Poet Wks. 1721 IV. 505 Would you give yours, and your whole Flock to boot. 1867 FREEMAN *Norm. Cong.* (1876) I. iv. 222 One who held all Gaul and all Britain, with seemingly Germany to boot.

b. In *Sc.* to the boot, into the boot (*boot*).

1645 RUTHERFORD *Let.* 357 Some... who would exchange afflictions, and give you to the boot. 1814 SCOTT *Wav.* xviii, Alice, who... was, to the boot of all that, the best dancer of a strathspey in the whole strath.

† 2. That which is 'thrown in', or given in addition, to make up a deficiency of value; a premium, compensation, odds. Obs. exc. *Sc. dial.*

1483 *Cath. Angl.* 49 Bute [*v. r.* Buyt], *auitorium*, *augmentum*. 1593 G. FLETCHER *Licia* (1876) 9 Were all the world offered to make a change, yet the boote were too small. 1597 SKENE *Expl. diff. Wds.* s. v. *Bote* (JAM.), The aine partie that gettes the better, giues aine bote, or compensation to the vther. 1600 HEYWOOD *J. Edu.* IV. iii. i. Wks. 1874 I. 44 If I were so mad to score, what boote wouldst thou giue me? a. 1654 BROME *Queen* iv. iv, *Doct.* Too many a man... will change with thee And give good Boot. 1786 CAVALLIER *Mem.* iv. 313 Now I am convinced that my Religion is better than yours since you give me so much Boot.

† 3. Advantage; profit; avail, use. Chiefly in interrog. or negative phrases or their equivalent, as *It is no boot*: it avails not, it is no use. *To make boot of*, to make profit of, gain by; to gain.

a. 1300 *Cursor M.* 89 Quat bote is to sette traueil On thyng bat may not auail. c. 1400 *Destr. Troy* 448 Agayne be wyles of women to wer is no bote. c. 1420 *Anturs of Arith.* xvi, I bare the of my body, quat bote is to layne? 1533 LYNDSEY *Satyre* 1082 But cum sado to the Kings presence, Thair is na buit for vs to byde. 1596 SPENSER *F. Q.* iii. xi. 19 O spare thy happy daies, and them apply To better boot. 1598 SYLVESTER *Du Bartas* i. v. (1641) 42/2 Then loose they all the sheats, but to no boot. 1606 SHAKS. *Ant. & Cl.* iv. i. 9 Giue him no breath, but now Make boote of his distraction. 1606 G. WOODCOCKE *Hist. Iustine* 22 a, They, lost all that before they had made boot of. 1681 R. KNOX *Hist. Ceylon* (1781) 333 We thought it no boot to sit longer... and so took up our bags, and fed. 1693 W. ROBERTSON *Phrascol. Gen.* 272 To no boot, *frustra*.

† 4. loosely, Well-being, weal. Obs.

a. 1300 *Cursor M.* 1008 (Götl.) Paradis hit is a... lond of lif of roo & rest Wid bliss and bote broidin best. c. 1430 *Hymns Virg.* (1867) 12 Ihesu! pou brougist man to boote.

II. The making good or mending of anything; the means of doing so; repair; remedy, relief.

† 5. The repair of decaying structures, e.g. bridges; also, a contribution levied for keeping these in repair. Only in OE. (in such combs. as *burhbot*, *brycgbot*, etc.) exc. in late writers on legal antiquities.

a. 1000 *Thorpe's Laws* I. 380 (Bosw.) Brycgbot aginne man georne. c. 1250 *Gloss. Law Terms* in *Rel. Ant.* I. 33 Briggbote, refere punz a passer. 1670 BLOUNT *Law Dict.*, *Brygbote*. 1839 KEIGHTLEY *Hist. Eng.* I. 83 The 'Brig-bote'.

† b. The right of a tenant to take timber, etc. for repairs, firing, and other necessary purposes, from off the landlord's estate; common of estovers. In comb., as *fire-bote*, *house-bote*, *hedge-bote*, etc.

1508 PERKINS *Prof. Bk.* i. § 116 If a stranger grant all manner of Estouers unto me... by this grant I shall have House-bote, Plowbote, and Haybote. 1553 *Procl.* in *Strype Eccl. Mem.* III. i. iii. 30 All other lands, tenements... &c., with reasonable fire-boot, cart-boot, plow-boot, hedge-boot, within the woods of the said manor. 1604 in *Eng. Gilda* (1870) 437 To deliver to the sayd tenants house boot and high boot. 1669 WORLIDGE *Syst. Agric.* (1681) 322 *Boot*, necessary Timber or Wood for necessary uses; as Plough-boot, House-boot, Fire-boot. 1763-8 BLACKSTONE *Comm.* II. 25 The Saxon word, *bote*, is of the same signification with the French *Estover*. 1844 TUPPER *Crock of Gold* vii. 56 No allowances of hedgebote, or housebote.

† 6. *esp.* A medicinal cure or remedy. Obs.

a. 1000 *CYNEWULF Elene* 299 (Gr.) Pe eow eageña leot fram blindnesse bote gefremede. a. 1225 *Ancre. R.* 120 Monie kunnes remedies... & misliche boten. c. 1305 *St. Kath.* 304 in *E. E. P.* (1862) 98 Noble relik hit is: sike men to habbe of bote. c. 1386 CHAUCER *Procl.* 424 Anon he yaf the sike man his boote. c. 1440 *Prompt. Parv.* 45 Bote of (1499 or) helthe, *salus*. 1548 UDALL, etc. *Erasm. Par. Mark* v. 27 She wente unto another for boote that put her in more assurance of health.

† 7. Help or deliverance from evil or peril; assistance, relief, remedy, rescue. Often in phr. *boot of bale*; cf. *BALE sb.* 16. *concr.* A means or agent of help, relief, or remedy; also, a personal agent, a helper. Obs. (or arch.)

a. 1000 *CYNEWULF Andreas* 949 (Gr.) Him sceal bot hraðe weorðan in worulde. c. 1000 *Sat. Leechd.* I. 308 Her ys se bot hu ðu meahst þine aceras betan. 1297 R. GLOUC. 408 Our Lorde... bote þerof him sende. 1377 LANGL. *P. Pl.* B. vi. 196 For þat was bake for bayarde 'was bote for many hungry. c. 1386 CHAUCER *Chan. Yrm. Procl.* & T. 928 God sende euery trewe man boote of his bale. c. 1400 *Sir Amadace* xvii, God, that is bote of alle bale, Dame, Comfort the. c. 1430 *LYDG. Bochas* i. iv. (1554) 8 a, The poore not wist where to find bote. 1513 DOUGLAS *Æneis* ii. vii. [vi.] 106 To vencent folkis is a confort and bote. 1557 *Primer, Praier bef. Sacrament*, I come as a wretche to thee my Lord... to thee my boote. 1591 GREENE *Maidens Dreame* ii. 'Virgin', quoth she, 'no boot by tears is had'. 1867 G. MACDONALD *Poems* 144 Laid his sword where he had found Boot for every bale.

† b. *To do (one) boot*: to render help or remedy to; to be of service, advantage, or profit to; to do good to.

a. 1225 *Ancre. R.* 88 (MSS. T. C.) Ne halp hit me nout to don her one bote. c. 1386 CHAUCER *Sqrs.* T. 146 And euery gras that groweth vp on roote She shal ek knowe and whom it wol do boote. c. 1400 *Pallad. on Husb.* iv. 110 Two basketfull of bene chaf doth boote... to greatest trewe. 1557 Tottell's *Misc.* (Arb.) 177 As moules that want the earth to do them bote. 1609 F. GREVILLE *Mustapha* v. Cho. i. (1633) 96 Meat, drinke, and drugges alike doo little boot.

c. In appreciatory phrases: as *Saint George to boot! Grace to boot!* i. e. to our help.

1594 SHAKS. *Rich.* III. v. iii. 301 This, and Saint George to boote. 1611 - *Wint. T.* i. ii. 80 Grace to boot: Of this make no conclusion, least you say You Queene and I are Deuils. 1590 GREENE *George a Gr.* (1861) 257 Saint Andrew be my boot, But I'll raze thy castle to the very ground.

d. In various proverbial phrases: as, *When bale is next boot is next*: see *BALE sb.* 17. *Boot or bield*: see *BIELD sb.* 3. *Boot of beam*: see *BEAM sb.* 2; later *boot in beam* and *booty beam* (i. e. *boot i' beam*).

1642 ROGERS *Naaman* 136 Which should... put boote in beame (as we say) securing her of a good and safe issue of her labour. *Ibid.* 257 What a stay, what boot in beame it is! 1674 N. FAIRFAX *Bulk & Selv.* 111 As it had not the latter by it self, so neither had it the former in booty beme, or a power in seed.

† 8. A way of mending matters, help out of a difficulty; a better way, a resource, alternative, choice. *Ther nis no bote*: there is no help for it. *None other boot*: no other resource, no alternative.

a. 1225 *St. Marker.* 15 Nis ther bote nan: bute fleon thenne c. 1385 CHAUCER *L. G. W.* 1992 For If he may this monstre overcome Thanne were he quyit; ther is non other bote. c. 1420 *Sir Cleges* 355 Sir Cleges sey non othyr bote, But his askyng graunte he most. 1480 CAXTON *Chron. Eng.* ccxxiii. 220 Ther is no bote but deth. c. 1505 DUNBAR *Tua Mariit Wemen* 309, I gert the buthman obey, ther was no bute ellis. 1523 LD. BERNERS *Froiss.* I. ccxcii. 674 There was none other boote for hym but to arme him. 1576 T. PROCTOR *Gorg. Gallery* I. 82 For though I serve untill I sterve, I see none other Boote.

III. The making amends for mischief or wrong done; amends made.

† 9. Compensation paid, according to Old English usage, for injury or wrong-doing; reparation, amends; satisfaction made. (Only in OE., except in late writers on legal antiquities, who usually retain the OE. form *bōt* or *ME. bote*.) In many combinations, as *man-bote*, *kin-bote*, *thief-bote*, etc.

a. 1000 *Beowulf* 567 Bealuwa bisigum bot eft-cuman. a. 1000 *Thorpe's Laws* I. 12 3if feaxfang geweorc, Lscætta to bote. a. 1450 *Sc. Acts*, i. *Robt. I.* ix, Alsua it is ordainyt þat nane tak meyd of a theiff (or thyft bute). a. 1609 SKENE *Reg. Maj.* Index (JAM.) The Wergelt, or Theilfbote of a theife, is threthie kye. [1845 STEPHEN *Laws Eng.* in *Edin. Rev.* (1884) Apr. 339 'If the great toe be struck off, let twenty shillings be paid him as bot'. 1854 SIR G. NICHOLLS *Eng. Poor Law* I. 13 'That he [the kinsman] make 'bot' for him'. 1879 E. ROBERTSON *Hist. Ess.* 178 Bot or personal compensation was paid to an elderman, a bishop or an archbishop, by the man who fought, or drew his weapon in their presence.]

†10. Expiation of sin, an offering by way of atonement; sin-offering; repentance by act; penance. Cf. *DEBOTE*. *Obs.* (exc. as the OE. form may be cited by ecclesiastical antiquaries.)

971 *Blickl. Hom.* 35 Don we urum Drihtne soþe hreowe & bote. c.1000 *ÆLFRIC* *Lev.* iv. 28 And his gylt undergit, bring ane gat to bote to þam temple. c.1175 *Lamb. Hom.* 15 Gif we nulleð gan to bote... hit is riht þet me us nede. c.1200 *Trin. Coll. Hom.* 69 þe wile here bot dai laste... Ure bot dai is nu and lasteð þe wile þe god wile. a.1240 *Ureishun* 133 in *Cott. Hom.* 197 þu ne uorsakest nenne mon... 3if he is to bote 3eruh and bit þe uorjuenesse. [1244 *LINGARD Anglo-Sax. Ch.* (1858) I. iii. 102 The fines arising from these ecclesiastical crimes were paid into the treasury of the bishop under the name of 'bots'.]

†*Boot*, sb. 2. *Obs.* Also 6-7 *boote*. [App. an application of the prec., influenced by the already-existing *BOOTY*; perhaps due to the phrase to *make boot* of, 'to make profit of' (cf. *BOOT sb.* 3, quot. 1606), being taken as 'to make booty of'.] *Booty*; spoil; plunder.

1598 *CHAPMAN* *Iliad* xi. 585 We foraged, as proclaimed foes, a wondrous wealthy boot... our prey was rich and great. a.1618 *SYLVESTER* *Job Triumph.* iii. 119 Rising betimes for Boot like Free-booters. 1623 *BINGHAM* *Xenophon* 119 It was decreed, that... all boot taken in priuate should be deliuered vp to the vse of the generalitie.

b. esp. in phr. *To make boot*.

1593 *SHAKS.* 2 *Hen. VI.* iv. i. 13 Thou that art his Mate, make boote of this. 1599 *Hen. V.* i. ii. 104 Others [Bees] like Souldiers... Make boote vpon the Summers Veluet buddies: Which pillage, they... bring home. 1596 *SPENSER* *F. O.* vii. vii. 38 Haruests riches, which he made his boot. 1641 *Heywood* *Reader, Here you'l, &c.* 5 They make Boot Of every thing we wear from head to foote. 1865 *CHILD* *Ballads* iii. § 61, 57/2 Stopping only long enough to make boot of Hjelmer's gold.

Boot (būt), sb. 3. Forms: 4-6 *bote*, 4-7 *boote*, 7-*boot*. (Also 4-7 *north. bute*, 5 *but*, 6 *botte*, *bowitt*, 6-7 *Sc. buitt.*) [ME. *bote*, a. OF. *bote* (mod. F. *botte*), corresp. to Fr., Sp., Pg. *bota*, med. L. *botta*, *bota*, of uncertain origin.

Identified by Diez, Littré, etc. with F. *boute* (also, in mod. F., *botte*) butt, cask, leathern vessel; but 'the phonology of the two words in OF. shows that they are quite distinct' (P. Meyer). In med. L. also *butta* 'butt' and *botta* 'boot' are never confounded, though *bota* is frequent as a by-form of both, which has probably misled etymologists.]

1. A covering for the foot and lower part of the leg, usually of leather. (Distinguished from a *SHOE* by extending above the ankle. In earlier times used only by riders: see quot. from Johnson.)

c.1235 *Porm temp. Edu.* 11, 26 Felted botys. *Ibid.* 55 Tho his botis be all totore. c.1386 *CHAUCER* *Prolog.* 273 His bootis [v.r. botis, -es] clasped faire and fetisly. 1483 *Cath. Angl.* 49 A Bute [v.r. Buitt] of ledir or wandis. 1597 *SHAKS.* 2 *Hen. IV.* v. iii. 140 Get on thy Boots, we'l ride all night. 1746 *Rep. Cond. Sir J. Cope* 116 This Morning Lord President call'd upon me in his Boots on his way Northward. 1755 *JOHNSON* *Dict.* *Boot*, a covering for the leg, used by horsemen. 1832 *Tour Germ. Prince* II. iii. 38 A plain farmer, in marsh-boots and waterproof cloak. 1835 *Gentl. Mag.* Nov. 491 My little kid-boots were sadly stain'd. 1860 *TYNDALL* *Glac.* i. § 18, 131 It is more difficult to fix the heel of the boot than the toe securely in the ice.

b. Phrases. †*To make one boot serve for either leg* (see quot.). †*The boot is on the other leg*: the case is altered, the responsibility is on the other party. *To have (wish obs.) one's heart in one's boots*: to be in a state of extreme fear (a ludicrous extension of 'the heart sinks'). †*Over shoes, over boots*: expressing reckless continuance in a course already begun. *Boot and saddle* [perversion of F. *boute-selle* 'place saddle'; see *BOUTE-SELLE*], the signal to cavalry for mounting. *Like old boots (slang)*: vigorously, thoroughly.

1533 *MORE* *Debell. Salem* Wks. 980/2 That their wordes should haue twoo senses, and one boote serue for either legge. 1642 *Lords' Jynls.* in Rushw. IV. 559 b, Edward Sanderford... said... that the Earl of Warwick was a Traytor, and wished his Heart in his Boots. 1648 *SANDERSON* *Serm.* (1681) II. 248 Over shoes, over boots; I know God will never forgive me, and therefore I will never trouble myself to seek His favour... this is properly the sin of despair. 1662 *H. FOULIS* *Hist. Wicked Plots* (1674) 67 Which so much incensed the Commons that they (over Boots, over Shoes) fell to draw up another. 1697 *VANBRUGH* *Æsop* II. To boot and saddle again they sound. 1709 *STEELE* *Tatler* No. 51 P. 1 The Sound was chang'd to Boots and Saddle. 1826 *J. GRANT* *Black Drag.* xii. Our trumpets blew 'Boot-and-saddle' in the streets. 1865 *MISS BRADDON* *Sir Jasper* xxvii. 282 I'll stick to you like old boots. 1870 *MISS BRIDGMAN* *R. Lynne* I. xiii. 213 She's as tough as old boots. 1883 *Harper's Mag.* Sept. 592/2 [He] felt his courage oozing out at the seams of his boots.

†2. A piece of armour for the legs, a greave.

1388 *WYCLIF* 1 *Sam.* xvii. 6 He hadde bootis of bras in the hips [1382a stelyn legharneis]. 1483 *CAXTON* *Gold. Leg.* 65/4 He had botis of brasse in his cartes. 1609 *BIBLE* (Douay) 1 *Sam.* xvii. 6 He had brassen booties on his thighes [1611 He had greaves of brasse vpon his legs].

3. An instrument of torture formerly used in Scotland to extort confessions from prisoners.

1513 *75* *Diurnal Occurrents* (1833) 262 Ane Minister... quha was extremelie pynnit in the bettiss lang of befor. 1580-1 *RANDOLPH* in *Tyler Hist. Scot.* (1864) IV. 324 Being neither offered the boots, nor other kind of torment. 1618 *FIELD* *Amends for L.* i. l. The rack, strapado, or the boiling boot. 1663 *SPALDING* *Troub. Chas. I.* (1829) 7 She is... put into the boots, and cruelly tortured, yet confesses nothing. c.1706

VANBRUGH *Mistake* i. i. Shall I draw him on a Scotch pair of boots, Master, and make him tell all? 1715 *BURNET* *Oum Time* (1766) I. 333 They put a pair of iron boots close on the leg, and drive wedges between these and the leg. 1816 *SCOTT* *Old Mort.* xxxvi. 1865 *LECKY* *Ration.* (1878) II. 41 The bones of their legs were shattered in the boots.

4. Part of a coach. †a. The fixed external step of a coach (cf. Fr. *botte* 5 in Littré); b. An uncovered space on or by the steps on each side, where attendants sat, facing sideways; later, a low outside compartment before or behind the body of the vehicle. *Obs.*

1608 *ARMIN* *Nest Ninn.* 27 Shee sets in the boote and rides on. 1609 *DEKKER* *Gull's Horn-bk.* 1. (1862) 7 In the boots of which coach Lechery and Sloth sit like the waiting-maid. 1618 *J. TAYLOR* (Water P.) in *Knight Once upon Time* 1. 152 Drawn sideways, as they are when they sit in the boot of the coach. 1666 *BACON* *Sylva* § 202 If in a Coach, one side of the Boot be down, and the other up. c.1665 *HOWELL* *Lett.* i. iii. 15. 1669 *Long. Gaz.* No. 421/2, 5 or 6 persons... opening the boot of his Coach discharged on him their Pistoll. a.1670 *HACKET* *Abp. Williams* (1693) I. 196 (D.) He received his son into the coach, and found a slight errand to leave Buckingham behind, as he was putting his foot in the boot. 1714 *ELLWOOD* *Autobiog.* 10 My Father, opening the Boot, step'd out, and I followed. 1716 *T. WARD* *Eng. Ref.* 400 Rogues to sally out And charge the Coach at either Boot. 1816 *SCOTT* *Old Mort.* ii. A chaplain stuffed into a sort of lateral recess, formed by a projection at the door of the vehicle, and called, from its appearance, the boot.

c. The receptacle for luggage or parcels under the seats of the guard and coachman. (This appears to have been the fore and hind boot of sense b, covered in as a box, †about the middle of the 18th c.)

1781 *Westm. Mag.* IX. 13, I begged protection of the coachman, who advised me to get into the boot of the coach. 1807 *Antidote* *Miseries Hum. Life* 27 'Mind that sword-case in the boot', cries the captain. 1838 *DICKENS* *Nick. Nick.* iv. From the door of the hind boot of all the red coaches.

5. A protective covering for the foot and part of the leg of a horse.

1812 *Specif. Parden's Patent* No. 3542 (title) An improved Horse boot. 1824 *Longm. Mag.* Apr. 610 The bright chestnut, on which the trainer himself has mounted—after seeing him carefully fitted with 'boots', lest he should cut or reach.

6. In various technical uses: a. *Organ-building* (see quot.). b. *Metallurgy* (see quot.). c. In bottling liquor: A leathern case in which to put a filled bottle while corking it (cf. *bottle-boot*). †d. A (leather) case for a fiddle.

1594 *LYLY* *M. Bomby* v. iii. A bots on the shoemaker that made this boote for my fiddle, 'tis too straight. 1881 *C. A. EDWARDS* *Organs* 139 The boot... encloses and supports the block... The boot also conveys the wind to the speaking part or reed. 1881 *RAYMOND* *Mining Gloss.* *Boot*, a leather or tin joint connecting the blast-main with the tuyère or nozzle in a bloomery.

7. *Comb.* chiefly in attrib. and objective relations: as *boot-binder*, *-cleaning*, *-edge*, *-finisher*, *-garter*, *-heel*, *-holder*, *-lace*, *-leg*, *-maker*, *-making*, *-nail*, *-pattern*, *-seam*, *-sole*, *-sponge*, *-spur*.

1862 *Macm. Mag.* May 67 One poor old woman, a 'boot-binder. 1838 *DICKENS* *O. Twist* xviii. Went on with his 'boot-cleaning. 1824 *SCOTT* *Redg.* I. 326 (D.) A handsome and flourishing pair of 'boot-garters. 1634 *Churchw. Accts.* *Youlgrave, Derby in Reliquary Jan.* (1864) 190 For a payre of 'boot-legges needfull to be used about y^e bells. 1630 in *Fairholt Costume* (1846) 453 To a 'bootmaker for one pair of boots, white and red, 14s. 1871 *Member for Paris* I. 279 They would have taken to 'boot-making. a.1661 *HOLYDAY* *Jynval* 42 A soldier leaves his 'boot-nail in my hand. 1612 *T. TAYLOR* *Comm. Titus* ii. i. (1619) 336 Though the ground in comparison be not better then a 'bootshank, as we vse to say. 1848 *THACKERAY* *Van. Fair* xxii. Clinking his 'bootspurs, swaggering prodigiously.

8. Special comb.: as *boot-black*, a person who blacks boots, a shoe-black (chiefly U.S.); †*boot-catch*, *boot-catcher*, a servant at an inn who pulled off the guests' boots; *boot-closer*, one who sews together the upper leathers of boots; *boot-eater*, *-eating* (see quot.); *boot-gusset*, elastic sides inserted in boots; *boot-hook*, a hook for pulling on boots; *boot-hose* = *boot-stocking*; *boot-housing* (see quot. and *HOUSING*); *boot-jack*, a contrivance for pulling off boots; †*boot-ketch* = *boot-catcher*; also = *boot-jack*; *boot-last* = *boot-tree*; *boot-laster*, †one who makes boot-lasts; *boot-lick*, v. to toady; sb. a toady (U.S. slang); *boot-rack*, a rack or stand for holding boots; *boot-shank*, the piece of leather placed between the outer and the inner sole in the waist of a boot; †*boot-sleeve*, a wide kind of coat-sleeve; *boot-stocking*, an over-stocking which covers the leg like a jack-boot; *boot-stretcher*, -tree, a shaped block inserted into a boot to stretch it or keep it in shape. Also *BOOT-TOP*, *BOOT-TOPPING*.

1864 *SALA* in *Daily Tel.* 25 Feb. That negro 'boot-black on the street corner. 1883 *Harper's Mag.* July 817/1 The San Francisco boot-blacks seem quite a model to their class. 1775 *CAMPBELL* *Diary Visit Eng.* 221 The number of churches I could not learn from our 'boot catch guide. 1745 *SWIFT* *Direct. Servants* (J.) The ostler and the 'boot-catcher ought to partake. 1761 *COLMAN* *Jealous Wife* iv. ii. There's master, and John ostler, and bootcatcher, all

gone after 'em. 1880 *Pall Mall G.* 30 Dec. 11/1 A historic juror... is said to have given final... proof of his resolution to acquit a State defendant... by declaring that he would eat his boots before he would find the man guilty. A 'boot-eater' now designates a particular species of juror. Rumour says there are at least nine boot-eaters in the Parnell jury. 1882 *Daily News* 4 Mar. A decline in the trade in 'boot gussets in the elastic web manufacture. 1588 *Lanc. & Ch. Wills* III. 139 One paire of tawny stockes wth toppes of 'boothose of the same. 1611 *BEAUM. & FL. Knt. Burn.* *Pestle* iv. ii. (D.) The maid That wash'd my boot-hose. 1815 *SCOTT* *Guy M.* vii. The women spun mittens for the lady, and knitted boot-hose for the laird. 1798 *OSBALD-STONE* *Brit. Sportsman* 432 *Housing*, is either 'boot-housing or shoe-housing; the former is a piece of stuff made fast to the hinder part of the saddle. a.1841 *T. Hook* *Ramsbottom Pap.* in *Casquet Lit.* 1877 I. 117/1 Tall men are doubled up like 'boot-jacks. 1785 *MACKENZIE* *Lounger* No. 54 P. 8 Sent the 'boot-ketch to Hart's for a pair of Spanish boots. 1814 *SCOTT* *Wav.* xlix. I wish... I had recommended him to attend the circle this evening with a boot-ketch under his arm. 1611 *COTGR.* *Embonchoir*, a 'Boot last, or Boot tree. 1722 *FIELDING* *Miser* i. vi. These 'boot-sleeves were certainly intended to be receivers of stolen goods. a.1807 *BOWLES* *Note to Banwell Hill* (D.) In a pair of worsted 'boot-stockings, which my father observed would keep my understockings from the dirt. 1834 *SOUTHEY* *Doctor* lvii. (1862) 126 You will not observe his boot-stockings coming high above the knees. 1766 *CROKER*, etc. *Dict. Arts.* *Boot-Tree*, or *Boot-Last*, is a wooden cylinder slit into two parts, between which, when it is put into the boot, they drive... a wedge. 1855 *THACKERAY* *Newcomes* xi. Pretty boots, trimly stretched on boot-trees.

Boot (būt), v. 1. Forms: 4-6 *bote*(n), 5-6 *boote*, 6-*boot*; also *north.* 5 *buten*, *buytt*, 5-6 *bute*. [ME. *böten*. f. *bōt*, *boot sb.* 1, taking the place of *beten* (see *BERT*), which was scarcely used in the south after the 14th c. Cf. *BOTEN*.]

†1. *trans.* To make better; to cure, relieve, heal; to remedy. *Obs.*

c.1330 *Amis & Amil.* 2340 Jesu that is heuen king, Schal bote the of thi bale. a.1450 *Syr Eglam.* 187 He was botyd of mekylle care. 1481 *CAXTON* *Reynard* (Arb.) 83 The sauour of hym boteth alle syknessis.

†2. *trans.* To make good (a deficiency), to make up (what is deficient); to add by way of equalizing the value of things exchanged; to give 'into the boot'. *Obs.*

1393 *LANGL* *P. Pl. C.* vii. 382 Ther were chapmen y-chose þe chaffare to preise; þat he þat hadde þe hod sholde nat habbe þe cloke. þe betere þyng; by arbyours sholde bote þe werse. c.1440 *Prompt. Parv.* 45 *Botyn*, or 3eue more ouere in barganyng, *licitor*, in *precio superaddo*. 1530 *PALSGR.* 461/1 What will you boote bytwene my horse and yours?

3. To do good; to be of use or value; to profit, avail, help. (Only used in 3rd pers.)

a. *impers.* (or with *it*): chiefly negative and interrogative. (Usually followed by the real subject, as an infinitive phrase, or subst. clause.)

c.1400 *Roland* 499 It botes not to abide. a.1450 *Knt. de la Tour* (1868) 66 The pore soule cried... but it boted not. 1564 *GRINDAL* *Serm.* Wks. (1843) 25 It needeth not or booteth not, as the old proverbe goeth. 1591 *SPENSER* *Tears of Muses* 445 What booteth it then to come from glorious Forefathers? 1566 *COWLEY* *Pind. Odes*, *Destinie* iv. With Fate what boots it to contend? 1858 *ARNOLD* in *Life & Corr.* (1844) I. ii. 88 It boots not to look backwards. 1855 *BROWNING* *Cleon in Men & Wom.* II. 184 What boots to know she might spout oceans if she could?

b. with dative object (or with *to*). *arch.*

c.1400 *Destr. Troy* 3391 Me botis not barly your bidding with stonde. 1596 *SPENSER* *F. Q.* i. iii. 20 Him booteth not resist, nor succour call. 1612 *T. TAYLOR* *Comm. Titus* i. 8. (1619) 175 It shall not boote a man to say in the day of iudgement, Lord, Lord. 1690 *W. WALKER* *Idiom. Anglo-Lat.* 65 It will not boot you to say so. 1851 *THACKERAY* *Eng. Hum.* i. (1858) 45 Boots it to you now, that the whole world loves and deprecates you?

c. with sense 'it matters'.

1752 *Young* *Brothers* iii. i. What boots it which prevails? 1760 *STERNE* *Tr. Shandy* i. xix. 25 Little boots it to the subtle speculatist to stand single in his opinions.

d. with sb. (sing. or pl.) as subject.

1562 *J. HEYWOOD* *Prov. & Epigr.* (1867) 47 Braulynge booted not. 1596 *DRAYTON* *Legends* iv. 30 Little, I feare, my labour Me will boot. a.1717 *PARNELL* *Poet. Wks.* (1833) 64 What boots his hand, his heart, his head? 1795 *SOUTHEY* *Poems* 32 What boot to thee the blessings fortune gave? What boots thy wealth? 1884 *BROWNING* *Ferishtak* 18 Little boots Our sympathy with fiction!

†4. *trans.* To benefit, increase, enrich. *Obs. rare.* 1606 *SHAKS.* *Ant. & Cl.* ii. v. 71 And I will boot thee with what guilt beside Thy modestie can begge.

†*Boot*, v. 2. *Obs. rare* 1. [cf. *BOOT sb.* 2, also *MLG. bûten* (Du. *buiten*) to make booty, to seize.] *intr.* †To share as booty.

1524 *LYDG.* *Bochas* iv. xxiii. 120 b. His desire and his entencion Was to be botyn [ed. 1494 has boty] with them of such pillage As goddes had in their possession.

Boot (būt), v. 3. Forms: 5 *bote*(n, -yn, (bute), 7 *boote*, 6-*boot*. [f. *BOOT sb.* 3]

1. *trans.* To put boots on (another or oneself).

1468 *Medulla Gram.* in *Cath. Angl.* 49 note, *Oecro*, to botyn. 1483 *Cath. Angl.* 49 To Bute [Buyyt], *occare*. 1600 *HEYWOOD* 1 *Edu.* IV. ii. Wks. 1874 I. 33 Let me entreate you would go boote yourselves. 1693 *W. ROBERTSON* *Phrascol. Gen.* 272 To Boot, *occare* *inducere*. *Ballad* 'Young Redin' x. in *Allingham Ballad Bk.* (1865) 285 They've booted him and spurred him.

b. *intr.* (for *refl.*) To put on one's boots.

1597 *SHAKS.* 2 *Hen. IV.* v. iii. 140 Get on thy Boots..

Boote, boote, Master Shallow. 1823 Sir R. Wilson *Diary* II. 272 Many persons booting . . . for a journey to Paris. 1825 Kingsley *Westw. Ho* (1861) 95 Help me to boot and gird.

2. *trans.* To torture with the boot (sb. 3).

1580-1 RANDOLPH in Tytler *Hist. Scot.* (1864) IV. 324 He hath been sore booted. 1818 SCOTT *Let. in Lockhart* (1839) V. 282 Tradition says . . . Granger and his wife were booted.

3. *Mil. slang.* To beat, formerly with a long jack-boot, now with a leather surcingle or waist-belt: an irregular conventional punishment inflicted by soldiers on a comrade guilty of dishonesty or shirking duty.

1808 C. JAMES *Mil. Dict.* (1816) 84/2 Scabbing a soldier, as in the infantry of the line, or booting him, as in the cavalry.

Boot = behaved: see BUS *v.*

Bootakin, var. of BOOTIKIN.

† **Boot-carouse.** (Cf. BOMBARD sb. 3.)

1598 MARSTON *Pygmal.* ii. 147 What brought'st thou els beside . . . From Belgia what? their deep beezing, Their boot-carouse, and their Beere-buttring?

Booted (bū'ted), *ppl. a.* [f. BOOT *v.* 3 + -ED.]

1. Wearing boots, having boots on; formerly usually in the sense 'equipped for riding'.

1558 HULOET, *Booted, occitane.* 1563-7 FOXE *A. & M.* (1596) 1892/1 Master Leauer was ready booted . . . carry it to London. 1690 CROWNE *Eng. Friar* iv. 32 How now, booted Gentlemen, whither are you going? 1835 BECKFORD *Recoll.* 193 Two special couriers . . . magnificently badged and booted. 1877 BESANT & RICE *Son of Vulc.* i. ii. 32 Who correct their wives with booted feet.

b. esp. in phrase *booted and spurred*. Also *fig.* 1678 *Gunpowder Treas.* 19 He . . . found Faux . . . booted and spurred. 1768 GOLDSM. *Nash* 39 Punch came in booted and spurred. 1833 EG. WARBURTON *Hunt. Songs* iv. (1883) 12 Come then to Tarporley booted and spurred.

2. *transf.* Clothed or covered as to the legs.

1601 HOLLAND *Pliny* i. 166 Booted . . . with a pair of buskins or greivies about his legges. 1740 SOMERVILLE *Hobbinol* iii. 179 Her Legs unclean Booted with Grime. a 1774 GOLDSM. *Scarron's Comic Rom.* (1775) II. 1 He saw little Ragotain, just arriving, booted up to the waist.

b. Of fowls: Having feathered legs.

1825 BASAAR 30 Mar. 1265/3 Black booted cockerel . . . Coloured booted bantams.

Bootee (bū'tē). [A kind of diminutive of boot: see -EE.] A trade name for: a. a kind of high-low boot for ladies; b. an infant's wool boot.

Booten, rare var. of BOTTEN *v.* Obs. to amend.

† **Booter**. Obs. [prob. ad. Du. *buiter* plunderer, freebooter.] Spoiler; robber. Found only in comb. FREEBOOTER.

1716 PRIDEAUX *Connect. O. & N. Test.* ii. vii. IV. 648 The Country was filled with Thieves and free Booters.

|| **Bootes** (boŭ'tēz). *Astron.* [L., a. Gr. *Boṓtēs* ploughman, wagoner; also the constellation.]

A northern constellation, the Wagoner, situated at the tail of the Great Bear and containing the bright star Arcturus.

1626 BLOUNT *Glossogr.* *Bootes*, a slow working Star in the North Pole, near to Charls wain, which it follows. 1703 POPE *Techinis* 520 When clouds conceal Bootes' golden wain. 1831 CARLYLE *Sart. Res.* i. iii. What thinks Bootes of them, as he leads his Hunting Dogs over the Zenith?

Bootful (bū'tful), *sb.* [f. BOOT sb. 3] As much as a boot will hold or carry.

1779 PENNANT *Tours Scotl.* (1790) III. 116 Bringing a bootful of earth from different estates.

† **Bootful**, *a. Obs. rare*-. [f. BOOT sb. 1 + -FUL.] Of service; useful, advantageous, profitable.

1594 CAREW *Tasso* (1881) 93 His aduce bootful and good they call.

Booth (būth), *sb.* Forms: 2-5 *bope*, 3-6 *bothe*, 6-7 *boothe*, 6- *booth*. Also *north*. 5-6 *buth*(e), 6 *bouthe*, *bowthe*, *Sc. boithe*, 6- *Sc. buith*. [ME. *bōpe*, *bōthe*, prob. a. ODa. **bōth* (mod. Da. and Sw. *bod* booth, stall, shop = Olcel. *būð* fem. dwelling, f. East Norse *bōa* = Icel. *būa* to dwell. Cf. MHG. *bude* 'hut, tent', mod. G. *bude* 'booth, stall': perh. also from East Norse. Some think the Teutonic word to be adopted from Slavonic: cf. Boh. *bouda*, Pol. *buda*, which are at least cognate.]

1. A temporary dwelling covered with boughs of trees or other slight materials. *arch.* in gen. sense.

c 1200 *Trin. Coll. Hom.* 185 Dar haueð elch patriarche, and prophete, and apostles . . . maked fairer bode [for bode] inne to wunien. c 1325 E. E. *Allit. P.* C. 441 He bowed vnder his lyttel bope. a 1536 TINDALE *Brief Declar. Sacr.* Wks. 1848 I. 376 He had made booths, or houses of boughs for his beasts. 1580 BARET *Adv.* B 930 A Boothe or place covered where men sitte to talke for recreation. 1655 H. VAUGHAN *Silex Scint.* ii. 179 Every bush is something's booth. 1703 MAUNDRELL *Journ. Jerus.* (1732) 40 At the North end they led into Booths, and Summer-houses. 1725 DE FOE *Voy. round World* (1840) 178 We cut down branches of trees, and built us two large booths. 1871 MACDUFF *Mem. Patmos* xiii. 174 Temporary booths, made of inter-twisted palm, olive . . . and willows from the brook.

b. esp. A temporary structure covered with canvas, or the like; a tent. Now chiefly as in 2.

1535 COVERDALE 2 *Kings* vii. 10 We came to the tentes of the Sirians, and beholde, there is no man there . . . but . . . the boothes as they stonde. 1674 SCHEFFER'S *Lapland* xiv. 71 That certain boothes and sheds be provided. 1706 GOLDSM. *Nash* 30 Obliged to assemble in a booth to drink tea and chocolate. 1775 R. CHANDLER *Trav. Asia M.* (1825) I. 137

A wild country covered . . . with the black booths of the Turcomans. 1838 HAWTHORNE *Amer. Note-bks.* (1871) I. 109.

c. **Polling-booth:** a temporary structure for voting purposes at a parliamentary or other election.

1846 McCULLOCH *Acc. Brit. Empire* 1854 II. 111 The booths are erected at the joint expense of the candidates . . . the cost of a booth erected for a county election shall not exceed 45l.

2. *spec.* A covered stall at a market; a tent at a fair, or the like, for the sale of wares or refreshments, exhibition of the feats of jugglers, etc. See also TOLL-BOOTH.

c 1200 ORMIN 15573 Ne birry 3uw noht min Faderr hus Till chepingbope turnenn. c 1300 K. *Alis.* 3457 They . . . brenten townes, and bothes. c 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 46 Bope, chapmannys schoppe. 1483 *Cath. Engl.* 49 A Buthe, *emphorion*. 1535 LYNDSEAY *Satyre* 1015 Ane laillie lurdan loun, Cunde to break buithis. 1580 BARET *Adv.* B 1038 A bothe or tente that any occupier maketh in a faire or other places. 1581 J. BELL *Haddon's Answ. Osor.* 271 A denne of Theeves? a Bowthe of brothells? c 1610 Sir J. MELVILLE *Mem.* (1735) 227 Unruly Servants broke up the Merchants' Booths. 1723 DE FOE *Col. Jack* (1840) 13 To pay at going into a booth to see a show. 1808 JAMIESON *s.v.* The Lucken-booths of Edinburgh, wooden shops [which formerly stood in the High Street]. 1848 MACAULAY *Hist. Eng.* I. 350 The booths where goods were exposed to sale projected far into the streets.

3. *Comb.*, as *booth-cloth*, *-keeper*, *† -mail* (= boothage).

1558 HULOET, *Boothclothes*, wherwith boothes or tentes ben covered. c 1570 LD. SEMILL 3 *Taverners*. To pay my booth-mail and my stand. 1838 HAWTHORNE *Amer. Note-bks.* (1871) I. 109 Booth-keepers knocking down the temporary structures.

Booth, *v. rare*. [f. prec. sb.] *trans.* To provide or shelter with a booth.

1594 *Zepheria* xxxi. in Arb. *Garner* V. 51 She booths her fair with shade of broad-branched trees.

† **Boothage**. Obs. [f. BOOTH sb. + -AGE.]

Dues paid for leave to erect a booth in a market.

1655 KENNETT *Par. Antig.* (1818) II. 409 A market . . . in which the pigage, stallage, boothage, tollage, assize of bread and beer . . . were granted to the King.

† **Booth-hale**, *v. Obs.* [f. BOOT sb. 2 booty + HALE *v.* to haul.]

1. *intr.* To carry off booty or spoil; to practise plundering, marauding or pilfering.

1598 [see BOOT-HALING *vbl. sb.*] 1609 HEYWOOD *Sallust* 33 Some made merchandize of fugitives and others went booth-haling into the confederate countries. 1611 COTGR., *Butiner*, to prey, get booty. . . to boothale it. 1658 W. BURTON *Itin. Anton.* 150 A people forward to Booth-hale, and consume, but backward to the duties of War. a 1670 HACKET *Abp. Williams* ii. (1692) 182.

2. *trans.* To spoil; to pillage; to plunder.

1610 HEALEY *St. Aug. Cite of God* 145 Boote-hal'd all the Coast unto Caieta. 1625 Lisle *Du Bartas* 133 No Hircan Tygers flight booth-hailes thy vaulted hills.

† **Booth-haler**. Obs. Also 7-hayler. [f. prec. + ER.] A marauder, a marauding or foraging soldier; a freebooter; a highwayman, brigand.

1600 HOLLAND *Livy* xxii. xli. 458 g. To stop and impeach the foragers and boothhalers [*prædatoribus*] of Anniball. 1609 C. BUTLER *Fern. Mon.* (1634) 139 The very Booth-halers, or Highway-robbers, are more worthy favour than such. 1621 Br. MOUNTAGU *Diatribæ* 182 A common Boote-hayler. 1686 tr. *Chardin's Trav.*, *Coron. Solyman* 145 Those Booth-halers the Cosaquees.

† **Booth-haling**, *vbl. sb. Obs.* [as prec. + -ING.]

1. The carrying away of booty, plundering of an enemy; marauding, freebooting, brigandage.

1598 FLORIO, *Gualda*, a boothehaling [1621 boothehaling], a freebooting. 1603 - *Montaigne* ii. xxxi. (1632) 401 Returning from forage or booth-haling. 1657 TRAPP *Comm. Ps.* lxxxvi. 1 What I can get by booth-haling from the Lords enemies. 1686 tr. *Chardin's Trav.* 92 The wars of the Ningrelians . . . are . . . meer Incursions and Booth Halings.

2. The proceeds of marauding; booty.

1628 F. MARKHAM *Decades Warre* i. v. § 2 His Conscience must tie him, not Spoyle, or Booth-haling.

† **Booth-haling**, *ppl. a. Obs.* [f. as prec. + -ING.] Pillaging, marauding, freebooting.

1621 MOLLE *Camerar. Liv. Libr.* i. v. 12 These booth-haling fellows. 1658 W. BURTON *Itin. Anton.* 164 The stragling and booth-haling Companies of such as had lately plundered London.

Boothall, *booth-hall*. [f. BOOTH + HALL.]

A name given to a town-hall, as in the city of Gloucester.

1718 ATKYNS *Gloucestersh.* 89 The Booth-hall or Town-hall is . . . subject to the Jurisdiction both of the Out-county and of the City. 1713 *London Gaz.* No. 5112/4 The Boothhall in the City of Gloucester.

Boothed (būthd), *a.* [f. BOOTH sb. + -ED.]

Furnished with booths; tented.

1870 *Daily News* 4 June, This thickly-boothed region.

† **Boother** (bū'th). Obs. exc. dial. A variant of BOULDER; belonging chiefly to the midland counties of England.

c 1680 DINGLEY *Hist. fr. Marble* (1868) 359 Leek Town. This Town wanting some stones, or (as vulgarly call'd in this country) boothers, to pave the street. 1826 PENNYN. *Hist. Soc. Mem.* I. 285 Different kinds of stone by continual rolling and wearing have become smooth and round; and are called boothers. 1864 RAMSBOTTOM *Lanc. Rhymes* 66 For every cheer [= chair] a boother-stone.

Bootikin, *bootakin* (bū'tikin, -ākin). Also 8 booterkin, 9 bootakin. [dim. of BOOT sb. 3: s.e. -KIN. Cf. *mannikin*.]

1. A soft boot or mitten made of wool and oiled silk, worn as a cure for the gout.

1767 H. WALPOLE in *N. & Q.* i. I. 232/1 One day's gout, which I cured with the bootikins. 1775 - *Private Corr.* 11 Apr. IV. 8 My biennial visitant the gout, has yielded to the bootikins. 1794-6 E. DARWIN *Zoon.* (1801) IV. 221 Booterkins made with oiled silk, as they confine the perspirable matter, keep the part moist and supple.

2. A small kind of boot; a knitted legging or gaiter with feet, worn out of doors by infants.

1844 W. H. MAXWELL *Sports & Adv. Scotl.* xiii. (1855) 122 That species of bootakin, known . . . by the title of 'high-lows'. 1885 *Civ. Serv. Store Price List* 160 Infantees, Bootakins, Gaiters, Wool Boots.

3. An instrument of torture; = BOOT sb. 3.

1787 P. WALKER *A. Feden* 26 (JAM.) There will neither thumbikin nor bootikin come here. 1834 M. NAPIER *Mem. Napier of Merchiston* iv. 159 It was proposed to put him in the bootikins, an infernal instrument of torture.

† **Booting**, *sb. Obs. Sc.* In 6 *booting*. [f. BOOT sb. 3] 'A half-boot or leathern spatterdash' (Jamieson); perh. collective for boots.

c 1505 DUNBAR *Flying* 212 Thow bringis the Carrik clay to Edinburgh Corse, Upoun thy bootingis.

† **Booting**, *vbl. sb. 1 Obs.* [f. BOOT *v.* 1 + -ING.]

1. Relieving, curing, healing, helping; payment to the good; service, avail.

c 1300 K. *Alis.* 5711 The kyng . . . Yaf al his folk betyng [v. r. botyng]. 1426 AUDELEY *Poems* 15 Our Kyng . . . That mai us salve of our sore, our botyng to us bryng? c 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 45 Botyng or encrese yn bynyge, *licitamentum*, *licitarium*. 1591 HARRINGTON *Ephig.* ii. (1633) 98 But let alone, Lynus, it is no booting.

2. *Comb.* † **Booting-corn**. See quot.

1670 BLOUNT *Law Dict.* s. v., The Tenants . . . paid Booting Corn to the Prior of Rochester . . . Perhaps it was so called, as being paid . . . by way of Bote . . . or compensation to the Lord, for his making them Leases, etc.

† **Booting**, *vbl. sb. 2 Obs.* Also *Sc.* 6 *buting*, *butting*. [f. BOOT sb. 2 or *v.* 2 + -ING.] but sense 1 seems to have begun as a misunderstanding of BUTIN 'booty', mistaken for a *vbl. sb.* in -ING.]

1. Booty, plunder; = BUTIN.

a 1578 KNOX *Hist. Ref. Wks.* 1846 I. 79 Small butting thei carryed away. 1597 MONTGOMERIE *Cherrie & Slae* xv, Quhair flew ye, quhom slew ye, or quha brings hame the buting? c 1600 Rob. Hood (Ritson) t. iii. 3 I'll tell you of a brave booting That befell Robin Hood.

2. Taking of booty, plundering; cf. *freebooting*.

1621 HOBBS *Govt. & Soc.* xiii. § 14. 203 Under the notion of Booting or taking prey.

Booting (bū'ting), *vbl. sb. 3* [f. BOOT *v.* 3] a. Torture with the boot (see BOOT sb. 3). b. Punishment of being beaten with a boot (see BOOT *v.* 3).

1678 PHILLIPS (App.) *Booting*, a sort of torture among the Scots. 1805 Sir R. Wilson *Diary* 30 Dec., I directed the most culpable to receive a booting from their comrades.

Bootless (bū'tles), *a.* 1 [OE. *bōtles*, f. *bōt*, BOOT sb. 1: see -LESS.]

† 1. Not to be expiated or recompensed by a 'bote'; see BOOT sb. 1 9. (Only in OE. law.)

a 1000 in Thorpe's *Laws* I. 385 (Bosw.) Donne sif ðæt botles. *Ibid.* I. 410 Husbryce is botles. [1774 FORTESCUE-ALAND *Fortescue's Abs. & Lim. Mon.* Pref. 62 Botlesse, that is, unexpiable. 1839 KEIGHTLEY *Hist. Eng.* i. 79 Of the crimes . . . some were 'botelos' or inexpiable, and were to be punished with death: such were treason, murder.]

† 2. Without help or remedy; incurable, remediless, helpless.

1228 in *Mem. Rifen* (1882) I. 52 In pena que vocatur botelos. c 1350 *Will. Palerne* 3984 It is a waywarde cure. 1567 DRANT *Horace Sat.* ii. (R.). That were a bootlesse case. 1639 SPRAT *Plague Athens* (R.), They saw the city open lay, An easy and a bootless prey.

3. Void of boot or profit; to no purpose, without success; unavailing, useless, unprofitable.

1559 Myrr. *Mag.*, *Clifford* ii, All care is bootles in a cureles case. 1596 SHAKS. *Merch.* V. iii. 30 He follow him no more with bootlesse prayers. 1641 J. JACKSON *True Evang.* T. i. 77 Bootlesse problemes. 1736 THOMSON *Liberty* iv. 644. 1788 COWPER *Gilpin* 189 Ah luckless speech, and bootless boast! 1869 FREEMAN *Norm. C.* (1876) III. xii. 255 A few bootless attempts at negotiation.

4. quasi-adv. = BOOTLESSLY.

1423 JAS. I. *King's Q.* lxx, As Tantalus I trauaile ay but-les. 1528 SHAKS. *Tit. A.* iii. i. 36, I tell thy sorrowes bootles to the stones. 1813 SCOTT *Trium.* iii. i, Of wasted fields. The Borderers bootless may complain.

Bootless (bū'tles), *a.* 2 [f. BOOT sb. 3 + -LESS.] Without boots.

1377 LANGL. *P. Pl.* B. xviii. 11 One . . . Barfote on an asse bakke botlees cam pryky[e], Wyth-oute spores other spere. [1596 SHAKS. I. *Hen.* IV. iii. i. 66 Thrice . . . haue I hent him Bootlesse home . . . *Hotsp.* Home without Bootes, And in foule Weather too, How scapes he Agues in the Devils name?] 1880 *Harper's Mag.* LX. 676 Hatless, bootless, and trouserless.

Bootlessly, *adv.* [f. BOOTLESS *a.* 1 + -LY.] Without success or advantage; unsuccessfully; unprofitably; uselessly.

1612 T. TAYLOR *Comm. Titus* i. 15 (1619) 309 Bootlessly to employ all their paines in keeping themselves from outward pollution. 1863 *Pilgrim over Prairies* II. 264 The hunters, returning bootlessly and suddenly from a large 'cast'.

Bootlessness. [f. as prec. + -NESS.] Uselessness; unprofitableness.

1830 *Blackw. Mag.* XXVII. 472 Which beguile the weariness of the journey, and make us sometimes forget its bootlessness.

Boots ¹ (būts). [pl. of Boot ^{sb.3}, used as sing.]
1. A name for the servant in hotels who cleans the boots; formerly called *boot-catcher* and *-catch*.

a 1798 O'KEEFE *Fontainebleau* III. i. (L.) Your honour will remember the waiter... Your honour won't forget Jack Boots. 1836-7 DICKENS *Sk. Bos* (1850) 250/1 'I'm the boots as b'longs to the house.' 1856 W. COLLINS *After Dark* I. 109, I waited in the pantry till Boots had brushed the clothes.

2. (slang.) An appellation given to the youngest officer in a regiment, junior member of a club, etc. 1806 SIR R. WILSON in *Life* (1862) I. ii. 60 My chief resistance to discipline was at mess where I could not brook the duties of Boots.

3. In various comb. (humorous or colloq.) = 'Fellow, person': as *clumsy*, *lazy-boots*; see also *SLY-BOOTS*, *SMOOTH-BOOTS*.

1633 PERCIVALE *Sp. Dict.*, *Lisongero*, a flatterer, a smooth boots. 1865 DICKENS *Mut. Fr.* IV. xi, You are the most creasing and tumbling Clumsy-Boots of a packer. 1833 LYTTON *Eugene A. ii.*, 'Why don't you rise, Mr. Lazyboots?'

† **Boots** ². *Obs.* or *dial.* [prob. a dial. form of *boots*, *bolts*, applied to the same plant.] A local English name of Marsh Marigold (*Caltha palustris*) or Meadow Boats.

1597 GERARD *Herbal* cclxxx. § 3. 671 Marsh Marigoldes, in Cheshire and those parts it is called Bootes. 1721 BAILEY, *Boots*, the Plant Marshmallows [An error].

Boot-top.

1. The upper part of a boot; esp. of top-boots. 1768 WALES in *Phil. Trans.* LX. 109, I saw one woman with a child in each boot top. 1825 S. ADAMS *Compl. Servant* 384 Liquid for cleansing Boot Tops, etc. 1857 LYTTON *Pelham*, The autocrat of the great world of fashion... fed the pampered appetite of his boot-tops on champagne.

2. *Naut.* a. In phrase 'to give a ship boot-tops': see quot.; b. = **BOOT-TOPPING** b.

1768 CROKER, etc. *Dict. Arts & v.*, It is usual to make her heel, or incline first to one side and then to the other... having scrubbed off the ooze, shells, with brushes and brooms, they cover it with a mixture of tallow, sulphur, etc., and this is called giving her boot-tops. 1844 F. COOPER *Jack O'Land* I. 126 Every vessel that isn't coppered shows her boot-top.

Boot-topping.

1767 FALCONER *Dict. Marine* (1789), *Boot-topping*, the act of cleaning the upper part of a ship's bottom, and daubing it over with a coat or mixture of tallow, sulphur, resin, etc. Boot-topping is chiefly performed where there is no dock... or when... hurry... renders it inconvenient to have the whole bottom... cleaned.

b. '*Boot-topping*... is now applied to sheathing a vessel with planking over felt.' Smyth *Sailor's Word-bk.* 1867.

Booty (bū-ti), *sb.* Forms: 5-6 *botye*, *buty*, 6 *boty*, *bootye*, *bootie*, (7 *Sc.* *bouty*), 6- *booty*. [The mod. as well as the early forms, point to a ME. long *ō*, and thus to connexion with *bōt*, *Boor sb.1* advantage, and *v.1* to profit. But there is no accounting for such a formation from *bōt*, *boot* directly; and it is generally held that the English word is due to an adaptation of some word cognate with Ger. *beute*, F. *butin* (or the latter itself) influenced in form by association with *bōt*, *boot*. The Teutonic words in question are ON. *býti* 'exchange, barter', connected with *býta* 'to exchange'; also 'to deal out, distribute'; MDu. and MLG. *būite* (MG. *būite*, MHG. *būite*, mod.G. *beute*, mod.Du. *buit*), all with the sense 'booty'. *Butin*, from French, was used side by side with *boty*, *booty* during the 16th c., and it is curious that the first known instances of both occur in Caxton's *Chesse*, within a few lines of each other: see BUTIN. Caxton has also *buty* (see 1491), and in 17th c. we find an instance of *bootyn* for *butin*: but on the whole the contact of the two forms appears to be slight. The shorter form *Boor (sb.2)*, and the related *Boor v.2* **BOOTER** (*frebooter*), **BOOTING**, are all later.

(An early but dubiously genuine use appears under *Booty a.*, which, if really used by Lydgate c1430, would carry the question farther back, but leave it still more obscure.)

1. *orig.* Plunder, gain, or profit acquired in common and destined to be divided among the winners. a. That which is taken from an enemy in war; the collective plunder or spoil. (No plural.) 1474 CAXTON *Chesse* 39 So shold the dispoyle and botye be comune vnto them. 1491 — *Four Sons Aymon* (1885) 143 The kyng made the buty to be dealed, Wherof the most party he made to be gyven to reynawde & his brethern. 1530 PALSGR. 200/1 Boty that men of warre take, *butin*. 1579 DIGGES *Stratitot*. 129 The Bootie shall be divided, according to the auncient lawes of the warres. 1611 BIBLE *Numb.* xxxi. 32. 1732 LEDIARD *Sethos* II. ix. 287 They were too happy to give them a share of the booty. 1814 WELLINGTON in *Gurw. Disp.* XII. 7 What ought to be considered as booty to the army.

b. That which is captured by robbers or thieves, 1567 HARMAN *Caveat* (1869) 33 When they have a greater booty then they maye carry awaye quickly. 1596 SHAKS. *1 Hen. IV.* i. ii. 184 When they haue the booty, if you and I do not rob them.

† 2. A thing taken by force; a prize. (With *pl.*) 1542 UDALL *Erasm. Apoph.* 186 b, His souldyers had conspired... to conuert alle the booties that they shoulde geat, to their owne priuate vse. 1568 *Like will to Like* in Hazl.

Dodsl. III. 334 Art thou not agreed These two booties equally to divide? 1591 HORSEY *Trav.* (1857) 161 To lose a great deall of his artillerie, buties, and baggage. 1652 NEEDHAM tr. *Selden's Mare Cl.* 481 To... take prizes or booties. 1823 BYRON *Juan* x. lxiix, Packets, all whose passengers are booties To those who upon land or water dwell.

3. *loosely*. Plunder, spoil, gain; a prize; without reference to its being common property.

1800 BARET *Atv.* B 932 The Bootie or spoyle that a man hath gotten of his enemies. 1599 R. GREENHAM *Wks.* (ed. 2) 49 A flatterer comming to haue some bootie. 1611 SHAKS. *Wint. T.* IV. iv. 862 Fortune... drops Booties in my mouth. 1662 MORE *Antid. Ath.* II. x. (1712) 71 That she might not be too easie a Booty for him. 1722 DE FOE *Moll F.* (1840) 328 He robbed the best Chester coaches and got a very great booty. 1743 FIELDING *Jon. Wild* II. ii, Bagshot... had carried off a pretty considerable booty from their engagements at dice. 1839 THIRLWALL *Greece* I. 329 The ingenious and successful pilferer gained applause with his booty. 1866 KINGSLEY *Herrew.* v. 115 He got very little booty there.

4. *To play booty*: To join with confederates in order to 'spoil' or victimize another player; to play into the hands of confederates in order to share the 'plunder' with them; hence to play or act falsely so as to gain a desired object; esp. to play badly intentionally in order to lose the game. So (*obs.*) *To bowl, cast, perjure, talk, write booty*.

1561 AWDELEY *Frat. Vacab.* 9 And consent as though they will play booty against him. 1592 GREENE *Art Conny catch.* II. 8 The bowlers cast euer booty, and doth win or loose as the bet of the gripeleadeh them. 1622 MABBE tr. *Aleman's Gussman d'Alf.* I. 222 Wee are three of vs, let vs all play booty, and joyne together to coozen the Cardinall. 1650 WELDON *Crit. Jas.* I. 99 Some of them played booty, and in truth, the Game was not plaid above-board. 1676 ETHEREDGE *Man of Mode* III. i. (1684) 30 What think you of playing it on booty? *Har.* What do you mean? *T. Bell.* Pretend to be in love with one another. 1678 BUTLER *Hud.*, *Lady's Answ.* 180 Can own the same thing, and disown; And perjure Booty, Pro and Con. 1721 ADDISON *Spect.* No. 60 ¶ 9 Would not one be apt to believe that the Author played booty, and did not make his List of Rhymes till he had finished his Poem? 1771 P. PARSONS *Newmarket* I. 108 Bribing the rider to play booty, to lose the race. 1813 *Examiner* 17 May 319/1, I gave a jockey a handsome premium to play booty. 1831 DISRAELI *Jng. Duke* (L.), One thing remained to be lost—what he called his honour, which was already on the scent to play booty.

b. Hence: *Booty* = playing booty.

1608 DEKKER *Belman Lond.* Wks. 1884-5 III. 135-6 Many other practises there are in bowling tending to cozenage, but y^e greatest and grossest is Booty: in which y^e decept is so open and palpable that I haue seene men stone-blind offer to lay Betts frankly... only by hearing who played, and how the old Grypes had made their layes. 1738 WARBURTON *Div. Legat.* II. 145 A Riddle was frequently the Stratagem for a Booty.

5. *Comb.* † **Booty-fellow**: one who shares booty with others; a confederate in plundering, swindling, etc. (*cf.* sense 4).

1530 PALSGR. 200/1 Botyefelowe, *parsonnier*. 1532 *Dice-Play* (1850) 43 As when one man lost an hundred pound land at shooting, by occasion that some that shot with him on his side were booty fellows against him.

† **Booty**, *sb.2* *Obs.* Erroneously used for *Boor sb.1* A remedy; advantage.

1577 HOLINSHED *Chron.* III. 284 It was no bootie to aduise him to the contrarye of that his concluded purpose. 1581 W. STAFFORD *Exam. Compl.* I. (1876) 18 Needs (as yee knowe) hath no booty.

† **Booty**, *a. Obs.* [See *BOOTY sb.1*: but could this be orig. from *Boor sb.1* in sense of 'profit' ?] Sharing, participating.

c 1430 LYDG. *Bochas* IV. (1494) Qiva, His desyre and his entencion Was to be boty [ed. 1554 booting] with theym of suche pillage. 1570 LEVINS *Manip.* 111 Bootye, *particeps*.

† **Booty**, *v. Obs. intr.* To collect booty.

1580 HOLLYBAND *Treas. Fr. T.*, *Butiner*, to bootie, or pray.

† **Booty-hale**, *v. Obs.* [app. an alteration of *BOOT-HALE v.*, assimilated to *BOOTY*.] = **BOOT-HALE**. Also *Booty-haling vbl. sb.*

1610 HALEY *St. Aug. Cite of God* III. xvii. 131 Having booty-haled all the whole Citty. 1611 FLORIO, *Gualda*, a booty-haling [1598 bootie-], a freebooting.

Bootyless, *a.* [see -LESS.] Void of booty. 1866 *Standard* 27 Feb., The disappointed O'Mahoneyites consold themselves after this bootyless expedition.

† **Bootyyn**, *Obs. rare.* A mixed form combining *BOOTY* and *BUTIN*.

1535 HAYWARD *Banish'd Virg.* 196 These folkes had scow'd the field... got good store of bootyyn.

Boow(e), *obs.* form of *Bow*.

Booza, var. of *Boza*, an oriental drink.

Booze, **booze** (būz), *sb. colloq.* Also 8 *boos*. [f. *BOOZE v.*; = *BOUSE sb.*]

1. Drink; a draught.

1732 MRS. PENDARVES *Lett.* 30 Mar. in *Mrs. Delany's Corr.* I. 346 We... had a profusion of 'peck & booze' (terms for meat & drink).

2. Drinking, a drinking bout.

1864 BURTON *Scot. Abr.* II. ii. 198 An occasional hard booze, and its consequent headache. 1877 BARING-GOULD *Myst. Suffering* 51 A booze of bad ale. 1884 *St. James's Gaz.* 19 Dec. 4/1 There was a great 'booze' on board.

Booze, **booze** (būz), *v.* [A variant of *BOUSE*, retaining the pronunciation of ME. *bouse*, *houise*, and spelt phonetically; perhaps really a dialectal form: cf. the Sc. and north.Eng. *rooze* (rūz) = literary Eng. *rouse*, etc. See *BOUSE*]

intr. To drink deeply, or for the sake of enjoyment or goodfellowship; to tinkle, guzzle, bezzle. [c 1300 *E. E. Forms* (1862) 154 Depe can 3e bouse. 1626 *Pasquil & Kath.* I. 213 You must needs bouze.] 1768 WALPOLE *Lett. H. Mann.*, To booze ale. 1777 COLMAN *Epil. Sch. Scandal* (1883) 76 While good Sir Peter boozes with the squire. 1823 BYRON *Juan* XI. xix. Who... like Tom... could Booze in the ken? 1854 THACKERAY *Newcomes* I. 39, I won't sit in the kitchen and booze in the servants' hall. 1870 LOWELL *Study Wind.* 30 With few resources but to booze around the fire.

Boozed (būzd), *pp. a.* [f. *BOOZE v.* + -ED.] Intoxicated, drunk, fuddled.

1850 P. CROOK *War of Hats* 50 Booz'd in their tavern dens, The scurril press drive all their dirty pens.

Boozer (bū'zər), *One who boozes; a tippler.* a 1819 WOLCOTT (P. Findar) *Wks.* (1831) 303 (D.), This landlord was a boozer stout. 1835 MARRYAT *Jac. Faithf.* xxvi, Don't you think so, my old boozer?

Boozify, *v. nonce-vd.* *intr.* To take part in a boozing party, to booze.

1844 *Blackw. Mag.* 635 Never boozify a second time with the man whom you have seen misbehave himself in his cups.

Boozing (bū'zɪŋ) *vbl. sb.* [f. *BOOZE v.* + -ING¹.] Deep drinking, topling.

a 1520 [see *BOUSING vbl. sb.*] 1851 THACKERAY *Eng. Hum.* IV. (1858) 207 That club and coffee-house boozing. 1868 GEO. ELIOT *F. Holt* 119 Extension of the suffrage can never mean anything for them but extension of boozing.

b. *attrib.* and in *comb.* (Cf. *BOUSING*.)

1844-9 LANDOR *Imag. Contr.* (1846) I. 45 In a boozing-bout, such as some country gentlemen I could mention do hold after dinner. 1873 C. READE *Simpleton* xxviii, Down a filthy close into some boozing ken—I beg pardon, some thieves' public-house.

Boozing, *pp. a.* [f. as *prec.* + -ING².] That drinks deeply, addicted to drinking.

1560 [see *BOUSING pp. a.*] 1770 *Month. Rev.* 73 The boozing companions of old Sir John. 1880 J. C. WATT *Gl. Novellists* 30 Those 'boozing' coteries. 1884 L. STEPHEN *Swift* II. 26 The boozing fox-hunting squires.

Boozy (bū'zi), *a.1* [f. *BOOZE sb.* + -Y¹.]

1. Showing the effects of boozing or intoxication; influenced or affected by much drinking.

a 1520 [see *BOUSY*]. 1719 D'URFEE *Pills* (1872) II. 297 All flustered and boozey, the drunken Old Sot. 1829 SOUTHEY *Ep. Annivers.* 18 Leaving behind it in the boozey eyes A swollen and red suffusion, glazed and dim. 1857 KINGSLEY *Two Y. Ago* II. 237 Helplessly boozey from the first.

2. Addicted or given up to boozing; drunken.

1592 [see *BOUSY*]. 1801 GOUV. MORRIS in *Sparks Life & Writ.* (1832) III. 145 A tedious morning, a great dinner, a boozey afternoon, and dull evening. 1865 *Sat. Rev.* 4 Feb. 145/1 A boozey opium-eating Afghan.

Hence **Booziness**.

1863 HAWTHORNE *Old Home* II. 63 Poor Boozey's booziness would appear to have become hereditary in his ancient line.

Boozy, var. of *BOUZY*, *a.* bulky, corpulent.

Bo-peep (bū'pēp), *Forms:* 6 *bo-peep*, *bo-pepe*, *-pipe*, *bo-pepe*, *-pipe*, 6-7 *bo-*, *bo-peepe*, 7 *boa-peep*, *boh-peepe*, 7- *bo-peep*. [f. *Bo int.* + *PEEP v.*; cf. *Sc. bo-keek, keek-a-bo*.]

A nursery play with a young child, who is kept in excitement by the nurse or play-mate alternately concealing herself (or her face), and peeping out for a moment at an unexpected place, to withdraw again with equal suddenness. Johnson says 'The act of looking out and then drawing back as if frightened, or with the purpose to fright some other'. Hence *to play (at) bo-peep (with)*; also *fig.*, in many obvious applications.

1528 TINDALE *Doctr. Treat.* (1848) 214 Mark how he playeth bo-peep with the scripture. 1535 JOVE *Apol. Tindale* (Arb.) 7 Yf Tindal wyll... playe boo pepe with the tencis. c 1620 [FLETCH. & MASS.] *Trag. Barnavelt* II. i. in Bullen *O. Pl.* (1883) II. 248 This blinded State that plays a bo-a-peep with us. 1648 HERRICK *Hesper.* *Upon her Feet*, Her pretty feet Like snails did creep A little out, and then, As if they started at Bo-Peep, Did soon draw in agen. 1658 OSBORN *Jas. I.* (1673) 526 Forced to... die in a Prison, or play at Bo-peep all the remainder of their days with their Creditors. 1701 *Interest of England* 24 Men... That... do nothing but play at Bo-peep with God Almighty. a 1849 H. COLERIDGE *Poems* (1850) II. 217 What fancy so pretty is playing bo-peep With the innocent's thoughts in the fields of sleep?

b. as *interjection*.

c 1550 *Pride & Abuse Wom.* in Hazl. *E. P. IV.* 231 Bo pepe! what have I spyed? A bug, deysing of proud knacks.

c. *attrib.*

1663 COWLEY *Cutter Coleman St.* III. v, There will be a good Bo-peep Love. 1692 VILLIERS (Dk. Buckhm.) *Chances* (1714) 115 Were these your bo-peep Prayers? 1863 W. PHILLIPS *Speeches* xxiv. 547 For the President, in bo-peep secrecy to hide himself in the White House.

Bo-peep, *v. rare. intr.* To play bo-peep.

1606 WARNER *Alb. Eng.* xvi. c. (1612) 400 Why should faces faire indeed bo-pepe behind a Fanne? 1840 BARNHAM *Ingl. Leg., Wedding Day* 26 The National School, Bo-peeping 'midst 'many a mouldering heap'.

† **Bo-peeper**, *Obs. rare.* [f. *prec.* + -ER¹.]

That behind which one plays bo-peep; a mask.

1609 *Ev. Wom.* in *Hum.* v. i. in Bullen *O. Pl.* IV, Wile pull of his bo-peeper.

Boquet, *obs.* form of *BOUQUET*.

Bo (bō), *sb. dial.* Also 7 *bore*, 9 *boh*, *boh*, *bo'*. [f. —OE. (*ge*) *būr* as in NEIGHBOUR. Cf. the similar use of Du. *buur*: see *BOOR*.] An East Anglian form of address = Neighbour, gossip, etc.

1677 YARRANTON *Engl. Improv.* 105 Bores, this is the best News that ever I heard. 1830 FORBY *Norfolk & Suffolk Voc.* s.v. *Borh, Bor.*, 'Co' bor, let's go a sticking in the 'Squire's plantations'. 'Aye, bor, so we will'. 1874 J. WHINBUSH *Tim Diguell* 5 Tim, bor, what d'yow think?

Bor, obs. f. BEER, BOAR, BOWER.

Bor, Chem., short for BORON, forming names of compounds of this with the alcohol radicals; e.g. **Bor-ethyl** 3(C₂H₅)B, **Bor-methyl** 3(CH₃)B, obtained by acting on ethyl borate with zinc ethyl and methyl respectively.

1869 ROSCOE *Elem. Chem.* 342 Borethyl is a colourless liquid, possesses a very powerful acrid smell, and takes fire on exposure to the air, burning with a green flame. 1881 ROSCOE *Chem.* III. 244 Borethyl is a colourless gas.

|| **Bora** (bō'ra). [According to Diez, Venetian, Milanese form of It. *borea* north wind:—L. *Boreas*. But cf. Illyrian (Servia, Dalmatia, etc.) *burra* 'storm, tempest' (Bulg. *burra*, Russ. and Oslav. *burya*), which may have been confounded with the Ital. in the Adriatic.] A severe north wind which blows in the Upper Adriatic.

1864 VITTES *Strangford E. Shores Adriatic* 263 A violent wind began to blow. 'The Bora! the Bora!' resounded on all sides, in tones of terror and dismay. 1883 *Athenaeum* 6 Jan. 11/1 Capt. Burton left Trieste. 'too happy to exchange its ferocious bora and distressing scirocco for the West African coast.'

Borable (bō'rāb'l), a. rare. Also boreable. [f. BORE v. + -ABLE.] That may be bored. 1755 in JOHNSON; and in mod. Dicts.

Borace, obs. form of BORAX.

|| **Borachio**. Obs. Forms: 6 *bourrachoe*, 7 *bor*, *borrachoe* (e, *boraccio*, -*accia*, *borracio*, *burracho*, 8 *borrachio*, *borad*, 6-8 *borachio*. [Adopted from Sp. or It.: cf. Sp. *borracho* leathern bag for wine, with *borracho* drunkard, masc. of *borracho* drunken; also It. *boraccia*, (*boraccio* Baretto) 'a borachio, or bottle made of a goatskin, such as they use in Spaine' (Florio).]

1. A large leather bottle or bag used in Spain for wine or other liquors.

1863 STANYHURST *Æneis* III. (Arb.) 91 With chuffe chaffe wynepos lyke a gourd bourrachoe replennisht. 1894 GREENE *Look. Glasse Wks.* (1861) 133 A borachio of kisses. 1815 tr. *De Montfort's Surv. E. Indies* 5 They make their provision of water in great Borachoes, made of whole goat-skins. 1816 B. JONSON *Devil an Ass* II. i. (1631) 113 Leather... like your Borachio Of Spaine, Sir. 1869 CAPT. SMITH *Trav. & Adv.* XIII. 25 The milk they keep in great skinnies like Burrachos. 1868 USSHER *Ann.* 104 Camels laden with borachoes or lethern bags full of water. 1736 BAILEY *Househ. Dict.* 260 Such [wines] as have the Borachio or hogskin flavour. 1775 Phil. Trans. LXVI. 258 An elastic gum bottle, otherwise called borachio or caoutchouc.

2. A drunkard, a mere 'wine-bag'.

[1899 SHAKS. *Much Ado* IV. ii. 11 What is your name, friend? *Bor. Borachio*.] a 1867 MIDDLETON *Span. Gipsy* I. i, I am no borachio. a 1799 CONGREVE (J.) How you stink of wine!... you're an absolute borachio.

Boracic (bō'rā'sik), a. Chem. [f. BORAX + -IC.] Of the nature of, pertaining to, or derived from borax. *Boracic acid* is now in systematic nomenclature *Boric acid*.

1801 HATCHETT in *Phil. Trans.* XCII. 58 A white glittering salt, resembling the concrete boracic acid. 1869 ROSCOE *Elem. Chem.* 152 Boracic or Boric Acid. 1880 MACCORMAC *Antisept. Surg.* 149 Boracic lint, or some similar application.

Boracite (bō'rā'sīt). Min. [f. prec. + -ITE.] Native borate of magnesia.

1810 HENRY *Elem. Chem.* (1826) I. 619 A natural compound of boracic acid and magnesia... found near Lüneburg in Germany, and known by the name of boracite. 1811 PINKERTON *Petral* I. 487 (Gypsum) contains... in rare instances aragonite and boracite.

† **Boracium**. Obs. Chem. [f. BORAX: cf. *sodium, potassium*, etc.] The name at first given to BORON, when it was supposed to be a metal.

1808 SIR H. DAVY in *Phil. Trans.* XCIX. 85 There is strong reason to consider the boracic basis as metallic. and I venture to propose for it the name of *boracium*. 1812 — *Chem. Philos.* 245 The bodies... are six, hydrogen, azote, sulphur, phosphorus, carbon, and boracium or boron.

Borage (bō'rēdʒ). Forms: 5- *borage*, 6 *bou-rage*, 7 *bourrage*, 6-8 *burridge*, 7-8 *borrage*, 8 *burridge*. [from med.L. *borāgo*, or one of the Romanic forms: cf. F. *bourrache* (also OF. *bour-race*), Pr. *borrage*, It. *borragine*, *borrace*, Sp. *borraja*, Pg. *borragom*; in mod.L. *borāgo*; prob., according to Diez, f. *borra*, *burra* 'rough hair, short wool' (cf. late L. *burra* 'a shaggy garment'), in reference to the roughness of the foliage.]

1. A genus of plants, giving its name to a natural order (*Boraginaceae*). spec. The common British species (*Borago officinalis*), which has bright blue flowers, and stem and leaves covered with prickly hairs; it was formerly much esteemed as a cordial, and is still largely used in making cool tankard, claret cup, etc.

[c 1265 Anglo-Norm. Voc. Wr. Wülcker 557 *Borago*, *burage*.] c 1430 *Liber Cocorum* 47 Take most of cole, borage, persyl. c 1500 *To serve a Lord in Babes Bk.* (1868) 370 Sawse hym with mustard, borage, suger. 1530 PALSGR. 202/1 *Burage* (borage) herbe, *bourache*. 1533 ELVOT *Cast. Helth* (1541) 29 *Bourage* comforteth the harte, and maketh one merye.

1603 HOLLAND *Plutarch's Mor.* 644 Some there be, who put leaves of burrage into their wine. 1619 PASQUILL'S *Palin.* (1877) 155 No fiery red-fac'd Claret attended with his Borage. 1709 STEELE *Tatler* No. 31 ¶ 8 The same Effect as Burridge in the Glass when a Man is drinking. 1710 SALMON *Househ. Comp.* 45 Borage is one of the four cordial flowers. 1848 SIR W. HOOKER *Brit. Flora* 225 Hence the old Adage—'I Borage always bring Courage'.

2. Comb. and Attrib., as *borage-seed*, -*water*; *borage-wort*, any boraginaceous plant.

1666 BACON *Sylva* § 441 Sow here and there some Borage-seed. 1660 VENNOR *Via Recta* vii. 123 Eaten with... Borage-water and Sugar. 1882 *Garden* 22 July 60/1 A morbid craze for Borage-worts.

Boraginaceous (bō'rā-dʒin-əs), a. Bot. [f. mod.L. *borāgo*, -*agin*- BORAGE + -ACEOUS.] Of or pertaining to the order *Boraginaceae*: see prec.

Boragineous (bō'rā-dʒin-əs), a. Bot. [f. as prec. + -EOUS.] Of or pertaining to a tribe of the *Boraginaceae*, called *Boraginæ*, containing the typical genus *Borago*; also, loosely, = prec.

Boral, var. of BOREL *Sc.*, an auger.

Boras, obs. form of BORAX.

|| **Borascio**, -*asque*. Also *borasca*, *borrasque*, *burrasca*. [Fr. *bourrasque*, and Sp., Pg., Cat. *borrasca*, ad. It. *burasca* (Florio), *burasca* (Baretto), according to Diez, augmentative of BORA.] A violent squall of wind.

1866 GOAD *Celest. Bodies* II. vii. 242 Whirlwinds, Hurricanes, Borasques, Tornado, Tuffon. 1869 SIR T. BLOUNT *Ess.* 143 You may see Vulcano's, Hurricanes and Borasco's in him. 1849 J. A. ST. JOHN in *Tait's Mag.* XVI. 733 A borasco overtook them. 1850 *Ibid.* XVII. 28 The burrascas of the Mediterranean are often of short continuance. 1854 BADHAM *Halient.* 97 A mighty change... might wind up the evening with a sudden borrasque. 1867 SMYTH *Sailor's Word-bk.*, *Borasca*, a storm, with thunder and lightning.

|| **Borassus** (bō'rās-sūs). Bot. [mod.L., ad. Gr. *βόρασσος* palm-fruit.] A genus of palms, including two species, of which *B. flabelliformis* the Palmyra Palm, yields palm-wine and palm-sugar.

1798 S. WILCOCKE *Stavroinns' Voy.* in *Southey Comm.* pl. Bk. Ser. II. (1849) 517 At Ceylon... the leaves of the borassus palm tree... are used instead of paper. 1878 H. M. STANLEY *Dark Cont.* I. vi. 131 A forest of borassus palms.

Borate (bō'rā'tē). Chem. [f. BOR-ON + -ATE.] A salt of boric or boracic acid.

1816 ACCUM *Chem. Tests* (1818) 170 Borate of lead. 1863-78 WATTS *Dict. Chem.* I. 636 Borax, the acid borate of sodium which exists in the water of certain lakes in central Asia.

|| **Borato**. Obs. Also 6 *boratta*. [app. a. It. *buratto* 'sort of thin transparent cloth'.] A thin fabric: cf. BOLT v. 1, also BOLTER *vbl.* sb. 1, BOLTING. 1578 *Richmond. Wills* (1853) 276, ix yards of borato at ijs. vijd. a year. 1894 BLUNDELL *Exerc.* v. iii. (ed. 7) 533 Taffaties, Borattas, Grograines. 1660 Act 12 Chas. II. iv. Sched., Boratoes or Bombasines—narrow, the single piece not above 15 yards. 1700 *Ston's Surv.* (1754) II. v. ix. 266/2 Boratoes, wrought with silk containing under twenty yards.

Borax (bō'rāks). Forms: 4-7 *boras*, 5-6 *borace*, 6 *borras*, 7 *baurac* (h, *boraxe*, 6- *borax*; pl. (Obs. rare) *boraces*. [ME. *boras*; a. OF. *boras* (*borras*, *bourras*), ad. med.L. *baurach*, *borac*, *boracum*, and *borax*, *borac-em*, a. Arab. بورق variously pronounced *baurag*, *būraq*, *bōraq*, prop. 'natron', but also 'borax': referred by the lexicons to the Arab. بارق *baraga* to glisten, but prob. ad. Pers. بوره *būrah* borax. According to LÉMAN introduced into the Romanic langs. about the 9th c. Cf. Sp. *borrax* (now written *borraj*), mod.F. *borax*, It. *borrace*.]

1. A native salt; the acid borate of sodium, or borate of soda (Na₂B₄O₇): having, when pure, the form of a transparent or whitish crystal, or white powder, but also imported as crude borax or tincal, a greenish mass greasy to the touch.

c 1386 CHAUCEUR *Prolog.* 630 Ther nas quyksilver, litarge, ne brimstone, Boras, ceruce, ne oille of tartre noon. 1483 *Cath. Angl.* 37 Borace, Borax. 1543 TRAHERON *Vigo's Chirurge.* (1586) 433 Boras, others write it Borax, and Plinie saith, that it is a liquor in pits. 1663 COCKERAM, *Boras*, a white substance like salt-peeter wherewith goldsmiths solder gold and silver. 1676 R. RUSSELL *Cerber.* i. iii. 9 Glass and boraces. 1684 *Phil. Trans.* XIV. 610 The other species [of Nitre] they term Baurac, which they used in seasoning their meat. 1810 HENRY *Elem. Chem.* (1826) I. 566 Tincal, which, when purified, becomes the refined borax of the shops. 1876 HARLEY *Med. Med.* 157 Borax is supposed to have been the Chrysocolle of Pliny.

2. Borax beads, beads made of borax, used in blowpipe analysis to distinguish the metallic oxides, and test minerals by the characteristic colours which they give in the oxidizing and the reducing flame.

Borbecu, obs. form of BARBECUE.

† **Borborite**. Obs. [ad. L. *Borboritæ*, Gr. *βόρβοριται*, f. Gr. *βόρβορος* filth.] One of the names, or nick-names, given to certain Ophitic Gnostics, referring, according to Epiphanius, to their unclean living (but various other explanations are offered); in 16-17th c. used as a term of reproach in the sense of 'One who holds filthy or immoral doctrines', and specifically applied to a branch of the Mennonites.

1659 GAUDEN *Tears of Ch.* 572 (D.) The whole Reformed Church of England... torne and bespattered by those Borborites, those unclean Spirits. 1863 BAXTER *Paraphr. James* v. 19 Borborites or Gnosticks are not the less such for... being call'd Bishops. 1880-3 SCHAFF *tr. Herasog's Encycl. Rel. Knowl.* I. 313 Borborites or Borborians.

† **Borborology**. Obs. rare. [f. as prec. + -λογία discoursing: see -LOGY.] Filthy talk.

1649 TRAPP *Comm. Epist.* 224 Shunne obscene borborology, and filthy speeches.

Borborygm. † Obs. exc. in Lat. form *borborygmus*. Med. [ultimately ad. Gr. *βόρβορυγμός*, f. *βόρβορύειν* to have a rumbling in the bowels. In 16th c. F. *borborygme* (Cotgr. -*igme*).]

1719 *Glossogr. Nova*, *Borborygm*, a rumbling Noise in the Guts. 1794-6 E. DARWIN *Zoon.* (1801) II. 530 Hence the borborygmi, or rumbling of the bowels. 1880 BEALE *Slight Ailm.* 97 *Borborygmi*... are a serious annoyance.

Boroh (e, obs. Sc. var. of BOBBOW, a pledge, etc.

Boroloth, variant of BOARD-CLOTH, Obs.

Bord, obs. form of BOARD.

Bordage (bō'rā-dʒ). *Feudal System*. [a. OF. *bordage* (still in local use in France), = med.L. *bordagium*, f. OF. *borde*, med.L. *borda* cot + -AGE: see BORDAR. (Erroneously connected in Eng. dictionaries, from Manley and Blount downwards, with *bord* 'table', but clearly explained and illustrated by Du Cange, and in French use by Godfrey.)]

The tenure by which a bordar held his cot at the will of his lord; the services due from a bordar. (As an Eng. word only in modern historians.) a 1300 *Const. de Norm.* i. iii. 15 (Du Cange) Tenure par bordage, si est comme aucune borde [later add. add. loge ou maison] est baillie à aucun pour fere les vils services son Seigneur: ne poet lomme cel fiquement ne vendre, ne engagier ne donner, et de c'en n'est pas homage set. 1664 SPELMAN *Gloss. s.v. Bordarii*, *Bordage*. 1771 *Antiq. Sarisb.* 29 From the Grand Customer of Normandy we learn, that Bordage was a base tenure, where such a house or cottage was obliged to thresh, draw water, grind corn, and do such other servile work.

Bordage (bō'rā-dʒ). [a. F. *bordage*, f. *bord* side, *border* to border.] 1. *Naut.* 'The planking on a ship's side.' *Mod. Dicts.* 2. That which forms the border of anything. 1866 SIR W. LOGAN in *Borthwick Brit. Amer. Reader* 149 When forced into a narrow part of the channel, the lateral pressure it [the ice] there exerts drives the bordage up the banks, where it sometimes accumulates to the height of from forty to fifty feet.

† **Bord Alexander**. Obs. Also 4-5 *burd*, *boord* (e, *borde*. A kind of striped silk: see ALEXANDEB.

1398 in Beck *Draper's Dict.* s.v. *Alexander*, In 1398 Richard Beardsall left as a legacy a piece of burd Alysaunders. 1440 in *Eng. Ch. Furniture* (1866) 184, Vj autere towells of lynen Clothe... the vth with a frountere of boorde Ali-sandre. 1486 MARG. PASTON *Will* in *Letts* III. 286 The hole bedde of borde alysaunders. 1503 *Will of Gaynesford* (Somerset Ho.), W. celer & tester of borde alysaunders.

Bordall, **Bordalour**, Sc. var. of BORDAL, -ER.

† **Bord-and-cord**. Obs. [perh. f. *bord*, BOARD 'side, border', and CORD.] An obsolete game played with a ball by five on each side. 1591 in Nichols *Progr. Q. Elis.* III. 117 In this square they (strip out of their doublets) played, five to five, with the hand ball, at bord and cord (as they tearme it).

Bordar (bō'rā-dār). *Feudal System*. Also 9 *border*. [mod. ad. med.L. *bordarius* cottager, f. med.L. *borda* (Pr., Cat. *borda*, F. *borde*) hut, cottage, referred by Diez to Teut. *bord* (neuter) 'wooden board', etc. (The OF. was *bordier*.) (The actual history of the sense which *borda* has taken in Romanic, and of its fem. gender, is still wanting; one might conjecture a neuter plural *borda* 'thing of boards' taken as a feminine sing.)]

A villein of the lowest rank, who held a cottage at his lord's pleasure, for which he rendered menial service; a cottier. (As an English word, found only in modern historians: the L. *bordarii* is a regular term of Domesday Book.)

[1087 *Domesday Bk.*, *Middlesex*, *St. Petrus Stanes*, Et xxxvi *bordarii* de iii hidis, et iv *bordarii* de xl acris, et xii servi. 1670 BLOUNT *Law Dict.*, *Bordarii* seu *Bordmanni*, often occur in Domesday; by some esteemed to be Bores, Husbandmen, or Cottagers; which are there always put after Villains.] 1776 STRUTT *Horda Angel-Cym.* III. 16 The military tenants and socmen had their labourers and dependants, as bordars. 1809 BAWDEN tr. *Domesday Bk.* 11 The King has now there five villanes and three bordars with two ploughs. 1861 PEARSON *Early & Mid. Ages Eng.* 268 Of these [the semi-servile], villains, borders, or cottiers, make up the mass, about 200,000 in all. 1876 GREEN *Short Hist.* v. § 4. 238 The cottar, the bordar, and the labourer were bound to aid in the work of the home-farm.

† **Bord(e)**. Obs. *Thieves' cant.* [f. a transf. use of *bord*, BOARD 'shield'.] A shilling.

1567 HARMAN *Caveat* 85 Bouse there a bord, drinke there a shyllinge. 1611 DEKKER *Roar. Girls* Wks. 1873 III. 219 My Lord Noland... bestowes vpon you two, two bordes and a halfe. 1668 R. HOLME *Armory* iii. iii. § 68 (Cant Voc.) *Borde*, a shilling. *Half a Borde*, six-pence.

Borde, obs. f. BOARD, and var. of BOURD, Obs.

Bordeaux (bō'r-dōw). Also 6- *Burdeaux*, *Sc. Burdeous*, 7 *Burdeaux*, 7-8 *Bordeaux*. A city in the south of France; hence, the wine made

there, claret. † *Bordeaux hammer* (humorous): a vinous headache.

[1483 *Cath. Angl.* 48 Burdus [Bordeus], *ciuitas est, burdigallus*.] c1570 *Leg. Bp. St. Andrews* in *Scot. Poems* 16th C. (1801) II. 342 His contagious stomach Was sa owersett with Bourdeux drummake. 1576 NEWTON tr. *Lemnie's Complex.* (1633) 94 A Bourdeux hammer beating in his head. 1597 SHAKS. 2 *Hen. IV.* II. iv. 69 There's a whole Marchants Venture of Bourdeux-Stuffe in him. 1714 MANDEVILLE *Fab. Bees* (1725) I. 260 He could content himself with plain Bourdeaux, if it had a good body. 1836 MARRYAT *Three Cuffs* iii. Don't go abroad to drink sour wine, because they call it Bourdeaux.

† **Bordel.** Obs. Forms: 4-9 bordel, (4 ? bor-deal), 5-7 bordell, 5 bordele, bourdel(l), bordyl(le), burdell, 6 Sc. bo(i)rdall, 8 bourdel. [a. OF. bordel 'cabin, hut, brothel', corresp. to Pr. bordel, Sp. burdel, It. bordello, med.L. *bor-dellus*, -am, dim. of late L. *borda* (for of **bordum*): see BORDAR. (Now superseded by *brothel*, which has no etymological connexion with it.)]

1. A house of prostitution, a brothel. c1305 *St. Lucy* 92 in *E. E. P.* (1862) 104 Oher to comun bordel beo ilad oper ibore. c1306 CHAUCER *Pers. T.* P. 811 Harlotis, that haunten bordels of these foule women. 1483 CAXTON *Gold. Leg.* 84/2, I wente to the bordel. 1535 SKEWELL *Cron. Scot.* III. 276 Semdill in the kirk and right off in the bordel. c1600 Z. *Boyo Zion's Flowers* (1855) 79 To make a Bordell of my Masters house. a 1722 Mrs. CENTLIVRE *Marplot* III. i. 153 Egad, maybe it is some private Bordell. 1803 SCOTT *F. M. Perth* viii. As if they were in a bordel at Paris. 1850 CARLYLE *Lat. day Pamph.* viii. That this universe... was a Cookery-shop and Bordell.

b. Prostitution, fornication. [Cf. OF. *faire bordel* de.]

1382 WYCLIF *Lev.* xix. 29 Ne putt thow thi doughter to bordel. 1393 GOWER *Conf.* II. 162 All his rent in wine and bordel he despent. c1440 *Gesta Rom.* (1879) 220.

2. A worthless fellow, a good-for-nothing. (Erroneously used for BROTHEL 1, as on the other hand *brothel* has taken the place of BORDEL in sense 1.)

1474 CAXTON *Chesse* 104 He drof and chased out of the hoost moo than two thousand bordellys.

3. *Attrib.* and *Comb.*, as *bordel woman*, *house*.

1382 WYCLIF *Baruch* vi. 11 Of it thei zeuen to pute in bordel house, and ournen hooris. c1386 CHAUCER *Pers. T.* P. 902 Commune bordel woman. 1480 CAXTON *Chron. Eng.* xcvi. 175 Holy chirche tho had no more reuerence than it had ben a bordelhow. 1541 ELYOT *Image Govt.* (1549) 6 In common baines and bordell houses.

† Chatterton (misled by Kersey: cf. Phillips 1706) took *bordel* in the OF. sense of 'cot'.

a 1780 CHATTERTON *Wks.* (ed. Skeat) I. 203 Would'st thou ken Nature in her better part? Goe, searche the logges and bordels of the hynde.

† **Bordeler.** Obs. Also 4 *bordiller*, *Sc. bordalour*, 6 *Sc. bordellar*. [a. AF. *bordeler* = OF. *bordelier*, f. *bordel*: see prec.] A brothel-keeper; ? a frequenter of brothels.

c1375 BARBOUR *St. Cristofore* 456 Pai ware bordalouris parlyt. 1393 GOWER *Conf.* III. 322 He... to the bordeler her solde. c1400 *Rom. Rose* 7036 Other bawdes or bordillars. 1536 BELLENDEN *Cron. Scot.* (1821) I. 165 Fidlaris, bordellaris, makerellis... and siclike men of vile estimatioun.

† **Bordello.** Obs. Also 6-8 *burdello*. [a. It. *bordello*: see BORDEL.]

1598 B. JONSON *Ev. Man in Hum.* I. ii. From the Bur-dello, it might come as well. 1642 MILTON *Apol. Spect.* Wks. 1738 I. 109 Proceed now to the afternoon; in Play-houses, he says, and the Bordelloes. 1719 D'URFVY *Pills* (1872) IV. 23. 1794 MATTHIAS *Pers. Lit.* (1798) 69 The stews and bordellos of Grecian and Roman antiquity.

† **Bordelry.** Obs. rare. [see -RY.] = BORDEL. c1440 WYCLIF *Numb.* xxv. 8 (MS. I, S.) He entride aftir the man of Israel in to the bordelrie [1388 hoore hows; Vulg. *lupanari*].

Border (bɔːrɪdɪ), sb. Forms: 4-7 *bordure*, 5 *bordur*, (*bordeure*), 5- *border*. Also 5 *bourder*, -ur, *bordore*, *bowerdur*, *bordeure*, 6 *bordre*; *Sc. bordour*, -ar. [ME. *bordure*, a. OF. *bordure*, earlier *bordeüre*, corresp. to Pr., Sp., Pg. *bordadura*, It. and late L. *bordatura* 'edging', f. **bord-äre* (It., Sp. *bordar*, F. *border*) to edge or border, f. *bordus* (It., Sp. *bordo*, Fr. *bord*) 'side, edge, border', a. Teut. *bord* 'side': see BOARD sb. As in some other words the ME. termination -ure has been weakened through -ur to -er, thus disguising the etymology: the earlier BORDURE (in Caxton *bordeure*) is retained in Heraldry.]

1. A side, edge, brink, or margin; a limit, or boundary; the part of anything lying along its boundary or outline.

c1391 CHAUCER *Astrol.* I. 4 A lyne, that cometh... down to the nethereste bordure. c1400 *Dest. Troy* 1508 Bigget in bordours of the stetes. c1430 *Syr Gener.* 4076 With riche stoonies in the bordure. 1563 HYLL *Art Garden.* (1593) 14 The borders or edges of beddes. 1570 BILLINGSLEY *Euclid* I. vi. 2 The endes, limites, or borders of a lyne, are pointes. 1580 BARET *Alv.* B. 943 The borders and endes of ones heare of his head. 1611 BIBLE Ex. xix. 12 That ye goe not vp into the mount, or touch the border of it. a 1810 HOGG *Harwick Common-riding Song* ix, Down by Teviot's flowery border. 1860 TYNDALL *Glac.* II. § 8. 263 The glacier is... loaded along its borders with the ruins of the mountains.

2. The district lying along the edge of a country or territory, a frontier; pl. the marches, the border districts.

c1400 *Dest. Troy* 12861 There come... fro the bowerdurs aboute... Pilours and ploddors. 1480 CAXTON *Faytes of A.* I. xii. 31 See... that the frontiers and borders be wel garnysched. 1494 FABYAN VI. clxxiii. 169 An host of the men of Mercya, and the border there aboute. 1580 *Jrnl.* II. Commons I. 125 A Bill touching the Fortifying of the Borders towards Scotland. 1667 MILTON *P. L.* II. 361 Though Heav'n be shut... this place may lye expos'd The utmost border of his kingdom. 1805 SOUTHEY *Madoc* in *W. x.* Wolves of war, They kept their border well. 1844 H. H. WILSON *Brit. India* II. 80 The Gorkhas ravaged the borders almost in sight of them.

b. The boundary line which separates one country from another, the frontier line. *On the border*: on or close to this line, on either side; hence, in the border district. *On the borders of* (Wales): close to, the frontier of (Wales). *Over the border*: across the frontier line.

1535 COVERDALE *Josh.* xv. 6 The border northwarde, is from the see coast... and goeth vp vnto Beth Hagla. 1552 LYNDESAY *Monarchie* iv. 5904 They sall dwell on the bordour Off Hell. 1665-9 BOYLE *Occas. Refl.* iv. vii. (1675) 211 Upon the Borders of two Hostile Nations. 1703 KIRKTON *Life Welsh* (1845) i He joined the thieves on the English Border. 1734 DE FOE, etc., *Tour Gt. Brit.* (1769) III. iii. 254, I am now on the borders of Scotland. 1815 *Encycl. Brit.* (ed. 3) III. 588 Berwick-upon-Tweed, is a town on the border of England and Scotland, and a county of itself. 1867 BAKER *Nile Tribut.* viii. 181 He takes refuge over the border. 1876 GREEN *Short Hist.* v. (1884) 79 Their inhabitants slain or driven over the Scotch border.

c. With various prepositions, e.g. *within*, *in*, *out of*, and in other connexions, *borders* is equivalent to 'territories, dominions, limits'. (L. *finis*.)

c1425 WYNTOUN *Cron.* viii. x. 131 Wyth-in be Bordwrys of Inghland. 1535 COVERDALE *Ex.* xxxiv. 24 When I shal... enlarge thy borders. 1552 ABP. HAMILTON *Catech.* 35, I sall gif peace to all your bordours (in *Amibus vestris*). 1563-87 FOXE *A. & M.* I. 251 He refused to meet us in the borders of the King. 1607 TOPSELL *Four-f. Beasts* 140 A beggerly Beast brought out of barbarous borders. 1611 BIBLE *Deut.* xii. 20 When the Lord thy God shall enlarge thy border (COVERD. *bordes*). 1833 HT. MARTINEAU *Tale of Tyne* iii. 60 No man in our borders is rich enough. 1837 WREFOED *Hymn*, 'Lord, while for all', O guard our shores from every foe, With peace our borders bless.

3. *spec.* a. (Eng. and Sc. Hist.) *The Border, the Borders*: the boundary between England and Scotland; the district adjoining this boundary on both sides; the English and Scottish border-land. (The term appears to have been first established in Scotland, where the English border, being the only one it has, was emphatically *the border*.)

1535 STEWART *Cron. Scot.* II. 471 Gift thift or reif was maid vpon the bordour. c1536 LYNDESAY *Compl.* 384 Baith throw the heland and the bordour. 1601 Act 43 *Eliz.* xiii. Pream., To pay, Black-mail unto divers and sundry inhabiting upon or near the Borders. 1663 LANOWT *Diary* (1810) 207 A student of philosophie in St. Andrews, went away with one Agnes Allane... to the border, to be married at the halfe make church. 1734 DE FOE, etc., *Tour Gt. Brit.* (1769) IV. ii. 61 Laws relating to the Borders. 1773 Mrs. GRANT *Let. fr. Mountains* (1809) I. 89 Mr. Gray is a native of the border. 1808 SCOTT *Marm.* v. xii. Through all the wide Border his steed was the best. 1864 BURTON *Sc. Ab.* I. i. 14 All the way from the border to the Highland line. 1881 J. RUSSELL *Haigs* v. 104 Like his neighbour chiefs on the Borders.

b. *attrib.* Of or pertaining to the Border. 1599 JAS. I. *Boeth.* *Amor* in *Chambers Life Jas. I.* (1830) I. viii. 232 Any Hieland or Border thieves. 1799 WORDSW. *Fountain* iii. Some old border-song or catch. 1805 SCOTT *Last Minstr.* Introd. 8 The last of all the Bards was he Who sung of Border chivalry. *Ibid.* iii. iv. note, An emphatic Border motto, Thou shalt want ere I want. 1869 BUCKLE *Civilis.* III. iii. 117 He summoned... the border barons. 1881 J. RUSSELL *Haigs* v. 105 With the true old Border instinct, bringing off whatever was transportable on its own four feet.

c. In U. S.: The line or frontier between the occupied and unoccupied parts of the country, the frontier of civilization. Also *attrib.*

1827 F. COOPER *Prairie* I. ii. 33 The indirect manner so much in use by the border inhabitants. 1863 W. PHILLIPS *Speeches* xvii. 372 He put a guard at every Border-ruffian's door. 1863 *Times* 10 Apr. The Border ruffianism of Kansas. 1870 R. PUMPELLY *Across Amer. & Asia* i. 1 A border bully, armed with revolver, knife, and rifle.

4. A strip of ground in a garden, forming a fringe to the general area, often reserved for flowers; distinguished from *beds*, or flower-plots formed in the area. Also *attrib.*, as in a *hardy border plant*, *useful border annuals*.

c1400 *Dest. Troy* 29 [The bowerdurs about abasshet with leuys]. 1590 SPENSER *Muigpot.* 170 He... doth flie, From bed to bed, from one to other border. 1632 G. HERBERT *Temple, Sunday* iv. The fruitfull beds & borders in Gods rich garden. 1799 ADDISON *Tatler* No. 161 P. 2 A wonderful Profusion of Flowers... without being disposed into regular Borders and Parterres. 1796 C. MARSHALL *Garden.* xx. (1813) 409 Annuals, tender sorts, pot & plant out into the borders. 1866 *Treas. Bot.* s.v. *Campanula*, All the species... are well adapted for decorating flower-borders.

5. A defined edging, of distinct material, colour, shape, pattern, or ornamentation, made or fixed along the margin of anything. (With many specific applications in arts and manufactures.)

c1400 *Dest. Troy* 1652 The windowes... worthely wrought... The bases & bordours all of bright perle. c1430 *Anturs of Arth.* xxx. With a bordur aboute alle of brent gold. 1474 CAXTON *Chesse* iv. i. The bordeure about is hygher than the squarenes of the pointes. 1611 BIBLE Ex. xxv. 25 Thou shalt make vnto it a border of an hand breadth round about.

1669 LEAK *Water-Wks.* 22 There must be also the border P. Q. Soldered upon the Vessel. 1854 OWEN in *Circ. Sc.* (c. 1865) II. 66/2 The thickened external border... perforated for the lodgment of the teeth, is the 'alveolar border'. 1876 GWILT *Archit.* Gloss., *Border*, a piece of wood put round the upper edges of anything, either for use or ornament. Such are the three pieces of wood... which are mitred together round the slab of a chimney. *Mod.* This carpet would look better with a border. The newspapers appeared with black borders in sign of mourning.

b. *spec.* A piece of ornamental work round the edge of a garment, cap, etc.

c1374 CHAUCER *Boeth.* I. i. 6 In be nberest[er] hem or bordure of pese clothes. 1632 MASSINGER *City Mad.* iv. iv. You wore... A velvet hood, rich borders, & sometimes: A dainty miniver cap. 1837 DICKENS *Pickw.* xii. Up to the very border of her cap. 1854 Mrs. GASKELL *North & S.* I, Indian shawls. Delhi? with the lovely little borders?

† 6. A plait or braid of hair (natural or otherwise) worn round the forehead or temples. Obs.

1601 HOLLAND *Pliny* I. 539 Come... beareth the grains arranged spikewise, and as if they were plaited and braided like a border of haire. 1656 *Artif. Handsomeness* 59 [They] admit not onely borders of forain haire, but full and fair perukes. 1663 PEPSY *Diary* 9 May, I did try two or three borders & perriwigs, meaning to wear one. 1865 *Art Jrl.* No. 321. 91/2 The old lady's 'borders' and ribbons.

7. *Bot.* The expanded portion at the top of a tubular flower.

1861 MISS PRATT *Flower.* Pl. I. 6 The Primrose, the flat portion of which is called the border.

8. *pl.* Small portions of the scenery in a theatre forming the side wings.

1881 L. WAGNER *Pantomimes* 57 The flymen, whose... business it is to draw up, and lower the scenes and borders.

9. *Hydraulic Engineering.* (See quot.)

1847 J. DWYER *Hydraulic Engineer.* 29 The Border of a river, canal, etc. is the sum of the sides and bottom, or it is the perimeter in contact with the water.

10. *fig.* A limit, boundary, 'verge'. (Transferred from place to time and abstract things.)

1728 YOUNG *Love Fame v.* (1757) 137 On the borders of threescore. 1747 HERVEY *Medit. & Contempl.* (1818) 211 A person who walks on the borders of eternity. a 1783 H. WALPOLE *Mem. Geo. III.* (1845) I. iv. 52 He affected an impartiality that by turns led him to the borders of insincerity and contradiction. 1866 J. MARTINEAU *Ess.* I. 72 Beyond the rigid border of the science.

11. *Attrib.* and *Comb.*, as *border-flower*, *ground*, *mark*, *plant*, *stone*, *world*. (See also sense 3 b.)

1851 GLENNY *Handbk. Fl.-Gard.* 12 It is only the mass of flowers... that makes it tolerable as a 'border-flower'. 1875 JOWETT *Plato* (ed. 2) I. 191 A 'border-ground' between philosophy and politics. 1613 M. RIDLEY *Magn. Bodies* 28 That divideth the North-part... from the South part, as by a 'border-marke'. 1850 Mrs. BROWNING *Poems* II. 18 The grey 'border-stone' that is wist To dilate and assume a wild shape in the mist. 1878 GEO. ELIOT *Coll. Brakf.* P. 833 That 'border-world' of Dorian ere the scene is fully locked.

12. Special comb.: *border-house*, a Border tower, a peel; *border-man*, one who dwells on the border of a country, = BORDERER; *border marriage*, see MARRIAGE; *border-pile* (*Hydr. Engineering*), an exterior pile of a coffer-dam; *Border-pricker*, -rider, a mounted freebooter or 'thief' living on the Border of England and Scotland; *border-service*, military service in defending a frontier; *Border-side*, the district about the Border (cf. *country-side*); *border-stone*, (a.) a stone marking a boundary; (b.) a curbstone; *Border-warden*, Warden of the Marches (of England and Scotland); *Border-warrant*, a writ issued on one side of the Scottish Border for the apprehension of a person on the other side.

1792 PENNANT *Tours Scotl.* (1790) 90 The castle is no more than a square tower or 'border-house'. 1600 W. SCOT *Apol. Narr.* (1846) 82 The wyld 'bordermen' stood in... awe of the Presbyteries excommunication. 1827 F. COOPER *Prairie* I. ii. 29 A border man... is seldom deficient in the virtue of hospitality. 1865 GROTE *Plato* I. xix. 557 The border-men between philosophy and politics. 1880 SCOTT *Monast.* xvi. With two 'Border-prickers, as they are called, for my guides. — Abbot ii, I have no home... it was burnt by your 'Border-riders. 1707 *Addr. fr. Cumberland* in *Lond. Gas.* No. 4334/2 There is, now... no Black Mail to be paid... no 'Border-Service. a 1700 Ballad 'Johnie Armstrong' xiv, Lang mayst thou dwell on the 'Border-Syde. 1805 SCOTT *Last Minstr.* iv. xxiv, And burn and spoil the Border-side. 1880 — *Monast.* xxxiv, A 'Border-warden, he will be eager to ride in Scotland. 1816 — *Antiq.* xxxix, There's 'Border-warrants too in the south country, unco rash uncanny things.

Border (bɔːrɪdɪ), v. Also 6 *boorder*, *Sc. bordor*, -dour. See also BORDURE v. [f. prec. sb.]

1. *trans.* To put a border or edging to. Also *fig.*

c1400 MAUNDEV. xxvii. 276 His throne... bordured with Gold. c1400 *Dest. Troy* 1666 A tabill... Bordured about all with bright Aumbur. 1530 PALSGR. 460/2, I will border my kote with blacke velvet. 1731 SWIFT *Stirphon* & C. Wks. 1755 IV. l. 152 His night-cap border'd round with lace. a 1813 A. WILSON *Amer. Blue-Bird*, Your walks border up, sow and plant at your leisure.

2. To form a border or boundary to; to bound.

1570 BILLINGSLEY *Euclid* xl. ed. xvi. 317 A Pyramid is terminated and bordered with diuers superficieses. 1590 GREENE *Orl. Fur.* (1599) 21 Those thieves that border in those walks. c1750 SHENSTONE *Elegies* xv. 63 Those wholesome sweets that border Virtue's way. 1807 Sir R. WILSON in *Life* (1862) II. viii. 333 The fields are bordered by large forests. 1850 REEVE *Brittany* 293 A low granite wall borders the road.

+b. *fig.* To keep within bounds, confine, limit.
 1605 SHAKS. *Lear* iv. ii. 33 That nature, which contains its origin, Cannot be bordered certain in itself.

3. To lie on the borders of, lie next, adjoin.
 1649 SELDEN *Laws Eng.* i. xxviii. (1739) 45 The most ancient that bordered the Britons. 1830 LVELL *Princ. Geol.* (1875) II. iii. xli. 420 Lands bordering the Mediterranean. 1837 LYTTON *Athena* II. 120 [They] wore the same armour as the Indians whom they bordered. 1853 KANE *Grinnell Exp.* iv. (1856) 29 The great counter-current, which borders the Gulf Stream.

4. *intr.* To lie on the border, be contiguous on, upon, (with, by, unto, obs.).

1535 COVERDALE *Josh.* xv. 8 The mount . . . that bordereth on the edge of the valley of Raphaim. 1563 *Homilies* II. *Rogation Wk.* iv. Our neighbours bordering about us. 1604 T. WRIGHT *Passions* III. ii. 82 Every moderate passion bordereth betwixt two extremes. 1605 VERSTEGAN *Dec. Intell.* v. (1628) 152 The Gauls did anciently border all along on the west side of the Germans. 1645 RUTHERFORD *Tryal & Tri. Faith* (1845) 62 It is good to border with Christ, & to be near-hand to him. 1706 W. THOMSON *Watson's Philip III.* (1839) 311 An island bordering upon Istria. 1841 EPHINSTONE *Hist. Ind.* I. 361 Hill tribes, bordering on cultivated countries.

5. *fig.* To border on or upon: to approach closely in character, resemble closely, verge on.
 1604 TILLOTSON *Wks.* 1728 I. 33 Wit which borders upon profaneness. 1771 JUNIUS *Lett.* I. 261 A kind of predilection which borders upon loyalty. 1793 BURKE *Rem. Policy Allies* Wks. VII. 122 A degree of indigence at times bordering on beggary. 1839 H. L. ANDERSON *Haileyb. Observer* i. 18 This borders on the common-place.

+6. To broider, to broid. (Cf. *broder*, BROIDER, also BORDER sb. 6.) *Obs.*

1585 ABP. SANDYS *Serm.* (1841) 310 The hair . . . had been coloured, pleated, and bordered.

+7. *trans.* To cut up (a pasty). *Obs.*
 1513 *Bk. Kerygme in Babes Bk.* (1868) 265 Termes of a Kerver, Border that pasty. 1604 AINSWORTH *Tower of Lond.* 412 In the old terms of his art, he . . . bordered the venison pasty, tranced the sturgeon.

Border, variant of BORDAR, and BOURDER, *Obs.*
Bordered (bɔːdəd), *ppl. a.* [f. BORDER v. and sb. + -ED¹.] Having a border, edged, fringed, etc.

c. 1400 *Destr. Troy* 3039 Hir ene . . . Serklyt with heris . . . bordured full clene. 1509 HAWES *Past. Pleas.* xxii. ii. A pavilion . . . Of grene sarcent bordered with golde. 1608 JAS. I. *Lett. in Chambers Life* (1830) II. vi. 179 A new jerkin well bordered. 1860 DICKENS *Uncomm. Trav.* II. 11 Papers, all bordered with black. 1870 HOOKER *Stud. Flora* 214 Beak as long as the bordered fruit. 1882 VINES *Sacks Bot.* 23 One form of internal thickening . . . common in wood-cells and vessels, viz. the formation of Bordered Pits.

Borderer (bɔːdəɹ), *Also 6 (borderer), Sc.* borderar, bourdurer, 7 bordurer, -drer. [f. BORDER v. and sb. + -ER¹; with sense cf. *Londoner*.]

1. One who dwells near the border of a country or district; *spec.* one who dwells near the border of England and Scotland.

1494 FABIAN *Vil.* cxxxvi. 274 A great parte of Northumbrelande, the whiche he hadde wonne from the borderers. 1513 BR. RUTHALL *to Wolsey in Nat. MSS.* II. 8 [They] dare not trust the borderers which be falsar than Scottes, and have don mor harme at this tyme to our folkes. 1509 SHAKS. *Hen. V.* i. ii. 142 A Wall sufficient to defend our in-land from the pilfering Borderers. 1805 SCOTT *Last Minstr.* III. vi. Stern was the dint the Borderer lent. 1839 STONEHOUSE *Acholme* 63 Inhabitants of the Isle, or Borderers, as they are termed in the Inquisition of 1607. 1884 *Manch. Exam.* 10 Dec. 5/1 Before the Bill passed, these borderers belonged to the county and had no votes.

2. One who dwells in a district bordering upon another; one who borders on or dwells close to or by (a region or its inhabitants); a next neighbour. Formerly also said of a country.

1538 LELAND *Itin.* IV. 57 One Inon a Walsch man, Borderer unto Hym. 1579 FENTON *Gauciard.* Ep. Ded., Al your neighbours and borderers. 1634 J. HAYWARD tr. *Biordi's Eromena* 113 The former [Corsica] being so neere a borderer to the latter [Sardagna], as they almost joyne. 1649 SELDEN *Latus Eng.* I. iv. (1739) 9 Borderers upon the Roman world. 1776 GIBSON *Decl. & F. I.* 224 The borderers of the Rhine and Danube. c. 1854 STANLEY *Sinai & Pal.* III. (1858) 164 Nabal . . . was a borderer on the wilderness.

b. *fig.*
 a. 1637 B. JONSON *Discov.* (L.) The poet is the nearest borderer upon the orator. 1748 RICHARDSON *Clarissa* (1811) II. xlv. 344 Pride and meanness . . . are . . . close borderers on each other. 1800 HAZLITT *Lect. Dram. Lit.* 31 Borderers on the savage state. 1858 GLADSTONE *Homer* III. 283 We keep the Phæaciens . . . as borderers between the world of Greek experience, and the world of fable.

3. One who makes borders or bordering. *Black-borderer*: one who makes black-edged paper.

1880 *Daily Tel.* 9 Jan. Advt., Black Borderer wanted. 1881 *Glasgow Trades Direct.* 806/1 Black Borderers.

4. = BORDAR.
 1771 *Antiq. Savish.* 29 A hide and half of land, and the land of one borderer, in the same Town.

Bordering (bɔːdərɪŋ), *vbl. sb.* [f. BORDER v.]
 1. a. The state of being on the border of, or close to, anything. b. The action of making a border to; an edging; = BORDER.

1530 PALSGR. 200/1 Bordering of a garment, *broderve*. 1580 HOLLYBAND *Treas. Fr. Tong.* *Abordement*, an arriuing or bordering. 1851 RUSKIN *Stones Ven.* I. xxi. § 27, The figuring and chasings and borderings of a dress. 1860 M. HOPKINS *Hawaii* 71 A kerb or bordering of stones.

2. *attrib.* and in *comb.*, as bordering-wax, a VOL. I.

composition used to form a border to keep in the acid employed to bite into a plate for engraving.

1876 SALA in *Gentl. Mag.* May 561 Bordering-wax is softened in warm water until it is thoroughly ductile.

Bordering, *ppl. a.* [f. as prec. + -ING².]

1. That borders upon; adjoining, neighbouring, on the border; also *fig.*

1530 PALSGR. 306/2 Bordering to the seesyde, *maritain*. 1590 GREENE *Orl. Fur.* (1599) 35 Daughter I am vnto a bordering Swaine, That tend my flockes within these groues. 1631 GOUGE *God's Arrows* I. § 70. 117 A plague . . . fell upon Bizantium and the bordering places. 1848 MACAULAY *Hist. Eng.* I. 42 The bordering states must imitate the example.

2. That borders, forms a border, or encloses.

1677 HALE *Prim. Orig. Man.* II. iv. 163 The bordering Mountains of China. 1711 GAY *Rural Sports* I. i. 259 The bord ring reeds O'erlook the muddy stream. 1861 GRO. ELIOT *Silas M.* 12 A man could cross the bordering heights.

3. Of or pertaining to a border district.

1513 DAVIES *Why Ireland* (1747) 41 They made only a bordering war upon the Irish. 1617 MORYSON *Itin.* III. III. iv. 155 Sent from the governor of Berwick about bordering affairs. 1744 RAMSAY *Ever-Green*, *Johnie Armstrong* note, Taking much Plunder in the bordering Parts.

Borderism, *rare.* [f. BORDER sb. + -ISM.] Words or behaviour characteristic of the Border.

1839 LOCKHART *Scott* x. 227 The burst of genuine Borderism.

Border-land. (Also as one and as two words.)

1. A land or district on or near the border between two countries or districts; particularly the border district between England and Scotland.

1813 HOGG *Queen's Wake*, Leyden came from Border land. 1849 GROTE *Greece* II. iv. A neutral strip of borderland. 1876 GREEN *Short Hist.* IV. § 1 (1882) 158 Offa tore from Wales the border land between the Severn and the Wye.

2. *fig.*

1823 LAMB *Elia Ser.* I. xi. (1865) 88 Between the affirmative and the negative there is no border-land with him. 1863 LONGF. *Wayside Inn* Prel. 132 The twilight that surrounds The border-land of old romance. 1878 BOSW. SMITH *Carthage* 370 That borderland between fact and fiction.

Borderless (bɔːdləs), *a.* [f. BORDER + -LESS.]

Without a border.

1611 COTGR., *Interminant*, boundlesse, borderlesse, vn-certaine. 1849 GEO. ELIOT *A. Bede* II. 377 Her white borderless cap. 1872 *Fortin. Rev.* Mar. 281 On the pitiless waves of a borderless sea.

Bord-halfpenny: see BURGHALFENNY.

Bordiller, variant of BORDERER, *Obs.*

Bordis, variant of BOURDIS, *Obs.*, tilting.

+ **Bord-land**. *Obs. Feudal Syst.* [Explained in the 13th c. as f. OE. *bord* a table + *LAND*: but prob. really land held by a BORDAR in *bordage* tenure.]

c. 1250 BRACTON *iv.* 19 (ed. Twiss) Est autem dominium quod quis habet ad mensuram suam et proprie, sicut sunt Bordlands Anglie. 1610 FOLKINGHAM *Art of Survey* III. v. 73 These Demesnes were called of the Saxons . . . Inland (and by Bracton . . . Bord-lands). 1664 SPELMAN *Gloss.*, Bordlands *terre dominicales*. (So in BLOUNT; and in later Dicts.)

+ **Bord-lode**. *Obs. Feudal Syst.* [Explained by Du Cange as f. *bord* BOARD + *LODE* leading, conveyance: but prob. some service due by the BORDAR.] 'A Service required of the Tenants, to carry Timber out of the Woods of the Lord to his House.' Bailey 1721. (From Du Cange, who cites it from *Chron. Will. Thorn.* anno 1364.)

+ **Bordman**. *Obs. Feudal Syst.* [Found in early times, only in the latinized form *bordmannus*, *bordimannus*, as a synonym of *bordarius*, see BORDAR.]

A bordar, or tenant in *bordage*, a cottier.

1087 *Domesday* (in Du Cange) In dominio est una carucata, et xxv villani, et xxxiii bordmanni, cum iv carucatus. — *Rental of Havering atte Bourne* (Spelm.) Bordmanni, qui omnes tunc fuerunt basse tenuræ. [In mod. Dicts. (erroneously explained).]

Bordon, -un, *obs.* f. BURDEN; var. of BOURDON.

Bordour, *bordre*, *obs.* forms of BORDER.

Bordrage, var. BODRAGE, *Obs.*, hostile incursion.

+ **Bordrie**. *Obs.* prob. = F. *broderie*, *broderie de soie* silken embroidery or embroidered work. (It can hardly be = *bawdry*, BALDRIO.)

1606 AUBREY *Misc.* 216 (D.) The meeting of the gentry . . . in the fields or forests, with their hawks and hounds, with their bugle-horns, in silken bordries.

Bordure (bɔːdiʊr), [The earlier form of BORDER, f. *bordure*, OF. *bordure*.]

1. *Her.* 'A Bearing that goes all round, and parallel to the boundary of the Escutcheon, in form of a hem, and always contains a fifth part of the Field in breadth.' PONY *Elem. Her.* 1787.

1460 *Lybeaus Disc.* 858 He bar the scheld of goulles . . . Of gold was the bordure. 1598 WYRLEY *Armorie* 86 Three rundels. . . In sable bordure deeply ingreled. 1610 GUILLIM *Heraldry* I. v. (1660) 30 This term *Entoyre* is proper to all bordures charged with dead things. 1763 *Brit. Mag.* IV. 527 Sable, an eagle displayed, ermine, within a bordure, argent. 1864 BOUTELL *Heraldry, Hist. & Pop.* xiv. 163 The bordure of Holland is blazoned without any dimidiation.

2. = BORDER. (An occasional variant.)

1664 EVERLYN *Kal. Hort.* (1720) 199 In such Bordures . . . plant neither Herbs nor Flowers. 1693 — *De la Quint.* *Compl. Gard. Gloss.*, *Bordures* or *Borders* is a term likewise used for Herbs commonly planted in Borders. a. 1695 WOOD *Life* (1848) 295 note, I have here printed my epistle with a

bordure and picture in it. 1830 TENNYSON *Poems* 85 In the bordure of her robe was writ *Wisdom*.

Bordured, *ppl. a.* *Her.* Having a bordure. 1610 GUILLIM *Heraldry* vi. 255/1 If a coat armour that is bordured bee borne sole of itself, then shall the bordure enuiron the coat round.

Borduring, *vbl. sb.* *Her.* The application of a bordure; bordures collectively.

1610 GUILLIM *Heraldry* I. v. 21 One example more of Bordurings.

+ **Bordyl** (lɔː), var. of BORDEL *Obs.*, brothel.

Bore (bɔː), *sb.* 1. Also 6 *Sc.* boir, 7 boar (e. [Partly f. BORE v.¹; but in senses 1–4 it may be partly adoption of, or cogn. w., ON. *boia* wk. fem. 'bore-hole':—O'Leut. **borōn*—(the corresp. form **bore* is not recorded in OE.; the equivalent OHG. *boia*, Du. *boor* fem., agree in meaning with 5); and in sense 5:—OE. *bor* 'borer, gimlet' = ON. *bor-r*:—O'Leut. **boro-s*: see BORE v.¹]

I. That which is bored.

1. A hole made by boring, a perforation; an aperture (irrespective of shape), a chink, crevice, or cranny; in later use chiefly an auger hole, or other cylindrical perforation. *Obs.* or *arch.*

c. 1300 *Seign. Sag.* 1156 Water hi can stop That hit ne mai nowt bi bores drop. a. 1400 *Cov. Myst.* 319 We xal se Yf the borys be for hym meet. 1430 LYDG. *Chron. Troy* II. xx, That cowardise ne entre at no bore. 1543 FITZGER. *Husb.* § 3 A pyne put through, set in the plough-beame, in an augurs bore. 1555 STEWART *Cron. Scot.* II. 515 Out throw aie boir quhair he mycht rycht well see. 1654 TRAFF *Comm.* Job xxxiii. 16 He openeth the ears of men, He maketh the bore bigger. 1718 ARBUTHNOT in *Swift's Lett.* II. 2 He has shortened his stirrups three bores. 1785 BURNS *Jolly Begs.* 52 Frighted rattons . . . seek the bestmost bore.

b. *Blue bore*: an opening in the clouds showing the blue sky. *Sc.* Also *fig.*

1775 BAILLIE *Lett.* I. 171 (JAM.) This style pleased us well. It was the first blue bore that did appear in our cloudy sky. c. 1817 HOGG *Tales & Sk.* III. 241 All at once a lovely 'blue bore' . . . opened in the cloud behind.

+ c. Applied to the wounds of Christ. 'S bores, a profane oath = *God's wounds*, ZOUNDS. *Obs.*

1640 BROME *Sparagus Gard.* iv. iii. Wks. 1873 III. 179 No, no, no not I; s'bores I bit my tongue too hard.

d. *Sc.* 'To wick a bore in curling and cricket is to drive a stone or ball dexterously through an opening between two guards.' Jamieson s.v. *Wick*. 1786 BURNS *Tam Samson's E. v.* He was the king o' a' the core, To guard, or draw, or wick a bore.

2. *spec.* The cylindrical perforation or cavity of a tube, gun, etc. Also *attrib.*, preceded by a defining word, as *smooth-bore*, *taper-bore*, *CHOKE-BORE*, q. v. (In quot. 1730 used of a semi-cylindrical groove.)

1574 GASCOIGNE *Weedes*, Wks. (1587) 183 The bravest peece for breech and bore that ever yet was bought. 1611 COTGR., *Ame.* . . the mould that is within the bore of Artillerie when tis cast. 1635 J. BABINGTON *Pyrotechn.* 1, I take for the sayd length six diameters of the bore, which maketh six inches. 1678 N. WANLEY *Wonders* III. xlv. § 28. 227/2 Muskets . . . to shoot Bullets without Powder, or anything else but Wind or Air compressed in the bore of it. 1730 A. GORDON *Maffei's Amphit.* 349 Several small Bores made hollow by the continued Friction of the Ropes. a. 1793 G. WHITE *Selborne* (1853) 4 Might plant the mortar with wide threatening bore. 1808 J. BARLOW *Columb.* v. 628 Marks-men, skill'd to pour their slugs unerring from the twisted bore. 1871 B. STEWART *Heat* § 16 Part of this mercury will be driven up the bore into the bulb.

b. Hence, the interior measurement or diameter of a tube; the calibre of a gun; also *fig.* and *transf.*

1583 PLAT *Divers new Exper.* (1594) 23 Boring of petronell bore, or a bore higher. 1608 SHAKS. *Ham.* iv. vi. 27 Yet are they much too light for the bore of the Matter. 1635 J. BABINGTON *Pyrotechn.* xxiii. 27 Holes . . . which shall be halfe an inch asunder, and likewise half an inch boare. 1678 MARVELL *Rel. Transp.* i. 93 Whose eares are of a just bore for his fable. 1796 MORSE *Amer. Geog.* II. 403 Nearly three hundred pieces of cannon of different bores. 1822 IMISON *Sc. & Art* I. 112 The smaller the bore of the pipe is, the easier he will be able to raise himself. 1845 DARWIN *Voy. Nat.* III. (1873) 60 The measure or bore of the lightning, if such a term may be used. 1881 *Metal World* ix. 139 An article on measuring the bores of cylinders.

3. A deep vertical hole of small diameter, bored into the earth to ascertain the nature of the underlying strata, or to obtain water.

1674 N. FAIRFAX *Bulk & Setv.* 185 What we do find at our utmost depths or bores . . . quarries of stone, Mines of metal, or layers and veins of barren earths. 1875 *Encycl. Brit.* I. 646 A bore of 3 inches was carried to a depth of 2086 feet.

b. *transf.* The tubular outlet of a geyser.

1863 BARRING-GOULD *Iceland* 196 The first of the great springs has two bores.

4. A piece of iron bored with holes of various sizes to receive the shanks of nails, while the head is brought to shape by the hammer.

1831 J. HOLLAND *Manuf. Metals* I. 195 This bore is a piece of strong iron, ten or twelve inches in length.

II. That which bores.

+ 5. An instrument for boring. *Obs.*

[a. 800 *Corpus Gloss.* in W. Wülcker *Voc. 45 Scalpellum*, bor.] 1677 MOXON *Mech. Exerc.* (1693) 48 The Square-bore is a square Steel Point . . . fitted into a square Socket in an Iron Wimple.

III. 6. *Comb.* (in sense 3; some of these might be referred to BORE v.¹): bore-bit, a 126

chisel used in boring through rocks; bore-hole, a more usual synonym of BORE *sb.* 3; bore-log, a perforated block of wood through which the bore-rod passes; bore-meal, the debris brought up by boring; bore-rod, an iron rod used for making bore-holes.

1869 *Spon's Dict. Engineering* I. 499 The 'bore-bit' is a simple, flat chisel. 1708 J. C. *Compl. Collier* (1845) 13 About 3 Inches Diameter for a Bore-hole (or Boreing) is sufficient. 1883 *Athenaeum* 7 Apr. 447 [They] sank a bore-hole down to the salt at Saltholme, on the north side of the Tees. 1869 *Spon's Dict. Engineering* I. 501 The mouth of the well.. ought to be secured by the 'bore-log. *Ibid.* Each day.. a part of the 'bore-meal, or the coarsest debris [should be] saved for future examination. 1851 *Coal-tr. Terms Northumbd. & Durh.* 8 To ascertain the nature of strata, by means of 'bore-rods.

Bore (bōr), *sb.* 2 [This, and its vb. BORE² arose after 1750; etymology unknown.

(Usually supposed to be f. BORE *v.* 3, which is then regarded as a fig. use of BORE *v.* 1, with the notion of 'persistent annoyance' (cf. Ger. *drillen*). But it seems impossible in this way to account for sense 1 of the *sb.*, which is apparently the source of the other senses, and of the verb itself. If related at all to BORE *v.* 1 or *sb.* 1, the connexion must be much more indirect; possibly there is an allusion to some now forgotten anecdote. The phrase 'French bore' naturally suggests that the word is of French origin; *bourre* padding, hence (in 18th c.) triviality, *bourrer* to stuff, to satiate, might be thought of; but without assuming some intermediate link these words do not quite yield the required sense.)

† 1. The malady of *ennui*, supposed to be specifically 'French', as 'the spleen' was supposed to be English; a fit of ennui or sulks; a dull time.

1766 EARL OF MARCH *Let.* in *Jesse G. Selwyn* II. 88 [date misprinted 1776] Augustus Hervey and Lord Cadogan are in a long bore. — G. J. WILLIAMS *Let.* 9 Dec. *Ibid.* 108 He sits every night next to Lord Temple, and has a complete bore of it for two hours. — *Let.* 30 Dec. *Ibid.* 121 Your last letter was the most cheerful that I have received from you, and.. without that d-d French bore. 1767 LD. CARLISLE *Let.* 8 Mar. *Ibid.* 150. I enclose you a packet of letters, which if they are French, the Lord deliver you from the bore.

† 2. One who suffers from 'bore' or ennui, or affects lack of interest in anything.

1766 G. J. WILLIAMS *Let.* 25 Nov. in *Jesse G. Selwyn* II. 86 You are.. such a French bore, and all against your poor country, that I believe you imagine your letters are opened at the post-office.

2. A thing which bores or causes ennui; an annoyance, a nuisance.

1776 *Refutation* 16 Advice is well enough—reproofs a bore. 1807 *Antid. Miseries Hum. Life* 27 Conversation is a bore, as tis generally managed. 1831 WHATELY in *Life* (1866) I. 111 A formal dinner-party even at Oxford is a bore. 1858 HAWTHORNE *Fr. & It. Frills* I. 190 It is as great a bore as to hear a poet read his own verses.

3. A tiresome or uncongenial person; one who wearies or worries. *Blue bore* (quot. 1837): in punning allusion to the tavern sign of the Blue Boar.

1812 *Edin. Rev.* XX. 74 A king is in these tribes really regarded as a sort of.. bore. 1826 DISRAELI *Viv. Grey* v. vi. 192 The true bore is that man who thinks the world is only interested in one subject, because he himself can only comprehend one. 1837 DICKENS *Pickw.* li. 'Ungrammatical twaddler, was it, sir?' 'Yes, sir, it was.. and blue-bore, sir, if you like that better. 1848 THACKERAY *Van. Fair* xi. He says the country girls are bores; indeed, I don't think he is far wrong. 1858 O. W. HOLMES *Aut. Breakf. T. i.* 3 'Madam, all men are bores, except when we want them.'

Bore (bōr), *sb.* 3 Also 4 bare, 7-9 boar, 8 boer. [In sense 1, app. a. ON. *bōra* wave, billow: it is doubtful whether sense 2 is the same word, since no examples even of its local use in early times have been found.]

† 1. ? Wave, billow. *Obs. rare.*

c 1320 *Sir Tristr.* 356 Hye seyden: 3ond is þe lond, and here schaltow to bare.

2. A tide-wave of extraordinary height, caused either by the meeting of two tides, or by the rushing of the tide up a narrowing estuary. Cf. *EAGRE*. Also in *comb.*, as † *bore-loden* (= *-laden*), swollen by a tidal wave.

1601 WEEVER *Mirr. Mart.* B iv b. No bridge vpon her bore-lod'n bosome bore. 1613 *Voy. Guiana* in *Harl. Misc.* (Malh.) III. 197 A boar, as the seamen term it, and violent encounter of two tides coming in. 1668 *Phil. Trans.* III. 816 All Vessels that lye in the way of the.. Boar, are commonly overset. 1738 *Ibid.* XL. 432 He.. suspects, that Spouts and Boars may derive their Origin from the same Cause. 1796 BURKE *Regic. Peace* Wks. 1842 II. 383 The victorious tenth wave shall ride, like the bore, over all the rest. 1830 LVELL *Princ. Geol.* I. 292 The Bristol Channel is very subject to the Bore.

Bore (bōr), *v.* 1 Forms: *Inf.* 1 borian, 2 boren, borien, 5 boryn, boore, 6-7 boar(e), 2-bore. *Pa. pple.* 5 boryn, 7 boared, 2- bored. [Com. Teut.: OE. *borian* wk. v. is cogn. w. OHG. *bōrn* (MHG. *born*, mod.G. *bohren*), Du. *boren*, ON. *bora*:—O.Teut. **bōrn* to bore, f. O.Teut. **boro-*, whence OE., ON. *bor* str. masc., an auger, gimlet (see BORE *sb.* 1); f. Aryan root meaning to cut, pierce, whence Lat. *forāre* to bore, Gr. *phōpos* a plough, etc. The orig. short *o* is lengthened by position in ME. and mod.E.; as in mod.Ger. and Du. (Some

of the latter senses are difficult to account for: 6 may really be a different word.)]

1. *trans.* To pierce, perforate, make a hole in or through; in mod. use *esp.* to pierce by means of a rotatory movement like that of an auger or gimlet. Also with adv. *through*.

c 1000 *Ælfric Gloss.* in *Wt. Wulcker Voc.* 121 *Termes vel terado*, wyrm þe borað treow. c 1150 *Gloss.* *ibid.* 550 *Terebro*, ic bore. 1398 *Trevisa Barth. De P. R.* xvii. iii. (1495) 605 Yf almonde trees ben boryd wyth naylles gumme cometh out of them. c 1435 *Torr. Portugal* 238 Fulle of holis it was boryn. 1594 T. B. La Primaud. *Fr. Acad.* II. To Rdr., Who hath.. bored the skin through with infinit pores for evacuation. 1664 *Power Exp. Philos.* I. 59 Curiously can nature weave the Vessels of the Body; nay, and bore them too. 1760 COKE *Russ. Disc.* 334 All the worm-eaten roots are rejected; the remainder are bored through. 1814 SCOTT *Ld. of Isles* vi. xxiv. The Bruce's care Had bored the ground with many a pit. *Mod.* The wood is apt to split; bore it first for the nails.

† 2. To pierce, stab, run through with a weapon; to wound. *Obs.*

a 1400 *Leg. Road* (1871) 201 His breest is bored with deepis armes. 1684 F. SPENCE *Ho. Medici* 133 He first boar'd Giuliano de Medici with a poignard.

† 3. *Phr.* To bore (any one's) ears (in allusion to Exod. xxi. 6): to consign to perpetual slavery. *Obs.*

1535 COVERDALE *Ex.* xxi. 6 Let his master bore [Wyclif 1384 thral, 1388 perse] him throw the eare with a botkin. 1641 MILTON *Church Govt.* II. (1851) 176 By their corrupt and servile doctrines boring our eares to an everlasting slavery. 1652 SOUTH 12 *Serm.* (1697) I. 13 Can any man, that would be faithful to his Reason, yield his Ear to be bored through by his domineering appetites.

† 4. Applied in sense 'to insist upon a hearing', 'to force one to listen'; possibly with reference to Psalm xl. 6 in the Heb.; cf. BORE *v.* 2

a 1617 P. BAYNE *Ephes.* 140 (1658) God by afflictions is said to bore the ear. 1622 H. SYDENHAM *Serm. Sol. Occ.* I. (1637) 76 This is enough for an understanding eare without further boring it. 1644 SIR E. DERING *Sp. on Relig.* 95 One of them who jog our elbowes, and boar our.. eares with Babylon.

† 5. *transf.* To penetrate, make one's way through (a crowd); fig. to gain entrance into (the mind).

1622 H. SYDENHAM *Serm. Sol. Occ.* II. (1637) 115 Riddles of eternal generation which can never bore a human intellect. a 1732 GAY (J.) Consider what bustling crouds I bor'd.

6. To bore out, to put or force out (e.g. the eyes) by boring. *Obs. or dial.*

c 1400 *Test. Love* I. Every teare of mine eyen for greatness semed they boren out the ball of my sight. 1660 FULLER *Mist. Contemp.* (1841) 239 Petrus de Vineis.. whose eyes he had caused to be bored out for some misdeameour. 1712 STERLE *Spec. No.* 324 p. 1 Tipping the Lion.. is performed by.. boring out the Eyes with their Fingers.

7. *trans.* To pierce with a cylindrical aperture or cavity; to hollow out evenly (a cylinder, gun, etc.).

1753 CHAMBERS *Cycl. Supp.* s. v. *Boring.* The method of boring alder poles for water-pipes. 1875 *Ur. Dict. Arts* II. 381 After the barrel is bored, and rendered truly cylindrical.

8. *absol. and intr.* To make a hole (mod. use limited as in 1). Often with *through, into, under*, or other prep. In *Mining*, to sink a bore-hole (see BORE *sb.* 1 3 and 6), as *to bore for coal, for water*.

a 1225 *Leg. Kath.* 1024 Swa þat te pikas and te irene preones se scharpe and se starke borien purh. c 1430 *Hymns Virg.* (1867) 52 A spere þoruz myn herte gan boore. 1535 COVERDALE *Judith* vi. 26 Cut of his heade and pearsed and bored thorow his temples. 1593 SHAKS. *Rich. II.* III. ii. 170 And with a little Pinne Bores through his Castle Walls. 1853 KANE *Grinnell Exp.* x. (1856) 72 By cutting and boring [we] succeeded in penetrating it [the ice]. 1864 TENNYSON *Aylmer's F.* 850 The hedgehog underneath the plantain bores. 1875 *Ur. Dict. Arts* I. 445 The Chinese method of boring with ropes instead of rigid rods.

fig. 1607 SHAKS. *Timon* IV. iii. 116 Those Milke pappes That thorow the window Barne [edd. bars] bore at mens eyes.

† 9. To obtain entrance by boring. *Obs.*

1375 *Leg. Road* (1871) 139 Men mijte better ha crepet.. þen bored into heuene blis.

10. To advance, push forward, by gradual persistent motion like that of a boring tool; fig. to persevere by slow and laborious means to the attainment of a distant object.

1697 DRYDEN *Virg. Georg.* III. 438 They take their Flight.. boring to the West. 1867 F. FRANCIS *Angling* III. (1880) 77 The bream has a disagreeable knack of boring head down. 1874 HELPS *Soc. Press.* II. 23 The 'great measure' man has one or two objects respecting which he bores on throughout the greater part of his life.

11. *trans. and intr.* Of a horse: To thrust the head straight forward.

1731 BAILEY II. [With Horsemen] a horse is said to boar or bore, when he shoots out his nose as high as he can. 1802 C. JAMES *Mil. Dict.* (1816) 54/a. 1824 SCOTT *Redgauntlet* let. vii. The bit secured between his teeth, and his head bored down betwix his fore-legs.

12. *trans.* To produce or make (a hole, passage, tunnel) by boring (mod. use as 1, 3). *To bore one's way*: to advance by a boring motion.

1523 FITZGER. *Husb.* § 24 Than maye he.. bore the holes with his wymbel. 1535 COVERDALE 2 *Kings* xii. 9 Then Ioiada the prest toke a chest, and bored an hole about therein. 1625 J. BABINGTON *Pyrotechn.* xxiii. 27 Then boare your holes thorow your inch board. a 1705 RAY (J.) These diminutive caterpillars are able.. to pierce or bore their way into a tree. 1833 HT. MARTINEAU *Manch. Strike* x. 110

Boring a hole between two flints in a yard with a rusty pair of scissors. 1853 PHILLIPS *Rivers Yorksh.* II. 33 The passage is like a tunnel; it is in fact bored out by the water.

13. To push or thrust as by boring; now esp. in Racing language, to push out of the course.

1677 *Lover's Quarr.* 317 in *Hazl. E. P.* II. 266 He bor'd him out of the Saddle fair. 1884 *L'pool Mercury* 5 Mar. 5/1 In the world of racing 'to bore' is to push an opponent out of his course.

† 14. To mock, trick, cheat, gull; 1 = BOURD *v.* 1 2.

1604 *Life T. Cromwell* II. ii. 103 One that hath gulled you, that hath bored you Sir. 1613 SHAKS. *Hen VIII.* I. i. 128 At this instant He bores me with some trick. 1622 FLETCHER *Span. Curate* IV. v. 43, I am laughed at, scorn'd, baffel'd and bored, it seems.

Bore (bōr), *v.* 2 [App. f. BORE *sb.* 2]

trans. To weary by tedious conversation or simply by the failure to be interesting.

1708 EARL CARLISLE *Let.* 16 Apr. in *Jesse G. Selwyn* I. 291, I pity my Newmarket friends, who are to be bored by these Frenchmen. *Ibid.* 293, I have seen as yet nothing of Florence, therefore shall not bore you. 1774 *Private Lett.* 1st *Ld. Malmesbury* I. 278, I have bored you sadly with this catastrophe. 1821 BYRON in *Moore's Life* xlii. 476 Hobhouse and others bored me with their learned localities. 1853 DZ. QUINCEY *Sp. Mil. Num* Wks. III. 15 A man.. has no unlimited privilege of boring one. 1883 *Fortn. Rev.* Feb. 186 Whereas he had expected to be dreadfully bored, he had on the contrary been greatly instructed.

Bore, *pa. t.* and *obs. pa. pple.* of BEAR *v.* 1; *obs.* f. BOAR, BOOR; var. BOB *dial.*, neighbour.

Boread, Boreiad (bōr-i-ād, bōr-i-ād), *sb.* and *a.* [as *sb.* ad. Gr. *Boreiōns*, *Boreiōns*, patronymic f. *Boreas* BOREAS; as *adj.* perh. suggested by Gr. *Boreas*, -ādos, fem. *adj.*, of the north wind.]

A. sb. A son of Boreas. **B. adj.** Relating to northern regions.

1854 KEIGHTLEY *Mythol. Anc. Greece & It.* (ed. 3) 418 The Boreiads there turned back. 1882 C. ELTON *Orig. Eng. Hist.* 5 Later poets.. incorporated the Boread legends with travellers' descriptions.. of a solar worship.

Boreal (bōr-i-āl), *a.* Also 5 boreiall, 6 boryall, 7 boreall. [ad. L. *Borealis*; see BOREAS and -AL.]

1. Of or pertaining to the north; situated on the northern side; of a northern character. *Boreal signs*: the six signs of the Zodiac from Aries to Virgo. *Boreal dawn* (rare): the Aurora Borealis. Now chiefly in Zool. and Bot.

1470 HARDING *Chron.* ccl. note. Foure flodes.. Ebbyngge & flowyngge in the see boreiall. 1536 *Exhort. North* in Furnivall's *Ballads* fr. MSS. I. 305 The boreyale Region. 1695 WESTMACOTT *Script. Herb.* 42 Fitz Stephens describing London, tells us of a large Forrest of [Chestnut] Trees on the Boreal part of it. 1805 W. TAYLOR in *Ann. Rev.* III. 211 His pretended reforms, like the boreal dawn, glittered at a distance. 1845 POE *Ulalume*, The boreal pole. 1846 McCULLOCH *Acc. Brit. Empire* (1854) I. 99 [Plants] all eminently alpine or boreal. 1874 COUES *Birds of N.W.* 316 The Acadian Owl is not so boreal a bird as its congener.

2. Of or pertaining to the north wind.

1656 BLOUNT *Glossogr.*, Boreal, pertaining to the North-Wind. 1672 R. WILD *Declat. Lib. Cons.* 7 Such a boreal month as this March. 1790 POPE *Thad* xxiii. 241 To gentle Zephyr and the Boreal blast. 1830 in *Blackw. Mag.* XXVIII. 941 The boreal storms are o'er.

3. Belonging to the 'boreal province' of the Mollusca.

1854 WOODWARD *Mollusca* III. (1856) 358 The boreal shells of America are described by Dr. Gould. 1873 GEIKIE *Gl. Ice Age* xv. 196 Perfect specimens of boreal and arctic shells.

Boreal, *obs. form* of BERYL.

Borealis. Short for AURORA BOREALIS.

1790 BURNS *Tam O'Shanter*, Or like the borealis race, That sit ere you can point their place.

Borealize, *v. nonce-ud.* [f. BOREAL + -IZE.]

intr. To adopt northern manners or pronunciation.

1864 LOWELL *Biglow P.* in *Poet. Wks.* (1879) 235/2 Spenser.. borealized in his pastorals.

Borean (bōr-i-ān), *a.* [f. BORE-AS + -AN.] Pertaining to the north wind; northern.

1645 QUARLES *Sol. Recant.* i. 6 It blusters at the Borean Gates. 1866 J. ROSE *Virg. Georg.* 58 The borean blast.

Boreas (bōr-i-ās), *a.* Also 4 Borias. [a. L. *Boreas*, a. Gr. *Bopéas* north wind.] The north-wind; the god of the north-wind. Now only in *Mythol.* and in poet. or humorous personification.

1208 *Trevisa Barth. De P. R.* xl. iii. (1495) 388 Borias the Northern wynde aryvyth. c 1450 HENRYSON *Dog, Wolf & Sk.* Boreas, with blastis bitterly. 1599 SPENSER *Sheph. Cal.* Feb. 226 The blustering Boreas did encroche. 1655 QUARLES *Embl.* I. ii. (1718) 10 Blust'ring Boreas blows the boiling Tide. 1718 POPE *Thad* II. 1025 Boreas beats the hoarse-resounding shores. 1863 MARY HOWITT *F. Bremer's Greece* II. xvii. 193 Boreas had decided otherwise, and blew up against us a terrible north wind.

Boreau, var. of BOURBEAU, *Obs. Sc.*, hangman.

Borecole (bōr-ikōl). Also 8 booroole. [prob. ad. the Du. name *boerenkool* lit. 'peasant's cabbage'.] A loose or open-headed variety of the cabbage, cultivated under the name of Kale.

1712 ARBUTHNOT *Hist. John Bull* (1755) 24 His children.. live upon salt herring, sowre crud, and borecole. 1813 C. MARSHALL *Garden.* xv. (ed. 5) 222 Borecole or kale is a hardy green. 1850 *Gard. Chron.* 276 Borecole also called Kail.

Bored (bōr-id), *pple.* a. 1 Also 7 boared. [f. BORE *v.* 1 + -ED.] Pierced, perforated; cylindrically hollow. Said of a gun, with modifying words prefixed, as *chamber-, taper-bored*.

See P. H., in *Nation*,
1893, July 13, p. 27.

1513 DOUGLAS *Aeneis* iv. Prol. 154. Halting opinionous der of a borit bane. 1576 *Chr. Prayers in Priv. Prayers* (1851) 506 Thou stretchest out thy bored hands. 1607 TOPSELL *Four-f. Beasts* 473 They also had a care to cover all the floor with... dry boarded boards. 1692 in *Smith's Seaman's Gram.* ii. ii. 91 He ought... to know whether truly bored, or taper bored. 1720 POPE *Iliad* vii. 305 From their bored shields the chiefs their javelins drew. 1808 J. BARLOW *Columb.* iii. 415 From his bored ears contorted serpents hung.

Bored (bō'id), *ppl. a.* [f. BORE *v.* 2 + -ED.] Worn, suffering from ennui.

1823 BYRON *Juan* xli. xcv. Society is now one polished horde, Formed of two mighty tribes, the Bored and Bored. 1861 SALA *Two round Clock* 99 He seems the most bored, the most indifferent spectator there.

Boredom (bō'idəm), [f. BORE *sb.* 2 + -DOM.] 1. = BOREISM.

1854 *Reform* 10 Feb. 1 The complete art of boredom. 1879 GEO. ELIOT *Theo. Such* xv. 273 The male could assert his superiority and show a more vigorous boredom.

2. The state of being bored; tedium, ennui.

1852 DICKENS *Bleak Ho.* II. xviii. 253 [His] chronic malady of boredom. 1876 GEO. ELIOT *Dan. Der.* II. xxx. 264 A man whose grace of bearing has long been moulded on an experience of boredom.

3. The class of bores as a whole.

1883 *Gd. Wds.* 115 Boredom rejoiced—gossip clapped her hands.

† **Boree**. *Obs.* Also *bory*. [ad. F. *bourrée* 'a rustic dance belonging originally to Auvergne' (Littre).] A kind of dance, a bourrée.

1676 ETHERIDGE *Man of Mode* iv. i. (1684) 55, I am fit for nothing but low dancing now, a Corant, a Boree, Or a Minuet. c. 1730 SWIFT *Tom & Dick* Wks. 1755 IV. L. 261 Dick could neatly dance a jig, But Tom was best at bores.

Boreen (bō'ri'n). *Anglo-Irish.* Also *boreen*. [f. Irish *bóthar* (pronounced *bōhər*), a road + *-een*, diminutive suffix, a. Ir. *-in*.] A lane, a narrow road; also *transf.* an opening in a crowd. (Used only when Irish subjects are referred to.)

1841 S. C. HALL *Ireland* I. 77 At my brother's, a piece down that boreen. *Ibid.* 287 Whosoever he went, the people made a boreen for him. 1883 R. DOWNEY *Congress* 1 *Doom in Tinsley's Mag.* At length we reached a narrow boreen, down which we drove.

Boreism (bō'riz'm). Also *borism*. [f. BORE *sb.* 2 + -ISM.] The characteristic behaviour of bores; the practice of being a bore.

1833 M. SCOTT *Tom Cringle* xvi. (1859) 401 Borism is fast attaining a head it never reached before. 1839 H. ANDERSON *Haileybury Observ.* i. 20 An intolerable mixture of impertinence and boreism.

† **Borel**. *Sc. Obs.* Also 5- boreal(e), 6-7 borel. [f. BORE *v.* 1 + -EL, as in *shovel*.] A boring tool, a wimble, an auger. Also *attrib.*

1488 *Acta Dom. Concilii* 106 (JAM.) A womyl, a boreale price xid. 1549 *Compl. Scot.* 11 I knyf, ande ane borel. 1611 *Rates* (JAM.) Borels for wrights, the groce iiii. a 1891 HOGG *Hunt of Eldon* 321 (JAM.) Ane round and borel hole.

Borel, var. of BORREL, BUREL, *Obs.*

Borelaphs, *obs.* form of BURLAPS.

Borelich, *borely*, *obs.* ff. BURLY.

† **Boremes**. Corrupted form of BOUTS-RIMÉS.

1687 MRS. BEHN *Emperor of M.* i. iii. Wks. 289 I'll make some Boremes on Love. *Ibid.* 290 Who writ these Boremes?

Borer (bō'rai). Also (only in sense 2) 6 boryer, 7 borier, borrier. [f. BORE *v.* 1 + -ER 1; the forms in *-ier*, *-yer*, may be influenced by Fr. words in *-iére*, as *larrière borer*.]

1. One who bores or pierces.

1483 *Cath. Angl.* 37 A Borer; forator. 1839 CARLYLE *Chartism* iv. 138 The millions are, and must be skillless, ploughers, delvers, borers. 1879 in *Cassell's Techn. Educ.* II. 10 To enable the borer to make a complete section of the strata.

b. A horse that 'bores'.

1872 LEVER *Ld. Kilgobbin* vi. 41 The best bit for a 'borer'. c. A name given to the Myxine or Hag-fish; also to the *Teredo* or shipworm; and to various insects which bore through wood, etc.

1789 *Phil. Trans.* LXXIX. 68, I should conceive it a preservative against the Borer, so destructive to ships in this part of the world. 1841 ANDERSON *Creat.* ii. 9 The borer, a grub peculiar to the sugar cane, made such... ravage. 1879 ATCHERLY *Boatland* 238 The depredations caused by an insect called the borer. 1884 *Longm. Mag.* Mar. 525 The Hagfish or Borer... penetrating the captured cod or ling... devours the soft parts.

2. An instrument for boring: a. the tool employed for boring through rocks; b. the apparatus attached to the tail of boring-insects.

1572 J. JONES *Bathes Buckstone* 22, Boryers, such as mynerall men use in searching ore. 1623 WHITBOURNE *Newfoundland* 75 Taps, Boriers, and Funnels. 1633 T. STAFFORD *Pac. Hib.* vii. (1821) 556 With all the yron boriers, seven peeces in all. 1797 *Phil. Trans.* LXXXVII. 326 At the time the borer burst through. 1808 PALEY *Nat. Theol.* (1817) 155 The awl or borer fixed at the tails of various species of flies. 1883 *Pall Mall G.* 6 Sept. 8/2 The borer having come in contact with a dynamite cartridge previously unexploded.

Boreson, *obs.* form of BAUSON, badger.

Boresprit, *obs.* form of BOWSPRIT.

Borestaff, *obs.* f. *boarstaff*: see BOAR 2.

Borethyl: see BOR-

Boretree, variant form of BOUTREE.

Borewe, *obs.* form of BORROW.

|| **Borg** (borg, bŕig). [ON. and Da. *borg*, the equivalent form to OE. *burg*, BOROUGH, q. v.] Used by Kingsley in the specific sense of: One of the 'Danish boroughs' in England.

1866 KINGSLEY *Herren* (1875) Prel. 11 Round by Leicester and the five borgs of the Danes.

Borg, *borghe*, *borh*, var. BORROW *sb.* *Obs.*

Borgeis, *-es*, *-eys*, *obs.* forms of BURGESS.

Borgen, pa. *ppl.* of BERGH *v.* *Obs.* to shelter.

Borgeon, *-goune*, *obs.* forms of BURGEON.

Boris-ealdor, variant of BORSHOLDER.

Boric (bō'rik), *a. Chem.* [f. BOR-ON + -IC.]

Of or pertaining to boron; containing boron in chemical combination, as *Boric chloride* (BCl₃), *Boric oxide* (B₂O₃); *Boric acid*, formerly called, because prepared from borax, *boracic acid* (H₂BO₃). 1869 ROSCOE *Elem. Chem.* 152 Boracic or Boric Acid. 1873 WATTS *Fossils' Chem.* 216 The vapour of boric chloride.

Boride (bō'raid). [f. BOR-ON + -IDE.] A primary compound of boron with a metallic element. 1863 WATTS *Dict. Chem.* I. 169 Heated on platinum-foil before the blowpipe, it forms a fusible boride of platinum.

Borier, *obs.* form of BORER.

Borillia, *obs.* variant of BARILLA.

1685 BOYLE *Motion* ii. 11 Borillia or some other fixed salt.

Boring (bō'rin), *vb.* *sb.* 1 [f. BORE *v.* 1 + -ING 1.]

1. The action of piercing, perforating, making a bore-hole, etc.; also *concr.* = BORE-HOLE.

c. 1440 *Prompt. Parv.* 44 Borynge, or percyng, *perforacio, cavatura*. 1544 MS. Acc. St. John's Hosp., *Canterb.* Payd for boryng of a ladder ijd. 1626 BACON *Sylva* § 352 The Boring of holes in that kinde of wood. 1708 J. C. COMPT. *Collier* (1845) 13 Do you not use Boring sometimes in Sinking? 1860 TYNDALL *Glac.* ii. § 19. 328 Count Rumford boiled water by the heat developed in the boring of a cannon. 1861 W. FAIRBAIRN *Addr. Brit. Assoc.* In various mines, borings, and Artesian wells.

2. *Attrib. and Comb.*, as *boring-apparatus*, *-bench*, *-block*, *-machinery*, *-mill*, *-room*, *-tool*; also *boring-bar*, the suspended bar which carries the bit for boring cannon; *boring-bit* = *bore-bit* (see BORE *sb.* 1); *boring-gauge*, an appliance for limiting the action of the boring tool to the required depth; *boring-rod* = *bore-rod* (see BORE *sb.* 1).

1667 PRIMATT *City & C. Build.* 26 You find by your Boring-roads that you have a good seam of Coles. 1833 J. HOLLAND *Manuf. Metals* II. 102 The boring-bench is composed of two stout beams of timber. *Ibid.* The [gun-] barrel is in the next place transferred to the boring-mill. 1845 STOCQUELER *Handbk. Brit. India* (1854) 174 The instrument-room, in which are arranged the various boring-bars, bits, and knives. 1860 TYNDALL *Glac.* ii. § 9. 271 M. Agassiz had iron boring-rods carried up the glacier, with which he pierced the ice. 1884 MARVIN *Region Etern.* Fire xii. 196 The pump draws the oil as freely... as when the basin was first tapped by the boring bit.

Boring (bō'rin), *vb.* *sb.* 2 [f. BORE *v.* 2 + -ING 1.]

The practice of annoying and wearying others;

behaving as a bore. 1868 HELPS *Realms* iii. (1876) 40 Boring has become a fine art. 1880 GRANT WHITE *Every-Day Eng.* 304 It [intervi-]... makes boring a paid profession.

† **Boring**, *vb.* *sb.* 3 *Obs. rare*—1. [f. BORER, F. *bourrée*, as 'chasing' from *chassée*.]

A certain step in dancing.

1775 SHERIDAN *Rivals* iii. iv. (1883) 113, I must rub up my balancing, and chasing, and boring.

Boring (bō'rin), *ppl. a.* 1 [f. BORE *v.* 1 + -ING 2.]

1. That bores or perforates; *esp.* applied to certain insects and molluscs.

1863 DE LA BECHE *Geol. Observ.* xxvi. 485 There were bare patches of carboniferous limestone in the sea, and into these the boring animals of the time burrowed. 1878 HUXLEY *Physiogr.* 208 The perforations in the column of the temple are the work of boring shell-fish.

2. Of a horse: That thrusts his head forward.

1875 'STONEHENGE' *Brit. Sports* II. III. i. § 3. 523 In every way, therefore, it acts well with a boring horse.

Boring (bō'rin), *ppl. a.* 2 [f. BORE *v.* 2 + -ING 2.]

That annoys, wearies, or causes ennui. Hence

Boringly *adv.*

1840 T. HOOK *Fitzherbert* III. iv. 66 Emily was patiently enduring... Miss Matthews's boring vanities. a 1845 HOOD *Incend. Song* xiii, Burn all bores and boring topics. 1840 T. HOOK in *New Month Mag.* LX. 429 Frank's attempts to moralize, not tediously, boringly or cantingly.

Borioun, *obs.* form of BURGEON, bud.

Borish (bō'rif), *a.* [f. BORE *sb.* 2 + -ISH.]

Tedious, wearisome.

1766 H. ST. JOHN *Let.* 9 Dec. in Jesse G. *Schwinn* II. 101 It would be vastly too *borish* in a letter. 1767 J. CRAWFORD *Let. March*, *Ibid.* 153 He suffered so little during the operation of trepanning that... he felt it quite *borish*. 1864 *Soc. Sc. Rev.* 100 When Music and other gentle arts which once cheered him become borish.

Borish, *obs.* form of BOARISH, and BOORISH.

Borism, variant of BORRISM.

|| **Borith**. [a. late L. *borith*, a. Heb. בִּרְית *bērith*, rendered in A. V. 'sope'; earlier versions followed the Vulgate in retaining the Heb. word.]

A plant yielding an alkali used for cleansing (1 *Saponaria officinalis*). 1384 WYCLIF *Jerem.* ii. 22 If thou wasshest thee with clensing clay, and multiplie to thee the clensende erbe boreth [1388 borith, 1535 COVERDALE herbe of Borith]. 1468 *Medulla*

Gramm., *Borith*, Fullere gres. 1555 ASP. HAMILTON *Catech.* (1884) 23 The herbe callit Borith quihik hais greit vertue of clensing. 1678 BR. GLOUCESTER *Expos. Catech.* 171 It is no water-work, no, not if you put to it Nitre, much sope, Fullers-earth, or Borith. 1730 in BAILEY.

Borise (bō'raiz), *v.* [f. BOR-AX + -IZE.] To infuse a preparation of borax into the veins of an animal intended for food. Hence *Borised ppl. a.*

1884 W. M. WILLIAMS *Borised Meats* in *Gentl. Mag.* The borized haunch remained perfectly untainted... The circulation of the borized blood might be continued.

Borler, var. of BURELLER, *Obs.*, clothworker.

Borley (bō'li), *dial.* A boat used by trawlers about the estuary of the Thames.

1864 *Daily Tel.* 18 May, The trawlers, sailing in boats known as 'Borleys'.

Borlich, *obs.* form of BURLY.

Bormethyl: see BOR-

Born (bō'm), *ppl.* and *a.* Forms under BEAR *v.*

[In modern use the connexion with *bear* is no longer felt; the phrase *to be born* has become virtually an intr. verb. See BEAR *v.* 43, 44.]

A. Senses of *to be born*.

1. To be brought forth as offspring, to come into the world. (See BEAR *v.* 44.)

2. *fig. a.* Of things: To come into existence (chiefly *poet.* and *rhetorical*). b. in *Theol.* of persons, *To be born of God*: to become a child of God; *To be born again*: to undergo the new birth, become or be regenerate.

1328 WYCLIF *John* iii. 3 But a man schal be born agen [1388 borun agen, TINDALE boren a newe, 1611 borne againe]. — 1 *John* iv. 7 Each man that loveth his brother, is born [1388 borun, TINDALE and 1611 borne] of God. 1593 HOOKER *Ecl. Pol.* Pref. i. § 1 All that would but seem to be born of Him. 1857 HEAVYSEGE *Saul* (1869) 127 Lo, the breaking light is born! 1889 TENNYSON *Vivien* 381 Some sudden turn of anger born Of your misfaith.

3. With *sbs.* or *adjs.*, or complementary phrases, as *to be born a poet*, *an Englishman*; *to be born blind*, *lucky*, *rich*, etc., i.e. to be so by the conditions of one's birth, by capacities implanted at birth, or the like; *to be born under a lucky star*, *with a silver spoon in one's mouth*, proverbial phrases denoting a fortunate destiny, or inherited wealth. *To be born to* (an inheritance, certain relationships, etc.): to inherit by right of birth; to be destined to from birth. Similarly with *infin.*, as *to be born to suffer*, *to be hanged*, etc.

a 1000 Boeth. *Metres* xxvi. 46 Gif he to þæm rice was on rihte boren. 1328 WYCLIF *Matt.* ii. 1 Wher is he, that is borun kyng of Jewis. 1610 SHAKS. *Temp.* I. i. 35 If he be not born to be hanged our case is miserable. 1697 DRYDEN *Virg. Georg.* iv. 463 Born to bitter Fate. 1750 JOHNSON *Rambl.* No. 148 ¶ 9 Those who were born to his protection.

4. Of qualities, tastes, aptitudes, *To be born in*, *with* (a person): to be implanted at birth.

1710 NICHOLLS *Comm. Common Prayer* Rrr b, There is a sort of Original Corruption in our Nature... born with us into the World.

B. *Attrib.* uses of the pa. *ppl.*

1. Said of persons:

a. generally = that (ever) was born, as 'Can any born man deny it?' *Born man* (*obs.*), a native.

c 1550 *Virgilius* in Thoms E. E. *Rom.* 22 She was the greatest borne woman that was than there aboute. 1588-9 *Hist. James VI* (1804) 147 This Bell was a borne man in Stirling. 1667 MILTON *P. L.* iv. 324 Goodliest man of men since born.

b. That has been born of such a quality or condition, as *a born orator*, *a born Englishman*; very common in *born fool*, and the like. Often following the *sb.*, as *a poet born*.

c 1330 *Arth. & Merl.* 7790 Ywain bastard y-bore. c 1386 CHAUCER *Merch. T.* 1790 Thyn owene squier and thy born man. 1551-6 ROBINSON tr. *Moré's Utop.* 131 Borne aduersaries and enemies one to an other. 1588 N. T. (Rhem.) *Mark* vii. 26 The woman was a Gentile, a Syrophenician borne. 1748 RICHARDSON *Pamela* III. 89, I, a poor helpless Girl... shall put on Lady-airs to a Gentlewoman born. 1861 *Sat. Rev.* XII. 381 Lord John and Mr. Walpole both have their weaknesses; but neither of them is a born fool. 1863 KINGSLEY *Water Bab.* vi, She was a lady born. 1878 MOKLEY *Diderot* I. 286 The resource of the born journalist.

c. Qualifying another *adj.*, as in *born free* (*obs.* in *attrib.* use, cf. FREEBORN), *born-blind*.

1393 GOWER *Conf.* I. 68 Of thilke bore free kinde. 1517 TORKINGTON *Pilgr.* (1884) 52 Our savyor gaff sight to the born blynde man. 1878 MOKLEY *Diderot* I. 85 The born-blind are at first without physical delicacy.

d. Preceded by *adv.*, *adj.*, or *sb.*, forming combs., indicating (a.) time or order of birth, as *eldest*, *youngest-born*, *poet.* or *rhetorical* synonyms for 'eldest', 'youngest' (often used as quasi-*sbs.*), *last*, *latest*, *newly-born*; (b.) place of birth or origin, as *cloud-born*, *country-born*, *Danish-born*, *sea-born*; (c.) the quality or rank of a person's parentage, as *gently-born*, *nobly-born* = of gentle, lowly, noble birth; (d.) condition at or by birth, as *blind-born*, *free-born*, *poor-born*. Cf. BASE-, FIRST-, HIGH-, LOW-, NEW-, TRUE-, WELL-BORN, etc.

1328 WYCLIF *Luke* ii. 7 And sche childide her firste born sone. 1642 FULLER *Holy & Prof. St.* II. xxiv. 140 Gentilly born on both sides. 1664 DRYDEN in ROSCOM. *Ess. Transl. Verses* Pref. (1709) 4 Authors nobly born will bear their part.

1697 DRYDEN *Virg. Georg.* iv. 142 Better born, and of a nobler kind. 1783 AINSWORTH *Lat. Dict.* (Morell) i. Blind born, *cæcigenus*. 1837 CARLYLE *Fr. Rev.* II. v. i. 247 Pet son (her last-born) of the Scarlet Woman. a 1861 Mrs. BROWNING *Lady Gerald Courtsh.*, Men call him lowly born. 1867 FREEMAN *Norm. Cong.* I. iv. 189 The Danish-born Bernard.

2. Of qualities, aptitudes, etc.: That was born in or with a person; innate, inherited.

1748 RICHARDSON *Pamela* III. 243 This... must be born Dignity—born Discretion. 1833 GEN. P. THOMPSON *Exerc.* (1842) III. 465 It is part of our born-thralldom.

3. Phr. (*One's*) born days: one's lifetime. *colloq.*

1748 RICHARDSON *Pamela* III. 383 He never was so delighted in his born Days. 1826 DISRAELI *Viv. Grey* vi. i. 286 You shall rue it all your born days.

Borne (bōrn), *ppl. a.* Forms: see BEAR *v.*

1. Carried, sustained, endured, etc. Used attrib. chiefly in such constructions as 'patiently borne injuries', 'the breeze-borne note'.

1605 SHAKS. *Mach.* iii. ii. 42 The shard-borne Beetle.

b. Light borne, easily guided, not hard-mouthed; said of horses. *Water borne*, see *quot.*

1611 COTGR., *Alegerir un cheval à la main*, to... cause a horse to be light borne. 1657 CAPT. SMITH *Seaman's Gram.* ix. 45 Water borne is when there is no more water than will just bear her from the ground.

2. Comb., with adverbs, as borne-down, borne-in, etc. See *bear down*, *bear in*, etc. under BEAR *v.*

1600 CHAPMAN *Iliaid* xv. 354 In such a borne-up kind The Trojans overgait the Wall. 1637 RUTHERFORD *Lett.* clxx. (1862) I. 399 Intimated and borne-in assurance of His love. 1679 KING in *Spirit of Popery* 23 The born-down and Ruined Interest of our Lord and Master. 1878 BROWNING *La Saisiaz* 10 Blushing 'Good Night', rosy as a borne-off bride's.

Borne, obs. f. BOURN; var. BERNE, *Obs.*, man.

Borned, variant of BURNED *a.* *Obs.*, burnished.

Borneo (bōrnēō). The name of a large island in the Indian Archipelago. *Attrib.* in *Borneo camphor*, the camphor extracted from the *Dryobalanops camphora*, also the tree itself; *Borneo caoutchouc*, a kind of india-rubber obtained from Borneo. Hence *Borneene* (bōrnēn), *Borneol* (bōrnēpl), organic compounds chiefly obtained from the Borneo camphor tree; *Bornesite* (bōrnēf-sait) 'a sweet volatile substance occurring in the caoutchouc of Borneo' (Watts *Dict. Chem.* I. 626).

1876 HARLEY *Mat. Med.* 703 The Borneo Camphor is one of the giants of the vegetable world. *Ibid.* Fluid hydrocarbon called camphor oil or borneol. *Ibid.* 680 A hydrocarbon isomeric with... borneol. 1884 ROSCOE & SCHORLEMER *Chem.* III. 553 By subjecting Borneo caoutchouc to pressure, a liquid is obtained from which bornesite is left on evaporation.

Born, see BURN.

Boro, var. of BORROW, *Obs.*, a pledge, etc.

Boro- (bōrō). *Chem.* Combining form of BORON, as in borofluoride, a compound of fluoride of boron with a metallic fluoride; borotungstate, a salt formed by the combination of boric and tungstic acids with the same base; boroglyceride, a compound of boric acid with glycerine, used as an antiseptic; also in *Min.*, borocalcite, native borate of calcium.

1869 ROSCOE *Elem. Chem.* 153 Boron forms a borofluoride. 1881 *Athenæum* 8 April 448/2 Prof. Barff described his new antiseptic compound boro-glycerid (C₃H₅Bo₂). 1881 *Nature* XXXIII. 236 Borotungstate of sodium.

Boron (bōrōn). *Chem.* [f. BOR-AX, with the ending of CARB-ON, the element being extracted from borax, and resembling carbon in some of its properties.] One of the elementary bodies; a non-metallic solid, not fusible at any known temperature. It is obtained as a dark brown or greenish brown powder (*amorphous boron*); and in a less pure form as crystals (*adamantine boron*). In some of its properties it resembles carbon and silicon. Symbol B.

1812 SIR H. DAVY *Chem. Philos.* 315, I first procured boron in October, 1807, by the electrical decomposition of boric acid. 1869 ROSCOE *Elem. Chem.* 151 Boron combined with oxygen and sodium is found as borax in nature.

Borou, obs. form of BORROW *v.*

Borough (bōrō, bōrō). Forms: 1 burz, buruz, 1-3 burh, 2 burch, bure(g)h, (burehg), beriz, 2-3 buruh, 3 burrh (*Orm.*), burwe, buri, 3-4 burz, buruz, borh, borz, boruz, boru, 4 burw, burje, borz(e), bourz, borou, borwz, borwgh, borw(e), borch(e), 4-5 burgh(e), 4-6 (also *Sc.* 7-9) burgh, borogh, 4-7 borowe, 5 burwgh, borowgh, burwhe, borugh(e), burwe, bourg, 5-6 bourgh, 5-7 burrow(e), 6 borrowe, (bourg), burow, 6-7 boroughe, 6-8 burrough, (7 burrowghe, 8 borrough), 6- borough. *Dat. sing.* 1 byriz, burze, 2 birie, berie, 3 biri, burie, buri. [Common Teut.: OE. *burg*, *burh* = OFris. *burgh*, OS. *burg* (MDu. *burgh*, *borch*, Du. *burg*), OHG. *burg* (MHG. *burg* (g-)), mod.G. *burg*), ON. (Sw., Da.) *borg*, Goth. *baurgs* = OTeut. **burgs* str. fem. App. f. same root as OTeut. **berg-an* str. vb. 'to shelter': see BERG *v.*; but the phonology is not quite clear. In German

and ON. the word is recorded chiefly in the primary sense of 'fortress, castle', but there are traces of the sense of 'town, civic community', which is found in Goth. and OE., and may therefore be assumed to have been developed in OTeut. Of the immense variety of spellings current in ME., *burrough* became the prevalent one in early mod. Eng., but was subsequently displaced by *borough* in England and Ireland, while the form established in Scotland was *BURGH*, q.v. The Danish *BORG* and Fr. *BOURG* have also been used by historical writers in special senses. See also BURROW, BERRY *sb.*

Like other fem. consonantal stems, the OE. *burg* had vowel change (*byrig*) in gen. and dat. sing., and nom. acc. plural, which survived in dat. sing. to the 13th c. This dative, *biri*, *berie*, *buri*, was also at times used for the nominative; whence the modern *Bury*, *-bury*, in place-names.]

†1. A fortress, castle, or citadel. *Obs.* (Unequivocal instances of this sense are rare, even in OE. In *quot.* 1394 the word denotes simply a large building; and 1425 is quite doubtful.)

c 880 *Kentish Gloss.* in Wr. Wülcker *Voc.* 63 *Ad arcem et ad mania*, to burze and to wealle. a 1000 O. E. *Chron.* an. 920 Eadweard cnyng. . getimbrede þa burz. (1394 P. Pl. *Crede* 118 We buldeþ a burwz a brod and a large. c 1425 WYNTOUN *Cron.* viii. xiii. 125 Castellis, Bowtrowys and Fortalys.]

†b. A court, a manor-house. Hence prob. in place-names, e.g. Edgeware Bury, Hertingford Bury.

c 1175 *Cott. Hom.* 231 And bider geclepien alle his underþeod þat hi bi ðene fæce to his curt (berie) come sceolde. c 1250 *Gen. & Ex.* 2257 He ledde hem alle to Iosephs biri. (1576 LAMBARDE *Peramb. Kent* (1826) 377 Bury, or Biry.. was used for a court, or place of assembly.)

†2. A fortified town; a town possessing municipal organization (cf. OE. *burhuwaru* body of citizens); more generally, any inhabited place larger than a village. (The three notions were originally co-extensive. When the word became restricted to the mod. sense (3) its wider sense passed to *town*.) *Obs.*

c 893 K. ÆLFRED *Oros.* ii. viii. § 1 Hie binnan þære byriz up eodon... and þa burz [toth c. MS. burh] mid ealle awest-an. c 1000 *Agg. Gosp.* Matt. xxi. 17 Of þære byriz. c 1160 *Matton G. ibid.*, Of þære beriz. c 1175 *Cott. Hom.* 225 Hi woldan weren ane burch and enne stebel binnan þara birie. c 1205 *LAV.* 218 He makede ane heze burh. c 1250 *Gen. & Ex.* 1053 3et sat Loth at ðe burges gate. c 1325 E. E. *Allit. P.* B. 1666, I haf bigged Babiloyne, burz alþer-rychest. 1480 CAXTON *Chron. Eng.* v. (1520) 43 b/2 Cytees, and boroughs, and townes that the Saxons hadde destroyed. 1483 *Cath. Angl.* 48 A Burgh burgus.

†b. fig. Cf. BURROW shelter, which Feltham may have confounded with *borough*.

1607 FELTHAM *Resolves* l. iii. Wks' (1677) 82 The mind is then shut up in the Burrough of the body.

3. A town possessing a municipal corporation and special privileges conferred by royal charter (hence the sovereign is said to *create a borough*). Also a town which sends representatives to parliament. (A *municipal borough* often differs in territorial extent from the *parliamentary borough* of the same name.) The word is commonly restricted to towns which do not possess the more dignified title of CITY. For the Scottish uses, see BURGH.

[Early examples are necessarily not distinct in sense from the preceding.] c 1250 *Sir Ferumb.* 283 Be it castel, burgh, or other Cith. 1308 TREvisa *Barth. De P. R.* xiv. ii. (1495) 466 Aourmyd wyth many grete cytees and borghes. 1512 *Act. & Hen. VIII.* xi. The Borough of Lymington with thappertunances. 1574 tr. *Littleton's Tenures* 35 a. The aunciente townes called Burghes bee the mooste auncient and eldest Townes that bee within England. 1587 FLEMING *Contn. Holmsh.* III. 1276/1 To this man King Henrie the third... did grant that his towne of Wigan should be a burrow. 1654 *Proc. Parliament* No. 34. 2083 A list of the Burroughs that have since assented to the Union. 1718 *Free-thinker* No. 66. 84 Your Counties, and your Burroughs... send you into Parliament. 1738 *Hist. Crt. Excheq.* ii. 20 Several of the Demesne Lands were given to Burroughs. 1827 HALLAM *Const. Hist.* (1876) III. xiii. 38 Edward VI created fourteen boroughs. 1845 STEPHEN *Laus Eng.* II. 357 A 'borough' is properly a town or city represented in parliament, although the term has occasionally (as in the Municipal Corporation Act) a wider signification.

b. The Borough: esp. that of Southwark. Cf. 5. [1559 *Mirr. Mag.*, Jack Cade xxi. To Southwarke borow where it lay a night.] 1797 *Ann. Reg.* 28 A dreadful fire broke out yesterday morning in the High-Street in the Borough. 1886 *Daily News* 18 Dec. 6/2 Fire in the Borough.

c. To own a borough, to buy a borough: to possess or to buy the power of controlling the election of a member of parliament for a borough. *Close borough*, *pocket borough*, a borough 'owned' by some person. *Rotten borough*: one of the boroughs which, before the passing of the English Reform Bill in 1832, were found to have so decayed as no longer to have a real constituency.

1771 SMOLLETT *Humphr. Cl.* (1815) 246 The practice of buying boroughs, and canvassing for votes. 1812 SIR F. BURDITT in *Examiner* 12 Oct. 656/2 They will no more part with their rotten boroughs. 1817 G. ROSE *Diaries* (1860) I. 23 To suppress what were called the rotten boroughs. 1867 MORLEY *Burke* 104 Wilkes proposed to disfranchise the rotten boroughs.

†4. At Richmond, Yorkshire, and perhaps other northern old corporate towns: A property held by BURGAGE, and formerly qualifying for a vote for members of parliament. Cf. BOROUGH-HOLDER.

1715 *Lond. Gas.* No. 5266/4 A Very large Burrough, standing in... the Market-place of Richmond in Yorkshire, consisting of three Dwelling Houses, and two large shops.

†5. In 14th to 16th c. sometimes used for the suburbs of a city, the portion lying outside the wall. Cf. contemporary use of F. *bourg*.

c 1380 *Sir Ferumb.* 1767 Til pay wer passed þe borwgh. c 1450 *Merlin* xviii. (1877) 201 Kyngge Arans hadde all day assailed the Castell of Arondell, but... nothing thei wonne, saf only thei hadde brente the borough withoute. 1523 Lb. BERNERS *Froiss.* I. cxc. 225 The gate... bytwene the... borowe and the cytie. [At Oxford, the suburb of St. Clement's, east of the Cherwell, is traditionally called 'the Borough'.]

6. Archaeological and historical uses.

a. Adopted to translate Gr. *δῆμος* and L. *pagus* in the sense of township or district.

a 1747 ABP. POTTER in T. Mitchell *Aristoph.* (1822) II. 160 The Athenians... delivered in their names, together with the names of their father and borough. 1770 LANGHORNE *Plutarch* (1879) I. 81/2 Numa... divided the country into... portions, which he called pagi, or boroughs. 1850 MAURICE *Mor. & Met. Philos.* iii. Socrates was born in a little burgh of Attica.

b. Eng. Hist. in various arch. forms: used by some writers on the Old English period. See also BORG, BOURG, BURG, BURG.

1873 E. ROBERTSON *Hist. Ess.* Introd. 11 The Burh, or burgh of early days. 1875 STUBBS *Const. Hist.* I. v. 92 The 'burh' of the Anglo-Saxon period was simply a more strictly organised form of the township. *Ibid.* 93 note, The five Danish burhs... had not only special privileges of their own, but a common organization.

7. Comb. and Attrib.

†a. Obs. law terms used *Hist.* by writers of 16th c. onwards; most recent writers retain the OE. spelling: burgh-bote [OE. *burh-bót*; cf. BOOT *sb.*], a tax for the repair of fortresses; burgh-broche [OE. *burh-bryce*; cf. BREACH], close-breaking, burglary; burgh-mote, borough-moot [OE. *burh-gemót*; cf. MOOT], the judicial assembly of a borough.

1647 N. BACON *Hist. Disc.* xxxiii. 82 Power to charge one another with the maintenance of the Fortifications by an imposition called Burghbote. 1844 LINGARD *Anglo-Sax. Ch.* (1858) I. vi. 221 Burgh-bot, or contribution towards the maintenance of the burghs or places of defence. 1387 TREvisa *Hiden* Rolls Ser. II. 95 Burghbreche a Frensche *bles-mure de court ou de cloys*. 1598 TATE in *Gutch Coll. Cur.* I. 4 *Borroubreach* is interpreted *Civitas rupta*. 1641 *Termes de la Ley* 41 *Burbreach*... trespasses done in Cith or Borough against the peace. a 1400 *Vsages of Wyndchestre* in *Eng. Gilds* 350 At þe borghmot of seynt mychel. 1747 CARTE *Hist. Eng.* I. 311 A court or burghmote was held thrice a year for determining all causes between the inhabitants. 1873 E. ROBERTSON *Hist. Ess.* 130 The later county court of the Vicecomes or Sheriff. held three times a year as a Burh-gemote in the leading burgh of the district. 1880 *Antiquary* June 255 The ancient Burghmote horn of Ipswich.

†b. Other obs. compounds: borough-folk (OE. *burh-falc*), the people of a town; burgh-kennin, coined by Stow as an etymological rendering of BARBICAN (!); burh-were, *pl.* -weren [OE. *burhuwaru*, -ware, -waran], the people or community of a town, the townsmen.

c 1200 *Trin. Coll. Hom.* 89 þat burh folc hihten þe heze strete. c 1250 *Gen. & Ex.* 1853 Emor... And his burgesfolc fellin in wi. 1598 *Stow Surv.* xxxiii. (1603) 304 A Burgh-Kening or Watch Tower of the Cithie. c 1205 *LAV.* 28368 Iherden þa burh-weren (1275 *borh-men*) hu hit was al ifaren. *Ibid.* 28392 Hi bi-hehte þære burz-were auer mare freo laze.

c. Attrib. and Comb. in sense 3, as borough-accountant, architect, bailiff, surveyor; borough-rate, a rate levied by the municipality of a borough. Also with reference to parliamentary representation, as borough-constituency, election, faction, influence, patron, politics, slave, traitor, tyrant, voter, etc.; borough-jobber, borough-jobbing = BOROUGH-MONGER, -MONGERING.

1812 CRABBE *Tales, Patron* 1 A 'borough-bailiff, who to law was trained. 1866 BRIGHT *Sp. Irel.* 2 Nov. (1876) 193 Wherever the 'borough constituencies are so small. a 1797 H. WALPOLE *Mem. Geo. II.* (1847) II. xi. 373 He would be no 'borough-jobber. 1803 BRISTED *Pedest. Tour* II. 345 Exaltation by the usual gradations of 'borough-jobbing, of courtiering, and a peerage. 1811 *Edin. Rev.* XVII. 258 Having... prohibited the sale of seats by 'borough-patrons. 1863 H. COX *Instit.* iii. ix. 730 Household... paying poor-rates and 'borough-rates. 1853 COBBETT *Pol. Reg.* xxxiii. 81 Like a set of 'borough-slaves, submitting to choose a second member at the dictation of Sir Francis Burdett.

Borough, obs. form of BURROW, rabbit-hole, mound, and shelter; and of BROUGH.

Borough-English (bōrō'inglɪʃ). [A partial translation of the Anglo-French *tenure en Burgh Englois*, tenure in (an) English borough: according to Blackstone so called because prevailing in certain boroughs, and because it was English as distinguished from French.]

A custom or tenure in some parts of England, by which the youngest son inherits all the lands and tenements.

1347 *Year Bk. i. Edu. III.*, 12, pl. 38 (ed. 1679) II ad en Nottingham deus tenures, s. Burgh Engloys and Burgh Frauncoyes... toutes les tenements dont launcestre morust seisi en Burgh Engloies devint descendre a le puisne fitz. 1531 *Dial. Laws of Eng.* i. xx. (1638) 35 In Burghenglish the younger sonne shall enjoy the inheritance, and that in conscience. 1656 in BLOUNT. 1667 E. CHAMBERLAYNE *St. Gl. Brit.* i. iii. v. (1743) 181 In other [places] the youngest son inherits all the Land by a Custom called Borough-Englisch. 1865 *Sat. Rev.* 5 July 13 The extraordinary scene that would ensue if Parliament should, in one of its idle moments, suddenly enact that the custom of Borough-English should prevail through the realm. 1885 F. POLLOCK in *Macm. Mag.* XLVI. 360 note, The custom of borough-English abounds in Kent, Sussex, Surrey, the neighbourhood of London, and Somerset. In the midlands it is rare, and north of the Humber... it does not seem to occur.

Borough-head, incorrect f. BORROW-HEAD.

Borough-holder (bɔːrɒhˌhɔːldə). [f. BOROUGH + HOLDER.] In certain Yorkshire boroughs: A person who holds property by burghage tenure: see BOROUGH 4. Modern dictionaries explain the word as = BORSHOLDER; possibly this is the meaning in quot. 1738.

1718 *London Gas.* No. 5036/3 The humble Address of the Mayor... Aldermen and Assistants of the... Borough of Rippon... and of several Gentlemen and Borough-holders. 1738 *Hist. Cr. Excheq.* ii. 27 The King's Borough-holders in every County.

† **Borough-kind**. *Obs. rare* = 1. [f. BOROUGH-ENGLISH, after GAVELKIND.] = BOROUGH-ENGLISH. 1577 *HARRISON England* ii. ix. (1877) 203 Burrow kind is where the youngest is preferred before the eldest.

Boroughlet (bɔːrɒlɪt). *rare*. [f. BOROUGH + -LET, dim. suffix.] A diminutive borough or town. 1864 H. MAYHEW *German Life & Mann.* i. 5 The moors... from which the... boroughlet... is said to derive its name.

† **Borough-man**. *Obs.* [OE. *burghman*; see BOROUGH and MAN.] A townsman, citizen, burgess. b. In some Yorkshire boroughs: A burghage tenant, BOROUGH-HOLDER.

c 1000 *ÆLFRIC Voc.* in *Wr. Wülcker Voc.* 140 *Urbanus*, burhsa, uel burhman. c 1205 *LAY.* 12441 Moni riche burhman per wende beon blide anan. a 1225 *Ancre R.* 350 Pilegrimes... bikemen nout burhmen ide worlde buruh. c 1400 *Destr. Troy* xxi. 8570 þai bere the burgh-men abacke to the bare walles. 1708 *London Gas.* No. 4424/10 The Burghesses, Borough-men, Gentlemen and other substantial Inhabitants within the Borough of Thirk.

Borough-master (bɔːrɒmˌmɑːstə). Also burrough-, burgh-, bourg-; and see BURGMASTER. [f. BOROUGH + MASTER; in sense 1 imitated from Du. *burgemeester*.]

† 1. A Dutch or Flemish burgomaster; sometimes used incorrectly, and also extended to similar functionaries in other foreign countries (e.g., quot. 1625 relates to Poland). b. The head of the municipality of certain Irish boroughs. *Obs.*

1494 *FABIAN Chron.* vii. 436 And some of the borough masters of the sayde towne. [Bruges]. 1590 *GREENE Never too late* (1600) 14 The richest Merchant or grauest Burghmaster. 1625 *PURCHAS Pilgrim* ii. 1421 The Borrow-masters sell Wine. 1666 *London Gas.* No. 3178/4 The Borough Master, Burgesses, and Commonalty of the Borough of Bayle in Ireland.

2. The patron or 'owner' of a BOROUGH (3 c). a 1832 *BENTHAM Mem. Wks.* 1843 X. 237 Members... are supposed to speak the sentiments of the borough-master who puts them in.

Boroughmonger (bɔːrɒmˌɒŋɡə). [f. BOROUGH + MONGER.] One who trades in parliamentary seats for boroughs. (A sarcastic designation coined about the end of the 18th c., and very frequently used in the discussions on electoral reform up to 1832.) Hence *Boroughmonger v. rare*; *Boroughmongering vbl. sb.* and *ppl. a.*; *Boroughmongery*, the arts and practices of a boroughmonger.

1794 *MATHIAS Puns. Lit.* (1798) 309 An impudent, unqualified intrusion of Borough mongering Mercers. 1809 *Sir Fr. the Reformer* 9 He swears eternal detestation To borough-mongers of the nation. 1820 *Blackw. Mag.* VII. 677 Worse even than base boroughmongry. 1831 *Syd. Smith Wks.* (1867) II. 215 The awful danger of extinguishing Borough-mongers—an extinct race of beasts of prey. 1844 *DISRAELI Coningsby* iv. iv. 126 The boroughmongering of our own times. 1846 *Ht. MARTINEAU Hist. Peace* II. iv. iii. 417 By this [Reform] bill, the practice of boroughmongery was cut up by the roots. 1847 *L. HUNT Men, Wom. & Bks.* i. xiii. 215 'Never borough-mongered with it,' says the peer. 1865 *BRIGHT St. Reform* 18 Jan. (1876) 335 The Reform Bill... disturbed the boroughmongers to a remarkable degree. 1879 *Edin. Rev.* April 497 They represented either Downing Street or a score of boroughmongering peers.

Borough-reeve (bɔːrɒrɪv). Forms: 1 burh-gerefa (also *Hist.* in 9), 2 burhreve, 9 borough-reeve. [f. BOROUGH + REEVE.]

† a. A governor of a town or city; esp. the official who before the Norman Conquest represented the king's authority for fiscal and other purposes in boroughs, as the *scir-gerefa* (SHERIFF) did in shires. The office seems to have been substantially identical with that of PORTREEVE.

c 1000 *ÆLFRIC Gloss.* in *Wr. Wülcker Voc.* 110 *Prætor uel præfectus*, uel *quæstor*, burhgerafa. c 1225 *Leg. Kath.* 1927 Com a burhreve [orig. *urbis præfectus*] as þe þat wes þes

deoules budel. 1861 *PEARSON Early & Mid. Ages Eng.* I. 84 The præfectus, or burh-gerefa, was rather a royal than a civic officer.]

b. The chief municipal officer in certain unincorporated English towns, before the Municipal Corporations Act, 1835.

1808 *Chron.* in *Ann. Reg.* 325/1 The weavers assembled... near Manchester... Mr. Starkie, the Boroughreeve strove to persuade them to disperse, but in vain. 1846 *McCulloch Acc. Brit. Empire* (1854) II. 191 The officer of the king, called port-reeve or borough-reeve. 1881 *MORLEY Cobden* I. 121 He was intolerant of the small politics of the Borough-reeve and the Constables. 1885 *Manch. Exam.* 20 Mar. 8/4 He filled the office of boroughreeve, or chief magistrate, of Salford in 1839.

Boroughship (bɔːrɒʃɪp). *rare*. [Two words: (1) f. BOROUGH + SHIP, answering in formation (though without historical connexion) to OE. *burhscepe*; (2) f. OE. *borh* pledge, security (see BORROW) + SHIP.]

1. A township; the fact of constituting a borough or township.

c 1000 *ÆLFRIC Gloss.* in *Wr. Wülcker Voc.* 144 *Municipium*, burhscepe. 1865 *Macm. Mag.* Mar. 415 They could not have kept up tribeship, and they took instead of it, their boroughship,—which... consisted in a making up of social tribes on neighbourhood, instead of kindred on blood.

2. The condition of being security for the good behaviour of neighbours; FRANK-PLEDGE.

1864 *Reader* 23 July 98/3 The... institution of boroughship, or lawbinding of the landholders as pledges, each for the other's lawful behaviour.

† **Borough-tenure**. *Obs. rare* = BOROUGH-ENGLISH.

a 1670 *HACKET Abp. Williams* II. (1692) 197 Their young brothers, by burrough-tenure, have got the estate from them.

Borough-town. *arch.* Forms: see BOROUGH. [f. BOROUGH + TOWN. Cf. OE. *burhtūn* enclosure surrounding a castle (as in the place-name *Burton*).]

A town which is a borough. 'Still sometimes applied to Irish municipal boroughs. Cf. BUBBOWS-TOWN (Sc.).'

[c 1000 *Woman's Lament* 31 (Gr.) Sindon burgtūnas breun bewænece.]

1382 *WYCLIF Joshua* vii. 2 Of the burhtown [1388 the citee] Bethel. 1393 *LANG. P. Pl. C.* iv. 112 Ht ys noȝt semly... in cyte ne in burhtown þat vsurers oþer regratours... Be fraunchised for a free man. 1480 *CAXTON Chron. Eng.* cclxliii. 288 Thurghe every Cyte and good Burgh townes in England. 1601 *HOLLAND Pliny* (1634) i. 88 One Borough Towne of Romane Citizens. a 1674 *CLARENDON Hist. Reb.* I. i. 67 Edenborough... was but a Burrough Town within the Diocese of Saint Andrews. 1839 *CAPPEL Topogr. Dict.* 1052 Wexford, a seaport... shire, assize, and borough town.

† **Borowe, borou, a. Obs. [? corruption of BORREL (though this form does not appear there).] ? Homely, unlearned. Also as quasi-sb.**

1579 *TOMSON Calvin's Serm. Tim.* 953/1 He vseth that borowe kinde of speache. 1611 *BROUGHTON Requie Agreem.* 21 Our Lordes Prayer... in vulgar Greeke for the borous.

Borowe (e, obs. form of BORROW v).

Borrachio, var. of BORACHIO, *Obs.*, wine-skin. **Borrall-tree**. *Sc. rare* = 1. Meaning uncertain; perhaps 'hollow tree': Jamieson suggests that Hogg may have meant BOUR TREE; on which conjecture the word has since been given in dictionaries and books on botany as an actual name of the Elder. 1818 *HOGG Brannie* I. 216 Round the hillock, on the lea, Round the auld borral tree, Or bourrock by the burn-side.

Borrotose: see BOBATO.

Borrel, borel (bɔːrɪl), *a. arch.* Forms: 4 borel(l), burel(l), 5 borelle, 6 borrell, *Sc.* burell, burrell, 7-9 borrel, borel. [Conjectured to be an attrib. use of borel, BUREL sb., 'coarse clothing'; the adj. and the sb. appear in the same forms in 14th c., but in Eng. writers from Caxton onwards the adj. is *borrel*, *borel*, while the sb. is regularly *burrel*, *burel*. Sense 2 seems to be a development of 1, which appears much earlier. See BOROWE.]

† 1. Belonging to the laity. *Obs.* (or *arch.*)

1377 *LANGL. P. Pl. B. x.* 286 And þanne shal borel clerkes ben abasched, to blame 3ow or to greue. c 1386 *CHAUCER Sompn. T.* 164 And moore we seen of cristes secree thynges Than borel [so in 4 MSS., *Heng. burell*, *Corpus borell*, *Harl. borel*] folk al though they weren kynges. a 1420 *OCCLEVE De Reg. Princ.* 52 Some of hem [priests] ben as borelle folkes be. c 1575 *GASCOIGNE Fruites Warre* xxviii, Becaue they covet more than borrell men. 1860 *WARTER Sea-Board & D.* II. 473 As with the lay and borrel man, so too with Bishop, Priest, or Deacon.

2. Unlearned, rude; rough. *arch.* (In quot. 1513 said of spears; cf. BOISTOUS, BOISTEROUS.)

1513 *DOUGLAS Æneis* Prol. 48 Weill ma I schaw my burell busteous thoct. *Ibid.* vii. xii. 56 Bayt in thair handis lance stavis and burrell speris. 1572 *GASCOIGNE Flowers Wks.* (1587) 111 My borrell braine is all too blount To give a gesse. 1625 *GILL Sac. Philos.* i. 63 His words seeme borrel and rude. 1727 *COWELL's Law Dict.* s. v. *Borel*, Borel-folkes, drunkards, and epicures, which the Scotch now call burriel-folk. 1828 *SCOTT F. M. Perth* v. A coarse, ignorant, borrel man like me. 1870 *MORRIS Earthly Par.* I. i. 318 Lo, such are borel folk.

Borrel, var. of BOREL, *Sc.*, an auger.

|| **Borrico** (bɔːrɪˈko). Also borico. [Sp., dim. of *burro*.] A little donkey. (Only an alien word.)

1648 *GAGE West Ind.* iv. (1655) 13 We travailed 122e Spanish Dons upon our little Boricoes, or Asses. 1838 *SPARKS Biogr.* IX. vi. 228 Our boys... make a Pope and a Devil of old cast clothes, mount them on a borrico.

† **Borrow**, sb. *Obs. exc. Hist.* Forms: 1 borz, 1-3 borh, 2-4 borz, (3 barh), 3-4 boru, borewe, 4 borou, *Sc.* borwch, (bourgh), 4-5 borwe, 4-7 borow(e), borgh(e), 5 *Sc.* boroh(e), (brugh, borough), 6 boro, borge, (*Sc.* broche), 6-7 borrowe, 6-7, 9 borrow, (9 *Hist.* borh, borch). [OE. *borg*, *borh* str. masc., = MHG. *borc*, *borg*, Du. *borg* pledge, loan, f. root of OTeut. **berg-an* str. vb. to protect: see BERGH v. Sense 4 is f. BORROW v. 1.]

† 1. A thing deposited as security, a pledge; a guarantee, bail; suretyship; ransom, deliverance. To borrow: as a pledge. To lay to borrow: to put in pledge, to pawn. In senses 1 and 2 already obsolete or archaic in England in Spenser's time; but retained in *Sc. Law*.

a 975 *Thorpe's Laws* I. 274 (Bosw.) Ic wille, ðæt ælc mann sy under borge. c 1175 *Lamb. Hom.* 73 Heore god-faderes and heore godmoderes scullen... beo in borges et þe forstan. a 1300 *Cursor M.* 23792 Þat soru, þat nakins borgh us fra mai boru. 1375 *BARBARUS Bruce* i. 625 Thar till in-to borwch draw I Myn herytage. c 1385 *CHAUCER L. G. W.* 2105 Hauyth here of myn herte blod to borwe If that ye wile. c 1386 *CHAUCER Knts. T.* 764 Ech of hem hadde leyh his feith to borwe. c 1460 *Sir Penry* vii. 5 With-outen brugh & wed. 1542-3 *Act* 34-35 *Hen. VIII.* xxvii. § 58 Pledges or borows to pay the kinges fine. 1579 *SPENSER Sheph. Cal.* May 150 Nay... by my deare borrow (i.e., that is our Saviour, the common pledge of all men's debts to death). 1631 *RUTHERFORD Lett.* 19 (1862) I. 80 It cannot stand with His honour to die in the borrows (as we use to say) and lose thee. 1814 *SCOTT Wav.* I. xv. 228 [They] conspired them into giving borrows (pledges), to enter into captivity again. 1860 *C. INNES Scotl. Mid. Ages* 184 If a thief could find no borh he was hanged.

† b. Hence in OE. and early ME. *On, to borrow*: on security, by way of loan. *Obs.*

a 900 *Thorpe's Laws* I. 52 (Bosw.) Gif ðu feoh to borge selle. c 975 *Rusku. Gosp.* Matt. v. 42 þæt me wille on borz nioma æt þe ne beo unzepwære. a 1300 *Cursor M.* 6144 Fra þis folk... þe folk of israel to boru Asked silueren vessel... And clothes. 1418 in *Jeffrey Hist. Roxburghsh.* IV. i. 89 The Earl not having occupied the land, let the same 'to borh' to the abbot on May 1418.

† 2. Of persons: A surety, hostage; bail, deliverer from prison. *Obs.*

a 1000 *Laws of Æthelred* i. l. in *Thorpe's Laws* 119 Sette getreowe borges. a 1200 *Trin. Coll. Hom.* 17 Here god-faderes sullen... ben here boreges togenes gode. c 1205 *LAY.* 31077 Ich wulle his on barh beon [c 1275 borh]. a 1340 *HAMPOLE Psalter* 497 Answer for me, that is, be borgh of myn amendynge. 1377 *LANGL. P. Pl.* vii. 81 For beggeres borwen euermo and her borgh is god almyȝti. 1470 *HARDING Chron.* ccxix. iv. 4, I shalbe youre borowe. a 1541 *WYATT De profundis*, Ps. cxxx, From depth of death... There have I called, O Lord, to be my borrow. 1552 *ABP. HAMILTON Catech.* 190 The godfather and godmother... ar maid borrowis or souerteis for the barne. 1609 *SKENE Reg. Maj.* 8 He may recover the possession of the lands, he findane ane borgh. 1819 *SCOTT Ivanhoe* II. x. 176 Retain as borrows my two priests.

† b. I dare be borrow, etc.: 'I'll warrant', 'I'll be bound'. *Obs.*

c 1430 *LYDG. Min. Poems* (1840) 41 The womman was woo, I dare be borwe. c 1460 *Towneley Myst.* 231, I shalle be his borgh to-yere He felys no more payn.

† c. To find (take) God, Mahoun, St. Blase, St. George, etc. to borrow, i.e. as security for one's truth, good faith, or honour; later as an asseveration = In God's name, By St. George, St. George to speed! *St. John to borrow!* a Scotch formula at parting (= *au revoir*), as to the origin of which see quot. 1470. *Obs.*

a 1330 *Otuel* 305 Ich wole finde mahoun to borwe, Ich wile be redi erliche to morwe. c 1386 *CHAUCER Sgrs. T.* 596, I hidde fro hym my sorwe And took hym by the hymn, seint John to borwe. 1393 *GOWER Conf.* II. 34 But I dare take God to borwe. 1423 *JAS. I. King's Q.* xxiii, With mony 'fare wele' and 'sanct Iohne to borowe'. c 1470 *HENRY Wallace* III. 336 Thar leyff thair tuk, with conforde... Sanct Ihone to borh, thair suld meyt haillie agayne. 1529 *SKELTON Albany* 506 Sainct George to borowe, Ye shall have schame and sortowe. 1530 *LYNDESAY Papyngo* 701 We sall... mak 3ow saif: we fynd sanct Blase to borgh. 1535 *STEWART Cron. Scot.* II. 519 All salbe weill, I find 3ow God to borowe. 1548 *HALL Chron.* (1809) 416 Now sent George to borowe, let us set forward. 1566 *UDALL Royster* D. iv. viii. 77 What then? Sainct George to borow, our Ladies Knight.

3. *Hist.* (usually with obs. spelling.) A *fridborh* (lit. 'pledge of peace') or tithing, which in early England was an association of ten neighbouring householders who were jointly answerable before the law, 'so that if one of the ten men offend, the other nine may bring him to right'; afterwards called *liberum plegium* and FRANKPLEDGE, the word *frid* 'peace' having been corrupted into 'free'. There is no direct evidence that in OE. *borh* was used as = *fridborh*, but in 16th c. *borow* appears as a synonym of 'tithing' or 'frankpledge', and from that period to the present time many writers have confused it with BOBROUGH. Cf. BORROWHEAD, BORSHOLDER.

1581 *LAMBARDE Eiren.* i. iii. (1588) 15 The chiefe men of the free pledges within that Borow or Tithing. 1872 *E. ROBERTSON Hist. Ess.* 119 Every Borowe or Tything.

4. A borrowing. *rare*—1.
1611 SHAKS. *Wind. T. i. ii. 39* Of your Royall presence, He adventure The borrow of a Weeke.

5. *Comb. and Attrib.*, as (in sense 1) **borrow-breach** (only *Hist.*, OE. *borh-bryce*), breach of covenant; **borrow-roll** (Sc. *borgh-row*), a mortgage-roll. Also **BORROWGAGE**, **BORROWGANG**, **BORROW-HEAD**, **BORROWHOOD**, **BORSHOLDER**.

a 900 K. ALFRED *Laws* iii. in Thorpe's *Laws* 28 (*title*) Be Borh-bryce. *Ibid.* Ærcebiscepes borghes-bryce . . gebete mid þrim pundum. c 1550 SIR J. BALFOUR *Practicks* (1754) 38 The Serjan aucht to present attachiamenis and borgh-rowis that ar fundin in his handis. 1844 LINGARD *Anglo-Sax. Ch.* (1858) II. i. 7 'The bot of borhbryce', or penalty for breach of covenant.

† **Borrow**, *a. Obs. rare*—1. Meaning and origin uncertain: said of the pitch of a wall.

1679 Plot *Staffordsh.* (1686) 162 These [walls of blast furnace] according as they may be pitched less transhaw, or more borrow; will mend . . or alter the nature of the Iron . . The Iron made in a borrow work is much more tough.

Borrow (*bɔˈrɒ*), *v. 1* Forms: 1 *borgian*, 3 *boru*, 3-5 *borwe*, 4-5 *borow*, *borowe*, 4-6 *borowe*, (5 *boro(o)*, *bourowe*, *bor(o)wyn*, *borwon*, *borwne*), 5-6 *borow*, (6 *burow*), 7 *borowe*, 4- *borrow*. [OE. *borgian*, f. *borg*, *borh* pledge, surety (*BORROW sb.*); cf. OHG. *borgēn* to take heed, f. **borg* (object of care), MHG., mod. G. *borgen* to borrow, f. MHG. *borg* pledge.]

1. To give security for, take on pledge.

1. *trans. a.* To take (a thing) on pledge or security given for its safe return; *b.* To take (a thing) on credit, on the understanding of returning it, or giving an equivalent; *hence*, to obtain or take the temporary use of (a thing recognized as being the property of another, to whom it is returnable). *Const. of*, rarely *from*, formerly *at*.

The essential notion of borrowing originally was the security given for the safety of the thing so taken: the essential notion now is that the thing is the property of another and liable to be returned, the only security given being often the undertaking, formal or implied, that it shall be so returned when we have used it.

a 1000 *Lamb. Psalms* xxxvii. 21 (Bosw.) Borzab se synfulla and na gefillþ. c 1000 *Ag. Gosp. Matt. v. 42* þam þe wylle set þe borgian ne wyrn þu him. 1297 R. GLOUC. 393 He . . leyde . . hys broþer to wedde Normandye. And borwede of hym þerwyne an hondred þousend marc. a 1340 *HAMPOLE Pr. Consc.* 3219 That may nathing begg ne borowe. c 1430 *Syr Gener.* 8775 Whi he borowed it of him soo. 1535 *COVERDALE 2 Esdr.* v. 3 Let vs borowe money of the kinge vpon vsury. 1554 *HULOET*, Borowe of Peter to paye Paule . . wher as a man doth Borow of one to paye an other. 1651 *HOBBS Leviath.* ii. xxii. 116 If the person of the Body Politique . . borrow money of a stranger. 1769 *JUNIUS Lett.* i. 4 This nation will not bear . . to see new millions borrowed. 1860 *TYNDALL Glac.* i. § 22. 156, I borrowed a handkerchief from Lauener.

6. *Arith.* In *Subtraction*, when the number to be subtracted in one denomination is greater than that of the minuend. To transfer to the latter mentally the equivalent of a unit of the next higher denomination, compensating or 'paying back' for this at the next step in the process.

1594 *BLUNDELL Exerc.* i. (ed. 7) 91 Take 6 out of nothing, which will not bee, wherefore you must borrow 60. 1881 *FITCH Lett. Teaching* xi. 326, '9 from 3 I cannot; Borrow 10'.

2. *fig.* To render oneself indebted for; to make temporary use of (something not one's own); used, e.g. of temporal possessions, with notion of their being only *lent* to us, not given. More usually of immaterial things: as, to adopt (thoughts, expressions, modes of conduct) from another person, or (words, idioms, customs, etc.) from a foreign language or people; to obtain (a temporary favour) by request; to derive (one's authority, etc.) from another, as opposed to holding it by inherent right; to draw (a comparison, inference, suggestion) from some source alien to the subject in hand; to adopt (something) for other than its normal purpose. *Const. from, of*, formerly *at*.

As applied to the adoption of foreign words or customs, it properly implies that the adoption is merely temporary; but this restriction is now often disregarded, esp. by writers on philology; cf. *LOAN-WORD*.

a 1285 *Ancr. R.* 204 Þet is riht religiun, þet euerich . . borowe et tisse urakele worlde so luteþ so he euer mei, of mete, of cloþe, of eithe. c 1380 *WYCLIF De Dot. Eccles.* Sel. Wks. III. 434 Without autorite borewid of oþer. 1398 *TREVISA Barth. De P. R.* viii. xvii. (1495) 325 The mone hath no lyght of herself, but borowith and takyth of the plente of the soone. 1423 *Jas. I. King's Q. i. v.* I in purpose, at my boke, To borowe a slepe, at thiike tyme began. 1549 *LATIMER Sermon. bef. Edu. VI.* (Arb.) 80 Let hym borowe example at Salomon. 1595 *SHAKS. John* v. i. 51 Inferior eyes That borrow their behaviours from the great. 1600 *HOLLAND Livy* xxiv. xxii. 524 You were best therefore to borrow [summe] some respite of time of the Embassadors. 1697 *DRYDEN Virg. Georg.* i. 96 Borrow part of Winter for thy Corn. 1706 A. BEDFORD *Temple Mus.* vi. 113 The Rabbits would . . borrow Words from other Languages. 1763 J. BROWN *Poetry & Mus.* xi. 184 Their [the Romans'] Music and Poetry was always borrowed and adopted. a 1847 R. HAMILTON *Rev. & Punishm.* iv. (1853) 185 The illustrations are borrowed from the fowls of heaven and from the flowers of the field. 1875 *JOWETT Plato* (ed. 2) IV. 15

No man can be happy who, to borrow Plato's illustration, is leading the life of an oyster.

† II. To be surety for, be good for, ransom, save.

† 3. *trans.* To be surety for, go bail for; to ransom, redeem, release by paying a ransom. *Obs.*

a 1300 *Cursor M.* 23792 Pat soru Pat nakins borgh us fra mai boru. 1377 *LANGL. P. i. v. B. iv.* 109 He shal rest in my stokkes, And pat as longe as he lyueth but lowenesse hym borwe. c 1530 *PALSGR.* 461 If thou be taken prisoner . . I wyll nat borowe the. 1609 *SKENE Reg. Maj.* 107 Gif the Lord of the Court, to quhom the defender is borrowed, hes diverse Courts; he quha borrowes him, sall assigne to the perswene ane certayne day and place. c 1783 *Ballad 'Young Bekie'* iv. in *Child Ballads* ii. 466/1 O gin a lady woud borowe me, At her stirrup-foot I woud rin.

† 4. *trans.* To give security or safety to; to lease, rescue, save; to defend, protect. (With this cf. *BERGH v.* to protect. See also *BURZEN v.*) *Obs.*

a 1300 *Cursor M.* 5286 Me borud noght bot godd allan. c 1350 *Med. MS. in Archæol.* XXX. 368 Yat day fro feueres it schall y' borwe. a 1400 *Cor. Myst.* (1841) 421, I pray to God . . That he us borwe fro synfulle shame. 1522 *World & Child in Hazl. Dodsl.* I. 269 Some good word that I may say To borrow mans soul from blame.

† b. *absol.* To warrant, 'be bound', assert confidently. Cf. *BORROW sb.* 2 b. *Obs.*

c 1475 *Sgr. lous Degre* 451, I shall borowe for seven yere He shall not wedde my daughter dere. 1590 *GREENE Neuer too late* (1600) 24 Wonder twas in her eyne Fire and water should combine: If th' old saw did not borrow, Fire is loue, and water sorrow.

Borrow (*bɔˈrɒ*), *v. 2 Naut.* [Derivation uncertain; connexion with *BORROW v. 1* 2 (as if it were 'to borrow, encroach upon, what belongs to the land or the wind') seems far-fetched; possibly the original sense was 'to shelter': see *BURROW*.] *intr.* 'To approach closely either to land or wind.' *Smyth Sailor's Word-bk.* 1867.

1622 R. HAWKINS *Voy. S. Sea* (1847) 108 It is not good to borrow neere the shore, but to give it a fayre birth. 1702 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 3781/4 No Ship to borrow neerer the Harbour than that Perch. 1860 *Merc. Mar. Mag.* VII. 70 To borrow on the breakers of the spit to within 8 or 10 fathoms.

Borrowable (*bɔˈrɒjəbəl*), *a. rare*. [f. *BORROW v. 1* + *-ABLE*.] That can be borrowed.

1821 L. HUNT *Indicator* No. 73 (1822) II. 168 That description of property which may emphatically be called borrowable. 1885 *Pall Mall Budget* 19 June 31/4 'Buyable' as well as borrowable from the circulating libraries.

† **Borrowage**. [f. *BORROW sb.* and *v.* + *-AGE*.] 1. Suretyship.

c 1440 *Prompt. Parv.* 44 Borwage, fidejussio. 2. The act of borrowing from another.

1577 *HARRISON England* ii. viii. (1877) 176 Requiring him with the like borowage as he hath used toward me in his discourse.

Borrowe, *obs. form* of *BOROUGH*, *BORROW*.

Borrowed (*bɔˈrɒd*), *pp. a.* [f. *BORROW v. 1* -ED.]

1. Taken on loan. *Borrowed days*: see *BORROWING sb.* 1 c.

c 1440 *York Myst.* cxi. 105 A borrowed bene sette I noght be hym. 1646 *SIR T. BROWNE Pseud. Ep.*, So it is usual among us . . to ascribe unto March certain borrowed days from April. 1688 *Answe. Talon's Plea* 27 The Palace . . where he resides, being but a borrowed house. 1855 *MACAULAY Hist. Eng.* IV. 245 He rode away . . on a borrowed horse, which he never returned. *Scott. Pop. Rime*, But when the borrowed days were gane, The three silly hoggis cam hirplan' hame.

2. *transf. and fig.* Taken or used at second-hand, not one's own; assumed, counterfeit, 'put on'; adopted or adapted for the nonce.

1571 *GOLDING Calvin on Ps. i.* 1 A borrowed maner of speech. 1596 *SPENSER F. Q.* iii. xii. 14 Her bright browes were deckt with borrowed haire. 1621-31 *LAUD 7 Sermon.* (1847) 8 Most of the later divines are for the borrowed sense. 1762 *HUME Hist. Eng.* (1806) V. lxvii. 81 [Bedlow] had travelled over many parts of Europe under borrowed names. 1834 *MRS. SOMERVILLE Connex. Phys. Sc.* xxxvi. (1849) 408 If comets shine by borrowed light. 1880 F. HALL in *19th Cent.* Sept. 426 Has borrowed English been a peculiarity of the last two or three centuries?

Borrowee (*bɔˈrɒi*), *rare*. [f. as prec. + *-EE*.]

One from whom something is borrowed.
1885 *Spectator* 13 June 779/2 Nobody ever met a borrower who was not savage at a refusal, unless the borrowee were a bank.

Borrower (*bɔˈrɒi*), [f. as prec. + *-ER*.]

1. One who takes a thing on security or on credit.

c 1440 *Prompt. Parv.* 44 Borwage [1499 borrower], mutuator, sponsor. 1602 *SHAKS. Ham.* i. iii. 75 Neither a borrower, nor a lender be. 1677 *YARRANTON Eng. Improv.* 15 Here are both to the Lender and Borrower great Advantages. 1776 *ADAM SMITH W. N.* i. ii. iv. 360 Sober people are universally preferred as borrowers. 1875 *JOWETT Plato* (ed. 2) V. 314 The borrower should be under no obligation to repay either capital or interest.

2. *transf. and fig.* One who adopts a thing, uses it temporarily, or takes it at second-hand.

1605 *SHAKS. Macb.* iii. i. 27, I must become a borrower of the Night, For a darke hour, or twaine. 1790 *HARRIS Hermes Wks.* (1841) 236 We have been remarkable borrowers, as our multiform language may sufficiently shew. 1876 M. ARNOLD *Lit. & Dogma* 215 He . . would not have become thus a borrower from Jesus.

† **Borrow-gage**, *Obs.* [f. *BORROW sb.* + *GAGE*; the two words being equivalents from different langs.] Pledge.

1393 R. BRUNNE *Handl. Synne* 9576 þou settest þy selfe yn borgh gage.

† **Borrowgang**, *Obs.* Forms: 4 *borghgang*, 4 *Sc. borowgange*, (erron. *borrowgane*), 7 *Sc. borrowgang(e)*. [f. *BORROW sb.* + *GANG* (act of going); app. implying the existence of a phrase 'to go borrow'; cf. *to go bail*.] Suretyship; the responsibility incurred by a surety.

1393 R. BRUNNE *Handl. Synne* 9582 Quyte þe weyl oute of borghgang. a 1375 *HARBOUR St. Egipcians* 967, I kepyt nocht þe borowgane I drew hyr ine. 1609 *SKENE Reg. Maj.* 48 The pledges . . either . . confes their borrow-gange . . or they deny the samine.

† **Borrow-head** (*bɔˈrɒhɛd*), *Obs. exc. Hist.* [f. *BORROW sb.* 3 + *HEAD*; cf. *BORSHOLDER*. The fuller form *fridborhheved* occurs in the (Latin) Laws of Edward the Confessor xx. Writers from the 16th c. onwards have often confounded *BORROW sb.* 3 with *BOROUGH*; hence the incorrect form *borough-head*, commonly adopted in dictionaries.] Originally the head of a *fridborh* or tithing (see *BORROW sb.* 3); the word, with its synonyms *BOBSHOLDER*, *HEADBOROUGH*, afterwards came to denote a parochial officer, now called a Petty Constable.

1581 *LAMBARDE Eiren.* i. iii. (1602) 13 Borowhead, Borsholder and Tythingman, bee three severall names of one selfe same office and do signifie The chiefe man of the free pledges within that Borowe or Tything. 1613 *SIR H. FINCH Laws* (1636) 236 The conservator of peace. . . In a Tything (is called) a petty Constable, Borsholder, Head-Borough, Third-borough, Boroughhead, Tythingman, or Chiefe pledge. 1857 *FOULM. SMITH Parish* 121 Tything-man, borsholder, borrowhead, headborough, chief-pledge, or provost.

† **Borrowhead**, -hood. *Obs.* [f. *BORROW sb.* 2 + *-HEAD*, *-HOOD*.] Suretyship.

c 1380 *WYCLIF Sel. Wks.* III. 10 Þe boruhead of Crist þat witnessip ech trewe mannus trupe. 1500 *Robin Hood* (Ritson) i. i. 955 Of the borowe hode thou spekest to me Herde I never ere.

Borrowing (*bɔˈrɒɪŋ*), *vbl. sb. 1* [f. *BORROW v. 1*.] The action of the verb *BORROW* (senses 1, 2); taking on loan, taking at second-hand, etc.; also *concr.*, that which is borrowed.

1530 *TAVERNER Erasmus. Proo.* 46 The Englysh prouerbe . . testyfeth that he that goeth a borrowynge, goeth a sorowynge. 1562 J. HEYWOOD *Proo. & Epigr.* (1867) 15 Sauiyng by borrowynge, tyll we be in det. a 1630 S. PAGE in *Spurgeon Treas. Dav. Ps.* li. 3 Our food and raiment, the necessities of life, are borrowings. 1642 *FULLER Holy & Prof. St. ii.* xxiii. 147 Confession puts the difference betwixt stealing and borrowing. 1830 *COLERIDGE Table T.* 111 So borrow as to repay by the very act of borrowing. 1882 J. W. LECA *Liturgical Colours* ii. 14 These colours . . seem to be a modern borrowing from Rome.

† b. In certain obsolete phrases: *To do, give, lend borrowing*: to lend. *To take borrowing*: to borrow. *To ask in borrowing*: to ask as a loan. c 1380 *WYCLIF Wks.* (1880) 277 Pat . . borrowynge and luyngge be frely don to pore men. 1382 — *Proo.* xxii. 7 He that taketh borrowynge, seruante is of the usurer. — *Luke* vi. 34 If 3e 3yuen borrowynge to hem, of which 3e hopeen to take agyn, what grace is to you? c 1570 *Leg. Bp. St. Andrews in Scot. Poems* 16th C. (1801) II. 328 Sowmes of silver fra him [he] ast In borrowing. 1573 *Scot. Edinb.* *ibid.* II. 287 Lend vs an borrowynge of your auld blak bellis.

c. *Borrowing days*: the last three days of March (Old Style), said in Scottish folk-lore to have been borrowed by March from April, and supposed to be specially stormy. (So in Cheshire the first eleven days of May are called *borrowed days*, because in Old Style they belonged to April.) 1549 *Compl. Scot.* 38 The borial blastis of the thre boruynge daies of marche. 1791 *Statist. Acc. Scotl.* I. 57 Born in the borrowing days. 1818 *SCOTT Hrt. Midl.* xxviii. The bairns' rime says, the warst blast of the borrowing days couldna kill the three silly poor hog-lams.

Borrowing (*bɔˈrɒɪŋ*), *vbl. sb. 2 Naut.* [f. *BORROW v. 2*.] Sailing close to land or to the wind.

1622 R. HAWKINS *Voy. S. Sea* (1847) 117 The norther part of the bay hath foule ground, and rocks under water; and therefore it is not wholesome borrowing of the mayne.

Borrowing, *pp. a.* [f. *BORROW v. 1* + *-ING*.]

That borrows. *Hence Borrowingly adv.*

1640 *BROME Sparagus Gard.* i. iii. I hope you will not . . urge me beyond patience with your borrowing attempts. *Ibid.* Your countenance . . looks so borrowingly. 1855 *DICKENS Dorrit* ix. They eyed him with borrowing eyes. 1866 *CRUMP Banking* vii. 148 As an import to the lending country, and as an export to the borrowing country.

† **Borrowship**, *Obs. rare*. = *BORROWAGE*.

c 1440 *Prompt. Parv.* 44 Borwage [K. borweshepe], fidejussio.

Borsholder (*bɔˈɪʃhɔːldɪə*), *Obs. exc. Hist.*

Also 6 *borsolder*, 6-8 *bosholder*, 7 *bursholder*, 9 in historical writers *bors*-, *bors*-, *ealdor*.

[The spelling *borghesaldre* in the A.F. Statutes of the Realm (I. 223) points to OE. **borges aldor*, f. *borges*, gen. case of *borh* (*BORROW sb.* 3) + *ALDER sb.* 2. Not connected with *BOROUGH*.]

The chief of a tithing (*BORROW sb.* 3) or frank-pledge; afterwards a parish officer identical in functions with the Petty Constable (= *BORROWHEAD*, *HEADBOROUGH*, *TITHINGMAN*). (Also *fig.*)

1536 *Act 28 Hen. VIII.*, k. Every . . hedborowe, thyrd-borowe, borsolder, and every other lay officer. 1609 *SIR E. HOBY Letter to T. H.* 3, I dispatched this paper, as my Borsholder. 1618 *DALTON Country Just.* in *Halliwell Shaks.* VI. 324 There be other officers of much like autho-

? Is there any illustration of the use of borrow for demand, in A.V. Ex. 3.22; 12.35.

city to our constables, as the borsholders in Kent, the third-borow in Warwickshire, and the thythingman and burrow-head, or headborow, or chiefe-pledge in other places. 1678 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 1357/1 His Majesty doth hereby strictly Charge all Constables, Churchwardens, Headboroughs, Thythingmen, Borsholders, and other Parish Officers. 1768 *BLACKSTONE Comm.* I. 356 The antient headboroughs, tithing-men, and borsholders, were made use of to serve as petty constables. 1837 *TOULM. SMITH Parish* 15 Elsewhere, the name headborough, and elsewhere that of borsholder, was and is in use. 1872 *E. ROBERTSON Hist. Ess.* 114 The Parish Constable and beadle, representatives of the Borsh's Eldor and the Bode or messenger of the Court.

Borstall. local. Also 7 bostal. [f. OE. *beorh* a hill (*BARROW sb.* 1) + OE. *stigel(e)*, STILE. But the explanation 'seat on the side or pitch of a hill' given by Bp. Kennett (see Halliwell), suggests OE. **beorh-stall*.] (See quot.)

1674 *RAY S. & E. Country Wds.* 59 *Bostal*, a way up a hill. Suffolk. 1880 L. J. JENNINGS *Rambles among Hills* 199 One of the steep paths up the hillside known in the South Down district as bostalls or bostalls. 1884 *Contemp. Rev.* Aug. 330 The steep paths which wind up to the summit (of the Downs) retain their Saxon name of bostalls.

† **Borstax.** Obs. rare-1. ? Some kind of axe. c 1300 *Song Husbandm.* in *Pol. Songs* 151 Mi bil ant my borstax.

Borsten. obs. form of BURST.

Borstyan. variant of BUSTIAN, Obs., cloth.

Bort (bort). Also 7 bourt, 9 boart. [Possibly a. OF. *bord*, *bort*, bastard; the word is used in mod.F. (Littre, supplement) as *bord* and *bort*, but is not in Cotgr. 1611.] The fragments removed from diamonds in cutting, when too small for jewellery; also diamonds of too coarse a quality for jewellery: used to make diamond powder.

1622 *MALYNES Anc. Law-Merch.* 74 The Flat Diamonds, which are in the superficies of the Bourt of Diamonds, and are impure, commonly beaten therefore into powder for the use of the other Diamonds, that are cut and polished by the Milline. 1817 *JAS. MILL Brit. India* I. II. viii. 353 In a flat press, where under steel wheels, the diamonds are fastened, and with its own bort are worn into what cut the artist pleases. 1884 F. BRITTEN *Watch & Clockm.* 129 Drills are selected from needle-shaped pieces of bort.

Borough, boruwen. obs. forms of BORROW.

Boru (3, obs. form of BOROUGH.

Boruret. Chem. [f. BOR-ON + -URET.] Earlier name for a boride, now generally disused.

1847 in CRAIG.

Borwch, borwe-n. obs. forms of BORROW.

† **Borwen.** Obs. rare. [? Parallel form of BURIE:—OE. *byrgan*.] A mound, heap.

1570 *LEVINS Mani.* 60 A Borwen, cumulus.

Borw (3, obs. form of BOROUGH, BORROW.

Bos=behoves: see BUS v. Obs.; also obs. f. BOSS.

Bosa. var. of BOZA, an oriental drink.

Bosard (e, obs. form of BUZZARD.

Boscage, boskage (bɒskɛdʒ). Also 5 busage, (7 boxage). [ME. *boscage*, a. OF. *boscage* (mod.F. *boscage*) wooded country, a thicket:—late L. *boscaticum*, f. late L. *boscum* wood: see -AGE; cf. the It. equivalent *boscaggio*.]

1. A mass of growing trees or shrubs; a thicket, grove; woody undergrowth; sylvan scenery.

c 1400 *Yvaine & Gau.* 1671 Als he went in that boskage. He fond a lertly ermitage. 1483 *CAXTON G. de la Tour* I ij b, She . . . suffred so moche euylle and mescheyf in the buskage. 1525 *SKELTON Why nat to Court* II. 50 And with such corage Hunte the boskage. 1606 *BACON New Atl.* (1650) I A Land Flat to our sight, and full of Boskage. 1719 J. AUBREY *Swirey* IV. 173 Thick Boskages of Box-Trees. 1830 *TENNISON Dream Fair Women* 243 The sombre boskage of the wood. 1858 *CARLYLE Fredk. Gl.* II. vii. 260 The cool boskages and oranges of the place.

† 2. The pictorial representation of wooded landscape; also, a decorative design imitating branches and foliage. Obs.

1610 *FOLKINGHAM Art Survey* II. vi. 58 Compartiments are Blankes or Figures bordered with Anticke Boskage or Crotosko-woorke. 1624 *WOTTON Archit.* (1672) 59 Cheerful Paintings in Feasting and Banqueting Rooms. Landships and Boskage, and such wild works in open Terraces. 1679 *The Confinement* 57 Boskage within each Chamber must be shown, Or the mean pile no Architect will own.

† 3. Law. (Meaning disputed; see quotes.) Obs. 1483 *CAXTON Gold. Leg.* 145/2 He gaf to them of that hows the fee ryall of that buskage. 1508 *MANWOOD Lawes Forest* xii. § 1 (1615) 88 To be quit of Boskage . . . is to be discharged of paying any dutie for windfall woods. 1672 *Cowell's Interpr.*, Boskage, is such sustenance as Wood and Trees yield to Cattel, viz. Mast. 1753 *CHAMBERS Cycl. Suppl.*, Boskage sometimes denoted a tax or duty laid on wood brought into the city.

† **Boscaresque, a.** Obs. rare-1. [f. It. *bosco* wood, or perh. *boscareccio* (Florio) woody; after *picturesque*. (Cf. F. *boscareque*, used by Rousseau.)] Picturesque with sylvan scenery.

a 1734 *NORTH Lives* II. 181 His garden was exquisite, being most boscaresque.

Bosce. obs. form of BOSS.

|| **Bosch** (properly bɒs, usually bɒʃ). Also bosch. [Du. *bosch* a wood, BUSH.] Used by the Dutch settlers in South Africa, and thence in *comb.*, as: *bosch-bok*, an antelope of South Africa, the Bush-buck; *bosch-man* = BUSHMAN (the word

used in Holland, however, is *boschjesman*); *bosch-vark*, a species of wild pig in South Africa.

1786 *tr. Sparrman's Voy. Cape G. H.* 271, I saw and gave chase to the bosch-bok. 1834 *PRINGLE Afr. Sk.* 76 The boschbok oft would bound away. *Ibid.* iii. 161 The bosch-vark, or wood-swine. 1854 *H. MILLER Footpr. Creat.* ix. (1874) 156 The degraded boschmen of creation.

Bosch (bɒʃ), *sb.* (bɒʃ). [In full, *Bosch butter*, i.e. artificial butter manufactured at 's Hertogenbosch' or 'Bosch' (Bois-le-duc) in Holland.] An imitation of butter, otherwise called BUTTERINE, usually consisting of oleomargarine with a small proportion of genuine butter. Also *Bosch butter*. 1879 *Echo* 7 Apr. 3/4 It was known in the trade by the name of 'bosch'. 1880 *Daily News* 26 Feb. 5/2 Oleomargarine . . . is generally sold in this country under the name of 'butterine', but it is also known commercially by the more expressive term 'bosch'.

Boschayle. var. of BUSHAYLE, Obs., copse.

Bosche, boscher. obs. ff. BUSH, BUTCHER.

† **Bosco.** Obs. ? Distortion of BOSS.

1654 *GAYTON Fest. Notes* II. iii. 42 The boscos, and subcoscos (I mean) the dulapies and the jawy part of the face.

Bose. obs. form of BOOSE, BOSS, BUSH.

Bosh (bɒʃ), *sb.* 1 [Origin unknown; senses 1 and 2 may be of distinct derivation. Sense 1 has been compared with Ger. *bösch* to slope. The plur. form is due to the fact that blast-furnaces were formerly of square section, and the 'bosches' were the four sloping walls of the lower portion.] 1. *pl.* In a blast-furnace, the lower part of the shaft, sloping downwards from the belly, or widest part, to the hearth.

1679 *PLOT Staffordsh.* (1686) 162 Where these oblique walls terminat, which they term the bosches. 1864 *Q. J. J. Sci.* I. 492 The body and bosches being made of distinct truncated cones.

2. 'A trough in which bloomy tools (or, in copper-smelting, hot ingots) are cooled.' Raymond *Mining Gloss.* 1881.

† **Bosh** (bɒʃ), *sb.* 2 Obs. [Origin unknown: perhaps a corruption of F. *bouche* outline, rough-hewn figure.] An outline, rough sketch. Hence (1) *To cut a bosh*: to make a figure, to make an imposing, swaggering appearance.

1766 *AMHERST Terra Fil.* xvi. 245 Who has handsomer tie-wigs, or more fashionable cloaths, or cuts a bolder bosh than Tom Parquet? *Ibid.* 247 Laughing at everybody . . . that does not cut as bold a bosh as they do. 1755 *Student* II. 287 A man who has learned but the bosh of an argument, that has only seen the shadow of a syllogism.

Bosh (bɒʃ), *sb.* 3 slang or colloq. [a. Turk. *بوش* bosh empty, worthless; the word became current in Eng. from its frequent occurrence in Morier's novel *Ayesha* (1834), which was extremely popular, especially in the 'Standard Novels' edition 1846.]

1. Contemptible nonsense, 'stuff'; trash; foolish talk or opinions.

1834 *MORIER Ayesha* I. 219 This firman is bosh—nothing. *Ibid.* I. 283 The parts [of the Koran] which are taken from the Christian Bible are divine; [the other parts] are spurious. They are bosh—nothing. 1850 *P. CROOK War of Hats* 19 Some nameless bosh—seduction—or crim. con. 1863 *KINGSLEY Water Bab.* (1878) 174 And were pure bosh and wind. 1864 *MISS YONGE Cress Kate* xii. 212 Don't talk bosh out of your books. 1884 *Illustr. Lond. News* 23 May 539/2, I can write something that is not bosh.

2. *int.* Stuff and nonsense! Humbug!

1852 *DICKENS Bleak Ho.* xxi, Bosh! It's all correct. *Ibid.* xxiv, Bosh, what's my head running against!

† **Bosh**, *v.* 1 Obs. [f. *BOSH sb.* 2] *intr.* To cut a dash; to make a show; to flaunt.

1799 *STEELE & SWIFT Tatler* No. 71 ¶ 8 When to the plain Garb of Gown and Band a Spark adds an inconsistent long Wig, we do not say now he Boshes, but there goes a Smart Fellow. 1796 *AMHERST Terra Fil.* xxxiii. 180 Bosh it about town in lace ruffles.

Bosh (bɒʃ), *v.* 2 slang. [f. *BOSH sb.* 3] *trans.* To make of no effect; to spoil; to humbug.

1870 *Macm. Mag.* XXI. 71 You 'bosh' his [a man's] joke by refusing to laugh at it; you 'bosh' his chance of sleep by playing upon the cornet all night in the room next to him. 1883 *MISS BRADDON Gold. Calif.* xiv, Boys would get on capitally with Jardine. They'd never try to bosh him.

Bosh: see BOSCH 2.

Bosholder. obs. form of BORSHOLDER.

Bosjesman: see BUSHMAN.

Bosk (bɒsk). Also 3-4 boske, (9 bosque, rare). [The early ME. *boske* was a variant of *busk*, BUSH; *bosk* and *busk* are still used dialectally for BUSH; but the modern literary word may have been evolved from BOSKY.]

† 1. A bush. Obs. exc. dial.

1297 *R. GLOUC.* 547 Hii houede vnder boskes. c 1300 *Prov. Hendyng* xx, Vnder boske shal men weder abide, quop Hendyng. c 1325 *E. E. Allit.* P. B. 322 Bope boskez & bourez & wel bounden penez.

2. A thicket of bushes and underwood; a small wood.

1814 *SCOTT Ld. Isles* v. xv, Meantime, through well-known bosk and dell, I'll lead where we may shelter well. 1847 *TENNISON Princ.* i. 110 Blowing bosks of wildness. 1862 *LITTON Str. Story* II. 82 Every bosk and dingle. 1878 *H. PHILLIPS Poems fr. Span. & Germ.* 69 In a flowery bosque

there flies a bird. 1885 *Century Mag.* 544 It is planted with pleasant little bosks and trim hedges.

Hence † *boske* addre, lit. 'bush-adder': a viper, a serpent (*L. coluber*).

1382 *WYCLIF Ex.* vii. 9 Tak thin 3erde, and throw it bifore Pharao, and be it turned into a bosk eddre . . . The 3erde . . . was turnyd into a boske addre.

Boakage. variant of BOSCAGE.

Boake(n). obs. form of BUSK v. to prepare.

Bosket, bosquet (bɒskɛt). [18th c. a. F. *bosquet*, ad. It. *boschetto*, dim. of *bosco* wood. See also the earlier forms BUSHET, BUSKET; and cf. BOUQUET.] A plantation in a garden, park, etc., of underwood and small trees; a thicket.

1737 *MILLER Gard. Dict.*, *Bosquets* . . . are small Compartments of Gardens . . . form'd of Trees, Shrubs, or tall large growing plants. 1828 *SCOTT F. M. Perth* I. 316 There are bushes and boskets enough by the river side. 1833 *T. Hook Parson's Dan.* II. viii. 238 A gravel circle encompassing a bosquet of laurel, laurestinus and holly. a 1847 *Mrs. SHERWOOD Lady of Manor* IV. xviii. 27 Nothing was to be seen but stiff parterres, trim avenues, close bosquets, grottoes, and Chinese bridges. 1859 *L. OLIPHANT China & Japan* I. xii. 237 Charming little boskets with mossy seats.

Hence *Bosquette* a.

1881 *Academy* No. 491. 252 To him plants become bosquetteish.

Boskiness (bɒskɪnɪs). [f. BOSKY a. 1 + -NESS.] The quality of being bosky.

a 1844 in W. H. Maxwell *Sports & Adv. Scotl.* (1855) iv. 57 Tangled . . . boskiness. c 1860 *Imperial Gaz. Scotl.* I. 222. 1863 *HAWTHORNE Old Home* (1879) 56 A shadowy secluded grove, with winding paths among its boskiness.

Bosky (bɒski), *a.* 1 [f. BOSK (not recorded between 14th and 19th c., but preserved in dial.) + -Y; or alteration of BUSKY, after It. *boscoso*.] Consisting of or covered with bushes or underwood; full of thickets, bushy. (Also *transf.*)

1593 *PRELIE Chron. Edw. I.* (1874) 407 In this bosky wood Bury his corpse. 1610 *SHAKS. Temp.* IV. i. 81 My boskie acres, and my vnshrubd downe. 1634 *MILTON Comus* 312 And every bosky bourn. 1797 *DYER Fleec* (1807) 79 The bosky bourns of Alfred's shires. 1810 *SCOTT Lady of L.* III. xiv, The bosky thickets. 1851 *H. MELVILLE V.* 33 A brown and brawny company with bosky beards.

Bosky (bɒski), *a.* 2 dial. or slang. [perh. a humorous use of prec., with the notion of 'over-shadowed' or 'obscured'.] Somewhat the worse for drink, tipsy.

1730-6 *BAILEY, Bosky*, half or quite fuddled. 1824 *Blackw. Mag.* XVI. 573 He may be tipsy, bosky, cut, or anything but drunk. 1843 *T. Hook in New Month Mag.* LX. 11 Became, to use a colloquial expression, uncommonly bosky.

Bosom (buːzəm), *sb.* Forms: 1 bōsem bōsum, 2-3 bosm, bosem, *Orm.* bosemm, 3-6 bosum (in 6 only *Sc.*), 4-7 bosome, (6 bosym, bowsom, boosome), 4- bosom. [OE. *bōsm* = OFris. *bōsm*, OS. *bōsom* (MDu. *boesem*, Du. *boezem*), OHG. *buosam* (MHG. *buosem*, mod.G. *buesen*) = WGer. **bōsm* (not in EGer.). Remoter etymology unknown: it has been conjectured that **bōsm* stands for **bōh-smo*, f. **bōhu* = OAr. **bhāghu* = arm (BOUGH); the word would then, like the partially synonymous FATHOM, primarily mean the space embraced by the two arms.]

1. The breast of a human being; also *poet.* of a bird, etc.

c 1000 *ELFRIC Numb.* xi. 12 Diet ic hīz bære on minum bosume, swa fostormodor deþ cyld. 1280 *WYCLIF John* xiii. 23 Oon of his discipulis was restinge in the bosum of Jhesu. c 1440 *York Myst.* xv. 104 A baren broche by a belle of tyne At your bosom to be. 1590 *SHAKS. Ven. & Ad.* 646 Within my bosom . . . My boding heart pants. 1697 *DYDEN Virg. Georg.* iv. 19 Progne, with her Bosom stained in Blood. 1847 *TENNISON Princ.* II. 88 Doves That sun their milky bosoms on the thatch. 1864 *Aylmer's F.* 687 The babe Too ragged to be fondled on her lap, Warm'd at her bosom?

b. The enclosure formed by the breast and the arms. *In one's bosom*: clasped to one's breast. Now only *arch.*, and chiefly in fig. Scriptural phrases, e.g. in *Abraham's bosom* (cf. *Luke* xvi. 22): in the abode of the blessed dead.

c 1175 *Lamb. Hom.* 53 Also heo heom [heore euenecristene] walde in to heore bosme puten. c 1200 *ORMIN* 10391 Iesu Crist . . . patt inn hiss Faderr bosemm iss. 1380 *WYCLIF Mic.* vii. 5 Hir that restith in thi bosum. 1400 *E. E. Wills* (1882) 47 That he resceyue me yn-to þe brode bosum off his mercy. 1578 *Gude & Godlie Ballates* (1868) 36 Quhen Lazarus he saw . . . In his bosome. 1816 *W. HOLLAR Dance Death* xix. 53 Death . . . attacks this warrior, in the bosom of victory. 1866 *NEALE Seq. & Hymns* 162 The child was in Abraham's bosom.

c. *Wife of one's bosom*: orig. a Hebraism adopted in the Bible of 1611; but its Eng. use is influenced by senses 6 a and b. (The similar phrase *husband of one's bosom*, *Deut.* xxviii. 56, never became current.) Hence, *To take to one's bosom*: to marry.

1611 *BIBLE Deut.* xiii. 6 The wife of thy bosome. *Ibid.* xxviii. 56 The husband of her bosome. 1747 *HERVEY Medit.* (1753) II. 53 The Wife of his Bosom may expire by his Side. 1824 *T. JEFFERSON Corr.* (1830) 233 Not even the wife of his bosom. 1881 *W. PITT LENNOX Plays*, &c. I. 37 The woman he had taken to his bosom.

† d. *transf.* The womb. Obs.

971 *Blichl. Hom.* 5 Heo onfeng on hire medmyecan bosm

God Fæder Sunu. c 1200 *Trin. Coll. Hom.* 131 Of alle þe bernas, þe ben boren of wifes bosome. 1535 STEWART *Cron. Scot.* II. 411 Sonnis als of thair bosumis thair bair.

2. *fig.* Applied to the surface of the sea, a lake, a river, or the ground: with various associations from the literal sense.

a 1000 *Andreas* 444 (Gr.) Of brimes bosome. 1595 SHAKS. *John* IV. i. 3 When I strike my foot Vpon the bosome of the ground. 1697 DRYDEN *Virg. Georg.* III. 557 [A river] which before Tall Ships of Burthen on its Bosome bore. 1750 G. HUGHES *Barbados* 220 From the bosoms of some of the upper leaves rise small pedicles. 1816 G. S. FABER *Orig. Pagan Idol.* III. 11 A small island was consecrated in the bosome of a deep lake. 1837 WORDSWORTH *Tour Italy* Sonn. xxvi. Tossed on the bosome of a stormy sea. 1873 BLACK *Pr. Thule* x. 160 The broad bosome of the stream.

3. *transf.* The part of the dress which covers the breast; also the space included between the breast and its covering.

b. *spec.* Considered as the receptacle for money or letters, formerly answering to modern use of 'pocket'. c. *To give (requite, etc.) into one's bosome* (a Hebraism derived from the Bible).

a 1121 O. E. *Chron.* an. 1086 (Laud. MS.) Mid his bosome full golde. c 1250 *Gen. & Ex.* 281 In his bosome he dede his hond. c 1286 CHAUCER *Chan. Yem. Prolog.* & T. 565 This Chanon took out a Crosset Of his bosome. 1388 WYCLIF *Luke* vi. 38 Thei schulen 3yue in to 3oure bosome a good mesure. 1566 *Pilgr. Perf.* (W. de W. 1531) 1 b. A synguler iewel to bere in my bosome. 1580 BARET *Alv.* B 958 To put money in ones bosome. 1684 BUNYAN *Pilgr.* II. 10 That thou put this Letter in thy Bosome. 1834 MARRYAT *P. Simple* xii. A large frill to his bosome.

4. A curved recess; a cavity, hollow interior; a sinus. [Cf. Lat. *sinus*.]

† a. The hull or the hold of a ship. *Obs.*

a 1000 *Cadmon's Gen.* 1306 (Gr.) Gescype scylfan on scipes bosome. c 1205 *Lay.* 7849 Scipen gunnen helden. Bomes þer renden: Water in wende.

† b. *Phys.* The cavity of the stomach; one of the chambers of the heart; a recess or angle in which two bones meet. *Obs.*

1578 BANISTER *Hist. Man* 1. 20 The vj bone is fastened to the angular bosome of the Postbrachiall bones. 1610 BARROUGH *Math. Physick* III. i. 101 The bosome of the stomach. 1662 J. CHANDLER *Van Helmont's Oriat.* 178 There is Hedge or Partition between both bosomes of the Heart.

† c. A concave bend in a coast-line, or the part of the sea embraced by it; a bay. *Obs.*

c 1325 E. E. *Allit. P. C.* 107 Þe blyþe breþe at her bak þe bosome he fyndes. 1533 BELLENDEN *Livy* I. (1822) 449 The bosome of the seys, quhare the Venicianis dwellis. 1600 FAIRFAX *Tasso* xix. viii. Where into creeks and bosoms blind A winding hill his corners turn'd and cast. 1685 R. BURTON *Eng. Emp. Amer.* iv. 70 They were... cast upon a bosome of the South Cape of Massachusetts Bay.

d. *poet.* The 'belly' or curvature of a sail before the wind. (Cf. BOSOM *v.* 1.)

1872 BLACKIE *Lays Highl.* 7 A strong south-wester blowing strained the bosome of their sail.

e. *Mech.* The recess or depression round the eye of a millstone; the 'breast' or curvature of a plough-share; also in *Shipbuilding*, the concave curvature of a frame.

1823 A. YOUNG *Agric. Essex* I. 134 This degree of roundness and felling in the bosome [of a plough] is necessary on heavy ground. 1865 SIR E. REED *Ship Build.* viii. 149 The beam-plate is run into the bosome of the frame and riveted to it.

5. Expressing a local relation: The interior, the midst: sometimes a development of sense 4, but often with a reference to one of the senses 'embrace' (1 b), 'bosome of garment' (3 b), and 'womb' (1 d).

1489 CAXTON *Fayles of A.* I. xxv. 79 Enuyrone thyn aduersaryes... within the bosome of thyn ooste. 1595 SPENSER *Col. Clout* 243 Fishes... Which in the bosome of the billowes breed. 1663 BOYLE *Usefulness Nat. Philos.* I. iv. 66 Quicksilver... will swallow up Gold, and hide it in its Bosome. 1849 ROBERTSON *Serm.* Ser. I. ii. (1866) 37 The seed lying in the genital bosome of the earth. 1861 GEO. ELIOT *Silas M.* I Deep in the bosome of the hills.

b. *fig.* In the bosome of one's family: in the privacy of the domestic circle (usually also implying family affection and confidence). In the bosome of a church (or other association): within the inner circle of its membership. And the like.

a 1600 HOOKER (J.) They which live within the bosome of that church. 1803 JANE PORTER *Thaddeus* I. (1831) 2 Within the bosome of his family. 1833 I. TAYLOR *Fanat.* I. 13 In the bosome of the Church rests the hope of the conversion of the world. 1839 THIRLWALL *Hist. Greece* VII. 173 The traitors whom Athens had... cast out from her bosome. 1873 MORLEY *Rousseau* I. 37 He was publicly received into the kindly bosome of the true church.

6. *fig.* The breast considered as the seat of thoughts and feelings. Cf. HEART.

a. The repository of secret thoughts and counsels: hence used for 'inward thoughts' (quot. 1604). † *To be of (a person's) bosome*: to be entrusted with his secrets. *Friend of one's bosom*: cf. BOSOM FRIEND.

a 1225 *Ancre R.* 148, I mine bosome... is al mi hope iholden. 1282 WYCLIF *Job* xxxi. 33 If I... hiled in my bosome my wickednesse. 1590 SHAKS. *Mids. N.* I. i. 216 Emptying our bosomes, of their counsell sweld. 1604 — *Chk.* III. I. 58 You shall haue time To speake your bosome freely. 1605 — *Learn* IV. v. 26, I know you are of her bosome

a 1643 W. CARTWRIGHT *Lady Errant* III. i. (1651) 29 We enterchange Bosoms, and counsels, thoughts and souls. 1712 STEELE *Spect.* No. 428 ¶ 2 The man... is shunn'd to-day by the Friend of his Bosome. 1813 T. JEFFERSON *Corr.* (1830) 194 A confidential communication... deposited in his bosome, and never meant to trouble the public mind.

b. The seat of emotions, desires, etc.: hence used for 'desire' (quot. 1603).

c 1175 *Lamb. Hom.* 105 Wreðde hæfð wununge on þes dusian bosome. 1595 SHAKS. *John* IV. i. 32 His words do take possession of my bosome. 1603 — *Meas. for M.* IV. iii. 139 You shal haue your bosome on this wretch. 1625 BACON *Ess.* Ep. Ded. (Arb.) 498 They come home to Mens Businesse and Bosomes. 1764 GOLDSM. *Trav.* 364 Far from my bosome drive the low desire. 1818 *Gentl. Mag.* LXXXVIII. II. 153 The cause comes home to the bosome of every man under the British Government. 1842 TENNYSON *Amphion* 102, I will not vex my bosome.

† 7. Transferred to a person. (Cf. the similar use of *hand, heart, head*, etc. for their possessor.)

1599 SHAKS. *Hen. V.* II. Cho. 21 A nest of hollow bosomes. 1608 MIDDLETON *Mad World* II. i. I'll pawn my credit for him, an honest, trusty bosome. 1651 JER. TAYLOR *Holy Living* (1727) 249 He is the proper object and bosome to whom the restitution is to be made. 1756 C. LUCAS *Ess. Waters* II. 198 Incribed to a Bosome fraught with every Social Virtue.

II. Comb. and Attrib.

8. General relations, chiefly attributive: a. Worn upon or carried in the bosome: as in *bosom-book, -brooch, -pin, -vesture*.

1617 *Janna Ling* Adv. ad fin., If not as a manuall or pocket-booke, yet a pectorall or *bosome-booke, to be carried twixt jerkin and doublet. 1835 HAWTHORNE *Amer. Note-bks.* (1871) I. 7 The bar-keeper had one of Benton's mint-drops for a *bosom-brooch. 1831 CARLYLE *Sart. Res.* II. v. The *bosom-vesture of Summer.

b. Pertaining to the bosome as the seat of thoughts and feelings: as in *bosom-balm, -broil, -comfort, -devil, -hell, -peace, -prophecy, -throe, etc.*

1742 YOUNG *Nt. Th.* II. 171 Our thoughts at enmity; our *bosom-broil. a 1656 Bp. HALL *Soliloquies* 61 Guiltiness... like a *bosom-devil would ever torment itself. 1674 FLATMAN *Agst. Thoughts* 714 These anguishes, this *bosome-Hell. 1659 FLATMAN *Dooms-day* Th. 66 When... Conscience... all our *bosom-secrets breaks. 1828 HOOD *Hero & L.* xvii. The agony and *bosom-throe.

c. Cherished in the bosome: hence usually = dear, beloved, 'darling': as in *bosom-child, -sin, -son, -vanity, -vice, -wickedness*.

1862 GOULBURN *Pers. Relig.* 179 The *bosom-adder of vanity. 1838 WORDSW. *To Sleep*, Dear *Bosom-child we call thee. 1600 SANDERSON *Serm.* I. 142 Far off from meddling with his *bosom sin. 1740 WESLEY *Wks.* (1872) XIV. 327 Their bosom sins, or the sins which did most easily beset them. 1678 Yng. *Man's Call.* 143 Turn away your eyes from *bosome vanities. 1705 STANHOPE *Paraphr.* III. 61 If... some One darling *Bosom-vice be left unmortified.

d. Intimate, confidential: as in *bosom-communion, -counsel, -friendship, -interest, -lover*.

1650 T. GOODWIN *Wks.* (1865) X. 557 How canst thou think God should... take thee into immediate *bosom-communion with himself? 1619 KING *Serm.* 19 Did he then thinke... of a *bosome enemy? 1860 C. PATMORE *Faithful for Ever* 89 Take no wife Who to your stooping feels she owes Her name; such debts make *bosom-foes. 1742 YOUNG *Nt. Th.* I. 340 Like *bosom friendships to resentment sour'd. 1596 SHAKS. *Merch. V.* III. iv. 17 Antonio... the *bosome louer of my Lord.

e. locative with pple. or ppl. adj., as in *bosom-reigning, -stricken* (other examples in g).

1645 QUARLES *Sol. Recant.* Eccles. iv. 5 With yauning lips, and *bosome-folded hands. 1637 PRESTON *Mt. Ebal* (1638) 32 We must confesse our beloved *bosome-raigning sinnes. 1855 SINGLETON *Virgil* II. 474 The *bosom-stricken dames their woman's shout Raise to the stars of heaven.

9. Special comb.: † *bosom-bird, fig.* a bosom friend; *bosom-deep a. (adv.)*, up to the bosome (cf. *ankle-deep*); *bosom-felt ppl. a.*, = HEARTFELT; † *bosom-hung ppl. a.*, hanging down upon the bosome; † *bosom-mischief*, the root of the mischief; † *bosom-partner*, a wife; † *bosom-piece*, a piece of attire covering the bosome; *fig.* a bosom friend; † *bosom-sermon*, one learnt by heart and recited; † *bosom-slave*, a concubine; *bosom-staff*, an instrument used in testing the straightness of the faces of millstones (see 4 e).

1653 TRAPP *Marrow Gd. Auth.* (1868) 836/2 One of his *bosom-birds, Porphyry. 1822 ROSSETTI *Rose Mary* III. vi. She had waded *bosom-deep Along death's bank in the sedge of sleep. 1771 SMOLLETT in *Anderson Brit. Poets* (1795) X. 959/2 His *bosom-felt wo. a 1662 HEVLIN *Laud* I. 161 Eunomius, the *bosom-mischief of those times. 1633 FORD *Love's Sacr.* I. i. (1830) 76 The *bosom-partner of my lord. 1619 BEAUM. & FL. *Valentin*, II. iii. Was I your *bosom-piece for this? 1594 CAREW *Huarte's Exam. Wits* (1616) 149 Which these cannot bring about, who haue conned *bosome-sermons. 1728 THOMSON *Spring* 1131 Let eastern tyrants, from the light of heaven Seclude their *bosom-slaves.

B. as *adj.* Private, confidential, intimate.

1640 HASTINGTON *Hist. Edw. IV.* 224 Lewys freeing him-

self from so bosome an enemy by poisoning Charles.

1648 SYMONDS *Vind. Chas. I.* 307 He tells her in his most

bosome expressions, that, etc.

Bosom (bu'zəm), v. [f. prec. sb.]

† 1. *intr.* To form a bosom: to belly. † *Obs.*

c 1375 BARBOUR *Troy-bk.* II. 1699 Thai... halit wp þare salis

hie That bowsomit with þe wyndis blast.

2. *trans.* To put into the bosom.

1598 SYLVESTER *Du Bartas* I. vii. (1641) 60/s Bosoming his

hand. 1819 B. W. PROCTOR (B. Cornwall) *Dram. Sc., A. Wentworth* I, I like to see you bosom them [violets].

3. *trans.* To take to the bosom, embrace; *fig.* to receive into intimate companionship.

1605 SHAKS. *Learn* v. i. 13, I am doubtful that you have been conjunct, And bosom'd with her. 1633 FORD *Broken H.* IV. i. (1811) 296 Ixion, aiming To embrace Juno, bosomed but a cloud. 1634 HEYWOOD *Maidenh. Lost* LWks. 1874 IV. 106 A Prince hath bin repulst, and meanest persons Bosom'd. 1840 E. ELLIOTT *Vill. Patriarch* Poet. Wks. 55 He has long been bosomed with me.

† b. *intr.* To have familiar intercourse. *Obs. rare.*

1633 FORD *Love's Sacr.* IV. i, You were wont To bosom in his counsels. 1637 HEYWOOD *Dialogues* II. 121 She... Doth with this Monster bosome, drinke, and eat.

4. *transf.* and *fig.* To carry or enclose in the bosom; to embosom.

1632 MILTON *Allegro* 78 Towers and battlements... Bosom'd high in tufted trees. 1634 — *Comus* 368 The sweet peace that goodness bosoms ever. 1792 WORDSW. *Descript. Sk. Poet.* Wks. I. 72 Como, bosomed deep in chestnut groves. 1817 BYRON *Manfred* I. i. 115 Space bosom'd not a lovelier star.

5. *fig.* To hide (a secret) in the bosom; to take to heart, keep in mind. Also with *up*.

1606 DAY *He of Gulls* Biv b. Ile bosome what I thinke. 1613 SHAKS. *Hen. VIII.* I. i. 112 Bosome vp my counsell. 1839 BAILEY *Festus* xiv. Be mine, dear maid, the loves, and thou shalt ever bosom them as now.

† 6. To wound or hit in the bosom. *nonce use.* 1631 HEYWOOD *Maid of West* III. Wks. 1874 II. 295, I bosom'd him at every second thrust.

Bosomed (bu'zəmd), ppl. a. [f. BOSOM *sb.* and *v.* + -ED.] a. Having a bosom, shaped like the bosom; swollen with wind (as a sail). b. Enclosed, hidden; confined in the bosom, bated (breath).

a 1650 CRASHAW *Sosp. d'Her.* xviii. Like two bosom'd sails. 1667 MILTON *P. L.* v. 127 The Groves, the Fountains, and the Flours That open now their choicest bosom'd smells. 1730 THOMSON *Autumn*, From the bottoms of the bosomed hills. 1867 J. MARTINEAU *Chr. Life* (ed. 4) 344 Say, with bosomed breath, 'Lo, God is here!'

Bosomer. *rare.* [f. BOSOM *v.* + -ER.] One who or that which bosoms, in various senses.

a 1821 KEATS *Sonn.* Wks. (1884) 363 Blue! 'Tis the life of heaven... The bosomer of clouds. 1844 LD. HOUGHTON *In Gondola in Mem. Many* Sc. 98 Bosomer of the poet's wearied mind, Dear boat!

Bosom friend, bosom-friend.

1. A specially intimate or beloved friend.

1590 GREENE *Never too Late* (1600) 56 There is nothing better than a bosom friend with whom to confesse. 1690 HUBBERT *Pill Formality* 221 His... inward bosome friends. 1699 SHAFESB. *Ing. conc. Virtue* II. (1708) 2 The secrets of the breast unfolded to a bosom-friend. 1878 BOSW. SMITH *Carthage* 13 Polybius... was the bosom friend of her destroyer.

† 2. *transf.* An article of wearing apparel to protect the bosom from cold. *Obs.* (Cf. *comforter*.) 1802 HULL *Packet* 28 Sept. 2/2 Handkerchiefs, tippets, bosom friends and other articles peculiarly adapted to the ensuing season. 1838 *Workwoman's Guide* xi. 275 Some persons do not hollow out bosom friends, but knit them square or oblong.

Bosomful, a. *rare.* Bosomy, full-bosomed.

1870 JOAQUIM MILLER *Memory & Rime* (1884) 17 A moon of spring, High wheeling, vast and bosomful.

Bosoming, vbl. sb. [f. BOSOM *v.* + -ING¹.] A taking into one's bosom; embracing.

1624 HEYWOOD *Gunaik.* IV. 169 Their bedding and boosoming.

Bosoming (bu'zəmin), ppl. a. [f. as prec. + -ING².] Embracing, embosoming.

1822 D. MOIR *Even. Sketch.* Poet. Wks. II. 232 With bosoming boughs round Musselburgh hang Its clumps of ancient elm-trees. 1871 R. ELLIS *Catullus* lxi. 177 In Thee love lighteth a bosoming Flame.

Bosomy (bu'zəmi). [f. BOSOM *sb.* + -Y¹.] Full of sheltered recesses or hollows.

1611 COTGR., *Sinnew.* bosomie. full of hollow turnings. 1860 L. HUNT *Poems* 234, I beheld in momentary sun, One of thy hills gleam bright and bosomy.

Boss, obs. form of BOATSWAIN.

Boss (bɒs), sb.¹ Forms: 3-5 boos, 4-5 boos, 4-6 bos, 5 boss, 5-6 sc. boys (s, 6-8 bosses, (7 bosses), 6- boss. [ME. *boce, bos*, a. OF. *boce* (mod. F. *bosse*) = ONF. *boche* BOTCH, It. *bozza*; perh. connected with OHG. *bōz-an* = BEAT *v.* In ME. *boss* and *botch* are partly synonymous, but the former is not recorded in the sense 'pimple, boil', nor the latter in the sense 'boss of shield', 'ornamental stud'.]

1. A protuberance or swelling on the body of an animal or plant; a convex or knob-like process or excrescent portion of an organ or structure; in 16th c. applied to the lobe of the liver, spleen, etc.; as now used it seems partly *transf.* from 3.

1386 CHAUCER *Parson's T.* p. 349 Somme of hem shewen the boce of hir shape. 1541 COPLAND *Guydon's Quest. Chirurg.*, It yssueth out of the boce of the lyver. 1658 ROWLAND MOUNTFELT *Theat. Ins.* 990 It [the grasshopper] is of a blackish green colour, having on each side two bunches or bosses of the same colour. 1677 GREW *Anat. Fruits* v. § 13 In the Centre of the Case, stands a great Parenchymous Boss. 1775 PHIL. *Trans.* LXV. 414 The large branches... covered with great bosses and knobs of gum. 1878 BARTLEY tr. *Topinard's Anthropol.* II. xii. 488 The Frontal bosses are often confluent. 1882 VINES *Sacks Bot.* 421 The cuticularised exospore, generally provided with ridges, bosses, spines, or granulations.

† b. *spec.* A hump or hunch on the back. *Obs.*
 a 1300 *Cursor M.* 8087 Crumpled knees and boce [Gott.
 bouch] on bak. c 1440 *Gesta Rom.* (1879) 396 Entred a
 dwerfe... hauyng... a bose in his back, and Crokid fete.
 1835 *Kiray Flab. & Inst. Anim.* i. ii. 62 The ox of Surat
 is stated to have two of these bosses or humps.

† c. A protuberance made by padding the dress.
Obs.

c 1380 *Wyclif Sel. Wks.* III. 124 In þis pryde synnen
 wymmen in makynge of hor bossis.

† d. The big bulk of an animal; a bulky animal.

1399 *LANGL. Rich. Redeless* III. 98 But tho all the berlingis
 brast out at ones... That boss [the bear] was unbounde and
 brouete to his owene. 1657 *REEVE God's Plea* Ep. Ded. 3
 An Elephant thus praised for his great Bosce, or a fat Bull
 of Basan for his wellfleshed flanks.

† e. A fat woman. *Obs.*

1579 *LVLV Exphues* 115 If she be well sette, then call hir
 a Bosse. 1586 *MARLOWE 1st Pt. Tamburl.* III. iii. Disdainful
 Turkess, and unreverend boss. 1634 *SHERWOOD s.v.*
Bosse, A fatt Bosse, femme bien grasse et grosse.

2. A knoll or mass of rock; in *Geol.* applied
 chiefly to masses of rock protruding through strata
 of another kind.

1598 *SYLVESTER Du Bartas* i. vii. (1641) 59/1 Here from a
 craggy Rocks steep-hanging boss. A silver Brook in broken
 streams doth gush. 1839 *MURCHISON Silur. Syst.* i. xxxvi.
 483 This little boss of Ludlow rocks has been thrust up
 through the environing coal measures. 1863 *A. RAMSAY*
Phys. Geog. 31 In the midst of a tract of mica-schist... a boss
 of granite rises. 1879 *RUTLEY Stud. Rocks* III. 15 Eruptive
 rocks which have formed intrusive bosses, or dykes.

3. A round prominence in hammered or carved
 work, etc.; e.g. a raised ornament in bookbinding
 (in earlier use, *esp.* the 'umbo' or round knob,
 often of precious metal, which occupied the centre
 of the cover); one of the metal knobs on each side
 of the bit of a bridle (F. *bossette*); a metal stud
 used for ornament. † In *boss*: in high relief; cf.
 F. *en bosse*.

1385 *WYCLIF Isa.* III. 18 The Lord shal don awei the ounement
 of shon, and bosses, and bejes. 1395 *E. E. Wills* (1882)
 5 A basin of silver with bosses upon the brederes. c 1440
Promp. Parv. 41 Boce or boos of a booke or ober lyke
 [H. booce], *turgolum*. 1563 *BY FOXE A. & M.* i. 234/2 The
 bosses of his Bridle were great treasure. 1651
DAVENANT Gondibert II. vi. xlvii. Where all harmonious
 Instruments they spie drawn out in Bosse. 1660 *Perrys*
Diary 2 Nov. In the afternoon I... saw some silver bosses
 put upon my new Bible. 1664 *EVELYN Chalcoyr.* (1769) 18
 Those who... work in bosse with the punction. 1719 *De Fox*
Cruoe i. 349 The Bosses of the Bridle had stuck in his
 Teeth. 1879 *Print. Trades Jmnl.* xxvi. 8 Enriched with
 elaborate metal bosses.

b. *spec.* The convex projection in the centre of
 a shield or buckler.

c 1386 *CHAUCER Miller's T.* 80 A brooch sche baar... As
 brood as is the boss of a bokeler. 1483 *Cath. Angl.* 37 A
 Bose [A. Boste] of a buclere, *umbo*. a 1547 *SURREY Æneid*
 II. 287 Hidden behind her targetes bosse they crept. 1611
BIBLE Job xv. 26 He runneth vpon him... vpon the thicke bosses
 of his bucklers. 1779 *T. COOKE Tales, Prop.* 4c. 117 See on
 his Shield's thin Boss the Grecian stand. 1815 *ELPHINSTONE*
Acc. Caubul (1842) I. 17 A shield of steel, the bosses
 and rim of which were set with diamonds and rubies.

c. *transf. and fig.*
 1791 *COWPER Odyse.* 1. 65 In yonder woodland isle, the
 central boss Of Ocean. 1860 *TYNDALL Glac.* I. § 5. 39 The
 sunbeams struck his crown, and converted it into a boss of
 gold. 1882 *GRANT Allen in Knowledge* No. 4. 66 A bee...
 flies straight through the blossom and settles on the little
 boss of carapels in the centre.

† d. = *BOSELL*. *Obs. rare.*

1497 *Accts. Founder's Guild in Archæol. Jmnl.* XLIII.
 165 A maser w^t a boss and an hert of siluer ouer gilted. 1499
Ibid. 167 A maser w^t a hollow boyss prynted with a hewar.

e. *Arch.* An ornamental projection in a vault
 at the intersection of the ribs.

1843 *RUTTER Fonthill* 9 Bosses of foliage and fruit... cover
 the intersections. 1849 *FREEMAN Archæol.* 393 The spandrels,
 cornices, and bosses allow of any amount of enrichment.
 1884 *Church Bells* 6 Sept. 940 In the roof are bosses, on one
 of which is carved a bear and ragged staff, for Beauchamp.

f. *Mech.* 'The enlarged part of a shaft, on which
 a wheel is keyed, or at the end, where it is coupled
 to another' (Webster). *Ship-building.* The pro-
 jecting part of the stern-post of a screw steamer,
 which is pierced for the shaft of the propeller to
 pass through. (Cf. F. *bosse* nave of a wheel.)

1869 *SIR E. REED Ship Build.* IV. 70 The boss on the post
 was forged in the usual manner. *Ibid.* xx. 436 Where a
 plate has a large amount of twist, such as boss plates, etc.,
 special means are employed to ensure accuracy. 1878
MARKHAM Gl. Frozen Sea xl. 157 The ice formed so quickly
 in the 'boss' that it... prevented the shaft from entering.

4. A sort of die used by cutlers.
 1831 *J. HOLLAND Manuf. Metals* I. 213 From this founda-
 tion plate rises the bed or boss. *Ibid.* II. 23 It [the fork] in
 this red hot state is next placed in a cut steel boss or die,
 upon which another boss exactly adapted is made to fall.

5. *Attrib. and Comb.*, as *boss-maker*; † *boss-*
backed a., hump-backed; *boss-nail* (see quot.);
boss-stone, the stone fixed at the intersection of
 the ribs in groined vaulting; *boss-tip*, the point
 of the boss of a shield; *boss-work*.

1639 *HORN & ROBERTHAM Gate Lang. Unl.* xvi. (1643) § 175
 For the bossbacked (hunch-back) camell serves in stead of
 a waggon. 1860 *HOLLYBAND Treas. Fr. Tong.* *Bosseteur*,
 a 'boss-maker'. 1897 *EVELYN Numism.* I. 11 Leather Money,
 through which a small 'boss-nail' of Silver was struck in the

middle. 1879 *SIR G. SCOTT Lect. Archæol.* II. 212 They
 made the upper surface of the 'boss-stone' horizontal. 1885
SINGLETON Virgil I. 294 And on his buckler's 'boss-tip' idly
 hung. 1897 *Land. Gas.* No. 3347/8 A Cane Couch em-
 brodered with 'Boss-work' upon green Velvet.

† *Boss*, sb.² *Obs.* Also *bosse*. [Of uncertain
 etymology: perh. only a sense of the prec. Compare,
 however, F. *buse*, *buisse* conduit, though this
 alone could not give *boss*, unless through assimila-
 tion to the preceding.]

'A water conduit, running out of a gor-bellied
 figure', Bailey 1731: chiefly in 'the Boss of
 Billingsgate'.

c 1520 *W. DE WORDE (title)* Treatise of a Galaunt, with
 the Maryage of the Fayre Pusell the Bosse of Byllingegate
 unto London Stone. 1539 *Godly Sayng* in Furnivall *Ballads*
fr. MSS. I. 315 When the bosse of byllingegate w[ax]lythe so
 merye To daunce with a baggye at scala celi, & the crosse
 of chepeside dothe kepe a scole of fence. 1603 *STOW Surv.*
 (1842) 160/1 Then have ye a boss of sweet water in the wall
 of the churchyard. 1657 *HOWELL Londinop.* 85 Bosse Alley,
 so called of a Bosse of Spring-water. 1731 in BAILEY.

† *Boss*, sb.³ *Obs. Sc.* Also 4 *bosse*, 5-7 *bosse*.
 [Origin obscure: cf. OF. *busse* cask; also Du. *bus*
 'box', *bos* (orig. the same) 'package, bundle, truss'.]

1. A cask; *esp.* a small cask; a leathern butt or
 bottle for wine, etc.

c 1375 *BARBOUR St. Cecile* 532, I cane wele find þi poweste
 lik a bosse, of wynd þat fillit ware. 1489 *Act. Dom. Conc.*
 120 (JAM.) Iwa chaldeir of mele out of a boce... thre malvysy
 bocis price of the pece viiis. vid. c 1505 *DUNBAR Friars of*
Bervok 157 Half thair ane pair of bossis, gud and fyne Thay
 had ane gallone full of Gascone wyne. 1552 *LYNDESAY*
Monarchie 2579 Thocht sum of 30w be gude of conditione,
 Reddy for to ressaue new recent wyne, I speik to 30w auld
 bossis [v.r. boisis bossis] of perditione. c 1565 *R. LINDSAY*
Chron. Scotl. (1728) 82 To send for two bosses of wine... The
 bosses were of the quantity of two gallons the piece. c 1570
Leg. Bp. St. Andrews in Scot. Poems 16th C. II. 338 Tua
 leathing bosses he hes bought. c 1600 *BUREL* in Watson
Coll. Poems II. 26 (JAM.) Cryis... As wind within a boce.

2. *Old boss*: a term of contempt applied to per-
 sons (Sc.). Cf. sense 1, quot. 1552. [But it may
 be a distinct word: cf. ON. *bossi*, Sw. *buss* fellow.
 See discussion in Jamieson.]

1666 *KNOX Hist. Ref.* (1732) 34 (JAM.) Hay Dean of Restal-
 rig, and certane auld bosses with him. *Ibid.* Wks. 1846 I.
 127 The Bischop preached to his jackmen, and to some old
 bosses of the tounne.

Boss, sb.⁴ Also 6 *boos*, 7-8 *bosse*. [? a MDu.
bosse, *busse*, mod. Du. *bos*, *bus* = Box.] A plasterer's
 tray, a hod.

1542 *MS. Acc. St. John's Hosp., Canterb.*, Bowht a trowell
 a boos and a syffe. 1611 *COTGR., Cliffoire*, a Plasterers
 tray, or bosse. 1677 *MOXON Mech. Exerc.* (1703) 248 A
 Bosse, made of Wood, with an Iron Hook, to hang on the
 Laths, or on a Ladder, in which the Labourer puts the
 Morter which the Tyler uses. 1875 *GWILT Archæol. Gloss.*

† *Boss* (bys), sb.⁵ *Obs. exc. dial.* [I corruption
 of *BASS* sb.²; but cf. Du. *bos* bottle of straw.]
 A seat consisting of or resembling a bundle of
 straw; a hassock.

1695 *WESTMACOTT Script. Herb.* 179 Bull-Rushes make
 Bosses and Bed-mats best. 1797 *SWIFT Gulliver* IV. ii.
 Round which they sat on their haunches upon bosses of
 straw. 1841 *S. C. HALL Ireland* I. 83 The family sit on
 stools and bosses (the boss is a low seat made of straw).

Boss (bys), sb.⁶ [ad. Du. *baas* master (older sense
 'uncle'), supposed to be related to Ger. *base* female
 cousin, OHG. *basa* 'aunt'.]

An American equivalent of 'master' in the sense
 of employer of labour; applied also to a business
 manager, or any one who has a right to give orders.
 In England only in workmen's slang, or humorously,
 = 'leading man, swell, top-sawyer'.

1822 *J. FLINT Lett. Amer.* 9 *Master* is not a word in the
 vocabulary of hired people. *Bos*, a Dutch one of similar
 import, is substituted. 1830 *GALT Laverie* T. III. ii. (1849) 86
 The overseer of the roads... could give me employment as a
 boss, or foreman. 1868 *W. WHITMAN To Working Men*
 (Rossetti) 102 Were I to you as the boss employing and
 paying you, would that satisfy you? 1870 *MISS BRIDGMAN*
R. Lynne II. ix. 187 We shall have one of the head bosses
 of the medical profession down here.

b. In American politics, a manager or dictator
 of a party organization.

1882 *H. SPENCER* in *Standard* 31 Oct. 5/7 Those who
 framed your Constitution never dreamed that twenty thou-
 sand citizens would go to the poll led by a 'boss'.

c. *attrib.* Of persons: Master, chief. Of things:
 Most esteemed, 'champion'.

1860 *BARTLETT Dict. Amer.* s.v., We hear of a boss-car-
 penter, a boss-bricklayer, boss-shoemaker, etc. instead of
 master-carpenter, etc. 1877 *BESANT & RICE Son of Vulc.*
 I. xiv. 150 'Good God A'mighty in heaven!' said the boss
 boatman, who was a religious man. 1881 *N. York Nation*
 3 Feb. No country in the world could make such a boss-
 show as the United States. 1884 *Lisbon (Dakota) Star*
 29 Aug. The boss thresher of Ransom county. *Ibid.* 10 Oct.,
 They are of the 'Welcome' variety, and are the boss oats.

Boss (bys), a. Sc. Also 6 *bois*, *bos*, 7 *bosse*.
 [perh. connected with *Boss* sb.³, where some quotations
 refer to hollowness. But the notion may
 be 'turgid, swollen': cf. *Boss* sb.¹, v.1]

Hollow. *lit. and fig.* *Boss window*: bay window.
 1513 *DOUGLAS Æneid* II. ii. (i.) 73 With the straitk, The
 bois cavyis sowndit and maid a dyn. c 1565 *R. LINDSAY*
Chron. Scotl. 235 (JAM.) The lordis... who war entred in the

boss window. 1597 *LOWE Chirurg.* (1634) 231, I use a little
 Instrument of silver, that is bosse or hollow within. 1779
RAMSAY Wks. (1848) I. 156 If these be solid ware or bossa.
 1834 *H. MILLER Scenes & Leg.* xii. (1857) 180 Making boss
 professions of goodwill.

b. Empty.

a 1758 *RAMSAY Poems* I. 285 (JAM.) He said, he gloom'd,
 and shook his thick boss head. 1832-53 *Whistle-Binkie*
 (Sc. Songs) Ser. II. 89 I'm sure ye're neither boss nor dry.

c. Without resources, powerless.

a 1600 *A. HUME Ep. G. Moncrief*, They are bot stocks and
 stanes; bos, deif and dumb. 1768 *ROSS Helenore* 21 (JAM.)
 He's nae boss, six score o' lambs this year.

Boss (bys), v.¹ Also 4 *boossen*, 5 *bos*, *booce*,
 5-6 *booce*. [f. *Boss* sb.¹]

† l. *trans.* To make to project, to stuff out. *Obs.*
 c 1380 *WYCLIF Sel. Wks.* III. 124 Soche men þat boossen
 hor brestis.

† b. *intr.* To swell out, project. *Obs.*

c 1400 *Destr. Troy* 3022 The here of hir hede, huyt as the
 gold, Bost out vpon brede bright on to loken. c 1449 *PECOCK*
Repr. II. ii. 138 Ymagis boocing and seemyng as thoug thei
 were going and passing out of the wal. 1540 *RAYNALD*
Birth Man I. vii. (1634) 29 The middle part of the wombe
 port... where it bosseth downward... hangeth pendant wise.
 1542 *UDALL Erasmus. Apophth.* 235 a, With a great bunche,
 which, bossyng out, made him crookebacked.

2. *trans.* To fashion in relief; to beat or press
 out into a raised ornament, to emboss.

c 1400 *Destr. Troy* 1564 Ymagry ouer all amyt bere was...
 Bost out of þe best þe byg toures vmbre. 1530 *FALSGR 459/1*,
 I booce or to booce out, as workemen do a holowe thyng.
 1881 *Porcelain Wks. Worcester* 21 The workman... bossey
 it [the clay] with a wet sponge, and presses it into every
 line of the pattern.

3. To furnish or ornament with bosses.

c 1666 *Dick of Devon.* III. ii. in Bullen O. Pl. (1883) II. 46
 But was ever English horse thus Spanish bitted and bossed!
 1650 *FULLER Piigah* IV. vi. 112 Either only studded or
 bossed therewith. 1664 *Perrys Diary* (1879) III. 5 Thence
 to the clasp-makers to have it [my Chaucer] clasped and
 bossed. 1849 *RUSKIN Sev. Lamps* I. x. 20 Do not let us boss
 our roofs with wretched half-worked blunt-edged rosettes.
 1879 *STRUBBES Anat. Abus.* II. 50 Then shall your
 mouth be bossed with the lather.

Boss (bys), v.² U.S. (in English use only hum-
 morous.) [f. *Boss* sb.⁶] *trans.* To be the master or
 manager of; to manage, control, direct. To *boss*
 it: to act as master.

1856 *Nat. Intelligencer* 3 Nov. (Bartlett) The little fellow
 that bosses it over the crowd. a 1860 *Pluribus* (Bartlett)
 Let his Woman's Rights companion Boss the house. 1866
Reader 3 Nov. 913 Bossed by Uncle Andreas Darling, day
 by day the dwelling grew. 1882 *SALA in Illust. Lond. News*
 25 Feb. The gentleman... bossing the band of pioneers.

Boss, dial. f. *Byss* v., to kiss.

1691 *RAY N. C. Wds.* s.v. *Osse*, Ossing comes to bossing.
 Prov. Chesh.

Bossage (bɒsɪdʒ). *Arch.* [a. F. *bossage*, f.
bosse a projection, *Boss* sb.¹]

1. (See quot.)

1730-6 *BAILEY, Bossage* [with Architects] is a Term used
 of any Stone that has a Projecture, and is laid in its Place
 uncut, to be afterwards carved into mouldings, capitals, etc.

2. 'Rustic work, which seems to advance before
 the naked of a building, by reason of indentures
 or channels left at the joints.' (Gwilt.) Also
attrib., as in *bossage work*.

1704 *HEARNE Duct. Hist.* (1723) II. m. 395 Built of two
 Stories high, in Bossage Rustick. 1819 *Banquet* 71 The
 fretted bossage, from the ceiling ript, Crumbles to powder
 in the yawning crypt. 1845 *FORD Handbk. Spain* VI. 472
 The bossage work resembles that of Merida and Alcantara.

Hence *Bossaged ppl.* a.

1855 *Fraser's Mag.* LI. 268 A large massive palazzo, whose
 rough bossaged front descended into the water.

Bosse, obs. form of *Boss*.

Bossed (bɒst), ppl. a. Also 6-7 *bost* (e. [f.
Boss sb.¹ and v.¹])

1. Made to swell out or project, rounded out.

1541 *R. COPLAND Gwydon's Quest. Chirurg.*, [The thigh
 bone] is receuyed in the pyt of the hukle bone and is som-
 what bossed outwards. 1578 *BANISTER Hist. Man* I. 35
 Where the Patel is thickest, and bossed forth like the mid-
 dest of a buckler. 1615 *CROOKS Body of Man* 81 The arteries
 ... are straight and even without any bossed knottes at all.
 1644 *J. CARTER Nail & Wheel* (1647) 21 They [nails] have
 great and glorious bossed and gilded heads.

2. Raised or beaten in relief, embossed; also,
 portrayed in relief.

1536 in *Antiq. Sarish.* (1771) 195 Two pair of Censers,
 silver and gilt, of bossed work. 1875 *Land. Gas.* No. 1002/4
 Stolen out of Westminster Abbey... Two large Silver Cande-
 sticks, Boss'd and Gilt. 1833 *TENNISON Poems* 83 With
 chalices of curious wine. And bossed salvers. 1850 *BLACKIE*
Æschylus II. 189 Upon his shield he bears... a woman Lead-
 ing with sober pace an armed man All bossed in gold.

3. Furnished with bosses or projecting ornaments.

1611 *Bp. HALL Sermon* v. 55 Lucian compares his Grecians,
 to a fair, gilt, bossed book. 1655 *FULLER Ch. Hist.* VII. 424
 One of His Play-Fellows proffered Him a bossed-padded
 Bible to stand upon. 1705 *HEARNE Diary* (1885) I. 120 [A
 book] covered with velvet and boss'd with Silver. 1868
MORRIS Earthly Par. II. 131 Leaping up, he took The reins
 in hand and the bossed leather shook.

b. Studded, ornamented.

1596 *WEBBE Eng. Poetrie* (Arb.) 82 Weedes meete for a
 princely mayden, Boste with Ermines white. 1596 *SHAKS.*
Tam. Shr. II. i. 355 Fine Linnen, Turky cushions bost with
 pearle. a 1607 *MIDDLETON Black Bk. Wks.* V. 567 Hangers,
 all bost with pillars of gold.

Bosselated (bɒsɛlətɪd), *pph. a. Phys.* [f. *F. bossel*, *pph. of bosseler* to mould into small protuberances.] Formed into small protuberances. 1873 G. FLEMING tr. *Chauveau's Anat. Domest. Anim.* 412 The large colon... is bosselated, plicated, and traversed by longitudinal bands. 1876 GROSS *Dis. Bladder*, &c. 135 Tuberculous fibroma... occurs, especially in young subjects, as a bosselated... tumor in the vicinity of the trigone.

† **Bossell**. *Obs.* [dim. of *Boss* sb. 1; perhaps already in OF.] The 'print' or ornamental medallion fixed in the bottom of a 'mazer' or drinking bowl: = *Boss* sb. 1 3 d.

1495 *Will of Rogers* (Somerset Ho.) Grete masser w^t the Image of S. James in the bossell thereof. 1497 *Will of Butside* (ibid.) A masser w^t a turnyng bossell w^t a brode bonde. 1498 *Will of T. Johnson* (ibid.) A grete bossell of silver.

Bosset (bɒsɛt). [a. *F. bossette*, dim. of *boss* *Boss* sb. 1.] A small protuberance or knob.

1850 *Todd Cycl. Anat. & Phys.* V. 517/2 The male calf of the Red Deer at the sixth month differs from the female... in having two small elevations or 'bossets'.

Boss-fern. A book-name for species of 'buckler-fern' or *Nephrodium*. (Britten and Holland.)

Bossiness (bɒsɪnɪs). [f. *Bossy* a. 1 + *-ness*.] The quality of being bossy.

1870 *Ruskin Aratra P.* i. § 21 A pleasant bossiness or roundness of surface.

Bossing (bɒsɪŋ), *vbl. sb. 1* Also 5 *bocynge*. [f. *Boss* v. 1.] The action of the verb *Boss* 1: a. swelling; b. ornamenting with bosses; c. (meaning obscure: see quot. 1480).

c. 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 41 Bocynge or strowtyng, *turgor*. 1480 *Caxton Chron. Eng.* ii. (1520) 171/2 Two other ways he made in bossyng through out the lande, the one is called Fosse, and that other Fosse dyke. 1583 *GRINDAL Wks.* (1843) 459, I give... ten pounds towards the clasp, bossing, and chaining of the same [books].

Bossing (bɒsɪŋ), *vbl. sb. 2* *U. S.* [f. *Boss* v. 2.] The practice of acting as a 'boss'.

1864 *SALA in Daily Tel.* 23 Dec. They won't do a stroke of work if they can help it. They like 'bossing'. 1884 *Manch. Exam.* 13 Aug. 5/4 The 'bossing' of railways is a practice not exclusively confined to the United States.

Bossism (bɒsɪzɪm), *U. S.* [f. *Boss* sb. 6 + *-ism*.] The system in which political parties are controlled by 'bosses' or 'wire-pullers'.

1881 *Scribner's Mag.* Aug. 616 The event shows also that the days of 'bossism' are closing. 1883 *American V.* 88 If Bossism and Hubbellism were found... to be still the potential forces.

† **Bossive**, *a. Obs. rare*. [f. *Boss* sb. 1 + *-ive* (suggested perhaps by *F. bossu* hump-backed).] Crooked, deformed.

1658 *OSBORN Adv. Son* (1673) 47 Wives do worse than miscarry, that go their full time of a Fool with a Bossive birth. — *Jas. 7* Wks. 513 Here lies... Little Bossive Robin.

† **Bossment**. *Obs. rare*. [f. *Boss* sb. 1 + *-ment*. Cf. *embossment*.] The formation of a hump.

1541 *R. COPLAND Gwydon's Formul.* Y ij, For the gibbosity & boement Auyen aloweth emplastrum de acoro.

Bossy (bɒsɪ), *a. 1* [f. *Boss* sb. 1 + *-y*.] 1. Swelling in, or like, a boss; projecting in rounded form.

1543 *TRAHERON Vigo's Chirurg.* i. iii. 3 The fourme of the heed... is also bossie, and bounceth out in the fore and in the hynder partes. 1667 *MILTON P. L.* i. 716 Nor did there want Cornice or Freeze, with bossy Sculptures grav'n. 1668 *CULPEPPER & COLE Barthol. Anat.* i. xiv. 33 The tubercle or bossie part of the Liver. 1879 *T. HARDY Return Native* i. 20 This bossy projection... occupied the loftiest ground of the head.

2. Having bosses or prominences.

1812 *H. & J. SMITH Ref. Addr.* ix. (1873) 75 Survey this shield, all bossy bright. 1851 *RUSKIN Stones* Ven. II. vi, Bossy beaten work of mountain chains. 1876 *Geo. ELIOT Dan. Der.* ii. xviii. 146 Mab had... a bossy irregular brow and other quaintnesses.

Bossy (bɒsɪ), *a. 2* *U. S. colloq.* [f. *Boss* sb. 6.] Given to acting as 'boss' or leader.

1881 *Harper's Mag.* Dec. 108/1 There was a lady manager who was dreadfully bossy.

Bost, *obs. form of BOAST*.

† **Bostangi** (bɒstæŋdʒɪ). Also *bostangee*, *-dgy*.

[a Turk. *bostānji* *bostānji* 'a soldier of one of the corps of guards of the Sultan's palace' (Red-house); lit. 'keeper of the garden', f. *بستان* *bostān* (Pers.) a garden.] A Turkish guard of the palace.

1694 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 2989/1 A Capigi, with several Bostangies was dispatched after him to bring him back. 1717 *LADY M. W. MONTAGUE Lett.* 31 i. 106 He was preceded... by the spahis and bostangees (these are foot and horse-guards). 1753 *HANWAY Trav.* (1762) II. xiii. ii. 286 One of the principal officers of the bostangis. 1813 *J. C. HOSHOUSE Journey* 812 The Bostandgys and other attendants immediately formed a line.

Bostar, *obs. form of BOASTER*.

† **Boston** 1. *Obs.* (see quot.)

1534 *Eng. Ch. Furniture* (1866) 203 An altar cloth of red silk powtherdy with flowers called boston.

Boston 2. [a. *F. boston*, f. the name of the city of Boston in Massachusetts: see *Littre*, and the *Académie des Jeux*.] A game at cards, allied to whist, named after the siege of Boston in the American War of Independence, to which the technical terms of the game refer.

[1805 *Académie Univ. des Jeux* s. v. *Whist*, Tarif du jeu de Boston Whist.] 1820 in HOYLE. 1850 *Bohn's Handbk. Games* 295 Boston... very much resembles Whist, and is somewhat like Quadrille. 1866 *Daily Tel.* 10 June 5/1 The French national game of Boston, which was invented in honour of a certain Transatlantic infusion. 1880 *Libr. Univ. Knowl.* II. 791 Boston, a game at cards, played by 4 persons, with 2 packs [one dealt, the other cut for trumps].

† **Bo'strel**. *Obs. rare*. [f. med. L. *bostar* a cow-house.] † A bull or cow not full-grown.

1559 *Will of A. Lloyd, N. Wales* (Somerset Ho.), Two calves & a bostrell.

Bostrychoid, *-al* (bɒstrikoɪd, -əl), *a. Bot.* [f. Gr. *bostryx* -os curl or lock of hair + *-oid* + *-AL*.] 'Having the form or character of a ringlet or bostryx.' *Gray Bot. Text-bk.* 1880.

1875 A. W. BENNETT tr. *Sachs's Botany* 157 A Helicoid (bostrychoid) Dichotomy.

|| **Bostryx** (bɒstriks). *Bot.* [a. Gr. *bostryx*, var. of *bostryx*, curl.] 'An uniparous helicoid cyme.' *Gray Bot. Text-bk.* 1880.

Boswellian (bɒswelɪən), *a.* [f. *Boswell*, the name of Dr. Johnson's friend and biographer, + *-IAN*.] Resembling Boswell as a biographer. Also **Boswellism**, the characteristic manner or style of Boswell as a biographer. **Boswellise** *v.*, to write in Boswell's style; **Boswellizing** *vbl. sb.*

1825 *MACAULAY Ess.* (1860) I. 58 That propensity which, for want of a better name, we will venture to christen Boswellism. 1838 *Fraser's Mag.* XVII. 488 Boswellizing became in fashion. 1856 *R. VAUGHAN Mystics* (1860) I. 7 But I have been Boswellizing to you about the past history of these friends of mine. 1875 *F. HALL in Lippincott's Mag.* XV. 345 A rooted aversion to anything like Boswellism. 1884 *Graphic* 21 June 607/2 Mr. Hatton... puts down everything with more than Boswellian minuteness.

Bosyne, var. of *BUYSINE* *Obs.*, trumpet.

Bot, bott (bɒt). Usually in *pl. bots*, *botts* *Sc. bats*, *batts*. [Etymology unknown: connexion with *BITE* is phonologically inadmissible.]

1. A parasitical worm or maggot; now restricted to the larvæ of flies of the genus *Cestrus*. The name is considered to belong properly to the larva of *C. equi*, inhabiting the digestive organs of the horse, but is applied also to that of *C. bovis* (the gadfly), found under the skin of cattle, and to that of *C. ovis*, found in the frontal sinus of sheep. The *botts* is sometimes used as sing., as the name of the disease caused by these parasites.

1523 *FITZHERB. Husb.* § 102 The bottles is an yll dyscase, and they lye in a horse mawe, and they be an inch long white coloured, and a reed heed, and as moche as a fyngers ende. a 1529 *SKELTON Agst. Scotles* 171 The roughfoted Scottes We have well eased them of the bottles. 1568 *Jacob & Esau* l. i, in *Hazl. Dods.* II. 189 He hath either some worms or bots in his brain. 1617 *MARKHAM Caval.* l. 64 All foales naturally... are euer subject to great abundance, both of Mawwormes, Grubbes, and Bots. a 1722 *LISLE Husb.* (1757) 405 Groundsel and savine are good against the worms, commonly called the bots in horses. 1836 *Penny Cycl.* V. 261/2 The hole made by the bot [in the beast's hide] in his escape will apparently close.

fg. 1602 *Return Parnass.* i. ii. (Arb.) 123 Some of them are at this instant the bots and glanders of the printing house. 1647 *WARD Simp. Cobler* 72 [The Irish] are the very offall of men... the Bots that crawl on the Beasts tails.

b. 'Ludicrously applied to a bowel complaint in men, *Skelkirs*,' also used to denote a colic, *West Scoll.* (Jamieson).

1816 *SCOTT Old Mort.* vii, 'The last thing ye sent Cuddie, when he had the batts.'

2. Used as an expression of execration. (Cf. *Pox*.)

1584 *3 Ladies Lond.* l. i in *Hazl. Dods.* VI. 257 A bots on thy motley beard! 1606 *Sir G. Goosecappe* iv. ii. in *Bullen O. PL* (1884) III. 65 A bots a that stinking word odorous, I can never hit on't. 1719 *D'URFEE Pills* (1872) IV. 124 Bots on them all, Both great and small.

3. *Comb.*: bot-bee, bot-fly, an insect of the genus *Cestrus*, whose eggs produce the bots; bot-hole, a hole in a hide made by a bot in escaping.

1852 *T. HARRIS Insects New Eng.* 499 The various insects, improperly called bot-bees, are two-winged flies. 1819 *REES Cycl.* s. v., *C. ovis*, the sheep bot-fly... *C. tarandi*, the reindeer bot-fly. 1816 *KIRBY & Sp. Entomol.* (1843) I. 121 The Tanners also prefer those hides that have the greatest number of bot-holes in them, which are always the best and strongest. 1847 *CARPENTER Zool.* § 733.

Bot, bót, OE. form of *BOOT* sb. 1, occas. used by modern historical writers in reference to OE. law and custom in senses 5, 5 b, 9, 10 of that word.

Bot, *obs. form of BOAT*, *BOOT*, *BOUT*=about, *BUT*; *obs. pa. t. of BITE*.

Botanic (bɒtənik), *a. and sb.* [ad. med. L. *botanicus*, a. Gr. *botanikós*, f. *botánē* 'plant': see -10; perh. the immediate source is *F. botanique*, which occurs in *Cotgrave*, 1611.]

A. adj. Pertaining to the science or study of plants, to botany. (Now mostly superseded by *BOTANICAL*, exc. in names of institutions founded many years ago, as 'The Royal Botanic Society', 'The Botanic Gardens'.)

1656 *PARKINSON in Phil. Trans.* LXIII. 84 note, Discovered in a botanic excursion by J. Tradescant. 1677

Plot Oxfordsh. 149 Our very Learned Botanic Professor. 1678 *CUDWORTH Intell. Syst.* 326 That Ancient Botanic Book mentioned by Galen. 1678 *PHILLIPS, Botanical or Botanic*, belonging to Herbs or Plants. 1736 *THOMSON Liberty* II. 140 Where... Hymettus spread... to botanick hand the stores of health. 1762-71 *H. WALPOLE Vertue's Anecd. Paint.* (1786) V. 21 He probably engraved the botanic figures for Lobel's Observations. 1842 *TENNYSON Amphion* x, They read Botanic Treatises, And Works on Gardening thro' there.

B. sb. † 1. One skilled in plants, a botanist. *Obs.* 1647 *W. COLES Adam in Eden* To Rdr. The Botanick is as commonly puzzled as satisfied. 1676 *WORLIDGE Bees* (1691) 38 A tree esteemed... by our modern Botanicks.

† 2. Chiefly in *pl. botanics*. [cf. *physics*, *mathematics*.] The science of plants; = *BOTANY. Obs.*

1698 *Phil. Trans.* XX. 463 Such as are advanced in the Knowledge of Botanicks. 1725 *De Fox Voy. round the World* (1840) 182 He had no skill in botanics. 1758 *Monthly Rev.* 522 Supereminent skill in botanics.

Botanical (bɒtənikəl), *a.* [f. *prec.* + *-AL*.] Concerned with the study or cultivation of plants, pertaining to botany.

1658 *SIR T. BROWNE Gard. Cyrrus* II. 499 The Persian Gallants who destroyed this Monarchy, maintained their Botanicall bravery. 1767 *BARRINGTON in Phil. Trans.* LVII. 214 When a stranger, from botanical or other curiosity, goes to the top of a Welsh mountain. 1797 *HOLCROFT Stolberg's Trav.* III. lxxxvii. (ed. 2) 442 A large botanical garden. 1830 *LYELL Princ. Geol.* xxxviii. (1850) 591 Botanical Geography. A comparison of the plants of different regions. 1873 *MORLEY Rousseau* II. 75 In his botanical expeditions.

Botanically (bɒtənikəli), *adv.* [f. *prec.* + *-LY*.] In a botanical manner; in relation to botany; according to the principles or technical language of botany.

1757 *DA COSTA in Phil. Trans.* L. 229 note, Scheuchzer has arranged the fossil plants botanically. 1793 *W. CURTIS Bot. Mag.* VI. 215 In its improved, or to speak more botanically, in its monstrous state. 1848 *C. A. JOHNS Week at Lizard* 291 It is botanically distinguished from the other... Heaths, by its anthers. 1870 *YEATS Nat. Hist. Comm.* 102 Botanically, this is the region of palms.

† **Botanism**. *Obs.* [ad. L. *botanism-us*, a. Gr. *botanizō*; cf. *BOTANIZE* and *-ISM*.] = *BOTANY*. 1668 *D. LLOYD Mem.* 316 Competent skill in... Physick, and the two parts belonging to it, Chirurgery and Botanism. 1727 *BRADLEY Fam. Dict., Film*, a Term in Botanism.

Botanist (bɒtənɪst). [a. *F. botaniste*; cf. *prec.* and *-IST*.] One who studies botany.

a 1682 *SIR T. BROWNE Tracts* 61 That diligent botanist Bellonius. 1683 *ROBINSON in Ray Corr.* (1848) 135, I intend to write to the best botanist... of this, or perhaps any, age. 1770 *GRAY in Corr. w. Nicholls* (1843) 107, I rejoice to see you are so great a gardener and botanist. 1874 *HELPS Soc. Press.* iv. 63 The... botanists who come to... be instructed by the plants at Kew.

Botanize (bɒtənaɪz), *v.* [ad. mod. L. *botanizare*, ad. Gr. *botanizō* to gather plants; cf. *BOTANIZO* and *-IZE*.]

1. *intr.* To seek for plants for botanical purposes; to study plants botanically.

1767 *MRS. DELANY Lett.* Ser. II. I. 168 They will botanize charmingly (and I shall come in for some scraps of knowledge). 1775 *MASSON in Phil. Trans.* LXVI. 206 In the day-time they retire to the woods, which renders it very dangerous to botanize there. a 1841 *WORDSW. Poet's Epitaph*, Philosopher! a fingering slave, One that would peep and botanize Upon his mother's grave?

2. *trans.* To explore or examine botanically. Hence *Botanized* *pph. a.*

1861 *GEIKIE E. Forbes* x. 285 To botanize the islands thoroughly. 1866 *KINGSLEY Herrev.* i. 49 The world was not to him as to us, round, circumscribed, mapped, botanized.

Botanizer (bɒtənəɪzə), *One who botanizes.*

1849 *CURZON Visits Monast.* 238 The botanizer, however, was dead enough.

Botanizing (bɒtənəɪzɪŋ), *vbl. sb.* [f. as *prec.* + *-ING*.] The action of seeking for plants, or of studying plants botanically. Often *attrib.*

1794 *MATHIAS Puns. Lit.* (1798) 399 In this botanizing age, it should not pass without observation. [f. *pph. a.*] 1835 *BECKFORD Recoll.* 183 By getting out of his vehicle and botanizing by the roadside. 1859 *G. WILSON E. Forbes* iv. 103 The... professor led his students, each summer's Saturday, on a botanizing march. 1883 *Harper's Mag.* Oct. 706/2, I... had my botanizing tin on my back.

Botanizing (bɒtənəɪzɪŋ), *pph. a.* [f. as *prec.* + *-ING*.] That searches for or examines plants.

† **Botano**. *Obs.* [ad. It. *bottana*.] (See quot.)

1611 *Rates* (JAM.), Botanos or peeces of linnin litted blew, the pece iiii. 1670 *Ibid.* Botanos or blew lining. 1660 *Act 12 Chas. II.* iv. Sched., Botanos per piece xs.

Botano-, repr. Gr. *botano-*, combining form of *botánē* plant; cf. *BOTANIC*, *BOTANY*. Hence in 17th c. were formed many short-lived compounds in imitation of those of *ASTRO-*. † **Botanograph**, † **Botanographer**, one who describes plants. † **Botanography**, the (or a) description of plants. † **Botanologer**, a botanist. † **Botanological** *a.*, relating to botany. † **Botanology**, botany. † **Botanomanacy** (incorrectly † *botomanacy*), divination by plants. † **Botanomical** *a.* [wrongly formed, cf. *astronomical*], botanical. † **Botanomy**, botany.

1682 *Weekly Mem.* 271 Collected out of all writers, as well... Botanographers and physicians as Lexicographers. 1662 *FULLER Worthies* (1840) II. 496 Doctor Bowle, my worthy

friend, and most skilful *botanographer. 1731 ZOLLMAN in *Phil. Trans.* XXXVII. 219 We still want a *Botanography, or Description of the Plants. 1658 SIR T. BROWNE *Gard. Cyrus* i. 102 The wisdom of that eminent *Botanologer [Solomon]. *Ibid.* iv. 175 The Tree... which stricter *Botanology will hardly allow to be Camphire. 1755 JOHNSON *Dict.*, *Botanology*. 1610 HEALEY *St. Aug. Cille of God* 294 Divination... by Hearbes, *Botonomancy. 1640 E. CHILMEAD tr. *Ferrand's Love Melanch.* 176 Botanomancy... is done by the noise or crackling that knee holme, box, or bay leaues make when they are crushed betwixt one's hands or cast into the fire. 1653 URQUHART *Rabelais* III. xxv, To have the truth of the matter... disclosed unto you by *botomancy. 1861 W. SMITH *Dict. Bible* I. 442 Botanomancy. 1656 BLOUNT *Glossogr.*, *Botomical* or rather *Botanomical, pertaining to hearbs. 1716 M. DAVIES *Ath. Brit.* III. 37 Chiron... cultivated Botanomy.

Botany (bō'tāni). [f. BOTANIC after analogy of sbs. in -y related to adjs. in -ic, as *astronomy* and *astronomic*.]

1. The science which treats of plants.

1666 RAY *Philos. Lett.* (1718) 290 The great difficulties the lovers of Botanie are forced to encounter. 1706 HEARNE *Rem. & Coll.* (1885) I. 233 A man much inclined to Botanny. 1710 M. HENRY *Exp. Song of Sol.* iv, Solomon was a great master in botany. 1880 GRAY *Struct. Bot. Introd.* i The two Biological Sciences. Zoology and Botany.

2. Short for 'Botany Bay'. Usually attrib. as in *Botany wool*: orig. wool from Botany Bay, but now applied to all Australian wool. *Botany yarn*: yarn made from this wool.

1882 *Daily News* 4 Mar. A fair business is doing in botany yarns. 1883 *Times* 27 Aug. 9/5 English & Botany wools are in fair request. 1883 *Daily News* 17 Sept. 2/3 Fine Botany wools are still the most in favour.

Botany Bay. [So called by Captain Cook on account of the great variety of plants collected there by the botanist who accompanied him.] Proper name of a place in New South Wales, formerly a convict settlement; hence proverbially used in sense of 'transportation'; also fig.

1812 *Examiner* 19 Oct. 666/1 The famished wretch... is sent to the whipping-post or to Botany Bay. 1821 BYRON *Quian* III. xciv, Such names at present cut a convict figure. The very Botany Bay in moral geography. 1841 MARRYAT *Poacher* vi, They are... sent off to Botany Bay.

† **Botar**. [Prob. a fictitious word evolved from BOTARGO.] (See quot.)

1769 PENNANT *Zool.* III. 279 Of the roes of the female [Mullet] which are called Botar, is made Botargo.

Botargo (bō'tārgo). Also 6 botarge, 7 buttargo, butargo, puttargo, 8 boutargue, (9) boutaraga, Pl. -oes, -os. [A. It. *botargo*, *botarga* (now *butlarga*), ad. *arab. بوطرخا* 'preserved mullet-roe', in Makrizi A. D. 1400 (in pl. *بوطرخا* *butū-rikh*, whence It. var. *bottarica*), ad. Coptic *outarakhon*, which the Arab. word renders in a glossary published by Kircher; f. Coptic *ou-* indef. article + Gr. *ραπίδιον* pickle. See Quatremère in *Journal des Savants*, Jan. 1848. (Fr. form *boutargue*, occas. found in Eng.)]

A relish made of the roe of the mullet or tunny.

1598 *Eptulario* H ij b, To make Botarge, a kind of Italian meat, fish spawn salted. 1615 G. SANDYS *Trav.* 93 Salt, Buttargo, and Cassia being now the principall [commodities]. 1616 CAPT. SMITH *Descr. New Engl.* 16 (Arb.) 197 Mullet and Puttargo. 1660 — *New-Engl. Trials* Wks. (Arb.) 240 Mullet, Caviare, and Buttargo. 1653 URQUHART *Rabelais* i. xxi, Hard rows of mullet called Botargos. 1661 PEPYS *Diary* 5 June, Drinking great draughts of claret, and eating botargo, and bread and butter. 1702 W. J. BRYAN *Voy. Levant* xlii. 170 They... take out the Spawn, of which... they make Boutargue. 1730 SWIFT *Panegyrr. Dean Misc.* (1735) V. 141 And, for our home-bred British Cheer, Botargo, Catsup, and Caveer. 1813 HOBHOUSE *Journ.* 693 Boutaraga, or the roes of fish, salted and pressed into rolls like sausages. 1840 HOOD *Kilmansegg* xxviii, That huge repast, With its loads & cargoes Of drink & botargos, At the birth of the Babe in Rabelais. 1852 SCHMITZ *Niebuhr's Anc. Hist.* I. 140.

Botcard, 1 for *bottard* = BATTARD a cannon.

c 1565 R. LINDSAY *Chron. Scott.* 143 Two great Botcards.

Botch (bōtʃ), sb. 1. Forms: 4 (bouch(e)), boch, 4-5 bocche, 5-7 boche, 5 bochohe, bochoche, (6) Sc. boiche, 4-6 botoche, 6- botoh. [ME. *boche*, *boche*, a. ONFr. *boche* (mod. Picard *boche*, Norm. *bosche*) = OF. *boc* (now *bosse*) ulcer, botch, a common Romanic word (Pr. *bossa*, It. *bozza*, of same meaning; It. *boccia*, Sp. *bocha* ball):—med. L. *bocia*, -um: see BOSS sb. 1, and cf. BOUCH (s. 2).]

† 1. A hump; a swelling; a tumour, wen, or goitre; = BOSS sb. 1. Obs.

1382 WYCLIF *Isa.* xxx. 6 Berende... vp on the bocche [388 botche] of camalees ther tresores. 1398 TREVISA *Barth. De P. R.* xv. xxxi, Many men woenen nyte be mounteynes, and þey have gret bocches... under þe chyn, of ofte use of snowe and water. c 1450 *Nominate* in Wt. Wulcker *Voc.* 707 *Hic gibbus*, a boche in bake. 1481 CAXTON *Myyr.* II. xiv. 99 Plente of wyymen that have botches vnder the chyn. 1519 HORMAN *Vulg.* 30 The bouch or botche [gibbus] is so boystous that it can unneþ be boude vp with a trussar.

† 2. A boil, ulcer, or pimple. Also fig. as 'spiritual botch'. Obs. exc. dial.

1377 LANGL. *P. Pl.* B. xx. 83 Byles, and bocches and brennyng agues. 1486 Bk. *St. Albans* C vij, Bocches that growe in a hawkes jowe. 1547 BOORDE *Brev. Health* vii. 9 In Englishe it [Ulcer] is named byles or botches. 1634 CANNE

Necess. Separ. (1849) 96 This great wickedness, which causeth spiritual botches and sores. 1667 MILTON *P. L.* xii. 180 Botches and blaines must all his flesh emboss. 1785 BURNS *Address Deil* xviii, While scabs and botches did him gall, Wi' bitter claw. 1875 ROBINSON *Whitby Gloss.* (E. D. S.), *Botches*, sore places.

† b. spec. A tumour from which horses suffer, esp. in the groin. Obs.

1579 GOSSON *Sch. Abuse* (Arb.) 19 It is the custome of the fyve to leaue the sound places of the Horse and suck at the Botch. 1607 TOPSELL *Four-f. Beasts* 308 A botch... in the hinder parts betwixt the thighs. 1706 PHILLIPS, *Botch*... a Sore in the Groin of a Horse.

3. Boils or sores as a malady; an eruptive disease or plague, as 'the botch of Egypt'. arch. or Obs.

1388 WYCLIF *Deut.* xxviii. 27 The Lorde smyte thee with the botche [388 byil] of Egypt. 1506 TINDALE *Rev.* xvi. 2 There fell a noysom and a sore botche upon the men. 1534 *Aberdeen Reg.* V. 16 (JAM.) Ane seynes & smytand plaig callit the botche. 1570 LEVINS *Manip.* 177 Botch, *pestilencia*. 1842 SIR H. TAYLOR *Edwin* III. viii, The Lord shall smite him with the botch of Egypt.

Botch (bōtʃ), sb. 2. [f. BOTCH v. 1 (Sometimes indistinguishable from fig. use of the prec.)]

1. A botched place or part, a flaw or blemish resulting from unskilful workmanship.

1605 SHAKS. *Macb.* III. i. 133 To leaue no Rubs nor Botches in the Worke. 1645 MILTON *Tetrarch.* Wks. 1738 I. 244 Let it stick as a notorious botch of deformity.

2. fig. A clumsy patch; a meaningless or unsuitable word added for the sake of rime or metre.

1693 DENNIS *Impart. Critick* iii. 25 Every Epithet is to be look'd upon as a Botch, which does not add to the thought. 1707 SWIFT *On Union* Wks. 1755 IV. i. 283 By way of botch She piec'd it up again with scotch. 1780 WESLEY *Wks.* (1872) XIV. 341 In these Hymns there is no doggerel, no botches. 1861 A. B. HOPE *Eng. Cathedr.* 19th C. 220 The difficulties of accommodation are honestly recognized and boldly grappled with, not by botches and makeshifts.

† b. A mark like a clumsy patch, a blotch. Obs.

1715 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 5365/4 The other 4 [Sheep] cropt on the Right Ear, and a black Botch on the Left Hipp.

3. A bungled piece of work. So *botch-work*.

1688 HERRICK *Hesper.* I. 104 Learne of me what woman is, Something made of thred and thumme; A mere botch of all and some. 1845 LD. CAMPBELL *Chancellors* (1857) III. lvi. 130 When the writer tries to be light and airy, we have such a botch as might have been expected. 1870 HAWTHORNE *Eng. Note-bks.* (1879) I. 187, I have made a miserable botch of this description. 1876 HAMERTON *Intell. Life* II. ii. 406 Vastness of the interval, that separates botch-work from handicraft.

b. fig. 1864 ELIZ. MURRAY *E. Norman* I. 159 The men were not to be trusted, most of them being convicts, or 'botches' of one kind or other.

4. = BOTCHER sb. 1 dial.

1855 *Whitby Gloss.*, A Botch, a cobbler.

Botch (bōtʃ), v. 1 Also 4 boochyn, 5-6 botche. [ME. *bocche* -v, of uncertain etymology: having apparently no original relation to BOTCH sb. 1, though the words may have subsequently influenced each other. Prof. Skeat suggests for the vb. a LG. origin, comparing MDu. *butsen*, (1) to strike, beat, (2) to repair (Oudemans), app. related to Du. *butsen* to knock, dash, Ger. dial. *butschen*, *butsen* to strike, knock; according to Franck an onomatopoeic word of echoic origin. But the sense 'repair' in Du. *butsen* seems to be recent, while in English it appears in Wyclif: also there is no sense 'knock' in English, so that connexion with the continental words is very doubtful. Perhaps the Eng. word is an onomatopoeia related in its genesis to 'patch'; cf. Ger. *batsen* to patch. See BODGE.]

1. trans. To make good or repair (a defect, damage, damaged article); to patch, mend. Now only: to repair clumsily or imperfectly. Often with *up*.

1382 WYCLIF 2 *Chron.* xxxiv. 10 That thei enstoren the temple, and eche feble thingis thei boochyn [388 repaire alle feble thingis]. 1530 PALSGR. 461/1, I botche or patche an olde garment... I have botched my hosen at the heles. 1551 ROBINSON tr. *Moré's Utop.* (Arb.) 60 Sicke bodies... to be kept and botched up. a 1680 BUTLER *Rem.* (1759) II. 200 He does not mend his Manners, but botch them with Patches of another Stuff and Colour. 1863 FAWCETT *Pol. Econ.* iv. ii. 535 Botching and patching each single tax.

b. absol. To do repairs; to patch clumsily. 1580 TUSSEY *Husb.* (1878) 166 Cobble and botch, ye that cannot buie new. 1730 SWIFT *Dan Jackson's Pict.* Wks. 1755 IV. i. 249 At last I'm fairly forc'd to botch for't. 1815 SCOTT *Guy R.* xxi, I labour and botch... and produce at last a base caricature. 1865 [see BOTCHING vbl. sb. 1]

2. To spoil by unskilful work; to bungle.

1530 PALSGR. 461/1 To botche or bungyll a garment as he dothe that is nat a perfyte workman. 1663 PEPYS *Diary* 26 Apr., Tom coming, with whom I was angry for his botching my camlott coat. 1850 BLACKIE *Eschylus* I. 293 This chorus seems hopelessly botched... and all attempts to mend it are more or less unsatisfactory. 1858 HAWTHORNE *Fr. & It. Grals.* I. 292 The greatest bungler that ever botched a block of marble.

3. fig. trans. To put or stitch together clumsily or unskilfully; to construct or compose in a bungling manner. Often with *up*, together.

1561 T. NORTON *Calvin's Inst.* III. v. (1634) 319 Augustines booke of repentance... botched of good and bad by some

scraper together. 1678 CUDWORTH *Intell. Syst.* I. iv. 411 An ill-agreeing Drama, botch'd up of many impertinent Intersections. 1768 TUCKER *Li. Nat.* II. 124 One or two of Horace's purple rags botched together with coarse seams of abuse.

b. To add as a patch.

1589 PAPPE w. *Hatchet* (1844) 39 Botching in such frize iestes vpon fustion earnest. 1656 [see BOTCHING vbl. sb. 1] † **Botch**, v. 2 † *nonce-wd.* [f. BOTCH sb. 1] To mark with botches.

1609 GARTH *Dispens.* II. (1700) 22 Young Hylas, botch'd with Stains too foul to name.

Botched (bōtʃt), ppl. a. [f. BOTCH v. 1 + -ED.] Mended or patched in a bungling manner; clumsily put together; cobbled. Hence *Botchedly* adv.

1568 DK. NORFOLK in Campbell *Love-Lett.* Mary Q. Scots App. 27 You shall make but boched work yf you doe not sowndlie and perfectly conclude thowes differencys. 1733 G. CHEYNE *Eng. Malady* i. x. § 4 This Cement never makes them the same continued Organ, scarce any thing but a botch'd or clouted one. 1752 HUME *Idea Perf. Commv.* Ess. (1777) I. 524 The common botched and inaccurate governments seem to serve the purposes of society. 1831 CARLYLE *Sart. Res.* i. viii, A botched mass of tailors' and cobblers' shreds. 1879 *Spectator* 31 May 681 The Peace is a botched-up affair, bringing Great Britain nothing, etc. 1882 H. MORE *Song of Soul* II. III. III. lxvii, Thus patch they Heaven more botch'dly then old cloths.

Botcher 1 (bōtʃər). Also 4 bochour, 5 botchare. [f. BOTCH v. 1 + -ER 1.]

1. A mender, repairer, or patcher. Also fig.

1499 *Prompt. Parv.* 42 Botchare of olde thinges, *resartor*. 1609 FORD *Lover's Mel.* i. ii. (1811) 134 Physicians are the bodys coblers, rather the botchers of mens bodies. 1863 MRS. C. CLARKE *Shaks. Char.* ix. 225 Lepidus was a peace-botcher from timidity.

2. spec. † a. A cobbler. Obs.

c 1375 † BARBOUR *St. Marcus* 78, He saw a bochour mend al[d]schone, & gef hyme his scho for to mend. 1610 COOKE *Pope Joan in Harl. Misc.* (Malh.) IV. 70 That John the Twenty-second was 'filius veteramentarii resartitoris videlicet soleaurum'; that is, the son of a botcher.

b. A tailor who does repairs.

1530 PALSGR. 200/1 Botcher of old garments, *rauaider*. 1552 HULOET, *Botcher*, mender, or patcher of olde garments. 1589 R. HARVEY *Pl. Ferr.* 14 There is a Shoemaker, there is a Cobler: a Tailor, and a Botcher. 1603 BAXTER *Div. Life* 31 A sorry Taylor may make a Botcher, or a bad Shoemaker may make a Cobler. a 1734 NORTH *Lives* (1826) II. 409 Like a botcher in a paltry hut, sat cross-legged. 1783 COWPER *Lett.* 23 Sept., Though but a botcher, which is somewhat less than a tailor. 1841 MARRYAT *Poacher* xxviii, I had to examine... their trousers, and hold weekly conversation with the botcher, as to... repairs.

† c. † A jobber. (Sense doubtful; cf. *botcheries* and *brokerages* in quot. 1624 under BOTCHERY.)

c 1510 BARCLAY *Mirr. Good Mann.* (1570) Giv, Be no towler, catchpoll nor customer, No broker nor botcher, no somner nor sergeant... The moste of this number liueth... by fraudes and by polling.

3. One who does a thing bunglingly; a clumsy maker up of; an unskilful workman, a bungler.

c 1440 *Prompt. Parv.* 42 Bochchare or vncrafty [1499 botchar], *iners.* 1581 J. BELL *Haddon's Austr. Osor.* 288 This Pope Boniface y^e botcher of y^e Decretalls. 1654 TRAPP *Comm. Job* xiii. 4 Ye are not onely... forgers, but... botchers. 1700 CONGREVE *Way of World* v. i, To become a botcher of second-hand marriages. 1885 R. BRIDGES *Nero* II. i, Thou miserable, painful, hackney-themed Botcher of tragedies.

Botcher 2 (bōtʃər). A young salmon; a grilse.

1801 T. SELWYN *MS. Let. to A. Selwyn*, We have Salmon and we have botcher If the fisher man chance to catch her. 1875 *Times* 26 Aug., Formerly grilse, or botchers, were far more plentiful than they have been. 1886 *Athenaeum* 3 Apr. 450/3 The two-year-old salmon, the grilse or 'botcher'.

Botcheress, *nonce-wd.* A female botcher.

1813 *Sismondi's Lit. Eur.* (1846) II. xxv. 173 A botcheress of lost reputations.

† **Botcherly**, adj., adv. Obs. [f. BOTCHER 1.]

A. adj. [-LY 1.] Bungling, unworkmanlike.

1603 FLORIO *Montaigne* III. xii. (1632) 595 A number of such botcherly patch-cotes... wherewith to enamell this treaty, etc. 1653 W. LAWSON *Angling in Arb. Garner* I. 193 It is botcherly, hinders the biting, and sometimes cuts the line.

B. adv. [-LY 2.] After the manner of a botcher; unskilfully.

1607 *Schol. Disc. agst. Antichr.* i. i. 47 Painted or grauen, cunningly drawne or botcherly made.

Botchery (bōtʃəri). [f. BOTCHER 1; see -ERY.]

A botcher's work; clumsy or awkward workmanship or its result; patchwork.

1608 *World of Wonders* 235 (L.) If we speak of base botchery. 1674 R. GODFREY *Inj. & Ab. Physic* Pref., I, who always hated Botchery, might have real Art. 1732 DE FOE, etc. *Tour Gt. Brit.* (1769) I. 277 Disgrace this fine Piece, and make it mere Botchery. 1880 WEBB tr. *Goethe's Faust* Prel. 10 Your pretty masters, with their botchery.

b. † Jobbery: cf. BOTCHER 1 2 c.

1624 Bp. MOUNTAGU *Gagg* 35 Those manifold botcheries, and brokerages of your Romish church.

Botchily (bōtʃili), adv. [f. BOTCHY a. 2 + -LY 2.] In a botchy manner.

1882 *Good Literature* 29 Apr., The inelegant and botchily printed catalogues.

† **Botching**, vbl. sb. 1 Obs. rare -1. [f. BOTCH sb. 1 + -ING 1.] The forming of botches or boils.

1398 TREVISA *Barth. De P. R.* vii. xxxi. (1495) 245 By botchyng of the lounes all the body is wasted.

Botching (bōtʃin), vbl. sb. 2 [f. BOTCH v. 1 + -ING 1.] The action of repairing or mending; clumsy patching; unskilful or bungling work.

c 1440 *Prompt. Parv.* 5 A bocchement, or a boochyng, 127 - 2

augmentum. a 1335 FISHER *Wks.* 358 O corruptible body which . . . daily needeth reparation and botching vp with meate and drinke. 1656 SANDERSON *Serm.* (1689) 392 The botching in of a course shred into a fine garment. 1691 T. H[ALE] *Acc. New Invent.* 98 That patching and botching with Solder. 1752 DE FOE *Crusoe* (1840) I. ix. 159, I set to work a-tailoring, or rather indeed a-botching. 1865 RUSKIN *Eth. Dust* v. (1883) 87 All doubt, and repenting, and botching, and retouching, and wondering what it will be best to do next, are vice, as well as misery.

Botching (bɒtʃɪŋ), *pp. a.* [f. BOTCH v. + -ING².] That botches; repairing, jobbing; bungling. 1598 FLORIO, *Taccola* . . . a patching, or botching piece of worke, a bungling. 1661 S. PARTRIDGE *Double Scale Proportion* To Rdr., The fault is in the botching Taylor, not in the stuffe. 1834 H. MILLER *Scenes & Leg.* xxviii. (1857) 424 An old botching carpenter.

Botchment. *Obs. rare.* [f. BOTCH v. + -MENT.] An addition, a 'make-up'. c 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 5 A botchment, *augmentum*. — 42 Botchment [1499 botchment], *additamentum*. 1556 SKELTON *Magnyf.* 1126 Gyve me thy dogge, and I am content, And thou shalt have my hawk to a botchment.

Botchour, *obs. form of BUTCHER.*

Botchy, a. ¹ *Obs.* [f. BOTCH sb.¹ + -Y¹.] Pertaining to, or of the nature of, a botch; covered with botches or excrescences.

1398 TREvisa *Barth. De P. R. v.* xxiv. (1495) 132 The gystels the fyrst of whyche is knotty and botchy. c 1450 *Nominate* in W. Wulcker 710 Gibbosus, botchy. 1666 SHAKS. *Tr. & Cr.* II. i. 6 Were not that a botchy core. 1768 TUCKER *Lt. Nat.* II. 331 We may claim Mahometism as a botchy excrescence or spurious offspring of the Gospel.

Botchy (bɒtʃi), a. ² [f. BOTCH sb.² + -Y¹.] Full of botching or bungling work.

Botte. *Obs. rare* — ¹. Some kind of tool. c 1325 *Coer de L.* 4357 Some caught a bote, and some a hach, And brought to tymbyr and rach.

Botte, ME. form of BOOT sb.¹, occas. used since the 16th c. by legal and historical writers in legal senses of OE. *bōt*: a. Repair; b. estover; c. compensation; d. expiation. For quots. see BOOT sb.¹ 5, 5 b, 9, 10.

Botte, *obs. f. BOAT, BOOT, BUT*; *obs. pa. t. BITE.* **Bottefeu**, var. of BOUTEFEU, *Obs.*, an incendiary.

Botel, *Boteler*, *obs. form of BOTTLE, BUTLER.*

Botemay. *Obs. rare.* [Some kind of corrupted form of *bitumen*: cf. It. *bitume*.] Bitumen. c 1300 K. *Alis* 4763 Pilers of brass and botemays. *Ibid.* 6189 Above, and yneothe, is heore heolung, With botemay, that wol clyng, That no water, salt no cler, Heom to derye hath no power.

Boten, *botne*, v. *Obs.* Also 5 booten, -ne. [ME. *botn-en*: inceptive vb. f. *bōt*, BOOT sb.¹: of earlier rise than the verb BOOT¹. In form intr. but also taken as trans. = BRET v.¹, BOOT v.¹.]

1. *intr.* To become better; to amend or recover health, be healed.

a 1225 *St. Mark.* 22 Ant comen dumble ant deaue to hire bodi as hit lei, ant botneden alle. c 1325 *Chron. Eng.* 768 Ase me him in towmede, A wadmon botnede y the stude.

2. *trans.* To make better in health; to heal, cure. a 1225 *Leg. Kath.* 2523 Pat healeð alle uueles & botneð men of eueh bale. c 1350 *Will. Palerne* 1055 Pei were botned of here bales strong. 1366 *LANG.* P. Pl. A. vii. 179 Blynde and Bedraden weore Botned [v. r. botind; B. vi. 194 botnede, C. ix. 188 botnede] a þousen.

Botener, *botner*, *Obs. rare* — ¹. [f. BOTEN v. + -ER¹.] A healer; a restorer.

a 1400 *Hymn Virg.* v. in T. Warton *Eng. Poetry* (1840) II. 109 Heil botener of euerie bodi blynde.

Botening, *botning*, *vbl. sb. Obs.* [f. BOTEN v. + -ING¹.] Healing, cure; help.

1303 R. BRUNNE *Handl. Synne* 11029 A wode man touchede on hys [Pascchiasus] bere. And anone he hadde botenyng. c 1315 *SHORHAM* 96. c 1420 *Cher. Assigne* 370 And þus þe botenyng of god browgte hem to honde.

Boterace, -ras, -rasse, *obs. ff. BUTRESS.*

Botere, *obs. form of BUTTER.*

Boterel. *Obs. rare* — ¹. [a. OF. *boterel*, dim. of *bot* toad.] A toad.

c 1340 *Ayenb.* 187 Vor he ne may najt þolye þane guode smel of þe ilke smerieles namore þanne þe boterel þane smel of þe vine.

Boterol. *Her.* [ad. F. *bouterolle* the tip of a scabbard; but the word has many other meanings, and it is not clear which is intended.] Some kind of charge borne on a shield.

1864 BOUTELL *Heraldry Hist. & Pop.* xix. § 5 (ed. 3) 315 Three boterols gules.

Botew. *Obs.* Also 5 butwe, buttwe, butewe, 6 botowe, botaw(e). [f. *bote*, BOOT sb.³: cf. F. diminutives in -eau.] 1 A short boot.

c 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 45 Botew, *coturnus*, *botula*, *crepita*. 1463 *Ripon Ch. Acts* 159, 1 par de buttwe shon. 1481 *Gild Cordwainers Exeter* in E. E. *Gilds* 332 All weite lethere and drye botew, botwez, schoez, pyncouz, galegez. 1483 *Cath. Angl.* 49 A Butewe, *areola*. a 1520 SKELTON *Magnyf.* 765 A betell, ora botowe [printed *botawe*] or a buskyn lacyd. 1555 *Fardle Facions* II. xii. 269 The Bisshoppes . . . v. holy garments. . . His botawes, his Amice, an Albe.

Bot-fork. *Obs.* [Perh. f. *bot*, var. of BAT sb.² + FORK. Mätzner suggests OF. *bottle* 'bottle' of hay, Stratmann Du. *bot*, blunt.] 1 A forked stick. c 1350 Wright's *Lyric P.* xxxix. 110 Mon in the mone stond ant strit, on is bot forke is burthen he bereth.

Both (bɒθ), a. and adv. Forms: 2-3 *baðe*, *bape*, *bathe*, 2-6 *boðe*, *bope*, *bothe*, (3 *bope*, *beoðe*), 4-6 *boop*, -th, (6 *boeth*), 7 *boath*, 4-both; also 3-5 *boðen*, -pen, -then, 5 *boðyn*; north. 3-5 *bathe*, *bath*, 4-6 *baith*, 5-6 *bayth*, 6-8 *beath*, 4- *baith*. *Genit.* 3 *bathre*, *baiper*, 3-4 *baper(n)*, 4 *bothers*, -es, 5 *bothes*, -is, (4-6 *bothe*), 7-8 *both's*. [early ME. *bāðe* (genitive *bāðre*) was app. a. ON. *báðar* m., *báðir* fem., *bæði*, *bæði* neut. (genitive *báðra*) = OS. *bēðia* m. f., *bēðiu* neut., OHG. *bēde* and *beide* m., *bēdd*, *bēido* fem., *bēdiu*, *bēidiu* neut.; an extended form of the simple word found in Goth. as *bai* masc., *ba* neut., and in OE. as *bēgen*, *bē* (see Bo). No trace of this extended form appears in OE.; the simpler form *bei*, Bo existed side by side with *both* until 14-15th c., when the former died out.

The suffix in ON. *báðar* and the equivalent forms is believed to be unconnected with that in Goth. *baiþs* both (declined as sb. plur.), and to represent the definite article (in Goth. *bai*, *þu*) which seems to have coalesced with the simple *bai*, *ba* owing to the tendency to say 'both the' instead of merely 'both'; cf. Goth. *ba þu skipa* 'both the ships' *Luke* v. 8. The constructions of *both* in Eng. follow those of the earlier Bo and to some extent those of ALL; examples of its use as attribute to a sb. plur. without intervening possessive, demonstrative, or article, do not appear until after Bo had become obsolete.]

A. *adj.* I. Proper sense and normal uses.

The one and the other; referring to two specially designated persons or things, implying that two and no more are so designated, and emphasizing the fact that neither of them is excepted from the statement made; equivalent to 'the two, and not merely one of them'.

The following constructions occur:

1. *absolutely.* From 14th c. sometimes *the both* (*obs.*). In early mod. Eng. sometimes inflected as a sb., with genitive *both's*.

c 1200 ORMIN 250 Baþe wærenn alde. a 1300 *Cursor M.* 666 Bath he sette in þare fre will. 1330 R. BRUNNE *Chron.* 269 It turnes bot till þe boþe, if Godes grace may stond. 1626 B. PARSONS *Mag. Charter* 26 Judge no cause in hand, Before boths take thou understand. a 1600 A. HUME *Brit. Tong.* (1865) 34 For example of beath, and to conclud this treatise. 1697 DRYDEN *Virg. Georg.* III. 352 He . . . resents his Wounds, His ignominious Flight, the Victor's Boast, And more than both, the Loves, which unreuegd he lost. 1725 *Lt. in Wodrow Corr.* (1843) II. 38 That the business be tried, and both sides allowed to counter-question both's witnesses. 1752 JOHNSON *Rambl.* No. 197 ¶ 13 The old gentlewoman considered herself wiser than both. 1848 MACAULAY *Hist. Eng.* II. 113 Both were Tories; both were men of hot temper and strong prejudices.

2. *In apposition with a plural sb. or pronoun.*

When referring to the subject of a sentence, *both* was in early ME. usually separated from it, and placed after the vb. or whole predication. This is still common dialectally. In the literary language, *both* is still placed after the verb *be* (occasionally also after *become*, *seem*, *appear*, etc.), and after the auxiliary in a compound tense.

c 1175 *Cott. Hom.* 223 Pa weran boðe deadlice. a 1225 *Ankr. R.* 10 Noþeles he woren wel boðe. a 1300 *Cursor M.* 793 Al for nocht þai ette it bath. c 1400 *Gamelyn* 625 As they stode talking bothen in-feere. c 1580 LVLV *Euphues* (1636) K 12, I wish you were both married. 1622 MARBE tr. *Aleman's Gussman D'Alf.* 1. 255 They were both equal in state and condition. 1826 DICKENS *Pickw.* 2, We are both men of the world. *Mod.* They seem both very obstinate. They have both gone. The brothers might both have come.

3. *In attributive relation to a plural sb.:*

a. with a defining word (demonst. or poss. adj., 'def. article', genitive case, etc.): *Both* precedes the defining word, as 'both my friends saw it'. It may also (with greater emphasis) follow the sb., esp. when the subject of the sentence, as 'my friends both saw it'. (In this case it further follows the verb *be* or an auxiliary, as 'my friends had both seen it': cf. 2).

The constructions are the same when there is ellipsis of the sb. after demonst. or poss. pron., as 'I need both these', 'these are both mine'. For the colloq. *both of* before sb. see 6.

1297 R. GLOUC. 376 Wo so by Kyng Wyllames day slou hert oþer hynde, Me ssolde putte oute boþe hys eye. 1394 P. Pl. *Crede* 224 A greet cherl and a grym. Wip a face. . . as a bagge honged on bopen his chekes. 1548 LATIMER *Ploughers* (Arb.) 25 To lette or hinder boeth these kyndes. 1588 A. KING *Canisius' Catech.* 84 Thay. in auld tymes had baith y^e kynds in publick vse. 1632 MILTON *Allegro* 32 Laughter holding both his sides. 1765 BURNS *Twa Herds* xii. Baith the Shaws, That aft hae made us black and blae. 1870 TENNYSON *Gareth & L.* 80 Both thy brethren are in Arthur's hall.

b. Formerly *both* was sometimes placed between the defining word and the substantive.

c 1430 Bk. *Hawkyng* in *Rel. Ant.* I. 297 Knyt the bothe endes with a threde. c 1440 PECOCK *Repr.* II. xi. 216 Whether he entendit these bothe effectes, or the oon of hem oonli. 1551 RECORDE *Pathw. Knowl.* I. Def. The middle partes nother bulke vp, nother shrink down more then the bothe endes. c 1615 CHAPMAN *Odys.* III. 572 To plate the both horns round about with gold. 1649 RAINBOWE *Sermon* 2 A King whose both hands God had filled with blessings of every kind. 1830 tr. *Aristophanes' Knights* 85 He. . . with his both hands, scoops up from the public funds.

c. without defining word. *Both* regularly precedes the sb., but in lively or humorous address

may sometimes follow it, as in quot. 1597. *Both ways*: in both respects.

1596 *Pilgr. Perf.* (W. de W. 1531) 34 Bothe wayes suche desyres be vnlawfull. 1593 HOOKER *Ecl. Pol.* Pref. v. § 3 A solemn declaration made on both parts. 1597 SHAKS. *2 Hen. IV.* III. ii. 308 Fare you well, Gentlemen both. 1628 HOBBS *Thucyd.* (1822) 105 Shew not yourselves both ways inferior to your ancestors. 1712 ADDISON *Spect.* No. 499 ¶ 2 Very agreeable young people of both sexes. 1798 CANNING in *Anti-Jacobin* 9 July (1832) 208 Much may be said on both sides. 1849 RUSKIN *Ser. Lamps* IV. § 26 So they have. . . a pair of horns: but not at both ends. 1879 LOCKYER *Elem. Astron.* v. § 35. 206 In Russia. . . it is customary to give both dates.

4. *In attrib. relation to a plural pronoun:*
a. in nom. or obj. *Both* follows the pronoun, as 'they both went'. (With *be* and auxiliaries it further follows the verb: cf. 2). In ME. *both* might precede the pronoun, 'both they went'; of this usage *both* which still occurs; but the regular modern construction with *both* preceding the pronoun is 'both of us', 'both of whom', 'both of which' (see 6).

c 1300 *Metr. Hom.* 55 Baith thei gan his wai to lette. c 1386 CHAUCER *Reeve* T. 271 He myghte doon vs bathe [*Camb.* *bothe*; *Corp.* *boþe*] a vileynye. 1472 MARG. PASTON *Lett.* 689 III. 37 The Holy Ghost kepe you bothyn. 1475 CAXTON *Jason* 37 b, Bothe they toke a good palfreye. 1549 *Marriage Ser.*, So long as you both shall live. 1597 J. PAYNE *Royal Exch.* 43 Then would yt . . . make bothe theme the better to love one another. 1610 SHAKS. *Temp.* I. ii. 241 The time 'twixt six and now Must by vs both be spent most preciously. 1621 BIBLE 2 Peter iii. 1 In both which [epistles] I stir vp your pure minds. 1826 J. WILSON *City Plague* II. i. 14 They both speak of death. 1848 MACAULAY *Hist. Eng.* II. 114 The papers found in the strong box. . . had converted them both to the true faith.

b. in genit. pl. with a sb., as *our*, *your*, *her* (= their), *their bath*, *both*, *bothens*, *botheres*, etc. (afterwards *both*, which sometimes preceded the pron.) = of us, you, them both. *Obs.*

Latterly the sb. often improperly took the plural form by attraction of the pronoun; this idiom is still in vulgar use, as 'It is both your faults', 'she is both their mothers'.

a 1300 *Cursor M.* 1254 In þat way sal þou find forsoth þi moders and mine our bathes slogh. *Ibid.* 23958 Pair baipier paines aght to be mine. 1377 *LANG.* P. Pl. B. xvi. 165 Cryst toke þe bataille, Ajeines deeth and þe deuel 'destroyed her botheres mythes. c 1430 LYG. *Bochas* I. ix. (1544) 19 b, This was concluded by their both assente. 1479 *Bury Wills* (1850) 54 As moste beste can be advysed by ther botheris counsell. 1523 MORE *Rich.* III. Wks. (1557) 54/1 [To be] here as a saintuary man to both their dishonour and obloquy. 1536 *St. Papers Hen. VIII.* I. 509 Ye take upon you to set order bothe to them and us, your bothe Sovereigne. 1592 SHAKS. *Rom. & Jul.* II. iii. 51 Both our remedies Within thy helpe and holy physick lies. 1602 — *All's Well* I. iii. 169 Were you both our mothers. 1627 HAKEWELL *Apol.* (1630) 167 Both their haire was as white as was possible. 1699 BENTLEY *Phal.* Pref. 9 It was both our misfortunes that he committed the whole affair to the care of his Bookseller. 1752 MRS. LENNOX *Female Quix.* (1820) II. 29 These sentiments which now cause both our unhappiness.

5. *In attrib. relation to two substantives or pronouns (or a sb. and pron.) coupled by and*, the same constructions obtain as in 3: as 'both John and I came', 'John and George both came', 'the brother and sister are both dead', but this is practically indistinguishable from the adverbial use in B 1.

6. With *of*: *Both of* is now used before pronouns and pronominal words, instead of the simple *both* (see 4). The use with a sb., as 'both of these arguments', is colloquial, but scarcely ever occurs in literature.

1590 SHAKS. *Err.* v. i. 291, I am sure you both of you remember me. 1608 — *Lear* III. i. 27 The hard Reine which both of them hath borne. 1621 BIBLE *Gen.* xxii. 8 They went both of them together. 1875 JOWETT *Plato* (ed. 2) I. 80 Both of us often talk to the lads. 1878 MORLEY *Crit. Misc.* I. 211 With both of them, more than with other poets.

II. Transferred senses and abnormal uses.

7. In certain pleonastic combinations, *both two*, *twain* (cf. OE. *bá twá*); *both the two*; *þ all both* (cf. G. *alle beide*): all synonymous with *both* (so also in adverbial use; see B 2 b).

c 1275 LAY. 2390 Mid childe hii weren boþe two. c 1325 E. E. *Allit. P.* B. 155 Bynder byhynde, at his bak, boþe two his handez. c 1300 *Cursor M.* 635 (Gött.) Naked war þai bath tway. 1482 CAXTON *Paris & V.* (1868) 18 Bothe two were thrown to the erthe. 1523 LD. BERNERS *Froiss.* (1812) I. 621 They were bothe two armed. 1571 T. FORRESCUE *Forest Hist.* 129 Yet would he retain with hym still Silan and Sasilas, all both Lacedemonians. 1587 GOLDING *De Mornay* Pref. 4 From both twaine of them. wee drawe. . . the truth of our Scriptures. c 1600 SHAKS. *Sonn.* xlii. Both find each other, and I lose both twain. 1846 GROTE *Greece* II. xviii. (1854) III. 365 Both the two cities reached a high pitch of prosperity.

8. Synonymous with 'the two' in phrases *either (neither, whether) of both*, *of the both* (*obs. or dial.*); *between both*. (*arch.*)

1443 *Pol. Poems* (1859) II. 214 Attween bothen. . . Crist ihesu send us pees. 1489 CAXTON *Paytes of A.* I. xxiv. 75 There abode not one man alvye of neythre of bothe parties. 1489 *Will of Harryngton* (Somerset Ho.) Whether of the both it shall fortune. 1544 ASCHAM *Toxoph.* (Arb.) 27 We be borne for neither of bothe. 1584 WHETSTONE *Mirror* 27 b, The covetous man is the worst of both. 1667 TORSELL *Serpents* 607 Either of both abhorreth one the other. 1766

GOLDSM. *Vic. W.* xxxiii. The argument was supported, for some time, between both, with equal obstinacy. 1896 J. R. BALLANTYNE *Aphor. Sankhya Philos.* 38 'Between both', i. e. between Soul and not-Soul, both together.

† 9. Used as a sing. (cf. *G. beides*). *Obs. rare*—1. 1721 R. KEITH *T. & Kempis' Vall. Lillies* ii. 22 Both is a very great Evil.

B. *adv. (conj.)*

1. Preceding two homogeneous words (sbs., adjs., vbs., advs., or preps.) or phrases, coupled by *and*, *both* adds emphasis to the sentence by suggesting a contrast with the statement as it would have been had one of the terms been omitted. *Both . . . and* is thus nearly = *not only . . . but*. (*Both* in this construction is not now preceded by a genitive case or an adj. of any kind, as in quotes. 1647, 1690, 1834).

As *both* corresponds to the Latin *et*, it is usual to class *both* as a conjunction; but it more properly belongs to the same grammatical category with *even*. This use of *both* arises out of the construction in A 5, and in 'both the king and the queen spoke', 'the king and the queen both honour him', 'Mercury and Venus are both inferior planets', *both* may still be viewed as an adjective in attributive relation to the two substantives. But in the extended use 'both juster and kinder' or 'both by day and by night', 'he both walks and runs', it can no longer be so treated.

1154 O. E. *Chron.* (Laud MS.) an. 1137 Bathe be nihtes. & be daies. c. 1175 *Lamb. Hom.* 143 For to deme baþe þe gode and þe uuele. c. 1250 *Gen. & Ex.* 899 He was boðen king and prest. a. 1300 *Havelok* 958 Bohen heyne men and lowe. c. 1300 *Cast. Love* 497 Bøþe Ich and Merçi We becleþe þe dom for þi. a. 1400 *Cov. Myst.* (1841) 94, I shal send for hem, bothyn fere and nere. 1528 *LYNDESEY Dreame* ProL 20 Because vnblomit was baith bank and braye. 1641 *HINDE 7. Bruen* vi. 24 A faire image of this young Gentlemans both wants and weaknesses. 1690 *LOCKE Hum. Und.* ii. xxi. § 9 All its both Motion and Rest, come under our Idea of Necessary. 1766 *GOLDSM. Vic. W.* ii. (1806) 7, I looked upon this as a masterpiece both for argument and style. a. 1834 *COLERIDGE Remains* (1836) III. 375 This idle argument is the favourite both shield and sword of the Romanist. 1837 J. H. NEWMAN *Par. Sermon* (ed. 3) I. viii. 114 It is both severe and indulgent. *Bk. Com. Prayer, Visi. Sick.* Both now and evermore.

b. Extended to more than two objects.

c. 1386 *CHAUCER Knts. T.* 1440 To whom bothe heuene and erthe and see is sene. c. 1430 *LYDG. Bochas* l. vii. 18 She was also bothe ioly, fayre, and good. 1523 *LD. BERNERS Froiss.* (1812) I. 351 Bothe prelates, bysshoppes, abbottes, barownes, and knyghtes. 1591 *SHAKS. 1 Hen. VI.* v. v. 107 Margaret shall now be Queene and rule the King; But I will rule both her, the King, & Realm. 1592 *Ven. & Ad.* 747 Both favour, savour, hue and qualities. 1612 *BRINSLEY Lud. Lit.* 283 Rewards . . . give all kinde of hartning. . . both to Masters, Vshers, and Schollars. 1678 *BUNYAN Pilgr.* i. (1862) 37 To help them, both by awakening of them, counselling of them, and proffering to help them. 1782 *JOHNSON Lett. 2 Mar.* Both Williams, and Desmoulins, and myself are very sickly. 1798 *COLERIDGE Anc. Mar.* vii. xxii, He prayeth well, who loveth well Both man and bird and beast. c. 1830 *DE QUINCEY Wks.* XV. (1863) 140 For both Chaucer and Shakspeare and Milton.

2. *Both* may follow, instead of preceding (as in 1), the two words or phrases connected by *and*; now only in the case of two sbs. (two pronouns, or sb. and pronoun) subjects of the same plural verb, but formerly (and still dialectally) in all other cases. In this use *both* may often be replaced by *too* or *also*.

a. 1225 *ANCREN R.* 14 Of fleschliche vondunges, & of gostliche boðe. c. 1230 *Hali Meid.* 5 Widewen. & weddede baðe. c. 1240 *Lofsong.* 205 Ich habbe i-suneged ine mete. & and in drunche boðe. 1394 *P. Pl. Crade* 31 Þe cofres of cristendame & þe keye bopen. 1467 *JOHN PASTON Lett.* 573 II. 303 He had shreyvyn Master Brakley, and how-syllyd hym bothe. 1470-85 *MALORY Arthur* iv. xiii, I am sore hurte and he bothe. *Ibid.* (1816) II. 405 My broder Gareth loved hym . . . and alle his bretheren, and the kyng, bothe. 1561 *T. HOVE tr. Castiglione's Courtier* (1577) P. vii, It shalbe good for him and me both. 1600 *W. BARLOW Sermon* (1601) A v 2, Malice marres logike and charitie both. 1683 *BURNET tr. Moris' Utopia* Pref., His setting out so barbarous a practice . . . is so wild and so immoral both. *Mod.* I have seen your brother and your sister both, *Mod. dial.* He can sing and dance both.

† b. *Both two* (in same sense). *Obs.*

1413 *LYDG. Pilgr.* v. xi. (1483) 102 The scorpion . . . byteth and styngeth bothe two at ones. 1533 *BRADSHAW St. Werburge* (1848) 57 And founder was also Of dyuers holy places and monasteries both two.

† 3. After a negative or word implying exclusion, *both* was formerly sometimes used instead of *either*. (Cf. *ALL A* 4.)

1470-85 *MALORY Arthur* xviii. v, Of that I will not fayle you, nor her bothe. 1608 *TOPSELL Serpents* 608 This snake . . . sunk down from altar clean, without both harm or noise.

C. *Comb.*, as † *both-hands*, a factotum (cf. *one's right-hand*); *both-handed a.*, using both hands with equal ease; whence *both-handedness*; † *both-like a.*, resembling both; † *both-side a.*, derived from a like source on both sides; *both-sided a.*, viewing both sides, taking both sides into account; whence *both-sidedness*.

a. 1637 B. JOHNSON (Ogilvie) He is masters 'both-hands, I assure you. a. 1637 B. JOHNSON, etc. *Widow* iv. ii. in *Dodslay* (1780) XII. 295 [He] half cozens his belly . . . if he dine among . . . 'both-handed feeders. 1653 *HOLCROFT Procopius* ii. 40 Bent his bow (being both-handed) and killed Jaddas horse. 1833 *Student* III. 284 The tendency to what might be called 'both-handedness in the use of the brush. 1883 *St. James's G.* 27 Feb. 5 In old age however there is a marked tendency

to both-handedness. 1628 *GAULF Pract. The.* 145 Twixt God and Man; Is now brought forth to both, of 'both-like Nature. 1623 *LISLE Afric on O. & N. T. Ded.*, By Vertue met in 'both-side Royall blood. 1879 H. SPENCER *Data of Ethics* vi. 99 'Both-sided conceptions. 1874 — *Stud. Sociol.* xvi. 397 Dangers from the want of a due 'both-sidedness.

Both(e), obs. form of *BOOT*, *BOOTH*, *BOTH*.

Botham, -em, obs. form of *BOTTOM*.

Bother (bɒðər), *v. colloq.* Also 8 bodder, *Sc. bauther, bather*. [Etymology unknown; the earliest instances occur in the writings of Irishmen (T. Sheridan, Swift, Sterne), and the word has long formed part of the vocabulary of the comic Irishman of fiction and the stage. This suggests an Anglo-Irish origin; but no suitable etymon has been found in Irish.

The Irish *bodhar* deaf, *bodhairim* I deafen (suggested by Crofton Croker), and *buidhírt* trouble, affliction, *buidhírim* I vex (proposed by Garnett) alike labour under the difficulty that the spoken words do not suggest *bodder* or *bother*. Wedgwood would identify the word with *bother*: could *bother* be an Anglo-Irish corruption of the latter?]

† 1. *trans.* To bewilder with noise; to confuse, muddle; to put into a fluster or flutter. *Obs.*

1718 T. SHERIDAN *To Swift in Swift's Wks.* (1824) XV. 107 With the din of which tube my head you so bother. 1823-53 *Whistle-Bunkie* (Sc. Songs) Ser. 1. 22 The hearts of the maids, and the gentlemen's heads, were bother'd, I'm sure, by this Irishman.

2. *trans.* To give trouble to; to pester, annoy, worry. Also *refl.*, and in phrase *to bother one's head, one's brains*: to trouble oneself with thinking.

a. 1745 *SWIFT Dial. Hibern. Style Wks.* VII. 156 Lord I was bodder'd o'ther day with that prating fool Tom. 1753 *Dial. betw. Swift & Prior* 123 You boddered me enough with many of these Articles, already. 1762 *STERNE Lett.* in *Trails Sterne* vi. 81 Civility thus uniform wearies and boddies me to death. 1768 *FOOTE Devil on Sticks* iii, Don't let him bother us, with his yea and nay nonsense. 1825 E. FORBES *Lett.* in *Wilson & Geikie Life* xiv. 506 A point that has bothered Prestwich, D'Archiac, and Dumont. 1876 *JOAQUIN MILLER Songs Italy* 127 Whether you bother your brain or no.

b. In the imperative (logically 3rd pers. sing. with implied subject after analogy of verbs of cursing) as a mild imprecation; also *bother it!* and *absol. bother!* as an exclamation indicating annoyance (confused with the sb.; cf. *BOTHERATION*).

1830 MRS. STOWE *Uncle Tom's C.* xxi. 215 Oh, bother! don't plague me, Emily! 1855 *THACKERAY Rose & King* xvi. (1866) 106 'Bother your album!' says Bulbo. 1877 *FRASER'S Mag.* Oct. *Clericality*, Bother the parson!

3. *intr.* and *absol.* To give trouble to others or to oneself; to make a fuss; to be troublesome.

a. 1774 *FERGUSON Election Poems* (1845) 42 Lang's their debatin' thereabout, About protests they're bauthin'. 1787 *WOLCOTT (P. Pindar) Ode 1400 Ode Wks.* 1794 I. 417 If musicians miss but half a bar, Just like an Irishman she starts to bother. 1850 *CARLYLE Lett.-d. Pamph.* vii, Make money; and don't bother about the Universe. 1863 *HAWTHORNE Pilgr. Boston in Old Home* (1879) 178 We bothered a good while about getting through a . . . lock. 1863 *KINGSLEY Water-Bab.* iii. 119 To prevent the Cythrawl Sassenach from coming bothering into Wales.

† 4. *intr.* and *trans.* (?) To blarney, to 'humbug'.

1803 *BRISTED Pedest. Tour* I. 101 Sufficient documents to enable me to bother about it, so that I could not easily be detected. *Ibid.* 152 As . . . Cowan . . . would be less likely to be convicted of some unfortunate blunder . . . than myself, I desired him to go down and bother them well.

Bother (bɒðər), *sb.* [f. prec. vb.]

† 1. (?) Blarney, humbug, palaver. *Obs.* Cf. *BOTHER v.* 4, *BOTHERING*.

1803 *BRISTED Pedest. Tour* I. 267 Among an ignorant . . . peasantry the botherer must consist of coarse and rude flattery laid on with a trowel. 1825 *HONE Slog at Slog Flaccitas* 24 In wishing that the Press should be securely chained, the Members of this Society have no desire to limit their own bother.

2. Petty trouble, worry; disturbance, 'fuss'.

1834 M. SCOTT *Cruise Midge* (1859) 283 We had a little bother with him at first. 1846 B. BARTON *Selections* (1849) 43 Without more putter and bother than the thing is worth. 1852 *THACKERAY Esmond* iii. l. (1876) 277 The right divine, about which Dr. Sacheverel and the High Church party in England were just now making a bother. a. 1884 *PRESS ALICE Mem.* 147 Mountain air Weber wants me to have, and quiet, away from all bothers.

Botheration (bɒðərɪˈʃən), *colloq.* Formerly also *bodderation*. [f. prec. + -ATION.] The act of bothering; petty vexation or annoyance; often used as an exclamation.

1801 *SOUTHEY in Life* (1850) II. 138, I would fairly see it out, and witness the whole bodderation. 1824 J. CHALMERS *Lett.* in *Life Chalmers* I. 452 Formal visits and complimentary calls, and invitations and botherations of all sorts. 1819 *ABELLARD & Hel.* 18 As Pat says, Sure 'tis bodderation. 1850 *CARLYLE Lett.-d. Pamph.* ii. 7, I for my own part, so left with paper and ink, and all taxes and botherations shut out from me. 1861 *Crt. Life at Naples* 80 'Botheration!' was the muttered reply. 1867 G. MEREDITH *R. Feverel* xxiv. (1885) 183 The pipe that alayeth botheration.

Bother-headed (bɒðərˈhɛdɪd), *ppl. a.* [f. *BOTHER sb.* + -HEADED.] Muddle-headed, stupid. Hence *Bother-headedness*.

1872 *LYTTON Parisians* iv. vi, I . . . am awfully bother-headed. 1876 *FRASER'S Mag.* XIII. 546 Most Botherian bother-headedness.

Bothering (bɒðərɪŋ), *vbl. sb.* [f. *BOTHER v.*]

† a. (?) Palavering, 'humbugging'. *Obs. rare.*

b. Giving or taking trouble, worrying, perplexing. 1803 *BRISTED Pedest. Tour* I. 76 The art and mystery of bothering, whose chief efficacy resides in a facility of talking an infinite deal of nothing with readiness and volubility. 1806 W. TAYLOR *Month. Mag.* XXII. 536 It [ambiguity] is a learned word for what the English call bothering, which is derived from *both*. 1884 E. GURNEY in *Mind* Jan. 120 Any sort of argument or bothering.

Bothering, *ppl. a.* [f. as prec. + -ING².] Troubling, annoying, worrying.

1821 *CLARE Vill. Minstr.* I. 122 The bothering bustle of the wind. 1873 M. PATTISON *Casanova* 103 Trifling talk, but very bothering.

Botherment (bɒðərɪmənt), *colloq.* [f. as prec. + -MENT.] = *BOTHER sb.* 2.

a. 1851 J. COOPER (Stratm.) 'T'would be a botherment to a living soul to lose so much money. 1854 *Blackw. Mag.* LXXV. 11 They had abundant botherments upon the road. 1855 *Whitby Gloss.*, *Botherments*, troubles, difficulties.

Bothersome (bɒðərɪsəm), *a.* [f. as prec. + -SOME.] Troublesome, annoying.

1834 M. SCOTT *Cruise Midge* (1863) 61 It was rather a bothersome matter to navigate between the rows of them. 1850 *DE MORGAN Lett. in Mem.* (1862) 209 And so Logical Systems are bothersome.

Botheum, -om, -on, obs. forms of *BUTTON*.

Bothome, obs. form of *BOTTOM*.

Bothrenchyma (bɒθrɛnˈkɪmə), *Bot.* Also *bothrenchym.* [f. Gr. *bōthron* pit + *chyma* infusion: cf. *PAENCHYMA*.] Pitted tissue; tissue consisting of pitted vessels. Hence *Bothrenchymatous* (-kɪˈmætoʊs), *a.*

1835 *LINDLEY Intrud. Bot.* (1848) I. 56 Pitted Tissue, or Bothrenchym. *Ibid.* 184 Bothrenchymatous and vascular tissue. 1870 *BENTLEY Bot.* 40 Pitted or Dotted Vessels constitute by their combination Pitted Tissue. . . Bothrenchyma.

Bothul, obs. form of *BUDDLE*, corn-marigold.

Bothum, *bothun*, obs. forms of *BUTTON*.

Bothy, *bothie* (bɒði). *Sc.* Also 8 *bothay*. [Of uncertain history: Irish and Gaelic have *both* 'hut' (dim. *bothan*), and Gael. has dim. *bothag*; but as the *th* in Gael. has been mute for many centuries, it is not easy to see how these could have given *bothy*. Cf. *BOOTH*.]

1. A hut or cottage; *spec.* a building consisting of one room in which the unmarried men servants on a farm are lodged together, or in which masons, quarrymen, etc. lodge together. (Bothies of women have also been recently tried, as a substitute for the 'Bondage' system.)

[1570-87 *HOLINSHED Scot. Chron.* (1806) I. 19 Artan otherwise called Botha after St. Brannons time who dwelled there in a little cottage which (as all other the like were in those daies) was called Botha.] 1771 *PENNANT Tour in Scotl.* (1790) 124 A Sheelin or Bothay, a cottage made of turf. 1824 H. MILLER *Sch. & Schm.* ix. (1857) 174 The sort of life that is spent in bothies and barracks. 1876 *GRANT Burgh Sch. Scot.* ii. xv. 511 note, The children came . . . to attend school in a small bothy.

2. *attrib.*, as in *bothy-life*, -man, -system (in reference to farm bothies).

1854 H. MILLER *Sch. & Schm.* ix. 192 The influences of . . . the barrack, or rather bothy life. *Ibid.* (1858) 239 Ninety-nine out of every hundred of our bothy-men. *Ibid.* xi, What has since been extensively known as the bothy system.

Hence *Bothyism*, the farm-bothy system.

1864 *Cornh. Mag.* Nov. 618 Looking only at what may be called well-regulated bothyism, it is difficult to conceive how such a system can be defended.

† *Botillage*. *Obs. rare*—1. [a. F. *bottelage*, f. *bottel-er* to put up in bundles. Cf. *BOTTLE sb.* 3.] The act of tying up in 'bottles' or bundles.

1576 in *Nichols Progr. Q. Elis.* II. 48 Measuring, carriage, and bottillage of wheat.

Botken, -kin, obs. forms of *BODKIN*.

Botlere, *botles* (se), obs. ff. *BUTLER*, *BOOTLESS*.

Botling (bɒtlɪŋ). Also *bottlin* (g). [cf. *Du. bot stumpy*.] The fish called chub or chevin (*Cyprinus cephalus*).

a. 1613 J. D[ENNYS] *Secr. Angling* in *Arb. Garner* (1877) I. 175 The peel, the tweat, the botling, and the rest. 1653 T. BARKER *Art Angling*, It [salmon-roe] is a special bait for dace or dace, good for chubb, or bottlin, or grayling. 1833 J. RENNIE *Alph. Angling* 105 The chub, chevin, or bottling neither affords good sport to the angler nor a good dish.

Botme, *botom*, obs. forms of *BOTTOM*.

† *Botment*. *Obs. rare*. [f. *bot*, *BOOT sb.* 1 + -MENT. (The later form would have been *bootment*.)] Amendment, remedy.

c. 1440 *York Myst.* xix. 90 þer may no botment be.

Botoné, -e, -y (bɒˈtɒne, -i). *Her.* Also 7 *botony*, 8 *botonny*. [a. OF. *botoné*, mod. F. *boutonné* covered with buds.] Having an ornament of three knobs or bud-like projections resembling a trefoil leaf; hence sometimes called *trefoiled* or *treffled*.

1572 *BOSSWELL Armorie* ii. 64 b, S. beareth Sable, two Delphines d'Argent . . . between six Crosses Botony. 1760 *PORNY Heraldry* (1777) Gloss., *Botony*. 1807 *Gentl. Mag.* XCIII. ii. 533 A cross botoné. 1864 *BOUTELL Heraldry Hist. & Pop.* xv. i. ed. 3 182 The crosslets are botoné.

† *Botorescle*. *Obs. rare*—1. [f. Cf. F. *bouterolle* scabbard tag.]

1463 *Bury Wills* (1850) 41, I beqwe the to William Lawshull my botorescle set in gold with nedil werk.

Botoume, obs. form of **BOTTOM**.

† **Botorio**. Obs. rare⁻¹. ? = It. *bottaccio* cask. 1688 R. HAWKINS *Voy. S. Sea* (1847) 150 Five hundred botorios of wine.

† **Botraile**. Obs. rare⁻¹. Meaning uncertain: can it be an early form of **BUTRESS**? cf. next.

c 1430 LYDG. *Min. Poems* (1840) 170 Paterfamilias, wise and expert... Shuldesette botraile atweyne derk and lighte.

Botreaux, **botreulx**, obs. forms of **BUTRESS**. 1559 NEWTON *Cicero's Old Age* 46 a. The strong botreaux of the Romaine people. 1552 HULOET, Botreulx or butrese of a brycke wall.

Bo-tree (bō'trī). [f. Singalese *bo*, corruption of Pāli *bodhi* (Skr. *bodhi*) the bo-tree, more fully called *bodhi-taru*, f. *bodhi* 'perfect knowledge', *taru* 'tree'; it having been under such a tree that Gautama attained the enlightenment which constituted him 'the Buddha'. In Singalese *Bogaha* (gaha a tree).] The *ficus religiosa* or pipal tree, specifically allied to the Banyan.

[1681 R. KNOX *Hist. Ceylon* 18 This tree they call Bogah; we the God-Tree.] 1862 Mrs. SPREID *Last Years Ind.* 276 The Banyan, par excellence, sometimes called the Bo-tree, is the specially sacred tree of the Buddhists. 1871 ALABASTER *Wheel of Law* 20 note, This Bo or Bodhi tree is the tree under which Buddha attained to omniscience.

† **Botryform**, a. Obs. rare. [f. Gr. *Botry-* bunch of grapes + *-form*] = **BOTRYOIDAL**.

1805 T. WEAVER *lt. Werner's Fossils* 84 Rounded particular forms, as botryform, globular, kidney-form. 1806 *Ann. Rev.* IV. 889. Fistuliform and botryform, are less proper than the received... fistuliform, and botryoidal.

Botrycymose (bō'trī-sīmō's), a. Bot. [f. Gr. *Botry-* cluster of grapes + *-cymose*] See quot.

1880 GRAY *Bot. Text-bk.* 309 *Botrycymose*, Racemes or any botryose clusters cymosely aggregated.

Botrylle (bō'trī-lē). Zool. rare. [ad. mod. L. *botryllus*, as if ad. Gr. *βότρυλλος*, dim. of *βότρυς* cluster of grapes.] A genus of tunicate molluscs, giving its name to the family *Botryllidae*. The Lat. name is usually adopted unchanged. Hence

Botryllian a., belonging to the family *Botryllidae*.

1835 KIRBY *Hab. & Inst. Anim.* I. vii. 219 Sometimes they are parasitic: thus a species of botrylle envelopes, like a cloak, certain ascidians. 1849-52 TODD *Cycl. Anat. & Phys.* IV. 1208/2 The botryllian group of Tunicates.

Botryoid (bō'trī-oid), a. [ad. Gr. *βότρυοειδής*, f. *βότρυς* cluster of grapes: see -OID.] Resembling a cluster of grapes.

1747 MORTIMER in *Phil. Trans.* XLIV. 432 Smooth polished knobs, in form like to the botryoid Iron Ore.

Botryoidal (bō'trī-oidāl), a. = prec.

1836 CLEAVELAND *Min.* 544 Earthy arseniate of cobalt... occurs in crusts, which are sometimes reniform or botryoidal. 1841 TRIMMER *Fract. Geol.* 74 Minerals presenting an aggregation of large sections of small globes are called botryoidal.

Botryolite (bō'trī-olīt), *Min.* [f. as prec. + *-lite* stone: see -LITE.] See quot.

1850 DANA *Geol.* xv. 605 Datholite... presenting the radiated spheroidal forms of the variety botryolite. 1854 W. PHILLIPS *Min.* (Brooks and Miller) 411 Botryolite... is merely an amorphous variety of datholite.

Botryose (bō'trī-ō's), a. Bot. [f. as prec. + -OSE.] Bearing flowers in clusters or racemes, which develop successively from the base upward.

1880 GRAY *Struct. Bot.* v. 144 note, The kinds of Inflorescence are all reducible to two types... the Indeterminate and Determinate... Also named by Eichler the Cymose and Botryose types.

Botte, obs. form of **BOAT**, **BOOT**.

† **Botte**. Obs. or dial. † A brand or marking on sheep.

1641 BEST *Farm. Bks.* (1856) 12 The manner is to give lambs a tarre marke before they goe to the field, and our usual way is to give them only the botte on the farre buttocke, and sometimes to run the edge of the botte downe the neare liske.

† **Bottebolt**, var. of *butt-bolt*: see **BUTT** sb.

|| **Bottekin** (bō'tēkin). [cf. OF. *bottekin* (*botekin*) 'dimin. de botte' (Godf.).] A kind of small fancy boot. Cf. **BOOTIKIN**.

1882 *Standard* 19 Sept. 5/1 We live in a time of tight-lacing, high heels, and bottekins.

Bottelle, obs. form of **BOTTLE**.

Bottine (bō'tīn). Also 6 Sc. *botyn* (e). [a. F. *bottine*, dim. of *botte* boot. Adopted in Sc. in 16th c., and independently in Eng. in 19th.]

1. A buskin, a large boot partly covering the leg. 1513 DOUGLAS *Æneis* I. vi. 57 With rede botynis on their schankis hie. 1884 J. G. BOURKE *Snake Dance* I. 4 The women in the Pueblos north of Santa Fé... wear a bottine, or legging, shaped somewhat like a Wellington boot.

2. A light kind of boot worn by ladies and children, a half-boot.

1856 *Illustr. Lond. News* 2 June 546 The fashionable bottines have merely the toes of leather, the remainder of the boot being of some thin textile fabric. 1876 GEO. ELIOT *Dan. Der.* 367 Some white gloves and some new bottines.

† **Botle**, sb. 1 Obs. Forms: 1 botl, 2-3 buttle, (Orm.) bottl, 4- bottle. [OE. *botl*, corresp. to OS. *botl*, OFris. *botel*, ON. *bōtl* (:-*bōtl*) :- O'Leut. **boplo-*, from *bu-*, *bo-* 'dwell', with instrumental

suffix -*plo* = -*pro* (Gr. *-πλο-*, -*πο-*). Cf. **BOLD** sb. 1] A dwelling, habitation, building.

c 1000 *Agg. Gosp.* St. Matt. xxvi. 3 Ða wæron zesamnode þa ealdras þæra sacerda... to þæra sacerda botle. c 1105 *Gloss.* in Wr. Wülcker 552 *Palatium*, kinelic botl. a 1200 *Trin. Coll. Hom.* 185 Elich bilefful man þe is þider iboden shal finden þære his buttle. c 1200 ORMIN 2788 þe lafdij Marje comm Till Zacarijess botle.

[In place-names, as *Harbottle*, *Newbottle*, *Morbottle*.]

Bottle (bō'tl), sb. 2 Forms: 4 botel, 5 bottelle, bottill, botyll, 5-6 botell(e, bottell, 6-7 bottle, bottel, 6- bottle. [a. OF. *bouteille*, also *botel*, common Romanic = It. *bottiglia*, Sp. *botella*, Pg. *botelha* :- late L. *buticula*, dim. of late L. *butis*, *buttis* vessel, BUTT.]

1. A vessel with a narrow neck for holding liquids, now usually made of glass; originally of leather.

c 1375 WYCLIF *Serm.* Sel. Wks. II. 147 Pes newe hoolis, þat ben maad in oold botelis. c 1380 *Sir Ferumb.* 510 3under at my sadel boje hongep o botel. Ful of baume. 1436 E. E. Wills (1882) 108 A pere of bottell of siluer. a 1559 SKELTON *C. Clout* 65a Ye were wonte to drynke Of a lether bottell. 1611 BIBLE Jer. xix. 1 Goe and get a potters earthen bottell. 1716 ADDISON *Freeholder* No. 34. Boisterous Clubs, that... throw Bottles at one another's Heads. 1836 DICKENS *Pickw.* vii. Bottles, glasses, and dessert were placed on the table.

2. The quantity (of liquor) which a bottle can hold, a bottleful. Cf. **CUP**, **GLASS**. Often attrib. (preceded by a numeral), as a three-bottle man: i.e. who drinks three bottles of wine at a sitting.

1687 (MONTAGUE & PRIOR) *Hind & P. Transv.* 2 [We] never trouble our heads with National concerns, till the third bottle has taught us as much of Politics, as the next does of Religion? 1751 CARLYLE in Ramsay *Remin.* iii. (ed. 1864) Being a five-bottle man, he could lay them all under the table. 1791 BOSWELL *Johnson* 99 Port wine, of which he then sometimes drank a bottle. 1812 L. HUNT in *Examiner* 11 May 189/1 Six-bottle Ministers and pleni-tudinous Aldermen. 1821 BYRON in Moore *Life* xli. 472.

3. fig. in phrases of Biblical origin (after *Job* xxxviii. 37, *Matt.* ix. 17).

1560 BIBLE (*Geneva*) *Job* xxxviii. 37 Who can cause to cease the bottles of heaven? 1599 Broughton's *Lett.* iii. 13 The bottles of the cloudes, as Job calleth them. 1635 SWAN *Spec. M.* iv. § 2 (1643) 58 The aire is often clear, and those bottles of rain are not always there. 1651 HOBBS *Leviath.* iv. xlv. 366 These old empty Bottles of Gentilism. a 1677 BARROW *Serm.* Wks. 1716 II. 72 The wide seas... supplying the bottles of heaven with water.

4. To pass the bottle of smoke: to give countenance to a conventional falsehood; to cant.

1855 DICKENS *Dorrit* I. xxiv. To help myself in my turn, and pass the bottle of smoke. *Ibid.* To keep up the pretence as a labour and study, and patience... and all the rest of it—in short, to pass the bottle of smoke, according to rule.

5. To bring up on the bottle: said of an infant reared by means of a feeding-bottle instead of at its mother's breast.

2. *transf.* The practice of drinking. *Over a (the) bottle*: while drinking; at the wine: see **OVER**.

1709 STEELE *Tatler* No. 2 ¶ 1 My Spark flies to the Bottle for Relief. 1762-71 H. WALPOLE *Vertue's Anecd. Paint.* (1786) III. 240 Most of his performances were produced over a bottle. 1848 MACAULAY *Hist. Eng.* II. 258 A dull man whose chief pleasures were derived from his dinner and his bottle. attrib. 1712 ADDISON *Spect.* No. 507 ¶ 2 Our bottle conversation is so infected with them, that, etc.

† 3. Something resembling a bottle; as: the seed-vessel of a plant, the honey-bag of a bee. Obs.

1609 C. BUTLER *Fem. Mon.* vi. (1623) O ij, The Nectar or liquid hony the Bees gather with their tongues, whence they let it downe into their bottles which are within them like unto bladders. 1616 SURFL. & MARKH. *Countr. Farm* 499 The cocke heads, bells, or bottells which beare the seeds.

4. Comb. and attrib., as (sense 1) † *bottle-ale* (also attrib.), † *beer*, *belly*, *case*, † *cider*, *conjuror*, *cork*, † *drink*, *fauet*, *filter*, *maker*, *rinsing*, *room*, *stand*, *stopper*, *works*; (sense 2) *bottle-bravery*, *companion*, *friend*, *swagger*, *talk*; also *bottle-bellied*, *-like* adjs.

1586 WEBBE *Eng. Poetrie* (Arb.) 37 A Booke in Ryme... in commendations of Copper noses or *Bottle Ale. 1597 SHAKS. 2 *Hen. IV.* II. iv. 140 Away you Bottle-Ale Rascall. 1641 FRENCH *Distill.* v. (1651) 122 It will tast as quick as *bottle beer. 1820 W. IRVING *Sketch-bk.*, *J. Bull* (D.) Some cholerick, *bottle-bellied old spider. 1807 SOUTHEY *Es-friella's Lett.* (1814) II. 203 A... thick-headed fellow, with a *bottle belly and a bulbous nose. 1830 GALT *Laurie T.* VI. viii. (1849) 290 His fits of *bottle-bravery. 1712 ADDISON *Spect.* No. 89 ¶ 1 Sam... is a very good *Bottle-Companion.

1755 *Gentl. Mag.* XXV. 65 *Bottle-conjurors, and persons who will jump down their own throats. 1791 *Chron.* in *Ann. Reg.* 6/4 He carried home all the *bottle-corks he could come at. 1683 TRYON *Way to Health* 164 All such *Bottle-Drinks are infected with a yeasty furious foaming matter. 1849-52 TODD *Cycl. Anat. & Phys.* IV. 1193/1 The *bottle-like form of the Ascidia. 1883 *Act 1 Rich. III.* xii. § 1 Weavers, Horners, *Bottle-makers, and Copper-smiths. 1712 *Customs' Notice* in *Lond. Gaz.* No. 4862/5 Bottle-makers, and other Dealers in... Skins. 1695 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 3114/4 Glass Works, Stone and Earthen *Bottle Works.

5. Special comb.: † *bottle-bearer*, one who carries a bottle, a butler (cf. *cup-bearer*); *bottle-boot*, 'a leather case to hold a bottle while corking' (Ogilvie); *bottle-boy*, an apothecary's assistant; *bottle-charger*, an apparatus for charging bottles with a liquid under pressure; *bottle-chart*, a chart of ocean surface currents

compiled from data obtained by means of bottles thrown from ships and subsequently picked up at a distance; † *bottle-clay*, clay of which earthenware bottles were made; † *bottle-coaster*, a stand on which decanters were passed round the table; *bottle-drainer*, a frame in which inverted bottles are placed to drain; † *bottle-dropsy*, dropsy affecting the abdomen only; *bottle-feeding* *vbl. sb.*, feeding (e.g. of infants) by means of a bottle; *bottle-fish*, the *Saccopharynx ampullaceus*, a fish which can inflate its body so as to resemble a leathern bottle; *bottle-glass*, a bottle-shaped glass (obs.); the coarse kind of glass of which common bottles are made; also attrib.; *bottle-gourd*, a kind of flask-shaped gourd (*Lagenaria vulgaris*); *bottle-green* a., of a dark green colour, like bottle-glass; as *sb.* this colour; *bottle-heath*, bell-heather (*Erica tetralix*); *bottle-house*, a building in which bottle-glass is made; *bottle-imp*, an imaginary imp inhabiting a bottle; *bottle-jack*, a jack for roasting meat, shaped like a bottle; † *bottle-man*, a servant or official who has charge of bottles; *bottle-nest* (= *bottle-tit*); *bottle-ore*, a kind of sea-weed (bladder-wrack, *Fucus vesiculosus*); † *bottle-pear*, a kind of pear so called from its shape; *bottle-rack* (= *bottle-drainer*); † *bottle-screw*, a corkscrew; † *bottle-slender*, -slide, a tray for a decanter (= *bottle-coaster*); *bottle-stone*, a variety of obsidian; *bottle-stoop* (*Med.*), a block of wood with a groove on the upper surface, so sloped that the contents of a bottle placed upon it may be easily removed with a knife in dispensing; *bottle-tit*, *bottle-tom*, the Long-tailed Tit (*Parus caudatus*), from the shape of its nest; *bottle-track*, the track taken in the ocean by a bottle thrown overboard at a given point; cf. *bottle-chart*; *bottle-washer*, one who or a machine which washes bottles; also (*humorous*) one who looks after affairs, a factotum. Also **BOTTLE-BRUSH**, etc.

1580 HOLLYBAND *Treas. Fr. Tong.* Vn *sommelier*, a *bottle bearer. 1656 TRAPP *Comm. Matt.* ix. 17 Certain heretics called... bottle-bearers, because they bare a bottle on their backs. 1857 KINGSLEY *Two Y. Ago* I. (D.) He... fulfilled the ideal of a *bottle-boy. 1679 PLOT *Staffordsh.* (1686) 122 *Bottle clay, of a bright whitish streaked yellow colour. 1801 MAR. EDGEMORTH *Belinda* v. Their father pushing them on together, like two decanters in a *bottle-coaster. — *Angelina* iii, Angelina's letter was... found in a *bottle-drainer. 1562 TURNER *Baths* 3 The *bottle dropsey which is about the stomack. c 1805 *Circ. Sc. I.* 362/1 *Bottle-feeding will be preferable to the employment of a wet-nurse. 1626 BACON *Sylva* § 213 Take therefore a Hawks-Bell... and hang it by a thred within a *Bottle-Glass. 1702 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 3821/8 A Round Bottle-Glass-House 94 Foot High, and 60 Foot broad. 1765 DELAVAL in *Phil. Trans.* LV. 24 Several pieces of green bottle glass. 1875 *URE Dict. Arts* II. 651 The coarsest and simplest form of this manufacture is bottle-glass. 1861 MISS PRATT *Flower Pl.* II. 309 The *bottle-gourds (*Lagenaria*)... being shaped like flasks. 1816 COLERIDGE *Statesm. Man.* (1817) 360 Black, blue, or *bottle-green. 1862 *Enquire Within* 112 From the darkest bottle-green... to the lightest pea-green. 1863 KINGSLEY *Water-bab.* i. 13 Red fly-catchers, and pink *bottle-heath, and sweet white orchis. 1875 *URE Dict. Arts* II. 652 A *bottle-house has generally eight other furnaces. 1822 DE QUINCEY *Confess.* Wks. I. 106 The letter would poison my very existence, like the *bottle-imp. 1869 CURZON *Visit Monast.* 283 Twisting round and round like a leg of mutton hanging to a *bottle jack. 1630 J. TAYLOR (Water P.) *Farrev. Tower bottles*. Each *Bottleman (but I) Had always a crack'd crowne or a black eye. 1634 *Althorp MS.* in *Simpkinson Washingtons* Introd. 19 To the porters musicians and bottle-men for their rewards. 1756 W. BORLASE *Observ. State Scilly Isl.* 120 The gross *Bottle-ore, which has hollow nobs or pustules in it, is reckoned to make the best kelp. 1601 HOLLAND *Pliny* I. 439 Peares take their name... of the forme of their neck, as the *Bottle-peares. 1846 *French Dom. Cookery* 323 Rinse them (bottles) as they become empty, and invert them on the *bottle-rack. 1702 *Phil. Trans.* XXIII. 1367 A close spiral revolution like the Worm of a *Bottle Screw. 1765 *Lounger* No. 86 As harmless as e'er a *bottle-slider at the table. 1815 SCOTT *Guy R.* xxxvi. His head crowned with a bottle-slider, his eye leering with an expression betwixt fun and the effects of wine. 1851 MAYHEW *Lond. Labour* II. 72 The *Bottle-tit... has a long hanging nest like a bottle. 1865 *Derby Mercury* 1 Mar. Thoroughly cleaned by the steam *bottle-washer. *Mod. colloq.* Head cook and bottle-washer of the establishment.

Bottle (bō'tl), sb. 3 Forms: 4-6 botel, 5 bottelle, 5-6 bottell(e, 6 botel, 6-7 bottell, 7 bottle, 6- bottle. [a. OF. *botel*, dim. of **bot*, masc. form = *botte* bundle.]

1. A bundle of hay or straw: now somewhat local in use. To look for a needle in a bottle of hay: to engage in a hopeless search. Cf. *Needle in a haystack*.

c 1386 CHAUCER *Manc. Prol.* 14 Al-though it be nat worth a Botel hey. c 1485 *Digby Myst.* (1882) II. 85 A peck of otyas and a bottell of haye. 1530 PALSGR. 620 He is above in the haye lofte makynge botelles. 1598 *Scotter Manor Roll* in *Peacock N. Linc. Gloss.* (E. D. S.) s.v., No man shall gett anie bottells of fures [i.e. furze]. 1592 GREENE *Upst. Courtier* (1871) 4 b, He... gropeth in the dark to find a needle in a bottle of hay. 1617 in *Hearne Coll.* (1885) I. 53 Hay being 20s. a load, the Penny Bottle ought to wey

314. 1798 D. GRAHAM *Wks.* II. 120 Shaking down two bottles of straw. a 1845 Hood *Lost Heir* II. A child as is lost about London streets... is a needle in a bottle of hay.

2. Bottle-horse, a horse for carrying bundles or packages, a pack-horse.

1461-83 *Ord. R. Househ.* 75 This office [of Sellar] hath a sumpter-man and horse, and also a bottle-horse. 1469 *Ibid.* (1790) 97 Item, A mail horse and a bottel horse.

Bottle (bɒt'l), *sb.* *Bot.* [Partly corruption of *bopel*, BUDDLE; partly a special use of BOTTLE *sb.* 1, from the shape of the ovary or calyx in some of the plants so named.] The popular name of several plants, chiefly with adj. denoting colour, as BLUE-BOTTLE, *q.v.*; White Bottle, *Silene inflata*; Yellow Bottle, *Chrysanthemum segetum* (= BUDDLE); Bottle of all sorts, the *Pulmonaria officinalis* 'no doubt in allusion to the flowers of two different colours'. See Britten and Holland.

1573 TUSSEY *Husb.* (1878) 95 Herbes, branches, and flowers, for windowes and pots. Bottles, blew, red and tawnie. 1633 Gerard's *Herbal* II. ccli. 734 The Violet-coloured Bottle or Corne-floure.

Bottle, *sb.* *Obs.* Corruption of BOLTLE. 1660 BLOOME *Archit.* A. a. *Astragalus*, a bottle and fillet. *Echinus*, a bottle cut with edges. *Torus*, any bottle.

Bottle (bɒt'l), *v.* 1 [f. BOTTLE *sb.* 2]

1. *trans.* To put into a bottle for the purpose of storing or keeping. Often with *up*. To bottle off: to transfer (liquors) from the cask into bottles.

1641 FRENCH *Distill.* v. (1651) 122 Let it stand a week, and then bottle it up. 1650 H. MORE in *Enthus. Triumph.* (1656) 111 How so subtil a thing as this Anima is can be either barre'd up, or bottled up, or tied up in a bag, etc. 1769 Mrs. RAFFALD *Eng. Househ.* (1778) 321 Let it stand seven weeks, then bottle it. 1807 SOUTHEY *Esperilla's Lett.* (1814) III. 272 You might as reasonably attempt to dissect a bubble, or to bottle moonshine. 1888a Garden 18 Mar. 183/3 Keeping Grapes after they are bottled. 1885 H. CONWAY *Fam. Affair* ix. 70 They were very busy bottling off a quarter cask of sherry.

2. *fig.* To store up as in bottles; to keep under restraint (anger or other feelings); to shut up, in, down, out.

1682 T. SCOTT *Belg. Pismire* 53 Vapours... bottled vp in cloudes. a 1711 KEN *Anodynes* Poet. *Wks.* 1721 III. 429 He... Bottles my Tears, accepts my Prayers. 1853 H. DRUMMOND in *Croaker Papers* (1884) III. xxviii. 268 Twenty years of wrath bottled up. 1854 H. MILLER *Sch. & Schm.* xxii. 486 To anticipate the process of being ourselves bottled in, by bottling the country out. 1865 *Sat. Rev.* 7 Jan. 23/1 To catch and bottle up his now evaporated 'Spirit of the East'.

Bottle, *v.* 2 ? *dialect.* [f. BOTTLE *sb.* 3: cf. F. *botteler*.] To make up (hay) into bottles.

1611 COTGR., *Boteler*, to bottle or bundle vp. 1653 URQUHART *Rabelais* i. xxiv. They... did recreate themselves in bottling up of hay.

Bottle-brush. [f. BOTTLE *sb.* 2 + BRUSH.]

1. A brush for cleaning bottles, with bristles diverging on all sides from a central stem.

1713 DERHAM *Phys. Theol.* 190 note, Antennæ; plain in the Female (Gnat), in the Male feathered, somewhat like a Bottle-brush. 1883 *Leisure Ho.* 473/1 Suggestive of gigantic feather-brushes, or rather bottle-brushes.

2. *Bot.* The popular name of the Horse-tail (*Equisetum*) and Mare's-tail (*Hippuris vulgaris*), from their shape. b. Also applied to an Australian shrub, the *Banksia marginata* (Rhind's *Veg. Kingd.* 1874, 711), and to the *Metrosideros floribunda* (The Garden 10 June (1882) 417/3).

3. *attrib.* and in *comb.*

1851 *Q. Rev.* Dec. 40 Bottle-brush-flowered, zigzag-leaved, grey-tinted, odd-looking things. 1885 LADY BRASSEY *The Trades* 265 The... *Entada scandens*... bears an insignificant yellow, bottle-brush, acacia-like flower.

Bottlebump, *dial. var.* BUTTERBUMP, bittern.

'So called on our east coast.' SMYTH *Sailor's Word-bk.*

Bottled (bɒt'ld), *pp.* a. [f. BOTTLE *sb.* 2 and *v.* 1]

† 1. Resembling a bottle, protuberant, swollen.

1594 SHAKS. *Rich.* III. i. iii. 242 Why strew'st thou Sugar on the Bottled Spider, Whose deadly Web ensnareth thee about? 1768 TUCKER *Lt. Nat.* I. 448, I... saw a black bottled spider as big as myself. 1768 WALES in *Phil. Trans.* LX. 109 Their noses small, and... what is generally termed bottled. 1769 FALCONER *Dict. Marine* (1789) C ciii b. The chambers of mortars... are spherical... conical, bottled or concave.

2. Kept or corked up in a bottle.

1660 Boyle *New Exp. Phys.-Mech.* xxviii. 217 A Vessel full of bottl'd drink. 1666 FULLER *Worthies* II. 115 This is believed... the Original of bottled-Ale in England. 1769 Mrs. RAFFALD *Eng. Househ.* (1778) 359 Any kind of bottled fruit. 1809 SOUTHEY *Sir T. More* II. 345 Brisk reputations, indeed, are like bottled twopenny, or pop. 1837 MARRYAT *Dog-Fiend* xlviii. Give them some bottled beer.

3. *fig.* Kept under restraint, pent up.

1840 Hood *Up Rhine* 45 One with whom he could pour out his bottled-up grievances. 1853 C. BRONTË *Villette* xvii. He fumed like a bottled storm.

Bottled (bɒt'ld), *pp.* a. [f. BOTTLE *sb.* 2 + -FUL.] As much as a bottle will contain.

c 1865 in *Circ.* Sc. I. 119/1 Collecting a bottleful of the gas.

Bottle-head. [f. as prec. + HEAD.]

† 1. A var. of BEETLE-HEAD (see BEETLE *sb.* 1 3); a stupid fellow. *Obs.* or *arch.*

1654 CAYTON *Fest. Notes*. Is it the custom of your country, you bottle-head, to use knight-errants after this manner? 1815 SCOTT *Guy M.* xlv. But why, for a blind bottlehead, did ye not ask the guineas?

† 2. Some plant. *Obs.*

1713 PETIVER in *Phil. Trans.* XXVIII. 188 Purple Salamanka Bottle-head. Ray 324. 8.

3. The Bottle-nosed Whale (so-called); see BOTTLE-NOSE 2.

1819 REES *Cycl.* s. v., *Bottle-head*, a species of whale.

Hence † Bottle-headed = beetle-headed; 'void of wit'. Grose 1796.

Bottle-holder (bɒt'l'hōldə), [f. as prec. + HOLDER.] One who holds a bottle; *spec.* one who waits on a pugilist at a prize-fight: *fig.* a second, a backer, a supporter.

1753 SMOLLETT *Cl. Fathom* (L.) An old bruiser makes a good bottle-holder. 1816 SCOTT *Antiq.* xxxix, Tutor, dependents, and bottle-holders of every description. 1858 CARLYLE *Frederick* Gt. I. iv. v. 442 His Majesty's bottle-holder in that battle with the Finance Nightmares and Imbroglis.

So Bottle-holding *vbl. sb.*, backing, supporting. 1884 *Pall Mall G.* 5 Apr. 3/1 The Spectator... does a good deal of injudicious bottle-holding for Mr. Chamberlain.

Bottle-nose (bɒt'nōz), Also 6 bytyl- [f. as prec. + NOSE. In sense 1 pronounced and usually written as two words.]

1. A nose resembling a bottle, a swollen nose. (With the form bytyl-nose = beetle-nose, cf. the confusion of bottle-head and beetle-head.)

1547 BOORDE *Brev. Health* cclxxvi. 94 b, There be two kyndes [of polypus], the one is a bytyl nose. 1635 BRERETON *Trav.* (1844) 94 Captain Ragg... famous... for his great bottle nose. 1748 SMOLLETT *Rod. Rand.* i. 1811 BYRON *Hints fr. Hor.* 58 Black eyes, black ringlets, but—a bottle nose!

2. The Bottle-nosed Whale: a name given to several of the Dolphin family, esp. the genus *Hyperoodon*.

1668 T. SMITH *Voy. to Constant.* in *Misc. Curiosa* (1708) III. 15 We saw... several Bottle-noses, fish of about three yards long. 1775 DALRYMPLE in *Phil. Trans.* LXVIII. 397 Some bottle noses, and vast flocks of flying fish. 1807 HOME *ibid.* XCII. 97 The bottle-nose porpoise and large bottle-nose whale. 1854 R. OWEN in *Circ. Sc. Org. Nat.* I. 278 The great bottle-nose or hyperoodon. 1863 KINGSLEY *Water-Bab.* vii. 279 Razor-backs, and bottle-noses.

† 3. A dial. name of the puffin. *Obs.*

1768 RAY *Willughby's Ornith.* 325 The Bird called in South-Wales Gulden head, Bottle-nose and Helegug.

Bottle-nosed, *a.* [f. prec. + -ED.] Having a bottle nose.

1668 Like will to Like in *Hazl. Dods.* III. 311 My dame called thee bottle-nosed knave. 1591 HARRINGTON *Orl. Fur.* XLIII. cxxviii, A Gipsen... blab-lip, beetle-browd, and bottle-nosed. 1863 BUCKLAND *Cur. Nat. Hist.* Ser. II. 325 A bottle-nosed whale... cast ashore from the Thames in 1783. 1865 DICKENS *Mut. Fr.* iii. The bottle-nosed regular customer.

Bottler (bɒtlə), [f. BOTTLE *sb.* 2 and *v.* 1 + -ER.]

† 1. A bottle-maker. *Obs.*

1415 *York Myst.* Intro. 22 Pouchemakers, Botellers, Capmakers.

2. One who bottles liquor.

1878 F. WILLIAMS *Midl. Railw.* 349 The bottling room, where the bottler is at work.

Bottling (bɒtliŋ), *vbl. sb.* [f. BOTTLE *v.* 1 + -ING.] The act of putting into, or keeping in, bottles; *fig.* keeping under restraint. Often with *up*.

1594 PLAT *Divers Chem. Concl.* 14 The bottling uppe of your best Ale. 1666 BACON *Sylva* § 46 You may drink it well after 3 daies Bottling. 1691 SWIFT *Athen. Soc.* *Wks.* 1755 IV. i. 235 An art as vain as bottling up of winds. 1830 M. DONOVAN *Dom. Econ.* I. 309 The bottling of the cider.

Bottlin(g), variant of BOTTLING.

Bottom (bɒtəm). Forms: 1 botm, 3-4 bopem, -om, -um, botham, -em, -um, 5 botym, botme, 5-7 botome, bottom(e, botoume, 6-7 bothom(e, 9 dial. botton, 6- bottom; north. bodome, -dom, -dum, mod.Sc. boddem. [OE. *botm* str. masc., representing WGer. **bopm*-, whence OS. *botom*, OHG. *bodam*, MHG., Du. *bodem*, mod.G. *boden*; the ON. *botn* appears to point to **bopno*- as the OTeut. form; but both may have been OTeut.: cf. Gr. *πυθμῆρ*, also Skr. *budhná*, L. *fundus* (for **fud-nur*) :—Aryan **budhno*-]

The phonology of the Teut. forms is not yet clearly explained; the ME. variants *bopom* *boddom* also present difficulties.]

1. The lowest surface or part of anything.

1. The lowest part of anything, considered as a material thing; the lower or under surface, that surface of a thing on which it stands or rests; the base. Applied *spec.* to the keel of a ship (cf. 7), the circular end of a cask, etc. Proverb, 'Every tub (vat) must stand on its own bottom'.

a 1000 *Cædmon's Satan* 721 (Gr.) Pa he on botme [here helle] stod. c 1050 *Agg. Gloss.* in W. Wülcker *Voc.* 181 *Cimba uel carina*, scipesbotm. 1382 WYCLIF *Wisd.* v. 10 A step is not to finde, ne a path of his [a ship's] botme in the flodis. c 1425 *Seven Sag.* (P.) 809 The credyl botme turnyd on hyghe. c 1450-70 *Bk. Quintessence* 5 Pat be necke of þe glas be turned downward, and þe botom be turned vpward. 1651 HOBBS *Leviath.* III. xxxviii. 242 A pit without a bottoome. 1757 SWIFT *Gulliver* III. i. 180 It appeared to be a firm substance, the bottom flat, smooth and shining. 1768 ROSS *To the Begging* (JAM.), I'll then unto the cobbler And cause him sole my shoon An inch thick i' the boddom. 1769 Mrs. RAFFALD *Eng. Househ.* (1778) 289 Boli your artichoke bottoms in hard water. 1848 MACAULAY *Hist. Eng.* xiii. (1872) III. 38/2 Barrels with the

bottoms knocked out served the purpose of chimneys. *Mod.* A drawer with a false bottom.

b. The sitting part of a man, the posterior, the seat. (Colloq.) Also, the 'seat' of a chair.

1794 E. DARWIN *Zoon.* (1801) III. 253 So as to have his head and shoulders much lower than his bottom. 1835 J. WILSON *Noctes Ambr.* xxxix. (1864) IV. 79 The Dunghill cock... hides his head in a hole... unashamed of the exposure of his enormous bottom. 1837 CARLYLE *Fr. Rev.* II. iv. i. 185 Patriot women take their hazel wands, and fugitate... broad bottom of priests. 1883 *Leisure Ho.* Jan. 47/1 Women and children will be found caning or rushing the 'bottoms'.

2. The ground or bed under the water of a lake, sea, or river. Hence *To go to the bottom*: to sink, founder; to be wrecked.

a 1000 *Beowulf* 3016 Pa heo to botme com. c 1325 *E. E. Allit. P. C.* 144 Pe waves... Durst nowhere for ro3 arest at þe botome. c 1400 MAUNDRELL *xxx.* 300 Men may see the botme of the Sea. c 1460 *Towneley Myst.* go Now... to the botham is it sonken. 1583 STANFURD *Æneis* I. (Arb.) 21 Soom synck to bottooms, sulking thee surges asunder. 1635 N. CARPENTER *Geog. Dict.* III. ix. 149 So great an abundance of water that they can neither find the botome or bounds thereof. 1697 DRYDEN *Virg. Georg.* iv. 618 The Sun... darting to the bottom, bak'd the Mud. 1730 A. GORDON *Maffei's Amphit.* 376 The Bottom is very good anchoring Ground. 1812 J. WILSON *Isle of Palms* II. 22 Down to the bottom must she go With all who wake or sleep. 1881 SHELLEY *Prometh. Unb.* II. ii. 73 The oozy bottom of clear lakes and pools.

b. *To touch bottom*: to reach the lowest point.

To have no bottom: to be unfathomable, inexhaustible, etc. Often *fig.*

1688 SIR T. BROWNE *Chr. Mor.* 63 Forgetting... the vicissitude of good and evil, they apprehend no bottom in felicity. 1806 *Pall Mall G.* 22 Apr. 11/2, I do not believe we have touched bottom; I believe the reduction will go on.

† 3. A deep place, a depth, either in the sea or land; an abyss. *Obs.*

a 1000 *Cædmon's Gen.* 361 (Gr.) He hæfð us befyelled fyres to botme. c 1325 *E. E. Allit. P. B.* 1030 He bode in þat bopem [the Dead Sea] broþerly a monyth. 1611 BIBLE *Wisd.* xvii. 14 The same sleepe... came vpon them out of the bottomes of ineuitable hell. 1667 MILTON *P. L.* vii. 289 So low Down sunk a hollow bottom... Capacious bed of Waters. 1697 DRYDEN *Virg. Georg.* iv. 557 In the Carpathian Bottom makes abode The Shepherd of the Seas. 1703 MAUNDRELL *Journ. Jerus.* (1721) Add. 4 A great... Rock, separated by a great gulph or natural bottom, from the land. 1759 BORLASE in *Phil. Trans.* L. 504 They called to their companions above to be drawn up from the bottoms.

4. a. The bed or basin of a river. b. Low-lying land, a valley, a dell; an alluvial hollow.

c 1325 *E. E. Allit. P. B.* 383 Vch bopem watz brurd-ful to þe bonkez eggez. 1481 *Ripon Ch. Acts* 347 Head-rack Bothome. 1513 DOUGLAS *Æneis* VII. Prol. 57 Bank, bra, and boddom blanshit wolx and bair. 1576 LAMBARDE *Peramb. Kent* (1826) 239 They [streams] all passe in one bottoome to Wie and to Canterbury. 1613 W. BROWNE *Brit. Past.* II. i. (1772) II. 2 Past gloomy bottomes and high-waving woods. 1687 A. LOVELL tr. *Bergerac's Comic. Hist.* I. 177 Do you perceive, said he to me, what bottom we are going down into? 1732 LEDIARD *Sethos* II. ix. 294 This bottom, or inclosure... was about two hundred paces broad. 1803 T. JEFFERSON *Writ.* (1830) III. 504 There are on the borders of the rivers some rich bottoms, formed by the mud brought from the upper country.

5. The lowest part of anything, considered as a place or position in space; the lowest point or locality, the 'foot'. Said both of vertical direction, and of the lowest point, on a slope.

a 1300 *Cursor M.* 1699 In þe bopem [of the ark] sal be na stall For al þeir filth sal þedir fall. c 1340 *Gau. & Gr. Knt.* 2143 Til þou be brogt to be bopem of þe brem valay. 1526 TINDALE *Matt.* xxvii. 51 The vayle of the temple dyd rent in twayne from the toppes to the bottoome 1583 WYCLIF, from the heigest til down; 1588 to the lowest. 1598 SHAKS. *Merry W.* III. v. 13 If the bottoome were as deepe as hell, I shold down. 1664 EVELYN *Kal. Hort.* (1720) 204 Cutting the... Roots a little, especially at bottom. 1833 LYTON *My Novel* III. xxiv. Two cherry trees, standing at the bottom of the Park. 1863 KINGSLEY *Water-bab.* 14 At the bottom of a hill they came to a spring. 1873 MORLEY *Rousseau* I. 296 Rousseau was alone at the bottom of his garden.

b. *fig.* in phr. *From (to) the bottom of the heart*, etc.

1540 *Bk. Com. Prayer, Commun. Serv.* Rubr., If one of the parties... be content to forgive from the bottom of his heart all that the other hath trespassed against him. 1557 NORTH *Guevara's Diall Pr.* (1619) 146/2, I loue thee from the bottoome of my stomacke. 1585 ABP. SANDYS *Serm.* (1841) 334 From the bottom of my heart I confess with St. Paul, *Minimus sum*. 1802 MAR. EDGEWORTH *Moral T.* (1816) I. x. 83 He wished, from the bottom of his heart, that he had a thousand. 1848 MACAULAY *Hist. Eng.* I. 169 Worthless men... to the very bottom of whose hearts he saw.

c. The foot of a page; the last place in a list or class; the lower end of a table, in point of dignity or precedence.

1658 ROWLAND *Mouffet's Theat. Ins.* 916 The rest he placed in the bottom of the wax, that is, in the last part of his will. 1863 A. J. HORWOOD *Yearbks.* 30 & 31 *Edw. I.* Pref. 32 The case at the bottom of p. 141 acknowledges the rule. 1866 C. D. YONGE *Naval Hist. Eng.* I. xi (L.), Justice was satisfied by his being placed at the bottom of the list of post-captains. 1884 Mrs. CRAIK *G. Helstone* 246 Mr. Beresford's genial face at the bottom of his table, did more to give zest to the viands than an appetizing sauce.

6. *transf.* The deepest or most remote part of a recess, bay, or the like; the farthest point, or inmost part.

1603 R. JOHNSON *Kingd. & Commv.* 117 Venice... is a city seated at the bottoome of the Adriatique sea. 1634 WOOD *New Eng. Prosp.* I. i, At the bottoome [of Massa-

chusetts Bay]... are situated most of the English plantations. *1674 MILTON Hist. Mos.* i. Wks. (1851) 476 The way thither is through the western bottom of Saint Nicholas Bay. *1792 BURKE App. Whigs* Wks. VI. 20 Mahomet hid in the Bottom of the sands of Arabia. *1856 KANE Arct. Exp.* i. viii. 82 Almost at the bottom of this indentation.

b. fig.

1587 GOLDING De Mornay viii. 100 Trogus Pompeius beginneth his Historie at the bottome of all antiquitie.

7. *Bottom (of a ship)*: generally, as in 1 (where see quot.); *spec.* 'the part of the hull of a ship which is below the wales' (Adm. Smyth); also, the hull as a whole; hence, A ship, boat, or other vessel.

1588 WOLSEY in Fiddes Life (1726) 64 To bring their wines upon strangers bottoms. *1540 Act 32 Hen. VIII.* xiv. Laden... in any shyppe botome or vessell of this realm of England. *1600 HOLLAND Livy* xxxiii. xxxvii. 845 They... passed over the Po in small bothomes and punts. *1665 Lond. Gaz.* No. 11/4 They were bound for Bordeaux with several others, all Dutch Bottoms. *1697 DAMPIER Voy.* (1729) i. 143 When they come to Panama, [they] dispose of the Goods and Bottom together. *1770 LANGHORNE Plutarch* (1879) i. 138/2 Amintas... and Sosicles... who sailed in one bottom, bore down upon him. *1817 BYRON Beppo* xcvii. He transferr'd his lading... to another bottom. *1883 American* VII. 162 Goods imported in foreign bottoms.

b. fig.

1636 FREATLY Clavis Myst. vii. 85 All private mens estates are vented in the bottome of the Common-wealth. *1697 Establ. Test.* 2. I do not pretend... to meddle with the Needle and Compass of the Publique Bottom. *1799 J. ROBERTSON Agric. Perth* 442 In no bottom can it be more safe than in land. *1884 SCOTT St. Roman's* x. I wish Clara's venture had not been in such a bottom.

8. *† a.* The dregs, sediment of liquors; the last portion of the wine in a cask (*obs.*). *b.* In *Copper-smelting* (see quot.).

1660 HOWELL Dict. Bottom, or the settling of liquor at the bottom. *1703 Lond. Gaz.* No. 3663/2 The White Wines... at 40 per Tun, the White Bottoms at 10d. *1870 Eng. Mech.* 18 Feb. 547/3 Known as black copper or 'bottoms'. *1881 RAYMOND Mining Gloss.*, Bottoms, in copper-smelting, the impure metallic copper... which separates from the matt, and is found below it.

9. *Bottom of a wig*: the portion hanging down over the shoulder. *Full bottom*: short for 'full-bottomed wig'.

1851 THACKERAY Eng. Hum. ii. 89 The fathers of theology did not think it decent to appear except in a full bottom.

II. That which underlies or supports a thing.

† 10. That upon which anything is built or rests; the foundation. *Obs.*

c 1440 Promp. Parv. 45 Botme, or fundament, basis. *1647 H. MORSE Song of Soul* ii. App. civ. All the stately works and monuments Built on this bottom. *1660 SHARROCK Vegetables* 39 That canon will certainly hold longer which is best built in the bottom. *1674 ALLEN Danger Enthus.* 5 Several Orders among the Papists have been built upon the same Bottom.

† b. The ground under a plant; the soil in which it grows. *Obs.*

a 1600 J. DYKE Worlky Commun. (1640) To Rdr., A plant that grows upon its own bottom. *1649 BLITH Eng. Impr.* 100 To Husb., No less than may... yield good bottom and rooting to the corn.

II. fig. A foundation, basis, footing.

a 1600 J. DYKE Worlky Commun. (1640) 194 Hee comes off from all bottom he hath in himselfe and in nature. *1675 BROOKS Gold. Key* Wks. 1867 V. 155 This glorious name Shaddai, was a noble bottom for Abraham to act his faith upon. *1697 Snake in Grass* (ed. 2) p. xv. This was the Bottom upon which the Quakers first set up. *1718 PENN Life* in Wks. 1726 I. 136 If we could not all meet upon a Religious Bottom, at least we might upon a Civil One. *1788 PRIESTLEY Lect. Hist.* v. xxxvi. 262 Authority established on the same bottom with the privileges of the people.

b. Phrase. *To stand on one's own bottom*: to act for oneself, be independent.

1606 HOLLAND Sueton. 97 Hee had used also before, to stand upon his owne bottom. *a 1656 Bp. HALL Content.* 45 Man, though he... stand upon his own bottom, yet [is] he not a little wrought upon by examples. *1680 MORDEN Geog. Rect.* (1685) 106 Everyone endeavours to stand on their own bottom. *1788 REID Aristotle's Log.* vi. § 1. 129 When reason acquires such strength as to stand on its own bottom.

12. The fundamental character, essence, reality. *Phrases. To search, etc., to the bottom*: to examine thoroughly, to find out the real character of. *At (the) bottom*: in reality, as distinguished from superficial appearances. *To be at the bottom of*: to underlie, to be the real author or source of.

1577 HARRISON England ii. i. (1877) 12 When the pope understood the botome of the matter. *1594 T. B. La Primand. Fr. Acad.* ii. 391 There is nothing in man which... God... searcheth not vnto the bottome. *1600 TOURNEUR Transf. Metamorph.* lviii. Doth demonstrate presently The bottome of his mind effectually. *1651 Proc. Parliament* No. 94. 1446 The examination of that business to the bottom. *1683 Apol. for Prot. France* vi. 88 The Clergy in the bottom judges that the Pope has Right to lay an Ecclesiastical Censure upon the Kingdom of France. *1711 STEELE Spect.* No. 43 p. 5 We are by no means yet sure, that some People are not at the Bottom on't. *1720 OZELL tr. Vertot's Rom. Rep.* III. xiv. 325 Antony, at the Bottom, very indifferent about this Revenge, pretended to be in earnest. *1748 ANSON Voy.* iii. x. (ed. 4) 544 If this matter was examined to the bottom. *1773 MONRODOD Language* (1774) i. i. iv. 42 In order to get at the bottom of this question. *1809-10 COLERIDGE Friend* (1865) 75 With whomsoever we play the deceiver and flatterer, him at the bottom we despise. *1848 MACAULAY Hist. Eng.* i. 387 The Jesuits were at the

bottom of the scheme. *1866 ARGYLL Reign Law* vi. (1871) 320 That which is really at the bottom of all this ambiguity of language. *1873 MORLEY Rousseau* II. 171 It is bad, because it is at bottom, a superstition.

† 13. A pecuniary 'foundation' or 'basis' for commercial enterprise; capital, resources; hence, financial stability, commercial standing. *Obs.*

1668 FULLER Worthies (1840) II. 451 Beginning on a good bottom left him by his father. *1787 T. JEFFERSON Writ.* (1859) II. 206, I know of no mercantile house in France of surer bottom.

14. Physical resources, 'staying power', power of endurance; said esp. of pugilists, wrestlers, race-horses, etc.

1774 GOLDSM. Anim. Nat. II. 106 Though the Savages held out and, as the phrase is, had better bottoms, yet for a spurt the Englishmen were more nimble and speedy. *1790 BEWICK Quadr.*, Race Horse (1800) 7 What is called in the language of the turf, bottom. *1835 BYRON Juan* viii. cx. [He] died all game and bottom. *1835 Penny Cycl.* III. 421/2 They... have their manes and tails cropped... under the supposition that it adds to their strength and bottom. *1868 R. PATTERSON Ess. Hist. & Art* 180 For solidity, bottom, and a courage that never wavers, they [British troops] are incomparable.

† 15. A clew or nucleus on which to wind thread; also a skein or ball of thread. *Also fig. Obs.*

c 1440 Promp. Parv. 45 Botme of threde. *1490 CAXTON Eneydos* xxxl. 120 He must take wyth hym a botom of threde. *1555 EDEN Decades W. Ind.* i. v. (Arb.) 85 Of gos-sampine cotton ready spunne four great bottomes. *1611 COTGRAVE, Fondrillon*, a bottom to wind silke, thread or yarne on. *1614 RALEIGH Hist. World* ii. 367 He received from her [Ariadne] a bottom of thred. *c 1645 HOWELL Lett.* (1650) I. 267, I will twist up what I know upon as narrow a bottom as may be shut up within the compass of this letter. *1698 S. CLARK Script. Just.* 112 It's high Time now to wind up my Bottoms. *1731 SIR E. PEYTON Div. Calastr. Ho. Stuart's* 64, I have unravelled out the Pieces to wind up this Bottom. *1754 Bp. WARBURTON Lett. fr. Late Prelate* (1809) 168 So you see I am winding up my bottoms.

† b. The cocoon of a silkworm. *Obs.*
1609 Mulb. Trees in Harl. Misc. (Malh.) III. 86 Upon the branches... the worms will fasten themselves, and make their bottomes. *1655 CURNALL Chr. in Arm.* xiii. § 3 (1669) 42/4 The Silk-worm... works her self out of her bottom. *1665 Phil. Trans.* I. 88 The manner of winding their Silk from their Bottoms.

† 16. ? The lap. *Obs.*

1725 BRADLEY Fam. Dict. II. s.v. *Lithotomy*, The Operator lays the sick Person upon a soft pillow, in the Bottom or Lap of some Strong Man.

III. *Attrib. and Comb.*

17. *simple attrib. or adj.* Of or pertaining to the bottom; lowest, basal, fundamental; last. (Hence superlative BOTTOM-MOST.)

1561 T. NORTON Calvin's Inst. i. 8 b, The presumptuous boldnesse... is thrown downe euen to the bottom point of the earth. *1677 MOXON Mech. Exerc.* (1703) 221 The bottom width of the Hollow. *1685 W. ADAMS Dedham Pulpit* (1840) 97 This is the bottom cause. *1884 Boston (Mass.) Jrl.* 12 July, I can't help sympathizing with the bottom dog [in a fight]. *1885 Pall Mall G.* 2 Dec. 3/4 The bottom political fact just now. *1885 Boston (Mass.) Jrl.* 20 Dec. Advt., All kinds of Horse Furnishings at Bottom Prices.

18. General comb., chiefly attrib., in senses a. At the bottom, forming the bottom, as *bottom-rock*, *-water*; b. That remains on the bottom (of sea, river, etc.); done at or near the bottom, as *bottom-fish*, *-fishing*, *-living*, *-trailing*; c. That belongs to or forms the bottom of anything, as *bottom-board*, *-timber*; d. fig. Fundamental, as *† bottom-ground*; e. Of or pertaining to low-lying ground, as *bottom-glade*, *-grass*, *-land*.

1881 C. A. EDWARDS Organs 42 The 'bottom-board is made of thick pine. *1847 ANSTED Anc. World* vi. 106 'Bottom-fish, living on offal and on the invertebrate groups. *1830 HOWITT Seasons, Mar.* 59 His sport is... confined to 'bottom-fishing. *1634 MILTON Comus* 532 Hard by 'the hilly crofts That brow this 'bottom-glade. *1599 SHAKS. Ven. & Ad.* 236 Within this limit is relief enough; Sweet 'bottom-grass, and high delightful plain. *a 1679 T. GOODWIN Wks.* 1865 X. 431 The reason or 'bottom-ground of all that wickedness. *1881 Jrl. Microsc. Soc.* Jan 68 The porcellaneous Foraminifera... are known to be exclusively 'bottom-living species. *1881 H. LANSDALE Through Siberia* I. 220 We had a splendid view of the noble Yenesei at sunset, of its verdant 'bottom-lands on either side. *1864 DANA Text-Bk. Geol.* (1874) 45 In Great Britain, the whole thickness above the unfossiliferous 'bottom-rocks is about 100,000 feet. *1856 KANE Arct. Exp.* II. xxvi. 266 The ice had strained her 'bottom-timbers. *1825 Edin. Rev.* 300 They gave us our elementary lesson of 'bottom-trailing. *1876 HUXLEY Physiogr.* 152 The surface freezes while the 'bottom-water remains several degrees warmer.

19. Special comb., as *bottom-cargo*, the cargo carried in the hold; *bottom-dish*, that placed at the lower end of the table; *bottom-heat*, heat supplied to plants through the soil; *bottom-ice*, ice which forms on the bottom of a river or sea; *bottom-lift* (see quot.); *bottom-moraine*, debris dropped from icebergs on the bottom of the sea; *bottom-up*, *-upwards adv.*, in an inverted position, upside-down; *† bottomward*, the part near the bottom; *bottom-wigged a.*, wearing a wig with full bottom; *bottom-wind*: see quot.

1840 MARRYAT Poor Jack xxiii. Our 'bottom cargo consisted of... crockery. *1796 MRS GLASSE Cookery* v. 79 A porcupine of a breast of veal... is a grand 'bottom-dish. *1881 Garden* 14 Jan. 26/3 The cuttings... are planted out

in frames in a gentle 'bottom-heat. *1881 GRIKIE Geol.* ii. ii § 6. 111 Water-ice is formed... by the freezing of the layer of water lying on the bottom of rivers, or the sea ('bottom-ice, ground-ice, anchor-ice). *1881 RAYMOND Mining Gloss.*, 'Bottom-lift, the deepest lift of a mining-pump, or the lowest pump. *1881 Nature* XXV. 470 The Devonian rocks... are covered with a thick sheet of typical 'bottom-moraine. *1858 Merc. Mar. Mag.* V. 67 A ship 'bottom-up... might easily be taken for a 'danger'. *1604 Lond. Gaz.* No. 3006/4 More towards the middle to the 'bottomward. *1884 Harper's Mag.* Oct. 801/2 Our heavy 'bottom-wigged monarchy outlived that... invader. *1849 G. SOAME New Curios. Lit.* i. 151 The 'Bottom-Wind has its name from being supposed... to arise from the bottom of those lakes which are situated amongst mountains.

Bottom (bōtəm), v. [f. prec.]

1. *trans.* To put a bottom to. Cf. *BOTTOMED* 1.

1544 Coventry Acc. in T. Sharp Dissert. (1825) 185 Item paid for bottomyng a cressyt vjd. Mod. Send this saucepan to be new bottomed.

† 2. *fig.* To find a bottom or foundation for; to serve as a bottom for; to establish firmly. *Obs.*

1656 J. BENTHAM Two Treat. (1657) To Rdr., Such grounds... as may sufficiently bottom the Negative in the controversy. *1677 HALE Prim. Orig. Man.* i. i. 8 We stand in need of the discoveries of sense... to bottom any sound conjecture concerning the Nature, Causes, and effects of the things in Nature. *1683 F. SPENCE House Medici* 248 He affected to bottom his own repute by disclosing the ignorance of others.

b. *To bottom upon*: to set upon a foundation; to base, found, ground upon; also *refl.*

1637 SANDERSON Serm. II. 88 Upon this base the apostle had bottomed contentation. *1678 NORRIS Coll. Misc.* (1699) 241, I may not... bottom myself upon such a centre, as will moulder away. *a 1703 BURKITT On N. T. Matt.* xi. 6 Such as... bottom their expectations of heaven and salvation upon him. *1824 COLERIDGE Aids Refl.* App. xvi. To bottom all our convictions on grounds of right reason. *1860 FORSTER Gr. Remonstr.* 67 He bottomed it strongly on the precedents and language of law.

† c. *intr.* (for *refl.*) To rest as upon a foundation; to be based, grounded. *lit. and fig. Obs.*

c 1630 RISON Surv. Devon § 5 (1810) 19 Smalbridge takes its name from... a very slender ridge, and bottoms on three parts thereof. *1660-3 J. SPENCER Prodigies* (1665) 212 In all Knowledge which bottoms upon Experience Men should attend indifferently to any kind of Instances. *a 1704 LOCKE Posth. Wks.* (1706) 61 Readily take a view of the Argument, and... see where it bottoms. *1731 BERKELEY Alciph.* I. 12. *1790 BURKE Fr. Rev.* 20 All the oblique insinuations concerning election bottom in this proposition.

† 3. To wind (as a skein). *fig. Obs.* Cf. *BOTTOM sb.* 15.

1591 SHAKS. Two Gent. iii. ii. 53 As you vvwinde her lone from him... You must provide to bottom it on me. *1612 DRAYTON Poly-ob.* vii. 104 As neatlie bottom'd up as nature forth it drew.

4. *trans.* to reach the bottom of; to drain to the bottom, to empty. *Also intr.* To reach the bottom.

1808 Cumbrin Ballads liii. 119 They push'd round a glass like a noggin, And bottom'd the greybeard complete. *1845 Whitehall* xii. 79 The provost... in return bottomed the goblet. *1875 'STONEHENGE' Brit. Sports* i. i. xi. § 7 A cap... is placed upon the point and pushed into the case till it bottoms. *1881 JEFFERIES Bevis* i. ix. 140 He bottomed with his feet and stood upright [in the pond].

b. *fig.* To get to the bottom of, examine exhaustively, understand thoroughly.

1705 R. CUMBERLAND in Observer No. 102 That mystery is thoroughly bottomed and laid open. *1817 COLERIDGE Biog. Lit.* i. x. 176 Openly declaiming on subjects... which they had never bottomed. *1860 SMILES Self-Help* vii. 195 He had bottomed the whole inquiry.

† *Bottomage*. *Obs.* = *BOTTOMRY*.

1678 in PHILLIPS; hence in *BAILEY*, etc.

Bottomarie, *-ery*, *obs.* forms of *BOTTOMRY*.

Bottomed (bōtəmd), *ppl. a.* [f. *BOTTOM sb.* and *v.* + *ED*.]

1. Having a bottom; furnished with a bottom of some special material or form; usually in composition, as *foul*, *full*, *gravel*, *sharp-bottomed*.

1559 Richmond. Wills (1853) 135 One trussing bedde bottomed with girth webbe. *1590 GREENE Fr. Bacon* (1639) 29 In Frigats bottom'd with rich Sethin planks. *1708 W. J. Bryn's Voy. Levant* xxxvi. 139 We came into a chamber 18 foot long... the Roof being sharp bottom'd. *1710 Lond. Gaz.* No. 4691/4 Wearing a light brown Wig, sometimes full bottomed. *1748 R. BLAIR Grave* 326 Nor margin of the gravel-bottom'd brook. *1841 ORDESON Creol.* xvi. 192 Leather-bottomed chairs. *c 1850 Rudim. Navig.* (Weale) 100 Vessels... full-bottomed for large cargoes. *1859 F. GRIFFITHS Artil. Man.* (1862) 114 Unless the shot are bottomed.

b. Covered at the bottom, having as a bottom or foundation.

1799 J. ROBERTSON Agric. Perth 485 Most of our extensive mosses are bottomed by clay. *1872 Daily News* 28 Feb., A narrow creek flanked with warehouses, and bottomed with its fetid deposit.

2. Founded, based, grounded; mostly *fig.*

c 1645 HOWELL Lett. (1650) I. 395 It was far from being any opinion... bottomed upon weak grounds. *1823 LAMB Elia* Ser. ii. x. (1865) 298 Our literary talk... was bottomed well; had good grounds to go upon. *1874 MORLEY Compromise* 134 A strong and well-bottomed character.

Hence *† Bottomedness*, the quality of resting upon a sure foundation, stability.

1648 ROGERS Naaman 19 The freedome, bottomednesse, and unchangeableness of the promise.

Bottomer (bōtəmə), [*f. BOTTOM v.* + *ER*.]

a. One who puts a bottom to anything. b. One

who works at the lowest station. *c.* A draught in which the cup is drained to the bottom.

1723 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 6194/7 Elizabeth Squibb... Cane-Chair Bottomer. 1876 *Blackmore Cripps* III. xvi. 259 He firmly restricted good feeling... to three good bumpers, and a bottomer. 1881 *RAYMOND Mining Gloss.*, Bottomer, the man stationed at the bottom of a shaft in charge of the proper loading of cages, etc. *Shop Notice-board.* A. B. Chair-caneer, Rush-bottomer.

Bottoming (bɒtəmɪŋ), *vbl. sb.* [*f.* BOTTOM *v.* + -ING¹.] *a.* The action of putting a bottom to anything. *b.* The action of setting on a sure basis. *c. concr.* An under layer, a foundation.

1506 *MS. Acc. St. John's Hosp., Canterb.*, Payd for bottoming of a basket. 1648 *ROGERS Naaman* 179 So farre as may further him in the bottoming of the soule in mercy. 1646 *H. LAWRENCE Comm. Angells Table*, Our hopes differ from others... in the bottoming of them by expectation. 1823 *McADAM Road-making* 49 These previous beds of stone are called the bottoming. 1846 *McCulloch Acc. Brit. Empire* (1854) II. 51 A road... with a foundation or bottoming of large stones.

Bottomless (bɒtəmləs), *a.* [*see* -LESS.]
1. That has no bottom.
1725 *E. E. Allit. P. B.* 1022 For hit [the Dead Sea] is brod & bopemler, & bitter as be galle. 1535 *COVERDALE Job* xxxvi. 16 So shall he kepe the... from the bottomlesse pytte that is beneath. 1607 *TORSELL Four-f. Beasts* 225 Let his neck be kept in an old bottomlesse pail. 1641 *MILTON Ch. Govt.* II. Wks. (1851) 180 Unless her bottomlesse gorge may be satisf'd with the blood of the Kings daughter the Church. 1750 *PALMER Proverbs* 172 Jupiter put the discourses and promises of lovers into a bottomlesse bag. 1860 *DICKENS Uncomm. Trav.* xi. How knowingly (with a sheaf and a bottomless chair at our back) we should lounge on bridges.

b. fig. Without foundation, baseless.
1503 *DAVIDSON Confut. Kennedy in Misc. Wodrow Soc.* (1844) 241 The rest of his lessone... is on ane boddomles ground. 1642 *PRINCE RUPERT Declar.* 6 Strange, false and bottomlesse untruths. 1866 *CRUMP Banking* viii. 175 Speculators... are often encouraged in their bottomless enterprises by obtaining credits with certain companies.

2. fig. Inexhaustible, unfathomable.
1506 *TINDALE Doctr. Treat.* (1848) 400 The judgments of God are bottomless. 1545 *BRINKLOW Lament.* (1874) 86 Oh ye dispisers of the bottomlesse mercy of God. 1640-4 *SIR J. CULPEPPER in Rushw. Hist. Coll.* III. (1692) I. 31 Besides the bottomless Perjury of an *Et cetera*. 1743 *TINDAL tr. Rapin's Hist. Eng.* II. xvii. 129 Bottomless graces and immeasurable benefits. 1826 *SCOTT Woodst.* (1832) 190 He must be bottomless if I cannot sound him before the night's out.

Hence **Bottomlessly** *adv.*, unfathomably; **Bottomlessness**, bottomless state or quality.
1627-8 *FELTHAM Resolves* xix. (1636) 65 Who... is so bottomlessly ill, as to love vice, because it is vice? 1648 *ROGERS Naaman* 180 That wearisomenesse of Selfe, never settled, that bottomlesse, never grounded. 1824 *THOREAU Walden* xvi. 306 Men will believe in the bottomlessness of a pond without taking the trouble to sound it.

Bottommost, *a. superl.* [*f.* BOTTOM *sb.* 17 + -MOST; cf. *topmost*.] That is at the very bottom, lowest.
1861 *SALA Tw. round Clock* 206 The bottommost round of the sporting ladder. 1880 *MRS. PARR Adam & E.* xxi. 292 To set... all the folks... bottommost side upwards. 1884 *Public Opinion* 3 Oct. 427/1 We might arrive at the 'bottommost' look before nightfall.

Bottommer, *Obs.* In 7 bodomerer. [*f.* BOTTOM *v.* + -ER¹.] One who lends money on a bottomry bond.
1682 *SCARLETT Exchanges* 253 The sum of the damage... must be deducted from the Sums that D. E. and G. are to receive, they being as Bodomerers or Assurers.

Bottomry (bɒtməri). Also 7 bottommarie, -y, bodomery, 8 bottomree, bottomory. [*f.* BOTTOM *sb.* 7 + -RY, after Du. *bodmerij*.] A species of contract of the nature of a mortgage, whereby the owner of a ship, or the master as his agent, borrows money to enable him to carry on or complete a voyage, and pledges the ship as security for repayment of the money. If the ship is lost, the lender loses his money; but if it arrives safe, he receives the principal together with the interest or premium stipulated, 'however it may exceed the usual or legal rate of interest'. Also *attrib.*, as in *bottomry-bond*, -money.

1622 *MALYNES Anc. Law-Merch.* 171 The name Bottommarie is deriued by the Hollanders from the Keele or Bottomme of a ship... The money so taken vp by the master of the ship, is commonly done vpon great necessitie... the vse payed for the same is verie great, at 30, 40, and 50 *pro cent.* without consideration of time. 1663 *PERV'S Diary* 30 Nov. A master of a ship who had borrowed twice his money upon the bottomry. 1682 *SCARLETT Exchanges* 253 Amongst conditional bills, Bills of Bodomery may be reckoned, that is, Bills that are made upon the Keele of the Ship, which are accidentally conditional. 1708 *Termes de la Ley* 86 Bottomry. 1741 *JOHNSON Debates Parl.* (1787) I. 218 It is a common practice to take money upon bottomree. 1748 *ANSON Voy. i.* 9 The remaining £5000 they raised on bottomry bonds. 1755 *MAGENS Insurances* I. 26 We have no fixed Laws... in England, for settling partial losses on Bottomry-Monies. 1842 *PARK Mar. Insur.* II. xxii. 869 In this consists the difference between bottomry and respondentia, that the one is a loan upon the ship, the other upon the goods. 1848 *ARNOLD Mar. Insur.* I. iii. 76.

Bottomry (bɒtməri), *v.* [*f.* prec.] *trans.* To pledge (a ship) as security for money lent: *see* prec. 1755 *MAGENS Insurances* I. 26 A Master cannot bottomry

his whole Ship at a place where her Owners reside. 1848 *ARNOLD Mar. Insur.* III. viii. (1866) II. 931 The repairs abroad for which the ship was bottomried had been done by strangers.

Bottomry, *a. Obs.* [*f.* BOTTOM *sb.* + -Y¹.] Lying in a 'bottom', low-lying.
1635 *SWAN Spec. M.* (1670) 156 Caused by the Waters... settling themselves in those decliue and bottomy places.

Botony, variant of BOTONÉ.
Botuliform (bɒtʊlɪfɔrm), *a.* [*ad. mod. L. botuliformis*, *f. L. botulus* sausage: *see* -FORM.] Sausage-shaped. 1861 *HENSLow, Dict. Bot. Terms.*

Botume, -ym, *obs.* forms of BOTTOM.

Boture, *obs.* form of BITTERN, BUTTER.

Boty(e, botyng(e, obs. f. BOOTY, BOOTING.

Bou, Boua, *obs.* forms of BOUGE, BOW, BOA.

Bouat, var. of BOWET, *Sc.*, a lantern.

Boucan, Boucassin, var. BUCCAN, BOCASINE.

Bounce Jane, *Obs. rare*—¹. A dish in olden cookery, consisting of minced fowl boiled in milk with pot-herbs, currants, etc.

c 1420 *Anc. Cookery in Ord. R. Househ. A.* (1790) 431.

Bouche, *sb.* 1 *Obs.* Also 5-7 bouch. *See* also BOUGE *sb.* 2 [*a. f. bouche* lit. 'mouth'].
1. An allowance of victual granted by a king or noble to his household, his attendants on a military expedition, etc. Only in (or with reference to) the phrase to have *bouche* of (in) court = *F. avoir bouche à (en) cour* lit. 'to have mouth at court'.
a 1440 *Sir Degrev.* 998 The eorl... fayre hym gan praye To dwel at hys costage, At bouche and court and wage. 1441 *Plimpton Corr.* Intro. 55 The said people... kept the said towne of Ripon like a towne of warr, takinge some vid. a day, & xliid. a day, & bouche of court. 1506 *Househ. Ord. in Thynne's Animadv.* (1865) Intro. 38 For their Bouch in the morning, one chet loafe, one manchiet, one gallon of ale. 1589 *PUTTENHAM Eng. Poesie* 45 [The emperor] called for Virgil and gave him not only a present reward, with a good allowance of dyet; a bouche in court, as we use to call it. 1601 in *F. TATE Househ. Ord. Edw. II.* 149 (1876) 31 He shal have for his bouch, iijid. ob. a dal. 1662 *FULLER Worthies* I. 173 All having Bouch of Court, (bread and beer) and six pence a day.

2. Mouth; esp. in phrase ball, bullet in (en) bouche; cf. also ball or bullet in mouth.

1583 *STANHYURST Eneis* III. (Arb.) 92 Heere loa behold Boreas from bouch of north blo. Pelorus Ore ships ful chageth. 1591 *GARRARD Art Warre* 76 The valiant repulse of a sodaine invading enemy by Bawil en bouche. 1650 *SIR W. BUTLER in Carlyle Cromwell's Lett. & Sp. Let.* cxliii. With their drums beating, colours flying, matches burning, and bullet in bouch. 1708 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 4479/5 The Garrison is to march out... with loaded Arms, flying Colours, Drums beating, Match lighted, Ball in Mouth.]

3. A bouche: (see quot.)

1864 *BOUTELL Heraldry Hist. & Pop.* iii. (ed. 3) 14 In these shields a curved notch is cut out, for the lance to pass through, in the dexter chief; when thus pierced the shield was said to be *a bouche*.
† Bouche (e, sb. 2 *Obs.* Also 6 bowche. [*App.* variant of BOTCH *sb.* 1, confused with BOUGE *sb.* 1] A hump, swelling.
a 1300 *Cursor M.* 8087 (Götl.) Crumplid knes, and bouch [*v.r.* bouche, boce] on bac. 1358 *Bury Wills* (1850) 135, iij candylstye of lattyen, on sylver pece wyth the bowche of the letter in the botom.

Bouche (bʊʃ), *sb.* 3 Often written bush; *see* BUSH *sb.* 2 [*prob. f. BOUCHE v.* to plug.] A metal plug which is drilled to form the vent or touch-hole of a cannon.
1862 *F. GRIFFITHS Artil. Man.* (ed. 9) 186 Bouches, vents. 1867 *SMYTH Sailor's Word-bk.*, Bush, or Bouche... the plug... screwed into the metal of the gun at the place of the vent, which is then drilled in it.

† Bouche, *sb.* 4 *†* misprint for *benche* or *bonche*.
1481 *CAXTON Reynard* (Arb.) 39 Thise traytours... ben now most prey of counseyl aboute the kynge, and sytte by hym on the hye bouche.

Bouche, *v.* [*prob. a. f. boucher* to plug.]
1. *trans.* To insert into (a cannon) the metal plug in which the vent is drilled: *see* BOUCHE *sb.* 3, BUSH *sb.* 2 Hence *Bouching vbl. sb.*
1781 *Phil. Trans.* LXXI. 264 If these pieces were bouched with iron... they would stand fire. 1862 *F. GRIFFITHS Artil. Man.* 52 Bouching a gun is fixing a pure copper vent into it.

† 2. (See quot.) Obs. rare.
1721 *BAILEY, Bouched him*, stopped his mouth. *O. Phrase.*

† Bouchées (buʃe), *sb. pl.* *Cookery.* [*a. f. bouchée* 'mouthful', *f. bouche* mouth.] Small baked confections, patties.

† Boucher, *Obs.* Also bowohyer, bowger. [*Boucher* appears to be a corruption of *bouger*, and this a deriv. of *bouge*, BOUGE 'bag, wallet,' perh. in sense of 'purse'; but cf. BOWSER.] A treasurer, cashier, bursar.

c 1450 *Gregory's Chron.* 139 At the same tabylle the bowgers of the chauncery. 1494 *FABYAN* vii. 586 At y^e same table sat the bowchiers of the Chauncery. 1583 *STANHYURST Eneis* I. 29 Pigmalions riches... that pinchepey boucher.

Boucher, *obs.* form of BUTCHER.

Boucherise (bʊʃəʁiz), *v.* [*f. Boucherie* the name of a French chemist + -IZE.] *trans.* To impregnate timber with sulphate of copper as a preservative. Hence *Boucherising vbl. sb.*

1871 *CULLEY Handbk. Prac. Telegraphy* 363 The method of boucherising may be described as follows.

† Bouchet, *Obs.* [*f.* Application of *F. bouchet* a drink composed of sugar, cinnamon, and water.] 1706 *PHILLIPS, Bouchet* (Fr.), a round white Pear, about the bigness of a midling Bergamot, with a fine tender Pulp, and sugar'd Juice; being ripe about the middle of August. 1755 in *JOHNSON.* 1847 in *CRAIG*: and in other mod. Dicts.

Bouchon (buʃɔ̃), [*a. f. bouchon* plug.] A cylindrical brass plug, tubular at the ends, to be inserted in the plate of a watch when the bearings are considerably worn. (The bouchon is a patent article of French manufacture: the English means of effecting the same purpose is called BUSHING.)

1824 *F. BRITTEN Watch & Clockm.* 35 A bouchon is selected as small as the pivot will admit.

Bouchet, var. form of BOUGHT.

Bouchue, var. or misspelling of BUCHU.

† Bouchy, *a. Obs. rare.* [*f.* BOUCH (e sb. 2 + -Y¹).] Bulging, convex.

1398 *TREVISIA Barth. De P. R. v. li.* (1495) 168 The thies ben... bouchy afore and haue two sharpnesses.

Bouck, Boucle, *obs.* forms of BUCK, BUCKLE.

† Boucon, *Obs.*—^o [*F. boucon* 'a bit, morsell, mouthfull; especially such a one as is empoisoned' (Cotgr.), 'mets ou breuvage empoisonné' (Littré), = *Pr. boccon*, *It. boccone* 'morsell']

1706 *PHILLIPS, Boucons* (Fr. in *Cookery*), Veal-stakes rolled up with thin fat slices of Bacon and Gammon. 1730-6 *BAILEY.*

† Boud, *Obs.* or *dial.* Also 5 boude, 5-7 bowde, 6 bowd, 8 bood, 9 bude. [*Of unknown origin; identity with OE. budda, ME. bod(de* in *scharnboddes* dung-beetles, has been conjectured.)

A weevil; an insect or worm which breeds in malt, etc. Also in *comb.*, as *boud-eaten*.

c 1440 *Prompt. Parv.* 46 Bowde, malte-worme, *gurgulio*. 1580 *TUSSEER Husb.* (1878) 52 Bowd eaten malt, for health or for profit, find noysome thou shalt. 1621 *KAY S. & E. Country Wds.*, Bouds, weevils, an insect breeding in malt. 1713 *Lond. & Countr. Brew.* III. (ed. 2) 222 In some Counties they call it Bood, others Pope, and Whool. 1867 *SMYTH Sailor's Word-bk.*, Bude, an old name for the biscuit-weevil.

Boud, = behaved: *see* BUS *v.*

† Bouderie, *rare.* [*F. bouderie*.] Pouting.

1854 *THACKERAY Newcomes* II. 239 Practise artless smiles upon him, gentle little bouderies, tears.

Boudget, *obs.* form of BUDGET.

Boudin, var. *BOLDEN ppl. a. Sc. Obs.* swollen.

† Boudoir (buˈdwɑːr), [*a. f. boudoir* lit. 'a place to sulk in', *f. boulder* to pout, sulk.] A small elegantly-furnished room, where a lady may retire to be alone, or to receive her intimate friends. Formerly sometimes applied to a man's private apartment.

1781 *HAYLEY Tri. Temper* II. 130 As the French boudoir to the Gothic tower, Such is the peer, whom fashion much admires, Compar'd in person to his ancient sires. 1785 *COWPER Let. to J. Hill* 25 June, I write in a nook that I call my boudoir. 1786 *J. ADAMS Diary* Wks. 1851 III. 405 In what he calls his boudoir—a little room between his library and drawing-room. 1841 *KINGSLEY Yeast* II. 24 Argemone was busy in her boudoir (too often a true boudoir to her). 1886 *MORLEY Crit. Misc.* I. 31 The paltry affairs of the boudoir and the ante-chamber.

b. transf. The occupants of a boudoir.
a 1830 *HAZLITT Vulgarity*, The callous insensibility of the drawing room and boudoir.

Hence **Boudoir-esque** *a.* [*see* -ESQUE], of the kind appropriate to a boudoir. **Boudoirise** *v.* [*see* -IZE], to sit in or frequent a boudoir.

1880 *Mrs. C. READE Brown Hand & White* II. iii. 59 How fond modern French painters seem to be of boudoir-esque humanity. 1883 *Harper's Mag.* July 321/1 'It is a sweet hour', said Glorvina... 'It is a boudoirising hour', said I.

Boue, bouwe, *obs.* forms of BOW *v.*

Bouer, bouel, *obs. ff.* BOOR, BOWER, BOWEL.

Bouerd, var. of BOURD *sb.* and *v.* *Obs.*, jest.

† Bouerie, *Obs. rare*—¹. [*ad. Du. bouwerij*, *f. bouwer* peasant: cf. BOWERY, BOOR.] Boorishness.

1577 *HOLINSHED Descr. Brit.* II. ix. 178 King John... did extinguish it [the ordeal]... as flat lewdness and bouerie.

Bouet, var. of BOWET, *Sc.*, a lantern.

Bouf, Boufaleau, *obs. ff.* BEEF, BUFFALO.

† Bouffage, *Obs. rare*—¹. [*a. OF. bouffage* 'any meat that (eaten greedily) fills the mouth, and makes the cheeks to swell; cheek-puffing meat' Cotgr.] A satisfying meal.

1678 *SIR T. BROWNE Let. to Friend* ix. (1881) 134 His inwards and flesh remaining could make no bouffage, but a light bit for the grave.

† Bouffant(e) (buʃɑ̃t, -ɑ̃t), *a. Dressmaking.* [*F. bouffant*, -ante, *pr. pple.* of *bouffer* to swell.] Puffed out, bulging.

1880 *Cassell's Mag.* June 441 Dress improvers are coming in... and all the Parisian short dresses are more or less bouffante. 1883 *Ibid.* Nov. 756/2 Mantles... are... quite short at the back, and bouffant.

† Bouffe, *Obs.* [*cf. F. bouffée* puff of wind or steam, *f. bouffer* to swell the cheeks.] A puff.

1475 *CAXTON Jason* 74 He aperceyuid many bouffes of flambe... springe into the aye.

† Bouffe (buʃ), [*a. f. bouffe*, *ad. It. buffa* jest.] Short for *Opéra bouffe* comic opera: *see* OPÉRA.

Bouffon, boufoon, *obs. ff.* BUFFOON.

|| **Bougainvillea** (*būgānvīl'ē*, commonly -vīl'ē). Also -ea, -ia. [Named after the Fr. navigator Bougainville 1739-1811.] A genus of tropical plants of the order *Nyctaginaceae*, having flowers almost concealed by large leafy bracts.

1866 *Treas. Bot.* I. 160/2 *Bougainvillea spectabilis* is a climbing shrub or small tree, with alternate leaves and small spines. 1881 Mrs. PRARD *Policy & Pass.* I. 145 A wide verandah... festooned by bougainvillea. 1883 *Sunday Mag.* Sept. 347/2 Cascades of bougainvillea, passion-flowers, banksias and roses.

Bougar (*būgār*). Sc. Etymology unknown.

1. pl. 'Cross spars, forming part of the roof of a cottage, used instead of laths.' Jamieson.

a 1550 *Christie Kirke Gr.* xiv. With bougars of barnis they beft blew kappis. 1898 M. PORTHOUS *Souter Johnny* 28 This braw lid Made frae the bougars o' the Kirk.

2. Comb., as **bougar-stakes**, 'the lower part of rafters, that were set on the ground in old houses'; **bougar-sticks**, 'strong pieces of wood fixed to the... rafters of a house by wooden pins'.

† **Bouge**, sb.¹ Obs. or dial. Also 4-6 **bowge**.

[a. OF. *bouge* (also *boulge*, *buge*, *buche*, Godef.) a small leather bag or wallet:—L. *bulga* a leathern bag, also the womb; of Gaulish origin (Festus): OIr. *bolg*, *bolc*, a sack. The variant **BULGE** is found still earlier, and runs parallel to *bouge* in senses 1 and 2; 2 has also the variant form **BULCH**; 3 has the parallel and later form **BILGE**.]

† 1. A wallet or bag, esp. one made of hide; a skin-bottle; = **BULGE** sb.¹ Obs.

1387 *TREVISIA Higden* (Rolls Ser.) VII. 385 His malys were i-scherd his bouges and his trussynge cofres. 1388 *Wyclif Ps.* xxxii. 7 He gaderith togidere the watris of the see as in a bouge (1388a botel). c 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 46/1 *Bouge*, *bulga*. c 1470 *Hors. Shepe*, & G. (1822) 7 By draught of horse fro ryuers & wellis Bouges be brought to brewers for good ale. 1557 *PAYNELL Barclay's Jugurth* 96 He charged bottles and bouges to the hydres of the same beaste. 1600 *HOLLAND Livy* xxi. xxvii. 408 Fastning their apparrell to bouges of lether like bladders [*in utres*].

b. *Her.* Cf. **BOUGET**.

1572 *BOSSEWELL Armorie* II. 30 b, D. beareth Or, three water bouges Sable in chefe.

† 2. A swelling, a hump; = **BULGE** sb.² Obs.

1398 *TREVISIA Barth. De P. R.* v. xl. (1495) 155 The caas of the galle is a certayne skynne sette vpon the bouges of the lyuer. c 1430 in *Wyclif Lev.* xxi. 20 (MS. S.) If he hath a botche or a bouge on his bak. 1483 *Cath. Angl.* 38 A *Bouge*, *gibbus*, *struma*.

3. The protuberant part of a cask; = **BILGE** 2.

1741 *Compt. Fam. Piece* I. v. 266 Then give it Vent at the Bouge, with a Hole made with a Gimblet. 1750 W. ELLIS *Mod. Husbandman* IV. ii. 109 Turning the cask sideways, on its bouge, immediately cork up the lower holes. 1867 *Savth Saltor's Word-bk.* 122 *Bouge* or *Bouge* and *Chine*, or *Bilge* and *Chimb*, the end of one cask stowed against the bilge of another. 1875 *PARRISH Sussex Dial.*, *Bouge*, a water cask. The round swelling part of a cask.

4. A cowrie. *rare*. [a. F. *bouge* 'coquillage servant de monnaie aux Indes' (Boiste).]

1875 *JEVONS Money* iv. 24 The cowry shells, which, under one name or another—chamgos, zimbis, bouges, etc.

5. Comb., as (sense 1) **bouge-maker**, **man**; **bowge-work**, bulged or raised work.

1530 *PALSGR.* 187 *Fayseur de bahus*, a lether coofer maker or a bouge maker. c 1500 *Cocke Lorrelles B.* 10 Tankarde berers, bouge men, and spere planers. 1566-7 *BOND in Hist. Croydon App.* (1783) 154 The windoes with bouge work.

† **Bouge**, sb.² Obs. Also 5 **bowge**, 7 **budge**. Corrupt form of **BOUCHE** sb.¹, court-rations; also used by Ben Jonson in the sense of 'provisions'.

1461-83 *Ord. R. Househ.*, *Liber Niger Edw.* IV. 19 The Lyver for horses at bouge of Court, of gentlemen & many other, &c. now is left. 1540 *St. Papers Hen. VIII.* I. 623 Every of them to have lyke bouge of court. 1611 *CORCR.*, *Avoir bouche à Court*, to eat and drinke scotfree, to have budge-a-Court, to be in ordinarie at Court. a 1616 B. JONSON *Love Restor.* 87 A bombard man, that brought bouge for a Countrey Lady or two that fainted... with fasting. — *Mercurie Vind.* Wks. (1692) 377, I am to deliver the buttry in, so many firkins of aurum potable, as it delivers out bombards of budge to them.

† **Bouge**, sb.³ Obs. *rare*. A species of trout.

1705 *Act 4 Anne* viii, *Bouge*, otherwise called Sea Trouts.

† **Bouge**, sb.⁴ Obs. *rare*—1. (possibly misprint.) A horsehair noose.

1775 *BRADLEY Fam. Dict.* I. s.v. *Ducks*, Fasten your Collars or slipping Bouges to the End of your Stick.

Bouge, sb.⁵ In silver manufacture, a hollow running round any article.

† **Bouge**, v. Obs. Also 5-7 **bowge**, 6 **boulge**, **budge**. [f. **BOUGE** sb.¹: there are also partially differentiated variants **BILGE**, **BULGE**, and **BULCH**.]

1. *trans.* To stave in a ship's bottom or sides, cause her to spring a leak; = **BILGE** v. 1.

1485 *CAXTON Trevisa's Higden* vii. xxvi (1527) 284 He... toke... one of the Soudans grete shippes... and bowged and thyrled it in y^e nether syde. 1577 *HOLMESHOED Chron.* III. 15/2 Sir Anthonie Oughtred following the Regent at the sterne, bowged hir in diverse places, and set hir powder on fire. *Ibid.* ii. xviii. (1877) 288 Our ships will either bowge those of other countries or put them to flight. 1580 *NORTH Plutarch* (1576) 460 He had fewer galleys than they, yet he budge divers of theirs and sunk them. 1600 *HOLLAND Livy* xxi. l. 421 One vessell... was bowged and pierced [*perforata*].

2. *intr.* To suffer fracture in the bilge; = **BILGE** v. 2.

a 1577 *GASCOIGNE Voy. Holland*, Lest therupon Our shippe should bowge.

3. To swell out, to bulge; = **BULGE** v. 3.

1398 [see **BOUGING**.] 1647 H. MORE *Song of Soul* i. l. xlvii, From this first film all bulk in quantity Doth bougen out. 1851 S. JUDD *Margaret* ii. 6 When it reaches the stone that bouges out there.

Bouge, obs. form of **BUDGE**.

† **Bouged**, ppl. a. Obs. [f. **BOUGE** v. + -ED.] Having the bottom staved in; = **BULGED** 2.

1580 H. GIFFORD *Gilfoflowers* (1875) 146 Not halfe so fast the bowdged shippe. The water in doth drinke.

† **Bougeron**. Obs. *rare*. [OF.] A sodomite. c 1400 *Rom. Rose* 7024 If ther be castel or citee Wherynne that any bougerons be. 1675 *COTTON Poet. Wks.* (1765) 192 Thou now speakst perfect, Bougeron.

Bouget (*būdzèt*). *Her.* Also 6 **boget**, 7 **bowget**. [Earlier spelling of **BUDGET**.] A representation of an ancient water vessel, consisting of a yoke with two leathern pouches, or buckets, attached.

1426 *Bk. St. Albans*, *Her.* B iv b, Gorgys be called in armys water bougees. 1592 *WYRLEY Armorie* 136 Who did in gules three silver Bougets bear. 1688 R. HOLME *Armory* III. vi. 75 He beareth Or, a Water Bouget, Sable. 1859 *TURNER Dom. Archit.* III. vii. 250 Two shields of arms, on one of which are three water bougets.

† **Bouget**. Misprint or bad spelling for **BOUGHT**, the bend of the elbow.

1548 *VICARY Englishm. Treas.* (1626) 30 Till it appeare in the bouget of the arme.

Bough (*bau*), sb. Forms: 1-2 b6h, b6s, 2-4 b03, 2-3 b03h, bou, 3 boh, boh, bough, bu3, 3-4 bugh, 3-5 b0gh, 3-7 bow, 4 boghe, (bogh), boow, bou3(e), bouw, bow3e, buh, 4-6 bowe, 5 boe, Sc. bwy, 5-6 Sc. bow, 5-7 bouge, 6 bewch, boowe, bouwe, 5-9 Sc. beugh, 5-bough. [Common Teut.: OE. *bōg*, *bōh* = OHG. *buog* (MHG. *buoc*, mod.G. *bug*) shoulder, foreleg; MDu. *boech*, Du. *boeg*, ON. *bōg-r* shoulder, bow of a ship:—OEt. **bōgu-s*:—Aryan **bhāghu-s*, Skr. *bāhu-s* arm, foreleg, Gr. *ἄνωγος* fore-arm.

The sense 'bough of a tree' appears to be of exclusively Eng. development; the Bow of a ship is ultimately the same word, but of recent adoption from Scandinavian or Low German. Notwithstanding a certain fitness of sense, this word is in no way related to the vb. stem **beng-*, OE. *būgan* to Bow.]

† 1. The shoulder of an animal. Obs.

c 1000 *ELFRIC Ex.* xxix. 22 Þu nymst þone rýsle of þam ramme... & þone swýþran boh. 1a 1400 *Morte Arth.* 188 Seyne bowes of wyldre bores with þe braune lechyde.

2. A limb, leg. Sc.

c 1550 A. SCOTT in *Evergreen* II. 183. xvi, Ryde down this brae, Thocht ye suld brek a bough. 1706 in *Watson's Coll. Poems* I. 46 (JAM.) Came and tuk her by the bough.

3. One of the larger limbs or offshoots of a tree, a main branch; but also applied to a smaller branch.

c 1000 *Ag. Gosp. Matt.* xxi. 8 Sume heowun þæra treowa bogas [c 1100 *Halton boges*]. c 1200 *Trin. Coll. Hom.* 210 Þe huemeste bou of þe treuwe. c 1200 *ORMIN* 10002 All cwik & grene bogness. c 1250 *Gen. & Ex.* 608 A grene oliues bog. a 1300 *Cursor M.* 8291 Apon a bogh þan can he seite. c 1420 *Anturs of Arth.* iv. (1842) 2 Vndur boes thay byde. 1423 *JAS. I. King's Q.* xxxv. From beugh to beugh thay hippit and thail plaid. c 1450 *HENRYSON Mor. Fab.* 45 The Bewes braid blomd about mine head. c 1500 *God speed Plough* 30 Our payment shalbe a styk of A bough. 1555 *EDEN Decades W. Ind.* iii. x. 183, To couer the same with bouwes. 1633 *WALTON Angler* 154 Fasten that line to any bow. 1736-8 *LADY M. W. MONTAGUE Lett.* I. xxxviii. 150 Followed by a man dressed in green boughs. 1875 B. TAYLOR *Faust* I. xxi. 182 Boughs are groaning and breaking.

† b. *transf.* and *fig.* A main branch, as of a vein or artery; a branch of a family, or of anything metaphorically referred to as a tree. Obs.

a 1225 *Anscr.* R. 336 Bigin uormest et prude, & sech alle þe bowes berof. a 1300 *Cursor M.* 24274 All sal be sauued thoru a man þat born es on þis bogh. 1330 R. BRUNNE *Chron.* 40 He wedded þe dukis doughter... þre bouwes of þam spronge. 1526 *Pilgr. Perf.* (W. de W. 1531) 54 b, The religyous persone shold not... haue... deed bowes ne corrupte braunches. 1668 *CULPEPPER & COLE Barthol. Anat.* i. vi. 12 The Boughs of the Vein... are sent unto the transverse Muscle.

4. *transf.* A gallows: cf. similar use of *tree*. *Legal Proverb.* 'The father to the bough, the son to the plough': supposed to mean that, according to Kentish custom, attainder for felony does not deprive a man's children of the succession to his property. *arch.*

1590 *SWINBURN Testaments* 53 Orin Kent in Gaeulkind... for there it is said, the father to the bough, and the son to the plough. 1596 *SPENSER State Irel.* Wks. (1862) 553/2 Some... have beene for their goods sake caught up, and carryed straight to the bough. 1870 *MORRIS Earthly Par.* III. iv. 77 If she doom thee to the bough.

5. Comb., as **bough-fleeced a.**, fleeced by the partial shadow of boughs (*poet.*); **bough-runes**, Stephens's name for the runic characters modified so as to resemble branching trees: also **boughless** adj.

1870 *MORRIS Earthly Par.* III. iv. 404 The 'bough-fleeced' dazzling light of mid-day shone. 1839 *FRASER'S Mag.* XX. 345 A birch-tree, entirely 'boughless, branchless, and twigless. 1868 G. STEPHENS *Runic Mon.* I. 240 The Ice-runes are read in the same way as the 'Bough-runes on

the Maeshowe stones. 1669 J. WORLIDGE *Syst. Agric.* (1681) 249 Field-fares and 'Bow-thrushes.

† **Bough**, v.¹ Obs. [f. prec. sb.] a. *trans.* To strip of boughs. b. *intr.* To send out boughs. 1523 *FITZHERB. Husb.* § 132 Dresse the wode and bowe it clene, and cut it at every byght. 1852 [see **BOUGHED**.]

† **Bough**, v.² Obs. exc. Sc. (pron. *bauχ*) [f. the sound; cf. Bow-wow.] *intr.* To bark as a dog. Hence **Boughing** ppl. a.

1566 *STUDLEY Seneca's Agamem.* (1581) 155 b, Nor barke with any boughinge throate.

Bough, obs. form of **Bo** 2, **Bow**.

† **Boughage**. Obs. [f. **BOUGH** sb.¹ + -AGE: cf. *branchage*.] Boughs collectively.

1594 *CAREW Tasso* (1881) 71 High Firres, Beeches, and Holmes of thicke bowage.

Boughed (*bauð*), ppl. a. [f. **BOUGH** sb. and v.¹ + -ED.] a. Having boughs (chiefly with descriptive adj., as *dark-boughed*, *low-boughed*); also, covered or shaded with boughs. b. Stripped of (its) boughs. c 1400 *Lay le Frains* 169 An asche... fair and heighe, Wele y-bowed. 1725 *SLOANE Jamaica* II. 304 They build their nests in low bough'd trees. 1805-6 *COLERIDGE 3 Graves* III. iii, A mossy track all over boughed. 1852 *TUPPER Proverb. Philos.* 391 The tree is felled, and boughed, and bare. 1877 M. ARNOLD *Grande Chartreuse*, Many a dark-bough'd pine.

Boughery (*bau'eri*). *nonce-wd.* [f. **BOUGH** + -ERY: cf. *rookery*.] A structure of boughs. 1855 *Household Wds.* XII. 435 Each family was squatted down under a few gum-tree boughs... all except the unmarried young men, who were located in groups at bougheries of their own.

Boughie, obs. form of **BOUGHT**.

Bough-pot (*bau'pɒt*). *arch.* or *dial.* Also 7 **bow-pott**, 7- **bow-pot**. [f. **BOUGH** sb. + **POT**: cf. *BEAU-POT*.] A pot or other vessel for holding boughs, etc., for ornament; a flower-pot; in 19th c. also a bunch of flowers, bouquet.

1583 J. HIGINS *Junius' Nomenclator* 388 Bough-pots, or flower pots set in the windows of private houses. 1665 *Perry's Diary* 13 Sept., The wind flung down a great bow-pott that stood upon the side-table. 1777 *SHERIDAN Sch. Scand.* III. iii, Not... a twig but what's in the bough-pots out of the window. 1842 *Blackw. Mag.* L. 206 Bough-pots decorate their windows. 1848 *THACKERAY Van. Fair* i, 'We have made her a bow-pot.' 'Say a bouquet... 'tis more genteel.' 1884 *Leisure Hour* Apr. 23/1 Removed to make place [in grates] for the 'bough-pots', or posies.

† **Bought**, sb.¹ Obs. Forms: a. 5 **boust**, **bought**, 6 **boughte**, **bought**(e), 4-7 **bought**; β. 6 **bowt**(e), 6-7 **bout**. [A comparatively late word (certain only from 15th c.); parallel in its senses to **BIGHT**, ME. *bygt*, OE. *byht*; and corresp. in form and sense to MLG. *bucht* (whence mod.G. *bucht*, Du. *bocht*, Da. and Sw. *bugt*). The Eng. word may also have been from LG.; but more probably it arose out of an assimilation of *byght* to *Bow* v., or was itself formed from *Bow* on the pattern of *byght*, etc. (cf. *Bucht* in Grimm). When the guttural became weak or mute, *bought* began apparently to be associated with the adv. 'bout', *about* (see 2 b, quot. 1435), and in 16-17th c. was commonly spelt *bout*, whence, with special development of sense, the current *BOUT*, sb.² q. v.]

† 1. A bend or curve; esp. a hollow angle or bend in the animal body. Cf. **BIGHT** 1. Obs.

a. 1519 *HORMAN Vulg.* 25 b, There is a scabbe in the bought of myne arme [*in ancone*]. 1530 *PALSGR.* 200/2 Bought of the arme, *le ply du bras*. 1551 *RECORDE Pathw. Knowl.* i. vii, To make a plumbe lynce... on the viter or inner boughte [of a circle]. 1610 *MARKHAM Masterp.* II. lxxv. 227 Ouerthwart the very bought or inward bent of the knee. 1658 *FRANCK North. Mem.* (1821) 159 On the bought of her near buttock was branded a remarkable patch.

β. 1609 C. BUTLER *Fem. Mem.* (1634) 40 If there be any crook or bout in the Belt. 1634 T. JOHNSON *Parry's Chirurg.* xvi. xxxiii. (1678) 364 If the elbow be dislocated... some put some round thing into the bout of the elbow.

† b. A bending in a coast-line, mountain-chain, etc. Cf. **BIGHT** 3. Obs.

a. 1480 *CAXTON Chron. Eng.* ccxxiii. 222 They... met the baillol and his compaignie at an hongyng bought of the more.

β. 1587 *FLEMING Contin. Holinshed* III. 1331/2 To enter in at the great channell of Middleborough by the bout of the foreland. 1610 *HOLLAND Camden's Brit.* i. 643 In the very bout well neere of the shore. 1675 *Pennsylv. Archives* I. 34 Over ag^t the Boutte aboute Verdrick-teige-hooke.

† 2. The bend or loop of a rope, string, or chain; the part between the ends or points of attachment (cf. **BIGHT** 2); the fold of a cloth, etc.; a turn or involution; also *fig.*, and in *comb.* as *bought-wise*.

a. c 1460 J. RUSSELL *Bk. Nurture* in *Babes Bk.* (1868) 129 Draw straight by clothe, & ley þe bought on þe vtur egge of þe table. 1570 *LEVINS Mani.* 217 A Bought, *alica*. 1611 *BIBLE 1 Sam.* xxv. 29 *marg.*, In the midst of the bought of a sling. 1616 *SURFL. & MARKH. Country Farm* 712 Net... fastened bought-wise unto the end of a long pole.

β. 1565 *Inv. Q. Mary's Dresses* in *Sal. Rev.* (1863) 12 Dec. 764/2 [Fardingales... expanded by whalebones] bowtis of quahall home. 1573 *BANISTER Kyrrurg.* II. (1585) 279 Let it be tyed first with ij involutions or bowtes. 1632 *MILTON L'Allegro* (1863) 140 In notes, with many a winding bout Of linked sweetness long drawn out. a 1648 Ld. HERBERT *Life*, One curl rising by degrees above another, and every bout tied with a small ribband.

† b. A coil, fold, or 'knot' formed by the body of a serpent, the tail of a horse, etc. Obs.

a. [c. 1300 *K. Alis.* 4712 Of those bought was heore croune.]
 c. 1435 *Torr. Portugal* 558 Abowght the schyld he lappyd
 yther, Torrent the bowght asondyr schere. 1591 SPENSER
Virg. Gnat 255 He... wrapt his scalie bowghts with fell
 despyght. 1633 H. COGAN *Pinto's Trav.* xxxv. (1663) 140 An
 Adder of Brass, infolded into I know not how many
 bowghts.

b. 1596 SPENSER *F. Q.* l. xi. 11 His huge long taylor..
 Whose wreathed bouts when euer he vnfoldes.

† 3. (cf. BOUGHT v. 1 quot. 1521.) *Obs.*

1480 CAXTON *Chron. Eng.* lxxviii. The beme of that sterre
 was bryghter than the sonne and at the bouyt of the beme
 appered a dragons hede. *Ibid.* lxxix. The hede of the dragon
 that is seyn at the bought of the beme.

Bought, bought (bauht, bōxt), *sb.* ² *Sc.*
 Also bowght, bouht, bucht. [Etymology
 obscure: it answers in form to the prec.; but the
 connexion of sense is uncertain. The Gael. *buchd*
 appears to be from Lowl. *Sc.*]

1. A sheep-fold; *spec.* a pen for confining ewes at
 milking-time.

1513 DOUGLAS *Æneis* ix. ii. 64 As we se. The wyld wolf
 .. Abowt the bowght [v. r. bouht] plet al of wandis tyght.
 1813 HOGG *Kilmory* xxiv. Broke from their bowghts and
 faulds.

2. 'A square seat in a church, a table-seat.' Jam.

3. *Comb.*, as *bought-door*, -seat.

1807 HOGG *Mt. Bard* 27 (JAM.) The bought door is always
 carefully shut at even.

† **Bought, v. 1** *Obs.* Also 6 bowght, bowt,

8 *sc.* bought. [f. BOUGHT *sb.* 1] *trans.* and *intr.*

To bend, wind, fold; to link.

1511 FISHER *Wks.* 324 Nor a syngle beme of the sonne is
 nothyng so myghty as when it is doubled and bowghted in
 itself by reboundyng and reflexyon. 1555 *Fardle Facions*
 i. vi. 100 Nature hath made.. hollow Guttes, and Crickets
 into the maigne lande, bowtyng and compassyng in and out.
 1832 *Whistle-Binkie* (Sc. Songs) i. (1853) 121 When the can-
 vassin' cam' round, the member walk'd about, And bought
 i' the Provost's arm.

Bought, bought, v. 2 *Sc.* [f. BOUGHT *sb.* 2]

1. *trans.* To pen or fold (sheep). Hence Bought-
 ing *vbl. sb.*

1724 RAMSAY *Tea-T. Misc.* (1733) l. 72 At boughting-time
 to leave the plain in milking to abide thee. 1793 BURNS
My ain kind Dearie, The eastern star Tells boughtin-time
 is near, my jo.

2. *gen.* To inclose, fence in; hence Boughted
ppl. a. Boughting-blanket, 'a small blanket,
 spread across a feather-bed, the ends being pushed
 in under the bed at both sides' (Jamieson).

1807-10 TANNHILL *Bonnie Wood Craigie Lee*, The mavis,
 down thy bought glade, Gars echo ring frae every tree.

Bought (bōt), *ppl. a.* [pa. *ppl.* of *BUY*,
 which see for forms.]

a. Purchased; freq. in *comb.* *dear-bought* (cf.
dere abought under *ABYE*). *Bought-book*: (*Comm.*)
 a book for keeping an account of bought goods.
 b. *fig.* (see senses of *BUY*) Ransomed, gained by
 a sacrifice; also bribed, etc. † *Bought plea*: a
 groundless accusation.

1599 PORTER *Angry Wom.* *Abingd.* (1841) 104 Tis an olde
 prouerbe.. bought wit is the best. 1636 RUTHERFORD *Lett.*
 lxxv. (1869) l. 193 This was but a bought plea and I was a fool.
 1646 CRASHAW *Delights of Muses* (1652) 134 More
 than.. a bought blush, or a set smile. 1700 DRYDEN *Palam.*
mon & Arc. 1687 Bought senates and deserting troops are
 mine. 1796 BURKE *Regic. Peace* ii. Wks. VIII. 230 Dear-
 bought advantages. 1849 FARRER *Comm. Class-bk.* 101 The
 Bought, or, Bills of Parcels Book, into which are entered
 the particulars of all goods bought.

Boughten (bō'tn), *ppl. a.* [irreg. f. BOUGHT
ppl. a. by assimilation to *foughten*.] = BOUGHT *ppl. a.*
 a. Used *poet.* for the sake of metre; otherwise only
dial. and in U.S. in application to purchased as
 opposed to home-made articles.

1793 COLERIDGE *Robespierre* iii. Wks. III. 36 The Com-
 mune's villain friendship, And Henriot's boughten succours.
 1805 SOUTHEY *Madoc in W. xiv*, Whose faith Reck'd not of
 boughten prayers, nor passing bell. 1825 BRO. *Jonathan*
 l. 121 Leather shoes, and white, 'boughten' stockings.

† **Boughtling**. *Obs. rare.* In 3 boughtling.
 [f. BOUGHT *pa. ppl.* of *BUY* + *-LING*.] One bought
 or ransomed.

a. 1300 *Cursor M.* 17262 [l] euer.. haf thocht.. O bi boght-
 linges hu pou boght.

† **Boughty** (bau'ti), *a. Obs.* [f. BOUGHT *sb.* 1 +
 -Y.] Bent, curved; having one or several bends.
 1570 LEVINS *Manip.* 111 Boughty, *intricatus*. 1611 COTGR.,
Cornu, crooked, or boughtie, like a horne. — s. v. *Asne*,
 Bowed, boughtie, or bowing.

Bough-wough, var. form of Bow-wow.

Boughy (bau'i), *a.* Also 6-7 boughie. [f.
 BOUGH *sb.* + -Y.] Abounding in boughs.

1570 LEVINS *Manip.* 111 Boughy, *ramosus*. 1620 G.
 FLETCHER *Christ's Vict.* in Farr's *S. P.* (1847) 62 Her
 watchman, arm'd with boughie crest. 1832 J. WILSON in
Blackw. Mag. XXXI. 988 Surprising Sir Ralph.. on briary,
 broomy, and boughy ground. 1848 THOREAU *Maine W. l.*
 (1867) 37 The drear and boughy wilderness.

|| **Bougie** (bū'gi). [a. *F. bougie* wax candle,
 from *Bougie* (Arab. *بجيه* *Bijiyah*), a town in
 Algeria which carried on a trade in wax.]

1. A wax-candle, a wax-light.

1755 *Mem. Capt. P. Drake* II. ii. 40 Supplied with..
 Bougies, otherwise Wax-lights, for their own Apartments.

1817 MAR. EDGEWORTH *Tales & Novels* (Rldg.) IX. xii.
 109 Snatching up a bougie, the wick of which scattered fire
 behind him, he left the room. c. 1865 LETHBRIDGE in *Circ. Sc.*
 l. 97/1 Stearic candles will supersede every other description
 of bougie.

2. *Med.* A thin flexible surgical instrument made
 of waxed linen, india-rubber, metal, etc., for intro-
 duction into the passages of the body, for the pur-
 pose of exploration, dilatation, or medication.

An armed or caustic bougie has a piece of caustic fixed
 within its extremity.

1754-64 SMELLIE *Midwif.* III. 513 He introduced a large
 bougie which went up a great way. 1758 J. S. tr. *Le*
Dran's Observ. Surg. (1771) 222 Bougies, contrived of
 waxed Linen rolled up. 1804 ABERNETHY *Surg. Observ.*
 201, I introduced a small hollow bougie.. into the œsopha-
 gus, and injected half a pint of milk and water.

Bougil, *obs. form* of BUGLE.

† **Bouging**, *vbl. sb. Obs.* [f. BOUGE *v.* (sense 3)
 + -ING.] A swelling, protuberance.

1398 TREVISIA *Barth. De P. R. v. xl.* (1495) 155 The galle
 is a membre hote and drye sette on the bowgyng of the
 lyuer. *Ibid.* v. xlii. (1495) 159 Roundnes of guttes and
 bowgyng and foldyng is needfull. *Ibid.* v. li. (1495) 168
 The inner bowchynge and roundnes of the thies.

† **Bougoun**. *Obs. rare*—1. † Some kind of
 musical instrument.

c. 1345 *Allit. P. B.* 1416 Bougounz busch batered so pikke.

† **Bougrie**. *Obs. rare.* [a. *F. bougre*, OF. *boul-*
gre a 'Bulgarian', a heretic:—late *L. Bulgarus* an
 inhabitant of Bulgaria.] A heretic.

1340 *Ayemb.* 19 He.. ne belesst þe he ssolde, ase dep þe
 bougre and þe heretike. *Ibid.* 134 Vor þe byþe þe bougres
 and þe heretiks proude uolore.

Bouh, *obs. form* of BOUGH, BOW.

Bouilli (bū'lyi). Also 7 boullie, 8 bouillé,
 -ie. [a. *F. bouilli*, pa. *ppl.* of *bouillir* to boil.]

Boiled or stewed meat, esp. beef. *Also attrib.*

1664 BUTLER *Hud.* ii. l. 598 French Cooks use Their
 Haut-gusts, Bouillies, or Ragousts. 1753 SMOLLETT *Ct.*
Fathom (1784) 116/1 The knight indulged upon his soup and
 bouillé. 1821 KITCHENER *Cook's Oracle* (ed. 4) 145 Beef
 Bouilli.. is fresh beef gently simmered by a slow fire.

Bouillie: see BOOLY.

|| **Bouillon** (bū'lyon). Also 8 bouillion. [F.
bouillon, f. *bouillir* to boil.]

1. Broth, soup. Also in *comb.*

1656 in BLOUNT *Glossogr.* (as Fr.) 1725 BRADLEY *Fam.*
Dict. s. v. *Sorrel*, Bouillons or thin Broth. c. 1865 *Circ. Sc.*
 l. 343/2 What in France is sold under the name of bouillon-
 cakes, is nothing but gelatine.

2. A saline 'bath', or solution of an alkali, in
 which wool is steeped previous to dyeing.

1791 HAMILTON *Berthollet's Dyeing* l. i. ii. i. Wool Boiled
 in a bath with saline substances—this is called the bouillon.

3. An excrescence of flesh in the foot of a horse.

4. In *Dressmaking*. A puffed fold.

1869 *Daily News* 4 Mar., Her Serene Highness.. wore a
 blue satin train, trimmed with bouillonnies of white tulle.

Bouk. Now only *Sc.* and *dial.* Forms: 1-3
 bū, 2-4 buke, 3-4 book, 3-6 bouke, 5 bowke,

6 buike, 7 buiek, 8-9 buik, 4- bouk. [OE.
būc belly = OS. *būc*, Du. *buike*, OHG. *būh*, *būch*,
 MHG. *būch*, mod. G. *bauch* belly, ON. *būkr* trunk
 of the body;—OTent. **būko-s*. The prevailing
 sense in ME. is the same as in ON., from which it
 may have been taken. As early as 15th c. this
 word was confounded with *BULK sb.*, which after-
 wards usurped most of its senses, and has super-
 seded it in literary use. The modern dial. and *Sc.*
bouk seems to be partly a survival of ME. *bouk*,
 partly the regular descendant of ME. *bolc*, *BULK*.]

† 1. The belly, paunch, or abdomen. *Obs.*

c. 1000 *Ælfric Hom.* (1846) II. 270 Pat husel is.. betwux
 toðum toowen, and into þam buce asend. c. 1175 *Lamb.*
Hom. 25 þe heo wulle underfon.. cristes licome in his sun-
 fulle buce. 1286 *Bt. St. Albans* B vij b, Whan yowre
 hawke hath wormys in hir bouke.

2. The trunk of the body; hence the body of a
 man or animal. After 14th c. only *Sc.* and *dial.*

a. 1225 *Ancr. R.* 134 þe hwile þet misoule is in mine buke.
 a. 1225 *Juliana* 70 Er þe bodi wið þe buce beo isundret
 from hire heaue. 1330 R. BRUNNE *Chron.* 174 A bouke of
 a motoun. c. 1330 *Arth. & Merl.* 7180 That the heued
 fleighe fram the bouk. 1513 DOUGLAS *Æneis* ix. 100 Ane
 hundreth busteous bowkis of swyne. 1591 R. BRUCE ii
Serm. X ij b, They cary their heartes out of their buikes as it
 were. 1794 BURNS *Batt. Sheriff-muir* ii, They rush'd and
 push'd.. And monie a bouk did fa', man. 1832-53 *Whistle-*
Binkie (Sc. Songs) Ser. l. 85 Mony a bonny buik lay cauld.

† b. *transf.* Applied to the body or interior of
 a church. *Obs.* (cf. *BULK*).

c. 1420 *Chron. Vilod.* 340 A lowe in to þe bouke of þe
 churche was send. 1499 *Will of Bannfeld* (Somerset Ho.),
 To be buried in the bouke of the Church.

3. = *BULK* in its modern senses: Magnitude in
 three dimensions, volume; largeness of volume,
 bulkiness; the greater portion of anything. Only
 mod. *Sc.* and *dial.*

1607 CLELAND *Poems* 78 (JAM.) Though old Colquhoun
 should bear the buick o't. 1805 J. NICOL *Poems* II. 3 (JAM.)
 The blades, accordin to their bouk He partit into bands.

1805 J. WILSON *Noct. Ambr.* Wks. 1855 l. 148 I'll weigh 't
 against its ain bouk, lead only excepted, o' ony ither material
 noo extant. 1855 *Whitby Gloss.*, *Bouk* (pron. *Book*), bulk,
 size, substance.

Bouk, dial. f. *BOLK v.* *Obs.* to belch; and *BOWK*,
 a pail. *Bouk* (s, obs. and *Sc.* form of *BUCK*.

† **Bouked**, *ppl. a. Obs.* [f. *BOUK* + -ED.] Hav-
 ing a protuberance.

c. 1300 *K. Alis.* 6265 Schorte y-swerred.. And bouked
 byfore and byhynde. 1513 DOUGLAS *Æneis* iii. vi. 127
 Quhar, in hir bowkit bysme, that hellis belth, The large
 fludis suppis thrise in ane swelth.

† **Bouksome**, *a. Sc. Obs. rare.* Also buk-
 some, -sum, bulksome. [App. f. *BOUK* + -SOME;
 but influenced in sense and partly in form by *BULK*;
 see *BUXOM a. 2*] Corpulent, portly; occupying
 large space, bulky; fig. great, powerful, influential.
 1600 *Act. Jas. VI.* (1814) 209 (JAM.) Andro had ane vther
 dowblet.. and wes mair buksom. 1708 M. BRUCE *Lect. &*
Serm. 33 (JAM.) Where Christ grows ay bulksomer in the
 bosom. *Ibid.* Christ is buksome in heaven. 1785 *Poems*
Buchan Dial. 12 (JAM.) Laggert wi' this bouksome graith
 You will tyne haaf your speed.

Bouky, *Sc. form* of *BULKY*.

Boul, *bool*. *Obs. exc. Sc. and north. dial.* (*bul*).

Also 6 boule, *Sc.* bowle, bulis (*pl.*), 8-9 bool.
 [perh. a. MDu. *boghel* or MLG. *bogel* (mod. Du.
bogel, Ger. *bügel*) bow, hoop, ring, f. stem of
 OTeut. **began* to bend, Bow.]

1. Anything bent into a curve; a curvature. *Sc.*

1513 DOUGLAS *Æneis* iii. viii. 55 A port thair is..
 In maner of a bow maid bowle [v. r. boule] or bay. 1808
 JAMIESON s. v., 'The bool of the arm', when it is bent, i. e.
 the curvature.

2. *esp.* The curved or semicircular handle of a
 pail, tea-kettle, pint-stoup, etc.; the annular part
 of a key; the holes in scissors for the thumb and
 finger. *Bouls, bools*, a movable handle of two parts
 for a pot, called also *clips*. *Sc. and north. Eng.*

1560 *Aberdeen Reg. V.* 24 (JAM.) Ane pair of pot bulis.

1570 LEVINS *Manip.* 218 Yr Boule of a potte, *ansa, capu-*
lum. 1816 SCOTT *Antiq.* III. 359 Gloss., 'To come to the
 hand like the bowl o' a pint-stoup', as easily and agreeably
 as the handle of a drinking vessel comes to the hand of a
 tippler.

3. A child's hoop for bowling. *dial.* (N.E. Eng-
 land.)

Boul, *obs. form* of *BOWL sb.*

Boulangerite (bū'landʒerit). *Min.* [f. *Bou-*
langer name of a French mineralogist + -ITE.] A
 native sulphide of antimony and lead.

1868 DANA *Min.* § 122 Embrithite is from the locality of
 boulangerite at Nertschinsk.

Bould, *obs. form* of *BOLD*.

Boulder, *bowlider* (bō'ldər), *sb.* 1 Also *dial.*

boother, bowder. [Shortened f. *BOULDER-STONE*.]

1. A water-worn rounded stone, varying in size,
 but properly larger than a pebble, used frequently
 for paving and building purposes; a cobbler.

1617 MARKHAM *Caval.* l. 57 Paved with pibble boulder, or
 some other kind of small stone. 1821 PINKERTON *Petr.*
 I. 265 Brown clay slate, in bowlders, found in the bed of
 the Alecnundra. 1837 CARLYLE *Fr. Rev.* l. v. ix. 256 The
 Bastille.. sinks day by day.. its ashlar and bowlders tum-
 bling down continually. 1871 TYNDALL *Fragm. Scienc.*
 (ed. 6) l. vi. 209 Fastened the sail at the top, and loaded
 it with bowlders at the bottom.

2. *spec. Geol.* A large weather-worn mass or
 block of stone, frequently carried by natural forces
 to a greater or less distance from the parent rock,
 and generally lying on the surface of the ground,
 or in superficial deposits; an erratic block.

1813 BAKEWELL *Introduct. Geol.* (1815) 73 Some of the ver-
 tical beds of rock covering the granite contain.. bowlders.
 1830 LYELL *Princ. Geol.* I. 369 Enormous rounded bowlders
 .. of trachyte and basalt. 1859 DARWIN *Orig. Spec.* xii. 335
 Erratic bowlders have.. been noticed on the Rocky Moun-
 tains.

fig. 1858 HAWTHORNE *Fr. & It. Frals.* (1872) l. 14 The
 first Napoleon.. a great boulder in history.

3. *transf.* A lump or mass of some material;
spec. in *Mining*, a large detached piece of ore
 found away from the regular lode. Also *attrib.*
 in the sense of 'big, lumpy'.

1861 SALA *Tw. round Clock* 173 Its bowlders of whitening,
 and its turpentine-infected bundles of firewood. 1866 DANA
Min. Geol. 537 Bowlders of Native Copper have been found.

1882 *Pall Mall G.* 31 May 4/1 The birds will have.. all of
 the seed; the boulder clods will never cover it.

4. *Comb.*: boulder-clay, a clayey deposit be-
 longing to the ice-age, and containing bowlders,
 etc.; boulder-drift = *boulder-formation*; boulder-
 flat, a tract of country strewn with bowlders;
 boulder-formation, a formation or deposit con-
 sisting of mud, clay, etc., in which bowlders are
 embedded; boulder-head, a kind of sea-wall;
 boulder-paving, paving made of bowlders; boul-
 der-period, the geological epoch in which boul-
 der-formations were being produced, the Ice Age
 or Glacial Period; boulder-walls (see quot.).

1878 HUXLEY *Physiogr.* xvii. 280 An icy sea, from which
 the 'boulder clay and glacial gravels were deposited. 1884
 DAWSON in *Handbk. Canada* 324 Stratified sands and gravels
 overlying the boulder-clay. 1876 PAGE *Adv. Text-bk. Geol.*
 xix. 355 The 'boulder-drift' is a bold and clearly-defined
 formation. 1884 J. COLBORNE *With H. Pasha* 44 The road
 across this 'boulder-flat' consisted of numerous pathways
 running side by side. 1845 DARWIN *Voy. Nat.* ix. (1873) 180

Fragments of primitive rocks derived from the surrounding boulder-formation were very numerous. *Ibid.* viii. 174. The ice-transporting boulder-period. 1738 CHAMBERS *Cycl.*, 'Boulder-walls, a kind of walls built of round flints or pebbles, laid in a strong mortar.

Boulder, bolder, *sb.* The bulrush (*Scirpus lacustris*); 'the rush used for bottoming chairs'.

1847-78 HALLIWELL, *Bolder*. 1884 G. C. DAVIES *Norfolk Broads* iii. 24 The weeds and boulders (or clumps of flags).

Boulder (*bō'ldə*), *v.* [f. **BOULDER** *sb.*]. To make into boulders. (Perh. only in pa. pple.)

1839 MURCHISON *Silur. Syst.* i. xxxix. 540 They may have been carried down by streams to the shores, and have been long bouldered there.

Bouldering (*bō'ldəriŋ*), *vbl. sb.* [f. prec. + -ING¹]. The action of prec. verb; paving with boulders; *concr.* boulder-stones laid as a pavement. 1880 L. WALLACE *Ben-Hur* 409 The bouldering of the pavement was rough.

Boulder-stone (*bō'ldəstōn*). Forms: 3-6 bulder-stone, 7 boother, bowther-stone, 8-9 bowlder-stone, 7-boulder-stone. [Etymology obscure. With ME. *bulderston*, cf. Sw. dial. (E. Gothl.) *buldersten* a large stone in a stream, one which makes a rumbling noise in the water, as opposed to *klappersten* a smaller pebble; f. Sw. *bulder* noise, roar, *bulld-a* to roar, rumble + *sten* = STONE. This gives a passable sense; but no corresponding word is known elsewhere in Swedish, Old or New, Icelandic, Norwegian, or Danish; so that actual relation between the North. Eng. and Swedish dialect word cannot be asserted.

No words answering to Sw. *bulder*, *bultra*, exist in Old or New Icelandic; but Da. has *bulder* 'tumbling noise', *buldr* 'to racket, rattle, make a noise'. If either these words were in use in North. Eng., or a compound '*bulder-sten*' in Da., it would be natural to find here the origin of the Eng. word; but no such connecting links are found. The verb and *sb.* seem indeed to exist in the Sc. *bulder* 'to bellow, roar', *bulder* 'bellowing, roar, loud gurgling sound', but this is not quite the shade of sense required, while the form it would yield is not *bulder*, *bulder*, *bowther*, or *boother*, as actually found in North. Eng. dial., but '*bulder-stane*', which is not found.]

A rounded water-worn stone larger than a pebble, a cobble-stone (= **BOULDER** *sb.* 1). Also, in later use, = **BOULDER** 2.

a 1300 *Havelok* 1790 He gripen sone a bulder ston, And let it fleye. 1583 FITZGER. *Husb.* § 15 Bulder stones.. would wear the yren to soone. 1635 BRERETON *Trav.* (1844) 101 The best paved street with bowther stones.. that I have seen. 1790 *Gentl. Mag.* Apr. 350 Large bowlder stones. 1861 Mrs. NORTON *Lady La C.* i. 224 The ground is rough with boulder stones. 1879 JENKINSON *Guide to Lake Dist.* 148 *Borroudale*.. The Bowder Stone is an immense detached block.. computed to weigh 1971 tons. 1884 S. E. DAWSON *Handbk. Canada* 295 A very singular plateau, covered to a great depth with rounded boulder-stones.

Bouldery (*bō'ldəri*), *a.* [f. **BOULDER** 1 + -Y¹]. Characterized by the presence of boulders.

1859 *All Y. Round* No. 36. 219 Constantinople.. with.. its loose bouldery trottoir. 1876 PAGE *Adv. Text.* *Geol.* xiii. 217 The bouldery conglomerates that flank the Grampians. 1876 H. M. STANLEY *Dark Cont.* II. xii. 347, 400 yards from the bouldery wall, rose a lengthy and stupendous cliff line. 1882 BLACKMORE *Christowell* II. x. 219 The ground was uneven though not bouldery.

† **Boule**! *! Obs.* [app. a variant spelling of **BOLL**, **BOWL**, a hemispherical dish.] A measure of lead ore: see *quot.*

1449 *Excheq. Records* in Risdon *Surv. Devon* Intro. 18, 144 Boulds of Glance Oar. 1670 PETTUS *Fodina Regales* s. v. *Boule*, cited in TAPPING *Gloss. Lead-mining Terms* 1851 (E.D.S.) 24 *Boule* or *Dish*, a certain measure wherewith the miners are accustomed to measure out the duties to the church and king.. it formerly contained about half a peck.

Boule 2 (*būl*). The more correct form of the word commonly spelt **BULL**.

1875 POLLEN *Anc. & Mod. Furnit.* (1875) 95 Boul marquetry, which owes its name to the maker.. André Charles Boulle. 1883 *Scotsman* 9 May 11/8 Old Bronze Groups.. on magnificent coloured Boulle Pedestals.

Boule, *obs.* form of **BOWL**.

Boulene, boulin, *obs.* forms of **BOWLINE**.

Boulespret, *obs.* form of **BOWSPRIT**.

Boulet (*bule*). [a. F. *boulet* **BULLET**, dim. of *boule* ball: cf. **BOWL** *sb.* 2]

† 1. A small globe, sphere, or ball. *Obs.*

1605 TIMME *Quersit.* iii. 86 Thou shalt put them into a small boulet of oake. 1677 GALE *Crt. Gentiles* II. iii. 204 The Agnus Dei.. is made like to those bulles or boulets of waxe, which they hang about the neckes of children.

2. *techn.* 'A horse whose fetlock or pastern-joint bends forward, and out of its natural position' (Webster). [A misuse of the F. word, which means 'fetlock'; a horse which has its fetlock out of place is said to be *boulet*.]

† **Boulevard** (*bulvar*, *bulvar*). *rarely -vart.* [a. F. *boulevard*, older *-vart*, *-ver*; app. corrupted from a Tent. word = Ger. *bullwerk* **BULWARK**; cf. Sp. *baluarte*, It. *baluardo* *bulwark*.]

A broad street, promenade, or walk, planted with rows of trees. Chiefly applied to streets of this kind in Paris, or to others which it is intended to compare to them.

(The French word originally meant the horizontal portion of a rampart; hence the promenade laid out on a demolished fortification.)

1772 *Weekly Mag.* 21 May 233/2 We made the circuit of the city on the boulevards. 1816 J. SCOTT *Viz. Paris* (ed. 5) 65 The Boulevard, goes round the capital, and was originally its boundary. 1871 M. COLLINS *Mrg. & Merch.* III. xii. 288 I'm fond of its Boulevards busy. 1881 MORLEY *Cadden* II. 128 The massacre of unarmed citizens on the boulevards.

Hence (in newspapers) **Boulevardian** *a.*, **Boulevardish**, **Boulevardry** *a.*, **Boulevardise** *v.* 1864 *Sat. Rev.* XVIII. 27/2 The boulevardizing of Paris has.. caused great misery to the poor.

† **Boulevardier** (*bulvardye*). [Fr.: f. *boulevard*, see prec.] One who frequents a boulevard.

1879 F. HARRISON *Choice Bks.* (1886) 24 As hard.. as it seems to a Parisian boulevardier to live in a quiet country. 1882 *Society* 28 Oct. 11/2 The abandoned boulevardier only looks with pity on the young enthusiasts.

† **Boulevardisation**. *Obs. rare* -1. [f. next + -ATION.] An overturning or upsetting.

1667 E. CHAMBERLAYNE *St. Ct. Brit.* i. (1684) 64 The late Boulevardisations or overturnings.

† **Bouleverse**, *v.* *Obs. rare.* Also 7 *bouleverse*. [a. F. *bouleverse* -r to turn as a ball, f. *boule* ball, *verser* to turn.] *trans.* To upset, overturn.

1673 MARVELL *Reh. Transpr.* II. 369 It would raise a very great disorder.. *bouleverse* (ed. 1674 *boul-verse*) so, and overturn the signification of all words.

† **Bouleversement** (*bulversmañ*, *bulvō'sm-*). [F.; f. *bouleverse* -r to overturn: see prec.] A turning upside down, a violent inversion.

1814 SCOTT *Let. in Life* xi. (Chandos) 251 There is need for a previous bouleversement of every thing. 1832 *Blackw. Mag.* XXXI. 553 The bouleversement of ideas.. which a revolution produces. 1877 W. THOMSON *Voy. Challenger* I. iii. 185 The bouleversement of the dredge had plainly been caused by the twist in the new line.

Boulge, Boulke, *obs.* forms of **BULGE**, **BULK**.

Boulmy, *var.* form of **BULMY**.

Boulspret, -sprit, *obs.* forms of **BOWSPRIT**.

Boulster, *obs.* form of **BOLSTER**.

Boult, -er, *var.* of **BOLT** *v.* 1 to sift, -ER.

† **Boultel**. *Obs.* Also 5-6 *bultell* (e. [a. OF. **buletel*, earlier *buretel* (now *bluteau*) meal-sieve; f. *bulter*, *bureter* (now *bluter*) to **BOLT** *v.* 1]

A kind of cloth specially prepared for sifting; a sieve (= **BOLTER** 1 2); hence degree of fineness as determined by the fineness of the sieve.

1666 *Act* 51 *Hen. III.* (*Assisa Panis*), Panis de coquet de eodem blado et eodem bultello, ponderabit, etc. [*transl.* 1618, Bread Cocket of a farthing of the same Corne and bultell, shall weigh, etc.]

c 1460 J. RUSSELL *Bk. Nurture* 164 in *Babes Bk.* (1868) 128 Let hit renne in iij. or vj. bagges; gete hem, if bow may, of bultelle clothe. 1477 *Lanc. Wills* (1884) 3 Half a pece bultell price iij. s. j. Dosen bultell price xvjd. a 1500 *ARNOLD Chron.* (1811) 206 A balle bultell conteyneth xxxvi. half pecis. a 1610 in *Gutch Coll. Cur.* II. 12 They bake two loaves for one penny.. good paste, and bultell, and lawfull size. 1638 PENKETHMAN *Artack*. Giv b, For his Boult ell od. 29. 1666 *Act* 12 *Chas. II.* iv. Sched., Boultel Rains the piece viii. s.

Boultell, bountle, bountine: see **BOLTEL**.

Boulter (*bō'ltar*). Also *bolter*. [Deriv. unknown: see also **BULTER**, **BULTREY**.] A long fishing-line armed with a large number of hooks.

1602 CAREW *Cornwall* 34 a. These Hakes.. are taken.. with the boulder (ed. 1811 *bolter*) which is a Spiller of a bigger size. 1848 C. A. JOHNS *Week at Lisard* 243 Spillers and boulders are long stout lines, to which are attached several hundred baited hooks, with an anchor and wasteline furnished with corks at the end. 1883 *Fisheries Exhib. Catal.* 126 Bolter, Card containing thirteen sizes of hooks.

Bouman *Sc.* (*bau'mān*, *bū'mān*). [app. f. **BOW** *sb.* 4] The tenant of a **BOWING**.

1552 *Stewart's Trial* (*Scots Mag.* Sept. 458), John Mac-Col, bouman, having the charge of milk-cows upon a farm or shealing belonging to Stewart of Appin. 1886 STEVENSON *Kilmarnock* vi. 108 The farmers and the crofters and the boumen.. writing their very plaids to get a second rent. *Ibid.* 804 *note*, A bouman is a tenant who takes stock from the landlord and shares with him the increase.

Bouman, *obs.* form of **BOWMAN**.

Boumbard, *obs.* f. **BOMBARD**.

Boumet = *baumet*, *obs.* pa. pple. of **BALM** *v.*

† **Boun** (*baun*), *v.* *Obs.* or *arch.* Forms: 3 *boun* (n, 4-9 *boun* (e, *bown* (e, *bowen*, 5 *Sc. bowyn*, 9 *boon*. [f. *boun*, older form of **BOUND** *ppl.* a. 1]

The word appears to have become obsolete in literary use c 1600; revived by Sir W. Scott.]

† 1. *trans.* To prepare, make ready. *Obs.*

a 1375 *Joseph Arim.* 414 *Pe kyng boskes lettres anon*, to bounen his berne. *Ibid.* 472 To bounne mo berne. 1515 *Scottish Field* 213 in *Chetham Misc.* (1856) II, Then the bishop full boldlie bowneth furth his standart.

b. *refl.* To prepare oneself, get ready (often in connexion with *busk*); to betake oneself, have recourse to (anything).

a 1300 *Cursor M.* 11020 Ioseph.. bouned him to wend againe. c 1400 *Destr. Troy* 827, I wold bounne me to batell, and take my bare aunter. 1515 *Scottish Field* 83 in *Chetham Misc.* (1856) II, He did buske and bounne him, to go on his message. a 1575 PILKINGTON *Exp. Nehemiah* (1841) 353 They buskle and bounne themselves to this work. 1600 FAIRFAX *Tasso* III. xxx. 45 The villain, who to flight him bound. 1808 *Scott Marm.* IV. xxii, Each ordering that his band Shoudl bounne them with the rising day. 1847 BAR-

HAM *Ingol. Leg.* (1877) 243 St. Medard hath boon'd himself for the task. 1866 J. ROSE *Virgil* 99 Soon must we bound us for a loftier song.

2. *intr.* (for *refl.*) To get ready, prepare; to dress. c 1375 BARBOUR *Troy-bk.* II. 2852 Than thocht hime at þat ymage gay Bouned to pass frome hime away. 1513 DOUGLAS *Æneis* VII. Prol. 97, I crocit me, syne bounit for to sleip. *Ibid.* XIII. Prol. 46 Euery thing.. Bounis to tak the hailsum nychtis rest Estir the days laubour. 1674 RAY *N. C. Wds.* 7 To Boun and unboun, to dress and undress. 1815 HOGG *Pilgr. Sun* i. xvi, For then the fairies boun' to ride And elves of Ettrick's greenwood shaw.

3. *intr.* To betake oneself to (a place), set out, go. c 1305 E. E. ALLIT. P. B. 1398 Barounes at þe sidebordes bounet ay where. c 1375 BARBOUR *Troy-bk.* II. 2712 Pirrus bouned to Delphos yle.. a 1455 HOLLAND *Houlat* xviii, But bounis out of Babilon with all obedience. a 1540 *Peebles to Play* i. 5 At Beltan, when ilk bodie bounes To Peebles to the play. 1558 LYNDSEY *Monarchie* 6312 The blyssfull byrdia bounis to the treis. 1805 *Scott Last Minstr.* v. xxx, Till Lord Dacre's band Were bouning back to Cumberland.

Boun, *obs.* form of **BOON**, **BOUND** *ppl.* a.

Bounce (*bauns*), *sb.* 1 [see **BOUNCE** *v.* (The first three senses appear nearly simultaneously, and their order here is purely provisional.)]

1. A heavy and usually noisy blow caused by something big; a sounding knock, thump. a 1599 SKELTON *Ware the Hanks* 86 He gave her a bounce Full upon the gorge. 1583 STANLEY *Æneis* III. (Arb.) 88 With ramping bounce clapping neer to the seacoast Fierce the waters ruffle. 1609 FORD *Lover's Mel.* i. l. (1839) 2 Blustering Boreas.. thumps a thunder bounce. 1761 *Brit. Mag.* II. 506 A noise from the next room, conveyed in distinct bounces against the wainscot. 1884 MISS MITFORD *Village Ser.* II. (1863) 247 His knock at the door was a bounce that threatened to bring the house about our ears.

† 2. The loud burst of noise produced by an explosion; the explosion itself. *Obs.* (See **BOUNCE** *interj.* in the same sense, occurring 1523.)

1552 HULOT, Bounce, noyse, or thump. 1595 SHAKS. *John* II. 462 He speaks plaine Cannon fire, and smoake, and bounce. 1700 DE FOE *Reform. Manners* Concl. 44 These are the Squibs and Crackers of the Law, which hiss and make a Bounce, and then withdraw. 1719 HALLEY in *Phil. Trans.* XXX. 990 The rattling Noise like small-Arms, heard after the great Bounce on the Explosion over Tiverton. 1766 CAVENDISH *ibid.* LVI. 149 With 7 parts of inflammable to 3 of common air, there was a very gentle bounce or rather puff.

3. A leap, a bound. *On the bounce*: in continual spasmodic movement.

1593 SKELTON *Carl. Laurell* 138 He brought out a rabyll Of courters and rounsis With lepes and bounsis. 1570 LEVINS *Manif.* 220 A Bounce, leape, saltus. 1799 ATTERBURY *Misc. Wks.* V. 131 It will not be so much upon the bounce as formerly. 1809 W. IAVINA *Knickerb.* IV. x. (1849) 242 The testy little governor.. appears with one annoyance and the other to have been kept continually on the bounce. 1884 *Chr. World* 10 July 513/1 In each bounce or throw of the ball.

4. (from 2.) A loud or audacious boast; a boastful falsehood; *abstr.* impudent self-assertion, swagger.

1716 STEELE *Lover* (1723) 93 This is supposed to be only a Bounce. 1733 CHEVYNE *Eng. Malady* III. iv. (1734) 301 It was a wild Bounce of a Pythagorean, who defy'd any one to, etc. 1844 GALT *Rothelan* II. v. ix. 261 It is, I own, a brave bounce to aspire to the daughter of so proud an earl. 1809 DE QUINCEY *Murder Wks.* IV. 21 The whole story is a bounce of his own. 1866 W. G. WARD *Ess.* (1882) II. 107 Here is bounce and swagger with a vengeance.

b. *collog.* A boastful, swaggering fellow. 1812 J. H. VAUX *Flash Dict.*, Bounce, a person well or fashionably dressed is said to be a *rank bounce*.

Bounce (*bauns*), *sb.* 2 A name of the Dogfish (*Scyllium Canicula*).

a 1709 RAY *Syn. Pisc.* 22. 1861 COUCH *Brit. Fishes* I. 11 Bounce = Nurse Hound.

Bounce (*bauns*), *v.* Forms: 3 *bunsen*, 4-7 *bounse*, 6-7 *bownse*, 6- *bounce*.

[The origin of **BOUNCE** *v.*, *sb.* 1, *intr.* (adv.) is obscure, and their mutual relations complicated. ME. *bunsen* agrees in form and meaning with mod. Du. *bons* a thump, *bonsen* (LG. *bunsen*, HG. dial. *bunnsen*) to beat, thump, thwack; but there is no early record of these words, and perh. they may be related to the Eng. word merely as parallel onomatopoeic formations. Early in 16th c. we find the interjectional use of *bounce* (= LG. and HG. dial. *bunns*) to imitate the report of a gun or other loud sudden noise, and (a little later) to express sudden or violent movement. About the same time the vb. (previously seldom occurring) became common in its original sense 'to beat', but with the notion of noise or vehemence more conspicuous - 'to knock, bang'; it also acquired the senses 'to make a banging or explosive noise', and 'to make a sudden or violent movement of a bounding nature'. The sb. is also found in all these senses early in the 16th c. Whether these were natural developments of the original sense, as expressing phenomena which often accompany a knock or thump, or at least are present in the bang of cannon (which had come into use just before these extensions of *bounce*), or whether there has been influence of any other words is not clear. The development of sense however is to a great extent parallel to that of **BANG**, which has dialectally even the sense of 'bounce into a room', etc.]

1. To beat, thump, trounce, knock.

† 1. *trans.* *Obs.*

a 1285 *Ancre. R.* 188 *per* 3e schulen iscon bunsen ham mit tes deoffes bettles. 1377 TREvisa *Hyden* Rolls Ser. I. 281 Pis Pypinus gat Charles þat heet Tutidis of tunder, þat is bete and bounce'. 1560 *Nice Wanton* in Hazl. *Dods.* II. 167 Yet Salomon sober correction doth mean, Not to beat and bounce them; to make them lame. 1566 SPENSER *F. Q.* III. xi. 27 And wilfully him throwing on the gras Did beat

and bounce his head and breast full sore. 1654 BENLOWES *Theoph.* x. xxxix. 184 We seem'd to knock at hell, and bounce the firmament. 1688 N. O. *Boileau's Lutrin* iii. 186 He trounce and bounce thee for t' th' Spiritual Court. 1797 SWIFT *Gulliver* iii. li. 184 Bouncing his head against every post. 1801 MAR. EDGEWORTH *Good Fr. Gov.* (1831) 132 She has taught me to read without bouncing me about and shaking me.

† 2. *intr.* To knock loudly, esp. at a door. *Obs.* 1570 B. GOODE *Popish Kingd.* iv. 38 On the Thursday Boyes and Girles do runne in euery place, and bounce and beate at euery doore. 1591 LVLV *Endym.* iv. ii. 56 Come my browne bills wee'l roare Bounce loud at taverne dore. 1656 TRAPP *Comm. Matt.* v. 20 They shall come knocking and bouncing, with 'Lord, Lord, open unto us'. 1708 SWIFT *Wks.* (1841) II. 256 Another bounces as hard as he can knock.

II. To make a loud explosive noise, to talk loudly or bigly.

† 3. *intr.* To make a noise of explosion, to go 'bang'. *Obs.*

1554 HULOET, Bouncen or cracke, *crepo.* c. 1700 in Hearne *Coll.* II. 456 Fir'd the Train, And made it bounce louder and louder. 1719 RAMSAY *Wks.* (1848) I. 149 Where cannon bounced and rearing horses pranced.

b. *trans.* To slam, to bang (a door).

1766 WOLCOTT (P. Pindar) *Ep. Boswell* Wks 1794 I. 321 What though against thee porters bounce the door.

4. *intr.* To talk big, bluster, hector; to swagger.

To bounce out (with): to blurt out 'roundly'.

c. 1666 *Dick of Devon* II. iv. in Bullen O. Pl. II. 38 Are you bouncing? He no further. a. 1659 CLEVELAND *Gen. Poems* (1677) 137 There he bounceth out with his *cupka*. 1758 JOHNSON *Idler* No. 28 ¶ 5 Let him bounce at his customers if he dares. 1765 BR. LOTHW. *Let. to Warburton* 14 He . . . bounces, blusters, and swaggers, as if he were really sovereign Lord. 1848 THACKERAY *Van. Fair* lxxv. 'She's the finest lady I ever met in my life', bounced out the Major. 1872 F. W. ROBINSON *Wrayford's W.*, *Tito's Troubles*, You must not let the big boys bounce . . . over him too much.

b. *trans.* To proclaim with bounce.

a. 1654 BROME *Queen* I. iii. 6, I may not hear these wonders bounc'd.

5. *trans.* To talk big at; to bully. In modern colloq. use, To 'blow up', scold roundly.

a. 1666 FLETCHER *Nt. Walker* iv. i, I do so whirle her to the Counsellors chambers . . . and bounce her for more money. 1812 J. H. VAUX *Flash Dict.*, To bounce a person out of any thing, is to use threatening or high words, in order to intimidate him, and attain the object you are intent upon. 1883 *Manch. Exam.* 30 Nov. 5/2 French statesmen persuaded themselves . . . that they could 'bounce' their opponents out of a slice of territory in Tonquin. *Mod. colloq.* The clerk was well bounced for his carelessness.

III. *intr.* To move with a sudden bound.

6. To bound like a ball; to throw oneself about: esp. said of an elastic or bounding movement by a heavy or bulky body. In early use To bounce it (said of a woman dancing): cf. L. *humum pulsare* 'to thump or pounce the ground'.

1519 *Interl. Four Elem.* in Hazl. *Dodsl.* I. 35 She will bounce it, she will whip, Yea, clean above the ground! 1580 *Gold. Mirr.* (1851) 54 See where one bounseth in a players gowne. 1601 SHAKS. *Per.* II. i. 26, I saw the porpus, how he bounced and tumbled. 1743-4 MRS. DELANY *Autobiog.* (1861) II. 254 My heart bounced for joy at the news of your good house. 1767 *Best Angling* (ed. 2) 35 When you have struck him, he will plunge and bounce in the water very much. 1808 I. MILNER *Life* xiv. (1842) 261 All in one instant, it bounced into my mind, that there must be an opening in the said brass rods. 1812 H. & J. SMITH *Ref. Addr.* 40 Nine centuries bounced he from cavern to rock. 1830 BAILEY *Festus* v, God puts his finger in the other scale, And up we bounce, a bubble. 1851 O. W. HOLMES *A Song of '29*, A cannon bullet rolling comes 'bouncing' down the stairs. a. 1859 DE QUINCEY *Bentley* Wks. VI. 84 The judges bounced like quicksilver. 1883 BROWNING *J. Habbakuk* in *Jocoseria* 127 Yet is the Ruach (. . . The imparted Spirit) in no haste to bounce From its entrusted Body. *Mod.* This ball is split, and will not bounce at all.

7. To come or go as unceremoniously as a tossed ball, to throw oneself with excess of physical momentum; to burst unceremoniously into, out of. 1679 *Hist. Jester* 4 The Receiver, Cook, and Mr. Novice, came bouncing in. 1807 SCOTT *Diary in Lockhart* xxiv, The French . . . bounce in at all hours and drive one half mad with compliments. 1851 HELPS *Comp. Solit.* iv. (1874) 45 The market-gardener's wife, little attended to, bounces out of the room. 1883 LD. SALTOUR *Scraps* I. iii. 264 The innkeeper's wife bounced into the room.

8. *trans.* To discharge suddenly from employment.

U.S. [Of uncertain origin.]

1884 *Boston (Mass.) Jnl.* 3 Oct. 2/3 Speaker Carlisle has bounced his clerk, Mr. Nelson, for telling tales out of school. 1885 *Milnor (Dakota) Teller* 5 June 5/2 Tuller, Judge Hudson's imported clerk of the court at Lisbon, is likely to be bounced, and Hugh Doherty appointed.

Bounce (bauns), *int.* and *adv.* Also 6 bowns, bounce, 6-7 bownoe. [The stem of the vb. or sb. interjectionally: cf. the corresponding use of Ger. *bums*, *bumps*, as in *bums geht die Thür* (Grimm).]

A. *int.* a. Imitating the sound of a gun. b. Expressing sudden, violent movement.

1593 SKELTON *Carl. Laurel* 624 With that I herd gunnis rushe out at ones, Bowns, Bowns, Bowns! that all they out cryde. 1590 *Pasquil's Apol.* I. D.ij.b, Bounce, thers a gunne gone off, doe not the Bishops quake at thys? 1597 SHAKS. 2 *Hen. IV.* III. ii. 303 Bounce would hee say, and away againe would hee goe. 1608 ARMIN *Nest Ninn.* (1880) 59 Bounce is the worlds motto there, till they discharge the braine of all good abearing. 1852 HOOD *Lamia* iii. 44 At every step—Bounce! when I only thought to stride a pace, I bounced thirty.

B. *adv.* With a BOUNCE (senses 1, 2, 3).

1604 DEKKER *Honest Wh. Wks.* 1873 II. 82 The Turkes gallies are fighting with my ships, Bounce goes the guns. 1750 GRAY *Let. in Poems* (1775) 216 The Heroines . . . bounce into the parlour enter'd. 1769 WOLCOTT (P. Pindar) *Expost. Ode* xii. Wks. 1812 II. 242 Bounce on my dear *os frontis* falls the lead. 1847 BARNHAM *Ingol. Leg.* (1877) 95 Bounce went the door, In came half a score Of the passengers, sailors, and one or two more. 1864 MISS YONGE *New Ground* xv, Something came bounce against the door.

Bounceable (baun'säb'l), a. *colloq.* Also bounceable. [f. BOUNCE v. + -ABLE.] Inclined or given to bounce. Hence Bounceably *adv.*

1830 S. WARREN *Diary Phys.*, *Grave Doings*, He became quite 'bounceable', and ranted about the feat. 1876 BLACKMORE *Cripps* xii. 69 Beckley . . . as good as told the latter lady not to be 'so bounceable'. 1838 DICKENS *O. Twist* xviii, There's no call to tell a man he is, so bounceably.

† **Bounced**, ppl. a. *Obs.* [f. BOUNCE v. + -ED.] Beaten, knocked about.

1519 HORMAN *Vulg.* in *Prompt. Parv.* 55 He came home with a face all to bounced, *confusd.*

Bouncer (baun'sä), n. [f. BOUNCE v. + -ER.]

1. One who bounces (sense 4 of the vb.).

1766 FOOTE *Lyar* III. (1776) 56 Nor is the character of my son to be blasted with the breath of a bouncer. 1776 in *Priv. Lett.* 1st Ld. *Malmesbury* I. 351 The Nabob, the greatest Bouncer of all those Bouncers, comes out of gaol. 1876 *World* No. 115, 20 The old maid . . . does not stand the slightest chance unless she is of the gushing bouncer class.

2. a. A boaster, bully, swaggering liar. b. in *Thieves' slang* (see quot. 1862).

1833 MARRYAT *P. Simple* xxxi, He's a . . . kind fellow enough, but . . . Such a bouncer! 1864 MAYHEW *Crim. Prisons* 46 Bouncers and besters who cheat by laying wagers.

3. A 'bouncing' or 'thumping' lie.

1805 G. COLMAN *J. Bull* III. iii. (L.) You know . . . what a bouncer you told me.

4. A large specimen of its kind; a 'thumper'.

a. 1859 DE QUINCEY (Webster) The stone must be a bouncer. 1872 TAUNT *Map Thames* 15 See, I've got a roach, and a bouncer. *Colloq.* She was a bouncer.

Bounce (e, var. of BOUNCE).

Bouncing (baun'sin), *vbl. sb.* [f. BOUNCE v.]

1. Striking, knocking, banging, thumping.

1583 STANYHURST *Æneis* II. (Arb.) 59 With rip rap bouncing thee ram to the chapter is hurled. 1599 NASHE *Almond for P.* 13 a, Having worn out three or four pulpits with the unreasonable bouncing of his fists. 1870 L'ESTRANGE *Miss Mitford* I. vi. 176 A noise of shouting, knocking, and bouncing.

† 2. The making of loud, explosive noise; banging.

1508 BARRET *Theor. Warres* v. v. 167 To heare the bouncing of the Cannon. 1652 J. WORDSWORTH *tr. Sanderel* 329 Great clamors of men and bounding of guns.

3. Bragging, blustering; boastful exaggeration, lying; *colloq.* a good scolding.

1634 HEYWOOD *Witches Lanc.* iv. Wks. 1874 iv. 29, I do not like the bouncing of good Offices. 1687 T. BROWN *Saints in Up.* Wks. 1730 I. 72 Calling of names and giving the lie . . . swagging and bouncing. 1773 JOHNSON in *Boswell* II. 68 Nothing can be poorer than his mode of writing: it is the mere bouncing of a schoolboy. 1885 YOUNG *Two Sides of Sh.* iv, A great protection against bouncing and rudeness.

4. A sudden bounding movement.

1611 COTGR. *Ballade*, a bounding, or bouncing, as, of a football, or high going horse. 1774 GOLDSM. *Nat. Hist.* (1862) I. x. 52 A rocking of the earth to and fro, and sometimes a perpendicular bouncing . . . of the same.

Bouncing, ppl. a. [f. BOUNCE v. + -ING.]

That bounces: in various senses of the verb relating alike to loudness, brag, and vigorous or ungainly movement. Often also (like 'thumping', whacking, whopping, strapping', and other words meaning vigorous striking) used with the sense of 'big', esp. 'big rather than elegant or graceful'.

(In many of the quotations the exact shade of meaning is doubtful.)

1570 SPENSER *Sheph. Cal.* Aug. 61, I saw the bouncing Bellifone. 1588 MARRYAT *Epist.* (Arb.) 34 Can they not be satisfied with the blessing of this braue bouncing priest? 1602 *Return from Parnass.* iv. I. (Arb.) 50, I am well provided of three bouncing wenches. 1606 J. RAYNOLDS *Dolany's Prim.* (1880) 97 The bouncing Doe, vnto the brakes did come. 1611 *Coryat's Crudities* Pref. Verses, Oh for a bonny blith and bouncing ballet To praise this Odcom'b'd Chanticleere. 1664 FULLER *Worthies* (1840) 363 His mother . . . lay down her burthen at Elmby . . . where this bouncing babe Bonner was born. 1736 H. WALPOLE *Corr.* (1820) I. 8 A bouncing head of, I believe, Cleopatra. 1743 MRS. DELANY *Autobiog. & Corr.* (1861) II. 237 [She] is as bouncing as ever, and as loud. 1773 GOLDSM. *Stoops to Conq.* III, I never saw such a bouncing swaggering puppy since I was born. 1807 T. JEFFERSON *Writ.* (1830) IV. 101 The bouncing letter he published, and the insolent one he wrote to me. 1813 WAUGH *Let. in Mem.* v. (1839) 310 An inexperienced, bouncing but well-disposed young woman. 1837 J. LANG *New S. Wales* II. 378 It has even given birth to a school of oratory in the colony—the bouncing school, it may be styled. 1841 MRS. MOZLEY *Fairy Bower* iv, She was . . . bold Belle, and bouncing Belle, and every thing but bonny Belle. 1847 BARNHAM *Ingol. Leg.*, *St. Cuthb.*, Stephen de Hoakes . . . had told all the party a great bouncing lie.

Hence Bouncingly *adv.*, boastfully, blusteringly.

a. 1677 BARROW *Pop's Suprem.* (L.) Pighius said, bouncingly, the judgement of the apostolical see . . . is far more certain.

Bouncing-Bet (baun'sin bet). [f. prec. +

Bet for Elizabeth.] A popular name for the Soap-

wort (*Saponaria officinalis*).

1884 *Harper's Mag.* Oct. 740/2 The bouncing-bets and sweet-williams. 1884 MILLER *Plant-n.*, Bouncing Bet, *Saponaria officinalis*.

Bound (baund), sb. 1. Forms: 3 bunne, (4-5 ? boune), 6-7 bowne, 4-6 bond(e, bounde, 5-7 bownd(e, 4- bound. [a. OF. *bodne*, *bone*, *bune*, *bonne*, *bunne*, also *bunde*, *bonde*, 13th c. AF. *bounde*; in med.L. *bodena*, *bodina* (*bonna*, *bunda*):—earlier *butina* (Leg. Ripuar.) = meta, limes. The phonetic history of the Fr. word is difficult; see Littré *bonde* and *borne*, and cf. BOURNE.]

† 1. A landmark indicating the limit of an estate or territory. *Obs.* exc. in *comb.*

c. 1205 LAY. 1313 Pa comen heo to þan bunnan þa Hercules makede. c. 1300 K. *Alis* 5593 Ymages of mounde, That men clepeth Erules boundes.

2. The boundary line of a territory or estate; *gen.* a limit or boundary, that to which anything extends in space.

1387 *Trevisa Hiden* Rolls Ser. V. 209 Osea passed nowher his fader bondes. 1483 *Act 1 Rich. III.* vi. § 1: The contract . . . was made . . . within the Bounds and Jurisdiction of the same Fair. 1543 LD. BERNERS *Froiss.* I. xlv. 62 The frenche kyng . . . commaunded them to kepe the bondes of Flanders, on payne of their lyues. 1551 *RECORDE Pathm. Knowl.* II. Intro'd., A platte forme . . . is inclosed with lines as with his boundes. 1615 SIR R. BOYLE in *Lismore Papers* (1886) I. 77 This day . . . I made the boundes perfect between my Lands of Kilrobinstown. 1635 N. CARPENTER *Geog. Del.* II. ii. 19 A right line is the shortest betwixt his owne boundes. 1752 HUME *Ess. & Treat.* (1777) 200 The boundes of all the European kingdoms are . . . nearly the same they were 200 years ago. 1809 BAWDEN *tr. Domesday Bk.* 239 Thormer is situate within the boundes of the Castle of Ilbert. 1839 YEOWELL *Anc. Brit. Ch.* (1847) 19 The apostle travelled to the utmost boundes of the West.

b. Phrases. To beat the bounds: see BEAT v. 41.

† To gain bounds of: to outstrip.

1653 URBHART *Rabelais* II. Prol., Perceiving the prey by force of flight to have gained bounds of her.

3. pl. The territory situated on or near a boundary; a border-land; also land within certain limits, a district, neighbourhood, tract.

1340 *Ayenb.* 206 He [Lot] sooldo guo out of þe cite of sodomme, and alle þe boundes. 1536 BELLENDEN *Cron. Scot.* (1821) I. Intro'd. 41 In all boundis of Scotland . . . is gret plente of harris. a. 1640 DRUMM. of HAWTH. *Hist. Scot.* (1655) 12 The Chiefs and Principals of the Families in these boundes. 1651 HOBBS *Leviath.* I. x. 46 Marquises . . . were Counts that governed the Marches, or boundes of the Empire. 1883 SCOTT *Peveril* I. vii. 126 These rascals, who come hither to annoy a noble lady on my boundes.

b. *sing.*

1596 SHAKS. 1 *Hen. IV.* v. iv. 90 When that this bodie did containe a spirit, A Kingdome for it was too small a bound.

c. In *Tin-mining*. The area or extent of ground taken in by a miner.

1606 *Land. Gas. No.* 3184/3 Owners of the Tyn Boundes, and Adventurers in Tyn Mines. 1881 RAYMOND *Mining Gloss.*, *Bound* (Cornw.), a tract of tin-ore ground.

4. fig. A limit with reference to immaterial things, as duration, lawful or possible action, feeling, etc.

1393 GOWER *Conf.* III. 22 Of abstinance he wot no bounde. 1535 COVERDALE *Job* xiv. 5 Thou hast apoynted him [man] his boundes, he can not go beyond them. 1634 T. JOHNSON *Parey's Chirurg.* VII. xvi. (1678) 181 Let this be the bound of Sweating, when the patient begins to wax cold. 1690 LOCKE *Hum. Und.* I. i. § 3 It is . . . worth while, to search out the Boundes between Opinion and Knowledge. 1737 H. WALPOLE *Corr.* (1820) I. 17, I should be to all bounds, if I was to tell you half I feel. 1799 MACKINTOSH *Bacon & Locke* Wks. 1846 I. 332 He sometimes carried beyond the boundes of calm and neutral reason his repugnance to doctrines. 1856 FROUDE *Hist. Eng.* (1858) I. iii. 188 It . . . prevented anarchy from breaking bounds.

5. *Comb.* and *Attrib.*, as bound-line, -mark,

-oak, -road, -stone, where bound = BOUNDARY.

1850 MRS. BROWNING *Poems* II. 223 All Europe's 'bound-lines'—drawn afresh in blood. 1663 LISLE *Ælfric on O. & N. T.* Pref. p. 17 We can neither know well . . . the names of places and 'bound-markes of our owne country. 1806 SCOTT *Malachi Mad.* II. 31 Such a bound-mark as I have described. 1706 HEARNE *Coll.* (1885) I. 242 Y^e first was a 'Bound-Oak. 1884 *Wodrow Soc. Misc.* 424 His side of the 'Bound Rode. 1608 CAREW *Cornwall* 129 a, The one . . . somewhat curiously hewed . . . It should seeme to be a 'bound-stone. 1845 MERVILLE *Rom. Emp.* (1865) IV. xxxiii. 78 The divisions of land . . . continued to be known by these bound-stones down to a late period of the empire.

Bound (baund), sb. 2. [f. BOUND v. 2; but cf. F.

bond of same meaning.] An elastic spring upward or onward; a leap made in an onward career: said both of inanimate bodies and animals, while leap is used only of the latter. Phrases. † To take at the (first) bound: to take up at the first opportunity, at the outset; to do at once. To take before the bound: to be beforehand with. At a bound: by an instantaneous movement. To advance by leaps and bounds: to make startlingly rapid progress.

a. 1553 UDALL *Royster D.* (Arb.) 70 If you coulde haue take it vp at the first bounde, We should . . . pastime haue founde. 1596 SHAKS. *Merch. V.* v. 73 Youthful and vnhandled colts Fetching mad boundes. 1648 FULLER *Holy & Prof. St.* v. xvi. 422 They resolved to take the matter at the first bound. c. 1645 HOWELL *Lett.* (1650) II. 29 'Tis good then to put wings unto them, and to take the ball before the bound. 1667 MILTON *P. L.* IV. 181 Th' arch-fellon . . . At one slight bound high overleap'd all bound Of Hill or highest

Wall. a 1719 ADDISON (J.). The horses started with a sudden bound. 1839 BAILEY *Festus* vii. At every bound I see, I feel the earth rush round. 1848 W. BARTLETT *Egypt* to Pal. ii. (1879) 26 He plunges at a bound into the east.

Bound (bound), *ppl.* a. 1 Forms: 3-4 **bun**, **bune**, 4-5 **bon**(e), 4-9 **boun**(e), **bow**(e), **-nn**(e), 6 **bond**, 7-9 *dial.* **boon**(e), 9 *dial.* **bawn**, 6-bound. [a. ON. *būinn*, Norweg. *būen*, pa. *ppl.* of *būa* to get ready, appearing first in the north as *būn*, afterwards in ME. *boun*; the added *d* in the mod. form may be due in part to its being regarded as the pa. *ppl.* of the derived verb **BOUND**, and in part to confusion with **BOUND** *ppl.* a. 2 = obliged; but cf. other instances as in *Mahound*, *sound*, *compound*, *astound*, for *Mahoun*, *soun*, *compoun*, *astoun*, also the vulgar *gound*, *dround*, etc.]

†1. Ready, prepared: said both of persons and things. Of persons: Dressed, attired. Also (in 14th c.) At hand, present. Often pleonastically *ready bound*, *ready and bound*. *Obs.*
c 1200 ORMIN 2329 Loe her icc amm ammhohht all bun To folghenn Godess wille. a 1300 *Cursor M.* 11595 Son was ioseph redi bun. *Ibid.* 14376 Namli has pat has ben bune [*Trin.* nere] Quen he vpraisid lazarus. c 1386 CHAUCER *Franklin's T.* 775 She was boun to goon the wey forth right. 1393 LANGL. *P. Pl. C.* iii. 173 And bed hem alle ben boun beggeres and oþere. c 1400 *Destr. Troy* 2756 Bowne on hor best wise in hor bright wedis. 1470 HARDING *Chron.* viii. i. He to paye was so readye and bowne For his vitayle. 1513 BRADSHAW *St. Werburg* 162 At the northgate they were redy bowne. c 1550 *Scot. Poems* 16th C. II. 133 Pluck vp your herts, and make 30w bowne. 1602 SHAKS. *Ham.* iii. iii. 41 Like a man to double businesse bound, I stand in pause where I shall first begin. 1768 ROSS *Helvetic* 93 (JAM). The squire. to find her shortly makes him boun. 1810 SCOTT *Lady of L.* iv. iii. A band of war Has for two days been ready boun. 1813 HOGG *Queen's Wake* 147 Earl Walter. For battle made him boun. 1853 G. JOHNSTON *Nat. Hist. E. Bord.* i. 228 These. are boon to ride the Borders as in the good olden time.

2. Prepared or purposing to go, starting, directing one's course, destined. With *for* (to, into *obs.*), or adv. of motion. Phrases, *Homeward bound*, *outward bound*.

c 1400 *Ywaine & Gaw.* 3788 When thai saw him theder boun. 1440 *Gesta Rom.* i. xii. 33 Deere frend. whodir art thou bone? 1513 DOUGLAS *Eneis* ix. vii. 21 Quhidder ar 3e boun, 3e schaw vs plane. 1590 GREENE *Arcaid.* (1616) 51 A Barke bound for Arcadie. 1602 SHAKS. *Ham.* iv. vi. 10 Th' Ambassadors that was bound for England. 1709 ADDISON *Tatler* No. 156 P. 1 We may see the Son of Ulysses bound on the same Expedition. 1748 ANSON *Voy.* iii. viii. (ed. 4) 490 He gave out at Macao, that he was bound to Batavia. 1801 SOUTHEY *Thalaba* x. xi. You see a Traveler, Bound upon hard adventures. 1848 MACAULAY *Hist. Eng.* i. 635 The ships which were bound for New England were crowded. 1866 SIR J. HERSCHEL *Fam. Lect. Sc.* 206 Bound on we know not what errand.

fig. 1548 E. GESTE *Pr. Masse* 118 Where oure confesson is bounde, lette oure hartes be represented. c 1593 SPENSER *Sonn.* viii. Angels come to lead fraile mindes to rest In chaste desires, on heavenly beauty bound.

3. With infinitive, = about (to), going (to), in a fair way (to). Only *dial.*; to be distinguished from the similar use of **BOUND** *ppl.* a. 2, though the latter construction was perhaps suggested by this.

The phrase *He is bound to win* would, in northern dial., mean merely 'He is going to win'; in literary Eng. it means 'He must necessarily win', the word here being **BOUND** *ppl.* a. 2 (cf. also sense 1, *quots.* 1470, 1602.)

1864 ATKINSON *Whitby Gloss.* s. v. 'I believe it is bound to be wet', going to be rain. 1864 *Life among Colliers* 31 He was so violently sicke he declared he was bound to die.

Bound (bound), *ppl.* a. 2 Also 4-6 **bounde**, 5 **boun**, **bonde**. *North.* **bund**, **bun**. [pa. *ppl.* of **BIND** v. : shortened from **BOUNDEN**.]

1. Made fast by a tie, confined; fastened down; bandaged: also *fig.*

1354 ABP. HAMILTON *Catech.* 263 A synnar bund with the band of syn. is oblisist to thole paine for his syn. 1570 LEVINS *Manip.* 221 Bound, *ligatus*, *devinctus*. 1665 J. SPENCER *Prophecies* 74 These Orators have confest themselves greatly straitned and bound up. 1694 W. SALMON *Intica* i. iii. 94/2 The Spasm. not being able to get over the bound place, is hindered from coming to the Head. 1818 BYRON *Mazeppa* xi. My bound and slender frame Was nothing to his angry might.

† b. *transf.* of a woman: Pregnant. Cf. **BAND** *sb.* 1 c, **BEND** *sb.* 1 d, **BOND** *sb.* 1 *Obs.*

a 1400 *Relig. Pieces* fr. Thornton MS. (1867) 89 Pe byrde so bryghte with birdyng 3ode bun. c 1450 *Lay Folks Mass Bk.* 71 We sal pray also for all women bat er bun with childer in his parichin. 1513 DOUGLAS *Eneis* vii. vi. 103 Quhilk, bund with child, dremit scho did furth bryng.

† 2. Kept fast in bonds or in prison. *Obs.*

1382 WYCLIF *Isa.* xlii. 7 That thou shuldyst bringe out fro closing the bounde. 1555 EDEN *Decades W. Ind.* (Arb.) 50 To celyuer the bounde owt of prysoun. 1611 BIBLE *Heb.* xiii. 3 Remember them that are in bonds, as bound with them.

3. Confined in the bowels, costive. † Also of a cough: Tight, dry (*obs.*).

1530 PALSGR. 306/2 Bounde in the belye, *serre au ventre*. 1579 J. JONES *Preserv. Body & Soul* i. xv. 28 The Nurse. shall take such medicines when she is bounde. 1607 TOPSELL *Four-J. Beasts* 165 They suffer inflammation and are bound in the belly. 1664 PERYS *Diary* (1879) 111. 1 If you are bound or have a fit of y^e Stone. 1757 WHYTT in *Phil. Trans.* L. 574 Her cough is still bound. 1777 FYNNEY *ibid.* LXVII. 459 She was always in the extremes of being too loose or too bound.

4. Tied in the same bundle; intimately connected. *Bound up in or with:* (*fig.*) having common interests with, 'wrapped up' in, dependent upon.

1611 BIBLE *Gen.* xlv. 30 His life is bound vp in the lads life. 1712 STEELE *Spect.* No. 449 P. 2 The only Child of a decrepid Father, whose Life is bound up in hers. 1788 T. JEFFERSON *Corr.* (1830) 316, I consider their happiness as bound up together. 1841 DISRAELI *Amen. Lit.* (1867) 160 Chaucer, in his political life, was bound up with the party of John of Gaunt. 1857 DICKENS *Little Dorrit* (Hoppe) Seeing us so bound up in Pet. 1873 MORLEY *Rousseau* i. 50 A rapid and volatile constitution. is insensibly bound up with sensibility.

† 5. Cohering; of glutinous consistency. *Obs.*
1635 J. BABINGTON *Pyrotechn.* xix. 23 These oyles must be wrought up, till you finde your mixture bound like dough.

6. Of books: Provided with a binding or cover (see **BIND** v. 10). *Const.* in (leather, vellum, cloth, etc.).

1708 HEARNE *Coll.* (1885) II. 159 It was. a bound book. 1712 ADDISON *Spect.* No. 37 P. 2 Tales in Verse by Mr. Dufrey: Bound in Red Leather, gilt on the Back. 1848 MACAULAY *Hist. Eng.* i. 474 Presenting the sovereign with a richly bound copy of the English Bible.

7. Under obligations (of duty, gratitude, etc.); *Const.* a person, or the duty owed. b. Having entered into a contract binding to service, as 'a bound apprentice'.

c 1470 HENRY Wallace iv. 57 War nought I was bonde in my legiance. 1579 LVLV *Enphues* (Arb.) 33 It was doubted whether he were more bound to Nature. or to Fortune. 1591 SHAKS. 1 *Hen. VI.* ii. i. 37 Shall this night appeare How much in duty, I am bound to both. 1645 G. DANIEL *Poems* Wks. 1878 II. 73 For everie Man Is bound to his owne heart. a 1666 BR. HALL *Occas. Medit.* (1851) 61 How much am I bound to God, that hath given me eyes. 1755 JOHNSON *Ramb.* No. 201 P. 7 He that is not yet hardened by custom. thinks himself bound by his word. 1856 FROUDE *Hist. Eng.* (1858) I. i. 11 Whoever owned land, was bound to military service.

c. With infinitive: Compelled, obliged; under necessity (esp. logical or moral); fated, certain; also in *U. S.* determined, resolved (sc. to go, etc.). (In dialects *tied* is used in the same sense, as 'That horse is tied to win'.)

c 1360 *Song Deo Gracis* in E. E. P. (1862) 129 A noþer is boun to begge his bred. c 1400 *Destr. Troy* 9474 Pai were boun to gyffe bake, & the bent leue. 1558 KNOX *First Blast* (Arb.) 5 We in this our miserable age are bounde to admonishe the world. 1607 FLETCHER in *Shaks. C. Praise* 72 Speake, I am bound to heare. 1712 STEELE *Spect.* No. 52 P. 3 We hold our selves in Gratitude bound to receive. all such Persons. 1844 MRS. HOUSTON *Yacht Voy. Texas* i. 2, I was bound to be pleased with the arrangements. 1868 FREEMAN *Norm. Conq.* II. App. 587 The lioness was bound to bring forth only a single cub. 1883 MISS BRADDON *Ishmael* v. Life is a waiting race, in which the best horse is bound to win.

8. In *comb.*: Preceded by a *sb.* in instrumental relation, or by an *adj.* used adverbially, as *hard*, *love*, *wind*, *wood-bound*; often with reference to books, as *cloth*, *morocco*, *parchment-bound*; full-bound, whole-bound, bound entirely in leather; half-bound, having the back only, or back and corners, of leather, the rest of the binding being cloth or paper. Also **HIDE-BOUND**, **IRON-BOUND**, **WEATHER-BOUND**, *q. v.*

1704 *Land. Gas.* No. 4021/3 Iron and Wood-bound Cask, old Yards, Boats. 1735 POPE *Profr. Sat.* 181 Who. strains from hard-bound brains eight lines a year. 1847 LD. G. BENTINCK in *Croker Papers* (1884) III. xxv. 143, 800 grain-laden ships. lying wind-bound. in the gat of Gibraltar. 1873 KINGSBURY in *Speaker's Comm.*, *Song. Sol.* vi. 12 The soul. is here the love-bound heart. 1881 MORLEY *Cobden* i. 6 His little parchment-bound diary of expenses. *Book-seller's Catal.*, The plates whole bound in russia, extra, gilt edges, the text half bound russia neat.

9. For *I'll be bound*, and other uses, see **BIND** v.

† = **BOND** a. Subject to servitude, in bondage. *Obs.* [Due to the later association of **BOND** with *bonds* and *bound*: cf. however sense 7 b, and **BOUNDEN** 2 b.]

1534 HERVET *Xenophon's Househ.* (1768) 22 Bounde men haue as great neede to be comforted. as other fre men. 1754 ERSKINE *Princ. Sc. Law* (1809) 113 All the colliers in Scotland, who were bound colliers at the time. shall be free from their servitude.

Bound (bound), *v.* 1 [f. **BOUND** *sb.* 1; not found before the end of 14th c. Cf. OF. *bonner*, now *borner*:—med.L. *bodinäre*, *bonäre*, *bundäre*.]

† 1. *trans.* To set bounds to, limit; to confine within bounds; to mark (out) the bounds of. *Obs.*

1393 GOWER *Conf.* III. 103 Was [Asia] that time bounde so, Wher. Nile. falleth into the see Alexandrine. 1523 FITZHERA *Surv.* Profr. All these maners. shulde be. bounded and valued in euery parte. 1602 WARNER *Ab. Eng.* Epit. (1612) 358 Caritick with his Britons. were lastly chased and bound by them from out all parts. 1603 KNOLLES *Hist. Turks* (1638) To Rdr., And with his word boundeth in the raging of the sea. 1662 BINGHAM *Xenophon* 135 Before they had parcelled, and bounded out the ground. 1667 MILTON *P. L.* xii. 370 He shall. bound his Reign With earth's wide bounds. 1762 FALCONER *Shipw.* ii. 228 In vain he. bounds the distance by the rules of art.

d. fig.

1393 GOWER *Conf.* I. 218 God. hath al thinge bounded. 1554 Act 1 & 2 *Phil. & Mary* viii. § 38 Such whose Right, Title or Interest is bounded or taken away. 1647 ANST. *Lett. to Dr. Turner* 19 The Apostles. did in their latter

dayes. bound out that power which still we do call Episcopacy. 1690 LOCKE *Hum. Und.* i. iv. § 12 Exercise of his Faculties was bounded within the Ways, Modes, and Notions of his own Country. 1799 MACKINTOSH *Bacon & Locke* Wks. 1846 I. 329 Such facts bound our researches in every part of knowledge. 1848 H. E. MANNING *Serm.* (1848) I. xi. 151 It makes aman. bound himself about by his own horizon. 1850 MRS. JAMESON *Leg. Monast. Ord.* 3 His views were not bounded by any narrow ideas of expediency.

† c. *intr.* To limit itself; be limited. *Obs. rare.*
1705 LUTUS *Brit.* 141 Nor bounds thy Praise to Albions narrow coast.

2. *trans.* To form the boundary of.

1601 HOLLAND *Pliny* i. 73 Lecheum of the one hand, and Cenchrea of the other, do bound out and limit the said streights. 1622-66 HEYLIN *Cosmogr.* III. (1673) 1/1 Asia is bounded on the West, with the Mediterranean. 1824 W. IRVING *T. Trav.* i. 257 A line of blue hills that bounded the landscape. 1879 FROUDE *César* xxi. 351 He crossed the little river Rubicon, which bounded his province. 1884 BOWER & SCOTT *De Barry's Phaner. & Ferns* 37 The cavity. is. bounded by the lateral walls of the neighbouring. cells.

† b. To enclose, confine, contain; also with *in*.
1595 SHAKS. *John* ii. i. 431 Whose veins bound richer blood then Lady Blanch? 1606 — *Tr. & Cr.* iv. v. 129 My Mothers blood Runs in the dexter cheeke, and this sinister Bounds in my fathers.

3. *intr.* To bound on: to abut upon, adjoin. *To bound with:* to have the same boundaries as. *arch.*

c 1570 THYNNE *Pride & Lowl.* (1841) 10 These breeches I did bound on on either side. 1601 HOLLAND *Pliny* i. 109 Troas. bounds on the coast of Hellespontus. 1622 CALLIS *Stat. Sewers* (1647) 87 The Banks. belong to the subject, whose lands do but and bound thereon. 1637 EARL Moxmouth *Romulus & Targuin* 241 Bounding upon madness, it [melancholy] brings men to sublimity. 1792 T. JEFFERSON *Corr.* 164 They bound on us between two and three thousand miles. 1858 BEVERIDGE *Hist. India* III. 269 Territories. bounding with those of British India on the west.

Bound (bound), *v.* 2 [ad. Fr. *bondir*, which signified only to 'rebound' till the 15th c., when the meaning of to 'rebound, spring' first appears, perh. f. L. *bombitäre* to hum, f. *bombus* a humming noise. (With the earlier Fr. sense cf. *quot.* 1601 in i.)]

† 1. To recoil, rebound. *Obs.*

1593 SHAKS. *Rich.* II. i. ii. 58. 1602 — *All's Well* iii. 314 Why these bails bound, ther's noise in it. 1633 G. HERBERT *Temple, Assurance* vii. Thou hast cast a bone Which bounds on thee, and will not down thy throat.

2. *intr.* To spring upwards, leap; to advance with leaps or springs: said both of inanimate and animate objects. Also *fig.*

1592 SHAKS. *Ven. & Adon.* 265 He leaps, he neighs, he bounds. 1599 — *Hen. V.* iii. vii. 13 He bounds from the Earth, as if his entrayles were hayres. 1663 BUTLER *Hud.* i. i. 431 And yet so fiery he would bound, As if he grieved to touch the Ground. 1721 POPE *Temple* F. 333 Thro' the big dome the doubling thunder bounds. 1725 JOHNSON *Ramb.* No. 167 P. 6 Our hearts bound at the presence of each other. 1798 WORDSW. *Tintern Abbey* 69 Like a roe I bounded o'er the mountains. 1816 BYRON *Ch. Har.* iii. ii. The waves bound beneath me as a steed That knows his rider. 1853 LYTTON *My Novel* vi. vii. 290 She would. bound forward.

† 3. *trans.* To make (a horse) leap. *Obs.*

1526 WARNER *Ab. Eng.* viii. xxxviii. 190 Whether that he trots, or turns, or bounds his barded Steede. 1599 SHAKS. *Hen. V.* v. ii. 146.

Bound (bound), *v.* 3 Aphetic form of **ABOUND**.
1568 T. HOWELL *Arb. Amittie* 72 If we bound in store: Commodities then offeth made a Salue for euery sore.

Bound (bound), *v.* 4 *rare.* [variant of **BOUN** v.] *refl.* To direct one's course. *intr.* To go, lead.

1596 SPENSER *F. Q.* i. x. 67 The way that goes to heaven bound. 1821 JOANNA BAILEY *Lady G. B.* xiv. She ere stroke of midnight bell, Did bound her for that dismal cell.

Bound, *obs.* form of **BOND**, **BOON**.

Boundable, *a.* [f. **BOUND** v. 1 + **-ABLE**.] Capable of being bounded or limited.

1667 H. MORE *Div. Dial.* iii. § 33 (1713) 268 The Extremes themselves are boundable.

† **Boundage**, *Obs.* [f. **BOUND** *sb.* 1 and v. 1 + **-AGE**.]

a. The action of marking out the bounds or limits. b. The bounds taken as a whole; the compass, extent.

1598 MANWOOD *Lawes Forest* xx. § 2 (1615) 147 The boundage of the Forest was then so great. that it was almost impossible for any man. to lue within the daunger thereof. 1610 FOLKINGHAM *Art of Surv.* ii. ii. 49 Boundage is the compassing and describing of Plots with their buttalls, metes, bounds and Coastage.

† **Boundal**, *Obs.* [f. **BOUND** *sb.* 1 + **-AL**.] *pl.* Bounds, limits.

a 1670 HACKET *Abp. Williams* i. (1692) 22 Dr. Davenant. kept him within the even boundals of the cause.

Boundance, aphetic f. **ABUNDANCE**, *q. v.*

† **Boundant**, *a.* *Obs.* [Erroneous form of **BOUNDEN**, *q. v.*] a. Obligatory. b. Obligated.

1649 FULLER *Just Man's Fun.* 23 It is. the boundant dutie of. pious people. 1654 — *Two Serm.* Ep. Ded., Your Ladyships boundant Orator, Thomas Fuller.

Boundary (boundari). Also 7 **boundary**. [f. **BOUND** *sb.* 1 + **-ARY** 1 B 2.] That which serves to indicate the bounds or limits of anything whether material or immaterial; also the limit itself.

1626 BACON *Sylva* § 328 Corruption is a Reciprocal to Generation: And they Two, are as Natures two Terms or Boundaries. 1690 LOCKE *Hum. Und.* ii. xxiii. (1693) 168

The simple Ideas we receive from Sensation and Reflection, are the Boundaries of our Thoughts. 1751 JOHNSON *Rambl.* No. 178 ¶ 3 Providence has fixed the limits of human enjoyment by immovable boundaries. 1860 TYNDALL *Glac.* l. § 6. 43 The dots representing the boundaries of the ridges.

b. *attrib.*, as in *boundary-dispute*, *-line*, *-mark*, *-treaty*, *-wall*: also *boundary-rider* (Australia), one who rides round the fences of a station, and repairs them when broken.

1850 A. LAWRENCE *Official Desp. to J. M. Clayton*, I have said nothing about the "boundary-disputes of Nicaragua and her neighbours. 1848 H. E. MANNING *Serm.* (1848) I. xii. 167 He that lives on a dubious "boundary-line. 1873 JOWETT *Plato* (ed. 2) V. 180 The boundary line which parts the domain of law from that of morality. 1878 MORLEY *Diderot* 198 The reign of truth was hindered by the artificial "boundary-marks. 1830 CARLYLE in *For. Rev. & Cont. Misc.* V. 23 These were fair conditions of a "boundary-treaty. 1864 *Theol. Rev.* Mar. 11 Between science and theology... it is impossible to build a "boundary-wall.

Bound-bailiff. A name given by Blackstone to the sheriff's officer in explanation of the vulgar term BUM-BAILIFF, q.v.

1768 BLACKSTONE *Comm.* I. 346 The sheriff being answerable for the misdoings of these bailiffs, they are therefore usually bound in a bond for the due execution of their office, and thence are called bound-bailiffs.

† **Bounde.** *Obs.* [var. of BOND sb.²] A husbandman, peasant, serf.

c 1300 *Seyn Sag.* 582 Kanst thou me telle gode bounde whi hit is so short wering? c 1330 *Arth. & Merl.* 27 Tho that the bounde y-seighe this, Anon he start for diol y-wis.

Bounded (baun'ded), *pp. a.* [f. BOUND v.¹ + -ED.] That has bounds or limits; that has its limits marked. Also with instrumental sb., as in *horizon-bounded*. † b. (quot. 1685, American.) † Marked so as to serve for a boundary. *Obs.*

c 1600 JAS. I. *Sonn.* in Farr's *S.P.* (1848) 1 The bounded waves, and fishes of the seas. 1685 *Col. Rec. Penn.* I. 128 Such as Cutt or fall Marked or bounded trees. 1796 BURKE *Subl. & B. Wks.* 1842 I. 43 Progression... alone can stamp on bounded objects the character of infinity. 1818 BYRON *Ch. Har.* l. xxxi, Immense horizon-bounded plains succeed. 1850 TENNYSON *In Mem.* xlvii, O Love, thy province were not large, A bounded field. 1881 MAXWELL *Electr.* I. 16 Bounded surfaces are limited by one or more closed lines.

c. *fig.* Limited, circumscribed.

1709 *Pope Ess. Crit.* 221 The bounded level of our mind. 1875 HALLAM *Const. Hist.* (1876) II. x. 255 A king of England could succeed only to a bounded prerogative. 1865 M. ARNOLD *Ess. Crit.* (1865) 14 In some directions Burke's view was bounded.

† **Bounded**, improperly for BOUND, BOUNDEN.

1866 FERNE *Biaz. Genrie* Ep. Ded. The author thereof (as he is specially bound) shall stand. 1836 HEYWOOD *Challenge* l. i. Wks. 1874 V. 13 What bounded service have you ever done my beauty? a 1721 KEN *Hymnar.* Wks. 1721 II. 85 Thou... dost... keep the Tempter bounded in his chain. 1819 CRABBE *T. of Hall* vii. 344 To this fair vision I, a bounded slave, Time, duty, credit, honour, comfort gave.

† **Boundedly**, *adv.* *Obs. rare*—1. [f. BOUNDED *pp. a.* + -LY.] Within certain limits only, finitely. 1674 N. FAIRFAX *Bulk & Setv.* 156 Gods making a boundedly perfect world, from his unboundedly perfect power.

Boundedness (baun'dnednes), [f. as prec. + -NESS.] The quality of being bounded; limited extent or range.

1674 N. FAIRFAX *Bulk & Setv.* 65 Its [the world's] boundedness... arising unavoidably from its very kind. 1795 SOUTHEY *Lett. Spain* (1799) 57 A mountainous track is well adapted for moonlight by the boundedness of its scenery. 1886 M. ARNOLD in *19th Cent.* 647 The boundedness and backwardness of their spirit.

Bounden (baun'den), *pp. a.* [The fuller form of BOUND *pp. a.* f. BIND v., q.v. for Forms.]

† l. = BOUND, in literal senses: Made fast by tie, band, or bar; tied, fastened, clamped. *Obs.*

c 1325 *Coer de L.* 5123 Bounden coffres, and gret males. c 1325 E. E. *Allit.* P. B. 322 Both bokser & bourez & wel bounden penez. 1275 BARBOUR *Brace* vii. 115 Ane of thame apoun his hals A mekill boundyn weddir bare. 1388 WYCLIF *Gen.* xlii. 35 Thei founden in the mouth of the sackis boundoun moneys. 1896 LONGP. *Baron's Exp. Heart* 56 The men showed off... the boundoun wood [Beow. 438 wudu bundenne].

† b. Pregnant. *Obs.* Cf. BOUND *pp. a.* 2 1 b. c 1400 *Destr. Troy* 13718 Ho boundyn with barne with þe bold Pirrus.

† c. Of notes in music: Connected by a bind. 1609 DOULAND *Ornithoph. Micro.* 40 The Accidents of simple Notes... are also the Accidents of the bounden Notes.

2. Made fast in bonds or in prison. Also as quasi-sb. *arch.*

a 1300 *Cursor M.* 13103 He... þat sale Boru þe bunden folk o bale. 1388 WYCLIF *Isa.* xlii. 7 That thou schuldest lede out of closing togidere a boundoun man. a 1533 FRITH *Disput. Purgatory* (1829) 153 Thou hast... brought out thy bounden prisoners out of the pit. 1778 BR. LOWTH *On Isa.* (ed. 12) 384 notes, The proclaiming of perfect liberty to the bounden. 1870 TENNYSON *Pelleas & Ett.* 306 Her knights... thrust him bounden out of door.

b. *fig.* In bondage, subject. *arch.* (Cf. BOND.) c 1480 *Ragman Roll* in Hazl. E. P. P. 75 Ye so boundendy han mayd hym and so thrall. 1596 SPENSER *Hymn Beauty* 281 That I her bounden thrall by her may lie. 1800 SCOTT *Abbot* xxxvii, Make me your bounden slave for ever.

† c. Tied with the bonds of matrimony. *Obs.*

1426 AUDELEY *Poems* (1844) 6 For thou art boundoun, go were thou goo. c 1450 *How wise man*, etc. 133 in Hazl. E. P. P. I. 175 Laddys that ar bundyn... That can not rewle ther wyves ary3t.

3. Under obligation, legal or moral; obliged, compelled, enforced. *arch.*

a 1300 *Cursor M.* 12117 Pou es vnder and þar-in bunden. 1547 in *Newminster Cartul.* (1878) 316 Thabouebunden Rychard Tyrrell. 1809 R. LANGFORD *Introduct. Trade* 106 The above bounden Thomas Abbot. 1872 LIDDON *Elem. Relig.* i. 19 Here God is represented as the bounden Companion of a man's life.

4. Under obligation on account of favours received; obliged, beholden, indebted (to). Also as quasi-sb. (*obs.*). The usual modern sense.

1530 PALSGR. *Ep. Ded.* 4 To whom for their benefytes I was so highly bounden. c 1585 *Faire Em* i. 222, I thank your highness, whose bounden I remain. 1595 SHAKS. *John* iii. iii. 29, I am much bounden to your Majesty. 1621 BOLTON *Stat. Ir.* (an. 28 Eliz.) All us your most bounden and obedient subjects. 1642 T. TAYLOR *God's Judgem.* i. i. vi. 9 He is the more bounden and beholden to him. 1765 H. WALPOLE *Otranto* iv. 64, I am bounden to your charity. 1844 THACKERAY *Newcomes* xvi, Why need we be bounden to others?

5. *esp.* in phr. *bounden duty*. So *occas.* also *discipline, obedience*.

(A curious corruption *bound and duty* is occasionally found.)

1530 PALSGR. *Ep. Ded.* 5 My most bounden dutie to obey. 1559 *Bk. Com. Prayer, Commun. Serv.* We beseeche the to accept this our bounden duty and service. 1563 SHUTE *Archit.* A ijb, I according to my bound and duty shall pray to God for your long life and prosperous Raygne. 1701 *Lond. Gas.* No. 3751/5 Our bounden Duty... to Your Majesty. 1833 HT. MARTINEAU *Manch. Strike* iv. 45 It was his bounden duty to accept the office. 1844 S. MAITLAND *Dark Ages* Introduct. 10 Many more had... departed from their bounden discipline.

† **Bounden**, a, corruptly for BOUND *pp. a.* 1. 1821 JOANNA BAILLIE *Met. Leg. Colum.* xxix, Were bounden for their course.

† **Boundenly**, *adv.* *Obs. rare*—1. [f. prec. + -LY.] According to bounden duty.

1853 tr. *Ockin's Serm.* Ep. Ded. (L.) Your ladshippes daughter, most boundenly obedient.

Bounder (baun'der), sb. Also 6 *bowndor*, 7 *boundier*. [f. BOUND v.¹ + -ER: but see sense 4.] I. 1. One who sets or marks out bounds or limits. *lit. and fig.*

1570 LEVINS *Manip.* 73 A Bounder, terminator. 1610 HOLLAND *Camden's Brit.* i. 745 Umpiers and Bounders between diuerse Shires. a 1610 FOTHERBY *Atheom.* ii. vii. § 6 (1622) 274 The Bounder of all these, is onely God himselfe: who... is the Bounder of all things.

† 2. One who occupies a district bounding another, a borderer. *Obs.*

1542 UDALL *Erasm. Apophth.* 105b, The bordereers or bounders inhabiting round about any place are called in greke Αποφθωγοι.

† 3. One who occupies a 'bound' or tract of tin-ore ground. See BOUND sb.¹ 3 c. ? *Obs.*

1702 *Lond. Gas.* No. 3773/1 The humble Address of the Landlords, Bounders, Adventurers, and Miners, within the County of Cornwall. 1708 *Ibid.* No. 4458/1 The Owners, Bounders, Adventurers... concerned in Tin... at Truro.

II. 4. A limit, a boundary; a landmark: prob. a corruption of BOUNDEUR [cf. *border*], taken as *bounder* 'that which bounds'. *arch. or dial.*

1505 *Will in Ripon Ch. Acts* 304 The howse... and the boundur thereof. 1564 GRINDAL *Fam. Serm.* Wks. (1843) 27 They... only builded it for a bounder and for a testimony. 1598 *Stow Surv.* xxxiii. (1603) 293 The Postes there placed as a Bounder. 1619 J. KING *Serm.* 14 Mine old age... for that is the bounder of nature. 1622-60 HEYLIN *Cosmogr.* ii. (1628) 135 The River Ob, the East Bounder of Russia. 1635 BRATHWAIT *Arcaid. Pr.* 139 From the flowry bounders of his Empire. 1839 STONEHOUSE *Exholm* 64 The inquisition of 'the bounder' of Hatfield Chase, taken in 1609. 1855 *Whitby Gloss.* Bounders, landmarks or boundaries, fences.

5. *Attrib.* and *Comb.*, as *bounder-mark*, *-stone*.

1666 *Pervamb. Danby* in Atkinson *Province. Danby* (1863) The exact distance between each bounder mark and other. 1634 WITHER *Emblemes* 161 The bounder-stones held sacred heretofore. 1672-5 COMBER *Comp. Temple* (1702) 567 To seize on his Neighbour's Field, or remove his Bounder-stone. 1863 ATKINSON *Province. Danby, Bounder-stumps*, upright stones... serving to mark limits or boundaries.

† **Bounder**, v. *Obs.* [f. prec.] To bound.

1636 N. RIDING *Rec. IV.* 51 A place bounding on Holby. 1797 BEWICK *Brit. Birds* l. 292 The chin and upper part of the neck are yellow, bordered by a black line.

† **Bounderer**, *Obs. rare*. [f. prec. + -ER: 1.] = BOUNDER sb. 1.

1610 HOLLAND *Camden's Brit.* i. 156 If any man would... accuse me as a false bounderer and surveior.

† **Boundify**, v. *Obs. rare*—1. [f. BOUND sb.¹ + -FY.] *trans.* To set bounds to; to confine.

1598 SYLVESTER *De Barias* ii. iii. l. (1641) 145/1 Until this Day... Within straight lists thou hast been boundifd.

† **Bounding**, *vbl. sb.* 1 *Obs.* [f. BOUND v.¹.]

1. The action of forming or marking a limit of, or setting up a boundary to. Also with *out*.

1543 *Act 35 Hen. VIII.* xvii. § 7 The... meting and bounding of the said fourth Part of the said Woods. 1602 CAREW *Cornwall* 136 When a Myne is found... the first digger... at the four corners of his limited proportion, diggeth up three Turfes, and the like (if he list) on the sides, which they terme Bounding. 1614 RALEIGH *Hist. World* ii. 272 In bounding out their proper lands.

2. A buttal, marching; boundary.

1554 HULOT, *Boundynge* or buttynge of three fieldes ioynynge together. 1703 DE FOE *Orig. Power People* in *Misc.* 159 Buttynge and Boundynge of Land. 1750 G. HUGHES *Barbados* 6 The buttynge and boundynge of several tenements near this bay.

3. *fig.* A limiting, confining, or restricting.

1608 HIERON *Wks.* I. Q 99 Neither is it... any straightning or bounding of Gods Spirit. 1658 in Burton *Diary* (1828) 111. 316 This is a bounding of our power.

Bounding (bau'ndin), *vbl. sb.* 2 [f. BOUND v.².]

A leaping or springing, esp. in an elastic way.

1617 MARKHAM *Caval.* ii. 199 It fortifies a horse exceedingly in his boundings and hie salts. 1722 ADDISON *Spect.* No. 321 ¶ 6 His [Satan's] bounding over the Walls of Paradise. 1769 FALCONER *Dict. Marine* (1789) G § iv, The bounding of a flat stone thrown horizontally into the water. 1842 MACAULAY *Comic Dram. Restor.*, *Ess.* (1854) II. 569/2 Amidst the bounding of champagne corks.

Bounding (bau'ndin), *pp. a.* 1 [f. BOUND v.¹ + -ING.] That bounds, or forms a boundary to.

1593 SHAKS. *Lucr.* 1119 A gentle flood... the bounding banks o'erflows. 1769 BURNS *Banks of Frith* ii, Where bounding hawthorns gaily bloom. 1850 TENNYSON *In Mem.* xvii, Thro' circles of the bounding sky. 1881 MAXWELL *Electr. & Magn.* I. 17 The region has one bounding surface.

† b. With *on*: Bordering on. *Obs.*

1597 WARNER *Alb. Eng.*, *Eneidos* 317 A part of Thrace called Cressa, bounding on Mygdonia. 1600 HOLLAND *Livy* xxvii. xxx. 691 e, A citie... bounding upon the Ocean.

Bounding (bau'ndin), *pp. a.* 2 [f. BOUND v.² + -ING.] That bounds, leaps, or springs. Also *fig.*

a 1667 COWLEY *Greatness Wks.* 1710 II. 746 Playing at Nuts and Bounding Stones, with little Syrian and Moorish Boys. a 1700 DRYDEN *Cryx & Alcione, Fables* 363 Then o'er the bounding Billows shall we fly. 1763 COWPER *Task* vi. 327 The bounding fawn, that darts across the glade. 1837 MARRVAT *Dog-Friend* xxiv, With what a bounding heart did [he] step into the boat! 1884 *Daily News* 1 Apr. 5/1 The days of a bounding revenue have not come back.

Hence **Boundingly** *adv.*

1838 *Monthly Mag.* 524 Away the bark bounding goes.

Boundless (baun'dles), a. [f. BOUND sb.¹ + -LESS.] Without bounds or limits; illimitable; unbounded, unlimited.

1592 *No-body & Some-b.* (1878) 288 He... fills all the boundless country with applause. 1592 SHAKS. *Rom. & Jul.* ii. ii. 133 My bounty is as boundlesse as the Sea. a 1625 FLETCHER *Mad Lover* iv. i. 16 She is a Princess and by that rule boundless. 1750 JOHNSON *Rambl.* No. 55 ¶ 6 With a boundless profusion of compliments. a 1796 BURNS *Farwe. Eliza*, Boundless oceans roaring wide. 1848 MACAULAY *Hist. Eng.* I. 450 A boundless command of the rhetoric in which the vulgar express hatred and contempt. a 1859 — *Ibid.* V. 562 The Revolution opened to the Churchills a... boundless prospect of gain.

Hence **Boundlessly** *adv.*, and **Boundlessness**.

1674 N. FAIRFAX *Bulk & Setv.* 22 God... is boundlessly far and wide of me. 1823 BYRON *Age of Bronze* xiv, Blood and treasure boundlessly were spilt.

a 1619 DANIEL *Coll. Hist. Eng.* (1626) 107 Their boundlessness came to be brought within some limits. 1682 NORRIS *Hierocles* 99 The boundlessness of desire. 1854 J. ABBOTT *Napoleon* (1855) I. xxiv. 374 She also knew the boundlessness of his ambition.

Boundly, a. *rare*—1. † Subject to bounds, finite: the opposite of *boundless*. Or? Bounden.

1817 KEATS *Sleep & Poetry* 209 O ye... Whose congregated majesty so fills My boundly reverence, that I cannot trace Your hallow'd names in this unholy place.

Boundness. [f. BOUND *pp. a.* + -NESS.]

The condition of being bound or under obligation. a 1866 J. GROTE *Exam. Util. Philos.* viii. 144 This boundness of us to duty.

† **Boundsome**, a. *Obs. rare*. [f. BOUND sb.¹ + -SOME.] Held within bounds, finite.

1674 N. FAIRFAX *Bulk & Setv.* 15 The analogy that is between us, and other timesome and boundsome beings.

† **Boundure**, *Obs.* [f. BOUND sb.¹ + -URE. Cf. *closure, seizure*.] A bounding or limiting, limitation; limit or bound. Cf. BOUNDER sb. 4.

1654 EARL MONM. tr. *Bentivoglio* 458 Large boundures were restored to the Towns of Breda etc. 1655-60 STANLEY *Hist. Philos.* (1701) 378/1 The boundure of that which is limited. 1634 SIR T. HERBERT *Trav.* 254 The boundure of Alexander's march into India being in the tract obscure.

Boune, *obs. f.* BOON, and BOUND a. prepared.

Boung, *Boungle*, *obs. ff.* BUNG, BUNGLE.

[**Bouncing** (Mätz.) error for *bounding* = BOWING.

c 1400 *Apol. Lollards* 62 A1 bounding doune.]

Bounny, var. of BUNNY, *Obs.*, a swelling.

Bounteous (baunt'fəs), a. Forms; 4-5 *bontyvous*, *bontyveus*, *bountevous* (e, -euos (e,

5 *bontyvese*, *bonteous*, *bountyuos*, *superl.* *bounteest*, 6 *bountuous*, 5- *bounteous*. [ME. *bontyuous*, *bountevous*, f. OF. *bontif*, *bontive* benevolent, full of goodness (f. *bonté* goodness; see BOUNTY) + -OUS. Afterwards altered so as to appear f. *bountif*, BOUNTY + -OUS.]

1. Of persons or agents: Full of goodness; in modern use, always: Full of goodness to others, beneficent; generously liberal, munificent.

c 1374 CHAUCER *Troilus* l. 883 Ne y neuere saw a more bounteous Of her astate. 1413 LYDG. *Pylg. Sowle* v. xiv. 79 We thanken the... Of thy full bounteous benyvolence. 1477 EARL RIVERS (Caxton) *Dictes* 22 Be bounteous to alle thoos that seke sciences. 1506 PILGR. *Perf.* (W. de W. 1531) 19b, His bountuous liberalite and mercy. 1605 SHAKS. *Macb.* iii. i. 98 Euery one According to the gift which bounteous Nature hath in him clos'd. 1606 — *Ant. & Cl.* iv. ii. 10 Lets to night Be bounteous at our Meale. 1681 DRYDEN *Obs. & Achit.* 872 Colleges on bounteous Kings depend. 1732 POPE *Hor. Sat.* ii. ii. 60 Oyl, tho' it stink, they drop by drop impart, But sowse the cabbage with a bounteous heart. 1738 WESLEY *Hymn 'Come Holy Spirit'*

Thou bounteous Source of all our Store. 1871 R. ELLIS *Catullus* lxi. 22 Born in bounteous ages.

† b. Of prowess; Valiant: see BOUNTY 1 b. Obs. a 1440 *Sir Degrev.* 311 The knyghtus in batelle so bountyeus. c 1485 *Digby Myst.* (1882) iii. 952 The bounteest, and the boldest onder baner bryth.

2. Of things: Proceeding from bounty; generously or freely bestowed, 'liberal', plentiful, ample in size or amount, abundant.

1548 UDALL *Erasm. Apophth.* 341a, To bee honoured with moste high & bounteous rewardes. 1697 DRYDEN *Virg. Georg.* i. 248 The promis'd Blessing of a Bounteous Crop. 1751 JOHNSON *Rambl.* No. 181 ¶ 4 The consequences which such a bounteous allotment (in a lottery) would have produced. 1790 COWPER *Ilud* i. 29 To accept the bounteous price. 1842 TENNYSON *Gardener's D.* 138 The bounteous wave of such a breast As never pencil drew. 1878 MORLEY *Diderot* II. 68 The land where production has been so noble, so bounteous, so superb.

Bounteously, adv. [f. prec. + -LY².] In a bounteous manner; with generous liberality; munificently; freely, plentifully, largely, amply.

1531 ELYOT *Gov.* i. xx, Ye may . . . bounteously reward me. 1590 SPENSER *Muiphot.* 151 Feeding vpon their pleasures bounteously. 1601 SHAKS. *Twel. N.* i. ii. 52, I prethee (and Ile pay thee bounteously) Conceale me what I am. a 1649 DRUMM. OF HAWTH. *Biblioth. Edinb. Lectori* Wks. (1711) 222 Great spirits . . . learn to forget what they bounteously bestow. a 1843 SOUTHEY *Inscript.* xxxv. Wks. III. 153 Never had benignant nature shower'd More bounteously . . . Her choicest gifts. 1860 TYNDALL *Glac.* 184 The glorious light . . . was poured bounteously over crags, and snows.

Bounteousness, [f. as prec. + -NESS.] The quality of being bounteous or liberal; liberality, munificence.

c 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 46 Bontyvasnesse [1499 bountyeuousnesse] munificentia, liberalitas. c 1485 *Digby Myst.* (1882) iii. 209 Heyll, prynde of bontyowsnesse! 1571 GOLDING *Calvin on Ps. lxxviii.* 11 A signe of hys bounteousness in watering the land with seasonable rayne. 1655 H. VAUGHAN *Silex Scint.* 151 Poor herbs drink and praise thy bounteousness. 1852 MISS YONGE *Cameos* (1877) III. xv. 126 Warwick occupied the chief place in the eyes of the nation, from his exceeding bounteousness to the poor.

Bounteth, -ith (bun'tēp). north. dial. [app. a. OF. *bontet*, *buntet* (buntēp), the earlier (11-12th c.) form of *bontē*, whence BOUNTY (cf. *poor-tith*, *dainteth*, *faith*). But the word is known only since the 15th c. (in later times only in Scotch), so that its historical connexion with the OF. word is not illustrated.]

A gift of bounty; gratuity, reward; a gift stipulated for in addition to money wages. Cf. BOUNTY 4 b. c 1440 *York Myst.* xv. 118 For I have herde declared . . . That bountith aftir reward. 1553 DOUGLAS *Æneis* xii. vi. 127 This is the bounteth [v. r. bontay] thay sal bere away. 1724 RAMSAY *Tea-t. Misc.* (1733) II. 194 Say ye Jenny Nettles . . . Her fee and bountith in her lap. 1818 SCOTT *Rob Roy* xxiv. Upon my wage, board-wage, fee, and bountith. 1834 H. MILLER *Scenes & Leg.* xl. (1857) 168 He will not away from us without his bountith.

Bountied (baun'tid), ppl. a. [f. BOUNTY + -ED.] Supported or assisted by bounty.

1768 T. JEFFERSON *Writ.* (1859) II. 524 The eighty-five ships . . . bountied as the English are, will require a sacrifice of twelve hundred and eighty-five thousand livres a year.

Bountiful (baun'tiful), a. [f. BOUNTY + -FUL.]

1. Of persons: Full of, or abounding in, bounty; graciously liberal, generous. *Lady Bountiful*, a character in Farquhar's *Beaux' Stratagem* (1707): since used for the great (or beneficent) lady in a neighbourhood.

1508 FISHER *Wks.* (1876) 172 Thy mercy is . . . so grete and bountifull to wretched synners. a 1577 SIR T. SMITH *Commun. Eng.* (1609) 27 Higher stomacke, and bountifuller liberality than others. 1596 SHAKS. *1 Hen. IV.* iii. i. 168 A worthy gentleman . . . as bountifull as Myndes of India. 1771 JUNIUS *Lett.* lvi. 294 How much easier it is to be generous than just, and . . . men are sometimes bountiful who are not honest. 1815 SCOTT *Paul's Lett.* (1839) 11 Those facts . . . affect you as a Lady Bountiful. 1830 MACAULAY *Southey's Colloq.* Ess. (1854) I. 109/1 He [the magistrate] ought to be . . . a Lady Bountiful in every parish, a Paul Pry in every house. 1857 BUCKLER *Civilis.* iii. 142 The richest countries were those in which nature was most bountiful.

2. Of things: Characterized by bounty, abundantly yielding; also, ample, abundant, plenteous. 1538 STARKEY *England* 77 Our mother the ground ys so plenteous and bountifull. 1601 SHAKS. *All's Well* ii. ii. 15 That's a bountifull answer that fits all questions. 1860 TYNDALL *L.* § 27. 207 A bountifull fire of pine logs was made. 1885 *Manch. Exam.* 26 Jan. 5/3 Soil so bountifull that one day's labour is sufficient to procure three days' living.

Bountifully (baun'tifuli), adv. [f. prec. + -LY².] In a bountiful manner; with generous liberality, munificently, plentifully, amply.

1520 HOLLYBAND *Treas. Fr. Tong. Largement*, largely, bountifullie, liberally, abundantly. 1593 PEELE *K. Edw. I.* And in my hall shall bountifullly feed. 1611 BIBLE 2 Cor. ix. 6 He which soweth bountifullly, shall reap bountifullly. 1725 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 6373/2 To provide so bountifullly for instructing them. 1835 MARRYAT *Olla Podr.* iii. The fruits of the earth, so bountifullly bestowed.

Bountifulness (baun'tifulnēs), [f. prec. + -NESS.] The quality of being bountiful; generous liberality, bounteousness.

1480 CAXTON *Faytes of A.* i. xxi. 66 The whiche for example of hys bountifullnes we soo often remembre. 1558 *Act 1 Eliz.* iv. § 29 The Queen . . . of her abundant Grace and Bountifullness, is pleased, etc. 1865 F. HALL *Hindu Philos.*

Syst. 117 To give praise for the love and bountifullness of our merciful Father.

† **Bountihead**. Obs. (exc. as an archaism). [f. BOUNTY + -HEAD.] Bounteousness.

1596 SPENSER *F. Q.* ii. x. 2 How shall fraile pen . . . Conceive such soveraine glory and great bountihead! 1621 AINSWORTH *Annot. Ps.* cxxxvi. 1 The mercy or bountihead which hee receiveth. [1864 *Temple Bar* Dec. 43 The glorious dead Who have left us their grace and their bountihead.]

† **Bountines**, **bountenes**. Obs. rare. Bounteousness. [But the standing of the word is insecure: the first instance may be *bountenes*; the second may be an error of the press.]

1512 *Act 4 Hen. VIII.* xix. Pream., The goodnes bountenes liberalite favour . . . by his Highnes shewed. 1650 HAMMER *Ecl. Hist.* 176 Bountines [1st ed. 177 bountifullnes].

Bounting, obs. form of BUNTING.

Bountree (Sc. būn'trī). [? A variant of BOURTREE; or a distinct word = *bound-tree*, f. BOUND sb. from being planted to mark boundaries.]

Common name in Scotland of the Elder-tree. Also attrib., as in *bountree gun*.

1821 *Blackw. Mag.* Aug. (JAM.) Bountree-guns are formed of the elder tree, the soft pith being taken out. 1848 *Proc. Berw. Nat. Club* II. vi. 265 The Ash and the Bountree were also observed.

Bounty (baun'ti). Forms: 4 bunte, bwnte, 4-6 bonte, bounte, bountee, 5 bount, bownte, 5-6 bontie, 6 Sc. bontay, 6-7 bountie, -ye, 6-bounty. [a. OF. *bontet* = L. *bontitatem* goodness.]

† 1. Of persons: Goodness in general, worth, virtue; in pl. virtues, excellences; also excellent condition, high estate. Obs.

a 1300 *Cursor M.* 10086 Þis leuedi lele, þat bunties in hir bar sa fele. 1375 BARBOUR *Bruce* II. 48 Neuir . . . man sa hardsted as wes he, That eftirward com to sic bountie. c 1386 CHAUCER *Clerkes T.* 359 Publissched was the bountie of hir name . . . in many a region. c 1440 *Partonope* 4525 Bount, mercy, and eke mekenesse. 1485 CAXTON *Chas. Gt.* 238 Thou knowest what I haue don for the bounte that is in the. 1513 DOUGLAS *Æneis* xiii. ii. 152 The gret Enee Quhilk in excelland vertu and bonte Excedyt all the remanent a far way. 1623 DRUMM. OF HAWTH. *Cypress Grove* Wks. (1711) 127 He is only the true and essential Bounty, so is He the only essential and true Beauty.

† b. Warlike prowess, valour; rarely, a deed of valour. Obs.

c 1330 *Amis & Amil.* 5 Twoo barons of grette bounte. 1375 BARBOUR *Bruce* III. 132 He thoct. . . To do ane outwrauous bounte. a 1400 *Morte Arth.* (Roxb.) 5 Off alle þe world the beste knight Off biant and of bounte. c 1430 *Syr Gener.* 928 His bountie fel fast to ground. 1485 CAXTON *Paris & V.* 22 What honour is comen to me by hys prowess and by his bounte. c 1530 LD. BERNERS *Arthur* 243 For he is the cheif flour of bounte in all maner of chivalry.

† 2. Of things: Good quality or property, worth, excellence, virtue. Obs.

c 1300 *Beket* 1031 Gold ne passeth noȝt in Bounte so moche Leode. c 1314 *Guy Warw.* (A.) 825 He schal bring to be turgent þat day . . . a stede of gret bounte. c 1450 LONELICH *Graill* xlviii. 21 Kamalot . . . was of sweche bounte that alle kinges weren crowned þere sekerle. 1515 LD. BERNERS *Froiss.* II. Pref., The bountie of the same cronicles, in whom are contengned the warres of these parties . . . encourageth me. 1531 ELYOT *Gov.* ii. vii. (1557) 104 Noryshyng meates and drynkes in a sycke body doe lose their bountee. 1592 WYRLIE *Armorie* 152 By his coursers bountie sir Hue Chatelet was saved.

† 3. Kindness, beneficence; an act of kindness, a good turn (sometimes ironical). Obs.

a 1300 *Cursor M.* 12501/2 Quar for . . . To his dedman þat hight als þou, Ne dos þou grace o bunte nan? 1330 R. BRUNNE *Chron.* 266 For Edward gode dede þe Baliol did him mede a wikked bounte. c 1386 CHAUCER *Petr.* T. P. 451 Agayn wikked dede of his enemy, he shal doon hym bountee. c 1450 *Merlin* xii. 181 And she hym asked what bounte it was that she hadde hym don. 1483 CAXTON *Gold. Leg.* 160/2 He remembryd euyl the bountee that he did to hym. 1651 *Proc. Parliament* No. 92. 1407 Christ came the neerest to him [Peter] in a miraculous bounty.

4. Goodness shown in giving, generous liberality, munificence: usually attributed to God, or to the great and wealthy, who have it in their power to give largely and liberally.

a 1300 *Cursor M.* 9531 To quam ilkan he gaf sum-thing Of his might and of his bounte. a 1450 *Knt. de la Tour* (1868) 137 For her bounte and goodnesse, God hath shewed mani miracles for her. 1542 UDALL *Erasm. Apophth.* 215a, Bountie and largesse is befalling for kynges. 1579 GOSSON *Sch. Abuse* (Arb.) 40 The honourable bountye of a noble minde. 1621 DEKKER *Roar. Girls* Wks. 1873 III. 141 When bounty spreads the table, faith 'were sinne (at going of) if thanks should not step in. 1750 JOHNSON *Rambl.* No. 17 ¶ 4 Every other satisfaction which the bounty of Providence has scattered over life. 1839 THIRLWALL *Greece* VII. 207 The royal liberality of his nature, which delighted in acts of bounty. 1856 FROUDE *Hist. Eng.* (1858) I. iv. 302 Many of these people . . . were dependent on his bounty.

b. An act of generosity, a thing generously bestowed; a boon, gift, gratuity.

c 1250 *O. E. Misc.* 36 For þise griate bunte þet ure lord yefþ. 1377 LANGL. *P. Pl.* B. xiv. 150 Men doth hym other bounte, 3yueth hym a cote aboue his conaunte. 1513 DOUGLAS *Æneis* viii. Prol. 140 Sum [langis] for thar bonty of bone. 1602 *Return fr. Parnass.* II. i. (Arb.) 21 Here is . . . four pence your due, and eight pence my bounty. 1679 *28 Scr. Serv.* M. Chas. II & Jas. II. (1851) 68 To Coll. Morrice Kingwell, bounty £100 o o. 1725 DE FOR VEG. *Round World* (1840) 103, I gave a largess or bounty of five dollars a man. 1878 MORLEY *Diderot* I. 283 The Empress added a handsome bounty to the bargain.

5. esp. A gift bestowed by the sovereign personally, or by the state.

1708 *Royal Procl.* in *Lond. Gaz.* No. 4504/1 All such Seamen . . . shall Receive as our free Gift and Royal Bounty, the respective Rewards and Allowances following.

a. *Queen Anne's Bounty*: see QUOTE.

1704 *Off. Notice* in *Lond. Gaz.* No. 4077/4 The Governors of the Bounty of Queen Anne, for the Augmentation of the Maintenance of the Poor Clergy. 1707 *Ibid.* No. 4323/3 A General Court of . . . the Bounty of Queen Anne. 1768 BLACKSTONE *Comm.* I. 286 To this end she granted her royal charter . . . whereby all the revenue of first-fruits and tenths is vested in trustees for ever, to form a perpetual fund for the augmentation of poor livings. This is usually called queen Anne's bounty.

b. A gratuity given to recruits on joining the army or navy; also as a reward to soldiers.

1702 *Royal Procl.* in *Lond. Gaz.* No. 3821/2 Such who shall Desert any of Our Ships of War, in Order to obtain Our intended Bounty. 1801 BLOOMFIELD *Rural T.* (1802) 52 Employment fail'd, and poverty was come; The Bounty tempted me. 1833 MARRYAT *P. Simple* (1863) 119 On his arrival at Gibraltar, he had been offered and had received the bounty. 1873 *Act* 36 & 37 *Vict.* lxxvii. § 8 Out of any bounty or pay receivable by him.

c. A sum of money paid to merchants or manufacturers for the encouragement of some particular branch of industry.

1719 W. WOOD *Surv. Trade* 150 Whatever shall be paid the Northern Colonies as a Bounty at War, to enter heartily and cheerfully upon the doing of this. 1776 ADAM SMITH *W. N.* I. i. xi. 207 In 1688 was granted the Parliamentary bounty upon the exportation of corn. *Ibid.* II. iv. v. 99 Bounties are sometimes called premiums. 1817 BABINGTON in *Parl. Deb.* 762 The evils . . . arising from creating manufactures by means of a bounty from Government. 1852 McCULLOCH *Dict. Comm.* 1255 The existing bounties (drawbacks) on refined British colonial sugar are specified in the 11 & 12 *Vict.* c. 97.

d. *transf.* and *fig.* A premium or reward.

1868 M. PATTISON *Academ. Org.* 62 Scholarships . . . are become a bounty upon a privileged species of education. 1886 MORLEY *Crit. Misc.* I. 110 The grandson of William Penn proclaimed a bounty of fifty dollars for the scalp of a female Indian, and three times as much for a male.

6. *Attrib.* and *Comb.*, as *bounty-money*; *bounty-broker* (see QUOTE); *bounty-fed*, supported and encouraged by bounties; *bounty-jumper*, U.S. (see QUOTE); *bountyless*, without bounty.

1864 SALA in *Daily Tel.* 9 Aug., A 'bounty-broker' is simply a crimp, or what the recruiting sergeants in Charles-street, Westminster, call a 'bringer'. 1884 *Sat. Rev.* 14 June 781/1 A countervailing duty upon 'bounty-fed' sugar. 1875 HIGGINSON *Hist. U. S.* 306 Bringing into the service many 'bounty-jumpers' . . . who enlisted merely for money, and soon deserted to enlist again. 1864 *Daily Tel.* 9 Sept., His conscripts, 'bountyless as they may be, will have to be paid. 1862 LUTTRELL *Brief Rel.* (1857) II. 524 Letters from Torbay say that they were distributing the 'bounty money'. 1863 *Cornh. Mag.* Mar. 443 The kit is no longer to be paid for out of the bounty-money.

Bountyng, obs. form of BUNTING.

† **Boup**, v. Obs. rare. To bump.

1715 BAGFORD *Lett. in Leland's Coll.* I. Pref. 76 If he refused to do this [to salute the post] they [the Billingsgate porters] forthwith lay'd hold of him, and by main force boup'd his a— against the post.

Bouquet (buk'et, buk'et). Also boquet. [a. Fr. *bouquet* orig. 'little wood' cognate with Pr. *bosquet*, It. *boschetto* dim. of *bosco* wood. cf. BUSKET.]

1. A bunch of flowers, a nosegay; also fig.

1716-8 LADY M. W. MONTAGUE *Lett.* I. xxxii. 111 A large bouquet of jewels, made like natural flowers. 1768 STERNE *Sent. Journ.* (1778) II. 144 He had wrapt [paper] round the stalks of a bouquet to keep it together. 1765 T. WARTON *Notes on Milton* (L.) May-busquets; if busket be not there the French bouquet, now become English. 1791 BURKE *Corr.* (1844) III. 278 The flowers . . . I . . . had seen . . . tied up in one bouquet. a 1845 HOOD *Sniffing a Birthd.* x. No flowery garlands—no bouquet. 1860 O. W. HOLMES in *Scribner's Mag.* XXI. 157 I'm a florist in verse and what would people say if I came to a banquet without my bouquet? [Cf. Fr. sense, 'petite piece de vers pour une fête'.]

2. The perfume exhaled from wine.

1846 *French Dom. Cookery* 320 Negligence in the filling of the casks . . . will destroy the bouquet. c 1865 in *Circ. Sc.* I. 353/1 The perfume, or 'bouquet', is something different from the odour of wine. 1873 LYTTON *K. Chillingly* iv. vii. Lifting his glass to his lips, [he] voluptuously inhaled its bouquet. 1876 BARTHOLOW *Mat. Med.* (1879) 350 Bouquet is that quality of wine which salutes the nose.

3. *transf.* a. A bunch of flavouring herbs. b. A large flight of rockets, as the close of a firework display. c. The flight of a multitude of pheasants breaking covert from the central point at which the beaters meet; this central spot itself.

1846 *French Dom. Cookery* 41 A garnished bouquet is when thyme, fennel, and bay are added to the parsley and onions. 1875 'STONEHENGE' *Brit. Sports* i. vii. § 4. 104 The shooters are now collected to the spot to which all the beaters congregate, termed the bouquet. 1879 *Times* 2 June, The great bouquet of rockets being particularly fine.

Bouqueted (buk'et-d), a. rare. [f. BOUQUET + -ED.] Furnished with a bouquet or bouquets.

1860 *Ally Y. Round* No. 52. 34 The . . . forgotten . . . bouqueted . . . perfumed . . . throng.

|| **Bouquetin** (buk'etsh, bū'kētin). [f. *bouquetin*, app. for *bouc-estain*, ad. Pr. 15th c. *bocstagn*, Ger. *steinbock*.] An animal of the Goat tribe, inhabiting Switzerland; the ibex, or steinbock.

1783 W. F. MARTYN *Geog. Mag.* II. 312 The . . . animals . . .

peculiar to this country [Switzerland] are the bouquetin and the chamois. 1884 CAMPBELL *Theodric* 9 Heights browsed by the bounding bouquetin. 1888a *Cornh. Mag.* Jan. 56 I'm off to the Pyrenees to shoot bears and bouquetins.

Bouquinist (bu'kinist). [a. Fr. *bouquiniste*, f. *bouquin* an old book.] A dealer in second hand books of little value.

1840 *New Month. Mag.* LX. 493 The students, besides, are the property of the *bouquinists* (we want the term in our language).

Bour, obs. f. BOOR and BOWER.

† **Bourage**. Obs. rare. Also **bowrage**. [app. an erroneous form for Fr. *bourg*.] *Bourage of Saint Peter*: The suburb of Rome called the Borgo, containing St. Peter's, the Vatican, etc.

1593 LD. BERNERS *Froiss.* I. cccxvi. 510 The romayns . . came into the bourage of saynt Peter. *Ibid.* cccxvi. 549 They . . conquered the bourage of saynt Peter.

Bourage, **bourage**, obs. ff. BORAGE.

Bourbon (burbɔn), sb. [f. *Bourbon* l'Archebaault, a town in the department of l'Allier, France.] 1. A member of the family which long held the thrones of France and Naples, and still holds that of Spain: also fig. as in quot. 1873, and attrib.

1768 STERNE *Sent. Journ.* (1775) I. 5 No—said I—the Bourbon is by no means a cruel race. 1873 TRISTRAM *Moab* xiv. 254 Muleteers are certainly typical Bourbons, They learn nothing and they forget nothing.

2. *transf.* In U. S. politics: A nickname for 'a Democrat behind the age and unteachable'.

1884 *Boston (Mass.) Jrm.* 29 Nov. 2/4 The Herald wants the Bourbons, 'the men who still swear by Andrew Jackson', sent to the rear. *Ibid.* 30 Sept., That chief of Bourbon organs, the Charleston (S.C.) News.

3. The former name of the island now called Réunion, in the Indian Ocean, so named in 1642 in honour of the French royal family; whence **Bourbon Palm**, a common name of the genus *Lalania*, found in Réunion and Mauritius.

Hence [from sense 1] **Bourbonian**, **Bourbonio** *adj.*, of or pertaining to the Bourbons; **Bourbonisation**, reduction under Bourbon predominance; **Bourbonism**, adhesion to the Bourbon dynasty, or to the Bourbon party in U. S. politics; **Bourbonist**, a supporter of the Bourbon dynasty.

1621 HOWELL *Venice* 177 This present Pope Innocent the tenth is as much an Austrian as the other was a Bourbonian. 1798 MORGAN *Hist. Algiers* II. iv. 271 The Bourbonian and Austrian Factions. 1883 L. FIGUEROA *Pol. Cond. Spain* in *Fortn. Rev.* The first Bourbonian branch. 1886 SEELEY in *Academy* 6 Feb., The Bourbonisation of the Continent. 1884 *Boston (Mass.) Jrm.* 18 Sept., The spirit of pro-slavery Bourbonism. 1880 *Edin. Rev.* XXXIV. 3 Our travellers . . occasionally take part with . . Bourbonists. 1868 *Standard* 13 Dec., The Bourbonists . . carried a white banner with a fleur de lys.

† **Bourd**, sb. Obs. Forms: 4-5 *burde*, 4-7 *bord(e)*, *bourd(e)*, 5 *bouerd*, 5-6 *bowrd(e)*, 5-7 *boord(e)*, 7 *boward*. [ME. *bourde*, a. OF. *bourde*, Pr. *borde* 'lie, cheating, deception', of unknown origin.]

Diez's proposed identification of OF. *bourde* with *behort* 'tournament, tilting', is discarded: for '*bourde* goes back to a date before the contraction of *behort* to *bourt* could have taken place, and originally there was no connexion of sense' (P. Meyer). At a later time *bebourder* was contracted to *bebourder*, *bourder*, and thus brought into confusion with this word and its verb *bourder*: see *BOURD* v.]

An idle tale, a jest, a joke; jesting, raillery, joking, merriment, fun; a merry tale.

c. 1340 *Gau. & Gr. Knt.* 1212 Al lazande þe lady lanced þo boudez. 1387 TREVISIA *Higden* Rolls Ser. IV. 143 He wolde torne hit to bourde and lawghynge. 1430 LVDC. *Chron. Troy* II. xvi. All his speche ful of bouerdes was. c. 1430 — *Min. Poems* 57 To be forsworn they hold it but a bord. a. 1450 *Knt. de la Tour* (1868) 111 The kinges daughter . . called hym in bourde her sone. c. 1520 *King & Barker* 110 in *Hazl. E. P. P.* 9 Ow kyng lowhe, and had god bord. 1548 CRANMER *Catech.* 25 b. I spake not these wordes in earnest but in borde. 1593 DRAVTON *Ecolg.* vii. 208 For all thy jests, and all thy merrie bordes. 1606 HOLLAND *Sueton.* 63 Either in earnest or board [vel serio vel joco].

b. In a bad sense: Mockery, bantering. (Probably the earlier sense, as in French.)

1320-30 *Lai le Freine* 9 Bourdes and ribaudy. 1340 *Ayenb.* 56 Panne byþ þe burdes and þe truffes uor entremes. 1483 CAXTON *G. de la Tour* Bvjb, Al was taken for a bourd and a mocquerie. a. 1541 WYATT in *Tottel's Misc.* (Arb.) 51 Nought moueth you my dedly mone, But stil you turne it into bordes. 1602 FULBECKE *1st Pt. Parall.* 71 If a man . . should strike an other or vse broad board against him.

c. Play, game.

1368 LANGL. *P. Pl. A. x.* 197. 1530 PALSGR. 199/2 Bourde or game, *jen*.

† **Bourd**, v. 1 Obs. [a. OF. *bourder*, f. *bourde*: see *prec.*]

1. *intr.* To say things in jest or mockery; to jest, joke; to make fun, make game.

1303 R. BRUNNE *Handl. Synne* 8667 How a bonde man bourdeed wyþ a knyzt. 1375 BARBOUR *Bruce* viii. 383 A lord so sweet and debonair, So blith als and so veill bowrdand. a. 1450 *Knt. de la Tour* (1868) 40 He herde hem clatre, laughe, iangle, and borde of highe. 1481 CAXTON *Reynard* (Arb.) 27 Ye borde and iape with me, for what I seche I fynde not. a. 1555 BRADFORD *Wks.* 38 We shall feel it is no bourding with him. a. 1600 in *Kelly Sc. Prov.* (1721) 56 (JAM.) Bourd not wi' bawtie (lest he bite you). c. 1674 RAY *N. C. Wds.* s.v., Bourd neither with me nor with my honour, *Prov. Scot.* 1703 D. WILLIAMSON *Serm. bef. Gen.* VOL. I.

Assembly 59 It is not safe to bourd with God, Conscience and Death. a. 1758 RAMSAY *Poems* (1800) II. 175 (JAM.) Never gife Encouragement or bourd with sic as he.

b. To play.

c. 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 44 Boordon, or pleyyn, ludo, jocos. c. 1450 *Merlin* 31 Whiche . . passeden thourgh the feild where childern were bourdinge. 1548 UDALL, etc. *Erasm. Par.*, Mark vi. 42 Euen when he bourdeth to, or maketh any game or pastyme. 1559 *Mirr. Mag.*, Clifford vi. To part his necke, and with his head to bourd.

2. *trans.* To make game of, mock, jest with.

1599 G. HARVEY *Pierce's Super.* 104 No man could . . bourd a wilfull friend more dryly. 1636 JAMES *Iter Lanc.* 102 In a wan fainte palenesse bourding death.

† **Bourd**, v. 2 Obs. Also 4-5 *borde*, 5 *bordyn*, *boordon*, -de, *bouerd*, 4-6 *bourde*. [f. F. *border*, *bourder*, contr. from *beborder* to fence, tilt, f. *behort*, *behort* tilting lance, tilting, tourney; see *Diez*. Probably confounded with *prec.*]

intr. To joust, tilt; to engage in a sham fight.

c. 1450 *Merlin* vi. 100 And after mete . . yede the barouns and the knyghtes to boorde in a feire pleyyn. *Ibid.* ix. 133 After mete was the quyntayne reysed, and ther at bourded the yonge bachelers.

Bourdain, -den, obs. ff. BURDEN v.

Bourd, *bourde*, obs. f. BOARD sb. and v.

Bourdel, obs. variant of BORDEL.

† **Bourder**. Obs. Forms: 4 *bourdoure*, *bourdeoure*, *bordiour*, 4-9 *bourdour*, 5 *borderes*, -yours, *bowder*, 6 *bourder*, *Sc. bourdour*, 6-7 *boorder*, 7 *boarder*. [ME. *bourder(e)*, a. AFR. *bourd(e)*, = OF. *border*, f. *border*, *bourder* to BOARD v. 1] A jester, a joker, a buffoon; a mocker.

1330 R. BRUNNE *Chron.* 204 A knyght a bourdour kyng R. hade. c. 1375 BARBOUR *St. Ninian* 890 His menstreale . . pat ves gud mane & gud bourdour. c. 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 44 Bordyours, or playere (1499 *borderer*), *joculator*. 1483 CAXTON *G. de la Tour* Cii, He is but a bourdour and a deceyuer of ladyes. 1559 HULOET, Bourder or rayler, whiche doth counterfayte those whome he mocketh. Bourder, or scoffer. 1606 J. DAVIES and Husb. for *Overbury's Wife* (1877) 12 Yet boord no Buffons that are boorders broad. [1801 STRUTT *Sports & Past.* III. ii. 141 Strolling companies, composed of minstrels, . . bourdours or jesters, and other performers.]

Bourdes, variant of BOURDIS, Obs.

† **Bourdful**, a. Obs. [f. *BOURD* sb. + -FUL.] Full of jesting or sport; jocular, sportive. Hence

Bourdfull adv., in jest, in mockery.

1388 WYCLIF *Wind.* i. 11 *marg.*, Vndurstondun of a dedly leeling, not of a bourdfull leeling. a. 1400 *Middle-Pl.* in *Rel. Ant.* II. 45 Bourdfull takynge Goddis biddyng or wordis or werkis is scornynge of hym. c. 1400 *Destin. Troy* 3052 [Antenor] delited hym in myrthe, Bourdfull among buernes. 1496 *Dives & Paup.* (W. de Worde) viii. ii. 322 Called in latyn iocundus, that is bourdfull in Englyshe.

† **Bourding**, vbl. sb. Obs. [f. *BOURD* v. 1 + -ING 1.] Jestng, joking; buffoonery; trifling.

c. 1340 *Gau. & Gr. Knt.* 1204 In her bourdyng pay bayhen in þe morn, To fylle þe same forwardez. c. 1440 *Pecock Repr.* I. xx. 120 That men . . schulden pleie in word bi bourding. 1566 KNOX *Hist. Ref. Wks.* 1846 I. 147 It was bitter bourding to the Cardinal and his courte. a. 1658 J. DURHAM in *Spurgeon Treas. Dav. Ps.* lxxxv. 8 Let them beware of bourding and dallyng with God's mercy.

† **Bourding**, ppl. a. Obs. [f. *BOURD* v. 1 + -ING 2.] That jests, jokes, mocks, or trifles. So

Bourdingly adv.

1559 HULOET, Bourder or rayler . . beyng of that mocking and bourdyng sort. — Bourdingly, or in bourde, *iocose*.

† **Bourdis**. Obs. Also *burdis*, *bordis*, *bourdis*, -es, -is. [ME. *burdis*, *bordis*, *bourdis*, a. OF. *burdis*, *burdis*, earlier *behordeis*, *bohordis*, mod. F. *béhourdis* shock of lances, tourney, f. OF. *behourt*, *behourt* lance, of uncertain origin; see *Littre*.] Tilting, fencing with lances.

1303 R. BRUNNE *Handl. Synne* 4662 Myracles and bourdis Or tournamens of grete pry. c. 1320 *Seyn Sag.* (W.) 744 The leuedi stod . . For to bihelde the burdis. c. 1324 *Guy Warw.* (A.) 167 Al him preyed þer y-fere OF bordis and turnament. c. 1350 *Will. Palerne* 1477 He was atte a bourdes þer bachelers pleide. c. 1450 *Merlin* vi. 100 The x men . . yede also to se this bourdisse.

† **Bourdisse**, v. Obs. rare -1. [f. *prec.*] *intr.* To joust, tilt.

c. 1320 *Seyn Sag.* (W.) 740 The knight was lopen on his stede, And burdised with the knyghtes of the lond.

† **Bourdisly**, adv. Obs. rare. [f. *BOURD* sb. + -LY 2.] Jestngly, in jest, frivolously.

1500 *Ort. Voc.* in *Promp. Parv.* 44 *Nugaciter*, bourdisly.

† **Bourdon**, *burdon*, *burdoun*. Obs. exc. *Hist.* Forms: 3-6 *burdon*, 4-5, 9 *bordon*, -un, 4-6 *burdoun(e)*, 7 *burdoun*. [a. Fr. *bourdon* 'pilgrim's staff', Pr. and Sp. *bordon*, It. *bordone*, med. L. *burdōn-em*, identified by Du Cange and Diez with *burdo* mule (the name being transferred from the pilgrim's mule to his staff). *Littre* suggests connexion with *bourde* 'pole used to support a grounded ship', which he further refers to *behourt* lance; but here there seems error.]

1. A pilgrim's staff.

a. 1300 *K. Horn* 1092 Horn took burdon and scrippe. c. 1320 *Syr Beves* 2063 Beues . . gaf him is hors . . For is bordon and is sklaun. 1368 LANGL. *P. Pl. A.* VI. 8 He bar a burdon [1377 *burdoun*, 1393 *bordon*], I-bounde wiþ a brod lyste. 1413 LVDC. *Pylgr. Soule* I. i. (1859) 2 Caste doune thy scrippe and thy burdon. 1658 URQUHART *Jewel Wks.* (1834)

230 With a palmer's coat upon him, a bourdon in his hand, and some few cockle shells stuck to his hat. 1840 ROCK *Ch. Fathers* II. vi. 199 [The Cathedral prior was suffered to use the silver bordon, which may . . be called the prior's staff].

2. A stout staff; a club, a cudgel; sometimes app. a spear or spear-shaft.

c. 1325 *Pol. Songs* 150 Beggares go with bordon and bagges. c. 1325 WYNTOUN *Chron.* viii. xxxviii. 56 Ilkane a gud Burdoun in hand. 1483 CAXTON *Gold. Leg.* 31/4 Helysee put hys bourdon in the water and anon the yron began to swimme. 1513 DOUGLAS *Æneis* vii. ix. 69 Ane bowrdoun of ane lang styl tre, The poynt schapyt and brynt anelytill we. 1535 STEWART *Chron. Scot.* III. 311 Mony burdoun vpoun basnot brak. 1550 LYNDSEY *Sqr. Meldrum* 145 Twa nobilmen of weir . . And in their handis strang burdounis.

Bourdon, *burdoun* (bū'rdɔn). Also 4 *bor-*, *burdoun*, -don, 5 *burdoun*. [a. F. *bourdon* the continuous bass or 'drone' of the bagpipe, the bass string of a violin, etc., also a drone bee, = Sp. *bordon*, Pg. *bordão*, It. *bordone*, med. L. *burdo* drone: possibly an imitative word: cf. the Celtic stem *durd-*, *dord-*, noise, sound.]

(A conjecture that the bass-pipe of an organ, or drone of a bag-pipe may have been so called from its resemblance to a staff, *Bourdon*, is not supported by the history.)

† 1. The low undersong or accompaniment, which was sung while the leading voice sang a melody.

c. 1386 CHAUCER *Prolog.* 673 This Somonour bar to hym a stif burdoun [v. r. *bordoun*], Was neuere trompe of half so greet a soun. — *Reeves T.* 245 His wyf bar him a burdoun [v. r. *burdoun*], a ful strong. c. 1400 *Épiph.* 1918 (Turnb. 1843) They yeve a full delectabull sond Bothe trebull and meyne and burdoun. 1596 SPENSER *Astraph.* *Aegl.* 77 Wolues do howle and barke, And seem to beare a burdoun to their plaint. [For the continuation of this sense see BURDEN, in which word it has been completely merged.]

2. A bass stop in an organ, usually of 16ft. tone; a similar stop in a harmonium; also the drone of a bagpipe. Also attrib., as in *burdoun stop*.

1861 MUSGRAVE *By-Roads* 55 A tone equal to the finest burdoun stop of a large church-organ. 1876 M. DAVIES *Unorth. Lond.* 195 Others murmured them [prayers] in a low burdoun kind of voice. 1882 *Musical Times* 1 Feb. 106 Organ for sale . . Separate burdoun, pedals, couplers, composition pedals, etc.

Bourdon, obs. form of BURDEN.

† **Bourdonasse**. Obs. [a. OF. *bourdonasse*.] A light lance or javelin with a hollow shaft.

1596 DANETT *Comines* (1614) 301 Their men of armes were all . . furnished with braue plumes and goodly bourdonasses.

Boure, obs. form of BOOR, BOWER.

Boureau, var. of BOURREAU, executioner.

|| **Bourg** (bur, bū'g). [F. *bourg* :—late L. *burg-us*, ad. WGer. *burg*: see BOROUGH.] Used by historical writers in the earlier sense of town or village under the shadow of a castle; or of 'continental' as distinguished from English town; occasionally also in the modern French sense of 'market town'.

c. 1450 *Merlin* xv. 236 Thei brent bourgs, and townes and castelles. 1536 *Remed. Sedition* 15 b, Many bourges in Germany, haue a great nombre of Jewes in them. 1690 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 2603/1 A great Bourg called Canina. c. 1700 *Gentl. Instr.* (1732) 266 He can only lose an abandon'd Bourg. 1840 THACKERAY *Paris Sk. Bk.* (1872) 197 They reached the bourg of Rossillon. 1859 TENNYSON *Enid* 276 Ye think the rustic cackle of your bourg The murmur of the world! 1864 SIR F. PALGRAVE *Norm. & Eng.* III. 47 The Flemings . . had settled in and about the bourg and its spreading suburbs.

|| **Bourgade** (burgad). Also 7 *burgade*, -ard. [Fr. *burgade*, f. *bourg* a town (cf. *prec.*) + -ADE.] A village, or unwalled town consisting of scattered dwellings. (Now only an alien word referring to France; but in 17th c. used as English.)

1601 HOLLAND *Pliny* I. 135 Dispersed into pettie villages and burgades. 1600 — *Camden's Brit.* 196 A proper little towne . . which of two burgads . . is growne, as it were, into one burgh. 1658 USSHER *Ann.* 148 He set upon the Town; being but an open burgade. 1795 MORSE *Amer. Geog.* II. 308 The canton [Uri] consists only of villages, and little towns or burgades. 1851 SIR F. PALGRAVE *Norm. & Eng.* I. 395 A large populous burgade . . which had grown up under the protection of the Abbey.

Bourgamot, obs. form of BERGAMOT.

Bourgeois, *bourgen*, ff. BURGESS, BURGEON.

|| **Bourgeois** (burgwä), sb. 1 and a. Also 8 *burgeois*. [F. *bourgeois* (OF. *burgeis*, whence BURGESS) :—late L. *burgensis*, f. *burg-us* town, ad. WGer. *burg*: see BOROUGH and BOURG.]

A sb. orig. A (French) citizen or freeman of a city or burgh, as distinguished from a peasant on the one hand, and a gentleman on the other; now often taken as the type of the mercantile or shop-keeping middle class of any country.

a. 1674 CLARENDON *Hist. Reb.* III. xii. 241 He liv'd in a jolly familiarity with the Bourgeois and their Wives. 1704 ADDISON *Italy* (1733) 281 Body of the Bourgeois. 1842 L. S. COSTELLO *Pilg. Auvergne* I. 149 We met several peasants and some bourgeois from neighbouring villages. 1864 KIRK *Chas. Bold* I. viii. 385 The merchants and persons of independent means, to whom the name of bourgeois was exclusively given. 1883 *Harper's Mag.* July 265/2 The German bourgeois and his family.

B. *adj.* or attrib.

1. Of or pertaining to the French middle classes; also in *comb.*, as *bourgeois-looking*.

1864-5 RANDOLPH in G. Chalmers *Mary Q. Scots* (1818) I.

123 She [Mary] saith . . . I sent for you . . . to see how like a bourgeois-wife I live. 1867 PARKMAN *Jesuits in N. Amer.* xiv. (1875) 175 She was born . . . of a good bourgeois family. 1871 MORLEY *Voltaire* (1886) 331 Born to be the insipid gossip of a bourgeois circle.

2. Resembling the middle classes in appearance, way of thinking, etc.

1840 THACKERAY *Paris Sk. Bk.* (1872) 79 A regular bourgeois physiognomy. 1871 LOWELL *Study Wind.*, *Word for Winter*, A poet whose inspiration always has an undertone of bourgeois. 1873 SYMONDS *Grk. Poets* iii. 80 He is thoroughly bourgeois, to use a modern phrase.

Bourgeois (bʊˈdʒɔɪz), *sb.*² [Conjectured to be from the name of a French printer or type-founder.] A size of printing type between Long Primer and Brevier, as in the following:

Bourgeois type.

1824 J. JOHNSON *Typogr.* II. ii. 16 Two lines of some Diamond will answer to one of Bourgeois. 1852 W. WILKS *Half-Century Pref.*, Twenty-three sheets of bourgeois leaded.

|| **Bourgeoisie** (bʊˈdʒɔɪzi). [Fr., *f.* *bourgeois*: see above.] The body of freemen of a French town; the French middle class; also extended to that of other countries.

1707 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 4354/1 To the Council of the City, the Clergy, and Bourgeoisie of Vallangin. 1848 MILL *Pol. Econ. Prelim. Rem.* (1876) 12 The Commons of England, the Tiers-Etat of France, the bourgeoisie of the continent generally, are the descendants of this class. 1856 GEO. ELIOT *Ess.* (1884) 284 The elaborate study of the German bourgeoisie. 1883 *Spectator* 13 Oct. 1309/2 The 'political surveys' he was in the habit of addressing to the bourgeoisie of the Elgin Burghs.

Bourgeoisie, *a.* = **BOURGEOIS** *a.*

1848 CLOUGH *Remains* (1869) I. 122 The boys of the garde mobile are infected with bourgeois loyalty. [The Socialists regard the whole thing as at present a failure—a bourgeois triumph.]

Bourgeon, var. form of **BURGEON**.

Bourger, obs. form of **BURGER** (after **BOURG**).

1652 *Let. fr. Paris in Proc. Parliament* No. 157 Had they . . . not been appeased by some of the Bourgers [of Paris].

Bourgeys, -essy, obs. *ff.* **BURGESS**, **BURGESSY**.

Bourgh, obs. *f.* **BOBOUGH**, **BURGH**.

Bourginot, **bourgoinette**, var. of **BURGETT**.

Bourgmaitre, [OF. *bourgmaitre*], obs. form of **BURGMASTER**.

1594 T. B. *La Primand. Fr. Acad.* 588 In some places they have advoyers, or bourgmaitres, as in the Cantons of Switzerland, and in the free townes of Germanie.

† **Bourgoigne**. [F. *Bourgogne* Burgundy.] 'The first part of the Dress for the Head next the Hair.' (*Fop Dict.* 1690.)

Bourignian (bʊˈrɪniən). *Ch. Hist.* [f. the name *Bourign-on* + -IAN.] Of or derived from Antoinette Bourignon, an enthusiast of Flanders in the 17th c., who held that the Christian religion consists in a certain inward feeling and divine impulse, rather than in knowledge and practice. Hence **Bourignianism**, -ignionism, -ist.

1697 *State Philadelph. Soc.* 30 Since these Sheets were gone to the Press there came to my Hand a Piece, call'd Bourignianism Detected. 1836 *Penny Cyc.* V. 290 Under the name of the Bourignian Doctrine, it is . . . renounced by candidates for holy orders in the Church of Scotland. 1884 *Brit. & For. Evang. Rev.* Apr. 253 Dr. George Gordon of Aberdeen was deposed . . . for holding the principles of Bourignionism. *Ibid.* The Aberdeen Bourignionist was deposed.

Bourish, obs. form of **BOORISH**.

Bourlaw (bʊˈlɔː). A form of **BYRLAW**, used in the comb. **bourlawmen** in south of Scotland.

1866 *Proc. Berw. Nat. Club* 261 There is a court consisting of two bourlawmen appointed by the bailie. 1879 *S. Counties (Scotl.) Register in Athenaeum* 16 Aug. 208 Berwickshire: Earlston: Court of Bourlawmen. The men holding this somewhat rare office are sworn when appointed to give judgment, to the best of their knowledge and ability, in cases that come before them, and their decision is understood to be absolute in point of law. Their work as Bourlawmen consists in fixing the amount of damages done by straying or pounded cattle and the like.

† **Bourlet**. Obs. [F. *bourlet* in same sense, earlier *bourrelet*, dim. of OF. *bourrel* 'mass of flocks or wadding': a doublet of **BURLET**.] (See quot.)

1775 BRADLEY *Fam. Dict.* I, *Bourlet*. in Gardening . . . is said of the Place, where, after some Years, the Graft becomes thicker than the Stock on which it was grafted.

Bourly, -le, obs. forms of **BURLY**.

Bourn (bɔːn), *v.* rare. [f. **BOURN** *sb.*²] *trans.* To set a limit or bounds to; to bound; to check.

1808 J. BARLOW *Columb.* iv. 338 A second world. By oceans bourn'd. 1866 J. ROSE *Virg. Ecl. & Georg.* 106 Nor rocks, nor precipice, nor torrent's force Shall bourn his headlong and resistless force.

Bourn, **bourne** (bɔːn), *sb.*¹ Forms: (1) **burn**, **burna**, 1-3 **burne**, 4, 7 **borne**, 4- **bourne**, 5-7 **bowrne**, 6-7 **boorn** (e), 7- **bourn**. [A variant of **BURN**, being the form commonly used in the south of England since the 14th c. Originally pronounced like *burn*, *adjoin*: but the influence of the *r* disturbed the pronunciation, as in *ourn*; whence the mod. spelling and pronunciation.]

A small stream, a brook; often applied (in this spelling) to the winter bournes or winter torrents

of the chalk downs. Applied to northern streams it is usually spelt **BURN**.

c 1325 E. E. *Allit. P. A.* 973 Bow vp to-warde þys bornes heued. 1362 LANGL. *P. Pl. A. Prol.* 8 Vndur a brod banke bi a Bourn syde. c 1440 *Bone Flor.* 609 Ranne bowrnes all on blode. 1576 LAMBARDE *Peramb. Kent* (1826) 260 Sundry smal brookes, or boornes. 1612 DRAYTON *Polyolb.* 3 The Bournes, the Brooks, the Beckes, the Rills, the Rivulets. c 1630 RISSON *Surv. Devon* § 281 (1810) 292 Whereout . . . a spring breaketh, by some called a borne. 1634 MILTON *Comus* 313 And every bosky bourn from side to side. 1657 HOWELL *Londinop.* 10 Those ancient and present Rivers, Brooks, Boorns, Pools, Wells, Conduits, and Aqueducts, which serve to refresh the City of London. 1757 DYER *Fleece* II. 383 He [Drayton] whose rustic muse . . . sung the bosky bourns of Alfred's shires. a 1856 LONGF. *Happiest Land* viii, Over mountain gorge and bourn [*primeval* horn]. 1879 JEFFERIES *Wild Life S. County* 22 The villages on the downs are generally on a bourn, or winter water-course. In summer it is a broad winding trench . . . along whose bed you may stroll dryshod. In winter, the bourn often has the appearance of a broad brook.

Fig. c 1430 *Hymns Virg.* (1867) 71 In þin herte blood, þat holi bourn [*primeval* spurn].

Bourne, **born** (bɔːn), *sb.*² Also 6-7 **borne**.

[Early mod. Eng. *borne*, *a. f.* *borne* (formerly occas. *bourne*), app. = OF. *borne*, *bone*, *bourne* (see **BOUND** *sb.*¹). In Eng. in Lord Berners, and in Shakspeare (seven times), then app. not till 18th c.; in the modern use being due to Shakspeare, and in a large number of cases directly alluding to the passage in *Hamlet*. Confused in spelling with **BOURN** *sb.*¹

(The history of *borne* in Fr. is uncertain; Littré suggests that it arose from the later *bone*, *bourne* by the intercalation of *r*; Diez supposed a substitution of *r* for *d* in the earlier *borne*; M. Paul Meyer says *borne*, *borne*, *borne* is an admissible phonetic series, the more so that Fr. has a dim. *borsola*, and a sb. *borsolar* (borner, limiter).)]

† 1. A boundary (between fields, etc.). Obs.

1523 LD. BERNERS *Proiss.* I. ccxii. 257 All . . . places, lyenge bitwene the boundes and bournes folowyng. *Ibid.* The foresayd boundes and bornes in the article of Calais. 1610 SHAKS. *Temp.* II. i. 152 Borne, bound of Land, Tilth, Vineyard none. 1611 — *Wint. T.* I. ii. 134 One that fixes No borne 'twixt his and mine. 1731 BAILEY, *Bornes*, Limits, bounds, etc. *Shakes.* 1790 COWPER *Iliad* XVIII. 679 Oft as in their course They came to the field's borne.

2. A bound, a limit. (Approaching 3.) *arch.*

1606 SHAKS. *Ant. & Cl.* I. i. 16 He set a borne how farre to be beloud. 1707 THOMSON *Summer* 99 From the far borne Of utmost Saturn. 1847 TENNYSON *Princ.* Concl. 100 A shout . . . rang Beyond the bourn of sunset. 1858 SEARS *Athan.* III. vii. 312 A sphere above the natural, and within the bourn of immortality.

3. The limit or terminus of a race, journey, or course; the ultimate point aimed at, or to which anything tends; destination, goal. (Somewhat poetic; often fig.)

[Shakspeare's famous passage probably meant the 'frontier or pale' of a country; but has been associated contextually with the goal of a traveller's course.]

1602 SHAKS. *Ham.* III. L. 79 The dread of something after death, The undiscovered Country, from whose Borne No Traueller returns. a 1761 FAWKES *Sparrow* (R.) Dismal regions! from whose bourn No pale travellers return. c 1800 K. WHITE *On Prayer in Rem.* (1830) 433 The means employed to arrive at the bourn of our desires. 1805 WORDSW. *Prel.* II. (1850) 35 The selected bourn was now an Island. 1865 M. ARNOLD *Ess. Crit.* vi. (1865) 212 Perhaps, even of the life of Pindar's time, Pompeii was the inevitable bourn.

† 3. *incorrectly* for: Realm, domain. [A misunderstanding of the passage in *Hamlet*.] Obs.

1618 KEATS *Endym.* III. 31 A thousand Powers keep religious state, In water, fiery realm, and airy bourn. 1817 PRAED *Poems* (1865) II. 218 No dame should come To be the queen of his bourn.

4. In comb. **bourne-stone** (formed by Carlyle from *f. borne*), a boundary stone.

1837 CARLYLE *Fr. Rev.* II. i. iii. 23 Chaumette . . . one already describes . . . on *bourne-stone* of the thoroughfares. 1858 KINGSLEY *St. Maura* 56 As you preached and prayed From rock and *bourne-stone*.

Bourn (e), var. of **BURN** *v.*², to burnish.

Bourn (e), obs. *f.* **BERNE**, man, wight.

c 1325 E. E. *Allit. P. A.* 616 Where wystez þou euer any bourne abate . . . in his prayere?

Bourneless, **bourneless** (bɔːnles), *a.* rare. [f. **BOURNE** *sb.*² + -LESS.] Boundless.

1755 J. GRAINGER *Ode Solitude* 117 Great God. The bourneless macrocosm's Thine. 1849 *Fraser's Mag.* XL. 308 Athwart the bourneless blue no fleeting rack is driven.

Bourmonite (bʊˈmɒnɪt). *Min.* [f. the name of its discoverer, Count Bourmon.] Antimonial sulphide of lead and copper; a brittle opaque mineral with metallic lustre.

1805 R. JAMESON *Syst. Min.* II. 579 (Dana) Bourmonite, Antimonial lead ore. 1863-79 WATTS *Dit. Chem.*, *Bourmonite* . . . is found in the copper mines of Cornwall.

Bournous, obs. form of **BURNOUS**.

Bourrock (bʊˈrɒk). *Sc.* [perh. dim. of *bour*, **BOWER**: see -OCK.] A little cot or hut; a small heap of stones, a mound.

1807-10 TANNAHILL *Five Friends Poems* (1846) 156 Weel wha's in the bourrock, and what is your cheer? 1816 SCOTT *Antig.* iv, 'About this bit bourrock, your honour. I mind the bigging o't'.

Bourowe, obs. form of **BOBBROW**.

Bourrachoe, var. **BORACHIO**, Obs., leathern bottle.

† **Bourreau**. Obs. Also 6 *Sc.* **boreau**, bur-

reau, 7 **boreau**: see also **BURRIO**. [In 16th c. *boreau*, *a. OF.* *boreau* (earlier *borel*), now *bourreau*, of uncertain origin: see Diez and Littré. Common, in many spellings in Scotch literature.] An executioner, hangman, or torturer. Chiefly fig.

1549 *Compl. Scot.* 27 That samyn boreau is stikkit or hangit eftiruar for his cruel demeritis. *Ibid.* The cruel inglis men . . . ar boreaus ande hang men permittit be god to puneis vs. 1567 FENTON *Trag. Disc.* 208 b, Covetousnes. . . is thordynarie torment and contynual bourreau that troubles the mynd of thold man. 1584 J. MELVILL *Diary* (1842) 203 Bludie bur-reaus and crewall bucharis of Sathan. 1599 JAS. I. *Bacch. Dapov* (1682) 20 A Tyrannes. . . infamous life armeth. . . his owne subjects to become his bur-reaus. c 1700 PRIOR *Viceroy* (D.) The Bourreau did his worst.

|| **Bourrelet** (bʊˈrɛlɛ). [Fr.: also adopted in forms **BOURLET**, **BURLET**.] A ridge-like excrescence.

1859 TODD *Cycl. Anal. & Phys.* V. 477/2 The ridge or 'bourrelet' at the upper margin of the wall answers to the posterior nail-wall.

|| **Bourse** (bʊˈrsɪs). [a. *f.* *bourse* in same sense, literally 'purse'. The form **BURSE** was in regular use from c 1550 to c 1775, when it became obsolete; *bourse* is a re-adoption of the word from modern French, as an alien term.]

An exchange, or place of meeting for merchants; the money-market (of a foreign town). Used esp. of the French institution corresponding to the Stock Exchange in London.

1597 BR. HALL *Sat.* vi. i, Trampling the bourses [ed. 1599 burses] marble twice a day. 1845 DISRAELI *Sybil* (1863) 45 With the exception of . . . some sombre mansions, a dingy inn, and a petty bourse, Marney mainly consisted of a variety of narrow . . . lanes. 1861 MOTLEY *Dutch Rep.* II. 289 It was a common subject of discussion on the Bourse at Antwerp. 1883 *Standard* 10 Apr. An arbitrator . . . is a person who speculates between two Bourses by the help of a partner or confrère in Paris or Berlin.

† **Bourser**. Obs. *rare*-. [var. of **BURSAR**, *q. v.*; cf. *f.* *boursier*, *f. bourse*.] A purser.

1865 *Royal Proclam.* in *Lond. Gaz.* No. 2068/1 Masters of Ships, Boursers and Mariners.

Boursocrat (bʊˈsɒkræt). *rare*. [f. **BOURSE** after *aristocrat*.] A Stock-Exchange 'magnate'.

1882 *Truth* 19 Jan. 118/1 On Twelfth-Night a Boursocrat entertained a party of relatives and friends.

Bourtree (bʊˈtri). Now only *Sc.* and *north.*

dial. Forms: 5 **burte**, 7 **bur-tree**, 9 **burtree**, 6- **bourtree** (e), 7-9 *dial.* **boretree**, **bortery**, 8-9 *Sc.* **bourtrees**. [Of uncertain phonetic form, and unknown origin. The plausible derivation from **BORE** *v.*¹ (see quot. 1691) is inconsistent with the earliest and with the dialect forms; derivation from **BOWER**, *Sc.* *bowr*, *boor* (in sense of 'arbour') answers phonetically, but is unlikely with regard to meaning. Cf. **BOUNTREE**.]

The Elder-tree (*Sambucus nigra*). *attrib.*, as in *bourtrees-berry*, -bush; *bourtrees-gun*, a popgun made of the wood of the Elder, after the pith has been removed.

c 1450 *Nomine* in Wt. Wülcker 228, *Hec sambucus*, a burtree. 1561 HOLLYBUSH *Hom. Apoth.* 25 b, The floures of Eldren or Bourtrees. 1562 TURNER *Herbal* II. 59 b, The wod. is very holow . . . lyke unto elder or bourtrees. 1579 LANGHAM *Gard. Health* (1633) 214 Eldren, or Bourtrees. 1601 RAY *N. C. Wds.* 131 *Bore-tree*, elder-tree; from the great pith in the younger branches which Children commonly bore out to make pogsuns of them. 1786 BURNS *Addr. Deil* vi, Rustlin, thro' the bourtrees comin. 1815 SCOTT *Guy M. liii*, I was behind that bourtrees bush at the very moment. 1821 MRS. WHEELER *Westmorl. Dial.* 73 Bortery-berry wine. 1878 SMILES *Re. Dick* iv. 29 The only tree that thrives . . . is the common bourtrees or elder.

Bousarde, obs. form of **BUZZARD**.

Bousche, obs. form of **BUSH** (of a wheel).

Bouse, **bowse** (bɔːz, bɔːz), *v.*¹ Forms: 3, 6- **house**, **bowse**, 6-7 **bowse**, 7 **bouse** (e): see also **BOOZE**. [ME. *bousen*, app. *a. MDu.* *búsen*, early mod. Du. *buizen* to drink to excess, corresp. to Ger. *bausen* in same sense. The origin is not quite clear: Kluge takes the Ger. vb. to be derived from *haus*, MHG. *bús* blown-up condition, tumidity; but the Du. seems directly related to *buise* a large drinking-vessel. Both vb. and sb. occur (once) in ME.; but they seem to have become generally known in 16th c. as words of thieves' and beggars' cant, whence they passed into slang and colloquial use. Perh. the use in Falconry came down independently from ME. Most commonly pronounced *búz*, and since 18th c. often phonetically written **BOOZE**, *q. v.*]

1. *intr.* To drink; to drink to excess or for enjoyment or goodfellowship; to swill, guzzle, tipple. c 1300 E. E. *P.* (1862) 154 Hail ye holi monkes. . . depe cun ye bouse þat is al zure care. 1567 HARMAN *Caveat* 32 They bowle and bowse one to another. 1592 NASHE *P. Penitence* (ed. 2) 27 a, They lye bowling and beere-bathing in their houses euery after-noon. 1648 HERRICK *Hesper.* (1869) 211 But before that day comes, Still I be bousing. 1790 BURNS *Tam O'Shanter* 5 While we sit bousing at the nappy. 1839 DE QUINCY *Murder Wks.* IV. 22 He . . . had the honour of bousing with him in the evening. 1896 BROWNING *Pacchiar. etc.*, *Epilogue* x, I were found in belief that you quaffed and bowed [*primeval* uds. caroused, drowsed]. b. *To bouse it*: in same sense.

1623 BINGHAM *Comp. Rom. & Mod. Warres*. They play the Ruffians, and bouse it out in drinke. 1634 Sir T. Herbert *Trav.* 156 So soon as the Sun sets, and the kettles beat, then they bowze it lustily.

2. *trans.*
a 1612 HARRINGTON *Epigr.* 1. 68 Thou, professed Epicure, That bowzest Claret wine. 1643 BROME *Jov. Crew* II. 388 For all this bene Cribbing and Peck let us then, Bowze a health to the Gentry Cofe of the Ken. 1848 B. WALSH *Aristoph. Clouds* 312 And the rascally jorum of soup that I've boused.
† 3. *Falconry*. Of a hawk: To drink much (*trans.* and *intr.*). Cf. BOUSING *vbl. sb.* 2.

1575 TURBERV. *Falconrie* 84 With water before hir to the end she may bathe when she will and bouze as naturally they are inclined to do. . . for bowzing may oftentimes preserve them from sickness. a 1682 Sir T. BROWNE *Misc. Tracts* 115 [They gave to hawks] a decoction of Cumfory to bouze.
Bouse, *bouse* (bous), *v.* Chiefly *naut.* Also 8 *bowss*. [Of unknown origin: confounded in the dictionaries generally with BOUSE *v.* 1 = *booze*: but this rimes with *house*.] *trans.* To haul with tackle. Also *absol.*

1593 Sir F. Drake *Rev.* in Arb. *Garner* V. 497 Felling of great trees: bowzing and hauling them together, with great pulleys and hawsers. 1697 CAPT. SMITH *Seaman's Gram.* III. 36 The Younkers are the young men . . . for slinging the yards, bowzing or trising. 1769 FALCONER *Dict. Marine* (1789) *To Bouse*, to draw on any body with a tackle. . . This is pronounced *bouse*. 1816 SCOTT *Antig.* VIII. As we used to bouse up the kegs o' gin. 1840 MARRYAT *Poor Jack* XIII. We boused out our gun. 1868 Wood *Homes without H.* XIV. 297 The nautical method of 'bowzing' up a rope.

b. *transf.*
1751 SMOLLETT *Per. Pic.* XIV. (D.) Pshaw! brother, there's no occasion to bowss out so much unnecessary gum (i. e. palaver).

c. *To bouse up the jib* (fig.): to drink heavily, to make oneself 'tight'.

1837 MARRYAT *Dog Fiend* ix. 1840 — *Poor Jack* XXII. The captain used to bouse his jib up pretty taut every night.

Bouse, *bouse* (būz, bauz), *sb.* 1. Forms: 4 *bous*, 6 — *bouse*, *bowse*, 8 *bowse*: see also BOOZE. [Related to BOUSE *v.* 1: also BOOZE, *q. v.*]

1. *collq.* Drink; liquor. (The first quot. may mean a drinking-vessel.) About 1600 a word of vagabonds' cant.

c 1300 in Wright's *Lyric P.* XXXIX. Drynke to hym deorly of fol god bous. . . When that he is dronke ase a dreynthe mous. 1567 HARMAN *Caveat* 24 Then doth this vpright man call for a gage of bouse, whiche is a quartre pot of drinke. 1632 MASSINGER *New Way* 4c. II. i. Wellborn. No bouse, nor no tobacco? *Tapwell*. Nor, I suck, sir. 1730-6 BAILEY, *Bowse* (with the Vulgar) any Sort of strong Liquor.

2. A drinking-bout, a carouse.

1786 Burns *To J. Kennedy* II. An' if we dinna hae a bouse, I se ne'er drink mair. 1812 W. TENNANT *Anster F.* v. liii. With riot and with bouse. 1857 S. OSBORN *Quedah* IV. 53 All hands had had what they graphically termed 'a bouse-out'. 1858 CARLYLE *Fredk. Gt.* (1865) I. III. ix. 192 A good bouse of liquor now and then.

Bouse (bous, būs), *sb.* 2. Also 7 *bous*. (See *quots.*)

1653 MANLOVE *Lead-mines* 266 Fell, Bous, and Knock-barks, Forstid-or and Tees. 1851 TAPPING *Gloss. Derby Leadmining* (E. D. S.), *Bouse, bouse, fell, bouse ore*, lead ore in its rough state, or in other words the contents of a metalliferous vein, before the baser minerals are separated. 1866 North *Country, Durham, &c.*, *Bouse*, lead ore when picked out from the refuse rock.

Bouse, Bousie, var. BOOZE, BOOSY, cattle-stall. **Bousen**, var. of BOWSSEN *v.* *Obs.* to duck.

Bouser (bū-zai, bau-zar), *[f. BOUSE *v.* 1 + -ER 1.]* One who bouses; a toper, guzzler, drunkard.

1611 COTGR. *Piaillieur*, a tippler, bouser, pot-gossip. 1657 REEVE *God's Plea* 131 These common Bousers and daily Drunkards. 1809 W. LIVING *Knickerb.* (1861) 184 This redoubtable Swede. . . a huge feeder, and bouser in proportion.

Bousing, *vbl. sb.* *[f. BOUSE *v.* 1 + -ING 1.]*

1. Deep drinking, guzzling, tipping.

a 1592 SKELTON *Image Hypocr.* IV. 383 How they iest and jell, With bowzing and bollinge. 1567 HARMAN *Caveat* 23 The buriall was turned to bousing and belly chere. 1641 HINDER *J. Bruen* IV. 15 They . . . have [not] any skill in any arts but of . . . bowzing and drinking.

2. *Falconry*. (See *quots.*)

1575 TURBERV. *Falconrie* 243 By bowzing. . . you shall have evident prooffe and undoubted shewe of his disease. 1615 LATHAM *Falconry Gloss.*, Bousing is when a Hawke drinketh often, and seemes to be continually thirstie.

3. *attrib.*, as *bousing-bout*, *-can*, *-den*, *-house*, *-inn*; + *bousing ken* (*thieves' slang*), a low ale-house.

1596 SPENSER *F. Q.* I. IV. 22 In his hand did bear a bousing can. 1594 NASHE *Unfort. Trav.* Wks. (Grosart) V. 68 Their houghs & bousing houses, which commonly are built fayrer than their Churches. 1561 AWDELEY *Frat. Vacab.* 3 The Alehouse, whych they call the Bowzyng In. 1567 HARMAN *Caveat* 83 A bousing ken, a ale house. 1652 BROME *Jov. Crew* II. Wks. 1873 III. 390 As Tom or Tib. . . When they at Bousing Ken do swill.

Bousing, *ppl. a.* *[f. as prec. + -ING 2.]* That bouses; given to immoderate drinking; tipping.
1569 TURBERV. *Epit. & Sonn.* (1837) 231 As Circes cup no sooner might the bowzing Greekes beguile. 1580 Hay *any Work* 32 Dumb John bousing mates. a 1699 CLEVELAND *Inns of Trent* 49 With a file of bowzing Comrades.

Boussen, var. of BOWSSEN *v.* *Obs.*, to duck.

Boussingaultite, *Min.* *[f. Boussingault, name of a French geologist + -ITE.]* A volcanic mineral product.

1865 *Athenum* No. 1944. 130/3. *Boussingaultite*, a natural product of Tuscany, consisting chiefly of sulphate of ammonia. 1868 DANA *Min.* § 651 *Boussingaultite*, a sulphate of ammonia with part of this alkali replaced by magnesia.

|| **Boussyng**, *Obs. rare*—1. *[a. MDu. būsinc, bunsinc, Du. bunsing 'fitchew, polecat']* A polecat.

1481 CAXTON *Reynard* (Arb.) 79 Tho cam forth many a beest anon as . . . the ostrole, the boussyng and the fyret.

Bouste, var. of BUSTE, *Obs.*, box.

Boust(ious), var. BOISTOUS *a.* *Obs.*, boisterous.

|| **Boustrophedon** (baustrofi-dŏn, bū-), *adv.* and *a.* (*sb.*) *[Gr. Βουστροφῶν, adv. f. βοῦς-ox-turning.]* (Written) alternately from right to left and from left to right, like the course of the plough in successive furrows; as in various ancient inscriptions in Greek and other languages. Hence **Boustrophedonic** *a.*

1763 BLAIR *Rhet.* (1812) I. vii. 155 Afterwards, the Greekes adopted a new method, writing their lines alternately from the right to the left, and from the left to the right, which was called Boustrophedon. 1846 ELLIS *Elgin Marb.* II. 174 A very ancient Greek inscription, written in the boustrophedon manner. 1847 GROTE *Greece* II. xi. III. 176. 1880 *Times* 6 Nov. 4/5 The usual boustrophedon manner which the Hittites affected. 1801 J. HAGER *Babylon. Inscr.* II. The laws of Solon in boustrophedonic writing.

Boustrous, *obs. form* of BOISTEROUS.

Bousom, *obs. form* of BUXOM.

Bousy (bū-zi, bau-zi), *a.* 1. *[f. BOUSE *v.* 1 + -Y 1.]*

1. Affected with much drinking; intoxicated, sotted; showing the effects of intoxication.

a 1590 SKELTON *EL. Rummung* 17 Droupy and drowsy, Scurry and lousy; Her face all bousy. 1625 Modell *of Wi.* 31 With quaffing and carousing. . . she could make him bousie beyonde all measure. 1625 Long *Meg of Westm.* II. Neither beastly nor bousie Sleepy nor drowsie. 1742 PORE *Dunciad* IV. 493 Rous'd at his name up rose the bousy Sire. 1842 De QUINCEY *Herodotus* Wks. IX. 195 And every day got bousy as a piper.

2. Addicted to bousing, drunken.

1592 GREENE *Upst. Courtier* in *Harl. Misc.* (Malh.) II. 232 A seale to marke the bousie drunkard to die of the dropsie. 1616 B. JONSON *Devil an Ass* v. VI. (1631) 164 To be greazy, and bousy, ragged and lousy. 1708 HEARNE *Coll.* (1885) II. 109 There's . . . Royce y^e Bousy.

Hence **Bousyish**, *bowsyish*, *a.*, rather bousy.

1832 J. WILSON in *Blackw. Mag.* XXXII. 721 The oracular lip of your Lordships . . . Bowsyish Deputé.

† **Bout**, *sb.* 1. *Obs.* Some part of a woman's head-dress.

a 1300 *Songs Costume* (1849) 42 The bout and the barbet wyth frountel shule feze.

Bout (baut), *sb.* 2. Also 6 *bowt*, 9 *dial. boot*.

[App. a specialized sense of BOUGHT *sb.* 1 'bending' (which in 16th c. was also spelt *bout*), perhaps influenced by association with **Bout** *adv.* 2 'about'.]

† 1. A circuit, an orbit; a roundabout way. *Obs.*

a 1541 WYATT *Poet. Wks.* (1861) 152 The seventh heauen . . . In nine and twenty yeres complete and daies almost sixtene Doth carry in his bowt, the star of Saturn old. 1598 SYLVESTER *Du Bartas* I. II. (1641) 18/1 Which in thy wide bout, boundlesse all dost bound. a 1655 T. ADAMS *Wks.* 1861-2 II. 14 (D.). I love not to fetch any bouts where there is a nearer way.

b. The going and returning of the plough

along two adjacent furrows: also *attrib.*

1601 HOLLAND *Pliny* XVIII. xviii. They make not past two or three bouts in a land, and as many ridges. 1812 STRICKLAND *Agric. E. Yorks.* 159 Ridging up the land into two-bout ridges. 1840 *Tral. Eng. Agric. Soc.* I. III. 261 Ridges . . . each consisting of 2 furrows up and a down, or 2 bouts, as they are called.

2. A 'round' at any kind of exercise, a turn or spell of work; as much of an action as is performed at one time.

1575 TURBERV. *Bk. Venerie* 135 If he doe it not at three bouts it is also a forfeiture. 1617 HIERON *Wks.* (1600) II. 236 To set vpon some course of godlinesse for a bout or two. 1650 FULLER *Pisgah* III. v. 328 They had . . . another bout in the same service. 1725 BRADLEY *Fam. Dict.* s. v. *Wheat*. With a broad Cast, which some do with a single Cast, and some with a double Bout, that is, to sow it twice in a place. 1819 WORDSW. *Waggoner* II. 96 When every dance is done, When every whirling bout is o'er. 1879 F. POLLON *Sport Brit. Burmah* II. 121 [We] had long contemplated a shooting bout together.

b. *That, that bout*: i. e. occasion, turn, time.

1600 H. MORE *Myst. Godd.* v. xv. 177 He . . . may well sustain the person of the Seventh for this bout. 1698 R. LESTRANGE *Josephus Wars* VII. v. (1733) 766 The Romans did not find the Enemy asleep this Bout. 1712 STEELE *Spect.* No. 326 P. 5 The Upholsterer was called, and her Longing say'd that bout. 1845 DISRAELI *Sybil* 295 The Lancashire lads will not come to harm this bout.

3. A round at fighting; a contest, match, trial of strength, physical or intellectual.

1591 SHAKS. *1 Hen. VI.* III. ii. 56 Damsell, He haue a bowt with you againe. 1600 ROWLANDS *Whole Crew*, 4c. 8 Sometimes at the fist we haue a bout. 1796 ANHERST *Terra Fil.* XLIV. 233 A bout at cudgels. 1799 FLEMING *Tom Jones* VII. viii. The two maids . . . began a second bout at altercation. 1846 SCOTT *Woodst.* (1832) 186 If there was a bout at single-stick. 1879 FARRAR *St. Paul* I. 634 At Corinth he had doubtless witnessed those wrestling bouts.

b. Used of a continued fit of drinking.

1670 MAYNWARING *Vita Sana* VI. 78 Those drunken bouts being repeated . . . lay the foundation of many chronick dis-

eases. 1715 BURNET *Own Time* (1766) I. 164 Only fit to be concluded after a drunken bout. 1842 PARK *Mar. Insur.* II. 943 To indulge in fits or bouts of drinking.

c. A fit or turn of illness, as 'a severe bout of influenza'. *dial.*

† 4. A term used to express a certain quantity of lead ore. (See *quot.*) † *Obs.*

1747 HOOSON *Miner's Dict.* v. When they have done measuring they account the whole to be so many Bouts, as suppose 24 Bouts and one half, that's sixty-four Loads; the short Bout is used where lesser quantities are raised, and the whole groove not divided into such small Parts.

† **Bout**, *adv.* 1 and *prep.* 1 *Obs.* or *dial.* Forms:

1 be-ūtan, būtan, -on, būta, būte, 2-3 bute(n, 3 bouten, 3-6 bouts, (f. bowte), 5-6(?) bout. [ME. *boute*, *bouten*, early ME. *būte(n)*:—OE. *būtan* (*būta*, *būte*) *adv.*, *prep.*, *conj.*: orig. *be-ūtan* *adv.* and *prep.* 'without', L. *extra*; a WGer. compound (= OS. *bi-ūtan*, *būtan*, OHG. *bi-ūzan*, MG. *būzen*) f. *bi* *prep.* 'By, with' + *ūtan*, earlier *ūtana* (OHG. *ūzana*, *ūzan*, OS. OE. *ūtan*), Gothic *ūtana*, orig. 'from without', *ūfōder*, later simply 'without', *ūfō*; f. *ūt* OUT + *-ana* suffix with force of 'from'. Originally an adverb, but already in Gothic construed with a genitive = 'outside of', and in WGer. also with dative; in OE. with dat. and acc. The OE. *būtan* split up into two forms in ME.: first, as *prep.* and *adv.*, this strong form *būtan*, *būte(n)*, *boute(n)*, *bout* (cf. OUT), which became *obs.* before 1600, its sense being continued by WITHOUT; secondly, as *adv.* and *conj.*, a weakened form, *būta(n)*, *būte(n)*, BUT, which still continues. As *bout* became *obs.*, but acquired some quasi-prepositional uses; in northern dialect, and esp. in Scotch, *but* (*bot*) had even in 14th c. the senses of ME. *bout*, and still partly retains them. See BUT.]

A. *adv.* Outside, without; out.

a 890 O. E. *Chron.* an. 867 Wæl zeslægen, sume binnan sume butan. c 950 Lindisf. *Gosp.* Mark xiv. 68 [Petrus] eode buta. — John xviii. 16 Petrus uttutidde gestod. . . to duru . . . ute vel bute vel fore. c 1205 LAV. 3748 Scholde a quene beon king in þisse londe, & heora sunen beon bute (c 1275 *boute*). c 1315 SHOREHAM 40 The signe his that hys boute y-do, That thynges hys grace bynne. [hys=is.]

B. *prep.*

1. Outside of, without. a. *of position* (with dat.).

a 1000 *Cadmon's Gen.* 1354 (Gr.) Be-utan earce bordum. c 1000 ÆLFRED *Lev.* IV. 21 Butan ðære wic-stowe. a 1180 O. E. *Chron.* (Laud MS.) an. 1116 Ægðer ge binnan burgan and butan.

b. *of motion* (with acc.).

c 950 Lindisf. *Gosp.* Mark v. 10 Pæt he hine ne fordrife buta ðæt lond. c 1000 *Ag.* G. Mark viii. 23 He . . . lædde hine butan þa wic. c 1160 *Halton G.* ibid., Buton þa wic.

2. Without, apart from, not having, void of: esp. in phrase *bouten ende*. (*Obs.* in Eng. before 1500, but retained in Sc. in form *bot*, BUT, *q. v.*)

894 O. E. *Chron.*, Hie flugon ofer Temese buton ælcum forda. 971 *Blickl. Hom.* 33 Eal his lif he lifde buton synnum. c 1175 *Lamb. Hom.* 43 Deor, summe fæder foted, summe al bute fet. c 1200 ORMIN *Introd.* 21 To ben a butenn ende þær. c 1205 LAV. 23676 Arthur fehten wolde . . . butene cnihte (c 1275 *boute* eni cniht). c 1300 *Land Cokayne* 21 in E. E. P. (1862) 157, I sigge for soþ, boute were. Þer n'is lond on erthe is pere. c 1305 *St. Dunstan* 184 *ibid.* 39 Hi schulle wone And kynges beo bouten ende. c 1350 *Will. Palerne* 567 As schip boute mast. 1430 *Lydg. Chron. Troy* I. vi, Bout makyng of delay. a 1500 *Chester Pl.* (1847) II. 55 This cote boute seame To breake it were shame. [1631 CRAIG *Pilgrim & H.* 6 Tumbling teares bout cease.]

b. *absol.* with obj. not expressed: Without.

a 1225 *Ankr. R.* 418 Stamin habbe hwose wule; and hwose wule mei beon buten. c 1400 *Trentalle* in *Epiph.* (Turnb. 1843) 80 The ton have ende that other is bowte. 1674 RAY *N. C. Wds.* 7 To be bout as Barrow was, i. e. to be without.

3. Except, beyond, more than: see BUT.

c 890 K. ÆLFRED *Beda* III. xxiii. § 4 Butan anum cnihte. c 1200 *Sir Beues* 53 He nas boute seue winter olde.

Bout (baut), *adv.* 2 and *prep.* 2. In 3 *bute(n)*, *bot*, 6 *bout*, 7- 'bout'. [ME. *bute(n)*, *aphet. form* of *abute(n)*, as, in later times, 'bout of ABOUT.]

A. *prep.* In various senses of ABOUT. (Not in literary prose.)

c 1250 *Gen. & Ex.* 566 Dor buten Noe long swing [MS. swinc] he drez. a 1300 *Cursor M.* 14106 Bise ert þou bot [v. r. a-bute] mani dede. *Ibid.* 21605 Quen striff was bute þe preisthede. 1602 WARNER *Alb. Eng.* x. lviii. 250 An Agnus Dei bout her necke, a crost-Christ in her hand. 1622 MASSINGER *Old Law* v. i. The nimble fencer. . . made me tear. . . bout the chamber. 1821 CLARE *Vill. Minstr.* I. 17 Discourses. . . Bout work being slack, and rise and fall of bread. a 1845 HOOD *Agric. Distress* vi, While we bargain 'bout the hay.

B. *adv.* In Nautical phr. 'bout ship' = 'put about the ship', that is, turn her head, alter her course.

1830 MARRYAT *King's Own* xvi, 'Bout ship, Mr. Pearce.

Bout, *obs.* f. BOLT, and of BOUGHT *sb.* & *pa. ppl.*

† **Boutade**, *boutado*. *Obs.* Also *butado* [mod. *F. boutade*, taking place of OF. *boutte* (see -ADE), f. *bouter* to thrust: for *boutado*, see -ADO.]

A sally, a sudden outburst or outbreak.

1614 BACON *K. James* (L.) It was but a boutade of desire and good spirit. 1654 EARL MOWM. *tr. Bontoglio* 321 This (said he) may be termed a French Butado. 1661 *Mercurius Caledonius* 1 Mar. in Chambers *Cycl. Eng. Lit.*, All our

boutadoes and capriccios. 1704 SWIFT *T. Tub* iv. 67 His first boutade was to kick both their wives .. out of doors.

Boutant: see ABC-BOUTANT.

Boutaraga, -argue, variants of BOTARGO.

Bouteloch, obs. f. *bolt-cloth*: see BOLT sb.3

Boute, obs. form of BOOT.

† **Boutefeu**. Obs. Also 7 beautifew, beutifew, -efew, -w, boutfeu, boutefean, -ieu, boutifieu, -ure, bowtifeu, 7-8 boutefew, 8 botefeu. [a. F. *boutefeu* a linstock, an incendiary, f. *bouter* to put + *feu* fire. Very common in the 17th c.]

An incendiary, a firebrand; one who kindles discontent and strife; also attrib.

a 1508 L.D. BURLINGHAME *Q. Eliz* in *Harl. Misc.* (1809) II. 281 The Guisards happen to serve for boutefeus in Scotland. 1622 BACON *Hen. VII.* 68 A very Boutefeu. 1641 J. JACKSON *True Evang.* T. L. 35 Close enemies of the Empire, and secret boutefeus of rebellion. 1642 *Observ. his Majesty's Answ. Declar. Parl.* 12 Thieves and boutifeus. 1656 BRAMHALL *Replie* iii. 138 Such Bigots and Bowtifeus. 1667 *Decay Chr. Piety* xix. 364 Lusts .. are confestly the boutefeus among us. 1691 WOOD *Ath. Oxon.* II. 1529 He became .. a great Boutifeu & firebrand in the Church. a 1734 NORTH *Exam.* i. iii. p. 106. 196 Factious Boutefeus, Bawlers for Property & against Popery, etc. 1754 RICHARDSON *Let. in Mrs. Barbauld's Life* (1804) III. 106 The sanguine expectations of their boutefeus editor.

Boutell, variant of BOTTEL, and BOULTEL.

Bouter (baw'tal). *dial.* [f. BOUT *adv.*] (See quot.)

1834 CRABBE in *Life & Wks.* I. vi. 144 The female servants at a side table called a bouter.

† **Boute-selle**. Obs. rare. [a. F. *boute-selle*, f. *bouter* to put + *selle* saddle.] A trumpet-call, warning knights or cavalry to put on the saddle; = *Boot and saddle*: see BOOT sb.3 1 b.

1628 tr. *Mathew's Powerf. Favorite* 136 At Executions, the Trumpets sounded the bataille, as the alarm, or the boutelle [misprinted *bontelle*], to go to death. 1649 G. DANIEL *Trinarch. Hen. V.* cli, The Towne-pent Rutters attend to Bot et Selle. a 1650 CLEVELAND *Gen. Poems* (1677) 8 The sprightly Chanticleer .. Sounds Boutel [v. r. Boot-esse] to Cupid's Knight.

† **Boutgate**. Obs. Sc. [f. *bout*, aphet. f. ABOUT + GATE, going.] lit. A going about; hence, am-bage, circumvention; equivocation, quibble.

1591 R. BRUCE *11 Serm.* T. ij. (JAM.) The boutgates and deceites of the hearts of man are infinite. 1657 COLVIL *Whigs Supplic.* (1751) 138 They bring but bout-gates, and gollinies. a 1734 WOODROW *Corr.* (1843) III. 463 Witnesses to his shifting and boutgates. 1760 ROSS *Helensie* 79 (JAM.) Nory .. Made shift by boutgates to put off the day.

Bouths, obs. form of BOOTH.

Bouting (baw'tin), *vbl. sb.* [f. BOUT sb.2 1 b + -ING 1.] (See quot.)

1834 PENNY *Cycl.* II. 224 Sometimes (in ploughing land) two ridges are set up against each other, which is called riding or bouting.

† **Boutisale**. Obs. rare-1. [f. BOOTY + SALE.] A sale of booty, in order to divide the proceeds.

1630 HAYWARD *Edw. VI.* 88 To speake nothing of the great Boutisale of Colledges and Chantries, to speake nothing of all his other particular pillages.

Boutrisse, obs. form of BUTTRESS.

|| **Bouts-rimés** (bu'-rime), *sb. pl.* [F. *bouts ends + rimés* rimed.] Rimed endings: see first quot.

1711 ADDISON *Spect.* No. 60. p. 8 The bouts-rimés were the favourites of the French nation for a whole age together. .. They were a List of Words that rhyme to one another, drawn up by another Hand, and given to a Poet, who was to make a Poem to the Rhymes in the same Order that they were placed upon the List. 1824 BYRON *Juan* xvi. 1, Sonnets to herself, or bouts rimés. 1840 HOOD *Up Rhine* Intro. 4 Weary of repeating such bouts rimés as the Rhine and the land of the vine.

Bouty, **Bouw** (e, obs. ff. BOOTY, BOUGE, BOW.

† **Bouvrage**. Obs. [ad. OF. *buvrage*, *buvrage*, *buverage*, now *brevufrage*, BEVERAGE.] Beverage, drink. a 1815 CULLEND *Papers* 184 (JAM.) Picking the pockets of the people of any ready money they have, to pay for foreign bouvrage.

Bouwel, **Bouxome**, obs. f. BOWEL, BUXOM.

Bouye, obs. form of BUOY.

Bouza, variant form of BOZA.

Bouze, variant of BOUSE, BOOZE.

Boozy, **boozey** (bu'-zi), a.1 Sc. [variant of BUSHY.] BOSKY, BUSHY.

1807 HOGG *Mount. Bard* 154 (JAM.) In a cottage, poor and nameless, By a little bouzy linn. a 1810 REM. *Nithsdale Song* 67 A paukie cat .. Wi' a bonnie bowsie tailie. 1808 JAMIESON s. v. A tree rich in foliage is said to have a boozey top.

Bouzy, a.2 north. *dial.* Also boozey, bowzy. [Cf. Ger. *haus*, 'swollenness, inflation': see BOUSE v.1] Big, bulky, corpulent.

1807 J. STAGG *Poems* 62 Down his boozey burden fell. 1808 JAMIESON *Dict.*, *Boozy-like*, having the appearance of distention, or largeness of size. 1875 F. K. ROBINSON *Whitby Glass* (E. D. S.), *Bowzy*, big-bellied.

Bouzy, -ie, a.3 obs. forms of BOUST, sotted.

Bovate (bō'-vét). Also 7 bovatt, 8 boviat. [ad. med. L. *bovāta*, f. *bōs*, *bov-is* an ox; cf. -ATE 1.] An oxgang, or as much land as one ox could plough in a year; one-eighth of the carucate or ploughland; varying in amount from 10 to 18 acres according to the system of tillage, etc.

1688 R. HOLME *Armory* III. iii. 59 Bovatt of Land is as much as 15 Acres, in some places 20 Acres. 1723 H. ROWLANDS *Mona Antiqua* (1766) 122 Gavels, measured out by Boviat and Carucats. 1830 STONEHOUSE *Asholme* 345 William, the son of Roger de Beltoft, is returned as having two parts of one bovat of land. 1883 SEEBOMM *Eng. Vill. Community* 61 The full husband-land or virgate was composed of two bovates or oxgangs. [1886 I. TAYLOR, The normal oxgangs in the Boldon Buke are 15 and 12 acres.]

Bove, *adv.* and *prep.* Forms: 1 be-ufan, 1-2 bufan, bufon, 2-3 bufen, buuen, buven, buve, 3-4 boven, bove. [ME. *boven*, earlier *buven*, *bufen*: -OE. *bufan*, earlier *be-ufan*, a West Ger. compound (OS. *bi-ōdan*, Du. *boven*), f. *bi-*, BY, beside + *ufan* (OS. *ōdan*, OHG. *oban*, *obana*), OTeut. **ufana*, *ufana* from above, above, f. *uf* up + *-ana* suffix orig. expressing motion from.]

† 1. (In OE. and early ME.) The earlier and simpler form of ABOVE.

The compound *a-bufan* appeared in the 12th c. in the north and n.e. as an adverbial form; by the end of 13th c. *aboven* was also prepositional, and generally used instead of *bufen*, *buve*; and in 14th c. *bove* became obsolete. The following examples show the forms; the development of meaning will be found under ABOVE.

a 940 *Laus of Ethelstan* iv. 4 (Bosw.) Swa we her be-ufan cwædon. c 1000 ÆLFRIC *Manual of Astron.* 1 Eall swa deop under byssre eorðan, swa heo is bufan. 1205 LAV. 26564 And smat hine buuen þan scelde. c 1315 SHOREHAM 117 Al that hys bove and under molde. 1c 1390 *Forme of Cury* (ed. Pegge) 75 Plant it bove with prunes and damysyns.

2. In modern English 'bove, bove, is an occasional shortening of ABOVE, in verse.

1591 SPENSER *Runes of Time* 110 Lifting up her brave heroic thought Bove womens weaknes. 1610 SHAKS. *Temp.* II. i. 118 'Boue the contentions waues. c 1630 DRUMMOND *Poems* Wks. (1712) 37 'Bove other far esteem'd. 1886 PLUMPTRE *Dante, Hell* i. 13 But when I reached a point bove which did tower A mount.

Bove: see BUS v. = behoves.

† **Bovert**. Obs. rare-1. [Cf. OF. *bouvert* a young ox or steer, f. *bov* ox.] † A young ox.

† a 1400 *Chester Pl.* l. 129 Then hope I to have .. The better in the bore as I had before, Of this boverte.

Bovey (bō'-vi). [Proper name of a parish near Exeter in Devonshire.] *Bovey coal*: a lignite or brown-coal of Miocene age, occurring in beds at Bovey, and elsewhere.

1760 MILLER *Bovey Coal* in *Phil. Trans.* LI. 535 The Devonshire fossil .. commonly known by the name of the Bovey Coal. 1860 FORDYCE *Hist. Coal*, 4c. 31 Bovey Coal is found embedded in the pipe clays of Dorsetshire. 1861 Mrs. BERTON *Bk. Househ. Managem.* iii. 32 Of coal there are various species; as, pit .. cannel .. bovey, jet, &c.

Boviate, obs. form of BOVATE.

Bovicide (bō'-visid, bō'-vi). [f. L. *bōs*, *bov-is* ox + -CID-; cf. L. *boviciidum* slaughtering of cattle.] A slayer of oxen; humorously a butcher.

1676 PHILLIPS (*App. affected Wds.*) *Bovicide*, a killer of Oxen, a Butcher. 1832 *Blackw. Mag.* XXXI. 321 He had been a Bovicide.

Boviculture. [f. as prec. + CULTURE.] Cattle-rearing. (*Affected.*)

1876 *Daily Tel.* 4 Dec. The old epoch of bovculture.

Bovid, a. [f. as prec. + -ID-] Of or pertaining to the ox family, or Bovidae of Zoologists, a family of Ruminating animals, having simply rounded horns, and no lachrymal sinuses.

Boviform (bō'-visim), a. [f. as prec. + -FORM.] Having the form of an ox, ox-like.

1676 CUDWORTH *Intell. Syst.* i. v. 673 There were once produced .. Chimæras .. mixtly Boviform and Homini-form.

Bovine (bō'-vīn), a. [ad. L. *bovinus*, f. *bōs*, *bov-ox*; cf. F. *bovine*.] Belonging to, or characteristic of, the ox tribe. Also ellipt. = bovine animal.

1817 G. S. FABER *Eight Dissert.* (1845) I. 405 The worship of the bovine Apis. 1865 *Athenæum* No. 1069. 103/3 No wild bovine is now known in Syria. 1877 J. ALLEN *Amer. Bison* 468 Particularly bovine, also, is the satisfaction they take in rubbing themselves against trees.

2. *fig.* Inert, sluggish; dull, stupid; cf. *bucolic*. 1825 O. W. HOLMES *Poems* 235 Where bovine rustics used to doze and dream. 1879 *Contemp. Rev.* 291 Neither in the ranks of bovine Toryism nor of rabid Radicalism.

† **Bovy**. Obs. rare-1. (See quot.)

1547 BOORDE *Introd. Knowl.* 167 There is [in Bohemia] a beast called a Bouy lyke a Bugle .. a vengeable beast.

Bow (bō), sb.1 Forms: 1 boga, 3-4 boje, (3 bou), 3-7 bowe, 4 bouwe, boghe (boj), 4-5 boowe, 6 boe, (boll). 4- bow. [Com. Teut.: OE. *boga*, corresp. to OFris. *boga*, OS. *bogo* (MDu. *booghe*, Du. *boog*), OHG. *bogo* (MHG. *boge*, mod. G. *bogen*), ON. *bogi* (Sw. *båge*, Da. *bue*): -OTeut. **bugon-*, f. stem *bug-* of *beugan*, to bend.]

1. *1. gen.* A thing bent or fashioned so as to form part of the circumference of a circle or other curve; a bend, a bent line.

Not actually exemplified in OE., but entering into numerous compounds, as *elmboga* elbow, *hring-boga* 'ring-bow', a coiled snake, *rēn-boga* rain-bow, *stān-boga* 'stone-bow', an arch, *boga-net* bow-net. In ME. the general sense was often supplied from French by *arch*, but *bog* is occasional. (In quot. 1387, it is quite possible that *bog* is the Norse *bug-*, bend, bowing, the bend of a river.)

1387 TREVISIA *Higden* (1865) II. 87 From be bowe of the ryuer of Humber. 1541 ELYOT *Image Gov.* 100 The Theatre was a place made in the fourme of a bowe, that hath a great

bente. 1846 ELLIS *Elgin Marb.* II. 13 The floating drapery describes a bow above her head.

II. Specific uses.

2. A rainbow. (Mostly contextual or poetical for the compound.)

a 1000 ÆLFRIC *Gen.* ix. 14 Æteowþ min boga on ðam wolcnum. c 1000 Sax. *Leechd.* I. 284 Heo þone heofonlican bogan mid hyre bleoge efenlece. c 1340 *Cursor M.* 1977 (Fairf.) Quen þou þat boghe may se þer-oute of suche flode haue þou na doute. 1384 WYCLIF *Ecclus.* xliii. 12 See the bowe, and blisse hym that made it. 1597 DRAYTON *Mortimer.* 53 The bowe appeares to tell the flood is donne. c 1630 DRUMM. OF HAWTH. *Poems* Wks. (1711) 56/2 Ropes make of the rainy bow. 1667 MILTON *P. L.* xi. 865 A dewie Cloud, and in the Cloud a Bow. 1728 THOMSON *Spring* 203 Bestriding earth, the grand ethereal bow. 1890 TENNYSON *In Mem. cxxii.* 190 Every dew-drop paints a bow.

† 3. An arch (of masonry), as in a gateway, or bridge. Obs. exc. *dial.*

a 1000 *Beowulf* (Z.) 2719 Ða stan bogan stapulum fæste. c 1325 E. E. *Allit. P.* A. 323 Þurȝ drwry deth boȝ vch dreue. 1384 WYCLIF *Prov.* xx. 26 He bowith in vpon hem a stonene bowe. c 1386 CHAUCER *Prolog.* 125 After the scole of Stratford atte Bowe [Cambr. MS. stratforthe at the bowe]. 1483 *Cath. Angl.* 31/1 A Bowe of a bryge. 1513 DOUGLAS *Æneis* vi. x. 10 Thai portis with thair stalwart bow and brace. 1513-75 *Diurnal Occurrences* (1833) 211 At Bessie Beates hous, in the passage to the over boll. 1570-87 HOLMES *Scot. Chron.* (1806) II. 327 Their heads were set .. on the neither-bow. 1866 BARNES *Rhymes Dorset. Dial.* II. 75 By the mossy brudge's bow.

4. A weapon for shooting arrows or similar missiles, consisting of a strip of elastic wood or other material, bent by means of a string stretched between its two ends; the arrow is impelled by the recoil which follows the retraction of the string. Phrases. *To bend or draw a bow*, to shoot with (formerly in) a bow. *Bows and bills*! the cry of alarm raised in the English camp in old times. See also CROSS-BOW, STONE-BOW.

a 1000 *Gnomic Vers.* 154 (Gr.) Boga scāl strale. c 1205 LAV. 6471 Enne boȝe swide strong. a 1225 *Ancr. R.* 250 He tobrek his bowe. 1340 *Aymer.* 45 An archer .. neme his boȝe. 1384 WYCLIF *1 Kings* xxii. 34 A maner man bente his boowe. a 1400 *Con. Myst.* 45 My bowe xal I drawe. 1557 *Tottel's Misc.* 265 He claymed Cupides bow. 1564 HAYWARD *Prov. & Epigr.* (1867) 61 Many a man speaketh of Robyn hood, That neuer shot in his bowe. a 1579 *Knox's Hist. Ref.* 28 (JAM.) The schout ryises, Bowes and Billis! .. whence is a signification of extrem defence. 1597 SHAKS. *a fine* *IV.* III. 48 Hee drew a good Bow .. hee shot a fine shote. 1607 DEKKER *Northw. Hoe* v. Wks. 1873 III. 80 Its better to shoot in a bowe that has been shot in before. 1671 MILTON *P. R.* III. 305 They issue forth, steel bows and shafts their arms. 1830 SIR J. HESCHEL *Stud. Nat. Phil.* III. iii. (1851) 273 The bow of Ulysses, which none but its master could bend. 1877 BRYANT *Among Trees* 96 While yet the Indian hunter drew the bow.

b. *transf.* A Bowman (in plural). c 1511 *1st Eng. Bk. Amer.* (Arb.) Intro. 34/2, x. M. knyghtes .. vi. M. crosse bowes, xv. M. longe bowes, and xl. M. othere men. 1577 HOLMES *Chron.* III. 1259/1 There was among these a thirte bowes with a bagpipe. 1825 SCOTT *Talim.* x. A strong guard of bills and bows.

c. *fig.* with many phrases: e.g. *To have two (many, etc.) strings to one's bow*: to have two (or many) resources or alternatives. *To draw the long bow*: to make exaggerated statements (*colloq.*). † *The bent of one's bow*: one's intention, inclination, disposition, 'calibre' (cf. BENT sb.2 8, 9). † *To shoot in (another's) bow*: to practise an art other than one's own. † *By the string rather than the bow*: by the most direct way.

1564 J. HEYWOOD *Prov. & Epigr.* (1867) 30 Ye haue many stryngis to the bowe. *Ibid.* 165, I haue the bent of his bowe, that I know. 1579 LVLV *Euphues* (Arb.) 116 My counsaile is that thou haue more stryngis to thy bow than one. 1676 BUTLER *Hud.* III. i. 3 As he that has two stryngs t' his bow, And burns for love and money too. 1690 W. WALKER *Idiomat. Anglo-Lat.* Pref. 4 To save .. the labour of turning from place to place with references, which to some is tedious and to all unpleasant who love to go by the string rather than by the bow. 1783 AINSWORTH *Lat. Dict.* (Morell) I. s. v. *Bent*, I have got the bend of his bow, *ego illius sensum pulchrè calleo*. 1812 JANE AUSTEN *Manf. P.* viii. (D.) Miss Bertram .. might be said to have two stryngs to her bow. 1824 BYRON *Juan* xvi. i. They .. draw the long bow better now than ever.

† d. *To bend or bring (a person) to one's bow*: i.e. to one's will, inclination, or control. *To come to (a person's) bow*: to become compliant or subject. (Here there may have been later association with Bow sb.2.)

1631 *Foxe's A. & M.* III. xii. 880/2 Perceiving they could not bend him vnto their bowe. 1633 H. COGAN *Pinto's Trav.* lxxii. (1663) 294 All this he did cunningly, hoping by this means to bring him to his bowe with less peril. 1690 HUBBERT *Pill Formality* 22 To bear such sway and rule over others that they must have all men come to their bow. 1695 BROOKS *Gold. Key* Wks. (1867) V. 497 Neither Darius, his presidents, nor princes, could ever bring Daniel to their bow. 1688 BUNYAN *Holy War* 30 Mansoul being wholly at his beck, and brought wholly to his bow. 1697 DAMPER *Voy.* (1729) II. ii. 5 The Dutch .. have lately endeavoured to bring the King .. to their Bow.

† 5. A yoke for oxen. Obs. or *dial.*

c 1400 *Destr. Troy* 901 [Oxin] als .. bowande to þe bowes as any bestes might. 1523 FITZGER. *Husb.* § 5 His oxen or horses, and the gear that belongeth to them, that is to say, bowes, yokes, landes, stylynges, wrethynges, temes. 1600 SHAKS. *A. Y. L.* III. iii. 80 As the Oxe hath his bow sir,

the horse his curb, etc. 1669 *Worldwide Syst. Agric.* (1681) 322 Bow, an Ox-bow or Yoke. 1781 *Bailey, Bow*, or Ox-Bow, a Yoke of Oxen. *Country Words*.

b. *pl.* Two pieces of wood laid archwise to fit a horse's back, give the saddle its due form, and keep it tight: see *SADDLE-BOW*.

6. *Music.* [from 4.] The appliance with which instruments of the violin class are played, being a rod of elastic wood with a number of horse-hairs stretched from end to end, which is drawn across the strings, and causes them to sound. (It was formerly curved, with a cord instead of the hairs, thus resembling an archer's bow.)

1580 *HOLLAND Treat. Fr. Tong. L'Archet d'un rebec*. . . the bowe of a viole. 1776 *BURNBY Hist. Mus.* (1789) I. 271 The bow now in use was . . . unknown to the ancients. 1807 *ROBINSON Archæol. Græca* v. xxiii. 537 They struck the strings sometimes with a bow, and sometimes only with the fingers. 1880 *Grove Dict. Mus.* II. 632 [Paganini] made his staccato by throwing the bow violently on the string.

b. [*f. Bow v.*] A single passage of the bow across the string.

1838 W. GARDINER *Music of Nat.* 120 In Beethoven . . . we find many bars included in one bow.

c. *transf.* Part of an insect's wing resembling a violin-bow in function.

1836-9 *Todd Cycl. Anat. & Phys.* II. 928/2 When the wings are rubbed briskly together these rasps or bristles produce a loud grating against some projecting nervures.

7. Applied to parts of the body resembling a bow.

†a. The iris of the eye. b. The eye-brow. *Obs.*

1611 *COTGR., Arc*. . . the bow, or Iris of the eye. 1789 *T. COOKE Tales* 64 The Bows her Eyes above. *Ibid.* 103 How have I prais'd thy Cheeks where Roses blow! How dwell'd with Wonder on thy sable Bow!

†8. An arc of a circle. *Obs.*

1594 *BLUNDELL Exerc. III. l. (ed. 7) 274* The circular line . . . is called *arcus*, in English the bow. 1660 *BLOOME Archit.* B iii, Where that Circle cutteth the 12 part . . . divide above the bowe thereof. in four. 1694 N. FAIRFAX *Bulk & Setv.* 68 The motion would be . . . a bow or arch of a circle. *Ibid.* 117 A wheel of manifold rims . . . would make out uneven bows of circles, in even shares of time.

†9. 'An astronomical instrument formerly used at sea, consisting of only one large graduated arc of 90°, three vanes, and a shank or staff.' *Smyth Sailor's Word-bk.*

1696 *PHILLIPS, Bow*, a Mathematical Instrument to take heights. [1706 *Ibid.* A Mathematical Instrument, formerly used by Seamen to take the height of the sun.]

10. An instrument for drawing curves, especially of large radius, consisting of a rigid beam, and a strip of wood, steel, or the like, which is bent into the required shape by means of screws.

1706 *PHILLIPS, Bow*, a Beam of Wood or Brass, with three long Screws that direct a Lath of Wood or Steel to any Arch; being commonly used to make Draughts of Ships, Projections of the Sphere, etc. [So *BAILEY* 1731, *JOHNSON*, etc.]

11. a. A ring or hoop of metal, etc. forming a handle. Cf. *BAIL sb.2*, *BOUL*.

1611 *COTGR. s. v. Anneau*, The bow (or vpmost part) of a key. 1685 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 3054/4 A pair of Scissars with silver Bowes. 1730 *SAVERY in Phil. Trans.* XXXVI. 328 It . . . lifted a Key by the Bow. 1833 J. HOLLAND *Manuf. Metals* II. 39 Fancy scissars with shanks and bows of gold. 1863 *ATKINSON Danby Province*, Bow, a semicircular hoop or handle to anything, as a basket, a backstone or a pail. 1884 F. BRITTEN *Watch & Clockm.* 36 The ring of a watch case by which it is attached to the watch guard is . . . called a bow.

b. The guard of a sword-hilt, or of a trigger. 1701 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 3723/4 A silver-hilted Sword without a Bow. 1881 *GREENE Gun* 328 The lever being so shaped and adjusted as to form the bow.

c. A bent strip of wood or metal to support the hood, cover, etc. of a vehicle; a bail or slat.

12. *Arch.* a. (See *quots.*)

a 1723 *WARR in Gwilt Archit.* 1006 The vaults of the nave . . . are supported . . . by the bowes or flying buttresses. *Ibid.* Gloss. *Bow*, the part of any building which projects from a straight wall. It is sometimes circular and sometimes polygonal on the plan, or rather formed by two exterior obtuse angles. Bows on polygonal plans are called canted bows. [Hence *Bow-window*.]

b. Short for *BOW-WINDOW*.

1885 *Harper's Mag.* Mar. 547/1 Two little windows . . . replaced by an ample bow.

13. A name of various instruments or tools consisting of a curved piece of wood, with a string extending from one extremity to the other; used, e.g. by smiths, etc. for turning a drill; by turners for turning wood; by hatters for separating the fibres of fur or wool.

1875 *URE Dict. Arts* II. 784 *Hat Manuf.* After the fur is thus driven by the bow from one end of the hurdle to the other, it forms a mass called a bat.

14. An Indian musical instrument.

1875 *MATEER Travancore* 217 The favorite instrument is the bow. A series of bells of various sizes is fastened to the frame of a gigantic bow, and the strings are tightened so as to produce a musical note when struck.

†15. A bow's length, used as a measure of length in archery: chiefly in *fig. phrases.* *Obs.*

1599 *GREENE Upst. Courtier in Hart. Misc.* (Malh.) II. 224 Alas! proud princex, you search a bow to hie. — *Disput.* 2 No, no, Nan, you are two bowes downe the wind. 1607 *MIDDLETON Michaelm. Term* iv. 1, I am not a bow wide of your mind, sir. 1649 G. DANIEL *Trinarch*, *Rich. II.*

xi, Some men will haue an ayme Size Bowes beyond the Levell wh they made.

16. a. 'The doubling of a string in a slip-knot' (J.); a single-looped knot. b. A double-looped ornamental knot into which ribbons, etc., are tied (the usual sense). c. A necktie, ribbon, etc., tied up in such a knot. Hence *bow-knot*.

1671 *Crowne Juliana* III. 33 What knot? a bow-knot? A bow-knot saucy-chops? ha! can you tye your nose of a bow-knot? 1676 *WISMAN (J.)*, Make a knot and let the second knot be with a bow. 1768 *STERNE Sent. Journey* (1778) I. 5 Tying up the ribband in a bow-knot, [I] returned it to her. 1874 *Queen* 8 Aug., The sleeves were . . . ornamented with bows of brown faille. *Mod.* Her sash was tied in a bow.

III. *Attrib. and Comb.*

17. *attrib.* or as *adj.* Bent like a bow, bowed.

1599 *SHAKS. Ven. & Ad.* 619 On his bow-backe, he hath a battell set, Of brisly pikes. 1676 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 1272/4 He is aged about 25 years. . . a bowe nose a little sharp and reddish. 1703 *Ibid.* No. 3951/4 Lewis Branson . . . with fair Hair and bow Legs. 1838 *MARRYAT N. Forster* vi, A little fat man with bow legs.

18. Obvious comb., as *bow-chest*, *-maker*; *bow-bending*, *bow-like*, *-played*, *bow-shaped* *adjs.*

a 1688 *VILLIERS (Dk. Buckhm.) Poems* (1775) 142 *Bow-bending Cupid. 1515-24 in E. Lodge *Illustr. Brit. Hist.* (1838) I. 2 To my Lord D'Arcy, by 3 warrants; bows of yew, 4074. . . *bow chests and arrow chests, 240. 1611 *SPEED Theat. Gr. Brit.* xxxii. (1614) 63/1 Whose East coasts lye *bow-like into the German ocean. 1849 R. BURTON *Centr. Afr. in Prim. Geog. Soc.* XXIX. 390 [Lips] pointed in the centre with that bowlike form which Europeans hold beautiful. 1864 *Hist. Violin in Eng. Mech.* (1870) 11 Feb. 536/2 John Dodd was . . . England's best *bow-maker. 1836 *DUBOURG Violin* ix. (1878) 274 The construction of *bow-played instruments. *Mod.* A *bow-shaped curvature.

19. Special comb. *bow-arm*, the arm that holds the bow (in archery or in violin-playing); *bow-beaked* a., having a curved beak; *bow-bender*, †a bow-bearer; *bow-bent* a., bent like a bow, bowed; *bow-boy*, a boy with a bow (applied to Cupid); *bow-brace*, a guard to protect the left arm from the friction of the bowstring; †*bow closet*, a closet in a recess in the wall of a room; *bow-drill*, a drill turned by means of a bow, the string of which is twisted round the drill (see sense 13); *bow-fin*, a kind of fish (*Amia calva*); *bow-houghed* a., having crooked hips; *bow-instrument*, an instrument played with a bow, as a violin; *bow-knot* (see sense 16); †*bow-lap*, a term describing a particular posture of the leaves of a plant (see *quot.*); †*bow-marks*, butts for archery; *bow-meeting*, a meeting for the practice of archery; *bow-necked* a., having a curved neck; *bow-pen*, *bow-pencil*, a bow-compass with a pen or pencil; *bow-pin*, a key or cotter to fasten the bow of an ox-yoke; *bow-saw*, a saw with a narrow blade stretched in a strong frame as the bowstring in the bow; *bow-stock*, the stock or longitudinal beam of a cross-bow; †*bow-tree*, the wooden part of an archer's bow; †*bow-ward*, a nick in the end of the stem of a key where it joins the bow (see sense 11); *bow-woman* (*nonce-wd.*), a female archer; *bow-wood*, the wood of the Osage Orange (*Maclura aurantiaca*).

1860 *Archer's Guide* 44 The Brace buckles round the *bow-arm, to prevent the string hurting it. 1881 *BROADHOUSE Mus. Acoust.* 167 A steady and practised use of the bow-arm. 1791 *COWPER Iliad* xvi. 521 Two vultures . . . *Bow-beak'd, crook-talon'd. 1719 J. AUBREY *Surrey* III. 74 Sir Thomas Carwarden, Kt. . . was *Bow-Bender to King Henry VIII. 1599 *GREENE Groat's-w.* Wit (1874) 13 Hee would stroake his *bowbent leg, as though he went to shoote loue arrows from his shins. 1688 *MILTON Vac. Exerc.* 69 A sibyl old, bow-bent with crooked age. 1599 *SHAKS. Rom. & Jul.* II. iv. 16 His heart cleft with the blind *Bowe-boyes butt-shaft. 1758 *Mrs. DELANY To Mrs. Dewes* 542 A little shell ornament for my *bow chest. 1865 *TYLER Early Hist. Man.* ix. 243 The *bow-drill is a most ancient and well known boring instrument. 1880 *GUNTHER Fishes* 372 The *Bow-fin or 'Mud-fish' is not uncommon in . . . fresh waters of the United States. 1678 *Phil. Trans.* VII. 5064 One of the G. Dukes Musicians, & plays on all *Bow-Instruments. 1678 *GREW Anat. Plants* I. iv. § 16 There is the *Bow-Lap, where the leaves are all laid somewhat convexly one over another, but not plaited. 1877 *All Y. Round* 29 Sept. 186 The character of these *bow-meetings varies. 1858 *LYTTON What will he do* II. iv. Showy, *bow-necked, long-tailed . . . hybrids. 1869 *Eng. Mech.* 19 Mar. 574/2 In tracing a circle with a *bow-pen. 1677 *Moxon Mech. Exerc.* (1703) 102 The Frame or *Bow-Saw. 1500 *Robin Hood* (Ritson) I. i. 288 Lytell Johan toke none other mesure But his *bowe tre. 1677 *Moxon Mech. Exerc.* (1703) 23 H the Shank . . . K the *Bow-ward, L the bow. 1877 *All Y. Round* 29 Sept. 188 The performances of the bowmen are decidedly distanced by those of the *bowwomen. 1866 *Treas. Bot.*, s. v. *Maclura*, Its elastic yellow wood is called *Bow-wood, from its being used by the Indians for making bows.

Bow (bau), *sb.2* [*f. Bow v.1* 9.]

An inclination of the body or head in salutation and in token of respect, reverence, submission, etc.; an obeisance. *To make one's bow*: to retire, leave the stage.

a 1666 *COWLEY Liberty Wks.* 1710 II. 686 That I do you with humble Bows . . . adore. 1710 *STEELE Tatler* No. 16 P 2 Making Bows till his Buttons touch'd the Ground. 1766 [C. ANSTREY] *Bath Guide* xi. 156 Shewing them how . . . to

make a good Bow. 1769 *Jennius Lett.* xxxv. 164 She received him . . . with bows, and smiles. 1863 *GEO. ELIOT Romola* I. vi, She returned Tito's bow.

1791 *Dk. LEEDS Polit. Mem.* (1884) 156 In which case I should think myself obliged to make my bow. 1875 J. THOMSON *Life W. Thomson* ix. 133 The old farmer . . . is making his bow—passing off the stage never again to return.

† Cf. also phrases under *Bow sb.1* 4 d.

Bow (bau), *sb.3* *Naut.* Also 7 bows, 8 bough, [Recorded only since 1600. Corresp. in form and sense to LG. *būg*, Du. *boeg*, Da. *boug*, Sw. *bog*, all with senses 'shoulder of man or beast', and 'bow of a ship'. The older Teut. forms were ON. *bōg-r*, OHG. *buog* (MHG. *buoc*), MDu. *boech* 'shoulder of man or beast', OE. *bōg*, *bōh* 'shoulder, upper arm', and 'bough of a tree':—OTeut. **bōgu-s* corresp. to Gr. *βῆχυς*, *βῆχυς*, and Skr. *bāhu-s* 'arm'. *Bow* is thus in origin the same word as *BOUGH*, but while the latter has come down direct from OE. in one of the OE. senses, *bow* has been adopted at a later time from LG., Du., or Da., in the special sense of the 'shoulders' of a boat or ship, developed in the maritime speech of one or other of these, but not known to OE. or ME. *Bough* and *bow* have thus widely diverged, the earlier meaning of 'shoulder, arm', not being retained by either. (Not related to *Bow sb.1*, nor to *Bow v.1*, though probably now associated with the latter in the popular etymological consciousness, as appears from most attempts to explain it.)

1. 'The fore-end of a ship or boat; being the rounding part of a vessel forward, beginning on both sides where the planks arch inwards, and terminating where they close, at the rabbit of the stem or prow, being larboard or starboard from that division'. *Smyth Sailor's Word-bk.* Also in *pl.* 'bows'; i.e. the 'shoulders' of a boat.

1626 *CAPT. SMITH Accid. Yng. Seamen* 11 The bend, the bowe, the hawse. 1627 — *Seaman's Gram.* II. 10 The Bow is the broadest part of the Ship before, compassing the Stem to the Loufe. 1703 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 3923/3 She had cut her Anchors from the Bow. 1787 A. HAMILTON *New Acc. E. Ind.* II. l. 220 The Sea . . . broke over the Ship, carrying away . . . two Anchors from the lee Bough. 1778-84 *COOK Voy.* (1790) I. 166 At day-break [we] observed the others [rocks] under our bows. 1888 *SCOTT F. M. Perth* III. 82 A number of boats . . . having their several pipers in the bow. 1840 R. DANA *Bef. Mast* x. 24 Baggage, which we put into the bows of the boat. 1833 M. SCOTT *Tom Cringle* II. 44 We saw a large West Indian suddenly . . . stand across our Bows. 1888 *Daily Tel.* 12 Sept. 2/2 The sea washes noisily against the weather bow.

b. An object is said to be *on the bow* when within 45° of the point right ahead.

1626 *CAPT. SMITH Accid. Yng. Seamen* 18 He stands right a-head; or on the weather bow, or ley bow. 1768-9 *FALCONER Shipwr.* III. 124 Cliffs they view faintly along the larboard bow descried. 1883 *Low Times Rep.* XLIX. 332/1 A steamer . . . bearing about three or four points on the starboard bow of the Clan Sinclair.

c. *attrib.* 1875 *BEDFORD Sailor's Pocket Bk.* I. (ed. 2) 22 A Column is said to be in *Two Bow Lines* when the ships are ranged on each bow of a single ship.

2. *transf.* The rower nearest to the bow. (*collog.*)

1830 *MARRYAT King's Own* xxii, In bow forward!—way enough. 1860 *HUGHES Tom Brown Oxford* xxxiii, The last man whom Tom would have chosen as bow in a pair oar.

3. *Comb.*, as *bow-anchor*, *-port*, *-sheet*, *-side*, *-timber*; †*bow-chase*, *bow-chaser* (see *quots.*); *bow-fast*, a hawser at the bow to secure a vessel to a wharf (see *FAST*); *bow-grace*, *bow-grease*, 'a kind of frame or fender of old junk placed round the bows and sides of a ship to prevent her receiving injury from floating ice or timbers' (*Smyth Sailor's Word-bk.*); (also called *BOW-GRACE*, and in some way connected with that word); *bow-oar*, the oar nearest the bow; *transf.* the man who pulls this oar; *bow-pieces*, 'the ordnance in the bows' (*Smyth Sailor's Word-bk.*). See also *BOWLINE*, *BOWMAN* 2, *BOWSPRIT*.

1627 *CAPT. SMITH Seaman's Gram.* vii. 29 The first, second, and third Anchor . . . are called *Bow Anchors. 1871 *TYNDALL Frigm. Sc.* VI. (ed. 6) I. 205 Both port and bow anchors were cast in deep waters. 1769 *FALCONER Dict. Marine* (1789) *Bow Chase, a cannon . . . in the fore-part of a ship to fire upon any object a-head of her. 1836 *MARRYAT Midsh. Easy* xvii, Firing only her *bow-chasers. c 1890 *Rudim. Navig.* (Weale) 106 The former [ports] are made for the purpose of firing upon an enemy ahead, and are called bow-chasers. 1867 *SMYTH Sailor's Word-bk.*, *Bow-chasers*, two long chase-guns placed forward in the bow-ports to fire directly ahead. 1627 *CAPT. SMITH Seaman's Gram.* xiii. 60 Begin with your *bow-pieces. 1809 *MARRYAT F. Wildmay* iii, I was looking out of the *bow-port. 1837 — *Dog-Friend* xxii, The men had thrown their pea jackets under the *bow-sheets. 1883 *Where Chinese Drive* 5 The oarsman on the *bow-side strokes.

†**Bow** (bū), *sb.4* *north. dial. Obs.* Also 4—bu. [a. ON. *bū* farming, a farm, farm stock, stock of cattle on a farm, corresp. to OE., OS. *bū* dwelling, habitation, OHG. *bū* dwelling, culture, tillage, building (MHG. *bū*, *bom*, mod.G. *bau*, Du. *bouw* tillage, building);—OTeut. **bōwo-m*, f. *bū-L* 'colère'.

Only ON. had the sense 'live-stock, cattle', whence the north. Eng. and Sc. word.]

1. The stock of cattle on a farm, a herd.
a 1300 *Cursor M.* 6744 Qua stelis scep, or ox, or cu, To sla or sell of oper bu, Oxen hue for an he pal. 1513 *DOUGLAS Aeneis* vi. l. 86 Sevin young stottis that 3ok buir nevir nane, Brocht from the bow [grege]. *Ibid.* vii. ix. 139 Fyve bowis of ky [armenta]. 1535 *STEWART Cron. Scot.* (1858) l. 58 For his reward that tyme to haifane kow, Quhair he thoct best out of the kingis bow. 1568 *Bannatyne Poems* 145 (JAM.) A flok or two, A bow of ky. 1866 *EDMONDSTON Sheil. & Orkney Gloss.* 14 Bū, a term used in old deeds to denote cattle.]

2. Comb. bow-house, cattle-house.
1861 *C. INNES Sk. Early Sc. Hist.* iii. 375 The bow-house (cattle-house) was rated at 50 much 'kain' or produce, in butter and cheese.

† **Bow, bowe, sb.** 5. *Sc. Obs.* [prob. (bū) from an earlier *bulle* or *boule* (papal) bull (cf. *fou, fou* = full; *pow, pou* = pull, pool, etc.): for sense cf. F. *bulles* provisions d'un bénéfice; les bulles d'un évêché, d'une abbaye' (Littre); see *BULL sb.*] The provisions of a benefice granted by the Pope.
1513-75 *Diurn. Occurr.* (1833) 28 To wail all the bowis of the benefices. 1529 *LYNDESAY Complaynt* 223 Be his Bowis war weill cumit hame, To mak seruyce he wald thynk schame. 1535 — *Satyre* 2401 My Lords, how haue 3e keptit your thrie vows? Indeid, richt weill, till I gat hame my bows. 1566 *Knox Hist. Ref. Wks.* 1846 l. 274 Maister John Gray . . . past to Rome for expeditioun of the bowes of Ross to Maister Henry Sinclair.

Bow (bau), *v.* 1. Pa. t. and pple. **bowed** (baud).
Forms: *Inf.* 1 būzan, 2-3 buze(n), 3 bouze(n), buwe(n), buen, bouwe, buch, 4 boowe(n), bo3(e), boghe, bu(e), bou(e), bugh, bouh, buu, 4-5 bogh, 4-7 bowe, 5 bow-in, -yn, 6 bough, 6-8 boow, 4- bow. *Strong pa. t.* 1 bēaz, bēah (*pl.* buzon), 2-3 beh (*pl.* buzen), 3 bēh, bah, beoh, beih, bieh, (*pl.* bēhzen, buzezen, buhzen, bižen, bowen), 4 beiz, beigh, bey(3, bugh, (*pl.* bozen). *Strong pa. pple.* 1 bozen, 3-4 (i)bozen, (i)buwen, 4 bowe(n). *Weak pa. t.* 3 bojede, bowed, 4 bojed, boghed, -id, -ud, bued, buud, boued, boud, bowed, -ide, -id, -et, 4- bowed. *Weak pa. pple.* 4 (i)bowed, 4-6 bowid, -yd, boude (*Sc.* bewohit, bowit), 4- bowed. [Orig. a strong vb.: OE. *būzan* (pa. t. *bēah, buzon*, pple. *bogen*), corresp. to OS. **bāgan*, (MDu. *bāghen*, MLG. *bāgen*, Du. *buigen*); also with different vowel in the present stem, OHG. *biogan* (MHG. and mod.G. *biegen*), ON. **bjūga* (pa. t. *pl. bugum*, pple. *gögnun*), Goth. *biugan* (pa. t. *baug, bugum*, pple. *bugans*): — OTeut. stem **beng-* f. root *bug-*, apparently identical with *Sk. bhuj-* to bow, bend, L. *fugere*, Gr. *φύγ-ειν* to flee; although the expected Teut. form corresponding to these would be *buk-*. The causal of this was OTeut. *baugjan*, OE. *biegan, bygan*, weak verb: see *BEY v.* In early ME. there was some confusion of forms in writing, due to the ambiguous use of *u* for both OE. *ū*, and Fr. *u* = *ü*, OE. *y*. As early as the 13th c. *bow* began to usurp the sense of *bey*, which became obs. in the 14th c.; and coincidentally with this extension of sense, *bow* began to take a weak pa. t. and pa. pple.
(This is one of several vbs. in which the LG. langs. (OE., OFris., OS., Nether-Frankish) have *u* against the *iu* of Gothic, ON. *ju*, OHG. *iu*.)

I. Intransitive uses. (Rarely trans. by ellipsis.) In the literal senses 1-4 superseded by *BEND*.

† 1. To assume a bent or crooked shape, position, or attitude; to bend. *Obs. exc. dial.*

a 1000 *Holy Rood* 36 (Gr.) *par ic þa ne dorste . . . bogan* oððe berstan. a 1300 *Cursor M.* 11683 Bogh þou til vs . . . þou tre. c 1374 *CHAUCER Anel. & Arc.* 186 Hir daunger made him . . . bowe and beende. c 1430 *Hymns Virg.* (1867) 73 My backe bowip, myn igen ben soore. 1526 *TINDALE Phil.* ii. 10 That in the name of Jesus shuld every knee bowe. 1562 *J. Heywood Prov. & Epigr.* (1867) 152 Better boowe then breake. 1603 *SHAKS. Meas. for M.* iii. i. 26 Like an Asse, whose backe with Ingots bowes. 1618 *Br. Hall Serm.* v. 110 Let the smith strike a bar . . . though it be iron, it bows. 1677 *Moxon Mech. Exerc.* (1703) 14 When you chuse Iron, chuse such as bows oftenest before it break. *Mod. Sc.* A pin bows more easily than a needle.

† 2. To turn; to turn aside, off, or away; to turn back, retreat; to swerve, decline. Also *fig. Obs.*

a 1000 *ÆLFRIC Man. Astron.* in *Pop. Treat. Sc.* 10 Heo næfre ne byhð ne ufor ne nyðor. — *Ex.* xxxii. 8 Hīz buzon raðe of þam wæge. c 1275 *Lamb. Hom.* 117 Buh from uuele and do god. a 1300 *Cursor M.* 19379 Þai . . . neuer . . . ne buud fra cristen trouth. 1382 *Wyclif Baruch* iv. 12 Thei bowiden awei fro the lawe of God. 1548 *UDALL, etc. Erasm. Par.* Pref. 9 Boughed neyther to the ryghte hande ne to the lefte. 1580 *HOLLYBAND Treas. Fr. Tong. Decliner*, to decline, to bowe from.

† b. (in wider sense) To bend one's course, turn or direct one's steps, wend one's way, make one's way, go, betake oneself. (Sometimes, with appropriate context, = flee.) *Obs.*

a 1000 *ÆLFRIC Ex.* xxi. 13 Ic gesette him hwæder he buzan sceal. c 1205 *LAV.* 5559 Heo iseiþen Brennes buze [c 1275 comen] heom to-jennes. *Ibid.* 14273 Forð he gon buzen [c 1275 wende]. c 1275 *Ibid.* 9351 Hamund to þane wode fleh and toward þe see he bieh. c 1325 *E. E. Allit. P. A.*

973 *Bow vp to-warde þys bornex heued.* 1330 *R. BRUNNE Chron.* 141 Henry in Ingland wonnes . . . & wille not bouh. 1382 *Wyclif John* v. 13 Ihesu bowide him fro the company. c 1400 *Destr. Troy* 9490 Pen fled all in fere, and the fild leuit, Bowet to pere bastels with bale at pere herttes.

† c. To bow in: to turn in, enter. *Obs.*
c 1380 *Wyclif Sel. Wks.* III. 5 Þis cumfort bowip into myn herte. *Ibid.* 7 If clensid it [þe soule] kepip clene, bowyng þerenne abundantly grace of parfyt knowyng of virtues.

† 3. To have a curved direction, to lie or proceed in a curve; to curve, to be deflected. *Obs.*

c 893 *K. ÆLFRED Oros.* i. l. 9 Nilus seo ea . . . west irrende . . . and þonan norþ bugende ut on þone Wendelsæ. 1388 *Wyclif Isa.* lix. 8 The pathis of hem ben bowid to hem. 1530 *PALSGR.* 461 The toppe of Charyng crosse hath bowed downwarde [see *decline*] many a daye. 1535 *COVERDALE Numb.* xxiii. 28 The toppe of mount Peor y^e Boweth towarde the wyldernesse. 1601 *HOLLAND Pliny* i. 118 The very coasts of this streight Bosphorus . . . boweth and windeth like a curb to Mæotis. 1607 *TOPSELL Four-f. Beasts* 316 Another hot sharp Iron like a Bodkin, somewhat bowing at the point. 1795 *MRS. CALDERWOOD Jnl. in Athenæum* No. 2984. 10/2 The ridge of the boat, which bows like an arch.

† b. *fig.* To have an inclination; to tend. *Obs.*
1562 *TURNER Herbal* ii. 108 b. Peares ar temperat, in a mean betwene heat and cold, or they bow a litle to coldnes.

† 4. To stoop or lower the head and upper part of the body, esp. in condescension. *Obs. (or arch.)*
c 1200 *Trin. Coll. Hom.* 121 Ure drihten . . . beih of heune to mannen. a 1240 *Lofsong in Cott. Hom.* 211 Heie helinde, beih þe to me, and buh to mine bonen. c 1300 in *Wright Lyric P.* xxv. 70 Thin heved down boweth to suete cussinge. 1534 *LD. BERNERS Gold. Bk. M. Aurel.* (1546) C vij b. It is necessary . . . to remount to very high things, leste it bowe vnto lowe and yl thinges. 1843 *TENNYSON Dora* 101 She bow'd upon her hands . . . She bow'd down And wept in secret.

5. To bend the neck under a yoke; hence, to become a thrall or subject; to submit, yield, render obedience to.

Beowulf 2918 Se byrn-wiza buzan sceolde. a 1000 *O. E. Chron.* an. 913 Him beaz god dæl þez folces to. c 1275 *Lamb. Hom.* 91 Þa underfengon heo his lare and buzen to fulehte. a 1240 *Lofsong in Cott. Hom.* 205 Ich habbe ofte ibuwen to alle mine preo i-fon. a 1300 *Cursor M.* 14496 All þis weild til him sal buu. a 1340 *HAMPOLE Psalter* lxxxii. 11 My folke boughed noght til my worde. c 1386 *CHAUCER Wyf's Prohl.* 440 On of us tuo mot bowe douteles. 1531 *ELYOT Gov.* (1580) 174 A man should not bowe for any Fortune or trouble of minde. 1682 *DRYDEN Satyr to Muse* 149 Under Iron Yokes make Indians Bow. 1808 *J. BARLOW Columb.* iii. 436 They bow in silence to the victor's chains. 1862 *STANLEY Jew. Ch.* (1877) l. xviii. 344 He at last bows to the inevitable course of events. 1871 *FREEMAN Norm. Cong.* (1876) IV. xvii. 57 Winchester . . . bowed to William some while before his coronation.

† b. (Also construed with a dative appearing afterwards as a simple obj.): To obey. *Obs.*

c 1205 *LAV.* 7295 3if heo me wulleð buzen [c 1275 bouel]. a 1225 *Anscr. R.* 198 Þet child þet ne buhð nout his eldre. 1375 *BARBOUR Bruce* ix. 753 Till at thou know The richt, and bow it as thou aw. c 1400 *Destr. Troy* 507 Tho obeit the bolde, and bowet hir fader.

6. To bend the body, knee, or head, in token of reverence, respect, or submission; to make obeisance. (Emphasized by *down*: const. to, before.)

a 1000 *ÆLFRIC Numb.* xxv. 2 [Israhela bearn] to þan hæ-þengilde buzon. c 1200 *Trin. Coll. Hom.* 199 Buze we to þe stone. c 1205 *LAV.* 22482 Swa he on his cneowen bāh. a 1240 *Orison in Cott. Hom.* 191 To þe ich buwe and mine kneon ich beie. a 1300 *Cursor M.* 11629 (Götl.) title, Hou þe tre bowed to saint mar. 1553 *HOOKE Eccl. Pol.* i. viii. § 11 Shall I bow to the stock of a tree? 1611 *BIBLE Esther* iii. 5 Haman saw that Mordecai bowed not, nor did him reuerence [Wyclif, bowed not kne; COVERDALE, bowed not the knee]. 1611 — *Ps.* xcv. 6 O come, let vs worship and bowe downe [COVERD, ourselves]: let vs kneele before the Lord our maker. 1667 *MILTON P. L.* l. 111 To bow and sue for grace With suppliant knee. 1781 *GIBSON Decl. & F.* III. xlix. 114 An hundred princes bowed before his throne. 1871 *MORLEY Rousseau* (1873) II. 267 That which asks us to bow down and worship God as a 'stream of tendency'.

7. To incline the body or head (to a person) in salutation, acknowledgement of courtesy, polite assent, etc.; to make or give a bow.

1621 *Proc. Parliament* No. 93. 1428 Then he bowed to the Court and Council. 1698 *DRYDEN Virg. Aeneid* ii. 186 With graceful action bowing thus began. 1709 *STEELE & ADD. Tatler* No. 81 ¶ 4 He bowed to Homer, and sat down by him. 1837 *DICKENS Pickw.* ii. 'My friend, sir, Mr. Snodgrass', said Mr. Winkle . . . Doctor Slammer's friend bowed. 1848 *MACAULAY Hist. Eng.* i. 150 He smiled, bowed, and extended his hand graciously to the lips of the colonels and majors. *Mod.* Her Majesty acknowledged the cheers by bowing graciously as she drove along. He bowed to her as usual, but she looked straight before her, and passed on.

b. *trans.* To express by bowing.

1606 *SHAKS. Ant. & Cl.* ii. iii. 3 All which time, before the Gods my knee shall bow my prayers to them for you. 1821 *KRATS Isabel* xxiv. Lorenzo . . . Bow'd a fair greeting. 1884 *Punch* 20 Dec. 294/2 Mr. Punch bows his acknowledgments to 'Good Words'. *Mod.* Mr. B — bowed his assent.

c. To usher in or out with a bow, or bows; so to bow (any one) up or down (stairs, etc.).

1859 *CRABBE T. of Hall* iii. 60 Argue he could not, but in case of doubt, Or disputation, fairly bow'd it out. 1833 *Ht. MARTINEAU Briery Creek* ii. 31 Returning from bowing out Dr. Sneyd with much civility. 1851 *THACKERAY Eng. Hum.* iii. (1858) 114 He and his chamberlains bow her up the great stair to the state apartments.

II. 8. Reflexive uses. The pronoun was perhaps originally dative, but was at length treated as a simple object, as in III. *Obs. or arch.*

a. in sense 1.

a 1225 *Anscr. R.* 266 Buh þe, he seið, aduneward . . . Þeo buhð hire, þet to his fondunde beieð hire heorte. a 1300 *Cursor M.* 11683 (Götl.) Boue þe till vs . . . þu tre. c 1300 in *Wright Lyric P.* xvi. 54 Hire loue . . . beh him to me over bord. c 1430 *Chev. Assigne* 335 He bowethe hym down & geldethe vp þe lyfe. 1611 *BIBLE Eccles.* xii. 3 When . . . the strong men shall bowe themselves.

b. in sense 2.

c 1205 *LAV.* 7499 Beiene þa eorles buzen heom [c 1275 wende] togaderes. 1382 *Wyclif John* v. 13 Ihesu bowide him fro the company. c 1430 *Chev. Assigne* 265 An holy abbot was þer-by & he hym þerow bowethe.

c. in sense 5.

a 1300 *Cursor M.* 19132 Bot mani turnd þar and . . . To baptim tak þam-seluen buud. *Ibid.* 19529 Þe folk was in þat tun to be baptizing þam buud.

d. in sense 6.

a 1300 *Cursor M.* 8961 Dun sco bugh hir to þe grund [v. r. bowid hir]. *Ibid.* 10902 To goddes sande scho gan hir bow [Cott. bu]. 1535 *COVERDALE Dan.* ii. 46 [He] fell downe vpon his face, and bowed him self vnto Daniel. 1611 *BIBLE Ex.* xx. 5 Thou shalt not bow downe thy selfe to them.

e. in sense 7.

a 1606 *BACON New Atl.* 11 He bowed himself a litle to us. *Ibid.* 15 At which speech we all rose up and bowed our selves.

III. Causative uses, in which *bow* has taken the place of the obs. causal *BEY*.

9. *trans.* To cause (a thing) to bend; to force or bring into a curved or angular shape; to inflect, curve, crook. *arch. and dial.* (as in *Sc.*)

a 1300 *K. Horn* 427 Armes heo gan buze, Adun he feol iswo3e. 1502 *ARNOLD Chron.* (1811) 164 Take a graft and bowe it in bothe endes. 1598 *J. DICKENSON Greene in Conc.* (1878) 133 Tender twiggis may with ease be bowed. 1600 *HOLLAND Livy* xxi. lviii. 427 They could hardly bend and bow their joints. 1613 *SHAKS. Hen. VIII.* ii. iii. 36 A three-pence bow'd would hire me. 1626 *BACON Sylva* § 426 Take a low Tree, and bow it. 1680 *BAXTER Answ. Stillingfl.* Pref. A iij b, Iron is too stiff for me to bow. 1875 *DARWIN Insectiv. Pl.* viii. 194 The tentacles after a time being bowed backwards.

† b. *fig. Obs.*

1590 *SHAKS. Hen. V.* i. ii. 14 God forbid . . . That you should fashion, wrest, or bow your reading . . . With opening Titles miscreate. 1662 *FULLER Worthies* (1840) III. 289 Latin words are bowed in their modern senses. 1678 *BUTLER Hud., Lady's Answ.* 156 Marriage, at best, is but a Vow: Which all Men either break, or bow.

c. esp. To bow the knee: i.e. to bend it in adoration or reverence.

1382 *Wyclif Phil.* ii. 10 That in the name of Ihesu ech kne be bowid. — 1 *Kings* xix. 18 Seuen thousand of men of whom the knees ben not bowed before Baal. 1580 *BARET Alv. B.* 1067 To make courtesie or to bowe the knee. 1875 *B. TAYLOR Faust* II. ii. iii. 142 To Ops and Rhea have I bowed the knee.

† 10. To cause to turn in a given direction; to incline, turn, direct; *fig.* to incline or influence (the mind). *Obs.*

a 1300 *Cursor M.* 17588 His blissing to þaa men he butcs. c 1380 *Wyclif Sel. Wks.* III. 422 As þof þei wolde bowe him [God] as maysters of his conseile. c 1449 *PECOCK Repr.* l. i. 7 He or sche ouste bowe away her heering, her reeding and her vnderstanding. 1513 *DOUGLAS Aeneis* xiii. vi. 106 All our prayeris and requestis kynd Myght nowder bow that dour manniss mynd. 1621 *Hewson Lett. in Proc. Parliament* No. 92. 1413 The Lord God hath abundantly bowed their hearts and affections. to the parliament. 1705 *PENN in Pa. Hist. Soc. Mem.* X. 17 You may . . . bow him to better manners and gain him.

† In to bow the ear, the eye, there appears to be a mixture of the notion of 'direct or turn with attention', and of 'bend the head downwards'. See senses 10 and 11.

c 1330 *Hali Meid.* 3 Bihald & buh þin eare. 1535 *COVERDALE Ps.* xxxii. 2 Bowe downe thine eare to me, make haist to delyuer me. 1578 *Gude & Godlie Ballates, Lament. Sinner* i. Bowing down Thy heavenly eye. 1595 *SPENSER Sheph. Cal.* Jan. 16 Bowe your eares vnto my doleful dittie. 1611 *BIBLE Ps.* lxxxvi. 1 Bow downe thine eare, O Lord, heare me.

11. To bend (anything) downwards; to incline, to lower (often in *fig.* expressions).

c 1205 *LAV.* 15740 Þe nunne beh hire hæfde adun. [a 1225 *Anscr. R.* 130 Ase brid vleioinde buhð þet heaued lowe (perh. this = *byhð*, from *BEY v.*)] a 1300 *Cursor M.* 11690 Yeit it [þe tre] boghdu dun ilk bogh. 1382 *Wyclif Isa.* xxxi. 3 The Lord shal boowen [c 1388 bowe down] his hond. 1601 *SHAKS. All's Well* i. ii. 43 And bow'd his eminent top to their low ranks. 1747 *HERVEY Medit. & Contempl.* (1818) 192 Wave, ye stately Cedars . . . wave your branching heads to Him who meekly bowed his own on the accursed tree. 1842 *TENNYSON Dora* 103 She bowed down her head, Remembering the day when first she came. 1871 *FREEMAN Norm. Cong.* (1876) IV. xvii. 95 Lanfranc refused to bow his shoulders to such a burden.

b. *fig.* To bend (a thing) in submission.

a 1300 *Cursor M.* 15291 Þis suete iesu . . . þat bued sua his lauerd-hede to buxumnes of therll. c 1440 *HVLTON Scala Perf.* (1494) ii. xvi. Yf he woll bowe his wyll to God.

12. To cause to stoop, to crush (as a load does). 1671 *MILTON Samson* 698 With sickness and disease thou bow'st them down. 1795 *POPE Odyssey* xi. 239 And bow his age with sorrow to the tomb. 1798 *WESLEY Psalms* (1765) lvii. To Thee let all my Foes submit, Who hunt and bow my Spirit down. 1845 *MACAULAY Hist. Eng.* IV. 97 The load which had bowed down his body and mind.

Bow (bō), *v.* 2 [f. *Bow sb.* 1.6.] *trans. and intr.*

To play with or use the bow (on a violin, etc.). 1838 *W. GARDINER Music Nat.* 202 A single bar of music . . . may be bowed fifty-four different ways. 1861 *Times* 16

Oct., His artists and amateurs bow and finger in thoroughly good style. 1864 G. MERRIDITH *Emilia* xxv. 194 How differently he bows from the other men, though it is only dance music.

Bow (bau), *v.* 3 *Naut.* [f. *Bow sb.* 3] *trans.* Of a ship: To cut (the water) with the bow.

1848 *Merc. Mar. Mag.* V. 199 Sea very turbulent... ship bowing it admirably. 1867 SMYTH *Sailor's Word-bk.*, *Bowing the sea*, meeting a turbulent swell in coming to the wind.

Bow, bowe, obs. forms of BOLL², BOUGH.

† **Bowable**, *a.* Obs. [f. *Bow v.* 1 + -ABLE.]

1. That may be bowed or bent; flexible, pliable. 1843 *Cath. Angl.* 38 Bowabylle, *vbi* pliabyll. 1853 STUBBS *Anat. Abus.* (1877) i. 76 It is flexible and bowable to any thing a man can desire. 1811 *Cotgr.*, *Ployable*, pliable, bowable, bendable.

2. *fig.* Complaisant.

c 1449 *Pecock Repr.* 200 Make the patroun (that is to seie Crist) to be to us inclineable or boweable or redi to heere us. 1663 WOODROFFE *Marrow Fr. Tongue* 323 (L.) If she be a virgin, she is pliable or bowable.

Hence **Bowableness**.

c 1475 *Found. St. Barthol.* Ch. i. xxvii. (1886) 63 The synowys were dryed up & always lackid bowableness.

Bowall (e, -aly, -ayl, obs. forms of BOWEL.

Bowall, obs. form of BOLL³, *Sc.*, recess.

a 1600 *Aberdeen Reg.* (JAM.) All fyir that cumis in [is carried into] the kirk to be kept in the bowall in the wall.

Bowand, obs. *Sc.* form of BOWING.

Boward, variant of BOURD, *Obs.*, a jest.

Bowat, variant of BOWET, a lantern.

Bow-backed (bōw-bækt), *a.* [prob. f. *Bow sb.* 1 (but perh. in sense *a.* from *BOWE ppl. a.*, bowed, crooked) + BACK.] *a.* Having the back permanently bent, crook-backed. *b.* Having the back arched, as an angry cat.

Hence **Bowbackedness**.

1470 *HARDING Chron.* civ. iii. This Edmond . . . Broke-backed and bow-backed bore, Was vnabled to haue the monarché. 1597 *FLEMING Comin. Holinshed* III. 1311/2 When they were crooked & bow backt. 1847 *TENNYSON Princ.* vi. 339 The two great cats . . . Bow-back'd with fear. 1864 *N. Brit. Rev.* Dec. 405 By a sudden effort . . . overcoming his bowbackedness.

Bow-bearer (bōw-bēar), [f. *Bow sb.* 1]

1. One who carries a bow.

a 1600 *Rob. Hood* (Ritson) II. xii. 70 Bow-bearer after mee.

2. An under-officer in a forest, who looked after trespasses affecting vert and venison.

1538 *LELAND Itin.* VI. 95 § 4 Ther be p. Keepers, to Raungers, a Bowbearer, and the Lord Warden. 1610 *HOLLAND Camden's Brit.* i. 723 Bowbearer to King William Rufus. 1880 *SCOTT Monast.* xviii. We will name this youth bowbearer in the forest granted to us by good King David. 1837 *HOWITT Rur. Life* v. ii. (1862) 377 This forest . . . has also two rangers, a bowbearer, and landwarden.

Bow-bell, -bells. The bells of Bow Church, i.e. St. Mary-le-Bow, formerly 'Seyn Marye Chyrche of pe Arches', in Cheapside, London (so called from the 'bows' or arches that supported its steeple. Cf. ABCH.) This church having long had a celebrated peal of bells, and being nearly in the centre of the City, the phrase 'within the sound of Bow-bells' has come to be synonymous with 'within the City bounds'. Also *attrib.*, as in *Bow-bell cockney*, *transf.* A loud tongue (*obs.*).

1600 *ROWLANDS Lett. Humours Blood* iv. 65, I scorne . . . To let a Bow-bell Cockney put me downe. 1811 *Coryat's Crudities* Pref. Verses, Feale thy praise with Rouse & Bow-bell clapper. 1816 T. ADAMS *Son's Sickn.* Wks. 1861 I. 499 The tenor or bow-bell is the abused creature. a 1659 *CLEVELAND Talkative Wom.* 38 Thy Tong . . . That Tom a Lincoln and Bow-bell. 1884 *Punch* 30 Dec. 294/2 Having been born within the sound of Bow Bells, he cannot help being a son of Cockaigne.

† **Bowbert, -art, -ard**. *Obs. Sc.* [app. *a.* OF. *bobert* 'stupid fellow, lout' (Godef. quotes 'li fous bouviere li fous bobers', and 'c'est un bobers, un soz noez'): cf. Swiss Romance *bobet* 'sot, bête'.] A sluggish fellow, a dull lout. Also *attrib.* or as *adj.* (Only in Gavin Douglas.)

1513 *DOUGLAS Aeneis* i. vii. 33 Fra their hife Expellis the bowbart (v. r. buobert) beist, the faynt drone be. *Ibid.* xi. xiv. 18 Quhou happyynis this . . . That 3e sal evir sa doillit and bowbartis (v. r. bowbardis) be Onwrokyn sik iniuris to suffry heir.

Bow-case (bōw-kās), [f. *Bow sb.* 1 4.] A case in which a bow is kept. In 16-17th c. applied humorously to a lean starveling, a 'bag of bones'.

1464 *Mann. & Househ. Exp.* 267 Item, for a bowcas, viij*d.* 1544 *ASCHAM Toxoph.* (ARB.) 119 A bowcase of ledder is not the best. 1599 *MARSTON Sco. Villanie* III. x. 222 Poore budge face, bowcase sleeve, but let him passe. 1605 *Tryall Chev.* II. i. in *Bullen Old Pl.* (1884) III. 289 Bowyer a Capayne? a Capon . . . a Yellow-hammer, a bow-case. 1874 *BOUTELL Arms & Arm.* II. 34 The bow of the Greek hero, when in the field, was carried in a bow-case.

Bowcer, var. of BOWSER, *Obs.*, treasurer.

Bowch, obs. form of BOUCH², BULGE.

Bowcher, -yer, obs. ff. BUTCHER, BOUCHER.

Bow-compass (bōw-kōmpās), -compasses (-ēz), [f. *Bow sb.* 1 + COMPASS.]

1. A pair of compasses with the legs jointed so that the points can be bent inwards; also applied to any compasses made for drawing small circles.

(Commonly called *bows*; when the legs are kept apart by a spring, *spring bows*.)

1796 *HUTTON Math. Dict.* I. 315/1 *Bow Compasses* or *Bows*, are a small sort of compasses, that shut up in a hoop, which serves for a handle.

2. = *Bow sb.* 1 10.

Bowd (e, dial. f. BOLD *a.*; var. of BOLD, *Obs.*

Bowden, -in, var. BOLDEN *v.* and *ppl. a.* *Sc.* *Obs.* to swell, swollen.

Bowder, dial. form of BOULDER.

† **Bowdled**, *ppl. a.* *Obs.* [Origin obscure.]

Having the feathers ruffled; swelled out.

1807 *HARRISON England* II. vii. (1877) 169 Much heere left on the cheekes will make the owner looke big like a bowdled hen.

Bowdlerize (bawdləriz), *v.* [f. the name of Dr. T. Bowdler, who in 1818 published an edition of Shakspeare, 'in which those words and expressions are omitted which cannot with propriety be read aloud in a family': see -IZE.] *trans.* To expurgate (a book or writing), by omitting or modifying words or passages considered indelicate or offensive; to castrate.

1836 *GEN. P. THOMPSON Let. in Exerc.* (1842) IV. 124 Among the names . . . are many, like Hermes, Nereus . . . which modern ultra-christians would have thought fearfully heathenish; while Epaphroditus and Narcissus they would probably have *Bowdlerized*. 1869 *Westm. Rev.* Jan. It is gratifying to add that Mr. Dallas has resisted the temptation to Bowdlerize. 1881 *SAINTSBURY Dryden* 9 Evil counsellors who wished him to bowdlerise glorious John. 1883 *Ch. Times* 703/4 It (Henry IV) is Bowdlerized, to be sure, but that is no evil for school purposes.

Hence **Bowdlerism**, **Bowdlerisation**, **Bowdlerized** *ppl. a.*, **Bowdlerizer**, **Bowdlerizing**, *vb.* *sb.* and *ppl. a.*

1869 *Pall Mall G.* 4 Aug. 12 We doubt whether Juvenal . . . can be read with advantage at the age when Bowdlerism, as a moral precaution, would be desirable. 1876 *Athenaeum* 6 Apr. False squeamishness or inclination to Bowdlerism. 1881 *Westm. Rev.* Apr. 583 The bowdlerization . . . is done in an exceedingly awkward and clumsy fashion. 1879 F. HARRISON *Choice Bks.* (1886) 63 A Bowdlerised version of it would be hardly intelligible as a tale. 1886 *HUXLEY in 19th Cent.* Apr. 489 We may fairly inquire whether editorial Bowdlerising has not prevailed over historic truth.

† **Bow-draught**, *Obs.* [f. *Bow sb.* 1 + DRAUGHT, from the phrase to draw a bow.] *A* bowshot; the distance a bow will carry.

1775 *BARBOUR Bruce* vi. 58 A place . . . that weill twa bow-draught was, Fra that the vattir passit had. c 1400 *MAUNDDEV.* viii. 96 Fro then a Bowe draughte, toward the Southe. 1470-85 *MALORY Arthur* i. xv. They come as nyghe kyngs Bors as a bowe draughte. 1716 *Let. in Wodrow Corr.* (1843) II. 133 The kirk being about two bow draughts at most out of the road.

Bowdshett, obs. form of BUDGET.

Bow-dye. [Named from *Bow* near Stratford in Essex, where dyers particularly carried on their works in the 17th c. (Bow took its name from the single-arched bridge built there across the Lea in the reign of Henry I, to replace the ford of the old Roman Road which gave name to Stratford, and Old Ford; cf. *Bow sb.* 1 3.)]

A scarlet dye; also *attrib.* or as *adj.* Hence

Bow-dye v., to dye scarlet; **Bow-dyed** *ppl. a.*; **Bow-dyer**.

a 1659 *CLEVELAND Obsequies* 9 Or can his Blood Bow-die th' Egyptian Sand. 1676 *TEONGE Diary* (1825) 151 Flemings flye all about . . . they are blew and bow-dye. 1688 *Land. Gas.* No. 2346/4, 3 pieces of Bow-dye'd Serges. 1691 T. HALE *Acc. New Invent.* 51 The Invention of the Scarlet or Bow-dye. 1703 *Art's Improv.* 13 As to the fading of the Bow-die, and the Water-colours. 1745 *DE FOE Eng. Tradem.* iv. (1841) I. 25 He goes in partner with C. D., a scarlet-dyer, called a bow-dyer, at Wandsworth.

† **Bowe**, *ppl. a.* *Obs.* [ME. *boue*:—earlier *bowen*:—OE. *bogen*, pa. pple. of *bagan*, to Bow.]

Bowed, bent, crooked.

a 1000 *Beowulf* 5646 Wyrm woh-bogen wealden ne moste. a 1500 *E. E. Misc.* (Warton Club) 11 Now age is croppyn one me ful stytle, He makyt me hore, blake, and bowe.

Bowed (baud), *ppl. a.* 1 [f. *Bow v.* 1 + -ED.]

1. Bent, curved, crooked; (see the verb).

1483 *Cath. Angl.* 38 Bowed, *clinatus, deexus*. 1561 J. HERWOOD *Prov. & Epigr.* (1867) 152 Boude wands serue for sunwhat. 1674 N. FAIRFAX *Bulle & Selv. Contents*, The springness of . . . boughed bodies. 1674 *GREW Anat. Plants* i. iv. § 8 And if the Leaf have but one main Fiber, that also is postured in a bowed or Lunar Figure; as in Mint and others. 1784 *BURNS Halloween* iv. A runt was like a sow-tail Sae bow't that night. 1874 *BOUTELL Arms & Arm.* vii. 114 These shields were generally 'bowed' on their front face, that is, they generally presented a convex external contour. 1885 *Times* 4 June 102/4 He [a horse] had been under suspicion on account of a 'bowed tendon' from his earliest appearance on the turf. [The ordinary northern word for 'bent', as a bowed pin, a bowed street.]

2. Bent down under a load, weight of years, etc.

1448 *KINGSLEY Saint's Trng.* II. xi. 134 How you'll welcome us, Returned in triumph, bowed with paynim spoils. 1864 *TENNYSON En. Ard.* 704 Enoch was so brown, so bow'd, So broken. 1884 *MISS YONGE Trial* II. 18 A mute smoothing of his bowed shoulders.

b. fig.

1381 *WYCLIF Barnab.* II. 18 The soule that . . . goth bowid, and meekid. 1873 *SYMONDS Grk. Poets* vii. 228 Nay, do not pine thus, bowed beneath my burden.

Bowed (bōud), *ppl. a.* 2 [f. *Bow sb.* 1 and *v.* 2 + -ED.] Furnished with a bow (in various senses); played with a (violin) bow. In *Her.* = EMBOWED.

1425 *Acts Jas. I.* (1597) § 60 3eamen . . . sufficientlie bowed and schafed, with sword and buckler and knife. 1823 *RUTTER Fonthill*, The window is to the west, large and bowed. 1837 *Ht. MARTINEAU Soc. in Amer.* III. 88 The young women, in cotton gowns and braided and bowed hair. 1838 G. HOGARTH *Musical Hist.* II. 153 Quartets, and trios, for bowed instruments. 1885 *Pall Mall G.* 4 May 4/1 The 'bowed' passages were much too rapid.

Bowed (baud), *ppl. a.* 3 [f. *Bow sb.* 3 + -ED.]

Furnished with a bow; prob. only in *comb.*

1747 *W. HORSLEY The Fool* (1748) II. 300 Full-bowed Ships . . . will make better Way through the Water.

Bowedness (baudnēs), [f. *BOWED ppl. a.* 1 + -NESS.] Bowed or bent condition.

1801 *W. TAYLOR in Month. Mag.* XI. 503 Humility . . . fear . . . and disgrace . . . superinduce on the bodily frame a sloping or bowedness of attitude.

Bowel (bau'el) *sb.* 1 Forms: 3 buel, 4 bewelle, bouel, 4-6 bowels, bowelle, 5 bawelly, boel, bowalle, bowaly, bowyle, boyell, 5-8 bowell, 3- bowel. [ME. *bucl*, *boucl*, *a.* OF. *boel*, *bucl*, *bouel*, masc. (also *boele*, *buele*, *bouele* fem.) = Pr. *budel*, It. *budello*:—late L. *botellus* pudding, sausage (Martial), in late pop. L. 'a small intestine', dim. of *botulus* a sausage (cf. also PUDDING).]

I. *sing.*

1. One of the divisions of the alimentary canal below the stomach; an intestine, a gut. Now rare in the singular exc. in medical use.

c 1325 *E. E. Allit. P. C.* 293 In a bowel of pat best he [Jonah] bidez on lyue. 1393 *GOWER Conf.* II. 265 She toke her after the bowels Of the seewolf. 1481 *CAXTON Myrr.* II. vi. 75 They [the Olyphaunts] haue to fore them in maner of boyell grete and large. 1551 *HULOET*, Brasten bowel, *bubonocoele*. 1884 *Nature* 27 Mar. 497/1 The seat of the disease, namely, the bowel.

† *b.* Gut (as a material). *Obs.*

c 1420 *Liber Cocorum* 5 Harpe strynges made of bowel.

† *c.* Any internal organ of the body. *Obs.*

c 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 46 Bowelle or bowelle, *viscus*. 1600 *VENNER Via Recta* viii. 169 These two bowels, especially the liuer, doe vehemently desire sweete things. 1674 *R. GODFREY Inf. & Ab. Physic* 118 The Stomach . . . so useful and necessary a Bowel that no Animal lives without it. 1781 *T. ARNOLD Insanity* II. 65 No bowel is more frequently mutilated . . . than the brain.

II. *plural* collectively.

2. The intestines or entrails; the portions of the intestinal canal contained within the abdomen.

a 1300 *Cursor M.* 16405 His buels [later MS. bowels] all, vte at his wambe pai wrang. c 1300 *K. Alis.* 4668 Theo bowels weoren y-nomen out, And for-brent. 1398 *TARVISA Barth. De P. R. v.* xlii. (1495) 158 The bowelles ben comynly called the guttes. 1561 *TURNER Herbal* II. 1111 a. Good for the brekinge and bursting of the bowelles. 1611 *BIBLE Ezek.* vii. 19 They shall not satisfie their soules, neither fill their bowels. 1667 *MILTON P. L.* II. 800 They return, and howle and gnaw My Bowels, their repast. 1758 *JOHNSON Idler* No. 17 ¶ 7 The anatomical novice tears out the living bowels of an animal. 1804 *ABERNETHY Surg. Observ.* 154 [11] brought on so violent an affection of his bowels. 1813 J. THOMSON *Inflammation* 189 Bathing the feet and legs gives relief in inflammation of the bowels.

† *b.* The (external) belly. *Obs. rare.*

1703 *Land. Gaz.* No. 3932/4 Several Warts on him [a horse], one on his Ear, one on his Breast and Bowels.

c. The interior or inside of the body; also *fig.*

Cf. *womb*, *heart*, *bosom*, *breast*. (rarely *sing.*)

1532 *MORE Confut. Tindale Wks.* 497/2, I shall gyue my law in their bowele. c 1561 G. CAVENTISH *Life Wolsey* (1825) I. 136, I do both lack wit in my poor old head, and cunning in my bowels. 1823 *GOLDING Calvin on Dent.* vi. 33 God will not haue vs to fall . . . to pulling out of his bowels as they doe which will needes bee searching out of measure. 1611 *BIBLE Gen.* xv. 4 But he that shall come forth out of thy owne bowels.

3. *transf.* (Considered as the seat of the tender and sympathetic emotions, hence): Pity, compassion, feeling, 'heart'. Chiefly *pl.*, and now somewhat *arch.* Cf. *HEART*, *BREAST*.

1381 *WYCLIF Phil.* i. 8 Hou I coueite 3ou alle in the bowelis of Jhesu Crist. c 1440 *Gesta Rom.* 24 Whenne she sawe his bloody serke, all her bowels were troublously more than tunge may telle. 1611 *BIBLE Phil.* ii. 1 If any bowels and mercies. 1651 *Proc. Parliament* No. 110. 1695 Want of bowels in preaching towards them who are in hazard to perish. 1655 *FULLER Waltham Abb.* (1840) 274 Bloody Bonner . . . full (as one said) of guts, and empty of bowels. 1665 *CROWNE Sir C. Nice* i. 5 The family is a sad family, and I tarry out of pure bowels. 1708 *Land. Gaz.* No. 4427/2 To shew their Bowels for their Country. 1798 *CANNING in Anti-Jacobin* 14 May (1852) 104 'Twould have moved a Christian's bowels To hear the doubts he stated. 1831 *LYTTON Eugene A.* ii. I am a man that can feel for my neighbours. I have bowels—yes I have bowels. 1865 *CARLYLE Frdrk. Gt. V.* XIII. i. 2 Had idle readers any bowels for him; which they have not.

b. In various archaic phrases as: *bowels of compassion*, *mercies*, *pity*, etc.

1566 *Pilgr. Perf.* (W. de W. 1531) 110 b, Close not your bowells of charite from them. 1611 *BIBLE Coloss.* iii. 12 Put on therefore . . . bowels of mercies. 1641 *SIR T. BROWNE Relig. Med.* II. § 2 Upon the bare suggestion and bowels of pity. 1794 *GODWIN Cal. Williams* 279 The law has neither eyes, nor ears, nor bowels of humanity. 1873 *MORLEY Rousseau* II. 218 note, It has none of the yearnings of the bowels of tenderness.

4. The interior of anything; heart, centre. Cf. BELLY sb. 9.

1548 LD. SOMERSET *Epist. Scots* 243 Be we not in y^e bowels now of the realm? 1564 WHETSTONE *Mirror Mag.* Dicing-houses... within the bowels of the Citie of London. 1589 *Hay any Work A iij*, Thou wilt enter into the bowels of the cause in hand. 1593 H. SMITH *Wks.* (1867) II. 265 Three days and three nights in the bowels of the earth. 1696 WHISTON *The Earth* II. 78 All Volcano's or subterraneous Fires, are in the Bowels of some Mountain. 1769 BLACKSTONE *Comm.* IV. 364 That monster in true policy... a body of men, residing in the bowels of a state, and yet independent of it's laws. 1860 FARADAY *Forces Nat.* VI. 164 Brought together in the bowels of the earth.

† 5. Offspring, children. *Obs.* [Cf. L. *viscera*.] 1526 TINDALE *Philem.* 12 Receave him, that istosayemyne awne bowels. 1559 MORWYNG *Evonym.* 343 Sum put to it wormes or bowels of the earth. 1593 H. SMITH *Serm.* (1871) I. 289 We should not spare our own bowels. 1603 SHAKS. *Meas. for M.* III. i. 29 Thine owne bowels which do call thee, sire. 1686 SIR T. BROWNE *Chr. Mor.* I. vii. Men... bowelless unto others, and merciless unto their own bowels.

III. 6. Comb. (of *bowel-*), as *bowel-complaint*; -like, -racking adjs.; also, *bowel-deep*, up to or as high as the middle; *bowel-galled a.*, † applied to a horse whose belly is fretted with the girth; † *bowel-gazer*, -prior, one who inspects the entrails of sacrificed animals for religious purposes, a haruspex; hence *bowel-gazing*, -prying; *bowel-hive*, -hives *Sc.*, a popular name for infantile enteritis and similar affections; *bowel-hive grass*, a herbalists' name for *Alchemilla arvensis* or *Parsley-piert* (Britten and Holland).

1888 SCOTT *Rev. Davy's Salmonia* (1849) 260 *Bowel-deep in the stream. 1899 GOLDING *De Mornay* xxii. 335 Seneca saith... that the *Bowelgazers were inuited for nothing els but to holde the people in awe. *Ibid.* xxiii. 521 Where be... your Oracles, your *Bowelgazers and your Sacrifices? 1715 PENNECUIK *Proceedings* (JAM.) The rickets in children, which they call the *Bowel-hive. 1863 *Rept. Registrar Gen. Scot.*, 'Bowel-hives' (or 'bull-hives'), the vernacular name under which is included enteritis, convulsions, diarrhoea, dysentery, and teething. 1899-47 TODD *Cycl. Anat. & Phys.* III. 549 The stomach [of *felis*] is long and *bowel-like. 1600 HOLLAND *Livy* xlii. xxx. 1132 The *Bowel-priest [*aruspex*], declared, That... they should make speed. *Ibid.* 287 (R.) The *bowel-prying soothsailer.

Bowel sb. 2, rare variant of *BOLE sb.* 3, recess. 1834 H. MILLER *Scenes & Leg.* vi. (1857) 76 Little square recesses, termed bowels or boles.

Bowel (bau'el), *v.* Also 4 *bouwel* (en, 5 *bowaylyn*, *bowellyn*, 7 *bowell*. [f. *BOWEL sb.* 1 Cf. OF. *boeler*.]

1. *trans.* To take out the bowels of, disembowel. 1330 R. BRUNNE *Chron.* 329 Fro be galweis quik bei lete him doun, & bouwelld him alle hote. 1440 J. SHIRLEY *Dethe K. James* (1818) 27 Many of the other traitours were boweld all quik. 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 46 Bowaylyn, *eviscera*. 1566 GASCOIGNE *Yocasta Wks.* (1587) 95 In thy sacred name I bowel here this sacrifice. 1585 FULLER *Ch. Hist.* IX. 169 Five Seminaries... were hanged, bowelled, and quartered for treason. 1725 BRADLEY *Fam. Dict.* II. s.v. *Sprain*, Take a... Whelp, flea and bowel him. 1861 DIXON *Bacon* x. § 6 Coke, bent on hanging and bowelling all these miserable wretches.

† 2. *fig.* To stir the bowels of, move or arouse the compassion of. *Obs. rare.*

1645 RUTHERFORD *Tryal & Tri. Faith* (1845) 270 He was bowelled in heart, his bowels were moved with compassion.

Bowelled (bau'eld), *pp.* a. [f. *BOWEL sb.* 1 and *v.* + -ED.] a. Having the bowels removed, disembowelled. b. Having bowels or recesses.

1526 FLEMING *Virg. Georg.* I. 17 The strings or little veines (Of bowling beasts). 1606 G. WOODCOCKE *Iustine* 2 b, A Hare was brought... readye bowelled. 1622 HEVLIN *Cosmogr.* I. (1682) 252 Bowelled with mines, or clothed with sheep. 1727 THOMSON *Summer* 133 To the bowelled cavern darting deep.

Bowelless (bau'ellés), *a.* [f. *BOWEL sb.* 1 + -LESS.] Without bowels; without compassion or pity; merciless, unfeeling.

1649 JER. TAYLOR *Gl. Exemp.* I. ii. 64 The most cruell and bowelless hangmen. 1752 YOUNG *Brothers* IV. i, Bowelless severity! 1863 W. B. JERROLD *Sign. Distress* 35 Bowelless imitators of their cries of agony.

Bowelling, *vbl. sb.* [f. *BOWEL v.* + -ING.] The extracting of the bowels, disembowelling. 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 46 Bowaylynge, *evisceratio*. 1681 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 1621/4 Without Embalming, Bowelling, or Wrapping in Sear-cloth.

† *Bowelly*, *a. Obs. rare.* [f. *BOWEL sb.* 1 + -LY.] Having 'bowels', compassionate, sympathetic.

a 1637 N. FERRAR *Consid.* (1638) 184 From this bowelly affection... it proceeds that a man loves God above all things. 1655 GURNALL *Chr. in Arm.* xxii. (1669) 482/1 So we may pray with a more bowelly sense of their wants for them.

Bowen, *obs.* form of *BOUN v.*

Bower (bau'el, bau'ei), *sb.* 1 Forms: 1 *búr*, 2-3 *bur*, 3 *bure*, 3-6 *bour*, 3-7 *boure*, *bowr*, 4 *bor*, 4-7 *bowre*, 5 *bowur*, 6 *boire*, 9 (*bowre*), *dial.* *boor*, 5- *bower*. [OE. *búr* dwelling, etc., corresp. to OS. *búr* neut., OHG. *búr* masc. (MHG. *búr*, mod.G. *bauer* bird-cage), LG. *buur*, *bur* m., ON. *búr* (Sw. *bur*, Da. *buur*):—OTeut. **búro* m.:—Aryan *bhūrom*, f. *bhu*, in Teut. *bū* to dwell. Hence NEIGHBOUR (OE. *neah-gebúr*) and BOOR.]

1. A dwelling, habitation, abode. In early use *lit.* A cottage; in later use a poetical word for 'abode'.

Bowwulf (Z.) 2455 On his suna bure. a 2000 *Chart. Endred* in *Cod. Dipl.* V. 336 To ðen hagan; andlang hagan bur. c 1225 E. E. *Allit. P.* A. 963 Bryng me to þat bygily bylde, & let mese þy blýsful bor. 1567 STUDLEY *Seneca's Hippol.* (1581) 75 The whilst the fire shall burne These bones, set ope his buriall bower. 1568 *Like will to L.* in Hazl. *Dodsl.* III. 353 Of all iniquity thou art the bow'r. 1579 SPENSER *Sheph. Cal. Sept.* 97 The blacke bowre of sorrowe [gloss. hell]. 1718 ADDISON *Spect.* No. 281 ¶ 11 Our Historians describe the Apartments of Rosamond's Bower. 1810 SCOTT *Lady of L.* I. xii, The primrose pale, and violet flower, Found in each cliff a narrow bower.

b. *esp.* a vague poetic word for an idealized abode, not realized in any actual dwelling.

c 1600 SHAKS. *Sonn.* cxxvii. 7 Sweet beauty hath no name, no holy bower. 1644 MILTON *Areop.* (Arb.) 46 The bowr of earthly blisse. 1770 GOLDSM. *Des. Vil.* 5 Dear lovely bowers of innocence and ease. 1781 COWPER *Hope* 164 Plucks amarantine joys from bowers of bliss. 1829 NEALE *Bernard de M.* 34 O! princely bowrs, O land of flow'rs.

c. A fancy rustic cottage or country residence. 1810 SCOTT *Lady of L.* I. xv, In that soft vale, a lady's bower. 1862 *Athenæum* 30 Aug. 270 Miss Helen Campbell... gave an entertainment in his honour, at her bower in the Clachan Glen.

† d. A covered stall or booth at a fair. *rare.*

1506 in *Glascock Records St. Michael's* 31 Rec. on michelmas day for stoning of bowers wñ th churchyarde ixd.

2. An inner apartment, *esp.* as distinguished from the 'hall', or large public room, in ancient mansions; hence, a chamber, a bed-room. Still in *north. dial.*; in literature only *archaic* and *poetic*.

c 1000 *Elfric Voc.* in Wr. Wülcker 124 *Cubiculum*, bed-cofa *vul* bur. c 1200 *Trin. Coll. Hom.* 139 He... ches þere crudel to halle and eorðhole to bure. c 1205 *LAV.* 29218 Þer inne he bulde ænne bur. a 1300 *Cursor M.* 3921 A godd had laban in his bure. c 1385 CHAUCEUR *Nonne Prestes T.* 12 Fful sooty was hir bour and eek hire halle. c 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 46 Bower, chambyr, *thalamus*, *conclave*. c 1460 in *Babes Bk.* (1868) 13 In halle, yn bowre, or at þe borde. 1555 STEWART *Crom. Scot.* II. 616 Euerik office, baith in hall and bour. 1566 SPENSER *Astraph.* 28 Merily masking both in bowre and hall. 1674 RAY *N. C. Wds.* 7 *Bour*, the Parlour, Bedchamber or inner room. *Cumb.* 1814 SCOTT *Ld. of Isles* III. vii, Now torch and menial tendance led Chieftain and knight to bower and bed. 1841 *Cumbld. Gloss.*, *Bour*, the inner room. 1868 FREEMAN *Norm. Cong.* II. ix. 357 His sons... carried him to the king's own bower.

b. Especially applied to a lady's private apartment; a boudoir. Now only *poetic*.

a 1000 *Cadmon's Gen.* 109 (Bosw.) On bure, ahof bryd Abrahames hieahor. a 1300 *Cursor M.* 4411 Was neuer don to leuedi mar Scam... þan... Joseph soght on me in tour. c 1325 *Coer de L.* 879 The kynges daughter lay in her bure. c 1380 *Sir Ferumb.* 2165 Sayde þu þen kyng 'In my dotere bour þar þay ben'. 1810 SCOTT *Lady of L.* v. viii, Love-lorn swain in lady's bower. 1850 MRS. BROWNING *Rom. of Page* x, Her bower may suit thee ill! 1866 KINGSLEY *Herew.* viii. 135 She enticed him into her bower.

3. A place closed in or overarched with branches of trees, shrubs, or other plants; a shady recess, leafy covert, arbour.

The first two quotes. rather anticipate than illustrate this use of the word. [c 1225 E. E. *Allit. P.* C. 437 He busked hym a bour... Of hay & of euer-ferne & erbez a fewe. 1509 FISHER *Wks.* 232 Caused an yue tree to spryngye þu sodeynly rounde aboute his bourne.] 1523-5 LD. BERNERS *Froiss.* I. LXXX. (R.) To lodge in bowers of trees, more nerer to the towne. 1566 SHAKS. *I. Hen. IV.* III. i. 210 Ditties... Sung by a faire Queene in a Summers Bowre. 1667 MILTON *P. L.* IV. 246 Where the unpierc'd shade Imbound the noontide Bowrs. 1706 ADDISON *Rosamond* I. i, The bower, that wanders In meanders, Ever bending, Glades on Glades. 1727 BRADLEY *Fam. Dict.* I. s.v., Care must be had that you do not confound the Word Bower with Arbour; because the first is always built long and arch'd, whereas the second is either round or square at Bottom, and has a sort of Dome or Ceiling at the Top. 1827 KEBLE *Chr. Y.* 5th Sund. aft. Easter, A gracious rain, freshening the weary bower.

4. A structure reared by the bower-bird.

1809 NICHOLSON *Zool.* LXVI. (1880) 625 These curious birds have the habit of building very elaborate bowers... These bowers are wholly independent of their nests. 1884 GRANT ALLEN in *Pall Mall G.* 20 Sept. 3/2 He had brought a bower of the Australian bower-birds over to England.

5. *Attrib.* and *Comb.*, as *bower caves*, -*enshaded*, -*head*, etc.; *bower-may* (*arch.*) = *BOWER-MAIDEN*; *bower-page*, a lady's attendant (*arch.*); † *bower-thane* (see quot.); † *bowre-window* (see quot.). Also *BOWER-BIRD*, -*MAIDEN*, -*WOMAN*.

1842 TENNYSON *Margaret v.*, Look out below your *bower-caves. 1816 L. HUNT *Rimini* III. 442 *Bower-enshaded kisses. a 1825 *Ballad* 'Fair Annie' xi. in Child *Ballads* III. (1885) 76/1 She is up to her *bower-head, To behold both sea and land. 1870 MORRIS *Earthly Par.* III. iv. 48 No life of bliss Like sewing gold mid *bower-mays. 1830 C. CLARKE 3 *Courses* 17 The striplings... more adapted to be *bower-pages to those high-born dames. 1845 THORPE tr. *Lappenburg's Hist. Eng.* (L.) The chamberlain, or *bower-thane, was also the royal treasurer. 1805 REPTON *Landscape Gard.* 178 Large recesses or bays, sometimes called *bowre windows, and now bow windows.

Bower (bō'wē), *sb.* 2 [f. *Bow sb.* 1 and *v.* 2 + -ER.]

† 1. A maker of bows; a bowyer. *Obs.* c 1440 *York Myst.* xxix. 254 The Bowers and Flechers. 1466 *Mann. & Househ. Exp.* 367, I payd to the bower fore dyverse gear, viz. 1483 *Cath. Angl.* 38 A Bower, *arcuaris*. 1723 P. LINDSAY *Interest Scot.* 56 The Bowers, Fletchers, and several others.

2. One who plays with a bow on a violin or other stringed instrument.

1668 SHADWELL *Sullen Lov.* II. Wks. 1720 I. 43 He is a most incomparable Bower, he has... the most luxurious Bower-hand of any man in Europe.

Bower (bau'ei), *sb.* 3 [f. *Bow v.* 1 + -ER.]

1. One who bows, stoops, etc.; (see *Bow v.* 1)

1630 PRYNNE *Lame Giles* 44 The Anti-puritan bowers at the name of Jesus. 1641 R. BROOKE *Eng. Episc.* II. vii. 113 Bowers and Cringers. 1849 *Life of Skinner* IV. (1884) 60 When the bow is made, the bower walks out of the room.

† 2. One who bends anything. *Obs.*

1820 NORTH *Plutarch* 4 A wreather or bower of Pine-apple trees.

† 3. That which causes to bend; *esp.* a muscle.

1596 SPENSER *F. Q.* I. viii. 42 His rawbone armes, whose mighty brawn'd bowers Were wont to rive Steele plates. 1611 COTGR., *Flecheurs*, benders, pliers, bowers... the muscles that serue to bow the joynts of the fingers.

Bower (bau'ei), *sb.* 4 [f. *Bow sb.* 3 + -ER: cf. *three-decker*, etc.]

1. The name of two anchors, the *best-bower*, and *small-bower*, carried at the bows of a vessel; also the cable attached to such anchor.

1709 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 4521/2 Our small Bower... was drove through our Ship's Bow. 1748 ANSON *Voy.* I. vii. (ed. 4) 107 To cut their cable, and leave their best bower behind them. 1769 FALCONER *Dict. Marine* (1789) I b, Three good cables; the sheet cable, and the two *bowers*; best and small. 1824 MARRIAT *P. Keene* xxxix. 278, I shall back the best bower with the sheet, and let go the small bower at the same time. 1867 SMYTH *Sailor's Word-bk.* 124 Starboard being the best bower, and port the small bower.

2. More fully called *bower-anchor*, -*cable*.

1654 *Proc. Parliament* No. 142. 2223 My... best bower Anchor hooked in one of his Ports. 1748 ANSON *Voy.* II. ii. (ed. 4) 186 A violent gust of wind... instantly parted our small bower cable. 1777-84 COOK *Voy.* (1790) VI. 2107 A great piece of ice... brought home the small bower anchor. 1837 CARLYLE *Fr. Rev.* I. iv. iv. 179 By sure bower-anchor hangs and swings the tight war-ship.

fig. 1823 BYRON *Juan* XII. iii, Theirs is the best bower-anchor, the chain cable Which holds fast other pleasures. 1874 SPURGEON *Treas. Dav.* Ps. lxxxix. 1 The divine faithfulness... is the bower anchor of the soul.

† *Bower*, *sb.* 5 *Obs.* [a. Du. *bouwer* or *Ger. bauer*: see *BOOR*.] A peasant, husbandman.

c 1430 *LYDG. Min. Poem.* (1840) 202 Of tilthe of lande tretteth the boueer. a 1563 BALD *Sel. Wks.* (1849) 191 Done to death in Frisland by the bowers of the country for teaching a strange religion.

† *Bower*, *sb.* 6, *bowess*. *Obs. rare.* [f. *BOUGH sb.* + -ER (prob. after BRANCHER), for which the fem. -ESS was afterwards substituted.] (See quotes.)

c 1460 *Bk. Hawking* in *Rel. Ant.* I. 293 When they [young hawks] begynne to feder... they will drawe them oute of here neste, and clambre over bowes, and come agayn to here neste, and then both clepid bowers. 1486 *Bk. St. Alban's A iij*, They will... draw to bowis... then they be clepid Bowessis. 1706 PHILLIPS, *Bower or Bowess* (in *Fal. conry*), a young Hawk so nam'd, when she draws any thing out of her Nest, and covets to clamber on the Boughs.

Bower, *sb.* 7 *Sc.* [f. *Bow sb.* 4 herd of cattle + -ER]. Pronounced in *Sc.* (bū'w, bau'w). A tenant who rents a herd of cows along with their pasture and fodder from a proprietor or farmer, and makes what profit he can out of their produce, after paying the rent; or who gives his labour as his share, and divides profits with the proprietor of the stock. Cf. *BOUMAN*.

Bower (bau'ei), *sb.* 8 [a. *Ger. bauer* peasant, one sense of which is 'knave at cards']. In the game of Euchre the name of the two highest cards—the knave of trumps, and the knave of the same colour, called *right* and *left bower* respectively.

a 1871 BRET HARTE *Heathen Chinee*, At last he put down a right bower, Which the same Nye had dealt unto me. 1884 *Detroit Free Press* Oct. (Negro Orator) De black man has de bowers in his hand.

Bower (bau'ei, bau'ei), *v.* [f. *BOWER sb.* 1]

1. *trans.* To embower; to enclose. *lit.* and *fig.* 1592 SHAKS. *Rom. & Jul.* III. ii. 81 When thou did'st bower the spirit of a fiend In mortal paradise of such sweet flesh? 1708 SOUTHEY *Eng. Eclog.* i, Jessamine... canopied and bower'd and lined the porch. a 1860 M. ARNOLD *Sch. Gipsy* iii.

† 2. *intr.* To lodge, shelter, make one's dwelling.

1596 SPENSER *F. Q.* VI. x. vi, Trees of honour... Spreading pavilions for the birds to bower.

Bower, var. of *BOUGHER*.

Bower-anchor: see *BOWER sb.* 4

Bower-bird (bau'ei, bō'id). The name given to several Australian birds belonging to the Starling family, remarkable for their habit of building bowers or 'runs', and adorning them with feathers, bones, shells, etc. These are not used as nests, but as places of resort.

1847 CARPENTER *Zool.* § 395. 1884 [see *BOWER sb.* 1 4]

Bowered (bau'ei, bau'ei), *pp.* a. [f. *BOWER v.* + -ED.] Shaded, embowered; furnished with bowers.

1746 J. WARTON *Approach of Summer* (R.) Plac'd thy green and grassy shrine, With myrtle bower'd and jessamine. 1829 SOUTHEY *Sir T. More* I. 42 A high hill top, nor bowered with trees, nor broken by the plough. 1878 H. PHILLIPS *Poems fr. Spain & Germ.* 33 The bowered hut of mossy thatch.

Bowering, *pp. a.* [f. as prec. + -ING².] Embowering, shading, covering.

a 1757 *PARNELL Gift of Poetry* (R.) Its bowing borders kiss the vale beneath. 1850 *JEAN INGELOW Two Margarets* i. She mus'd... In winding walks, and bowing canopies.

† **Bowering**, *sb. Obs.* (1)

1a 1400 *Chester Pl.* II. (1847) 58 Shorte armed is he, To the bowing of this tree He will not well waste.

Bowerless (bau'less), *a.* [f. BOWER *sb.* + -LESS.] Without a bower or bowers.

1837 *New Month Mag.* L. 115 How flowerless, bowerless, budless, and blossomless!

Bowerlet. [see -LET.] A small bower.

1830 *Fraser's Mag.* I. 411 The rich Herder... she accommodates in a pretty bowerlet of four sides, or pages.

† **Bowerly**, *a. Obs. exc. dial.* [Cf. BURLY; also BOWER *sb.* 3.] Large; stout, burly.

1542 *UDALL Erasim. Apophth.* 184 b. He had seen... right greates and bowery images. 1794 *Wolcott* (P. Pindar) *Ep. to Bruce* Wks. II. 478 The bowery hostess, for a cart-horse fit. 1864 *CAPEREN Devon Provinc.*, Bowerly, stout, rotund. 1880 *Mrs. PARR Adam & E. xxi.* 298 Eve's a fine bowery maid. 1880 *MISS COURTNEY W. Cornw. Gloss.*, Bowerly, burly; corpulent. 1880 *T. COUCH E. Cornw. Gloss.*, Bowerly, stately and comely.

Bower-maid, -maiden, *arch.* Also 4-5 bur-, bour-, boure-. [f. BOWER *sb.* 1.] A chamber-maid; a lady in waiting.

c 1308 *Sat. People Kidare ix.* in *E. P.* (1862) 175 Goddesses bourmaidens and his own spouse. c 1330 *Arth. & Merl.* 6486 A burmaiden he hadde fair and schene. c 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 56 Burmayden, *bedissequa, ancilla.* c 1450 *Gloss.* in *W. Wulcker 623 Abra.* bowre-mayde. 1884 *TENNYSON Becket* 121 Only my best bower-maiden died of late.

Bowers, bowiers mustard: see BOOR.

Bower-woman, *arch.* Also 4-5 bour-, 5 bur-. [f. BOWER *sb.* 1.] A chamber-woman, a waiting-woman.

c 1380 *Wyclif Sel. Wks.* II. 9 His gospel tellip not how Marie tok a bowerwoman, but went mekeli in hast to salute her cosyn. c 1400 *Yvaine & Gau.* 1711 A lady, two bower-women alswe. c 1450 *Gloss.* in *W. Wulcker 623 Hec abra.* ancilla, burwoman. 1880 *SCOTT Monast.*, The shepherd's wife... who in better days had been her own bowerwoman.

† **Bowery** (bau'eri), *sb. Obs.* U. S. [ad. Du. *bowwerij* 'husbandry', 'farm'.] A farm; a 'plantation'. Hence 'the Bowery' in New York City.

1809 *W. IRVING Knickerb.* (1861) 116 His abode which he had fixed at a bowery, or country-seat, at a short distance from the city, just at what is now called Dutch Street. 1842 — *Braceb. Hall* II. 225 He had purchased a farm, or, as the Dutch Settlers called it, a bowerie. 1876 *BANCROFT Hist. U. S.*, The [Dutch] emigrants were scattered on boweries or plantations.

Hence **Boweryish** *a.*, smacking of the Bowery in New York.

1846 *Poe Wks.* (1864) III. 109 Elevating the tone of this 'Editor's Table' (which its best friends are forced to admit is a little Boweryish).

Bowery (bau'eri), *a.* [f. BOWER *sb.* 1 + -Y¹.] Of the nature of a bower; embowering, leafy.

1794 *Pope Windsor For.* 262 Bow'ry mazes and surrounding greens. 1844 *MISS MITFORD Village Ser.* I. (1863) 21 Shaded... by wild overgrown shrubs, bowery acacias. 1876 *M. B. EDWARDS John & I.* xxi. 170 The bowieriest part of the garden.

Bowess: see BOWER *sb.* 6

Bowet (bau'et, Sc. bū'et). *Sc. Forms:* 5 bowyt, 5-6 bowett, 6-9 bowat, 9 booit, bouat, bouet, buat, 6- bowet. [perh. (as suggested by Way) a. F. *boite* (in Berry, according to Littré, *boute*) box, case; or rather from its med. L. equivalent *boeta*: cf. 'abscondet ignem in boeta in secreto' Du Cange, where see also *Lucerna Boeta*.] A small lantern.

1440 *Promp. Parv.* 46/1 Bowett, or lanterne, *lucerna, lantern.* 1554 *ABP. HAMILTON Catech.* 121 Sa aucht ye to use the law or command of God, as a Torche, Bowat or Lanterin. 1686 *G. STUART Jacob-Ser. Disc.* 61 A twinkling light set... In little Bowet. 1814 *SCOTT Wav.* II. xv. 229 M^cFarlane's boat [i. e. the moon]. 1864 *R. REID Old Glasgow* 395 Ladies frequently made use of hand bowets, having plates of thin horn in lieu of glass.

Bowgard, *obs. form of BUGGER.*

Bowge, variant of BOUGE, bag, wallet.

Bowge, *obs. form of BOUGE, BULGE, v.*

† **Bowger**. *Obs.* [prob. a. OF. **bouquier*, f. *bouge*, bag, wallet: see BOUGE. Cf. BOUCHER, BOWSER.] A purser, treasurer.

c 1450 *Gregory's Chron.* 139 At the same tabylle the bow-gerys of the chancery.

† **Bowger**. The name in St. Kilda of the Puffin. 1698 *MARTIN St. Kilda* (1753) 34 (JAM.) The Bowger, so called by those in St. Kilda... is of the size of a pigeon. 1766 *PENNANT Zool.* (1768) II. 485.

Bowget, *obs. form of BUDGET.*

Bowght, etc., *obs. form of BOUGHT, etc.*

Bowgle, *obs. form of BUGLE, ox.*

Bow-hand (bōw'hænd). [f. BOW *sb.* 1 + HAND.]

1. The hand which holds the bow in archery, i. e. the left hand. Hence, † (*wide*) *on the bow-hand*: wide of the mark, 'out'.

1588 *SHAKS. L. L. L.* IV. i. 135 Wide a' th bow hand, yfaith your hand is out. 1596 *SPENSER State Irel. Wks.* (1862) 520/2 He shootes wyde on the bow hand, and very far from the marke. 1611 *CHAPMAN Illads* XIII. 534 Atrides' dart of Helenus the thrust out bow-hand struck. 1613 *VOL. I.*

BEAUM. & FL. *Coxcomb*. I. iii. I am much o' the bow-hand else. 1808 *SCOTT F. M. Perth.* I. 24 You are on the bow-hand still, Smith. 1871 *BROWNING Balaust.* (1881) 26 Thou must arm The bow-hand.

2. The hand which holds the bow of a violin, etc., i. e. the right hand; *transf.* style of playing.

1668 *SHADWELL Sullen Lov.* II. Wks. 1720 I. 43 He has... the most luxurious Bow-hand of any man in Europe.

Bowiare, Bowler, *obs. forms of BOWYER.*

Bowie¹ (bau'i, bō-wi). *Sc.* [Of uncertain origin: it has been referred to F. *buie* water-vessel; it is possibly a dim. of *bowe* = BOLL or BOWL.] A low shallow tub or pail; a wooden milk-bowl.

1538 *Aberdeen Regist.* V. 16 (JAM.) Ane stand, a bowy.

a 1774 *FERGUSON Poems* (1789) II. 56 (JAM.) I' the far nook the bowie briskly reams. 1816 *SCOTT Old Mort.* Introd. 10 [He] makes them into spoons, trenchers, bickers, bowies, and so forth. 1853 *G. JOHNSTON Nat. Hist. E. Border* I. 136 Scrubbers for cleaning milk bowies.

Hence **Bowieful**.

1805 *J. NICOL Poems* I. 143 (JAM.) Thar bowiefu's o' kail fu' strang. 1818 *HOGG Brownie Bodsb.* II. 45 (JAM.) Davie... brought me a hale bowiefu' o' milk.

Bowie². Short for BOWIE-KNIFE.

1850 *KINGSLEY Alt. Locke xxvii* (D.), I took the precaution of bringing my bowie and revolver with me.

Hence **Bowieism**, the use of the bowie-knife.

1844 *For. Q. Rev.* XXXIV. 118 Arkansas is the headquarters of Bowieism.

Bowie, *obs. form of BUOY.*

Bowie-knife (bō-wi'noif). [f. the name of one Colonel Bowie (see last quot.); originally, according to Bartlett, 'pronounced bōo-ee' (bō'i).] A large knife, with a blade from ten to fifteen inches long and above an inch broad, curved and double-edged near the point, carried as a weapon in the wider parts of the United States.

1842 *DICKENS Amer. Notes* (1850) 32/2 A sewing society... which... never comes to fusty cuffs or bowie-knives as sane assemblies have been known to do elsewhere. 1850 *Mrs. STOWE Uncle Tom* xxviii. 268 St. Clare received a fatal stab in the side with a bowie-knife. 1858 *O. W. HOLMES Aut. Breakf.* 21 The American bowie-knife is the same tool (*gladius*) modified to meet the daily wants of civilized society. 1865 *Daily News* 11 Feb. 5/3 The hunting-dagger which belonged to the redoubtable Colonel James Bowie, and which has served as the pattern of all subsequent bowie-knives... is a formidable double-edged weapon, with a horn handle and a curved blade fifteen inches long and an inch and a quarter wide at the hilt.

Hence **Bowie-kniving** *vbl. sb.*

1861 *SALA Tw. round Clock* 350 Not impossible to imputations of gouging, bowie-kniving and knuckle-dusting.

Bowing, *sb. Sc.* [app. f. BOW *sb.* 4.] A stock farm with the stock on it.

1808-79 *JAMIESON Dict. s. v.* To tak a farm in a bowin, to take a lease of a farm in grass, with the live stock on it; this still remaining the property of the landholder, or person who lets it. *Ayr.* 1863 *Glasgow Her.* 11 Sept. To let near Balloch, a Bowing of 20 Cows.

Bowing (bau'ing), *vbl. sb.* 1 [f. BOW *v.* 1 + -ING¹.]

1. Bending, curving, twisting; flexure, inclination.

1398 *TRAVISA Barth. De P. R.* xviii. xvi. (1495) 776 The cokatryce pressith not his bodi wyth moche bowyng. 1481 *CAXTON Reynard* (Arb.) 28 Without bowyng of your legges. 1570 *BILLINGSLEY Euclid* I. def. viii. 3 A plaine angle is an inclination or bowing of two lines, the one to the other. 1610 *GUILLIM Heraldry* II. iv. 44 A Bunched Line is carried with round reflections or bowings vp and downe.

† *b.* Inflection (of the voice). *Obs.*

1561 *NORTON Calvin's Inst.* III. xx. 435 The Reader should sound his words with so small a bowing of his voice, that it should be liker to one that readeth than to one that singeth.

† 2. *concr.* A curved or bent part; a bending, bend, or flexure; a joint. *Obs. exc. dial.*

1519 *HORMAN Vulg.* 26 Amoste at euery bonys ende is a grystell: that lyeth betwene the bowyngye lyke a mattresse. 1587 *FLEMING Contn. Holinshed* III. 1339/2 On the outside of the bowing of the arch were painted three goddesses. 1681 *WILLIS Rem. Med. Wks.*, It descends to the bowing of the Elbow. 1864 *CAPEREN Devon Prov.*, *Bewings*, joints.

3. The action of inclining the body or head in salutation, etc.; the making of an obeisance; also *attrib.*, as in *bowing acquaintance*.

1616 *PURCHAS Pilgr.* (1864) 22 After often bowings, and touching the ground with his head. 1660 *MILTON Free Commw.* 429 The perpetual bowings and cringings of an abject People. 1864 *Cornh. Mag.* VI. 852 One makes a sort of pleasant bowing acquaintance with the several women. 1876 *GREEN Sh. Hist.* 497 The bowings at the sacred name.

Bowing (bō'ing), *vbl. sb.* 2 [f. BOW *v.* 2 + -ING¹.]

1. *a.* The playing of (a violin, etc.) with a bow; the method or style of handling the bow. *b.* 'The particular manner in which a phrase or passage is to be executed, and the signs by which such a manner is usually marked.' Grove. (Cf. *fingering*.)

1838 *W. GARDINER Music Nat.* 121 Modern writers accurately mark the bowing of every passage. 1865 *tr. Spohr's Autobiogr.* I. 14 My bowing particularly displeased him. 1881 *BROADHOUSE Mus. Acoust.* 160 Stringed instruments are made to sound either by striking, plucking, or bowing.

2. *Hat-making.* The process of distributing the fibres for felting by means of the 'bow'.

1842 *WHITLOCK Bk. Trades* 293 (Hatter), Each article undergoes a process termed 'bowing'.

Bowing (bau'ing), *pp. a.* [f. BOW *v.* 1 + -ING².]

1. That bends or inclines; inclined, bent (*obs.*).

c 1440 *Gesta Rom.* xlviii. 216 With bowinge knees bey worshipid him. c 1470 *HENRY Wallace* III. 215 On bowand

treis [thai] hangit thaim rycht thar. 1674 *N. FAIRFAX Bulb & Selv.* 68 The nearer the eye comes to a great thing that is bowing, the less bowing it seems. 1798 *YOUNG Love Fame* IV. (R.), And then he can out-bow the bowing dean.

b. fig. Yielding, submissive, obedient.

a 1340 *HAMPOLE Pr. Consc.* 7987 Alle thing tylie þam salle be boghand. c 1400 *Destr. Troy* 901 [þe orible oxin]... as bowande to be bowes as any bestes might. 1844 *KINGLAKE Eothen* xxv. 325 The readily-bowing mind of the oriental.

† 2. That may be bent; flexible, pliant. *Obs.*

1483 *CAXTON Gold. Leg.* 331/2 His fyngers and his toes... were bowyng and hoolle as they hadde be newly buryed. 1551 *TURNER Herbal* F v b, To make hoopis of, and twygges for baskets it is so bowing. 1570 *LEVINS Mani.* 136 Bowing, *lentus, flexilis.*

† **Bowingly**, *adv. Obs.* [f. prec. + -LY.] In a curving or bending manner or direction.

1554 *HULOET*, Bowynglye, lyke a bowe, *arcuatum*. *Ibid.* Bowynglye, *procline, recurve*. 1594 *BLUNDELL Exerc.* III. i. (ed. 7) 271 A right line is that which goeth right from one point to another, and not bowingly.

† **Bowingness**. *Obs.* -o [f. as prec. + -NESS.] Bending quality.

1580 *HOLLYBAND Treas. Fr. Tong.*, *Flechissure*, bought, or bowingness.

Bowk, bouk (bauk). *local.* [perh. -OE. *būc* bulging vessel, pitcher, also 'belly', see *BOUK*, and cf. *BUCKET*.]

† 1. A milk pail; a pail. *Obs. or dial.*

c 1000 *ÆLFRIC Judges* vii. 20 Hi tobræcon þa bucas. 1663 *P. HENRY Diary* 15 June (1882) 139 A mayd... who coming from milking fell down with the Bowk on her head and dyed. 1879 *MISS JACKSON Shropsh. Gloss.*, *Bouk* (obsolescent), a pail with an upright handle, used for various purposes of brewing, dairy-work, etc.

2. A large tub or bucket used in coal-mines.

1865 *Engineer* 1 Dec. 16/3 Three men... were lowered down the shaft in a bowk or tub. 1869 *Echo* 28 June, They then... got into the water bowk, which they were using as a skip. 1884 *Law Reports* 357 A workman... killed through falling from a 'bowk', in which he was being drawn up the pit shaft.

Bowk, north. form of BUCK, BULK.

Bowk, variant of BOLL *v.* *Obs.* to belch.

Bow-kail. *Sc.* ['So called from the circular form of this plant.' (Jamieson)—a very doubtful conjecture.) The *Sc.* pronunc. is (bō'kāl).] Cabbage.

1795 *BURNS Hallouern* iv. Will. wander'd thro' the bow-kail. *Ibid.* ix, Poor Willie, wi' his bow-kail runt.

Bow-knot: see BOW *sb.* 1 16.

† **Bow-krickel**. *Obs.* [corrupt. ad. Ger. *baum-grille* 'tree-cricket'; see BALM-CRICKET.] A cicada.

1668 *ROWLANDS Mouffet's Theat. Ins.* 989 In Germany and England I do not hear that there are any Grasshoppers to be found, but if they be, they are in both Countreys called Bow-krickels, or Baulm Krickets.

Bowl (bōul), *sb.* 1 *Forms:* 1 bolla, 2-7 bolle, (5 boole), 6-7 boll, 6 boule, 7 bouil, boule, boal, 7-9 bole, 7- bowl. *Pl.* bowls, (in 1 bollen, 2-3 -en). [Com. Teut.: OE. *bolla* = MDu. *bolle*, Du. *bol*, ON. *bolli* wk. masc.; cogn. with OHG. *bolla* (MHG. *bolle*, wk. fem., 'bud, round pod, globular vessel'; hence OE. *heafodbolla* 'brainpan, skull'; f. root **būl-* 'to swell, be swollen'; cf. also OHG. *boln*, MHG. *boln* to roll. The normal modern spelling would be BOLL which came down to 17th c. in sense of 'round vessel', and is still used in sense of 'round seed-vessel'; but the early ME. pronunciation of -oll as -ūul (cf. *roll*, *poll*, *toll*, etc.), has left its effects in the modern spelling *bowl* in the sense of 'vessel', which is thus at once separated in form from other senses of its own (see BOLL *sb.* 1), and confounded with BOLL *sb.* 2 a ball, from Fr. *boule*.]

1. 'A [round] vessel to hold liquids, rather wide than deep; distinguished from a cup, which is rather deep than wide.' J. Usually hemispherical or nearly so.

Historically, a *bowl* is distinguished from a *basin* by its more hemispherical shape; a 'basin' being proportionally shallower and wider, or with the margin curved outward, as in the ordinary wash-hand basin; but the actual use of the words is capricious, and varies from place to place; in particular, the ordinary small earthenware vessels, used for porridge, soap, milk, sugar, etc., which are historically *bowls*, and are so called in Scotland and in U. S., are always called in the south-east of England, and hence, usually in literary English, *basins*. The earlier usage remains in *salad-bowl*, *finger-bowl* (now also *basin*), *punch-bowl*, and the *convivial or social bowl* (see *b.*).

c 1000 *Sax. Leechd.* I. 300 Genim. twegen bollen fulle wæteres. c 1205 *LAV.* 19783 Heo comen to bare welle and heore bollen feolde. c 1386 *CHAUCER Cham. Yem. Prolog.* 4 T. 657 Bryngeth eek with yow a bolle or a panne ful of water. c 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 43 Bolle, dysche, cantare. Bolle, vassel, *concha*, later. 1474 *CAXTON Chesse* 12 A boole of coppre. 1481 — *Reynard* (Arb.) 113 A grete bolle full of scaldyng water. 1563 *HVLT Art Gardem.* (1593) 150 Set either a boule or pan of water. 1665 *PURCHAS Pilgrimes* II. 1735 They dig deepe pits in the earth, and wash the earth in great bowls, and therein they find the gold. 1646 *SIR T. BROWNE Pseud. Ep.* vii. xiii. (1686) 300 Water in a boal. 1833 *HT. MARTINEAU, Briery Crk.* iii. 49 Cups and basins which the younger girl had washed in the wooden bowl. 1850 *MRS. STOWE Uncle Tom* xvii. 163 John will... give the baby all the sugar in the bowl.

b. esp. as a drinking vessel; whence the *bowl*, drinking, conviviality.

c. 1390 *Lindisf. Gosp.* John xix. 29 Bolla vel copp full of acced. c. 1205 *LAV.* 14994 Pene bolle heo sette to hire chin. c. 1395 *E. E. Allit. P. B.* 1511 In bryst bollez, ful bayn birlen bise ober. 1414 *Test. Ebor.* (1836) l. 362 Lego. . unum ciphum de argento, qui vocatur le Bolle. 1548 *LATIMER Ploughers* (1868) 35 As manie as drancke of the pardon boll should haue pardon. 1576 *LAMBARDE Peramb. Kent* (1826) 319 One onely wassailing cup or Bolle walked round about the boorde. 1594 *SHAKS. Rich. III.* v. iii. 72 Giue me a Bowle of Wine. 1651 *Miller of Mansfield* 9 Nappie Ale. . in a browne Bole. 1663 *COWLEY Verses & Ess.* (1669) 107 The Beechen Bowl fomes with a flood of Wine. 1705 *ADDISON Rosamond* ii. vi. Quickly drain the fatal Bowl. 1805 *SOUTHEY Madoc in W. xv.* O'er the bowl they commun'd. 1811 *Let. fr. Son to Mother* 11, I fly to the bowl; thence quat short oblivion.

fig. and transf.

c. 1005 *ÆLFRIC Saints' Lines St. George* i. 312 Ænne mycelne bollan mid bealuwe afyled. 1393 *LANG. P. Pl.* C. xxi. 410 Pi drynke worth dep and deop helle by bolle. 1575 *GASCOIGNE Fruites Warre* (1831) 212 Hope brings the boll whereon they all must quaffe. 1649 *JER. TAYLOR Great Exemp.* ii. Add. x. 9 The World presents us with faire language. . these are the outsides of the bole. 1871 *MORLEY Voltaire* (1886) 15 The tiny bowl of a man's happiness was spilt upon the ground.

c. With prefixed substantive, as *ale-, sugar-, etc.* 1564 *J. HEYWOOD Prov. & Epigr.* (1867) 153 Drownd theyr bowles in ale bowles. 1615 *G. SANDYS Trav.* 39 Accustomed . of their sculls to make drinking-bolles. 1709 *Tatler* No. 42 P 13 A Mustard-Bowl to make Thunder with.

† d. A tub or round vessel for other purposes. a 1000 *Cursor M.* 5524 (Gött.) Apon þair neckes sal þai bere Bollis (*Cott.* hott=hod) wid stan and wid mortere.

† *transf.* The contents of a bowl, a bowlful.

1530 *PALSGR.* 459 This felowe blusseth lyke a butchers bolle. 1605 *CAMDEN Rem.* 130 New named with a bole of wine powred vpon their heads. 1617 *JANNA Ling.* 814 The butler hath drunke up a whole bolle. a 1764 *LLOYD Satyr & Pedlar Poet.* Wks. 1774 l. 59 A bowl prepar'd of sav'ry broth. 1847 *TENNYSON Princ.* v. 214 Nor robb'd the farmer of his bowl of cream.

3. The more or less bowl-shaped part of any vessel or utensil; e. g. of a cup or flagon, tobacco-pipe, spoon, candlestick; the scale-pan of a balance.

1586 *RYMER Fædera* XVIII. 143 One cupp, the boll thereof aggett ovall fashion called the Constables Cupp, with an aggett in the foote. 1598 *TREVISIA Barth. De P. R.* xix. cxxxi. 1495 940 The weyght is rightfull whan both the bolles hangyth euen. 1611 *BIBLE Zach.* iv. 2 A candlestick all of gold, with a bowle vpon the top of it. 1679 *Plot Staffordsh.* (1686) 197 Which so well resembled [a tobacco pipe] both in the boll and heel. 1699 in *Capt. Smith Seaman's Gram.* ii. xxxi. 144 The Bole or Bore of the Morter, next to the Wad. 1814 *SCOTT Wav.* i. ix. 123 The grotesque face on the bole of a German tobacco-pipe. 1849 *R. DANA Bef. Mast.* xix. 55 They smoke a great deal . using pipes with large bowls. 1883 *Mag. of Art* Sept. 458 1/2 The bowl of the spoon.

b. The basin of a fountain, etc.

1575 *LANEHAM Let.* (1871) 52 A fayr formed boll, of a three foot ouer: from wheans sundrye fine pipez did distill continuall streamz into the receyt of the Fountayn. 1870 *F. WILSON Ch. Lindisf.* 90 The bowl [of the font] is dated 1664.

c. A bowl-shaped natural basin.

1860 *TYNDALL Glac.* i. § 23. 165 The rim of a flattened bowl quite clasped by the mountains.

† 4. *Naut.* (See quot.) *Obs.*

1667 *CAPT. SMITH Seaman's Gram.* v. 20 The Top, Cap, or Bowle, which is a round thing at the head of either Mast for men to stand in. 1668 *WILKINS Real Char.* ii. xi. § iv. 281 Parts of Vessels. . fixed and upright; or the upper parts of these, round and prominent: Mast-Top, Boul. 1721-1800 *BAILEY, Boul* [in a ship], a round space at the Head of the Mast for the Men to stand in.

5. The blade of an oar. (Cf. bowl of spoon in 3.) 1805 *SOUTHEY Madoc in Ast.* xxv. Wks. V. 367 Oars From whose broad bows the waters fall and flash.

6. (See quot.)

1884 *British Almanack & Comp.* 32 The nets. . are further buoyed up by small kegs, called 'bowls'.

7. *Comb., as bowl-basin, -cup, -shaped* adj.: also bowl-barrow, a prehistoric mound of the shape of an inverted bowl; bowl-fellow, a drinking companion; bowlful, the content of a bowl; † bowl-piece, a piece (of plate) of the form of a bowl; bowl-weft (see quot.)

1846 *KNIGHT Old England* 7 On every side of Stonehenge we are surrounded with barrows. Some are of the shape of bowls, and some of bells. . Long-barrow, *bowl-barrow, bell-barrow. 1607 *Althorp MS.* in *Simpkinson Washingtons* Intro. 6 *Boll basons (whereof one hath brinks) iii. 1420 *E. E. Wills* (1882) 45-6 A *bolle cuppe i-keueryd of syluer. Also a bolle pece. 1509 *BARCLAY Shyp of Fols* (1570) 16 She and her *bowl felowes sitting by the fire. 1611 *BIBLE Judg.* vi. 38 A *bowl full of water. 1795 *BRADLEY Fam. Dict.* II. s. v. *Juice*, A Bowlful of the Juice. 1499 *Test. Ebor.* (1855) II. 235, Duas pecias argenti et coopertas vocatas *boll-peces. 1479 *Inv. Plate in Paston Lett.* III. 273, J grete boll pees, with a cover. 1864 *N. & Q. Ser.* iii. VI. 459 1/2 *Bowl-weft. . applied to materials abstracted by weavers in Lanarkshire . to exchange it with travelling hawkers for bowls and other earthenware dishes.

† See also BOLL, BOULE.

Bowl (bōl, baul), *sb.* 2. Forms: 5-7 bowl(e), bowle, (7 bowl), 7- bowl; *Sc.* and *north. dial.* boul, bool. [*M.E.* *bowle*, a. *F. boule* ball:—*L. bulla* 'bubble', hence, 'round thing, ball'. The French pronunciation (bul), is retained in *Sc.* and parts of Northumbria, now often written *bool*; the normal English would be (baul) as in *foul, fowl*, which still prevails in nearly all the dialects from

Yorkshire to Devon, and thence to Kent; the pronunciation (bōl), a corruption due to graphic confusion with *Bowl sb.* 1, appears to have originated in London and its neighbourhood, but has extended elsewhere with the use of the vb. in cricket.]

† 1. A sphere, globe, ball. *Obs.* in *lit. Eng.*

1413 *LYDG. Pylgr. Soule* v. xiv. (1483) 107 God made this grete world . . round as a boule. 1449 *Excheq. Records* in *Risdon Surv. Devon.* Intro. 18, 144 Bools of Glance Oar. 1549 *Compl. Scot.* vi. 54 The mune is ane thik masse, round lyk ane boule or bal. 1556 *Chron. Gr. Friars* (1852) 25 The wedercoke, crosse, & the bowle of Powlles stepulle. 1594 *BLUNDEVIL Exerc.* iii. l. (ed. 7) 273 But if such body bee round as a boule, Spheare or Globe. 1609 *HOLLAND Amm. Marcell.* xvii. iv. 84 A boule or globe of brasse [*sphæra æneæ*]. 1663 *LISLE Ælfric on O. & N. T.* Ded. xii. No roaring brazen throat Shall belch out iron bowles. 1644 *NYE Gunner* (1670) 20 The bowl rowling up and down in the sieve. 1670 *Lassels Voy. Italy* l. (1698) 117 The six Bowles of his [the Medicis] Arms.

b. Retained dialectally either in the general sense, or in special uses.

1839 *MURCHISON Silur. Syst.* i. xxxii. 440 Small concretionary nodules of impure limestone, here called bowls by the workmen. *Mod. Sc.* A butter bool, rock bool, sugar bool. As round as a bool. [In S. Shields, a water-worn or other rounded stone, such as were formerly used for paving the streets, is called a 'bool'.]

2. *spec.* A globular or round solid body used to play with: a. *esp.* in the game of Bowls (see 3) played on a bowling-green: A body of hard wood, originally spherical, but now made slightly oblate on one side and prolate on the other, so as to run with a BIAS (q. v.). *Carpet-bowls*, used in a drawing-room form of the game, are globular, and of china or earthen-ware. b. Also, those of wood, used in skittles, nine-pins, and the like, which in some parts of the country (e. g. Somersetshire) are spherical, in others much flattened or cheese-shaped. (It is not possible to separate a and b in the quotations.)

c. 1400 *OCCLEVE De Reg. Princ.* 24 To . . pleye at the balle or boule. c. 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 46 Bowlyn or pley wythe bowlys, bolo. 1c 1475 *Sqr. Iowe Degre* 804 An hundredth Knights. . Shall play with bowles in alayes colde. 1556 *RECORDE Cast. Knowl.* 111 A litle altering of the one side, maketh the boul to run biasse waies. 1588 *Marpel. Epist.* (1843) 54 O well bowle, when John of London throwes his bowle, he will runne after it, and drie rub, rub, rub. 1611 *MARKHAM Countr. Content.* in *Strutt Sports & Past.* (1876) 363 Flat bowles being best for allies, your round byazed bowles for open grounds of advantage. 1691 *NORRIS Pract. Disc.* 126 The fortune of the Boul does [depend] upon its delivery out of the Hand. 1692 *BENTLEY Boyle Lect.* ii. 71 A Bowl thrown upon a smooth Bowling-green. 1768 *TUCKER Lt. Nat.* i. 509, I have a bowl in my hand and want it to touch the jack at the other end of the green. 1836 *HOR. SMITH Tim Trump.* (1876) 112 It is not every rogue that, like a bowl, can gain his object the better by deviating from the straight line. 1863 *Tyneside Songs* 87 War the bool there, Harry Wardle's myed a throw.

fig. 1618 *MYNSHUL Ess. Prison* (1638) 17 To bee a bowle for every alley, and run into every company, proves thy mind to have no bias. 1665 *BACON Ess. (Arb.)* 185 Which set a Bias vpon the Bowle, of their owne Petty Ends.

† c. A billiard ball. *Obs.*

1530 *PALSGR.* 200 1/2 Bowle to playe at the byles, bille. 1695 *ALINGHAM Geom. Epit.* 29 Suppose one bowl at the point a . . and c d the Billiard Table.

d. *Sc.* A marble, used by boys in play; or, in some parts, only the larger kind used at 'bonce'. (In *Sc. bool*.)

1806 *J. WILSON Noct. Ambr.* Wks. 1855 I. 110 Frae the size o' a peppercorn to that o' a boy's bools.

3. *pl.* A game played with bowls:

a. on a bowling-green, or in a drawing-room (*carpet-bowls*); b. in a bowling-alley (*obs.* exc. in dialects where the name 'bowls' is still applied to 'skittles', as in Somerset); † c. formerly (apparently) also applied to Billiards (*obs.*). (It is not easy to identify the sense in individual quotations: the game played in *alleys* was apparently skittles or something analogous.)

1495 *Act 11 Hen. VII.* ii. § 5 Noon apprentice . . [shall] pley . . at the Tenys, Closshe, Dise, Cardes, Bowles nor any other unlawfull game. 1549 *CHALONER Erasim. on Folly* O iija, To the dyse, to tables, to cardes, or to bowles. 1577 *HOLINSHED Chron.* 111. 893 1/2 Tables, dice, cards, and bowles were taken and burnt. 1588 *Marpel. Epist.* (Arb.) 19 Who goeth to bowles vpon the Sabbath? 1593 *SHAKS. Rich. II.* iii. iv. 3 What sport shall we deuise here in this Garden? . . Madame, wee'll play at Bowles. 1606 *DAY Ile of Guls* iii. ii. Clear the green. The Duke is coming to bowles. 1612 *T. TAYLOR Comm. Titus* ii. 14 Cards, dice, bowles, boules, vnprofitable Companie. 1661 *PERVY Diary* 5 June, Sir W. Pen and I went home with Sir R. Slingsby to bowles in his ally. a 1687 *PETTY Pol. Arith.* Pref., To play well at Tennis, Billiards, or Bowels. 1755 *OLDYS Life Raleigh* Wks. 1829 l. 104 The captains and commanders were . . at bowls upon the Hoe at Plymouth. 1844 *DICKENS Lett.* (1880) I. 117, I caught him . . playing bowles in the garden. 1873 *B'NESS BUNSEN* in *Hare Life* i. ii. 55 The gentlemen played at bowls in the spacious bowling-green.

d. *Sc.* The game of marbles.

Mod. Co. way an' play a game at the bools.

4. The roller or anti-friction wheel in a knitting-machine on which the carriage traverses.

5. *Comb.*, as † bowl-alley, a long narrow space

where a game of bowls was played, a skittle-alley: bowl-room (see quot.).

1608 *EARLE Microsm.*, *Bowl-Alley* 101 A *Bowl-Alley is the place where there are three things thrown away beside Bowls, to wit, time, money, and curses, and the last ten for one. 1634 *RAINBOW Labour* (1635) 30 The most goodly . . ground in . . your Citie, the Bowle-alleys and Dice-houses. 1753 *CHAMBERS Cycl. Suppl.* s. v. *Bowling, Bowl-room* . . is when a bowl has free passage, without striking on any other.

Bowl (bōl), *v.* 1 [*f. Bowl sb.* 2: so *med. L. bolāre*, *f. bolus*: cf. *mod. F. bouler*, *f. bouler*.]

1. Senses derived from the game of bowls.

1. *intr.* To play at bowls; to trundle or roll a bowl, etc. along the ground.

1440 *Promp. Parv.* 46 1/2 Bowlyn or pley wythe bowlys, bolo. 1570 *LEVINS Manig.* 218 To Boule, mittere globum. 1589 *Hay any Work* 33 To bowle but seuen dayes in a weeke, is a very tollerable recreation. 1588 *SHAKS. L. L. L.* iv. i. 140 Sir, challenge her to boule [rimes with *foule, out*]. 1589 *COOPER Admon.* 57 Your iesting at the bishop for bowling vpon the Sabbath. 1603 *KNOLLES Hist. Turkes* (1621) 1119 Some they put in the ground up to the chin, and . . with yron bullets bowled at their heads. 1705 *HICKERINGILL Priest-cr.* i. (1721) 46 They may well win, that bowl alone. 1863 *Tyneside Songs* 87 Ye'll fynd them boolin' there.

b. *trans.* To bowl (one) to death (cf. 1603 in *prec.*), out of his money, etc.

1598 *SHAKS. Merry W.* iii. iv. 91, I had rather be set quick i'th earth And bowld to death with Turnips. 1818 *SCOTT Rob Roy* iii, Bowled you out of it at Marybone.

2. *trans.* To cause to roll, to send with a rolling or revolving motion (a bowl, a hoop, etc.).

1580 *HOLLYBAND Treas. Fr. Tong.* 1, *lallet*, a litle boule to cast & boule fatte. 1600 *SHAKS. Ham.* ii. ii. 518 Boule the round Naue down the hill of Heauen. 1686 *GOAD Celest. Bodies* ii. i. 124 We must Fix the Sun, and Bowl the Earth about. 1749 *YOUNG Nt. Th.* ix. 1277 Who bowld'them flaming thro' the dark profound. 1819 *JANE TAYLOR Philosopher's Scales*, Last of all the whole world was bowled in at the grate. 1863 *KINGSLEY Water Bab.* (1878) 4, Bowling stones at the horses' legs as they trotted by. *Mod.* Children bowling their hoops.

b. *trans.* To carry or convey on wheels, i. e. in a carriage or other vehicle.

1819 *SHELLEY Peter Bell* ii. 11, The wretched fellow Was bowled to Hell in the Devil's chaise.

3. *intr.* To move like a bowl or hoop along the ground, to move by revolution; to move on wheels (esp. to bowl along), said of a carriage, or those who ride in it: also *transf.* of a ship.

1611 *SHAKS. Wint. T.* iv. iv. 338 They haue a Dance. . if it bee not too rough for some, that know little but bowling. 1759 *JOHNSON Idler* No. 54 P 4 A fashionable lady. . bowling about in her own coach. 1760 *COWPER Progr. Epr.* 438 The carriage bowls along. 1859 *MASSON Brit. Novelists* iii. 186 The moon bowling fearfully through clouds. 1863 *Cornh. Mag.* Feb., When the good ship is bowling along in the quiet moonlight. 1873 *BLACK Adv. Phaeton* xvi. 221 We bowled through the little village of Overton.

II. Senses connected with cricket.

4. *intr.* To launch or 'deliver' the ball at cricket. Originally, the ball was actually bowled 'or trundled' along the ground: by the successive stages of *underhand* 'bowling' above the ground, used before 1800; *round-arm* or *round-hand* (introduced c. 1825, and at first disallowed, as being 'throwing'), and the more recent *over-hand* or *over-arm*, 'bowling' has reached a stage, at which its practical difference from 'throwing' is a matter on which authorities are at variance.

1755 *Game at Cricket* 7 (penes M. C. C.), *Laws for the Bowlers*, The Bowler. . when he has bowld one Ball, or more, shall bowl to the Number of Four before he changes Wickets, and he shall change but once in the same Innings. 1770 *J. LOVE Cricket* 2 Expt. to Bowl, to Run, to Stop, to Throw. 1847 *TENNYSON Princess* Prol. 81 A herd of boys with clamour bowld And stump'd the wicket. 1879 *Sat. Rev.* 5 July 21 It is easy work bowling to men who have lost heart. 1880 *W. G. GRACE in Boy's Own Paper* II. 716 A man is now not only allowed to bowl as high as he likes, but a great many of our so-called bowlers deliberately throw.

5. *trans.* in various constructions. a. To bowl the ball. b. To bowl the bails off, to bowl the wicket (down). c. To bowl a batsman or player (out): to get him 'out' by bowling the bails off.

1746 in 'Bat' *Cricket Man.* (1850) 80 Harris. . . o. bowled] by Hadswell. 1755 *Game at Cricket* 8 Though. . the Player be bowld out. *Ibid.* 9 If the wicket is bowld down, it's out. 1774 in *Q. Rev.* No. 316. 463 It was necessary to 'bowl the bail off'. 1879 *Sat. Rev.* 5 July 21 When he was not bowling wickets, he was . . making catches. 1880 *W. G. GRACE in Boy's Own Paper* II. 716 Let him bowl a few balls every day. 1880 *Boy's Own Bk.* 105 His object being to bowl down the wicket. *Ibid.* All the players on one side are bowled, caught, or run out. 1881 *Daily News* 9 July 9 Richards was bowled for a good and useful 23. 1883 *Lillywhite's Cricketer's Ann.* 175 (M. C. C. Laws) The ball must be bowled. If thrown or jerked, the Umpire shall call 'No Ball'. (A distinct action of the elbow distinguishes a throw.)

6. Hence *fig. (colloq. or slang)*. To bowl (a person) out, over, down.

1812 *J. H. VAUX Flash Dict.* s. v. *Bowled out*, [A thief] when he is ultimately taken, tried, and convicted, is said to be bowled out at last. 1889 *MAHMYAT F. Midway* iii, I hope plenty of the lieutenants are bowled out. 1865 *DICKENS Mt. Fr.* i. 274 I'll bowl you down. 1870 *MISS BRIDGMAN R. Lynne* i. ix. 127 He had been bowled over by one of them. 1885 *Illustr. Lond. News* 6 June 572 The horse that is favourite at starting . . is more frequently 'bowled over'.

† **Bowl**, *v.* 2 *Obs.* To pass the convivial bowl, to booze. See BOLL v. 2, BOLLING, BOLLER.

Bowl, bowle (bōul). *v. 3 north. dial.* [perh. identical with MDu. *bōghelen* to curve, crook, *f. bōghel*, now *beugel*, a bow, hoop, ring: cf. BOUL sb.] To curve, to crook (Jamieson).

1513 [see BOWLAND].
Hence **Bowld, Bowled** ppl. a.
1818 HOGG *Brownie* II. 226 (JAM.) Get away wi' ye! ye bowled-like shurf. 1863 *Tyneside Songs* 6 Bowld Sandy Bowes—young Cuckoo Jack.

† **Bowl-land**, ppl. a. Obs. Sc. [app. pr. pple. of BOWL *v. 3*] Curving, crooked, hooked.

1513 DOUGLAS *Aeneis* III. iv. 15 With handis like to bowl-land birdis clewis. *Ibid.* VI. ix. 135 Ane hiddeous grip with bousteous bowl-land beik His maw immortale doith pik.

Bowler, var. of BOULDER sb.1

† **Bowl-dish**. Obs. Forms: see BOWL sb.1 A bowl-shaped dish, a bowl.

1530 PALSGR. 199/2 Boleidysshe or a bole, *jatte*. 1577 B. GOODE *Heresbach's Husb.* (1586) 137 Take a great bowl-dish. 1715 *Grt. Brit. Honeycombe, MS.* (N.) The boy was throwing of a bole-dish of water over his fish. 1725 BRADLEY *Fam. Dict.* s. v. *Sallet*. A large wooden Bowl-dish.

Bowle, var. of BOUL, Obs., a bend, a handle.

Bow-legged (bō'legd), a. [f. *bow-legs* + -ED.] Having crooked or outwardly bent legs; bandy-legged. (Huloet identified it with *knock-kneed*.)

1552 HULOET, *Bowe legged*, as he that hath his legges bowed inward, narrow at the knees. 1601 HOLLAND *Pliny* I. 350 Wry legged, *Vatius*, and *Vatinii* (bow-legged). 1666 *Lond. Gas.* No. 2137/4 A black and white gelt Dog.. bowe-leg'd. 1697 *Ibid.* No. 3287/4 Talks very lowd, bow Legg'd, walks briskly. 1863 HUXLEY *Man's Place Nat.* 28 When he walks in the erect posture, he turns the leg and foot outward, which occasions him... to seem bow-legged.

Bowler (bō'lar). [f. BOWL *v.* + -ER.]

1. One who bowls; one who plays at bowls.

c 1500 *Coke's Lorelles* B. (1843) 11 Bowlers, mas shooters, and quaters. 1609 B. JONSON *Sil. Wom.* I. i. (1616) 531 Every bowler, or better o' the greene. 1707 FARQUHAR *Beaux' Strat.* I. i. 4 A profess'd Pick-pocket, and a good Bowler. 1801 STRUTT *Sports & Past.* III. vii. 236 Modern bowlers have usually three or four [bowls].

2. *Cricket*. The player who bowls or 'delivers' the ball at the wicket.

1755 [see BOWL *v.* 4]. 1770 J. LOVE *Cricket* 15 Hodswell, of Dartford... celebrated Bowler. 1848 THACKERAY *Van. Fair* xiii. H. e. was the best batter and bowler, out and out, of the regimental club.

Bowler (bō'lar). [f. BOWL sb.1 or *v.* + -ER.]

† 1. A deep drinker; a drunkard: see BOLLER 1.

2. A workman who shapes the bowl of a spoon. 1879 *Cassell's Techn. Educ.* IV. 413/2 The 'bowler' who comes up the broad end into the semblance of a bowl.

Bowler (bō'lar). *collq.* [f. BOWL sb.2, quasi *bowl-hat*.] A low-crowned stiff felt hat, a 'billy-cock'. Also *bowler-hat*.

1861 *Sat. Rev.* 21 Sept. 297 We are informed that he... wore, or rather carried in his hand, a white bowler hat. 1882 *Pebody Eng. Journalism* xxi. 158 The Ministers, in bowlers and pea-jackets, are to be found upon the shore of Highland Lochs.

Bowlespret, obs. form of BOWSPRIT.

Bowless, a. Without a bow (in various senses).

Bowline (bō'lain). *Naut.* Forms: 4 *bouline*, *bawelyne*, 5 *bowelyne*, 5-6 *bowlyne*, 6 *boulene*, *bolyn*, *bollene*, *bollinge*, 6-9 *bowling*, 7 *bolin* (e), *bow-lin*, *boulin*, *bowline*, 7-8 *boling*, 8-9 *bow-line*, 6- *bowline*. [In sense 1, in most modern Teutonic langs.: Sw. *boglina*, Da. *bowline*, Du. *boeglijn*, Ger. *bulien*; whence also F. *bouline*, It. Sp., Pg. *bolina*. In all the Teut. langs. it is connected in form with the ship's Bow, which seems to be the derivation; though, as it is found in Eng. several centuries before *bow*, it does not appear whence we received it, nor why the pronunciation does not agree with that of Bow.]

(The alleged ON. *bōglinna* occurs only in the *pulur*, a rimed glossary composed prob. in Orkney, and full of foreign terms).

1. A rope passing from about the middle of the perpendicular edge on the weather side of the square sails (to which it is fastened by three or four subdivisions, called 'bridles') to the larboard or starboard bow, for the purpose of keeping the edge of the sail steady when sailing on a wind.

c 1325 E. E. *Allit. P. C.* 104 Sprude spak to be sprete be spare bawe-lyne. c 1330 R. BRUNNE *Chron.* (K.O.) Bouline. c 1450 *Pilgrim's Sea-Voy.* 25 in *Stations Rome* (1867) 38 Hale the bowelyne! now, vere the shete. 1549 *Compl. Scot.* vi. 40 Hail out the mane sail boulene. 1594 GREENE *Look Glasse* (1861) 134 We sail'd amain and let the bowling fly. 1622 HEVLIN *Cosmogr.* IV. (1682) 87 That piece of Tackle which our Mariners now called the Bolin. 1636 B. JONSON *Discov.*, Tell them of the main-sheet, and the boulin. 1666 *Lond. Gas.* No. 31/1 Without cutting his Bowlings, or discharging one Gun. 1773 *Gentl. Mag.* 143, I haul'd up my bowlines, and to the wind laid. 1832 MARRYAT *N. Forster* xlvii, Let go the main-top bowline.

2. Short for *bowline-knot* (see 4).

1832 F. COOPER *Pioneer* xxiv. (1869) 107/2 It would have been more ship-shape to lower the bight of a rope, or running bow-line below me.

3. On a *bowline*: said of a ship when close-hauled, (i.e. with the bow-line) so as to sail close to the wind.

1625 PURCHAS *Pilgrimes* IV. 1174 The wind was so narrow that we stood upon a bowline. 1840 R. DANA *Bef. Mast* x. 24 We were... obliged to... come upon a taut bowline. 1834 M. SCOTT *Cruise Midge* (1859) 480 Running in for San Andreas on a bowline. 1867 SMYTH *Sailor's Word-bk.* s. v., The ship sails on a bowline, or stands on a taut bowline.

4. *Comb.*: **bowline-bend**, a mode of fastening ropes together with two bow-line knots; **bowline-bridle** (see 1); **bowline-oringle**, an eye through which a bowline-bridle is fastened; **bowline-knot**, a simple but very secure knot, used in fastening the bowline-bridles to the cringles.

c 1860 H. STUART *Seaman's Catech.* 44 A fore course has one 'bowline' bridle and two cringles. 1867 CAPT. SMITH *Seaman's Gram.* v. 27 The 'Boling knot' is... fastened by the bridles into the cringles of the sails. 1890 *Petrel* I. 83 Oh, that we had a bowline knot, to let down to him!

II. In *Ship-building*. 'Bowlines' are longitudinal curves representing the ship's fore-body cut in a vertical section. Smyth *Sailor's Word-bk.*

† **Bow-line** (bō'lin). Obs. [f. BOW sb.1 + LINE.] An arc of a circle.

1551 RECORDE *Pathw. Knowl.* I. xxii, Draw a cord or stringline crosse the circle, then deuide into .ij. equal partes, both that corde, and also the bowe line, or arche line, that serueth to that corde. *Ibid.* I. xi, A bowline.

Bowling (bō'lin), *vbl. sb.* [f. BOWL *v.* 2]

1. Playing at bowls; the action of rolling a bowl or other round body.

1535 *Act 27 Hen. VIII.* xxv, Any open plaieng house or place for common bowling. 1612 BACON *Studies, Ess.* (Arb.) 13 Bowling is good for the Stone and Reines. 1705 HICKINGILL *Priest-Cr.* II. vi. 66 They go to Shooting or Bowling as soon as Afternoon Service is done. 1801 STRUTT *Sports & Past.* III. vii. 235. 1879 *Daily News* 2 Sept. 3/1 Bowling was at all times a mild species of recreation.

2. *Cricket*. The action of 'delivering' the ball.

1755 *Game at Cricket* 6, *Laws*. 1859 *All Y. Round* No. 13, 306 Jim... go in: cut over the slow bowling. 1879 *Sat. Rev.* 5 July 21 Oxford was once more aided by the bowling of Mr. Jellicoe.

3. *Comb.*, as *bowling-day*, *-ground*, *-night*; **bowling-crease**, the line from behind which the bowler 'delivers' the ball in cricket.

1755 *Game at Cricket* 6, *Laws*. The Bowling-Creases must be cut in a direct line from each Stump. *Ibid.* 8 If he delivers the Ball, with his hinder Foot over the Bowling-Crease, the Umpire shall call no Ball. 1880 *Boy's Own Bk.* 105 Within this return-crease, and behind the bowling-crease, the bowler must stand when he delivers the ball.

Bowling, variant of BOLLING sb.

Bowling-alley. An alley or long enclosure for playing at bowls or skittles: cf. ALLEY 4.

1555 *Act 2 & 3 Phil. & M. ix.* Licence... for the having... of any Bowling-Allies. 1612 ROWLANDS *Knave of Clubs*, At Bedlam bowling-alley, late Where citizens did bet. 1703 *Art's Imprim.* 19 The Use of them, in Paving the Streets, and laying of bowling-Allies. 1884 *Harper's Mag.* Jan. 298/2 The establishment of a good bowling-alley.

Bowling-green. A smooth level lawn or green for playing bowls upon. (Hence a common simile 'as level (or smooth) as a bowling-green'.)

1646 EVELYN *Memo.* (1857) I. 227 The whole country flat and even as a bowling-green. a 1605 Wood *Life* (1848) 267 Trained privately in New Coll. bowling-green. 1800 MAR. EDGEWORTH *Lottery* II, Going to a bowling-green tea-party this evening. 1825 WATERTON *Wand. S. Amer.* I. i. 120 An immense plain... as level as a bowling-green.

Bowlike, obs. form of BULK.

Bowlin(e), obs. f. BOLLEN, swollen.

Bowlder, Bowlt, obs. ff. BOLSTER, BOLT *v.* 1, 2.

Bowly, a. Sc. Also *bowlie*, *boolie*. [perh. f. BOW sb.1 or 2 + -LY; but cf. BOWL *v.* 3 and BOUL.] Bent, rounded.

1821 GALT *Ann. Par.* 131 It was of the goose species, only with short bowly legs. 1864 J. BROWN *Plain Wds. Health* 87 Your bowly back, your huge arms.

Bowman (bō'mæn). Also 4-5 *boumon*. [f. BOW sb.1 + MAN.]

1. A man who shoots with a bow; esp. a fighting man armed with a bow.

1297 R. GLOUC. 378 Spermen auote & bowmen, & al so arblastes. c 1400 *Dest. Troy* 5536 He was boumon of the best. 1581 J. BELL *Haddon's Answ. Osor.* 492 You are a pretty bow man but your luck is very ill. 1598 BARRET *Theor. Warres* I. i. 3 Were there such bowmen as we were in the old time. 1612 W. BARKSTED *Hireu* (1876) 105 Saturn wounded by lous little bowman. 1839 THIRLWALL *Greece* III. 375 Heavy infantry, with bowmen and slingers.

† 2. Some kind of fish. Obs.

1610 W. FOLKINGHAM *Art of Survey* IV. iii. 63 Conger, Lampson, Bowman, Soles.

3. **Bowman's root**: a name given to certain plants: *Gillenia trifoliata*, *Euphorbia corollata*, and *Isardia alternifolia*.

Bowman (bō'mæn). *Naut.* [f. BOW sb.2 + MAN.] The oarsman who sits nearest to the bow of a boat.

1829 MARRYAT *F. Mildmay* xix, The bowman holding on with the boat-hook. 1840 R. DANA *Bef. Mast* xxiii. 71 The bowman had charge of the boat-hook and painter.

Bownce, bowns, obs. forms of BOUNCE.

Bownd, -en, obs. form of BOUND, -EN.

Bown(e, -nn(e), obs. ff. BOON, BOUN, BOUND.

Bow-net (bō'net). [f. BOW sb.1 + NET: possibly the original form of the thing explained the name.]

1. A kind of trap used for lobsters, crayfish, etc., consisting now of a cylinder of wicker-work closed at one end and having a narrow, funnel-shaped entrance at the other; also called, a bow-weel.

a 1000 *Ælfric Voc.* in Wt. Wülcker 167 *Nassa* bogenet, uel leap. *Ibid.* 181 *Nassa*, æwul, uel boganet. 1552 HULOET, *Bowe nette* or *weele, nassa*. 1607 TOPSELL *Four-f. Beasts* 37 They take them in bow-nets... whereinto they enter for the food, but being entrapped cannot go forth again. 1639 HORN & ROB. *Gale Lang. Unt.* xxxviii. § 427 A Fisherman fisheth with a bow-net or weel, in a river. 1883 G. C. DAVIES *Norfolk Broad's* xix. 145 Bow-nets set in the runs... for tench and eels.

2. A kind of net attached to a bow or arch of wood or metal, used by fowlers.

1875 'STONEHENGE' *Brit. Sports* I. IV. i. § 4. 293 [Hawks] must be captured either by the bow-net or the hand-net.

Bownogh, var. of BONAGH, Obs., an Irish soldier.

Bownte, obs. form of BOUNTY.

Bow-pot, variant of BOUGH-POT.

Bowpres, var. of BEAUPRES Obs., a fabric.

Bowr, bowre, obs. ff. BOWER sb.1, 2.

Bowrd(e, Bowrder, var. of BOURD, BOURDER.

† **Bowrugie**. Obs. Sc. [A corrupt derivative of BURGESS or ad. Fr. *bourgeoisie*.] The 'Burgesses' or third estate of the Scottish Parliament.

c 1470 HENRY Wallace VIII. 4 In Sanct Jhonstoun... assemblit clerk, barown, and bowrugie.

† **Bowse**, sb. Obs. rare. [a. MDu. *buis* gun: cf. BUS and HARQUEBUS.] A harquebus.

1556 *Chron. Gr. Friars* (1852) 42 All London custer in harnes, morys pykes, bowses, hand gons, and whytt mottes.

Bowse, bowsie, var. of BOUSE, BOUSTY.

† **Bowser**. Obs. Also *bowcer*, *bowsier*. [Derivation uncertain: perhaps a corruption of AF. *bourser*, OF. *boursier*, BURBAR, f. *bou* se, purse.

Notwithstanding the form *bowser*, and the agreement in sense with BOWCHER, the two words can hardly be identical, since there was no OF. *boucier*, *bouchier*, with suitable sense. But the two *bowser* and *bouger*, (*boucher*) may have been confused in English.]

A treasurer, bursar. Hence **Bowsery**, a bursar's office, a bursary.

1534 HEN. VIII. *Liber Regis* (1786) p. xi, To serche and knowe the... names of the... almoner, bowser, hospityler. 1552 R. HUTCHINSON *Serm. Lord's Supper* (1842) 225 Masters of colleges do call their stewards and bowsters to an account and audit. 1626 SCOTCH *Jests* (N.) Had every night the keys of the bowcery and buttry delivered. 1631 T. POWELL *Tom of All Tr.* 149 To be head Bowsier of the Colledge. 1721-1800 BAILEY, *Bowser*, the Purser, or Treasurer of a Colledge.

Bowshot (bō'spōt). Forms: 3-5 *bow(e)-schote*, 6 *-shote*, *bow-shotte*, 7-8 *bowshoot(e)*, 9- *bowshot*. [f. BOW sb.1 + SHOT sb.] The distance to which an arrow can be shot from a bow.

c 1300 K. ALIS. 3491 A bowe-schote fro the brynke. c 1450 LONELICH *Grail* xiii. 316 More than fowre bowschote. c 1532 LD. BERNERS *Huon* xciv. 308 Temperour... auansyd hym selfe a bowe shote before his companye. 1652 COTTERELL *Cassandra* I. v. 474 Within a Bow-shoot of their gates. 1724 tr. *Rollin's Anc. Hist.* (1827) II. II. 101 Within bowshot of it. 1814 SCOTT *Wav.* viii, About a bow-shot from the end of the village.

Bowsie, var. of BOOZY, BOUSTY.

Bowsom(e, -sum, obs. forms of BUXOM.

† **Bowson**, obs. dial. f. BAUSON, badger.

1617 ASSHETON *Jrnl.* (1848) 18 We had a bowsou: wee wrought him out and killed him.

Bowsprit (bō'sprit). Forms: a. 4 *bouspret*,

6 *boespritte*, 7- *bowsprit*; β. 6-7 *borespritt*,

7 *borespritt*, *boar-spright*; γ. 6 *boltspreet*, 7

boultspret, 7-9 *boltsprit*; δ. 7 *boldspreet*;

ε. 7 *bole-sprit*, *bowle*, *boulspret*, *boule spret*,

-*sprit*. [Found in all the mod. Teut. langs.: Du.

boegspriet, LG. *boegspriet*, Ger. *bug*, *boegspriet* (from

LG. or Du.), Sw. *boegspröt*, Da. *boegspryd*; in all

connected with the ship's Bow, and with a word,

in OE. *sprōt* pole (ME. *spret*, *spret*), Du. *sprit*

spear, javelin, Sw. *spröt* insect's feeler. Cf. also

OHG. *sprizum*, MHG. *sprizzen* to prop. The

origin seems to lie between LG., Du., and English:

in the latter *sprōt* was itself used in a nautical sense

in OE. and ME. (see SPRIT). But against the

compound *bow-sprit* being of English rise, are the

late appearance of *bow* in the language, and the

numerous perverted forms with *bore*, *boar*, *bolt*,

bold, *bole*, *bowle*, which seem to show that the

connexion with *bow* was not evident to English

sailors, either in sense or pronunciation. (Quota-

tions for the word are very rare before 1590.)

1. A large spar or boom running out from the

stem of a vessel, to which (and the jib-boom and

flying jib-boom, which extend beyond it) the fore-

mast stays are fastened.

a. c 1320 R. BRUNNE *Chron.* (K.O.) Bouspret. a 1500

Chester Pl. (MS. 1592) L. (1843) 48 With toppe-castill and

boe-spritte. 1634 BARNETON *Trav.* I. 169 The bow-sprit

or sprit-sail [mast] which stands sloping even over the

head. 1700 TYRRELL *Hist. Eng.* II. 833 Their Bowsprits

armed with Iron. 1805 in *Nicolas Disp. Nelson* VII. 189

note, Found the bowsprit badly wounded, and bowsprit-

shrouds shot away. 1842 DICKENS *Amer. Notes* (1850) 56/2

By the water side, where the bowsprits of ships stretch across

the footway. 1875 'STONEHENGE' *Brit. Sports* II. vii. i. § 3 The forward rig also changed, from the bumpkin bowsprit and one head sail, to a long running bowsprit and full-sized flat jib.

1874 W. PHILLIPS *Linschoten's Trav.* in Arb. Garner III. 428 Our bowsprit touched the shore. 1870 SHAKS. *Temp.* I. ii. 200 On the Top-mast, The Yards and Bowsprit, would I flame distinctly. 1863 tr. *Camden's Hist. Eliz.* III. (1688) 413 Brake her Fore mast or Bowsprit. 1655 Heywood *Fortune by Land*. IV. Wks. 1874 VI. 416 Our Mainsail, Boar-spright, and our Mizzen.

1791 PERCIVAL *Sp. Dict.*, *Cevadera*, the sail of the boltspreet. 1600 HAKLUYT *Voy.* (1810) III. 125 The yce . . touched their boltsprit. 1607 CAPT. SMITH *Seaman's Gram.*, Bowsprit Ladder . . made fast over the Bowsprit to get upon it. 1719 DE FOE *Cruiser* (1869) 294 She had lost her Maintop-mast, Fore-mast and Bowsprit. 1815 SCOTT *Ld. of Isles* I. xiv. 12 Her boltsprit kissed the broken waves.

1652 *Proc. Parliament* No. 170 Putting out the Parliaments Jack on the Boldspreet end, and the English Ensign on the Poop.

1617 MINSHU *Sp. Dict.*, *Bowspree*, the bole-sprit of a ship. 1606 CAPT. SMITH *Acid. Vag. Seamen* 15 The fore mast, misen and bowspree . . the bowspree hath no bow lines. 1634 SIR T. HERBERT *Trav.* 182 Her bole-sprit broke our misen shroudes. 1601 T. H[ALL] *Acc. New Invent.* 120 From the extremity of the Bowsprit to the Lanthorn.

† 2. *fig.* The human nose. *humorous*. *Obs.*

1690 SHADWELL *Am. Bigot* v. Wks. 1700 IV. 295 Thy . . nose, that bolt-sprit of thy face. 1691 — *Scourers* v. They do not consider the tenderness of my bolt-sprit.

† **Bowsssen**, *v. Obs.* Also *boossen*, *bous(s)en*, *bowson*. [*ad.* Cornish *beusi* 'to immerge, drown', according to Williams 'a later form of *bedhy*, *bidhy*, or *budhy*, Breton *beusi*, Welsh *boddi* to drown: (*Bidhy*, mentioned by Borlase, is a different word, being 'a late form of *bedidhia* to dip, baptize', Breton *badeza*, Welsh *bedyddio*, *ad. L. baptizā-re*.)] *trans.* To immerse or duck (in a holy well). Hence *Bowsssen* *vbl. sb.*

1602 CAREW *Cornwall* 123 a, There were many bowssening places, for curing of mad men . . if there appeared small amendment he was bowssened again and again. 1758 BORLASE *Cornwall* 302 The Cornish call this immersion Boos-sening, from *Beusi* or *Bidhyzi*, in the Cornu-British, and *Armorice*, signifying to dip or drown. 1856 J. ALLEN *Hist. Liskeard* iv. 46 The spring . . is said to have been used for bowssening or plunging an insane person suddenly, in order to restore him. 1865 L'ESTRANGE *Yachting W. Eng.* 300 Holy wells . . used as bowssening, or ducking pools for the cure of madness.

† **Bowstaff**. *Obs.* Pl. *bowstaves*. [*f. Bow sb. 1.*] A stick to be made into a bow.

1394 in HAKLUYT *Voy.* I. 167 In the yeere of our Lord 1394 . . werke, wax, osmunds, and bowstaves, to the value of 1060 nobles. 1436 *Pol. Poems* (1859) II. 171 Osmonde, coppre, bow-staffes, stile, and wax. 1340 *Act 35 Hen. VIII.* xiv. For every xxiii. bundelles of bowstaves xxviii. 1641 *Termes de la Ley* 172 Garble is to sort and chuse the good from the bad as the Garbling of Bowstaves. 1700 *Stow's Surv.* (ed. Strype 1754) II. v. xlii. 304/2 Bow Staves and arrows at low prices.

Bowstar, *-ster*, *-stowre*, *Sc. ff. BOLSTER*.

† **Bow-string**. *Obs. Sc. = BOWSTAFF*.

1551 *Aberdeen Reg. V.* 21 (JAM.) Valit bowstingis, price of the scior vill. Scottis money.

† **Bowstowre**. *Obs. rare*. [*perh. a. OF. *bouteur*, var. of *bouteur*, *f. bouter* (also *boster*) to strike, knock, as in 'bosterent a la porte' (Godef.).] *perh. = Striker*, knocker (a battering-ram).

1425 WYNTOUN *Cron.* viii. xxxiv. 23 Browcht a Gyne, men callyd Bowstowre For til assaile that stalwart towre.

Bow-street (*bōw'strīt*). A street in London near Covent-Garden, in which the principal metropolitan police-court is situated: hence *Bow-street officer*, *-runner*, etc., a police officer.

1812 *Examiner* 19 Oct. 663/1 Supported by a Bow-street Officer. 1838 DICKENS *O. Twist* xxx. 'It's the runners'! . . 'The what!' . . 'The Bow-street officers.'

Bow-string, **bowstring** (*bōw'string*). [*f. Bow sb. 1 + STRING sb.*]

1. The string of a bow; also *fig.* 1486 *Bk. St. Albans* vi. The saame lewnes bou shalt fastyn slackely as a bowstryng vncuppyede. 1564 *Act 8 Eliz.* x. § 4 An Armourer, Fletcher or maker of Bowstrings. 1606 BACON *Sylva* § 993 Sound will be conveyed to the Eare, by striking upon a Bow-string, if the Horne of the Bow be held to the Eare. 1809 CAMPBELL *Gertrude* III. xiv. The bow-string of my spirit was not slack. 1814 SCOTT *Ld. of Isles* vi. xxii. At once ten thousand bow-strings ring, Ten thousand arrows fly!

2. As used in Turkey for strangling offenders.

1603 KNOLLES *Hist. Turks* (1638) 258 [He] commanded the executioner presently to strangle him with a bow string. 1768 TUCKER *Lt. Nat.* II. 79 The Turks can now . . discharge their ministers by other methods than the bow-string. 1830 PRARD *Poems* (1865) II. 45 As if apprenticed to the work, He ties the bowstring round the Turk.

3. *Attrib.* and *Comb.*, as *bowstring-maker*; *bow-string bridge*, a bridge consisting of an arch and horizontal tie, to resist the horizontal thrust; hence *bowstring-girder*; *bowstring hemp*, plants of the genus *Sansevieria*, N. O. *Liliaceae*, found both in Africa and India, of the fibres of which bow-strings are made.

1530 PALSGR. 200/2 Bowstryng maker *saisseur de cordes a larr.* 1724 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 6249/6 William Boyworth . . Bow-string-maker. 1866 *Treas. Bot.* s. v. *Sansevieria*, The Bowstring Hemps are stemless perennial plants.

Bowstring (*bōw'string*), *v.* [*f. prec. sb.* The

pa. t. and pple. ought to be *bowstringed*, but *bow-string* is also found, from the vb. to *STRING*.]

trans. To strangle with a bow-string. 1803 *Edin. Rev.* I. 359 The vizier who commands a vanquished army . . is generally bowstringed. 1840 *Pox Wks.* 1864 I. 132 It was high time for her to get up and be bow-stringed. 1884 *Graphic* 23 Aug. 204/2 He took his bow and bowstrung him.

Hence **Bow-stringer** and **Bow-strung ppl. a.** 1800 BYRON *Yuan* v. cxlvii. His lately bowstrung brother caused his rise. 1839 STONEHOUSE *Aethelme* 426 The first settler was chief of the bow stringers who attended his [the Conqueror's] army.

Bowsum, *obs. form* of *BOSOM*, *BUXOM*.

Bowzy, variant of *BOUSY*, *BOOZY*.

Bowt(e), *obs. form* of *BOLT*, *BOUT*, *BOUGHT*.

Bowtel, variant of *BOLTEL*, a plain circular moulding.

Bowthe, **Bowther**, *obs. ff.* *BOOTH*, *BOULDER*.

Bowtife, var. of *BOUTEFEU*, *Obs.*, an incendiary.

Bow-weed, corruptly *bow-wood*. A popular name of *Centaurea nigra*: cf. *BULLWEED*.

BRITTEN & HOLLAND cite *Appendix* to GERARD.

Bow-window (*bōw'-windōw*). [*f. Bow sb. 1*]

1. A Bay-window segmentally curved on plan; called in *A. P. S. Dict. Arch.*, a *Bow Bay-window*.

Often used as co-extensive with *bay-window*, whence 'such absurdities of diction as "square bow windows"'. *Bay-window* is generic, *bow-window* specific, and of much later rise, this form of bay being rare in earlier times.

1753 RICHARDSON *Grandison* (1781) VI. xxiv. 136 The other seats of the bow-window. 1794 REPTON *Landscape Gard.* (1805) 178 Large recesses or bays, sometimes called bowre windows, and now bow windows. 1816 JANK AUSTEN *Emma* II. ix. 198 A string of dawdling children round the baker's bow-window. 1850 THACKERAY *Pendennis* xxxv. (1884) 339 His common lounge was the bow-window of White's.

2. *slang*. A big belly.

1840 MARRYAT *Poor Jack* i. A very large man . . with what is termed a considerable *bow-window* in front.

Hence **Bow-windowed**, having bow-windows; also (*slang*) big-bellied.

1868 HOLME *Lee B. Godfrey* ix. 44 The upstairs bow-windowed room. 1850 THACKERAY *Pendennis* xxxiv. (1884) 334 Look at that very bow-windowed man.

Bow-wise (*bōw'-wīz*), *adv.* [*f. Bow sb. 1 + -WISE*]. In the form or figure of a bow.

1398 TREvisa *Barth. de P. R.* viii. xvii. (1495) 320 Now she [the moon] shewyth herself shape a bowe wyse and now as a cerle. 1593 STANYHURST *Enneis* III. (Arb.) 87 The haufen from the eastcoast, in bowewise, crooked apereth. 1842 Mrs. BROWNING *Chr. Grk. Poets* (1863) 61 Streaked bow-wise, with a livid white and red.

Bow-wow, *int. and sb.* Also 7 *bowgh-wawgh*, *bough-wough*, 8 *bough wagh*. [Imitative. Other forms are *BAUGH*, *BOUGH*, *BAW-WAW*, q.v.]

1. (*bau'-wau'*) An imitation of the barking of a dog.

1576 LAMBARDE *Peramb. Kent* (1826) 233. [See *BAW-WAW*.] 1610 SHAKS. *Temp.* I. ii. 382 Hark, hark, bowgh wawgh: the watch-Dogges bark. 1651 OGILBY *Esop* (1665) 53 Bough wough, Whose that dare break Into my master's House? 1682 OTWAY *Venice Pres.* III. i. 35 Now, bough wagh, wagh, bough wagh, (Barks like a dog). 1853 BROWNING *Holy-Cross Day in Men & Women* II. 160 Bow, wow, wow, — a bone for the dog!

2. as *sb.* The bark of a dog; also *fig.*

a 1832 SCOTT *Diary*, (*Jane Austen's novels*), The big bow-wow I can do myself like any one going. 1849 W. IRVING *Crayon Misc.* 211 With a deep-mouthed bow-wow. 1854 GILFILLAN *Beattie's Poems* Introd. 16 The deep bow-wows of Johnson's talk.

b. *attrib.* (*bau'-wau*), as in *bow-wow theory*, applied in ridicule to the theory that human speech originated in the imitation of animal sounds.

1854 MAX MÜLLER *Sc. Lang.* Ser. II. 87 The strong objection . . to what I called the Bow-wow and the Poo-poo theories. 1883 *Century Mag.* XXVI. 33 Advocates of the 'Bow-wow' theory of the origin of language may find convincing facts among the Zulus.

c. *quasi-adj.* Dog-like, snarling, barking.

1838 W. GARDINER *Music Nat.* 62 Johnson's sayings would not have appeared half so extraordinary but for his bow-wow way. 1854 H. MILLER *Sch. & Schm.* (1858) 344 He could recite in the 'big bow-wow style'.

3. *transf.* A dog. *humorous* or as *nursery term*.

a 1800 COWPER *Beau's Reply* (D.) Nor some reproof yourself refuse From your aggrieved bow-wow.

Bow-wow (*bau'-wau'*), *v.* [*f. prec.*] *intr.* To bark; also *fig.* to snarl, growl. Hence **Bow-wower**, **Bow-wowing**.

1832 MARRYAT *N. Forster* i. To be snarled at, and bow-wowed at, in this manner, by those who find fault. a 1845 HOOD *To Hahnemann* vi. Stop his bow-wow-ing. 1850 CARLYLE *Lett.-day Pamph.* viii. To be bullied and bowwowed out of your loyalty to the God of Light.

Bowy, *obs. form* of *BOUGHY* a, and *BOWIE*.

Bowyer (*bōw'-iər*). Forms: 3 *bowiare*, 5 *bowjere*, *bowjere*, 6 *boier*, *bowier*, 7 *boweyer*, 6-*bowyer*. [*f. Bow sb. 1 + -YER*: cf. *lawyer*.]

1. One who makes, or trades in, bows.

1597 R. GLOUC. 541 The bowiars sopppe hii breke & the bowes nome ech on. c 1440 *Prompt. Par.* 46 Bowjere [1499 bowjere], *arcuarius*. 1514 FITZHERB. *Justyce Peas* (1538) 92 Every bowyer make . . two bowes of elme. 1544 ASCHAM *Taxoph.* (Arb.) 20 No man will be offended—excepte it be summe fletchers and bowiers. 1697 *View Penal Laws* 8 Concerning Bowyers and the making and keeping of Bows.

1862 MARSH *Eng. Lang.* xii. 182 The arrow-makers, or fletchers . . had as full a vocabulary as the bowyers.

2. A Bowman, an archer. Also *attrib.*

c 1440 *Prompt. Par.* 46/1 Bowjere . . *architenens*. 1795 POPE *Odys.* viii. 260 Who boldly durst defy the Bowyer God.

1808 SCOTT *Marm.* II. xv. His Norman bowyer band. 1870 BRYANT *Iliad* I. v. 156 The bowyer-god, Apollo.

Bowyers Mustard: see *BOOR*.

Bowza, variant of *BOZA*, a drink.

Bowze, **Bowzy**, var. of *BOUSE*, *BOUSY*.

Bowzey, *obs. form* of *BOOZY dial.*, cow-stall.

Box (*bɒks*), *sb. 1 Bot.* Also 4-7 *boxe*. [*OE.*

box, *ad. L. bux-us* box-tree, *Gr. βύξος*.]

1. A genus (*Buxus*) of small evergreen trees or shrubs of the N. O. *Euphorbiaceae*; specially *B. sempervirens*, the Common or Evergreen Box-tree, a native of Europe and Asia; a shrub with deep-green leaves of a thick leathery texture. It is much used in ornamental gardening, esp. in a dwarfed variety (*Dwarf* or *Ground Box*) for the edgings of flower-beds.

931 *Chart. Edelstan in Cod. Dipl.* V. 195 Of ðere gemear-codan æfsan to ðon readan slo . . of ðam treowe to ðere wican set ðam boxe. a 1000 *Ælfric Voc.* in Wr. Wülcker 139 *Buxus*, box. 1382 WYCLIF *Isa.* lx. 13 The fyrt tree, and box, and pyne tree togidre. c 1400 *Anturs of Arth.* vi. Vndur a lefe tale Of box and of barbere bygyt. 1551 TURNER *Herbal* G vja. The wood of boxe is yelow and pale. 1598 LYTT *Dodoens* vi. xxxii. 699 The smal Boxe is called of some in Latine, *Humi Buxus*: that is to say, Ground Boxe, or Dwarfie Boxe. 1713 *Guardian* No. 173 (1756) II. 360 There ships of myrtle sail in seas of box. 1839 TENNYSON *A Spirit haunts*, Fading edges of box beneath. 1836 *Penny Cycl.* VI. 75/2 The Majorca box . . is a handsome plant . . with broader leaves, and a more rapid growth.

2. The wood of the box-tree, *Box-wood*; much used by turners and wood-engravers. Also *fig.*

c 1385 CHAUCER *L. G. W.* 867 Pale as box sche was. 1398 TREvisa *Barth. de P. R.* xvii. xix. Also of boxe beþ boxes made to kepe in muske and oper spicerie. 1553 EDEW *Treat. New Ind.* (Arb.) 16 *Rhinoceros* . . of the colour of boxe. 1635 J. BABINGTON *Pyrotechn.* x You must get of the best drie Box you can finde. 1677 *Moxon Mech. Exerc.* (1703) 347 Made on Box or Brass of most Mathematical Instrument Makers. 1852 McCulloch *Dict. Comm.* 189 Box is a very valuable wood. It is of a yellowish colour close-grained, very hard, and heavy.

3. *Comb.* and *Attrib.*

a. *attrib.* Of box or box-wood; pale as box.

1382 WYCLIF *Isa.* xxx. 8 Wryt to it vp on a box table. 1598 E. GILPIN *Skial.* (1878) 43 Their box complexions . . Their jaundice looks. 1677 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 1245/4 One Box Comb. One Pocket Handkerchief. 1693 W. ROBERTSON *Phrasol. Gen.* 276 *Boxteeth*, teeth as yellow as box. 1714 *Fr. Bk. of Rates* 359 The Trade of Ivory Combs, and also Horn Combs, and Box Combs. 1884 *Cassell's Fam. Mag.* Feb. 141/2 Anything . . in the way of box edging.

b. *Comb.*, as *box-bordered*, *box-like* adj.; *box-berry*, the fruit (and plant) of the winter-green of America (*Gaultheria procumbens*); *box-elder*, -alder, a North American tree, the Ash-leaved Maple (*Acer negundo*); *box-holly*, a name of Butcher's broom (*Ruscus aculeatus*); *box-slip*, a slip of box inlaid in the beechwood of some carpenters' planes in order to give durability to the edge: *box-thorn*, common name for shrubs of the genus *Lycium*, esp. *L. barbarum*. Also *BOX-TREE*, *BOX-WOOD*.

1851 S. JUDD *Margaret* II. i. 162 The path was strewn with old claret *boxberries. 1884 *Harper's Mag.* Oct. 661/2 A *box-bordered plat. 1866 *Treas. Bot.* 781/1 The *Box Elder . . is sometimes introduced into English shrubberies. 1661 LOVELL *Hist. Anim. & Min.* 79 They [Rhinosceros] have . . a *Boxe-like colour. 1678 W. SALMON *Pharm. Lond.* I. iv. 74 *Lycium*, *Fyxanctha*, *Buxa spina* . . *Boxthorn. 1846 Mrs. LUDLOW *Ladies' Comp. Flower-Gard.* 130 *Lycium*, *Solanaceae*, Boxthorn.

c. Applied with distinguishing epithet to several other plants, as *Beastard Box*, *Polygala chama-buxus*; *Flowering Box*, *Vaccinium Vitis-Idaea*, having leaves like those of the box; *Grey Box*, *Eucalyptus dealbata* of S. Australia; † *Prickly Box*, the Box-thorn (*Lycium*), also the Butcher's Broom, *Ruscus aculeatus* (Lyte); *Queensland Box*, *Lophostemon macrophyllus*; *Red Box* (of New South Wales), *L. australis*; *Spurious Box*, *Eucalyptus leucosylon*, of S. Australia; *Tasmanian Box*, *Bursaria spinosa*.

1578 LYTT *Dodoens* vi. xlii. 674 Butchers broome . . is called . . in base Almaigne, Stekende palme, that is to say, Prickley Boxe. *Ibid.* xxxiii. 699 Prickley Boxe is a tree not much vnylike to the other Boxe.

Box (*bɒks*), *sb. 2* Also *Sc. boxse*, *boxe*. [*OE.* *box* neut. or masc.: it is not clear whether this was (1) another sense of *box*, the name of the tree, (2) an independent adoption of *L. buxum* box-wood, in the sense of a thing made of box, or (3) an altered form of *L. pyx-is* (*pyxis*, med. *L. buxis*) box: see *PYX*. In favour of the latter cf. OHG. *buxsa* fem. (MHG. *buhse*, *bühse*, Ger. *büchse*, MDu. *busse*, *bosse*, Du. *bus*, *bos*) on OTeut. type **bukhsja*, *ad. L. pyxis* or *Gr. βύξος* box. As the latter was *f. βύξος* box-wood, the *L.* form of which was *buxus*, late and med. *L.* had many forms with

initial *b*, as *buxis*, *buxida*, *buxia*, *bosta*, *bosta*, *bossida* (cf. *Boist*), from some of which the Teutonic forms might well be derived.]

I. 1. A case or receptacle usually having a lid; a. orig. applied to a small receptacle of any material for drugs, ointments, or valuables; b. gradually extended (since 1700) to include cases of larger size, made to hold merchandise and personal property; but (unless otherwise specified) understood to be four-sided and of wood.

a 1000 *Ælfric Voc.* in *W. Wulker* 124 *Pixis*, bixen box. c 1000 *Ag. Gasp. Matt.* xxvi. 7 *Da genealete him to sum wif, seo hæfde box [Vulg. alabastrum] mit deorwyrde sealf.* c 1200 *Trin. Coll. Hom.* 145 *Hie nam ane box gemakod of marbelstone and hine fulde mid derewurde smeries.* 1393 *LANGL. P. Pl. C.* xiv. 54 *As þe messager . . . bereþ bote a boxe a breut þer-ynne.* c 1440 *Prompt. Parv.* 46 *Box or boyste, pixis.* 1480 *Cath. Angl.* 39 *A Box, pixis.* 1506 *Pilgr. Perf.* (W. de W. 1531) 286 b. *The swete oyntment . . . was closed and shutte in the boxe.* 1580 *BARET Arb.* B 1083 *Boxes or chestes where grocers put there spices and wares.* 1593 *SHAKS. Rom. & Jul.* v. 1. 45 *And about his [the apothecary's] shelles A bегgerly account of emptie boxes . . . thinly scattered, to make vp a shew.* 1611 *Bible 2 Kings* ix. 2 *Take this boxe of oile in thine hand.* — *Transl. Pref.* 1 Certaine bare themselves as averse from them as from . . . boxes of poison. 1677 *Long. Gaz.* No. 1263/4 *Three Silver Boxes, one for Sugar, one for Pepper, and one for Mustard.* 1751 *JOHNSON Rambl.* No. 171 *P. My landlady . . . took the opportunity of my absence to search my boxes.* 1868 *BURTON Bk. Hunter* 1. 15 *His spoils, packed in innumerable great boxes.* 1875 *URD Dict. Arts* II. 471 *Sand and loam (packed tightly into metal boxes, called flasks).*

c. fig. 1606 *SHAKS. Tr. & Cr. v.* i. 29 *Why thou damnable box of enuy thou.* a 1618 *RALEIGH Rem.* (1664) 89 *It is an essentiall property of a man truly wise, not to open all the boxes of his bosome.* 1653 *WALTON Angler* 220, *I have several boxes in my memory in which I will keep them all very safe.*

2. With various substantives indicating its purpose, position, etc., as *bonnet*, *cartridge*, *coal*, *collecting*, *dirt*, *hat*, *letter*, *light*, *match*, *missionary*, *money*, *pepper*, *pill*, *pillar*, *poor*, *sand*, *savings*, *snuff*, *tar*, *touch-box*; also *DICE-BOX*, and with a more specific signification, *fire*, *smoke*, *steam-box*, etc.

1638 *SHIRLEY Mart. Soldier* iv. iii. in *Bullen Old. Pl.* (1882) I. 236 *The Sand of a Scriveners Sand-box.* 1709 *STEELE Tatler* No. 79 *P. 1, I made her resign her Snuff-Box for ever.* 1728 *Long. Gaz.* No. 6068/8 *One Pepper-box, two Salts.* c 1730 *SWIFT Directions Housemaid*, *Leave a pail of dirty water, a coal-box, a bottle, a broom.* 1808 *R. PORTER Trav. Sk. Russ. & Swed.* (1813) I. i. 11 *A broad belt, to which hangs an unwieldy cartridge-box.* 1875 *URD Dict. Arts* III. 1079 *Water-Meter*, *A dirt box is attached to each end of the meters.* 1883 *Fisheries Exhib. Catal.* 217 *Cigar boxes, jewel boxes, handkerchief boxes, glove boxes, match boxes.*

3. In various contextual applications: + a. The pyx or receptacle for the consecrated host; + b. A surgeon's box, used as a cupping-glass (cf. *Boist*); c. A ballot-box; d. A dice-box; e. A letter-box; f. The receptacle for infants at the gate of a foundling hospital.

1297 *R. GLOUC.* 456 *Pe box ek, þat hong ouer the weued, myd Godes fess & blod.* 1533 *ELYOT Cast. Helth* (1541) 61 *Application of boxes about the stomake, in hot fevers, are to be eschewed.* 1549 *THOMAS Hist. Italie* (1561) 79 *Boxes, into whiche, if he wyll, he may let fall his ballot.* 1556 *Chron. Gr. Friars* (1851) 55 *Spekyng agayne the sacrament of the auter . . . callyd it Jacek of the boxe.* 1568 *BULLEYN Sicke Men*, &c. 52 b. *Aplic boxis with skarifaction.* 1604 *BRETTON Pass. Sheph.* iii. in *Spenser's Wks.* (Grosart) III. *Introd.* 29 *Or to see the subtle fox, How the villain plies the box.* 1680 *COTTON in Singer Hist. Cards* 332, *I have seen a losing gamester greedily gnawing the innocent box.* 1753 *CHAMBERS Cycl. Supp.* s.v. *Box*, *Our sharpers have opportunities of playing divers tricks with the box, as palming, topping, slabbing.* a 1853 *A. OPIE Bank Note*, *It is . . . necessary that a person whom I can trust should put the letter in the box.* 1873 *MORLEY Rousseau* I. 118 *The new-born child was dropped into oblivion in the box of the asylum for foundlings.*

4. esp. A money-box, containing either private or public funds, often with a defining word added. c 1386 *CHAUCER Cook's T.* 26 *Ffor often tyme he foond his box [v. r. boxe] ful bare.* 1393 *LANGL. P. Pl. C.* i. 97 *And boxes ben [brought] forþ [I.] bounden with yre.* 1558-3 *Inv. Ch. Goods Stafford* 87 *The poore mans box.* a 1555 *LYNDESAY Tragedy* 70, *I purcheste—for my proffect singulare, My Boxis and my Threasure tyll auance.*—*The Byschopreik of Merapose, in France.* 1580 *BARET Arb.* B 1079 *A boxe for almes or the poore mens boxe.* 1607 *SHAKS. Timon* III. i. 16 *Nothing but an empty box, Sir, which . . . I come to intreat your Honor to supply.* 1766 *GOLDSM. Vic. W.* iv. *He . . . was to have a halfpenny on Sunday to put into the poor's box.*

b. *transf.* The money contained in such a box; a fund for a particular purpose. Cf. *box-club*.

1389 in *Eng. Gilds* (1870) 5 *He schal haue of þe comune box xiiijd.* *Ibid.* 7 *Alle þe costages that be mad aboute hym be mad good of the box.* 1439 *E. E. Wills* (1882) 113, *I bequeeth to the . . . Comune Box . . . vij. viijd.* 1621 *BURTON Anat. Mel.* II. iii. vii. (1651) 356 *With ordinary gamesters, the gains go to the box.* 1775 *JOHNSON Lett.* cxii. (1788) I. 234 *The ladies . . . pay each twopence a week to the box.* 1830 *GALT Lawrie* T. i. ii. (1849) 5 *She applied in her old days for a recommendation to get her put upon the box.*

c. Short for CHRISTMAS-BOX, q. v.

a 1593 *H. SMITH Serm.* (1866) II. 240 *The law is like a butlers-box, play still on till all come to the candlestick.* 1611 *COTGR.*, *Such a box as our prentices beg before Christmas.* 1621 *W. MASON Handf. Ess.* Cij, *As an apprentices box of*

earth, apt he is to take all, but to restore none till hee be broken. 1699 *TAYLOR Wit & Mirth* in *Brand Pop. Ant.* (1890) I. 270 *Westminster Hall . . . is like a Butler's Box at Christmas amongst gamesters: for whosoever loseth, the Box will be sure to be a winner.* 1668 *PEPYS Diary* 28 Dec., *Called up by drums & trumpets; these things & boxes having cost me much money this Christmas.* 1718 *STEELE Spect.* No. 509 *P. 3* *The beadies & officers have the impudence at Christmas to ask for their box.*

6. A box under the driver's seat on a coach; hence in general the seat on which the driver sits.

1625 *Knappe's Patent* No. 31 *A devise whereby the coachman without coming from his box shall . . . keepe the hinder wheeles from turning.* 1669 *EVELYN Mem.* (1857) II. 42 *Our coachmen so drunk, that they both fell off their boxes on the heath.* 1753 *CHAMBERS Cycl. Supp.* s.v. *Box, Coach-box*, *a place under the coachman's seat, wherein he puts what may be wanted for the service of the coach or horses.* 1812 *JANE AUSTEN Mansf. Ph.* (1870) I. viii. 67 *The barouche would hold four perfectly well . . . independent of the box.* 1884 *Q. VICTORIA More Leaves* 116 *Brown as always, unless I mention to the contrary, on the box.*

7. A box and its contents; hence a variable measure of quantity.

c 1305 *Judas* 131 in *E. E. P.* (1862) 110 *If þe boxes hadde ibeon isolde . . . Þe teoping þerof was þrette pans.* 1377 *LANGL. P. Pl. B.* xiii. 194 *Haued nou3t Magdeleine more for a boxe of salve Pan zacheus.* 1706 *PHILLIPS, Box* is also taken for an uncertain quantity of some Commodities; as of *Prunelles*, 14 Pounds; of *Quick-silver*, from one to two Hundred Weight; of *Rings for Keys*, two Gross, etc. 1716 *Long. Gaz.* No. 5438/4 *Two Quarter Boxes of Lace and Edgings.* 1828 *McCulloch Dict. Comm.* 667 *Exportation of Sugar from Havannah in 1849: 614,366 boxes at 400 lbs.* 1875 *JOWETT Plato* (ed. 2) V. 36 *He who is to be a workman should have his box of tools when he is a child.* 1886 *Illustr. Lond. News* 3 July 2/3 *A 'box of whistles', otherwise an organ.*

II. A compartment or place partitioned off for the separate accommodation of people or animals.

8. A seated compartment in a theatre, at first specially for ladies; often qualified, as *front*, *private*, *side*, *stage*, *upper*, etc. In *pl.* collectively for a distinct part of the auditorium.

(As *box*, when this sense arose, had not acquired the sense of a large wooden chest, but was chiefly an apothecary's pill box or ointment pot, or perhaps a 'jewel-box', its transference to the theatrical use was more remarkable than it seems to us with our notions of large 'boxes' for goods. Could it be at first humorous or jocular, with some reference to 'casket', 'jewel box', or 'box of ointment very precious'?)

1609 *DEKKER Gull's Horn-bk.*, *I mean not into the lords room, which is now but the stages suburbs. No, these boxes . . . are contemptibly thrust into the reare.* 1632 *MASINGER City Mad.* II. ii. (Anne) *The private box ta'en up at a new play For me and my retinue.* 1667 *PEPYS Diary* (1877) V. 60 *We were forced to go into one of the upper boxes at 4s. a piece.* 1755 *JOHNSON Dict.*, *Box*, the seats in the playhouse where the ladies are placed. 1779 *SHERIDAN Critic* I. i. 443 *Applications from all quarters for my interest . . . from ladies to get boxes.* a 1845 *HOOD United Fam.* xvi. *Nine crowded in a private box.* 1881 *Daily News* 12 Sept. 2/3 *The auditorium, the boxes, upper circle, and gallery.*

b. *transf.* The occupants of the boxes; esp. the ladies.

a 1700 *DRYDEN (J.)* *The boxes and the pit Are sovereign judges of this sort of wit.* a 1704 *T. BROWN Persius* i. *ProL Wks.* 1730 I. 51 *Nor [I] from the tender boxes e'er Yet have drawn one pitying tear.* 1711 *ADDISON Spect.* No. 40 *Let him behave himself . . . abjectly towards the fair one, and it is ten to one but he proves a favourite of the boxes.*

9. A compartment partitioned off in the public room of a coffee-house or tavern.

1712 *STEELE Spect.* No. 266 *P. 4*, *I went to an Inn in the City . . . I waited in one of the boxes.* 1758 *COWPER Let. to Hill* 7 Dec., *I see you in your box at the coffee-house.* 1871 *M. COLLINS Mrg. & Merch.* I. ix. 290 *An ancient coffee-room, divided into boxes in the snug old fashion.*

10. Short for JURY-BOX, WITNESS-BOX.

1822 *LAMB Elia, Roast Pig*, *Without leaving the box . . . they brought in a simultaneous Verdict of Not Guilty.* 1837 *DICKENS Pickw.* xxiv, *Mr. Winkle entered the witness-box. Mr. Phuncky ought to have got him out of the box with all possible dispatch.* 1848 *MACAULAY Hist. Eng.* II. 385 *The jury appeared in their box.* 1880 *Daily Tel.* 4 Nov., *By his country, represented by twelve men in a box, he will be tried.*

11. Applied to an old square pew in a church, to a prison-cell, and the hinder compartment in a boat.

1709 *Let. to Ld. M[ayor]* 4 *Some who sat in the Stalls and Boxes at St. Paul's titter'd.* 1834 *AINSWORTH Rook-wood* III. v. (1878) 200 *In a box of the stone jug I was born.* 1867 *SMYTH Sailor's Word-bk.*, *Box*, the space between the backboard and stern-post of a boat, where the coxswain sits.

12. A separate compartment or stall for a horse, etc., in a stable, or a railway truck. Also *horse-box*. *Loose box*: one in which the animal is free to move about.

1846 *W. ANDREW Ind. Railw.* (ed. 2) 14 *The horses came out of the horse boxes . . . as fresh as when they went into them.* 1886 *Sat. Rev.* 6 Mar. 327/2 *To get cast in a loose box half as big as a barn.* *Ibid.* 328/1 *[A racehorse].* found huddled up in the corner of his box, shaking from head to foot.

III. A box-like shelter; a hut, or small house.

13. A place of shelter for one or more men; as a sentry's, signalman's, or watchman's box; a sportsman's hiding-place while shooting.

b. *spec.* on the *Railway*. A small structure, generally on raised supports, from which the signals, switches, etc., of a section of a railway are worked. 1714 *GAY Trivia* II. 176 *The Centry's Box.* 1835 *HOOD*

Dead Robbery III, *The Watchman in his box was dosing.* 1884 *SPEEDY Sport* x. 176 *Grouse are not slow to discover any movement in the 'box'.*

14. A small country-house; a residence for temporary use while following a particular sport, as a *hunting*, *shooting*, *fishing-box*.

1714 *ELLWOOD Autobiog.* 233, *I took a pretty Box for him . . . a mile from me.* 1796 *Genil. Mag.* XXVI. 445 *And purchases his country box.* 1796 *J. WARTON Ess. Pope* (1782) III. I. 108 *His father retired from business . . . to a little convenient box, at Binfield.* 1885 *COBBETT Rur. Rides* 200 *Rawlinson, who . . . has a box and some land here.* 1873 *TRISTRAM Moab* xl. 213 *Some of these he may have employed to erect here a hunting-box.*

IV. Technical usages.

15. A case for the protection of a piece of mechanism from injury, dust, etc. a. The case in which the needle of a compass is placed. *Box and Needle* (see quot.).

(When the cardboard with the points was not attached to the needle, but was fixed to the box, the box would have to be turned each time the ship changed its direction (see quot. 1613); hence may have arisen the expressions in Box v. 12.]

1613 *M. RIDLEY Magn. Bodies* 105 *If the ship turne anything about, the boxe of the compasse must also be turned.* 1696 *PHILLIPS, Box and Needle*, an Instrument used in surveying of Land, and finding out the situation of any side, by pointing one end of its needle towards the North. 1753 *CHAMBERS Cycl. Supp.*, *Box and Needle*, in Navigation, is the same with the compass. 1755 *JOHNSON, Box*, the case of the mariner's compass.

† b. The case (i. e. inner case) of a watch. Also the barrel. *Obs.*

1675 *Long. Gaz.* No. 1008/4 *Lost . . . a plain round Watch . . . the Box and Out-case of Gold.* 1676 *Ibid.* No. 1305/4 *A round Watch . . . in a silver Box engraven, a plain silver out Case.* 1740 *CHEYNE Regiment* 320 *Like a Spring in the Box of a Watch.* 1751 in *CHAMBERS Cycl.*

c. The case of a lock; also, the socket on a door-jamb which receives the bolt.

1679 *Plot Staffordsh.* (1686) 376 *These Locks they make either with brass or iron boxes so curiously polish'd.* 1875 *URD Dict. Arts* III. 139 *A bolt shoots from the box or lock . . . and catches in some kind of staple or box fixed to receive it.*

16. a. A metal cylinder in the nave of a cart or carriage wheel, which surrounds the axle. b. The case in which the journal of a shaft, axle, etc., revolves; a journal-box, a bearing. (Cf. *BUSH sh. 2*)

1711 *Long. Gaz.* No. 4935/4 *Cast Iron Boxes, for the Wheels of all manner of Carriages.* 1753 *CHAMBERS Cycl. Supp.* s.v., *Box of a wheel*, the aperture wherein the axis turns. 1821 *WELLINGTON in Gurw. Disp.* VIII. 351 *You will let him have . . . brass boxes from wheels.* 1885 *UNWIN Elem. Machine Design* 229 *Axle-boxes are peculiarly formed journal-bearings.*

17. The piston of a pump; the case containing the valve; also the upper part of a pump-stock.

1666 *CAPT. SMITH Accid. Yng. Seamen* 12 *The Pumpe . . . the pumpe chaine, the spindle, the boxe, the clap.* 1769 *FALCONER Dict. Marine* (1789) Giv, *The pump-spear . . . draws up the box, or piston, charged with the water.* 1867 *SMYTH Sailor's Word-bk.* s.v., *Each ordinary pump has an upper and lower box; in the centre of each box is a valve opening upwards.*

18. A cavity made in the trunk of a tree to collect its sap; cf. *Box v. 1*.

1720 *DUDLEY Maple Sugar in Phil. Trans.* XXXI. 27 *The Box you make may hold about a Pint.* 1866 *OLMSTED Slave States* 339 *If we enter, in the winter . . . a 'turpentine orchard', we come upon negroes engaged in making boxes, in which the sap is to be collected the following spring . . . These 'boxes' . . . are cavities dug in the trunk of the tree.*

19. *Printing*. One of the cells into which a type-case is divided.

1666 *PHILLIPS s. v. Case*, *The Printers call a Case a division of little Boxes where they put the Letters of the Alphabet.* 1875 *URD Dict. Arts* III. 643 *The upper case, having ninety-eight boxes, contains the capital and small capital letters (etc.). . . in the lower case, having fifty-four boxes, are disposed the small letters (etc.).*

20. *Founding*. In sand-moulding, the case containing the sand in which the mould is made; a 'flask'.

1875 *URD Dict. Arts* II. 476 *Boxes constitute an essential and very expensive part of the furniture of a foundry.*

V. 21. *Phrases. To be in the* (formerly a) *wrong box*: to be in a wrong position, out of the right place. *To be in a box* (colloq.): to be in a fix, in a 'corner'.

[The original allusion appears to be lost; was it to the boxes of an apothecary? Cf. [Cesar Borgia] appointed poisoned countesses for a Cardinal that dined with his father, but the father hym self was serued of the wronge boxe and died. W. THOMAS *Hist. Italie* 1549.]

a 1555 *RIDLEY Wks.* 163 (D.) *If you will hear how St. Augustine expoundeth that place, you shall perceive that you are in a wrong box.* 1667 *WALKINGTON Opt. Glass* 17 *Socrates said, laugh not, Zophyrus is not in a wrong box.* a 1669 *CLEVELAND Coachman* 12 *Sir, faith you were in the wrong Box.* 1879 *Hist. Jettar* 13 *The Father Confessor saw himself in a wrong box.* 1868 *H. MORE Para. Propht.* 252 *You should find your self in a wrong Box.* 1836 *MARRVAT Midsh. Easy* x. 31 *Take care your rights of man don't get you in the wrong box.*

VI. *Comb. and Attrib.* 22. *simple attrib.* Belonging to a box or boxes; coming from boxes.

1883 *Harper's Mag.* Nov. 880/1 *The coigne of vantage in the box tier.* 1885 *Daily News* 14 July 2/2 *New laid eggs . . . cannot be competed against by the foreign or 'box' eggs.*

23. General comb.: a. objective, as *box-maker*, *-making*, *-opener*, *-scraper*, *-seller*; *box-turning* adj. b. attributive, (a.) of a box, as *box-lid*; (b.) of the nature of, or resembling a box, as *box-keelson*, *-lock*, *-stall*, *-stove*, *-stringer*; (c.) pertaining to a box in a theatre, etc., as *box-circle*, *-lobby*, *-office*, *-opener*, *-seat*; also *box-like* adj.

1812 *Examiner* 9 Nov. 713/2 The "box-circle at the Theatre. 1807 *Gentl. Mag.* XCIII. ii. 501 Whatever has been on the "box-lid... is unfortunately wholly defaced. 1836 *Dubourg Violin* ix. (1878) 277 An ugly, bluff, "box-like pattern [of violin]. 1858 W. ELLIS *Vis. Madagasc.* iii. 54 The little box-like room. 1730 *SAVERY* in *Phil. Trans.* XXXVI. 326 A common Door Key of an Iron "Box-Lock. 1645 *PAGITT Heresiogr.* (ed. 4) 133 The Author of this Sect was one John Hetherington, a "Box-maker. 1812 *Examiner* 5 Oct. 631/2 Those who apply first for places at the "Box-Office. 1876 *Mrs. Stowe Paganus* P. vii. 55 Carried the "boxstove into the broad aisle of the meeting-house. 1869 *SIR E. REED Ship-build.* ix. 168 "Box-stringers are formed on the beam ends.

24. Special comb.: *box-barrow*, a barrow with upright sides and front; *box-beam*, an iron beam with a double web; *box-bill* (see quot.); *box-chronometer*, a marine chronometer with gimbals arrangements like a ship's compass; *box-club*, a society for mutual aid in distress, a friendly or provident society; *box-coat*, a heavy overcoat worn by coachmen on the box, or by those riding outside a coach; *box-coupling*, an iron collar used to connect the ends of two shafts or other pieces of machinery; *box-orab*, a crab of the genus *Calappa*, which when at rest resembles a box; *box-day* = *BOXING-DAY*; also one of the days in the vacation appointed in the Court of Session (Scott.) for the lodgment of papers ordered to be deposited in the Court (cf. *Box v. 1* 4, *BOXING vbl. sb.*); *box-drain*, a drain of quadrangular section; *box-feeding*, rearing cattle with each animal in a box or separate stall of the stable; *box-fish*, a name of the trunk-fish, *Ostracion*; *box-girder*, an iron girder resembling a box, the four sides being fastened to one another by angle-irons; *box-groove* (see quot.); *box-hand* (see quot.); *box-iron*, a smoothing iron with a cavity to contain a heater; also *attrib.*; *box-keeper*, (a.) the keeper of the dice and box at a gaming table; (b.) an attendant at the boxes in a theatre; so *box-keeperess*; *box-man*, a man who carries a box; *box-metal*, a metallic alloy of copper and tin, or of zinc, tin, lead, and antimony for bearings; *box-money*, (a.) money collected in boxes; (b.) a payment to the keeper of the dice-box at each throw; in *pl.* simply *boxes*; *box-pleat*, a double pleat or fold in cloth; so *box-pleated ppl. a.*, *box-pleating vbl. sb.*; *box-slater* (*Zool.*), a name of the genus *Idothea* of Isopods; *box-sleigh*, a sleigh with a box-like body; *box-timbering*, the lining of a shaft with rectangular plank frames (Raymond *Mining Gloss.*); *box-tortoise*, *turtle* (see quot.); *box-wallah* (*Anglo-Ind.* see WALLAH), a native itinerant pedlar in India. Also *BOX-BED*.

1837 *CARLYLE Fr. Rev.* II. i. xi. 69 Yoked in long strings to "box barrow or over-loaded tumbler. 1881 *RAYMOND Mining Gloss.*, "Box-bill, a tool used in deep boring for slipping over and recovering broken rods. 1875 *BEDFORD Sailor's Pock. Bk.* v. (ed. 2) 190 In winding up "box-chronometers, the chronometer should be inverted carefully in its gimbals. 1766 *ENTICK London* IV. 230 Scots-hall, a corporation for the relief of the poor... people of Scotland... founded by James Kinross... who obtained... letters patent to incorporate a "box-club of his countrymen for this purpose. 1807 *VANCOUVER Agric. Devon* (1813) 464 Box clubs... have much extended since the law passed for making them corporate. 1822 W. IRVING *Braceb. Hall* (1845) 60 The travellers' room is garnished... with "box-coats, whips of all kinds. 1861 *EMERSON Cond. Life* 90 Dress makes a little restraint... But the box-coat is like wine: it unlocks the tongue. 1864 *BURTON Scot. Abr.* I. v. 302 The handsel... has fallen into disuse, having been superseded by that great institution the "Box-day. 1848 *Gard. Chron.* 769 Three methods of feeding cattle are... Hemel-feeding, Stall-feeding, and "Box-feeding. 1839-47 *Todd Cycl. Anal. & Phys.* III. 969/1 The... "box-fishes... have their entire body... enclosed in a dense case of armour. 1881 *RAYMOND Mining Gloss.*, "Box-groove, a closed groove between two rolls, formed by a collar on one roll, fitting between collars on another roll. 1833 *FRASER'S Mag.* VIII. 194 The avowed profits of keeping a table of this kind is the receipt of a piece for each "box-hand,—that is, when a player wins three times successively, he pays a certain sum to the table; and there is an aperture in the table made to receive these contributions. 1746 *MILES in Phil. Trans.* XLIV. 56 "Box-Irons for smoothing Linen-Clothes. 1723 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 6195/6 John Brown... Box-Iron-maker. 1680 *COTTON in Singer Hist. Cards* 335 If you be not careful and vigilant, the "box-keeper shall score you up double or treble boxes. 1693 W. DE BRITAIN *Hum. Prudence* 141 Playing at Dice... the Box-keeper is commonly the greatest Winner. 1728 *VANBRUGH & Cib. Prov. Hush.* v. iii. 112 She hears the Boxkeepers, at an Opera, call out—The Countess of Bassett's Servants! 1855-7 *THACKERAY Misc.* II. 346 (D.) The "box-keeperess popped in her head, and asked if we would take any refreshment. 1866 *GEO. ELIOT F. Holt* II. 193 Accommodation for narrative bagmen or "boxmen. 1557 *Order of Hospitalis Fv b.* An Verely-booke for Collections, Legacies and Benevolences, "Boxe

Mony. 1753 *CHAMBERS Cycl. Supp.* s.v. *Box*. Betters have the advantage over casters as they have no "box-money to pay. 1883 *Daily News* 22 Sept. 3/3 The... material, arranged in "box-pleats from the waist. 1883 *Myra's Trm.* Aug., Narrow box-pleated blouse paniers finish the corsage. 1888 *Society* 14 Oct. 24/2 The width of a skirt necessary for killing or box-pleating is always three times as much as for a plain one. 1869 *NICHOLSON Zool.* xxxii. (1880) 305 Other well-known Isopods are... the "Box-slaters (*Idothea*). 1843 *Penny Cycl.* XXV. 72 Genus *Pyxis*. This genus is the only Land "Box Tortoise. By means of this sort of moveable door or lid, the *Pyxis*... can shut itself up in a sort of box. 1856 *EMERSON Eng. Traits* 125 The same men... shut down their valve, as soon as the conversation approaches the English church. After that, you talk with a "box-turtle. 1847 *Mrs. SHERWOOD Lady of Manor* III. xxi. 263 The "box-wallas or sundook-wallas, are native pedlars. 1865 *Pall Mall G.* 3 Aug. 11/1 As to the poor boxwallah, the memsahib is a good deal to blame.

Box (bōks), sb.³ Also 4-5 *boxe*. [ME. *box*: of unknown origin; perh. related to an OTent. **boki*-, whence MDu. *bōke*, *bōke*, early mod.Du. *beuk*, MHG. *buc* blow, stroke, MDu. *bōken*, MHG. *bochen* to strike, slap; but in this case the formation remains unexplained. It has also been compared with Da. *bask* blow, stripe, but no intermed. links have been found. (More probably, it is of native English origin; it may be an onomatopoeia, or have arisen from some fig. or playful use of *Box sb.* (Mahn compares Gr. *βύξ* 'with clenched fist', which might have been to the purpose if 'box' had begun as school slang.)]

†1. A blow; a buffet. *Obs.* exc. as in 2. c. 1385 *CHAUCER L. G. W.* 1388 Hadde in armys manye a blode box [v. r. *boxe*]. 121400 *Morte Arth.* (Roxb.) 193 With his burlyche brande a box he hyme reches. 1580 *BARKET Atv.* B 1076 To give one a boxe or blowe with the fist. 1647 *H. MORE Song of Soul* iii. App. lxx. The Shrow him beat with buffes and boxes. 1707 *SWIFT Gulliver* II. v. 126 The bird... gave me so many boxes with his wings on both sides of my head and body... that, etc.

2. *spec.* A blow on the ear or side of the head with the hand; a slap, a cuff.

c. 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 46 Box or buffett, *alapa*. 1589 (title) *Pappe with an Hatchet*. Or a Countrie cufte, that is a sound boxe of the eare for the idiot Martin to hold his peace. 1594 *NASHE Unfort. Trav.* 64 My owne mother gaue I a boxe on the eare too. 1599 *SHAKS. Hen. V.* iv. vii. 133 To take him a boxe a'th ere. 1601 *Sherley's Trav.* (1863) 9 Sir Anthonies brother gaue the captain a sound boxe. 1676 *D'URFEY Mad. Fickle* II. i. (1677) 11 A Box oth' Ear for a Prologue, you know. 1722 *ADDISON Spect.* No. 317 ¶ 35 Gave Ralph a box on the Ear. 1876 *GREEN Short Hist.* vii. § 3. 363 She [Elizabeth] met the insolence of Essex with a box on the ear.

Box (bōks), v.¹ [f. *Box sb.*, which yields a large number of disconnected uses.]

1. *trans.* To furnish or fit with a box.

1481-90 *Howard Househ. Bks.* (1841) 190 My Lord paid me... for boxing a peyre wheles. 1844 *Regul. & Ord. Army* 102 For a box trigger-plate, including new trigger, and boxing ditto, and fitting the same fit for service, 1s. 3d.

b. To give a Christmas-box (*colloq.*); whence *boxing-day*.

†2. *trans.* To bleed by cupping; to cup. *Obs.* Cf. *BOIST v.*

1477 *EARL RIVERS (Caxton) Dictes*, The ij to boxe and lete blode. 1533 *ELYOT Cast. Helth* (1541) 60 Of scariyng called boxing or cupping. 1543 *TRAHERON Vigo's Chirurg.* II. xix. 30 To boxe, or cuppe the place wyth desecrification.

3. To put into a box.

1586 *COGAN Haven Health* cvii. (1636) 108 If it [Marmalade] be stiffe, then take it off and box it, while it is warm. 1616 *SURL & MARKH. Countr. Farm* 424 Straine it, and boxe it after you haue strewed sugar in the boxes. 1741 *Compl. Fam. Piece* i. iii. 239 Lay them drying... then box them. 1860 *GOSSE Rom. Nat. Hist.* 26 Here is the 'copper underwing', that seems so unsuspicious that nothing appears easier than to box it. 1884 *Pall Mall G.* 4 July 6/1 Eighty girls are employed in sorting cigars and boxing them.

b. To box up: to 'put up' in a box: also *fig.*

1672 *MARVELL Reh. Transp.* i. 192 The Sentences shall be boxed up in several paragraphs. 1674 *FLATMAN To Mr. Austin* 16 Thus John Tradeskin starves our greedy eyes, By boxing up his new found Rarities. 1823 *J. BADCOCK Dom. Amusem.* 147 Box up the refined potass carefully.

4. To lodge a document in a Law Court.

1868 *Act* 31 & 32 *Vict. c. 63* The Court may order such documents as appear necessary to be printed and boxed.

5. To confine as in a box, or in uncomfortably narrow limits; often with *up, in*.

1710 *SWIFT Tatler* No. 238 ¶ 3 Box'd in a Chair the Beau impatient sits. 1824 *Mrs. SHERWOOD Waste* No. II. 5 How do you like being boxed up with the old lady? 1865 *CAMERON Malayan Ind.* 83 The wall of jungle which boxes in each plantation.

6. *trans.* and *intr.* To fit compactly as in a box; *techn.* to fit with a scarf joint.

1794 *MARTYN Rousseau's Bot.* xxix. 459 Savin has opposite, erect, decurrent leaves, with the oppositions boxed in each other along the branches. c. 1850 *Rudim. Navig.* (Weale) 152 Its lower end scarps or boxes into the keel. 1867 *SMYTH Sailor's Word-bk.* 126 The stem is boxed when it is joined to the fore end of the keel by a side scarf.

7. *trans.* To make an excavation in the trunk of (a tree) for the sap to collect.

1720 *DUDLEY Maple Sugar* in *Phil. Trans.* XXXI. 27 You box the Tree. 1755 *Gentl. Mag.* XXV. 551 Turpentine... gathered by boxing the pitch-pine trees. 1865 *Morning Star* 5 Apr., The trees after being 'boxed' begin to produce turpentine immediately.

8. To partition off into boxes.

1869 *Daily News* 30 May, The fronts of the galleries have been snugly boxed off.

9. *slang.* To overturn in his box (e.g. a watchman).

1851 *THACKERAY Eng. Hum.* ii. (1858) 59 Were they all... hunting in the country, or boxing the watch? 1852 — *Esmond* II. v. (1876) 196 The incorrigible young sinner, was abroad boxing the watch, or scouring St. Giles's.

10. *Sc.* To wainscot, to panel walls with wood. (Jamieson.)

11. To take with, or appeal to, the box audience of a theatre, etc.

1672 *VILLIERS (Dk. Buckhm.) Rehearsal* (Arb.) 29 It shall read... and act and plot and show, ay, and pit, box and gallery, I gad, with any Play in Europe. 1831 *MACAULAY Moore's Byron*, The rants of Byron's rhyming plays would have pitted it, boxed it, and galleried it, with those of any Bayes or Bilboa.

12. *Naut.* To box the compass: a. (see quot.)

1753 *CHAMBERS Cycl. Supp.*, *Boxing*, among sailors, is used to denote the rehearsing the several points of the compass in their proper order. 1836 *MARRYAT Midsh. Easy* xviii, I can raise a perpendicular... and box the compass. 1867 *SMYTH Sailor's Word-bk.*, To Box the Compass. Not only to repeat the names of the thirty-two points in order and backwards, but also to be able to answer any and all questions respecting its division.

b. *fig.* To go round to the direct opposite; to make a complete turn.

1815 *Scribblemania* 213 Cobbet... Has box'd every point of the compass to Gammon. 1833 *FRASER'S Mag.* VIII. 29 The *Mercury*... boxed round the political compass, following instinctively its old employer—Interest. 1869 *BLACKMORE Lorna D.* xliii. (D.) The wind would regularly box the compass... in the course of every day, following where the sun should be.

13. To box off: to turn the head of a vessel by hauling the head-sheets to windward and bracing the headyards aback; to box-haul. To box about: to sail up and down, often changing the direction.

1832 *MARRYAT N. Forster* xxii, You must box her off. 1836 *FRASER'S Mag.* XIV. 571 He often boxed about, in his Highland yacht, for a week together. 1853 *KANE Grinnell Exp.* xiii. (1856) 185 While thus boxing about on one of our tacks.

Box (bōks), v.² [f. *Box sb.*, According to Mätzner, Franck, Kluge, etc., the mod.Du. *boxen*, LG. *baksen*, *baaksen*, Ger. *bazen*, *boxen*, Da. *baxe*, Sw. *baxas*, *boxas*, are all from English.]

1. *trans.* orig. To beat, thrash; later, to strike with the fist, to cuff, to buffet: now usually, to strike (the cheek, ear, etc.) with the hand.

1519 *HORMAN Vulg.* 137 § 17 He was boxed out of the place: as he had been a started hare. 1829 *R. HARVEY Pl. Perc.* 12 To boxe a shadowe, and beate their knuckels against a bare wall. 1601 *SIR J. OGLE in Sir F. Vere Comm.* 150 He... must sit with his hands bound, whilst boyes and devils come and box him about the ears. a. 1661 *HOLYDAY Juvenal* 206 Xerxes commanded them to give the sea 300 strokes with a scourge, and to box it. 1666 *PERVY Diary* 20 Jan., I become angry, and boxed my boy... that I do hurt my thumb. 1704 *STEELE Lying Lover* II. (1747) 31 Lettice—'I'll down right box you—Hold your Tongue, Gipsy. 1783 *AINSWORTH Lat. Dict.* (Morell) i. s. v. *Ear*, Boxed on the ear, *colaphis*, vel *alapis*, *cæsus*. 1837 *DISRAELI Venetia* i. ix. (1871) 42 Attempting to box her son's ears. 1876 *BLACK MADCAP V.* i. 3 I've a good mind to box your ears.

fig. 1674 *R. GODFREY Inf. & Ab. Physic* 29 To have our ears weekly boxt about with the Philosophers-stone, Horizontal Gold and Noble Mercury.

2. *intr.* To fight with fists; now mostly of purely athletic practice with boxing-gloves.

1567 *STUDLEY Seneca's Hippolytus* (1581) 64 b, The naked Fist found out To scratch and cuffe, to boxe and bum. 1682 *DRYDEN Epil. Banks' Unhappy Fav.* 33 'Tis just like children when they box with pillows. 1765 *TUCKER Lt. Nat.* II. 170 Two men boxing together in the next street. 1790 *COWPER Odys.* viii. 124 To leap, to box, to wrestle and to run. 1819 *BYRON Ivan* II. xcii. For sometimes we must box without the muffle. a. 1859 *DE QUINCEY Autobiog.* Sk. Wks. I. 36 To box... was in those days a mere necessity of schoolboy life at public schools.

b. To box it out, etc.: cf. *to fight it out*.

1697 *COLLIER Ess. Mor. Subj.* i. (1709) 132 Clowns may Box it off, and be quiet. 1702 *DE FOE More Reform.* Pref. 2 The Englishmen fairly Box it out.

3. *trans.* To fight (another) with fists.

1694 *R. L'ESTRANGE Fables* (1699) 343 The Ass... look'd on, till they had box'd themselves a weary. 1749 *FIELDING Tom Jones* xvi. ii, Box thee for a bellyfull. 1803 *BRISTED Pedest. Tour* I. 359 If they were to... box each other.

4. *transf.* To strike with the fore-paw.

a. 1711 *GREW (J.) A Leopard* is like a cat; he boxes with his forefeet, as a cat doth her kittens.

Boxage, obs. form of *BOSCAGE*.

Box-bed. [f. *Box + BED*.] A bed having the form of a large box with wooden roof, sides, and ends, opening in front with two sliding panels or shutters; often used in cottages in Scotland: sometimes also applied to a bed arranged so as to fold up into a box.

1801 *R. GALL Tint Quey* 173 She clauttit down wi' speed The bowet aff the box-bed head. 1803 *Longm. Mag.* Apr. 648 The cottage being divided into two small apartments by the box-beds erected in a line.

Boxed (bōkst), *ppl. a.* [f. *Box v. 1* + *-ED*.] Enclosed in, or as in, a box; confined within uncomfortably narrow limits. Frequently with *up*. *Boxed shutters*: shutters folding into boxings.

1589 WARNER *Alb. Eng.* v. xxiii. 215 Their [i. e. Papists'] skaer-spright water, boxed Boans, their hoasts. 1885 HUGH CONWAY *Fam. Affair* xxxiv. 314 The fearful room with its boxed-up odour of death.

Box-elder: see *Box* sb. 1 2 b.

Boxen (bɒksən), *a. arch.* [f. *Box* sb. 1 + -EN¹.]

1. Of or pertaining to the box-tree or box-trees.

1578 LYTE *Dodoens* vi. xxxi. 699 The lye in which Boxen leaves have been stieped, maketh the heare yellow. 1697 DRYDEN *Virg. Georg.* ii. 613 Cyturus, ever green With Boxen Groves. c. 1800 K. WHITE *Cliff. Gr.* 54 Beneath the boxen hedge reclined. 1835 FRASER'S *Mag.* XII. 543.

2. Made of or resembling box-wood.

[c. 1000 ÆLFRIC *Voc.* in Wt. Wulcker 124 *Pixis*, bixen box.] 1566 STUDLEY *Seneca's Agamem.* (1581: 147 b, The hollow boxen pype... doth geue a solemne sound. 1637 J. POCKLINGTON *Altare Chr.* 42 Powder to turne my boxen teeth into Ivory. 1720 PHILLIPS *Pastorals* vi. 17 A Boxen Haut-Boy, loud, and sweet. 1790 COWPER *Iliad* xxiv. 344 The sculptured boxen yoke.

Boxer (bɒksə), [f. *Box* v. 1 + -ER¹.] One who puts things up in boxes.

1871 ECHO 8 Feb., The material passes... through the hands of an 'examiner', and... a 'boxer'.

Boxer ², [f. *Box* v. 2 + -ER¹.] One who boxes or fights with his fists; a pugilist.

1742 FIELDING *J. Andrews* iii. ix, A stout fellow and an expert boxer. 1875 JOWETT *Plato* (ed. 2) I. 154 As if I had received a blow from the expert hand of a boxer.

Box-ful (bɒksfʊl), [f. *Box* sb. 2 + -FUL.] As much as a box will contain.

1848 THACKERAY *Bk. Snobs* 106 Whole boxfuls of Parr's Life Pills. 1884 STEVENSON *New Arab. Nts.* 62 He watched beside the fatal boxful of dead flesh.

Box-haul (bɒks'hɔl), *v.* [f. *Box* v. 1 13 + HAUL.]

To veer a ship round on her heel, when it is impracticable to tack or make a great sweep. 'The helm is put a-lee, the head-yards braced flat aback, the after-yards squared, the drivers taken in, and the head-sheets hauled to windward; when she begins to gather stern-way the helm is shifted and sails trimmed.' Smyth *Sailor's Word-bk.* Hence **Box-hauling** *vbl. sb.*

1769 FALCONER *Dict. Marine* (1789) *Box-hauling* is generally performed when the ship is too near the shore to have room for veering in the usual way.

Box-holly: see *Box* sb. 1 2 b.

Boxiana, *nonce-wd.* [See -ANA.] Notes about boxing and boxers.

1819 MOORE *Epist. fr. Tom Cribb* 22 Boxiana, disgrace to thy page!

Boxing (bɒksɪŋ), *vbl. sb.* [f. *Box* v. 1 and sb. 2]

I. From the vb.

1. The putting into, or providing with, a box.

1607 HERRON *Wks.* I. 359 What boxing them vp to prevent embazeling! 1884 F. BATTEN *Watch & Clockm.* 36 Boxing-in, implies, in addition to the actual fixing of the movement, the fitting and connecting the winding stem.

b. *Law.* The lodgement of pleadings and other documents in court.

1863 *Act 31 & 32 Vict. c. 71* The Court may dispense with the printing and boxing of any portions of the same.

† 2. The applying of 'boxes' or cupping-glasses in surgical treatment; cupping. Hence *boxing-glass*: a cupping-glass. *Obs.*

1519 HORMAN *Vulg.* 40 Launsynge, serchyng, cuttyng, rasyng, boxynge, and cuppyng. 1562 TURNER *Baths* 17 Let hym set cuppes or boxynge glasses upon his shuldres. 1610 BARROUGH *Meth. Physick* i. v. (1639) 7 If age or weakness do prohibite blood-letting, you must use boxing.

3. *Naut.* = **BOX-HAULING**.

1769 FALCONER *Dict. Marine* (1789) *Boxing*, an operation... similar to box-hauling. It is performed by laying the head-sails... aback... in order to throw the ship's head back into the line of her course.

II. From the sb.

4. A structure or work of boxes.

a. 1845 HOOD *Incend. Song* vi, Burn the boxing! Burn the Beadle!

b. *Ship-building.* A square piece of dry hard wood used in connecting the frame timbers of a ship (Smyth *Sailor's Word-bk.*); also a scarf joint. c. 1850 *Rudin. Navig.* (Weale) 100 The term Boxing is also applied to the scarf of the lower piece of the stem, let flatwise into the fore-foot. 1860 H. STUART *Seaman's Catech.* 65 A scarf, called the flat scarf, or boxing scarf.

6. (See quot.)

1883 P. NICHOLSON *Pract. Build.* 220 Boxings of a Window—The two cases, one on each side of a window, into which the shutters are folded.

Boxing (bɒksɪŋ), *vbl. sb.* [f. *Box* v. 2 + -ING¹.]

1. The action of fighting with fists; now usually applied to a pugilistic encounter in which the hands are covered with well-padded leather gloves. Also *transf.* of the action of animals.

1711 ADDISON *Spect.* No. 115 ¶ 8 This... gives a Man all the pleasure of Boxing, without the Blows. 1753 CHAMBERS *Cycl. Supp.* s. v., We may distinguish three species of boxing; the first, where both the hands and head were absolutely naked, as is practised among us. 1824 W. IRVING *T. Trav.* I. 343 The noble science of boxing keeps up the bulldog courage of the nation. 1856 KANE *Art. Exp.* II. xv. 164 The hugging, pawing, and boxing, which characterize the black and grisly bears.

2. *attrib.* and in *comb.*, as *boxing-glove*, *-match*, etc. 1714 *Spect.* No. 629 ¶ 17 He... hath had six Duels and four and twenty Boxing-Matches in Defense of his Majesty's Title. 1813 *Examiner* 11 Jan. 26/2 The Professor... put

himself in a boxing attitude. 1875 JOWETT *Plato* (ed. 2) V. 398 We should put on boxing-gloves, that the blows and the wards might be practised.

Boxing-day. The first week-day after Christmas-day, observed as a holiday on which post-men, errand-boys, and servants of various kinds expect to receive a Christmas-box. So also *Boxing-night*, *Boxing-time*.

1849 G. SOANE *New Curios. Lit.* 317 The feast of Saint Stephen is more generally known amongst us as Boxing-Day. 1871 HOOD'S *'Comic Ann.'* 59 It was the Saturday before the Monday Boxing Night. 1877 PEACOCK *N. Linc. Gloss.* (E. D. S.) *Boxing-time*, any time between Christmas-day, and the end of the first week in January. 1884 HARPER'S *Mag.* Dec. 9/1 In consequence of the multiplicity of business on Christmas-day, the giving of Christmas-boxes was postponed to the 26th, St. Stephen's Day, which became the established Boxing-day.

Boxom (ə-um, obs. forms of **BUXOM**).

Box-thorn: see *Box* sb. 1 2 b.

Box-tree. [OE. *boxtreow*, f. *Box* sb. 1 + *treow*, TREE.] The Box, *Buxus sempervirens* and other species; = *Box* sb. 1.

c. 1000 ÆLFRIC *Gram.* vii. 20 *Hæc buxus*, his boxtreow. c. 1386 CHAUCER *Knts. T.* 444 Lik was he to byholde The box-tree, or the asschen deed and colde. c. 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 46 Box tre, *buxus*. 1601 SHAKS. *Twel. N.* ii. v. 18 Get ye all three into the box tree. 1854 McCULLOCH *Dict. Comm.* s. v. *Boxwood*, In 1815, the box trees cut down on Box-hill... produced upwards of 10,000.

Boxwood. [f. *Box* sb. 1 + *WOOD* sb.]

1. The wood of the box-tree; much used by turners, wood-engravers, and in the manufacture of mathematical and musical instruments.

1652 *Proc. Parliament* No. 131. 2025, 834 Logs of Box wood. 1767 RICHARDSON in *Phil. Trans.* LVIII. 20 Two... of brass, and two of box-wood. 1855 SINGLETON *Virgil* II. 351 Inlaid in boxwood, or in ebony.

2. The tree or shrub itself.

1768 BOWELL *Coriaria* i. (ed. 2) 49 Its honey hath always been accounted better, by reason of the boxwood and yew. 1871 M. COLLINS *Mrg. & Merch.* II. vii. 197 Fringes of boxwood grew here and there.

3. **American Boxwood**, *Cornus florida*; a deciduous tree of North America, having very heavy close-grained wood, the bark of which is used as a substitute for Peruvian bark; **Jamaica Boxwood**, *Tecoma pentaphylla*.

4. *attrib.*

c. 1865 J. WYLD in *Circ. Sc.* I. 314/1 Boxwood charcoal answers best. 1880 *Printing Times* 15 May 116/1 One or two remaining Abkhassian boxwood forests.

† **Boxy**, *a. Obs. rare.* [f. *Box* sb. 1 + -Y¹.] Of or like boxwood.

1552 HULOET, *Boxie* or of *Boxe*. 1608 TORSSELL *Serpents* 677 This egge is... sometimes of a boy's... colour. 1658 ROWLAND *Mouffet's Theat. Ins.* 959 Two cornicles like feathers, of a yellow or boxie colour.

Boy (bɔi), *sb.* 1. Forms: 4 *boi*, *boise*, *bay*, 4-7 *boye*, 5 *boy*, 6 *bois*, 4-*boy*. [ME. *boi*, *boy*, of obscure origin: app. identical with E. Frisian *boi*, *boy* 'young gentleman'; considered by many to be identical with Du. *boef* (būf) 'knave', MDu. *boeve*, prob. (according to Franck) adopted from MHG. *buobe* (in mod. G. *bube* 'knave', dial. 'boy, lad').]

It has been proposed to explain *bo-y* as dim. of *bo*, and this short for *bobbo* the W. Ger. type of *buobe*, *bube*. The latter is actually found in MHG. only from about the 14th c. Its Teutonic standing is doubtful: see Grimm, Schade, Kluge. (The original sense being uncertain, the order of senses here observed is only provisional.)

1. A male child below the age of puberty. But commonly applied to all lads still at school, as such; and parents or sisters often continue to speak of their grown-up sons or brothers as 'the boys'.

c. 1300 *Beket* 88 Junge childe and wyde boyes also... scorned hire. 1400 *Morte Arth.* 3123 Boyes in þe sub-arbis bourdene fulle heghie. c. 1440 *York Myst.* xix. 270 So may bat boy be fledde. 1535 COVERDALE *Zech.* viii. 5 The stretes of the cite shal be full of yonge boyes and dam-selles [1382 Wyclif *Infantes* and maydens; 1388 yonge children and maidens; 1611 boyes and girls]. 1538 BALE *Three Lawes* 966 Come, axe me blessinge, lyke praty boyes apace. 1588 SHAKS. *L. L. IV.* i. 122 When King Pippin of France was a little boy. 1653 WALTON *Angler* 46 The very boyes will learn to talk and swear. 1755 JOHNSON *Ramb.* No. 198 ¶ 3 The sailor hated to see tall boys shut up in a school. 1812 BYRON *Ch. Har.* ii. xxiii, Ah! happy years! once more who would not be a boy? 1844 A. WELBY *Poems* (1867) 97 A noble sturdy boy is he, and yet he's only five. *Prov.* All work and no play makes Jack a dull boy.

2. Applied playfully, affectionately, or slightlying, to a young man, or one treated as such.

c. 1300 *Senyn Sages* (W.) 1351 Was nowt the boi of wit bereued. c. 1440 *York Myst.* xxix. 89 Sir Knyghtis, do kepe þis boy [Peter] in bande. *Ibid.* xi. 247 þis boyes [Moses and Aaron] sall byde here in oure bayle. 1580 NORTH *Plutarch* 42 (R.) This boy who was made overseer of them was commonly twenty years of age. 1592 SHAKS. *Rom. & Jul.* iii. i. 135 Thou wretched boy that didst consort him here, Shalt with him hence. 1599 *Much Ado* v. i. 79 If thou kilst me, boy, thou shalt kill a man. 1722 *Daily Post* 19 Mar. He is a fat, chubby boy, aged about 20 or thereabouts. a. 1791 WESLEY *Serm.* lxxxiii. Wks. 1811 IX. 434 Every one has his hobby-horse! Something that pleases the great boy for a few hours.

b. Used instead of 'man' in certain localities; e. g. in Cornwall, in Ireland, in the far West of the United States.

1790 SWIFT *Dick's Var.* Wks. 1755 IV. i. 264 Let the boys pelt him if they dare. 18... *Song*, 'St. Patrick was a gentleman'; No wonder that our Irish boys should be so free and frisky! 1867 HERWORTH DIXON *New America* i, These Western boys (every man living beyond the Missouri is a Boy, just as every woman is a Lady). 1880 *MS. Cornwall Gloss.* (E. D. S.) s. v., There are no men in Cornwall; they are all Cornish boys.

† 3. A servant, slave. *Obs.* Now only when a boy in sense 1 or 2.

c. 1350 *Will. Palerne* 1705 Sche... borwed boiges cloþes... & boigesliche as a boye busked to þe kychene. c. 1430 *Lydg. Bochas* II. v. 46 b, With his sweorde, but she [Lucretia] would assent Her and a boye he would prent I-ferre. 1535 COVERDALE *Sam. ii.* 13 The prestes boye came, while the flesh was seething. 1588 T. L. *To Ch. of Rome* (1651) 9 By David his Boy, whom his heart approved. 1601 F. TATE *Househ. Ord. Edw. II.* § 94 (1876) 56 That none of the kings meignee... charetter or sompter boy... keepe his wife at the court. 1764 T. JEFFERSON *Corr.* Wks. 1859 I. 150 You mention one [letter] you wrote last Friday, and sent by the Secretary's boy. *Mod.* The doctor's boy, sir!

† b. A camp-follower. *Obs.*

1599 SHAKS. *Hen. V.* iv. iv. 82 The French might have a good pray of vs, if he knew of it, for there is none to guard it [the luggage] but boyes. *Ibid.* iv. vii. 1 Kill the poyes and the luggage, 'Tis expressly against the Law of Armes.

c. In Southern India and in China a native personal servant is so termed, and is habitually summoned with the vocative 'Boy!' (Yule). Also applied to male negro slaves of any age; in the South Seas to Polynesians kidnapped in 'the labour trade'.

1609 HAWKINS in *Purchas Pilgr.* 211 My boy Stephen Grovenor. 1681 R. KNOX *Hist. Ceylon* 124 We had a black boy my Father brought from Porta Nova to attend upon him. 1850 Mrs. STOWE *Uncle Tom* xxx, 'Now up with you, boy! d'ye hear?' said the auctioneer to Tom. 1875 THOMSON *Malacca* 228 A faithful servant or boy, as they are here called, about forty years of age. 1884 *Pail Mall G.* 16 Aug. 1/3 The vessel is granted a licence to carry so many 'boys' as the native men are called.

d. In combination with other words, as **LINK-BOY**, **POST-BOY**, **POT-BOY**.

† 4. As a term of contempt: Knave, varlet, rogue, wretch, caitiff. *Obs.* [In early quotations, not always to be distinguished from **BOIE**, executioner.]

c. 1300 *K. Alis.* 4376 He... throw him over arsun; And saide, 'ly ther vyle bay!' c. 1325 *E. E. Allit. P.* A. 805 In Iherusalem watz my lemman slayn & rent on rode with boyez bolde. c. 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 291/1 *Boy* or boy, *scurrus*. 1562 BULLEYN *Bk. Simples* 76 a, Through a very vile coward or boie, often the valiant man is slaine. 1588 *Marprel. Epist.* (Arb.) 28 Calling him boy, knave, varlet, slanderer. 1607 SHAKS. *Cor. v.* vi. 101, 104, 117.

5. Used in familiar address, often with the epithets 'my', 'old'. Hence *To old-boy* vb.

1601 SHAKS. *Twel. N.* ii. iv. 122 But d'it thy sister of her loue my Boy? 1600 — *Temp.* ii. ii. 56 To sea, boys, and let her goe hang. 1712 ARBUTHNOT *John Bull* (1727) 79 Fear not, old boy; we'll do it, I'll warrant thee. 1748 RICHARDSON *Pamela* III. 380 Never fear, old Boy, said Sir Charles, we'll bear our Parts in Conversation. 1876 Miss BROUGHTON *Cometh up as Fl.* xv. 163 Old boying each other.

6. In various connexions, indicating a member of fraternity or band, as in *Peep of Day Boys*, a secret organization in Ireland; *Roaring Boys*, riotous fellows of the time of Elizabeth and James I.; also *The old boy*, the devil; *Yellow boys*, guineas.

c. 1590 GREENE *Tu Quoque* in *Dodley* VII. 25 (N.) This is no angry, nor no roaring boy, but a blustering boy. 1609 B. JOHNSON *Epitaph* i. iv. (N.) The doubtfulness of your phrase... would breed you a quarrel once an hour with the terrible boys. 1659 *Leg. Capt. Jones* (Halliwell), In hope to get such roaring boys as he. 1712 *Whig & Tory* iii. 34 He [Sacheverell] had Meat, and Drink, and yellow Boys. 1837-40 HALIBURTON *Clockm.* (1862) 140 As we invigorate the form of government (as we must do, or go to the old boy). 1831 CARLYLE *Sart. Res.* iii. x. 331 In Ireland... Ribbonmen, Cottiers, Peep-of-Day Boys.

7. *Comb.* (in which 'boy' often approaches the force of an adjective); a. appositive, indicating sex, as *boy-angel*, *-baby*, *-brood*, *-child*, *-cousin*, *-elephant*; or immaturity, as *boy-actor*, *-bridegroom*, *-crusader*, *-ensign*, *-God*, *-husband*, *-king*, *-lover*, *-man*, *-officer*, *-poet*, *-spouse*; or with words added which indicate the assumption of another personality, as in *boy-girl*, *-harlot*, *-wench*; also *boy-bishop*, the boy elected by his fellows to play the part of bishop from St. Nicholas' Day to Innocents' Day: b. attributive (of or pertaining to boys), as *boy-kind*, *-nature*; c. obj. gen. with *vbl. sb.*, as *boy-queller*. Also *boy-blind* a., blind as a boy; *boy-rid* a., overdone with boys (after the analogy of *BED-RID*); *boy-storied* a. that of which stories are told by boys; *boy-like* adv. and adj.

1861 A. K. H. B. *Recreat. Country Parson* Ser. II. 69 The popularity of the 'boy-actor' Betty. 1762-71 H. WALPOLE *Vertue's Anecd. Painting* V. 35 Six 'boy-angels' playing on musical instruments. 1800 SCOTT *Abbott* xiv, To give place to... the 'Boy-Bishop, and the Abbot of Un-reason. a. 1655 FLETCHER *Love's Pilgr.* (L.), Put case he could be so 'boy-blind and foolish. 1863 M. L. WHATELY *Ragged Life Egypt* viii. 63 The parents gave way... aided by the indifference of the 'boy-bridegroom. 1879 BROWNING *Ivan Ivanov*. 138 Poor Stipoka. first Of my 'boy-brood. 1601 HOLLAND *Pliny* II. 301 The haire of yong 'boy-children... is held to be a singular remedy for... the gout. 1876 BLACK *Green Past.* ii. 20 As her 'boy cousin had said she

was a trifle serious. 1886 *Q. Rev.* April 529 A fault... which the 'boy-ensigns' and pages... shared with their parents. 1816 *Byron Siege Cor.* xxx. We kneeling see Her and the 'boy-God on her knee. 1870 *Drant Sermon* in Diddin *Libr. Comp.* 76 This Romish Church defendeth... concubines, and 'boy-harlots. 1876 M. COLLINS *Blacksmith & Schol.* I. vi. 157 She held herself haughtily aloof from the mankind and 'boy-kind of New Bratton. 1864 *Pusey Lect.* Daniel iii. 152 A 'boy-king... is restored at once... by his own people. 1850 Mrs. Stowe *Uncle Tom ix.* 73 Two boys, who, 'boy-like, had followed close on her heels. 1863 *Tylor Early Hist. Man.* xii. 337 The 'boy-man laughed to himself, but said nothing. 1876 *Hamerton Intell. Life* x. x. 391 The necessities of the 'boy-nature. 1876 *Wesley Tril.* 13 June (1827) III. 93 Two or three 'boy-officers. 1883 S. Waddington *Clough* 46 These indicate... the feelings and tendencies of the 'boy-poet at this early age. 1866 *Shaks. Tr. & Cr. v. v.* 45 Come, come, thou 'boy-queller, shew thy face. 1883 *Lamb Elia* (1860) 82 He is 'boy-rid, sick of perpetual boy. 1848 *Kingsley Saints' Trag.* Notes 245 The princess was laid in the cradle of her 'boy-spouse. 1816 L. HUNT *Rimini* ii. 235 'Boy-storied trees, and love remember'd spots. 1886 *Warner Alb. Eng.* II. xi. 51 Not so much as by the tongue the 'Boy wench was bewailed.

† **Boy**, *sb.* 2. *Obs. rare.* [a. OF. *boie*, *buie* :—L. *boia*, pl. *boies* 'a collar for the neck'.] A gyve, fetter. 1375 *Barbour Bruce* x. 763 Schir peris lumbard that ves tane... thai fand in presoun, fettirrit with boyis, sittand.

Boy (boi), *v.* [f. *Boy sb.* 1.] In various nonce- usages. a. *intr.* To play the boy, act as a boy; b. *trans.* To call (one) 'boy'; c. To represent (a woman's part) on the stage, as boys did before the Restoration; d. To furnish or supply with boys.

1568 *Jacob & Esau* II. ii. in *Hazl. Dods.* II. 211 So prattling, so trawling, so chiding, so boying. 1573 G. HARVEY *Letter-Bk.* (1884) 48 If he boied me now... I hard him not. 1866 *Shaks. Ant. & Cl. v. ii.* 220, I shall see Some squeaking Cleopatra Boy my greatness. 1616 *Beaum. & Fl. Knt. Malta* II. iii. (R.), *Boy* did he call me... I am faint... Baff'd and boy'd. 1635 CORBET *Poems* (1807) 126 But wert girl'd and boy'd. 1650 H. MORE in *Enthus. Tri.* (1656) 126 How ready the world will be to boy him out of countenance. 1655 *Fuller Hist. Camb.* (1840) 142 The gates were shut, and partly *man-ned*, partly *boy-ed*, against him.

Boy, boye, *obs. ff. BOY.*

Boyage (boi'edj), *rare.* [f. *Boy sb.* 1, app. with a confusion of -AGE suffix and AGE *sb.*] Boyhood.

1625-66 *Heylin Cosmog.* III. (1673) 1041/2 When Alexander in his Adolescence or Boyage was sacrificing to the gods. 1798 *Bloomfield Farmer's Boy* (1817) Pref. 23 Putting the little events of my boyage into metre.

|| **Boyar, boyard** (boi'ar, boi'ard). *Forms:* 6 *boiaren*, 7 *bojar*, *boyaren*, 7- *boyar*, 8- *boyard*. [a. Russ. *бояринъ boyarin*, pl. *бояре boyare* 'grantee, lord':—earlier *боярънъ boyar-in*, prob. f. OSlav. root *bol-* 'great'; but Miklosich would connect it with Turkish *boj* 'stature, *bojlu* high; Dahl, and others, with Russ. *боя*, *boi* 'war', which may have influenced the later form. The word occurs in Byzantine Greek as *βοιλάδα*, *βο- λάδα*; Bulg. *bolerin*, Serv. *boljar*, Rouman. *boi'r.*]

A member of a peculiar order of the old Russian aristocracy, next in rank to a *knyaz* or 'prince', who enjoyed many exclusive privileges, and held all the highest military and civil offices: the order was abolished by Peter the Great, and the word is in Russia only a historical term, though still often erroneously applied by English newspaper writers to Russian landed proprietors. In Roumania the *boi'r* still exist as a privileged class. (The Eng. *boyar* appears to have been taken from the plural; *boyard* is an erroneous French spelling.)

1591 G. FLETCHER *Russe Commw.* (1836) 46 The emperours of Russia give the name of counsellour to diuers of their chief nobilitie. These are called Boiars. 1618 RALEIGH *St. Maxims in Rem.* (1661) 43 As the Turk, his Iazaries; the Russe, his Boyarsens. 1676 *Land. Gaz.* No. 1077/1 Then the Boiars, which are the most eminent persons in this Countrey. 1698 LUTTRELL *Brief Rel.* (1857) IV. 432 The czar... has caused 200 of the boyars in his country to be put to death. 1796 MORSE *Amer. Geog.* II. 77 Not only the common people but many of the boyars or nobles. 1858 *Times* 28 Aug. 10/1 The Boyards (of Roumania) are not an aristocracy of birth or wealth; they are simply a privileged class. 1865 *Spectator* 11 Feb. 151 The older families of Russia retain the traditions of the boyars and of their power to a dangerous degree. 1879 R. S. EDWARDS *Russ. at Home* I. 202 The rich 'boyars' (as foreigners persist in styling the Russian proprietors of the present day).

Hence **Boyardism**.

1848 *Tail's Mag.* XV. 48a Boyardism stands a good chance of being vanquished by democracy (in Roumania).

|| **Boyan** (boi'o). Also *boyeau*. [F. *boyau* 'the alimentary canal', and as below:—OF. *boel*: see *BOWEL*.] *Fortif.* 'A branch of a trench; a zig-zag; a trench in rear of a battery, forming a communication with the magazine; a small gallery of a mine.' *Stocquerel Milit. Encycl.* 1853.

1847 in CRAIG. 1863 F. GRIFFITHS *Artif. Man.* (ed. 9) 263 *Zig-zags*, or *Boyeaux* of communication, are trenches made for the approaches from the parallels to the besieged place.

Boycott (boi'kpt), *v.* [f. the name of Capt. Boycott, an Irish landlord, who was the original victim of the treatment described.] *trans.* To combine in refusing to hold relations of any kind, social or commercial, public or private, with (a neigh-

bour), on account of political or other differences, so as to punish him for the position he has taken up, or coerce him into abandoning it. The word arose in the autumn of 1880, to describe the action instituted by the Irish Land League towards those who incurred its hostility. It was speedily adopted by the newspapers in nearly every European language (e.g. F. *boycotter*, Du. *boycotten*, Ger. *boycottieren*, Russ. *boikottirovat*, etc.). Now (1886) generally written without an initial capital letter.

1880 *Times* 20 Nov. 10/1 The people of New Pallas have resolved to 'Boycott' them and refused to supply them with food or drink. 1880 *Daily News* 13 Dec. 3/1 Already the stoutest-hearted are yielding on every side to the dread of being 'Boycotted'. 1880 *Illustr. Lond. News* LXXVII. 587/1 To 'Boycott' has already become a verb active, signifying to 'ratten', to intimidate, to 'send to Coventry', and to 'taboo'. 1881 *Q. Rev.* 117 The lineal ancestors of the Land League 'boycotted' the poet. 1886 *Times* 2 Feb. 10/1 On September 19, 1880, Mr. Parnell formulated the law of boycotting in the town of Ennis, county Clare.

b. *transf. and fig.*

1881 *Spectator* 22 Jan. 119 Dame Nature arose... She 'Boycotted' London from Kew to Mile End. 1881 *Daily News* 19 May 5/3 You cannot Boycott human nature. That entity... always gets the better of the Boycotter in the long run. 1881 L. STEPHEN *Swift* vii. 157 Briefly, the half-pence were to be 'Boycotted'.

Hence **Boycotted ppl. a.**, **Boycottedes**, **Boycotter**, **Boycotting vbl. sb.**, **Boycottism**; also **Boycott sb.** = *Boycotting*; (U. S.) an application of Boycotting. (Now also often written without capitals.)

1880 J. DILLON *Speech at Cashel* 17 Nov. (*Times* 19 Nov. 6/1) They had yet to study a branch of new Law known as Boycotting. 1880 *Times* Dec. 9 They also do not feel warranted in regarding the threat of Boycott as one which comes within the Act. 1880 *Daily News* 25 Dec. 6/3 So long as a railway station is near him, the 'Boycottedes', if he have only two or three servants to stand firm, can practically bring the Boycotter to their wits' end. 1881 GLADSTONE in *Standard* 28 Oct. 3/3 The neighbours of the Boycotter man refuse to hold any intercourse with him and his family; they will not eat with him, drink with him, buy from him, or sell to him. 1881 LD. DERBY in *19th Cent.* Oct. 481 Capital (in Ireland) is timid; boycotting, intimidation, and outrage do not attract it. 1881 *Declaration in Standard* 19 Feb. 3/6 We loathe and detest the very idea of a man seeking his ends by murder, by outrage, by Boycottism. 1883 MONIER WILLIAMS *Rel. Thought* Ind. I. xviii. 472 India has furnished examples of Boycotter and Boycottees, for many centuries. 1885 *Pall Mall G.* 19 Nov. 3/4 Those who have continued to hire Chinese labour and patronize the same since the Boycott.

Boydekyn (ne, obs. form of *BODKIN*).

Boydom (boi'dəm), *rare.* [f. *Boy sb.* 1 + -DOM.] The estate or characteristics of boys.

1880 *Scribn. Mag.* June 312 An abnormal development of boydom.

Boyell, *obs. form of BOWEL*.

Boyer (boi'ar). Also 9 *boier*. [a. Du. *boetjer* a smock.] A sloop of Flemish construction, with a raised work at each end. *Smyth Sailor's Word-bk.* a 1618 RALEIGH in *Remains* (1661) 167 By their fashioned Ships called *Boyers*, *Hoibarks*, *Hoyes*... made to hold great bulke of Merchandize. 1642 MR. HERTFORD *Let. to Queen* 6 Master Knolles a servant of the king went in the boyer. 1880 *Standard* 25 Dec. 3/3 It has beauties of its own quite equal to those of xebec, feucca, or boier all put together.

† **Boyerie**, *Obs.* [f. *Boy sb.* 1 + -ERY.] Boyhood. 1580 NORTH *Plutarch* (1676) 42 They called... the greatest boyes Melirenes: as who should say, ready to go out of boyerie. 1656 DUGARD *Gate Lat. Unt.* § 199. 55 Infancy is ignorant of itself, boyerie is passed over in sports.

Boyhood (boi'hud), [f. *Boy sb.* 1 + -HOOD.]

(Johnson has only the quotation from Swift, and says 'This is perhaps an arbitrary word'. It occurs in no edition of Bailey.) Cf. *BOYISM*.

a. The state of being a boy; the time of life during which one is a boy; also *fig.* the early period of anything. b. Boys taken collectively. c. Boyish feeling; light-heartedness.

a 1745 SWIFT (J.), Look at him, in his boyhood, through the magnifying end of a perspective, and in his manhood, through the other. 1802-25 SVD. SMITH *Ess.* 117 (Beeton's ed.) All the bloody boyhood of the Bog of Allen. 1808 D'ISRAELI *Chas. I.* I. ii. 8 Princes are unfortunate enough to be flattered even in their boyhood. 1829 HOOD *Eng. Aram* iii, Turning to mirth all things of earth As only boyhood can. 1844 TENNYSON *Sir Launc.* 19 In the boyhood of the year. 1886 Mrs. A. HUNT *That other Pers.* I. 206 The turbulent mass of... gesticulating boyhood.

Boyish (boi'if), a. [f. *Boy sb.* 1 + -ISH 1.]

1. Of or pertaining to boys or boyhood.

1548 UDALL *Erasm. Par. Luke* iii. (R.) Big laddes... grou quite awaye from the pureness of babehood to boyish wantonnesse. 1604 SHAKS. *Oth.* I. iii. 132 Euen from my boyish daies. 1761 STERNE *Tr. Shandy* III. lxxv, From the first hours of our boyish pastimes. 1873 SYMONDS *Grk. Poets* vi. 164 In the bloom of manly or of boyish strength.

2. Boy-like; puerile.

1579 FULKE *Heskins' Parl.* 60 This is such a boyish sophisme as I am ashamed to answer it. 1663 COWLEY *Verdes & Ess.* (1669) 143 The beginning of it is Boyish, but of this part... I should hardly now be much ashamed. 1848 MACAULAY *Hist. Eng.* II. 195 Boyish vanities, and no part of the real business of life.

Boyishly (boi'ifli), *adv.* [f. *prec.* + -LY 2.] In a boyish manner, like a boy.

1581 J. BELL *Haddon's Answ.* *Osor.* 64 And the same

question repeateth agayne and agayne very boyeashly. 1807 A. M. PORTER *Hunger. Bro.* I. i. 29 To hide the sensibility, which boyishly he blushed at. 1849 STROVEL *Introd. Canné's Necess.* 107, Boyishly exclaiming, 'No bishop, no king'.

Boyishness (boi'ifnes), [f. as *prec.* + -NESS.] Boyish or boylike quality or state.

1554 HULOET, *Boyesnes, puerilitas*. 1611 COTGR., *Puerilité*... boyishnesse, childishnesse... simplicitie. a 1791 *Wesley Husb. & Wives* v. Wks. 1811 IX. 75 Behaviour, that... savours of a kind of boyishness. 1881 J. HAWTHORNE *Fort. Fool* I. i, To the end of his life there was a deep fund of boyishness in him.

Boyism (boi'iz'm), [f. *Boy sb.* 1 + -ISM.]

1. The characteristic nature of a boy.

a 1790 T. WARTON in Sir E. Brydges' *Milton* (1853) 566 Perhaps the real boyism of the brother... is to be taken into the account. 1806 DISRAELI *Viv. Grey* I. i. (1878) 1 The spirit of boyism began to develop itself.

2. A boyish characteristic or trait; a puerility.

1700 DRYDEN *Fables* Pref. (Globe) 498 A thousand such boyisms which Chaucer rejected. 1717 GARTH *Ovid's Met.* Pref., These are some of our poet's boyisms.

† 3. Boyhood. *Obs.*

1810 REV. R. POLWHELE *Poet. Register* 48 The progress of Genius in boyism and in youth.

Boykin (boi'kin), [f. *Boy sb.* 1 + -KIN.] A little boy: used as a term of affection.

1547 SALESBURY *Welsh Dict.*, *Herlotyn*, boykyn. 1658 *Brome New Acad.* I. i. 3 Where's my Boykin? my Friskoe? my Delight? a 1687 COTTON *Aeneid Burl.* II. (1692) 80 I'm fixt to go along With thee, my boykin, right or wrong. 1822 T. MITCHELL *Aristoph.* II. 316 This species, boykin? cruet or sea-spider?

Boys, *pl. fetters*: see *Boy sb.* 2

Boyl, Boylstar, *obs. forms of BOIL, BOLSTER*.

† **Boyly**, a. *Obs.* [f. *Boy sb.* 1 + -LY 1.] Boyish.

1554 HULOET, *Boyle* or boyesh, or pertaynyng to a boye. 1563-87 FOXE *A. & M.* III. 595 What a stout boyly Heretick is this? How malapertly he answereth?

Boyn(e, Boynard), *obs. ff. BOON sb., BOINARD*.

Boyne (boin), *Sc.* Also *boye(n)*, *boin*. A flat shallow tub or bowl (cf. *BOWIE*).

1821 GALT *Ann. Par.* 46 (JAM.) Her seam... had fallen into a boyne of milk. — *Ayrsh. Leg.* 265 (JAM.) The lasses were... standing upright before the boyns on chairs, rubbin the clothes. 1826 J. WILSON *Noct. Ambr.* Wks. 1855 I. 97 Take a peck of putatoes and put them into a boyne.

Boyship (boi'fip), [f. *Boy sb.* 1 + -SHIP.] The personality of a boy. (A mocking form of address.)

1608 DAY *Hum. out of Breath* I. iii. (1860) 12 Your boyship hath so sought us, that we have found you. a 1634 RANDOLPH *Poems* (1638) 21 Must we then allow Your Boyship leave to shoot at whom you please?

Boys-love. A popular name for Southernwood, *Artemisia Abrotanum*, also called, in some districts, *Lad's love*.

1852 KINGLAKE *Crimea* II. 267 The nosegay of 'boy's love' that used to be set by the Prayer-Book of the Sunday maiden. 1876 BESANT & RICK *Gold. Butterfly* xiv. 115 Stocks, pansies, boy's-love, sweet-william—used to be cultivated for their perfume.

Boys-play. Amusement for boys; trifling, child's-play.

1596 SHAKS. 1 *Hen. IV.* v. iv. 76 You shall finde no Boyes play heere, I can tell you. 1672 MARVEL *Rh. Transp.* I. 249 Princes... are past such boyes-play. 1812 L. HUNT in *Examiner* 21 Dec. 814/1 Most of his tragedies... are little better than so much gigantic boy's-play.

Boyst(e, Boystous), *var. of BOIST, BOISTOUS*.

Boyte, *obs. form of BOOT sb.* 1

† **Boyster**, *Obs.* A bird of prey; ? a Buzzard.

1648 GAGE *West Ind.* xii. (1655) 45 Hawkes, Kites, Boyters (which are very many in those parts).

Boytie, *obs. f. BEETLE*, a mallet.

† **Boytrye**, *Obs. rare*—1.

1541 BRINKLOW *Complaynt* (1874) 26 If the kyng knewe what boytrye were there (in the Marshalsea) used, I think he wold neuer suffer them more to kepe court.

|| **Boyuna** (boi'yū'nā), [Tupi *boi-una*, 'serpens obscurus' (Martins). Carried by the Portuguese from Brazil to Ceylon.]

a. A large water-snake of Brazil of dark colour (? *Boa aquatica*). b. A harmless snake of Ceylon. 1774 GOLDSM. *Nat. Hist.* (1862) II. iii. 429 The Boyuna of Ceylon is equally a favourite among the natives.

|| **Boza, bosa** (bō'zā), Also *boosa, bouza*.

boosa. [Turkish *boza* 'a kind of thick white drink made of millet fermented' (Redhouse).]

A popular acidulated drink in Egypt, etc., made by fermenting an infusion of millet-seed, with the addition of certain astringent substances; also an inebriating preparation of damel-meal, hemp-seed and water.

1656 BLOUNT *Glossogr.*, *Boza*, a drink in Turkey made of seed, much like new mustard, and is very heady. 1706 tr. L. LEMERY *Treat. Aliments* III. ii. 292 The Boza, so much esteemed by the Arabs and Egyptians, is a Composition made of the Leaves and Seed of Hanguue. 1847 CRAIG, *Boza*. 1849 SOUTHEY *Comm.-pl. Bk.* Ser. II. 45 The Boza makers are a very necessary corporation in a camp. 1879 C. R. LOW *Fruit. Gen. Abbott* I. 97 We get plenty of supplies; grain, boosa, sheep, cows... are brought into camp.

Bozoar, *obs. form of BEZOAR*.

Bozzom, *bozzum*, *dial. name of the Ox-eye (Chrysanthemum Leucanthemum), or the Yellow Ox-eye (Chrysanthemum segetum)*.

1847 in HALLIWELL.

Bra, obs. form of **BRAB**.

Bras, obs. and dial. form of **BRACE**.

† **Brasny**, a. Obs. rare-1. [A modification of *brasen* **BRAZEN**, with -y; cf. *yrony*, *yrone* in quot.] Like *brass*.

1398 WYCLIF *Deut.* xxviii. 23 Be heuene that is aboue thee brasny [1398 brasun]; and the lond that thou tredist yrony [1398 yron].

Brab (bræb). Also **brabb**. [? corruption of *Pg. brava* wild, *palmeira brava* being the Portuguese name. Written also *brab(b-tree)*.]

The Palmyra palm (*Borassus flabelliformis*). 1698 FRVER *Acc. E. India* 76 (V.) Another Tree called Brabb, bodied like a Cocoe. 1766 GROSSE *Voy. E. India* I. 48 (V) A few brab-trees, or rather wild palm-trees (the word *brab* being derived from *brabo*, which in the Portuguese signifies wild). 1859 R. BURTON *Centr. Afr. in Jnrl. R. G. S.* XXIX. 81 A screen of brab-trees.

Brabant (bräbent). [f. the name of the Duchy of Brabant. As applied to a coin, the word is a mistranslation of a passage in Hemingburgh (see first quot.), where *Brabantium* is not a sb., but an adj. agreeing with *scaldingorum*.] A term recently applied (in error) to a base coin of Flemish manufacture circulated in England in the 13th c. [c. 1350 W. HEMINGBURGH *Chron.* (ed. Hamilton) II. 187 Mercatores enim alienigenae introduxerunt in Angliam monetas . . . pessimi metalli, pollardorum, crocardorum, scaldingorum Brabantium, aquilarum . . . et aliorum diversorum nominum.] 1840 RUDING *Ann. Coinage* I. 201 These coins were . . . distinguished by the names of pollards, crocards, scaldings, brabants, eagles. 1866 ROGERS *Agric. & Prices* I. 178 Scaldings, Brabants, Eagles.

† **Brabantie**. Obs. rare-1. [perh. f. *Brabant* (see prec.). Cf. *Sp. brabantie* a sort of linen.] A garment worn by soldiers in the 16th c. 1591 GARRARD *Art Warre* I. 18 A strait brabantie and gascaine is to be worn.

Brabble (bræb'l), v. Obs. or arch. exc. dial. Also 6 **brabbel**, **brabil**, -el, 6-8 **brable**. [Derivation obscure: usually identified with *Du. brabbelen* to confuse, stammer, jabber (cf. *BRABBLING* *vbl. sb. 2*), but it is doubtful whether the history of the senses in Eng. supports this. Cf. *BRAWL*, *BABBLE*.]

Skinner conjectured a corruption of *med. L. parabolarum* to harangue, discourse (7a forensic or university term), cf. *Welsh parabulu* to speak. *Du Cange* has 'tota die parabolarum perscripturas', which agrees with sense. With 'womanish brabble' cf. the proverb 'ubi mulieres ibi parabole.'

1. *intr.* To dispute captiously or obstinately; to cavil or quibble. Const. *with*, *against* a person; *about*, *on*, *at*, *for* a thing. c. 1500 *Porte helpe* 96 in *Hazl. E. P. P.* III. 256 They wolde not haue you playe To dryue the tyme away; But brabble on the Byble. 1548 UDALL, etc. *Erasm. Par. Mark* x. 24 They did not crie, and brable agaynst him. 1590 J. FIELD *Calvin's Serm.* Ded., And then they brable with us about the translation. 1614 RALEIGH *Hist. World* II. v. 9. 609 He thought it no fit season to brabble at the Law. 1641 Bp. MOUNTAGU *Diatriba* 538 What have we brabbled, and contended for all this while?

2. To quarrel about trifles; esp. to quarrel noisily, brawl, squabble. Cf. *BRABBLE* *sb. 3*. c. 1530 H. RHODES *Bk. Nurture in Babes Bk.* (1868) 92 Brable not thou with thy neyghbour. 1590 GREENE *Never too late* (Wks. 1882) VIII. 136 Though Mars and Venus brabled, they were friends after brawls. 1653 HOLCROFT *Procopius* iii. 78 While they were thus brabbling for the spoils. 1675 COTTON *Poet. Wks.* (1765) 220 If I reach one of you a Douse, You'll learn more Manners than to brabble.

3. = *BABBLE* *v*.

1570 LEVINS *Manif.* 126 To Brabil, *multum loqui*. 1873 *Lanc. Gloss.* (E. D. S.) *Brabble*, to chatter noisily.

Brabble, sb. [f. prec.]

† 1. A quibble, a captious objection or dispute. 1581 J. BELL *Haddon's Answ. Osor.* 227/2 To confounde . . . the Sophistical brables of all other adversaries. a. 1606 Bp. ANDREWS *Serm.* ix. (1641) 105 True righteousness leadeeth to peace, not to questions and brabble. 1674 MARVELL *Reh. Transp.* II. 312 It is not worth the Readers trouble to interest him in such a foolish brabble.

† 2. A frivolous or paltry action at law. Obs. 1598 R. BERNARD *Terrace's Andria* iv. v. To go follow suites and brabbles in law. 1668 WILKINS *Real Char.* 271 In Judicial Affairs . . . those less general words of Suit, Controversie . . . Cause, Action . . . Brabble. 1677 HOBBS *Odys.* 150 The Judge ariseeth from his seat, Ending the brabbles of contentious men.

3. A paltry altercation, noisy quarrel. 1566 GRINDAL *Lett. Wks.* (1843) 289 To declare a womanish brabble that happened yesternight in a church in London. 1599 SHAKS. *Hen. V.* iv. viii. 60 *Fluellen*. . . Keepe you out of prawles and prabbles and quarrels. 1641 MILTON *Ch. Discip.* II. Wks. (1851) 54 To make a Nationall Warre of a Surplice Brabble, a Tippet-scuttle. 1860 MOTLEY *Netherl.* (1868) II. xv. 229 To spend the time in private brabbles and piques . . . is not a good course.

† b. A brawl, skirmish, or petty war. Obs. 1577 HOLINSHED *Chron.* III. 1145/1 In the which brabble it happened the capitaine horse to be slaine vnder him. 1601 SHAKS. *Twel. N. v.* I. 68 Heere in the streets . . . In priuate brabble did we apprehend him. 1622 HUYLIN *Cosmogr.* III. (1682) 168 A matter of more consequence than these Scythian brables.

4. Discordant babble. 1861 Temple *Bar Oct.*, *Ser. Sons Mam.* xxvi, The myriad-tongued brabble had ceased. 1868 BROWNING *Ring & Bk.* iv. 34 To hear the rabble and brabble, you'd call the case Fused and confused past human finding out.

Vol. I.

Brabblement. arch. Also **brable**. [f. as prec. + *MENT*.] Cavilling, quibbling (obs.); noisy quarrelling, contentious uproar (now chiefly dial.).

1556 ABP. PARKER *Psalter* cvi. 16 They provokt with wrath . . . Aaron . . . wyth foolish brabblement. a. 1563 BALE *Sol. Wks.* (1849) 176 Are not Christ and his disciples teachers sufficient enough . . . but we must have unsavoury brabblement? 1593 NASH *Christ's T.* 68 b. Contention . . . is euer in Armes, neuer out of brabblement. 1824 CRIVEN *Dial.* 23 Hees ollas agait o' some brabblement. 1896 *Daily News* 28 Sept. 5/3 The Commune was a time of extraordinary 'brabblement'—to use a word of Carlyle's.

Brabbler (bræ'b'lær). arch. Also 6 **brabeler**, 6-8 **brabler**. [f. as prec. + *-ER*.] One who brabbles: † a. a caviller, quibbler (obs.); b. a quarrelsome person, brawler.

1548 THOMAS *Ital. Gram.* (1567) *Cinciglione*, is a drunken brabeler. 1553-57 FOXE *A. & M.* (1596) 1877/2, I am no brabler in the scripture. 1577 HOLINSHED *Chron.* II. 84 Brablers and ale-house quarrellers. 1647 DEPOS. *Cast. York* (Surtees) 10 He is . . . a brabler and a quarreller. 1713 Bp. GIBSON *Articles Visit.* in *Toulm. Smith Parish* (1857) 94 Is he a brabler, brawler . . . seditious party?

† **Brabbler**. Obs. In 6 **brablarie**. [f. *BRABBLE* + *-RY*.] Wrangling. 1567 DRANT *Horace Epist.* I. xviii. Fij, An other vseth brablarie [*rixatur*] For very gotish wol.

Brabbling (bræ'b'ling), *vbl. sb.* [f. *BRABBLE* *v*.] 1. † a. Cavilling, 'hair-splitting' (obs.). b. Wrangling, noisy quarrelling.

1532 MORE *Confut. Tindale Wks.* 410/2 To beare and abide the brabbling of Tindals tonge. 1562 T. NORTON *Cato's Inst.* (1634) Pref. With . . . sophistical brabbings. 1614 RALEIGH *Hist. World* I. 172 The brabbings of the Aristotelians. 1645 in *Somers Tracts* I. 35 The Trade of Brabbling and Pettifoggging. 1865 CARLYLE *Fredk. Gt.* I. iii. iii. 148 Brabbings, scuffings, oburgations.

† 2. A confusion, a jumble. Obs. 1530 PALSGR. 617/2, I make a brablying, *je barbonille*.

Brabbling, ppl. a. arch. [f. as prec. + *-ING*.] 1. † a. Disposed to cavil or quibble (obs.); b. litigious, quarrelsome; c. tumultuous, riotous.

1549 COVERDALE *Par. Erasm. Gal.* v. 14 The brablying law with so many rules. 1577 HARRISON *England* II. ii. (1877) 53 In a brablying fraie, one of hir men was slaine. 1603 H. CROSSE *Virtues Commw.* (1878) 63 Violent extortion, brabbling suites, and vnjust vexations. 1633 P. FLETCHER *Eliza* xxii, Brabbling lawyers' brawls. [1855 MOTLEY *Dutch Rep.* II. viii. (1866) 294 Commerce would have no security at Antwerp 'in those brabbling times'.]

Brabblingly, adv. arch. [f. prec. + *-LY*.] In a captious or contentious manner. 1565 JEWEL *Def. Apol.* (1611) 43 We will deale herein neither bitterly, nor brabblingly.

† **Brabeum** (bräb'ëum). Obs. rare. [late L. *brabium*, a. Gr. *βραβιον*.] A prize, premium, reward. 1675 *Phil. Trans.* X. 549 Young architects to be encouraged by certain brabeums or prizes.

Brab-tree: see *BRAB*.

Brace, var. of *BRACK* 1, Obs., noise.

Braccate (bræ'kæt), a. [ad. L. *brac(c)at-us*, f. *brac(c)are* trousers, breeches: see *-ATE*.] 1. *Ornith.* Having the legs fully covered with feathers. 1847 in CRAIG.

† **Braccio** (brat'so). Pl. *braccia*. [It. *braccio*, lit. 'an arm', hence a measure of length.] An Italian measure of length: nearly two English feet. 1760 RAFFER in *Phil. Trans.* LI. 782 The braccio of Florence. 1855 BROWNING *Old Pict at Flor.*, The Campanile . . . Shall soar up in gold full fifty braccia.

† **Brace**, sb. 1. Obs. Forms: 5 *braas*, *brace*, 6 *braos*, *brase*. [a. F. *bras* = L. *brac(c)hium*, lit. an arm.] An arm; esp. an 'arm' of the sea or other large body of water. *Brace of St. George* = med. L. *brachium Sancti Georgii* (Du Cange): the Bosphorus or the Hellespont.

c. 1400 MAUNDREY. xi. 126 He schal . . . passe the wature, that ys cleped the Brace of seynt George. 1477 CAXTON *Jason* 105 b. Guided his boot ouer the braas. 1481 — *Myrr.* II. iii. 67 That renneth a longe thurgh the Royame of ynde, And departeth in to many armys or braces. 1506 GUYLFORD *Pilgr.* (1851) 67 Vt sayd streyghtes, otherwyse called the brache of seynt George. c. 1530 Ld. BERNERS *Arth. Lyt.* 179/1 (1814) 142 The stroke . . . cut asonder a greite brase of a benche, that stode before the bedde.

Brace (bræ'z), sb. 2. Also 5-7 *brase*, 6-7 *braos*, 6 *bresse*, 7 *brasse*, 9 (*dial.*) *braas*. [Orig. a. OF. *brace*, *brache*, *brase* (fem. sing.) the two arms, esp. the width of the two arms:—L. *brac(c)hia*, pl. of *brac(c)hium* the arm. But senses 7 onwards appear to be chiefly taken from or influenced by certain senses of *BRACE* *v* 1, and might perhaps be better treated as a separate word.]

1. Uses of the general sense 'pair of arms'.

† 1. The portion of a suit of armour covering the arms. (At first 'a pair of brace', but afterwards applied to the covering of one arm.) Obs. c. 1340 *Can. & Gr. Knt.* 52a Wel bornyst brace vpon his bope armes. 1430 LYDO. *Chron.* *Troy* III. xxii. Some . . . ne wolde fayle To haue of mayle a payre brace. 1483 *Cath. Angl.* 39 A brace, *defensorium, brachiale*. a. 1603 MONTGOMERY *Poems* (1821) 7 On his left arm, a brace. 1611 COTGR., *Bracets*, Brasses, or Vambrasses; armor for the armes.

† b. ? A coat of armour. Obs.

1601 SHAKS. *Per. II.* I. 133 'It hath been a shield 'Twixt me and death';—and [he] pointed to this brace.

† c. A state of defence or of preparation for war. 1604 SHAKS. *Oth.* I. iii. 24 Cyprus . . . stands not in such Warrelke brace.

† 2. A measure of length, orig. representing the length of the extended arms; cf. *FATHOM*. (The French *brasse* was 1.62 metres (Littre) = about 64 inches.) Obs.

1599 HAKLUYT *Voy.* II. I. 211 They haue built a tombe . . . a brace and an halfe high. 1613 PURCHAS *Pilgr.* viii. xiv. (1614) 815 This fiery concavity . . . goes down two hundred and fifty braces or yards. 1710 W. MATHER *Yng. Man's Comp.* (1727) 399 Giving diversity of Names to their Measures; as the Yard, Ell, Goad, Auline, Brace.

† 3. An embrace; *fig.* in quot. Obs. 1589 PASQUILL *Ret.* 4 Hee fell into the brace of Rome again.

† 4. An arch of a bridge. Cf. *SPAN* of arch. Obs. 1483 *Cath. Angl.* 39 A Brace of a bryge, or of a vawte; *sinus, arcus*.

5. Sc. A mantel-shelf. Cf. *brace-piece* in VI; also *window-brace* 'the part of a window on which the sash rests' (Jamieson).

1806 TRAIN *Post. Rev.* 101 A dreadful knell came on the brace.

6. A carpenter's tool, having a crank handle, and a socket or pad to hold a 'bit' for boring.

1567 WILLS & INV. N. C. (1835) 268, V wombles, iij percurs bites and a brace xx⁴. 1832 BARBAGE *Econ. Manuf.* xvii. (ed. 3) 153 Braces for carpenters, with 12 bits. 1833 J. HOLLAND *Manuf. Metal* II. 128 The joiner when boring with a brace and bit.

II. That which clasps, tightens, secures, connects. Cf. *BRACE* *v* 1 3.

7. A clasp, buckle, clamp, or other connecting piece or fastener.

c. 1440 *Prompt. Parv.* 46 Brace of a balke, *uncus, loramentum*. 1571 WILLS & INV. N. C. (1835) 362 One . . . iij claspes for collers . . . iij boxes of bresses iij vj. 1580 HOLLYBAND *Treas. Fr. Tong.* *Agaphre*, a buckle of a gyrdle, a claspe, a brace. 1607 TOPSELL *Four-f. Beasts* 177 Some thick collar or brace, so as he [the Fox] can never bite it asunder. 1630 HORN & ROE *Gate Lang. Unt.* xlix. § 545 *marg.*, The braces bind down and hold fast the dormans to the studs. 1790 COWPER *Odys.* I. 561 Fasten'd it with bolt and brace secure. 1868 G. STEPHENS *Runic Mons.* I. 295 This Bronze Brace . . . has belonged to a Sword-sheath of wood.

† 8. The fibula of the leg. A transl. of L. *fibula* lit. 'brooch' or 'buckle'. Cf. *braso-bone* in VI. 1656 DUGARD *Gate Lat. Unt.* § 223. 61 The Fibula, or Brace, or lesser focile.

9. A strap bearing a buckle, or otherwise adapted to be drawn tight and fastened: a. for tightening the joints of armour. (Perh. only a mod. inference from *BRACE* *v* 1.)

1822 MISS YONGE *Cameos* (1877) II. iii. 29 His own thrifty hands mended the brace.

b. One of a pair of straps of leather or webbing used to support the trousers; a suspender. (In quot. 1816 with pun on *BRACE* *sb* 3 App. not before 19th c.; cf. *BRACER* 1, quot. 1799.)

1816 'Quiz' *Grand Master* I. 20 It broke, and . . . Carried away both stays and braces. 1824 CRIVEN *Dial.* 17 They gee 'em two names, a braas an a gallows. 1848 THACKERAY *Van. Fair* iii. (1853) 15, I have embroidered for you a very beautiful pair of braces.

c. A strap serving as a handle (*fig.* in quot.). 1592 Bp. ANDREWS *Serm.* (1843) V. 504 Our faith is the braces or handle whereby we take hold.

10. A leathern thong which slides up and down the cord of a drum, and is used to regulate the tension of the skins, and thus the pitch of the note. (cf. *BRACE* *v* 1 4.) † b. Also the cord itself (obs.).

1596 EDW. III. II. ii. 26 Go . . . hang him in the braces of his drum. a. 1735 DERRHAM (J.) The little bones of the ear-drum do in straining and relaxing it, as the braces of the war-drum do in that. 1860 GROVE *Dict. Mus.* I. 466/1 This cord is tightened by means of leather braces. *Ibid.* 466/2 The heads are tightened by cords and braces.

c. *transf.* Tension. a. 1697 HOLDER (J.) The laxness of the tympanum when it has lost its brace or tension.

11. *Brace of a coach*: one of the stout leathern straps by which the body of a carriage is suspended from the springs.

1720 GAY *Poems* (1745) I. 174 See yon bright chariot on its braces swing. 1794 W. FELTON *Carriages* (1801) I. 226 The bodies of Carriages are suspended from the springs by braces.

12. *Naut.* (See quot. 1850.) c. 1850 RUDIM. *Navig.* (Weale) 100 *Braces*, straps of iron, copper, or mixed metal, secured with bolts and screws to the stern-post and bottom planks. In their after ends are holes to receive the pintles by which the rudder is hung.

1869 SIK E. REED *Ship-build.* xiii. 247 The rudder was hung to three braces, riveted to the hollow-plate stern-post.

13. A slender bandage or cord fastened round a decoy-bird's body. Cf. *braso-bird* in VI.

1768 PENNANT *Zool.* II. 332 These birds [the decoys] are secured . . . by what is called a brace.

14. A sign } used in writing or printing, chiefly for the purpose of uniting together two or more lines, words, staves of music, etc. Sometimes, but less correctly, used in plural to denote square brackets [].

1856 BLOUNT *Glossogr.* s.v., With Printers a Brace is that

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which couples two or more words together. 1806 CALLCOTT *Mus. Gram.* i. 3 When a Staff is wanted for each hand they are joined together by a Brace. 1824 L. MURRAY *Eng. Gram.* i. 413 A Brace } is used in poetry at the end of a triplet. 1841 J. R. YOUNG *Math. Dissert.* iii. 129 The first term within the braces. 1880 MUIRHEAD *Gains* Introd. 19, I have had recourse to... braces [] and marks of parenthesis.

III. 16. Two things taken together; a pair, a couple. Often a mere synonym for *two*, as, in cricketing language 'A hit B for a brace'; see *o*. In this sense the plural is also *brace*, as in *two or three brace*, several brace.

a. *orig.* of dogs. (Perhaps the band or cord with which dogs were coupled in coursing was called a brace; cf. sense 13 and LEASH.)

1430 *Lydg. Chron.* Troy i. vi. This ylle lease of thre.. All sodeynly was touned to a brace. c. 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 46 Brace of howndys. 1593 SHAKS. 3 *Hen. VI.* ii. v. 129 Edward and Richard like a brace of Grey-hounds. Are at our backs. 1608 DEKKER *Satirom.* Wks. 1873 I. 226 *Sir Vauxh.* I indited a brace or two more. *Ant.* He makes hounds of us... a brace quoth a? 1816 SCOTT *Bl. Dwarf* ii. 15 He summoned to his side the brace of large greyhounds.

b. of other animals, esp. certain kinds of game. 1570 LEVINS *Manip.* 6 A Brace of Deere, duo damae. 1651 FULLER *Abel Rediv.* Erasmus (1867) l. 83 Hammond and Urswick sent him a brace of geldings. 1715 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 5371/4 A brace of Trouts. 1741 *Compl. Fam.-Piece* ii. i. 317 A Brace or Leash of Live Partridges. 1851 KINGSLEY *Bad Squire* 28 A few more brace of game. 1867 F. FRANCIS *Angling* v. (1880) 178, I rose and hooked six brace of capital fish.

c. of things. (More correctly when united or paired, as in a brace of pistols.)

1523 STUBBS *Anat. Abus.* (1871) 75 Their Parents owe a brace of hundred pounds more than they are worth. 1630 M. GODWIN *Annales England* 230 Robert, Ket... had gathered a fortune of a brace of thousands. 1644 FULLER *Holy & Prof.* St. iii. vii. 167 Borrowing of thy neighbour a brace of chambers for a night. 1795 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 6727/3 Shot through the Left Arm with a Brace of Bullets. 1834 H. MARTINEAU *Ireland* v. 85 Three brace of pistols.

d. of persons. (Chiefly with a touch of humour or contempt.)

1606 WARNER *Alb. Eng.* xiv. xci. (1612) 370 Clargie-men... Pluralitie that huddle, haue also their brace of wifes. 1655 FULLER *Ch. Hist.* ii. ii. 84 l. 213 A brace of Brethren, both Bishops. 1768 GOLDSM. *Good-n. Man* iii. i. I'll undertake to set down a brace of dukes. 1847 TENNYSON *Princ.* v. 453 A lusty brace of twins may weed her of her folly. 1865 MRS. C. CLARKE *Shaks. Char.* xix. 483 Thorough specimens of a brace of vulgar demagogues.

IV. That which imparts rigidity or steadiness; cf. BRACE v. 1. 6.

16. A strip or band of metal used for support, e.g. in mounting bells.

1730 *Churchw. Accts.* Holy Cross, Canterb. Casting All y^r braces for y^r bells. 1880 GROVE *Dict. Mus.* i. 219/2 Bells... are first carefully secured by iron bolts and braces. 1885 *Manch. Exam.* 21 July 6/5 The pieces of copper were furnished... with iron braces, intended to give them rigidity.

17. Building and Mech. A timber or scantling used in a roof or other trussed framework to stiffen the assemblage of pieces composing it; a piece of timber or iron used to strengthen the framework of a vessel, bridge, pier, etc.; a stay used to steady a printing press.

1530 *Palsgr.* 200/2 Brace of an house, brace. 1616 BULLOCK *Braces.* In building it signifieth the peeces of timber which bend forward on both sides and beare up the rafters. 1677 *Moxon Mech. Exerr.* (1703) 141 The Quarters and Braces between the principal Posts... are fitted in. 1823 P. NICHOLSON *Pract. Build.* 155 To keep the timbers from descending, two braces are introduced. 1838 F. SIMMS *Public Wks. Gt. Brit.* ii. 25 Diagonal braces of cast iron. 1841 *Penny Cycl.* XXI. 395/2 A method of counteracting the arching of a ship by braces of iron. 1867 SMYTH *Sailor's Word-Bk.* 127 Braces are plates of iron... used to bind efficiently a weakness in a vessel.

V. Technical uses of obscure origin.

18. In Mining. 1881 RAYMOND *Mining Gloss.*, Brace, the mouth of a shaft. 19. In Agriculture.

1807 VANCOUVER *Agric. Devon* (1813) 119 Near the point of the share, a comb or brace rises, and... is inserted about midway in the perpendicular bar.

VI. 20. Comb. and Attrib., as brace-button, braces-maker; also brace-bird, a decoy-bird secured by a brace (see 13); † brace-bone, the fibula; brace-drill, a boring tool shaped like a brace; brace-head, -key, an attachment at the top of a column of boring-rods, by means of which these are turned; brace-piece, *Sc.*, a mantel-piece. 1885 *Pall Mall G.* 10 Oct. 4/2 The 'brace bird is generally a goldfinch. 1634 T. JOHNSON *Parey's Chirurg.* xv. ii. (1678) 327 The 'brace-bone serves for the sustaining of the muscles, and not of the body as the leg-bone doth. 1875 *Ure Dict. Arts* I. 439 The 'brace-head, or cross-head, with the four handles held by the borers. 1836 DICKENS *Sk. Bos* (1850) 149/2 A retired glove and 'braces maker.

Brace (brēs), sb. 3. Naut.; also 7 brase. [a. F. *bras* (de vergue) of same meaning (lit. 'arm'); assimilated to BRACE sb. 2. It is less probable that Fr. *bras* in this sense is an adaptation of the Eng. word, which would then be a special application of BRACE sb. 2. II.] A rope attached to the yard of a vessel for the purpose of 'trimming' the sail.

1606 CAPT. SMITH *Acid. Yng. Seamen* 28 Ease your mayne

brases. 1768 FALCONER *Shipwr.* ii. note, The lee-brace confines the yard so that the tack will not come down to its place. 1840 R. DANA *Bef. Mast* v. 10 We were obliged to steady the booms and yards by guys and braces.

b. attrib., as in brace-block, -man, -pendant. c. 1860 H. STUART *Seaman's Catech.* 49 Brace men attend their braces. 1867 SMYTH *Sailor's Word-Bk.* 127 Brace pendants are lengths of rope, or... chain, into which the yard-arm brace-blocks are spliced.

Brace (brēs), v. 1. Also 4-7 bras(e), 6 brais(e), 7 brace. [ad. OF. *bracie-r* to embrace, f. *brace* the two arms; but some of the senses are taken directly from those of BRACE sb. 2 q.v.]

† 1. trans. To put the arms round, embrace. *Obs.* c. 1375 ? BARBOUR *St. Thomas* 135 In armys cane brase bame bath. c. 1430 *Syr Genyf.* 3324 In his armes he can hir brase. 1526 SKELTON *Magnyf.* 1578 A baby to brace and to baste. 1570 LEVINS *Manip.* 6 To Brace, amplecti.

2. To encompass, surround, gird, encircle; also, causally, to put round, make to surround. (Now usually with some notion of 3 combined.)

1513 DOUGLAS *Æneis* ix. vi. 140 Euryll... hes this jowell [a girdle] hynt, About his sydis it brasing. 1579 SPENSER *Sheph. Cal.* Sept. 124 Bigge Bulles of Basan brace hern about. 1788 COWPER *Gilpin* 122 He seem'd to carry weight, With leathern girdle braced. 1835 AIRD *Chr. Bride* i. v. A flowing wood the middle mountain braced.

3. To clasp, fasten up tightly, gird: sometimes with a reference to one or other of the senses of BRACE sb. 2.

c. 1325 *Coer de L.* 5649 Anon did hote Faste that men scholde it brace. ? a 1400 *Morte Arth.* 1182 Stryke of his hevede... brace it in yttne, And sett it on the barbycane. 1530 *LYNDSEY Papyngo* 938 They haue ane Boumbard, braissit vp in bandis. 1556 LEIGH *Armorie* (1597) 10 b, A Souldior... caused his man to brace him in a male. 1605 BLACKMORE *Pr. Arth.* iv. 566 He ne'er before had brad'd the Helmet on. 1725 POPE *Odys.* x. 19 The adverse winds in leathern bags he brad'd. 1810 CRABBE *Borough* v. Wks. 1834 III. 105 His short stout person he is wont to brace In good brown broad-cloth. 1870 BRYANT *Iliad* viii. l. 255, I brace my armor on for war.

4. To make tight or tense; to stretch, strain (esp. the skin of a drum). Cf. BRACE sb. 2. 10.

c. 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 46 Bracyn, or sette streyte, tendo. 1595 SHAKS. *John* v. ii. 169 A drumme is readie brad'd, That shall reuerberate all, as lowd as thine. 1730 SWIFT *Pamph.* *Dean Wks.* 1755 IV. i. 142 Then gluttony... Brad'd like a drum her oily skin. 1777 ROBERTSON *Hist. Amer.* III. 443 Bracing the back of the bow with a kind of thread. 1808 PALKE *Nat. Theol.* iii. (1827) 445 In a drum the pelt is carried over a hoop, and braced as occasion requires.

5. To 'string up' (nerves, sinews, etc.), give firmness or tone to. So also to brace up.

1736 GRAY *Let. in Poems* (1775) 9 His vigorous arm he try'd... Brad'd all his nerves, and every sinew strung. 1740 CHEVYNE *Regimen* 66 Medicines, to brace and wind up the Stomach. c. 1750 STENSTON *Elegies* ix. 14 They gave you toils, but toils your sinews brace. 1847 L. HUNT *Men, Women, & Bks.* i. iii. 40 Would to Heaven his nerves had been as braced up as his face. 1879 CHR. ROSSETTI *Seek & P.* 56 Winter which nips can also brace.

b. fig. Also refl. to brace oneself (cf. to gird oneself); also to brace one's heart, energies, etc., in sense of summoning up resolution for a task.

a 1500 *Chaucer Poem* in Todd *Illustr.* 299 Arysing full lightly my sylfe did rose. 1805 WORDSW. *Prel.* i. (1850) 8 An earnest longing rose To brace myself to some determined aim. 1836 THIRLWALL *Greece* II. xv. 306 Nothing now remained but to brace every nerve for the battle. 1876 GREEN *Short Hist.* i. § 4. 39 Under Offa Mercia first really braced herself to the completion of her British conquests.

6. To render firm or steady by binding tightly. 1765 COWPER *Task* l. 41 A lattice-work, that braced The new machine, and it became a chair. 1803 WELLINGTON in *Gurw. Disp.* l. 488 The spring lines are then lashed diagonally from one boat to the other to brace them tight. 1870 ROLLESTON *Anim. Life* 144 They are braced by ligaments.

b. More generally: To fix, render firm, set rigidly or firmly down. Also fig.

1849 THOREAU *Week Concord Riv.* Thurs. 315 With their fore feet braced, they sustained the rushing torrent in their rear. 1873 HOLLAND *A. Bonnic.* xiii. 222 Braced by them as I was, Mr. Mullens made no headway against me. 1876 WHYTE-MELVILLE *Katerfelto* ix. 98 He braced his foot in the stirrup to afford a purchase for her ascent.

7. To join firmly, couple together.

1806 E. IRVING *Babylon* I. iii. 210 Which event is again braced to the former parts of the book.

† Brace, v. 2. *Obs.* Also 6 brase. [prob. a use of BRACE v. 1 (see esp. sense 5): but cf. also OF. *bracier* to swing the arms about (as a sign of pride; cf. quot. in Godef. 'Orgueus va des bras brachioiant, Des espauls espaulioiant').] To bluster, domineer; to assume a defiant attitude; chiefly in phrase to face and brace.

1447-8 SHILLINGFORD *Let.* (1871) 23 He can... braule, brasse and brace, lye and swere well to. a 1599 SKELTON *Agst. Scottes* 33 Such boste make To face and brace All voyd of Grace. 1549 LATIMER *Serm. bef. Edw. VI* (Arb.) 152 Men... would face it and brace it and make a shewe of vpright dealynge. a 1563 BECON *Fortr. Faithf.* (1844) 599 They gripe, they nip, they face, they brase, they seemle... to maintain and set forth their unnable nobility.

Brace (brēs), v. 3. Naut. Also 7 brace. [ad. F. *brasser* (also *brasseyer*), of same meaning; or f. BRACE sb. 3.] trans. To move or turn (a sail) by means of braces. Hence, with various adverbs and prepositions, as brace aback, to draw (the

yards) in, so as to lay the sails aback; brace about, abox (see quot.); brace by, to brace (the yards) in contrary directions on the different masts; brace in, to lay (the yards) less obliquely athwartships; brace round = brace about; brace sharp (see quot.); brace to, to ease the lee- and draw in (the weather-braces) so as to assist in tacking; brace up, to put (the yards) into a more oblique position. Also absol. in prec. uses.

1669 STURMY *Mariner's Mag.* l. ii. 16 Breace the Foresail... to the Mast. 1675 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 3073/3 He Braced to and fell a-stern. 1768 FALCONER *Shipwr.* ii. 908 Brace the foremost yards aback. 1769 — *Dict. Marine* (1789) *Brasser sous le vent*, to brace to leeward, or brace-up the yards. 1838 MARRYAT *N. Forster* xi. The yards [were] braced by. 1840 R. DANA *Bef. Mast* xxii. 66 Her yards were braced sharp up. 1867 SMYTH *Sailor's Word-Bk.* 127 To brace about, to turn the yards round for the contrary tack. To brace abox, a manoeuvre to insure casting the right way, by bracing the head-yards flat aback (not square). To brace sharp, to cause the yards to have the smallest possible angle with the keel, for the ship to have head-way.

b. transf. (humorous.)

1834 M. SCOTT *Cruise Midge* (1863) 34 We braced up sharp round a right-angled corner of our pestiferous path.

Brace, variant of BRAZE v. *Obs.*

Braced (brēs't), ppl. a. 1. [f. BRACE v. 1 + -ED.]

1. Strained, strengthened, girt, etc.; cf. the verb. 1633 P. FLETCHER *Purple Isl.* v. xl. Where stands a braced drumme, whose sounding head... Gives instant warning. 1847 BARHAM *Ingol. Leg.* (1877) 265 In Mariner's dress, with cutlass braced. 1868 RUSSELL in *Times* 27 Mar., The deck... is supported by heavy braced oak beams.

† b. fig. = Contracted. *Obs. rare.*

1534 WHITTINTON *Tullies Offices* i. (1540) 31 Nothyng of so straye and brased stomake and so poore.

2. Her. Interlaced or linked together. Also written brased.

1568 LEIGH *Armorie* (1597) 105 b, He beareth... iij Cheurons, brased on the baste Or. 1766 PORRY *Heraldry* (1787) 150 A Man's Heart Gules, within two equilateral triangles braced Sable.

Braced, ppl. a. 2. Naut. [f. BRACE v. 3 + -ED.] Turned or moved by means of braces.

1768 FALCONER *Shipwr.* i. 228 Yards alternate square and sharply braced. 1881 *Times* 21 Dec., The vessel was hove to... with yards braced up.

† Bracel. *Obs. rare.* [a. OF. *bracel*:—L. *brac(c)hiāle* bracelet, f. *brac(c)hium* arm.] A bracelet.

1535 DEWEES *Introd. Fr. in Palgr.* 907 The bracelet, le bracelet. Braceless (brēs'slēs), a. [f. BRACE sb. 2 + -LESS.] Without a brace or braces.

1859 F. MAHONEY *Rel. Father Prout* 233 Braceless breeches.

Bracelet (brēs'slēt). Forms: 5- bracelet, 5 brasselat, 6 bracelette, bracelette, braschoe, brase-, 7 bras-, brasselet. [a. OF. *bracelet*, dim. of OF. *bracel*: see BRACEL.]

1. An ornamental ring or band worn on the arm or wrist.

1438 E. E. WILLS (1882) 110 A Bracelet of Gold. 1488 *Invent. Jas. III* in Tytler *Hist. Scot.* (1864) II. 391 A braselat of gold, with hede & pendes of gold. 1549 *Compl. Scot.* 120 I tuke his croune fra his hede, and his brascheletis fra his armis. 1611 SHAKS. *Cymb.* v. v. 416 The Bracelet of the truest Princesses That euer swore her Faith. a 1634 RANDOLPH *Poems* (1638) 13 Upon her arme a braslet hung. 1717 LADY M. W. MONTAGUE *Let.* II. xlii. 19 She wore large diamond bracelets. 1839 THIRLWALL *Greece* II. 348 The collars and bracelets, with which the Persians... adorned their persons.

† 2. Applied to ornaments of similar shape worn on other parts of the person. *Obs.*

1624 CAPT. SMITH *Virginia* l. 3 In her eares were bracelets of pearle. 1684 BUNYAN *Pilgr.* ii. (1862) 339 About Christians's neck the Shepherds put a Bracelet. 1684 BURNET tr. *Moré's Utopia* 106 Their Caps were covered with Bracelets set full of Pearls and other Gems.

3. A fetter for the wrist, a gyve, hand-cuff.

1816 SCOTT *Harold Dauntl.* iv. viii, His bracelets of iron—his bed in our towers. 1883 *Pall Mall G.* 21 Sept. 12/1 Punishment used for refractory prisoners in Sing Sing:—Tight steel bracelets are fastened about the wrists.

4. A piece of armour covering the arm.

1580 HOLLYBAND *Treas. Fr. Tong. Vn. gardebras*, the bracelets of an armour. 1864 BURTON *Scot. Abr.* III. ii. 135 Armed with... headpiece and bracelets.

5. Her. = BRABULET.

6. Comb. Also Braceletless a., without bracelets.

1655 MRQ. WORCESTER *Cent. Inv.* Index 4 A Bracelet-alphabet [to write... by stringing of Bracelets.] 1801 SOUTHEY *Thalaba* vi. xxvi, Their ancles bound with bracelet-bells. 1873 MISS BROUGHTON *Nancy* l. 84 Barbara is locketless, braceletless, chainless.

Braceleted (brēs'slētēd), ppl. a. [f. prec. + -ED.] Furnished with a bracelet or bracelets.

1630 J. TAYLOR (Water-P.) *Wks.* iii. 98 She's ring'd, she's braceleted, she's richly tuff'd. 1843 *Blackw. Mag.* LIV. 338 Her many-braceleted arms. 1885 C. E. CRADDOCK *Proph. Smoky Mount* i. 25 His prisoner braceleted with the... hand-cuffs.

† Bracement. *Obs. rare*—1. [f. BRACE v. 1 + -MENT.] (See quot.)

1677 GREW *Anat. Fruits* iii. § 7 The Bracement or Reti-culation of the Vessels.

Bracer¹ (brēs'sar). [f. as prec. + -ER¹.]

1. That which clamps, binds, etc.; a cincture, bandage, brace; † also a pair of braces (*obs.*).

1579 J. JONES *Preserv. Body and Soul* i. xix. 34 Using instruments... as Bracers, Wastes, or bodies, made either of paper borders, plate, or Cards, etc. to make them slender.
1666 CAPT. SMITH *Accid. Yng. Seamen* 11 Bindings, knees, boulds, trunions, bracers. 1730 A. GORDON *Maffei's Amphit.* 213 By reason of the Concatenation of the Stones and Iron Bracers. 1799 *Specif. J. Foster's Patent* No. 2361 Making a bracer or sling for... keeping up breeches. 1876 GEO. ELIOT *Dan. Der.* viii. ix. 543 The chest... was made heavy by ornamental bracers and handles.

†2. The 'enarme' or strap for holding the buckler on the arm. *Obs. rare*—1. (But cf. next word.)
1612 BEAUM. & FL. *Cypid's Rev.* iv. 419 Take down my Buckler... and fetch a nail or two: and tack on bracers.

3. That which braces (the nerves); hence a tonic medicine (a common sense in 18th c., now *obs.*).
1740 CHEVNE *Regimen* p. ix, Bark, Bitters, and Steel, and such Astringents and Bracers. 1826 SCOTT in *Lockhart* (1839) VIII. 204 Adversity is to me a tonic and a bracer. 1830 *Fraser's Mag.* i. 182 As a bracer to the nerves, [I] slipped into the provision-basket a handful of... bottles.

Bracer². Forms: 4-6 braser, 5 bracere (in Cath. Angl.), brassure, 6 brasar, 6-7 brasar, 7 bracerot, brasser, 4- bracer. [a. OF. *brasseüre* (L. type **brachiālūra*, f. *brachium* arm); influenced by the synon. Fr. *brassard*, and by analogy of *-ER*: cf. *bordure*, *border*.]
The portion of a suit of armour covering the arm. Also a sort of guard for the wrist used in archery, in fencing, and in playing games at ball.

c 1386 CHAUCER *Prolog.* 111 Vp on his arm he baar a gay bracer. 1540 *Morte Arth.* 1859 Bracers burnyste bristes in sondyre. 1544 ASCHAM *Toxoph.* (Arb.) 108 A bracer serueth... to saue his arm from the stryge of the stryng. *Ibid.* (1654) 146, I sawe a man whyche used a brasar on his cheke. 1570 LEVINS *Manip.* 72 A Bracher, *brachiale*. 1612 MARKHAM *Countr. Content.* i. viii. (1668) 47 A mans Arm arm'd in a bracer of wood. 1624 CAPT. SMITH *Virginia* ii. 31 His arrow head he quickly maketh with a little bone, which he ever weareth at his bracer. 1734 tr. *Rollin's Anc. Hist.* (1827) II. iv. 259 Presented him with a helmet, bracers & bracelets all of gold. 1802 STRUTT *Sports & Past.* ii. iii. 89 A round hollow bracer of wood to cover the hand and lower part of the arm, with which he struck the ball. 1826 WOOD *Man & Handiwork* 241 Modern archers possess... a sort of gauntlet called a bracer.

†**Bracery**. *Obs. rare*—1. [Short for *EMBRACERY*.] Embracery, corruption.

1540 *Act 32 Hen. VIII.* ix. title. The bill of bracery and buying of titles. 1886 in *Law Q. Rev.* Oct. 484 Our laws did manifest a great jealousy of... bracery and the buying of pretended titles.

Braces, suspenders: see *BRACE* *sb.* 2 g b.

Brach (brætʃ). *arch.* Forms: 4-5 *pl.* braches, -es, 5 bracke, bracke, 6 brasooh, bratohe, 7 bratoh, 6-7 brache, 6- brach. [ME. *braches* pl., prob. a. OF. *brachēs*, *braches*, pl. of *brachet* (med. L. *brachētus*), dim. of *brac* (accus. *bracom*), a common Romanic word (Fr. *brac*, *bracom*, It. *bracco*, Sp. *braco*, med. L. *bracco*, *-inens*), a. OHG. *bracco* (MHG. *bracke*) a hound hunting by scent. From this pl. *braches* was app. educed an English sing. *brache*, *brach*. (F. *braque* masc. is a modern form, prob. from It. or MHG.) A kind of hound which hunts by scent; in later Eng. use, always feminine, and extended to any kind of hound; a bitch-hound.

c 1340 *Gaw. & Gr. Knt.* 1142 Braches bayed perfore & brene noyse maked. *Ibid.* 1563 The best of his brachez. 1467 *Househ. Exp.* 558 A songe brace of halfe 3ere holde. 1490 CAXTON *Excydos* xv. 54 They braches riches and bloode houndes. 1504 CAREW *Huarts's Exam.* Wits x. (1596) 131 A brach, to hunt and bring the game to his hand. 1596 NASH *Saffron Walden* T. And so it is with his brache or biche-foxe. 1611 MARKHAM *Countr. Content.* (1649) 27 When your Brach is neere whelping... you shall separate her from other hounds. 1686 *Genil. Recreat.* ii. 27 in *Cath. Angl.* 30 A brach is a mannerly name for all hound-bitches. 1821 W. SPENCER *Poems* 78 Many a brach, and many a hound Attend Jewellyn's horn. 1848 KINGSLEY *Saint's Trug.* ii. i. 63 We'll... pamper the brach till we make her a wolf. 1864 H. KINGSLEY *Hilliers* xxiii, Let them take their braches and lie down.

b. *fig.* A term of abuse. Cf. *BITCH*.

1610 B. JONSON *Alch. i. i.* Away this brach. a 1626 BROMSE *Cov. Gard.* weeded iv. i, Thou greedy Brach.

†**Brachal**. *Obs. rare*—1. [app. ad. It. *braciale*, of same meaning; cf. L. *brachiāle*, f. *brachium* arm.] Protective armour for the arm.

1658 J. BURBURY *Christina Q. Sweden* 466 The Cavaliers... were armed on the breast and the back, with brachals and gauntlets.

Brache, -er, *obs.* forms of *BRACE*, *BRACKER*.

†**Brachell**. *Obs. rare*—1. = *BRACHET*; (prob. an error: a female bloodhound is meant).
c 1470 HENRY WALLACE v. 25 In Gyllisland thar was that brachell brede.

Brachelytrous (bræki'litros), *a.* [f. mod. L. *brachelytr-a* (f. Gr. *βραχ-ύς* short + *ἐλντρον* case, sheath) + -ous: cf. F. *brachélytre*.] (A more correct form would be *brachelytrosis*.) Pertaining to the *Brachelytra*, a division of the beetles distinguished by the shortness of their wing-sheaths.
1847 *Proc. Berw. Nat. Club* II. 233 Brachelytrous insects forming the family Staphylinidae.

Brachen, *obs.* Sc. form of *BRACKEN*.

Brachet (brætʃet). *arch.* Also 4 brachete,

5 brachett, 9 brachotet. [a. F. *brachet*, dim. of *brac*: see *BRACH*, and *BRATCHET*.]

1. = *BRACH*.

[1562 in *Athenaeum* 30 Aug. (1881) 241 Cum octo brachettis et quatuor Leporariis.] c 1340 *Gaw. & Gr. Knt.* 1603 Brachetes bayed bat best. 1483 *Cath. Angl.* 39 A Brachet, *oderensicus*. 1557 K. ARTHUR (Copland) iii. 9, There came rennyng in a whyte hart... and a whyte brachet next hym. 1808 SCOTT *Marm.* ii. Intro. 40 The Brachet's bay From the dark covert drove the prey.

2. A little brat, a child: see *BRATCHET*.

†**Brachetour**. *Obs. rare*. [ad. med. L. *brachiator* brewer (prob. through an Afr. **brachelour*; cf. ONF. *brachier* = OF. *bracier*, mod. *brasser* to brew.) A brewer.

1598 KITCHIN *Courts Lett* (1675) 28 If any Butcher, Brachetour, Baker... &c. conspire... not to sell victual but at certain prices.

Brachial (bræ'kiāl, bræ'kiāl), *a.* Also 6 brachiall. [ad. L. *brachiālis*, f. *brachium*, *brachium* an arm (see -AL¹); cf. F. *brachial*.]

1. Belonging to the arm; chiefly in *Phys.*, as *brachial vein*, *artery*, *nerve*, *muscle*, *ganglion*, etc.; also *brachial tooth*, an *obs.* name for the styloid process of the ulna. Rare in non-technical use.

1576 BANISTER *Hist. Man* iii. 42 Two distinct orders of Brachial bones. 1796 MONRO *Anat. Nerves* (1741) 66 It contributes to form the brachial Nerves. 1841 CATLIN *N. Amer. Ind.* (1844) II. lviii. 225 Inferior in brachial strength.

b. quasi-*sb.* = *brachial artery*, *vein*, etc.

1859 TODD *Cycl. Anat. & Phys.* V. 542/1 The brachials and femorals are split up... into hair-like capillaries.

2. Of the nature of, or resembling, an arm. (*Zool.*)
1835 KIRBY *Hab. & Inst. Anim.* II. xvii. 106 Twelve tentacles rather smaller than the brachial ones. 1836 TODD *Cycl. Anat. & Phys.* I. 36/2 The mouth, surrounded by four brachial appendages.

Brachiote (bræ'ki-ot, bræ'ki-ot), *a.* [ad. L. *brachiōt-us* armed, f. *brachi-um* an arm: see -ATE².] *lit.* Having arms; in *Bot.* having branches in pairs running out nearly at right angles with the stem and crossing each other alternately.

1835 LINDLEY *Introduct. Bot.* (1848) I. 169 When the branches diverge nearly at right angles from the stem, they are said to be brachiote. 1880 GRAY *Bot. Text-bk* 339.

Brachio, var. of *BRACKY* *a.* *Obs.* saltish.

Brachiferous (bræ'ki-fēros), *a.* *Zool.* [mod. f. L. *brachi-um* arm + -FEROUS.] Arm-bearing.

1877 HUXLEY *Anat. Inv. An.* iii. 138 The brachiferous disk suspended by four pillars. 1880 *Syd. Soc. Lex.*, *Brachiferous disc*, the floor of the subumbrellar cavity in the Rhizostomida.

Brachigerous (bræ'ki-džēros), *a.* *Zool.* [f. as prec. + -GEROUS.] = prec.

1836 TODD *Cycl. Anat. & Phys.* I. 36/2 Groups into which the scalephæ have been divided... 5. Brachigerous.

Brachio-cephalic (bræ'ki-ot-sēfē'lik), *a.* *Anat.* [ad. mod. L. *brachiocephalicus*, f. Gr. *βραχίων* arm + *κεφαλή* head; cf. *κεφαλικός* of or pertaining to the head.] Pertaining to both arm and head: applied chiefly to the blood-vessels common to the arms and head.

1836-39 TODD *Cycl. Anat. & Phys.* II. 850/1 The... brachio-cephalic artery. 1840-51 *Ibid.* IV. 1408/2 This great vein... is formed by the union of the two brachio-cephalic veins.

Brachiopod (bræ'ki-ōpōd), *Zool.* Pl. *brachio-poda*, also in mod. L. form *brachiopoda* (bræ'ki-ō-pōdā). [ad. mod. L. *brachiopoda*, sb. pl. f. Gr. *βραχίων* arm + *πούς*, *ποδ-* foot.]

A bivalve mollusc distinguished by having, on each side of the mouth, a long spiral arm, used in procuring food. Also *attrib.*

1836 PENNY *Cycl. V.* 310/2 The generative system of the Brachiopoda. *Ibid.* 311/1 The Brachiopoda... are stationary. 1859 DARWIN *Orig. Spec.* xi. (1878) 307 Certain Brachiopods have been but slightly modified from an extremely remote geological epoch. *Ibid.* ii. (1872) 35 Brachiopod shells.

Hence **Brachio-podist**, one versed in the study of brachiopods; **Brachio-podous** *a.*, of or resembling the brachiopoda.

1836 PENNY *Cycl. V.* 310/2 The spiral disposition of the arms is common to the whole of the brachiopodous genera... hitherto... examined. 1882 Q. *Jrnl. Geol. Soc.* 215 Nothing is left undone by that distinguished brachiopodist.

Brachish, *obs.* form of *BRACKISH*.

Brachisto, comb. form of Gr. *βραχίστος*, superl. of *βραχ-ύς* short, as in **Brachistoccephali** (bræ'ki-sto-sēfē'li), men or races with the shortest skull; **Brachistoccephaly** (-sēfē'li), the quality of having the shortest type of skull. Cf. *BRACHYCEPHALIC*. Also **Brachistochrone** (bræ'ki-stō'krōn) [Gr. *χρόν-ος* time], the curve in which a body descending to a given point under the action of gravity will perform its journey in the shortest possible time; the curve of quickest descent.

1866 HUXLEY *Præf. Rem. Catlin.* 85 Sub-divide the Brachycephali into Eurycephali... and Brachistoccephali. *Ibid.* 111 Of these, but one reaches the limits of brachistoccephaly. a 1774 GOLDSM. *Surv. Exp. Philos.* (1776) i. 153 The curve of a cycloid, which was afterwards called by the hard name of a Brachistochrone, or the line of quickest descent. 1877 E. THOMAS tr. *Langé's Materialism* I. 122 The falling body reaches the goal more quickly upon the brachistochrone than upon an inclined plane.

|| **Brachium** (bræ'ki-ūm, bræ'ki-ūm). *Biol.* [L. *bra(ch)ium*, the arm, spec. the fore-arm.] In Mammalia, the upper arm from the shoulder to the elbow.

1731 in BAILEY Vol. II. 1847 CRAIG [in the modern use]. 1877 HUXLEY & MARTIN *Præf. Biol.* 160 Each fore limb is divided into *brachium*, *antebrachium*, and *manus*, which correspond with the arm, fore-arm, and hand in man.

Brachman, *obs.* form of *BRACHMIN*.

Brachy-, comb. form of Gr. *βραχύς* short, as in **Brachycalectic** (bræ'ki-ktē'le-ktik), *a.* *Pro-sody*. [cf. *CATALECTIC*, Gr. *βραχυκατάληκτος*], wanting one foot or two syllables. **Brachy-coral** (bræ'ki-sē'ral), **Brachy-cerous** (bræ'ki-sē'ros), *a.* *Ent.* [Gr. *κέρας* horn], having short 'horns' or antennæ. **Brachydia-gonal** *a.* *Cryst.*, pertaining to the shorter lateral axis of a rectangular prism; also as *sb.* **Brachydome** (-dōm), *Cryst.* [see *DOM*], a 'dome' or prism whose face is parallel to the brachydiagonal axis. **Brachyelytrous**: see *BRACHELYTROUS*. **Brachymetropy** (-metrōpi) [Gr. *μέτρον* measure + *ὄψ*, *ὄψ-ος* eye], near- or short-sightedness. **Brachypinacoid**, -koid (-pinākoid), *a.* *Cryst.* [Gr. *πίναξ*, *πίναξ-ος* board, tablet], pertaining to either of the two planes which in the Orthorhombic system are parallel to the vertical and brachydiagonal axes respectively. **Brachy-pneural** (-plū'nal), *a.* [Gr. *πνεύω* rib], having short ribs. **Brachypterous** (bræ'ki-ptē'ros), *a.* [Gr. *πτερόν* wing], short-winged: applied to certain species of diving-birds. **Brachytypous** (bræ'ki-tipōs), *a.* *Min.* [Gr. *τύπος* form, type], of a short form.

1821 *Blackw. Mag.* X. 386 The ancients had no such verse as the Iambic trimeter brachycalectic. 1875 W. HOUGHTON *Sk. Brit. Ins.* 107 Another brachyceral fly. 1875 BLAKE *Zool.* 283 The brachycerous Diptera comprise... the Gad-flies. 1880 DANA *Min.* Intro. 25 The short lateral or brachydiagonal [axis]. *Ibid.* 26 The planes form what is called a *brachydome*, they being parallel to the shorter lateral axis. 1879 RUTLEY *Stud. Rocks* x. 119 In the direction of the... brachydiagonal it is hyacinth-red. *Ibid.* 97 The cleavages, which are parallel to the base and brachypinacoid. 1882 *Academy* 22 Oct. 315 Macropleural and brachypleural types.

Brachycephalic (bræ'ki-sēfē'lik), *a.* Also -*kephalic*. [f. *BRACHY-* + Gr. *κεφαλή* head: cf. *κεφαλικός* of or pertaining to the head.] *lit.* Short-headed: used in *Ethnology* to denote skulls of which the breadth is at least four-fifths of the length: opposed to *DOLICHOCEPHALIC*.

1840-52 TODD *Cycl. Anat. & Phys.* IV. 1355/2 The Cranium is Mongoliform and brachycephalic. 1851 D. WILSON *Præf. Ann.* (1863) I. ix. 281, I have met with Brachycephalic Scots. 1866 HUXLEY *Præf. Rem. Catlin.* 83 Skulls with a cephalic index of 0.8, or more, are Brachycephalic. 1877 DAWSON *Orig. World* 427 The brachy-kephalic head.

So **Brachycephalus**, more freq. -*cephali* [mod. Latin], men with brachycephalic skulls. **Brachy-cephalism**, the condition of being brachycephalic. **Brachycephalous**, *a.* = *brachycephalic*. **Brachycephaly** = *brachycephalism*.

1865 *Reader* No. 113. 227/1 A race of brachycephalus. 1863 A. RAMSAY *Phys. Geog.* (1878) 581 They belong mainly to the Brachycephali or broad-skulls. 1880 *Nature* 8 Jan. 224 The skull ranges from brachycephalism in the Siberians and Peruvians to extreme dolichocephalism in the Eskimo. 1883 K. BLIND in *Academy* Mar. 17 190/1 Brachycephalism in Asia Minor. 1879 tr. *Pignier's Hum. Race* Intro. 25 A short cranium is styled brachycephalous. 1871 DARWIN *Desc. Man* I. i. iv. 148 Short men incline more to brachycephaly.

Brachygraphy (bræ'ki-grāfi), Also 7 *-graphie*, and (erron.) 7 *brachyo-*, 7-8 *brachi-*. [a. F. *brachygraphie*, f. Gr. *βραχ-ύς* short + *γραφία* writing.] The art or practice of writing with abbreviations or with abbreviated characters; shorthand, stenography. Also *attrib.* *Obs.* except as a designation of certain old systems of shorthand, esp. that of Gurney (see quot. 1778).

1590 P. BALE (*title*) The art of brachygraphie, that is, to write as fast as a man speaketh treatably. 1600 NASH *Summer's Last W.* in Hazl. *Dodol* VIII. 41 If I wist there were any such knavery, or Peter Bails brachygraphy. 1667 E. CHAMBERLAYNE *St. Gt. Brit.* i. iii. x. (1743) 226 Therein are taught... Calligraphy, Brachygraphy or Shorthand, etc. 1778 J. GURNEY *Brachygr.* Pref. 1 Brachygraphy... is extremely antient, (for we read of its being practised in the Roman Senate). 1824 *Leeds Merc. Wkly. Suppl.* 15 Nov. 8/3 The system of brachygraphy in which the contents of the volume were shrouded.

b. *fig.*

1656 tr. *Hobbes' Elem. Philo.* (1839) 316 The brachygraphy of the analytics, and an art... of registering with brevity... the inventions of geometers. 1715 tr. *Panciroli's Rerum Mem.* II. x. 334 These Curiosities are the Brachygraphy or Short-hand of Art.

Brachygrapher, a shorthand-writer; **Brachy-graphic**, -al, of or pertaining to brachygraphy.
1633 T. ADAMS *Comm.* 2 *Pet.* i. 9 By brachygraphical characters they will take a sermon verbatim. 1654 GAYTON *Fest. Notes* I. 8 (R) He asked the brachygrapher, whether he wrote the notes of that sermon. 1782 *Crut. Mag.* LII. 219 Memoirs of the most eminent brachygraphers.

Brachylogy (bræ'ki-lōdgi), Also 7 *brachil-*, 8 *brachyology*. [ad. Gr. *βραχυλογία*, in med. L. *brachilogia*, f. *βραχ-ύς* short + *-λογία* speech: see

-LOGY. Cf. *F. brachylogie*.] Conciseness of speech, laconism; *concr.* a condensed expression.

[1529 PUTTENHAM *Eng. Poesie* (Arb.) 222 Brachylogia, or the Cutted comma.] 1623 COCKERAM, *Brachylogies*, short speeches. 1726 M. DAVIES in *Athen. Britan.* II. To Reader xlv. In the Poet's Brachylogia, Aliquidus malo fuit usus in illo. 1866 ELLICOTT *On a Thess.* iii. 7 A simple and intelligible brachylogia. 1882-3 SCHAFF in *Herzog's Encycl. Rel. Knowl.* III. 2293 Delitzsch specifies brachylogia as characteristic of its [the Talmud's] style.

Brachyurous, -ourous (bræki, ū-rōs), *a.* *Zool.* [f. mod.L. *brachyura*, (f. Gr. *βραχύς* short + *οὐρά* tail) + *-ous*.] Pertaining to the *Brachyura*, one of the three tribes of Decapod Crustacea, distinguished by the non-development of the abdomen or 'tail', including the crab and its congeners. 1828 KIRBY & SP. *Entomol.* xlviii. IV. 462 Brachyurous Decapod Crustacea. 1849-52 TODD *Cycl. Anat. & Phys.* IV. 1202 In all other Brachyurous Decapods yet observed, a real metamorphosis takes place. 1877 HUXLEY *Anat. Inv.* Am. vii. 379 The Spiders stand in somewhat the same relation to the Scorpions, as the brachyurous to the macrurous Crustacea.

So **Brachyural, -oural** *a.*, **Brachyuran, -ouran** *adj.* and *sb.* [cf. *-AL*, *-AN*.]

1854 DANA *Crust.* I. 33 Not consistent with the Brachyural type. 1877 HUXLEY *Anat. Inv.* Am. vi. 350 The Anomuran condition passes into that of the young Brachyuran.

Bracing (bræc'ing), *vbl. sb.* [f. *BRAKE* v. 1.]

1. The action of embracing (*obs.*), girding, binding tightly, lacing up, strengthening: see the verb. 1536 BELLENDEN *Cron. Scot.* (1821) II. 53 Ane devill in forme of woman... quillik... tistit him, be voluptuous bracing, to his pleasured. 1631 DONNE *Serm.* lxxvii. 779a, The Bracing & beating of our Drums in the Pulpit. 1866 MISS MITFORD *Village Ser.* II. (1863) 277 Oh the lacing, the bracing, the bonneting, the veiling. 1866 FROUDE *Hist. Eng.* I. 78 The moral sinew of the English must have been strong indeed when it admitted of such stringent bracing.

2. An appliance or arrangement for tying, fastening, supporting, or strengthening. *lit. and fig.* 1849 W. FITZGERALD *Whitaker's Disput.* 5 The Romansynagogue... hath need continually of new supports and bracings. 1861 *Times* 7 Oct., There were bracings on the top of the girders, which would have the effect of steadying them. 1883 *Law Times Rep.* XLIX. 139/1 The standards were not secured by any ties or bracings of any kind.

3. *attrib.* (or ?the *ppl. a.*), as in *bracing-girdle, -rope*; *bracing-chain*, a chain used to bind together the sides of a wagon bearing a heavy load.

1854 HULOET, *Bracinge gyrdle, subcingulum*. 1857 STEUART *Planter's G.* (1858) 295 Fixing or loosening the bracing-ropes.

† **Bracing**, *vbl. sb.* 2. *Obs.* Also 6 *bracing*. [f. *BRAKE* v. 2 + *-ING*.] The action of assuming a bold or defiant attitude. In phrase *facing and bracing*.

1481 CANTON *Reynard* 115 Whiche wyth grete facing and bracing oppresse the poure peple. 1541 R. BARNES *Wks.* (1573) 290/1 My Lordes, leue of your fasing and your bracing: for our Lord... will at length not bee out faced. 1571 GOLDING *Calvin on Ps.* xii. 5. 30 Their importunate facing and bracing in wordes [orig. *improba verborum jactantia*].

Bracing, *ppl. a.* [f. as *prec.* + *-ING*.] That braces, girds, etc. Now used chiefly of the air or climate; formerly of tonic medicines.

1750 RUTTY in *Phil. Trans.* LI. 476 A powerful... bracing... medicine. 1821 KEATS *Isabel* xxiv. With belt and spur and bracing huntsman's dress. 1850 MRS. STOWE *Uncle Tom* xv. 129 The cold of a more bracing climate. 1871 NAPHY'S *Prev. & Cure Dis.* I. v. 154 Dry heat is bracing.

Hence **Bracingly** *adv.*, in a bracing manner, so as to brace. **Bracingness**, bracing quality.

1874 ELLACOMBE in *Church Bells* 15 Sept. (1883) 808/1 The bolts had better be put in bracingly, that is, not perpendicularly. 1876 *Fortin. Rev.* Mar. 341 [The Engadine] has what may be termed a graduated scale of bracingness.

Brack (bræk), *sb.* 1. Also 2-3 *bracco* (*Orm.*), 6 *Sc. bræk*, 6-7 *bracke*, 6-8 *brak*. See *BRECK*. [Two formations: (1) in *Ormin* a. ON. *brak* (= OE. *gebræc*, OS. *gibrak*) creaking noise, f. OTent. *brakan* to break: cf. L. *fragor*, f. stem of *frangere*. (2) In later use, a parallel form to *BREAK* *sb.*, f. *BREAK* *vb.*]

I. ME., from ON. *brak*.
† I. Noise, outcry. *Obs.*

c. 1200 *Ormin* 1178 Shep iss all unnskaþefull... & makeþþ itt nan mikell bracc. *Ibid.* 1186 Jesu Crist... toc þildilij wiþ þutenn bracc, þatt mann himm band. 1513 DOUGLAS *Ensis* xiii. vi. 85 For all the bræk and sterge that hes bene.

II. mod., f. *BREAK* v. Cf. *BRAKE* *sb.*, *BRECK*.
† 2. A breaking, breach, rupture. *Still Sc.*

1540 RAYNALD *Byrth Man.* II. vi. (1634) 130 Heale this brack and wound by sowing both sides of it together again. 1599 in Hakluyt *Voy.* III. I. 81 They beat the sayd bulwarke and wall in such wise, that they made great bracks. 1619 FOTHERBY *Athom.* Pref. 6 To repaire all the ruines and seuerall bracks of it. 1669 WORLIDGE *Syst. Agric.* (1681) 322 A Breck, or Brack, a gap in a Hedge.

† b. *fig.* A rupture, quarrel. *Obs.*
1600 HOLLAND *Livy* xxv. xxix. 570 Hippocrates and Epicides... made the brack, & were the troublers and disturbers of this peace. 1608 CHAPMAN *Byron's Conspir.* Plays 1873 II. 236 That can mend the brack betwixt us.

3. A flaw in cloth. Also *fig.* (Now chiefly *dial.*) [1530 PALSGR. 200/2 Brake in clothe, *rentreture*.] 1552 *Act* 6 *Viv. VI*, vi. 1 Overstretching them upon the Tenter, and then stopping with Flocks such Bracks as shall be made. 1597 LVLV *Euphuus* (Arb.) 33 The finest veluet (hath) his bracke. 1636 FEATLY *Clavis Myst.* lxxix. 888 The needle file not up the bracke or rent. 1840 BROWNING *Sordello* v. 400

The knack Of keeping fresh-chalked gowns from speck and brack. 1873 MISS BRADDON *Str. & Pilgr.* I. vi. 62 'She sent mea gownd last week... a regular good one, not a brack in it'.

† 4. A broken piece, fragment, atom. *Obs.*
c. 1615 CHAPMAN *Odys.* xvii. 249 A cord, that would not slip For knots and bracks about the mouth of it. 1644 DRGAY *Nat. Bodies* Ded. (1658) 14 Many bracks and short ends which cannot be spun into an even piece. 1674 N. FAIRFAX *Bulk & Selv.* 79 The least brack of body cannot be broken a pieces, because 'tis already the least.

† 5. Breach, breaking, violation. *Sc.*
1648 Presbyt. *Strathgogie Rec.* in Hesse Sunday (1880) 217 The said day A. C. ... was delatit for brak of Sabbath.

† 6. Break of continuity, 'fault' in mining. *dial.*
1747 HOOSON *Miner's Dict.* Sii. After crossing of Pees, Tees, Braks, Jumbles, or what other disorder may happen that the vein cannot be easily made out.

† 7. 'A stripe of uncultivated ground, between two shots or plots of land.' (Jamieson.) Cf. *BRECK* *sb.* 12. *Sc.*

† 8. A sudden breaking out of water; a sudden heavy fall of rain; a flood when the ice breaks; a quantity of snow, earth, or debris shooting from a hill. *Sc.*

† **Brack**, *sb.* 2. *Obs. rare.* [prob. identical with *prec.*: cf. connexion of L. *rupes* with *rumpere* to break, and *BRECK* *sb.*] A cliff, crag, or rock.

c. 1530 *Hickcorner* in Hazl. *Dodsl.* I. 185 Thrown in a raft, and so about borne On rocks or bracks for to run. 1598 FLORIO, *Brache*, crags, cliffs, or bracks in hills.

Brack, *sb.* 3 [f. Ger. *bracken* to examine or sort goods. Cf. *BRAKE* v., *BRACKER*.] The system of official sorting of goods or produce in vogue at the principal Baltic ports.

1734 *Treaty Eng. & Russ.* in *Magens Insurances* II. 592 The Brack shall be equitably established.

† **Brack**, *sb.* 4. *Obs.* [App. a shortened form of *BRAKEN*.] = *BRAKEN* 1.

1481 *Monk of Evesham* (Arb.) 40 A full depe valeye... set with bocis and brackys on eury syde hangyng owte. 1607 DRAYTON *Agincourt* 182 They fed on Fearnie & brack. 1675 EVELYN *Terra* (1776) 36 Vegetables abounding in fixed Salts... as Pease-haulm, Bracks.

† **Brack**, *sb.* 5. *Obs. rare*. 1. [? ad. F. *brague*, *brague*, breeching for cannon.] ? Breeching for cannon; or perh. = *BRACKET* *sb.* 3.

1622 R. HAWKINS *Voy. S. Sea* 213 Our hatches upon our bolts, our bracks in our decks and gunner rooms.

Brack, *a.* and *sb.* 6 Also 6 *brak*, *bracke*. [prob. (as a nautical word) a. Du. *brak* brackish (whence Ger. *brackwasser* brackish water); identified by Franck with MDu. *brak* worthless.]

A. adj. Salt, briny, brackish. 1. *Obs.*

1513 DOUGLAS *Ensis* v. xiii. 28 3et [= pour] the cleir wyne furth in fludis brak [L. *salsus* *fluctus*]. 1706 tr. *Sparrman's Voy.* I. 255 The Brak rivers have got this appellation from the quality of their waters, which are brackish or saltish. 1807 SOUTHEY in *Q. Rev.* XXXV. 117 Living upon beef and brack water.

† **B. sb.** Salt water, brine; the sea. *Obs.* (Only in Drayton, and apparently not in general use then, as the gloss 'salt water' is given in the margin.)

1591 DRAYTON in *Farr's S. P.* (1845) I. 133 Drags their fat carcasce through the foamie bracke. 1607 — *Agincourt* 185 The Sunne... Shall with the Fishes shortly diue the Brack.

Brack (bræk), *v.* [ad. Ger. *bracken* to sort or inspect goods, f. *brack* 'inferior goods, refuse'.] *trans.* To sort or select (goods, produce, etc.) (at the Baltic ports). Cf. *BRAKE* *sb.* 3, *BRACKER*. Hence *Bracked* *ppl. a.*

1828 HOMANS *Cycl. Comm.* 1343 All flax and hemp shipped from Memel must be bracked or assorted by sworn selectors. 1883 *Scotsman* 30 July 7/6 Tallow, bracked, about 512.

Brack (e, obs. form of *BRAKE*, *BRACH*; and *Sc.* pa. t. of *BRAKE* v.)

† **Bracked**, *ppl. a.* *Obs.* In 7 *bracket*. [f. *BRAKE* *sb.* 1] Having a brack or flaw (in texture).

1618 J. DAVIES *Muses Sacr.* (1877) 77 A featie Embroderer that hath a piece of Velvet brackt t'embroder on.

Bracken 1 (bræk'n). Also 4-9 *braken*, 5 *brakan*, *bracoon*, (7 *braking*), 8 *brachen* (*Sc.*), 8-9 *breckan* (*Sc.*), *breckon* (*north. dial.*). [ME. (northern) *braken*, app. representing an ON. **brakni*, whence Sw. *bräken*, Da. *bregne* 'fern' (1 and, by corruption, Icel. *brakni* 'common fern').]

The alleged OE. *bracce* wk. fem. is merely a guess of Cockayne's (*Leechd.* III. 315) from the place-name *Braccan-keal* Bracknell (which may possibly be from a personal name *Bracca*). It could not, in any case, be the predecessor of ME. *braken*. Cf. *BRAKE* *sb.* 1, *BRAKE* *sb.* 4.]

1. A fern; *spec.* (in modern writers) *Pteris aquilina*, the 'Brake'. (In the north all large ferns are *bracken*; *Pteris aquilina* is merely the most conspicuous and best known, from the masses in which it grows.) Southern writers often make *bracken* collective. Also *attrib.*

c. 1325 E. E. *Allit. P. B.* 1675 þou... most... byte on þe bent of braken & erbes. 1483 *Cath. Angl.* 40 A Brakan, *flix*. 1523 FITZHERB. *Surv.* 6b, Yet may he lawfully... selle all the wode, brome, gorse, fyrs, braken, ferne, bushes. 1548 TURNER *Names of Herbes* (1881) 38 The commune Ferne or brake, which the northerne men call a bracon. 1563 *Richmond. Wills & Inv.* (1853) 169 Burning brakens. 1649 BLITHE *Eng. Improv. Impr.* (1653) 124 Goss, Broom, Braking, &c. 1775 LIGHTFOOT *Flora Scot.* (1789) 653 Flowering

Fern or Osmund Royal: Royal Brachens *Scotis.* 1707 BURNS *Halloween* xxvi. Among the brachens, on the brae. 1850 TANNAHILL *Gloomy Winter's now awa*. Feathery brackens fringe the rocks. 1853 HOGG *Queen's Wake* 2 I found thee in the braken glen. 1876 BLACK *Green Past.* ii. 13 Withered brackens coming up in solitary stalks of green.

2. *Comb.*, as † *bracken-bush*, a large plant or clump of fern or bracken; *bracken-cloot*, the Rose-beetle (*Phyllopertha horticola*).

1483 *Cath. Angl.* 40 Brakanbuske, *Silicarium, felicitum*. 1824 G. BRATHWAITE *Salmon. Westmld.* vi. 27 The bracken-cloot, or rose-beetle.

Hence *Brackened* (bræk'nd), *a.*, overgrown with bracken.

1824 W. C. SMITH *Kildrostan* I. i. 32 Brackened braes and craggy hills.

† **Bracken** 2. *Obs.* [ad. Gael. and Ir. *breacan*, f. *breac* spotted or chequered.] A tartan plaid worn by Highlanders and northern Irishmen. (See M. HICKSON *Irel.* 17th C. I. 257.)

1652 *News fr. Low Countr.* 2 The Scottish Brackin. 1653 *Exam. D. Mac Gillmartin* in M. HICKSON *Irel.* 17th C. (1884) I. 277 Had seen his mother's bracken in the hands of the soldiers. 1828 SCOTT *F. M. Perth* III. 57 I am as familiar with brogues and bracken as if I had worn them myself.

† **Brackener**. *Obs. rare.* Also *brakk-* [a. OF. *braconier* (= mod. F. *braconnier*, now used in sense of poacher) a keeper of hounds, f. *brakon* hound; see *BRACH*.] A servant who attended to the hounds.

1490 CAXTON *Eneydos* xv. 54 Rennynges houndes went wyth the brackener for to be atte the reysyng of the best. *Ibid.* The brackener hadde dystournd the herte in to his busshe.

Brakeny (bræk'n'i), *a.* [f. *BRAKEN* 1 + *-Y*.] Abounding in bracken.

1834 A. CUNNINGHAM *Burns* 136/2 The brakeny glens... of the North are more welcome... than the sunny vales of Italy.

Bracker (bræk'kai). [a. Ger. *bracker*, f. *bracken* to sort goods.] A government inspector or sorter of goods at the Baltic ports. See *BRAKE* *sb.* 3 and v.

1734 *Treaty Eng. & Russ.* in *Magens Insurances* II. 592 The Brackers shall be answerable for the Quality of the Goods. 1828 HOMANS *Cycl. Comm.* 1635 Linseed... The year of its growth is stamped on the barrel by sworn inspectors (*brackers*). *Ibid.* 1792 When a shipment of tallow is made, the agent is furnished by the selector (*bracker*) with a sample from each cask.

Bracket (bræk'két). Also 6-7 *bragget*, 7 *braget*, 8 *breacete*, *brockett*. [The earliest form *bragget* appears to be (either directly or through F. *braguette*) ad. Sp. *bragueta*, dim. of *braga*: = L. *brāca*, sing. of *brācæ* breeches; the form *bracket* is a corruption, perh. influenced by It. *bracheta*, dim. of *bracca*: = L. *brāca*.]

The Eng. senses are difficult to account for, but may in part be based on unrecorded senses of the Sp., It., or Fr. words. Prof. Skeat suggests that the 'bracket' of architecture may have been so called from its resemblance to the 'codpiece' of a pair of breeches (Sp. *bragueta* meant both 'codpiece' and 'bracket'). Further, a name suggested by 'breeches' may naturally have been applied to an apparatus consisting of two limbs set at an angle, like the 'bracket' of shipbuilding, or to appliances used in pairs, like the 'brackets' of a gun-carriage. Then, as a bracket of any kind was generally used for support, the erroneous etymology from L. *brachium* 'arm' or its Romance derivatives presented itself, and seems to have affected the development of senses. Cf. also OF. *bracom* and *braguant* 'supporting beam'.]

1. In *Building*, a piece of stone, wood, or metal projecting from a wall, and having a flat upper surface which serves as a ledge to support a statue, the spring of an arch, a beam, shelf, etc.; usually carved or sculptured, and sometimes employed merely as a decoration; under the name of bracket are included the CORBEL and the CONSOLE.

1580 BARET *Alt.* B. 1099 A Bragget or staie... in building to beare vp the sommer or other part. 1664 EVELYN tr. *Freart's Archit.* 136 Modifications... are a kind of Bragets to the Corona. 1707 J. MORTIMER *Arch. Husb.* 564 Let your Shelves be laid upon Brackets. 1845 PARKER *Gloss. Archit.* I. 60. 1859 TURNER *Dom. Archit.* III. 213 The angel bracket, of an oriel window.

b. A small (usually ornamental) shelf, or set of two or three shelves, for the wall of a room.

1635 *Althorp MS.* in *Simpkinson Washingtons* Introd. 70 Bragets for the drawing room. 1714 *Land. Gaz.* No. 5214/3 Gilt Brocketts, Deaks, and Book Cases. 1796 MRS. CALDERWOOD *Yrnl.* (1884) 75 Above the lintel... [are] breacates set out for china. 1810 JEBB *Corr.* II. 5 You shall have... a bracket for your books. 1881 *Mechanic* 7 735 Brackets which are short small shelves may also be fixed to the wall.

c. *transf.* (1 with allusion to *BRACT*.)

1850 RUSKIN *Mod. Paint.* V. vi. iii. 14 The little brackets, which project beneath each bud and sustain it.

2. In *Carpentry*, *Shipbuilding*, etc.: A support consisting of two pieces of wood or metal joined at an angle, or of a single piece bent at an angle. Also *attrib.*, as *bracket plate*.

1607 CAPT. SMITH *Seaman's Gram.* II. 11 The brackets are little carved knees to support the Galleries. c. 1850 *Rudim. Navig.* (Weale) 100, *Brackets*, short crooked timbers, resembling knees, for support or ornament. The Hair Bracket is the boundary of the aft-part of the figure head. 1879 *Cassell's Techn. Educ.* IV. 363/2 The principal transverse frames are made up of... bracket plates.

3. One of the two 'cheeks' or side-pieces of a gun-carriage, which support the trunnions of a piece of ordnance; also used of the entire carriage

of a gun mounted on board ship or in a case-ment.

1733 CHAMBERS *Cycl. Supp.*, *Cheeks* of a mortar, or Brackets .. are made of strong planks of wood .. they rise on each side of the mortar, and serve to keep her at what elevation is given her. c 1860 H. STUART *Seaman's Catech.* 5 Brackets —transom—fore axle-tree. 1880 *Encycl. Brit.* (ed. 9) XI. 311 The trail [of gun-carriage] consists of two side brackets.

4. A metal pipe, usually of ornamental shape, projecting from the wall of an apartment, at once to support and supply the gas lamps or burners.

1876 GWILT *Archit.* § 2264 c. The outer arm of the bracket .. should be protected on the top by a hanging shade.

5. One of two marks of the form [] or (), and in mathematical use also { }, used for enclosing a word or number of words, a portion of a mathematical formula, or the like, so as to separate it from the context; in typography, esp. applied to 'square brackets' (formerly called crotchets), the 'round brackets' being designated 'parentheses'. Sometimes improperly applied to the 'vinculum' or horizontal line over the writing, serving in algebra the same purpose as brackets; also to the 'brace' { used for coupling together two lines of writing or printing (cf. BRACKET v.); hence *brackets* is used *fig.* for 'the position of being bracketed equal, equality'.

1750 G. FISHER *Instructor* (ed. 10) 23 [] Brackets or Crotchets, generally include a Word or Sentence, explanatory of what went before. 1844 L. MURRAY *Eng. Gram.* I. 413 Crotchets or Brackets [] serve to enclose a word or sentence, which is to be explained in a note, or the explanation itself, or a word or sentence which is intended to supply some deficiency, or to rectify some mistake. 1850 BARN. SMITH *Arith. & Algebra* (ed. 6) 194 A Bracket () or { }, or []. 1880 BR. GOODWIN in *Macm Mag.* No. 246. 477 Sedgwick was in the first bracket. 1883 *Standard* 12 Feb. 2/6 On a shorter course Regnard is not unlikely to earn brackets.

6. *Comb. and Attrib.*, as bracket-bolt, an iron bolt securing a mortar to its brackets; bracket-burner, -light, a gas-bracket; = sense 4; bracket-crab, a crab or windlass designed for attachment to a wall or post; bracket-shelf, a form of bracket used as a shelf; bracket-stair, -staircase (see quot.); bracket-trail, in *Gunnery*, a trail composed of two or more timbers or irons, opposed to *block trail*; bracket-wise *adv.*, after the manner of, or so as to resemble, a bracket.

1733 CHAMBERS *Cycl. Supp.* s.v. *Cheeks*. Bolts of iron which go through both cheeks, both under and behind the mortar .. are called the bracket-bolts. 1865 C. H. OWEN *Elem. Lect. Artillery* (ed. 4) 62 The travelling carriages for siege guns had bracket trails, but those now made .. are similar in construction to the 40-pr. block trail carriage. 1876 GWILT *Archit.* § 2293 j. Fix .. bracket burners in passages. *Ibid.* § 2183 A Bracket Staircase is one which has an opening or well .. and is supported by landings and carriages. *Ibid.* In bracket stairs the internal angle of the steps is open to the end. 1884 *Pall Mall G.* 5 Dec. 11/4 Timbers .. are pushed out bracketwise .. layer above layer.

Bracket, v. [f. prec.]
1. *trans.* To provide with brackets; to enclose (words, expressions, formulae, etc.) within brackets. 1870 JESS *Sophocles Elect.* (ed. 2) 14/2 Dindorf .. brackets the line as spurious.

2. To couple or connect (two or more lines of writing, etc.) by means of a brace; *esp.* so to connect two or more names of equal merit in a class-list; hence *fig.* to mention two persons or things together so as to imply that they are equal or have something in common.

1861 *Sat. Rev.* 23 Nov. 557 We entirely approve of his .. reluctance to be bracketed with a person of this sort. 1868 FREEMAN *Norm. Cong.* (1876) II. ix. 348 It is bracketed with the massacre of Saint Brice. 1869 *Daily News* 30 Jan. Only four times beaten for both prizes, as often bracketed.

Bracket, variant of BRAGGET.
Bracketed, ppl. a. [f. BRACKET v. + -ED.]
Furnished with, or enclosed in, brackets; coupled by a bracket with another name.

c 1865 *Circ. Sc.* I. 455/2 A bracketed quantity. 1885 *Athenaeum* 6 June 729/3 Bracketed sentences or paragraphs.

Bracketing, vbl. sb. [f. as prec. + -ING.]
1. The action of furnishing, coupling, uniting, with brackets.

1869 SWINBURNE *Ess. & Stud.* (1875) 214 Byron and Shelley .. I protest against the bracketing of the two names. 1876 GLADSTONE in *Contemp. Rev.* June 20 The bracketing, in which no less than eight systems will .. be presented to view.

2. *Arch.* A wooden framework or skeleton, consisting of wooden ribs nailed to the ceiling, joists, and battening, for the purpose of supporting a cornice, cove, or other moulding.

1843 P. NICHOLSON *Pract. Build.* 138 Cove-bracketing is the finish of the top of the faces of a room, adjacent to the cornice. 1876 GWILT *Archit.* § 2088 Thus the general form of the bracketing will be obtained.

Brackish (bræk'ish), *a.* Also 6 brakkische, brachish, 7 brakish. [f. BRACK *a.* + -ISH.]

1. Of a somewhat salt or saline taste; partly fresh, partly salt.

1538 LELAND *Itin.* VII. 130 The Water is a litle brakkische. 1594 MARLOWE *Dido* I. ii. The southern wind with brackish

breath. 1703 MAUNDRELL *Journ. Yerus.* (1721) 83 Fresh Water he call'd it, but we found it brackish. 1876 HUXLEY *Physiogr.* 128 This saltiness increases until the water becomes decidedly brackish.

2. *fig. and transf.* *a.* Spoilt by mixture, as of sea-water with fresh. *b.* Nauseous, distasteful. *c.* Nautical (quots. 1867 and 1881).

1611 SPEED *Hist. Ct. Brit.* ix. vi. (1632) 514 Retaining at this day the [English] language .. though brackish with the mixture of vulgar Irish. 1867 SMYTH *Sailor's Word-bk.* Introd. 7 The pithy conciseness of the brackish tongue renders it eminently useful on duty. 1871 ROSSETTI *Dante at Ver.* lv. The bread .. Seemed brackish, less like corn than tares. 1881 SMYTH *Cycle Celest. Obj.* (ed. 2) 2 Certain brackish rhymes.

† **Brackish, v.** *Obs. rare*—1. [f. BRACKISH *a.*]

trans. To render brackish.

1637 HEYWOOD *Dial. Jnp. & Lo Wks.* 1874 VI. 267 O, brackish not your waters with your tares.

Brackishness. [f. as prec. + -NESS.] The quality of being salty or brackish; also *fig.*

1571 GOLDING *Calvin on Ps. Eps.* Ded. 5 The bitter fountain Exampus .. with its brackishness marreth the sweete river Hipanis. a 1631 DONNE *Biathan.* 175 Some of those acts of ours .. may at the first Tast have some of the Brackishness of Sin. 1688 WHEELER *Journ. Greece* I. 13 Their Cisterns preserve water (without the least brackishness) always sweet. 1796 MORSE *Amer. Geog.* I. 694 Spirituous liquors .. used to correct the brackishness of the water.

† **Brackle, Obs.**—^o [var. of BROCKLE, f. stem of OE. *breccan* to BREAK.] (See quot.)

1720 A. J. ENG. *Portug. Dict.*, To carry away rubble or brackle of an old decayed house.

Brackman, obs. form of BRAHMIN.

† **Brackmard, Obs. exc. Hist.** Also 9 braquemard. [a. F. *braquemart* a short broad sword: see LITTRÉ.] See quots.; also *attrib.*

1653 URQUHART *Rabelais* i. xlv. He drew his brackmard or horseman's sword. *Ibid.* With his great brackmard sword, laid such load upon those runaways, that, etc. 1874 BOUTELL *Arms & Arm.* ix. 177 The *braquemard*, or cutlass .. has a straight flat wide blade, that is pointed and very sharp at either edge.

Bracks: see BRAXY, *Sc.*, disease of sheep.

† **Brackwoort, Obs. rare.** [prob. corruption of *bracket* BRAGGET, with assimilation of the last syllable to WORT².] Used by Harrison to denote a portion of wort reserved from a former brewing, which, spiced and sweetened, was added to beer to promote fermentation and improve the flavour.

1577 HARRISON *England* 169 This she reserveth by itself unto further use .. calling it Brackwoort or Charwoort .. She addeth to hir brackwoort or charwoort half an ounce of arras.

† **Bracky, a.** *Obs.* Also 7 brachie. [f. BRACK sb.⁶ + -Y.] = Brackish.

1593 DRAVTON *Ecolg.* iv. 90 Men, Sea-Monsters, swam the brackie Flood. 1603 KNOLLES *Hist. Turks* (1621) 795 The water becometh brachie.

fig. 1583 STANYHURST *Ensis* iv. (Arb.) 101 Netled with these brackye bouels [L. *ramore amaro*].

Bracky, a. *2* [f. *brack*, var. of BRAKE sb.¹ and BRAKE sb.²; the two being confused.] *a.* = BRACKENY. *b.* Of the nature of a brake or thicket. a 1618 SYLVESTER *Job Triumph.* (1620) 945 The brackie barren wilderness. 1668 COKE *On Litt.* 4 b. A brackie ground is called *filicetum*, ubi *filices* crescant.

Bract (brækt), *a.* Also *bracte*; and in L. form *bractea*, *pl.* *bractes*, also occas. *bracteas*. [ad. L. *bractea* (formerly used unchanged) a thin plate or leaf of metal, gold-leaf; cf. Fr. *bractée*.]
1. *Bot.* A small modified leaf, or scale, growing immediately below the calyx of a plant, or upon the peduncle of a flower.

1770 ELLIS in *Phil. Trans.* LX. 520 Under this flower-cup are four floral leaves, or bractes. 1794 MARTYN *Rousseau's Bot.* xiii. 149 A lateral leaf to each calyx, which Linnaeus calls the .. bracte. 1807 J. E. SMITH *Phys. Bot.* 22 The Lavenders .. have coloured bractes. 1835 LINDLEY *Introd. Bot.* (1848) I. 309 There are .. no exact limits between bracts and common leaves. 1884 J. E. TAYLOR *Sagac. & Mor. Plants* 103 In the Yew .. some bracts become aborted.

b. attrib., as in *bract-sheath*; also deriv. *Bract-*less *a.*

1847 CRAIG, *Bractless*, without bracts. 1870 HOOKER *Stud. Flora* 415 *Carex procox.* .. bract-sheaths short.

2. *Zool.* A similar appendage found in some of the Hydrozoa.

1876 BELL *Gegenbauer's Comp. Anat.* 97 Nutritive, generative, and tentacular individuals are generally placed together in groups, in such a way that there is one bract to a group.

Bracteal (bræktiäl), *a.* [f. L. *bractea* a BRAC + -AL.] Pertaining to, or of the nature of, bracts. 1770 *Phil. Trans.* LX. 523 The flower of the *Gordonia Lasianthus* .. with its calyx and bracteal leaves.

Bracteate (bræktiät), *a.* and *sb.* [ad. L. *bractatus*, f. *bractea*: see BRAC¹.] *A. adj.*

1. *Bot.* Having bracts, bearing bracts.

1845 LINDLEY *Sch. Bot.* (1858) v. 57 Flowers in heads or dense spikes, bracteate. 1870 HOOKER *Stud. Flora* 291 Whorls many-flowered, axillary, or in leafy bracteate heads.

2. Formed of metal beaten thin; applied chiefly to coins, medals, or ornaments made of thin plates of gold or silver, the design being hollow on the under side and convex on the upper. Whence

B. sb. A bracteate coin or metal; also *attrib.*

1845 PETRIE *Eccel. Archit. Irel.* 213 Bracteates .. coined by the first two propagators of Christianity in Denmark and Sweden. 1866 *Athenaeum* No. 1996. 139/1 Two Danish bracteate ornaments. 1868 G. STEPHENS *Runic Mon.* II. 505 Few of the earlier Bracteate-stamps can be directly connected with 'classical' prototypes.

Bracteated (-ætiəd), *a.* = BRACTEATE 1.

1854 E. HAMILTON *Flora Homaeop.* II. 24 Flowers .. in dense .. bracteated corymbs.

Bracted (bræktəd), *ppl. a.* [f. BRAC¹ + -ED.]
Furnished with bracts. 1854 in OGILVIE.

Bracteiform (brækti:fɔrm), *a.* [mod. f. L. *bractea* (see above) + -FORM; cf. Fr. *bractiforme*.]
Bract-shaped, bract-like.

1870 HOOKER *Stud. Flora* 280 *Mentha aquatica* .. leaves ovate-oblong or cordate, upper bracteiform.

Bracteolate (brækti:ɔlət), *a.* [f. next + -ATE.]
Furnished with bracteoles.

1830 LINDLEY *Nat. Syst. Bot.* 86 Calyx 5-lobed, sometimes bracteolate at the base. 1874 OLIVER *Elem. Bot.* II. 142 Sweet Violet. Bracteolate irregular flowers.

Bracteole (brækti:ɔl), [ad. L. *bractea* (also used unchanged) a thin leaf of gold, also (mod.), a small bract.]
A small bract, a bractlet.

1830 LINDLEY *Nat. Syst. Bot.* 165 Calyx .. occasionally with 2 bracteolæ at the base. 1876 HARLEY *Med. Bot.* 709 Calyx usually surrounded by three narrow bracteoles.

Bracteose (brækti:ɔs), *a.* [f. L. *bractea* a BRAC + -OSE.] (See quot.)

1880 GRAY *Bot. Text-bk.* 400 Bracteose—Full of, or with conspicuous bracts.

Bractlet (bræktlēt), [f. BRAC¹ + -LET.]
A minute or secondary bract.

1835 LINDLEY *Introd. Bot.* (1848) I. 310 When the bracts are very small they are called bractlets. 1845 GRAY *Struct. Bot.* v. (1880) 142 Bractlets are bracts of a secondary or ultimate order.

Brad (bræd). Also 3-6 brod, 5 brode. [A variant of BROD, which in its more general sense has retained the older form; the change of vowel is perhaps due to dialect pronunciation.]

1. A thin flattish nail of the same thickness throughout, but tapering in width, having a small 'lip' on one edge, instead of a head.

1595 in ROGERS *Agric. & Prices* II. 490 [Elham, 300 brods]. c 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 53 Brode, hedlese nayle, *clavus accephalus*. c 1450 *Nominate* in Wt. -Wulker *Voc.* 727 *Hic aculius*, a brad. 1526 *Pilgr. Perfr.* (W. de W. 1531) 254 With moost buystous broddes of yren nayled them fast to y^e sayd tree. 1588 *Wills & Inv. N. C.* (1860) II. 67, xv hondert latt brods 6/. 1677 *Moxon Mech. Exerc.* (1703) 158 Brad, is a Nail to Floor Rooms with. 1803 P. NICHOLSON *Pract. Build.* 220 Brad, a small nail, having no head except on one edge. 1831 J. HOLLAND *Manuf. Metals* I. 194 Brads or spikes .. sometimes made nearly a foot in length for the shipwright's or builder's use. 1881 *Mechanic* § 218 A light hammer with a small face .. for driving brads.

2. *slang.* (see quots.)
1812 J. H. VAUX *Flash Dict.*, Brads, halfpence; also money in general. 1841 MARRYAT *Poacher* vi. 'Have you any brads?' 'What are those?' 'Any money, to be sure.'

Brad, v. [f. prec.] *trans.* To fasten with brads. 1794 W. FELTON *Carriages* (1801) I. 5 The panels are .. bradded on the surfaces of the framing. 1881 *Mechanic* § 626 Each flange can then be bradded in its place.

† **Brad, ppl. a.** *Obs.* [var. of BRED, *pa. pple.* of BREDE v.]
Roasted, broiled.

c 1340 *Gow. & Gr. Knt.* 891 Summe baken in bred, summe brad on be gledes.

Brad, obs. form of BREAD, BROAD.

Bradawl (brædɔl), [app. f. BRAD sb. + AWL, denoting an awl for making holes to insert brads; though the ON. *bragð-awl* lit. 'twirling awl', a fire-drill, suggests a different derivation.]

A kind of small boring tool, a sprig-bit.

1803 P. NICHOLSON *Pract. Build.* 238 Brad-awl .. is the smallest tool used for boring. 1881 *Mechanic* § 262 The bradawl varies in .. diameter of the steel shaft from 1/8 in. to 1/2 in.

† **Bradden, v.** *Obs. rare*—1. [app. f. BRED v., or BROOD v., in same sense.]

(The Shropsh. Gloss. has 'bradling, brooding, as a hen over her chickens', 'broodle, to breed' (= BROOD v.); Halliwell has 'broodle, to cuddle, north'; also 'bradow, to spread, to cover'. With the latter cf. BROAD, BREDE v.)
trans. To breed or 'brood', to hatch.

1663 E. CHISHAM *Cath. Hist.* 12 An upstart youngling, that wind-edge of a tumult, which being bradden'd under a Toad of France, is become a staring Cockatrice.

Braddishing, obs. form of BRATTING.

Brade, obs. f. BRAID, BREAD, BREDE sb., BROAD.

Bradoon, obs. form of BRIDDOON.

† **Bradypepsy** (brædi:pepsi), *-pepsi*. *Obs.* Also 6-7 bradypepsie, 7 bradio-, bradupepsia, bradypepsy. [ad. Gr. *βραδυψία*, f. *βραδύς* slow + *ψή*-is cooking, digestion: cf. Fr. *bradypepsie*.]

Slowness of digestion. (Freq. in 17th c.)
1598 SYLVESTER *Dn Bartas* (1621) 210 The dog-hunger or the bradypepsie. 1688 R. HOLME *Armoury* II. xvii. 429 Bradupepsia, is when meat is long in digesting. 1770 T. FULLER *Pharm. Extens.* 397 A bitter colliculus brings Queasiness .. Bradypepsy.

Bradypeptic (-peptik), *a.* (*sb.*) [cf. PEPTIC.]
Slow of digestion: also *fig.*

1879 G. MEREDITH *Egoist* III. xi. 240 For facts, we are bradypeptics to a man, sir.

Bradypod, -pus (bræd'ipod, -puz). [ad. Gr. *Bradypus*, -pod- slow-footed, f. *Bradū-* slow + *pod-* foot.] A member of the family of edentate mammal quadrupeds represented by the Sloth. Hence **Bradypodal** a., pertaining to the bradypods.

1833 *Penny Cycl.* i. 230/2 Both these genera were formerly included under the common name of Bradypus or Sloth. 1843 *Ibid.* XXV. 502/1 The bradypodal modifications of the jaws.

Brae (bræ, dial. brē, brī, brē). Now only *Sc.* and *northern dial.* Forms: 4 bro, 4-8 bra, 5-6 (*Sc.*) brai, 5-7 bray(e, (6 braue), 6-7 bray, braie, 6- brae, 8-9 (*dial.*) bree, breea. [Evidently a. ON. *brá* = OE. *brēw*, *brēaw* eyelid, OS. *brāwa*, *brāha*, OHG. *brāwa* (MHG. *brā*, Ger. *braue*) eyebrow:—OTent. **brēwō-*: cf. *Brow* and *Bree*.]

The phonetic history is clear: *bro*, *bra*, *brae* answer to ON. *brá*, as *bla*, *blā*, *blae* do to *blá*. The word must have passed through the sense of 'eye-brow' to 'brow of a hill', *supercilium* (cf. OE. *lāzhill* 'eye hill' = eyebrow); but no quotations illustrating the change appear. The Eng. form *bro* has long been obs., and in spoken use *brae* is now exclusively northern and mainly Scotch, though occurring in recent literary English.]

1. The steep bank bounding a river valley. Frequent in the collocation 'banks and braes'.

1330 R. BRUNNE *Chron.* 310 Per to be rayne bigan, and fowand bank and bro. 1375 BARBOUR *Brace* iv. 372 Vnder ane bra [thai] thair galsy dreuch. 1483 *Cath. Angl.* 39 Bra, rīpa. 1536 BELLENDEN *Crom. Scot.* (1821) i. 235 Gret slaughter was maid on the brayis of this reuer. 1613 G. SANDYS *Trav.* 99 Slow Nile with low-sunk streames shall keepe his braies. 1793 BURNS *Banks of Doon* (vers. 3) i. Ye banks and braes o' bonie Doon. 1803 WORDSW. *Ellen Trevis*, Upon the braes of Kirtle. 1855 *Whitby Gloss.*, Brea, the brink or bank of a river.

2. A steep, a slope, a hill-side. (Called in south of England a *hill*, as in Ludgate or Holborn Hill; in the north a 'hill' is always a mount or eminence with a summit, and with slopes or 'braes' on all sides of it, as in 'the Calton Hill'.)

1425 WYNTOUN *Crom.* viii. xxvi. 7. The Scottis men come til a bra. 1535 STEWART *Chron. Scotl.* ii. 524 Vnder ane bra quhair tha thocht it to hyde. 1548 PATTEN *Sped. Scotl.* (Arber *Garnier* III. 6a) The hill (for so they call a *Bray*). 1600 FAIRFAX *Tasso* ix. xcvi. 178 On that steepe bray Lord Guelpho would not than Hazard his folke. 1634 S. RUTHERFORD *Lett.* (1862) xli. At the very overgoing of the brae and mountain. 1716 *Lond. Gas.* No. 5415/2 The Braes of Mar. 1799 J. ROBERTSON *Agric. Perth* 146 The farmers... in the braes. 1800 SCOTT *Monast.* ii. The steep braes rose abruptly over the little glen. 1828 BEWICK *Memo.* 10 A steep but low 'brae'. 1830 *PRÆD Poems* (1865) i. 179, I have seen these gaze Upon these birks and braes.

3. Comb., as *brae-face*, *-head*, *-side*; also, *brae(a)-laird*, 'a proprietor of land on the southern declivity of the Grampians' (Jamieson); *brae-man*, one who lives among the hills; *spec.* one who lives on the southern slopes of the Grampians.

1799 J. ROBERTSON *Agric. Perth* 142 The brae-faces... are better fitted for sheep than cattle. 1818 SCOTT *Rob Roy* xxvi. He... took to the brae-side, and became a broken-man. 1823 — *Quentin D.* ii. 'I am, master' answered the young Scot, 'a braeman'. 1844 H. MILLER *Sch. & Schm.* (1858) 535 A splendid bonfire blazing from the brae-head.

Brag (bræg), sb.¹ Also 5-8 bragg(e, 6 braggue. [The etymology of BRAG sb.¹, vb., adj., and their mutual relations are uncertain. There are several related words in 16th c. French, *braguer* 'to flaunt, brave, brag', *braguer*, *braguerie*; *bragard* 'gay, gallant, braggard, braggadochio-like', *bragardier* 'to brave it, to brag, vaunt', *bragardise*, etc. (all in Cotgr.); but as these appear so late, while some of the Eng. words go back to 1300, the latter cannot be referred to a French origin (though the later *braggart* and *braggery* may). The words are not in other Romanic langs., and their origin has been variously sought in Celtic and in Norse: see *Diez*. It is doubtful whether the *adj.* or *sb.* is the earlier in Eng.; both appear before the vb. The order of senses is also uncertain. *Diez* conjectured that the Fr. might be from ON. *brak* 'creaking noise' (Sw. *brak* bounce, Da. *brag*, *braka* (Da. *brage*) 'to creak, crack, insolenter se gerere' Haldors.; others have suggested ON. *bragr* 'the best, the foremost, the boast or toast (of anything)'; also 'poetry'. See *Diez*, *Wedgwood*, *Skeat*.]

† 1. A loud noise, the bray of a trumpet. (Cf. BRAG v. i.) *Obs.* 1513 DOUGLAS *Æneis* ix. viii. 105 Bot than the trumpettis weirly blastis aboundis, Wyth terribill brag of brasin bludy soundis.

2. Arrogant or boastful language (in earlier examples usually in phrase *brag and boast*); boasting, boastful assertion. (Phrase *French brag*, common in 16th c.; also used in sense 3.)

c 1360 *Know Thyself* in E. E. P. (1862) 132 Vr bost vr brag is sone ouerbidde. 1387 TREVISIA *Higden* Rolls Ser. III. 427 [These words] haveb more of brag and of boost. c 1440 *York Myst.* xvi. 225 His bragge and his boste is he besie to bid vs. 1513 DOUGLAS *Æneis* xi. vii. 127 With brag and bost [v. r. *brak* and *boist*] or wapyannis, he Me doith awayt. 1548 UDALL, etc. *Erasm. Par. Luke* xxiv. 53 Not makyng vauntes and bragges of their weekes. 1548 HALL *Chron.* (1809) 192 Melune... and diuerse other tounes, yelded and turned at a proude crake, or a Frenche

bragge, without stroke striken. 1600 SHAKS. *A. Y. L.* v. ii. 34 Cesars Thrasioncall bragge of I came, saw, and ouercome. 1753 RICHARDSON *Grandison* (1781) IV. 242 My Uncle... sometimes reminds me of what he calls my former brags. 1877 MRS. OLIPHANT *Makers Flor.* xv. 354 He has thus held his place... not without a certain brag of his strength.

b. in *proverb*. 1618 *Barnevelt's Apol.* E iv b. Bragge is a good Dog still. 1755 JOHNSON *Rambl.* No. 197. P. 3 When I envied the finery of any of my neighbours, [my mother] told me that 'Brag was a good dog, but Holdfast was a better.' † 3. Show, pomp, display; pompous demeanour or carriage. *Obs.*

1494 FABIAN VI. ccxii. 227 The bragge or pompe of the worlde. a 1553 UDALL *Royster D.* (Arb.) 48 Ye must haue a portly bragge after your estate... Vp man with your head and chin. 1577 HOLINSHED *Chron.* III. 850/1 They were all French in apparell, yea, and in French vices and brags. 1632 G. HERBERT *Temple, Content*, The brags of life are but a nine days wonder.

4. *concr.* That which is boasted of; the 'boast'. 1538 LELAND *Itin.* II. 52 This [the Fair is] one of the Braggies of the Toun. 1634 MILTON *Comus* 745 Beauty is nature's brag.

5. A person who brags, a braggart, a boaster. 1671 J. WEBSTER *Metallog.* xv. 233 They [Chymists] are nothing but vain and ignorant brags. 1881 EVANS *Leicester.* Gloss. (E. D. S.), *Brag*, a boaster.

6. A game at cards, essentially identical with the modern game of 'poker'. The name is taken from the 'brag' or challenge given by one of the players to the rest to turn up cards equal in value to his. See also quotations. Also *attrib.*, as in *brag-party*.

1734 SEYMOUR *Compl. Gamester* 20 The main thing by which the second Stake is to be won, is called the Brag, which... gives the Game its Denomination. 1799 H. WALPOLE *Lett. H. Mann* (1834) II. ccxix. 265 Methodism is more fashionable than anything but brag; the women play very deep at both. 1828 *Encycl. Brit.* s.v., A pair of aces is the best brag, a pair of kings the next, and so on. 1855 GEO. ELIOT in *Cross Life* (1885) i. 356 One night we attempted 'Brag' or 'Poche'. 1859 J. LANG *Wand. India* 16 Two young gentlemen were victimized last night at the brag party.

b. *fig.* with a reference to sense 2. To play a game of brag: to try which can impose on or get the better of the other by boasting.

1883 *Fortn. Rev.* Dec. 895 The two countries may be still only engaged in a game of brag.

† **Brag**, sb.² *Obs. exc. dial.* [Derivation unknown.] A large nail.

1371 ROGERS *Agric. & Prices* (1866) i. xx. 500 York gives two unique names 'brags' and 'scot-nails' under the year 1371. c 1440 *York Myst.* xxiv. 95 Here are bragges bat will noght faile. 1708 THORNTON in *Phil. Trans.* XXV. 1864 Brags, or great Iron Nails.

† **Brag**, sb.³ *Obs. rare.* (See quot.) c 1680 J. COLLINS *Mak. Salt* 25 In... Surrey, their Wheat-fields were formerly much annoyed with Smut or Brag.

† **Brag** (bræg), a. and quasi-adv. *Obs.* Also *bragge*. [See BRAG sb.¹]

1. Spirited, brisk, lively, mettlesome, valiant. a 1300 Wright's *Lyric P.* (1842) 24 That maketh us so brag and bolde, and biddeth us ben blythe. c 1350 *Will. Palerne* 308 Best of his bodi boldest & braggist in armes.

1600 HOLLAND *Livy* xxv. xxxix. 579 e. The Romanes... lustie and brag for their new victorie, began to make a fray. 1610 G. FLETCHER *Christ's Vict.* i. The bragge lambes ranne wantoning about.

2. Boastful (*of*). c 1315 SHOREHAM 110 Prede... That ketheth wordes bragge.

1560 DAUS tr. *Sleidan's Comm.* 119 b. They are as bragge and as proude as peccocks. 1655 GURNALL *Chr. in Arm.* i. (1669) 75/1 Not the braggist Philosopher among the Gentiles.

3. quasi-adv. Haughtily, boastfully.

c 1350 *Will. Palerne* 235 Summe bat bere hem now brag schuld blede or euen. c 1394 P. Pl. *Crede* 706 Hy schulde nougt beren hem so bragg. 1572 R. H. LAVALERUS *Ghostes* (1596) 42 They vaunted and bare themselves very brag on their priuiledges. 1579 SPENSER *Sheph. Cal. Feb.*, Seest how brag yond bullock beares... his pricked eares?

4. Comb. *Brag-brained*, head-strong. 1648 *Petit. Eastern Assoc.* 20 Whirl-crown'd, and brag-brain'd Opinionists.

Brag (bræg), v. Also 4-7 bragge, 6 brage, braggue, *Sc. brag.* [See under BRAG sb.¹]

† 1. *intr.* Of a trumpet: To sound loudly; also, to make a loud sound (with a trumpet); *trans.* to sound (a trumpet). Cf. BRAG sb.¹ i.

1382a WYCLIF *Yosh.* vi. 5 Whanne the voyce of the trompe... in 3oure eeris braggiith [1388 sowne]. ? a 1400 *Morte Arth.* 1484 Thane þe Bretones boldely braggene þeire trompez. *Ibid.* 4108 Bremlie the brethemen bragges in troumpes.

2. *intr.* and *refl.* To vaunt, talk boastfully, boast oneself. (In earlier examples chiefly in conjunction with *boast*.) Const. (*on*, *in*, *obs.* *of*, *about*).

1377 LANGL. *P. Pl.* B. xiii. 281 For why he bosteth and braggeth with many bolde othes. 1543 HEN. VIII *Parl. Speech* 24 Dec. If I see a Man boast and brag himself, I cannot but deem him a Proud Man. c 1645 HOWELL *Lett.* (1688) II. 389 The fashion of his Face which... he hath no cause to brag of. 1647 W. BROWNE *Poet.* i. 225, I will no more brag in being one of his slaves. 1728 MORGAN *Algiers* II. ii. 234 Nor has our [Nation] abundance of Reason to brag of its superabundant Regularity. 1786 WOLCOTT (P. Pindar) *Ode R. A's* x. Wks. 1812 I. 154 Garrick, on whom our Nation justly brags. 1828 GLADSTONE *Homer* III. 562 The disposition of the Trojan chief to brag.

† 3. To swagger, strut, 'show off'. *Obs.*

a 1553 UDALL *Royster D.* (Arb.) 64 Idle loyters, brag-gynge vp and downe. 1578 T. N. *Conq. W. India* 40 They should... not thus bragge in other mens land. 1599 R.

HARVEY *Pl. Perc.* (1860) 28 You shal haue a lame lade, bridle and brag it vp and downe Smithfield.

fig. 1588 SHAKS. *L. L. v.* ii. 683 She's quick, the child brags in her belly already: 'tis yours [i. e. Braggart's].

3. *trans.* a. To defy proudly, challenge; also, to bully, threaten. *Obs. exc. dial.* b. To impose upon or overawe by boasting (*mod.*, perhaps with allusion to game of brag).

1551 ASCHAM *Lett. Wks.* 1865 i. n. 257 Two fair castles of either side of Rhene... one bragging the other. a 1555 RIDLEY *Wks.* 115 They will outface, brace, and brag all men. 1584 J. CARMICHAEL *Lett. in Misc. Wodrow Soc.* (1844) 438 The King... boasting the poor, and bragging the rich. 1823 SCOTT *Quentin D.* i. 60 (D.) An artist who might brag all Paris. 1843 *Proc. Bern. Nat. Club* II. 58 Amateurs from one part of the county... by challenging or bragging those of the vicinity... provoked a vigorous competition. 1876 WHYTE-MELVILLE *Katerjello* xviii. 202 Our old Duke wasn't to be bragged at such a game as that.

4. To boast of, vaunt, lay boastful claim to.

1588 A. KING *Canisius Catech.* 224 Na man quha brags confidence and certantie of ye remission of his sinnes. 1600 S. NICHOLSON *Acolastus* (1876) 54 Euery stalke Brags the sweete blossomes he is blest withall. 1611 SHAKS. *Cymb.* v. iii. 93 He brags his seruice. 1625 K. LONG *Barclay's Argenis* (1636) 389 These which brag their skill in controversies. 1790 MORISON *Poems* 82 (JAM.) Ye'll brag high rank, Or heaps o' siller.

5. To declare or assert boastfully, to boast. Const. with *obj. inf.* (*obs.*) or *subord. cl.*

1563-87 FOXE *A. & M.* III. 878 The very meaneest... bragged that they had bathed their hands in the blood of a Lutheran. 1607 P. FLETCHER *Locusts* iii. xxviii. That eye, and eare, Which being blind, and deafe, bragges best to see, and heare. a 1659 CLEVELAND *Rebel Scot* i. No more let Ireland brag her harmless nation Harbours no venom. 1725 RAMSAY *Gentle Sheph.* v. iii. III. brag for aye that I was ca'd the aunt O' our young lady. 1870 BRYANT *Iliad* viii. I. 248 Bragged that each of you would be a match For five-score Trojans.

6. In the game of Brag (see BRAG sb.⁶).

1734 SEYMOUR *Compl. Gamester* 21 The best Cards you can haue really to brag of are a Pair Royal of Aces.

† **Braggance**. *Obs. rare-1.* [prob. a. OF. **bragance*, f. *braguer* to BRAG; or ? directly f. BRAG v. i.] Bragging, boasting.

c 1460 *Towneley Myst.* 99 He can make purueance, With boote and braggance.

Bragard, -rie, *obs. var.* of BRAGGART, -RY.

Braget (t), *obs. form* of BRACKET.

† **Braggade**. *Obs. rare-1.* [f. BRAG v. + -ADE.] Brag; boasting.

1762 in *Ann. Reg.* 40/1 His conversation... was... strongly tinged with vanity, braggade and impertinence.

Braggadism: see BRAGGARTISM.

† **Braggadocian**, a. and sb. *Obs.* Also *bragadocian*, *-chian*, *braggadocio*, *-kean*, *-tian*. [f. BRAGGADOCIO + -AN.]

A. *adj.* Of the nature of a braggadocio, given to vaunting. B. *sb.* = BRAGGADOCIO. Hence *Braggadocianism*.

1599 Broughton's *Lett.* ii. 10 Thrasioncall Braggadocio self-boasting. 1631 R. H. ARRAGON *Whole Creature* xi. § 1. 99 [They] magnifie their skill with braggadociokean and bumbasted words. 1664 TRAPP *Comen.* 706 xxxiii. 5 To censure Elihu, for a palpable Braggadocian. 1776 M. DAVIES *Athen. Brit.* III. *Dissert. Pall. Angl.* 20 While the Romanists were venting their braggadocian Lyes. 1664 BR. MOUNTAGU *Gage* Pref. 18 Take not this for an enlargement of braggadocianisme.

† **Braggadocio**, v. *Obs. rare-1.* [f. next.] To pride or vaunt (oneself); = BRAG v. 2.

a 1688 G. VILLIERS (DK. Buckhm.) *Restoration* Epil., One Who braggadocioed still himself upon Being infallible.

Braggadocio (brægdō'fio), *sb.* (and a.) Also 6-8 braggadoche, 7-8 bragadocia, brahagadocio, braggado, braggadocio, -ohio, -sier.

[A name formed from BRAG after the analogy of Italian augmentatives in *-occhio*, *-occio*, given by Spenser to his personification of Brag, Vainglory. (Formerly also pronounced *-cio*, which was perhaps Spenser's usage.)]

1590 SPENSER *F. Q.* II. iii. Arg't., Vaine Braggadocchio, getting Guyons horse, is made the scorn of knighthood trew.

1. An empty, idle boaster; a swaggerer.

1594 NASHE *Unfort. Trav.* 15 These... goose-quill Braggadoches were mere cowards and crauens. 1618 RALPH RICH Rem. (1644) 233 Whatsoever the Braggadocio, the Spanish Ambassador saith. 1714 *Wentworth Papers* (ed. Cartwright) 430 They did Web wrong that said he was a braggadosier. 1759 H. WALPOLE *Corr.* 343 (ed. 3) III. 321 You are spies, if you are not braggadochios. 1829 CARLYLE in *Fraser's Mag.* V. 382 He... had much of the sycophant, alternating with the braggadocio.

2. The talk of such a person, empty vaunting.

a 1734 NORTH *Exam.* Pref. 14 Without a Braggadocio this may be styled a New Work. 1822 SOUTHEY *Lett.* (1856) III. 358, I found... that this was half blunder, half braggadocio. 1878 H. SMART *Play or Pay* i. 8 Though his assertions might appear all braggadocio, it was not so.

B. *attrib.* or *adj.*; and in *comb.* as *braggadocio-like* *adv.*

1600 J. LANE *Tom Tel-truth* 126 And makes them brave it braggadocio-like. a 1613 OVERBURY *A Wife, etc.* (1638) 92 A Braggadocio Welshman. 1829 CARLYLE in *For. Rev.* & *Cont. Misc.* III. 123 [He] evidently writes with great gusto, in a lively braggadocio manner. 1862 AINSWORTH *Tower Lond.* (1864) 279 Xit kept up his braggadocio air and gait.

Braggart, *obs. variant* of BRAGGEE.

Braggart (bræ'gärt), *sb.* and *a.* Also 6 **bragart**, 7 **bragard**, (braggate), 7-9 **braggard**. [a. 16th c. F. *bragard*, f. *brague-r* to brag; see -ARD.]

A. sb. A vain bragger, one who brags much. *a* 1577 GASCOIGNE *Wks.* (1587) 74 In braggarts bote which set it selfe on sands. 1598 SHAKS. *Rom. & Jul.* iii. i. 105 A Braggart, a Rogue... that fights by the booke of Arithmetick. 1612 T. JAMES *Jesus's Downfall*. 4 As if they were...bragging braggates of Toledo. 1642 J. JACKSON *True Evang.* T. ii. 128 Marshall Biron will dye like a mad man, and Parry like a braggard. 1812 COLERIDGE, *Braggard*. 1856 THACKERAY *Christmas Bks.* (1872) 86 The real master of the school is Prince...pitiless with fools and braggarts.

B. adj. and attrib. Braggart, vainly boastful. 1613 R. C. *Table Alph.* (ed. 3), *Braggard*, fine, trime, proude. 1735 *Porte Donne Sat.* iv. 301 Truth I shall I quit thee For puffing, braggart, puff nobility? 1846 ARNOLD *Hist. Rome* III. xlv. 347 If in his lifetime he indulged in...braggart language. 1886 FARRAR *Early Chr.* II. 66 Braggart self-confidence.

Hence, **Braggart-like** *adv.* and **Braggartly** *a.* *a* 1846 HOOD *Last Man* xxiv. To see him lording so braggart-like. 1851 CHAPMAN *Iliad* III. Comm. (1857) 79 Whoever saw true learning...vouchsafe mansion in any...braggartly spirit.

Braggartism (bræ'gärtiz'm). Also 6 **bragadismo**, 6-7 **bragadismo**, 7 **bragadesmo**, **bragariame**. [f. BRAGGART (but cf. BRAGGER) + -ISM.] The characteristic practice of a braggart; bragging. So also **braggartism** = BRAGGART.

1591 SHAKS. *Two Gent.* II. iv. 164 What Bragadismo is this? 1601 CORNWALLIS *Ess.* II. xxix. (1631) 30 Ostentation, and bragariame. 1618 *Barnevelt's Apol.* Cijj. Now this...vaine-glorious fellow...enters afresh into his bragariame. *c* 1606 *True Relat.* in *Arb. Garner* I. 609 Which they in their bragadesme enforced so far. 1848 THACKERAY *Bk. Snobs* 76 The British Snob, for...braggartism in his way, is without a parallel.

Braggartry. [f. BRAGGART + -RY.] = *prec.* 1598 FLORES *Dict. To Rdr.* A viij. Whose thirt is usurie...whose valour bragardie. 1877 *tr. Lang's Materialism* II. 67 To turn their fearlessness into...braggartry.

Bragged (brægd), *ppl. a.* 1. [f. BRAGGART + -ED.] *a.* Boasted of, vaunted. *b.* Boastful, vaunting. 1580 SIDNEY *Arcadia* III. 375 Lycurgus more bragged and neere his brothers humour. 1599 *Broughton's Lett.* viii. 28 Your much bragd-of Convent. 1607 SHAKS. *Cor.* I. viii. 12 That was the whip of your bragd Progeny.

† **Bragged**, *ppl. a.* 2. *Obs.* [In first quot. prob. misprint for *bragged*; thence copied into the later.] With young, in pup.

1575 TURBERRY *Venerie* 188 You shall hardly take a bytch-foxe when she is bragged and with cubbe. 1677 *Gentleman's Recreat.* I. 106. 1741 *Compl. Fam.-Piece* II. i. 294 When a Bitch Fox is bragged, and with Cub, she is hardly to be taken.

Bragger (bræ'gæ). Also 4-7 **-ar**. [f. BRAGGART + -ER.] One who brags; a booster or blusterer. 1568 LANGL. *P. Pl.* A. vii. 142 To Pers be plough Mon [one] profrede his gloue, A Brutiner, A Braggere. *c* 1530 H. RHODES *Bk. Nurture in Babes* Bk. (1868) 103 Be...no busy bragger of the vertues with the which thou art indued. 1663 KILLIGREW *Parson's Wed.* I. i. in *Dodsley* (1780) XI. 377 Nothing shall privilege your bragger's tongue to abuse me. 1830 GALT *Laurie* T. I. vi. (1849) 19 The figure of the bragger set all present into a roar of laughter.

Braggery (bræ'gæri). Also 6 **bragerie**, 7 **braggry**. [f. *prec.* + -Y; or a. F. *braguerie*.]

1. Braggery; vaunting speech. *c* 1577 *tr. Buchanan's Detect.* Mary in Campbell's *Love-lett.* Mary (1824) 142, I could rehearse his glorious vain braggeries in France. 1576 NEWTON *Lemni's Complex.* (1633) 197 It is a mere vanity and foolish braggery. 1830 MRS. BRAY *Fits of F.* xxi. (1884) 172 Falsehood, braggery...a cruel heart, are fiends that walk in flesh and bones.

† 2. Rabble. *Obs. rare.* 1548 HALL *Chron.* (1809) 610 All the nobles of the Frenche court were in garments of many colours, so that they were not known from the braggery. 1577 HOLINSHED *Chron.* III. 861/2 Vagabonds, plowmen, labourers, and of the bragerie, wagoners and beggers.

Bragget (bræ'gæt). Forms: 4-7 **bragg**, **bragat**, **-et** (b), 4-9 **bragg**, **bragot** (te), 4-7 **braket**, 6 **brogat**, 8-9 **bracket**, 6- **bragget**; 9 (Sc.) **bragwort**, **bragwort**. [a. Welsh *bragawd*, earlier *bracawt* = Ir. *bract* = Oceltic **brācāta*, f. the Oceltic word given by Pliny and Columella, in the acc. *bracem*, as the Gaulish name of a kind of grain, whence Welsh *brag*, OIr. *brac*, mod. Ir. *braich* malt. The forms *brackwoort*, *bragwort*, *bragwort* indicate an association with WORT 2; a late Sc. form is *bragwud*; see also BRAGOES.]

A drink made of honey and ale fermented together; latterly the honey has been replaced by sugar and spice. Also *attrib.* in *Braggot Sunday*. See also BRACKWOORT.

c 1386 CHAUCER *Miller's T.* 75 Hir mouth was sweete as bragot [v. r. braket] or the Meeth. *c* 1400 *Pallad. on Husb.* III. 812 In bragot then or wyne or meeth hem kepe. 1586 COGAN *Haven Health* ccxxxviii. (1636) 267 To make Bragget. Take three or foure galons of good Ale or more. *c* 1618 FLETCHER *Woman's Prize* III. ii. Out upon her, How she turned down the Bragget! 1787 BRADLEY *Fam. Dict.*, *Bragget*, a Drink made with Honey and Spice. 1808 SIBBALD *Chron. Scot.* Poetry Gloss. (JAM.) *Bragwort*, mead, a beverage made from the dregs of honey. 1821 *Blackw. Mag.* Jan. 405 (JAM.) The Scottish *bragwort*, or mead, so plentiful at a harvest supper. 1841 GRESLEY *For. Arden* 107 *Braket*, a preparation of ale with honey. 1879 HARD-

WICK *Trad. Lanc.* 78 Mid Lent Sunday is likewise called Braggot or Braggot Sunday, from the custom of drinking 'mulled' or spiced ale on that day.

Bragget, *obs.* form of BRACKET.

Bragging (bræ'gɪŋ), *vbl. sb.* [f. BRAGGART + -ING 1.] The action of BRAGGART.

1599 *Pol. Poems* (1859) I. 401 Flor braggynge and flor bostynge. 1549 OLDZ *Erasm. Par.*, I. *Thess.* II. 1 We came not unto you, with bragging and staring. 1604 *Meel. Galants at Ordre*, 24 Such a bragging and a cracking. 1866 LIVINGSTONE *Jrnl.* (1873) I. v. 128 An ebullition of beer bragging.

Bragging (bræ'gɪŋ), *ppl. a.* [f. BRAGGART + -ING 2.] That brags; boastful, swaggering, etc.

1530 *Palgrave*, 306/2 Braggynge, brague. 1649 ROBERTS *Clavis Bibl.* 140 That proud bragging Gyaunt Goliath. 1700 DRYDEN *Cock & F.* 134 No bragging coxcomb, yet no baffed knight. *c* 1815 JANE AUSTEN *Northang. Abb.* (1833) II. xv. 207 They were...a forward, bragging, scheming race.

Braggingly (bræ'gɪŋli), *adv.* [f. *prec.* + -LY 2.] In a bragging manner; boastfully, ostentatiously.

1540 COVERDALE *Fruitf. Less.* v. Wks. I. 398 Not lordly and braggingly. 1656 TRAPP *Comm. Luke* xviii. 12 He braggingly made a gift of that which he was bound to pay.

Braggle, *-ing*, rare var. of BROGGLE, -ING.

Bragless (bræ'gləs), *a.* [f. BRAGGART + -LESS.] Without brag or vain boast.

1606 SHAKS. *Tr. & Cr.* v. ix. 5 Yet braglesse let it be.

† **Bragly** (bræ'gli), *adv.* *Obs.* [f. BRAGGART + -LY 2.] Ostentatiously, brisily, nimbly.

1599 SPENSER *Sheph. Cal. Mar.* Seest not thilke same hawthorne stude, How bragly it begins to budde? *a* 1727 PARMELL *Poet. Wks.* (1833) 20 The laeries bragly foot the floor.

Bragman, *obs.* var. of BRAHMIN.

Bragodocia, *obs.* form of BRAGODOCOTIA.

† **Bragooes**, *obs.* rare. Corruption of BRAGGERT.

1605 MARSTON *Dutch Court.* v. i. Good ale, perry, bragooes, syder...was the true ancient British and Trojan drinks. **Bragooes**, erroneous f. BRANT-GOOSSE.

1749 T. SHORT in Thompson *Ann. Influenza* 26.

Bragout, ? = *brag-out*: see BRAGGART.

1598 GREENE *Def. Conny-catch.* Wks. (Gros.) XI. 80 He pronounst his wordes like a bragout, and helde up his head like a Malt-horse. *Ibid.* 74 All these Nouelties doth this pipped Bragout boast on.

Bragwort, *-wud*, Sc. var. of BRAGGERT.

Brahm, **Brahma** (brām, brā'mā). Also **Brahme**. [ad. Skr. *Brāhmā*, masc., *Brahma*, neut., nom. of *Brāhmaṇa*.] *a.* The supreme God of post-Vedic Hindu mythology. *b.* In the later pantheistic systems, the Divine reality, of which the entire universe of matter and mind is only a manifestation. Hence **Brahmahood**, the state of *Brahma*; absorption into the divine essence.

1785 WILKINS *tr. Bhagvat* viii. 55 *Brahm* is that which is supreme and without corruption. 1827 COLEBROOK *Misc. Ess.* (1837) I. 339 While a man sleeps without dreaming, his soul is with *Brahme*. 1840 H. H. WILSON *Vishnu Purāṇa* 284 Sages who are the sons of *Brāhmā*, or *Brahmans*. 1866 F. HALL *Refut. Hindu Philos. Syst.* 194 When the soul...becomes convinced, that...itself is *Brahma*...it escapes from further vicissitude, and realizes *Brahmahood*.

Brahma, shortened f. *BRAHMAPUTRA*.

Brahman, etc.; see BRAHMIN, etc.

Brahmapootra (brāmāpū'trā). [Attrib. use of the name of the river.] A variety of domestic fowl, said to have been first brought from Lakhimpur, on the River *Brahmaputra*, in 1846; now usually abbreviated as *Brahma*.

1851 in Wright *Bk. Poultry* (1885) 245 The only question is whether they are Grey Shanghaes or *Brahmapootras*. 1884 WRIGHT *Bk. Poultry* 268 The most common error...is that of confounding the *Brahma* type with the Cochins.

Brahmic (brām'ik), *a.* [f. Skr. *brāhma*, combining form of *brāhmaṇa* (see BRAHM) + -IC.] Pertaining to the Indian society known as the *Brahmo* *Somāj*, or to the older one called *Brahma* *Sabhā*.

1828 *Calcutta Rev.* XVII. xvii. The foundation of the *Brahmic* creed is identical with that of the Deistic. 1869 *Echo* 9 Oct., Accepting what is now called the *Brahmic* covenant.

Brahmin, **Brahman** (brām'in, -mān).

Forms: 5-7 **bragman**, 6 **bramane**, 7-9 **brackman** (e), -min, 7 **brackman**, **braman**, -men, -mine, -miny, 8-9 **bramin**, 8- **brahmin**, 9 **brahman**. [ad. Skr. *brāhmaṇa*, f. *brāhmaṇa* praise, worship; some of the older Eng. forms were derived from or influenced by the Greek spelling *βραχμάνης* (pl.), L. *brachmāni*, -es, and med. L. corruptions; the form *Brahmin*, a corruption of the Indian vernacular pronunciation, is still all but universal in popular use; during the present century Orientalists have adopted the more correct *Brahman*, which (often written *Brāhmaṇa* or *Brāhmaṇ*) is employed by most writers on India. (Usually with capital B.)]

A member of the highest or priestly caste among the Hindus.

1481 CAXTON *Myrr.* II. v. 70 Other people whiche ben callyd...*bragman* whiche ben fayer than they to fore named. 1553 EDEN *Treat. New Ind.* (Arb.) 17 Their Priestes (called *Bramini*). 1599 HAKLUYT *Voy.* II. i. 252 The *Bramanes* which are their priestes. 1634 SIR T. HERBERT *Trav.* 50 An ancient *Braminy*, a devout Wretch. 1850 BULWER *Antikro-*

Amet. III. 66 The *Bramines* of Agra mark themselves in the forehead. 1696 BLOUNT *Glossogr.*, *Brachmans*, a sect of Philosophers in India. 1696 DRYDEN *Aureng.* III. i. Take the preaching *Brachman* hence. 1884 BURNETT *Th. Earth* III. III. 17 The modern Indian philosophers, the reliques of the old *bragmans*. 1711 *Porte Temple* F. 100 And *Brachmans*, deep in desert woods reverd. 1753 HANWAY *Trav.* (1762) II. xv. l. 406 note, He was fond of the *brachmans* or indian priests. 1835-41 THIRLWALL *Greece* liv. (L.) A whole community of *Brahmins* may have preserved the purity of their blood. 1848 PRICHARD *Nat. Hist. Man* 163 *Aryavarta* was the Holy Land of the *Brahmans*.

b. fig. 1823 BYRON *Yuan* XIII. LXXXIII, Thirty-three Of highest caste—the *Brahmins* of the ton. 1859 O. W. HOLMES *Else* V. i. Title, The *Brahmin* caste of New England.

c. attrib., as in *Brahman-slayer*; also **Brahmin** *beads*, the corrugated seeds of *Eleocarpus*, used by the *Brahmins* and others as necklaces; **Brahmin** ox (cf. *BRAHMINEX* a.), a humped variety of the ox; † **Brahmin**-pope, a chief *Brahmin* (*obs.*).

1613 PURCHAS *Pilgr. Descr. India*, All men, and the King himselfe, adore the *Brahmen*-Pope. 1847 CARPENTER *Zool.* § 263 The Zebu or *Brahmin* Ox. 1856 *Farmer's Mag.* Jan. 10 There were also some other crosses...between the *Brahmin* and our own native races. 1858 MUIR *Sanskrit Texts* I. 161 The city had been robbed of its glory by those *Brahman*-slayers.

Hence **Brahmanhood** (brām'hud), the rank of position of a *Brahmin*.

1840 H. H. WILSON *Vishnu Purāṇa* 405 Who...obtained *Brahmanhood* through devotion. 1866 *Reader* 17 Mar. 269 The issue of such marriage being admissible to the *Brāhmaṇ*hood in the seventh generation.

Brahminee (brām'inē), *sb.* Also **brahmini**.

[a. Skr. *brāhmaṇī*, fem. of *brāhmaṇa* BRAHMIN.] A female *Brahmin*.

1794 SIR W. JONES *Inst. of Menu* x. 66 Begotten by a *Sūdra* on a *Brāhmaṇī*. 1828 BEVERIDGE *Hist. India* II. IV. i. 13 A *Brahmini* or female *Brahmin*. 18... SIR A. C. LYALL *Song*, in *N. & Q.* 26 Feb. (1887) 87 My mother was a *Brahmanee*.

Brahminee (brām'inē), *a.* Also **Brachmany**, **Brahmany**, **Brahminy**, **Braminy**. [f. BRAHMIN, prob. after anal. of native Indian derivatives like *Bengalee* (*Bengālī*), etc.] Pertaining to the *Brahmin* caste; appropriated to the *Brahmins*. *Brahminee* bull = *Brahmin* ox; *Brahminee* duck, the *Casarca rutila*; *Brahminee* fig-tree, the 'Banyan' (*Ficus Indica*); *Brahminee* kite, the *Haliastur Indicus* (Balfour *Cycl. India* I. 437, where the spelling is *Brachmany*).

1811 MRS. SHERWOOD *Henry & Bessie* 30 Under the shade of a *Brahminee* fig-tree. *c* 1813 — *Stories Ch. Catech.* x. 73 No answer...was made...excepting by the pigeons and *brachminee* kites. 1830 MARRYAT *King's Own* xlii. He...took away a *Brachmany*...girl. 1884 *Macm. Mag.* No. 592. 303 Everywhere we see the inevitable *Brahminy* kite. 1885 LADY BRASSEY *The Trades* 99 The cattle...feeding peacefully beside *Brahminee* bulls.

Brahminic, **-manic** (brām'nik, -mæ'nik), *a.*

[f. BRAHMIN + -IC.] Pertaining to the *Brahmins*.

1866 MAX MÜLLER *Chips* (1867) I. 225 The earlier systems of *Brahmanic* philosophy. 1865 MURDOCH *Mosheim's Eccl. Hist.* 716 note, The corruption of the *Brahminic* religion.

Brahminical, **-manical**, *a.* Also 9 **Brahmenical**, **Braminical**. [f. as *prec.* + -ICAL.] = *prec.*

1809 WILFORD *Sacr. Isles in Asiat. Res.* IX. 71 Many *Brahminical* families. 1890 MAX MÜLLER in *Fraser's Mag.* Apr. 448 The *Brahmanical* body of religious doctrines. 1863 SEELY *Expans. Eng.* 268 The *braminical* period comes to an end.

Brahminicide, **-manicide**. [f. BRAHMIN + -CIDE.]

a. One who has killed a *Brahmin*. *b.* The act of killing a *Brahmin*.

1811 W. WARD *Hist. Hindoos* (1817) 96 If the husband be a *brāhmūnīcide*. 1836 B. HODGSON in *Asiat. Res.* XX. 127 That enumeration is as follows: 1. *brāhmūnīcide*. 1879 MONIER WILLIAMS *Skr. Dict.* 692 *Brāhmakatyā*...*Brāhmānīcide*.

Brahminism, **-manism** (brām'iniz'm, -mān-iz'm). [f. BRAHMIN + -ISM.] The principles and practice of the *Brahmins*.

1816 G. S. FABER *Orig. Pagan Idol.* I. 86, I shall in future use the terms *Buddhism* and *Brahminism*. 1846 MAURICE *Relig. World* I. ii. (1861) 54 *Hindoo* patriots...have dreamed of bringing back the first state of *Brahminism*. 1877 *tr. Field's Hist. Relig.* 118 The *Vedic* religion gives birth to *Brāhmānism*.

Hence **Brahminist**, **-manist**; **Brahministia** *a.*;

Brahminize *v.*

1816 G. S. FABER *Orig. Pagan Idol.* I. 124 The doctrine of a succession of worlds is held no less decidedly by the *Buddhists* than by the *Brahmenists*. 1866 R. PATTERSON *Ess. Hist. & Art* 427 The *Brahminized* *Tamul* race in the south. 1883 MONIER WILLIAMS *Relig. Thought in Ind.* II. 42 They proceeded to *Brahminize* the popular songs of the people. 1886 *N. Y. Forum* Mar. 42 Sometimes this *Brahministic* baptism was performed by the bank of a sacred river.

Brahmism (brām'iz'm). Also **bramism**. [f. BRAHM + -ISM.]

† *a.* The religion of *Brahma*. *Obs.* *b.* The tenets of the Indian society called *Brahma* *Sabhā*, or of the more recently founded *Brahmo* *Somāj*. In the last sense also **Brahmism**.

1813 *Month. Rev.* LXXI. 478 The *Brahmism* of the *Hindoo*s. 1852 J. MULLENS (*title*) *Vedantism, Brāhmism, and Christianity* examined and compared. 1883 BALFOUR *Cycl. India*

I. 438 Brahmoism has carried on a crusade against the institution and usages of caste.

Brai, variant of **BRAE**, **BRAYE**.

Braid (brād), *sb.* Forms: 1 brægd-, bræd-, bréd-, (1-2 gebreǵd, 3-6 breid(e), 4-5 breyde, 4-6 brayde, braide, 5-6 brade, 6 (bray), 6-7 breade, 7 (bredd), 4- braid. [Partly: -OE. brægd = ON. bragð neut. - OTeut. bragdo-m, f. str. vb. *bregdan, bragd (see BRAID v.), and partly aphet. form of OE. gebreǵd, f. bregdan to BRAID. All the senses are closely paralleled by those of ON. bragð, which may possibly to some extent have influenced the Eng. word. The archaic BREDE sb. 3 used in modern poetry (in sense 4) began as a mere orthographical variant of braid (breade).]

I. Sudden movement.

†1. A sudden or brisk movement; a start, jerk; a twist, wrench, strain. *Obs.* [cf. BRAID v. 1.]

[a 1000 *Phænix* 57 (Gr.) Nis þær... ne wintergeweorpe wedra gebreǵd. 1297 R. GLOUC. 22 þær was mony a strong breid, so þat ribbes þe geant brek of Corineus. a 1300 *Cursor M.* 7169 Sampson... gaue a braid [v. r. breid] sa fers and fast, þat all þe bandes of him brast. c 1385 CHAUCER *L. G. W.* 1166 Sche waylith and sche makith manye a breyde. c 1430 *How Good wife taught Dau.* in *Babes Bk.* (1868) 41 Go þi silf þerto & worche an houswifles brayde. c 1485 *Digby Myst.* iii. (1882) 1148 Loke, boy, þou do it with a brayd! 1606 in *Hum., Wit & Sat.* 17th C. (1883) 384 The woman... gave a braid with her head.

†b. A sudden assault or onset, an attack. *Obs.* 1340 HAMPOLE *Pr. Consc.* 1925 Ilk man... Aght to drede þe bitter dedes brayde. c 1430 *Syr Gener.* 3805 Of that braide Abel was war, That the baner of Perse bare. 1565 GOLDING *Ovid's Met.* xiii. (1593) 301 To have Ulisses ever as companion at the braid. 1609 HOLLAND *Amm. Marcell.* xviii. ii. 106 Whither in that doubtful braid they were driven.

c. An aim to strike, the launching of a blow; sometimes a blow.

1c 1450 *Kyng & Hermit* 364 in *Hazl. E. P. P.* (1864) 26 The frere... gale the coppe sych a breyd, That well nyh of ijede. 1513 DOUGLAS *Æneis* xiii. Prol. 147 Syne to me wyth his club he maid ane braid. [Still in this sense in mod. Scotch.]

†d. *fig.* An outburst of passion, envy, or anger; a freak, a whim. *Obs.*

a 1450 *Kat. de la Tour* (1868) 54 Thei... fytthe ayenst... the braydes of the fyre of lecherye. c 1500 *New Notbourne Mayd* 435 in *Hazl. E. P. P.* 111. 18 His irous brayde Wyll not be layed. 1530 MORE *Confut. Tindale* Wks. 442/2 He bringeth... onely a rashe maliciose frantike brayde. 1540 HYND *Vices Instr. Chr. Wom.* (1592) Uiv, You women... weene to gouverne... nations with the braydes of your stomackes.

†2. *transf.* [cf. ON. auga-bragð 'twinkling of an eye', moment.] A moment, short space of time. In the phrases *at, in a braid* the meaning varies between 1 and 2. *Obs.*

a 1300 *Cursor M.* 16722 Pe toþer theif him gaf ansuer, and blamed him a-braid. c 1325 E. E. *Allit. P.* B. 539 Vche best at a brayde [hy3et] þer hym best lykez. a 1400 *Cov. Myst.* (1841) 231 He wyll byn here within a brayde. c 1430 *Syr Tryam.* 78 'Owt upon the, thefel' sche seide in that brayde. 1520 *Chester Pl.* (1847) II. 155 Now goe we forth all in a breade. 1657 *Traff Comm.* 700 xlii. 16 For a short braid of adversity.

II. A trick, deception.

†3. An adroit turn; a trick or subtility. (cf. BRAID v. 1. II.; ON. bregðask to change unexpectedly, disappoint, deceive; OE. brægd-boga a deceitful bow; also F. *tour* a 'turn', a trick). *Obs.*

[c 950 *Lindisf. Gosp.* Matt. xiii. 22 gebreǵdas ðara wlenca underðelfes þæt word.] a 1000 *Thorpe's Laws* i. 160 (Bosw.) He hit dyde butan brede [v. r. breid] and bigswice. c 1250 *Bestiary* 672 in *O. E. Misc.* 21 Dis elp he reisen on stalle; and tus abrested his huntres breid. 1330 R. BRUNNE *Chron.* 164 Full stille away he went, þat was a theues braid. 1570 REDFORD *Songs* (1848) 60 Beware, good maidens, Of all such braydes.

III. Plait.

4. Anything plaited, interwoven, or entwined; esp. A plait of human hair. In 19th c. sometimes applied to the flat bands of hair, worn at one time by ladies over the side of the face, as in early portraits of Queen Victoria.

1530 PALSGR. 200/2 Braydes of a womans heer, *tresses*. 1564 GOLDING *Iustine* 54 (R.) [Alexander] cutte the wretches [of the Gordian knot] a sonder with a sworde, and... found the ends of the knottes wythin the braides. 1740 SOMERVILLE *Hobbinol* iii. (1749) 163 Her plaited Hair behind her in a Brede Hung careless. 1834 M. SCOTT *Cruise Midge* (1859) 272 Her hair plaited in three distinct braids that hung down her back. 1864 *Sci. Sc. Rev.* The hair is done up in a braid at the back. 1865 TROLOPE *Bellon Est.* i. 11 Wearing on her brow thin braids of false hair.

b. Since the 17th c. the variant BREDE has been used poetically in the sense of 'plait', and modern writers also use *braid* in the transferred and vague senses, mentioned under BREDE sb. 3.

[1643 MILTON *Divorce* vi. Wks. (1851) 33 His silk'n braides untwine, and slip their knots. 1697 DRYDEN *Ess. Georg.*, *Virg.* (1721) l. 201 A curious Brede of Needle-work.] 1708 I. PHILIPS *Cyder* (1807) 88 And puzzles the beholder's eye That views the wat'ry braid. c 1800 K. WHITE *Contempl.* 71 We'll watch, in eve's ethereal braid. c 1818 MESSER *To Fairbell*, Most I love thine [the hairbell's] azure braid. 1856 BRYANT *Agnes* xxvi, All blended, like the rain-bow's radiant braid.

5. A string or band with which the hair is confined or entwined.

1576 GASCOIGNE *Steele Gl. Epil.* 12 But curl their lockes with bodkins and with braids. 1634 MILTON *Comus* 863 In twisted braids of lilies knitting The loose train of thy amber-dropping hair. 1717 POPE *Sappho & P.* 85 Nor braids of gold the varied tresses bind. 1799 COLERIDGE *Dark Ladie*, My jet black hair in pearly braids. 1816 SCOTT *Yock o' Hazell* iii. A chain of gold ye sall not lack Nor braid to bind your hair. 1830 TENNYSON *Day-dream* 82 Jet-black hair... streaming from a braid of pearl.

6. *mod.* A woven fabric of silken, woollen, cotton, gold or silver thread in the form of a band, used for trimming or binding articles of dress.

1706 PHILLIPS, *Braid*, a small Lace, a Chain, or Edging. 1868 *Ladies' Treasury* Morning dress... trimmed in pattern with black mohair braid. 1882 BECK *Drafter's Dict.*, *Braid*... not properly solely applicable to the fillet or binding which the name now represents.

b. A narrow flat band woven of linen thread, with an open-work border on each side, used to form the outline of the pattern in point-lace work. *Honiton braids*: braids intended for use in making Honiton lace.

1874 *Cassell's Househ. Guide* I. 225 The materials required will be... several yards of point lace braid. 1886 *Daily News* 17 May 3/6 Honiton braids are dull of sale.

7. *Comb.* as braid-comb, 'a back comb for a lady's hair.'

† *Braid* (brād), *a.* (or *ppl. a.*) *Obs. rare*¹. [Of doubtful meaning and origin; perh. short for *braided* in some sense; cf. OE. *bregden*, deceitful, also *BRAIDIE a.*] ¹ Deceitful.

1601 SHAKS. *All's Well* iv. ii. 73 Since Frenchmen are so braide, Marry that will, I lue and die a Maid.

Braid (brād), *v.* 1 Pa. t. and *ppl.* **braided**.

Forms: 1 bregdan, (brægdan), brédan, 3 breden, 3-4 breide(n), 4-5 breyde, 4-6 brayde, (5 brede, 5-7 brade, 8 *dial.* breead), 5- braid. *Pa. t.* 1 brægd, bréd, *ppl.* bruzdon, brúdon, 3 bræid, breod, *ppl.* brudden, 3-4 bréid(e), 4 brede, 4-5 breyde, 4-6 brayde, 5-6 brayed, brayded, 7 bréd, bradde, 4- braided. *Pa. pple.* 1 bruzden, bróden, 3-5 broiden, 4 brayden, brawdén, browden, 4-6 broyden, 5 brait, -ed, brayded, 7 breeaded, 8- braided, *dial.* breed.

[Com. Teut.: OE. *bregdan* (pa. t. *brægd*, *brugdon*, *ppl.* *brogden*) = OS. *bregdan* (MDu. *breiden*, Du. *brien*), OHG. *brettan* (MHG. *bretten*), ON. *bregða* : -OTeut. *bregd-an (extended from *breg-), with root-meaning 'to pull quickly hither and thither, to move suddenly to and fro'. In OE. the *g* of the root was often omitted, with lengthening of the vowel (*brédan*, *bréd*, *brúdon*, *bróden*), but the diphthongal form (*breyde*, etc.) prevailed in ME. The pa. pple. had in 13-15th c. the form *broyden*, in 14-16th *browden*, sometimes in 14-15th c. *brawdén*; the phonetic history of which presents some difficulties. By 1400 the original strong pa. t. was displaced by the weak *brayded*, which in the 15th c. had also extended to the pa. pple., though *browden* continued in Sc. at least till 1600. From the strong forms of the pa. pple. appear to have arisen the newer synonymous weak verbs *BROID*, *BROWN*, *BRAUDE* q.v.; see also *BROIDER*, *browder*, *brawdér*.]

I. To make a sudden jerky movement (originally off or away to one side).

†1. *trans.* To make a sudden movement with (the hand, foot, etc.); to brandish (a spear); to deal (a blow). In OE. const. with instrumental case, afterwards treated as simple object. *Obs.*

a 1000 *Beowulf* 1033 Þær gít... mundum bruzdon. c 1300 K. *Alis*. 7373 On a stede wel y-dyght: He ryt his spere braydyng. c 1325 *Coer de L.* 411 Another stroke he hym brayde. c 1450 HENRYSON *Mor. Fab.* 75 The Wolfe braid fourth his fute, the Man his hand. c 1505 DUNBAR in *Maitland Poems* 5 (JAM.) I wald na langer beir on brydil, bot braid up my heid.

†2. To draw (a sword, knife, etc.). (Const. orig. with instrumental case as in 1; cf. ON. *bregða sverði*; but in later OE. app. regarded as an application of sense 3.) *Obs.*

[*Beowulf* 3333 Ic by wæpne gebreǵd.] a 1000 *Battle of Maldon* 163 Byrhtnoð bræd bill of sceððe. c 1300 LAY. 15260 Heo breoden ut þe sexes. 1330 R. BRUNNE *Chron.* 229 Þe envenomed knyfe out braid, & gaf Edward a wounde. c 1450 HENRYSON *Mor. Fab.* 30 Out of his breaste ane bill can hee braid. c 1500 *Felton Sene Rokely* in *Bell Anc. Ballads* (1857) Hee brayded out hys brande.

†3. To jerk, snatch, wrench, fling, etc., with a sudden effort; freq. with *up, down, out*. *Obs.*

a 1000 *Battle of Maldon* 154 Se... bræd of ðæm beorne blodigne gar. c 1300 *Trin. Col. Hom.* 217 Ich triste þat he... wille of his werpes grune mine fet breiden. 1297 R. GLOUC. 22 A gret ok he wolde breide a down, as it a smal 3erde were. c 1384 CHAUCER *H. Fame* 1678 Oute hys trumpe of golde he brayde... and set it to his mouth. 1388 WYCLIF *Ps.* xxiv. [xxv.] 15 He schal breide away my feet fro the snare [1388 he schal pullen up]. a 1400 *Octavian* 461 And breyde away with hard roun The grypes wynges.

†b. *Naut.* To braid up (the sails). *Obs.* c 1400 *Destr. Troy* 1945 [He] braid vp a brode saile, hade

brethe at his wille. 1607 CAPT. SMITH *Seaman's Gram.* ix. 40 Brade vp close all them sailes.

†4. To deliver with a brisk action. *Obs.*

c 1325 E. E. *Allit. P.* A. 711 Burnez her barnes vnto hym brayde. c 1340 *Gaw. & Gr. Knt.* 2377 He... brayde broþely þe belt to þe burne seluen.

†5. *intr.* To start, usually out of sleep or a swoon; to awake; also to start or burst into motion; to rush, spring, or dart; *fig.* to start ('out of one's wit'); also used *refl.* in same sense. *Obs.*

c 1305 LAY. 26454 Walwain bræid to sworden. a 1300 *Havelok* 1282 Of his slep a-non he brayd. c 1380 *Sir Ferumb.* 2099 For angre sche braid hure wel ne3 wod. c 1386 CHAUCER *Franklin's T.* 299 flor verray wo out of his wit he breyde. c 1440 *Generydes* 165 Right sodenly he brayded and he wooke. c 1450 HENRYSON *Mor. Fab.* 20 They braded ouer the bent, As fire off flint. 1513 DOUGLAS *Æneis* i. ii. 51 Furth at the ilk port wyndis braid in a rowt. 1603 *Philotas* cxxix, Quhat is the mater... Quhat garris yow braid?

†b. *trans.* To rouse, startle. *Obs. rare.*

c 1325 E. E. *Allit. P.* A. 1169 þat brathe out of my drem me brayde.

†6. *intr.* To break forth abruptly into speech; to burst into a cry. *Obs.*

c 1000 *Guthlac* 878 (Gr.) Wop ahofon, hleoðrum bruzdon. c 1400 *Ywaine & Gaw.* 2072 The Lyon... brayded als he had bene wode. a 1497 EARL SURREY *Æneid* iv. 476 And fourth in rage at last thus gan she brayde.

†b. *trans.* To ejaculate, burst out with. *Obs.*

1562 LEIGH *Armorie* 166 His irefull hart straight braided out wrothful wordes.

II. To change suddenly or abruptly.

†7. *intr.* To make a change. Const. with instrumental case (cf. ON. *bregða bú, tiöldum*, to change one's abode, strike tents). Only in OE.

a 1000 *Cudmon's Exodus* 222 (Gr.) Brudon feldhusum [=they struck their tents].

†8. *intr.* To change in colour or appearance. In OE. with instrumental case (or *on* = into). *Obs.* Cf. *BRAIDED b.*

a 1000 *Salomon & Sat.* 150 (Gr.) Næfre hie ðæs syllice bleoum bregdað. a 1000 *Guthlac* 882 (Gr.) Bruzdon eft awyrðo wærlogan on wyrmes bleo. c 1430 LVDG. *Bochas* iii. i. (1554) 69 b, With thy giftes who that hath to done Of chaunges braideth oftner than the Mone. — *Min. Poems* 24 All worldly thing braidith upon tyme.

†9. *refl.* To assume an appearance, act a part. c 1205 LAY. 6667 þe king hine bræid [c 1275 breid] sœc also þeah hit seod weore.

†10. *intr.* To braid of, formerly *after, on*: to take after, resemble, be like. Still *dial.* [cf. ON. *bregðr einum til eins*.]

c 1205 LAY. 6895 Wel he bræid [c 1275 dude] on deade efter his alderen. c 1430 LVDG. *Bochas* iii. xxi. 93 b, Which froward monster... Braydeth on Hidra. c 1505 DUNBAR *Diser. in Asking* 13 Sum schamis to ask, as braidis of me. 1691 RAY *N. C. Wds.*, *Braid of, Brade of*, to be like in conditions: 'Ye breid of the miller's dog; ye lick your mouth or the poke be ope'. 1864 ATKINSON *Whitby Gloss.* s.v., 'You breed o' me, you don't like noise'.

III. To pull a thread to and fro, intertwine. [A Common Teutonic sense.]

II. *trans.* To twist in and out, intertwine, interweave, plait; to embroider; to make (a garland, cord, fabric) by intertwining, twisting, or plaiting. (Now in ordinary Eng. only *poet.* or *dial.* except as applied to the hair, in which use it appears to be now interpreted as 'to arrange in braids'.)

c 1000 *Ælfric Gram.* xxviii. § 5. 176 *Plecto*, ic brede net. a 1225 *Ancre. R.* 236 For pine... he breided þe crune of blisse. a 1250 *Out & Night*. 645 Mi nest... is broiden al abute. a 1300 *Cursor M.* 1008 Wit blis and beild broiden best. 1393 GOWER *Conf.* III. 237 They taughten him a lace to brade. 1530 PALSGR. 471/1, I broyde heare, or a lace, or suche lyke. *Je tortille*, Brayde your heare up. 1686 GOAD *Celest. Bodies* iii. iii. 475 They are Plaited and Braided in the same Twine. 1753 HOGARTH *Anal. Beauty* v. 28 Part of the hair of their heads, braided together from behind. 1848 MRS. JAMESON *Sacr. & Leg. Art* (1850) 211 The rich golden hair partly braided. 1883 G. C. DAVIES *Norfolk Broads* xxxii. 249 They [the nets for eel-sets] are braided or made in the winter. 1884 *Harper's Mag.* July 303/1 She... wove rag carpets... braided rugs, etc.

b. *transf.* To 'thread the mazes' of the dance; to cross and recross.

1813 SCOTT *Trierm.* iii. xxi, When the whirlwind's gusts are wheeling, Ours it is the dance to braid. 1875 B. TAYLOR *Faint* xxi. I. 181 Here winds away, and in a hundred divided veins the valley braids.

IV. [Mod. f. BRAID sb. 5 and 6.]

12. *trans.* To bind or confine (the hair) with a braid or ribbon, or something equivalent. (Retained by modern poets from *braid the hair* in sense 11, but applied in another sense.)

1793 SOUTHEY *Triumph Wom.* 31 With roseate wreaths they braid the glossy hair. 1810 SCOTT *Lady of L.* iii. v. Yet ne'er again to braid her hair The virgin snood did Alice wear. 1813 — *Rokeby* iii. xxviii, A weary lot is thine, fair maid... To pull the thorn thy brow to braid.

13. *trans. a.* To ornament or trim with braid.

b. To outline (a design for point-lace work) by means of braid (see BRAID sb. 6 b). c. To manufacture braid; to weave (material) into braid (see also *BRAIDER*, *BRAIDING-MACHINE*).

1848 MISS YONGE *Abbey Ch.* xi. 232 You have been six months braiding that frock. 1874 *Cassell's Househ. Guide*

1. 225 When the whole design has been braided. *Mod.* They braid slippers for curates.

† **Braid**, *v.* 2. *Obs.* [Prob. aphetic f. **ABRAID** *v.* 2, **UPBRAID**; but as *ON. bregda* was used in this meaning, it may perhaps be a sense of **BRAID** *v.* 1] *trans.* To upbraid, reproach.

c 1325 *Body & Soul* 257 in *Map's Poems* (1841) 343 Thou me thus breidest of myn un-hap. *c* 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 49 Breydyn or vpbreydyn, *impropero.* 1553 *BRENDRE Q. Curtius* viii. 8 Thou wilt braid me with the saving of his life. 1562 *J. Heywood Prov. & Epigr.* (1867) 56 Better dissemble it.. Than to broide him with it. 1608 *SHAKS. Per.* i. 1. 93 'Twould 'braid yourself too near for me to tell it.

Braid, *v.* 3 [App. a dial. corruption of **BRAY** *v.* 2, by confusing *brayed*, *braid*, *braided*. Given by Forby and Halliwell as East Anglian. Not in Bailey, nor Johnson; taken app. from Halliwell into Webster and other recent Dicts.] *trans.* To intermix; 'to mingle by rubbing in some fluid or soft substance'.

1853 *Hints Yng. Housewives* 31 The plain old-fashioned starch.. is braided up with cold water. *Ibid.* 118 Braid a teaspoonful of flour with a little of the cream.

Braid, *obs.* and *Sc.* f. **BROAD**.

Braid, *obs.* f. **BREAD** and **BREDE** breadth.

Braided (*brā'dēd*), *pp.* a. [wk. pa. pp. of **BRAID** *v.* 1] In some senses of the vb.: a. Plaited, woven, entwined; *fig.* tangled, intricate, as a dance. † b. *Braided wares*: goods that have changed colour, tarnished, faded. *Obs.* c. Embroidered; *fig.* rippled, as water by the wind. d. Trimmed with braid, as 'a braided coat' (*mod.*).

1494 *FABIAN VII.* cxxiv. 251 For that tyme clerkes vsed bushed and brayded heds. 1599 *MARSTON Sco. Villanie* i. iii. 185 To yeeld his braided ware a quicker sale. 1653 *GATAKER Vind. Annot. Jer.* 183 They may the better help to vend such braided wares. 1710 *STEELE Tatler* 245 P 2 Bracelets of braided Hair. 1721 *BAILEY, Braided*, faded, that hath lost its colour. 1742 *COLLINS Ode Poet. Char.* 48 In braided dance their murmurs join'd. 1752 *JOHNSON Idler* No. 13 P 8 She has boxes filled with.. braided shoes. 1812 *BYRON Ch. Har.* l. lxxxi, With braided tresses bounding o'er the green. 1821 *SHELLEY Prometh. Unb.* i. 860 That planet-crested shape swept by on lightning-braided pinions. 1848 *THACKERAY Vanity Fair* xxviii, A braided frock-coat and duck trousers. 1862 *TENNYSON Mourner* to the swamp.. With moss and braided marsh-pipe. 1885 *Century Mag.* XXIX. 501, I sought.. the place Of the wind-braided waters.

* **Braider** (*brā'dar*), [*f.* **BRAID** *v.* 1 + *-ER*.] 1.

a. One who makes or applies braids. b. A part of a sewing machine, used for stitching braid on cloth. c. A braiding-machine.

1866 *TOMLINSON Cycl. Useful Arts* III. 622 Subsidiary pieces of apparatus.. the hemmer, the binder, the braider. 1874 *KNIGHT Amer. Mech. Dict.* i. 355 The sizes of flat braiders most in use are those braiding 53 and 65 strands.

† **Braider**, *2. Obs.* [*f.* **BRAID** *v.* 2] An upbraider. 1552 *HULOET*, Brayder or caster in teeth with a good turne past.

† **Braidie**, *a. Sc. Obs. rare.* [*f.* **BRAID** *sb.* 3 + *-IE*, *-Y*.] Deceitful. Hence **Braidiness**. a 1600 *MONTGOMERIE Poems* (1821) 54 Sir, I have sein them baith, In braidiness & lye aback Escape.

Braiding (*brā'din*), *vbl. sb.* 1 [*f.* **BRAID** *v.* 1]

1. a. The action of plaiting, embroidering, etc.; also the action of making or applying braid. b. Braids collectively. c. Braided work; *transf.* embroidery; also *fig.*

c 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 49 Bredynge of lacy or oþer lyke, laqueacio, nectio, connectio. 1540 *HYNDE Vives Instr. Chr. Wom.* i. ix. (R.) Let not the outward apparell of women bee decked with the brayding of hir haire. 1831 *J. Wilson in Blackw. Mag.* XXIX. 288 Some delicate braidings.. along the calm of the Great Blue Sea of Heaven. 1849 *THACKERAY Pendennis* xxiii, A gentleman enveloped in mustachios, whiskers, fur collars, and braiding.

2. **Braiding-machine**, one for weaving braid.

1874 *KNIGHT Amer. Mech. Dict.* i. 355 Braiding-machines are made of all sizes.

† **Braiding**, *vbl. sb.* 2 *Obs.* [*f.* **BRAID** *v.* 2] Upbraiding.

1552 *HULOET*, Braiding or casting in teeth.

Braidism (*brā'diz'm*), *Med.* [*f.* the surname *Braid*.] The process of producing sleep or trance by causing the patient's attention to be intensely concentrated on some visual object; this process, which had long been practised under the name of **MESMERISM**, was first scientifically applied, and its effects accounted for, by Dr. James Braid in 1842.

(Braid's own name for the process was **HYPNOTISM**, which is still the one most frequent in scientific use; the popular term **MESMERISM** is not employed by medical writers, as it is understood to imply an explanation of the phenomena differing from that of Braid.)

1882 *BASTIAN in Quain's Dict. Med.* 132 Braidism certainly deserves more attention than it has received. *Ibid.* 973 The too ready adoption of hypnosis or Braidism may do harm rather than good.

Braie, [*a. F.* *brat* resin, also a compound used for calking ships. Cf. **BRAY** *v.* 3] (See quot.)

1871 *Daily News* 12 May, A material for insulating telegraphic wires named 'braie'.. which was a preparation of coal tar.

Braie, **Brail**: see **BRAE**, **BRAYE**, **BRAKE**, **BREAK**.

Brail (*brā'l*), *sb.* 1 Also 5-6 *brayl*(e), -*ll*(e), 7 *VOL.* I.

brale, **braile**, [*a. OF.* *brail*, earlier *brail*:—*L. brācāle* 'breach-girdle, waist-belt for keeping up the breeches', form *brācā* breeches; hence girdle, cincture, in other senses; in sense 1 *brail* occurs in Wace.]

1. *pl.* Small ropes fastened to the edges of sails to truss them up before furling.

a 1450 *Pilgrims Sea-Voy.* 33 in *Stations Rome* (1867) 38 Y howe! trussa! hale in the brayles! 1607 *CAPT. SMITH Seaman's Gram.* v. 22 The Brales are small ropes reeled thorow Blockes.. with them we furl or farthell our sailes acrossse. 1768-9 *FALCONER Shipwr.* ii. 287 The sailors.. man the enfolding brails. 1885 *NORRIS A. Vidal* III. 224 Catch hold of those brails, and haul on them when I tell you.

b. ? A rope attached to a fishing net for a similar purpose.

1883 *Fisheries Exhib. Catal.* 105 Minnow gangs, brails, gangings, used in various sea fisheries. 1883 *ABBOTT in Glasgow Weekly Her.* 14 July 8/1 Some [of the fish].. made their way between the brail and the net.

2. A girdle used to confine a hawk's wings.

1808 *SEABRIGHT Hawking* 12 The brail.. is a thong of soft leather with a slit.. along the middle. 1875 'STONEHENGE' *Brit. Sports* i. iv. i. § 6. 295 When first hooding her, the brail should be used.

3. *pl.* The feathers about a hawk's rump; also attrib., as in *brail-feathers*.

1286 *Bk. St. Albans A viii b*, The same federis ye shall call the brayles or the brayle federis. 1575 *TURBEV. Bk. Falconrie* 278 All the brayles and smal feathers of the trayne. 1611 *COTGR.*, *Brayel*, feathers about a hawks fundament, called by our Faulconers the brayle.

Brail, *sb.* 2 [*ad. F.* *brille* in same sense: see *Litttré*.] In the American timber trade: A number of logs held together by ropes and booms, forming part of a raft.

1879 *Lumberman's Gaz.* 1 Oct. This part of the Slough is wide and deep, and is used for coupling up the strings into brails and rafts.

Brail (*brā'l*), *v.* Also 7 *braile*, *brale*. [*f.* **BRAIL** *sb.* 1] *trans.*

1. To haul up (the sails) by means of the brails.

1602 *SIR R. GRANVILLE in G. Granville's Wks.* (1732) 293 My Lord Essex did Brail up his Foresail. 1765 *FALCONER Shipwr.* ii. 26 'Brail up the mizen quick!' the Master cries. 1824 *M. SCOTT Cruise Midge* (1863) 95 The frigate hauled down the jib and brailed up the spanker.

2. To confine (a hawk's wings) with a brail.

1643 *Parables on Times* 9 Not content to braille and clip their wings only. 1808 *SEABRIGHT Hawking* 13 He should be carried on the fist.. with his wing brailed.

Brailed, *pp.* a. [*f.* *prec.* + *-ED*.]

a. Confined by a brail (said of a hawk's wings).

b. *Brailed worm*: perh. a ringed worm? from extended sense of *OF.* *bratēl* girdle; see **BRAIL** *sb.* 1.]

1496 *Bk. St. Albans, Fysshynge* 26 In May the grene worme: a lyttill breyled worme. a 1653 *G. DANIEL Idyll on G. Herbert* 5 My long-brail'd Pineons.. I cannot spread.

Brain (*brā'n*), *sb.* Forms: 1 *brægn* (*brægn*), *brægn*, *bræzn*, 3 *brægn*, *bræine*, 3-6 *brayn*(e), 4-7 *braine*, 5-6 *brane*, 3- *brain*. [*OE.* *bræg(e)n* = *LG.* *brāgen*, *Du.* and *Fris.* *brein* (not found in *HG.*, *Scand.*, or *Goth.*):—*OTeut.* type **bragno(m)*, perh. related to *Gr.* *βρεχμός* forehead.]

1. The convoluted mass of nervous substance contained in the skull of man and other vertebrates. By some earlier scientific writers restricted to the anterior portion (in Latin *cerebrum*) as opposed to the posterior portion (*BRAINLET*, *cerebellum*); but this distinction is now expressed by the Lat. words, which have been adopted in scientific use, and *brain* in technical as well as in popular language includes the entire organ; it is also applied by extension to the analogous but less developed organs of invertebrate animals.

In 16th c. it became usual to employ the *pl.* instead of the *sing.* when mere cerebral substance, and not a definite organic structure, was meant; this usage still continues: we say 'a dish of brains', 'a disease of the brain'.

c 1000 *Ag. Pr.* vii. 16 On his brægn astige his unriht. *c* 1000 *Sax. Leechd.* i. 358 Bares brægn gesoden.. ealle sar hyt gelidgæp. a 1200 *Voc.* in *W. Wülcker Voc.* 305 *Cerebrum*, brægn. *c* 1205 *LAY.* 1468 His blod and his brain [*c* 1275 *brægn*] ba weoren to-dascte. 1297 *R. GLOUC.* 446 Kyng Henry brayn, and gottes, and even ybured were At Reynys in Normandye. 1393 *GOWER Conf.* II. 176 The wit and reson.. is in the celles of the brain. *c* 1460 *Toumeley Myst.* 209 (Mätz.) Lo here a crowne of thorne, to perche his brane within. 1486 *Bk. St. Albans Biiij*, Rewarde youre hawke with the Brayne and the necke. 1576 *BANISTER Hist. Man* v. 78 The quadruplication of Dura mater.. lyeth betwene the brayne and Cerebellum. 1598 *SHAKS. Merry W.* iii. v. 7 Ile haue my braynes tane out and but-ter'd. 1653 *WALTON Angler* 179 Peach.. have in their brain a stone. 1772 *PRIESTLEY Inst. Relig.* (1782) II. 389 The power of thinking.. depends.. upon the brain. 1824-8 *LANDOR Imag. Conv.* (1846) 460 The power of thinking is no more in the brain than in the hair. 1880 *HUXLEY Cray-Fish* iii. 105 A transversely elongated mass of ganglionic substance termed the Brain or cerebral ganglion.

b. Phrases. *To dash, knock out a person's brains*: i. e. by a blow. *To blow out (any) one's brains*: to shoot oneself or another in the head.

1607 *SHAKS. Timon* i. 1. 193 To knocke out an honest Athenians braynes. 1831 *CARLYLE Sart. Res.* ii. vi, Establish himself in Bedlam; begin writing Satanic Poetry; or blow out his brains. 1859 *Autobiog. Beggar-boy* 95 [He]

demanded his money, or he would blow out his brains. 1864 *TENNYSON Boddicea* 68 Dash the brains of the little one out.

† 2. *transf.* Marrow; the pith or heart of the growth at the top of a date-palm. *Obs.*

1552 *HULOET*, Brayne, or marrow of the legge, *musculus*. 1601 *HOLLAND Pliny* I. 386 These [date-trees] haue in the very head and top, a certain pleasant.. marrow, which they terme, The brayne.

3. Considered as the centre of sensation, the organ of thought, memory, or imagination. (From 16th c. onwards the *pl.* has been preferred in familiar use and idiomatic phrases, but not in dignified language, exc. when more than one brain is referred to.)

c 1230 *Hali Meid.* 35 Of breines turnunge þin heued [schule] ake. *c* 1384 *CHAUCER H. Fame* 24 To grete feble-nesse of her brayne. 1536 *Remed. Sediton* p. ii b, Full of bones, but voyde of brayne. 1604 *JAMES I Counterbl.* 109 The Nose being the proper Organ and conuoy of the sense of smelling to the braines. 1697 *DRYDEN Virg. Georg.* ii. 674 Ye sacred muses, with whose Beauty fir'd My Soul is ravish'd, and my Brain inspir'd. 1845 *DISRAELI Sybil* (1863) 275 'You haue a clear brain and a bold spirit; you haue no scruples.. You ought to succeed.' 1875 *STUBBS Const. Hist.* II. 512 Was that plan the conception of any one brain? *fig.* 1844 *KINGLAKE Eothen* ii. (1878) 17 The accomplished Mysser.. was in fact the brain of our corps. 1861 *M. ARNOLD Pop. Educ. France* Pref. 23 Frenchmen proclaim.. Paris to be the brain of Europe.

b. Phrases. *To break (obs.)*, *beat*, *busy*, *cudgel*, *drag*, *puzzle one's brains*: to exert oneself in thought or contrivance. *To crack one's brain(s)*: to render oneself insane. *To haue anything* (e.g. music, bicycling, any object of admiration or antipathy) *on the brain*: to be crazy on the subject of. *To turn one's brain*: to render giddy, hence *fig.* to bewilder, to render vain or imprudent. † *A dry brain* (*Shaks.*): a dull or barren brain void of thinking power. † *A hot brain*: an inventive fancy. † *Boiled brains*: hot-headed fellows.

1530 *PALSON* 350 We breake our braynes for nought. 1577 *STANYHURST Descr. Irel. in Holinshed VI.* 32 To beat his braynes in the curious insearching of deep mysteries. 1600 *SHAKS. A. Y. L.* ii. vii. 38. 1600 — *Ham.* v. i. 63 Cudgell thy braynes no more about it. 1611 — *Wind.* 7. iii. iii. 64; iv. iv. 701. 1744 *YOUNG Nt. Th.* viii. 513 An eminence, tho' fancy'd, turns the brain. 1847 *TENNYSON Princ.* iv. 136 While I dragg'd my brains for such a song. 1848 *KINGSLEY Saint's Trag.* ii. iii, I puzzled my brains about choosing my line.

4. *fig.* Intellectual power, intellect, sense, thought, imagination. (From 16th c. often plural.)

1393 *GOWER Conf.* III. 4 That is nought for lake of brayne. 1500 *TINDALE Tim.* vi. 4 He wasteth his braynes aboute questions. 1571 *GOLDING Calvin on Pr.* ix. 12 David did not vpon his own brayn appoint God a dwelling place there. 1618 *Barnevelt's Apol.* Gij, Hee that hath any brayne, sees hee is not well in his wittes. 1732 *POPE Ess. Man* ii. 47 Tricks to shew the stretch of human brain. 1763 *CHURCHILL Candidate* (R.) Let those who boast the uncommon gift of brains, The laurel pluck. 1861 *T. BROWN Horæ Subæ.* Ser. i. 171 'Pray, Mr. Opie, may I ask what you mix your colours with?' 'With brains, sir!' was the gruff reply.

b. Phrases. † *To bear a brain*: to be cautious, thoughtful, have brains. *To suck (or pick) a person's brains*: to elicit and appropriate the results of his thought. † *Of the same brain*: in the same strain of thought, similarly conceived. (But cf. *Of the same bran*.)

1526 *SKELTON Magnyf.* 1422, I counsel you, bere a brayne. 1592 *G. HARVEY Pierces Super.* 120 Some potestats.. will by fittes beare a brayne. 1622 *BR. HALL Invis. World* i. viii, These [tales] and a thousand more of the same brain. 1808 *SCOTT Marmion* vi. xvi, Eustace, thou bear'st a brain.

5. *Comb.*; general relations.

a. attributive: Of the physical brain, as *brain-ache*, *-atoms*, *-chamber*, *-giddiness*, *-matter*, *-softening*, *-symptom*; of the brain as the seat of intelligence, as *brain-chart*, *-fancy*, *-labour*, *-power*, *-war*, *-work*.

1862 *LYTTON Str. Story* II. 280 His crown, with its 'brain-ache of care. 1870 *GLADSTONE Prim. Homer* (1878) 61 The poetical unity of Homer's 'brain-chart. 1657 *BROME Queen's Exch.* iv. i, The 'brain-giddiness of these wilful Lords. 1864 *TENNYSON Aylmer's F.* 447 Prodigious of all 'brain-labour he. 1876 *HOOKE & BALL Morocco* 150 By their superior 'brain-power. 1883 *Harper's Mag.* June 125/1 'Brain-softening or degeneration of the spinal cord. 1871 *M. COLLINS Mrq. & Merch.* III. xi. 252 Men who are wise do no 'brainwork save in summer.

b. objective and objective-genitive; as *brain-wright* *sb.*; *brain-breaking*, *-fretting*, *-purging*, *-smoking*, *-spattering*, *adjs.*

1616 *HOLYDAY Persius* 317 'Brain-purging hellebore. a 1654 *SELDEN Engl. Epin.* iii. § 19 'Brain-smoking liquors. 1883 *BYRON Juan* ix. iv, War's a 'brain-spattering.. art. 1602 *DAVIES Mirum in Mod.* 7 (D.) The 'Brayn-wrights skill And wisdom infinite.

c. instrumental and locative: as *brain-begot*, *-born*, *-bred*, *-cracked*, *-crazed*, *-fevered*, *-spun*, *-strong*, *adjs.*, also *brain-worker* *sb.*; *brainlike* *adj.* 1596 *FITZ-GERFAY Sir F. Drake* (1881) 22 Joves 'braine-borne Pallades. 1822 *BYRON Ch. Har.* ii. vii, With 'braine-born dreams of evil. 1630 *J. TAYLOR (Water P.) Wks.* iii. 122/2 His 'braine-bred Daughter. 1657 *BROME Queen's Exch.* iii. Wks. 1873 III. 497, I fear he's 'braine-crack'd, lunatick. 1652 — *North. Lasse* i. v. Wks. III. 11 The Master and the man both 'braine-cras'd. 1849 *TODD Cycl. Anat.*

♂ *Phys.* IV. 141/2 Cerebral substance. replaced by a "brain-like matter." 1832 J. C. HARE in *Philol. Mus.* I. 643 "Brain-spun systems of metaphysics." 1863 DASENT *Jest & Earnest* (1873) II. 273 True it is, as the saw goes, 'Bairns are brain-strong'. 1878 HOLBROOK *Hygiene of Brain* 91 A farmer may be a 'brain-worker'.

6. Special combinations: † brain-being, -brat, a creature of the fancy; brain-box, the skull; † brain-break, a conception that overtakes the brain; brain-case (= brain-box); brain-cell, one of the cells forming the tissue of the brain; brain-coral, coral resembling in form the convolutions of the brain; brain-craak, a craze or crotchety; brain-fever, a term for inflammation of the brain, 'and also for other fevers, as typhus, with brain complications' (*Syd. Soc. Lex.*); brain-lit a., enlightened by thought; brain-shed, the scattering of brains; † brain-squirt, a childish attempt at reasoning; brain-stage, the imagination; brain-stone (= brain-coral); brain-trick, a cunning device; brain-tunic, a membrane enveloping the brain; brain-worm, a worm infesting the brain; fig. a wriggling disputant. Also BRAIN-PAN, BRAINSICK, BRAIN-WOOD.

1669 FULLER *App. Inj. Innoc.* (1840) 450 A mere wit-work, or 'brain-being, without any other real existence.' 1630 R. H. in J. Taylor (Water P.) *Wks.* Pref. Verses, One Bacchus, and some other Venus urges, To bless the 'brain-brats.' 1741 MONRO *Anat.* (ed. 3) 78 The several Bones of which the 'Brain-case consists.' 1821 THACKERAY *Eng. Hum.* (1866) 107 What would Sir Roger de Coverley be without... his charming 'brain-cracks'? 1833 MARRIAT *P. Simple* (1863) 367, I had a 'brain fever, which lasted six or seven days.' 1857 GEN. P. THOMPSON *And. Alt.* I. xxiii. 83 The subordinates have resisted in a way that ended in blood and 'brain-shed.' 1654 G. GODDARD in Burton *Diary* Intro. (1828) I. 68 They were but bugbears and 'brain-squirts.' 1645 MILTON *Colast. Wks.* (1851) 364 This 'Brain-worm against all the Laws of Dispute, will needs deal with them heer.

† **Brain**, a. Obs. [Cf. BRAINISH.] Furious, mad. c1340 *Gau. & Gr. Knt.* 286 If any... Be so bolde in his blod, brayn in hys hede. 1513 DOUGLAS *Æneis* XI. xvii. 73 He walxis brayne in furour bellicall. 1809 J. SKINNER *Collect. Poetry* 126 (JAM.), I wat right weel he was fu' brain.

Brain (brɪn), v. Also 4-6 brayne, 5-6 brane, 7 braine. [f. the sb.]

1. trans. To dash (any one's) brains out; to kill by dashing out the brains.

1382 WYCLIF *Isa.* lxxv. 3 That sleth a beste, as that brayne a dogge. 1489 CAXTON *Faytes of A.* II. xxxvii. 156 Thenne shall they of the towne brayne hem with stones. 1596 SHAKS. 1 *Hen. IV.* II. iii. 24 If I were now by this Rascall, I could brayne him with his Ladies Fan. 1615 G. SANDYS *Trav.* 45 Hee desperately brained himselfe. 1691 WOOD *Alth. Oxon* I. 31 He was... most cruelly murder'd, by being brayn'd like an Ox. 1884 TENNYSON *Becket* 201 Methought they would have brayn'd me with it, John.

fig. 1603 SHAKS. *Meas. for M.* v. i. 401 It was the swift celeritie of his death. That brayn'd my purpose.

† 2. To conceive in the brain. Obs. rare.

1611 SHAKS. *Cymb.* v. iv. 147 Such stuffe as Madmen Tongue and brayne not.

3. To furnish with a brain.

1882 W. WEEDEN *Soc. Law Labor* 94 Both the labor and capital must be headed, brained, as it were, with thought.

Hence, **Brain'er**, **Brain'ing** vbl. sb.

c1440 *Promp. Parv.* 47 Braynyng, or kylling, *excerbracio*. 1842 DE QUINCY *Wks.* (1863) XIII. 306 Not only the stone must be a bouncer... but it ought to be... a good brainer, viz., splinting-jagged.

Brained (brænd), a. [f. BRAIN sb. + ED².] Furnished with a brain or brains. Usually with adj. prefix, as *addle-*, *dry-*, *dull-*, *feeble-*, *hot-*, *nimble-*. c1440 *Promp. Parv.* 47 Brandyd or full of brayne. 1528 PAYNELL *Salerne Regim.* Fivb. Feble brayned folkes. 1610 SHAKS. *Temp.* III. ii. 7 If th'other two be brayn'd like vs, the State totters. a1704 T. BROWN *Sat. on Quack Wks.* 1730 I. 63 That hot brayn'd sot Thy father. 1819 SHELLEY *Peter Bell* VI. xx. A mad-brained goblin for a guide. 1866 MOTLEY *Dutch Rep.* IV. v. 633 The addle-brained Oberstein.

Brainge (brɪndʒ), v. Sc. Also *braindge*, *breinge*, *breenge* (brɪndʒ). *intr.* To force or move oneself with clumsy violence.

1786 BURNS *To Auld Mare* xii, Thou never braing't, an' fetch't, an' an' fliskit.

Brainge (brɪndʒ), sb. Sc. Also *braindge*. [f. prec.] A violent and clumsy rush or bounce.

1789 DAVIDSON *Seasons* 35 (JAM.) Baith wi' a brainge, Sprang, hap and sten, out o'er a nettle. 1858 M. PORTEOUS *Souter Johnny* 30 Ye'll wi' a braindge Jerk aff the Mune.

Brainish (brɪnɪʃ), a. Obs. or arch. [f. BRAIN sb. + -ISH¹.] Headstrong, passionate.

1530 PALSGR. 307/1 Braynisshe, hedy, follisshe, selfe wyllid. 1602 SHAKS. *Ham.* IV. i. 11 And, in his brainish apprehension, kills The vnseene good old man. 1603 DRAYTON *Heroic. Ep. Pref.*, The Worke might in truth be judged Brainish. 1850 BLACKIE *Æschylus* I. 104 Thy son... whom unwittingly of life I left, In a brainish moment.

Brainless (brɪnɪləs), a. Also 6 *brainsless*. [f. BRAIN sb. + -LESS.]

1. Devoid of brain; that has had the brain removed, 'pithed'.

c1440 *Promp. Parv.* 47 Braynles, *incerebrosus*. 1547 *Life 70 Abs. Canterbury* To Rdr., A very charnell howse off brainslesse unlearned skulls. 1611 SPERD *Hist. Gt. Brit.* VII. xxxvi. (1632) 389 A brainslesse body. 1875 H. WOOD *Therap.* (1879) 176 The experiments on brainsless frogs.

2. † a. Insane, mentally diseased, imbecile. Obs.

1496 *Dives & Paup.* (W. de W.) v. xxiv. 230 Yf the prynce be frentyke or braynles. c1500 *Blowbol's Test.* in Halliwell. Nuge P. 9 Braynles as a Marthe hare. 1625 tr. *Gonsalvius's Sp. Inquis.* 164 Some caught vncurable diseases and paines in the head, and became almost brainlesse.

b. Foolish, irrational; wanting intelligence, thought, or self-control.

c1470 *Hors, Shepe, & G.* (1822) 21 As souldyours that braynles be & wood. 1575 CHURCHYARD *Chippes* (1817) 127 George Carey, I haue receyved your braynlesse letter. 1797 COLERIDGE *Poems* (1862) 36 The apostate by the brainless rout adored. 1863 *Cornh. Mag.* Feb., To what shifts a brainless man is put about.

Hence **Brainlessly** adv., **Brainlessness**.

1610 HEALEY *St. Aug. Cite of God* VI. vi. (1620) 232, I think no man so brainlessly sottish. 1824 *Century Mag.* Nov. 59 A good deal of hard swearing at his brainlessness.

† **Brainlet**. Obs. [f. BRAIN sb. + -LET, transl. L. *cerebellum* 'little brain'.] The cerebellum.

1668 CULPEPPER & COLE *Barthol. Anat.* III. ii. 130 The Cerebellum, Brainlet, or petty-brain. a1700 GIBSON *Farrier's Guide* I. iv. (1738) 35 Cerebellum, or Brainlet.

Brain-pan (brɪnˈpæn), arch. [f. BRAIN sb. + PAN.] That which contains the brain; the skull.

c1400 MAUNDEV. xxii. 234 The Brayn Panne of a ded Man. 1535 COVERDALE *Judg.* ix. 53 A woman cast a pece of a mylstone... and brake his brayne panne. 1711 STEELE *Spect.* No. 167 P. 3 To settle my Head and cool my Brain-pan. 1872 HARDWICK *Trad. Lanc.* 205 The skull of a fossil elephant... commonly believed to be the brain-pan of an enormous giant.

b. *transf.* (Cf. head, noddle, skull.)

a1641 Bp. MOUNTAGU *Acts & Mon.* (1642) It is a starveling conceit of Innovating brain-pans.

Brainsick (brɪnˈsɪk), a. [f. BRAIN sb. + SICK.]

1. Diseased in the brain or mind; addle-headed, mad, foolish, frantic.

1483 CAXTON *G. de la Tour* xiv. 20 Nor foles that are brayne sik. 1540 LATIMER *Serm. bef. Edu.* VI. (Arb.) 84 What ye brayn-sycke foles... do ye beleue hym? 1648 *Hunting of Fox* 25 Some head-strong brain-sick Sectaries. 1733 SWIFT *Legion Club Wks.* 1755 IV. i. 206 A queer Brainsick brute, they call a peer. 1848 MACAULAY *Hist. Eng.* I. 591 This man, at once unprincipled and brainsick.

† b. as sb. Obs.

1606 SYLVESTER *Du Bartas* I. iv. Wks. (Grosart) 150 (D.) Some brainsicks liue there now-a-daies.

2. Of things: Proceeding from a diseased mind.

1571 GOLDING *Calvin on Ps.* viii. 3 With braynsick madnesse. 1790 COWPER *Odys.* IV. 616 The brainsick fury seiz'd him. 1856 R. VAUGHAN *Mystics* (1860) I. 278 The spasmodic movements of a brainsick disinterestedness.

Hence **Brainsickly** a. and adv., **Brainsickness**.

1605 SHAKS. *Macb.* II. ii. 46 To thinke So brayne-sickly of things. 1823 *Blackw. Mag.* XIII. 415, I am not so brainsickly as to dwell on gloomy reverie. 1541 PAYNELL *Catiline* xxxv. 54 Wherto shuld we reherse the furious braynsyckenes of Cethegus?

Brain-wood, (after 14th c. only Sc.) [f. BRAIN sb. + WOOD a., OE. and ME. *wōd* mad.] Frenzied in brain or mind; mad.

a1240 HAMPOLE *Pr. Cons.* 6707 For hungre þai sal be als brayne-wode. c1375? BARBOUR *St. Alex.* 214 3ouland as half brayne wod. c1425 WYNTOUN *Crom.* VIII. xiii. 51 He swa mankyd, as brayne-wode Kest fast wyth þe Stwmppe þe Blode In-til Willame Walays face. a1550 *Christis Kirke* Gr. xxii, Quynh thay had beirrit lyk baitit bullis, And branewod brynt in bailis.

Brainy (brɪni), a. [f. BRAIN sb. + -Y¹.] That has plenty of brains; acute, clever. (Chiefly in U.S.) 1874 *Sex & Educat.* 25 Men here are for the most part wiry, sinewy, nervous, and brainy. 1883 D. WHEELER *By-Ways of Lit.* III. 42 The culture [in monasteries] was of a more brainy sort.

Braird (brɪəd), sb. Properly Sc. (brɪrd, brɪrd), but now sometimes used by Eng. writers. Also 5-6 *breird*, 6-8 *breird*, *briird*, 8 *breard*, *brere*. [The same word with BREED; the OE. *breird* probably, like the Teut. cognates, had the senses of point, spike, blade of grass, as well as that of 'edge', though the former are recorded only for the form *brord*.] The first shoots of grass, corn, or other crops.

c1450 HENRYSON *Mor. Fab.* 3 The corne abreird. — 59 Now it is Lent, now it is hie on briird. 1513 DOUGLAS *Æneis* XII. ProL 77 The cornis croppis and the beris new breird. 1721 KELLY *Scottish Prov.* 328 There is no breird like midding breird. c1817 HOGG *Tales & Sk.* V. 11 Hares surprised... among the early braird. 1859 TENNENT *Ceylon* 25 The delicate braird that springs after the surface has been annually burnt.

Braird (brɪəd), v. [f. prec.] *intr.* Of corn, etc.: To sprout, to appear above the ground.

c1450 HENRYSON *Fables* 1904 (*Anglia* IX. 337) The wickit thoct begynnys for to breird. 1513 DOUGLAS *Æneis* II. ix [viii]. 6 With schynnyng skyn new breird. 1865 *Carter's Gard. & Farmer's Vade-M.* II. After the seed has brairded, it may be well to cover it by hand-hoeing. 1883 *Trans. Highl. Soc. Agric.* Ser. IV. XV. 38 The potatoes... came up... not quite as straight as a line when brairding. 1884 *Times* 20 June 4 Present sowings [in swedes and turnips] may braird well.

Hence **Brairded**, **Brairding**, **breirding**.

1765 RUTHERFORD *Lett.* I. lxxiii. (JAM.) I find a little breirding of God's seed in this town. 1854 *Phemie Millar* 35 The freshly brairded fields.

Brairds, var. of BREARDS, Sc.

Brais, **braiss**, obs. form of BRACE.

† **Braise**, v.¹ Obs. rare. [† corruption of BRAY, influenced by BRUISE. Possibly in both quotes the correct reading is *bruysing*.] *trans.* To bruise, to bray. Hence **Brai'sing** vbl. sb.

a1500 *Gold. Litaney* in Maskell *Mon. Rit.* (ed. 2) III. 270 The lyfing vp of this most holy body on the crosse, and the sore braysyng thereof. 1557 *Richmond. Wills* (1853) 200 Ij braysenge morters with ij pestles xxⁱ.

Braise (brɛɪz), v.² Also *braise*, *brase*. [a. Fr. *braiser*, f. *braise*, hot charcoal.] To cook *à la braise*; i.e. to stew in a tightly-closed pan (properly with a charcoal fire above and below), the meat being surrounded with slices of bacon, herbs, etc.

1797 *Lond. Art Cookery* 149 Serve this ragoo under two ducks, cut into quarters, and braised in a well seasoned braise. 1846 *French Domest. Cookery* 41 *Braise*: to stew meat tender with fat bacon.

Hence **Braise** sb., braised meat, or the preparation for braising with. Also **Braised** ppl. a., **Brai'ser** sb. [partly ad. F. *braisière*], **Brai'sing** vbl. sb. used attrib. in *braising-kettle*, -pan.

1769 Mrs. RAFFALD *Eng. Housekpr.* (1778) 93 Add some of the braise liquor (if any left). 1797 *Lond. Art Cookery* 148 Stew them [chickens' feet] in a braise. *Ibid.* 149 [see vb.] 1825 *French Domest. Cookery* 376 To dress a dish *à la braise* you must have a braising-pan. a1880 Mrs. HENDERSON in Webster *Suppl.* s.v., A braising kettle has a deep cover which holds coals; consequently the cooking is done from above, as well as below.

† **Brait**. [† mistake for BORT.] 'A name given by jewellers to the rough diamond.'

1706 in PHILLIPS. 1721-1790 in BAILEY; and in mod. Dicts.

Braith, -ful, -ly, Sc. forms of BRATH, etc.

Braise, variant of BREEZE sb.³

Brak, obs. pa. t. of BREAK; obs. f. BRACK, BRAKE.

Brakan, -en, obs. ff. BRACKEN.

Brake (bræk), sb.¹ [ME. *brake*, not found in northern writers, said by Turner (1562) to be the equivalent of the northern *braken*: see BRACKEN. It was possibly a shortened form: perh. due to *braken* being assumed by southern speakers to be a plural: cf. *chick*, *chicken*, also *BRACK sb.*⁴ But it may also possibly be a parallel form from the same root. **Brake** sb.² appears too late for us to assume that this word could in any way be derived from it; though in recent use they are probably often assumed to be the same word, as if the 'brake' were a plant that grows in 'brakes' or vice versa.]

1. Fern, bracken.

c1325 W. DE BIBLESW. in Wright *Voc.* 156 *Fengere*, a brake. c1440 *Promp. Parv.* 47 *Brake*, herbe or ferme. 1566 TURNER *Herbal* II. A ij b. *Filix femina*. is the common ferne or brake whiche the Northern men call a braken. 1669 W. SIMPSON *Hydrol. Chym.* 189 Those who burn brakes for their ashes. 1768 TUCKER *Lt. Nat.* II. 685 Self-conceit grows... out of ignorance, as heath and brakes do from barren sands. 1842 TENNYSON *Pay Dr., Sleep* Pal. vi. A wall of green Close-matted, bur and brake and briar. 1862 ANSTED *Channel Isl.* II. viii. (ed. 2) 181 The common brake (*Pteris aquilina*).

2. Comb. and Attrib., as *brake-bush*, -fern, -root; *brake of the wall*, the common polypody.

c1440 *Promp. Parv.* 47 *Brakebush* or fernebrake, *fili-celum*. 1561 HOLLYBUSH *Hom. Apoth.* 39 a. Take... six unces of the rotes of Brak of the wal or Polipody. 1626 BACON *Sylva* § 83 The making of Glass, of a certain Sand and Brake-Roots.

Brake (bræk), sb.² Also 7 *bracke*, 8-9 *break* (e. [cf. MLG. *brake*, connected with *braken* to BREAK, and originally meaning tree-stumps or broken branches, but also used (esp. in the phrase *bush unde brake*, bush and brake) in the exact sense of the Eng. word. See Schiller-Lübben. The historical relation of the Eng. to the LG. word is unknown.] A clump of bushes, brushwood, or briars; a thicket. Also attrib., as in *brake-axe*.

c1440 [see BRAKE¹ 2] Fernebrake, *fili-celum*. 1563 *Mirr. Mag.*, *Jane Shore* xviii, What scratching bryers do growe upon such brakes. 1590 R. PAYNE *Descr. Irel.* (1841) 6 A simple workman with a Brake axe will cleave a greete Oke. 1635 N. CARPENTER *Geog. Del.* II. xvi. 282 Their Houses were caues, their pallsaces brackes or thicketts. 1667 MILTON *P. L.* IV. 175 So thick entwind'd, As one continu'd brake, the undergrowth Of shrubs. 1772-84 *Cook Voy.* (1790) IV. 1290 Rendered almost impassable... by breaks of fern, shrubs, and fallen trees. 1821 SHELLEY *Adonais* xviii, The amorous birds now pair in every brake. 1850 Mrs. STOWE *Uncle Tom* xiv. 121 He saw again the cane brakes and cypresses of gliding plantations.

Brake (bræk), sb.³ Also 5 *bracke*, *brakene* (sense 3), 6 *bracke*, 8 Sc. *brak* (sense 2), 9 *break*. [Identical with MLG. *brake*, or ODU. *bracke*, mod. Du. *brak* a flax-brake (whence F. *braquer* to brake flax), f. Du. *breken* to BREAK. The resemblance of the sb. to the cognate Eng. verb apparently gave rise to the extension of sense by which *brake* became a generic name of implements used for breaking or crushing. The form *brakene* in *Promp. Parv.* may possibly represent the pl. of the MLG. or Du. word.]

1. A toothed instrument for braking flax or hemp.

c1450 in Wr. Wölcker *Voc.* 608 *Rufa*, a brake. *Ibid.* 696 *Hec rufa*, a brake. 1451 *Test. Ebor.* III. 119, j brake ij d. 1552 HULOT, Brake for flaxe or hempe. 1611 COTGR., *Brake*, a brake for hempe. 1615 MARKHAM *Eng. Housew.* (1660), 132 You may then at your pleasure break it (flax).. in a brake of wood. 1704 *Dict. Rust. et Urb.*, Brake or Flax-Brake; is two pieces of timber, with teeth. 1898 CARPENTER *Veg. Phys.* § 516 A very simple machine is used for this purpose, termed a brake. 1869 SPON *Dict. Engineering* I. 629 Fig. 1285 shows [a] Hemp and Flax Brake.

2. A baker's kneading-machine. c1440 *Prompt. Parv.* 46 Bray or brakene, baxteris instrument, *pinsa*. 1567 THOMAS *Ital. Gram.*, *Macinella*, a braake to knede dowe withall, or to brake liue hempe. 1580 BARET *Alv.* B 1108 A Brake, *frangibulum*, Plin. *macra*. 1617 MARKHAM *Caval.* vi. 15 You shall kneade .. first with handes .. lastly with the brake.

3. In *Brewing* and similar processes: A wooden mill to crush green fruits, hops, etc.

1534 *Eng. Ch. Furniture* (1866) 187 A brake to make ver-joyce with. 1571 *Wills & Inv. N. C.* i. (1835) 360, j brake wth the tonge & pynn vij d. 1616 SURFL. & MARKH. *Countr. Farm* 425 You shall put them (hops) into a .. wooden Brake, and there crush, grind, or bruise them.

4. A heavy harrow for crushing clods. Also called *brake-harrow*.

1785 BURNS *2nd Ep. LaPraik* 2 An' pownies reek in pleugh or braik. 1844 STEPHENS *Bk. of Farm* II. 532 The brake-harrow is only an enlargement of the common implement .. Brakes are made of various forms.

5. An instrument resembling a pair of scissors set wide open, for peeling the bark from willows for basket-making.

1824 *Mech. Mag.* II. 223 My new invented brake for taking the bark off willows. 1880 JEFFERIES *Hodge & M.* II. 89 The willows are carried to the brakes.

Brake (brāk), sb.⁴ [Perhaps a. OF. *brac*, oblique case of *bras* an arm; cf. F. *braquer le timon* to turn the rudder, *braquer un canon* to point a cannon.]

1. A lever or handle for working a machine.

† a. The winch of a crossbow (only in phrase 'bow of brake'); hence a crossbow, ballista, or similar engine. *Obs. exo. Hist.*

c1380 *Sir Ferumb.* 3276 And wyþ boyes eke of brake for to schute þykke. 1393 LANGL. *P. Pl. C.* xxi. 293 Setteþ bowes of brake and brase gonnies. c1440 *Partonope* 149 The bowes of brake are bent in hast. 1552 HULOT, Brake, or crossbowe, ballista. 1600 HOLLAND *Livy* xxi. xl. 400 g. With ordinance of quarell shot, brakes, and other artillerie. 1600 FAIRFAX *Tasso* xviii. xliii. 324 Not rammes, not mightie brack, not slings alone. 1840 BROWNING *Sordello* iv. 372 Arbalist, catapult, brake, mangonel.

b. The handle of a pump.

1606 CAPT. SMITH *Accid. Yng. Seamen* 12 The pumpe brake. 1607 — *Seamen's Gram.* ii. 8 The handle we call the brake. 1762-3 FALCONER *Shipw.* ii. 466 At either pump they ply the clanking brake. 1831 LARDNER *Pneumat.* vi. 314 The piston is worked .. in common pumps by a lever, called the brake.

c. A lever forming part of the apparatus for boring coal.

1851 *Coal-tr. Terms Northumbld. & Durh.* 10 A Brake .. consists of a lever .. 12 feet long; the fulcrum .. 2 feet from the end above the bore-hole. 1855 G. GREENWELL *Mining Eng.* 109 A brake is a simple lever .. having an iron crook attached from which the [boring] rods are suspended by a piece of rope.

2. Comb., as *brake-pump*, a pump worked by a brake; *brake-sieve* (*Mining*), a rectangular sieve worked by a lever or brake.

1881 *Daily Tel.* 28 Jan., A couple of men .. laid hold of the brake pump. 1881 RAYMOND *Mining Gloss.*, *Brake-sieve*, a jigger, operated by a hand-lever.

† **Brake**, sb.⁵ *Obs.* Also *5 brake*. [Of uncertain origin: possibly identical with the prec. sb. (cf. F. *braquer un chariot* 'to turn, set, or bend a chariot on the right or left hand' Cotgr.); more probably a. ODu. *brake* (see BRAKE sb.³), occurring in the sense of a nose-ring for a draught ox; or extended use of BRAKE sb.³, due to influence of the verb BRAKE (a horse).]

A bridle or curb. (Said in Chambers *Cycl. Supp.* 1753 to be a synonym of BARNACLE.) *Obs.*

1430 LYDC. *Chron.* Tray i. v. Both bridell, brake & reyne. 1552 HULOT, Brake, or sharpe snaffle for a horse. 1557 Tottell's *Misc.* (Arb.) 187 The brake within the riders hande, Doth strayne the horse. 1563-7 FOXE *A. & M.* III. 819 Many .. lost their lives to shake off this most rough brake. 1587 TURBERV. *Trag. T.* (1837) 94 Hardir brakes doe brake the mouth too much. 1753 CHAMBERS *Cycl. Supp.*

Brake, sb.⁶ [Origin, possible connexion with prec., and sequence of senses uncertain.]

† 1. A cage of iron or wooden bars; a trap; fig. a snare, difficulty, dilemma. *Obs.*

a 1520 SKELTON *Elynour Rum.* 325 It was a stale to take The devyl in a brake. 1548 UDALL, etc. *Erasm. Par. Luke* Pref. 6 b. So should I in this matter stand in a straight brake. 1553 BRKNDE *Q. Curtius* i. 10 Because of hys ferce-nes, kept him [Bucephalus] within a brake of iron barres. 1572 FORREST *Theoph.* 1022 No more he myndede to come in his [the Devil's] brake. 1645 BURGESS *Pers. Tilkes* 79 He .. sought to wind himselfe out of the brakes of Tithes due by Diuine Right. 1640 SHIRLEY *Opportunity* (N.) He is fallen into some brake, some wench has tied him by the legs.

2. A framework intended to hold anything steady; a frame in which a horse's foot is placed when being shod; also in Ship-building (see quot.).

1609 C. BUTLER *Fem. Mon.* v. (1623) K ij, Then make a

Brake behind the stooles of four stakes, a two foot, and a four feet long. 1869 SIR E. REED *Skipbuild.* xx. 436 The plate is heated and bent to the form of the bed or brake.

† b. fig. To set one's face in a brake: to assume an immovable expression of countenance. *Obs.*

1607 CHAPMAN *Bussy D'Amb.* Plays 1873 II. 8 Or (like a Strumpet) learne to set my lookes In an eternal Brake. 1608 — *Byrons Trag.* *ibid.* II. 280 See in how graue a Brake he sets his vizard. 1609 B. JONSON *Sil. Wom.* iv. vi. (1616) 583 Some .. that, haue their faces set in a brake!

† 3. An instrument of torture; a rack. *Obs. exc. Hist.* [Perh. this belongs rather to BRAKE sb.³]

1530 PALSGR. 463/1, I brake on a brake, or payne banke. 1539 T. CROMWELL in *St. Papers Hen. VIII.* I. 602, I am advised .. to go the Toure, and see hym sett in the brakes. 1642 FULLER *Holy & Prof. St.* iv. xiii. 301 A daughter of the Duke of Exeter invented a brake or cruel rack. 1720 *Stout's Surv.* (ed. Strype 1754) I. i. xiv. 66/2 The Brake or rack, commonly called the Duke of Exeter's daughter because he was the deviser of that torture. 1855 BROWNING *Ch. Roland* xxiv, That wheel, Or brake, .. that harrow fit to reel Men's bodies out like silk?

† 4. A turner's lathe. [Perh. a different word.]

c1570 THYNNE *Pride & Lowd.* (1841) 50 In .. doublet leveled by lyne, Poynted and bottoned as in a brake. 1609 HOLLAND *Ann. Marcell.* xxxiii. vi. 228 As if the whole space were wrought round by a Turners brake.

Brake, break (brāk), sb.⁷ [Etymology and spelling uncertain; prob. an application of the sense of 'lever' (BRAKE sb.⁴), or perh. of that of 'curb' (BRAKE sb.⁵); since F. *frein*, It. *freno*, literally 'bridle', are used in this sense. This being so, the spelling *break* would be due to 'popular etymology', because it 'breaks' the motion.]

1. An apparatus for retarding the motion of a wheel by means of pressure applied to the circumference; usually consisting of a wooden block or an iron or steel band, and of a lever for pressing it against the tire. Also fig. of any retarding agency.

a. 1778-82 W. BAILEY *Machines Soc. Arts* I. 149 Z, Which occasionally draws down the brake on the periphery of the walking wheel. 1792 *Trans. Soc. Arts* X. 233 The means will appear to be the gripe or brake at the top. 1825 N. WOOD *Railroads* 78 The brake or lever, which is called a 'convoy'. 1851 *Coal-tr. Terms Northumbld. & Durh.* 10 Brake .. a band of iron caused by a lever to press upon a .. wheel. 1863 TYNDALL *Heat* i. 9 The brake is applied, and smoke and sparks issue from the wheel. 1875 WHITNEY *Life Lang.* viii. 149 A powerful brake to check his arbitrary action.

b. 1838 *Public Wks. Ct. Brit.* 52 That every carriage should be provided with a brake. 1839 S. C. BREESE *Railw. Pract. Gloss.* 287 Brake or Convoy to Railway Carriages, a hand lever worked by the brakeman. 1862 *Macm. Mag.* Oct. 455 This loom is fitted with Sellers' 'break' for stopping the loom. 1870 HUXLEY *Lay Sermon* xi. (1874) 246 To act as a sort of brake.

2. Short for 'brake-van'.

1883 *Daily News* 5 Feb. 6/3 One of the suspected men .. travelled in the guard's brake.

3. Comb. and *Attrib.*, as *brake-apparatus*, *-band*, *-bar*, *-beam*, *-block*, *-power*, *-rod*, *-shoe* (see quot.); also *brake-compartment*, *brake-van*, or simply *brake*, the compartment or the carriage in a train which contains the brake apparatus; *brake-wheel*, the wheel by which the brakes are worked.

1883 *Daily News* 5 Feb. 6/3 The spare 'brake apparatus' .. in .. the last carriage but one. He saw the man get out of the 'brake compartment'. 1898 F. WILLIAMS *Midl. Railw.* 557 Let .. there should be any deficiency in the 'brake power'. 1894 KNIGHT *Amer. Mech. Dict.* I. 357 'Brake-shoe', that part of a brake which is brought in contact with the object whose motion is to be restrained. 1895 *Manch. Exam.* 15 May 5/7 An invention for coupling and uncoupling railway rolling stock direct from the engine or 'brake-van'. 1864 *Times* 30 Dec. He was always in the 'break-van' where the line was on an incline. 1873 B. STEWART *Conserv. Force* ii. § 48 On a dark night sparks are seen to issue from the 'break-wheel'.

Brake, variant of BRACK, small particle.

1586 J. HOOKER *Girald. Irel. in Holinshed* II. 87/2 To the last brake of sinister surmises.

Brake, var. of BREAK, a kind of carriage.

† **Brake**, a. *Obs. rare.* [† f. BREAK v.] † Fragile. 1616 SURFL. & MARKH. *Countr. Farm* 447 Those of Glasse must not be of brake metall, but of Crystall earth well armed.

Brake (brāk), v.¹ Also 7 *break*, 9 *Sc. brake* (sense 3). [† f. BRAKE sb.³]

1. *trans.* To beat and crush flax, hemp, etc. 1398 [see below]. 1523 FITZGER. *Husb.* § 42 Rut howe it [flax] shulde be sowen .. dried, beaten, braked. 1611 COTGR., *Brayer du lin*, to brake, or dresse flax. 1727 BRADLEY *Fam. Dict.* s.v. *Drying*, Hemp or Flax .. may be spread upon a Kiln .. in order to dry it upon the same, and then to brake it.

Hence *Braked ppl. a.*, *Braking vbl. sb.*

1398 TREVISA *Barth. De P. R.* xvii. clx. (1495) 708 Wyth moche brakyng, heckelynge and robberyng. 1649 BLITHES *Eng. Improv. Impr.* (1652) 252 Instead of braking .. there they altogether pill it. 1653 WALTON *Angler* 107 The body is .. bound with black braked-hemp.

2. To break (clods) with a harrow.

1800 J. HEADRICK *Com. Board Agric.* II. 260 The land [should be] again cross-ploughed .. and afterwards braked.

3. To knead (dough).

1823-33 *Whistle-binkle in Sc. Songs* Ser. iii. 71 My bannock to brake, an' my errand to rin.

Brake, v.² *Obs.* [† f. BRAKE sb.⁶ 3] To torture on the 'brake' or rack; to rack.

1530 PALSGR. 463 The false murderer was braked thrise or ever he would confess the trouthe.

† **Brake**, v.³ *Obs. rare.* [† f. BRAKE sb.⁵: perhaps ad. early It. *bracare*, or *braccare*: Florio (1611) has 'Braccare, to bracke or mount ordinance'; and 'Braccare, to breech; also to bind about with iron plates; also to stocke a piece'.]

trans. To mount (cannon); cf. BRAKE sb.⁵

1579 FENTON *Guicciard.* i. 35 Cannons .. were braked and planted with an incredible diligence. *Ibid.* iv. 151 After he had braked his artilerie. *Ibid.* (1618) 363 Against the which place, they within the towne .. braked a great peece.

Brake, v.⁴ [† f. BRAKE sb.⁴] *intr.* To attend to a winding engine. Hence *Braking vbl. sb.*

1857 SMILES *Stephenson* iii. 17 Paying some attention to the art of braking. 1862 — *Engineers* III. 32 Young Stephenson couldn't brake, and .. never would learn to brake, he was so clumsy.

Brake (brāk), v.⁵ [† f. BRAKE sb.⁷] *trans.* To apply a brake to (a wheel); also *transf.*

1868 *Daily News* 3 Sept., The kicked-off waggons were braked. 1881 PALGRAVE *Visions of Eng.* 23 Earth her pace .. delays, Braked by the tides.

† **Brake**, v.⁶ *Obs.* Also *Sc. brak*. [perh. repr. an unrecorded OE. *bracian, f. *brac*, which occurs in the sense of 'phlegm, mucus, saliva'; cf. ODu. *bracken*, MLG. and mod. Du. *braken* to vomit; allied to BREAK (cf. Ger. *sich brechen*).]

trans. and *intr.* To spue, vomit.

c1325 E. E. *Allit. P. C.* 340 And per he brakes up the buyrne [Jonah], as bede hym oure lorde. 1388 WYCLIF *Prov.* xxiii. 8 Thou schalt brake out [1388a spewen out] the metis, whiche thou hast etc. 1393 LANGL. *P. Pl. C.* vii. 431 And as an hounde þat et gras, so gan ich to brake. c1440 *Prompt. Parv.* 47 Brakyn, or castyn or spewe, vomo. 1535 LYNDZ-SAY *Satyre* 624 I lay braikand lyk a brok. *Ibid.* 4357.

¶ Cf. To break wind: see BREAK v. 47.

Hence *Braking vbl. sb.*

1398 TREVISA *Barth. De P. R.* xvii. cvi. (1495) 669 Mynte of gardens abateth wyth vynegre brakyngne and castyng that comyth of feblynes of the vertue retentif. c1440 *Prompt. Parv.* 47 Brakyngne or parbrakyngne, vomitus.

1768 ROSS *Helensore* 56 (JAM.) That gut and ga she keest with braking strange.

Brake (brāk), arch. pa. t. of BREAK.

Brakeage, breakage (brāk-kédz). [† f. BRAKE, BREAK sb.⁷ + -AGE.] The action of a brake in stopping a train, etc. Also *attrib.*

1864 *Daily Tel.* 6 Aug., If they thought Inspector Darby had been the cause of want of brakeage by not seeing that the train had its proper number of guards. 1869 *Eng. Mech.* 24 Dec. 363/3 The brakeage power of the tender is not sufficient.

Brakeless (brāk-lēs), a. [† f. BRAKE sb.⁷ + -LESS.] Not provided with a brake.

1880 *Daily Tel.* 8 Oct., Disasters have befallen brakeless trains. 1886 *Century Mag.* Apr. 855/1 Here we were .. in a lonely mountain road .. with a brakeless machine.

Braken, variant form of BRACKEN, fern.

Brakesman (brāk-ksmæn). Also *brakeman*, *breaksman*. [In sense 1, f. BRAKE sb.⁴ + MAN; in sense 2, referred to BRAKE sb.⁷; for the form cf. *craftsman*, *marksman*, *sportsman*.]

1. In *Coal-mining*: see quot.

1851 *Coal-tr. Terms Northumbld. & Durh.* 10 Brakesman, the engineman who attends to the winding machine. 1866 JEVONS *Coal Quest.* (ed. 2) 258 George Stephenson was brakesman to the fixed engine.

2. The man in charge of the brake-apparatus of a railway train; in U.S. (*brakeman*) the guard.

1861 OLMSTED *Cotton Kingd.* I. 161 A brakeman told me this delay was not very unusual. 1865 *Morn. Star* 1 Feb., At the time of the accident he had been employed as a brakesman about three weeks. 1883 *Harper's Mag.* Jan. 212/2 The brakeman bawled out, 'Tannery Town!'

Braket, variant of BRAGGET.

Brakkener, variant of BRACKENER. *Obs.*

Braky (brāk-ki), a. [† f. BRAKE sb.¹ or 2 + -Y. The sense is not very distinctly brought out by writers.] Overgrown with brushwood or fern.

1636 B. JONSON *Discov.*, Redeem arts from their rough and brakey seats, where they lay hid. 1775 ADAIR *Amer. Ind.* 7 To secure them from the brambles and braky thickets. 1790 A. WILSON *Sheph. Dream* Poet. Wks. 11 High on the summit's brow, or braky glen .. they fed. 1855 SINGLTON *Virgil* I. 8 Far hanging from the braky cliff.

Braky, var. of BRACKY a.

† **Braid**, pa. *ppl.* *Sc. Obs. rare*—1. [cf. Du. *brallen* to adorn.] Dressed, decked, arrayed.

c1572 SIR R. MAITLAND *Solace in Agr.* The fairest wenche in all this toun .. in hir best gown, Rycht brailvie braid.

Brall(e, -ar, -er, -ing: see BRAWL, etc.

Brama, an(e), *obs.* f. BRAHMA, BRAHMIN.

Bramah (properly brāmā, often brāmā). *Attrib.* or syntactical use of the name of Joseph Bramah (1749-1814), designating machines, etc. invented by him, as *Bramah-key* (also short *Bramah*) *-lock*, *-pen*; *Bramah's press*, a hydraulic machine constructed to produce enormous pressure.

1836 DICKENS *Sk. Bos* ii. (1850) 166 Testing the influence of their patent Bramahs over the street-door locks to which they belonged. 1875 *Ure Dict. Arts* III. 140 The Bramah lock has been long celebrated. 1846 G. WRIGHT *Cream Sci. Knowl.* 55 Bramah's press .. is on the principle of the hydrostatic bellows.

Bramantip. *Logic.* A mnemonic word, re-132-2

presenting the first mood of the fourth figure of syllogisms, in which the two premisses are universal affirmatives, and the conclusion a particular affirmative.

1870 BOWEN *Logic* vii. 200.

Bramathere (brāmāp̄rē). [*f. Brama* = BRAHMA + Gr. *θηρίον* wild animal.] A genus of fossil animals, remains of which are found in India.

1879 LE CONTE *Elem. Geol.* 499 The Sivathere... seems to have combined the characters of a Ruminant and a Pachyderm. The Bramathere was a similar animal.

Brambel, obs. form of BRAMBLE.

† **Bramberry**. Obs. or dial. [*f. BRAMB* + BERRY *sb.*]; cf. OHG. *brāmberi*, MHG. *brāmber*, mod.G. *brambere* blackberry: see next.] The Brambleberry or blackberry.

1599 A. M. Gabelhauer's *Bk. Physic* 166/a Take the rootes of Bramberries. & wash them in water. 1864 *Yorksh. Provinc.* (Kirkby), I have sold a good few Bramberries.

Bramble (brāmbl̄). Forms: 1 brāmel, brāmel, brāmel, 1-4 brāmel, 2 brimbel, 3 brimbyl, 4 brāmbil, -bul, brimbil, 5 brēmmyl, brēmbyl(l), brēmmylle, 5-6 brymble, 5-9 brēmbel (in 9 dial.), 6 brāmbel, brōmbille, brymmil, 6- brāmbel. [OE. *brēmbel*, *brēmbel*, later form (with euphonic *b*, and consequent shortening of vowel) of *brāmel*, *brāmel*, masc.: -OTeut. type *brēmilo*-z, dim. of the word, of which the simplest forms are OE. *brōm* BROOM: -WGer. **brām*: -OTeut. **brāmo*-z, and WGer. **brāma* 'thorny shrub' (OHG. *brāma*, MDu. *brame*, Du. *braam*, MLG. *braam*): -OTeut. *brāmd*-str. fem. Cf. mod.G. *brambere* Brambleberry, blackberry. See also BROOM.]

1. A rough prickly shrub; *spec.* the blackberry-bush (*Rubus fruticosus*).

c 1000 *Ælfric Gen.* iii. 18 Dornas and brēmelas heo asprit 8c. c 1000 *Sax. Leechd.* i. 102 Genim þas wyrte þe man erusti, & oðrum naman brēmel (v.r. brāmbel) nemned. *Ibid.* II. 90 Wip utwærce brēmbel þe sien bezen endas on eorþan. c 1175 *Cott. Hom.* 223 Se eorðe... sylðe þornes and brēmbles. a 1300 *Cursor M.* 924 Brēmbel (v.r. brimbyl) and thorn it sal te yeld. 1384 *Wyclif Job* xxxi. 40 For whete þe sprunge to me a brimbil. 1481 *Caxton Reynard* (Arb.) 95 Tho cam we in a felde ful of brome and brēmbles. 1513 *Douglas Æneis* iii. ix. 110 My wrechit fuid wes berreis of the brymmil. 1564 *Turner Herbal* ii. Uiv b. The brāmbel bindeth, drieth and dieth heyre. 1697 *Dryden Virg. Georg.* iii. 678 Their defenceless Limbs the Brambles tear. 1751 *Johnson Rambl.* No. 161 ¶ I Tully sought amidst bushes and brambles the tomb of Archimedes. 1861 *Delamer Fl. Gard.* 111 There is a double white-flowered variety of the common Bramble.

fig. 1644 *Milton Educ.* (1738) 136 That asinine feast of sow-thistles & brambles which is commonly set before them. 1779 *Johnson L. P. Dryden* (1816) 351 The roses had not yet been plucked from the bramble.

2. Comb. and Attrib., as *bramble-brake*, -brier, -bud, -bush, -leaf, -thread, -wood; also *bramble-bond*, a bramble-shoot used to bind straw in thatching, etc.; *bramble-brand*, a parasitic fungus (*Aregma rubi*) which appears on the bramble; *bramble-cure*, a superstitious practice formerly employed in country districts for the cure of disease (cf. *bramble-loop*); *bramble-flower*, the flower or blossom of a bramble; also the Dog-rose (*Rosa canina*); *bramble-loop*, the loop formed by a bramble-shoot bent round so as to root itself into the ground again; *bramble-rose*, the white trailing dog-rose. Also BRAMBLE-BERRY.

1844 *J. Hoog Microsc.* ii. i. (1867) 294 'Bramble Brand, hypogæous with a dull red stain on the upper surface. c 1000 *Agx. Voc.* in W. Wülcker *Voc. 260 Tribulus*, 'brāmbelbrāz'. 1579 *Langham Gard. Health* (1633) 87 'Bramble breer, or Blackberry. 1799 *Spenser Sheph. Cal.* June 7 The 'Bramble bush, where Byrds... their tunes attempter. 1846 *Sowerby Brit. Bot.* (1864) III. 163 An incautious approach to the 'bramble-bush. 1866 *Treas. Bot.* II. 996/t In Cornwall the 'bramble-cure is only employed for boils. 1891 *Spenser Virgil's Gnat* xi. This with sharpe teeth the 'bramble leaves doth lop. 1866 *Treas. Bot.* II. 996/t We have heard of cows that were...dragged through the 'bramble-loop. 1713 *Cress Winchelsea Misc. Poems* 291 The Woodbind and the 'Bramble-Rose.

Bramble. Shortened form of BRAMBLING.

1674 *Ray Eng. Birds* 83 The Bramble or Brambling.

Hence (or from BRAMBLE) **bramble-finch** = BRAMBLING; also *bramble-net*, 'a net for catching birds, a hallier'. Phillips 1706.

1865 *Derby Merc.* 25 Jan., Mr. Scrimshaw also sent three grey parrots, a macaw, and bramblefinches. 1881 *Standard* 2 Mar. 5 The Act... omits the bramblefinch.

Brambleberry (brāmbl̄ber̄). The 'berry' or fruit of the bramble; a blackberry.

c 1000 *Sax. Leechd.* III. 8 Drince seoca of brāmel berian zewurunge oft. 1552 *Huloet Brymble berry, morum.* 1664 *Mouffet & Benn. Health's Improv.* (1746) 314 Bramble berries or Blackberries... are... nourishing to a weak Stomach. 1779 *Bradley Fam. Dict.* s. v. *Flex*, The Powder of Snails burnt with the Powder of Bramble-berries. 1854 *Gard. Chron.* 54 In Scotland [and north of England] black currants are called 'Blackberries', and the fruit of *Rubus fruticosus* is called 'Bramble-berries'.

Brambled (brāmbl̄d), *ppl. a.* [*f. BRAMBLE* + -ED²]. Covered with or full of brambles.

a 1790 *T. Warton Ode* iii. (R.) Forlorn she sits upon the

brambled floor. 1880 *Blackmore M. Auerley* I. xviii. 322. Their crane had been left in a brambled hole.

Brambling (brāmbl̄ng). Also 6 *bramlin*(e), 7 *bramblin*, *bramlin*. [= Ger. *brāmling*, prob. *f. WGer. *brāma* BRAMBLE + -LING.]

A bird (*Fringilla montifringilla*) belonging to the finch-tribe; the Mountain Finch.

1570 *Levin's Manip.* 133 A Bramlin, bird, *montifringilla*. 1664 *Mouffet & Benn. Health's Improv.* (1746) 188 Bramblings are a kind of small Birds, feeding chiefly upon Seeds. 1881 *Proc. Berw. Nat. Club* IX. 504 The Brambling, or Cock of the North, was rather a rare winter visitor.

Brambly (brāmbl̄), *a.* [*f. BRAMBLE* + -Y¹]. Full of brambles; of the nature of brambles; thorny.

1581 *Mulcaster Positions* 86 Rough, bramby, and bushy groundes stuffe the head. 1611 *Cotgr., Ronceux*. brambly, brierie. 1710 *Philips Past.* iv. (R.) Hark, how they warble in that bramby bush. 1860 *Tennyson Brook*, I murmur under moon and stars in bramby wildernesses.

† **Brame** ¹. Obs. rare¹. [*Prob. ad. It. brama* 'earnest desire or wishing'.] Longing.

1596 *Spenser F. Q.* iii. ii. 52 Through... hart-burning brame. She shortly like a pynded ghost became.

† **Brame** ². Obs. [Identical in form with MDu. and MHG. *brāme* of same meaning: see BRAMBLE. But the OE. form corresponding to these is *brōm* giving ME. *brome* (BROOM). See BRAMBERY.] A brier or bramble.

c 1425 *Voc.* in W. Wülcker 646 *Hec tribulus*, brame.

Brame, *v.* [*a. F. brame*-r to cry as an animal (elephant, ox, deer, etc.).] † To roar, bluster, rage. Hence *braming*.

1865 *Neale Hymns Parad.* 6 Winter braming, summer flaming.

Bramene, etc.: see BRAHMIN, etc.

Bramkersine, obs. form of BRANKURSINE.

Bramlin(e), obs. form of BRAMBLING.

Bramloism, variant of BRAHMISM.

Bran (brān). Forms: 3-4 *brēn*, 5 *brēne*, *bryn*(e), 6 *brēne*, 5-7 *branne*, 3- *bran*. [*a. OF. bren*, *bran*; cf. Pr. and Sp. dial. *bren*, It. dial. *brenno*, *brinnu*, *bren*, *bran*. A Celtic etymology is usually alleged, but the words quoted, Bret. *brenn*, Welsh *brān*, Gael. *bran*, appear to be adopted from Fr. and Eng. The sense of 'filth, excrement', which belongs to *bren* or *bran* in mod. Fr., is not recorded in OFr.; if this were the primary sense, we might compare Welsh *brān*, Ir. *brean*, Gael. *breun*, which have in composition the sense of 'manure'.]

1. The husk of wheat, barley, oats, or other grain, separated from the flour after grinding; in technical use, the coarsest portion of the ground husk (see quot. 1883).

a 1300 *Cursor M.* 15524 He wil þe sift nu if he mai, as man dos corn or bran. c 1325 *Gloss. W. de Biblerw.* in Wright *Voc.* 155 *Le fureur*, bren. c 1386 *Chaucer Reeve's T.* 133 In stide of flour yet wol I yeue hem bren. 1464 *Mann. & Househ. Exp.* 254 My mastyr payd... for bred and brenne, vj. s. 1547 *Boorde Brev. Health* § 377 Made with... the bran of benes. 1600 *Venner Via Recta* i. 18 There is a kinde of abstersiue faculty in the bran. 1756 *Nugent Gr. Tour Italy* III. 344 They have an academy called *La Crusca* (a word which signifies *bran*, alluding to the sifting of the flour). 1883 *Knowledge* 24 Aug. 120/t The husk is separated in different degrees of coarseness; 'bran', 'pollard', & 'sharps', bran being the coarsest.

b. *fig. and transf.* (Proverbial phrases, to sift to the bran, to take the flour and leave the bran.)

1577 *Hellowes Guevara's Fam. Ep.* 237 You bestowed so much branne in the worlde. 1607 *Shaks. Cor.* i. l. 150 All From me do backe receiue the Flowre of all, and leaue me but the Bran. 1639 *J. Clarke Paramiol.* 326 The Devils meale is halfe branne. 1654 *Jer. Taylor Real Pres.* A, Nothing which had not been already considered, and sifted to the bran. 1659 *Gauden Tears Ch.* 182 The ignorant vulgar (who are the bran and coarser sort of people).

† 2. *Scurf in the hair.* Obs. (Cf. Gr. *στρυγών*, *L. furfur*.)

1578 *Lyte Dodoens* I. lxiii. 110 The lye... doth clense the heare from all bran or white scurfie. 1580 *Baret Adv.* B 1133 Full of branne or skurie.

3. Comb., chiefly attrib. (containing bran as an ingredient), as *bran-biscuit*, -bread, -cake, -loaf, -mash, -poultice, -tea, -water; also *bran-bath*, a bath taken in water in which bran has been steeped; *bran-boil* (*Calico Printing*), a boiling of the fabrics in bran-water in order to remove colouring matters from them; *bran-duster*, a machine for 'dusting' or clearing away flour from bran; *bran-stuffed ppl. a.*, stuffed with bran.

1875 *Ure Dict. Arts* I. 463 There is no advantage in adding soap to the 'bran boil'. c 1425 *Gloss.* in W. Wülcker *Voc.* 657 *Panis furfuris*, 'branboiled'. 1870 *Daily News* 28 Oct., An order that... no bread should be made... Metz except bran bread. 1864 *F. Griffiths Artill. Man.* (ed. 9) 221 Let ample 'bran' mashes be given. 1838 *L. Taylor Home Educ.* 265 Wooden, waxen, and 'bran-stuffed' personages that crowd... the drawing-room. 1875 *Ure Dict. Arts* I. 463 The clearing process... by boiling in 'bran-water'.

† **Bran** ². Obs. Also 7 *brann*(e). [*Prob. special use of BRAN* ¹, suggested by the L. phrase *ejusdem farinae*; influence from BRAND would seem probable, but that word does not appear to have had the required sense so early.] Sort, class, quality.

1610 *Bp. Hall Apol. Brownists* 59 Their Popes supremacy, infallibility... and a thousand other of this branne. 1647 *Jer. Taylor Dissuas. Popery* iii. (1686) 225 They add more particulars of the same Bran. 1674 *Marvell Rel. Transp.* i. 237 A particular bran of persons who will... be accounted the Church of England. *Ibid.* ii. 327 Magnified and esteemed... by those of your Bran and Leaven.

† **Bran** ³. Obs. Also *brane*. [*a. F. bran*(e) 'a kind of unreclaimable wild Oxe in Provence and Languedoc' (Cotgr.), ad. pseudo-Latin *branus*, *brana*, a misreading of *brauus*, *braua*; cf. mod. Fr. *brau* bull.] A name applied to some imperfectly known animal, described as a wild ox. 1688 *Holme Armoury* ii. ix. 170 Markham... calls it a Buffle, or Wild Oxe; others call them Brans, or Branes, or Wild Oxen.

† **Bran** ⁴. Obs. rare¹. [*The original Latin document (printed in Riley's Mon. Gildhallæ II. 118) has brannum; Riley also cites brenna from Gervase of Canterbury, apparently the fresh-water bream; cf. brantling, BRANDLING; also BARNE.*] Some kind of fish.

1700 *Stow's Survey* (ed. Strype 1754) II. v. xxvi. 464/2 A better Bran, Sard, and Betule for 3d.

Bran (brān), *v.* [*f. BRAN* *sb.*]. *trans.* To 'clear' maddered goods by boiling in bran-water. Hence *branning vbl. sb.*

Brancard (brānjkārd). Also 6 *brancorde*, 7 *brankard*. [*a. F. brancard* a litter, *f. branche* BRANCH.] A horse-litter.

1594 *Unton Corr.* (1847) 301 His hurt will not suffer him to ryde but in a brancorde. 1613 *Purchas Pilgr.* viii. xi. 795 An image of wood, like to a man, set vpon an azure-coloured stoele, in a brankard or litter. 1754 *Lady M. W. Montague Corr.* lxiv. III. 125 My bed was placed on a brancard. 1879 *R. S. Edwards Russ. at Home* I. 310 Had I seen the brancard in which Charles XII. was carried at the battle of Pultawa?

Brances, var. of *brasses*: see BRASS (Min.)

Branch (brānʃ), *sb.* Forms: 3 *bransch*, 3-6 *brance*, 4 *brunch*, 4-6 *braunche*, 4-7 *branch*, *braunch*, 5 *brawnche*, 3- *branch*. [*a. F. branche* branch: -late L. *branca* paw of an animal.]

1. A material offshoot.

A portion or limb of a tree or other plant growing out of the stem or trunk, or out of one of the boughs; in a more specific sense, a branch is understood to be smaller than a bough and larger than a shoot or spray.

a 1300 *Cursor M.* 1321 He... sau... a mekil tre, Wid branchis fele of barc al bare. c 1325 *E. E. Allit. P. B.* 487 A bronch of olyue. c 1385 *Chaucer L. G. W.* 2681 Sche quakyth As doth the brāunche that sephurus shakyth. c 1449 *Pecock Repr.* i. vi. 29 As the sprai cometh out of the brāunche, the brāunche out of the bouy. 1554 *Asp. Hamilton Catech.* 82 A stark brance of ane Aik tree. 1667 *Milton P. L.* vii. 433 From Branch to Branch the smaller Birds with song Solac'd the Woods. 1704 *Pope Autumns* 75 Now golden fruits on loaded branches shine. 1873 *Morley Rousseau* I. 169 To construct hovels of branches and clay.

2. *transf.* Anything analogous to a limb of a tree, in being a lateral extension or subdivision of a main trunk; e.g. of a mountain range, a river, a road or railway, an artery or vein, etc.

1597 *R. Glouc.* 152 þe oþer hadde sene branches... And toward þe Yrische see... þei drowe. 1603 *R. Johnson Kingd. & Commw.* 221 Therein are saide to be three and twenty branches of the mount Atlas. 1666 *Whiston Th. Earth* ii. 104 Tho' the particular place... be now under Water, and a Branch or Bay of the Great Ocean. 1787 *Winter Syst. Husb.* 99 The branches, or smaller drains are from twenty to forty, or fifty feet a-part. 1831 *R. Knox Cloquet's Anat.* 644 From the aorta therefore arise secondary trunks, branches, twigs and ramuscules in great number. 1864 *Stanley Jew. Ch.* (1877) I. xiv. 276 The vast army fled far through the eastern branch of the plain. 1874 *Boutell Arms & Arm.* ix. 173 From these guards curved branches proceed... to the pommel. 1878 *F. Williams Midl. Railw.* 359 It is a branch of the Great Northern.

b. *U. S. spec.* A small stream or brook.

1835 *W. Irving Tour Prairies* 188 Most of the 'branches', or streams, were dried up. *Ibid.* 307 In 'branch' or brook water.

c. One of the subdivisions of a deer's horn; a 'start', antler, or shoot; *transf.* a horn anciently worn as part of a woman's head-dress.

1485 *Bk. St. Albans* E. iiij. Too brānchis first pawmyd he most haue. 1598 *Manwood Lawes Forest* iv. § 6 (1615) 46 In a Bucke they say [of the antlers], Bur, Beame, Brāunch, Advancers, Palme, and Spellers. 1661 *Lovell Hist. Anim.* The horns are only on the Males, and have 6 or 7 branches. 1847 *Tennyson Princ.* Concl. 98 A shout rose again, and... shook the branches of the deer.

1483 *Caxton G. de la Tour* D viij. Many of them caste away their branches and homes.

d. One of the arms of a candelabrum or chandelier. Hence † *A chandelier*, esp. of the kind used in churches. Obs.

[1476 *Will* (Somerset Ho.) Ad sustentacionem luminis beate marie virginis vocati be Branchie.] 1593 *Churchw. Acts. St. Dunstan's, Canterb.*, Tapers that where sparyd of the brāunche before the Rode. 1554 *Huloet*, Candlestycke called a brāunche. Candlestycke with three brāunches or lightes. 1709 *E. W. Life Donna Rosina* 135 A Chrystal Branch fill'd with Wax Candles. 1794 *G. Adams Nat. & Exp. Philos.* III. xxix. 180 You may find how long a branch is which hangs down from the roof of a church.

e. *poet.* The human arm (or hand). rare.

1588 SHAKS. *Tit. A.* ii. iv. 18 What sterne vngentle hands Hath... made thy body bare Of her two branches.

† 3. A branch-like figured pattern in embroidery or ornamental work: cf. BRANCH v. 6, BRANCHED 2 b. 1566 PRACHAM *Art Drawing* 35 In diapering... maintaining one branch or the same work throughout.

† 4. A definite complex structure or form, as the characteristic form of man or any animal.

1668 CULPEPPER & COLE *Barthol. Anat.* i. xxviii. 68 The Particles of the Seed... agitated only by the Heat of the womb... fall into the Branch of a Livewight. *Ibid.* The Divine Shape of... Man is always one and the same... How could that Branch be formed without the Mind?

II. Figurative applications suggested by the relation of a branch to the tree.

5. Connected with the notion of a 'genealogical tree'.

a. One of the portions into which a family or race is divided according to the differing lines of descent from the common ancestor; hence a division of a nation, or of a 'family' in any fig. sense, such as that of a group in scientific classification.

a 1300 *Cursor M.* 5657 (Götl.) þat branch (Cott. MS. brance) of kin kald iuus was, þat cam of iacob sonis iudas. a 1581 CAMPTON *Hist. Irel.* viii. (1633) 24 Cast out by the collateral branches of Cham. 1793 BURKE *Corr.* (1844) IV. 135, I do not flatter myself, that the English branch of the Jacobin family is a jot better than the French. 1839 THIRLWALL *Greece I.* 147 They are Minyans; a branch of the Greek nation. 1848 MACAULAY *Hist. Eng.* I. 219 Both the branches of the great House of Austria sprang to arms.

† b. A child, descendant; cf. *scion*. *Obs.* exc. in humorous use; (quot. 1807 contains an allusion to *Psalm* cxxviii. 3). Cf. *Olive-branch*.

1535 COVERDALE *Jer.* xxiii. 5, I will raise vp the righteous branch of David. 1577 HOLINSHED *Chron.* II. 12/1 Bastolenus a branch of Japhet... brought thither the same kind of speech. 1605 CAMDEN *Rem.* 93 Robert the sonne of Maldred, a branch of an olde English familie. 1753 WATTS *Coronat.* Day xiii. 49 Poet. Wks. 1782 VII. 150 Mark that young branch (footnote, Prince William) of rising fame. 1791 BOSWELL *Johnson* (1816) I. 22 Of which [family] the poet was a branch. 1807 CRABBE *Par. Reg.* i. 478 Now of that vine he'd have no more increase, Those playful branches now disturb his peace.

c. In devotional literature applied to Christ, with allusion to *Isa.* xi. 1, *Zech.* iii. 8, vi. 12, etc.

1535 COVERDALE *Zech.* vi. 12 Beholde, the man whose name is the braunche. 1719 WATTS *Hymns* i. l. ii. He [God] makes the Branch of promise grow. 1831 Wesley's *Hymns* Supp. No. 650 Branch of Jesse's stem, arise.

6. With express or implied reference to a metaphorical tree, root, or stock: One of the consequences deducible from a general principle; one of the effects resulting from a cause.

1506 *Pilgr. Perf.* (W. de W. 1531) 131 b. Which is... the thyrd braunche in the tree of grace. 1719 WATTS *Hymns* i. lvi. v. Wild and unwholesome as the root Will all the branches be. 1756 BURKE *Subl. & B.* Wks. 1842 I. 40 This branch rises... from terrour, the common stock of every thing that is sublime.

b. To destroy (anything) root and branch: to destroy it utterly, to destroy both the thing itself and all its effects; originally suggested by the wording (derived from *Mal.* iv. 1) of the London Petition of Dec. 11, 1640 for the total abolition of episcopal government (see quot.). Hence, *Root-and-branch petition*, *root-and-branch bill*, this petition, and the bill embodying its proposals, laid before parliament in 1641; *root-and-branch party*, the party by which the bill was supported; also (with more general meaning) *root and branch policy*, *reform*, a 'radical' policy or reform involving the total abolition of some existing institution.

1611 BIBLE *Mal.* iv. 1 The day that cometh shall burn them up... that it shall leave them neither root nor branch. 1640 Petition in Rushw. *Hist. Coll.* (1721) IV. 93 That the said government, with all its dependencies, roots, and branches, be abolished. 1655 FULLER *Ch. Hist.* viii. ii. § 6 It was vain to strike at the branches, whilst the roote of all Hereticks doth remain. 1641 LORD SAY & SELE in *Ho. Lords* in Cobbett *Parl. Hist.* (1807) II. 806 The question... is not, Whether episcopacy... shall be taken away root and branch. a 1674 CLARENDON *Hist. Reb.* iii. (1843) 94/1 Sir Harry Vane, and shortly after Mr. Hambden... were believed to be for root and branch; which grew shortly after a common expression. 1655 LESTRANGE *Chas. I.* 184 The Scottish fires had... burnt up to nothing Episcopacy both root and branch. 1867 MORLEY *Burke* 180 The root and branch policy of the Tudors. *Ibid.* 237 Privilege and immunity were then cut up root and branch. 1884 GARDINER *Hist. Eng.* IX. xcvi. 299 The Root-and-Branch party knew well that they could not... count on a majority.

c. In medieval theology, one of the subordinate classes coming under the category of any one of the seven deadly sins, or of any venial sin.

a 1300 *Cursor M.* 26363 Gastly sin [es]... lust and pride, And þair branches þat springes wide. 1340 *Ayeb.* 9 Per by zome branches þet ne byþ naȝt dyadlyc zenne. c 1386 CHAUCE *Pers. T.* 7 15 Of this roote [pride] springen general branches; as ire, envye, accidie. 1393 LANGL. *P. Pl. C.* xvii. 264 Ypocrisie is a braunche of pruyde. 1615 HIERON *Wks.* I. 603 The raging sins of the first Table, as well as the more notorious branches of the second.

7. A division of a subject; a subdivision of a general concept or notion; a department of any study, pursuit, or employment; freq. in phraseological combinations, (where *department* may be

substituted), as *branch of activity*, *industry*, *study*, etc. Also *branch of the revenue*, of the *prerogative*, etc.

1509 HAWES *Past. Pleas.* xi. xl, As to the fourth part, Pronounciacyon, I shal it shewe anone... Wyth many branches of it. 1596 SHAKS. *Merch. V.* ii. ii. 66 The sisters three, and such branches of learning. 1651 HOBBS *Leviath.* ii. xxvi. 141 Fidelity... a branch of naturall Justice. a 1674 CLARENDON *Hist. Reb.* iii. (1843) 114/1 Thus fell that high court [the star-chamber], a great branch of the prerogative. 1711 STEELE *Spect.* No. 288 ¶ 3 Indian Silks were formerly a great Branch of our Trade. 1707 SWIFT *Gulliver* i. vi. 66 Their learning... flourished in all its branches. 1756 C. LUCAS *Ess. Waters* Pref. One branch of quackery. 1768 HUME *Hist. Eng.* (1806) V. lxvii. 109 The king's revenue lay under great debts and anticipations; those branches granted in the year 1669 and 1670 were ready to expire. 1813 JANE AUSTEN *Pride & Prej.* iii. 10 She was obliged to seek another branch of the subject. 1839 THIRLWALL *Greece I.* 239 The Phœnicians... introduced letters, along with other branches of knowledge.

b. One of the divergent directions along which a line of thought may be followed out; a division of a complex proposition, question, argument, discussion, demand, legislative enactment, etc.

1542-3 Act 34-35 *Hen. VIII.* v. § 3 It is contained in the... statute, within divers articles and branches of the same. 1632 *Star Cham.* Cases (1886) 102, I think these as branches of the first charge are charged in the bill. 1696 WHISTON *Th. Earth* iv. v. 377 The first Branch of this Proposition. a 1700 in Rushworth *Hist. Coll.* III. ii. ii. 980 [heading] The Branch of a letter from the Arch-bishop of Canterbury to Dr. Hall... dated... the 11th of November 1639. *Ibid.* 1347 [heading, an. 1640] A Branch of the Lord Digby's Speech about Episcopacy. 1783 AINSWORTH *Lat. Dict.* (Morell) i. A branch [of discourse], *caput*. 1818 CRUISE *Digest* VI. 307 The express declaration of the testator in almost every branch of his will.

8. A component portion of an organization or system, a part of a larger unity. *Branch of the legislature*, one of the houses or chambers into which the legislative body is divided.

1696 WHISTON *Th. Earth* Introd. 11 The bare Earth... is but one of the Members or Branch. 1711 ADDISON *Spect.* No. 287 ¶ 5 A mixt Government consisting of three Branches. 1768 BLACKSTONE *Comm.* IV. 258 This branch of the legislature, which represents the people. 1839 YEOWELL *Anc. Brit. Ch.* xiii. (1847) 150 The Roman Church was a sound and uncorrupt branch of the Catholic Church.

9. A local office of business, subordinate to the main or head office, as the 'branch' of a bank or other establishment.

1817 Petition in *Parl. Deb.* 215 This London Union Society... establishing branches and affiliations. 1875 JEVONS *Money* (1878) 257 Important banks, each possessing numerous branches.

III. 10. The certificate held by a brother of the Trinity House; also that given by the Trinity House to pilots who have passed an examination as to their competence. Cf. *branch-pilot* in 13.

1865 ESQUIROS *Cornwall* 237 He received a branch, the name given to a certificate bearing the signature of the Society.

IV. 11. In various techn. senses [chiefly after Fr. *branche*]: in *Arch.* the rib of a Gothic vault; in *Zool.* (see quot. 1881); in *Mech.* the beam or axle of a pump or similar machine; also, a bolt or strap with arms; in *Harness-making*, a pair of parallel levers passing through the ends of a curb-bit, and provided with rings or loops for the curb-chain, etc.; in *Fortification*, the wing of a horn- or crown-work; also, one of the boyaux of a zig-zag approach. The word is also used of the metal piece on the end of a hose, to which the nozzle is screwed; and of each of the sides of a horse-shoe.

1659 LEAK *Water-wks.* 17 The said Levers shalbe also fitted to two arms or branches. 1793 SWEATON *Ethelstone L.* § 38 There were two large branches fixed near the center, for taking hold of the two sides of a large upright piece of timber. 1838 PENNY *Cycl.* XII. 296/1 The defenders of their branches could not have avoided firing upon one another. 1881 *Nature* XXIV. 463 Branches—The cell-bearing portions of the zoarium of Glauconome.—or Syncladia. 1884 E. L. ANDERSON *Mod. Housemanship* i. v. 18 The branches should be long or short, as the rider wishes a mild or a severe bit.

V. Comb. and Attrib.

12. General relations: a. (in sense 1), objective with ppl. adj., vbl. sb. or agent-noun, as *branch-bearing*, *-gatherer*; locative and instrum. (*poet.*), as *branch-charmed*, *-embellished*, *-rent*; attrib. (pertaining to a branch), as *branch-bud*; also *branch-like* adj.;

b. (in sense 2) attrib. (having the character of a branch), as *branch-line* (of railway), *-root*, *-vein*; c. (in sense 3) as *branch bank*, *-establishment*, *-office*.

1567 MAPLET *Gr. Forest* 56 Pearserthnut... is in leaf and *branch bearing like to Cicer. 1881 VINES *Sacks' Bot.* 370 The deciduous *branch-buds of *Bryonia annuina* may also be considered as organs of reproduction. a 1811 KEATS *Hyperion*, Tall oaks, *branch-charmed by the earnest stars. 1597 DRAYTON *Mortimer*, 110 Nottingham... Crowne of the beatus *branch-embellish'd soyle. 1843 *Cath. Angl.* 41 A *Branche gederer, *frondator*. 1854 *UPPER Prov.* *Philos.* 167 With dull malignant stare watcheth the *branch-like boia. 1846 PENNY *Cycl.* Supp. II. 667/1 When... in working *branch lines, a carriage must be sent through for the accommodation of only two or three passengers. 1885 *Law*

Rep. XXIX. *Chancery Div.* 219 The company had no *branch office of its own in England. 1840 Act 3-4 Vic. xcvi. § 18 Effecting communication between such railway and any... *branch railway. 1800 KEATS *Lamia* 13 Vales deflower'd, or forest-trees *branch-rent. 1884 BOWER & SCOTT *De Bary's Phaner. & Ferns* 362 *Branch-roots of *Dracena reflexa*... have a thoroughly typical structure. 1858 W. ELLIS *Visits Madagasc.* ix. 242 At the adjacent *branch station... we remained a week. c 1400 in *Rel. Ant.* I. 190 Fro' *basylia'... A *branche veyn spryngeth up ful bolde.

13. Special combinations: *branch-bottom* (in U.S.), see quot.; *branch-building a.*, building in branches; *branch-chuok* (*Mech.*), a chuck having four branches turned up at the ends, and furnished with screws; *branch-coal*, a provincial name for anthracite; *branch-pilot*, a pilot who holds a Trinity House certificate; † *branch-stand v.*, 'to make a Hawk take the Branch, or leap from Tree to Tree, till the Dog springs the Partridge' (Phillips, 1706); *branch wines*, a translation of Pg. *vinos de ramo*, wines made for home consumption; *branch-work*, ornamental figured patterns (cf. 3).

1880 *New Virginians* I. 82 The land being what is called *branch-bottom, i. e. alluvial in character. 1868 WOOD *Homes without H.* xxvii. 514 We shall take first the *branch-building mammalia. 1864 *Times* 10 Dec. The first *branch pilot who offered his services... was bound to be accepted. 1833 C. REDDING *Hist. Mod. Wines* viii. (1836) 226 The wine country of the Douro is again subdivided... into, first, Factory wines... and secondly, *Branch wines. 1700 W. J. BRUNY *Voy. Levant* ix. 32 Intermixed with *Branch works that make a glorious shew. 1848 TENNYSON *Pal.* Act 95 *Branch-work of costly sardonys.

Branch, v. [f. prec. sb.: cf. F. *brancher*.]

I. *intr.* 1. To bear or put forth branches; sometimes with *forth*, *out*. Also *fig.*

1388 WYCLIF *Eccles.* xxxix. 19 Flourish floures, as lillie; 3youth smel, and brauncheth in to grace. 1558 HULOET, Braunchen, or haue braunches, *frondeo*. 1611 SHAKS. *Wint. T.* I. 1. 27 There rooted betwix them then such an affection, which cannot chuse but braunch now. 1759 tr. *Duhamel's Husb.* ii. i. (1762) 127 Gave the earth round these plants a good stirring before they branched. 1882 VINES *Sacks' Bot.* 478 They branch even before they reach the ground.

2. *transf.* and *fig.* To throw out branches or offshoots; to separate into branches, ramify. Freq. const. *from*, *into*. Now almost always with *out*.

1398 TREvisa *Barth. De P. R.* iii. ix. (1495) 54 The fythe synewe braunchyth and comyth in bowes to the Instrumettes of towchynge. 1756 BURKE *Subl. & B.* Introd. Wks. I. 129 What subject does not branch out to infinity? 1853 ROBERTSON *Serm.* Ser. iii. iii. (1872) 31 It branches, therefore, into a twofold division. 1862 H. SPENCER *First Princ.* i. v. § 32 (1875) 117 Consequences... that go on branching out more widely as years progress.

b. To spring out, as a branch or branches from the stem or root; to deviate from an original direction, strike off in a new path; to diverge from a central point; in mod. use chiefly with *adv.* *out*, *off*, less freq. *away*.

c 1400 *Destr. Troy* 8750 Beamys of bright sun, þat braunchis olofte. 1711 ADDISON *Spect.* No. 247 ¶ 2, I have known a woman branch out into a long dissertation upon the edging of a petticoat. 1799 Scott, *described* (ed. 2) 13 Many inferior ranges, here and there, branch out from them on all sides. c 1811 FUSSELL *Lect. Art* v. (1848) 463 If it branch not out of the subject. 1839 YEOWELL *Anc. Brit. Ch.* xi. (1847) 112 From this point... branched most of the great roads into the interior. 1870 MAX MÜLLER *Sc. Relig.* (1873) 163 A very early concentration of speech from which these dialects branched off. 1871 FREEMAN *Norm. Cong.* (1876) IV. xviii. 212 The Foss Way... branched off from the Eastern gate. 1884 *Macm. Mag.* Oct. 431/2 An excellent street... branches away from the quay, and leads into a vast square.

† 3. To spring, arise, or descend from a common stock or parentage; also, *To be branched* (in the same sense). *Obs.*

1583 STANYHURST *Æneis* i. (Arb.) 18 That from thee Troians should branch a lineal offspring. 1609 HIERON *Wks.* I. Ded. A ij, All those young plants, which... haue branched from you both. 1631 WEEVER *Anc. Fnn. Mon.* 544 These Butlers are branched from Sir Raph Butler. 1639 FULLER *Holy War* iii. xviii. (1840) 146 They were a younger house of the Waldenses, and branched from them.

II. *trans.*

4. To divide (anything) into branches; to spread out (anything) in the manner of branches.

1700 W. KING *Transactioner* 10 The ends of the Twigs are branched into bunches of Flowers. 1795 SOUTHEY *Joan of Arc* l. 48 The dark yew... branch'd there its naked roots. 1864 TENNYSON *Aylmer's F.* 221 Jewels... Sprinkled about in gold that branch'd itself Fine as ice-ferns.

5. *fig.* To arrange or set out in branches. *arch.*

1608 PRYNN *Cens. Cosens* 10 We branch the matter of this Booke into points of Doctrine and substance. 1673 *Lady's Call* l. v. § 32, I shall not need to branch out devotion into the several parts. 1789 BENTHAM *Princ. Legisl.* xviii. § 56 The whole system of offences... is branched out into five classes. 1810 *Month. Rev.* LXII. 496 If a Gothic story be branched out in the forms of the Shakespearean drama.

6. To adorn or embroider with gold or needle-work representing flowers or foliage. Cf. BRANCH sb. 3. Also *fig.*

1596 SPENSER *F. Q.* ii. ix. 19 The traine whereof loose far behind her strayd, Braunched with gold and perle. 1611 FLETCHER *Philaut.* v. iv. 37 May the Moths branch their Velvet. *Ibid.* Branch me his skin in flowers like a suttin. 1899 TENNYSON *Enid* 631 Enid fell in longing for a dress All branch'd and flower'd with gold.

7. To furnish with branches or branching horns. Also fig.

1633 FORD *Broken Hrt.* II. i. 250 The city housewives... Cull, kiss, and cry sweetheart, and stroke the head Which they have branch'd.

Branchage (brænʃɪdʒ). [*f.* BRANCH *sb.* + -AGE: cf. *f.* *branchage*.] Branches in the mass.

1868 BROWNING *Ring & Bk.* x. 274 Leafage and branchage vulgar eyes admire. 1873 — *Red Cott. Night-C.* 652 In the main ash-avenue Under the blessing of its branchage-roof.

Branchar, -er: see BLANCHER¹.

Branched (brænʃt), *pp.* *a.* [*f.* BRANCH *sb.* and *v.* + ED.]

1. Provided with branches. *lit.* and *fig.* (Cf. senses of the *sb.*; often combined with numeral or other adjs., as *double*, *five*, *many-branched*.)

1350 *Will. Palerne* 753 Vnder a tri appeltre... pat was branched ful brode. 1567 STURLEY *Seneca's Hippolytus* (1581) 56 The Elme displays his branched armes. 1668 WILKINS *Real Char.* 157 A double branched brow-antler. 1841 Mrs. BROWNING *House Clouds* 29 A spacious hall... Branched with corridors sublime. 1877 R. J. MORE *Under Balkans*, A lighted triple-branched wax taper.

†2. Divided, distributed; descended (from a family or an ancestor). (Cf. BRANCH *v.* 3-5.) *Obs.*

1490 *Pol. Poems* (1859) II. 141 Royal branched, descended from two lynes.

b. Adorned with a figured pattern in embroidery, gilding, chasing, etc. Cf. BRANCH *v.* 6.

1509 HAWES *Past. Pleas.* xxvii. xxxii, The rofe was branched curiously Of the beten golde both gaye and glorious. 1552 H. W. KING *Invent. Ch. Goods* (1885) 15 A cope of blew and Branched Damaske... 1601 SHAKS. *Twel. N.* II. v. 54 Calling my Officers about me, in my branch'd Veluet gowne. 1703 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 3895/4 Seven Silver Spoons... branched on the tops.

3. Hence in *Arch.* branched work, the carved foliage on friezes and monuments.

Branchellion (brænkelɪən). [*a.* Fr. *branchellion*, shortened by Savigny from the earlier *branchiobellion* *lit.* 'a leech having gills'; cf. BRANCHIO- and Gr. *βράχια* leech.] A species of Annelid, a leech which attacks fishes and tortoises.

1847 in CRAIG. 1876 BENEDEN *Anim. Parasites* 113.

Brancher¹ (brænʃər). [*f.* BRANCH *v.* + -ER¹.] That which bears or puts forth branches.

1610 FOLKINGHAM *Art of Survey* I. ii. 43 The thin brancher (vine) needs a battle soyle to enlarge the Dilation. 1651 *Reliq. Wotton*. (1685) 77 If their Child be not such a speedy spreader and brancher, like the Vine.

Brancher². Also 5 *brancher*, *brancher*. [*a.* AF. **brancher* = F. *branchier*, *f.* *branche* BRANCH.] A young hawk (or other bird) when it first leaves the nest and hops about the branches.

1a 1400 *Morte Arth.* 190 Pareby branchers in brede bettry was never. 1486 *Bk. St. Albans* ijb. After saynt Margarete day... they bene calde Brawncheris. 1575 TURBERV. *Bk. Falconrie* 69 The brancher is she that followeth the old hawke from branch to branch. 1797 BRADLEY *Fam. Dict.* s.v. *Canary Bird*, Those of the first year... are term'd Branchers. 1808 JAMISON, *Branchers*, young crows, after leaving the nest, and betaking themselves to the boughs or branches. *Troisid.* 1873 *Daily News* 19 July 5/7 We have a cage with a 'brancher' (a young linnet).

b. *fig.* A young child.

1833 M. SCOTT *Tom Cringle* xvi. 389 My home... with all my pretty little tender branchers hopping about me.

Branchery (brænʃəri). [*f.* BRANCH *sb.* + -ERY.] Branches collectively. *lit.* and *fig.*

1830 COLERIDGE *Ch. & St.* (1839) 131. 1847 SARA COLERIDGE in *Biog. Lit.* Intro. 125 All the branchery of mystic beliefs and superstitious practices. 1855 BAILEY *Mystic* 85 That tree... From whose umbrageous branchery human fruit... In sacred ripeness dropped.

†b. Applied by Grew to: The ramifications of the endocarp in an apple or other fruit.

1674 GREW *Anat. Plantis.* vi. §2 The Branchery is nothing else but the Ramifications of the Lignous Body throughout all the parts of the Parenchyma. 1753 CHAMBERS *Cycl. Supp.* s.v. *Apple*, The branchery, or vessels are only ramifications of the woody part of the branch.

Branch-hircin, obs. form of BRANKURSINE.

|| **Branchia, branchia** (brænki, brænkiə), *sb.* *pl.* Also obs. ME. *pl.* *braunches*. [*L.* *branchia*, *pl.* *branchiæ*, ad. Gr. *βράχια* gills, *pl.* of *βράχιν* (in sing. meaning a fin).]

The organs of respiration in fishes, etc.; gills.

1398 TREVISA *Barth. De P. R.* v. xxxv. (1495) 147 Some beestes haue no lounches but they haue branchies in stede of lounches. 1674 GREW *Anat. Trunks* i. iii. §26 Fishes having their Branchia; Land-Animals their Lungs. 1854 BUSHMAN in *Circ. Sc.* (1865) II. 23/2 The Pulmonary Arachnidians... breathe by... pulmonary branchia. 1866 WOOD *Nat. Hist.* (1874) 627 The double gills or branchia.

Branchial (brænkiəl), *a.* [*f.* *L.* *branchi-a* (see prec.) + -AL¹: cf. Fr. *branchial*.] Pertaining to, of the nature of, or resembling gills.

1801 *Phil. Trans.* XCI. 246 The branchial appendages... are of a deep blood colour. 1836 TODD *Cycl. Anat. & Phys.* I. 115/2 The bilocular heart of fishes is entirely branchial.

Branchiate, -ated (brænkiət, -ɪtəd), *a.* [*f.* as prec. + -ATE², + -ED.] Having, or characterized by, branchia or gills.

1836 TODD *Cycl. Anat. & Phys.* I. 107/2 Ciliated, branchiated, and pulmonated classes. 1870 ROLLESTON *Anim. Life* Intro. 62 In Branchiate Vertebrata there is no epidermal skeleton.

Branchiferous (brænkiʃərəs), *a.* [*f.* mod. *L.* *branchifer* (*f.* *branchiæ* gills + *-fer* bearing) + -OUS.] Bearing or furnished with gills.

1854 WOODWARD *Mollusca* (1856) 98 The development of the branchiferous gasteropods may be observed... in the common river-snails.

Branchiform (brænkiʃɪfɔrm), *a.* Also *branchiiform*. [*f.* *L.* *branchi-a* gills + -FORM.] Like or resembling gills.

1845 *Proc. Bern. Nat. Club* II. 146 Articulations... branchiform, being chiefly adapted for respiration. 1854 DANA *Crust.* 1. 612 There are... branchiiform appendages.

Branchiness (brænʃɪnəs), [*f.* BRANCHY + -NESS.] Branchy quality or condition. Also *fig.*

1611 COTGR., *Branchage*, branchiness; thickness, or store of branches. 1804 W. TAYLOR in *Ann. Rev.* II. 323 The metaphysical generalizations display... a fibrous branchiness of argument. 1806 *Month. Mag.* XXI. 416 A bush differs from a tree in that its branchiness begins at the very root.

Branching (brænʃɪŋ), *vbl. sb.* [*f.* BRANCH *v.*]

1. The action of throwing out branches, or of diverging in the manner of branches; ramification; *concr.* a collection of branches. Also *fig.*

1578 BANISTER *Hist. Man* v. 71 With diuers orders of branching they embrace it. 1684 T. BURNET *Tk. Earth* I. 232 We have before compar'd the branchings of these rivers... to the ramifications of the arteries in the body. 1724 WATTS *Logic* 348 Finish your whole argument with as few inferior branchings as reason will admit. 1882 VINES *Sachs' Bot.* 207 Dichotomous branching is frequently repeated in one and the same plane.

2. The action of decorating with flowers or foliage, in embroidery, gilding, engraving, etc.

1622 HEYLIN *Cosmog.* III. (1673) 53/2 The branching of Satins... being amongst many others, one of their Inventions.

Branching, ppl. a. [*f.* as prec. + -ING².]

1. That branches; that puts forth branches.

1382 WYCLIF *Jer.* xvii. 2 Ther branching trees in heezy mounteynes. 1645 MILTON *Arcades* 86 Under the shady roof Of branching elm. 1725 POPE *Odys.* XIII. 122 High at the head a branching Olive grows. 1842 TENNYSON *Vere de Vere* 27 Not thrice your branching limes have blown.

2. Spreading, ramifying, diverging; also, rambling, diffuse.

1720 POPE *Iliad* XXI. 446 The branching streams. 1810 SOUTHEY *Kehama* XVIII. vii, In branching veins. 1864 BURTON *Scot. Abr.* II. i. 128 The Burnetts... were a branching family.

3. Bearing antlers, antlered.

1667 MILTON *P. L.* VII. 470 The swift Stag... Bore up his branching head. 1718 POPE *Iliad* III. 37 So joys a lion, if the branching deer... his bulky prize, appear.

Branchio- (brænki-), also incorrectly *branchio-*, combining form of Gr. *βράχια* gills, as in **Branchio-anal** *a.*, pertaining to the branchia and anus. **Branchio-cardiac** *a.*, belonging to the gills and heart. **Branchio-gasteropod, pl. -poda, -pods**, a gasteropod which breathes air through water; also, any gasteropod. **Branchio-pallial** *a.*, pertaining to the gills and mantle of molluscs. **Branchio-parietal** *a.*, pertaining to the gills and wall of the atrium (of molluscs).

1855 HUXLEY in Woodward *Mollusca* 446 The part... behind (the mantle) becomes the branchio-anal surface. 1836 TODD *Cycl. Anat. & Phys.* I. 206/2 The blood... returns to the heart by means of the branchio-cardiac vessels. 1877 HUXLEY *Anat. Inv.* An. viii. 505 In all... Branchiogasteropods, the mantle secretes a cuticular shell. 1880 HASTIAN *Brain* 84 The 'auditory sacculles'... are connected with this great branchio-pallial ganglion. 1856 WOODWARD *Mollusca* III. 334 The branchial sac is connected with the wall of the atrium by (branchio-parietal) vessels.

Branchiopod (brænki-ɒpɒd). *Pl. -opoda, -opoda* (-ɒpɒdɪ). [*f.* BRANCHIO- + Gr. *ποῦς, ποδός* foot: cf. Fr. *branchiopode*.] *lit.* 'Gill-footed',—a member of the Crustacea order distinguished by having the gills upon the feet. Also *attrib.*

1856 KIRBY & SP. *Entomol.* IV. 81 In the... Branchiopod Crustacea the long dorsal vessel is also found. 1836 TODD *Cycl. Anat. & Phys.* I. 755/2 In the Branchiopods, the body consists of a long series of rings. 1862 WOOD *Nat. Hist.* 732 The gills are attached to the feet, and they are therefore termed Branchiopoda.

Hence **Branchiopodous** *a.*

1836 TODD *Cycl. Anat.* I. 692/1 The young of Balanids... closely resemble some of the branchiopodous crustacea.

Branchiostegal (brænki-ɒstɪgəl), *a.* [*f.* BRANCHIOSTEGE (or its elements) + -AL.]

1. Pertaining to the membrane which protects a gill chamber; covering or protecting the gills. 1749 *Phil. Trans.* XLVI. 128 Slender cartilaginous Bones... analogous to the branchiostegal Bones of other Fishes. 1872 MIVART *Elem. Anat.* 478 The branchiostegal membrane... is supported by the branchiostegal rays.

2. *quasi-sb.* for *branchiostegal ray*.

1849-51 TODD *Cycl. Anat. & Phys.* IV. 1144/2 Slightly curved rays... called branchiostegals.

Branchiostegan (brænki-ɒstɪgən). [*f.* mod. *L.* *branchiosteg-i* (cf. next) + -AN.] A member of the *Branchiostegi*, an old order of cartilaginous fishes having free gills covered by a membrane.

1847 in CRAIG.

Branchiostege (brænki-ɒstɪdʒ), *a.* [*a.* Fr. *branchiostège*, *f.* BRANCHIO- + Gr. *στεγ-ειν* to cover.] Covering the gills (= BRANCHIOSTEGAL).

Hence **Branchiostegite** (-ɒstɪdʒaɪt). [*App.*

after Gr. *στεγίτης*, erroneously taken as an agential *sb.* from *στεγ-ειν*.] The membrane covering the gills. Also **Branchiostegous** (-ɒstɪgəs), *a.* **a.** Having gill-covers; **b.** = BRANCHIOSTEGAL.

1748-52 SIR J. HILL *Hist. Anim.* 220 (Jod.) The branchiostegous membrane contains ten, eleven, or twelve bones. 1769 PENNANT *Zool.* III. 164 The number of its branchiostegous rays are seven. 1774 GOLDSM. *Nat. Hist.* (1862) II. III. 1. 294 The cartilaginous, or... branchiostegous tribe of fishes. 1880 HUXLEY *Cray-Fish* 25 This flap... is called the Branchiostegite because it covers the gills or branchia.

Branchiostomous (brænki-ɒstɒməs), *a.* [*f.* BRANCHIO- + Gr. *στομος* -mouthed + -OUS.] Having the gills in connexion with the mouth.

1881 OWEN in *Nature* XXIV. 499 In fishes the double function of the mouth is retained—all are 'branchiostomous'.

Branchireme (brænki-ɪrɪm). [*f.* *L.* *branchi-a* gills + *rem-us* an oar.] An organ in the branchiopod entomostraca which serves the double purpose of respiration and of locomotion. Cf. *quot.*

1835 KIRBY *Habits & Inst. Anim.* II. xvii. 133 Jointed legs, that terminate in a fasciculus of setiform branches... also connected with the respiration of the animal... might be denominated Branchiremes.

Branchless (brænʃləs), *a.* [*f.* BRANCH *sb.* + -LESS.] Without, or destitute of, branches.

1611 COTGR., *Tronçonner*... to make headless, branchless. 1834 AIRD *Nebuchadn.* I. ii. 53 Beneath her branchless palm must Judah sit.

b. *fig.* and *transf.*

1606 SHAKS. *Ant. & Cl.* III. iv. 24 Better I were not yours Then your so branchless. 1848 W. BARTLETT *Egypt to Pal.* III. (1879) 39 About midway of this branchless course it enters Egypt.

Branchlet (brænʃlɪt). Also 8 *branchilet*. [*f.* as prec. + -LET.] A little branch, a shoot; in *Bot.* a smaller branch growing from a larger one (rendering *L. ramulus*); *fig.* a small division or offshoot.

1731 BAILEY, *Branchilet*, a little Branch. 1850 LINDLEY *Monogr. Roses* Intro. 21, I have found it necessary to make a distinction between branches and branchlets. 1881 MIVART *Cat* 279 The dorsal branch divides at the carpus into two branchlets. 1883 E. ARNOLD *N. Slaughterer in Ind. Idylls* 241 There perched A thousand crows... some on branchlets.

Brancho-, incorrect form of BRANCHIO-.

Branch-urine, obs. form of BRANKURSINE.

Branchy (brænʃi), *a.* [*f.* BRANCH *sb.* + -Y¹.]

1. Bearing branches; full of, covered with, or consisting of branches.

1382 WYCLIF 2 *Kinges* xvii. 10 And vndir al braunchy tree. 1480 CAXTON *Ovid's Met.* XIV. xv, Com to me, into this braunchy wood. 1661 K. W. CONF. *Charac.* (1860) 89 Called arms, for their hard branchy resemblance. 1725 POPE *Odys.* v. 313 (Trees)... lopp'd and lighten'd of their branchy load. 1800 COMBE (Dr. Syntax) *Consol.* I. 134 The cedar, The branchy monarch of the wood. 1850 BLACKIE *Æschylus* I. 35 The outspread olive's branchy shade.

2. *transf.* Putting forth offshoots, or divisions; wide-spreading, ramifying; also (of deer) bearing horns, antlered.

1606 N. BAXTER *Man Created in Farr's S. P.* (1848) 238 Within a branchie filme there lyeth the braine. 1676 J. BEAUMONT in *Phil. Trans.* XI. 731, I have a piece of branchy spar. 1830 T. HAMILTON C. *Thornton* (1845) 99 The deer... stood... tossing high their branchy foreheads. 1830 TENNYSON *Talking Oak* 273 The fat earth feed thy branchy root.

Branch, -vrsin, obs. ff. BRANK, -URSINE.

Branchorde, obs. form of BRANCARD.

Branchorne; see BRANTCOORN.

Brand (brænd), *sb.* Also 1-7 *brond* (e, 4 *bront*, *broond*, 5 *brond*, 6 *Sc. broynd*, 7 *bran*, 9 *dial. bron*. [*Com. Teut.*: OE. *brand*, *brond* = OFris. *brand* (MDu. *brand*), Du. *brand*), OHG., MHG. *brant* (mod.G. *brand*), ON. *brand-r* = OTeut. **brando-z*, *f.* *bran*-pret. stem of **brinn-an* to BURN + suffix -do, as in WORD.]

1. Act, means, or result of burning.

†1. Burning, conflagration, destruction by fire.

a 1000 *Beowulf* 4258 Hy hine ne moston... bronde forber-nan. c 1300 K. *Alis*. 1856 They... stete fyure, and wilde brond, anon in kyng Daries lond.

2. A piece of wood that is or has been burning on the hearth; also *poet.* a torch, a match or lin-stock (see *quot.* 1810).

c 950 *Lindisf. Gosp.* John xviii. 3 Judas... cuom ðidir mið lehtfatum & brondum & woepnum. a 1000 *Dan.* 246 (Gr.) Bæron brandas on bryne fyres. c 1175 *Lamb. Hom.* 81 He wule aukien and al be brond tenden. a 1300 *Cursor M.* 7154 Vn-to þair tails fir he band, Foluand ilk fox a brand. 1477 EARL RIVERS *Dictes* (Caxton) 16 Scornynge... wastith loue as the fiere doth the bronde. a 1547 *Surrey Æneid* IV. 505 With burial brandes I absent shall thee chase. a 1674 MILTON *Hist. Mosc.* Wks. 1738 II. 129 So cold... that the very Sap of their Wood-fewel burning on the fire, freezes at the Brand's-end. 1735 *SOMERVILLE Chase* II. 409 Like Flocks of Sheep they fly Before the flaming Brand. 1810 CAMPBELL *Batt. Baltic* i, By each gun the lighted brand, In a bold determined hand. 1835 W. IRVING *Tour Prairies* 41 The brands of one of their fires were still smoking.

3. *transf.* and *fig.*

†a. *collect.* or in *pl.* The fire on the hearth. *Obs.* or *dial.*

a 1300 *Prov. Hendyng* 109 Este buch oune brondes, quop Hendyng. 1862 BARNES *Rhymes Dorset Dial.* I. 129 She warm d em some cider avore the bron.

b. A brand from the burning or from the fire (in allusion to *Zech.* iii. 2 and *Amos* iv. 11): a person delivered from imminent danger.

1385 WYCLIF *Zech.* iii. 2. Where this is not a dead brand raushid of the fir. 1335 COVERDALE *ibid.* Is not this a brande taken out of the fyre? 1779 WESLEY *Hymns* (1831) 770 O Jesus, of thee I inquire, If still thou art able. The brand to pluck out of the fire. 1828 R. COX *Life Fletcher* ii. 17 His prayer hence was, 'Save me, Lord, as a brand snatched out of the fire'.

c. The torches of Cupid and the Furies.

1385 CHAUCER *L. G. W.* 2252 The furies thre with all hir mortall brande. 1579 LVLV *Euphues* (Arb.) 112 So shalt thou easily quench the brandes of Cupide. 1611 SHAKS. *Cymb.* ii. iv. 91 Two winking Cupids. . . nicely Depending on their Brands. 1795 BURKE *Lett.* Wks. 1842 II. 245 The meditations of the closet have . . . inflamed armies with the brands of the furies.

d. *Jove's or God's brand*: the lightning. *Phoebus' brand*: the burning rays of the sun. With a blending of the sense 'weapon': (cf. Milton's 'flaming brand' of the archangel in *P. L.* XII. 643).

1513 DOUGLAS *Aeneis* viii. vi. 20 Into this land Saturnus com. Heand gret Jovis brand. 1596 SPENSER *F. Q.* i. viii. 21 Where th' Almighties lightning brande doth light. 1600 T. PEYTON *Parad.* in *Farr's S. P.* 177 A smoky hill, which sends forth fiery brands Of burning oyle, much like the sword the tree of life doth keepe. 1885 H. H. GIBBS tr. *Integer Vitae in Nat. Rev.* And o'er ms Phoebus' fiery brand, Fierce beating from above.

e. Applied to persons. Cf. *firebrand*.

1608 ARMIN *Nest Ninn.* 4 And you of our Innes of Court, nimble brand brands that burne without smoking.

f. The mark made by burning with a hot iron.

1552 HULOET, Bronde, or marke made with a whote yron. 1601 HOLLAND *Pliny* I. 220 The marke or brand of a bulls head which was imprinted upon his [Bucephalus'] shoulder. 1728 DE FOE *Moll Fk* (1840) 219 My comrade, having the brand of an old offender, was executed. 1851 LONGF. *Gold. Leg.* iv. v. I see the scar, The brand upon your forehead.

g. *fig.* A sign or mark, sometimes in a general sense, but usually (with reference to the practice of branding criminals) conveying the idea of disgrace; a stigma, a mark of infamy.

1597 HOOKER *Ecc.* Pol. v. lxxv. § 11 To mark that age with the brand of error and superstition. 1608 PLYNNE *Cens. Censens* 98 Are they not a public brand and blemish to our Church? 1651 CLEVELAND *Poems* 24 No Fellow is more letter'd, though the brand Both superscribes his shoulder and his hand. 1796 DE FOE *Hist. Devil* ii. vi. (1840) 244 The devil could go nowhere without this particular brand of infamy. 1853 MARSDEN *Early Parit.* 324 The brand of that day's infamy will never disappear from the annals of Massachusetts.

h. A trade-mark, whether made by burning or otherwise. (Applied to trade-marks on casks of wines or liquors, timber, metals, and any description of goods except textile fabrics.)

1807 MOTLEY v. *Dowman* 3 Mylne & Craig *Law Rep.* 4 The proprietors have added the brand mark 'Margam' on each box. 1881 *Mechanic* § 155. 53 Timbers from Swedish ports are marked on the ends with red letters or brands.

i. An iron instrument for making marks by burning, or (quot. 1828) for cauterizing a wound.

1808 SCOTT *F. M. Perth* II. 159 The more I felt the pain his knife and brand inflicted, the better was my chance of recovery. 1860 W. COLLINS *Wom. While* ii. v. 321 Pain and fear and grief written on her as with a brand.

j. (*transf.* from a c.) A particular sort or class of goods, as indicated by the trade-marks on them.

1854 MISS WARNER *Old Helmet* i. 266 The ale was of a superior brand. 1864 *Reader* 25 June 803 The most renowned dealers whose brand passes muster. 1880 *Print. Trades Jnl.* xxxi. 14 The perfume of this brand of wax is delightful. 1883 *Harper's Mag.* Aug. 451/1 There are special brands of steel wire for the shrouds and stays.

k. A species of blight in plants, causing the leaves and young shoots to look as though they were burnt; called also BURN (cf. Ger. *brand*).

1639 HORN & ROBOTHAM *Gate Lang. Unl.* vi. § 52 If it be over heated, it turns to brand or mildew. 1861 MISS PRATT *Flower Plants* III. 386 Of truly parasitic plants some . . . are known by the common names of Mildew, Rust, Brand, etc. 1881 WHITEHEAD *Hops* 58 There are special forms of these fungi, known as rust or brand.

l. The blade of a sword or similar weapon, and hence (like 'blade') the sword itself. [So also in Icel. and in later times in OF. and MHG. *brant*: possibly from its flashing in the light.]

† a. Blade, weapon. *Obs.* (exc. as in b).

c 1050 *Will of Æthelstan Æth.* in Thorpe *Dipl.* 559 Ic gean Eadmundes minon breðer þæs swurdes þe Offa cyng ahte . . . and anes brandes. c 1340 WYCLIF *Serm.* Sel. Wks. I. 26 A sword or a knyff. . . Thei mygten . . . wiðdrawe þæs brandis þæt þus done harme.

b. A sword. (Cf. the poetical use of 'blade'.)

A poetical use, though in the present century writers of romance have used it in prose as an archaism.

a 1000 *Beowulf* 2912 Hine syððan no brond ne beado-mecas bitan ne meahon. c 1205 LAY. 15239 He scal leosen þa hond þurh his aþene brand. c 1340 *Gaw. & Gr. Knt.* 1584 Brayde out a bryzt bront, & bigly forth strydez. c 1400 *Destr. Troy* 7926 And I thi bane for to be with my brand egge. c 1440 *York Myst.* xxix. 124 Yone boy with a brande Brayede me full nere. a 1541 WYATT *Psalm* xxxvii. 14 They have unsheathed eke their bloody brands. 1667 MILTON *P. L.* xii. 643 Th' Eastern side. . . Of Paradise. . . Wav'd over by that flaming brand. 1718 POPE *Iliad* v. 105 On his broad shoulder fell the forceful brand. 1800 SCOTT *Abbot* iii. There ne'er was gentleman but who belted him

with the brand. 1873 SYMONDS *Gk. Poets* v. 124 My wealth's a burly spear and brand.

Brand (brænd), *v.* Also 4-6 brond(e, s bronne. [f. prec.]

1. *trans.* To burn with a hot iron, whether for the purpose of marking the flesh (as in the case of criminals or slaves), or of cauterizing as a surgical operation; also *fig.*

c 1400 *Apol. Loll.* 103 Hauing þer consciens iren brondit. c 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 53 Brondyn wythe an yren [1499 brondyn], cauterisat. 1615 G. SANDYS *Trav.* 109 Both men and women do brand their armes for the loue of each other. 1753 *Scots Mag.* Feb. 97/1 The former is to be branded and imprisoned. 1850 MRS. STOWE *Uncle Tom* xi. 91 Has been branded in his right hand with the letter H.

2. To mark indelibly, as a proof of ownership, as a sign of quality, or for any other purpose; to impress (a word, letter, or device) by way of brand.

1597 GOLDING *De Moray* xii. 177 Thou wouldest that God should at leastwise brand him with the broad arrow. 1681 COTTON *Wond. Peak* (ed. 4) 43 Every step did brand Assured footing in the yielding sand. 1805 LUCOCK *Nat. Wond.* 113 When sheep are not branded with pitch, or any other substance injurious to the staple. 1879 *Cassell's Techn. Educ.* IV. 253/2 The mark was the letters 'M. C.' branded on tin-plates.

b. *fig.* To set a mental mark of ownership upon; also, to impress (a fact, an event) indelibly on one's memory.

1602 WARNER *Alb. Eng.* xi. lxxiii. (1612) 273 The greene knight, be whoso he shall, her heart had branded hers. 1648 KINGSLEY *Saint's Trag.* v. i. 226 To brand upon your thoughts How she was once a woman. 1875 JOWETT *Plato* (ed. 2) III. 531, I was able to recall every word of this, which is branded into my mind. 1879 FARRAR *St. Paul* (1883) 114 Words and utterances . . . branded indelibly upon the memory.

3. *fig.* To mark or stamp with infamy, stigmatize.

1605 BACON *Atheism, Ess.* (Arb.) 337 All . . . are branded with the Name of Atheists. a 1674 CLARENDON *Hist. Reh.* (1702) I. iii. 215 They . . . intended by some Vote to Brand him, and make him odious. 1771 CUMBERLAND *West Ind.* iv. iv. Brand me for a coward if I baulk you. a 1853 ROBERTSON *Lect.* ii. 61 Dare we brand infidelity with hard names?

Brand, *obs.* form of **BRAWNED**.

Branded, *ppl. a.* 1. *Obs. exc. dial.* [A northern var. of *branded*, later **BRINDED**.] Brindled.

1561 Richmond. *Wills* (1853) 148, I geve to Henry Todd on oxe calfe in Peknell, color branded. 1607 TOPSELL *Four-f. Beasts* 126 A spotted, branded, party coloured dog is not approved. 1611 CHAPMAN *Iliad* xxi. 217 They saw a branded serpent sprawl. . . amongst them from above. a 1800 *Ballad*, 'Lads of Wamphray' iii. in Scott *Minstr.* The brokit cow and the branded bull. 1880 PATTERSON *Antrim & Down Gloss.*, Branded, *brannet*, of a red colour with streaks or bands, applied to cattle.

Branded (brænded), *ppl. a.* 2 [f. **BRAND v.**]

1. a. Marked with a hot iron. b. Bearing a trade-mark, or mark of quality.

1652 *Proc. Parliament* No. 159. 2502 Advt., A light grey Mare . . . branded with E. a 1704 T. BROWN *Sat. Quack Wks.* 1730 I. 64 A branded villain. 1880 *Daily Tel.* 30 Apr., There is no alteration in branded iron.

2. *fig.* Marked with infamy, stigmatized.

1601 R. YARINGTON *Two Lament. Trag.* v. ii. in Bullen *O. Pl.* iv. Branded with a marke of Shame. 1654 CURRIE *Politia* 100 Why should that branded Politician make feare and love impossible and inseparable? 1878 BOSW. SMITH *Carthage* 265 Branded with the defeat of Cannæ.

† **Branded**, *ppl. a.* 3 *Sc. Obs. rare*—1. [Cf. **F.**

brandir to fasten two pieces of wood together with a peg.] † Firmly secured; perh. error for *bandit*.

1535 STEWART *Cron. Scot.* I. 350 Ane brig . . . Rycht stark of tymmer. Brandit and bond, and festnit richt fest.

Branded, misreading for *brauded* embroidered; so also *brandur* for *braudur* embroidery.

c 1440 *Gaw. & Col.* ii. iii. Here belt was of blunket . . . Branded with brende golde. *Ibid.* ii. iv. His brene and his basnet. . . With a brandur about, al of brende golde.

Brand-deer. A loose adaptation of Ger. *brand-hirsch*, 'a stag with dark-brown breast.' Grimm.

1774 GOLDSM. *Nat. Hist.* ii. v. (1862) I. 327 A kind of stag, named by the ancients the Tragelaphus, and which the natives call the brand deer.

Brandeis, *obs.* *Sc.* form of **BRANDISH**.

Brandeled, *obs.* var. of **BRANDRETH**.

† **Brandellet**, *Obs. rare*—1.

c 1325 *Coer de L.* 322 His pusen therwith gan gon, And also his brandellet bon, Hys vyser and his gorgere.

† **Brandenburgh**, *Obs.* [f. the name of a city in Prussia, famous for woollen manufactures.

So Fr. *brandebourg*.] A morning gown.

1676 ETHEREDGE *Man of Mode* iv. ii. (1684) 61 Y have a very fine Brandenburgh on, Sir Fopling. 1691 *Fop Dict. Suppl.*, Brandenburgh, a Morning Gown.

† **Brandenburgs**, *Obs.* [Prob. so called because worn in the army of the Elector of Brandenburg, afterwards king of Prussia; cf. Fr. *brandebourg*, 'boutonnaire avec ornement' (Boiste).]

pl. The ornamental facings to the breast of an officer's coat.

1753 HANWAY *Trav.* (1762) I. vii. xcii. 422 [The Prussian King] in his regimentals, which are a blue cloth frock with silver brandenburgs. a 1771 SMOLLETT *Humph. Cl.* (1815) 225 He wore a coat . . . trimmed with Brandenburgs, now totally deprived of their metal.

Brander (brændar), *sb.* 1 [f. **BRAND v.** + **-ER**.] One who brands.

1860 RAWLINSON *Herodotus* vii. xxxv. IV. 36 He [Xerxes] bade the branders take their irons and therewith brand the Hellespont.

Brander, *sb.* 2 *Obs. exc. Sc. and north. dial.* Also 5 brandyr, 6 brandire. [Variant of **BRANDIRON**.] A gridiron. See also **BRANDISE**, **BRANDIRON**, **BRANDRETH**.

c 1450 *Gloss.* in Wr.-Wülcker 626 *Tripas*, brondyre. 1597 in Wadley *Bristol Wills* (1886) 251 My great pan and brandire and Pykes therunto belonging. 1708 *Inv.* in E. W. Dunbar *Soc. Life Moray* 212 (D.) A frying-pan, two branders. 1815 SCOTT *Guy M.* xxiv. A couple of fowls . . . reeking from the gridiron or brander.

Brander (brændar), *v.* 1 Chiefly *Sc. and north. dial.* [f. prec.] *trans.* and *intr.* To cook on the gridiron, broil, grill. Hence **Brandered** *ppl. a.*, **Branderer** *vbl. sb.*, as in *branderer steak*.

c 1782 SIR T. SINCLAIR *Scott. Dial.* 172 (JAM.) The Scots also say to brander for to broil meat. 1814 SCOTT *H. av.* lxiv. 'I'll brander the moor-fowl that John Heatherblutter brought in this morning.' c 1817 HOGG *Tales & St.* III. 37 Brandered kidneys. 1848 FORSTER *Life Goldsm.* i. iv, A branded chop served up.

Brander, *v.* 2 [prob. f. **BRANDER sb. 2, as if 'to arrange cross-bars in the form of a gridiron'; but cf. **F. brandir** under **BRANDED ppl. a.** 2]**

Hence **Branderer** *vbl. sb.*, 'the covering of the under-side of joists with battens . . . to nail the laths to, in order to secure a better key for the plaster of a ceiling' (Spon *Dict. Engineer.* 1869.)

Branderer, *ferrou.* form of *brauderer*, **BRUO-**

DERER: but the passages are obscure.

1387 TREVISIA *Hidden Rolls* Ser. III. 77 [Tullus Hostilius] . . . vsede purpur, a maner reed cloþinge of kynges and branderers and reueres [orig. *purpura et fascibus usus est*]. c 1530 in Gutch *Coll. Cur.* II. 287 Deliveryd to my said Lordis Branderers of his Copis in small Perle. . . pois. liij. oz. *Ibid.* II. 289 Deliveryd in gylte spangillis for my Lordis Footmen Coolis to Stevyn Humble Branderer pois. clvj. oz.

Brande(y)rne, *-hirne*, var. of **BRANDIRON**.

Brandewine, early form of **BRANDY**.

Brand-goose: see **BRANT sb.**

Brandied (brændid), *ppl. a.* [f. **BRANDY v.**] Mixed, treated, or 'fortified' with brandy.

1833 C. REDDING *Mod. Wines* iv. (ed. 2) 66 The brandied wines of Portugal. 1871 MORLEY *Crit. Misc.* (1886) I. 287 The wine of truth is in his cup a brandied draught.

Brandified (brændifaid), *ppl. a.* [As if f. a vb. *brandify*: see **-FY**.] Affected by brandy.

1863 *Spring & Summ. Lapt.* 31 He had already got some such notion into his muddled, brandified old head.

Branding (brændip), *vbl. sb.* [f. **BRAND v.**]

1. The action of marking with a hot iron, as a criminal, or an article for sale.

c 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 53 Brondynge yren, cauterisacio. 1660 R. COKE *Justice Vind.* 14 Anything . . . received into the senses, be it whipping, branding or hanging. 1764 HARMER *Observ.* vi. xvi. 261 Whipping and branding with the flower-de-lis among the French. 1846 McCulloch *Acc. Brit. Empire* (1854) I. 631 The gutting . . . of the herrings, and the branding of the barrels. 1849 GROTE *Greece* ii. xl. V. 128.

fig. a 1649 DRUMM. OF HAWTH. *Hist. Jas. V.* Wks. (1711) 90 It would be an everlasting branding their honour, if timorously . . . they show their backs to their enemies.

2. *attrib.*, as in *branding-corrall*, *-iron*, *-yard*.

c 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 53 Brondynge yren, cauterium. 1593 GOLDING *Calvin on Deut.* xiv. 80 Despisers of God . . . have the said branding yron searing within them. 1863 W. PHILLIPS *Speeches* xi. 259 His broad bosom scarred all over with the branding-iron. 1881 *Gentl. Mag.* Jan. 64 The branding-yard [for cattle]. 1885 *Pall Mall G.* 20 Mar. 3/2 The cows and calves . . . are driven into the branding corrall.

Branding, *ppl. a.* [f. **BRAND v.** + **-ING**.] 1. That scorches or marks by burning.

1811 BYRON *Curse of Min.* xi. In many a branding page and burning line. 1850 TENNYSON *In Mem.* ii. Nor branding summer suns avail To touch thy thousand years of gloom. 1868 LD. LYTTON *Chron. & Char.* II. 127 The branding bolt, that rent The skies asunder.

2. That brands or stigmatizes.

1853 C. BRONTË *Villette* xxiii. (1876) 250 It was a branding judgment. 1877 FARRAR *My Youth* i. 4 He felt the branding finger upon his brow.

† **Brandiron**, *Obs. exc. dial.* Also 4 brand-hirne, 5-6 -eyrne, -erne, -yren, 6 brond-; other forms under **BRANDER sb. 2 [f. **BRAND** + **IRON**.]**

1. A kitchen utensil, commonly a gridiron, but the name is transferred to other articles, as and-irons (still *dial.* in Kent), a stand for a kettle, a trivet. See the synonymous **BRANDER sb. 2, **BRANDISE**; also **BRANDRETH**.**

1381 *Eng. Gilds* 233 Seven dozens of 'vesselles du peutre': a 'brandhirne'. 1411 *Inv.* in Turner *Dom. Archil.* III. iv. 153, j brandeyrne. 1424 E. E. *Wills* (1882) 56 A peyre rakkes of yryne, and to brandernes. 1552 HULOET, Brond-yron, or Andyron. 1580 BARET *Adv.* B 1126 A Brandiron or posnet, *chytira*. 1596 *Wills & Inv.* N. C. II. 271, j brandeyron, that the kettle standes on. 1730 DAVIES in *Phil. Trans.* XXXVI. 445 The Brand-Irons and Legs thereof were strained. 1886 R. JEFFERIES in *Pall Mall Budget* 2 Dec. 9/1 What are usually called dog-irons on the hearth are called brand-irons, having to support the brand or burning log.

† 2. Taken by Spenser, and by Quarles after him, in the sense of: A sword [= **BRAND sb.** 8].

1596 SPENSER *F. Q.* iv. iv. 38 And with his brondiron round

about him layd. 1651 QUARLES *Argalus & P.* (1678) 100 [He] Vnsheath'd his furious Brand-iron. *Ibid.* (1708) 122 The stout Amphialus. Up heav'd his thirsty brandiron.
† 3. Brand-iron-wise, in the shape of a gridiron. 1555 EDEN *Decades W. Ind.* (Arb.) 381 Southeast. is three trees lyke a brandierwise.

† **Brandise** (brændis). *Obs. exc. dial.* Also **brand isen**, **brandice**. [OE. *brand-isen*, f. *brand* burning + *isen* iron; but the history of the word between OE. and modern times is uncertain.] A trivet; perhaps used also in the other senses of **BRANDER** *sb.* **BRANDIRON**.

c 1000 ÆLFRIC *Voc.* in Wt. Wülcker 127 *Andema vel stripes*, brandisen. 1872 HARDWICK *Trad. Lancashire* 133 The brandice. 1874 HARDY *Madding Crowd* xxii. (1882) 152 There was a great black crock upon the brandice.

Brandish (brændif), *v.* Forms: 4-5 **braundis**, **ise** (n., -ish, -ish, -ysoh, -ische, 5 **brawndesche**, **branyoh** (*Cath. Angl.*), 4-6 **brandiss**, -ish, -isch, 6 **Sc. brandeis**, 5- **brandish**. [a. Fr. *brandiss* lengthened stem of Fr. *brandir*, a common Romanic word (L. type **brandire*), f. Teut. **BRAND**, a sword.]

1. *trans.* To flourish, wave about (a sword, spear, dart, club, or other manual weapon) by way of threat or display, or in preparation for action.

a 1340 HAMPOLE *Psalter* vii. 13 He sal braundis his swerd. 1382 WYCLIF *Ps.* vii. 13 But ȝe shal ben conuertid, his swerd he shal braundisen. 1475 CAXTON *Yason* 15 b. [They] brandished their speris and escried their enemyes. 1583 STANYHURST *Æneis* ii. (Arb.) 54 They brandish weapons sharp edged. 1611 BIBLE *Ezek.* xxxii. 10, I shall brandish my sword before them. 1707 SWIFT *Gulliver* ii. vii. 161 Draw their swords at once, and brandish them in the air. 1824 DISDIN *Libr. Comp.* 726 You may brandish your mother of pearl paper-cutter. 1848 MACAULAY *Hist. Eng.* II. 488 A great crowd. of young peasants, brandishing their cudgels. 1874 BOUTELL *Arms & Arm.* ii. 40.

b. *fig.*
c 1325 E. E. ALLIT. *P. A.* 346 þou þou daunce as any do, Braundisch & bray þy bræpez breme. 1648 MILTON *Tenure Kings* (1650) 3 Lawes which they so impotently brandish against others. 1697 COLLIER *Ess. Mor. Subj.* ii. (1709) 152 They love to be always brandishing their Advantage. a 1764 LLOYD *Fam. Let. Rhimes* Wks. 1774 II. 78 Your eyes that brandish burning darts. 1867 J. MARTINEAU *Chr. Life* (ed. 4) 370 Brandishing the threat of infliction.
c. To flourish about, move vigorously (the limbs, the head, etc.); also used of a snake darting out its tongue, of a lion flourishing its tail, etc. Somewhat arch., if not *obs.*

1a 1400 MORTE *Arth.* (Roxb.) 117 The knight þan braundishid yche a bone. 1610 G. FLETCHER *Christ's Vict.* (1632) 22 And every one brandisht his fiery tongue. 1834 PRINGLE *Afr. Sk.* viii. 260 He was now beginning to..brandish his tail.

2. *absol.* To flourish one's weapons or limbs; to make a flourish or display; to swagger.

c 1340 ALISAUNDER 1122 That hee nas loose in no lime..To byte, ne to brandise. c 1350 WILL. PALERNE 2321 Breme burnes..Brandissende wij gret bost. c 1430 HOW. Gd. Wyf *taugt* Dau. in *Babes Bk.* (1868) 39 Braundische not with þin heed. c 1505 DUNBAR *Dance* 33 He brandeist lyk a beir. 1533 BELLENDEN *Livy* iv. (1822) 338 Brandisand throw the army.

3. *intr.* (for *rest.*) Of a sword, = To be brandished. a 1649 DRUMM. OF HAWTH. *Hist. Scot.* (1655) 2 Your Swords..should brandish to set him on his Royall throne. 1800 SCOTT *Lady of L.* vi. xviii.

† 4. *trans.* Of the sun or other luminary: To dart forth, scatter (rays of light); also (rarely) to irradiate, render luminous. *Obs.*

1598 SYLVESTER *Du Bartas* ii. i. iv. (1641) 108½ His brows seem brandisht with a Sun-like fire. 1653 H. MORE *Conject. Cabal.* (1713) 213 This light of Righteousness..may not brandish its rays in the empty field. 1656 BLOUNT *Glossogr.*, *Brandish*, to make to..glisten with gentle shaking or moving.

† b. *intr.* To glitter, gleam, flash, coruscate.

1555 HULOET, Brandysh, or glytter, lyke a sword, *corusco*. 1598 SYLVESTER *Du Bartas* ii. i. iv. (1641) 109½ Thine eyes already (now no longer eyes; But new bright stars) do brandish in the skyes. *Ibid.* (1608) 78 Orion, Eridanus, the Whale..Through Heavens bright arches brandish up and down. [1884 STEVENSON *New Arab. Nts.* 237 A branch of flame shot brandishing through the aperture.]

Brandish, *sb.* [f. prec.] An act of brandishing; a flourish or wave (of a weapon).

1599 B. JONSON *Cynthia's Rev.* v. x. I can wound with a Brandish. 1709 ADDISON *Tatler* No. 157 ¶ 11 Tosses of the Head, and Brandishes of the Fan. 1816 BYRON *Siege of Cor.* xxii. The reply was the brandish of sabre and spear.

† **Brandish**, *a.* *Obs. rare.* [f. BRANDY + -ISH.] Of the quality of, or resembling brandy.

1683 TRYON *Way to Health* 560 A strong sulphurous brandish Spirit, that has no other operation than common Brandy or Spirit of Wine.

Brandished (brændift), *ppl. a.* [f. BRANDISH *v.* + -ED.] Made to vibrate; flourished, waved. 1583 STANYHURST *Æneis* ii. (Arb.) 67, I doe se theyre brandisht tergaits. 1667 MILTON *P. L.* xii. 633 The brandisht Sword of God before them blaz'd. 1709 STEELE *Tatler* No. 34 ¶ 4 Some Body..has called a fine Woman dancing, a Brandished Torch of Beauty. 1813 SCOTT *Rokeby* v. xxxii. His brandished falchion's sheer descent!

Brandisher (brændifɔr). [f. BRANDISH *v.* + -ER.] One who brandishes or flourishes a weapon.

c 1600 CHAPMAN *Iliad* xx. 146 O Phœbus, brandisher of darts. 1860 W. G. CLARK *Vac. Tour* 46 The brandishers of daggers were persons from the well-fed, well-dressed orders.

Brandishing (brændifɔŋ), *vbl. sb.* [f. BRANDISH *v.* + -ING.]

1. The action of flourishing (weapons).

c 1440 PROMPT. PARV. 48 Brawdyschyng, *vibracio*. 1655 THEOPHANIA 92 By the brandishing of their weapons in the air we knew the fight was not yet ended. 1821 JOANNA BAILLIE *Wallace* xiv. With hopeful, wanton brandishing.

b. *fig.*
1690 LOCKE *Hum. Und.* iv. xvii. He who shall employ all the force of his Reason only in brandishing of Syllogisms. 1766 FORDYCE *Serm. Yng. Wom.* (ed. 4) I. v. 193 The brandishings of wit in the hand of ill-nature.

† 2. Flashing, coruscating. *Obs.*

1555 HULOET, Brandishing, or glytteryng, *coruscatio*.

3. A corrupt form of BRATTISHING.

1846 PARKER *Concise Gloss. Arch.* and in mod. Dicts.

Brandishing (brændifɔŋ), *ppl. a.* [f. BRANDISH *v.* + -ING.] a. Vibrating, quivering. † b. Gleaming, flashing, sparkling.

1581 W. WARREN (*title*) The brandishing brightnes off an English Gentlewoman. 1628 ROWLAND MOUTSETT *Theat. Ins.* 1130 They move in a brandishing manner. 1660 BOYLE *New Exp. Phys. Mech.* i. 25 The vehement agitation, and brandishing motion.

† **Brandishment**. *Obs. rare*—1. [f. BRANDISH *v.* + -MENT.] The action of brandishing.

1640-1 LD. J. DIGBY *Sp. in Ho. Com.* 9 Feb. 14 Their Brandishment of the spiritual sword. 1655 THEOPHANIA 180 The Brandishment of his Sword was no less terrible.

Brandise, *obs. f. BRANDISH v.*

† **Brandle**, *v.* *Obs.* [ad. F. *branler*, found in both senses; the *d* may be due to an acquaintance with the earlier Fr. form *brandeler*, but more probably is merely phonetic, as in *spindle*; cf. also **BRANGLE**, **BRANLE**, **BRANSLE**, **BRANTLE**.]

a. *trans.* To shake, shock, cause to waver. b. *intr.* To become unsteady, to totter, waver.

1606 LD. NORTHAMPTON *Proceed. agit. Garnet* G g b. Subjects cannot be too curious, when the State brandles. 1621 BACON *Hen. VII.* 96 It had like to have brandled the fortune of the day. 1655 LESTRANGE *Chas. I.* 112 Gave him so terrible a shock, as made his Vanguard to brandle.

Brandless (brændlɪs), *a.* [f. BRAND *sb.* + -LESS.] That has no brands, or wood for fuel.

1849 ROCK *Ch. of Fathers* IV. xi. 96 The hearth that had all day long been cold and brandless.

† **Brandlet**. *Obs. rare*—1. [f. BRAND *sb.* + -LET.] A bird: perh. the *Brandtail* or *Redstart*.

1576 GASCOIGNE *Compl. Philomene* ProL 31 The Brandlet saith, for singing sweete and softe (In hir conceit) there is none such as she.
Brandlet, variant of **BRANDRETH**, *Obs.*

Branding (brændɪŋ), [f. BRAND *sb.* + -ING; from the colour or markings.]

1. A worm of a red colour variegated with rings or bands of brighter colouring, used as bait by anglers.

1651 T. BARKER *Art of Angling* (1820) 3 Brandlin. 1651 WALTON *Angler* 94 For a Brandling, hee is usually found in an old dunghill. 1741 *Compl. Fam. Piece* ii. ii. 336 The Brandlings are generally found in Cow or Hog's Dung. 1854 BADHAM *Hallent.* 274 A gudgeon being incapable of refusing a lively young brandling. 1880 BOYS *Own Bk.* 264 The brandling and gilt tail are excellent bait for Perch.

2. *dial.* A local name of the salmon parr; formerly regarded as a species of trout.

c 1730 BURT *Let. N. Scott.* (1818) I. 121 A little trout..called in the North of England a brandlin. 1802 J. WILSON (Congleton) *MS. Let.* 17 Apr. to J. Boucher, *Brandling*, a small Trout. *Cumb.* 1880-84 J. DAY *Fishes Gt. Britain* II. 68 The Salmon..From one to two years old, before it has gone to the sea, it is known as a parr, pink, smolt, smelt, salmon-fry, sprag, or salmon-spring, samlet, brandling, fingerling, etc., etc.

† **Branding**, *ppl. a.* *Obs.* [f. BRANDLE *v.*, cf. **BRANLING**.] Tettering, unsteady, wavering.

1605 RALEIGH *Introd. Hist. Eng.* (1693) 36 Before the settling of the Government whilst it was new and brandling. 1611 COTGR., *Branslant*, brandling..reeling, staggering, wavering.

Brand-mark (brænd-māuk). [f. BRAND + MARK.] The mark left by a branding-iron: also *fig.* 1655-60 STANLEY *Hist. Philos.* (1701) 143½ A Brand-mark, which declared the ill disposition of the owner. 1684 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 1990/4 An old Brandmark on the farther Leg behind. 1879 FARRAR *St. Paul* II. 580 Or borne in his mortal body such evident brand-marks of the Lord.

Hence **Brand-marked** *ppl. a.*

1678 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 818/4 Brand marked with two P's counter-placed. 1847 *Nat. Encycl.* I. 331 The *Acheus At.* or brand-marked sloth.

Brand-new, bran- (brænd-, bræn-, niŋ-) *a.* Also *Sc. brank-, brent-new*. [f. BRAND *sb.* + NEW, as if fresh and glowing from the furnace; cf. *Shakspeare's fire-new*. The commoner form is now *bran-new*.] Quite new, perfectly new.

c 1570 FOXE *Serm.* 2 *Cor.* v. 63 New bodies, new minds..and all things new, brand-new. 1774 GAY *What d'ye call it?* ii. v. 28 'Burn these Breeches Tom; they're quite bran-new'. 1790 BURNS *Tam o' Shanter*, Nae cotillon brent new frae *Cumby*. 1821 CLARE *Vill. Minstr.* I. 38 When villagers put on their bran-new clothes. 1840 SCOTT *St. Ronan's* I. 56 (JAM.) Yeomen with the brank new blues and buckskins. 1858 CARLYLE *Frederick* Gt. II. vii. iii. 183 The whole Saxon Army..all in beautiful brand-new uniforms. 1871 MORLEY *Voltaire* (1886) 131 A bran-new vaudeville.

Hence in same sense (chiefly *dial.*) the double

forms **brand-fire-new**, **bran-span-new**, **brand-spander-new**. Also **Brand-newness**.

1825 BRO. JONATHAN I. 151 Bran-fire, noo, as I'm alive. 1830 H. ANGELO *Remin.* I. 57 His feet were thrust into a bran-span new pair of fashionable pumps. 1855 WHITBY *Gloss.*, *Brandnew*, *Brandspandernew*, fresh from the maker's hands, or 'spic and span new'. 1870 HAWTHORNE *Eng. Note-bks.* (1879) I. 108 This brand-newness makes it seem much less effective.

† **Brandon**. *Obs. rare.* Also **brandom**. [a. F. *brandon* burning wisp of straw, etc.: com. Romanic;—L. type **brandon-em*, f. Teut. *brand* burning.]

1. A torch. *lit. and fig.* (Frequent in *Drummond*.) a 1649 DRUMM. OF HAWTH. *Shadow of Judgm.*, Her right hand swings a brandon in the air. — *Poems* 14 His [Cupid's] Darts..all for nought him serve as doth his Brandom.

|| 2. A kind of French rustic dance (see *Littre*).

1755 *Gentl. Mag.* XXV. 175 The Brandons were celebrated in many cities in France the first Sunday of Lent, round bonfires of straw, whence they had their name.

Brandreth (brændrɛθ). Also 5 **branderith**, **brandryt** (h(e), 5-6 **-rethe**, 6 **brandrate**, **-oreth**, **brandreth**, 6-8 **brandrith**; also with substitution of *r* for *s* **brandelede**, **branlet**, 5-6 **brenlede** (Wt. Wülcker 769), **-delette**. [a. ON. *brand-reið* a grate, f. *brand-r* brand, burning + *reið* carriage, vehicle: cf. OE. *brandrod* for *brandrād*, (*Corpus Gl.*, Wt. Wülcker 5, 38), and *brandred*, *-rida* ('andena', *ibid.* 349, 266); OHG. *brantretita*.]

† 1. A gridiron; a tripod or trivet of iron. (Originally a grate supported on three legs on the hearth: hence the apparent variety of definitions.) *Obs. exc. dial.*

1400 TEST. EBOR. (1836) I. 268 Unum par tongis, unum flechok, unum branderith. a 1450 MS. *Lincoln. Med.* f. 283 (Halliwell) Take grene ȝerdis of esche, and laye thame over a brandrethe. 1533 BELLENDEN *Livy* i. (1822) 90 Thy hand ane brandreth of irne, with many grete stanis, to his crag. 1590 *Inv. in Eng. Ch. Furniture* (1866) 248 Item ij brandrethes and an apple iron. 1663 *Inv. Ld. J. Gordon's Furniture*, A dropping pan; a brandereth of iron; an ladle and fork. 1797 BRADLEY *Fam. Dict.*, *Brandrith*, a Trivet or other Iron Utensil to set a Vessel on over the Fire. 1875 *Lanc. Gloss.* (E. D. S.) *Brandreth*, a gridiron.

2. A framework of wood for various purposes, as a stand for a cask, or for a hay-rick; a substructure of piles to support a house; also a fence or rail round the opening of a well.

1483 *Cath. Angl.* 40 A Brandryth to set begynnynge [v.r. byggyng] on, *loramentum*. 1573 *Lanc. Wills* (1857) 111. 62 A brandereth where upon the barrell laye. 1659 HOOLE *Comenius' Vis. World* (ed. 12) 93 Wells..are compassed about with a brandrith, lest any should fall in. 1837 HOWITT *Rur. Life* iii. vi. (1862) 279 There was..the brandreth, or frame on which a rick once stood.

† 3. (See quotation.) *Obs.*

1688 R. HOLME *Armory* iii. viii. 53 The Brandret or Mill-rinde, a cross like Iron laid in the Upper Stone to turn it. **Brandtail**. Name of a bird, the *Redstart* or *Firetail*.

1802 MONTAGU *Ornith. Dict.*, *Brandtail*.

Brandur, misreading for *brandur*; see **BRANDED**.

Brandy (brændi), *sb.* Also 7 **brandwine**, **brandewine**, **brandy-wine**, **brandee**. [The orig. form *brandewine*, *brandewine* is a. Du. *brandewijn* 'burnt' (i. e. distilled) wine. In familiar use abbreviated as *brandy* as early as 1657; but the fuller form was retained in official use (customs tariffs, acts of parliament, etc.) down to the end of 17th c., being latterly, as the spelling shows, regarded as a compound of *brandy* + *wine*.]

1. Properly an ardent spirit distilled from wine or grapes; but the name is also applied to spirits of similar flavour and appearance, obtained from other materials.

a. 1625 FLETCHER *Beggar's Bush* iii. i. Buy any brand-wine, buy any brand-wine? c 1650 ROXB. *Ballads* (1886) VI. 320 It is more fine than Brandewine, The Butterboxes' Poison. 1652 *Proc. Parliament* No. 153. 2391 Laden with Wools, Brandy Wine and Salt. 1697 *View Penal Laws* 173 No Aqua-Vitæ or Brandy-Wine shall be imported into England. 1719 D'URFEE *Pills* (1872) V. 23, I was entertained, With Kisses fine, and Brandy Wine.

b. 1657 COLVIL *Whigs Supplic.* (1751) *Introd.* 5 The late Dutch war..occasioned the bringing in of such superfluity of brandy. 1663 HICKERINGILL *Jamaica* 78 Of your Wine and Brandee, you'll be free. 1790 BURNS *Scots ProL* 4 Does nonsense mend, like brandy, when imported? 1848 KINGSLEY *Saint's Trag.* iii. ii. 158 And take his snack of brandy for digestion.

2. *Comb. and attrib.*, as *brandy-cag*, *-devil*, *-dough*, *-flask*, *-keg*, *-man*, *-merchant*, *-shop*, and in the names of drinks as *brandy and soda*, *brandy and water*, *brandy-flip*, *-posset*, *-punch*, etc.; † *brandy-face*; *brandy-faced*, *-burnt* adjs.; also *brandy-ball*, a kind of sweet; † *brandy-cherry* = *cherry-brandy*; also cherries preserved in brandy; so *brandy-peach*, etc.; *brandy paper*, paper steeped in brandy; *brandy-snap*, wafer-like gingerbread. Also **BRANDY-BOTTLE**, **BRANDY-PAWNEE**.

1862 MAYHEW *Crim. Prisons* 51 Buttons, that have much the appearance of small 'brandy-balls'. 1838 HAWTHORNE *Amer. Note-bks.* (1871) I. 161 'Alarge..brandy-burnt, heavy-faced man. 1795 WOLCOTT (P. Pindar) *Lonsind* ii. Wks. 1812 I. 227 And for a cruet stands a 'brandy-cag. a 1687 COTTON

Aeneid II. *Burl*. (1692) 83 Whether 't was that she... Fainted for want of 'brandy-cherry. 1800 *SHELLEY* *Edipus Tyr.* i. i, Fat martyrs to the persecution Of stifling turtle-soup and 'brandy-devils. 1799 G. SMITH *Laboratory* I. 21 Supplied with 'brandy dough. a 1687 *COTTON* *Aeneid* II. *Burl*. (1692) 85 You Goodman 'Brandy-face, unfist her. 1865 *SALA* *Tw. round Clock* 284 Hauling labourers and 'brandy-faced viragos, squabbling at tavern doors. 1833 *MARRYAT* *P. Simple* (1863) 168 I've emptied the 'brandy-flask; and that's a bad job. 1865 E. BURRITT *Walk to Land's E.* 62 Articles of food and drink... such as egg-nog and 'brandy-flip. 1865 *N. Brit. Rev.* Sept. 227 Ula informed me that he had lost the 'brandy-keg. 1793 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 6172/9 Henry Gillum... 'Brandyman. a 1771 *SMOLLETT* *Humph. Cl.* (1815) 139 After some unsuccessful essays in the way of poetry, he commenced 'brandy-merchant. 1769 *Mrs. RAFFALD* *Eng. Housekeeper* (1778) 227 Tie them down with 'brandy papers over them. 1781 *HAYLEY* *Tri. Temper* III. 467 Eager she plies them with a 'brandy peach. 1769 *Mrs. RAFFALD* *Eng. Housekeeper* (1778) 309 To make a 'Brandy Posset. 1818 *SCOTT* *Rob Roy* xxvii, Mr. Jarvie compounded... a very small bowl of 'brandy-punch. a 1719 *ADDISON* *Play-house* (R.) Forgets his pomp... And to some peaceful 'brandy-shop retires. 1871 M. COLLINS *Mrg. & Merch.* I. ix. 300 Send me... a supply of 'brandy and soda. 1800 *MARRYAT* *F. Mildmay* xi, A hot... glass of 'brandy-and-water.

† **Brandy**, *a. Obs. rare*—1. [see **BRANDED** *ppl.* a.1]

1608 *TOPSELL* *Serpents* 734 'Squalidus albenti color est.' In English, brandy colour.

Brandy, *v.* [f. **BRANDY** *sb.*]

1. *trans.* To mix or treat with brandy. a 1848 *MARRYAT* *R. Reifer* xlv, [He] scolded Quasha for not brandying his sangaree. 1855 *Fraser's Mag.* LI. 647 The French do not brandy up their wines for home consumption.

2. To refresh or fortify with brandy.

1837 *DICKENS* *Pickw.* v, When his guests had been washed, mended, brushed, and brandied. 1865 B. TAYLOR *Home & Abr.* Ser. II. ii. 120 At the Six-Mile House, our horses were watered, and the passengers brandied.

b. To brandy it: to drink brandy in excess.

a 1819 *WOLCOTT* (P. Pindar) *Wks.* (1830) 138 He surely had been brandying it, or beering.

Brandy-bottle (*brændi-bœt'l*), *sb.*

1. A bottle (for) containing brandy; also *fig.* 1676 *ETHEREGE* *Man of Mode* I. i. (1684) 3 Go, you are an insignificant Brandy Bottle. 1766 *TUCKER* *Lt. of Nat.* II. 179 Putting his mouth to the brandy bottle.

2. *Bot.* A local name of the Yellow Water-lily (*Nuphar luteum*).

1846 *Mrs. LOUDON* *Ladies' Comp. Flower-Gard.* 201 The popular name is Brandy Bottle, from the flowers smelling like brandy. 1863 *PRIOR* *Plant-n.* 28 Brandy-bottle, from the shape of the seed-vessel, the yellow water-lily.

Brandy-cowe (? *brændikau*). Washings of brandy-casks, used in making spurious wines.

1809 in C. Redding *Hist. Mod. Wines* xv. (1836) 339 In addition to these may be introduced brandy-cowe (the washings of brandy-casks).

Brandy-pawnee (*brændi-pō'ni*). [f. **BRANDY** + Hind. *pāni* water; an East Indian camp-word.] Brandy-and-water.

1816 'Quiz' *Grand Master* Pref., And died at last with brandy pauny. 1848 *THACKERAY* *Van. Fair* Ivi, The refreshment of brandy-pawnee which he was forced to take.

Brandyren, var. of **BRANDIRON**.

Brandy-wine, early form of **BRANDY**.

Brane, obs. form of **BRAIN**, **BRAN**.

Brane-wod, *Sc.* var. of **BRAIN-WOOD** *a. Obs.*

Brane-fire-new: see under **BRAND-NEW**.

Brangfulness (*bræ'nfulnēs*). *rare*—1. [f. as if from *brangful* full of bran + *-NESS*.] The state of being full of bran (like unsifted flour): hence *fig.* 1879 G. MEREDITH *Egoist* I. Prel. 3 The realistic method... is mainly accountable for our present brangfulness.

Brang (*bræŋ*). *dial.* See *quot.* c 1840 *MURIE* in W. H. Maxwell *Sports & Adv. Scott.* (1855) 247 The 'brang', or carcass of whales and other large animals, in the sea.

Brang, *Sc.* *pa. t.* of **BRING**.

Brangill, **brangland**: see **BRANGLE** *v.*

† **Brangle**, *sb.* 1. *Obs.* [Phonetic variant of **BRANLE** *v.*; cf. **BRANGLE** *v.* 1, also **BRANDLE**, **BRANSLE**, **BRANTLE**.]

1. A shake, an impulse, a setting in motion; = **F. branle**, **BRANLE**, **BRANSLE**.

1653 *URQUHART* *Jewel* Wks. (1834) 266 Forced, for want of a convenient agent to give them the due brangle, to lye immobile. 1653 — *Rabelais* III. xv. (1737) II. 123 Gave it the brangle, hurling it with all their force down the hill.

2. A kind of dance; = **F. branle**, **BRANLE**, **BRANSLE**, **BRANTLE**. (Only *Sc.*)

1513 *DOUGLAS* *Aeneis* XIII. ix. 107 Vpstart Troianis, and syne Italianis, And gan do dowlill brangillis. 1549 *Compl. Scot.* vi. 66 It was an celest recreation to behald the... braulis and brangilis... with many vthir lycht dancis.

† **Brangle**, *sb.* 2. *Obs. exc. dial.* [f. **BRANGLE** *v.* 2: cf. **F. branle**.]

1. A brawl, wrangle, squabble.

1600 *HOLLAND* *Living* IV. xxv. 1621 Run desperately and blindly into a world of brangles and troubles. 1686 *GOAD* *Cleat.* Bodies I. xvi. 105, I will not press this too much, because it may occasion a Brangle. 1728 *DR. FOX* *Mem. Cavaliers* (1840) 154 The feuds and brangles of this parliament. 1875 *Lanc. Gloss.*, *Brangle*, a quarrel or squabble.

2. ? A state of confusion, a muddle. 1805 *Morning Star* 26 May, The bill had got into that unfortunate state which the right hon. gentleman... was in the habit of calling a 'brangle'.

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† **Brangle** (*bræŋ'gl*), *v.* 1. *Obs.* [A phonetic variant of **BRANLE** *v.*, a *Fr. branler*: cf. **BRANDLE** *v.*]

1. *trans.* To shake; to brandish, flourish (a sword, etc.); to wag (the head); to sway to and fro, cause to totter.

1513 *DOUGLAS* *Aeneis* XII. ii. 111 The schaft he schuilke, and branglis lustely. 1653 *URQUHART* *Rabelais* III. xlv, Charmides shook and brangled his head. a 1684 *LEIGHTON* *Serm.* xxviii. 414 Will the pillars be brangled.

b. *fig.* To shake (in mind), cause to waver.

a 1600 *THROGMORTON* in Sir J. Melvil *Mem.* (1683) 61 Retaining the hearts of those you have gained already, recovering of those who are brangled. 1634-46 *Row Hist. Kirk* (1842) 426 The people were brangled and shaken with contrarie doctrines. 1730 T. BOSTON *Mem.* vii. 208 In case it should misgive it would brangle me terribly.

c. To render uncertain.

1608 *Merry Devil* *Edm.* in Hazl. *Dodley* X. 228 The title [to some land] is so brangled with thy debts.

2. *intr.* To shake, totter.

1513 *DOUGLAS* *Aeneis* II. xi. [x.] 119 The tree branglis bosting to the fall. 1549 *Compl. Scot.* vii. 68 Ane croune of gold, hingand, & brangland, that it was lyk to fal doune.

† **Brangle**, *v.* 2. *Obs. or arch.* Also 6 *Sc. brangill*. [perh. a particular use of *prec.*, influenced in meaning by **WRANGLE** (14th c.), and possibly by **BRABBLE**, **BRAWL**, with which it is nearly synon.]

intr. To wrangle, squabble, dispute contentiously.

1553 *DOUGLAS* *Aeneis* VIII. ProL 125 That brangillis [ed. *Small* *braulis*] thus with this boast. 1598 *SYLVESTER* *Du Bartas* II. i. II. (1641) 93/1 Flesh & blood will brangle, And murmuring Reason with th' Almighty wrangle. 1684 tr. *Agrippa's Van. Arts* lxxxiii. 292 With what Heat... they brangle about the sick-mans bed. 1868 *BROWNING* *Ring & Bk.* I. 241 Thus wrangled, brangled, jangled they a month.

Branglement (*bræŋ'glmēt*). [f. **BRANGLE** *v.* 2 + *-MENT*; but cf. *F. branlement*.] A wrangle, a disorderly dispute.

1617 *COLLINS* *Def. Bp. Ely* II. x. 446 The Bishop would not rush into this new branglement. 1830 *Blackw. Mag.* XXVIII. 179 A specimen of conjugal branglement. 1879 *Cornh. Mag.* Dec. 688 He declined to hold a branglement with a blockhead.

† **Brangler** (*bræŋglər*). *Obs. or arch.* [f. as *prec.* + *-ER*.] A wrangler, brawler.

1611 *COTGR.*, *Altercateur*, a brabler, brawler, brangler. 1684 tr. *Agrippa's Van. Arts* 333 Such as are egregious Branglers... make a noise with uncouth words. 1800 *SCOTT* *Monast.* xxviii, Drawn into a quarrel by a rude brangler.

† **Brangling** (*bræŋglɪŋ*), *vbl. sb.* 1. *Obs.* [f. **BRANGLE** *v.* 1 + *-ING*.] Shaking, agitation; also, mental perturbation.

1505 *JAMES* I. *Ess. Poesie* (Arb.) 70 Who set the earth on her foundations sure, So as her brangling none shall euer see. 1597 *MONTGOMERIE* *Cherrie & Slae* xx, My veins with brangling lyk to brek.

Brangling, *vbl. sb.* 2. [f. **BRANGLE** *v.* 2 + *-ING*.] Noisy and turbulent disputing; squabbling.

1611 *COTGR.*, *Altercation*, alteration... wrangling, brangling. 1622 T. STOURGTON *Chr. Sacrif.* x. 136. 1726 *SWIFT* *To a Lady* Wks. 1755 IV. l. 205 Drives out brangling and contention. 1830 D'ISRAELI *Chas. I.* III. xiii. 288 The branglings and heart-burnings of their unsettled heads.

† **Brangling**, *ppl. a.* 1. *Obs.* Also 6 *Sc. brangland*. [f. **BRANGLE** *v.* 1 + *-ING*.] Shaking, tottering; vibrating, quivering. Also *fig.*

1513 *DOUGLAS* *Aeneis* x. viii. 107 The brangland speyr. 1653 *DANIEL* *Coll. Hist. Eng.* 108 Before the settling of the government whilst it was new and brangling. 1653 *URQUHART* *Rabelais* III. xlv, Such a brangling agitation and moving.

† **Brangling**, *ppl. a.* 2. [f. **BRANGLE** *v.* 2 + *-ING*.] Wrangling, quarrelsome, contentious.

1622 *BURTON* *Anat. Mel.* II. iii. vii, A brangling knave. 1728 *SWIFT* *Mullinix & Tim.* Wks. 1755 III. II. 208 These brangling jars of Whig and Tory.

Brank (*bræŋk*), *sb.* 1. *Obs. or dial.* Also 6 *branke*, 7 *branok*. [Derivation unknown.]

Buckwheat (*Fagopyrum esculentum*).

1577 B. GOOGE *Heresbach's Husb.* (1586) 40 b, You may sowe Bucke, or Branke, as they call it. 1677 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 1227/4 A Dutch built Hoy, laden with 14 Tuns of Buck, or Brank. 1730 T. COX *Magna Brit.* V. 275 The Eastern parts... produce Plenty of Branke and Hemp. 1815 W. JOHNSON tr. *Beckmann's Hist. Invent.* (1846) I. 430 It is grown [in] Norfolk and Suffolk, where it is called brank.

[The plant was introduced from Asia in 14th or 15th c. perh. by the Turks; cf. its various names, *L. frumentum Turcicum*, *Ger. heide(n)kraut*, *F. blé sarrasin*, *Pol. poganka*, *Boh. pohanka* lit. 'heathen, Turkish'. There is a certain similarity of sound between the last and *brank*, but nothing is known of any connexion.]

Brank, *sb.* 2: see **BRANKS** 1.

† **Brank** (*bræŋk*), *v.* 1. *Sc. Obs.* [app. f. *brank*, sing. of **BRANKS** 1.] *trans.* To bridle, restrain; to put in the branks. Also *fig.*

1574 *Glasgow Burgh. Rec.* in Wilson *Sc. Archæol.* 692 Gif that hyte to be brankit. a 1600 *Scot. Poems* 16th c. (1801) II. 194 We sall gar brank you Before that time trewly. 1664 *Mem. Dr. Spottiswoode* (1811) 74 (JAM.) They feared also that their estates might be branked.

† **Brank**, *v.* 2. *Obs. exc. Sc. and dial.* [Of uncertain origin. Cf. *Ger. prangen* 'to adorn oneself, vaunt, brag', for which *MHG.* had *brangen* (also *brankieren*); perh. the *Eng.* word was adapted from an equivalent *LG.* form. Cf. **FRANK**. Jamieson connects it with the *prec.*, through the notion of 'bridle up oneself'.] Hence **Branking**, and *ppl. a.*

1. *intr.* Of horses: To prance, to toss the head.

1400 *Morte Arth.* 1861 They hewene, With brandez of browne stele brankand stede! 1513 *DOUGLAS* *Aeneis* xi. xii. 7 Stedis apon thar strait born bridillis brankand fast.

2. Of persons: To march in a confident or demonstrative fashion; to strut; to prance, prank. c 1550 *LYNDSEAY* *Pedder Coffeis* 37 He cumis brankand throw the toun. 1795 *RAMSAY* *Gentle Sheph.* IV. ii, Her brankan wooer taks his horse, To strut a gentle spark at E'nburgh cross. 1811 *Mrs. GRANT* *Highland Superst.* II. 260 When Donald came branking down the brae Wi' twenty thousand men. 1865 H. KINGSLEY *Ravenshoe* xlvii, They came branking into some pot-house.

Brankard, obs. form of **BRANCARD**.

† **Brank** (*e. Obs. rare*). Also *braunk*. [a. *OF. branc* (*branc de l'esple* sword-blade), taken by *Diez* as a variant of *brant* = **BRAND**, though, as the *Pr.* form is *brenc*, this appears doubtful.]

A brand, a sword. App. only in *Caxton*.

1480 *CAXTON* *Ovid's Met.* XII. xii, He... bete hym with his branke of steel. c 1489 — *Sonnes of Asmon* I. 28 Soo heued uppe the duke his branke of stele, and smote Lohier. *Ibid.* 81 His brauk of stele.

Brank-new, corruption of **BRAND-NEW**.

Branks 1 (*bræŋks*). *Rare sing. brank*; also as sing. *a branks* (cf. *a bellows*). [A *Scotch* word found in use since the 16th c.: etymology unknown. It has been compared with *M.E. bernak* (**BARNACLE**) and **BRAKE**; also with *Ger. pranger* the pillory, *pranger* a barnacle for a horse; and with *Du. prang* a fetter.]

(Jamieson was prob. right in taking sense 2 'bridle' as the earlier (cf. **BRANK** *v.*): but as the history is so uncertain, the senses are here placed simply in the chronological order of the available quotations.)

1. A scold's bridle; an instrument of punishment used in the case of scolds, etc., consisting of a kind of iron framework to enclose the head, having a sharp metal gag or bit which entered the mouth and restrained the tongue.

1595 in *Munic. Acc. Newcastle* (1848) 41 Paide for caring a woman through the towne for skoulding, with branks, 4d. 1652 in E. Henderson *Kirk Session Rec. Dumfries* 18 Nov., She shall stand at the tron, with the branks on hir mouth. 1772 *PENNANT* *Tours Scotl.* (1774) 80 The Brank... is a sort of head piece, which opens and encloses the head of the impatient. 1858 T. N. BRUSHFIELD *Obsol. Punishments*. 6 It has been called... a Brank, the Branks, a pair of Branks, the Scold's Bridle, Gossip's Bridle, and... [in 1623] 'a Brydle for a curste queane'. Branks were in active use in Scotland many years before their introduction into England. 1869 *SPURGEON* *J. Ploughm.* Talk vi. 45 In Walton Church... there is a brank or scold's bridle.

2. 'A sort of bridle... Instead of leather, it has on each side a piece of wood joined to a halter, to which a bit is sometimes added; but more frequently a kind of wooden... muzzle.' Jamieson.

1657 *COLVIL* *Whigs Supplic.* (1751) 114 Some ask'd... Why sodds for saddle, and branks for bridle. 1707 *BURNS* *Death & Dr. Hornb.*, Its shanks They were as thin, as sharp an' sma' As cheeks o' branks. 1849 *Tait's Mag.* XVI. 568 His cheeks clapped together like a pair of dismantled branks.

Branks 2. [Perh. an application of **BRANKS** 1 in the sense of a gag; but cf. **BRANCHUS** and **BRANCOS**.] The mumps.

1794-6 E. DARWIN *Zoon.* (1802) III. 365 Mumps, or branks, is a contagious inflammation of the parotis. 1860 *RAMSAY* *Remin.* v. (ed. 18) 115 I've had... the branks.

Brank-ursine (*bræŋk'ɜːsɪn*). Forms: 6 *brankersine*, *branke ursyne*, 6-7 *ursine*, 7 *brankvrsin*, 7-9 *brank-ursin*, 8 *branch-ursine*, *hiroin*, 7- *brank-ursine*. [ad. med. *L. branca ursina* lit. 'bear's claw', cf. *F. branc*, *branche ursine*, which may be the immediate source.]

Bear's breech, *Acanthus*. (Erroneously applied to the Cow-parsnip (*Heracleum Sphondylium*).

1551 *TURNER* *Herbal* (1568) l. Bj, *Acanthus* is called of y^e barbarus wryters *branca ursina*, in English *branke Ursyne*. 1563 *HYLL* *Art Garden.* (1593) 98 Take... of the roots of Brankersine... a quarter of a pound. 1610 *MARKHAM* *Masterp.* II. clxxiii, Brankvrsin is a wonderfull great mollifier. 1783 *AINSWORTH* *Lat. Dict.* (Morel) II, *Acanthus*, the herb *branch-hircin*, as having leaves like a goat's horn; or *brank-ursin*, or bear's-foot, from its shagginess. 1833 *Penny Cycl.* I. 68/2 The *brank-ursine* is identical with the common architectural and sculptural *acanthus*.

Branky (*bræŋki*), *a. Sc.* [f. **BRANK** *v.* 2 + *-Y*.] Showy, gaudy.

1789 *BURNS* *Batt. Killiecrankie* i. Whare hae ye been sae brankie, O?

† **Brankle**, *sb. Obs.* [a. *F. branle*.]

1. Wavering, agitation, (?) confusion.

1581 *SAVILE* *Tacitus' Hist.* II. (1591) 78 The Legion incensed with griefe... put them of the first [legion] in brankle [impulit primanos].

2. A kind of dance, and the kind of music suitable to it; = **BRANGLE** *sb.* 2, **BRANSLE** 2, **BRANTLE**.

1674 *BOYLE* *Mech. Hypoth.* 34 Brangles, Sarabands, Jigs, and other... Tunes. 1820 *SCOTT* *Abbot* xxxi, She led the last brankle.

† **Brankle**, *v. Obs. rare*—1. [a. *F. branle-r* 'to shake'; ulterior origin uncertain. *Diez* and *Littre* connect it with *brandir* to **BRANDISH**, the former taking it for a deriv. form **brandoler*, the latter from *brandeler*, found in *OF.* with the senses of

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both *brandir* and *branler*. Cf. **BRANDLE**, **BRANGLE**.
To agitate, toss about, bandy.

1654 JER. TAYLOR *Real Pres.* xii. 28 This new question began to branle the words of Type and Antitype.
† **Branlie**, *a. Obs. rare*-. [? f. **BRAN** sb. 1 + -LY 1.] Pale yellow.

1589 FLEMING *Virg. Georg.* iii. 39 Woorst colour is in [horses] white, or branlie [horses like box].

† **Branling**, *vb. sb. Obs. rare*-. [f. **BRANLE** v. + -ING 1.] A wavering or agitation.

1646 HOWELL *Lustra Ludov.* *3 There are branlings and trepidations amongst them.

† **Branling**, *ppl. a. Obs.* [f. **BRANLE** v. + -ING 2.] Wavering, vacillating, insecure.

c. 1645 HOWELL *Lett.* v. 47 Whosoever was found pendulous, or branling [ed. 1713 brandling] in his Religion. 1646 — *Lustra Ludov.* 169 Notwithstanding the branling hazardous stand he was at.

Branling, *dial. form of BRANDLING*.

Branne, *obs. form of BRAN*.

Bran-new: see **BRAND-NEW**.

Branning: see **BRAN** v.

Branny (*bræni*), *a.* [f. **BRAN** sb. 1 + -Y 1.] Consisting of, abounding in, or resembling bran.

1533 ELYOT *Cast. Helth* (1541) 88 Called branny residence, in Latin *furfurea*. 1783 S. CHAPMAN in *Med. Commun.* I. 273 A branny sediment. 1877 ROBERTS *Handbk. Med.* (ed. 3) I. 138 The epidemis comes off in small, branny scales.

† **Branskate**, *v. Obs. rare*. [ad. Du. *brand-schatten* = Ger. *brandschatzen*, f. *brand* burning + *schatz* treasure, orig. tribute. (The German word has also been used for the nonce.)]

To put (a place) to ransom, or subject to a payment, in order to avoid pillage or destruction. Hence **Branskating** *vb. sb.*

1721 STYVE *Eccl. Mem.* II. 1. 328 The French King should ask reckoning of Albright of that he had branskated. *Ibid.* The soldiers.. finding themselves wealthy and rich of the branskating and spoil.

† **Bransle**, *Obs.* Also 8 *bransel*. [a. F. *bransle* (16th c.), a graphical variant of *branle*: see **BRANLE**, also **BRANGLE**, **BRANTLE**.]

1. Movement, perturbation. *rare*. (= **BRANGLE** sb. 1, **BRANLE** sb. 1.)

1603 FLORIO *Montaigne* iii. ix. (1639) 565 Observe.. the motions and bransles of the Heavens.

2. A kind of dance; also, a song for dance music. (= **BRANGLE** sb. 1, **BRANLE** sb. 2, **BRANTLE**.)

1596 SPENSER *F. Q.* iii. x. 8 Now making layes of love.. Bransles, ballads, virescences. 1597 MORLEY *Introd. Mus.* 181 The *bransle de poiton* or bransle double is more quick in time.. but the straine is longer, containing most usually twelve whole strokes. 1829 SCOTT *Anne of G.* 344 The youthful couple went off to take their place in the bransle.

Brant (*brænt*), *sb.* (Also **BRENT** q.v.) [Derivation and original application uncertain: in Sw. *brandgås* (Icel. *brandgás* only in the *Pulur*) is the sheldrake or bergander; in Ger., *brandgans* is according to some the sheldrake, but with Grimm = *Anser fuscus*, the Black or Velvet Duck; in English, *brant*, *brant-goose* was long confounded with the barnacle goose. Early naturalists (Gesner, Aldrovandus, etc.) were content to derive the name from *brépodos* an unidentified water-bird mentioned by Aristotle; later etymologists have suggested *brended* or *BRANDED*, brindled, and **BRAND** fire, burning, perh. in sense of dusky black, or sooty colour; but in the absence of knowledge where the name arose, and to what bird it was originally applied, nothing can be determined.]

The smallest species of wild goose (*Bernicla branta*) breeding in high northern latitudes, and visiting the British coasts in winter. Formerly confounded with the allied Barnacle-goose. Also **Brant-goose** (in 8 casually *bran-*, *brant-goose*; in Eng. authors since Pennant more commonly **BRENT-GOOSE** q.v.).

1544 TURNER *Avium præcipuarum* 23 Prior anser a nostris hodie *branta* et *bernicla* vocatur. 1601 HOLLAND *Pliny* I. 301 Such eggs not only Doues doe bring, but.. geese and Brants, or the female Barganders. 1624 CAPT. SMITH *Virginia* II. 27 In winter there are.. Geese, Brants, Ducke. 1668 CHARLETON *Onomast.* 98 The Barnacle or Scots-goose or *Clak-guse*, quæ eadem forte est cum *Branta* seu *Brentho*. 1676 T. GLOVER in *Phil. Trans.* XI. 626 Cormorants, Brants, Shield-fowl. 1836 W. IRVING *Astoria* (1849) 332 The country abounded with.. swans, wild geese, brant. 1855 LONGF. *Hiau.* I. 103, I have given you brant and beaver.

b. 1597 GERARDE *Herbal* 391 Foules, whom we call Barnacles; in the north of England Brant geese. 1668 WILKINS *Real Char.* II. v. 156 One is black from the breast to the middle of the belly, called Brant Goose, *Bernicla* or *Brenta*. 1678 RAY *Willingby's Ornith.* 360, I am of opinion that the Brant-Goose differs specifically from the Barnacle, however writers of the History of Birds confound them. 1750 E. SMITH *Compl. Housewife* 7 To chuse a goose, wild goose, and Brant-goose. 1766 *Phil. Trans.* LVI. 212 He mentions the brand geese first. 1863 KINGSLEY *Water-B.* vi. 269 Swans and brant geese, harlequins and eiders.

† **Brant** (*brænt*), *a. and adv. Obs. exc. in north. dial.* [OE. *brant*, *brpnt* 'high, steep', corresp. to ON. **brant-r*, whence Icel. *bratt-r*, Sw. *brant*, Da. *brat*; not known in other Teut. langs. Found in

literature in 16th c., and still used in north. Eng. dial.: the Sc. form is **BRENT**, q.v.]

A. adj. 1. Lofty, steep, sheer, precipitous. a 1000 *Élme* 238 (Gr.) Leton þa ofer fifelwæg famize scriðan bronte brimþisan. a 1000 *Andreas* 273 (Gr.) Þæt þu us ze-brohte brante ceole.. on þære mæzðe 1. 1544 ASCHAM *Toxoph.* (Arb.) 58 A man maye.. syt on a brante hyll syde. 1821 Mrs. WHEELER *Cumbld. Dial.* App. 7 Our brant fells. 1822 J. BRIGGS *Rem.* 106 in *Lanc. Gloss.* (E. D. S.) Ye'll find it a lang way an' varra brant.

2. Of the forehead: Unwrinkled; see **BRENT**. 1283 *Cath. Angl.* 41 Brant (v. r. *brante*), *abrugatus*.

B. adv. Straight, straight up; erectly, steeply. a 1400 *Alexander* (Stevenson) 124 Upon the bald Bucipelon brant up he sittes. 1544 ASCHAM *Toxoph.* (Arb.) 87 Hawarde.. slew kyng Jamie.. euen brant agens Flodon hil.

Hence † **Brantness**, steepness. 1641 *Best Farm. Bks.* (1856) 1 If hee bee a dodded tuppe, yow may knowe him best by the brantness of his foreheade, which appeareth high and sharpe.

Brant, var. of **BRAND**, blight. See also **BRUNT**.

† **Brant-harley**, *Obs. rare*. Quaking-grass. 1597 GERARDE *Herbal* I. lv. 74 *Briza*, is called.. in English Brant Harley.

† **Brantcorn**, *Obs.* Also 7 (in Cotgr.) *brant-corne*. [a. MDu. *brantkoren* (Ger. *brantkorn*): cf. **BRAND** sb. 7 + **CORN**.] Blight, smut (*Uredo segetum*).

1578 LYTE *Doddens* iv. xvii. 471 Blight or Brantcorn.. instead of a good eare, there cometh up a black burnt eare, full of blacke dust or powder. 1646 SIR T. BROWNE *Pseud. Ep.* 335 Brant corne and trees blacke by blasting.

Brant-fox (*brænt-foks*). [ad. Ger. *brand-fuchs*, Du. *brand-vos*; in Sw. *brandräf*, Da. *brandræv*; f. *brand* burning, i burnt colour.] An English adaptation of the German name of a variety of the fox, chiefly distinguished by a greater admixture of black in its fur; according to Grimm, it has black feet, ears, and tail.

1864 in WEBSTER, and in later Dicts.

Brant-goose: see **BRANT** sb.

† **Brantle**, *Obs.* [Phonetic var. of **BRANDLE**.] A kind of dance; = **BRANGLE** sb. 1, 2, **BRANLE** sb. 2, **BRANSLIE** sb. 2.

1662 *Perry's Diary* 31 Dec. They danced the Brantle. 1846 *Sir R. de Coverley* 229 Asking a thousand questions.. respecting certain brantles and corantos.

Brannular, *a. rare*. [A spurious formation from **BRAIN**, † after *grain*, *granular*.] Pertaining to or affecting the grain.

1857 I. TAYLOR *World of Mind* 634 Either a trick, practised upon me, or it might be a brannular illusion.

Braquemard: see **BRACKMARD**.

† **Braquet**, *Obs.* See quot.

1753 *Public Advertiser* 3 Oct. 3/3 Exceeding fine Braquet Red Wine of Nice.

Bras, **Brasail**, **-sel**, **-sell**, **Brasand**, **Brasat**: see **BRASS**, **BRAZIL**, **BRACING**, **BRACER**.

Brasche, **-let**, **obs. ff.** **BRACH**, **BRASH** 1, **BRACELET**.

Brase, *obs. form of BRACE* v. and **BRAZE** v.

Braslet, *obs. form of BRACELET*.

Brasen, **Braser**, *obs. forms of BRAZEN*, **BRACER**.

† **Braser**, *Obs. rare*. = **BRAZIER** 1.

1465 *Paston Lett.* 533 II. 249 Robert Lovegold, braser. † **Brasero**. Also 7 *brasera*, *brasiero*. [Sp. : = Fr. *brasier*.] = **BRAZIER** 2.

1621 URQUHART *Jewel Wks.* (1834) 234 A char-coale fire burning in a silver brasero. 1683 EVELYN *Diary* 4 Oct. Chimney furniture, sconces, branches, braseras. a 1683 *SINNEY Disc. Govt.* (1714) 383 A Brazero of Coals brought into his Chamber. 1841 BORROW *Zincali* (1843) I. 241 A huge brasero of flaming charcoal.

† **Brasey**, **brasill**, *Obs.* [Cf. F. *brasiller*, 'faire griller promptement sur la braise'; also **BRAISE**.] A mode of cooking: see **BRAISE**.

c. 1440 *Anc. Cookery in Househ. Ord.* (1790) 435 Boor in Brasey. *Ibid.* 446 Eles in Brasill.

Brash (*bræʃ*), *sb.* 1 Chiefly *dial.* Also 6 *brasche*. [perh. onomatopœic, with associations of *break*, *brast*, etc. and of *crash*, *dash*, etc. In senses 2, 3, perhaps distinct, with other associations, e.g. *rash*, and *splash*.]

† 1. An attack, assault; a bout. *Sc. and n. dial.*

1573 *Scot. Poems* 16th C. II. 292 At the bak wall wes the brasche they gaue. a 1600 MONTGOMERIE *Poems* (1821) 195 Curage bydis the brash. 1638 H. ADAMSON *Muses Thren.* Introd. 8 (JAM.) The last brashe was made by a letter of the prime poet of our Kingdom. 1724 RAMSAY *Evergreen* II. (title) A Brash of Wouing.

2. A slight attack of sickness or indisposition; esp. one arising from a disorder of the alimentary canal. Hence *teething-brash*, *weaning-brash*.

1785 BURNS *Sc. Drink* xv. Wae worth that brandy, burning trash, Fell source o' monie a pain an brash. a 1800 *Gay Goss-Hawk* 79 in *Scott Minstr.*, As gin she had ta'en a sudden brash, And were about to die.

3. An eruption of fluid. a. *Water-brash*: an eructation or belching of water (acid, bitter, wild) from the stomach, pyrosis. b. A sudden dash or burst of rain. Cf. **BLASH**.

1811 WILLAN *Gloss. W. Riding*, *Brash*, a sudden sickness, with acid rising into the mouth. 1825 JAMIESON, *Water-brash*. 1849 *Blackw. Mag.* LXVI. 684 The wind returned.. with an occasional brash of rain. 1856 EMERSON *Eng. Traits* Wks. 1874 II. 60 He is a churl with a soft place in his heart, whose speech is a brash of bitter waters. 1875 *Lanc.*

Gloss. (E. D. S.) 52 *Brash*, an eruption. (*Water-brash* in most of the E. D. S. northern and north. midl. Glossaries.)

Brash (*bræʃ*), *sb.* 2 [perh. a corrupt form of F. *brèche*; cf. It. *breccia* of same meaning: but see **BRASH** a. 1] A mass or heap of fragments; applied to (a.) loose broken rock forming the highest stratum beneath the soil of certain districts: rubble; (cf. *corn-brash*); (b.) fragments of crushed ice, hence *brash-ice*; (c.) refuse boughs or branches, hedge clippings, twigs. Also *attrib.*

a 1722 [Implied in *BRASHY* a. 1].

1787 WINTER *Syst. Husb.* 283 The soil a loam, on a stone brash clay. 1837 MACDOUGALL in *Graak's Greenland* 62 A stream of loose brash-ice proceeding from the ice-blanks. 1853 KANE *Grinnell Exp.* xiv. (1856) 102 Ice fragments or 'brash'. 1882 in *Standard* 2 Sept. 2/4 On the light stone brash estates birds are very small and scarce.

Brash (*bræʃ*), *a.* 1 Now chiefly in U. S. [perh. onomatopœic; † influenced by *break* and *rash*.] Fragile, brittle: used chiefly of timber.

1566 DRANT *Wail. Hierim.* K viij, Their crackling hydes, brittle and brash as dried barke of tree. c. 1850 *Nat. Encycl.* I. 618 *Brash*, (Americanism) for brittle. 1860 *Merc. Mar. Mag.* VII. 168 A species of oak, very brash when newly cut. 1860 BARTLETT *Dict. Amer.*, *Brash*, Brittle. In New England.. used. of wood or timber that is brittle.

Brash, *a.* 2 *Obs. or dial.* [† Connected with prec. or with **BRASH** sb. 1] Hasty, rash, impetuous. 1824 *Craven Dial.* 24 What a brash ragga! 1875 *Lanc. Gloss.* (E. D. S.), *Brash*, hasty.

Hence **Brashly** *adv.*, **Brashness**.

1824 *Mexican Let.* in *Boston (Mass.) Jnl.*, Aug., This department of business that started off so brashly has played out. 1883 *N. York Paper in Pall Mall G.* 9 July 11/1 Vanderbilt, with all his brashness on the road, is timid in the street.

† **Brash**, *v. Obs.* Also 9 *brasch*. [Cf. **BRASH** sb. 1, also **BRUSH** v. 2 and **ME. brissen**.] *trans.* (and *absol.*) To assault, attack; to breach (a wall or other defence). Also *fig.*

c. 1565 R. LINDSAY *Cron. Scot.* (1814) 309 (JAM.) His captanes.. war all hanged when he had brashed and wone the hous. 1570-3 R. BANNATYNE *Jrnl.* (1806) 274 (JAM.) They suld have brashit the wall whair thair batter was made. 1629 SIR W. MORE *True Crucif.* 195 (JAM.) Whose breast did beare, brash't with displeasure's dart, A bruised spirit and a broken heart. 1638 FARLEY *Emblems*, Death lies in ambush.. And brasheth where our scones weakest be.

Brashy (*bræʃi*), *a.* 1 [f. **BRASH** sb. 2 + -Y 1.] Of the nature of brash; broken, crumbly, fragmentary.

a 1722 LISLE *Husb.* (1757) 106, I have eight or nine acres of brashy ground. 1857 PAGE *Adv. Text-bk. Geol.* xvii. (1876) 311 Calcareous grits, and shelly 'brashy' sandstones. 1878 MARKHAM *Gl. Frozen Sea* iv. 51 The ice was of a soft 'brashy' nature.. from one to three feet in thickness.

Brashy, *a.* 2 *Sc.* Also *braushie*. [f. **BRASH** sb. 1 3.] Characterized by brashes of rain; showery. 1805 NICOL *Poems* I. 114 (JAM.) Thro' monie a speat O' braushie weather. 1865 *Gd. Words* June 466 The spring had been very brashy and cauld.

Brasier, *e. -yer*, *obs. forms of BRAZIER*.

Brasik, var. of **BRASSIK**, *Obs.*, cabbage.

Brasil, **-sile**, **-sill**, *obs. ff. of BRAZIL*.

Brasill: see **BRASEY**.

† **Brask**, *v. Obs. rare. trans.* † To brush, graze. 1674 COTTON *Voy. Ireland* iii. 156 The ferry-boat brasking her sides 'gainst the weeds.

Braslet, *obs. form of BRACELET*.

Brasque (*brask*). [a. F. *brasque* in same sense; accord. to Littré, connected with *braser* to solder.] 'A lining for crucibles or furnaces; generally, a compound of clay, etc. with charcoal dust.' Raymond *Mining Gloss.*

1891 *Trans. Amer. Inst. Mining Eng.* I. 108 A thin coating of clay or brasque (a composition of powdered charcoal and clay in varying proportions). 1895 *URE Dict. Arts* II. 1023 Partially filling it with.. charcoal or brasque.

Brass (*bræs*), *sb.* Forms: 1-2 *bræs*, 2 *bræs*, 3 *bræs*, 3-5 *bræs* (e), 4-7 *brasse*, 3- *brass*. [OE. *bræs*, of unknown origin: not found elsewhere. (It has been compared with OSw. *brasa* fire, *brasa* to flame, Da. *brase* to roast; but no connexion has been traced. The alleged ON. *bras* 'solder' is a figment.)]

1. a. *Historically*: The general name for all alloys of copper with tin or zinc (and occasionally other base metals). To distinguish alloys of copper and tin, the name **BRONZE** has recently been adopted (Johnson 1755-73 explains the new word *bronze* as 'brass'). Hence

b. In strict modern use, as distinguished from 'bronze': A yellow-coloured alloy of copper and zinc, usually containing about a third of its weight of zinc.

The OE. *bræs* was, usually at least, an alloy of copper and tin (= **BRONZE**); in much later times the alloy of copper and zinc came gradually into general use, and became the ordinary 'brass' of England; though in reference to ancient times, and esp. to the nations of antiquity, 'brass' still meant the older alloy. When works of Greek and Roman antiquity in 'brass' began to be critically examined, and their material discriminated, the Italian word for 'brass' (*brasso*, *branze*) came into use to distinguish this 'ancient brass' from the current alloy. *Corinthian brass*: a reputed alloy of gold, silver, and copper.

c 1000 ÆLFRIC *Gram.* vi. 15 *Æt*, bræs oððe ar. c 1150 *Voc.*

in Wr. Wülcker 550 *Es*, *bras*. c. 1200 ORMIN 1747 He sholde melteinn brass. a 1225 *Juliana* 30 Brune of wallinde bras. c. 1250 *Gen. & Ex.* 3898 Moyses dor made a wirme of bras. a 1300 *Cursor M.* 5903 Pe king hert wex herd as bras. 1477 EARL RIVERS (Caxton) *Dities* 67 Men take glasses, bras and other suche thinges for as moche gold. 1552-3 *Inv. Ch. Goods Stafford* 12 On chales of silver . . . ij of bras, a sensor of bras, ij candelstikes of bras. 1623 B. JONSON in *Shaks. C. Praise* 141 O, could he but have drawne his Wit. in Bras. 1718 LADY M. W. MONTAGUE *Lett.* II. liii. 74 Inscriptions on . . . tables of brass. 1781 THOMPSON in *Phil. Trans.* LXXI. 327 Brass in a very fine powder, commonly called brass dust. 1865 BAKING-GOULD *Werewolves* iv. 34 A compound like Corinthian brass into which many pure ores have been fused.

c. Taken as a type of hardness, imperishableness, insensibility, etc.

1388 WYCLIF *Job* vi. 12 Nethir my strengthe is the strengthe of stoonis, nether my fleisch is of bras. c. 1600 SHAKS. *Sonn.* cxx. Unless my nerves were brass or hammer'd steel. 1613 — *Hen. VIII.* iv. ii. 45 Mens cuill manners lue in Bras, — their Vertues We write in Water.

† d. *transf.* Copper. *Obs.*

1382 WYCLIF *Deut.* viii. 9 Of the hillis of it ben doluen metallis of bras. [1535 COVERDALE and 1611 thou mayest dig brass/e]. 1617 MORYSON *Itin.* l. ii. iv. 177 Mines of Iron and Brass.

e. A wide-spread miner's name for iron pyrites in coal. Cf. BRAZIL.

1799 *Cassell's Techn. Educ.* IV. 271/1 Detached masses of pyrites . . . are called 'brasses' by the colliers.

f. in *Organ-building*. (See quot.)

1822 SEIDEL *Organ* 167 A great portion of the pipes are often composed of brass. This is nothing but a mixture or composition of lead and tin. *Ibid.* Good brass consists either of fifteen parts pewter and one part lead, or of fourteen parts pewter and two parts lead.

2. Used elliptically for various things made of brass: esp.

a. A sepulchral tablet of brass (or latten), bearing a figure or inscription, laid down on the floor or set up against the wall of a church.

1613 *MS. Acc. St. John's Hosp., Canterb.*, Payd for fasting of the brass of the graves in the chauncells *vd.* 1624 EVELYN *Mem.* (1857) I. 317 The soldiers had lately knocked off most of the brasses from the grave-stones. 1732 *De For Tour Gt. Brit.* (1769) II. 279 Merchants, as they are called on the Brasses over their Monuments. 1851 D. WILSON *Presb. Ann.* (1863) II. iv. ix. 456 A small mural brass. 1861 *Sat. Rev.* 22 June, Once a zealous 'rubber', on asking whether there were any 'brasses' in a church, was guided, in answer, to the brass handles of the pew doors. 1874 BOUTELL *Arms & Arm.* x.

b. A bearing or block for a shaft.

1731 BRIGHTON in *Phil. Trans.* XXXVII. 5 The Wheel lies with its two Gudgeons . . . upon two Brasses. 1790 *Specif. J. Wood's Patent* No. 1744 The brasses or friction rollers for the necks and bearing of the crank to work in. 1823 R. BUCHANAN *Millwork* 264 Produce unequal wear on the gudgeons and brasses.

c. A brazen vessel: cf. *copper*. (*rare*).

1810 SOUTHEY *Kehama* xvii. i, Huger as a Ship that travels the main sea Is that capacious brass.

d. Musical instruments of brass.

1382 WYCLIF *1 Cor.* xiii. 1 As bras sownnyng or a symbal tynkyng. 1832 L. HUNT *Poems* 208 Ev'n the bees lag at the summoning brass. 1883 *Truth* 11 June 928/1 There are not enough of them [fiddles]; the brass blows them all to pieces.

3. Money.

† a. Copper or bronze coin; also *fig.* *Obs.*

1362 LANGL *P. Pl.* A. iii. 189 Beere heor bras on pi Bac to Calys to sulle. [Perhaps belongs here.]

1526 TINDALE *Matt.* x. 9 Posses not golde, nor silver, nor bras, ny yourre gerdels. 1599 SHAKS. *Hen. V.* iv. iv. 10 Luxurious Mountaine Goat, offer'st me Bras? 1775 CRABBE *Industriety*, Where canvass purse displays the brass enroll'd.

b. Money in general, cash. *slang* or *dial.*

1597-8 Bp. HALL *Satires* i. iii. 58 (D.) Shame that the muses should be bought and sold For every peasant's brass. 1601 HOLLAND *Pliny* II. 486 *Oberrati* . . . pressed with the heavy burden of bras, i. debt. 1794 BURNS 'What can a young lassie', His auld brass will buy me a new pan. 1811 BYRON *Hints fr. Hor.* 548 Who ne'er despises books that bring him brass. 1848 C. BRONTË *J. Eyre* (1857) 349 'You've like no house, nor no brass, I guess?' 1871 E. PEACOCK *Ralf Skirl.* III. 27 You wouldn't have gone near him . . . if it hadn't been for his brass.

4. *fig.* Taken as a type of insensibility to shame: hence, Effrontery, impudence, unblushingness.

1588 SHAKS. *L. L. L.* v. ii. 395 Can any face of bras hold longer out? 1642 FULLER *Holy & Prof. St.* v. x. 395 His face is of bras, which may be said either ever or never to blush. 1682 DRYDEN *Satyr to Muse* 236 And like the Sweet is very Rich in Bras, a 1734 NORTH *Exam.* iii. viii. 17 The Author hath the Brass to add, etc. 1780 MAD. D'ARBLAY *Diary & Lett.* I. 318, I entered the room without astonishng the company by my brass. 1823 LYNCH *Self-Impr.* 45 An empty, vaunting person, who has brass enough to face the world.

II. *Attrib. and Comb.*

5. *simple attrib.*: (Made) of brass, brazen.

(In former times sometimes united with hyphen.) 1408 E. E. WILLS (1882) 15 A bras pot. 1420 *Ibid.* 46, 1 petit bras mortar. 1475 Bk. *Noblesse* 84 Alle othir golde, silver, and brasre money. 1650 R. STAPYLTON *Strada's Low-C. Warres* x. 3, 15 great Brasre-Cannon. 1652 *Proc. Parliament* No. 34, 2081, 5 small brasre guns. 1710 HEARNE *Coll.* II. 363 The Antients us'd Bras Arms before Iron ones. 1720 *Stow's Surv.* (ed. Strype 1754) II. v. xvii. 363/2 We receive . . . also Whalebone Train Oil, Brass Battery. 1724 SWIFT *Draper's Lett.* Wks. 1755 V. ii. 147 Whoever received or uttered brass coin. 1776 *Hist. Europe* in *Ann. Reg.* 36/1 Brass field pieces. 1876 HUMPHREY *Coin Coll. Man.* xvi. 196 Not worth a brass button.

6. General comb.: a. objective or obj. genitive,

as brass-caster, -finisher, -founder, -foundry; -finishing adj.; b. instrumental, as brass-armed, -bound, -mounted, -shapen; c. similitive, as brass-bald, -coloured, brass-like; d. parasynthetic, as brass-browed, -footed, -fronted, -handled, -headed († -head), -hilted, -plated, -scaly, -tipped, etc., etc.

1523 STANYHURST *Æneis* II. (Arb.) 45 A 'brasre bold merchant in causes dangerus hardye. 1630 PRYNNE *Anti-Armin.* 238 Dare any 'brasre-browed Arminian be so shamelessly absurd. 1725 POPE *Odys.* xxiv. 607 The 'brasre-cheek'd helmet. 1851 RUSKIN *King Gold. River* i, A very large nose, slightly 'brasre-coloured. 1621 BURTON *Anat. Mel.* iii. ii. v. i. (1651) 544 She taught him how to tame the fire-breathing 'brasre-footed Bulls. 1879 *Melbourne Argus* 24 Dec. 2/1 The same rates are paid in the fine 'brasrefinishing shops. 1601 HOLLAND *Pliny* II. 486 A third society . . . of 'brasre-founders. 1716 *Lond. Gas.* No. 5450/3 A 'Brass Foundry is . . . building at Woolwich. 1613 HEYWOOD *Bras.* Age II. ii. Wks. 1874 III. 212 And these our 'brasre-head bulls. 1622 *Lond. Gas.* No. 2804/4 A 'Brass-hilted Sword. 1598 CHAPMAN *Iliad* viii. 36 His 'brasre-hooved winged horse. 1877 A. B. EDWARDS *Up Nile* xix. 536 An antique 'brasre-mounted firelock. 1591 GREENE *Maiden's Dr. Wks.* 1881-3 XIV. 306 'Brass-renting Goddesse, she cannot lament. 1590 SPENSER *F. Q.* i. xi. 11 His long 'brasre-scaly back. 1523 STANYHURST *Æneis* II. (Arb.) 67 Brandisht tergats, and 'brasshapen harnaise. 1862 MAYHEW *Crim. Prisons* 32 Gaugers with their 'brasre-tipped rules.

7. Special comb. and phrases: brass band, a band of musicians with wind instruments of brass; brass basin, a basin of brass, also *fig.* a barber or surgeon barber; † brass-out, a copperplate engraving (cf. *woodcut*); brass edge (see quot.); † brass-face, an impudent person; brass farthing, an emphatic equivalent of *farthing* in depreciatory expressions; brass-foil, brass-latten, Dutch leaf or Dutch gold made by beating out plates of brass very thin; † brass-leaf = brass-cut; brass lump, a miners' term for massive iron pyrites or marcasite; † brass-plate, copper-plate for engraving; brass plate, a plate of brass, bearing an inscription, e.g. on or at a door or gate, bearing the resident's name; also a monumental 'brass' (2a); brass rule, a strip of brass, type-high, used to separate lines or columns of type; brass-smith, an artificer in brass; brass-work, artificers' work in brass; pl. an establishment for making or working in brass; brass-worker, an artificer in brass.

1861 *N. Brit. Rev.* Nov. 392 The gentlemen of the 'Brass Band. 1871 M. COLLINS *Mrg. & Merch.* II. vi. 170 The brass band plays horribly. 1599 Bp. HALL *Sat.* iv. i. 162 Esculape! how rife is phisicke made When ech 'brasre-basen can profess the trade. 1664 J. BARGRAVE *Pope Alex.* VII. (1867) 70 With all the scenes in excellent 'brasscutts. 1884 F. BRITTON *Watch & Clockm.* 36 'Brass Edge in common watch movements, [is] a brass rim fitted round the pillar plate. 1647 LULLY *Chr. Astral.* cvii. 538 An impudent fellow, a 'Brasse-face, yet of good understanding. 1642 ROGERS *Naaman* 33 As bare and beggarly as if he had not one 'brasse farthing. 1880 BESANT & RICE *Scramy Side* x. 78, 'I care not one brass farthing.' 1677 MOXON *Mech. Exerc.* (1703) 53 A thin piece of 'Brass-latten. 1654 GAYTON *Fest. Notes* III. i. 66 In the book . . . a great Cut or 'Brasse leaf. 1674 *Phil. Trans.* IX. 222 Pieces of the ordinary Firestones or Marcasite of the Coal-pits which here we call 'Brass-lumps. 1757 WALKER in *Phil. Trans.* L. 146 It is . . . exceeding ponderous, and of a shining yellow colour, and is called by the miners brass lumps. 1655 MRO. WORCESTER *Cent. Inv.* § 100 All . . . of these Inventions . . . shall be Printed by 'Brass-plates. 1860 MRS. GASKELL *Right at Last*, I saw a brass-plate with Doctor James Brown upon it. 1831 CARLYLE *Sart. Res.* II. iv. Has he not seen the Scottish 'Brassmith's Idea? 1889 *Lond. Gas.* No. 2509/4 Black Japan Gilt 'Brass-work. 1805 *Chron.* in *Ann. Reg.* 378/1 The 'brass work being over-heated. 1793 *Lond. Gas.* No. 6177/10 Benjamin Gibbons. 'Brassworker. 1664 *Phil. Trans.* I. 25 In the Brass-works of Tivoli. 1761 WESLEY *Fruit.* 13 Sept., Employed in the neighbouring brass-works.

Brass (bras), v. 1 [f. prec.: cf. to tin.] *trans.* To coat with brass by electro-plating or otherwise. c. 1865 G. GORE in *Circ. Sc.* I. 213/1 Solutions used for coppering or brassing iron. *Ibid.* 222/1 Copper articles may be superficially brassed.

b. *fig.* To cover with effrontery. To brass it (colloq.): to put on a face of brass, to behave with effrontery.

1829 *Times* 18 Mar. 8/6 To wipe his mouth and brass his brow, and charge us with underrating our fellow countrymen.

† Brass, v. 2 *Obs.* *rare*—1. [a. OF. *brasre*—r to burn.] ? To burn, to scorch.

1421 CAXTON *Myrr.* III. xv. 167 They rested them not by the grete fyres ne brassed not as som doo now.

Brassage (bræ'sedʒ). [a. F. *brassage*, f. *brasser* to stir together melted metals.] A mint-charge levied to cover the expense of coining money.

1806 *Edin. Rev.* VII. 275 Not content with levying . . . a brassage. 1884 *Times* 20 Mar. 11 They might take brassage or 'mint charge' to mean the equivalent of the cost of coining.

Brassard (bräs'ard). Also brassart. [a. F. *brassard*, f. *bras* arm; see -ARD.]

1. Armour for the upper part of the arm. (Only *Hist.*)

1830 JAMES *Darnley* x. 47/1 This brassard is a little too close. 1834 PLANCHÉ *Brit. Costume* 122 Brassarts connect the shoulder with the elbow-pieces. 1866 *Fortn. Rev.* I. Sept. 152 Talbot is wearing brassards and a tabard.

2. A badge worn on the arm; an armet.

1870 *Daily News* 21 Sept., Brassards seem to be obtainable for the asking. 1879 FIVE-COOKSON *Armies of Balkans* vii. 100 An English doctor who . . . had the white brassard with the red crescent on his arm.

Brassate (bræ'set) *Chem.* [f. BRASS-IO + -ATE.] A salt of brassic acid.

1863 WATTS *Dict. Chem.* I. 655 Brassate of sodium gives by analysis 8.5 per cent. soda.

Brasse (bras). [Cf. LG. *brasse* (Schiller and Lübben), Ger. *brassen* a bream (cf. BRASSEM).] A name of a fish of the perch family.

1847 CRAIG, *Brasse*, the pale-spotted perch.

Brasse, -lat, -let, obs. ff. BRACE, -LET.

Brassed (brast), *ppl. a.* Also 4 brased, 7 brast. [f. BRASS + -ED.] Made of, or overlaid with brass: also *fig.*

a 1300 E. E. *Psalter* cvii. 1. 26 Yhates [that] brased ware, And slottes irened. 1611 CHAPMAN *Iliad* xvii. 425 Both cast Dry solid hides upon their necks, exceeding soundly brast. a 1734 NORTH *Lives* I. 363 None so brassed in this kind as demure pretenders who complain of popery and arbitrary power.

Brassell, obs. form of BRAZIL.

Brassem. *Obs.* [a. Du. (and MDu.) *brasem* bream; = OS. *bressem*, OHG. *brahsema* (MHG. *brahsem*, *brasme*, *brahsen*, Ger. *brassen*): BREEM.] A kind of fish; † a sea-bream.

1731 MEDLEY *Kolben's Cape G. H.* II. 196 There are two sorts of Brasses in the Cape Sea. 1772-84 COOK *Voy.* (1790) I. 322 The brassem is found only about the cape. Of this fish there are two sorts.

Brassen, obs. form of BRAZEN.

Brasser, obs. f. BRACER; see BALLOON 1, 10.

1690 WELDON *Crt. Jas.* I. (1817) 47 Lifting up his hand over his head with a Ballan brasser.

Brasset (bræ'set). [A bad form of BRASSARD.] ? = BRASSARD.

1751 CHAMBERS *Cycl.*, s. v. *Armor*, A compleat Armor antiently consisted of a casque or helm, a gorget, cuirasse, gantlets, tasses, brassets, cuisses, and covers for the legs, to which the spurs were fastened. 1831 BREWSTER *Nat. Magic.* xii. (1833) 306 A cuirass with its brassets.

Brassic (bræ'sik), a. [f. next.] Pertaining to or derived from the genus *Brassica*.

1879 WATTS *Dict. Chem.* I. 655 Colza oil is a mixture of two glycerides, which yield by saponification brassic acid.

Brassica (bræ'sikā). *Bot.* [L. = cabbage.] A genus of cruciferous plants, containing the cabbage in its many varieties, the turnip, rape, etc.

1832 *Veg. Subst. Food* 258 Some species of brassica . . . was introduced into this country by the Romans. 1854 BUSHMAN in *Chr. Sc.* (c. 1865) II. 27/4 The leaves of the various species of brassica.

† Brassik. *Obs.* *rare*. Also brasik. [ad. L. *brassica*: see prec.] Cabbage.

c 1420 *Pallad. on Husb.* ix. 53 Rave as brassik for vyne as ille is fonde. *Ibid.* x. 137 Nowe brasik to growe For November plantyng.

Brassil. Iron pyrites; coal containing pyrites: see BRAZIL.

Brassin, obs. f. BRAZEN.

Brassiness (bræ'sinēs). [f. BRASSY + -NESS.] Brassy quality or appearance. Also *fig.*

1731 in BAILEY II. 1847 *Proc. Berw. Nat. Club* II. No. 5. 238 The brassiness of the elytra.

Brassing (bræ'sin), *vbl. sb.* [f. BRASS v. 1 + -ING.] The process or art of coating with brass. c 1865 G. GORE in *Circ. Sc.* I. 222/2 Another liquid which he uses for brassing. (*attrib.*) *Ibid.* 223/1 All the brassing solutions . . . are imperfect.

Brassish (bræ'sif), a. Somewhat brassy.

1774 MRS. DELANY *Lett.* Ser. II. II. 473 A little brassish coperish, goldish thread-like stuff.

Brassure, obs. form of BRACER.

Brassy (bræ'si), a. Also 6 brassie, -ye. [f. BRASS sb. + -Y.]

1. Consisting of or covered with brass.

1523 STANYHURST *Æneis* I. (Arb.) 32 Thee stayrs brassyse grises statly presented. 1599 MARSTON *Seco. Villanie* II. vi. 200 That dreamed of Imagery, Whose head was gold, brest siluer, brassie thigh. 1880 L. WALLACE *Ben-Hur* 328 On the left the brassy legions of Caesar.

2. Of the nature or appearance of brass, in colour, sound, taste, etc.

1769 MRS. PIOZZI *Journ. France* I. 426 [It] left a brassy taste in my mouth for a whole day. 1803 *Phil. Trans.* XCIII. 68 Of a pale brassy colour. 1847 MOTHERWELL *Spirits of Light* Hark, to their trumpets' brassy blare. 1857 KINGSLEY *Two V. Ago* I. 65 The sky . . . is brassy green.

3. *fig.* with many varieties of sense.

a. Hard as brass, pitiless, unfeeling.

1596 SHAKS. *Merch. V.* iv. i. 31 And plucke commiseration of his state From brassie bosomes.

b. Having a 'face of brass', unblushing, impudently confident, or forward.

1576 LAMBARDE *Peramb. Kent* (1826) 136 To make them blush . . . were they never so brassie and impudent. 1690 *Def. Dr. Walker* 2 A brassy Impudence. 1792 J. WOLCOTT (P. Pindar) *Churchw.*, Betty was too brassy, We never keep a servant that is saucy. 1846 DOUGLAS *Jerrold Chron.* *Clovermook* Wks. IV. 475 A brassy confidence in his face.

c. Of brass, as opposed to 'golden'; debased yet pretentious.

1586 FERNE *Lacies Nobilitie* 2 This present age, which is growne so harde and brassy, for the golden dayes are long sithence ouer-passed. 1842 TENNYSON *Amphion* lx. In such a brassy age I could not move a thistle.

d. Harsh and feelingless in tone, like a brass instrument; having a strident artificial tone.

1865 M. ARNOLD *Ess. Crit.* 74. That hard, brassy, over-stretched style. 1870 *Daily News* 26 July 5 Its brassy clangour of quickly-recurring rhymes. 1884 J. A. SYMONDS *Shakespeare's Predecessors* 508 Aretino... proved his originality by creating a new manner, brassy and meretricious.

Brassy, also **bressie**. *Sc.* [Cf. BRASSE.] A fish, 'the ancient Wrasse' (Jamieson).

1770 SIBBALD *Fife* (1803) 128 *Turdus vulgarissimus* *Willoughby*: I take it to be the same our fishers call a Bressie.

Brast, *v.*, northern form of BURST.

a 1300 *Cursor M.* 7170 Pat all be bandes of him brast. c 1450 *Songs & Carols* 51 (Mätz.) Tyll both hys eyen in watyr gan brast. 1513 DOUGLAS *Eneis* XII. Prol. 39 The fyry sparkis brastyng fra his ene. 1818 BYRON *Ch. Har.* l. lxxviii, Mid wounds, and clinging darts, and lances brast. 1865 MISS LAHES *Betty o' Yep's T.* 10 in *Lanc. Gloss.* (E. D. S.) s. v., Laughin' fit to brast their soides.

Brast, obs. form of BRASSEI.

Brastle (bræ's'l), *v.* [OE. *brastlian*, ME. *brastlien*; cf. MHG. *barstein*, Sw. *prassla*. But the modern (Scotch) use may be a recent onomatopoeia. Cf. BRATTLE, BRUSTLE.]

† 1. *intr.* To crackle, clatter; to roar (as flames). c 1000 ÆLFRIC in Thorpe *Hom.* II. 508 (Bosw.) Dæt treow brastlende saħ to ðam halgan were. c 1205 LAY. 27463 Sceldes brastleden.

2. To rush with clattering noise, or with excited haste. *Sc.*

1846 J. WILSON *Noct. Ambr. Wks.* 1855 I. 234 Plouterin in the dubs, or brastlin up the braes. 1835 *Blackw. Mag.* XXXVIII. 156 A small trout or two brastled away to the other side of the shallow.

Brasyle, -lle, obs. forms of BRAZIL.

Brasyn, **Brasyng**, obs. ff. BRAZEN, BRAZING.

Brat (bræt), *sb.* 1. Obs. exc. dial. Also 1 bratt, 6 bratte. [Of Celtic origin. OE. (Northumbrian) *bratt* was prob. adopted from Olrish *brat* (f. masc., 'cloth', esp. as a covering for the body, 'plaid, mantle, cloak' (cf. Gael. *brat* 'haircloth for a kiln, apron; covering, mantle, veil', O Welsh **breth* (or **brath*), pl. *brith*, *bryth*, applied to the swaddling-clothes of an infant: the mod. Welsh *brat* 'pinafore, rag', is merely the Eng. word.)

1. A cloth used as an over-garment, esp. of a coarse or makeshift character.

† a. (in OE.) A cloak. b. in *midl.*, *west.*, and *north. dial.*, A child's pinafore; a woman's or girl's pinafore or apron. c. contemptuously. A rag, or article which is 'a mere rag'. Hence **Bratful**, apronful.

c 950 *Lindisf. Gosp.* Matt. v. 40 Dæm seðe wil... cyrtel ðin to niomanne forlet eac hragl vel hæcla vel bratt [L. pallium, Agr. wæfela, Rusku. hrytl]. c 1386 CHAUCEUR *Chan. Yem. Prol.* & T. 329 A brat [v. r. bak] to walken in by day-light. 1599 MORE *Supplic. Souls* Wks. 337/2 There is none so poore as we, y' have not a bratte to put on our backes. 1570 LEVINS *Manip.* 37 A Bratte, *panniculus*. 1691 RAY *N. C. Wds.* 8 *Bratt*, a coarse Apron, a Rag. 1775 J. COLLIER (Tim Bobbin) *Tumulus & M.* 60 Th' treacle butter cake stickt to Seroh's brat. 1796 BURNS *The Author's Earnest Cry* xxiv, Sowp's o' kail an' brats o' claise. 1867 E. WAUGH *Ould Blanket* i. 19 in *Lanc. Gloss.*, A brat-full o' guinea gowd.

2. A jacket for a sheep's back.

1868 J. WILSON *Farming* 487 This 'Brat'... prevents the wool from parting over the spine.

† 3. Rubbish, beggarly stuff. Cf. BEGGARY 5. Obs. 1866 DUGARD *Gate Lat. Unl.* § 336. 93 The Threshers—with a whisk of feathers purge it from the refuse—& with a siev from the brat or beggary.

4. (Sc.) The tough film or skin which forms on porridge, rice pudding, and the like.

1795 *Statist. Acc.* XV. 8 note (JAM.) *Brat*, a cover or scurf. 1864 J. BROWN *Yeems* 11 Saying his grace over our bickers [of porridge] with their brats on.

Brat (bræt), *sb.* 2. Also 6-7 bratt(e). [Of uncertain origin: Wedgwood, E. Müller, and Skeat think it the same word as the prec., but evidence of the transition of sense has not been found.]

'A child, so called in contempt' J. In 16th and 17th c. sometimes used without contempt, though nearly always implying insignificance; the phrase *beggar's brat* has been common from the first.

c 1505 DUNBAR *Flying* 49 Irsche brybour baird, wyle beggar with thy brattis. 1557 *Tottel's Misc.* (Arb.) 109 Yong brats, a trouble: none at all, a maym it seems to be. c 1577 GASCOIGNE in Farr's *S. P.* (1845) I. 35 O Abrahams brats, O broode of blessed seede. 1583 STANYHURST *Eneis* I. (Arb.) 25 What syn hath Æneis, my brat, committed agaynst the? a 1593 H. SMITH *Wks.* (1866-7) I. 107 Where any sectary hath one son, Machiavel hath a score, and those not the brats, but the fatlings of the land. 1650 CROMWELL in Carlyle *Lett. & Sp.* (1871) III. 9, I should be glad to hear how the little brat doth. 1718 STERLE *Spect.* No. 479 ¶ The noise of those damned nurses and squalling brats. 1750 JOHNSON *Rambl.* No. 15 As cheap as any two little brats can be kept. 1808 SCOTT *Mem.* in *Lockhart* I. (1842) 8/1, I felt the change from being a single indulged brat, to becoming a member of a large family, very severely. 1879 DIXON *Windsor* II. vi. 65 Repulsed in her appeal for mercy like a beggar's brat.

b. *fig.* Offspring, product.

1678 CUDWORTH *Intell. Syst.* I. v. 891 An ignoble and bastardly brat of fear. 1720 ORMOND in *Swift's Lett.* (1766) II. 9 The South-sea was said to be my lord Oxford's brat. 1790 WOLCOTT (P. Pindar) *Ep. S. Urban* Wks. 1812 II. 257

Ambitious that the Brats my Rhymes Should see the Gentlefolks of future times.

Brat (bræt), *sb.* 3. Also bratt. [A variant of BRAT.] A fish: the turbot, birt, or bret. Also attrib., as in *brat-net*.

1750 *Chron.* in *Ann. Reg.* 68/2 It... had a head like a turbot or Bratt. 1883 *Fisheries Exhib. Catal.* 12 Brat or Turbot Net complete.

Brat (bræt), *sb.* 4. Mining. [perhaps akin to BRAT¹, 2.] 'A thin bed of coal mixed with pyrites or carbonate of lime.' Bainbridge *Law of Mines* 1856.

Brat (bræt), *v.* rare. [f. BRAT *sb.* 1] *trans.* To wrap up in a brat or clout.

1570 LEVINS *Manip.* 37 To Bratte, *panniculus circumdare*. 1868 [see BRATTING *vbl. sb.*]

Brathol, -et, obs. forms of BRACH, BRACHET.

† **Bratohel**. Obs. [perh. from BRAKE *v.* 1 or *sb.* 3: cf. *sack*, *satchel*.] 'The husks of flax set on fire' (Jamieson).

1815 *Clan-Albin* I. 77 (JAM.) The blaze of a bratchel, and above all the superlative joys of a waulking.

Bratchet (brætʃet). Also in 6 bratchart, bratchard. [Apparently the same word as BRACHET: cf. the application of *whelp*, *cub*, etc. to a child; but perhaps associated with BRAT *sb.* 2 as if a diminutive of that.]

1. = BRACHET.

2. A little brat, a child. (*contemptuous* or *playful*.)

a 1600 MONTGOMERIE *Flying* 284 That bratchart in ane busse vvas borne. 1838-53 *Whistle-binkie* (Sc. Songs) Ser. III. 74, I... took the bratchet (Cupid) on my knee.

attrib. 1821 SCOTT *Kenilw.*, To play child-keeper... to be plagued with a bratchet whelp.

Bratful, var. BRETFUL, Obs.; see also BRAT *sb.* 1.

† **Brath**, *sb.* Obs. Also 3 brappe (Orm.), 4 (þ brath), brath(e). [Ormin's *brappe* appears to imply a formation from *brap*, BRAITH *a.* + -TH (:-OE. -þo) as in *length*, *wrath* (:-OE. *wrēþ-po*.)] Impetuosity, violence, wrath, ire.

c 1200 ORMIN 1233, & dastelike leden þe, wipþenn bracc and brappe. *Ibid.* 4707 Clene of brappe. c 1225 E. E. ALLIT. P. B. 916 In þe brath of his breth þat brennez alle pinkes. c 1275 BARBOUR *St. Christina* 275 Al þai bestis socht hyme to lne mykil brath. c 1400 *Destr. Troy* 5075 Priam... Bade hom blynn of hor brathe.

† **Brath**, **braith**, *a.* Obs. Also 3-4 brap. [ME. *brap*, a. ON. *bradr*; which became in midland Eng. BROTH(e). The northern dial. retained *brath*, spent in 15-16th c. Sc. *braith*, *brayth*.] Impetuous, violent, wrathful.

c 1200 ORMIN 7164 Fort jiff þe riche mann iss brap, & grimme. a 1300 *Cursor M.* 16164 For to do his breth to bu of him þat was ful brath. c 1340 GAW. & Gr. *Knt.* 1909 Þer bayen hym mony brap boundez. c 1440 SYR GOWGLIER 108 And afterwarde wax breme and brathe. c 1470 HENRY WALLACE xi. 171 Nese, mouth and eyn Through the braith blaw, all byryst out of blood.

Brathe, variant of BRATTHE *v.* Obs.

† **Brathel**. Obs. rare-1. Variant of BRETHEL, BROTHEL, wretch, worthless person.

1524 UDALL *Erasm. Apoph.* 24 a, The scoldyng of brathels is no more to be passed on then the squekyng of welle wheles.

† **Brathful**, **braithful**, *a.* Obs. Also 6 brath-, breithfull. [cf. BROTHFUL.] Violent, wrathful.

1513 DOUGLAS *Eneis* x. vi. 155 With brathfull [v. r. braythfull] blastis. *Ibid.* xii. viii. 133 All kynd of wreth and breithfull ire now he Leyt slip at large.

† **Brathly**, **braithly**, *a.* and *adv.* Obs. *north. dial.* and *Sc.* Also 4 brathely [f. BRATH, BRAITH *a.* or BRATH *sb.* + -LY. Cf. BROTHELY.]

A. adj. Impetuous, violent, angry.

a 1425 *Houlat* II. 14 (JAM.) The battellis so brym brathly and blicht. 1513 DOUGLAS *Eneis* i. ii. 11 [Eolus] braithlie tempestis by his power refrenis.

B. adv. Impetuously; furiously, violently.

a 1300 *Cursor M.* 2240 Brathli þai þis werk bigan. *Ibid.* 21400 Brathli on his fas he brast. 1 a 1400 *Morte Arth.* 3200 This comlyche kyngne... Bowynys brathly to bede. c 1400 *Melayne* 255 Barouns ondir blonkes fate Brathlyly ware borne doun. c 1470 HENRY WALLACE vi. 212 The bailful teris bryst brathly fra hys eyne.

Bratishing, obs. form of BRATTICING.

Bratling (bræt'ling). [f. BRAT *sb.* 2 + -LING.] A little brat, an infant.

1651 BROME *Jov. Crew* II. Wks. 1873 III. 387 The Bratling's born, the Dorey's in the Strummel. 1796 COLERIDGE in *Cottle Remin.* (1847) 100 We are all—wife, bratling, and self, remarkably well.

|| **Brattach** (bræt'ach). [Gaelic (and Irish) *bratach* fem. (Manx *brattagh*) a standard, banner, flag, f. *brat* cloth.] An ensign, banner, or flag.

1826 SCOTT *F. M. Perth* vi. No five of each clan have a rusty shirt of mail as old as their brattach.

Bratte, obs. form of BRAT.

Brattery (bræt'eri). [f. BRAT *sb.* 2 + -ERY.] A collection of brats, a nursery. (*contemptuous*.)

1768 LD. SHEFFIELD in *Ld. Auckland's Corr.* (1861) II. 220 We hope the Brattery will continue well. 1834 BECKFORD *Italy*, Ac. I. 4 The apartment above my head proves a squalling brattery.

Brattice (bræt'is), *sb.* Forms: a. 3 brutaske, 4 brytasque, 5 betrax (= *bretask*). B. 4

brutage, 4-5 bretage, 5 bretayge, britage, brytege, (9 *Hist. bretache*, brattish). γ. 4-5 bretais, -ays, 5 bretisse, -asoe, -ys, -is, brettys, bertes, bartes. δ. 9 (sense 2) brettis, brattioe, -ish.

[Found in many types: a. ME. *brutaske*, *brytasge*, a. ONF. *breteske*, -aske, -esque; b. ME. *brutage*, *bretage*, etc., a. AFR. *brutesche* (Matt. Paris), OF. *bretesche*, mod.F. *bretiche*; γ. ME. *bretasce*, -ais, -is, etc., a. OF. *bretesce*, *bretasce*. The OF. *breteske*, -esche, -esce (rarely *bertesque*, -esche, -ece), correspond to Pr. *bertesca*, It. *bertesca* (*ballresca*), med. L. *bretachia*, *bertescha*, *breteschia*, etc. Of uncertain origin; according to Mahn (to whom Diez adheres) prob. a derivative of Ger. *bratt* board, with Romanic suffix -esca, with sense of 'boarding', 'boardwork'. The early forms in *bru-*, *bry-*, app. of English or Anglo-French origin, are due perhaps to the obscurity of the first vowel. The 15-16th c. forms in *ber-*, *bar-* were northern: see BRATTIOING. The original sense became obs. before 1500. To modern times the word has come down in local use, chiefly in connexion with coal-mining, in the forms *brettis* (Derbyshire), *brattice* (Newcastle, etc.), *brattish*. Although *brettis* is the best form etymologically, *brattice* has become more generally known, and accepted in literary use; *brattish* has given the architectural *brattishing*.]

The general sense is 'boarding, planking, a structure of boards'. Hence *spec.*

† 1. A temporary breastwork, parapet, or gallery of wood erected on the battlement of a fortress, for use during a siege. Obs.

a. type *breteske*.

1297 R. GLOUC. 536 Atte laste hii s(s)ende Al the brutaske breoute, & the bruge brende. c 1380 *Sir Feramb.* 3315 þe kernels... wer broke & schente, & þe brytasques on þe tour an hege dullyly a-doun wer caste. c 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 50/1 Betrax of a walle, *propugnaculum*.

b. type *bretesche*, *bretage*.

c 1325 E. E. ALLIT. P. B. 1190 Bigge brutage of borde bulde on þe walle. c 1350 *Will. of Palerne* 3001 Here wallees were broke wip engynes strong, here bretages al a-boute for-brent & destroyed. c 1430 WYCLIF *Song Sol.* viii. 9 (Lamb. MS.) If it is a wal, bilde we theronne sluene touris, *ethir brilagis*. c 1450 *Gloss. Garlande's Dict.* in Wright's *Voc.* 130 *Propugnaculum*, *brytegrys*. c 1475 *Voc.* in Wr. Wülcker 784 *Hoc propugnaculum*, a *bretayge*. [1851 TURNER *Dom. Archit.* II. v. 193 A drawbridge with a bretache above it. 1861 *Sat. Rev.* 6 Apr. 345/2 A very graphic report... describing the siege of that place in 1240, makes frequent mention of... brattishes, breastworks or turrets of timber.]

γ. type *breteske*, *bretis*.

c 1380 WYCLIF *Serm.* (Sel. Wks.) I. 191 Bi þis weye mai no man eende þe laste bretais of þis tour. c 1400 *Yvaine & Gaw.* 163 A bretisse brade. c 1425 WYNTOUN *Crom.* viii. xxvi. 233 (JAM.) To mak defens and brettys. c 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 50 *Bretasce* [1499 *bretays*], *propugnaculum*. c 1450 *Voc.* in Wr. Wülcker 731 *Hoc signaculum*, a *bretys*. c 1500 *Lancelot* 873 Toward their brettis. *Ibid.* 1005 A bertes. *Ibid.* 2897 To the bartes to behold and see. [1885 C. OMAN *Art of War* 50 The brattice was a wooden gallery fitted with apertures in its floor, and running along the top of the wall.]

b. The 'battlement' of a cup.

1465 *Test. Ebor.* (1855) II. 272, j. peciam argenti stantem cum uno brettis.

2. In form *brattice* (dial. also *brattish*): A partition, generally of deal. a. (esp.) A partition for the purpose of ventilation in the shaft of a coal-pit (*shaft brattice*), or in a drift, or other working of a colliery (*drift*, *headways*, or *board brattice*).

1851 *Coal-tr. Terms Northumbld.* 4 *Durh.* 11 Shaft or main brattice is usually made of 3-inch Memel plank... Common brattice is made of 4-inch American deal... It is nailed to props set for the purpose (called brattice props). 1860 *Times* 10 Dec. 10/2 Where only one shaft is sunk... a downcast and an upcast are created by running an airtight partition, or 'brattice' to the bottom. 1883 *Standard* 23 Nov. 3/7 Gas still showed... on both sides of the brattice.

b. A partition of boards in a room. *dial.*

1851 TURNER *Dom. Archit.* I. vi. 201 A rude partition, called a brattish, rises to the eaves. 1863 ATKINSON *Danby Province*, *Brattice*, a wooden partition, serving to divide a closet or store room into two parts.

c. A lining of timber to a shaft or a headway in a pit.

1881 RAYMOND *Mining Gloss.*, *Brettis* (Derb.), a crib of timber filled up with slack or waste. — *Brettis-way*, a road in a coal-mine, supported by brettisses built on each side after the coal has been worked out.

3. In form *brattish*: 'A shelf; also a seat with a high back. *north. dial.*' (Halliwell.)

4. *attrib.* In sense 2, as brattice-cloth, stout tarred cloth used in mines instead of wooden bratticing; *brattice-nail*, -work; *brettis-way*: see 2 c. 1865 *Engineer* 15 May (*Advt.*) John Marsden, manufacturer of Tarred, Oiled, and Fire-Proof Brattice Cloth. 1880 *Daily Tel.* 5 Oct., The miner... scratched with the point of a rusty brattice nail the farewell letter to his wife.

Brattice (bræt'is), *v.* In 5 *bretexce*. [f. prec.]

† 1. (in obs. form *bretexce*): *trans.* To fortify with a wooden breastwork. Obs.

1430 *Lydg. Chron. Troy* II. xi, Euery towre bretteced was so clene.

2. To brattice up: to line the sides of a shaft, or the like, with planking or boarding.

186a *Times* 21 Jan., The stone was all carefully bratticed up. 1869 *Blackmore Lorna D.* lviii (D.), A great round hole or shaft bratticed up with timber.

Bratticing (bræt'isn). Also in 4 brateysing, 5 brateysynge, 6 *Sc. bertising* -ene, 6-9 BRATTISHING, dial. braddishing. [f. BRATTICE *v.* (or *sb.*) + -ING¹.]

† 1. (In the obs. forms): The furnishing of the ramparts of a castle, etc., with temporary (wooden) parapets or breastworks; the parapet and its works collectively. *Obs.*

c 1380 *Wyclif Sel. Wks.* I. 191 *pe* hijest part of his tour is brateysing of charite. 1483 *Cath. Angl.* 43/1 A brateysynge, *propugnaculum*. 1651 *Rec. Pittenweem in Statist. Acc.* IV. 376 That the town's colours be put upon the bertisene [=bertising] of the steeple.

(From the preceding illiterate *Sc.* spelling *bertisene*, Sir Walter Scott appears to have evolved the grandiose BRATTIZAN, vaguely used by him for *brattising* or *bratticing*, and accepted by later writers as a genuine historical term.)

2. Brattice-work in a coal-pit.

1866 *Morning Star* 18 Dec. 6/2 The 'braddishing' or tarred sheet at an opening near him being suddenly carried away. 1868 *Even. Standard* 25 Aug., That might easily have been remedied by bratticing or air-pipes. 1883 *Standard* 23 Nov. 3/7 By means of bratticing he was able to explore the place.

3. *Arch.* See BRATTISHING.

Brattling (bræt'lin), *vbl. sb.* [f. BRAT *v.* + -ING¹.] The covering with a brat; *spec.* covering the backs of sheep with a cloth or apron.

186a *J. Wilson Farming* 487 Where the brattling plan has been adopted, the usual rate of mortality has been reduced.

Brattish (bræt'if), *a.* [f. BRAT *sb.*² + -ISH.] Of or befitting a brat; childish.

1879 *BEERBOHM Patagonia* vi. 99 By the time they [children] abandon their brattish ways.

Brattish, dial. var. of BRATTICE.

Brattishing (bræt'ifin). A variant of BRATTICING, used in *Architecture*, in sense: A cresting of open carved work on the top of a shrine.

1593 *Rites & Mon. Ch. Durh.* (1842) 35 There was a brattishing on the fore part of the wainscot or rowffe, very finely and curiously wrought. 1845 *Gloss. Gothic Archit.* I. 69 *Brattishing*. 1851 *Pugin Road Screens* 39 A very elaborate screen of carved oak, surmounted by open brattishing. 186a *G. Scott Westm. Abbey* (ed. 2) 68 A piece of cresting or brattishing. 1867 *H. T. Ellacombe in Trans. Exeter Dioc. Archit. Soc.* I. 106 Surmounted by a brattishing of Tudor flower in burnished brass.

¶ Also a *dial.* var. of BRATTICING in other senses.

Brattle (bræt'l), *sb.* Also 6 brattill, brattyll. Chiefly *Sc.* [This and its verb are onomatopœic, prob. with association of *break*, *brast* and *rattle*; cf. also *brabble*, *brastle*.]

1. A smart rattling sound, *esp.* of something breaking or bursting.

c 1505 *DUNBAR Turnament* 73 His harness brak and maid ane brattill. 1513 *DOUGLAS Æneis* ix. xi. 96 The hydduus scheild abuse him mayd a brattyll. 1839 *W. CARLETON Fardoroughed* 21 81 There comes an accidental brattle of thunder. 1853 *LIVINGSTONE Zambesi* xxi. 426 [Each] striving which can produce the loudest brattle while turning. 1870 *Daily News* 3 Sept. 5 The brattle of a drum under my window.

2. The sound or onset of sharp rattling blows.

a 1600 *MONTGOMERIE Poems* (1821) 75 3e dou not byde a brattill. 1766 *BURNS Winter Nt.* iii. Or silly sheep, wha bide this brattle O' winter war.

3. The sound of scampering feet; a resounding scamper, rush, or spurt.

a 1758 *RAMSAY Poems* (1844) 79 Bauld Bess flew till him wia brattle. 1765 *BURNS To a Mouse* i. Thou need na start awa. Wi' bickerin brattle. 1839 *W. CARLETON Fardoroughed* 21 81 There comes an accidental brattle of thunder. 1853 *LIVINGSTONE Zambesi* xxi. 426 [Each] striving which can produce the loudest brattle while turning. 1870 *Daily News* 3 Sept. 5 The brattle of a drum under my window.

4. To produce a forcible rattling noise.

1513 *DOUGLAS Æneis* vii. Prol. 133 Branchis brattlyng, and blacknit schew the brays. a 1849 *MANGAN Poems* (1859) 51 Harsh engines brattled night and day.

b. with cognate object.

185a *D. MOIR Winter Wild* vii. His iron heels.. Brattling afar their under-song.

2. To rush with rattling noise, as a mountain brook over a stony bed; to bicker. *Orig. Sc.*

1834 *H. MILLER Scenes & Leg.* xxxi. (1857) 457 A mossy streamlet comes brattling from the hill. 1853 *G. JOHNSTON Nat. Hist. E. Bord.* I. 28 Many little livelier runlets that brattle down the green hills on each side. 188a *Macm. Mag.* Oct. 472 The becks that brattle through the brake.

3. To run with brattling feet; to scamper. *Sc.*

1775 *RAMSAY Gunt. Sheph.* i. ii. Our twa herds come brattling down the brae. 186a *Blackw. Mag.* XIX. 382 Brattle not away so, ye foolish lambs.

Brattling (bræt'lin), *vbl. sb.* [f. BRATTLE *v.* + -ING¹.] The action of the verb to BRATTLE; the production of harsh rattling sounds.

a 1771 *SMOLLETT Humph. Cl.* (1793) I. 34 The bursting, belching, and brattling of the French horns. 1809 *W. IRVING Knickerbocker* (1861) 35 His voice sounded not unlike the brattling of a tin trumpet. 1881 *BYRON Sarlat.* iii. l. 394 As a lute's [voice] piercieth through the cymbal's clash, Jarr'd but not drown'd by the loud brattling.

Brattling (bræt'lin), *ppl. a.* [f. BRATTLE *v.* + -ING².] That brattles; see the verb.

1820 *W. IRVING Sketch-Book* (1849) 420 The hoarse brattling tone of a veteran boatswain. 1856 *J. WILSON Noct. Ambr.* Wks. 1855 I. 136 To gie them [dogs]... a brattlin run o thretty miles after a fox. 1860 *J. KENNEDY Horsemoe R.*

i. 11 A rough and brattling mountain torrent. 1863 *JEAN INGELWORTH Belinda* I. iv. 72, I bravadoed to Harriet most magnanimously. 1869-72 — *Almeria* Wks. 1832 VII. 283 Notwithstanding her bravadoing air, [she] was frequently perplexed and anxious. 1866 *Blackw. Mag.* XIX. Pref. 9 There was... much bravadoing and even apparent offers of battle. 1840 *T. Hook Fitzherbert* III. xvii. 333 They tried to bravado it out.

† **Bravash**, *ppl. a.* *Obs. rare*—1. [f. *F. bravache* 'a Swaggerer, Swash-buckler' (Cotgr.), ad. It. *bravaccio* bully (f. *brav-o* + *-accio*, pejorative suffix) + -ING².] Boasting, swaggering.

165a *URQUHART Jewel Wks.* (1834) 255 Which he did do.. in a lofty and bravashing humour, that, etc.

Brave (bræv), *a., sb., int.* [a. *F. brave*, not an original Fr. word, but adapted from It. *bravo* brave, gallant, fine: cf. *Sp.* and *Pg.* *bravo*, *Pr.* and *Cat.* *brav*. Ultimate derivation uncertain. Nearly all the Eng. senses may have been adopted from French. Cf. BRAW.]

(Prof. Storm would associate *bravo* (in *Sp.* also *bravio*) with Olt. *bruido*, *bruido* wild, savage, which is also a sense of *Sp.* and *Pg.* *bravo*; cf. *Pr.* *bruidiu* fiery, spirited (horse). These he would refer to a Latin type **brabidus*, formed from *rabidus* mad, fierce, of the existence of which there appears to be other evidence. See *Romania* 1876, p. 170. A more recent conjecture (*Romania* XIII. 110) tries to derive it from *barbarus*, but this does not suit Fr. *bravo*.)

Bravade, *v. arch. or Obs.* [f. *F. bravade*, (according to Littré) ad. It. *bravata* bragging, boasting, f. *bravare* to brag, boast, f. *bravo*: see BRAVE. Cf. also *Sp. bravada*, and see -ADE.] = BRAVADO.

1579 *J. STUBBS Gaping Gull* C vj. Euen so will it be harder then yron for Englishmen to digest.. the french insolencies and disdainfull bravades. 1676 *Packet Adv. to Men of Shafesb.* 40 What occasion or need his Lordship had of this high Bravade. 1778 *ROBERTSON Hist. Amer.* II. v. 80 He.. disregarded this vain bravade. 1833 *Fraser's Mag.* VIII. 304 He ventured, by way of bravade, upon a single glass of claret.

† **Bravade**, *v. arch. or Obs.* [f. *prec. sb.*] 1. *intr.* To look brave, assume a bold or defiant front. *To bravade the street*: to swagger along it. 1634-46 *Row Hist. Kirk* (1842) 464 Ilk shaimles lowne, With his silk gounne, Bravades the street. 1637 *GILLESPIE Eng. Pop. Ceram.* Ord. C iij. The Archbishop of Spalato cometh forth.. stoutly brandishing and bravading. 1667 *Law Mem.* (1818) 28 The Dutch fleet bravading there attacks the river.

2. *trans.* To dare, brave, defy.

1676 *Row Contn. Blair's Autobiog.* xii. (1848) 479 The Dutch navy bravades the English upon their coast.

Hence *Bravading vbl. sb. and ppl. a.*

181a *J. HENRY Camp. agst. Quebec* 88 Many.. wrote and spoke of this bravading.. with much applause. 1820 *SCOTT Monast.* ix. Listening to the bravading tales of gay Christie. 1823 *Blackw. Mag.* XIII. 278 Sir Joshua.. with his arm a-kimbo, bravading cap, and chosen air of importance.

Bravado (bräv'ä-do, -ä-do), *sb.* Also 6-7 *bravado*, *bravado*, 7 *bravardo*, *bravadoes*, *brevada*; *pl.* *bravadoes* (also -os). [ad. *Sp. bravada* and *F. bravade*: see BRAVADE and -ADO².]

1. Boastful or threatening behaviour; ostentatious display of courage or boldness; bold or daring action intended to intimidate or to express defiance; often, an assumption of courage or hardihood to conceal felt timidity, or to carry one out of a doubtful or difficult position.

Now usually in the singular, without a: less commonly a *bravado* or in *pl.*

1599 *HAKLUYT Voy.* II. 1. 287 It was not that Spanish bravado. 1666 *Cassini's Holy Cr.* 62 To sound vainglorious Bravado's. 1630 *BRATHWAIT Eng. Gentl.* (1641) 110 These Gamesters, who in a bravado will set their patri-monies at a throw. 1645 *MILTON Colast.* Wks. (1851) 362 Hee retreats with a bravado, that it deserves no answer. 1678 *BUNYAN Pilgr.* l. 128 Notwithstanding all his Bravadoes, he [Shame] promoteth the Fool, and none else. a 1707 *Br. PATRICK Sermon* i. Sam. xvii. 8 To have been done out of a bravado. 1800 *WEEMS Washington* x. (1877) 119 To hear their bravadoes, one would suppose, etc. 1816 *JANE AUSTEN Emma* ii. viii. 181 A sort of bravado—an air of affected unconcern. 1824 *SCOTT Redgauntlet* Introd., A series of idle bravadoes. 1833 *ROBERTSON Sermon*. Ser. iii. xvii. 214 We may do it in bravado or in wantonness.

† b. *To make or give a bravado*: to make a display in the face of the enemy, to offer battle. *Obs.*

1600 *HOLLAND Livy* III. lx. 128 When they made bravadoes, and challenged them to come forth and fight, not one Roman would answer them again. 1617 *MORYSON Itin.* ii. 11. ii. 164 That some foote should be drawne out of the Campe, to give the Spaniards a bravado. 1688 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 2361/3 A Party of the Moors making a Bravado.

c. *attrib.*

1593 *STUBBS Anat. Abus.* ii. 50 The barbers.. have one manner of cut called the French cut.. one of the bravado fashion. 1844 *DISRAELI Coningsby* v. iv. 204 It is a day.. of hopes and fears.. bravado bets and secret hedging.

† 2. A swaggering fellow, a hector, a bravo. *Obs.*

[app. after *Sp.* masculines in -ado already used in Eng., as *desperado*, *renegado*, etc. Cf. *bravo*.]

1653 *A. WILSON Jas. I* 28 Roaring Boys, Bravadoes, Roysters, &c. commit many insolencies. 1668 *PERVS Diary* 28 Feb., The Hectors & bravadoes of the House. 1817 *COLERIDGE Biog. Lit.* II. xxi. 121 But idlers and bravadoes.. must beware. 1825 *KNAFF & BALDWIN Newgate Cal.* III. 397/2 Webb.. was the greatest bravado.

Hence *Bravadoism rare*.

1833 *Fraser's Mag.* VIII. 527 Was.. his apparent strength and defiance, real weakness and bravadoism?

Bravado (bräv'ä-do, -ä-do), *v.* [f. *prec. sb.*]

intr. To show bravado, talk defiantly, put on a bold face. Hence *Bravadoing vbl. sb. and ppl. a.*

1800 *MAR. EDGEWORTH Belinda* I. iv. 72, I bravadoed to Harriet most magnanimously. 1869-72 — *Almeria* Wks. 1832 VII. 283 Notwithstanding her bravadoing air, [she] was frequently perplexed and anxious. 1866 *Blackw. Mag.* XIX. Pref. 9 There was... much bravadoing and even apparent offers of battle. 1840 *T. Hook Fitzherbert* III. xvii. 333 They tried to bravado it out.

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Brave (bræv), *a., sb., int.* [a. *F. brave*, not an original Fr. word, but adapted from It. *bravo* brave, gallant, fine: cf. *Sp.* and *Pg.* *bravo*, *Pr.* and *Cat.* *brav*. Ultimate derivation uncertain. Nearly all the Eng. senses may have been adopted from French. Cf. BRAW.]

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A. adj.

1. Of persons and their attributes: Courageous, daring, intrepid, stout-hearted (as a good quality).

1485 *CAXTON Paris & V. Prol.* It is very good to relate the brave deeds. 1591 *SHAKS. 1 Hen. VI.* iii. ii. 134 A brauer Souldier neuer couched Launce. 162a *FULLER Holy & Prof. St.* ii. xviii. 118 Innocence and Independance make a brave spirit. 1644 *MILTON Educ.* (1738) 137 High hopes of living to be brave men, and worthy Patriots. 173a *POPE Mor. Ess.* i. 115 Who combats bravely is not therefore brave. He dreads a Death-bed like the meanest slave. 1769 *JUNIAS Lett.* iii. 16 A brave man has no rules to follow but the dictates of his courage. 1830 *THIRLWALL Greece* II. 233 For six days they made a brave defence. 1848 *MACAULAY Hist. Eng.* II. 157 Extolled by the great body of Church-men as if he had been the bravest and purest of martyrs.

b. *absol.* *The brave* (now only *pl.*).

1697 *DRYDEN Alexander's F.* 15 None but the brave deserves the fair. 1726 *GAY Fables* i. i. 33 The brave Love mercy, and delight to save. 176a *COWPER Loss Roy. George* 1, Toll for the brave! The brave that are no more. 182a *TENNISON Wellington* viii. To glorious burial slowly borne Follow'd by the brave of other lands.

2. Finely-dressed; = *Sc.* BRAW; splendid, showy, grand, fine, handsome. (Rare in 18th c.; in 19th c. apparently a literary revival, or adopted from dialect speech.)

1568 *Like will to L. in Hazl. Dodsl.* III. 312 To go more gayer and more brave, Than doth a lord. 1570 *LEVINUS Manib.* 42 Braue, splendidus. a 1593 *H. SMITH Wks.* (1866-7) I. 150 The lilies which are braver than Solomon. 161a *HEYWOOD Apol. Actors* Author to Bk., One man is ragged, and another brave. 162a *CAPT. SMITH Virginia* i. 11 At length he came to most braue and fayre houses. 1677 *MOXON Mech. Exerc.* (1703) 257 Lord Montague's brave House in Bloomsbury. 1810 *SCOTT Lady of L.* ii. xvi. Now might you see the tartans brave. 1825 *BROWNING Sp. Blougram's Apol.* His coat.. Brave with the needlework of noodledom.

3. *loosely*, as a general epithet of admiration or praise: Worthy, excellent, good, 'capital', 'fine', 'famous', etc.; 'an indeterminate word, used to express the superabundance of any valuable quality in men or things' (J.). *arch.* (Cf. BRAW a.)

a. of persons.

1600 *SHAKS. A. Y. L.* iii. iv. 43 O that's a braue man, hee writes brave verses, speaks brave words. 1603 *MORSE Dittie in Shaks. C. Cruise* 56 You Poets all, brave Shakspeare, Johnson, Greene. 1673 *Ess. Educ. Gentlemen*, 29 Zeuxes and Timanthes were brave Painters. 1679 *PENN Addr. Prot.* i. § 5 (1692) 20 Many brave Families have been ruin'd by a Gamester. 1740 *J. CLARKE Educ. Youth* (ed. 3) 57 His Son is a brave Scholar.

b. of things.

1577 *NORTHBROOKE Dicing* (1843) 102 Nowe are the braue and golden dayes. 1599 *SHAKS. Much Ado* v. iv. 130 He devise thee braue punishments for him. 1605 — *Lear* iii. ii. 79 This is a braue night to coole a Curtizan. 1633 *WALTON Angler* 104 We will make a brave Breakfast with a piece of powdered Bieff. 1798 *SOUTHEY Eng. Eclog.* ii. Here she found.. a brave fire to thaw her. 1834 — *Doctor* xxii. 51 Knowledge is a brave thing. 1850 *Mrs. BROWNING Poems* I. 5 Here's a brave earth to sin and suffer on!

4. *Comb.*, chiefly parasynthetic, as *brave-hearted*, *-horsed*, *-minded*, *-sensed*, *-spirited*, *-spiritedness*.

1617 *HIERON Wks.* II. 313 Termes of Worth, of Gallantrie, of Braue-spiritednesse, and the like. 1621 *WEEVER Anc. Funn. Mon.* 636 That braue-spirited politick-wise Lord. 1663 in *Spalding Troub. Chas. I.* (1829) 12 The earl of Angus.. and thirty other brave-horsed gentlemen, came to the Bog. 1873 *SYMONDS Grk. Poets* iii. 70 The whole people mourns.. for the death of a brave-hearted man.

5. *quasi-adv.* = BRAVELY. (Now only *poet.*)

1596 *SPENSER F. Q.* I. iv. 8 There sat most braue embel-lished.. A mayden queene. 1721 *STRYPE Eccl. Mem.* I. i. xli. 345 Noble and brave-built structures. 1808 *SCOTT Marm.* i. x. The trumpets flourish'd brave. 1870 *MORRIS Earthly Par.* III. iv. 184 Better housed, or braver clad.

B. *sb.* [in sense 1, directly from *F. brave*.]

1. A brave man, a warrior, soldier: since 1800 applied chiefly to warriors among the North American Indians [after the French in N. America].

1601 *CHESTER Love's Mart.* (1878) 55 We have no cause to feare their forreine braues. a 1821 *CHAPMAN Iliad* iii. 463 Advance Thy braues against his single power.

1763 CHURCHILL *Proph. Fam.* Poems I. 118 The race of Roman braves thought it not worth their while to make us slaves. 1823 BYRON *Island* III. ii. The wave is hurled down headlong, like the foremost brave. 1837 W. IRVING *Capt. Bonneville* (1849) 96 The chiefs leading the van, the braves following in a long line, painted and decorated. 1841 CATLIN *N. Amer. Ind.* (1844) I. vi. 35 A Blackfoot brave whose portrait I have painted.

b. A bravo, bully; a hired assassin. *Obs.* or *arch.* 1598 SYLVESTER *Du Bartas* II. iii. iv. (1641) 187/1 Ador'd of flatterers, Of softlings, Wantons, Braves and Loyterers. 1611 CORVAT *Crudities* 275 There are certaine desperate and resolute villaines in Venice called Braves. 1649 MILTON *Edon*. 25 Happy times, when Braves and Hacksters were thought the fittest to defend the King. 1673 DRYDEN *Aurengz.* I. i. 96 Morat's too insolent, too much a Brave. 1693 W. ROBERTSON *Phrascol. Gen.* 277 A brave (or fellow hired to revenge a quarrel of another), *sicarius*. 1865 SIR K. JAMES TASSO II. xi. xxvi, Ye sneaking, skulking braves.

2. A bravado. *arch.* 1590 GREENE *Never too late* (1600) 52 Suppose... that beautie hath given him the brave. 1598 SYLVESTER *Du Bartas* II. iii. iv. (1641) 182/1 Marcheth amain to give the Town a brave. 1600 HEYWOOD *Edu. IV.* Wks. 1874 I. 54 Leafe off these idle braues of thine. 1662 FULLER *Worthies* I. 33 Bitter was the Brave which railing Rabsheca sent to holy Hezekiah. 1840 BROWNING *Sordello* v. 432 A whole life's braves Should somehow be made good. 1878 SIMPSON *Sch. Shaks.* I. 75 Stucley waited about the court and amused the Councillors with his braves and braggs.

† 3. Finery, splendour = BRAVERY 3. *Obs.* 1602 WARNER *Alb. Eng.* xi. lxvii. 285 Sixe score Concubines, that seem'd so many Queenes for brave.

† C. *interj.* [cf. BRAVO.] Capital! Excellent! Bravo! *Obs.* or *dial.*

a 1593 MARLOWE *Jew of M.* II. ii. Oh, brave, master! I worship your nose for this. 1749 FIELDING *Tom Jones* xv. ii. O brave!... my cousin has you, I find. 1862 BARNES *Rhymes Dorset Dial.* I. 148 O brave! What wages do 'e meán to gi'e?

Brave (brā'v), *v.* [a. F. *brave-r* to act the brave toward, etc., f. *brave* BRAVE.]

I. *transitive*.

1. To treat with bravado; to challenge, defy.

1546 *St. Papers Hen. VIII.* XI. 107 Leest the Frenchmen might take occasion... to have braved Your Majestie. 1590 GREENE *Orl. Fur.* (1599) 9 Ile beard and braue thee in thy proper towne. 1603 KNOLLES *Turks* (1621) 94 Braving them (if they were men) to come out. 1636 HEYWOOD in *Ann. Dubrensis* (1877) 69 Ossa and Pelion, that so brave the sky. a 1764 LLOYD *Actor Poet.* Wks. 1774 I. 12 Braving monarchs in his Saviour's cause. 1884 TENNYSON *Reckel* 200, I must hence to brave The Pope, King Louis, and this turbulent priest.

† 2. To threaten, menace. *Obs.*

a 1619 Bp. COWPER in Spurgeon *Treas. Dav.* Ps. cxix. 19 He braved him with banishments.

3. To meet or face (danger) with bravery; to encounter, defy. (The ordinary current sense.)

1776 GIBSON *Decl. & F.* I. xvii. 436 The adventurous Leander braved the passage of the flood. 1797 MAS. RADCLIFFE *Italian* I. Do not brave the utter darkness of these ruins. 1832 Ht. MARTINEAU *Life in Wilds* i. 4 Poverty induces them to brave danger. a 1876 J. H. NEWMAN *Hist. Sk.* I. iv. iv. 409 They braved the severe weather of that climate. 1884 *Pall Mall G.* 4 Jan. 2/1 The school braves successfully the ordeal of annual inspection.

† 4. To make brave, embolden, encourage. *Obs.* a 1593 H. SMITH *Wks.* (1856-7) I. 172 We may see... how a gay coat... or a gold ring, can brave a man's mind.

† 5. To make splendid; to deck out, adorn. *Obs.* 1590 EXHORT *Her Maj. Subj.* in *Harl. Misc.* I. 172 Brave not yourselves in gold, silk, and silver. 1594 SHAKS. *Rich.* III. v. iii. 279 He [the sun] should have brau'd the East an hour ago. 1596 — *Tam. Shr.* iv. iii. 125 Thou [the tailor] hast brau'd manie men. 1603 BACON *Love, Ess.* (Arb.) 445 How it [love] braves the Nature, and value of things.

† 6. To boast; 'to carry a boasting appearance of'. *To brave out*: to display boastfully, show off. *To brave oneself*: to boast or pride oneself in.

1581 J. BELL *Haddon's Answ. Osor.* 44 b, Points, which you seeme specially to have called out, that in them you might brave out y^e nimbleness of your witte, and eloquence of toung. a 1606 BACON (J.) Both particular persons and factions are apt enough to flatter themselves or, at least, to brave that which they believe not. 1644-52 J. SMITH *Sol. Disc.* vii. i. (1821) 309 They rather proudly braved themselves in their knowledge of the Deity, etc.

II. *intransitive* (and const. *to brave it*).

† 7. To boast, glory, vaunt. *To brave it*: to swagger, act the bravo. *Obs.*

1540 Dk. SOMERSET in Strype *Ecol. Mem.* II. i. xxii. 180 The Frenchmen... will brave much of this. 1597 J. PAYNE *Royal Exch.* 14 These fellows wyll brave yt out, how slender so ever they be within. 1613 W. BROWNE *Brit. Past.* II. v. (1772) II. 188 Nevermore let holy Dee O're other rivers braue. 1607 Bp. HALL *Psalmes Met.* x. 3 The wicked braves and boasts in his vile and outrageous thought. 1702 C. MATHER *Magn. Chr.* III. iii. (1852) 542 That peace might brave it among you. 1817 WILBERFORCE in *Parl. Deb.* 1693 Braving about the liberties of his country.

† 8. *intr.* To dress splendidly, to make a gay show; freq. also *to brave it*. *Obs.*

1583 T. WATSON *Poems* (Arb.) 60 Thou glasse, wherein my Dame hath such delight, As when she braues, then most on thee to gaze. 1592 DANIEL *Compl. Rosamond* (1717) 52 And live in Pomp to brave among the Best. a 1632 Bp. M. SMYTH *Serm.* 130 To strow it, and to stout it, and to brave it in costly apparell.

9. To act bravely, to be brave. *rare.*

1884 W. C. SMITH *Kildrostan* i. ii. 265 Haunted With the young craving For doing and braving In the world's battle.

Brave: see BRAVY.

† **Braveer**, *v.* *Obs.* *rare* -1. [f. BRAVE: cf. *domineer*, and -*eer*.] To act the bravo towards.

1652 URQUHART *Jewel Wks.* (1834) 240 He dandleth the sword in his hand, as if he were about to braveer us.

Bravely (brā'vli), *adv.* [f. BRAVE a. + -LY 2.]

1. In a brave manner; valiantly, fearlessly. 1590 SHAKS. *Mids. N. v. i.* 148 He bravely broacht his boiling bloody breast. 1695 Ld. PRESTON *Boeth.* IV. 177 Against whose Power virtue can bravely stand. 1795 SOUTHEY *Joan of Arc* II. 211 Still we struggled bravely! c 1860 M. ARNOLD *Emped. on Etna* II. i, The... quiet man May bravelier front his life.

2. In a showy manner; gaily, splendidly, finely, handsomely; = Sc. BRAWLY.

c 1505 DUNBAR *Blyth Aberdeen* vi, With quhyt hattis all browderit rycht bray[elie] (*rime vds.* bewtie, sweetie). 1570 B. GOUGE *Pop. Kingd.* III. (1880) 36 b, Hir Image doe they bravely decke with sumptuous show to sight. 1603 KNOLLES *Hist. Turks* (1621) 373 He saw Zacharias come forth bravely mounted. 1636 DAVENANT *Wits* (1673) 184 The Chamber's bravely hung.

3. Worthily, excellently, capitally, well; cf. BRAVE a. 3; also BRAWLY. Chiefly *dial.*

c 1600 Rob. Hood (Ritson) II. xxvi. 72 None of them could pass these men, So bravely they do shoot. 1606 SHAKS. *Tr. & Cr.* I. ii. 198 Here's an excellent place, heere we may see most bravely. 1684 BUNYAN *Pilgr.* II. (1862) 199 He lives bravely where he is. 1864 ATKINSON *Whitby Gloss.* s.v., 'How do you?' — 'I am quite bravely, thank you'. 'To get on bravely, is to prosper or 'speed bravely'. 1874 BLACKIE *Self-Cult.* 15 A man may live, and live bravely, without much imagination. 1884 BLACK *Jud. Shaks.* xii, The wench looks bravely well.

† **Braveman**. *Obs.* A 'fine gentleman'. 1608 DEKKER *Belman Lond.* Wks. 1884-5 III. 88 To be a Begger is to be a Braveman, because 'tis now in fashion for very brave men to Beg.

Braven, *v.* *rare* -1. [f. BRAVE a.: cf. *brighten*, etc.] *trans.* To make brave, embolden.

1861 J. TAYLOR *Words & Pl.* 26 The failures which seemed only to braven the resolution and to nerve the courage.

Braveness. *v.* *Obs.* [f. BRAVE a. + -NESS.]

The quality of being brave; BRAVERY.

1580 PUTTENHAM *Eng. Poetic* (Arb.) 182 More observable to the Greeks and Latines for the brauenesse of their language, our that our is. 1592 WARNER *Alb. Eng.* VIII. xlii. 201 The beaute and the brauenes of the Person. 1603 HOLLAND *Plutarch's Mor.* 306 (R.) The brauenesse of the exploit. 1650 WELDON *Crt. Jns.* I. 42 Astonied at the brauenesse of our Embassie, and the handsome Gentlemen. 1679 OATES *Narr. Popish Plot* 32 To encourage the Friends to braueness of mind. [Not in JOHNSON 1755.]

Braver (brā'vā), [f. BRAVE v. + -ER 1.] One who braves, or faces, danger or an enemy; also formerly, a braggart, boaster.

1582 NASHE in Greene's *Menaphon* (Arb.) 16 Who... would carry the bucklers full easilie from all foreine bravers. 1591 PERCIVALL *Sq. Dict., Fanfarron*, a bragger, a braver. 1807 *Gentl. Mag.* XCIII. II. 42 Buonaparte... the undaunted braver of every difficulty. 1846 DICKENS *Let.* (ed. 2) I. 156 Such a braver of conventionalities never wore petticoats.

Bravery (brā'vēri), [prob. a. F. *braverie* the action of braving, f. *braver* to BRAVE, or ad. It. *braveria*, f. *bravare* to BRAVE.]

† 1. The action of braving or acting the bravo; daring, defiance; boasting, swaggering; bravado. A *bravery*: an act of bravado. *In, upon, or for a bravery*: in bravado, in defiance, in display of courage or daring, as a *Scot.* *Obs.*

1548 PATTEN *Exped. into Scoll.* in Arb. *Garner* III. 98 The Scots continued their bravery on the hill. 1614 RALEIGH *Hist. World* III. 93 The whole Campe (not perceiving that this was but a bravery) fled amaine. a 1631 DONNE *Ess. Div.* (1651) 63 No Man is an Atheist, however he pretend it and serve the Company with his Braveries. 1671 MILTON *Samson* 1243 Ere long thou shalt lament These braveries, in irons laden on thee. 1814 SOUTHEY *Roderick* xxiv, No time, said he, is this for bravery. 1577 HARRISON *England* II. xii. (1877) 241 In a braverie to show what store he had. 1594 NASHE *Unfort. Trav.* 14. 1603 KNOLLES *Hist. Turks* (1621) 92 Certaine of the souldiers upon a bravarie adventured to mount the wall. 1614 RALEIGH *Hist. World* III. 95 Hee made a stand, rather in a bravery, than with purpose to attempt... any further. 1666 TEMPLE *Let.* Wks. 1731 II. 23 We sate for four Hours, and in Bravery I drank fair like all the rest.

2. Daring, courage, valour, fortitude (as a good quality). In earlier quotations not clearly separable from sense 1. (The ordinary current sense.) 1581 SIDNEY *Apol. Poetrie* (Arb.) 56 He received more braverie of minde, by the patterne of Achilles, then by hearing the definition of Fortitude. 1613 J. H. LIVES *Norman Kings Eng.* 150 Full of inward braverie and fiercenesse. 1732 LAW *Serious C.* xxiv. (1761) 465 The noblest bravery that an human mind is capable of. 1769 JUNIUS *Let.* I. 8 The bravery... of the Commander-in-chief. 1837 Ht. MARTINEAU *Soc. Amer.* III. 116 What can a woman be, or do, without bravery? 1859 TENNYSON *Elaine* 113 Lancelot, the flower of bravery.

3. Display, show, ostentation; splendour. 1570 HOLINSHED *Scot. Chron.* (1806) I. 29 Their apparel was not made for braverie & pompe. 1573 TUSSEY *Husb.* (1878) 204 The braverie of this world... likened to, to floure of grasse. 1600 HOLLAND *Livy* xxiv. iv. 855 a, Wastfull and sumptuous bravery of women. 1673 CAVE *Prim. Chr.* I. vi. 144 The churches began to excel in costliness and bravery. a 1716 SOUTH *12 Serm.* (1717) III. 390 A Festival, designed chiefly for... Joyfull Piety, but generally made only an occasion of Bravery. 1843 PRESCOTT *Mexico* VI. I. (1864) 338 All their wonted bravery of apparel. 1874 C. GEIKIE *Life Woods* v. 73 The leaves are in all their bravery.

b. *concr.* Finery, fine clothes; = Sc. BRAWS.

1563 *Homilies* II. vi. (1859) 309 Preparing ourselves in fine bravery, to wanton, lewd, and unchaste behaviour. 1591 SPENSER *M. Hubberd* 608 All the braverie that eye may see. a 1618 RALEIGH *Rem.* (1644) 100 Exceed not in the humour of rags and bravery. 1636 SYMPSON *Law-breakers*, Have I borrowed the forehorse bells, his plumes, his braveries. 1862 *Times* 26 June 11/1 Tens of thousands... in their decent Sunday bravery. 1870 MORRIS *Earthly Par.* I. i. 86 There stood our guide, decked out with braveries.

† c. An adornment, an embellishment. *Obs.* 1577 HOLINSHED *Chron.* I. 55/1 Such painting of their bodies... they esteemed a great braverie. 1599 HAKLUYT *Voy.* I. i. 224 They vse for a brauerie to make great holes in their eares. *Ibid.* (1810) III. 598 Their teeth are all filed, which they doe for a braverie.

† d. A thing of beauty or interest, a thing to exhibit. *Obs.* 1583 GOLDING *Calvin on Deut.* cvi. 650 A relike to be showed for a brauerie. 1630 FULLER *Pisgah* 426 Two eminent braveries, First, the Golden Vine... The other was that Golden Eagle. 1657 W. COLES *Adam in Eden* To Rdr., What fairer objects... than these painted Braveries?

† e. A fine thing, a matter to boast or be proud of. *Obs.* a 1626 Bp. ANDREWS *Pattern Catech. Doct.* (1846) 150 In a vain glory we think it a braverie and a magnificent thing to swear. 1638 FORD *Fancies* II. i. 145 'Twere a braverie, Could you forget the place.

† 4. Mere show, ostentatious pretence. *Obs.* 1628 HOBBS *Thucyd.* (1822) 95 This is not now rather a braverie of words... than real truth. a 1640 MASSINGER *Old Law* II. i, Worth itself is lost, And bravery stands for 't.

1681 BURNET *Hist. Ref.* II. 241 [They] measured counsels more by the bravery than the solidity of them. † 5. A gallant, a beau; also *collect.* gallants, grantees, chivalry. *Obs.*

1609 B. JOHNSON *Sil. Wom.* I. iii. (1616) 536 Hee is one of the Braveries, though he be none o' the Wits. 1633 MASSINGER *City Mad.* II. i, Sitting at the table with the braveries of the kingdom. a 1652 BROME *Queen's Exch.* I. ii, Whole Sholes of upstart Braveries. a 1670 HACKET *Abp. Williams* (1692) I. 162 (D.) The Grantees also, and others of the Castilian Bravery.

Bravie, var. of BRAVY, *Obs.*, a prize.

Braving (brā'vin), *vbl. sb.* [f. BRAVE v. + -ING 1.] The action of the verb to BRAVE.

1615 CHAPMAN *Odys.* xxi. (R.) With so proud a straine Of threats and braunings. 1627 SANDERSON *Serm.* (1681) 92 If after all this Braving he should be Out-dared with big looks. 1763 C. JOHNSON *Reverie* II. 127 All their braving shall not make me quit the advantages of my situation. 1817 J. H. FRERE *K. Arthur* I. x, True point of honour, without pride or braving.

† **Braving**, *fpl. a.* *Obs.* [f. as prec. + -ING 2.]

1. That braves; daring, defiant, boasting. 1579 J. STUBBS *Gaping Gulf* D iij b, These braving English gentlemen are as farre from the wisdom of theyr noble auncesters... as from theyr courage. 1605 *Play Stucley* 1073 in *Sch. Shaks.* (1878) I. 201 Braving braggart... Look to thyself. 1679 PRANCE *True Narr. Pop. Plot* 6 He spoke openly, and in a braving manner. 1748 RICHARDSON *Clarissa* (1811) II. xxxii. 198 No blustering, braving lover.

2. Showy, resplendent, highly-sounding, stately. 1600 FAIRFAX *Tasso* IX. lxxxii. 175 Fine And brauning in his Turkish pompe he shone. 1633 P. FLETCHER *Elisa* II. xxxiv, The flowers... Spreading their braving colours to the skie. 1649 J. H. MOTION *to Parl.* 41 A many large and braving Tiles.

† **Bravingly**, *adv.* *Obs.* [f. prec. + -LY 2.]

In a braving manner; boastfully, defiantly. 1616 SHELDON *Miracles of Antichr.* 4 (L.) Bravingly, in your epistle to Sir Edward Hobby, you end thus. 1631 BRATHWAITE *Whimzies* 7 Hee domineeres bravely; beares himselfe toward his ragged regiment bravingly.

Bravish (brā'vī), *a.* [f. BRAVE a. + -ISH 1.]

a. Somewhat brave or defiant. b. *dial.* Considerable, pretty fair; cf. BRAVE.

1538 *St. Papers Henry VIII.* III. 83 He is so hawte and chafing that men be aferte to speke to him, doubting his bravish lightnes. 1880 MRS. PARR *Adam & E.* xxvii. 382 'Tis a bravish spell since you and me were together.

Bravissimo: see BRAVO.

† **Bravity**. *Obs.* Also 6 bravite. [a. F. *bravité* (16th c. in Littre): see BRAVE and -ITY.]

= BRAVERY (in various senses). 1546 *St. Papers Hen. VIII.* XI. 100 They see wherunto all the French kinges... gret offres and bravites be cum unto. 1547 *Life 70th Abp. Canterb.* B vj marg., Sumtuons feastinge... great coste in brautitie and Lordly pompe. 1596 BUREL *Queen's Entry Edinb.*, Quoheis bravities can scarce be tauld. 1689 J. WELWOOD *Let. in Walker Remark. Pass.* 23 (JAM.) Brave opportunities for shewing forth the bravery of spirit in suffering.

Bravo (brā'vo), *sb.* Pl. *bravoes* (-os). [a. It. *bravo*: cf. BRAVE. Long naturalized in Eng., whence a pronunciation (brā'vo) in some Dicts.]

1. A daring villain, a hired soldier or assassin; 'a man who murders for hire' (J.); a reckless desperado.

1597 DANIEL *Civ. Wars* III. lxxxii, This bravo cheers these dastards all he can. 1632 MASSINGER *Maid of Hon.* IV. v, Setting-on your desperate Bravo To murder him. 1668 R. LESTRANGE *Viz. Querc.* (1708) 217 Cassius and my self were but your Bravos. 1711 STEELE *Spect.* No. 136 P. 3, I have been three Nights together dogged by Bravoes. 1761 HUME *Hist. Eng.* I. vii. 155 Those bravoes, or disorderly soldiers, with whom every country in Europe... abounded. 1813 SHELLEY *Q. Mab* IV. 178 The hired bravos who defend The tyrant's throne. 1876 GREEN *Short Hist.* VIII. § 6. 528 While the bravoes of Whitehall laid hands on their leaders.

† 2. = BRAVADO. *Obs. rare.*

1609 B. JONSON *Sil. Wom.* iii. vi. (1616) 563 Is this your Brauo, ladies? 1713 *Lond. & Count. Brew.* iv. (1743) 289 For keeping them to a great Age out of a Bravo.

Bravo (brā'vo), *int.* and *sb.* Also in superl. form **bravissimo**. [a. It. *bravo*, superl. *bravissimo* most excellent.] Capital! excellent! well done!

1761 COLMAN *Jealous W.* i. (L.) That's right—I'm steel—Bravo!—Adamant—Bravissimo! 1817 BYRON *Beppo* xxxii. His 'bravo' was decisive. 1875 JOWETT *Plato* (ed. 2) i. 232 Bravo, Heracles, brave words, said he.

Hence, as *sb.* An exclamation of *Bravo!* a cheer. 1844 LD. BROUGHAM *A. Lunet* III. v. 149 He escaped to bed before any bravo could be heard. 1855 O. W. HOLMES *Poems* 29 Whose thousand bravos roll untired along.

Bravo (brā'vo), *v.* [f. BRAVO *sb.* and *int.*] **trans.** † 1. = BRAVE *v.* 1, 2. *Obs.* 2. To greet with 'Bravo!'

1732 *Col. Rec. Penn.* III. 496 Treated with great contempt insulted and bravoed by those of Maryland. 1831 MISS FERRIER *Destiny*, [He] was bravoed and applauded.

† **Bravour, braveur.** *Obs.* [a. F. *bravoure*, ad. It. *bravura* bravery, f. *bravo* BRAVE. (North's *braveur* was a mistaken form, app. after *grandeur*, *hauteur*, etc.)] Valour, bravery, spirit; bravado.

1695 *Whether Parl. be not dissolved*, 4c. 57 The People want bravure to push the Defence of their Liberties. a 1734 NORTH *Lives* III. 226 He carried himself with a sort of bravure against cold. — *Exam.* (1740) 555. *Ibid.* 572.

|| **Bravura** (bravū'ra). [It. : = bravery, spirit.] 1. Display of daring or defiance; brilliancy of execution, dash; attempt at brilliant performance.

1813 *Examiner* 3 May 281/1 *A Thunder Storm* [picture] has a bravura both of conception and execution. 1845 *Blackw. Mag.* LVIII. 260 The great vice of the present day is bravura—an attempt to do something beyond the truth. 1866 CARLYLE *Frederick* Gt. X. xxi. vi. 123 Most shameful this burning of Habelschwert by way of mere bravura. 1879 *Athenaeum* No. 2709 The idea, spontaneous and thrillingly simple, has none of their bravura.

2. A passage or piece of music requiring great skill and spirit in its execution, written to task the artist's powers. Also *transf.*

1888 'PASQUIN' *Childr. Theophis* (1792) 136 In the lofty bravuras she copies the spheres. 1823 W. IRVING *Braceb. Hall* (1849) 44 Listening to a lady amateur skylark it up and down through the finest bravura of Rossini or Mozart. 1846 DE QUINCY *Syst. Heaven's Wks.* 1854 III. 196 A short bravura of John Paul Richter. I call it a bravura, as being intentionally a passage of display and elaborate execution.

3. *attrib.* in the musical sense. 1808 *Edin. Rev.* I. 217 What a Scotch or Irish melody is to a bravura singer. 1845 E. HOLMES *Mosart* 121 The bravura style of violin playing. *Ibid.* 253 The bravura passages should subserve good musical ideas. 1850 L. HUNT *Autobiog.* I. vi. 232 His popular, and not very refined style of bravura-singing. 1880 *Grove Dict. Mus.* I. 272/1 Bravura songs, requiring a compass and a power of execution out of the common.

Hence **Bravuraish** *a.* 1879 *Art Jnl.* June 113 This accomplished artist's bravuraish handling and colouring.

† **Bravy**, *Obs.* Also 7 brave, bravie, bravyvy. [f. med.L. *bravium*, *brabium*, ad. Gr. *βραβειον* prize.] A prize, reward.

1676 BULLOCKAR, *Brave*, the prize given to him that wins in Games of exercise. 1678 PHILLIPS (*App.*), *Bravis* (old word), a reward. 1829 S. TURNER *Hist. Eng.* III. ii. xi. 48 Any vulgar sport where bravium was contended for.] **Braw** (brō), *a., sb., adv.* *Sc.* Also *bra'*. [*Sc.* form of BRAVE, in old pronunciation (brāv): cf. *ca' = calve, ha', hac = have*, etc.]

A. adj. 1. = BRAVE *a.* 2; finely-dressed; splendid, showy. 1724 RAMSAY *Tea-t. Misc.* (ed. 9) I. 8 She was the bravest in a' the town. c 1774 C. KEITH *Farmer's Ha'*, Put on your best array, And let's be braw. 1785 BURNS *Cotter's Sat. Nt.* iv. To show a braw new gown. 1816 SCOTT *Old Mort.* v. 'Ye think yourself a braw fellow enow; and troth...there's na fault to find wi' the outside.' *Ibid.* vi.

2. = BRAVE 3; worthy, excellent, capital, fine.

c 1565 R. LINDSAY *Cron. Scott.* (1728) 584 (JAM.) The recorder of Barwick...maid ane braw speech to his majestie. 1739 A. NICOL *Poems* 27 (JAM.) 'Tis unka bra', When ilka thing yields pleasure. 1814 SCOTT *Wav. xxxix.* 'Ow ay, sir! a braw night', replied the lieutenant. 1827 J. WILSON *Noct. Ambr.* Wks. 1855 I. 357 Peter my braw man...bring but a bottle o' primrose wine.

3. Hence phrases *braw and able*, *braw and canty*, *braw and soon*, etc.: cf. the similar use of *fine, nice*. 1768 ROSS *Helenore* 52 (JAM.) Look'd braw and canty when she came in by.

B. sb. pl. = BRAVERY 3; fine clothes, finery. 1724 RAMSAY *Tea-t. Misc.* (1733) I. 100 When she glaicks paughty in her braws. 1795 MACNEILL *Will & Jean*, 'Thousands had mair braws and siller, But were only half sae fair? 1818 SCOTT *Hrt. Midl.* xvi. 'But, Madge, the lads only like ye when ye hae on your braws.'

† **Brawde**, *v. Obs.* Also *braud*. [See BROWD and BRAID *v.*]

1. *trans.* To embroider. Hence **Brawd** *phl. a.* 1483 *Cath. Angl.* 41 To Brawde, *epigramare*. 1599 HAWES *Past. Pleas.* 200 A goodly garment, Brawd with perle. 1572 *Scot. Poems* 16th C. II. 252 Buft brawd it hois, coit, dowblet, sark and scho.

2. To braid, plait, intertwine. 1555 *Fardle Facions* ii. viii. 175 Rushes...they braude together muche like ourre figgefraille.

Brawden : see BROWDEN *pa. phle.*

Browderer, *-y*, *obs. ff.* BROIDERER, *-Y.*

† **Brawdster**, *Obs.* [f. BRAUDE *v.* + -STER.]

A woman (or man) who embroiders.

c 1450 *Voc. in Wr.* Wülcker 692 *Hec palmaria*, a brawdster. 1483 *Cath. Angl.* 41 A Brawdster, *epigramator*, *epigramatrix*.

Brawl (brōl), *sb.* Also 5-7 brall(e), braul(e), brawle. [f. BRAWL *v.* 1]

1. A noisy turbulent quarrel, a 'row', a squabble. c 1460 *Towneley Myst.* 190 (Mätz.) Thou has long had thi wille, and made many bralle. c 1550 *Scot. Poems* 16th C. II. 181 Many leisings make many brall. 1561 T. NORTON *Calvin's Inst.* ii. 151 They folishly moue a brawle about the name of First begotten. 1655 FULLER *Ch. Hist.* iii. 86 Wheresoever any braule began, in London, it ended alwayes in the Old-Jury, with pillaging of the people therein. 1700 WATTS *Hymn*, Whatever brawls disturb the street, There should be peace at home. 1824 W. IRVING *T. Trav.* II. 242 Astounding the neighbourhood with midnight brawl and ruffian revelry. 1876 GREEN *Short Hist.* vii. § 7. 421 He perished at thirty in a shameful brawl.

† 2. Noisy exclamation, clamour. *Obs.*

1581 J. BELL *Haddon's Answ. Osor.* i. b. I shall have...confuted the most foolish and spitefull braules of Osorius. *Ibid.* 68 Of opinion that your bare braules, shalbe received as infallible truthe. 1621 BIBLE *Ecclus.* xxvii. 14 Their braules make one stop his eares.

† **Brawl**, *sb.* 2. *Obs.* Also 5 browle. [prob. f.

BRAWL *v.* 1, with which at least it was associated in use: but it may have been at first identical with ME. *brull*: see BROLL *sb.*] A brawler, a bravo, a bully.

(Some of the following quotations are quite uncertain.) c 1440 *York Myst.* xxx. 6 What brawle bat with brawlyng me brawis. *Ibid.* xvi. 38 What brawle bat is brawlyng his brayne luke 3e brest. 1652 NEEDHAM tr. *Selden's Mare Cl.* 5 Why not this Bag to mee then too, thou brawl. 1725 BAILEY *Erasm. Collog.* 34 I'm his Swabber...his Book-keeper, his Brawl, his Errand boy. [cf. BROLL *sb.*]

† **Brawl**, *sb.* 3. *Obs.* Also 6-7 brall(e), 6-8 braul(e). [f. BRAWL *v.* 2, or a. F. *branle*, f. *branler*, *brandler*: cf. BRANGLE.]

1. A particular pace or movement in dancing.

1521 COPLAND *Introd. Franche* 16 For to daunce any bace daunce there behoueth .iiii. paces, that is to wite syngle, double: reprice, & braule. 1531 ELYOT *Gov.* (1580) 71 They [the motions] may be well resembled to the braule in daunsing.

2. A kind of French dance resembling a cotillon. a 1541 WYATT *Poet. Wks.* (1861) 182 And in this brawl as he stood entranced. 1549 *Compl. Scot.* vi. 66 Dansand base dancis, pauans, galgadis, turdions, braulis and branglis.

1580 SIDNEY *Arcad.* 73 Holding hand in hand daunce as it were in a braule. 1588 SHAKS. *L. L. L.* iii. i. 9 Will you win your loue with a French braule? 1611 COTGR., *Bransle*, a braule or daunce, wherein many (men and women) holding by the hands sometimes in a ring, and otherwhiles at length moue altogether. 1711 BUNCELL *Spect.* No. 67 ¶ 2 The Lacedaemonians...made their Hormus (a Dance much resembling the French Brawl) famous. 1750 GRAY *Let. in Poems* (1775) 214 My grave Lord-Keeper led the brawls. 1840-1 BARHAM *Ingol. Leg.*, *Avant Fanny*, At some court Fancy-Ball...you may Fancy King Charles, I say, stopping the brawl.

b. The air or music of this dance. c 1600 *Distracted Emp.* iv. i. in Bullen *O. PL* (1884) III. 225, I had thought to have whystled hym a braule for making me daunce attendance.

† c. *fig.* [cf. F. *mener*, *ouvrir le branle*; Eng. 'Lead, open the ball!']

a 1649 DRUMMOND *Hist. Jas. III.* Wks. (1711) 43 The Kennedies...take the occasion...[to] change the brawl of state.

† **Brawl**, *sb.* 4. *Obs.* Also *braul*. 'A blue and white striped cloth manufactured in India.' CRAIG 1725 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 6388/2 The following Goods, viz.: Allejaes, Brawls, Bombay Stuffs. 1788 CLARKSON *Impol. Slave Tr.* 104 Blue cloths, Brawles, Jupatants, Calicoes.

Brawl, *sb.* 5 dial. var. of BROLL, *Obs.* *brat*.

Brawl (brōl), *v.* 1 Also 5-6 brall(e), braul(e), braull. [Late ME.; origin and primary sense uncertain: mod.Du. has *brallen* to brag, boast, mod.Ger. dial. *brallen* to shout, roar, both apparently recent, and of unknown origin. (Franck thinks the Du. prob. echoic, with influence of various other words.) ON. *bralla* 'to trick, job', does not suit the sense. F. *brailler* to shout, make a din, bawl, found in 14th c. (which Littre thinks a deriv. of *braire* to Bray) approaches the sense, but could not phonetically be the source of the Eng. word. Mätzner separates *brall* to make a noise, and *brawl* to quarrel, but such a division does not appear tenable.]

1. *intr.* 'To quarrel noisily and indecently' (J.); to wrangle; to squabble. (In very early use and in Shaks. 1597 it was perhaps simply 'to contend, strive, quarrel'.)

1375 BARBOUR *Bruce* i. 573 That brwyss, that presumyt swa Aganyss him to brawle or ryss. c 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 48/1 Brawlyn or strywen, *litig.*, *jurgo*. 1474 CAXTON *Chesse* 125 Gyue thou place to hym that brawleth or chideth. 1530 ELYOT *Gov.* i. xxii. Men do braule, when betwene them is alteration in wordes. 1548 COVERDALE *Erasm. Par.* i. Cor. i. 10 To fyght and braule with wordes, is agaynst honestie. 1597 SHAKS. 2 *Hen. IV.* i. iii. 70 His diuisions (as the Times do brawle) Are in three Heads. 1609 BIBLE (Douay) *Gen.* xxvi. 21 They brawled likewise, and he called the name of it, Enmitie. 1741-3 WESLEY *Jrnl.* (1749) 92 Expell'd the society...Three, for quarrelling and brawling.

1853 LYNCH *Self-Improv.* iv. 100 A gentleman will not brawl with everybody, nor indeed brawl with anybody.

† b. *trans.* To chide, scold, revile. *Obs.*

1474 CAXTON *Chesse* 36 Brawlyng and betyng hym as his seruaut. 1483 — *G. de la Tour* Gvb, She that brawled and reproched her of her husbondes. a 1500 SKELTON *Why nat to Court* 593 His seruantes menyall He doth reuyle and brall. a 1649 DRUMM. OF HAWTH. *Idea Wks.* (1711) 220 They will essay to brawl the present form of state and church-government.

2. *intr.* To raise a clamour, make a disturbance; in early use sometimes to brag or boast loudly. (*To brawl in church* technically includes any speaking other than as prescribed in the Prayer Book.)

1447-8 SHILLINGFORD *Let.* (1871) 23 He can...braule, brayge, and brace, lye and swere well to. c 1460 *Towneley Myst.* 141 Begyn he to bralle, many men cache skorne. 1513 DOUGLAS *Æneis* xii. viii. 84 Now brawland in this place, now voustand thar. 1523 LD. BERNERS *Froiss.* I. clix. 203 And belles began to braule, wherby it myght well be knownen that ther was besynesse in hande. 1552 Act 5 ¶ 6 *Edu. VI.* iv. § 1 If any Person...by Wordes only, quarrel, chide or brawl in any Church or Churchyard. 1579 TOLSON *Calvin's Sermon* Tim. 16/2 They brall as cattes & doggs in an vnknown language. 1594 SHAKS. *Rich.* III. i. iii. 324, I do the wrong, and first begin to brawle. 1827 CARLYLE *Fr. Rev.* II. ii. v. v. 66 Patriotism...may brawl and babble yet a little while.

† b. *refl.* To boast oneself loudly. *Obs.*

? a 1400 *Morte Arth.* 1349 Loo! how he brawles hym for hys bryghte wedes.

c. *trans.* To utter clamorously.

1563 *Mirr. Mag.*, *Rivers* x, No matter what they brall. 1597 SHAKS. 2 *Hen. IV.* ii. i. 71 What are you brauling here? 1832 TENNYSON *Pal. Art* 210, I care not what the sects may brawl.

3. *intr.* Of a stream: To make a noise of conflict in its rapid course over stones, etc.

1600 SHAKS. *A. Y. L.* ii. i. 32 The brooke that brawles along this wood. 1809 W. IRVING *Knickerb.* ii. iv. (1849) 109 The late dimpling current began to brawl around them. 1814 SCOTT *Ld. of Isles* iii. xii, A wild stream...Came brawling down its bed of rock. 1869 SPURGEON *J. Ploughm.* Talk 43 Shallowest brooks brawl the most.

4. with *compl. (trans.)* To drive or force down, out, etc., by brawling.

1595 SHAKS. *John* ii. i. 383 Till their soule-fearing clamours haue brawl'd downe The flintie ribbes of this contemptuous Citie. 1726 DE FOE *Hist. Devil* i. iv. (1840) 57 Juno was within an ace of brawling him out of heaven. 1837 CARLYLE *Fr. Rev.* I. i. v. vii. 155 So must Paris...brawl itself finally into a kind of sleep.

† **Brawl**, *v.* 2. *Obs.* Also *braul*. [Possibly ad. F. *branle-r* to move from side to side: cf. *vamure*, *vauward* for *avanimur*, *van-ward*.] *intr.* To move to and fro, vibrate, waver, quiver.

1375 BARBOUR *Bruce* xii. 131 Quhen he hys fayis saw brawland sua, In hy upon thaim gan he ga. c 1450 *Merlin* xiv, 206 The dragon hadde a wide throte that the tounge seemed braulinge euer.

Brawler (brō'lar). Also 6 braller, brauler, *Sc.* brallar. [f. BRAWL *v.* 1 + -ER.]

1. One engaged in or given to brawls; a quarrelsome, wrangling fellow; a breaker of the peace.

1377 LANGL. *P. PL.* B. xvi. 43 Bakbiteres breke-cheste brawleres and chideres. 1387 TREVISA *Higden* Rolls Ser. IV. 209, I-slawe with swerdes of comoun countakkors [or brawlers, *gladiatorum*]. c 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 48 Brawlere, *litigator*. a 1593 H. SMITH *Wks.* II. (1867) 253 If they be dicers, swearers, drunkards, brawlers. 1735 OLDYS *Ralph* Wks. 1829 I, Thou shalt be in as much danger in contending with a brawler in a private quarrel as in a battle. 1825 MACAULAY *Hist. Eng.* IV. 654 A tavern brawler...swaggering drunk about the streets.

2. A noisy contentious talker.

c 1510 J. INGLES *Gen. Satyre* ix, Sic brallaris and bosteris, degenerat fra their natures. 1581 J. BELL *Haddon's Answ. Osor.* 2 This prattling brawler hath framed a long discourse. 1698 WASHINGTON tr. *Milton's Def. Pop.* xii. (1851) 246 That Clause in the Coronation Oath, which such a brazen-fac'd Brawler as you call fictitious. 1713 BR. GIBSON *Art. Visitation* in Toulm. Smith *Parish* (1857) 94 Is he a brabler, brauler, contentious, seditious party? 1837 CARLYLE *Fr. Rev.* II. ii. v. v. 65 A blustering Effervescence, of brawlers and spouters.

Brawling (brō'lin), *vbl. sb.* 1 [f. BRAWL *v.* 1]

1. Noisy quarrelling; wrangling; contention; 'row'. 1393 LANGL. *P. PL.* C. xvii. 306 For brawelynge and bacbytyng and beryng of false wittnesse. c 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 48/1 Brawlyng, *jurgium*. 1661 BRAMHALL *Just Vind.* vi. 154 That insana lawne, which causeth brawling and contention. 1657 COLVIL *Whigs Supplic.* (1751) 40 Soldiers forging ale-house brawlings.

2. Clamour; indecent or offensive noise; scolding.

c 1440 *York Myst.* xxx. 142 Pat boy for his brawlyng Were bettir be vn-borne. 1562 J. HEYWOOD *Prov. & Epigr.* (1867) 64 My brawlyng at home, makith him banket abroad. 1581 J. BELL *Haddon's Answ. Osor.* 43 Your unmeasurable brawlyng hath altogether weryed me. 1596 SHAKS. 1 *Hen. IV.* ii. ii. 6 Peace ye fat-kidney'd Rascall, what a brawling dost thou keepe. 1704 BURKE *Imp. W. Hastings* Wks. XVI. 78 Noise and brawlings of criminals...raving at the magistrate. 1883 *Congregationalist* May 387 A procedure which was brawling in church, and a brawling of a very bad type.

3. The confused din of a stream or torrent.

1837 HAWTHORNE *Amer. Note Bks.* (1871) i. 59 No noise but the brawling...of the stream. 1859 JEPHSON *Brittany* ix. 139, I could hear the brawling of the little river beneath. 1884 GILMOUR *Mongols* 153 The brawling of the torrent rose mingled with the sound of the fall.

† **Brawling**, *vbl. sb.* 2. *Obs.* [f. BRAWL *v.* 2 + -ING.] Motion from side to side, quivering.

† a 1400 *Morte Arth.* 2176 Pat braste at þe brawlyng, and brake in þe myddys!

Brawling (brɔːlɪŋ), *v.* [f. BRAWL v.1 + -ING².] That brawls: a. Noisily quarrelsome, wrangling; b. Clamorous, noisy, bawling; c. Flowing with noise and commotion, as a brook.

1335 COVERDALE *Prov.* xix. 13 A brawlyng wife is like the topp of an house, where thorow it is euer droppynge. 1591 ASCHAM *Scholem.* (1863) 130 For all those brawling Bulles of Basan. 1623 T. ADAMS *Exp. a Peter* ii. 20 The beating mallet upon the brawling metal disquiets him. 1796 THOMSON *Winter* 69 The brawling brook And cave, presageful, send a hollow moan. 1800 SCOTT *Abbot* ii. A brawling ruffian, and a common stabber. 1879 SEGUIN *Black For.* xi. 183 A chasm . . . through which a narrow brawling trout-stream makes its way.

† **Brawlingly**, *adv.* Obs. rare. [f. prec. + -LY².] In brawling manner.

1554 HULOET, Brawlinglye. *rixose.* 1579 J. JONES *Preserv. Body & Soul* i. xi. 22 Let the doggish Philosopher . . . neuer so brawlingly prate to the contrarie.

Brawlsome (brɔːlsəm), *a.* [f. BRAWL + -SOME, after *quarrelsome*.] Given to brawls, quarrelsome. 1845 WHITEHALL xvi. 112 'Tis not in good liquor to be brawlsome.

Brawly (brɔːli), *adv.* Sc. Also brawlies. [f. BRAW + -LY².] Finely; excellently, well.

1794 BURNS *Charley my Darling* iv. Brawly well he ken'd the way 'to please a bonie lass. 1816 SCOTT *Old Mort.* x. He can hit a mark brawly. 1818 — *Hrt. Midl.* xxix. You Cameronian bodies ken that brawlies.

Brawn (brɔːn), *sb.* Forms: 4 brahun, 4-6 braun(e), 4 brawn, 4-7 brawne, (5 browne), 6 brawnye, 5-brawn. [a. OF. *braon*, *braoun* (*braion*) fleshy part, muscle, particularly the most fleshy part of the hind leg, originally a part suitable for roasting, corresp. to Pr. *bradon*; ad. WGer. *brādo*, f. *brādan* to roast (see BREDE v.1). The specific sense 'boar's flesh' is exclusively of English development, and characteristic of English habits.]

1. Fleshy part, muscle; esp. the rounded muscles of the arm, leg and thumb.

c 1325 *Gloss W. de Biblerworth* in Wright *Voc.* 148 En la jambe [the caalf] est la sure [brahun]. c 1386 CHAUCER *Knts.* T. 1280 Hise lymes grete, hise brawnes harde and stronge. 1398 TREVISIA *Barth. De P. R.* v. xxvii. (1495) 136 The armes ben . . . coueryd wyth skynne brawne and strenges with fleshe amonge. c 1400 *Pallad. on Husb.* iv. 675 Take oxen yonge . . . in brawnes rising greet. 1568 JACOB & ESAU ii. ii. in Hazl. *Dodsley* II. 209 My teeth I can scarcely charm From gnawing away the brawn of my very arm. 1608 MIDDLETON *Mad World* ii. vii. Is not your honour sore about the brawn of the arm? 1617 MARKHAM *Caval.* ii. 49 Your thombe close vpon the reynes, with the brawne thereof turned toward the pomell of your saddle. 1718 POPP *Iliad* xvi. 374 His blow . . . transpierced his thigh, Tore all the brawn. 1769 BLACKSTONE *Comm.* IV. 360 All laymen who are allowed this privilege shall be burnt with a hot iron in the brawn of the left thumb. 1865 HOLLAND *Plain* T. viii. 27 God makes a man of bone, brawn and blood.

b. *spec.* The arm, the calf of the leg, the buttock. 1386 WYCLIF *Job* xxii. 9 The brawnes [schuldris; Vulg. *lacertos*; 1611 *armos*] of moderles childer thou to-brostedist. 1581 NUZZ *Seneca's Octavia* 175 Sir Brutus sterne, his brawnes and armes didt dight, His soueraigne liege to slayne by force and might. 1607 SHAKS. *Cor.* iv. v. 126 Once more to hew thy Target from thy Brawne. 1864 *Glasgow Her.* 24 Sept., Stiffish a little, with a peculiar sensation about the brawns.

c. *transf.* and *fig.* 1601 HOLLAND *Pliny* I. 470 The outside . . . of the leaf hath in it certain strings, sinues or veins, brawns and ioynts. 1883 H. GEORGE *Progr. & Pov.* 388 Liberty is . . . the brawn of national strength, the spirit of national independence.

† 2. The muscle or flesh of animals as food. c 1340 *Gaw. & Gr. Knt.* 1631 Suche a brawne of a best. . . Ne such sydes of a swyn, segh he never are. 1393 LANGL. *P. Pl. C.* xvi. 67 Braun and blod of þe goos, bacon and col-hoppes. c 1400 *Anc. Cookery in Housh. Ord.* (1790) 430 Then take the braune of hennes, or of capons, and bray hom. 1513 *Bk. Kerynges in Babes Bk.* (1868) 279 Bytwene the foure membris laye the brawne of the capon. 1519 HORNAM *Vulg.* 164 b. He hath eate all the braune of the lopster. 1601 HOLLAND *Pliny* I. 297 While one loues nothing but the leg [of a fowl], another likes and praises the white brawne alone. 1665 MOUTFET & BENN. *Health's Improv.* (1746) 150 Mingling the Brawns of Peacocks with Porks Flesh. 1666 *Shepherd's Kal.* xxvii. In the winter shepherds do eat beef . . . Brawn of Harts, Hinds and all kind of venison.

b. In Coverdale and the 'Great Bible', used to render Heb. בָּרֵךְ 'fat', where Geneva, 1611, and Rev. V. have 'grease'. (The orig. meaning is uncertain. The Septuagint, Vulgate, Wyclif, Douay, following a different pointing of the Heb., בָּרֵךְ, render 'is curdled like milk'.)

1535 COVERDALE *Ps.* cxviii. [cxix.] 70 Their herte is as fat as brawne.

3. *spec.* The flesh of the boar. (Often defined as 'brawn of a boar', even in 16th c.) In recent use, the flesh of a boar (or swine), collared, boiled, and pickled or potted. [With the restriction of application we may compare the restriction of *bacon*, a deriv. of *back*, to the cured back and sides of the pig.]

1377 LANGL. *P. Pl. B.* xiii. 62 Wombe-cloutes and wyld brawne & egges yfryed with grece. c 1386 CHAUCER *Franklin's T.* 526 Brawen of the tusked swyn. c 1440 *Prompt. Parv.* 48

Brawne of a bore, *aprina.* c 1460 *Towneley Myst.* 89 Lay furthe of oure store, Lo here browne of a bore. 1570 LEVINS *Manip.* 44 Brawne, *caro callata, aprina, callum.* 1614 MARKHAM *Cheap Husb.* (1623) 129 The best feeding of a Swine for Larde, or a Boare for Brawne. 1641 MILTON *Animadv.* (1851) 200 Is a man therefore bound . . . at noon to Brawn, or Beeffe? a 1704 T. BROWN *Pleas. Ep.* Wks. 1730 l. 110 Private deliberations over brawn and guest-ale. 1781 *Westm. Mag.* II. 47 This turban for my head is collar'd brawn! 1828 SOUTHEY *Ep. A. Cunningham*, Whether ham, bacon, sausage, souse or brawn.

4. *transf.* A boar (or swine) as fattened for the table. *dial.* Cf. BACON.

† a 1400 *Morte Arth.* 1095 Brokbrestede as a brawne, with brustils fulle large. 1601 *Ord. R. Housh.* (1790) 288 The Serjeant of the Larder hath for his fee . . . the feete cut off at the first joint of every braune spent in the Queenes house. 1630 J. TAYLOR (Water P.) *Gl. Eater Kent* Wks. i. 144/2 What say you to the Leaf or Flecke of a Brawne new kild? 1705 SUSANNA WESLEY in Eliza Clarke *Life* (1886) 55 To spread a report that my own brawn (boar) did this mischief. 1791 COWPER *Iliad* ix. 258 With the flesh of sheep And of a fatted brawn. 1807 STAGG *Poems* 18 Loud as brawns war snowran.

5. Hardened or thickened skin, the result of continued friction; also *fig.* L. *callum.*

1576 LYTE *Dodoens* ix. lxvii. 744 The hard skynne or brawne that is in the handes or feete, which is gotten by labour. 1617 HIERON *Wks.* 1619-20 II. 374 Corsiues for the eating out that dead flesh which is in their hearts, & for the paring off that brawne which is growne vpon them. 1639 FULLER *Holy War* II. xiv. (1840) 69 Witness the brawn on his hands and knees made with continual praying. 1639 HORN & ROSS. *Gale Lang. Unl.* xxv. § 320 A brawn [thick skin] from hardning.

6. *Attrib. and Comb.*, as *brawn-bands*, *-buttock*; *brawn-fed*, *-like* adjs.; † *brawn-fallen a.*, shrunken in flesh, thin, skinny.

1653 PLAT *Gard. Eden* 67 Binding the bark . . . with a packthred, or rather with *brawn-bands, will keep roses long from blowing. 1601 SHAKS. *All's Well* II. ii. 19 The barbers chair . . . fits . . . the *brawn-buttock, or any buttock. 1779 LYLIE *Euphues* (Arb.) 127 Were not Milo his armes *brawne-fallen for want of wrastling. 1606 CHAPMAN *Gentl. Usher* plays 1873 l. 288 Leane and brawn-falne; I and scarsly sound. 1703 FARQUHAR *Inconstant* I. (D.) For our women here in France, they are such lean *brawn-fall'n jades. 1567 DRANT *Hor. Epist.* xv. E vj. That I may cum *brawne fed. 1849-54 TODD *Cycl. Anat. & Phys.* IV. 1393/2 The surrounding cellular texture . . . puts on a *brawn-like character.

Brawn (brɔːn), *v.* [f. prec.]

1. *trans.* To harden; to render callous; also *fig.* Obs. (at least in *fig.* sense).

1571 GOLDING *Calvin on Ps.* xlii. 5 Those which have bin enured to miserie from theyr chylthod, wer brauned. 1593 NASHE *Christ's T.* 13 b. If thou hadst not embured or brauned thine owne hands . . . in blood. 1641 BAKER *Chron.* 29/2 With continual kneeling her knees were brauned. 1653 A. WILSON *Jas. I.* 91 Industry brawns and hardens the Armes.

2. *intr.* To become hard or callous.

1839-47 TODD *Cycl. Anat. & Phys.* III. 254/2 This cutaneous cancer . . . consists of a brawning induration.

3. *trans.* To fatten (a boar).

1655 MOUTFET & BENN. *Health's Improv.* (1746) 147 The best Way of brawning a Boar is this . . . Before Christmas he will be sufficiently brawned with continual lying, and prove exceedingly fat, wholesome and sweet. a 1843 SOUTHEY *Nonsensicor.* iv. Pigs were made for man . . . born to be brawn'd And baconized.

† 4. *intr.* To grow fat. (Of a boar.) Obs.

1580 TUSSEY *Hush.* xv. (1878) 40 At Mihelmas safely go stie vp thy Bore . . . better he brawneth if hard he doo lie.

Brawneche, **Brawdnesche**, obs. forms of BRANCH, BRANDISH.

Browned (brɔːnd), *v.* Also 6 brand. [f. BRAWN + -ED.]

1. Well-furnished with muscle; having well-developed arms, thighs, and legs; muscular, brawny. c 1505 DUNBAR *Tha Mariit Women* 429 To see quhat berne is best brand, or brested in schuldris. 1523 FITZGER. *Hush.* § 75. 1565 GOLDING *Ovid's Met.* viii. (1593) 190 Right dreadfull was to see his brawned necke. 1577 B. GOOGE *Heresbach's Hush.* (1586) 115 Thies large and well brawned. 1609 HOLLAND *Amm. Marcell.* xxx. ix. 397 His bodie was well brawned [*lacertosus*], muscularous and strong.

2. Covered with thickened skin; hardened, callous; chiefly *fig.* Obs. (at least in *fig.* sense.)

1583 STANFURST *Aeneis* I. (Arb.) 24 O deere companions . . . Brawnd with woorse venturs. 1612 T. TAYLOR *Comm. Titus* II. 14. 314 A brawned conscience begets defence of sinne. a 1656 BR. HALL *Sel. Thoughts* § 63 Not so brawned under the rod that we should not feel it.

† 3. Fattened as a boar. Obs.

1554 HULOET, Brawned, or hard of flesh, lyke a boore. 1583 GOLDING *Calvin on Dent.* clxxx. 1125 They became fatte . . . and as it were so brawned that they were ready to burst with greace. 1601 DENT *Pathiv. Heaven* 172 Fattning themselves like Boares . . . till they be well brawned.

† **Brawnness**. Obs. rare⁻¹. [f. prec. + -NESS.] Callousness.

1635 R. BOLTON *Conf. Aff. Cons.* iii. 103 An insensible brawnness . . . impressed upon their conscience.

Brawler (brɔːnə), [f. BRAWN v. + -ER: cf. *porker*.] A boar fattened for the table.

1708 W. KING *Cookery* (R.) Send up the brawler's head. 1809 *Edin. Rev.* XIII. 341 The misery of the brawler.

Brawniness (brɔːnɪnəs), [f. BRAWN + -NESS.] 1. Muscular quality; muscularity.

1684 CHARNOCK *Wks.* II. 150 The brawniness of his arm. 1828 SCOTT *F. M. Perth* II. The length and brawniness of his arms.

† 2. Callousness, insensibility. Obs.

a 1645 J. DON in Spurgeon *Treas. Dav.* Ps. xiv. 5 A brawniness hath overgrown their consciences. 1656 TRAPP *Comm. Eph.* iv. 18 Hardness, brawniness, a hoof upon their hearts. 1698 LOCKE *Educ.* § 113 This Brawniness and Insensibility of the Mind, is the best Armour we can have.

† **Brawnness**, obs. var. of BRAWNINESS.

1398 TREVISIA *Barth. De P. R.* vii. lix. (1495) 273 The members of the heed dispose their superfluties . . . to the brawnness of the throte and soo comyth Squynancye. 1598 FLORIO, *Callosita*, hardness, brawnness.

Brawny (brɔːni), *a.* Also 6-7 brawney, -ie. [f. BRAWN sb. + -Y¹.]

1. Characterized by muscle or muscular strength.

1599 MARSTON *Scot. Villanie* II. v. 195 O, brawny strength is an all-canning charme. a 1644 QUARLES *Argument* in Farr's *S. P.* (1848) 134 Would any strive with Samson for renowne, Whose brawney arme can strike most pillars down? 1741 WATTS *Improv. Mind* (1801) 346 Samson and Goliath would have lost . . . their brawny limbs, in the course of half a century. 1842 LONGER *Vill. Blacksmith* i. The muscles of his brawny arms are strong as iron bands.

† b. Of a fruit: 1 fleshy. Obs.

c 1400 *Pallad. on Husb.* III. 742 Oxe dounge about her rootes . . . The pomes saddle and brawny wol it gete.

2. Characterized by hardened skin.

1613 LIFE *Will. I. in Select. Harl. Misc.* (1793) 26 After her death, her knees appeared brawny and hard, with much kneeling at her devotions. a 1638 MEDE *Wks.* III. 678 That which is seared, becomes more hard and brawny. 1702 ECHARD *Ecc. Hist.* (1710) 335 His knees became hard and brawny as a Camels. 1879 I. BRYANT *Prac. Surg.* II. 252 The disease appears as a brawny infiltration of the breast.

† 3. *fig.* Callous, hardened, unfeeling. Obs.

1596 BR. BARLOW 3 *Serm.* l. 43 If his heart yarne not, it is brawnie. a 1638 MEDE *Apost. Later Times* 118 A hard and a brawny Conscience, which hath no feeling in it. a 1694 TILLOTSON *Serm.* clxxv. (1743) IX. 4105 Some men . . . by sin . . . bring themselves into a brawny and insensible condition.

4. *Comb.*, chiefly parasynthetic, as *brawny-chined*, *-fisted*, *-hearted*, *-limbed*, etc.

a 1639 W. WHATELY *Prototypes* II. xxxiv. (1640) 165 So brawney-hearted, that they would but laugh at Christ himselfe if he should bid them weepe. 1795 POPP *Odys.* xx. 204 Three porkers for the feast, all brawny-chined, He brought. 1870 *Daily News* 14 Nov., Of all the ladies of Belleville they are . . . the brawnied-fisted.

Braxy (bræksi), *sb.* and *a.* Sc. Forms: see below. [Etymology and even form uncertain: Jamieson has the forms *braik* (sing.), *bracks* (pl.), *braxes* (pl.), and *braxit*, as well as *braxy*. Either the latter is orig. an adj. *brax-y*, formed from a collective pl. *bracks*, *brax* (cf. *peasy*, *poxy*), or it is an erroneous sing. deduced from *braxes*, as if this were *braxie-s*. Prob. 'the bracks' is the original, being a special use of the pl. of BRACK in some sense derived from BREAK. Cf. OE. *bræc* rheum, catarrh, also *bræc-cōbu* and *bræc-sleocnes* falling sickness, *bræc-sleoc* ill with falling sickness. As examples of the ways in which names of diseases are treated, we may compare *fox* for *pocks*, *axis*, *axes*, *axys* (often as pl.) for *access*, *jaundys* pl. for *jaundice*.]

1. The popular name in Scotland of splenic apoplexy in sheep; an inflammatory disease of the internal parts, rapid and fatal in its effect. 1791 *Statist. Acc. Scotl.* IV. 8 (*Lethnat. Forf.*) A disease which is here called the Braxes. — *Ibid.* 242 (*Barry, Forf.*) Among the shepherds it is called the Bracks. — *Ibid.* 11. 440 (*Selkirk*) The braxy as some call it. 1793 *Ibid.* IX. 326 The sheep that died of the braxy in the latter end of autumn. 1822 W. NAPIER *Store-farming* 58 The sickness or braxy has been very fatal in many parts of this country.

2. as *adj.* Characterized by this disease, as *braxy-sheep*, *mutton*; also *absol.* the flesh of a braxy sheep, or, generally, of one that has died by disease or accident. 1795 BURNS *Ep. W. Simson* xix, While moorland herds like guid, fat braxies. 1824 H. MILLER *Sch. & Schm.* ix. (1857) 165 Two tall pyramids of braxy mutton heaped up each on a corn-riddle. 1863 N. MACLEOD in *Gd. Words* 503 The occasional dinner luxury of Braxy, — a species of mutton which need not be too minutely inquired into. 1880 *Cornh. Mag.* June 691 Braxy is the flesh of sheep which have died a natural death, by flood, drift, or disease.

Hence **Braxied** *v.* and *pp.*

1870 STEWART *Lochaber* xix. (1883) 112 A tender lamb or braxied sheep.

Bray (brɛɪ), *sb.*1 [f. BRAY v.1, or a. OF. *bray*, *brat* 'cry', f. *braire*.] † 1. Outcry; a loud cry, a shriek. Obs.

a 1300 *K. Alis.* 2175 So gret bray, so gret crieing For the folk there was dyeing. c 1450 *Mertin* xviii. 300 The lady vnderstode the brayes and the cries that the bretheren made a-boute hir. 1554 EDW. VI. *Let. Ixii.* (Roxb.) 87 You cannot yet ask leave to return . . . till this bray do cease. 1558 PHAER *Aeneid* IV. liij b, Thirise she sounding fell, and there upon she gaue a braye. 1596 SPENSER *F. Q.* IV. viii. 62 The Tyrant selfe came forth with yelling bray.

2. The cry peculiar to some animals, esp. the ass; humorously of the human voice.

1650 T. BAYLY *Herba Parietis* 37 No brayes of asses, nor of bulls. 1728 POPE *Dunciad* II. 251 Sore sighs Sir Gilbert, starting, at the bray . . . So swells each wind-pipe; Ass intones to Ass. 1798 WORDSW. *Peter Bell* I. 55 The Ass sent forth A long and clamorous bray! 1834 H. AINSWORTH *Rookwood* I. iii. A snorting bray [of a buck] was heard. 1870 LOWELL *Among my Bks.* I. (1873) 338 The solemn bray of one pedagogy was taken up and prolonged in a thousand echoes.

3. transf. A loud harsh sound produced by natural agencies, brass musical instruments, etc.

1593 SHAKS. *Rick. II.* l. iii. 135 With harsh resounding Trumpets dreadful bray. 1813 SCOTT *Trierm.* iii. xvii. And with rude crash and jarring bray The rusty bolts with draw. 1821 JOANNA BAILLIE *Met. Leg., Wallace* lxxx. 9 The white churned foam with angry bray. 1884 J. COLBORNE *With Hicks Pasha* 121 Unearthly shrieks and brays from brass instruments and horns.

† **Bray**, *sb.* ² *Obs.* [f. **BRAY** *v.* ²] A baker's pestle. c 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 46 Bray or braken, baxteris instrument, *pinna*.

Bray (*brɪ*), *v.* ¹ Also 4-7 *brai*(e), *braye*. [ME. *braie*, *braye*, a. F. *bray-re* (11th c. in Littré) 'to cry' (now only of the ass), = Pr. *braire* to cry, Rumansch *bragir*, med. L. *bragire* (Diez): perh. of Celtic origin, f. a stem *brag-* cogn. with L. *fragor*; cf. OIr. *braigim* 'pedo' (Thurneysen). The original sense would thus be 'to make a crackling, grating, or jarring noise'.]

† **1. intr.** To cry out, to utter a loud harsh cry; esp. of grief or pain. *Obs.*

c 1300 *Cursor M.* 2667 He sal here it [heaven] cri to wonder, bath cri and bray for dute and drede. 1413 LYDGATE *Pylgr. Soule* ii. xlv. (1859) 50 Now, wepeh, yellyth, cryeth, brayeth, as besy as ye can. 1508 *Ord. Crysten Men* v. ii. (1506) 358 For to cry & to braye in wepyng & in playnyng. 1513 DOUGLAS *Eneis* i. v. 120 The horrible tyrant with bloody mouth shall bray. 1554 HULOET, Bray or cry lamentably. 1596 SPENSER *F. Q.* i. viii. 11 The Gyant... loudly brayd with beastly yelling sound. 1613 R. C. *Table Alph.* (ed. 3) *Exclame*, bray, or cry out.

b. predicated of the cry.

1596 SPENSER *F. Q.* i. vi. 7 Her shrill outcries and shrieks so loud did bray.

2. Of animals: formerly the cry of horses, oxen, deer, etc.; now chiefly used of the ass.

1380 *Sir Ferumb.* 366 Pat hors... faste gan neye and loud braye. 1393 *Gower Conf. I.* 144 And though him lacke vois of speche... He [Nebuchadnezzar] kneleth in his wise and braith to seche mercy. 1481 CAXTON *Myrr.* ii. vi. 77 Thenne he [an elephant] begynneth for to braye, crye and waylle. 1534 LD. BERNERS *Gold. Bk. M. Aurel.* (1546) Q. There is not so croked a hors, but yf he see a mare, he will braye ones or twice. 1560 BIBLE *(Geneva)* Ps. xlii. 1 As the hart brayeth for the rivers of water [cf. 1611 *marg.*]. 1614 RALEIGH *Hist. World* iii. iv. § 4 The first Horse that brayed. 1633 P. FLETCHER *Purple Isl.* i. xvii. What cares an asse for arts: he brayes at sacred Muses. 1667 DRYDEN *Virg. Georg.* iii. 575 Stags... pitifully bray. 1715 GAY *Trivia* ii. (R.) Before proud gates attending asses bray. 1726 THOMSON *Winter* 824 As... they [deer]... piteous bray. 1877 A. B. EDWARDS *Up Nile* iv. 91 The donkey kicks up his heels and brays.

b. contemptuously of the human voice.

1635 A. STAFFORD *Fem. Glory* (1869) 90 Hee vehemently braies out against my Rhetorical flowers. 1644 H. MORE *Song of Soul* i. ii. cxxxii. 1692 WASHINGTON *tr. Milton's Def. Pop.* v. (1851) 150 None ever brayed so learnedly. 1876 BLACKIE *Songs Relig. & Life* 220 With fervid wheels pursue, Though thousands bray around thee.

3. *transf.* Of wind, thunder, musical instruments, etc. (now esp. of the trumpet): To make a loud harsh jarring sound.

1340 *Ayenb.* 73 Per pou ssett yzy... ver bernynde, brenton stinkinde, tempeste braynde. 1485 CAXTON *Chas. Gt.* (1880) 165 A ryuer... whyche... renneth so fast and brayeth. 1570 B. GOOGE *Pop. Kingd.* iii. 928 Till in the loftie heauens darke, the thunder bray no more. 1605 BLACKMORE *Pr. Arthur* viii. 375 Swords clash with Swords, Bucklers on Bucklers bray. 1757 GRAY *Bard* ii. iii. Heard ye the din of battle bray? 1805 SCOTT *Last Minstr.* l. vi. They watch to hear the war-horn braying. 1812 J. & H. SMITH *Rej. Addr.* xvii. 162 Brays the loud trumpet, squeaks the fiddle sharp. 1854 SEIDEL *Organ* 180 The reed-registers must not rattle or bray. 1874 BLACKIE *Lays Highl.* 79 Little rock they, how the storm may bray.

b. Of a place: To resound in like manner.

1607 SHAKS. *Timon* ii. ii. 160 Euery roome Hath blaz'd with Lights, and brayd with Minstrelsie. 1728 POPE *Dunciad* ii. 260 Walls, steeples, skies bray back to him again.

4. *trans.* To utter harshly (cries, sounds, etc.). Often with *out*.

c 1325 E. E. *Allit. P.* A. 346 Braundysch & bray py brayez breme. 1531 ELYOT *Gov.* ii. vi. Roryng and braying out wordes despytful. 1579 FULKE *Heskins' Parl.* 4 What asse of Acarnania wold braye out suche a reason? 1588 GREENE *Pandosto* (1843) 23 Pandosto... in a fury brayed out these bitter speeches. 1608 SHAKS. *Ham.* i. iv. 11 The kettle Drum and Trumpet thus bray out The triumph of his Pledge. 1667 MILTON *P. L.* vi. 209 Arms on Armour clashing bray'd Horrible discord. 1854 THACKERAY *Newcomes* ii. 286 His men of brass... who were accustomed to bray 'See the Conquering Hero comes'. 1860 *Sat. Rev.* X. 421 A Brass band brayed welcome at the terminus.

b. To give forth with a cry or bray.

1567 STUDLEY *Seneca's Hippol.* (1581) 56 Where Zephyrus most milde Out brayes his baumy breath. 1596 SPENSER *F. Q.* ii. i. 38 As gentle hynd... Braies out her latest breath.

Bray (*brɪ*), *v.* ² Also 5-7 *braie*, *braye*. [ME. *brayen*, a. OF. *breier* (mod. F. *broyer*), corresp., according to Diez, with Pr. and Sp. *bragar*, It. *brigare*. Storm would derive the Romanic words from Teut. *break-an* to break.]

1. *trans.* To beat small; to bruise, pound, crush to powder; usually in a mortar.

1380 [see **BRAYED** *pl.* a.] c 1400 *Liber Cocorum* (1862) 26 Take, bray tho brawne of 31 capon. c 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 47 Brayyn, or stampyn in a mortere, *tero*. c 1470 *Bk. Quintessence* 11 Take pat blood... and braie it wip be .10. part of comen salt. 1525 LD. BERNERS *Froiss.* VOL. I.

II. lxii. [lxv.] 212 The Englyshmen were fayne to gather the thystelles in the felde, and braye them in a mortar. 1620 MARKHAM *Masterp.* ii. c. 383 Stoppe the foot with nettles and salt braid together. c 1615 CHAPMAN *Odys.* x. 268 That foul Cyclop that their fellows bray'd Betwixt his jaws. 1703 MAUNDRELL *Journ. Journ.* (1732) 86 The Kernels of this Fruit the Arabs bray in a Mortar. 1850 THACKERAY *Pendennis* iv. (1884) 541 So she was to be turned out of doors—or brayed alive in the double gilt pestle and mortar.

b. *fig.*; freq. with *ref.* to *Prov.* xxvii. 22.

1535 COVERDALE *Prov.* xxvii. 22 Though thou shuldest bray a foole with a pestell in a mortar like otemeell, yet wil not his foolishnesse go from him. 1583 STUBBS *Anat. Abus.* ii. 78 The word of God is not preached vnto them, and as it were braied, punned, interpreted and expounded. 1620 B. JONSON *Alch.* ii. iii. Sir, with an Argument, He'll bray you in a mortar. 1666 T. H. CAUSSIN *'s Holy Cr.* 302 We must bray together, the matters of prayer, as Aromaticque spices, with the discussion of our understanding. 1664 BUTLER *Hud.* ii. *Heroic Epist.* 35 Nor being... bray'd so often in a Mortar, Can teach you wholesom Sense, and Nurture. 1855 BROWNING *Men & Wom., Pretty Woman*, But for loving, why, you would not, sweet, Though we prayed you, Paid you, brayed you in a Mortar.

2. Technical uses: † a. To crush flax or hemp with a brake. [F. *broyer le chanvre*.] *Obs.*

1598 TREvisa *Barth. De P. R.* xvii. xcvi. (1495) 663 Flexe is... beten and brayd and carfyld. 1530 PALSGR. 462/2, 1 bray in a brake, as men do hempe.

b. To temper and spread printing-ink.

1688 [see **BRAYER** *v.* ¹]. 1706 in PHILLIPS. Hence in BAILEY, etc.

c. To pound and scour (woollen cloth).

1879 CASSELL *'s Techn. Educ.* iv. 349/1 The newly-woven cloth requires to be scoured or brayed in order to remove the oil... and the size.

3. To beat, thrash. *dial.*

1808 CUMBR. *Ballads* xxxiv. 77 She brays the lasses, starves the lads. 1864 ATKINSON *Whitby Gloss.* s. v., I'll bray thy back for thee.

† **Bray**, *v.* ³ *Obs. rare*. [a. F. *brayer* to pitch (a ship), f. *bray* pitch, resin.] To pitch (a ship).

1600 HAKLUYT *Voy.* (1810) III. 383 Our men sought all meanes to recouer rosen in the woodes... to bray the vessel.

† **Bray**. In phr. at a bray, app. for at a braid = on a sudden, unawares; see **BRAID**.

1540-62 STERNHOLD & H. P. cxix. 110 Although the wicked layd their nets, To catch me at a bray.

Bray(e), *obs.* form of **BRAE**.

† **Brayable**, *a.* *Obs. rare* -o. [f. **BRAY** *v.* ² + *-ABLE*.] Capable of being crushed or pounded.

1611 COTGR., *Briable*, burstable, breakable, brayable.

Brayde, *obs.* form of **BRAID**.

† **Brayded**, *pl.* *a.* *Obs. rare* -1. Erroneous form for **BRAYED**, as if from a present-stem *brayd*.

1561 HOLLYBUSH *Hom. Apoth.* 18 a, Take a dishfull of brayded or beaten barye.

† **Braye**, *obs.* Also 6 *brey*, 6-7 *brale*. [a. F. *braie* = med. L. *braca* dike, embankment: of unknown origin.] A military outwork; a mound or bank defended by palisades and watchtowers. *False braye* (ad. Fr. *fausse braie*): an advanced parapet surrounding the main rampart.

1522 *Act & Hen. VIII.* l. 1 & 1 To make Bulwerkes, Brayes, Walles, Diches, and al other fortifications. 1546 *St. Papers Hen. VIII.* XI. 205 He knowith of no newe fortification... saving only a newe braye about their fort. 1575 LANEHAM *Let.* (1871) 2 A fayre Park on the one side, which by the Braiz is linked too the castl on the South. 1577 HOLINSHED *Chron.* II. 857 The king that was walking aloft on the braies of the wals. 1599 HAKLUYT *Voy.* II. 122 A Brey and Containe without was battered by the forts. 1645 SYMONDS in *United Serv. Mag.* (1842) ii. 467 There is... a pallizado above the false bray. 1653 URQUHART *Rabelais* iii. *Prolog.*, Contrived platforms, barricadoed the false brayes.

Brayed (*brɪd*), *pl.* *a.* [f. **BRAY** *v.* ² + *-ED*.]

1. Beaten small, bruised, pounded.

1380 WYCLIF *1 Sam.* xxv. 18 Fyue busshellis of brayid corn. 1575 TURBERV. *Bk. Falconrie* 333 With a little salte brayed verie small. 1811 PINKERTON *Pérral* II. 265, I only found a dust composed of brayed marble.

† 2. *Brayed ware*: app. a confusion for *braided ware* = damaged or faded goods; see **BRAIDED**.

1603 HARNET *Pop. Impost.* 25 The silly Conie was caught; she was seized upon for brayed wares.

Brayen, early form of **BRAIN**.

Brayer (*brɪər*), *pl.* [f. **BRAY** *v.* ¹ + *-ER* ¹] One who brays; esp. an ass.

1598 FLORIO, *Russo*... a snorter, a brayer, one that is hoarse. 1728 POPE *Dunciad* ii. 246 Sound forth, my Brayers, and the welkin rend. 1876 G. ROSLYN *Geo. Eliot in Derbysh.* 54 She had a pony and he had a donkey. He could not make the brayer go.

Brayer ² (*brɪər*), *Printing*. [f. **BRAY** *v.* ² + *-ER* ²] A wooden muller or pestle used to rub down and temper the ink.

1688 R. HOLME *Armory* ii. iii. 56 Brayer, is a round wooden Rubber, flat at the bottom, it is used in the Inke-block to Bray and Rub Inke. 1824 J. JOHNSON *Typogr.* II. 524 He brings forward a small quantity of ink... which he rubs well with the brayer.

Hence **Brayer** *v.* *trans.* To spread or rub fine.

1824 J. JOHNSON *Typogr.* II. 524 Care should be observed not to brayer out much [ink] at a time.

Brayer ³ (*brɪər*), *Deriv. uncertain*: cf. F. *brayer* in various technical senses; or f. **BRAY** *v.* ²] Part of a compound lever for raising or depressing the 'runner' or upper grindstone in a corn-mill,

being the transverse piece which supports the end of the 'bridge-tree'.

1770 J. FERGUSON *Lect.* (1805) I. 83 The end S is let into a beam Q R, called the brayer. 1822 IMISON *Sc. & Art* I. 69 The end M of the brayer is raised or depressed at pleasure.

|| **Brayera** (*brɪər-ə*). [Named after Brayer, a foreign physician.] A genus of Rosaceous trees, the only known species of which (*B. anthelmintica*) is a native of Abyssinia. b. A medicinal preparation of the flowers and tops of this tree, called also Cusso, valued as an anthelmintic. Hence also **Brayerin**, a bitter acrid resin found in Cusso.

1875 H. WOOD *Therap.* (1879) 601 Brayera is a most efficient remedy against the tapeworm.

Braygirdle, -gurdylle, var. of **BREECHGIRDLE**.

Braying (*brɪɪŋ*), *vbl. sb.* ¹ [f. **BRAY** *v.* ¹.]

† 1. Loud or harsh crying, hoarse shouting. *Obs.*

1547 BOORDE *Brav. Health* cccxxiv. 119 b, A mans voyce the which may have dyvers impedimentes as horsnes, brayenge. 1576 NEWTON *tr. Lemnie's Complex.* (1633) 121 With too much and too violent braying out.

2. The crying of various animals, now esp. of the ass.

Hence contemptuously of the human voice.

c 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 47 Brayynge yn sownde, *barrius*. 1590 GREENE *Never too late* (1600) 28 The young Tigers follow the braying of their olde sire. 1684 *tr. Agrippa's Van. Arts* cii. 363 The untunable braying of Asses. 1806 SCOTT *Woodst.* (1832) 177 At the braying of the first wild ass.

3. Of musical instruments.

1704 ROWE *Ulyss.* i. l. 63 The Braying of the Minstrel's Noise. 1824 *Leisure Hour* June 374/1 The braying and droning of trumpets and bagpipes.

Braying (*brɪɪŋ*), *vbl. sb.* ² [f. **BRAY** *v.* ² + *-ING* ¹.]

The action or process of pounding, as in a mortar; also attrib., as in *braying-stone*.

c 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 47 Brayynge, or stampynge, *tritura*. a 1680 BUTLER *Rem.* (1759) II. 222 His discourse is like the braying of a Mortar, the more impertinent the more voluble and loud.

Braying (*brɪɪŋ*), *pl. a.* [f. **BRAY** *v.* ¹ + *-ING* ².]

That brays; that makes a loud harsh sound.

1572 GASCOIGNE *Flowers Wks.* (1587) 47 Thus with a braying sigh his noble tongue he stayde. 1625 BENLOWES *Theoph.*, Wits... By braying Beasts condemned are. 1708 COWPER *Gilpin* 203 While he spake, a braying ass Did sing most loud and clear. 1807 BYRON *Newstead Abd.* xiv. The braying trumpet and the hoarser drum.

Brayl(e), *Brayn*, *obs.* f. **BRAIL**, **BRAIN**.

Brays, var. of **BREEZE** *sb.* ³

1865 JEVONS *Coal Quest.* (ed. 2) 313 It became customary to mix coke and brays or small coal with the charge of fuel.

Brayste, *v.* *Obs.* [? var. of *bræste*, *BURST*.]

c 1400 *Rowland & Ot.* 986 Schall none of mymen the brayste.

Braysyle, *obs.* form of **BRAZIL**.

Brayt, *Obs. rare* -1. [perh. a. OF. *brait* cry; see **BRAY** *sb.* ¹: but cf. **BRAID** *v.* ¹] A cry, yell.

c 1450 *Merlin* xiv. 216 Sonygrenx... turned to flight, and caste a grete brayt and an orible.

† **Braythe**, *breythe*, *v.* *Obs. rare*. Also 6

brathe, *breath*. [perh. a. ON. *bregða* to move swiftly, start: etymologically identical with OE. *brædan*, **BRAID** *v.* ¹] *intr.* To rush or 'fly' up.

c 1325 E. E. *Allit. P.* B. 1421 Wyne... warmed his hert & bregþe vpe in to his brayn. 1561 HOLLYBUSH *Hom. Apoth.* 52, When the same is inflamed and breatheth up into the heade. *Ibid.* 5 b, Hote bloode, that lyeth in the harte, and bratheth vp into the braynes. *Ibid.* 7 Undigested vapor, braythyng vp, and troubling the braynes.

Brase, *obs.* form of **BRAISE**.

Brase (*brɪz*), *v.* ¹ Also 1 *brasian*, 6 *braseen*.

[OE. *brasian*, f. *bras*, **BRASS**; but as no examples are found in ME., the 16th c. verb may have been formed anew on the analogy of *glaze*, *graze*.]

1. *trans.* To make of brass; to cover or ornament with brass.

[c 1000 *Ælfric Gram.* xxxvi. 215 *Aero*, ic *braseiz*.] 1552 HULOET, *Brasen*, or make with brasse, *ero*. 1611 COTGR., *Bronzer*, to Brase; to make of, or cover with, brasse. c 1615 CHAPMAN *Odys.* xv. (R.) A caldron or a tripod, richly braz'd. 1693 W. ROBERTSON *Phrasol. Gen.* 278 To brase or cover with brass.

2. *fig.* a. To make hard like brass, harden, inure; b. 'to harden to impudence' (J.) (Cf. *brasen-faced*. But some view this as a sense of **BRAZE** *v.* ², taken as = harden in the fire.)

1602 SHAKS. *Ham.* iii. iv. 37 And let me wring your heart... If damned Custome have not braz'd it so, That it is proofe and bulwarke against Sense. 1608 ARMIN *Nest Ninn.* (1842) 1, I am brazed by your fauours, made bould in your ostended curtesies. 1616 BRATON *Good & Bad* (1616) 31 His face is brazed that he cannot blush. 1648 JENKYN *Blind Guide* iii. 62 You reply nothing, but new brase your face. 1833 *Fraser's Mag.* VIII. 707 Custom has so brazed the whole fraternity to these nefarious practices.

3. *transf.* To colour like brass.

1864 W. STOW *Roba di R.* xix. 402 The sunset brazes with splendour the throbbing sky. 1866 LOWELL *Poet. Wks.* (1879) 372 Clouds That braze the horizon's western rim.

Brase (*brɪz*), *v.* ² Also 6 *brase*. [? a. F. *brase-r* to solder, in OF. *braser* to burn; prob. a. ON. **brasa* to fire, expose to fire (cf. Sw. *brasa* to flame, Du. *brase* to roast). But the modern Eng. and French sense 'solder' does not come obviously from 'fire': one might suppose that in Eng.

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it was taken from or influenced by BRAZE v. 1: but whence then the F. *braser*?

† 1. To fire, expose to the action of fire. *Obs.*
1581 LAMBARDE *Eiren.* iv. 458 If any arrowhead Smith have not well boiled, brased and hardened at the point with steels... such heads of arrows... as he hath made.

2. To solder (with an alloy of brass and zinc).
1677 MOXON *Mech. Exerc.* (1703) 12 You may have occasion sometimes to Braze... a piece of work; but it is used by Smiths only, when their work is so thin, or small, that it will not endure Welding. 1835 SIR J. ROSS *N.-W. Pass.* ii. 12 So much worn, as to require a piece to be brazed to it, to restore its thickness. 1875 'STONEHENGE' *Brit. Sports* i. v. xi. § 1. 1881 GREENER *Cum* 235 It is a common practice with foreign makers to braze their barrels together from end to end.

Brazed (brā'zid), *pp. a.* [f. BRAZE v. 1 + -ED.] Made or covered with brass; also *fig.* brazened, rendered shameless.

The first quotation is uncertain: can it be from BRAZE v. 2?
1583 STANYHURST *Ensis* l. (Arb.) 3a Three beams with brazed copper were costily beponced. 1773 JOHNSON in *Boswell* (1831) III. 83 Tylter advanced with his front ready brazed. 1884 *Nomcomf.* 13 Mar. 256/2 Questions... talked about with staggering audacity in the brazed communities of the States.

Brasileto, -e, -o, *obs.* forms of BRAZILETTO.

Brasen (brā'z'n), *a.* Forms: 1 *brasen*, 2-7 *brasen*, 4 *brasen*, 4-5 *brasun*, 4-6 *brasin*, -yn, 5-6 *brason*, 6 *brassin*, 7 *brassen*, *brason*, 6-*brasen*. [OE. *brasen*, f. *brax*, *BRASS*; see -EN 1.]

1. Made of brass.

a 1000 *Lamb. Psalter* xviii. 35 (Bosw.) Du gesettest swa swa bogan brasene carmas mine. c 1200 *ORMIN* 17424 patt brasene neddre. a 1300 *Cursor M.* 12193 Als a chim or brasin [v. r. brasen, brasen] bell. c 1400 *Apoll. Loll.* 90 Heþun men had sex kyndis of similacris, cleyen, tressen, brasun, stonoun, silueren & golden. 1444 *Test. Ebor.* (1855) II. 112 My best brasyng pottis. 1558 *Adv. HAMILTON* *Catech.* 58 A brassin ymage. 1593 *SHAKS. Rich. II.* iii. iii. 33 *Brasen* Trumpet. 1608 *Ham.* i. i. 73 *Brasen* Cannon. 1660 *J. CHANDLER Van Helmont's Oriat.* 85 Let there be a *brassen* Bottle. 1740 *SWIFT* *Let. Mrs. Whitehead* 29 Apr., In Phalaris's *brazen* bull. 1875 *JOWETT Plato* (ed. 2) I. 142 Like *brazen* pots, which when they are struck continue to sound.

b. Referring to the strength rather than the actual material of brass; hence, strong as brass.

138a *Wyclif Jer.* xv. 20 And I shal 3yue thee to this puple in to a strong *brase* wal. 1561 *T. NORTON Calvin's Inst.* Pref. He may breake it [the earth] with all the iron and *brasen* strength, with all the golden and syluer glistering therof. 1574 *tr. Marlorat's Apocalips* 24 As a *brazen* wall agaynst all the land of Juda. 1593 *SHAKS. 3 Hen. VI.* ii. iv. 4 Wer't thou inuiron'd with a *brazen* wall. 1873 *MORLEY Rousseau* II. 26 A region... which the spirit of their time had shut off from them with *brazen* barriers.

2. *transf.* and *fig.* Resembling brass in colour, sound, etc. (Often to be referred back to Homer's οὐρανὸς χαλκός, πολὺ χαλκός, ὅρα χαλκόν.)

1566 *SPENSER Hymn Heav. Beautie* 263 Wks. 1842 V. 428 Heavenly notes and carollings... that fill the *brasen* sky. 1606 *SHAKS. Ant. & Cl.* iv. viii. 36 Trumpeters, with *brazen* dinne blast you the cities eare. 1611 *CHAPMAN Iliad* xviii. 191 His *brazen* voice once heard. 1667 *MILTON P. L.* vii. 496 The *Serpent*... with *brazen* Eyes And hairie Main terrific. *Ibid.* xi. 713 The *brazen* Throat of Warr had ceast to roar. 1784 *COWPER Task* iv. 104, I... Hear the faint echo of those *brazen* throats. a 1807 *LONGF. Burial of Minn.* i. The glory that the wood receives At sunset in its *brazen* leaves. 1896 *BAYANT Summer Wind* 16 Bright clouds, Motionless pillars of the *brazen* heavens.

3. *fig.* Hardened in effrontery; shameless.

1573 [see BRAZEN-FACE 1]. 1588 *T. L. To Ch. Rome* (1651) 11 Seeking (after their hard and *brazen* progenitors) t'establish a righteousness... of their owne. a 1639 *W. WHATELEY Prototypes* l. xix. (1640) 220 A *brazen* forehead, that is never a whit abashed. 1731 *SWIFT To Gay*, I knew a *brazen* minister of state, Who bore for twice ten years the public hate. 1823 *ROBERTSON Sermon*. Ser. iii. v. 70 The outcast woman whom human scorn would have hardened into *brazen* effrontery. 1869 *PARKMAN Disc. Gl. West.* x. (1875) 124 A rare monument of *brazen* mendacity.

4. Phrases. *Brasen age*: the third of the four mythological ages of mankind, said to come between the silver and the iron age. † *Brasen dish*: 'the standard dish or measure by which the wooden dishes for measuring the lead duties in Derbyshire are gauged' (*Tapping's Gloss. Lead Mining Terms* 1851).

1631 *Star. Chamb. Cases* (1886) 90 The deputy Barre Masters, measured the oare with a *brasen* dish. 1841 *ELPHINSTONE Hist. India* I. 257 These last bear some resemblance to the golden, silver, *brazen*, and iron ages of the Greeks.

5. *Comb.*, chiefly parasynthetic: a. *lit.* (often *transl.* Gr. χαλκο-, χαλκω-), as *brazen-floored*, -footed, -gated, -headed, -hilted, -hoofed, -mailed, -pointed; b. (*fig.*), as *brazen-barking*, -browed, -fisted, -fronted, -lunged. Also BRAZEN-FACE, -ED.
1651 *MORSE in Enthus. Tri.* (1656) 276 As Dionysius calls him, that 'brazen-barking Cerberus'. 1688 *Sir T. BROWN Ch. Mor.* 42 Noon day vices & 'brazen-brow'd iniquities'. 1791 *COWPER Odys.* viii. 397 The 'brazen-floor'd abode Of Jove. 1855 *KINGSLY Heroes* iv. (1868) 132 The two 'brazen-footed bulls. 1844 *J. B. FRASER Atlas Neem.* I. 255 Thou 'brazen-fronted knave. 1832 *TENNYSON Enone* 137 The 'brazen-headed spear. 1796 *AMHERST Terræ Fil.* xxli. 165 A new bob-wig, and a 'brazen-hilted sword. 1867 *GOLDING Ovid's Met.* vii. (1593) 155 The 'brazen-hoofed bulles. 1596 *FITZ-GERFAY Sir F. Drake* (1881) 22 Encarving characters of memorie, In 'brazen-leav'd books of eternitie. 1870 *BAYANT Iliad* I. 1. 20 The Achaian warriors, 'brazen-mailed.

Brasen (brā'z'n), *v.* [f. the adj.]

1. *trans.* To brazen (out): to face impudently or as with a face of brass. Also with indefinite obj. to brazen it out.

a 1555 *LATIMER Sermon & Rem.*, To brazen it. [K. Oliphant.] 1679 *Hist. Jeter* Pref. A ij, Father Ireland... brazen'd out the Court, and Hector'd the King's Evidence with one Witness upon another. 1712 *ARRUTHNOT John Bull* 86 He would talk saucily, lye, and brazen it out. 1763 *BICKERSTAFF Love in Village* iii. ix, Would you brazen me, too? Take that (boxes him). 1777 *SHERIDAN Trip Scarb.* v. ii, I am resolved to brazen the brunt of the business out. 1873 *DIXON Two Queens* II. x. x. 212 The deed was done, and must be brazened out.

2. *trans.* To harden, make bold or reckless.

1884 *TENNYSON Becket* 193, I fear (they) Are braced and brazen'd up with Christmas wines For any murderous brawl.

Brazen-face. [f. BRAZEN a. 3.]

1. As two words: An unabashed or hardened countenance. † To set a brazen face upon: to meet with a bold front, to brazen out.

1573 *G. HARVEY Lett.-Bk.* (1884) 26 He purposid... to set a good brasin face on the matter. 1588 *Marprel. Epist.* (Arb.) 34 Hath not your brother London a notable brazen face to vse these men so for their owne?

2. As one word: A brazen-faced person.

1598 *SHAKS. Merry W.* iv. ii. 141 Well said *Brasen-face*, hold it out. 1682 *N. O. Boyleau's Lutrin* II. 14 Not warn'd, the *Brasen-face* would out be flying Against the State.

Brazen-faced (brā'z'n-fēst), *a.* In 6 also *brazenfast*. [f. *prec.* + -ED 2.] With bold un-

blushing front, impudent, unabashed.

1571 *GOLDING Calvin on Ps.* xii. 5 With such *brazenfast* boldnesse. 1605 *SHAKS. Lear* ii. ii. 30 What a *brazen-fac'd* Varlet art thou to deny thou knowest me. 1619 *Pasquil's Palin.* (1877) 123 Blush (if you can) and are not *brazen-faced*. 1677 *GILPIN Dæmonol.* (1867) 82 Such open and *brazen-faced* assertions. 1846 *Sir R. de Coverley* II. 182 The *brazen-faced* termagant.

b. *humorously*, of things.

1864 *MISS BRADDON Doctor's Wife* l. 5 A big, new, *brazen-faced* house in the middle of the queer old High Street.

Hence **Brasen-facedly** (-fēstli), *adv.*

1664 *GATAKER Transubst.* 174 Onely boldly and *brasin-facedly* avouching that, etc. 1829 *WILSON in Blackw. Mag.* XXV. 384 She looked at you *brazen-facedly*.

Brasenly (brā'z'nli), *adv.* [f. BRAZEN a. + -LY 2.] In a brazen, impudent manner.

1714 *MANDEVILLE Fab. Bees* (1798) 12 All the Rogues cry'd *brasenly* Good Gods, had we but Honesty! 1840 *CARLYLE Heroes* vi. 313 That the... Christian Church... *brasenly* went about pretending to pardon men's sins for metallic coined money. 1880 *E. KIRKE Garfield* 56.

Brasenness. [f. BRAZEN a. + -NESS.]

1. *Brasen* quality or appearance.

1721 in *BAILEY II.* 1755 in *JOHNSON*; and in mod. Dicts.

2. Effrontery, impudence.

1861 *ELSIE GARRETT in Gd. Words* 409 Stately, powerful comeliness, a thought defiant, but not to *brasenness*.

Brasenny (brā'z'nri), [f. as *prec.* + -RY.]

Brasen assertion; a matter of *brasenness*.

1868 *KINGSLAKE Crimea* IV. iv. 57 Coming from Lord

Lucan, this language was no vulgar *brasenny*.

† **Brasennine**. *Obs.* rare = BRAZIER 2.

1623 *FAVINE Theat. Hom.* II. xii. 167 Throwe strong

Gummes and Perfumes into the Casselet and *Brasennine* burning continually.

Brasier¹ (brā'zi-az, -zi-az). Forms: 5-6 *brasyer*, 6 *braseer*, 5-8 *brasier*, 6- *brasier*. [f. BRAZE v. (or ? *BRASS* sb.) + -IER; cf. *glazier*, *grazier*.] One who works in brass.

c 1400 *Destr. Troy* 1589 Belmakers, bokebynders, *brasiers* syn. c 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 47 *Brasyere, erasire*. 1503 *Act 19 Hen. VII.* vi. § 1 The seid Crafter of Pewetere and *Braseer*. 1530 *PALSGR.* 200/2 *Brasier, fondeur*. 1613 *SHAKS. Hen. VIII.* v. iv. 42 He should be a *Brasier* by his face. 1724 *SWIFT Drapier's Lett.* Wks. 1755 V. ii. 15 Mr. Wood made his half-pence of such base metal... that the *brasier* would hardly give you above a penny of good money for a shilling of his. 1854 *MISS YONGE Cameos* (1877) II. xxviii. 301 A *brasier* named Lambert... began to harangue the people.

Brasier² (brā'zi-az, -zi-az). Forms: 7-8 *brasiere*, 8 *brasire*, 8- *brasier* (9 *brasier*). [a. F.

brasier, f. *brasse* hot coals. The spellings *brasiere*, *brasire*, indicate an earlier pronunc. (-i-az), as in *grenadier*, etc.; cf. *BRASERO*.] A large flat pan or tray for holding burning charcoal, etc.

1692 *Fop Dict.*, *Brasiere*, a large Vessel, or moving-Heart of Silver for Coaks, transportable into any Room, much used in Spain. 1766 *SMOLLETT Trav.* 122 They warm their apartments with a *brasiere* of charcoal. 1792 *Gentl. Mag.* LXII. l. 238 Two *brasieres* were constantly kept burning in it. 1865 *DICKENS Mt. Fr.* iii. 13 The fire was in a rusty *brasier*, not fitted to the hearth.

Brasieri (brā'zi-az, -zi-az). [f. BRAZIER 1 + -RY 3.] *Brasier*'s work; also *concr.*

1795 *J. AIKIN Manchester* 294 Wigan has long been noted for... *brasieri* work... The *brasieri* is now on the decline.

1805 *W. TAYLOR in Ann. Rev.* III. 244 Hence an increased consumption of *brasieri* and pottery. 1872 *YEATS Techn. Hist. Comm.* 355 The making of brass tubing is another branch of *brasieri*.

Brasil¹ (brāzil). Forms: 4-7 *brasile*, *brasill*, 4-8 *brasil*, 5 *brasyl* (1e), *braysyle*, 6 *brasell*, *brasyll*, *brasill*, *brasell*, *brasill*, *braysile*, 6-7 *brasel* (1), *bresil* (1, 7 *brasel*, *brasile*, -ill, 7-*brasil*. [a. Sp. (also Pg.) *brasil* or *It. brasile*; corresp. to F. *brésil*, Pr. *bresil*, *bresilh*, in OF. *berzi*, *bresis*, Olt. *versino*, in med.L. *bræzellum*,

brasiliun, *brasillum*, *brasile*: of unknown origin; perh. a corruption of an oriental name of the dye-wood originally so called. On the discovery of an allied species, also yielding a dye, in South America, the territory where it grew was called *terra de brasil*, 'red-dye-wood land', afterwards abbreviated to *Brasil* 'Brazil'. *Brasil*-wood was thus not named from the country, but the converse was the case. Formerly pronounced in Eng. *brāzil*, as shown by rimes and spellings.

Conjectural etymologies are F. *briser* to break, *brësiller* to crumble (as if the wood arrived in a broken state); also F. *braise*, Sp. *brasa* 'glowing coal' (from its colour); also Arab. *wars* saffron, in some parts pronounced *vars*, *vers* (cf. It. *versino*). See *Diez*, *Littér.*

I. The substance.

1. Originally, the name of the hard brownish-red wood of an East Indian tree, known as Sappan (*Cesalpinia Sappan*), from which dyers obtain a red colour. After the discovery of the New World, the name was extended and gradually transferred to the similar wood of a South American species (*C. echinata*), which has given its name to the land of Brazil, and to other species, natives of the West Indies and Central America, 'all valuable to the dyer, producing various tints of red, orange, and peach colour'.

1386 [see 2]. c 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 47 *Brasyle, gaudo uel lignum Alexandrinum*. 1544 *ASCHAM Toxoph.* (Arb.) 113 As for *brassell*, Elme, Wyche and Asshe, experience doth proue them to be but meane for bowes. 1553 *EDEN Treat. New Ind.* (Arb.) 20 *Presilium* or *brasyll*, cometh from Darnasseri... almost cc. leagues from Calicut. 1553 - *Decades W. Ind.* i. iv. (Arb.) 80 None other trees then *brasile*, whiche the Italians caule *Versino*. *Ibid.* 190 Of the *brësyle*. 1594 *BLUNDELL Exerc.* v. (ed. 7) 570 The Province *Brasilia* tooke his name of the wood called *Brasill*. 1663 *S. HARWOOD Propag. Plants* III. ii. (1668) 85 A little hand-bill... helved of Ivory, box, or *brasil*. 1801 *STRUTT Sports & Past.* II. i. 53 Bows were sometimes made of *brasil*.

b. Now usually called *Brasil*-wood.

1530 *PALSGR.* 200/2 *Brasill* tree to dye with, *brasil*. 1559 *MORVING Evonym.* 209 Of the colour of the *brasil* wode. 1604 *E. G. tr. Acosta's Hist. Indies* IV. xxix. 289, 130 quintalles of *Brasill* wood. 1676 *SALMON Pharmacop. Lond.* iv. 38 *Brasil* shrub, cold and dry and astringent. 1732 *Acc. Workhouses* 86 Grinding *Brasil* Wood, and other things for dyeing. 1823 *TH. ROSS tr. Humboldt's Trav.* III. xxvii. 141 To mark the finest trunks of *Brasil*-wood. 1868 *Treas. Bot.* 188.

c. *attrib.* Of *Brasil*-wood; also *fig.*

1577 *Will of W. Olyner* (Somerset Ho.), Unto John Maclee my *brasyll* staffe. 1598 *MARSTON Mt. Pigmalion's Image* Sat. 2. 145 Blesse his sweet honour's running *brasil* boule. 1613 *W. BROWNE Brit. Past.* II. iii. (1772) II. 118 Her left hand held a knotty *Brasill* bow. 1644 *T. Scot 2d Pt. Vaz Pop.* 7 Resting himselfe vpon a little *Brasill* staffe. 1710 *Lond. Gas.* No. 4654/3, 1 Coffee-Pot with a *Brasil* Handle.

d. Taken as the type of hardness (whence formerly turned into bowls for bowling): thence the simile as *hard as brasil* still common dialectally, and sometimes explained as referring to the next word. Pronounced (brā'zil, brā'z'l).

1635 *QUARLES Embl.* III. v. (1718) 146 Are my bones *brasil*, or my flesh of oak? *Ibid.* i. x. (1718) 42 Turn thou (my *Brasil* thoughts anew. 1877 *PEACOCK N. W. Linc. Gloss.* (E. D. S.) s. v. 'It's as hard as *brasil*'. 1879 *MISS JACKSON Skrophsk. Gloss.* 1879 *Athenaeum* 19 July 73 'As hard as *Brasil*', is a common saying over a great part, perhaps the whole, of England.

† 2. The dye-stuff and dye yielded by this wood.

c 1386 *CHAUCER Nun's Pr.* 'End-Link' 13 His colour for to dyghen With *brasil* [-il, -ill] ne with greyn of Portyn-gale. c 1475 *E. E. Misc.* (1855) 77 To make *brasylo* flouryche letterys or to reule with bokys. 1522 *3 Act.* 24 *Hen. VIII.* ii, Diers... haue used deceyvable waies in dyng with *brasil* and such other lyke subtilties. 1546 *Inv. Ch. Goods Surrey* 107 Item for *brassill* xijd. 1576 *LVTs Dodona* v. ii. 547 One may write as faire a red as with roset made of *Brasill*. 1607 *BACON Sylva* § 857 A small Quantity of Saffron will Tinct more then a very great Quantity of *Brasill*. 1669 *W. SIMPSON Hydrol. Chym.* 41 The Alkalizate Salts are used... in water for the extraction of *Brasill*.

b. *transf.* Stuff dyed with *brasil*, 'scarlet' cloth. 1389 *R. WIMBLEDON Sermon* (Helmington MS. 34. See also *Foxe A. & M.* I. 626/1) Allas, allas, pat grette cite pat was cloid wip bys and purpur and *brasile* [Rev. xviii. 16 ἀράκων, κόκκο, 'scarlet'].

c. *attrib.*

a 1600 in *Nichols' Progr. Q. Elis.* III. 510 A saufegarde of *brasil*-colour. 1703 *Art's Improv.* I. 28 Wash it over several times with *Brasil* Water, till you like the Colour.

II. The country, and its products.

3. A large country of South America, also called 'the Brazils'. Also *attrib.* and in *comb.*

1555 *EDEN Decades W. Ind.* (Arb.) 385 The Portugales... sayle to America or the lande of *Brasile*. 1709 *Lond. Gas.* No. 4532/3 Loaden... with *Brasil*-Sugar. 1722 *W. ROGERS Voy.* (1718) 53 The Portuguese nam'd it *Brasile*, from the red wood of that name. 1864 *Times* 26 Oct., A first-class railway for the *Brazils*. 1875 *BEDFORD Sailor's Pocket-bk.* iv. (ed. 2) 108 The *Brasil* Current is a branch of the Equatorial. 1883 *BURTON & CAMERON To Gold Coast* I. i. 18 The voyager bound *Brazilwards*.

4. *Brasil*-nut: the seed of *Bertholletia excelsa* (N.O. *Lecythidaceae*), a lofty tree which forms large forests in Brazil; the fruit consists of a round wooden capsule, packed with about two dozen of these triquetrous 'nuts'.

1230 LINDLEY *Nat. Syst. Bot.* 116 The Soutari . . Nuts, or Brazil Nuts of the shops, the kernel of which is one of the most delicious fruits of the nut kind. 1825 TH. ROSS tr. *Humboldt's Trav.* II. xxiii. 390 Juvia-trees, which furnish the triangular nuts called in Europe the almonds of the Amazon, or Brazil-nuts. 1864 BATES *Nat. Amazon* viii. 230 Colossal examples of the Brazil nut tree.

Hence Brazilian *a.* and *sb.*

1640 in *Phenix* (1708) II. 364 Those barbarous Brazilians. 1769 WATSON in *Phil. Trans.* LIX. 380 The Brazilian plants. 1836 MARRVAT *Pirate* vii. There were . . Brazilians.

Brazil (bræ'zil), *sb.* *dial.* Also **brassil**, **brasil**, **brassil**, **brassle**. [*f.* BRASS. Perh. better spelt *brassil*; but *brassle* is the common dialect pronunciation.]

1. A miners' name in the midland counties for iron pyrites.

1747 HOOSON *Miner's Dict.* Oij, Brassil, a ponderous shining Substance, we do not know that it is of any Value to hold any Metal at all. 1879 MISS JACKSON *Shropsh. Gloss.* s.v., Brazil is found chiefly in the 'yard coal'. 1884 PROF. C. LAPWORTH (in letter), I have heard the remark 'the coal is a poor one and full of brazile'.

2. Coal containing much pyrites; *spec.* applied to 'the middle seam of the Great Thick Coal of South Staffordshire, which is characterized by the unfailing presence of a seam of iron pyrites, and has been locally known as the *Braziles* from time immemorial; hence transferred to other hard coals of similar character.' (Prof. C. Lapworth).

1843 JUKES *Geol. S. Staff. Coal.* 35 note, Brassil is a term generally used to denote a rough impure coal; sometimes to denote the presence of much iron pyrites. 1859 — *Geol. Survey Mem. S. Staff. Coal.* 173.

¶ As hard as brazil: see *prec.*

Brasileto (bræ'zile-to). Forms: 7 *brasileto*, *brasileto*, 7-8 *brasel*(1)etto, 8 *brasel*(1)etta, 9 *brasileto*, 7-8 *brasileto*, 8- *brasileto*. [*ad. Sp.*, Pg. *brasileto* 'Jamaica-wood', dim. of *brasil*, BRAZIL-(wood).] One or more species of dye-wood, inferior to Brazil-wood, imported from Jamaica and adjacent islands (*Cesalpinia brasiliensis* and *crista*; now generally referred to a distinct genus *Peltophorum*).

1656 CROMWELL'S *Bk. Rates, Woods*, Brasileto or Jamaica wood. 1661 HICKERINGILL *Jamaica* 22 Abundant plenty of choice Timber trees and Wood for the Dyer's use, as Fustick, Brasileto. 1686 LOND. *Gas.* No. 2186/1, 12 thousand pounds of Brasileto wood. 1795 SLOANE *Jamaica* II. 184 Brasileto-wood is very like Log-wood . . It grows in Jamaica. 1788 P. H. BRUCE *Mem.* XII. 418 Two negroes . . at work for their master in the woods, cutting brasileto. 1789 *Act 27 Geo. III.*, xiii. Sched. s.v. *Wood*, Brasileto or Jamaica Wood for dyers. 1868 *Treas. Bot.* 858 *Peltophorum Linnei*, otherwise called *Cesalpinia brasiliensis* yields the orange-coloured dyewood . . Brasileto-wood. The wood of *P. Vogelianum*, which is a native of Brazil, is also called Brasileto or Sobrazil. 1884 MILLER *Plant-n.*, *Cesalpinia cristata*, Bahama Brasileto.

Brasilin (bræ'zilin). [*f.* BRAZIL + -IN.] The red colouring-matter of Brazil-wood.

1863 WATTS *Dict. Chem.* I. 656 Brasilin crystallises by spontaneous evaporation in reddish yellow needles.

Brazing (bræ'zɪŋ), *vbl. sb.* [*f.* BRAZE *v.* 1, 2 + -ING.] The action of the verbs BRAZE; a. passing over hot coals; b. soldering; c. coating with brass.

1551 TURNER *Herbal* 81 It maketh black scarres to be whyte, and taketh awaye the blacke colour of brasyng. 1869 *Student* II. 73 All the joints . . are made tight by soldering or brazing. 1886 *Cyclist* 25 Aug. 1194/1 Wanted, a good bicycle fitter, able to do his own brazing.

Brazire, obs. form of BRAZIER.

Brazile: see BRAZIL *sb.* 2

Bre, obs. variant of BREK, *Sc.*

Breach (brɪtʃ), *sb.* Also 3-6 *breche*, 5 *bryg*, 6 *Sc. breache*, 7 *bretch*, 18 *breoch*. [*ME. breche*, partly perh. repr. OE. *bryce*, *brice* (*:-* OTeut. **bruki-s* from **brek-: see BREA*), which however gave in early ME. *BRUCH*; partly a. F. *brèche*, in same sense but chiefly concrete. The obvious relation of *break*, *breach*, as in *speech*, would tend to make *breche*, *breach* the prevailing form.]

1. The action of breaking.

†1. The physical action of breaking; the fact of being broken; breakage, fracture. *Obs.*

a 1000 *Guthlac* 670 (Gr.) Ne sy him banes bryce. a 1300 *Cursor M.* 8220 (Götl.) Sua depe the rotis samen kest miht ne man beden winne widuten breche [*v. r.* brekyng]. 1610 HOLLAND *Camden's Brit.* I. 346 By violence of bretch and ruins great. 1659 GAULLE *Holy Madn.* 295 The casual breach of a Crystall Glasse. 1676 HALE *Contempl.* I. 52 The breach of a vein . . may put a period to all those pleasures.

†b. *Breach of the day*: 'break' of day. *Obs.*

1579 FENTON *Guicciard.* XIV. (1599) 667 The assault began about the breach of the day.

2. The breaking of waves on a coast or over a vessel; hence, the nautical phr. *clean, clear breach*. 1601 SHAKS. *Twel. N.* II. i. 23 Before you took me from breach of the sea. 1779 DE FOE *Crusoe* III. She [the boat] would be dashed in . . pieces by the breach of the sea. 1867 SMYTH *Sailor's Word-bk.* 129 *Clear breach*, the waves rolling clean over without breaking . . *Clear-breach*, when masts and every object on deck is swept away.

3. *fig.* The breaking of a command, rule, engagement, duty, or of any legal or moral bond or

obligation; violation, infraction: common in such phrases as *breach of contract, covenant, faith, promise, trust*.

[c 1005 *Ecc. Laws of Cant* 24 Wið æghwylcne æwbryce.] 1382 WYCLIF *Jer.* III. 13 To the Lord thi God thou hast do lawe breche. c 1440 *York Myst.* v. 143 Lorde, Eue garte me do wronge and to þat bryg me brought. 1533-4 *Act 25 Hen. VIII.* xvii. Attempted the breche or violation of the same statutes. 1573 G. HARVEY *Let. bk.* (1884) 13 Better then the breach of ani custum. 1588 SHAKS. *L. L. L.* II. i. 170 Receiue such welcome . . As Honour, without breach of Honour may Make tender of. 1605 — *Lear* I. ii. 162 Nuptial breaches. 1612 T. TAYLOR *Comm. Titus* III. 1 Who . . liue in the breach of Gods commaundement. 1626 MASSINGER *Bashful Lover* IV. ii. A virtue, and not to be blended With vicious breach of faith. 1659 HAMMOND *On Ps.* XXV. 7 The breaches innumerable, wherewith I have . . offended against thee. 1721 STEELE *Spect.* No. 262 ¶ 7 Nor shall I look upon it as any Breach of Charity. 1764 REID *Inquiry* II. § 6. 109 They can . . break them and be punished for the breach. 1803 WELLINGTON in *Gurw. Disp.* II. 174 In breach of your promises to me. 1833 HT. MARTINEAU *Manch. Strike* IV. 53 Convicted of a breach of contract. 1834 ARNOLD *Life & Cor.* (1844) I. vii. 379 What it would be a breach of duty in me to omit. 1879 STUBBS *Const. Hist.* II. xvi. 370 The breach of the truce by the Scots.

b. *spec. and techn.*, as breach of arrestment, illegal disposal of property which has been 'attached', or placed under the control of a law-court; breach of close, unlawful entry upon private ground, trespass; breach of (the) peace, an infringement or violation of the public peace by an affray, riot, or other disturbance; breach of pound, the action of breaking into a pound or similar enclosure without right or warrant; breach of prison, escape of a prisoner from confinement; breach of privilege, a violation of the rights of a privileged body; breach of promise, *gen.* as in *prec. sense*; *spec.* = breach of promise to marry.

1660 R. STAPFELTON *Strada's Low-C. Warres* II. 30 They . . might fairly declaim against [it] by the name of Breach of Privilege. 1671 F. PHILLIPS *Reg. Necess.* 50 For the breach of the peace 120 shillings. 1817 *Parl. Deb.* 796 The Speaker said . . the House should pronounce, whether the passage in the work . . was or was not a breach of privilege. 1865 *Derby Mercury* 1 Mar., Alleged contempt of that House, and a breach of its privileges. *Mod.* The damages in a breach-of-promise case.

†4. An irruption into; an infringement upon; an inroad, injurious assault. *Obs.*

1579 LVLV *Euphues* (Arb.) 100 The Axiomes of Aristotle . . have sodeinly made . . a breach into my mind. 1611 BIBLE 1 *Chron.* xiii. 12 The Lord had made a breach vpon Vzra. 1647 WARD *Simp. Colbr* 58 Your conuinnce with the Irish butcheres, your forgetfull breaches upon the Parliament. a 1674 CLARENDON (J.) This breach upon kingly power. 1751 ADDISON *Freeholder* No. 12, 77 Innocent of the great Breach which is made upon Government.

5. A breaking of relations (of union or continuity). 1605 BACON *Unity in Relig.* Ess. (Arb.) 423 Nothing, doth so much . . drive Men out of the Church, as Breach of Unity. 1768 BLACKSTONE *Comm.* III. 162 By the breach and dissolution of . . the relation itself. 1773 DE LOLME *Eng. Const.* I. L (1784) 14 They completed the breach of those feeble ties. *Mod.* It could not be done without a breach of continuity.

b. *absol.* A break-up of friendly relations; rupture, separation, difference, disagreement, quarrel. 1573 G. HARVEY *Let. bk.* (1884) 17 A little breach betwixt thes two and me was the tru and onli caus of al thes sturs. 1600 BARET *Ab.* B 1201 Breach of friendes. 1604 SHAKS. *Oth.* IV. i. 238 There's false betwene him, & my Lord, An vnkind breach. 1713 BURNET *Own Time* (1766) II. 87 A great breach was like to follow. 1862 STANLEY *Jeru. Ch.* (1877) I. ix. 186 The nearest approach to a breach was . . when their monument of stones was mistaken . . for an altar.

6. The leaping of a whale clear out of the water. a 1843 *Penny Cycl.* XXVII. 294/2 The breach may be seen in a clear day from the mast-head at a distance of six miles.

II. The product of breaking.

7. A physically broken or ruptured condition of anything; a broken, fractured, damaged, or injured spot, place, or part; an injury.

†a. of the body. *Obs.*

1398 TREVISIA *Barik. De P. R.* VII. IV. (1495) 270 Yf that breche [hernia] is grete and olde and wyth brekyng of the synwe it is sondred vnto or neuer. 1559 MORWYN *Evonym.* 118 It cureth also fistulas, old breaches, and temporal byles. 1665 G. HAVERS *P. della Valle's Trav. E. India* 395 Shewing him his hand and his other breaches.

b. A disrupted place, gap, or fissure, caused by the separation of continuous parts; a break.

1530 PALSGR. 201/1 Breche where water breke in, *breche*. 1555 EDEN *Decades W. Ind.* (Arb.) 320 The yearth hath many great chynkes or breaches. 1604 CAPT. SMITH *Virginia* v. 174 The salt water . . entred at the large breaches of their poore wooden castle. 1653 MANTON *Exp. James* III. 5 Small breaches in a sea-bank let in great inundations. 1750 JOHNSON *Ramb.* No. 79 § 11 The crew implore the liberty of repairing their breaches.

c. *esp.* 'A gap in a fortification made by a battery' (J.). Hence *To stand in the breach* (often *fig.*).

1597 SHAKS. 2 *Hen. IV.* II. iv. 55 To come off the Breach, with his Pike bent brauely. 1598 BARRET *Theor. Warres* v. iv. 138 To rinate their Curtine, and make good breaches. 1611 BIBLE Ps. cvl. 23 Had not Moses his chosen stood before him in the breach [COVERDALE, gap]. 1665 MANLEY *Grotius' Low-C. Warres* 363 The Town was easily gained by Scaling Ladders, and Breaches. 1712 STEELE *Spect.* No. 428 ¶ 2 No Soldier entering a Breach adventures more for Honour. 1799 WELLINGTON *Let.* in *Gurw. Disp.* I. 30

On the 3rd of May the breach appeared to be practicable. 1814 SCOTT *Wno.* xiii. Being the first to mount the breach. *d. fig.*

1605 SHAKS. *Lear* IV. vii. 13 Cure this great breach in his abused Nature. 1649 JER. TAYLOR *Gl. Exemp.* III. Ded. Let., To bind up the great breaches of my little fortune. 1657 — in *Four C. Eng. Lett.* 106 By your wise counsel and comfort stand in the breaches of your own family. 1710 SHAPTES. *Charac.* (1737) III. 397 An unhappy Breach in my Health . . forc'd me to seek these foreign Climates. 1722 DE FOE *Moll Fl.* (1840) 132 Vice breaks in at the breaches of decency. 1836 MARRVAT *Midsh. Easy* xviii. 63 To heal the breach in his wounded honour.

†8. Surf made by the sea breaking over rocks; broken water, breakers. *Obs.*

1604 CAPT. SMITH *Virginia* (1629) 19 We found many shoules and breaches. 1606 — *Accid. Yng. Seamen* 18 A shoule, a ledge of rockes, a breach, a shallow water. 1707 LOND. *Gas.* No. 4380/3 The Royal Anne . . saw several Breaches, and soon after, the Rocks above Water.

†9. A break in a coast, a bay, harbour. *Obs.* Cf. *BREAK sb.* 1 7 b.

1611 BIBLE *Judges* v. 17 Asher continued on the sea shore and abode in his breaches [*vulg.* portubus, WYCLIF hanens].

†10. A break in continuity, an interruption, interval; a division marked by breaks or intervals.

1599 PUTTENHAM *Eng. Poesie* I. xix. (Arb.) 57 By breaches or diuisions to be more commodiously song to the harpe. *Ibid.* xxvi. 65 This Epithalamie was deuicid by breaches into three partes. The first breach was song at the first parte of the night. 1590 SPENSER *F. Q.* III. iv. 35 And all her sister Nymphes . . Supplide her sobbing breaches with sad complement.

11. A condition of broken relations; a gap in sentiment or sympathy.

1745 WESLEY *Ansu. Ch.* 1, I do not want . . to widen the Breach between us. 1816 SCOTT *Antig.* v. The breach was speedily made up between them. 1803 BRIGHT *Sp. Amer.* (1876) 138 Create an everlasting breach between the people of England and the people of the United States of America.

12. A piece of land broken up by the plough. *dial.*

1594 PLAT *Jewel-ho.* I. 43 *marc.*, Erith breaches [that surrounded leuell at Erith]. — *New Sorte of Soyle* 44 That exceeding fertillie which I have herd commended in those two breaches, even by the severall farmers thereof. 1864 CAPTAIN *Devon Provinc.*, *Breach*, a plot of land prepared for another crop.

Breach (brɪtʃ), *v.* [*f.* the *sb.*]

1. *trans.* To make a breach in (a wall, defence, natural boundary, etc.); to break through. *b. fig.* 1547 BOORDE *Brev. Health* ccliii. 85 b, [Obliuiousness] may come to yonge men and women when theyr mynde is bryched. 1803 WELLINGTON *Let.* in *Gurw. Disp.* II. 479 If the wall . . should be breached when the place shall be stormed. 1817 JAS. MILL *Brit. India* II. iv. iv. 149 The English had breached the fort. 1845 DARWIN *Voy. Nat.* xx. (1852) 477 Every reef of the fringing class is breached by a narrow gateway in front of the smallest rivulet. 1878 HUXLEY *Physiogr.* 193 It often happens that the lava . . breaches one side of the conical hill.

†2. *intr.* To make or cause a breach; to quarrel, separate. *Obs.*

1573 TUSSEY *Husb.* and *Ep.* Ded. xi, At first for want of teaching, At first for trifles breaching. 1641 R. BROOKE *Eng. Episc.* I. ix. 52 If the Church will breach [with the Anabaptists].

3. *Naut.* Of whales: To leap out of the water. a 1843 See BREACHING. 1844 *Chamb. Journ.* I. 53 'There she blows again! . . There she breaches.' 1866 KINGSLEY *Heru.* v. 115 They saw a whale spouting and breaching.

Breach (e, obs. form of BREACH.

Breached (brɪtʃt, brɪtʃd), *ppl. a.* [*f.* *prec.* + -ED.] Pierced or cleft with a breach; rent, torn. Also *fig.*

1547 BOORDE *Brev. Health* ccliii. 85 b, A medecine for Bryched persones, I do nat knowe. a 1649 DRUMM. OF HAWTH. *Poesie* Wks. (1711) 35/2 Conquering squadrons . . Entering a breached city. 1760-9 FALCONER *Shipwr.* II. 719 Our sea-breach'd vessel. 1854 H. MILLER *Sch. & Schm.* (1858) 235 Attired in a sadly-breached suit of Aberdeen grey.

Breach'er. [*f.* as *prec.* + -ER.] One who makes or commits a breach.

1697 *Disc. Swearing* 16 There is a very terrible Threatning annex against the Breachers of it [a commandment].

Breachful, *a.* [*f.* BREACH *sb.* + -FUL.] Full of breaches. 1864 in WEBSTER.

† **Breachily**, *adv.* *Obs. rare.* [*f.* BREACHY *a.* 1 + -LY.] In a 'breachy' manner.

1662 J. CHANDLER *Van Helmont's Oriat.* 115 New [cheese] waxeth breachily sharp, which doth easily stir up torments or wringings in a soure stomach.

Breaching, *vbl. sb.* [*f.* BREACH *v.* + -ING.]

1. The action of making a breach in, or of breaking through (a wall, etc.); also *attrib.*

1803 WELLINGTON *Let.* in *Gurw. Disp.* II. 479 If the wall should be so bad as not to require breaching. 1833 FRASER'S *Mag.* VIII. 317 The subsequent breaching of the Spanish fortresses. 1835 PRESCOTT *Philip II.* I. iv. iii. 417 The breaching artillery consisted of forty-three guns. 1878 *Macm. Mag.* Jan. 252/1 The breaching of tanks from excessive rain.

2. See *quot.*, and cf. BREACH *sb.* 6 and *v.* 3.

a 1843 *Penny Cycl.* XXVII. 294/2 Other habits of this whale, such as 'breaching', or leaping clear out of the water and falling back again on its side. 1885 *Longm. Mag.* 407.

† **Breachy**, *a.* 1 *Obs.* or *dial.* [*f.* BRACKY.] Brackish. (In Chandler, perh. 'of alkaline taste'.)

1662 J. CHANDLER *Van Helmont's Oriat.* 158 Writers have distinguished . . Odours, and Savours, as sweet, bitter,

salt, sharp, breachy, soure. 1875 PARISH *Sussex Gloss.* (E. D. S.), *Breachy*, brackish, applied to water.

Breachy (brī'fj), a. [f. BREACH + -Y 1.]

1. Of horses and cattle: Apt to break fences, and get out of inclosures.

1800 Addison *Amer. Law Rep.* 258 McKinney's horses were breachy. 1810 *Nat. Hist. in Ann. Reg.* 628/2. I never saw a breachy Tunis sheep. 1838 HALIBURTON *Clockm.* 1. 141 They are the most breachy of the two and ought to go to pound themselves.

2. Characterized by breaches.

Bread (bred), sb.¹ Forms: 1 bréad, 2-3 bread, (2 brad), 2-3 bréd, 2-7 bréd, (3-5 bredd), 3-6 brede, (4 bryad, bryead), 4-6 brede(e), 5-7 breade, 6- bread, 5- Sc. breid, (6-7 brédde, 7 braid, 9 dial. brade). [OE. *bréad*, pl. *bréadrū*: repr. WGer. **braud*, and corresp. to OFris. *bréd*, OS. *brōd* (MDu. *broot-de*, Du. *brood*, LG. *brōd*, brood), OHG., MHG. *brōt* (Ger. *brød*, *brat*); ON. *brauð* (Sw., Da. *brød*):—OTeut. **braudos*, a neuter -os stem, not preserved in Gothic. The original Teutonic name for bread survives in the modern LOAF (OE. *hlāf*, OHG. *hleib*, ON. *hleifr*, Goth. *hlaifs*, *hlaihs*, OTeut. **hlaibo-s*) formerly in all the langs. in the sense of 'bread' and 'loaf'. *Braudos*, *brōd*, *bréad*, appears to have originally meant 'piece, bit, fragment, L. *frustum*': but already in OS. and OHG. it had the acquired sense of 'bread'; OHG. shows no clear distinction of meaning between *brōt* and *hleib* (Sievers). In OE. *bréad* is rare: the later Blickling Glosses have the pl. *bréadrū*, 'frusta' (i. e. 'pieces, bits'). The other examples are all Northumbrian, in the Lindisfarne (& Rushw.) gloss; viz. *John* xiii. 27, 30 translating *buccella*, the 'mouthful' given to Judas, for which the Ags. Gospels have *bitan*, Wyclif *morsel*, Rhemish *morsel*. In verse 26 where the Vulgate twice renders the same Gr. word (*ψαλίον* bit, piece) by 'panem', later versions 'bread', the Ags. has *hlāf*, Lindisf. *laf*, which seems to show that *bréad* was not yet identified with *panis*. But in *John* vi. 23, *bréad* actually represents *panem* of the Vulgate (= *ἀπρόν*), and *hlāf* of the Ags. version: where however *broken bread* is in question. Before 1200 *bread* had quite displaced *hlāf* as the name of the substance, leaving to the latter the sense 'loaf' which it has since retained. It thus appears that a word originally meaning 'piece, bit, *frustum*', has passed through the senses of 'piece of bread', 'broken bread', into that of 'bread' as a substance; while at the same time the original word for 'bread, loaf, *panis*' has been restricted to the undivided article as shaped and baked, the 'loaf'. The Lowland Scotch and north. dial. use of *piece* illustrates anew the first step in this transition, for it is the regular word for a piece of bread, as in 'give the bairn a piece', 'a beggar asking a piece', a 'piece-poke', a 'gie's-a-piece' i. e. a beggar.

So also in Slovenish, *krav*, "bread" is literally 'a piece, something broken off' (Miklosich, *Etym. Wöck. Slav. Spr.* 143).

With *brōd*, *bréad*, Prof. Sievers connects the Ger. *brosame* crumb, in OHG. *brōsma*, OS. *brōsma*—OTeut. *brandsmon*, the sense of which confirms the original meaning of **braudos*, and points to some root having the sense of 'break'. OE. *brōtan* does not answer phonetically. (The preceding facts are, of course, quite inconsistent with the conjecture that *bread* is a deriv. of the verb-root *brw* to BREW.)

†1. (Only in OE.) Bit, piece, morsel (of food). See above in Etymology.

2. A well-known article of food prepared by moistening, kneading, and baking meal or flour, generally with the addition of yeast or leaven.

c 950 Lindisf. *Gosp.* John vi. 23 Neh ðær stoue ðær ætton þæt bread [Ags. *Gosp.* þone hlāf]. c 1175 *Coll. Hom.* 233 Hi hadden brad and win and vii santon. c 1200 *Moral Ode* 191 in *Trin. Coll. Hom.* 225 We ȝieued... a steche of ure breade. c 1200 ORMIN 150 Þerrfling brēd iss clene brēd. a 1300 *Cursor M.* 15233 Takes and etes o þis brēd, For fless þan es it min. 1340 *Ayend.* 107 A zop of hot bryead. c 1383 Wyclif *Sel. Wks.* III. 443 Þis sacrid ooste is verrey Goddis body and verrey brede. 1413 *Lydg. Pylgr. Soule* v. xlii. (1483) 104 This brede and this wyn the hythe kyng blessith with his hand. c 1440 *Bone Flor.* 1004 Be hym y sawe in forme of bredd, When the preest can syng. 1506 J. Heywood *Prov. & Epigr.* (1867) 30 Better is halfe a lofe than no bread. 1600 HOLLAND *Livy* XLVIII. 1237 To chew his bare bread. 1609 SKENE *Reg. Maj.* 151 They make not breid agreead to the money. 1655 MOUFFET & BENN. *Health's Improv.* 236 Bread and Cheese be the two targets against death. 1713 *Lond. & Country Brew.* II. (1743) 94, I do not care how white my Bread is. 1799 tr. H. Meister's *Lett.* 228 You write bread, and you pronounce it *brēd*. 1843 Hood *The Shirt* v. O God! that bread should be so dear, And flesh and blood so cheap!

b. The plural has been used as a literalism of translation (*obs.*); also in sense of 'kinds of bread'; and *collog.* of individual portions or helpings of bread.

1547 Boorde *Brev. Health Pref.* 4 They must knowe the operacyon of all maner of breades, of drinkes, and of meates. 1579 FULKE *Heskins' Parl.* 140 Three sundry breades are

mentioned by Christe. 1609 BIBLE (Douay) Ps. xl. 10 The man also... who did eate my breades. — *Prov.* xii. 11 He that tilleth his land, shall be filled with breads. 1865 *Pall Mall G.* 11 Oct. 3 By two o'clock we were all seated, nibbling at our breads in a famished way.

c. To break bread: a. to break it for one's own mouthfuls; hence to eat or partake of bread or food; b. (from N. T.) to break it for distribution to others, to dispense bread, or *fig.* the bread of life; also to break the sacramental bread in the Communion of the Lord's Supper, to administer or join in the Communion.

a 1300 *Cursor M.* 12559 Noper durst þai... ne brek þair brede, ne tast þair mes, Till he war cummen til þair de. 1383 Wyclif *Lam.* iv. 4 The litil childer askeden bred, and ther was not that shulde breke to them. — *Acts* xx. 7 Whanne we comen for to breke bred, Paul disputide with hem. — *Mark* xiv. 22 Jhesus took bred, and blessing brak, and gaf to hem. c 1430 *Syr Gener.* 3067 Elles brede mot I neuer breke. 1503 STUBBS *Anat.* Abus II. 74 To breke the bread of life to their charges. 1598 SHAKS. *Merry W.* I. iv. 161 An honest maid as euer broke bread. 1607 — *Timon.* I. ii. 48 The fellow that sits next him, now parts bread with him. 1813 BYRON *Br. Atydos* II. xvi. Not all who break his bread are true. 1878 H. SMART *Play or Pay* I. The sole stranger that has broken bread with the — Hussars this evening.

d. Often phraseologically combined with the name of some other article eaten or drunk with it, as *bread and milk*, *meat, salt, water*: bread and cheese, *fig.* for plain fare, needful food, victuals, living; also, a child's name for the young leaves of the Hawthorn, the Wood-Sorrel or 'Cuckoo-bread', and one or two other plants; bread and milk, bread saturated with boiling milk; also, the Cuckoo-flower (*Cardamine pratensis*); †bread and salt, an old form of oath, whence to take bread and salt, to swear; bread and wine, the 'elements' in the Communion.

Also BREAD AND BUTTER.

1509 in H. Hall *Soc. in Elis. Age* (1886) 219 *Bread and cheese, *vid.* 1598 SHAKS. *Merry W.* II. i. 140, I loue not the humour of bread and cheese. 1795 WOLCOTT (P. Pindar) *Lousiad* III. Wks. 1812 I. 247 Morpheus... gave To brainless Authors, bread and cheese, and fame. 1857 HUGHES *Tom Brown* III. Cut with their bread-and-cheese knives. 1891 WOOD *Ath. Oxon* II. 133 He taught School... to gain 'bread and drink. 1895 R. BROMFIELD in *Med. Commun.* II. 24 A 'bread and milk poultice. a 1869 CONINGTON *Misc. Writ.* (1872) I. 247 To our taste it savours too much of the bread and milk of the nursery. 1875 J. STILL *Gamm. Gurlon* v. ii. No other wight, save she, by *bred and salt. 1899 SHAKS. *Hen. V.* v. i. 9. 1604 DEKKER *Honest Wh.* v. ii. He took bread and salt... that he would never open his lips. 1856 ABF. HAMILTON *Catech.* 18 The proph. mater... of this holy sacrament, quihik is *breid and wyne. 1886 MORLEY *Crit. Misc.* I. 298 He was willing to continue the (Communion) service... on condition that he should not himself partake of the bread and wine.

e. With qualifying words, as *black bread*, a coarser dark kind made of some inferior grain; *native bread*, an underground fungus (*Mylitta australis*) eaten by Australian aborigines; also BROWN-BREAD, q. v. For *ammunition bread*, *barley-bread*, etc., see first element of comb.

1863 WATTS *Dict. Chem.* I. 657 The coarser kinds of bread, such as the... 'black bread of Germany. 1849-62 STERNHOLD & H. P. CXXVII. a Feeding full hardly with 'brown bread. 1816 MARKHAM *Countray Farm* v. xx. 578 Of the meal wholly together... is made 'household bread. And when the greatest of the branne is taken away, then there is usually made thereof citizens bread. 1866 TREAS. *Bot.* II. 769/1 The 'Native Bread of Australia... when dry becomes extremely hard and horny. 1884 *Times* 14 Aug. 3 A fungoid plant, the Tasmanian native bread, weighed, when fresh, 37 lbs.

f. In proverbial and other expressions, as †*Bread of wheat*, †*God's bread*, 'od's bread: i. e. the sacramental bread: an obs. form of adjuration or oath. †*To bake any one's bread*: see BAKE v. 6. *To know on which side one's bread is buttered*: to have the sense to know where one's interest lies. *To take the bread out of one's mouth*: to take away his livelihood, to take from a person what he is on the very point of enjoying. *Bread buttered on both sides*: great good fortune, lucky circumstances.

c 1380 *Sir Ferumb.* 2086 Wel sone hur bred was y-bake! hure lif-dawes wern ago. a 1500 *Songs & Carols* 157 C. (1856) 4 The eldest dower swor, be bred of wete. 1562 J. Heywood *Prov. & Epigr.* (1867) 71, I know on which syde my bread is buttered. 1592 SHAKS. *Rom. & Jul.* III. v. 177 Gods bread, it makes me mad. 1681 ROXB. *Ballads* (1886) VI. 173 'Ods Bread, she's jealous I trow! 1708 MOTTEUX *Rabelais* IV. xvi. You little Prigs, will you offer to take the Bread out of my Mouth? 1837 LOCKHART *Scott* (1839) I. 206 *note*. Wherever Walter goes he is pretty sure to find his bread buttered on both sides. 1845 J. W. CROKER in *Papers* (1884) III. xxiv. 47 Lord Johnny dashed forward to take the bread out of his [Peel's] mouth.

†3. (With pl.) A loaf, a roll; also, a broken piece, or fragment, of bread. *Obs.*

c 1325 E. E. *Allit. P.* B 1405 Burnes berande þe bredes vpon brode skeles. c 1450 HENRYSON *Tale of Dog* 38 Ane certane breid, worth five schillings or mair. 1566 *Pilgr. Perf.* (W. de W. 1531) 192 The xii baskettes of breedes y^e remayned... in y^e great myracle of our lorde. 1535 COVERDALE *Kings* xix. 6 At his head there was a bred [Wyclif loaf] baken on the coles. 1609 SKENE *Reg. Maj.* 134 Gif ane man is taken... with ane bread, the price of ane halfe

pennie. 1643 PRYNNE *Sov. Power Parl.* II. 32 Scarce a penny bread a day to support their lives.

4. Taken as a type of ordinary food or victual. (Perhaps from the Lord's Prayer.) *Bread of idleness*: food not worked for; so similar phrases, as *Bread of affliction*, etc. †*Full of bread*: full-fed.

c 1175 *Lamb. Hom.* 63 Gif us to dei ure deies bred. 1340 *Ayend.* 110 Vayre uader oure bryad of eche daye yef ous to day. 1383 Wyclif *Isa.* xxxiii. 16 Bred to hym is soue, his watris ben feithful. 1388 — *Deut.* xvi. 3 Thou schalt ete bred of affliccioun. c 1400 *Destr. Troy* 13549 Me bus, as a beggar, my bred for to thigge. 1535 COVERDALE *Ex.* xxiii. 25 So shal he blesse thy bred & thy water [Wyclif, looues, and watris]. 1593 SHAKS. *Rich. II.* III. i. 21 Eating the bitter bread of banishment. 1602 SHAKS. *Ham.* III. iii. 80 He tooke my Father grossely, full of bread. 1611 BIBLE *Prov.* xxxi. 27 She... eateth not the bread of idleness [Wyclif, idil bred; COVERDALE bred with ydilnes]. — *Ezek.* xvi. 49 Pride, fulnesse of bread, and abundance of idleness was in her. a 1700 DRYDEN *Ovid's Met.* *Phytag.* *Philos.* 132 If men... chaw with bloody teeth the breathing bread. 1832 MARRYAT *N. Forster* xi. You cannot eat the bread of idleness on board of a man-of-war. 1842 TENNYSON *Lady Clare* 26, I speak the truth, as I live by bread!

b. *fig.*

c 1380 Wyclif *John* vi. 35, I am bred of lyf. 1542-60 BECON *Polat. for Lent Wks.* (1843) 105 Touch not the thievish breads of perverse doctrine. 1660 JER. TAYLOR *Worthy Commun.* I. § 1. 21 The holy Sacrament... the bread of elect souls. 1875 HAMERTON *Intell. Life* x. iv. 358 The daily bread of literature and art.

5. Livelihood, means of subsistence.

1719 DE FOE *Crusoe* i. I was under no necessity of seeking my bread. 1797 A. HAMILTON *New Acc. E. Indies* II. xxv. 31 Poor miserable Fishers, who get their Bread out of the Water, to keep them from starving. 1777 BURKE *Corr.* (1844) II. 170 The bread of a family depends on that man's paralytic hand. 1808 MAR. EDGEWORTH *Moral T.* (1816) I. 205 You... make your bread by your... pen. 1822 BYRON *Vie. Jug.* xcvi. He meant no harm in scribbling... 'twas... his bread. 1848 MACAULAY *Hist. Eng.* II. 142 Many officers... arbitrarily deprived of their commissions and of their bread.

6. Extended to various preparations of the composition or nature of bread. †a. Pie-crust; pastry. *Obs.*

a 1300 *Cursor M.* 4487 A lepe... Wit bred þat i bar on mi heued. c 1400 *Authors of Arth.* xxvii. Briddes bacun in bred. 1c 1475 *Sgr. loue Degre* 319 Wyth byrdes in brede y bake.

†b. Sea-biscuit. *Obs.*

1651 *Proc. Parliament* No. 84. 1289 We have taken... 2 casks of Bread, and one barrel of Pease in one Vessel. 1746 in W. THOMPSON *R. N. Advoc.* (1757) 18 The Bread... is all good, but... it has been... long aboard. 1793 PITT in G. ROSE *Diaries* (1860) I. 128, I rather imagine he uses the term bread, as synonymous with biscuit.

c. Other preparations of corn or flour. *U. S.* 1863 *Life in South* II. 237 An abundant supply of cold chicken, ham, and 'breads', as all the variety of corn cakes, waffles, hot rolls, and hominy are called.

7. Short for BEE-BREAD. (In 17th c. pollen.)

1676 GREW *Anat. Flowers* v. § 1 That Body which Bees gather and carry upon their Thighs, and is commonly called their Bread... The Bread is a Kind of Powder; yet somewhat moist.

II. *Attrib. and Comb.*

8. *simple attrib.* Of bread, esp. as a material; about or for bread, as *bread riots*.

1783 S. CHAPMAN in *Med. Commun.* I. 287 A bit of... light bread pudding. 1860 MAYNE *Expos. Lex.* 170/1 The bread poultice, used as emollient in ordinary cases. 1883 *Harper's Mag.* Mar. 578/2 The crusts saved for a bread pudding.

9. General comb.: a. attributive, as *bread-bag*, *-bin*, *-binge*, *-cart*, *-chest*, *-crust*, *-food*, *-hutch* (c 1440), *-knife*, *-pan*, *-paste*, *-rack*, *-rasp*, *-roll*, *-sauc*, *-tax*, *-tray*, *-wagon*, *-wheel*; b. objective or obj. gen., as *bread-baker*, *-baking*, *-chipper*, *-chopper*, *-cutter*, *-earner*, *-earning*, *-grater*, *-grate* (1587), *-maker*, *-making*, *-seller*, *-taking*, *-taxing*, *-wanting*; c. parasynthetic, as *bread-faced*.

1864 *Daily Tel.* 4 Oct. A 'bread-bag knot'... is the old boatswain's trap to catch a thief at his biscuit-store. 1793 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 6195/5 Henry Browning... 'Bread-Baker. 1757 W. THOMPSON *R. N. Advoc.* 21 Being on a Subject of 'Bread baking. 1593 *Wills & Inv. N. C.* II. (1860) 227 Two jacks, one 'bread-binge. 1638 PENKETHMAN *Artack* K b. The 'Bread-Carts... coming from Stratford towards London, were met at the Miles end. 1616 R. C. *Times* *Whis.* II. 775 Some 'bread-chipper or greasy cooke. 1597 SHAKS. 2 *Hen. IV.* II. iv. 342 Call me Pantler, and Bread-chopper. 1597 *Wills & Inv. N. C.* II. (1860) 149 Item, ij minising knives, and a 'breadgrate of tynn. 1644 *Althorp MS.* in Simpson *Washingtons* *Introd.* 55, 2 frying pannes, 4 peales, and a 'bread grater. c 1440 *Prompt. Parv.* 48 'Brede-huche, *turrundula*. 1861 Mrs. BESTON *Bk. Househ. Managem.* 991 Taking care... that butter-knife and 'bread-knife are in their places. 1857 ELIZA ACTON *Eng. Bread-bk.* II. iv. 178 A skilful 'bread-maker. *Ibid.* I. iii. 29 Old methods of 'panification, or 'bread-making. *Ibid.* II. iv. 154 It is well to warm the 'bread-pan or tub, and the flour also. *Ibid.* II. 98 A substance similar to 'bread-paste or dough. 1884 *Manch. Exam.* 4 Dec. 5/3 A decision of great importance to bakers and 'bread-sellers. 1640 R. CAREW in *Doings of West. Count.* Ann. (1882) 211 None departed... till after the 'bread-taking. 1863 DR MORGAN in *Athenæum* 20 Oct. 467 The abolition of the 'bread-tax. 1841 GEN. P. THOMPSON *Exerc.* (1842) VI. 52 Old saws impressed on him by a 'bread-taxing clergy. 1693 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 3091/3, 200 of the Enemies Horse... were come... to intercept our 'Bread-Wagons. 1710 *Ibid.* No. 4714/2 To halt... for... our Baggage and the Bread-Wagons.

10. Special comb.: bread-artist, a casual term

applied to one who prosecutes an art or profession simply to gain a living; **bread-barge** (*Naut.*), an oval tub in which bread is placed for mess; **bread-bearer**, an officer of the royal household; **bread-berry**, bread steeped in hot water and seasoned or sweetened, pap (cf. *ALEBERRY*); **bread-brake**, a kneading trough or machine; **bread-controller** = *bread-steward*; **bread-dust**, powdered bread or biscuit; **bread-flake** (*dial.* *brade-flaigh*), a wooden frame or rack upon which oat-cakes are placed to dry and harden; **bread-god**, contemptuous term for the consecrated host; **bread-lope**, a bread-basket; **bread-meal**, (a.) meal for household or brown bread (*dial.*); (b.) sometimes used for rock-meal (Ger. *berg-mehl*); **bread-nut**, the seed of the *Brosimum alicastrum*; **bread-powder**, baking-powder; **bread-purveyor** = *bread-steward*; **bread-room**, a room for keeping bread, esp. *Naut.* 'a place parted off below the lower deck, close abaft, for keeping the bread'; also *slang.* = *BREADBASKET* 2; **bread-root**, the name of one of two plants producing edible tubers or bulbs, *spec.* a species of *Psoralea* (*P. esculenta*), and *Camassia esculenta* or Quamash; also the root itself; **bread-steward** (see *quot.*); **bread-science**, study, a science or study pursued as a means of gaining a livelihood; **bread-skep** = *bread-lope*; **bread-trade**, the buying and selling of bread; also, a branch of trade pursued as a means of gaining a livelihood; **bread-worship**, the worship of the host, *ARTOLATRY*; whence **bread-worshipper**; **bread-wright**, a baker.

1831 CARLILE *Sart. Res.* II. iv. The 'Bread-artist can travel contentedly round and round, and realize much: for himself victual. 1840 R. DANA *Bef. Mast* xxxii. 123 The bread-barge and beef-kid were overhauled. 1647 HAWARD *Crown Rev.* 28 'Breadbearer: Fee, £1 10s. 4d. 1741 *Compl. Fam.-Pict.* I. i. 43 Let the Child's Diet be. a thin 'Bread-berry. 1864 J. BROWN *Plain Wds. Health* 44 Giving the baby. thin bread-berry once a day. so as gradually to wean it. 1864 *Wills & Inn. N. C.* (1835) 223 Two cawels and a 'breadbrayk iijij. 1866 KANE *Arch. Expl.* II. xx. 199 Two bags of 'bread-dust. 1840 S. BAMFORD *Life of Radical* I. 234 (*Lanc. Gloss.*) The large 'bread-flake in the kitchen was speedily unhatched. 1866 E. WAUGH *Bent an' th' Bantami* 11 (*Lanc. Gloss.*) A brade-flaigh or bread-rack, which was suspended from the ceiling, like a great square harp. 1855 LATIMER *Serm. & Rem.* (1845) 260 Requiring to know if their 'bread-god had flesh. as our dear Redeemer had. a 1831 DONNE *Serm.* lviii. 58 When they had made their Bread-God, they poisoned the Emperor with that Bread. c 1250 *Gen. & Ex.* 2078 Me drempite ic bar 'bread-lepes bre. 1863 ATKINSON *Provins. Danby*. 'Bread-meal, flour with the coarsest bran taken out. such as produces 'brown-bread'. 1796 P. BROWN *Jamaica* 372 'Bread-Nut. The fruit boiled with salt fish. has been frequently the support of the negroes. 1866 *Treas.* Bot. I. 171/2 Bread-nut. 1697 CAPT. SMITH *Seaman's Gram.* II. 12 The 'Bread-room is commonly under the Gun-room. 1799 Ld. Hood in Nicolas *Disp. Nelson* (1845) I. 483 note, Put all you can get into your bread-room. 1841 *Penny Cycl.* XIX. 94/2 *P. esculenta*, the 'bread-root of North America, is cultivated along the banks of the Missouri. 1866 F. ROWAN *Schleiermacher's Life & Lett.* I. 159 He has not studied any so-called 'bread-science. 1866 *Dives & Paup.* viii. xvii. 344/2 The ryche man shal gyve answer. of every cromosome of brede in his 'bredeskep. 1859 ELIZA ACTON *Eng. Bread-bk.* 13 note, *Panettier du Roi*, 'bread-steward, bread-purveyor, or bread-controller, whose office was to regulate the distribution of bread in the royal household, and who had supreme authority over all the bakers of the kingdom. 1831 CARLILE *Sart. Res.* II. iv. Is it not well that there should be what we call Professions or 'Bread-studies (*Brodwewecke*) preappointed us? 1876 GEO. ELIOT *Dan. Der.* III. xxiii. 194 If you resolve to take art as a bread-study. 1858 J. MARTINEAU *Stud. Chr.* 326 These pursuits. sink into mere 'bread-trades. 1641 SANDERSON *Serm.* II. 8 A shrewd appearance of their idolatrous 'bread-worship. 1874 *Life 70th Abp. Canterb.* To Rdr., Superstitious Archsacrificers, and principally 'bread-worshippers. c 1250 *Gen. & Ex.* 2077 Quad this 'bread-wrighte, lideb nu me.

Bread (bred), *v.* [f. *BREAD sb.* 1] *trans.* a. *Cookery.* To dress with bread-crumbs. b. To clean by rubbing with bread. c. To provide with daily bread.

1797 BRADLEY *Fam. Dict.* I. s.v. *Fish pottage*, Flowering and breeding them after they have been dip'd in beaten Eggs. 1825 *Fr. Dom. Cookery Gloss.* 376 Cutlets, fish, etc. are usually breaded thus. 1879 TOURGEE *Fool's Err.* xviii. 91 They had enough to bread themselves. 1884 F. BRITTEN *Watch & Clockm.* 108 Instead of rubbing with pish the work may be carefully breaded.

Bread (e, var. of BREDE.

Bread and butter. (Often written with hyphens, esp. when used attrib.)

1. Bread spread with butter; also attrib. 1630 WADSWORTH *Sp. Pilgr.* iii. 15 Every one hath . . a peece of bread and butter. 1711 ADDISON *Spect.* No. 323 ¶ 6 Eat a slice of Bread and butter, drank a dish of Bohea. 1817 BYRON *Beppo* xxxix, The Nursery still lips out in all they utter—Besides, they always smell of bread and butter. 1828 KITCHENER *Cook's Orac.* 449 Bread and Butter Pudding. 1883 ROE in *Harper's Mag.* Dec. 50/2 She likes bread and butter and . . realities.

2. Taken as a type of every day food; the means of living; hence attrib. in many elliptical and allusive expressions.

1836-7 SIR W. HAMILTON *Metaph.* (1859) I. i. 6 By the

Germans, the latter [i.e. the professional or lucrative sciences] are usually distinguished as the *Brodwissenschaften*, which we may translate, 'The Bread and Butter Sciences'. 1844 H. TWISS *Life Ld. Eldon* I. vi. 110 Young man, your bread and butter is cut for life. 1870 LOWELL *Among my Bks.* Ser. 1. (1873) 222 Life lifted above the plane of bread-and-butter associations. 1884 *Harper's Mag.* Dec. 92/2 Industries were not so plenty. that men could afford . . to quarrel with their bread and butter. 1886 *Contemp. Rev.* May 663 Journalists who frankly avow what is called the bread-and-butter theory of their craft.

3. No bread and butter of mine: no matter affecting my material interests, no business of mine.

1764 FOOTE *Mayor of G. I.* i. However, it is no bread and butter of mine.

4. attrib.; *spec.* Of or pertaining to the age when bread-and-butter is extensively consumed; boyish, girlish; *esp.* (cf. *quot.* 1817 in 1) school-girlish. a 1605 BRAUM & FL. *Hum. Liens.* III. vi. Ye bread-and-butter rogues, do ye run from me? 1807 W. IRVING *Salmag.* (1824) 180 These little, beardless, bread and butter politicians. 1861 TROLLOPE *Barchester T.* xli. (D.) A lady at any rate past the wishy-washy bread-and-butter period of life. 1865 *Pall Mall G.* 13 May 4 Would feel that they were tittered at as bread-and-butter Misses.

Hence (with reference to sense 4) bread-and-butterhood, -butterishness, bread-and-buttery a.

1834 LADY MAJENDIE *Out of Element* III. xxiv. 321, I think the ties of bread-and-butterhood are stronger than any later ones after all. 1843 *Blackw. Mag.* LIII. 80 They . . emerge . . into the full and perfect image of little . . gentlemen, and little ladies, without any of those intermediate conditions of laddism, hobble-de-hoyism, or bread-and-butterishness. 1859 G. MEREDITH *R. Feverel* xiii. (1885) 90 His future bride is now pinaforded and bread-and-buttery. 1882 Mrs. RIDDELL *Struggle for Fame* xxvi, You [an authoress] are rather bread-and-buttery still.

Bread-basket.

1. *lit.* A basket for holding bread, or in which bread is handed round.

1552 HULOET, Bread basket, hamper, or hutch. 1780 WILSON in *Phil. Trans.* LXX. 457 A bread-basket was filled with snow. 1849 CORDEN *Speeches* 66 To indemnify themselves by putting their hands into your bread-baskets.

2. *slang.* The stomach.

1753 FOOTE *Englishm. Paris* I. (1763) 15 Made the Soupe-maigre rumble in his Bread-basket. 1763 C. JOHNSTON *Reverie* I. 135 Hitting him a plump in the bread-basket. 1803 BRISTED *Pedest. Tour* I. 46 Our landlady, who was standing . . with her mouth wide open, and her hands locked together . . resting on her prominent bread-basket. 1850 KINGSLEY *Alf. Locke* xxxiii. (D.) 'What do you think o' that now in a policeman's bread-basket?'

Bread-corn (bre'dkɔrn).

1. Corn or grain for making bread. An expression that comes down from a time when 'corn' had a much wider sense than it now bears in England or America; cf. *peppercorn*, and in OE. *senepes corn* mustard seed.

1360 LANGL. *P. Pl.* A. VII. 58 A Busschel of Bred corn he bringep per-Inne. 1398 TREVISA *Barth. De P. R.* xvii. lxiv, Many medle benes with bread come, to make be bred pe more heuy. 1810 P. HOLLAND *Camden's Brit.* II. 219 The inhabitants . . use in steed of bread-come, dried fish. 1790 LANGHORNE *Plutarch* (1879) I. 251/2 A great quantity of bread-corn was brought into Rome. 1846 M. CULLOCH *Acc. Brit. Empire* (1854) I. 477 Rye. the bread-corn of Germany and Russia. 1857 ELIZA ACTON *Eng. Bread-bk.* iv. 53.

2. *spec.* 'Corn to be ground into bread-meal, not to be used for finer purposes' (*N. Linc. Gloss.*). attrib. 1669 BOYLE *Contm. New Exp.* II. (1682) 28, I made Paste of Bread-corn-meal, without Leaven.

Bread-crumbs. a. (Properly two words) A crumb of bread; *esp.* (in *pl.*) bread crumbled down for dressing fried fish, boiled ham, etc. b. The crumb or soft part of bread, as distinct from the crust. Hence *Bread-crumby* a.

1769 Mrs. RAFFALL *Eng. Househpr.* (1778) 35 Strew over them bread crumbs. 1831 CARLILE *Sart. Res.* II. ii, To carry forth my supper (bread-crumbs boiled in milk), and eat it out of doors. 1879 GEO. ELIOT *Theo. Such* iv. 85 He was . . acceptable in society as a part of what we may call its bread-crumbs. 1881 MISS BRADDON *Asph.* 19 Thin slices of carmine ham, with a bread-crumby edge.

Breade, var. of BRAID, BREDE.

Breaded (bre'ded), *pp.* a. [f. *BREAD v.* + -ED.] Treated or dressed with bread, bread-crumbs, etc.

1616 MARKHAM *Countrie Farm* v. xxi. 581 Such . . may drinke of breaded water, that is to say, water wherein rie bread hath bene well beaten and laboured. 1797 BRADLEY *Fam. Dict.* I. s.v. *Galantine*, A Pig may also be garnished with its Skin well breaded. 1879 E. S. BRIDGES *Round the World* 27 Veal cutlets plain and breaded.

Breaded, var. of BREDED, plaited.

Breaden (bred'n), a. [f. *BREAD sb.* + -EN 1.] Made or consisting of bread. **†** *Breaden god*: a polemical term for the consecrated host.

1579 FULKE *Confut. Sanders* 666 They might as well see him burne his breaden Gods. 1609 Sir E. HOBY *Let. Mr. T. H.* 84 Your breaden doll in a shauelings hand. 1604 T. TAYLOR *2 Serm.* I. 23 So must every man worship the breaden, brazen, wooden, and golden gods. 1606 HAKEWILL *Comparison* 11 Their breaden [golden] in the consecrated host. 1632 T. ADAMS *Exp. a Peter* II. 1 Delighted to behold the breaden god carried in a box. 1680 H. MORE *Apoc. Apoc.* 354. 1700 C. MATHER *Magn. Chr.* IV. ii. (1852) 47. 1827 J. IVIMEY *Pilgr. of 10th C.* III. 101 No objection to their manufacturing and eating their breaden God. 1839 J. ROCKES *Antiquary* VIII. II. 242 The worship . . of a breaden and winemad God.

Bread-fruit (bre'd-frūt). [f. *BREAD sb.* + *FRUIT*.] The farinaceous fruit of a tree; *esp.* that furnished by *Artocarpus incisa* of the South Sea Islands, etc., of the size of a melon, and having a whitish pulp of the consistency of new bread. Also short for 'Bread-fruit tree'.

1697 DAMPIER *Voy.* (1729) I. 296 The Bread-fruit (as we call it) grows on a large Tree as big and high as our largest apple trees. . . it is as big as a Penny-loaf, when Wheat is at five shillings the Bushel. 1748 ANSON *Voy.* III. II. (ed. 4) 417 A kind of fruit. . . called by the Indians Rima, but by us the Bread-Fruit. 1778-84 COOK *Voy.* (1790) V. 1623 Covered with cocoa-palms and bread-fruit trees. 1845 DARWIN *Voy. Nat.* xviii. (1852) 403 The bread-fruit conspicuous from its large, glossy and deeply digitated leaves. 1866 *Treas. Bot.* I. 96/2 The bread-fruit. . . is prepared by baking it in an oven heated by hot stones.

† Breadiness. *Obs. rare.* [f. *BREADY* + -NESS.] The quality or fact of being bread.

1624 GATAKER *Transubst.* 182 Calvin, Beza and many more . . who . . maske with great words the naked breadiness of their Protestantical Sacrament.

† Breadish. a. *Obs. rare*—o. [f. *BREAD sb.* + -ISH 1.] Of the nature of bread. Hence *Breadishness*.

1688 Bp. OXFORD *Reasons for Abrog. Test.* 22 They could not only separate the Matter and Form, and Accidents of the Bread from one another, but the Panicity or Breadishness it self from them all.

Breadless (bre'dles), a. [f. as prec. + -LESS.] Without bread; without food.

1377 LANGL. *P. Pl.* B. XIV. 160 Beggeres aboute Midsomer bredlees bei soupe. 1733 P. WHITEHEAD *State Dunces* (R) Plump peers, and breadless bards alike are dull. 1847 *Tail's Mag.* XIV. 793 The terrible sufferings of a thousand breadless families. 1864 *Athenum* 777/1 They who, half-fed, feed the breadless. These are Charity's disciples.

Hence *Breadlessness*.

1860 Mrs. P. BYRNE *Undercurr. Overl.* II. 93 The crime of poverty then is thus classified; first mendicancy, or the state of 'breadlessness'; secondly vagrancy, or the state of 'homelessness'.

Breadliness. *nonce-wd.* *Daily breadliness*: fellowship in earning or partaking of 'daily bread'. 1863 Mrs. GASKELL *Sylvia's L.* xxxix. (D.) Because of any fellowship or daily breadliness between us two.

Breadness (bre'dnes). [f. *BREAD* + -NESS.] In discussions on Transubstantiation: The quality of being bread, bread-quality, 'breadiness'.

1866 *Church Times* 28 Apr., The idea that there is no substance, that is to say, no breadness of the Bread remaining. 1867 PEARSON *Early & Mid. Ages Eng.* I. 613 He asserted that the individuality of the bread (its breadness) was exchanged for the individuality of Christ (his humano-divinity).

Bread-stitch, var. of *brade-stitch*; see *BREDE sb.* 3 4.

Bread-stuff (bre'dstuf). [f. *BREAD* + *STUFF*.] Material for bread; grain, flour: now usually in *pl.*

1793 T. JEFFERSON *Writ.* (1859) III. 509 France receives favorably our bread stuff, rice, wood, etc. 1845 DISRAELI *Sybil* (1863) 282 'Take my breadstuffs and I'll give you a cheque at sight on the Pennsylvania Bank. 1847 Ld. G. BENTINCK in *Croker Papers* (1884) III. xxv. 142 Loaded with 1800 tons of breadstuffs.

Breadth (bredþ). Also 6 bredeth(e, bredthe, breth, 6-7 bredth, 7 breadthe. [A late formation from the earlier *breade*, *BREDE*, by analogy with *length*, *strength*, etc.: see -TH.]

1. Measure or distance from side to side of a surface; width, extent across. Also *fig.*

1523 *Act 14 & 15 Hen. VIII.* vi, One other way . . of as greute largeness in bredeth or larger than the said olde way. 1570 BILLINGSLEY *Euclid* I. def. 2 A line is length without breadth. 1599 SHAKS. *Much Ado* v. i. 11 Measure his woe the length and bredth of mine. 1653 HOLCROFT *Procopius* II. 41 A rock stretching far in bredth. 1742 RICHARDSON *Pamela* III. 118 Let the World go as it will, we shall have our Length and our Breadth at last. 1870 F. WILSON *Ch. Lindisf.* 79 The breadth, across the transepts, is 54 feet.

b. To a hair's breadth: with minute exactness of measure, to a nicety. Cf. *HAIR-BREADTH*.

1598 SHAKS. *Merry W.* IV. II. 4, I professe requittal to a haire's bredth. 1709 STEELE *Tatler* No. 36 ¶ 2 Lady Antum knows to an Hair's Breadth where her Place is in all Assemblies and Conversations.

2. A piece (of cloth, etc.) of the full breadth, without reference to its length; a width.

1584 *Inv.* in Scott *Kenilw.* Notes, A layre quille of crymson satin vj breadths. 1673 GREW *Anat. Rootis* IV. § 10. 73 The several Plates or Breadths of a Floor-Mat. 1743 R. MAXWELL *Sel. Tracts* 398 (JAM.) The number of biers or scores of threads in the breadth of the said cloth. 1874 CHB. ROSETTI *Sp. Likenesses* 50 These breadths must be run together, three and three.

b. An extent or area as measured by its breadth: the length not being expressly considered.

1601 HOLLAND *Pliny* I. 119 Cause it to enlarge it selfe into a bredth on the left hand as far as to the river Cyrus. 1813 *Examiner* 4 Jan. 6/1 Large breadths of lands. are left unsown. 1864 *Realm* 29 June 4 Only a given breadth can yearly be sown with grain crops. 1876 GEO. ELIOT *Dan. Der.* I. III. 13 Green breadths of undulating park.

3. Extent, distance in general, length.

1595 SHAKS. *John* IV. II. 99 That blood which ow'd the bredth of all this Ile, Three foot of it doth hold. 1601 — *All's Well* III. II. 26 If there bee bredth enough in the world, I will hold a long distance. 1608 — *Per.* IV. I. 37 He will repent the breadth of his great voyage.

4. *fig.* Largeness (of mind, sentiment, or view), liberality, catholicity; also, wide or broad display of a quality.

1847 Grotz *Greece* (1862) III. xxviii. 45 Breadth of common sentiment and sympathy between Greek and Greek. 1858 TREVELL *Life Macaulay* (1876) I. vi. 391 The press found occasion to attack Macaulay with a breadth and ferocity of calumny. 1878 MORLEY *Condorcet* 75 Turgot shows a breadth and accuracy of vision.

5. *Art.* A broad effect: see *quots.*

1788 Sir J. REYNOLDS *Disc.* (1876) 84 A greater breadth and uniformity of colour. c 1811 FUSSELL *Lect. Art v.* (1848) 465 Breadth, or that quality of execution which makes a whole so predominate over the parts as to excite the idea of uninterrupted unity amid the greatest variety... is a judicious display of fulness, not a substitute of vacuity. 1857 Ruskin *Elem. Drawing* 311 Good composers are always associating their colours in great groups... and securing... what they call 'breadth', that is to say a large gathering of each kind of thing into one place; light being gathered to light, darkness to darkness, and colour to colour. 1885 *Athenaeum* 30 May 700/3 Simplicity, harmony, and breadth combine in these pictures with a restfulness which is truly admirable.

6. *Comb. (Naut.)*, as *breadth-line*, 'a curved line of the ship lengthwise, intersecting the timbers at their respective broadest parts' (Weale); *breadth-riders* *sb. pl.*, 'timbers placed nearly in the broadest part of the ship... so as to strengthen two or more timbers' (Adm. Smyth).

Breadthen (brɛdˈθɛn), *v.* [*f. prec.*: after *lengthen*.] *intr.* To increase in breadth; to broaden, widen.

1809 W. TAYLOR in Robbards *Mem.* II. 278 The inroads of mediocrity are ever breadthening. 1884 A. FORBES in *Eng. Illustr. Mag.* Apr. 455/2 As I painted, the picture breadthened on the canvas.

Breadthless (brɛdˈθɛləs), *a.* [*f. as prec.* + *-less*.] Without breadth.

1848 H. MORE *Song of Soul* II. II. vi. The term of latitude is breadthless line. 1854 Sir W. HAMILTON in *Stewart's Wks.* Adv. 9 *note*. The realizing, not only to imagination but to sight, of breadthless lines.

Breadthways, *-wise* (brɛdˈθɛwɪz, -wɪz), *adv.* [*see* -WAYS, -WISE.] In direction of the breadth.

1677 Moxon *Mech. Exerc.* (1703) 240 Roof Tiles... made Circular breadthways like a half Cylinder. 1758 *Elaboratory* 23 A course of bricks laid breadthways. 1864 H. SPENCER *Illustr. Progr.* 161 Each finger-breadth was... equal to four grains of barley placed breadthwise. 1866 *Reader* 797 Some crossing it lengthways and some breadthways.

Bread-tree (brɛdˈtriː), [*f. BREAD* + *TREE*.] A name sometimes given to the Bread-fruit tree; also to several other trees of which the produce is used as food, as *Gardenia edulis*, *Encaphalartos caffer*. 1786 tr. *Spartan's Voy.* I. 346 On a height... grew the bread-tree (*bread-wood*) of the Hottentots. 1823 BYRON *Island* II. xi. The bread-tree... yields The unrepaid harvest of unfurrow'd fields. 1824 PRINGLE *Afr. Sk.* VI. 204 The Hottentot bread-tree, a species of palm.

Bread-winner (brɛdˈwɪnər), [*f. BREAD* + *WIN*.]

1. One who supports himself and those dependent upon him by his earnings.

1821 GALT *Ann. Parish* 162 (JAM.) What war is when it comes into our hearths, and among the bread-winners. 1863 Miss MULOCK *Mistr. & Maid* xi. 122 Many a young fellow of his age was the stay and bread-winner of some widowed mother or sister. 1880 A. HUTH *Buckle* I. iii. 198 The age at which the bread-winners marry.

2. The tool, art, or craft with which any one earns his living.

1828 Scott *Br. Lamm.* II. 255 (JAM.) 'I'se gang hame,— and then get my bread-winner' (a fiddle). 1828 GALT *Ann. Par.* 174 (JAM.) An aged woman, who has but the distaff for her bread-winner. 1870 LOWELL *Among my Bks.* Ser. I. (1873) 190 That art which was... the bread-winner alike for soul and body.

So *Bread-winning* *vbl. sb.* and *ppl. a.*

1775 HELPS *Anim. & Mast.* VI. 142 Of course, it has nothing to do with bread-winning pursuits. 1879 M. PARTISON *Milton* 13 His aim is far above breadwinning. 1879 GEO. ELIOT *Theo. Such* xvi. 290 The sort of public spirit that scamps its bread-winning work.

† **Breadwort.** *Obs. rare.* [*f. bread*, BREDE, plant, intertwining + *WORT*.] The Knot-grass.

1783 AINSWORTH *Lat. Dict.* (Morell) II, *Polygonum*... the herb knotgrass, or breadwort.

† **Bready**, *a.* *Obs.* [*f. as prec.* + *-y*.] Characterized by, or of the nature of, bread; breaden.

1550 Br. HOOPER *Serm. on Jonas* v. Wks. 527 Honorius the third, Bishop of Rome, commanded this new bready god to be honoured, anno 1226. 1624 GATAKER *Transubst.* 89 They endeavour with Epithets and wordes to cover the breadly nakedness thereof. 1633 W. AMES *Agst. Cerem.* II. 520 The... Masse-god is made... of a breadly substance.

Break (brɛk), *v.* Pa. t. broke (brɔk). Pa. pple. broken (brɔk'n), broke. Forms: 1 *brecan* (*Northumb. brian*), 2-5 *brecan*, 3-6 *broke*, 6-7 *broke*, 6- *break*; (also 2-3 *brecan*, 3-4 *brec*, 4 *brek*, 4-5 *breek*, 5 *brakyn*, *byrkyn*, 6 *Sc. brak*, *breik*, 7 *breaok*). Pa. t. sing. 1-3 *brec*, 2-4 *brac*, (*Orkn. braco*), 3-5 (& 6 *Sc.*) *brak*, 4- (*Sc.*) *brak*; also 2-3 *brec*, 3 *breao*, 4 *brek*, *breek*, 4-5 *breek*, *broke*, 6 *breae*, 4-8 *brake*; pl. 1 *bræcon*, (2 *breaken*, *broeken*), 2-4 *brækon*, 3-4 *broke*, 4 *breeken*; also 3-5 *braken*, (2-5

North. brak, 4 *brac*, 4- *brack*); sing. and pl. 4-6 (7-9 *arch.*) *brake*, 6- *broke*, (6 *brooke*, 7 *brook*). Pa. pple. 1 *brecen*, 2-3 *ibroken*, 3- *broken*, (3-5 *brokun*, -yn, 4-5 *y-broke*), 4- *broke*, (7 *broak*, *brake*, 8 *Sc. broken*).

[OE. *brecan* (*bricp*), pa. t. *bræc*, *bræcon*, pa. pple. *brecen*], corresp. to OFris. *breka*, OS. *brecan*, (MDu., Du. *brecen*), OHG. *brehhan* (MHG., mod.G. *brecen*), Goth. *brikan* (pa. t. *brak*, *bræcum*, pple. *brukans*):—OTeut. stem *brek-*, corresp. to L. *frag-* (*frang-o*, *frigi*, *frac-tum*), Aryan **bhreg-*. The original short vowels of the present stem and pa. pple were lengthened in ME., though *breek*, *brick*, and *broken* are still retained dialectally. The normal pa. t. *brak*, *brack* (= OE. *bræc*, Ormin's *bracc*), remains in the north; the normal plural in ME. was *braken*, *breeke'n*, which would have become *breae* in 16th c.; but by the operation of levelling, we find also a ME. sing. *bræk*, *breek*, and a (north.) pl. *brak*, *brack*; a pl. *braken* occurs in Layamon, and in late ME. *brake* became the regular form both in sing. and pl., which, being retained in the Bible of 1611, is still familiar as an archaic form. But early in the 16th c., if not before, *brake* began to be displaced by the modern *broke*, formed after the pa. pple. Of the pa. pple, *broken* is still the regular form, but from the end of the 14th c. this was often shortened to *broke*, which was exceedingly common in prose and speech during the 17-18th c., and is still recognized in verse.]

(Many of the uses of this verb are so contextual, that it is difficult, if not impossible, to find places for them in a general scheme of its signification: when not found here, they may be sought under other words of the phrase.)

1. To sever into distinct parts by sudden application of force, to part by violence. Often with an adjunct indicating result, as in *to break asunder*, *in pieces*, *small*. See also *Break up*.

1. *trans.* generally.

a 1000 *Psalm* II. 9 (Spelm.) Swa swa fæt tigelon ðu bricst hl. c 1175 *Lamb. Hom.* 79 Me brekeð þe nute for to habbene þene curnel. a 1300 *Cursor M.* 6542 þe tables þat in hand he bare, To pees he þam brak right þar. 1398 *Trevisa Barth. De P. R.* v. xx. (1495) 125 The thyng that is kytte and broke bi the foreteeth. c 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 49 Brakyn-a-sunder cordys and ropis. 1569 *Wormer Alb. Eng.* v. xxvii. 137 Spurres hewen off the heeles, and Swords broke ower head. 1601 Br. BARLOW *Serm. Paulus Crosse* 17 A threefold rope is not easily broken. 1652 *Proc. Parl.* No. 136. 2130 His Coach was broke to peeces. 1653 *WALTON Angler* 123 He should not have broke my line by running to the Rods end. 1700 *BLACKMORE Job* 70 All my members were in pieces broke. 1710 *STEELE Tattler* No. 222 ¶ 3 A natural Inclination to break Windows. 1799 G. SMITH *Laboratory* II. 261 He [the fish] will certainly break you, as we term it (that is, snap your line) and make his escape. 1824 *SCOTT Ld. Isles* VI. xvi. I've broke my trusty battle-axe.

b. *intr.* for *refl.*

c 1175 *Lamb. Hom.* 83 Pet gles ne brekeð. c 1230 *Hali Meid.* 15 þat hit ne breke ne beie. a 1300 *Cursor M.* 4389 He drou, sco held, þe tassel brak. c 1400 *MAUNDEV.* II. 13 Thei breken for drynesse, whan Men meven hem. 1506 *Pilgr. Perf.* (W. de W. 1531) 47 Anone it breketh, and so shedeth the wyne. 1601 *SHAKS. Twel. N. l. v. 24* If both [points] breake, your gaskins fall. 1860 *TYNDALL Glac.* II. § 17. 317 The glacier was evidently breaking beneath our feet.

2. In various spec. uses, as

† a. To rend or tear (cloth, paper). Still in s. w. dial. (See also *BROKEN*.)

a 1000 *Beowulf* 1511 Sae deor monig hilde tuxum here sycan bræc. 1382 *WYCLIF John* xxi. 11 The nett... ful of grete fischis... the nett is not broken. c 1489 *CAXTON Sonnes of Aymon* I. 37 There had you seen many a gowne torne and broken. 1516 T. ALLEN in *Lodge Illustr. Brit. Hist.* (1838) I. 23 After the sight thereof, your Lordship should break or burn it [the letter]. 1557 *Order of Hospitalis Gij.* Mending of such [sheets, etc.] as shalbe broken from time to time.

b. To cut up (a deer); to tear in pieces (a fox), also with *up*; to carve (a fowl), also with *out*, *up* (*obs.*).

c 1300 *Sir Tristr.* 452 Bestes þai brac and bare. 1513 *Bk. Keruynge in Babes Bk.* (1868) 267 Breke that egryt. *Ibid.* 277 Take the capon by the legges... & breke hym out. 1588 *SHAKS. L. L. L.* IV. i. 58 Boyet, you can carve, Breake vp this Capon. 1810 *SCOTT Lady of L.* IV. v. Raven... watching while the deer is broke. 1875 *BUCKLAND Log-bk.* 155 Like hounds breaking up a fox.

† c. To comb (wool) roughly, being the first process in carding. *Obs.* or *arch.*

1511-12 *Act 3 Hen. VIII.* VI. § 1 Every Clothier... which shall... deliver to any persone eny Wolle to breke, kembe, carde, or spynne. 1514 *Act 6 Hen. VIII.* IX. § 1 The Breaker or Kember to deliver again... the same Woolle so broken and kembed.

† d. To wreck (a ship). *Obs.*

1382 *WYCLIF I Kings* xxii. 48 Thei ben broken in Aziongeber [1611 *Bible* The ships were broken at Ezion Geber]. 1535 *STEWART Cron. Scot.* II. 529 Ane schip... wes brokin on ane sand. 1547-64 *BAULWIN Mor. Philos.* (Palfr.) xi. 167 When the ship is broken, [they] may swim and escape. 1611 *Bible Jonah* I. 4 The ship was like to be broken.

e. To destroy the completeness of; to take away a part from; to divide, part (a set of things). *To break with*: to divide and share with. Cf. *To break bulk*, 43.

1741 *RICHARDSON Pamela* xvii. (L.) You should have given them [4 guineas] back again to your master: and yet I have broken them. 1808 *JAMIESON Scot. Dict.*, To Break a Bottle: to open a full bottle; especially when it is meant only to take out part of its contents. 1821 *CLARK Vill. Minstr.* I. 67 My last-earn'd sixpence will I break with thee. *Mod.* The shopkeeper would not break the set.

† f. To dissolve (parliament), disband (a regiment). *Obs.*; cf. *Break up*, 56 d.

1684 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 1997/2 The Regiments he brought into the Emperors Service are broken. 1715 *BURNET Own Time* II. 209 The Earl of Danby's prosecution was the point on which the parliament was broken. 1763 *Brit. Mag.* IV. 106 Lord Robert Sutton's regiment... having refused to be broke. 1788 *PRIESTLEY Lect. Hist.* v. xl. 291 The Grand Seigneur can neither touch the public treasure, [nor] break the Janizaries.

† g. *intr.* (*for refl.*) *Obs.*

1601 *SHAKS. All's Well* IV. iv. 11 The Army breaking, My husband hies him home.

h. In Music: To break a CHORD, a NOTE, q. v.

3. In phrases: To break bread: see *BREAD*, 2 c. To break a lance with: to enter the lists against, enter into competition with. To break blows, words with: to exchange blows, words with. † To break a straw with: to fall out with (*humorous*).

971 *Blickl. Hom.* 37 Brec pinne hlaf þearfendum mannum. 1509 *GREENE Menaph.* (Arb.) 85 Breaking a few quarter blows with such country glances as they coulede. 1590 *SHAKS. Com. Err.* III. i. 75 A man may breake a word with you sir, and words are but wine. 1591 — *1 Hen. VI.* III. ii. 51 Breake a Lance, and runne a-Tilt at Death. 1603 *FLORIO Montaigne* III. viii. (1632) 520, I shall breake a straw or fall at ods with him that keeps himselfe so aloft. 1662 *THORNBURY Turner* I. 263 In 1800 Turner entered classical ground to break a lance with Claude.

4. *trans.* and *intr.* To burst. Of an abscess or boil: To burst the surface, so that the contents escape. Sometimes also of a vein, blood-vessel, etc.

1596 *TREvisa Barth. De P. R.* VII. xxi. (1495) 239 Yf the postume of the eere be broke it is knowe by renynge of quytter. 1533 *ELYOT Cast. Helth* (1541) 38 A boyle or impostume comen forth and broken. 1557 *NORTH Guevara's Diall. Pr.* (1582) 452 b, They brake the vaines of their hands and feete, and offered the blood thereof. 1576 *LAMBARDE Peramb. Kent* (1826) 408 As the evil humor... gathered to a boyle, or head, will easily breake. 1598 *SHAKS. Ven. & Ad.* 460 The berry breaks before it staineth. 1608 — *Ham.* IV. iv. 28 This is the impostume of much wealth and peace, That inward breaks, 1658 *CULPEPPER Eng. Physic.* 17 Laid warm on a Boil [it] will ripen and break it. 1711 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 4894/2 Most of their Bomba break before they fall. 1808 R. REECE *Med. Guide* (1850) 306 Boils... after they break... require only to be kept clean.

5. Said in reference to the rupture of a surface:

a. To part or lay open the surface of (anything), as of land (by ploughing, etc.). Also *To break up*, 56 f; and see *To break ground*, 44.

1499 *Promp. Parv.* 49 Breken claddis, *occo.* 1506 *Pilgr. Perf.* (W. de W. 1531) 23 Our soyle or lande is our hertes, whiche we... breke with the plough of abstinence. 1559 *HULOET, Break* land with a plough, *obfringo*. 1697 *DYDEN Virg. Eclor.* VIII. 97 Verse breaks the Ground, and penetrates the Brake. 1813 *BYRON Giaour* I. No breath of air to break the wave. 1847 *LONGF. Ev.* I. ii. 114 The merry lads... breaking the glebe round about.

b. To crack or rupture (the skin); to graze, bruise, wound, as in phrase *To break one's head*. To break *Priscian's head*: to violate the rules of grammar.

c 1305 *Jud. Iscariot* 50 in E. E. P. (1862) 108 Children... he wolde smyte, And breke here armes and here hewed. c 1489 *CAXTON Sonnes of Aymon* x. 256 Atte the falling that he made, he brake alle his browes. 1590 *SHAKS. Com. Err.* II. i. 78 Backe slauce, or I will breake thy pate a-crosse. 1598 — *Rom. & Jul.* I. iii. 38 Euen the day before she broke her brow. 1711 *BUDGELL Spect.* No. 161 ¶ 3 A Ring of Cudgel-Players... breaking one another's heads. 1765 R. CUMBERLAND *Observer* No. 22 § 6 Observe how this... orator breaks poor Priscian's head for the good of his country. 1823 *Daily Tel.* 10 July 5/4 Does Shakespeare never break Priscian's head?

6. *intr.* To crack without complete separation. Formerly said of a bell; hence possibly, from the similarity of the sound emitted, of a boy's voice on reaching the age of puberty.

1486 *Bk. St. Albans* D iij, That thay [the bells on a hawk's neck] be hooole and not brokyn and specialli in the soundyng place. 1667 *PERVS Diary* 21 Aug., This morning came two of Captain Cooke's boys, whose voices are broke; and are gone from the Chapel. 1706 A. BEDFORD *Temple Mus.* ix. 172 Lads, when their Voices did Break, or Alter. 1880 in *Grove Dict. Mus.* I. 703/2 His voice began to break.

II. With regard chiefly to the state or condition produced: to break so as to disable, destroy cohesion, solidity, or firmness, crush, shatter.

7. *trans.* To crush, shatter (e.g. a bone). To break the leg or arm: i.e. the bones of the limb.

a 1000 *Ag. Gosp.* John xix. 32 [Hi] bræcon arrest ðæs sceancan þe mid him ahangan wæs. a 1300 *Cursor M.* 2145 A wicked iuu... him brac his harn panne. 1382 *WYCLIF Ex.* ix. 25 Eche trece of the cuntree it [the hall] breke togidere. c 1460 *Towneley Myst.* 142, I shuld with this steylle brand Byrkyn alle his bonys. 1599 *HAKLUYT Voy.* II. ii. 331 [19] The elephant... with the poise of his body breaketh him. 1759 tr. *Dukamel's Husb.* I. xv. (1762) 100 When the distemper'd grain is broke. 1836 *MARRIAT Midsh. Easy* xxxiii, Break my leg!—break my leave, you mean?

b. To break on the wheel: to bind a criminal to a wheel, or similar frame, and break his limbs, or beat him to death; so † To break on the tor-

ture: to put to the torture, dislocate on the rack, etc. *To break one's back or neck*: to dislocate the bones of the back or neck; also *fig.* to overpower, render nugatory, crush. *To break the neck of a journey, a piece of business, etc.*: to get through the most serious part of it. *To break the back of a ship*: to break the keel and keelson, dislocate the framework of the centre, so that the two ends tend to fall apart.

a 1300 *Cursor M.* 2220a Ouer hogh to lepe his hals to brek.
c 1400 *Gamelyn* 712. I ne hadde broke his nekke, tho I his rigge brak.
1579 FENTON *Guicciardi* vii. (1599) 289. To break the necke of the wicked purposes and plots of the French.
1586 WARNER *Alb. Eng.* ii. x. 47. Her good-man . . . kindly bad her breake her nekke, olde Jade.
1598 GREENWY *Tacitus' Ann.* xi. vii. (1622) 148. Being broken on the torture, he confessed nothing.
1610 SHAKS. *Temp.* iii. ii. 26. I had rather cracke my sinewes, breake my backe, Then you should such dishonor vndergoe.
1634 MASSINGER *Very Woman* v. iv. Rack him first, and after break him Upon the wheel.
1690 LUTTRELL *Brief Rel.* (1857) II. 147. A Dutch man of war . . . run upon the sands and broke her back.
1735 POPE *Prod. Sat.* 308. Who breaks a butterfly upon a wheel? 1864 *Times* 24 Dec. The . . . delusion that a single campaign would 'break the neck of the rebellion'.
1878 MORLEY *Diderot* I. 201. A country where youths were broken on the wheel for levity in face of an ecclesiastical procession.

c. *To break the heart*: to kill, crush, or overwhelm with sorrow. Also *intr.* (for *refl.*)

c 1386 CHAUCER *Knts. T.* 96. Hym thoughte þat his herte wolde breke.
1593 DRAVTON *Ecolg.* x. 93. Thou with thine Age, my Heart with sorrow broke.
1605 SHAKS. *Macb.* iv. iii. 210. The griefe that do's not speake, Whispers the o're-fraught heart, and bids it breake.
1713 ADDISON *Cato* iii. iii. 31. Thy disdain Has broke my heart.
1823 TENNYSON *Enone* 31. My heart is breaking and my eyes are dim.
1848 MACAULAY *Hist. Eng.* II. 253. The great calamity which . . . had almost broken his heart.

† 8. To dissolve (anything hard or coherent).

1579 LAMHAM *Gard. Health* (1633) 81. The herbe boyled or drunke raw with Wine breaketh the stone.
a 1648 DIGBY *Closet Open.* (1677) 87. Set them [honey and water] over so gentle a fire as you might endure to break it in the water with your hand.

b. *intr.* To dissolve, relax. As said of a frost there may be some admixture of the notion of a break of continuity (*branch V*).

1530 PALSGR. 754/2. It thaweth, as the weather dothe, when the frost breaketh.
1570-87 HOLINSHED *Scot. Chron.* (1806) I. 273. The frost broke and the snow melted.
1607 TOPSEL *Four-J. Beasts* 291. His Cough breaketh more and more.
1681 DRYDEN *Abd. & Achil.* 287. Or if they shou'd, their Interest soon would break.
1767 WATSON in *Phil. Trans.* LVII. 444. On the next day . . . the frost broke.

9. *trans.* To demolish, smash, destroy, ruin; to defeat, foil, frustrate (things material or immaterial).

a 1300 *Cursor M.* 12018. Thoru envie and wreth and tene [He] brack þe lacks al bi-dene.
1513 MORE *Edw. V.* (1641) 13. Each labourer to breaketh that the other maketh.
1535 COVERDALE *Pr. Ixxviii* (ix). 10. Thou breakest the proude, like one that is wounded.
1678 N. WANLEY *Wonders* v. i. § 103. 468/2. Ferdinand the third . . . broke the Great power of the Swedes.
1719 DE FOE *Crusoe* xiv. The number of them broke all my measures.
1871 FREEMAN *Norm. Cong.* (1876) IV. xvii. 47. Their moral force was utterly broken.

10. *trans.* To shiver or dash in pieces a wave, billow, or moving mass of water, as a rock or other obstacle does; also *intr.* said of waves, etc. when they dash against an obstacle, or topple over and become surf or 'broken water' in the shallows. (But in the 'breaking' of waves, the sea, etc., various other senses are often combined: see the *quots.*)

c 1375 BARBOUR *Bruce* iii. 699. Wawys wyd [that] brekand war.
1593 SHAKS. *Lucr.* 1440. Their [the waves] ranks began To break upon the galled shore.
1697 DRYDEN *Virg. Georg.* iii. 406. About him, and above, the billows broke.
1744 POPE (J.) That tumult in the Icarian sea, dashing and breaking among its crowd of islands.
1795 SOUTHEY *Joan of Arc* viii. 306. Some huge promontory whose broad base Breaks the rough wave; the shiver'd surge rolls back.
1845 TENNYSON, *Break, break, break*. On thy cold gray stones O Sea!
1860 *Merc. Mar. Mag.* VII. 259. In heavy . . . weather Point Pinos breaks the swell.

11. To ruin financially, make bankrupt (a person or bank). *To break the bank*: formerly also in the sense 'to become bankrupt'.

(*To break the bank*, in Gambling means to clear out the amount of money which the proprietor of the gaming table has before him: see *BANK* s. 3. 4.)

1612-15 BP. HALL *Contempl. O. T.* xix. vii. The holiest man may be deep in arrearsages, and break the bank.
1644-7 R. STAPYLTON *Jurnal* 123. Meer expence in paper breaks you all.
a 1674 CLARENDON *Hist. Reb.* (1703) II. vii. 330. The necessities of the Army still pressed us . . . to break the Merchants here.
1705 TATE *Warrior's Welc.* x. 7. Britain's Gen'ral came . . . and broke the Bank of Fame.
1850 THACKERAY *Pendennis* lvi. (1884) 548. He had seen his friend . . . break the bank three nights running at Paris.

b. *intr.* (for *refl.*) To become bankrupt, to 'fail' (commercially). Now less usual.

1596 SHAKS. *Mercb. V.* iii. i. 120. Hee cannot choose but breake.
1661-2 PERYS *Diary* 19 Jan. Our merchants here in London do daily breake.
1678 BUTLER *Hud.* iii. iii. 248. By which some Glorious Feats achieve, As Citizens, by breaking, thrive.
1793 LD. SPENCER in *Ld. Auckland's Corr.* (1862) III. 82. Hutchinson is going to break, and to show the world that honesty is the best policy.
1896 EMERSON *Eng. Traits* v. 89. In trade, the Englishman believes that nobody breaks who ought not to break.
1879 H.

GEORGE *Progr. & Pov.* v. i. (1881) 250. A bank breaks . . . and on every side workmen are discharged.

12. *trans.* To crush the strength of, wear out, exhaust; to weary, impair, in health or strength.

1483 CAXTON *Gold. Leg.* 224/1. He was broken with the hete of the sonne and wyth labour.
1583 BARINGTON *Com-mandm.* Ep. Ded., Your servants, that breake both bodie and braines in your affaires.
1666 PERYS *Diary* (1879) VI. 78. Whom I have not seen since he was sicke . . . he is mightily broke.
1715 BURNET *Oum Time* II. 340. Lord Essex told me he was much broken in his thoughts.
1795 POPE *Odyss.* xii. 143. O worn by toils, oh broke in fight.
1857 RUSKIN *Pol. Econ. Art* 16. None had been broken by toil.

† b. So *To break one's brain, mind, wind* (cf. *BROKEN-WINDED*). *Obs.*

c 1340 HAMPOLE *Prose Treat.* 37. He sall mowe breke his heuede and his body and he sall neuer be þe nerre.
1530 PALSGR. 464/1. I breake my brayne to do hym good.
1547 BOORDE *Brev. Health* § 321. Breaking a mans mynde about many matters the which he can nat comprehend.
1596 SHAKS. 1 *Hen. IV.* ii. ii. 13. If I trauel but foure foot . . . further a foote I shall breake my winde.
1597 MORLEY *Introd. Mus.* 77. I shall neuer leaue breaking my braines til I finde it.
1647 WARD *Simp. Cobler* 22. It would breake his [the Devil's] wind and wits to attend such a Province.
1690 W. WALKER *Idiom. Anglo-Lat.* 70. He breakes his brains with studying.

c. *intr.* To fail in health, decay, give way. See also *To break up*, s. 6 i.

1713 SWIFT *Cadenus & V. Wks.* 1755 III. ii. 15. I'm sorry Mopsa breaks so fast.
1804 G. ROSE *Diaries* (1860) II. 194. The Archbishop . . . is breaking fast.
1876 TREVELYAN *Life & Lett. Macaulay* II. vii. 2. His health was breaking fast.

13. To crush in spirit or temper; to discourage; to overcome, prevail upon (*obs.*).

[1513 DOUGLAS *Æneis* viii. vii. 33. Aurora wyth hyr teris so the brak, For tyl enarme hir child.]
1618 BOLTON *Florus* ii. xvii. 144. Cato . . . brake the hearts of the Celtiberians . . . by certain encounters.
1667 MILTON *P. L.* v. 887. That Golden Scepter Is now an Iron Rod to bruise and breake Thy disobedience.
a 1674 CLARENDON *Hist. Reb.* (1704) III. xv. 458. By breaking their Fortunes and Estates, he had not at all broken their Spirits.
1754 HUME *Ess. & Treat.* (1777) I. 192. A person . . . easily broken by affliction.
1855 MACAULAY *Hist. Eng.* IV. 96. The slaughter of Aggrim had broken the spirit of the army.

14. To reduce to obedience or discipline, tame, train (horses or other animals, also human beings); to subject or habituate to. Now also *To break in*, s. 2a.

1474 CAXTON *Chesse* 32. His hors wel broken.
1519 HORMAN *Vulg.* 254. It is better to breke a mannys owne people in war than to hyre straungers.
1544 UDALL *Erasm.* *Apoph.* 80 a. The same children he broke and taught how to awayte on their parentes.
1596 SHAKS. *Tam. Shr.* ii. i. 148. Why then thou canst not break her to the Lute?
1605 BACON *Adv. Learn.* ii. xiii. § 7. 1873. Cicero himself being broken unto it by experience.
1668 PERYS *Diary* 14 Dec. About breaking of my horses to the coach.
1688 R. HOLME *Armoury* ii. 149/2. To Break or Back a Colt is the first riding of him.
1766 GOLDSM. *Vic. W.* x. They had never been broken to the rein.
1844 MISS MITFORD *Village Ser.* i. (1863) 113. Whose dog hath he broken?

b. *To break from*. Cf. also *break off*, s. 3 b.

1530 PALSGR. 464/2. I breake a yonge beest from his wyld condicions.

III. To violate.

15. To violate, do violence to; to fail to observe or keep; to transgress. (The opposite of *to keep sacred or intact*.) Said esp. in reference to

a. a law, commandment, rule, requirement; a thing sanctified by law or ordinance, as the Sabbath, the king's peace, a sanctuary. † *To break time* (in Music): to fail to keep time.

a 1000 *Cudmon's Daniel* 299 (Gr.) Yldra usse. ðin bibodu braecon.
1003 *Chart. Canute in Cod. Dipl.* IV. 24. Gif ænig is ðæt gewilnæð to brekenne . . . ðas ure zefestnunge.
c 1175 *Lamb. Hom.* 79. He . . . brece cristes heste.
c 1200 *Trin. Coll. Hom.* 170. Pat . . . breceð grif þar he hit healde sholde.
a 1300 *Cursor M.* 11992. Hu iesus brickes vr halidai.
1368 *Ibid.* 1368. Pou carl, qui brekes pou vr lau?
c 1375 WYCLIF *Serm.* Sel. Wks. II. 95. He brac þe Sabot.
1377 LANGL. *P. Pl.* B. ii. 82. Unboxome and bolde to breke þe ten hestes.
1591 SPENSER *Virgil's Gnat* lix. Cruell Orpheus . . . Seeking to kisse her, brok't the gods decree.
1593 SHAKS. *Rich. II.* v. v. 43. Keepe time: How sowre sweet Musicke is, When Time is broke, and no Proportion kept?
1668 MARVELL *Corr.* ci. Wks. 1872-5 II. 255. We had broke no privilege of the Lords.
1678 BUTLER *Hud.* iii. iii. 592. He Ingag'd the Constable to seize All those that would not break the Peace.
1771 JUNIUS *Lett.* liv. 284. The laws have . . . been shamefully broken.
1850 THACKERAY *Pendennis* lxi. (1884) 603. As refined as Mrs. Bull, who breaks the King's English.

b. a contract or covenant of any kind; a treaty, indenture, league, truce, peace, or the like.

912 *O. E. Chron.* (Parker MS.) Her bræc se here on Norð hymburum þone frif.
1340 *Ayenb.* 16. Prede brek uerst uelayrede and ordre.
c 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 50. Breke couenant, *fidifrago*.
1513 DOUGLAS *Æneis* xii. v. Adv't, Quhou Iuturna . . . Breikis the peace, and hasty bataille sent.
1558 HULOET, *Breake truce, fædus frangere*.
1763 *Brit. Mag.* IV. 373. Which made me break my indentures, and run away.
1791 BURKE *App. Whigs* Wks. VI. 150. The contract is thereby broke.
1873 BURTON *Hist. Scot.* V. lviii. 153. The English were the first to break the peace.

c. an oath, promise, pledge, vow, one's word, (one's) faith.

a 1000 *Beowulf* 4132. Þonne bioð brocene, æð-sweord eorla.
c 1505 LAV. 705. Brutus him swar an æð, breken þat he hit nielde.
c 1590 *Cursor M.* 10674. Hir vou to breke.
1496-7 *Act 12 Hen. VII.* xii. Pream. In breking his seid promys.
1558 HULOET, *Breake fayth, othe, or promys*.
1593 SHAKS. 1 *Hen. VI.* v. i. 91. False King, why hast thou broken faith with me?
1811 *Rich. II.* iv. i. 214. God pardon all Oathes that

are broke to mee.
1664 BUTLER *Hud.* ii. ii. 138. Some, to the Glory of the Lord, Perjur'd themselves and broke their word.
1752 JOHNSON *Rambl.* No. 201. P. 9. A promise is never to be broken.
1848 MACAULAY *Hist. Eng.* II. 79. The king would gladly have broken his word.
1857 *Ibid.* II. 471. That men who are in the habit of breaking faith should be distrusted when they mean to keep it is part of their just and natural punishment.

d. † *To break spousehood* (ME.), *wedlock, matrimony* (16th c.): to break the marriage vow, commit adultery. *To break a marriage*: to dissolve or annul it, obtain a divorce.

c 1175 *Lamb. Hom.* 143. Þe sunfulle Men þet spushad brekeð.
1530 TINDALE *Gen. Prol.*, David, though he brake wedlock.
1535 COVERDALE *Matt.* xix. 18. Thou shalt not breake wedlocke.
— *Luke* xvi. 18. Who so euer putteth away his wife and marieth another breaketh matrimony.
1844 LD. BROUGHAM *Brit. Const.* xiv. (1862) 212. His desire to break his first marriage from his wish to espouse Anne Boleyn.

† e. *To break day*: to fail to keep an appointed time (for payment, etc.). *Obs.*

c 1300 *Beke* 769. Com to morwe . . . that thu thane dai ne breke.
c 1386 CHAUCER *Chan. Yem. Prol.* & T. 487. That in no wise he breke wol his day.
c 1590 MARLOWE *Jew of M. I.* ii. 340. If we break our day, we break the league.
c 1610 ROWLANDS *Terrible Batt.* 8. Sirrha, your day is broke, ile keepe your pawne.
1642 ROGERS *Naaman* To Rdr., Breaking daies, promises, yea oaths and voves.

IV. To make a way through, or lay open by breaking; to penetrate; to open up.

16. To burst (a barrier) so as to force a way through it. Also *to break open*: see s. 17 b.

a 1000 *Byrhtnoth* 277. Eadweard bræc ðone bordweall.
a 1200 *Moral Ode* 92 in *E. E. P.* (1862) 27. Ne breceð neuer-euft crist helle dure.
c 1305 *E. E. Allit.* P. B. 1230. He brek þe bareres as bylyue.
1384 CHAUCER *Mother of G.* 86. And broken been the yates eek of helle.
1607 SHAKS. *Cor.* i. i. 210. They . . . sigh'd forth Prouerbes That Hunger broke stone wals.
1766 GIBSON *Decl. & F. I.* xvi. 419. The doors were instantly broke open.
1860 SMILES *Self-help* i. 10. Admiral Hobson . . . broke the boom at Vigo, in 1702.

† 17. To enter (a house, an enclosed place, etc.) by breaking part of its circuit; to enter by force or violence. (Now *To break open, or into*; see s. 42.) Cf. also *To break up*, s. 6 j. (See *HOUSEBREAKER*.)

851 *O. E. Chron.* [The Danes] bræcon Contwara burg and Lundenburg.
a 1123 *Ibid.* an. 1102. Peofas . . . brecon þa minstre of Burh.
c 1305 *Jud. Icarion* 73 in *E. E. P.* (1862) 109. Iudas brac þe 3ard anon.
1393 LANGL. *P. Pl.* C. xxi. 383. [Pou] by-glosedest hem and by-gyledest hem and my gardyn breke.
1483 *Cath. Angl.* 42. To Breke garth, *desurpe*.
1495 *Act 11 Hen. VII.* lix. Pream. Eyvill disposed persones . . . intending . . . to have broken the hous of your seid Subget.
1533-4 *Durham Depositions* (Surtees) 49. The said Dicson did break the church of West Awklande.
c 1677 MARVELL *Growth Popery* 29. Clauses most severe . . . one for breaking all Houses whatsoever on suspicion of any such Pamphlet.
1745 WESLEY *Wks.* (1872) XII. 69. Shall George Whitefield be charged with felony, because John Wesley broke a house?
1768 BLACKSTONE *Comm.* III. 209. Every unwarrantable entry on another's soil the law entitles a trespass by breaking his close.

b. *To break open*: to open or enter by breaking. Cf. also *To break up*, s. 6 j.

1590 SHAKS. *Com. Err.* iii. i. 73. Go fetch me something. Ile break ope the gate.
1593 — *Lucr.* 446. She, much amazed, breaks ope her lock'd-up eyes.
1611 QUARLES *Esther* (1638) 89. Break ope the leaves, those leaves so full of dread.
1623 MADE in *Ellis Orig. Lett.* i. 289 III. 150. The king siezes upon all the Merchants Letters from Spain, breaks them open.
1652 *Proc. Parliament* No. 109. Adv't. His stable being broke open, was stoln one Brown bay gelding.
1753 W. DOUGLASS *Brit. Settlement. N. Amer.* 287. They broke open his house and carried him from his naked Bed.
1853 *Arab. Nts.* (Riddg.) 266. The very robbers who had broken open and pillaged his house.

18. To make or produce (a hole, opening, passage, way, etc.) by breaking.

c 1300 *Smyrn Sag.* (W.) 1261. An hole that bregen.
1633 P. FLETCHER *Purple Isl.* xi. xii. A renting sigh way for his sorrow brake.
1698 in *Select. Harl. Misc.* (1793) 387. Morgan set his soldiers to break avenues for their marching out.
1705 HEARNE *Coll.* 5 Oct. (1885) I. 52. Dalton being forc'd to break way.
1835 I. TAYLOR *Spir. Despot.* ii. 70. Their predecessors who have broke a path upon this field of noble and expansive good will.
1865 TYLOR *Early Hist. Man.* ii. 20. A way for thought is already broken.

19. To escape from (an enclosed place) by breaking part of the enclosure, as in *to break prison or jail*; also *to break bounds*.

c 1300 *Beke* 48. Gilbert and his felawes siththe . . . Prisoun breke.
1428 CAXTON *Chron. Eng.* cclvii. 336. The prysouners of Newgate brake theyr prison.
c 1593 SPENSER *Sonn.* lxxiii. My hart . . . Breaking his prison, forth to you doth fly.
1674 J. BRIAN *Harv. Home* viii. 52. Who is himself; and breaks the jayl, must die.
1790 BURKE *Fr. Rev.* 8. Am I to congratulate an highwayman . . . who has broke prison, upon the recovery of his natural rights?
1813 BYRON *Gisour* 544. The faithless slave that broke her bow.
1857 BUCKLE *Civilis.* I. xii. 690. A hatred and jealousy which broke all bounds.
Mod. Scholars gated for a week for breaking bounds.

20. *To break covert or cover*: to start forth from a hiding-place; also *absol.* *to break*; cf. s. 37, 39.

1602 *Return fr. Parnass.* ii. v. (Arb.) 31. (I) stood to intercept from the thicket: the buck broke gallantly.
1849 JERFON *Brittany* ix. 149. The wolf, a cub, broke cover in fine style.
1859 TENNYSON *Enid* 183. They break covert at our feet.

b. *To break water or soil*: said of a stag.

1486 *Bt. St. Albans* E vij b. Then breketh he water ther to take yow tent.
1575 TURBERV. *Venerie* 241. When he goeth quite through a ryver or water, we say he breaketh soyle.

1807 TOPSELL *Four-f. Beasts* 91 They love the lakes and strong streams, breaking the floods to come by fresh pasture. 21. To penetrate (as light breaks the darkness, sound the air). Cf. 41.

1599 SHAKS. *Hen. V.* iii. iii. 40 Whiles the mad Mothers, with their howles confus'd, Doe breake the Cloudes. 1676 DRYDEN *Virg. Georg.* iv. 666 All her fellow Nymphs the Mountains tear With loud Laments, and break the yielding Air. 1795 SOUTHEY *Joan of Arc* iv. 44 To-morrow's sun, Breaking the darkness of the sepulchre. 1813 BYRON *Glauc* 1145 What beam shall break my night? 1839 THIRLWALL *Greece* III. 265 Only one ray of hope broke the gloom of her prospects. 1871 SWINBURNE *Songs bef. Sunrise, Eve of Rev.* 49 The night is broken eastward; is it day?

b. *intr.* Said of the darkness (*rare*). 1594 SHAKS. *Rich. III.* v. iii. 86 Flakie darknesse breakes within the East.

22. † To break one's mind (*heart*): to deliver or reveal what is in one's mind (*obs.*). To break news, a matter, a secret: to make it known, disclose, divulge it; now implying caution and delicacy.

c. 1450 LONELICH *Grail* xxxvi. 274 Al 30wre herte thanne to me breke. 1474 SIR J. PASTON *Letts* 747 III. 118 To whom she brake hyr harte and tolde hyr y^e she sholde have hadde Mast^r Paston. 1595 LD. BERNERS *Proiss.* II. lxii. [lxv.] 212 A squyer of Bretayne, to whome he had broken his mynde. 1598 GARDINER in Pocock *Rec. Ref.* I. 101 His holiness demanded whether the king's highness had at any time broken this matter to the queen. 1683 PENN. *Archives* I. 83, I broke y^e bussiness to Pr. Aldrix. 1718 STEELE *Spect.* No. 455 P 3 She began to break her Mind very freely... to me. 1718 ARBUTHNOT *John Bull* 102 With a design to break the matter gently to his partners. 1750 DILWORTH *Pope* 64 After a short acquaintance... he broke his mind to him upon that subject. a. 1779 G. COLMAN in G. Colman (Jun.) *Posth. Letts.* (1820) 339 Here it may be resolved... that she shall break the secret of their marriage to the old Earl. 1840 HOOD *Up Rhine* 1 Now, however, I have some news to break.

† b. Hence, *intr.* to break with (rarely to a person), of or concerning (a thing). *Obs.*

1463 PASTON *Letts* 473 II. 124 He kept not his owyn counsell but brak to every man of it. 1599 MORE *Conf. agst. Trib.* II. Wks. 1188/5 Wyth hym she secretly brake, and offered hym ten ducates for hye labour. 1591 SHAKS. *Two Gent.* III. i. 59, I am to breake with thee of some affaires. 1599 — *Much Ado* I. i. 328 Then after to her father will I breake. 1612 DRAYTON *Poly-olb.* Song xii. 200 With him to breake Of some intended act. 1654 REIGN *Hist. World* v. vi. § 8 To this effect Scipio brake with the Consul.

23. *trans.* To break a jest: to utter, crack a joke. So to break a sigh, a smile, etc.

1589 PAPPE *W. Hatchet* B. Your Knaueship brake your fast on the Bishops, by breaking your iests on them. 1599 SHAKS. *Much Ado* II. i. 152 Hee'l but breake a comparison or two on me. 1655 FULLER *Ch. Hist.* v. III. 119 On the Scaffold (a place not to break jests, but to break off all jesting) he could not hold. 1709 SWIFT *Adv. Relie.* Wks. 1755 II. 1. 107 He is... in continual apprehension that some pert man of pleasure should break an unmannerly jest. a. 1774 GOLDSM. *Double Transf.* 57 Jack... often broke A sigh in suffocating smoke. 1795 SOUTHEY *Joan of Arc* x. 151 Welcoming his gallant son, He brake a sullen smile. 1833 FRASER'S *Mag.* VIII. 54 The landlord and waiter... were not suffered to do any thing, save to break their jokes on the members.

24. To open, commence, begin. In certain obs. phrases, as to break parle, break trade. Also at Billiards: To break the balls: to make a stroke from the formal position in which the balls are placed at the beginning of a game, or after a foul stroke. (But cf. 31.)

1588 SHAKS. *Tit. A.* v. iii. 19 Romes Emperour and Nephewe breake the parle. 1788 FALCONBRIDGE *Afr. Slave Tr.* 12 After permission has been obtained for breaking trade... the captains go ashore. 1850 BOHN *Handbk. Games* 565 Breaking the balls is to take them all off the table, place the red on its spot, and... begin again from the baulk.

V. To make a rupture of union or continuity by breaking.

* of union. 25. *trans.* To break a bond, or anything that confines or fastens; to disrupt; hence to dissolve, loosen. Also *fig.* often with *asunder*.

a. 1225 St. Marher. 18 Alre kingene king brec nu mine bondes. 1384 WYCLIF *Judges* xvi. 9 She criede to him, Philistien upon thee, Sampson, The which brak the boondis. 1535 COVERDALE *Ps.* ii. 3 Let us breake their bondes a sunder. 1576 TIMME *Calvin on Gen.* 241 The ambition of Nimrod, brake the bonds of this modesty. 1717 POPE *Eloisa* 173 Death, only death, can break the lasting chain. 1837 NEWMAN *Par. Serm.* (ed. 3) I. xv. 226 Distrust... breaks the very bonds of human society. 1855 MACAULAY *Hist. Eng.* IV. 95 The spell which bound his followers to him was not altogether broken.

b. *intr.* (for *refl.*) See also 1 b for literal use. 26. *trans.* To make a rupture in (the ranks of the enemy). (Also in one's own ranks, by quitting them, or fleeing.)

c. 1205 LAY. 27506 Pene sceld-trume breken: Pe Bruttes ber heolden. 1375 BARBOUR *Brue* xii. 217 And luk 3he na vay brak aray. c. 1400 Destr. *Troy* 6679 Mony batels he broke, buernes he slough. c. 1460 FORTESCUE *Abb. & Lim. Mon.* (1714) 46 Nor yet to may breke a mighty Flote gatheryd of Purpose. c. 1532 LD. BERNERS *Huon* (1883) 344 He drew his swerde... & brake the thyckest presse. 1636 MASSINGER *Basyl. Lover* II. iii. He dies that breaks his ranks Till all be our's. 1769 FALCONER *Dict. Marine* (1789) A ii. It cannot easily break the enemy's line. 1803 MUNRO in Owen *Welshes's Disp.* 790 After breaking their Infantry, your cavalry... was not sufficiently strong to pursue any distance. 1842 TENNYSON *Two Voices* 155 The foe-man's line is broke.

b. *absol.* Said of a band of fighting men: To break their ranks, fall into disorder; also of the ranks.

1598 BARRET *Theor. Warres* i. i. 4 To perform execution if the enemy break or flee. 1781 T. JEFFERSON in Sparks *Corr. Amer. Rev.* (1853) III. 308 They broke twice, and ran like sheep. 1824 MACAULAY *Tory* 43 Their ranks are breaking like thin clouds before a Biscay gale. 1876 BOSW. SMITH *Carthage* 221 The 4,000 Roman cavalry... broke and fled. c. *intr.* (for *refl.*) Said of clouds, mists, etc.: To divide, disperse.

1826 DISRAELI *Viv. Grey* VIII. iv. 485 The storm cannot last long thus. I am sure the clouds are breaking. 1875 GREEN *Short Hist. viii.* § 1. 448 Cromwell saw the mists break over the hills of Dunbar.

* of continuance or continuity.

† 27. *trans.* To cut short, stop, bring to a sudden end. To break the siege: to raise the siege. *Obs.*; but see To break off, 53 a.

1330 R. BRUNNE *Chron.* 111 (Mätz.) Our tale wille we no breke, bot telle forth the certeyn. c. 1386 CHAUCER *Matthew* P 77 Wel ny alle atones bigonne they to rise for to breken his tale. 1387 TREVISIA *Higden Rolls* Ser. II. 415 Penthesilea... brak þe sege of þe Troies. 1534 MORE *Answ. Popsoned Bk.* 1058/2 A better then we both shall breake the strife betwene vs. a. 1553 UDALL *Royaltie* D. iv. iv. Will ye my tale break? 1709 STRYVE *Ann. Ref.* I. xlviii. 510 To use means to break the match.

28. To interrupt the continuance of (an action); to stop for the time, suspend.

c. 1400 Rom. *Rose* 6224 Love... brake his tale in the spekyng As though he had hym tolde lesyng. 1580 BARRETT *Alv.* B 1200 The workes be broken and remaine vnperfite for a time. 1718 ADDISON *Spect.* No. 321 P 11, I would not break the Thread of these Speculations. 1848 MACAULAY *Hist. Eng.* I. 513 He was the first country gentleman... to break that long prescription.

b. To break one's fall, one's journey, the force of a blow.

1848 MACAULAY *Hist. Eng.* II. 117 His fall, though thus broken, was still a fall. 1858 SEARS *Athan.* III. ii. 265 An awful plunge downward with nothing to break the fall. 1880 STANDARD 14 Dec. Count Hatzfeldt... breaks his journey at this capital to-day.

29. To interrupt the continuance of (a state); to disturb: esp. a. To break one's sleep or rest; b. To break silence, stillness. (See SILENCE.)

1597 SHAKS. *2 Hen. IV.* iv. v. 69 For this, the foolish over-careful Fathers Haue broke their sleepes with thoughts. 1623 BINGHAM *Xenophon* 139 You shall put to death a man, that hath broken many a sleepe for you. 1706 ESTCOURT *Fair Examp.* I. i. 9, I hope your ill Luck did not break your Rest last Night. 1710 STEELE *Tatler* No. 222 P 3 Keeping them awake, or breaking their Sleep when they are fallen into it. 1768 STERNE *Sent. Journ.* (1778) I. 176, I was not disposed to break silence. 1853 ROBERTSON *Serm.* Ser. III. xi. 138 There are but three things which can break that peace. 1853 KINGSLEY *Hypatia* xi. 126 Not a sound... broke the utter stillness of the glen.

c. To break one's fast: to put an end to fasting by eating; esp. to eat after the night's fast, take the first meal of the day; to breakfast.

c. 1400 Beryn *Prol.* 71 Ete & be merry, why breke yee nowt your fast? 1523 FITZGER. *Hush.* § 149 Be vppe betyme & breake thy faste before day. 1526 COGAN *Haven Health* ccxiii. These old men brake their fast commonly with honey. 1600 VENER *Via Recta* viii. 171, I aduise them, not to be altogether fasting till dinner, but to breake their fast. 1653 WALTON *Angler* i. 2 My purpose is to be at Hodsden... before I break my fast. 1665 EVELYN *Mem.* (1857) I. 375, I brake fast this morning with the King. 1808 SCOTT *Niarm.* I. xxxi. And knight and squire had broke their fast.

30. To interrupt the uniformity of any quality; to qualify, allay.

1830 THIRLWALL *Greece* I. 183 A uniform tenor of life, broken only by the exertions necessary to satisfy the simplest animal wants. 1877 A. B. EDWARDS *Up Nile* vii. 177 Not a tree, not a hut... broke the green monotony of the plain. 1885 SPECTATOR 18 July 950/2 He... breaks for a few hours the terrible sameness of a dull... sordid life.

b. Of colours: To modify a colour by mixing it with some other colour. Also break down 50 c, and broken colours (see BROKEN).

1753 CHAMBERS *Cycl. Supp.* s.v. Broken, A colour is said to be broken, when it is taken down or degraded by the mixture of some colour.

31. To alter abruptly the direction of (a line). To break a ball (at Cricket): to make it change its direction on touching the ground. To break joint: said of stones or bricks in a building, when the lines of junction are not continuous. To break sheer: see SHEER.

1616 SURFL. & MARKH. *Country Farm* 101 He [the ox] breaketh not vp his taile, but suffereth it to draw all along after him. 1660 BLOOME *Archit.* B. This Pillar is broken perfectly. 1753 CHAMBERS *Cycl. Supp.* s.v., The ray of incidence... is, as it were, broken and bent into another direction. 1793 SMEATON *Edystone L.* § 42 Breaking joint one course upon the other. 1884 LILLYWHITE'S *Cricket Comp.* 29 Cooper... has the faculty of breaking a ball two or three feet. 1884 W. G. GRACE in *Pall Mall G.* 3 Oct. 2/1 He says that a fast bowler can 'break' both ways, but admits that this cannot be done with precision.

32. *intr.* To deviate or start off abruptly from a line or previous course; to project; to fall off. Also with *away*, off; see 53 c.

1677 MOXON *Mech. Exerc.* (1703) 36 Examine... whether the Worm... do not break into Angles. *Ibid.* 279 Let the Keystone break without the Arch. 1687 LOND. *Gas.* No. 2297/8 Stray'd or stolen... a black Mare... breaks high in the forehead. 1873 TRISTRAM *Moab* vii. 125 The plain... breaking away abruptly in limestone precipices to a great depth. 1879 B. TAYLOR *Stud. Germ. Lit.* 240 The narrative continually breaks into dialogue.

b. In Cricket. A ball bowled is said to break when it changes its course after it has pitched: the bowler causes this by his delivery. It is said to break back when it breaks in from the off, to break in, when it breaks from the leg side.

1882 DAILY TEL. 17 May, Clean bowled by a trimmer from Barnes, the ball apparently breaking back.

c. Of flowers: To burst into a diversity of colours under cultivation.

1835 LINDLEY *Introd. Bot.* (1848) II. 249 We have known the dahlias from a poor single dull-coloured flower break into superior forms and brilliant colours. 1846 MRS. LOUDON *Ladies Comp. Flower Gard.* 303 All seedling Tulips, when they first flower, are... of a dull uniform colour; and to make them break, that is, to produce the brilliant and distinct colours which constitute the beauty of a florist's flower, a variety of expedients are resorted to.

VI. To sever or remove by breaking.

33. *trans.* To separate by breaking a connexion. (See break away, off, out.)

a. 1200 Trin. *Coll. Hom.* 93 Brokene boyes. a. 1300 Cursor *M.* 15024 Bifor pair king þe childer kest Branches þai brak o bogh. a. 1340 HAMPOLE *Pr. Consc.* 2078 For þe dede his mynde away þan brekes. 1382 WYCLIF *Dent.* xxiii. 25 Thou shalt breke eeris, and with the hood brisse. 1611 BIBLE *Gen.* xxvii. 40 Thou shalt breake his yoke from off thy necke. *Mod.* Great boughs broken from the trees.

b. To break (any one) of a practice or habit: to cause him to discontinue it. *Perh. orig.* belonging to 14 b.

1612 BACON *Greatness of Kingd.* Ess. (Arb.) 482 Neither must they be too much broken of it [danger], if they shall be preserved in vigor. 1701 W. WOTTON *Hist. Rome* v. 74 He... Broke them of their warm Bathes. 1748 J. MASON *Eloct.* 11 A thick mumbling Way of speaking; which he broke himself of by declaiming with pebbles in his mouth. 1816 LIFE *W. Havergal* (1882) 15 His only fault is in preaching too fast, but he is trying to break of this. 1865 M. ARNOLD *Eng. de Guérin, Ess. Crit.* (1875) 165 When she wants to break a village girl of disobedience to her mother.

34. *intr.* To sever a connexion abruptly; to cease from relation with, quarrel with. See also To break off, 53 f.

1591 SHAKS. *Two Gent.* II. v. 19 Speed. Shall he marry her? *Launce.* No, neither. *Sp.* What, are they broken? 1607 — *Cor.* iv. vi. 48 It cannot be The Volces dare breake with vs. 1687 R. LEFSTRANGE *Answ. Diss.* 39 They Brake, upon This Point. 1734 tr. *Rollin's Anc. Hist.* xx. § 1 (1827) IX. 2 The Romans break with Perseus. 1859 MASSON *Milton* I. 616 Charles broke with his Third Parliament in March 1628-9. 1872 FREEMAN *Gen. Sketch* v. 14. 324 Ready to break with the past altogether.

35. To break an officer; to cashier, deprive him of his commission, degrade him from his rank.

1605 LOND. *Gas.* No. 2135/3 Three other Colonels are broke. 1717 DE FOR. *Hist. Ch. Scot.* III. 73 Whether he was not broke for Cowardise I am not certain. 1787 NELSON in Nicolas *Disp.* (1845) I. 243 That no Officer could sever under him, and that sooner or later he must be broke. 1840 R. DANA *Bef. Mass.* xvii. 46 From the time that he was 'broken', he had had a dog's berth on board the vessel. 1867 SWYTH *Sailor's Word-bk.*, Break, to deprive of commission, warrant, or rating, by court-martial.

VII. Intransitive senses implying movement accompanied by the breaking of ties or barriers; to burst.

36. *intr.* To escape or depart by breaking ties or barriers (physical or immaterial); to depart by a forcible or sudden effort, to escape from restraint. Often with *loose, free*: see also To break away, 49 c.

a. 1000 *Phenix* 67 Wæter wynsumu... of ðære moldan tyrf brimealdu brecað. a. 1000 *Andreas* 513 (Gr.) We brecað oier bæpwez. 1423 JAS. I. *Kingsis Q.* cxv, [Thay] breken louse, and walken at thaire large? 1535 COVERDALE *Dan.* II. i Had Nabuchodonosor a dreame... and his slepe brake from him. 1688 DIGBY *Voy. Medit.* (1868) 65 My boate broke from my sterne with a man in her. 1711 STEELE *Spect.* No. 262 P 4 When I broke loose from that great Body of Writers. 1810 SCOTT *Lady of L.* II. xxvii, Then Roderick from the Douglas broke. 1846 RUSKIN *Mod. Paint.* I. II. i. vii. § 3. 74 The great historical painters... who had broken so boldly... from the trammels of this notion. 1877 R. H. HUTTON *Ess.* VII. Pref., Illusions from which... men have had the courage to break free. 1878 MORLEY *Crit. Musc.* Ser. I. 220 A world that had broken loose from its moorings.

37. To come out or emerge by breaking barriers; to burst forth, rush out with sudden violence. *Const. upon.* See also To break forth, 51; out, 54.

a. of words, laughter, sounds, etc.

1330 R. BRUNNE *Chron.* 55 (Mätz.) Bitux pam and be messengers bropefulle wordes brak. 1596 SPENSER *F. Q.* II. iii. 24 Twixt the perles and rubins [i. e. teeth and lips] softly brake A siluer sound. 1709 POPE *Ess. Crit.* 628 But rattling nonsense in full volleys breaks. 1833 HT. MARTINEAU *Fr. Wines and Pol.* i. 12 Cries of grief and despair broke from them at every step. 1837 LYTTON *Athens* I. 477 Loud broke the trumpets The standards... were raised on high. 1876 GREEN *Short Hist.* i. § 4. 38 Verses of his own English tongue broke from time to time from the master's lips.

b. of an attacking party.

c. 1400 Destr. *Troy* 13014 A bussment of bold men breke hym vpon. 1598 GREENE *W. Tacitus' Ann.* I. xiv. (1622) 27 Vntill the enemy, with hope to breake vpon them, should draw neere. 1614 RALPH *Hist. World* v. i. § 10. 573 They brake back furiously upon their own footmen.

c. of natural phenomena, as a storm, light, etc. 1875 DAWSON *Dawn of Life* i. 3 First bright streaks of light that break on... night and death.

d. Of fish: To rise to the bait.

1885 HARPER'S *Mag.* Jan. 216/1, I tried to fool them with sham colored feathers; but no, sir, they [the fish] never broke.

38. A person is also said to *break into arms*, *rebellion*, *weeping*, *a laugh*, etc.

1588 SHAKS. *Tit. A.* iii. i. 216 Do not break into these deeps extremes. 1670 COTTON *Esperon* i. ii. 46 To which he was further necessitated by the King of Navarre's breaking into arms. 1866 KINGSLEY *Herew.* xii. 170 She broke into wild weeping. 1871 A. R. HOPE *My School.* Fr. (1875) 110 We broke into a titter. 1872 BLACK *Adv. Phaeton* iv. 42 The pony broke into a brisk trot. 1876 GREEN *Short Hist.* vi. § 2 (1882) 275 In Kent... the discontent broke into open revolt.

39. To issue forth, come forth suddenly into notice, come as a surprise. Const. *from, upon, into*.

1711 STEELE *Spect.* No. 41 P. 5 He thought fit to break from his Concealment. 1712 POPE *Messiah*. See heav'n... break upon thee in a flood of day. 1790 JOHNSON *Ramb.* No. 79 P. 7 The anxieties that break into his face. 1830 H. ROGERS *Ess.* i. 9 There is no author who so often breaks upon his readers with turns of thought, for which they are totally unprepared. 1853 KANE *Grinnell Exp.* xv. (1856) 107 Here... the Greenland shore broke upon us. 1884 W. C. SMITH *Kildrostan* 43 Only the lap of the rippling wave broke on the hush of their solitude.

40. Of buds, flowers, roots, etc.: To sprout out, come forth, burst into flower or leaf, expand.

1325 *Rel. Ant.* i. 124 When blossoms breaketh on brene. 1868 DARWIN *Anim. & Pl.* ii. xiii. 31 In... carrot-beds a few plants often 'break'—that is, flower too soon. 1882 *Garden* 28 Mar. 1871 Vigorous young (vine) rods... will require dexterous handling to get them to break evenly.

41. To burst out of darkness, begin to shine; as the day, morning, daylight. Const. *on, upon*. Many varieties of this expression appear, often mixed with other uses of *break*, as 'the darkness is breaking'; cf. 'the clouds are breaking' in 26 c.

1535 COVERDALE *Isa.* xxi. 12 The watchman answered: The day breaketh on. 1599 SHAKS. *Hen. V.* iv. i. 88 Brother John Bates, is not that the Morning which breakes yonder? 1611 BIBLE *Gen.* xxxii. 26 Let me goe, for the day breaketh [COVERD. breaketh on]. 1647 J. HALL *Poems* 92 The day Breakes clearer on them. 1772-84 COOK *Voy.* (1790) v. 168 Till day began to break upon them. 1809 I. TAYLOR *Enthus.* x. 259 When... the first beams of sound philosophy broke over the nations. 1836 KINGSLEY *Lett.* (1878) i. 33 Ere the sun had broken on the earth. 1871 MORLEY *Voltaire* (1886) 23 The darkness seems breaking.

† b. *trans.* To cause to break. Obs.

1509 HAWES *Past. Plas.* i. xiv. Golden Phebus... With cloudes redde began to break the daye.

42. *intr.* (and with *indirect pass.*) To enter by breaking barriers; to make a forcible or violent entrance into a place; to make an irruption. (Formerly expressed by *break trans.*: see 17.)

1398 TREVISIA *Barth. De P. R.* v. xxxv. (1495) 147 That colde ayre breke not sodaynly to the herte. 1400 *Destr. Troy* 1937 Jai... Brekynto bilynges, brinet the pepull. 1608 HOBBS *Thucyd.* (1821) 55 The Lacedaemonians afterwards brake into Attica. 1677 MOXON *Mech. Exerc.* (1703) 158 Carpenters with their Ripping Chissel do often Break in to Brick-walls; that is, they cut holes. 1883 *Law Rep. Queen's B. XI.* 590 The prosecutor's house was feloniously broken into and entered.

VIII. Phrases and combinations.

* *Phrases.*

43. To break bulk (cf. 2 e): 'to open the hold and take out goods thence' (*Capt. Smith's Seaman's Gram.* 1692); to destroy the completeness of a cargo by taking out a portion, to begin to unload.

1575 in *Hist. Glasgow* (1881) 117 Breking bowk [of a cargo]. 1587 *St. Paper Office* Domest. Corr. To bring them [ships] into this realm without breaking bulke. 1602 MALYNES *Anc. Law-Merch.* 195 All Merchants ships being laden, haue alwaies... beene permitted to breake bulke below, or at Tilburie-Hope. 1668 MARVELL *Corr.* xcvi. Wks. 1872-5 II. 257 An impeachment... against Sir W. Penn, for breaking bulke in the East India prizes. 1709 STEELE *Tatler* No. 106 P. 2 Whether he would break Bulke, and sell his Goods by Retail. 1799 BURKE *Negro Code* Wks. 1842 II. 424 The faithful execution of his part of the trust at the island where he shall break bulke. 1833 MARRVAT *P. Simple* v. He was breaking Casks out of the hold. 1883 *Times* 24 Mar. 6 The whole [cargo of tea] can be sampled and sold the moment the steamer breaks bulke.

44. To break (the) ground (cf. 5 a):

a. To dig through the surface of ground, especially when covered with turf; to plough up ground for the first time, or after it has lain long in pasture. See also *To break up*, 56 f.

1712 PRIDEAUX *Direct. Ch. Wardens* (ed. 4) 76 The Fee for breaking the soil (for a grave) belongs to them. *Mod. (U.S.)* It takes three farm-horses of good weight to break prairie-land.

b. Of an army: To begin digging trenches.

1676 *Lond. Gas.* No. 1320/3 We hear the French are breaking ground, as if they intended a formal Siege. 1810 WELLINGTON in *Gurw. Disp.* VI. 200 The enemy broke ground before Ciudad Rodrigo on the night before last.

c. *fig.* To commence operations, take the first steps, to pioneer work.

1709 *Lond. Gas.* No. 4555/3 Last Night we broke Ground. 1830 DE QUINCEY *Bentley* Wks. VI. 56 One of those who first broke ground as a pioneer in the great field of Natural Philosophy. 1834 *Blackw. Mag.* XXXV. 792 They have broken no ground from which they have not been driven. 1840 CARLYLE *Heroes* i. Could I thus, as it were, not exhaust my subject, but so much as break ground upon it.

d. *Naut.* 'Break-ground. Beginning to weigh, or to lift the anchor from the bottom.' Smyth *Sailor's Word-bk.*

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1752 BEAWEES *Lex Mercat.* 116 If... the ship breaks ground, and arrives at her port.

45. To break the ice [cf. quot. 1710]: to prepare the way, take the preliminary steps, make a beginning; sometimes, in modern use, with a reference to the coldness or stiffness of first intercourse with strangers.

1602 WARNER *Alb. Eng.* xi. lxii. 273 Caboto whose Cosmographie and self-prooffe brake the Ice To most our late Discoverers. 1620 GUILLIM *Heraldry* To Rdr., I have broken the Ice, and made way to some after-comers. 1611 COTGR., *Achemerin*, to commence, breake the ice. 1683 D. A. *Art Converse* 15 The Ice being thus broken, another will utter her mind on the same matter. 1710 STEELE *Tatler* No. 7 P. 6 The Ice being broke, the Sound is again open for the Ships. 1775 SHERIDAN *Duenna* ii. ii. So! the ice is broke, and a... civil beginning too! 1833 H. ROGERS *Ecl. Faith* 28, I availed myself of a pause in the conversation to break the ice in relation to the topic which lay nearest my heart.

46. To break square, or squares [of uncertain origin: cf. 2 e]: to interrupt or violate the regular order; commonly in the proverbial phrase, *it breaks no square*, i.e. does no harm, makes no mischief, does not matter.

1596 FOXE *A. & M.* 986 The misyng of a few yeares in this matter, breaketh no great square in our story. 1594 T. B. *La Primaud.* Fr. Acad. II. 116 There are but few that brake not square oftener in eating & drinking too much then to litle. 1633 HERBERT *Temple, Discharge* vii. Man and the present fit! if he provide [i.e. look into the future], He breaks the square. 1640 FULLER *Joseph's Coat* vii. (1867) 179 Would so small a matter have broken any squares? 1671 DRYDEN *Even. Love* iii. i. 'Tis no matter; this shall break no Squares betwixt us. 1760 STERNE *Tr. Shandy* (1802) II. v. 153 This fault in Trim brokeno squares with them.

47. To break wind: to void wind from the stomach or bowels. [But cf. BRAKE v. 5 to void from the stomach.]

1540 LYNDSEAY *Satire* 762a, I lay braikand like ane brok. — 4307 Sche blubbert, bokkit, and braikit still. 1552 HULOET *Belke*, or bolke, or breake wynde vpperde. 1606 HOLLAND *Sueton*. 171 He would give folke leave to breake winde downward and let it goe even with a crack at the very bound. 1626 HEALEY *Tr. Theophrast.* Char. 45 He lying along, belcheth or breaketh wind. 1795 J. WOLCOTT (P. Pindar) *Louiad* Wks. 1812 I. 269 Had the Thunderer but broke wind.

* *Combined with adverbs:*

48. Break across. 'In tilting, when the tilter by unsteadiness or awkwardness suffered his spear to be... broken across the body of his adversary, instead of by the push of the point' (Nares). Cf. SHAKS. *A. Y. L.* iii. iv. 44.

1580 SIDNEY (N.) One said he brake across, full well might it so be.

To break asunder: see 15.

49. Break away.

a. *trans.* [from 33.] To sever or remove by breaking.

1420 E. E. *Wills* (1882) 45 A branche of pe couerle [is] y-broke away. 1781 COWPER *Expost.* 501 The lamp that with awaking beams, Dispell'd thy gloom and broke away thy dreams. 1855 COSTELLO *Stor. Screen* 77 Those who... broke away the bars which kept him prisoner.

b. *intr.* (for *refl.* of a.)

1860 TYNDALL *Glac.* i. § 11. 70 The snow... broke away from the foot and fell into the chasm.

c. *intr.* [from 36.] To start away with abruptness and force; to go off abruptly; to escape by breaking from restraint. Also *fig.*

1335 COVERDALE *Jer.* ii. 6 The souldiers brake away, and fled out of the cite by night. 1590 SHAKS. *Com. Err.* iv. iv. 1 Feare me not man, I will not brake away. c. 1610 MIDDLETON *etc. Widow* i. l. in *Dodslay* (1780) XII. 234 When thieves are taken, and break away twice or thrice one after another. 1852 TUPPER *Proverb. Philos.* 317 A dappled hart hath flung aside the boughs and broke away. 1872 BLACK *Adv. Phaeton* xii. 164 If people break away from the ordinary methods... they must take their chance.

To break back (Cricket): see 32 b.

50. Break down.

a. *trans.* [from II.] To break (anything) so that its parts fall to the ground; to demolish, destroy, level with the ground. Also of things *fig.*

1382 WYCLIF *Isa.* v. 5, I shal breke down his wal. 1611 BIBLE *ibid.*, Breake downe the wall thereof. 1748 WESLEY *Wks.* (1872) i. 353 They... brake down part of the house. 1876 J. H. NEWMAN *Hist. Sk.* i. l. i. 9 They would be powerful to break down; helpless to build up. 1878 MORLEY *Diderot* II. 29 He will not, however, on that account break down the permanent safeguards.

b. [from 7.] To break into small pieces; to crush; to decompose.

1859 JERSON *Britany* iv. 42 With delicious light French roll broken down into it. 1882 *Athenum* 29 Dec. 871/1 The molecule of arabic acid, C₆H₁₀O₄, is broken down.

c. [from 12-13.] To crush or prostrate in strength, health, courage, etc.

1853 *Arab. Nts.* (Rildg.) 274 So much was he already broken down by affliction, sorrow and terror. 1873 MORLEY *Ross-seau* i. 28 The character of Jean Jacques was absolutely broken down. 1885 *Manch. Exam.* 6 Sept. 5/4 He has been consistently anxious to break down the power in Egypt of the Turkish pashas.

d. *intr.* (for *refl.*) To fall broken or in ruins; to collapse, give way, fail utterly, prove of no avail;

to give way, as the back sinews of a horse's leg (whence the technical use in 1831, 1864).

1831 YOUATT *Horse* xvi. (1872) 373 A slight injury... is called a sprain of the back sinews or tendons; and when it is more serious, the horse is said to have broken down. 1856 SIR B. BRODIE *Psychol. Inq.* i. iii. 93 The mind may break down all at once under some sudden affliction. 1864 L.D. PALMERSTON in *Daily Tel.* 26 Aug., It often happens that a very good-looking horse breaks down. 1865 TROLLOPE *Belton Est.* xxix. 345 The task before her was... so difficult that she almost broke down in performing it. 1875 JOWETT *Plato* (ed. 2) III. 204 If this definition of justice breaks down. 1880 M. CARNEY *Owen Times* III. xl. 223 His health almost suddenly broke down.

e. [from 30.] To tone down, qualify.

1867 TIMES & GULLICK *Painting* 303 Breaking down the warm lights with colours of the opposite quality. 1882 *Standard* 9 Oct. 2/7 He had used 'white' sugar for 'breaking down' some gin. 1882 *Printing Times & Lithogr.* 15 Feb. 35 Another class of tones is formed by breaking down orange with its complementary colour blue.

51. Break forth.

a. *intr.* [from 37.] To make a rush forward.

1552 HULOET, Breake forth or out, *prorumpo*. 1611 BIBLE *Exod.* xix. 22 Lest the Lord breake forth vpon them. 1646 BUCK *Rich. III.* II. 61 Forth breakes King Richard towards the Earle.

b. Of flame, light, passion, war, disease, etc.: To burst out, break out.

1535 COVERDALE *Isa.* lix. 8 Then shal thy light break forth as y^e mornyng. 1561 NORTON & SACKV. *Corbado* iii. i. The fire... breakes forth with double flame. 1596 SHAKS. *1 Hen. IV.* iii. i. 27 Diseased Nature oftentimes breakes forth in strange eruptions. 1597 DRAYTON *Mortimer*. 11 A little sparke... Breakes forth in flame. 1611 BIBLE *Ex.* ix. 20 A boyle breaking forth with blaines. 1666 BACON *Sylva* § 384 Many Diseases... break forth at particular times. 1660 STANLEY *Hist. Philos.* (1701) 85/2 In the second year, broke forth a War. 1712 STEELE *Spect.* No. 302 P. 5 In Emilia... it [religion] does not break forth into irregular Fits and Sallies of Devotion. 1848 MACAULAY *Hist. Eng.* I. 645 It was not only against the prisoners that his fury broke forth. 1872 FREEMAN *Norm. Cong.* IV. xviii. 224 He breaks forth into full light in the course of the next year. 1875 BRUCE *Holy Rom. Emp.* vi. (ed. 5) 85 These were the feelings that... broke forth in the shout of Henry.

c. [from 36.] To break loose from restraint.

1605 SHAKS. *Lea. i.* iv. 222 Breaking forth In ranke and not to be endur'd riots. a. 1639 W. WHATELEY *Prototypes* II. xxix. (1640) 135 You young men that have too much broken forth.

† d. [from 40.] To spring or sprout out vigorously. Obs.

1674 GREW *Anal. Trunks* vi. § 4 The Trunk-Roots break forth all along it.

e. [from 38.] To burst into utterance; to exclaim with sudden outburst.

1596 TINDALE *Gal.* iv. 27 Breake forth and crye thou that travelest not. 1611 BIBLE *Isaiah* xiv. 7 They breake forth into singing. 1795 POPE *Odys.* xvi. 482 The Prince breaks forth; proclaim What tydings, friends? 1882 *Sun* 14 May 6/5 The anti-lacrossers cheered and broke forth with [a diuty].

52. Break in. a. *trans.* = 14.

1782 BURKE *Sp. Nab. Arcot's Debts* Wks. 1842 I. 326 Suppose his highness not to be well broken in to things of this kind. 1840 MACAULAY *Clive* 3 Savages... who had not broken in a single animal to labour. 1850 MRS. STOWE *Uncle Tom* xix. 108, I broke a fellow in, once. 1856 F. PAGET *Outlet of Owlis* 97 She must be well broke in to the smell of tobacco.

b. *intr.* [from 42.] To force one's way in, enter forcibly or abruptly; to make an irruption.

1552 HULOET, Breake in, *irrumpe*. 1614 RALEIGH *Hist. World* iv. v. § 6. 514 Ptolemy's army brake in without resistance. 1615 G. SANDYS *Trav. Ded.* The wild beasts... hauing broken in vpon them. 1711 ADDISON *Spect.* No. 131 P. 8 When an unexpected Guest breaks in upon him. 1749 FIELDING *Tom Jones* xv. v. I am afraid, I break in upon you abruptly. 1824 *Mehalah* iv. 50 Lest he should be broken in on from the cellar.

c. To infringe upon or interfere with; to interrupt or disturb suddenly or unexpectedly.

1637 BURTON's *Diary* (1828) II. 79 Bring in a Bill, which is as effectual. Otherwise business will break in upon you. 1748 CHESTERF. *Letters* II. 81 Some little passion or humour always breaks in upon their best resolutions. 1765 BLACKSTONE *Comm.* I. 70 Whenever a standing rule of law... hath been wantonly broke in upon by statutes or new resolutions. 1806 G. ROSE *Diaries* (1860) I. 251, I would... break in upon these [arrangements] to call in Clarges Street. 1820 W. IRVING *Sketch-bk.* (1859) 5 Those sudden storms which will sometimes break in upon the serenity of a summer voyage. 1882 SHORTHOUSE *J. Inglesant* II. 378 The booming of cannon broke in upon the singing of the psalms.

d. To interpose abruptly in a conversation.

a. 1719 ADDISON (J.) The doctor... with a deep voice and a magisterial air breaks in upon conversation, and drives down all before him. 1807 ANNA M. PORTER *Hungar. Bro.* 78 'You remember the circumstances', added the marshal, seeing Charles about to interrupt him, 'but I'll not be broken in on.' 1828 SCOTT *F. M. Perth* I. 18 Feeling the certainty of being right... the father broke in. 1875 JOWETT *Plato* (ed. 2) III. 9 In the discussion... Glaucon breaks in with a slight jest.

e. [from 39.] To burst or flash upon.

1713 BERKELEY *Hylas and P.* iii. ad fin., A new light breaks in upon my understanding. 1742-3 *Observ. Methodists* 14 Fresh Emanations of Divine Light break in upon... my Soul. 1836 J. GILBERT *Chr. Atomem.* ii. (1852) 42 Had these lights but broken in upon an earlier period. 1865 DICKENS *Mut. Fr.* xii. Not the faintest flash of the real state of the case broke in upon her mind.

† (See quot.)

1823 P. NICHOLSON *Pract. Builder* 220 To Break in—To cut or break a hole in brick-work, with the ripping-chisel for inserting timber, etc.

53. Break off.

a. trans. [from 27.] To discontinue (anything) abruptly; to put a forcible, abrupt, or definite end to.
 c. 1340 *HAMPOLE Prose Treat.* 29 þou sall . . . breke of þat.
 1506 *Pilgr. Perf.* (W. de W. 1531) 151 Vouchsafe . . . to inter-
 rupte and breke of the swete quietnes of contemplacyon.
 1597 *Morley Intrud.* Mus. 117 Now wil I breake off my
 intended walke. 1611 *Bible Dan.* iv. 27 Breake off thy
 sinnes by righteousness. 1649 *MILTON Eikon.* 2 The first
 parliament he broke off at his coming to the Crown. 1712
HUGHES Spect. No. 554 P. 7, I might break off the account
 of him here. 1712 *ADDISON Spect.* No. 295 P. 4 We find
 several Matches broken off upon this very Head. 1855
MACAULAY Hist. Eng. III. 255 The conferences were soon
 broken off.

b. intr. To leave off or stop abruptly.

c. 1340 *HAMPOLE Prose Treat.* 29 When þou hase bene
 besye vtward . . . þou sall breke offe and come agayne to þi
 prayers. 1506 *SHAKS. L. L. V. ii.* 262 Not one word more my
 maidens, breake off, breake off. 1589 *PUTTENHAM Eng. Poetrie*
 III. xii. (Arb.) 178 When we begin to speake a thing, and
 breake of in the middle way. 1641 *J. JACKSON True Evang.*
 T. II. 122 We must not here breake off; let us continue on
 the story. 1797 *DE FOR Syst. Magic* i. ii. (1840) 42 Upon
 this their consultation broke off. 1841 *MACAULAY in Trevelyan*
Life (1876) II. ix. 111 He may break off in the middle
 of a story.

c. = 32.

1755 *DE FOR Voy. round World* (1840) 129 She found the
 shore break off a little, and soon after a little more. 1833
Regul. Instr. Cavalry 1. 30 The front rank break off to the
 left.

d. trans. [from 33.] To sever or detach com-
 pletely by breaking.

1530 *PALSGR.* 465/1, I breake of a pece or porcyon of
 a thyng from the hole. 1611 *BIBLE Ex.* xxxii. 2 Breake off
 the golden earerings which are in the eares of your wiues.
 1710 *STEELE Tatler* No. 15 P. 1 To the End of that Stamen
 of Being in themselves which was broke off by Sickness.
 1759 *B. MARTIN Nat. Hist. Eng.* I. Cornw. 4 Part of one of
 them has been broke off.

e. intr. To detach oneself abruptly from.

1606 *SHAKS. Ant. & Cl.* i. ii. 132, I must from this enchant-
 ing Queene breake off. 1862 *STANLEY Jew. Ch.* (1877) I.
 x. 198 A Jewish sect . . . which professes to have broken off
 from Israel at this time.

f. [from 34.] To sever connexion or relation
 (with), to separate.

1647 *W. BROWNE Polix.* II. 73 To breake off instantly with
 the enemies of his greatness and religion. 1667 *PEPYS*
Diary 27 July, The King and my Lady Castlemaine are
 quite broke off, and she is gone away. 1709 *STEELE Tatler*
 No. 36 P. 1 False Lovers, and their shallow Pretences for
 breaking off. 1847 *SCOTT Surg. Dan.* II. 158 Her ungrate-
 ful lover was now occupied with the means, not indeed of
 breaking off with her entirely, but, etc.

g. trans. To draw off sharply, withdraw com-
 pletely from.

1607 *TOWSE Four-f. Beasts* 107 Then must the retreat be
 sounded, and the Dogs be broken off. 1700 *J. LAW Com.*
Trade (1751) 155 At those pains, ought the people of this
 kingdom be broken off from this habit of idleness.

h. [from 28 b.] To intercept and repel.

1791 *SMEATON Edystone L.* § 338 A sloping Bank . . . to
 break off the fury of the sea.

i. intr. [from 24.] To start, begin. *Obs.*

1591 *LYLY Sappho* II. iii. 177 Then shall wee have sweet
 musique. But come, I will not breake off.

j. Naut. (See quot.)

1867 *SMYTH Sailor's Word-bk.* s.v. *She breaks off from*
her course: applied only when the wind will not allow of
 keeping the course; applies only to 'close-hauled' or 'on
 the wind'. Broken off, fallen off, in azimuth, from the course.
To break on: see 41.

54. Break out.

a. trans. [from 33.] To force out by breaking.
 1611 *BIBLE Ps.* lviii. 6 Break out the great teeth of the
 young lions. *Mod.* To break the glass out of a window,
 the teeth out of a rake, etc.

b. intr. [from 37.] To burst or spring out from
 restraint, confinement, or concealment. Said of
 persons and things material, also of fire, light, etc.
 c. 1000 *Beowulf* 5085 Geseah þa . . . stream ut þonan breacan
 of george. c. 1205 *LAV.* 30854 þat he [the pick] brac ut bi-
 foren under his breaste. c. 1340 *HAMPOLE Pr. Com.* 4465
 Bot at þe last þai sal breke out And destroy many landes
 about. 1382 *WYCLIF Isa.* lviii. 8 Thanne shal breken out as
 morutid this liyt. *Ibid.* xxxv. 6. 1576 *LAMBARDE Peramb.*
Kent (1826) 261 Those very wellies or springs . . . whereof the
 one breaketh out of the ground about Stallesfield. 1647
Secretary Dissected 17 What an ambush of Banditti is here
 broken out against the poor Statutes? 1679 *W. LONGUE-
 VILLE in Hatton Corr.* (1878) 183 Sunday last a fire or two
 broke out in y^e city. 1763 *WESLEY Jnrl.* 21 Aug., The
 sun broke out several times, and shone hot in my face.
 1885 *Manch. Exam.* 6 July 5/1 A fire broke out and spread
 with great rapidity.

c. said of a morbid eruption on the skin; also
 of an epidemic disease.

1535 *COVERDALE Levit.* xiii. 12 When the leprosy breaketh
 out in the skynne. 1640 *FULLER Abel Rediv.* (1867) II. 143
 There brake out a grievous pestilence in that city. 1661
LOVELL Hist. Anim. & Min. 327 The measles, which are
 little swellings, red, breaking out in the skin. 1712 *ADDI-
 SON Spect.* No. 16 P. 2 Those Blotches and Tumours which
 break out in the Body. 1844 *TENNYSON Walk. to Mail* 71
 The same old sore breaks out from age to age. 1851 *DIXON*
W. Penn xxxi. (1872) 298 The yellow fever broke out in
 Philadelphia.

d. a person, or his body, is also said to break
out (in or into boils, etc.).

c. 1300 *Buket* 2421 His flesch bigan to breken out: and
 rotede and foule stonk. 1552 *HULOET, Breake oute, or*

braste oute, as a mannes face doth with heate. 1651 *HOBBS*
Leviath. (1839) 309 The bodies of children . . . breaking out
 into biles and scabs. 1690 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 2596/4 He is a
 short . . . Man, his Lips broke out. 1769 *GOLDSM. Rom.*
Hist. (1786) II. 144 His face was all broke out into ulcers.
 1819 *L. HUNT Indicator* No. 7 (1822) I. 56 He used to break
 out in enormous biles and blisters.

e. said of exclamations, feelings, passions,
 traits; of discord, riot, war, rebellion, etc.

1580 *BARET Alv.* B. 1201 Laughter breaketh out soudainlie.
 1598 *DRAYTON Heroic.* Ep. II. 35 My Heart must breake
 within, or Woes breake out. 1649 *MILTON Eikon.* iv. (1851)
 360 Besides this, the Rebellion in Ireland was now broke
 out. 1715 *BURNET Oum Time* II. 406 His speech was sup-
 pressed for some days, but it broke out at last. 1845 *S.*
AUSTIN Ranke's Hist. Ref. I. 420 The natural antagonism
 between them soon broke out. 1847 *L. HUNT Men, Women,*
& Bks. II. xi. 274 Traits of him still break out. 1848 *MAC-
 AULAY Hist. Eng.* I. 163 Formidable riots broke out in
 many places. 1850 *W. LIVING Goldsm.* xxix. 284 His good-
 ness of heart, which broke out on every occasion.

f. Persons or other agents are also said to break
out into or in some manifestation of feeling or
some action.

1480 *CAXTON Deser. Brit.* 19 A metrer breketh out in this
 manner in praying of this cite. 1599 *SHAKS. Much Ado* i. i.
 24 Did he breake out into teares? 1655 *FULLER Ch. Hist.*
 ix. 83 Thomas Piercy . . . brake out into open Rebellion against
 the Queen. 1711 *ADDISON Spect.* No. 45 P. 6 She broke out
 into a loud Soliloquy. 1795 *SOUTHEY Joan of Arc* viii. 316
 The exultant French Break out in loud rejoicing. 1875
JOWETT Plato (ed. 2) I. 185 Ctesippus again breaks out, and
 again has to be pacified by Socrates. *Mod.* He's not a
 confirmed dipsomaniac, but only breaks out now and again.

55. Break through. [f. branch VII. *Through*
 is here originally a preposition, and the analysis is
 to break through-a-fence, not to break-through a
 fence, but the prep. tends to attach itself to the
 vb. as in *L. perfringere*, and is sometimes used
 absol. as an adverb.]

a. trans. To penetrate (a barrier of any kind)
 by breaking it; to force one's way through.

c. 1400 *Destr. Troy* 5827 He hit hym so hetturly . . . þat he
 breke þurgh the burd to the bare throte. 1697 *DRAYDEN*
Virg. Georg. iv. 528 Hymnis, profound, Breaks through th'
 opposing Rocks. 1711 *STEELE Spect.* No. 53 P. 8 A Satyr
 peeping over the silken Fence, and threatening to break
 through it.

fig. 1597 *HOOKE Eccl. Pol.* v. xlix. § 6 Neither are they
 able to break through those errors wherein they are settled.
 1798 *FERRIAR Illustr. Sterne* ii. 24 Wit, like beauty, can
 break through the most unpromising disguise. 1847 *L.*
HUNT Men, Women, & Bks. II. xi. 262 Those conventional
 hypocrisies of which most people are ashamed, even when
 they would be far more ashamed to break through them.

b. To burst through restraints of, transgress.

1712 *BUDGEH Spect.* No. 401 P. 7, I purpose to break
 through all Rules. 1749 *FIELDRING Tom Jones* i. iii, A cus-
 tom he never broke through on any account. 1808 *T. JEP-
 FERSON Writ.* (1830) IV. 129, I was unwilling it should be
 broke through by others.

c. To project abruptly through.

1860 *TYNDALL Glac.* i. § 11. 80 Two rocks break through
 the snow.

d. absol.

1506 *TINDALE Matt.* vi. 19 Where theves breake through
 and steale. 1659 *BURTON's Diary* (1828) IV. 273 The Chair
 broke through and rose without a question. 1690 *LOCKE*
Educ. § 70 After Corruption had once brok thro'.

56. Break up.

a. trans. [from 1.] To break into many parts;
 to disintegrate.

1752 *BEAWE'S Lex Mercat.* 52 If a ship be broken up or
 taken to pieces . . . and afterwards . . . be rebuilt . . . she is now
 another, and not the same ship. 1864 *Derby Mercury* 7 Dec.,
 The steel pieces were broken up, and the iron ones were
 beaten up into bars. 1875 *JOWETT Plato* (ed. 2) IV. 7 He
 cannot understand how an absolute unity . . . can be broken
 up into a number of individuals. 1876 *J. H. NEWMAN Hist.*
Sk. I. i. ii. 54 Heracles succeeded in . . . breaking up the Per-
 sian power.

b. To rend or tear: see 2 a.

c. To cut up, carve: see 2 b.

d. [from 2 f.] To dissolve, disband, put an end
 to, give up; as in to break a regiment, gang, par-
 liament (*obs.*); to break up a house, household,
 housekeeping, school, an assembly.

1483 *Act 1 Rich.* III. ii, Many worshipful Men . . . were
 compelled by Necessity to break up their Housholds. c. 1500
Song in Rel. Ant. I. 117 To brek uppe the scole. 1647 *WARD*
Simp. Cobler 12 Glad to heare the Devill is breaking up
 house in England, and removing somewhere else. 1712
Lond. Gaz. No. 5977/2 They . . . broke up their Assembly.
 1833 *MARRYAT P. Simple* xxix, My uncle . . . had . . . broken up
 his housekeeping. 1875 *JOWETT Plato* (ed. 2) I. 70 We
 fairly gave way and broke up the company.

e. absol. and intr. from preceding.

1535 *COVERDALE Isa.* xxxvii. 36 So Sennacherib the kinge
 of the Assirians brake vp, and dwelt at Ninive. 1536
WRIOTHESLEY Chron. (1875) i. 52 The twentieth daie of Iulie,
 the Convocation brokee up at Poules. 1606 *G. WOOD-
 COCKE Justine* 14 b Every one bethinking how he might
 prilly breake vp, and steale home to resist the Enemy.
 1612 *DRAYTON Polyolb.* v. 77 Then vp the Session brake.
 1882 *Boy's Oum P.* IV. 23 A few days later the school broke
 up for the summer holidays.

f. trans. [from 5.] To open up (ground) with
 the spade or plough.

1557 *TUSSEY 100 Points Husb.* Ixi, In January, husbantes
 will breake vp their lay. 1611 *BIBLE Jer.* iv. 3 Breake vp
 your fallow ground. a 1771 *SMOLLETT Humph. Cl.* (1815)
 192 The roads having been broke up by the heavy rains in

the spring, were . . . rough. 1787 *WINTER Syst. Husb.* 129
 The beginning of October is the best season for breaking-up
 old pasture-lands.

† g. intr. [from 5 b.] = break out, 54 d. *Obs.*

1561 *HOLLYBUSH Hom. Apoth.* i. a, [It] maketh the skin
 stronge, harde, and also cleane, that it break vp no more.

h. [from 8 b.] Of frost, (formerly) of an epi-
demic: To give way, cease.

1606 *BACON Sylva* § 383 In Barbary, the Plagues break up
 in the Summer Moneths. 1802 *NELSON in Nicolas Dispr.*
 (1845) IV. 355 Before the frost broke up at Cronstadt.

i. [from 12 c.] To fail in physical organization.

† j. trans. [from 16, 17.] To burst open (a
 barrier), make forcibly way into (a house), open
 forcibly (a letter, box, etc.).

1523 *L.D. BERNERS Froiss.* I. cccxxii. 501 With great axes
 they brake vp the dore. 1552 *HULOET, Breake vp* a wryt or
 letter, *resigne.* 1578 *TIMM Calvin on Gen.* 109 The Lord
 brake up the floodgates of the waters. 1646 *Burd. Issach.*
in Phenix (1708) II. 39 If any should offer violence to
 break up the Doors. 1682 *BUNYAN Holy War* 278 When
 we had broken it [the letter] up and had read the contents
 thereof. 1700 *BLACKMORE Job* 108 He in the dark Breaks
 houses up, on which he set his mark. 1712 *PRIDEAUX*
Direct. Ch.-Wardens (ed. 4) 87 If any Person doth in the
 Night-time break up the Church. 1827 *CARLYLE Germ.*
Rom. III. 223 Fie! . . . broke up the presentation as his own.

† k. absol. [from prec.] *Obs.*

1528 *TINDALE Doctr. Treat.* (1848) 203 Let the judges . .
 not break up into the consciences of men. 1535 *COVERDALE*
Matt. vi. 20 Where theues nether breake vp nor yet steale.

l. To begin or commence operations upon.

1608 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 2344/4 There was 500 Acres of Fresh
 Grass . . . break up on May Day. 1712 *ADDISON Spect.* No. 60

† m. intr. [from 39.] To transpire. *Obs.*

1594 *J. CARMICHAEL Let. in Wodrow Soc. Misc.* 418 The
 murder of the Prince of Orange first brack up and came by
 special post.

† n. [from 40.] To burst (into flower). *Obs.*

c. 1450 *HENRYSON Mor. Fab.* 45 The blossomes blyth brack
 vp on banke and bra.

67. Phrase-key of BREAK v. (in addition to the adverbial
 combinations):—b one's back, 7 b; b ball, 31; b balls, 24;
 b bank, 11; b in billiards, 24; b blows with, 3; boils b, 4;
 b bonds, 25; b bounds, 19; b brain, 12 b; b bread, 3;
 buds b, 40; b bulk, 43; b cloth, 2 a; b cover, covert, 20; b in
 cricket, 31; day b, 41; day, 15 c; b deer, 2 b; b fall, 28 b;
 b fast, 29 c; fish b, 36 d; flowers b, 32 c, 40; b fowl, fox, 2 b;
 b free, 36; frost b, 8 b; b ground, 44; b of habit, 33; b
 one's head, 5 b; b one's heart, 7 c, 22; b horse, 14; b
 house, 17; b ice, 45; b into, 38, 42; b jail, 19; b jest, 23;
 b joint, 31; b journey, 28 b; b a lance with, 3; b law, 15;
 b loose, 36; b marriage, matrimony, 15 d; b matter, 2 b;
 b one's mind, 12 b, 22; morning b, 41; b one's neck, 7 b;
 b news, 22; b oath, 15 c; b officer, 35; b on, 39, 41; b open,
 17 b; b parle, 24; b parliament, 2 f; b peace, 15; b in
 pieces, 1; b of practice, 33; b Priscian's head, 5 b; b prison,
 19; b promise, 15 c; b ranks, 26; b regiment, 2 f; b rest,
 29; b sheer, 31; b ship, 2 d; b siege, 27; b sigh, 23; b
 silence, sleep, 29; b small, 1; b smile, 23; b soil, 20 b; b
 spirit, 13; b spousehood, 15 d; b squares, 46; b stillness,
 29; b straw with, 3; b on torture, 7 b; b trade, 24; b upon,
 39, 41; b vein, 4; voice b, 6; b water, 20 b; waves b, 10;
 b on wheel, 7 b; b wind, 12 b, 47; b with, 2 e, 22 b, 34;
 b wool, 2 c; b one's word, 15 c; b words with, 3.

Break. The verb-stem in composition forming
 sbs. or adjs.

I. With verb + object.

1. Forming sbs., as break-bones, the Ossifrage
 or Osprey; break-bulk, one who breaks bulk, a
 captain that abstracts part of his cargo; break-
 club (*Golf*), any obstacle on which the player
 might break his club; † break-forward, an alleged
 old name of the hare; † break-gap, that which
 opens a passage; † break-hedge, a trespasser;
 † break-league, a breaker of a league or treaty;
 † break-love, a disturber or destroyer of love;
 † break-net, the Dog-fish or Thresher; † break-
 peace, a peace-breaker; † break-promise, a
 promise-breaker; † break-pulpit, a boisterous
 preacher; † break-vow, a breaker of vows;
 break-wind dial., a disease of sheep.

1881 *A. C. GRANT Bush Life Queensl.* xxix. II. 133 One
 of the men . . . has managed to stop the 'break-aways.'
 1838 *POR A. G. Pym Wks.* 1864 IV. 123 It is frequently
 called the 'break-bones, or osprey peterel.' 1622 *R. HAW-
 KINS Voy. S. Sea* (1847) 166 To smother their owne dis-
 loyalties, in suffering these 'break-bulks to escape. 1857
Chambers Inform. II. 67, *Lifting of 'Break-clubs*.—All
 loose impediments within twelve inches of the ball may
 be removed on or off the course when the ball lies on
 grass. c. 1300 *Names of Hare in Rel. Ant.* I. 13 The
 make-fare, the 'breke-forward. 1645 *PAGITT Heringbr.*
 (1662) Ep. Ded., The 'break-gap to all those mischiefs
 that flowed in upon the King. 1573 *TUSSEY Husb.* (1878) 33
 Keepe safe thy fence, scarce 'breakhedge thence. 1723
STANVHURST Eneis iv. (Arb.) 113 Al faythlesse 'break
 leagues. *Ibid.* 143 Like a 'breakloose mak'bat adulter.
 1593 *J. HIGINS Junius' Nomenclator*, 'Breakenet, a sea-
 dog or dogfish. 1623 *MINSHEU Sp. Dict.*, *Lamia*, a cer-
 taine dog-fish called a Breaket. 1593 *Past. Morrice* 73
 Our only 'breakpeace. 1600 *SHAKS. A. Y. L.* iv. i. 196, I
 will thinke you of the most patheticall 'break-promise. 1599
Marprel. Epit. f. Som of our bishops are very great
 'breakpulpits. 1593 *STANVHURST Eneis* iv. (Arb.) 444 This
 'brakeuow naughty. 1596 *SHAKS. John* II. ii. 569 That
 Broker, that still breakes the pate of faith. That dayly
 breake-vow. 1823 *HOGG Sheph. Cal.* I. 110 It never saw
 either braxy or 'breakwind.

2. Forming adjs., as break-ax, that breaks axes;
 as in Break-ax Tree, *Sloanea jamaicensis*; break-

bone, bone-breaking, as in break-bone fever, the *dengue*, an infectious eruptive fever of warm climates; break-covert, that breaks covert; † break-dance, disturbing, turbulent. See also BREAK-BACK, BREAK-NECK.

1756 P. BROWN *Jamaica* 250 The "Break-axe Tree." It is so very hard that it is found a difficult matter even to cut it down. 1866 A. FLINT *Princ. Med.* (1880) 1073 Excruciating pains in the head, eyes, muscles of the neck, loins, and extremities are prominent traits of the affection; hence the name "breakbone fever." 1885 LADY BRASSEY *The Trades* 395 A ship with several cases of 'Dengue', or 'Breakbone fever' on board. 1880 KEATS *Isabella* xxviii, The 'break-covert blood-hounds.' 1896 J. HOOKER *Girald. Irel. Ep. Ded.*, This brainesick and 'breakedance Girald of Desmond' did break into treasons.

II. With the vb. used attrib. = *breaking*; as break-piece, break-iron.

1879 G. PRESCOTT *Sp. Telephone* 253 An electromagnet with a self-interrupting 'breakpiece' attached to its armature. 1881 *Mechanic* § 383. 166 The 'break-iron' by which the shaving is turned in its upward course.

Break (brēk), sb. 1. Also 4 break, 5-6 broke, 5-7 broke. [f. BREAK v.]

1. An act of breaking; breakage, fracture. a 1300 *Cursor M.* 6344 Wit-ven ani brek or brist. *Ibid.* 8044 Wit-ven brek of ani bogh. c 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 49 Breke, or brekyng, ruptura, fractura. 1870 *Standard* 12 Dec., The great operation had been stopped by the break of a bridge of boats.

b. With adverbs, expressing the action of the corresponding verbal combinations (BREAK v. 48-56); as break-away, break-in, break-out, BREAK-DOWN, BREAK-UP, etc.

1885 *Times* 4 June 10/3 After several 'breaks away' the 12 competitors were despatched to an excellent start. 1856 KANE *Arct. Expl.* II. vii. 83 My joy at this first 'break-in' upon its drudgery. 1880 SCOTT *Abbot* xxvi, They would be sure to make a 'break-out' if the officers meddled with the auld Popish witch-wife. 1870 *Standard* 12 Dec., On the break-out of the war.

2. *Break of day* or *morn*: the first appearance of light, the dawn. So *Break of June*: the beginning or opening days of June.

1524 LODGE *Alarum, Forb. & Princ.* 21 b, The careful Mariner... sought for his Loade starre, and at break of morning... found it out. 1597 DRAYTON *Mortimer* 107 The misty breake yet pious a goodly day. 1647 W. BROWN *Poet.* II. 205 At the fifth dayes break, those that were in the top of the maine Mast began to cry, Land. 1708 *Lond. Gas. No.* 4471/3 Lieutenant-General Dedem was... order'd to march Yesterday at break a Day. 1755 *Young Centaur* vi. (1757) IV. 252, I see the break of their moral day. 1812 J. WILSON *Isle of Palms* iii. 749 Now dim, now dazzling like the break of morn. 1880 KEATS *Isabella* iv. 26 A whole long month of May in this sad plight Made their cheeks paler by the break of June.

† 3. An irruption, a breaking in. *Obs.*

c 1565 R. LINDSAY *Chron. Scot.* (1728) 57 The Englishmen had wasted so much on the borders, without any occasion or break of him to England.

† 4. A breaking forth, a burst (of sound). *Obs.*

1750 (R. PULTOCK) *Life P. Wilkins* xxxiii. (1883) 90/1 The order of their flight was admirable, and the break of the trumpets so great... that I wondered how they could bear it.

5. *Cricket*. A 'twist' or deviation of the ball from its previous direction on touching the ground. *Break-back*: the breaking in of a ball from the off side (i. e. with a right-handed bowler).

1866 *Ten's from Short Leg* 74 The break-back removing a ball destroys in a moment the vision of triumph. 1881 *Standard* 18 June 3/1 Steel beat him with the break, and Hone stumped him well. 1881 *Macm. Mag.* XLIII. 288/2 By virtue of a good pitch and a break back. 1884 I. BLIGH in *Lillywhite's Cricket Ann.* 7 Considerable command over the ball in respect of pitch and break. 1886 *Daily News* 22 July 5/1 Mr. Tylecote... was bowled by an unplayable break-back of Mr. Spofforth's.

6. a. *Billiards*. A consecutive series of successful strokes; the number of points thus scored. b. Similarly in *Croquet*.

1865 *Times* 10 Apr., Mr. Russell vastly improved in his play, making some very excellent breaks. 1874 J. HEATH *Croquet Player* 55 Do not let the balls you are playing on in your break get too close together. 1883 *Land & Water* 10 Feb. 99 It is evidently possible, given the necessary nerve and skill, for breaks of 500 and upwards to be made on the billiard tables of the present make.

7. A broken place, gap, or opening: of more general application than *Breach*.

a 1300 *Cursor M.* 14012 Par sco fand ani brek or sare, Wit hir smerl sco smerd pare. 1539 *Act 31 Hen. VIII.* v, It shalbe lawfull... to make dere leapes and breakes in the said hedges. 1688 J. CLAYTON in *Phil. Trans.* XVII. 987 At the breakes of some banks, I have found veins of Clay. 1691 T. H[ALE] *Acc. New Invent.* 97 Where these Holes or Breaks are met with. 1836 MACGILLIVRAY in *Humboldt's Trav.* ii. 39 The Peak of Teyde... appeared in a break above the clouds. 1879 *Sequin Black For.* xiv. 236 He might wander... without finding a break in the mountain wall.

† b. An opening, a bay. *Obs.*

1557 PAVNEL *Barclay's Jugurth* 80 For about the extreme partes of Affrike be ij brekes of the sea [L. sinus] nere together.

8. An interruption of continuity: a. in anything material; *spec.* in geological strata, a fault; also in the deck of a ship (see quot. 1850).

1725 DE FOR *Voy. round World* (1840) 264 The hollow channel in the middle where there was a kind of fall or break in it. 1747 HOOSON *Miner's Dict.* Y viij b, Signs of some Break, Chun, or Vein. 1791 SMEATON *Edystone L.*

§ 209 Probably with several breaks, as is usual in the arrangement of the Strata of the earth. 1832 MARRYAT *N. Forster* xxxii, Captain Drawlock walked to the break of the gangways. 1840 R. DANA *Bef. Mast* xiii. 32 Foster went as far as the break of the deck, and there waited for him. c 1850 *Rudin. Navig.* (Weale) 101 *Break*, the sudden termination or rise in the decks of some merchant ships, where the aft and sometimes the forepart of the deck is kept up to give more height between decks.

b. in a course of action or time.

1809 SHERLOCK *Death* iii. § 4 (1731) 114 It makes a Break in our Lives. 1830 LVELL *Princ. Geol.* I. 134 This remarkable break in the regular sequence of physical events. 1870 LADY HERBERT *Hübner's Ramble* i. xii. 184 The run is 5,000 miles without a break. 1876 MORLEY *Diderot* i. 252 He would pass a whole month without a day's break, working ten hours a day at the revision of proof-sheets.

c. in a discourse or composition; in the rhythm of a verse; also in printed matter. *Occas. attrib.*, as in *break-line*.

1807 CAPT. SMITH *Seaman's Gram.* A iij b, You finde the word in the Margent in that breake [paragraph] against it. 1710 SWIFT *Tatler* No. 230 P 6 The Breaks at the End of almost every Sentence. 1779 JOHNSON *Dryden*, L. P. (1816) IX. 393 The Alexandrine... invariably requires a break at the sixth syllable. 1883 *Law Rep. Queen's B.* XIV. 727 There is no break in the section, and the words 'in any highway', govern all that follows.

d. Marks [— —] employed in print or writing to indicate abrupt pauses.

1733 SWIFT *On Poetry* Wks. 1755 IV. i. 186 In modern wit all printed trash is Set off with num'rous breaks — — — and dashes —. 1862 T. TROLOPE *Marietta* i. x. 183 An unlimited supply of question stops, marks of admiration, italics and breaks.

9. *Music*. a. The point of separation between the different registers of a voice. b. 'In an organ stop: The sudden alteration of the proper scale-series of pipes by returning to those of an octave lower in pitch' (Stainer and Barrett).

1881 C. A. EDWARDS *Organs* 153 As a rule on modern organs the breaks are made on the C sharp keys. 1883 CURWEN *Standard Course* 105/2 Passages running across the 'break' can be sung with an even quality of voice. *Ibid.* 107/1 The break between the upper and lower thick registers is easily noticed in male voices.

10. Something abruptly breaking the line, or level; an irregularity, roughness, knot, etc.

1756 BURKE *Subl. & B.* Wks. I. 241 The fine variation is lost in wrinkles, sudden breaks, and right lines. 1771 SIR J. REYNOLDS *Disc.* iv. (1896) 362 A portrait-painter... leaves out all the minute breaks... in the face. 1787 *Best Angling* (ed. 2) 168 *Break*, a knot in the joint of a rod.

b. *Archit.* (see quotes.)

1685 EVELYN *Diary* (1827) III. 178 Windows and Columns at the break and entrance of free-stone. 1807 HUTTON *Course Math.* II. 88 The breaks of the windows themselves are 8 feet 6 inches high, and 1 foot 3 inches deep. 1833 P. NICHOLSON *Pract. Build.* 421 Any portion of the exterior side of a building which protrudes itself towards the spectator, is denominated a projection or break.

11. A number of chests of tea, a lot or consignment.

1864 *Times* 4 Nov. Breaks of Canton scented orange pekoe. 1883 *Ibid.* 24 Mar. 6 In a break of 600 chests you will find an absolute uniformity of weight, both of package and contents and of quality.

12. A portion of ground broken up for cultivation; a tract distinct in surface or appearance.

1674 RAY *S. & E. Count. Wds.* 60 *Break*, land plowed the first year after it hath lain fallow in the sheep walks. *Norfolk* 1707 *A Young Farmer's Lett. People* ii, I have... seen Breaks of wheat of five quarters per acre. 1794 *Statist. Acc. Scot.* XI. 152 Such farms as are divided into 3 inclosures, or, as they are commonly called, breaks. 1876 *Black Green Past.* II. 14 Young rabbits... scurried through the dry heather to the sandy breaks. 1883 *Nature* XXVII. 446 The 'break' or oasis, believed... to exist in the interior of Greenland.

13. *dialect*. A large number or quantity.

1808 JAMIESON *Break*, a considerable number of people, a crowd; as a break of folk, *Fife*. 1880 W. CORNWALL *Gloss.* (E. D. S.), *Break*, a large quantity: particularly applied to flowers, as a 'brake of honeysuckle'. 1884 G. C. DAVIES *Norfolk Broad* xxxii. 247 The sky was cloudless, & the stars remarkably brilliant... Alluding to the 'break' of stars above us, the man said that it foretold rough stormy weather.

Break, sb. 2. Also *brake*. [Derivation not quite certain; app. f. BREAK v., in the sense 'to break a horse'; but it is said in Knight's *Amer. Mech. Dict.* to be a general name for the fore-part or frame of a carriage, so that it may possibly be an application of *BRAKE* sb. 5.]

1. A large carriage-frame (having two or four wheels) with no body, used for breaking in young horses.

1831 LONDON *Cycl. Agric.* (ed. 2) 1002 The training of coach-horses commences with... driving in a break or four-wheeled frame. 1865 *Derby Mercury* 1 Mar., A horse-breaker's drag, or break, with two horses harnessed to it.

2. A large wagonette.

1874 LADY BARKER *N. Zealand* iv. 23 In their comfortable and large break with four horses. 1882 *Proc. Berw. Nat. Club* IX. iii. 451 A brake and four conveying a large party. 1884 PCESS ALICE *Mem.* 72 Louis drove me and his two brothers in a break. 1885 *Manch. Exam.* 23 Apr. 5/2 The large brakes which convey pleasure-seekers.

Break, var. spelling of *BRAKE* sb. 2, 3, 5, 7, v. 1.

Breakable (brē'kəbl), a. [f. BREAK v. + -ABLE.] Capable of being broken, fragile.

1570 LEVINS *Manip.* 2 Breakable, fragilis. 1611 COGGE,

Briseable, burstable, breakable. 1646 FULLER *Wounded Consc.* (1841) 278 Christ's bones were in themselves breakable. 1844 *Proc. Berw. Nat. Club* II. xii. 100 Breaking the eggs and every other thing breakable.

Hence *Breakableness*.

1856 RUSKIN *Mod. Paint.* III. iv. xv. § 13 The character on which he fixes first is fragility—breakableness to bits.

Breakage¹ (brē'kédz). [f. BREAK v. + -AGE.]

1. The action or fact of breaking.

1813 WELLINGTON in *Gurw. Disp.* X. 373 There has already been much breakage. 1857 *Q. Rev.* XXXV. 151 The breakage of the crockery was the grand coup-d'état. 1831 CARLYLE *Sart. Res.* II. ii, In their [children's] wanton breakages and defacements, you shall discern a creative instinct.

b. *Music*. The change in the quality of the voice in passing from one 'register' to another.

1883 CURWEN *Standard Course* 105/2 It is remarkable that the change of breakage into this register should be just an octave higher than that into the thin register.

2. The results of breaking; loss or damage caused by breaking.

1848 ARMOULD *Mar. Insur.* (1866) II. iii. i. 667 A certain per centage is fixed... as the ordinary amount of leakage and breakage for which the Underwriter is in no case liable. 1849 FLEESCH *Comm. Class-Bk.* 77 When gold dust, or the precious metals in ore, are bought, the loss of weight or off-fall in refining, called in some places breakage.

3. An interruption caused by breaking; a break.

1871 FARRAR *Witt. Hist.* i. 36 Here then are miracles... breakages in the unbroken continuity. 1881 STOKES in *Nature* No. 626. 614 If there was a breakage in the cable something like 300 miles off.

4. *Naut.* (see quot.)

1867 SMYTH *Sailor's Word-bk.* 130 *Breakage*, the leaving of empty spaces in stowing the hold.

Breakage², var. form of *BRAKEAGE*.

Break-back, a. [f. BREAK v. + BACK sb. 1; cf. BREAK-NECK.] That breaks the back; crushing, over heavy.

1556 J. HEYWOOD *Spider & F.* lxiii. 16 Our breakbacke burden. 1607 J. DAVIES *Summa Tot.* 21 (D.) All break-backe Crosses which we vndergo. 1880 W. COBBETT *Rur. Rides* (1885) I. 104 All the break-back and sweat-extracting work.

Break-back (*Cricket*): see *BREAK* sb. 1 5.

Break-down (brē'kdau; see below). [f. the verbal phrase *break down* (see *BREAK* v. 50).]

In this and similar verbal formations, the stress seems primarily to be even (*break down*), or with stronger force on the adv. (*break down*); but in familiar and well-established expressions (as *sense* 2), there is a tendency to take the combination without analysis as a single word, and to say *breakdown*, or even *breakdown*: this is also regularly done in attributive use, as in 'breakdown gang'.

1. The act of breaking and falling down; a ruinous downfall, a collapse. *lit.* and *fig.*

1832 MARRYAT *N. Forster* xxii, These unfortunate *break downs*. 1835 BROWNING *Paracelsus* iii. 70 The break-down of my general aims. 1883 CHALMERS *Local Govt.* 152 Any break-down or hitch in the working of the sanitary laws.

b. *esp.* A fracture or dislocation of machinery resulting in a stoppage. Hence *attrib.*, as in *break-down gang, train*.

1842 J. LUDLOW *Master Engineers*, &c. 105 Double pay for over-time caused by break-down or accident. 1863 *Times* 6 Apr., Break-down gangs from Peterborough and Grantham. 1866 *Standard* 15 Sept. 4/5 A mine where there had been a breakdown.

c. Of the animal functions, or health.

1828 J. H. BENNET *Nutrition* iv. 91 A complete break-down of the general health. 1875 M. PATTISON *Casaubon* 405 Walter Scott had the first warning of his own breakdown in similar symptoms.

2. 'A riotous dance, with which balls are often terminated in the country. A dance in the peculiar style of the negroes.' Bartlett *Dict. Amer.* (U.S.); but frequently humorously in Eng.]

a 1864 *New Eng. Tales* (Bartlett), Don't clear out when the quadrilles are over, for we are going to have a break-down to wind up with. 1877 BURNARD *Ride to Khiva* 11 Clog-dancers, or nigger duettists, at a Music Hall with a breakdown. 1881 *Ed. Words* XXII. 41/2 The men followed with a fiendish 'breakdown'.

Breaker¹ (brē'kər). Also 2-6 breaker, (5-6 Sc. -ar). [f. BREAK v. + -ER¹.] He who or that which breaks (in various senses of verb.).

1. One who breaks, crushes, or destroys; so *breaker off*, etc.; and with defining sb. as *HOUSE-BREAKER*, *SHIP-BREAKER*, etc., q. v.

c 1175 *Lamb. Hom.* 83 Ne mihte nawiht brekere bod icloped. c 1535 DEWES *Introd. Fr. in Palgr.* 1040 The peas... is... breker of strife. 1563 *Homilies* II. *Fasting* II. (1859) 288 A breaker of his fast. 1597 T. PAYNE *Royal Exch.* 14 They become eyther breakers or banckerers. a 1649 DRUMM. OF HAWTH. *Cypress Grove* Wks. 118 Death... is the reasonless breaker off of all actions. 1840 CARLYLE *Heroes* iv. 193 A Breaker of Idols. 1847 TENNYSON *Princ.* II. 143 Horn-handed breakers of the glebe.

b. *spec.* One who cards wool. (cf. *BREAK* v. 2 c.)

1514 *Act 6 Hen. VIII.* ix. § 1 The Breaker or Kember to deliver again, the same Wool so broken and kemberd. 1764 BURN *Poor Laws* 156 Three weavers and spoolers, two breakers, etc.

c. One who makes known (tidings, etc.).

1864 TENNYSON *Aylmer's F.* 594 A breaker of the bitter news from home.

2. One who transgresses or violates a law, oath, convention, etc.

1308 WYCLIF 2 *Macc.* xiii. 7 It bifelle the breker of lawe for to die. 1483 *Cath. Angl.* 42 A Breker or tryspaser; 135 - 2

transgressor. 1535 COVERDALE *Ezek.* xvi. 38 A breaker of wedlocke and a murtherer. 1596 SHAKS. *1 Hen. IV.* i. ii. 132 He (Falstaff) was neuer yet a Breaker of Prouerbs: He will giue the diuell his due. 1765 BLACKSTONE *Comm.* i. 350 Constables... may apprehend all breakers of the peace. 1864 H. SPENCER *Illustr. Univ. Progr.* 61 Some courageous breaker of conventions.

b. In comb. with defining sb., as COVENANT-LAW, SABBATH-BREAKER, etc., q. v.

3. One who subdues, tames, or trains. Also breaker in, and in comb., as HORSE-BREAKER.

1553 HULORT, Breaker of horse, or other beast brutish. 1808 SCOTT *F. M. Perth* i. 23 The breaker of mad horses—the tamer of wild Highlandmen. 1834 *Fraser's Mag.* IX. 93 A breaker-in of dogs. 1860 *Encycl. Brit.* XX. 220 Whenever the dog in advance points, it is the breaker's duty to make all the rest that acknowledge the scent to point.

4. That which breaks; as a break-water (*obs.*), a harrow (see quot. 1799). In many comb., as COAL-ICE, ROCK-BREAKER, q. v.

1661 HICKERINGILL *Jamaica* 47 There is no landing... by reason of the fury of the waves (not pacified by any Breakers). 1799 J. ROBERTSON *Agric. Perth* 66 Some [harrow]s are made large enough to be a draught for two horses, which are distinguished by the name of Breakers.

b. *spec.* The name of various machines for crushing the dried stems of flax or hemp, and for performing the first operation in carding cotton, etc.

1817 *Parl. Deb.* 1059 The stems of flax and hemp... are passed through two machines, the first called a breaker, the second a rubber. 1875 *URE Dict. Arts* i. 972 After passing through the first or 'breaker card', the cotton is put through the 'finisher'. 1879 Cassell's *Techn. Educ.* IV. 274/2 The slivers produced by the breakers, as the first set of engines is called.

5. A heavy ocean-wave which breaks violently into foam against a rocky coast or in passing over reefs or shallows. *Breakers ahead!* 'the common pass-word to warn the officer of broken water in the direction of the course'.

1664 I. MATHER *Remark. Provid.* (1856) 43 If the Providence of God had not by the breakers given them timely warning they had been dashed to pieces. 1740 WOODROBE in *Hanway Trav.* (1762) i. iv. lix. 275 When there is any sea, the breakers are visible. 1845 DARWIN *Voy. Nat.* xiv. (1852) 305 The great wave broke in a fearful line of white breakers. 1864 TENNYSON *En. Ard.* 51 Along that breaker-beaten coast. *Ibid.* 549 Till hard upon the cry of 'breakers' came The crash of ruin. 1879 BEERBOHM *Patagonia* 3 Suddenly we heard a shout of 'Breakers ahead!' and every one turned pale.

† 6. A kind of firework. *Obs.*

1630 J. TAYLOR (Water P.) *Wks.* iii. 118/1 Rackets, Crackers, Breakers and such like, gives blows and reports without number. 1635 J. BABINGTON *Pyrotechn.* xxxvi. 43 Your reports or breakers for this work shall be made as follows.

Breaker (brē'kər), *Naut.* [Commonly believed to be a corruption of Sp. *bareca* or *barrica*; cf. BARCA, BARRICO.] A small keg or cask.

1823 MARIYAT P. *Simple* xxxiii. A breaker or two (that is, small casks holding about seven gallons each) of water was put into each boat. 1835 — *Yac. Faith* xx. The purser sent a breaker of spirits on shore. 1875 BEDFORD *Sailor's Pocket Bk.* vi. (ed. 2) 227 They will be found very useful for carrying both provisions and water, and stow better than breakers.

† **Breakeress.** *Obs. rare.* In 4 breakeresses.

[f. prec. + -ESS.] A woman who breaks.

1388 WYCLIF *Jer.* iii. 7 The breakeress of lawe, Juda, hir sister. — 8 The lawe breakeress.

Breakfast (brē'kfāst). Also 5 brekfāst, 6 breke-, break-, 6-7 breakfast. [f. BREAK v. 29 c + FAST.]

1. That with which a person breaks his fast in the morning; the first meal of the day.

1463 *Mann. & Househ. Exp.* 224 Expensys in brekfāst, xj. d. 1491 *Act 7 Hen. VII.* xxii. Pream. Ye were at your brekfāst. 1508 MORE *Heresyes* iv. Wks. 251/1 That men shoulde go to masse as well after sowper as before brekfāst. 1594 LADY RUSSELL in *Ellis Orig. Lett.* i. 233 III. 40 Because I here your Lordship meaneeth to be gon early in the morning, I am bowld to send your pale thin cheekes a comfortable little brekfāst. 1768 GOLDSM. *Nash* 46 People of fashion make public breakfasts at the assembly-houses. 1793 COWPER *Lett.* 25 Apr., My only time for study is now before breakfast. 1819 SHELLEY *Peter Bell Third* iii. xii. Dinners convivial and political... Breakfasts professional and critical. 1860 TYNDALL *Glac.* i. § 27. 207 My assistants were preparing breakfast.

2. Occas. in wider sense: That which puts an end to a fast, a meal.

1566 TINDALE *Heb.* xii. 16 Esau which for one breakfast sold his right. 1591 SHAKS. *Two Gent.* v. iv. 34, I would haue bene a break-fast to the Beast. 1700 DRYDEN (J.) *The wolves* will get a breakfast by my death.

3. Comb. and *Attrib.*, as breakfast-bell, †-board, -parlour, -party, -room, -stall, -table, -time; breakfast-set, the crockery in use at breakfast.

1842 T. MARTIN in *Fraser's Mag.* Dec. The 'breakfast-bell had sounded. 1844 *Privy Purse Exp. Pcess Mary* (Madden) 149 Item paid... for mending the 'Brekefaste-borde and fyre-Shovell. 1834 CARLYLE *Fr. Rev.* II. vi. 365 In remote streets, men are drinking 'breakfast-coffee. c. 1815 JANE AUSTEN *Northang. Ab.* (1833) II. vii. 142 She found her way to the 'breakfast-parlour. 1871 MORLEY *Crit. Misc.* (1886) i. 298 The hard geniality of some clever college-tutor of stiff manners, entertaining undergraduates at an official 'breakfast party. 1837 LOCKHART *Scott* VII. 404 A charming 'breakfast-room which looks to the Tweed. c. 1815 JANE AUSTEN *Northang. Ab.* (1833) II. vii. 143 The elegance of the 'breakfast set. 1838 DICKENS *O. Twist* 144/1 A well-

spread 'breakfast-table. 1795 DE FOE *Voy. round World* (1840) 276 Even before 'breakfast-time. 1815 SCOTT *Guy R.* xiv. He had ridden the whole day since breakfast-time.

Breakfast (brē'kfāst), v. [f. prec.]

1. *intr.* To break one's fast (see BREAK v. 29 c); to take the first meal of the day.

1679 EVERARD *Popish Plot* 11 After break-fasting peaceably. 1753 JOHNSON *Ramb.* No. 200 ¶ 6 A back room, where he always breakfasted when he had not great company. 1883 FROUDE *Short Stud.* IV. ii. 11. 181 If an undergraduate now and then breakfasted with his tutor, the undergraduate was shy.

2. *trans.* To provide with breakfast, entertain at breakfast.

1793 T. JEFFERSON *Writ.* IV. 83 They will breakfast you. 1885 M. PATTON *Mem.* 50, I was breakfasted by Copleston.

Break-faster. One who breakfasts.

1845 SYD. SMITH *Irish Rom. Cath. Ch. Wks.* 1859 II. 334/1 'Oh, don't you know what has happened?' said the sacred breakfaster. 1864 *Realm* 13 Apr. 6 There are plenty of bad breakfasters.

Breakfasting, *vbl. sb.* [f. as prec. + -ING¹.]

The taking of breakfast. Also *attrib.*, as in breakfasting-house, -place, -time.

1732 DE FOE, etc. *Tour Gt. Brit.* (1769) II. 172 Now turned into a Breakfasting-House. 1741 RICHARDSON *Pamela* II. 177 We have made but sorry Breakfastings. 1772 SMOLETT *Humph. Cl.* (1815) 68 Yesterday... she went by herself to a breakfasting in one of the rooms.

Breakfastless, a. [see -LESS.] That is without a breakfast.

1795 SOUTHEY *Lett. fr. Spain* (1799) 41 After having travelled twenty miles... almost breakfastless. 1868 BROWNING *Ring & Bk.* vii. 835 He may go breakfastless and dinnerless.

Breaking (brē'kɪŋ), *vbl. sb.* [f. BREAK v. + -ING¹.]

The action of the vb. BREAK.

1. in transitive senses.

c. 975 *Rushw. Gosp.* Luke xxiv. 35 On breckunge broodes. 1500 *Curior M.* 8044 (Gött.) Widuten breking of any bow. 1584 — *Sel. Wks.* III. 521 Cristis disciplis knewen him in brekyng-of he breed. 1514 in *Glasscock Rec. St. Michael's Bp. Stortford* (1882) 33 For brekyng of Ground in the cherche at the buryng of her husband. 1533-4 *Act 25 Hen. VIII.* xviii. § 1 Spinninge, cardinge, breakeinge, and sorting of wools. 1589 PUTTENHAM *Eng. Poetrie* (Arb.) 258 Euerie poore scholler... calls it the breakeing of Priscians head. 1590 SHAKS. *Com. Err.* iii. i. 74 Breake any breakeing here, and Ile breake your knaues pate. 1722 WOLLASTON *Kelig. Nat.* ix. 202 Burnings, crucifixions, breakeings upon the wheel. 1813 *Examiner* 18 Jan. 42/2 A breakeing of windows on the ground-floor. 1823 LOCKHART *Reg. Dalton* i. iv. (1842) 19.

b. with an adverb: see the vb.

1607 HIERON *Wks.* i. 270 No breakeing off of olde sinnes. 1610 MS. *Acc. St. John's Hosp., Canterb.*, For breakeing out of a tre. 1850 MRS. STOWE *Uncle Tom* xxiii. 226 Dodo... was now getting his breakeing in, at the hands of his young master. 1864 BURTON *Scot. Abr.* II. i. 77 A general breakeing-open of the prisons. 1868 W. COLLINS *Moonst.* (1871) 234 The breakeing-off of the engagement.

2. in intransitive senses.

1647 FULLER *Good Th. in Worre T.* (1841) 74 Pref., The difference betwixt downright breakeing and craving time of their creditors. 1664 GERBER *Princ.* 39 A noise of breakeing of their Waves on the Shoar. 1799 DE FOE *Cruise* (1840) xiii. The breakeing of the sea upon their ship. 1797 — *Eng. Tradem.* vii. (1841) i. 47 Breakeing is the death of a tradesman. 1894 BLACK *Pr. Thule* 8 The breakeing of the waves along the hard coast.

b. with an adverb.

1535 COVERDALE *Job* xxx. 14 Y^e breakeyng in of waters. 1563 HOMILIES II. *Disobedience* i. (1859) 551 The breach of obedience and breakeing in of rebellion. 1711 ADDISON *Spect.* No. 39 ¶ 5 Abrupt Pauses and Breakeings-off in the middle of a Verse. 1719 DE FOE *Cruise* (1840) iii. My breakeing away from my parents.

3. *Breaking of the day*: daybreak, dawn.

1523 LD. BERNERS *Froiss.* I. xviii. 25 In the brekyng of the day ii. trompettis of Scotland mette with the Englishe scout-watche. 1611 BIBLE *Gen.* xxiii. 24 There wrestled a man with him, untill the breakeing of the day. 1658 A. FOX *tr. Wurtz Surg.* ii. xviii. 128 At mornings near the breakeing of the day they are most paired.

† 4. A breach or gap. *Obs.*

1300 E. E. *Psalter* cv[i]. 23 He suld am have for-lorn; If noight Moyses... Had standen in breakeing in his sight. 1676 MOXON *Print Letters* 24 The Breakeings and Wants in the Arches you must work in by hand.

5. A piece of land newly broken up. (U. S.)

1883 *Pamphlet Jamestown (Dakota) Board of Tr.*, He earned enough besides, with what he raised on his break-ing, to keep himself.

6. *Breaking-out*: an eruption; an outburst.

1552 HULORT, Breakeing out of chylidrens mouths called exulceration. 1649 DRUMM. of HAWTH. *Hist. Jas. III.* Wks. 44 The authors of every breaking-out and sedition. 1652 FRENCH *Yorksh. Spa* xv. 115 The Scab, the Itch, the Scurff... and all such breakings out. 1783 F. MICHAELIS in *Med. Commun.* I. 356 There appeared a breaking-out on the forehead. 1854 H. MILLER *Sch. & Schoolm.* xxv. (1857) 544 On the breaking out of the controversy.

7. *Breaking up*, = BREAK-UP.

1663 *Bury Wills* (1850) 34, I wil that my household be kept hool to gedry... vj hool wykkes after my disses and at the brekyng vp I wil myn executours and they have a good dyner to gedry. 1612 BRINSLEY *Lnd. Lit.* 195 To gie them Theams before their breakeing vp at noone. 1760 AMHERST *Terr. Fil.* xlii. 222 Many a school-boy has done more than this for his breakeing-up task. 1768 TUCKER *Lt. Nat.* II. 625 It is presumed the boy will come home at breakings-up. 1832 *Nat. Philos.* (U. K. S.) II. *Pneum.* Intro. 70 The breaking-up of the monsoons is the name given by sailors to the shifting of the periodical winds.

8. *attrib.*, as in breaking-weight; breaking-crop,

the first crop on newly broken ground; breaking-frame, a machine for drawing out the slivers in spinning wool.

1813 VANCOUVER *Agric. Devon* 181 It has occurred... for lay oats to have been made the breaking-crop. 1851 *Illustr. Lond. News* 4 Jan. 10 The breaking weight being 30 tons. 1875 *URE Dict. Arts* III. 1163 The slivers... are drawn out and extended by the rollers of the breaking-frame.

Breaking (brē'kɪŋ), *ppl. a.* [f. BREAK v.]

1. That breaks, in various senses (chiefly *intr.*) of the verb.

1590 SHAKS. *Com. Err.* ii. ii. 128 A drop of water in the breaking gulf. 1593 — *Rich. II.* iii. ii. 3 Your late tossing on the breaking Seas. 1655 S. ASHE *Fun. Sermon* 18 June 11 He was ready to fall upon idolatrous Israel with breaking blows. 1674 FAIRFAX *Bulk & Selv.* 51 Beams differently breaking or refrangible. 1678 MANTON *Wks.* (1871) II. 190 His ruinous and breaking condition. 1713 YOUNG *Last Day* II. 187 Breaking dawn Rouz'd the broad front. 1769 FALCONER *Dict. Marine* (1789) *Ecume*, the froth or foam of a breaking sea. 1814 SOUTHEY *Roderick* xxiv. Within her breaking heart. 1820 BYRON *Juan* v. cliv. To save the credit of their breaking bank. 1881 *Daily News* 9 July 2 Lucas was bowled for a breaking ball.

b. with down, in, up, etc.

1843 KANE *Grinnell Exp.* xxxviii. (1856) 347 The first breaking-in day of Spring. 1858 GREENER *Gunnery* 237 An apparently crazy and breaking-up constitution displays itself most clearly. 1879 MCCARTHY *Omn Times* II. 306 The confusion was that of a breaking-down system.

2. In comb. with sbs., as heart-breaking, etc.

1874 ALDRICH *Prud. Palfrey* vii. (1885) 116 It was heart-breaking work sometimes and back-breaking work always.

3. *Breaking-joint*: see BREAK v. 31 and JOINT sb.

Break-neck (brē'kne:k), a. and sb. [f. BREAK v. 7 b + NECK.]

A. *adj.* Likely to break the neck; endangering the neck or life; headlong (of speed, etc.); precipitous (of roads, rocks).

1564 J. HEYWOOD *Prov. & Epigr.* (1867) 16 My... breakneck fall. 1618 BOLTON *Florus* iii. l. 164 Break-neck cliffs, and high over-hanging places. 1809 *Edin. Rev.* XV. 62 A break-neck road from Madrid to San Ildefonso. 1882 B. RAMSAY *Recoll. Mil. Serv.* i. v. 131 To ride a breakneck pace round Jacko Hill.

† B. *sb.* *Obs.* 'A fall in which the neck is broken; a steep place endangering the neck' (J.); fig. destruction, ruin.

1563 HOMILIES II. *Idolatry* (1859) 251 Such a stumbling-block for his own feet and others that may perhaps bring at last to breakneck. 1579 TOMSON *Catlin's Sermon* Tim. 289/2 The question is not of any light fall, but it is a deadly breakneck. 1644 F. WHITE *Reply Fisher* 527 They may... fall with a break-neck, downe to Hell. 1649 W. DELL *Way of Peace* 115 The very break-neck of the Churches peace and unity. 1853 GATAKER *Vind. Annot. Jer.* 137 To work the downfall and break-neck of mens souls.

† b. One who risks breaking his neck. *Obs.*

1598 FLORIO, *Scavensacillo*, a breakneck, a halter-sack, a wag.

Break-off, sb.

1. The action of breaking-off: see BREAK v. 53, esp. discontinuance, severing of relations.

1860 FORSTER *Gr. Remonstr.* 166 The sudden and impetuous break-off from the party with whom he had acted so zealously.

2. In a musket or rifle: The metal work of the stock of a gun into which the breech of the barrel fits.

1804 HULL *Adv.* 21 Jan. 4/1 The left hand then seizes the shaft of the stock and the right hand dislodges the barrel from the 'Break-off'. 1844 *Regul. & Ord. Army* 106 For a new break off filed up, fitted, and hardened. 1858 GREENER *Gunnery* 250 With the breeches in the percussion state, break-offs fitted and locks jointed.

Breakshuach. *Sc.* Also breakshugh, break-

shaw. [Derivation and correct form of second element unknown: it cannot be connected with OE. *brēc-sēc* epileptic.] The dysentery in sheep.

1799 *Ess. Highl. Soc.* III. 411 (JAM.) Dysentery or Braxy, *Breakshaw*. c. 1817 HOGG *Tales & Sk.* I. 199 There is a disease among sheep, called by shepherds the Breakshugh, a deadly sort of dysentery. 1822 W. NAPIER *Pract. Store-farming* 139 It [drainage] prevents a great many of the diseases to which sheep are liable, and particularly breakshuach, rot, foot-rot, and braxy.

Breakstone (brē'kstə:n). [f. BREAK v. +

STONE; a transl. of L. *saxifraga*.] A name given by herbalists to the Saxifrages; and vaguely to plants supposed to be related to them.

1688 R. HOLME *Armoury* II. 111/1 Of the Saxifrage, or Breakstone, the husks are brownish green. 1712 tr. *Pomet's Hist. Drugs* I. 5 It has obtain'd the Name of Saxifrage, and by a great many that of Break-Stone. 1846 SOWERBY *Brit. Bot.* (ed. 3) *Breakstone*, Parsley Piety, *Alchemilla arvensis*, 1863 *Prior Plant-n.* 28.

Break-up, sb. [f. verbal phr. to break up: see

BREAK v. 56. For the stress see BREAK-DOWN.] The action or fact of breaking up; disruption, separation into parts, disintegration (*lit.* and *fig.*); e.g. decay of animal functions; change from fine or settled weather, or from frost; dispersal or dissolution of a meeting, company, society, or system.

1795 LD. AUCKLAND *Corr.* (1862) III. 292 The sudden break-up of Lord Fitzwilliam's Government in Ireland. 1836 S. LAING *Trav. Norway* (L.) The break-up of the cold weather soon followed. 1836-9 TODD *Cycl. Anat. & Phys.* II. 630/1 The break-up which... follows... morbid alterations of the heart. 1864 *Times* 23 Dec. The sounds of mirth and song that usually mark the break-up of a large English

school. 1878 BROWNING *Poets Croisic* xxxvii, An epitaph On earth's break-up. attrib. 1843 J. T. COLERIDGE in *Arnold's Life & Corr.* (1844) I. i. 11 One break-up party was held in the junior common room at the end of each term.

Breakwater (brɛkˈwɔːtə). [*f.* BREAK *v.* + WATER.]

1. Anything that breaks the force of the waves at a particular place, esp. a solid structure of rubble and masonry erected to form or protect a harbour, etc.

1769 FALCONER *Dict. Marine* (1789) *Break-water*, the .. hull of some old .. vessel, sunk at the entrance of a small harbour, to .. diminish the force of the waves. 1791 SMEATON *Edystone L.* § 100 The house-reef may .. be considered as a pier, break-water, or bulwark to vessels lying there. 1846 G. N. WRIGHT *Cream Sci. Knowledge* 58 The most remarkable Break-waters are those of Cherbourg in France, and Plymouth in England. 1856 KANE *Arct. Expl.* I. iii. 36 This berg is a moving break-water. 1857 PAGE *Adv. Text-bk. Geol.* iii. 60 And present break-water-like their natural slopes to the action of the waves.

fig. 1854 H. MILLER *Sch. & Schm.* 332 A breakwater .. to protect from that grinding oppression of the poor by the poor. 1875 *Fortn. Rev. Mar.* 333 A religious breakwater.

2. In other uses: a. A groyne or barrier on the beach to retain shingle; b. (See quot. 1769).

1721 PERRY *Daggenh. Breach* 116 Several low narrow Jetties, (or Break-Waters) extending from the top of the Beach down to the Low Water Mark. 1769 FALCONER *Dict. Marine* (1789) *Break-water* is also a sort of small buoy, fastened to a large one in the water, when the buoy-ropes of the latter is not long enough to reach from the anchor .. to the surface of the water. The use of this break-water is therefore to shew where the buoy swims.

Bream (brɪm), *sb.* Forms: 4 *bream*, *brem*, 4-7 *breme*, 5 *breame*, 6-7 *breame*, 7- *bream*. [*ME.* *breme*, a. *F.* *brème*, in *OF.* *bresme* (med.L. *bresmia*), ad. Teutonic: cf. *OS.* *bresmo* (:-*brehsmo*), also with *a.* OHG. *brahsema* (whence med.L. *braximus*), MHG. *brahsem*, *brasme*, Ger. *brassen*, MDu. and Du. *brasm*:- WGer. *brahsm*- and *brehsm*:-; perh. *f.* stem of *brehuan* to glitter, sparkle. (The word has no connexion with *BARSE*.)]

1. The common name of a fresh-water fish (*Abramis brama*) called also Carp-bream, which inhabits lakes and deep water, and is distinguished by its yellowish colour and the high arched form of its back. Also the genus (*Abramis*, family *Cyprinidae*) to which this belongs, including also the White Bream (*A. blicca*) and other species.

c. 1286 CHAUCER *Prolog.* 350 Many a Bream [*v.* *brem*, *breme*] and many a lucc in Stowe. 1462 MANN. & HOUSE. *Exp.* 561 My master putt into the said ponde, in grete bremes, xij. 1539 *Act. 31 Hen. VIII.* ii. § 1 Pykes, breames, carpes, tenches, and other fysshes. 1626 SURFL. & MARKH. *Country Farm* 506 If you intend the pond for Carpe or Bream. 1633 WALTON *Angler* 174 The Bream .. is a large and stately fish .. long in growing. 1769 PENNANT *Zool.* III. 309 The bream is an inhabitant of lakes .. or the deep parts of still rivers. 1870 MORRIS *Earthly Par.* I. i. 167 Look up and down. And note the bubbles of the bream.

2. Applied also to some acanthopterygious sea-fishes, of the genus *Pagellus* (family *Sparidae*), and genus *Labrus* (family *Labridae*), as the Sea Bream (*P. centrodontus*), Spanish Bream (*P. erythrinus*).

c. 1260 J. RUSSELL *Bk. Nurture* 578 in *Babes Bk.* (1868) 156 Carpe, Breme de mere, & trout. 1655 MOUFFET & BENN. *Health's Improv.* (1746) 238 Breams of the Sea be of a white and solid Substance. 1840 R. DANA *Bef. Mast* vii. 16 There were cod, breams, silver-fish, and other kinds.

3. *Comb.* **bream-backed**: (of a horse) having a high ridged back.

1773 *Lond. Gas. No.* 6190/7 Stolen .. a sorrel Nag .. bream back'd. 1834-43 SOUTHEY *Doctor* xciii. (D.) He was not .. hollow-backed, bream-backed, or broken backed.

Bream (brɪm), *v.* 1 Also 7 *bream*. [Of uncertain origin: known only since 1600. It has been conjecturally referred to Du. *brem* 'broom, furze', and to Eng. *broom*, as a deriv. vb., or a dialect variant: but evidence is lacking. Conjectures identifying the word with *bren*, BURN, are unsupported exc. by the analogy of Ger. *ein Schiff brennen*, *F. chauffer le vaisseau, donner le feu*.]

trans. To clear (a ship's bottom) of shells, seaweed, ooze, etc., by singeing it with burning reeds, furze, or fagots, thus softening the pitch so that the rubbish adhering may be swept off. Cf. *BROOM v.*

1606 CAPT. SMITH *Accid. Yng. Seamen* 3 For calking, breaming, stopping leaks. 1607 — *Seamen's Gram.* ii. 13 Breaming her, is but washing or burning of all the filth with reeds or broome. 1608 DIGBY *Voy. Medit.* (1868) 60 There I careend and breamed my shippes with verie great diligence. 1779 FORREST *Voy. N. Guinea* 260 On the 8th we breamed the vessel's bottom. 1875 *Fortn. Rev.* Aug. 206 Bonfires of brushwood, lighted to bream the sharp-bowed craft.

Bream, *v.* 2 Also 6 *breme* (*dial.*), *breme* variant of *BRIM v.* 1 said of a boar or sow.

1577 B. GOOGE *Hereshack's Hush.* (1586) 127 The female camel of Bactria, feeding upon the mountaines amongst the wilde Boares, is oftentimes breamed of the boare, and conceaeth. 1863 ATKINSON *Provinc. Danby, Brim, breme*, to desire the boar; to serve the sow.

† **Bream**. *Obs. rare* -1. [Known only in the passage cited: cf. Ger. *breme*, MHG. *breme*, *brem*, OHG. *bremo* masc., answering to

an OTeut. **bremom*-masc., parallel to **brimi*-si-fem., whence OHG. *brimissa*, Ger. *bremse*: see *BRIMSE*.] *Breese*, gadfly; = *BRIMSE*.

1529 FLEMING *Virg. Georg.* iii. 41 note. A kind of flieng vermin that stingeth cattell, a horseflic, breame, a breese.

Bream, var. of *BREM a.* *Obs.*

† **Breamet**. *Obs.* Also 5 *bremate*, *bremette*.

[*dim.* of *BREAM*: but cf. *OF.* 'bremat = brème' Godef.] A young, or small, bream.

1462 MANN. & HOUSE. *Exp.* 561 My master putt into the said ponde, in male bremetes, xij. 1496 Bk. St. Alban's, *Fishing* 29 Ye shall angle for hym [a bream] .. wyth a redde worme. And for bremetis take maggotes.

Breamflat (brɪmˈflæt). [*f.* *BREAM sb.* + *FLAT*.] A fish, the White Bream.

1836 PENNY *Cycl.* V. 374/1 *Brama blicca* the white bream, or bream flat. .. is of a silvery or bluish-white hue.

Breaming (brɪˈmɪn), *vb.* *sb.* [*f.* *BREAM v.* 1 + *-ING* -1.] The clearing of a ship's bottom by burning. Hence *breaming-fuel*, *hook*.

1607 CAPT. SMITH *Seamen's Gram.* ii. 13. 1608 DIGBY *Voy. Medit.* (1868) 61 The inconuenience of breaming aloft to pay the shippe ouer with pitch. 1759 COLEBROOKE in *Phil. Trans.* LI. 51 Corruptly called breaming, for brenning or burning. 1769 FALCONER *Dict. Marine* (1789) *Chaufage*, breaming-fuel. *Fourches de Carène*, breaming-hooks.

Breams (brɪmz), *sb. pl.* *Sc.* [The same as *BRAID*, in sense of 'short ends or points'.] 'The short flax recovered from the first tow by a second hackling' (Jamieson). Cf. *backings*.

1733 P. LINDSAY *Interest Scot.* 161 Dressing and stapling the Lint .. into fine drest Flax, fine drest Tow, common Tow, Backings, and Breams. 1804 *Edin. Even. Courant* 1 Sept. (JAM.) White and blue breams, fit for spinning yarn.

Breamd, *Bream*, *obs.* forms of *BRAID*, *BRIER*.

Breast (breɪst). Forms: 1-4 *breost*, 3-8 *breast*; (also 4 *Kent* *bryest*, 4-5 *breost*, *breaste*, 4-6 *north* *breist*, 5-6 *brist*, *brist*), 6- *breast*. [*OE.* *brōst* = *OFris.* *brīst*, *OS.* *brīst*, *breost*, *ON.* *brjst*, (Sw. *brist*, *Du.* *bryst*) neuter, answering to an OTeut. type **breusto(m)*: represented in Goth. by *brusts* fem. pl. (no sing.): OTeut. **brust-s* consonantal fem., 'prob. originally inflected as a dual' (Kluge), whence OHG. (MHG., mod.Ger.) *brust* fem., MLG. (MDu., Du.) *brōst* fem. (with metathesis of *r*). The term is confined to Teutonic, there being no common Indo-Europ. name for the breast. As to the form and derivation, see below.

OE. *brō* became normally *ME.* *ē*, *ee*, mod. *ee* (*f*), and in *Sc.* and *north dial.* *breast* times with *prist*; but in Standard Eng., the *e* has been shortened before the two consonants; the spellings *breast* and *breist* run side by side from 16th to 18th c.; in current usage we spell *breast* and pronounce *breist*. The difference of vowel in OTeut. **brust-*, **brust-* is explained by the fact that all monosyllabic consonantal stems had originally shifting stress, with corresponding ablaut (**brust-s*, **brust-de*); the neuter gender in *OE.*, *OS.*, and *ON.* by the supposition that **brust-s* was orig. inflected as a dual (the two breasts) of which the nom. and acc. **brust-* would later become **brust*, *brōst*, which after the loss of the dual would naturally be treated as neuter pl., as in other known instances. Even in senses 2, 5, the plural was usual in *OE.*, as exclusive in Gothic. **Brust-* cannot be connected with *bristan*, *brēstan* to burst: but it may be related to the *OS.* verb *brustian* to bud, and be a root-noun from a vb. **brust-an* (see *Lex.* under *brust*), a specialized derivative of **brust-an* (i.e. **brust-stan*; **brust-an*: cf. **brēk-stan*, *brēstan*, *f. brēk-an*). The 'breasts' would thus be orig. the *mammæ* or paps, likened to 'buds' or 'sprouts'. See further *Kluge Beitr.* VIII. 510.]

1. Each of the two soft protuberances situated on the thorax in females, in which the milk is secreted for the nourishment of their young; the *mammæ*; also the analogous rudimentary organ of males, the *mammilla*. Hence, in phrases to *give*, *have*, *put* to, *the breast*; an infant at *the breast* *past the breast*. (Properly said of women, but sometimes of the lower animals.)

c. 1000 *Agg. Gosp.* Luke xi. 27 Pa *breost* [*Lindisf.* titto, *vel* *breost*] *be* *du* *suce*. c. 1000 *Sax. Leechd.* I. 182 Wip innopes sare, & þæra *breosta*. a. 1300 *Sarmun* lviii. in *E. E. P.* (1862) 7 Pa soke þe milk of maidis *breost*. c. 1305 *St. Kath.* 249 in *E. E. P.* (1862) 96 Here *breostes* hi to-drowe Fram hire bodi mossel mele. 1307 TREvisa *Hidden* Rolls Ser. VII. 39 [The virgin Mary] took here *breast* [*mamillam*] out of here *bosom*. 1342-3 *Act.* 34 & 35 *Hen. VIII.* viii. § 1 As *womens* *brestes* being sore. 1604 SHAKS. *Macb.* I. v. 48 Come to my *Womans* *Breasts* And take my *Milke* for Gall. 1647 W. BROWNE *Polix.* I. 237 When she was past the *breast*, he chose many young gentlemen of his Court to be of her guard. 1649 Br. REYNOLDS *Hosea* i. 1 The fruitfulness of the womb, and of the breasts. 1688 *Lond. Gas.* No. 2371/4 His Majesty was pleased to order that the *Breast* should be given him. 1709 STEELE *Tatler* No. 15 P. 2 One Country Milch-Wench, to whom I was .. put to the *Breast*. 1843 MACAULAY *Prophecy of Cypri* xiv, Thou, that .. hast tugged at the she-wolf's *breast*. 1863 Geo. ELIOT *Romola* (1878) I. 122 An amulet worn close under the right *breast*.

b. Hence *fig.* Source of nourishment.

1611 BIBLE *Prof.* i Upon whose breasts againe themselves doe hang to recieue the Spirituall and sincere milke of the word. 1611 SPEED *Theat. Gl. Brit.* xix. (1614) 37/1 Cambridge, the other breast and nurse-mother of all pious literature. 1788 WESLEY *Wks.* (1872) VII. 185 The sacraments are not dry breasts. 1875 YEATS *Growth Comm.* 249 'Hus-

bandry and cattle rearing', he says, 'are the two breasts whence France is nourished'.

2. The front of the thorax or chest, the fore-part of the body, lying between the neck and the belly. (In *OE.* usually in the plural, for original dual.)

Beowulf (Z.) 552 Beado hrægl broden on breostum læg golde zegyr(wed). c. 1000 *Agg. Gosp.* John xiii. 25 Pa he hlinode ofer ðæs hærendes breostum [*Lindisf.* G. onufa breost ðæs hærendes]. a. 1225 *Ancr. R.* 34 Beateð ower breoste. c. 1380 WYCLIF *Serm.* Sel. Wks. I. 27 He smote upon his *breest*. 1398 TREvisa *Barth. De P. R.* v. xxxiii. (1495) 144 The *breste* is the ouer bony parte betwene the pappes and teetes. 1440 J. SHIRLEY *Delthe K. James* (1818) 23 The sayde hongman toke a rope, and knyht hit fast aboute thare *bristes*, undre thaire harmeholes. 1524 POWEL *Lloyd's Cambria* 97 On his backe or *breest*. 1596 SHAKS. *Merch. V.* iv. i. 252 You must cut this flesh from off his *breast*. 1634 T. JOHNSON tr. *Parey's Chirurg.* xi. (1678) 270 Muskets .. may be called *Breast-guns*, for that they are not laid to the cheek, but against the *breast*. 1678 BUNYAN *Pilgr.* I. 71 He threw a flaming Dart at his *breast*. 1843 MACAULAY *Lake Regillus* xxviii. Herminius smote Mamilius Through *breast-plate* and through *breast*.

b. The part of a garment or a piece of armour covering the breast.

1651 *Proc. Parliament* No. 119. 1846, 310 backs with their breasts, and 10 Head pots. a. 1678 CLARENDON *Hist. Reb.* (1703) II. vi. 31 To procure old Backs, and Breasts, and Pots, with Pistols. 1830 *Fraser's Mag.* II. 436 Beruffled breasts and wrists were the order of the day.

c. The bosom.

1650 HUBBERT *Pill Formality* 15 It is a dangerous thing to harbor a Traytor within your *breast*.

† 3. Occasionally extended to the whole upper portion of the body, the thorax or chest. *Obs.*

a. 1340 HAMPOLE *Pr. Conc.* 679 Pe body of þat tre þar-by Es þe *breast* with þe bely. 1601 LOVELL *Hist. Anim.* 4 Min. 302 The *breast* as to its anterior part hath two clavicles and the os pectoris .. the posterior part hath two shoulders and twelve vertebra's. 1754-64 SMELLIE *Midwif.* I. Introd. 33 A perforation must be made .. into the cavity of the *breast*. 1766 CHESTERF. *Lett.* 404 IV. 241, I am glad to hear that your *breast* is so much better.

4. The corresponding part in the body of the lower animals.

a. 1400 *Chester Pl.* I. (1843) 31 Upon thy *breste* thou shalt goe and eate the earth. c. 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 49 *Breeste* of a beste, *pectus*. 1513 DOUGLAS *Æneis* viii. iv. 181 The rough byrnis on the *breast* and crest of that .. wilde beist. 1592 SHAKS. *Ven. & Ad.* 296 Broad *breast*, full eye, small head, and nostril wide. 1710 PAIDRAUX *Orig. Tithe* ii. 78 The wave *breast* and heave shoulder of the peace Offerings. 1826 KIRBY & Sp. *Entomol. Lett.* (1828) IV. 542 Nipping the *breast* will kill many small Lepidoptera.

b. as a joint or other piece of meat.

1530 FALSGR. 910 The gygot, a *breast*, le *gigot*. 1710 ADDISON *Tatler* No. 255 P. 3 Antipathy .. to a Cheshire Cheese, or a *Breast* of Mutton. 1832 *Fraser's Mag.* V. 529 They were charged with stealing a *breast* of mutton.

5. *fig. and transf.* The seat of the affections and emotions; the repository of consciousness, designs, and secrets; the heart; hence, the affections, private thoughts and feelings. (Commonly pl. in *OE.*)

a. 1000 *Cadmon's Gen.* (Gr.) 656 Mæg ðin mod wesian bliðe on *breostum*. c. 1175 *Lamb. Hom.* 183 Ihesu .. Min bliþe *breostes* blisse. c. 1230 *Hali Meid.* 7 þe þat herest him þat al welt in wið in þi *breoste*. c. 1230 *Hymns Virg.* (1867) 2 How y hadde ledde my lijf so zore, I putt i freischli in-to my *brist*. 1513 DOUGLAS *Æneis* v. iv. 134 The fauorable fortoun .. gan the *breistis* of the vther auance. 1600 CHAPMAN *Iliad* xv. 581 Their herdsman wanting *breasts* To fight with lions. 1607 SHAKS. *Cor.* iii. i. 258 What his *Breast* forges, that his Tongue must vent. a. 1643 W. CARTWRIGHT in *Doddley* (1780) X. 221 That man of peace there, Hath been trusted with Kings *breasts*. 1667 MILTON *P. L.* ix. 730 Can envie dwell In heav'nly *breasts*? 1711 STEELE *Spect.* No. 30 P. 3 Our Statutes are .. recorded in our own *Breasts* only. 1750 GRAY *Elegy* xv, Some village Hampden, that with dauntless *breast* The little tyrant of his fields withstood. 1839 THIRLWALL *Greece* II. 368 What motives were predominant in the *breast* of Pausanias.

† b. On *breast*: in or by heart. *Obs.*

a. 1560 ROLLAND *Crit. Venus* I. 45 Maist part was my prayers to con Knowit on *breist*.

c. To make a *clean breast*: to make a full disclosure or confession.

1752 CAMERON in *Scots Mag.* (1753) Oct. 508/1 He pressed him .. to make a *clean breast*, and tell him all. 1861 *Sat. Rev.* 23 Nov. 524 A *clean breast* must be made of everything. 1878 BLACK *Green Past.* xxiii. 184, I may as well make a *clean breast* of it.

† 6. *transf.* The place where the lungs are situated; hence, *breath*, *voice* in singing. *Obs.*

1547 J. HEYWOOD *Four Ps* in *Doddley* (1780) I. 67, I have some syght in syngynge, But is your *breast* any thyng sweet? a. 1553 UDALL *Royster D.* (Arb.) 14 So loe, that is a *breast* to blowe out a candle. 1601 SHAKS. *Twel. N.* ii. iii. 19 By my troth the foole has an excellent *breast*. I had rather then forty shillings I had .. so sweet a *breath* to sing, as the foole has. 1601 FLETCHER *Pilgr.* iii. vi. (N.) Let's hear him sing, he has a fine *breast*. 1711 STRYVE *Parker* 9 (N.) Queristers, after their *breasts* are changed.

† 7. A broad even front of a moving company; hence *in, of, on* (a) *breast* = *ABREAST*. *Obs.*

1647 MAY *Hist. Parl.* iii. i. 10 A narrow Lane, where onely four of a *breast* could march. 1653 URQUHART *Rabelais* i. liii. Six men at armes .. might together in a *breast* ride all up to the very top. 1686 K. P. in *Phil. Trans.* XX. 382 The Current of Water came down .. with a *Breast* as if it would have drowned the whole Towns. 1725 *Lond. Gas.* No. 6382/3 The Register, in *Breast*, with the Secretary. 1788 *Lond. Mag.* 200 To admit the passage of three carriages and two horses on a *breast*. 1807 ROBINSON *Archæol.* Gr. iv. xix. 405 The ships went three or more in a *breast*.

8. Applied to various surfaces or parts of things analogous in shape, position, etc. to the human breast; the forefront, face, swelling or supporting surface. † In *military* use, a breastwork; see BREAST *v.* 4.

c. 1400 *Destr. Troy* 5930 In the breast of the batell here buernes were thicke. 1601 SHAKS. *Jul. C.* i. iii. 51 The crosse blew Lightning seem'd to open The Breast of Heaven. 1793 SMEATON *Edystone L.* § 96 The seas broke against the overhanging Breast of the rock. 1806 *Act 46 Geo. III.* c. liii. No pier, quay, wharf, jetty, breast, or embankment, shall be erected. 1821 J. WILSON *Isle of Palms* i. 27 The waves that lend their gentle breast In gladness for her couch of rest. 1814 WORDSW. *Excurs.* iv. 627 Upon the breast of new-created earth Man walk'd. 1871 JENKINSON *Guide Eng. Lakes* (1879) 200 Along the tolerably smooth breast of the hill.

9. In various technical uses: † a. *Anatomy.* A portion of the hand (see quot.). b. *Agriculture.* The forward part of the mould-board of a plough. c. *Arch.* (see quot. 1823); also, the part of a wall between a window and the floor; an obs. name of the *torus* of a column (spelt *Brest* by Bailey and Johnson). d. *Mining.* (see quot. 1881); also, the wooden partition which divides the shaft of a coal-mine into two compartments. e. The curve in a fork just above the prongs. f. *Mech.* 'A bush connected with a small shaft or spindle'; also, the swelling or bulging part of a nave or hub. g. *Carpentry.* The under surface of a handrail, rafter, or rib of a dome.

1841 R. COPLAND *Guydon's Quest. Chirurg.* In the thyrid conunction be four bones longer than the other. And that conunction is called the breast of the hande or pecten. 1797-51 CHAMBERS *Cycl.*, *Brest* or *Breast*, in architecture, a term used by some for that member of a column otherwise called the *torus*. 1770 *Monthly Rev.* 307 Placed just under the breast of the chimney. 1807 VAMCOUVER *Agric. Devon* (1813) 115 There is little apparent curve in its breast or mould-board. 1823 P. NICHOLSON *Pract. Buil.* 434 The solid parts of the walls, between the funnel or flues, and the rooms, are called the breasts of the chimnies. 1881 RAYMOND *Mining Gloss.*, *Breast*. 1. The face of a working. 2. In coal mines, the chamber driven upwards from the gangway, on the seam, between pillars of coal left standing, for the extraction of coal. 3. That side of the hearth of a shaft-furnace which contains the metal-notch. 1884 *Implement & Mach. Rev.* 1 Dec. 6701/2 The . . . plough . . . has, together with the ordinary mould board, a digging breast.

II. Combinations.

10. Comb. (*attrib.*) of obvious meaning; as *breast-bow*, *button*, *-cord*, *-girdle*, *-guard*, *-key*, *-milk*, *-piece*, *-pin*, *-pocket*; *breast-deep*, *breast-riding* adj.

1847 *Life Mrs. Sherwood* vi. 87 She always wore a *breast bow to answer the bow on her cap. 1864 THACKERAY *Philip II.* 256 A certain *breast-button of his old coat. 1879 E. ARNOLD *Lt. Asia* iv. (1881) 105 Took down the silver bit and bridle chains, *breast-cord, and curb. 1888 SHAKS. *Tit. A.* v. iii. 179 Set him *breast-deep in earth, and furnish him. 1888 WYCLIF *Jer.* ii. 32 Whether . . . a spousesse schal forsete hir *breast girdil? 1878 *Richmond Wills* (1853) 281 A budged, male pinyen, and a *breastgard, i.e. 1840 *Penny Cycl.* XVII. 241/1 Parapet . . . is termed in German *Brustwehr*, or breast-guard. 1803 BRISTED *Pedest. Tour* II. 122 Spilling an abundance of water upon her *breastkerchief, and wetting her bosom. 1813 SIR R. WILSON *Diary* II. 202 A person conversant in all matters . . . and who possesses the *breast-key of the magnates. 1890 JER. TAYLOR *Holy Living* (1727) 124 Fed with a little *breast-milk. 1795 M. GARTHSHORE in *Med. Commn.* II. 37 It was supported by breast milk. 1811 COTGR., *Brieket*, the brieket or *breast-peece. 1805 SCOTT in *Lockhart* (1839) VIII. 120, I hate fine waistcoats and *breast pins upon dirty shirts. 1771 NUGENT *Hist. Friar Gerund* I. 172 In the *breast-pocket of his large cloak. 1605 K. LONG *Barclay's Argenis* iv. x, *Breast-rendering care.

11. Special combs.: *breast-backstays* (*Naut.*), long ropes serving to aid in supporting the masts against an oblique headwind (cf. *BACKSTAY*); *breast-band*, a girdle or band passing round the breast; also *spec.* = *breast-robe*; † *breast-brooch* = BREASTPLATE 2; † *breast-bundel*, a breast-girdle; *breast-casket* = *breast-gasket*; *breast-chain*, a chain used for the same purpose as a *breast-strap*; † *breast-clout*, a bib; *breast-collar*, a broad pulling strap passing round the breast of a horse, used instead of a neck-collar; *breast-out*, the cut of meat from the breast, brisket; *breast-drill*, a drill against which the workman bears his breast while drilling; *breast-fast*, 'a large rope or chain, used to confine a ship's broadside to a wharf or quay, or to some other ship' (Smyth *Sailor's Word-bk.*); † *breast-flap* (see quot.); *breast-gasket* (*Naut.*), a rope, cord, or other piece of plaited stuff used to tie up the bunt of a sail, and secure it to the yard; *breast-glass* (see quot.); *breast-harness*, harness in which a breast-band is used in place of a collar; *breast-height*, the interior slope of a parapet in fortifications; *breast-hoe*, a hoe pushed by the breast; *breast-hooks*, 'large pieces of compass-timber fixed within and athwart the bows of the ship, of which they are the principal security, and through which they are well bolted' (Weale); *breast-*

knees sb. pl., timbers placed in the forward part of a vessel across the stem to unite the bows on each side; *breast-knot*, a knot or bow of ribbon, etc. worn on the breast; † *breast-lap* = *breast-flap*, BREASTPLATE 2; † *breast-lin* (*Ormin*), lit. breast-linen, linen breastplate; *breast-line*, the rope along which are ranged the pontoons of a military bridge, and to which they are fastened; *breast-mill*, a mill driven by a breast water-wheel; *breast-moulding*, moulding done upon the panel beneath a window; *breast-pain*, a disease in horses; *breast-pang*, the *Angina pectoris*; *breast-peat* (see quot.); † *breast-pit*, the hollow of the breast; † *breast-probe*, a probe for examining the cavity of the breast; *breast-pump*, an instrument for drawing milk from the breast by suction; *breast-rail* (*Naut.*), the upper rail of the balcony, or of the breastwork at the fore-part of the quarter-deck; *breast-roll*, the cloth beam of a loom; *breast-rope* (*Naut.*), a rope for securing the yard-parrels; a rope for supporting the leadman while sounding; *breast-strap* (*Harness*), a strap fixed at one end to the collar and supporting the pole of the vehicle; *breast-wall*, a wall supporting a bank of earth, etc., a retaining wall; *breast-weed*, a herbaceous plant (*Saururus cernuus*) having broad heart-shaped leaves and small white flowers, the Lizard's tail; *breast-wimble*, a kind of gimlet or auger upon which the breast presses in working; *breast-wood*, collective name for young shoots of fruit trees trained on espaliers or against walls. Cf. also BREAST-HIGH -PLATE, -WORK, etc.

1769 FALCONER *Dict. Marine* (1789) E ij. Breast-back-stays and after-back-stays; the intent of the former being to sustain the top-mast when the force of the wind acts upon the ship sideway. 1840 R. DANA *Bef. Mast* xxv. 82 Setting up the weather breast-backstays. 1837 W. IRVING *Capt. Bonnevill* (1849) 135 *Breast-bands, saddle and crupper, are neatly embroidered. 1838 WYCLIF *Ex.* xxviii. 15 The *breast broche [1812 breastplate] forsothe of dom thou shalt make with werk of dyuerse colours. — *Jer.* ii. 32 Whether forsete shal . . . the womman spouse of hir *breast-bundle [1838 -girdil]. c. 1325 *Gloss W. de Biblen.* in Wright's *Voc.* 143 *Une baverre*, a breastclut. 1801 W. FELTON *Carriages* II. 156 Neck Collars, and Saddles instead of *breast Collars and housings. 1845 S. & S. ADAMS *Compl. Serv.* 76 The Joints of Beef, according to the London method of cutting. Brisket or *Breast-cut. 1865 TYLOR *Early Hist. Man.* ix. 243 Known among the Oriental nations as the *breast-drill. 1607 CAPT. SMITH *Seaman's Gram.* vii. 30 A *Breast-fast is a rope . . . fastened to some part of the Ship forward on, to hold her head to a wharfe. a. 1536 TINDALE *Table Words* Ex. I. 419 *Breastlap*, or *breastflap, is such a flap as thou seest in the breast of a cope. 1880 *Syd. Soc. Lex.*, *Breast glass, a flattened glass vessel, with an opening large enough to receive the nipple, placed on the breast to catch . . . milk. 1787 WINTER *Syst. Husb.* 174 The intervals should be hoed with a running or *breast hoe of twelve inches broad. 1748 ANSON *Voy.* ii. iv. (ed. 4) 221 One *breast-hook was broken. 1840 R. DANA *Bef. Mast* ii. 4 Her stern and breast-hooks dripping. 1860 H. STUART *Seaman's Catech.* 68 What are the breast hooks for? To unite the sides of the ship together forward; they are generally made of iron. 1716 ADDISON *Freeholder* No. 11 (1725) 69 The influence of this Beautiful *Breast-Knot. 1844 MISS MITFORD *Village Ser.* i. (1863) 119 A black lace tippet . . . parting at the middle, to display a gay *breast-knot. 1535 COVERDALE *Ecclus.* xiv. 10 In the *breastlappe there was a goodly worke, wherein was fastened light and perfectnesse. 1881 MARBECK *Bk. of Notes* 75 Those *Vrim* and *Thumim*, which the Priest bare in his breast lappe. 1577 tr. *Bullinger's Decades* (1592) 334 The breast-lap of judgement. c. 1800 ORMIN 955 Off batt preostess shuldredlin, & off hiss *breostlin disc. Summwhatt icc habbe shouwded juw. 1674 PETTY *Dioc. R. Soc.* 99 Seen in all *Breast- and Undershot-Mills. 1801 R. TURNER *Abridged Arts & Sc.* 266 Water-mills are of three kinds: undershot mills, breast mills, and overshot mills. 1844 T. GRAHAM *Dom. Med.* 324 Excepting in the case of *breast-pang, very active exercises daily. 1800 *Agric. Surv.* *Pedest.* 208 (JAM.) [He] digs the peat, by driving in the spade horizontally with his arms; this peat is designed *breast-peat. 1398 TREVISA *Barth. De P. R.* xvii. xxi. Sode in vinegre and leydwde with a sponge to be *breste pit. 1758 J. S. Le Dran's *Observ. Surg.* (1771) 200 The Admission of the *Breast-Probe. 1831 G. PORTER *Silk Manuf.* 215 The cloth-beam or *breast-roll to which the ends of the warp are attached. 1607 CAPT. SMITH *Seaman's Gram.* v. 20 Parrels . . . with the help of the *Breast-rope doth keepe the Yard close to the Mast. 1825 H. GASCOIGNE *Nav. Fame* 52 Forward he leans, and far the balance leaves, The *Breastrope trusting while the lead he heaves. 1860 H. STUART *Seaman's Catech.* 42 See the breast ropes properly secured. 1601 HOLLAND *Pliny* xvii. xv, The French Vibrequin or *breast-wimble, which gently and quickly boreth a hole, and hurteth not the wood. 1884 *Garden* 354/2 To allow a free and unrestricted growth of *breastwood unto the middle of July.

Breast (brest), *v.* [f. prec. sb.]

1. *trans.* To apply or oppose the breast to (waves, wind, a steep ascent); to stem, face, meet in full opposition. *To breast a fence, horse*, etc.: to mount by springing so as to bring the breast over.

1590 SHAKS. *Hen. V.* iii. Prol. 13 Breasting the loftie Surge. 1640 SIR T. BROWNE *Pseud. Ep.* 128 It observes not a constant respect unto the mouth of the wind, but variously converting doth seldome breast it right. 1670 *Ballad 'Fausse Esdrage'* xxii. in *Scott Minstr. Sc. Bord.*, You shall learn . . . Right well to breast a steed. 1870 MORRIS *Earthly*

Par. I. 171 The horse began to breast the hill. 1874 BLACKIE *Self-Cult.* 79 A swimmer . . . breasting the big waves.

b. *fig.*

1850 PRESCOTT *Perru* II. 29 Prepared to breast the difficulties of the sierra. 1868 GOULBURN *Perru. Relig.* iv. (1873) 318 Breasting its perils . . . gallantly.

c. *To breast oneself*: to oppose one's breast to; so *to breast it out* (cf. *face it out*).

1815 *Hist. J. Decastro*, 4c. iii. 114 To breast it out against difficulties, dangers, sin, and the devil. 1863 W. PHILLIPS *Speeches* i. 6 Civil government breasting itself to the shock of lawless men.

d. *To breast aside*: to breast so as to push aside. 1853 KANE *Grinnell Exp.* xlv. (1856) 406 We gradually force ahead, breasting aside the flocks.

2. *intr.* To press forward with the breast.

1670 *Red Squair in Ever Green* (1824) II. 225 Breasting owre the Brac. 1766 BURNS *Salut. to Mare* xiv, Thou never lap, an' sten't and breastit, Then stood to blaw.

† 3. *trans.* To give the breast to; *fig.* to nourish. *Obs. rare.*

1573 TUSSER *Hush.* (1878) 27 In good corne soile to nest thee, Where pasture and meade may breast thee.

† 4. To defend in front or with a breastwork.

1591 LAMBARDE *Arch.* (1635) 172 The Offenders, which were . . . so brested, sided, and backed with a many friends. 1624 CAPT. J. SMITH *Virginia* iii. vi. 60 Their pallizadoed towne . . . brested about with breasts very formally.

5. *trans.* To apply the breast to.

1800 KEATS *Isabella* lix. 470 She hurried back, as swift As bird on wing to breast its eggs again.

6. *To breast up a hedge*: to cut away the branches on one side so that the main upright stems are laid bare.

Breast-beam (brest'bēm).

1. *Naut.* One of the beams at the fore-part of the quarter-deck and round-house, and after-part of the fore-castle.

1850 *Rudin. Navig.* (Weale) 95.

2. *Weaving.* The horizontal wooden beam in the front of a loom.

1790 A. WILSON *Groans fr. Loom*, While a bad web was his theme, The breast-beam supported his head. 1875 *Use Dict. Arts* III. 1114 The breast beam . . . is supported at its end upon brackets.

3. The front cross-beam of the frame of a locomotive.

Breast-board (brest'bōrd).

1. The earth-board or mould-board of a plough.

1649 BLITHE *Eng. Improv. Impr.* (1653) 190 The Shield-board, some call Breast-board, or Earth-board, or Furrow-board. 1795 BRADLEY *Fam. Dict.* s. v. *Plough*, The Earth board, Mould board, Breast board, Throw board.

2. *Mining.* 'Planking placed between the last set of timbers and the face of a gangway or heading, in quicksand or loose ground' (Raymond).

3. *Rope-making.* A loaded carriage to which the yarn-ends are attached at the foot of the rope-walk.

Breastbone (brest'bōn). The thin flat bone running down the front of the thorax, and articulated by cartilages with the ribs; the sternum.

a. 1000 *Agg. Gloss.* in Wr. Wülfker 158 *Pectusculum*, breastban. c. 1380 *Sir Ferumb.* 1623 On was clouten in-to be chynne: another to be Brust-bon. a. 1400 *Isumbras* 455 The beryns he hitt appone the hode, Thorowe the breste-bane it wode. 1646 SIR T. BROWNE *Pseud. Ep.* 183 Inclining to the spine or breastbone. 1863 KINGSLEY *Water-bab.* iv. 147 The leap-frogs you make out of a goose's breastbone.

Breasted (brest'ed), *pp. a.* [f. BREAST *sb.*]

1. Having a breast; esp. in comb., as *big*, *narrow*, *open*, *wide*, *flat-breasted*.

c. 1314 *Guy Warw.* (1841) 261 As a somer it is brested bifore in the brede. c. 1400 in *Rel. Ant.* I. 232 A Woman . . . fayre breasted. 1528-4 CAPON in Fiddes *Wesley* (1726) coll. 103 Syngyng men byn . . . very well breasted. 1544 ASCHAM *Toxoph.* (Arb.) 126 The bygge breasted shafte is fyttre for hym. 1606 COCKERAM III, *Chymara*, a Monster . . . breasted like a Lyon. 1711 J. DISTAFF *Char. Don Sackverell* 9 Times are altered since you went open Breasted. 1741 MONRO *Anat.* (ed. 3) 311 [They] become . . . flat breasted.

2. Ornamented or decorated on the breast.

1829 *Blackw. Mag.* XXV. 80 Breasted with the cross, they roam on to the Holy Land.

Breastful (brest'fūl). *rare.* [f. as prec. + -FUL.] As much as fills the breast; also *fig.*

1856 MRS. BROWNING *Aw. Leigh* vi. 191 The hungry beggar-boy . . . Bears yet a breastful of a fellow-world To this.

Breast-high (brest'hāi), *a.*, *adv.*, *sb.*

A. adj. As high as the breast.

1677 MOXON *Mech. Exerc.* (1703) 157 Part of the Battlement being Breast high. 1716 *Land. Gas.* No. 5472/2 The Water was Breast high. 1823 J. BADCOCK *Dom. Amus.* 207 The rider has a breast-high support ascending from his seat.

B. adv.

1. To the height or depth of the breast.

1830 SIDNEY *Arct.* (J.) The river itself gave way unto her, so that she was straight breast-high. 1876 *Massacre in Ire.* 8 They saw one like a Woman rise out of the River breast-high. 1844 J. ABBOTT *Napoleon* (1855) I. xxv. 556 Some . . . wading breast high, reached the opposite bank.

2. Said in *Hunting* of the scent when it is so strong that the hounds go at a racing pace with their heads erect.

1858 KINGSLEY *Ode to N.-E. Wind* 30 Hark! the brave North-Easter! Breast-high lies the scent. 1868 R. EG. WARBURTON *Hunt. Songs* lvi, When we fly with a scent breast high, and a galloping fox before us.

C. sb. A tunnel or horizontal entrance into a coal-mine, so low that the miner has to stoop: in Lancash. dial. *breast-heel*.

1850 BAMFORD *Tim Bobbin* Introd. 3 in *Lanc. Gloss.* (E. D. S.) The collier brought his coal to daylight at the mouth of a . . . breast-heel, generally opening out not unlike a large black sough, on some hill-side. **1857** E. WAUGH *Lanc. Sk.* 44 *ibid.* At the mouth of a lonely breast-heel on his native moor-side.

Breastie. Sc. Diminutive of BREAST.

1785 BURNS *To Mouse* 2, Wee sleekit, cow'rin tim'rous beastie, O, what a panic's in thy breastie!

Breasting (bre'sting), *vbl. sb.* [f. BREAST *sb.* and *v.* + -ING.]

1. *a.* The action of confronting or opposing with the breast, of ascending the breast of a slope, etc. *b. concr.* A covering for the breast, breast-work.

1817 SOUTHEY *Morte Arth.* I. Introd. 60 'The French', says the chronicler of Pero Nino . . . 'arm the horses with head pieces and breastings of leather'. **1836** LANDOR *Lett. Conserv.* 76 The current of evil is only to be stemmed by the united weight and breasting of the people. **1870** *Daily News* 7 Dec. Its flanking fire would have prohibited the breasting of the slope toward Villiers.

2. *techn.* The curved channel in which a breast water-wheel works.

Breastless (bre'stless), *a.* Without breasts.

1854 BLACKIE in *Blackw. Mag.* 265 Before his spear the Amazon yields. The breastless host. **1861** *Three Barriers* 88 These breastless tribes are Birds, Reptiles, and fishes.

† **Breastlet.** *Obs. rare.* [See -LET.] A small piece of meat from the breast.

1571 JEWEL *On Matt.* ix. 37 Whosoever the ox, or calf, or sheep . . . was offered unto God . . . the priest for his share had the breastlet which covered the heart.

Breast-plate (bre'st-plāt), [f. BREAST + PLATE, *q. v.* for *Forms*.]

1. A piece of armour for protecting the breast; also, any plate worn on the breast.

1386 CHAUCER *Knts. T.* 2120 Som wol ben armed in an haubergeon And in bristplate. **1535** COVERDALE *Ephes.* vi. 14 Having on the breast-plate of righteousness. **1678** BUNYAN *Pilgr.* i. 62 Sword, Shield, Helmet, Breastplate. **1814** SCOTT *J. d. Isles* vi. xxxii. A lance's point Has found his breastplate's loosen'd joint. **1833** J. HOLLAND *Mannf. Metals* II. 11 The breast-plate . . . with a little steel boss in the centre and straps attached to fasten it over the workman's belly. **1844** *Regul. & Ord. Army* 158 The Bayonet Belt is to be then fitted in front, and wherever it crosses the Pouch Belt, there the Breast-Plate is to be placed.

2. A folded piece of embroidered linen worn on the breast of the Jewish high-priest, and adorned with twelve precious stones, representing the twelve tribes. Cf. *Exod.* xxviii. xxxix.

1581 MARBECK *Bk. of Notes* 75 In the Ephod or in the breast plate were . . . 12 precious stones. **1611** BIBLE *Ex.* xxviii. 4 A breastplate [Wyclif breast broche, rational; COVERDALE bristaple], and an Ephod, and a robe. **1667** MILTON *P. L.* iii. 598 The Twelve that shon In Aarons Breast-plate. **1668** MARRIOTT *Vest. Chr.* 79.

3. In various technical uses: *a.* *Building.* A breast-summer. *b.* *Mech.* A plate in which the butt end of a drill is inserted when the pressure is applied by the breast in boring. *c.* = BREAST-PLOUGH. *d.* A strap or arrangement of straps passing across the breast of a riding-horse and attached to the saddle and saddle-girths. *e.* *Zool.* The under part of the horny case of a tortoise or turtle; the plate covering the lower side of the thorax of some insects. *f.* The inscription-plate on a coffin.

1667 PRIMATT *City & C. Build.* 59 Summers, Breast-plates, with Joists, Rafters, and Window-frames. **1677** MOXON *Mech. Exerc.* (1703) 7 The Drill-Plate, or Breast-Plate . . . hath an hole punched a little way into it, to set the blunt end of the Shank of the Drill in. **1704** *Dict. Rust. et Urb.* s. v. *Burning.* A Breastplay to pare off the Turf. **1720** W. GIBSON *Diet of Horses* viii. (ed. 3) 127, I have seen horses sometimes galled and fretted by buckling their Breast-plates too tight. **1845** DARWIN *Voy. Nat.* xvii. We lived entirely upon tortoise-meat; the breast-plate roasted . . . with the flesh on it is very good. **1849** in *Southey Comm.* *pl. Bk.* Ser. ii. 586 A butterfly . . . through a very remarkable opening in the breast-plate, emitted a great quantity of a sort of froth. **1864** *Derby Mercury* 7 Dec. The outer shell of the coffin was of oak . . . upon the breast-plate was an inscription recording the name and age of the deceased.

Breast-plough. 'A sort of Plough driven by main force with one's breast, commonly used in paring the Turf in Burn-beating' (Worlidge *Syst. Agric.* (1681) 322).

1725 BRADLEY *Fam. Dict.* s. v. *Trenching Spade.* Some of these Spades . . . are made with one side turned up like the Breast-Plow. **1869** BLACKMORE *Lorna D.* xv. We must . . . labour as at a breast-plough.

Hence *Breast-plough v.*, and *Breast-ploughing vbl. sb.*

1846 J. BAXTER *Libr. Pract. Agric.* ii. 183 The breast-ploughing on these soils is easy.

Breastsummer, bressummer (bre's-sūmər). Also *brestsummer, bressomer, bressumer, brestsummer*. [f. BREAST + SUMMER *sb.* (a. F. *sommier* beam).] A 'summer' or beam extending horizontally over a large opening, and sustaining the whole superstructure of wall, etc.;

e.g. the beam over a shop-front, the lower beam of the front of a gallery, and the like.

1611 COTGR., *Contrefrontail*, the brow-peece . . . of a dore; a haunce, or breast summer. **1797** BRADLEY *Fam. Dict.* s. v. *Building.* Breast-Sommers, Girders, Trimmers, and Wall-plates. **1845** *Gloss. Goth. Archit.* i. 69 Breastsummer, Bressummer . . . a beam supporting the front of a building, etc., after the manner of a lintel. **1880** *Daily News* 27 Apr. 3/7 The bressummer was then burning. **1885** J. F. MOLLOY *Royalty Rest.* II. 193 Breastsummers of stout oak.

Breast-wheel (bre'st-hwīl). A water-wheel, in which the water is admitted to the float-board nearly on a level with the axle.

1759 SMERTON in *Phil. Trans.* LI. 137 To examine the effects when the impulse and weight are combined, as in the several kinds of breast-wheels, etc. **1831** LARDNER *Hydrostatics* x. 203 A breast wheel partakes of the nature of the overshot and undershot wheels.

Breastwise (bre'st-wāiz), *adv.* [f. BREAST *sb.* + -WISE.] Side by side, abreast.

1600 DEKKER *Dram.* (1860) 24 So wide That ten caroches (breastwise) in may ride. **1673** RAY *Notes of Husb.* 130 He uses to plow with his Oxen endways or all in one file . . . whereas breastwise it is very hard evenly to match them. **1849** GROTE *Greece* II. xxxviii. V. 24 Two lines of ships . . . were moored across the strait breastwise.

Breastwork (bre'st-wōrk).

1. *Fortif.* A fieldwork (usually rough and temporary) thrown up a few feet in height for defence against an enemy; a parapet.

1642 *Relat. Action bef. Cyrencester* 3 Gardens . . . divided by many low dry stone walls, as good as Breast works. **1645** R. SYMONDS *Diary Civ. War* (1850) 232 At Worcester Prince Maurice has made without the ditch . . . a low breast-work, and a stockado without. **1693** LUTTRELL *Brief Rel.* (1857) III. 152 The English made a breastwork of the dead, to cover them in the time of action. **1809** W. IRVING *Knickerb.* (1861) 98 The mud breastworks had long been levelled with the earth. **1839** THIRLWALL *Greece* II. 346 Closing their wicker shields, and fixing them in the ground, so as to form a kind of breastwork before them. **1861** SMILES *Engineers* II. 236 The Hythe Military Canal . . . protected by a breastwork on the land side.

b. transf. and fig.

1808 CARLYLE *Misc.* (1857) I. 230 Behind the outmost breastwork of gentility. **1881** DE QUINCEY *Confess.* Wks. I. 103 This watery breastwork, a perpendicular wall of water carrying itself as true as if controlled by a mason's plumb-line.

2. In various technical uses: *a.* *Naut.* 'A sort of balustrade of rails, mouldings, or stanchions which terminates the quarter-deck and poop at the fore ends' (Smyth *Sailor's Word-bk.*); see also *quot.* 1870. *b.* *Arch.* The parapet of a building. *c.* = BREASTING 2.

1769 FALCONER *Dict. Marine* (1789), *Breastwork* . . . frequently decorated with sculpture. **1880** *Kudim. Navig.* (Weale) 101 The breast-work . . . serves to make a separation from the main-deck. **1870** *Daily News* 27 Sept. Having the space occupied by the turrets, funnel, hatch-ways, &c., raised seven or eight feet above the low deck. The armoured sides of this superstructure Mr. Reed calls the 'breastwork'. **1875** *USE Dict. Arts* II. 849 A good example of the form of iron buckets employed in the breast wheel . . . is shown in fig. 1178: *a.* shrouding . . . *a.* breastwork.

Breath (brēp). *Forms:* 1 *brēp*, *Anglian* brēp, 2-3 *brēp*, 3-6 *breth*, 4 *breoth*, *breop*, *brēp* (e, 4-6 *brethe*, 6 *breathe*, 6 *breath*. [OE. *brēp*, *brēp* odour, smell, exhalation as of anything cooking or burning; -WGer. type **brēp*-, OTeut. **brēp*o-s; -Aryan **bhrēto*-, with original sense 'exhalation from heat, steam, reek', f. root **bhrē*-, Teut. **brē*-, to burn, heat: see BREDE v. 1, and BROOD. Thus related to OHG. *brādam*, MHG. *bradem*, Ger. *brödem* 'exhalation, vapour, steam'; -OTeut. type **brēp*mo-s; -Aryan *bhrē*-*mo*- (cf. Skr. *ā-tman*, etc.), f. same root. The sense passed in Eng. through that of 'heated air expired from the lungs' (often manifest to the sense of smell, as in 'strong breath') to 'the air in the lungs or mouth', thus taking the place of OE. *æðm*, early ME. *ēðem* (see ETHEM), and ME. ANDE, ONDE, Sc. *aund*, *aynd*, from Old Norse. The original long vowel of OE. *brēp* has only recently been shortened; the 16th c. (*brēp*) having become (*brēp*), instead of (*brēp*) as in the verb BREATHE.]

† 1. Odour, smell, scent. *Obs.*

893 K. ÆLFRED *Oros.* vi. xxxii. § 2 þa ongon se cealc mid ungemete stincan; þa wearp Iunianus mid þæm bræpe oismorod. **a. 1100** *Agg. Voc.* in Wr. Wülcker 3 *Odor*, *bræp*. **c. 1275** *Lamb. Hom.* 153 Hwenne þe nose bið open to smelle unlofne brēð. **a. 1340** HAMPOLE *Pr. Consc.* 613 He may se fra his body com . . . Alkyn filthe with stynkand brethe. **c. 1400** *Distr. Troy* 8804 Bawme, þat was bright, & of brethe noble.

2. An exhalation or vapour given forth by heated objects, etc.; steam, smoke, reek. *Obs. exc.* as in *b.*

a. 1300 *Pop. Treat. Sc.* 203 (Wright) 136 Both of the see and of fersch water he draweth up the breth. **a. 1340** HAMPOLE *Pr. Consc.* 4727 Blode and fire and brethe of smoke. **1398** *TREVISIA Barth. De P. R.* xvii. xxvi. (1495) 619 Whan canell is broke therof comyth a breth as it were a myste. **1561** HOLLYBUSH *Hom. Apoth.* 3 Hold thy nose over it that the vapor or hot breth ascende into thy head. **1667** MILTON *P. L.* iv. 806 Like gentle breaths from Rivers pure.

b. (with influence of sense 3): The air exhaled from anything, or impregnated with its exhalations,

and retaining its characteristic odour. Also *fig.* Cf. AIR.

1605 BACON *Gardens, Ess.* (Arb.) 557 Because the Breath of Flowers is farre Sweeter in the Aire . . . then in the hand. **1830** TENNYSON *A Spirit haunts* 18 The moist rich smell of the rotting leaves, And the breath Of the fading edges of box beneath. **1837** NEWMAN *Par. Sermon* (ed. 2) III. x. 147 Full of the . . . breath of the grave. **1874** BLACKIE *Self-Cult.* 43 What a student should specially see to . . . is not to carry the breath of books with him wherever he goes.

c. with a mixture of the sense of 'puff': A little of the air, a whiff.

1873 BLACK *Pr. Thule* xxv. 424 The remote islands, where a stranger brought . . . a breath of the outer world with him.

3. *a.* The air exhaled from the lungs, originally as made manifest by smell, or as a visible exhalation; hence *b.* generally, The air received into and expelled from the lungs in the act of respiration. *To draw breath:* to inhale air, breathe; hence, to live: also *to spend, waste (one's) breath* (as in unprofitable speech). This is now the main sense, which colours all others.

a. **c. 1340** *Cursor M.* 3573 (Trin.) Teep to rote, bræp [earlier MSS. ande] to stynke. **c. 1386** CHAUCER *Pardoner's T.* 224 Sour is the breeth. **1398** *TREVISIA Barth. De P. R.* v. xxxvii. (1495) 152 Changyng of breth comyth of vnyuersall corrupcion of the inner membes. **1601** SHAKS. *Jul. C.* i. ii. 249 The rabblement . . . vttered such a deale of stinking breath. **1642** FULLER *Holy & Prof. St.* iv. xviii. 333 A Swede fights best when he can see his own breath. **1842** T. MARTIN in *Fraser's Mag.* Dec. You will oblige me by keeping your own breath to cool your own porridge. *Mod.* His breath smelling strong of alcohol.

b. **c. 1440** *Promp. Parv.* 50 Brethe, *anellus*. **1535** COVERDALE *Pr.* cxxxiv(v). 16 They heare not, nether is there any brath in their mouthes. **c. 1534** *Pilgrim's T.* 476 in Thynne *Animadu.* App. i. 90 That ever it dreu brethe. **1697** DRYDEN *Virg. Georg.* iv. 699 Draw the vital breath of upper Air. **1712** STEELE *Spect.* No. 426 P. 2 Within ten Hours after the Breath is out of the Body. **1713** BERNKLEY *Hylas & P.* iii. Wks. 1871 I. 321, I will no longer spend my breath in defence of it. **1809** W. IRVING *Knickerb.* (1861) 157 Even the inhabitants of New-Amsterdam began to draw short breath. **1842** TENNYSON *Morte d'Arth.* 148 Then spoke King Arthur, drawing thicker breath. **1850** — *In Mem.* cxx. I trust I have not wasted breath.

c. *transf.* The wind blown into a musical instrument. *poet.*

1605 SHAKS. *Macb.* v. vi. 19 Make all our Trumpets speak, giue them all breath. **1697** DRYDEN *Virg. Georg.* ii. 789 Before the Breath Of brazen Trumpets rung the Peals of Death. **1870** BROWNING *La Saisiaz* 36 But the soul is not the body: and the breath is not the flute.

d. *fig.* Taken as the type of things unsubstantial, volatile, or fleeting.

1593 SHAKS. *Lucr.* 212 A dream, a breath, a froth of fleeting joy. **1603** — *Meas. for M.* iii. i. 8 A breath thou art, Scruile to all the skye-influences.

† 4. A gentle blowing, a puff; now usually of air or of wind; but in early times used absolutely in sense of 'wind, breeze, air in motion'.

c. 1325 E. E. *Allit. P. C.* 107 Þe blype bræpe at her bak þe bosum he fyndes. *Ibid.* 138 When boþe bræpes con blowe vpon blo watteres. **c. 1400** *Destr. Troy* 3607 Þe bre and the brethe burbelit to gedur. **1607** CAPT. SMITH *Seaman's Gram.* x. 46 There is not a breath of wind stirring. **1711** STEELE *Spect.* No. 167 P. 3 The least Breath of Wind has often demolished my magnificent Edifices. **1802** SHELLEY *Hellas* 4 Sweet as a summer night without a breath. **1833** H. MARTINEAU *Manch. Strike* vi. 67 A breath of fresh air came in. **1860** TYNDALL *Glac.* i. § 18. 133 There was not a breath of air stirring.

b. In the 'breath of summer', 'of morn', etc. there is almost always an admixture, great or small, of a *fig.* use of senses 2 b, 3 a.

c. 1386 CHAUCER *Prolog.* 5 Whan Zephirus eek with his swete breeth Inspired hath . . . the tendre croppes. **c. 1600** SHAKS. *Sonn.* liv. When summers breath their masked buds discloses. **1775** SHERIDAN *Duenna* i. i. 185 The breath of morn bids hence the night. **1821** BYRON *Sardan.* l. ii. 575 Can I not even breathe The breath of heaven?

c. *fig.* In such phrases as 'the breath of popular favour' (cf. Lat. *popularis aura*), the original notion of the breath of favouring wind which fills the sails, is much mixed with that of spoken or whispered breath, and sometimes with other of the later senses.

a. 1639 WOTTON *Char. Happy Life in Relig. Wotton.* Untide unto the world by care Of Publike fame or private breath. **1692** SOUTH *12 Sermon* (1697) I. 32 The Mind can . . . quickly feel the thinness of a popular Breath. **a. 1703** BURKITT *On N. T.* Mark I. 45 Christ retires from the breath of popular applause. **1790** GOUVE. MORRIS in *Sparks Life & Writ.* (1832) II. 96 They must patiently wait the breath of the Assemblée, and follow as it blows. **1874** H. REYNOLDS *John Bapt.* i. § 4. 35 Forced into new attitudes by the changing breath of human appreciation.

5. The faculty or action of breathing, respiration. Hence, breathing existence, spirit, life; so *breath of life, breath of the nostrils*.

a. 1300 *Seven Sins* 41 in E. E. P. (1862) 19 Þe deuil benimþ him is brēp. **1325** WYCLIF *Gen.* ii. 7 And spiride in to the face of hym an entre of breth of lijf. **c. 1386** CHAUCER *Knts. T.* 2194 Whan with honour vp yolden is his breeth. **1587** *Mirr. Mag.*, *Alban lxx.* Now faint I feele, my breath begins to fayle. **1611** SHAKS. *Wint. T.* v. i. 83 When your first Queene's againe in breath. **1611** BIBLE *Gen.* vii. 22 All in whose noses is the breath of life. **1738** WESLEY *Psalm* No. 121. v. He guards our Souls, he keeps our Breath. **1821** CLARE *Vill. Ministr.* i. 169 Now, poor puss! thou'st lost thy breath. And decent laid the moulds beneath

1850 TENNYSON *In Mem.* xxxvi. And so the Word had breath.

b. *To catch or hold one's breath*: to check suddenly or suspend the act of respiration. Also *fig.*

1719 DE FOE *Crusoe* iii. I held my breath. I was ready to burst with holding my breath. 1816 BYRON *Ch. Har.* iii. lxxxiv. In his fair fix'd Passion holds his breath, until the hour Which shall atone for years. 1833 MARRIAT *P. Simple* xlviii. 'I see her', replied I, catching my breath with joy. 1864 *Glasgow Her.* 11 June. It also catches my breath and makes me cough.

6. An act of breathing; a single respiration. Hence phrases: *In (with) one or the same breath, at a breath, etc.*

1483 *Cath. Angl.* 43 A Breth; *vbi* ande. 1489 CAXTON *Faytes of A. H.* xxxix. 164 Taughte to . . . plunge in to the watre and wyth a long breth to kepe them self therynne. 1571 *Buchanan's Detect.* Mary in H. Campbell *Love-lett.* Mary Q. Scots (1824) 148 When she cannot stay him in life, cometh she to receive his last breath? 1588 *Marprel. Epist.* (Arb.) 3. I cannot very often at one breath come to a full point. 1634 QUARLES *Embl.* i. (1818) 58 Thou swallowest at one breath Both food and poison down. 1717 POPE *Eloisa* 333 Till ev'ry motion, pulse, and breath, be o'er. 1850 Mrs. Stowe *Uncle Tom* xvii. 160 I'll fight to the last breath, before they shall take my wife and son. 1858 HAWTHORNE *Fr. & L. Jmils.* i. 83 In the space of half a dozen breaths. 1867 FREEMAN *Norm. Cong.* (1876) i. vi. 506 The Chroniclers speak of it in the same breath with the election of Harold.

7. Power of breathing, free or easy breathing. Chiefly in phrases: e.g. *Out of breath*: breathing with difficulty, breathless; so *in breath* (obs.), *to get, keep, lose one's breath, to put out of breath.*

1590 SHAKS. *Com. Err.* iv. i. 57 You run this humor out of breath. 1608 — *Ham.* v. ii. 282 The King shall drinke to Hamlets better breath. 1603 KNOLLES *Hist. Turkes* (1621) 1254 The Turkes yet in breath . . . gave an attempt unto the high Towne. 1788 COWPER *J. Gilpin* xi. Away went Gilpin out of breath. 1820 SCOTT *Lady of L.* i. vii. Two dogs. . . Unmatched for courage, breath, and speed. 1859 TENNYSON *Elaine* 421 At last he got his breath and answer'd.

b. *To take breath, to breathe freely, to recover free breathing, as by pausing after exertion.* Also *fig.*

1581 NOWELL & DAY in *Confer.* i. (1584) Gijj. Some of vs were fayne to go out of the chauncel to take breath. 1581 J. BELL *Haddon's Answ. Oor.* 401 To pause awhile, and to take breath upon good advise, what were best to be done. 1828-41 TYTLER *Hist. Scot.* (1864) i. 112 They sat down to take breath.

8. Opportunity or time for breathing; exercise of the respiratory organs. Also *fig.*

1594 SHAKS. *Rich. III.* iv. ii. 24 Give me some litle breath, some pawse, deare Lord. 1606 SHAKS. *Tr. & Cr.* ii. iii. 121 He hopes it is no other. But for your health, and your digestion sake, An after Dinners breath. — iv. v. 92 Their fight . . . either to the vtermost Or else a breath. 1673 TEMPLE *Observ. U. Prov.* Wks. 1731 i. 24 The great Breath that was given the States in the Heat of their Affairs.

† b. Of mines, etc.: *To have breath*: to have free passage for foul air or gas. *Obs. rare.*

1599 HAKLUTT *Voy.* II. i. 83 The mine had vent or breath in two places.

9. *transf.* Whisper, utterance, articulate sound, speech; judgement or will expressed in words.

1577 LANGL. *P. Pl.* B. xiv. 61 Porw his breth mowen men & bestes luyen. *Ibid.* xviii. 319 With þat breth helle brake. 1599 J. HART *Orthogr.* 6 To use as many letters in our writing as we do voyces or breathes in speaking. 1599 SHAKS. *Much Ado* v. i. 273 Art thou the slau that with thy breath hast kild mine innocent child? 1612 T. TAYLOR *Comm. Titus* i. 0 Noting in one breath of Bellarmine three errors. 1790 WATTS *Div. Songs* xvii. iii. Hard names . . . and threatening words, That are but noisy breath. 1770 GOLDSM. *Des. Vill.* 54 A breath can make them, as a breath has made. 1765 BURNS *Cotter's Sat.* vi. xix. Princes and lords are but the breath of kings. 1830 TENNYSON *Dream F. W.* ii. Dan Chaucer, the first warbler, whose sweet breath Pre-luded those melodious bursts. 1873 JOWETT *Plato* (ed. 2) V. 114 There is an undoubted power in public opinion when no breath is heard adverse to the law.

b. *Below or under one's breath*: in a low voice or whisper. *Bated breath*: see *BATED ppl. a.*

1823 LYTTON *Eng. Aram* i. iii. Hush, said Ellinor under her breath. 1865 J. USSHER *Land. to Persep.* The Armenian woman can only talk in her own house below her breath.

10. *Phonology.* Voiceless expiration of air, forming a hiss, whiff, puff, or similar sound. *attrib.*, as in *breath consonant*, a consonant formed by the breath in the mouth without the action of the vocal chords: such are the sounds k, t, p, x, f, s, þ, f. 1867 MELVILLE *Bell Visible Speech* 49 When the breath, or the voice, is moulded by precise dispositions of the parts of the mouth. *Ibid.* 70 The Breath-glide. 1874 SWEET *Hist. Eng. Sounds* 76 To determine the laws which govern the distribution of the breath þ and f, and the voice ð and v. 1879 — in *Philol. Soc. Trans.* 471 Swedish . . . final voiced stops . . . seem to be shorter than in English, and to have a stronger breath off-glide.

11. *Comb.*, as *breath-bereaving, -blown, -catching, -giver, -giving, -stopping*; *breath-bubble*, a bubble blown by the breath; *fig.* an empty thing, a trifle; † *breath-room*, room for breathing, breathing-space; † *breath-seller*, one who sells perfumes or scents; also, one who speaks for pay; *breath-sounds*, respiratory sounds heard in auscultation; *breath-tainted a.*, having tainted or foul breath; also *fig.*

1618 BATHWAT *Descr. Death* In Farr's *S. P.* (1848) 270 A 'breath-bereaving breath. . . He comes . . . to rid us of our

fears. 1807 HOOD *Hera & L.* xxxviii. A 'breath-blown dart Shot sudden from an Indian's hollow cane. 1835 BROWNING *Paracelsus* i. 30 Painted toys, 'Breath-bubbles, gilded dust. 1868 Mrs. H. WOOD *Flowers in Argosy* June. 'What's killing him?' cried Sale, with . . . a sort of 'breath-catching. 1609 *Metamorph. Tobacco* (Collier) 9 'Breath-giving herbe. 1669 WORLIDGE *Syst. Agric.* viii. § 3. 161 Leaving the Plant a little 'Breath-room in the middle. 1601 CORNWALLIS *Ess.* ii. xlix. (1631) 310 Call in those 'breath-sellers, and perfumers. 1603 FLORIO *Montaigne* i. xxii. (1632) 52 A fourth estate of Lawyers, 'breathsellers, and pettifoggers. 1645 QUARLES *Sol. Recant.* i. 42 An old 'Breath-tainted Churl.

Breathable (brē'āb'l). [*f.* BREATHE *v.* + -ABLE.] Fit or agreeable to breathe, or to be inhaled; respirable.

1721 in BAILEY II. 1849 J. WILSON in *Blackw. Mag.* LXVI. 9 How breathable the atmosphere!

Hence *Breathableness* (in mod. Dicts.).

Breath (brēth), *v.* Forms: 4 *brethi*, 4-5 *brethon*, 4-6 *brethe*, *breeth*, 5 *brethyn*, 6-8 *breath*, 5- *breaths*. [*ME.* *brethe(n)*, *f.* *breth*, *BREATH* — not formed in OE. The verb retains the original long vowel with ð for þ between two vowels (*brethen*, etc.): cf. *mouth, mouths, to mouth*.]

1. *intr.* † 1. To exhale, steam, evaporate. *Obs.* a 1300 *Fragm. Pop. Sc.* (Wr.) 302 The sonne . . . maketh wateres brethi up as hi schulde swete. 1559 MORWYN *Evonym.* 108 Heet them in a vessell diligently covered, that nothing breeth out. *Ibid.* 212 Close it, that the spirits brethe not out. 1560 P. WHITEHORNE *Ordering of Souldours* (1573) 28 b. Putting them into a grete yearthen pottle. . . lute it, or daube it very well aboute, so that it cannot breathe. 1594 PLAT *Jewell-ho.* iii. 26 By this meanes a small quantity of . . . water will be a long time in breathing out. 1608 SHAKS. *Per.* iii. ii. 94 A warmth breathes out of her. 1670 LASSALL *Voy. Italy* (1698) II. 189 The infectious vapour which breatheth out of this sulphurous ground.

† 2. To emit odour, to smell. Now only *fig.* with reference to sense 3.

c 1400 *Destr. Troy* 9119 Bame & . . . balsaum, þat brethid full swete. c 1468 in *Ord. R. Househ.* (1790) 40 To make amongst them other swete fumes, things to make them breathe most holesomly and delectable. 1712 POPE *Rape Lock* i. 134 All Arabia breathes from yonder box.

b. *fig.* To be redolent of.

1607 DRYDEN *Virg. Georg.* iv. 602 Down from his Head the liquid Odours ran, He breath'd of Heav'n, and look'd above a Man. 1822 TENNYSON *Mariana in South vi.* Old letters, breathing of her worth. 1842 — *Audley Cri.* 7 Francis just alighted from the boat, And breathing of the sea.

3. Of animals: a. To exhale air from the lungs.

1308 TREVISIA *Barth. De P.* R. iii. v. (1495) 52 He makyth the body spirare (that is to breathe). 1506 TINDALE *John* xx. 22 He breathed upon them (Wyclif, he blew on hem), and sayde vnto them: Receaue the holy goost. 1579 GOLDING *De Morney* ix. 122 If a man do but breath vpon them they vanish into smoke.

b. To exhale and inhale, to respire. The ordinary current sense, which colours all the others.

1377 [see *BREATHING* *vbl. sb.* 1]. c 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 50 Brethyn or ondyn, *spiro, anelo, aspiri.* c 1450 LONELICH *Graill* xxxviii. 359 Onethis there brethen they myhte. 1483 *Cath. Angl.* 43 To Brethe. *spiritum trahere.* *vbi* to Ande. 1593 HOOKER *Ecccl. Pol.* i. xvi. § 5 When we breathe, sleep, move. 1610 SHAKS. *Temp.* iv. i. 45 Before you can say come, and goe, And breathe twice. 1726 BUTLER *Serm.* xi. 212 The Air in which we breathe. 1842 TENNYSON *Morte d'Arth.* 162 And answer made King Arthur, breathing hard.

† c. *transf.* of plants. *Obs. rare.*

1574 HVL *Confect. Weather* i. The seedes in the earth . . . cannot then breath forth. 1664 EVELYN *Kal. Hort.* (1729) 228 Their [plants] 'being kept from Breathing (as I presume to call it).

d. *trans.* To bring (to, into a state) by breathing.

1816 BYRON *Ch. Har.* iii. lxxix. This breathed itself to life in Julie.

4. To draw the breath of life; to live, exist.

1328 WYCLIF *Joshua* x. 40 Alle that myyten breeth he slow3. 1504 SHAKS. *Rich. III.* i. l. 161 Clarence still breathes, Edward still liues and raignes. 1674 FLATMAN *Job* i. Few be the days, that feeble man must breath. 1713 POPE *Windsor F.* 300 What Kings first breath'd upon her winding shore. 1873 BLACK *Pr. Thule* xvii. 274 A better-intentioned fellow does not breathe.

b. with predicative sb. or adj.

1593 SHAKS. 3 *Hen. VI.* iii. i. 82 Why? Am I dead? Do I not breath a Man? 1608 ARMIN *Nest Ninn.* (1842) 7 The World. askt if it were possible such breathe here to commande. c 1600 Z. BOYD *Zion's Flowers* (1855) 67 Hee'le say our house yet never breathed scant. 1826 DISRAELI *Viv. Grey* iv. iv. 153 Within five minutes you will breathe a beggar and an outcast.

c. *fig.* To live. *To breathe through*: to animate, inform.

1732 POPE *Ess. Man* i. 275 One stupendous whole . . . That . . . Breathes in our soul, informs our mortal part. 1862 STANLEY *Jew. Ch.* (1877) i. v. 102 Its effect on Israel . . . still moves and breathes amongst us. 1865 M. ARNOLD *Ess. Crit.* ix. (1875) 386 Certain governing ideas of Spinoza . . . which breathe through all his works.

d. *fig.* To be alive with.

a 1881 DISRAELI (O.) The staircase in fresco . . . breathed with the loves and wars of gods and heroes.

5. To take breath (see *BREATH* 7 b); *fig.* to pause, take rest. *To breathe again* (*fig.*): to recover from anxiety, excitement, etc.; to be relieved in mind. *To breathe freely*: to be at ease; to be in one's element.

1577 HOLINSHED *Chron.* III. 1137/1 Without giuing anie long time to the residue of the guides . . . to breath vpon þeir businesse. 1595 SHAKS. *John* iv. ii. 137 Now I breath

againe Aloft the flood. 1597 HOOKER *Ecccl. Pol.* v. lxxv. § 8 If . . . only to breathe between troubles may be termed quietnesse. 1607 CAPT. SMITH *Seaman's Gram.* xiii. 60 Let vs breathe and refresh a litle. 1720 OZELL *Vertol's Rom. Rep.* II. xiv. 331 With Orders to give Antony no Time to Breathe, but to pursue him forthwith. 1839 THIRLWALL *Greene* i. 333 War was the element in which the Spartan seems to have breathed most freely. 1859 TENNYSON *Enid* 567 Twice they fought, and twice they breathed.

† 6. *fig.* *To breathe to, after*: to aspire to, pant after, long to attain to. *Obs.*

1544 *St. Papers Hen. VIII.* IV. 245 The saide Archebushop bretheth myche to honour. a 1593 H. SMITH *Serm.* (1866) II. 330 Let us breathe after the fountain of the living water. a 1602 W. WATSON *Decad.* 154 Whilest the Spaniard was a breathing to have gotten the Kingdom, if he could. 1603 KNOLLES *Hist. Turkes* (1621) 428 We see the Turkes . . . breathing after our destruction. 1734 WATTS *Reliq. Jew.* (1789) 257 Set it a breathing after eternal things.

7. *transf.* To give forth audible breath or sound; to speak, sing, etc.

1598 SHAKS. *Merry W.* iv. v. 2 Speake, breathe, discusse. 1607 — *Timon* III. v. 59 You breathe in vaine. 1632 MILTON *Penser.* 151 As I wake, sweet music breathe. 1842 TENNYSON *Two Voices* 434 A hint, a whisper breathing low.

8. Of wind, air, etc.: To blow softly. (Cf. 3 a.)

1610 SHAKS. *Temp.* ii. i. 46 The ayre breathes vpon vs here most sweetly. 1704 POPE *Windsor F.* 136 Where cooling vapours breathe along the mead. 1830 TENNYSON *Godiva* 55 The low wind hardly breathed for fear. 1884 W. C. SMITH *Kildrostan* 48 The wind that breathes upon the woods.

9. *To breathe upon* (*fig.*): to infect or contaminate; to tarnish (as if with breath); to taint, corrupt. Cf. *blow upon*, *blow v.* 30.

1591 SHAKS. *Two Gent.* v. iv. 131 Take but possession of her, with a Touch: I dare thee, but to breath vpon my Love. 1820 BYRON *Mar. Fal.* v. i. 429 When the proud name on which they pinnacled Their hopes is breathed on. 1859 TENNYSON *Enid* 1799 Before the Queen's fair name was breathed upon.

11. *trans.*

10. To exhale, to emit by expiration (*out*); *fig.* to send or infuse into, communicate by breathing.

1328 WYCLIF *Lament.* ii. 12 When thei shuld brethen out ther soules in the bosom of ther modris. 1388 — *Gen.* ii. 7 The Lord God . . . brethide in to his face the breathing of liif. c 1590 MARLOWE *Massacre Paris* iii. ii. Breathe out that life wherein my death was hid. 1593 SHAKS. 2 *Hen. VI.* iv. i. 7 Who . . . from their misty lawes Breath foule contagious darknesse in the ayre. 1871 R. ELLIS *Catullus* lxiv. 104 Her unvoic'd lips breathed incense faintly to heaven. 1873 MORLEY *Rousseau* I. 313 He breathed new life into them.

b. *transf.* of things.

1647 W. BROWNE *Poet.* i. 339 The resolution that hatred can breath into haughty courages. 1667 MILTON *P. L.* ii. 244 His Altar breathes Ambrosial Odours. *Ibid.* iii. 609 What wonder then if fields and regions here Breathe forth Elixir pure. 1788 COWPER *Table T.* 294 Place me where Winter breathes his keenest air. 1839 ARNOLD in *Stanley Life* II. ix. (1858) 140 The rocks actually breathing fragrance from the number of their aromatic plants.

c. *To breathe one's last or one's last breath or gasp*: to die, expire.

1593 SHAKS. 3 *Hen. VI.* v. ii. 40 Mountague hath breath'd his last. *Ibid.* ii. i. 108 Where your braue Father breath'd his latest gaspe. 1651 *Proc. Parliament* No. 82. 1247 The kingdome, languishing and ready to breath out her last. 1714 POPE *Rape Lock* iii. 158. 1850 TENNYSON *In Mem.* xviii. 5 Where he breathed his latest breath.

11. To inhale and exhale (air, etc.); to respire;

esp. to inhale, as in 'to breathe foul air'. Also *fig.*

1588 SHAKS. *L. L. L.* v. ii. 732. I breath free breath. 1622 SANDERSON 12 *Serm.* 472 The ayre we continually breath. a 1704 T. BROWN *Dh. Ormond's Recon.* Divine Alcides breathes celestial air. 1810 HENRY *Elem. Chem.* (1826) II. 605 A sensation . . . produced by breathing the fumes of burning sulphur. 1876 BROWNING *La Saitias* 17 Wreaths . . . that intercept the air one breathes. *Mod.* Free as the air we breathe.

12. To give utterance to: a. To utter in the most quiet way; to whisper, make known, communicate.

1595 SHAKS. *John* iv. ii. 36 To this effect . . . We breath'd our Councell. a 1674 CLARENDON *Hist. Reb.* (1702) I. iii. 203 Few men to whom he could breath his Conscience. 1819 SCOTT *Ivanhoe* II. i. 20 But the petition was already breathed. a 1847 R. HAMILTON *Rev. & Punishm.* viii. (1853) 378 No intimation of hope is breathed. *Mod.* I would not breathe it to another.

b. To utter with vehemence or passion. Also with *out*.

1535 COVERDALE *Acts* ix. 1 Saul was yet breathing out threatenings and slaughter agaynst the disciples of the Lorde. 1596 SPENSER *F. Q.* i. vi. 38 Two knights . . . Both breathing vengeance. 1611 COTGR. s.v. *Moyen duc.* Now and then breath out horrible shrikes. 1648 JENKYN *Blind Guide* i. 3 He breathes out reproaches. 1720 OZELL *Vertol's Rom. Rep.* II. x. 153 Marius . . . breathed nothing but Blood and Slaughter. 1809 J. BARLOW *Columb.* iii. 22 The nations . . . Breathe deadly strife, and sigh for battle's glare.

c. To express, manifest, evince, display.

1667 MILTON *P. L.* i. 554 Such as . . . in stead of rage Deliverate valour breath'd. 1780 HARRIS *Philol. Eng.* (1841) 482 A custom breathing their liberal and noble disposition. 1792 S. ROGERS *Pleas. Mem.* ii. 12 Whose language breathed the eloquence of Truth. 1846 WRIGHT *Ess. Mid. Ages* i. ii. 61 Passages which breathe the true spirit of poetry. 1862 STANLEY *Jew. Ch.* (1877) i. xiii. 251 The whole period, breathes a primitive simplicity.

13. *trans.* and *refl.* To let breathe; to give breathing, or a breathing space to; to recreate.

1563-77 FOXE *A. & M.* (1566) 252/1 The Kings permission to him granted, to breath himselfe a little and to walke abroad. 1596 DANETT *Comines* (1614) 304 When we had breathed our horses, wee riddle forth a fast trot towards the King. 1642 FULLER *Holy & Prof.* St. iv. xvi. 324 Stopping... to breath himself and the Reader. 1824 SOUTHEY *Life & Corr.* (1850) v. 177 Taking up a book for five or ten minutes, by way of breathing myself. 1835 WILLIS *Pencilings* II. liv. 122 We dismounted here to breathe our horses.

14. To excite the respiratory organs of: hence

† a. to exercise briskly; to accustom to by exercise (obs.). b. to put out of breath, exhaust, tire.

[1430-1525 See BREATHED 1.]

1597 TURBEV. in *Thynne's Animadv.* Introd. 143 You breath your foming steeds Athwart the fields. 1598 B. JONSON *Ev. Man in Hum.* l. v. 127 He send for one of these Fencers, and hee shall breath you. 1601 SHAKS. *All's Well* II. iii. 271, I think thou wast created for men to breath themselves vpon thee. 1611 HAYWOOD *Gold. Age* II. i. Wks. 1874 III. 32 Not haue I yet bene to these pastimes breath'd. 1655 *Whole Duty Man* l. § 52. 11 He that expects to run a race will beforhand be often breathing himself. 1676 F. VERNON in *Phil. Trans.* II. 580 The Plains of Elis are... fit to breath Horses in. 1806 F. COOPER *Mohicans* (1829) II. xv. 232 The warriors who had breathed themselves so freely in the preceding struggle. 1847 TENNYSON *Princess* Prol. 113 He had breath'd the Proctor's dogs. 1884 MISS BRADDON *Ishmael* II. 183 He was a little breathed when he stood before the door.

15. To give breath to (a wind instrument); to blow.

a 1721 PRIOR *Solomon* III. Wks. (1835) II. 178 They breathe the flute, or strike the vocal wire. 1768 JUDAS *Macc.* III. 18 See the Godlike Youth advance, Breathe the Flutes, and lead the Dance. 1822 [See BREATHED 4.]

16. To breathe a vein: to give vent to it; to lance it so as to let blood. arch. or 1 Obs.

1652 FRENCH *Yorkish Spa* x. 95 Have a vein breathed. 1655 CULPEPPER *Riverius* l. v. 53 If the Liver be hot... we must breath a Vein. 1748 RICHARDSON *Clarissa* (1811) VIII. 120 They were forced to breathe a vein to bring her to herself. 1756 P. BROWNE *Jamaica* 25. 1836 MARRYAT *Japhet* iv. 10 Permitting me to breathe a vein in his own arm.

Breathed, ppl. a. [f. BREATHE v. and BREATH sb. + -ED. In early instances it is not easy to separate the verbal from the noun-derivative, nor to fix the pronunciation.]

I. From the vb. (now brīd, brīēd).

1. Exercised, put into breath, in (good) wind; esp. in well-breathed, and the like.

1430 LYDG. *Chron.* Troy l. vi. Though he be best brethed to endure. 1525 LD. BERNERS *Froiss.* II. cxxxvi. [cxxxii.] 380 Rode forth an easy pace to kepe their horses well brethed. 1596 SHAKS. *Tam. Shr.* Induct. ii. Thy grayhounds are as swift As brethed Stags. 1637 HEYWOOD *Roy. King* v. ix. Wks. 1874 VI. 79 The Falcon better breath'd, seiz'd on the Eagle. 1676 R. LESTRANGE *Seneca's Mor.* (1702) 343 A Footman that is not breath'd, cannot keep pace with his Master's Horse. 1704 POPE *Windsor F.* 121 To plains with well-breath'd heagles we repair.

b. fig. † Lust-breathed (in Shaks.): animated or inspired by lust, or breathing lust (cf. *well-read, fair-spoken*).

1594 SHAKS. *Lucr.* 3 Lust-breathed Tarquin. 1607 — *Timon* l. i. 10 A most incomparable man, breath'd as it were, To a vntyreable and continuat goodness. 1647 WARD *Simp. Cobler* 14 It is a most toylsome taske to runne the wild-goose chase after a well-breath'd Opinionist. 1681 DRYDEN *Alb. & Achil.* 631 To speak the rest, who better are forgot, Would tire a well-breath'd Witness of the Plot.

2. Put out of breath, exhausted, winded.

1599 PORTER *Angry Wom.* *Abingd.* in Hazl. *Dodsley* VII. 358 As good as a cry of hounds, to make a breath'd hare of me!

3. Exhaled, respired, inhaled and exhaled; uttered in a breath, whispered.

1579 SPENSER *Sheph. Cal.* Jan. 40 The blossome... With breathed sighes is blowne away, and blasted. 1596 — *F. O.* II. iii. 7 Vile Caytiue... Vnworthie of the commune breathed aire. 1609 MILTON *Ode Nativ.* 179 No nightly trance, or breathed spell, Inspires the pale-eyed priest. 1861 SMILES *Engineers* II. 220 The exhausted or breathed air.

4. Of wind-instruments: Played upon; cf. BREATHE v. 15. poet.

1822 PROCTOR (B. Cornwall) *Lyd. Sforza* l. 16 Like numbers floating from the breathed flute.

† 5. *Breathed ware*: † tarnished goods; 'BRAIDED ware'.

1661 DAVENPORT *City Nt.-Cap* iv. in *Dodsley* (1780) XI. 326 We vent no breath'd ware here.

II. From the sb. (now brept).

6. Having breath; as in long-breathed: long-winded, or long-lived. (The 2 early quot. are doubtful.)

1555 *Faville Facions* II. xi. 260 Damoselles... softe as the Silke, and breathed like the Rose. 1628 EARLE *Microcosm.* xviii. 38 The rooms are ill breath'd. 1649 SELDEN *Laws Eng.* l. lxiv. (1739) 132 Had the King been a little longer breathed with patience, he might have had his will upon easier terms. 1816 SCOTT *Antiq.* xxi. 'They werena a lang breathed generation, I reckon'. 1884 *Mind* Jan. 125 It requires a long-breathed reader to accompany him through his devious course.

7. Phonology. Uttered with breath as opposed to voice; surd; cf. SONANT.

1877 SWEET *Handbk. Phonetics* 31 Consonants can therefore be breath as well as voiced.

Breather (brī'θai). [f. BREATHE v. + -ER 1.]

1. He who, or that which, breathes; one who lives, a living being, creature, animal.

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c 1600 SHAKSPEARE *Sonn.* lxxxi. When all the breathers of this world are dead. 1606 — *Ant. & Cl.* III. iii. 24 She shewes a body, rather than a life, A Statue, then a Breather. 1674 N. FAIRFAX *Bulk & Selo.* 135 Those reasonless breathers that live under us. 1850 TENNYSON *In Mem.* cxviii. 6 Breathers of an ampler day.

† 2. He who, or that which, supplies breath; fig. inspirer, animator.

1615 CROOKE *Body of Man* 354 Callett it [the midriff] the breather or bellows of the lower belly. a 1711 NORRIS (J.) The breather of all life does now expire.

3. A spell of exercise taken to stimulate the breathing, or to try the wind; cf. BREATHE 8. Also, that which puts out of breath, or exhausts.

a 1836 COLMAN *Poor Gent.* iv. 11 (L.) Here we are at last—that hill's a breather. 1861 WHYTE MELVILLE *Mt. Harb.* 229 They gave the hapless 'Marathon' a spin with 'Chance', as a mere breather. 1884 *Cyclist* 13 Feb. 249/1 Cyclists are looking forward to being able to take a 'breather' during the present week.

4. One who breathes forth, speaks, proclaims.

1380 WYCLIF *Acts* ix. 1 Saul, 31t brethere, or blowers, of manassiss and betyng. 1603 SHAKS. *Mens. for M.* iv. 31 For my Authority beares of a credent bulke, That no particular scandall once can touch But it confounds the breather. 1612 T. JAMES *Jewells Downe* 8 These are the very first brokers, breathers and brothers of contention abroad. 1812 L. HUNT in *Examiner* 14 Dec. 1871/2 This Breather of Eloquence could not say a few decent words.

Breathful (bre'fūl), a. [f. BREATHE + -FUL.]

Full of breath or air; having breath or life, alive;

breathing perfume, redolent, odorous.

1593 STANHYURST *Enaid* III. (Arb.) 81 How fares Ascanius? doth he live, and breathful abideth? 1590 SPENSER *Mutopol.* 195 Fresh Costmarie, and breathfull Camomill. 1596 — *F. O.* iv. v. 38 The breathfull bellows blew amaine. 1593 BARNES *Parthen.* in Arb. *Garner* V. 350 Waste breathless words! and breathful sighs increase!

Breathing (brī'θīn), vbl. sb. [f. BREATHE v.]

1. Exhalation and inhalation of breath; respiration; a single act of respiration.

1377 LANGL. *P. Pl.* B. xi. 349 Some bryddes at þe bille þorwhg brethynghe conceyued. 1608 HIERON *Wks.* I. 736 Forsake mee not, I pray thee, in my last breathing. 1611 SHAKS. *Cymb.* II. ii. 18 'Tis her breathing that Perfumes the Chamber thus. 1691 WOOD *Ath. Oxon.* I. 260 Our author... surrendered up his last breathings in his house in Magd. Parish. 1813 SCOTT *Ld. of Isles* II. xxx. His breathing came more thick and fast. 1842 TENNYSON *Day Dream* 93.

b. The time in which a breath is drawn; a very short time.

1625 F. MARKHAM *Bk. Hon.* v. iv. § 1 Though it be but for a breathing, or short time. 1826 DISRAELI *Viv. Grey* III. vi. 116 It was there only for the breathing of a second.

c. Power of retaining the breath, 'wind'.

1607 OLDENBURG in *Phil. Trans.* II. 431 Pearl-fishers are fed with dry and roasted meat, to give them better breathing.

d. fig. Influence, inspiration.

1597 GOLDING *De Mornay* v. 56 The very benefite which we recieve by his loue, is secret and insensible through breathing which worketh in us. 1808 B. TAYLOR *Denkation* l. 23 Over all things huge and coarse There came the breathing of a regal sway.

† 2. Time to breathe, respite, pause, rest. Obs.

1598 BARRET *Theor. Warres* III. ii. 88 One troupe... ready to second another, and to give breathing one to another. 1641 J. JACKSON *True Evang.* T. 1. 32 The Church had no breathing for whole twenty yeares together. 1687 *London.* Gas. No. 2262/1 Having received some breathing by a Proclamation.

3. Exercise taken to stimulate the respiratory organs; a breather.

1755 *Mem. Capt. P. Drake* iv. 30, I used to go often... to take a Breathing with his Scholars. 1805 *Morning Star* 2 Feb. The Oxonians... took their first 'breathing' over the course from Oxford to Isley and back this afternoon.

4. Utterance, divulgence.

1606 SHAKS. *Ant. & Cl.* l. iii. 14, I am sorry to giue breathing to my purpose. 1611 BIBLE *Lament.* III. 55 Hide not thine eare at my breathing, at my crie.

5. Aspiration (after), longing (for).

a 1652 J. SMITH *Sel. Disc.* iv. 109 Those breathings and gaspings after an eternal participation of him. 1805 D. JOHNSTON *Serm. for Blind* 39 A pious mind can meditate upon God and send up holy breathings towards him. 1852 TUPPER *Proverb. Philos.* 205 Ye commune of hopes and aspirations, the fervent breathings of the heart.

6. Of the wind: Gentle blowing.

1635 SWAN *Spec. M.* v. § 2 (1643) 170 Redness of the skie... declare[s] that some spirits or windie breathings are above. 1781 COWPER *Retirement* 530 The breathings of the lightest air that blows. 1808 WORDSW. *Sonn.* 'To T. P. O'wv.' There's not a breathing of the common wind That will forget thee.

† 7. Ventilation; a place for air or vapour to escape, a vent, air-hole. Obs.

1397 TREVISA *Hyden Rolls* Ser. II. 75 Stues... wip streite side weies of brypynghe [lateribus angustis spiraculi viis]. 1480 CAXTON *Descr. Brit.* 17 Weyes of brething that wonderly cast vp hete. 1483 *Cath. Angl.* 43 A Brethynghe spiraculum, spiramen. 1697 DRYDEN *Virg. Georg.* l. 131 The Warmth... makes New Breathings, whence New Nourishment she takes.

8. The opening of a vein in order to let blood.

1612 WOODALL *Surg. Mate* Wks. (1653) 328 By breathing of a Veine... the partie hath bin recovered. 1641 R. LESTRANGE *Relapsed Apost.* Introd. 4 Breathing of a Vein with a Dog-whip. 1719 D'UVEY *Pills* (1872) I. 87 Till the breathing a Vein Corrects the mad Pulse into Quiet.

9. Gram. An aspiration, an aspirate: spec. (Gr. *πνεῦμα*, L. *spiritus*) in Greek grammar, the two signs, (') or 'rough breathing', and (') or

'smooth breathing', which indicate respectively the presence and absence of the aspirate. See also ASPER sb. 1, ASPIRATE sb. 2, ASPIRATION 6.

1746 T. NUGENT tr. *Port Royal Gr. Gram.* The Grammarians call breathing (*πνεῦμα*) the manner of breathing a Syllable in pronouncing it. These breathings are twofold: one soft and smooth... thus *ῥῶς*... The other rough and hard... thus *ῥῶς*. 1864 *Athenaeum* No. 1934. 672/2 The text is furnished with breathings and accents. 1875 SCRIVENER *Lect. Grk. Test.* 20 Breathings and accents were added, at first very irregularly.

10. Comb. and Attrib., as breathing-fit, a breathing-space, pause, rest; breathing-hole, a hole or vent for air; breathing-part, -place, a place or opening for breathing; a pause; breathing-pore, a minute opening for the passage of air, a spiracle or stoma; breathing-space, room or time to breathe; so breathing-spell, -time, -while.

1590 *Tri. Love & Fort.* III. in Hazl. *Dodsley* VI. 195 Here is a 'breathing-fit' after hard mischance. 1590 WORDSW. *Waggoner* l. 37 Many a breathing-fit he takes. 1590 HOLLYBAND *Treas. Fr. Tong.* Naseaux... the 'breathing holes' of the nose, the nozethrill. 1856 KANE *Arct. Expl.* I. xiii. 141 They had worked numerous breathing-holes... in the solid ice. 1644 BULWER *Chiron.* 44 To distinguish the Comma's and 'breathing parts' of a sentence. 1380 WYCLIF *Prov.* xx. 27 The lantern of the Lord the 'brething place' [Vulg. *spiraculum*] of a man. 1581 SIDNEY *Apol. Poetrie* (Arb.) 71 That Cæsura or breathing place in the midst of the verse. 1768 G. WHITE *Selborne* 40 The head of a fallow-deer... furnished with two spiracula, or breathing-places besides the nostrils. 1836 PENNY *Cycl.* V. 374/1 'Breathing-pores'... are formed by the juxtaposition of two cells. 1650 R. STAYLTON *Strada's Low-C. Warres* v. 130 They gave her jealousies a short 'breathing-space'. 1842 TENNYSON *Locksley H.* 167 There the passions cramp'd no longer shall have scope and breathing-space. 1878 BOSW. SMITH *Carthage* 247 He had at least given her a brief breathing space. 1599 SANDVY *Europe's Spec.* (1632) 192 Some 'breathing time' to revive himselfe, after his wearinesse. 1873 SYMONDS *Grk. Poets* III. 68 Here was a breathing-time of indecision and suspense. 1593 SHAKS. *Ven. & Ad.* 1142 It shall... Bud and be blasted in a 'breathing-while'. 1873 BROWNING *Red Cott. Night-C.* 416 Turn round and look about, a breathing-while!

Breathing, ppl. a. [f. as prec. + -ING 2.]

Respiring, living; blowing; emitting fragrance; taxing the breath, etc.; in the various senses of the verb.

1598 TREVISA *Barth. De P. R.* v. xxxv. (1495) 147 Every brethynghe beest hath lunges. 1591 SPENSER *Virgil's* *Georg.* xxiv. Gentle murreme of the breathing ayre. 1595 SHAKS. *John* II. i. 419 Rescue those breathing lites to dye in beds. 1624 BUNYAN *Pilgr.* II. 66 Christians began to Pant, and said, I dare say this is a breathing Hill. 1747 COLLINS *Eclog.* III. 6 Or scent the breathing maize at setting day. 1777 SIR W. JONES *Pal. Fortune* 26 Incense-breathing gales perfum'd the grove. 1816 SOUTHEY *Lay of Laureate, Dream* 62 Infant man... Most weak and helpless of all breathing things. 1845 HOOD *Decl. Chivalry* ix. A battle was a battle then, A breathing piece of work.

b. fig. Of pictures and statues: Life-like (cf. Vergil's *spirantia signa, vera*).

1697 DRYDEN *Virg. Georg.* II. 646 Breathing Figures of Corinthian Brass. c 1750 SHENSTONE *Elgy* xi. 22 The breathing picture and the living stone. 1813 SHELLEY *Q. Mab* 17 That lovely outline... fair As breathing marble.

† c. *Breathing with or from*: fresh from. Obs.

c 1534 *Pol. Verg. Eng. Hist.* (1846) I. 274 Hee sawe his enemies stand... freshe and breathing from the late spoyling of his contrie. 1603 KNOLLES *Hist. Turkes* (1621) 881 Canalis and Quirinus yet breathing with the late slaughter of the Turkes. *Ibid.* 1227 Yet breathing with victorie.

d. *Breathing-sweat*: a profuse perspiration.

1744 WALL in *Phil. Trans.* XLIII. 216 After the second Dose of the Powders, each of them... broke out into an universal breathing Sweat. 1776 ANDERSON *ibid.* LXVI. 545 It brought on a breathing sweat.

Breathingly (brī'θīnli), adv. [f. prec. + -LY 2.]

In a breathing manner; with or as with life or animation; gently as a breath.

1830 J. WILSON in *Blackw. Mag.* XXVIII. 527 Perfect spiritual health, breathingly embodied in perfect corporeal flesh and blood. a 1859 L. HUNT *Poems* (1860) 236 A rill that slips Over the sunny pebbles breathingly.

Breathless (bre'pless), a. [f. BREATHE + -LESS.]

1. Without breath: a. Without respiration.

1398 TREVISA *Barth. De P. R.* v. xxiv. (1495) 134 A beest maye not without peryll be bretheles by longe space. 1675 HOBBS *Odys.* (1677) 66 Speechless and breathless was he, like one dead. 1766 CHALKLEY *Wks.* 250, I had a Fit of the Phthisick, and was at Times almost breathless.

b. Lifeless, dead. (L. *exanimatus*).

1595 SHAKS. *John* IV. iii. 66 Kneeling before this ruin of sweete life, And breathing to his breathlesse Excellence The Incense of a Vow. 1697 DRYDEN *Virg. Eclog.* v. 97 The Nymphs about the breathlesse Body wait. 1708 J. PHILLIPS *Cyder* l. 25 Guard each rocc With the false terrors of a breathless kite. a 1829 J. HOOE *Flodden F.* xiii. The fated arrow Breathless left the royal hero.

† c. Gram. Unaspirated. Obs.

1668 WILKINS *Real Char.* 379 [Dentals] Such as are *Breathless*: Sonorous D, mute T; *Breathing*. Dh, Th.

2. Breathing with difficulty, panting (as a result of swift running or violent exercise); out of breath, exhausted, spent. Also *transf.* and *fig.*

c 1490 *Merlin* xviii. 299 She was so hoarse and so brethless that on hire feet myght she not stonde. 1591 SPENSER *M. Hubbert* 1374 He fled All breathless. 1597 BR. HALL *Sat.* l. vi. (R.) The lingring Spondee, labouring to delay The breathlesse Dactiles, with a sudden stay. 1709 TALLER No. 43 P 7 Breathless almost, and spent in the eager Chace.

1831 LONGF. *Gold. Leg.* iv. (Nunnery) How I remember that breathless flight.

b. Holding one's breath, as with awe, expectation, excitement.

1808 WORDSW. *Sonn.* 'It is a beautiful Evening' 3 The holy time is quiet as a nun Breathless with adoration. 1823 LAMB *Elia* Ser. i. xv. (1865) 121 With a breathless impatience of recognition. 1850 ALISON *Hist. Europe* VIII. liii. 397 Europe, in breathless suspense, awaited the issue.

3. Unstirred by a breath of wind.

1815 WORDSW. *Evening Volunt.* vi. The Mere Seems firm as solid crystal, breathless, clear, And motionless. 1881 MISS BRADDON *Asph.* i. 238 Blue skies and sunny noontides without the baking heat and the breathless atmosphere.

Breathlessly (brē'plēsli), *adv.* [f. prec. + -ly.] In a breathless manner; with caught or suspended breath; in breathless suspense.

1837 LYTTON *Athens* II. 565 Sophocles carries on the passion of the spectators to wait breathlessly the moment when Orestes shall be discovered. 1841 ORDESON *Creol.* xiii. 131 'Ah!' he exclaimed breathlessly. 1861 W. COLLINS *Dead Secret* 238 Looking steadfastly, speechlessly, breathlessly, at her blind husband.

Breathlessness (brē'plēsnes). [f. as prec. + -ness.] Breathless condition, want of breath.

1615 BR. HALL *Contempl.* N. T. iv. xxxiii. With much toil and sweat and breathlessness. 1626 DONNE *Serm.* 39 The Breathlessness of Death. 1870 MORRIS *Earthly Par.* III. iv. 191 They must stay a little while the eager play for very breathlessness.

Breathy (brē'pi), *a.* [f. BREATH + -y.]

1. Of, pertaining to, or of the nature of breath.

1598 PAYNELL *Salerno Regim.* X. ij b. That hit com-forteth breathy members. 1598 PEELE *David & B.* 485 (D.) Help thy Bethsabe, whose heart is pierced with thy breathy swords. 1603 FLORIO *Montaigne* II. xvi. (1632) 353 In this breathlike confusion of brutes, and frothy chaos of reports. 1605 TIMME *Quercit.* III. 163 The more thinn and breathe part passe by insensible transpirations. 1635 SWAN *Spec. M.* 186 (L.) Lightning is less flamy and less breathy.

2. Of the voice in singing: Having an admixture of the sound of breathing. Hence **Breathiness**.

1883 CURWEN *Stand. Course* 105/2 Some deep contralto voices, though weak and breathy in the thin register. *Ibid.* 95/2 In the 'gradual' attack, the vocal membranes are brought together while the breath is being emitted. It causes what we call 'breathiness'.

Breawe, -is, obs. forms of BREW, BREWIS.

Breaze, obs. form of BREEZE *sb.* 2, light wind.

Breaborion, earlier form of BRIMBORION.

Breo, obs. pres. and pa. t. of BREAK *v.*

Breocan, obs. form of BRACKEN fern.

1666 SIMPSON *Hydrol. Chym.* 332 The ashes of breccans.

Breccia (brē'tʃi, brē'tʃiā). Also 8 brechia, 9 breochia, brioia. [a. It. *breccia* 'gravel or rubbish of broken walls' (Florio), cogn. with F. *brèche* breaking, breach, breccia, Sp. *brecha*, adapted from Teutonic: cf. OHG. *brecha* breaking, f. *brechan*, OTeut. *brekan* to BREAK. (Used in the name *Breccia Marble*, before its separate use in Geology.)]

Geol. A composite rock consisting of angular fragments of stone, etc., cemented together by some matrix, such as lime: sometimes opposed to *conglomerate*, in which the fragments are rounded and waterworn. *Osseous* or *bone breccia*: one in which fossil bones are found.

1774 STRANGE in *Phil. Trans.* LXV. 38 Which the Italians call *lava brecciata*, from its resemblance to the Breccia marbles. 1781 J. T. DILLON *Trav. Spain* 362 A kind of brechia or pudding-stone. 1784 WEDGWOOD in *Phil. Trans.* LXXIV. 378 It had the appearance of breccia marble or plum-pudding stone. 1802 PLAYFAIR *Illustr. Hutton. Theory* 7 Those pudding-stones or breccias where the gravel consists of quartz. 1818 SCOTT *Rob Roy* (1855) 244 Deep gullies where masses of the composite rock or breccia tumbling from the cliffs have rushed to the valley. 1836 PENNY *Cycl.* V. 374 The name of Breccia is derived from the well-known Breccia marble, which has the appearance of being composed of fragments joined together by carbonate of lime. 1851 D. WILSON *Preh. Ann.* (1863) I. i. 29 Embedded in the same breccia with flint knives.

b. *transf.* A conglomerate of gravel and ice.

1856 KANE *Arct. Expl.* I. xi. 116 Stands of the same Arctic breccia.

Hence **Breccial** *a.*, of or pertaining to breccia. 1853 KANE *Grinnell Exp.* xxx. (1856) 259 One solid breccial mass of impacted angularities.

Brecciated (brē'tʃi, brē'tʃiā). Also 8 brecciated, 9 brecciated. [f. BRECCIA; cf. It. *brecciato*, pa. pple. of *brecciare* to reduce to breccia.] Formed into a breccia, of the structure of a breccia.

1774 PENNANT *Tour Scotl.* (1774) 218 Some are brecciated or filled with crystalline kernels. 1789 MILLS in *Phil. Trans.* LXXX. 86 The including chert, amongst which we found some that is brecciated. 1830 LYELL *Elem. Geol.* (1865) 458 The well known brecciated limestone of the Pyrenees. 1873 CROLL *Climate & T.* xviii. 294 The brecciated subangular conglomerates and boulder beds of the Old Red Sandstone.

Brech, -e, obs. form of BREACH, BREACH.

Brecham (brē'xəm, brē'xəm). *Sc.* Also 6 brechome, 8 brechan, brechem, brechom. [by metathesis f. *bercham*, *bergham*, ME. *berhom*: see BARHAM.] The collar of a draught-horse.

1801 DOUGLAS *Pal. Hom.* 426 Raw silk brechamis our thair halis hingis. 1856 *Inventories* 171 (JAM.) Auld brechomes and hernes. 1796 MRS. CALDERWOOD *Jrnl.* (1884) 67 A sort of brecham about their necks. 1798 *Statist. Acc. Scotl.* IV. 395 The straw brecham is supplanted by the leather

collar. 1818 SCOTT *Hrt. Midl.* v. Ye have set yourself down on the very brecham that wants stitching. 1883 *Glasgow Her.* 8 Sept. 3/2 A collar which rises high and stiff at the back of his neck resembling somewhat a horse's 'brecham'.

Break, *obs.* Forms: 3-5 brek, 4-5 brēkke, 5 breke, 5-6 brecke, 3-7 breok. [A parallel form of BREAK *sb.* 1, or a direct derivation of *breck* - stem of BREAK *v.*] 1. A breach, blemish, failing.

a. 1300 *Cursor M.* 6344 He drou þam vp at first, Wit-uten ani brek or brist. c. 1350 CHAUCER *De the of Blanche* 940 Swiche a fairenesse of a nekke . . . that boon nor brekke Nas ther non seen that mys satte. 1413 LYDG. *Pylgr. Soule* i. xv. (1859) 13, I that am in this brekke peryllous. 1573 TUSSEY *Husb.* (1878) 40 Saint Michel doth bid thee amend the marsh wal, the brekke and the crab hole. 1648 FULLER *Holy & Prof. St.* i. xiii. 41 No breck was ever found in her veil, so spotless was her conversation. 1668 — *Worthies* III. 38 Monuments . . . remaining without breck or blemish to this day.

2. = BREAK *sb.* 1 2.

1787 MARSHALL *Rur. Econ.* E. Norfolk, Breck . . . a large new-made inclosure. 1863 MORTON *Cycl. Agric.* II, Breck (Norf., Suff.), a large field. In Northumb., etc., a portion of a field cultivated by itself.

Breck, obs. pres. and pa. t. of BREAK.

Bred, *obs. exc. dial.* Forms: 2 breed, 3 brid, 3-5 brede, 6 Sc. breid. [Common Teut.: OE. *brēd*, corresp. to MDu. *bert(d)*, Du. *berd*, OHG. *brēt*, Ger. *brēt* — OTeut. **brēdo(m)*, a doublet of **bordom* BOARD, the two forms corresponding to Skr. **bradha-*, **brāda-*, Aryan **bhredh-*, **bhrād-*: see BOARD.] A board; a tablet; in mod. Sc. applied to a bakeboard, and to the wooden lid of a pot, pan, water-butt, etc. (e. g. a *pan-bred*).

a. 1300 *ELFRIC Deut.* ix. 9 Ða astah ic on þone munt, & bæc þa stenenan bredu. c. 1375 *Lamb. Hom.* xi. Ðas preo laze 3e-written inne þa ðre table breode. a. 1300 *Cursor M.* 10578 Apon þe hefd o þis rode, ouer-thwart was don a brede. c. 1325 *E. E. Allit. P.* C. 184 He [Jonah] watz flowen. In-to be boþem of þe bot, & on a brede lyggede. c. 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 48 Brede, or lytlylle borde, mensula, tabella, asserulus. 1538 *Aberd. Reg. V.* 16 (JAM.) Twa baik-breddis. 1688 HOLME *Armory* III. iii. 104 A Braide or Breid which is a broad long Board, with a hole in one end of it. upon this Cooks. carry Bread unbaked, to and from the Bake-House. 1808 JAMIESON *Sc. Dict.*, Pot-bred, the wooden lid of a pot. *Ass-bred* (ash-board).

b. *Comb.* *†* bred-cheese, some kind of cheese.

c. 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 48/2 Bredechese [v. r. bredchese], *junctata* (junctata).

Bred (brēd), *ppl. a.* 1 [Pa. pple. of BREED *v.*]

† 1. Developed in the womb; hatched from the egg; brought forth. *Obs.*

c. 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 48 Brede or hecchyd, of byrdys [1499 hatched], *pullificatus*. 1570 LEVINS *Manip.* 48 Brede, *genitus, ortus*.

2. Reared, brought up, (properly) trained.

1655 GURNALL *Chr. in Arm.* vii. § 1 (1669) 500/1 Paul was a bred scholar. 1711 ADDISON *Spect.* No. 108 ¶ 3 Being bred to no Business and born to no estate. 1719 LOUDON & WISE *Compl. Gard. p.* xxvii. The Trees or Plants to be there planted, ought to be handsome bred Plants. 1846 McCULLOCH *Acc. Brit. Empire* (1854) I. 165 The sheep bred in the county. 1863 FR. KEMBLE *Resid. Georgia* 124 Born and bred in America. 1873 MORLEY *Rousseau* I. 193 Bred in puritan and republican tradition.

b. Chiefly in *comb.*: a. with *sb.*, as *country*, *court*, *farm*, *town-bred*; b. with *advs.*, as *ill*, *well-bred*, of bad or good breeding.

1670 EACHARD *Cont. Clergy* 52 A town bred or country-bred similitude, it is worth nothing. 1760 GOLDSM. *Cit. W.* xciii. Court-bred poets. 1766 — *Vic. W.* xi. A small stipend for a well-bred girl. 1845 FORD *Handbk. Spain* i. 29 No nation . . . is better bred or mannered than the lower classes of Spaniards. 1871 BLACKIE *Four Phases* i. 65 [This] would . . . be considered extremely ill-bred. 1884 BLACK *Ind. Shaks.* xxviii. The . . . awkwardness of a farm-bred wench.

3. Of animals: Of good breed. So with reference to the comparative purity of the breed: *thorough-bred*, *half-bred*, *three-parts-bred*, etc.

1710 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 4677/4 Their Horses seem to have been bred Horsem. 1787 'G. GAMBARO' *Acad. Horsem.* (1809) 20 Nothing now is to be seen but bred horses. 1849 JEPHSON *Brittany* iii. 29 Thorough-bred horses in stalls.

† *Bred and Born*: see BREED *v.* 10.

† **Bred**, *ppl. a.* 2 [pa. pple. of BREDE *v.* 2] Outspread; extended.

a. 1500 *Battle of Otterbourne* 91 (Percy Reliques) He durste not loke on my bred banner.

Bred (d, var. of BRAID, BREDE; pa. t. of BREDE *v.*

Bredale, *bredeale*, obs. ff. BRIDAL.

Bredren, obs. form of BREADEN *adj.*

† **Brede**, *sb.* 1 *Obs.* Forms: 1 brēde, brēde,

2-5 brede; also 3 brade, bread(e, 6 Sc. breid.

[OE. *brēde*, Angl. *brēde*, f. OTeut. **brēd-an*,

BREDE *v.* 1, to roast. A synonymous derivative of

the same root was WGer. *brādon-*, OHG. *brāto*

(Ger. *braten*) roast flesh, whence Romanic *bradon*,

OF. *braon*, Eng. BRAUN.]

Roast meat. *Obs.* (but cf. SWEETBREAD.)

a. 1300 *Gloss.* in Wr. Wülcker 127 *Assura*, uel *assatura*, brede. c. 1305 LAV. 30583 He nom his aye þeh . . . þer of he makeþe brede (1250 brede). a. 1250 *Moral Ode in Trin. Coll. Hom.* 224 Swines brede is wel swete. a. 1250 *Owl & Night.* 1630 Me mai mid me biþete Wel gode brede to his mete. c. 1300 *K. Alis.* 5249 Beef and motoun, Bredes, bredes, and veynsoun. 1712 *Morte Arth.* 1049 Pare ware rostetz fulle ruyde, and rewfulle bredez. c. 1400 *Avow. Arth.* xxxi,

Bothe the birds and the brede, To Carlele thay bringe, [1535 STEWART *Cron. Scotl.* (1858) I. 87 Gif ony beist . . . was slane, ilk craftisman thairto to haif ane breid.]

† **Brede**, *sb.* 2 *Obs. exc. north. dial.* Forms: 1 brēdu, -o (acc. brēde), 2-3 brēde, breade, 3-7 brede, (4 brade, 5 brēd), 4-6 breede, 6-7 breed, breade, (7 braid), 5- Sc. breid, (6 breyde). [OE. *brēdu*, -o; corresp. to OFris. *brēde*, LG. *brēde*, OHG. *breith*, MHG. and mod.G. *breite*, ON. *breidd* (Sw. *bred*, Da. *brede*), Goth. *bradei* — OTeut. **brāidjēn-*, abstr. *sb.* f. **brāido-z*, in OE. *brād* BROAD. In the 16th c. it began to be spelt *breade*, but this form was not established before the word was itself superseded in Eng. use by the new formation *breadth*, BREADTH. *Brede* still survives in north Eng. dialects, and in Sc., where it is usually written *breid* (brid): cf. ABREID.]

1. Breadth, width.

a. 1300 *Ag. Psalms* cxvii[lii]. 45 Ic on bealde brēdu [Vulg. in latitudine] gange. 1397 R. GLOUC. 385 Pat folc of Ssopssyre . . . robbede Wurcestre ssyre in lengþe & in brede. c. 1320 *Syr Bevis* 536 Neither alingthe ne on brade. c. 1380 WYCLIF *Sel. Wks.* III. 89 Twenti cubitis longe and ten of brede. c. 1400 MAUNDEV. ix. 100 In brede 150 Furlonges. 1564 J. HEYWOOD *Prov. & Epigr.* (1867) 142 Not the brede of one heare. 1551 TURNER *Herbal* (1568) Bja. The stalke is a hand brede hygher. 1875 ROBINSON *Whitby Gloss.* s.v., 'Quite full abrede', sufficient in breadth.

b. *Acre brede*: the breadth of an acre, i. e. 4 poles or perches, also called a *fur-brede* (cf. *fur-long*). *A brede* of underwood, etc.: a slice of an acre-brede, or 4 poles broad, by 1 pole long.

c. 1470 HENRY WALLACE l. 400 Þe suerd flaw fra hym a fur breid on ye land. 1523 LD. BERNERS *Froiss.* I. cccxxx. 736 One coude nat se an alre of brede. 1525 *Ibid.* II. clxxvii. [clxxiv.] 573 An acre brede of lande of fro the kyngne. 1677 *Plot Oxfordsh.* 262 Dividing them . . . into Acres and Braids (or breadths), every Acre containing forty braids, a braid being one pole long and four broad.

2. A piece of stuff of the full breadth.

1554 Bury Wills (1850) 144 Oon paire of fyne shetis of ij bredes and a halfe, and oon paire of two bredes. 1578 *Inventories* (1815) 211 (JAM.) Of claitch of silver, contening threttie lang breiddis, seven schort breiddis. 1855 *Whitby Gloss.*, *Bredis*, breadths of cloth. *Mod. Sc.* How monie breids will ye put in the skirt?

3. *In, on, a brede*, mod.Sc. A-BREID: abroad.

[c. 1305 LAV. 21995 He is imeten a brade fiff & twenti foten.] a. 1300 *E. E. Psalter* cxviii [ix]. 45, I yhode in brede. c. 1400 *Destr. Troy* 3022 The here of hir hede . . . bost out vpon brede bright on to loke. c. 1460 *Towneley Myst.* (1836) i. Make we hevene and erth, on brede. 1526 *Pylgr. Perf.* (W. de W. 1531) 208 b. In brede it extended the armes. 1535 STEWART *Cron. Scotl.* II. 610 Tha landis all on breid. 1787 BURNS *Salut. Auld Mare* xii, Spread abreed thy weel-fill'd bricket. 1816 SCOTT *Antiq.* II. 245 (JAM.) The prophety got abroad in the country.

Brede (brēd), *sb.* 3, *arch.* Also 7 breade, bred, 8 breed, bread. [A variant of BRAID *sb.*, in 16-17th c. *breade*; used archaically by modern poets. Cf. BREDE *v.* 3]

1. Anything plaited, entwined, or interwoven; a plait; interweaving, braiding, embroidery; = BRAID *sb.* 4.

1643 MILTON *Divorce* l. vi. (1851) 33 His silk'n breades untwine, and slip their knots. 1689 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 2444/4 He had on . . . a blew Rateen Waistcoat with Silver Brede. 1697 DRYDEN *Ess. Georg.* *Ving.* (1721) l. 201 A curious Brede of Needle-work. 1800 KEATS *Lamia* i. Spoilt all her silver mail and golden brede. 1847 TENNYSON *Princ.* vi. 118 In glowing gauze and golden brede. 1861 LOWELL *Washers of Shroud* iv, The ancient Three . . . Still crooning, as they weave their endless brede.

2. A twist or plait of hair: see BRAID, *sb.* 4 b.

1696 KENNETT *Rom. Antiq.* II. iv. (1713) 253 They made use of a twist or brede of hair. a. 1721 *Prior Henry & E.* 426 Thy comely tresses . . . In graceful breeds, with various ribbon bound. 1740 SOMERVILLE *Hobbinol* iii. (1749) 163 Her plaited Hair behind her in a Brede Hung careless.

3. Applied by the poets to things that show or suggest interweaving of colours, or embroidery, esp. to the prismatic colouring of the rainbow. But used by some modern writers in sense of 'colouring, dye', apparently from misunderstanding their predecessors.

1708 J. PHILIPS *Cyder* II. 67 The show'ry Arch, With lifted Colours gay. . . Delights, and puzzles the Beholders Eye, That views the watry Brede. 1744 AKENSIDE *Pleas. Imag.* II. 118 Thro' the brede Of colours changing from the splendid rose To the pale violet's dejected hue. 1867 JEAN INGELWOL *Story of Doom* i. 21 The almag, and the gojiah shot their heads Into the crimson brede that dyed the world. 1869 LOWELL *Seaweed* iv, The same wave that rims the Carib shore With momentary brede of pearl and gold.

4. *Comb.* *brede-stitch* (improp. *brēd*, *brēd*), 1640 J. TAYLOR (Water P.) *Praise Needle* (ed. 12) Pref., Chain-Stitch, Brane Brede-stitch, Fishes-stitch, Irish-stitch, Queen-stitch. 1766 GOLDSM. *Vic. W.* xi, They understand their needle, breadstitch . . . and all manner of plainwork.

Brede, *v.* 1 *Obs.* Forms: 1 brēdan, brēdan, 2-5 brede(n. *Pa. t.* i. brēdde, brēdde, 2-4 bradde, 2-5 brede. *Pa. pple.* 1 brēdded, brēdded, 2-3 brad, 3-4 bred(d. [Common Teut.: OE. *brēdan* (Angl. *brēdan*) = OFris. *brēda*, MDu. *brāden* (Du. *braden*) str. vb., OHG. *brātan* (MHG. *brāten*, mod.G. *braten*), str. vb. 'to roast'. OTeut. **brēd-an* was apparently a derivative (Aryan

type *bhrz-dh-* of the verb root **brā-*, **brē-* (Aryan **bhrz-*) to burn, heat, warm: see BREATHE, BROOD. No traces of the strong inflexions are found in OE., and the vb. passed entirely out of use c. 1500. See also BREDE sb. 1.] *trans.* To roast, broil, toast.

a 1000 *Collog. Monast.* 29 (Bosw.) We mazon brædan ða þing ðe to brædenne synd. c 1175 *Lamb. Hom.* 53 He bindes vpon þa [mousetrap] swike chese and bret hine for þon þet he scolde swote smelle. c 1205 *LAY.* 25986 His flæsce he gon brede. a 1205 *Juliana* 170 In led we scholle hire brede. a 1300 *Cursor M.* 6081 It sal nocht siþen be bot bred, þis lamb. c 1305 *Coer de L.* 1492 Makes our mete Whether 3e wole sethe or brede. c 1330 *Arth. & Merl.* 9305 Man and hous thai brent and bredden. c 1340 *Gaw. & Gr. Knt.* 891 Summe (fishes) brad on þe gledes. 1509 *Part. Derylles* xii, I wyll... in hell his soule brede.

† **Brede**, v. 2. *Obs.* or *dial.* Forms: 1 *brædan*, 2-5 *brede(n)*, 3-7 *brede*, 6-7 *breade*, *mod. dial.* *brede*, *brede*, etc. *Pa. t.* 1 *brædde*, 3 *bræd*, 4 *brad*, -de, 4-6 *bræd*, 5 *bret*, 9 *brad*. [Common Teut.: OE. *brædan*, corresp. to OS. *brædan*, OHG. *breiten* (MHG. and *mod. G.* *breiten*), ON. *breiða* (Sw. *bræda*, Da. *bræde*), Goth. *bradjan*, to make broad, f. *brad-s*, in OE. *bræd*, *BROAD*.]

1. *trans.* To make broad; to broaden, dilate. c 890 *K. ÆLFRED Bæda* i. viii. (Bosw.) Hi heora stowe bræddon. c 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 49 Bredyn or make more brode, dilate. 1674 *RAY N. C. Wds.* 8 *Bræde*, to make broad, to spread.

2. *trans.* To spread out, spread about, extend. c 1325 *E. E. Allit. P. A.* 813 For vus he lette hym... brede vpon a bostwys bem. c 1340 *Cursor M.* 534 As onde wip host in brest is bred [Cott. spread]. c 1400 *Pallad. on Husb.* xi. 101 Let brede hem, lest that hete and be the wers. 1a 1600 *Scot. Field* 24 in Furniv. *Percy Folio* i. 213 On this side Bosworth in a bancke thei bred forth their standards. 1802 J. WILSON (Congleton) *MS. Let. to J. Boucher*, Bread or brede Manure, i. e. to fling it about and spread it on the Land, is a very common Expression here; and also the Participle, as, They have bred it.

3. *intr.* To spread, extend. c 1300 *K. Alis.* 3252 Thorough the hoerte brede the steil. c 1340 *Gaw. & Gr. Knt.* 1298 He were a bleaunt of blwe, þat bradde to be erpe. c 1400 *Destr. Troy* 874 The bayme... bret through the bones... euer folowand the fell. 1600 *Dymock Ireland* (1843) 16 Thence yt [East Meath] breadeth to the Kinges county and the countie of Kildare.

4. *trans.* To overspread, cover; spread (a table). c 1205 *LAY.* 18523 Bordes heo bræddon. al þat folc æt & dronc. c 1325 *E. E. Allit. P. B.* 1693 His berde l-brad alle his breste to þe bare vrpe. c 1400 *Destr. Troy* 383 Burdes were bred in the brade halle. *Ibid.* 1172 Pan rises þe sun, breidis with his beames all þe brode vales.

† **Brede**, v. 3. *Obs.* In 6-7 *brede*. [A var. of *BRAID* v.: cf. the sb. *BREDE* 3.] *trans.* To intertwine, plait, wreath, twist; = *BRAID* v. 11.

c 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 49 Bredynge of lacy or oþer lyke, *laqueacio, nectio, connectio*. 1501 *DOUGLAS Pal. Hon.* iii. lxxvii. The durris and the windois all war breddit With massie gold. 1596 *SPENSER F. Q.* iii. ii. 50 Taking thrise three heares from off her head, Them trebly breadded in a threefold lace. 1686 *GOAD Celest. Bodies* iii. iii. 475 They are Plaited and Breadded in the same Twine. 1695 *BLACKMORE Pr. Arth.* ix. 305 He slashed his breadded Whip.

Bred(e), *bredd(e)*, obs. ff. BIRD, BREAD, BREED. **Breded**, *bredden*, obs. pa. t. and pple. of BREED. **Breder**, -ir, -ur, -yr, obs. pl. of BROTHER.

Bredeth(e), *breddeth(e)*, obs. ff. BREADTH.

† **Breeding**, *vbl. sb.* *Obs.* [f. *BREDE* v. 2 + -ING 1.]

Broadening, spreading out. c 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 49 Bredynge or makyng brode, *dilatacio*.

Bredling: see BROADLING.

† **Bree** (*brī*), *sb.* 1. *Obs.* exc. *north. dial.* Forms: 1 *brēw*, *brēaw*, 3 *pl. breow-en*, 4-5 *pl. brew-is*, 5 *pl. breu*; also 1 *brēaz*, *brēz* (-ēzh-, -ēh3), 3 *breyh*, 3-4 *breje*, *breye*, *pl. briz-es*, 5 *pl. bregh-is*, *briys*, 6 *bryes*, *Sc. breis*, 5-6 *bre*, 6-7 *brise*, 5- *bre*. [OE. *brēw*, *brēaw*, Anglian **brēw*, *brēg*, *brēag*, masc. 'eye-lid'; according to Sievers, an *i*-stem, OTeut. type **brēwi-*, *brēhwi-*; cf. OFris. (*dg*)-*brē*, neut. the corresponding word elsewhere is a fem. *a*-stem, OS. *brāwa*, *brāha* (LG. *braue*, MDu. *brauwe*, Du. *wenkbrauw* eye-brow), OHG. *brāwa*, *brāa*, *brā*, eye-lash (MHG. *brāwe*, *brā*, Ger. (*augen*)-*braue* eye-brow, also -*braune*, a modern corruption from the pl. *brāwen*, *brauen*, *braun*), ON. *brā*, *brī* eye-lid:—OTeut. **brēwud*, from **brēhwd*. The Gothic **brēwa*, **brēhwa* is not preserved; but cf. *brahw* 'blink, twinkle', in *brahwa augins* 'in the twinkling of an eye'. This points to a radical sense 'blinker, twinkler' as a name of the eye-lid (or eye-lash), in which case this word cannot well be referred to the same root as BROW, OTeut. *brā* 'eye-brow', as generally assumed. Yet the two words curiously interchanged in use in different langs., and at different periods; and in continental WGer. the *brā*-forms were lost, and their place supplied by forms from *brēwud*. The original sense of *brā* was 'eye-brow'; in OE. extended and transferred to 'eye-lash', so that 'eye-brow' was distinguished as *ofer-brū*. The original sense of *brēwud* was app. 'eye-lid', as in ON. and OE., but in OHG. restricted to 'eye-lash', and thence subsequently extended and transferred to 'eye-brow' (orig. *ohara brāwa*), the sense 'eye-lash' being brought down to modern times by the compound *wint-brāwa*, MHG. *wint-brā*, *winbrā*, *mod. Ger. winper*. OE. had *brī* = eye-lash (*ciliūm*), *brēw*, *brīg* = eye-lid (*palpebra*); by the 13th c. *bru*, *brouw* passed to the sense 'eye-lid', and *brew* (*breow*, *brej*, *bre*) to that of 'eye-brow'; the latter sense was retained by *bre* in the north, after it had in turn been taken up by *brow* in the south. From 15th to 17th c. *bre* was used by some southern writers as = 'eye-lash', a curious reversion to what had been the original OE. sense of *brī*, BROW, q. v. (The ON. cognate *brī* gave BRAE.)

(The parallelism of **brā* and **brēwud* is further seen in the fact that 'eye-brows' was expressed in OHG. by *oharun brāwa*, *oharbrāwa* (Graff III. 315), in OE. by *oferbrā*, and in ME. *were breghes*, *brijes above þe eijes*, *above breghis*. For the phonetic explanation of the late WS. form *brāw* from *brāw*, see Sievers *Ag. Gram.* (ed. 2) § 112, 118.)

† 1. The lid of the eye, the eye-lid. (In Layamon the *breow* of the first text is displaced by *brouw*, BROW in the second text.) *Obs.* c 890 *K. ÆLFRED Bæda* iv. xxxii. § 1 (Bosw.) Unwritig swile... his eazan bregth (*palpebram oculi*) wyrd. a 1000 *Ag. Psalter* cxxxii. 4 Gif ic... minum breawum beode hnappunga. c 1000 *Sax. Leechd.* II. 38 Wip þiccum breawum genim þreo hand fulla mucwyrte. c 1000 *ÆLFRED Gloss.* in Wt.-Wülcker 156/38 *Palpebra*, *breawas*. c 1805 *LAY.* 18374 þa hing his breowen adun [c 1275 *Po* heng he his brouwes adun].

2. The eye-brow: sometimes the hair, sometimes including the superciliary ridge. (Distinguished at first as *were breyh*, *brijes above the eijes*, *above breghis*: since Wyclif, only *north*: still *Sc.*) c 1275 *XI Pains of Hell* 98 in O. E. Misc. 150 Summe to heore myd-þeyh, And summe to heore wuer breyh. c 1375 — (*Vernon MS.*) 111 *Ibid.* 226 þo þat weren vp to þe brijes In þat fiod above þe eijes. 1388 *Wyclif Lev.* xiv. 9 That... he shaue the heiris of the heed, and the beard, and brewis [*supercilia*]. c 1400 *Destr. Troy* 3780 Blake horit above breghis and other Serlyt of hom selun. c 1400 *Anturs of Arth.* xxx. Bore-hedis of blakke, and bree full bold. c 1400 *Avow. Arth.* xxvii. Gauan bare him for his stede, That both his breees con blede. c 1485 *Digby Myst.* (Mor. Wisd.) 196 For sorowe my bren i knette. 1513 *DOUGLAS Æneis* vi. vii. 96 Hir ene fixit apon the ground held sche, Moving na mair hir curage, face nor bre. 1517 *HAWES Past. Pleas.* xxix. ii. His head was greute, beteled was his browes. His bryes byrsted truly lyke a sowes. 1550 *LYNDESAY Sp. Meldr.* 1293 He hat the Knight above the breis. 1768 *Ross Helenore* (1789) 74 (JAM.) They... lay stane still, not moving ee nor bree. *Mod. Sc.* He is dirt up to the very ee-brees.

† 3. An eye-lash. *Obs.* c 1400 *Voc.* in Wt.-Wülcker 631 *Ciliūm*, [gloss] brye. 1488 *Monk of Evesham* (Arb.) 23 The bryis of hys ye lyddys beganne firste a lytil to moue. 1530 *PALSGR.* 301/1 Bree of the eye, *poil de loiel*. 1656 *DUGARD Gate Lat. Unt.* § 205. 57 The bree (growing out of the edge of the eye-lids)... hinder, that nothing may fall thereinto.

Bree (*brī*), *sb.* 2. *Obs.* exc. *Sc.* Forms: 1 *brīw*, 2 *brī*, 4-5 *brē*, 8- *bree*. [Derivation obscure: the ME. *brē*, *mod. Sc. bree*, may be the same as the earlier ME. *brī*, OE. *brīg*, *brīw*, but the phonology is not clear, and the sense is not quite identical. (*Bre* might however represent **brēw*, a possible variant of *brīw*; cf. *nīw*, *nēw*, etc.) OE. *brīw*, *brīg* masc. = OHG. *brīw* (*brīw*), *brī* (MHG. *brīe*, *brī*, *mod. Ger. brēi*), MLG. *brīg*, *brī*, MDu. *brī*, all masc. (Du. *brij* fem.):—OTeut. **brīw*-s: the Goth. **brēius* is not exemplified, and the word is not in Scand. It cannot well be referred to *brū*, root of BROW, nor to *brē*, *brē*, to warm; Kluge suggests a root *brī* to cook.]

† 1. A thick pottage made of meal, pulse, etc. *Obs.* c 1000 *Sax. Leechd.* II. 88 Swa þicce swa brīw. *Ibid.* 264 Wyr him brīw of wealwyrt moran. c 1000 *ÆLFRED Gram.* ix. § 46 *Hæc puls*, *des brīw*. a 1200 *Voc.* in Wt.-Wülcker 547/12 *Puls*, *brī*.

2. Broth, juice, liquor in which anything has been steeped or boiled, or which flows from it. *Barley-bree*: malt liquor. *Herring-bree*: herring-brine. Also fig. c 1400 *Liber Cocorum* 17 Perboylethyn oysters... Kepe welle thy bre. *Ibid.* 49 In fat bre fresshe of bese i wene, þay schalle be soþun. 1786 *BURNS Sc. Drink* xiii. How easy can the barley-bree Cement the quarrel! 1861 *RAMSAY Remin.* Ser. II. 90 We wring 't [the Lord's Prayer], an' we wring 't, an' the bree o' t washes a' the lave o' our prayers. 1865 *Times* 22 Apr., 'Snow bree' is unfavourable to angling.

† 3. fig. Water; the sea. *Obs.* c 1400 *Destr. Troy* 3697 So þe bre and the brette burbelit to gedur. *Ibid.* 12516 All the company. With þere shippes... were brent in the bre with the breme lowe of the ley-monde laite, þat launich fro heuyn.

Bree, *sb.* 3. *north. dial.* [perh. an erroneous form from *BREEZE* sb. 2, sense 4: cf. next word.] Disturbance, commotion, disagreement.

1790 *SHIRREFF Poems* 67 (JAM.) Ye'll... see it thro' the parish raise an unco bree. 1807 *STAGG Poems* 8 They're off wi' seck a bree. 1821 *MRS. WHEELER Westmrd. Dial.* 88 We hed a sort of a bree out afore ea went.

Bree, *sb.* 4. *obs.* or *dial.* form of *BREEZE* sb. 1. gadfly. A singular inferred from *brees*, taken as pl.

1678 A. LITTLETON *Lat. Dict.*, A bree, *asilus, tabanus*.

† **Bree**, v. *Obs.* exc. *dial.* Also 4 *bre*, 5 *Sc. broy*. [OE. *brīgan* to terrify, frighten (:—*brēgan*) f. *brīga* fear, terror; cf. OHG. *bruogen*.]

1. *trans.* To terrify, affright, scare.

c 1000 *Ag. Gosp. Luke* xii. 4 Ne beo 3e bregyde fram þam þe þone lichaman of-aleað. — xxiv. 22 Summe wif... us bregdon þa waron ær leohte æt þære byrgene. c 1245 *WYN-TOWN Cron.* vi. vi. 36 A Serpent... breyd þame all standand þare-by. c 1295 *DOUGLAS K. Hart* i. xxiv. It culd thame bre, and biggit thame to byde. 1674 *RAY N. C. Wds.* 8 *Bree*, to frighten. 1790 J. COLLIER (Tim Bobbin) *Wks.* 51 I'r so fearfully breed at meh hure stood on eend. 1873 in *Lanc. Gloss.* (E. D. S.) 55 He was fair breed.

2. *intr.* To be terrified.

c 1375 *BARBOUR St. Theodora* 15 Befor þe croice he [the devil] sa breis þat, quhene he it seis, þane he fleis.

Bread, *dial.* form of *BRAID* v. 1.

Breech (*brīf*), *sb.* Forms: 1 *brēc*, (*bræc*), 3 *brych*, 3-5 *brech*, 4-6 *breche*, 4-7 *breoche*, 6 *breache*, *briech*, *bryche*, 6-7 *breotch*, 7 *brioch*, 7-9 *britch*, 9 *breach*, 5- *breech*. [Com. Teut.: OE. *brēc* (:—*brēc*), pl. of **brēc* fem. = OFris. *brók*, pl. *brék*, (MDu. *broec*, Du. *broek*), OHG. *bruoh* (MHG. *bruoch*, *mod. Ger. bruch*), obs. in 18th c., but still in Switz. pl. *brüch*), ON. *brók*, pl. *brakr* (Sw. *brök*, Da. *brög*):—OTeut. type **brēc*-s fem. monosyl. 'article of clothing for the loins and thighs'.

Often stated to be an adoption of L. *brāca* (also *brāca*, *bracca*), or its Gaulish original, which was app. **brāca*, (see BROGUS) clothing for the legs ('barbara tegmina crurum' Vergil *Æn.* xi. 777); but **brēc* has all the marks of an original Teutonic word = Aryan **bhrēk-s*. The Celtic *brāca* is considered by Dr. Whitley Stokes to be phonetically descended from an earlier **brāg-na*, a derivative of the same root **brēg-*, and so cognate with the Teutonic.]

† 1. A garment covering the loins and thighs: at first perh. only a 'breech-cloth'; later reaching to the knees.

a. in OE. *brēc*, plural of *brēc*.

a 1000 *Reg. St. Benot* 55 (Bosw.) *Brec, femoralia*. a 1200 *Voc.* in Wt.-Wülcker 328 *Femoralia*, *bræc*.

b. in ME. usually *brēch*, *breech* as a sing.

a 1200 *Cott. Cleop. Gloss.* in Wt.-Wülcker 433 *Lumberv*, gyrdel oððe brec. a 1225 *Ancr. R.* 420 Sum wummon... were ðe brec of heare ful wel i-knotted. c 1385 *Wyclif Serm.* Sel. Wks. II. 3 Joon hadde neiper coote ne brec. c 1400 *MAUNDEV.* xxiii. (1839) 250 Alle the women weren Breech, as wel as men. 1480 *CAXTON Chron. Eng.* ccl. 183 The good man... come thyder al naked sauf his breeche. 1535 *COVERDALE Jer.* xiii. 1 Get the a linnen breeche, and gyrdle it aboute thy loynes. 1566 *J. Heywood Prov. & Epigr.* (1867) 16 To beg a breeche of a bare arst man. 1642 *Jack Puffe* 39 in *Hazl. E. P. IV.* 316 With out-stucke bomm, streight breech, and spit at side.

c. Now always in pl. *Breeches* (*brīf*), or a pair of breeches (perh. not so used before 15th c.). *Breeches* are distinguished from *trousers* by coming only just below the knee, but dialectally (and humorously) *breeches* includes *trousers*.

[c 1205 *LAY.* 18028 Heo... gripen heore cniues & of mid here breeches. 1385 *Wyclif Gen.* iii. 7 They soweden to gidre leues of a fige tree, & madden hem brechis.] a 1300 *Voc.* in Wt.-Wülcker 629 *Bracce*, *brechys*. 1555 *Ferdie Facims* i. iv. 41 Some make them breeches of the heares of their heades. 1560 *BIBLE* (Genev.) *Gen.* iii. 7 They sewed figge tree leues together, and made themselves breeches. 1591 *SPENSER M. Hubbard* 211 His breeches were made after the new cut. 1661 *Perry's Diary* 6 Apr., To put both his legs through one of his knees of his breeches. 1784 *COWPER Task* i. 10 As yet black breeches were not. 17... *Chestnut Horse*, Dreamed of his boots, his spurs, his leather breeches, Of leaping five-barred gates, and crossing ditches. 1898 *HAWTHORNE Fr. & It. Frills* II. 179 Their trousers being tucked up till they were strictly breeches.

2. Hence the phrase, said of a wife, *To wear the breeches* (*breech* obs.): to assume the authority of the husband; to rule, be 'master'.

[1553 *T. WILSON Rhet.* 89 As though the good man of the house were no breeches or that the Graye Mare were the better horse.] 1568 *T. HOWELL News Somn.* (1879) 151 He is a cokes: and worthy strokes, whose wife the Breeches beare. 1593 *SHAKS.* 3 *Hen. VI.* v. v. 24 That you might still haue worne the Petticoat, And ne'er haue stolne the Breech from Lancaster. 1600 *Maides Metam.* iv. in *Bullen O. PL.* (1882) I. 147 This is leape year: Women weare breeches, petticoats are deare. 1606 *Choice, Chance & C.* (1881) 22 She that is master of her husband must weare the breeches. 1665 *GLANVILLE Scpts. Sci.* xvi. 100 The Female rules, and our Affections wear the breeches. 1807 *W. IRVING Salmag.* (1824) 102 The violent inclination she felt to wear the breeches.

3. A term of ridicule applied to the Common-wealth coinage, suggested by the arrangement of two shields on the reverse side of the coin.

1673 *LD. LUCAS Sp. in Ho. Peers* 3 All the Parliament money called Breeches, (a fit Stamp for the Coyne of the Rump) is wholly vanished.

4. The part of the body covered by this garment: the buttocks, posteriors, rump, seat. (Instances of this sense before 16th c. are very doubtful: the OE. passage, so often cited, as well as the ME. ones, prob. belong to 1.)

[c 1000 *Sax. Leechd.* II. 146/3 Nim gate hæz smec under þa brec wip þær rage reosan. c 1305 *Edmund Conf.* 164 in 136 - 2

E. E. P. (1862) 75 He was bynepe his brech igurd faste ynou3 Wip a strong corde. 1480 CAXTON *Descr. Brit.* 40 At her brech out and home They hong their money.]
 a 1533 FRITH *Disp. Purg.* (1829) 110 Then hath he made a rod for his own brech. 1599 GREENE *Alphonsus* (1861) 231 Unless I send some one to scourge thy brech. 1630 HAYWARD *Edw. VI.* 74 A lewd boy turned towards him his naked britch. 1682 N. O. *Boileau's Lutrin* II. 147 She dropt backwards upon her brech. 1751 SMOLLETT *Per. Pic.* xlv. (1779) II. 88 Our hero... dismissed him with a kick on the brech. 1821 BYRON *Juan v. lxxviii*, Trowsers... such as fit an Asiatic brech.

b. *transf.* The hinder parts of a beast; also of its skin or fleece: cf. BREECING 4.

1720 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 4780/4 The Hair galled off his Buttocks with a Brech Tye. 1805 LUCCOCK *Nat. Wool* 193 The brech of the fleece is large and hairy. 1868 *Daily News* 8 Dec. A steer... like the rejected one... about the 'breches'. 1885 F. BOWMAN *Struct. Wool* 219 The coarsest part of the fleece... where the wool grows in large locks with long coarse hairs... is called the 'brech' or 'britch'.

5. *techn.* a. *Gunnery.* 'The hindmost part of a piece of ordnance' (Bailey); the part of a cannon behind the bore; the corresponding part in a musket or rifle (cf. BRECH-LOADER). Also *attrib.*

1575 GASCOIGNE *Weedes Wks.* (1587) 183 The bravest peece for brech and bore that ever yet was bought. 1666 CAPT. SMITH *Accid. Yng. Stamen* 32 Her carnooze or base ring at her britch. 1664 BUTLER *Hud.* II. 1. 264 Cannons shoot the higher pitches The lower we let down their Breches. 1798 SWIFT *Problem Wks.* 1755 IV. 1. 301 At the brech it flashes first. 1833 MARRYAT *Olla Podr.* xvii, Muskets which load at the brech. 1879 *Cassell's Techn. Educ.* III. 308 The gun always travels with its back part, or brech, towards the horse's head. 1874 BOUTELL *Arms & Arm.* xi. 218 The brech end of the gun.

b. *Occas.* used of the lower or thicker end of various instruments, tools, etc.; e.g. the thick end or 'tail' of the bolt of a lock.

1677 MOXON *Mech. Exerc.* (1703) 30 It hath an Hook returning at the Lower End of it, to fall into the Brech of the Bolt. 1793 SIR G. SHUCKBURN in *Phil. Trans.* LXXXIII. 80 A semicircle divided with its nonius, to every 5', on the brech plate of the telescope.

c. *Ship-building.* 'The outside angle formed by the knee-timber, the inside of which is the throat' (Smyth *Sailor's Word-bk.*).

† 6. *pl.* The roe of a cod-fish. *Obs.*

1688 R. HOLME *Armoury* II. xiv. 324 The Spawne, or Frye, is the seed of the fish: of some called Eggs; in a Cod-Fish termed the Breches.

7. *Comb.* chiefly *attrib.*, as *brech-belt*, *-cloth*, *-clout*, *-maker*, *-part*, *-piece* (of a gun), *-pocket*, *-rope*, *-sight* (of a gun), *-tie*. Also *breches-maker*, *-pocket*. c 1490 *Gloss.* in *Wr. Wülcker* 734 *Hoc lumbari*, a 'brek-belt'. 1c 1475 *Hunt. Hare* 206 His breche-belt all to-brast. 1841 CATLIN *N. Amer. Ind.* (1844) I. xxix. 232 We found him naked, except his 'brech-cloth'. c 1500 *Cocke Lorettes B.* (1843) 6 By her crafte a 'breche maker'. 1828 GREENE *Gunnery*, They all appear to have been loaded by removing a brech part, or chamber. 1862 F. GRIFFITHS *Artill. Man.* (ed. 9) 190 The 'brech piece' is a cylinder, bored, turned, and shrunk upon the end of the barrel. 1831 CARLYLE *Sart. Res.* III. xi, A Signpost, whereon stood written that such and such a one was 'Breches-Maker to his Majesty'. 1783 COWPER *Let.* 26 Jan., Some held their hands behind them... and others had thrust them into their 'breches pockets'.

8. *Special comb.*, as (sense 5 a) *brech action*, the mechanism at the breech of a gun; *brech-block*, a moveable steel block by which the breech end of the barrel in certain fire-arms is closed; *brech-lever*, a lever by which the breech-block of some cannons is screwed in place; *brech-pin*, *brech-plug*, a pin or plug closing the breech end of a gun; *brech-screw* (see *quot.*); (sense 4) *breches-ball*, a ball of composition for cleaning breeches; *Breches Bible*, a book-collector's name for the Geneva Bible of 1560 on account of the rendering of *Gen.* iii. 7, though this was already in Wyclif (cf. 1 c); *breches-buoy*, a life-saving apparatus consisting of a life-buoy with suspended canvass support resembling breeches through which the legs are put; *breches-figure*, a person who makes a good figure in breeches; so *breches-part*, a part in which men's clothes are worn by an actress. Also *BRECH-GIRDLE*, *-LOADER*.

1824 *Daily News* 13 Apr. 6/3 The 'brech-action' [of the gun] is so simple and well-balanced that it can be worked by a child. 1798 JANE AUSTEN *Northang. Ab.* (1833) II. vii. 141 An expenditure in shoe-strings, hair-powder, and 'breches-ball'. 1835 *Penny Cycl.* IV. 374/2 This [the Geneva] edition is often called the 'Breches Bible', on account of a rendering given in *Genesis* iii. 7. 1881 GREENE *Guns* 115 The 'brech-blocks' blew up, in consequence of... imperfect cartridges. 1880 *Boys Own Paper* III. 52/1 A life-line, furnished with a 'breches-buoy' (resembling a pair of canvas breeches with the legs cut off) was secured to the wreck. 1808 HURSTON *Piccad. Ambulator* II. 45 The fascinating Mrs. A—k—ns, formerly the much admired 'breches-figure' on the stage. 1862 F. GRIFFITHS *Artill. Man.* (ed. 9) 205 'Brech Loader', a weighted arm on the end of the brech screw. 1865 *Dublin Univ. Mag.* I. 70 We do not profess special admiration of ladies in what are technically... termed 'breches parts'. 1777 BRADLEY *Fam. Dict.* s. v. *Fouling piece*, The 'Brech-pin'... must be somewhat above the Touch-hole. 1885 *Harper's Mag.* Mar. 632/2 A brech-pin of a gun... was forced into the brain. 1881 GREENE *Guns* 17 The 'brech-plug' was placed in a groove

in the wooden frame. 1862 F. GRIFFITHS *Artill. Man.* (ed. 9) 205 'Brech-Screw', a cylinder of iron with a screw turned on the outside, working in a female screw in the breech, presses the vent piece into its place when the gun is loaded.

Breecb (brif, brif), v. Forms: 5 *brek-yn*, 6 *breche*, *britch*, 6-*brech*. [f. prec. sb.]

1. To cover or clothe with, or as with, breeches; to put (a boy) into breeches. † To *brech* it (obs.): to serve as breeches.

1468 *Medulla Gram.* in *Cath. Angl.* 42 *Bracce*, to *brekyn*. 1509 BARCLAY *Shyp of Follys* (1874) I. 167 Breche hir with plate and mayle And for all that... She shall desceyve the. 1612 ROWLANDS *Knave of Hearts* 13 Let vs haue... French Doublet, and the Spanish Hose to brech it. 1850 THACKERAY *Pendennis* liii, Incidents which occurred about the period when the hero was breched. *fig.* 1605 SHAKS. *Macb.* II. iii. 122 Their Daggers Vn-mannerly brech'd with gore.

† 2. To whip on the buttocks; to flog. *Obs.*

1573 G. HARVEY *Let. bk.* (1884) 33 The bois must be britch't. 1580 HOLLYBAND *Treas. Fr. Tong.*, Fesser, to brech boyes, to scourge them. 1630 MASSINGER *Unnat. Comb.* I. i. Tales out of school! Take heed, you will be breched. 1821 SCOTT *Kenilw.* xxiv, Thou art a prating boy, and should be breched for thine assurance.

3. *Naut.* To secure (a cannon) by a breeching. 1757 *Let. fr. Capt. Gilchrist* 26 July (Record Office MS.), By breeching my aftermost guns aft. 1833 MARRYAT *P. Simple* (1863) 28 'Now... we'll brech these guns'.

Breched, *pp. a.* [f. prec. + -ED.]

1. Wearing or furnished with breeches. c 1550 *Songs Costume* (1849) 85 Proude and paynted parragones And monstous breched beares. 1866 MOTLEY *Dutch Rep.* Introd. 4 The Romans divided his race respectively into long-haired, breched, and gowned Gaul (*Gallia comata, braccata, togata*).

2. Of a gun: Provided with a breech.

1575 GASCOIGNE *Weedes Wks.* (1587) 185 They [a kind of gun] be... Reinforced wel, and breched like a brock. 1808 *Hull Advertiser* 18 Dec. 3/1 Old Barrels bored and breched to shoot close and strong.

3. Of a cannon: Secured by a breeching. 1830 MARRYAT *King's Own* xxii, The guns [are] double-breched.

4. *Thieves' slang.* 'Flush of money' (J. H. Vaux *Flash Dict.* 1812).

† **Breecher**. *Obs.* rare—o. [f. as prec. + -ER.] One who flogs.

1611 CORN., *Fessur*, a whipper, scourger, breecher. **Breechless** a., without breeches, breechless.

1825 *Blackw. Mag.* XII. 636 Those breechless heroes, the Sons of the Mist. 1837 *Fraser's Mag.* XVI. 670 The killing of the breechless barbarians at Glencoe.

† **Breechgirdle**. *Obs.* Forms: 3 (1), 4 *broi gurdle*, 4-5 *braygirdle*, *brochgirdle*, *-girdle*, *broch girdle*, *brochgirdle*, *-dle*, *bre*, *brei*, *brigirdle*, *-dil*, *brygurdle*, 5 *braygurdyle*, *brekgurdyle*, *brygurdyl*, *breke-girdul*, *brigirdle*, *brekegyrdyl*, *brekgurdyl*, 5-6 *brekegyrdle*, 6 *breache gyrdle*. [Corresp. to an OE. type **bræcgirdyl*, whence ME. Kentish *brechgirdel*, north. *brekgirdyl*: the latter became by assimilation (cf. *blackguard*) *brechgirdel*, *breigirdel*.]

A girdle or belt worn round the loins; a belt to keep up the breeches.

a 1300 O. E. *Misc.* 193 3if him ne schal... his brei gurdle quakie. 1340 *Ayeb.* 205 Pe writinge 2ayb bet Ieremies brechgirdel rotebe beside pe wetere. 1388 *Wyclif Jer.* xiii. 4 Take the brigirdil... which is aboute this leendis. c 1400 MAUNDEV. v. 49 Trees, that ben non hyere than a Mannes brek Girdille. 1440 *Prompt. Parv.* 51/1 *Brygyrdyl*, *lumbare*, *renale*. a 1500 *Gloss* in *Wr. Wülcker* 629 *Perysoma*, *braygurdyle*. 1552 HULOET, *Breache gyrdle*, *lumbare*.

Breaching (brif-tjig), *vbl. sb.* [f. BRECH v. and sb. + -ING.]

1. The action of clothing with breeches; *concr.* clothing for the breech or haunches (*obs.*).

1604 S. ROWLANDS *Look to it*, etc. D ij b, You with... The Moncky wast, the breeching like a Beare.

† 2. A flogging. *Obs.*

1520 WHITTINTON *Vulg.* (1527) 26, I studye to-daye by cause I fere a brechyng. 1590 MARLOWE *Edw. II.* v. iv, Aristarchus' eyes, Whose looks were as a breeching to a boy. 1594 NASH *Unfort. Trav.* 73 Worse than an v-pbraiding lesson after a britching. a 1633 OVERBURY *Char.*, *Puny-Clarke* (1638) L iij, His dreames of breeching.

b. *attrib.* as in *breeching-boy*, *-scholar*, a young scholar still subject to the birch, hence *fig.* a novice. (Cf. also *whipping-boy*.)

1596 SHAKS. *Tam. Shr.* III. I. 18, I am no breeching scholler in the schooles. 1611 CORN., s. v. *Donat*, The diuells were, as then, but breeching boyes, like Grammar Schoole boyes, but young in experience, but Nouices. 1611 SPEED *Hist. Gt. Brit.* IX. xx. 23 How such a breeching-boy as hee was, durst attempt so great a wickednesse.

3. A strong leather strap passing round the breech of a shaft-horse, and enabling him to push backwards; a breech-band. Also *attrib.*

1515-24 in *Lodge Illustr. Brit. Hist.* (1838) I. 3 To William Pawn... cart-saddles, collars, harness, and breeching. 1802 W. FELTON *Carriages* II. 131 Breechings are of no use to them [horses] but in hilly places. *Ibid.* 134 It is buckled to the collar along with the breeching-strap. 1861 MUSGRAVE *By-Roads* 174 An old female hostler, who gave us neither cruppers, blinkers, or breeching.

4. Coarse clotted wool on the buttocks of sheep. 1799 PITT in *Commun. Board of Agric.* II. 464 The Mort

fleece is almost wholly fine, with a very small proportion of breechings or daglocks.

5. *Naut.* A stout rope attached by a thimble to the cascabel of a gun, and securing the gun to the ship's side. Hence *breeching-bolt*, *-loop*.

1637 CAPT. SMITH *Seaman's Gram.* xiv. 65 Britchings are the ropes by which you lash your Ordnance fast to the Ships side. 1769 FALCONER *Dict. Marine* (1789) *Breeching*, a rope used to secure the cannon... and prevent them from recoiling too much. 1833 MARRYAT *P. Simple* (1863) 100 Double breechings were rove on the guns.

6. The parts forming the breech of a gun, the breech-action.

1808 *Hull Advertiser* 18 Dec. 3/1 An improved construction of breeching. 1816 P. HAWKER *Instr. Yng. Sportsmen* (1826) 35 This breeching was also patronized by the late Mr. Smith.

7. A bifurcated smoke-pipe in a furnace.

Breechless (brif-tjles), a. Also *Sc.* and *north.* *dial.* *breckless*; other Forms, see BREECH. [f. BREECH sb. + -LESS.] Without breeches; bare or naked about the buttocks.

1a 1400 *Morte Arth.* 1048 His brode lendes, He bekez by be bale fyre, and brecklesse hyme semede. 1470 HARDING *Chron.* I. iii, This stone... On whiche y^e Scottish Kynges wer brechelesse set At their coronamente. 1638 *Songs Costume* (1849) 141 Some like breechless women go, The Russ, Turk, Jew, and Grecian. 1822 SCOTT *Pirate* v. 45 A breechless loon frae Lochaber. 1864 *Sat. Rev.* XVIII. 711/1 Even a breechless islander, of the man Friday cast, would revolt at the idea. 1864 ATKINSON *Whitby Glass* s. v. *Breeks*, They were sarkless and breeckless.

Breech-loader (brif-tjladar). A fire-arm in which the charge is introduced at the breech.

1828 GREENE *Gunnery* 143 Under no circumstances... can a breech-loader be as safe as a solid gun. 1864 *Times* 4 Nov., One ordinary service Armstrong breechloader... and one Whitworth rifled muzzleloader. 1877 *Daily News* 5 Oct. 5/2 Steel breechloaders from Herr Krupp's factory. 1879 *Daily News* 12 Aug. 5/1 The Highland moors have been echoing to the breechloader.

Breech-loading (brif-tjladin), *vbl. sb.*

A. The method of loading (fire-arms) at the breech.

1866 *Daily Tel.* 26 May, The practice made with the imperfect 'needle-gun'... proves that breech-loading... perfectly admits of introduction into warfare. 1874 BOUTELL *Arms & Arm.* 219 The idea of breech-loading formed a part of the original conception of the cannon itself.

B. *attrib.* That is loaded at the breech.

1828 GREENE *Gunnery* 17 Breech-loading guns cannot be made sufficiently durable to yield any reasonable return for the extra expense and trouble. 1861 *Sat. Rev.* 30 Nov. 559 This complaint... indicated an opinion that the breech-loading Armstrong long-ropounders... are not powerful guns. 1880 *Standard* 14 Dec., The 43-ton breech-loading gun.

Breed (brid), sb. [f. BREED v.: the act of breeding; hence, the progeny or race in which this results.]

† 1. BREEDING, generation, birth; parentage, extraction; natal or racial origin. *Of breed*: of breeding age. *Obs.*

1a 1600 *Merch. & Son* 34 in *Hazl. E. P. P.* I. 134 Ther was not oon man in all this londe, that bare a bettry brede. 1607 TOPSELL *Four-f. Beasts* 466 Let them be young also, and of breed, Nam melior est ea setas, quam sequitur spes, quam ea quam sequitur mors. 1620 W. FOLKINGHAM *Art Serv.* I. iv. 8 Fish, and other liuing Creatures doe differ and varie in... peculiar attributes according to their places of Breede. 1623 G. HERBERT *Temple, Providence* xxviii, Nothing useth fire, But man alone, to show his heavenly breed.

2. Race, lineage, stock, family; strain; a line of descendants from a particular parentage, and distinguished by particular hereditary qualities. (Abstract and concrete.)

a. of animals.

1553 EDEN *Treat. New Ind.* (Arb.) 22 Elephanter, of greater stature, and a better broode. 1611 BIBLE *Deut.* xxxiii. 14 Rammes of the breed of Bashan. 1653 WALTON *Angler* I. 4 To destroy the very breed of those base Otters. 1722 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 6046/4 A dark brown Mare, betwixt Cart and Saddle Breed. 1820 SCOTT *Lady of L.* I. vii, Two dogs of black Saint Hubert's breed. 1824 SIR H. DAVY *Agric. Chem.* 258 It is necessary from time to time to change, and as it were to cross the breed. 1848 MACAULAY *Hist. Eng.* I. 312 Many breeds, now extinct or rare, both of quadrupeds and birds. 1859 DARWIN *Orig. Spec.* I. (1873) 15 The diversity of the breeds is something astonishing.

b. of men, etc.: now often contemptuous.

1596 SPENSER *Prothal.* 66 They did not seeme To be begot of any earthly seede, But rather angels, or of angels breede. c 1610 ROWLANDS *Terrible Batt.* 41 His wife is of a proud and dainty breed. 1712 STEELE *Spect.* No. 52 P 3 To mend the Breed and rectify the Physiognomy of the Family on both Sides. 1770 GRAY *Corr.* (1843) 102, I never saw such a boy; our breed is not made on this model. 1843 MACAULAY *Lake Regillus* xiii, Titus, the youngest Tarquin, Too good for such a breed. 1855 — *Hist. Eng.* III. 368 Warriors of a different breed.

c. *gen.* A kind, a species, a set.

1588 SHAKS. *L. L. L.* v. ii. 266 Are these the breed of wits so wondered at? 1674 N. FAIRFAX *Bulk & Selv.* 73 That measure of rest, and new breed of quickners that have befallen the body in the night.

† d. Of plants: A race. *Obs.*

1607 LOVELL *Bergerac's Com. Hist.* I. 153 Now the Breed of that Fruit... is lost in your World.

† 3. Offspring; esp. The young brought forth at the same time viewed collectively; a family, litter. *Obs.* (or *dial.*); now replaced by BROOD. Also *fig.* 1580 BAKET *Adv.* B 164 The young brede of bees. 1596

SHAKS. *Merck*. V. i. iii. 135 Lend it not As to thy friends, for when did friendship take A breede of barraine mettall of his friend? c 1600 — *Sonn.* xii. And nothing 'gainst Time's scythe can make defence Save breed, to brave him when he takes thee hence. 1607 *DRYDEN Virg. Georg.* iii. 225 Thy Care must now proceed To teeming Females; and the promis'd Breed. 1808 *PALEY Nat. Theol.* (1817) 147 The hen . . is frightened when her supposititious breed of ducklings take the water. 1863 *ATKINSON Danby Provinc.*, *Breed*, a brood, a litter of young ones.

† b. *At a breed*: at a birth. *Obs.*
a 1711 *GREW* (J.) She lays them in the sand . . sometimes above an hundred at a breed.
† c. Applied to single progeny or offspring; young one, child, bairn. *Obs.*

1586 *WARNER Alb. Eng.* i. ii. 4 Cybell [had] brought to light Her second breede, a smiling boy. *Ibid.* x. iv. 253 When Junos Breed on farther banks his passenger had set. † d. *Trans.* Those bred in (a place): brood.

1691 *Ray Creation* i. (1704) 75 The Sea—so render'd more salutary for the maintenance of its Breed.
4. *Comb.* † breed — goose, — mother, — ram, a goose, etc. for breeding; † breed — reserved a., reserved for breeding. See also HALF-BREED.

1465 *Mann. & Househ. Exp.* 206 A gander, iii. bredegese, and v. goslynges. 1611 *SPEED Hist. Gt. Brit.* v. iii. 11 The breed-reserved creatures saued in the floating Arke. 1664 *FULLER Worthies* i. 127 To give ten pound or more for a Breed-ram. 1668 *MARKHAM Way to Wealth* vi. 49 No good House-wife will breed of a young, but of an old breed-mother.

Breed (brēd), *v.* Pa. t. and pa. pple. bred. Forms: *Inf.* 3-6 brede, 6-7 breede, 6- breed; *Pa. t.* and *pa. pple.* 4 breed, 4-5 bredde, 7 bread, 4- bred. (Also 6 *pa. t.* breded, *pa. pple.* breden.) [OE. *brēdan* (:-*brēdan*) = OHG. *brūtan* (MHG. *brūten*, mod. G. *brüten*):-O Teut. type **brōdjan*, f. *brōdd*- 'warmth, fostering heat, hatching, BROOD'. *Brood*, *breed*, are analogous to *food*, *feed*, *blood*, *bleed*.]

I. *trans.* (and *absol.*)
1. *trans.* Said of a female parent: To cherish (brood) in the womb or egg; to bring (offspring) forward from the germ to the birth; to hatch (young birds) from the egg; to produce (offspring, children).

c 1000 *ÆLFRIC Hom.* II. 10 *Pæt sind beon . . of ðam hunize hi bredað heora brod.* a 1250 *Owl & Night*. 1633 Ich not to hwan þu bredst. . þi brod. a 1300 *Cursor M.* 3895 Lya bred child, and hadd a sun. *Ibid.* 12223 Quat wamb him bare or brede. 1530 *PALSGR.* 463/2, 1. brede yonge, as a woman or any other such beest dothe. 1579 *GOLDING De Mornay* i. 7 Neither thou in begetting him, nor his mother in breeding him, did once thinke vpon the fashioning of him in hir wombe. 1588 *SHAKS. Tit. A.* ii. iii. 146. 1830 *Mrs. STOWE Uncle Tom* xviii. 184 A man kept me to breed chill'en for market.

† b. To generate. *Obs.*
1513 *DOUGLAS Æneis* x. Prol. 52 The Fader . . ever breidis His Son, his word and wysdom eternal.

† c. *fig.* *Obs.*
1526 *Pilgr. Perf.* (W. de W. 1531) 75 We conceyue our owne sorowe, and breed therof. . vnyryghteousnes. 1595 *SPENSER Sonn.* ii. Unquiet thought! whom at the first I bred . . And sithens have with sighes and sorrowes fed.

2. *absol.* To be pregnant, to be with young or with child. (Now chiefly *dial.*)
1609 *GAULE Pract. The.* 85 So breeds the Virgin by her owne, and vnusual Seed. 1669 W. SIMPSON *Hydrob. Chym.* 352 Women breeding or with child. 1718 *STEELE Spect.* No. 430 P 3 Lucina . . was breeding, and she did nothing but entertain the Company with a Discourse upon the Difficulty of Reckoning to a Day. 1723 *SWIFT Stella at Woodp.* Wks. 1755 IV. 1. 38 Like a lady breeding. 1805 *STEVENSON Dynamiter* Ded. Yours is the side of the child, of the breeding woman, of individual pity and public trust.

3. *absol.* Of animal species: To produce brood or young; to have offspring; to propagate their species.

a 1250 *Owl & Night*. 101 That other 3er a fankun bredde. 1297 *R. GLOUC.* 177 In eche roche þer ys . . an ernes nest, þat hii bredþe in wyrys. c 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 49 Bredyn or hetchyn, as byrdis, *pullifico*. 1532-3 *Act 24 Hen. VIII.* x. Rookes . . do daily brede and increase throughout this realm. 1653 *WALTON Angler* 167 Most fish breed after this manner. 1808 *PALEY Nat. Theol.* (1817) 240 Mankind will in every country breed up to a certain point of distress. 1836-9 *Todd Cycl. Anat. & Phys.* II. 468/2 A mare has bred with an ass and has had a mule foal. 1859 *DARWIN Orig. Spec.* i. (1873) 7 Carnivorous animals . . breed in this country pretty freely under confinement.

c. *fig.*
1599 *SHAKS. Much Ado* i. iii. 4 There is no measure in the occasion that breeds, therefore the sadness is without limit. 1603 — *Meas. for M.* ii. ii. 142 Shee speaks, and 'tis such sense That my Sence breeds with it. 1612-5 *Br. HALL Contempl. O. T.* (1837) II. xix. i. 5 Kindnesses breed on themselves. 1866 *ARGVILL Reign Law* i. (ed. 4) 2 Half the perplexities of men are traceable to obscurity of thought hiding and breeding under obscurity of language.

4. *trans.* Said of countries, situations, or conditions, engendering living things; also, in the *passive*, of animals being engendered or brought into existence (without reference to parental action).
a 1250 *Owl & Night*. 1722 They heo nere i-bred a wolde, Ho was i-tozen among mankynne. c 1325 *E. E. Allit. P.* C. 143 Elite busched to be a byme þat breed fysches. 1413 *Lydd. Pilgr. Soule* iv. ii. (1483) 58 In these pepyns was bredde a worme. 1586 *BARET Adv.* B 1164 Rotten timber breedeth wormes. 1590 *GREENE Never too late* (1600) 9

Women are vniversally mala necessaria, wheresoeuer they be eyther bred or brought vp. 1653 *WALTON Angler* 85 There be certayne waters that breed Frouts. 1675 *HOBBS Odys.* ix. 30 Rocky is Ithaca. . But breedeth able men. 1808 *BINGLEY Anim. Biog.* (1813) III. 122 This insect . . is bred and nourished in bacon. 1883 *Eng. Illust. Mag.* Nov. 72 A hard place . . to live in, and fit to breed a hardy race.

5. Of the natural production of things inanimate: now esp. in 'to breed fever' and the like; also *fig.* 'to breed bad blood' (see BLOOD), etc.

c 1325 *E. E. Allit. P.* B. 257 Hit was forme-foster þat þe solde bred. 1398 *TREvisa Barth. De P. R.* viii. xxviii. (1495) 339 Oores of metall being breded and bred depe wythin the erthe. *Ibid.* xv. xlii. 503 Creta bredyth precyous stones. 1598 *W. PHILLIPS Linschoten's Trav.* in Arb. *Garner* III. 30 The great number of the men in the ship was the cause of breeding the same [plague]. 1607 *TORSELL Four. f. Beasts* 496 To suck all [the milk] that their dams can breed. 1657 *AUSTIN Fruit Trees* i. 84 Figs are said to . . breed store of blood. 1665 *BOYLE Occas. Refl.* (1675) 68 Green Fruit breeds Sickness in the Body. 1719 *DR. FOR CRUOE* (1840) II. i. 1 What is bred in the bone will not get out of the flesh. 1863 *KINGSLEY Water-bab.* v. (1875) 225 Dirt breeds fever.

† b. To develop (teeth, wings, or the like). *Obs.*
1544 *PHAER Regim. Lyfe* (1560) S v b. About the seventh moneth . . after y^e byrthe, it is natural for a childe for to breede teeth. 1667 *MILTON P. L.* ix. 1010 Divinitie within them breeding wings. 1738 *SHAW Barbary* in *Pinkerton Coll. Trav.* XIV. 622 When the little ones [lion cubs] breed their teeth.

† c. To produce (products of human art). *Obs.*
1577 *HOLINSHED Chron.* II. 401/1 His pen . . is dailie breeding of such learned bookes. 1690 *POMFREY Reason* 52 Those books that modern times have bred.

6. To give rise to, engender, develop, produce, create, cause, be the source of.

c 1200 *Trin. Coll. Hom.* 55 Estmetes þe bredeð sinnes. 1398 *TREvisa Barth. De P. R.* xvii. civ. (1495) 669 The smell of the apples of mandragora . . bredyth slepe. 1548 *UDALL Erasme. Apoph.* 278 It breded & aised greaite enuie and grutchynge against Caesar. 1583 *STANYHURST Æneis* i. (Arb.) 20 Noght breeds theym coomfort. 1598 *BARET Theor. Warres* iv. i. 120 Warres may breed pouertie, and pouertie breedeth peace. 1601 *SHAKS. All's Well* ii. iii. 140 Shee is young, wise, faire. . And these breed honour. 1651 *HOBBS Leviath.* i. ii. 6 Lying cold breedeth Dreams of Feare. 1876 *MORLEY Diderot* II. 184 An iniquitous government breeds despair in men's souls.

b. Rarely with *forth* (*obs.*), *up*.
1570 *ASCHAM Scholem.* (Arb.) 42 Our reasons serue onelie to breede forth talke. 1605 *Verstegan's Dec. Intell.* (1628) Pref. Verses. The beaustious light Breed forth of Phebus bright arising rays. 1863 *KINGSLAKE Crimea* (1876) I. i. 20 Acts which tended to breed up causes of quarrel.

† 7. with *compl.* To cause to become; to make, cause, bring (into a state, or to do something). *Obs.*
c 1460 *Launfal* 704 Sche ley down yn hyr bedde, For wrethe syk sche hyr bredde. c 1465 *Plumpton Corr.* 14 God bred her to be delivered of her son Nicholas on Tewesday. 1605 *BACON Greatness of Kingd.*, *Ess.* (Arb.) 477 Such a Proportion of Land . . as may breed a Subiect, to liue in Conuenient Plenty.

† 8. To cherish, foster. *Obs.*
a 1285 *Ancr. R.* 200 þe þet bret þesne kundel, in hire brooste al is attri to Gode. *Ibid.* 222 Moni . . bredeð in hire brooste sum lūnes hweolp.

9. To take charge of or promote the engendering of (animals); to 'raise' (cattle).
c 1400 *Gamelyn* 359 þe bestis þou hast forþ bredde. 1503 *FITZHERB. Husb.* § 8 For to reare and brede catell or shepe. 1676 *RAY Corr.* (1848) 121 The manner of breeding Canary-birds. 1796 *MORSE Amer. Geog.* II. 21 A great number of small cattle are bred in this province. 1859 *JEPHSON Brittain* iii. 28 A Frenchman cannot breed a foal without the assistance of the paternal government.

b. *absol.*
1859 *DARWIN Orig. Spec.* i. (1873) 24 Hardly any one is so careless as to breed from his worst animals.

10. To train up to a state of physical or mental development. [This sense is evidently transferred from 1; the young creature being viewed as a rude germ to be developed by nurture.]

a. To rear (animals) so as to develop their physical qualities or intelligence.

1523 *FITZHERB. Husb.* § 120 A horse mayster is he, that bieth wyldye horses, or coltes, and bredeth theym. 1607 *DRYDEN Virg. Georg.* iii. 85 The Generous Youth, who . . to the Plough the sturdy Bullock breeds. *Ibid.* iii. 186 To chuse a Youthful Steed . . To breed him, break him, back him. 1774 *GOLDSM. Nat. Hist.* (1862) I. i. ii. 259 The wild ass is even more asinine . . than that bred in a state of . . servitude.

b. To train up (young persons) in the arts of life; to educate, tutor, bring up. Also with complementary object, as 'to breed him a scholar, a papist', and with *to*, 'to breed him to a profession, to the law', etc. (*Bring up* is the ordinary modern equivalent in all shades of meaning.)

† (a.) To train by education, educate, teach. *Obs.*
1570 *ASCHAM Scholem.* (Arb.) 73 One of the best Scholers that euer S. Johns College bred. 1615 *SIR R. BOYLE in Lismore P.* (1886) II. 101, I sent my eldest son . . into England to be bred there. 1667 *DOWNE Sermon*. 47 Breed them not in an opinion that such a Faith is enough. 1664 *FULLER Worthies* (1840) I. 130 Sir John Mason . . was . . bred in All Soules in Oxford. 1676 *WYCHERLEY Pl. Dealer* i. i. (1678) 9 She lodges in one of the Inns of Chancery, where she breeds her Son, and is her self his Tutorress in Law-French. 1706 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 4250/3 Restraining them from taking and breeding Apprentices. 1775 *JOHNSON Rambl.* No. 180 P 1 A wealthy trader . . having the ambition to breed his son a scholar, carried him to an university. 1774 *T. WARTON Hist. Eng. Poetry* Diss. ii. 125 The universal ardour . . of

breeding almost all persons to letters. 1796 *SOUTHEY Hymn to Penates* Wks. II. 279 We grew up Together, and in the same school were bred. 1834-43 — *Doctor* xxvi. He did not determine upon breeding him either to the Church or the Law.

(b.) To bring up from childhood, including all the circumstances which go to form the religious persuasion, manners, position in life, and trade.

1650 *BAXTER Saint's R.* ii. (ed. 5) 247 David, who was bred a Shepherd. 1697 *DRYDEN Virg. Eclog.* viii. 60 In Desarts thou wert bred. 1715 *DR. FOR Fam. Instruct.* ii. i. (1841) I. 176 Thou talkest as if thou hadst been bred a heathen. 1774 *FRANKLIN Autobiog.* Wks. 1840 I. 5 Thomas was bred a smith under his father. 1813 *SCOTT Rokeby* iv. viii. He bids thee breed him as thy son. 1848 *MACAULAY Hist. Eng.* II. 230 Most of these functionaries had been bred Churchmen. 1857 *BUCKLE Civilis.* i. vii. 341 The old traditions in which they had been bred. 1866 *G. MACDONALD Ann. Q. Neighb.* vii. I bred him to the joiner's trade, sir.

† (c.) Also *To breed up*, *arch.* or *Obs.*

1611 *BIBLE Pref.* 3 Boyes that are bred up in the Scriptures. 1641 *HINDER 7. Bruen* iv. 14 Very few Gentlemen . . will bee at the cost to breed up two [sons] in the University. 1738 *BERKELEY Alciph.* i. § 6 Suppose that I am bred up in the Church of England. 1741 *WATTS Improv. Mind* (1801) i. Arithmetic had been bred up to accounts all his life. 1776 *PENDARVES in Swift's Lett.* (1766) II. 229 The poor duchess is often reproached with her being bred up in Burr-street, Wapping. 1801 *MAR. EDGEWORTH Contrab.* (1832) 108 Care to breed up their children well. 1836 *J. H. NEWMAN Par. Sermon* II. ix. (ed. 2) 115 He was bred up in a human school.

11. *To be born and bred, or bred and born*: an alliterative phrase in which *bred* has usually sense 9, though formerly sense 1.

a 1340 *HAMPOLE Pr. Consc.* 4209 In þe first he sal be born and bredde, And in þe secunde be nurst. 1548 *UDALL Erasme. Apoph.* 1132 Where he was born and breden. *Ibid.* 133 In the same Isle born, breden, and brought vp. 1586 *BARET Adv.* B 1165 We are so borne and bredde of nature. 1601 *SHAKS. Twel. N.* i. ii. 22, I was bred and borne Not three houres trauaile from this very place. 1778 *LAW Serious* C. xviii. (ed. 2) 326 Born and bred in families that have no Religion. 1875 *JOWETT Plato* (ed. 2) I. 288 He was born and bred in your house.

12. *intr.* (for *refl.*)

12. To come into being or existence, as a continued process; hence, to be engendered or produced.

c 1200 *Trin. Coll. Hom.* 165 Wuremes breden in wildeerne. a 1300 *Cursor M.* 16410 His blod on vs be, and on þam þat of vs sal brede. c 1320 *Anticrist* 32 Nu sal yee her . . Hu þat anticrist sal brede. c 1430 *Hymns Virg.* (1867) 4 Heil crowned queene. . Heil þat alle oure blis in bradde! c 1440 *York Myst.* xxxiii. 130 Woo worthe þe wombe þat I bredde ynne. 1579 *GOSSON Sch. Abuse* (Arb.) 46 The worme that breeds within it. c 1600 *Lyrics for Lutenists* (Collier) 14 It is a sweete delicious morne, Where day is breeding, never borne. 1606 *BACON Sylva* § 696 Fleas breed principally of Straw or Mats, where there hath been a little moisture.

† b. Of eggs: To be hatched.
1661 *LOVELL Hist. Anim. & Min.* 108 They lay egges, which breed.

† c. Of vegetables, animal structures, growth, etc.: To come forth, spring, grow. *Obs.*

a 1300 in *Wright's Lyric P.* xiv. 45 Blossmes bredeth on the bowes. 1375 *BARBOUR Bruce* xvi. 68 Lewis on the branchis spredis, And blomys bricht besyd thame breidis. 1541 *R. COPLAND Guydon's Quest. Chirurg.*, Fro whens bredeth the synewes? 1668 *CULPEPPER & COLE Barthol. Anat.* iii. xl. 153 Certain strong band, breeding from without, and creeping to the Cheek-bone.

† d. Of mineral products: To be formed naturally, to be produced. *Obs.*

1398 *TREvisa Barth. De P. R.* (Tollemache MS.) xvi. iii. That stone [alabaster] þat bredþe [nasceitur] aboute Thebe. *Ibid.* xix. xxiii. (1495) 877 Some colour bredeth in veynes of the erthe, as Sinopis Rubrica.

13. *fig.* To arise, originate, spring forth, make their appearance.

c 1385 *CHAUCER L. G. W.* 1156 Of which ther gan to bredyn swich a fyre. 1586 *WARNER Alb. Eng.* i. iii. 10 His high exploits, whereof such wonder breed. 1817 *JAS. MILL Brit. India* i. iii. iv. 585 [He] allowed . . discontents & jealousies to breed in the army.

† 14. with *compl.* To grow or become (something). *Obs.*

c 1325 *Poem temp. Edw. II.* lxiii. Thei . . bredeth wode for wele. c 1325 *E. E. Allit. P.* B. 1558 Penne þe bolde Baltazar bred ner wode.

† 15. † To nestle, to hive; to dwell. *Obs.*

c 1325 *E. E. Allit. P.* A. 415 He Corounde me queene in blysse to brede. c 1340 *Gow. & Gr. Knt.* 21 Quen þis Bretayn watz bigged . . Bolde bredden perinne. c 1350 *Will. Palerne* 1782 To sum wildeernesse where as þei bredde.

III. Phrases. † *To breed out*: to exhaust the breed, degenerate. *To breed in and in*: to breed always with near relatives; the opposite being *to breed out and out*.

1599 *SHAKS. Hen. V.* iii. v. 20 Our madames mock at vs, and plainly say Our Mettell is bred out. 1607 — *Timon* i. i. 259 The straine of mans bred out into Baboon and Monkey. 1819 *BYRON Juan* i. lviii. In that point so precise in each degree That they bred in and in . . Marrying their cousins—nay, their aunts and nieces.

IV. *Comb.* formed on the verb-stem: † breed-sleep a., sleep-breeding, soporific; † breed-young a., having young, suckling.

1583 *STANYHURST Æneis* iv. (Arb.) 112 Hoonnie liquid sprinkling and breede sleepe wild popye strawing. 1603 *FLORIO Montaigne* (1632) Swifter then breed-young Tiger.

Breed (e, *obs.* form of BREAD, BREDE sb. 2 and 3).
† **Breed-bate**. *Obs.* [*f. BREED v. + BATE sb. 1*]

One who breeds 'bate', or excites strife; a mischievous-maker.

1593 *Tell-trothe's N. Y. Gift* 39 He delights not in breed-bates. 1598 SHAKS. *Merry W.* i. iv. 12 No tel-tale, nor no breed-bate. 1853 KNIGHT-BRUCK in De Gex, etc. *Law Rep.* i. 680 Referring to decent people... and not to breedbates, barretors, or counsel whom no Inn would own.

Breeder (brî-dai). [*f.* BREED *v.* + -ER *1.*]

1. That which breeds or produces offspring.

1588 SHAKS. *Tit. A.* iv. ii. 68 Amongst the fairest breeders of our clime. 1593 — 3 *Hen. VI.* ii. i. 42 You loue the Breeder better then the Male. 1614 MARKHAM *Cheap Husb.* (1623) 136 Not good to chuse a crowing hen, for they are neither good breeders nor good layers. 1641 *Best Farm. Bks.* (1856) i. Hunge tupples are... to be kept for breeders. 1775 BRADLEY *Fam. Dict.* ii. s.v. Pigeon, The Pigeon called the Leghorn is... an excellent Breeder. 1797 SWIFT *Modest Prop.* Wks. 1755 II. ii. 60 There may be about two hundred thousand couple, whose wives are breeders. 1859 DARWIN *Orig. Spec.* iii. (1878) 51 The elephant is reckoned the slowest breeder of all known animals.

b. That which produces or originates; the author, source, or cause.

1572 BOSSEWELL *Armorie* iii. 5 Breeders, norishers, & comforters of all luyving thynge. 1589 R. HARVEY *Pl. Perc.* (1860) 20 Neither the breeders nor favorites of discord. 1674 N. FAIRFAX *Bulk & Selv.* 9 That evil should always flow from evil in a chain of breeders.

c. A plant used for propagation. d. A gardeners' name for an immature, self-coloured, seedling tulip.

1601 HOLLAND *Pliny* i. 531 As for another [shoot], springing from a yeare-old branch, it is left alwaies for a breeder. 1660 SHARROCK *Vegetables* 27 Tulips without blackish bottom are noe good breeders of various coloured flowers. 1846 MRS. LOUDON *Ladies' Comp. Flower-Gard.* 303 Breeders... are seedling Tulips before they have shown any variety of colour.

2. One who breeds cattle or other animals.

1531 ELYOT *Gov. L. x.* Virgile leaue the farre behynde hym all breeders, hakneyemen, and skovers. 1533-4 *Act 25 Hen. VIII.* i. Euery owner, grasier, fermour, breder, drouer, and brogger of this realme. 1707 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 4242/3 [To] bring a Certificate from the Breeder, of his Mare's Age. 1804 W. IRVING *T. Trav.* II. 18 He was a breeder of cattle. 1846 J. BAXTER *Libr. Pract. Agric.* II. 265. fig. 1573 TUSSEY *Husb.* (1878) 28 Let Lent well kept offend not thee, for March and April breeders bea.

b. A grower or producer. *Obs.*

1547 *Act i. Ed. VI.* i. Pream., The said Breeders of the said Wools.

c. One who brings up; a trainer, instructor. *Obs.*

1571 ASCHAM *Scholem.* (Arb.) 72 Tyme was when Italie and Rome haue bene... the best breeders and bringers vp of the worthiest men. 1608 WARNER *Ab. Eng.* xii. lxxi. 206 Of world-admired Drake... And his braue breeder Hawkins.

Breeding (brî-din), *vbl. sb.* [*f.* BREED *v.* + -ING *1.*]

1. Bringing to the birth; hatching; production of young. *Breeding of teeth:* dentition (*obs.*).

a. 1300 *Cursor M.* 3470 Hir breeding was ful selcut sare. Bot hir chiltung was mikel mare. 1397 *TREVISIA Barth. De P. R.* xvii. ii. (1495) 600 Grete bredynge of beestis is in such place. c. 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 49 Bredynge, or brodyngge... of birdys. c. 1480 *Pallad. on Husb.* i. 635 For bredynge To set an hen on cyron ix is goode. 1544 PHAKS *Regim. Lye* (1560) S.v. Breeding of teeth. 1712 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 4076/6 Illness... occasioned by the breeding of his Teeth. 1826 *Penny Cycl.* VI. 378/2 The breeding and fattening of cattle.

b. Hence (vulgarly), extraction, parentage. *Obs.*

1597 SHAKS. 2 *Hen. IV.* v. iii. 111, I know not your breeding. 1606 *DAY Isle of Guls* iv. i. 115. What breeding hast had? Man. Very good breeding, sir; my great grandfather was a ratcatcher, my grandsire a hangman.

2. fig. Origination, production, development.

1440 Q. ELIZ. in *Ellis Orig. Lett.* i. 166 II. 157 That shulde be but a bridging of a uel wil of the people. 1507 *GOLDING De Moray* xxvii. 426 The breeding of Kingdomes and Principalities. 1605 *USHER Answ. Jesuit* 400 The breedings of this disease. 1664 *POWER Exp. Philos.* i. 62 The heat which was in fermentation whilst they [Minerals] were yet in breeding.

3. The rearing and training of the young; bringing up; formerly in sense of 'education'.

1577 *HELLOWES tr. Guevara's Chron.* 91 For y^e breeding of children... and the marriage of Orphans. 1653 *MILTON Hivellings* Wks. (1851) 381 [They] have had the most of their breeding, both at School and University, by Scholarships. a. 1704 T. BROWN *Declam. Adv.* Wks. 1730 I. 42 You had never very good breeding thus to laugh at my ingenuity. 1777 *SHERIDAN Trip Scarb.* i. 1, She has her breeding within doors: the parson teaches her to play upon the dulcimer. 1859 *MILL Liberty* ii. 48 His Stoical breeding. 1864 *BURTON Scot Abr.* i. ii. 61 Royal birth and breeding.

4. The results of training as shown in personal manners and behaviour; generally used for 'good breeding', good or proper manners.

1596 SHAKS. *Merch. V.* ii. vii. 33 In graces, and in qualities of breeding. 1665 *BOYLE Occas. Refl.* (1675) Pref. 14 As I fancy'd persons, of their Breeding and tempers, would talk to one another. 1689 *SHADWELL Bury F.* i. l. 122 It out does St. James Square in dressing and breeding. 1710 *STEELE Berkeley Alciph.* i. § 12 Mind what men of parts and breeding say. 1771 *GOLDSM. Hist. England* III. 142 This romantic message, which was quite in the breeding of the times. 1806 *DISRAELI Piv. Grey* vii. vi. 421 Her ignorance of all breeding is amusing. 1870 *GRANT WHITE Words & Uses* (1881) 62 That tone of voice which indicates breeding rather than education, etc.

5. attrib., as in breeding-cage, -ground, -hole, -place, -pond, -season, -time, etc.

1711 *ADDISON Spect.* No. 128 P. 3 Their Songs begin a little

before Breeding-time. a. 1714 M. HENRY *Wks.* I. 552 It may minister some comfort and relief to a pious mother, in breeding-sickness. 1769 *WHITE Selborne* (1851) 70 The migration of frogs from their breeding-ponds. 1841 in *Proc. Berw. Nat. Club* i. ix. 252 The favourite... breeding-places of these birds. 1848 *DICKENS Amer. Notes* (1850) 118/1 A breeding-place of fever, ague, and death. 1856 *KANE Arct. Expl.* i. xxi. 268 Ducks... seeking their breeding-grounds.

Breeding (brî-din), *vbl. a.* [*f.* BREED *v.* + -ING *2.*] That breeds: see the verb.

1552 HULOET, Breeding, or full of breadynge, *fatuosus*. 1593 SHAKS. *Ven. & Ad.* 260 A breeding jennet, lusty, young, and proud. 1641 *MILTON Animadv. Wks.* (1851) 195 The malignity of that breeding corruption. 1661 *LOVELL Hist. Anim. & Min.* 80 A breeding Mare. 1856 *OLMSTED Slave States* 55 A breeding woman is worth from one-sixth to one-fourth more than one that does not breed.

Hence **Breediness**.

1674 N. FAIRFAX *Bulk & Selv.* 132 The life... is but a frame or draught of springs, leavened into a breediness.

† **Breeding**. *Obs.* [*f.* BREED *v.* + -LING.]

One born and bred in a place; a native.

1663 *Purvis Diary* 18 Sept., Over most sad fenns, all the way observing the sad life which the people of the place (which, if they be born there, they do call the breedings of the place) do live. [Taken by Macaulay for a proper name. See *Hist. Eng.* (1855) III. xi. 41.]

Breedy (brî-di), *a.* [*f.* BREED + -Y *1.*] Breeding readily; prolific. Hence **Breediness**.

1773 *Dial. betw. Swift & Prior* 24 Our early Marriages, the Breedyness of our People. 1804 J. WILSON in *Blackw. Mag.* XII. 55 Blockheads... are breedy, and double themselves every ten years. 1865 *Cornh. Mag.* II. 53 The life and habits of the breedy creature [the oyster]. 1883 *St. James's Gas.* 14 Apr. 6 Hares are not such breedy creatures as rabbits.

Breeke, *obs.* form of BRIEF.

Breek (brîk). Forms: 3-6 breke, 6 breik, 7 breeke, 5- breek. [North. Eng. and Sc. variant of BREECH *sb.*]

1. A garment covering the loins and thighs; = BREECH *sb.* 1.

† a. Formerly in singular. *Obs.*

a. 1300 *Cursor M.* 2048 Was funden pan na breke in land. c. 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 48 Breche or breke, *bracca*. a. 1508 *SKELTON Elynour Rumm.* 452 The vertue... Of her husbands breke.

b. Now only in pl. breeks = BREECHES, trousers.

1552 *LYNDESAV Monarchs* 985 And maid thame Breikis of leuis grece. 1632 B. JONSON *Magn. Lady* v. v. I ha' linnen Breeks on. 1651 *Proc. Parliament* No. 84. 1282 To slip off their breeks, that so they may made up to their middle. 1814 *SCOTT Wav.* xlviii. It's ill taking the breeks off a Highlandman. 1853 *KANE Grinnell Exp.* xxx. (1856) 263 A pair of coarse woollen drawers, and a pair of seal-skin breeks over them. 1855 *Whitby Gloss.*, Breeks, breeches.

† 2. The buttocks, rump, posterior. *Obs.*

1641 *Best Farm. Bks.* (1856) 69 They beginne usually on the belly... greasing tayle and breeke last.

Breechless, north. form of BREECHLESS.

Breekums. *Sc.* Short breeks, knee-breeches.

1823-33 *Whistle-Binkie* (Sc. Songs) Ser. II. 4 My auld uncle Watty, Wi' 's buckled knee breekums an' three cockit hattie.

† **Breel**. *Obs. rare* -1. [Perh. contr. form of BRETHEL.] A worthless, good-for-nothing fellow.

[c. 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 50/1 Breyel, *brallus*, *brolla*, *miser-culus*.] c. 1485 *Digby Myst.* (1882) III. 927 Why lowt 3e nat low to my lawdayll presens, ye brawlyng breeles.

Breem, *obs.* f. BREAM; var. of BREME *a.* *Obs.*

Breended, *obs.* form of BRINDED.

† **Breer**. *Obs.* exc. in *Sc.* or north dial. [cf. next.]

A sprout, shoot; in mod. Sc. 'the first appearance of grain above ground, after it is sown' (Jamieson).

c. 1320 *Cast. Love* 123 Bloome on bouy and breer on ryx. 1808 *JAMIESON s. v.* A fine breer, an abundant germination.

† **Breer**, *brere*, *v.* *Sc.* or north dial. A variant of BRAIRD, to sprout, germinate.

c. 1700 *KENNET MS. Gloss.*, To breer... as corn just coming up. 1816 *SCOTT Old Mort.* viii. 'A brow night this for the rye... the west park will be breering bravely this e'en.' 1846 *BROCKETT Gloss. N. C. Wds.*, Breer, Brear.

Breer (e, dial. form of BRIER.

Breeze, *obs.* form of BREEZE *sb.* 2, BRUISE; var. of BREEZE *sb.* 1.

Breetoh, *Breeth*, *obs.* ff. of BREECH, BREATH (e).

Breethred, *obs.* form of BROTHERHOOD.

Breeze (brîz), *sb.* 1 Forms: 1 breeza, breeosa, 4-6 breeze, 5 breeze, breeas, 6 bryze, 6-7 brise, brisse, 7 briseze, brisse, brise, brise, bree, (bree, brye), 4- breeze, 7- breeze, (9 arch. brise).

[OE. *brîda*, *breeosa* masc.: conjecturally referred by some to BRIMSE; but there appears to be no ground for supposing any connexion.] 1. A gadfly: a name given to various dipterous insects, esp. of the genera *Cestrus* (BOT-FLY) and *Tabanus*, which annoy horses and cattle. *arch.* or *dial.* † b. Sea-breeze: a parasite infesting some fish (cf. *Gr. Lotos*). *Obs.* Also fig.

a. 800 *Gloss.* in *Wt. Wulker 790 Asilo*, breeosa. *Ibid.* 49/42 *Tabanus*, breeosa. c. 1380 *CHAUCER Balade*, I wol me venge on loue as doþe a breeze on wyldre horse. 1596 *SPENSER F. Q.* vi. i. 24 As doth a steare... With his long tale the breeze brush away. 1601 *HOLLAND Pliny* i. 329 Certain Brees and horse-flies come of it (timber). 1611 *COTGR.*, *Tahon*, a Breeze, Brimsee, Gadbee, Dunble, Oksfie. *Tahon Marin*, the sea Breeze; a kind of worm found about some Fishes.

1641 *MILTON Ch. Discip.* II. (1851) 34 They deliver up the poor transformed heifer of the Commonwealth to be stung and vexed with the breeze and goad of oppression. 1661 K. W. *Conf. Charac.* (1860) 62 By the biting of this brye they run headlong after superiority. a. 1725 *Pope Odys.* XXII. 335 Like oxen maddened by the breeze's sting. 1850 *BLACKIE Eschylus* II. 44 O pain! pain! pain! The fateful brize!

† 2. Applied vaguely to other insects. *Obs.*

a. 1300 *E. E. Psalter* civ. 34 Breeze, of whilk na tale ne ware. 1401 *Pol. Forms* (1859) II. 54 When the first angel blew... ther rose smotheryng smoke, and breeze therinne [1611 locusts (*Rev.* ix. 3, etc.)]. c. 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 49 Breeze, locusta. 1483 *CAXTON Gold. Leg.* 412/3 That same tyme cam in to fraunce breezes or locusts Innumerable.

3. Comb., as breeze-fly = BREEZE 1.

1572 *MASCALL Govt. Cattle* (1627) 34 To make that the breeze-flie shall not annoy & bite cattell. 1868 *WOOD Homes without H.* xxvi. 511 Breeze Fly (*Cestrus bovis*).

Breeze (brîz), *sb.* 2 Forms: 6-7 brise, briseze, 7 brise, breeze, breeze, breeze, 7-8 breees, breeese, 7- breeze. [In 16th c. *brise*, *brisee*, app. ad.

OSp. (and Pg.) *brisa* (mod. Sp. *brisa*) 'north-east wind' (though, according to Cotgrave, *brise* also occurs in Fr. (in Rabelais a 1550) = *bise*, *bise* 'north wind'). Cf. also It. *brezza* 'cold wind bringing mist or frost' (Florio), Milanese *brisa* 'cool wind from the north' (Diez). Cotgrave's *brize* = *bize*, supports the suggestion of Diez, that the word was orig. a variant of *bisa*, *bise* 'north-east wind'. On the Atlantic sea-board of the West Indies and Spanish Main, *brisa* acquired the transferred senses of 'north-east trade-wind', and 'fresh wind from the sea', in which it was adopted by the English navigators of the 16th c. The further extension to 'gentle fresh wind' generally, is English; cf. the actual F. *brise* (in the Dict. of the Academy only since 1762).]

† 1. orig. A north or north-east wind; spec. applied within the tropics to the NE. trade-wind.

1565-69 *Hawkins' and Voy.* in Arb. *Garner* V. 121 The ordinary brise taking us, which is the north-east wind. 1595 *RALEIGH Disc. Guiana* in Hakluyt *Voy.* (1600) III. 661 Against the brize and eastern wind. 1604 E. G[ILBERT] *D'Acosta's Hist. Indies* iii. iv. 128 In that Zone... the Easterly windes (which they call Brises) do raine. a. 1618 *RALEIGH Apol.* 19 When the Easterly wind or Breeses are kept off by some High Mountains. 1606 *BACON Sylva* § 398 The great Brizes which the motion of the Air in great Circles... produceth. 1605 *Phil. Trans.* XV. 1148 There are continual Eastern winds under the line which they call Brises. 1706 *PHILLIPS*, *Brises*, or rather *Breeses*, certain Winds, which the motion of the Air in great circles doth produce, refrigerating those that live under the line.

† 2. The cool wind that blows from the sea by day on tropical coasts. (This was on the Atlantic sea-board of tropical America an east or north-east wind, i.e. a Breeze in sense 1; thence the name was extended to the 'sea-breeze' from any point of the compass.) *Obs.* exc. as in b.

1614 *RALEIGH Hist. World* i. iii. § 8 These hottest regions of the World... are... refreshed with a daily Gale of Easternly Wind (which the Spaniards call the Brize). a. 1618 — *Inv. Shipping* 39 Southerly winds (the Brises of our Clymate) thrust them... into the Kings ports. 1607 *CAPT. SMITH Seaman's Gram.* x. 46 A Breeze is a wind blowing out of the Sea, and commonly in faire weather beginneth about nine in the morning. 1608 *DIGBY Voy. Medit.* 38 Intending to goe in in the morning with the brize. 1665 G. HAYVERS *P. della Valle's Trav. E. Ind.* 373 Sending a breeze, or breath, or small gale of wind daily. 1666 *PHILLIPS*, *Brees*, a fresh gale of wind blowing off the Sea by day. 1839 *THIRLWALL Greece* II. 307 A strong breeze which regularly blew up the channel at a certain time of the day.

b. Extended to include the counter-current of air that blows from the land by night; hence sea-breeze and land-breeze.

a. 1700 *DRYDEN* (J.) From land a gentle breeze arose by night. 1706 in *PHILLIPS*. 1731 *BAILEY II*, *Brees*, a fresh gale of wind blowing from the sea or land alternately for some certain hours of the day or night only sensible near the coast. 1788 *COWPER Less Royal George* 9 A land-breeze shook the shrouds. 1833 *MACAULAY Armada* 31 The freshening breeze of eve unfurled that banner's massy fold.

3. A gentle or light wind: a breeze is generally understood to be a lighter current of air than a wind, as a wind is lighter than a gale. 'Among seamen usually synonymous with wind in general' (*Smyth Sailor's Word-bk.*).

1606 *CAPT. SMITH Accid. Yng. Seamen* 17 A calme, a breeze, a fresh gale. 1766 *FALCONER Shipw.* i. 350 The lesser sails that court a gentle breeze. 1798 *COLERIDGE Anc. Mar.* II. v. The breezes blew, the white foam flew. 1863 C. ST. JOHN *Nat. Hist. Moray* vii. 167 The breeze was gentle, but sufficient to take us merrily over.

4. fig. colloq. a. A disturbance, quarrel, 'row'.

1705 *GROSE Dict. Vulgar Tongue*, To kick up a breeze, to breed a disturbance. 1803 *WELLINGTON Let.* in *Gurw. Disp.* II. 367 The cession would create a breeze in the Konkani. 1811 — *ibid.* VII. 320 There was an old breeze between General — and —. 1837 *MARRYAT Dog-Friend* i. xv. (L.), Jemmy, who expected a breeze, told his wife to behave herself quietly. 1865 *Sat. Rev.* 28 Jan. 119 'Don't be angry, we've had our breeze. Shake hands.'

b. A breath of news, whisper, rumour.

1879 *STEVENSON Trav. Cevennes* 215 There came a breeze that Spirit Séguier was near at hand. 1884 *Denver* (Colorado) *Tribune* Aug., Give us a breeze on the subject.

5. Comb., as *breeze-borne*, -*shaken*, -*wooling*, *breeze-like*, adjs.

1805 J. GRAHAM *Sabbath*. On the distant cairn the watchman's ear caught doubtfully at times the 'breeze-borne note.' 1798-9 COLERIDGE *Day-Dream* ii. 5 A soft and 'breeze-like' feeling. 1804 WORDSW. *To H. C.*, The breeze-like motion. 1748 YOUNG *Ni. TA.* ii. 300 Fate... hair-hung, 'breeze-shaken, o'er the gulph A moment trembles. c 1830 J. H. GREEN *Morn. Iwilt. Child* 22 The bee hums of heather and 'breeze-wooling hill.

Breeze (brīz), *sb.*³ Also *g* breeze, *braise*. [Origin somewhat uncertain: prob. a. F. *brasse*, OF. *brase* burning charcoal, hot embers, also 'extinguished half-burned coal' (Littre), as *brasse de boulanger* baker's breeze.]

Small cinders and cinder-dust, used in burning bricks, etc.; small coke and coke-dust.

1796 *Act 12 Geo. I.*, xxxv. Nor any Breeze be used in the burning of any Bricks for Sale. 1751 CHAMBERS *Cycl.*, *Breeze*, in brick-making, are small ashes and cinders, sometimes made use of instead of coals, for the burning of bricks. 1802 *Act 25 & 26 Vic.* c. 102 § 89 If any person... carry away... cinders, rubbish, ashes, or breeze from any houses. 1804 *Athenaeum* No. 1928 466/3 *Braize* (or cinder taken from the scavenger's yard). 1875 *Ure Dict. Arts* i. 505 *Breases* (*Braize* Fr.), the dust of coke or charcoal. The coke burner applies this term to the small residual coke obtained in coke burning. The sifted ashes removed from houses is called breeze, and sold under that name to brickmakers and others. 1884 R. R. BOWKER in *Harper's Mag.* Apr. 1771 Coke breeze (the refuse of gas-works).

† **Breeze**, *v.*¹ *Obs. rare.* [f. BREEZE *sb.*¹] *intr.* To buzz as a breeze or gadfly.

1688 R. HOLME *Armory* ii. ix. 191 The Brize, Breezeth, or Brillith.

Breeze (brīz), *v.*² *rare.* [f. BREEZE *sb.*²]

1. *intr.* To blow gently, as a breeze.

1682a [see BREEZING]. 1809 J. BARLOW *Columb.* iv. 624 The breathing airs... Breeze up the bay.

2. To breeze up (Naut.): (of a wind) to freshen, to become stronger; also *impers.* Of a noise: to rise on the breeze.

1859 H. KINGSLEY *G. Hamlyn* xlv. (D.), The noise of the distant fight breezed up louder than ever. 1867 SMYTH *Sailor's Word-bk.*, Breezing up, the gale freshening. 1881 CLARK RUSSELL *Sailor's Sweetth.* iii. vi. 292 Standing by the topsail halliards should it breeze up.

Breezeless (brī'zles), *a.* [f. BREEZE *sb.*² + -LESS.] Without a breeze; still, calm.

a 1763 SHENSTONE *Wks.* (1764) i. 41 A stagnant breezeless air. 1848 LYTON *Milton*, Silent and sultry glowed the breezeless noon. 1849 C. BRONTË *Shirley* ix. 116 A still, dark day, equally beamless and breezeless.

Breezily (brī'zili), *adv.* [f. BREEZE + -LY².] In a breezy manner.

1865 *Morning Star* 1 June, Yesterday morning broke clearly, brightly, breezily.

Breeziness, [f. BREEZE + -NESS.] The condition of being breezy; also *fig.*

1837 *Fraser's Mag.* xvi. 581 A sea-breeziness that we really dreaded to lose in a work written under the anti-Atlantic inspiration of Germany. 1885 *Illustr. Lond. News* 8 Aug. 147/1 The breeziness of Fielding's novels.

Breezing, *ppl. a.* [f. BREEZE *v.* + -ING².] Blowing gently or freshly as a breeze.

1682a *New News fr. Bedlam* 21 We launght our Ship... As having then some breezing prosperous Gales. a 1704 T. BROWN *On Beauties* Wks. 1730 i. 44 Soft breezing Zephyrs.

Breezy (brī'zi), *a.* [f. BREEZE *sb.*² + -Y¹.] 1. Exposed to breezes, swept by the breeze.

1718 *Pope Iliad* ii. 758 The warriors standing on the breezy shore. 1814 WORDSW. *Excurs.* i. 471 The shadows of the breezy elms above. 1859 CAPERN *Ball. & Songs* 137 Health laughs on every breezy hill. *Mod.* High on the breezy downs.

2. Attended with breezes, full of breezes, windy; *fig.* fresh, brisk; airy.

1753 GRAY *Elegy* vi. The breezy call of incense-breathing morn. 1798 WORDSW. *Lines var. in Early Spring*, To catch the breezy air. 1840 HOOD *Up Rhine* 237 The night was breezy and cloudy. 1870 LOWELL *Among my Bks.* Ser. ii. (1873) 163 Whose breezy verse seems to float between a blue sky and golden earth.

Bref, Breefly, obs. ff. BRIEF, BRIEFLY.

Breg-, in obs. forms: see BRIG-

† **Breganse**, *sb.* *Obs.* Cf. BRIGANDER.

1503 *Prer. of H. White* (Somerset Ho.), My best payr of breganse.

Breger, var. of BRIGUER, *Obs.*

Bregg(e), obs. form of BRIDGE.

Bregger, *yngs*, var. BRIDGER, etc. abridger.

Breggurdal, **bregirdil**, -gyrdyle, var. of BREECHGIRDLE.

|| **Bregma** (brēgmā), *Phys.* Pl. *brēgmata*. [a. Gr. *brēgma* front of the head.] The region of the skull where the frontal and the two parietal bones join; the sinciput; in infancy, before the sutures are closed, constituting the anterior fontanel. (Also formerly spoken of as two regions, the right and left bregmata.) Hence *Bregmatia a.*, pertaining to the bregma.

1590 BANISTER *Hist. Man* i. 8 This Bregma is to be understood the upper part of the head forward, nigh to the Coronall Suture. 1754-64 SMELLIE *Midwif.* III. 41 Through one of the Bregmata. 1807 C. B. TAYLOR in *Med. Commun.* II. 145 Over the whole right bregma. 1857 BULLOCK *Casaeus' Midwif.* 219 The great or anterior fontanelle is

also called... the bregmatic fontanelle. 1876 BARTLEY tr. *Topinard's Anthropol.* iv. 133 The bregmatic fontanelle... is always closed before two years and a half of age.

Bregynge, var. BRIDGING *vbl. sb.* *Obs.* abridging.

† **Brehon** (br'fhn), *Obs. exc. Hist.* Also *6* breighoon, *7* brehan. [ad. Irish *breathamh* or *breitheamh*, pl. *breitheamhuin* (pronounced bré-evin), in OIr. *brithem*, gen. *brithemon* 'judge', f. *breth* judgement.] An ancient Irish judge.

a 1281 *CAMPION Hist. Irel.* vi. (1633) 19 The Breighoon (so they call this kind of Lawyer) sitteth him downe on a banke. 1596 SPENSER *State Irel.* 4 In the case of murder, the Brehon, that is their judge, will compound between the murderer and the friends of the party murdered. 1807 HALLAM *Const. Hist.* (1876) III. xviii. 345 In the territories of each Sept, judges called Brehons... sat... to determine controversies. 1875 MAINE *Hist. Inst.* ii. 24 They are... the creation of a class of professional lawyers, the Brehons.

b. *Brehon law*, the code of law which prevailed in Ireland before its occupation by the English, finally abolished in the reign of James I.

1596 SPENSER *State Irel.* 4 What is that you call Brehon Law?... It is a rule of right unwritten, but delivered by tradition from one to another. 1614 RALEIGH *Hist. World* ii. v. ii. 327 One that hath quite abolished a slaush Brehon Law. 1672 PETTY *Pol. Anat.* 375 Governed by different laws; the Irish by the Brehon law, and the English there by the laws of England. 1757 BURKE *Abridgem. Eng. Hist.* Wks. X. 334 The narrow notions of our lawyers, who abolished the authority of the Brehon law, and at the same time kept no monuments of it. 1826 FROUDE *Hist. Eng.* II. 248 The Brehon traditions—a convenient system, which was called law, but which in practice was a happy contrivance for the composition of felonies.

Breid, *Sc. f.* BREAD, BREED, BREDE; *obs. f.* BRAID.

Breigge, var. of BRIDGE *v.* *Obs.* to shorten.

Breigirdil, -gurdal, var. of BREECHGIRDLE.

Breik, obs. f. BREAK, BREECH.

Brein(e), **Breird**, obs. ff. BRAIN, BRAIRD.

Breirdit: see BREEDED.

Breise, obs. f. BREEZE *sb.*¹, gadfly.

Breislakite (brō'slākīt), *Min.* Also -*aokite*. [after *Breislake*, an Italian geologist of German descent.] A woolly-looking variety of pyroxene. 1869 PHILLIPS *Vesuv.* x. 206 Hornblende, or Amphibole, including Breislakite—in ejected blocks and scorias on Somma and Vesuvius.

Breist, obs. form of BREAD.

Breithauptite (brō't'hauptīt), *Min.* [after *Breithaupt*, a Saxon mineralogist.] Antimonial nickel, a native alloy of these two metals (Ni Sb) found in the Harz Mountains.

Breither, obs. pl. of BROTHER.

Breithful, var. of BRAITHFUL *a.* *Obs.*

Brek, obs. *Sc. f.* BRACK *sb.*¹, outcry.

Brek(e), obs. f. BREAK, BREEK, BRICK.

Breke, -girdul, obs. ff. BREECH, -GIRDLE.

|| **Brekekekex**, *a.* Gr. *brekekēkē*, used by Aristophanes to imitate the croaking of frogs.

1607 WALKINGTON *Opt. Glass* 78 Frogs with their brekekekex brekekekex coax. 1665 TRAPP *Comm. Matt.* xxii. 33 Those Romish frogs, the Jesuits, will never have done, though never so much set down, but be still up with their hateful Brekekekex-coax-coax.

Brekil, **brekyl**(le), obs. ff. BRICKLE, brittle.

Brekke, var. of BRECK, *Obs.*

Brell, obs. form of BRILL.

|| **Breloque** (brēlōk), [F.: see Littre.] A small ornament fastened to a watch-chain.

1806 THACKERAY *Christm. Bks.* (1872) 137 His chains and breloques... and ambrosial moustaches. 1882 A. B. HOPE *Brandreth's* i. xvi. 250 His chain and his breloques wag.

Brem, -e, obs. forms of BREAM.

Brembel, -bil, -bul, -ble, obs. ff. BRAMBLE.

† **Brember**, *Obs.* [OE. *brember*, var. of *brem-bel*, *CAMDELL*.] A by-form of BRAMBLE.

a 1000 *Camdeon's Gen.* 2928 (Gr.) He rom geseah brembrum fæstne. c 1286 CHAUCER *Sir Thopas* 35 Sweet as is the brembre flour [v. r. brembul].

† **Breme** (brīm), *a.* *Obs. exc. poet. and dial.* (brim) in sense 6. Forms: 1- brême, 2- breme;

also 3-6 brem, 3- brim, 3- brime, 4-6 brym, 5-6 brymme, bryme, 4-7 breeme, 6 brimme, 6-7 breem, (7 bream). [In Branch I, OE. *brême*, *brême*, (*bryme*), celebrated, famous. The origin of Branch II, which did not exist in OE., and was more decidedly northern in ME. use, is at present unexplained.

The Lindisf. Gosp. has (*Matt.*, Pref. l. 10) *broemende* as a gloss of L. *servire*, which gives a sense related to branch II; but it is difficult to see the connexion between this and OE. *brême*, *brême*. Nor can branch II be derived from OE. *bremman* to bray, roar, 'rudere, fremere', ME. *brim* v., though there may have been later confusion between a 'breme' or 'brim' boar, and a 'brimming' boar.]

I. Celebrated, brilliant, clear, loud, distinct.

† 1. Celebrated, famous, glorious (only in OE.); hence as a general epithet of admiration: Excellent, good, 'fine', 'famous'; sometimes app. = very big or strong. *Obs.*

a 1000 *Ag. Ps. cxxxv* (j). 21 Og... was swyþe breme cýning on Basane. a 1300 *Floris & Bl.* 792 Þilke feste was wel breme. c 1335 E. E. *Allit. P.* A. 86a Vchonez blyse is

hreme & beste. c 1350 *Will. Palerne* 18 A big barn and breme of his age. 1377 LANGL. *P. Pl.* B. xii. 224 How euere beste or brydde hath so breme wittes.

† 2. Brilliant, shining, bright; hence, clearly seen, evident, apparent, obvious. *Obs.*

c 1340 *Alisaunder* 533 Of Barbre þe bryght God brem to beholde. c 1400 *Destr. Troy* 1563 Ymagry... Of bestes and babery breme to beholde. 1526 *Pilgr. Perf.* (W. de W. 1531) 291 b, The lyght of grace... is so breme in these holy soules. 1548 W. PATTEN *Exp. Scott.* in Arb. *Garnier* III. 106 They mustered somewhat brim in our eyes. 1581 STURLEY *Seneca's Medea* 121 Lyfe seems the bayte to sight that lyeth brim, Death is the hooke that underlies the same. 1594 PLAT *Jewel-ho.* iii. 32 So brim and glittering light. 1605 [see B.].

† 3. Strong, distinct, or clear in sound. *Obs.*

a 1300 [see B.]. c 1340 *Gaw. & Gr. Knt.* 1601 There watz brawnyng of prys in mony breme home. 1616 2200 A wonder breme noyse. 1340 *Alex. & Dind.* 503 Brem brieddene song (in) þe braunchus a-lofte. 1501 T. HOWELL *Drusee* (1870) 199 As a Bell sends forth the brimmost sownde, When deepest downe the Ringer plucks the frame. 1596 *Life Scan-derbeg* 368 Brimme noyse of the drummes, trumpets, and tamborins. 1606 SYLVESTER *Du Bartas* ii. ii. iv. (1621) 301 But, brimmer far than in the Heavens, heer All these sweet-charming Counter-Tunes we hear.

† 4. Of reports, rumours: Loudly or strongly current or prevalent, much spoken of. *Obs.*

1560 THROGMORTON in Froude *Hist. Eng.* (1881) VI. 439 The bruits were so brim of the marriage of the Lord Robert. 1590 MORE *Conf. agst. Trib.* i. Wks. 1140/2 Sith these tydings haue comen hether so brymme of the greete Turkes enterpryse. 1595 GOLDING *Ovid's Met.* xii. (1593) 280 In their talke most breme Was then Achilles victorie. 1617 *Argentine & C.* in Percy *Reliques* (1767) II. 243 That thou Doest hold me in disdaine Is brimme abroad.

II. Fierce, raging, rough, rugged.

† 5. Of persons and their attributes or actions:

Fierce, raging, furious; stern, wroth. *Obs.*

c 1200 ORMIN 7197 Herode king was grill & gramm, & breme, & bollzhenn. a 1300 *Cursor M.* 4003 Esau coms brem and brath. c 1400 *Destr. Troy* 9632 Brem was þe battell vpon both haluys. c 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 51 Brym or fers, ferus, ferous. 1496 *Dives and Paup.* (W. de W.) x. Intro. 31 Whan all other synnes forsake men for elde and feblenesse, than couetyse is moost breme. 1513 DOUGLAS *Æneis* vi. v. 41 This sorowfull boitman with brym [v. r. breme] luk. 1556 ABP. PARKER *Palmer* H iv, Amysd my foes so brymme. 1580 SIDNEY *Arcadia* ii. 224 Let not pride make the brim.

† b. similarly of beasts; esp. as an epithet of the boar (perh. with ref. to sense of BRIM v.). *Obs.*

a 1300 *Cursor M.* 4899 þe sargantz þat were brem [v. r. breme, brim] als bare. c 1420 *Sir Amadace* xvi. He come to me as breme as bare. c 1530 LD. BERNERS *Arth. Lyt. Bryt.* (1814) 56 Who hath the lode of a brim bore. 1535 STEWART *Cron. Scott.* II. 461 Lyke ony lyoun he was als brym and bald. 1550 LYNDSEY *Sq. Meldrum* 518 As brym as he had bene ane beir. a 1553 UDALL *Register D.* iv. vi. Never bore so brymme, nor tost so hot. a 1650 *Turke & G.* 36 in Furniv. *Percy Folio* i. 92 Though ye be breme as bore.

† c. of a fierce flame or blaze. *Obs. or arch.*

c 1374 CHAUCER *Troilus* iv. 156 As breme as blase of straw yset a fyre. c 1400 *Destr. Troy* 860 þe fyre... was blasound of brunston with a brem lowe. 1818 *Ballad* in *Edin. Mag.* Oct. 327 (JAM.) The sun sæe brem frae hint a clud, Pourt out the lowan day.

6. Of the sea, wind, etc.: Raging, rough, fierce, stormy; an attribute of winter, taken from Lydgate by Spenser, and echoed from Spenser by later poets. It survives in living use in north. dial. as *brim*.

a 1300 *Havelok* 2233 That he sholde drenchen him in the se, that was ful brim. 1330 R. BAUNNE *Chron.* 28 Kast him in tille Temse, whan it was most brym. c 1400 *Destr. Troy* 3714 A brode in the breme se. 1430 LYDG. *Chron.* *Troy* ii. xvi. The breme wynter with his frost hore. 1513 DOUGLAS *Æneis* vii. Prol. 15 Brym blastis of the northyne art. 1579 SPENSER *Sheph. Cal.* Feb. 42, Breme (*Gloss.* chill, bitter) winter with chamfred browes. 1598 DRAUGHTON *Heroic. Epist.* xvi. 8 On whose breme Seas the Icie Mountaines flote. 1603 — *Odes* x. 30 Tasswage breme Mountaines scathes. 1612 COTGR., *Froid*, cold, breamie, chill. a 1618 J. DAVIES *Eglog.* (1772) 114 Looke how breme winter chamfers earthis blecke face. 1748 THOMSON *Cast. Indol.* ii. vii. Glad summer or the winter breme. 1808 JAMIESON s. v. *Brim*, 'A brim frost' is still a common phrase for a severe frost. S. B. 1824 WIFFEN *Tasso* i. vi.

† 7. Also in *brem valay*: rough, rugged valley; *breres brimme*: sharp briers. *Obs.*

c 1340 *Gaw. & Gr. Knt.* 2145 To þe bopem of þe brem valay. c 1400 *Rom. Rose* 1836 Thisteles thikke, And breres brymme for to prikke.

B. quasi-adv. in the various senses: Splendidly, brilliantly, clearly; loudly; fiercely.

a 1000 *Andreas* (Gr.) 1721 Breme gebledsod. a 1300 in Wright's *Lyric P.* 44 When briddes singeth breme. c 1340 *Gaw. & Gr. Knt.* 781 þe bryge watz breme vp-brayde. c 1386 CHAUCER *Knts.* 7. 841 Arcite and Palamon, That foughten breme, as it were boores tuo. a 1500 E. E. *Misc.* (Warton) 65 Gabrelle schalle bloo both brymme and scrylle. 1577 tr. *Bullinger's Decades* (1592) 619 (It doth) shine out very brightly, but far more brim if we, etc. 1605 SYLVESTER *Du Bartas* i. iv. (1633) 79 The rest... we do more brim behold. 1607 W. BARKSTED *Mirra* (1876) 12 Echo was pleas'd with voice resounding brim.

Breme, obs. form of BREAM, a fish.

Breme, obs. or dial. f. BRIM v., said of swine.

† **Bremely**, *a.* *Obs.* [f. BREEZE + -LY¹.] Fierce, furious.

c 1300 *Cursor M.* 24847 (Edinb.) Pain blew on mani bremli blast. a 1500 *Songs & Carols* 15th C. (1847) 26 (Matz.) That brymly best so cruell and unryd, Ther tanyd I hym.

† **Bremely**, *adv.* Obs. Also 3-5 **bremly**, 6 **brimly**: see **BREME** *a.* [f. **BREME** *a.* + **-LY**.]

1. Fiercely, angrily; hence, in more general senses, as hotly, vehemently, strenuously, strongly.

a 1300 *Cursor M.* 7600 For his word was saul wrath, For oft with was he bremly brath. c 1350 *Will. Palerne* 948 Wel y vnderstande whider he belance bremlist bouwes. c 1400 *Yvaine & Gaw.* 3163 The lion bremly on tham blist. 1513 *DOUGLAS Ensis* xii. xii. 215 As he bremly thus infors fast To draw the speyr. c 1525 *SKELTON Replyc.* 221 Bremly with your bristels Ye cobbles and ye clout Holy Scripture so about. 1598 *WARNER Alb. Eng.* viii. xliii. (1612) 207 On these doo vulgar Eares and Eyes so brimly waite and gaze.

2. Loudly, distinctly, shrilly.

c 1340 *Gaw. & Gr. Knt.* 569 Bryddez busken to bylde, & bremlych syngen. c 1350 *Will. Palerne* 23 And briddes ful bremly on be bowes singe. 1a 1400 *Morte Arth.* 4108 Bremly the brethemen bragges in troumpes.

3. Brightly; clearly; evidently, distinctly.

1577 *tr. Bullinger's Decades* (1594) 618 The Lord will not . . . reueale himself and his glorie any whit more fully and brimly. 1583 *STANVHURST Ensis* ii. (Arb.) 62 My mother, the Godesse . . . most brimly dyd offer Her self to visadge. *Ibid.* iii. 75 At the wynddors . . . moonshyne brimlye dyd enter. 1589 *PUTTENHAM Eng. Poets* iii. xxv. (Arb.) 311 A man sees better and discernes more brimly his colours.

† **Bremeness**, *Obs.* In 4-5 **bremnes**, 6 **brem-**. [f. as prec. + **-NESS**.] Fierceness, fury.

c 1400 *Destr. Troy* 4665 Then the se wex sober, sesit the wyndis . . . The bremnes abatid; blussit the sun. *Ibid.* 10104 Pollexena, with hir pure loue . . . Abated the bremnes in his bale yre. 1540 *HYRDE Vives Instr. Chr. Wom.* (1592) X. iv. Quietnes is of more authoritie than hastie bremnes.

Bremete, **bremette**, *Obs.* ff. **BREAMET**.

Breming, *var.* of **BRIMMING**, said of swine.

1577 B. GOOGE *Herreshack's Husb.* (1586) 149b, Shee is with pigge at the first breming.

Bremit, [app. a ppl. adj. formed on **BREME** *a.*, unless the OE. vb. *bremman* came down.] Infuriated.

1535 *STEWART Cron. Scot.* II. 401 The Scottis than so bremit war and bald.

Bremmyll, *Obs.* form of **BRAMBLE**.

Bren, early ME. plural of **BRE**.

Bren(e), *Obs.* form of **BRAN**, **BURN**.

Brend(e), **-ing**, **Brended**, *Obs.* ff. **BURNT**, **BURNING**, **BRAINED** variegated.

† **Brendice**, *Obs.* rare-1. [a. It. *brindesi*, *brindisi*, 'a drinking or health to one' (Florio); according to Diez perverted (by popular etymology) from Ger. *bring dir's*, i. e. *ich bringe dir's* etc.; whence also Fr. *brinde*: see Littré. Cf. **BRINCE**, **BRINCH** *v.*] A cup in which a person's health is drunk, a bumper.

1673 *DRYDEN Ambayna* i. i. I go to fill a Brendice to my Noble Captain's Health.

Brene, **-le**, **-y**, *Obs.* ff. **BRYN**, **BRINIE**, corselet.

Breneage, *Obs.* rare-1. (? Burning.)

1535 *Leveton Churchw. Acc.* in *Archaeol. Jnl.* xli. 345 (D.) To Wyllm Cortys for breneage in the fen.

Breng, **Brenk**, *Obs.* ff. **BRING**, **BRINK**.

Brennage, *Old Law.* [A modern rendering of OF. *brennage*, *brenage*, f. *bren* **BRAN**; or of its med.L. form *brennagium*. Many examples of the latter are in Du Cange; it is also given in Blount, Tomlins, etc.; the Eng. form appears in mod. Dicts.] A payment in, or instead of, bran, made by tenants to feed their lord's hounds.

1753 *CHAMBERS Cycl. Suppl.* Brennage. 1847 in *CRAIG*.

Brenne, *Obs.* form of **BRAN**.

Brenne, **Brennand(e)**, **-ing(e)**, **-ar**, **-er**, *Obs.* ff. **BURN**, **-ING**, **BURNER**.

Brennish, bad form of **BRINISH** *a.*

Brenstone, *Obs.* form of **BRIMSTONE**.

Brent (**brent**), *a. Sc.* [A phonetic variant of **BRANT**, found in northern ME., and in Sc.]

† 1. Steep, lofty: see **BRANT**. *Obs.*

c 1325 *E. E. Allit. P. B.* 379 Pay. . . bowed to be hy3 bonk per brentest hit wern. c 1340 *Gaw. & Gr. Knt.* 2165 Hy3e bonkkes and brent. 1691 *RAY N. C. Wds.* 132 *Brent-brow*, a steep Hill, *Metaph.*

2. Of the forehead: a. Lofty, straight up, prominent. b. Unwrinkled, smooth.

c 1400 *Destr. Troy* 3030 With browes full brent, brightist of hewe. 1513 *DOUGLAS Ensis* viii. xii. 14 From his blyth browis [L. *tempora lata*] brent and ahyr ene The fyre twinkling. 1609 *Z. Boyd Last Battle* 678 (JAM.) At the first sight of that angrie Majestie, with brent browes and sterne countenance. a 1758 *RAMSAY Poems* (1800) II. 17 (JAM.) Her fair brent brow, smooth as th' unwrinkled deep. 1789 *BURNS J. Anderson* i. Your bonie brow was brent.

Brent (**brent**), *sb.* [So commonly spelt by Eng. authors since Pennant; Dr. Kay also (1570) had *brend-gose*. The form usual in 16th and 17th c., and still prevalent in U. S., is **BRANT**, which see.]

The smallest species of wild goose (*Bernicla brenta*), a winter visitant of the British coasts. Also, more fully **Brent-goose** (in 6 **brend-gose**).

1570 *CAIUS De var. animal.* 18 *Anser Brendinus*. Vulgus . . . a coloris variate a *Brendgose* nominat . . . *Bernded* seu *brended* id animal dicitur, quod in colore murino variegatum est alio, ut est hic anser. 1768 *PENNANT Zool.* II. 453 Mr. Willoughby, Mr. Ray, and M. Brisson very properly describe the Bernicle and Brent as different species. 1839 *Proc. Berw. Nat. Club* I. vii. 190 *Brent-geese* . . . and golden-

eyes, were very plentiful. 1848 C. A. JOHNS *Week at Lizard* 333 *Brent* (*Anser torynatus*). 1876 *DAVIS Polaris Exp.* v. 113 Large flocks of *brent-geese* were seen. 1884 *Mehalah* I. 3 The barking of the *brent-geese* as they return from their northern breeding places is heard in November.

Brentid (**brentid**), *a. (sb.) Entom.* Of or pertaining to the **Brentides**, a family of rhynchophorous beetles containing the genus *Brentus*, having a remarkable projecting proboscis.

[1836 *Penny Cycl.* v. 390a *Brentides* . . . are almost entirely confined to tropical climates.] 1864 *Reader* No. 94. 488/3 A curious little *Brentid* insect.

Brent-new, *Obs.* form of **BRAND-NEW**.

Breo-, earlier spelling of **BRE-**, **BREA-**.

Brepho-, combining form of Gr. *βρέφος* babe; only in nonce-wds., as **Brepholatri** (*breph'latrī*), baby-worship; **Brephophagist**, baby-eater; **Brephotrophy** (see quot.).

1731 *BAILEY II, Brephotrophy* . . . an hospital for orphans. 1857 *Blackw. Mag.* LXXXII. 594 *Brephotrī* . . . means exaggerated worship of a small household Llama. 1875 *E. RAE Land of N. Wind* 265 (D.) A gentleman who affirmed that babies were excellent eating. This *Brephophagist* was a well-dressed and nicely-mannered man.

Brer, *Obs.* form of **BRIER**.

† **Brerd**, *Obs.* exc. *dial.* Also 1 **breard**, **brird**, 3 **breord**, 4 **brurde**, 4-5 **brerde**, 6 *Sc.* **breird**. [OE. *brerd* brim, margin; cf. OHG. *brort*, *brord* prow, margin, lip, also OE. *brord* point, prick, ON. *broddr* shaft, pike: see **BRAIRD**, and **BRON**.]

The topmost surface or edge: rim, brim, brink.

c 1000 *Ag. Gosp.* John ii. 7 Hig 3efylod þa oþ bone brerd [Lindisf. & *Rukw.* *brird*]. c 1050 *Ag. Gosp.* in *W. Wiclif* 178 *Crepido*, brerd uel ofer. c 1200 *ORMIN* 14040 And filledenn upp till be brerd With water þe3re fetless. c 1205 *LAY* 23322 From breorde to grunde. c 1225 *Ancr. R.* 324 Pe þet napped upp helle brende, he torped ofte al in. 1386 *WYCLIF Ex.* xxxvii. 11 He made to it a golden brende. 1424 *E. E. Wills* (1882) 56 Six saucers of siluere merkid with a sink foil vnder þe brende. c 1475 *Cath. Angl.* 42 (MS. A) Brende [v. r. Brede] of a wesselle, *labrum*, *abser*. 1596 *Declar. etc. Melville's MS.* 279 (JAM.) Has gotten the breird to drink. a 1758 *RAMSAY Sc. Proverbs* (1776) 19 (JAM.) Better hain at the briard than at the bottom. 1808 *JAMIESON* s. v. *Breird*, 'The breird of the water' is . . . still used in Dumbartshire for the surface of it.

¶ See also **BRAIRD** *sb.*

† **Brerded**, *ppl. a. Obs.* In 6 *Sc.* **breirdit**. [f. prec. + **-ED**.] = **BRIMMED**.

1535 *STEWART Cron. Scot.* (1588) I. 69 All the brym was breirdit our with blude.

† **Brerd-full**, *a. Obs.* Also 4 **brurdful**. [f. as prec. + **-FULL**; cf. **BRETFULL**.] Brim-full.

c 1000 *ÆLFRIC Lives of Saints* vi. 282 *Brerd-ful* wines. c 1200 *ORMIN* 14529 Swa summ þatt oþer fetless wass *Brerdful* off water filled. c 1325 *E. E. Allit. P. B.* 383 Vch þoþom watz *brurdful* to be bonkez eggez.

Bre (**brī**), *The original form of BRIER, BRIAR, retained in the dialects, and by mod. poets. Breerewood, a corruption of BREWARD brim.*

Brese, *Obs.* form of **BREEZE** *sb.* 1, 2 and **BRUISE**.

† **Bresed**, *a. Obs.* Perhaps: Bristly, shaggy, rough.

c 1325 *E. E. Allit. P. B.* 1694 His browes bresed as breres aboute his brode chekes. c 1340 *Gaw. & Gr. Knt.* 305 Bende his bresed broxer, blycande grene.

Bresewort, *Obs.* form of **BRUISEWORT**.

Bresil, *var.* of **BRISSEL** *Obs.*, brittle.

Bresill, **-yle**, *Obs.* forms of **BRAZIL** 1.

Breslet, variant of **BERCELET**, *Obs.*

Bresse, *Obs.* form of **BRACE** *sb.* 2.

Bressie: see **BRASSY** *sb.* *Sc.*, a fish.

Bressomer, **bressumer**, *var.* of **BREAST-SUMMER**.

† **Brest**, *sb.* [ME., a. ON. *brestr* burst, crack, want, loss, f. *bresta* = OE. *berstan* to **BURST**.]

1. Damage, injury, harm, wrong.

a 1300 *Cursor M.* 17630 For wel suld all þe brest be bett. *Ibid.* 11230 þe sun beme gais thoru þe glas and cums again wit-vten brest. *Ibid.* 1283 (Trin.) What is more herte brest þen want of þing þat men loue best. c 1325 *E. E. Allit. P. B.* 229 Hit watz a brem brest & a byge wrache. 1564 *Brief Exam.* Biiij. Without touche of brest sure and vnviolable.

2. Failure, want.

a 1300 *Cursor M.* 6308 O water had þai ful mikel brest.

c 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 49 *Brest*, or wantynge, *indigencia*.

Brest, **Brestel**, *Obs.* ff. **BREAST**, **BURST**, **BRISTLE**.

Bret (**brēt**), *sb.* Also 6 **brytte**, **brite**, **brette**, 6-7 **brit**, 7 8 **brut**, 5- **brett**. [Derivation and etymological form uncertain: written also *bert*, *bur*, *byrte*, *BRT* q. v.]

† 1. The name of a fish, identified in some places with the Brill, in others with the Turbot; = **BIRT**.

c 1460 *J. RUSSELL Bk. Nurture* 852 in *Babees Bk.* (1868) 175 Lyngre, brett & fresche turbot. 1555 *EDEN Dec. W. Ind.* (Arb.) 297 Hearynges, coddies, haddockes and brettes. 1570 *LEVINS Maniþ.* 148 A Brit, fish, *rhombus*. 1601 *J. THEYER Dutch Fishing in Phenix* I. 228 All along the Coast of England . . . are innumerable shoals . . . of . . . Scate, Brett, Gurnet, Turbot. 1650 *FOLKINGHAM Art of Survey* iv. iii. 63 Sturgeon, Turbot, Porpuss, Scate, Brett, Turbot. 1671 *RAY Corr.* (1848) 94 What they call Brett in Lincolnshire and Yorkshire, and . . . in all the east part of England, is the turbot of the west country, where the name Brett is not known.

1836 *YARRELL Brit. Fishes* (1890) I. 642 Another name quoted among those in use for the Brill, namely the Brett.

2. The spawn or fry of the herring; = **BRIT**.

1725 *DUDLEY in Phil. Trans.* XXXIII. 262 He has seen this Whale . . . to take in a Sort of reddish Spawn or Brett, as some call it, that . . . will lie upon the Top of the Water, for a Mile together. 1867 *F. FRANCIS Bk. Angling* ix. (1880) 308 Brett, or herring sail, on which they have been feeding.

† **Bret**, **brit**, *v. Obs.* or *dial.* [Cf. OE. *brōtan* to break, bruise.] *trans.* ? To bite, crop.

1578 *H. WOTTON Courtly Controv.*, The young lambes . . . nibbling and brettyng the toppes of the preatyte pagies. 1864 *CAVERN Devon Provinc.*, *Brit*, to indent.

Bretage, **-ais**, **-asce**, **-ayge**, **-ays**, *Obs.* ff. of **BRATTICE**.

† **Bretcock**, *Obs.* A fish: cf. **BRET**.

1522 *Acc. in Archaeol.* XXV. 449 P4 to John Syff for a brettecocke vijid. 1564 *Ibid.* 454 *Brettecock*. 1566 *Househ. Exp. Sir T. Le Strange* (Addit. MS. 27448. f. 27) Item, a playce, vijid. Item, a brettecock, iijid.

Bretesse, **bretessee**, **bretessy**, *Her.*

[a. F. *bretesse* bratticed.] Having embattlements on each side.

1572 *BOSSEWELL Armorie* II. 123 b, The field is Or, on a pale brettesee Sable. 1586 *PERNE Blas. Gentry* 179 Rather Crenelle then Bretessy. 1753 *CHAMBERS Cycl. Suppl.*, *Brettesee*, a term used to express a line . . . of the same nature with what is usually called the *crenelle* or *embattled line*.

† **Bret-full**, *a. Obs.* Also 4 **brudful**, **bratful**, **bretful**. Also written *divisim*, **bret full**. [app. a phonetic corruption of **BREDFULL**.] Full to the brim, brim-full.

c 1200 *Trin. Coll. Hom.* 167 Te lichame of iob warð bretteful of wunden. c 1325 *E. E. Allit. P. A.* 126 *Bred ful* my braynez. 1368 *LANGL P. Pl. A.* ProL 41 Heor Bagges and heore Balies weren bratful l-crommet. c 1386 *CHAUCER ProL* 687 His walet . . . Bret ful of pardon comen from Rome al hoot. a 1500 *Med. Receipts in Rel. Ant.* I. 55 *Fill a mykell pottle brettefull*. 1616 *BULLOCKAR, Bretfull*, top full.

† **Breth**, *Obs.* Also **berth**. [a. ON. *bræði* anger, ire, haste, f. *bráðr* hasty, sudden: see **BRAÞE**.] Ire, fury, rage.

a 1300 *Cursor M.* 7624 In breth he wald him thoru ber. *Ibid.* 18222 Als þof he brath had bene in breth. c 1380 *WYCLIF Sel. Wks.* III. 5 Shrift is levynge of sinne, þat turneþ þi breþ fro me. c 1425 *WYNTOUN Cron.* vii. ix. 378 Thai slew, and heriyd in thare berth. c 1460 *Towneleye Mysh.* 197 Whils I am in this brethe, Let me put hym to dethe.

† **Brethe**, *v. Obs.* Also 3 **broethen**; pa. ppl. **brothin**. [OE. **brēðan* in *abreðan* to go to ruin, decay, degenerate. Hence **BRETHEL**, **BROTHEL**.] *intr.* To go to ruin. Pa. ppl. *abrothen*, *broþin*: degenerate, dissipated, self-ruined.

[a 1000 *Byrht.* 242 (Gr.) *Abroðe* his angin. c 1000 *ÆLFRIC Gram.* viii. (Z.) 32 *Eala þu abroðene folc*] c 1205 *LAY* 5807 2e sculled broðeden. *Ibid.* 30415 *Bruttes* gunnen broðeden: þalu wes on uolken. c 1275 *Ibid.* 5196 Ne sehþe leofue broþer, hou breþ [c 1205 broðeden] þis France. c 1300 *Sarman* in *E. E. P.* (1862) 6 Al þat þou wan here wiþ pine a broþin eir sal wast it al.

† **Brethel**, *Obs.* [repr. OE. **brīðel*: -O Teut. **braupilo* -z, f. **braupin* (OE. *brēap* brittle, *Lechd.* I. 260); f. stem of prec. vb.: cf. **BROTHER**.] A worthless fellow, good-for-nothing, wretch.

c 1440 *York Myst.* xxvi. 179 Say, brethell, I bidde þe abide. c 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 50 *Breþel* [printed *breyell*], *brollus*. 1469 *MARG. PASTON in Lett.* 617 II. 365 We haue lost of her but a brethele and set yþ les to hart. c 1547 *BALE Sel. Wks.* (1849) 244 Old superstitious bawds and brethels.

Bretheles, **brethless**, *Obs.* ff. **BREATHLESS**.

† **Bretheling**, *Obs.* Also **brīþeling**, **brotheling**. [f. **BRETHEL** + **-ing**: cf. **ATHELING**.] = **BRETHEL**.

c 1275 *O. E. Misc.* 184 *Þral vnþuxsum*, *Abeling* brīþeling, Lond wiðute laze. c 1320 *Syr Bevis* 2067 Beues wente also a bretheling. c 1330 *Arth. & Merl.* 164 Our princes . . . seyð, that her king Nas bot a bretheling. 125. in *Furniv. Percy Folio* I. 426 Their young king was but a brotherlinge.

† **Bretheman**, *Obs.* rare-1. [f. *brethe*, **BREATH** + **MAN**.] ? A blower of a wind-instrument, a trumpeter, etc.

1a 1400 *Morte Arth.* 4108 Bremly the brethemen bragges in troumpes, In cornettes comlyly, whene knyghttes assemblies.

Brether, **-ern(e)**, **-ir**, *Obs.* plurals of **BROTHER**.

Brethered, **-hed(e)**, *Obs.* f. **BROTHERHOOD**, **-RED**.

Brethil, **bretil**, **-nesse**, *Obs.* ff. **BRITTLE**, **-NESS**.

Brethren (**brēðren**), special pl. of **BROTHER**.

† **Brethrenom**, *Obs.* [f. prec. + **-DOM**.] = next.

1481 in *Eng. Gilds* (1870) 317 Ye schall geve yn part of your godes to be mantaynyn of þis brotherynom.

† **Brethrenhood**, *Obs.* [f. as prec. + **-HOOD**.] = **BROTHERHOOD**; fraternity.

1481 in *Eng. Gilds* (1870) 317 Ye shal not dyscouer þe counsell of þe bretherynhod.

Brethrenism, The principles and system of the Protestant sect calling themselves *Brethren* or *Christian Brethren*, commonly called *Plymouth Brethren*, whence also *Plymouth Brethrenism*.

1865 *Pall Mall G.* 5 The religious system known as *Plymouth Brethrenism*. 1883 *Bookseller's Catal.*, 55, *Brethrenism*. -Kelley's (W.) *Lectures on the Book of Isaiah*.

Brett, A short term for **BRITZKA**, a kind of four-wheeled carriage.

1865 *Mrs. WHITNEY Gayworthys* II. 159 Mrs. Toplif drove an open English brett.

Brettice, **brettis**, common var. of **BRATTICE**.

Bretwalda (bretwōldā). *Hist.* [OE.: occurring once in the Chronicle, where the Parker MS. (in its oldest part written a 900) has it thus, while the later MSS. read variously, *B brytenwalda*, *C bretenwalda*, *D* and *E brytenwalda*, *F brytenwald*; and twice in a charter of King Æthelstan as *brytenwalda*, *brytenwalda*. See below.]

A title given in the Old English Chronicle to King Egbert, and (retrospectively) to seven earlier kings of various Old English states, said to have held superiority, real or titular, over their contemporaries; also occasionally assumed by later Old English kings: its sense can only be 'lord (or ruler) of the Britons', or 'of Britain'; cf. the Roman title *dux Britanniarum*, and the *Brettonum dux* of Beda, *rector Britannie* of Æthelstan. (See *Rhys Celtic Britain*, Freeman *N. C. I.*)

c 855 O. E. Chron. an. 827 (Parker MS.) Ecgbryht... was se eahteda cuning, se ðe Bretwalda was. *934 Charter in Cod. Dipl.* V. 218-9 Ic Ædelstan, Ongol-Saxna cuning and Brytenwalda ealles (a) Brytenwalda ealles ðyses iglandes (Latin version (1) Ego Ædelstanus rex et rector totius huius Britanniae insulae; (2) Ego Ædelstanus Angul-Saxonum necnon et totius Britanniae rex). *1830 KEIGHTLEY Hist. Eng. I.* 22 Some of the Anglo-Saxon Kings assumed a still higher title, that of Bretwalda or Ruler of Britains. *1855 MILMAN Lat. Chr.* (1864) II. iv. iii. 230 Any Bretwalda or Supreme Sovereign. *1875 STRUBBS Const. Hist. I.* vi. 222 The existence of this hegemony, whether or no its possessor bore the title of Bretwalda, was not accompanied by unity of organisation.

[*Note.* It is uncertain whether the later forms are genuine fuller forms, traditional equivalents, or merely etymologizing alterations of *Bretwalda* 'ruler of the Brits' (cf. *Ætwalda*, *Alwalda*, *Eakwalda* 'All-ruler, Almighty'). The element *bryten-* occurs also in several compounds, all poetic, in the sense 'far-stretching, spacious', as in *bryten-cuning*, *bryten-grund*, *bryten-ric*, *bryten-wang*; whence Kemble wished to explain *brytenwalda* as 'wide ruler'. But in the charter of Æthelstan, the equivalence of 'Brytenwalda ealles ðyses iglandes' to 'rector totius huius Britanniae insulae' shows its identity with *Britannia*. Kemble's conjectured derivation of *bryten-* from *brotan* 'to break' is etymologically impossible; and there can be little doubt that, even in the poetic compounds, the word is simply a poetic use of *Bryten*, *Breoten* Britannia, or of *Breotone* (:-*britun*) Britones, Britons. These compounds may actually have been formed on the model of *bryten-wald*, or, if earlier, may have had reference to the far-reaching extent of Britain, as compared with any single state in it; or finally, the word *breotone* Britons may have been taken poetically for 'men', 'people', or 'nations', as apparently in *Satan* I. 687 *burg and breotone* cities and peoples or nations. It is not impossible that *Bretwalda* was suggested by a British title, such as **Briþon-wleþic*, **Briþon-wleþig* = Brittonum dux.]

Bretyle, obs. form of **BRITTLE**.

Breu-, see **BREV-**, **BREW-**.

Breve (briv), *sb.* Also 6 *breeuve*, 7 *brieve*. [A variant of *bref*, *brefe*, *BRIEF sb.* in same senses.]

1. A letter of authority; a royal mandate: see **BRIEF sb. 1.**

a 1300 Cursor M. 19606 O prince o preistes... purchest he þar breue For to seke... *cristen men*. *1600 Gower's Conspir. Select. Harl. Misc.* (1793) 197 In those parts where my lord was, they would give sundrie folks breeues. *1606 DONNE Sermon.* 687 The Jews had license to beg, they had a Breue. *a 1656 HALES Gold. Rem.* (1688) 182 Our legal business in the world must be done in certain forms of breues and writs. *1873 DIXON Two Queens* I. ii. 12 He was tempted to revoke his breues.

b. spec. A pope's letter; = **BRIEF sb. 2.**
1536 STARKEY England Introd. (1871) 37 Yf you folow the breues of the pope to you directid. *1679 FULLER Moder. Ch. Eng.* (1843) 38 Performed by... Pope Paul V, in a very smart breue, dated 1612. *1700 YRRELL Hist. Eng. II.* 700 The Pope... committed the Execution of his Breue to the Abbot. *1823 LINGARD Hist. Eng. VI.* 202 The breue of dispensation produced by the queen... was an evident forgery. *1863 GARDINER Hist. Eng. I.* li. 79 The pope... had sent two breues to Garnet.

c. A summary, a short code of instructions, etc.
1523 Let. in Burnet Hist. Ref. II. 105 The more the said Breue cometh to light. *1651 CLEVELAND Poems* 43 The Painters Breue for Venus face; Item an Eye from Jane, a lip from Grace.

2. *Music.* A note of the value of two semibreves, now written white and either oblong or (more usually) oval, with one or two strokes on each side; rarely used in modern music.

1460 (see **BRIEF sb. 8**). *1480 Will of Bristowe* (Somerset Ho.) An Imnar (Hymner) closed w^t breuys and longes. *1679 PLAYFORD Skill Mus.* I. vii. 24 The Names of Notes in the Proportion of Time are Eight, as a Large, Long, Breue, Semibreue, etc. *1706 A. BEDFORD Temple Mus.* xi. 227 When Musick was first invented, there were but Two Notes, viz. a Long, and a Breue. *1782 BURNEY Hist. Mus.* II. 196 The black square note, called a Breue, the first and almost only note used in Canto Fermo. *1806 CALLCOTT Mus. Gram.* iii. 26 The Breue is a square white Note. *1863 LD. LYTTON Ring Amasts* I. 27.

3. *Gram.* A short syllable. *Obs.*

1548 HALL Chron. Rich. III. an. 3 (R.) This poetical schoolemayster, corrector of breues and longes. *1751 CHAMBERS Cycl. s. v.* A breue is one time, and a long two.

4. *Print.* The mark " " placed over a vowel to signify that it is short.

5. [Fr. *brève*.] A name sometimes given (from their short tails) to the Ant-thrushes.

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† **Breve**, *v.* *Obs.* Forms: 3-4 *breven*, 4-6 *breve*, 5 *briefe*, 6 *bryve*, 6 *Sc. breif*, *brew*. [ME. *breven*, app. a. ON. *brēfa* to write (corresp. to OHG. *brifan*, OHG., MHG. *briefen*), ad. med.L. *breviāre* to draw up or send dispatches, f. *breve* a note, dispatch: see **BRIEF**. App. the Latin word was never adopted in OE., but early ME. *breven* may possibly have been directly from it, rather than from the ON.]

1. *trans.* (and *absol.*). To set down in writing; to indite, compose, write (a matter).

a 1225 St. Mark. 16 In iannes ant in iembres bokes ibreuet. *c 1340 Gaw. & Gr. Knt.* 2521 As hit is breued in þe best boke of romaunce. *c 1400 Destr. Troy* 3736 þus he breuyt in his boke of þe breue kynges. *1470 HARDING Chron.* xxxi. iii. As chronycles doth brife. *c 1505 DUNBAR Poems* (1884) 105 Allace! I can bot ballatis breif. *a 1560 ROLLAND Crt. Venus* Prol. 319 Now pas thy wayis, thou barrant buik new breuit.

b. To enter in books of account; to 'post', make up (accounts).

a 1377 in Househ. Ord. (1790) 10 Leveryes of men serantes, intituled Calciatura besides all wages breued. *c 1440 Bk. Curtysey in Babees Book* (1868) 553 The clerke of þe cochyn shalle alle pyng breue. *1484 MARG. PASTON Lett.* 881 III. 314 The mane... will not take upon hym to breue daily.

c. To breue for: to render an account for.

1478 Liber Niger in Pegge Cur. Misc. (1782) 74 That the Marshall... send such one with his rod as he will answer for on the morrow and also that he will breue for.

2. To recount, relate, state, tell.

c 1325 E. E. Allit. P. A. 754 Breue me brygt, quat-kyn of priys Berez þe perle. *c 1340 Gaw. & Gr. Knt.* 1488 If hit be sothe þat 3e breue, þe blame is myn awen. *a 1400 Alexander* (Stevenson) 78 Breue us thi name. *1447-8 SHILLINGFORD Lett.* (1871) 55 Y wolde have comyned w^t ham to have breued the mater.

3. To note, point out.

c 1340 Gaw. & Gr. Knt. 1436 þe best þat þer breued watz wyth þe blod houndez.

Brevely, compar. *breveloker*, obs. f. **BRIEFLY**.

† **Brevement**, *briefement*. *Obs.* Also *brief*, *breavement*. [f. **BREVE v.** + **-MENT**, or perh. directly ad. med.L. **breuiamentum*, f. *breuiāre*.] The action of inditing or entering in books; *concr.* an entry.

c 1475 in Househ. Ord. Edw. IV. (1790) 39 All other officers that must be at the brevement, have their breakfast together in the Compting-house, after the brevements be made. *1539 Ibid.* 228-231 The Clerke of the Greencloth shall... cast up all the particular Breifments of the House after they shall be comptrolled. *1667 E. CHAMBERLAYNE St. Gt. Britain* I. ii. xli. (1743) 101 All bills of Comptrolment, parcels, and breiements are allotted and allowed by the Clerks-comptrollers.

† **Breuer**. *Obs.* [f. **BREVE v.** + **-ER**.] One who makes entries in books; a book-keeper.

c 1475 in Ord. R. Househ. 71 Noe yoman... to bere or make oute of this office any breade but by knowledge of the breuour.

Brevet (brévèt), *sb.* Also 4-5 *breuette*, 8 *breuitt*. [a. F. *brevet* a note, dim. of *bref* letter, etc.: see **BRIEF**.]

1. An official or authoritative message in writing; esp. a Papal Indulgence. *Obs.*

1562 LANGL. P. Pl. A. Prol. 71 He bonchede hem with his Breuet and bledred heore eyen. *1577 Ibid.* B. v. 649, I wil go fecche my box with my breuettes. *1430 LYDG. Chron. Troy* II. xii. This worthy Kyng... Hath his breuettes and his letters sent For his lordes to holde a parlement. *1603 HOLLAND Plutarch's Mor.* 462 He gave unto them... two breuets or letters to carrie unto the Ephori. *1650 Proc. Parliament* No. 109. 2659 Ingaged to signifie that Bul with the Breuet and Excommunication before the King here. *1721 BAILEY, Brevet*, a Brief, a Pope's Bull. *Old word.* *a 1754 CARTE in Gutch Coll. Cur.* II. 107 Council Breuitts, though of no authority in point of Evidence, yet for Information are often useful. [Not in JOHNSON 1755.]

2. An official document granting certain privileges from a sovereign or government; *spec.* in the Army, a document conferring nominal rank on an officer, but giving no right to extra pay.

1689 BURNET Tracts I. 25 Had a brevet to be a Marischal of France. *1721 Lond. Gaz.* No. 5952/2 The Duke of Chartres... holds this Employment by a Brevet only. *1821 WELLINGTON Let. in Gurw. Disp.* VII. 557 Six Majors... to be promoted by brevet to the rank of Lieutenant Colonel. *1844 Regul. & Ord. Army* 3 When Regiments or Detachments are united... in Camp... the Eldest Officer, whether by brevet or otherwise, is to command the whole.

b. transf. and fig.

1819 Edin. Rev. XXXI. 279 Any blockhead who could produce a sonnet... obtained a brevet of poet. *1861 Sat. Rev.* 23 Nov. 533 The Church... offers an easy entrance to the stupid... a brevet of gentility to those who feel their need of it.

3. *attrib.* or quasi-*adj.*, as in *brevet officer*, *rank*. *1781 A. HAMILTON in Sparks Corr. Amer. Rev.* (1853) III. 302, I have used the term Brevet... as signifying, in general, all officers not attached to any established corps. *1796 MORSE Amer. Geog.* I. 243 All the commissioned and brevet officers of the army and navy. *1856 Penny Cycl.* V. 402/1 Brevet rank does not exist in the royal navy. *1868 Regul. & Ord. Army* 27 Captains having the brevet rank of Field Officers... do duty as field Officers in Camp and Garrison.

b. transf. and fig.

1809 SCOTT Demonol. x. 357 One of those accredited ghost tales which attain a sort of brevet rank as true. *1896 THACKERAY Christm. Bks.* (1872) 21 The two old ladies have

taken the brevet rank, and are addressed as Mrs. Jane and Mrs. Betsy.

Brevet (brévèt), *v.* Pa. t. and pp. *breveted*. [f. prec.: cf. F. *breveter*.] *trans.* To raise to a certain rank by brevet; also *fig.*

1830 Fraser's Mag. XX. 519 Women, in the court of France, were but just brevetted to the rank of ladies. *1879 TOURNEUR Fool's Err.* iv. 18 He is colonel now; has been breveted a brigadier-general.

Brevetoy (brévété). [see -**OT**.] Brevet rank. *1846* in *WORCESTER*; and subsequent Dicts.

† **Breveter**. *Obs.* rare-*o*. [f. **BREVE v.** + **-ER**.] One who carries brevets.

c 1440 Promp. Parv. 50 Breuetowre, *breuigermus*.

Brevi- (brévi-), comb. form of L. *brevis* 'short', used as the first element of many modern scientific words: as **Breviped** (bréviped), *a.* [L. *pes*, *ped-* foot], having short feet (or legs); *sb.* *Ornith.* a short-legged bird. **Brevipen**, *sb.* *Ornith.* [L. *penna* feather], a short-winged bird. **Brevipennate** (-pennét), *a.* short-winged. **Brevirostrate** (-rōstrét), *a.* [L. *rostrum* beak], having a short bill or beak.

1880 Libr. Univ. Knowl. III. 40 Brevipennes, or Brevipennates, a term for such birds as the ostrich, cassowary... and others having very short wings. *1892 DAMA Crust.* I. 134 Carapax broad... brevirostrate.

† **Brevial**. *Obs.* [ad. med.L. *breuiāle* in same sense, f. *brevis* short.] = **BREVIARY 2.**

1314 Test. Garini (Du Cange) Legavit Hoduyno capellano melius Breuiāle quod habebat. *1847 HALLIW., Breuiāle*, a breviary.

Breviarist (brīviārist). 1 *Obs.* [f. **BREVIARY** + **-IST**.] One who writes a breviary or abstract.

1621 Bp. MOUNTAGU Diatriba 205 Wee poore simple Breuiarists know so much. *1879 FRANCE Addit. Narr. Pop.* Plot 25 All Compendiums are subject to mistakes, and surely our Breviarist is not free from One.

Breviary (brīviāri). Also 6-7 *breuiarie*, 7 *breuarye*, *breuaviary*, *breuiari*. [ad. L. *breuiārium* 'summary, abridgement', from neuter of *breuiārius* *adj.* 'abridged', f. *brevis* short.]

1. A brief statement, summary, epitome. ? *Obs.*

1547 BOORDE Brv. Health Pref. 5 b, Namynge this booke according to the matter, which is, the Breuiary of health. *1580 NORTH Plutarch* 421 Lucullus... layed a great wager... that he would write the Breuiary of the Marcean Wars in Verse or Prose. *1635 N. R. tr. Camden's Hist. Elis.* II. 139 *marg. note.* A breuiary of the Queene of Scots discourse. *1667 E. CHAMBERLAYNE St. Gt. Brit.* I. iii. x. (1743) 224 The Navy Office, Excise Office, etc. etc., are of lesser Note than can be particularized in this Breuiary. *1728 NEWTON Chronol. Amended Introd.* 2 Hippia, the Elean... published a breuiary or list of the Olympic Victors. *1801 W. PLAYFAIR (title)* Statistical Breuiary, showing the Resources of every State in Europe.

† *b. transf. and fig.*; cf. *epitome*.

1609 Bp. ANDREWES Sermon II. 243 This little word is a breuiary of all that good is. *1608 FELTHAM Resolves* I. xli. Wks. (1677) 67 In all which he is but the great worlds Breuiary. *1649 JER. TAYLOR Gl. Exemp.* xv. § 27 Christs discipline was the breuiary of all the wisdom of the best men.

2. In the Roman Catholic Church, the book containing the 'Divine Office' for each day, which those who are in orders are bound to recite.

The Office consists of psalms, collects and 'lections' or readings from the Scripture and the lives of the Saints. Those who are only in 'Minor Orders', i.e. below the grade of sub-deacon, are not required to say Office.

1611 BIBLE Pref. 9 What alterations have they made... of their Service bookes, Portesses, and Breuiaries. *1799 D'ISRAELI Cur. Lit.* (1848) I. 17 The psalms of a breuiary or the prayers of a missal. *1832 tr. Sismondi's Ital. Rep.* viii. 178 He recited his breuiary. *1836 J. H. NEWMAN Tracts for Times* No. 75 The word Breuiarium first occurs in... the eleventh century, and is used to denote a compendium or systematic arrangement of the devotional offices of the Church. *1848 MACAULAY Hist. Eng.* II. 204 While breuiaries and mass books were printed at Oxford under a royal licence... Baxter was in gaol; and Howe was in exile.

b. fig.

1806 C. BUTLER Grotius xi. It was the breuiary of all French aspirants to political distinction. *1877 SHIELDS Final Philos.* 46 Montaigne of Bordeaux... whose sprightly 'Essays', more Pagan than Christian, have been styled the breuiary of free-thinkers. *1878 MORLEY Diderot* II. 115 She habitually called the Spirit of Laws the breuiary of Kings.

† **Breviate**, *a.* *Obs.* [ad. L. *breuiāt-us*, pa. pp. of *breuiāre* to shorten, f. *brevis* short. Cf. **ABBREVIATE**.] Abbreviated, shortened; short.

1509 HAWES Conv. Swearers 38 For a breuiat pleasure of worldly vanitie. *1515 BARCLAY Egloges* IV. (1570) C. vi/s By beastly surfeit the life is breuiate. *1552 J. MYCHELL (title)* A breuiat Cronicle contaynyng all the Kinges from Brute to this daye. *1656 Shepherd's Kal.* viii. By sloth in the time of this breuiate life we gather not goods for the life eternal.

Breviate (brīviāt), *sb.* [f. prec. *adj.* used subst., like the L. neuter *breuiātum*.]

1. A short account, brief statement; a summary, abridgement, compendium.

1581 J. BELL Haddon's Answ. Osor. 226 A Breviate of all Luthers doctrine. *1650 FULLER Piigah* 431 What we read in Saint Luke was onely the breuiate, sum, and abridgement of his Sermon. *1709 HEARNE Coll.* 10 Dec. (1886) II. 324 Begg H. to send mere breuiates of his materials. *1862 P. B. POWER (title)* Breuiates: or Short Texts and their Teachings. *1865 Reader* No. 143. 341/2 A breuiate of the chronicles.

b. *fig.*
 1605 TRYON *Dreams & Vis.* xi. 209 God made him [man]
 .. a breviate of the nature of all things divine and humane.
 c. *Comb.*, as *breviate-maker*.
 1611 COTGER, *Extrayeur de proces*, a reporter, or Abridger,
 of Cases; a breviate-maker.
 † 2. A brief missive or dispatch; a note. *Obs.*
 1608 WARNER *Alb. Eng.* xii. lxxv. (1612) 312 His Tablet
 sent she, and there with this breuiat by a Page. 1676 BUL-
 LOKAR, *Breviate*, a brief note, little or short writing. 1748
 RICHARDSON *Clarissa* (1811) VIII. xxii. 98, I send .. for par-
 ticulars of the fatal breviate thou sentest him this night.
 † 3. A lawyer's brief. *Obs.*
 1594 ZEPHERIA xx. in Arb. Garner V. 75 How often hath
 my pen (mine hearts Solicitor!) Instructed thee in Breviat
 of my case! 1664 BUTLER *Hud.* II. II. 612 As well-fed
 Lawyer on his Breviate. a 1734 NORTH *Lives* (1826) I. 192
 He could over night .. admit his clients .. and .. was then
 prepared, next day, to peruse his breviate.
 4. † The daily portion to be read in the breviary.
 1833 HOGG *Queen's Wake* 164 Wearing with the eternal
 strain Of formal breviats, cold and vain.
 † *Breviate*, v. *Obs.* [f. as prec. (or aphetic
 form of ABBREVIATE).]
 1. *trans.* To abbreviate, shorten.
 1586 SKELTON *Magnyf.* 2366 By myschefe to breviate and
 shorten his dayes. 1590 LEVINS *Manip.* 40 Breviate, ab-
 breviare. 1637 HEYWOOD *Dialog.* 885 Wee'l breviate your
 long motions Within a few short termes.
 2. To abridge; *spec.* to abstract for counsel's
 instruction, to brief.
 1663 MANLEY *Solicitor* 102 To breviate his Clyents cause
 fit to instruct counsel. 1679 HOBBS *Dial. Com. Laws* (1840)
 57 The office of this Chancellor was .. to breviate the matter
 of the petitions, for the easing of the Emperor.
 Hence *Breviated ppl. a.*, *Breviating vbl. sb.*
 c 1590 MARLOWE *Faust.* III. 10 The breviated names of holy
 saints. 1633 FORD *Loves Sacr.* II. II. (1839) 82 For the brev-
 viating the prolixity of some superfluous transmigration.
 † *Breviately*, adv. *Obs.* [f. BREVIAE a. +
 -LY².] Shortly, briefly; compendiously.
 1599 HAWES *Conv. Sufferers* 6, I .. Purpose to compile
 here full brevity A lytell treatyse. a 1660 ROLLAND *Crt.*
Venus I. 771 They can not gif senten[ce] Sa brevitiat.
Breviate, var. of BREVIAE.
 † *Breviation*, *Obs.* [ad. L. *breviatio*-em, f.
breviatio to shorten; or aphetic f. ABBREVIATION.]
 1. The process of shortening; summarizing.
 1599 HAWES *Past. Pleas.* 30 He must nombre al the hole
 circumstance Of thys mater wyth breviation.
 2. An abbreviation or abridgement.
 1560 HOLLYBAND *Treas. Fr. Tong. Symbols* .. the shorte
 summe or breviation of the crede. 1657 COLVIL *Whigs*
Supplic. (1751) 24 Breviations stenographic.
 † *Breviator*, *Obs.* [a. L. *breviator*, agent-noun
 f. *breviatio* to shorten.] One who makes summa-
 ries or abstracts; also = ABBREVIATOR 2.
 1546 LANGLEY *Pol. Verg. De Invent.* VIII. II. 145 a, Pius
 the II did create Breviators and set them in an Order. 1679
 PRANCE *Addit. Narr. Pop. Plot* 20 But our Breviator, when
 he pleaseth, can over-look, etc. 1751 CHAMBERS *Cycl. a. v.*,
 At Rome, those are still called breviators, or abbreviators,
 who dictate and draw up the pope's briefs.
 † *Breviature*, *Obs.* [ad. med. L. *breviatura*
 abridgement, f. *breviatio* to shorten: see -URE.]
 An abbreviation.
 1593 J. HIGINS tr. *Junius' Nomenclator, Notae* .. Abbrevia-
 tures. Notes: abbreviations, breviatures. 1731 BAILEY II,
Breviature, an abbreviation, etc. 1857 WRIGHT, *Brevia-
 ture*, a note of abbreviation.
Brevier (bré-vi-er). *Typogr.* [a. OF. or AF.
 **brevier*:-L. *breviarium* BREVIARY; app. because this
 type was used in printing breviaries. Cf.
Canon, Pica, Primer, of similar origin.]
 Mr. T. B. Reed (*Hist. Lett. Foundries* 39) says this con-
 jecture is not borne out by an examination of the Breviaries,
 most of which are printed in a considerably larger size;
 but that the German Brevier, corresponding to our Small
 Pica, is of more frequent occurrence in these works. He
 suggests that the name *Brevier*, like the French and German
 equivalent 'Petit', may mean that this, being the smallest
 body, was used for getting the most matter into a brief
 space. But this hardly explains the word *brevier*.
 The name of the type in size between Bourgeois
 and Minion, as in the words
 Brevier Type.
 1598 Ord. Stationers' Co. in *Hist. Lett. Foundries* (1887)
 129 Those in brevier and long primer letters at a penny for
 one sheet and a half. 1706 PHILLIPS, *Brevier* or *Brevier*, a
 small sort of Printing-Letter. 1709 *London Gas.* No. 4617/4
 Printed upon Extraordinary Paper, and with a New Brevier
 Letter. 1791 BAILEY, *Brevier*, a small sort of Printing-
 Letter, one degree smaller than Long Primer. 1808 MAR-
 EDGEWORTH *Mor. Tales* (1816) I. xiv. 113 A printer's devil
 .. may be a capital judge of pica and brevier.
 † *Breviger*, *Obs. exc. Hist.* [med. L.: f.
brevis, *brevi*, BRIEF + *ger* -carrying.] One who
 carries briefs; a begging friar.
 1859 York *Fabric Rolls* (Surtees) 167 note, Another letter
 of instructions for a brevier. 1859 *Sat. Rev.* VIII. 428/1
 Chaucer must have had a Yorkshire brevier in his mind,
 when he described, in his *Sompnoure's Tale*, the alms-
 gatherer in Holderness.
Breviloquence (bré-vi-lók-wén-s). *rare.* [ad. L.
breviloquentia, f. *brevi*-s short + *loquens* speak-
 ing.] Brevity of speech; laconism.
 1656 BLOUNT *Glossogr.*, *Breviloquence* .. a brief or short
 form of speaking. 1678 PHILLIPS, *Breviloquence* (Lat.), a
 short discourse, a speaking in brief. 1721 in BAILEY. [Not

in JOHNSON.] 1863 J. MURPHY *Comm. Gen.* xli. 13 A speci-
 men of pithy breviloquence.
Breviloquent (bré-vi-lók-wén-t), a. [ad. L.
breviloquent-em, f. *brevi*-s short + *loquens* speak-
 ing.] Given to concise speaking, laconic.
 1865 H. MERIVALE in *Fortn. Rev.* II. 138 They seem to
 anticipate the breviloquent era of Sir Rowland Hill.
 † *Brevi manu*, *Law.* [L.; = with short hand.]
 Summarily; without legal process.
 1808 in JAMIESON. 1833 *Act 3 & 4 Will. IV.* xlvii. § 90
 Such magistrate .. may .. issue his warrant for removing the
 same *brevi manu*.
Brevipend, *pen*, *-rostrate*, etc.: see BREVIT.
 † *Brevit*, v. *Obs. or dial.* [perh. f. BREVET sb.,
 with the sense of 'take by brevet' or 'warrant'.]
intr. To forage; to 'beat about' for game; see
 also *dial. quot.* Hence *Breviting vbl. sb.*
 1600 HOLLAND *Livy* xxii. xl. 457 Victuals, which from day
 to day he brevited for [ex rapt], to serve his present neede.
Ibid. xxix. xxxii. 734 Masanissa .. lived for some days by
 the breviting and robbery of the other two horsemen. 1604
 DRAYTON *Owl*, Breviting by night, Under pretence that she
 was ill of sight. 1840 AKERMAN *Willsh. Gloss.* (E. D. S.
 1879) *Brevet about*, to beat about, as a dog for game. 1879
 MISS JACKSON *Shropsh. Gl.*, *Brevit*, to search, pry, examine
 inquisitively 'Who's bin breviting' i' my drawer?' 1882
 EVANS *Leicester. Gl.* (E. D. S.) *Brevet*, to rummage, ran-
 sack, search. Cats are said to *brevet* after mice, dogs after
 rats or rabbits, etc.
Brevity, *obs. form* of BREVET.
Brevity (bré-vi-ti). Also 6 *brevite*, *brevyte*,
 6-7 *brevitie*, 7 *brevity*, *brevitie*. [prob. a. AF.
brevete (f. *brevit*):-*brevit*-em 'shortness', f.
brevi-s short: assimilated to the Latin spelling.]
 1. Shortness, esp. as applied to time.
 1548-3 *Act 34 & 35 Hen. VIII.* xxvii. § 90 Many sutes ..
 cannot be tried .. for brevity of time. 1668 FELTHAM *Re-
 solves* I. xxxii. Wks. (1677) 55 Miserable brevity! more
 miserable uncertainty of life! 1853 ROBERTSON *Serm.* xiv.
 177 The deep thought of the brevity of time.
 2. The being short in speech or writing; con-
 traction into few words, conciseness, terseness.
 1509 BARCLAY *Ship of Fools* (1570) 18 If that it were not
 for cause of brevity, I could shewe, etc. 1574 WHITGIFT
Def. Answer. II. Wks. 1851 I. 237, I omit them for brevity's
 sake. 1608 SHAKS. *Ham.* II. II. 90 Since Brevitie is the
 Soule of Wit .. I will be briefe. 1606 HOLLAND *Sueton.*
 To Rdr., Brevitie is many times the mother of Obscuritie. 1663
 BUTLER *Hud.* I. l. 669 Brevity is very good, When w' are,
 or are not understood. 1732 De Foe, etc. *Tour Gt. Brit.*
 (1769) II. 287 On the Churn .. stands Cirencester (or Cicaster,
 for Brevity). 1821 SYD. SMITH *Wks.* (1867) I. 208 Brevity is
 in writing what charity is to all other virtues.
 3. Shortness in other relations. *rare* and *forced*.
 1593 SHAKS. 2 *Hen. IV.* II. II. 135 I will imitate the
 honourable Romaines in brevity. *Poet.* Sure he means
 brevity in breath: short-winded. 1863 *Riddles* (Routledge)
 Why is wit like a Chinese lady's foot? Because brevity is
 the sole of it.
 † *Brevy*, v. *Obs. rare.* In 6 *breyu*. [f. L.
brevi-are to abridge: see BREVET.]
trans. To write down concisely. Cf. BREVE v.
 1508 ARNOLD *Chron.* (1811) 140 Titoleuo .. hath breuiet
 all y^e annuall storys of Rome.
Brevyte, *obs. form* of BREVITY.
Brew (brü), v. Pa. t. and pple. brewed
 (brüd). Forms: 1 *bréowan*, 2-3 *breowe(n)*,
 3-5 *browen*, 4-7 *browe*, 4- *brow*, (also 4-5
breu, 4-6 *bru*, 4-7 *brue*, 5 *brow-yn*, -ne, br(u)w-
 yn, 6 *breawe*). Pa. t. 1 *bréaw*, 3 *brouz*,
 4 *brouh*, *brou*, *brow*; pl. 1 *bruwon*, 3 *browe(n)*;
 also 3-7 *brued*, 4 *broud*, 4- *browed*, 6- *brow'd*.
 Pa. pple. 1 (36) *browen*, 3-4 (1-) *browen*, 4-5
browe, 5 *bruwen*, *browe*, 5-6 *browne*, Sc. *browin*,
brouin, *broune*; also 4- *browed*, (4 *ibrowt*,
 4-7 *brued*, 4-5 *browed*, 5 *browid*, 7 *bru'd*).
 [Common Teut.: OE. *bréowan* (bréaw, *bruwon*;
 (ge)browen) str. vb. = OS. **briuwān* (MLG. *bru-
 wen*, MDu. *bruwen*, *brouwen*, Du. *brouwen*, wk.),
 OHG. *briuwān* (MHG. *briuwēn*, *brüwen*, mod.
 Ger. *brauen*) str., ON. *brugga* (Sw. *brygga*, Da.
brygge) wk.; pointing to an OTent. verb-root
 **brū* (pre-Ger. *bhrēu*):- cf. OHG. *brū-hūs* 'brew-
 house'. Outside Teutonic, the same root is perh.
 to be recognized in L. *defrutum* new wine boiled
 down, and Thracian *βρύτον* (= *φρύτον*) beer. Cf.
 BROTH, and other derivatives, which show that the
 root *brū* had originally also in Teutonica wider sense
 than 'brew', apparently that of 'make a decoction,
 infuse'. The strong pa. t. is found in ME. till the
 14th c., and the str. pa. pple. to the 16th (the latter
 still in Sc.); but weak forms occur in the 13th.]
 1. *trans.* Properly: To make (ale, beer, and
 the like) by infusion, boiling, and fermentation.
 c 993 K. ÆLFRED *Ors.* I. i. § 20 And ne bið ðær nænig ealo
 gebrowen mid Estum. c 1305 *Poem temp. Edw. II.* xxix,
 Gude ale & strong Wel ibrowen of the beste. c 1440 *Promp.*
Parv. 54/1 Browne ale, or other drynke. *pandoxor.* 1535
 STEWART *Crom. Scot.* II. Arg., How King Duncane send
 the Wyne and Aill browin with mukil Wort to King Sueno.
 1570 LEVINS *Manip.* 213 To Breawe, *coquere potum*. 1591
 SHAKS. *Two Gent.* III. I. 304 She brewes good Ale. 1768
 BLACKSTONE *Comm.* I. 320 Malt liquors brewed for sale,
 which are excised at the brewery. 1833 HOGG *Queen's*
Wake 69 We drank fra the hornis that never grew, The

beer that was never browin. 1872 YEATS *Techn. Hist.*
Comm. 124 Ale the monks themselves brewed.
 b. *fig.* with conscious reference to the literal
 sense.
 1297 R. GLOUC. 26 A luper beuerage to here bihofpe bei
 browe. c 1325 *Coer de L.* 4365 A sorye beverage ther was
 browen! 1606 SHAKS. *Tr. & Cr.* IV. iv. 7 If I could tem-
 porise with my affection, Or brew it to a weakie and colder
 pallat. 1651 CLEVELAND *Elegy Abp. Canterb.* 2 He brews
 his Tears that studies to lament. 1871 MORLEY *Crit. Misc.*
 (1886) III. 288 Why are we to describe the draught which
 Rousseau and the others had brewed .. as maddening poison
 to the French?
 c. To convert (barley, malt, or other substance)
 into a fermented liquor.
 1368 LANGLEY *P. Pl.* A. v. 133, I Bouhte hire Barly heo
 breuh hit to sulle. 1528 *Bury Wills* (1850) 118 To fynde
 yearleie a bussell and halffe of malte to be browne. 1733
London & Countv. Brew. I. (1742) 70 The Charge and Profit
 of brewing Six Bushels of Malt for a Private Family. 1769
 BURNS, O Willie brew'd a peck o' maut.
 d. *absol.* (often in proverbial expressions: cf.
 BAKE v. 6.)
 a 1300 *Cursor M.* 2848 Suilk als bai brued now ha bai
 dronken. 1451 *Pol. Poems* (1859) II. 230 Let hem drynk as
 they hanne brew. 1543-4 *Act 35 Hen. VIII.* viii, Such
 persons as brew for their owne prouision, and not to sale.
 1598 SHAKS. *Merry W.* I. iv. 101, I wash, ring, brew, bake,
 scowre, dresse meat and drinke. 1618 *Pasquill's Night-Cap*
 (1877) 82 You must drinke As you have brud; bee it small
 or strong. 1628 *Proc. Parliament* No. 138. 2162 The Ad-
 mirall .. said, that as they brewed so they should bake. 1876
 SPURGEON *Treas. Dav.* Pa. cix. 17 As he brewed, so let him
 drink.
 † 2. To mix (liquors), mix with water, dilute. *Obs.*
 1500 WHITTINGTON *Vulg.* (1527) 15 b, This wyne is brued
 [dilutum]. 1507 HARRISON *England* II. vi. (1877) 149 That
 they would neither drinke nor be serued of .. such [wine] as
 was anie waies mingled or brued by the vintener. 1579
 TOMSON *Calvin Serm.* Tim. 310/2 They brue, they mingle,
 and confound the doctrine of the gospel with their owne
 dreames. 1600 VERNER *Via Recta* vi. 101 Water and fine
 Sugar onely brewed together. 1641 *FRENCH Distill.* v. (1651)
 125 You may drop .. Oil .. into the Wine, and brew them
 well together.
 † b. To pour (= L. *infundere*). *Obs.*
 1581 MARBECK *Bk. of Notes* 1164 They .. brew their new
 wine into new vessells. 1594 PLAT *Jewell-ho.* III. 29 Brew
 them a pretie while out of one pot into another.
 3. *transf.* 'To make by mixing several ingredi-
 ents' (J.), as whisky punch; or by infusion, as tea.
 a 1606 BACON (J.) We have drinks also brewed with several
 herbs and roots, and spices. 1825 Bro. *Jonathan* I. 417
 Have a care! You are brewing that for us, now. 1861
 RAMSAY *Remin.* II. (ed. 18) 37 A famous hand at brewing a
 good glass of whisky. 1865 *Athenaeum* No. 1079. 429/1
 Brewing a cup of coffee. 1868 HOLME LEE *B. Godfrey* xxiii.
 124 The kettle was boiled, the tea brewed. 1875 B. TAYLOR
Faust I. vi. 101 Canst thou .. alone not brew the potion?
 4. To concoct, contrive, prepare, bring about,
 cause: *spec. a.* evil, mischief, trouble, woe; in early
 use esp. with *bale*, *boot*, *bitterness*, *bargain*, etc.
 c 1290 *Hymn Virg.* 30 in *Trin. Hom.* 256 Care of drede
 þat Eue bitterliche us breuz. *Ibid.* 257 Bale to brewwe.
 a 1300 *Cursor M.* 4137 Baret rede i noight yee bru. 1377
 LANGLEY *P. Pl.* B. XVIII. 361 Pe bitterness þat þow hast
 browe brouke it þi-seluen. c 1440 *York Myst.* xxix. 239
 þis brethell has brewed moche bale. a 1560 ROLLAND *Crt.*
Venus IV. 448 Under the condition .. that he brew na mair
 baill. 1576 T. PROCTER *Gallery Invent.* in *Heliconia* I. 105
 Ulysses wife, whose chastnesse brewed her fame. 1820 SOUTHEY
Kehama XI. vi. All deadly plagues and pestilence to brew.
 b. designs, projects, productions of the intellect.
 c 1386 CHAUCER *Monk's T.* 3575 He brew this cursednesse
 and al this synne. c 1425 *Seven Sag.* (P.) 1284 Hys wyf ..
 Brewed the childys deth. 1575 GOLDING *Calvin on Pa.* xlv.
 a His heart was brewing of some notable and excellent
 matter. 1579 FRKTON *Guicciard.* II. (1599) 66 It was be-
 lieued his death was brewed in a cup of poyson. 1649 FULLER
Just Man's Fun. a They do not ponder things in their
 heart, but onely brew them in their heads. 1803 'C.
 CAUSTIC' *Terr. Tractor.* I. 34 note, I could not rest quietly
 till I had brewed a sublime treatise.
 c. natural phenomena, as rain, wind, a storm.
 1530 PALSGR. 594 Foule weather as when it rayneth
 snoweth or broweth, or any otherwyse stormeth. 1593
 SHAKS. 3 *Hen. VI.* II. II. 156 That Sun-shine brewed a
 showre for him. 1677 DRYDEN *Virg. Georg.* I. 578 The
 Moon .. bodes a Tempest on the Main, And brews for Fields
 impetuous Floods of Rain. 1765 FALCONER *Demag.* 185
 Foundering in the storm himself had brew'd.
 5. *intr.* To be in preparation; to be in process
 of mixing, concocting, production, etc.; cf. prec.
 senses. (The modern to be *brewing*, partly derived
 from an earlier to be *a-brewing*, is not altogether
 intrans. in origin: cf. the house is (a) building.)
 a 1300 *Cursor M.* 118 Bituix þe ald law and þe new How
 crist birth bigan to brew. c 1460 *Towneley Myst.* 314 Your
 baillie now brewys. 1599 *Mirr. Mag.*, Worcester III,
 Doubtes that daily brue. 1610 SHAKS. *Temp.* II. II. 19
 Another Storme brewing. 1677 *London Gas.* No. 1210/2
 Some hundred Barrels of Beer brewing for the use of the
 Troops. 1688 N. O. *Boileau's Lutrin* III. 202 Thou little
 thinkest What work's a brewing. 1742 RICHARDSON *Pamela*
 (1824) I. 82 Satisfied there is mischief brewing. 1860 HOL-
 LAND *Miss Gilbert* II. 20 A storm was brewing in the
 domestic sky.
 6. *trans.* Of oysters: To produce (spawn).
 1865 *Cornhill Mag.* XI. 54 The parent oyster goes on
 'brewing' its spawn for some time; and it is supposed that
 the spawn swims about with the current for a short period
 before it falls.
 7. *Comb.*, in which *brew* has the sense of *brewer*,

brewing, as † **brow-bate**, one who stirs up quarrelling or dissension; **brow-kettle**, the vessel in which the wort and hops are boiled; † **brow-lead**, a leaden vessel used in brewing; **brow-wife**, a woman that brews, a brewster or brewster-wife. Also **BREWHOUSE**.

1608 FITZHERBERT *Apol.* 33 What resteth then to make these 'brewbates so confident? 1369 *Test. Ebor.* (Surtees) I. 87 Plumbum meum, anglice 'breuiled in founes. 1430 *Ibid.* II. 12 Unum breuiled, unum maskfatt. 1522 *Wills & Inv. N. C.* (Surtees) 106, I bequeth to my son... the brew-house as it standeth, that is to say a brewelede, with a mashefatt and a tapstone, etc. 1393 *LANGL. P. Pl. C.* vii. 354 Whederwarde he wolde be 'brow-wif hym asked. 1479 *Paston Lett.* 828 III. 244 He hath married a brewwyf and kepeth the brue hous.

Brew, *sb.* [f. **BREW** v.] The action, process, or result, of brewing; the beverage, etc. brewed; sometimes used locally for 'yeast'.

1510 *Ch. Wardens' Acc. St. Dunstan's Canterb.* For a quarton of Brew jd. ob. 1607 *BACON Sylva* (J.) Trial. made of the like brew with potatoe roots... which are nourishing meats. 1742 *YOUNG Nt. Th.* ix. 621 The brew of thunders. 1866 *KANE Arct. Expl.* II. viii. 90 Our brew of beer... turns out excellent. 1859 *J. LANG WAND. India* 338 Give us a little drop more of that last brew.

Brewage (*brū'edz*). In 6-7 **bruage**. [f. **BREW** v. + **-AGE**: but prob. in its origin associated with *F. breuvage* (early forms *brueage*, *bruvage*) drink, BEVERAGE, whence the original wide sense.]

1. A concocted beverage; a decoction; something that has been brewed, a brewing.

1548 *UDALL Erasm. Apoph.* 301 a. The bruage of wyne and the iuce of hemlocke trempred together was brought vnto hym. 1555 *Fardell Facions* II. viii. 166 Their drinke is a bruage... sometyme of Ryze, sometyme of Barlie. 1568 *SHAKS. Merry W.* iii. v. 33 He no Pullet-Sperme in my brewage. 1644 *MILTON Arcep.* (Arb.) 63 Malmsey, or some well spic't bruage. 1847 *BLACKW. MAG.* XXI. 833 She... hated rum as the devil's own brewage. 1869 *PEACOCK Misfort. Elphin* 173 The Druids... made... a mystical brewage of carefully-selected ingredients. 1868 *MACAULAY Hist. Eng.* iii. 1. 335 A rich brewage made of the best Spanish wine.

2. The process of brewing.

1776 *PRINGLE Health Mariners* 16 In the space of twenty-four hours their brewage is completed. 1822 *M. SCOTT in Blackw. Mag.* XXXI. 902 A new brewage of punch took place. 1865 *KANE Arct. Expl.* I. xxix. 387 To complete my latest root-beer brewage.

3. A boiling (e.g. of salt).

1550 *J. BALFOUR Practicks* 87 The hundreth salt browage containend nine score bollis.

† **Breward**, *sb.* Obs. exc. *dial.* Also 7 **brere-wood**, 9 *dial.* **brewit**, **bruart**. [A variant of **BRAID**, **BRERD**; cf. OE. *breord*, *brjord*, *brord*.]

1. Brim (of a hat); = **BRERD**.

1611 *COTGR.* *Aile*... the brime, or brerewood of a hat. 1674 *RAY N. C. Wds.* 8 *Hat Brwaris*, Hat brims. *Cheshire.* 1868 *E. WAUGH Sneek-Bant* ii. 38 (*Lanc. Gloss.*) Wi' th' rain drippin' off his hat brerwis.

2. Sprouting of corn, etc.; = **BRAIRD**.

1875 *Lanc. Gloss.* (E. D. S.) 59 A fine bruart o' straw-berry.

† **Breward**, **brewerd**, *v.* Obs. exc. *dial.* [f. prec.: cf. **BRAIRD** v.] To sprout.

1609 *BIBLE* (Douay) II. 1084 The sede newly sowne to one, beginning to brewed to another. 1875 *Lancash. Gloss.* (E. D. S.) s. v. Yo'r tatiees are bruarin' finely.

† **Brewe**, *Obs.* Also 6 **brew**, 7 **brue**. [Etymology unknown.] A fowl; ? a kind of snipe.

1460 *J. RUSSELL Bk. Nurture in Babes Bk.* (1868) 143 Wodcock... reteratiff pey ar, & so is the brewe. c. 1475 *Noble Bk. Cookery* (Napier 1882) 63 A Brewe sley him in the mouthe, as a curlew. 1513 *Bk. Keruyng in Babes Bk.* (1858) 276 Vntache that brewe. 1605 in *Archaeol.* XIII. 341 These Foules bee now in season... Brue.

Brewed (*brūd*), *ppl. a.* [f. **BREW** v. + **-ED**.] See **BREW** v. 4.

1634 *MILTON Comus* 696 Hence with thy brewed enchantments, foul deceiver!

Brewer (*brū'ar*). Also 3-7 **bruier**, 4 **brywer**, 4-5 **brewere**. [f. **BREW** v. + **-ER**.]

1. One who brews; *spec.* one whose trade is to make malt liquors.

a. 1300 *Wright's Relig. Songs* vii. 82 Theos false chepmen... Backares and brueres. 1393 *LANGL. P. Pl. C.* i. 221 Bakers and brywers, bouchers and opere. c. 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 54 Browstar, or brewere, *pandoxator*, *trix*. 1577 *HARRISON England* II. vi. (1877) 150 Ale and beere... as it pleaseth the bruer to make them. 1592 *NASHE P. Penillesse* 10 b, Brewers... by retaying-filthy Thames water, come in few yerres to be worth fortie or fifty thousand pound. 1671 in *Stow's Surv.* (ed. Strype 1754) II. 713/1 No street car, or Brewer's dray. 1723 *BERKELEY Alciph.* II. § 4 You think a drunkard most beneficial to the brewer and the vintner. 1836 *Penny Cycl.* V. 404/2 The fining or clearing, which is sometimes done by the brewer, sometimes by the publican.

2. A concocter, contriver of.

1563 *Homilies* II. xiv. (1640) 191 The author and brewer of sinne, and the ruler of Hell. 1596 *J. HOOKER Girald. Incl. in Holinshed* II. 96/2 *Bas de la Hide* was the onlie bruer of this rebellion.

Breweress (*brū'arēs*). [f. prec. + **-ESS**.] A female brewer. (Only occasionally used.)

1841 *B. BOTFIELD Mann. & Househ. Exp.* (Roxb.) Intro. 39 The Countess had employed a breweress at Banbury.

† **Brewern**, **brewern**. *Obs.* In 5 **brewarne**, **browhern**. [f. vb. stem *brew-* or *bru-* (see **BREW** + **-HOUSE**) + OE. *ern*, *ern* place, closet, etc.: cf. **BARN**.] A brewhouse.

c. 1450 *Metr. Voc.* in *W. Wülcker 626 Pandoxatorium*, *brewarne*; *pistrinum*, bakehouse. 1453 *MARG. PASTON Lett.* 185 l. 250 The drawte chamer, and the malthouse, and the brewere (*app. an error for brewerne*). 1465 *Paston Lett.* 978 III. 435 The Botere... the Browhern... the Kychyn.

Brewership (*brū'aršip*). [f. **BREWER** + **-SHIP**.] The office or employment of a brewer.

1844 *Blackw. Mag.* XV. 197 Buxton, whose brewership unfortunately unfits him for the... lead.

Brewery (*brū'arī*). [f. **BREWER**; see **-ERY**. (Not in Johnson 1755-1773: nor Bailey 1721-1800).]

1. A place for brewing; the establishment of a public brewer; formerly called a **BREWHOUSE**.

1648 *HEXHAM Dutch Dict.* Een Brouwerie, a Brewery, or a brewing-house. 1736 *J. M'URE View Glasgow* 285 There is a stately Brewerie belonging to Robert Luke... adjacent to the above great Tannarie. 1772 *PRIESTLEY in Phil. Trans.* LXII. 148 Living... in the neighbourhood of a public brewery. 1791 *BOSWELL Johnson* (1831) I. 506 The brewery was to be sold. 1862 *Jrnl. Roy. Dublin Soc.* Apr. 311 The director of the college... showed me also their brewery.

2. *fig.*

1880 *EARL DUNRAVEN in 19th Cent.* Sept. 446 The whole region [Colorado] is one vast brewery of storms.

† 2. The process or trade of brewing; also, the 'trade' or body of brewers. *Obs.*

a. 1714 *C. DAVENANT Ess. Trade* I. 79 (L.) If they should bring any distress and trouble upon the London brewery, it would occasion the making ill drink. 1796 *MORSE Amer. Geog.* II. 121 The porter brewery... is also chiefly carried on in London.

Brewes(s), **-esse**, **Brewester**, *obs. forms of BREWIS, BREWSTER.*

† **Brewet**, another f. **BROWET**, *Obs.* = **BREWIS**.

c. 1450 *Gloss.* in *Wright Voc.* 200 *Hic garrus*, brewett. ? a. 1450 *Forme of Cury* 11 Brewet of almony.

Brewhouse (*brū'hous*). Also 4 **brewhaus**, 5 **brywhouse**, **brewhowes** (e, *bruhows*, 6 **brewehouse**. [f. vb. stem *bru-* + **BREW** + **-HOUSE**. Cf. OHG. *brū-hūs*.] A house or building in which beer is brewed; a brewery.

1373 *Test. Ebor.* I. 89 Item legavit Roberto de brewhous v. marcas. c. 1386 *CHAUCER Milleres T.* 3324 In al the toun nas Brewhous ne Tauerne That he ne visited. 1458 *Test. Ebor.* II. 226 The pantrie, botre, kechyn, bakhowes, and brewhouse. 1483 *Cath. Angl.* 45 A Bruhowe, *pandoxatorium*. 1529 *Act 21 Hen. VIII.* xii. § 32 No Spiritual Person... shall have, use, or keep any Manner of Brew-house. 1671 *F. PHILLIPS Reg. Necess.* 362 A better house than the Brew-house which he could not thrive in at Huntingdon. 1677 *YARANTON Eng. Improv.* 163 You must have a Bake-house and Brew-house of your own. 1797 *Chron. in Ann. Reg.* 47/1 Mr. Meux's brewhouse in Liquorpond Street. 1837 *HAWTHORNE Twice-told T.* (1851) I. x. 176 That shall tear down the distilleries and brewhouses.

Brewice, *obs. form of BREWIS.*

Brewing (*brū'ing*), *vb. sb.* [f. **BREW** v. + **-ING**.]

1. The action, process, or occupation described under **BREW** (various senses).

1467 *Bury Wills* (1850) 46, I will that the said Denys have here esement in the bakhowes in lawfull tyme for bruyng. 1561 *J. HEYWOOD Prov. & Epigr.* (1867) 179 Great brewing, small drinker. 1663 *GERBIER Connell* 5 Nor is a Laboratorium... fit either for Baking or Brewing. 1777 *MACBRIDE in Phil. Trans.* LXVIII. 122 You will have a second brewing of lime-water. 1855 *MACAULAY Hist. Eng.* IV. 585 Sir John Friend... had made a very large fortune by brewing.

2. *fig.* Concoction, preparation.

1545 *JOYE Exp. Dan.* xi. (R.) The miserable mutacions of kingdoms nowe... in brewing. 1601 *HOLLAND Pliny* XIV. vi. (R.) Such a brewing and sophistication of them they make. 1673 *[R. LEIGH] Transp. Ret.* 30 This is a Plot... this has been a brewing any time this Thirty years. 1854 *ALFORD in Life* (1873) 237, I have an *Edinburgh* article in brewing.

3. The quantity of liquor brewed at once.

1666 *BACON Sylva* (J.) A brewing of new beer, set by old beer, maketh it work again. 1753 *Scots Mag.* Aug. 393/2 Distilling the second draught of a brewing of aqua-vitæ.

4. *Naut.* A collection of black clouds betokening a storm.

5. *attrib. and Comb.*, † **brewing-lead**, a vessel for brewing in.

1885 *Civilian* 3 Jan. 130/1 An Act... to make it compulsory that every collection of worts be entered in the 'brewing-book' within one hour. 1551-60 *Inv.* in *H. Hall Soc. Elias.* *Age* (1886) 152 In the Brewhouse a 'Brewing Copper. 1702 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 3855/4 Utensils proper... for a 'Brewing house. 1444 *Test. Ebor.* II. 100 Lego... 'brewinglede.

1504 *Bury Wills* (1850) 101, I will that they shall have all brewing ledys. 1692 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 2991/4 The Greyhound in Ipswich... with a convenient 'Brewing Office. 1838 *DICKENS O. Twist* (1850) 110/1 A scullery, or small 'brewing-place, at the end of the passage. 1766 *GOLDSM. Vic. W.* xvii. We shall then have the loan of his cider-press and 'brewing-tubs for nothing. 1863 *Times* 6 Mar. Another rickety booth holds the brewing utensils. 1466 *Test. Ebor.* II. 256 A cesterne, the ledes, with other 'brewing-vessel.

Brewis (*brū'is*). *Forms:* 3-4 **broys**, **brouys**; see **BROWIS**; 5 **brewes**, **brus**, 6 **brewish**, **-ys**, **bruas**, **-isse**, **-yae**, 6-7 **brewes**, **-ess**, **-esse**, **brows**, 7 **brewice**, **-isse**, **bruesse**, 8 **brews**, 9

dial. **breawis**, 6- **brewis**. [ME. *browes*, *broways*, *breues*, etc., a OF. *brouets*, in 13th c. *broes*, nominative of *brouet*, *brouet* 'soup made with broth of meat', dim. of OF. *bro*, *brou*: see **BROWET**, of which this word is thus a doublet. It is possible that the change of *browes* to *brewes*, *brewis* was influenced by some popular association with OE. *brūw*, pl. *brūwas* soup, pottage (see **BREE**), or even with the vb. **BREW**. Cf. **BROWIS**, **BROSE**.]

1. Broth, liquor in which beef and vegetables have been boiled; sometimes also thickened with bread or meal. Now chiefly *dial.*, and applied very variously in different localities.

[1300-1525 see **BROWIS**.] 1526 in *Househ. Ord.* (1790) 174 Venison in brewz or mult, 1 mess, 4d. 1530 *PALSGR.* 201/2 *Brewes*, *brouet*. 1599 *A. M. tr. Gabelhouer's Bk. Physic* 150/2 Cut a cheese to shivers, and make therof these breues. 1610 *HOLLAND Camden's Brit.* I. 126 Fained with Scottish pottage and brewesse. c. 1622 *FLETCHER Prophetess* I. iii. 27 What an inundation of brewisse shall I swim in? a. 1650 *M.S. Bodl.* 30. 13 b, The verie bruise of divinitie, fatt and glorious. 1719 *DE FOR CRUSOE* (Hotten) 297 The Liquor of the Meat, which they call Brews, 1822 *SCOTT Nigel* x, Mountains of beef, and oceans of brewis, as large as Highland hills and lochs. 1869 *BLACKMORE Lorna D.* vi. (ed. 12) 35 She can't stir a pot of brewis. 1874 *MRS. WHITNEY We Girls* vi. 130 One (fryingpan) was set on with the milk for the brewis.

2. 'Bread soaked in boiling fat pottage, made of salted meat' (J.).

c. 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 53 *Browesse* [1499 *browes*], *adipatum*. 1554 *BECOM Comfort. Epist.* (1844) 208 Eating beef and brewis knuckle-deep. 1580 *BARRY Arct. B.* 1225 *Brewis*, *offulus adipata*. 1588 *Marpel. Epist.* 41 The B. of Gloucester... affirmed that beefe and brewesse had made him a papist. 1594 *LYLY M. Bombe* iii. iv. 113 A stately peece of beefe... in great pompe sitting upon a cushion of white brewish. a. 1625 *FLETCHER Mad Lover* II. i. 8 Beefe we can beare before us linde with Brewes. 1680 *SHADWELL Woman Capt.* I. Wks. 1720 III. 347 A greasy serving-man... whose beard stunk of beef and brewis. 1854 *W. GASKELL Lect. Lanc. Dial.* 13 in *Lanc. Gloss.* (E. D. S.) Bread soaked in broth, or in the fat that drips from meat... is known as brewis. 1857 *J. SCHOLES Jaunt* 13 (*ibid.*) Drops o' fat on Owdham breawis.

Brewit, *dial. var. of BREWARD.*

Brewlyng, *obs. form of BROILING vbl. sb.*

Brewst. [An alteration of **BROWST**, apparently under the impression that the latter is a Sc. dialect form, and that the English ought to follow *brew*.] A 'browst' or brewing.

1854 *Blackw. Mag.* LXXV. 529 The brewstis of the different years. 1864 *MISS YONGE Trial* I. 243 His resolution of... drinking the brewst he had brewed for himself.

Brewster (*brū'stər*). *Forms:* 4 **bræuster**, **brewester** (e, 5- **brewater**, 5 *north*. **browstar**, **-stere**, 6 *Sc.* **broustar**, **-ster**, **browster**. [f. **BREW** v. + fem. suffix **-STER**: cf. *baxter*. See also **BROWSTER**.]

1. *orig.* A woman that brews, a female brewer.

c. 1308 *Rel. Ant.* II. 176 Hall be 3e, brewesters, with 3ur galuns, Potels and quarters. 1377 *LANGL. P. Pl. B.* v. 306 Beton be brewestere had hym good morwe. c. 1425 *Voc.* in *W. Wülcker 662 Hec brasitrix*, brewster. c. 1450 *Ibid.* 692 *Hec pandoxatrix*, a brewster. 1820 *SCOTT Abbot* xv, We will play... in Dame Martin the Brewster's barn-yard.

2. Extended to both sexes: A brewer. (Only north Eng. and Sc. since 15th c., exc. as in 3.)

1377 *LANGL. P. Pl. B.* Prol. 218 *Baxsteres* and *brewesteres*, and *bocheres* manye. c. 1430 *LYDG. Min. Poems* (1840) 211 Bakerys, browsterys, vyntenerys, with fresh lycour. c. 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 54 *Browstar* or *brewere*, *pandoxator*, *pandoxatrix*. c. 1550 *SIR J. BALFOUR Practicks* (1754) 15 *Brouster*, for his fee, five pundia. 1607 *North Riding Rec.* (1883) I. 71 Fr. Steele brewster presented for selling ale contrary to the Statute.

3. *Comb. and Attrib.* **brewater-wife** (Sc.), a woman that brews or sells malt liquors; **Brewster Sessions**, sessions for the issue of licenses to trade in alcoholic liquors.

a. 1774 *FERGUSON Leith Races*, The 'Browster wives the-gither harl A' trash that they can fa on. 1818 *Burt's Lett. N. Scott* I. 323 *Notes*, A bad specimen of a Scottish brewster-wife. 1864 *A. M'KAY Hist. Kilmarnock* 128 The brewster-wives had formed a scheme for raising the price of ale. 1883 *Standard* 7 Sept., At the Canterbury 'Brewster-Sessions... all the licenses were granted except two.

Brewsterite (*brū'stērīt*). [f. name of *Sir David Brewster* + **-ITE**.] A zeolitic mineral, belonging to the hydrous silicates, white in colour, and of uneven fracture.

1843 *PORTLOCK Geol.* 223 *Brewsterite* has been stated to occur... at the Causeway.

Brewys, **brews**, *obs. forms of BREWIS.*

Brey, variant of **BRAYE**, *Obs.*

Breyd (e, variant of **BRAID**).

Breyer, **breyr**, *obs. forms of BRIER.*

Breyfe, **breyff**, *obs. forms of BRIEF.*

Breythe, variant of **BRATTHE** v. *Obs.*

Brese, *obs. form of BREEZE.*

Bresiline, variant of **BRAZILIN**.

Briar, etc.: see **BRIER**, etc.

Briareus (*brī'arēs*, *brī'arēs*). Proper name of a hundred-handed giant of Greek mythology; sometimes used connotatively.

1608 *SHAKS. Tr. & Cr.* I. ii. 30 A gowtle Briareus, many hands and no vse. 1862 *TURRIS Proverb. Philos.* 310 She

with the might of a Briareus, is dragging down the clouds upon the mountain.

Hence **Briarean** (-f'ān, -ē-riān), of or relating to Briareus; hundred-handed. Also quasi-sb.

1599 MARSTON *Satires*, Shape-changing Proteans, damn'd Briareans. 1800 BYRON *Mar. Fal.* i. ii. 268 Could I not shatter the Briarean sceptre Which in this hundred-handed senate rules? 1883 PROCTOR *Myst. Time & Sp.* 57.

Bribability, bribe (brōi'bāb'i-lī'ti). [f. next: see -ITY.] The quality of being bribable; corruptibility, venality.

1832 J. TAYLOR *Records my Life* II. 232 The Doctor seems to show symptoms of Bribability. 1867 CARLYLE *Shooting Niagara* iii. Calling in of new supplies of blockheadism, gullibility, bribability, amenability to beer and balderdash.

Bribable, bribeable (brōi'bāb'l), a. (sb.) [f. **BRIBE** v. + -ABLE; see also -BLE.]

A. adj. Capable of being bribed; open to bribery; corrupt; venal.

1809 *Blackw. Mag.* XXVI. 641 The close and the bribable boroughs will not be violated. 1858 CARLYLE *Fredk. Gl.* i. v. 590 Grunkow, a bribable gentleman. 1866 *Ch. Times* 31 Mar. 101/2 Give increased voting power to the bribable classes. 1899 BAGEHOT *Lit. Studies* I. Introd. 63 A most amusing picture of the bribable electors.

B. sb. A corrupt or venal person.

1867 *Fortn. Rev.* July 112 The bribables... in the new constitutions.

† **Bri'bage**. *Obs. rare* -1. [f. **BRIBE** v. + -AGE.] Exaction of illegal fees by officials.

1597 HARRISON *England* ii. iii. (1877) 77 Yer the Scholar can be preferred, such bribeage is made, that poore mens children are commonie shut out.

† **Bribble-brabble**. *Obs.* [Reduplicated form on **BRABBLE**.] Vain chatter or wrangling; *attrib.* 1665 HOWARD *Committee* III. (D.) You are a foolish brabble-brabble woman, that you are.

Bribe (brōib), sb. Also 5-6 brybe. [*Bribe* sb. and vb., and *brybourn*, appear together in Chaucer and his contemporaries: their previous history is obscure. OF. had *bribe* in sense of 'piece of bread, frustum panis', esp. 'a peece, lumpe, or cantill of bread giuen vnto a beggar' (Cotgr.); the same senses occur with med.L. *briba*: see Du Cange. Cf. Walloon *brīb* alms, Sp. *briba* mendicancy. It. *briba* vagabond's trade; also OF. *briber*, *brimber* to beg (*intr.*), be a mendicant, Walloon *briber*, Sp. *bribar* to lead a vagabond life, be a strolling beggar, It. *bribare* 'to play the sly knave' (Florio); also OF. *bribeur*, *brimbeur* mendicant, strolling beggar, with Sp. *bribon*, It. *bribone*, *bribante* vagrant, vagabond, and the ME. *bribour*, **BRIBER** sense 1; also OF. *briberie*, *brimberie*, Rouchi *briberie*, Walloon *bribreie* mendicancy. The ulterior history is quite unknown; if the sense of OF. *bribe* is the original, the order of development would appear to have been 'piece of bread', 'alms', 'living upon alms', 'professional begging'. Hence, app. from practical association, the English sense 'to steal, plunder'. The further history in English is also involved, but appears to be somewhat thus: in *bribe* sb. the early sense of 'theft, plunder, spoil', appears to have been transferred to the 'black mail' or 'baksheesh' exacted by governors and judges who abused their positions, and thus to gifts received or given for corrupt purposes, whence the later sense of the vb. The transition is best seen in the agent-noun *briber*, where we have the series, 'beggar', 'vagabond', 'thief', 'robber', 'extortioner', 'exactor of black mail', and 'receiver of baksheesh' (the Baconian sense). The sudden and startling change from the Baconian 'briber', who received douceurs, to the modern 'briber' who gives them, can be explained only by taking the latter as a separate derivative of the verb in its latest sense.]

† 1. A thing stolen or robbed; theft, robbery; spoil, plunder. *Obs.* (The Chaucer quotation is doubtful: if the sb. is right, it might perch. have the sense of 'an alms', as in OF.)

c 1386 CHAUCER *Freres T.* 78 (*Harl. MS.*) Feyning a cause for he wolde han a bribe [*Petw. MS.* wolde haue a brybe; 5 texts read he wolde brybe]. c 1440 *Pomp. Parv.* 50 Brybery or brybe, *manticulum*. 1509 BARCLAY *Ship of Fools* (1874) II. 85 They howys stuffed with brybes abhomyneably.

2. 'A reward given to pervert the judgment or corrupt the conduct' (J.).

a. The earlier sense probably regarded it as a consideration extorted, exacted, or taken by an official, a judge, etc.; i.e. as the act of the receiver: cf. **BRIBER**.

1535 COVERDALE *Eccles.* xl. 12 All brybes (1611 *briberie*) and vnrighteousnes shalbe put awaye, but faithfulness and trueth shall endure for euer. 1580 BARET *Adv.* B 1227 Buying and selling of justice for bribes. 1601 SHAKS. *Jul. C.* iv. iii. 3 You haue condemn'd, and noted Lucius Pella For taking Bribes heere of the Sardians. 1611 BIBLE 1 Sam. viii. 3 His sonnes... took bribes, and perueried judgement.

b. But it is now applied to a consideration voluntarily offered to corrupt a person and induce

him to act in the interest of the giver, e.g. a consideration given to a voter to procure his vote.

1555 BRADFORTH in *Strype Eccl. Mem.* III. App. xiv. 130 Who they myght make their frend with brybes. 1570 LEVINS *Manip.* 113 A Bribe, *largitio*. 1607 SHAKS. *Cor.* i. ix. 38, I... cannot make my heart consent to take A Bribe. 1667 *Perys Diary* (1879) IV. 340 His rise hath been his giving of large bribes. 1718 POPE *Iliad* i. 45 Prayers, and tears, and bribes shall plead in vain. 1776 GIBSON *Decl. & F. I.* 115 The infamous bribe with which Julian had purchased the empire. 1839 THIRLWALL *Greece* xi. 45 Duties... which belong to the judicial character, of rejecting bribes, hearing impartially, and deciding faithfully. 1880 M'CARTHY *Owen Times* IV. lvi. 218 Before long surely it will be accounted as base to give as to take a bribe.

† 3. (*perh.*) Rascally or execrable behaviour; clamour. Cf. **BRIBER** 1 b, quot. a 1400. *Obs.*

a 1560 ROLLAND *Crt. Venus* iv. 306 Quhen all this brybe & boist is quite our blawin.

4. *Comb.*, as *bribe-broker*, *brokerage*, *-monger*; *bribe-free*, *-worthy* adjs.; *bribe-service*, a service done for a bribe. Also **BRIBE-TAKER**, **-TAKING**.

1769 BURKE *Imp. W. Hastings* Wks. XIV. 236 Is it in the hands of Mr. Hastings's wicked 'bribe-brokers. 1832 BROME *Novella* i. ii. Wks. 1873 I. 116 Dos he appeare 'bribe-free? Is he the only officer uncorrupted? a 1593 H. SMITH *Wks.* (1866-7) I. 87 He would never speak to usurers and 'bribe-mongers. 1788 BURKE *Imp. W. Hastings* Wks. XIII. 396, I charge him with not having done that 'bribe-service, which fidelity even in iniquity requires. 1731 ARBUTHNOT *Epit. Francis Chastres*, Without 'bribe-worthy service, he acquired, or more properly created, a ministerial estate. 1788 BURKE *Imp. W. Hastings* Wks. XIII. 360 To secure them against bribes by taking from the power of bribe-worthy service.

Bribe (brōib), v. Also 4-6 brybe, 5 brybyn, 6 brybbe. [See under the sb.]

† 1. *trans.* To take dishonestly; to purloin; to steal, rob; to obtain by abuse of trust, or by extortion; to extort. *Obs.*

c 1386 CHAUCER *Cokes T.* 53 For ther is no theif withouten a lowke, That helpech him to wasten and to sowke Of that he brybe (v. r. bribe) kan, or borwe may. 1401 *Pol. Poems* (1859) II. 40 He chiterith and he bribith All that he may gete. c 1440 *Pomp. Parv.* 50/2 Brybyn, *manticulo*, *latrocinio*. 1494 FAYAN vii. 353 A parte was brought vnto y^e lordes, but y^e more part was stolen and brybed. 1538 BALE *Johan Baptiste in Harl. Misc.* I. 106 (Publican says) By me, from hens fourth, nought from the poore shall be brybed. 1558 HULOET, Polle, brybe, or extort. 1561 AWDELAY *Frail. Vacab.* 13 A licoryce knave that will swill his maisters drink and brybe his meate. 1643 Prynne *Power Parl.* App. 30 Great taxes and summes of money... spent vainly and riotously, and bribed out of the Kings Coffers.

† 2. *absol.* To steal, extort, or purloin. *Obs.* c 1386 CHAUCER *Freres T.* 78 This Somnour euere waityng on his pray for to somme an old wydwe a Ribibe fleynynge a cause for he wolde brybe. c 1550 *Hye way Spytell Ho.* 283 in *Hazl. E. P. P.* IV. 37 They must beg, or els go brybe, and steale.

3. To influence corruptly, by a reward or consideration, the action of (a person); to pervert the judgement or corrupt the conduct by a gift. Const. with a consideration, to an action, to do a thing.

1528 *Roy Rade* m. (Arb.) 54 They brybe hym... for to be favoured. 1607 SHAKS. *Meas. for M.* ii. ii. 145 Hark, how Ile brybe you... *Arg.* How? brybe me? *Isa.* I, with such gifts that heauen shall share with you. 1608 N. WANLEY *Wonders* v. ii. § 80. 1712/2 He bribed the Bishop of Rome to the empoyning of his brother Zenes. 1681 *Trial S. Colledge* 132 Seek an occasion to tell him they were bribed off, and were forsworn. 1789 BENTHAM *Princ. Legist.* xviii. § 27 note. To bribe a trustee... is to suborn him to be guilty of a breach or an abuse of trust. 1855 MILMAN *Lat. Chr.* (1864) III. vi. ii. 403 They endeavoured to bribe them with enormous pay to enter into their service. 1878 MORLEY *Diderot* II. 23 The judges were bribed.

b. *absol.* To use or apply bribes; to practise bribery.

1766 JOHNSON in *Goldsm. Good-nat. Man* Prol. 26 The bard may supplicate, but cannot bribe. 1848 MACAULAY *Hist. Eng.* II. 158 He fawned, bullied, and bribed indefatigably.

3. *trans.* To purchase or obtain by bribery. *arch.*

1718 POPE *Iliad* i. 284 And bribe thy friendship with a boundless store. 1733 SWIFT *On Poetry* Wks. IV. i. 190 To bribe the judge's vote. 1749 SMOLLETT *Regicide* i. vii. (1777) 22 Not thrones and diadems shall bribe My approbation! 1873 [see **BRIKED**].

4. *fig.* To gain over by some influence.

1595 SHAKS. *John* n. i. 271 With these Christall beads heauen shall be brib'd To doe him Iustice, and reuenge on you. c 1600 Z. BOYD *Zion's Flowers* (1855) 33 A flattering sleepe Bribes them to rest. 1665 HOWARD *Ind. Queen* iv. i. Your greater Merits bribe her to your side. 1869 BUCKLE *Civilis.* III. v. 371 The memory of which is almost enough so to bribe the judgment.

Bribed (brōibd), ppl. a. [f. **BRIBE** v. + -ED.]

† a. Obtained by bribery; stolen (*obs.*). b. Won over by a bribe, bought by a gift.

1576 NEWTON tr. *Lemni's Complex.* (1633) 123 A bribed Judge, that gapes for gaine. 1598 SHAKS. *Merry W.* v. v. 27 Diuide me like a brib'd-Bucke, each a Haunch. 1813 BYRON *Br. Abydos* n. xiv. The bowl a bribed attendant bore. c 1873 J. ADDIS *Elizab. Echoes* (1879) 92 The bribed Judgments that he falsely meted.

Bribee (brōibf). [f. **BRIBE** v. + -EE; cf. *examinee*.] The recipient of a bribe.

1828 GEN. P. THOMPSON *Audi Alt.* I. lix. 230 The bond between the briber and the bribee. 1881 *Times* 25 Jan. 8 A large number of bribees were examined.

† **Bribeless**, a. *Obs.* [f. **BRIBE** + -LESS.] Free from bribes; not to be corrupted by a bribe.

1608 TOURNEUR *Rev. Trag.* i. iv. 37 Nay, then, step forth thou Bribelesse officer! a 1618 RALEIGH *Pilgr.* in *Rem.* (1661) 257 From thence to Heavens bribelesse Hall, Where no corrupted voices brawl. 1640 BR. REYNOLDS *Passions* (1658) 1102 Conscience is a most bribelesse worker.

Briber (brōi'bāi). Forms: 4-6 bri-, brybour, 5 bryboure, -bowre, -bur, 5-6 bryber, 6 bri-, brie-, brybor, brybar, 5-6 briber. [a. AF. *bri-bour* = OF. *bribeor*, later *bribeur*: see **BRIBE** sb.]

† 1. A vagabond, strolling vagrant; = F. *bribeur*, It. and Sp. *bridon*. *Obs.* (The last quot. belongs doubtfully here.)

1483 *Cath. Angl.* 43 A Bribur, *circumforaneus, siccifantia*. c 1500 DUNBAR *Flying* 49 Irsch brybour baird, vyle beggar with thy brattis! a 1600 *Hist. Pieces* in *Peck Cromwell* 30 He made his porter shut his gates To sycophants and bribours.

† 2. Hence: Scoundrel, wretch, rascal. (Cf. a similar use of *beggar*, *vagabond*, *thief*.) *Obs.*

1397 TREVISIA *Higden* Rolls Ser. II. 313 Gentilmen, for to haue dyuersite and distincion from suche brybours made hem rynges of gold. a 1400 *Cov. Myst.* 18; If any brybour do bragge or blowe agens my host. c 1440 *York Myst.* xxvi. 169 Say, bittilbrowed brybour. 1509 BARCLAY *Ship of Fools* (1570) 39 Ye babbling bribers, endeuour you to amende. c 1550 LYNDSEAY *Depl. O. Magdalene* 66 The potent Prince... Contrair that bailfull brybour [death] had no micht.

† 2. A thief, purloiner, or robber; a taker of black-mail; an extortioner. *Obs.*

1377 LANGL. *P. Pl.* B. xx. 260 Alle other in bataille ben yholde brybours [C. xxiii. 262 brybours] Pilours and pykehernois in eche a place ycursed. 1397 TREVISIA *Higden* Rolls Ser. II. 147 So pese brybours were i-made men of be lond [*sicque de bradonibus accolis effecti*]. 1413 LYDGE. *Pylgr. Soule* iv. xxxiv. (1483) 83 To oppressen brybours and extortioners. c 1440 *Pomp. Parv.* 50 Bryboure, *manticulus*. 1461 J. PASTON in *Let.* 384 Il. 4 To lette brybers that wold a robbed a ship undyr color of my Lord of Warwyk. 1525 LD. BERNERS *Froiss.* II. x. 21 The brybours of the Countrey watched for them at the passages. 1548 CRANMER *Catech.* 100 b. Extortioners, brybers, pollers, and piellers, deuourers of widowes houses. 1558 HULOET, *Brybor*. *Vide* in poller and thefe. 1563-7 FOXE *A. & M.* (1596) 145/1 By inward theues and bribers.

† 3. A judge or other official who levies 'black-mail' upon those to whom he should administer justice; one who exacts or accepts bribes; a bribee. Cf. **BRIBE-TAKER**. *Obs.*

1500 WHITTINTON *Vulg.* (1527) 13 He is a bryber, or a taker of brybes [*is est largitionis capax*]. 1540 LATIMER *Serm. bef. Eduw. VI.* iii. (Arb.) 97 A bryber, a gyft taker, a gratifier of rytche men. 1566 T. B. La *Primaud. Fr. Acad.* 372 Iustice ought not to be either a briber, or respecter of persons, that is, she must neither take any thing, nor judge for anie favour. 1599 *Life Sir T. More* in Wordsworth *Ecc. Biog.* (1853) II. 80 His chancellour was a great briber and extortioner. 1605 BACON *Adv. Learn.* n. xxiii. § 6 (1873) 222 A Judge were better be a briber than a respecter of persons; for a corrupt Judge offendeth not so lightly as a facile. 1611 RICH *Honest. Age* (1844) 13 When euery vsurer, euery briber, euery extortioner... is an honest man.

4. One who offers or gives a bribe.

1523 BABINGTON *Commandm.* (1637) Have wee never suffered these hands to feele the weight of a bribers gift to drawe us to oppression? 1604 SOUTH 12 *Serm.* (1607) I. 271 Affection is still a Briber of the Judgment. [1721 Not in BAILEY in this sense.] 1755 in JOHNSON. 1837 LYTTON *Athena* II. 246 Themistocles the most expert briber of his time. 1863 H. COX *Inst.* i. viii. 116 Bribery is a misdemeanor, punishable... in the briber and person bribed.

† 5. A thing that bribes, a price paid. *Obs.*

1607 SHAKS. *Timon* iii. v. 61 His seruice done at Lacedaemon, and Bizantium, Were a sufficient briber for his life.

Briberess. *rare*. [f. prec. + -ess. Cf. OF. *briberesse* beggar-woman.] A woman who bribes. 1748 RICHARDSON *Clarissa* (1811) VI. xiii. 64 As we clustered by the door of the fair briberess.

† **Bribering**, vbl. sb. *Obs.* [This and the next imply a vb. *briber*, formed on the sb. *briבור*, *briber*, in its earlier sense of 'thief'.] Thieving.

1567 HARMAN *Caveat* (1869) 60 Brought before me... as Malefactors, for bryberinge and stealinge.

† **Bribering**, a. *Obs.* [cf. prec.] Thieving. c 1530 *Dyal. betw. Gentl. & Husbandm.* (Arb.) 137 (D.) It is the moost bryberynge thefe that euer was.

† **Briberous**, a. *Obs.* [f. **BRIBER** + -OUS.]

a. Rascally, thievish, given to taking bribes.

b. Of the nature of a bribe, corrupt.

1534 WHITTINTON *Tullies Offices* II. (1540) 84 Such bryberous rewardes promessed. c 1550 *Hye way Spytell Ho.* 387 in *Hazl. E. P. P.* IV. 44, I mene these bawdy brybours knaves, That lodgeth them that so powles and shaves. a 1614 S. GRAHAME, The bryb'rous minde who makes a god of gould.

Bribery (brōi'bəri). Forms: 5 brybre, brybory, 5-6 brybery, 6 bri-, brybry(e, bryboury, -burre, 6-7 bri-, bryberie, 6- bribery. [f. **BRIBER** + -Y: see -ERY; or a. OF. *briberie*, found in earlier sense of 'mendicancy'.]

† 1. Purloining, larceny, theft, robbery. *Obs.*

c 1386 CHAUCER *Freres T.* 67 He knew of bryberies [v. r. bryberies, bryberis, bryberies, a *MSS.* briber] mo Than possible is to telle in yerres two. 1397 TREVISIA *Higden* vii. xxiv. (Rolls Ser.) VIII. 81 Al þat were about hym 3af hem so to robberye and to bryberie [v. r. bryborye, brybry]. c 1440 *Pomp. Parv.* 50/2 Brybory or brybe, *manticulum*. c 1460 *Towneley Myst.* 194 Fy on the fundlyng, Thou lyfes bot by brybre. 1526 SKELTON *Magnyf.* 1242 To theft and brybory I make some fall And pyke a locke and clyme a wall. 1567 HARMAN *Caveat* (1869) 34 Charged with felony or petye brybrye.

† 2. Robbery with violence or force; extortion. 1523 FITZGER. *Surv.* Prol. A gretter bribery nor extorcyon a man can nat do, than vpon his owne tenantes, for they dare nat say nay nor yet complayne. 1557 N. T. (Genev.) *Math.* xxiii. 25 Within they are ful of brybery and excesse. 1559 Br. COOPER *Admon.* 178 To oppress them by couetousnesse, extortion, and bribery.

3. The exaction or taking of a bribe; 'the offence of a judge, magistrate, or any person concerned judicially in the administration of public justice, of receiving a reward or consideration from parties interested, for the purpose of procuring a partial or favourable decision' (*Penny Cycl.*). *arch.*

1549 LATIMER *Serm. bef. Eduw. VI* (Arb.) 88 Brybery is a pryncely kynde of theuing. They will be waged by the rich, eyther to geue sentence agaynst the poore, or to put of the poore mannes causes. *Ibid.* 113 [The deuyl] goeth about as much as he can to corrupt the men of lawe, to make them fal to bribery. 1621 *ELISING Debates Ho. Lords* (1870) 23 His estate rayzed by theis briberyes. 1769 BLACKSTONE *Comm.* IV. 139 Bribery is... when a judge, or other person concerned in the administration of justice, takes any undue reward to influence his behaviour in his office. 1836 *Penny Cycl.* V. 407/1 Since the Revolution, in 1688, judicial bribery has been altogether unknown in England.

4. The act or practice of giving or accepting money or some other payment with the object of corruptly influencing the judgement or action; the offer or acceptance of bribes; *spec.* the application of such influences to gain votes at a parliamentary or other election.

1570 LEVINS *Manip.* 104 Bribery, *ambitus*. 1588 GREENE *Pandosto* (1607) 20 The simplicitie of his conscience feared him from such deceitfull briberye. a 1639 W. WHATELEY *Prototypes* II. xxvi. (1640) 57 Bribery is naught, that is to seeke to turne a Governour from justice by gifts, and hire him to do wrong. 1767 COWPER *Let.* 16 June, We expect, or rather experience a warm contest between the candidates for the county, the preliminary movements of bribery, threatening, and drunkenness being already taken. 1807 HALLAM *Const. Hist.* (1876) I. v. 268 This [1571] is the earliest precedent on record for the punishment of bribery in elections. 1863 H. COX *Inst.* I. viii. 116.

5. *Comb.*, bribery-oath, an oath administrable to a voter at a parliamentary election, declaring that he has not received a bribe for his vote.

1829 TOMLINS *Law Dict.* s.v. *Parliament* vi. (B) 3 The Bribery Oath, which must be taken as required by 2 Geo. II. c. 24.

Bribe-taker. One who takes bribes.

1549 LATIMER *Serm. bef. Eduw. VI* (Arb.) 88 This is the noble theft of princes, and of magistrates. They are bribe-takers. 1585 ABT. SANDYS *Serm.* (1841) 35 He neither was a bribe-taker, nor an extortioner. 1606 *Raleigh's Ghost in Harl. Misc.* (Malh.) III. 539 Gondomar... one of the four bribe-takers for the profane privileges.

So **Bribe-taking** *vbl. sb.* and *ppl. a.*

1549 LATIMER *Serm. bef. Eduw. VI* (Arb.) 130, I wold the Iudges woulde take forth theyr lesson, that there myghte be no more iniquity vsed, nor brybe-takinge. 1800 *Fortn. Rev.* Feb. 221 The only people who throve were rowdies and bribe-taking judges.

Bribing (*brōi-bin*), *vbl. sb.* [*f.* BRIBE *v.* + -ING¹]. The action of the verb BRIBE; + *a.* thieving; + *b.* extortion; *c.* corruption by bribes. Also *attrib.*

1549 LATIMER *Serm. bef. Eduw. VI* (Arb.) 130 If there shall be brybyng, they [Judges] knowe the peryl of it. 1573 TUSSEY *Hush.* x. (1878) 21 Bribing and shifting haue seldom good end. 1618 BOLTON *Florus* III. i. 161 The bribing of Scaraus came to light. 1634 SANDERSON *Serm.* II. 288 Then what crouching, and fawning, and bribing, and dawbing, to have the matter taken up in a private chamber? 1839 MARRYAT *Phant. Ship* xxxi. We may get away by bribing.

Bribing, *ppl. a.* [*f.* BRIBE *v.* + -ING²].

† 1. Dishonest, thievish. *Obs.*

1544 UDALL *Erasm. Apoph.* 323 a, Verres... left nothing behynde hym, as beeyng a taker and a brybyng feloe. 1567 HARMAN *Caveat* (1860) 74 These beastlye brybyng breeches.

† 2. That exacts or accepts bribes; venal. *Obs.* 1590 GREENE *Art Conny catch.* Pref. 4 Some bribing officer, who threatneth to carrie him to prison, takes awaie all the monie, and lets him slip. 1621 *ELISING Debates Ho. Lords* (1870) 19 Shewing howe greivous to the comon welth a bribing Iudge is. 1649 CROMWELL *Let.* 31 Dec., They are accounted the bringst people that are.

3. That gives bribes; that corrupts or seduces with or like a bribe.

c 1670 *Expost. Men Buckhm.* 1/2 Did he not once make you a bribing Present of Timber? 1818 COBBETT *Resid. U.S.* (1822) 231 Bribing and corrupt boroughmongers.

|| **Brio-a-brac** (*brī-kābræk*). Written also without the accent, and as one word. [*Fr.*; said by Littre to be formed after the phr. *de brio et de broc* 'by hook or by crook'.] Old curiosities of artistic character, knick-knacks, antiquarian odds-and-ends, such as old furniture, plate, china, fans, statuettes, and the like.

1862 THACKERAY *Philip* I. 299 All the valuables of the house, including, perhaps, J. J.'s bricabrac, cabinets, china, and so forth. 1873 MISS BRADDON *Str. World* I. iv. 67 That bric-a-brac upon which the Bellingham race had squandered a small fortune. 1885 *Athenaeum* 7 Mar. 308 Some syndicate, growing tired of bric-a-brac.

b. attrib., as in *bric-a-brac man, shop*.

1840 THACKERAY *Paris Sk. Bk.* (1872) 243 The palace of Versailles has been turned into a bricabrac shop. 1876 GEO. ELIOT *Dan. Der.* lxvii. (D.) Haven't an affair in the world... except a quarrel with a bric-a-brac man.

c. quasi-adj. (*humorous*).

1872 GEO. ELIOT *Middlem.* xliii. 13, I think he is a good fellow; rather miscellaneous and bric-a-brac,—but likable.

Hence **Brick-a-bracker**, **Brio-a-brackery**. (*colloq. or humorous*.)

1880 MARK TWAIN *Tramp Ab.* I. 180, I am content to be a bric-a-bracker. *Ibid.* I. 179 It is the failing of the true devotee in any department of bric-a-brackery.

Bricool (*l.*, obs. form of BRIOOLE).

Brich, obs. form of BRECH.

† **Briche**, *a.* *Obs.* [*OE.* *bryce*, corresp. to OHG. *brūchi* :—*OTeut. brūki-s*, *f. brukan* to use.] Useful, serviceable.

c 1000 *Ag. Psalter* cxviii [xix]. 35 Celæd me on stige þær ic stæpe mine on þinum bebodum bryce hæbbe. c 1250 *Bestiary* 379 in *O. E. Misc.* 12 We sulen haueu heuenriche, Gef we bitwixen us ben briche. — 728 And ðæsen he sal cumen eft, And ben us alle briche.

Briche, *bryche*, obs. variants of BRECH.

Bricht, *Sc.* form of BRIGHT *a.*

Bricia, obs. form of BRECCIA.

Brick (*brīk*), *sb.* 1. Forms: *s.* broke, (*pl.*) brikkas, 5-6 broke, 6 brike, brikke, bryk, bryok (*e*), 6-7 brioke, 6- briok. [Found only since the middle of the 15th c.; not in the *Promptorium* 1440, or *Catholicon* 1483; prob. *a.* *F. brique*, in *OF.* also *briche*; quoted by Godefroy 1264 (*briche*) and 1457 (*brique*) in sense of 'a form of loaf', and also in *OF.* in sense of 'broken piece, fragment, bit', and reinforcing a negative in sense 'not a bit'. Still in Burgundian and Hainault dial., in sense 'piece', *brique de pain* 'piece of bread', in Swiss Romance 'piece, bit, débris', mod. *Fr. briga* 'débris'. It would appear therefore that the *OF.* word was derived in some way from the Teutonic verb *break-an* to break (cf. *F. brèche*, *ONF. breke*, *bregue* breaking, *BREACH*), and that its original sense was 'broken piece', which passed through the general sense 'piece, bit', or the specific sense 'piece of bread as baked, loaf', to that of 'piece of baked clay'. In French *une brique*, the shaped object, would thus be earlier than *la brique*, the substance; but in English the earliest examples yet found are of the substance.]

1. A substance formed of clay, kneaded, moulded, and hardened by baking with fire, or in warm countries and ancient times by drying in the sun; used instead of stone as a building material.

c 1440 [see 8]. 1465 *Mann. & Househ. Exp.* 301, I did rekena wethen heme that makethe my breke. 1467 *Ord. Worcester in Eng. Gilds* (1870) 372 That no chimneys of tre. be suffred... but that the owners make hem of bryke or stone. 1535 COVERDALE *Gen.* xi. 3 Come on, let vs make bryck & burne it. And they toke bryck for stone. c 1543 W. CLEVE in *Dom. Archit.* III. 79 With closer of bricke toured aboute your garden. 1603 *SHAKS. Meas. for M.* iv. i. 28 Garden circumur'd with Bricke. 1776 GIBSON *Decl. & F. I.* 44 Augustus was accustomed to boast that he had found his capital of brick, and that he had left it of marble. 1788 H. WALPOLE in *Walpoliana* xiv. 8 The ruin in Kew Gardens is built with act-of-parliament brick. 1846 McCulloch *Acc. Brit. Empire* (1854) I. 623 By far the greater number of houses in London... are built of brick.

2. A block of this substance made of a definite size and shape, as an individual object; ordinarily rectangular, but also of other shapes for special purposes. (In 16th c. the *pl.* was often *bricks*.)

The dimensions of an ordinary brick are, in London, 9 in. x 4½ x 2½; but the thickness varies from 3½ (as in Birmingham) to 12 in.

c 1255 *Surv. Yorksh. Monast. in Yorkshire Archaeol. Jnrl.* (1886) IX. 329 A little house... coueryd w^t tyle, w^t a chimney of brikkas. 1535 COVERDALE *Ex.* v. 8 The nombre of the brycke which they made. 1611 *BIBLE Gen.* xi. 3 Goe to, let vs make brikke, and burne them thorowly. — *Ex.* vi. 18 Yet shall ye deliuer the tale of brikkas. 1651 *Proc. Parl.* No. 123. 1902 Our Landlords... have exacted the full taile of the Bricks, when the ground produced no straw. 1677 *YARRANTON Engl. Improv.* 136 Six hundred thousand of Bricks builds a Granary, Two Brick and half thick. 1724 *Ord. Tilers' & Brickl. Comp. in Lond. Gas.* No. 6251/3 Every Brick is to be 9 Inches in Length, 4 Inches and a Quarter of an Inch in Breadth, and 2 Inches and a Quarter of an Inch in Thickness. 1823 P. NICHOLSON *Pract. Build.* 345 Called Fire-Bricks, because of their enduring the fire. 1840 MARRYAT *Olla Podr.* (Rldg.) 256 We cannot put on a heavy roof with a brick-and-a-half wall. 1850 LAYARD *Nineveh* xiii. 342 Squares which when dried by the heat of the sun served them for bricks.

3. A loaf shaped like a brick. Often applied to a 'tin-loaf', but the local uses vary. [*Cf.* the *OFr.* and *Fr.* dial. uses referred to above.]

1735 BYRON *Rem.* (1855) I. ii. 615 Breakfasted upon a penny brick and tea with sugar, and ate all the brick very near. 1822 KITCHNER *Cook's Orac.* App. 508 Put a quartern of Flour into a large Basin... knead it again, and it is ready either for Loaves or Bricks. 1857 ELIZA ACTON *Eng. Bread-Bk.* II. iv. 184 The loaves technically called 'bricks', which are baked in tins. 1847-8 HALLIWELL, *Brick*, a kind of loaf. *var. dial.* 1875 *URE Dict. Arts* I. 477 The loaves known under the names of *bricks*, *Coburg*, *cottage*, and *French rolls*, being all made of the same dough.

4. *transf.* A brick-shaped block of any substance, e. g. of tea (see *brick-tea* in 10); also in other more consciously figurative uses. *Box of bricks*: a box of wooden blocks for a child to build with.

1807 H. E. LLOYD *Timonius's Trav.* II. 315 A good horse was in our presence sold for about sixty bricks of tea. 1871 TYNDALL *Fragm. Sc.* (ed. 6) I. xii. 358 In building up crystals these little atomic bricks often arrange themselves into layers. 1875 *URS Dict. Arts* II. 507 Patent fuel... small coal and pitch, moulded together into bricks by pressure. 1884 GILMOUR *Mongols* 143 Buyers... conspicuous from the clumsy bricks of tea which they carried. 1885 STEVENSON *Dynamiter* 191 'You see this brick!'... lifting a cake of the infernal compound (dynamite) from the laboratory-table.

5. Phrase *Like bricks, like a brick*: with a vengeance, vigorously, with good will; occasionally with a clear reference to the crash with which a quantity of bricks fall, but usually only as an expression of eulogy, as in next sense.

1836 DICKENS *Sk. by Bos. Lost Cab-driver*, Out flies the fare like bricks. 1853 E. FORBES *Let. in Geikie Life* xiv. 509 Gibbs has worked like a brick. 1856 KINGSLEY *Let. May*, You fellows worked like bricks. 1856 F. PAGET *Owlst. Owlst.* 139 She sits her horse as if she was part of him... hunts like... a brick.

6. *fig. (slang or colloq.)* A good fellow, one whom one approves for his genuine good qualities.

1840 BARNHAM *Ingol. Leg. Bros. Birckington* xiii. I don't stick to declare Father Dick... was a Regular Brick. 1859 HUGHES *Tom Brown* vii. (1871) 151 What a brick not to give us even twenty lines to learn. 1864 MISS YONGE *Cress Kate* xii. (ed. 2) 213 'She's run away, like a jolly brick!' 1870 MISS BRIDGMAN *R. Lynde* I. xviii. 318 She believed Robert was no end of a brick.

7. 'Bricks, or Briques, in *Heraldry*, are figures or bearings in arms, resembling a building of bricks' (*Chambers Cycl. Supp.* 1753).

B. *Attrib. and Comb.*

8. *simple attrib. or adj. a.* Of brick. Similarly *brick-and-mortar*, etc. *b.* In the shape of a brick.

c 1440 BOKENHAM *tr. Higden in Anglia* X. 18 Environd aboute with bryke wallis. 1591 SPENSER *Bellais's Vis.* ii. Nor brick nor marble was the wall. 1773 Moxon *Mech. Exerc.* (1703) 129 Stone, or Brick Houses. 1793 CHAMBERS *Cycl. Supp.* s.v. *Brick*, Some also mention brick-tin, a sort of tin in that shape brought from Germany; and brick-soap, made in oblong pieces. 1851 HELPS *Friends in C. I.* 4 Red brick houses, with poplars coming up amongst them. 1865 M. ARNOLD *Ess. Crit.* iv. 138 Margate, that brick-and-mortar image of English Protestantism. 1884 *Littell's Living Age* CLXI. 88 A... brick-and-stone erection.

9. General comb.: *a.* attrib., as *brick-cart*, *-clamp*, *-colour*, *-furnace*, *-machine*, *-mason*, *-mould*, *-pit*, *-trowel*, *-truck*. *b.* objective, as *brick-moulder*.

c. instrumental or parasynthetic, forming adjs., as *brick-bound*, *-built*, *-coloured*, *-fronted*, *-hemmed*, *-paved*, *-walled*; also *brick-building* *vbl. sb.*

1881 J. HAWTHORNE *Fort. Fool* I. xviii. The trim and *brick-bound conventionality of the London mansion. 1631 WEEVER *Anc. Fun. Mon.* 230 All the *brick-building was done at his charges. a 1845 HOOD *Turvis* iv. Before a lofty *brick-built pile Sir Peter stopp'd. 1662 GRABER *Counsell* 46 He must not suffer *Brick-carts to overturne the load of Bricks. 1708 *Lond. Gas.* No. 4416/4 [He] had on a *Brick-colour'd Coat. 1665 LEVERTON (*Lincoln*) *Ch. Wardens Acc.* (MS.) 84 b. Pd. to Thomas. Jenkinson *brickmason for vj daies whitenings of the Church... vjrs. 1828 GLENNY *Gard. Every-day Bk.* 251 Whatever there is no room for in the Greenhouse must be consigned to the *brick-pits. 1677 Moxon *Mech. Exerc.* (1703) 245 A *Brick Trowel. 1827 P. NICHOLSON *Pract. Build.* 384 The Brick-trowel is used for spreading mortar, and likewise for cutting bricks. 1647 R. STAPFELTON *Juvenal* 184 *Brick-wall'd Babylon.

10. Special comb.: *brick-axe* (*e*), a double-headed ax with chisel-shaped blades, used by bricklayers; *brick-barred a.*, inlaid (as a floor) with rows of bricks; *brick-box*, a 'box of bricks' (see 4); *brick-bread* (*cf.* *brick-loaf*); *brick-burner*, one who attends to a brick-kiln, a brick-maker; *brick-clay*, clay for making bricks; in *Geol.* a fine species of clay found lying upon boulder-clay; *brick-dryer*, an oven for drying bricks before burning; *brick-end*, a broken piece or fragment of brick; *brick-loaf*, a loaf shaped like a rectangular brick (see 3); *brick-nog*, *-nogging*, a method of building in which a timber framework is filled in with brickwork; *brick-oil*, an old drug compounded of powdered brick and linseed oil; *brick-press*, a machine for pressing and consolidating the moulded clay; + *brickstone*, a brick; *brick-tea*, tea leaves pressed into the shape of a small brick, in which form it is imported into Russia, and also used as a medium of exchange in Mongolia; *brick-trimmer*, an arch or 'trimmer' of brickwork for receiving the hearth of a fire-place; *brick-yard*, a place where bricks are made, a brickfield. Also *BRICKFIELD*, *-KILN*, *-LAYER*, etc.

1548-60 *Norfolk Antig. Misc.* (1880) II. 10 A *brykaxe, a hamerax, a trowell, and a pykax. 1823 P. NICHOLSON *Pract. Build.* 389 The Brick-axe is used for... cutting off the soffits of bricks. 1805 (*title*) First lessons in arithmetic, by means of *brick-box. c 1500 *Coke Lorells B.* (1843) 10 Bewareds, *brycke burners, and canel rakers. 1703 *Art's Improv.* p. xiv, Statute Laws yet in force, for the regulating of the Trades of Brick-Burners, etc. 1837 *Penny Cycl.* VII. 245/2. *Brick clay... lies in abundance upon the London clay. 1868 LOSSING *Hudson* 206 Its banks yield some of the finest brick-clay in the country. 1507 *MS. Acc. S. John's Hosp., Canterb.*, A lode of *brykendis xiiij. 1858 *Chamb. Jnrl.* IX. 127 Enthroned on brick ends and pieces of stone. 1873 *Mrs. WHITNEY Other Girls* iii. (1876) 30 A *brick loaf..

always seemed to me a man's perversion of the idea of bread. 1855 COBBETT *Rur. Riders* 86 The labourers' dwellings . . . are made of what they call 'brick-nog'. 1857 TURNER *Dom. Archit.* III. ii. vii. 278 An old house of timber and brick-nogging. 1875 *Uss. Dict. Arts* I. 533 'Brick oil' is a relic of old pharmacy. 1860 WHITTHORNE *Certain Ways* (1873) 44 a. Taking it out, you shall see it made like unto a 'bricke-stone'. 1807 H. E. LLOYD *Timberwork's Trav.* I. 36 The dry, dirty, and damaged leaves and stalks of the tea are . . . mixed with a glutinous substance, pressed into moulds, and dried in ovens. These blocks are called . . . on account of their shape, 'brick tea'. 1852 SINNETT tr. *Huc's Journ. Tartary* 18 To boil some Mongol tea—the well-known brick tea, boiled with salt. 1872 OLIVER *Elem. Bot.* II. 147 'Brick Tea' used in Central Asia, is made from common kinds and refuse, mixed with bullock's blood, pressed and dried in moulds. 1864 *Leeds Mercury* 20 Sept. He went to work at a 'brick yard'. 1884 *Pall Mall G.* 8 Apr. 11/2 He has succeeded in emancipating . . . little brickyard children from a regular Egyptian bondage.

† **Brick**, *sb.* ² *Obs.* 'The name of a sort of lamprey . . . distinguished . . . by having a number of black transverse spots, very narrow and long' (Chambers *Cycl. Supp.* 1753).

Brick (brik), *v.* [f. **BRICK** *sb.* 1] Mostly in comb. with advb.

1. To **brick up**: to build or close up with brick-work.

1648 *Bury Wills* (1850) 211, I desire that the passage into the vault be bricked and filled up. 1691 LUTTRELL *Brief Rel.* (1857) II. 259 Orders for bricking up their little gate leading into Whitefriars. 1794 BURKE *Imp. W. Hastings Wks.* XV. 414 Very great sums of money are bricked up and kept in vaults. 1868 E. EDWARDS *Raleigh* I. i. 9 They have bricked up the lower part of the . . . window.

2. To **brick over**: to cover with brick. 1845 HOOD *Town & Count.* xiv. See Hatton's Gardens bricked all o'er. 1863 BROWNING *By. orders Tomb*, Bricked o'er with beggar's mouldy travertine.

3. To **line, face, or pave with brick**; to imitate brick-work on a plaster surface by lining and colouring. 1853 MRS. SHERWOOD *Old Times* II. in *Houlston Tracts* I. xxiv. 7 They are now bricked in the front. 1830 D'ISRAËLI *Chas. I.* III. vi. 107 The decent appearance of bricking their [house] fronts.

4. *intr.* To work with (load, make, etc.) bricks. 1884 *Pall Mall G.* 10 Sept. 7/2 Another man . . . was bricking at a vessel close by.

5. *U. S. slang.* (See quot.) 1863 *Daily Tel. Aug.* (Amer. Corresp.) Another favourite punishment . . . was that of 'bricking', which was done by bringing the knees close up to the chin and lashing the arms tightly to the knees.

Brickbat (brikbat). Also 6-7 brickbatt. [See **BRICK** *sb.* 1 and **BAT** *sb.* 2] A piece or fragment of a brick; properly, according to Gwilt, less than one half of its length. It is the typical ready missile, where stones are scarce.

1533-77 FOXE *A. & M.* III. 329 She sent a brickbat after him, and hit him on the back. 1597 S. FINCHE in *Hist. Croydon Ann.* (1783) 153 They have filled up that trench with . . . brickbatts, and rubbish. 1796 AMHERST *Terra Fil.* I. 260 A very numerous mob . . . assaulted the room . . . with brickbats and stones. 1823 P. NICHOLSON *Pract. Build.* 355 The three-quarter brick, or brick-bat, is called a closer. 1871 DIXON *Tower IV.* xxvii. 288 Mud and brick-bats greeted the returning guards.

Fig. 1644 MILTON *Apol. Smect.* (1851) 275, I beseech ye friends, ere the brick-bats flye, resolve me and yourselves, is it blasphemy . . . for me to answer a slovenly wincer.

b. **comb. brickbat-cheese.** 1784 J. TWAMLEY *Dairying* 59 To make brick bat Cheese . . . put it into a wooden mould in the shape of a brick, press it a little, then dry it. 1861 MRS. BERTON *Bk. Househ. Management* 805 Brickbat cheese has nothing remarkable except its form.

Brickbat, *v.* [f. **prec. sb.** : cf. *to stone*.] *trans.* To pelt with brickbats.

1884 *Boston (Mass.) Jnl.* 27 Oct. 7 The Republican procession was brickbatted.

Brick-dust (brikdʌst). [f. as **prec.** + **DUST**.] 1. Powdered brick.

1664 EVELYN *Kal. Hort.* (1729) 195 Where the Soil is Clay . . . mingle it with Brick-dust. 1862 *Enquire Within* 279 The cayenne of commerce is adulterated with brick-dust.

2. A tint or colour resembling that of brickdust. 1807 OPIE *Lect. Art* I. (1848) 247 The barren coldness of David, the brick-dust of the learned Poussin.

b. *attrib.*

1709 STEELE *Tatler* No. 9 P. r. Brickdust Moll had scream'd through half a Street. 1775 CLAYTON in *Phil. Trans.* LXVI. 108 A brick-dust red. 1823 KANE *Grinnell Exp.* xviii. (1850) 135 Tinged with a brick-dust or brown stain. 1873 TRISTRAM *Moab* xiii. 249 Its leaves and fruit-pods [are] a brick-dust orange.

3. Hence **Brickdust-like**, **Brickdusty** *a.*

1826 KANE *Arct. Expl.* II. ii. 35 The brickdusty poverty of the blood. 1863 BUCKLAND *Curios. Nat. Hist.* Ser. II. (ed. 4) 205 There was a red brick-dust-like substance. 1883 *Harper's Mag.* Dec. 131/2 A light brick-dusty color.

Brick-earth (brik'ɜ:θ). [f. **BRICK** *sb.* + **EARTH**.] Earth or clay suitable for making bricks; in *Geol.* a clayey brownish earth lying below the surface soil in the London basin.

1667 EVELYN *Mem.* (1857) II. 24 We went to search for brick-earth. 1768 TUCKER *Lt. Nat.* II. 75 Timber, stone, lime, and brick-earth for our habitation. 1876 HUXLEY *Physiogr.* xvii. 280 In many places round London the sheet of gravel is overlaid by a thin deposit of brownish loam represented on the map as brick-earth since it is largely worked by brickmakers.

Bricked (brikt), *pp. a.* [f. **BRICK** *v.*] Constructed of brick; laid or lined with brick.

1673 RAY *Journ. Low C.* 50 Fair new bricked Houses. 1708 SWIFT *Bickerstaff Detected*, Whether his grave is to be plain or bricked. 1851 *Illustr. Lond. News* 83 The bricked-up window. 1861 WHYTE MELVILLE *Mkt. Harb.* 20 Stamping up a bricked passage.

Brickel, *obs. form of BRICKLE* *a.*

Bricken, *a.* [See -**EN**.] Of brick.

1851 *Ill. Lond. News* 19 Apr. 311 Commonplace bricken cottages. 1859 BARNES *Rhymes Dorset. Dial.* II. 82 Up the bricken wall did rise. 1862 MAYHEW *Crimin. Prisons* 24 London . . . in its every-day bricken and hard-featured reality.

† **Bricken**, *v. Obs.* (See *quots.*)

1691 RAY S. & E. Co. *Wds.*, *Bricken*, to bridle up the head. 1706 PHILLIPS, *Bricken*, to hold in one's Chin proudly, to bridle it.

Brick-field (brikfild). A field or piece of ground in which bricks are made.

1801 MAR. EDGORTH *Early Less.* II. *Harry & Lucy*, To go to the brick field to see how bricks were burned. 1813 *Examiner* 1 Feb. 78/2 Labourer in a brick field. 1858 W. ELLIS *Vis. Madagascar* xiii. 361 Spadefuls of soil piled up like newly made bricks in a brick-field.

Brickfielder. [f. **prec.** + -**ER**.] Local name in Sydney, New South Wales, for a thick cloud of dust brought over the city by a south wind from neighbouring sandhills (called the 'Brickfields').

1853 *Fraser's Mag.* XLVIII. 515 What the Sydney people call a 'brickfielder'. 1862 CLARA ASPINALL 3 *Yrs. in Melbourne* 188 A dust storm, a real 'Brickfielder' was blowing. 1886 COWAN *Charcoal Sh.*, The buster and brickfielder: Austral red-dust blizzard and red-hot simoom.

Brickhill, brickill, *obs. ff. BRICK-KILN.*

Brickhood. The state of being of brick. 1792 H. WALPOLE *Lett.* (1837) I. 175 Almost all the walls . . . are in their native brickhood.

Brickish (brik'ɪʃ), *a. slang.* [f. **BRICK** *sb.* 5, 6 + -**ISH**.] 'Jolly', 'fine', 'capital'. 1866 A. SMITH *Mr. Ledbury* I. xix. 149 'How's the times?' 'Brickish'.

Brick-kiln (brik-kil). Forms: 5 brykekyl, 6 bricke keele, brycke kylne, 7 briek(e-kill, briek(e-killne, (brickhill), 7-8 briekill, 8-brick-kiln. A kiln or furnace for burning bricks.

1481 [Implied in *Brick-kilner*]. 1552 HULOET, Brycke kylne, *Jornax lateraria*. 1580 BARET *Atv. B* 1234 A bricke keele, *Jornax lateraria*. 1611 BIBLE 2 *Sam.* xii. 31 Passe through the bricke-kilne. 1701 *Phil. Trans.* XXIII. 1089 The burning of Brick in a Brickill. 1875 *URE Dict. Arts* I. 524 The common brick kiln is a rectangular building. Hence **Brick-kilner**, a brick-burner or brickmaker.

1481-90 HOWARD *Househ. Bks.* (1841) 171 Item, to the brykekyl of Eppswich viij.d.

Bricklayer (brik'leɪ). Also 5 brekeleyer, 5-6 brycke layer. [f. **BRICK** *sb.* + **LAYER**.] One who lays the bricks in building.

Bricklayer's itch: a cutaneous disease produced on the hands of bricklayers through contact with lime.

1485 *Catal. Harleian MSS.* (1808) I. 285/1 Licence . . . to re- teigne Richard Chezholme brekeleyer. c. 1500 *Coches Lorell's B.* (1843) 9 Tylers, brycke leyers, harde hewers. 1566 *Act 5 Ellis* iv. § 30 The Art or Occupation of a . . . Brick-maker, Bricklayer, Tyler. 1649 DRUMM. or HAWTH. *Com. betw. B. & W. D. Wks.* 224 Ben Johnson . . . was . . . put to another craft, viz. to be a bricklayer. 1844 BYRON *Juan* xvi. lviii. A modern Goth, I mean a Gothic Bricklayer of Babel, call'd an architect. 1841 MARRIAT *Poacher* iii. He took up the profession of a bricklayer's labourer.

Hence † **Bricklayer** [cf. *carpentry*] = next.

1677 *Moxon Mech. Exerc.* (1703) Title, The Arts of Smithing, Joinery, Carpentry, Turning, Bricklayer. 1703 *Lond. Gas. No. 3922/4* The Arts of . . . Turning and Bricklayer.

Bricklaying (brik'leɪɪŋ). The art or craft of building with brick.

1484 *Catal. Harleian MSS.* (1808) I. 284/2 Artificers experte in Breke-leying. 1602 *Return fr. Parnass.* I. ii. (Arb.) 13 He were better betake himselfe to his old trade of brick-laying. 1876 GWILT *Archit.* § 1880 In the country the trades of bricklaying and plastering are usually united.

† **Brickle** (brik'l), *a. Obs. or dial.* Forms: 5 brekyl(le, bryokell, 6 bryokel, bricikel(l, brykle, bryckle, 6- brickle. [A parallel form to ME. *bruchel* (ii), pointing to OE. type **brycel*, *brycl-es* (cf. the mod. forms *muck*, *mickle*, earlier Sc. *mekyl*, from OE. *mycel*, *mycl-es*) = -*O*Teut. **brukilo*-, f. pa. pple. stem of *brak-an* (OE. *brecan*) to break; cf. the parallel BRITTLE = -OE. *brytel* = -*O*Teut. **brutilo*-, f. pa. pple. stem of *brutlan*. See also the doublets BRITCHEL, BROCKLE, BROCKLE.]

1. Liable to break, easily broken; fragile, brittle. 1468 *Medulla Gram.*, *Fracticus*, brekyl. *Fragilis*, freel or brekyl. 1523 FITZHERB. *Husb.* § 100 The house before wyll be thicker, and more bryckle. 1534 *More on the Passion Wks.* 1308/2 As a bricckell earthen pot in pieces al to frush them. 1591 SPENSER *Ruins Time* 499 Th' Altare . . . Was built of bricke clay. 1611 BIBLE *Wisd.* xv. 13 This man that of earthly matter maketh bricke vessels. 1663 GERBNER *Counsel* 24 Many bricke are bricke. 1747 HOOSON *Miner's Dict.* E ij b. Where it lies in a Body of considerable thickness, it is more Brickle and Joynty. 1875 *Lanc. Gloss.* (E. D. S.) *Brickle*, *bricchel*, fragile, brittle.

2. *fig.* Frail, weak.

c. 1460 *Towneley Myst.* 101 The world . . . is ever in drede and brekelye as glas. 1494 FAYAN VI. ccxv. 231 This transitory and bryckell lyfe. 1566 J. HEYWOOD *Prov. & Epigr.* (1867) 157 Man is bricckell. 1609 BIBLE (Douay) Ps. lxxxix. Mans life as brickle as a spiders web. 1640 JACKSON *Wks.* (1844) I. 303 This brickle earthly life.

3. *fig.* Delicate, ticklish; requiring cautious handling.

1568 DK. NORFOLK *Lett.* in H. Campbell *Love-Lett. Mary Q. Scots* App. 28 You may see howe farre . . . I wade in this most bryckle cace. 1816 SCOTT *Old Mort.* vii. 'How I am to fend for ye now in these bricke times'.

† **Brickleness**. *Obs.* [f. **prec.** + -**NESS**.] The quality of being brickle or brittle; fragility.

1561 DAUS tr. *Bullinger on Apoc.* (1573) 216 It is called glassy because of the frailtie and brickleness. 1671 *Will of Walling, Kendal* (Somerset Ho.), Considering the brickleness of my state. 1869 G. HARVEY *Curing Dis. by Expect.* xxii. 178 The knowledge of the brickleness . . . of a Stone.

Brickmaker (brik'meɪkə). One who makes bricks as his trade.

1465 *Mann. & Househ. Exp.* 301 The breke maker. I did rekena we the heme that maketh the my breke. 1548 *Act 2 & 3 Edu. VI.* xv. § 4 No Person . . . shall . . . let or disturb any . . . Lime-burner, Brick-maker. 1679 *Roxb. Ballads* II. 474 (title) The Brickmaker's Lamentation. 1875 *URE Dict. Arts* I. 519 The Egyptians were great brick-makers.

Brickmaking. The trade or occupation of making bricks.

1703 *Art's Improv.* p. xii, Tanning, Brick-making, Seasoning of Wood. 1875 *URE Dict. Arts* I. 519 Brickmaking is exceedingly ancient.

Brick-red (brik'red), *a.* Of the colour of red brick.

1810 HENRY *Elem. Chem.* (1826) II. 592 The colour of the precipitate . . . being much darker and more inclined to brick-red. 1843 PORTLOCK *Geol.* 105 Brick-red calcareous grits. 1882 *Garden* 25 Mar. 204/4 Of a pleasing fiery brick-red uniform colour.

Bricksetter = **BRICKLAYER**. (In midlands and north.)

1865 *Spectator* 18 Feb. 182 The strike of the Manchester bricksetters. 1876 F. WILLIAMS *Midl. Railw.* 357 Half a dozen bricksetters casing the 12 ft. length.

Brick wall, *sb.* 1 (Formerly often written as one word *brickwall*, or with hyphen, as still *attrib.*) A wall built of brick.

1535 COVERDALE 2 *Kings* iii. 25 There remained but the stones in the brickwall. 1611 SHAKS. *Wint. T.* iv. iv. 818 Set against a Brick-wall. 1753 CHAMBERS *Cycl. Supp.* s.v. *Brick*, Brick-walls are also found warmer and wholesomer than those of free-stone and marble.

attrib. 1785 COWPER *Task* iv. 771 That never pass their brick-wall bounds.

† **Brickwall**, *sb.* 2 *Obs.* [A corruption of BRICOLE, associated by popular etymology with the *brick wall* of the tennis court: 'Musicke . . . which, tho' Anaxias might conceive was for his honour, yet indeede hee was but the Brick-wall to conuey it to the eares of the beloved Philoclea' (Sidney *Arcadia* 283).]

= BRICOLE *sb.* 2 Also *attrib.*

1560 HOLLYBAND *Treas. Fr. Tong.*, *Il a fait une bricole*, he hath played and made a Brice-wall. 1611 COTGR., *Bricole*, to toss, or strike a ball sideways; to give it a bricke wall (at Tennis). 1662 SIR A. MERVYN *Sp. Irish Affairs* 4 We come not to criminate, or to force a ball into the Dedan, but if any brick-wall expressions happen . . . it is rather a force upon us.

† **Brickwall**, *v. Obs.* [corruption of F. *bricoler*: see *prec.*] *trans.* To cause to rebound.

1596 NASHE *Saffron Walden Wks.* (Grosart) III. 20 Whiles thou mak'st a Tennis-court of their faces, by brick-wallling thy clay-ball crosse vp and downe their cheekes. c. 1600 J. CHAMBERLAIN *Lett.* (1861) 13 Tossed too and fro and brickwalled like a tennis ball from the one side to the other. a. 1608 F. GREVILLE *Mustapha* v. (1633) 127 Brickwall your errors from one to another.

Brickwork, brick work.

1. Builders' work executed in brick.

1590 HOLLYBAND *Treas. Fr. Tong.*, *Brigueterie*, bricke worke. 1594 PLAT *Jewell-ho.* iii. 78 Buildings that consist of Brickworkke. 1703 *Art's Improv.* I. 4 By a rod of Brick-work, is meant, Sixteen Foot and half Square, at a Brick and half thick. 1779 SHERIDAN *Critic* I. ii. (1883) 159 A Detester of visible Brickwork, in favour of the new-invented Stucco. 1874 PARKER *Illustr. Gothic Archit.* II. 271 The brickwork of the [Roman] Empire . . . is the finest brickwork in the world.

2. Building with bricks; bricklaying.

1677 *Moxon Mech. Exerc.* 245 Tools used in Brick Work.

3. *pl.* A place where bricks are made.

1703 *Proclam.*, in *Lond. Gas.* No. 3879/4 Owner of the Brick and Pantile Works near Tilbury Fort. 1875 *URE Dict. Arts* I. 525 In many brick-works near Paris, screw presses are now used for consolidating the bricks . . . in their moulds.

Bricky (brik'i), *sb. colloq.* One who works with bricks, a bricklayer, a brickfield or bricklayer's labourer.

1883 J. STRATTON *Hops & Hop-p.* 133 The occupations of the people are chiefly . . . dustmen, brickeys, sweeps.

Bricky, *a.* [f. **BRICK** *sb.* + -**Y**.] *a.* Made or built of brick. *b.* Full of or abounding in bricks.

c. Of the colour of brick, brick-red.

1596 SPENSER *Prothal.* viii. Those bricky towres . . . Where . . . the studious Lawyers haue their bowers. 1610 W. FOLKINGHAM *Art of Survey* I. xi. 41 Bricke rubble. 1862 *Spectator* 29 Mar. 355 Amid the desolate bricky preparations of 'building-lease' ground. 1884 *St. James's Gas.* 10 May 6/6 The flesh-tints are a little hot and bricky.

Hence **Brickiness**.

Mod. 'The unrelieved brickiness of the place.'

Bricole (brik'əl, brik'əʊl). Also 6 brico-, brik-, bricooll, 7 bricool, bricoole, bricoll, 9 bricoolle; see also corrupt form **BRICKWALL**. [*a.*

F. bricole (It. *bricola*, Sp. *brigola*):—late L. *bricola*.
Ultimate derivation uncertain: see Littré.]

1. An ancient military engine or catapult for throwing stones or bolts.

1545 LD. BERNERS *Froiss.* II. clxxi. [clxvii.] 500 In this tower was a bricole or an engyn whiche dyde cast great stones. 1614 SYLVESTER *Bethulia's Rescue* III. 109 Th' Enginer. Bends here his Bricol, there his boystrous bow. 1840 L. RITCHIE *Windsor Castle* 214 The bricole, which discharged large heavy darts with square heads.

2. In Tennis: The rebound of a ball from the wall of a tennis court, 'a side-stroke at Tennis wherein the ball goes not right forward, but hits one of the walls of the court, and thence bounds towards the adverse partie' (Cotgr. 1611); also fig. an indirect, unexpected stroke or action. Similarly in *Billiards* (see quot.).

1598 FLORIO, *Bricola*, a bricol or rebounding of a ball from one wall to another in a tennis court. a 1631 DUNNE *Lett.* (1651) 65 That love, which fell not directly, and immediately upon my self, but by way of reflection or Bricole. 1694 R. L'ESTRANGE *Fables* ccciv. 435 Cousen'd with a Bricole at Tennis. 1798 H. WALFORD *Lett.* (1857) I. Introd. 111 Introducing two courtiers to acquaint one another, and by bricole the audience, with what had passed in the pepteralia. 1863 HOYLE'S *Games* (ed. Pardon) 378 The ball will jump on reaching the cushion, especially if played bricole, across the cushion. 1880 BOY'S *Own Bk.* 638 *Bricole*, a ball struck against a cushion in order to make a cannon or hazard on its recrossing the table.

3. Harness worn by men in drawing guns, where horses cannot be used or procured.

1864 in WEBSTER.

† *Bricole*, *v. Obs.* [f. prec. sb.] To cause to rebound; 'to pass a Ball, to toss it side-ways' (Phillips, 1706). See also BRICKWALL *v.*

1611 FLORIO, *Bricolare*, to bricoll from wall to wall.

† *Bricoun*, *Obs. rare.* [a. OF. *bricon*, *bricum*.]

A knave.

a 1400 *Cato's Morals* 103 in *Cursor M.* App. iv, If pou be fole and bricoun and kepis noyt in resoun.

Brid, var. of *BIRD*, *BRED*, *BURD*.

Bridal (brī'dāl), *sb. (a.)* Forms: 1 *brid-ealo*, -ealo, 2-6 *brydale*, *brideale*, 3, 7- *bridal*. Also (3 *bridel*), 3-4 (*s.w.*) *brudale*(s), 3-7 *bridall*, 4 *brydale* (*brydale*, *bridhale*), 4-5 (*Kent*) *bredale*, 5 *bredeale*, 6 *brydall*, *brideall*, *brydeale*, *brideale*, (7 *bride hall*). [OE. *bryd-ealo* (infl. *-ealo*), lit. 'wedding ale', 'wedding banquet or convivality': see *BRIDE* sb. 5 (in comb.), and *ALB*. The analytical form, with stress (primary or secondary) on *-ale*, never died out, was very common c 1600, and is still used as a historical or antiquarian term: see *BRIDE-ALB*. On the other hand the individualized *brīdal*, with the stress and sense of *ale* quite suppressed, occurs before 1300, and remains as the living word.]

1. A wedding feast or festival; a wedding.

(The sense 'wedding feast' is distinct in early usage; by the time of Wyclif the word was often extended to include the whole proceedings of the wedding or marriage, in which use it was often made plural (cf. L. *nuptie*, *sponsalia*, F. *noces*, ME. *sponsales*, mod. *nuptials*); it is now chiefly poetic, except when used attributively (see 2).

1075-6 O. E. *Chron.* (Worcester MS.) *Þær was þæt bryd ealo* [Laud MS. *eala*] *þæt was manegra manna bealo*. *Ibid.* (Laud MS.) *Æt þam bryd ealo* [Worcester MS. *brydlo*] *æt Norðwic*. c 1200 ORMIN 14002, I þe land o Galile Wass an brīdale jarredd. a 1300 *Cursor M.* 13363 *Bridall* [v. r. *bridel*, *brīdale*] was þar brīdenan. 1340 *Ayenb.* 233 *Þe wyse maydynes*. yeden in mid þe bregome to be bredale. 1368 LANGL. P. Pl. A. II. 36 Alle þis Riche weoren bede to þe Brūyt-ale [v. r. in B., C., bre-, bri-, bru-, bry-, brydale]. 1388 WYCLIF *Song of Sol.* Arg. 73 The brīdalis of Crist and of the Chirche. c 1440 *Gesta Rom.* (1879) 301 *Þe day was sette of hire bredale*. 1558 HULOT, *Brydeale*, *nuptus*. 1566 J. HEYWOOD *Prov. & Epigr.* (1867) 12 It is, as telth vs this olde tale, Meete, that a man be at his owne brydale. 1575 LANEHAM *Lett.* (1871) 20 A solem brydeale of a proper couple. 1581 MARBECK *Bk. of Notes* 140 The pompe of Brīdealls. 1604 SHAKS. *Oth.* III. iv. 150 Such obscourance As fits the Brīdall. 1724 RAMSAY *Tea-t. Misc.* (1733) I. 89 Let us a' to the brīdal, For there will be liltin there. 1808 SCOTT *Lockinvar* III, O come ye in peace here, or come ye in war, Or to dance at our brīdal, young Lord Lochinvar! 1850 TENNYSON *Enid* 231, I. Will clothe her for her brīdals like the sun.

Fig. 1624 G. HERBERT *Temple, Vertue* i, Sweet day, so cool, so calm, so bright, The brīdal of the earth and skie.

2. Since 1600, mostly used attributively, by association with adjectives (of Lat. origin) in *-al*, as *nuptial*, *natal*, *mortal*, etc. Most of the earlier attributive uses or combinations of *BRIDE* also reappear with *bridal*, as *bridal bed*, *bridal bowl*, *bridal cake*, *bridal house*, *bridal knot*, *bridal ring*, etc., and many of more modern character, as *bridal cheer*, *bridal dinner*, *bridal dress*, *bridal favour*, *bridal veil*, *bridal wreath*, etc., etc., where *wedding* may always be substituted. These are sometimes unnecessarily hyphenated.

c 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 50 *Brydale* house, *nuptorium*. 1596 SPENSER *F. Q. v.* II. 3 Where and when her brīdale cheere Should be solemniz'd. — *Prothail*, 17 Adorn'd with dainty gemes. — Against the brydale day. 1596 SHAKS. *Tam. Shr.* III. ii. 221 Gentlemen, forward to the brīdal dinner. *Ibid.* IV. i. 181, I will bring thee to thy brīdal chamber. c 1600 *Lyrical for Lutenists* (Collier) 3 Shee can trimme with plums a brīdal cake. 1611 *Ram Alley* IV. i. in Hazl.

Dodley X. 338 Quaffing out our brīdal bowl. 1714 YOUNG *Force Relig.* I. 85 Now on the brīdal-bed his eyes were cast. 1717 POPE *Eloisa* 219 For her the Spouse prepares the brīdal ring. 1800 MAR. EDGEMORTH *Belinda* xix, Lady Anne Percival came, with a brīdal favour in her hand. 1820 SOUTHEY *Thalaba* VII. xxxi, Who comes from the brīdal chamber? 1850 TENNYSON *In Mem.* Concl. 28 But where is she, the brīdal flower. She enters, glowing like the moon Of Eden on its brīdal bower. 1874 BLACK PR. *Thule* 9 Marching at the head of a brīdal procession.

b. Sometimes more distinctively adjective, in construction or in sense: = Of or pertaining to a bride, worn by a bride (e.g. *brīdal bouquet*, *veil*, *wreath*); bride-like.

1748 RICHARDSON *Clarissa* (1811) II. 140 With a simpering altogether brīdal. 1809 J. BARLOW *Columb.* III. 501 Nor shalt thou e'er be told, my brīdal fair. 1865 MISS MULOCK *Chr. Mistake* 108 She stood, all in her fine garments, a fair, white, brīdal-like vision.

† 3. (*ellipt.*) *pl. rare.* = *BRIDALLER*.

c 1630 RISON *Serv.* *Devon* § 225 (1810) 239 Apparell'd in their best array, As brīdals use upon their nuptial day.

Bridaller, *rare.* [f. *BRIDAL* + *-ER*.] One who takes part in a brīdal; † a. a bride or bridegroom; b. a wedding-guest.

1640 BRATHWAIT *Art asleep*, *Husb.* 47 There was no Activity sure a wanting in those two jovial Brīdallers. 1830 HOGG in *Blackw. Mag.* XXVII. 219 The fairy brīdallers descending Straight from the head of the moon.

Bridally (brī'dālī), *adv.* [f. *BRIDAL* 2 b + *-LY*.] In brīdal attire; as for a wedding.

1836 MACREADY *Remin.* II. 25 She seemed brīdally attired. 1889 SIR W. MUIR *Islam* 16 Black-eyed maidens all brīdally attired.

† *Bridalry*, *Obs. rare* — = *BRIDESHIP*.

1748 RICHARDSON *Pamela* III. 78 A poor Girl has... but a few Weeks Courtship, and perhaps a first Months Brīdalry, if that, and then she's as much a Slave to a Husband, as she was a Vassal to her Father.

Bridality, *rare.* In 7 brīdaltees. [f. *BRIDAL* + *-TY*: cf. *mayorality*, *shrievalty*.] Wedding, brīdal. 1633 B. JONSON *Love's Welcome* (1854) 780/2 At Quintain he, In honour of this brīdality, Hath challeng'd either wide countee. 1845 *Whitehall* xxii. 161 There is more mirth with them than at a brīdality.

Bridle, *obs. form* of *BRIDLE*.

Bride (brīd), *sb.* Forms: 1 *brīd*, 2-4 (*Kentish*) *brēd*(e), 2-3 (*s.w.*) *brude*(s), 3 *brīd*, 3-4 *bryd*, (4 *bryud*), 4-6 *bryde*, 4- *brīde*. [Common Teut. : OE. *bryd* str. fem. = OS. *brūd* (MLG. *brūd*, MDu. *bruid* -de, Du. *bruid*), OHG., MHG. *brūt* (mod. G. *braut*), ON. *brīdr* (Sw. Du. *brud*), Goth. *brūps* : = OTeut. **brūdi-s*; the general sense is 'bride', but in Gothic, though this sense is also evidenced by the compound *brūpsjaps* 'bridegroom' (*japs* = Gr. *πάρις* for **paris*, Skr. *patis* 'lord'), the only sense actually occurring is 'daughter-in-law'; the med. L. *brūta*, OF. *bryu*, F. *bru*, Rumansch *brütt*, from OHG., have also only the sense 'daughter-in-law': cf. Gr. *νύμφη* 'daughter-in-law' and 'bride'. Not known outside Teutonic: though some would identify with it *Frūtis* an Italian name of 'Venus mater'. Radical sense uncertain: possibly the verb root *brē-* 'to cook, brew, make broth', a duty of a daughter-in-law in the primitive family.]

1. As separate word.

1. A woman at her marriage; a woman just about to be married or very recently married.

The term is particularly applied on the day of marriage and during the 'honeymoon', but is frequently used from the proclamation of the banns, or other public announcement of the coming marriage. In the parliamentary debate on Prince Leopold's allowance, Mr. Gladstone, being criticized for speaking of the Princess Helen as the 'bride', said he believed that colloquially a lady when engaged was often called a 'bride'. This was met with 'Hear I hear!' from some, and 'No! no!' from others. Probably 'bride elect' would have satisfied critics.

c 1000 *Ælfric Voc.* in W. Wülcker 171, *Sponsa*, *bryd*. c 1000 *Ag. Gosp.* Matt. xxv. 1 And ferdon ongen þone brydguman and þa bryde. c 1200 *Hattom G.* *Ibid.*, Onjen þanne brydgumen and þare bryde. c 1200 ORMIN 15337 Crisstess hīrd... Ias crīstess brīd onn erþe. a 1225 *Ancre R.* 164 Neðde he brude brouht hom? a 1300 *Havelok* 2131 Havelok lay on his lift side, In his armes his brīhte brīde. c 1325 CHAUCER *L. G. W.* 2622 The nyght is come the bryd shal go to bedde. c 1450 *Gloss.* in W. Wülcker 691, *Hec domiducia*, a bryde. 1535 COVERDALE 1 *Macc.* ix. 37, & brought yf bryde from Madaba with greute pompe. 1598 SHAKS. *Rom. & Jul.* I. ii. 11 Ere we may thinke her ripe to be a brīde. 1671 MILTON *Samson* 320 To seek in marriage that fallacious brīde. 1845 MACKAY *Three Flowers*, Thus I won my blushing brīde One happy summer-day. 1884 *Pall Mall G.* 13 Feb. 8/2 The brīde... wore a dress of white satin embroidered with pearls.

Fig. 1611 BIBLE Rev. xxi. 9, I will shew thee the Brīde, the Lambes wife. a 1835 MRS. HEMANS *Death-d. Korner*, The youth went down to a hero's grave, With the sword, his brīde. a 1850 ELIZA COOK *Rover's Song*, The Ocean's my home, and my bark is my brīde.

† 2. In 15th and 16th c. denoting also a bridegroom; = spouse. *Obs.* Cf. *brīde-couple* in 6.

c 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 50 *Bryde*, infra in spouse, *sponsus*, *sponsa*. 1483 *Cath. Angl.* 43 A brīde; *sponsa*, *sponsus* *vir cū*. 1598 SYLVESTER *Du Bartas* II. iv. II. (1641) 211/2 Sweet Daughter dear, Isis bless thee and thy Brīde With golden fruit. *Ibid.* II. iv. II. 213/1 Art thou not Shee, that

with a chaste-sweet flame Did'st both our Brīdes' hearts into one heart frame?

† 3. Occas. found = *BURD* 'lady, maiden', etc.; but perh. only by confusion.

Thus in the quot. from *Cursor M.* the later versions have *brīde*, *bryud*, for the *brīde* (= *BURD*) of the *Cotton MS.* a 1300 *Cursor M.* 7131 Vn-to þat brīde [Fairf. *brīde*, *Trin.* *bryud*]. Sampson al þe soth hīr tald.

4. A collector's name for the Dark Crimson Underwing moth (*Catocala sponsa*).

1860 GOSSE *Rom. Nat. Hist.* 26 Ha! the lovely 'brīde'! If you can net her, you have a beauty.

II. In combination.

Bride had originally the force of 'brīdal, wedding' (the primitive marriage being essentially the acquisition of a *brīde*): so in all the OE. compounds of *bryd*. Only in modern combinations, as *brīde-like*, *brīdeless*, is *brīde* used in sense 1.

5. Obvious comb. a. = 'brīdal, wedding', as *brīde-banquet*, *-barn*, *-bell*, *-chamber*, *-clothes*, *-day*, *-kiss*, *-ring*, *-sleep*, *-song*, *-wife*. b. = 'brīde', as *brīdeless*, *brīde-lifter*, *-lifting*, *brīde-like*, *brīde-widowing* adj.

a. 1623 FORD *Tis Pity* IV. i, That marriage seldom's good, Where the 'brīde-banquet' so begins in blood. 1628 BROME *Yow. Crrw* IV. ii. 424 We are mist within the 'Brīde-Barn' among the Revell rout. 1850 MRS. BROWNING *Poems* II. 20 The merry 'brīde-bell' Rings clear through the green-wood. *Ibid.* II. 46 Why glads it thee, that a 'brīde-day' be By a word of woe defiled. c 1380 WYCLIF *De Dot. Eccl.* Sel. Wks. III. 440 Jif we have þenne 'brīde-cloþis', we shal for evere be dampned. 1830 CARLYLE *Richter Misc.* (1857) II. 150 Caroline... bestowed on him the 'brīde-kiss of her own accord. 1851 KINGSLEY *Yeast* xiii. 246 Where is your 'brīde-ring, my fair maid? 1871 ROBERTS *Eden Bower* xvii, That he may... curse the day when the 'brīde-sleep' took him. 1877 GOLDING *De Mornay* xxiv. 373 For 'Brīde-songs', they bee not wanting. 1669 FORD *Lover's Mel.* v. 4, Sorrows are chang'd to brīde-songs. 1867 TURBERV. *Ovid's Epist.* 51 Ne didst thou cause a marriage bed for 'brīdewife' to be drest.

b. 1864 TENNYSON *Becket* 170 The 'brīdeless Becket' is thy King and mine. 1864 McLENNAN *Prim. Marriage* 33 A young fellow called the 'brīde-lifter' lifts the brīde. 1872 TYLOR *Prim. Cult.* I. 65 'Brīde-lifting' has been noticed as one of the regular games of the little native boys and girls. 1884 MISS MITFORD *Village Ser.* I. (1863) 117, I never saw any thing so delicate and 'brīde-like' as she looked in her white gown. 1838 L. HUNT *Poems* 173 The 'brīde-widowing' sword.

6. Special comb.: † *brīde-belt*, the zone or belt worn by a virgin; † *brīde-bowl* = *BRIDE-CUP*; *brīde-bush*, a bush hung out at the (village) ale-house in honour of a wedding; † *brīde-couple*, a newly-wedded pair; *brīde-door*, the door of the BRIDEHOUSE; *brīde-knot*, a wedding favour; † *brīde-leader*, the precursor of the later BRIDEMAN, who brought the brīde to the bridegroom; † *brīde-mother*, one who acts the part of mother at weddings in some countries; *brīde-price*, money paid for a brīde; † *brīde-squire* = *BRIDEMAN*; *brīde-stake*, a pole set up to dance round at a wedding; *brīde-weed*, a brīde's dress or veil; *brīde-wort*, Meadow-sweet (*Spiraea Ulmaria*); also, American Meadow-sweet (*S. salicifolia*). Also *BRIDE-ALB*, *BRIDE-WOMAN*, *q. v.*

1598 SYLVESTER *Du Bartas* (1608) 376 Thou wed a wife, another fore thy face Shall lose her 'brīde-belt. 1630 B. JONSON *New Inn* Arg. 1, Lord Beaufort... calls for his bed and 'brīde-bowl' to be made ready. 1654 GAYTON *Fest. Notes* II. iv. 50 His 'Brīde-bush, which to that purpose is very good, if a thorne or two were pluckt out of it. 1655 J. HAYWARD *Banish'd Virg.* 129 Having lodg'd the 'brīde-couple a-bed. 1864 ATKINSON *Whitby Gloss.* s. v. *Brīde-door*, To run 'for the 'brīde-door'; the race for the brīde's gift by young men, who wait at the church-door till the marriage ceremony is over. The prize is usually a ribbon, which is worn for the day in the hat of the winner. 1654 *Ladies Dict.* (N.), Nor was he slow in furnishing the 'brīde-knots and favours. 1558 HULOT, 'Bryde leader, *promissus*. 1861 DAVIS tr. *Bullinger on Apoc.* (1573) 202 The Apostles as the 'brīdeleaders' have brought the Church to our Saviour, a chaste virgin. 1712 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 4087/1 The Empress Dowager with the Vice-Admiral's Lady, were the 'Brīde-Mothers. 1876 DICKEY *Real Prop.* III. I. § 4. 113 By early Teutonic custom... the 'brīde-price, or price paid by the intending husband to the family of the brīde. 1865 *Pall Mall G.* 7 Feb. 5/1 When the brīde price has been paid, the girl runs away and hides... and his friend (compare our 'best man') brings her home by force. 1633 B. JONSON *Love's Welc.*, The two 'brīde-squires' were in two yellow leather doublets. 1854 SYN. DOBELL *Balder* xxiii. 123 The mist is as a 'brīdeweed on the moon. 1863 PRIOR *Plant-a.*, 'Brīdewort', from its resemblance to the white feathers worn by brīdes.

Bride (brīd), *sb.* 3 [a. F. *brīde* *brīde*, *bonnet-string* = Pr. and Sp. *brīda*, from Teutonic: cf. OHG. *brīdel*: see *BRIDLE*.]

† 1. A brīde, rein. Also fig. *Obs.*

c 1300 K. *Alis.* 7627 How love heom ladde by strong brīde. a 1300 K. *Horn* 772 Berild... tok him bi þe brīde.

2. The delicate net-work which connects the patterns in lace; also, a bonnet-string.

1869 *Latest News* 3 Oct. 5 One [bonnet]... is very pretty made of velvet and black lace; black or white tulle brīdes. 1883 *Mag. of Art* Dec 67/2 The delicate beauty of its white knots lightly held together by cobwebby 'brīdes'.

3. *Surg.* Membranaceous filaments found in the

centre of abscesses or in deep wounds which prevent the escape of pus, or cause morbid adherence.

1845 *Encycl. Metrop.*, VII. 739 When the maturation [of the pustule in small-pox] is complete the 'bride' ruptures.

† **Bride** (brɪd), *v.* 1. *Obs.* [*f.* BRIDE *sb.* 1.]

1. *intr.* To play or act the bride. (Also with *it*.)
1530 *Palsgr.* 465/2 This mayde britheth very well, *cesta puelle fait lesponsa tresbien*. 1596 *SHAKS. Tam. Shr.* III. ii. 253 Shall sweet Bianca practise how to bride it? a 1658 *Brome Eng. Moor* I. iii. Would you have brided it so lumpishly With your spruce younker?

2. *trans.* To wed, marry. Also *absol.*

1601 *Death Earl Huntington* I. li. in *Hazl. Dodsley* VIII. 231 [He] will not bed, forsooth, before he bride. c 1612 *Fletcher Two Noble Kinsmen* (L.), I knew a man... who A lass of fourteen bridged. a 1658 *CLEVELAND Cl. Vindictia* (1677) 92 This Wench he fain would have Brided.

† **Bride**, *v.* 2. *Obs. rare.* [*perh. f.* BRIDE *sb.* 2; cf. BRIDE *v.* 1.] *intr.* To mince, practise affectedly.

1530 *Palsgr.* 951 To bride, *nider* [COTGR. *Niger*, to trifle, play the fop or nidget]. 1593 *NASHE Four's Lett. Confut.* 80 He brides it and simpers it out a critic. 1598 *FLORIO, Cincichiaro*, to mince it or bridle it in eating or speaking.

Bride-ale, brideale (brɪd'æl). [A conscious retention or restoration of the earlier analytical form of BRIDAL *sb.* [q. v.] in its early sense.]

1. A wedding-feast of the Old English type, an ale-drinking at a wedding.

1000-1500 [see BRIDAL 1]. 1540 *CRAWMER Bible* Pref., Neither [is] weeping convenient at a brideale. 1577 *HARRISON England* II. vi. (1877) 150 In feasting [the husbandmen] doo exceed after their manner; especiallie at brideales. 1589 *PUTTENHAM Eng. Poetrie* (Arb.) 97 For recreation of the common people at Christmase diners and brideales. 1601 *AINSWORTH Annot. Gen.* xxix. 22 A banquet named in Hebr. of drinking. Such we call a Bride-ale. 1768 *HUME Hist. Eng.* III. (1806) IV. 97 Wakes, church-ales, bride-ales, and other cheerful festivals of the common people. 1827 *TOULM. SMITH Parish* 503. 1864 *PALGRAVE Norm. & Eng.* III. 126 The doleful brideale of Dôle. 1868 *FREEMAN Norm. Conq.* (1876) II. vii. 151 Tostig's bride, whose bride-ale had been so cruelly interrupted.

2. 'The warmed, sweetened, and spiced ale, presented to a wedding party on its return from Church' (Atkinson *Provinc. Danby, Yorkshire*, 1863).

Bride-bed, *arch.* [*f.* BRIDE = wedding.] The nuptial couch, the marriage bed.

1530 *MORE Confut. Tindale* Wks. 575/2 Ere they went to theyr bryde bedde. 1608 *SHAKS. Ham.* v. i. 268, I thought thy Bride-bed to haue deckt [sweet Maid]. 1848 *KINGSLEY Saint's Trug.* IV. i. 182 What right have I to arrogate Christ's bride-bed?

Bridecake (brɪd'kæɪk). Also *q.* bride's-cake. [*f.* BRIDE = wedding.] A rich, highly ornamented cake, eaten at a wedding; wedding cake.

1558 *HULOET, Bryde cake, sumanalia*. a 1600 *Rob. Hood* (Ritson) II. i. 211, I got a good piece Of bride-cake, and so came away. 1606 *Choice, Chance, etc.* (1881) 54 Breakfast, where a bride-cake and a messe of cream, with the help of a cold pie, staid our stomachs well. 1666 *Perry's Diary* 17 Aug., Had a piece of bridecake sent me by Mrs. Barbary. 1822 *W. IRVING Braceb. Hall* (1849) 474 Loads of bride-cake were distributed. 1877 *W. JONES Finger-ring* L. 171 Slices of the bride-cake.

Bride-chamber, *arch.* The room in which a wedding is celebrated; the nuptial apartment.

1579 *J. STUBBS Gaping Gulf* C iv. To be a doleful bryde in theyr bloody brydechambers. 1611 *BIBLE Matt.* ix. 15 Can the children of the bride-chamber mourne, as long as the bridegome is with them? 1871 *MORLEY Crit. Misc.* (1886) I. 268 Topics eternally old, yet of eternal freshness, the perennial truisms of the grave and of the bride-chamber.

Bride-cup, *arch. or Obs.* [*f.* BRIDE = wedding.] a. A cup or bowl handed round at a wedding. b. A cup of spiced ingredients prepared at night for the 'bride-couple'. Also *fig.*

1554 *PHILIPOT Exam. & Writ.* 241 God doth call me (most unworthy) to drinke of the Bride-cup of his Son. 1568 *J. Heywood Prov. & Epigr.* (1867) 15 The drynke of my bride cup I should haue forborne. 1630 *B. Jonson New Inn* v. i. Get our bed ready, chamberlain, And, host, a bride-cup; you haue rare conceits, And good ingredients. 1633 *Jack of Newbery in Laneham's Lett.* (1871) 20 There was a fair bride-cup of silver gilt carried before her, wherein was a goodly branch of rosemary. 1822 *W. IRVING Braceb. Hall* II. 323 The butler bore before her the bride-cup.

Bridegroom (brɪd'gru:m). Forms: a. 1 brýd-guma, 2-3 bríd-, brudgume, 3 bridgom(e), 3-4 bridegome, 4 brydgome, (Kentish) bredgome; β. 6 brydegrome, 6-7 bridegrome, -groome, bridegroom, 6- bridegroom. [a. OE. *brýdguma*, *f.* *brýd*, BRIDE + *guma* 'man' (poetic):—*O Teut. *gumon*-, cognate with L. *homin*-. The compound was Common Teut.: cf. OS. *brúdigomo* (MDu. *brúdegome*, Du. *bruidegom*), OHG. *brútigomo* (MHG. *brütigome*, Ger. *bräutigam*), ON. *brúðgunni* (Sw. *brudgumme*, Da. *brudgom*):—O Teut. **brúdigumon*-, not preserved in Gothic, which has *bráþsaps* = 'bride's lord'. β. After GOMME became obs. in ME, the place of *bridegome* was taken in 16th c. by *bridegrome*, *f.* *grome*, GROOM 'lad'.

During the 14th c. the only known examples of *bridegome* are northern or Kentish: no instances at all are known in the 15th c., and in the *Promptorium and Catholicon*, *bryde* is of both sexes: see BRIDE 2. The 16th c. *brydegrome* was thus perh. really the 'bride-lad', i. e. the lad who was a 'bride': cf. *bride-couple*, and the original senses of *bride-man*, *bride-woman*. Was it a new independent

formation only accidentally resembling *brydegome*, or had the latter survived in some dialect, whence it was drawn forth in the 16th c. in a mistaken form?

1. A man about to be married, or very recently married.

a. Form *brydegome*.
c 1000 *Ag. Gosp.* John iii. 28 Se ðe bryde hæfð, se is brydguma [*Lindisf.* se ðe hæfes ða bryd brydguma is]. c 1200 *ORMIN* 10393 To beon brudgume nemmedd. c 1230 *Hali Meid.* 9 Gentile wimmen. þat nabbeð hwerwið buggenham brudgume. a 1300 *Cursor M.* 13424 þan lef þe bridgom his bride. a 1300 *E. E. Psalter* xviii. [xix.] 6 Als bride-gome of his boure comand. 1340 *Avenb.* 233 þe wyse maydines ..yeden in mid þe bredgome to be bredale.

β. Form *bridegroom*.

1526 *TINDALE John* iii. 29 He that hath the bryde is the bridegroom. But the frende of the brydegome, which, etc. [WYCLIF. He that hath a wife is the housbonde, but the frende of the spouse, etc.]. 1535 *COVERDALE 2 Eudr.* xvi. 34 The daughters shal mourne, hauinge no brydegromes. 1580 *BARET Adv.* B 1241 A Bridegroom, *sponsus*. 1596 *SHAKS. Tam. Shr.* III. i. 153 And is the Bride and Bridegroom coming home? 1791 *BURNS Lament 7. Earl Glencairn* x. The bridegroom may forget the bride Was made his wedded wife yestreen. 1875 *JOWETT Plato* (ed. 2) III. 71 He ..dresses himself as a bridegroom and marries his master's daughter.

b. *fig.* Said of Christ in his relation to the Church, or as heavenly spouse of a nun.

a 1225 *St. Mark.* 19 Bring me to þi bryhte bur, brudgume of wunne. 1848 *TENNISON St. Agnes* E. 31 For me the Heavenly Bridegroom waits.

2. *comb. or attrib.*

1567 *COWLEY Mistr.*, *Gases* iv. On the earth with Bridegroom-Heat, He [the sun] does still new Flowers beget. 1711 *SHAFTESB. Charac.* II. 396 The bridegroom-doge, who in his stately Bucantaur floats on the bosom of his Thetis.

Bridegroom, v. rare. [*f.* prec. *sb.*] *trans.* To act as bridegroom to, to wed.

1868 *A. MENKEN Infelicia* 3 A Midnight swooped down to bridegroom the Day.

Bridegroomship. The position of bridegroom.

a 1567 *HARDING in Jewel Def. Apol.* (1611) 81 As touching the Bridegroomship. Christ is the only Bridegroom of the Church.

Bridehall, corrupt form of BRIDAL.

1650 *HEALEY St. Aug. City of God* 250 In the Bride-hall chamber.

Bridehood. [*f.* BRIDE + HOOD.] The state or position of a bride.

1830 *BAILEY Festus* (1854) 319 To fit her for her bridehood.

† **Bridehouse**. *Obs. or dial.* [*f.* BRIDE = wedding.] The house where a wedding is held.

1550 *COVERDALE Spir. Perle* xii. Wks. 1844 I. 133 From the ..marriage or bride-house goeth many one home heavy and sad. 1594 *Taming of Shrew in Halliwell's Shaks.* VI. 281 We shall haue good cheere anon at the bridehouse. 1675 *T. BROOKS Gold. Key* Wks. 1867 V. 554 She may ..be brought into the bride-house with all solemnity.

Bridel, bridelle (obs. *f.* BRIDAL, BRIDLE.

† **Bride-lace**. *Obs. exc. Hist.* [*f.* BRIDE = wedding.]

1. A piece of gold, silk, or other lace, used to bind up the sprigs of rosemary formerly worn at weddings; the earlier form of wedding favours.

1575 *LANHAM Lett.* (1871) 21 Every wight with his blu buckram bridelace vpon a branch of green broom (cauz rosemary is skant thear). 1599 *PORTER Angry Wom. Abingd.* (1841) 25 A nosegay bound with laces in his hat, Bridelaces, sir. 1622 *Boys Wks.* (1630) 531 You are a kinde friend indeed to come in hither without your wedding apparell and bridle-lace. 1663 *KILLIGREW Parson's Wd.* iv. ii. Do you give these favours? Are these your bridle-laces?

2. *pl.* The striped ribbon-grass, or Lady's Garters (*Phalaris arundinacea* var.).

† **Bridelock**. *Obs.* In 1 brýdlao, 3 brudlao, -lak. [OE. *brýdla* (pl.) nuptials, marriage, *f.* *brýd*-BRIDE + *lac* play; cf. *wedlock*.] An OE. word for 'marriage', which did not survive the 13th c.

c 1000 *Canons of Elric* 9 (Bosw.) Æt ðam brýdlaucum. a 1225 *Juliana* 7 To brudlac and to bed ibrohte. c 1230 *Hali Meid.* 9 On hare brudlakes dei.

† **Bridelope**. *Obs.* [late OE. *brýdlop*, either:—**brýdhlapp*, or ad. ON. *brúðhlapp*, *brullapp* (Sw. *bröllopp*, Da. *bryllup*) wedding; cf. OHG. *brúth-lauft*, -louf, MHG. *brútlouf*, Ger. (arch.) *braut-lauf*; *f.* O Teut. *brúði*-BRIDE + *hlapp*-run, LEAF.]

The oldest known Teutonic name for 'Wedding': lit. 'the bridal run', or 'gallop', in conducting the bride to her new home. See GRIMM, *Brautlauf*; and cf. BROOSE. ? Only in OE.

c 990 *Lindisf. Gosp.* Matt. xxii. 2 Gelic..cýne-menn se ðe dyde ða brydlopa [= nuptias] sune his. 1076 *O. E. Chron.* (MS. D) Æt ðam brydlope æt Norðwic [Land MS. has bryd-ealoð].

Bridely, *a. rare.* [OE. *brýdelle* nuptial, *f.* *brýd*, BRIDE: the 16th c. word may have been formed anew, as 'bridely' in sense of 'bride-like', might possibly be said now.] Nuptial, bridal.

a 1100 *Cott. Cloop. Gloss.* in Wr.-Wülcker 388 (also 530) *Dramate*, þa brydelicaw geitwe. 1565 *GOLDING Ovid's Met.* I. (1593) 16 The bond of bridelle bed. 1567 *TURBERV. Ovid's Epist.* 71 In spousal bande and bridely knot be tyde.

Bridemaid, earlier form of BRIDESMAID.

Bridemaiden, *arch. or dial.* = BRIDESMAID, BRIDESMAID. Hence Bridesmaidenship *sb.*

1808 *SCOTT Lockinvar* vi. The bridemaids whispered 'Twere better by far'. 1824 *MISS MITFORD Village Ser.* I. (1863) 239 The bride-maidens were only less smart than the bride. 1839 *BAILEY Festus* (1854) 300 The stars Were her immortal bridemaids. 1884 *E. SIMCOX in 19th Cent.* June 2047 Based on the widest experience of bridesmaidenship.

† **Brideman**. *Obs. or dial.* [*f.* BRIDE = wedding, or in sense 2.]

† 1. = BRIDEGROOM. *Obs.*

1613 *T. GODWIN Rom. Antig.* (1658) 75 The brideman did lift her over the threshold. *Ibid.* 121 The bride-man, as soon as he was married, used to cast nuts among the people.

2. A young man performing various ceremonial duties at a wedding; formerly called also *bride-leader*. (In early times the bride-men led the bride to the bridegroom.) Now = BRIDESMAN.

1663 *KILLIGREW Parson's Wd.* v. iv. Parson, I'll be your bride-man. 1670 *DRYDEN Roy. Martyr* v. ii. Betwixt her Guards she seem'd by Bride-men led. 1751 *SMOLLETT Per. Pic.* (1770) I. iv. 33 To the utter disappointment of the bride-men and maids. 1813 *MAR. EDGEWORTH Patron* III. xxxix. 100 There is no record concerning who were the bride-men. 1830 *CARLYLE in For. Rev. & Cont. Misc.* V. 43 The evening-star, the bride-man of the sun.

Brideship (brɪd'sɪp). [*f.* BRIDE *sb.* 1 + -SHIP.] The status or standing of a bride; the rank or personality of a bride.

a 1652 *BROME Novella* II. i. All her wares, For her to take her choyce to deck her Brideship. 1865 *CARLYLE Fredk. Gt.* III. viii. vi. 50 Wilhelmina's wedding-day arrived, after a brideship of eight months.

Bridesmaid (brɪd'smaɪd). Also 6-9 bride-maid. [The earlier form was *bride-maid*, as in *bride-man* and the other compounds of BRIDE- in sense of 'bridal, wedding'; the 19th c. *bridesmaid* is due to the same perverted analysis, which has changed *bride-man* into *groomsman*.]

A young unmarried woman performing various ceremonial duties at a wedding; in modern times the bridesmaids merely accompany or form the train of the bride.

a. Form *bride-maid*.

1558 *HULOET, Bryde mayde, fromuba*. 1601 *QUARLES Argalus & P.* (1678) 55 The Bride shall sit; Despair and Grief shall stand Like heartless Bride-maids upon either hand. 1747 *HERVEY Medit. & Contempl.* (1818) 22 The bride-maids, girded with gladness, had prepared the marriage-bed; had decked it with the richest covers, and dressed it in pillows of down. 1798 *COLERIDGE Anc. Mar.* vii. xviii. But in the Garden bower the Bride And Bride-maids singing are. a 1847 *MRS. SHERWOOD Lady of Manor* IV. xxiv. 147 Letitia, who had been my bride-maid. 1851 *HAWTHORNE Twice-told T.* (1883) 33 The widow between her fair young bridesmaids.

β. *bridesmaid*. (At first *colloq. or epistolary*.)

1794 *LD. AUCKLAND Corr.* (1862) III. 256 It is proposed to one of your sisters to be bridesmaid at the royal marriage. 1836 *DICKENS Sk. Bos. Characters* viii. 144 The brides-maids could sit in the front parlour and receive the company. 1840 *Ann. Reg.* 24 The royal bridesmaids are each to have a brooch. 1884 *Pall Mall G.* 13 Feb. 8/2 The bridesmaids ..wore dresses of cream soie épinglé and plush.

Hence *Bridesmaidship*, the position or office of a bridesmaid; *Bridesmaiding* *vbl. sb.*, acting as bridesmaid.

1828 *TROLLOPE Dr. Thorne* iv. I won't be Augusta's brides-maid; I'll bide my time for bridesmaiding. 1864 *Chamb. Jral.* 8 Oct. 642 It's your first experience of bridesmaidship, and you look very nice.

Bridesman. [Altered from the earlier BRIDE-MAN, q. v.] A young man who acts as friend or attendant of the bridegroom at a wedding, and performs various ceremonial offices for him.

1808 *SCOTT Lockinvar* iii. Among brides-men and kinsmen, and brothers and all. 1811 *W. SWENGER Poems* 21 No common bridesmen wait us there. 1850 *SMILES Stephenson* 248 To poor Robert Gray..who acted as his bridesman on his marriage..he left a pension.

Bridewain, *north. dial.* [*f.* BRIDE *sb.* 1 +

WAIN wagon.] The wain or wagon on which a bride's 'providing' (surmounted by the spinning-wheel adorned with blue ribbons) used to be sent to her new home; also, a carved chest in which the providing was put, when of smaller compass; the contribution made to this by friends and neighbours, the wedding presents; the occasion on which these are given, a bidding wedding.

1807 *STAGG Poems* 2 A youths' pair, By frugal thrift exccyted, Wad hev a brydewain, an' of course The country roun' invcxyted. 1825 *WHITBY Gloss.*, *Bride-wain*, a carriage loaded with household goods, travelling from the bride's father's to the bridegroom's house. 1873 *Spectator* 23 Aug. 1069/2 One bit of furniture peculiar..to this district [Whitby]—the 'bride-wain', or chest for wedding-clothes. 1875 *Lanc. Gloss.* (E. D. S.) *Bride-wain*, a bidden wedding. 1884 *Gd. Words* 10 The toilet service was ranged ornamentally on a carved oak brydewain in the corner.

Bridewell (brɪd'wɛl). Also 6 brydwelle, 7 bridewel, (bridewel), bridwell. [From *Bride Well*, i. e. (St.) *Bride's Well*, a holy well in London, near which Henry VIII had a 'lodging', given by Edward VI for a hospital, afterwards converted into a house of correction.]

1. A house of correction for prisoners; a place of forced labour; a gaol, prison. Also *fig.*

1555 *Contemp. Rev.* (1878) 773 Our suit..is for one of your Grace's houses called Bridewell. 1560 *DAVIS tr. Sleidan's*

Comm. 19 b. Kyng Henry the eight . . builded a goodlye lodging purposely for him [Charles V] upon the Riuier of Themse, called Bridewell. 1593 H. SMITH *Wks.* (1867) II. 43 To bridewell with these rogues! 1618 BOLTON *Florus* III. xix. 233 Breaking up the worke-jayles, or bridewells, by right of Warre. 1632 MASSINGER *City Mad.* IV. i. Seek them In Bridewell or the Hole. 1679-88 *Secr. Serv. Money* Chas. & Jas. (1851) 147 The rebels that were imprisoned in the castle and bridewell at Taunton. 1777 HOWARD *Prisons Eng.* (1780) 5 There are very few bridewells in which any work is done, or can be done. 1885 M. DAVITT *Leaves fr. Prison Diary* I. 32 Various terms of previous imprisonments . . in county bridewells.

2. **attrib.** (With *bridewell-bird* cf. *gaolbird*.) 1589 Pasquil's *Return* Bijb. The stocke-keeper of the Bridewell-house of Canterbury. 1589 R. HARVEY *Pl. Perc.* 6 Skuffing in the kennel together by the eares like bridle well birds. 1596 P. COLSE *Penelope's Compl.* (1880) 167 Thy giggish trickes, thy queanish trade, A thousand Bridewell birds hath made. 1608 EARLE *Microcosm.* xxxi. 67 The Bridewell-man, and the Beadle. 1663 KILLIGREW *Parson's Wed.* IV. ii. This is better than . . Bridewell hemp, brown bread, and whip-cord. *Ibid.* I. iii. Bridewell orphans.

Hence *Bridewell v.*, to commit to a Bridewell; *Bridewelling vbl. sb.*

1887 H. CARE *Draconia* (D.) Here is bridewelling, banishing, and selling of people to slavery.

† **Bridewoman.** *Obs.*

1. (Correl. of *bride* man 1, *bridegroom*) = **BRIDE**. 1530 PALSGR. 201/1 *Bride woman, espouse.*

2. (Correlative of *bride* man 2) = **BRIDEAID**. 1701 (title) Ladies' Defence, or the Bridewoman's Counsel Answered.

Bridge (bridg), *sb.* Forms: 1 *bryog*, *bricg*, 2-6 *brugge*, 3-6 *brygge*, 4-6 *bregge*, (*brige*), 4-7 *brisse*, (5-6, 9 *dial.* *brudge*, *bryg* (e, 6 *brugge*), 6-7 *bridg*, 5- *bridge*; also *northern* 3- *brig*, 4-6 *brygs*, 5 *bregg*, *brigg*, 5-9 *brigg*. [Common Teut.: OE. *brycg* fem., identical with OFris. *brisse*, *bregge*, (MLG. *brugge*, MDu. *brughe*, Du. *brug*), OHG. *brucca* (MHG., mod.G. *brücke*) :— OTeut. **brugjā*. The corresponding ON. *bryggja* has the sense 'landing-stage, gangway, movable pier'; the ON. word for 'bridge' being *brú* fem. (Da. *bro*, Sw. *bro*). As in other OE. words in -cg, the northern dialect has retained hard (g) against the palatalized (d) of the south.]

1. A structure forming or carrying a road over a river, a ravine, etc., or affording passage between two points at a height above the ground.

Bridges vary in complexity from a simple plank, or a single arch, stretching from bank to bank over a stream, to an elaborate structure of architectural or engineering skill, supported by arches, piers, girders, chains, tubes, etc.

For the different kinds, see *bascul-bridge*, *bowstring-bridge*, *chain-bridge*, *draw-bridge*, *floating-bridge*, *pontoon-bridge*, *suspension-bridge*, *tubular-bridge*, etc., also *Asset Bridge*: see the first element of the compounds.

c 1000 ELFRIC *Gram.* IX. § 39 (Z) 63 *Hic þons*, þeos brycg [v. r. brige]. a 1131 O.E. *Chron.* an. 1125 Men weorðon adrehte and briggas to brokene. c 1173 *Lamb. Hom.* 31 Dele hit wrecche monne, oðer to brugges oðer to chircche worke. c 1330 *Arth. & Merl.* 7803 This bachelers hadden a bregge y-passed. c 1360 *Sir Ferumb.* 1679 Hit ys Mantryble þat þow sye wyþ þe grete brigg. c 1449 *Pecock Repr.* III. x. 338 The brigg of London. 1480 CAXTON *Chron. Eng.* cxcii. 169 The scottes hobilers went bytwene the brudge and the englyssh-men. 1524-3 *Inv. Ch. Goods Stafford.* 33 To make a bruge called Hugh Bruge. 1556 *Chron. Gr. Friars* (1852) 11 The erles hede with one of hys quarters of the lordes ware sett on London bregge. *Ibid.* 17 Thys yere sanke a parte of London brygge with two arches. 1594 SHAKS. *Rich. III.* III. ii. 72 They account his Head vpon the Bridge. 1611 SPERD *Hist. Gr. Brit.* IX. xvii. (1632) 868 [He] came hastily to the Brigg. 1660 WALPOLE in Cobbett *Parl. Hist.* (1808) IV. 145 This was so severe a bill upon the Women, that, if a bridge was made from Dover to Calais, the women would all leave this kingdom. 1685 MORDEN *Geog. Rect.* 112 Caesar's Bridge over the Rhine is one of the antientest in Europe. 1817 BYRON *Childe H.* IV. i. I stood in Venice, on the Bridge of Sighs, A palace and a prison on each hand. 1843 MACAULAY *Lays Anc. Rome*, *Horatius* lxx, How well Horatius kept the bridge, In the brave days of old.

β. The form *brig* is used from Northamptonshire northward in the local dialects, in proper names, and in literature for the sake of local colouring.

a 1300 *Cursor M.* 8945 Þai . . mad a brig Ouer a litel burn to lig. 1375 BARBOUR *Bruc* x. 86 At ane Brig beneth. 1418 *Bury Wills* (1850) 3 Ap^d Stanewelle bregg. 1579 *Lament. Lady Scott.* in *Scot. Poems* 16th C. (1801) II. 247 Palice, kirk, and brig, Better in tyme to beir, nor efter to big. 1647 H. MORE *Insomn. Philos.* xviii. a Passing as water underneath a brig. 1707 BURNS *Two Brigs*, The Sprites that owre the Brigs of Ayr preside. 1821 CLARE *Vill. Minst.* I. 46 He loved to view the mossy-arched brigs. 1854 MISS YONGE *Cameos* (1877) IV. ix. 103 Whenever he should pass the brig of Crumond. 1875 *Lanc. Gloss.* (E. D. S.) s.v., The most southerly point of the county where 'brig' is used. . . is . . Bamber Brig, a few miles south of Preston. 1876 TENNYSON *North. Farmer (new style)* xiv, I'll run up to the brig.

b. *fig.* a 1285 *Ancre. R.* 242 3e beoð ouer bisse worlde see, uppen þe brugges of heouene. 1748 YOUNG *Nt. Th.* VIII. 717 Faith builds a bridge from this world to the next. 1863 E. NEALE *Anal. Th. & Nat.* 63 The bridge for thought to pass from one particular to the other. 1874 SAYCE *Compar. Philol.* I. 53 Gestures . . forming the bridge by which we may pass over into spoken language.

γ. **Bridge of boats**: a roadway supported by boats moored abreast across a stream or other body of water; cf. *FLYING-BRIDGE*, *PONTON*.

1397 TREvisa *Higden* (1865) I. 55 (Mätz.) Pere Xerxes þe kyng made ouer a brigg of schippes. 1608 *Lond. Gas.* No. 2346/2 They had begun a Bastion at the Head of the Bridge of Boats. 1821 WELLINGTON *Let. in Gurw. Disp.* VII. 151 There will be no difficulty in laying a bridge of boats.

d. † *Beside the bridge*: off the track, gone astray (*obs.*). A gold or silver bridge: an easy and attractive way of escape. (F. *faire un pont d'or à ses ennemis*, Littré.)

1579 FENTON *Guicciard.* II. (1599) 78 Not to stoppe the way of the enemy . . but rather (according to an old counsell) to make him a bridge of silver. 1692 CULPEPPER *Eng. Physic. Ent.* (1809) 338 If Pontanus say otherwise, he is beside the bridge. 1670 G. H. Hist. *Cardinals* III. 1. 233 Who willingly made him a Golden Bridge, to send him going. 1755 SMOLLETT *Quix.* (1803) IV. 180 Lay a bridge of silver for a flying enemy. 1824 BYRON *Def. Transf.* II. ii. 14 A golden bridge is for a flying enemy.

2. Short for **DRAWBRIDGE**.

c 1205 LAV. 19242 Heore brugge heo duden adun. c 1325 *Coer de L.* 3955 Her brygges wounden up in haste, And her gates barryd faste. c 1470 HENRY WALLACE IV. 262 Thai . . Tuk wp the bryg or that the day was lycht.

3. a. A gangway or movable landing-stage for boats. b. A fixed or floating landing-stage, jetty, or pier. *Obs.* or *dial.* [The Norse senses.]

c 1375 BARBOUR *Bruc* xvii. 403 A brig thai had, for till lat fall, Richt fra the bat upon the wall. 1425 *Sc. Act.* *Jas. I* (1597) § 59 All boate men and ferrymen . . sall haue for ilke boate a treene-brigge, qwhair-with they may receiue within their boates travellers Horse vnhurte. c 1560 *Map in Maitland's Hist. Lond.* has two landing jetties marked *privy bridge* at 'privy gardens', and *Queens-bridge* at Whitehall. a 1600 *Map in G. G. Scott Gleanings Westm.* Ab. Plate 35 Old palace bridge. *Kings-bridge*. 1686 *Lond. Gas.* No. 2170/4 Lost or stolen . . at Billingsgate Stairs, or Gravesend-Bridge, an old Black leather Trunk. 1850 P. CUNNINGHAM *Handbk. Lond.*, When we read in our old writers of Ivy-bridge, Strand-bridge, Whitehall-bridge, and Lambeth-bridge, landing piers alone are meant. 1879 LEWIS & SHORT *Lat. Dict.* s.v. *Pons* II. C, A plank bridge thrown from a vessel to the shore.

4. 'A narrow ridge of rock, sand, or shingle, across the bottom of a channel.'

1812 *Examiner* 14 Sept. 590/2 It is proposed to construct a Pier on the bridge between St. Nicholas and Mount Edgecombe. 1833 MARRYAT *P. Simple* xxviii, Is there water enough to cross the bridge? The sea on the bridge was very heavy. 1835 *Bell's Gaz.* II. 236 Filey-bridge. 1864 *Black Guide Yorks.* 110 Filey Brig . . is a remarkable ridge of rocks, projecting nearly half a mile into the sea and perfectly dry at low water.

5. *Naut.* The raised narrow deck or platform extending from side to side of a steamer amidstships, from which the officer in command directs the motion of the vessel. Also 'a narrow gangway between two hatchways' (Smyth *Sailor's Word-bk.*).

1843 C. BAILEY *Loss of Pegasus* 44 He afterwards went on the bridge over the paddle-wheels. 1858 *Merc. Mar. Mag.* V. 53 The Boatwain was on the bridge. 1899 *Ally. Round* No. 1. 19 The Chinese . . seized the arm-chest, which was on the bridge.

6. *Phys.* a. The upper bony part of the nose. Also the curved central part of a pair of spectacles or eye-glasses which rests on the nose.

c 1490 *Voc.* in Wr. Wülcker 631 The brygge of þe nose. 1483 *Cath. Angl.* 44 A Bryge of a nose, *interfinitum*. 1530 PALSGR. 201/1 Bridge of the nose, or *du nez*. 1604 DEKKER *Honest Wh. Wks.* 1873 II. 174 Hauling the bridge of my nose broken. a 1659 CLEVELAND *Rapertism* 82 Let the Zeal-travelling Nose that wants a Ridge, Snuffling devoutly, drop his silver Bridge. 1839-47 Todd *Cycl. Anat. & Phys.* III. 736/2 The Caucasian nose is . . elevated at the bridge.

b. A portion of the brain which stretches in a curve between the two lobes of the cerebellum in front of the medulla oblongata.

1869 HUXLEY *Phys.* 207 [The cerebellum] sends down several layers of transverse fibres . . forming a kind of bridge (called *Pons Varolii*). 1879 CALDERWOOD *Mind & Br.* 36 In one solid mass, with transverse lines, is the bridge.

7. In a violin, or similar instrument: A thin, upright piece of wood, over which the strings are stretched; and which transmits their vibrations to the body of the instrument.

1607 DEKKER *Westw. Hoe Wks.* 1873 II. 341 One of the poore instruments caught a sore mischance last night: his most base bridge fell downe. 1731 HOLDER *Harmony* 11 The string of a Musical Instrument resembling a double pendulum moving upon two centers, the Nut and the Bridge. 1832 L. HUNT *Poems* Pref. 23 It has a look like the bridge of a lute. 1848 J. BISHOP tr. *Otto's Violin App.* III. (1875) 79 The bridge . . exercises an immense influence . . on the quality of the tone of the violin.

8. (*north. dial.* in form *brig*;) Applied to various utensils of more or less bridge-like form, e.g. a tripod for holding a pot over a fire.

1600 *Churchw. Acc. St. Margarets, Westm.* (Nicholls 1797) 26 Making a pair of butts and brigs for the carpenters work. 1847-78 *Lelliwell Dict.*, *Brig*, an utensil used in brewing and in dairies to set the strainer upon. *north.* A kind of iron, set over a fire is so called. 1875 *Lanc. Gloss.* (E. D. S.) *Briggs*, irons to set over the fire.

9. In various specific and technical senses:

a. A 'bridging-joint', one of those joints which, in large floors, are laid upon the main or 'binding-joints', and to which the flooring boards are secured. 1663 GERBIER *Counsel* 43 For the boarding rooms . . Carpenters lay Bridges overthwart the Joyses.

b. In a furnace or boiler: A low vertical par-

titution at the back of the grate space of a furnace; the low partition wall between the fuel-chamber and the hearth of a reverberatory furnace; 'the central part of the fire-bars in a marine boiler, on either side of which the fires are banked' (Smyth *Sailor's Word-bk.*).

1838 *Penny Cycl.* XI. 22/1 C is . . the bridge of the furnace, which retains the fuel in its place, and serves to direct the flame towards the roof.

γ. *Iron-works*. The platform or plank-way by which ore or fuel is conveyed to the mouth of a smelting furnace.

d. *Scene-painting*. A platform suspended in front of a canvass.

1859 *SALA Gaslight & D.* II. 23 A ladder being placed against the bridge if he wishes to descend without shifting the position of his platform.

e. *Engraving*. A board, supported at each end, used to raise the engraver's hand above the plate.

1875 *URE Dict. Arts* II. 285 What is technically called a bridge . . is nothing more than a thin board for the hand to rest on. *Ibid.* 286 The bridge being laid over the plate, the process of etching may now be commenced.

f. *Billiards*. The support formed by the left hand in making a stroke.

1873 BENNETT & CAVENTISH *Billiards* 31 The bridge has now to be made, on which the cue is to be laid when aiming and striking.

g. *Saddlery*. A part of the harness resembling a buckle, but without the tongue, to which strapping is looped or sewed: also the bar (or bars) joining its sides.

1802 FELTON *Carriages* II. 133 In each strap a bridge is sewed. *Ibid.* The crupper . . is looped through the housing, bridge, and buckled about the middle.

h. *Electric bridge*: a contrivance for determining the resistance of an element of an electric current.

1881 MAXWELL *Electr. & Magn.* I. 447 Four conductors of great resistance may also be arranged as in Wheatstone's Bridge, and the bridge itself may consist of the electrodes of an electrometer.

10. In *Card-playing*: see **BRINGING** 1 b.

1859 *LEVER Davenport. Dunn* I. 251 (Hoppe) I've found out the way that Yankee fellow does the king. It's not the common bridge that every body knows. 1860 MAYHEW *Lond. Lab.* I. 266 (Hoppe).

11. *Comb. and Attrib.* a. *gen.*, as *bridge-arch*, *-builder*, *-foot*, *-maker*, *-work*; *bridge-like* *adj.*

1890 ALISON *Hist. Europe* III. xviii. § 39. 567 Jourdan, having . . procured the necessary 'bridge-equipage, prepared to cross the river. 1836 WHITTHESLEY *Chron.* (1875) I. 59 From Temple Bart to the 'bridge-foote in Southwarke. 1704 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 4019/4 Robert Adams . . near the Bridge-foot, London. 1800 SHELLEY *Cloud*, From cape to cape, with a 'bridge-like shape, Over a torrent sea. 1611 BROUGHTON *Require Agreem.* 76 The 'Bridge-maker (= pontiff) of Rome is blamed of Saint Paul. 1877 *Outlines Hist. Religion* 237 No special deity claimed the services of the Pontifices, the bridge- or road-makers.

b. Special comb.: *bridge-board* (see *quot.*);

† *bridge-bote*, an ancient tax or contribution for the repair of bridges; *bridge-deck* (see 5); *bridge-gutter*, a gutter formed of boards covered with lead and supported on bearers, a bridged gutter; *bridge-head*, a fortification covering or protecting the end of a bridge nearest the enemy, = *F. tête de pont*; *bridge-jalet* (see *quot.*); *bridge-man*, the keeper of a bridge; = **BRIDGE-MASTER**; *bridge-money*, money levied for the construction and repair of bridges; *bridge-note*, a note in Tonic Sol-fa music which marks the transition into a new key; *bridge-pin*, part of a gun; *bridge-rail* (see *quot.*); † *bridge-silver* = *bridge-money*; *bridge-stone*, a flat stone, or flag, spanning a gutter or a sunken area; *bridge-tone* = *bridge-note*; *bridge-train*, a company of Military Engineers equipped for bridge-building, and carrying all the material and appliances for floating bridges; *bridge-tree*, a splinter-bar or swingle-tree; also, the adjustable beam which supports the spindle of the 'runner' or upper stone in a grain mill; *bridge-way*, the way formed by a bridge, the road or passage running over a bridge; also, the water-way which lies beneath it. Also **BRIDGE-HOUSE**, **-MASTER**, **-WARD**.

1876 GWILT *Archit. Gloss.*, 'Bridge Board, a board into which the ends of the steps of wooden stairs are fastened. c 1250 *Gloss. Law Terms in Rel. Ant.* I. 33 'Bridgebote. 1844 LINGARD *Anglo-Saxon Ch.* (1858) I. vi. 221 Bryge-bot, or contribution towards the repair of bridges and highways. 1822 *Examiner* 28 Dec. 821/2 General Dombrowski defended the 'bridge head of Borisow. 1877 CLEVV *Min. Tact.* xv. 207 When the defenders hold a bridge head or other fortified post on the river. 1867 SMYTH *Sailor's Word-bk.*, 'Bridge-islet, a portion of land which becomes insular at high-water. 1648 HERRICK *Heper.* I. 52 Let it be thy pensil's strife To paint a 'bridgeman to the life. 1683 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 1862/5 The Warden, Bridgemen, and Burgesses of Your Majesties Corporation of Henley upon Thames. 1783 HAMILTON in *Phil. Trans.* LXXXIII. 181 The duke's bridge-man told me also, that . . this great river was perfectly dry for some seconds. 1868 *Protector's Lords* III. 76 The taxes imposed on the land in the shape of road and 'bridge money. 1879 CURWEN *Mus. Theory* 54 We call the tone represented by the 'bridge-note the 'transmutation-tone.' 1741 *Compl. Fam.-Piece* II. l. 300 Let your

*Bridge-Pin be something above your Touch-hole. 1851 *Coal-tr. Terms Northumbld. & Durh.* 11 * Bridge-rails .. are now much used in barrow-ways, instead of tram-plates. 1875 *Use Dict. Arts* 111. 692 Beside flat rails .. we have bridge rails employed, which have the form of a reversed U. 1884 *Athenum* 16 Aug. 209/2 Simon de Montfort's charter for the remission of gable-pence and *bridge-silver to the burgesses of Leicester. 1876 *Gwilt Archit. Gloss., Bridge Stone*, a stone laid from the pavement to the entrance door of a house over a sunk area and supported by an arch. 1879 *CURWEN Mus. Theory* 54 The notation of Transition by means of *Bridge-tones we call the 'proper notation'. 1817 *MARKHAM Caval.* v. 54 The draught-breadth .. extend from the breast of the Horse to the *bridge-tree of the Coach. 1822 *IMISON Sc. & Art* 1. 69 One end of the bridge-tree which supports the spindle rests upon the wall. 1823 *Blackw. Mag.* XLII. 335 A sort of *bridgeway betwixt this world and infinity. 1834 G. C. DAVIES *Norfolk Broads* xxi. 156 As we got under the lee of the bridge the wind failed us and we remained motionless in the bridge-way.

Bridge (bridz), *v.* 1 *bryogian*, 3 *brugge-n*, 3-4 *brigg(e)n*, 7- *bridge*. [OE. *brycgian*, f. *brycg*, *BRIDGE*, *sb.*; cf. OHG. *bruccn*, MHG. *brucken*, *brücken*.]

1. *trans.* To make a bridge over (a river, ravine, etc.); to span with a bridge or similar means of passage. Often predicated of the thing which spans. Often with *across*, *over*.

a 1000 *Andreas* 1263 (Gr.). Is brycgade blæce brimrade. c 1205 *LAV.* 21276 Pa al wes Aene stram mid stele ibrugged. 1375 *BARBOUR Bruce* xii. 404 Thai had befor [the] day Briggitt the pollis. 1665 *MANLEY Grotius' Low-C. Wars* 155 Now that the Schelde was thus bridged. 1718 *Pope's Dunciad* xxi. 274 The large trunk .. Bridg'd the rough flood across. 1846 *GROTE Greece* (1862) II. 1. 21 A strait narrow enough to be bridged over. 1853 *KANE Grinnell Exp.* xlii. (1856) 388 An arch of ice .. bridging a fissure. 1879 *FAULDS Caesar* xviii. 485 They bridged the Rhine in a week.

† *b.* To overlay, spread over. *Obs.*
c 1300 *Trin. Coll. Hom.* 91 Pe children briggeden þe wei biforen ure drihten, sume mid here cloces. *Ibid.* Sume briggeden þe asse mid here cloces, and sume mid bojes þe his broken of þe trewes.

c. To span or cross as with a bridge.
1875 *MARK TWAIN Innoc. Abr.* xiii. 91 A speculator bridged a couple of barrels with a board. 1876 *Gwilt Archit. Gloss.* s.v. *Bridge-over*, The upper joists .. bridge over the beams or binding-joists, and .. are called bridging-joists.

d. *fig.*
1853 *CLOUGH Songs in Abs.* vii. 8 The wide and weltering waste above—Our hearts have bridged it with their love. 1865 *SIR B. BRODIE Psychol. Inq.* II. 1. 24 To bridge over the space which separates the known from the unknown. 1879 *PROCTOR Pless. Ways* Sc. xiii. 366 The gap between the lowest savage and the highest ape is not easily bridged.

2. To form (a way) by means of a bridge.
1867 *MILTON P. L.* x. 310 Xerxes .. Over Hellespont Bridging his way, Europe with Asia joyn'd. 1705 *J. PHILIPS Blenheim* (R.) Advance; we'll bridge a way, Safe of access.

3. *slang.* (See quot.)
1812 *J. H. VAUX Flash Dict.* To bridge a person, or to throw him over the bridge, is .. to deceive him by betraying the confidence he has reposed in you.

† **Bridge**, *v.* 2 *Obs.* Forms: 4 *bregge*, *breigge*, 4-5 *brisse*, 6 *brydge*. [aphet. form of *abregge*, *ABRIDGE*, a. F. *abridge* to shorten.] *trans.* To abridge, shorten, lessen; to curtail. Also *absol.*

1330 *R. BRUNNE Chron.* 247 Noþeles he wild haf briggid, þe fals leue & erroure. c 1380 *WYCLIF Sel. Wks.* II. 407 It is peril to adde or to bregge for Cristis wordis. 1386 — *Mark* xiii. 20 No but the Lord hadde breggid [1386 abridged] the dayes. c 1430-40 *OCCLEVE MS. Soc. Antiq.* 134 f. 251 a, Sorow and care Byreven man his helpe, And his dayes brigen. 1556 *Pilgr. Perf.* (W. de W. 1531) 97 An aduersary .. euer brydyng & lettyng in the euery thyng.

Hence † **Bridgement**, an abridgement, epitome; † **Bridger**, an abridger or epitomizer; † **Bridging** *vbl. sb.*, shortening.

1380 *WYCLIF Bible, Pref. Epist.* I. 72/2 Perlipomyon, that is, the book of the olde instrument, recapitulatur, word bregger. — 2 *Macc.* ii. 32 To be grauntid to the bregger [Vulg. *breviant*]. — *Wks.* (1880) 74 Po þat ben cursed of god for bregynge of his hestis .. ben not ponynschid þus. c 1534 *tr. Pol. Verg. Eng. Hist.* (1846) I. 197 Let this compendius brigenment suffice. 1559 *MORWYN Eponymus* 320 The Breviarium or Bridgment of Arnold de Villa Nova.

Bridged (bridgd), *ppl. a.* [f. *BRIDGE* *v.* 1 + -ED.] Furnished with a bridge or bridges; spanned or traversed with bridges.

1611 *COTGR., Pontil*, Bridged; that hath a Bridge over it, or belonging to it. 1865 *M. HOPKINS Hawaii* 9 Its grassy slopes; its bridged rivulets. 1864 *R. BURTON Dahome* 12 Good roads well bridged, and a channel of mountain water.

b. **Bridged gutter** (*Building*), 'one made with boards supported by bearers and covered above with lead or zinc' (*Gwilt Archit.*).

Bridge-house (bridzhaus). A house connected with a bridge, for its protection or control; *spec.* the house with its officers and revenues, connected in former times with the care and repair of London Bridge.

1375 *BARBOUR Bruce* xvii. 409 [Thai] pressit thame full fast to tow Hir by the brighous to the wall. 1704 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 4069/4 A Large Wharf .. near the Bridge-House. 1766 *ENTICK London* IV. 375 Estates settled on the city or bridge-house.

Bridgeless (bridzles), *a.* [f. *BRIDGE* *sb.* + -LESS.] Having no bridge, unspanned by a bridge; also *fig.*

1801 *SOUTHEY Thalaba* v. x, A free and bridgeless tide,

Euphrates rolls along. 1865 *CARLYLE Fredk. Gt.* IX. xx. viii. 157 A chasm or bridgeless interstice between two ramparts. 1884 *H. DRUMMOND Nat. Law in Spir. W.* (ed. 8) 72 The bridgeless gulf between the natural and the spiritual.

b. Of the nose.
1863 *Geo. ELIOT Romola in Cornh. Mag.* VII. 286 His bridgeless nose and low forehead.

Bridgeman. An officer having control of a bridge: formerly, in some English boroughs, a regular member of the corporation; also called *bridgeman*.

1508 *ARNOLD Chron.* 135 The said brigmastirs referred all ther maters to the said Samwell. a 1618 *RALEIGH Observ.* in *Rem.* (1661) 179 From any Port Town .. the Bridge-master or the Wharfmaster .. will deliver a true Note of the number of Lasts of Herring brought to their Wharves. 1683 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 1860/3 The Warden, Steward, Bridge-masters, Burgesses, and other Inhabitants of the Town and Corporation of Maidenhead. 1810 *WELLINGTON Let.* in *Curw. Dist.* V. 444 In respect to the Bridges .. there is a Bridge-Master at Abrantes who has charge of them all. 1886 *Whitaker's Almanac* 260 Officers of the city of London — Elected by the Livery .. Bridge Masters.

Bridges, *obs.* form of *BRUGES* (satin).

Bridgetin (bridzétin). In 6 *Brygittane*, 7 *Brigidian*, 8 *Brigittin* (e, *Brigittin*). [f. the name of *St. Bridget*, in *L. Brigidia*.] A member of a religious order founded by *St. Bridget* in the 14th century.

1533 *MORE Annu. Paysoned Bk. Wks.* 1091/2 Frere Huskyn the frere brygittane. 1566 *BLOUNT Glossogr.*, *Brigidians*, an order of religious persons instituted by *Brigidia* a widow. 1753 *CHAMBERS Cycl. Suppl.*, *Brigittins*, or *Bridgetins*, more properly *Brigittins* .. denominated from their foundress *St. Bridget* or *Brigit*, a Swedish lady in the fourteenth century. 1884 *Mag. of Art* Apr. 221/2 The monastery of *Bridgetins* .. had been founded in the year 1415.

Bridgeward (bridz,wō:rd), *sb.* In 4 *brisse*.

1. The keeper or warden of a bridge.
a 1000 *Battle of Maldon* (in Sweet) 85 *Ag. Reader* 136 Dæth hi ðær brycgwardas bitere fundon. c 1380 *Sir Ferumb.* 1700 A geant ys maked briggeward .. þe brigg ay kepeþ hee. 1800 *SCOTT Monastery* vi. The bridge-wards have been in possession of these dues .. for more than fifty years.

2. The custody or wardship of a bridge.
c 1380 *Sir Ferumb.* 3560 Pat ny3t .. þe brigg-ward for-3ete was, þow murþe of ys play.

3. *Lock-smithing*. The main ward of a key.

Bridgeward (bridz,wō:rd), *adv.* [see -WARD.] Towards, or in the direction of, a bridge.

1884 *Christm. Illust. Lond. N.* 10/1, I bridgeward was bent.

† **Bridgewater**. *Obs.* A woollen cloth named after the place of its original manufacture.

1550-3 *Acts* 5 & 6 *Edw. VI.* All and euery broad cloth and clothes, called Taunton clothes, Bridgewater and other clothes. 1607 *Act 4 Jas. I.* ii, Tauntons, Bridgewater, and Dunsters made in the Western parts of Somersetshire.

Bridging (bridzjin), *vbl. sb.* [f. *BRIDGE* *v.* 1 or *sb.* + -ING.]
1. The action of the vb. *BRIDGE*.
1879 *THIRLWALL Grace* II. 252 The bridging of the sacred Hellespont. 1886 *VINES Sachs' Bot.* 136 The bridging over of the medullary rays by cambium.

b. In *Card-playing*: see quot.
1879 *Sporting Exam.* 19 Aug. 262 By slightly bending a card—termed bridging—he could force, as it were, his opponent in the game to 'cut' the cards wherever he wished.

2. a. Bridges viewed in the mass as so much 'work'; b. *Carpentry*. A bridging piece (see 3).
1864 *H. W. CLARKE in Pall Mall G.* 5 May 2/2 This sum included—ballast, heavy bridging, station buildings.

3. *Comb. and Attrib.*: bridging-floor, a floor in which bridging-joists are employed; bridging-joist, a small beam or joist of a flooring resting upon the binding-joists below, and supporting the boarding above; bridging-piece, a piece placed between two opposite beams to prevent their nearer approach (Weale).

1823 *P. NICHOLSON Pract. Build.* 118 When the supporting timbers of a floor are formed by one row laid upon another, the upper row are called bridging joists. 1876 *Gwilt Archit.* § 2019 A double floor consists .. of .. binding joists .. bridging joists, and ceiling joists.

Bridgrooms, -gume, *obs.* ff. *BRIDEGROOM*.

Bridgy (bridzi), *a. rare.* [f. *BRIDGE* *sb.* + -Y.] Abounding in bridges.

1611 *COTGR. Pontneux*, bridgie, full of bridges.

Bridhale, *obs.* form of *BRIDAL*.

Briding (brō:ding), *vbl. sb. rare.* [f. *BRIDE* *v.* 1 + -ING.] Wedding; being a bride.

1581 *T. NUCE Seneca's Octavia* 181 Bridinge chambers banquet wise ydrest. 1861 *TROLLOPE Framley P.* III. ix. 159 The quaintness of her bridging, the outer veil .. of the tabernacle—namely, her wedding-dress.

b. See quot. (cf. *BRIDE* *v.* 2)
1598-1611 *FLORIO, Spuarie*, bride tricks, pulling nice tricks, bridgings.

Bridle (brō:dl), *sb.* Forms: 1 *bridel*, 3-4 *bridell*, -il, 3-6 *brydel*, 4 *bridle*, *brydille*, 4-5 *bridell*, 4-6 *brydel*, -il, -ill, 5 *bridelle*, -ill, -ulle, -y(lle, *brydylle*, 6 *brydle*, 4- *bridle*. [OE. *bridel* for earlier **brigdel* (cf. *brigdils* Erf. Gl. 127, O.E. *Texts* 44) has various corresp. forms in WGer.: cf. OFris. *bridel*, MLG., MDu. *breidel* (*bridel*), Du. *breidel*, OHG., MHG. *brittel*;

formed with instrumental suffix like *hand-le*, *sadd-le*, etc., from root of *bregd-an* to pull, twitch (see *BRAD*); cf. Ger. *zügel* from *ziehen* to draw.]

1. The head-gear of the harness of a horse or other beast of burden, consisting of a head-stall, bit, and rein, by which the animal is controlled and guided. To give a horse the bridle: to abandon control of him; so to lay the bridle on his neck. To keep a horse up into his bridle: to keep him up to the full speed allowed by the degree of restraint in which he is held by the bridle. To go up well to his bridle: to be a free goer, not to hang back at the pressure applied.

a 1000 *Rune Poem* xxi. (Gr.). Se brimhengest bridles ne zymed. a 1225 *Anscr. R.* 74 Bridel nis nout one iðe horses muðe. 1368 *LANGL. P. Pl.* A. IV. 20 Hong on him an heui Bridel to bere his hed lowe. c 1385 *CHAUCER L. G. W.* 1208 The fomy brydill with the bit of gold Gouernyth hee. c 1450 *Merlin* xxii. 407 He hilde the reyne of his bridle in his left arme. 1526 *Pilgr. Perf.* (W. de W. 1531) 160 Whether he sholde haue also the sadell and brydell with the horse. 1601 *Br. BARLOW Serm. Paulus Crosse* 59 A bridle hath raines and a bit. 1674 *Ch. & Court of Rome* 8 It being proverbial, That 'tis a greater shame to bring home the Bridle than steal the Horse. 1882 *Illust. Sporting News* 4 Feb. 502/2 Come on at a good canter—not too fast, but keep them well up into their bridles. 1884 *E. ANDERSON Mod. Horsemanship* i. v. 17 In the double bridle we have the curb bit and the snaffle.

b. *Occas.* applied to the bit alone; also *fig.*
c 1400 *Rom. Rose* 3299 Take with thy teeth the bridel faste. 1579 *FULKE Conful. Sanders* 657 She commaunded his bridle to be made of one nayle. 1600 *WARNER Alb. Eng.* ix. xlviii. 222 More eagerly than earst I on the brydell byte.

c. *fig.* with conscious reference to a horse.

1401 *Pol. Poems* (1859) II. 85 Who wil not amenden him, 3eue him the brydill. 1580 *NORTH Plutarch* (1676) 362 Giving the bridle to a desperate man. 1593 *GOLDING Calvin on Deut.* ii. 8 Gods deliuering of the Children out of the Bondage of Egypt was not to lay the brydell in their necke that they might go when they listed. 1796 *BURKE Let. Noble L.* 41 Calais the key of France, and the bridle in the mouth of that power. 1833 *WORDSW. Warning*, O for a bridle bitted with remorse To stop your leaders in their headstrong course.

2. *fig.* A restraint, curb, check. *Mil.* A fortress keeping an enemy in check (cf. *BRIDLE* *v.* 2 b).

1340 *Ayemb.* 254 Zete ane brydel to þine couayntes. c 1430 *LYDG. Bochas* II. xv. (1554) 55 a, Sensualitie Holdeth the bridle of lecherous insolence. 1520 *RABELAIS Bk. Purgat.* iii. xv. 4 Man hath nede to haue both a bridle of lawe .. & also a brydell of the drede of God. 1535 *COVERDALE 2 Sam.* vii. 1. 1664 *BACON New Atl.* (1677) 257 The reverence of a mans self, next religion, the chiefest Bridle of all Vices. 1666 *FULLER Worthies* (1840) III. 488 Thy [castles] .. were first intended as bridles to their country. 1791 *BURKE Th. on Fr. Affairs* Wks. VII. 37 The blind reverence they bear to the sanctity of the Pope, which is their only bridle. 1879 *FAULDS Caesar* xv. 233 He kept his tongue under a bridle.

3. = *BRANKS* 1.

1623 *Macclesfield Corp. Rec.* in *Ormerod Hist. Cheshire* III. 385 A Brydle for a curste queane. 1668 *Worcester Corp. Rec.* in *Brushfield Obs. Punishm.* (1858) I. 7 note, Paid for mending the bridle for bridlinge of scoulds, and two cords for the same .. jr. ijd. 1753 *CHAMBERS Cycl. Suppl.* s.v., In Staffordshire they have a bridle for correcting scolding women. 1858 *BAUSHFIELD Obsol. Punishm.* i. 16 Another Bridle .. is a very handsome specimen, being surmounted with a decorated cross.

4. The gesture described under *BRIDLE* *v.* 3.
1748 *RICHARDSON Clarissa* (1811) V. xxviii. 287 'Miss Howe' .. repeated she, with a scornful bridle, but a very pretty one. 1761 *COWPER Hope* 344 The flitted fan, the bridle, and the toss.

5. Applied technically or descriptively to various things resembling a horse's bridle in their form or use: *esp.*

a. *Naut.* A stout cable, or 'fast', by which a vessel is secured to moorings; also, the short piece of rope by which the bowline is attached to the leech or edge of the sail.

1666 *CAPT. SMITH Accid. Yng. Seamen* 15 The maine bowling and bridles. 1607 — *Seaman's Gram.* v. 27 The Boling knot is .. fastened by the bridles into the creengles of the sailes. 1769 *FALCONER Dict. Marine* (1789) Cc iiij b, To this swivel-link are attached the bridles, which are short pieces of cable, well served, whose upper ends are drawn into the ship, at the mooring-ports, and afterwards fastened to the masts, or cable-bits. 1793 *SMEATON Edystone L.* § 259 We came to and got in the bridle and swivel.

b. *Phys.* A ligament or membrane serving to check the motion of a part, or bind one part to another; a frenum; 'a narrow slip of living structure interposed between two orifices or the opposing walls of an abscess; a band stretching across a cicatrix' (*Syd. Soc. Lex.*); † the septum of the nose (*obs.*).

1607 *DAMPFER Voyages* (1729) III. 1. 351 Pinching the Bridle of the Nose with its points, it hangs dangling from thence. c 1700 *W. GIBSON Farrier's Guide* i. ii. (1738) 15 An appendage called the Frenum, or Bridle, which runs .. almost to the root of the yard. 1798 *J. S. Le Dran's Observ. Surg.* (1771) Dict. B b 7 b, *Frenulum*, the Bridle of the Tongue. *Ibid.* 199 The *Cystis Hernialis* .. was much contracted, forming four of five strong Bridles. 1805 *Med. & Phys. Jernl.* 1 Aug. 97 Two cases of children losing their lives in consequence of cutting what is called the bridle of the tongue. 1835-6 *Todd Cycl. Anat. & Phys.* I. 603/2 Those bridles which are such frequent causes of deformity after the healing of extensive burns.

c. *Mech.* A metal strip or band uniting two parts of a machine, or limiting their motion; also, the flanges which keep a slide-valve in position.

1667 *Wilmslow Churchw. Acc.* in Earwaker *E. Cheshire* I. 115 Paid for the bridle of the clock, and several other things about the clock and quarters. 1833 *J. HOLLAND Manuf. Metals* II. 302 The massy cast-iron frames are fastened with screws and also with wrought iron bridles. 1846 *Print. Apparatus Amateurs* 10 The pressure is applied to the front of the press by a lever, which is jointed to the upper extremity by a long bridle.

d. *Agric.* A bent piece of iron on the end of a plough-beam, to which the draught-tackle is attached; a clevis.

1840 *Penny Cycl.* XVIII. 275/2 The end of this iron, which is called a bridle, has several projecting hooks . . . on which an iron ring is hung at different heights.

e. The cord or other work which strengthens or tightens the sides of a net.

c. 1838 *C. BATHURST Nets* 34 If it be too large, the bridle would, instead of forming a straight line along the sides of the net, hang down loosely in loops.

f. *Fire-arms.* A small plate of metal in the interior of a gunlock, which holds the sear and tumbler in position.

1844 *Regul. & Ord. Army* 100 Bridle [of musket] . . . os. 9d. 1875 *URE Dict. Arts* II. 383 The lock, inside . . . showing all the parts . . . d, the tumbler; e, the bridle.

6. *Comb.*, as *bridle-maker*; also *bridle-arm* (cf. *bridle-hand*); *bridle-bridge*, a bridge fit for the passage of a horse, but not for vehicles; *bridle-cable* (see *quot.*); *bridle-chain* (*Mining*), one of the 'safety-chains' to support a cage if the link between the cage and rope should break' (*Raymond Mining Gloss.*); † *bridle-cull* (*Thieves' cant*), a highwayman; *bridle-outer*, a *bridle-maker*; *bridle-gate*, a gate leading into a *bridle-path*; *bridle-hand*, the hand which holds the bridle in riding, the left hand; *bridle-path*, -road, -way, a path fit for the passage of a horse, but not of vehicles; *bridle-pin*, the pin which helps to secure the bridle of a gunlock; *bridle-port*, a port or port-hole in a ship's bow through which 'bridles' (see 5) may be run, or chase-guns fired. Also *BRIDLE-BIT*, -REIN.

1833 *Regul. Instr. Cavalry* I. 116 Resting the blade upon the 'bridle-arm. 1882 *Proc. Bern. Nat. Club* IX. 446 The approach to the Castle . . . has been from a curious old 'bridle-bridge. 1793 *SMEATON Edystone L.* § 139 note, When a vessel is moored by laying down a cable upon the ground, with an anchor at each end, then another cable attached to the middle of the ground cable, is called the 'Bridle Cable. 1743 *FIELDING J. Wild* I. v. (D.) A booty of £10 looks as great in the eye of a 'bridle-cull . . . as that of as many thousands to the statesman. 1697 *Lond. Gas. No.* 3081/3 'Bridle-Cutters . . . and all other Makers, Dressers, or Workers in Leather. 1790 *Ibid.* No. 5912/4 John Rest . . . Bridle-Cutter. 1868 *HOLME LEE Bas. Godfrey* lxvii. 395 The horses . . . stopped at a 'bridle-gate. 1860 *SIDNEY Arcadia* II. (R.) In the turning one might perceive the 'bridle-hand something gently stir. 1833 *Regul. Instr. Cavalry* I. 39 To govern his horse by the aid of his legs and bridle-hand. 1855 *SMEADLEY Harry Coverdale* v. 27 Remember to . . . keep your bridle hand low. 1652 *WADSWORTH tr. Sandoval's Civ. Wars Spain* 139 One Calahorra, and with him a 'Bridle-maker. 1876 *GROTE Eth. Fragn.* v. 136 The end of the bridle-maker is subservient to that of the horseman. 1811 *Nat. Hist. in Ann. Reg.* 470/2 The only roads . . . are narrow 'bridle-paths winding through the recesses of the mountains. 1881 *GREENE Gun* 263 Unscrew the 'bridle-pins and remove the bridle. 1834 *MARRYAT N. Forster* xlvii. Two-and-twenty guns besides her 'bridle-ports. 1833 *LYELL Princ. Geol.* III. p. xxvii. Rocks, which are seen to the left of a small 'bridle-road. 1868 *G. DUFF Pol. Surv.* 53 The bridle roads across the mountains . . . are quite enough for camels and mules. 1760 *Chron. in Ann. Reg.* 67/2 Was finally determined . . . the cause . . . concerning the legality of a carriage and 'bride way through the park.

Bridle (brīd'ld), *v.* Forms: 1 *bridlian*, 2-3 *bridlienn* (*Orm.*), 3 *bridlen*, 4 *bridele*, *brydelen*, 5 *brydelle*, *brydelyn*, *brydyl*, 5-6 *brydel*, 6 *bridill*, *brydell*, *brydil*, *brydle*, 6-7 *bridel*, 5- *bridle*. [OE. *brīdlian*, *gebrīdlian*, *f. brīdel*, *BRIDLE*. Cf. OHG. *brittolōn*, MHG. *britteln*.]

1. *trans.* To put a bridle on (a horse), to furnish with a bridle; also (*obs.*), to guide or control with a bridle.

1393 *GOWER Conf.* I. 110 Som prick her horse aside, And bridlen hem now in now oute. c. 1440 *Prompt. Parv.* 50 *Brydelyn, freno.* 1530 *PALSGR.* 930 To bridel, *brider*. 1833 *Regul. Instr. Cavalry* I. 42 The Recruits are to be taught to saddle and bridle.

b. To furnish with a bridle in other senses.

1758 *J. S. Le Dran's Observ. Surg.* (1771) 332 The Membranes which cover the Muscles, and might bridle that Part of the Wound. c. 1838 *C. BATHURST Nets* 34 A net is bridled at its four outer margins when it is desirable to keep the meshes square. 1853 *BRUSHFIELD Obsol. Punishm.* 13 She [a scold] was ordered to be bridled and to be led through the town.

2. *fig.* To curb, check, restrain, hold in.

c. 888 *K. ALFRED Boeth.* xxi. Brīdla þe he þa geseafta nu mid gebrīdode hæfþ. c. 1200 *ORMIN* 1664 Some is þe bodig brīdled. a. 1225 *Ancr. R.* 74 3if eni . . . ne brīdled nout his tunge. 1382 *Wyclif Isa.* xlviii. 9 In my preissing I shal brīdele thee, lest thou die. 1548 *UDALL Eras.* *Par. Pref.* 6 Also to bridle the insolence. 1634 *MILTON Comus* 887 Rise, rise . . . And bridle in thy headlong wave. 1713 *Young Last Day* I. 274 He bridles in the monsters of the deep. 1725

Dz. Fox Voy. round World (1840) 41, I bridled my passion with all my power. 1756 *C. LUCAS Ess. Waters* II. 145 How is the action of iron bridled by sulphur? 1807 *HALLAM Const. Hist.* (1876) III. 64 To bridle the clergy. 1878 *Bosw. Smith Carthage* 397 Scipio bridled his indignation.

b. In military sense: To hold in check, control.

1615 *E. GRIMSTONE Hist. World* 86 They are bridled of all sides . . . by a great number of strong places. 1690 *LUTTRELL Brief Rel.* (1857) II. 105 Fortifying Thonon, a small place on the lake of Geneva, which will bridle that city. 1761 *HUME Hist. Eng.* III. lv. 99 Forts were erected in order to bridle Rochelle. 1876 *GREEN Short Hist.* II. § 6 (1882) 85 Scotland . . . was bridled by the erection of a strong fortress at Newcastle-upon-Tyne.

3. To throw up the head and draw in the chin, (as a horse does when reined in), expressing pride, vanity, or resentment; to assume a dignified or offended air or manner:

† a. *trans.* and *refl.* *Obs.*

c. 1280 *Ragman Roll* 129 in *Hazl. E. P. P.* 75 Ful feire brydelyn ye your countenance, And properly unto the breast adowne. 1606 *DAY Ile of Gulls* II. iv. (1881) 52 Then doe I bridle my head like a mait-horse. 1752 *FIELDING Amelia* Wks. (1775) X. 303 'Is she,' said my aunt, bridling herself, 'fit to decide between us?'

b. *intr.* (See *BRIDLING* *vbl. sb.* 3.)

c. 1460 *J. RUSSELL Bk. Nurture in Babes* Bk. (1868) 135 Brydelynge with breast vpon your cawes. c. 1550 *Jack Jugler* in *Hazl. Dodley* II. 117 She minceth, she bridleth, she swimmeth to and fro. 1706 *Reflex. upon Riddula*, 89 Whenever you tell her she is handsome, she bridles. 1748 *Mrs. DEWEES in Mrs. Delaney's Corr.* (1801) II. 485 Pauline . . . bridles very well. 1807 *ORR Lect. Art* IV. (1848) 330 Smirking damsels . . . haunting and bridling in all the tawdry dresses and fashionable airs of the time. 1876 *MISS BRADDOCK J. Haggard's Dau.* II. 87 The spinsters bridled, taking this as in somewise a personal affront.

† c. Formerly also *To bridle it.* *Obs.*

1590 *R. HARVEY Pl. Perc.* 18 You shal haue a lame Iade, bridle, and brag it vp and downe Smithfield . . . as though hee could stand on no ground for lustines. 1624 *Br. M. SMYTH Sermon* 172 Shall we bridle it or bristle it against him? d. Now commonly *To bridle up* (*occas. back.*)

1748 *SMOLLETT Rod. Rand.* (1812) I. 343 She . . . bridled up, assumed an air of disdain. 1759 *GOLDSM. Bee* No. 5 *Reverie*, She instantly bridles up and feels the force of the well-timed flattery. 1760-2 — *Cit. World* lxxvi. Sometimes she . . . would bridle back, in order to inspire us with respect as well as tenderness. 1840 *DICKENS Old C. Shop* (C. D. ed.) 19 Everybody bridled up at this remark.

† f. *To bridle upon* (a thing).

1748 *RICHARDSON Clarissa* (1811) II. xviii. 119, I can not indeed but say, bridling upon it, that I have heard famous scholars often and often say very silly things. 1754 — *Grandison* IV. xv. 110 She took to herself, and bridled upon it, the praises and graces this adroit manager gave her.

Bridle-bit. The bit or mouth-piece of a bridle. Hence † *bridle-bitter*, a maker of bridle-bits.

[c. 1440 *Prompt. Parv.* 37 Bytt of a brydylle, *lupatum*.] c. 1500 *Cochle Lorriles* B. (1843) 9 Brydel bytters, blacke smythes, and ferrares. 1535 *COVERDALE 2 Kings* xix. 28 Therefore wyll I put a ryng in thy nose, and a brydle bytt in thy lippes. 1640 *HABINGTON Hist. Edw. IV.* 178 Able to buy the Spurres and Bridle-bits in his Campe. 1808-41 *TYTLER Hist. Scot.* (1864) I. 189 note, Amid a heap of chaff and dust, lay several human bones, along with a large and powerful bridle-bit.

Bridled (brīd'ld), *ppl. a.* [f. *BRIDLE* *v.* + -ED.] Furnished or equipped with a bridle, in various senses; curbed, restrained, controlled.

c. 1385 *CHAUCER L. G. W.* 1112 This nas courser well ybridled none. c. 1400 *MAUNDEV.* xxiii. 253 An hors sadedel and brydled. c. 1430 *Stans Puer ad M.* 33 in *Babes Bk.* (1868) 29 Drink not bridelid for haste ne negligence. 1710 *STERLE Tatler* No. 106 P. 3 A bridled Rage. 1713 *YOUNG Last Day* I. 274 The bridled monsters awful distance keep. 1852 *TUPPER Proverb.* *Philos.* 193 His bridled steed.

Bridleless (brīd'ld'ls), *a.* Also 5 *brydelesse*, *brydiless*, 6 *brideleas*. [f. *BRIDLE* *sb.* + -LESS.] Without a bridle (said of the steed or rider); *fig.* unbridled, unchecked, unrestrained.

1406 *OCCEVLE Misrule* 78 Foorth ther with he renneþ brydiless. 1555 *PHILPOT Apol.* in *Styrpe Eccl. Mem.* III. II. App. xlviii. 153 Ashamed of their brideles, blasphemous tongues. 1802 *SOUTHEY Thalaba* VI. Away went the bridleless steed. 1878 *Bosw. Smith Carthage* 216 The bridleless Numidian cavalry.

Bridler (brīd'ldr), [f. *BRIDLE* *v.* + -ER.]

1. One who bridges, restrains, or controls.

1563-87 *FOX A. & M.* (1596) 395/2 The greatest brideler of the popes usurped power. 1611 *COTGR.*, *Bridoye*, a goose-bridler (a nickname for a Lawyer). 1641 *MILTON Ch. Govt.* vii. Wks. (1851) 135 The only bridlers of schisme. 1877 *BLACKIE Wise Men* 111 The tamer of tigers, the bridler of bears.

2. A bridle-maker. *Obs. rare.*

1652 *WADSWORTH tr. Sandoval's Civ. Wars Spain* 330 Alonso de Vera, a bridler and one of the . . . Citie officers.

Bridle-rein (brīd'ldr'ēn), [f. *BRIDLE* *sb.* + *REIN*.] A strap or cord attached to the bit, and serving to guide or control the horse; a rein.

1382 *Wyclif Eccles.* xxxiii. 27 3oc and brydil reyne crooken the harde necke. 1552 *HULOET*, *Brydle reine, lorum.* 1800 *SCOTT Abbot xxxvi*, Who but Douglas ought to hold her bridle-rein? 1833 *Regul. Instr. Cavalry* I. 204 Carry the butt under the bridle-reins.

Bridling (brīd'ldin), *vbl. sb.* [f. *BRIDLE* *v.*]

1. The applying of a bridle; curbing, restraining, controlling. † *Bridling cast*: a stirrup glass. c. 1450 *Chaucer's Dreame* 272 The bridling hire hors. 1513 *MORE Rich. III.* (1641) 220 The bridling and punishing of

such as there had misgoverned themselves. 1609 *BAUME & FL. Scornf. Lady* II. 69 Let's have a bridling cast before you go. Fill's a new stoupe. 1664 *tr. Bonet's Merc. Compit.* III. 94 The bridling the fury of the humours. 1817 *G. S. FABER Eight Dissert.* (1845) II. 283 For the purpose of bridling the apprehended refractoriness of subjects. 1833 *Regul. Instr. Cavalry* I. 42 *Bridling*, the Bridoon touching the corners of the mouth.

2. The forming of a 'bridle' to a net.

c. 1838 *C. BATHURST Nets* 34 Bridling is done . . . on a spool a full quarter less in circumference than the one used in the body of the net.

3. The gesture mentioned in *BRIDLE* *v.* 3.

1709 *Tatler* No. 104 P. 1 By her bridling-up I perceived that she expected to be treated hereafter not as Jenny Distaff. 1861 *Mrs. Delaney's Corr.* II. 485 note, One of the first lessons in deportment . . . was to hold up the head on entering a room, and to keep the chin in, which is expressed by 'bridling'. 1851 *HELPS Comp. Solit.* vii. (1874) 122 Without any bridling-up or nonsense of any kind.

Bridling, *ppl. a.* [f. as *prec.* + -ING².] That bridges: in various senses of the verb.

1562 *PHARR Aeneid* x. E. e. j, Almighty mother of gods . . . That . . . lions yokst with brideling bittes. 1579 *J. STUBBS Gaping Gulf* F. j, The best brydle . . . to keepe in proude Fraunce, are the naturally brydeling bands of the sea. 1709 *WORDSW. Even. Walk* 180 He swells his lifted chest and backward flings His bridling neck. 1795 *WOLCOTT (P. Pindar) Pindarian Wks.* 1812 IV. 206 Thy bridling chin of scorn I see.

Bridoon (brīd'ūn), [a. *F. bridon* in same sense, deriv. of *bride* a bridle.]

1. 'The snaffle and rein of a military bridle, which acts independently of the bit, at the pleasure of the rider'. *Stocqueler*.

1753 *CHAMBERS Cycl. Supp.* s.v., A horse never goes so well nor sure with a bridoon, unless he have been first broke to the bit. 1801 *W. FELTON Carriages* II. 156 Harness is frequently made without breeching or bridoon. 1833 *Regul. Instr. Cavalry* I. 41 The use of the Bridoon, or Snaffle-Bridle.

2. *Comb.*, as *bridoon-bit*, -*bridle*, -*chain*, etc.

1801 *W. FELTON Carriages* II. 146 The 'Bridoon Bit, an additional bit . . . with a ring at each end for the reins to be fastened to. *Ibid.* *Gloss.*, 'Bridoon Chain, or Link, small ornaments, through which the bridoon reins run. *Ibid.* II. 141 The 'Bridoon-Head, or Rein, is an additional bridle with a bearing-rein. 1806 *J. GRANT Black Drag.* xxxv. Every man . . . grasped the 'bridoon rein near the ring.

Bridulle, -*dyl*(le), *obs. forms of BRIDLE.*

Brieche, *obs. form of BREECH.*

Brief (brīf), *sb.* Forms: 3-5 *bref*, 4-5 *brefe*, 4, 7 *breof*, 5 *breyfe*, 6-7 *breofe*, *briefe*, 7 *breif*, *Sr. brife*, 6- *brief*. [ME. *bref*, a. OF. *bref* (12th c. *brief*):—L. *breue* 'letter, dispatch, note', in late cl. L. 'short catalogue, summary', neuter of *brevis* 'short'. From official Latin the word entered at an early period into all the Teutonic langs. Cf. ON. *bréf* (found c. 1015), Sw. *bref*, Da. *brev*, OS., OFris. *brēf* (Du. *brief*), OHG. *brīof* (9th c.; MHG., mod.G. *brief*); but it is not recorded in OE., and appears to have entered early ME. from French. Here also it has remained more distinctly an official or legal word, and has not the general sense 'letter', which it has acquired in continental Teutonic.]

Of uncertain sense:

a. 1225 *Ancr. R.* 122 note (MS. C.) To settin wordis o bref. I. A letter of authority.

† 1. A writing issued by official or legal authority; a royal letter or mandate; a writ, a summons. (Translating L. *breve* and AFr. *bref* in various legal meanings.) *Obs.*

[1225 *BRITTON* I. i. § 4 Solum ceo ge nous les maunderoms par nos brefs [as we shall authorize by our writs]. 1230 *R. BRUNNE Chron.* 237 Edward sent his brefs to Leulyn for his land. c. 1245 *Seven Sag.* (P.) 3003 Over alle his lond bys bref was sente To ase[m]len a comyn parliament. 1262 *ELSING Debates Ho. Lords* (1870) App. 133 A brefs touching gold and silver thred read. 1642 *Termes de la Ley* 43 Briefe signifies . . . the proces that issues out of the Chauncery or other Courts, commanding the Sherife to summon or attach A. to answer to the suit of B. etc., but more largely it is taken for any precept of the King in writing under seal, issuing out of any Court. 1802 *GUNTON in Macm. Mag.* XLV. 450 In 1533, he was made Clerk of the Briefs in the Star Chamber.

2. A letter of the pope to an individual or a religious community upon matters of discipline. It differs from a *bull* in being less ample and solemn, and in the form in which it is written. More fully called *apostolical* or *papal brief*.

c. 1460 *Towneley Myst.* 127 *Nuncius*, And, lo sirs, if ye throw not me Ye rede this brefs. 1579 *FENTON Guicciard.* (1618) 30 The Pope . . . renoioyned him eftsoones by another Briefe, the selfe same things. 1606 *True & Perf. Relat.* Y iv a, The receiving of two Brieues or Bulls from the Pope. 1770 *Lond. Gas.* No. 4678/1 The Pope has at last given the Brief of the Cruciata to the King of Spain. 1800 *Mrs. JAMESON Leg. Monast. Ord.* (1863) 361 Dominick, armed with the papal brief, hastened thither. 1868 *W. CARR-WRIGHT in News of World* 29 Mar., A Brief . . . has but the Pope's name at the beginning—'Pius Papa IX.'—is signed by the Cardinal Secretary of Briefs, bears date from the Nativity, and is written in modern letters upon soft white parchment.

† b. A letter of credentials given to mendicant friars and the like. *Obs.*

1377 LANGE P. PL. B. xx. 325 The Frere... cam... to be bisshop & his brief [C. xxiii. 327 brief] hadde In contrees here he come in confessions to here.

c. dial. A begging petition.

1764 J. COLLIER (T. Bobbin) *Let. to R. W.* in Wks. (1862) Intro. 23 Pray advise... whether, I should not have a brief [on the death of a mare]. 1879 Miss JACKSON *Shropshire Word-bk.* (E. D. S.) *Brief*, a writing setting forth the circumstances by which a poor person has incurred loss, as by fire, the death of a horse, cow, etc. Such a one takes the brief about to collect money for his indemnification.

3. A letter patent issued by the sovereign as Head of the Church, licensing a collection in the churches throughout England for a specified object of charity; called also a *Church Brief* or *King's Letter*. *Obs.* in practice.

1588 *Marprel. Epist.* 33 Spent thirteene score pounds in distributing briefs for a gathering towards the erecting of a Colledge. 1661 *PRYRS Diary* 30 June, To church, where we observe the trade of briefs is come now up to so constant a course every Sunday, that we resolve to give no more to them. 1781 *COWPER Charity* 469 The brief proclaimed, it visits every burn, But first the squire's, a compliment but due. 1880 *SOUTHEY Lett.* (1856) III. 193 A wooden thing... such as the churchwardens carry about in the church to collect money for a brief. 1836 *Penny Cycl.* V. 420/2 A brief was issued, in 1835, to increase the funds of the 'Society for the propagation of the Gospel in foreign parts'.

† II. 4. A letter, dispatch, note. *Obs.*

1400 *Dest. Troy* 794 And þan ho broght hym a bref all of brode letres, þat was comly by crafte a clerke for to rede. 1572 *GASCOIGNE Fruits of Warre* (1831) 214 She sent a brief unto me by hir mayde. 1596 SHAKS. 1 *Hen. IV.* iv. 1. Hie, good Sir Michell, beare this sealed Briefe With... haste, to the lord marshall. 1693 C. STAPYLTON *Herodian* xvii. 144 When this Briefe was to the Persians born They... flatly doe their message hold in scorn.

b. Writing, something written.

1450 *LONGELICH Grael* xxxi. 265 And the Briefs that on the schipe weres set, Signefith holy Scripture with-owten let. 1866 *BURNS Answ. Poet. Epist.* iii, King David, o' poetic brief, Wrocht 'mang the lasses sic mischief.

III. Something abbreviated.

† 5. A short statement or account of something that is, or might be, more fully treated; an abridgement, epitome, abstract, summary. *Obs.*

1563 *MAN Musculi Comm. pl.* 34 b, A certain brief of those commandmentes [summa quadam eorum preceptorum]. 1589 *NASHE Anat. Absurditie* 5 A survey of their follie, a brief of their barbarisme. 1645 *PAGITT Heresiogr.* (1647) Biiij b, The Creed being a brief of the Gospel. 1691 T. H[ARLE] *Acc. New Invent.* 86 A Brief of the Controversie.

† b. fig.

1595 SHAKS. *John* II. i. 103 The hand of time, Shall draw this breefe into as huge a volume. a 1623 *OVERBURY A Wife* (1638) 44 Each woman is a briefe of Womankind.

† c. abstr. Small compass; reduced size.

1572 *GASCOIGNE Fruits of Warre* xcxi, Brought into such brief.

† d. A device, a motto.

1594 *NASHE Unfort. Trav.* 52 With this briefe, *Qui insid. dent egens*.

† 6. A list, catalogue; an invoice, memorandum. 1590 SHAKS. *Mids. N. v.* i. 42 There is a breefe how many sports are rife. 1601 F. TATE *Househ. Ord. Edu.* II. i. 10 (1876) 10 He shal make a briefe every day of the parcels of al manner of things delivered & spent. *Ibid.* § 47. 28 Therof answers daily at the briefs to the clark of the botery. 1753 *CHAMBERS Cycl. Suppl.* s.v., Briefs of the dead, *Brevia mortuorum*, were letters sent by the monks of one monastery to those of another... to inform them of the deaths or obits of their monks. 1849 *Rock Ch. of Fathers* II. vii. 380 The Death-bill, called by some the Mortuary-Roll or Brief.

7. Law. A summary of the facts of a case, with reference to the points of law supposed to be applicable to them, drawn up for the instruction of counsel conducting the case in court. *To hold a brief*: to be retained as counsel in a case, to argue a point for; *To take a brief*: to accept the conduct of a case.

1623 *Star Chamber Cases* (1886) 39 To print or write breifes of a cause before the hearing... is to be accounted scandalous. 1709 *STEELE Teller* No. 186 F 3 The young Fellow... seemed to hold his Brief in his Hand rather to help his Action. 1795 *GIBSON Autobiog.* 108, I spoke as a lawyer from my brief. 1866 *DISRAELI Viv. Grey* III. viii. 128 It is the first day of the Assize, so there is some chance of a brief. 1869 *SKELEY Ess. & Lect.* i. 7 Ready as Cicero showed himself to take... a brief... from accused and guilty governors.

IV. Something brief or short.

† 8. Music. A short note; = *BREVE sb.* 2. *Obs.* 1460 *Towneley Myst.* 116 What was his song? hard ye not how he crakyd it? Three breses to a long. 1594 *BARNFIELD Sheph. Cont.* iii, No Briefes nor Semi-Briefes are in my Songs. 1609 *DOULAND Ornithop. Micro.* 39 A Breefe is a Figure which hath a body foure-square, and wants a taylor. 1658 *COKAINE Fun. Elegie on T. Pilkington*, His life... Death made it be a Briefe; Crotchets he had good store.

† 9. Gram. A short syllable, = *BREVE sb.* 3. *Obs.*

1530 H. RHODES *Bk. Nurture in Babes Bk.* (1868) 71 Corrupt in speeche am I, my breefes from longes to know.

† 10. Cards. A means of cheating at cards. *Obs.*

1680 *COTTON in Singer Hist. Cards* 339 The brief... Take a pack of cards and open them; then take out all the honours... then take the rest and cut a little from the edges of them all alike, by which means the honours will be broader than the rest, so that when your adversary cuts to you, you are certain of an honour; when you cut to your adversary cut at the ends.

11. Comb., as *brief-fed* adj.; *brief-money*, money collected under authority of a brief.

1800 T. MITCHELL *Aristoph.* I. ga The brief-fed spark... In

haste uprises to display his powers of wit and story. 1686 *LADY RUSSELL Lett.* I. xxiv. 88 The disposers of the brief-money met the first time yesterday.

Brief (brif), a., quasi-sb. and adv. Forms: 4-6 *bref*, *bref*, *brefe*, 5-6 *bryef*, *breve*, *breye*, *breyf* (fe, 6-7 *breesfe*, *briesfe*, 7 *breisfe*), 6-*brief*. [ME. *bref*, a. OF. *bref*, fem. *breve* (= Pr., Cat. *bresu*, It., Sp., Pg. *breve*) = L. *brevem*, nom. *brevi*, short. The vowel has been lengthened in Eng., as in *chief*, *relief*, etc.]

A. adj. 1. Of short duration, quickly passing away or ending.

c 1395 E. E. *Allit. P. A.* 268, & busyez þe aboute a raysounn *bref*. c 1400 *Beryn* 871 Goith hymself a begging aſtir in *bref* tyme. 1603 SHAKS. *Meas. for M.* II. ii. 118 Man, proud man, Drest in a little briefe authoritie. 1605 — *Macb.* v. v. 23 Out, out, breefe Candle, Life's but a walking Shadow. 1808 *CARLYLE Misc.* (1857) I. 231 Some brief pure moments of poetic life. 1847 *TENNYSON Princ.* IV. 43 O tell her, brief is life but love is long, And brief the sun of summer in the North, And brief the moon of beauty in the South.

† b. To be brief: to be expeditious or hasty. *Obs.* 1606 SHAKS. *Tr. & Cr.* IV. v. 237 *Achil.* Behold thy fill. *Hect. Nay*, I have done already. *Achil.* Thou art to breefe.

2. Occupying short time in speaking or reading; consisting of few words, short, concise.

c 1380 *Wyclif Wicket Argument*, A verye brefe diffinition of these wordes. c 1430 *Hymns Virg.* (1867) 55 Ihesu, spak wip wordis breue. 1494 *FABIAN* II. xxv. 26 The more partie of wyrters reherce in most breuete or shortest manner. 1547 *Act 1 Edu.* VI. iii. § 16 The Curate [shall]... make... a godly and brieſe exhortation. 1600 SHAKS. *Ham.* II. ii. 548 The Abstracts and breefe Chronicles of the time. a 1680 *BUTLER Rem.* (1759) I. 263 So 'tis in Books the chief Of all Perfections to be plain and brief. 1725 *DE FOE Voy. round World* (1840) 311, I shall give a brief account of it all. 1840 *CARLYLE Heroes* vi. 322 As the brief definition, one might say, etc.

b. To be brief: to speak concisely.

1588 *FRANCOE Lawiers Log.* I. iv. 27 As if a man, meaning to be brief, should promise that he would gallop over all the rest of his text. 1644 *MILTON Educ.* (1738) 135 Brief I shall endeavour to be. 1768-71 H. WALPOLE *Vertue's Anecd. Paint.* (1786) II. 135, I shall be but brief on the circumstances of his life.

c. Curt or abrupt in manner. *rare.*

1828 *SCOTT Hrt. Midl.* xlv. The bearing of the gracious Duncan was brief, bluff, and consequential.

3. Less usually of extent in space: Short, curtailed, limited. (Cf. 1605 in sense 1.)

1668 *CULPEPPER & COLE Barthol. Anat.* II. vi. 97 Contracting the whole Heart in a brief manner. 1844 *SCOTT St. Roman's* vi, Wearing the briefest petticoat of any nymph of St. Roman's. 1863 *HAWTHORNE Old Home, Leamington Spa*, A small play-place, permeated by brief paths.

† 4. fig. Limited, slight, restricted. *Obs.*

1432-30 *tr. Higden* (1865) I. 71 Some men of pover and breue intellecte. 1611 SHAKS. *Cymb.* v. v. 165 Postures, beyond breue Nature.

† 5. Rife; common; prevalent: often used of epidemic diseases. *dial.* (The origin of this sense is not clear: the Shaks. quot. is generally cited as an example, but is by no means certain.)

[1595 SHAKS. *John* IV. iii. 158 A thousand businesses are briefe in hand, And heauen it selfe doth frowne vpon the Land.] 1706 *PHILLIPS, Brief*, rife, or common. 1721-1800 *BAILEY, Brief*, common, or rife. 1848-60 *BARTLETT Dict. Amer.*, *Brief*, rife, common, prevalent. This word is... much used by the uneducated in the interior of New England and in Virginia, when speaking of epidemic diseases. 1879 *SHROPSH. Gloss.*, *Brief*, prevalent, general. 1881 *Leicester Gloss.* (E. D. S.) s.v. 'Colds are very brief this east wind.'

B. quasi-sb.

a. In brief: in few words, shortly, concisely.

With ellipsis of 'to speak': In short, to sum up. 1423 *JAS. I King's Q.* cxvii, Off quich ryght thus hir answere was in *bref*. 1595 SHAKS. *John* II. i. 267 In breefe, we are the King of Englands subjects. 1609 D. ROGERS *Harl. MS.* 1244 ff. 22 A man... published... the matter of y^e plays in breife. 1665 *MILTON P. L.* VI. 171 To whom in brief thus Abdiel stern replid. 1800-24 *CAMPBELL Cherrubs* 29 Ay, and a cut-throat too;—in brief, The greatest scoundrel living. 1833 *Ht. MARTINEAU Fr. Wines & Pol.* II. 21 Charles gave in brief the story of the storm.

† b. The brief, used absol. like the short. *Obs.*

1599 SHAKS. *Hen. V.* III. ii. 126 That's the bref and the long. 1601 — *All's Well* II. iii. 34 'Tis very strange, that is the brefe and the tedious of it. 1602 *Br. BARLOW Sermon.* *Paulus Crosse* 48 The chiefe, and the briefe is this.

C. quasi-adv. a. Shortly, quickly; in few words, concisely. b. In brief.

1557 *NORTH Guesara's Diall Pr.* (1582) 79 b, In this sort I should write vnto thee briefe and touching the purpose. 1592 SHAKS. *Rom. & Jul.* III. iii. 174 It were a grieſe, so brief to part with thee. 1667 *MILTON P. L.* IV. 876 Those two approachd And brief related whom they brought.

b. 1600 SHAKS. *A. Y. L.* IV. iii. 151 Briefe, I recover'd him. 1855 *BROWNING Fra Lippo*, Brief, they made a monk of me.

† **Brief**, v. 1 *Obs.* [f. *BRIEF a.*] *trans.* To shorten, abbreviate, abridge; also with *up*.

1601 R. JOHNSON *Kingd. & Commw.* Ded. ii, Compendiousnes in briefing such variety of matter to so small a volume. a 1655 T. ADAMS *Wks.* (1862) II. 135 (D.) Both thy latitude and extension are briefed up.

Brief (brif), v. 2 [f. *BRIEF sb.*, sense 7.]

1. *trans.* To reduce to the form of a counsel's brief. 1837 *RICHARDSON s.v.*, It is common among English lawyers as, to brief the pleadings.

2. To put (instructions) into the form of a brief to a barrister. Also *fig.*

1864 G. DYCE *Bella Donna* I. 304 Being 'briefed' to Maxwell, they all fell into one common mould. 1872 *LEVER Ld. Kilgobbin* lxixiii. (1875) 397 Instructions which were briefed to him in the case.

3. To give a brief to (a barrister), to instruct by brief; to retain as counsel in a suit.

1868 *TROLLOPE Orley F.*, I never could look a counsel in the face again if I'd neglected to brief him with such facts as these. 1882 *Pall Mall G.* 5 Apr. 2/2 Should his master be briefed in more than one court at the same time. 1883 *Times* 12 Dec. 4 The company have briefed many of the leading men at the Bar in this case.

Briefing (brif-ing), *vbl. sb.* [f. *BRIEF v.* 2 + -ING¹.] The action of writing briefs. Also *attrib.*, as in *briefing-post*, a sort of paper used for briefs.

1865 *Lt. FANU Gay Dev.* II. xx. 211 The paper, with its bluish briefing-post pages, and broad margin. 1869 *Daily News* 14 Aug., [Medical men] who... certify excellent briefing injuries for the use of the plaintiff's advocate.

Briefless (brif-less), a. [f. *BRIEF sb.*, sense 7 + -LESS.] Without a brief; (a barrister) holding no briefs, unemployed.

1844 *SCOTT St. Roman's*, The broad shoulders of a briefless barrister. 1840 *MARRYAT Olla Podr.* (1866) 267 Arthur Ansard at a briefless table. 1860 *DICKENS Uncomm. Trav.* xiv, A few briefless bipeds... called to the Bar by voices of deceiving spirits.

Hence *Brieflessly adv.*, *Brieflessness*.

1842 *Punch* III. 106 The dreary ghost of brieflessness stalk'd up and down the room. 1864 *Cornh. Mag.* Dec. 682 He often has to pass long years of brieflessness.

Briefly (brif-lee), *adv.* [f. *BRIEF a.* + -LY 2.]

1. In a way or form that occupies short time; in few words, shortly, concisely, tersely.

a 1300 *Cursor M.* 120, I sal yow schew wit myn entent, *Brefli* (*Fairf.* shortly) of alþere testament. 1398 *TREVISIA Barth. De P. R.* III. (1495) 48 In the forsayd bokys we haue brought in *brefly* som propyrties of bodylesse substance. 1494 *FABIAN* II. xiv. 29 Gwydo... rehercet moste breuely the pisse tyme of the sayd kyngs. 1508 *Ord. Crysten Men* (W. de W.) II. ii. (1506) 87 Konteynyng y^e x. commandementes ryght *brefly*, ryght clerly, right easely. 1559 *Mirr. Mag.*, *Dk. Clarence* iii, I will declare as *brefly* as I may. 1681 *BAXTER Acc. Sherlocke* v. 193 The judgment... I cannot better and briefier give you, than in the words of the Preface. 1825 *MAURY Phys. Geog.* Sea xix. § 794 Such, briefly stated, are the two theories.

b. Often with ellipsis of 'to speak': In short.

1514 *BARCLAY Cyl. & Uplondyskyn.* (1847) Intro. 70 Briefly, all people of good behavoure. 1598 SHAKS. *Merry W.* I. iii. 47 Briefly: I doe meane to make loue to Fords wife. 1611 *Bible Pref.* 1 Briefly... we sooner compose our differences.

† 2. Within a short time (measured either backward or forward); soon. *Obs.*

c 1340 *Cursor M.* 18199 (*Fairf.*) Tho that so breuely were doune-cast. 1c 1475 *Sgr. Ioue Degre* 873 The kyng him graunted ther to go Upon his journey to and fro, And brefely to passe the sea. 1606 SHAKS. *Ant. & Cl.* IV. iv. 10 *Ant.* Go, put on thy defences. *Evans. Briefly* *Sir*. 1607 — *Cor.* I. vi. 16 'Tis not a mile: briefly we heard their drummes. 1611 — *Cymb.* v. v. 106 Briefly dye thy ioyes, that place them on the truth of Gyrls, and Boyes.

† 3. In an abridged form, in brief. *Obs.*

c 1460-70 *Bk. Quintessence* 1 A treatise in English brevely drawe out of þe booke of quintis essencia. 1521 (*title*) The newe greate abredgement brevely conteynyng al thactes and statutes of this Realme.

† 4. With short (prosodic) quantity. *Obs.*

c 1500 *Partenay* 6582 Als the fensh staffes sillabed be More breueloker and shorter also Then is the english lines vnto see.

Briefman. [f. *BRIEF sb.* 7 + *MAN*.] a. One who makes a brief. b. A copier of a manuscript. 1846 in *WORCESTER*; and other mod. Dicts.

Briefness (brif-ness), [f. *BRIEF a.* + -NESS.]

† 1. The quality or state of being brief; shortness (of time); hence, quickness, celerity. ? *Obs.*

a 1400 *Cov. Myst.* 79 We passe ovyr that, breffnes of tyme consyderynge. 1539 *TONSTALL Sermon. Palm Sund.* (1823) 75 For breffenes of tyme I shal omitt to reherse them. 1605 SHAKS. *Leare* II. i. 20 Briefness, and Fortune worke. 1608 — *Per. v.* II. 15 In feather'd briefness sails are filled.

2. Shortness in speech or writing; brevity; conciseness.

1530 *PALSGR.* 58 The breffnesse that the frenche tong useth in soundynge of theyr wordes. 1548 *UDALL Erasmus. Par. Luke* Pref. 8 For loue of breffnesse. 1569 *GOLDING Heming's Post.* 3 For breffnesse sake I omit. 1618 *BOLTON Florus* 46 To Rdr., A most exact, and studied method of breffnesse. 1811 *Edin. Rev.* XVIII. 287 A style... characterised by a studied breffness and simplicity of diction.

Brier, briar (brī-er, brī-er), *brere* (brī-er),

sb. 1 Forms: 1 *brēr*, *brēr*, 2-3 *brer*, 3-9 *brere*, 4-5 *breyer*, 4-8 *breere*, 5-7 *breer*, 5 *breyr*, 6 *breare*, *breir*, 6-7 *bryer*, 6-8 *bryar*, 6-*brier*, *briar*. [OE.: WS. *brēr*, Angl. *brēr*, of unknown origin. The direct representative of the OE. and ME. word is *brere*, still usual in the dialects, and retained by the poets from Chaucer and Spenser. The rise of the variant *brier* in the 16th c. is not easy to account for, especially as the spelling *bryer* shows that this never rimed with *bier*, *tier*, but with *dier*, *crier*. But the phonetic change was exactly parallel to, and contemporaneous with that of ME. *frere*, *freyre*, to *frier*, *frier*, *FRIAR*. *Briar* is a later variant (cf. *lier*, *liar*), and is now equally common. The word is historically a monosyllable, but poets have often

made two syllables of it, a pronunciation supported by the spelling *brier*.]

1. A prickly, thorny bush or shrub in general; formerly including the bramble, but now usually confined to wild rose bushes.

a. Form *breer* (*breer*, *brear*).

c. 1000 *Agg. Voc.* in *Wt. Wülcker* 269 *Tribulus*, bræmbel-brær. c. 1000 *Saxon Leechd.* II. 96 Brær þe hiran on weaxap. c. 1200 *Ancr. R.* 276 Breres bereð rosen, & berien. 1207 *R. GLOUC.* 331 As þe rose spryng of þe brær. c. 1350 *Will. Palerne* 1809 Blake-beries þat on breres grown. c. 1386 *CHAUCER Knts.* T. 674 Doun in the breres. 1398 *TREVIS Barth. De P. R.* XVII. clii. (1495) 704 An hegge .. of breers, of thornes, and trees made. c. 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 49 Breer, or brymmeyle. 1505-30 *MORRIS De Quat. Novis.* Wks. 74/2 Foregrowen with nettels, breers, and other euil weedes. 1562 *TURNER Herbal* II. 119 The fruite of the breer called an Hep. 1565 *SPENSER Sonn.* xxvi. Sweet is the Rose, but grows upon a breer. 1596 — *F. Q. I. x.* 35 Ragged breeres. 1597 *BP. HALL Sat. vi.* 1. A pipe of oat or breare. 1613 *W. BROWNE Brit. Past.* II. i. (1772) II. 32 'Mong roots, and breers, and thorns. 1747 *W. MASON Musæus*, Ne bush, ne breere, but learnt thy roundelay. 1830 *TENNYSON Poems* 76 They.. from the bloomy breer Call to the fleeing year. 1865 [see 2].

β. Form *brier* (*bryer*).

[a. 1400 *Chester Pl.* 74 A borned weither .. Amonge the bryers tyed is he. c. 1460 *Towneley Myst.* 12 Thystyls and bryer, yei grete plente. 1545 *BRINKLOW Lament.* (1874) 92 Do briers bringe forth figges, and thorns grapes? 1579 *E. K. in Spenser's Sheph. Cal. Feb.*, Arg't., The Oake and the Bryer [1597 brier]. 1611 *BIBLE Isa.* lv. 13 In stead of the brier shall come vp the Myrtle tree. 1653 *Holcroft Procopius* II. 54 Throwing him among Bryers. 1780 *WATTS Mor. Songs*, Sluggard 3, I passed by his garden, and saw the wild brier. 1776 *ADAM SMITH W. N. I. II. v.* 367 Overgrown with briars and brambles. 1822 *BYRON Werner* III. l. 159 The doubts that rise like briars in our path. 1847 *TENNYSON Princ.* v. 27, I was.. torn with briars.

γ. Form *briar* (*bryar*).

1554 *HULOET, Bryar*.. a lytle or yonge bryer. 1601 *SHAKS. All's Well* iv. 32 Summer, When Briars shall haue leaues as well as thornes, And be as sweet as sharpe. 1711 *AUDISON Spect.* No. 56 P. 3 He walked through Briars and Brambles. 1820 *SOUTHEY Kehama* xiv. v. Nor weeds nor briars deform'd the natural floor. 1663 *STANLEY Jew.* Ch. xv. 349 The Briar, the Bramble, the Thorn that crept along the barren side of the mountain.

b. *techn.* The stock or stem of a wild rose, on which a garden rose is grafted.

1574 *HELLOWES Guevara's Ep.* (1577) 125 Honour is loyned to vertue as y^e bryer is to the rose. 1858 *GLENNY Gard. Everyday Bt.* 213/2 Roses worked on Briars are very apt to lose by the growth of the stock.

c. With qualifications: *Sweet Brier*, a species of wild rose (*R. rubiginosa*) with fragrant leaves and shoots; *Austrian Brier* (*R. lutea*), a climbing yellow rose; also *Green Brier* (*Smilax rotundifolia*); *Sensitive Brier*, the genus *Schrankia*.

1596 *SPENSER F. Q. III. xi.* 36 A sweet breare. 1606 *BACON Sylva* § 562 There is also upon Sweet, or other Bryer, a fine Tuft.. of Moss. 1798 *THOMSON Spring* 105 The verdant maze Of sweet briar hedges. 1861 *DELAUNE Fl. Gard.* 138 As yet, a double Austrian briar is a desideratum. 1886 *Garden* 27 May 373/1 Austrian Copper Brier is arranged in a low silver-gilt cup with small twigs of Sweet Brier.

2. Brier-bushes collectively.

c. 1340 *Cursor M.* 924 (Fairt.) Brere [Cott. brembel] and bernes hit sal þe jilde. 1382 *WYCLIF Hosea* x. 8 Cloote and breere shal stye on the auters of hem. 1590 *SHAKS. Mids. N. III. i.* 110 Through bogge, through bush, through brake, through bryer. 1821 *SHILLLEY Adonais* xviii. Build their mossy homes in field and breer. 1865 *S. EVANS Bro. Fabian's MS.* 59 They dolve a grave.. And covered it with breer.

3. a. A branch or twig of a brier. † b. A thorn of a brier (*obs.*).

1393 *LANGL. P. Pl. C.* VII. 402 Hit hadde be wexed with a wips of breres. a. 1400 *Rom. Ros.* 838 Hir flesh so tendre, That with a breere smale and slendre Men myght it cleve. a. 1674 *CLARENDON Hist. Reb.* (1702) I. Pref. 7 A Crown of Briars and Thorns. 1818 *BYRON Beppo* iv. Walk about begit with briars.

4. *fig. (pl.)* Troubles, difficulties, vexations: in modern use with conscious reference to the literal sense. Hence † *To leave in the briars*, *be in the briars*, *get out of the briars* (all *obs.*).

1509 *HAWES Examp. Virt.* xiv. 208 Fatal brerys whiche be contraryous. 1526 *Pilgr. Perf.* (W. de W. 1531) 12 b. The bryers and perylles of this worlde. 1563 *FOXE A. & M.* I. 208/1 Leaving the Bishops, and such others, in the Briars. 1575 *CHURCHYARD Chippes* (1817) 95 Now is hee free, that happeth in the breeres. 1623 *SANDERSON Sermon.* (1681) I. 133 Helping a great offender out of the bryars. 1674 *EARL KINCARDIN in Lauderd. Papers* (1885) III. xiv. 75 Wee.. were glade to get out of the briars at that rate. 1770 *Monthly Rev.* 35 The Netherlands.. had freed themselves from the Romish briars. 1794 *BLAKE Songs Exper., Gard. Love* 12 Priests.. binding with briars my joys and desires.

5. *attrib. and Comb.*, as *brier-ball*, *-berry*, *-bush*, *-flower*, *-leaf*, *-stalk*; † *brier-bell*, the bedeguar of the wild rose; *brier-coal*, † charcoal made of twigs, etc.; † *brier-crook*, an implement for removing briars; *brier-rose*, *brier-tree*, the Dog-rose.

1604 *W. WESTMACOTT Script. Herb.* 30 'Briar-balls dried and powdered. 1728 *BRADLEY Dict. Bot.* s.v. *Cynasbatos*, This Rose is apt to bring now and then.. a 'Bryar-Bell, or a Spongiola, which is a Bunch of Threds, of a red Colour. 1606 *BACON Sylva* § 577 The latest [Fruits] are.. Grapes, Nuts, Quinces, Almonds, Sloes, 'Brier-berries. 1562 *TURNER Herbal* II. 118 b. Of the 'Brere bushe or Hep tre or Brere tre, *Rubus canis*. 1891 *PERCIVALL Sp. Dict.*, *Carcal*, a

brier bush, *Rubetum*. 1606 *BACON Sylva* § 775 Small-coal or 'Briar-coal poured upon Char coal make them last longer. 1483 *Cath. Angl.* 43 A 'Brerecruke, *falcastrum*. c. 1325 *E. E. Allit. P. B.* 791 Of ble as be 'brere flour. 1766 *WESLEY Trm.* 17 Sept., Applying a 'brier-leaf. 1810 *SCOTT Lady of L.* I. xi. The 'brier-rose fell in streamers green. 1870 *MORRIS Earthly Par.* L. II. 481 The briar-rose, Rustling outside within the flowery close. 1882 *Garden* 10 June 411/3 Bouquets of pink Brier Roses. 1664 *CAPT. SMITH Virginia* I. 10 Bring forth a 'bryer stalk.

Brier, *briar* (*brɪər*), *sb.* 2 [Formerly *bruyer*, a. *F. bruyère* heath, erroneously identified with the prec. word.] The White Heath (*Erica arborea*), a native of the south of France, Corsica, etc., the root of which is extensively used for making tobacco-pipes (introduced into England about 1859); also a pipe of this wood. So *Brier-root*, *brier-wood*; *brier-wooder* (*nonce-wd.*), a smoker of a brier pipe.

1868 *Tobacco Trade Rev.* Feb. 8 (*Adv.*) Health pipe: in Bruyer Wood. — Ap. 11 Joseph Izod, Importer of Meer-schaum and Bruyer Pipes. *Ibid.* Brier Wood, Lava, Clay, and China Pipes. 1869 *ibid.* Jan. 9 Briar Pipes. — Mch. 13 The substances used are meer-schaum, briar-root. 1884 *MILLER Plant-m.*, Briar Root of which Pipes are made. *Erica arborea*. 1886 *Harper's Mag.* Dec. 27 There is the ever-ready brier-root pipe loaded with Caporal. 1886 *Tinsley's Mag.* July 53 Yet I hope he is not vulgarer than the briar-wooder. *Mod.* Do you really prefer a brier to a meer-schaum?

† **Brier**, *v.* *Obs. rare*—1. In 7 bryre. [f. *BRIER sb.* 1] *trans.* To catch or annoy like briars.

1601 *WEEVER Mirr. Mart.* Avb. Some way.. was knottie, othersome would bryre me.

Briered, *briared* (*brɪəd*), *pp.* a. [f. *BRIER v.* or *sb.* + *-ED*.] Caught or entangled in briars; bound or covered with briars. Also *fig.*

a. 1554 *HOOPER in Spurgeon Treas. Dav. Ps.* lxxvii. 20 As the shepherd is careful of his entangled and bried sheep. 1708 *C. MATHER Magn. Chr.* II. App. (1852) 183 New England was miserably briared in the perplexities of an Indian war. a. 1823 *BLOOMFIELD Poems* (1845) 50 New-briar'd graves.

Briery, *briary* (*brɪəri*), *a.* [f. *BRIER + -Y*.] 1. Full of or consisting of thorns or briars; brambly, thorny.

1549 *COVERDALE Eras. Par. James* 28 It taketh no rote in a briery place. 1581 *STUDLEY Seneca's Hippolytus* 64 Up and downe the beary Brakes. 1663 *SIR J. BEAUMONT Trans. figur.* in *Farr's S. P.* (1848) 144 By steepe and briery paths ye must ascend. 1748 *RICHARDSON Clarissa* (1811) I. 223 Over briery enclosures. 1846 *KEBLE Lyra Innoc.* (1873) 154 Dews.. glist'ning clear, Tho' their brown or briery screen. 1876 *BLACKMORE Cripps* II. 11 A briary thicket.

2. Of or pertaining to briars. *Obs. rare.*

1593 *NASHE Christ's T.* (1613) 31 Her possessors neuer escape briery scratches.

3. *fig.* Of the nature of briars; vexing.

1604 *F. WRIGHT Passions* I. iii. 11 Those spinie branches of briarie passions. 1648 *EARL WESTMORELAND Olla Sacra* (1879) 41 Choak'd with the Brierie Cares of this world. 1876 *BROCKHOFF Hist. U. S.* II. xxiii. 84 To go forth into the briery and brambly world.

† **Briery**, *briary*, *sb.* *Obs.* [f. *BRIER + -Y*: see *-ERY*.] A place overgrown with briars.

1554 *HULOET, Bryary* or place where bryars growe. 1585 in *Academy* (1882) 25 Mar., Fifty acres of turbary, sixty acres of scrub and briery.

Brieve (*brɪv*), *Scotch Law.* Also 7 *breive*, *briefe*, *brife*. [Another form of *BRIEF sb.*] A writ or precept issued from Chancery in the Sovereign's name, directing trial to be made of certain points specified.

Before the institution of the Court of Session (1532) a *breve* or *briefe* was the prescribed form of Summons issued for any cause; afterwards it was limited to the (Latin) Writ from Chancery addressed to the Judge Ordinary or Sheriff for trial by him and a jury of special questions in which the Court of Session had no original jurisdiction. These Brieves have all fallen into desuetude or been abolished by statute, except in one or two cases (e.g. in the appointment of a tutor-at-law to a minor), where also other forms of proceeding are now usually preferred.

1609 *SKENE Reg. Maj.* 87 Restis to speik of Brieves current, quhilk are pleadable, that is the brieve of distres (or poynding) for debt, the Brieve of convention.. The Brieve of Dissaisine. The Brieve of Protection, and breaking of the Kings peace. The Brieve of Bondage. The Brieve of Warandice. 1868 *Act* 31-32 *Vic. c.* § 101 The Brieves of furiosity and idiotry hitherto in use are hereby abolished.

Brievement, var. of *BREVEMENT. Obs.*

Brig (*brig*). Also 8 *brigg*. [Abbreviation of *BRIGANTINE. Cf. cab, mob, zoo*, etc.] A vessel (a.) originally identical with the *brigantine* (of which word *brig* was a colloquial abbreviation); but, while the full name has remained with the unchanged brigantine, the shortened name has accompanied the modifications which have subsequently been made in rig, so that a *brig* is now

(b.) A vessel with two masts square-rigged like a ship's fore- and main-masts, but carrying also on her main-mast a lower fore-and-aft sail with a gaff and boom.

A brig differs from a *sloop* in having no try-sail mast, and in lowering her gaff to furl the sail. Merchant sloops are often called 'brigs'. This vessel was probably developed from the brigantine by the men-of-war brigs, so as to obtain greater sail-power.

1780 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 5484/4 The Ship Blessing, 50 Tuns Burthen, a Brigg.. belonging to St. Ives in Cornwall. 1753

Scots Mag. Apr. 195/2 Two guarda costa brigs and a sloop of war. 1769 *FALCONER Dict. Marine* (1789) *Brig*, or *Brigantine*, a merchant ship with two masts. It is variously applied, by the mariners of different European nations, to a peculiar sort of vessel of their own marine. 1800 *NELSON Let.* 18 Feb. in *Duncan Life* (1806) 121 The El Corso brig. 1845 *DARWIN Voy. Nat.* I. 1 Her Majesty's ship Beagle, a ten-gun brig.. Sailed from Devonport. 1854 *J. STEPHENS Centr. Amer.* 2 Four ships, three brigs, sundry schooners.

(c.) 'A hermaphrodite brig has a brig's foremast and a schooner's mainmast' (*Dana Bef. the Mast* 1840, Gloss.); = *BRIGANTINE* 3.

2. *Comb.* brig-rigged a., rigged as a brig; brig-schooner, a hermaphrodite brig, or brigantine (*Smyth Sailor's Word-bk.*).

1796 *NELSON in Nicolas Disp.* II. 177 Transports—La bonne Mère, two hundred and fifty tons, Brig-rigged.

Brig, northern form of *BRIDG*.

Brigade (*brigəd*), *sb.* Forms: 7 *brigade*, -do, 7 *briggad*, 7-9 *brigad*, 7- *brigade*. [a. *F. brigade* (15th c.), ad. It. *brigata* 'company, crew, rout of good fellows' (Florio), f. *brigare* to brawl, wrangle, fight, f. late *L. briga* (It., *Pr. briga*, *Fr. brigue*) strife, contention. See *-ADE*. In 17th c. also in the form *brigada*, and improperly *brigado*: see *-ADO*. Milton accented *brigad*, which has been followed by some later poets in the non-technical sense 2 a.]

† 1. A company or 'crew' of people. *Obs.*

a. 1649 *DRUMM. OF HAWTH. Hist. James V.* Wks. (1711) 199 Ye are such a brigade of papists, and antichristian crew. 1650 *HOWELL Revol. Naples* (1664) 117 All that huge Brigade of people.

2. a. *gen.* A large body or division of troops.

a. 1649 *DRUMM. OF HAWTH. Hist. James V.* Wks. (1711) 91 He would.. bring such war-like brigades of French and Germans. 1649 *LILLY Peculiar Prognost.* 6 Some motion of our Armies or stragling Brigades. 1667 *MILTON P. L.* I. 675 Thither wing'd with speed A numerous Brigad hasten'd. 1776 *GIBSON Decl. & F. I.* 16 The peace establishment of Hadrian.. was composed of no less than thirty of these formidable brigades. 1855 *SINGLETON Virgil* II. 208 What kings by war Were roused, what brigades, following each, filled up The campaign.

b. *spec.* A subdivision of an army, consisting formerly of two regiments or squadrons; but the composition now varies in different countries. In the British Army, since its recent reorganization the word is used only in the Artillery, there being at present 2 brigades of the Horse Artillery, and 4 of the Field Artillery. (The Garrison Artillery, on the other hand, consists of 11 'divisions'.)

1637 *MONRO Exped. with Mackay's Regt.* II. 184 Twelve companies thus complete would make up three squadrons.. which.. would make a complete brigad of foote. 1649 *CHARLES I. in Declar. Lords & Comm.* 19 May 31 A party.. who commanded a Brigado. 1645 *CROMWELL Lett. & Sp.* (Carl.) 14 Sept., Colonel Welden, with his brigade, marched to Pile Hill. 1700 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 3832/5 The Duke of Vendosme left.. four Brigades of Foot near the place. 1825 *MACAULAY Hist. Eng.* III. 437 Marlborough, to whom William had confided an English brigade consisting of the best regiments of the old army of James. 1855 *TENNYSON Charge L. Brigade* i. 'Forward, the Light Brigade! Charge for the guns!' he said. 1886 *Whitaker's Alm.* 163 *Field Artillery*; 1st Brigade: Dépôt, Newcastle.

3. A band of persons more or less organized for purposes of fighting, hunting, etc.; also a disciplined band of workers wearing a uniform, e.g. *fire-brigade*, *shoe-black brigade*. *Boys' brigade*, an organization of the boys connected with a church or mission, for purposes of drill and instruction; begun in Glasgow in 1884.

1806 *HUTTON Courtes Math.* I. 219 *note*, A brigade of sappers consists generally of eight men, divided equally into two parties. 1837 *W. IAVING Capt. Bonnaville* I. 166 The rest were organized into three brigades, and sent off in different directions, to subvert themselves by hunting the buffalo. *Ibid.* 30 The various brigades of trappers. 1887 *Chr. Leader* 3 Mar. 134/3 The Boys' Brigade.. Ladytown Free Church, Arbroath, has started a company of this brigade.

4. *Comb. and Attrib.*, as *brigade depot*, *ribbon*; *brigade-major*, a staff officer attached to a brigade, who assists the brigadier in command, and acts as the channel through which orders are issued and reports and correspondence transmitted.

1820 *WELLINGTON Let.* in *Gurw. Disp.* V. 598 A Brigade Major appears to me to be a necessary appointment in Cadiz. 1844 *Regul. & Ord. Army* 59 The Brigade, Major, or an orderly Adjutant, is to be constantly in the Lines of the Camp of the Brigade. 1873 *Ibid.* § 5 Brigade depots are.. to be inspected.

Brigade (*brigəd*), *v.* [f. *prec.*]

1. *trans.* To form into a brigade or brigades; to join (a regiment or other body of troops) with others so as to form a brigade.

1805 *Ann. Rev.* III. 240 A shire is too large a division for brigading together the resident men in arms. 1837 *Blackw. Mag.* XLI. 37 The firemen.. have been combined into one body—'brigaded', as the rather affected phrase is. 1896 *N. Amer. Rev.* CXXVI. 85 My regiment was brigaded with the Sixth, Seventh, and Eighth Regiments.

2. *loosely.* To form (people) as if into a brigade; to combine, associate.

a. 1859 *Dx QUINCEY Whiggism* Wks. VI. 100 Brigaded with so many scowling republicans are to be found.. nearly

one-half of our aristocracy. 1878 LADY HERBERT tr. *Habner's Ramble* II. iii. 537 Men, who were brigaded, and always ready to trouble the public.

Brigadier (brigadiër). Also 7 brigadeers. [1a. Fr. *brigadier* (not in Cotgr. 1611), f. *brigade*: see above.]

1. More correctly **Brigadier-General**: A military officer in command of a brigade; the status ranks between a major-general and a colonel, but is only local or temporary, being generally held by the senior colonel of the regiments or battalions brigaded together.

1678 Sir C. LYTTELTON in *Hatton Corr.* (1878) 162 It shall not rest upon him if I be not made a brigadeer. 1690 *Land. Gas.* No. 2573/4 His Majesty sent Monsieur de la Meloniere, Brigadier-General, with 5 Regiments. 1703 *Ibid.* 3916/1 He has appointed 4 Brigadiers General. 1809 WELLINGTON *Let.* in *Gurw. Disp.* IV. 484, I appointed Colonel Low to be a Brigadier General. 1844 *Regul. & Ord.* Army 3 Officers serving on the Staff in the capacity of Brigadier-Generals are to take Rank from their Commissions as Colonels in the Army, not from the dates of their appointments as Brigadiers.

† 2. **Brigadier-wig**: see quot. *Obs.*

1770 J. GRANGER'S *Let.* (1805) 280 A full wig tied back in one curl is a Major, in two curls is a Brigadier. 1778 GRAVES *Spirit. Quix.* III. xiii. (D.) A man... in a brigadier wig and grave habit. 1818 SCOTT *Hrt. Midl.* II. He... pushed back his brigadier wig.

Brigadiership. [f. **BRIGADIER** + -SHIP.] The rank or office of a brigadier.

1806 MISS MITTFORD *Village Ser.* II. (1863) 337 The good Colonel—be upon me to forget his brigadiership!—the good General. 1861 W. SARGENT *André* 450 Arnold also got a brigadiership from the English.

Brigading (brigād'ing), *vbl. sb.* [f. **BRIGADE** v. + -ING.] The action of forming into brigades.

1815 WELLINGTON *Let.* in *Gurw. Disp.* XII. 391, I have delayed the brigading of the cavalry. 18... LANDOR *Wks.* (1868) II. 61 Angels are not promoted by brigading with sappers and miners. 1870 *Fall Mall G.* 22 Oct. 12 Paris... is busy with the goose step, marching, counter-marching, and brigading.

Brigado, obs. form of **BRIGADE**.

† **Brigancy**. *Sc. Obs. rare*—1. [f. *brigan*, **BRIGAND**: see -ACT, -CY.] Violence; brigandage.

1513 in *Pitcairn Crim. Trials* I. 91 For common Oppression of the lieges, common Brigancie, etc. 1584 *Sc. Acts Jas. VI* (1814) 305 (JAM.) Be way of hame sukkin, brigancie and forthocht felony.

Brigand (brigānd). Forms: 4 bregaund, 5 brigauit, brygaunt, 5-7 brigant, 6 brigane, brygand, 6-8 brigan, 6- brigand. [ME. a. OF. *brigand* (14th c. in Littré) = Pr. *bregan* irregular soldier; prob. ad. It. *brigante*, of which the primary meaning might be 'skirmisher', f. *brigare*: see **BRIGUE** v. and **BRIGADE**. It occurs in med.L. in 14th c. in the forms *briganti*, *brigantii*, *brigantini*, *brigantes* as the name of 'une maniere de gens d'armes courant et apert, à pié'.]

† 1. A light-armed, irregular foot-soldier. *Obs.*

1a 1400 *Morte Arth.* 206 Thane bowmene of Breayne... Bekerde with bregaundez of ferre in tha laundez. 1460 CAPRAVE *Chron.* 312 The brigantius of the Frensch side took the Kyngis carriage. 1523 LD. BERNERS *Fróis.* I. xlvii. 66 The duke, entred into Heynalt, . . . and iii. c. speares, besyde the brigantes, came before Quenoy. 1557 PAYNELL *Barclay's Jugurth* 104 More lyke a skyrmishe amonge brygandes and rousers, then of any appointed or ordered batayle. 1795 SOUTHEY *Joan of Arc* x. 250 Archers of unequalled skill, Brigands and pikemen.

2. One who lives by pillage and robbery: a free-booter, bandit; especially a member of one of the gangs of desperadoes infesting the mountainous districts of Italy, Spain, Turkey, etc.

1421 Sir H. LUTTRELL in *Ellis Orig. Lett.* II. 27 I. 85 They ys no steryng of none evyl doers, saf byonde the rivere of Sayne, of certains brigants. c 1489 CAXTON *Sonnes of Aymon* IV. 125 We have slayne soo many theves and brygauntes that I canne not number theym. 1570-87 HOLINSHED *Scot. Chron.* (1806) I. 392 It was taken from him by certain Brigants and robbers. 1695 BLOUNT *Glossogr.* *Brigand*, a Footman armed. In old time when those kind of Souldiers marched, they held all to be good prize, that they could purloin from the people, and thereupon this word now signifies also a Theef, purse-taker, or High-way robber. 1798 A. YOUNG *Trav. France* 154 Those troops of brigands, reported to be formidable. 1841 SPALDING *Italy & St. Isl.* III. 257 The Neapolitan brigands. 1876 FREEMAN *Norm. Cong.* V. xxii. 29 Such names as brigands and murderers are not uncommonly used by established governments to describe those who are in revolt against their authority.

3. *attrib.*

1522 *World & Child* in *Hazl. Dodsley* I. 251 Brigand harness I have beaten to back and to bones. 1816 J. SCOTT *Vie. Paris* (ed. 4) Pref. 19 The wild brigand spirit. 1849 *Autobiog. Beggar Boy* 128 He wore a sailor's dress, with a sort of brigand hat.

Brigand, *v. rare*. [f. the sb.] *passive*: To be attacked by brigands.

1896 *Century Mag.* Apr. 856/1 Here we ought to have been briganded.

Brigandage (brigāndedz). [a. 15th c. F. *brigandage*, f. *brigand*; see prec. and -AGE.]

1. The practice of brigands; highway-robbery, freebooting, pillage; † *concr.* an incursion, depredation by brigands (*obs.*).

1600 HOLLAND *Livy* xxxviii. xlv. 1011 E, A privat brig-

andage and robbery. 1728 MORGAN *Algiers* II. v. 318 The Corsairs of Barbary, have extended their Brigandages even upon the Coasts of Provence. 1826 SCOTT *Quentin D. I.* The brigandage of the Free Companies. 1834 MAHAFFY in *Contemp. Rev.* XLVI. 96 Brigandage... was too often the outcome of shocking tyranny and injustice.

2. Brigands collectively.

1875 MERVILLE *Gen. Hist. Rome* I. (1877) 4 A stronghold for the unsettled brigandage of the country round.

† **Brigander**¹. *Obs.* Forms: 5 bregaunter, -ander, breggandire, brigaunter, 5-6 brygander, -yr, brigander, 6 -inder, bregandier. [f. **BRIGAND**, on some obscure analogy: there is no such form in French.]

1. Body-armour for foot-soldiers; = **BRIGANDINE** 1. 1420 *Test. Ebor.* (1836) I. 397 Unum par de bregaunters, cum tota reliqua armatura mea. 1450 JOHN PASTON *Petit. in Lett.* I. 106 A thousand persones... arrayed in manner of werre, with curesse, brigandiers, jakks, salettes, gleyfes, bowes, etc. 1497 *Will of Symphon* (Somerset Ho.), Pair briganders, paire leg harneys, a paire of gussettes. 1543 GRAFTON *Contn. Harding* 497 The Duke of Buckingham stodee harnessed in olde euell fauoured bryganders. 1611 SPEED *Hist. Gl. Brit.* ix. xviii. (1632) 915 Harnesssed in olde rusty briganders.

2. A soldier wearing a brigander.

1525 LD. BERNERS *Fróis.* II. clix. (clv.) 438 The aragonos shulde serue hym... with ii. hundred speares at their costs and charge, and a thousande crossbowes, and a thousande bregandiers.

† **Brigander**². *App. corrupt* f. **BRIGADIER**.

1647 HAWARD *Crown Rev.* 22 Brigander. Fee, £10. **Brigander**, obs. f. **BERGANDER**, sheldrake.

Brigandesque, *a.* [f. **BRIGAND** sb. + -ESQUE, after *arabesque*, etc.] After the style of a brigand. 1893 *Gd. Words* July 421/2 Now a shepherd would appear with his brigandesque hat.

Brigandess (brigāndēs). *rare*. [f. **BRIGAND** + -ESS.] A female brigand.

1865 MOEMS *Eng. Trav. & It. Brigands*, Here I discovered that five of the band were brigandesses. 1869 *Echo* 6 Feb., Women with black brows and harsh voices—brigandesses by appearance.

Brigandine, *brigantīne* (brigāndīn, tīn). Forms: 5 brigantyn, (bregandyrn, -ardyn), brig-, bryga(undyn)e, (Sc. brikane-, brekane-, -tyn), 5-6 brigandyn, 6 bregendine, (17 brigintine), 6- brigandine, -tine. [Late ME., a. OF. *brigandine* (15th c. in Littré): i.e. armour for a brigand (in the original sense): see -INE.]

1. 'Body armour composed of iron rings or small thin iron plates, sewed upon canvas, linen, or leather, and covered over with similar materials' (Planché *Cycl. Cost.*); orig. worn by foot-soldiers and at first in two halves, hence in early quotes, in plural or as *pair of brigandines*; less strictly perh. = 'coat of mail, corslet'. See **BRIGANDER**.

c 1456 *Eng. Chron.* (Camden) 66 Armed in a peire of brigandynnez. 1465 *Paston Lett.* 99 I. 134, J peyr of Bregandyns kevert with blew fellwet and gylt naile, with legharneys, the vallew of the gown and the bregardyns vij li. 1489 *Acta Dom. Concilii* 132 (JAM.) The said Schir Mongo had the brikantynnes content in the summondiss. 1548 UDALL, etc. *Evassm. Par. Mark* Pref. 4 They haue theyr brigandyn, theyr souldiers girdle. 1567 *Lanc. Wills* II. 86 A payre of bregendines. 1591 GARRARD *Art Warre* 9 The Halberdier, who is armed either with Brigandine or Corslet. 1611 BIBLE *Jer.* xlv. Furbish the speares, and put on the brigandines (Wyclif habiriounis; COVERED, breast-plates; Vulg. *loricis*). 1671 MILTON *Samson* 1120 Put on all thy gorgeous arms, thy helmet And Brigandine of brass, thy broad habergeon. 1808 SCOTT *Marm.* v. ii. Their brigandines, and gorgets light. 1825 — *Talism.* (1854) 337 He had finished adjusting his hauberk and brigandine. 1874 BOUTELL *Arms & Arm.* viii. 146 A brigandine... which is covered over with small iron plates of various forms, and may be called a studded tunic.

2. *attrib.*

1863 J. G. NICHOLS *Herald & Geneal.* June 438 Edward Lyttelton... in a white dress having a peascod-shaped body, probably of brigandine armour.

Brigandine (brigāndīn), *a. rare*. [f. **BRIGAND** + -INE.] After the manner of a brigand.

1832 *Fraser's Mag.* V. 149 Their ominous and brigandine salutation, 'Siste Vntor'.

Brigandin (e), early form of **BRIGANTINE**.

Brigandish (brigāndīsh), *a.* [f. **BRIGAND** sb. + -ISH.] Pertaining to or resembling a brigand. Hence **Brigandishly** *adv.*

1877 *Daily News* 7 July 6/2 To restrain in some degree their brigandish tendencies. *Ibid.* 5/7 His attire is brigandishly picturesque.

Brigandism. [f. **BRIGAND** + -ISM.] The life or practices of brigandage.

1865 MAFFEI *Brigand Life* II. 24 Tempted to throw themselves into the wild vortex of brigandism. 1877 *Daily News* 26 July 5/7 The lovely mountain gorge celebrated in the annals of brigandism.

† **Brigandize**, *sb. Obs. rare*—1. [a. rare F. *brigandise* (anno 1427 in Godef.), f. *brigand*; cf. *merchandise*.] Brigandage.

1609 HOLLAND *Amm. Marcell.* xvii. xi. 94 Better fitted for brigandize than open fight in the field. *Ibid.* xxiii. iii. 221 Men meet for warlike brigandize and robbery.

Brigane, *brigant*, obs. ff. **BRIGAND**.

† **Brigantaille**. *Obs. rare*—1. [f. *brigant*, **BRIGAND**: cf. *bataille*, *canaille*.] Perhaps: The

fighting of irregular troops or free-lances, guerilla warfare; or brigandage, pillage by free companies. 1393 GOWER *Conf.* I. 11 The chirche keie in adventure Of armes and of brigantaille Stood no thing than upon bataille.

Briganted, var. of *briganded*.

1878 HARDWICK *Trad. Lanc.* 13 Briganted, fighting thieves. **Brigantine**¹ (brigāntīn). Forms: 6 brigandyn(e, -tyn), bryg-, 6-7 brigandine, 7 bregantine, 6- brigantine; also 6 bergantine, 6-7 vergantine. [16th c. *brigandyn*, a. F. *brigandin* (now *brigantin*), ad. It. *brigantino* (med.L. *brigantinus* found a 1400), perh. in its orig. sense 'skirmishing vessel': cf. **BRIGADE** and **BRIGAND**. The Spanish is *bergantin*, OSp. *vergantin*: these forms also occur in Eng. writers translating, or compiling, from Spanish sources.]

† 1. *orig.* A small vessel equipped both for sailing and rowing, swifter and more easily manoeuvred than larger ships, and hence employed for purposes of piracy, espionage, reconnoitring, etc., and as an attendant upon larger ships for protection, landing purposes, etc. Used by the seafaring nations of the Mediterranean. (In English only a historical term: Littré gives *brigantin* in this sense, but perh. it is only *Hist.* in French also.) 1525 LD. BERNERS *Fróis.* II. clixi. (clxvii) 498 To saue ourselfe, it is best we sende foremost our lyttel shyppes, called Brigandyns, and let vs tary in the mouthe of the haunyn. 1553 EDEN *Treat. New Ind.* (Arb.) 28 Commanded a foyst and two brigantines to be furnished... which being prepared in the yere of Christ 1492, Columbus departed. 1555 — *Decades W. Ind.* I. II. (Arb.) 70 Owre men... settinge forward with their ores the brigantine. 1580 BARET *Arb.* B 1256 A brigantine or ship sent out to espie. 1611 Cotgr., *Brigantin*, a low, long, and swift Sea-vessel, bigger then the fregat, and lesse then a foist, and hauing some 12 or 13 oares on a side: we call it also a Brigantine. 1690 *Land. Gas.* No. 500/2 An excellent Bregantine of 28 Oars. 1715 *Ibid.* No. 5332/1 Brigantines of 44 Oars and carrying 150 Men each. 1769 FALCONER *Dict. Marine* (1789), *Brigantine*, a small light vessel, navigated by oars and sails; but differing extremely from the vessel known in England by the name of brig or brigantine. 1800 S. ROGERS *Italy, Brides of V.* (1839) 225 The youths were gone in a light brigantine. 18... EDEN *Decades W. Ind.* (Arb.) 108 Two smaule shyppes commonly cauled brigantines or brygantynes. 1848 GAGE *West Ind.* x. (1855) 40 Cortez thinking that place the most convenient to launch his Vergantines.

† 2. Applied (loosely) to various kinds of foreign sailing and rowing vessels, as the galloon, galliot, etc. *Obs. exc.* in poetic or rhetorical use.

1552 HULOET, *Brigantyne*, or lile Barke, or Shyppe. 1579 FENTON *Guicciard.* (1618) 246 Reuictualled Pisa continually with a Gallion and other Brigantines. 1690 *Land. Gas.* No. 2603/1, 24 Galeots or Brigantines, 10 Felucca's.

1748 ANSON *Voy.* I. iv. (ed. 4) 53 The next day but one we spoke with a Portuguese Brigantine. 1769 FALCONER *Dict. Marine* (1789), *Brigantine*, a term variously applied by the mariners of different European nations to a peculiar sort of vessel of their own marine. 1821 LONGF. *Gold. Leg.* v. At Sea, A galley of the Grand Duca, That... Convoys those lazy brigantines Laden with wine and oil from Lucca.

3. A two-masted vessel, carrying square sails on her foremast, which is rigged like a ship's foremast; her main or after-mast is the main-mast of a schooner, and in Falconer's time, like that mast, carried a square topsail: but is now entirely fore-and-aft-rigged.

1695 *Land. Gas.* No. 3175/4 At His Majesty's Yard at Chatham, [was launched] a Brigantine named the *Swift*. 1795 Dr. Fox *Voy. round World* (1840) 53 Resolving... to mast her not as a sloop but as a Brigantine. 1790 BEATSON *Navy & Mil. Mem.* I. 280 The St. Pedro brigantine, belonging to and from Ferrol... was taken by the Ambuscade privateer of London. 1870 ANDERSON *Missions Amer.* Brd. II. xxxv. 314 A brigantine of one hundred and fifty-six tons... built for the especial use of the Micronesian Mission.

Brigantine² var. of **BRIGANDINE**, armour.

† **Brigantiner**. *Obs. rare*—1. [f. **BRIGANTINE**¹ + -ER.] One of the crew of a brigantine.

1555 EDEN *Decades W. Ind.* II. I. (Arb.) 108 They which were in the brygantyne. Ancisus... commaunded... to turne backe ageyne. The brigantiners obeyed and folowed hym.

Brige, obs. form of **BRIGUE**, strife.

Brige, *brigg*, *brigge*, obs. ff. **BRIDGE**.

Bright (brāit), *a.* and *sb.* (*Compar.* brighter, -est.) Forms: 1 beorht, berht, byrht, bryht, 1-3 breht, 2-4 briht, 3-4 briht, 4-5 bryzt, bryht, 4- bright. Also 2-3 briot, 2-4 bright, 3-5 brith, 4 brit, brith(e, brighth, 5 bryth, bryth; *Sc.* 4-6 bryocht, 4- brioht. [Common Teut., though now lost in all the langs. exc. English: OE. *beorht* (:- *berht*) = OS. *berht*, *beraht*, OHG. *beraht*, *beret* (MHG. *berht*), ON. *bjartir*, Goth. *bairhts*:- OTeut. **berhtō*-s, from a stem **berh*:- Aryan *bhrag*-, whence also Skr. *bhrāj*- to shine, and L. *flagrā-re* to blaze, *flamma* flame. The metathesis of *berht* for *berht* occurs already in Lindisf. Gloss.]

A. adj. (In general, the opposite of *dull*.)

1. Shining; emitting, reflecting, or pervaded by much light.

a. said of luminaries.

a 1000 *Metr. Boeth.* xxii. 22 Berhtre þonne se leoma sie sunnan on sumera. a 1000 *Guthlac* 1258 (Gr.) þa cwoom

leohta mæst . . . scinan beorht ofer byrsalu. c 1175 *Lamb. Homilies* 39. Seofeside brihtre bene þa sunne. c 1391 CHAUCER *Astrol.* ii. § 2 The altitude of the Mone, or of brihte sterres. 1513 DOUGLAS *Eneis* iii. Prol. 1 Hornyt Lady, pail Cynthia, nocht brycht. 1556 TINDALE *Rev.* xxii. 16 The bright mornynge starre. 1601 SHAKS. *All's Well* i. i. 97 That I should loue a bright particular starre. 1747 HERVEY *Medit. & Contempl.* (1818) 17 They will shine with brighter beams. . . in their Lord's everlasting kingdom. 1879 LOCKYER *Elem. Astron.* ii. ix. 51 One of the brightest lights that we know of—the lime-light.

b. of polished metals, precious stones, and other objects whose surfaces naturally reflect light. a 1000 *Rood* 66 (Gr.) On beorhtan stane. c 1200 *Bestiary* 71 in O. E. Misc. 3 It maketh his eȝen bryȝt. 1377 LANGR. P. Pl. B. Prol. 168 A belle of brasse Or of bryȝte syluer. c 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 52 Bryghte swerde, splendona. 1556 LYNDESAY *Monarchie* Prol. 152 In habyte gaye and glorious, Brychtar nor gold or stonis precious. 1597 GERRARD *Herbal* i. xl. § 5. 58 Bright Wheate . . . this kinde is fower square, somewhat bright and shining. 1652 *Proc. Parliament* No. 170 A great box of bright new cast bullets. 1723 SHEPHERD (Dk. Buckhm.) *Wks.* (1753) i. 40 Teeth so bright, and breath so sweet. 1802 BINGLEY *Anim. Biog.* (1813) i. 34 The eyes of the amphibia are in general large and bright. 1843 MACAULAY *Horatius* xxi. The long array of helmets bright.

c. of illuminated surfaces, of the day in sunshine, etc.

a 1000 *Elene* 822 (Gr.) In þære beorhtan byrig, þær is broðor min. c 1340 *Cursor M.* 13541 (Fairf.) Wirc . . . quen þe day lastis bryt. c 1470 HENRY WALLACE i. 288 Apon ye morn, quhen yat ye day was brycht. 1556 *Pilgr. Perf.* (W. de W. 1531) 129 Our soule irradiate or made bryght with the lyght of the aungell. 1737 POPE *Hor. Epist.* i. l. 138 The evening bright and still. 1823 MACAULAY *Armada* xxxvi. That time of slumber was as bright and busy as the day. 1871 R. ELLIS *Catullus* viii. 3 Bright once the days and sunny shone the light on thee.

d. of transparent substances: Clear, translucent. 1709 STEELE *Tatler* No. 100 F. Which had purified the whole Body of Air into such a bright transparent Æther, as made every Constellation visible. a 1730 FENTON (J.) While the bright Seine 't exalt the soul With sparkling plenty crowns the bowl. a 1748 THOMSON (J.) From the brightest wines He'd turn abhorrent.

e. fig. Lit up with happiness, gladness, or hope. 1751 JOHNSON *Ramb.* No. 165 F. 3 The brightest hours of prosperity have their clouds. 1835 MOORE *Lalla R. Fire-worshippers*, Bright hours stone for dark ones past. 1871 FREEMAN *Norm. Cong.* (1876) iv. xviii. 193 Chances of deliverance brighter than any that had offered themselves.

† 2. Clear or luminous to the mental perception. a 1000 *Guthlac* 815 (Gr.) Gif þy halges word healdan wolðun beorht in breostum. c 1200 *Trin. Coll. Hom.* 119 Þe holi gost . . . alithe him of brihtre and of festere bileue. 1741 WATTS *Improv. Mind* (J.) He must not proceed too swiftly, that he may with more ease, with brighter evidence, and with surer success, draw the learner on.

3. Of persons: 'Resplendent with charms' (J.); beautiful, fair. *arch.*

c 1250 *Hymn Virg.* 14 in *Trin. Coll. Hom.* 255 Nis non maide . . . swo fair, so schene, so rudi, swo brycht. a 1300 *Havelok* 2131 In his armes his brihte bride. c 1450 *Sir Amadace* lviii. That ladi gente That was so bryȝte of ble. c 1460 in *Babes Bk.* (1868) 15 In chambur among ladyes bryȝth. 1593 SHAKS. *Lucr.* 490 By thy bright beauty was it newly bred. 1605 — *Macb.* iv. iii. 22 Angels are bright still, though the brightest fell. c 1600 *Bessie of Bedual Grene* ii. ii. He had a faire daughter of bewty most bright. 1704 POPE *Windsor F.* 232 Like the bright beauties on thy banks below. 1817 COLERIDGE *Sibyl. Leaves* (1862) 279 A bright lady, surpassingly fair.

4. Of vivid or brilliant colour: used also with names of colour, as *bright red*.

1375 BARBOUR *Bruce* v. 10 The treis begouth to ma Burgeonys and brycht blwmys alsua. 1555-60 STANLEY *Hist. Philos.* (1701) 406/2 The kinds of colour are . . . Ten, Black, White, and the rest between them, Yellow, Tawney, Pale, Red, Blew, Green, Bright, Grey. 1607 DRYDEN *Virg. Georg.* iii. 128 His colour Gray: For beauty dappled, or the brightest Bay. 1704 POPE *Past.*, *Spring* 31 Here the bright crocus and blue violet grew. a 1835 MRS. HEMANS *Better Land*, Strange bright birds, on their starry wings. 1836 HAWTHORNE *Amer. Note-bks.* (1871) i. 20 Wild rose-bushes . . . with their deep, bright-red seed-vessels.

5. Of sounds: † a. Clear, shrill, ringing. b. Said of the mental effect of a note.

a 1000 *Cod. Exon.* 79 b (Bosw.) Sum hafab beorhte stefne. a 1250 *Owl & Night.* 1681 For bope we habbeþ stefne brihte. c 1250 *Gen. & Ex.* 2780 God sente a steune bryȝt and heȝ. 1878 J. CURWEN *Standard Course* 4/2 They are the bold . . . tones of the scale . . . but they differ in the manner of their boldness, one being brighter, another stronger, etc.

6. Illustrious, glorious, splendid. (Lat. *clarus*.)

a 1000 *Ag. Psalter* cxix[i] 6 Biddað eow bealde beorhtere sibbe. a 1340 HAMPOL *Psalter* Metr. Pref. 60 To buske vs to the blysse ful brighth. 1548 UDALL, etc. *Erasm. Par. Matt.* ii. 13 Bright and notable with miracles. 1593 SHAKS. *Lucr.* 1491 Troy had been bright with fame and not with fire. 1660 BARROW *Euclid* (1714) Pref. i. Some of a brighter Genius. a 1689 COTTON (J.) This is the worst, if not the only stain, I 'th' brightest annals of a female reign. 1734 POPE *Ess. Man* iv. 282 The wisest, brightest, meanest of mankind. 1783 WATSON *Philip III.* (1793) i. ii. 232 Exhibited a bright example of the most heroic valour.

7. Lively, cheerful, brilliant or animated in conversation, vivacious; the opposite of *dull*.

1605 SHAKS. *Macb.* iii. ii. 28 Be bright and Iouall among your Guests. 1710 STEELE *Tatler* No. 208 F. 4, I would rather be in his Company than that of the brightest Man I know. 1885 *Manch. Exam.* 15 May 6/1 He turned up to-day as jaunty and bright as a young buck of twenty-five.

8. Of thought, conversation, writings, etc.: Animated with wit or imagination, lively, clever, brilliant, sparkling.

1709 STEELE *Tatler* No. 31 F. 10 You'll certainly print this bright Conversation. 1779 JOHNSON *L. P.*, *Pope* Wks. 1787 iv. 109 If he has brighter paragraphs, he has not better poems. 1858 O. W. HOLMES *Aut. Breakf. T.* ii. 10, I really believe some people save their bright thoughts as being too precious for conversation. 1884 R. W. CHURCH *Bacon* ix. 220 Some bright touch of his incorrigible imaginativeness.

9. Displaying great intelligence; quick-witted, clever. (In standard English used chiefly in speaking of children or one's inferiors.)

1741 WATTS *Improv. Mind* (1801) 24 Before we proceed in finishing a bright character by conversation. 1824 W. IRVING *T. Trav.* i. 203, I began life unluckily by being the wag and bright fellow at school. 1883 GILMOUR *Mongols* xxxii. 367 A few soldiers not of the brightest or bravest type. 1885 *Harper's Mag.* Feb. 385/1 The child will be extra bright. *Mod.* (Ironical) He is a bright specimen!

b. Sharp, keen, watchful.

1840 R. DANA *Bef. Mast* xxxi. 117 We kept a bright lookout—one man at each bow. 1860 *Merc. Mar. Mag.* vii. 41 The look out . . . is not a very 'bright' one.

10. Comb.: chiefly parasynthetic, as *bright-bloomed*, *-cheeked*, *-costumed*, *-eyed*, *-faced*, *-featured*, *-haired*, *-harnessed*, *-headed*, *-studded*, *-witted*, etc.

1556 PHAER *Æneid* ix. C c ij b, Bright-headed Phœbus . . . Beheld . . . bothe Latines hoasts and Trojan fort. 1598 GREENE *Poems* 85 Bright-eyed his Phillis was. 1598 CHAPMAN *Iliad* i. 204 Bright-cheek'd Briseis. 1623 MILTON *Pens.* 23 Bright-haired Vesta. 1786 COWPER *Gratitude* 13 This wheel-footed studying chair . . . Bright-studded to dazzle the eyes. 1827 KEBLE *Chr. Y.*, 25th Sund. aft. Trin. i. The bright-haired morn is glowing. 1850 MRS. BROWNING *Poems* II. 46 Thy little bright-faced son.

B. sb.

1. Brightness, light. *arch.* (poet.) c 1250 *Gen. & Ex.* 143 De sunnes bryȝt, Is more ðanne ðe mones list. c 1374 CHAUCER *Troilus* ii. 815 What is the sunne wors of kynd right, Thogh that a man, for feblenes of eyen, May not endure to se on it for bright? 1508 ROWLANDS *Betray. Christ* 57 O Sunne whose shine is heav'n's eternal bright. 1636 *Ariana* 17 Acknowledging here so much brights and beauties. 1669 MILTON *P. L.* iii. 380 Dark with excessive bright thy skirts appear. 1839 BAILEY *Festus* (1848) 59/2 Others . . . whose forms for utter bright Are indefinable.

† 2. A beautiful woman, a 'fair'. *Obs.*

c 1325 *E. E. Allit. P.* A. 754 Breue me, bryȝt, quat-kyn of prys Berez þe perle so maskellez. c 1470 HENRY WALLACE v. 607 Through bewte of that brycht. c 1505 DUNBAR *Poem*, 'In secret place this hyndir nyght, I hard ane beyrne say till ane bricht.

Bright (brōit), *adv.* Forms: 1 beorhte, 2-4 brihte, briȝte. [from the adj. with adverbial -e, through the loss of which it was, c 1400, levelled with the adj.]

1. = BRIGHTLY.

a 1000 *Beowulf* 3039 Geseah blaene leoman beorhte scinan. a 1000 *Metr. Boeth.* xxxvii. § 2 Ða godan scinað beorht þonne sunne. c 1200 ORMIN 2138 [Hit] swiþe brihtne shineþ. a 1300 *Cursor M.* 8205 Þis angel þat sa bryht(e) scan. 1340 *Aeneb.* 156 Grat nyed þet þe man ȝy bryte ane his left half. c 1385 CHAUCER *L. G. W.* 163, for sekryȝr his face schon so bryhte. 1596 SHAKS. *Mech. V.* v. i. 1 The moone shines bright. 1827 KEBLE *Chr. Year* All Saints vi. The spires that glow so bright. *Ibid.* S. Peter xiv, He dreams he sees a lamp flash bright.

† b. Clearly, ringingly. *Obs.*

a 1250 *Owl & Night.* 1656 Heo . . . song so schille and so brihte.

2. Comb., as *bright-beaming*, *-burning*, *-shining*, *† splendent*. It blends with the adj. in such as *bright-dyed*, *-tinted*, which may be analysed as *bright* (ly) + *tinted*, or *bright tint* + *-ed*. See BRIGHT a. 10.

1588 SHAKS. *Tit. A.* iii. i. 69 That foole hath . . . brought a faggot to bricht burning Troy? c 1590 MARLOWE *Faust.* vii. 47 The . . . situation of bright-splendent Rome. 1593 SHAKS. *Hen. VI.* v. iii. 3 This bright-shining day. 1795 BURNS 'Their groves o' sweet myrtle', Where bright-beaming summers exalt the perfume.

† **Bright**, *v.* *Obs.* [OE. *beorhtian* to shine bright (corresp. to Goth. *bairhtōn*), f. *beorht* bright; the ME. *brighten* (trans.) corresponds to an OE. *brihtian* = Goth. *bairhtjan*; but it may be a transitive extension of the OE. intr. vb.]

1. *intr.* To be bright, shine.

c 890 K. ALFRED *Beda* iii. xix. (Bosw.) Ðær his gear-nunge of miclum mægenum scinab and beorhtigab. a 1000 *Ag. Psalms* cxliiii. 7 pine ligetta leohted and beorhted. c 1425 *Seven Sag.* (P.) 1997 The clerks . . . made ham at ese that nyght, Til on morwen the day bright.

b. Of sound: To be clear, to ring.

a 1000 *Beowulf* 2326 Beorhtode benc-sweȝ.

2. *trans.* To make bright, illumine.

a 800 *Vesp. Ps.* xii. 9 In deȝe onbead dryhten mildheort-nisse his and on naeht ȝebrihte. a 1225 *Ancre R.* 384 Luue, þet schired & brihted þe heorte. c 1400 *Destr. Troy* 815 Rysses the sun, Brightis all the burgh and the brode valis. 1686 GOAD *Celest. Bodies* i. v. 14 He [the Sun] brighteth the Air into a cheerful Saphir.

Bright, bad form of BRITE *v.* *Obs.*

Brighten (brōit'n), *v.* [ME. *brighten-en*, corresp. in form to OE. **beorhtnian*, in Northumbrian *berhtnia*, *geberhtnia* to make bright, f. *beorht* bright. It is possible that the mod. Eng. word is a new formation on *bright*: cf. BRIGHT *v.*]

1. *trans.* To make bright.

[c 950 *Lindisf. Gosp.* John xiii. 32 God ȝeberhtnade hine on hine seolfne.] 1583 STANYHURST *Æneis* ii. (Arb.) 53 Thee

strand flames fyrye doe brighten. a 1700 DRYDEN (J.) As her celestial eyes Adorn the world, and brighten up the skies. 1805 SCOTT *Last Minstr.* ii. xxiv, When the dawn of day Began to brighten Cheviot gray. 1831 CARLYLE *Sart. Res.* iii. vi, Brightening London smoke itself into gold vapour.

b. *fig.*

1597 SHAKS. *2 Hen. IV.* ii. iii. 17 There were two Honors lost . . . For Yours, may heavenly glory brighten it. 1669 MILTON *P. L.* ix. 634 Hope elevates, and joy Bright'ns his crest. 1878 BLACK *Adv. Phæton* xxvi. 354 This sort of talk brightened up the spirits of our party.

2. *intr.* To become bright; to be bright, shine. Often with *up*.

a 1300 *Cursor M.* 9933 Ðat castel brightnes . . . Ouer al þat curt on length and brede. 1704 POPE *Past.*, *Spring* 72 The flowers begin to spring, the skies to brighten. 1768 BEATTIE *Minstr.* i. xxx, The rainbow brightens to the setting sun! 1819 BYRON *Yuan* ii. lxxxix, The boy's eyes . . . Brighten'd. 188. SOUTHEY *Lodore* 58 And whitening and brightening.

b. In various fig. senses (see BRIGHT a.).

1709 POPE *Ess. Crit.* 421 How the style brightens, how the sense refines. 1728 BERKELEY *Alciph.* i. 183 The Man of Rallery . . . shall instantly brighten up, and assume a familiar Air. 1875 JOWETT *Plato* i. 239 He brightens up and is wide awake when Homer is . . . recited.

Brightened, *pp. a.* [f. *prec.*] Made bright.

1795 SOUTHEY *Joan of Arc* vii. 323 Their brighten'd tide.

Brightener, [f. as *prec.* + -ER.] One who or that which brightens.

1796 MISS BURNES *Camilla* ix. viii. The brightener of my every view. 1824 BLACKW. *Mag.* XXXI. 252 The richest brightener of the happiest years.

Brightening (brōit'ning), *vbl. sb.* [see -ING.]

1. The action of making or becoming bright; illumination. *lit.* and *fig.*

1552 HULOTR, *Bryhtnyng*, or brandishyng, *vibratio*. 1674 N. FAIRB. *Bulk & Sch.* 51 The brightning of our Island. 1712 STEELE *Spect.* No. 461 P. 4 Bestow upon it a few Brightnings from your Genius.

2. In various technical uses: see *quots.*

1824 SCOFFERN in *Orr's Circ.* Sc. Chem. 506 The cupelling process . . . may be known to have been continued sufficiently long by a peculiar appearance, termed 'brightening', assumed by the silver bead. 1879 G. GLADSTONE *Calico Printing in Cassell's Techn. Educ.* i. 198/2 Brightening . . . is for the purpose of bringing up the colours to their full brilliance . . . This is attained by passing the goods through a soap bath two or more times. 1882 *Artist* i. Feb. 63/2 A fine pearly grey for brightening or light shading.

Brightening, *pp. a.* [see -ING.] Becoming or making bright. *lit.* and *fig.*

1725 POPE *Odys.* iv. 346 Each bright'ning grace the genuine Greek confessed. 1820 SOUTHEY *Kehama* xxii. xi, A smile Dawn'd in his brightening countenance. 1860 TYNDALL *Glac.* i. § 11. 75 Clear and sharp against the brightening sky. 1884 *Athenæum* i. Mar. 279/3 Brightening prospects.

† **Brightened**, *Obs.* [ME., f. BRIGHT a. + -hede, -HEAD.] = BRIGHTNESS.

a 1340 HAMPOL *Psalter* vi. 4 Þe bryghthed & þe pees of godis light. *Ibid.* xv. 5 Þou restores til þaim þe knawynge of my brighthede.

Brightish (brōit'ish), *a.* [f. BRIGHT a. + -ISH.] Somewhat bright.

1577 DRE *Relat. Spirits* i. (1659) 173 These seem somewhat brightish. 1800 HERSCHEL in *Phil. Trans.* XC. 266 Brightish-green, inclining to white.

Brightly (brōit'li), *adv.* [OE. *beorhtlice*, *brihtlice*, f. *beorht*, BRIGHT + *-lice*, -LY².] In a bright manner; brilliantly, clearly.

c 1000 *Ag. Gosp.* Mark viii. 25 Swa þæt he beorhtlice [1260 *Hatton* brihtlice] eall geseah. a 1225 *Ancre R.* 154 Penne . . . schule 3e al þis brihtlice understonden. *Ibid.* 170 Te brihtluker iseon ine heouene Godes brihte nebahtest. c 1250 *Gen. & Ex.* 3491 Ðo so spac god so bryȝt-like, Ðat alle he it herden. a 1300 *Cursor M.* 3320 A gold ringe þat brihtly schane. 1340 *Aeneb.* 150 Hi ȝyȝeþ brihtliche . . . and al aboute ham. 1597 GOLDING *Dr. Mornay* xv. (1617) 265 Some bright-lyer and some dimlier. 1596 SHAKS. *Mech. V.* v. i. 94 A substitute shines brightly as a King Vntill a King be by. 1725 POPE *Odys.* xiv. 569 Till brightly-dawning shone The Morn. 1863 GEO. ELIOT *Romola* i. xx. (1880) i. 273 A long narrow room, painted brightly like the other. 1882 HOWELLS in *Longm. Mag.* i. 51 The grass is . . . brightly green.

Brightness (brōit'nēs), [OE. *beorhtnes*, *brihtnes*, f. as *prec.* + -NESS.] The quality of being bright; brilliancy, clearness; vivacity, quickness of intellect, etc. (see BRIGHT a.).

c 950 *Lindisf. Gosp.* John v. 40 Brehtnise from monnum ne onfoe ic. c 1000 *Ag. G.* Luke ii. 9 And godes beorhtnes him ymbe-secan. c 1200 *Trin. Coll. Hom.* 13 Six werkes of bricnesse. 1330 R. BRUNNE *Chron.* (1810) 103 A brightnesse com fro heuen. 1413 LYDG. *Pylgr. Soule* v. v. (1859) 76 Sterres . . . casting oute beemes of huge bryghtynes. 1598 SHAKS. *Rom. & Jul.* ii. ii. 19 The brightnesse of her cheekes would shame those starres. a 1721 PRIOR *Solomon* iii. (R.) Vex'd with the present moment's heavy gloom, Why seek we brightnes from the years to come? — (J.) The brightness of his parts . . . distinguished him in an age of great politeness. 1831 RUSKIN *Mod. Paint.* II. iii. v. § 15 Brightness of colour is altogether inadmissible without purity and harmony.

Bright's Disease, *Med.* [f. the name of Dr. R. Bright, whose researches, published in 1827, established the nature of the disease.] 'A generic term including several forms of acute and chronic disease of the kidney usually associated with albumen in the urine' (*Syd. Soc. Lex.*); granular degeneration of the kidneys.

1831 GRAVES in *Lond. Med. Gaz.* Dec., That obstruction of the glandular tissue to which the name of Bright's disease has been attached. 1843 — *Syst. Clin. Med.* xxxiv.

340, I regard albuminous urine as a sign of Bright's kidney.
1866 A. FLINT *Princ. Med.* (1880) 863.

† **Brightshine.** *Obs. rare.* [f. BRIGHT a. + SHINE.] Lustré.

1286 *FURNE Blas. Gentry* 147 The brightshine of all princely virtues. 1618 BAYNE *On Eph.* i. (1643) 33 No more doth the darkness of affliction obscure the bright-shine of this grace toward us.

† **Bright-smith.** *rare.* [f. BRIGHT a. + SMITH.] A worker in 'white' or bright iron and tin.

1831 J. HOLLAND *Manuf. Metals* I. 156 The modern black-smith is distinguished from the whitesmith, or brightsmith, as the latter has sometimes been called.

† **Brightsome.** *a. arch.* [f. BRIGHT a. + -SOME: cf. *gladsome, darksome.*] Partaking of or exhibiting brightness, bright-looking. (A vaguer word than *bright*, leaving more to the imagination.)

1528 *PRATER Eneid* ix. (1560) B b ij, His hie helme... that brightsome beames reflecting shone. 1577 HOLINSHED *Chron.* I. 99/2 Men of so brightsome countenances. 1590 GREENE *Fr. Bacon* vi. 13 As brightsome as the Paramour of Mars. 1633 J. HAYWARD *Banish'd Virg.* 108 The night is yet very brightsome and cleare. 1855 SINGLETON *Virgil* II. 154 Let me strew Their brightsome blossoms.

Hence **Brightsome**ness. *arch.*

1548 HALL *Chron.* (1800) 734 The brightsomenes of the gold. 1849 ROCK *Ch. of Fathers* II. vi. 283 The brightsomenes of the Gospel was dimmed.

† **Brigidian, Briggittin,** var. of BRIDGETIN, *Obs.*

† **Brigidel,** variant of BRECHTIGDEL.

† **Brignole.** *Obs.* [Fr. (in same sense), named from *Brignoles* a town of Provence.] A kind of dried plum. (Littré.)

1721 C. KING *Brit. Merch.* I. 181 Capers, Olives, Brignoles, Parchment, etc.

† **Brigose,** *a. Obs.* [ad. med.L. *brigosus*, f. *briga*: see BRIGUE sb.] = next.

1679 PULLER *Mod. Ch. Eng.* (1843) 206 Which two words, — as conscious that they were very brigose and severe if too generally taken, — therefore he softens, etc.

† **Brigous,** *a. Obs.* [a. AF. **brigous* = OF. *brigeus*, later *brigueux*, med.L. *brigosus*, cf. BRIGUE.] Of or pertaining to strife or disagreement; factious, disputable.

1577 TREVISA *Higden Rolls Ser.* III. 203 De iuges sigh bat be cause was brigous (*duobus*). 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 51 Brygows, or debate-makar, *brigosus*. 1519 NORMAN *Vulg.* 128 Beware of such brygous matters.

† **Briga,** obs. form of BRUGES (satin).

† **Brigue** (*brig*), *sb.* Forms: 4-5 *brige*, *bryge*, *brygge*, *brigge*, 5 (1) *bryke*, 7- *brigue*. [a. F. *brigue* (14th c. in Littré) = med.L. *briga*, It. and Pg. *briga*, Sp. and Pr. *briga*.] Of uncertain origin: see Diez. The word and its derivatives are extensively developed in Italian: see BRIGAND, etc. Adopted in Eng. in the 14-15th c.; then again from modern Fr. about 1700.

† 1. Strife, quarrel, contention. *Obs.*

[1230 cf. BRIKE.] 1386 CHAUCER *Melibeus* 7716 Myne Adversaries han bigonnen this debaat and bryge (*v. r.* *brige*, *brigel*). 1440 *Promp. Parv.*, Bryge or debate, *briga*, *disensio*. 1496 *Dives & Paup.* (W. de W.) iv. xxiv. 102 Yf they passe ther tyme by retchelesnesse or by bryge, the byshop shall ordeyne. 1678 LITTLETON *Lat. Dict.*, A brigue or quarrel. *Lit. contentio* (*briga*).

† 2. Intrigue, faction. [from mod.F.; much used in the first half of the 18th c.] *Obs.* (exc. casually).

1701 *Jura Pop. Anglicani* 29 They must set afoot Factions and Brigues. 1700 OZELL tr. *Vertot's Rom. Rep.* I. iii. 171 The Cabals and Brigues of the Patricians. 1754 HUME *Pol. Disc.* xii. 296 Sufficient to prevent brigue and faction. 1733 *Dial. betw. Swift & Prior* 134 Violent and ill-judg'd Brigues and Feuds. 1867 J. THOMSON *L'anc. Régime* 13 He in recompense got fierce struggle with brigue and plot.

† **Brigue** (*brig*), *v. Obs.* [f. prec., or a. F. *brigue-r* to contend, intrigue for = It. *brigare* to brawl, brabble, strive for. But sense 1 appears to be related to BRIKE: see *Briga*, *brica* in Du Cange; It. *imbrigare* 'to molest, embroil'; also, to entangle, Florio.]

† 1. *trans.* To ensnare, trap, beguile. *Obs.*

1380 WYCLIF *Sel. Wks.* III. 416 Po fende hafs caste his snare for to bryge men. 1387 TREVISA *Higden Rolls Ser.* II. 367 Men were so i-briged (CAXTON begyled) bat pey coupe nougt come out.

† 2. *intr.* To intrigue; to solicit by underhand methods; to canvass. (Chiefly Sc. in 16-18th c.)

1588 A. KING *Canisius' Catech.* 109 Then efteruait nother brigued, or desyred, nother violently inuaded y^e Bishoprick. 1706 LD. BEILMAVEN *Sp. in Sc. Part.* II. 1 I don't think any one Post of the kingdom worth the briguing after. 1706 WOODROW *Corr.* (1843) III. 270 They are already beginning to brigue and cabal. 1808 BR. HURD (L.), I am too proud to brigue for admission.

† b. *trans.* To obtain by intrigue. *Obs.*

1758 SIR J. DALRYMPLE *Ess. Hist. Feudal Prop.* 170 Kenneth III. brigued a contrary law from his barons. Hence **Briguing** *vb.* *sb.*

1704 SWIFT *T. Tub* i. By briguing and caballing. 1837 CARLYLE *Fr. Rev.* II. v. v. 64 Briguing, intriguing, favouritism... goes on there.

† **Brigueless.** *adv. Obs. rare.* In 5 brygeless. [f. BRIGUE + -LESS; = F. *sans brigue*.] Without cavil or dispute; with undisputed title.

1415 OCCLEVE *Oldcastle* 164 *Anglia* v. 28 Land... bat thy

fadir huld in reste and poes... And his fadir before him brygeless.

† **Briguer.** *Obs.* [ad. F. *brigueur*, f. *briguer*: see BRIGUE v.] A contentious person, a quarrelsome wrangler.

1496 *Dives & Paup.* (W. de W.) x. x. 385/2 There shal no shrewe, no bryger, no lechour... entre in to this cyte. 1600 BUREL *Pilgr.* in Watson's *Coll. Poems* II. 46 (JAM.) As bregers and tygers, Delyts in blid to be.

† **Brikanetyn,** obs. Sc. form of BRIGANDINE.

† **Brike.** *Obs.* Also 5 bryke. [a. ONF. *brigue*, *brigue*, var. of *briche*, *brice*, trap, gin.] A trap, a snare; a 'fix', a dilemma.

1380 WYCLIF *Sel. Wks.* III. 128 If a man falle in bryke (*v. r.* *brygge*) for worldly riches. 1386 CHAUCER *Monkes* 7. 400 Geniloun Oliver... Broughte this worthy king in such a bryk (*v. r.* *brike*, *bryke*). 1423 *Lydg. Pyler. Soule* iv. xxxv. (1483) 83 Ne hit belongeth nought to suche offycers for the kynges profite to mene newe brykes. 1480 OCCLEVE *De Reg. Princ.* 176 They rekke not what brike her lorde be ynne.

† **Brike, brikke,** obs. forms of BRICK.

† **Brikell,** obs. form of BRICKLE.

† **Brill** (*bril*), *sb.* Also 5 *brell*, *prylle*. [Origin and etymological form (*brill*, *prill*, or *perl*) unknown. (The Cornish *brilli*, contr. of *brithelli* (pl. of *brithel*) 'mackerel' (Williams), agrees in phonetic form, but has no connexion in sense, and there is no evidence of confusion as to the two fish. The English is also probably older than the contracted form of the Cornish word.)]

A kind of flat-fish (*Rhombus vulgaris*), allied to, and resembling the Turbot, but inferior in flavour.

1481-90 *Howard Househ. Bks.* (1841) 105 For... ij solys, a prylle, and xij. whytynges. *Ibid.* 120 For an haddock and a brell vj d. 1740 R. BROOKES *Art of Angling* Index, Brill or Pearl. 1830 M. DONOVAN *Dom. Econ.* II. 181 The brill is longer and narrower than the turbot: the brill has scales on both sides, the turbot has thorns on the back and no scales on the other side. 1873 MISS BROUGHTON *Nancy* I. 81, I have heard... that he does not care about brill, but worships John Dory.

† **Brill,** *sb.* 2 *Obs.* (See quot.)

1688 R. HOLME *Armoury* II. 154/1 The Brills in the hair on the Eye-lids [of a horse]. 1725 BRADLEY *Fam. Dict.* II. s. v. *Horse*. To begin with the Hair... 5. The Cronet, which is the Hair that grows over the Top of the Hoof 6. The Brills, being the Hair on the Eye-lids.

† **Brill,** *v. Obs. rare.* [Expressive of the sound.] *intr.* To make a sharp vibratory sound, as an insect by the rapid vibration of its wings.

1688 R. HOLME *Armoury* II. ix. 101 Voices of Bees, Worms, Serpents... The Brize Breezeth or Brilleth.

† 2. Adaptation of Du. *brullen* to roar.

1863 V. BALDWIN *Afr. Hunting* 114 Two lionesses brill- ing savagely.

† **Brilliant.** *Obs.* Also 7 *brillain*. [F. *brillant* sb., brilliance, brilliancy (subst. use of *brillant* BRILLIANT.)] Brilliancy.

1676 ETHEREDGE *Man of Mode* II. ii. (1684) 36 The brillain of so much good language, Sir, has much more power than the little beauty I can boast. 1776 T. RYMER *Trag. of Age* 6 He gives a lustre and brilliant which dazzles the sight.

† **Brilliant,** obs. form of BRILLIANT a.

† **Brillante** (*brillante*), *a. Music.* [It. *brillante* bright, sparkling.] A term prefixed to a passage or movement, when it is to be played or sung in a gay and sparkling style.

† **Brille,** *v. Obs. rare-1.* [a. F. *brille-r* to shine: see BRILLIANT *intr.* To shine.

1727 LADY M. W. MONTAGUE *Let.* IV. clxv. 171 The town never was fuller, and some people brille in it who brilled twenty years ago.

† **Brilliance** (*brilyāns*). [f. BRILLIANT: see -ANCE. No corresponding word in Fr.]

1. Intense or sparkling brightness or radiance, lustre, splendour.

[Not in JOHNSON 1755-73.] 1755 YOUNG *Centaur* I. (1757) IV. 107 How far wit can set wisdom at defiance, and, with its artful brilliances, dazzle common understandings? 1830 TENNYSON *Ode to Mem.* 20 Fruits Which in wintertide shall star The black earth with brilliance rare. 1879 HOWELLS *L. Arctostook* xxii. 243 The brilliance of a lamp that shot its red across the gloom. 1882 *Macm. Mag.* 64 Roderigues stands out well between the blue brilliances of sky and sea.

2. *fig.*

1779 JOHNSON *L. P.*, *Pope Wks.* IV. 75 A scholar with great brilliance of wit. 1808 J. BARLOW *Columb.* I. 108 New strength and brilliance flush'd his mortal sight. 1842 H. ROGERS *Introd. Burke's Wks.* (1842) I. 3 Both [the brothers Burke] possessed much of the brilliance of mind which so eminently distinguished Edmund. 1880 L. STEPHEN *Pope* 17 The story is told... with his usual brilliance by Macaulay.

† **Brilliance and Brilliancy** are to a great extent synonyms: *brilliance*, however, is more distinctly a quality having degrees; as in the comparative *brilliance* of two colours.

† **Brilliancy** (*brilyāns*). [see prec. and -ANCY.]

The quality of being brilliant; shining quality, lustrousness; shining brightness. a. *physical.*

1747 HERVEY *Medit. & Contempl.* (1818) 80 It... throws a brilliancy into the water of the diamond that is hardening on its rock. 1755 in JOHNSON. 1772 PENNANT *Tours Scot.* (1774) 323 An amazing brilliancy of colors. 1836 RUSKIN *Mod. Paint.* IV. v. x. 13. 125 The apparent connection of brilliancy of colour with vigour of life, or purity of substance. 1878 HUXLEY *Physiogr.* 75 This brilliancy is rapidly lost... on exposure to the atmosphere.

b. *non-material.*

1796 BURKE *Regic. Peace Wks.* VIII. 308 What new brilliancy then does it throw over the prospect. 1842 MISS MITFORD in *L'Estrange Life* III. ix. 157 She is full of life, and spirit, and brilliancy. 1850 MERIVALE *Rom. Emp.* (1865) I. ii. 69 The consciousness of deserved popularity added brilliancy to his wit. 1864 *Sat. Rev.* 475/1 Brilliancy and shallowness are commonly received synonyms. The best device for exciting the most solemn distrust is to accuse a man of brilliance.

c. with plural.

1848 HAWTHORNE *Fr. & It. Yrnl.* II. 96 Its concentrated brilliances and magnificences. 1868 — *Amer. Notes-bks.* (1879) II. 145 The autumnal brilliances.

† **Brilliant** (*brilyānt*), *a. (sb.)* Also 7-8 *brillant*.

[a. F. *brillant* shining, pr. pp. of *briller* to shine, corresp. to Pr. and Sp. *brillar*, Pg. *brilhar*, It. *brillare*, commonly taken as formed on a L. type **berillāre*, f. late L. *berill-us* (Isid.), L. *beryllus* BERYL. Littré notices that the verb is not found in Fr. before the 16th c., when it appears to have been taken from one of the cognate langs.]

1. Brightly shining, glittering, sparkling, lustrous.

1681 BLOUNT *Glossogr.*, *Brillant* (Fr.), glittering, sparkling, shining. 1696 PHILLIPS, *Brillant*, glittering, casting forth a sparkling light. 1720 KERSEY, *Brillant* [as in BLOUNT & PHILLIPS]. 1792 HAMILTON *Berthollet's Dyeing* I. Introd. 1 The beauty of brilliant colours. 1859 GEO. ELIOT *A. Bede* 60 There is always a stronger sense of life when the sun is brilliant after rain. 1878 HUXLEY *Physiogr.* 75 As brilliant as a piece of polished silver.

2. *fig.* a. Of qualities and actions: Splendid, illustrious, distinguished, striking the imagination.

1758 LADY M. W. MONTAGUE *Let.* IV. cx. 109 The carnival is expected to be more brilliant than common, from the great concourse of noble strangers. 1769 JUNIUS *Let.* xxiv. 114 Wit is oftentimes false, though it may appear brilliant. 1848 MACAULAY *Hist. Eng.* I. 242 A man of solid, though not brilliant parts. 1867 DICKENS *Let.* (1880) II. 312 It is impossible that prospects could be more brilliant.

b. Of persons: Very distinguished or celebrated; esp. distinguished by talent and cleverness; having showy good qualities.

1848 MACAULAY *Hist. Eng.* I. 531 The stern and pensive William relaxed into good humour when his brilliant guest appeared. *Ibid.* II. 230 He found a brilliant circle of noblemen and gentlemen assembled. 1871 MONTAIGNE *Voltaire* (1886) 7 Fontenelle was both brilliant and far-sighted.

† B. as sb. = BRILLIANT. *Obs.*

1691 *Fop Dict. Suppl.* The Brilliant of Language. Sharpness and wittiness of Expression. 1694 CONGREVE *Double Dealer* II. i. (Jod.) Some distinguished quality, as for example the bel air, or brilliant of Mr. Brisk.

† **Brilliant,** *sb.* Also 7-8 *brillant*. [a. F. *brillant* in same sense, subst. use of *brillant* adj.]

1. A diamond of the finest cut and brilliancy.

(The *brillant* differs from the *ross*, in having horizontal faces on its upper and under sides, called the *table* and the *collet* respectively, which are surrounded and united by facets, while the upper surface of the rose rises into a dome, and is covered with facets. The French brilliant consists of two truncated pyramids placed base to base. WATTS.)

1690 *London Gaz.* No. 2609/4 Lost... a square Diamond Brilliant, weighing eight grains. 1700 DRYDEN *Gen. Parson* 139 This brilliant is so spotless and so bright He needs no foil. 1749 FIELDING *Tom Jones* v. i. The jeweller knows that the finest brilliant requires a foil. 1832 BABBAGE *Econ. Manuf.* xvi. (ed. 3) 148 A brilliant which has successively graced the necks of a hundred beauties.

b. *attrib.* and in *comb.*

1705 *London Gaz.* No. 4160/4 Lost... two single Brilliant Drops. 1709 *Ibid.* No. 4617/4 A Rose Diamond Ring, set with a large Brilliant Stone. 1713 *Ibid.* No. 5139/4 Ten Diamonds, all Brilliant cut. 1748 MRS. DELANY *Autobiogr.* (1861) II. 487 He has given her a very fine pair of brilliant earrings. 1761 WILSON in *Phil. Trans.* LII. 444 Six of these gems are cut brilliant fashion.

† 2. A kind of silken fabric. *Obs.*

1719 J. ROBERTS *Spinster* 345 Many woollen stuffs, and stuffs mixed with silk, and even silks themselves... such as brilliants and pulerays, antierines and bombazines.

3. 'A brisk, high mettel, stately horse, that has a rais'd neck, a high motion, excellent haunches' (Bailey vol. II. 1731); also in Craig 1847.

4. A species of firework.

1875 *USE Dict. Arts* III. 682 A fixed brilliant... gun powder, 16; steel-filings, 4.

5. The smallest type used in English printing, being a size less than 'diamond'. (A fancy name, suggested by *pearl*, *ruby*, *diamond*.)

This line is in Brillant type.

1875 *USE Dict. Arts* III. 640 The smallest is called Brilliant, but is seldom used.

† **Brilliant,** *v. rare.* [f. BRILLIANT a.] *trans.* To cut as a brilliant.

1752 BEAWEES *Lex Mercat.* 777 The Diamonds... to which they have given the name of Nayflex or dwarf Points... are naturally brilliant. 1784 H. WALPOLE *Corr.* IV. 377 (D.) The new Bristol stones... would pass on a more skilful lapidary than I am for having been brilliant by a professed artist.

† **Brilliantine.** [a. F. *brillantine*, f. *brillant*.] A cosmetic for imparting a gloss to the hair.

1824 *Harper's Mag.* Oct. 706/1 The same devotion to starch and brilliantine.

† **Brilliantly,** *adv.* [f. BRILLIANT a. + -LY².] In a brilliant manner, with brilliant effect; brightly, glitteringly, splendidly.

[Not in JOHNSON 1755-73.] 1813 *Examiner* 22 Mar. 186/2

The last campaign... terminated not only brilliantly but gloriously. 1855 *Scribblemania* 33 True star... With radiance poetic, most brilliantly clear. 1855 MACAULAY *Hist. Eng.* III. 615 No other large Irish town is so well cleaned, so brilliantly lighted. 1882a *Peabody Eng. Journalism* xvi. (1882) 120 He could write and write brilliantly, in clear, terse, and vigorous English.

Brilliantness = BRILLIANCY.

1755 in JOHNSON; whence in later Dicts.

Brilliantwise, *adv.* [f. BRILLIANT *sb.* + -WISE.] After the manner of a brilliant.

1839 BAILEY *Festus* xxix. (1848) 337 Senses fined, And pointed brilliantwise.

† **Brim**, *sb.* ¹ *Obs.* Forms: 1-6 *brim*, 1-4 *brym*, 4 *brymme*. [OE. *brim* surf, (*poet.*) the sea = ON. *brim* surf, sea; prob. f. the stem *brem*- roar, rage: see BRIM *v.* ¹ It became obs. in ME.; but was perhaps used by Spenser.] An old poetical word for the sea; also, 'flood', water.

Beowulf 847 (Gr.) Was on blode brim weallende. c 937 *Battle Brunanburh* in O. E. Chron., Sibpan eastan hider Engle and Sexe up becomen ofer brade brimu Brytene sohtan. c 1000 *Voc.* in W. Wülcker 177 *Aguor*, brym, *sae*. c 1250 *Land Cockayne* 156 in E. E. P. (1862) 160 Hi... lephid dune in to the brimme, And doth ham sleilich for to swimme. c 1340 *Gaw. & Gr. Knt.* 2172 A balz berz bi a bonke þe brymme [sea or shore] bysede. a 1400 *Leg. Rood* (1871) 125 In middes þe brig was oer þe brim. 1596 SPENSER *F. Q.* v. ix. 35 The bright sunne, what time his fierie teme Towards the westerne brim [perh. = edge, horizon] begins to draw.

Brim (*brim*), *sb.* ² Forms: 3-7 *brimme*, *brymme*, 3-6 *brym*, 3, 7 *brime*, 6 *bryme*, 7 *brimm*, 4- *brim*. [ME. *brimme*, *brymme*, of uncertain etymology: cf. ON. *barmr* brim, Ger. *bräme* fem. 'margin, border, fringe', MHG. *brenn* str. neut. 'edging, border'.]

I. *orig.* The border, margin, edge, or brink: + l. of the sea, or any piece of water: Coast, shore, bank, brink. (Now only as a transferred application of 4.)

c 1200 LAY 4472 His cnichtes... to þare se færden, þar laien bi þan brimme. a 1300 *K. Horn* 196 Ure schip bigan to swymme To his londes brymme. 1398 TREVISAR *Barth. De P.* xiii. xii. (1495) 447 In the brymme of the deed see groweth most fayr aples. 1534 L. BERNERS *Gold. Bk. M. Aurel.* (1546) liij. The flud of Nyle shulde flowe ouer his brymmes. 1597 GERARD *Herbal* ii. xxxvi. § 16. 249 The bayche and brimmes of the sea. 1856 BRYANT *Ages* xxviii. His willing waves yon bright blue bay Sends up, to kiss his decorated brim.

† b. In this sense formerly used without any defining addition. (Now only by ellipsis.)

c 1275 LAY 17030 þe cnichtes hine funde þar he sat bi brimme (= 1200 stonden). c 1325 E. E. *Allit. P.* B. 305 Watz no brymme þat abod vnbrosten bylyue. 1375 BARBOUR *Bruce* xiv. 339 In a richt fair place... Lawch by a brym. c 1460 *Emare* 349 A boot he fond by the brym. 1596 SPENSER *F. Q.* vi. iii. 34 Whenas Calpeine came to the brim... His heart with vengeance inwardly did swell. 1830 TENNYSON *Arab. Nts.* 16 The citron-shadows in the blue: By garden porches on the brim, The costly doors flung open wide.

† 2. of other things. *Obs.*, *arch.* or *dial.*

1525 L. BERNERS *Froiss.* II. xxiii. 57 On the brimme of the dykes... he caused to stryke of the heedes of all the prisoners. 1576 LYTE *Dodoes* ii. xxii. 173 Like to the common Belfoure, but... not so deeply cut about the brimmes or edges. 1596 SPENSER *F. Q.* iv. iii. 34 Upon the brim of his brode-plated shield. 1591 LVLV *Sapho* ii. iv. 179 Let thy love hang at thy hearts bottom, not at the tongues brimme. 1601 HOLLAND *Pliny* II. 394 Escars that grow about the brims of vicers. 1657 W. COLLES *Adam in Eden* cxix. The flowers... of a whitish colour washed about the brims with a little light carnation. 1726 *Lond. Gas.* No. 5470/4 The Brims of the Ears black. 1862a BARNES *Rhymes Dorset Dial.* II. 185 E vell vrow the brim Ov a cliff.

† b. Anedging or border (distinct from the surface). a 1650 FLETCHER *Faithful Sheph.* iv. i. 225 A brim Of sailing Pines that edge yon Mountain in. 1722 *Acc. Workhouses* 56 A slate with broad brims.

† 3. *fig.* The 'brink' (of despair, the grave, etc.). 1549 COVERDALE *Erasm. Par. Rom. Prol.* Brought unto the very brymme of desperation. 1622 A. COURT *Constance* l. 48 The quarrels... have brought him to the brimme of his graue. 1642 MILTON *Presl. Episc.* (1851) 80 This cited place lies upon the very brimme of a noted corruption. 1669 JER. TAYLOR *Gr. Exemp.* ii. viii. 75 He... is at the margin and brim of that state of small reprobation.

II. 4. Now *esp.* The edge, margin, or 'lip' of a cup, bowl, basin, or anything of similar shape artificial or natural. (Formerly often *pl.*)

1562 J. HEYWOOD *Prov. & Epigr.* (1867) 54 Better spare at brym than at bottem. 1570 LEVINS *Manip.* 131 Y^e Brim of a cup, *labrum*. 1586 J. HOOKER *Girald. Irel.* in *Hollinshed* II. 92/2 Under the brim of his scull. 1611 BIBLE a *Chron.* iv. 2 He made a molten Sea of ten cubites, from brim to brim. a 1605 WOOD *Life* (1848) 260 A vessel or a basin notched at the brimmes. 1728 J. CHAMBERLAIN *Relig. Philos.* (1730) II. xvii. § 40 They will see it run over the Brims of the Glass like bottled Beer. 1850 *Encycl. Lond.* I. 646/2 From the brim of the pelvis upwards. 1890 *Lyell Princ. Geol.* (1875) I. ii. xxv. 622 On arriving at the brim of the Crater.

b. in *full to the brim*, and the like. Often *fig.* 1601 SHAKS. *All's Well* II. iv. 48 To make the coming houre oreflow with joy, And pleasure drowne the brim. 1606 — *Ant. & Cl.* iii. xiii. 18 He will fill thy wishes to the brimme. 1608 — *Per.* ii. iii. 50 A cup that's stored unto the brim. 1782a HAN. MOORE *Belshazz.* II. 74 I'll me that massy goblet to the brim. 1824 CARY *Dante's Inf.* vi. 6 Thy city, heap'd with envy to the brim. 1875 B. TAYLOR *Faust* I. vi. 111 Quickly fill the beaker to the brim.

5. The upper edge or surface of water. *arch.* or *poetic.*

a 1552 LELAND in *Sat. Rev.* 13 Dec. (1885) 808 [Bremes] ons frayed approach not in the bryme of the water that yere agayne. 1571 DIGGES *Pantom.* III. xiv. Sijb, Marke... where the brimme of the water now toucheth. 1611 BIBLE *Josh.* iii. 15 The feet of the Priestes... were dipped in the brimme of the water. 1687 A. LOVELL tr. *Bergerac's Com. Hist.* i. 108 They are Fish that never rise to the brim of the Water. 1808 SCOTT *Marm.* vi. xv. Not lighter does the swallow skim Along the smooth lake's level brim.

† b. The surface of the ground. *Obs.* 1572 J. JONES *Bathes of Bath* II. 11 b. Neither is the place of the fyre under the brimme of the earth.

6. The projecting edge or marginal rim of a hat. 1592 SHAKS. *Ven. & Ad.* 1089 His bonnet on, Under whose brim the gaudy sun would peep. 1663 GERBIER *Counsel* 12 The broad Brim of a good Hat. 1665-9 BOYLE *Occas. Refl.* iv. xix. (1675) 279 Upon ones Drinking Water out of the Brims of his Hat. 1726-8 LADY M. W. MONTAGUE *Lett.* I. xxviii. 154 A high-crowned hat without brims. 1832 CARLYLE *Sart. Res.* III. x. 332 They sometimes invert the hat, and wear it brim upmost.

7. *techn.* The thickened marginal portion, or 'sound-bow', of a bell.

[1667 DAMPIER *Voy.* I. (1729) 411 In the middle of the Floor stood a rusty Iron Bell on its Brims.] a 1849 MANGAN *Poems* (1859) 47 Brim and rim it gleams. 1872 ELLACOMBE *Bells of Ch.* I. 5 A bell should measure: in diameter at the mouth, fifteen brims; in height to the shoulder, twelve brims.

8. *Naut.* (See quot.)

1769 FALCONER *Dict. Marine* (1789) *Rim*, or *Brim*, a name given to the circular edge of any of the tops. 1867 in *Swth Sailor's Word-bk.*

9. *Comb.*, as *brim-charged*, filled to the brim.

1823 STANFURD *Aeneis* III. (Arb.) 87 Anchises a goold boul massy becoming With wyne brym charged.

Brim, *sb.* ³ [f. BRIM *v.* ¹] (See quot.)

1572 MASCALL *Govt. Cattle, Hoggis* (1627) 271 To make them goe to brim, or take the boare, it shall be good to giue them barley. 1620 GUILLIM *Heraldry* III. xiv. (1660) 166 You shall say Boare goeth to his Brymme. 1727 BRADLEY *Fam. Dict.*, *Brim*, a Term relating to Swine; a Sow is said to go to Brim when she goes to Boar.

† **Brim**, *sb.* ⁴ *Obs.* exc. *dial.* A bad, vicious woman. Cf. BRIMSTONE 4.

1730-6 BAILEY, *Brim* [q. a Contraction of Brimstone], a common Strumpet. 1764 T. BRYDGES *Homor Travest.* (1797) I. 173 Can mortal scoundrels thee [Hera] perplex, And the great brim of brimstones vex? 1808 JAMIESON, *Brim*, a cant term for a trull, *Loth.*

Brim (*brim*), *v.* ¹ Forms: 5 *bryme*, *brymmyn*, 5-7 *brymme*, 6 *breamme*, *breme*, 7 *brime*, *brimme*, 7- *brim*, (9 *dial.* *breme*). [In 15th c. *brymme*, in the 16th c. and mod. *dial.* also *breme*, corresp. to *brym*, BREME *a.*; either formed from the latter, or (though not found in ME.) actually descended from OE. *bremman* to roar, rage, corresp. to OHG. *bremman*, MHG. *bremen* to rage, roar, MDu. and Du. *bremen*, *bremmen*, from an old Teut. root *bren-*, cogn. with L. *frēmēre*. In early mod. Du. *bremen* had also the sense 'desire violently', and LG. *brummen* (a derivative form) is said of the sow seeking the boar.]

1. *intr.* Of swine: To be 'in heat', rut, copulate. c 1200 *Pallad.* on *Husb.* III. 1051 Nowe bores gladly brymmeth. *Ibid.* 1070 The sonner wol thei [sows] brymme ayeine and brynge Forth pigges moo. 1483 *Cath. Angl.* 44 To Bryme, *swabe*. 1591 PERCIVAL *Span. Dict.*, *Berriondes de purca*, when a sow is brimming, *subatio*. 1616 BULLOKAR, *Brimme*, a terme used among hunters when the wilde Boare goeth to the female. 1725 BRADLEY *Fam. Dict.* s. v. *Sow*. To make a Sow Brim or take Boar. 1863 ATKINSON *Danby Provinc.*, *Brimme*, *v.* 1, to desire the boar; 2, (as applied to the boar), to serve the sow.

2. *trans.* Said of a boar.

1552a HULOET, *Brymme* a sow, as when a bore doth get pigges. 1577 B. GOODE *Heresbach's Husb.* (1586) 127 Is oftentimes breamed of the boare, and conceaveth. 1601 HOLLAND *Pliny Nat. Hist.* I. 304. 1725 BAILEY *Erasm. Collog.* 452 Every Boar to brim his Sow. 1863 [see 1].

† **Brim**, *brime*, *v.* ² *Obs.* rare. *intr.* To be fertile, develop fruit, to BREED (sense II c).

c 1250 *Gen. & Ex.* 118 God... erbe brimen and beren dede. *Ibid.* 1128 Men seið ðe treen... Waxen in time and brimen.

Brim (*brim*), *v.* ³ Also 7 *brimme*. [f. BRIM *sb.* ²]

1. *trans.* To fill (a goblet, etc.) to the brim. Also *absol.*

1611 HEYWOOD *Gold. Age* I. i. Wks. 1874 III. 14 Fetch me his heart, brimme me a bowle With his warme blood. 1805 SOUTHEY *Madoc* in *W.* II. The board was spread anew, Anew the horn was brimm'd. 1813 COLERIDGE *Remorse* v. l. 108 As I brimmed the bowl, I thought on thee. 1850 TENNYSON *In Mem.* cvi. 16 Fetch the wine, Arrange the board and brim the glass.

b. *fig.* and *transf.*

1844 A. WELBY *Poems* (1867) 70 Softly brimming my young eyes with tears. 1853 BOWRING in *Fraser's Mag.* XLVIII. 351 All my heart was brimmed with bliss. 1876 GILDER *Poet & Master* 9 Not tears, but jollity... brim the strong man-child's eyes.

2. *intr.* To be or become brim-full. To *brim over*: to overflow with. (The *ppl.* adj. BRIMMING is found from Milton onward.)

1818 KEATS *Endym.* II. 997 Where I brim Round flowery islands. 1858 HAWTHORNE *Fr. & It. Fm.* II. 70 The bustle of the market... went on within or brimmed over into the streets. 1873 GEIKIE *Gr. Ice Age* xxvi. 353 The Gulf of Bothnia appears to have brimmed with ice. 1894 T. HARDY

Madding Crowd I. xxix. 322 He brimmed with deep feeling as he replied.

† 3. *trans.* To provide with a brim. *Obs.*

1623 COCKERAM II. To brim a thing, *marginate*.

Brim *a.*: see BREME.

Brimbel, -bil, -byl, *obs.* forms of BRAMBLE.

|| **Brimborion**, -um. Also 7 *breboration*.

[Fr.; formerly *bri-*, *briborion*; according to Littré a perversion of *breviarius* 'breviary', whence 'foolish charms or superstitious prayers, used by old and simple women against the toothache, and any such thredbare and mustie rags of blind devotion' (Cotgr.).] 'A thing without value or use' (Littré); trash, nonsense.

1623 URQUHART *Rabelais* I. xxi. He mumbled all his Kiriele and dunsical breborions. 1706 MAD. D'ARBLAY *Diary & Lett.* III. 8 Talking to your royal mistress, or handing jewels and colichets and brimborions, baubles, knick-knacks, gewgaws. 1800 WERTS *Goethe's Faust* II. vii. 164 As when their scruples you overcome With all sorts of brimborion.

† **Brim-fill**, *v.* *Obs.* rare. [f. BRIM *sb.* ² + FILL *v.* ¹] *trans.* To fill up to the brim.

1615 T. ADAMS *Blacke Dev.* 71 The cup of his iniquity (will be) brimfilled. c 1620 Z. BOYD *Zion's Flowers* (1855) 33 Sins our city doe brime fill. 1647 CRASHAW *Poems* 209 Thy brimfill'd bowls of fierce desire.

Brimfir, variant of BRINFIRE, *Obs.*

Brim-full, *brimful* (see below), *a.* Orig. written as two words. [f. BRIM *sb.* ² + FULL; properly pronounced (brim'ful); cf. *half full*, *quite full*, and the like; erroneously (brim'ful), by association with *adjs.* like *mindful*.]

1. Full to the brim; on the point of overflowing.

1530 PALSGR. *307/4* Brimfull, *plain*. 1548 RECORDE *Gr. Artes* (1640) 401 [Archimedes] putting the Crowne... into the vessel of water brim full... marked, how much water did run out. 1597 SHAKS. *2 Hen. IV.* III. i. 67 His Eye brimfull of Tears. 1697 *Phil. Trans.* XIX. 516 A little Box, which I filled Brim full. 1703 MAUNDRELL *Journ. Jerus.* (1721) 51 Yet it is always brim full. 1720 GAY *Poems* (1745) I. 88 Her eyes with tears brim full. 1860 KINGSLEY *Misc.* I. 173 Rivers... brimful in the longest droughts.

b. Of the eyes: Full of tears. (This appears to be always *brim'ful* in the poets: cf. *tearful*.)

1700 DRYDEN *Sigism. & Guisc.* 681 Her brimful eyes, that ready stood... Released their watery store. 1706 BURNS *Farwell St. James's Lodge*, With melting heart, and brimful eye.

2. *fig.*

1579 TOMSON *Calvin's Serm.* Tim. 116/2 Brimme full of venie against God. 1604 SHAKS. *Oth.* II. iii. 214 The peoples hearts brim-full of fear. 1706 *Reflex. upon Riddle* 292 A woman brim-full with the notion of her beauty. 1794 *Gold. Age* in *Poet. Register* (1807) 401 And sing, brimful of thee, in tuneless strain. 1830 TENNYSON *Dream Fair Wom.* 12 My heart, Brimful of those wild tales. 1839 THACKERAY *Pendennis* xxxvii. Brimful of health, and life, and hope. 1876 J. H. NEWMAN *Hist. St.* II. ii. 234.

Brimfully, *adv.* rare. [f. *prec.* + -LY ²] So as to be brim-full.

1854 *Tail's Mag.* XXI. 333 Wilson was brimfully, nay, overflowing, imbued with the poetic element.

Brimfulness, *Obs.* [f. as *prec.* + -NESS.]

[Johnson quotes for this the following passage from Shaks., where the reading is *brim fullness* in two words (like *brim full*, with *brim* in attributive relation to *fulness*)] 1599 SHAKS. *Hen. V.* I. ii. 150 The Scot... Came pouring like the Tyde into a breach With ample and brim fullness of his force.

Briming. (*Cornwall.*) The phosphorescence of the sea; = BURNING 3. Cf. BRINY 2.

1836 YARRELL *Fishes* II. 103 A master scanner... forms a judgment by the extent of the brining in his scan. 1880 E. *Cornwall Gloss.*, *Briming*. — *W. Cornwall Gl.*, *Brimming*.

Brimless (*brimlēs*), *a.* Without a brim.

1615 G. SANDYS *Trav.* 76 High-crowned brimless caps of beaten gold. 1804 MISS MITFORD *Village Ser.* I. (1863) 14 He with the brimless hat. 1807 *Chambers's Trul.* IV. 1 A round, brimless sailor's cap.

Brimmed (*brimd*), *ppl.* *a.* ¹ See BRIM *v.* ¹

1552a HULOET, *Brymmed* sow, *sus subata*.

Brimmed (*brimd*, *bri-méd*), *ppl.* *a.* ² [f. BRIM *v.* ³ and *sb.* ²]

1. Filled to the brim; brim-full.

1604 HEYWOOD *Gnnaik.* III. 161 Me thinks a cup of gold Stands brim'd before me. 1637 MILTON *Comus* 924 May thy brimmed waves for this Their full tribute never miss. 1821 KEATS *Lamia* 639 A cup he took Full brimmed. 1877 M. ARNOLD *Poems* II. 59 This brimmed unwrinkled Rhine.

2. Having a brim, as a hat, etc. Chiefly in composition, as *broad-*, *narrow-*, *wide-brimmed*.

1606 HOLLAND *Sueton.* 75 Hee never walked... without a broad brimd Hat upon his head. 1711 ADDISON *Spect.* No. 44 P 8 In ordinary Comedies, a broad and a narrow brimd Hat are different Characters. 1804 *Pall Mall G.* 31 Mar. 4/2 He has a brimmed hat to keep the sun from his head.

Brimmer (*brim-mēr*), *sb.* [f. BRIM *v.* ³ + -ER ¹.]

1. A thing that fills to the brim; a swelling wave.

1652 BENJOWES *Theoph.* I. xviii. Swell us a lustie Brimmer

So vast, that none may spie the coast.

2. A brimming cup or goblet.

1663 COWLEY *Cutler Coleman St.* v. vi. Boy! Fill a Brimmer, Nay fuller yet, yet a little fuller. 1697 DRYDEN *Virg.* (1806) II. 253 Nor ceas'd to draw, Till he the bottom of the brimmer saw. 1798 GAY *Begg. Op.* III. xii. Not one so sure can bring Relief As his best Friend, a Brimmer. 1808 SCOTT *Woodst.* IV. (1846) 63 Accustomed to feed the flame of their loyalty with copious brimmers.

†3. A hat with a brim. *Obs.* Cf. *bowler*.

a 1654 *Brome Songs* (N.) Now takes his brimmer off.
1670 *EACHARD Conf. Clergy* 136 Twisting the ends of his
Girdle, and asking him the price of his Brimmer.

Brimmer (brim'ar), *v.* [f. prec.] *trans.* and
absol. To fill and drink (brimmers of wine). Hence
Brimmed *ppl. a.*

1838 *Fraser's Mag.* XVII. 313 Is he not seen at the Athe-
neum, dinnering and brimmering? 1831 *Hogg in Fraser's*
Mag. IV. 380 The brimmer'd glass in every hand.

Brimming (brim'in), *vbl. sb.* [f. BRIM *v.* 1]
The action of the verb BRIM: said of swine.

1530 *FALSGR. 824/2* A brimming as a bore or sowe doth, *en*
rouyt. 1601 *HOLLAND Pliny* I. 230 They stand lightly to the
first brimming. 1616 *SURFL. & MARKH. Countr. Farm* 1.
xxiv. 106 They begin to grow hot and goe a brimming.
1671 *CHARENTE Let. Customs Taffletta* 46 The wild Boars
are most furious creatures, especially in Brimmin time.

Brimming (brim'in), *vbl. sb.* [f. BRIM *v.* 3 +
-ING 1.] Being full to the brim, overflowing.

1837 *Ht. MARTINEAU Soc. in Amer.* III. 73 The gushing
talk of Judge Story, the brimmings of a full head and heart.
1878 *G. MERRIDITH in Macm. Mag.* Oct., Something friends
have told her fills her heart to brimming.

Brimming, *ppl. a.* [f. BRIM *v.* 3 + -ING 2.]

1. That rises to the brim of its vessel, basin, or
bed; that fills to overflowing.

1667 *MILTON P. L.* IV. 336 They... in the rinde, Still as they
thirsted, scoop the brimming stream. 1857 *EMERSON Poems*
42 The brimming brook invites a leap. 1864 *TENNISON*
Brook 64 And out again I curve and flow, To join the brim-
ming river.

fig. 1864 *Spectator* 424 All true poetry really requires a
brimming vitality of feeling and impression.

2. Of a vessel: Brim-full, full to overflowing.

1607 *DRYDEN Virg. Past.* III. 43 To store the Dairy, with
a brimming Pail. 1725 *POPE Odys.* XX. 317 Wine rosy
bright the brimming goblets crowned. 1845 *DISRAELI Sybil*
(1863) 48 To fill the brimming cup.

3. *advb.*

1848 *W. E. AYTOUN Danube & Eux.* 10, I am brimming
full and red.

Brimmingly, *adv.* [f. prec. + -LY 2.] In a
brimming manner, up to the brim. Also *fig.*

1866 *T. ATKINSON The Spate in Casquet Lit.* I. 196/1 The
stream... filled it brimmingly. 1876 *Mrs. WHITNEY Sights*
& *Ins.* xv. 161 She was brimmingly happy.

† **Brimse**. *Obs. exc. dial.* Also 7 brimsee,

brimsee, 9 dial. brims. [First found in 16th c.:
identical with ON. *brims* (Fritzner); also Ger.
brimse:—OHG. *primisa* (Graff), *brimissa* (Kluge),
perh. f. *brim* to roar, in sense of 'boom, buzz
loudly'. In Eng. prob. from Norse, though early
evidence is wanting.] A gadfly; = *BREEZE sb.* 1

1579 *GOSSON Apol. Sch. Abuse* (Arb.) 64 They... lashe out
their heeles as they had caught the brimse. 1608 *TORSELL*
Serpents 769 Those great horse-flies or ox-flies and brim-
sees that in summer season vex cattle. 1650 *GUILLIM Her-*
aldry III. xxi. 166 This Flie... of some is called the Gad-
bee, and of others the Dun-fly, Brimsee, or Horse-fly.
1611 *COTGR. Takon*, a brimse, *Brimsee*, *Oestre lunonique*,
a gad-bee, brimsey, brize. *Mod. Kent Provenc.*, The
brimps bite the cows so much they don't know what to do.

Brimstone (brim'stan). *Forms*: a. 3 (?),

4-5 brin-, brynstan(e), -ston(e), brenston,
-stoon, (4 *Kent*), bernston, north. bronstane,
brunstan(e), 4-6 brunston(e), 5-6 bronston,
6 byrnstone, brontstane, brint-, brynt-
stane, -stone, 8-Sc. brunstane. 6-4-5 brim-
stan(e), -ston, -stoon, brymston(e), -stoon(e),
(brem-, brom-, brumstone, 5 brymestone, 7
brimstone), 6- brimstone; *mod.Sc.* brum-
stane. [ME. *bern-*, *bren-*, *brin-*, *bryn-*, *brun-*,
bron-, *brim-*, *brym-*, *bremston*, *app. f. bern-* or
brinn-, stems of *bern-en*, *brinn-en* to BURN +
-STONE: cf. ON. *brenni-stein* sulphur; also, for the
form, OE. *berne-lde* burnt-offering. An iden-
tical formation in other Teut. langs. (MDu. and
MLG. *bernsteen*, Du. *barnsteen*, Ger. *bernstein*) is
used with the sense 'amber'. The transposition
in *bern-*, *bren-* was inherited from the vb.; the
subsequent change to *brim-* may have been due to
association with the adj. *brim*, BREME 'fierce': cf.
quot. c 1400 in 1 a.

The uncertainty of form in ME. may be estimated by the
fact that the printed ed. of Wyclif (Forshall and Madden)
has in the two texts the following varieties:—Gen. xix. 24
brenston, brymston; Dent. xxix. 23 brimston, brymston;
Job xviii. 15 brimston, brymston; Ps. x. 7 brunston, brym-
ston; Isa. xxx. 33 brunston, brymston.]

1. Formerly the common vernacular name for
SULPHUR. Now used chiefly when referring to its
inflammable character, and to the biblical use in
Gen. xix. 24 and *Rev.* xix. 20; or in speaking of old-
fashioned prescriptions, as 'brimstone and treacle'.

a. a 1300 *Cursor M.* 2842 Our lauerd raind o þam o-nan,
Dun o lift, fire and brimstan [other MSS. brimston]. 1340
HAMPOL. Pr. Consc. 6746 Fire and brunstan and stormes
with wynde. 1340 *Ayenb.* 130 Pou gest in-to helle huer þou
eselt yuinde ver and bernston. 1375 *BARBOUR Bruce* xvii.
612 Lynt and hardiss with brynstane. 1393 *LANGL. P. Pl.*
C. xxi. 291 Brynston [v. r. brymston, bremston] boilaunt
brennyng out-castep hit Al hot on here heudes. a 1400 *Cov.*
Myth. (1841) 308 In bras and in bronston [v. r. brenston] the
brythells be bren. c 1400 *Destr. Troy* 860 Þe fyre... was
blasound of brunston with a brem lowe. c 1450 *Nominalis*

in Wr.-Wülcker 683 *Hoc fulgur*, bornston. 1523 *SKELTON*
Garl. Laurel 631 The blast of the byrnstone blew away
his brayne. 1536 *BELLENDEN Cron. Scotl.* (1821) I. 136
Birnand flammis of pik, roset and brintstane. 1558 *ABP.*
HAMILTON Catech. 92 With brontstaine and fyre. 1791
BURNS Ep. J. Maxwell iii, Rake them, like Sodom and
Gomorrah in brunstane stoure. 1873 *ROBINSON Whitby*
Gloss. *Brunstan*, or *Burnstan*, burning-stone or brimstone.

β. a 1300 *Cursor M.* 2888 Fir and brimstan was þe
wrake. 1388 *WYCLIF Job* xviii. 15 Brumston be sprengid
in his tabernacle. c 1396 *CHAUCER Chan. Yem. Prolog.* & T. 271
Sal Armonyak and the ferthe Brymston [v. r. brymston,
brunston, bremstone, bromstone]. 1489 *CAXTON Faytes of*
A. II. iv. 96 Enoynted with oyle and brymestone. 1570
LEVINS Manip. 168 Brimstone, sulphus. 1611 *BIBLE Rev.*
xix. 20 Both were cast aliue into a lake of fire burning with
brimstone. 1678 *R. WILD Declar. Lib. Consc.* 14 An itch,
which is too hard for butter and brimstone to cure. 1691
HARTCLIFFE Virtues xli. 1755 *SMOLLETT Quix.* (1803) II. 47
Every fiend may stink of brimstone. 1796 *Mrs. GLASSE*
Cookery xxii. 346 Fire a large match dipped in brimstone.
1840 *R. DANA Def. Mast* xxix. 98 We... made a slow fire of
charcoal, birch bark, brimstone, and other matters. 1863
KINGSLEY Water-bab. v. 207 She dosed them with... salts
and senna, and brimstone and treacle.

b. *Fire and brimstone!* an ejaculation of
'strong language'.

1601 *SHAKS Twel. N. II. v.* 56 To. Fire and Brimstone!
Pa. O. peace, peace. 1604—*Old.* IV. i. 245.

2. *Vegetable brimstone*: the inflammable spores of
Lycopodium clavatum and *Selago*, sometimes
employed in the manufacture of fireworks.

1866 in *Treas. Bot.*

3. *fig.*

1601 *SHAKS Twel. N. III. ii.* 22 To put fire in your Heart,
and brimstone in your Liver. 1709 *CHANDLER Effort agit.*
Bigotry 15 Such Mens new acquired Light having too
much Brimstone in it. 1858 *CADYLL Misc.* (1857) I. 120 Like
a person of breeding, and without any flavour of brimstone.

4. A virago, a spit-fire. Cf. *BRIM sb.* 4

1751 *SMOLLETT Per. Pic.* (1779) I. vi. 54 She is... not a
brimstone, like Kate Coddle. 1768 *Walpoleiana* xlii. 21 Oh!
Madam... he had such a brimstone of a wife! 1844 *W. IRVING*
T. Trav. II. 29 A tragedy queen, and a brimstone to boot.

5. *Brimstone Butterfly*: an early butterfly with
wings of a sulphur colour, *Gonepteryx Rhamni*.

1827 *Butterfly Collect. Vade Mec.* 87. 1860 *GOSSE Rom.*
Nat. Hist. 5 The delicate 'brimstone' comes bounding over
the fence.

6. *Attrib. and Comb.*: a. *simple attrib.* Of, pertain-
ing to, or resembling brimstone; b. *brimstone*
match, a match or splinter of wood having its
end dipped in brimstone; *brimstone moth*, a
species of moth of sulphur colour, *Rumia crata-*
gata; *brimstone-wort*, a plant, Sulphur-wort,
Peucedanum palustre (and *officinale*).

a. c 1590 *MARLOWE Faust.* viii. 18 The most intolerable
book for conjuring that e'er was invented by any brimstone
devil. 1616 *HOLYDAY Juvenal* 240 Flames begun By brim-
stone-plot. 1786 *BURNS Sc. Drink* xii. And bake them up
in brunstane pies. 1791 *HAMILTON Berthollet's Dyeing* I.
i. l. iv. 67 A fine brimstone colour. 1840 *DICKENS Barn.*
Rudge vi. Asserted his brimstone birth and parentage.

b. 1594 *PLAT Chem. Concl.* 15 The rest of the fats have
not received... the brimstone match. 1657 *REEVE God's*
Plas 23 The furnace-brand, the brimstone-match of that
cursed man. 1730 *DESAGULIERS in Phil. Trans.* XLI. 177
When Brimstone Matches are burning. 1812 *Sir H. DAVY*
Chem. Philos. 299 Sulphuret of phosphorus... applied to a
common brimstone match inflames when gently rubbed.
1850 *W. COLEMAN Woodlands* (1862) 112 The curious twig-
like caterpillars of the Brimstone moth. 1878 *A. LITTLETON*
Lat. Dict., Brimstone-wort, an herb, *Peucedanum*. 1863
Prior Plant-n. 29 *Brimstone-wort*, from its roots yielding,
as W. Coles says, 'a yellow sap which waxeth quickly hard,
and dry, and smelleth not unlike to brimstone'.

† **Brimstonish**, a. *Obs. rare.* [f. BRIMSTONE

+ -ISH 1.] Sulphurous; somewhat sulphur-coloured.
1568 *TURNER Bathes* 7 The water of this bath is known to
be... a small part brimstonish. 1797 *BRADLEY Fam. Dict.*
s.v. *Anemone*, Outer leav'd brimstonish thrum'd Green.

Brimstony (brim'stoni, -stōni), a. [f. BRIMSTONE

+ -Y 1.] Of, pertaining to, or resembling brimstone.
1388 *WYCLIF Rev.* ix. 17 Thei that saten on hem hadden
fjry haberiouns, and iacynctines, and brunstony [1535
COVERD. of a yalowe and brymstony colour]. 1398 *TREVISA*
Barth. De P. R. (Helmingham MS.) xiii. i. Yf þe grounde
is brymstony, oper of slyme. 1670 *W. SIMPSON Hydrol. Ess.*
96 The sulphurous and brimstony matter. 1830 *JAMES*
Darney xxii. 98/2 A sort of brimstony smell.

Hence **Brimstoniness**.

1398 *TREVISA Barth. De P. R.* VII. xxxv. (1495) 249 Glaysy-
nesse and brenstonynesse and other such.

Brin, *obs. form* of BRINE, BURN.

† **Brinage**. In 7 brynage. *Obs. rare*—1. [f.

BRINE + -AGE.] Briny quality.
1610 *FOLKINGHAM Art of Survey* I. vi. 13 Waters... of so
brackish a Brynage, that they wil be converted to Salt by
boylng.

† **Brince, brinche**, *v. Obs. rare.* [Con-
tracted from BRENDICE; or directly f. It. *brins*,
brinsi 'a health or drinking to one. Also I
drinke to you' (Florio 1611).] *trans.* To drink
to, pledge; also *causal*, to make, or give, to drink.
1556 *ABP. PARKER Psalter* lxxv. 211 The good at brynce
the cleare drow drynke, God brinche them gently so. a 1578
HARDING in Jewell's Wks. (1848) IV. 335 Luther first brinced
to Germany the poisoned cup of his heresies. 1598 *LVLV*
Moth. Bom. ii. 1 (N.), I carouse to Prisius, and brinch you
mas Sperantus.

Brinded (brind'ed), a. *arch.* *Forms*: 5 brende,

5-8 brended, 7 breended, 6- brinded. [Primary
form app. *brended*, whence on one side *BRANDED*,
q. v., on the other *brinded*. *Brende*, which occurs
in Lydgate, is identical with one of the contem-
porary forms of *burnt*, *burned* (see BURN *v.*); never-
theless, taken with the fuller *brended*, it points to
a secondary vb. *brend-en*, a possible derivative of
brand 'burning, brand'. The sense appears to
be 'marked as by burning' or 'branding'. Prof.
Skeat compares Icel. *brönditr* brindled, f. *brand*
fire-brand.] Of a tawny or brownish colour,
marked with bars or streaks of a different hue;
also *gen.* streaked, spotted; brindled.

1430 *LYDG. Min. Poems* 202 On them she wyl have a
bonde, As weel of bayard as of brende [*prime-wind. rende*] And
yt forsorelle she wyl stonde. 1466 *Bk. St. Albans, Fyeshynge*
28 A grete brended fyre that bredith in pathes of medowes.
1569 *GREENE Menaph.* (Arb.) 86 Ah, Doron... thou art as white
As is my mothers Calfe, or brinded Cow. 1603 *SHAKS.*
Macb. IV. i. 1 Thrice the brinded Cat hath mew'd. 1611
COTGR., Quatruvill. diversified, pide, or breended, streaked
with one colour vpon another. 1681 *MARKHAM Prov.*
Hunger (1655) 54 Your brended Cattell haue euer the good-
liest Heads. 1667 *MILTON P. L.* VII. 466 The Tawny Lion
Rampant shakes his Brinded main. 1717 *TICKELL Epist.*
Wks. (1807) 117 Thy brinded boars may slumber undismay'd.
1774 *JOHNSON West. Isl. Wks.* X. 416 They have a race of
brinded greyhounds. 1800 *SHELLEY Wick. All.* vii, The
brinded lioness led forth her young.

Brindle (brind'l), a. and sb. [App. deduced
from *brindled*, as if this consisted of *brindle* + -ed.]

A. *adj.* = BRINDED, BRINDLED.

1696 *Long. Gas.* No. 1145/4 A... white Mastiff Dog with
half his face brindle, and large brindle spots on his sides.
1765 *TUCKER Lt. Nat.* I. 497 Two fine cows, one brindle and
the other white. 1807-8 *W. IRVING Salmag.* xviii. (1860)
403 The old lady... lost... a brindle cow. 1868 *Sat. Rev.*
5 July 10 The longhorned [English cattle], of which brindle
or brindle and white are common colours. 1866 *Engineer*
1 Oct. 265 The quotation of brindle bricks at date is about
18s. per 1000.

B. sb. a. Brindled colour. b. A brindled dog.
1696 *Long. Gas.* No. 3242/4 An old Dutch Mastiff... of a
lightish Brindle. 1710 *Ibid.* No. 4747/4 Lost... a Lurcher
Bitch, a Brindle with a black Mussel. 1748 *RICHARDSON*
Clarissa (1811) VIII. xli. 156 The artificial jet, however,
yielding apace to the natural brindle. 1844 *MISS MITFORD*
Village Ser. I. (1863) 65 Of the three dogs, the first a brindle,
the second a yellow.

Brindle, *v. dial.* 'To be irritated, to show re-
sistent, to bridle up.'

1875 *Lanc. Gloss.* (E. D. S.) 58 He brindled up as soon as
aw spoke to him.

Brindled (brind'ld), a. [A variant of the
earlier BRINDED, prob. by assimilation to such
words as *kinkled*, *mingled*, perh. with some feeling
of a diminutive sense.] 'Streaked, tabby, marked
with streaks' (J.).

1696 *Long. Gas.* No. 1328/4 Lost or stolen... a large light
brindled gelt Mastiff Dog. 1718 *Pope Iliad* xi. 378 The
brindled lion, or the tusky boar. 1753 *SMOLLETT Ct. Fashom*
(1784) 116/2 His beard... was of a brindled hue. 1817 *J.*
SCOTT Paris Revist. (ed. 4) 100 The mustachoes which hid
the expression of the human mouth under a brindled tuft of
hair. 1870 *EDGAR Rannynede* 186 A brindled bull. 1866
Engineer 1 Oct. 265 The brindled brick trade... is an im-
portant Staffordshire industry.

Brine (brin), sb. *Forms*: 1 bryne, 3-4 brin,
4 bryn, 4-7 bryne, 6 bryn, (7 bryu), 4-
brine. [OE. *bryne*, *brine*, corresp. to MDu. *brine*
fem., Du. *brijn* neuter, also Flem. *brijne*, *brine*
fem. Ulterior history unknown.]

1. Water saturated, or strongly impregnated, with
salt; salt water.

a 1000 *ÆLFRIC Gloss.* in Wr.-Wülcker 128 *Salsugo*, muria,
bryne. a 1300 *Cursor M.* 6348 Siben þai faand... Water
bitter sum and brin [v. r. brine, bryne]. 1388 *WYCLIF*
Jer. xvii. 6 The lond of bryn [1398 saltness]. c 1400 *Pallad.*
on Husb. III. 39 Olde bryne atte tree and yne a feest is. c 1440
Prompt. Parv. 51 Bryne of salt, *salsugo*. 1544 *PHAER*
Regim. Lyfe (1560) Xijb, Take a good quantity of bryn
which is made of water and salt. 1578 *LYTTE Dodoms* v.
xxi. 578 They keepe and preserue the leaues... in brine or
pickle. 1606 *BACON Sylva* § 790 Bryn, when it is salt
enough, will bear an Egg. 1637 *W. FENNER 2nd Pt. Christ's*
Alarm 28 God hath been laying rods in brine for thee.
1669 *Phil. Trans.* IV. 1063 Six Tuns of Brine yield one tun
of Salt. 1793 *CHAMBERS Cycl. Supp.* s. v., There is sand
found in all the Staffordshire brines after coction. a 1848
MARRYAT R. Reefer ix, Those were the times of large
schools, rods steeped in brine (*actual fact*).

2 The water of the sea; and the sea. (Chiefly *poet.*)

1598 *SYLVESTER Du Bartas* I. iii. (1641) 22/1 Such is the
German Sea... and such th' Arabian Brine. 1610 *SHAKS.*
Temp. I. ii. 211 All but Mariners Plung'd in the foaming
bryne. 1637 *MILTON Lycidas* 95 On the level brine Sleek
Panope with all her sisters played. 1738 *C. WESLEY Psalms*
(1765) cxlvii, While Monsters... lash the foaming Brine. 1805
WORDSW. Waggoner III. 85 The unluckiest hulk that stems
the brine. 1841 *LONGF. Ballad Fr. Fleet* vii, The great
ships... sank like lead in the brine.

3. = Briny tears. *poet.*

1592 *SHAKS. Rom. & Jul.* II. iii. 60 Iesu Maria, what a deale
of brine Hath washt thy hollow cheekes for Rosaline? 1593
— *Lucr.* 796 Seasoning the earth with showres of silver
brine. 1604 *DEKKER Honest Wh. Wks.* 1873 II. 115, I
should be well seasoned, for mine eyes lye in brine.

4. *Attrib. and Comb.* a. General, as *brine-bath*,
-house, *-pit*, *-spring*, *-tub*, *-water*, *-well*; *brine-*
bound, *-dripping*, *-soaked*, *adjs.*

1328 SHAKS. *Til. A. m. i.* 129 And made a brine pit with our bitter teares. 1648 HERRICK *Hesper.*, *Gl. Boast*, Look in his brine-tub, and you shall find there Two stiff blew pigs-feet. c 1680 J. COLLINS *Making of Salt* 20 It is called a Brine-House, to retain store for Winter Boiling. 1774 JOHNSON in *Boswell* (1831) III. 130, I tasted the brine water, which contains much more salt than the sea water. 1817 *Parl. Deb.* 740 Supposed to be not a common brine spring. 1841 *Penny Cycl.* XX. 368/2 The Cheshire brine-springs are from twenty to forty yards in depth. 1849 MACAULAY *Hist. Eng.* I. 317 The salt which was obtained by a rude process from brine pits. 1855 SINGLETON *Virgil* I. 233 Brine-dripping limbs. 1860 PIESSE *Lab. Chem. Wonders* 33 In Cheshire there are salt beds; these produce brine wells. 1861 COLLIER *Hist. Eng. Lit.* 419 His brine-soaked coat. 1866 HOWELLS *Venet. Life* xii. 179 Brine-bound Venice.

b. Special comb.: brine-evaporator, an apparatus for evaporating brine so as to deposit the salt; brine-gauge, a salinometer or salt-gauge; brine-man, one who superintends the making of brine; brine-pan, a shallow iron vessel in which brine is evaporated; also, a shallow pit, or basin, in which brine is evaporated by the action of the sun; brine-pump, a pump used for removing the brine which collects at the bottom of a steamer's boilers; brine-seeth, a salt boiler; brine-shrimp (see quot.); brine-smeller, one who examines a district with a view to the discovery of beds of salt; brine-valve, a valve in a boiler which is opened to allow the escape of water saturated with salt; brine-worm = brine-shrimp.

c 1680 J. COLLINS *Making of Salt* 30 A skillful Brinemane will govern and direct 3 or 4 Labourers. *Ibid.* 19 Before it be transmitted into the shallow Brine-Pans. 1738 De Fox, etc. *Tour Gt. Brit.* (1769) 395 Middlewich, noted for making Salt, where are two excellent Brine-seeths. 1836 *Penny Cycl.* V. 343/1 The Brine-worm or Brine-shrimp, *Cancer Salinus* of Linnæus, is about half an inch in length. 1860 GOSSE *Rom. Nat. Hist.* 74 At Lymington in Hampshire, the reservoirs of concentrated brine are always peopled by a sort of shrimp, commonly known as the brine shrimp. 1878 F. WILLIAMS *Midl. Railw.* 558 A "brine smeller" expressed his belief that mines might be opened.

Brine (brain), *v.* [f. *BRINE sb.*] To treat with brine: to steep, soak, pickle, wet, suffuse with brine.

Hence **Brined** *pph. a.*

1554 HULOT, Bryned or layde in powder, or salte water. 1573 *Tusser Hush.* (1878) 167 Some corneth, some brineth. 1608 *Merry Devil Edm.* in *Dodley* (1780) V. 261 I'll make the brined sea to rise at Ware. 1697 *Plot Oxfordsh.* 39 'Tis yearly practiced thus to brine their fields. a 1728 *Liste Hush.* (1759) 156, I had wheat brined and limed for sowing. 1828 BIDDONS *Bride's Trag.* I. i. His cheeks with grief y-brined. c 1844 *Lancet Cott. Farm.* 11 Two and a half bushels of Wheat to the acre, after brining and liming. 1883 *Standard* 3 Aug. 6/6 Hides, brined at full prices, salted at last sale's rates.

Brineless (brain'les), *a.* [f. *BRINE sb.* + *-LESS.*] Without brine or salt.

1791 E. DARWIN *Loves of Pl.* III. Where vast Ontario rolls his brineless tides. 1870 LOWELL *Among my Bks.* Ser. I. (1873) 362 The brineless tears of a flabby remorse.

Briner (brain'ar). [f. *BRINE v.* + *-ER*.] A salt boiler, a salter.

c 1680 J. COLLINS *Making of Salt* 4 When the Briners go to cleanse it, they cannot abide in above half an hour. 1748 *Phil. Trans.* XLV. 363 The Lees of Ale and Beer are now generally rejected by the marine Salt-Boilers; except in the West of England, where the Briners use them. 1759 B. MARTIN *Nat. Hist. Eng.* II. 246.

† **Brinfr.** *Obs. rare.* Also **brinfr.**, **brindfr.** [Only in *Gen. & Ex.*: app. f. *brinnen* to burn + *FIRE*: but see **BRIMSTONE**.] Fierce burning fire: applied as a name for brimstone.

c 1590 *Gen. & Ex.* 754 For mannes sinne bus it is went, brent wið brinfr, sunken and sheut. *Ibid.* 1110 Some so loth ut of sodomie cam brinfr-rein ðe burge bi-nam. *Ibid.* 1164 To-ward sodomie he sæg ðe roke And ðe brinfrs stinken smoke.

Bring (brin), *v.* Pa. t. and Pa. pple. brought (brōt). Forms: *Inf.* 1 bringan, brengan, 2-5 bringen, 3-6 bringe, bryngen, 4-6 brynge, 4-7 bryng, 4- bring, (3 bringhe, brynke, 3-4 brengen, 4-5 breng, 5 bryngyn). Pa. t. 1-3 brōhte, 2 brochte, 3 broȝte, brohte, 4 broȝt(e, broȝt, broht, broȝt, broȝte, (broht), 4-6 brohte, 4-7 broght, 5 browte, 4- brought, (6 brohte, *Spenser* brought, 6- Sc. brocht, 9 dial. brong, brung). Pa. pple. 1-4 brōht, 3 brocht, 3-4 ybroȝt, ibrouȝt, 4 brout, browt, browht, broȝt, broht, 4-5 broȝt, (brouht), 4-6 broght, ybrought, 5 ibroughte, (bryght), 5-6 broght, brohte, 4- brought, (6 browte, ibrouht, browht, 6- Sc. brocht, 9 dial. brung). [Common Teut.: OE. *bring-an*, *brengian* (pa. t. *brōhte*, pple. *brōht*), corresp. to OFris. *branga*, *bringa*, OS. *bringian*, *bringan* (MDu. *brenghen*, Du. *brengen*), OHG. *bringen* (MHG. and mod.G. *bringen*), Goth. *bringan* (= *bringan*), pa. t. *brōhta*, pple. *brōhts*. Beside the type *bring-an*, the Saxon group has also **brangian*, *brēngian*, *brēngan*, *brēngan*, app. after *pankjan*; from *bringan*, OE. had also a rare strong pa. pple. *brungen* (mod. dial. *brung*), to which later dialects have added a

strong pa.t., so as to conjugate, *bring, brang, brung*. The stem is not known outside of Teutonic.]

I. Simply.

1. To cause to come along with oneself; to fetch. It includes 'lead' or 'conduct' (*F. amener*) as well as 'carry' (*F. apporter*); it implies motion towards the place where the speaker or auditor is, or is supposed to be, being in sense the causal of *come*; motion in the opposite direction is expressed by *take* (*Fr. emmener, emporter*).

a. by carrying or bearing in one's hand, etc.

c 990 *Lindisf. Gosp.* John ii. 8 Dæleð nu & bringeð ðem aldormen. c 1175 *Lamb. Hom.* 101 Ða ileafullen brohton heore gersum. c 1200 *Trin. Coll. Hom.* 47 Hie brohte þat child mid hire in to þe temple. a 1285 *Anchor R.* 114 Ne brohten heo him to presente ne win, ne ale, ne water. a 1300 *Cursor M.* 21588 To rome men suld a-noþer (del of cross) bring. 1340 *Ayenb.* 211 Þe messenger þet none lettes ne bringþ. 1526 *Pilgr. Perf.* (W. de W. 1531) 14 They solde theyr possessyons, and brought the pryce therof. 1697 *Dryden Virg. Georg.* iii. 16, I. shall in triumph come From conquer'd Greece, and bring her Trophies home. 1728 *Pope Dunciad* ii. 383 The ponderous books two gentle readers bring. 1839 *Thirlwall Greece* I. 335 He was to bring his shield home, or to be borne upon it. 1885 H. O. FORBES *Nat. Wand.* iii. viii. 258 The flosam harvest which the river was continually bringing down.

b. by leading, conducting, propelling, etc.

a 1000 *Beowulf* 1829 (Gr.) Ic ðe þusenda þegna bringe. c 1175 *Cott. Hom.* 221 God þa hine brohte into paradis. c 1250 *Gen. & Ex.* 737 Ðu fare. to a lond ic ðe sall bringen him. a 1300 *Cursor M.* 3832 His doghtur yonder. Bringand his beistes till þe well. *Ibid.* 5182 Ha wec broght him wit you hider? 1526 *Pilgr. Perf.* (W. de W.) 38 b. Brynge me here y wyldest bull that is. 1625-73 *Cooper Lat. Dict.*, *Subducing names*, to draw or bring ships to land. 1631 *Heywood Fair Maid W.* i. iii. i. There's a prize brought into Falmouth Road. 1747 *Carte Hist. Eng.* I. 192 These two princes, bringing with them a number of their vassals. 1884 *Black Jnd. Shaks.* xxxiii. The horses were now brought round. 1885 H. O. FORBES *Nat. Wand.* iii. viii. 258 At length a bend of the river brought me in sight of the European quarter of the city.

c. as by an attractive force.

c 1300 *Becket* 488 The Kynges coronement that so moche folc broȝte there. 1697 *Dryden Virg. Georg.* iv. 644 What Buissness brought thee to my dark Abode? 1857 *Buckle Civiliz.* xiv. 844 For mere purposes of social enjoyment men were brought into contact, who had nothing in common. *Mod.* What brings him here?

† 2. To convoy, escort, accompany (a person) on his way. *Obs. exc. dial.*

c 1450 *Merlin* i. 20 He brought the on wey hider-warde a grete part. 1590 *Shaks. Much Ado* iii. ii. 3 Ile bring you thither my Lord, if you'll vouchsafe me. 1611 *Tourneur Ath. Trag.* ii. ii. 48 The skie is dark; we'll bring you o'er the fields. 1611 *Bible Gen.* xviii. 16 Abraham went with them, to bring them on the way. 1862 *Barnes Rymes Dorset Dial.* I. 18 note, To bring woone gwaïn: to bring one going; to bring one on his way.

3. To bring an answer, word, tidings, etc.

a 1000 *Genesis* 651 (Bosw.) He ða bysene from Gode brungen hæfde. a 1300 *Cursor M.* 3905 Þe messagers him broght ansvar. *Ibid.* 17920 Comen am I... Bodeworde of him for to bryng. c 1440 *Syr Gen.* 2195 They brought hym word ayeaward theie were comyng. 1450 *Adam Bel* 441 in Ritson A. P. P. 22 He shall you bring worde agayn. 1590 *Shaks. Com. Err.* iv. iii. 37, I brought you worde an hour since that the Barke *Expedition* put forth to night. 1651 *Proc. in Parl.* No. 83. 1274 Advl. The party that brings tidings of him. 1864 *Tennyson Sea Dreams* 258 She brought strange news.

† b. *ellipt.* = *Bring word*, report. *Obs.*

1602 *Shaks. Ham.* v. ii. 204 Young Osric, who brings back to him, that you attend him in the hall. 1606 - *Ant. & Cl.* iv. xiii. 20 Hence Mardian, And bring me how he takes my death to th' Monument.

4. *fig.*, and in such expressions as to bring tears into the eyes, a blush to the cheek, etc.

a 1000 *Metr. Boeth.* xi. 59 Winter bringeð weder ungemet cald. c 1200 *Trin. Coll. Hom.* 258 He mai blisse bringe. 1385 *Wyclif Jer.* xlv. 5 Y shall bringe euel vp on eche flesh, seith the Lord. 1535 *Coverdale Ps.* xlvii. 8 What destructions he hath brought vpon y^e earth. 1752 *Johnson Ramb.* No. 207 ¶ 2 Every hour brings additions. 1849 *Thackeray Pendennis* cxxxiv. Those lines... brought tears into the Duchess's eyes. 1850 *Tennyson In Mem.* ii. The seasons bring the flower again, And bring the firstling to the flock. 1871 *Morley Voltaire* (1886) 21 To persuade us that the occasion invariably brings the leader whom its conditions require.

b. of things or actions bringing their results or consequences: To cause one to have, to procure.

c 1450 *Merlin* xiv. 229 A thyng that brought hym more mys-ese. 1577 *Hanner Anc. Eccl. Hist.* (1619) 273 A pillar resembling the forme of a crosse. bringing great admiration to the beholders. 1580 *Baret Ato. B* 1302 Liberrall studies bring refuge and comfort in aduersitie. 1598 *Shaks. Merry W.* v. v. 243 Cursed houres Which forced marriage would have brought vpon her. 1736 *Butler Anal.* I. iii. Rashness... and wilful folly, bringing after them many inconveniences and sufferings. 1832 *Tennyson Miller's D.* 229 The loss that brought us pain.

† 5. To deduce, derive, infer. *Obs.*

1597 *Shaks. 1 Hen. VI.* ii. v. 77 Whereas hee From Iohn of Gaunt doth bring his Pedegree. 1605 *C Camden Rem.* (1637) 173 Hadrian, Lat. Gesner bringeth it from the Greeke Adopos, Grosse or wealthy. 1698 *Ray Disc.* iii. v. (1732) 376, I shall bring them from higher or more remote causes. 1773 *Swift Cadmus & V. Wks.* 1755 III. ii. 12 Conclusions... From premisses erroneous brought.

6. To prefer or lay (a charge or accusation); to

institute, set on foot (an action at law); to advance, adduce (a statement or argument).

c 1000 *Ag. G.*, *Johs* xviii. 29 Hwylce wrohte bringe ge ongan bysne man. 1385 *Wyclif ibid.* What accusing brynge ge aȝens this man? 1574 *tr. Littleton's Ten.*, A write of right that a man bringeth. 1663 *Perry's Diary* 14 June, Sir J. Minnes brought many fine expressions of Chaucer. 1715 *Burnet Own Time* II, The story he had sworn against the queen: which he brought only to make it probable that Wakeman... was in it. 1767 *Blackstone Comm.* II. 197 If he... puts in his claim and brings his action within a reasonable time. 1768 *Ibid.* III. iii. 121 An indictment may be brought as well as an action. 1808 *Mar. Edgeworth Mor. Tales* (1816) I. xiii. 104 Arguments... brought by his companions in their... master's justification. 1875 *Jowett Platq* (ed. 2) I. 316 He brings a wonderful accusation against me.

b. To bring home: see **HOME**.

1795 *Nelson in Nicolas Disp.* II. 104, I... demand... that the person... do fully, and expressly bring home his charge. 1871 *R. H. Hutton Ess.* (1877) I. 34 The import of his action is brought home to him with the most vivid conviction.

7. † a. = *Bring forth*: to give birth to, bear.

b. = *Bring in*: to produce, yield, 'fetch'.

1523 *Fitzherb. Husb.* § 66 The damme of the calfe shall... brynge an other by the same time of the yere. 1535 *Coverdale Habb.* iii. 17 The lond shall bringe no corne. 1664 *Butler Hud.* ii. l. 466 What is Worth in any thing But so much money as 'twill bring? 1779 *Johnson Waller, L. P.* 224 Written when she had brought many children. 1795 *Southey Joan of Arc* ii. 141 At one birth She brought the brethren.

c. To bring into the world: to give birth to.

1607 *Shaks. Cor.* v. iii. 125 Thy Mothers wombe That brought thee to this world. 1848 S. BARNFORD *Early Days* i, I was brought into the world on the 28th February.

8. *fig.* To cause to come from, into, out of, to, etc. a certain state or condition, or to be, do something; to cause to become.

Especially with prepositional and other phrases which are used also with *come* and *be*, and other verbs, most of which will be found under the sb. or other word in question.

a. With *on*, *in* (*obs.*), *into*:

as to bring in good estate, debt, a plight; in dread, fear, in or on sleep (later a sleep; see e.); in doubt, in hate, in question, in wit; on day (= to light), in or on life's day (= to life); into bands, difficulties, trouble; into action, harmony, contact, shape, etc.

1597 *R. Glouc.* 491 The King adde Normandie in god stat ibrouȝt al. a 1300 *Cursor M.* 615 In bale he broght vs and in care. 1387 *Trevisa Higden* II. 403 Pelias broghte lason in witte [suadet Jasoni] for to fette þe goldene flees. 1398 - *Barth. De P. R.* vi. iv. (1495) 191 Nouryces bryngte the chyldren softly... on slepe. c 1400 *Destr. Troy* 13804 He was drecchit in a dreame, & in dred broght. 1535 *Coverdale Judg.* Contents xvi, Dalila... bryngeth him in dotage. 1551-6 *Robinson tr. Moré's Utop.* (Arb.) 33 You shall bryng your selfe in very good case. 1593 *Hooker Eccl. Pol.* I. x. § 9 To bring themselves into hatred. 1596 *Spenser F. Q.* vi. xii. xxxix, Yet none of them could ever bring him into band. 1602 *W. Watson Decacordon* 260 Brought many of them into bands and other great dangers. 1736 *Butler Anal.* n. iv. Persons... by a course of vice, bring themselves into new difficulties. 1818 *Cruise Digest* II. 402 It hath formerly been attempted to be brought in question. 1854 *H. Vickers in Memorials* viii. 162 Every thought brought into obedience to him. 1863 *E. Neale Anal. Th. & Nat.* 191 All others, with which it is brought into accordance.

b. with *from*, *of*, *out of*:

as † to bring of, out of, life or life's day (formerly o lifes dawne, o dawne, adaw, corruptly on daw: cf. *ADAW v.*) = to kill; out of order, shape, tune; out of patience, temper.

a 1300 *Cursor M.* 1072 Wid murther he broght his broþer o lif. *Ibid.* 5096 Pis hunger tide þat sal bath mani man and wijf... bring o þair lif. *Ibid.* 7808 Þat i suld him bring o dau (Fair) on lues dawne. *Ibid.* p. 990 *Recurr.* 356 We wend þat he alle Israel of woo suld haf broght. c 1305 *Jud. Iscariot* in *E. E. P.* (1862) 109 3ut were his fader betere habbe ibroȝt him of dawne. - *St. Kenelm* 93 *ibid.* 50 If heo mizte bringe þat child of lyf-dawne. 1523 *Ld. Berners Froiss.* I. cxxxvi. 301 They were discomfited, and brought out of ordre by force of armes. 1530 *Palgr. 469/1* His great crammyng in of meate hath brought him out of shape. *Ibid.* 468/2, I can bring hym out of pacyence with the waggyng of a strawe. 1533 *Elvot Cast. Helth* (1541) 62 They bringe a man from the use of reason. 1600 *Shaks. A. Y. L.* iii. ii. 262 Thou bring'st me out of tune.

c. with *to*:

as to bring to a close, end, head, issue, pitch; to bearings, cure, rights; to death, hardness, idleness, mischief, nought, obedience, shame; to account, book, hand, light, trial; to mind, reason, recollection, remembrance; to bed (see **BED** 6 c); to oneself (= to one's senses).

c 1175 *Lamb. Hom.* 103 Pan men... to deþe bringeð. c 1230 *Hali Meid.* 15 Þat ti wil were ibroht to werke. 1297 *R. Glouc.* 376 Þat hii nere to saame ybroȝt. a 1300 *Cursor M.* 12759 His sermon þat mani man broght to resun. *Ibid.* 20122 Þe seke broȝte she to bedde [Cott. broght to þair bedd]. c 1305 *St. Lucy* in *E. E. P.* (1862) 101 Dame Entice hire moder... þat hire to womman broȝte. c 1340 *Ayenb.* 128 Þe holy goost... þe senezere... bringþ aȝen to him-selue. c 1374 *Chaucer Boeth.* iii. ii. 99 Alle thynges ben referred and broght to nowht. c 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 51 Brynge to mynde, *reminiscor*. 1530 *Palgr.* 468/2 He fell in so great a swoone that we all had ynouge a dose to bring hym to hym selfe. *Ibid.* 470/1 Tyme bringeth the trithe to lyght. 1535 *Coverdale Mark* viii. 26 He was brought to right agayne & sawe all clearly. 1621 *Bible Pref.* 1 Certaine worthy men have been brought to vntimely death. 1664 *Massinger Renegado* I. iii, Are

you amazed? I'll bring you to yourself. 1651 *Proc. Parl.* No. 88. 1343 All things now seem to be brought to a good head. 1711 *Addison Spect.* No. 89. P. 1 He hoped that matters would have been long since brought to an issue. 1715 *De Fox Fam. Instruct.* l. vii. (1841) l. 136 You will never bring me to your beck. 1749 *Fiellding Tom Jones* II. iv. Mrs. Partridge was, at length... brought to herself. 1767 *Blackstone Comm.* II. 89 Lest... the guardian should have received the value, and not brought it to account. 1826 *Canning Fragn. Oration* 4 I'm like a young lady just bringing to bed. 1839 *Thirlwall Greece* VII. lvi. 161 The prosecutors brought Demosthenes to trial first. 1865 *Dickens Mut. Fr.* III. xv. I'll bring this young man to book. 1875 *Jowett Plato* (ed. 2) l. 430 There is no greater pleasure than to have Socrates brought to my recollection. 1882 *Stevenson Men & B.* (1886) 58 Jean was brought to bed of twins.

d. with *under*, upon:
as to bring under the hand of, under foot; upon one's knees, etc.

1535 *Coverdale Jude.* iii. 30 Thus were the Moabites brought under the hand of the children of Israel. 1552 *Hulst.* Bryng vnder obeysance or subiection. 1618 *Bolton Florus* (1636) 121 Antiochus thus brought under-foot. 1652 *Proc. Parliament* No. 34. 2078, I hope a short time will bring them all upon their knees.

e. with *adjs.* and their equivalents:
as to bring acquainted, low; formerly also at one, clean, faulty, etc.

1386 *Chaucer Knts.* T. 253 Oure lynage.. That is so lowe y-brought by tyrannye. 1420 *Morte Arth.* 1093, I... was of bylisse-broughte alle bare. 1523 *L.D. Beane's Froiss.* I. xii. 11 To the extent that he should bring hym on that case faulty. 1530 — *Arth. Lyt. Bryt* (1814) 365 He brought aslepe who so ever he touched. 1534 — *Gold. Bk. M. Aurel.* (1546) Gg vj b. I shall bring thee at one with the Senate. 1668 *Shadwell Sullen* l. i. I'll... bring you acquainted with this Lady. 1677 *Moxon Mech. Exerc.* (1703) 202 If you have not at first brought your Work clean. 1682 *R. Knox Hist. Ceylon* Pref. He will bring you acquainted with the Inhabitants. 1703 *Savage Lett. Antients* xlv. 110 The Distemper... which brought you so low. 1870 *Lowell Study Wind.* 93 Bringing men acquainted with every humor of fortune.

f. with *subord. clause* (obs.) or *infinitive*:
as to bring to be, bear, boil, to bring to pass (=bring about, cause to happen).

1375 *Lamb. Hom.* 17 Bide for him... bet crist hine bringe bet he iccherre from pan uelnesse. 1300 *Cursor M.* 1578 Was nan þam moght bring to reclaim. 1535 *Coverdale Wind.* x. 11 Wyzdome... brought to passe the things that he wente about. 1583 *Stubbes Anat. Abus.* II. 100 If it could be brought to passe. 1690 *Luttrell Brief Rel.* (1857) II. 70 Our men brought some of our guns to bear. 1719 *De Fox Crusoe* (1840) l. viii. 126, I brought the plank to be about three inches thick. 1798 *C. Lucas Ess. Waters* I. 85 It is... harder to bring the heavy acid of vitriol to boil. 1870 *De Fox Crusoe* (1840) l. viii. 126, I brought the plank to be about three inches thick. 1798 *C. Lucas Ess. Waters* I. 85 It is... harder to bring the heavy acid of vitriol to boil.

g. To cause (a person or oneself) to come (to a certain course of action, etc.); to induce, persuade, prevail upon.
1611 *Bible Pref.* 1 Certaine... could not be brought for a long time to give way to good Letters. 1666 *Perry's Diary* (1879) IV. 29 All children love fruit, and none brought to flesh, but against their wills at first. 1701 *W. Wotton Hist. Rome* Commod. i. 196 She could not bring her self to give Crispina the Precedence. 1839 *Thirlwall Greece* I. 209 They could not bring themselves to believe, that etc. 1846 *D. Jerrold Chron. Clovenhook Wks.* 1864 IV. 412 A woman may be brought to forgive bigamy, but not a joke.

10. *Naut.* To cause to come or go into a certain position or direction; chiefly in phrases: *To bring by the board* (see *BOARD* sb. 12 b); *by the lee* (see *LEE*); *to the wind* (see *WIND*).

1693 *Luttrell Brief Rel.* (1857) III. 437 The French... had his main-mast brought by the board before he struck. 1719 *De Fox Crusoe* (1840) 200 Her main-mast and fore-mast were brought by the board, that is to say, broken short off. 1836 *Marrat Midsh. Easy* xix, Gascoigne went to the helm, brought the boat up to the wind. 1858 *Merc. Mar. Mag.* V. 293, I was awake by the ship being brought to the wind.

III. *Combined with adverbs.* (See also sense 1, and the adverbs, for the non-specialized combinations.)

11. Bring about.

a. To cause to happen, bring to pass, occasion, accomplish, effect.

1450 *Merlin* l. 7 The denell was right gladd that he hadde brought this a-bouten. 1480 *Caxton Chron. Eng.* cciv. 186 Yf that thyng myght be brought aboute. 1530 *Palsgr.* 466/1, I bringe aboute my purpose. 1641 *J. Jackson True Evang.* T. i. 12 To bring his ends, and designs about. 1733 *World* No. 20. 107 Another proof of what people of fashion may bring about. 1848 *Macaulay Hist. Eng.* I. 239 He... had borne a chief part in bringing about the marriage. 1876 *J. H. Newman Hist. Sk.* I. i. iii. 139 The atrocities of the Greeks brought about a retaliation from the Latins.

† b. To cause to come round or make a complete revolution; to complete. *Obs.*

1598 *Shaks. L. L. L.* v. ii. 808 There stay vntill the twelve Celestiall Signes Haue brought about their annuall reckoning. 1593 — *3 Hen. VI.* II. v. 27 How many Houres brings about the Day.

c. To turn round; also *fig.* to reverse, convert.
1677 *Moxon Mech. Exerc.* (1703) 181 A thin String... would not so well bring heavy Work about. 1694 *Echard Plantus* 152 He [Jove] knows each man that's perjur'd, or bribes his Judge to gain his cause; upon which, he brings it about i' th' upper Court. 1745 *Swift Excell. New Song.* Now my new benefactors have brought me about. 1841 *Catlin N. Amer. Ind.* (1844) II. liii. 152, I had brought it [a canoe] about with a master hand.

d. To restore to consciousness, or to health, =bring round, a.

1854 *Dickens Hard Times* (Tauchn.) 66 That will bring him about or nothing will.

12. Bring again.

a. See sense 1 and AGAIN.

† b. To restore to consciousness. *Obs.* Cf. to bring about, round, to.

1636 *Ariana* 177 The rest... laboured to bring mee againe, and by force of remedies I opened my eyes. *Ibid.* 320 They brought her againe with water they threw upon her.

13. Bring away.

a. See sense 1 and AWAY.

† b. To extricate, detach, free, deliver. *Obs.*
1300 *Cursor M.* 16246 For þi stat þou aght to spek; to bring þi self a-wai.

14. Bring back.

To cause to return (to a place or state); to restore, recover, recall.

1662 *Bk. Com. Prayer, Chas. Martyr.* Yet didst thou... at length by a wonderful providence bring him back. 1861 *Earl Stanhope Life W. Pitt* I. i. 42, I trust the country air will bring back her strength. 1864 *Longf. Wayside Inn, Interl. to Torquem.* This brings back to me a tale. 1886 *Burton tr. Arab. Nts.* (abr. ed.) I. 286, I... went out after him, and brought him back secretly to the city.

15. Bring down.

a. To cause to fall to the ground; to overthrow; to kill or wound (a flying bird, or other animal).

1300 *Cursor M.* 63 Ar he sua brathly don be broght. 1535 *Coverdale Baruch* v. 7 God is purposed to brynge downe all stoute mountaynes. 1798 *Miller in Nicolas Disp. Nelson* (1846) VII. p. clv. *Zealous*... raked the *Guerrier*, brought down her foremast.

b. To cause (punishment, judgements, etc.) to alight on, upon.

1662 *Bk. Com. Prayer, Chas. Martyr.* The crying sins of this Nation, which brought down this heavy judgement upon us. 1864 *Times* 2 Jan., To bring down on themselves the hostility of the most powerful maritime State.

c. *fig.* To lower, humble, abase.

1535 *Coverdale Ps. xviii* (1). 27 Thou shalt... bringe downe the hye lokes of the proud. 1768 *Sterne Sent. Journ.* (1778) II. 21, I could not bring down my mind to think of it. 1875 *H. E. Manning Mission H. Ghost* x. 279 Every thing that could be used to bring down his great constancy.

d. To reduce, lessen, lower (price); to simplify.

1596 *Shaks. Merch. V.* l. iii. 45 He lends out money gratis, and brings downe The rate of vnaue here with vs in Venice. 1621 *Proc. Parliament* No. 94. 1450 Which I hope will bring down the price of corn there. 1719 *Swift to Yng. Clergyman* Wks. 1755 II. ii. 5 Terms brought down to the capacity of the hearer. 1748 *Smollett Rod. Rand.* xii. 27 At last however she was brought down to five, which he paid.

e. To continue (information, etc.) to a later date (cf. *Bring up* k).

1881 *Daily Tel.* 27 Dec., The annual abstract... brings down the information to June, 1881. 1885 *Bookseller* July 648/a Information accurate and brought down to date.

f. To bring down the house, gallery, etc.: to evoke such demonstrative applause as threatens or suggests the downfall of the building.

1754 *World* II. No. 76. 125 His apprehension that your statues will bring the house down. 1870 *Lowell Study Wind.* 384 Every sentence brought down the house, as I never saw one brought down before. 1884 *Symonds Shaks. Predecess.* x. § x. 403 The interview... must have brought down the gallery.

16. Bring forth.

a. To produce, give birth to, bring into being, bear, yield (offspring; fruit, flowers, etc.; natural products; products, effects, results).

1300 *Ormin* 1937 þær brohhte 3ho þatt wasstine forþ Off all ununwemmed wambe. 1522 *Ancre R.* 134 Bringin vorð briddes. 1598 *Wyclif Ps.* ciii. 14 And thou bringist forth hei to beestia. 1440 *Gesta Rom.* (1878) 233 He had weddied to wyf a yonge gentilwoman, the whiche conseynd, and browte forth a faire sone. 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 51 Brynge forth the frute, *fructific.* 1526 *Pilgr. Perf.* (W. de W. 1534) 47 b, V' tree neuer bryngeth forth floures ne fruytes, but fyrst it has borne & brought forth leues. 1535 *Coverdale Wind.* xix. 10 The grounde brought forth fyes in steade of catell. 1553 *Eden Treat. New Ind.* (Arb.) 8 Places most apte to bring forth gold, spices, and precious stones. 1600 *Shaks. Sonn.* xxxviii, Let him bring forth Eternal numbers to outlive long date. 1605 — *Macb.* i. vii. 72 Bring forth Men-Children onely. 1615 — *W. Lawson New Orchard* 49 Young Heifers bring not forth Calves so fair... as when they be come to be old kine. 1875 *Jowett Plato* (ed. 2) V. 123 He never thought of what the future might bring forth.

† b. To bring up, rear, breed (animals). *Obs.*

1305 *St. Kenelm* 135 in *E. E. P.* (1862) 51 His norice þat him hadde ifed, & mid hire mulc forth ibro3t. 1400 *Maundev.* 72 The Sarazines brynge forth no Pigges. 1430 *Syr Gener.* 879 From a childe she him forth broght.

† c. To utter, express; to put forth, adduce, advance. *Obs.*

1300 *Cursor M.* 12138 To bring forth sli talking. 1382 *Wyclif Eccles.* xx. 29 A wys man in wrdis shal bringe forth hymself. 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 51 Bryngyn forth or shewyn forth, *profero.* 1532 *More Confut. Tindale* Wks. 475/a The places of Scripture whiche Helvidius broughte furth for the contrary. 1606 *Shaks. Tr. & Cr.* I. iii. 242 If that he prais'd himselfe, bring the praise forth. 1612 *Bible Isa.* xli. 21 Bring forth your strong reasons.

† d. To bring to light, or public view. *Obs.*
1525 *Ancre R.* 144 Euerich idel word bið þer ibrouht forð. 1599 *Shaks. Hen. V.* Pro. 10 On this vnworthy Scaffold to bring forth So great an Obiect. 1601 — *All's Well* v.

iii. 151 To bring forth this discour'ie. 1605 — *Macb.* m. iv. 125 Augures and vnderstood Relations haue... brought forth The secret'st man of Blood. 1606 — *Ant. & Cl.* v. ii. 219 The quicke Comedians Extemporally will stage vs.. Anthony Shall be brought drunken forth.

17. Bring forward.

a. See sense 1 and FORWARD.

b. *Building.* See quot.

1823 *P. Nicholson Pract. Build.* 417 Bringing forward is a term applied to priming and painting new wood added to old work, or old work which has been repaired, so that the whole shall appear alike when finished.

c. *Book-keeping.* To carry on a sum from the bottom of one folio to the top of another where the account is continued.

Mod. A clerly error in the amount brought forward.

18. *Bring in.* a. See sense 1 and IN *adv.*

b. To introduce (customs, etc.).

1384 *Wyclif De Eccl. Sel. Wks.* III. 345 To assente wiþ such falseheed bringip in ofte heresies. 1611 *Bible 2 Peter* ii. 1 False teachers... who pruilly shall bring in damnable heresies. 1690 *Locke Govt.* I. vi. § 58 Manners, brought in and continued amongst them. 1753 *World* No. 10 Near two years ago the popish calendar was brought in.

c. To bring (money) into the purse or pocket.

1598 *Bale Thre Lawes* 1199 Thys crede wyll brynge in moneye. 1726 *South* (J.) The sole measure of all his courtesies is... what revenue they will bring him in. 1814 *Lett. fr. England* II. xxxviii. 83 And by the time they are seven or eight years old bring in money. 1855 *Costello Stories fr. Screen* 85 'What does it bring you in?' says she.

† d. To introduce, place (a person) in a position or station. *Obs.*

1604 *Shaks. Oth.* III. i. 53 He... needs no other Sutor, but his likings to bring you in againe. 1676 *Hutton Corr.* (1878) 123 If his designe had succeeded of bringing in S' Edward Deering. 1709 — *Steele Tatler* (J.) Since he could not have a seat among them himself, he would bring in one who had more merit.

e. To introduce (an action into a court of law or a bill into Parliament).

1602 *Manningham Diary* 16 Dec., I brought in a moot with John Bramston. 1622 *Proc. Parliament* No. 144. 2266 A day was appointed to bring in the Act. 1848 *Macaulay Hist. Eng.* II. 121 He learned that a law, such as he wished to see passed, would not even be brought in. 1876 *Trevelyan Macaulay* II. ix. 133 Sergeant Talfourd brought in a measure devised with the object of extending the term of Copyright in a book to sixty years.

f. To introduce (into consideration, discussion); to adduce (by way of illustration, argument, etc.).

1602 *Shaks. Lear* III. vi. 37 I'll see their trial first. Bring in the evidence. 1631 *Weever Anc. Fun. Mon.* 122, I will bring in for example the Bells of the Parish Church of Winton. 1745 *Swift* (J.) Quotations are best brought in, to confirm some opinion controverted. 1847 *L. Hunt Men, Women, & Bks.* I. iv. 87 Providence is... to be brought in, humbly, when man comes to the end of his own humble endeavours.

† g. = *Bring on*; to lead to, cause. *Obs.*

1596 *Cogan Haven Health* (1636) 98 Which... sometime bringeth in fevers.

† h. To reduce to allegiance, or submission. *Obs.*

1596 *Spenser State Ire.* (J.) Such a strong power of men, as should perforce bring in all that rebellious rout.

i. See quot.

1753 *Chambers Cycl. Supp.* s. v., Bringing in a horse, in the manege, is the keeping down his nose, when he boars, and tosses it up to the wind. A horse is brought in by a strong hard branch.

j. Of a jury: To bring in a verdict, hence *collog.* to 'find' as 'The jury brought him in guilty.'

18. Bring off.

a. To bring away from (a position or condition); esp. by boat from a ship, wreck, the shore.

1606 *H. More Antid. Ath.* II. ix. (1712) 68 That thence the atheist may be the more easily brought off to the acknowledgement of the existence of a God. 1676 *Hobbes Liad* II. 183 Thus he the People brings Off from their purpose. 1701 *Lowd. Gaz.* No. 3770/3 A Granadier... swam over the River and brought off a Ferryboat. 1840 *R. Dana Bef. Mast* xxv. 79 Going ashore... to bring off the Captain.

b. To deliver, rescue, acquit. *arch.*

1597 *R. Glouc.* 379 3yf God me wole grace sende, Vorto make my chyrcheгон, & bringe me of þys bende. 1300 *Harrou. Hell* 61 Y shal the bringe of belle pyne. 1606 *Shaks. Tr. & Cr.* v. vi. 25 Ile be tane too, Or bring him off. 1699 *Bentley Phal.* 237 It will not bring Phalaris off; unless his Advocate can shew, etc. 1715 *De Fox Fam. Instruct.* I. iv. (1841) I. 84, I cannot tell what you will say then to bring yourself off. 1753 *Chesterfield Lett.* III. cclxx. 237. 1863 *Mrs. C. Clarke Shaks. Char.* xvi. 391 The in-juring party... is brought off triumphantly.

† c. To demonstrate, establish clearly. *Obs.*

1674 *N. Fairfax Bulk & Set.* 37 To bring it but cleverly off, how ten thousand years between should not be time between.

20. Bring on.

† a. To lead forward or on, conduct; to cause to advance, advance the growth of. *Obs.*

1590 *Hali Meid.* 17 Pe stude & te time þat mahten bringe þe on mis for to donne. 1602 *Shaks. Ham.* III. i. 9 When we would bring him on to some Confession of his true state. 1606 — *Ant. & Cl.* III. ii. 44 The Aprill's in her eyes, it is Loues spring, And these the showres to bring it on. 1621 *Burton Anat. Mel.* I. ii. vi. (1651) 88 Voluntary idleness... gently brings on like a siren, a shooing horn, or some sphinx to this irrevocable gulf. *Mod.* We want a little more sun to bring the plants on.

b. To produce, cause (illness, a state of things).
1671 *Milton Samson* 373 These evils... I myself have brought them on. 1766 *Goldsm. Vic. W.* xviii, This..

might have brought on a relapse. 1824 WORDSW. *Excursion* i. 609 And poverty brought on a pettish mood And a sore temper. 1817 JAS. MILL *Brit. India* II. iv. v. 167 A battle was brought on. *Mod.* A cold which brought on influenza.

c. To bring into formal consideration or discussion, introduce.

1715 BURNET *Omn. Time* II. 197 Why must an attainer be brought on? 1878 SEELEY *Stein* III. 322 Metternich announced his intention of bringing on the subject.

d. *techn.* To fasten, fix, join, weld together.

1691 T. H[ALL] *Acc. New Invent.* 22 The Workmen were bringing on an ordinary Straits-sheathing with Wood upon one of his small Ships. 1852 A. RYLAND *Assay Gold & S.* 97 He found that the spoon and ladle were not made in one piece, but that the parts bearing the marks were 'inserted' or 'brought on'.

21. **Bring out.** (See also sense I and OUT.)

a. To separate or detach (any one) from; to deprive, do (any one) out of. *Obs.*

c. 1400 *Destr. Troy* 8633 And the lede with a launce out of lyue broght. a. 1450 *Knt. de la Tour* (1868) 65 To bringe hem out of her good name. 1462 *Paston Lett.* 145 II. 108, I have bought salt and other thynges, whiche hathe brought me out of myche sylver. 1663 LITTLE *Ælfric on O. & N. T.* Pref. 11 To bring the people out of love with the... Bible.

b. To produce, yield. *Obs.*

1545 ASCHAM *Toxoph.* (Arb.) 93 The grounde is plentifull... whiche... bryngeth out corne. 1607 SHAKS. *Timon* iv. iii. 188 Enseare thy Fertile and Conception wombe, Let it no more bring out ingratefull man.

c. To express, utter.

1665 BOYLE *Occas. Refl.* iv. xv. (1675) 257 Any thing, how contrary soever to Piety, or right Reason... if Men can bring it out... neatly wrapt up in Rallery.

d. To bring into clearness, distinctness, or prominence; to develop and display (talent).

1605 SHAKS. *Lea* v. iii. 163 That have I done, And more, much more, the time will bring it out. a. 1700 DRYDEN (J.), *These...* as they boldly press, Bring out his crimes, and force him to confess. 1823 J. BADDOCK *Dom. Amusem.* 39 The exact kind of preparation which is calculated to bring out the writing. 1832 *Athenæum* 389 If the talent does exist... such will be the only way to bring it out. 1874 HELPS *Soc. Press.* i. 3 The moon... brought out the river and adjacent buildings resplendently. 1875 JOWETT *Plato* (ed. 2) I. 76 The antagonism of the two characters is still more clearly brought out.

e. To introduce (a young lady) formally into 'society'; a company, a foreign loan, or the like, for public subscription.

1823 BYRON *Yuan* xii. xxxi. [They] Begg'd to bring up the little girl, and 'out', For that's the phrase that settles all things now, Meaning a virgin's first blush at a rout. *Mod.* That loan was brought out by Messrs. Baring in 1852.

f. To produce before the public; to place upon the stage (a play or opera); to publish (a book).

1818 BYRON in Moore's *Life* (1838) 376 They have brought out Fazio with great and deserved success at Covent Garden. 1851 *Illustr. Lond. News* 354 'Robert le Diable' was originally brought out by Meyerbeer. 1878 MORLEY *Diderot* 164 It was resolved to bring out the ten volumes... in a single issue. 1882 PEBODY *Eng. Journalism* xx. 148 Proposed that he should bring out an evening paper.

g. To exhibit, shew. (With complement.)

1705 ARBUTHNOT *Measure, Weights, &c.* (L.) But those experiments bring out the denarius heavier.

22. **Bring over.** (See also sense I and OVER.)

To influence to come to one's own side or party (from an opposite one); to convert.

1724-5 SWIFT *Wks.* (1841) II. 23 By these... means, he soon brought over both parties to him. 1771 GOLDSM. *Hist. Eng.* II. 221 The house of commons was brought over to second his request. 1848 MACAULAY *Hist. Eng.* II. 347 Able to bring over a great body of his disciples to the royal side. 1878 BOSW. SMITH *Carthage* 283 In vain, however did he attempt... to bring over Cumæ, Naples, and Puteoli.

23. **Bring round.** (See also sense I and ROUND.)

a. To restore (a person) from a fainting-fit or an attack of illness.

1864 TENNYSON *En. Ard.* 842 Dead!... I warrant, man, that we shall bring you round.

b. To complete a set of changes in bell-ringing.

1883 *Birmingham Daily Post* 19 Oct. 7 A peal of... grandsire majors which was successfully rung and brought round in capital style, in four hours and fifty-five minutes.

24. **Bring through.** (See sense I and THROUGH.)

spec. To treat successfully through the stages of an illness.

Mod. The doctor hopes to be able to bring him through.

25. **Bring to.**

a. *Naut.* (trans.) To fasten, tie, bend.

1681 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 1666/4 In the night they mended their Riggings, brought new Sails to the Yards. 1867 SMYTH *Sailor's Word-bk.*, *Bring-to*, to bend, as to bring-to a sail to the yard.

b. To cause (a ship) to come to a standstill.

1753 *Scotts Mag.* Aug. 415/2 A guarda costa... fired a gun to bring them to. 1769 FALCONER *Dict. Marine* (1789), *To Bring to*, in navigation, to check the course of a ship... by arranging the sails in such a manner that they shall counteract each other. 1803 NELSON in Nicolas *Disp.* (1845) V. 81 At 6.30 brought to the Vrow Agnetta, Dutch Brig.

c. *intr.* (for *refl.* or *absol.*) Of a ship or her crew: To come to a standstill; *transf.* to stop, 'pull up'.

1697 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 3287/3 The 5 French brought to a Stern. 1709 *Ibid.* 4591/2 They came within Random shot, and then brought to. 1748 ANSON *Voy.* (ed. 4) i. iv. 49 The Commodore made a signal for the ships to bring to. 1790 BEATSON *Nav. & Mil. Mem.* 278 Near 3 in the afternoon,

when she brought to. 1845 DARWIN *Voy. Nat.* vii. (1879) 136 We brought to in a narrow arm of the river. 1861 HUGHES *Tom Brown Oxf.* II. i. 4 Here let us bring to... and try to get acquainted with the outside of the place before the good folk are about.

† d. *trans.* To cause to acquiesce or be complaisant. *Obs.*

1748 RICHARDSON *Clarissa* xvi. i. 93 Proud spirits may be brought to. 1749 FIELDING *Tom Jones* xviii. xii, I was forced to use a little fatherly authority to bring her to.

e. To restore to consciousness or to health.

Cf. 8 c. *bring to oneself.*

1769 BURNS *Ep. Dr. Blacklock*, I ken'd it still your wee bit jauntie Wad bring ye to. 1844 G. GLEIG *Lt. Dragoon* v. (1856) 45 Our lieutenant... fainted... The French guard brought him to by shaking. 1850 MRS. STOWE *Uncle Tom's C.* xxxiii. 299 'I'll bring her to!' said the driver with a brutal grin. 'I'll give her something better than camphire!' *Bring together*: see sense I and TOGETHER.

26. **Bring under.** To bring into subjection, subdue.

1563 *Homilies* II. *Repentance* III. (1859) 548 Who will bring me under for my works? 1597 HOOKER *Eccle. Pol.* v. xlii. § 3 Either yielding through fear, or brought under with penury. 1618 BOLTON *Florus* i. xl. (1636) 31 Lucius Quinctius chiefly brought them under. 1705 STANHOPE *Paraphr.* III. 40 That, which brought under the Reluctancies of Humane Nature. a. 1834 MOORE *Minstrel Boy*, The foe-man's chain Could not bring his proud soul under.

27. **Bring up.**

a. To bring into a higher position; to elevate, raise, rear, build up; to raise to a point or amount, etc. See senses of *up*.

1597 R. GLOUC. 369 Pe abbey of Came... he rerde in Normandy... He broyte vp mony oþer hous of relygyon al so. 1477 EARL RIVERS (CAXTON) *Dictes* 142 Yf he see that fortune raise and bring up som other of lower degree. 1611 SHAKS. *Wint. T.* iv. iv. 544 Your discontenting Father, strue to qualifie And bring him vp to liking. 1677 MOXON *Mech. Exerc.* (1703) 141 The next work The Carpenter has to do, is to bring up the Stairs. *Ibid.* 129 The Celler-Walls to be brought up by a Brick-layer with Brick. 1885 SIR E. KAY in *Law Times Rep.* LII. 370/1 The (amount) to which the undivided profit would be brought up.

b. To rear from childhood; to educate, breed.

1483 CAXTON *G. de la Tour* F vij. The child whiche hadde be secretly nourished and brought up cam to his enherytance. 1511-2 *Act 3 Hen. VIII.* iii. § 1 To enduce and lern theym and bryng them uppe in shotyng. 1588 A. KING *Canisius Catech.* 50 Fosterit, teachit, and brocht vp in continuall exercise. 1621 BIBLE *Isa.* i. 2, I have nourished and brought vp children. 1711 ADDISON *Spect.* No. 105 P 4 A Man who has been brought up among Books. 1875 JOWETT *Plato* (ed. 2) IV. 122 The doctrines in which he had been brought up. 1879 CASSIDY *Techn. Educ.* IV 70/1 The ordinary farmer brings up a lot of calves every year.

c. To introduce to general notice; to bring into vogue. *Obs.*

1483 CAXTON *G. de la Tour* D vij b. To hasty in takyng any newe thynges brought up. 1530 PALSGR. 470/2 He hath brought up a newe custome... To bringe up newe lawes is a perilous worke. 1693 W. ROBERTSON *Phrasol.* 284 She brings up a fashion grown out of use. 1741 RICHARDSON *Pamela*, The Torture is not used in England, and I hope you won't bring it up.

† d. To raise, originate, give utterance to (a report), etc. *Obs.*

1535 COVERDALE *Numb.* xiii. 32 And of the lande that they had searched, they brought vp an euell reporte amonge the children of Israel. 1611 *Ibid.* xiv. 36 Bringing vp a slander vpon the land.

e. To bring into the presence of authority; to bring before a tribunal, or for examination.

1823 J. BADDOCK *Dom. Amusem.* 64 Being brought up... to answer at Bow-street office. 1865 *Reader* 8 July 30 Candidates would be expected to bring up so many books of Scott. 1885 *Law Times* LXXIX. 139/1 A writ of *certiorari* to bring up an order made by the justices.

f. *Naut.* To bring to anchor, or to a standstill.

1800 *Blackw. Mag.* VIII. 317, I was all at once... as the sailors say, brought up by an invisible fence. 1848 R. DANA *Bef. Mast* xxv. 80 They let go the other anchor... and brought the vessel up.

g. *intr.* To come to anchor; hence, to come to a stand, to stop, 'pull up'.

1769 FALCONER *Dict. Marine* (1789) *To Bring-up*, a provincial phrase peculiar to the seamen in the coal-trade, signifying to anchor. 1790 BEATSON *Nav. & Mil. Mem.* 321 The Rippon... brought up against the Morne Rouge Battery. 1806 KANE *Arct. Exp.* I. xxix. 386 At last the floe brought up against the rocks. 1858 SEARS *Athens* iv. 32 Expect when they die to... bring up at some good place. 1884 ANSTEE *Giant's Robe* vi, Mr. Lightowler brought up sharply opposite the end of an inclined covered staircase... where they left the dog-cart.

h. To bring under notice or consideration; to recall to notice (a by-gone matter).

1875 JOWETT *Plato* I. 212 If I had said anything last year, I suppose that you would bring that up... Are you such an old fool... that you bring up now what I said at first? *Mod.* 'I am glad the matter has been brought up.'

i. To develop, produce.

1823 J. BADDOCK *Dom. Amusem.* 169 Chromate of potash... brings up a yellow colour.

j. To vomit. (*colloq.*)

k. *To bring up arrears, lost ground, etc.*

1768 DEDDIS *Mss. Tour* xii. 43 By way of clearing my ground, or, as the Sailors call it, bringing up lee-way. 1859 JEFFSON *Brittany* viii. 131 The afternoon was spent in bringing up my arrears of correspondence. 1865 E. BURRITT *Walk Land's E.* 445 Bringing up a long arrearage of writing. *Mod.* Has the narrative been brought up to date?

1. *Bring up the rear (arrear)*: see REAR.

Bringall, -gela, var. spellings of BRINJAL.

Bringer (brin'ja). [*f.* BRING v. + -ER¹.]

1. One who or that which brings (see various senses of the verb).

c. 1340 *Cursor M.* 10161 (Trin.) Joachim bringere of bote. 1471 EARL OF OXFORD in *Paston Lett.* 669 III. 5 The bringer of thys letter. 1535 TINDALE *Tracy's Test.* 6 A peacemaker, and bringer into grace and favour. 1597 SHAKS. 2 *Hen. IV.* i. l. 100 Yet the first bringer of vnwelcome newes Hath but a loosing Office. 1775 ADAIR *Amer. Ind.* 443 A pretended great bringer of rain. 1841 EMERSON *Misc.* (1855) 158 The scholar must be a bringer of hope. 1881 H. H. GIBBS *Double Standard* 67 Their sterling amount would be at the credit of the bringer.

b. *spec.* See quot.

1864 SALA in *Daily Tel.* 9 Aug., A bounty-broker is simply a crimp, or what the recruiting sergeants in Charles-street, Westminster, call a 'bringer'.

2. With back, in, out, up, etc. *Bringer up*, one who rears or educates.

c. 1386 CHAUCER *Wife's T.* 340 Povert is... A ful gret bringer out of busynesse. 1529 WOLSEY in *Four C. Eng. Lett.* 11 Your olde bringer up and loving frende. 1581 SIDNEY *Apol. Poetrie* (Arb.) 71 They were first bringers in of all ciuillitie. 1604 EDMONDS *Observ. Caesar's Comm.* 130 The bringers-up or last rancke called Tergiductores. 1742 C. WESLEY in Southey *Life Wesley* (1820) II. 26 Bringers-in of the Pretender. 1840 CARLYLE *Heroes* iv. 210 A bringer back of men to reality. 1865 BUSHNELL *Vicar. Sacr.* II. ii. (1868) 156 He is the Captain, or bringer on, of salvation.

Bringing (brin'jin), *vbl. sb.* [*f.* BRING v. + -ING¹.]

1. A causing to come to a point of reference or to a state (see various senses of the verb).

1433 E. E. WILLS (1882) 92 As towchyng my bryngyng on erth. 1621 HOBBS *Leviath.* III. xxxiv. 210 The bringing of Gods people into the promised land. 1663 GERRIER *Counsel* 77 The sawing, and bringing of the Timber to a square. 1824 BLACK *Jud. Shaks.* xxxiv, The riding to London, and the bringing of thy father.

2. With forth, in, etc.: see adverb. combs. of verb.

1603 SHAKS. *Meas. for M.* II. ii. 153 Let him be but testified in his owne bringings forth, and hee shall appeare... a Scholler. 1691 T. H[ALL] *Acc. New Invent.* 6 Materials employed in the bringing on, and stripping off the Wood-sheathing. 1769 FALCONER *Dict. Marine* (1789) *Bringing-to*, is generally used to detain a ship in any particular station. 1853 R. HUNT *Man. Photogr.* 222 The bringing-out of the Picture.

3. *Bringing up*; esp. rearing, training, education, breeding.

1526 *Pilgr. Perf.* (1531) 50 His naturall father and mother, of whom he hath his body and bryngynge vp. 1602 *Return fr. Parnass.* II. iv. (Arb.) 26 Sir you must pardon my father, he wants bringing vp. a. 1617 HIERON *Aaron's Bells* (1623) 6 By his bringing vp in Pharaohs court. 1864 TENNYSON *En. Ard.* 87 To... give his child a better bringing-up.

† **Brinie, brynne** (brin'i). *Obs.* Forms: 2 *brinie*, 3 *brunie*, 3-4 *brinie*, *brunye*, 4 *brunye*, *brini*, *brynne*, *breny*. [*ME.* *brunie* (*u*), *brynne*, *brinie*, *brenie*, a. ON. *brynja* (Da. *brynne*, Sw. *brynja*), corresp. to OE. *byrne* from **brynne*, OHG. *brunja*, *brunna* (MHG. *brunje*, *brünje*, *brünne*, also mod.G.) corslet, Goth. *brunja* breast-plate:—OEt.

**brunja*-. Whether the latter was adopted from OSlav. *branja* 'coat of mail', or the OSlav. from Teut., or both from a common source (cf. OIr. *brunne* 'breast') is uncertain; the word is not connected with BURN v. The Teut. word was adopted in late L. or Romanic: cf. med.L. *brunia*, -ea, *bronia*, OFr. *brunie*, *bronie*, *brunne*, *brugne*, *brogne*, *bruine*, *broine*, *broune*, Fr. *brunha*, *brunna*. The ME. *brunie* corresponds exactly to the Norman-French form, but the phonology of the parallel *brinie*, *brenie*, points to the Scandinavian as the original source. The regular ME. form from the OE. word would have been *byrn* (see BURN), and from Scand. *brynne*: through contact of these and metathesis of *r*, there are also found the forms *BRYN*, and *BYRNIE*.]

Armour for the body; a coat of mail, cuirass, breastplate. Hence *Brynied*, *brenyed ppl.* a. Mailed.

c. 1175 *Cott. Hom.* 243 Sceold, helm, and brenie. 1205 LAV. 1553 Pah he heffen brunie on. *Ibid.* 6718 And burne (1275 *brunie*) he wurp on rigge. a. 1300 K. Horn 591 Pe sole schok þe brunie þat al þe curt gan denie (to din). a. 1300 *Havelok* 1775 Bernard... caste a brinie up on his rig. c. 1300 *Sir Tristr.* 101 Purch brinies brast þe blod. c. 1330 *King of Tars* 949 With helm on hed and brunye bryht. c. 1380 *Sir Ferrnub.* 3024 Many was þe helm & brynne bryht: þat þar was cloue. 1a. 1400 *Morte Arth.* 316. Brenyede knyghtes. c. 1440 *Syr Gougher* 415 in Uttersoun's *E. P.* I. 179 Blode thorow brenyys brast.

Brinness (brin'ness). Briny quality.

1883 *Sat. Rev.* 1 Dec. 709 A very briny book indeed. Its brinness is perhaps of a somewhat facetious kind.

Brining (brin'ing), *vbl. sb.* [*f.* BRINE v.]

1. The application of brine.

1767 WINTER *Syst. Husb.* 268, I deem the practice of common brining to be only useful for destroying small insects.

2. The removing of brine from a steamer's boiler.

1873 BADFORD *Sailor's Pocket Bk.* v. (ed. 2) 212 If obliged to use sea water for the feed, let the process of brining be as constant and continuous as possible.

Brinish (brin'ish), a. Also (6 *brennish*), 6-7 *brynish*. [*f.* BRINE *sb.* + -ISH¹.]

1. Of the nature of brine; somewhat briny, saltish; of or pertaining to the sea. † *Brinish brink*: the sea-shore.

1588 SHAKS. *Tit. A.* iii. 1. 97 Expecting euer when some enuious surge, Will in his brinish bowels swallow him. 1609 Heywood *Brit. Troy* xi. liii. Neere to the brinish brinke. a 1639 S. WARD *Coal fr. Altar, Sermon* (1862) 74 Like brinish lights, they sparkle and spit at others. 1796 MORSE *Amer. Geog.* I. 634 Streams of brinish water. 1828 BLACKW. *Mag.* 410 One almost tastes the brinish air.

b. Applied to tears.

1590 LVLV *Euphues* (Arb.) 355 The brinish water that fall-eth from mine eyes. 1595 BARNFIELD *Cassandra* lxx, Whose body she emballms, With brennish teares. 1645 PAYNNE *Sov. Antid.* Concl. 31 Which he shall with brinish teares repent. 1696 E. WALKER *Epictetus* *Mor.* xlix, When some sad Passion tries To draw the brinish Humour from your Eyes.

2. fig. Bitter, nauseous.

a 1617 HIERON *Wks.* II. 475 These brinish ineffectives are vnsauory. 1649 AMBROSE *Media* iii. (1652) 50 What brinish sorrows and great indignation against sin?

Brinishness. Brinish state or quality.

1755 in JOHNSON; and in mod. Dicts.

|| **Brinjal**, **jaul** (brin'dzāl). *Anglo-Indian*. Forms: 7 berenjau, 8 bringela, brinjale, berenjal, birinjal, 8-9 bringal, brinjal, -jaal, -jall, -jaul. Also (from Arab. and Pers.) 7 pl. pal-lingentes, 8 bedin-janas, 9 badenjān, badingān. [Anglo-Indian adaptation of Pg. *bringella*, *bringela*, earlier *beringela* = Sp. *berengena*, *al-berengena*, ad. Arabic الباذنجان (*al*)-*bāḍinjān*. The latter is a Pers. *bādin-gān*, ad. Skr. *vātin-gaṇa*, all applied to the same fruit. (See below.)]

The Anglo-Indian name of the fruit of the Egg-plant (*Solanum Melongena*).

1611 N. DOWNTON in Purchas *Pilgr.* I. 298 (Y.) Divers sorts of prouisions to wit. . . Pallingenies, cucumbers. 1673 FRYER *Acc. E. India* & P. (1698) 104 (Y.) The Garden . . . planted with Potatoes, Yawms, Berenjaws, both hot plants. 1789 *Seir Mutakherin* III. 229 (Y.) He lived on raw Bringelas, on unripe mangoes, and on raw red pepper. 1789 SAUNDERS in *Phil. Trans.* LXXIX. 86 Melons, gourds, brinjals, and cucumbers. 1810 MARIA GRAHAM *Jrnl. Resid. India* 24 (Y.) I saw . . . two acres covered with brinjal. 1861 SWINHOE *N. China Camp.* 374 Sweet Potatoes, brinjalls, ground nuts, and buck wheat. 1866 *Treas. Bot.* II. 1070/1 Brinjals. . . are of the size and form of a goose's egg, and usually of a rich purple colour.

[Few names even of plants exemplify so fully the changes to which a foreign and unintelligible word is liable under the influence of popular etymology and form-association. Cognate with the Sp. *alberengena* is the Fr. *aubergine*, dial. *albergine*, *albergaine*, *albergame*, also without the *al*, *belingele*, and, with *m* for *b*, *merangene*, *melongene*, botanical Lat. *melongena*, It. *melausana*, *mela insana* (= mad apple). All these go back to the Arabic *bāḍinjān*, and ultimately to Skr. *vātin-gāṇa*, whence also Hindustāni *baingan*, *began*. The Malay *berinjalt*, prob. from Pg., illustrates the Anglo-Indian form (see Devic, and Yule). In the West Indies *brinjalle* has been further corrupted to *brown-jolly*. The Sanskrit name is said to mean 'the class (that removes) the wind-disorder (windy humour)', a meaning supposed to connect it with *vāritāṇa*, another name of the same plant, which is said to have a *brūta-nāṣin* or 'wind-removing' effect. (J. T. Platts.)]

|| **Brinjarry** (brindzā'ri). *Anglo-Ind.* Also 6 banjara, 7-9 bunjara, 8 bandjarrah, ben-jarry, brinjarry, 8-9 binjarree, -jarry, 9 brin-jaree, -jarree, bunjarrah, -jarree, vanjarrah. [corruption of Urdu *banjārā*, according to Wilson deriv. of Skr. *vanij* trade: influenced, some think, by Pers. *birinj* rice (Col. Yule). Called in Bombay *vanjārā*.] A travelling grain and salt merchant of the Deccan.

[c 1632 *Life of Mohabut Khan* in J. Briggs *Acc. Bunjaras* (Y.) The very first step . . . was to present the Bunjaras of Hindostan with elephants, horses, and cloths.] 1793 DIROM *Camp. India* 2 (Y.) His convoy of brinjarries had been attacked. 1794 E. MOOR *Narr. Little's Detachm.* 131 The Bandjarrahs. . . This very useful class of Hindoos, generally, but we think, improperly called Brinjarries. 1798 WEADE in Owen's *Disp. Wellington* 9 To open our rear for the admission of Brinjarries. 1799 KIRKPATRICK *ibid.* 173 As many Benjarries as possible. 1800 WELLINGTON in Gurw. *Disp.* I. 146 No Brinjarries in yet. 1804 — in Owen's *Disp.* 425 His Highness shall collect as many Bunjarrahs as possible. 1813 FORBES *Oriental Mem.* I. 206 (Y.) We met there a number of Vanjarrahs, or merchants. a 1876 MEADOWS *Taylor in Life* II. 17 (Y.) Brinjarries, or carriers of grain.

Brink (brink). Forms: 3-4 brenk, 3-6 brynke, 5-6 brynke, 5-7 brinke, 6 brinok, 3-brink. [ME. *brink* (*brēnk*), not known in OE.; corresp. to MDu. *brinc* (Du. *brink*), MLG. *brink* 'edge of a field, grass-land, side of a hill, hill' (whence mod. G. *brink* 'green hill, grass-land'), Sw. *brink* 'descent of a hill', Da. *brink* 'steepness, precipice, declivity', all masc., cogn. with ON. *brekka* fem. (:-*brinkd*) 'slope, hill-side, hill'. The Eng. word was prob. from Scandinavian. In sense *brink* formerly ran parallel with BRIM.]

1. The edge, margin, or border of a steep place, such as one might fall over, e. g. the 'brink' of a precipice, chasm, pit, ditch, grave. 'On the brink of the grave' (fig.): near death. [This is the specific current sense, which now also affects the use of 2, and entirely colours the figurative use in 5;

but it is doubtful whether the first two quotations do not rather belong to 2.]

a 1300 *Ancre. R.* 242 Pe horse pet is scheoun, and blenche8 uor one scheadewe upo be heie brugge, and falled adun into be watre of be heie brugge [MS. *Titus D.* xviii. brinke]. c 1325 E. E. *Allit. P.* B. 384 Vche a dale so depe pat demmed at be brynke. c 1386 CHAUCER *Frankl. T.* 130 And caste his eyen dounward fro the brynke [v. r. brinke, brinke]. — *Merck. T.* 157, I am hoor and old, And almost at [v. r. on] my pittes brinke. 1a 1400 *Chetiv. P.* 68 Your owine childe for to spill Upon this hillis brinke? 1588 SHAKS. *Tit. A.* ii. iii. 241 Of this deepe pit . . . I haue no strenght to plucke thee to the brinke. 1607 MILTON *P. L.* ii. 918 The warie fiend Stood on the brink of Hell and look'd a while. 1709 BERKELEY *Ess. Vision* § 148 He shall come to the brink of a precipice. 1853 KANE *Grinnell Exp.* xxxix. (1856) 355 Upon the brink of the cleanly-separated fissures. 1871 MORLEY *Voltaire* (1886) 209 Totttering on the brink of the grave. 1876 HUXLEY *Physiogr.* 170 The church. . . is now on the very brink of the cliff.

2. The edge of the land bordering a piece of water, as a river, lake, the sea: formerly = 'bank, shore, brim'; now esp. when this rises abruptly from the water: thus running into sense 1.

a 1300 K. Horn 141 Schup, bi be se flode. . . Bi be se brinke. a 1300 *Cursor M.* 1766 Pe burnes ouer be brink [Fairf. brenk] it brast. 1386 WYCLIF *Gen.* xli. 3 Thei weren fedde in the brinke of the flood [1611 vpon the brinke of the riuer]. 1387 TRAVISA *Hiden Rolls* Ser. I. 65 By be se brynkes [iuxta marium margines]. 1480 CAXTON *Deceit. Brit.* 17 A ryall cite vpon the brinke of twede. 1483 — *Gold. Leg.* 58/2 Thei sawe theygyccens lyeng deed vpon the brynkes of the see. 1553 EDEM *Treat. New Ind.* (Arb.) 7 Azron Gaber, by the brinke of the redde sea. 1607 DRYDEN *Virg. Georg.* iii. 22 Reeds defend the winding Water's Brink. 1796 MORSE *Amer. Geog.* II. 36 Their habitations on the brink, or in the neighborhood of some lake. 1847 GROTE *Greece* ii. lii. On the brink of the sea. 1854 MACAULAY *Hist. Eng.* III. 630 They marched. . . to the brink of the Boyne.

† 3. The brim of a vessel; = BRIM 4. Obs. or dial.

1386 WYCLIF 2 *Chron.* iv. 2 He maad . . . a 30ten se of tenn cubitis fro brynke vnto brynck. 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 52 Brynke of a wesselle. a 1500 *Songs & Carols* (1847) 56 Fyll the cope by the brynck. 1523 FITZHERB. *Husb.* § 148 Thou muste spere at the brynke and not at the bottom. 1549 BOORDE *Dyetary* xii. (1870) 265 Fat doth swymme aboue in the brynkes of the stomache. 1598 DRYDEN *Heroic. Ep.* xxi. 151 A Bowle of Nectar, fill'd up to the Brinke. 1797 SWIFT *Baucis & Phileas* Wks. 1755 III. ii. 33 Fill'd a large jug up to the brink.

b. The brim of a hat. dial.

1821 CLARE *Vill. Minstr.* II. 68 With weather-beaten hat of rusty brown, Stranger to brinks, and often to a crown. † 4. gen. A margin, border, edge. Obs. or arch. 1386 WYCLIF *Exod.* xxv. 24 Make to it a golden brynke. c 1400 *Pallad. on Husb.* 813 In places wete or moist make evry brynke Two foote in heght. c 1430-30 *tr. Higden* (1865) I. 309 In the brynkes of the lesse Asia. 1508 *Ballade 1851. Times*, Prudence and policy are banyst our al brinks. a 1555 *MORE Wks.* (1557) 81 The ych of a sore leg, when thou clowest about the brinks. 1566 BULLEYN *Sonnets* 30 b, The brinks of the wounde, must be oiled with Rosed omphacine. 1607 TORSELL *Fount. Brast.* 381 His ears erected upright, as the ears of a Cat, the farthest brinks or edges, and also his latter may be bended on the other side. 1754 T. HEARNE *Prof. R. Glouc.* § 25. 81 In one part of this MS. at the very bottom, just on the Brink of a Page. 1818 BYRON *Ch. Har.* Wks. (1846) 14/2 note, All these are coop'd within one Quarto's brink.

† b. fig. arch.

1609 WHITLOCK in Rushw. *Hist. Coll.* (1659) I. 688 Now we are but upon the brink and skirts of the Cause. 1821 SHELLEY *Prometh.* Unb. II. v. 1 On the brink of the night and the morning.

5. fig. The very verge of some state, time, event, or action: now esp. in the phrases *on, to, from the brink of*, a discovery, ruin, destruction, death, eternity, anarchy, revolution, absurdity, etc.

1330 R. BRUNNE *Chron.* 122 Scho der ber assaute, hunger was at be brynck. 1607 SHAKS. *Timon v. i.* 150 You . . . Surprize me to the very brinke of teares. 1671 MARVELL *Corr.* ccxii. Wks. (1872-5) II. 384 It is impossible we should rise before the very brinke of Easter. a 1677 BARROW *Serm.* (1686) III. 101 Old men . . . visibly stand upon the brink of eternity. 1724 DE FOE *Moll Fland.* (1840) 297, I was at the very brink of destruction. a 1745 SWIFT *Wks.* (1841) II. 63 To save them from the brink of ruin. 1798 JOHNSON *Idler* No. 19 P. 3 [They] follow them to the brink of absurdity. 1818 MRS. SHELLEY *Frankenstein* (1865) 61 Sometimes on the very brink of certainty I failed. 1876 FREEMAN *Norm. Cong.* V. xxiv. 367 As conqueror, he brought us to the brink of feudal anarchy; as despot, he saved us from passing the brink. 1884 *Graphic* 158/3 The secret. . . on the brink of discovery.

b. with *inf.* (obs.) or *gerund*: On the very point of. (Now of something momentous or perilous.)

1702 T. SMITH in *Pepys' Diary* VI. 240 Upon the brink to complete fourscore. 1790 OZELL *Vertot's Rom. Rep.* I. iv. 228 You were upon the Brink of falling a Prey to our Enemies. 1788 LD. SHEFFIELD in *Corr. Ld. Auckland* II. 223 Trevor was on the brink of going to Petersburg. 1807-8 W. IRVING *Salmag.* xx. (1860) 468, I was on the brink of treating you with a full broadside. 1865 DICKENS *Mut. Fr.* xvi, She is on the brink of being sold into wretchedness for life.

6. Comb. † *brink*-full, full to the brink, brim-full; *brinkless*, without any brink or border.

1553 BALE *Gardiner's Obs.* G vij With an emptie and free minde and not already brynke full. 1565 GOLDING *Ovid's Met.* viii. (1593) 207 The hunger of his brinkless maw the gulfe that naught might fill.

Brinker. *nonce-word*. [f. BRINK + -ER¹.] One living on the brink or border.

1871 *Daily News* 13 Sept. Freeholders and copyholders of manors and 'brinkers' of commons.

Brinks = BRINCH v. [† corrupt form or spelling.]

1568 *Like will to L.* in Hazl. *Dodsley* III. 339 That we may toss the bowl to and fro, and brinks them all carouse-a. **Brin-**, **brintstane**, **-stone**, obs. ff. BRIMSTONE.

Brint, obs. pa. pple. of BURN.

Briny (brō'ni), a.¹ [f. BRINE sb. + -y¹.]

1. Of or pertaining to brine or to the sea; satu-

rated with salt.

1612 DRAVTON *Poly-olb.* xi. 172 Those two renowned Wyches, The Nant-wyche and the North, whose either brynie well For store and sorts of Salts make Weever to excell. 1697 DRYDEN *Virg. Past.* ii. 32, I stood Upon the Margin of the briny Flood. 1799 S. TURNER *Anglo-Sax.* (1840) I. iv. i. 263 Vast solitudes and briny marshes. 1876 HUXLEY *Physiogr.* 73 Fresh water is constantly distilled from the briny ocean.

b. Applied to tears.

1608 T. DAVISON in Farr's *S. P.* (1845) II. 330 A bryney showre Of teares. 1728 POPE *Iliad* ix. 18 Down his wan cheek a briny torrent flows. 1728 A. RAMSAY *Robt., Richy, & S.*, Ilka briny tear Ye shed for him.

Briny, a.² (1 sb.) [Cf. OE. *bryne*, BRUNN, and BURNING sb. 3.] Phosphorescent, phosphorescence (of the sea).

1608 CAREW *Cornwall* 26 b, If the sea-water bee flashed with a stick or oare, the same casteth a bright shining colour, and the drops thereof resemble sparkles of fire, as if the waues were turned into flames, which the Saylor's terme Briny. 1886 W. CORNW. *Gloss.*, *Briny*, phosphorescent.

|| **Brio** (brī'o). [It. *brío* mettle, fire, life; in the musical phrase *con brio*.] Liveliness, vivacity, 'go'.

1855 THACKERAY *Newcomes* xxii. Painted with all his well-known facility and brio. 1882 *Contemp. Rev.* June 879 Italian Society in spite of its ready wit, its brio and its in-born gracefulness had not. . . the peculiar charm of French and Spanish Society.

|| **Brioche**. [Fr.: see Littre.] A kind of cake made of flour, butter, and eggs; sponge-cake.

1806 MISS MITFORD *Village Ser.* ii. (1863) 298 To discover the merits of brioche and marrangies and eau de groseille. 1873 *St. Paul's Mag.* ii. 585 She . . . settled down to her chocolate and bryoches.

|| **Briolette** (brī'olēt). [mod. Fr.; also *brignollette*, *brillolette*, *brillor* to sparkle.] A pear-shaped diamond, having facets cut in all directions.

1865 *Illustr. Lond. News* 11 Mar. 243 This diamond . . . is what is called a briolette—that is, a solid drop. 1884 *Birmingham Weekly Post* 23 Aug. 3/7 It will weigh . . . in lozenge shape, briolette, about 300 carats.

Brionine, **Briony**, var. of BRYONINE, BRYONT.

|| **Briquette**, **briquet** (brī'ket, brī'ket). [Fr. *briquette* in same sense, dim. of *brigue*, BRICK. The F. word *briquet* (which is not a dim. of *brigue*) has not this meaning.]

1. A block or slab of artificial stone.

1883 *Hamptead Express* 7 Apr. 1/2 Patent Victoria Stone—Tensile Strain, average of 10 briquets (see Reid, on Concrete), 794 lbs. per square inch.

2. A brick-shaped block of artificial coal.

1884 *Pall Mall G.* 8 Jan. 9/2 Works for the compressing of coal briquettes. 1886 *Manchester City News* 30 Oct., The manufacture of briquettes, or machine-made coal, consists simply of the transformation of 'smudge', or very small coal. . . into solid blocks, weighing about 11½ lb. each. This result is attained by adding to the coal about eight per cent. of pitch.

† **Brise**. Obs. rare. (See quot.)

1616 SURFL. & MARKH. *Countr. Farm* 92 Afterward let him draw a Brise or two made fast in the yoke [margin, A Brise is a kind of ground that hath lyen long vntilled]. 1721-200 in BAILLY.

Brise, obs. form of BREEZE and BRUISE.

† **Brisel**, **brisil**, **breil**. Obs. [ME. *brusell* (u), *brysl*, *brysell*, *bresil*, on OE. type **brýsol*, f. *brysan* to crush, break.] Brittle, fragile.

1303 R. BRUNNE *Handl. Synne* 8568-71 Poghe þat hys fleshe be brysl and brym. c 1325 *Mettr. Hom.* 120 Brukel [Camb. MS. *brusell*] blod and bane. — 154 For fleys es brokel [Camb. MS. *brysell*] als wax, and neys. a 1340 HAMFOL *Psalter* ii. 11 The pote of laire is breil and soen will breke. — ciii. 30 That thai ere dust and erth: that is, brisel and erthly. 1483 *Cath. Angl.* 44 Brysille, fragilis. 1808 J. SIBBALD *Chron. Sc. Poetry* Gloss. (JAM.) *Brissal*, brittle.

† **Briser**. *local*. [app. a phonetic variant of BRISURE, BRUSURE, act of bruising, breaking, or crushing.] (See quot.)

1774 A. HUNTER *Georgical Ess.* (1803) IV. 321 In the month of September, a slight ploughing and preparation is given to the field, destined for beans and parsnips the ensuing year. In this country, this work is called briser.

Brisewort, variant of BRUISEWORT.

Brish, obs. form of BRUSH.

Brisk (brisk), a. and sb. Also 7 briske, brisque.

[First found in end of 16th c.; evidently familiar to Shakspeare and his contemporaries. Derivation uncertain: Welsh *brysg* (used of briskness of foot) occurs in a poem of the 14th c. This appears to answer in form to OIr. *brisc*, Ir. *briosg*, Gael. *brìsg*, Breton *brisk*, 'brittle', 'crumbly'; but it is not easy to connect the senses.

It is however possible that *brisk* is identical with F. *brusque* (which appears as *brusik* in Sc. c 1560, and as *bruske* as early as 1600); at least Cotgr. gives *brisk* as a translation of *brusque*, and the words appear to have influenced each other in early use. See BRUSQUE.]

A. adj.

1. Sharp or smart in regard to movement (in a praiseworthy sense); quick and active, lively.

a. of persons. (Sometimes used of disposition

= 'cheery, sprightly, lively', but this is now chiefly dial.)

[1560 T. ARCHBOLD *Let. in Keith Hist. Scotl.* (1734) 489 (JAM.) Thir at the imbrassador, . . . thair depart wondrous brusk.] 1560 SHAKS. *Rom. & Jul.* l. v. 16 Chearly Boyes, Be brusk awhile. 1611 COTGR., *Brusque*, briske, lively, quicke, etc. — *Frisque*, friske, lively, lolly, blithe, briske, fine, spruce, gay. 1613 R. C. *Table Alph.*, *Brisque*, quick, lively, fierce. 1725 DE FOX *Voy. round World* (1840) 208 A company of bold, young brisk fellows. 1828 SCOTT *F. M. Perth* l. 5 The brisk, alert agent of a great house in the city. 1882 PEBODY *Eng. Journalism* xvi. 120 A bright, brisk lad, fresh from Oxford.

b. of actions and motions. (The prevalent modern use.)

1684 BUNYAN *Pilgr.* II. 101 To enter with him a brisk encounter. 1690 LOCKE *Hum. Und.* iv. xi. § 5 It must needs be some exterior Cause, and the brisk acting of some Objects without me. 1756 BURKE *Subl. & B.* Wks. I. 245 A slow and languid motion [of the eye] is more beautiful than a brisk one. 1777 WATSON *Philipp II* (1839) II. 213 He made a brisk attack upon one of the gates. 1855 PRISCOTT *Philipp II*, I. l. vii. 91 He . . . opened a brisk cannonade on the enemy. 1863 GEO. ELIOT *Romola* II. xxii, The brisk pace of men who had errands before them.

c. of trade: Active, lively.

1719 W. WOOD *Surv. Trade* 339 When Trade is brisk, Money . . . is more in view. 1833 HT. MARTINEAU *Hill & Vall.* iv. 49 The demand for iron was so brisk. 1833 — *Br. Creek* iii. 64 A brisk traffic took place in the remaining articles.

d. of wind, fire, etc.

1725 POPE *Odys.* XII. 184 Up sprung a brisker breeze. 1759 ROBERTSON *Hist. Scotl.* I. III. 203 At last a brisk gale arose. 1790 MORSE *Amer. Geog.* I. 133 New and brisk fountains of water rise at spring tides. 1837 M. DONOVAN *Dom. Econ.* II. 269 The brisk fire should . . . be only employed when the meat is half roasted.

e. of purgatives.

1799 *Med. Jnrl.* II. 236 He had a brisk cathartic given him. 1815 *Scribblemania* 207 note, They've drench'd her with cathartics brisk.

2. In allied senses, chiefly unfavourable.

† a. Sharp-witted, pert; curt. † b. 'Fast' of life. † c. Over hasty. † d. Unpleasantly sharp of tone. (With c, d, cf. *Fr. brusque*.) e. Quickly passing, brief.

1601 SHAKS. *Twel. N.* II. iv. 6 These most briske and giddy-paced times. 1665 GLANVILLE *Septs. Sci. Addr.* 13 Divers of the briske Geniusses, who desire rather to be accounted Wits, then endeavour to be so. 1667 EVELYN in *Four C. Eng. Lett.* 108 The smoothest or briskest strokes of his Pindaric lyre. 1667 PEEPS *Diary* (1877) V. 422 The Surveyor began to be a little brisk at the beginning. — 1674 CLARENDON *Hist. Reb.* I. l. 8 When that brisk and improvident Resolution was taken. 1676 ETHEREDGE *Man of Mode* I. l. (1684) 11 He has been, as the sparkish word is, Brisk Upon the Ladies already. 1700 PENN. *Archives* I. 138, I send y^e Coots [= Court's] Lett^r w^{ch} is very brisk. 1739 CIBBER *Apol.* vii. 214 The briskest loose Liver or intemperate Man. [1879 BROWNING *Ned Bratts* 23 Some trial for life and death, in a brisk five minutes' space.]

† 3. Smartly or finely dressed; spruce. Obs.

1590 MARLOWE *Edw. II.* l. iv. ad fin., I have not seen a dapper jack so brisk. 1596 SHAKS. *1 Hen. IV.* l. iii. 54 To see him shine so briske, and smell so sweet. 1603 *Patient Grisill* 17 My brisk spangled baby will come into a stationer's shop.

4. Of liquors: Agreeably sharp or smarting to the taste; effervescent, as opposed to 'flat' or 'stale'. (So *It. brusco*, *Fr. vin brusque* in Cotgr.) Similarly of the air: Fresh, keen, stimulating.

1597 SHAKS. *2 Hen. IV.* v. iii. 48 A Cup of Wine, that's briske and fine. 1697 POTTER *Antiq. Greece* III. ix. (1715) 75 Brisk Wines and Viands animate Their Souls. 1741 BROWNING in *Phil. Trans.* LV. 242 The brisk and pungent taste of the acidula. 1766 SIR W. FORBES in Boswell *Johnston* II. 404 A bottle of beer . . . is made brisker by being set before the fire. 1837 DISRAELI *Venetia* l. ii, The air was brisk. 1846 J. JOYCE *Di. Dialogues* vii. 213 You see of what importance air is to give to all our liquors their pleasant and brisk flavour. 1877 L. MORRIS *Epic Hades* II. 198.

† 5. Sharp to other senses; distinct, vivid.

† a. to the hearing. Obs.

1660 BOYLE *New Exp. Phys. Mech.* I. 21 There is . . . produced a considerably brisk noise. 1667 PRIMATT *City & C. Build.* 51 Bricks well burnt . . . if you strike them with any thing, will make a brisk sound.

† b. to the sight. Obs.

a 1727 NEWTON (J.) Had it [my instrument] magnified thirty or twenty-five times, it had made the object appear more brisk and pleasant.

6. Comb. a. adverbial, as *brisk-going*, *sparkling*; b. parasynthetic, as *brisk-spirited*.

1711 *Lond. Gas.* No. 4868/4 A . . . Cart Horse . . . brisk Spirited. 1831 CARLYLE *Sart. Res.* II. iii. 132 Like a strong brisk-going undershot-wheel. 1837 — *Fr. Rev.* II. III. I. 128 Our brisk-sparkling assiduous official person.

† B. a. A 'brisk' or smart person; a gallant, a fop. (Cf. a 3 above.) b. A lively, forward woman, a wanton.

1621 BURTON *Anat. Mel.* III. iii. l. ii. (1652) 604 A yong gallant . . . a Fastidious Brisk, that can wear his cloaths well in fashion. 1689 N. LEE *Princ. of Cleve* (N.) The forward brisk, she that promis'd me the ball assignation.

Brisk (brisk), v. [f. the adj.]

1. *trans.* To make brisk; to freshen, enliven, animate, exhilarate, quicken. Now with *up* or (colloq.) *about*.

1628 FELTHAM *Resolves* I. lxxxiv. 261, I like a cup to briske the spirits. 1666 J. SMITH *Old Age* 112 The blood in the Arteries newly briskened in the Fountain. 1710 T. FULLER *Pharm. Extemp.* 321 Benpet Pills . . . exalt and brisk up the

heavy Blood. 1809 E. JESSE *Jnrl. Nat.* 241 That portion of vital air which brisks up animality without consuming the sustenance of life. 1864 DICKENS *Mut. Fr.* I. ix, We want to brisk her up, and brisk her about. 1879 STEVENSON *Trav. Cruennes* 15 Modestine brisked up her pace.

2. *intr.* (for *refl.*) To brisk up: to come up briskly. To brisk about: to move about briskly.

1727 MORETON *Apparitions* 195 The lady . . . brisking up to him as if she would fight him. 1881 MRS. HOLMAN HUNT *Childr. Jerns.* 169 He was up and brisking about.

3. † a. *trans.* To smarten up; to dress finely, to trim. Obs. b. *intr.* (for *refl.*)

1592 GREENE *Disput. Conny-catcher* Wks. (Grosart) X. 204 Doest thou maruell to see me thus brisk? 1613 BEAUM. & FL. *Hom. Man's Fort.* II. i, Prune and briske myself in the bright shine Of his good Lordships fortune. 1637 G. DANIEL *Genius of Isle* 45 Whilist Neptune, to court Amphitrite doth briske. 1720 PALMER *Proverbs* 259 The young cock . . . stood brisking up his comb and gills. 1861 TROLOPE *T. All Countries* 193 Susan brisked up a little for the occasion [a wedding] and looked very pretty as bridesmaid.

Hence *Brisked ppl. a.*, *Brisking vbl. sb.*

1644 BULWER *Chiron.* 109 The briskest spirits. 1717 KILINGBECK *Serm.* 223 (L.) For the relief of our natures; for the brisking up our spirits.

Brisket (briskét). Forms: 5 *brusket* (te, 6 *Sc. briscat*, (7 *bysket*, 8 *Sc. bisket*), 7-brisket. [Identical in meaning, and apparently in form, with *F. brechet* (in Cotgr. *bruchet*, in 16th c. *brichet*, 14th c. *bruschet*, *brischet*, which Littré derives from the Eng.; but this seems unlikely. The Breton *bruchet* and Welsh *brysed*, appear to be adopted from *Fr.* and *Eng.* respectively.]

1. The breast of an animal, the part immediately covering the breast-bone. Also, as a joint of meat. c 1450 *Nomine* in W. Wülcker 704 *Hoc pectusculum*, a brusket. 1483 *Cath. Angl.* 46 A Brusket, pectusculum. 1535 STEWART *Crom. Scot.* I. 87 The wricht [had] the neiris and the briscat & maw. 1620 MARKHAM *Masterp.* II. lvi. 306 He will be very hollow vpon the bysket towards the fore-bothes. 1621 COTGR., *Ar.* . . the breast, or brisket of a horse. 1709 ADDISON *Tatler* No. 148 ¶ 1 The Black Prince was a professed Lover of the Brisket. 1769 MRS. RAFFALD *Eng. Househpr.* (1778) 117 Bone a brisket of beef, and make holes in it with a knife. 1800 SCOTT *Monast.* xvii. It is a hart of grease too, in full season, and three inches of fat on the brisket. 1866 KINGSLAY *Hervey* xv. 204 As shaggy as a stag's brisket. 1873 E. SMITH *Foods* 48.

b. *Sc.* The human breast.

1769 FERGUSSON *Poems* II. 113 (JAM.) Their glancin een and bisket bare. 1790 MORISON *Poems* 15 (JAM.) Wi' kilited coats, White legs and brisket bare.

2. *attrib.*, as in *brisket-beef*, *bone*.

1827 TURBURN *Trag. T.* (1837) 37 The brisket bone. 1637 B. JONSON *Sad Sheph.* I. li, The brisket bone, the shoon Of which a little gristle grows. 1697 DAMPRA *Voy.* (1729) I. 302 Their flesh is as hard as Brisket Beef.

Briskish (briskish), a. Pretty brisk.

1805 CARLYLE *Frederk. Gl.* xlv. vii. VI. 208 A briskish trade of his own in the Dresden marts.

Briskly (briskli), adv. [f. *BRISK* a. + *LY* 2.]

With brisk motion or action; sharply, smartly, quickly, energetically, vigorously, actively.

1605 BOYLE *Occas. Refl.* IV. l. (1675) 168 My Drowsiness . . . made me briskly enough bid him . . . let me alone. 1676 LISTER in *Ray's Corr.* (1848) 124 (Lycopodium) will fire briskly in a flame. 1708 *Lond. Gas.* No. 3809/6 The Cannon . . . kept firing very briskly. 1719 W. WOOD *Surv. Trade* 200 Manufactures proceeded briskly. 1812 SIR H. DAVY *Chem. Philos.* 125 A piece of dry silk . . . briskly rubbed against a warm plate of polished flint glass. 1839 tr. *Lamarzine's Trav.* East 161/1 He sprang briskly to his feet. 1868 BROWNING *Ring & Bk.* ix. 1488 You urge him all the brisklier to repent.

† b. Smartly, in reference to dress. Obs.

1592 GREENE *Upst. Courtier* in *Harl. Misc.* (Malh.) II. 228 A . . . fellow . . . briskly apparelled, in a blacke taffata doublet, and a spruce leather jerkin with christall buttons.

Briskness (brisknēs), [f. as prec. + *-NESS*.]

The quality of being brisk; smartness or sharpness of motion; liveliness, quickness, activity.

a 1655 R. ROBINSON in Spurgeon *Treas. Dav.* Pa. lxxv. 10 [The rain] begets a kind of briskness in the sensitive creatures. 1674 N. FAIRFAX *Bulk & Setv.* 125 To leap forth into nimble freaks and brisknesses. 1839 *Sat. Mag. Suppl.* June 253/2 The animals . . . are not remarkable for briskness of motion. 1879 H. GEORGE *Progr. & Pov.* ix. III. The increased briskness of trade.

b. Agreeable sharpness of taste, freshness; effervescent quality. Also *transf.* (of air) and *fig.* 1727 BRADLEY *Fam. Dict.* s. v. *Cash*, The Briskness of the Drink [cider]. 1816 L. HUNT *Rimini* I. ix, A balmy briskness comes upon the breeze. 1879 *Cassell's Techn. Educ.* I. 213 Champagne and other sparkling wines owe their briskness to the presence of carbonic acid. 1880 *Times* 26 July 9/4 Topics that have lost their briskness.

† c. Abrupt blunt manner; brusqueness. Obs.

1668 PEEPS *Diary* 13 Nov., There is no way to rule the King but by briskness, which the Duke of Buckingham hath above all men.

† **Briskly**, a. Obs. rare-1. [Cf. *blacky*, etc., and see *-Y*.] Of brisk nature.

1590 SHAKS. *Mids. N.* III. i. 97 Most briskly Iuvenall, and eke most lovely Iew.

† **Briskok**. Obs. rare-1. [Cf. Welsh *bresych* cabbage, a. L. *brassica*; and see *BRASSIC*.] A wild cabbage.

a 1340 HAMPOLE *Psalter* xxxvi. 2 The kale, that he says, not ere of garthis bot of gressia, that grouys bi thaim ane in the feld, as briskis.

Brisque, obs. form of *BRISK*.

Brissal, var. of *BRISSEL*, Obs., brittle.

Brisse(n, Brissour(e, obs. f. BRUISE, BRUSURE, BRISSEL, -il, -le, obs. f. BRISTLE, BRISLE.

† **Brissel-cock**. Obs. [Etymology uncertain; cf. *BRISTLE* v. 2. Jamieson conjectures *Brasil-cock*.] A kind of fowl; 'a turkey-cock' (Jam.).

c 1565 LINDSAY (Pittscottie) *Chron.* (1728) 146 (JAM.) There was . . . Swan, partridge, plover, duck, drake, brissel-cocks and pawns, black-cock and muir-fowl, capercaillies.

Brist, ME. variant of *BREST*, 'defect, want'.

a 1300 *Cursor M.* 6344 Wit-ven ani brek or brist. 1300 HAMPOLE *Pr. Cons.* 6205 Loved when saw we be haf hunger or thirst Or of any herber haf grete brist. c 1450 *Erlie of Tolous* 833 Hys wyfe had seche a bryste.

Brist, obs. f. *BREAST*, *BURST*.

Bristle (brisl'), sb. Forms: 3-5 *brustel*, 4 *bristel*, *brostle*, 4-5 *bru-*, *bristil*, *brostle*, 5 *bru-*, *brystyl*(le, *burstyl*, 6 *briale*, *bristil*(l, 6-7 *brissal*, *brissale*, 6- *bristle*. [ME. *brustel*, *brostle*, corresp. to MDu. *borstel* (*burstel*), Du. *borstel* masc., LG. *börstel* fem.: a deriv. of the simpler form found in OE. *byrst*, ON. *burst* fem., OHG. *burst* masc., *borst* neut., *bursta* weak f. (MHG. *borst*, *bürst*, m. and n., *borste* f., Ger. *borste* f.): see *BRISE*. The OE. form of the root-syllable is **bors-*, pointing to Aryan **bher-*: cf. Skr. *bhr̥shī-* 'point, prong, edge'. There may have been an OE. **brystl*, and OS. **brustil*, as direct source of the ME. and LG. forms.]

1. *prop.* One of the stiff hairs that grow on the back and sides of the hog and wild boar; used extensively by brushmakers, shoemakers, etc.

[a 1000 Sax. *Leachd.* I. 156 Hyre twigu beoð swylce swinen byrst.] c 1214 *Gay Warw.* (A) 3680 Nought worth the brestel of a swin. c 1300 *Sir Bevis* 747 His Bristles were gret and long. c 1380 Wyclif *Serm.* Sel. Wks. II. 148 As bristil bryngip in þe breed. 1398 TREVIS *Barth. De P. R.* xviii. lxxxvii. (1495) 836 Sewetours call them brustyls and sewe therwyth. c 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 52 Brystyle or brustylle [1499 *burstyl*], *seta*. 1553 EDEN *Treat. New Ind.* (Arb.) 16 Couered with bristles or bigge heares. 1601 SHAKS. *Twel. N.* l. v. 3, I will not open my lippes so wide as a bristle may enter. 1605 CAMDEN *Rem.* 357 Their bristles more than half shed. 1735 SOMERVILLE *Chast.* I. 377 High on their bent Backs erect their pointed Bristles stare. 1870 YEATS *Nat. Hist. Comm.* 300 Bristles are the stiff, glossy hairs growing on the backs of wild and domesticated swine. 1875 *Webb Dict. Arts* I. 533 In 1864 our Imports of Bristles were . . . 2,346,135 lbs.

2. *gen.* A short, stiff, pointed or prickly hair or similar appendage on other animals; the short hairs on the face of men when thickened and stiffened by shaving.

a 1300 K. *Alis.* 6621 The delfyn . . . reth up his brustelis gymme. 1481 CAXTON *Myrr.* II. vi. 71 Peple that . . . haue brustles aboute their mosell lyke swyne. 1591 LVLV *Endym.* II. iii. 29 That chin . . . shall be filled with brissels as hard as broome. 1611 BARREY *Ram Alley* II. i, When I was young . . . And wore the brissel on my upper lip. 1753 CHAMBERS *Cycl. Suppl.* s. v., Cats bristles (whiskers) have a large solid pith in the middle. 1828 STARK *Elem. Nat. Hist.* II. 129 Some of the Annelides possess a third kind of bristles, which M. Savigny terms hooked bristles.

3. In plants: 'A stiff hair or any slender outgrowth which may be likened to a hog's bristle' (Gray); a setaceous appendage or *seta*.

1731-59 P. MILLER *Gardener's Dict.* s. v. *Cnicus*, Striated seeds . . . encompassed at the top with a crown of stiff bristles. 1800 E. DARWIN *Phytologia* xiv. 348. 1807 J. E. SMITH *Phys. Bot.* 228 Some species of Galium are admirably characterized by the bristles of their leaves . . . being hooked backward or forward. 1875 DARWIN *Insectiv. Pl.* 322 Tipped with a stiff short bristle.

4. *fig.* To set up one's bristles: to show temper, resistance, or pride; to bristle up, 'put up one's back'. To set up any one's bristles: to arouse such feelings in him. And similar phrases.

1533 FRITH *Ep. Chr. Rdr.* Wks. (1829) 460 Cruel adversaries which set up their bristles, saying, Why, then, shall we do no good works? 1583 GOLDING *Calvin on Deut.* liii. 316 Should the Jewes . . . set vp their bristles against God. 1589 COOPER *Admon.* 198 It is good to teach vs to pull downe our bristles, when we waxe proude. 1771 SMOLLETT *Humph. Cl.* (1815) 121 The more she strokes him, the more his bristles seem to rise. 1873 GOULBURN *Pers. Relig.* IV. iii. 271 The feeling that he is to be lectured . . . sets a man's bristles up.

5. *attrib.* and *Comb.*: as *bristle brush*; *bristle-armed*, *-backed*, *-bearing*, *-leaved*, *-like*, *-pointed*, *-shaped* adjs.

1601 HOLLAND *Pliny* II. 512 Cleanse it lightly with a wing or a bristle brush. 1614 SELDEN *Titles Hon.* Pref. Dii, Bristled on the back like Hogs . . . as if you should say, Bristle-backed. a 1845 HOOD *Lycus Cent.*, The bristle-backed boar. 1847-9 TODD *Cycl. Anat. & Phys.* IV. 51/1 Delicate bristle-shaped processes or setae. *Ibid.* IV. 404/1 Bristle-like organs. 1848 W. GARDINER *Flora Forfarsh.* 204 Bristle-pointed oat. 1863 J. A. BREWER *Flora Surrey* 277 Bristle-leaved Bent-grass . . . plentiful on Bagshot Heath.

6. Special comb., as *bristle-dice*, dice into which bristles were fixed to influence their position when thrown; *bristle-fern*, *Trichomanes radicans*; *bristle-grass*, the genus *Setaria*; *bristle-herring*, a genus (*Chatoessus*) of the herring family, in which the last ray of the dorsal fin is prolonged into a whip-like filament; *bristle-*

moss, the genus *Orthotrichum*; **bristlewort** *sb. pl.*, Lindley's name for the order *Desvauxiaceae*, small tufted herbs with bristly leaves.

1532 *Dice Play* (1850) 28 *Bristle dice, be now too gross a practice to be put in use. 1680 Cotton in *Singer Hist. Cards* 335 This they do by false dice, as . . . By bristle-dice. 1863 *KINGSLEY Water-bab.* 195 The Connemara heath, and the 'bristle-fern of the Turk waterfall. 1863 *Prior Plant-n.*, Bristle-fern, from the bristle that projects beyond its receptacle. 1844 Sir W. Hooker *Brit. Flora* II. 57 **Bristle-moss*; from the calyptra being generally clothed with hairs.

Bristle (*bri's'l*), *v.* Also 5 **brustel**, **brystyle**, 7 **brisle**, **brisle**, **brusale**, **brussel**, -*ale*, -*tle*, **brystyle**, 9 (*dial.*) **brisale**, **brissale**. [*f. prec. sb.* See also **BRUSTLE** *v.*]

I. intr.

1. Of hair, quills, etc.: To be, become, or stand, stiff and bristly. *To bristle up*: to rise like bristles. 1480 CAXTON *Ovid's Met.* XIII. cxiv. The heer on my body . . . is longe and brustelich lyke brustelis. 1611 FLORIO, *Arcti-civ.* . . . ones hair to stare or stand on end, to bristle. 1680 OTWAY *Hist. Marius* 58 His Beard brustled. 1725 POPE *Odyss.* xi. 392 Ere the harvest of the beard began To bristle on the chin. 1748 SMOLLETT *Rod. Rand.* xxxvi. My hair bristled up. 1844 W. IRVING *T. Trav.* II. 105 Mustachios bristling from under his nose. 1861 HOLLAND *Less. Life* i. 16 The man who rises in the morning, with his feelings all bristling like the quills of a hedge-hog.

2. Of animals: To raise the bristles, as a sign of anger or excitement. **b.** Of persons: To display temper or indignation, to 'show fight.' Also with *up*.

1549 OLDE *Erasm. Par. i. Tim.* vi. 2 It is not seemly that . . . they should bristle against their masters. 1611 DICKER *Roar. Girls* I. Wks. 1873 III. 145 Now is my cue to bristle. 1682 J. CLAYTON in *Phil. Trans.* XVIII. 133 The howling of the Dogs he supposed . . . made her [the sow] come furiously bristling. 1830 FOSTER in *Life & Corr.* (1846) II. 160 Without bristling into anger. 1837 DISRAELI *Venetia* i. xiii. 'You shall no such thing,' said Mrs. Cadurcis, bristling up. 1861 HUGHES *Tom Brown Ox.* I. ix. 160 There now! don't bristle up like a hedgehog.

3. To be or become bristly; to be thickly set with (bristly points).

1606 Sir G. G. *Goosecappe* i. ii. in *Bullen Old Pl.* (1884) III. 16 If your French wood bristle, let him alone. 1650 FULLER *Pigrah* iv. ii. 32 Bristling with bushes and overgrown with wood. 1837 CARLYLE *Fr. Rev.* v. ix. (1872) I. 179 All France to the utmost borders bristles with bayonets. 1850 MERIVALE *Rom. Emp.* (1865) I. L. 33 The sea-line . . . bristles with projecting headlands.

b. fig., as in *to bristle with difficulties*. 1864 BURTON *Scot. Abr.* II. i. 105 A Latin preface . . . bristling with Greek quotations. 1875 HAMERTON *Intell. Life* II. i. 51 The fine arts bristle all over with technical difficulties.

4. To be actively or aggressively astir with. 1844 KINGLAKE *Eothen* xv. (1878) 181 Bristling with zeal. 1884 *Evangelical Mag.* Jan. 36 The old place once more bristled with life.

II. trans.

5. To erect stiffly (hair, etc.) like bristles: chiefly in a temper of hostility. Also with *up*.

1595 SHAKS. *John* iv. iii. 140 Now . . . Doth dogged warre bristle his angry crest. 1612 Bp. HALL *Contempl. O. T.* xxi. ii. So do savage beasts bristle up themselves . . . when they are in danger of losing the prey. 1773 ADAMS *Amer. Ind.* 309 (Bears) champing their teeth, and bristling their hair, in a frightful manner. 1793 W. ROBERTS *Looker-on* No. 65 (1794) III. 8 Those aspiring asparagus, that bristle up their vegetable spears. 1863 KINGSLEY *Water-bab.* iv. 153 He would . . . bristle up his feathers, just as a cock-robin would.

b. fig.

1596 SHAKS. *i. Hen. IV.* i. i. 98 Which makes him . . . bristle up the crest of Youth against your Dignity. 1598 CHAPMAN *Iliad* i. 192 Thetis's son at this stood vex'd, his heart bristled his bosom. 1615 ADAMS *Polit. Hunting* Wks. 1861 I. 8 The great one bristles up himself, and conceals himself higher by the head than all the rest.

6. To furnish with a bristle or bristles; to make bristly.

1676 A. LITTLETON *Lat. Dict.*, To bristle a shoe-makers thread. *Inseto.* 1797 *BEST Angling* (ed. 2) 37 Your hook should be bristled, that is . . . fasten a hog's bristle under the silk. 1850 TENNYSON *In Mem.* cvii. iii. loc. . . bristles all the brakes and thorns To yon hard crescent.

7. To cover as with bristles, to cause to bristle. 1837 CARLYLE *Fr. Rev.* (1857) I. ii. iii. iv. 321 Bristle yourself round with cannon. 1848 LYTTON *Harold* vi. vi. He would bristle all the land with castles.

8. To ruffle violently, exasperate.

1876 BLACKIE *Lays Highl.* 40 The black squall . . . Bristles the soft lake to a Fury.

† **Bristle**, *v.* 2 *Obs. exc. dial.* In 5 **brystyle**, 6 **bristell**, **brissele**, **burstle**, 7 **brusle**, **brustle**, (9 *dial.* **brissle**, **brussle**). [The forms *brusle*, *brustle*, suggest adoption from 15-16th c. Fr. *brusle-r* to burn, Pr. *bruslar*, It. *brustolare*; but the earlier *bristle*, *brissle*, makes this derivation doubtful, as does also the Sc. form **BIRSTLE**.]

I. trans. To render the surface of (anything) crisp with heat; to toast, scorch, parch.

Hence **Bristled** *ppl. a.*

1483 *Cath. Angl.* 44 To Brystyle, *ustillare*. 1553 DOUGLAS *Eneis* vii. ix. 100 Blunt styngis of the brissillit tre [*MSS.* byrillit]. 1561 TURNER *Bathes* 17 Let him perche or bristell at the fyre Nigella Romana. — *Herbal* II. (1568) 93 The perched or burstled peasen . . . called in Northumberland Carlines. 1691 RAY *N. C. Wds.*, 'The sun bristles the hay' i.e. dries it; 'burstled pease' i.e. parched pease. 1876 *Mld.-Yorksh. Gloss.* (E. D. S.), *Brissle* or *Brussle*, to

scorch, near to burning; to broil. 1877 *Holderness Gloss.* (E. D. S.) *Brusled-peas*.

2. *intr.* (for *refl.*) To become crisp with heat. 1788 *Gentl. Mag.* i. 189 They [peas] will then parch, crack, as we provincially (Northumberland) call it, bristle.

Bristled (*bri's'ld*), *ppl. a.* [*f. BRISTLE* + *-ED*.] 1. Covered, set, or tipped with bristles or stiff prickly hairs; rough and prickly, bristly.

a 1300 *K. Alis.* 5722 His rigge was bristled as with sharp sithen. c 1374 CHAUCER *Boeth.* 148 He bristled(e) boor. 1509 HAWES *Past. Pleas.* xxix. ii. His bryes brystled truly lyke a sowes. 1576 LYTE *Dodoens* iv. xlv. 505 The eares are . . . more bristled or bearded. 1607 SHAKS. *Cor.* ii. ii. 96 With his Amazonian [Chinthe] he droue The brizled Lipbes before him. 1697 DRYDEN *Virg. Georg.* iii. 397 The bristled Boar . . . New grinds his arming Tusks. 1730 SOUTHAL *Bugs* 19 Has six Legs . . . jointed and bristled as the Legs of a Crab.

2. Of hair or feathers: a. Stiff like bristles. **b.** Erect, raised, 'on end'.

1553 EDEM *Treat. New Ind.* (Arb.) 16 In the sted of a taylor, a mane, or rough and bristled heare. 1631 *Celestina* l. 22 By thy brizled beard. 1834 A. WILSON *Amer. Ornith.* I. 169 The hen hurries about with hanging wings and bristled feathers. 1836-9 TODD *Cycl. Anat. & Phys.* II. 84 1/2 With bristled mane and haggard eye.

3. Set as with bristles; bristling. 1576 HOBBS *Iliad* iii. 183 The bristled Ranks Of th' armed Greeks. 1796 MORSE *Amer. Geog.* II. 309 The . . . central range . . . bristled with pointed rocks. 1833 I. TAYLOR *Fanat.* vi. 159 Through bristled ramparts and triple lines of shields. 4. Furnished with a bristle.

1794 *Gold. Age in Poet. Reg.* (1807) 407 Arm'd with a bristled end and glitteringawl.

† **Bristler** (*bri's'ler*). *Obs. rare*—1. [*f. as prec. + -ER*.] He who or that which bristles; a boar. 1607 TOPSELL *Four-f. Beasts* 181 He hath many attributes among the learned, as . . . bristler, wanderer.

Bristletail (*bri's'tl'z*). A wingless insect (*Machilis maritima*) having the abdomen terminated by bristly appendages which assist it in leaping. 1706 PHILLIPS, *Bristle-tails*, a sort of Flies, some of which have one Bristle, others two . . . in their Tail. 1865 GOSSE *Land & Sea* (1874) 97, I found several colonies of that curious insect the seaside bristletail.

Bristliness. In 7 **brisliness**. [*f. BRISTLY* + *-NESS*.] Bristly quality.

1611 FLORIO, *Hircutia*, brisliness, hairiness, shagginess. [*In mod. Dictis.*]

Bristling (*bri's'ling*), *vbl. sb.* In 6-7 **brustling**. [*f. BRISTLE* *v.* 1 + *-ING*.] The action of the verb **BRISTLE**; the rising on end of the hair.

1591 PERCIVALL *Sp. Dict.*, *Enervamiento* . . . bristling of the haire. 1879 DARWIN *Emotions* Intro. 12 The bristling of the hair under the influence of extreme terror.

Bristling, *ppl. a.* 1 [*f. as prec. + -ING*.] 2

1. a. Of hair, etc.: That rises or stands stiffly on end. **b.** Of persons: Bristly, rough, shaggy.

1607 TOPSELL *Four-f. Beasts* 356 They have a like bristling mane growing on the back-bone. 1768 BEATTIE *Triumph Mel.* vii. Fear's cold hand erects his bristling hair. 1850 Mrs. STOWE *Uncle Tom's C.* ix. 77 He was a great, tall, bristling Orson of a fellow.

b. fig.

a 1630 W. WHATELEY *Prototypes* i. xix. (1640) 226 'Tis nothing but pride that sets up these bristling thoughts in you. 1864 LINNET's *Trial* I. ii. iii. 220 The bristling tone natural to a man who has quite made up his mind on a subject, but who feels by no means certain that he shall be able to justify it in argument. 1877 PEACOCK *N.-W. Lincoln. Gloss.* (E. D. S.), 'There's a bristling breeze to-day, maister.'

2. Presenting a rough or prickly aspect, thickly armed (with sharp points, or with points of antagonism). Cf. *L. horridus*.

1598 DRYTON *Heroic. Ep.* vi. 33 The brisling Reeds mov'd with soft Gales, did chide me. 1600 HEYWOOD *i. Edw. IV.* Wks. 1874 I. 25 Her bristling spires, her battled towers. 1843 PRESCOTT *Mexico* v. iv. (1864) 300 The little army . . . with its bristling array of long swords and javelins, stood firm. 1855 SINGLETON *Virgil* I. 99 So thick upon the roofs doth pattering leap The bristling hail.

b. fig. 1871 BLACKIE *Four Phases* I. 106 Religions . . . fenced with bristling dogmas. 1880 CLEMENSHAW *Wurt's Atom. The.* 45 The theory . . . bristling with hypotheses and full of uncertainties.

Bristling, *ppl. a.* 2 [*f. BRISTLE* *v.* 2] Scorching; burning without flame.

1561 HOLLYBUSH *Hom. Apoth.* 37 a, Diseased with the fretting or briseling stone. 1866 HOWELLS *Venet. Life* iii. 36 The pot full of bristling charcoal.

Bristly (*bri's'li*), *a.* Also 6 **brislle**, **brislly**, 7 **brislle**, **brislly**, **bristlie**. [*f. BRISTLE* *sb.* + *-Y*.] 1. Set with bristles or short stiff hairs; setose.

1591 PERCIVALL *Sp. Dict.*, *Erizado*, rough, bristly. 1606 BACON *Sylva* § 781 The leaves . . . are somewhat bristly. 1697 DRYDEN *Virg. Georg.* ii. 98 The Mastful Beech the bristly Chestnut bears. 1718 POPE *Iliad* xvi. 994 The roaring lion meets a bristly boar. 1870 HOOKER *Stud. Flor.* 15 Capsule globose, sessile, bristly.

b. fig. 1879 *Daily News* 25 July, An intelligent and acceptable Republic—not that fierce and chafing thing made up of bristly laws. 1879 *Globe* 5 Aug. That kind of bristly temper which is always on the look-out for causes of offence.

2. Of the nature of or like bristles.

1598 SHAKS. *Ven. & Ad.* 620 On his bow-back he hath a battle set Of bristly pikes. 1645 G. DANIEL *Poems* Wks. 1878 II. 65 If I have bristlie haire. 1735 SOMERVILLE *Chast. II.* 58 Rough bristly Stubbles. 1857 W. COLLINS *Dead Sec.* (1861) 70 A ring of bristly iron-grey hair projected like a collar,

3. Thickly set with sharp or defiant points.

1865 CARLYLE *Fredk. Gt.* xvi. ii. VI. 152 The Chevalier . . . scans a little the frowning buttresses, bristly with guns.

Bristol (*bri's'tol*). In 1 **Brycgstow**, 3-5 **Bri-gestou**, **Brycstone**, 4-7 **Bristow**.

[1. A city of England upon the Wiltshire or Lower Avon, famous since early times for its maritime trade and manufactures, and giving its name to various commercial and natural products.]

2. Short for 'Bristol-stone': see 3.

1618 N. FIELD *Amends Ladies* i. i. To the unskillful owners eyes, alike The Bristol [*v.r.* Bristow] sparkles as the diamond. 1818 *Edin. Even. Cour.* 22 Oct. (JAM.) Studded with what was once the vogue, bristow.

3. *Attrib.*, as **Bristol-board**, a kind of paste-board with a smooth surface; **Bristol-brick**, a siliceous material made in the form of a brick, used for cleaning cutlery; **Bristol-diamond**, -gem, -stone, a kind of transparent rock-crystal found in the Clifton limestone near Bristol, resembling the diamond in brilliancy; also *attrib.*; **Bristol-fashion** (*Naut.*), in good order; **Bristol milk** (see *quots.*); **Bristol Non-such**, a plant, *Lychnis Chalcidonica*; † **Bristol-red**, a dye; **Bristol-water**, the water of warm springs at Clifton near Bristol, used medicinally.

1809 R. LANGFORD *Introduct. Trade* 63, 2 Do. Royal *Bristol Bds. 1883 *Harper's Mag.* 861 1/2 Mr. Evers painted . . . portraits on . . . Bristol-board. 1596 LODGE *Wills Miserie* 33 A counterfeit chain. *Bristow diamonds. 1644 CATAKER *Trans. Subst.* 65 Bastard pearles, Bristow diamonds, and glasse bugles. 1668 S. P. ACC. *Latitude Men in Phenix* II. 517 To distinguish between a true Gem and a Bristol Diamond. 1884 F. BRITTEN *Watch & Clockm.* 215 Rock crystal, also known as 'Bristol' . . . diamond, is also used by watch jewellers. 1840 R. DANA *Bef. Mast* xx. 61 Everything on board 'ship-shape and "Bristol fashion". 1867 SMYTH *Sailor's Word-bk.*, *Bristol fashion and shipshape*. Said when Bristol was in its palmy commercial days . . . and its shipping was all in proper good order. 1707 E. WARD *Hud. Rediv.* II. iii. (N.) The cap . . . Was set with *Bristol jems. 1644 PRYNNE & WALKER *Fiennes' Trial* 78 Good store of *Bristol milk, strong wines and waters. 1668 FULLER *Worthies, Bristol* (D.), 'Bristol Milk': this metaphorical Milk, whereby Xeres or Sherry Sack is intended. 1848 MACAULAY *Hist. Eng.* i. iii. (D.) A rich beverage made of the best Spanish wine, and celebrated . . . as Bristol milk. 1668 WILKINS *Real Char.* 102 London Tuft, Sweet John, Sweet William; *Bristow Nonsuch. 1551 Will in *Peacock N.-W. Linc. Gloss.* (E. D. S.) s.v. One kyrtyll of *bristowe read whiche were her mothers. 1646 Sir T. BROWNE *Pseud. Ep.* 78 Diamonds. Chrystall, *Bristol stones. 1837 LOCKHART *Scott* (1839) IV. 353 A good-humoured lass . . . who wore as many diamonds as if they had been Bristol Stones. 1739 BYRON *Remains* (1856) II. i. 243, I wish I could drink a glass of *Bristol water in uncle Josiah's company. 1871 T. J. PATTIGREW *Mem.* 7. C. *Lettsom* III. 314 Bristol Water is most proper for the patient's common drink.

4. *attrib.* in ordinary sense; also sometimes with reference to 'Bristol diamonds'.

1641 CLEVELAND *Poems* 32 You that dim Jewells with your Bristol-sense.

Brisure (*bri'z'ur*, *bri'z'ür*). Also **brisure**. [*a. F. brisure* fracture, breakage; also used in the heraldic and military senses. See also **BRUSURE**.]

1. *Her.* A variation of, or addition to, a coat of arms, marking the relation of a younger branch of the family to the main stock; a difference.

1663 FAVINE *Theat. Hon.* i. i. 11 The plaine Paternall Armes, without any Brisure. 1868 CUSAMAS *Hand-bk. Her.* xxiv. 299 The Bordure Company was formerly employed as a Brisure to indicate illegitimate descent.

2. *Fortif.* A break in the general direction of a rampart or parapet; *spec.* of the parapet of the curtain adjacent to a bastion constructed with orillons.

1706 PHILLIPS, *Brisure*, a Line drawn from four to five Fathom, which is allow'd to the Courtin and Orillon, to make the hollow Tower, or to cover the conceal'd Flanks. 1836 *Penny Cycl.* V. 439 1/2.

† 3. Variant of **BRUSURE**. *Obs.*

Briswort, variant of **BRUSEWORT**.

Brit, Britt (*brit*), *sb.* 1

1. A local name of the young of the Herring and Sprat (*Clupea harengus*, and *sprattus*); also the spawn of these.

1608 CAREW *Cornwall* 32 a, The Pilcherd . . . were wont to pursue the Brit, upon which they feede, into the hauens. 1851 H. MELVILLE *Whale* II. xlviii. 131 We fell in with vast meadows of brit, the minute, yellow substance, upon which the Right Whale largely feeds. 1880-4 F. DAY *Fishes Gt. Brit.* II. 232 Britt along the Devonshire coast, consists either of young sprats or young herrings. *Ibid.* 233 The Town Council of Exeter annually make an official whitebait repast upon 'britt'. [The author discusses at length the identity of the 'britt', and shows that the name includes both species, which are at some seasons taken together, at others separately.]

2. *transf.* The fry of other fish, as the mackerel. 1886 R. C. LESLIE *Sea-painter's Log* viii. 161 The mackerel brit, or small fry

† **Brit, Brett**, *sb.* 2 (and *a.*) *Obs.* Forms: 1 **Bret** (t), **Bryt** (t), **Brit** (t), 4 **Brett**, 6 **Brit**, **Britt**, (9 *Hist.* **Brett**). [*OE. Bret* (pl. *Brettas*) a Briton: cf. *OCeltic* (and *L.*) *Britto*; but the *OE.* form points rather to a variant *OCelt.* stem **Britt-os*, whence perh. the *Brittia* of Procopius. Hence *Brettis*, *Bryttis*, *BRITISH*.]

A. sb. A Briton: the ordinary name in the O.E. Chronicle; in Scotland applied to the Strathclyde Britons till c 1300, when the 'Laws between the Scots and the Bretts' were abolished by Edward I; in later usage only historical. **B. adj.** British.

O. E. Chron. an. 890 Butueoh Brettum and Francum, and Brettas him wip zefuhtun [*Laud MS.* Bryttum, Brittas]. 1535 STEWART *Cron. Scot.* II. 230 Brit langage for to speik and vse, So that the Britis culd nocht weil refuse. *Ibid.* 471 All Albione wes in gude rest and peice; Bot[h] Scot and Brit, and Inglismen also. c 1630 RUSDON *Surv. Devon* § 225 (1810) 238 'Twixt Britts and Saxons. 1873 MURRAY *Dial. S. C. Scot.* 3 The Bretts or Welsh of Strathclyde long retained their special laws as distinct from the laws of Scotland.

† **Brit, britt, v. Obs.** [app. —OE. *bryttian* to divide into fragments — **brutjōjan*, f. **brutjōn*-divider, f. *brut*-pa. pple. stem of *breutan* to break, divide. Cf. ON. *brytja* to chop in pieces.] *trans.* To cut in pieces; = BRITTEN 3.

1330 R. BRUNNE *Chron.* 244 His hede þei of smyten . . þe dede body þei[i] britten on four quarters corn [*i. e.* corven].

Brit, variant of **BRET**, **BRITE**.

Britage, obs. form of **BRATTICE**.

Britain (brī'tn), *sb.* Forms: 3-5 *Bretayne*, *Breteyn(e)*, 4-5 *Brutayne*, 5 *Bretaigne*, 5-6 *Bretayne*, 6 *Britan*, *Brytany*, *Britayn(e)*, *Briteigne*; *Sc.* *Bretane*, *Bertane*, *Bartane*; 6-7 *Brittaine*, *Britaine*, 6- *Brittain*. [*ME.* *Bretayne*, *-eyne*, a. OF. *Bretaigne* :—L. *Britannia* or *Britānia*, the island of Britain. (Lat. *Britannia* would have given F. *Brī*, *Breaigne*.) The OE. name was *Breoton*, *Breoten*, *Bryten*, *Breten*, pointing back to a WGer. **Brituna*; also, *Breoton-lond*, *Breten-lond*. Oceltic had apparently no name for the island as distinct from the people. (With 16th c. *Sc.* *Bertane*, *Bartane*, cf. *Dumbarton*.)

The proper name of the whole island containing England, Wales, and Scotland, with their dependencies; more fully called Great Britain; now also used for the British state or empire as a whole.

After the OE. period, *Britain* was used only as a historical term, until about the time of Henry VIII and Edward VI, when it came again into practical politics in connexion with the efforts made to unite England and Scotland; in 1604 James I was proclaimed 'King of Great Britain'; and this name was adopted for the United Kingdom, at the Union in 1707. After that event, *South Britain* and *North Britain* are frequent in Acts of Parl. for England and Scotland respectively; the latter is still in occasional (chiefly postal) use. (So *West Britain*, humorously or polemically for 'Ireland'.) *Greater Britain* is a modern rhetorical phrase for 'Great Britain and the colonies', 'the British Empire', brought into vogue in 1868.

a 855 *O. E. Chron.* Introd., Gaius Iulius se Casere ærest Romana Breten-lond gesohte. c 890 K. ÆLFRED *Bæda* I. i, Breoton is ealand.

1297 R. GLOUC. 22 And after Brut vs owne nome he cleped hit Breteyne. 82 *Bretayne*, a. 1375 *Joseph Arith.* (Vernon MS.) 232 þe Auenturus of Brutayne. c 1408 *Arith.* 265 Maximian kyng of Breteigne Conquered al France and Almayne. c 1500 *Life Jos. Armathie* (W. de W.) II. 4 Joseph of Aramathia . . came in to grete Brytayne. c 1505 DUNBAR '*Schir for your Grace*' 11 Fairest and best In Bartane. c 1515 *Prophecy of Berlington*, The French wife shal beare the Sonne Shal weild al Breteine to the sea. 1548 HEN. VIII *Declar. Scots* B iv b, Brutus of whom the realm than callyd Brytany toke fyrst that name. 1547 J. HARRISON *Exhort. Scotles* H vj, Y names of both subiectes & realmes ceasing, & to be changed into y^e name of Britain & Britons, as it was at first, & yet still ought to be. 1548 N. BODRUGAN *Epitome* A v b, England the only supreme seat of thempire of grete Breteigne. 1604 *Procl. Jas. I.* 24 Oct., King of Great Britain, France, and Ireland. 1630 WADSWORTH *Sp. Pilgr.* vii. 69 His Majesty of great Britaine. 1665 MANLEY *Grotius' Law-C. Wars* 779 King James . . obliterating the names of Scots and English, would have both to be united and grow up into one Kingdome . . to be called Britain. 1667 DRYDEN *Ann. Mirab.* Ded., To the Metropolis of Great Britain, the most renowned and late flourishing city of London. 1707 *Act of Union* xi. § 1 That the two Kingdoms of England and Scotland shall . . be united into one Kingdom by the Name of Great Britain. 1710 *Act 9 Anne* vi. § 4 To export and transport from Great Britain into Ireland. 1718 *Act 5 Geo. I.* xi. § 16 The importation of Tar and Pitch from North-Britain into any part of South-Britain. 1729 *Act 2 Geo. II.* xxxv. § 12 In several Parts of North Britain commonly called Scotland. *Ibid.* Brought . . to that part of Great Britain called England. 1740 THOMSON '*Rule Britannia*', When Britain first, at Heaven's command, Arose from out the azure main. c 1800 DIBDIN '*I sailed from the Downs*', So adieu to the white cliffs of Britain. 1838 *Act 2 & 3 Will. IV.* lxxv. § 1 In that part of the United Kingdom called Great Britain, and . . that part of the United Kingdom called Ireland. 1868 C. W. DILKE (*title*) *Greater Britain*: Travels 1866-67.

† 2. The duchy of Brittany or Bretagne in France; also called Little Britain, Britain the less. *Obs.*

1a 1200 *Morte Arth.* 36 Burgoyne and Brabane and Breteyne the lesse. c 1530 LD. BERNERS (*title*) *Arthur of lytell Brytayne*. 1605 CAMDEN *Rem.* (1637) 113 Out of places in Britaine came the families of Saint Aubin, Morley, etc. 1608 BACON *Hen. VII.* Wks. (1860) 339 Re-annexing of the duchy of Britain to the crown of France . . by marriage with the daughter of Britain.

† **Britain**, *a.* and *sb.* *Obs.* Forms: 6 *Brytane*, *-aine*, *Brittayne*, 6-7 *Britaine*, 7 *Brittan*, *Brittain(e)*, 6-8 *Britan*, *Britan*. [*ad. L.* *Brit(t)ann-us*, *Brittān-us*, *Briton*, *British*. (The L. *Brit(t)anni* or *Brittāni* appears to correspond to the

Gr. *Βερραυό*, and was perh. adopted from the Greeks of Massilia. The nearest Celtic form is the Irish pl. *Bretain*, genitive *Bretan*, *Brettan*, which may repr. an Oceltic *Bret(t)an-i* pl., distinct from *Britton-es*, whence *BRITON*, q.v.)]

A. sb. 1. A Briton (*i. e.* an ancient Briton). 1547 J. HARRISON *Exhort. Scotles* Civ b, Yet wil I not affirme that Scottes be mere Britaynes, or Englishe men mere Britaynes. 1570 LEVINS *Manif.* 10 A Brytane, *Britanus*. *Ibid.* 200 Brittainye. 1579 FULKE *Confut. Sanders* 561 As Ninnius a Britaine doeth testifie. 1605 CAMDEN *Rem.* (1637) 9 The Brittaines . . The Britains, the most ancient people of this Isle. *Ibid.* 40 The Brittans. *Ibid.* 54 The Britans. 1611 SHAKS. *Cymb.* I. iv. 28 Heere comes the Britaine. 1708 ECHARD *Ecccl. Hist.* (1710) 549 The northern Britains and Caledonians.

2. A native of Bretagne in France; a Breton. 1594 BLUNDEVIL *Exerc.* v. (ed. 7) 567 Called new France, because the Britains which are Frenchmen did first discover it. a 1618 RALEIGH *Invent. Shipping* 9 The French Britains who were then esteemed the best Britaine Sea men.

B. adj. 1. Ancient British.

1563-87 FOXE *A. & M.* (1596) 481 Joseph of Arimathea . . among the Britaine people. 1576 LAMBARDE *Peramb. Kent* (1826) 167 There be moreover Brytaine bricks, in the wallles of the Church. 1601 HOLLAND *Pliny* I. 87 The Britan ocean. 1641 MILTON *Prot. Episc.* 18 Our Brittain Bishops . . were remarkable for nothing more then their poverty.

2. British, in the modern political sense. **Britain Crown**, a gold coin struck by James I, orig. valued at 5s., afterwards at 5s. 6d. (Cf. **BRITISH CROWN**.)

1609 BISHOP (Douay) *Pref.* To teach and feede al Britan people. c 1600 A. HUME (*title*) *Of the Orthographie of the Britan Tongue*. 1866 CRUMP *Banking* x. 224 James I.—Gold (Coins)—Rose-royal . . quarter-sovereign, Britain-crown.

3. Of French Bretagne; Breton.

c 1645 HOWELL *Lett.* (1650) I. 390 The Britan . . is a dialect of the Welsh.

† **Britainer**, **Britaner**. *Obs.* = *prec.*

1570 LEVINS *Manif.* 84 Of Britayn, Britaner, *Britannus*. 1608 PEACHAM *Compl. Gentl.* xix. (1634) 239 They are faime to have it of the Britainers, Hollanders, and from the Azores Ilands. 1709 J. JOHNSON 77 Apr. in *Ballard MSS.* XV. 46 He is the Miracle of a North-britainer.

Britannia (brī'taniā), [*L.* *Britannia*, anciently *Britannia*, *Brittānia* (which was Bæda's spelling), corresp. to Gr. *Βερραβία* (Diod. Sic.), f. *Britanni* or *Brittāni* = Gr. *Βερραυό*; see **BRITAIN** a.]

1. The Latin name of Britain; a poetic name for Britain personified as a female; the female figure on coins, etc., emblematic of Britain.

c 893 K. ÆLFRED *Oros.* I. i. § 11 Pæt lond þe mon bryttania [*later* M.S. *bryttannia*] hætt. *Ibid.* 28 Britannia pæt izland . . On bryttannia. 1586 CAMDEN (*title*) *Britannia*, seu florentissimorum regnorum Angliæ, Scotiæ, Hiberniæ . . descriptio. 1637 . . Britannia, transl. newly into English by P. Holland. 1666-7 PEPYS *Diary* 25 Feb., The King's new medall, where, in little, there is Mrs. Stewart's face . . and a pretty thing it is, that he should choose her face to represent Britannia by. 1736 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 5404/3 The Figure of a Woman, commonly called Britannia. 1740 THOMSON *Song, 'Rule Britannia'*. 1768-9 FALCONER *Shipw.* I. 3 Of famed Britannia were the gallant crew. 1798 NELSON in Duncan *Life* (1806) 101 Britannia still rules the waves. 1818 BYRON *Yvan* I. iv, Nelson was once Britannia's god of war. 1864 N. & Q. Ser. III. V. 371 The earliest coin . . with the figure of Britannia is a copper half penny of 1672.

† 2. *Comm.* = *Britannia Lina*: see 3. *Obs.*

1676 DAMPIER *Voy.* II. ii. 110 Broad-cloth, Serges . . Britannias, Hollandiloes, Iron-work, etc.

3. *attrib.* in commercial terms; esp. **Britannia-metal**, an alloy of tin and regulus of antimony, resembling silver in appearance.

1706 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 4189/4 Coarse unwatered Camblets . . Britannia Lina . . broad Germany Lina. 1817 BROWNELL'S *Sheffield Directory* 73 Britannia Metal Manufacturers. [In earlier directories called 'White Metal'.] 1849 DICKENS *Dav. Copp.* 586 Of course we have something in the shape of spoons . . but they are Britannia metal. 1880 *Pall Mall* G. 30 June 1/1 Prince Bismarck's oft-quoted . . saying, that 'Speech was silver and silence golden; but that first to speak and then to run away was Britannia metal'.

Hence **Britannian** *a.* = **BRITISH**.

1589 Gold. *Mirr.* (1851) 14 Wicked weasels, fled from Britan ground. 1673 PURCHAS *Pilgr.* viii. v. 760 Our Britanians hopes, Prince Henrie and Duke Charles. a 1840 E. ELLIOTT *Withered W. Flowers* I. Our Britannian shore.

Britannic (brī'tanik), *a.* [*ad. L.* *Britannicus* of Britain, or perh. F. *Britannique*.] Of Britain, British. Used in *His or Her Britannic Majesty*.

1642 MILTON *Ck. Discip.* II. (1851) 69 [Thou] didst build up this Britannick Empire. 1695 BLACKMORE *Pr. Arth.* 237 The Britannic Hero. 1709 STURGE *Tatler* No. 6 ¶ 12 Envoy Extraordinary from her Britannick Majesty. 1796 MORSE *Amer. Geog.* II. 208 On a clear day the three Britannic kingdoms may be seen from this island. 1848 W. K. KELLY tr. *L. Blanc's Hist. Ten Y.* I. 473 His Britannic majesty maintained with St. Petersburg relations of amity.

Hence **Britannically** *adv.* in British fashion; in reference to Great Britain.

1716 M. DAVIES *Arth. Brit.* II. 11 Whereupon an Active Disobedience very Britannically ensuing. 1804 *Ann. Rev.* III. 178 This extended potency . . is rather local than britannically interesting. 1809 *Student* II. 183 Several captures of the almost (Britannically) fabulous 'Bath White'.

† **Britannic**, *sb.* *Obs.* [*a. L.* *Britannica* (*herba*) 'water-dock' (Lewins and Short).] A herb, app. the Water-dock (*Rumex hydrolapathum*).

1567 MAPLET *Gr. Forest* 34 *Britannick*, or English Herb hath the very looke of the greatest Sorrell. 1601 HOLLAND *Pliny* II. 269 The herbe Britannica . . transported into vs out of Britaine.

† **Brita-nish**, *a.* *Obs.* *rare.* = **BRITISH**.

1611 SPERD *Theat. Gr. Brit.* (1614) 1/2 Other Ilands . . under the shadow of Great Albion are also accounted Britannish.

† **Britany**, *Obs.* Also **Britanie**, *-annie*, *-anny*, **Brittany**. [*ad. L.* *Britannia*.]

1. Britain, Great Britain.

1579 E. K. in *Spenser's Sheph. Cal.* Sept. 151 Gloss, King Edgare . . reigned here in Britanye. 1581 SAVILE *Tacitus Hist.* I. ii. (1591) 2 Britany al conquered, not al retained. 1596 SPENSER *F. Q.* III. iii. 52 All Britany doth burne in armes bright. 1608 HIERON *Defence* II. 79 The Lords inheritance in this Ile of Britanie. 1611 GUILLIM *Heraldrick* III. xvii. 162 By whose glorious issue, Great Britany now enioieth the height of Glorie and Happinesse. 1668 GUNNING *Lent Fast* 35 Lucius, first Christian King of Britanny.

2. The Roman provinces of *Britannia Prima* and *Secunda*.

1658 W. BURTON *Itin. Antonin.* 85 York . . the more antient Metropolis of the Diocese of the Brittainies.

3. The French province of Bretagne: 'Little Britany'; commonly spelt **Britany**.

Brich, obs. form of **BREECH**.

† **Brichel**, *a.* *Obs.* exc. *dial.* Forms: 3 *bruchel*, 8-9 (*dial.*) *britchel*. [*ME.* *bruchel* (*ū*) :—OE. *brycel*; cf. *BRICKLE*.] Liable to break; brittle. a 1225 *Ancre R.* 164 þis bruchele uetles is bruchelure þene beo eni gles. c 1230 *Hali Meid.* 13 Hwen þu hare lifaðe i þi bruchele fleach wiðute bruche leade. 1674 *Var. N. C. Wds.* 8 Brichol [*printed* brichol], brittle. *Var. Dial.* and *Chesh.* 1857 J. SCHOLES *Journ. to see Queen* 47 in *Lanc. Gloss.*, As britchel as egg-shells.

† **Brite**, *v.* *Obs.* exc. *dial.* Also 8-9 *brit*. [*Cf.* ON. *brjōta*, Sw. *bryte*, Da. *bryde* to break, destroy (*trans.*), corresp. to OE. *brōtan* to break, burst.] *intr.* Of grain, hops, etc.: To become over-ripe and shatter.

1669 WORLIDGE *Syst. Agric.* viii. § 1 (1681) 152 It preserves the Hops from briting or shedding. *Ibid.* 323 *Brite* or *bright*: Barley, Wheat, and other Grain, and Hops are said to brite when they are over-ripe and shatter. 1674 *Wds. S. & E. C. Wds.* 60. a 1725 LISLE *Hush. Gloss.* in *P. R. S.* (E. D. S.) *Brit*, to shed; to fall. 1883 PRIOR (*in let. to Editor*), In dry weather the grain falls from ears of wheat in the reaping and in Wiltshire is said to brite out.

Britysing, obs. form of **BRATTISING**.

Brith, obs. form of **BIRTH**, **BRIGHT**.

Brither, *Sc.* form of **BROTHER**.

Briticism (brī'tisiz'm). Also **Britticism**. [*f.* **BRIT-ISH** (or a possible *Britic*) after *Gallicism*, *Scoticism*, etc.] A phrase or idiom characteristic of Great Britain, but not used in the English of the United States or other countries.

1883 *Boston (U.S.) Jnrl.* 17 Sept., A well arranged handbook of Briticisms, Americanisms, Colloquial Phrases, etc. 1885 *Sat. Rev.* 28 Nov. 709 The American critic is within his right when he retorts at once that the use of 'directly' in place of 'as soon as' is a Briticism.

Brittl, obs. form of **BRITTLE**.

British (brī'tif), *a.* (*sb.*) Forms: 1 *Brettisio*, *Bryttisio*, *Brittiso* (*Bryttiso*), 4 *Bruttische*, 5 *Bryttyshe*, 6 *Brutish*, 7 *Brittish*, *Brittysh*, 6- *British*. [*OE.* *Brettisc*, etc., f. *Bret*, pl. *Brett-as*, *Bryttas*, *Brittas*, the natives of ancient Britain, the Britons: see **BRIT** and *-ISH*. The modern spelling is influenced by Latin.]

1. Of or pertaining to the ancient Britons. Now chiefly in ethnological and archaeological use.

a 895 *O. E. Chron.* an. 508 Her Cerdic and Cynric ofslorox ænne Brettisc [*Laud MS.* *Bryttiscne*] cnyning. a 1000 *Ibid.* (*Laud*) Introd., Her sind on þis izlande fīf geþeode: Eoglics and Brittisc and Wilsce, and Scyttisc and Pyhtisc and Boc Leden. a 1200 *Ibid.* an. 1075 Se ylca Raulf was Bryttisc on his moder heafle, and his fæder was Englisc. 1605 SHAKS. *Lear* III. iv. 189 Fie, foh, and fumme, I smell the blood of a British man. c 1645 HOWELL *Lett.* (1650) I. 377 He calls . . Helen an English woman; whereas, she was purely British, and that there was no such nation upon earth called English at that time. 1780 COWPER *Boadicea* i, The British warrior queen, Bleeding from the Roman rods. 1870 KNIGHT *Hist. Eng.* I. 3 A road, acknowledged to be British, still crosses Salisbury Plain.

† *b.* = *Welsh*.

1668 *Act of Uniformity* 13-14 *Chas. II.* iv. § 27 That the Book [of Common Prayer] hereunto annexed be truly and exactly translated into the British or Welsh Tongue.

2. Of or belonging to Great Britain, or its inhabitants. In the earlier instances only a geographical term adopted from Latin; from the time of Henry VIII frequently used to include English and Scotch; in general use in this sense from the accession of James I, and in 17th c., often opposed to *Irish*; legally adopted at the Union in 1707. Now chiefly used in political or imperial connexion, as *the British army*, *British colonies*, *British India*, etc., *British ambassador*, *consul*, *residents*, etc.; also in scientific and commercial use, as *British plants*, *British butterflies*, *British spirits*.

1387 TREVISIA *Hiden* (1865) I. 271 Gallia . . is i-closed aboute . . wip þe Bruttische ocean in þe west side. 1398 — *Bark. De P. R.* xv lxxvi (1495) 512 France . . endyth in the north at Bryttyshe Ocean. 1590-87 HOLMESHOED *Scot. Chron.* (1806) I. 43 Amongst the Irish Scotchmen . . the petition of

the British Scots. 1604 J. DEX in Hearn Coll. (1885) I. 64 This British Empire. 1643 Script. Reas. for Defens. Armes 76 The extirpation of the British Nation, and Protestant Religion in that kingdom [Ireland]. 1699 GARTH Dispens. 1. 7 How have I kept the British Fleet at ease? 1706-7 Act of Union 6 Anne xi. § 1 art. 8 Without any mixture of British or Irish salt. 1769 BURKE Pres. St. Nat. Wks. II. 187 Every British merchant in Petersburg. 1841 W. SPALDING Italy & It. Isl. II. 393 His strange discussions on the British constitution. 1855 TENNYSON Maud 1. xiii. ii. A stony British stare. 1882a Garden 18 Feb. 112/1 Our common British Ivy.

+3. Of or belonging to Brittany, Breton. Obs. 1608 CAREW Cornwall 131 b, One of their ancestors... entertained a British Miller, as that people, for such idle occupations, prove more hardie than our owne.

4. ellipt. as sb. pl. British people, soldiers, etc. 1641 in Miss Hickson 17th C. (1884) II. App. U. 363 [In county Monaghan] there being a little plantation of British, the rebels plundered the town. 1652a Ibid. (1884) I. xxxix. 245 As the Irish rebels marched through the said parish they murdered all the British they could lay their hands on. 1708 Lond. Gas. No. 4459/3 The British had not a Man kill'd or wounded. 1844 H. H. WILSON Brit. India 1. vii. II. 269 Appearances began to assume an aspect most unfavourable to the British.

5. Comb., as British-born, -built, -owned adjs., British-man; British crown, a gold coin current in the reign of Charles I.; British gum, a commercial name of dextrin; British school, a public elementary school, on the non-denominational or unsectarian basis of the 'British and Foreign School Society'.

1711 SHAFESB. Charac. (1737) III. 144 Had it happen'd to one of us British-men to have been born at sea, cou'd we not therefore properly be call'd British-men? 1756 Act 29 Geo. II. § 18 British built Ships or Vessels. 1756 MORSE Amer. Geog. II. 108 Numbers of British-born subjects. 1808 Merc. Mar. Mag. V. 308 British-owned... vessels. 1860 MAYNE Exp. Lex., British Gum (Chem.), term for a species of gum into which starch is converted when exposed to a temperature between 600° and 700°... used as a substitute for gum Arabic in calico printing and other processes. 1866 CRUMP Banking x. 224 Charles I—Gold [coins]—Three-pound piece, angel, unite, double-crown, British-crown.

Hence British-hood, Britishness. 1803 A. FORBES in Ninet. Cent. Oct. 722 Their British-hood manifests itself in things big and in things little. 1872 S. MOSTYN Perplexity III. iii. 46 His thorough Britishness.

Britisher (brit'ish). [f. BRITISH + -ER; cf. foreign-er.]

(Apparently of U. S. origin, and chiefly used by, or attributed to, Americans. Mr. R. Grant White has strongly disclaimed its use in U. S., but Mr. Fitzward Hall has known it as of American currency all his life. Prof. Freeman, in his Impressions of U. S., thinks it arose during the War of Independence, when the opposing forces were known as 'American' and 'British' (not 'English'), and 'Britisher' was the natural substantive from the latter. Mr. F. treats the word more disparagingly than those who denounce it as an 'odious vulgarism'. See his work.)

A British subject; a native or inhabitant of Great Britain (as distinguished from an American citizen).

1809 MARRYAT F. Midway xx, [American mate loquiter] 'Are we going to be bullied by these... Britishers?' 1868 Spectator 14 Nov. 1325 Mr. Reverdy Johnson... was so complimentary to England... and to British institutions. 1879 T. E. C. LESLIE in Academy 23 Even tawdry rhetoric is venial compared with the sin of using such an odious vulgarism as the word Britisher for Englishman or Briton. 1883 FREEMAN Impressions U. S. iv. 29, I always told my American friends that I had rather be called a Britisher than an Englishman, if by calling me an Englishman they meant to imply that they were not Englishmen themselves. Ibid. vi. 43 The American is really more called on to know about British matters than the Britisher is called on to know about American matters. 1884 STEVENSON New Arab. Nts. 38 His tweed suit... identified him as a Britisher.

Britishism, the same as BRITICISM.

Britle, obs. form of BRITTLE.

Briton (brit'n, -ən), sb. (a.). Also 3 Brytone, Brutone, 5 Breton(e), 6 Bryton, Bryttane, Bruton. [ME. *Breton*, a. F. *breton*—L. *Brittōn-em*, nom. *Britto* 'a native of Britain'. The most correct L. form was *Britto*, *Brittōn-em*, pl. *Brittōn-es*, a. O.Celtic **Britto*, pl. **Britton-es*, whence Welsh collective pl. *Brython*. The ME. *Bryton*, *Bruton* show various etymological influences; the modern *Briton* is assimilated to the erroneous L. form *Brito*, pl. *Britōn-es*, found in MSS. (The earlier name by which the Romans spoke of this people was *Britanni*, or *Brittāni*, -*anni*, which appears to have been a Goidelic name; but after the conquest of Britain, this was gradually superseded by *Brittones* the name given to themselves by the Brythonic people of the south of the island. Only the latter survived in living use: Bada's regular form is *Bretto*, -*ones*; and F. *Breton* represents a L. form with -*it*-; *Britōnem*, *Britōnem*, would have given *Brion*, *Breon*. The OE. name was *Brittas*, *Bryttas*: see BRIT.)]

A. sb. 1. A native of Britain: a. In History and Ethnology: One of the race who occupied the southern part of the island at the Roman invasion, the 'ancient Britons'. +b. A Welshman. c. Since the union of England and Scotland: A native of Great Britain, or of the British Empire; much

used in the 18th c.; now chiefly in poetic, rhetorical, or melodramatic use, and in phrases dating to the 'Rule Britannia' period, as 'to work like a Briton', 'as tough as a Briton', etc. *North Briton*: a Scotchman.

1297 R. GLOUC. a Pis was þo in Engolond Brytones [v. r. Brutones] were y-wys. 12400 *Morte Arth.* 1449 Thane the Bretones brothyer brochez theire stede. c. 1248 *Arthur* 15 Bretones 3af hym þat name. 1547 J. HARRISON *Exhort.* Scottes Cj b, As they were called Kynges of Britayne, so was y^e general name of the people Brytons. Ibid. G v b, When these hateful termes of Scottes and Englishemen, shalbe abolisshed, and blotted oute for euer, and we shal al agre in the onely title and name of Britons. 1586 WARNER *Alb. Eng.* ii. xiii. 63 He was Father vnto Brute: and thus the Brutons bring their pettigree from Jupiter. 1667 E. CHAMBERLAYNE *St. Gt. Brit.* i. iii. iii. (1743) 161 So the Britons, Hugh ap Owen, etc. 1679 DRYDEN *Tr. & Cress.* Prol. 1 See, my loved Britons, see your Shakespeare rise. 1740 THOMSON 'Rule Britannia', Britons never will be slaves. 1760 GEO. III. in G. Rose *Diaries* (1860) II. 189, I glory in the name of Briton. 1817 WOLFE *Burial Sir J. Moore* vi, Little he'll reck if they let him sleep on In the grave where a Briton has laid him. 1830 THIRLWALL *Greece* I. 227 The ancient Britons. 1851 D. WILSON *Prek.* Ann. II. iii. viii. 486 The aboriginal Briton. 1886 TENNYSON *Exhib. Ode*, Britons, hold your own!

+2. A Briton or native of Brittany.

+B. adj. = BRITISH. Obs.

1547 J. HARRISON *Exhort.* Scottes Fij, In the Englishe and Briton histories. 1571 J. MAITLAND *Admon. Earl of Mar*, They forcit the Briton folks to flit. 1596 SPENSER *F. Q.* II. x. 49 Yet oft the Briton Kings against them [the Romans] strongly swayd. c. 1605 ROWLEY *Birth Merl.* iv. v. 344 To enlarge the Briton bounds. Ibid. v. ii. 350 To be invested with the Briton crown.

+Britoner. Obs. Also 4-5 Bretoner, Brytoner(e), Brutiner, Brutener, Bretener, Britonere. 'An inhabitant of Brittany, a Frenchman, used as a term of reproach' (Skeat *Gloss. P. Pl.*). 1562 LANGL. *P. Pl.* A. vii. 142 A Brutiner, a Brager(e), a-bostede him alse. Ibid. 163 And buffeted be brutiner aboute bope his chekes. [1377 B. vi. 156, 178 Brytonere... Britoner; 1393 C. ix. 152, 173 brytonere... brutener.]

Britoness (brit'ones). rare. A female Briton. 1591 SPENSER *Ruines Time* 106 Banduca, Britoness... That... with the Romanes fought. 1823 MACAULAY *Burleigh, Ess.* 184, I. 227/1 Such outward marks of servitude as the haughty Britoness [Queen Elizabeth] exacted. 1864 TENNYSON *Boadicea* 55 The yellow-ringed Britoness.

Britschka, britzka, variants of BRITZKA.

+Britted, ppl. a. Obs. exc. dial. [f. *brit*, dial. form of BRITE v. + -ED.] Of grain, hops, etc.: Shattered by over-ripeness.

a 1728 LISLE *Husb.* (1752) 108 Soon, if the ground be wet, britted corn will grow. 1850 BRAVENDER in *Jrnl. R. Agric. Soc.* XI. 1. 167 The loss of the britted beans.

+Britten, v. Obs. Forms: 1 brytnian, 3 britten, 3-4 britten, 4 britten, brytyn(e), britten, -on, bryton, brutten, (also pa. t. and ppl. britten, britned, -et, brutned), 4-5 brittun, -yn, 5 brytten, (brytn-is, britn-is, brytyn-it), Sc. bertyn (bertn-it), bartyn (bartn-it). [OE. *brytnian*—O. Teut. **brutjān*, f. **brutjōn*, in OE. *brytta* distributor, dispenser, f. stem *brut-* of **breutan* to break, divide: cf. BRITTLE.]

1. trans. To distribute, dispense. (Only in OE.) a 1000 *Beowulf* 4756 Para ðe in Swio-ric sinc brytnade.

2. To divide. c 1200 ORMIN 14178 Þiss werelld... iss dæledd and brittnedd on till dæless þre.

3. To cut or hew in pieces; to kill, slay, butcher. a 1300 *Coursar* M. 8720 God it wit-schilþ þat þou britten [v. r. britten, brytyn] sua mi child. c 1350 *Will. Palerne* 1073 Þe douȝti duk... bet adoun burwes, & brutned moche peple. 12400 *Morte Arth.* 106 He salue... Bryne Bretyne be brade, and brytynne thy knyghtys. Ibid. 1487 With brandes of broute stele they brittened mayles. c 1400 *Destr. Troy* 1971 Drawen as a dog & to deche brought: Brittonet þi body into bare quarters. c 1470 *Henry Wat-lace* iii. 400 Sokroune men yat bertynit war to deide. 1513 DOUGLAS *Aeneis* ii. 114 Cruell Pyrrus, Quhillk brytnys the son befor the faderis face. 1535 STEWART *Crom. Scot.* I. 334 Tha bertynd hir, baith bodie, bane and blude.

b. Hunting. To cut up or 'break' (a boar or deer); cf. BRITTLE v.

c 1340 *Gaw. & Gr. Knt.* 1339 Siben britned þay be brest, & brayden hit in twynne. c 1400 *Anon. Arth.* xvii, Sethun brittuns he the best, As venesun in forest. 1535 STEWART *Crom. Scot.* II. 102 Quhen he was bertnit to gif the houndis blude. Ibid. 431 Tha barf[?]it thame lyke ony bludie deir.

Brittish, obs. form of BRITISH.

Brittle (brit'l), a. Forms: 4 britul, -il, (bre-till, brethil), 5 brityll, brittill, (bretyll), bryt-tyl, 5-6 bryttel, bryttel, 6 bri-, bryttell, brittle, brittil, brytel, brytyle, 6-7 brittle, 6- brittle. [ME. *britul*, *britil*, *bretil*—OE. **brytel*—O. Teut. **brutilo*, f. *brut-* pa. ppl. stem of **breutan*, OE. *brutan* to break. See also BRUTEL, BRUTEL, and cf. BRICKLE.]

1. Liable to break, easily broken; fragile, breakable; friable (obs.).

1350 *Wyclif Lev.* vi. 22 The brettel vessel forsothe in the which it [the flesh] is sothun. 1398 *Trevisa Barth. De P. R.* xvi. xxxvi. (1495) 564 Bras that is fusile and molte is bryttel vnder the humour. 1532 MORSE *Confut. Tindale* Wks. 398/1 With betle browes & his brittle spectacles of pride and malice. 1615 CROOK *Body of Man* 33 Some are fragile

or brittle... as Bones. 1669 WORLIDGE *Syst. Agric.* IV. § 1 (1681) 35 A brittle soil... is best for Corn. 1878 HUXLEY *Physiogr.* 159 The ice being brittle, cracks and snaps.

+b. Liable to destruction, perishable, mortal. c 1380 *Wyclif Serm.* Sel. Wks. II. 258 Þei traveilen... to take britul crowne here, but men traveilen in Goddis cause to take a crown þat never may faile. 1509 FISHER *Wks.* I. 176 These bryttel bodyes of ours. 1622 FLETCHER *Sea Voy.* II. ii. No goddess, friend, But made of that same brittle mould as you are. 1777 SIR W. JONES *Seven Fount.* 55 How dim the rays that gild the brittle earth.

+2. fig. That breaks faith; inconstant, fickle.

1521 *St. Papers Hen. VIII.* I. 73 Such brittle people as they [the Irish] bee, in whome is moche crafte, and litle or noo faith. 1538 BALE *Three Lawes* 175 Hys bryttle nature, hys sylpernesse to waye. 1622 T. SCOTT *Belg. Pismire* 15 Never did Age so abound with such brittle spirits as this.

3. fig. Frail, weak; insecure, unstable, transitory.

c 1555 HARTSFIELD *Divorce Hen. VIII* (1878) 202 Easy for the King to overthrow this brittle and frail clergy. 1559 *Mirr. Mag.* Hen. VI. xviii. 4 To shew by patarne of a prince, how brittle honour is. 1657 W. FENNER and P. *Christ's Alarm* 25 Consider how brittle your hearts are. 1692 DRYDEN *Eleonora* xiv. 6 A second Eve. As beauteous, not as brittle as the first. 1799 SHERIDAN *Pizarro* III. iii. The brittle tribute of his praise. 1817 JAS. MILL *Brit. India* I. iii. iv. 615 The brittle materials of an Indian army.

4. Comb.: brittle silver ore, the mineral Stephanite; brittle-star, a name applied to several species of star-fish of the genus *Ophiocoma*; brittle-worts, Lindley's name for the *Diatomaceae*.

1843 *Proc. Berw. Nat. Club* II. 49, O. neglecta, Grey Brittle Star. 1863 G. KEARLEY *Links in Chain* vi. 119 The Brittle stars are extremely abundant around most parts of our coast. 1861 H. MACMILLAN *Footnotes Page Nat.* 170 The diatoms or brittle-worts... form a wonderful microcosm.

+Brittle, v. 1 Obs. Also 3 brutile, 16 brittle, 7 bryttile. [A freq. form from BRIT, BRITTEN v.] trans. To cut to pieces; to cut up (a deer).

c 1275 O. E. *Misc.* 92 Seynt Thomas wes biscop, and barunes him quolde, Heo brutled him. *Boy & Mantle* in *Child Coll. Ballads* (1861) I. 15 He britled the bores head Wonderous weele. 1865 S. EVANS *Bro. Fabian* 58 The bravest man That ever britled a deer.

+Brittle, v. 2 Obs. [f. BRITTLE a.] trans. To make brittle or friable.

1743 MAXWELL *Sel. Trans. Soc. Agric.* 109 (JAM.) The clay... which will be britled by the winter frosts.

+Brittle-brattle. Obs. Reduplicated deriv. of BRATTLE.

1535 LYNDESAY *Satyre* 621 Quhill all the raipis beguith to rattil... Quhen all the saills playd brittill brattill.

Brittily, adv. rare 1 Obs. Also brittily. [f. BRITTLE a. + -LY.] In a brittle manner.

1580 BARET *Alv.* B. 1335 Brittily; frailly, fragilliter. a 1638 MEDE *Wks.* I. xxix. 140 The divided toes... are in a sort (though but brittily) united together. 1678 A. LITTLETON *Lat. Dict.*, Brittily, fragilliter. 1823 SMITH *Eng. & Fr. Dict.*, Brittily, Brittily, avec fragillité.

Brittleness (brit'lnes). [f. BRITTLE a. + -NESS.] The quality of being brittle; fragility.

1488 CAXTON *Chast. Goddess Chyld.* 95 Thou sholdest know... thine owne brittleness and unght to stonde. 1548 HALL *Chron.* (1809) 547 Remembryng the brytlnes of your promise. 1669 WORLIDGE *Syst. Agric.* viii. § 1 (1681) 154 The brittleness of the inner stalk. 1862 GOURBURN *Pers. Reliq.* 202 The extreme brittleness and frailty of the human will. 1869 ROSCOE *Elem. Chem.* 178 Hardness, brittleness, and tenacity, are physical properties of great importance.

+Brittlety. Obs. rare-1. [f. BRITTLE a. after *frailty*, *subtlety*, etc.] Brittleness, frailty.

1652-3 *Will of Sir T. Pelham* (Somerset Hs.) Considering the brittletie and uncertaintye of this present life.

+Brittling, vbl. sb. Obs. [f. BRITTLE v. 1 + -ING.] The cutting up (of a deer or boar).

a 1500 *Chery Chase* (MS. Ashmole 48) 17 To the querry then the Perse went To se the bryttinge off the deare. Ibid. 26 'Leave of the brytting of the deare', he said.

Brittling, sb. [f. BRITTLE a.: cf. the scientific name *Anguis fragilis*.] 'The slow-worm' (Halliwell).

Brittlish, a. rare. Somewhat brittle.

1648 HEXHAM *Dutch Dict.*, *Broosken*, fraile, Tender, or Brittlish.

+Brittly, a. Obs. [f. BRITTLE a. + -LY.] Somewhat brittle or friable.

1698 *Phil. Trans.* XX. 221 A soft britly Matter.

Britzka, britzaka (brit'skă, Pol. brit'ska). Also britschka, britschka, britzka. [a. Polish *bryczka* (cz = ts) 'a light long travelling wagon', dim. of *bryka* goods-wagon.] An open carriage with calash top, and space for reclining when used for a journey.

1832 *Fair of May Fair* III. *Special License* ix. 372 Mrs. Parkyns... stipulated that her daughter should have a britschka built by Adams. 1839 *Sat. Mag.* Supp. Aug. 86/1 The annexed cut represents a britschka. This form was brought from Germany about a dozen years ago. 1844 *Disraeli Coningsby* v. vi. 213 Order the britzka round as usual. 1848 THACKERAY *Van. Fair* lxii, Lord Bareacre's chariot, britzka and fourgon. 1866 MISS BRADDON *Lady's Mile* ii. 14 The fashionable world had gone homeward in barouches, landaus, britzskas and phaetons.

+Brivaltio, a. Obs. rare. [According to a note to the first quot. f. OSP. *brivion* (Sp. *brion*) 'a loytring fellow that will not worke, but goe from

Town to Town, from house to house, to beg a piece of bread and a Dish of drinke'. See BRIBE.] Of vagrants or mendicants.

1653 MABBE *Aleman's Gussman d'Alf.* 1. 190 She made me study the Brivatick Art. *Ibid.* 11. 95 Themselves with their brevaticke Art may lie wallowing in the durt.

† **Brizle, brizel**, sb. Obs. Also 4 **brizil**, **bricol**. [a. ON. *brizil*, *brizili*, 'blame, shame'.] Shame, reproach.

a 1300 *Cursor M.* 10319 Pi brizel, bale, and pin vpbraid, Pat isacar be prist be said. *Ibid.* 24044 Pat brizel [v. r. bricil], beting, crone o thorn. *Ibid.* 28196 Wit flitt, wit brizil, striue and strut, myn euencristen haue i hurt.

† **Brizle**, v. Obs. Also 4 **bruzle**. [a. ON. *brizula* 'to upbraid'.] *trans.* To reproach, reprove, upbraid. Hence **Brizling** vbl. sb.

a 1300 *Cursor M.* 10287 For his brizling, for his vp-braid. c 1325 *E. E. Allit. P. C.* 345 Penne a wynde of goddes worde efte be wize bruzel.

Brizn, obs. form of **BRINE**.

Brizn, brizn, v. Sc. form of **BRUISE** (sense 5).

Brize, brizee, obs. forms of **BREEZE**.

Brizle, brizle, -lie, etc.; see **BRISTLE**, **BRISTLY**.

Bro, obs. form of **BRAR**, **BROO**, **BROW**.

Broach (brout), sb. Forms: 4-9 **brooche**, 6 **brotohe**, 6-9 **brooch**, 6, 9 **brooch**, 9 *dial.* **brotoch**, 6-**broach**. [ME. *broche*, a. F. *broche* (13th c. in Littre), ONF. *broke*, *broque*; corresp. to Pr. and Sp. *broca*, It. *brocca* 'a carver's great fork' (Florio): -Rom. or late L. **brocca* spike, pointed instrument, akin to *broccus*, *broccus* adj. in *broccus dentes* projecting teeth. The same word as **BROOCH**, the senses having been differentiated in spelling.]

1. A tapering pointed instrument or thing.

† 1. A pointed rod of wood or iron; a lance, spear, bodkin, pricker, skewer, awl, stout pin. Obs. in general sense exc. *dial.*

c 1305 *Disp. Mary & Cross* 55 in *Leg. Rood* 135 A Broche þor-out his brest born. 1448 *MS. R. Glouc.* Gloss. 628 A broche of brennyng fure was putte þurgh an horne, that was putt in his fondement in to K. Edward Seconds body. 1480 *Caxton Chron. Eng.* clv. 137 He prykked the tode thurgh with a broche. 1548 *Thomas Rules Ital. Gram.* in *Promp. Parv.* 52, *Stocco*, an armynge swoorde made like a broche. 1658 *R. White tr. Digby's Powd. Symp.* (1660) 127 Make red-hot a broche or fire-shovel. 1674 *RAY N. C. Wds.* 8, *Broach*... signifies also a Butcher's-prick.

2. *esp.* Such a pointed instrument used for roasting meat upon; a spit.

1 a 1400 *Morte Arth.* 1029 Thre balefulle birdez his brochez þey turne. c 1400 *Liber Cocorum* 16 Do upon a broche, roost hom hydene A lytel. c 1400 *Promp. Parv.* 52 Broche or spete, *vers.* 1598 *BARCKLEY Felic. Man v.* (1603) 373 Shee... put him upon the broche, and roasted him. 1622 *Bacon Hen. VII.* 36 Hee turned a Broach that had worne a Crowne. 1657 *Dryden Virg. Georg.* II. 547 Entrails shall... drip their Fatness from the Hazle Broach. 1800 *Scott Ivanhoe* IV, Wild-fowl... brought in upon small wooden spits or broaches. 1872 *Tennyson Lynette* 475 Set To turn the broach.

b. A spit for spitting herring; a similar instrument used in *Candle-making* for suspending the wicks for dipping.

c 1400 *Promp. Parv.* 52 Broche for spyrynge or herynge, *spiculum*. 1875 *USE Dict. Arts* I. 680 The dipping room is furnished with... a large wheel for supporting the broaches.

† 3. A taper: often mentioned along with torches; but in some cases (e. g. quot. 1504) explained as a spike on which to stick a candle.

1377 *LANGL. P. Pl. B.* xvii. 244 Hew fyre at a flynte... But thou have towe to take it with, tondre or broches, Al thi labour is loste. c 1400 *Anturs of Arth.* xxxv, Troches and broches and standartis bi-twene. 1504 *Eng. Gilds* (1870) 327 A broche w^t a fote. ij new torches.

† 4. A spindle. Obs. or Sc.

c 1400 *Promp. Parv.* 52 Broche of threde, *vericulum*. 1483 *Cath. Angl.* 44 A Broche for garn, *fusillus*. 1513 *DOUGLAS Æneis* VII. xiv. 59 Hir womanly handis... Na spyndill vrit, nor brochis of Mynerve. 1824 *MACTAGART Callowid. Encycl.*, *Broaches*, Wooden spindles to put pins on, to be wound off.

5. A piece of tough pliant wood, pointed at each end, used by thatchers for fixing their work.

c 1400 *Promp. Parv.* 52 Broche for a thacstare, *firmaculum*. 1787 *W. MARSHALL Norfolk* II. 64 To prevent the wind from blowing it off... he pegs it down slightly with 'double broaches'. 1843 *Tral. R. Agric. Soc.* IV. ii. 366 Thatcher for labour, broches, etc., at 7s. 6d. 1863 *Morton Cycl. Agric. Gloss.*, *Broaches*... rods of hazel, etc., split and twisted for use by the thatcher.

6. A church spire; also, formerly, an obelisk. Now technically restricted as in quot. 1876.

1901 *MS. S. Lincolnsh. Churchw. Acc.*, For trassynge & makyn moldes to the brooch. 1866 in *Bp. Cosin's Corr.* (Surtees) II. 121 The lead and timber of the two great broaches at the west end of the church. 1715 *tr. Pausanias Rerum Mem.* I. ii. xiv. 99 Augustus Cæsar brought two of these Broaches or Spires to Rome. 1844 *H. MILLER Sch. & Schm.* xiv. (1857) 348 The Masonry a-top that had supported the wooden broach. 1876 *GWILT Archit.* 959 The most frequent spire is that called a *broach*, when it does not rise from within parapets, but is carried up on four of its sides from the top of the square tower.

7. *Venerary*. 'A start of the head of a young stag, growing sharp like the end of a spit' (Bailey).

1575 *TURBERV. Venerie* 52 They beare not their first head which we call Broches... until they enter the second yere of

their age. 1816 *BULLOKAR, Broches*, the first head or hornes of a Hart or stagge. 1623 *COCKERAM* 1, *Pollard*, Broach is the next (start) growing about the Beame antler. 1677 *N. Cox Gentl. Recreation* (1706) 65 The first is called *Antler*; the second *Surantler*... The little Buds or Broches about the Top, are called *Croches*. 1774 *GOLDSM. Nat. Hist.* (1862) I. ii. v. 324 The stag's horns are called his head; when simple, the first year they are called *broches*.

8. † a. A tusk or canine tooth (obs.). b. One of the teeth of a carding-comb, in a woollen mill.

1607 *TOPSELL Four-f. Beasts* 125 These [shepherds' dogs] ought to be well faced... a flat chap, with two great broches, or long, straight, sharp teeth. 1837 *WHITTOCK Bk. Trades* (1842) 483 To place the wool on one of his combs the steel broches of which are triple.

† 9. A surveyor's arrow used with the chain. Obs.

1616 *SURFL. & MARKH. Countr. Farm* 519 The Measurer must be provided of tenne or twelue arrowes, otherwise called little broches, or prickes... to guide the chayne.

10. A general name for tapered boring-bits, or tools for enlarging or smoothing holes, generally of polygonal form with several cutting edges, sometimes round and smooth for burnishing, as in watchmaking; a similar tool used in dentistry; an instrument for broaching or tapping casks. In *Lock-making*, the pin in a lock which enters the barrel of the key.

1753 *CHAMBERS Cycl.*, Among us, *broach* is chiefly used for a steel instrument wherewith to open holes in metals. 1766 *Phil. Trans.* LXXXVI. 28, I took a five-sided broach, which opened the hole in the brass. 1846 *W. JOHNSTON Beckmann's Hist. Invent.* I. 228 A piece of timber... like the handle of a broch. 1859 *J. TOMES Dent. Surg.* 415 Broches for destroying and withdrawing the pulp should be very fine, elastic and flexible. 1884 *F. BRITTEN Watch & Clockm.* 36 A round broach... for burnishing brass holes.

11. A narrow pointed chisel used by masons.

† 12. 'A musical instrument, the sounds of which are made by turning round a handle' (Bailey 1730-6). Obs.

11. from the verb.

13. A perforation or boring.

1590 *HORMAN Vulg.* 192 b, That he shulde nat make a broche or do any harme. 1607 *TOPSELL Four-f. Beasts* 259 The old Horses have longer and thinner teeth... there are certain broches or wrinkles in their teeth. 1684 *Bucaniers Amer.* iii. 32 Making an incision, or broach in the body, from thence gently distilleth a sort of Liquor.

† 14. Phrase. *A broach, on broach*: with a perforation or tap; esp. to set a (on) broach: to tap and set running; also fig. (Now written **ABROACH**.)

c 1400 *Promp. Parv.* 52 Brochyn or settyyn a vesselle a-broche, *attamino*. 1513 *Bk. Keruynge in Babes Bk.* (1868) 266 Whan ye sette a pype on broche, do thus. 1532 *MORE Confut. Tindale Wks.* 355/2, I see... heresy so sore sette a broche in some vnhappy heartes. 1579 *TOMSON Calvin's Serm. Tim.* 172/1 Wee have in part set this matter on broch. 1606 *EARL NORTHAMPTON in True & Perf. Relat.* Gg 2 a, When it [this doctrine] was first set on broach.

III. *Attrib. and Comb.*, as (sense 6) *broach-spire*, *steepie*; *broach-turner*, a turn-spit; *broach-wood*, wood suitable for making broaches or spits.

1848 *RICKMAN Goth. Archit.* 154 The "broach-spires of Northamptonshire. 1816 *SURFL. & MARKH. Countr. Farm* 446 A head of Brasse, made after the fashion of a "broch steepie. 1532 *MORE Confut. Tindale Wks.* 549/1 The "broche turner... may let the spitte stande. 1872 *TENNYSON Lynette* 750 Dish-washer and broach-turner, loon! 1836 *MARRVAT Japhet* xiv, We were cutting hazel "broach wood in the forest.

Broach, a. rare. [attrib. use of sb.] Like a broach or spit; in *Arch.* broach-shaped.

1721 in *BAILEY*. 1849 *FREEMAN Archit.* 384 Instead of being broach, they began to spring out of the middle of the tower.

Broach (brout), v. 1. Forms: 4-6 **brooche**, 5-7 **brooch**, 6 **brooche**, (8 *dial.* **brooyoh**), 6-**broach**. [f. **BROACH** sb.: cf. F. *brocher*, Pr. *brocar*, *brochar*, It. *broccare*, f. *broche*, *broca*, *brocca* sb. Cf. **BROKER**.]

† 1. *trans.* To pierce, stab, thrust through. Obs.

1377 *LANGL. P. Pl. B.* v. 212 To broche hem with a [pak-] needle. c 1400 *Destr. Troy* 9539 He was brochit þurgh the body with a big speire. 1557 *K. Arthur* (Copland) i. xvi, He broched y^e hors of kyng Ban through and through. 1583 *STANVHURST Æneis* II. (Arb.) 52 His feet... with raynes of bridil ybroched. 1599 *Warn. Faire Wom.* II. 130 With the piercing steel Ready to broach his bosom. 1621 *GOUCE God's Arrows* III. § 95, 304 Edward 2... was cruelly broached to death with an hot iron spit.

† 2. *spec.* To prick with spurs; to spur. Obs.

1330 *R. BRUNNE Chron.* 277 Per stedes broched þei fast, c 1400 *Anturs of Arth.* xxxix. 1475 *CAXTON Jason* 15 b, Which broched their horses with their spores. 1513 *DOUGLAS Æneis* VI. xv. 82 With spuris brocheand the fomy steidis sydis. c 1530 *Ld. BERNERS Arth. Lyr. Bryt.* (1814) 61 The capytayne of theym broched his horse agens Arthur.

† b. *absol.* To spur, 'prick'. Obs.

c 1300 *Sir Ferumb.* 3657 Clarioun... Cneb by-fore faste broyching, On ys stede of Araby. c 1400 *Destr. Troy* 10033 Troiell... brochit in bremely his brother to venge. c 1480 *CAXTON Sonnes of Asmon* II. 63 The frenshemen broyching with y^e spore as fast as theyr horses might renne.

† c. *const.* To broach (spurs) to (a horse). rare.

1523 *Ld. BERNERS Froiss.* I. 632 They broched their spurs to their horses, and so returned to Andwarpe.

† 3. To transfix (meat) with a spit which may hold it while roasting; to spit. Obs.

c 1400 *Liber Cocorum* 26 Hit broch thou shalle, Then do hit to fyre and rost hit alle. 1483 *Cath. Angl.* 44 To Broche,

verudare. 1530 *PALSGR.* 471/1 When you have broched the meate, lette the boye tourne. 1623 *FAYNE Theat. Hom.* v. i. 49 Broching it, and then turning it at the fire himselfe.

† b. To stick (something) on a spit or pointed weapon which transfixes it; to spit. Obs.

1557 *K. Arthur* (Copland) v. v. 5 Thre damoyseles turnyng thre broches, wheron were broched xii yonge children late borne lyke yonge byrdes. 1599 *SHAKS. Hen. V.* v. ProL. 32 Bringing Rebellion broached on his Sword. 1655 *Theophrastus* 172 Percianus... walks as if he were broached upon a stake. 1704 *WORLDICE Dict. Rust. et Urb.* s. v. *Basting of Hemp*, Broaching them, or spitting them upon long sticks.

4. To pierce (a cask, etc.) so as to draw the liquor; to tap.

c 1400 *Promp. Parv.* 52 Brochyn or settyyn a vesselle broche, *attamino*. 1530 *PALSGR.* 471/1, I broche a wyne vessel, *je perce*. 1579 *FENTON Guicciard.* I. 31 It is too dangerous to broach a vessell of poyson. 1659-60 *PARVE Diary* (1879) I. 87 We broached a vessel of ale that we had sent for among us. 1707 *FARQUHAR Beaux Strat.* I. i. 2 Here, Tapster, broach Number 1706. 1876 *BANCROFT Hist. U. S. V.* xliii. 25 A pipe of wine was broached.

b. Also with the liquor as object.

1650 *BAXTER Saints R. l. v.* § 1 (1654) 49 For you, Christians, is this wine broached. 1713 *LOD. & Countr. Brew.* 1. (1742) 80 Time for broaching such Beer. 1866 *KINGSLEY Herew.* iii. 77 French wine which had just been broached.

c. *fig.*, and of a vein, blood.

1573 *G. HARVEY Letter-bk.* (1884) 9 So cunning... to bru, and so reddil to broche debate. 1575 *J. STILL Gamn. Gorton* II. iii, Ye see... one end tap of this my short devise. Now must we broche tother to. 1663 *BUTLER Hud.* I. ii. 489 Blood was ready to be broach'd. 1817 *J. GILCHRIST Intell. Patrimony* 157 He could wrench out a tooth, broach a vein, splice a bone. 1871 *BROWNING Pr. Hakenst.* 1867 One way I bid broach the blood O' the world.

6. *transf.* and *fig.* To pierce or break into, in order to liberate or extract something; to 'tap' (a bed of coal or other mineral).

1583 *STANVHURST Æneis* I. (Arb.) 20 With poyncetd flatchet thee mountain he broched. 1592 *GREENE Disput.* Addr. 1, I have broacht vp the secretes of vice. 1650 *FULLER Pisgah* 371 A Country... where God broached a rich vein of gold for this particular purpose. 1839 *MURCHISON Silur. Syst.* I. xxxv. 470 The uppermost coal bed... was termed the 'broachcoal', as being the index by which the rich field was broached or tapped. 1847 *MILLER First Impr.* x. 167 The Dudley coal field seems to have been broached just in time.

7. To give vent or publicity to; to give out; to begin conversation or discussion about, introduce, moot. (The chief current sense.)

1579 *TOMSON Calvin's Serm. Tim.* 49/1 To broch a newe and strange doctrine. 1593 *HOOKEE Eccl. Pol. Pref.* v. § 3 To broach my private conceit I should be loth. 1624 *T. ADAMS Drivell's Banket* 32 Euery Nouelist... must broach new opinions. 1712 *ADDISON Spect.* No. 457 § 2 Last Friday's Letter, in which I broached my Project of a News-Paper. 1796 *MORSE Amer. Geog.* I. 317 note, He [Dr. Franklin] broached the idea of the American Philosophical Society. 1860 *MOTLEY Nederl.* (1868) II. xiv. 203 Failing in that we broached the third point.

8. *techn.* To pick, indent, or furrow the surface of stone with a narrow-pointed stone-chisel called a broach, or puncheon. (The kind of work produced varies in different localities.)

1544 *Chapel Roll in Gloss. Goth. Archit.* (1845) I. 74 In hewing, broching, and scaplyn of stone for the chapel. 1703 *THORNTON Let. Ray, To broych, or broach*, as Masons an Atchler, when with the small point of their ax, they make it full of little pits or small holes. 1808 *JAMIESON, To broach*, to rough-hew. 1876 *GWILT Archit.* 1236 The face of the stone should be previously drowed, and then broached.

Broach (brout), v. 2 *Naut.* [perh. a use of **BROACH** v. 1, in sense of 'turn' (as on a spit).]

1. *intr.* in phrase, *To broach to* (said of the ship): to veer suddenly so as to turn the side to windward, or to meet the sea.

1705 *DAMPIER Voy.* II. iii. 6 If the Ship... should prove unruly, as... by her broaching to against all endeavours, which often happens, when a fierce gust comes. 1762-9 *FALCONER Shipwr.* II. 639 If broaching sideways to the sea, Our droptied ship may founder by the lee. 1800 *A. DUNCAN Mariner's Chron.* (1804) II. 77 She lost her steerage way, broached-to, and upset, the sea rolling over and over. 1829 *MARRVAT F. Midmay* v, The vessel... broached to, that is, came with her broadside to the wind and sea. 1840 *R. DANA Bef. Mast* xxxii. 126 They have the wheel up just in time to save her from broaching to.

2. *trans.* To cause (the ship) to veer or swerve to windward, to bring with her broadside to the wind and sea.

1762-9 *FALCONER Shipwr.* II. 376 Broach the vessel to the westward round. 1875 *BEDFORD Sailor's Pocket-bk.* vi. 229 It too often happens that some of the men catch crabs with their oars, and broach the boat to.

Hence **Broaching-to** vbl. sb.

1762-9 *FALCONER Shipwr.* III. (1819) 98 They dread her broaching-to. 1875 *BEDFORD Sailor's Pocket-bk.* vi. 218 The one great danger, when running before a broken sea, is that of broaching-to.

Broached (brout), ppl. a. Also 6 **broched**. [f. **BROACH** v. 1 + -ED.]

1. Pierced, tapped, set running.

1633 *FORD Broken Hrt.* v. ii, It [the blood] sparkles like a lusty wine new broach'd. 1652 *BENLOWES Theop.* II. lxii, Each broached Vein. 1847 *DISRAELI Tancred* IV. xii, Oxen roasted whole, and broached hogheads.

2. Set on foot, started, introduced.

1547 *Homilies* I. *Contention* 1. (1859) 134 He is of the new sort... he is a new-broached brother. 1548 *HALL Chron.* 140-2

(1809) 457 Thys broched and begonne enterprice. 1622 T. TAYLOR *Comm. Titus* i. 2 A New broched novelties. 1789 Gouv. MORRIS in *Sparks Life & Writ.* (1839) I. 315 The business now broached.

3. Of stone: Chiselled with a 'broach'.

1605 *Minutes of Town Council in Hist. Glasgow* xxi. (1881) 181 The stone work thairfor to be small brochet work. 1876 *GWILT Archit.* 1236. 1880 *Archaeol. Aeliana* VIII. 157 The murus would be built with broached stones at Ouseburn, and plain stones elsewhere.

Broacher (brōw'tʃə). Also 6-7 broocher. [f. BROACH v. + -ER¹.]

1. One who broaches: chiefly in sense 7 of the vb. 1587 *FLEMING Contn. Holinshed* III. 1555/2 Ballard... who was the first brocher of this treason. 1608 *EARLE Microscop.* xii. (Arb.) 33 A broacher of more newes then hog's heads. 1674 N. FAIRFAX *Bulk & Selv.* 51 Our happy wonder of ingenuity, and best broacher of new light, Mr. ISA. NEWTON. 1770 *TOLAND Refl. Sacknerell's Sermon*. 11 Pericious Broachers of a Doctrine. 1886 G. ALLEN *Darwin* vi. 104 Among all broachers of new theories.

† 2. A spit. *Obs.*

1700 *DRYDEN Fables* (1721) 157 On five sharp broachers rank'd the roast they turn'd. 1725 *POPE Odys.* xiv. 91 Smoking back the tasteful viands drew, Broachers and all.

Broaching (brōw'tʃɪŋ), *vbl. sb.* Also 6 brooching (e. [f. BROACH v.1 + -ING¹.]

1. Piercing, spitting; tapping (a cask), etc.

1611 *COTGR.* *Afforage*... wine... paired upon the broaching of every vessel retailed. 1615 *MARKHAM Eng. Housew.* II. ii. (1668) 69 The spitting and broaching of meat.

2. Introduction, mooting, origination of opinions.

1577 *HAMMER Anc. Eccl. Hist.* (1619) 355 Continually arguing, and broching of intricate quirks. 1600 *DEKKER Gentle Craft* i. (1862) 10 He sets more discord of a noble house By one day's broaching in his pickthank tales, Than can be saved again in twenty years. 1825 *WORDSW. Let. to B. Montagu* 1 June, The first broaching of the Reform Bill.

3. The first liquor run from a cask on tapping it.

1659 *GAUDEN Fun. Sermon. Bp. Brownrig* (1660) 143 The first broachings of a vessel. 1666 *FULLER Worthies* (1840) III. 171 His mother did not carelessly cast away his youth (as the first broachings of a vessel).

4. The chiselling of stone with a broach.

1876 *GWILT Archit.* § 1914 If broaching is performed without droving, it is never so regular. 1880 *Archaeol. Aeliana* VIII. 285 The broaching or crosshatching and other conventionalities of the Romans.

5. Comb. broaching-bit (see quot.); broaching-thurmal, -thurmer, -turner, a chisel for 'broaching' stone.

1881 *RAYMOND Mining Gloss.* *Broaching-bit*, a tool used to restore the dimensions of a bore-hole which has been contracted by the swelling of the marl or clay walls.

Broaching, *ppl. a.* [f. BROACH v.1 + -ING².] Piercing, stabbing.

1566 *DRANT Horace Sat.* I. F vij b, Morishe pykes, and broyching speares.

Broad (brōd), *a.* Forms: 1 brād, 2-3 brad, 3-6 brod, 4-6 brode, 6 broode, 4-5 brood, 6- broad. Also north. 3-4 brad, (bradd), 4-5 brade, 4- Sc. brad. Compared broader, -est (1 brēdre, brādre; brādost; 4-5 braddere, brāddest; brēdder). [Common Teut.: OE. brād, identical with OFris. brēd, OSax. brēd (MDu. brēt -d, Du. breed), OHG. (MHG. and mod.G.) breit, ON. breið-r, (Sw., Da. bred), Goth. braip-s: -O Teut. *braido-s: no related words are known even in Teutonic, except its own derivatives: see BREADTH, BREDE.]

1. Extended in the direction measured from side to side; wide. Opposed to narrow.

a 1000 *Cædmon's Gen.* 904 (Gr.) Brad blado. c 1000 *Ag. Ps.* cxxxvij(i). 1 Offer Babilone bradum streame. c 1205 *LAV.* 7635 þe stelen brode swiðe brad (c 1275 brod) and swiðe long. a 1340 *HAMPOLE Psalter* viii. 7 Swa by the brad way that ga till hell. 1375 *BARBOUR Bruce* I. 386 With banys gret & schuldrys brad. c 1380 *WYCLIF Wks.* (1880) 249 þe brode weie to helle. c 1440 *York Myst.* xxxii. 10 My forhed both brente is and brade. c 1440 *PECOCK Repr.* 374 Noman is without a place long and brood. 1480 *CAXTON Chron. Eng.* cxxxiv. 113 To make his foreste lenger and bredder. 1554 *ABP. HAMILTON Catech.* xxvi. 121 The brad... way of deadly syn that leidis to hel. 1580 *SIDNEY Arcadia* 230 About his neck he wore a brode and gorgeous collar. 1598 *BARRET Theor. Warres* iv. i. 95 The Broad square is the battell which containeth more, or as much, as twise so many men in front, as in flank. 1611 *BIBLE Job* xi. 9 Broader then the sea. a 1768 *LADY M. W. MONTAGUE Lett.* II. xlv. 30 Not half so broad, as the broadest part of the Thames. 1846 J. BAXTER *Libr. Pract. Agric.* I. 417 A broad chest is an excellence in a hunter.

b. = in transverse measurement.

a 1000 *O. E. Chron.* (Laud MS.) Introd., Britene is land is ehta hund mila lang and twa hund brad. 1297 *R. GLOUC.* 1 Foure hundred myle brod from Est to Weste. c 1384 *CHAUCER H. Fame* 792 A litel rounded as a sercle Paraventure brode as a covercle. 1587 *FLEMING Contn. Holinshed* III. 1081/2 A twentie score brode from banke to banke aboute. 1601 *HOLLAND Pliny* I. 76 Almost an acre and a halfe broad. 1664 *EVELYN Kal. Hort.* (1729) 199 A Leaf no broader than a Three-pence. 1885 *Pall Mall G.* 23 Feb. 11/1 The later *Scouts* are to be 5 ft. longer and 2 ft. broader.

c. Applied technically to certain fabrics, now or originally distinguished by their width, as BROAD CLOTH, q.v., broad glass (D 2); also broad silk as distinguished from silk ribbons; whence broad-silk-loom, -weaver, broad stuffs, broad trade, broad weaver.

1688 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 1764/4 Mr. John Guile, Broad-Weaver... in Spittle-fields. 1723 *Ibid.* No. 6189/4 John Jacobs... Broad Silk Weaver. *Ibid.* No. 6190/9 Richard Gardner... Broad-Weaver. 1727 *DE FOX Eng. Tradem.* xxi. We now make at home all the fine broad-silks, velvets, brocades. 1806 *Annual Reg.* 59/1 The throwsters, the broad trade manufacturers, and the dyers admitted their superiority... But the ribbon manufacturers, etc. 1841 *Penny Cycl.* XIX. 490/1 A recent contrivance by which the broad-silk loom had been made applicable to ribbon-weaving. 1883 *American V.* 262 The finest broad-silks... were produced in Macclesfield.

† d. Broad gold, money: see BROAD-PIECE.

1688 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 2352/2 Exchanging of Broad Money for Clipp. 1700 *Ibid.* No. 3814/4 A Piece of Broad Gold of K. Charles I. in his Armour. 1724 *Ibid.* No. 6300/2 Two Persons have been offering to change Broad Gold for Guineas... They had 68 Broad Pieces.

2. Less definitely as to direction (e.g. where length is not applicable, or not in question): Of great extent, extensive, wide, ample, spacious.

a 1000 *Elene* 917 (Gr.) Is his rice brad. c 1205 *LAV.* 5087 In anne bradine feld (c 1275 in to one brode feld). a 1300 *Cursor M.* 8530 Ouer al þis weid brade. c 1394 *P. Pl. Crede* 118 We buldeþ a burw3, a brod and a large. 1400 *Morte Arth.* 106 He salle... Bryne Bretayne be brade. c 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 52 Brode or large of space, spacious. 1526 *Pilgr. Perf.* (W. de W. 1531) 7 The hole brode worlde. 1671 *MILTON P. R.* II. 339 In ample space under the broadest shade. 1784 *COWPER Task* II. 22 Human nature's broadest, foulest blot. 1814 A. WILSON *Rab & Ringan*, As though brad Scotland had been a' his ain. 1843 *LEVER J. Hinton* vii. (1878) 47 The broad and swelling lands, that stretched away... far as the eye could reach.

† b. Of time. *Obs.*

c 1325 *E. E. Allit. P.* B. 659 Fro mony a brod day byfore ho barayne ay byene.

† c. Large in amount, ample, plentiful. *Obs.*

a 1000 *Beowulf* 6201 Beagas and brad gold. a 1285 *Anscr. R.* 102 Mid brod schome & sunne. a 1300 *Cursor M.* 3713 His brade (v. r. brood) blissing he him gaue. c 1325 *E. E. Allit. P.* B. 584 Hit is a brod wonder.

† b. Abounding, full of. *Obs.*

a 1300 *Cursor M.* 24744 Sua brad of hir blis es þe wai. c 1320 *Sir Tristr.* 177 Of folk þe feld was brade.

† d. Wide open; fully expanded.

971 *Blickl. Hom.* 23 Hie hine... mid bradre hand slogan. c 1000 *Ag. Gosp.* Matt. xxvi. 67 Sume hine slogan on hys ansiene mid hera brada handen. a 1300 *Cursor M.* 17837 Til heuen þai lifted þair eien brade. 1607 *DEKKER & WEBSTER Hist. Sir T. Wyatt* 19 Wee stand high in mans opinion, and the worlde broad eye.

b. esp. Of day, daylight, etc.

1393 *GOWER Conf.* II. 107 Ful oft, when it is brode day. 1530 *PALSGR.* 201/2 Broode daye, grant jour. 1579 *FULKE Refut. Rastel* 722 We do not fight wax candels in y^e brod day light. 1664 *Decay Chr. Piety* (J.) It no longer seeks the shelter of night and darkness, but appears in the broadest light. 1690 *LOCKE* (J.) If children were left alone in the dark, they would be no more afraid than in broad sunshine. 1723 *BERKELEY Alciph.* iv. § 3 A solitary walk before it was broad daylight. 1821 *SHERLEY Prometh. Unb.* II. ii. 25 Awake through all the broad noon-day. 1888 *SCOTT F. M. Perth* III. 149 It cannot be concealed... it will all out to the broad day. 1879 *LOCKYER Elem. Astron.* iii. xxiv. 125 The comet of 1843... was visible in broad daylight.

5. Plainly displayed before the mental vision; plain, clear, obvious; 'pronounced', emphatic, explicit.

c 1374 *CHAUCER Boeth.* II. v. 49 How brode shewep þe erroure and þe folie of þow men. a 1577 *GASEIGNER Voy. Holland*, I name no man, for that were brode before. 1609 *BENTLEY Phil.* 184 Surely this is a hint broad enough. 1709 *STRAYKE Ann. Ref.* Introd. § 1. 8 Mary, Queen of Scotland, and the Dauphin... gave broad signs of their pretences to the Crown of England. 1825 *SCOTT Talisman* (1863) 215 He understands or guesses thy meaning—be not so broad, I pray thee. 1861 *PARKER Goth. Archit.* I. v. (1874) 161 There is no broad line of distinction. *Mod.* The hint is too broad to be mistaken.

b. Most apparent; prominent, outstanding, general, main. (Opposed to 'subordinate', 'minute'.)

1860 *KINGSLEY Misc.* I. 10, I merely take the broad facts of the story. 1869 *HUXLEY in Sci. Opinion* 28 Apr. 486/2 A knowledge of [the] broad outlines [of a subject]. 1885 *Mauch. Exam.* 6 May 5/1 The broad features of the accident.

6. Of language (or the speaker): a. Plain-spoken, outspoken (often in a bad sense); unreserved, not mincing matters.

1588 in *Harl. Misc.* (1809) II. 81, I... have been very often ashamed to hear so broad speeches of the King and the Pope. a 1611 *CHAPMAN Iliad* I. 224 His wrath, that this broad language gave. 1654 *GATAKER Disc. Apol.* 77 Without anie broad or uncivil language. 1710 *STEELE Tatler* No. 208 ¶ 3 A fulsom Way of commending you in broad terms. 1807 *HALLAM Const. Hist.* vii. (L.) The broadest and most repulsive declaration of all the Calvinistic tenets. 1870 *JEBB Sophocles Electra* (ed. 2) 36/1 She now repeats the avowal in broader terms.

† b. Coarse, unrefined, vulgar. *Obs.*

1490 *CAXTON Eneydos* 2, I toke an olde boke, and... the englysshe was so rude and brood that I coude not wele vnderstande it. 1589 *R. HARVEY Pl. Perc.* (1860) 19 Speake a broad word... amongst huntsmen in chace, you shall be leasht for your labor: as one that disgraceth a gentlemans pastime... with the termes of a heardsman.

c. Loose, gross, indecent.

1580 *NORTH Plutarch* (1676) 39 To sport one with another, without any broad speeches or uncivil jests. 1611 *COTGR.* *Vn grat*, a broad, or bawdie, tale. 1688 *EARLE Microscop.* xlix. (Arb.) 70 Onely with broad and obscene wit. a 1700 *DRYDEN Ovid's Art of Love* I. 882 Broad words will make her innocence afraid. 1824 *W. IAVING T. Trav.* I.

278 Laughing outrageously at a broad story. 1888 *TRAIL'S Sterne* 15 A collection of comic but extremely broad ballads.

7. Of pronunciation: Perhaps orig.: With 'wider' or 'lower' vowel-sounds (i.e. with the back or the front oral cavity more dilated); but commonly used of a strongly-marked dialectal or vulgar pronunciation of any kind, e.g. 'Broad Yorkshire', 'Broad Devonshire', 'Broad Cockney'. *Broad Scotch*: the Lowland Scotch vernacular.

1532 [see C3]. 1580 A. GOLDING *Prof. Verses in Baret's Art.* The difference... Of brode North speech and Southren smoothnesse. 1697 *POTTER Antig. Greece* I. i. (1715) 3 The Ancient Greeks pronounced the letter a broad like the Diphthong eu, as in our English word All. 1724 *DE FOX Mem. Cavalier* (1840) 236 A broad north-country tone. 1787 *BURNS Brigs of Ayr* 167 In plain brad Scots hold forth a plain brad story. 1848 *MACAULAY Hist. Eng.* I. 320 His oaths... were uttered with the broadest accent of his province. 1859 *Blackw. Mag.* Sept. 255/2 Broad Yorkshire talked all over the ship. 1877 *SWEET Phonetics* 18 In the broad London pronunciation this lengthening of originally short vowels is extremely common.

† b. Of sound: Full, deep, low in pitch. *Obs.*

1607 *TOPSELL Fourf. Beasts* 258 The females have a shrill and sharper voice then the males, which is fuller and broader.

8. Unrestrained, kept within no narrow bounds; going to full lengths.

1608 *SHAKS. Ham.* III. iv. 2 His pranks have been too broad to bear with. 1815 *SCRIBBLEMANIA* 127 Kenny possesses some requisites for broad farce. 1880 *W. IAVING Sketch Bt.* I. 207 She was the picture of broad, honest, vulgar enjoyment. 1875 *JOWETT Plato* (ed. 2) I. 183 The mirth is broader, the irony more sustained.

† 9. Widely diffused; spread all abroad. *Obs.*

1605 *SHAKS. Macb.* III. iv. 23 As broad, and generally, as the casing Ayre.

10. Having a wide range, extensive; widely applicable, inclusive, general.

1741-2 H. WALPOLE *Lett. H. Mann* I. 93 The Tories... if Tories there are, for now one hears of nothing but the Broad Bottom; it is the reigning cant word, and means, the taking all parties and people indifferently into the ministry. 1871 *MORLEY Voltaire* (1886) 45 Intellectual education in the broadest sense that was then possible. 1875 *STUBBS Const. Hist.* III. xxi. 619 Personal feeling must be sacrificed to save... broader principles. 1875 *HAMERTON Intell. Life* x. v. 387 A broad rule... applicable to all imaginable cases.

11. Characterized by breadth of opinion or sentiment; liberal, catholic, tolerant, allowing wide limits to 'orthodoxy'. (Cf. BREADTH 4, BROAD CHURCH.)

1838 L. HUNT *Poems* 226 With his broad heart to win his way to heaven. 1850 [See BROAD CHURCH]. 1873 *LOWELL Among my Bks.* Ser. II. 323 Keats had the broadest mind. 1886 *MORLEY Crit. Misc.* I. 78 Even good opinions are worth very little unless we hold them in a broad, intelligent and spacious way.

12. Art. Characterized by artistic 'breadth'; executed with a view to general effect rather than to special details. Cf. 5 b, and see BREADTH 5.

1868 *GROTE Greece* II. liv. 561 A portrait of him drawn in colours broad and glaring. 1879 *SALA in Daily Tel.* 8 May, Two broad, powerful, and vividly expressed portraits. 1885 *Athenaeum* 30 May 702/3 Broad and rich in tone and colour.

13. Phrases. † In the broad or the long: in one way or another. It's as broad as it's long (or as long as it's broad): it comes to the same thing either way, it makes no difference.

1680 *SCARLETT Exchanges* 171 If the Principal... doth force his factor one way or other, in the broad or the long, to make up his Disbursements. 1807 R. L'ESTRANGE *Anno. Diss.* 6 Whether the Church of England-Men Reject the Roman Catholics, or the Roman Catholics Reject the Church of England-Men, 'tis just as Broad as it is Long. a 1704 — (J.) It is as broad as long, whether they rise to others, or bring others down to them. 1775 *Gouv. MORRIS in Sparks Life & Writ.* (1832) I. 55 It is as long as it is broad—the more [troops] that are sent to Quebec the less they can send to Boston. 1848 *KINGSLEY Saint's Trag.* II. ix. 113 The sharper the famine, the higher are prices, and the higher I sell, the more I can spend... and so it's as broad as it's long.

B. sb. [mostly elliptical.]

† 1. Breadth: only in phrase in, on, o, a brode; now represented by ABROAD adv.

a 1300 *Cursor M.* 347 Þis weid... Seit for to be on lang and brad. c 1400 *Anturs of Arth.* xxxv. Beddus braudent o brode. 1496 *Paston Lett.* 281 I. 386 The straungers ar soore a dradde, and dar not come on brode.

2. The broad part, the full breadth (of the back, the foot, etc.).

1741 *MONRO Anat.* (ed. 3) 294 The Broad of the Foot. *Mod.* To lie on the broad of one's back.

† 3. = BROADCLOTH. *Obs.*

c 1500 *ARNOLDE Chron.* (1811) 73 Clothes called syn brodes of the making of Essex.

† 4. = BROAD-PIECE. *Obs.*

1710 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 4672/4 A... Purse, with 30 Guineas and 5 Brodes in it. 1736 *ANNEST Terra Fil.* xlii. 224 Presenting one of the collectors with a broad (piece) or half a broad. 1763 *SNELLING Gold Coin* 28 (L.) When the twenty shilling pieces, commonly called guineas, were coined in the reign of Charles II, then the unites of the Commonwealth, Charles I, and James I, received the name of broads or broad-pieces.

5. In East Anglia, an extensive piece of fresh water formed by the broadening out of a river.

[1771 *Act 9 Anne in Lond. Gaz.* No. 4870/2 Fens, Lakes, broad Waters, or other Places of resort for Wild Fowl.]
 1707 MARSHALL *Norfolk* (E. D. S.) *Broads*, fresh-water lakes (that is, broad waters; in distinction to narrow waters, or rivers). 1812a *SOUTHEY Lett.* (1856) II. 307 A broad is the spread of a river into a sheet of water. 1844 E. JESSE *Sc. & Tales Country Life* I. 82 The graceful bendings of the stream, sometimes opening into shallow broads. 1884 G. C. DAVIES (*title*) *Norfolk Broads and Rivers*; or, the Waterways, Lagoons, and Decays of East Anglia.
attrib. 1883 *Academy* 8 Dec. 377/2 The artistic aspect of the Broad district.

6. *slang.* (*pl.*) Playing cards.

1812 J. H. VAUX *Flash Dict.* *Broads*, cards; a person expert at which is said to be a good broad-player. 1834 H. AINSWORTH *Rookwood* IV. ii. I nick the broads.

C. *adv.* [in OE. a distinct word *bræde*, ME. *brode*; but on the mutescence of final -e, levelled with the adj.]

1. In a broad or extensive way; broadly, widely, fully; far, abroad.

a 1000 *Cadmon's Gen.* 223 (Gr.) Fison brade bebugep.
 1297 R. GLOUC. 417 Pur blod sprong & wende aboute brode & wyde. c 1350 *Will. Palerne* 753 A tri appeltre . . . bat was braunchful ful brode. 1590 SPENSER *F. Q. Prol.* Whose praises . . . To blazon broad amongst her learned throng. a 1744 POPE (J.) *Broad* burst the lightnings, deep the thunders roll.
 † b. With eyes wide open, with a stare. *Obs.*

c 1386 CHAUCER *Chan. Yem. Prol.* & T. 867 Though ye looken neuer so brode and stare. c 1430 *Hymns Virg. 4c.* (1867) 37 Summe staren broode & moun not se.

2. Outspokenly, unreservedly.

c 1386 CHAUCER *Knts. T.* 741 Crist spak himself ful broode in holi writ. c 1440 *York Myst.* xix. 89 Thou burdis to brode! 1607 SHAKS. *Tim.* III. iv. 64 Who can speake broader, then hee that has no house to put his head in? 1850 MRS. STOWE *Uncle Tom's C.* v. 29 We don't quite fancy when women and ministers come out broad and square, and go beyond us in matters of either modesty or morals.

† b. To laugh broad: to laugh freely, without restraint, grossly.

1643 MILTON *Divorce* Introd. (1851) 6 The brood of Belial . . . will laugh broad perhaps. 1658 W. BURTON *Itin. Anton.* 50 The wise men of the age will laugh broad at these . . . enquiries.

3. With a broad pronunciation or 'accent'; with the vowels of dialectal or vulgar speech.

c 1532 DEWEES *Introd. Fr. in Palsgr.* 809 Ye shal pronounce your e as ye do in latyn, almost as brode as ye pronounce your a in englyshe. 1596 *Edw. III.* II. 12 And then spoke broad, With epithets & accents of the Scots. *Mod.* We Devonshire men speak very broad.

4. Broad awake, broad waking: fully awake, wide awake.

1883 STANFURD *Æneis* II. (Arb.) 53 From sleepe I broad waked. 1666 T. H. CAULSIN'S *Holy Cr.* 152 We dreame broad-waking. 1666 J. SMITH *Old Age* (ed. 2) 127 Then shall he be broad awake. 1736 WESLEY *Wks.* (1872) I. 29 Being in bed, but broad awake. 1844 G. S. FABER *Eight Dissert.* II. 352 The bard seems to have been broad awake.

5. *Naut.* (Cf. LARGE, WIDE.)

1860 *Merc. Mar. Mag.* VII. 82 A light was seen broad on the port bow [i. e. a good deal to the left of the point right ahead].

D. *Comb.* [from *adj.* and *adv.*]

1. General. a. parasynthetic, as broad-backed, -based, -beamed, -bladed, -bodied, -bosomed, -bottomed, -boughed, -breasted, -bucktoed, -cheded, -eared, -eyed, -flapped, -fronted, -headed (1530), -hearted, -hoofed, -horned, -limbed, -listed, -marginated, -minded, -nosed, -shouldered, -skirted, -souled, -sterned, -striped, -tailed, -toed, -wayed, -wheeled, -winged, etc.; etc.; b. adverbial, as broad-bull, -flashing, -grinning, -spread, -spreading, etc.

1651 *Adot. in Proc. Parliament* No. 81 A short Sorrell Mare. 'broad backed. 1857 EMERSON *Poems* 49 We will climb the broad-backed hills. 1769 *Phil. Trans.* LIX. 310 A 'broad-based pyramid. 1835 I. TAYLOR *Spir. Despot.* vi. 263 A broad-based hierarchy. 1883 *Harper's Mag.* Feb. 395/1 Brown-sailed, 'broad-beamed old luggers. 1875 JOWETT *Plato* (ed. 2) I. 160 The fruit of the 'broad-bosomed earth. 1708 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 3837/4 A Silver Tankard, 'broad bottom'd. 1804 LD. ELDON in G. ROSE *Diaries* (1860) II. 79 Forming an administration upon those broad-bottomed principles. 1647 H. MORE *Song of Soul* II. App. xxiv. The 'broad-breasted earth, the spacious skie. 1797 COLERIDGE *Christabel* I. vi. The huge broad-breasted, old oak tree. 1768 WALES in *Phil. Trans.* LX. 109 Their persons . . . seem to be low; but pretty 'broad built. 1668 FULLER *Worthies* (1840) III. 288 He had, as I may say, a 'broad-chested soul, favourable to such who differed from him. 1870 BRYANT *Iliad* I. III. 92 That other chief Taller and broader-chested than the rest. 1606 SHAKS. *Ant. & Cl.* I. v. 29 'Broad-fronted Caesar. 1530 PALSGR. 307/1 'Brode-headed, *embrabile*. 1838 *Proc. Bernu. Nat. Club* I. vi. 163 Cover the wood with broad-headed nails. 1719 DR. FOR CRUSOE (HOTTEN) 414 A very generous 'broad-hearted Man. 1585 *Act 27 Elis.* xvii. Any cloth . . . of like making called 'broad-listed Whites. 1599 MARSTON *Scot. Villanie* 167 Base blew-coates, tapsters, 'broad-minded slaues. 1882 LD. BLANDFORD in *Daily News* 7 Feb. 3 No more broad-minded than . . . the Church they have succeeded from. 1592 PERCIVALL *Sp. Dict.* *Espaldado* 'broad shouldered, *scapulatus*. 1845 PRICHARD *Nat. Hist. Man* 178 Robust, broad-shouldered, with dark complexion. 1809 W. IRVING *Knickerb.* (1861) 115 A 'broad-skirted coat with huge buttons. 1687 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 2211/4 A dusky brown bald Mare, 'broad spread. 1591 SPENSER *Rhins of Time* 453 'Broad spreading like an aged tree. 1808 BINGLEY *Anim. Biog.* (1813) I. 467 The 'Broad-tailed Sheep. 1816 G. COLMAN *Br. Grins, Mr. Champen.* I. (1872) 296 Like 'broad-wheeled wagons without springs. 1816 KEATS *To brother George*, The 'broad-wing'd sea-gull never at rest,

2. Special comb.: broad-band (see *quots.*); broad bean (see *BEAN* 1); broad-bill, a name for several birds having broad bills, esp. the Shoveller and Spoonbill; broad-blown a., in full bloom, full-blown; broad-eyed a., having large eyes, with eyes wide open; broad-glass, window-glass; also *attrib.*, as broad-glass-house, -maker; broad-horn, a kind of flat boat used on American rivers; broad-leaf (*Bot.*), a tree (*Terminalia latifolia*) found in Jamaica; also a local name for the Greater Plantain (*Plantago major*); broad-man, broads-man (*dial.*), one who lives near the Norfolk Broads; broad-mouthed a., having a broad mouth; also (of words) plain-spoken, insolent (*obs.*); broad-seed (*Bot.*), the English name of the genus *Ulospermum*; broad-set a., stoutly formed, thick-set; broad-silk, broad trade, broad-weaver (see *BROAD* 1 c.); broad-spoken a., using plain language, plain-spoken.

1609 BOYD *Last Battell* 643 (JAM.) The verie auill thoughts of the wicked in that day shalbe spread out and laide in 'broad-band before the face of God. 1847 HALLIWELL, *Broad-band*, corn laid out in the sheaf on the band, and spread out to dry after rain. North: [see also Jamieson, and Atkinson *Provinc. Danby* s. v.] 1783 BRYANT *Flora Dietetica* 83 The common Broad Bean is a native of Egypt. 1819 REES *Cycl. s. v. Vicia*, The long-pods, 'broad Spanish, and white-blossomed bean. 1834 *Althorp MS.* in *Simpkinson Washington* Introd. 23, Teales 7—Peckards 3 —'Broad-bills 5. 1808 G. MONTAGU *Ornith. Dict.* (1833) 55 [1608 SHAKS. *Ham.* III. iii. 81 With all his Crimes 'broad blowne, as fresh as May.] 1855 TENNYSON *Maud* I. xiii. 9 His face . . . Has a broad-blown comeliness red and white. 1877 DOWDEN *Shaks. Primer* vi. 72 Bottom in his broad-blown self-importance. a 1611 CHAPMAN *Iliad* VIII. 173 'Brood-eyed Joves proud will. 1655 H. VAUGHAN *Siles Scint.* I. (1858) 23 Some fast asleep, others broad-eyed. 1679 *Plot Staffordsh.* (1686) 122 The glass-houses, both for Vessells and 'broad-glass. 1790 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 4723/3 Any broad Glass-house within the Kingdom. 1772 *Ibid.* No. 4051/4 Broad Glass, or Window-Glass . . . sold by any of the Broad-glass-makers. 1875 *Ure Dict. Arts* II. 651 Next to it in cheapness of material may be ranked broad or spread window-glass. 1839-40 W. IRVING *Wolfert's R.* (1855) 193 A flat-bottomed family boat, technically called a 'broad-horn. 1796 P. BROWNE *Jamaica* 255 'Broad-leaf Tree . . . grows to a very considerable size. 1875 *Ure Dict. Arts* I. 534 Broad Leaf, the *Terminalia latifolia*, a tree, native of Jamaica. 1882a *Blackw. Mag.* Jan. 100 The fixed belief among a large number of 'Broadmen is that they breed upon the land. 1884 G. C. DAVIES *Norfolk Broads* xix. 145 The Broadman's food is chiefly fish and fowl. 1894 GREENE *Selimmus Wks.* (Grosart) XIV. 286 Your squared words And 'broad-mouth'd teardrops. 1864 *Mag. for Young Men* 179 A broad-mouthed glass jar. 1798 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 4465/6 A plain 'broad-set light gray Mare. 1828 W. ELLIS *Vit. Madagascar* II. 47 He was . . . rather broad-set than corpulent.

Broad, Sc. form of BOARD: cf. BROD.

1535 STEWART *Cron. Scot.* (1858) I. 3 Part tha fand in ald broades of bukis. 1802 MACNEILL *Poems* (1844) 67 Window broads just painted red.

† Broad, v. *Obs.* Also 4 north. brade. [f. the *adj.*] *trans.* To broaden, spread abroad, expand.

a 1250 *Owl & Night.* 1312 Pe (a)mansing is so ibroded. a 1340 HAMPOLE *Psalter* cxviii. 32 When thou braddid (*dilatasti*) my hert. Bradynge of hert is delytyng of rightwisnes. 1399 LANGEL *Rich. Redeless* II. 141 Pe bleissid bredd broddid his wyngis.

Broad-arrow, -head: see ARROW III.

Broad-ax. An ax with a broad head, used for hewing timber, and formerly in war.

1352 MINOT *Poems* (1825) 29 To battail . . . With brade ax, and with bowes bent. c 1400 *Epiph.* 737 (Turnb. 1843) Summe had twybyll, brodax, and nawger. c 1450 *Gloss. Garlande* in *Wright Voc.* 137 *Dolabara*, (gloss.) brode axe. 1530 PALSGR. 201/2 Broode axe, *hache large*. 1855 W. SARGENT *Bradock's Expd.* 84 A roof of puncheons, rudely shaped with the broad-axe. 1876 BANCROFT *Hist. U. S.* III. xvi. 494 They . . . split open his doors with broad-axes.

Broad-brim, *colloq.*

a. A hat with a broad brim. b. A nickname for one who wears such a hat; a Quaker.

1797 LAMB *Lett.* III. (1837) I. 75 The congregation of broad-brims . . . were too much for his gravity. 1855 S. LOVER *Handy Andy* xxxvi. 'Now [fire] once through my broad-brim' (quoth Ephraim. 1863 SALA *Capt. Danger* I. x. 310 There are hearts of gold among those Broadbrims.

Hence Broad-brimmed a.; Broad-brimmer, a broad-brimmed hat (*colloq.*).

1688 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 2350/4 One silver broad brim'd Bason. 1716 LADY M. W. MONTAGU *Lett.* I. III. 12 The parson clapped on a broad brimmed hat. 1860 *Heads & Hats* 13 Flat caps and broad-brimmers were . . . fashionable. 1872 HARDWICK *Trad. Lanc.* 156 The wild huntsman may always be recognised by his broad-brimmed hat.

Broadcast (brɔːdkɑːst), a. *adv.*, sb. [f. BROAD *adv.* + CAST *pa. pple.*] A. *adj.*

1. Of seed, etc.: Scattered abroad over the whole surface, instead of being sown in drills or rows.

b. Of sowing: Performed by this method.

1767 A. YOUNG *Farmer's Lett. People* 115 The sowing is either in the broad-cast mode, or by drilling. 1831 SIR J. SINCLAIR *Corr. II.* 424 No broad-cast sowing can equal it. 1842 LANCE *Cott. Farmer* 19 On broad-cast turnips, thirty bushels of lime per acre, was the quantity used.

2. *fig.* a. Scattered widely abroad, widely disseminated. b. Wide, as if scattering seed broadcast.

1795 BURKE *Sp. Nab. Arcot's Debts* Wks. IV. 205 With a

broad-cast swing of his arm, he squanders over his Indian field a sum, etc. 1875 STUBBS *Const. Hist.* III. xviii. 135 Broadcast accusations.

B. *adv.* Only in phr. To sow, scatter, throw, etc. broadcast. a. in *Agric.*

1832a *Veg. Subst. Food* 38 Scattering the seed . . . over the whole surface . . . is . . . called sowing broadcast. 1846 J. BAXTER *Libr. Pract. Agric.* I. 83 Seed sown either broadcast or in drills.

b. *fig.*

1814 SIR R. WILSON *Diary* II. 391, I have . . . thrown broadcast a fruitful grain, and converted the soil of my banishment into a field that ought to be rich in future produce. 1876 GREEN *Short Hist.* vi. § 6 (1882) 334 A host of spies were scattered broadcast over the land.

C. sb. Broadcast sowing, or mode.

1796 C. MARSHALL *Garden.* xv. (1873) 60 At broad-cast, trample the seed in with the feet. 1797 HOLCROFT *Stolberg's Trav.* (ed. 2) III. lxxx. 224 The corn has not been sown with broad-cast. 1866 ROGERS *Agric. & Prices* I. iii. 50 The rate of seed to the acre . . . where broadcast is adopted.

Broadcast, v. [f. as *prec.* + CAST v.]

1. To scatter (seed, etc.) abroad with the hand.

1813 A. YOUNG *Essex Agric.* I. 333 They sow . . . the barley . . . sowing the first [half]; and broad-casting the second. 1836 MONTGOMERY *Poet's Portfolio* 248 Sow in the morn thy seed . . . Broadcast it o'er the land. 1846 *Jrnl. R. Agric. Soc.* VII. ii. 591 It is preferable to broadcast the guano.

2. *fig.* To scatter or disseminate widely.

1809 I. TAYLOR *Enthus.* iv. 270 The doctrine of missionary zeal . . . has been broadcast over Christendom. 1880 RUSKIN *Lett. to Clergy* 369 Showing his detestation of the sale of indulgences by broadcasting these gratis from his pulpit.

Broad Church. [See BROAD a. II.]

A designation popularly applied to members of the Church of England who take its formularies and doctrines in a broad or liberal sense, and hold that the church should be comprehensive and tolerant, so as to admit of more or less variety of opinion in matters of dogma and ritual. Also sometimes applied to the corresponding school of opinion in other churches. (Often *attrib.*)

The phrase came into vogue about 40 years ago, and is framed on the analogy of the far older 'High Church' and 'Low Church'; but it is not used in the same manner, the Broad Churchmen, so called, not having, like the High and the Low Church, a party organization, and seldom acting together as a party. According to the Master of Balliol (Prof. Jowett), the term was first proposed in conversation, in his hearing, by the late A. H. Clough, and became colloquially familiar in Oxford circles, a few years before 1850. In 1850 Dean Stanley claimed in an article on the Gorham Controversy in the *Edinburgh Review*, that the Church of England as a whole is of necessity neither 'High' nor 'Low', but broad, in which there was evidently a reference to the term as one superior to party. But in 1853 the Rev. W. J. Conybeare, in an article in the same Review on 'Church Parties', used 'High', 'Low', and 'Broad', as recognized party designations. Already in the 17th c. Dryden had referred (*Hind & P.* III. 160) to the more tolerant divines of the church as 'your sons of latitude', (l. 187) 'your sons of breadth', (l. 229) 'your broadway sons'.

1890 STANLEY in *Edinh. Rev.* July 266 There is no need . . . for minute comparison of the particular formularies of the Church to prove . . . that it is, by the very conditions of its being, not High or Low, but Broad.] 1893 W. J. CONYBEARE in *Edinh. Rev.* XCIII. 330 Side by side with these various shades of High and Low Church, another party of a different character has always existed in the Church of England. It is called by different names; Moderate, Catholic, or Broad Church, by its friends; Latitudinarian or Indifferent by its enemies. Its distinctive character is the desire of comprehension. Its watchwords are Charity and Toleration. *Ibid.* 273 The three great parties which divide the Church of England . . . commonly called the Low Church, the High Church, and the Broad Church parties. 1860 *Quart. Rev.* Oct. 497 The authoress (Geo. Eliot) is neither High-Church nor Low-Church, but a tolerant member of what is styled the Broad-Church party. 1884 *Edinh. Rev.* July 198.

Hence Broad-Churchism, Broad-Churchman.

1870 F. D. MAURICE *Letter in Life* (1884) I. xii. 184 They [the Liberals] are called Broad Churchmen now, and delight to be called so. But their breadth seems to me to be narrowness. 1874 GLADSTONE *Ritualism in Cont. Rev.* Oct. 673 Some of those clergy who are called Broadchurchmen.

Broadcloth, broad cloth (brɔːdklɒθ). [f. BROAD + CLOTH. In *Act 1 Rich.* III. viii, an. 1482, 'broad cloths', two yards within the lists, are distinguished from 'streits', one yard wide within the lists.] Fine, plain-weave, dressed, double width, black cloth, used chiefly for men's garments. (The term is now used to imply quality rather than width, which may vary considerably; the 'double' merely represents that the piece is creased or folded double, i. e. with its two 'lists' brought together; a process not adopted with cloth of less than 54 inches wide.) Also *attrib.*

a 1400 OCCLEVE *De Reg. Princ.* 452 There gothe no lesse in a mannes typette Than of brode clothe a yerd. 1465 *Mann. & Househ. Exp.* 316, 1j. peces of blak brodeclothe, conteyngne in lengthe xlviij. yerdes. 1483 *Act. 1 Rich.* III. viii. § 1 Any manner woollen Clothes, called broad Clothes. 1577 HARRISON *England* II. v. (1877) 132 The wares that they carrie out of the realme are for the most part Brode clothes. 1632 MASSINGER & FIELD *Fatal Downy* v. i. A thrifty cap, composed of broad-cloth lists. 1790 GAY *Poems* (1745) I. 72 Ye weavers all your shuttles throw, And bid broad-cloths and serges grow. 1833 HT. MARTINEAU *Cinn. & Pearls* v. 97 You dressed in broad-cloth, and I in silk.

Fig. 1601 *Br. Barlow Defence* 222 That is Christ in the broad-cloth, in the whole piece.

Hence **Broad-clothier**, a dealer in broad-cloth.

1790 *Lond. Gaz.* 5878/6 Richard Rider.. Broad Clothier.

Broaden (brō'd'n), *v.* [f. BROAD *a.* + -EN.] Johnson says 'I know not whether this word occurs, but in the following passage', viz. that from Thomson in sense 1. But the same author had used *broadened* in the trans. sense.]

1. *intr.* To become broad or broader; to widen.

1797 THOMSON *Summer* 1600 Low walks the sun, and broadens by degrees, just o'er the verge of day. 1884 *Brown Juan* xvi. lxxxviii. Smiles around Broadening to grins.

1832 TENNYSON 'You ask me why' iii. Where Freedom broadens slowly down From precedent to precedent.

2. *trans.* To make broad or broader; to widen, dilate. *lit.* and *fig.*

1796 [see BROADENED]. 1798 ROBERTS *Looker-on* (1794) I. 321 A constitution... so broadened, by experience, to the compass of our wants and the demands of our nature. 1861 A. B. HOPE *Eng. Cathedr.* 19th c. vi. 214 For this object the nave should be proportionably broadened. 1867 in E. B. DENISON *Life of Bp. Lonsdale* (1868) 240 He was a High Churchman of the old school, broadened by experience. 1871 BLACKIE *Four Phases* i. 74 To broaden his conception of morality and religion.

Broadened (brō'd'nd), *pp. a.* [f. prec. + -ED.] Made or become broad; dilated.

1796 THOMSON *Winter* 132 With broadened nostrils.. The heifer snuffs the gale. 1821 JOANNA BAILLIE *Met. Leg.* Colum. xlix. 16 From ocean rose her broadened disk.

Broadening (brō'd'nin), *vbl. sb.* [f. as prec. + -ING.] Expansion in breadth, dilatation.

Mod. Newspaper. These Norfolk Broadens are broadenings or reaches of the river.

Broadening (brō'd'nin), *pp. a.* [f. as prec. + -ING.] Becoming broad; expanding, dilating.

1890 *Mrs. BROWNING Poems* II. 12 Within the broadening dark. 1899 R. BURTON *Centr. Afr.* in *Frut. R. G. S.* XXIX. 114 Up a gradually broadening valley.

Broad-faced (brō'd'f'ed), *a.*

1. Having a broad face. 1607 W. N. BARLEY *Brake* (1877) The broad-fac'd Owle. 1790 BOSWELL *Johnson* (1811) III. 71 Loud obstreperous broad-faced mirth. 1823 J. HAWTHORNE *Fort. Fool* i. xv. A composed, broad-faced, straightforward old man.

2. *fig.* Undisguised, open. *Obs.*

1643 *Myt. Inq.* 43 Such broad-faced iniquity, that no mask.. would fit it. 1848 JENKYN *Blind Guide* i. 12 Two broad-faced fatalities. 1878 B. R. LEE *Pop. Friends* 7 The Treason appears too broad-faced.

Broad gauge. The wider distance at which the rails are laid on some railways, involving a corresponding width of carriage. See GAUGE. Often *attrib.* (also *fig.*). Hence **Broad-gauged** *a.*

(The broad gauge of the Great Western Railway, in England, is 7 feet, as against the ordinary gauge of 4 ft. 8½ in.)

1864 *Times* 24 Dec. A through broad-gauge train was due. 1865 *Ibid.* 25 Jan. If the broad gauge may be unnecessarily wide the narrow gauge is too narrow. 1868 M. PATTERSON *Academ. Org.* iv. 102 We wish to maintain one broad-gauge line of refining education. 1882 *Chicago Times* 4 June, Everything broad-gauged and in liberal proportions.

Broadish (brō'd'if), *a.* Somewhat broad.

1793 *Phil. Trans.* LXXXIII. 179 A broadish pressure, as that of a finger. 1866 CARLYLE *Remin.* I. 207 The broadish little street.

Broad-leaved, *a.* Also *-leafed*. Having broad leaves: often in *Bot.* a specific distinction (= *l. latifolius*). + *b.* Broad-brimmed (*obs.*).

1593 HULOT *Brode leafed, latifolium*. 1593 B. GOOGE *Eglog.* viii. (Arb.) 62 This pleasaunte Brodeleafed Beech. 1769 BARRINGTON in *Phil. Trans.* LIX. 34 The Wych (or broad-leaved) elm. 1834 COLERIDGE *Eolian Harp* 4 With white flowered jasmine and the broad-leaved myrtle. 1861 COLLIER *Hist. Eng. Lit.* 176 A broad-leaved low-crowned hat of Flemish beaver. 1882 *Garden* 18 Feb. 112/1 The broad-leaved Butcher's-broom.

+ **Broadling**, **broadlings**, *adv. Obs.* In 3 breeding, 6 Sc. braid-, broadlings, 7 bradelings. [f. BROAD *a.* + -LING(s).] Broadwise, with the broad or flat side; extended, flat; broadly.

1800 *Trin. Coll. Hom.* 61 He wile smite bredlinge mid swuerde and brisen, oder mid egge and cleuen. 1935 STEWART *Cron. Scot.* II. 119 Wes borne than braidlings on his bak. 1605 BANNATYNE *Frut.* 173 (JAM.) He strait aue of them broadling with his sword. 1606 BERNIE *Kirk-Burial* (1833) 20 It brake not in bradelings, but as it were by degrees. 1701 SEDLEY *Pindar. Ode* Wks. (1766) 16 So have I seen the warbling lark.. The narrow compass of a cage forget, And broadling o'er a turf in silent pleasure sit.

Broadly (brō'd'li), *adv.* [f. BROAD *a.* + -LY.]

1. In a broad manner; widely, extensively.

1599 SANDYS *Europa Spec.* (1632) 124 When the world.. should looke about so broadly, and search so narrowly. 1697 DRYDEN *Virg. Georg.* III. 126 The Colt.. Barrel belly'd, broadly back'd. 1873 MORLEY *Rousseau* I. 309 Two channels, flowing broadly apart. 1884 BOWEN & SCOTT *De Barry's Phaser & Ferns* 162 A broadly elliptical cavity.

2. *fig.* With a broad or general view; generally. 1826 SIR B. BRODIE *Psychol. Inq.* I. iii. 91 He has laid down the rule too broadly. 1860 TYNDALL *Glac.* II. § 22. 346 Broadly considered, two classes of facts are presented.

3. Outspokenly, openly; manifestly, markedly, decidedly; fully.

1664 BEDDLE *Lett.* iv. 81 [It] made them talke and write of it broadly. 1651 BAXTER *Inf. Bapt.* Apol. 16 Mr. T.'s greatest friends, did the broadest speak.. of his being foiled. 1733 *Scots Mag.* Jan. 2/2 The Janisaries.. pretty

broadly hinted their inclination. 1871 BLACKIE *Four Phases* I. 154 Looking the man broadly in the face. 1876 GREEN *Short Hist.* v. § 3 (1882) 233 Wyclif broadly asserted that no man could be excommunicated by the Pope.

4. With broad pronunciation. See BROAD *a.* 7.

1820 BARET *Adv.* B 1341 To speake more broadly: to ioine wordes so.. that vowels meete together gapingly.

5. *Art.* With artistic breadth. See BREADTH 5.

1875 FORTNUM *Maioica* xii. 132 Broadly treated grotesques.. in camaleu of greenish grey on a blue ground.

Broadness (brō'd'nēs), [f. as prec. + -NESS.] The state or quality of being broad; breadth.

1. *lit.* (Now mostly superseded by *breadth*.)

1388 WYCLIF *Deut.* xxiii. 50 Gad is blessid in broadnesse. 1486 *Bk. St. Albans, Her.* Cvi b. And it be dyuidid after the longnes or after the broadnes. 1566 *Pilgr. Perf.* (W. de W. 1531) 245 Infynyte.. in depnes, heigh, broadnesse & length. 1643 J. STEER *tr. Bp. Chyrurg.* xvi. 66 About the broadnesse of the palme of the hand. 1730 *Magna Brit.* V. 805/1 Bretford.. hath its Name from the Broadness of the Ford.. over the Avon.

2. *fig.* Plainness of speech; coarseness, indelicacy.

1700 DRYDEN (J.). I have used the cleanest metaphor I could find, to palliate the broadness of the meaning. 1861 CRAIK *Hist. Eng. Lit.* I. 324 (L.) Broadness and indelicacy of allusion.

Broad pendant, pennant. A swallow-tailed tapering flag at the mast-head of a man of war; carried by a commodore. See PENDANT.

+ **Broad-piece.** *Obs.* A name applied after the introduction of the guinea in 1663 to the 'Unite' or 20 shilling-piece ('Jacobus' and 'Carolus') of the preceding reigns, which were much broader and thinner than the new milled coinage. 1670 *Narr. Murr. Godfrey* 6 He.. found.. four broad pieces of Gold. 1690 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 2549/4, 17 false Guineas, and two false Broadpieces. 1691 LOCKE *Money Wks.* 1727 II. 47 The Broad-Pieces that were coined in King James I. time for 20s. nobody will now part with under 25s. or more. 1718 ARBUTHNOT *John Bull* (1755) 53 Others.. picked up guineas and broad-pieces. 1826 SCOTT *Old Mort.* iii. An old miser.. with whom a broad piece would at any time weigh down political opinions.

Broad seal, sb. The Great Seal of England. Also *transf.*

1536 WHITHESLEY *Chron.* (1875) I. 51 Letter patent under the Kinges brode seale. 1576 LAMBARDE *Peramb. Kent* (1826) 227 Advanced to the keeping, first of the privie, and then of the broad seale. 1642 SYMONDS *Serm. bef. Ho. Comm.* Db. As if they had had the broad seale of heaven for them. 1699 *Trial Langhorn* 27 Two Pardons under the Broad Seal. 1762-71 H. WALPOLE *Verulam's Anec. Paint.* (1786) III. 172 Being allowed 200l. for each broad seal.

+ **Broad-seal, v.** *Obs. rare*—1. [f. prec.]

trans. To seal with the broad seal; *fig.* to warrant, sanction, authorize.

1599 B. JONSON *Cynthia's Rev.* v. vi. 75 Thy presence broad-seals our delights for pure.

Broadshare (brō'd'shē), *a.* Of a plough:

Having a broad share.

1862 J. WILSON *Farming* 110 Broadshare or paring ploughs are much used.. in the autumn cleaning of stubbles.

Hence **Broadshare v.**

1826 *Farmer's Mag.* Jan. 23 The practice of broadsharing the stubbles immediately after harvest. 1863 MORTON *Cycl. Agric.* II. Gloss. *Broad-sharing* (Kent), ploughing shallow and wide with a broad share, without turning it over.

Broadsheet (brō'd'shēt), [f. BROAD *a.* + SHEET.]

A large sheet of paper printed on one side only; = BROADSIDE *sb.* 3. Also *attrib.*

1705 HEARNE *Coll.* (1885-6) I. 18 A new Edition.. on a Broad Sheet. 1874 MOTLEY *J. Barnveld* II. xviii. 252 Ballard-mongers and broadsheet vendors. 1878 — *Diderot* II. 18 Pamphlets, broadsheets, sarcasms flew over Paris.

Broadside (brō'd'sīd), *sb.* [Formerly two words: BROAD *a.* + SIDE *sb.*]

1. *Naut.* 'The whole of that side of a ship above the water which is situate between the bow and the quarter' (Smyth *Sailor's Word-bk.*).

1591 GARRARD *Ari Warre* 89 That they turne their broad sides as if they should encounter the enemy. 1618 RALEIGH *Rey. Navy* 26 To plant great red Port-holes in their broad sides. 1742 WOODROOFE in *Hanway Trav.* (1762) I. II. xxiii. 98 They let the vessel run with her broad side ashore. 1769 FALCONER *Dict. Marine* (1780) H ij. A squall of wind laid the ship on her broadside. 1833 MARRIAT *P. Simple* (1863) 106 A heavy sea struck us on the broadside.

attrib. 1860 THORNBURY *Turner* I. 292 It is a broadside view, and represents the Redoubtable as sinking.

2. *Broadside to (or and) broadside:* with the side of one ship to that of another; *transf.* side by side, close to each other.

1696 KENNETT *Ram. Antig.* II. iv. (1713) 241 If they happen'd to swing broad-side to broad-side. 1769 FALCONER *Dict. Marine* (1789), To lie alongside of; to be broadside and broadside.

3. *Broadside on, broadside to, (a broadside obs.):* with the side of the vessel turned fully to the object considered; transversely, across the length.

1716 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 5475/3 He had rang his Ships.. a Broadside cross the River. 1800 A. DUNCAN *Mariner's Chron.* (1804) II. 82, I desired them not to come broadside-to, but stern-on. 1840 R. DANA *Bef. the Mast* xv. 41 We drifted down, broadside on, and went smash into the Lagoda.

4. Of the side of something other than a ship.

1835 RUTHERFORD *Lett.* xxiv. (1862) I. 95 He will lay the door on the broadside and come in. 1861 *Argyle's Last*

Will in Harl. Misc. (1746) VIII. 30/1 [Argyle].. stood firm on his own Interest, and could oppose a Broadside to every Emergency of Fortune. 1868 LOCKYER *Heavens* (ed. 3) 340 A line 95,000,000 miles in length, looked at broadside on at this distance, would appear but as an imperceptible point. 1884 *Speedy Sport* xiv. 233 They stopped and looked round, showing their broadsides the one just above the other. *Ibid.* xviii. 322 Being at close range, and broadside on, the two largest were shot dead.

2. 'The whole array, or the simultaneous discharge, of the artillery on one side of a ship of war' (Smyth *Sailor's Word-bk.*).

1597 SHAKS. 2 *Hen. IV.* II. iv. 196 Feare wee broad-sides? No, let the Fiend giue fire. 1599 HAKLUYT *Poy.* II. II. 63 The great shippe shot at vs all her broad side. 1630 WADSWORTH *Sp. Pilgr.* II. 8 The man of warre.. gaue vs a broadside with his Ordnance. 1748 ANSON *Poy.* II. v. (ed. 4) 237 We.. had a broad-side ready to pour into her.

1833 MARRIAT *P. Simple* (1863) 82 At this last broadside of mine, my father and all my brothers raised a cry of horror.

3. A sheet of paper printed on one side only, forming one large page; = BROADSHEET.

1575 CHURCHYARD *Chippes* (1817) 43 Richard Harvey.. before 1563, had printed in a broadside, a decree.. betwene Churchyarde and Camel. 1691 WOOD *Ath. Oxon.* I. 2 In one Sheet in 4^{to} as also on a broad side of a Sheet. 1818 SCOTT *T. Landl.* Ser. II. IV. 263 The Broadside containing the last dying speech and confession of M. Murdochson. 1861 WRIGHT *Ess. Archæol.* II. xiii. 261 Many of the fabliaux and comic poems were issued as broadside ballads.

Broadside, adv. With the side turned full (to a given point or object).

1870 HOOKER *Stud. Flora* 455 Spikelets.. inserted broadside to the rachis. 1884 *Speedy Sport* xiv. 231 As he was passing broadside he afforded an excellent shot.

Broadsider, nonce-ud. One who collects (printed) broadsides.

1866 BURTON *Bk. Hunter* I. 18 Not a black-letter man.. or an Elsevirian, or a broadsider, or an old-brown-calf man.

Broad-siding, vbl. sb. The firing of broadsides.

1828-65 CARLYLE *Frederick St.* II. iv. x. 38 Byng's Seafight, done.. with due emphasis of broadsiding. *Ibid.* IV. xii. xiii. 277 Vernon.. attacks certain Castles so-called, with furious broadsiding.

Broadsword (brō'd'sōrd), [f. BROAD *a.* + SWORD.] 'A cutting sword with a broad blade' (J.). Also *attrib.*

[a 1000 *Byrhtnoth* 15 (Gr.) Ða he healdan mihte brad swurd.] c 1565 LINDSAY (Pittcottie) *Chron.* an. 1559 The master of Lindsay struck him on the head with a broadsword. 1769 MRS. PIOZZI *Journ. France* I. 243 The Highland broadsword is still called an Andrew Ferrara. 1799 ROWLANDSON (*title*) Hungarian and Highland Broadsword Exercise. 1843 PRESCOTT *Mexico* I. 359 They killed two of the horses, cutting through their necks with their stout broadswords.. at a blow.

b. *transf.* (pl.) Men armed with broadswords.

1855 MACAULAY *Hist. Eng.* III. 330 Lochiel, surrounded by more than six hundred broadswords.

c. *Comb.*, as *broadsword-shaped* *adj.*

1870 ROLLESTON *Anim. Life* 22 The scapula, a broadsword-shaped bone.

Broadway. (Now usually as two words.)

A wide open road or highway, as opposed to a narrow lane or byway. From the former practice of treating it as a compound, it has often come to be the proper name of a street, as the *Broadway* in New York, *Hammersmith*, *Stratford-le-Bow*, etc.

1612 OVERBURY *Crumm's fr. K. James' Table Wks.* (1856) 277 Where there is a broadway besides, what need I tread nere the borders of vice? 1876 BROWNING *Packia-roto* 92 Duty and love, one broadway, were the best.

b. *attrib.* Applied by Dryden to the more tolerant divines of the English Church who were for widening its basis, called before (line 160) 'sons of latitude', and (line 187) 'sons of breadth'.

Cf. the modern BROAD CHURCH.

1687 DRYDEN *Hind & P.* III. 229 Your broad-way sons wou'd never be too nice To close with Calvin, if he paid their price.

Broadway, -ways, -wise (brō'dw'z, -w'z), *adv.* [f. BROAD *a.* + -WAYS, -WISE.] In a lateral direction, breadthways, laterally.

1593 R. HARVEY *Philadelphus* 44 Some [trees] are rooted broadway, as Elmes. 1693 EVELYN *De la Quint. Compl. Gard.* II. 62 Prop'd with Peaches, most broadwise, and some crosswise. 1796 FRANKLIN *Lett.* Wks. 1840 VI. 181 Sheet-lead sinking in water broadways, cannot descend near so fast as it would edgeways. 1848 DICKENS *Dombey* 213 Standing it [a letter] longwise and broadwise on his table.

Broak (e, *Broakage*, *Broaker*, etc., *obs. ff.* of BROKE, BROKAGE, BROKER, etc.)

Brob (brōb), [*prob.* related to North dial. 'brob to prick with a bodkin' (Grose): cf. *brad, brod, brog*, etc.] 'A peculiar spike, driven alongside the end of an abutting timber to prevent its slipping' (Raymond *Mining Gloss.* 1881).

1874 in Knight's *Amer. Mech. Dict.*

Brobdingnag (brōb'din'æg). Often incorrectly *brobdignag*. The name given by Swift in *Gulliver's Travels* to an imaginary country where everything was on a gigantic scale. Hence used *attrib.* as: Of, or pertaining to, that country; of huge dimensions; immense; gigantic.

(Swift subsequently wrote a mock letter from 'Captain Gulliver' to his cousin Sympson (purporting to be dated 27 April 1727, but first published in Dublin ed. 1735), com.,

plaining that *Broddingnag* had been erroneously printed for *Broddingrag*; but this was only a feint to mystify the public by a pretended solicitude for minute accuracy. The early editions have all *Broddingnag*. See *CRAIK Life of Swift* (1882) 535-7.)

1731 *POPE Mor. Ess.* iv. 104 Such a draught As brings all Broddingnag before your thought. 1814 *SOUTHEY in Q. Rev.* XI. 65 The houses... have the appearance of Broddingnag beehives. 1840 *CARLYLE Heroes* i. 56 Huge untutored Broddingnag genius.

Hence *Broddingnagian* (brɒdɪŋnæˈɡiːən), *a.* and *sb.* Also *-dignagian*, *-nagian*, *a. adj.* = BRODDINGNAG.

1798 *MORGAN Algiers* II. v. 319 Broddingnagian Leagues would scarce suffice. 1797 *GODWIN Enquirer* i. vii. 61 The final triumph of my Broddingnagian persecutor. 1870 *DISRAELI Lothair* lxxxi. 428 A brand-new broddingnagian hotel. 1881 *GRANT ALLEN Evolutionist at large* i. Known to our Broddingnagian intelligence as grains of sand.

b. sb. An inhabitant of Broddingnag, a giant, a person of huge size.

1799 *T. COOKE Tales, Prop. &c.* 119 In Wit we Broddingnagians are. 1835 *T. HOOK G. Gurney* II. v. (L.) 'Sally!' screamed the Broddingnagian... 'a gentleman wants a bed!' *Brobill*, var. of *BURBLE* *v.* *Obs.*

Broc, *obs.* *f.* BROOK; var. *BROKE Obs.*, *breach*.

Brocade (brɒkəˈdeɪd). Forms: 6-8 brocardo, 7-8 brocado, brocard, 8 brochad, 7- brocade. [The form *brocade* was a. Sp., Pg. *brocado*, corresp. to It. *broccato* 'cloth of gold and silver' (Percivall, Florio), lit. 'bossed' or 'embossed stuff', in form masc. pl. pple. of *broccare* 'to boss, to stud, to set with great-headed nails', *f.* It. *brocca* (Sp. *broca*) a boss or stud, the same word as *F. broche*, Eng. *BROACH*, *q.v.* For the change to -ADE see that ending; the form *brochad* seems influenced by *F. brocher* (cf. *BROOCH v.*). (It is not clear whether the forms *brocardo*, *brocard*, and *F. brocart*, are corruptions of *brocado*, or distinct formations with the suffix *-ardo*, *-art*, *-ARD*.)]

1. A textile fabric woven with a pattern of raised figures, originally in gold or silver; in later use, any kind of stuff richly wrought or 'flowered' with a raised pattern; also a cloth of gold and silver of Indian manufacture.

1563-99 *HAKLUIT Voy.* II. 215 (*Ormus*) Cloth of silke, brocardo, and divers other sortes of marchandise come out of Persia. 1666 *BLOUNT Glossogr.*, *Brocardo*, cloth of gold or silver. 1691 *LOCKE Money Wks.* 177 II. Whose Wife must spread a long Train of Brocardo. 1606 *MOTTEUX St. Olon's Morocco* 149 Very rich Gold and Silver Brocardes. 1708 *W. J. BRUNY'S Voy. Levant* vii. 24 A sort of Bonnet of Brocardo or Cloth of Gold. 1709 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 4540/6 Bed Damasks, rich flower'd Sattins, Brochads, etc. 1790 *Prior Phyllis's Age*, Stiff in Brocard, and pinch'd in stays. 1794 *POPE Ess. Man* iv. 186 One flaunts in rags, one flutters in brocade. 1751 *CHAMBERS Cycl.* s.v., At present, any stuff of silk, satin, or even simple taffety, when wrought, and enriched with flowers, etc., obtains the denomination of brocade. 1841 *ELPHINSTONE Hist. Ind.* i. 310 Gold and silver brocade were also favourite, and perhaps original, manufactures of India. 1859 *GEO. ELIOT A. Bede* 53, I mean to bring out my best brocade, that I wore at your christening twenty years ago.

1861 *CRAIK Hist. Eng. Lit.* II. 267 (L.) The gorgeous brocade does not hide the true fire and fancy beneath.

2. (See quot.) 1869 *Eng. Mech.* 12 Nov. 215/2 Gold is not put on any paper-hangings, it is a preparation called leaf metal, or a powder called brocade or bronze.

3. *attrib.* Of or resembling brocade; brocade-shell, a variegated species of cone-shell, *Conus geographicus*. 1711 *ADDISON Spect.* No. 15 P. 4 A Brocade Waistcoat or Petticoat are standing Topicks. 1745 *BAKER Don Quix.* I. i. v. 31 This curious Cap and his fine brocade Cope will make him outshine the Sun-Dial. 1824 *SOUTHEY Omniana* II. 283 Somewhat in the brocade fashion of Gogona. 1847 *BARHAM Ingot. Leg.* (1877) 281 Her rich brocade gown sat upright in its place.

Brocade, *v.* [*f. prec.*] To work with a raised pattern (chiefly in a p. pple.). *Mod. Newspaper*, The bodice and train were brocaded with sprays of lilac on a ground of apple-blossom pink.

Brocaded (brɒkəˈdeɪd), *a.* Also 7 brocado'd, 8 brokaded. [*f. prec.* + *-ED* 2.]

1. Worked or woven in the style of brocade; ornamented with brocade.

1666 *BLOUNT Glossogr.* s.v., We call that Brocado'd Silk or Satten, which is wrought or mixed with Gold or Silver, and sometimes that is called Brocado'd Silk, which is wrought with several colours of silk. 1714 *GAY Araminta*, Brocaded Flow'rs o'er the gay Mantoe shine. 1843 *LEVER J. Hinton* iii. (1878) 10 Rich curtains of heavy brocaded silk.

2. Dressed in brocade.

1767 *St. James's Chron.* Oct., An oyster-wench in *paris naturalibus* is a more desirable object than a brocaded monster.

Brocade, variant of BROKAGE.

Brocade, -aly, variant of BROKALY.

Brocard (brɒˈkɑːd), [*a. f. brocard*, akin to med.L. *brocarda*, *brocardicorum opus*, a name given to the 'sentences' of Burchard or Brocard, bishop of Worms in the 11th c., who compiled twenty books of 'Regule Ecclesiasticæ'.]

1. *Law*. An elementary principle or maxim. 1864 *SWINBURNE Spousals* (1866) 184 Because the Brocards or contrary Conclusions, rather breed brabbles, than

pacific Contentions. 1759 *FOUNTAINHALL Decisions* I. 243 (JAM.) Alledged, He was minor, and so *non tenetur placitare super hereditate paterna*. Answered, The brocard meets not. 1765 *ARNOT Trials* (1812) 298. 1825 *SCOTT Betrothed* Introd., *Societas mater discordiarum* is a brocard as ancient and as veritable. 1862 *M. NAPIER Mem. Vict. Dundee* II. 10 *Dolus latet in generalibus* is a brocard of the civilians.

2. *gen.* 1836-7 *SIR W. HAMILTON Metaph.* xiii. I. 234 *note*, The scholastic brocard pointing to the difficulties of the study of self: *Reflexiva cogitatio facit se reflexiva*. 1866 *FERRIER Inst. Metaph.* 261 The scholastic brocard, which has been adopted as the tenth counter-proposition, is the fundamental article in the creed of... 'the sensualists'.

|| 3. Biting speech, cutting gibe. (*A French sense.*) 1837 *CARLYLE Fr. Rev.* II. iii. 143 Lameth... is met in those Assembly corridors by nothing but Royalist brocards; sniffs, huffs, and open insults.

† **Brocard** 2. *Obs.* [*f. brocart*.] = BROCKET. 1607 *TOPSELL Foure's Beastes* 122 These Brocards are as great in quantity as other vulgar Harts, but their bodies are leaner. [1611 *COTGR.*, *Brocart*, a kind of swift stag, which hath but one small branch growing out of the stemme of his horne.]

Brocard 3, *obs.* form of BROCADE.

|| **Brocatelle** (brɒkəˈtɛl). Also 7 brocatall, 8 brocatell. [*f. brocatelle*, earlier *brocatel*, 'tinsel, or thin cloth of gold, or silver' (Cotgr.), *ad. It. brocatello*, 'thin tinsel of gold'; dim. of *brocato* (see BROCADE).]

1. An imitation of brocade, usually made of silk or wool, used for tapestry, upholstery, etc., now also for dresses. Both the nature and the use of the stuff have changed in recent years. Also *attrib.*

1669 *EVELYN Diary* 9 July (D.) Chaire and deske... covered with Brocatell... and cloth of gold. 1753 *CHAMBERS Cycl. Suppl.*, *Brocatell*, an ordinary kind of stuff made of cotton, or coarse silk, in imitation of brocade; chiefly used for tapestry and other furniture. 1875 *URR Dict. Arts* i. 534 *Brocatelle*, Linsey-woolsey is so called in France. A silk material which is used for lining carriages. 1884 *Pall Mall G.* 14 Feb. 11/2 The garish charms of satin brocatelle, which has a crimson ground, with a gold border.

2. = NEXT.

1796 *NUCENT Gr. Tour, France* IV. 44 Columns of ancient Greek Brocatelle.

|| **Brocatello** (brɒkəˈtɛlɒ). Also -tella, -telli. [*It. brocatello di Sienna*, so called from its brocade-like colouring: see *prec.*] A kind of variegated marble, clouded and veined white, grey, yellow and red, yellow usually prevailing; Sienna marble.

1759 *CHAMBERS Cycl.* s.v. *Marble*, There is also another kind of antique Brocatello dug near Adrianople. 1839 *Penny Cycl.* XIV. 409/h The beautiful Brocatello or Brocade marble of Italy and Spain. 1875 *URR Dict. Arts* i. 534 *Brocatelli Marble*, an artificial marble made from fragments of natural marbles united by means of an artificial cement.

Broccoli, *broccoli* (brɒkəˈkɒli). [*a. It. broccoli*, pl. of *broccolo* cabbage-sprout or top, dim. of *brocco* shoot or stalk (see BROACH).]

One of the cultivated forms of the cabbage (*Brassica oleracea botrytis asparagoides*), the young inflorescence of which forms a close fleshy edible head: in its origin a more robust and hardy variety of the cauliflower. Broccoli is distinguished as *green*, *purple*, and *white*, the last hardly distinguishable from cauliflower, except in being in season in winter or early spring.

1699 *EVELYN Actaria* 16 The Broccoli from Naples. 1730-6 *BAILEY, Brocoli*, an Italian Plant of the Colly-Flower Kind. 1732 *POPE Hor. Sat.* ii. 123 Content with little, I can piddle here On brocoli and mutton round the year. 1737 *MILLER Gard. Dict.* s.v. *Brassica*, There are several kinds, viz. the Roman, Neapolitan, and black Broccoli. 1881 *Proc. Berv. Nat. Club* IX. iii. 568 Winter vegetables, such as Celery, Brussel Sprouts, Brocoli.

b. Comb., *broccoli-like* *adj.*

1873 *FERGUSON in Land of Moab* 376 That sharp broccoli-like acanthus, which distinguishes the age of Justinian.

† **Broch** 1. *Obs. rare.* [*ad. f. broch*, also *broche*, large jug: see *Littre*.] See *quot.*

1679 *BLOUNT Anc. Tenures* 51 One iron Broch, which was a great Pot or Jug to carry Liquid things.

Broch 2, *brogh, brough. Archaeol.* Forms: 7 brogh, 7-9 brugh, 8-9 brough, burg(h), 9 brooch. [*n. e. Scottish*, *a. ON. borg* (Da. *borg*) castle, stronghold (the ON. equivalent of OE. *burh*: see *BOROUGH*, *BURGH*). (*Broch* is the spelling adopted by the Society of Antiquaries of Scotland. Various pronounced *brox*, *brox*, *brox*, *brox*.)]

1. A structure of prehistoric times, examples of which are numerous in the Orkney and Shetland Isles, and adjacent mainland of Scotland, being a sort of round tower, having an outer and an inner wall of dry stone, the interstitial space containing little chambers for human habitation, while the open central area might be used for cattle.

1664 *Blau's Atlas, Map of Orkney & Shetl.*, The ancient Brugh of Moussa. The Brugh of Byrsa. 1693 *J. WALLACE Description of Orkney* 26 The many Houses and villages in this County which are called by the name of *Brogh*. 1701 *BRAND Descr. Orkney* 18 (JAM.) These houses are also called *Burghs*. 1806 *NEILL Tour Orkney* 80 (JAM.) We viewed the Pechts Brough, or little circular fort. 1851 *D. WILSON Preh. Ann.* II. iii. 101 A class of structures peculiar to

Scotland, generally known as *Brughs* or *Pictish towers*. 1883 *Academy* 6 Oct. 235 These *Brochs*... are towers that somewhat remind us of lighthouses.

Broch, *obs.* form of BROACH, BROOCH.

Brochad, Brochage: see BROCADE, BROKAGE.

|| **Brochan** (brɒˈxʌn). *Sc.* Also 8 brochan, brochinn. [*Gael. brochann* porridge, gruel.] 'Oatmeal boiled to a consistence somewhat thicker than gruel' (Jamieson); thin porridge, drammock.

1700 *KING Transactioner* 53 The usual remedy is Giben drank upon Brochan. 1796 *MARTIN West. Isles* 12 (JAM.) They drank brochann plentifully, which is oat-meal and water boiled together. 1790 *PENMANT Tour Scotl.* 358 Their common food is Brochan, a thick meal-pudding with milk. 1860 *RAMSAY Remin.* iii. (ed. 18) 59 Brecks and brochann.

Brochantite (brɒˈʃɑːntɪt). [*After Brochant de Villiers*, a French mineralogist: see -ITE.] A mineral belonging to the hydrous sulphates, occurring in thin, rectangular, green crystals.

1865 *Athenaeum* No. 1949. 316/2 Minerals of the Brochantite group. 1868 *DANA Min.* 665 Crystals of brochantite of a fine green color.

† **Broche**, *v.* *Obs.* [*Obs. spelling of BROACH v.* (which does not appear with this sense) = *F. brocher* to stitch, brocade.] *trans.* To stitch, work with raised figures. Hence *Broched ppl. a.*, worked with raised figures or designs in gold, silver, etc., on a ground of silk or satin; brocaded, embroidered.

1480 *Wardrobe Acc. Edu. IV* (1830) 134 Clothe of golde as well of the grounde of velvet as of satyn ground som broched with golde. 1590 *Treatise of Gallant* (W. de W.) 22 Newe broched doublettes. 1601 *HOLLAND Pliny* I. 260 The cassock broched and studded with scarlet in broad guards. 1834 *PLANCHÉ Brit. Costume* 234 Broched or guarded with goldsmith's work.

|| **Brochette**. ? *Obs.* [*F. brochette* (14th c. in *Littre*), dim. of *broche*, BROACH.]

a. A small broach, spit, or pointed stick. *b.* in *Cookery*: see *quot.* 1706.

1483 *CAXTON Gold. Leg.* 363/4 Thyrten knottes which were ful of brochettes of smale needles and theron smale rynges. 1706 *PHILLIPS Brochette*, a skewer to stick in Meat. In *Cookery* a particular manner of frying and stewing Chickens, etc. 1730-6 in *BAILEY*. 1796 *Dict. of Arts and Sci.* s.v. *Bell*, You must come again to the first face of the brochette or stick A.

† **Brochity**. *Obs. rare* -°. [*ad. L. broch(c)hitas* projectingness of the teeth, *f. broch(c)hus*: see BROACH.] (See *quots.*)

1663 *COCKERAM I. Brochitis*, crookednesse. 1666 *BLOUNT Glossogr.*, *Brochity* (brochitis), crookedness properly of teeth or tushes. 1678 *PHILLIPS, Brochity* (old word), crookedness, especially of Teeth. So *BAILEY*, *etc.*

|| **Brochure** (brɒˈʃʊr). [*Fr.*; lit. 'a stitched work', *f. brocher* to stitch: see -URE.] A short printed work, of a few leaves merely stitched together; a pamphlet.

1765 *CHESTERF. Lett.* 387 (1792) IV. 214 Monsieur de Vergy published in a brochure a parcel of letters. 1840 *Times* 28 Apr., His present brochure is interesting from the subject of which it treats. 1865 *Q. Rev.* Apr. 345 His series of editions was accompanied by a bye-play of brochures, grammatical or critical, written in the intervals of press-labour. 1881 *Ch. Q. Rev.* Oct. 40 The famous brochure of Dr. Drake called *The Memorial of the Church of England*.

Brook (brɒk), *sb.* 1 Chiefly *dial.* Forms: 1, 4 broo, 3-7 brooke, 4-5 brokk(e), 4-6 brok, 6 broke, 3- brook. [*OE. broc*, from *Celtic*: in *OLr. brocc*, *Ir.* and *Gael. broch*, *Welsh* and *Cornish broch*, *Breton broch*: -OCeltic *broccos, prob. cogn. w. Gr. *φροκός* grey, white; cf. the Eng. name *gray*, *grey*.]

1. A badger: a name, in later times, associated especially with the epithet *stinking*.

c. 1000 *Sax. Leechb.* I. 326 Sum fyferfete nyten is, þæt nemnað taxonem, þæt ys broc on englisc. c. 1205 *LAY. 12817* Heo hudedden heom alse brockes. 1298 *TREVISA Barth. De P. R.* (Helmingsham MS.) xii. x. The blak rauen is frende to þe foxe, and perfore he fygeth with þe brokke. c. 1400 *Ywaine & Gaw.* 98 It es ful semeli, als me think, A brok omang men forto synk. c. 1440 *York Myst.* xxix. 117 He lokis like a brokke, Were he in a bande for to bayte. c. 1528 *SKELTON Agat. Garmesche* 55 She seyð your brethe stank lyke a broke. 1554 *HULOET*, Brocke or badger, or graye beast, *taxo*. 1637 *B. JONSON Sad Sheph.* i. iv. 32 Or with pretence of chasing thence the Brock, Send in a curte to worrie the whole flock. 1766 *BURNS Two Dogs* 96 They gang as saucy by poor folk, As I wad by a stinking brock. 1826 *SCOTT Antiq.* xxi. 'I...rub shouthers wi' a baillie wi' as little concern as an he were a brock'. 1869 *Daily News* 30 July, Purses, made of a fox's head and skin, or that of a brock.

† *b. calachr.* confused with the beaver. *Obs.*

1307 *TREVISA Hidden Rolls* Ser. I. 327 White beres, bansons, and brokkes (*ursi albi, fibri, et castorei*). *Ibid.* VI. 205 Þat place hatte Beverlay and heet Brook his lay, for many brokkes... come bider out of þe hilles. 1483 *Cath. Angl.* 44 A Brokk, *castor*, *beaver*. 1591 *PERCIVALL Sp. Dict.*, *Bivaro*, a badger or brocke, *fiber*, *castor*.

2. A stinking or dirty fellow; one who is given to 'dirty tricks'; a 'skunk'.

c. 1600 *PERLE Jests* II. 289 This self-conceited brock. 1601 *SHAKS. Twel. N.* ii. v. 114 Marrie, hang thee, brocke. 1795 *RAMSAY Gent. Sheph.* iv. i. Ye'll gar me stand! ye shevelling-gabbit brock. 1880 *Antrim & Down Gloss.* (E. D. S.), *Brock*, a dirty person; one who has a bad smell.

3. *Attrib.* and *Comb.*, as *brock-breasted*, *-faced* *adjs.* (referring to the streaked face of the badger); † *brook-akin*, a badger-skin (in *Wyclif* app. due to confusion of *L. miles*, *mélis*, with *mélota* Gr.

πρωτή sheepskin, f. *μῆλον*; † brock-wool, hair of the beaver (see 1 b.).

1400 *Morte Arth.* 1095 *Brok-brestede as a brawne, with brustils fulle large. 1844 *Craven Dial.* 28 Th *brock-faced branded stirk. 1384 *Wyclif Hebr.* xi. 37 Thei wenten aboute in *brok skynnes [Vulg. *in melotis*], and in skynnes of geet. 1506 *Pilgr. Perf.* (W. de W. 1531) 246 b, Goyng about in gotes & brockes skynnes. 1500 *Ort. Voc. in Promp.* 53 *Fibrina vestis*... a clothe of *brocke woll.

Brock, sb.² dial. [OE. *broc*; cf. ON. *brokk* 'a trotter, of a horse' Vigf.] † A horse, a trotting horse; an inferior horse, a jade.

c. 1000 *Sax. Leechd.* II. 184 Secen him broc on onrade. c. 1300 *CHAUCER Friar's T.* 243 The Cartere smoot and cryde... Hayt Brok, hayt Scot, what spare ye for the stones. 1506 *WARNER Alb. Eng.* ii. x. 47 She stumbled headlong downe... hoyst Brok, her good-man saide; And thirdly falling, kindly bad her breake her necke, olde lade. 1847-78 *HALLIWELL, Brock*, a cow, or husbandry horse.

Brook, sb.³ dial. [Of uncertain origin: possibly a corruption of *L. brūcus*, *brūchus*: see *BRUCE*. The two senses may have no connexion.] † 1. = *L. ophiomachus* (Vulg. *Leu.* xi. 22), a kind of locust: cf. *BRUCE*. Only OE.

c. 1050 *Ag. Voc.* in Wt. Wülcker 460 *Ophiomachus*, broc. 2. The larva of the frog-hopper, which produces the cuckoo-spit; also the insect itself. *mod. dial.*

1768 *MARSHALL E. Yorks.* (E.D.S.), *Brook*, a young grasshopper [2nd ed. 1796 substitutes '*cicada spumaria*, the cuckoo-spit insect']. 'He sweats like a brock!' 1875 *ROBINSON Whistly Gloss.* (E.D.S.), *Brook*, the cuckoo-spit, 'sweating insect', or frog-hopper, the '*cicada spumata*', found upon leaves in an immersion of froth. 1877 in *Holder-ness Gloss.* (E.D.S.).

Brook, sb.⁴ † Obs. [contr. of *brocket*.] = *BROCKET*.

c. 1355 *Berkeley Castle, MS. Forrester's Acc.* Item a brocke at frantons park. 1677 *N. Cox Gentl. Recreation* i. (1706) 6, I must call a Hart... The third year, a Brocke. 1706 *SMELLIE tr. Buffon's Nat. Hist.* IV. 87 They take the name of knobbers till their horns lengthen into spears, and then they are called brocks or staggaras. 1884 *JEFFERIES Red Deer* ii. 39 In the olden time he would have been called a brocke or brocket.

Brook, sb.⁵ (See quot.)

1770 *HASTED in Phil. Trans.* LXI. 164 In the ancient forests of Kent... remain large old chesnut stubs or brocks.

† **Brook**, v. Obs. rare. [Identified by Mätzner with OHG. *brochôn*, mod.G. *brocken* to break into bits, crumble (bread into milk), used in Swiss in sense 'to use coarse words': but the sense-history is obscure.] *app.* To give mouth, speak querulously (perhaps to utter broken language).

c. 1355 *SHOREH.* 106 Aye the croke to brokke, Wy madest thou me so. c. 1386 *CHAUCER Millers T.* 191 He syngeth brokkyng [so 6 texts, *Harl. crowng*] as a nyghtyngale.

Brook, dial. var. of *BROKE*, a fragment.

Brockage (*brp'kédz*). [? from stem of *brok-en* + *-AGE*.]

1. A damaged piece in coining money, etc. 1879 *10th Rep. Master of Mint* (1880) 38 The reduced number of brockages or faulty pieces produced.

2. Sc. Broken or damaged stuff; broken pottery, glass, biscuits, etc.

Mod. Sc. In making these, there is always a good deal of brockage.

Brocked, a. Sc. Also *broakit*, *brookit*. [Cf. *Da. broget* variegated, speckled, chequered, *Sw. brokt*, also *brokig* variegated.] 'Variegated, having a mixture of black and white' (Jamieson).

1793 *Statist. Acc. Scot.* VI. 285 (JAM.) The greatest part of them [sheep], having black or brocked faces. 17... *G. Surv. Nairn* (JAM.), The phrase, brocked oats, denotes the black and white growing promiscuously. 1828 *Scott Hrt. Midl.* xxxix, If Gowans, the brockit cow, has a query.

Brocket (*brp'két*). Forms: 5-7 *broket*, 7 *brocket*, *brochet*, 6- *brocket*. [ad. F. *brocart*, *broquart*, f. *broque*, *broche* *BROACH*: see *-ARD*. Cf. *BROCARD*.²]

1. A stag in its second year with its first horns, which are straight and single, like a small dagger. (Sometimes incorrectly a deer in its third year.)

a. 1425 in *Rel. Antig.* I. 151 The hert... the fyrst yere he is a calfe, the secunde yere a broket, the iij. yere a spayer. 1513 *DOUGLAS Æneis* XII. Prol. 179 Heyrdis of hertis throw the thyk wod schaw, Baith the brokettis, and with brayd burnyst tyndis. 1611 *CORR.*, *Brocart*, a two-year old Deere; which if he bee a red Deere, we call a Brocket; if a fallow, a Pricket. 1881 *GREENER Gun* 510 To shoot a staggar, brocket, suckling, hind or calf is unwarrantable.

2. A genus of deer of Brazil, having only short prongs for horns.

1837 *Penny Cycl.* VIII. 361/2 The Brockets (*Les Daguet*) of the French. 1850 *SWAINSON Quadrup.* § 301 The brockets of the New World constitute the subulonine group of Major Smith.

† 3. **Brocket-sister**, a female deer of the second (or even third) year. *Obs.*

1665 in *Rushw. Hist. Coll.* (1721) III. ii. App. 8 A Hind and a Brocket Sister, being then both out of Season. 1677 *N. Cox Gentl. Recreations* i. (1706) 7 A Hinde... is called... the second year a Hearn; and sometimes we say Brockets Sister. 1696 *PHILLIPS s.v. Brock*.

4. *dial.* See quot. (Probably a distinct word.)

1769 *PENNANT Tour Scotl.* 36 Sea-larks, [called] here [Farne Islands] brockets. 1867 *SMYTH Sailor's Word-bk.*, *Broket*... the sea-lark is so called at the Farne Islands.

Brockett, obs. form of *BRACKET*.

† **Broekish**, a. Obs. rare. [f. *BROCK* sb.¹ (a) + *-ISH*.] Like a brock or badger; beastly, dirty.

1546 *BALD Eng. Volaries* i. (1550) 8b, Those brockish boores haue gone firely forward without checke. 1550 — *Apol.* 64 O brockyshe Gomorreane! 1553 — *Vocacyon in Harl. Misc.* (Malh.) I. 351 So brockish a swine as he was.

† **Broekle, brokle**, a. Obs. exc. dial. Forms: 4 *brokele*, 5 *brokyl* (l., -ylle, -el, -il, 6 *brokle*, *broole*. [A parallel form to *BRICKLE*, *BRUCKLE*; prob. by later assimilation to *brok-en*.] Easily broken, fragile; frail.

c. 1325 *SHOREHAM* 3 Of brokele kende is that he deithe. c. 1325 *Metr. Hom.* 154 Fleys es brokel als wax, and neys. c. 1430 *Hymns to Virg.* (1867) 86 A brokil poot bat freisch in and gay. 1483 *Cath. Engl.* 44 Brokylle, vbi brysilie. 1509 *FISHER Wks.* 92 A potte that is brokle. 1554 *HULOET*, Brittle, bryckle, or brokle. 1863 *ATKINSON Provenc. Dant.*, *Bruckle, brokle*, easy to be broken, frail, brittle.

† **Broekle**, sb. Obs. exc. dial. Forms: 6 *brokell*, *brockell*, 8 *broakle*. [cf. prec., and *BROKALY*.] collect. Broken pieces, fragments; rubbish.

1554 *HULOET s.v. Throu*, Throw out rubbel, as mortar, stone, and such lyke brockell of olde buyldynges, *errudero*. — *Rubbysh*, or brockell of olde houses, or walls. 1720 *A. J. Eng. Portng. Dict.*, To carry away rubble or brackle of an old decayed house.

Brockram, dial. [f. stem of *brok-en*: the ending appears to have a collective force.] 'A Cumberland miners' term for a breccia' (Ure).

1845 *J. PHILLIPS Man. Geol.* 65: The word [Breccia] is Italian, and is matched by the Cumbrian term 'Brockram'. 1878 *F. WILLIAMS Midl. Railw.* 523 Not a bit of rock was found. The limestone rock and the brockram w re gone.

Brocor, -our, obs. ff. *BROKER*.

Brodd (*brpd*), sb.¹ Obs. exc. dial. Also 3 *brodd*, 5 *brode*. See also *BRAD*. [ME., app. a. ON. *brodd-r* spike, shaft, spike on a plant, = OE. *brodd* spike, point, spire, OHG. *brott* edge, margin (cf. *BRAIRD*, *BREED*), Goth. **brozds* :- OTeut. **brozdo-s*. There was a cognate Oceltic *brott-*, whence OIr. *broit* sting, prick, mod.Ir. and Gael. *brod*, which may be the source of some of the senses. Almost exclusively northern, and mainly Scotch. Cf. *PROD*.]

† 1. A shoot or sprout. *rare*. [cf. *BRAIRD*.] c. 1200 *ORMIN* 10772 Nazareth bitacephuss Onn Engglish brodd & blome. [Cf. Heb. *בְּרִי* *brî* shoot.]

2. A goad, prick, pointed instrument. c. 1375 *BARBOUR St. Paulus* 543 Saule... it is... hard to be a-gane be brod be for to prese. c. 1425 *WYNTOUN Cron.* vi. xiv. 70 Gyve a man wald in thame thryst A sharpe brode. 1483 *Cath. Engl.* 44 A Brod, *aculeus*, *stimulus*, *stiga*. 1548 *UDALL*, etc. *Erasm. Par. John* x. 75 Roddes, axes, broddes to pricke. 1561 *Br. COSIN Corr.* (Surtees) II. 311 For brod (note or spit) paper at the Stationer's for the cooke. 1725 *KELLY Sc. Prov.* 168 (JAM.) He was never a good aver, that flung at the brod.

3. *fig.* An incentive, stimulus, motive. c. 1375 *BARBOUR St. Agnes* 370 Be wilit geste Fandit hymne... With be brodis of lichery. 1536 *BELLENDEN Chron. Scot.* II. 122 Ire and lust, quhilis ar two maist sorrowful broddis amang wemen.

4. A prick from a goad; a *PROD*. c. 1540 *Compl. Scot.* iii. 28 Ane ox that repungnis the brod of his hird, he gettis doubl broddis.

† 4. A prick or thorn. *Obs. rare*. 1549 *Compl. Scot.* xvii. 148 The palme tre hes shearp broddis and pikis.

5. a. A round-headed nail made by blacksmiths. b. An instrument for cutting up thistles. *Peacock N. W. Linc. Gloss.*

Brod, sb.² A Scotch (brod, bröd) variant of *BOARD* (see senses 1-4). Also, an escutcheon (*obs.*). 1643 *Acts As.* 171 (JAM.) Abuses in hinging of pensils and brods, affixing of honours and arms,—hath crept in. 1861 *RAMSAY Remin.* Ser. II. 26 As he went round with the ladle, he used to remind such members of the congregation as seemed backward in their duty, by giving them a poke with the 'brod'.

Brod, v. Obs. exc. dial. [f. *BROD* sb.¹]

† 1. *intr.* To shoot, sprout. *Obs.* c. 1200 *ORMIN* 10769 To broddenn & to blomenn.

2. *trans.* To goad, prod, urge with pricks. *north. dial.* Also *fig.*

c. 1450 *HENRYSON Mor. Fabl.* 73 The caller... broded them ful sair. 1483 *Cath. Engl.* 44 To Brod, *stimulare*. 1535 *STEWART Cron. Scot.* III. 28 The stang of conscience broddit him so sair. a. 1568 *Wife of Auchterm.*, And brodit his buttock. 1566 *DRANT Horace Sat.* v. A tyraunte forces the, and broddes the forward still. 1769 *R. FERGUSSON Poems* II. 82 (JAM.) His words they brodit like a wumil, Frae ear to ear. 1877 *PEACOCK N. W. Linc. Gloss.*, *Brod*, to prick, to poke; to cut up thistles.

Brode, obs. f. *BROAD*, *BROOD*.

Brode, incorrect form of *BRAID* (sense 2).

c. 1400 *Epiph.* (Turnb. 1843) 79 Ho had unneth thes wordis sayde Bot ho yelde the gost in a brode.

Brodefull: see *BROODFUL*.

[*Brodehal* (f. *pen'n'y*): see *BURGHALPENNY*.]

† **Brodekin, brodkin**, *Obs.* Also 5 *brod-kyne*, 6 *brotekin*, -ikin. [a. F. *brodequin* (15th c. in Littré), (for which Du Guez c. 1532 has *brosequin*) related to Flem. *broekin*, *broekin* (Kilian) buskin, also to It. *borzacchino*, Sp. *borceguil*, formerly also *boszegul* buskin: the inter-relations of which are as yet uncertain. The mod.Du. *broos*,

formerly *bröse* buskin, is according to Franck probably shortened from *broseken*. See *BUSKIN*.]

A high boot reaching about half-way up the calves of the legs; a buskin. Also *attrib.*

1481-90 *Howard Househ. Bks.* (1844) 345 My Lord paid for a peyer of brodkynes... x. d. 1535 *LYNDESAY Satyre* 3143, I can make schone, brotekens and buitiss. c. 1565 *LINDESAY* (Pittscottie) *Chron.* (1728) 111 A pair of brotekens on his feet to the great of his legs. 1643 *URQUHART Rabelais* II. xv, How wouldest thou defend thyself? With great buskinades or brodkin blowes... provided thrusts were forbidden. 1725 *EDWARD Hist. Eng.* II. 836 (L.) Instead of shoes and stockings, a pair of buskins or brodekens. [1850 *THACKERAY Pendennis* xxiii, From their bonnets to their brodequins.]

Brodel, -elle, var. of *BROTHER*.

Broder, -ir, -yr, obs. forms of *BROTHER*.

Broder, -re, -ur, etc., obs. ff. *BROIDER* v., etc.

Broderer. Also 4-5 *brouderer*. An earlier form of *BROIDERER*, retained as the name of one of the London City Companies, ranking as 34th among the City Livery Guilds.

1376 *Let. Bk. H.* ff. xlvii. in *City Records*, 50 *Edw. III.*, Nicholas Halley, Robert Ascombe, Broderers. 1388 *Wyclif Exod.* xxviii. 39 Werk of a broderere. 1398 *Test. Ebor.* (1836) I. 227 Mon vestment... lequele je achataie de Courceray broderer de Londres. 1488-9 *Act 4 Hen. VII.*, xxii, The Wardeyn and fellowship of broderers in your Cite of London. 1865 *Blue Bk. City of Lond. & Liv. Comp. Commission* v. 67 The Keeper or Warden and Society of the art or mystery of Broderers of the City of London. *Ibid.* The Broderers Company were known by the name of 'Imbroderers incorporate for ever'.

Brodistare, -er: see *BRODWINSTER*.

Brody, variant of *BROTHERLY*, *Obs.*, fierce.

† **Brodmell**, *Obs. Sc.* [Of doubtful origin: the form suggests *brode*, *BROOD*, and 'mell' mixture, confused company', f. *MELL* v. to mix.] A litter.

1513 *DOUGLAS Æneis* III. vi. 73 All quhite brodmell About hir pappis sowkin. *Ibid.* viii. l. 98 Hyr quhyt brodmell about hir pappis wound.

† **Brodyke**, *Obs. rare* -1. [perh. an error of some kind for *brodde*.] A prick, a goad.

1471 *RIPLEY Comp. Alch.* in Ashm. (1652) 132 Hard hyt ys with thy bare foote to spurne, Agaynst a brodyke of Iyron.

Broe, variant of *BROO*, Sc., broth.

† **Broft**, *Obs.* Unusual form of *brocht*, *BROUGHT*.

1594 *CAREW Tasso* (1881) 57 Him it foretels, and scornes, nor will be broft [*rime-word* soft] to bend.

Brog (*brpg*), sb. dial. [Of uncertain origin. (Sc. also *brög*, *brög*): the Gaelic *bróg* 'awl', must, according to Thurneysen, be an adopted word.]

1. A pricking or boring instrument: the common name in Scotland of a bradawl; also, an awl.

1808 in *JAMIESON*. 1861 *RAMSAY Remin.* Ser. II. 59 But oh, please tak a brog, and prod him weel, and let the wind out o' him.

2. A prick with a bradawl, etc.

1808 in *JAMIESON*.

3. A short stick, *esp.* one to stick in the ground; e.g. those stuck in the 'Sands' of North Lancashire, to indicate the crossing.

1781 *J. HUTTON Tour Caves* (E.D.S.) *Brog*, small sticks. 1870 *BARBER Forrester Folk* 35 in *Lanc. Gloss.* (E.D.S.) We'd gotten by t' last brog an' off t' sand. 1875 *Lanc. Gloss.*, *Brog*, a branch, a bough, a broken branch.

Brog (*brpg*), v. dial. [f. prec.]

1. *trans.* To prick, prod; to push an awl through.

a. 1774 *FERGUSON Election Poems* (1845) 42 Wi a muckle elshin lang He brogit Maggie's huries. 1818 *SCOTT Hrt. Midl.* v, 'Dye think I was born to sit here brogging an elshin through bend-leather?' 1880 — *Monast.* iii, The stony-hearted villains were brogging them on wi' their lances!

2. To insert pointed sticks into; see quot. *dial.*

1875 *Lanc. Gloss.* (E.D.S.) 58 After obtaining a safe ford, the guides... mark out the track by inserting branches of trees. This is called 'broggin' t' channel'.

3. *intr.* To BROGGLE for eels, to sniggle. *dial.*

1678 *LITTLETON Lat. Dict.*, To broge for Eels. 1706 *PHILLIPS, Brogue or Broggle*, to fish for Eels, after a particular manner, by troubling the Water. c. 1750 *J. COLLIER* (Tim Bobbin) *Wks. Gloss.* s.v. *Brog*, Fishing for eels, called brogging... by putting the hook and worm on a small stick, and thrusting it into holes where the eels lye.

Hence *Brogged staff* (Sc.): a pointed or spiked staff as a weapon of war.

1429 *Sc. Acts Jas. I* (1597) § 121 With sword and buckler, and a gude axe, or else a brogged staffe. a. 1550 *Peebles to Play* 9 He stert till ane broggit staff, Winchad as he were wood.

|| **Brogan** (*brō'gān*). [Ir. and Gael. *brōgan*, dim. of *brōg* shoe.] A coarse stout sort of shoe.

1846 in *WORCESTER*. 1864 *Morning Star* 19 Jan., Boots... are now [during American War] only to be had for 175 dollars to 250 dollars per pair, whilst the commonest brogans bring from 30 dollars to 40 dollars per pair.

† **Brogetie**, *Obs.* Some kind of fabric.

1610 *Histrio-m.* III. 274 What bladders swolne with pride, To strout in shreds of nitty brogetie!

† **Brogger**, *Obs.* Also 5 *brager*, *bragger*, 7 *broger*, *broggar*. [App. an unexplained corruption of *BROKER*. Anglo-French had also *broggour* beside *brocour*. Cf. also *brogge*, *BROGUE* sb.¹]

An agent; a jobber, *esp.* a corrupt jobber of offices; a *BROKER*.

[1386 *Act 10 Rich. II.* i. § 2 Officers & Ministres faitz par brogage & de lour broggors & de ceux qont prise le brog-

page.] c 1460 *Fortescue Abs. & Lim. Mon.* xvii. (1875) 153 No man... durst take an office... but he first had be good will off be said bragers [*MS.* 1532 broggers; *ed.* 1714, broggers] and engrossers of offices. 1533-4 *Act 25 Hen. VIII.* i. Every... grasier, fermour, breder, drouer, and brogger... whiche... shall have any beoffes. 1550 *Rem. Edu. VI. Trul.* (Roxb.) 293 That no man shuld bie or sel the self-same thinges againe, except broggers. 1587 *FLEMING Contn. Hollinshed III.* 1588/2 Broggers, and carriers of corne. 1641 *BAKER Chron.* (1679) 391/2 Broggers of Corn and Forestallors of Markets. 1688 *SCARLETT Exchanges* 8 Broggers, etc. are Persons Sworn and Authorized by the Magistrate... to enquire of Persons that have any Monyes to remit or to draw, and to agree such persons concerning the Conditions. 1720 *Stow's Surv.* (1754) II. v. xv. 329/1 They were called Broggers in a Statute to Richard II—none to be Brocars in any mystery unless chosen by the same mystery.

† **Brogging**, *vbl. sb. Obs.* = BROKING. 1594 *CHITTLE Kinde Haris Dr.* (1841) 51 There is an occupation of no long standing about London, called broking, or brogging, whether ye will; in which there is pretty juggling, especially to blind law, and bolster usury.

Broggle (*brōggl*), *v. north. dial.* Also 7 **braggle**. [app. a frequentative f. *BROG* *v.*] *intr.* To continue poking with a stick or pointed instrument in a hole; also *spec.* to fish for eels, by thrusting a stick with a baited hook into the holes, and under the stones where they lie. Hence *Bro'g-gling*, also called *snigging*.

1653 *W. LAWSON Comm. Secr. Angling in Arb. Garner I.* 105 A way to catch Eels by 'Braggling'... Go into some shallow place of the river among the great stones, and braggle up and down till you find holes under the stones. 1678 *PHILLIPS (App.)*, *Brogle* for Eels, to fish for Eels. 1681 *CHETHAM Angler's Vade-m.* xxii. § 5 (1680) 146 *Brogling* or *Snigling*. 1792 *OSBALDISTONE Brit. Sportsm.* 78, 2 *Brogling*, a method of fishing for eels.

Brog, variant of *BRUCH*, a Pictish tower.

† **Brogue** (*brōg*), *sb. Obs. exc. Sc.* Also 6 **brogge**, 8 **brogue**. [Deriv. unknown. Cf. *BROOGER*.] An escheat; a cheat, fraud, trick.

1537 *St. Papers Hen. VIII.* i. 548 Ne any brogges or meanes that any of those borderers canne make, shall cause Us to altre that which We have established. 1634 *JACKSON Creed vii.* xxvii. The sacred treasury (unto which such brogues or escheats as this were by ordinary course due). 1784 *BURNS Addr. Deil xvi.* Ye [Satan] came to Paradise incog, An' play'd on man a cursed brogue. 1793 *EP. F. Priestley in Poet. Register* (1808) 401 Then... [they] strive Who first a bargain with their Queen shall drive, While no mean lure her beckoning hand displays, The well-known royal brogues of better days.

Brogue (*brōg*), *sb.* Also 6 **brog**, 7 **brouge**, 7-8 **broge**. [a. Irish and Gael. *brōg* 'shoe, brogue, sandal' (O'Reilly); -OIr. *brōce* shoe, app. -OCelt. *brācca*: see *BRECH*.]

(The phonetic series *brācca*, *brōce*, *brōg*, is normal. But the sense-history is difficult: the word has in Ir. and Gael., and had even in OIr., only sense 1. Sense 2 looks as if Englishmen had confounded the Ir. *brōg* with the *mogan*, a kind of legging, covering the whole leg as well as the upper surface of the foot. Yet the etymological identity of *brōce* with Gaulish *brācca*, would point to a covering for the legs ('barbara tegmina crurum') originally. The sense of the first quot. is doubtful.)

1. A rude kind of shoe, generally made of untanned hide, worn by the inhabitants of the wilder parts of Ireland and the Scotch Highlands.

1286 *J. HOOKER Girald. Irel. in Holinsh.* II. 160/1 He was no sooner come home, but awaie with his English attires, and on with his brogs, his shirt, and other Irish rags. 1610 *HOLLAND Camden's Brit.* i. 123 They buckle upon their feet a pair of Broges made of raw and untanned leather up to their ankles. 1611 *SHAKS. Cymb.* iv. ii. 214, I thought, he slept, and put My clowted Brogues from off my feet. 1775 *JOHNSON Journ.* West. Isl. (1806) IX. 191 In Sky I first observed the use of brogues, a kind of artless Shoes. 1848 *MACAULAY Hist. Eng.* II. 142 Some had been so used to wear brogues that they stumbled and shuffled about strangely in their military jack boots. 1865 *MAFFEI Brigand Life* I. 258 Rough, heavy brogues which hurt our feet.

† 2. *pl.* Hose, trousers. *Obs.*

1615 *G. SANDYS Trav.* i. 48 The skirts of their [Turkish horsemen's] coats, when they ride, are gathered within long stammel brogues that reach to their ancles. 1625 *FLETCHER Fair Maid* iv. ii. 45 A pair of brogs to hide thy mountainous buttocks. 1674 *Tr. Scheffer's Lapland* xvii. 87 The men in summer have trousers, or brogs, reaching down to their feet. 1748 *SHENSTONE Schoolmistr.* xix, Brandishing the rod, she doth begin To loose the brogues. 1809 *IRVING Knickerb.* (Bartlett), Every man being ordered to tuck in his shirt-tail and pull up his brogues. a 1845 *HOOD Irish Schoolm.* xv, The scourge plies that unkindly seam In Pheilm's brogues.

3. *Fishing brogues*, waterproof coverings for the feet and legs; waterproof leggings with feet.

1880 *Adv.*, Indiarubber goods, etc. Fishing brogue boots, leather soles.

4. *Comb.*, as *brogue-maker*, *brogue-shod*; also **Brogueful**, as much as a brogue will hold.

1795 *Statist. Acc. Scotl.* XIV. 74 A number of tailors, and a few brogmakers. 1812 *W. TENNANT Anster Fair* ii. xxxvii, The brogue-shod men... Plaided and breechless all. 1833 *J. WILSON in Blackw. Mag.* XXXI. 273 Having no... idea of... a foot but a brogueful of muscle.

Brogue (*brōg*), *sb.* [Deriv. unknown: from the frequent mention of 'Irish brogue', it has been conjectured that this may be the same word as the prec., as if 'the speech of those who wear Vol. I.

brogues', or 'who call their shoes brogues'; but of this there is no evidence.]

A strongly-marked dialectal pronunciation or accent; now particularly used of the peculiarities that generally mark the English speech of Ireland, which is treated *spec. as the brogue*.

1705 *Lond. Gas.* No. 4123/4 Charles Morgan... having much of the Irish Brogue in his Speech. 1707 *De Fox Eng. Tradem.* I. ix. 66 Keep the sportman's brogue upon their tongues. 1775 *T. SHERIDAN Art Reading* 146 They brought with them each their several brogues or modes of intonation. 1828 *Scott Review Ritson's Hist.* (1849) 345 The Doctor... has done much for the Lowland Scottish brogue. 1843 *LEVER J. Hinton x.* (1878) 65 From the lips of a lovely woman, a little, a very little of the brogue is most seductive. 1878 *BLACK Green Past.* iii. 23 The very stones of Westminster Hall are saturated with Irish brogue.

Brogue (*brōg*), *v.* [f. *BROGUE sb.*] *trans.* To utter with a brogue. Hence **Broguing** *ppl. a.*

1822 *BYRON Vis. Judg.* lix, There Paddy brogued 'By Jesus'! 1831 *Fraser's Mag.* III. 613 'How wonderful', brogues forth a gentleman of the press, 'that, etc.'

Brogued, *a.* [f. *BROGUE sb.* + *-ED*] Wearing, or fitted with, brogues. 1826 *in Q. Rev.*

Brogueener, *-ineer*. [f. *BROGUE sb.* + *-ER*] after some such word as *buccaneer*, *cannonier*.] One who speaks with a brogue; an Irishman.

1798 *Mrs. DELANY Life & Corr.* III. 503 A priest (called 'the Bishop of Down'), the quintessence of an Irish brogueener. 1831 *Fraser's Mag.* IV. 258 The big brogueiness of Munster land. 1840 *ibid.* XXI. 750 A place-begging, bawling brogueener of the name of Ronayne.

Broguer (*brōg'gā*), *rare.* [f. *BROGUE sb.* + *-ER*.] A maker of brogues.

1834 *H. MILLER Scenes & Leg.* xvii. (1857) 248 The broguer, or maker of Highland shoes.

Broguey, *nonce-wd.* [f. *BROGUE sb.*] The speaking of a brogue: brogue-speech.

1837 *Fraser's Mag.* XV. 554 The broguey of the Tail [i.e. the followers of O'Connell]. 1839 *ibid.* XIX. 443 By dint of swaggering, impudence, and broguey.

† **Broid**, *v. Obs.* Also 6 **broyde**. [A variant of *BRAID v.*, app. owing its form to the *pa. pple.* *BROIDEN*, *q. v.* for the *oi.*] *trans.* To plait, intertwine, interweave.

Hence *Broided ppl. a.*, *Broid'ing vbl. sb.*

c 1286 *CHAUCER Knis. T.* 1051 Hir yellow heer was broyded [So *a. MSS.*, 1 broided, 2 broyded] in a tresse. 1530 *PALSGR. c 1440 Promp. Parv.* 53 Broydyn [1499 broyded] *laqueatus*. 471/1, 1 broyde heare, or a lace, or suche like, *je tortille*. 1535 *COVERDALE Judith x.* 3 She... broyded and plaited hir hayre. 1550 *HEYWOOD Seneca's Troas* (1581) 114 b, Forget henceforth thy captive state and seemly broyd thy hayre. 1601 *HOLLAND Pliny II.* 80 Plaiting and broyding of herbes and floures. 1613 *R. C. Table Alph.* (ed. 3), *Tresses*, lockes of hayre broyded vp. 1624 *BACON New Atl.* (1677) 253 Curiously wrought with Silver and Silk of divers colours, broyding or binding in the Ivy.

† **Broide**, *v. Obs.* [var. of *BRAID v.* + *-I* an error or due to the association of *BROID v.* with *BRAID v.*] *trans.* To upbraid, reproach.

1561 *J. HEYWOOD Prov. & Epigr.* (1867) 56 Better dissemble it... than to broide him with it.

Broiden, *ppl. a. Obs.* Also 3 **ibroiden**, **ibroyde**, 5 **broydyn**. [A *pa. pple.* of *BRAID v.* (cf. *ABRAID*, which had also *abroiden*), and thus a doublet of *BROWDEN*, which was the normal form, since OE. *ōd* became *ou*, *ou* in ME. But the combination was very rare before a consonant: so that evidence is wanting to show whether *ogd* might become *oid* as well as *oud*, or whether in the case of *broiden* we have a kind of analogical variant of *broiden*, somewhat on the model of *breden*, *breiden* of the infinitive. The question is the more important that the *oi* in *broiden* is apparently the source of that in *BROID*, *BROIDER*, and their derivatives, in all of which it is unexpected. (*Littre* has Prov. *broydar*, for *brosdar* = F. *broder*, but although F. *broder*, and Eng. *broiden*, were certainly confused at a later date, we cannot see how *broiden*, *abroiden* could be in any way affected by the Prov. word.)

Woven, interwoven, plaited, braided. *b.* (More usually) *fig.* Skillfully contrived, constructed, arranged, ordered, prepared.

c 1230 *Hali Meid.* 11 Bute bruche and cleane ibroiden on himselfen. c 1250 *Owl & Night.* 645 Mi nest... is broiden [v. r. ibroyde] al abute. a 1300-1375 *Cursor M.* 1008 Land o blis... With blis and beild broiden [v. r. -in] best. *Ibid.* 13363 Bridall was par broiden [*Gott.* ordained] an. *Ibid.* 23799 Pe broiden blis to cristis dere, Pe hale pat him forsakis here. a 1400 [see *BROWDEN*]. c 1440 *Prompt. Parv.* 53/1 *Broydyn laqueatus*.

Broider (*broi'dā*), *v. arch.* Forms: 5 **broudre**, 5-6 **browdre**, **browder**, **brouder**, **broder**, 6 **brauder**, 6-7 **brodre**, 6 **brodur**, **brother**, 7 **broidre**, 7-**broider**. [In 15th c. *broudre*, **brouder**, taken as the equivalent of F. *broder*, *broder*; 'to stitch, embroider' (of which the regular Eng. repr. was *broude*, *Brown*). It is not clear whether the terminal -er represents the F. infinitive (as in *render*, *tender*, etc.), or had some other origin. The typical forms during the 16th c. were *brouder* and *broder*; *broider* (exc. as implied in *BROIDERER*, *q. v.*) is found only later; its *oi* is evidently due

to the association with *BROID* 'to braid', so common in the 16th c.]

1. *trans.* To ornament with needle-work; to work in needlework upon cloth; to embroider. (Almost always in *pa. pple.*)

[1405 *Test. Ebor.* (1836) I. 320 Unum vestimentum... brodatum de coronis et stellis auri. *Ibid.* brodatum de stellis albis.] c 1450 *HENRYSON Mor. Fabl.* 45 His hude of scarlet browdered well with silke. 1455 *Test. Ebor.* (1835) II. 201 Unum lectum de sago browdered. 1513 *BRADSHAW St. Werburgh.* xvi, Theyr noble actes... Freshly were browdered in these clothes royall. 1540 *Compl. Scot.* vii. 69 On the third part of that mantil... brodrut about al hyr tail, al sortis of cattel. 1552 *Inv. Ch. Goods in Norfolk Archael.* (1865) VII. 58 Twoo tuncyles of redde velvet brodered w' aungells. 1825 *SCOTT Talism.* xvii, Another brodered with her own hand. 1879 *SEGGIN Black For.* viii. 120 She brodered the banners that were to carry her lover to glory.

2. *transf. and fig.* To adorn as with embroidery, to inlay with (pearl, ivory, gold, etc.). Also *fig.*

1509 *HAWES Past. Pleas.* xxvii. xxxi. 125 The pillars of yvery... With perles sette and brodered many a folde. c 1532 *LD. BERNERS Huon* (1883) 413 A basyn of golde broderyd with perles. 1536 *Regist. Riches in Antiq. Sarish.* (1771) 189 One fair chest... brodered with Coral. 1606 *Sir G. Goosecappe* iv. ii. in *Bullen O. Pl.* (1884) IV. 64 Brodered with nothing but moone-shine ith water. 1667 *MILTON P. L.* iv. 702 The... Hyacinth with rich inlay Broidered the ground. 1800 *SCOTT Monast.* xxix, Her converse would be brodered with... choice pearls of compliment. 1822 *S. ROGERS Italy, Interview* 33 A narrow glade unfolded, such as Spring Broiders with flowers.

Broidered (*broi'daid*), *ppl. a.* Forms: see *prec.* [f. *BROIDER v.* + *-ED*.]

1. Ornamented with needlework; embroidered.

1490 *etc.* [see *BROIDER v.* 1]. 1562 *J. HEYWOOD Prov. & Epigr.* (1867) 182 Whens come braudered gardis? c 1570 *Cambyses in Hazl. Dodsley* IV. 175 Now may I wear the brodered guard. 1612 *BIBLE Esak.* xvi. 13 Fine linen & silke, and brodered worke. 1633 *G. HERBERT Temple, Forerunners* iv, Thou wilt soil thy broider'd coat. 1848 *LYTTON Harold* iv. iii, All covered with broidered peacocks.

2. *fig.* 1616 *W. BROWNE Brit. Past.* ii. ii, They priz'd the brodered vale. 1745 *T. WATSON Pleas. Melanch.* 27 Ye broider'd meads, adieu! 1853 *RUSKIN Stones Ven.* II. vi, Spaces of broidered field and blooming mountain.

Broiderer, *arch.* Forms: 4-6 **brouderer** (e), **broderer** (e), 5 **browderere**, 4, 7-**broiderer**. [f. *brouder*, *broder*, *BROIDER v.* + *-ER*, if not immed. a. Anglo-Fr. *brouderer*: see *BRODERER*.] One who works embroidery; an embroiderer.

1388 *WYCLIF 2 Sam.* xxi. 19 The sone of forest, a broiderer. 1476 *Plumpton Corr.* 37 As for a broiderer, I can find none. 1580 *BARET Adv. B* 1342 Broderer, *phrygia*. a 1755 *G. WEST Abuse Trav.*, Dancers, broiderers, slaves of luxury.

Broideress, *arch.* [f. *BROIDER v.* + *-ESS*. Cf. OF. *brouderesse*.] A female embroiderer.

[1530 *PALSGR.* 154 *Brouderesse* a woman brodurar]. 1827 *HOOD Mids. Fairies* xxxv, May, the quaint broideress.

† **Broidering**, *vbl. sb. Obs.* [f. *BROIDER v.* + *-ING*.] The act or art of adorning with needlework; embroidered work. Also *attrib.*

a 1490 *Knt. de la Tour* (1868) 168 The precious stones, wiche were on the broyding of his senglé gowne. 1535 *in Strype Crammer* (1694) App. 24 Of brooding work and pearls. 1546 *LANGLEY Pol. Verg. De Inuent.* ii. iv. 67 b, The Phrygians inuented broyding.

Broidery (*broi'dā*). Now *poetic*. Forms: 4-5 **brouderie**, -ri, -ry, **browdrye**, 5 **brawdrye**, **broudry**, **brouderie**, -rye, 6 **broadry**, 7-8 **brouderie**, 7 **broyderie**, 7-**broiderie**, (9 *poet.* **broidry**). [a. OF. *brouderie*, *broderie* (14th c. in *Littre*), f. *brouder*, *broder*; see *BROIDER* and *-ERY*. The form *broidery* (for the abnormal *oi* of which see *BROIDEN*, *BROID*) was common in Purvey, and then rare till after 1600: cf. *BROIDER*.]

1. Ornamental needle-work wrought upon cloth; the art or practice of embroidering cloth; embroidery. Also *attrib.*, as in *broidery work*, *frame*.

1382 *WYCLIF Ex.* xxxv. 33 Werkis of carpentarye, of browdrye, and of werkynge with needlis. 1388 *ibid.* xxviii. 39 Thou schalt make also a girdil, bi werk of broiderye [v. r. brouderie, brouderi werk]. 1490 *CAXTON Encydas* xv. 55 A grete mauntelle of veluet cramoyis pourfyllid rounde aboute wyth brawdrye, moche enryched wyth precyous stones. 1496 *Dives and Panp.* (W. de W.) i. x. 47, I suppose that sayntes in erthe were not arrayed... with clothes of broodrye. 1616 *W. BROWNE Brit. Past.* ii. iii, Unknown was then the Phrygian brodrye. 1621 *AINSWORTH Annot. Pentat.* Gen. xlvii. 4 In shrowds of silke, or cloth of gold or broyderie. 1708 *J. CHAMBERLAYNE St. Gt. Brit.* II. ii. vi. (1743) 416 No other persons wear broidery, pearls, or bullion. 1843 *TENNISON Day-Dr.* Prol., Then take the broidery-frame, and add A crimson to the quaint Macaw. 1856 *Mrs. BROWNING Aur.* Leigh III. 14 Youth's fine linen and fair broidrye. 1871 *R. ELLIS Catullus* lxxviii. 136.

2. *fig.* 1782 *BURNET Hist. Mus.* II. 151 The graces, broderies, and flourishes of florid song. 1830 *TENNISON Dirge* vi. Rare broidry of the purple clover. 1844 *KINGLAKE Eothen* iii. (1878) 46 The golden broidry of oriental praises.

Broil (*broil*), *sb.* Forms: 6 **breull**, **bruill**, 6-7 **broyl** (e), **broille**, 8-9 *Sc.* **brulyie**, -sie, 6-**broil**. [app. f. *BROIL v.* + *-I*: cf. It. *broglia* 'hurlie burlie, confusion, mingle mangle' (Florio); the F. *brouille* is mod. and from the verb.]

1. A confused disturbance, tumult, or turmoil; a quarrel. See also BRULYIE.

1553 L.D. BERNERS *Proiss.* II. 140 (R.) We shall make a great breull in Englande. 1548 HALL *Chron.* (1809) 272 The Erle of Warwicks faction intending to set a breull in the country. 1571 ASCHAM *Scholem.* (Arb.) 158 In the middes[t] of the broyle betwixt Cæsar and Pompeie. 1591 SHAKS. 1 *Hen. VI.* I. i. 53 Prosper this Realme, keepe it from Ciuill Broyles. 1664 H. MORE *Myst. Iniq.* 439 Filling the Empire with intestine Broils. 1797 T. JEFFERSON *Writ.* (1859) IV. 173 Plunging us in all the broils of the European nations. 1813 SCOTT *Rokeby* III. xxiii, Foremost he fought in every broil. 1876 GREEN *Short Hist.* III. § 4 (1882) 130 A tavern row between scholar and townsman widens into a general broil.

† b. To set in broil, on a broil. Obs.

1577 HOLINSHED *Chron.* I. 73/1 The greuous danger of setting things in broile. *Ibid.* IV. 204 To set things in broil.. within this hir realme of Englande. 1603 KNOLLES *Hist. Turkes* (1621) 839 That warre, which would set all Europe on a broile.

2. Comb., as broil-maker.

1561 STOW *Chron.* an. 1104 (R.) Letting out the broyle-maker into France.

Broil (broil), *sb.* Also 6 broyle, 9 bruill. [f. BROIL *v.* 1]

1. A broiling, a great heat; a very hot state.

1583 BABINGTON *Commandm.* vii. 295 What broyles of scorching lust soeuer the minde abideth. 1821 MRS. WHEELER *Cumbld. Dial.* App. 8 My het bluid, my heart aw' in a bruil, Nor callar blasts can wear, nor drops can cuil.

2. Broiled meat; a grilled chop or steak.

1823 KITCHENER *Cook's Orac.* iv. 107 The Fat.. dropping into the fire.. will spoil the Broil. 1861 HUGHES *Tom Brown Oxf.* I. iii. 45 Go and get me a broil from the kitchen.

3. Comb., as † broil-iron = broiling-iron.

1567 WILLS & Irv. N. C. (1860) II. 266 One broule-Iron, vij speights, iij pair of pottclippis.

Broil (broil), *v.* 1 Forms: 4 *Sc.* brulþe, broilþe, 4-6 brule, 5 broille, brolynn, broyllyn, broyll, 5-6 broyle, bruyale, broile, 6 brooyle, 6-7 broyl, 6- broil. [Of uncertain origin and history: the form *brule*, which is not infrequent before 1500, appears to be the F. *brûle-r* to burn (in OF. also *bruller*); but it is very doubtful what relation this *brule* bears to the general form *bruyale*, *broyle*; they may be distinct words, or *brule* may be a conscious assimilation to the F. *bruler*. The form *bruyale*, and *Sc. brulþe*, appear to be the OF. *bruillir* found in Godef. in the intrans. sense of 'broil, burn' (*bruillir de soleil*); *bruyale* would become *broyle*, *broil*.]

† 1. trans. To burn, to char with fire. Obs.

1375 BARBOUR *Bruce* iv. 151 Assalit Within with fyre, that thame sa brulþeit. c 1375 ? — St. *Georgis* 456 He gert brandis of fyre [til hyme] bynde, To brule it wes lewit behynde. c 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 53 Brolynn or broyllyn, ustulo, ustillo, torreo. a 1450 *Knt. de la Tour* (1868) 49 Ye shalle.. be broiled and brent, and sinke in the pitte of helle. 1483 CAXTON *Gold. Leg.* 280/3 That he myght be brente and bruyled. c 1500 *Partemay* 2289 Ther paynymys were bruled and brent entire. a 1533 *FRITH Disput. Purgatory* (1829) 115 He putteth them not away for broiling in purgatory. 1568 H. CHARTERIS *Prof. Wyndesay's Wks.* iij b, To bruyale and scald quha sa euer suld speik aganis thame.

2. *spec.* To cook (meat) by placing it on the fire, or on a gridiron over it; to grill.

c 1386 CHAUCER *Prolog.* 383 He cowde roste, sethe, broille, and frie.. and wel bake a pye. 1483 *Cath. Angl.* 45 Brule, assare. 1598 B. JONSON *Ev. Man Hum.* I. iv. 12 The first red herring that was broyled in Adam and Eves kitchen. 1653 WALTON *Angler* 57 Broil him [chub] upon woodcole or char-cole. 1769 MRS. RAFFALD *Eng. Househldr.* (1778) 71 To broil Mutton Steaks. 1835 W. IRVING *Tour Prairies* 117 An evening banquet of venison.. roasted, or broiled on the coals. 1853 *Arab. Nts.* (Rtdg.) 621 Our gridiron is only fit to broil small fish.

3. To scorch; to make very hot, to heat.

1634 RAINBOW *Labour* (1635) 18 Let not his hot pursuit broyle him in an Egyptian furnace. 1718 LADY M. W. MONTAGUE *Lett.* II. xix. 64, I was.. half broiled in the sun. 1818 BYRON *Yuan I.* lxiii, That.. sun.. will keep.. broiling, burning on. 1858 HAWTHORNE *Fr. & It. Yrals.* L 268 We turned back, much broiled in the hot sun.

4. *intr.* To be subjected to great heat, to be very hot. (Mainly in *to be broiling*, for *to be a-broiling*.) 1613 SHAKS. *Hen. VIII.* iv. i. 56 God saue you Sir, Where haue you bin broiling? Among the crowd i'th'Abey. 1644 H. MORE *Song of Soul* II. iii. rv. xxxii, One of a multitude of myriads Shall not be sav'd but broyl in scorching wo? 1748 SMOLLETT *Rod. Rand.* vii. (1804) 34 Before your age I was broiling on the coast of Guinea. 1883 *Leisure Ho.* 148/1 Don't keep us broiling here for ever!

b. *intr.* To grow hot; esp. *fig.* to become heated with excitement, anger, etc. † Obs.

1561 T. NORTON tr. *Calvin's Inst.* rv. xx, If they [Magistrates] must punish.. let them not broile with unappeasable rigor. 1607 P. FLETCHER *Locusts* I. xxiv, Meantime (I burne, I broyle, I burst with spight). 1760 STERNE *Tr. Shandy* II. v, He broil'd with impatience. 1817 BYRON *Beppo* lxix, Her female friends, with envy broiling, Beheld her airs and triumph.

c. Said of passion, emotion, etc.: To burn, glow, be ardent.

1600 *Newe Metamorph.* (N.) Love broyled so Within his breast. 1709 STEELE *Tatler* No. 36 ¶ 2 The secret Occasion of Envy broiled long in the Breast of Autumn.

Broil, *v.* 2 Forms: 5-7 broyl, bruill, brooyl, 6-7 broile, broyle, 8 (*Sc.*) brulyie, 6- broil. [a. F. *brouille-r* 'to jumble, trouble, disorder,

confound, marre by mingling together' (Cotgr.), corresp. to It. *brogliare* to stir, disorder, embroil; cf. the It. sb. *broglia* 'hurly burly, confusion, mingle mangle', etc. (Florio). Ulterior derivation uncertain: see Diez, Littré, Scheler.

Litré (like Diez) thinks the F. vb. identical with Pr. *bruellhar*, *bruellhar*, Cat. *bruellhar* 'to bud, rise up', and connected with OF. *bruill*, *broel*, *broil*, mod. Fr. *bruill*, 'an enclosed piece of brushwood, matted underwood, or cut bushes for animals', found in late L. in the *Capit. de Villis* (lucos nostros quos vulgus brugilos vocat), mod. L. *bruillus*, *bruilius*, which is referred to the Oceltic *brog*, *brogi* territory, district (Thurneysen). But most etymologists doubt the connexion of *bruillier* with this.]

† 1. *trans.* To mix or mingle confusedly. Obs.

1401 *Pol. Poems* (1859) II. 6 Thou broylst up many lesynges, for grounde of thin orde. 1521 HEYWOOD *Engl. Eliz.* (1641) 187 The abundance of bloud already spilt and broiled in the land.

† 2. To involve in confusion or disorder; to agitate, discompose (a person); to 'set by the ears', embroil. Obs.

1523 MORE *Rich. III.* (1641) 405 He was sore moved and broyled with Melancolie and dolour. 1540 CHEKE *Hurt Sedt.* (1641) 16 Who.. intende to broyle the Commonwealt with the flame of their treason [with an allusion to BROIL *v.* 1]. 1595 JAS. I. *Ess. Poetic* (Arb.) 21 To translate it well and best, where I haue both euill, and worst broyled it. 1648 Bp. DURHAM *Presentm. Schismatic* 4 Contentious ones.. broyling the world in this manner.

3. *intr.* To be or to engage in a broil; to contend in a confused struggle, irregular fight or strife.

c 1567 TURBERVILLE *After Misad. Good Haps* (R.) The barck that broyle in rough and churlish sease. 1598 WYVLEY *Armorie* 81 Courageous John of Gaunt Like Priams sonne strong broyling mid his foes. 1883 *Pall Mall G.* 15 Oct. 4/1 He was always broiling with his chiefs, constantly in debt.

4. *trans.* To put into a broil, to embroil.

1857 HEAVYSEGE *Saul* (1869) 243, I shall not hurry him, nor broil myself.

Broiled (broild), *ppl. a.* [f. BROIL *v.* 1 + -ED.]

Made very hot, scorched, charred; *spec.* grilled.

c 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 53/1 Broilyld [K. broilyld], ustulatus. *Ibid.* Broilydmete, or rosted only on the colys. 1483 CAXTON *Gold. Leg.* 249/1 This brente and bruled laurence. 1542 BOORDS *Dyetary* xviii. (1870) 277 Bruled meat is harde of digestyon. 1586 COGAN *Haven Health* cxlviii. (1636) 146 Broyled meate is hard of digestion. 1611 BIBLE *Luke* xxiv. 42 A piece of a broyled fish. 1871 M. COLLINS *Mry. & Merch.* I. ix. 275, I should like a broiled pheasant.

Broiler 1. (broi-lar). [f. BROIL *v.* 1 + -ER.]

1. One who or that which broils; *spec.* one who cooks by broiling; also said of a very hot day (cf. *roaster*, *scorcher*).

1671 J. WEBSTER *Metallog.* ii. 31 He was a great Broiler in Gebers Kitchen. 1750 [R. PULTOCK] *Life P. Wilkins* xxxiv. (1883) 94/2 When the broilers began to throw the fish about. 1817-8 COBBETT *Resid. U. S.* (1822) 12, July 27. Fine broiler again.. We spent a pleasant day; drank.. of milk and water. Not more flies than in England.

2. *spec.* A chicken for broiling.

1886 *Pall Mall G.* 27 Aug. 14/1 Of these [chicks] about seventy-five per cent. live and grow to be broilers.

Broiler 2. (broi-lar). [f. BROIL *v.* 2 + -ER.] One

who stirs up or engages in broils or quarrels.

a 1660 HAMMOND *Wks.* IV. 544 (R.) What doth he but turn broiler and boutfeau. 1841 ORDESON *Creat.* viii. 91 Due impression alike on the civil and the military broiler.

† **Broilery**. Obs. rare. Forms: 6 broilerie,

broilery. [a. F. *brouillerie*, f. *brouiller* to broil:

see -ERY.] Dissension; strife; disturbance, disorder.

1521 MORE in *Ellis Orig. Lett.* II. 82 I. 200 The archbishop of St. Andrews putteth all his possible power.. to rere broilerie, warre, and revolution in the Realme. 1528 WRIOTHESLEY in *Pocock Rec. Ref.* I. xl. 79 To pass his promise on such sort.. might.. make much broilery.

Broiling (broi-ling), *vbl. sb.* 1 [f. BROIL *v.* 1 + -ING.]

The action or process of exposing to scorching heat; *spec.* grilling. Hence † broiling-iron, a kind of Dutch oven.

c 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 53 Broilyngge [K. broilyngge], ustulacio. a 1619 DONNE *Biathan.* (1644) 140 How much [contributed] Saint Laurence to his broiling, when he called to the Tyrant, This side is enough, turne the other, and then eate?

1837 M. DONOVAN *Dom. Econ.* II. 271 Between broiling and roasting the chief difference is in the temperature. In

roasting, the heat is moderate, and slow in penetrating; in broiling, it is brisk and rapid. 1562 *Richmond. Wills* (1853) 163 One brulunge iron, viijd. 1615 MARKHAM *Eng. Housew.* 70-1 Take your Broylng-iron, I do not mean a Grid-iron (though it be much used for this purpose).. but a Plate iron made with hooks and pricks, on which you may hang the meat, and set it close before the fire.

† **Broil'ing**, *vbl. sb.* 2 Obs. rare-1. Forms: 6

brewlyngge, brullyngge. [f. BROIL *v.* 2 + -ING.]

Disturbance, dissension; embroilment.

1523 L.D. BERNERS *Proiss.* I. ccl. 560 The great brullyngge that was than in Gaunt. *Ibid.* cccxxxiii. 759 A newe brewlyng in Flaunders.

Broiling (broi-ling), *ppl. a.* [f. BROIL *v.* 1]

1. That burns, scorches, makes very hot.

1555 *Fardle Facions* I. i. 24 The broyling heate. 1617 HIERON *Wks.* II. 84 Scarcely is the cup gone from his mouth, before he feeleth an increase of his broyling drought.

1800 BYRON *Blues* II. 36 To be sure it was broiling. 1865 TROLLOPE *Belton Est.* xiii. 150 There is a broiling sun.

2. That is subjected to great heat, that is very hot; *spec.* that is being grilled.

1648 GAGE *West. Ind.* I. (1655) 2 Which only can and must

deliver their scorching, nay broyling souls. 1813 BYRON *Br. Abydos* II. xv, Ask the squalid peasant how His gains repay his broiling brow! 1853 KINGSLEY *Hypatia* x. 117 The savoury smell of broiling fish.

3. quasi-adv., as in broiling hot.

1840 HOOD *Up Rhine* 229 A broiling hot excursion up the country. 1884 Q. VICTORIA *More Leaves* 180 We stopped here about ten minutes. It was broiling hot.

Broilingly, *adv.* [f. BROILING *ppl. a.* + -LY.]

In a broiling manner.

1885 M. BLIND *Tarant.* xiii, It was a broilingly hot day.

† **Broilly**, *a.* Obs. rare-1. [cf. Fr. *bruilli*, pa.

ppl. of *bruillir* 'to be burnt' (Godef.).] † Broiled. c 1400 MAUNDEV. ix. (1839) 107 It is 3it alle broilly, as tho it were half brent.

† **Broilment**. Obs. rare. Commotion, disturbance, embroilment. See BRULYEMENT.

Broily, *a.* rare-1. [f. BROIL *sb.* 1 + -Y.]

Full of broils, tumultuous, stormy.

1594 CAREW *Tasso* (1881) 77 Stormes of broilly whistling iarte, Whom natue caues forth from their intrayls send.

Brok, obs. form of BROCK, BROKE.

Brokaded, obs. form of BROCADED.

† **Brokage**, *brocage*. Obs. Also 5 broch-

age, 6 brooc-, brok-, broakage, 6-7 broakage, brokeage. [In Afr. *brocage*, also *brorage*, in same sense: see BROKER.]

The following meanings are given in dictionaries, or indicated in some of the quotations: in many of the latter the exact sense cannot be fixed, so that they are not here separated. In most cases the word has an ill favour, cf. 'jobbery'.

1. a. The trade of a broker; the transaction of

commercial business, as buying and selling, for

other men. b. The premium or commission of

a broker, BROKERAGE; the gain or profit derived

from acting as agent, middleman, or intermediary.

c. The corrupt farming or jobbing of offices; the

price or bribe paid unlawfully for any office or place

of trust; frequently mentioned as an abuse in early

times. d. Trafficking in match-making, in the

marriage of wards, etc. e. Procuracy in immo-

rality, pimping. f. 'The trade of dealing in old

things, the trade of a broker' (J.).

1377 LANGL. *P. Pl.* B. xiv. 267 A mayden þat is married

þow brokage.. bi assent of sondry parties and syluer to

bote. c 1383 WYCLIF *Sct. Wks.* III. 111. 280 Symonymenis in

beneficiis.. bi brokage maade to mene persones for to haue

only beneficiis of be chirche. c 1386 CHAUCER *Milleres T.*

189 He woveth hire by meenes and brokage. 1393 LANGL.

P. Pl. C. III. 92 Vserye and Auerice, and oþer false sleithes

in bargeyns and in brokages, I make pease and mariages. 1466

in *Rel. Ant.* II. 239 Now brokage ys made offycerys, And

baratur ys made bayly. c 1460 FORTESCUE *Abz. & Lim.*

Mon. xiv. (1885) 144 Nor thai [Suytours] shall be importu-

nite or brokage oþayne any vnreasonable desires. 1555

Fardle Facions I. v. 50 Their women in old tyme had whet

the trade of occupying, and brokage abroad. 1584 WHET-

STONE *Mirror for Mag.* 31 An other sort by brokage

bringeth him in debt. 1577 HELLOWES *Guevara's Ep.* 125

To ryse to it by brokage or corruption. 1579 SPENSER

Sheph. Cal. Ded., It serued well Pandares purpose for the

bolstering of his bawdie brokage. 1592 — M. Hubbard 851

Shameles flatterie, And filthie brokage, and unseemly shifts,

1600 ROWLANDS *Lett. Humours Blood* II. 55 Vserie sure is

requisite and good, And so is Brokage, rightly vnder-

stood. 1603 FLORIO *Montaigne* (1634) 489 By the brokage

or pandering of the lawes. 1611 BEAUM. & FL. *Philaster*

v. iii, If a man had need to use their valours, he must pay

a brokage for it. 1615 G. SANDYS *Trav.* 148 Their occupa-

tions, brokage and vsury. 1618 BARNES *Apol.* Civ. b,

Our last borrowed money is at 16, and three in the hundred

for brokage. a 1618 SYLVESTER *St. Lewis* 448 That after-

Judges.. From Bribes and Brokage might be warned fair.

1623 FAVINE *Theat. Hom.* vii. i. 198 By the base brokage

and close contriuing of the Queene. 1644 BULWER *Chirolo.*

4 Without the crafty Brokage of the Tongue. 1648 C.

WALKER *Hist. & Pol. Relat.* II The Parliament payes 300000

Brokage. 1656 J. HARRINGTON *Oceana* (1700) 110 Find

better preferments without his Brokage. a 1680 BUTLER

Rem. (1759) I. 428 Though the Crown is forced to pawn all

its own Jewels to them for mere Brokage. 1683 D. SMITH

Constantinople in Misc. Cur. (1708) III. 38 The [Jews] are

of great use and service to the Turks, upon account of

their Brokage and Merchandise. 1755 CARTS *Hist. Eng.*

IV. 78 Not a fitting thing for a clergyman to be concerned

in a brokage of such a nature.

2. Comb., as brokage-money.

1501 PERCIVALL *Sp. Dict.*, Corretage, brokage money.

† **Brokaly**. Obs. Also brocaly, brocale.

A broken piece, broken pieces. (Cf. BROCKLE.)

c 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 52 Brocale, or lewyng of mete [1499

brokaly of mete], fragmentum. *Ibid.* 428 Releef or brocaly

of mete.. fragmentum.

Brokdol, erroneous f. BROCKLE, in *Promp. Parv.*

Broke (brōk), *sb.* Forms: 1-2, 4 brooc, 6-8

† 2. A piece of anything broken off; a fragment; e.g. of bread or food, broken meats, remains. *Obs.* c. 1360 *Halton Gosp.* Matt. xv. 37 Part to lafe was of jam broccan [c. 1375 *Rusku. G. zebroca*; c. 1300 *Ag. G. zebrore*], hys naman seofan wiliam fulle. 1507 *Will of Bedyll* (Somerset Ho.) A parcell of a broke of woode. a 1568 *Wounding of Joh & Jenny x*, *Bannatyne Poems* 160 Quhen ye half done, tak hame the broke. 1721 *Kelly Sc. Prov.* 211 (JAM.) I neither got stock nor broke. 1847-78 *HALLIWELL, Broke*, a piece or fragment. *West.* 1863 *BARNES Poems Dorset Dial.* Coll. III. 101 Wi' brocks an' scraps to plim well out.

† 3. A breaking of the skin or body; a wound; a rupture. *Obs.*

c. 1350 *Med. MS.* in *Archaeol.* XXX. 381 Hennebane rote Of ye broc is mych bote. 1535 *COVERDALE Lev.* xxiv. 20 Broke for broke, eye for eye, tothe for tothe. a 1563 *Bacon New Catech.* (1844) 94.

† 4. A breach of the law; a crime. *Obs.* 1811 *Reynard* (1844) 92 Hadde I knowen my self gylty in any feat or broke.

5. *pl.* The short-stapled wool found in certain parts of the fleece, when 'broken' or sorted. A fleece consists of two main kinds of wool distinguished by the length and strength of the fibre; the sorts which are long and suitable for combing being called 'matchings', or 'combing-sorts', the rest 'short wools' or 'broke'. The spinning of the two sorts is by different processes. See *NOILS*. 1879 *Standard* 22 Apr., Wool and Worsted.—Bradford. Noils and brokes are slow of sale. 1883 *Daily News* 3 Sept. 2/6 Noils and brokes are in rather better request. 1885 F. H. BOWMAN *Struct. Wool* 352 Gloss., *Brokes*, short locks of wool found on the edge of the fleece in the region of the neck and belly.

Broke, obsolescent form of **BROKEN**.

1. Used occasionally for **BROKEN** *pl.* a.

c. 1380 *Wyclif Serm.* Sel. Wks. II. 14 Leepfullis of broke meat. 1463 *Bury Wills* (1850) 41 To recompense broke silvir I had of his. 1647 H. MORE *Song of Soul* iv. v, Bodies disjoind, broke glasses they esteem.

2. *esp.* in *comb.*

c. 1330 *Hali Meid.* 25 Witlese beastes dumble and broke rugget ihube toward te corbe. 1368 *LANGL P. Pl.* A. vii. 131 Blinde or broke-schonket [B. vi. 138 broke-legged]. 1440 *Prompt. Parv.* 53 Broke bakkyde, gibbosus. 1470 *HARDING Chron.* clviii. iii, Brokebacked and bowbacked bore. 1667 *MAY Lucan* v. (R.) Broke-winded murrers, howlings, and sadd groines.

Broke (brō'k), *v.* [In form the base of *broker*, *brokerage*, *broking*. An *Afr.* vb. *abroker* occurs in *Liber Albus* (a 1419) 288.]

† 1. *intr.* To bargain; to negotiate; to traffic.

1496 *Dives & Panp.* (W. de W.) vii. xxi. 308 [They] thus bargeyne & broke about the syngynge of the masse, that may not be solde ne bought, as men do in byenge & sellynge of an horse. 1601 *SHAKS. All's Well* iii. v. 74 He... brokes with all that can in such a suite Corrupt the tender honour of a Maide. 1611 *COTGR., Brownell*, one that broakes in euery thing, whereby he may get but a pennie. 1625 *BACON Riches, Ess.* (Arb.) 237 The gaires of Bargaines, are of a more doubtful Nature; When Men shall... broake by Seruants and Instruments to draw them on.

† 2. *trans.* To retail, traffic in. *Obs.*

1599 *MARSTON Sco. Villanie* III. xl. 227 But to retails and broke anothers wit.

3. *intr.* To act as broker, agent, or go-between.

a 1652 *BROME City Wit* II. ii. Wks. 1873 I. 303 Prithce what art thou? or whom dost thou serve, or broke for? a 1666 *FANSHAWE* (Webster) We do want a certain necessary woman to broke between, Cupid said.

Broke, *obs.* form of **BROOK** *sb.*, *v.*

Brokele, *obs.* form of **BROCKLE** *a.* brittle.

Brokelemepe, *hempes*, *obs.* ff. **BROOKLIME**.

† **Brokelet** (te). *Obs.* rare. [app. dim. of *brokel*, *BROCKLE* fragments.] A fragment.

1538 *ELYOT Biblioth. Analecta*, he that gadereh vp brokeletes. 1563-87 *FOXE A. & M.* II. 328 Twelve maunds full of brokelets and offalls.

† **Brokeleing**. *Obs.* rare—1. [app. f. *brokel*, *BROCKLE* *a.* or *sb.* + *-ING*.] Fragment.

1490 *CAXTON Eneydos* xxiv. 123 Where he sholde happe to ete the releef or brokeleynge of his brode.

Broken (brō'k'n), *pl.* a. For forms see **BREAK** *v.* Used adjectively in many of the senses of the verb; *esp.* the following:

1. Separated forcibly into parts; in fragments; in pieces. (The resulting damaged state is often the main notion.)

[737 *Chart. Edelhard* in *Cod. Dipl.* V. 45 To broccan beorze.] 1383 *Wyclif Isa.* xxxvi. 6 Lo! thou tristist on this brokun staf. c. 1500 *Lancelot* 240 The trions of o brokine sper. 1535 *COVERDALE Ps.* xxxi. 12, I am become like a broken vessel. 1634 *Br. Hall Occas. Med.* cx. Wks. (1808) 203 A thin, uncovered roof. dark and broken windows. 1779 *DE FOE Crusoe* (1840) II. iv. 60 Three broken oars. 1823 *DE LA BECHE Geol. Man.* 205 Polypters occur... rolled and broken, as on an ancient coast. 1868 J. H. BLUNT *Ref. Ch. Eng.* I. 327 A few broken walls and the roofless, unglazed churches.

b. *Broken bread, meat, victuals*, etc.: fragments of food left after a meal, etc.; by extension applied to remnants of drink, as *broken ale, beer*.

1382 *Wyclif Mark* viii. 20 How many kepis of brokene mete 3e token vp? 1530 *PALSGR.* 201/2 Broken meat, fragments. 1591 *PERCIVALL Sp. Dict.*, *Excursiduras*, the dropping of a cup, broken drinke, reliquies. 1594 *PLAT Dinerse new Exer.* 13 Others doe soke chippings and other crustes of bread in broken beere. 1639 T. DE GREY *Compl. Horreman* 112 Wash the places with broken beere. 1675 *HOBBS*

Odys. 203 With broken meat and wine himself to feed. 1876 *MISS BRADDON J. Haggard's Daw.* II. 15 No sign of unwashed tea-things or broken victuals.

c. In some cases *broken* gives a specific sense to the combination, as *broken tea*, *tea-siftings*; *broken granite*, *granite reduced to a size fit for road-making*; *broken-coal*, a special size of coal.

† d. *fig.* Dissolved. *Obs.*

1538 *LATIMER Serm. & Rem.* (1845) 397 Graciously to remember them with some piece of some broken abbey.

2. Rent, ruptured, torn, burst.

1377 *LANGL P. Pl.* B. v. 108 Pat bar[en] away my bolle and my broke [v. r. broken] schete. *Ibid.* ix. 91 He... biddeth þe begger go for his broke clothes. 1535 *COVERDALE Jer.* ii. 13 Vile and broken pittes, that holde no water. 1577 *HOLINSHED Chron.* III. 845/1 Old hosen, broken shoes. 1641 *Termes de la Ley* 43b, Old and broken apparell. 1760 *GOLDSM. Cit. W.* xxix, His... dirty shirt, and broken silk stockings.

3. Of organic structures: a. Having the bone fractured; b. having the surface ruptured.

c. 1340 *Curator M.* 8087 (Fairf.) Wip crumpled knees and brokin bak [v. r. boce on bak]. 1568 J. Heywood *Prov. & Ep.* (1867) 113 Broken head. 1600 *SHAKS. A. Y. L.* I. i. 134 Hee that escapes me without some broken limbe. 1718 *ADDISON Spect.* No. 433 P. 6 They often came from the Council Table with broken Shins. 1753 *CHAMBERS Cycl. Supp.* a. v. *Broken*, Among horse-jockies, broken knees are a mark of a stumbler. 4. Shattered; said of water whose coherence as a mass has been destroyed by striking against an object, or whose surface is broken.

1793 *SMEATON Edystone L.* § 271 Sufficiently strong to resist the falling broken water. 1804 A. DUNCAN *Mariner's Chron.* II. 77 A dreadful, hollow, broken sea. 1867 *SMYTH Sailor's Word-bk.*, *Broken Water*, the contention of currents in a narrow channel. Also, the waves breaking on and near shallow. 1875 *BESFORD Sailor's Pocket-Bk.* vi. (ed. 2) 216 In a boat outside the broken water.

5. Crushed or exhausted by labour, etc.; with strength or power gone; enfeebled.

1490 *CAXTON Eneydos* xxxi. 11 The ladyes were sore wery and broken of theyre longe vyage. 1577 *HOLINSHED Chron.* I. 165/1 The old broken yeeres of mans life. 1625 G. SANDYS *Trav.* 118 Such a number of broken persons. by reason of their strong labour and weak food. 1728 *LADY M. W. MONTAGUE Lett.* cv. IV. 98 Sir Charles Williams, who I hear is much broken both in his spirits and constitution. 1864 *TENNISON Em. Ard.* 705 Enoch was so brown, so bowd, So broken.

6. Crushed in feelings by misfortune, remorse, etc.; subdued, humbled, contrite.

1535 *COVERDALE Ps.* [li.] 17 A broken and a contrite hert (o God) shalt thou not despise. 1624 *ROGERS Naaman* 61 Try whether... yourself grow daily lowlier, meeker, broken-ner. 1624 *NEEDHAM tr. Selden's Mare Cl.* 68 The King's courage was so broken. a 1718 *PENN Life Wks.* I. 100 She was exceedingly broken, and took an Affectionate and Reverent Leave of us. 1831 *CARLYLE Sart. Res.* II. vii. 194 How beautiful to die of broken-heart, on Paper. 1858 *ROBERTSON Lect.* 269 Happy is the man not thoroughly broken by disappointment.

7. Reduced or shattered in worldly estate, financially ruined; having failed in business, bankrupt.

1593 *SHAKS. Rich.* II. ii. 257 The Kings growne bankrupt like a broken man. 1608 T. FITZHERBERT *Apol.* 19 Cradock had byn a broken Merchant about Italie. 1714 *ELLWOOD Autobiog.* (1765) 257 He might thereby repair his broken fortunes. 1753 *RICHARDSON Grandison* (1781) VI. i. 7 There may be many ways... of providing for a broken tradesman. 1863 *GEO. ELIOT Romola* I. xvi. (1880) I. 225 To mend the broken fortunes of his ancient family.

8. Reduced to obedience or discipline, tamed, trained. Often with *in*.

1805 *SOUTHEY Madoc* in *Ant.* iii, The Elk and Bison, broken to the yoke. 1844 *Regul. & Ord. Army* 380 A Horse not notified... to be properly broken. 1861 *PALGRAVE Gold. Treasury* 308 A language hardly yet broken in to verse.

9. Broken man. *Scotch Law and Hist.* One under sentence of outlawry, or living the life of an outlaw, or predator, chiefly in the Highlands and Border districts; *broken-clan* (see *quot.*).

1558 *MS. Caligula* in *Tyler Hist. Scot.* (1864) II. 348 note, Divers radis to be maid upon the brokin men of our realme. 1594 *Sc. Acts* 13 *Jas. VI* § 227 Daylie heirschippes of the wicked theives and limmers of the Clannes and surnames following... broken men of the surnames of Stewarts. a 1649 *DRUMM. OF HAWTH. Hist. Jas. V Wks.* (1711) 95 A thousand, all borderers and broken men. 1828 *SCOTT Rob Roy* xxvi, He... took to the brae-side, and became a broken-man. 1860 — *Abbot* xxxiv, Note. A broken clan was one who had no chief able to find security for their good behaviour, a clan of outlaws. 1875 *MAINE Hist. Inst.* vi. 174 The result was probably to fill the country with 'broken men'.

10. Violated, transgressed, not kept intact.

1605 *ARMIN Foote upon F.* (1880) 14 A broken Virgine, one that had had a barne. 1697 *DRYDEN Virg. Georg.* IV. 713 The sign of Cov'nants broke. 1800-24 *CAMPBELL Lines on Poland* 84 This broken faith Has robb'd you more of Fame. a 1840 C. H. BATEMAN *Hymns*, 'Glory, glory, glory', When mercy healed the broken law. 1876 *MORLEY Diderot* I. 274 The broken oaths of old days.

11. Having the ranks broken; routed, dispersed.

1810 *SCOTT Lady of L.* I. xxxiii, Now leader of a broken host. 1850 *PRESCOTT Peru* II. 330 The governor despised the broken followers of Almagro.

12. Having continuity or uniformity interrupted.

a. of a line: Abruptly altered in direction; turned off at an angle.

1721 *BAILEY, Broken Radiation* is the breaking of the Beams of Light, as seen through a Glass. 1753 *CHAMBERS Cycl. Supp.*, *Broken Ray*, in dioptrics, the same with ray of refraction. 1868 *KIRBY & Sp. Entomol.* III. xxxiii. 319

The antennae... broken (viz. when the main body of the antenna forms an angle with the first joints).

b. of the surface of ground, etc.: Intersected with ravines or valleys; uneven. Also, broken up, ploughed, stripped of turf.

1599 *HAKLUIT Voy.* II. n. 131 Betweene them both broken ground. 1782 W. GILPIN *Wye* (1789) 21 By broken ground we mean such as hath lost it's turf, and discovers the naked soil. 1806 *DISRAELI Viv. Grey* VIII. iii, An open but broken country. 1878 *BOSW. SMITH Carthage* 112 The Carthaginian cavalry and elephants extricated themselves... from the broken ground.

c. of states or conditions: Interrupted, disturbed.

1718 *ADDISON Spect.* No. 317 P. 21 Broken Sleep. 1848 *MACAULAY Hist. Eng.* I. 430 His rest that night was broken.

d. of weather: Unsettled, uncertain.

1793 *SMEATON Edystone L.* § 275 The weather continued broken till Saturday.

13. Fragmentary, disconnected, disjointed, in patches.

1800 *SCOTT Ivanhoe* i, Here the red rays of the sun shot a broken and discoloured light. 1845 *DARWIN Voy. Nat.* xi. (1870) 249 On the two great continents in the northern hemisphere, but not in the broken land of Europe between them. 1849 *RUSKIN Ser. Lamps* vi. § 1. 162 Broken masses of pine forest.

a. of time: Interrupted; 'odd'.

1621 *QUARLES Argalus & P.* (1678) Introd., The fruits of broken hours. 1667 *FARRIS Diary* 20 May, It being a broken day, did walk abroad. 1754 *CHATHAM Lett. Nephew* iii. 16 Mr. Addison's papers, to be read very frequently at broken times. 1827 *HARE Guesses* Ser. I. (1873) 162 He would have made a broken week of it.

b. of sound, voice, and the like: Uttered disjointedly, ejaculated, interrupted.

1530 *PALSGR.* 307/1 Brokyn as ones speche is, abrupt. 1609 *BIBLE* (Douay) *Num.* ix. 5 If the trumpeting sound in length and with a broken tune. 1719 *DE FOE Crusoe* (1840) I. xv. 260 He repeated it in the... same broken words. 1732 *PORR Ep. Boyle* 143 Light quirks of Musick, broken and uneven. 1823 *Arab. Nights* (Riddg.) 514 Her voice much broken with sobe. 1886 *STEVENSON Dr. Jekyll* ii. 25 He spoke with a husky, whispering, and somewhat broken voice.

c. of language: Imperfectly spoken, with the syntax incomplete.

1599 *SHAKS. Hen. V.* v. ii. 265 Breake thy minde to me in broken English. 1685 *Lond. Gas.* No. 2093/4 A Frenchman... speaks broken English and Dutch. 1870 *L'ESTRANGE Miss Milford* I. v. 154 Four letters of Mr. Klopstock in broken English.

14. Produced by breaking, severed.

c. 1200 *Trin. Coll. Hom.* 93 þe brokene bozes. 1535 *COVERDALE Acts* xxviii. 44 On broken peces of the shippe [so 1611]. 1860 *TYNDALL Glac.* I. § 9. 61 Broken fragments of rock.

b. Not whole in amount; fractional; not 'round'.

Broken number: a fraction.

1542 *RECORDE Gr. Artes* (1575) 319 A Fraction in deede is a broken number. 1609 *MS. Acc. St. John's Hosp. Canterb.*, Rec. of the deathe of brother Barton and systre Brooke for broken wages vs. 1797 *BURKE Regic. Peace* III. Wks. VIII. 355 This new-created income of two millions will probably furnish £665,000 (I avoid broken numbers). 1868 *MILMAN St. Paul's* vii. 153 In one month... it yielded no less than £50 besides broken money.

c. Incomplete; fragmentary; imperfect.

1634 *CANNE Necess. Separ.* (1849) 169 Such broken stuff, not worthy of any answer. 1825 *BURTON's Diary* (1828) I. 81 There may be a broken title. 1669 *GALE Cri. Gentiles* I. Introd. 6 Broken Traditions. 1813 *BYRON Giaour* xliiii, This broken tale was all we knew.

15. Of colours: Qualified or reduced in tone by the addition of some other colour or colours.

1822 *Printing Times* 15 Feb. 35/1 Another way of regarding the tertiary colours is to contemplate them as broken hues, that is, colours degraded by the addition of their complementaries. Looked at thus, olive is a broken blue.

† 16. Of music: a. Arranged for different instruments, 'part' (music); concerted. (*obs.*) Shakspeare appar. played upon the phrase. b. Cf. sense 13 b, *quot.* 1731.

[Cf. 1597 *MORLEY Introd. Mus.* 97 margin, The plainsong of the Hymne Saluator mundi, broken in division, and brought in a Canon of three parts in one, by Osbert Parsley.]

1599 *SHAKS. Hen. V.* v. ii. 263 Come your Answer in broken Musick; for thy Voyce is Musick, and thy English broken. 1600 — *A. Y. L.* I. ii. 150 To see this broken Musicke in his sides. 1606 — *Tr. & Cr.* III. i. 19 *Pan*, What Musique is this? *Serv.* I doe but partly know sir; it is Musique in parts. *Ibid.* 52 Here is good broken Musicke. 1662 *BACON Masques & Tri.*, *Ess.* (Arb.) 539. 1606 — *Sylvia* § 278 So likewise, in that music which we call broken-music or consort-music, some consorts of instruments are sweeter than others.

II. With adverbs: see *combs.* of **BREAK** *v.*

17. **Broken-in**, **broken-off**, **broken-up**.

1837 *MARRYAT Olla Podr.* xxxiv, Broken-in horses. 1876 *GEO. ELIOT Dan. Der.* IV. iv. 131 This broken-off fragment. 1846 J. BAXTER *Libr. Pract. Agric.* II. 247 Winter potatoes on broken up grass land.

b. **Broken-down**, (*a.*) reduced to atoms, decomposed; (*b.*) decayed, ruined; whose health, strength, character, etc. has given way.

1817 J. SCOTT *Paris Rev.* (ed. 4) 75 His poor broken-down animal. 1807 *Blackw. Mag.* Oct. 452/1 A half-drunk horse-couper, swinging to and fro... on a bit of broken-down blood. 1839-47 *TODD Cycl. Anat. & Phys.* III. 488:1 A mass of broken-down epithelium. 1840 R. DANA *Bef. Mast* xxi. 63 Broken-down politicians.

III. Combinations.

18. General *comb.*: chiefly parasynthetic, as *broken-ended*, *-footed*, *-fortuned*, *-handed*, *-headed*, 141-2

-hipped, -hoofed, -legged, -minded, -nosed, -paced, -shanked, -spirited, -winged, etc.

136a LAGL. P. Pl. A. VII. 131 Bote heo beo blynde or broke-schonet. 1544 ASCHAM *Toxoph.* (Arb.) 83 He weueth vp many brokened matters. 1568 COVERDALE *Bk. Death* III. vii. Wks. II. 124 When he, within seven days, had lost both his sons, he was not broken-minded. 1611 BIBLE *Lev.* xxi. 19 A man that is broken footed, or broken handed. 1701 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 3693/4 A. Mare... a little broken Hoof'd before. 1741 RICHARDSON *Pamela* (1824) I. 195 The broken-fortuned peer goes into the city to marry a rich tradesman's daughter. 1804 MISS MITFORD *Village Ser.* I. (1863) 236 The widow... had a complaining broken-spirited air. 1808 HAWTHORNE *Fr. & It. Truls.* (1872) I. 7 A broken-nosed image.

19. Special comb.: broken-bellied, -bodied (*dial.*), affected with hernia, ruptured; also *fig.*; broken-grass (see quot.); broken-kneed (*Farriery*), having the knees damaged by stumbling, etc.; also *fig.*; † broken-lended, ruptured; broken-mouthed (see quot.). Also BROKEN-BACKED, BROKEN-HEARTED, BROKEN-WIND, -ED.

1634 SIR M. SANDYS *Prudence* xii. 168 Such is our 'broken-bellied Age, that this Astutia is turned into Versutia. 1881 EVANS *Leicesterh. Wks.* (E. D. S.) *Broken-grass, grass left and mown after a field has been grazed by cattle. 1700 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 3814/4 Grey Gelding... 'broken Kne'd. 1828 BYRON *Yuan* VI. c. His speech grew still more broken-kneed. 1876 WYTHE MELVILLE *Katerfelto* xv. 167 He rode a broken-kneed Exmoor pony. 1893 *Cath. Angl.* 45 *Broken lendyde, *lumlifracus*. 1790 ELLIS *Country Housew.* 47 What we call 'broken-mouthed sheep, that is to say, such who by age have lost most of their teeth.

BROKEN-BACKED (brō'k'n,bæk't), *a.* Also 5 bro'ke-bak, -baked.

1. Having a broken back; formerly, also, having a deformed or dislocated spine, hunch-backed. Also *transf.* and *fig.*

c 1400 *Gamelyn* 720 Broke-bak scherrene euel mot thou the! 1470 HARDING *Chron.* clviii. iii. This Edmond... Broken-backed and bow-backed bore. 1530 PALSGR. 307/1 Broken backed, *arne*. 1883 *St. James's Gaz.* 21 Dec. 4/1 The broken-backed Government of Tewfik.

2. *Naut.* (See quot. and BREAK v. 7 b.)

1769 FALCONER *Dict. Marine* (1780) *Broken-backed*, the state... of a ship, which is so loosened in her frame... as to droop at each end. c 1850 *Rudim. Navig.* (Weale) 101 *Broken-backed* or *hogged*.

BROKEN-HEARTED (brō'k'n,hā'tēd), *a.* Having a broken heart; heart-broken; having the spirits crushed by grief or despair. See BREAK v. 7 c and BROKEN 6.

1566 TINDALE *Luke* iv. 18 To heale the broken harted. 1675 BAXTER *Cath. Theol.* II. x. 221 You tell men that they must not come to Christ, till they are broken-hearted. 1685 ROXBURGH *Ball.* (1886) VI. 121 Say, 'the poor Shepherd he dy's broken-hearted'. 1791 BURNS 'Ae fond kiss' iv. Had we... Never met, or never parted, We had ne'er been broken-hearted. 1814 SCOTT *Wav.* xii. He returned from college hopeless and broken-hearted, and fell into a decline. 1848 MACAULAY *Hist. Eng.* I. 652 The broken-hearted widows and destitute orphans.

Hence **BROKEN-HEARTEDLY** *adv.*, **BROKEN-HEARTEDNESS**.

1698 MANTON 20 *Serm.* i. Wks. 1871 II. 178 We ought... humbly and broken-heartedly to... accept of the grace. 1795 MORSE *Amer. Geog.* I. 98 Their chagrin and broken heartedness at the loss of their lands. 1882 J. PARKER *Apost. Life* (1884) III. 136 He who would preach to the times must preach to the broken-heartedness of the day.

BROKENLY (brō'k'nli), *adv.* [f. BROKEN + -LY².]

1. In a broken manner; with frequent breaks or interruptions in the continuity or quality; abruptly, spasmodically, imperfectly, jerkily.

1591 PERCIVALL *Sp. Dict.*, *Rompidamente*, brokenly, *abrupte*. 1599 SHAKS. *Hen. V.* v. ii. 106 O faire Katherine, if you will loue me soundly with your French heart, I will be glad to heare you confesse it brokenly with your English Tongue. 1656 JEANES *Mixt. Schol. Div.* 86 These many termes express it but weakly, and brokenly. 1664-5 PEPYS *Diary* (1879) III. 110 And so to sleep, very brokenly, all night long. 1695 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 3050/4 William Peter, a Negro Man... speaks brokenly, left his Master. 1839 BAILEY *Festus* xx. (1848) 263 Even as the sun Shows brokenly on wavy waters. 1864 TENNYSON *En. Ard.* 648 And there the tale he utter'd brokenly, Scarce credited at first.

2. In a broken condition or state.

1816 BYRON *Ch. Har.* III. xxxii. The heart will break, yet brokenly live on. 1850 MRS. BROWNING *Poems* II. 27 He flapped his heavy wing all brokenly and weak. 1883 *Pall Mall G.* 6 Sept. 2/1 While some brokenly live on desolate and despairing.

Brokenness (brō'k'n,nēs). [See -NESS.]

1. The state or quality of being broken.

1666 J. SMITH *Old Age* (ed. 2) 85 Rottenness, brokenness, blackness, foulness [of the teeth]. 1757 GRAY *Wks.* (1825) II. 203 It is the brokenness, the ungrammatical position, the total subversion of the period that charms me. 1842 MRS. BROWNING *Ork. Chr. Poets* 157 His pauses frequent to brokenness. 1856 H. MILLER *Rambl. Geol.* 338 As near the steep edge as the brokenness of the ground permitted.

2. *fig.* The state of being crushed or overwhelmed with sorrow, misfortune, etc.; contrition (*obs.*); prostration, despair.

1617 HIERON *Wks.* (1628) II. 371 The spirit of them both was full of contrition... Thus was their brokenness. Now see, how pleasing it was and how accepted. 1648 ROGERS *Naaman* 133 To prepare the soule with brokenness and emptiness. 1655 *Life in Gough's Comm. Heb.*, His confessions were accompanied with much sense of sin, brokenness of heart, self-abhorrence. 1813 BYRON *Corsair* III.

xxii. In helpless—hopeless—brokenness of heart. 1855 MACAULAY *Hist. Eng.* IV. 113 Mere stupefaction and brokenness of heart.

Broken wind, broken-wind. *Farriery.* An incurable disease of the organs of respiration in horses, caused by the rupture of the air-cells, which disables them from bearing fatigue.

[1753 CHAMBERS *Cycl. Supp.* s.v., A broken wind is discovered by a horse's blowing at the nose in the stable, and his flanks beating quick, double and irregular, especially after motion.] 1838 *Penny Cycl.* XII. 311/2 Chronic cough... often degenerating into thick wind... in a great proportion of cases terminates in broken wind. 1847 YOUATT *Horse* xii. 278 Thick-wind and broken-wind exist in various degrees.

Broken-winded, a. [f. *prec.* + -ED.]

1. *Farriery.* Affected with the disease of a broken wind (see *prec.*); exhaling the air from the lungs with spasmodic efforts.

1523 FITZHERB. *Husb.* 85 Broken wynded is an yll dys-ease, and cometh of rennyng or rydyng ouer moche... and wyll not be mended. 1580 BARET *Alu. s.v. Flanke*, To moue the flanks like a broken-winded horse. 1607 DEKKER *Westw. Hoe Wks.* 1873 II. 351, I shall cough like a broken-winded horse. 1748 tr. *Vegetius' Distemp. Horses* 176 They are pursive or broken-winded. 1846 R. EG. WARBURTON *Hunt. Songs, Earth Stopper* iv. They worn hackney, blind and broken-winded. 1849-52 TODD *Cycl. Anat.* IV. 1021/2.

2. *transf.* and *fig.*

1607 MAY *Lucan v. (R.)* Broke-winded murmers, howlings, and sadd grones. 1641 MILTON *Animadv.* (1851) 190 Liberty of speaking... was girded, and straight lac'd, almost to a broken-winded tizzick. 1809 W. IRVING *Knickerb.* (1861) 244 They might as well have tried to turn a rusty weather-cock with a broken-winded bellows. 1883 *Century Mag.* XXVI. 282 Kicking a broken-winded foot-ball about the field.

Broker (brō'kai). Forms: 4-5 brocor,

brokor, brocor(e), 6 brooker, broker, 7 broaker, 5- broker. See also BROGGER. [ME. *brocor*, *our*, *brokor*, *a.* Anglo-F. *brocour* (also *broggour*) = ONF. *brokor* (=L. type **broccā-tōrem*), nom. *brokiere* (=L. **broccātor*) of which Godefroy has one example explained by him as 'celui qui vend du vin au broc', as to the precise sense of which see below. The Central Fr. equivalent was *brocheor*, *brochière*; and the word is the agent noun of the OFr. vb. *brochier*, ONF. *brokier* (=L. **broccāre*) in the sense 'to broach' or 'tap' a cask. *Brocheor*, *brokier* stand in precisely the same relation to the sb. *broche*, *broc*, and the vb. *brochier*, *brokier*, as *tapster* or rather the earlier *tapper* stand to the sb. *tap*, and vb. to *tap* in Teutonic: the *brocheor*, *brokier*, *brokor*, or *broker*, was lit. a tapster; who retailed wine 'from the tap', and hence, by extension, any retail-dealer, one who bought to sell over again, a second-hand dealer, or who bought for another, hence a jobber, middleman, agent, etc. Cf. sense of L. *caupo*.

The Romanic vb. *broccare* was evidently f. *brocco*, *brocca* in the sense of 'spike, piercing instrument' (=L. *broccus*, *brocca* adj.; see BROACH). But these sbs. appear to have afterwards had their sense modified from the verb, so that in the OF. *broccare* or *broche*, or in mod.F. *broccare* or *broc*, the sense passed from 'broach', to 'broaching, tapping', and at length to 'the quantity of wine drawn at a broaching or tapping', and hence 'the jug or vessel which held this', as in mod.F. *broc* (from 5 to 10 litres). Anglo-French had also a deriv. form *abroccor*, and there were Anglo-Latin words *abroccator*, *abroccamentum*; also *broccarius* 'proxieta, interpres et consiliarius contractuum', and *abroccarius*. *Broccarius* appears to have been formed on the sb. (*broccus*, *broccus*); *abroccarius* must have been formed on the apparent analogy of *broccator*, *abroccator*.]

1. A retailer of commodities; a second-hand dealer.

†1. A retailer; contemptuously, Pedlar, petty dealer, monger. (Now sunk in sense 2.)

1393 LAGL. P. Pl. C. VII. 95 3ut am ich brocor of bak-bytyng and blame menses ware. 1583 STANYHURST *Eneis* I. (Arb.) 33 For Gould his carcasse was sold by the broker Achilles. 1598 MARSTON *Pignat.* I. 138 But Broker of another's wit. 1657 J. ANGLIER *Elegy* in S. Purchas *Pol. Flying Ins.*, Brokers in verse condemn it. 1730 YOUNG *Ep. Pope* I. *Poems* (1757) I. 183 Millions of wits, and brokers in old song.

2. A dealer in second-hand furniture and apparel; a pawnbroker.

[1377 LAGL. P. Pl. B. v. 248, I haue lent lordes and ladyes my chaffare And ben her brocour after, and bouste it myself.] 1583 STUBBS *Anat. Abus.* II. 39, I haue hard prisoners... declame and crie out against brokers. For, said they... if they would not haue receiued our stollen goods, we would neuer haue stollen them. 1598 B. JONSON *Ev. Man in Hum.* III. v. (1616) 39 A Hounds-ditch man, sir. One of the deuils neere kinsmen, a broker. 1600 ROWLAND *Lett. Humours Blood* I. 47 Clad in the ruins of a Brokers shoppe. 1611 — *Knave of Hrts.* in Singer *Hist. Cards* 257 Or brokers, for their buying things are stole. 1641 *Termes de la Ley* 43 b, Broker... the word is now also appropriated to them amongst us that buy and sell old and broken apparell and household-stuffe. 1666 ENTICK *London* IV. 69 Brokers, who deal in both new and old household goods. 1872 BLACK *Adv. Phaeton* 15 An old landscape that has lain for years in a broker's shop.

II. One who acts as a middleman in bargains.

3. 'One employed as a middleman to transact business or negotiate bargains between different merchants or individuals' (McCulloch). Formerly used more widely, including the senses of 'jobber, agent, factor, commission-agent'.

1377 LAGL. P. Pl. B. v. 130 Amonges Burgeyses haue I be dwellyng at Londoun, And gert bakbiting be a bro-coure [C. brocor] to blame menses ware. 1420 *Will of R. Beche* (Somerset Ho.) John Houghton Brocour Artis Aurifabrurum. 1480 CAXTON *Chron. Eng.* ccv. 186 An alien that was callid Arnold of spayne that was a brocour of london. 1493 *Act 11 Hen. VII.*, viii, [If] the seller himself or by his broker or factour... bye the same godes. 1509 *Will of Draycot* (Somerset Ho.) Haberdassher and broker. 1570 LEVINS *Manip.* 71 A Broker, *proxeneta*. 1599 HAKLUYT *Voy.* II. 260 There are in Pegu eight Brokers... which are bound to sell your goods at the price which they be worth, and you giue them for their labour two in the hundred. 1622 MALYNES *Anc. Law-Merch.* 202 The common saying is, That a craftie Merchant needeth no Broker. 1641 *Termes de la Ley* 43 b, The true trade of a Broker... is to beat, contrive, make, and conclude Bargaines between Merchants and Tradesmen. c 1645 HOWELL *Lett.* VI. 24 By their profession they are for the most part Brokers. 1705 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 4131/4 John Styles, Sworn-Broker (see 1849). 1725 DE FOE *Voy. round World* (1840) 56 He served them for... a broker, to bargain for them with the European ships for provisions. 1849 FREEZE *Comm. Class-bk.* 19 Brokers ought to be sworn by the public authorities not to transact any business on their own account, under a heavy penalty; which is the case in... London, etc. 1858 LD. ST. LEONARDS *Handy Bk. Prop. Law* XXI. 166 Never allow the money... to be retained by brokers, agents, or solicitors.

b. 'Brokers are divided into different classes; as bill or exchange brokers, STOCKBROKERS, ship and insurance brokers, PAWNBROKERS... The brokers who negotiate sales of produce between different merchants usually confine themselves to some one department or line of business' (McCulloch), as cotton-broker, tea-broker, wool-broker, etc. 1622 MALYNES *Anc. Law-Merch.* 64 Guided... by ignorant Brokers of Exchanges. 1769 JUNIUS *Lett.* I. 9 A man, whose cares... have degraded the office of Commander-in-Chief into a broker of Commissions. *Ibid.* II. 13 The dignity is depraved... into the base office of a Commission-broker. 1849 CODDEN *Speeches* 46 The cotton brokers of Liverpool, and the cotton spinners of Manchester. 1852 McCULLOCH *Comm. Dict.* 198 Their charge as ship brokers is about 2 per cent. on the gross receipts. When they act as insurance brokers they charge 5 per cent. on the premium. a 1860 C. FENN *Eng. & For. Funds* (1883) 127 The members of the Stock Exchange are called *jobbers* and *brokers*. The broker deals with the jobber for his principal, and is remunerated by commission. 1860 *All Y. Round No.* 75-582 Blacklegs... the betting brokers were formerly called. †4. A go-between or intermediary in love affairs; a hired match-maker, marriage-agent; also a procurer, pimp, bawd; a pander generally. *Obs.*

1377 LAGL. P. Pl. B. II. 65 And now worth this Mede ymaried al to a mansed schrewe... Ac fauel was he first bat fette hire out of boure, And as a brokour brougte hir, to be with fals enioined. 1393 GOWER *Conf.* II. 280 Brocours of love, that deceiven. 1514 BARCLAY *Cyl. & Uplondyshm.* (1847) 30 So many woers, baudes and brokers... that chast Penelope Coude scant among them perserve hir chastite. 1591 SHAKS. *Two Gent.* I. II. 41 Now (by my modesty) a goodly Broker. 1606 — *Tr. & Cr. v. x.* 33 *Pandarus*. But heare you? heare you? *Troilus*. Hence broker, lackie! 1621 AINSWORTH *Annot. Numb.* xv. 29 The heart and the eyes are the spies of the body, and brokers to bring it into transgression. a 1651 CALDERWOOD *Hist. Kirk* (1843) II. 24 Danvill... left behind him a broker betwixt him and the queene, Monsieur Chatelart. 1694 R. LESTRANGE *Fables* cxxviii. (1714) 145 This Praying Carpenter here would have made Mercury a Broker to his Knavery.

5. A middleman, intermediary, or agent generally; an interpreter, messenger, commissioner.

1530 PALSGR. 301/2 Broker that speketh many languages, *truchement* [i. e. dragoman]. 1576 *Tyde laryeth no man* in Collier *Illustr.* E. E. *Pop. Lit.* 12 Thou, Helpe, art a broker betwene man and man, Whereby much deceyte thou usest now and than. 1586 J. HOOKER in *Holmesd* II. 91/2 Thomas forthwith sent his messengers... to his cousin the lord Butler... Whereupon the lord Butler returned Thomas his brokers with this letter. 1593 SHAKS. 3 *Hen. VI.* v. i. 63 You shall giue me leave To play the Broker in mine owne behalfe. 1600 HOLLAND *Livy* xxvii. v. 639 The broker and broker both of the treason, had brought word. 1571 HAMMER *Chron. Irel.* 196 These Nuntios were so crafty, that they needed no Brokers. 1642 T. TAYLOR *God's Judgem.* I. i. xix. 61 As Truth got ever the upper hand... so the brokers and upholders of falsehood came ever to the worse. 1864 LOWELL *Study Wind.* (1886) 118 The brokers of treason in the North.

†b. A legal agent, a proctor. *Obs.*

1538 STARKEY *England* I. iii. § 29 (1871) 83 Proktrurs and brokarys of both lawys, wch rather trowlup meny causys then fynysch them justely, are to many.

†c. frequently with implied censure. *Obs.*

c 1510 BARCLAY *Mirr. Good Mann.* (1570) G iv, Be no towler, catchpoll nor customer, No broker nor botcher, no somner nor sergeant. 1558 J. HEYWOOD *Prov. & Epigr.* (1867) 135 Two false knaues neede no broker. 1806 T. B. LA PRIMAUD *Fr. Acad.* (1594) 245 Flatterers, brokers, and such as are most wicked, carie away offices... & wastfully consume the publicke treasure. 1595 SHAKS. *John* II. i. 568 That Broker, that still breakes the pate of faith, That dayly breake-vow, he that winnes of all. 1608 DEKKER *Ser. Sins* vi. (Arb.) 40 Brokers yat shaue poore men by most iewish interest.

III. 6. A person licensed to sell or appraise household furniture distrained for rent.

1818 *Act 57 Geo. III.*, xciii. 1836 DICKENS *Sk. Bos v.* (1850) 16/1 'A broker's man's is not a life to be envied... people hate and scout 'em because they're the ministers of wretchedness, like, to poor people'. 1852 McCULLOCH *Comm. Dict.* 198 Brokers, simply so called, in their character of appraisers and sellers of goods distrained for rent, are regulated by 57 Geo. III. c. 93. *Mod.* The landlord put in the brokers yesterday, and all his furniture is gone.

7. *Comb.* broker-between = BROKER 3, 4; broker-woman; broker-like a.

1606 SHAKS. *Tr. & Cr.* III. ii. 211 Let all inconstant men be Troylusses, all false women Cressids, and all brokers between Panders. 1723 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 6217/4 Elizabeth Boden. Broker-woman. 1607 *Miseries Enf. Marr.* III. in Hazl. *Dodley IX* 572 What beards... gentlemenlike-beards, or brokerlike-beards?

Brokerage (brō'kərédz). Also 7 -idge. [f. prec. + -AGE.]

1. The action or professional service of a broker; the broker's trade. Also *attrib.*

1466 *Mann. & Househ. Exp.* 361 Item [my master paid] for brokerage, ix. d. 1619 JER. DYKE *Counterpoison* (1620) 20 Egges of the same cockatrice, brats of the same hag, are steeple and temple brokerage. 1753 *Scots Mag.* Sept. 440/1 The trade of the Jews... was usury, brokerage, and jobbing. 1807 SCOTT *Napoleon* xxviii. By brokerage and agiotage. 1875 POSTER *Gains* II. (ed. 2) 213 The acquisition of Obligations... by brokerage of an independent agent. 1885 *Lau Times Rep.* LI. 694/1 In ordinary brokerage transactions.

2. The commission or per-centage paid to a broker on the transactions negotiated by him.

1622 MALVINES *Ant. Lau-Merch.* 196, 20 pro cent. with the Alcaualla, taken for Brokeridge to sell them. 1668 SREDLEY *Mulberry Gard.* II. ii. 1697 DAMPIER *Voy.* (1729) I. 508 An 18th part profit, by way of Brokerage for every Bargain. 1753 HANWAY *Trans.* (1762) I. v. lxxii. 323 An exorbitant brokerage of one or more per cent. 1809 R. LANGFORD *Introd. Trade* 23 The brokerage on foreign bills bought and sold is 1-10th per cent. 1884 *Manch. Exam.* 28 May 5/2 All brokerages and discounts credited to the company.

3. The acting as a bawd or pimp. *Obs. rare.*

1645 PAGITT *Heriogr.* (1665) 75 That I speak not of Brokerage, of whores, and other filthiness, too too bad.

4. **Brokersess.** *Obs. rare*—1. [f. as prec. + -ESS.] A female broker or go-between.

1583 STANHYURST *Poems* (Arb.) 140 Now beldam brokersess must be with moonny rewarded.

Brokering, *vbl. sb.* [f. BROKER sb. + -ING¹.] Acting as a broker; the broker's trade.

1633 ROWLEY *Match at Midn.* I. i, I have given over brokering.

Brokering, *ppl. a.* [f. as prec. + -ING².] That is a broker, trafficking, bargain-driving.

1607 MRS. BEHN *Lucky Chance* IV. i. Gripping as Hell, and as insatiable, worse than a brokering Jew.

5. **Brokerly**, *a. and adv. Obs.* [f. BROKER sb. + -LY¹, 2.] *A. adj.* Of the nature of, or like a broker; pettifogging, huckstering.

1592 NASHE *P. Penicillie* (ed. 2) 9 a, A certaine kind of a brokerly gentleman. 1650 B. JONSON *Alch.* IV. vii. (1616) 663 A brokerly slau. 1611 COTGR. *Mangonne*, a Brokers wife, or brokerlike woman.

B. adv. By the agency of a broker.

1593 NASHE *Christ's T.* (1613) 79 Brokerly blowne vp honour, honour by anticke fawning shild vp.

Brokership, *rare.* [see -SHIP.] The office or action of a broker; intermediation.

1845 LD. CAMPBELL *Chancellors* cxvii. (1857) VI. 38 The brokership of Cotingham was at first dispensed with.

6. **Brokery**, *Obs.* [f. BROKER + -Y; see -ERY.] 1. The business or action of a broker.

1593 STUBBS *Anat. Abs.* II. 38 Seeing that you are ignorant of this goodly mystery, and high profession of brokerie. a 1593 MARLOWE *Jew of M.* II. ii. Cozening, forfeiting, and tricks belonging unto brokery. 1641 W. CARTWRIGHT *Ordinary* V. iv. She... that is so expert grown in this flesh brokery.

2. A broker's wares; second-hand clothes; anything second-hand or stale.

1597-8 BP. HALL *Sat.* I. iii. 24 Now souping in side robes of Royaltie, That earst did skrub in lowlie brokerie. 1611 BARREY *Ram-Alley* in *Dodley* (1780) V. 493 Clad in old ends, and pieced with brokery. 1634 CANNE *Necess. Separ.* (1840) 262 Bringing therein nothing but his old brokery.

3. Rascally dealing or trafficking.

1597-8 BP. HALL *Sat.* (1753) 28 Busie their braines with deeper brokery. 1608 *Life T. Cromwell* II. ii. 90 To live by falsehood or by brokery. a 1634 ROSS *Notor. Heretics* (1675) 18 By this brokery did this crafty knave chalk out his way to that sovereign dignity.

Broking (brō'kɪŋ), *vbl. sb.* [f. BROKE v.] 1. The broker's trade; acting as a broker.

1599 E. HAKE *News Powles Ch. Yarde* (1579) G iij, Of Brokers, they did thirte such ordaine. To vse the trade of broking. 1654 SALA in *Temple Bar Mag.* XII. Bargaining, chaffering, broking and discounting. 1886 *Lond. Rev.* 6 Oct. 380/2 The Legislature itself must for a time abandon reform, and take to furniture broking.

2. Lending of money upon pawns or pledges; dishonest or fraudulent dealing. *Obs.*

1592 CHETTEL *Kind Haris Dr.* (1841) 51 An occupation of no long standing about London, called broking, or broging... in which there is pretty juggling, especially to blind law, and bolster usury. 1603 BRETON *Poste w. Packet, &c.* A crafty knave may loose by his cunning Broking. 1619 J. HRATH *House of Corr.* C iv, I told a Scriuener of his Briberie, His Broking, Forging, Cheating, Knauery.

3. *Attrib.* (Difficult to separate from the *ppl. a.*)

1599 E. HAKE *News Powles Ch. Yarde* (1591) G iij b, Whole hundreds now doe lue by beastly broking trade. 1594 SHAKS. *Rich. III.* II. i. 293 If then we shall... Redeeme from broaking pawne the blemish'd Crowne. 1633 T. ADAMS *Exp. 2 Peter* I. 17 A usurer in his broking-house.

4. **Broking**, *ppl. a. Obs.* [f. BROKE v. + -ING².] 1. That acts as a broker.

1592 G. HARVEY *Pierce's Supper* 175 Not such... a broking & huckstering penne [exists]. 1598 J. DICKENSON *Greene in Conc.* (1878) 155 His owne, and his attyre, fell into the

hands of broking Usurers. 1647 R. STAPFYLTON *Juvenal* 133 A broking usurer.

2. ? That acts as a procurer.

1599 MARSTON *Seco. Villanie* I. iii. 180 A die, a drab, and filthy broking knaues Are... all deuouring graues.

3. Base-dealing; 'peddling,' contemptible.

1592 WYRLY *Armore* 142 Like a broking varlet. 1594 NASHE *Unfort. Trav.* 32 This brocking duble beere oration. 1606 Wily *Beguiled* in Hazl. *Dodley IX* 238, I scorn that base, broking... name. 1699 J. MAYNE *City Match* in *Dodley* (1780) IX. 379 O that I could But see that cheating rogue upon the rack: I'd... show him hell, and then recall His broking soul and give him strength to suffer His torture often.

Brokke, -ing, var. forms of BROCK, -ING.

Brokktet, -ette, -itt, obs. ff. BROCKET.

Brokle, -yl, -ylle, var. of BROCKLE.

Broklembe, obs. form of BROOKLINE.

4. **Bro'king**, *Obs.* Also 4 brogeling. [Connected with *brokel*, BROCKLE, or with BROKEN.] Breaking off, interruption.

c 1340 *Cursor M.* 7071 (Fairf.) Pe sege lasted xxx yere wip-outen broking [Cott. brogeling, Göt. breking, Trin. brekyng] of pat were.

Brokour, -ress, obs. ff. BROKER, BROKERESS.

Brole, obs. form of BROIL.

5. **Broll**, *Obs. exc. dial.* Forms: 4 brol, brolle, 6 brawl, 9 dial. browl. [Of unknown origin: The *Promp. Parv.* explains 'Breyel' as *broillus*, *broilla*, *misericulus*; but this may be merely the Eng. word latinized. It seems possible that, as *brethel* was app. reduced to *breal*, *brothel* may have been reduced to *bröl*, but evidence is wanting.]

Offspring, child; contemptuously, a brat, an 'imp', a little wretch.

a 1325 *Lullaby* in *Rel. Ant.* II. 177 The wrech brol that is of Adams blode. 1377 *LANGL. P. Pl.* B. III. 204 Pe leste brolle [v. r. brol] of his blode a barounes pere. c 1380 WYCLIF *Sol. Wks.* III. 195 Fyften wip ber wil and meyne as bei weren Sathanas brollis. 1394 *P. Pl. C.* 745 Now mot ich souter his sone setten to schole And ich a beggers brol on be booke lerne. 1575 J. STILL *Gamm. Gurton* II. ii. Shall such a beggars brawle as that, thinkest thou, make me a thief? 1664 ATKINSON *Whitby Gloss.* *Browl*, a brat, a term of displeasure towards an offending child. 'You brazen'd young browl' 1875 F. K. ROBINSON *Whitby Gloss.* (E. D. S.), *Browl*, a 'brat', an impudent youth.

6. **Broll**, *v. Obs. rare*—1. [by-form of BRAWL v., or fad. Du. *brullen* to roar.] To roar, sound loud.

1660 *Engl. Monarchy* *Freest State* 7 Since this Rumble of a Free State and Commonwealth hath brollled in our heads.

Brollynge, obs. form of BROILLING sb.²

Brom-: see BROMO-

7. **Broma**¹, *Obs.* [16th c. Sp. *broma*, 'a worme that eateth holes in ships' (Percivall).] A ship-worm; ? the teredo.

1555 EDEM *Decades W. Ind.* III. vi. (Arb.) 164 Of the planckes wherof, if shippes were made, they shoulde bee safe from the wormes of the sea whiche they caule Bromas.

1599 HAKLUYT *Voy.* II. ii. 22 Their ships were also in many places eaten with the wormes called Bromas or Bissas, whereof mention is made in the Decades. 1831 W. IRVING *Columbus* (1849) III. 55 As their vessels were in danger of being destroyed by the bromas or worms.

8. **Broma**² (brō'mā). [a. Gr. *βρῶμα* food.] 1. *Med.* 'Food of any kind that is masticated and not drank' (Hooper *Med. Dict.* 1811).

2. A preparation of chocolate (so called from *theobroma*, the name of the Cacao plant).

1848 ELIZ. TWINGEN *Lect. Plants* x. 301 Broma is another kind of composition made from chocolate seeds.

Bromal (brō'māl). [f. BROM-INE + AL-COHOL; cf. CHLORAL.] A compound analogous to chloral, produced by the action of bromine on alcohol.

1875 H. WOOD *Therap.* (1879) 333 Clinical experience with bromal hydrate is still wanting. 1877 WATTS *Fownes Chem.* II. 253 Tribromaldehyde or Bromal.

Bromate (brō'meit). *Chem.* [f. BROM-IO + -ATE⁴.] A salt of bromic acid.

a 1836 *Penny Cycl.* V. 461/1 The bromates which their oxides form with bromic acid. 1834 SCOFFER in *Orr's Circ. Sc. Chem.* 317 Must be either a nitrate... or bromate.

Bromatology (brō'mätō'lōdgi). [mod. f. Gr. *βρῶμα*, *βρωματο-* (see BROMA²), + -λογία -LOGY; cf. F. *bromatologie*.]

1. A discourse or treatise on food.

1811 in HOOPER *Med. Dict.*

2. 'The doctrine or consideration of food, its nature, quality, and uses' (*Syd. Soc. Lex.*).

Brombille, obs. form of BRAMBLE.

Brome¹ (brō'm). *Chem.* [a. F. *brome*, f. Gr. *βρῶμος* stink, smell.] The French name of BROMINE, formerly used in English.

1807 TURNER *Elem. Chem.* [see BROMINE]. 1836 *Penny Cycl.* V. 486/1 In case of poisoning [by cantharidin], emetics may be given, and also tincture of bromine or iodine. 1841 MRS. MARCET *Conv. Chem.* II. 145 Brome... notwithstanding its high specific gravity, boils at the temperature of 160°.

Brome² (brō'm). *Bot.* [ad. *Bromus*, Bot. name of the genus, in Pliny *bromos*, a. Gr. *βρόμος* (also *βρῶμος*) oats.] A book-name for a genus of oat-like grasses (*Bromus*). Also Brome-grass.

1759-91 B. STILLINGFLEET *Misc. Tracts* 371 To approach as nearly as possible to the Latin names in sound... I have called *aira* hairgrass, the *bromus* bromegrass, etc. *Ibid.* 378 Corn-Brome... *Bromus Arvensis*. 1794 MARTIN *Rousseau's*

Bot. xiii. 140 The Bromes are very nearly allied to the Fescues. 1881 JEFFERIES *Wood Magic* I. vi. 136 The long brome-grass tickled his face while he was pulling.

Brome, obs. form of BROOM.

Bromedgham, obs. form of BRUMMAGEM.

Bromeliaceous (brō'mi:liz'jəs), *a. Bot.* [see -ACEOUS.] Pertaining to the natural order *Bromeliaceae*, which includes the Pine-apple.

1882 *Garden* 15 Apr. 260/1 A huge Bromeliaceous plant.

Bromel-worts: Lindley's English name for the *Bromeliaceae*: see prec.

Bromhydrin: see BROMO-

Bromic (brō'mik), *a. Chem.* [f. BROM-INE + -IC.] Containing bromine in chemical combination; bromic silver, the native bromide of silver (AgBr), BROMYRITE; bromic acid (HBrO₃), the acid which forms bromates.

1808 WEBSTER *Chem.* (ed. 2) 109 Bromine unites with oxygen to form bromic acid. 1857 DANA *Min.* vi. (ed. 2) 328 Iodic Silver, Bromic Silver. Silver also occurs in nature united with iodine and bromine. 1876 A. HAMILTON *Nerv. Dis.* 81 The bromic salts.

Bromioham, -migham, obs. ff. BRUMMAGEM.

Bromide (brō'moid). *Chem.* [f. BROM-INE + -IDE.] A primary compound of bromine with an element or organic radical. Several bromides (esp. those of ammonium, iron, and potassium) are in common medicinal use.

1836 *Penny Cycl.* V. 461/1 Carbon and Bromine form a liquid bromide of carbon. 1871 B. STEWART *Heat* § 58 The same law holds good for the Bromides... of ethyle and methyle. 1876 HARLEY *Mat. Med.* 204 Bromide of Iron acts as an energetic tonic. 1882 C. M. BEARD *Sea-Sickness* 36 The great value of the bromides in very large doses, as harmless and powerful sedatives.

b. *familiarly* for bromide of potassium (KBr).

1883 *Harper's Mag.* Jan. 241/1 A little bromide completed the relief that put her asleep.

c. *attrib.*

1886 FAGGE *Princ. Med.* II. 806 Bromide Rash.

8. **Bromidrosis** (brō'mid'rō'sis). *Med.* [mod. f. Gr. *βρῶμος* stench + *ιδρῶς* sweat.] (See quot.)

1866 HEBRA *Dis. Skin* in *N. Syd. Soc. Trans.* I. 74 The disease which is spoken of by authors as Bromidrosis.

1876 DUHRING *Dis. Skin* 129 Bromidrosis is a functional disorder of the sweat glands characterized by more or less sweating and an offensive odor.

Brominated (brō'min'itēd), *a.* [from BROMINE + -ATE³.] Charged or compounded with bromine. So Bromination.

c 1875 THORPE *Inorg. Chem.* I. 294 The bromination of many hydro-carbons is often greatly facilitated by the presence of a small quantity of iodine in the bromine employed. 1873 FOWNES *Chem.* 555 Brominated compounds.

Bromine (brō'min, -in). *Chem.* [f. F. *brome*, at first also used in Eng. (f. Gr. *βρῶμος* stink) + -INE; after the analogy of F. *chlorine*, *iodine*, Eng. *chlorine*, *iodine*.] One of the non-metallic elements, discovered by Balard in 1826; in its properties and compounds closely resembling Chlorine.

Obtained as a dark reddish-black heavy liquid, with a strong irritating smell (whence its name), and highly poisonous. It freezes at -25° C. to a dark lead-grey solid, and boils at 63°. Symbol Br.

1807 TURNER *Elem. Chem.* Add. 695 The name first applied to it by its discoverer is muride; but it has since been changed to brome... from the Greek *βρῶμος* signifying a strong or rank odour. This appellation may in the English language be properly converted into that of Bromine.

a 1836 *Penny Cycl.* V. 460/2 Dr. Daubeny has detected bromine in several mineral springs in England. 1875 H. WOOD *Therap.* (1879) 375 Bromine is one of the most severe, thorough, and rapid of all the caustics. 1876 HARLEY *Mat. Med.* 84 Bromine was discovered... in bittern, the uncrystallisable residue of sea-water.

b. *attrib.* = BROMIC; of bromine.

1869 ROSCOE *Elem. Chem.* 119 Bromine Monoxide, is not known, but the corresponding Hypobromous Acid HBrO is. 1885 tr. Ziemssen's *Skin Dis.* 469 Bromine Acne differs from Acne Simplex by attacking the hairy parts by preference.

Bromingham: see BRUMMAGEM.

Bromism (brō'miz'm). *Med.* [f. BROM-INE + -ISM.] 'The condition produced by an overdose or too long continuance of bromine or a bromide' (*Syd. Soc. Lex.*); but used almost exclusively of the effects of potassium bromide.

1867 Trousseau's *Clin. Med.* in *N. Syd. Soc. Trans.* I. 101 note, The exhibition of large doses of Bromide of Potassium is soon followed by the marked and characteristic phenomena of Bromism. 1875 H. WOOD *Therap.* (1879) 323 When it [Bromide of Potassium] is taken with sufficient freedom to accumulate in the system, a conjunction of phenomena known as bromism arises. The cerebral symptoms are a sense of mental weakness, heaviness of intellect, failure of memory, partial aphasia, and depression of spirits.

Bromite (brō'meit). *Min.* [f. (by Haidinger 1845) BROM-INE + -ITE.] = BROMYRITE.

1850 DANA *Min.* (ed. 3) 545 Bromic silver. Bromite. 1875 *URE Dict. Arts, Bromite*, native bromide of silver.

Bromization (brō'məiz'zən). *Med.* [f. BROMIZE + -ATION.] Subjection to the action of bromine.

1881 G. M. BEARD *Sea-Sickness* 34 [In the use of bromides] any thing short of mild bromization is useless.

Bromize, -ise (brō'məiz), *v.* [f. BROM-INE + -IZE.] *trans.* To treat, compound, impregnate, or infuse with bromine; in *Photography*, to prepare

(a plate) with bromine or a bromide. Hence **Bromised ppl. a., Bromising.**

1833 W. CROOKES in *Yrnl. Photogr. Soc.* 21 July 86. I have for some time past been working with bromized collodion. c. 1865 J. WYLER in *Circ. Sc. I.* 156/a A similar box will be required for the bromising process. 1881 *Nature* XXIII. 260 Preparation of the bromised derivatives of the methylic series, and especially, bromoform. 1882 *Amey Instr. in Photogr.* xvi. (ed. 5) 175 The use of a highly-bromized collodion is to be recommended. *Mod.* 'It claims a first place among bromized spars.'

Bromlite (brómilit). *Min.* [Named in 1835 from *Bromley Hill*, near Alston in Cumberland + -ITE.] A double carbonate of lime and baryta: the same as **ALSTONITE**.

1868 *DANA Min.* 698 Most English mineralogical authors have set aside Thomson's name (*Bromlite*) although the earliest and of British origin, for Breithaupt's [*Alstonite*]. There appears to be no sufficient reason for this.

Bromo- (brómō), before a vowel brom-. *Chem.* Combining form of **BROMINE**, as in **bromoacetic acid**, a compound of bromine and acetic acid ($C_2H_3BrO_2$), forming salts called **bromacetates**; **bromanil**, the same as **tetrabromquinone** C_6Br_4O (see **ANIL**); **bromargyrite** = **BROMYRITE**; **bromhydrin**, a class of compounds 'produced by the action of tribromide or pentabromide of phosphorus on glycerin' (Watts); **bromobenzoic acid** $C_6H_4BrO_2$, a substitution-product of benzoic acid, forming salts called **bromobenzoates**; **bromoform**, a compound analogous to chloroform ($CHCl_3$); **bromopicrotin**, a compound of bromine and picric acid ($C_6H_2Br_3NO_7$); etc.

1873 *FOWNES Chem.* 560 Bromethine, or Bromacetylene, is produced by the action of alcoholic potash on dibromethene dibromide. 1876 *KINGZETT Anim. Chem.* 93 Acting upon an alcoholic solution of ammonia with bromacetic acid. 1873 *FOWNES Chem.* 592 The chloroethide or bromethide is converted by water into mercuric ethyl-hydrate. 1883 *Athenaeum* 27 Jan. 124/1 Acetylene bromide, boiling at 150°. 1873 *FOWNES Chem.* 814 Bromobenzoic Acid is formed by the action of bromine on silver benzoate. *Ibid.* 624 Bromoform is a heavy, volatile liquid. 1881 *BRATHWAITE Retros. Med.* LXXXIII. Synopsis p. xvii. Bromohydric Acid... is useful in nervous conditions. 1883 *R. HUNT Man. Photogr.* 146 The decomposition of the bromo-iodide of silver. 1850 *DAUBENY Atom. The.* viii. (ed. 2) 238 Bromophenetic acid.

Bromography (brómōgráfi). [*f. Gr. βρομ(α) (see BROMATOLOGY) + -γραφία; cf. F. bromographie.*] 'A treatise or dissertation on food' (*Mayne Exp. Lex.* 1860).

Bromstone, obs. form of **BRIMSTONE**.

+ Bromuret. *Chem. Obs.* [*f. BROMINE + -URET.*] The earlier name for a **BROMIDE**; now used for a compound less saturated with bromine.

1878 *tr. Ziemssen's Cycl. Med.* XVII. 313 In the Urine the Bromine appears combined with an Alkali as a bromide and partly also as a bromuret.

Bromyrite (brómýrit). *Min.* [*f. (by Dana 1854) BROM-INE; after argyrite.*] The native bromide of silver, an isometric yellow, amber, or green splendid mineral, found in Mexico and Chili; also called *Bromargyrite*, *bromic silver*.

Bronch, obs. form of **BRANCH**.

|| Bronchia (brónkiā), *sb. pl. Phys.* [*L. bronchia, a. Gr. βρόγχια (neut. pl.) the ramifications of the windpipe. Formerly sometimes treated as a sing. with a new pl. bronchiæ.*] The branches or subdivisions of the bronchi within the lungs.

1674 *Grew Anat. Trunks* ii. § 11 In an Animal, the Bronchia deposite the Aer into the Vesiculæ of the Lungs. 1681 *tr. T. Willis' Rem. Med. Wks. Voc.* Bronchia, the gristly parts about the wind-pipe. 1736 *BAILEY Househ. Dict.* 52 In numerous Asthmas and obstructions of the Bronchia. 1758 *J. S. Le Dran's Observ. Surg.* (1771) 100 Excepting a little Pus in some Branches of the Bronchia. 1826 *KIRBY & Sp. Entomol.* IV. 57 The air vessels or bronchia in connection with tracheæ. 1881 *MIVART Cat* 224 The smaller tubes, into which the bronchi sub-divide within the lungs, are called bronchia.

Bronchial (brónkiāl), *a.* [*ad. mod.L. bronchialis, f. bronchia; see prec. and -AL.*] Pertaining to the bronchi or bronchia.

a 1738 *ARBUTHNOT (J.)* Inflammation of the lungs may happen either in the bronchial or pulmonary vessels. 1793 *T. BEDDOES Lett. Darwin* 69 Too great secretion of bronchial mucus. 1847 *YOUATT Horse* xi. 239 The air which has descended through the bronchial tubes. 1879 *MISS BRADDON Clow. Foot* III. ii. 14 He would hardly ask me to risk a bronchial attack.

Hence **Bronchially adv.**

1885 *Kendal Merc. & Times* 13 Mar. 5/4 This ancient foe of the dyspeptic and the bronchially delicate.

Bronchio (brónkik), *a.* [*mod. f. BRONCH-US + -IO: cf. 16th c. F. bronchique.*] = **BRONCHIAL**.

1731 *BAILEY II, Bronchick Muscles*, the Sternothyroides. 1758 *J. S. Le Dran's Observ. Surg.* (1771) 152 The Muscles Sternomastoideus, Bronchick, and Sternal-Hyoideus... were larger than ordinary. [*In mod. Dicts.*]

|| Bronchiectasis (brónki-ektásis). *Med.* [*f. Gr. βρόγχια BRONCHIA + -εκτασις dilatation.*] Dilatation of the bronchial tubes. Hence **Bronchiectasis**, -ectatic, *a.* [*as if ad. Gr. *ἐκτατικός.*]

1877 *ROBERTS Handbk. Med.* (ed. 3) I. 376 Bronchiectasis generally arises in the course of some chronic lung disease.

1866 *A. FLINT Princ. Med.* (1880) 196 The bronchiectatic cavities are common.

Bronchio- (brónkiō), before a vowel bronchi-. *Med.* Combining form of **BRONCHIA**, as in **bronchiectasia** [*L. ar(c)tus narrow*], contraction of the bronchial tubes; **BRONCHIETASIS**; **bronchiocrisis** [*Gr. κρίσις crisis*], 'paroxysmal attacks resembling hooping cough occurring in tabes' (*Syd. Soc. Lex.*); **bronchiopneumonia**, inflammation of the lungs, beginning in the bronchial membrane; **bronchiopulmonary a.**, pertaining to the bronchi and lungs.

1853 *BLACK in Edin. Monthly Jnl. (title)*, On the Pathology of the Bronchio-Pulmonary Mucous Membrane.

Bronchiole (brónkiōl), [*ad. mod.L. *bronchiola, dim. of bronchia; see -OLE.*] A minute bronchial tube.

1866 *A. FLINT Princ. Med.* (1880) 160 In acute pneumonitis the inflammation is seated in the air-cells and bronchioles.

Bronchitic (brónki-tik), *a.* [*f. next + -IC.*] Of or pertaining to bronchitis; affected with bronchitis.

1856 *Todd Cycl. Anat. & Phys.* I. 808/1 In bronchitic affections. 1861 *O. W. HOLMES Elsie V.* 354 Some new grievance, dyspeptic, neuralgic, bronchitic, or other.

b. *absol.* as *pl.* Persons suffering from bronchitis. 1879 *SALA in Daily Tel.* 21 July, Recommended to the bronchitic and asthmatic.

|| Bronchitis (brónki-tis). *Med.* [*mod.L. f. bronchi, bronchia + -ITIS (= Gr. -ίτις), q.v.*] First brought into use by P. Frank *Interpretationes Clinicae* (1812) I. 10, and *Bodham Inflammatory Affections of Bronchia* (1814). Inflammation of the bronchial mucous membrane.

1854 *J. BURNS Princ. Midwifery* (ed. 3) x. 565 Bronchitis is far from being an uncommon disease of infants. 1830 *DE QUINCY Ld. Carlisle on Pope Wks.* II. 25 He had no such ardour for Truth as would ever lead him to forget that wells were damp, and bronchitis alarming to a man of his constitution. 1881 *Med. Temp. Jnl.* I. 18 He soon succumbed to an attack of acute bronchitis.

Broncho- (brónkō), before a vowel bronch-. *Med.* Combining form of **BRONCHUS**, as in **bronchochadene** [*Gr. δόνη a gland*], one of the bronchial glands; **bronchoectasia**, contraction of a bronchus (*cf. bronchiectasia s.v. BRONCHIO-*); **broncho-pneumonia** = **bronchiopneumonia** (see **BRONCHIO-**); **broncholith**, a calcareous deposit in a bronchial gland (*Syd. Soc. Lex.*); **bronchorrhoea**, a kind of chronic bronchitis; etc. See also following words.

1850 *COPLAND Med. Dict.* II. 769 Broncho-pneumonia very frequently intervenes in the course of Influenza. 1866 *A. FLINT Princ. Med.* (1880) 338 An abundant serous expectoration, constituting bronchorrhoea. 1877 *ROBERTS Handbk. Med.* I. 374 Bronchorrhoea is most frequent in old people.

Bronchocele (brónkōsēl), *Med.* Also 7-chole. [*ad. Gr. βρογχόcele 'tumour in the throat', f. βρόγχος BRONCHUS + -κέλη tumour; cf. F. bronchocele.*] A swelling of the thyroid gland; goitre.

1657 *Phys. Dict.*, Bronchocele, the rupture of the throat, a great round swelling in the throat. 1732 *ARBUTHNOT Rules of Diet* 390 A Dropsy in the forepart of the Windpipe emulating a Bronchocele. 1771 *T. PROSSER (title)*, An Account and Method of cure of Bronchocele or Derby Neck. 1783 *Phil. Trans.* LXXXIII. 92 The Bronchocele... has been seen to increase to such an enormous bulk as to hang down over the breast and belly. 1876 *T. BRYANT Pract. Surg.* I. 195 Such outlying masses of thyroid gland are not rare near bronchoceles.

Bronchophonium. *Med.* = next.

1834 *Good Study Med.* II. 135 The bronchial respiration and cough always accompany bronchophonium.

Bronchophony (brónkōfōni), *Med.* [*ad. F. bronchophonia, f. Gr. βρόγχος BRONCHUS + -φωνία in abstr. derivs. of φωνή voice.*] The sound of the voice heard in the bronchi by means of the stethoscope; esp. the increased vocal resonance heard in certain diseased conditions of the lungs, imitating the voice-sound heard over the healthy bronchi.

1834 *J. FORBES Laennec's Dis. Chest* 37 In persons, however, of a delicate and feeble frame... there frequently exists... a bronchophony very similar to the laryngophony already noticed. 1866 *A. FLINT Princ. Med.* (1880) 131 The bronchophony has sometimes a tremulous or bleating character, and is then ægophony.

Hence **Bronchophonic, a.**

1862 *H. FULLER Dis. Lungs* 109 Not appearing to pass through the stethoscope into the ear, but concentrated as it were beneath the stethoscope (bronchophonic resonance). 1886 *FAGGE Princ. & Prac. Med.* I. 897 A bronchophonic cry.

Bronchotome (brónkōtōm), *Surg.* [*mod. f. Gr. βρόγχος BRONCHUS + -τομος cutting, cutter; cf. F. bronchotome.*] A knife used for bronchotomy; also, a pair of scissors for opening the bronchi in post mortem examinations.

1837 *W. STOKES Dis. Chest* (1882) 148 note, The lung should be dissected by means of a fine pair of scissors... This instrument may be called a bronchotome. 1880 *Syd. Soc. Lex.*

Bronchotomist (brónkōtōmist), [*f. βρόγχος BRONCHUS (see next and -IST); cf. phlebotomist.*] One who performs bronchotomy; (*humorously*) a cut-throat.

1870 *G. THOMPSON True Way Preserv. Blood*, I doubt not the time will come... that a Phlebotomist... will be looked upon little better than Bronchotomist, a cut-throat.

Bronchotomy (brónkōtōmi), *Surg.* [*mod. f.*

Gr. βρόγχος BRONCHUS + -τομία cutting.] The operation of making an incision in the wind-pipe; the generic term which includes *thyrotomy*, *laryngotomy*, and *tracheotomy*.

1706 in *PHILLIPS*. 1713 *CHESELDEN Anat.* III. xv. (1726) 259 This [nerve]... it is that we are earnestly cautioned to avoid in Bronchotomy. 1839-47 *Todd Cycl. Anat. & Phys.* III. 573/2 A peculiarly eligible spot for bronchotomy. 1879 *T. BRYANT Pract. Surg.* II. 30 Any opening made by the surgeon into the windpipe is called 'bronchotomy'.

|| Bronchus (brónkōs), *Phys. Pl.* bronchi (also 8 *improperly bronchæ*). [*mod.L., a. Gr. βρόγχος the wind-pipe.*] Each of the two main branches of the trachea or wind-pipe.

1706 in *PHILLIPS*, *Bronchus*; hence in *BAILEY 1731*. 1708 *A. MUNRO Anat.* (ed. 3) 59 The water... passes betwixt the interstices of the bronchi, and the flap that covers them. 1769 *W. BUCHAN Dom. Med.* (1790) 175 A phthisis occasioned by a small bone sticking in the bronchæ. 1831 *R. KNOX Cloguet's Anat.* 627 The Right Bronchus is wider, shorter, and more horizontal than the left. 1881 *MIVART Cat* 223 The bronchi have the same structure as the trachea.

|| Bronco (brónkō), [*Sp. bronco rough, rude; as applied to a horse, adopted on the Mexican frontier of U.S.*] An untamed or half-tamed horse, or a cross between the horse and mustang; a native horse of California or New Mexico.

1883 *Harper's Mag.* Feb. 428/1 There came rushing over the ridge-top... a ragged, tough broncho horse. 1884 *Fall Mall G.* 22 Aug. 10/1 [He] was captured... stripped of every bit of clothing, and bound on the back of a wild bronco, which was started off by vigorous lashing.

Brond, bronder, obs. ff. **BRAND, BRANDER**.

[Bronden, a frequent error for bronden, BROWDEN. a 1485 *Houlstet i. 3* (JAM.) The birth that the ground bare was brondyn in bredis.]

Bronked, a. Obs. 1 *Bridled*. [*Cf. BRANK.*]

1580 *Wills & Inv. N.C.* (Surtees) 437 Also I bequeath to Elizabeth the Ironside one bronked ox.

Bronston (e), obs. form of **BRIMSTONE**.

+ Bronstrops. *Obs.* [app. a further corruption of *bawstrop*, corrupt form of *BAWDSTROTT*, q.v.] A procurer or bawd. (Frequent in Middleton.)

1617 *MIDDLETON Fair Quar.* IV. i. I say thy sister is a bronstrops. *Ibid.* IV. iv. etc. 1661 *WEBSTER Care for Cuckold* IV. i. A weak or bronstrops: I learned that name in a play [i.e. in Middleton's].

Bront, obs. form of **BRUNT, BRAND**.

|| Bronte-on. [*a. Gr. βροντήων 'an engine for making stage-thunder' (Liddell & Scott).*]

1840 *WHALE Techn. Dict.*, *Bronte-on*, in Greek architecture, brazen vessels placed under the floor of a theatre, with stones in them, to imitate thunder. [So in later Dicts.]

Brontolith. *rare -e.* [*f. Gr. βροντή thunder + λίθος stone.*] An aerolite.

1860 in *MAYNE Exp. Lex.*; and in *Syd. Soc. Lex.*

Bronatology (brónatōlōdji), [*f. Gr. βροντή thunder + -λογία discourse; see -LOGY.*] The scientific treatment or doctrine of thunder; that part of Meteorology which treats of thunder.

1731 *BAILEY II, Bronatology*, a treatise or discourse of thunder. [In JOHNSON, CRAIG, & later Dicts.] 1864 *R. BURTON Dahome* II. 142 Unlearned in brontology.

Brontothere (brónatōthē), *Palæont.* [*f. Gr. βροντή thunder + θήρ wild beast.*] An extinct genus of ungulate mammals, having affinities to the elephant and also to the tapir.

1877 *Le Conte Elem. Geol.* § 506 The brain of the Miocene Brontothere is larger than that of the *Dinoceros*.

Brontstane, obs. form of **BRIMSTONE**.

Bronze (brónz), *sb.* [*a. F. bronze (16th c. in Littre), ad. It. bronzo 'brass or bell-metal' (Florio); whence also Sp. bronce, bronze. The origin of the It. is uncertain: Muratori, cited by Diez, thinks it formed from bruno 'brown', through an intermediate *brunizio, *brunicio:—late L. brunilius 'brownish, brown-coloured'. But this is very doubtful phonetically. Diez also mentions Venetian bronza glowing coals, 'perh. the Ger. brunst fire, burning, heat', as possibly connected.*]

1. A brown-coloured alloy of copper and tin, sometimes also containing a little zinc and lead. Formerly included under the term **BRASS**, q.v.; the name *bronze* was introduced for the material of ancient works of art, or perhaps rather for the works of art themselves: see *sense 2*.

The ratio of the constituents in ordinary bronze is about 8 or 9 parts of copper to 1 of tin; in bell-metal the proportion of tin is much greater. See **BELL-METAL**. (A bronze currency was introduced in Great Britain instead of copper in 1860; but from traditional habit, a bronze coin is still called familiarly 'a copper'.)

[1617 *F. MORYSON Itin.* I. II. iii. 170 The brasen Serpent... was of mixt mettall, vulgarly [i.e. in the vulgar Italian tongue] called *di bronzo*.] 1739 *GRAY Let. in Poems* (1775) 49 Nymphs and tritons, all in bronze. 1755 *JOHNSON, Bronze* (bronze Fr.) 1 Brass. 2 Relief or statue cast in brass. 1806 *DRENNAN Imit. Juvenal Sat.* viii. in *Poet. Register* (1806) 131 With ancestry around you plac'd In bronze, or marble, porcelain or paste. 1835 *W. IRVING Tour Prairies* 50 Like figures of monumental bronze. 1854 *SCOFFERN in Orr's Circ. Sc. Chem.* 492 Statue bronze contains only about two per cent. of tin, melted with ninety-one per cent. of copper, six per cent. of zinc, and one per cent. of lead. 1868 *G. STEPHENS Runic Mon.* I. 74 The Age of Bronze follows the Stone Age and precedes the Age of

Iron. 1886 *Pall Mall G.* 13 Feb. 10/4 The prisoner... had in his possession 3s. 6d. in silver and 3s. 4d. in bronze.

b. Aluminium bronze: see ALUMINIUM. **Phosphor-bronze:** an alloy consisting of bronze or copper with a small proportion of phosphorus added, which increases its tenacity.

1875 *Ure Dict. Arts* III. 555 Experiments on the capacity of phosphor-bronze to resist the oxidation of sea-water. 1876 *Print. Trades Jnl.* xxv. 10 In the construction of this beautiful engine steel and phosphor-bronze are used.

2. (with *pl.*) A work of art, as a statue, etc., executed in bronze.

a 1721 *Prior Alma* III. How little gives thee joy or pain; A print, a bronze, a flower, a root. 1841 *SPALDING Italy & It. Isl.* I. 217 Its bronzes and bas-reliefs are also very important. 1871 *MORLEY Crit. Misc.* (1886) I. 67 Gay with the clocks, the bronzes, the tapestries, of the ruined court.

† 3. *fig.* Impudence, unblushingness. (Cf. *brass*.) 1728 *POPE Dunci.* III. 199 Imbrow'd with native bronze, lo! Henley stands. 1768 *GOLDSM. Good-n. Man* II. i. Mrs. Croaker. 'You don't want assurance when you come to solicit for your friends.' *Lofty*. 'O, there indeed I'm in bronze.' 1843 *BYRON (little)* The Age of Bronze.

† b. A gull, a cheat. *Obs. slang.* Cf. *BRONZE v.* 4. 1817 *Blackw. Mag.* I. 137 This is not a 'bronze'—no story of fancy.

4. (More fully *bronze powder* : see 7.) A metallic powder (usually brass, copper, or tin) used in painting, printing, and the like.

1753 *CHAMBERS Cycl. Suppl.*, *Bronze*, also denotes a colour prepared by the colourmen of Paris. 1846 *Print. Appar. Amateurs* 47 Printing in gold, silver and copper bronzes. 1854 *BRANDIS Acc. New York Exhbit.* in *Ure Dict. Arts* I. 539 Bronzes, or more correctly metallic powders resembling gold dust, were invented in 1648, by a monk, at Furih, in Bavaria. 1875 *Ure Dict. Arts* I. 540 Vanadate of copper has... been recommended as a new bronze.

5. A brown colour like that of bronze. 1817 *BYRON Beppo* xlv. The rich peasant-cheek of ruddy bronze.

6. *attrib.* or as *adj.* a. Made of bronze. 1839 *THIRLWALL Greece* I. 237 The first bronze statue was probably made later than the age of Homer. 1857 *RUSKIN Pol. Econ. Art* 23 Bronze crosses of honour. 1875 *JEVONS Money* (1878) 121 The bronze coinage.

b. Of the colour of bronze, bronze-coloured. 1808 *STARK Elem. Nat. Hist.* II. 274 Legs spinous, of a shining black bronze-colour. 1872 *C. KING Sierra Nev.* xiii. 276 Deep bronze foliage. 1883 *Truth* 31 May 168/2 Scarlet stockings and bronze boots.

7. *Comb.*: *attrib.* as *bronze-smith*; instrumental, as *bronze-bound*, *gleaming*, *shod*; adverbial, as *bronze-golden*, *purple*; parasynthetic, as *bronze-foreheaded*; *bronze age* = *bronze-period*; *bronze-gilt*, made of bronze and covered with gilding (cf. *silver-gilt*); *bronze-liquor*, any liquor used for bronzing; *bronze man* (*Archæol.*), a man living in the bronze period; *bronze period* (*Archæol.*), the prehistoric period during which weapons, etc. were made of bronze, and which was preceded by the Stone Period, and succeeded by the Iron Period; *bronze paint* (see *quot.*); *bronze powder* = *BRONZE 3*; *bronze-wing*, a kind of pigeon (*Phaps chalcoptera*) found in Australasia.

1865 *LUBBOCK Preh. Times* 31 There are four principal theories as to the 'Bronze age. 1879—*Sci. Lect.* vi. 175 The Bronze Age... a period when the weapons were made almost entirely, and ornaments principally, of Bronze. 1851 *RUSKIN Stones Ven.* I. App. xvii. 393 Not all the tubular bridges nor engineering of ten thousand nineteenth centuries cast into one great 'bronze-foreheaded century. 1877 *W. JONES Finger-ring* L. 207 'Bronze-gilt Papal rings. 1880 *Garden* 10 June 390/2 Its 'bronze-golden flowers. 1874 *SAVCK Compar. Philol.* III. 114 The Etruscans may have been the 'bronze-men of the Swiss lakes. 1841 *D. WILSON Preh. Ann.* (1863) I. II. i. 319 The 'Bronze Period. 1861 *Sat. Rev.* 7 Sept. 253 Belonging to the earliest or archaic bronze period. 1875 *Ure Dict. Arts* I. 539 'Bronze paint, commonly called gold paint, is made by mixing gold-coloured bronze powder with pure turpentine. 1846 *Print. Appar. Amateurs* 47 The 'Bronze powder is then applied to each impression. 1880 *BLACK White Wings* xx. A strange 'bronze-purple gloom. 1841 *SPALDING Italy & It. Isl.* I. 330 The guilds of tradesmen in Rome... comprehended the goldsmiths, the 'bronzesmiths, the carpenters. 1859 *H. KINGSLEY G. Hamlyn* xxvi. (D.) You've no more fight in you than a 'bronzewing.

Bronze (*brɒnz*), *v.* [f. prec. sb.; or a. F. *bronzer*, 16th c. in *Litttré*.]

1. *trans.* To give a bronze-like surface or appearance to (metal, wood, etc.) by any mechanical or chemical process.

1645 *EVELYN Mem.* (1857) I. 196 Figures in plaster and pasteboard, which so resemble copper that... they cannot be distinguished, he has so rare an art of bronzing them. a 1852 *MOORE K. Crack* vi. 2 Mending their legs and new bronzing their faces. 1846 *G. WRIGHT Cream Sci. Knowl.* 61 The art of bronzing consists in painting the substance to be bronzed of a dark-green colour, and then rubbing the prominences with bronze-coloured dust.

2. *fig.* To render unfeeling or shameless; to harden, to 'steel'.

1726 *D'ANVERS Craftsman* xvi. (ed. 3) 137 His face was bronzed over with a glare of confidence. 1742 *YOUNG Nt. Th.* v. 44 Art, cursed art! wipes off th' indebted blush From nature's cheek, and bronzes ev'ry shame. 1830 *FRASER'S Mag.* I. 686 Habituation to these distressing calumnies has at length bronzed my feelings.

3. To make like bronze in colour; to brown.

1798 *ROGERS Pleas. Mem.* 51 The bald veteran... richly bronzed by many a summer sun. 1863 *LONGF. Way-side Inn* Prel. 54 The firelight... bronzed the rafters overhead.

† 4. To impose upon, cheat. *Obs. slang.*

1817 *Blackw. Mag.* I. 137 Beware that you are not 'bronzed'; take care that what you publish is authentic.

5. *intr.* To become like bronze, to turn brown.

1880 [see *BRONZING ppl. a.*]

Bronzed (*brɒnzd*), *ppl. a.* [f. prec. + -ED.] 1. Lacquered or coated with bronze or some imitation of it; having a bronze-like lustre.

1808 *STARK Elem. Nat. Hist.* I. 270 Wings dusky, shining with bronzed-green. c 1863 *G. GORE in Circ. Sc.* I. 233/2 The bronzed mould may now be immersed in the... solution.

2. Bronze-coloured, browned, sunburnt. 1748 *H. WALFOLLE Corr.* (1820) I. 198, I wish you could see him making squibs... and bronzed over with a patina of gunpowder. 1847 *J. WILSON Recr. Chr. North* (1857) II. 25 The bare and bronzed Egyptian. 1865 *Daily Tel.* 12 June, The bronzed heroes of Sherman and Grant.

3. Grown shameless, feelingless; hardened.

1841 *EMERSON Misc.* 187 The most bronzed and sharpened money-catcher. 1876 *BROWNING Poets Cruise* 114 The Doctor's bronzed throat!

4. Bronzed skin, an incurable structural disease of the supra-renal capsules, usually characterized by discolouration of the skin to a dusky brown, smoky, or olive tint, with progressive loss of strength; *supra-renal melasma*, or Addison's disease.

Bronzen (*brɒnzən*), *a. rare*. [f. *BRONZE sb.* + -EN.] Made of bronze; resembling bronze.

1855 *SINGLETON Virgil* II. 147 The bronzen-footed (*epi-podem*) hind. 1860 *LD. LYTTON Lucile* II. vi. § 15. 1 One bronzen evening.

Bronzify (*brɒnzɪfaɪ*), *v. rare*—1. [f. *BRONZE + -FY*: cf. *lignify*, *ossify*.] *trans.* To turn into bronze.

1853 *THACKERAY Newcomes* xxv. (D.) St. Michael descending upon the Fiend has been caught and bronzified, just as he lighted on the castle of St. Angelo.

Bronzine (*brɒnzɪn*), *a. rare*—1. [f. as prec. + -INE, after *crystalline*, etc.] Bronze-coloured.

1843 *KANE Grinnell Exp.* xxxvi. (1856) 333 A bronzine smoke... a peculiar russet brown smoke.

Bronzing (*brɒnzɪŋ*), *vbl. sb.* [f. *BRONZE v.* + -ING.] The action of the verb *BRONZE*. Also *attrib.*, as in *bronzing liquid machine*, *salt*, etc.

1798 *Monthly Rev.* 276 The various Manners of Gilding, Silvering, and Bronzing. 1875 *Ure Dict. Arts* I. 541 The best... bronzing liquid... is a solution of the chloride of platinum. 1876 *DUHRING Dis. Skin* 339 The peculiar bronzing of the skin found in Addison's disease.

Bronzing, *ppl. a.* [f. as prec. + -ING.] Making or becoming of a bronze colour.

1880 *JEFFERIES Gt. Estate* 131 The very tips of the bronzing wheat-ears.

Bronzist, *rare*—1. [f. *BRONZE sb.* + -IST.] A maker of bronzes, an artist in bronze.

1877 *FORTNUM Bronzes* i. 10 The sculptors and bronzists of that city.

Bronzite (*brɒnzɔɪt*), *Min.* [f. as prec. + -ITE.] A variety of diallage, having a bronze-like lustre.

1816 *P. CLEVELAND Min.* 341 Bronzite. Its colors are brass or bronze yellow, or tombac brown. 1879 *RUTLEY Stud. Rocks* x. 121 Some bronzite is very feebly dichroic.

Bronzy (*brɒnzɪ*), *a.* [f. as prec. + -Y.] Tinged with bronze colour; resembling bronze.

1864 *DANA Man. Geol.* 128 The brownish-black and bronzy foliated mineral hypersthene. 1876 *W. MARSTON Dram. & Poet. Wks.* II. 367 Day bathed the walls of oak with bronzy gold. 1882 *Garden* 14 Jan. 18/3 The fruit... is, however, more bronzy on the sunny side. *Ibid.* 18 Nov. 451/3 The flowers are... of a bronzy red colour.

Broo, *Sc.* [In 15th c. *brō*; whence regularly in mod.Sc. pronunciation, *brō*, *brū*. Of uncertain origin: perhaps a. OF. *bro*, *bren*, broth (whence dim. *broutz*, *brout*). Often identified with *BREE*; but if this were correct, *broo* not *bree* would be the original, since *do*, *boots*, *shoon*, become in the north-east of Scotl. *dee*, *beets*, *sheen*, not the converse. It is hardly possible to connect the 15th c. *broo* with mod.G. *brühe* or Flem. *brui*, *bruw*.]

Broth; liquor; juice, water; = *BREE sb.* 2, 3.

c 1440 *York Myst.* xix. 135, I schall gar the leppe, And dere aby this bro. a 1711 *Sir Gray Steel* (1826) 2221 Good beef and mutton to be broo. 1725 *RAMSAY Genl. Sheph.* I. ii. Ae wean fa's sick, and scads itself wi' brue (v. r. broe, rime-wd. shoe). 1766 *BURNS Brigs of Ayr* 162 A' ye douce folk I've borne aboon the broo. a 1800 in *Leyden Lord Soult's* Notes (Exclamation attrib. to Jas. I.) 'Sorrow gin the sheriff were sodden and supped in broo!'

Broo, *Sc.* form of *BROW*.

Brooch (*brɒtʃ*), *Forms*: 3-9 broche, 6 brooche, broouche, brutch, browache, 5-7 bruch, brouch, 7 brooch, 8 bruch, 1. Sc. brotoh(e), 9 brosch, 4, 6- brooch. [ME. *broche*; the same word as *BROACH*, the differentiation of spelling being only recent, and hardly yet established. Occasionally pronounced (*brūt*).]

1. An ornamental fastening, consisting of a safety pin, with the clasping part fashioned into a ring, boss, shield, or other device of precious metal or other material, artistically wrought, set with

jewels, etc. (Cf. Fr. *broche*, 'grosse épingle à l'usage des femmes'. *Litttré*.) Now used mainly as a (female) ornament, but always for the ostensible purpose of fastening some part of the dress.

a 1225 *Anscr. R.* 420 Ring ne broche nabbe 3e. c 1385 CHAUCER *L. G. W.* 1273 Send hire letters, tokens, brooches, and rynges. 12400 *Morte Arthure* 3257 Rebanes of golde, Bruchez and besaunter and oper bryghte stonye. 1413 *LYDG. Pylgr. Soule* iv. xxxiii. (1483) 81 An ouche or a broche. 1530 *PALSGR.* 201/1 Broche for ones cappe, broche. Broche with a scripture, devise. 1551 *ROBINSON tr. More's Utop.* (1869) 102 With broches and aglettes of gold vpon their cappes, which glistered ful of peerles and precious stones. 1588 *SHAKS. L. L. L.* v. ii. 620 S. Georges halfe cheeke in a brooch. 1720 *Stow's Surv.* (ed. Strype 1754) II. v. viii. 248/1 Henry VIII... wore a round flat cap... with a Bruch or Jewel and a feather. 1776 *PENNANT Tour Scotl.* II. 14 At the same time [Bruce] lost his mantle and broche. 1877 *LL. JEWITT Half-hrs. among Eng. Antiq.* 223 The fibula in Norman times was more like an ornamental circle of jewels and stones, with a central pin; and its name 'brooch' is derived from this article, and its resemblance to a spit.

† 2. Formerly also in a more general sense: according to Johnson 'a jewel, an ornament of jewels'. In earlier times applied to a necklace, a bracelet, and other trinkets. *Obs.*

1328 *WYCLIF Song Sol.* i. 9 Faire ben thi cheekes, as of a turtill; thi necke as brooches. c 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 52 Broche, juelle... monile, armilla. 1483 *Cath. Angl.* 45 A Broche, *f. maculum, monile*. 1532 *BILLEDESEN Livy* I. (1822) 22 The Sabins had goldin brochia of grete wecht apoun their left arme. 1558 *HULST. Brouche* or small cheyn, whiche gentlewomen do weare about their neckes. 1641 *BURTON Anat. Mel.* III. ii. iii. iii. About her tender neck were costly bruches. 1676 *BULLOKAR, Brouch*, a kind of Jewel to wear appendant to a Chain.

† b. *fig.*; cf. *gem*, *jewel*. *Obs.*

1460 *CAPGRAVE Chron.* vi. (1858) 122 [Ethelthredus] wedded Emme, cleped 'The broche of Normandie'. 1528 *MORSE Herceyes* III. (1529) lxxxviii. b It wolde be a goodly broche for vs to loke on our owne fawltys another whyle. 1608 *SHAKS. Ham.* iv. vii. 94 He is the Brooch indeed, And Iemme of all our Nation. 1665 *B. JONSON Staple News* III. ii. Who is The very Broch of the Bench, Gem of the City.

† 3. 'A painting all in one colour'. *Obs.* (Only in Dictionaries.)

1706 in *PHILLIPS*. Hence in *BAILEY*, *JOHNSON*, etc.

4. *Comb.*, as *brooch-maker*.

c 1450 *Voc.* in *W. Wülker* 583 *Firmacularius*, a broche-maker. c 1500 *Cochs Lovell's B.* (1843) 9 Laten workers, and broche makers. 1530 *PALSGR.* 201/2 Broche maker, *bambelottier*.

Brooch, *v. rare*. [f. prec. sb.] *trans.* To adorn as with a brooch.

1606 *SHAKS. Tr. & Cr.* iv. xv. 25 Not th' Imperious shew Of the full-Fortun'd Caesar ever shall Be brooch'd with me. 1865 *E. BURRITT Walk Land's End* 439 Wheat-fields in their best gold brooch'd the broad bosom of either valley.

Brooch, *obs.* form of *BROACH*.

Brood (*brʊd*), *sb.* *Forms*: 1 bród, 3-5 brod, 4-5 brode, 5-6 broode, *Sc.* brude, 4- brood. [OE. *brōd*, cogn. with Du. *broed* neut., MDu. *broet* -d-; also with OHG., MHG. *brud* fem., 'heat, warmth, hatching, that which is hatched, brood', mod.G. *brut* 'hatching, brood', from Teutonic verb-root *bro-* to warm, to heat.]

1. Progeny, offspring, young.

a. *esp.* of animals that lay eggs, as birds, serpents, insects, etc. A brood; a family of young hatched at once, a hatch.

c 1000 *ÆLFRIC Hom.* II. 10 Þæt sind beon... of ðam hunige hi bredað heora brod. a 1250 *Owl & Night.* 1624 Ich not to hwan þu brest þi brod. c 1305 CHAUCER *L. G. W.* 133 The fouler that... destroyed hadde hire brod. 1486 *Bk. St. Albans* Fv j. A Brode of hennys. 1530 *PALSGR.* 201/2 Brood of byrdes, *canes doineux*. 1611 *BIBLE Luke* xiii. 34 As a henne doeth gather her brood vnder her wings. 1697 *DRYDEN Virg. Eclog.* iv. 28 The Serpents Brood shall die. 1712 *ADDISON Spect.* No. 121 P 1 A Hen followed by a Brood of Ducks. 1760 *tr. Keyser's Trav.* I. 356 Before the violent heats set in the first brood of (silk-) worms have finished their work. 1805 *MACKINTOSH Driffield Angler* 294 Brood of black game, or heath fowl. 1873 *G. C. DAVIES Mount. & Mere* II. 9 A wild duck leads her brood by the rushes.

† b. of cattle or large animals. *Obs.*

c 1250 *Gen. & Ex.* 3712 Ful of erf and of netes brod. 1387 *TREVISIA Hiden* (1865) II. 201 (Mätz.) Among hem [bestes] al þe brood is liche to þe same kynde.

c. Of human beings: Family, children. (Now generally somewhat contemptuous.)

a 1300 *Cursor M.* 1507 Þar he wond at wit his brode. c 1460 *Towneley Myst.* 104 A house fulle of brode. 1480 *CAXTON Deser. Brit.* 40 They prayse fast troian blode For therof come all her brode. c 1590 *BUREL Queens Entry Edinb.* Their infants sang, & bairnly brudis Quho had but new begun their mudia. 1598 *DRAYTON Heroic. Ep.* xv. 38 Make this a meane to rayse the Nevils brood. 1620 *SHAKS. Temp.* III. ii. 113 She will become thy bed... And bring thee forth braue brood. 1648 *ROGERS Naaman* 25 The most poore, despised... silly wench among all thy brood. 1680 *OTWAY Hist. C. Marius* 8 There's a Remembrance tells whose Brood she came of. 1876 *GEO. ELIOT Dan. Der.* 129 A widow with a brood of daughters.

† d. The young of fish; fry. *Obs.*

1389 *Act 13 Rich. II.* xix. § 1 Le frie on brood des salmons. 1398 *TREVISIA Barth. De P. R.* XIII. xxvi. (1495) 458 Smale fysches brynge forthe theyr brood in place wherin is but lytyll water. 1531-2 *Act 23 Hen. VIII.* xviii. Broode and frie of fishe in the saide ruer. 1538 *Act 1 Elis.* xviii. § 1 Any young Brood, Spawn or Fry of Eels.

e. *fig.* Of things inanimate.

1597 SHAKS. *a Hen. IV.* iii. i. 86 Such things become the Hatch and Brood of Time. 1638 MILTON *Penser.* 96 The brood of Folly without father bred. 1798 FRERE *New Morality in Anti-Jacobin* 9 July, 'To drive and scatter all the brood of lies. 1863 GEO. ELIOT *Romola* i. ix. (1880) i. 136 A brood of guilty wishes.

† 2. The cherishing of the fetus in the egg or the womb; hatching, breeding. *To sit on brood or a-brood:* as a hen on her eggs, *fig.* to sit brooding. Cf. ABROOD. *Obs.* or *arch.*

1250-1300 [see ABROOD]. a 1300 *Seven Sins in E. E. P.* (1862) 19 A pan is muk he sit a-brode. c 1400 *Pallad. on Husb.* i. 575 What woman cannot sette an hen on broode And bryng her briddes forth? c 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 53 Brode of byrds, *pullificacio.* c 1534 *tr. Pol. Verg. Eng. Hist.* (1846) i. 182 Verie commodius for the broode and feeding of cattayle. 1608 SHAKS. *Ham.* iii. i. 173 There's something in his soule? O're which his Melancholly sits on brood. 1616 SURFL. & MARKH. *Countr. Farm* 80 To fat their Feasant Cocks and Hennes for Feastuall dayes... and not for brood. 1878 BROWNING *Fine line* 12 You still blew a spark at brood I the greyest embers.

† b. Hence: Parentage, extraction, nativity. 1596 SPENSER *F. Q.* i. iii. 8 At last... Arose the virgin borne of heavenly brood. *Ibid.* v. vii. 21 They doe thy linage, and thy Lordly brood... They doe thy love forlorne in womens thraldome see.

c. *attrib.* with sense 'breeding'; as in *brood class*; *brood hen, mare, sow*, and the like, where however the words are often hyphenated: see 6.

1566 *Pilgr. Perf.* (1531) 13 He... cherysheth vs, as... the broode henne her chekyens. 1814 SCOTT *Diary in Lockhart* (1839) IV. 234 The brood sow making a distinguished inhabitant of the mansion. 1883 *Birmingham Weekly Post* 11 Aug. 6/3 Mares and foals shown in the brood class. 1886 *Sat. Rev.* 6 Mar. 327/2 A brood mare, one of the blue-blooded matrons of the Stud-book.

3. A race, a kind; a species of men, animals, or things, having common qualities. Now usually *contemptuous*; = 'swarm, crew, crowd'.

1581 J. BELL *Haddon's Answ. Osor.* 213 b, The secret whisperings of Pelagius brood. 1608 CAREW *Cornwall* 22 a, Cornish houses are most pestered with Rats, a brood very hurtful. 1706 HEARNE *Coll.* (1885) i. 208 Presbyterians and the rest of y^e Brood. a 1710 ADDISON (J.) Its tainted air and all its broods of poisons. 1867 FREEMAN *Norm. Cong.* (1876) i. iii. 96 A brood of petty despots. 1884 *Pall Mall G.* 28 June 1/1 The unclean brood of pashas and beys at present infesting London.

4. *spec.* The spat of oysters in its second year. 1866 *Macm. Mag.* Oct. 504 This brood is carefully laid down in the oyster-beds of Whitstable. 1865 *Pall Mall G.* 5 Dec. 5 The free fishermen buy not only 'brood', as the spawn is called when two years old, but oysters much nearer maturity. 1879 *Cassell's Techn. Educ.* IV. 154/1 Spat in the second year is denominated 'brood'.

5. *Min.* 'The heavier kinds of waste in tin and copper ores (*Cornwall*).' Raymond *Mining Gloss.* 1880 *W. Cornwall Gloss.* Brood, impurities mixed with ore.

6. *Comb.* frequently with sense 'breeding, hatching', as *brood-basket, -bed, -capsule, -comb* (of bees), *-goose, -mare, -oyster, -pouch, -song, -sow*; *brood-hen*, a breeding-hen; also an old name for the constellation of the Pleiades; † *brood-man* (L. *proletarius*), a Roman citizen of the lowest class who served the republic only with his children.

1848 *Sketches Rur. Affairs* 236 A hen and her chickens are sometimes carried... to the turnip-field, in a sort of basket, called a 'brood-basket'. 1598 SILVESTER *Du Bartas* i. v. (1641) 45/6 The rich Merchant resolutely ventures. So soon as th' Halcyon in her 'brood-bed' enters. 1870 NICHOLSON *Zool.* (1880) 235 Instead of producing simple 'Echinococci', i. [the tape-worm] may bud off numerous 'brood-capsules'. 1776 DEBRAU in *Phil. Trans.* LXVII. 27 The other piece of 'brood-comb. a 1666 FLETCHER *Hum. Lieut.* ii. i, They have no more burden than a 'brood-goose, brother. 1596 [see 2 c] 'Broode henne. 1551 RECORDE *Cast. Knowl.* 265 In Greek Pleiades, and also Atlantides: they are named in english the brood Henne, and the Seven starrs. 1601 HOLLAND *Pliny* i. 298 There should not be put vnder a brood-hen about 25 eggs at one time to sit vpon. *Ibid.* II. 30 The occultation or setting of the Brood-hen. 1610 HEALEY *St. Aug. City of God* iii. xvii. 133 A... 'Broodman was... euer forborne from all offices and vses in the Cittie, beeing reserued onely to begette children. 1878 BOSW. SMITH *Carthage* 29 Flocks and herds, and 'broodmares abounded in their pastures. 1737 G. SMITH *Cur. Relations* i. iv. 490 'Brood-Ovens, contriv'd to breed and hatch all Sorts of Eggs. 1864 *Daily Tel.* 18 May, From 'brood-oysters, whelks, shell-fish and the rest, the villages... derive £30,000 a year. 1869 NICHOLSON *Zool.* (1880) 522 In the curious American Tree-frogs... the females have a dorsal 'brood-pouch. 1881 F. M. BALFOUR *Embryol.* II. 55 In Syngnathus the eggs are carried in a brood-pouch of the male situated behind the anus. 1840 BROWNING *Sordello* i. 279 He... sends his soul along. With the cloud's thunder, or a dove's 'brood-song. 1815 SCOTT *Guy R. Intro.* 9 Her sons... stole a 'brood-sow from their kind entertainer.

Brood (*brūd*), *v.* [f. BROOD *sb.*]

I. *trans.* (mostly *arch.* or *poet.*)

1. To sit on (eggs) so as to hatch them; to incubate.

c 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 53 Brodyn, as byrds, *soveo, feti-fico.* 1606 T. H. CUNNING'S *Holy Cri.* 166 If the hen brood not her eggs, she hath no desire to make them disclose. 1641 J. JACKSON *True Evang.* T. iii. 179 Gods Spirit... must incubate, and brood both, to make them fruitful. 1816 KIRBY & SP. *Entomol.* (1843) II. 41 *note.* That the eggs... are deposited in heaps and that the neuters brood them. 1831 CARLYLE *Sart. Res.* (1869) 88 To breed a fresh Soul, is it not like brooding a fresh (celestial) Egg?

† b. To produce by brooding upon; to breed. (Cf. *Gen.* i. 2.) *Obs.*

1649 SELDEN *Laus Eng.* ii. i. (1739) 8 A Chaos capable of any form that the next daring spirit shall brood upon it. 2. To cherish (young brood) under the wings, as a hen does; often *fig.*

1571 GOLDING *Calvin on Ps.* lvi. 2 To gather in our hope unto God, that he may broode us under his wings. 1587 FLEMING *Contr. Holinshed* III. 1338/1 A hen a brooding hir chickens. 1639 HORN & ROBERTHAM *Gale Lang. Unl.* xiv. § 147 They brood their broode under the covering of their wings. 1640 BR. HALL *Episc. Ep. Ded.* 3 This strange bird thus hatched by Farell... was afterwards brooded by two more famous successors. 1675 J. SMITH *Chr. Relig. Appeal* i. 35 Those Gods, under whose wings I have been brooded.

b. *To brood up:* = BREED *up*, to rear. 1586 WARNER *Alb. Eng.* ii. xi. 45 The thrifite Earth that bringeth out and broodeth vp her breed. 1610 HEALEY *St. Aug. City of God* 94 Not able to restrain them from brooding up such desires.

3. *fig.* To breed, hatch (products or projects); to produce as it were by incubation.

1613 FLETCHER *Captain* ii. i. 52 An ease that broodes Theeves and basterds onely. 1666 FULLER *Worthies* (1840) III. 362 Hell, and not the heavens, brooded that design. 1808 SOUTHEY *Thalaba* iii. i. There brood the pestilence, and let The earthquake loose. 1870 LOWELL *Among my Bks.* Ser. i. (1873) 183 By the natural processes of the creative faculty, to brood those flashes of expression that transcend rhetoric.

† 4. To cherish, nurse tenderly. *Obs.* 1618 T. ADAMS *Saints' Meeting Wks.* 1861 II. 401 Pleasures, delights, riches, are hatched and brooded by the wicked as their own. a 1666 FLETCHER *Woman's Prize* i. i. 97 This fellow broods his master.

b. 'To cherish in the mind, 'to nurse wrath (or the like) to keep it warm'; to meditate upon, contemplate with feeling. Now usually *to brood on or over:* see sense 7.

1571 *tr. Buchanan's Detect. Mary.* She temperately broodeth good luck. 1590 WARNER *Alb. Eng.* v. xxvii. 136 The world thus brooding Vanities. 1646 FULLER *Wounded Consc.* (1841) 316 To sit moping to brood their melancholy. 1675 DRYDEN *Aureng.* v. i. 2230 You'll sit and brood your Sorrows on a throne. 1784 JOHNSON in Boswell *Life* (1826) IV. 337, I have had no long time to brood here. 1807 CRABBE *Village* li. 20 Their careful masters brood the painful thought. 1850 BLACKIE *Aschylus* II. 61 Such wedlock even now He blindly broods, as shall uprear his kingdom.

II. *intrans.*

5. To sit as a hen on eggs; to sit or hover with outspread cherishing wings.

1586 SHAKS. *L. L. L.* v. ii. 933 Birds sit brooding in the snow. 1609 MILTON *Nativ.* v. Birds of calm sit brooding on the charmed wave. 1667 — *P. L.* i. 21 Thou... with mighty wings outspread Dove-like satst brooding on the vast Abyss, And mad'st it pregnant. 1808 PALEY *Nat. Theol.* xviii. (1817) 147 A couple of sparrows... would build their nest, and brood upon their eggs. 1852 MRS. JAMESON *Leg. Madonna* (1857) 183 [The Dove] sometimes seems to brood immediately over the head of the Virgin.

6. *fig.* To sit on, or hang close over; to hover over; with some figurative reference to the action or attitude of a brooding bird. Said esp. of *night, darkness, silence, mist, storm-clouds*, and the like.

1607 DRYDEN *Virg. Georg.* i. 339 Perpetual Night... In silence brooding on th' unhappy ground. 1706 S. ROGERS *Ode Superst.* i. ii, Night... brooding, gave her shapeless shadows birth. 1810 T. PARK *Confirm. Day in Poet. Register* 31 The bishop's blessing broods upon their heads, (As once o'er Jordan did the dove-like form). 1845 MACAULAY *Hist. Eng.* IV. 191 Glencoe signifies the Glen of Weeping... Mists and storms brood over it through the greater part of the finest summer. 1873 BLACK *Pr. Thule* xiii. 201 Silence brooded over the long undulations of the Park.

7. To meditate moodily, or with strong feeling, on or over; to dwell closely upon in the mind; to nurse or foster the feeling of.

1751 JOHNSON *Ramb.* No. 185 ¶ 6 He who has often brooded over his wrongs. 1759 FRANKLIN *Ess. Wks.* 1840 III. 364 From the 21st to the 25th... the governor brooded over the two bills. 1805 SOUTHEY *Madoc in W.* iii, I veil'd my head, and brooded on the past. 1808 SCOTT *Marm.* vi. vi, Sit and deeply brood On dark revenge. 1828 HAZLITT *Table-t.* i. v. 98 A mind for ever brooding over itself. 1876 M. ARNOLD *Lit. & Dogma* 196 It was on this that... their hopes brooded.

b. To meditate (*esp.* in a moody or morbid way). 1678 DISRAELI *Viv. Grey* v. iii, Their conversation allowed him no pause to brood. 1833 TENNYSON *Poems* 151 With down cast eyes we muse and brood. 1873 MORLEY *Rousseau* i. 277 The egoistic character that loves to brood, and hates to act.

8. *transf. a.* To breed (interest).

1678 BUTLER *Hud.* iii. ii. 861 Sums... That Brooding lie in Bankers Hands.

b. To lie as a cherished nestling, a cherished thought, etc. (Cf. 4 b and 6.)

1679 DRYDEN *Tr. & Cr. Pref.*, The Injury he had received... had long been brooding in his Mind. 1818 J. WILSON *Isle of Palms* iii. 659 The dovelike rest That broods within her pious breast. 1850 HAWTHORNE *Scarlet L.* xvi, The themes that were brooding deepest in their hearts.

Broode, *obs.* form of BROOD.

Broode-axe, -exe, *obs.* ff. BROAD-AX.

† **Brooded**, *ppl. a.* *Obs.* [f. BROOD *v.* or *sb.* + -ED¹]

1. Incubated, hatched; also *fig.*

1674 N. FAIRFAX *Bulk & Selv.* 125 Such... steams, as may be thought to have swarm'd from the brooding hen, and

crowden into the brooded egge. a 1771 GRAY *Triumphs of Owen*, He nor heaps his brooded stores, Nor on all profusely pours.

2. Having a brood (chiefly in comb. as *double-brooded*).

1837 STAINTON *Butterflies & Moths* I. 37 *Vanessa*—all the species are single-brooded, except *Urtica*, of which there appears to be a succession of broods during the summer.

¶ In the following passage, some explain 'Having a brood (to watch over)'; others, 'brooding, or occupied with brooding'. The very likely emendation of *brood-eted* = *broad-eyed* (see BROAD a. D¹) has also been suggested.

1595 SHAKS. *John* iii. iii. 52 Then, in despite of brooded watchful day, I would into thy bosome poure my thoughts.

Brooder (*brū-dau*). [f. BROOD *v.* + -ER¹] One who broods over things.

1869 *Daily News* 5 June, Louis Napoleon is not alone a dreamer—he is a brooder. He has brooded two whole years over the possible result of the elections.

† **Broodful**, *a.* *Obs.* [See -FUL.] Prolific. a 1300 *E. E. Psalter* cxliii[iv]. 13 Pair schepe brode-full... In par out-gang.

Broodiness (*brū-dinēs*). [f. BROODY a. + -NESS.] The condition or quality of being broody. 1881 *Gard. Chron.* No. 441. 786 A change of run is almost a certain cure for broodiness (in hens).

Brooding (*brū-ding*), *vbl. sb.* [see -ING¹]

1. The action of incubating or hatching.

c 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 53 Brodyng of byrds, *socio.* 1558 HULOT, Brodyng as hennes doth to chykens. 1656 COWLEY *Pind. Odes* 25 *note.* To come like an Egg that is not yet hatcht, but a brooding.

b. *fig.* 1805 SOUTHEY *Madoc in Ast.* ii, But I the while Reck'd not the brooding of the storm.

c. *attrib.*, as in *brooding-place, -pouch, -room*.

1648 MILTON *Psalm lxxiv*, The Swallow there... Hath built her brooding nest. 1852 *Home Circle* Apr. 155 'Brooding-places'... places selected by various sea-fowls, where they in common build their nests, lay their eggs, and bring up their young. 1884 ROK in *Harper's Mag.* May 930/2 The box was placed on a... shelf in the brooding-room.

2. A cherishing in the mind; moody mental contemplation.

1873 MORLEY *Rousseau* I. 71 The morbid broodings which active life reduces to their lowest degree in most young men. 1871 R. H. HUTTON *Ess.* (ed. 2) I. Pref. 15 The brooding of man's nature... over this... experience.

Brooding, *ppl. a.* [f. BROOD *v.* + -ING²]

1. That cherishes (brood), hatches, or incubates.

1674 [see BROODED *ppl. a.*]. 1808 PALEY *Nat. Theol.* (1817) 149 The question, why... the brooding hen should look for pleasure from her chickens. 1843 HOOD *Song of Shit* viii, Underneath the eaves The brooding swallows cling. *fig.* 1667 MILTON *P. L.* vii. 235 On the watrie calme His brooding wings the Spirit of God outspread.

2. *fig.* That hovers closely around or overhangs (as a bird over her brood).

1646 CRASHAW *Steps to Temp.* 34 Darkness hovers with a sable wing, that covers Brooding horror. a 1725 POPE *Odys.* xix. 602 When nature's hush'd beneath her brooding shade. 1803 CHALMERS *Serm.* I. 346 A suppressed, but brooding storm. 1850 KINGSLEY *Alt. Locke* xxxv. (1879) 369 Lost in a brooding cloud of fog.

3. That dwells moodily upon a subject of thought.

1828 MRS. SHELLEY *Frankens.* vi. (1865) 89 Come, Victor, not with brooding thoughts of vengeance. 1875 B. TAYLOR *Faust* II. 42 My father's was a sombre, brooding brain.

Broodingly, *adv.* [f. *prec.* + -LY²] In a brooding manner.

1840 LYTTON *Pilgr. Rhine* xxvi, Which the demon broodingly foresaw. 1854 MRS. GASKELL *North & S.* ii, The weather was sultry and broodingly still.

† **Broodious**, *a.* *Obs.* [f. BROOD *sb.* + -IOUS after words from Latin.] ? Prolific.

1608 WARNER *Alb. Eng.* Epit. (1612) 368 Through inter-marriages, and confederacies with Ours they grew so audacious, broodious, and powerfull in England that, etc.

Broodlet, *Broodling*, *rare.* [f. BROOD *sb.* + -LET, -LING.] A young bird, a nestling.

1673 R. HEAD *Caning Academy* 21 The Hen and all Her tender Broodlings. 1866 ALGER *Solit. Nat. & Man* ii. 37 The wild bird whose little heart throbs... towards her nest and broodlets.

† **Broodly**, *adv.* *Obs.* = *broodily* (which was perhaps the word meant), f. BROODY.

1615 LATHAM *Falconry* (1633) 98 When you do perceiue your Hawke to sit broodly and crouching.

Broody (*brū-di*), *a.* [f. BROOD *sb.* + -Y¹]

† 1. Prolific; apt or inclined to breed. Now *dial.*

1513 DOUGLAS *Aeneis* vi. xiii. 61 The quhilk citee... Happy and brudy of hir forcy offspring. 1536 BELLENDEN *Cron. Scot.* i. (1821) p. xxxiv, This herbe is sa brudy, that quhair it is anis sawin... it can never be destroyt. *Ibid.* i. v. (JAM.) The brudy spreying of the Scottis. 1609 BOYD *Last Battell* 146 (JAM.) Strive to curbe your owne corruptions which are broodie within you. a 1639 W. WHATELEY *Protophytes* ii. xxx. (1640) 97 He is broody of quarrels. 1693 J. WALLACE *Orkney* 30 The Women are very Broodie and apt for Generation. 1800 A. CARLYLE *Autobiog.* 225 His widow, being still handsome and broody, married.

2. Of fowls: Inclined to 'sit' or incubate.

1523 FITZHERB. *Husb.* § 146 When they [hennes] ware brodye. 1691 RAY *Creation* i. (1704) 186 The hen—while she is broody sits, and leads her chickens. 1859 DARWIN *Orig. Spec.* (1861) 236 Fowls which very rarely or never become 'broody', that is, never wish to sit on their eggs. 1873 LUBBOCK *Orig. Civilis.* App. 498 A mongrel [fowl] that becomes broody and sits with remarkable steadiness.

Brook (bruk), *sb.* Forms: 1 br6o, 2-3 brooc, 3-4 brok, 4 broche, 4-6 broke, 5-7 brooke, 5-6 bruke, 4- brook. [OE. *brōc* masc., corresponding in form to MDu. *broek* m., mod. Du. *brook* n., LG. *brōk* marsh, bog, OHG. *bruoh*, MHG. *bruoch* n. and m., marshy ground, morass, Ger. *bruch* m. and n., moor, marsh, bog, fen. A similar range of meaning appears in MHG. *ouwe* water, stream, watery land, island; and cf. BACH. The ulterior derivation of the WGer. **brōka-* is uncertain; it has been doubtfully referred to *brēk-an* to BREAK, as 'that which breaks or bursts forth'; cf. *spring*, 'that which springs forth'.]

1. A small stream, rivulet; *orig.* a torrent, a strong flowing stream.

1288 K. ALFRED Boeth. vi. Hwæt eac se broc, beah he swiþe of his rihtre. c. 1050 Gloss. in Wr. Wülcker 178 *Fluvius*, singul. *fluvende* ca; *fluvus*, nō; *laxus*, burna; *torrens*, broc; *rinulus*, lytel rīd. c. 1200 LAY. 10827 Pat. . . wurpen hine in ænne broc. c. 1250 E. E. Allit. P. A. 1073 Vpon þe brokes bryn. c. 1450 *Martin* xi. 167 In the brooke were wyld gees that hem dide bathe. c. 1450 HENRYSON *Mor. Fab.* 86, I drinke beneth you far, Ergo, for mee your bruke was neuer the war. 1535 COVERDALE Ps. xlii. 1. Like as the hart desyeth the water brokes. 1538 STARKEY *England* 16 Yssue . . as Brokys out of fountayns. 1593 SHAKS. 2 *Hen. VI.* iii. 1. 53 Smooth runnes the Water, where the Brooke is deepe. 1600 — A. Y. L. ii. 1. 16 This our life findes tongues in trees, brookes in the running brookes, Sermons in stones. 1597 MONTGOMERIE *Cherrie & Slae* 24 Among the water broke. 1796 MORSE *Amer. Geog.* i. 450 These rivers are fed by numberless brooks from every part of the country. 1864 TENNYSON (*title*) The Brook.

b. *transf.* A stream, a 'torrent' (e. g. of blood). c. 1225 *Ancre. R.* 258 Þæt ilke dei þæt he bledde . . brokes of ful broð & deope wunden. c. 1240 *Ureisin* in *Lamb. Hom.* 187 Þi blod isched on þe rode . . þe large broc of þi softside. †2. The stream or 'flood' of the sea. *Obs. rare.* c. 1225 E. E. Allit. P. C. 145 When þe breth & þe brok & þe bote metten.

3. *Attrib.* and *Comb.*, as brook-bank, -side; brook-bounded adj.; brook oussel or brook runner, the Water-rail (*Rallus aquaticus*).

1861 L. NOBLE *Icebergs* 161 Along the 'brook-banks' under the Catskills. 1839 BAILEY *Festus* xx. (1848) 238 'Brook-bounded pine spinnies. 1678 RAY *Willughby's Ornith.* 314 The Water-Rail, called by some the Bilecock or 'Brook-Ouzel. 1837 HAWTHORNE *Amer. Note-bks.* (1871) i. 42 Strawberries were scattered along the 'brooksides.

b. in plant-names, as brook Betony, *Scrophularia aquatica*; †brook leek, *Arum dracunculoides*. Brook mint, the Water-mint, *Menha hirsuta*; Brook-tongue, *Cicuta virosa*; Brook weed, the Water Pimpernel, *Samolus Valerandi*. (Miller *Plant-Names*).

c. 1040 Sax. *Leechd.* i. 220 Genim þysse wyrt was þe man . . 'brocmeint nemneþ. 1614 MARKHAM *Cheape Husb.* i. Table Wds., Horse-mint . . is called Water-mint or Brook-mint. 1861 MISS PRATT *Flowers* Pl. IV. 245 'Brookweed or Water Pimpernel. 1863 MARG. FLURS *Wildflowers* 237 She got the brookweed too from the banks of the Fowey river.

Brook (bruk), *v.* Forms: 1 brūcan, 2 bruce(n), 2-3 bruke(n), brukien, 3-6 brooke, 4 brook, 4-5 browke; also 3-5 broken, 3-6 broke, (4-5 brok), 5-7 brooke, 5- brook; 5-6 Sc. bruk (e (ū)), 6 brwk, 6-8 bruk, 7 bruike. [OE. *brūcan* (pa. t. *brāc*, *brucon*, pple. *gebrocen*), a Com. Teut. verb, but found in the other langs. with weak conjugation: OFris. *brūka*, OS. *brūcan* (MDu. *brūken*, Du. *bruiken*), LG. *brūken*, OHG. *brāhhan* (MHG. *brāchen*, Ger. *brauchen*), Goth. *brukjan*:—OTeut. stem **bruk-* 'to make use of, have the enjoyment of, enjoy':—Aryan **bhrug-*, whence also L. *fru-i* (:-*frugv-i*), *fruct-us* in same sense. The strong pa. t. and pple. occur in OE., but no certain instance of either is known in ME.; 16th c. Scotch has the weak *brooked*, *brooket*, *bruikit*.

The phonetic history is unusual; the OE. *brūcan*, ME. *bruken*, *bruke*, would normally have given mod. *brook*; while the mod. *brook*, and Sc. *bruit* normally answer to a ME. *brōken*, found already, as a by-form, in Layamon.]

1. *trans.* To enjoy the use of, make use of, profit by; to use, enjoy, possess, hold. *Obs.* except Sc. in some legal phrases, and *arch.* in literature.

Beowulf 894 Þæt he beah-hordes brucan moste. a 1000 *Wanderer* 44 (in Sweet *Ag. Reader*) Swa he . . gief-stoles breac. c. 1175 *Lamb. Hom.* 117 Pu ane ne brukest naut þinra welena. c. 1205 LAY. 30308 Ne scal he nauere . . kinehelme broken [c. 1275 *brouke*]. a 1225 St. *Markar.* 19 Thu schalt aa buten ende bruken blisse. a 1300 *Cursor M.* 2589 To bruke þair heritage in pais. *Ibid.* 2427 (Fair.) Take here þi wife and brok [v. r. brook, -e] þiir wele. c. 1440 *Bone Flor.* 1183 Syr Emere comawndyd every man To brooke wele the tresur that they wan. 1548 *Compl. Scot.* 86 I þone kyng of ingland . . brukit the realme twenty 3eirs. 1603 JAS. I. in *Calderwood Hist. Kirk* 256. I, as long as I brook my life, shall maintain the same. 1637 RUTHERFORD *Let. cxi.* (1862) i. 334 Long may He brook it! 1707 DIX. *Arthor.* in *Vulphone* 21 To retain, enjoy or bruk and exerce all their Rights. 1828 SCOTT *F. M. Perth* xi. No man shall brook life after he has passed an affront on Douglas. *Mod. Sc.* The largest leiver bruks a (=the survivor has possession of everything).

† b. Formerly in asseverations: So (or as) *brouke* I my chym, eyes, heid, etc.: so may I (or as I wish to) have the use of my eyes, etc.

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c. 1275 *Cott. Hom.* 233 Swa ibruce ic mine rice ne scule þie mine mete ibite. a 1300 *Havelok* 311 He shal (ben)king . . So brouke I euer mi blake swire! 1384 CHAUCER *H. Fame* 273 For al-so browke I wel myn hede Ther may be vnder godelyheðe Keuered many a shrewde vice. c. 1386 — *Nonas Pr.* 1. 280 So mot I brouke wel myn yen tway, Save ye, I herde never man so synge. c. 1400 *Gamelyn* 567 Than seyde the porter, 'so brouke I my chyn, 3e schul sey your erand er 3e comen in'. c. 1460 *Towneley Myst.* 12 As browke I thise two shankys, It is full sore myne unthankys. 1591 *Troub. Raigne K. John* (1611) 29 Ill may I thriue, and nothing brooke with me, If shortly I present it not to thee.

† c. To brook a name (well): to bear it appropriately, to credit to it, act consistently with it. *Obs.*

1587 HARRISON *England* ii. v. (1877) 127 Would to God they might once brooke their name, Sans reproche. a 1600 *Robin Hood* (Ritson) ii. xvi. 30 'Simon', said the good wife, 'I wish thou mayest well brook thy name'. 1622 R. HAWKINS *Voy. S. Sea* (1847) 11 Henceforth shee should be called the Daintie; which name she brooked as well for her proportion and grace, as for the many happie voyages. 1655 FULLER *Ch. Hist.* i. i. § 8 And well did he brook his Name.

† 2. To make use of (food); in later usage, to digest, retain, or bear on the stomach.

1550 *Lindisf. Gosp.* John iv. 32 Ic mett hafo to bruccanne gone gie ne uutoun. a 1000 *ALFRED Gen.* iii. 19 On swate ðines andwiltan ðu bricst ðines hlafes. c. 1275 *Cott. Hom.* 221 Elra þara þing þe on paradis beoð þu most bruce. c. 1440 *Prompt. Parv.* 53 Brooke mete or drynke . . *retineo vel digerendo retinere*. 1540 RAYNALD *Byrth Man* ii. ix. (1634) 142 If she refuse or cannot brooke meat. 1561 HOLLYBUSH *Hom. Apol.* 32 Geue him a good draught of y^e same . . as hote as he can brooke it. 1598 W. PHILLIP *Lincolnton's Trav.* Ind. in *Arb. Garner* III. 26 So fat that men can hardly brook them.

† b. *absol.* *Obs.*

1473 MARG. PASTON *Let.* III. 79 Water of mynte . . were good for my cosyn to drynke for to make hym to brooke.

c. *fig.* To digest mentally.

1548 HALL *Chron.* (1809) 178 After the letter twice redde & wisely brooked.

3. To put up with, bear with, endure, tolerate [a fig. sense of 'to stomach' in 2]. Now only in negative or preclusive constructions.

1530 PALSGR. 471/2 He cannot brooke me of all men. 1583 STUBBS *Anat. Abus.* ii. 30 They cannot at any hand brooke or digest them that would counsel them to that. 1624 CAYT. SMITH *Virginia* iv. 115, I would deter such from coming here, that cannot well brooke labour. 1667 MILTON *P. L.* vi. 274 Heav'n . . Brooks not the works of violence and War. 1752 YOUNG *Brothers* ii. i. Such insults are not brook'd by royal minds. c. 1815 JANE AUSTEN *Northang. Ab.* (1833) ii. xv. 208 The General could ill brook the opposition of his son. c. 1824 STANLEY *Sinai & Pal.* v. (1858) 230 That haughty spirit that could brook no equal or superior.

† b. *intr.* To put up with. *Obs.*

1628 A. FOX *Tr. Warts' Surg.* ii. l. 49 The Wound cannot brook with the Medicine.

† c. To find it agreeable to do something. *Obs.*

1604 E. HAKE *No Gold, No G.* in FARR'S S. P. (1848) 256 Few men brooke To helpe a man that is in need.

† 4. To brook up. [perh. a different word.] *Obs.* 1601 RAY S. & E. C. Wds. 91 To brook up, spoken of Clouds; when they draw together and threaten rain. [Also 1721 in BAILEY.]

¶ Here probably an error for *bused*.

a 1300 *Cursor M.* 25282 Þe bodi has nede of bath to braked be wide mete and clath.

Brookable (brukäb'l), *a.* That may be brooked; endurable. (Chiefly Sc.)

c. 1817 HOGG *Tales & Sk.* v. 41 The face . . gazed on him with an intensity that was hardly brookable. 1881 *Autobiog.* 7. Younger xxii. 264 The idea was not brookable to the old people.

Brooke, *obs. pa. t. of BREAK.*

Brooked, *a. Sc.* Forms: 8 bruket, brukit, 9 brooket, bruikit (brükit). [Of uncertain origin: it has been taken as identical with BROOKED, but appears to be phonetically distinct.] Streaked or marked with black; soot-begrimed.

a 1296 BURNS *Wks.* (1800) IV. 85 (JAM.) The bonie bruket Lassie certainly deserves better verses. 1810 COCK *Simple Strains* 137 (JAM.) Lat me to the brooket knave. 1822-53 *Whistle-Binkie* (Sc. Songs) ii. 105 To milk our brukit cow.

† **Brooker**, *Sc. rare.* [f. BROOK v. + -ER.] One who enjoys possession of, a proprietor.

1721 RAMSAY *Wks.* (1848) III. 70 The loyal brooker of Bell-trees (the estate of the Semples).

Brooker, *obs. form of BROKER.*

† **Brooket**, [f. BROOK sb. + -ET.] = BROOKLET.

1538 LELAND *Itin.* i. 13 A little without Welleden I passid over a Broket. 1610 HOLLAND *Camden's Brit.* i. 315 From Lewis, the river . . is fed more full with a brooket falling from Loughton.

Brooking (bruk'kin), *vbl. sb.* [f. BROOK v.]

† 1. The capacity to take (food); assimilation, digestion. *Obs.*

c. 1440 *Prompt. Parv.* 53 Brokyngs of mete and drynke, *retencia*. 1606 BACON *Sylva* § 61 The brooking of enormous quantity of meats . . without Surfeit.

2. Endurance, bearing. (Now chiefly gerundial.)

1624 BACON *New Atl.* iii. (1635) 42 We have ships and boats for going under water, and brooking of seas. *Mod.* After brooking such an insult.

† **Brook'ing**, *sb. Obs.* [f. BROOK sb. + -ING.] The maintenance or preservation of a brook.

1610 FOLKINGHAM *Art of Survey* ii. 50 Sometimes this Compound Boundage implies a mutual propertie or duty participable to the Conterminants, as banking, balking, dyking . . brooking, riuaging, foording.

Brookite (bruk'it), *Min.* [Named after H. J.

Brooke, a mineralogist.] Native titanite anhydride; Jurinite.

1879 RUTLEY *Stud. Rocks* x. 119 These plates have been referred . . to göthite, to specular iron, to brookite, etc.

Brooklet (bru'klet), [f. BROOK sb. + -LET: of very modern formation; the earlier equivalent was BROOKET.] A little brook, a rivulet, streamlet.

1813 SCOTT *Trierm.* l. v. Such lulling sounds as the brooklet sing. 1837 HAWTHORNE *Twice-told T.* (1851) II. xviii. 256 Along the brink of a freshwater brooklet. 1865 LIVINGSTONE *Zambesi* xxiv. 492 These little brooklets came down from the range on our left.

Brooklime (bru'k,leim), *Forms:* [1 hleo-moce, 4-5 lemoke, lemoke, lemke], 5 broke-lemke, -lemkp, 6 brokelem, brooklem, -lyme, 7 brokelempe, brokelhempe, 6 brooklyme, -lyme. [Worn down from ME. *brook-lemok*, f. *brōc* BROOK + *lemok*:—OE. *hleomoc*, name of the plant.]

A species of Speedwell (*Veronica Beccabunga*) common on the edges of ditches; also a kindred species known as Lesser Brooklime or Narrow-leaved Water Speedwell (*V. Anagallis*).

[c. 1000 Sax. *Leechd.* II. 92 Hleomocce hatte wyrt si weaxeð on broce. a 1387 *Sinon. Barthol.* (Mowat *Anecd. Oxon.* i.) *Fabaria*, lemke [printed levike]. a 1465 *Alphita* (Mowat *Anecd. Oxon.* ii.) 86 *Fabaria* . . *anglice* lemke uel lemoke.] a 1450 MS. *Bodl.* 536 (Plant names), Brokelemke. c. 1460 J. RUSSELL *Bk. Nurture in Babees Bk.* (1868) 185 Broke lempk . . is good for ache. 1548 TURNER *Names of Herbes* (1881) 25 Called in englishe Brooklem, and in Duche Bauchbung. 1551 — *Herbal* 98 Brooklyme. 1597 GERARD *Herbal* clxxxiv. 495 Brooklime or Brooklem, hath fat, thicke stalkes. 1614 MARKHAM *Cheape Husb.* (ed. 3) 97 Take Brokelempe [ed. 1668 brooklime] the lesse, and frie it with Tallow. 1748 ANSON *Voy.* ii. xii. (ed. 4) 364 Nor is there any other useful vegetable here worth mentioning except brook-lime. 1794 MARTYN *Rousseau's Bot.* xii. 124. 1846 SOWERBY *Eng. Bot.* (1866) VI. 169 The leaves and young stems of the Brooklime were once in favour as an antiscorbutic.

Brooky (bru'ki), *a.* [f. BROOK sb. + -Y.] Characterized by or abounding in brooks.

1797 DYER *Fleece* i. 52 Lemsters brooky tract, & airy Croft. *Ibid.* ii. 208 Hermon & Seir & Hebron's brooky sides. 1822 *Three in Norway* viii. 61 The rockiest, brookiest . . country in the world.

Brool (brül), [app. ad. Ger. *brüll* roar, roaring, f. *brüllen*, Du. *brullen* to roar (as a lion, etc.). (Cf. BRILL v. 2.)] A low deep humming sound; a murmur. Also *fig.* So *Brooling* *vbl. sb.*

1837 CARLYLE *Fr. Rev.* (1871) i. 144 List to the brool of that royal forest-voice. 1879 *Spectator* 29 Nov. 1507 What the meaning of that multitudinous brool will be. 1884 *Ibid.* 16 Feb. 213/1 A man who could represent the ruling opinion of the hour with a brool as loud as its own. 1837 CARLYLE *Fr. Rev.* (1857) II. ii. iv. 14 The People also is calm . . With but a few broolings.

Broom (brüm), *sb.* Forms: 1 bróm, 2-4 brom, 3-6 brome, 5-6 brume, (6 Sc. broym, broume), 6 browme, 6-7 broome (7- Sc. brume), 5- broom. [OE. *bróm* (from WGer. **brāma-*), pointing to OTeut. type **brāmo-s*: cogn. with OHG. *brāmo*, MHG. *brāme* masc. 'bramble' (whence mod. G. *brambere*), also with Ger. *bram* 'broom', OTeut. type **brāmon-*; and OHG. *brāma*, mod. Ger. and MDu. *brame*, mod. Du. *braam* fem., bramble, thorn, (MDu. *brame* also 'broom'), OTeut. type **brāmbn-* fem.; also with BRAMBLE, q. v. The derivation of the OTeut. stem **brām-* is uncertain, but the earliest sense of the various forms appears to be 'thorny shrub', whence 'bramble', 'furze or gorse', and by confusion with the latter 'broom', which seems to be the only Eng. sense.]

1. A shrub, *Sarothamnus* or *Cytisus Scoparius* (N.O. *Leguminosae*), bearing large handsome yellow papilionaceous flowers; abundant on sandy banks, pastures, and heaths in Britain, and diffused over Western Europe. Also the genus to which this belongs, and the allied genus *Genista*, including the White Broom, and Giant or Irish Broom cultivated in gardens, and many other species.

c. 1000 Sax. *Leechd.* II. 32 Genim bromes ahsan. c. 1190 *Gloss.* in Wr. Wülcker 545 *Genesta*, brom. c. 1384 CHAUCER *H. Fame* 1226 Lytel herde gromes That kepen bestis in the bromes. 1523 FITZHERB. *Surv.* 6 b, Yet may he . . selle all the wode, brome, gorse, fyrs, braken. 1562 TURNER *Herbal* ii. 7 b, Vnder the rough brome. 1597 MAPLET *Gr. Forest* 34 Brome . . of some is called Mirica for the bitterness of his tast. 1600 VERNER *Via Recta* vi. 98 The young tender buds of Broome are . . gathered and preserved in pickle. 1793 COWPER *Task* vi. 170 The Broom, yellow and bright, as bullion unalloy'd Her blossoms. 1800 WORDSW. *To Joanna*, 'Twas that delightful season when the broom, Full-flowered . . Along the copses runs in veins of gold. c. 1854 STANLEY *Sinai & Pal.* i. (1858) 20 The Retem, or wild broom, with its high canopy and white blossoms . . is the very shrub under which . . Elijah slept in his wanderings.

2. Entering into the name of various other plants used for sweeping, or in other respects fancied to be akin to the broom proper; as BUTCHER'S BROOM, SPANISH BROOM (a kind of grass), q. v.

3. An implement for sweeping, a besom: originally one made of twigs of broom, heather, etc., fixed to a 'stick' or handle; now the generic name for a besom of any material. Cf. BESOM sb. 1 2.

14. . . *Songs Costume* 64 So many sellers of brooms, Say I

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never. 1481 CAXTON *Reynard* (Arb.) 15 Alle ranne. . eueryche wyth his wepen . . some with a broome. 1538 BALE *Three Lawes* 177 Brom, brom, brom, brom. . Bye brom bye bye bromes for shoes and powcherynges; botes and byskyns for newe bromes, Brom, brom, brom. 1568 J. HEYWOOD *Prov. & Epigr.* (1867) 44 The greene new broome sweepeth cleene. 1590 SHAKS. *Mids. N. v. l.* 396, I am sent with broome before, To sweep the dust behinde the doore. 1664 EVELYN *Kal. Hort.* (1729) 214 Move it sometimes with a broome or Whisk, that the Seeds clog not together. 1708 HEARNE *Coll.* (1885-6) II. 120 My chimneyes with high flying broome No longer thou shalt clean. 1798 SOUTHEY *Lyric P., To Spider* iii, Where is he whose broom The earth shall clean? 1829 J. W. CROKER in *Croker Papers* (1884) II. xiv. 18 As they say of a broom that it is dirty to keep other things clean.

b. fig. and transf.

1537 FLEMING *Contn. Holinshed* III. 1347/2 Thus did the broome of justice sweepe awaie these noisome cobwebs. 1622 SANDERSON *Serm.* (1681) I. 213 Thy new broom, that now sweepeth clean all discontents from thee, will soon grow stubbed. 1855 DICKENS *Dorrit* I. xxiv, 'If he hadn't been cut short [=died] while I was a new broom'.

4. A sweeping tail of a horse; cf. *broom-tail* in 6. 1616 SURFL. & MARKH. *Country Farm* 136 There are manie wrinkles and plaits in his broome or brushing taile.

5. Comb. General relations: a. attributive, as *broom-besom*, *blossom*, *brush*, *field*, *flower*, *grove*, *handle*, *head*, *plant*, *salve*, *shaft*, *shank*, *stalk*, *tree*, *wood*; b. objective, as *broom-maker*, *-seller*.

1693 URQUHART *Rabelais* III. xvii, Three whisks of a 'broom-besom. 1814 JONES in *Life Chalmers* (1851) I. 370 It is . . scrubbed off with a birch or broom besom. 1814 *Guy Warw.* (1840) 292 (Hallw.) In a 'brom feld ther wer hidde Thre hundred Sarrazins. 1833 AMES *Agst. Cerem.* II. 258 One instrument . . for the pastures, and another for the broome-fields. 1895 SPENSER *Sonn.* xxvi, Sweet is the 'Broom-floure. 1846 SOWERBY *Brit. Bot.* (1864) III. 14 Henry VIII. . . was wont to drinke the distilled water of Broom-flowers, against surfets and diseases thereof arising. 1850 SHAKS. *Temp.* IV. i. 66 Thy 'broom-groves; Whose shadow the dismissed Batchelor louses, Being lasse-lorne. 1866 *Chron.* in *Ann. Reg.* 51/1 He entered the yard . . with a 'broom-handle in one hand and a rope with a noose to it in the other. 1888 HOWELLS in *Longm. Mag.* I. 56 Wherever the piano-forte penetrates, lovely woman lifts her fingers from . . the 'broom-handle, and the washboard. 1817 *Parl. Debates* 1344 Two 'broom-makers, who sold their brooms in adjoining stalls. 1850 COCKE *Lorell's B.* (1843) 10 Potters, 'brome sellers, pedelers. 1853 FITZGERALD *Husb.* § 44 'Brome salve. . . to salve poore mennes shepe, that thyneke terre to costely. 1764 T. BRYDGES *Homer Travest.* I. 32 Let Hector . . with his trusty 'broomshaft douse ye. 1818 SCOTT *Hrt. Midl.* xviii, 'Her and the gudeman will be whirring through the blue light on a 'broomshank. 1846 BUCK *Rich. III.* I. 7 Geoffrey Plantagenet used to wear a 'Broom-stalke in his Bonnet. 1846 SOWERBY *Brit. Bot.* (1864) III. 13 'Broom-tops were often used to communicate a bitter flavour to beer. 1450 WYCLIF *Jer.* xlviii. 6 (MS. E) See shul be as iencian trees [later hand 'broom trees] in desert. 1810 CAMPBELL *Poems* I. 8 A 'broomwood blossom'd vale.

6. Special comb.: broom-boy, 1 a street-sweeper or broom-seller; broom-bush, *Parthenium Hystero-phorus*; † broom-oat, an old name for the hare; broom-ood, the seed-vessel of the broom; broom-cypress, *Kochia scoparia*, (see BELVEDERE 2); broom-dasher (*dial.*), a dealer in fagots, brooms, etc. (cf. *haberdasher*); broom-dog (*Sc.*), an instrument for eradicating broom (Jam.); broom goose-foot = broom-cypress; broom-grass, *Andropogon scoparius*; broom-heath, the cross-leaved heath, *Erica tetralix*; broom-hook, 1 = broom-dog; broom-land, land overgrown with broom; broom-sedge, a species of coarse grass, ? *Spartina*; broom-squire (see *quots.*); broom-tail (of a horse), a long bushy tail (cf. 4); broom toad-flax = broom cypress; broom-weed, a herbaceous plant (*Corchorus siliquosus*) of the West Indies and tropical America, from the leaves of which a drink is prepared; † broom-wort, a name applied by Gerard to species of *Thlaspi*; by others to some plant not identified († broomrape).

1593 NASH *Four Lett. Confut.* 127 'Broome boyes, and correctors. 1590 NAMES of Hare in *Rel. Ant.* I. 133 The 'bromkat, The purblinde, the furscat. 1599 *Will of Leukenor* (Somerset Ho.) A color of gold sett with diuerse perlys & 'brome codde. 1868 STANLEY *Westm. Ab.* iii. 148 The broomscods of the Plantagenets. 1864 *Times* 12 Dec. Heaths and plantations . . occupied by brickmakers and 'broom-dashers. 1860 in *Select. fr. Harl. Misc.* (1793) 360 The king exchanged his woodbill for Francis Yates's 'broom-hook. 1707 MORTIMER *Husb.* (J.), I have known sheep cured of the rot by being put into 'broomlands. 1856 OLMESTED *Slave States* 9 Land . . which bore only 'broom-sedge—a thin, worthless grass. 1889 D. GARROW *Hist. Lymington* 31 Besoms . . composed of heath, which grows in abundance all over the New Forest. The manufacturers of this little useful domestic article are termed 'Broom Squires. 1857 KINGSLY *Two Y. Ago* II. xiv. 129 'Broom-squires! 'So we call in Berkshire squatters on the moor who live by tying heath into brooms. 1864 *Land. Gaz.* No. 1060/4 Stolen or strayed . . a Chesnut Sorrel Gelding . . with a 'broom Tail. 1704 *Ibid.* No. 3981/4 A . . Mare . . with a large Brome Tail. 1786 P. BROWNE *Jamaica* 147 'Broom-weed . . is generally used in besoms by the negroes. 1814 MARKHAM *Cheap Husb.* I. (1668) Table Hard Wds., 'Broomwort is an Herb with broun coloured leaves, and beareth a blew flower, and most commonly grows in Woods.

Broom (brūm), v. [f. prec. sb.]

1. *trans.* To sweep with a broom. 1836 J. GRANT *Sk. Lond.* 43 If he escaped being scrubbed or 'broomed to death. 1855 THACKERAY *Newcomes* lviii.

(D.), Work-people brooming away the fallen leaves. 1883 MISS BRADDON *Gold. Calif.* x. 119 A feeble old woman was feebly brooming the floor.

2. To BREAM a ship. († Only in Dicts.)

1607 CAPT. SMITH *Seaman's Gram.* II. 13 *Brooming* or *Breaming*. Breaming her, is but washing or burning of all the filth with reeds or broome. 1678 PHILLIPS. *Brooming* or *Brooming* a ship: see *Breaming*. 1707 *Glossogr. Nova*, The brooming of a ship meant in old time the burning of the filth from its side. 1708-21 in KERSEY, *Brooming* or *Breaming* of a Ship. 1721-1800 in BAILEY.

Broom corn. [f. (in U.S.) BROOM + (Indian) CORN.] The American name of the Common Millet, *Sorghum vulgare*, of which the panicles are made into brooms and stiff brushes; also the *Sorghum saccharatum* or Sugar Millet of the East. 1817-8 COBBETT *Resid. U. S.* (1822) 340, I have Broom-Corn and Seed-Stems enough to make fifty thousand such brushes. 1861 G. BERKELEY *Sportm. W. Prairies* xxiv. 470 The Americans called them Broom corn. 1886 EXHO 25 Sept. 4/3 Broom Bread. The latest novelty . . is an American loaf made of broom corn flour. 1886 A. H. CHURCH *Food Grains Ind.* 85 Broom corn . . is cultivated in some parts of Northern India . . on account of the sugar which can be extracted from the stems.

Broomer (brūmər). [f. BROOM v.] = next.

1857 *Chamb. Jnl.* VII. 69 A company of shoe-blacks, broomers, and messengers was set on foot.

Broom-man (brūm-mæn). [f. BROOM + MAN.]

One who uses a broom; a street-sweeper. 1598 GREENE *Upt. Courtier* (1871) 27 Then Conscience was not a broom man in Kent Street but a Courtier. 1646 G. DANIEL *Poems* 1878 l. 59 Who's free? Not Broome-men, nor the baser sort, Who dress the Cite, and defile the Court. 1716 SOUTH *Serm.* (1717) VI. 9 Scarce one, in Five Thousand . . A word so much as what Popery means. Only that it is . . A word that sounds bigg and high in the Mouths of Broome-men, Scavengers and Watermen, on a 5th or 17th of November.

Broomrape (brūmrəp). [A rendering of med.L. *Rapum genista* broom knob or tuber; f. *rapum* 'a knob or lump formed by the roots of trees', and *genista* broom. The name is therefore not of popular origin.] A large genus of parasitic herbs (*Orobanchē*), which attach themselves to the roots of broom, furze, clover, and other leguminous plants, having a brownish-yellow leafless fleshy stem furnished with pointed scales or bracts. The name was first applied to *O. major*, the *Rapum genista* of Lobel and other early herbalists. 1578 LYTTE *Doctores* VI. vi. 664 That excrecence coming from the roots of broome is called . . in Latine *Rapum Genista*, that is to say, Broome Rape. 1671 SALMON *Syn. Med.* III. xxii. 424 Broom-rape. caseth pains in the Reins. 1711 *Phil. Trans.* XXVII. 345 A large Broom-rape with a purple flower. 1861 MISS PRATT *Flower. Pl.* III. 120 Brown and leafless parasites, like the Broom-ropes. 1883 G. ALLEN in *Knowledge* 3 Aug. 65/1 The fat, tuberous stems of the greater broomrape.

attrib. 1853 MARG. PLUKES *Wild Flowers* 240 The broom-rape order . . contains but two families, that of the broom rape and the tooth wort.

Broomstaff (brūmstaf). *arch.* Also -stave (rare). Pl. -stuffs, -staves. [f. BROOM sb. + STAFF.]

The staff or handle of a broom; a broomstick. 1613 SHAKS. *Hen. VIII.* v. iv. 57 At length they came to th' broome staffe to me, I decide 'em stil. 1711 E. WARD *Vulg.* *Brit. v.* 54 Rattling their Broomstaves, and their Clubs. 1712-14 *Poet. Alma Poems* (1754) 264 Broom-staff or Poker they bestride. 1845 WATERTON *Wand. S. Amer.* II. iii. 200 The black cat and broomstaff . . considered as conductors to and from the regions of departed spirits. 1870 LOWELL *Among my Bks.* Ser. I. (1873) 117 The broomstave, which might make part of the poorest house's furniture.

Broomster (brūmstər). [f. as prec. + -STER.]

One who wields a broom; *spec.* in *Curling*, one who sweeps the ice.

1831 *Blackw. Mag.* XXX. 978 The uncrampted broomster, and the pilgrim with the (unboiled) peas, may go hand in hand.

Broomstick (brūmstik). Same as BROOM-STAFF. To marry over the broomstick: to go through a quasi-marriage ceremony, in which the parties jump over a broomstick; also called 'to jump the besom'.

1683 tr. *Erasmus Moriz Enc.* 58 Shall take a Broom-stick for a straight-bodied woman. 1711 SHAFTESB. *Charac.* (1737) I. 148 A story of a witch upon a broomstick, & a flight in the air. 1732 *Poet. Use of Riches* II. 97 The thriving plants, ignoble broomsticks made. 1824 MACAULAY *Misc. Writ.* (1860) I. 95 They were married over a broom-stick. 1841 MIALLE *Nonconf.* I. 265 Not more hopeless . . the attempt to make a broomstick bud. 1881 J. HAWTHORNE *Fort. Fool* I. iv, 'There's some as think she was married over the broom-stick, if she was married at all'.

b. comb.

1774 *Westm. Mag.* II. 16 He had no inclination for a Broomstick-marriage. 1807 W. IRVING *Salmag.* (1824) 362 The broomstick-whirl'd hags that appear in Macbeth. 1851 MAYHEW *Lond. Labour* I. 353, I never had a wife, but I have had two or three broomstick matches, though they never turned out happy.

Broomy (brūmī), a. [f. as prec. + -Y.]

1. Covered with or abounding in broom. 1649 BLITHES *Eng. Improv. Impr.* (1653) 132 All coarse barren Heaths, Lingy, Broomy Lands. 1679 *Plot Staf. Jondah.* (1686) 120 This heathy, broomy, gorsy, barren sort of Soile. 1790 BURKE *Let. Mrs. Dunlop* Nov., The broomy banks of Nith. 1852 D. MOIR *Glen of Rastin* III. 169 Each broomy vale . . bequeaths Some old heroic tale.

† 2. Of or pertaining to a broom or besom. rare.

1709 SWIFT *Morning in Tatler* No. 9 ¶ The Youth with broomy Stumps began to trace The Kennel Edge.

3. Broom-like. Cf. bushy. rare.

1807 VANCOUVER *Agric. Devon* (1813) 253 Its leading shoot appears . . to have spread into a small broomy top.

Broose. Sc. Also broose, bruise, bruse.

[Sc. pron. biōz, brūz: of unknown origin. The suggestion of Jamieson that the word is the same as *brose* or *brevius* is absurdly impossible; (though phonetically it might be *broos*, pl. of *Brōo*): mod. Sc. ō, ū, derives from OE. *ō* or Fr. *u*.] A race on horseback, or on foot, by the young men present at country weddings in the north, the course being from the place where the marriage ceremony is performed (in Scotland the bride's former home) to the bridegroom's house. Hence to *ride, run, win the broose*. (The prize is usually a coloured silk handkerchief.)

It is understood to be a survival from primitive marriage customs: probably the whole wedding cortege formerly conveyed the bride at full gallop to the bridegroom's house; but now the race is kept up by the young men only, the rest of the procession following at leisure. Cf. BRIDELOR, and the Teutonic synonyms there mentioned.

1706 BURNS *To Aud Mar* ix, At Brooses thou had ne'er a fellow, For pith and speed. 1788 R. GALLOWAY *Poems* 156 (JAM.) To think to ride or rin the bruse Wi' them ye name. 1845 *New Statist. Acc. Scott.* VI. 306 The broose or contest who shall first reach the house of the bridegroom is very keenly maintained. 1863 J. BROWN *Horn Subs.* (ed. 3) 31 You know what riding the bruse means.

Broose, obs. form of BRUISE.

† Broouage. Obs. (See *quots.*)

1610 W. FOLKINGHAM *Art of Survey* I. viii. 16 Grass and plants fit for broouage, and browseage of sheepe. *Ibid.* IV. i. 80 Rents proper . . may be for Landes, tenements . . Turbarie, Mastage, (of Beech, Oake, Holme, &c.) Herbage, Broouage, &c. 1688 R. HOLME *Armoury* III. 333/2 Broouage or Browseage is feeding of Sheep and Goats.

Brooyl, obs. form of BROIL.

Brose (brōz). [mod.Sc. form of earlier *broues*, BROWIS, OFr. *broes*. Often treated as a plural, like porridge, broth, etc.; in this case partly at least from the sound of final -s (-s).] A dish made by pouring boiling water (or milk) on oatmeal (or oat-cake) seasoned with salt and butter. Hence *brose-meal*, *brose-time*, etc.

1657 COLVIL *Whigs Supplic.* (1751) 21 A bag which kept his meal for brose. 1790 BURNS *Dunk's dang o'er*, 4c. ii, I've seen the day y' butter'd my brose. 1816 SCOTT *Old Mort.* xxi, 'Whiles—at brose-time', answered the 'damsel. 1848 F. M. PERK xvi, The citizens had gorged themselves upon pancakes fried in lard, and brose, or brewis. 1849 CUNNINGHAM *Magic Bridle, Answers* 137 His favourite spring was brose and butter.

b. *Pease brose*: a similar preparation of pease-meal. *Athole brose*: a mixture of whiskey and honey.

1818 SCOTT *Hrt. Midl.* xlviii, His morning draught of Athole brose. 1840 NEIL *Gow's Farrow*, For e'er since he wore the tartan hose He dearly liket Athole brose.

Brose, obs. form of BRUISE.

Brosen, brossen, brosten, *dial. fl. borsten*, obs. pa. pple. of BURST v.

Broshe, Brostle, obs. ff. BRUSH, BRISTLE.

Brosour, -ure, var. of BRUSURE, *Obs.*, wound.

Brozy (brōzī), a. Sc. [f. BROSE + -Y.] Daubed with brose, brose-fed.

1709 DAVIDSON *Seasons* 28 (JAM.) Laying the brozy weans upo' the floor Wi' dousy hegt. 1823 E. LOGAN *St. Johnstown* I. 240 (JAM.) A square-built, brozy-faced girl.

Broth(e), obs. or dial. f. BROACH, BROOCH.

Brotekin, var. of BRODEKIN, *Obs.*, a high boot.

† **Brotel, brotle**, a. *Obs.* Forms: 4 brotel(1), brotil, (brutel, brutill(e), 5 brotill(e), brottil, (brutyl), 6 brotle. [ME. *brotil*; *brutill*, f. *broten* broken, pa. pple. of *brotan*. In use *brotel* appears as one of the various forms of *brutill*, *brutill*, *BRITTLE*, and it may have been of later analogical formation: cf. *brickle*, *brockle*.]

1. Liable to break, easily broken; fragile, brittle.

1328 WYCLIF *a Cor.* iv. 7 We han this tresour in brotil [1388 *brutill*] vesselis. 1430 LYDG. *Bocchas* v. vii. (1554) 127 a, Fortunes fauors be made . . Of brotill glasse rather than of stele. 1423 CAXTON *Gold. Leg.* 324/4 Kepte in a fryalle and brutyll vessel.

b. Frail, perishable, easily destroyed, mortal.

1340 *Ayenb.* 129 Ysy hou bou art fyebile and brotel. 1368 LANGL. *P. Pl.* A. ix. 37 Pe Bodi þat Brutel is of kuynde. 1413 LYDG. *Pylgr. Soule* v. xiv. (1483) 109. 1529 MORE *Conf. agst. Trib.* III. Wks. 1226/1 A brotle man lately made of earthe.

2. *fig.* Unstable; inconstant, fickle.

c. 1315 SHORHAM 5 Man is so brotel Ine his owene kende. c. 1386 CHAUCER *Parson's T.* ¶ 473 The commendacion of the peple is somtyme ful fals and ful brotel [i.e. brotil, brothill, brutile, brutel]. 1420 OCCLEVE *De Reg. Princ.* 3861 His welthe hathe but a brotillle stablesce.

Hence † **Brothede**, frailty. *Obs.*

1340 *Ayenb.* 130 Huanne þe man . . knaup his pourhede, þe vilhede, þe brothelhe of his beringe.

† **Brothelness**, *Obs.* [f. prec. + -NESS.] Frailty, fickleness; insecurity, uncertainty.

c. 1386 CHAUCER *Merch.* 7, 35 On brutil ground thay bulde, and brutelnesse Thay fynde, whan thay were sikernesce.

α 1400 *Occleve De Reg. Princ.* i. The brotleness of hir nature. c 1430 *Lydg. Bochas* ii. xiii. (1554) 53 a. God.. pre-serue your variatun brotleness.

Broth (brōp), *sb.* Forms: 1-4 broþ, 4-6 brothe, 6-8 broath, 7 broathe, 3- broth. [Com. Teut.: OE. *broþ* = OHG. *brod*, *prod*, ON. *brōð*: -O Teut. *broþ(m)*, f. vb.-root *brū-* to prepare by boiling, make a decoction: see BREW. (Cf. F. *bouillon* broth, f. *bouillir* to boil.) The OHG. word was adopted in Romanic, giving med.L. *brodum*, *brodium*, It. *brodo*, Sp., Pg. *brodio*, Pr. *bro*, OF. *bro*, *brou*, whence *broet*, BROWET, BREWIS. Irish *broth*, Gael. *bròt*, are from Eng.]
1. The liquid in which anything has been boiled, and which is impregnated with its juice; a decoction; *esp.* that in which meat is boiled or macerated; also a thin soup made from this with the addition of vegetables, pearl barley, rice, etc., as Scotch 'broth'.

α 1000 *Collog. Monast.* xix. 13 (Bosw.) Fætt broþ 30 magon habban. 1597 R. GLOUC. 528 On of is men.. Caste broþ vp a clerc. 1398 *Trevisa Barth. De P. R.* (Tollemache MS.) xvii. lxx. Broþ of þe leues þerof [broom] abateþ swellynge of þe splene. c 1400 MAUNDV. xxiii. 250 Non other potages bot the brothe of the flesche. c 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 53 Brothe, brodium, liquamen. 1530 *Palsgr.* 201/2 Brothe of fysshe or flesche, *broet*. 1533 *Coverdale Judg.* vi. 20 Take the flesh.. & set it vpon the stonye rocke.. and poure the broth theron. 1576 *Lyte Dodoens* i. xxxix. 57 The decoction or brothe of Agrimonie. 1580 *Sidney Arcadia* iii. 281 She herself had used to make the broaths. 1611 *Shaks. Cymb.* iv. ii. 50 He.. sawc't our Brothes, as Juno had bin sicke, And he her Dieter. 1665 *Gerbier Princ.* 24 Too many Cooks spoils the Broth. 1688 N. O. *Boileau's Lutrin* i. 7 Bad 'em serve in the broath [prime loath]. 1718 *Steele Spect.* No. 308 P. 3, I am sure.. you love Broth better than Soup. 1804 *Wolcott* (P. Pindar) *Gl. Cry & Litt. Wool Wks.* 1812 V. 165 The more cooks the worse broth. 1861 *Ramsay Remin.* (ed. 18) 118 She.. never did more than to sup a few family broth.

b. *fig. and transf.* (Cf. *stew*, *broust*, etc.). c 1530 *Frith Disput. Purgatory* (1829) 141 If he had thought to have gone through purgatory.. there should he have had an hot broth and an heartless. α 1533 *Ln. BERNERS Huon* vi. 13 He sware he wolde purchase for the two sonnes.. such a broth [soot traine] that they shulde bothe dye in doloure. 1878 *Seeley Stein* III. 300 They.. want to.. dissolve all civil society into a great fluid broth.

†2. Loosely applied to various boiled, brewed, or decocted liquors; also to the brine of ocean, melted snow (SNOW-BROTH), etc. Cf. Sc. BREE, BROO.

c 1400 *Liber Cocorum* (1862) 28 With brothe of venegur drawe hit withalle. 1558 *Phaer Aeneid* viii. 21v. There went the salt sea broad with swellynge broth. 1593 *Bacchus Bountie in Harl. Misc.* (1809) II. 264 Bickering with the broth of bountifull Bacchus. 1633 C. HERBERT *Temple, Odeur* ii. This broth of smells, that feeds & fats my minde. 1691 *RAY Making of Salt* 206 If you put in too much [salt] it will make the Broth [of brine] boil over the Pan. 1765 *TUCKER Lt. Nat.* II. 361 A sop in the briny broth of ocean.

3. Phrases. †To make white broth of, said of boiling to death (as a poisoner). A broth of a boy: the essence of what a boy should be, a downright good fellow (*collog. Irish*).

c 1645 *HOWELL Lett.* (1650) I. 4 She was afraid that Cook the Lord Chief Justice would have made white broth of them, but the prerogative kept them from the pot. 1828 *Byron Juan* viii. xxiv. Juan was quite 'a broth of a boy'. 1843 *Mrs. TONNA Judah's Lion* 131 Papa says you are the broth of a boy, for taking care of me.

†**Broth, brothe, a.** *Obs.* [ME. *brōþ*: -earlier *brāþ* (north Eng. *brāth*: see BRATH): -ON. *brōð-r* hasty, rash, passionate.] Impetuous, violent, passionate, wrathful; also quasi-*sb.*

c 1200 *ORMIN* 7172 Pat he be grimme.. & brāþ. c 1325 *E. E. Allit. P. B.* 149 pat ober burne watz abayst of his broþe wordes. c 1340 *Gaw. & Gr. Knt.* 2233 He.. orpedly strydeþ, Bremly broþe on a bent. c 1400 *Avow. Arth.* xvi. Thus bidus that brothe.

†**Brotheful, a.** *Obs.* [f. BROTHER *a.* or the cogn. BRATH *sb.* + -FUL: cf. BRATHFUL.] Violent, wrathful.

1330 R. BRUNNE *Chron.* 55 Bitux þam & þe messengers broþefulle wordes brak.

Brothel (brōp'l), *sb.* Also 5-7 brothell(e), 5 brodel(le). [ME. *broþel*, f. OE. *broðen* ruined, degenerate, pa. pple. of *broðan* to go to ruin: a variant of BROTHEL.]

The modern sense arises from confusion with an entirely different word BORDEL (q.v.): the *brothel* was originally a person, the *bordel* a place. But the combinations *bordel-house* and *brothel's house* ran together in the form *brothel-house*, which being shortened to *brothel*, the personal sense of this word became obs., and it remains only as the substitute of the original *bordel*.

†1. A worthless abandoned fellow, a wretch, scoundrel, scapegrace, good-for-nothing.

1393 *Gower Conf.* III. 173 Quod Achab thanne. There is one. A brothel, which Micheas hight. 1394 *P. Pl. Crede* 772 Ne bedden swiche broþels in so brode schetes. c 1440 *York Myst.* xix. 265 Lorde, tokenyng hadde we none To knowe þat brothell (Christ) by. c 1460 *Towneley Myst.* 130, I [Herod] shall se that brodel(e) [Christ] bloode By hym that me has boght. c 1475 *Lyt. Childr. Bk.* in *Babes Bk.* (1868) 18 Fytle not thy mouth as done brothellia. 1538 *MORR Confut. Tindale Wks.* 574/1 The holy Lenton fables, whiche these brotheles so boldly take vpon them to breake. 1594 *CAREW*

Tasso (1881) 117 [They] with wrath.. Enflamde, fortune vnjust and brothell call.

†2. An abandoned woman, a prostitute. *Obs.* 1492 *Festvall* (W. de W. 1515) 54 b. He.. went agayne to a brodelles hous. 1535 *FISHER Wks.* 418 Why doeth a common brothel take no shame of hir abhominat[i]o[n]? 1546 *LANGLEY Pol. Verr. De Invent.* iii. xii. 79 b. Venus.. was a common harlot & brothel of her body. 1583 *STUBBS Anat. Abus.* 58 A filthie strumpet or brothel. 1606 G. WOODCOCKE *Iustine* 113 b. A company of concubins and brothels.

†b. (See quot.) *Obs. rare.* 1613 R. C. *Table Alph.* (ed. 3), *Brothell*, keeper of a house of bawdry.

3. Short for *brothel's house*, *brothel-house* (2, 4 b); taking the place of the earlier BORDEL, BORDEL-HOUSE: A house of ill fame, bawdy-house.

α 1593 H. SMITH *Wks.* (1867) II. 26 Some [return] unto the taverns, and some unto the alehouses.. and some unto brothels. 1605 *SHAKS. Lear* iii. iv. 99 Keepe thy foote out of Brothels. α 1704 T. BROWN *Sat. Wks.* 1730 I. 56 We need not rake the brothel and the stews. 1711 *STEELE Spect.* No. 190 P. 2 You understand by this time that I was left in a Brothel. 1751 *JOHNSON Rambl.* No. 171 P. 12 Tricked up for sale by the mistress of a brothel. 1808 *MACAULAY Hallam, Ess.* (1851) I. 86 The ofial of gaols and brothels.

4. *Attrib. and Comb.* a. *attrib.* or as *adj.* 1633 P. FLETCHER *Purple Isl.* i. xviii. Or Mævius chaunt his thoughts in brothell charm. α 1711 *KEN Hymnotheo Wks.* 1721 III. 291 With so profligate a Race, Within their Brothel-Heav'n. α 1826 *Mrs. BROWNING Soul's Trav.* 39 The brothel shriek, and the Newgate laugh.

b. *comb.*, as *brothel-haunting*, -keeper, -like, -master, -monger; *brothel-house* = BROTHEL 3.

1694 *tr. Sallust* 17 The Rage of adulterous Lust, of 'Brothel-haunting and Other Bestialities. 1530 *Palsgr.* 201/2 'Brothelshouse, bordel. 1533 *COVERDALE Esch.* xvi. 39 [They] shal breake downe thy stews, and destroye thy brodel houses. 1599 *SHAKS. Much Ado* i. i. 256. 1678 *Yng. Man's Call* 273 Thou shalt be.. put into the common stews & brothel-houses. 1800 T. MITCHELL *Aristoph.* I. 255 One Philostratus, a 'brothel-keeper. 1803 *SOUTHEY in Ann. Rev.* I. 41 We will not transcribe Mr. Fischer's 'brothel-like description. 1808 *MIDDLETON Trick to Catch, &c.* He's a rioter, a wast-thrift, a 'brothel-master. 1566 *DRANT Horace Sat.* i. iv. 113 No 'brothelmonger be.

†**Brothel, v.** *Obs.* [f. prec. *sb.*] 1598 *SYLVESTER Du Barlas* ii. i. iii. (1621) 217 Who, like Lust-greedy Goates, Brothel from bed to bed.

†**Brotheller, i.** *Obs.* [f. prec. + -ER.] A frequenter of brothels, a whoremonger.

1608 *MIDDLETON Trick to Catch, &c.* ii. i. What though he be a brotheller, a waste-thrift. 1784 *COWPER Task* ii. 751 For Gamblers, Jockeys, Brothellers impure. 1805 *SOUTHEY in Ann. Rev.* III. 230 Not the only brotheller.

†**Brothelling, v.** *Obs.* [f. as prec. + -ING.] The frequenting of brothels, whoring. Also *attrib.*

1581 *SAVILLE Tacitus' Hist.* II. § 96 (1591) 97 If he had any courage.. it is dulled & worn away, in playing and brothelling houses. 1611 *COTGR., Bordelage*, brothelling, wenching, whoore-hunting.

†**Brothellous, a.** *Obs.* [see -OUS.] = next.

1593 *STUBBS Anat. Abus.* F ij, This whorish and brothellous painting and colouring of faces.

†**Brothelly, a.** *Obs.* [see -LY.] Whorish. 1607 *TOWSELL Serpents* 642 To play and meddle with filthy whores and brothelly queans.

†**Brothelry, v.** *Obs.* [f. as prec. + -RY.] 1. Lewdness; harlotry.

1546 *BALIE Eng. Volaries* II. (1550) 29 He fell to the talke of as fyne brothelry, as any craftes man in that art myght viter. 1569 J. SANFORD *Agrippa's Van. Artes* 97 Brothelrie is the Arte of abandoninge the proper chastitie to all men. 1605 B. JONSON *Volpone* Ded. 1633 T. ADAMS *Exp. a Peter* ii. 14 Pestilent uses of turpitude and brothelry.

2. A place of prostitutes.

1593 *MARLOWE Lust's Dominion* i. iii. Whilst you at home suffer'd his bedchamber To be a brothelry. 1616 *DEKKER Sev. Sinnes* II. (Arb.) 22 Thou makest thy buildings a Brothelry to others.

†**Brothelsome, a.** *Obs.* [f. as prec. + -SOME.] Pertaining to a brothel, lewd, whorish.

1624 F. WHITE *Repl. Fisher* 83 The Vow of Chastitie filled all the Earth with the steame of Brothelsome impuritie.

†**Brothely, a.** and *adv.* *Obs.* Also broadly, brothelych, brodelyche. [ME.: in sense a., f. BROTHER *a.* + -LY¹; 2; cf. the northern form BRATHLY. Sense b. (only in *Allit. Poems*) may perhaps be a deriv. of BROTHEL.]

A. *adj.* Fierce, violent, angry.

1330 R. BRUNNE *Chron.* 166 Fulle broþely & brim he kept vp a trenchour, & kast it at Statin.

b. Vile, bad. c 1325 *E. E. Allit. P. B.* 847 þe worlde stynkes Of þe brych þat vpbraydez þose broþelych wordes.

B. *adv.* Quickly, hastily; violently, furiously.

c 1340 *Cursor M.* 18018 (Trin.) Brodly [Cott. brathli] on þat hous hit brast. c 1340 *Gaw. & Gr. Knt.* 2377 Pennie he.. Braydeþ broþely be belt to be burne seluen. 14 1400 *Morte Arth.* 1408 þe embuschemet of Bretons brake owte at ones, Brothely at banere. α 1400 *Sir Perc.* 2121 Percevelle.. asked wherefore and why He banned it so brothely.

b. Vilely, in ill plight.

c 1325 *E. E. Allit. P. B.* 1256 Broþely broyt to Babyloyn þer bale to suffer. 1616 C. 474 [Jonah] blushed to his woldynde þat broþely watz marred.

Brothen, brothin, bankrupt, broken, pa. pple. of BROTHER *v.* *Obs.*

†**Brother** (brōðr), *sb.* Pl. brothers, brethren (brēðrēn). Forms: 1 brōðor, -ur, -er, 2-5 broþer, 3- brother (*passim* -err, -ir, -ere, -re,

-yr, brother), 4-6 broder, -ir, -yr, 6 bruder; *mod.Sc.* brither. *Plural:* see below. [A Common Teut., and Common Aryan word: OE. *brōðor* = OFris. *brōther*, *brōder*, OS. *brōthar* (MDu. and Du. *broeder*, MLG. and mod.LG. *broder*), OHG. *bruodar* (MHG. *bruoder*, Ger. *bruder*), ON. *brōðir* (Sw., Da. *broder*), Goth. *brōþar*: -O Teut. **brōþar*: -O Aryan **bhrāter*, -tor, -tr, whence also Skr. *bhrātṛ*, Gr. *φράτηρ*, L. *frāter*, OSlav. *brātŭ*, OCelt. **brāter* (Ir. and Gael. *brathair*, Welsh *bradw* (from **braudr*), Breton *breur* (formerly *breuer*).

As in some other words in OE. long *ð*, the mod. form has undergone more than the usual vowel change, which would have left it (brāðer). In ME., esp. in north. dial. and Sc., the *th* was often written *d*, perhaps after *frater*, *frater*. The OE. dat. sing. was *brōðer*; the gen. was the same as the nom. and remained so in Scotch down to 1600, as in the connexion *broder son* (nephew), *broder bairn*, *broder wyfe*, *broder dochter*, which have often been misunderstood by modern readers. The plural has had a great variety of forms: viz. in OE. *brōðor*, -ur, -er (like the sing.), and *brōðru*, -ro, later -ra, also once *brōþre* (in Anglian, in Rushworth Gloss); and with collective sense, *brōðer*, and *gebrōðru*, -ro, -ra. In early ME. the *Lambeth Homilies* have *broþre*, *broþre*, and rarely *brēþren*; the *Trin. Coll. Hom.* *broþren* and *brēþren*; *Ormin* and *Gen. & Ex.* have usually *brēþre*, *brēþre*; of *Layamon* the first text has a variety of forms, most frequently *brōþren*, frequently *brēþren*, rarely *brōþre*, (never *brēþre* or *brēþer*), once *broþres*, once *broþes*; the second text has always *broþres*, *broþres*. The *Jesus MS.* poems in O.E. *Misc.* have usually *brōþren*, which is the regular form in *Ayenbite*; *brothelren* occurs in many writers down nearly to 1600. In northern Eng., from the earliest distinctive specimens, the regular plural form was *brēþer*, *brēþer*; often used also by non-northern writers. The standard English plural, down to 1600, was *brōþren*, *brēþren*. *Brothers*, after its early appearance in *Layamon*, is not quoted again till the end of the 16th c., when it is used by *Shakspeare* indiscriminately with *brēþren*. In the 17th c. *brothers* became the ordinary form in the literal sense; *brēþren* being retained in reference to spiritual, ecclesiastical, or professional relationship.

The original Teut. pl. nom. corresponding to Aryan **bhrātres*, would be **brōþris*, whence regularly ON. *brōðr*. The corresponding OE. **brōðer*, **brōðer* is unexpectedly wanting; but the Mercian *brōþre*, and its ME. descendant *brēþre* (see *β*) may possibly be a remnant of it. The northern *brēþer* (see *γ*) may actually have come down from **brōðer*, though it may also merely be *brēþer* with the final *e* dropped. The OE. -u, -o (-a) forms are difficult to explain: it has been suggested that they might be originally duals (like *sculdru* from *sculdor* masc.). They were regularly represented by ME. *broþre* (see a). *Broþren*, *brēþren* exemplify the usual passage of *sb.* having vowel plurals in southern early ME. into the -en type. The early occurrence of the modern *brothers*, as well as its subsequent non-appearance till the end of the 16th c., is notable and requires further investigation. In the genitive pl. *brēðere* occurs in *Gen. & Ex.*; *brēþren* -e in *St. Brendan*; *brēþer*, *brēþers* was northern; *brēþren's* standard Eng., now, in ordinary use, *brothers*.)

A. Illustrations of the plural forms.

†a. plural brother, brothre: OE. *brōðor*, *brōðru*, -ro, -ru; ME. 2-3 *broþre*, -ere, 4 *broþere*, 4-5 -ire.

α 1000 *Cardman's Gen.* 2033 (Gr.) Brōðor þry. c 1000 *Ag. Ps.* cxxii. 8 For mine broðru. *Ag. Gosp.* John vii. 3 His broðra (*Lindisf. & Ruskw.*, broðro; *Haltom G.* hys broðre). *Ibid.* John vii. 10 His gebrōðru (*Haltom G.* gebrōðre; *Lindisf.* broðra, v. 48 broðro; *Ruskw.* broþer). c 1175 *Lamb. Hom.* 5 Nu leoue broðre! *Ibid.* Leoue broðre and suster! c 1205 *LAV.* 16120 Comen þa broðere. c 1275 *Passion* 626 in O.E. *Misc.* 55 3e beoþ alle broðre [*prime* ych to oþre]. 14 1400 *Sayn John* xix. in *Relig. Pieces* fr. *Thornton MS.* 94 His hyne holly and he.. Become þare thi broþre [*prime* ilk one to oþer].

†b. plural brothre: OE. *brōðre*, 2-3 *brōðre*, *brēþre*, 3 *brēðere*. *Obs.*

c 975 *Ruskw. GL.* Matt. i. 11 Broþre his. c 1175 *Lamb. Hom.* 9, 45 Leofe brēðre. c 1200 *ORMIN* 6266 Wiþþ hise brēþre. *Ibid.* 8269 Arrchelawess brēþre preo. α 1240 *Wokunge in Cott. Hom.* 275 Borne brēðre hauen me forwurpen. c 1290 *Gen. & Ex.* 1911 If he saþ his brēðere misfaren. *Ibid.* 2213 Ðo brēðere (*gen. pl.*) seckes. *Ibid.* 2271 Al Ðo brēðere fellen.

γ. brother: (3-4 -ir, -yr, *breither*, 4 *briþer*, 5 *brythir*, 4-6 *broder*, -ir, -ur, -yr.) Still in north. Eng. and Sc.

α 1300 *Cursor M.* 1210 His brēþer als him-self he loued. c 1340 *Ibid.* 23873 (Edinb.) Al er we briþer. c 1340 *Gaw. & Gr. Knt.* 39 Alle þo rich brēþer. 1375 *BARBOUR Bruce* iii. 93 Twa brēthir. c 1400 *Dest. Troy* 9589 His dere brēthir two. *Ibid.* 13167 Bothe were þai brēthir. 1438-40 *tr. Higden* (1865) I. 125 The brēder of Ioseph. *Ibid.* 211 Rome was made of ij. brēþer, Remus and Romulus. 1473 *WARKW. Chron.* i. Hist two brythir. 1513-75 *Dinw. Occurrents* (1833) 84 And vtheris his brēder. 1609 *SKENE Reg. Maj.* 33 The rest of the brēther or sisters. 1609 *BIBLE* (Douay) Prov. vi. 19 Our Lord hateth.. him that among brēther soweth discordes. 1875 *Lauc. Gloss.* (E. D. S.) *Brēthir*, brothers.

†δ. brethren: 3-4 *broþren*, -eren (4 *broþeryn*, e, 5 *broderen*, -yrn, 5-6 *brothern*, -e, 6 *brootherne*, Sc. (casually) *brotherand*). *Obs.*

α 1200 *Trin. Coll. Hom.* 173 Of two broðren. c 1205 *LAV.* 2559 His broðren hine cleopeden. *Ibid.* 2101 Pa preo broðeren [*c* 1275 *broþers*; so 5536, 6809, 10461, 11176]. *Ibid.* 3880 Beine iweren i broðeren [*c* 1275 *broþers*; so 10446, 12255]. 1340 *Ayenb.* 101 We gadereþ alle our broþren. *Ibid.* 149 Uor our broþren. c 1275 O. E. *Misc.* 53 Go to myne broþren. c 1440 *Generydes* 2656 We are broðeren. 1478 W. PASTON *Lett.* 816 III. 226 All my brodyrn and systyr. 1483 *CAXTON Gold. Leg.* 401/2 His broþren wepte.

1533 BELLENDEN *Liuy* i. (1822) 44 To half supportit his brotherand. 1536 *Remed. Sedition* 24 b. Ye brotherne and systerne? fathers and mothers? 1555 EDM *Decades W. Ind.* (Arb.) 50 These owre brotherne, owre flesshe & owre bones. 1567 DRANT *Horace's Epist.* ii. ii. H vj, Two brotherne.

e. brethren: 2-4 *brethren*, -*eren*, 3- *brethren*, (3-6 *brethren*), 3-5 -*in*, 4 *brithirn*, -*ern*, -*eroun*, 4-5 -*eren*, 4-7 *brethern*, 5-6 *brederne*, -*urne*).

c 1175 *Lamb. Hom.* 11 Leoue *brethren*. c 1300 *Trin. Coll. Hom.* 175 Ure helende . . segh þos tweie broðren and þese broðren weren on þe se. c 1305 *LAV.* 2137 Þo þa þre breðren. *Ibid.* 4292 Þas breðren (c 1275 þeos broþers). 1397 R. GLOUC. 478 The bretheren hulde al so aȝen hor fader. c 1300 *St. Brandan* 558 Mid oure Loverdes pans and mid oure Bretherne i-bost. c 1350 *Will. Palerne* 5304 Þe bold breþeren. c 1380 *WYCLIF Wks.* (1880) 284 Among here briþeren. *Ibid.* 367 Þe possession of her breþeren. 1410 *Morte Arth.* 4144 My faire bretherene. c 1450 *LONELICH Graill* iv. 52 Alle his bretheren. *Ibid.* 59 His bretherin alle. c 1450 *Merlin* iii. 4 The two brethern. 1489 *CANTON Faytes of A. iv. vii.* 247 Two bretherne accused of thefte. 1535 *COVERDALE Matt.* i. 2 Jacob begat Judas & his brethern. 1584 *POWELL Lloyd's Cambria* 68 Howel with his Bretherene. 1681 *BURTON Anat. Mel.* i. iv. 1. (1676) 134 Two melancholy brethern. 1705 *STANHOPE Paraphr.* i. 49 Their Brethrens honest though mistaken Zeal. 1843 *MACAULAY Lays, Lake Regillus* ii. Unto the Great Twin Brethren We keep this solemn feast.

f. brothers: 3 *broþeres*, *broþres*, *broþers*.

c 1305 *LAV.* 9153 Alle his broðres (c 1275 broþers) mid him. c 1275 *Ibid.* 1255 Broþeres hii were (c 1205 ibroðeren). *Ibid.* 2101 Þe preo broþers (c 1205 broðeren) alle to gadere comen. [So everywhere in the later text.] 1588 *SHAKS. Tit. A. iii. i.* 30 Ah Lucius for thy brothers let me plead. 1597 — 2 *Hen. IV.* iv. iv. 27 Thou hast a better place in his Affection, Then all thy Brothers. c 1630 *NAUMTON Fragm. Reg.* (Arb.) 25 Being both younger Brothers. 1753 *POPE Windsor For.* 237 Around his throne the sea-born brothers stood. 1843 *MACAULAY Lays, Horatius* xxii, The Romans were like brothers In the brave days of old.

B. Signification: I. as simple *sb.*

1. The word applied to a male being to express his relationship to others (male or female) as the child of the same parent or parents.

In the singular usually defined by a possessive word expressed or implied as 'my brother', 'the king's youngest brother', 'the brother of your friend', '(our) Brother Jonathan', 'come, (my) brother!'; in the plural, this may be absent, if the relationship is between the individuals themselves, as in 'they are brothers (i. e. to each other)'.
a. *properly*. The son of the same parents. But

often extended to include one who has either parent in common with another (more strictly called *half-brother*, or *brother of the half blood*); also to a BROTHER-IN-LAW. See *brother-uterine* (in g d), also BROTHER-GERMAN, GOOD-BROTHER. (Also applicable to animals.)

O. E. *Chron.* an. 656 Min broðer is faren of bisse liue. c 1000 *AGS. Gosp.* Luke xii. 13 Sege minum broðer þæt he dæle uſer æhta wið me. — *Matt. x. 21* Soðlice broður sylð hys broður to deaðe. c 1160 *HATTON Gosp.* *ibid.*, Se broðer sylðeð his broðer. c 1200 *Trin. Coll. Hom.* 147 Þo two susteres wepen for here broðres deað. a 1300 *Cursor M.* 1214 Caym his aun broðer slogh. 1456 *AUDELEY Poems* 15 His borne broðer. c 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 54 Brodyt by the modyt syde onely. *germannus*. 1473 *WARKW. Chron.* 1 He create and made dukes his two brythir. 1590 *SHAKS. Com. Err.* ii. ii. 154 Fie brother, how the world is chang'd with you. 1611 *BIBLE Prov.* xviii. 24 A friend that sticketh closer then a brother. 1667 *MILTON P. L.* xi. 456 His Brothers Offering found From Heav'n acceptance. 1842 *TENNYSON Dora* 15 She is my brother's daughter. 1850 — *In Mem.* xxxi. 5 Where wert thou, brother, those four days? 1859 — *Elaine* 40 Here two brothers. . had met And fought.

b. Including more distant kin: A kinsman, as uncle, nephew, cousin. (Chiefly a Hebraism of the Bible.)

1385 *WYCLIF Gen.* xiv. 14 Loth his brother takun. *Ibid.* xxix. 12 He shewide to hir that he was the brother of hir fader. 1611 *BIBLE Gen.* xiii. 8 And Abram said vnto Lot, Let there be no strife, I pray thee, betwene mee and thee . . for wee bee brethren. *Ibid.* xxix. 12 Jacob told Rachel, that hee was her fathers brother. *Ibid.* 15.

c. Said affectionately of one regarded or treated as a brother; or one who fills the place of a brother.

1795 *BURNS 'A man's a man'* v. Man to man, the world o'er, Shall brothers be for a' that. 1850 *TENNYSON In Mem.* ix, My friend, the brother of my love, My Arthur!

2. A fellow-clansman, fellow-citizen, fellow-countryman (one who claims the same *patria* or father-land); in widest sense (under influence of Christianity), fellow-man, fellow-creature.

a 1000 *AGS. Ps.* cxxii(i). 8 For mine broðru ic bidde nu. c 1300 *Trin. Coll. Hom.* 219 For þi beð alle man ibroþren and iustren. a 1300 *Cursor M.* 854 His grace it was. . . Þat he wald bi com our broþer. 1556 *Pilgr. Perf.* (W. de W. 1531) 151 Theyr neyghbours. . . I meane theyr systerne and bretherne. 1599 *SHAKS. Much Ado* ii. i. 67 Adams sonnes are my brethren. 1611 *BIBLE Acts* xiii. 26 Men and brethren, children of the stocke of Abraham. 1667 *MILTON P. L.* iii. 297 So Man . . Shall satisfie for Man, be judg'd and die. . . and rising with him raise His Brethren. 1724 *FORTESCUE-ALAND Fortescue's Abs. & Lim. Mon.* 30 The Lombards . . Brothers and Kinsmen of the Saxons. 1789 *BURNS Capt. Grace*, Land o' Cakes and brierth Scots. 1840 *LONGF. Ps. of Life* viii, Footprints, that . . A forlorn and shipwrecked brother, Seeing, shall take heart again. a 1860 *MACKAY Brotherhood of Nations* vi, Are ye not brothers? . . Is [God] not Father of all climes and lands? 1871 *MORLEY Voltaire* (1886) 294 An ungrateful infection, weakening and corrupting the future of his brothers.

b. A man and a brother: a phrase taken from the motto on the seal of the British and Foreign

Anti-Slavery Society, 'Am I not a man and a brother?' approved by a Committee of the Society on 16 Oct. 1787.

(The design, a kneeling slave in chains, uttering the words, was shortly after produced as a cameo, black on white, by Wedgwood, and became extremely popular as a personal ornament. The seal is in regular use by the philanthropic society, which still carries on the war against slavery and the slave trade.)

1791 E. DARWIN *Bot. Gard.* 101 [an engraving of the device and motto]. 1808 *CLARKSON Hist. Abolition* i. 450; II. 191. 1809 *MONTGOMERY Songs Abolition Slavery* i. ii, The Negro wakes to liberty. . . Read the great charter on his brow, I am a man, a brother now.

Hence (contemptuously), *man-and-brotherism*, the anti-slavery movement.

1865 *Pall Mall G.* 27 Mar. 3/1 Is this the principle of abolition? Are these the sentiments of man and brotherism?

3. A fellow-member of a Christian society, or of the Christian Church as a whole; a fellow-Christian; a co-religionist generally. (Pl. *brethren*.)

c 1000 *AGS. Gosp.* *Matt.* xxiii. 8 An ys ewer Lareow: æ synt ealle gebroðru (*Hatton G.* gebroðre; *Lindisf.* broðro). c 1175 *Lamb. Hom.* 5 Leoue broðre and suster 3e hi hered. *Ibid.* 125 Alle we beoð i broðran. c 1300 *ORMIN Ded.* 3 Nu, broþerr Walltterr. . . broþerr min i Cristenndom. . . Icc hæfe don swa summ þu badd. 1340 *Ayenb.* 101 We gadereð alle oure broþren mid ous of adopcion. c 1449 *PECOCK Repr.* i. xii. 63 Thi Christen brethiren and sistren. 1541 *FISHER Wks.* 329 In the epistles of oure ryght dere broder Paule. 1552 *Bk. Com. Prayer, Morn. Pr.*, Dearly beloved brethren, the Scripture moveth us in sundry places to acknowledge and confess our manifold sins and wickedness. *Ibid.* *Burial Service*, The soul of our dear brother here departed. 1780 *COWPER Night & Glow-w.* 29 Hence jarring sectaries may learn. . . That brother should not war with brother. 1857 *RUSKIN Pol. Econ. Art* 20 We expect a man in a black gown, supposed to be telling us truth, to address us as brethren. 1871 *MORLEY Voltaire* (1886) 176 The Protestants . . found warm hospitality among their northern brethren.

b. *The Brethren*: in N.T. the members of the early Christian churches; hence, sometimes adopted by (or applied ironically to) members of various Christian associations, claiming to adhere to New Testament principles; e.g. the Puritan party in the Church of England under Queen Elizabeth. Also in the adopted title or common appellation of some modern sects who reject 'orders' in the church, e.g. 'Brethren', 'Brethren in Christ', 'Christian Brethren', 'Plymouth Brethren', etc. (See the Registrar-General's Reports.)

1385 *WYCLIF Acts* xviii. 18 Paul . . seide fare wel to brethern. 1534 *INDALE* *ibid.* Paul . . toke his leave of the brethren. 1655 *FULLER Ch. History* ix. 130 Heartened hereat the Brethren, who hitherto had no particular platforme of discipline amongst themselves . . began in a solemne Council . . to conclude, on a certain forme, as followeth. 1806 *Whitaker's Almanac* 195/2 The Brethren, or Plymouth Brethren, have 23 places of worship in London.

c. Also in names of historical sects: e.g. *Brethren of Alexius*: a sect of the 14th c., = *Cel-lites*. *B. of the Free Spirit*: a sect which abounded in Western Europe in the 13th c., alleged to have derived its name from *Rom.* viii. 2-14.

1860 *EDERSHEIM tr. Kurt's Ch. Hist.* i. § 142. 457 The Brethren of the Common Life were an association of pious clergymen founded by Gerhard Groot at Deventer in the Netherlands (1384). *Ibid.* § 147. 470 It is more than probable that Ecceart stood in some relation to the Brothers and Sisters of the Free Spirit.

4. A fellow-member of a guild, corporation, or order; hence, by extension, one of the same profession, trade, society, or order. (Pl. *brethren*.)

1360 *LANGL. P. Pl. A. v.* 246 Dismas my broþer bi-souȝte þe of grace. 1399 *Gild of Garlekkith in E. E. Gilds* (1870) 3 To noniche more loue bytwene þe brethren & susteren þe be bretherede. c 1460 *Gild of Tailors, Exeter* *ibid.* 315 Yf any Brother of the forsayd fratermyte and crafte dyspyse anoder. 1609 *SKENE Reg. Maj.* 142 Gif ane man, quha is nocht ane brother of this Gilde. . . laues in legacie, any part of his gudes to this Gilde: we receive him as ane of our brether. 1723 *STEELE Cons. Lovers* ii. i, What shall I do for a Brother in the Case? 1805 *Med. & Phys. Trul.* XIV. 231 To furnish their professional brethren of the circle with a supply of recent vaccine fluid. 1824 *J. JOHNSON Typogr.* i. 559 Admitted a brother of the Stationers' Company. 1845 *D. JERROLD Curtain Lect.* xx. 49 When you were once made a 'brother' (Masonic) as you call yourself. 1848 *MACAULAY Hist. Eng.* i. 441 One physician . . assured the queen that his brethren would kill the king among them.

b. The official title of certain members of livery companies, and formerly of municipal corporations.

a. A member of Trinity House. 1602 *Return fr. Parnass.* (pt. 2) iv. v. (Arb.) 60 Two states of an incorporation, the one of the Aldermen, the other of the Brethren. 1696 *Lond. Gas.* No. 3176/3 The Master, Wardens, Assistants and Elder Brethren of the Society of the Trinity-House at Newcastle-upon-Tyne. 1704 *Ibid.* No. 4066/3 The Mayor. . . Aldermen, Brethren, and Capital Burgesses, of Your Majesty's Ancient Borough of Derby. 1766 *ENTICK London* iv. 330 This corporation [Trinity Ho.] is governed by a master, 4 wardens, 8 assistants, and 18 elder brethren. The inferior members . . are called younger brethren; into which number any master or mate, skilled in navigation, may be admitted. 1883 *Ld. SUDLEY in Ho. Comm.* 19 July, The Elder Brethren of the Trinity House.

d. More vaguely: One in the same case or position; a comrade, fellow, companion, associate. (Pl. more commonly *brothers*.)

a 1300 *Cursor M.* 13086 Breþer mi dere and freinde Nu yee sal mine erand wend. 1423 *JAS. I. Kingis Q.* clxxiv, Beseching vnto fair venus abuse, For all my brethir . . that seruandis ar to lufe. c 1430 *Syr Gener.* 4499 Sir, brethre we ar, both ye and I. 1611 *BIBLE Job* xxx. 29, I am a brother to dragons, and a companion to owles. — *Prov.* xviii. 9 Hee also that is slouthful in his worke, is brother to him that is a great waster. 1632 *MASSINGER Maid of Hon.* ii. ii, I will draw my sword. Oh! for a brother! 1785 *BURNS Ep. W. Simpson* xvii, Fareweel 'my rhyme-composing brother'! 1821 *SHELLEY Prometh. Unb.* l. 663 A legioned band of linked brothers.

e. In numerous phrases indicating the kind of fellowship, as *sworn brother*, *brother at, in* (of obs.) *arms*, *brother of the angle* (= fellow-angler), *of the blade*, *gusset*, *long robe*, *quill*, etc.

c 1386 *CHAUCER Knts. T.* 302, I tolde the myn adventure As to my cosyn, and my brother sworn. 1485 *CANTON Paris & V.* 3 Two brethren of armes. 1566 *SHAKS. 1 Hen. IV.* ii. iv. 7, I am sworn brother to a leash of drawers. 1632 *MASSINGER Maid of Hon.* v. ii, Once more brothers in arms. 1653 *WALTON Angler* i. 5, I am a Brother of the Angle. 1668 *R. L'ESTRANGE Vis. Quen.* (1708) 105 To pass for Hector's; Sons of Priam; Brothers of the Blade. 1680 *Observ.* 'Curse Ye Meres' 7 This Aphorism is but borrowed from another Brother of the Quill. 1814 *SOUTHEY Roderick* iv, My first sworn brother in the appointed rule. 1828 *SCOTT F. M. Perth* II. 212 That doughty burgher is Henry's brother-at-arms. 1828-41 *TYTLER Hist. Scot.* i. (1864) 144 Randolph, his friend and brother-in-arms. 1840 *Fraser's Mag.* XXI. 315 The two knights defend each other, as sworn brethren-at-arms. 1878 *MORLEY Diderot* II. 122 A chivalrous defender of poorer brethren in art.

f. *esp.* A fellow-member of a religious order (cf. *frater*, *frère*, *friar*).

Hence frequently in titles, as *Brethren of the Sack*, *B. of the Holy Trinity*: two fraternities of monks in the 13th c. *B. of the Community*, and *B. of the Observation*: laxer and stricter sects of the Franciscans. *Little Brethren of the Poor*: the Wyclifite preachers. *Brothers of Obedience*, *B. of Charity*, etc.: see *quats*.

c 1500 *Coke Lovell's B.* (1843) 7 The pope. . . hath graunted in his byll, That euery brother may do what he wyll. 1513 *BRADSHAW St. Werburgh* (1848) 87 This kynge gaue a place. . . To buyde a monastery, to religious brethir. 1536 *Act 27 Hen. VIII.* xlii. § 2 in *Oxf. & Camb. Enactm.* 14 Scolars, Dimies, Brotherne, Chapleynes. 1552 *LYNDESAY Monarchie* 5850 3e Brether of Religion, In tyme leif ȝour abusoun. 1691 *SOUTHERNE Sir Aut. Love* i. 1, A broken Brother of Bethlehem, with all his frippery about him. 1706 *tr. Dupin's Eccl. Hist.* 16th C. II. iv. xi. 450 The Brothers of Charity were instituted by St. John de Dieu. 1768 *Pictureque Tour thro' Europe* 19 The Brothers of Obedience. . . without being obliged to go to Malta, take the rest, make the same vows. 1848 *MACAULAY Hist. Eng.* II. 61 The chief representative of the Jesuits at Whitehall was an English brother of the Order.

g. Used by sovereigns and princes to each other.

1534 *K. JAS. V. to Hen. VIII.* 5 June in *Nat. MSS.* u. xxviii, Derrest and best belouit brother and oncle. . . ȝour lowynge hartly brothere and nepho James Rex. 1535 *K. Hen. VIII. ibid.* ii. xxix, To be frank and playn with his saide goode Brother [of France], his Majestie woll in noo wise, directly or indirectly confesse the Bishop of Rome to haue any Jurisdiction in princes. 1553 *Q. MARY* *ibid.* iii. iv, Our good brothere the frenche king. 1791 *STEELE Spect.* No. 64 ¶ 1 Princes and Sovereigns. . . are stiled Brothers to each other. 1848 *MACAULAY Hist. Eng.* i. 199 Lewis. . . was as licentious. . . as his brother of England.

7. *fig.* Said of things.

1360 *LANGL. P. Pl. A. ii.* 141 Feire speche bat is feibles is falsnes broþer. 1799 *WORDSW. Two April Mornings* vii, That April morn, Of this the very brother. 1823 *LAMING Ser.* i. xxiv. (1865) 188 The art of roasting or rather broiling (which I take to be the elder brother). 1830 *TENNYSON Isabel* iii, A clear stream flowing with a muddy one, Till in its onward current it absorbs. . . The vexed eddies of its wayward brother.

† b. *B. of the Rose*: the five leaves of the calyx. 1611 *COTGR. Le gobelet d' une Rose*, The five-leaved Cap or huske thereof; called, by some, the five brothers of the Rose. 1626 *BACON Sylva* § 590 We see also, that the Sockets, and Supporters of Flowers, are Figured; as in the five Brethren of the Rose.

II. *attrib.* and in *Comb.*

8. *attrib.* Placed before other substantives, in the same way as *fellow*. *Brother-man*: a man recognized as a brother, a 'man and brother'.

Often united by a hyphen, esp. in the singular, so as to make clearer the attributive relation of *brother* to the second word (contrast *brother-officer* with *brother John*); but in the plural this is sufficiently shown by the inflexion of the second word and non-inflexion of *brother*. Formerly *brother* was also made plural.

1503 *Act 19 Hen. VII.* xvii, The Mayor . . with his Brethren Aldermen. 1599 *SHAKS. Hen. V.* i. ii. 122 Your Brother Kings and Monarchs of the Earth. 1603 — *Meas. for M.* iii. ii. 219 My brother-justice haue I found so seuer. 1603 *DEKKER*, etc. *Patient Grisill* (1841) 18 Many of his brother knights. 1623 *Voy. Guiana in Harl. Misc.* (Malh.) III. 184 My brother-captain, Michael Harcourt. 1670 *WALTON Lives* iii. 216 His Brethren Ministers of the Low Countries. 1690 *LOCKE Hum. Und.* ii. xxvii. (1695) 186 To punish one Twin for what his Brother-Thwin did. 1725 *Pope Odys.* xi. 300 Two brother-heroes shall from thee be born. 1768 *BOSWELL Corsica* iii. (ed. 2) 213 Composed in praise of his brother-commander. 1800 *KRAUS Hyperion* ii. 160 Tell me, all ye brethren Gods, How we can war. 1837 *DISRAELI Venetia* i. xv. (1858) i. 100 An esteemed neighbour and brother magistrate. 1839 *CARLYLE Chartism* iv. 128 These wretched brother-men. 1861 *Yrnl. Sacred Lit.* 95 To recognize him as one who is our brother-man. 1871 *MORLEY Crit. Misc.* Ser. i. (1878) 220 Divorced . . from his brother men.

b. of things.

a 1828 *SHELLEY Sc. fr. Faust, Prol. Heaven*, The sun

sounds . . . In the song of emulation of his brother-spheres. 1873 BLACK PR. Thule ii. 32 Suainabhal and his brother mountains. 1874 BOUTELL Arms & A. ii. 17 The substitution . . . of iron, in the stead of its elder brother-metal, bronze.

c. Hence, possible parasyntetic derivatives, as brother-ma'hood.

1864 CARLYLE Fredk. Gl. IV. 457 A cheery brother-man-hood.

9. Comb. a. The old uninflected genitive = 'brother's', as in *broder bairn*, daughter, son, wife, was sometimes in later usagetaken as = 'a brother's, brotherly', as in *brother deed*, brother love. b. objective and obj. gen., as *brother-hater*, -slayer, -slaughter, -worship. c. instrumental, as *brother-forsaken*, etc.

a. 1300 CURSOR M. 3750 Fader, þis was na broder dede. 1483 Cath. Angl. 45 A Broder doghter, *fratria*. A Broder son, *fratruus*. A Broder wyfe, *fratrisa*. 1613 SHAKS. Hen. VIII. v. iii. 173 With a true heart, And Brother-loue. b. 1483 Cath. Angl. 45 A Broder-slaer, *fratricida*. 1561 T. NORTON Calvin's Inst. iv. i. (1634) 510 Did brother-slaughter seeme to the Patriarkes a lawfull thing? 1817 COLERIDGE Lay Sermon. 387 Of many and various sorts are the brother-haters. 1864 Chamb. Jnrl. 31 Dec. 838 Brother-worship is natural to sisters—when young.

d. Brother-consanguinean (see quot.); brother-house, the home of a brotherhood; †brother-law = BROTHER-IN-LAW; brother-uterine, one born of the same mother, but not of the same father. Also BROTHER-GERMAN, BROTHERWORT.

1800 MUIRHEAD Gaius iii. § 10 Brothers born of the same father, often called 'brothers-consanguinean, are each other's agnates. 1893 Contemp. Rev. Oct. 491 Their 'brother-houses and schools . . . in most of the chief cities of the Netherlands. 1677 HOBBS Homer 195 Your 'brother-law Alcathous is kill'd. Ibid. 383 Hector, said she, Whom best I lov'd of all my brother-laws.

Brother, v. Also 6 Sc. bruder. [f. prec. sb.] 1. trans. To make a brother of; to admit to brotherhood; also, to treat or address as brother.

1573 Sege Edinb. Castel in Scot. Poems 16th C. II. 289 Thay ar bowit and bruderit in our band. 1584 FENNER Def. Ministers (1587) 7 Howe can you brother vs thus in euerie line, and deale so vnbrotherlie with vs in euerie sentence? 1706 FARQUHAR Recruit. Officer i. 1, No coaxing, no brothering me 'faith. 1800 SCOTT Ivanhoe II. iv. 62 This same motley gentleman thou art so fond to brother. 1845 BEDDOES Sec. Brother II. ii, Marcello is my brother, I am his, If coming of one mother brother us.

2. To be a brother to. To brother it: to act or behave as a brother.

c. 1600 CHAPMAN Iliad xiii. 692 She that brought thee forth not utterly left me Without some portion of thy spirit to make me brother thee. a. 1648 LD. HERBERT Life (1826) 327 There remains now but you and I to brother it.

Hence *Brothering* vbl. sb. rare.

1818 SOUTHEY Lett. (1856) III. 97 By . . . such brothering and sistering he kept up his influence among his people.

Brother, obs. form of BROTHER.

Brothered, ppl. a. [f. prec. vb. + -ED.]

1. United into or by brotherhood.

1607-8 FELTHAM Resolves (1647) 211 When they meet a brother'd constitution they then unite. 1876 BLACKIE Songs Relig. & Life 3 All in brothered rays do mingle.

2. Caused by brothers; fraternal.

1840 BLACKIE Eschylus I. 233 Save my city From brothered strife, and from domestic brawls.

Brothered, sb. : see BROTHERRED.

Brother-german (brøðərɪnˌɡɜːmən). Pl. brothers-german (formerly brethren-). [f. BROTHER sb. + GERMAN.] A brother through both parents; a 'whole' brother.

Early writers also used it as = 'brother on the mother's side, brother-uterine'; it has been proposed in modern times to restrict it to 'brother on the father's side'.

1340 Aeneid. 146 Broþer germain of uader and of moder. c. 1450 Merlin viii. 122 Thei be men of high lynage, and be bretheren germain. 1480 CAXTON Chron. Eng. ccxxv. 230 Karoll the grete kyng of fraunce was broder germain of Quene Isabell kynge Edwardes moder. 1530 PALSGR. 201/2 Brother germaine, *frere germain*. 1751 CHAMBERS Cycl. s.v. German, Brother German denotes a brother both by the father's and mother's side. 1884 A. MACFARLANE Consanguinity 8, I use the term brother-german, to denote brother on the father's side.

Brotherhood (brøðərhu:d), also †brother-head. Forms: a. 4 broþerhede, broþer-, broder-, brodurhede, brothered, 4-5 brotherhede, 5 breþerhed, 4-6 brotherhed, 5 breþerhed, britherhed(e), brodirhede, broperhed, 5-6 brotherhed, brodered, 6 (breethred), bretherhead, brodirhed, brotherhed, -head(e), -hedde. β. 5 broder-, broperhede, breperode, britherhod, 5-6 brotherode, -hode, 6 brotherhooe, 6- brotherhood. [Not in OE.: the earlier ME. form *broþerhede* was, in form, a derivative of BROTHER and *-hed*, *-hede*; but arose probably from the accession of the earlier BROTHERRED (which goes back to OE.) to the *-hede* class, through the intermediate *brothered(e)*, the ending of which might be either *-rede* or *-hede*. This is made still more likely by the fact that the variant *brotherhooe* (whence the modern *brotherhood*) is not found before the 15th c.; whereas *childhood*, *maidenhood*, *wifhood*, and other genuine derivatives in *-hood* go back to an OE. *-hād* and early

ME. *-had*, later *-hōd(e)*, with *-hed*, *-hede* as an occasional ME. variant. See -HEAD, -HOOD, -RED. The variant *brotherhede* was frequent from the 14th c. till about the Reformation, evidently by association with the *brother* or *brethren* of a guild or order: 'the bretheren and sustren of the brotherhede'.]

1. The relation of a brother, or of brothers mutually; fraternal tie. Also in spiritual sense.

a. 1300 CURSOR M. 1159 Felasceipe ne broþerhede Mought te drau fra felon dede. 1526 PILGR. Perf. (W. de W. 1531) 169 b, Remyssyon of synnes, adopyon of grace, brotherhed to the sone of god. 1594 CAREW Tasso (1881) 81 Eustace her meetes, who claymes a brother-hed In him.

β. c. 1450 Voc. in Wr. Wulcker 690 Hec fraternitas, a brotherode. 1580 BARET Alw. B 1377 Brotherhood by the same father and mother, *germanitas*. 1593 SHAKS. Rich. II. i. ii. 9 Findes brotherhood in thee no sharper spurte? 1605 BACON Adv. Learn. ii. 5 Nature createth Brotherhood in Families. 1860 PUSEY Min. Proph. 166 The brotherhood of blood was not to wear out.

2. Brotherliness, brotherlyfellowship, companionship, friendly alliance.

a. 1300 CURSOR M. 3750 Þis was na broder-hede [v.r. broder dede]. c. 1386 CHAUCEUR Schipm. T. 42 Ilk of hem gan other to assure Of brotherhed [v.r. brotherhede, -heed, breperode, brotherhed, -hode], while that her lif may dure. 1535 COVERDALE Zech. xi. 14 That I might lowse the brotherhede betwixte Iuda and Israel.

β. 1388 WYCLIF 1 Macc. xii. 10 To renule britherhod [1388 brotherhed] and frenschip. 1665 MANLEY Grosius Low-C. Wars 121 He was sure of the Brother-hood of France. 1868 HAWTHORNE Amer. Note-bks. (1879) I. 54 We live in great harmony and brotherhood.

†3. The personality of a brother: in your brotherhood, a dutiful mode of addressing a brother. Obs. c. 1400 Apol. Loll. 39 Eft writip þe pope to be bischop. We bid to þi broþerhed, þat þu steer bisili be clerkis of þi iurisdiccoun. 1508-3 Plumpton Corr. 172, I recomend me unto your mastership and brotherhede, and to my lady your wyfe. 1625 PAGITT Christianogr. ii. vii. 84, I have opportunity to salute your brotherhood, whose face I never saw.

†4. The position or rank of a 'brother' in a corporation. Obs.

1536 Act 27 Hen. VIII. xlii. § 1 in Oxf. & Camb. Enactm. 13 Schoolshippes, Dimishippes, Brotherodes. 1606 SHAKS. Tr. & Cr. i. iii. 104 How could . . . Degrees in Schooles, and Brother-hoods in Cities . . . The primogeniue, and due of Byrth . . . stand in Authentique place?

5. An association of brothers; a fraternity, guild, society, association of equals for mutual help, support, protection, or action. Also, the brethren of such an order collectively.

a. c. 1300 GAW. & Gr. Nat. 2516 Vche burne of þe broþerhede a baudry schilde haue. 1387 E. E. Wills (1882) 1 The Brethered of our lady of Abbechurch. 1389 in Eng. Gilds (1870) 3 Þe bretheren & sustren of þe brotherhede. 1528 TINDALE Doctr. Treat. (1848) 243 The belly-brotherhed of monks and friars. 1553 Juv. in Ann. Dioc. Lichfield (1863) 27 Brotherheddes, gildes, fraternities, & cumpenies. β. 1547 Act 1 Edw. VI. xiv. § 1 Hospitals, Fraternities, Brotherhoods, Guilds. 1555 T. HAWKES in Foxe A. & M. (1631) III. xi. 260/1 There is a brotherhood of you, but I will breake it. 1653 WALTON Angler i. 5, I hate the Otter perfectly, even for their sakes that are of my Brotherhood. 1805 SOUTHEY Madoc in W. xiii, The grey brotherhood Chanted the solemn mass. 1884 FAIRBAIRN in Contemp. Rev. XLII. 867 The Arab tribes . . . fused into a united and enthusiastic brotherhood.

b. fig. A group or array of things figured as brothers.

1728 POPE Dunci. i. 143 Here all his suff'ring brotherhood retire, And 'scape the martyrdom of jakes and fire. 1814 WORDSW. Excursion i. 29 The gloom Spread by a brotherhood of lofty elms. 1843 PRESCOTT Mexico (1850) I. 350 This rugged brotherhood of mountains.

6. A court, convention, or meeting of a fraternity or guild; spec. a convention or conference of delegates from the corporations of the Cinque-Ports. 1683 Addr. Cinque-Ports in Lond. Gas. No. 1857/2 The humble Address of the Mayors, Bailiffs, Jurats, and Commons of the Cinque-Ports . . . Assembled at a Brotherhood and Guestling holden at New Romney. 1830 Thanel & Cinque Ports II. 11 The annual courts anciently called Guestlings, and afterwards the Brotherhoods. Ibid. The Brotherhood men, like members of Parliament, are privileged from arrest.

7. The fellowship or communion of Christians with one another and with Christ; also *concr.*

a. c. 1380 WYCLIF Serm. Sel. Wks. II. 326 Cristen men shulden be lovers of breþerhed in Crist. 1388 — 1 Thess. iv. 9 Of the charite of britherhed we hadden not nede for to wryte to you.

β. 1388 WYCLIF 1 Peter ii. 17 Onoure 3e alle men, loue 3e brithirhod [1388 britherhed]. 1566 D. Cox in Farr's S. P. (1845) II. 503 Our Father, which in heauen art, And makst vs al one brotherhood. 1666 BAXTER Call Unconverted 238 You shall have part in the brother-hood . . . of the Saints. 1865 R. W. DALE Jewish Temp. vii. (1877) 74 There is a brotherhood between Christ and all believers.

8. Fellowship; community of feeling uniting man and man; also *concr.* those united in such fellowship. A modern notion frequent in *brotherhood of man*, *universal brotherhood*, etc.

1774 COWPER Task iii. 268 The link of brotherhood, by which One common Mark bound me to the kind. 1821 SHELLEY Prometheus Unb. ii. ii. 95 And make the earth One brotherhood. 1841 D'ISRAELI J. Mem. Lit. (1867) 581 The common brotherhood of man. 1884 FARRAR Early Chr. I. 107 In the Church the beautiful ideal of human brotherhood was carried into practice.

Brother-in-law (brøðərɪnˌlɔː). Also 5 brodyr yn lawe, broder in law, broder elawe.

[App. 'in law' = in Canon Law (in contrast to *brother in blood* or *by nature*), with reference to the degrees of affinity within which marriage is prohibited; a brother-in-law or sister-in-law being, as regards intermarriage, treated 'in law' as a brother or sister.]

prop. The brother of one's husband or wife; the husband of one's sister. Sometimes extended to the husband of one's wife's (or husband's) sister.

c. 1300 K. Alia. 4300 He was Daries brother in lawe. [c. 1425 Voc. in Wr. Wulcker 692 Hic leuiv, est frater in lege.] 1483 Cath. Angl. 45 A Broder in law [v.r. Broder elawe], leuiv. 1522 Bury Wills (1850) 117, I bequeathe to John Bullok, my brother in law, a featherbed. 1552 HULST, Brotherne by mariynge the daughters of one man, called brother in lawe. 1596 SHAKS. 1 Hen. IV. i. iii. 80 That we at our owne charge, shall ransom straight His Brother-in-Law. 1700 TYRRELL Hist. Eng. II. 901 On his Brother-in-Law's behalf. 1830 MISS MITFORD Village Ser. iv. (1863) 273 Oakhamstead Park, the pleasant demesne of her brother-in-law, Sir Arthur Villars.

†b. humorously. The father of one's daughter-in-law or son-in-law. Obs.

1611 SHAKS. Wint. T. iv. iv. 720 Who . . . is no honest man to goe about to make me the Kings Brother in Law.

Hence *Brother-in-lawship*.

1840 THACKERAY Paris Sk. Bk. (1885) 98 The pleasures of brother-in-lawship in general.

Brotherist. A follower of the fanatical Richard Brothers, who attracted attention 1790-1802.

1807 SOUTHEY Esplanade's Lett. (1814) III. 199, J.'s friend saw him once at the house of one of the Brotherists.

Brotherize, v. rare -1. [f. BROTHER sb. + -IZE.] trans. To provide with a brother or with brothers.

1752 Mrs. DELANY Life & Corr. 82 It is happy for D., since she is so brotherised and sisterised, that she can make their strange and unnatural behaviour easy to her.

Brotherkin. [f. as prec. + -KIN.] Little brother. (After Ger. *brüderchen*.)

1827 CARLYLE Germ. Rom. II. 285 Brotherkin Anselmus. 1831 — Sart. Res. iii. vii. 289 Wert thou, my little Brotherkin, suddenly covered up within the largest imaginable glass-bell,—what a thing it were . . . for the world! 1856 H. MORLEY Corn. Agrippa II. 59 Let this brotherkin, priest or Levite turn his heart from her.

Brotherless, a. Having no brother.

1460 Pol. Rel. & L. Poems (1866) 207 Brotherlees, spouse-lees, ful wrecchid y-wis. a. 1678 MARVELL Nymph Compl. Death Faun. The brotherless Heliodus. 1821 BYRON Cain iii. i. 464, I shrink from the deed which leaves thee brotherless. 1865 LADY T. LEWIS Miss Berry's Jnrl. & Corr. Intro. 17 She was brotherless and unmarried.

Brotherlike, a., adv. [see -LIKE.]

A. adj. Like a brother; fraternal, brotherly.

1570 LEVINS Manip. 122 Brotherlike, *fraternus*. 1593 SHAKS. 3 Hen. VI. v. i. 105 Welcome good Clarence, this is Brother-like. a. 1625 E. CHALONER 512 Serm. (1629) 19 This is a brotherlike admonition, and a friendlike expostulation.

B. adv. After the manner of a brother.

1837 CARLYLE Fr. Rev. II. iii. ii. viii. 212 All Patriots . . . mourning brotherlike. 1859 TENNYSON Enid 1732 The King . . . kiss'd her with all pureness, brotherlike.

Brotherliness (brøðərɪnˌlɪs). [f. BROTHERLY + -NESS.] The quality of being brotherly; brotherly affection or sympathy.

1532 TINDALE Expos. Matt. Wks. II. 86 If brotherliness will not help . . . let him execute thy power. 1561 T. NORTON Calvin's Inst. Table Script. Quots., Honour all men, love brotherliness. 1618 BOLTON Florus (1636) 285 The brotherliness of the Generals drew exceeding favour to that side. 1878 T. HARDY Return Native II. iii. ii. 85 He still cleaved to plain living . . . and brotherliness with clowns.

Brotherling : see BRETHERLING.

Brotherly (brøðərɪli), a. Also 6 broderly. [f. BROTHER + -LY]. Cf. OE. *brōðerlic*; but no corresponding form is found in ME.]

1. Of or pertaining to a brother; also, characteristic of a brother, fraternal, kind, affectionate.

c. 1000 ÆLFRIC Gram. vi. 15 *Fraternus*, broðerlic. 1535 COVERDALE Amos i. 9 They . . . haue not remembered the brotherly couenaunt [WYCLIF, boond of bretheren]. 1555 EDEN Decades W. Ind. i. ii. 72 A brotherly league. 1656 JEANES Mixt. Schol. Div. 152 A brotherly Saviour, and Redeemer. 1835 CARLYLE Misc. (1857) III. 299 The freest, brotherliest, bravest human soul.

b. Common in *brotherly kindness*, *love* (sometimes, though unnecessarily, joined by a hyphen).

1526 PILGR. Perf. (W. de W. 1531) 170 Fraternal charite or brotherly loue. 1611 BIBLE a Peter i. 7 Adde to godliness, brotherly kindness. — Hebr. xiii. 1 Let brotherly loue continue. 1667 H. MORE Div. Dial. v. xlii. (1713) 526 The exercise of . . . Brotherly-kindness. 1856 R. VAUGHAN Mystics (1860) I. 199 To displace this pride by brotherly-kindness.

†2. Of things: Acting in harmonious conjunction. 1638 A. READ Treat. Chirurg. xx. 146 Two brotherly muscles, appoynted for sundry motions of the same part.

Brotherly, adv. [f. as prec. + -LY.] In the manner or spirit of a brother; fraternally.

1526 TINDALE 1 Peter i. 22 To loue brotherly withouten faynyng. 1590 H. BARROW in Conferences i. 1 To confer brotherly and christianly with me. 1593 SHAKS. 3 Hen. VI. iv. iii. 38 How should you gouerne any Kingdome, That know not . . . how to vse your Brothers Brotherly. 1650 S. CLARKE Eccl. Hist. (1654) I. 237 He exhorted them lovingly and brotherly to lay down their arms. 1805 SCOTT Last Ministr. ii. xx, The man he had loved so brotherly.

Brotherode, obs. form of BROTHERHOOD.

†Brotherred. Obs. Forms: 1 brøðor-

ræden, 2-3 *broþerreddene*, 4 *broþerrede*, (5-6 *broþered(e)*). [OE. *f. broþor* BROTHER + *-ræden* condition, state: see *-RED*, and cf. *kindred*. Apparently in its later ME. form *brotherred*, *brothered*, it was merged in *brotherhood*, earlier var. of BROTHERHOOD.] = BROTHERHOOD.

(The quotations after 1400 illustrate the merging of *brotherred* in *brotherhood*.)

c 1000 *Ælfric Gram.* vi. 17 *Fraternitas*, *broþoræden*. c 1175 *Lamb. Hom.* 41 *Leofe broðre haldeþ broþerreðene eow bitwenen*. 1340 *Ayeb.* 110 He heþ þe broþerrede and part and uelazrede and rȳt and ine alle þe guode dedes. 1346 *Ane broþerhede goſtlich þet is worþ betere þanne þe broþerrede uelſſich*. 1464 *Mann & Houſeh. Exp.* 272 The broðered of the ſeld of Seynte Iohnes. 1513-4 *Act 5 Hen. VIII.* vii, The Felſhippe and Broðered of the bleſſed Trinite. 1548 *UDALL Erasmus. Apoph.* 340 b, A certain brotherhood which vſed to . . . gather together at his houſe.

Brotherſhip (-ſhip). [*f.* as prec. + *-SHIP*: -OE. -ſcipe. Only in ONorthumb. *broþerſcip*, and in recent occasional use as = 'fraternity'.]

a. Brotherly fellowſhip, brotherlineſſe. b. A fraternity or gild-brotherhood.

c 950 *Lindſif. Goſp.* Matt. xxiv. 12 *Eſcoles broþerſcip vel lufo monira*. 1708 *FARQUHAR Recruit. Officer* i. i, Take your cap and your brotherſhip back again. 1840 *Rock Ch. of Fathers* II. vii. 337 This wiſh . . . to be in brotherſhip with religious houſes. 1866 *Coruh. Mag.* Nov. 579 They poſſeſſ trade-guilds and brotherſhips.

Brotherwort. [*f.* as prec. + *WORT*.] Wild Thyme, *Thymus Serpyllum*. (Britten and Holland.) (According to Halliwell, Pennyroyal.)

1389 *Simon. Barthol.* (Anecd. Oxon.) 35 *Pulegium montanum*, brotherwort. c 1465 *Alphita* (Anecd. Oxon.) 81 *Herpillum, ſerpillum, pulegium montanum*, brotherwort. 1466 *Tymbra vel timbrina*, brotherwort. 1499 *Prompt. Parv.* 54 Brotherwort, *gilia, guleum*. 1530 *PALSGR.* 201 1/2 Brother worthe herbe. 1597 in GERARD App. (Britten & Holl.).

Brothery, perh. an error for *brokery*.

1638 *JACKSON Conſecr. Son of God* 185 Our Saviour purged the material Temple from brothery [Wks. 1844 VIII. 359 brothery] and merchandizing.

Brothfall. *Obs.* [*a.* ON. **broðfall* or **broð-fall* 'sudden fall' (Vigf.), found in Icel. as *broðfall* epileptic fit.] Falling ſickneſſe, epilepsy.

c 1200 *ORMIN* 1504 And ta þæt fellen o broþþfall þe 33 tokenn at himm hæle.

Brothrell. *sb. Obs. rare* -1. = BROTHEL 2.

1514 *BARCLAY Cyt. & Uplondyſhm.* (1847) 28 Suche a brothrell hir keepeth not to one.

Brothy (*brōþi*), *a.* Also 7 *broathy*. [*f.* BROTH *sb.* + *-Y* 1.] Of, or of the nature of, broth.

1651 *OSLEY Æſop* (1665) 63 A Table in a Broathy Deluge drown'd.

Brothyr, *obs. form* of BROTHER.

Brotkin, var. BRODEKIN, *Obs.*, a high boot.

Brotil (l, -tle, -tly), var. BROTEL *a. Obs.* brittle.

Brouch (e, *obs. form* of BROOCH.

Brouch. *Obs. rare* -1: perh. = BROUGH, BURB, BURROW 3, an 'orb'.

1645 *G. DANIEL Poems* Wks. 1878 II. 77 my feeble Lampe, as much Might fire Heavens' greatest Brouch.

Broude (e, variant of BROWD, BROWDEN. *Obs.*

Brouder, -re, etc., *obs. form* of BROIDER, etc.

Brouderer, *obs. f.* BRODEBER, BROIDERER.

Broudur, *sb. Obs. rare.* [*ad.* OF. *broudure*, *broudire* (Godef.) embroidery, *f. broder* to stitch, embroider.]

Embroidered work, embroidery.

1470 *HARDING Chron.* cxciii. iii, Broudur and fures and goldsmith werke aye newe.

Broues, -esse, *obs. ff.* BREWIS, BROSE.

Brouet, var. of BROWET, *Obs.*, pottage.

Brough. now *Sc.* and *north.* Also 8-9 *brugh*, 9 *dial. bruff*. [*app.* a. ON. *borg*, in sense of 'wall, enclosure': cf. the Ger. term *hof* 'yard, court, area', applied to the same phenomenon; the comparison being to the outer wall of a feudal castle.

Brough, brugh (*brvχ, brvχ**), now in *north. Eng. dial. bruff* (*bruf*), is the *northern form*; *southern forms* are BURB, and BURROW, in *Prompt. Parv. burwe*. (The word thus appears in origin identical with BROCH, *brough* round tower.)]

1. A luminous ring or circle around a shining body, esp. the moon; a halo.

[c 1440 *Prompt. Parv.* 56 *Burwe*, sercle [1499 *burrowe*, *orbiculus*.] 1496 *Dives & Paup.* (W. de W.) i. xxvii. 64 1/2 The brouge or cerde about the candell lyght is token of rayne.

1625 *PERSON Varieties* II. iv. 62 These Circles by us called brouges, are a world of way remote from the bodies of the sunne and moone.

1808 *JAMIESON Sc. Dict.* s.v. *Mone*, A brugh, or hazy circle round the moon is accounted a certain prognostic of rain.

1825 *Whitby Gloss.*, *Bruff*, the halo round the moon, when it shines through a mist or haze.

1875 *ROBINSON Whitby Gloss.* (E. D. S.) s.v. *Bruff*, 'The larger the bruff, the nearer the storm'; or, 'the bigger the bruff, the nearer the breeze'.

1882 *Standard* 26 Dec. 7 1/4 When round the moon there is a brugh The weather will be cold and rough.

2. *Curling*: see quot.

1857 *CHAMBERS Inform. People* II. 683 1/2 s.v. *Curling*, Brough—several concentric circles, varying from one to fourteen feet in diameter, drawn round each tee.

Brough, variant of BROCH, round tower.

Brougham, (*brūm, brūm, brūm*). [*f.* the

name of Lord Brougham, of which the native northern pronunciation was (*brūm*?) also (*brūm*?) fem., and *brūm*?]; this became in London (*brūm*, and *brūm*).

For the vehicle (*brūm*) was the accepted London pronunciation, as seen in society verses, etc., and is still widely prevalent, especially among elderly people; (*brūm*) is somewhat less frequent; but an extensive collection of evidence shows (*brūm*) to be now the most common in educated use. (*Brūm*) is heard from the vulgar.]

A one-horse closed carriage, with two or four wheels, for two or four persons.

1851 *Househ. Words* III. 567 Dukes and marquises, and people of that sort, glide away in their broughams. 1856 *PATMORE Angel in Ho.* II. Prol. i, Briggs, Factotum, Footman, Butler, Groom . . . Preserv'd the rabbits, drove the brougham. 1866 *MISS BRADDON Lady's Mile* i. 2 Those dashing mail-coaches and dainty little broughams.

Brought (*brōt*), *pple. a.* [*pp.* *pple.* of BRING v.] Chiefly in composition, as in *well, ill brought up* (see BRING v. 27 b).

Brouin, *obs. Sc. pa. pple.* of BREW.

Broun (e, Broume, *obs. f.* BROOK, BROOM.

Broun (e, *obs. f.* BROWN, *obs. pa. pple.* of BREW.

± Broune. *Obs. rare* -1. [If this is of one syllable, it suggests as possible sing. *broune, brune*, ad. ON. *bruni* burning: but it may be a derivative in -ne, as taken in the later version.] ? Burning, inflammation.

1528 *PAYNELL Salerne Regim.* (1541) 61 [It] comfortethe a hote stomake. . . and repressethe his Brounes [Lat. *adustiones*; 1634 browninesse] and heate.

Broun (e, *obs. form* of BURN.

Brouse, Brouse, *obs. ff.* BRUSH, BRUISE.

Brouse, Broust, *obs. ff.* BROWSE, BROWST.

Brouster, -ar, *northern ff.* BREWSTER.

Broust, *obs. form* of BRUT.

Brouwys, *obs. form* of BREWIS, BROSE.

Brow (*brau*), *sb.* 1. Forms: 1 *brū* (*pl.* *brūs*),

2 *bruw* (e, 3 *brouwe*, *brou*, *brou*, 3-4 *brue*, 4

brwe, *browe*, 4-7 *browe*, 5 *brou*, 5 *brou*, 5-
brow. [OE. *brū* fem., inflected on the type of

an OTeut. *brūd*-str. fem., but prob. only an OE.

accession to the *d*-declension of a WGer. or

primitive OE. *brūd* of the type of *cl, sū*: -OTeut.

**brūs* -s = Skr. *bhrūs*-s eye-brow, Gr. *ōpōs*-s). The

original sense appears to have been 'eye-brow',

but it must have been extended at an early date

from the hair over the eyes to that on the eye-lids,

the 'eye-lashes', for this was the normal sense in

OE., the eye-brows being distinguished as *ofer-brūa*

i. e. over-eye-lashes, or otherwise contextually.

From the eye-lashes, the name appears to have

been transferred step by step to the eye-lids, the

eye-brows, the prominences of the forehead, and

finally to the forehead as a whole. See also BREE

sb. 1, and cf. BEETLE-BROWED.

ON. *brū* fem. 'bridge' was perhaps the same word, with

a transferred sense; but the ON. word actually used for

'eye-brow' was *brūm*, pl. *brūm*, conjectured to be a

secondary form from *brū* founded on the gen. pl. *brūna*.

(Cf. mod. G. *braune* brow, founded on the pl. *braun, brauen*,

MHG. *brāwen*, pl. of *brāwe*.) In the other Teutonic langs.

**brū* is lost, and its place supplied by **brūd*; thus OHG.

brūwa eye-lashes, *ōbarun brūwa*, *ubar-brūwa*, eye-brows,

mod. G. *augenbraue*, *braune* (see above) eye-brow, *wimper*,

MHG. *wintbrāwe* eye-lash, Du. *wenkbrauw* eye-brow, all

of which belong to OTeut. **brūd* -s, WGer. *brūw*, OE. *brūw*;

see BREE. (It appears then that the Eng. *brow* and Ger.

braun, Du. *brauw* are not even cognate.)

± 1. The fringe of hair along the eye-lid, the eye-lash, L. *cilium*. Only in OE.

a 1000 *Riddles* xli. 100 (Gr.) Ne ic breaxa ne bruna brucan

moste. c 1000 *ÆLFRIC Voc.* in Wv. Wulker 156 *Cilia*, brua.

1614 *290 Cilia*, brua.

± 2. The eye-lid, L. *palpebra*. Usually *pl.* *Obs.*

(Some of the quotations are not certain.)

c 1200 *Trin. Coll. Hom.* 213 At drinche . . . bere beð . .

winrede bruwes. c 1205 *LAV.* 2283 [Hi] heouen up heore

bruen. c 1275 — 12374 þa heng he his bruwes [c 1205

broewen] adun. a 1300 *E. E. Psalter* xlii. 5 His brwes

[*palpebra*] askes mennes sonas. 1614 *cxix* [i]. 4 If I gif to

min eghen slapinge, And to mi brwes [*palpebris*] napping.

1340 *HAMPOLE Pr. Conſc.* 817 His brwes heldeſe down

wyth-alle. a 1500 *Med. Receipts in Rel. Ant.* I. 54 Qwen

his brwes hildes doune.

3. 'The arch of hair over the eye' (J.). Usually

pl. In later use including the super-orbital ridge,

and especially the skin, on which the hair grows.

Now usually EYE-BROW. To knit, bend one's

brows: to frown.

[c 1000 *ÆLFRIC Voc.* in Wv. Wulker 156 *Supercilia*, ofer-

brua. — *Agz. Voc.* ibid. 290 *Intercilium* [cf. Gr. *μεσoφpov*]

between bruwum.] a 1300 *Cursor M.* 8079 Lang

and side þair brwes wern And hinged all a-bout þair hern.

1398 *REVISIA Barth. De P. R.* v. ix. (1495) 114 The brwes

ben callyd supercilia the ouer lyddes for they ben sette

about the eye lyddes. The brwes ben cloyd with moche

heere. c 1400 *Yvain & Gau.* 261 His brwes was like litel

bukſes. 1575 *J. STILL Gamm. Gurlon* v. ii, I am as true

as skin betwene thy brwes. 1593 *SHAKS.* 2 *Hen. VI.* i.

ii. 3 Why doth the Great Duke Humfrey knit his brwes?

1601 *CORNWALLYSS Ess.* xx, We will pull our brwes, and in-

dure any paine to imitate the faſhion. 1619 *R. WEST Bk.*

Demeanor 29 in *Babees Bk.* 292 Let not thy brwes be

backward drawn, it is a ſigne of pride, Exalt them not, it

ſhewes a hart moſt arrogant beſide. 1715 *Pope Ep. Miſs*

T. Blount 49 Vex'd to be ſtill in town, I knit my brow.

1830 *TENNISYND Madeline* iii, O'er black brows drops down

A sudden-curved frown. 1832 — *Æneid* 74 The charm of

married brows.

b. In the same sense as 5 b.

a 1300 *Cursor M.* 14747 To blaken þan bigan þair brous

[v. r. bruu, brewes]. [See BLACK v. 1 for other instances.]

4. *pl.* The prominences of the forehead on either

side above the eyes. Now poetically = next sense.

1588 *SHAKS. L. L. L.* v. i. 392 Helpe! hold his browes.

1601 — *Jnl. C. v.* iii. 82 Did not they Put on my Browes this

wreath of Victorie? 1697 *DRYDEN Virg. Eclog.* vi. 35 *Egle*

. . . His Browes with Berries, and his Temples dies. a 1725

Pope Iliad xi. 53 Last o'er her brows his fourfold helm he

placed. 1822 *W. IRVING Braceh. Hall* xxvi. 235 The officer

. . . placed it [a wreath] upon the blushing brows of his mis-

tress. 1850 *TENNISYND In Mem.* lxxvi. 8 Fan my brows

and blow The fever from my cheek.

Fig. 1595 *SHAKS. John* ii. 38 Our Cannon shall be bent

Against the browes of this resisting towne.

± b. ? Part of a wig covering the brows. *Obs.*

c 1485 *Digby Myst.* *Mor. Wiſd.* i. heading, Vpon his hed

a cheveler with browes.

5. The whole part of the face above the eyes, the

forehead. (*L. frons*.)

1535 *STEWART Cron. Scot.* II. 289 With money wound. In

breist, in brow, in bak. 1592 *SHAKS. Ven. & Ad.* 339 She

kissed his brow, his cheek, his chin. 1611 *BIBLE Isa.* xlviii.

4 Thy necke is an yron ſinew, and thy brow braſſe. 1742

Pope Dunciad iv. 141 His beaver'd brow a birchen garland

wears. 1789 *BURNS John Anderson* i, Your bonie brow was

brent. 1872 *RUSKIN Eagle's N.* § 156 The essential point

in an eagle's head—the projection of the brow. 1878 *B.*

TAYLOR Denkalion i. 21 And strong, though troubled, is

her breadth of brow.

Fig. 1595 *SHAKS. John* v. vi. 17 Heere walke I, in the

black brow of night. 1865 *GOSSE Land & Sea* (1874) 185

The sky has settled down again in frowning gloom. A

black and threatening brow it wears.

b. esp. as the seat of the facial expressions of joy,

sorrow, shame, anxiety, resolution, etc. *poetic.*

1593 *SHAKS. Lucr.* 749 To cloak offences with a cunning

brow. 1596 — *Merch. V.* iii. 11. 78 What damned error, but

some sober brow will bless it. 1607 *MILTON P. L.* iv. 886

To whom thus Satan with contemptuous

9. *ellipt.* Brow-antler (see next).

1863 KINGSLEY *Water-Bab.* ii. 62 You may know... what his rights mean, if he has them, brow, bay, tray and points.

10. *Comb.*, as *brow-bone*, *-pendant*; *brow-bound*, *-sick*, *-wreathed* adjs. etc.; *brow-ague*, 'strictly supra-orbital neuralgia of malarious origin. Now used as synonymous with *Hemicrania* or *Megrim*' (*Syd. Soc. Lex.*); *brow-antler*, the lowest tine of the horn of a stag, the 'antler' in its original sense; *brow-band*, a band worn across the brow; *spec.* the band of a bridle, etc., which passes in front of a horse's forehead; *† brow-bending*, frowning; *brow-bent* *a.*, with bent brows, frowning (see 3); *† brow-lid*, an eye-lid; *† brow-piece* (*Arch.*), a beam over a door, a breastsummer; *brow-point*, = *brow-antler*; *brow-post* (*Arch.*), see quot.; *brow-sag*, *-tine* = *brow-antler*; *brow-stone* (cf. *brow-post*). See also BROWBEAT, etc.

1855 HOLDEN *Hum. Osteol.* (1878) 65 It is this nerve which is affected in 'brow-ague'. 1847 W. BROWNE *Poet.* i. 239 With two thrusts of his 'brow-anklers, he was laid flat on the sand. 1896 COLSE *Penelope* (1880) 169 Brow-anklers with her lie exchange. 1810 GUILLIM *Heraldry* iii. xiv. (1660) 168 Skillful Woodmen... do call the Lowest Antler the Brow Antler. 1864 *Derby Mercury* 14 Dec. Curious articles made from the brow antler of a stag's horn. 1848 UDALL *Erasm. Apoph.* 17 b. With matrimonial commeth... the source 'brow-bending' of your wives kinsfolks. 1796 COLERIDGE *To Yng. Friend* 28 His muse's witching charm Muttering 'brow-bent'. c. 1850 *Voc.* in W. WILCKER 673 *Hoc supercilium*, a 'browbone'. 1867 SHAKS. *Cor. ii. ii. 102* He... for his meed Was 'Brow-bound with the Oake. 1832 TENNYSON *Dream Fair Wom.* 128 A queen... Brow-bound with burning gold. 1894 T. B. LA PRIMAUD *Fr. Acad.* ii. 77 One eyelid or 'browlidge'. 1811 COTER, *Contrifrontals*, the 'brow-peece, or vpmost post of a dore. 1877 A. B. EDWARDS *Up Nile* xix. 545 The bride... wears a gold 'brow-pendant and nose-ring. 1884 JEFFRIES *Red Deer* iv. 75 The stag... with a blow of the formidable 'brow-point, ripped the hound open. 1796 PHILLIPS, 'Brow-post, (among Carpenters) an over-thwart, or cross-beam. a 1845 SUCKLING *Prod. Authors* (R.) A gracious influence from you May alter nature in our 'brow-sick crew. 1761 *Land. Mag.* XXX. 17 The laying of the kennels without 'brow-stones. 1880 *Geol. Mag.* 450 Distinguished... by the presence of a 'brow-tine close to the burr.

Brow (braun), *sb.* ² *Naut.* [app. a. Da. or Sw. *bru*, ON. *brú* bridge.] (See quot.)

1867 SMYTH *Sailor's Wd.-bk.* *Brow*, an inclined plane of planks, on one or both sides of a ship, to communicate internally; a stage-gangway for the accommodation of the shipwrights, in conveying plank, timber, and weighty articles on board... An old term for a gang-board. 1875 BEDFORD *Sailor's Pocket-bk.* vii. (ed. 2) 272 Plank... to form a brow to the shore. 1882 *Standard* 20 Oct. 67 The horses were... walked from deck to deck by 'brows'... and from the deck to the wharf down a third 'brow'.

Brow, *v.* *rare.* [f. *Brow sb.*]

1. *trans.* To form a brow to, be on the brow of. 1634 MILTON *Comus* 332 The hilly crofts That brow this bottom glade. 1797 MAS. RADCLIFFE *Italian* xxii. The woods that browed the hill. 1834 J. HODGSON in J. RAINE *Mem.* (1858) II. 357 Browed and hemmed with old brushwood and young plantations.

2. To face, browbeat. *Sc.* 1822 HOGG *Perils of Man* i. 21 (JAM.) I was rather brow a' the Ha's and the Howards afore I beardit you. *Ibid.* 61 Stepping forward and browing the last speaker face to face.

Brow, *obs. f.* of BREW.

Browbeat (brau'bit), *v.* Pa. t. browbeat, Pa. pple. browbeaten (browbeat *obs.*) [f. *Brow sb.* + *BEAT v.*; it appears from the earlier quotations (see esp. BROWBEATING *vbl. sb.*), that the *brow* in question was that of the beater, not of the beaten party; but it is not evident whether the meaning was 'to beat with one's (frowning) brows', or 'to beat (f. lower) one's brows at'. Connexion with *beetle-browed* is suggested.]

1. *trans.* To bear down, discourage, or oppose, with stern, arrogant, or insolent looks or words; to snub, to bully; 'to depress with severe brows, and stern or lofty looks' (J.).

1581 [see BROWBEATING *vbl. sb.*] 1603 HOLLAND *Plutarch's Mor.* 129 We must entertain our friends and guests, with courtesie... and not to brow-beat them. 1662 PETTY *Taxes* 54 To be but brow-beaten by a prince or a grandee. 1706 PHILLIPS, *Brow-beat*, to look upon haughtily, or disdainfully, to snub, or keep under. 1743 FIELDING *Journey* i. xv. He browbeat the informers against us, and treated their evidence with... little favour. 1803 JANE PORTER *Thaddeus* xxxvi. (1831) 327, I will not be browbeat and insulted. 1848 MACAULAY *Hist. Eng.* i. 663 The bar and the bench united to browbeat the unfortunate Whig. 1879 FROUDE *César* ix. 101 He was brow-beaten and threatened with violence.

b. absol.

1870 L'ESTRANGE *Miss Mitford* i. vi. 210 The well-fee'd lawyers have ceased to browbeat or to cajole.

2. *fig.* To present a threatening aspect to.

1860 WOOD in S. E. Dawson *Handbk. Canada* 266 One tremendous cliff... more than 1500 feet high, and inclined forward nearly 200 feet, brow-beating all beneath it.

3. *humorously.* To beat with the brow.

1830 TENNYSON *Sonn.* to F. M. K., While the worn-out clerk Browbeats his desk below.

Browbeaten (brau'bit'n), *ppl. a.* Borne down with arrogant looks; snubbed, bullied.

1747 HORSLEY *Fool* lxiii. (1748) II. 155 The browbeaten Fool.

Browbeater (brau'bit-er), [f. BROWBEAT + -ER.] One who browbeats.

1870 W. SIMPSON *Hydrol. Ess.* To Rdr. 11 A magisterial browbeater. 1883 LAMB *Elia* (1860) 138 The scarecrow of his inferiors, the brow-beater of equals and superiors.

Browbeating (brau'bit-ing), *vbl. sb.* [f. as prec. + -ING.] The action of the verb BROWBEAT; orig., it appears, = 'scowling, frowning'.

1581 J. BELL *Haddon's Answ. Osor.* 486 b. To be afraid of any her subjects lowring or browbeating. 1693 LOCKE *Educ.* 42 Constant Rebukes and Brow-beatings. 1705 TUCKER *Lt. Nat.* II. 611 The discouragements and brow-beating of censorious... persons. 1817 JAS. MILL *Brit. India* III. ii. 68 The brow-beating of a witness.

Browbeating, *ppl. a.* [f. as prec. + -ING.] That browbeats; bullying, insolent.

1816 *Remarks Eng. Manners* 63 Browbeating insolence. 1864 MAX MÜLLER *Chips* (1880) i. vii. 147 A cross-examination by a brow-beating lawyer.

Browh., *obs. Sc. form* of BURGH.

1866 KNOX *Hist. Ref. Wks.* 1846 I. 431 To command free Browhies to cheise Provosts and officiaris of our nameing.

Browche, *obs. form* of BROOCH.

† Browd, *v.* *Obs.* Also *broud*. [a. OF. *brouder*, *broder* to stitch, embroider; but, from the beginning, its pa. pple. *brouded*, *brouded*, was evidently associated with the native BROWDEN, pa. pple. of BRAID *v.*, owing to contiguity of form and meaning. Cf. BRAWD, BROID, BROIDER.

Fr. broder is a Common Romanic vb., *Pr. broydar*, *Sp. bordar* to embroider.]

1. *trans.* To broider, embroider. Hence *Browded ppl. a.*

c. 1385 CHAUCER *L. G. W.* 227 Silk I brodede ful of grene greys. c. 1386 — *Monks* T. 479 Alle hise clothes broded [v. r. broyded] vp & down. 1430 *Lydg. Chron.* Troy i. ix. Eueriche his armes... Broided or bete vpon his coote armure. 1493-1503 *Ledger of A. Haliburton* in Cosmo Innes *Scott. Mid. Ages* viii. (1860) 246 Packit in his kist at Bruges... two pound of silk to broyd with.

2. To plait, 'braid'. (Cf. NEXT and BROIDEN.)

1386 CHAUCER *Knts. T.* 191 (Harl. MS.) Here 30lwe heer was browid in a tresse [v. r. a MSS. broyded, 1 breided, *Land.* broyded].

† Browden, *pa. pple. Obs.* Forms: 1 (38) brozden, -broden, 4-7 brozden, 4 brod, (4-5 brodyn, 5-6 -in, 6 broudin); 4-5 brauden, brauden. (Also 4-5 broiden, broydyn.) [OE. *brozden*, *broden*, pa. pple. of *bregdan*, *brédan* to Braid. In use almost exclusively northern. The *ow* forms are regular from *og; the *au*, *au* forms are perhaps dial. variants of these; for the difficult *oy*, *oi* forms see BROIDEN.]

1. Twisted, plaited; intertwined, interwoven, formed of network; woven.

a 1000 *Elene* 257 (Gr.) Dier was on eorle... brozden byrne. c. 1385 E. E. *Allit. P. B.* 1132 Brytzer þen þe beryl oper brozden perles. c. 1340 *Gaw. & Gr. Knt.* 580 þe brauden byrne of byrst stel-rynges. 1400 *Morte Arth.* 1858 Thurghe brenys browden. a 1400 *Curzon M.* 28016 (Cotton Galba) With bendes broud [Cott. broiden] and colers wide. [c. 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 531/2 Broydyn, 1499 broyded, 1499 *Laquetus*.]

2. (= BROWDEN.) Embroidered: perh. in later usage 'embazoned in colours'.

1375 BARBOUR *Bruc* xl. 464 Thai saw so fele broydyn baneris. c. 1425 WYNTOUN *Chron.* vii. vii. 446 Sandalys Browdyn welle on kyngis wys. 1459 *Inu. in Paston Lett.* I. 477 I pece of rede sayne, brauden with Me faunt fere. a 1500 *Inv. Jewels* in Tyler *Hist. Scot.* (1864) II. 393 A covering... broyden with thressilis and a unicorn. 1535 STEWART *Chron. Scot.* II. 604 The baneris broyden brycht.

b. Dyed, stained.

a 1530 *Christis Kirke Gr.* xviii. His body wes with blud all broyden. 1535 STEWART *Chron. Scot.* i. 109 Blawdit and broyden in thair husbandis blude.

3. Enamoured, fond. [Perh. a distinct word, though capable of being connected with other senses, e. g. 'netted': cf. sense 1, quot. 1440.]

1597 MONTGOMERIE *Cherrie & Slae* 170 Sa was I broyden in my bow. c. 1600 'Lyk as Aglauros' 24 He beheld me broyden on the bait. 1637 RUTHERFORD *Lett.* lxxvii. (1862) I. 198 We are fools to be broyden and fond of a pawn in the loof of our hand. 1697 *Praise Yorkshire Ale* (JAM.) To be broyden on a thing. a 1758 RAMSAY *Poems* (1800) I. 331 (JAM.) Less broyden still on cash than verse.

Browder, *-re*, *obs. forms* of BROIDER *v.*

† Browding, *vbl. sb. Obs.* [f. BROWD *v.*] Embroidery.

c. 1386 CHAUCER *Knts. T.* 1640 So riche wrought... Of gold-smithry, of broyding [v. r. broydinge], and of steel.

† Brodinsten, *Sc. Obs.* Also *brodinster*. = next. Hence *Browdinsterschip*.

1561 *Invent. Roy. Wardr.* (1815) 150 (JAM.) The broyding-staris that wrocht upon the tapestry. 1576 *Ibid.* 140 (JAM.) The brodinsters, quha wrocht upon the great pece of broderie. 1590 *Act Jas. VI* (1814) 608 (JAM.) Confirms the office of brodinsterschip... to the said William.

† Browder, *obs. f.* of BROWD *v.* + -STER.] An embroiderer.

1450 *etc.* [see BROWDSTER]. 1530 *Lord Treas. Acc. Jas. V.* in *Chambers Fynl.* (1833) 165 Item given John Young brodirast for stufe and broidering of sixty four pece of Crownis, James, and Thressilis. c. 1565 LINDSAY (Pittscottie) *Chron. Scot.* 153 (JAM.) Some were... harness-makers, tapes-ters, broidsters, taylors.

Browe, *obs. pa. t.* and *pple.* of BREW.

Browed (braud), *a.* [f. BROW *sb.* + -ED.]

Having a brow or brows. Chiefly in comb., as *dark-browed*, *low-browed*, etc.

c. 1460 *Towneley Myst.* 100 She is browyd lyke a brystylle. 1483 CAXTON *Gold. Leg.* 339/2 This ymage... was well eyed, well browed. 1526 SKELTON *Magnyf.* 1261 He frowneith fyersly, brymly browyd. 1748 R. BLAIR *Grave* 17 Low-brow'd misty vaults. 1796 SCOTT *Wild Hunt.* My dark-browed friend.

Brown, *-in*, *browne*, *obs. pa. pple.* of BREW.

Browen, *obs. pl.* of BROW.

† Brower, *Obs. rare* -1. app.: A napkin.

c. 1450 *Bk. Curiasye* 663 in *Babees Bk.* (1868) 321 Browers he schalle cast þer-opon, þat þe lorde schulle clense his fyngers [on]; þe leuedy and whoseuer syttes with-inne, Alle browers schynne haue bothe more and myn.

Browere, *-ern*: see BREWEREN *obs.*, brewhouse.

Browes, *-esse*, *obs. ff.* BREWIS, BROSE.

Browest, *obs. form* of BROWST.

† Browet, *Obs.* Also 4-6 *bruet*, *browet* (t.

[a. F. *brouet*, *broet* (13th c. in Littré) soup made of flesh-broth, dim. of OF. *breu*, earlier *bro* (= *Pr. bro*, *Sp. brodio*, *It. brodo*, *broda*, med.L. *brodium*, *brodum*), late L. (**brodum*) or Romanic (*brodo*), ad. OHG. *brod* BROTH. The OF. nominative *brouets*, *broes*, gave BROWIS.]

Soup or broth of the juice of boiled meat, with various thickening ingredients.

1399 LANGL. *Rich. Redeless* II. 51 3oure side signes, þat shente alle þe browet. c. 1400 *Liber Cocorum* (1862) 22 Þese er hennies in browet. c. 1420 *Voc.* in W. Wülcker 661 *Hic gar-rus*, browett. c. 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 54 Browett, brodiellum. c. 1440 *Anc. Cookery in Househ. Ord.* (1790) 430 Blanche Bruet of Almayn. c. 1460 *Towneley Myst.* 43 And broght me bruet of dere. 1495 CAXTON *Vitas Patr.* (W. de W.) i. xiii. 18a/1 Hene dranke but a lytyll browet made with meele. a 1500 *M.S.* 15th C. in *Promp. Parv.* 54 Bruet seec, bruet salmene, and bruet sarazineys blane.

Browgh, *-t*, *obs. Sc. form* of BURGH.

Browhern, *var.* of BREWERN, *Obs.*, brewhouse.

† Browis (brau'is), *Obs. or dial.* Forms: 3 broys, 4 browys, 5 browyos, 5-6 browes, 5-7 -esse, 7- browis; see also BREWIS, BROSE. [ME. *broys*, *browes*, a. OF. *broes*, *brouets*, nom. of *broet*, *brouet*, BROWET. Of this word *browet* is an original doublet, and *brewis*, *brose*, later variants.]

† 1. = BREWIS, in both senses.

a 1300 *Havelok* 924 Make þe broys in þe led. c. 1325 *Corr de L.* 3077 Soupyd off the browyys a sopo. c. 1430 *Lydg. Order of Fooles* Min. Poems 165 Tendre browyce made with a mary-boon. c. 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 53 Browesse [v. r. browes], *adipatum*. c. 1450 *Knt. de la Tour* (1868) 8 She come into the wardrobe to ete browesse. 1513 W. DE WORDE *Bk. Keruyngs in Babees Bk.* (1868) 274 Potage, as worties, Iowtes, or browes. 1565 J. HEYWOOD *Prov. & Epigr.* (1867) 72, I will eate no browesse sops. 1601 HOLLAND *Pliny* xix. viii. A kinde of broth or browesse. 1658 R. FRANK *North. Mem.* (1821) 209 When they kill a beast... make a caldron of his skin, browis of his bowels.

2. A kind of BROSE; as the *browis* of the Sheffield Cutlers' Feast, a dish made by pouring boiling water upon oat-cakes mixed with dripping, and seasoned with pepper, salt, and butter.

1839 A. BYWATER *Sheffield Dial.* (1877) 32 Nettle porridge an' 'browis. 1880 *Sheff. Independent* 3 Sept. Returning to their hall, the members of the Company partook of 'browis' — a cunningly devised broth without which the installation [of the Master Cutler] would not be complete.

† Browless, *a. Obs.* [f. BROW *sb.* + *l.*] Without shame, unabashed. Cf. *frontless*.

1615 W. HULL *Mirr. Maestie* 81 Therefore they despite him with all illusory gestures of browlesse corners. 1679 L. ADDISON *Life Mahomet* 84 (L.) So browless was this heretic, that he was not ashamed to tell the world, etc. a 1821 KEATS *Sonn. Haydon*, When men star'd at what was most divine with browless idiotism.

Brown (braun), *a.* Forms: 1 brún, 3 brun(e), 3-4 broun, 3-6 broune, 4-7 browne, (5 browyn), 5- brown. [Common Teut.: OE. *brūn* = OFris. *brún* (MDu. *bruun*, Du. *bruin*), OHG. (MHG., MLG.) *brún*, (mod.Ger. *braun*), ON. *brún-n* (Sw. *brun*, Da. *bruun*): -OTeut. **brún-o-s*, **brún-d*, corresp. to Lith. *brunas* brown: - Aryan type **bhrú-no-s*, root **bhru-*: cf. BEAVER. Adopted in Romanic, giving med.L. *brūnus*, It., Sp., Pg. *bruno*, Pr. and F. *brun*, whence also *brunir* to BURNISH, q. v. (OHG. *brún* meant 'glänzend' shining, as well as 'dunkel-farbig' dark-coloured.)

The shade to which the name was given was originally a dark one, as seen by sense 1; also by Johnson's sole explanation 'The name of a colour, compounded of black and any other colour'. Levins *Manib.* 1570 has 'Broune, black, ater; Broune fuscus'. Very dark brown is close to black, as in the so-called 'black' hair of men.]

1. Dusky, dark. (Now only poetic, and regarded as transf. from sense 2.)

a 1000 *Metr. Boeth.* xxvi. 58 Sio brune yð. c. 1325 E. E. *Allit. P. A.* 536 Sone þe worlde bycom wel broun, þe sunne watz down. c. 1400 MAUNDEV. 160 Here colour is liche Vio-let, or more browne than the Violetes. c. 1440 *Pol. Poems* (1859) II. 221 Oure weleuette hatte. That keuerd us from mony stormys browne. 1667 MILTON *P. L.* ix. 1088 Where highest Woods... spread thir umbrage broad, And brown as Evening. a 1725 POPE *Odys.* xvii. 215 Or ere brown evening spreads her chilly shade. 1798 S. ROGERS *Pleas. Mem.* i. 15 Arched with ivy's brownest shade. 1854 TENNYSON *To Maurice* iv, I watch the twilight falling brown.

b. *fig.* Gloomy, serious. See BROWN STUDY.

2. The proper name of a composite colour produced by a mixture of orange and black (or of red, yellow, and black), and varying greatly in shade according to the proportion of the constituents, as a red brown, yellowish brown, dark brown. Brown is the colour produced by partial charring or carbonization of starch or woody fibre, as in toasted bread or potatoes, peat, lignite, withered leaves, etc.

a 1300 *Cursor M.* 18833 His hare [was] like to be nute brun, Quen it for ripnes fals dun. 1393 *LANGL. P. Pl. C.* ix. 330 Ale. of be best and Brounest fat brewesters sellen. c 1400 *Liber Cocorum* (1862) 32 Lay hur [the goose] to fyre and rost hyr browne. c 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 54. Browne, *fusca, rubiger, nigellus*. 1600 *SHAKS. A. Y. L.* iii. iv. 9 *Ros.* His very haire is of the dissembling colour. *Cel.* Something browner then luscies. 1793 *Land. Gaz.* No. 6381/4 With a good Stock of Pale and Brown Beer. 1798 *Mrs. CENTLIVRE Bessie Body* i. l. 23 My last Refuge, a brown Musquet. 1796 *PENNANT Zool.* (1768) l. 457 The head and whole upper part [of the female sparrow] are brown. 1799 *SOUTHEY Noddy*, *Snuff*, Black, brown dust, From the oft reiterated pinch profuse. 1805 *SCOTT Last Minstr.* vi. ii, Land of brown heath and shaggy wood. 1859 *JEPHSON Britany* i. 2 The brown rocky stream.

b. Used in naming varieties or species of animals, plants, minerals, etc., as brown ant, bear, owl; brown willow; brown hematite, etc.

c 1460 *J. RUSSELL Bk. Nurture* in *Babe's Bk.* (1868) 183 The making of a bathe medicinale. Brown fenelle. 1767 *G. WHITE Selborne* xi. (1789) 31 The young of the brown owl will eat indiscriminately all that is brought. 1843 *PORTLOCK Geol.* 225 Earthy Brown Hematite, both compact and decomposed. 1861 *MISS PRATT Flower*, *Pl.* VI. 69 Brown Bent-grass. 1868 *WOOD Homes without H.* vii. 126 The most admirable subterranean architecture is perhaps that of the Brown Ant. 1884 *Garden* 28 Jan. 62/3 Lettuces... the best of all for winter, the old Brown Cos. 1884 *St. James's Gaz.* 7 Aug. 4/2 On some estates in Scotland... a brown hare is now rarely seen.

3. Of persons: Having the skin of a brown or dusky colour: a. as a racial characteristic; b. as an individual peculiarity among 'white' races; either natural (dark-complexioned, brunette), or as an effect of exposure (sunburnt, tanned).

a 1000 *Cadmon's Ex.* 70 (Bosw.) Brune leode. c 1384 *CHAUCER F. Fame* 139 Vulcano That in his face was ful browne. 1398 *TREVISA Barth. De P. R.* iv. ii. (1495) 80 In hoote countrees comen forth blacke men and brown. c 1400 *Chron. Pilat.* 505 Paw be be browne be art ry3t welle shape and fere. 1569 *WARNER Alb. Eng. v.* xxv. 127 That browne Girl of mine. 1613 *SHAKS. Hen. VIII.* iii. ii. 295 When the browne Wench lay kissing in your Armes. a 1763 *SHEPSTONE Odes* (1765) 226 Brown exercise will lead thee where she reigns. 1764 *GOLDSM. Trav.* 416 Where... the brown Indian marks with mud'rous aim. 1834 *M. G. LEWIS Trul. W. Ind.* 53 The fair sex elsewhere are called the 'Brown Girls' in Jamaica. 1864 *TENNYSON En. Ard.* 704 Enoch was so brown, so bow'd, so broken.

4. In reference to the sword, steel, etc., it seems to have meant: Burnished, glistening. *Obs.* [With the sense cf. *MDu. brun* 'shining' (Kalkar), and *F. brunir* to BURNISH.]

c 1325 *E. E. Allit. P. A.* 989 Brende golde bry3t, As gle-maned glas burnist browne. c 1380 *Sir Fernumb.* 5609 Wy3 ys sward of style browne. c 1460 *Lybeaus Disc.* 552 Swordes bryght and browne. a 1800 *Ballad 'Cospatrick'* xxii. in *Child Ballads* l. 70/2 My bonny brown sword.

5. To do brown: perhaps, 'to do thoroughly', suggested by roasting; to deceive, 'take in'. *slang.* a 1600 *Johu Bon* 162 in *Hazl. E. P. P.* IV. 16 Ha! browne done! 1837 *DICKENS Pickwick* xliii, 'He goes in rayther raw, Sammy', said Mr. Weller... and he'll come out done so ex-ceedin' brown that his most familiar friends won't know him'. 1840 *BARHAM Ingol. Leg., Execution*, We are all of us done so uncommonly brown!

6. Cf. *round. Obs.* 1611 *CHAPMAN May Days* Plays 1873 II. 338 You haue a whole browne dozen a suters at least.

6. *Comb.* General relations: a. qualifying the names of other colours: as brown-bay, -green, -pink, -red; b. parasynthetic, as brown-barrelled, -bearded, -coloured, -complexioned, -edged, -eyed, -faced, -haired, -headed, -leaved (-leafed), -locked, -roofed, -sailed, -skinned, -stemmed; c. brown-wash v. (nonce-wd.).

1594 *BLUNDEVIL Exerc. v.* xii. (ed. 7) 558 The other nations under the hot Zone, be of colour 'browne bay, like a Chesnut. 1753 *SCOTS Mag.* Aug. 421/1 Thomas Hall Esq.'s brown-bay gelding. 1808 *J. HAWTHORNE Fort. Fool* i. xi, One big 'brown-bearded fellow. 1835-6 *TODD Cycl. Anal. & Phys.* l. 41/2 note, Eight 'brown-coloured masses. 1704 in *Land. Gaz.* No. 4034/4 John Jackson... aged near 40, 'brown Completioned. 1844-30 *MISS MITFORD Village* Ser. iv. (1863) 314 Delf, blue and white, 'brown-edged and green-edged. 1865 *MISS YONGE Clever Wom.* i. iii. 56 A brown-haired, 'brown-eyed child of seven. 1884 *Garden* 10 June 400/1 The downy, 'brown-green young shoots. 1686 *Land. Gaz.* No. 2100/4 A tall slender Man, 'brown hair'd. 1837 *CARLYLE Fr. Rev.* III. v. iv. 279 Church Formulas seemed to flourish; a little 'brown-leaved or so, but not browner than of late years. 1855 *J. EDWARDS Paint. in Oil Colours* 27 'Brown Pink... is a rich transparent olive, inclining sometimes to green, and sometimes towards the warmth of orange. 1835 *HAWTHORNE Amer. Note-bks.* (1871) l. 14 Some of the oaks are now a deep 'brown red. 1744 *MICHELL in Phil. Trans.* XLIII. 112 Like the Skin of many 'brown-skinn'd white People. 1795 *SOUTHEY Lett. fr. Spain* (1799) 106 Rubbed over, or rather brown-washed, with clay.

7. Special combs.: †brown baker, a baker of brown bread; †brown bastard, a sweet wine (see BASTARD 4); †brown blase (see quot.); brown coal, a name given to lignite, and to some varieties of coal intermediate between lignite and true coal; brown-fly, an artificial fly used in angling; brown gannet, brown gull, names of the Booby (*Sula fusca*); brown gum, 'the inspissated juice of the *Eucalyptus resinifera*' (*Syd. Soc. Lex.*); brown-heart, a species of tree in Guiana; brown-hen, the female of the Black Grouse (*Tetrao tetrix*); brown-holland (see HOLLAND); brown jolly, West-Indian corruption of BRINJAL; brown mould, *Mucor mucedo* and other fungi found on decaying fruit, etc.; brown ochre, a variety of limonite; also the pigment prepared from it; brown rust, a disease of wheat caused by a parasitic fungus (*Trichobasis rubigo vera*); brown-sleeve a., wearing brown sleeves; brown-spar (*Min.*), a variety of dolomite; also applied to varieties of the allied minerals ankerite and magnesite, and to chalybite or native ferrous carbonate; brown-stone (see quot.); brown stout, a superior kind of porter; brown sugar, unrefined or partially refined sugar as opposed to crystallized or loaf-sugar; brown-thrasher, 'the (American) Ferruginous Thrush, called also the Brown Thrush, *Turdus rufus*' (Bartlett); brownware, a common kind of pottery. See also BROWN BESS, BROWN BREAD, BROWN GEORGE, BROWN PAPER, BROWN STUDY.

1598 in *Turner Sel. Records Oxford* 58 Y^e corporation of y^e browne bakerys. 1656 *J. REEVE Let. in Spirit. Epistles* (1831) Suppl., in Trinity Lane, over against a 'Brown Bakery. 1720 *Stow's Surv.* (ed. Strype 1754) II. v. xiv. 312/2 The Company of the Brown bakerys, a Society of long standing and continuance. 1603 *SHAKS. Meas. for M.* iii. ii. 4 We shall have all the world drinke 'browne and white bastard. 1609 *Ev. Wom. in Hum.* i. l. in *Bullen O. Pl.* IV, A Figge for Browne-bastard. 1844 *SCOFFER in Orr's Circ. Sc. Chem.* 458 The first portions of volatile matter which pass over when zinc ore is distilled in contact with carbonaceous matter, and which on account of their burning with a brown flame, are called by the technical name of 'brown blase, contain very little zinc, and are chiefly composed of arsenic and cadmium. 1833 *LYELL Princ. Geol.* III. 199 This 'brown coal consists of... beds of lignite of various thickness interstratified with the clays and sands. 1876 *LAWRENCE Cotta's Rocks Class.* 321 Brown coal... differs from ordinary black coal in containing a much greater proportion of bitumen. 1787 *BEST Angling* (ed. 2) 111 The 'Brown-fly, or Dun-Drake... its wings are made off the feather of a Pheasant's wing, which... exactly resembles the wing of the fly. 1796 *STEDMAN Surinam* II. xxviii. 335 The 'brown-heart is in hardness of the same consistency as the purple-heart, and the green-heart. 1756 *P. BROWNE Jamaica* 173 The 'Brown-Jolly or Bolangena... was first imported into Jamaica by the Jews. 1814 *LEENAN Hortus Jamaic.* l. 280 Sometimes called brown jolly or mad-apple. 1883 *Gd. Warrage* Nov. 732/1 In the 'brown-mould quite a different arrangement prevails. 1823 *P. NICHOLSON Pract. Build.* 415 'Brown-Ochre is a warm brown or foul orange colour. 1855 *J. EDWARDS Paint. Oil Colours* 19 Brown Ochre... is a dark ochre of great value in landscape painting... It is of a dark brownish yellow. 1840 *BROWNING Sordello* iv. 395, I was just a 'brown-sleeve brother. 1843 *PORTLOCK Geol.* 214 Bitter spar, or 'Brown spar, occurs in small but well-defined crystals. 1803 *R. C. DALLAS Hist. Maroons* I. iv. 91 To prefer pale small beer to 'brown stout. 1875 *Tr. Vogel's Chem. Light* xvii. 270 Hyper-oxide of manganese also named 'brownstone. 1704 *Land. Gaz.* No. 4032/4 Her Cargo, consisting chiefly of 'Brown Sugar. 1840 *BARHAM Ingol. Leg., Wedding D.* As 'best-refined loaf' to the coarsest 'brown sugar. a 1847 *C. MATTHEWS Wks.* 125 (Bartlett) I love the city as dearly as a 'brown thrasher loves the green tree that sheltered its young. 1856 *BRYANT Rindlet* i. List the brown thrasher's vernal hymn. 1836 *Scenes Commerce by Land & S.* 150 Common 'brown ware... a superior sort is manufactured at Nottingham.

Brown, sb. [The adj. used absol.]

1. Brown colour. 1607 *TOPSELL Four-f. Beasts* 435 The mingling together of black and white colours doth... produce a swart and brown, and neither of both doth appear in the brown. 1850 *TENNYSON In Mem.* ci. 3 That beech will gather brown. 1873 *BLACK Pr. Thule* i. 3 Amid the browns and greens of the heather.

b. Duskiuess, gloom.

1729 *M. BROWNE Piscat. Eclog.* viii. (1773) 111 The scatt'ring brown of night.

c. A pigment of a brown colour.

1549 in *Rogers Agric. & Prices* III. 573/2, 1 lb. Spanish brown. 1611 *MARKHAM Countr. Content.* i. x, A little Capons grease, and brown of Spain, mixt together. 1855 *J. EDWARDS Paint. Oil Colours* 25 Vandyke Brown. (Bituminous Earth.) This is a rich transparent pigment.

2. *techn.* Brown or unbleached state.

1884 *Standard* 11 Sept. 6/6 Medium and fine bobbin nets in the brown.

3. Elliptically, for various things or parts of things of a brown colour: e.g. a brown butterfly, a brown fly used in angling; brown clothing, etc.

a 1300 *K. Horn* 1122 Hure horn heo leide adun, And fulde him of a brun [*Gloss.* a brown jar]. 1611 *BURTON Anat. Mel.* ii. ii. l. i. (1651) 232 The burned and scorched superficies [of roast meat], the brown we call it. 1681 *CHETHAM Angler's Vade-m.* xxvii. § 26 Angle with the smallest Gnats, Browns and Duns. 1718 *Act to Anne in Lond. Gaz.* No. 5018/3 Paper called... small ordinary Brown. 1823 *J. BAD-*

cock *Dom. Amusem.* 163 Flour or bread... as seconds, thirds, and browns. 1851 *KINGSLEY Let. in Life* ix, One pounder I caught to-day on the 'March brown'. 1860 *GOSSE Row. Nat. Hist.* 4 Here, too, are the butterflies... the tawny 'browns' are dancing along the hedge-rows.

b. *slang.* A copper coin, a 'copper'.

1818 *J. H. VAUX Flash Dict.* Browns and whistlers, bad halfpence and farthings. 1848 *T. MARTIN in Fraser's Mag.* Dec., 'More browns than guineas goin' with us any day.' 1865 *Look bef. You Leap* l. 239 'There isn't a respectable boy 'ull give me browns for a sixpence.'

†c. A person of brown complexion; a brunette. c 1450 *Merlin* xxi. 373 This feire broun is sone to the kynge Belinans.

Brown (braun), v. [f. BROWN a.]

1. *intr.* To become brown.

c 1300 *K. Alis.* 3293 Whan note brounith in haselrys. 1859 *LEVER Davenport. Dunn* 26 'That delicious potato-cake that I see browning... before the fire.'

2. *trans.* To make brown; to roast brown; to give (by a chemical process) a dull brown lustre to gun-barrels or other polished iron surfaces.

1570 *LEVIN'S Manip.* 220 To Browne, *obfuscare*. 1769 *Mrs. RAFFALD Eng. Househpr.* (1778) 133 Take off the skin and brown it. 1833 *J. HOLLAND Mannf. Metals* II. 107 The operation of browning a gun barrel. 1868 *THORNBURY Turner* II. 319 The hot Italian sun had parched and browned him.

fig. 1798 *MARY WOLLSTONECR. Path. Wks.* III. ix. 23 To give a freshness to days browned by care.

Brown Bess. The name familiarly given in the British Army to the old flint-lock musket. (*Brown Musket* was in earlier use: both names existed long before the process of 'browning' the barrel (introduced in 1808), and apparently referred to the brown walnut stock.)

[1798 *Mrs. CENTLIVRE Bessie Body* i. l. 23 My last Refuge, a brown Musquet. 1754 *Connoisseurs* No. 31 The ceremony is performed by a brown musket.] 1765 *GROSS Dict. Philog.* T. s.v., To broun browne Bess: to carry a firelock, to serve as a private soldier. 1797 *Genl. Mag.* LXVII. 1022 'Etymologus' asks 'Can you trace the application of the term Brown Bess to anything loading or fatiguing, such as a musket to soldiers tired on a long march or to a wooden pump? Or is it... derived from the colour of the material? Why is Bess the more favourite term than Nan or Moll? A brown musket is not an uncommon phrase, taking the part for the whole, the stock for the steel. But why is Bess brought in?' 1809 *R. PORTER Trav. Sc. Russ. & Steed.* (1813) l. xxiv. 273 A good soldier... sleeping with his hand on his musquet, his wedded wife and dear brown Bess. 1800 *COMBE (Dr. Syntax) Consol.* II. (D.) Religion Jack did never profess, Till he had shoulder'd old Brown Bess. 1860 *GEN. P. THOMPSON Audi Alt.* III. cxix. 61 Without more danger from Enfield or Whitworth than from Brown Bess. c 1880 *GRANT Hist. India* I. v. 26/1 Britons with their old 'Brown Besses'.

Brown bill, brown-bill. [See BILL sb. 1.]

A kind of halberd painted brown, formerly used by foot-soldiers and watchmen.

1599 *Pappe w. Hatchet* Cij b. All weapons, from the taylors bodkin to the watchmans browne bil. 1678 *BUTLER Hud.* iii. ii. 541 Brown Bills levied in the City Made Bills to pass the Grand Committee. 1823 *SCOTT Peveril* III. ii. 38 A constable with three or four assistants, armed with the old-fashioned brown-bills. 1870 *MORRIS Earthly Par.* I. l. 316 There the porter stood, brown-bill in hand.

Brown bread. Any bread of a brown colour, or of a darker colour than ordinary 'white bread'. Formerly applied in England to bread made of rye or mixed rye and wheat; now *spec.* to bread made of unbolted flour, or 'whole meal', containing some of the 'bran' or outer skin of the grain as well as the fine flour. In U.S. a dark-colored bread made of wheat or rye, either bolted or unbolted, mixed with Indian meal, and sometimes sweetened'. (Cf. *brown baker* in BROWN a. 7).

c 1489 *CAXTON Sources of Aynon* xxi. 463 Bryng me som broun brede & water in a treen dyshe. 1530 *PALSGR.* 201/2 Browne bread, *pain bis.* 1577 *HARRISON England* II. vi. (1877) 154 The next sort is named browne bread, of the colour, of which we have two sorts, one baked vp as it cometh from the mill, so that neither the bran nor the floure are anie whit diminished. 1603 *SHAKS. Meas. for M.* iii. ii. 194 She smelt browne-bread and Garlick. 1615 *BEDWELL Moham. Imp.* III. § 120 We do eat broun bread which is no way so pleasing in tast. 1600 *VENNER Via Recta* i. 18 A browne household bread agreeable enough for labourers. 1849 *Fam. Economist* No. 19. 130 Proper brown bread is made from undressed wheat-meal. 1873 *MORLEY Rousseau* I. 65.

2. *attrib.* Of or pertaining to brown bread; †*fig.* homely, unrefined.

a 1553 *UDALL Royster D.* l. iii, Old browne bread crustes. 1606 *Wily Beguiled* in *Hawkins Eng. Dr.* III. 313 (D.) He's a very idiot and brown-bread clown. 17... T. HANSON in *Southey Life Wesley* (1820) II. 80, I am but a brown-bread preacher. 1866 *L. HAKCOURT Diaries G. Rose* I. 281 The Brown-bread Act.

Brown (e, obs. p. pple. of BREW; obs. f. BRAWN.

Browned (braund), *ppl. a.* [f. BROWN v. + -ED¹.] Made brown.

1871 *Daily News* 16 Aug., Every sort of rotten... cranky craft, is painted and varnished, literally, a whitened or browned sepulchre. 1878 *BLACK Adv. Phaeton* ii. 10 The tall, browned, big-bearded man.

†b. *Browned-black. Obs.*

c 1511 *1st Eng. Bk. Amer.* (Arb.) Introd. 28/2 They [the natives] be brounde blacke.

†**Brownetta.** *Obs.* [ad. It. *brunetta*, after BROWN: cf. BRUNETTE.] A brunette.

158a STANYHURST *Conceits in Æneid* (Arb.) 141 In bodye fine fewterd, a braue Brownetta. 1589 WARNER *Alb. Eng.* v. xxvi. 128 The next a gay Brownetta. 1598 E. GILPIN *Skial.* (1878) 19 Thou art not faire, A plaine brownetta when thou art at best.

Brown George. 1. +a. A loaf of a coarse kind of brown bread (*obs.*). b. A hard, coarse biscuit.

1688 R. HOLME *Armoury* iii. 86/1 The blackest and coarsest Bread . . . is . . . Brown Bread, or Brown-George. 1694 ECHARD *Plantus* 195 This Monarch here must dine to Day with a Brown George, and only Salt & Vinegar Sawce. 1708 MOTTEUX *Rabelais* iv. Prol. (D.) One musty crust of a brown George. 1867 SMYTH *Sailor's Word-bk.*

+2. A kind of wig. *Obs.*
1840 BARHAM *Ingl. Leg., Jarvis's Wig* (D.) [A wig] of the colour of over-baked ginger-bread, one of the description commonly known during the latter half of the last century by the name of a brown George. 1888 *Globe* 24 July 2/1 The King (George III) wore a brown wig . . . known popularly a century ago as 'brown George'.

3. A brown earthenware vessel. Cf. BLACK JAR. 1861 HUGHES *Tom Brown Oxf.* xxiv. (D.) His brown George, or huge earthenware receptacle, in which his bed-maker had been washing up his tea-things. 1864 E. CAPERN *Devon Province, Brown-George*, a chamber utensil made of red clay. 1847-78 HALLIWELL, *Brown-George*, a large earthen pitcher.

Brownian (brau'niān), a. [f. the name of Dr. Robert Brown, who first described the movement in question.] *Brownian movement*: the irregular oscillatory movement observed in microscopic particles or 'molecules' of all kinds suspended in a limpid fluid; also called *molecular movement*.

1871 BASTIAN *Orig. Lowest Organisms* 46 Bacteria . . . which exhibit movements resembling those known as Brownian. 1874 JONES & SIEV. *Pathol. Anat.* 28 Serum . . . crowded with fatty molecules, presenting an active Brownian movement. 1875 DARWIN *Insectiv. Plants* iii. 64 Small granules which exhibited Brownian movements.

Brownie (brau'ni). Also 8 brownny. [denominative f. Brown, with somewhat of diminutive force: cf. the ON. *svartrdalfur* or dark elves of the Edda. A 'wee brown man' often appears in Scottish ballads and fairy tales.] A benevolent spirit or goblin, of shaggy appearance, supposed to haunt old houses, esp. farmhouses, in Scotland, and sometimes to perform useful household work while the family were asleep.

1513 DOUGLAS *Æneid* vi. Prol. 18 All is bot gaistis and eliriche fantasies, Of brownies and of bogillis full this buke. 1761 M. MARTIN *Descr. W. Isl.* (1716) 391 It is not long since every family of any considerable substance in these Islands [Shetland] was haunted by a Spirit they called Brownny, which did several sorts of work. 1802 SCOTT *Minstr. Bord.* Introd. 41 The Brownie formed a class of beings, distinct in habit and disposition from the freakish and mischievous elves. 1847 C. BRONTË *J. Eyre* xxxvii. (D.) You talk of my being a fairy, but I am sure you are more like a brownie.

Browniness. rare. [f. BROWN + -NESS.] The state of being 'brownny' or somewhat brown. 1830 *Blackw. Mag.* XXVIII. 580 Fowling-pieces . . . through the smooth browniness of their barrels.

¶ See also BROWNESS.

Browning (brau'ning), *vbl. sb.* [f. BROWN + -ING.] 1. The action or process of making or becoming brown. (*Browning* of polished iron: see the vb.)

1791 HAMILTON *Berthollet's Dyeing* II. n. 346 To give a browning, stuff which has just been dyed must be dipped, etc. 1808 *Morn. Post* Oct. 3 The cropping of the soldiers' hair is to be followed by the browning of the hitherto bright barrel and lock of the musket. 1846 J. BAXTER *Libr. Pract. Agric.* II. 7 Shrivelling and browning of the leaves of trees. 1881 GREENER *Gnn* 254 The process of browning takes from four to eight days.

2. *Cookery.* A preparation for imparting a brown colour to gravy or made dishes.

1769 MRS. RAFFALD *Eng. Housekeeper* (1778) Introd. 3 Lemon pickle and browning answers . . . better than cullis. 1796 MRS. GLASSE *Cookery* v. 42 Take one spoonful of red wine, half as much of browning.

Browning, ppl. a. [f. as prec. + -ING².] a. Becoming brown. b. Making brown.

1596 GOSSON *Pleas. Quippes* 98 in Hazl. E. P. P. IV. 254 The tallow-pale, the browning-bay, The swarthie-blacke, the grassie-greene. 1834 MARRYAT *Jac. Faithful* v. 27 Where is the blooming cheek, ruddy with the browning air? 1884 G. C. DAVIES *Norfolk Broadlands* xxxviii. 290 The browning grasses quivered airily against the sky.

+ **Browning, sb. Obs.** Perhaps = BROWNIE.

1601 HOLLAND *Pliny* II. 2 He . . . that calls for nothing else at sea but winde; and neuer rests till Browning be come. *Ibid.* Gloss. *Browning*, a term vsuall in the mouths of mariners and winnowers of corne, when they are calmed and do call for wind.

Brownish (brau'nif), a. [f. BROWN + -ISH¹.] 1. Somewhat brown.

1555 EDEN *Decades W. Ind.* (Arb.) 193 Eyght of their hennes . . . of brownyshe colour. 1607 TORSSELL *Powr-f. Beasts* 444 Hair . . . of colour like a Ches-nut, or brownish. 1876 HUXLEY *Physiogr.* 26 The sands of the Bagshot series . . . are commonly of yellow and brownish colours.

2. *Comb.* as *brownish-coloured*; also with other colours, as *brownish-black*, -grey, -red, etc.

1685 *Lond. Gas.* No. 2061. 2/2 A Brownish Black Mare. 1689 *Ibid.* No. 2433/4 A middle sized Man, his Hair curled and brownish coloured. 1831 BREWSTER *Nat. Magic* ii. (1833) 23 At first . . . it is brownish-red.

Brownism. [f. the surname Brown, Brownie.] 1. The system of church-government advocated

1581 by Robert Brown, an English Puritan and

Nonconformist. His principles, somewhat modified, became those of the Independents.

a 1617 HIERON *Wks.* II. 497 Some fall to Brownisme, some to Popery. 1642 *Compt. to Ho. Commons* 15 Schismatical men addicted to Anabaptisme and Brownisme. 1732 NEAL *Hist. Purit.* I. 595 The violence of persecution drove some of them into the extremes of Brownism.

2. The style of Sir Thomas Browne. (*nonce-use*.) 1791 BOSWELL *Johnson* (1831) I. 293 Those words which he sometimes took pleasure in adopting, in imitation of Sir Thomas Browne. . . In one instance only in these essays has he indulged his Brownism.

3. *Med.* The Brunonian system. See BRUNONIAN.

Brownist. [f. as prec. (senses 1, 3) + -IST.] 1. An adherent or follower of the ecclesiastical principles of Robert Brown. (See prec.)

1583 STUBBS *Anat. Abus.* II. 74 Divers new phangled fellows sprong vp of late, as the Brownists. 1604 WARNER *Alb. Eng.* ix. xlv. 219 The Brownist and the Barrowist, goe hand in hand together. 1607 SHAKS. *Twel. N.* III. ii. 34. I had a life be a Brownist, as a Politician. 1702 MATHER *Magn. Chr.* I. iii. (1852) 64 Shake off the name of Brownist: it is a mere nickname, and a brand for the making of Religion odious. 1853 MARSDEN *Early Purit.* 137 The brownists and the anabaptists were the first seceders from the church of England at home.

2. *Med.* An adherent of the BRUNONIAN system. Hence (in sense 1) *Brownistical* a.

1636 W. SAMSON *Vow Breaker* I b. By the vertue of his good liquor hee's able to convert any Brownistical sister. 1736 NEAL *Hist. Purit.* III. 456 Martin Mar-Prelate and the rest of the Brownistical pamphlets in the reign of Qu. Elizabeth. 1846 MACCREE *Alex. Henderson* 35 Some persons . . . tainted with Brownistical and Independent notions.

Brownly (brau'nli), *adv.* [f. BROWN + -LY².] With a brown colour; in a brown state.

c 1805 BEDDOES *Sec. Brother* I. i. A feathered and a jewelled cap, And youthful curls to hang beside it brownly.

Brownness (brau'nness), [f. as prec. + -NESS.] The quality or state of being brown.

1572 J. JONES *Bathes of Bath* III. 26 b. Blackenes or brownnes of egestion. 1611 COTGR., *Rissole*, the brownness that is given to a thing in the frying thereof. 1732 DE FOR TOUR *Gr. Brit.* (1769) III. 76 The Derwent is remarkable for its Brownness. 1876 HABERSHON *Dis. Abdomen* 16 Brownness of the tongue . . . in states of exhaustion.

Brown paper.

1. A coarse stout kind of paper made of unbleached materials; chiefly used for wrapping.

1542 in Glasscock *Rec. St. Michael's Bp. Stortford* (1882) 43 Item for browne paper for the seid origins. 1611 COTGR., *Papier marchand*, browne paper (wherein Tradesmen fould vp their Wares). 1772 *Gentl. Mag.* XLII. 192 Course brown paper, such as pedlars use. a 1848 MARRYAT *R. Reefer* v. (He) would . . . clap the vinegar and brown paper on my bruises.

2. *Comb. and attrib.* as *brown-paper parcel*, etc. **Brown-paper warrant** (see quot.).

1610 *Histriom.* iv. 194 The gentlemen see into our trade, We cannot gull them with brown-paper stuff. 1691 *Lond. Gas.* No. 2701/4 Any Brown-Paper-Maker may be furnished with what Quantity of Course Rags . . . they please. 1867 SMYTH *Sailor's Word-bk.* 719 Brown-paper warrants, those given by a captain, and which he can cancel. 1885 *Law Times Rep.* LII. 736/2 (He) sent him a brown-paper parcel.

Brown study. [app. originally from BROWN in sense of 'gloomy'; but this sense has been to a great extent forgotten. (The conjecture that *brown* 'might be' the Ger. *braune* 'brown' does not require serious notice.)

A state of mental abstraction or musing: 'gloomy meditations' (J.); 'serious reverie, thoughtful absent-mindedness' (Webster); now esp. an idle or purposeless reverie.

1532 *Dice-Play* 6 Lack of company will soon lead a man into a brown study. 1579 LYLIE *Euphues* (Arb.) 80 You are in some brown study, what colours you might best wear. 1607 TORSSELL *Serpents* 772 Nothing but sadness, and heaviness of minde, brown-studies. 1693 *Oxford Act* 2 Oft would the new created Sophister Where Boy cry'd, want ye any Coffee, Sir? Start from brown-study. 1728 STEELE *Spect.* No. 286 P. 3 He often puts me into a brown Study how to answer him. 1871 BLACKIE *Four Phases* I. 13 He had been standing there in a brown study.

+ **Brownswine.** *Obs. rare.* [Cf. OE. *mere-swin*, Ger. *meerschwein*, Du. *meerswijn*, and the name *porpoise* itself.] A porpoise.

c 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 54 Brunswyne, or delyfne, foca, delphinus, suillus.

Brownwort (brau'nwɔrt). *Herb. ? Obs.* [perh. from its brown flowers.] A name of the Water-Betony (*Scrophularia aquatica*), and perhaps other species of *Scrophularia*.

c 1000 *Sax. Leechb.* I. 158 Genim bysse wyrte wyrtruman be engle brunewyrt hatað. *Ibid.* 374 Wið lungen adle Genim . . . & bysse wyrt & brun wyrt. c 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 54 Brownworte, herbe [1499 brother wort], pulio, perulium [1499 puleium]. 1551 TURNER *Herbal* I. Lij. The herbe whiche we call in Englyshe water betony or brown wurt. 1673 GREW *Anat. Roots* I. § 13 In Brownwort, the Basis of the Stalk sinking down by degrees . . . becomes the upper part of the Root. 1884 MILLER *Plant-n.* 248 *Scrophularia aquatica*, Bishop's-leaves, Water-Betony, Brown-wort.

Brownny (brau'ni), a. rare. [f. BROWN + -Y.] Inclining to brown.

1582 STANYHURST *Æneid* IV. (Arb.) 164 Thee brownye lion too stakck from the mounten he wisseth. 1597 SHAKS. *Lover's Compt.* xiii. His browny locks did hang in crooked curls. 1873 KINGSLEY *Valentine's D.* Oh! I wish I were a tiny browny bird.

+ **Browsage.** *Obs.* [f. BROWSE + -AGE.]

1. The browsing of cattle; *concr.* that on which they browse.

1610 W. FOLKINGHAM *Art of Survey* i. viii. 16 Grasse and plants fit for broouage, and browsage of sheepe. 1688 R. HOLME *Armoury* III. 333/2 *Broouage* or *Browsage* is feeding of Sheep and Goats.

2. The right of browsing.

1611 COTGR., *Fresange*, one hog, or more, due vnto the Maister of the waters, and forrests of Aubigny (and elsewhere) by the farmers of the Mastage and brouage thereof.

Browse (brauz), *sb.* Forms: 6-8 brouse, brouse, 7 brouce, brouas, 7- brouwe, brouwe. [app. a. 16th c. F. *broust* (OF. *brout*, mod.F. *broust*) 'bud, young shoot'. (But sense 3 was evidently taken from the verb in English.) The loss of the final *t* presents some difficulties: the occas. spellings *brouce*, *brouss* indicate an early form (*brus*), which may possibly have been a corruption of *brousts* collective pl.]

1. Young shoots and twigs of shrubs, trees, etc.

1523 FITZHERB. *Husb.* § 132 If thou haue any trees to . . . crophe for the fyre-wodde, crophe them in wynter that thy beastes maye eate the brouse and the mosse of the bowes and also the yues. 1558 PHAËR *Æneid* VII. G iij b. This Laurel bushe ful thick of brouse. 1596 SPENSER *F. Q.* III. x. 45 Their gotes upon the brouzes fedd. 1617 MARKHAM *Caval.* I. 5 Bushes, brouse, and some hie or thicke trees for shelter. 1669 WORLIDGE *Syst. Agric.* (1681) 223 Browze or brouce, or brutte, the tops of the Branches of Trees that Cattle usually feed on. 1721 DUDLEY in *Phil. Trans.* XXXI. 168 In the Winter they live upon Browze, or the tops of Bushes and young Trees. 1874 C. GEIKIE *Life Woods* vi. 118 Browze is the Canadian word for the tender twigs of trees.

2. Fodder for cattle, consisting of young shoots and twigs; that which is or can be browsed.

1552 HULOET, Browze, or meat for beastes in snow tyme, *vesca*. 1580 BARET *Alv.* B 1400 Browze made for beastes of withie bowes. 1621 FLETCHER *Thierry & Th.* I. i. Like leaves they would . . . become browze for every beast. 1697 DEYDEN *Virg.* (1806) I. 261 Th' unworthy browze Of buf-faloes. 1706 J. PHILLIPS *Cyder* I. 108 How the Goats their shrubby Browze Gnaw pendent. 1827 HOWITT *Rur. Life* v. ii. (1862) 367 Hollies, which were encouraged in most ancient forests for winter browze.

3. The action of browsing.

1810 CROMER *Rem. Nithsdale Song*, All the flocks at browze. 1820 SCOTT *Abbot* III. The cattle are even now returning from their scanty browze. 1830 W. PHILLIPS *Mr. Sinai* IV. 114 As when at browze . . . A herd of deer . . . disport them. 1850 LYNCH *Theo. Trin.* v. 80 [I] listened to the browze of the sheep as they cropped the grass.

Hence (or from the verb) **Browse-wood**.

1598 MANWOOD *Laues Forest* vi. § 1 (1615) 51/2 The Foresters . . . must prouide Browse-wood to bee cut downe for [the Deer] to feed upon. 1664 EVELYN *Sylva* 72 It is advis'd not to cut off the Browse-wood of Oaks in Copses. 1835 E. JESSE *Glean. Nat. Hist.* Ser. III. 239 Right of common for four horses, and the use of browse-wood.

Browse, sb. 2 *Mining.* Also *brouse*. (See quotes.) 1875 *Ure Dict. Arts* I. 547 *Browse*, a metallurgical term for a variety of slag. *Ibid.* III. 59 A mass of heated fuel, mixed with partly-fused and semi-reduced ore, called *Browse*, floating upon a stratum of melted lead.

Browse, browse (brauz), *v.* Forms: (6 brose), 6-7 brouse, 6-8 brouse, 7 brouce, 7-9 brouwe, 6- brouwe. [f. BROWSE *sb.*¹, or perhaps directly from 16th c. F. *brouster*, now *brouter* (in same sense), according to Littré, f. F. *broust*, *broust* 'bud, young shoot'; the Eng. form being influenced by that of the *sb.*, q.v. The pronunciation with -z may have begun in the verb; cf. the analogy of *grass*, *graze*, *advise*, *advise*, *use*, *to use*, etc. (Or if the verb was ever *broust* in Eng., we might suppose the final -t to have been lost, by confusion with that of the pa. t. and pa. pple.)]

1. *intr.* or *absol.* To feed on the leaves and shoots of trees and bushes; to crop the shoots or tender parts of rough plants for food: said of goats, deer, cattle. (Sometimes carelessly used for *graze*, but properly implying the cropping of scanty vegetation.)

1542 BOORDE *Dyetary* xvi. (1870) 275 At the x byt on the grasse, or brosyng on the tree. 1580 HOLLYBAND *Treas. Fr. Tong.* *Brouster & manger*, to brouze, to feede like an Oxe or Goate. 1593 NASH *Christ's T.* 32 b. All the bushes and boughes . . . were hewed downe and feld for men (like brute beastes) to brouze on. 1611 SHAKS. *Wint. T.* III. iii. 68. 1612 T. TAYLOR *Comm. Titus* II. i. (1619) 336 Cattell forsaking the . . . pastures to brouse vpon leaues and boughes. 1789 MRS. PIOZZI *Journ. France* I. 38 Goats . . . browse upon the steepes of Snowdon. 1848 CARPENTER *Anim. Phys.* 141 The Giraffe uses its long tongue to lay hold of the young shoots on which it browzes. 1870 BRYANT *Homer* I. II. 74 The horses browsed on lotus-leaves.

b. *fig.* or *transf.*

1611 SHAKS. *Cymb.* III. vi. 38 There is cold meat i'th' Cause, we'll brouz on that. 1823 LAMB *Elia* Ser. I. xv. (1865) 119 And browsed at will upon that fair and wholesome pasture [a good Library]. 1870 LOWELL *Among my Bks.* Ser. I. (1873) 9 We thus get a glimpse of him browsing—for . . . he was always a random reader—in his father's library.

2. *trans.* To crop and eat (leaves, twigs, etc.).

1523 FITZHERB. *Husb.* § 131 Fell the vnder wodde fyrste in wynter that thy cattell or beastes maye eate & brouze the toppes. 1591 SPENSER *Virg. Gnat* 82 Others . . . brouze the woodbine twiggies. 1612 DRAYTON *Poly-ob.* xviii. 284 1789 WOLCOTT (P. Pindar) *Odes* xiii. 4 Forc'd, forc'd to

broise, like goats, the lanes for food. 1899 DARWIN *Orig. Spec.* iii. (1878) 56 Little trees which had been perpetually browsed down by the cattle. 1864 *Daily Tel.* 21 May. Herds of deer have browsed all the leaves away as high as their necks could reach.

3. *causal.* To feed (cattle) on (twigs, etc.).

1550 [see BROWSE 1]. 1669 *Worldwide Syst. Agric.* vi. § 2 (1681) 94 Rangers and Keepers of Parks... browsing their Deer on it.

Browser (brū'zər). [f. BROWSE v. + -ER.]

†1. One who feeds the deer (in winter-time).

Cf. BROWSE v. 3. *Obs.*

1550 in *Harcourt Papers* (1876) [At a survey taken 10th April 4th year of Edward VI] the jury did then present that... the Lords of Stanton Harcourt have used and ought to find four Browsers in Woodstock Park in winter time, when any snow shall happen to fall, and tarry, lye, and abide be the space of two days, and so to feed the said Browsers there browsing so long as the snow doth lye, every browser to have to his lodging every night one billet of wood the length of his axle-helve.

2. An animal which browses.

1845 MALLIN *Nonconformity* v. 312 The stupidest of the browsers of the field. 1870 YEATS *Nat. Hist. Comm.* 122 We fell a forest, and the timid browsers lose their shelter and food.

Browsing (brū'zɪŋ), *vbl. sb.* [f. BROWSE v.]

1. The action of feeding upon young shoots and leaves of trees and shrubs; also *concr.* shoots and leaves; browsing-ground.

1580 BARET *Adv. B.* 101 A gathering together of leaves for beasts in winter; a browsing. 1645 HOWELL *Let.* (1650) II. 8 The park... for groves, and browsings for the deer... may compare with any. 1899 JEFFERSON *Brittany* ix. 144 Heather and gorse, kept short by the browsing of the goats.

2. *Comb.*, as *browsing-line*.

1803 REPTON *Landscape Gard.* 51 Stripped of their foliage to a certain height... which I shall call the browsing line. 1808 STEUART *Planter's G.* 309 The browsing-line of the black-faced sheep seldom reaches to more than three, or three feet and a half above the surface.

Browsing, *ppl. a.* That browses.

1702 POPE *Dryden* 91 Nor let my branches feel The browsing cattle or the piercing steel. a 1795 POPE *Odyss.* xvii. 620 The grazing ox, and browsing goat. 1863 A. RAMSAY *Phys. Geog.* xviii. 459 Carnivorous and browsing mammalia.

Browst (brəʊst), *Sc.* Forms: ? 5 browest, 6 broust, 6- broust. [f. *brow*, *pa. ppl.* stem of BREW, or perh. of earlier origin, from the root *bru-*, as in OHG. *brū-hūs*; cf. also Du. *brouw-sel* 'a browst': the nature of the suffix is not clear. (Some modern writers have perverted this to BREWST.)] A brewing; a brewage. Also *fig.*

a 1500 *Burrow Lanes* xxxix. (JAM.) For the fourt browest, he [the Browster] sall giue the dewtie of one halfe yeare. 1504 *Bail. Balmrines in Scot. Poems* 16th C. II. 347 Ane bloodie broust there was brouine. 1650 ROW *Hist. Kirk* (1842) 537 Yow must cause scripture speak it, or else yow will not brew your browst well. 1816 SCOTT *Old Mort.* iv. The browst of the Howf retained... its unrivalled reputation. 1823 - Q. *Durward* vii. You will drink a bitter browst of your own brewing one day.

Browster, *-ar*, northern f. BREWSTER, brewer. a 1400 *Cov. Myst.* 132 Boutyng the browstere. c 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 54 Browstar or brewere. a 1555 LYNDSEY *Trag.* 356 Ane Browster quihill can brew moste hoilsum aill. 1609 SKENE *Reg. Maj.* xxxix. Ane Browster. 1783 BURNS *3rd Ep. 7. Lapraik* v. Browster wives and whisky stills.

† **Browse**, *Obs. rare* -1. [Corruption of F. *brou* in same sense: found earlier also as *broust*, and thus identified with the etymon of BROWSE *sb.*] The inner covering of the nutmeg.

1712 tr. *Pomet's Hist. Drugs* i. 127 The Nutmeg has three Wrappings, to wit, the Shell, the Mace and the Browze (la Coque, le Macis, et le Broû).

Broyle, Broyn, *obs. forms* of BROIL, BRINE.

Broys (e), *obs. f.* BROWIS, and BRUISE.

Bruart, variant of BREWARD.

Bruo, variant of BRUCE, *Obs.*, a locust.

Bruch, *obs. f.* BROCH, BROOCH, BROUGH, BURGH.

† **Bruche**¹, *Obs.* [OE. *bryce*, ME. *bruche* (*ū*) = OHG. *bruh*, MHG., modGer. *bruch*, OLIG. *broke*, MDu. *brōke*, *brōke*, Du. *breuk*: -OTent. **brukis*-, from stem *bruk-* of *brek-an* to BREAK. In later ME. superseded by *breche*, BREACH.]

1. The action of breaking, fracture; *fig.* the breaking or violation of a command, engagement, etc.; transgression.

a 900 *Pol. Latw. Ælfred* § 3 (Bosw.) Dæs borges bryce. a 1000 *Guthlac* 670 (Gr.) Ne sy him banes bryce. c 1300 *Thrusk & Night*. 28 Ne wes neuere bruche so strong I broke with rihte ne with wrong.

b. *esp.* Violation of chastity.

a 1225 *Ancre. R.* 38 Wiðuten euerich bruche, mid ihol meidenhod and meidenes menske. c 1230 *Hali Meid.* 13 Vre flesch... 3if þat hit wit hire wiðute bruche cleane.

2. A fractured or injured part; a fissure or break; = BREACH *sb.* 7.

a 1225 *Leg. Kath.* 1614 þe bruchen of hire bodi, al to-broken of þe beatinge. a 1307 in *Rel. Antiq.* II. 272 At the furmeste bruche that he fond He lep in and over he wond.

† **Bruche**², *Obs. rare*. Also *brueche*. (See quot.)

1562 TURNER *Herbal* II. 29 b, Agarike is the same in a Larche tre that bruche as the Northern Englishmen call it, or as other call it, a todstole, is in a birche or a walnut tre... It groweth... upon the bole or body of the tre... as other thynges lyke mushrummes todstoles or bruches do.

Bruchel, *obs. form* of BRITCHEL *a. fragile*.

† **Bruchelnesse**. [f. *prec.* + -NESS.] Frailty.

c 1460 in *Pol. Rel. & L. Poems* (1866) 251 3yne me grace to hyde and hele The blame of my bruchelnesse.

|| **Bruchus** (brū'kʊs). [L. *brūcus*, *brūchus*, a. Gr. *βροῦκος*, *βροῦχος* 'a wingless locust'.]

1. An insect; a caterpillar; = BRUCE.

1398 TREvisa *Barth. De P. R.* xl. vi. (1495) 393 Bruchus is the brood of long flies that dystroye corne and grasse. c 1475 *Bk. Found. St. Barthol.* Ch. I. vi. (1883) 52 Bruchus is the issue of the butterfly, or he haue wynges. 1609 BALE (Douay) *Pz.* civ. (cv.) 34 The locust came, and the bruchus. - *Foot l. comm.*, Bruchus, an other fleeing litle beast, that deuoureth not only fruite but also the leaves of trees.

2. A genus of rhynchophorus beetles, of which the larvae are destructive to pease, etc. Hence Bru-ohian, a member of the genus *Bruchus*.

1825 T. W. HARRIS *Insects New Eng.* 54 The habits of the Bruchians and their larvae.

|| **Bru'cia**. The same as BRUCINE.

1810 HENRY *Elem. Chem.* (1840) II. 304 Of Brucia. 1876 HARLEY *Mat. Med.* 513 Brucia closely resembles strychnia.

Brucine (brū'sin), *Chem.* [From *Brucia antidiysenterica*, the tree which was supposed to furnish false Angustura bark, now understood to be the bark of a species of *Strychnos*.]

A vegetable alkaloid existing in false Angustura bark, and (along with strychnine) in Nux Vomica; like strychnine it is a strong poison.

1823 J. BADCOCK *Dom. Annuell.* 148 Brucine... a new alkali is... procured... from the... *brucea anti-dysenterica*. c 1865 J. WYLLIE in *Circ. Sc.* I. 416/4 Brucine may be separated from strychnine by its solubility in cold alcohol.

Brucite (brū'sit), *Min.* [after A. Bruce, an American mineralogist; see -ITE.] A native hydrate of magnesia. 1868 in *DANA*.

Bruckle (brū'kl), *a.* Chiefly *Sc.* and *dial.* Forms: 4 brukel, 5 brukyl, 5-6 -ill, 6 -il, brukil, -yll, brukle, bruele, 6- bruckle. [OE. *brucol* (in *scipbrucol*) f. stem *bruk-* of *brekan* to BREAK (see also BROCKLE): but in later use, perhaps phonetic variant of BROCKLE: cf. *Sc. muckle* and *muckle*.]

1. Liable to break; fragile, brittle.

1513 DOUGLAS *Æneis* xii. xii. 114 As brukkyl ice. 1562 TURNER *Herbal* II. 64 a, Rootes... not brukle or easy to breke. 1569 PUTTENHAM *Eng. Poetrie* (Arb.) 219 Trusting vnto a piece of bruckle wood. a 1791 KELLY *Sc. Prov.* 113 (JAM.) Lasses and glasses are bruckle ware. 1808 M. PORTER *Souter Johnny* 29 In bruckle stane and lime. 2. *fig.* Frail, uncertain, precarious, 'shaky'.

c 1325 *Metr. Hom.* 120 Noht of brukel blod and bane. c 1425 WYNTOUN *Cron.* v. xii. 1309 The Devils war nought wrought of brukyl kynd. 1509 FISHER *Wks.* 91 What vessel may be more bruckle and fraile than is our body. a 1651 CALDERWOOD *Hist. Kirk* (Wodrow) III. 743 Founding them upon the bruckle authoritie of profane writers. 1814 SCOTT *Wav. lxxvii*, 'My things are but in a bruckle state'. 1866 LONG I. *Wight Dial.* 8 *Bruckle*, brittle.

† **Bruckie**, *v. Obs.* or *dial.* [Related to *Sc. bruk*, to begrime (see BROOKED); prob. a frequentative: see -IE.] *trans.* To make dirty; to begrime.

Hence *Bruckled ppl. a.*

1648 HERRICK *Hesper.*, Temple, Boyes and bruckel'd children. 1661 L. GRIFFIN *Doctrine of Asse* 7 We commonly say to Dirty Children that the Gardener will sow Leeks in their faces; we may more truly tell our Bruckled Professors that the Devil will sow Tares in their Souls. 1691 RAY *N.C. Words* 11 *Bruckle*, to dirty. *Bruckled*, dirty.

† **Bruckleness**, *Obs. exc. dial.* [f. BRUCKLE *a.* + -NESS.] 'Bruckle' quality or condition; frailty. 1423 JAS. I *King's Q.* cxci, Pray the rede. Of his gudnesse thy bruckleness to knytt. a 1560 ROLLAND *Crt. Venus* II. 962 Full of bruklines. a 1605 MONTGOMERIE *Flying* I. 611 Fecklesse foolishnes and beasly bruklines.

Brud-, *Brude*, *obs. form* of BRIDE.

Bruder, *obs. form* of BROTHER.

Brudge, *obs. and dial. form* of BRIDGE.

Brudging: see BRIDTHING, wedding.

Brue, *obs. f.* BROW, BREW, and var. of BROO, *Sc.*

† **Brued**, *ppl. a. Obs. rare*. In 6 brude. [Contracted from IMBRUED. (It might be from OF. *embruer*, through intermediate **abruer*.)] Imbrued. 1560 A. NEVILLE *Seneca's Edipus* 9a His eyes all bathd and brude in blood. 1583 STANFURD *Æneis* II. (Arb.) 49 Then they the sacred image with brude fist blooddye prophaned.

Bruer, *obs. form* of BREWER.

Brues (se), *obs. form* of BREWIS, BROSE.

Bruet, var. of BROWET, *Obs.*, broth, soup.

Bruff, *dial. var.* of BROUGH, a halo.

Brug (e), **brugg** (e), *obs. forms* of BRIDGE.

† **Bruges**, *Obs.* Forms: 6 brigs, brug, bruges, burges, broig, brygges, 6-8 bridges, 7 birges, 8 brudges. [F. *Bruges*, Flem. *Brugge* i.e. 'bridge'.] Name of a city of Flanders, used *attrib.* in *Bruges satin*, and sometimes elliptically.

1517 T. ALLEN in *Lodge Illust. Brit. Hist.* (1838) I. 26 One black brigs hat. 1538 *Aberdeen Reg.* v. 16 (JAM.) Half ellin of Brug satine. 1545 *Lanc. Wills* (1860) II. 66 White satin of Bridges. 1552-3 *Inv. Ch. Goods Stafford.* 17 On cope of red satin bruges. 1559 *Inv. Eccl. Vestm.* in Hay *Scotia Sacra* 189 (JAM.) Blew and yellow broig satin. 1611 *Rates* (JAM.) Threed called Birges threed. 1721 C. KING *Brit. Merch.* I. 285 Threed Sisters... Ditto Bridges. 1752 BEAVES *Lex Mercat.* 383 Thread, called black and brown, or Bridges Outnal.

Brugh, var. of BROUGH halo, and BROCH tower.

Brugh, **brughe**, **brought**, *obs. ff.* BURGH.

Bruhows, *obs. form* of BREWHOUSE.

Bruk, **Bruik**, *Sc. forms* of BROOK v., BROOKED.

Bruill, *obs. form* of BROIL.

Bruilyie, **bruilzie**: see BRULYIE.

Bruin (brū'in). In Caxton *brune*, *brunne*, *brun*. [a. MDu. *bruin* (*brun*, *brun*) BROWN, the name of the bear in *Reynard the Fox*.] An appellation applied, after the manner of a proper name, to the Common or Brown Bear. (It has advanced so far in the direction of a common noun as to be often written without capital B.)

1481 CAXTON *Reynard* vii. (Arb.) 1 How brun the bere spedde wyth the foxe. *Ibid.* 11 The kynge... saide to brune the bere, syr brune, I wyl that ye doo this message. 1663 BUTLER *Hud.* I. III. 131 Mean while th' approach'd the place where Bruin Was now engag'd to mortal ruine. 1728 POPE *Dunci.* l. 99 So watchful Bruin forms with plastic care Each growing lump, and brings it to a Bear. 1764 T. BRYDGES *Homer Travest.* II. 89 No more each two-legg'd bruin swears. 1837 W. IRVING *Capt. Bonneville* III. 137 Promising to entrap bruin. 1867 MRS. HARVEY *Cruise Claymore* 130 During the autumn Bruin may not unfrequently be seen near the vineyards.

Bruise (brūz), *sb.* [f. the vb.]

†1. A breaking; a breach. *Obs.*

1441 *Plumpton Corr.* Introd. 60 In eschewing of blood-shedding and bruises of the Kings peace. 1530 PALSGR. 201/2 Brosyng or broose, *bruseure*.

2. A hurt or injury to the body by a blunt or heavy instrument, causing discoloration but not laceration of the skin; a contusion.

1541 R. COPLAND *Galen's Therap.* 2 Fij. Vv in the parties rounde about y^e vicere there is eyther bruse, phlegmon, or other tumour. 1607 TOPSELL *Four. f. Beasts* 327 Wounds are most commonly made with sharp or piercing weapons, and bruises with blunt weapons. 1663-78 BUTLER *Hud.* (J.) One arm'd with metal, th' other with wood. This fit for bruisse, and that for blood. 1711 ADDISON *Spect.* No. 223 P. 4 The Bruises which they often received in their Fall. 1859 TENNYSON *Elaine* 1159 His costly gift, Hard-won and hardly won with bruisse and blow.

b. Of a plant, fruit, or other body.

1678 N. WANLEY *Wonders* III. xlv. § 18. 226/2 He... threw it with that force against the floor that the solidest metal would have received some damage or bruisse thereby. 1770 WITHERING *Brit. Plants* (1796) IV. 285 Pileus... nearly flat... thin at the edge, turning watery on the least bruisse.

c. *spec.* A contusion or injury caused by jamping; *Sc.* in form *briss*.

Mod. Sc. His hand has got a bad brizz under the wheel.

3. *Comb.*, as *bruisse-like* adj.; † *bruisse-root* (see quot.); *BRUISE-WORT*.

1608 NEWTON *Papaver Corn.* in *Phil. Trans.* XX. 263 Or Horned Poppy, with a Yellow Flower, vulgarly called in Hampshire, Squatmore, or Bruseroot. 1839-47 TODD *Cycl. Anat. & Phys.* III. 908/1 The bruisse-like swelling.

Bruise (brūz), *v.* Forms: 1 *brysan*, 3-5 *brisen*, 3-6 *brise*, (4 *bris*), 3-7 *bruse*, 4-6 *broose*, *brose*, *bryse*, 5 *bresse*, *bresse*, *bryssae*, *bruse*, 5-6 *brisse*, *broyse*, *brouse*, 6 *brusse*, *broose*, 6-7 *bruse*, 7, 9 *bruisse*, 6- *bruisse*; (also *Sc.* 4 *byrs*, 6 *birs*, 8 *birse*, 8- *briss*; 8-9 *north. dial.* *bruss*: see also *BRISE v.*) [OE. *brysan* to crush, bruisse, with which afterwards coalesced F. *brisier*, *bruser*, to break, smash, shatter. The latter is of uncertain origin: see Diez, Littré, and Scheler. (The Anglo-French form was *bruser*: see senses 2, 3.) The normal modern Eng. representative alike of OE. *bryse* and OF. *brise* would be *brise* (brōiz). The early ME. *bruse* may be explained as a s.w. spelling with the usual *ū* = OE. *y*; *bryse* may also be accounted for as the Kentish form with *ē* for OE. *y*; but the ME. forms *brose*, *broose*, *broyse*, *brouse*, and the modern *bruisse* must be from the OFr. forms, though the phonological details are obscure. The shortening of the vowel in 15th c. northern *brisse*, *bryssae*, and mod. *Sc.* *briss*, Eng. *dial.* *bruss*, is also unusual.]

1. *trans.* 'To crush or mangle with the heavy blow of something not edged or pointed; to crush by any weight' (J.). But now chiefly in a weaker sense: To injure by a blow which discolours the skin but does not lacerate it, and breaks no bones; to contuse: a. (the body of men or animals).

a. Forms *brysan*, *brise*, *bresse*, *birse*, *byrse*, *briss*. c 890 K. ÆLFRED *Bada* v. vi. (Bosw.) His preosta enne of horse fallende and gebrysedne. a 1000 *Be Domes Daze* 49 Ne mid swiðran his swyðe nele brysan wanhdydig gemod. c 1200 *Trin. Coll. Hom.* 61 He wile smite mid... swuerde. and brisen. a 1300 *Havelok* 1835 That he sholde him... brisen so, that wit no salue Ne sholde him helen leche none. c 1375 ? BARBOUR *St. Vincentius* 395 Sancte Vincent tormentit me Byrsit, best & byrnt. c 1400 *Destr. Troy* 7029 My body hath pou brist. c 1430 *Syr Tryam*. 237 Upon an olde stede, That was bresyd and bynde. 1470-85 MALORY *Arthur* (1817) I. 375 Sir kayes hors brysed hym ful sore. 1501 DOUGLAS *Pal. Hon.* III. 1924 He... brissit all my banis.

b. Form *bruse*, *bruze*.

a 1375 *Joseph Arim.* 501 In þe pikeste pres he... Brek braynes a-brod, brusede burnes. 1397 TREvisa *Higden* Rolls Ser. III. 59 Pe Sabynes... brusede and ouerlay þat mayde [Tarpeia]. 1516 FARNHAM *Chron.* II. 538 The erle marshall ouerthrew his appellaut, and to brysed hym, y^e... he dyed. 1590 SPENSER *F. Q.* III. iv. 34 Least they [fishes] their finnes should bruze... upon the stony ground. 1591 - *Virgil's Gnat* xxxvii. And with his hand him rashly

bruizing slewe. 1603 KNOLLES *Hist. Turks* (1627) 221 And thereby bruised the head of the . . . enemy of mankind.

γ. Form *bruse*, *broyse*, *broose*, *brouse*.
1388 WYCLIF *Nom.* xlii. 25 The asse ioynde hym silf to the wal, and briside [v. r. broside] the foot of the siller.
1430 LYDG. *Chron. Troy* iv. xxx. On a shelde, brosed and affrayde They bare hym home. 1494 FABIAN vi. cxliii. 140 [He] fell from his horse. . . whereof he was 800 broysyd that he dyed. 1599 MORE *Comfort agst. Trib.* ii. Wks. 1178/2 The iuste man though he fal, shall not be broosed. 1530 PALSGR. 471/2, I brose with a stroke or with a fall. . . I have broysyd my shoulder with fallynge downe the stayres. c1563 *Thersites in 4 Old Plays* (1848) 77 He wyl brose me.

δ. Form *bruisse*, *bruisse*.
1580 BARET *Atv.* B 1412 A wounde bruised is woorse than that is onely cut. 1598 SHAKS. *Merry W.* i. l. 294, I bruiz'd my shin th' other day. 1611 BIBLE *Gen.* iii. 15 It shall bruise thy head, and thou shalt bruise his heele. 1668 FULLER *Worthies* (1840) III. 332 He fell down, and bruised himself to death. 1709 STEELE *Tatler* No. 45 ¶ 7, I am bruised to death. 1788 PRIESTLEY *Corrupt. Chr.* ii. x. 261 [They] made no scruple. . . to beat and bruise him. 1848 TENNYSON *Two Voices* 222 Cursed and scorn'd, and bruised with stones. 1871 MORLEY *Voltaire* 74 In England. . . the peasant has not his feet bruised in wooden shoes.

b. (plants, fruit).
c1325 E. E. *Allit. P.* B. 1407 Bot quen hit [the fruit] is bruised oþer broken oþer byten in twynne. 1523 FITZGER. § 129 Get as many rotes with them as thou canste and brake them not nor bruse them. 1596 SHAKS. *1 Hen. IV.* i. l. 8 Nor bruse her Flowrets with the Armed hooves Of hostile paces. 1633 G. HERRBERT *Temple, Providence* xvii. Bees work for man; and yet they never bruise Their masters flower. 1681 BAXTER in *Bk. of Praise* (1862) 202 If death shall bruise this spring seed Before it comes to fruit.

c. To make a dent in, crush out of shape, batter (a hard surface).
1530 PALSGR. 471/2, I brose harness or ones flesshe, when it synketh in with the weyghtynesse of strokes. *Tenfoldre*. His heed pece was brosed with the stroke that a man myght have layed his hande in the hole. 1599 [see BRUISED *ppl. a.*] 1875 *Lanc. Gloss.* (E. D. S.) 60 Aw've bruzzed mi clog-nose wi punction' that owd can.

d. To maul as a boxer or prize-fighter.
a 1605 FLETCHER *Nice Valour* i. 1, He shall bruse three a month.

† 2. To break (in pieces, down), to smash. *Obs.* [This sense was apparently from French.]

[1590 BRITTON i. xi. § 1 Ceux, q' felonouement. . . brused eglises, ou autri mesouns.] a 1300 E. E. *Psalter* xlvij. 10 Bowe shall he bris, and breke wapenes ma. 1388 WYCLIF a *Kings* xi. 18 And thei destruyden his auters and the ymagis brosiden to gydris migtily. 1483 CAXTON *Gold. Leg.* 438/4 He toke breed and . . . brosyd and gaue it to his dysciples. 1494 FABIAN vii. cxxiv. 286 Kyng Phylip. . . broused or crased y^e castellys. c1530 BERNERS *Arth. Lyt. Bryt.* (1814) 30 Not leue standyng neyther castel nor toure vp right; but I shall bruse them downe to the erth. 1535 COVERDALE *Dan.* ii. 40 As yron brusteth and breaketh all thynges. 1590 R. FERRIS *Trav. Bristowe* in *Collier Illust.* E. E. *Pop. Lit.* xvii. Had his foote once slipped. . . he would have bene brused in peeces. 1611 *Art of Venery* 77 Let him plash or bruse down small twiggis.

3. *fig.* (to senses 1, 2, 4) To crush, wound, disable.
[1590 BRITTON i. xxi. § 7 Q' les sequestres de nos ministres a escient eynt bruseez.] 1388 WYCLIF *Deut.* ix. 3 Fier deuowrynge and wastynge, the which brisse [M.S. E. bruse] hem down. — *Piv.* *Prov.* i. Thurj long sickness brosid. c1500 *Partenay* 3748 Peruers fortune. . . Which on reisth, Another don brise. 1594 SHAKS. *Rich. III.* v. ii. 2 Bruid's vnderneath the yoke of Tyranny. 1600 HOLLAND *Livy* xlii. l. 1144 How they have quelled and bruised [fragile] the puissance of the Carthaginians. 1667 MILTON *P. L.* v. 884 An Iron Rod to bruse and break Thy disobedience. 1871 MORLEY *Crit. Misc.* (1886) III. 44 He feared that violent surgery which in eradicating a false opinion fatally bruises at the same time a true and wholesome feeling that may cling to it.

4. To beat small, pound, crush, bray, grind down.
1388 WYCLIF *Lev.* ii. 16 A part of the brise corn. 1398 TREVISIA *Barth. De P. R. v.* xvi. (1495) 121 The lawes ben as it were two mylstones contynued to brose and grynde the mete. c1400 *Liber Cocorum* (1862) 45 3if pay [peas] ben harde. . . Brysse hom or strene hom. 1523 FITZGER. *Husb.* § 59 Take that grasse, and broyse it a lyttell in a mortar. 1697 DRYDEN *Virg. Georg.* iv. 104 Some scatt'ring Pot-herbs. . . bruid's with Vervain. 1846 J. BAXTER *Libr. Pract. Agric.* II. 415 Bruise eight gallons of red currants with one quart of raspberries. 1847-9 TODD *Cycl. Anat. & Phys.* IV. 15/1 Larger morsels. . . are first seized and bruised by the dental apparatus.

† 5. To crush by pressure, jam, squeeze. (The ordinary sense in mod. Scotch. See also *BIRSE v.*)
1614 RALEIGH *Hist. World* II. v. iii. § 6 Wind bruised out of a bladder. 1725 RAMSAY *Gentle Sheph.* iii. iii. Poems (1844) 38 Let my arms. . . brizz thy bonny breasts and lips to mine. a 1774 FERGUSSON *Drink Eclog.* Poems (1845) 51 The thrifty guid-wife sees Her lasses kinn, or birze the dainty cheese. *Mod. Sc.* He has briz'd his finger in the door.

6. *Naut.* To bruse water: see *quots.*
1867 SMYTH *Sailor's Word-bk.* *Brusing water*, pitching heavily to a head-sea, and making but little head-way. *Bruse-water*, a ship with very bluff bows, built more for carrying than sailing. 1880 *Daily Tel.* 7 Sept., While, rail under, she is brusing her water like a barge.

7. *intr.* with *along*. To ride on recklessly, without regard to fences or crops damaged, or to sparing the horse. (Hunting slang: cf. to pound along.)
1865 *Dublin Univ. Mag.* II. 19 A majority of those who follow them have. . . no notion of hunting, but go 'brusing' along. 1879 *Anteros* xii. 110 The baron hunted his five days. . . brusing along. . . determinedly.

Bruisse, obs. form of **BREWIS**; var. of **BROSE**.

Bruiseable, *a. rare.* [f. **BRUISE v.** + **-ABLE**.]
1611 COTGR. *Fr.* *bruiseable*, easie to be broken.

Bruised (*brūzd*), *ppl. a.* [f. as prec. + **-ED**.]
1. Hurt or damaged by a heavy blow; contused; with skin crushed and discoloured. (Formerly in stronger sense.)
1388 WYCLIF *Matt.* xii. 20 A brisid [1388 schaken] rehed he shal not breke. c1450 LONELICH *Grail* xxvii. 94 A ful wery and abrosed Manne. 1573 TUSSEY *Husb.* (1878) 32 Forget it not Fruit bruised will rot. 1797 DE FOR *Eng. Tradesm.* (1841) i. vi. 44 Like an old invalid soldier out of the wars, maimed, bruised, and sick. 1884 C. ALLEN *Strange Stories* 85 The bruised and livid face of the old parson. *fig.* 1604 SHAKS. *Oth.* i. iii. 219, I neuer yet did heare That the bruized heart was pierc'd through the eares. 1648 MILTON *Apol. Smeat.* (1851) 297 The bruised consciences of so many Christians.

b. Of blood: Extravasated. *Obs. or dial.*
1579 LANGHAM *Gard. Health* (1633) 113 Bruises and bruised blood, stampe Nep leaues with salt and apply them. *Mod. Sc.* Briz'd blood.
2. Crushed, battered, dinted.
1590 SPENSER *F. Q.* i. xl. 14 Often bounding on the bruised gras. 1599 SHAKS. *Hen. V.* v. ProL 18 His bruised Helmet and his bended Sword. c1650 in *Rushw. Hist. Coll.* iii. (1692) i. 77 A bruised Ship-wracked Vessel, full of Leaks. 1840 HOOD *Up Rhine* 44 Oh it's the beautiful brass pail. . . and how it's all bruised and battered.

3. Crushed small, brayed, pounded.
1388 [see **BRUISE v.** 4]. c1400 *Pallad.* on *Husb.* i. 679 Bressed whete and bresses longe. 1664 EVELYN *Kal. Hort.* (1729) 194 Those [birds] who feed on bruised seeds.

Bruiser (*brū'zə*). [f. **BRUISE v.** + **-ER**.]
1. One who bruises or crushes.
1586 WARNER *Alb. Eng.* iii. xviii. 81 The Brooser of the Serpents head. 1738 WESLEY *Hymn 'Praise by all to Christ be given'* xvi, Serpent, see in us thy Bruiser, Feel his Power. 1863 J. MURPHY *Comm. Gen.* iii. 20 The bruiser of the serpent's head.

2. In the phraseology of the prize-ring: A professional boxer, a prize-fighter.
1744 H. WALPOLE *Lett. H. Mann* (1834) II. cxvi. 6 He let into the pit great numbers of bear-garden bruisers (that is the term) to knock down everybody that hissed. c1754 *Connoisseur* No. 10 (1774) L 77 Has no more claims to heroism, than the case-hardened valour of a bruiser or prize-fighter. 1796 J. ANSTEE *Pleaser's Guide* 200 A secret joy the Bruiser knows. In giving and receiving blows. 1811 BYRON *Curse Min.* xi, Be all the bruisers cull'd from all St. Giles'. 1873 SYMONDS *Gk. Poets* x. 330 Polydeuces was a notable bruiser.

3. *Hunting slang.* See **BRUISE v.** 7.
1830 R. EG. *Warburton Hunt. Song, Woore Country* vi, On a light thorough-bred there's a bruiser.

4. A concave tool used in grinding lenses or the specula of telescopes.
1777 MUDGE in *Phil. Trans.* LXVII. 304 A concave tool or bruiser, with which. . . the brass grinder, and the hones are to be formed. c1790 *Imison Sch. Arts* II. 108 All the emery strokes are ground off from the bruiser.

† **Bruisewort**. *Herb. Obs.* [From supposed healing virtues.] The name of one of two different plants, esp. the Common Daisy. Cf. *bonewort*.
c1000 *Sax. Leechd.* i. 374 Wið lungen adle genim. . . and bryse wyrt and brun wyrt. a 1450 *Alphita* (Anecd. Oxon.) 45 *Consolidia minor*. . . waysegle, nel bonwort, nel bruisewort. c1460 J. RUSSELL *Bk. Nurture* in *Babees Bk.* (1868) 184 Bresse-wort. . . is good for ache. 1597 GERARD *Herbal* cxciii. § 7. 512 The Daisie is called. . . in English Daisies and Bruise wort. 1611 COTGR. *Marguerite des pres*, th' ordinarie, little, white and wild Daisie, called (otherwise) Bruisewort. 1703 AINSWORTH *Lat. Dict.* (Morell), Bruise wort, *consolidia*. 1830 WITHERING *Brit. Plants* (ed. 7) II. 537 [*Stapolaria officinalis*, Soapwort, Bruisewort.

Bruising (*brū'zɪŋ*), *vbl. sb.* [f. **BRUISE v.**]
1. Crushing or damaging with a heavy blow; also (*obs.*) breaking in pieces, breaking; also *fig.*
1388 WYCLIF *Ps.* cvij. 30 And Fynesest told pleside; and the brosing [vulg. *quassatio*] ceside. c1460 *Towne's Myst.* 172 For brusing of youre bonys. 1566 *Pilgr. Perf.* (W. de W. 1531) 58 b, Kepe the rule of holy obedience hole and sounde, without crasyng or brusinge. 1664 EVELYN *Kal. Hort.* (1729) 219 To prevent bruising by Wind-falls. . . lay some Straw under your Fruit-Trees.

† b. *concr.* A broken piece, a fragment. *Obs.*
1388 WYCLIF *Isa.* xxx. 14 Ther shal not be founde of his brosingus [1388 gobetis] a shord.

2. Fighting with the fists, boxing.
1780 in *Wilberforce's Life* (1838) I. 14 He is a fine fellow if you come to bruising. 1854 THACKERAY *Newcomes* I. 101 Bruising was considered a fine manly old English custom. 1881 BLACKMORE *Maid of Sh.* 163 He had held the belt for seven years, for wrestling as well as for bruising.

3. *Comb.* as *bruisingwise* adv.; *bruising-match*, a boxing-match, prize-fight.
1575 BANISTER *Chyrurg.* ii. (1585) 263 If it be bruisingwise done, we call it a contused wounde, or Echymosis. 1794 WOLCOTT (P. Pindar) *Rowl. for Oliver* Wks. II. 402 It would wear the aspect of a bruising-match.

Bruising, *ppl. a.* [see **-ING** 2.] That bruises.
1578 LYTE *Dodoens* i. l. 3 Bruising or shivering coldes. 1594 SHAKS. *Rich. III.* v. iii. 120 Put in their hands thy bruising Irons of wrath. 1874 BOUTELL *Arms & Arm.* vii. 121 Seriously injured by the bruising effect of the blow.

b. *Hunting slang.* See **BRUISE v.** 7.
1879 *Anteros* xvi. 142 A fair, though by no means bruising rider to hounds.

Bruisse, obs. form of **BREWIS**.
Brut (*brūt*), *sb.* Forms: 4 *brout*, 5 *bruyt* (e), 5-7 *brute*, 6 *browte*, 6-7 *bruite*, 5-*bruit*. [a. F. *bruit* in same senses, *ppl. sb.* belonging to *bruire*

vb. to make a noise, roar: corresp. to Fr. *bruier*, *brugir*, OCat. *brogir*, It. *bruire*. According to Littré, *brugitus*, the prototype of *bruit*, occurs in late L. Diez views with favour a derivation proposed by Ménage from L. *rugire* to roar, *rugitus* roaring, and says that *brugit* for *rugit* occurs in *Lex Alemann.* If this be so, the prefixed *b* may be due to some onomatopoeic alteration.]

1. Noise, din, clamour, sound. *arch.*
c1450 *Merlin* 211 Ther sholde ye haue herde soche bruyt and soche noyse. 1523 LD. BERNERS *Fr.* I. xviii. 23 They made a merueillus great brute, w^t blowing of hornes. 1563 FOXE *A. & M.* I. 689/2 A brute or noise of wild Beasts. 1612 DRAYTON *Poly-ob.* xv. 240 A shrill and suddaine brute this Prothalamion brake. 1637 R. HURST tr. *Gombauld's Endim.* (1639) 202 A confused brute of Cymballs. 1837 CARLYLE *Fr. Rev.* I. i. iii. 57 Testifying, as his wont is, by loud bruit. a 1863 *MERIVALE Rom. Emp.* (1865) V. xliii. 219 To check it with the bruit of arms.

2. Report noised abroad, rumour, tidings; matter noised abroad. *arch.*
1494 FABIAN vii. 387 Not long after y^e brute of this overthrowe of the Englysshemen came vnto the towne. 1611 BIBLE *Nakum* iii. 19 All that heare the bruit of thee, shall clap the hands ouer thee. 1671 EVELYN *Mem.* (1857) II. 66 There came an uncertain bruit from Barbadoes of some disorder there. 1748 RICHARDSON *Clarissa* (1811) III. xiv. 88 Who says Miss Clarissa Harlowe is the paragon of virtue? . . . Common bruit! Is virtue to be established by common bruit only? 1864 KIRK *Chas. Bold* II. iv. 483 The wildest bruits were greedily credited.

† b. Noising abroad, public utterance. *Obs.*
1548 UDALL, etc. *Erasm. Par. Mark* x, The brute or preaching of the Ghospell.

† 3. Fame, renown, celebrity, reputation. *Obs.*
c1475 CAXTON *Jason* 51 The bruit of preu Jason augmented. . . from day to day. 1513 DOUGLAS *Æneid* xiii. ProL 193 Quha eoir in Latyn hes the bruit or glore. 1549-62 STERNHOLD & H. P. *Lxxviii.* 11 His people triumphs make, and purchase brute and fame. 1609 SKENE *Reg. Maj.* 20 Ane Arbitour should be of gude brute and fame.

† 4. *Med.* A name for any of the sounds heard in auscultation; e.g. *bruit artériel*, *bruit de souffle*, etc. A French sense; sometimes used in Eng.

Bruit (*brūt*), *v.* Also 6-7 *bruite*, 6-8 *brute*. [f. **BRUIT sb.**]
1. *trans.* To noise, report, rumour. Often with *abroad*, *about*.
a 1528 SKELTON *Col. Clout* 489 With language thus poluted, Holy Church is bruted. 1548 UDALL, etc. *Erasm. Par. John* iv. 28 The woman did bruit abroad this rumour. 1598 DRAYTON *Heroic. Ep.* xvi. 101 When Fame shall brute thy Banishment abroad. 1591 SHAKS. *1 Hen. VI.* ii. iii. 68, I finde thou art no less then Fame hath bruted. 1682 BUNYAN *Holy War* 43 If I first brute thee, the tidings, that will come after, will all be swallowed up of this. 1837 CARLYLE *Fr. Rev.* II. iii. iv. iii. 263 The country is getting up; noise of you is bruted day after day. 1840 DICKENS *Barn. Rudge* (1866) II. lxiii. 66 This report. . . was bruted about with much industry.

b. with *subord. clause*, or an equivalent.
1525 LD. BERNERS *Fr.* II. cxxviii. (cxcviii.) 691 The Frenchemen bruteth that ye wyl put out of your armes thames of France. 1538 LATIMER *Serm. & Rem.* (1845) 404 [Those], which were bruted to deny the sacrament. 1651 *Proc. Parliament* No. 98. 1502 The Enemy was bruted to be upon his March towards Carlisle. 1706 ESTCOTT *Fair Examp.* iv. l. 51 To blast my Fame, and brute it to the World that you have left me. 1835 LYRION *Rienzi* iv. 1, They do brute it that he sees visions.

c. *intr.*
1818 KEATS *Endymion* l. 791 Bronze clarions awake, and faintly bruit, Where long ago a giant battle was.

2. *trans.* To speak of, make famous, celebrate.
1553 T. WILSON *Rhet.* 11 Let Cesar, Alexander, and Hannibal be bruted for warriors. 1598 YONG *Diana* 98 Of whom Fame brutes their name in euery ground. 1641 MILTON *Ch. Govt.* v. (1851) 113 A man so much bruted for learning. 1791 COWPER *Liad* viii. 220 The shield of Nestor, bruted to the skies. 1826 BYRON *Ch. Har.* iii. 37 Thy wild name Was ne'er more bruted in men's minds than now.

† 3. To din. *Obs.*
1729 D'URFEE *Pills* (1872) IV. 86 Whole Towns you will bruit with a Pettifoggging Suit.

Bruit, *-ish*, *obs. forms of BRUTE, BRUTISH.*
Bruited (*brū'tēd*), *ppl. a.* [f. **BRUIT v.** + **-ED**.]
Noised abroad; rumoured, reported; famed, renowned, celebrated.
1523 SKELTON *Garl. Lawrel* 395 The bruted Britons of Brutus Albion. 1630 M. GODWYN *Bp. Hereford's Ann. Eng.* i. 68 The Kings much bruted humanity. 1874 BLACKIE *Self-Cult.* 51 The most bruted. . . hydropathic appliances.

Bruiter (*brū'taj*). [f. **BRUIT v.** + **-ER**.] One who spreads a report, rumour, etc.
1535 T. CROMWELL in *Strype Eccl. Mem.* I. App. lxxviii, To have compressed the bruters therof to silence. 1548 UDALL, etc. *Erasm. Par. John* 50 The bruters abroad of all the thynges that he wroughte. 1638 HEYWOOD *Rape Lucr.* Wks. 1874 V. 226 Then be the bruter Of thy owne shame.

† **Bruitful**, *a. Obs.* [f. **BRUIT sb.** + **-FUL**.]
Full of renown, renowned, famous.
1609 HEYWOOD *Brit. Troy* xiv. xxi, His bruitfull fame.

† **Bruitish**, *a. Obs.* [f. as prec. + **-ISH**.]
Rumoured, noised abroad.
1567-8 T. HOWELL *Newe Sonets* (1879) 134 Eche bruitish broyle that forth abroad is blowne; Beleeue not lightly.

† **Bruke**, *Obs. exc. dial.* In 4 *bruk*, *bruyk*, *bruo*. [ad. L. *brūcus*, *brūchus*; see **BRUCHUS**.]
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1. 'A locust without wings'; ? the larva of the locust; a destructive caterpillar.

1340 *HAMPOLP Psalter* civ. 32 He sayd & the locust come and the bruyk. *Comm.* The locust is modore of the bruyk: thai ere littil bestis, bot thai ere ful noyous. 1388 *Wyclif Lev. xi. 22* As is bruk (1388 bruke) in his kynde, that is the kynde of locust er it haue wengas. — *Jer. li. 14* Y shal fulfille thee of men, as with bruc worm. 1609 *Bible* (Douay) *Joel i. 4* The residue of the locust hath the bruke eaten.

2. (See quot.)

1847-78 *HALLIWELL, Bruck*, a field-cricket. *North.* *Brucke*, obs. f. *BROOK*.

Bruket, -it, Sc. f. *BROOKED*, streaked.

Brukil, -ill, -yl, obs. ff. *BRUCKLE*.

Brule, -inge, *brullynge*, obs. ff. *BROIL*, -ING.

Brulye, *brulsie*, *bruilsie*, (brü'l'i, brü'li). Also *brully*. Sc. and north. form of *BROIL*, a fray, disturbance. (The s stands for y.)

1705 *BURNS Ep. W. Simpson* Postscr. xiii. We Bardies ken some better Than mind sic brulzie. 1790 — *Election Ballad* xvii. And Hell mix'd in the brulye. 1818 *Scott Hrt. Midl.* xvi. As forward in a brulzie as their neighbours. 1826 — in *Lockhart* (1839) VIII. 277 On the whole I am glad of this brulzie. 1875 *ROBINSON Whitty Gloss.* (E. D. S.) *Brully*, a broil or squabble.

¶ See also *BROIL* *sb.* and *v.* 2

Bruliyement, *brulliyement*, Sc. and north. dial. form of *BROILMENT*, broil, disturbance.

1775 *RAMSAY Cont. Christ's Kirk* Gr. ii. ii. And quat this bruliyement at anes. 1778 *HAMILTON Wallace* 45 (JAM.) An hundred at this bruliyement were killed. 1804 *R. ANDERSON Cumbrid. Ball.* *Jeff & Job*, And meade a bruliyement bodder.

Brum (brüm), *v.* rare-1. [cf. Ger. *brummen* to hum, murmur.] *intr.* To murmur, hum.

1844 *Blackw. Mag.* LVI. 207 Now this is the strangest well I. always humming and brumming.

Brum, A slang contraction of *BRUMMAGEM*; *attrib.* 'counterfeit, not genuine'.

1864 *Corak. Mag.* Nov. 648 (Hoppe) We have just touched for a rattling stake of sugar (i. e. a large stake of money) at *Brum*. 1881 *Standard* 27 Sept. 2/1 The Lobster Smack, the house of call for the 'brum'—i. e. unlicensed—pilots, who are patronised by captains objecting to the higher dues charged by the regular Trinity House men at Gravesend. Beside the fire is seated one of the 'brum' pilots.

¶ *Brumaire* (brü'mä'r). [Fr.; f. *F. brume* fog: see *BRUME*.] The name adopted for the second month of the year in the calendar of the French Republic, introduced in 1793; it extended from Oct. 22 to Nov. 20.

1803 *F. LATHON* (title) The Castle of the Twileries, or a Narrative of all the events which have taken place . . . from the time of its construction, to the Eighteenth Brumaire of the year VIII.

Brumal (brü'mäl), *a.* Also 6 *brumail*, 6-7 *brumail*. [ad. L. *brümälis* belonging to winter, f. *brüma* contr. of *brevima*, shortest (day), winter; cf. *F. brumal*.] Belonging to winter; winter-like, wintry.

1513 *DOUGLAS Æneis* vii. ProL 14 Thai schort days that clerikis clepe brumail. 1646 *SIR T. BROWNE Pseud. Ep.* 129 About the brumail Solstice . . . the Sea is calme, and the winds do cease. 1703 *W. F. MARTYN Geog. Mag.* II. 374 They walk barefooted, throughout the brumal season. 1870 *LOWELL Study Wind*. 32 What cheerfulness there was in brumal verse was that of Horace's.

Brume (brüm). [a. *F. brume* fog:—L. *brüma* winter; see *prec.*] Fog, mist, vapour.

1808 *J. BARLOW Columb.* i. 579 Hail, with its glassy globes, and brume congeal'd. 1863 *LONGF. Saga R. Olaf* xix. 8 Suddenly through the drifting brume The blare of the horns began to ring.

Brume, obs. and Sc. form of *BROOM*.

† *Brument*, *Obs.* = *BREVENT*, an entry.

1553 *FITZGER. Husb.* § 152 Bokes of accompte of householde, & brumentes vpon the same.

† *Brumle*, *v.* *Obs.*-1. [app. a. Ger. *brummeln*, dim. of *brummen* to roar.] = *BRIM* *v.* 1

1671 *Westm. Drovery* 118 Like a Boar that runs brumling after the sows.

Brummagem (brüm'džēm), *sb.* and *a.* Also 7 *brom*, *brumicham*, *brom*-, *brim*-, *brumig*-, *brumedgham*, *brumegeum*, *brumisham*, *brim*-, *brumingham*, 9 *brummejam*.

A. *sb.* 1. A local vulgar form of the name of the town of *Birmingham*, in England. Hence (contemptuously), An article of Birmingham manufacture: *spec.* a. A counterfeit coin; b. a spur.

1691 *G. MIERG New State Eng.* 235 Bromicham, particularly noted a few years ago, for the counterfeit groats made here, and from hence dispersed all over the Kingdom. 1848 *MRS. GASKELL M. Barton* (1882) 23/2 Poor babby cried . . . till we got to Brummagem for the night. 1834-43 *SOUTHEY Doctor* cxi. (D.) It proved to be a Brummejam of the coarsest and clumsiest kind. 1840 *E. NAPIER Sc. & Sports For. Lands* i. vii. 221, I tightened the reins and applied the Brummagems.

2. *Eng. Hist.* = 'Birmingham (i. e. counterfeit) Protestant' [alluding to the counterfeit groats made at Birmingham a few years before]: A nickname given to supporters of the Exclusion Bill in 1680. See *BIRMINGHAM, ANTI-BIRMINGHAM*.

1681 *LUTTRELL Brief Rel.* (1857) i. 124 The latter party have been called by the former, whigs, fanatics, covenanters, bromingham protestants, etc.] 1681 (Sept. 9) *Ballad*,

Riddle of the Round-Head, Whigs and Brumighams, with shams and stories. Are true protestants. 1681 (Dec. 15) *Ballad*, *Ignoramus*, O, how they plotted! *Briminghams* voted, And all the *mobile* the holy cause promoted. 1681 *Popish Fables*, a Dialogue between Fly-blow, a Tory; Swift-heel, a Tantivy; Flash, a Brumegeum; See-well, a Whig. *Ibid.* I am a thin brass protestant silver'd over . . . they call me a *Brumegeum*. . . but my Sirname is *Flash*.

B. *attrib.* or *adj.* 1. a. Made at Birmingham.

b. With primary allusion to counterfeit groats coined there in 17th c.; but, also, with later reference to plated and lacquered wares still manufactured there: Counterfeit, sham, not genuine; of the nature of a cheap or showy imitation.

1637 *Calendar Dom. St. Papers* 105 Those swords which he . . . pretends to be blades of his owne making are all bromedgham blades & forraine blades. 1688 *T. Brown*, I coined heroes as fast as Brumingham groats. 1807 *Blackw. Mag.* XXII. Oct. 410/2 Brummagem Statesmen. 1803 *LYTTON My Novel* i. 120 (Hoppe) A work-table . . . inlaid with brass . . . in that peculiar taste which is vulgarly called Brummagem. 1861 *A. K. H. B. Recreat. Country Pars.* Ser. ii. 47 The vulgar dandy, strutting along, with his Brummagem jewellery.

2. *Hist.* Of or pertaining to the 'Birmingham' of 1680: see A. 2.

1681 *D'URFEE Sir Barnaby Whig* ProL, To hear harden'd Brumicham rascals prate. 1681 (Sept. 15) *Ballad*, *Old Jenny*, No mobile gay fop, With Brimingham pretences. — (title) A proper New Brummingham Ballad. 1681 (Nov.) *The Cavalier Litany*, From a Brumisham Saint, and a serious Church Whig. *Libera nos*. 1690 *B. E. Dict. Cant.* *Crew*, *Bromigham-conscience*, very bad; *Bromigham-protestants*, Dissenters or Whiggs. (See further examples in *Birmingham Weekly Post*, 11 Dec. 1880.)

Hence *Brummagemish a.*, *Brummagemise v.*, *Brummagemism*.

1870 *HAWTHORNE Eng. Note-bks.* (1879) IV. 171 The country began to look Brummagemish. 1886 *Sat. Rev.* 13 Mar. 360 The reluctance of the capital to Brummagemize itself. 1898 *GREENE Gunner* 238 As to the mechanical arrangement, to use a Brummagemism, they are as if they had been pitched together.

[Of *Birmingham*, the OE. form appears to have been **Beormingaham*. The metathesis of r, giving *Bre*-, *Bri*-, *Brum*-, is found as early at least as the 15th c. In No. 10 of *Edgastonius*, 15th Feb. 1862, 140 variant forms and spellings are cited from documents. Among these may be found 1-2 *Domesday* *Bermingeham*, 3-6 *Birmyngham*, 5-6 *Brymyngeham*, 6 *Brimicham*, 7 *Brimingham*, *Brimigham*, *Brimisham*, *Brimisham*; also 4-6 *Burmyngham*, 4-7 *Brum(m)ingham*, *Brummingham*, *Brumigham*, *Brummidgham*, *Brumicham*.]

Brumish, *a. low*. [f. *BRUM*, slang contraction of *Brummagem* + *ISH*.] Of coin: Of counterfeit character, doubtfully genuine.

1805 *G. COLMAN John Bull*, *Brit. Theat.* 55 Two guineas . . . one seems light, and t'other looks a little brumish.

Brumous (brü'mas), *a.* [ad. *F. brumeux*, or late L. *brümōsus* 'wintry', already in *Isidore* in sense of 'rainy'. See *BRUMAL*.] Foggy, wintry.

1840 *THACKERAY Pendennis* xliii. The blonde misses of Albion in their brumous isle. 1899 *Masson Milton* i. 526 In the dull brumous air.

Brumstone, obs. f. *BRIMSTONE*.

Brum(e), obs. and dial. form of *BROWN*, *BURN*.

† *Brune*, *sb.* *Obs.* Forms: 1 *bryne*, *byrne*, (*byrn*), 2-4 *brune* (*ü*), 4 *brene*. [OE. *bryne* = *Otut*. **bruni*-s burning, f. ablaut stem *brun-* of *brin-n-an* to burn. Cf. ON. *bruni* = **branon* in same sense. The Kentish form was *brene*: *brene* was rather a new formation on stem of ME. *brenne*, paving the way for the later *burne*, *BURN sb.* Burning, a burn.

c 890 *K. ÆLFRED Bada* iv. xxv. (title) (Boew.) Ær ðam ðe ðæt mynster mid bryne fornomen wære. c 950 *Lindisf. Gosp. Matt.* xx. 12 ðæs ðægæs hæto vel byrn. c 1000 *Sax. Leechd.* II. 130 Wip bryne, genim finules nipeardes. a 1225 *Ancr. R.* 206 Pe cwenne . . . þæt mid one strea brouhte o brune alle hire huses. a 1240 *Urrisun in Lamb. Hom.* 203 Per þis brune wære. 1340 *Ayeb.* 264 Helle is . . . Vol of brene on-polynde. [1553 *FITZGER. Surv.* 28 b, Catell hauynge no such brene.]

fig. a 1225 *Ancr. R.* 254 þe brune of golnesse.

† *Brunel*, -elle. *Obs.* [See quot. 1878.]

The plant Self-heal (*Prunella vulgaris*).

1597 *GERARD Herbal* cxci. § 1. 507 Brunell is called in English Prunell, Carpenters herbe, Selfheale, and Hookeheale, and Sicklewoort. 1611 *COTGR.* *Oingtereule*, Selfheale. Brunell, Prunell. 1878 *BRITTON & HOLLAND Plant-n.* *Brunel*, a modification of *Prunella*, the Latin name (now more frequently but less correctly written *Prunella*), which took its rise from the German *die Braune*, an 'infirmity among soldiers that lie in campe' described by Gerard (p. 508); this appears to have been a kind of quinsy . . . for which the *Prunella* was deemed a specific.

Brunetta: see *BURNET*.

Brunette (brunet, brün'et), *sb.* and *a.* Also 8 *brunett*. [a. *F. brunette* 'a nut-browne girl' (Cotgr.), fem. of *brunet*, dim. of *brun* brown.]

A. *sb.* A girl or woman of a dark complexion. 1713 *Guardian* No. 109 (1756) II. 108 Your fair women . . . thought of this fashion to insult the Olives and the Brunetts. 1796 *J. OWEN Trav. Europe* II. 438 My landlady . . . is a very pretty brunette. 1847 *BARHAM Ingol. Leg.* (1877) 12 Whether the ladies there are short or tall, Brunettes or blondes. 1859 *Geo. Eliot A. Bede* 45 His mother, a beautiful brunette.

B. *adj.* Of dark complexion, brown-haired; nut-brown. Also *absol.* the colour.

1712 *HENLEY in Spect.* No. 396 You will excuse a Remark

which this gentleman's Passion for the Brunette has suggested to a Brother Theorist. 1754 *SIR H. BEAUMONT Critic* 11 Raphael's most charming Madonna is a brunette Beauty. 1815 *Hist. Y. Decastro* I. 180 Her complexion . . . cleared up into a fine brunette. 1861 *HULME tr. Moquin-Tandon* i. v. 32 The Indian Stock . . . skin brunette rather than black. 1881 *G. ALLEN Anglo-Sax. Brit.* 56 The nation which resulted . . . being sometimes blonde, sometimes brunette.

Hence *Bruno-tteness* (*rare*).

1839 *Fraser's Mag.* XIX. 75 Praising . . . the pretty brunetteness of a young lily-forced thing.

Brunie, -y(e), obs. ff. *BRINIE*.

† *Brunion*. *Obs.* [a. *F. brugnion* 'espèce de pêche ou de pavier à peau lisse' (Littre); cf. It. *brugna*, *prugna*, Pg. *brunho*, deriv. of L. *prunum* plum, *prunus* plum-tree.]

A smooth-skinned variety of the peach, a nectarine; sometimes described as 'a sort of fruit between a plum and a peach'.

1706 in *PHILLIPS*. 1736 in *BAILEY*; and in mod. Dicts.

Brunishe, obs. form of *BURNISH* *v.*

Brunne, obs. form of *BURN*.

Brunneous (brün'jus), *a.* [f. mod. L. *brunneus*, = med. L. *brunus*, f. Teut. *brân* BROWN.] Dark brown. (Chiefly in *Entomology*.)

1843 *HUMPHREYS Brit. Moths* i. 137 The hind wings are brunneous grey. 1847 *Proc. Bern. Nat. Club* II. No. 5. 244 Abdomen . . . beneath shining brunneous or ferruginous.

Hence (from combining form *brunneo-*) *brunneo-piceous a.*, *brunneo-testaceous a.*

1847 *Proc. Bern. Nat. Club* II. No. 5. 255 Elytra . . . brunneo-piceous. 256 Two lateral punctures. brunneo-testaceous.

Brunner's glands. *Anat.* [So called from their discoverer Brunner, a Swiss anatomist 1653-1727.] Small racemose mucous glands situated in the upper part of the small intestine in mammals and certain fishes.

1860 in *MAYNE Exp. Lex.* 1880 *Syd. Soc. Lex.*, *Brunner's glands*: duodenal glands. They secrete a viscid fluid containing mucus . . . whose purpose is not known.

Brunonian (brün'niän), *a. Med.* [f. *Bruno*, *Brunon-em*, a Latinized form of the name *Brown*.]

Applied to the system or theory of medicine founded by Dr. John Brown (1735-1788), according to which physical life consists in a peculiar excitability, the normal excitement produced by all the agents which affect the body constituting the healthy condition, while all diseases arise either from deficiency or from excess of excitement, and must be treated with stimulants or sedatives.

1799 *Med. & Phys. Tral.* i. 124 The chief peculiarities of the Brunonian System. 1806 *Ibid.* XV. 147 The Brunonian method of preventing or curing indirect debility.

b. *sb.* One who holds this theory.

1881 *Standard* 13 Dec. 5/5 The Brunonians, of whom some adherents still linger in Italy.

Brunstan, -stone, obs. or dial. ff. *BRIMSTONE*.

Brunswick (brün'zwik). [LG. *Brünswik*, -swyk; Ger. *Braunschweig*.]

1. The name of a town and imperial province (formerly a duchy = *Brünswik-Wolfenbüttel*) of Germany. In earlier times Hanover constituted the electorate of Brunswick-Lüneburg, whence the name 'line of Brunswick' = 'line of Hanover' applied to the English sovereigns from George I.

2. Hence the name of an obsolete textile fabric.

1480 *Privy Purse Exp. Elis. of York* 130 Brussell clothe dec vij elles iij quarters. Browneswyke iij¹ ix elles.

3. *attrib.*, in *Brunswick black*, a black varnish made of turpentine and asphalt or lamp-black; *Brunswick green*, a green pigment consisting of oxychloride of copper (Watts *Dict. Chem.*).

Brunt (brunt), *sb.* 1. Forms: 4- *brunt*, 4-6 *bronte*, 5-6 *bront*, *brunte*, 6 *brout*. [First in 14th c. Origin unknown; generally sought in ON. *bruna* 'to advance with the speed of fire'; though such a formation from that is difficult to explain etymologically, and connecting links are wanting. The word may rather be an onomatopoeia of Eng. itself: cf. *DUNT*, and various *br*-words implying sharp or smart application of force. It is possible however that some association with *burnt* (in Sc. *brunt*), as if the 'chief brunt' were 'the hottest' of the fight, has influenced sense 4.]

† 1. A sharp blow. *Obs.*

c 1325 *E. E. Allit. P. A.* 174 Bot baysment gef myn hert a brunt. 1400 *Soudene Bab.* 3166 He smote the bisshope withe a bronde And gaf him an evel bronte. 1470-85 *MALORY Arthur* xx. xxi. (Globe) 475/2 Sir Gawaine gave him many sad brunts and many sad strokes.

† b. *At a brunt*: at one blow, at once, suddenly. *Obs.* (Cf. Fr. *tout à coup*, *tout d'un coup*.)

c 1400 *Alexander* (Stev.) 134 All þat was bitten of the best, was at a brunt dede. a 1555 *RIDLEY Wks.* 53 Traditions . . . at one brunt are revived. 1581 *J. BELL Haddon's Answ.* Osor. 69 Here Osorius . . . uttereth all his skill at a brunt. 1609 *Bible* (Douay) 2 *Kings* xxiii. 8 Which killed eight hundred at one brunt.

† 2. An assault, charge, onset, violent attack. (Often after *bear*, *abide*, *sustain*, etc.) *Obs.*

a. of fighting men, physical agents.

1430 *Lydg. Chron. Troy* iii. xxiv. The pore souldours Which bare the bronte euer of such shoures, And the mischiefe of werre comonly. 1531 *Elvot Gov.* (1834) 201 [He] there alone sustained the whole brunt of his enemies. 1570 *Levins Mani.* 189 A Brunt, impetus. c. 1590 *Marlowe Faust* i. 93. 121 Stranger engines for the brunt of war. 1601 *Holland Pliny* II. 491 Sustaining the charge and brunt of K. Porcenase army. 1648 *Gage West. Ind.* x. (1655) 32 At the third brunt, they made those lusty souldiers flee.

b. of sickness, temptation, persecution, etc. *Obs. or arch.*

1548 *Boorde Dyetary* viii. (1870) 245 Strength maye suffice a brunt. 1563 *Homilies* II. xvi. II. (1859) 461 So many and great brunts of affliction and persecution. a. 1617 *Bayne On Ephes.* (1658) 127 A brunt of unbelief doth not evacuate our faith. 1693 *W. Robertson Phrasel.* Gen. 533 He endures sore brunts, *magnus impetus sustinet.* 1821 *Clare Vill. Minstr.* I. 210 Wishing to despise... Brunts of fate and scorn of men.

† c. At the first brunt: at the first charge or onset; fig. at starting, at first. *Obs.*

1447 *Bokenham Seyntys* cxlviii. Though some of his men be overthrowen at the first brunt. c. 1531 *LD. BERNERS Huon* (1883) 395 At the fyrste brounte the Almaynes were constrained to recule abacke. 1549 *Coverdale Erasim. Par.* i Cor. I. 23 A doctrine, that at the fyrste brunte seemeth base and folysh. 1693 *Mem. Cl. Tetchely* i. 44 They put them into disorder at the first brunt.

3. Shock, violence, or force (of an attack).

(This more abstract sense was at first only vaguely evolved from the preceding, which it has now superseded. Phrases like *brunt of war, of battle, etc.* connect 2 and 3.)

a. of war, or of any material force.

1570 *Fenton Guicciard.* II. (1590) 84 All the brunt and swaigh of that daies fight. 1614 *Raleigh Hist. World* III. 42 Athens... endured the hardest and worst brunt of Darius invasion. 1667 *Boyle Orig. Formes & Qual.* 40 Neither will it [Brasse] like Gold resist the utmost brunt of the Fire. 1728 *Morgan Algiers* II. iv. 282 Utterly averse To stand the brunt of another Engagement. 1809 *Wellington Let. in Gurw. Disp.* IV. 324 Bearing the first brunt of the enemy's attack. 1862 *Marsh Eng. Lang.* ii. 29 It was on the Cymry that the chief brunt of the contest fell.

b. of an immaterial force.

1573 *G. Harvey Letter-bk.* (1884) 15, I must needs abide the brunt of his displeasure. 1662 *Fuller Worthies* (1840) II. 447 When such prisoners... have weathered out the brunt of that disease. 1774 *Burke Amer. Tax.* Wks. 1842 I. 175, I had rather bear the brunt of all his wit. 1807 *Hallam Const. Hist.* (1876) I. iv. 198 Grindal... bore the whole brunt of the queen's displeasure. 1875 *Jowett Plato* (ed. 2) IV. 88 To avoid the brunt of their argument.

4. The chief stress or violence; crisis. (Formerly expressed by *chief brunt, greatest brunt*.)

1598 *Barrett Theor. Warres* i. i. 4 The first three, fue, or seven ranks... do bear the chief brunt. 1665 *Manley Grotius Low-C. Warres* 144 It had inabled him to bear the greatest brunt of Humane Affairs. 1769 *Robertson Chas. V.* III. xi. 209 The wing of the French which stood the brunt of the combat. 1815 *Moore Lalla R.* (1824) 93 Now comes the brunt, the crisis of the day. 1837 *Carlyle Fr. Rev.* (1872) I. vii. ix. 230 The brunt of the danger seems past. 1855 *Macaulay Hist. Eng.* IV. 241 But the English had borne the brunt of the fight. 1868 *E. Edwards Raleigh* I. vii. 110 The brunt of the defence fell on ships, not on soldiers.

† 5. A sudden effort, strain, or outburst; a 'fit', 'spurt'. (Cf. 1 b.) *Obs.*

c. 1450 *Merlin* xviii. 282 They spored their horse over the brigue at a brunt. 1551 *Robinson tr. More's Utop.* (Arb.) 76 [Oxen] they graunte to be not so good as horses at a sodeyne brunte, and (as we saye) at a deade lifte. 1612 *T. Taylor Comm. Titus* II. 12 It is but for a brunt of new-fanglednesse. a. 1666 *Bp. Andrews Serm.* xix. (1661) 389 His vigour is not brunts only, or starts, *impetus.* 1670 *R. Rhodes Flora's Vagaries* 58 It will be but one Brunt o' th' Old mans anger.

6. Comb., as *brunt-bearing* adj.

1654 *Chapman Alphonsus* Plays 1873 III. 243 Saxon lanknights and brunt-bearing Switzers.

¶ Error for *brute*, BRUIT.

c. 1425 *Digby Myst.* (1882) iv. 52 Herd ye not the Exclamation And the grete brunte... Crucify hym! 1523 *LD. BERNERS Froiss.* I. clxxxviii. 222 The brunt went y^e he was chiefe heed of the prouostes treason.

† *Brunt*, sb.² *Obs. rare*—1. A bud, a 'spur' on a fruit tree.

1668 *Markham Way to Wealth* No. 9. III. i. 97 You must gather your fruit clean, without leaves or brunts... for every brunt would be a stalk for fruit to grow upon.

Brunt (brunt), v. *rare*. [f. BRUNT sb.¹]

† 1. *intr.* To make an assault or attack. *Obs.*

c. 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 54 Bruntun, or make a soden stertynge, *insilio.* 1690 *W. Walker Idiomat. Anglo-Lat.* 74 They would brunt without a force.

2. *trans.* To bear the brunt of, face boldly. *rare.*

1859 *I. Taylor Logic in Theol.* 194 Brunting the chilling fogs of a winter's afternoon, in England. 1859 *G. Meredith R. Fevers* iv. (1885) 29 'Do you think they'll ever suspect us?' 'What if they do? We must brunt it.'

Brunt, obs. and dial. pa. t. and pple. of BURN v. *Brurde*, var. of *Bærd*, *Obs.*, edge.

Brus, obs. form of BREWIS.

Bruschalle: see BRUSHAL, *Obs.*, brushwood.

Bruse, obs. form of BROOSE, BRUISE.

Brusen, obs. form of *bursten*, BURST pa. pple. 1601 *Holland Pliny* xx. v. Those who are brusen bellied, or have ruptures.

† *Brusery*, -ury. *Sc. Obs.* [Cf. BRUSIT.] Embroidery.

1513 *Douglas Æneis* xi. xv. 24 Hys hosing schane of wark of Barbary, In portraiture of subtil brusery [v.r. brusury.]

Brush (bruf), sb.¹ Forms: 5 *brusche*, 6

brushe, 6- *brush*. [ME. *brusche*, a. OF. *brosse*, *broce*, *broche* brushwood (whence mod.F. *broussailles*: see BRUSHAL). Diez cites *Pr. brossa*, Sp. *broza*, It. *brustia*, brushwood. Du Cange has med.L. *bruscia*, *brocia*, *brossia*, *brozia*, *brucia*, all in same sense. Diez takes the late L. type as **brustia*, and refers it to OHG. *burst*, *bursta* bristle; cf. MHG. *bürste* brush. If his conjectures are correct, *brusce* 'brush' and *brosse* 'brushwood' were originally identical; but as their history in English shows no contact, it appears better here to treat them apart: see BRUSH sb.²]

1. a. Loppings of trees or hedges; cut brushwood (now in U.S.). b. A fagot or bavin of such brushwood. (Cf. BRASH sb.²)

1330 *R. Brunne Chron.* (Rolls Ser.) 8338 Pey comaunded to al men lyk Wip brush to come, & fylle be dyk. c. 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 54 *Brusche*, *bruscus*. 1530 *Palsgr.* 201/2 *Brushe* to make brushen on, *bruyere*. 1655 *Gurnall Chr. in Arm.* xiii. 218/2 One sin helps to kindle another; the less the greater, as the brush the logs. 1690 *B. E. Dict. Cant. Crew*, *Brush*, a small fagot, to light the other at Taverns. 1732 *De Foe Tour Ct. Brit.* I. 138 (D.) Small light bavins... are called in the taverns a Brush. 1830 in *W. Cobbet Rur. Rides* (1885) II. 298 [To] supply the farm with poles and brush, and with everything wanted in the way of fuel. 1830 *Galt Laurie* T. III. ii. (1849) 86 The two boys would be found serviceable, either in collecting the brush, or in burning off the logs. 1860 *Bartlett, Brush*, for *brushwood*, is an Americanism, and... comprises also branches of trees. 1880 *W. Cornwall Gloss.* (E.D.S.), *Brush*, dried furze used for fires.

2. The small growing trees or shrubs of a wood; a thicket of small trees or underwood. (Esp. in U.S., Canada, and Australia.)

c. 1440-1530 (see sense 1). 1553 *Brende Q. Curtius* Pj, The inhabitants of the contrey were accustomed to creape emonges the brushe like wild beastes. 1613 *Sylvester Elegie Sir W. Sidney*, Brush and Bryars (good for nought at all). 1700 *Eng. Theophrast.* 374 You shall never have clean underwood, but shrubs and brush. 1766 *C. Beatty Two Months' Tour* (1768) 35 Grown up... with small brush, or under-wood. 1769 *Wolcott* (P. Pindar) *Sir J. Banks & Emp. Morocco*, Mindless of trees, and brush, and the brambles. 1800 *Oxley N. S. Wales*, The timber standing at wide intervals, without any brush or undergrowth. *Ibid.* These plains or brush are swamps in wet weather.

† 3. Stubble. *Obs. or dial.*

1679 *Plot Staffordsh.* (1686) 343 They sowe wheat again, upon the brush (as they call it) i.e. upon the peas stubble. 1790 *Marshall Midl. Counties* II. Gloss., *Brush*, stubble; as a wheat-brush.

4. Comb., as *brush-fagot*, -heap, -pile; also *brush-apple*, 'the native Australian wood of *Achras australis*' (Treas. Bot.); † *brush-bill*, a bill for cutting brushwood; *brush-bush*, a shrub (*Eucryphia pinnata*) having pinnate leaves and single white flowers; *brush-cherry*, 'the native Australian wood of *Trochocarpa laurina*' (Treas. Bot.); *brush-kangaroo*, a species of kangaroo inhabiting the Australian 'brush'; *brush-puller*, a machine for pulling up brushwood by the roots; *brush-scythe*, a scythe or sickle on a shaft for cutting brushwood; *brush-turkey*, an Australian bird (*Talegalla Lathamii*); *brush-turnip* (see quot.).

1888 *R. Parke tr. Mendoza's China* 65 Pikes, targets, fauchers, brushbilles, holbards. 1666 *Sir G. Goosecappe* III. i. in *Bullen O. PL* (1884) III. 44 She had as lieve be courted with a 'brush fagot as with a Frenchman. 1767 *A. Young Farmer's Lett.* 230 The fire-wood was most of it... brush-fagots out of a wood, and but few of the small bush-fagots. 1809 *W. Irving Knickerb.* (1861) 141 He was a perfect 'brush-heap in a blaze. 1830 *Proc. R. Geog. Soc.* I. 29 These dogs... are particularly useful in catching the bandicoots, the small 'brush kangaroo, and the opossum. 1865 *Mrs. Whitney Gayworthys* II. 257 The very chickens run under the fences and the 'brushpile. 1873 *Tusser Husb.* xvii. (1878) 37 A 'brush sithe and grasse sithe. 1799 *J. Robertson Agric. Perth* 110 To sow... 'brush turnips, which are not expected to produce any roots, but in the months of March and April afford an excellent food for ewes and lambs. 1847 *Carpenter Zool.* § 435 Termed... the 'Brush Turkey, on account of the wattles with which its neck is furnished. 1854 *W. Broderip Note-bk. of Nat.* 139 The brush-turkey belongs to a family of birds... which never incubate, but... leave their eggs to the genial warmth of this half-natural, half artificial mother.

Brush (bruf), sb.² Forms: 4-6 *brusche*, 5 *brusch(e)*, 7 *brish*, 6- *brush*. [ME. *brusche*, a. OF. *brosse*, *broisse*, identified by most French etymologists with *brosse* brushwood (see BRUSH sb.¹), the sense being supposed to be derived through that of 'bunch of broom or other shrub used to sweep away dust': cf. *Broom*. But the history of the French words has not been satisfactorily made out: cf. MHG. *bürste* fem. 'brush', from *borste* bristle, and see Diez, Littre, Scheler, Brachet.]

1. A utensil consisting of a piece of wood or other suitable material, set with small tufts or bunches of bristles, hair, or the like, for sweeping or scrubbing dust and dirt from a surface; and generally any utensil for brushing or sweeping.

Brushes are of many shapes and of various materials according to use; instead of bristles there may be slender wires, vegetable fibres, feathers, etc. They are named ac-

cording to their use, as *clothes-brush*, *hat-brush*, *shoe-brush*, *blackening-brush*, *hair-brush*, *nail-brush*, *tooth-brush*, etc. A *hard* brush has stiff bristles; a *soft* brush fine and flexible bristles. The chimney-sweep's brush and dust brush pass into a *besom*.

1377 *Langl. P. Pl.* B. xiv. 460 Whi he ne hadde wasshen it [a coat] or wypped it with a brussh. 1485 *Inn. in Ripon Ch. Act.* 369 Unum brussh. ad. 1519 *Horman Vulg.* 115 Olde men brusshed theyr dusty clothes with cowe tayles: as we do with hear brusshes. 1530 *Palsgr.* 182 *Vnet de-crotoyres*, a rubbynge brussh. to make clene clothes with. a. 1598 *Hakluyt Voy.* I. 363 (R.), 100 brushes for garments (none made of swine haire). 1609 *C. Butler Fem. Mon.* v. Move the cluster [of bees] gently with your brush, and drive them in. The Brush is a handfull of Rosemary, Hyssop, Fennell, or other herbes; of Hazell, Withie, Plum-tree, or other boughs; or rather of boughes with hearbs, bound taper-wise together. 1659 in *Pitcairn's Crim. Trials* III. 478 Ane kame-caise, with ane brush, with certane other necessaries. 1758 *Johnson Idler* No. 5 ¶ 11 If a coat be spotted, a lady has a brush. 1873 *Black Fr. Thule* xvii. 275 You want a hard brush to brush sunlight off a wall.

2. An instrument consisting of a bunch of hairs attached to a straight handle, for applying moisture to a surface, moist colours in painting, colouring, and similar purposes.

These also vary greatly in size, from a small brush composed of a few fine elastic hairs of the sable, etc. fixed in a fine quill, to the large and coarse brushes of the house painter or plasterer (some of which have the hairs in distinct bunches).

1483 *Cath. Angl.* 46 A Brush for paynterys, *celeps*. 1677 *Moxon Mech. Exerc.* (1703) 249 Brishes, of three sorts, viz. A Stock Brush, a Round Brush, and a Pencil. With these Brishes, they wet old Walls before they mend them. 1793 *Art's Improv.* I. 63 Take a fine Hogs-Hair-Brush; with this, job and beat over your Work gently, that the Gold may be pressed in close. 1794 *Gentl. Mag.* Apr. 328 Rub it over all the joints... with a painter's brush. 1804 *Huddesford Wiccam. Chaplet* 136 No painter that's living can handle a brush! 1859 *Gullick & Timms Paint.* 295 Brushes of brown sable are generally made by the insertion of the hair into quills; hence the size of the brush is recognised by the various names of the birds which supply the quills employed—as eagle, swan (of various sizes), goose, duck, and crow. *Ibid.* The smaller kinds of brushes are still sometimes termed 'pencils'.

b. The painter's art or professional skill. *Brother of the brush*: artist.

1687 *Bp. Cartwright in Hist. Magd. Coll.* (Oxf. Hist. Soc.) 143 Pray make use of my Brother of the Brush. 1759 *Sterne Tr. Shandy* (1793) I. 133 The honourable devices which the Pentagraphic Brethren of the brush have shewn in taking copies. 1789 *Wolcott* (P. Pindar) *Subj. for Paint.* Wks. 1812 II. 136 The world ne'er said nor thought it of thy Brush. 1833 *Byron's Wks.* (1846) 585/1 A young American brother of the brush. 1836 *Præd Poems, Sk. Yng. Lady*, If I to-morrow Could manage just for half-an-hour Sir Joshua's brush to borrow. *Mod.* There is another picture from the same brush.

3. Any brush-like bunch or tuft.

a. generally.

1581 *J. Bell Haddon's Answ. Osor.* 258 b. Thys vayneglorious proud peacocke is bedeckt with... glittering plumes, wrapt up together in a great brush. 1870 *Hooker Stud. Flora* 473 *Equisetum arvense*... the barren stem terminates in an abrupt brush of branches.

b. The bushy tail, or bushy part of the tail, of an animal; *spec.* that of the fox.

1675 (see 10). 1690 *B. E. Dict. Cant. Crew*, *Brush*... a Fox's Tail. 1735 *Somerville Chase* III. 145 His Brush he drags, And sweeps the Mire impure. 1747 *Goldsom. Nat. Hist.* II. 190 His [the fox's] tail is called his brush or drag. 1784 *Cowper Task* vi. 317 The squirrel, sippant... whisks his brush. 1860 *Gen. P. Thompson Audi Alt.* III. cxxxix. 114 If the lander interest took the same courses in fox-hunting, it would be easy to foretell how many brushes they would bring home. 1883 *J. Mackenzie Day-dawn in Dark Pl.* 162 I tied the brush of the tail [of the gemsbuck] to Blue-buck's saddle.

4. *Entom.* A brush-like organ on the legs of bees and other insects.

1828 *Stark Elem. Nat. Hist.* II. 201 Tarsi short, with no brush beneath. 1861 *Hulme tr. Moquin-Tandon* II. III. 208 The legs of the Bee... have the first joint of the tarsus dilated... Its inner surface is provided with several rows of stiff hairs placed transversely, which gives to this part the name of the 'brush'.

5. *Metallic brush*: 'a bundle of fine wires fixed in an insulating handle. Used for faradisation of less sensitive parts in anæsthetic conditions' (*Syd. Soc. Lex.*); also a wire hair-brush.

6. *Electricity*. a. A brush-like discharge of sparks. b. A piece of metal terminating in metallic wires, or strips of flexible metal, used for securing good metallic connexion between two portions of an electrical instrument.

1789 *Nicholson in Phil. Trans.* LXXIX. 275 When the intensity was greatest, brushes, of a different kind from the former, appeared. 1803 *Med. & Phys. Jnrl.* IX. 390 Somewhat like a little brush deflagration. 1842 *W. Grove Corr. Phys. Forces* (ed. 6) 75 The electric spark, the brush, and similar phenomena. c. 1865 *J. Wvlor in Circ. Sc.* I. 174/2 When any pointed object is presented to an electrified surface, the spark... becomes converted into a brush-like form; hence the term 'electric brush'. 1883 *Knowledge* 13 July 24/2 One of the brushes of the commutator presses the insulating piece.

7. *Optics*. Bright or dark figures accompanying certain phenomena observed in polarized light, which by their shaded and ill-defined edges combined with variations of breadth suggest the idea of brushes.

1827-45 HERSHEL *Light in Encecl. Metrop.* 559. 1857 LLOYD *Wave Theory Light* 293 The dark brushes, which cross the entire system of rings. *Ibid.* 122 *Haidinger brushes*... two brushes, of a pale orange-yellow colour, the axis of which coincides always with the track of the plane of polarization. 1876 GURNEY *Crystallog.* 111 In certain adjustments of the polariscope... two dark brushes run across the rings.

II. from BRUSH v.2

8. A brushing; an application of a brush.

1822 SCOTT *Nigel* xxxvii, He... gives his beaver a brush, and cocks it in the face of all creation. *Mod.* Give your hair a brush.

9. A graze, esp. on a horse's leg. (cf. BRUSH v.2 6.) 1710 *London Gaz.* No. 4649/4 A Grey Gelding... having... a Brush in the right Hip.

III. attrib. and Comb.

10. simple attrib. Brush-like.

1675 *London Gaz.* No. 1044/4 A dark brown Nag... a brush tail, if not cut since stolen. 1703 *Ibid.* No. 3895/4 Lost... a large liver-colour'd and white Spaniel, with a brush Tail. 1711 *Ibid.* No. 4900/4 A whisk Tail and brush Mane.

11. General relations: a. attributive, as *brush-drop*, *-play*, *-power*, *-work*; b. objective, as *brush-maker*, *-manufacturer*; c. similitative and parasynthetic, as *brush-form*, *-like*, *-shaped*, *-tailed*.

1876 SYMONDS *Sonn. M. Angelo* v. A rich Embroidery Bedews my face from *brush-drops thick and thin. 1872 WATTS *Dict. Chem.* II. 402 Electric discharge, especially in the *brush-form, frequently takes place in curves. 1849 TODD *Cycl. Anat. & Phys.* V. 478/2 This end of the hair is... more or less ragged and *brush-like. 1709 *London Gaz.* No. 4538/4 Joseph Wheeler, *Brushmaker by Trade. 1812 *Examiner* 12 Oct. 650/2 W. Jones... *brush manufacturer. 1824 *St. James's Gaz.* 24 Jan. 6/2 An appearance of fusion obtained by a delicate dexterity of *brush-play (in painting). 1825 *Pall Mall G.* 10 Mar. 4/2 His *brush-power was not more remarkable than his vision. 1880 GRAY *Bot. Text-bk.* 400 *Brush-shaped... made up of numerous spreading hairs, etc. in a tuft, as the stigmas of Grasses. 1823 KINGSLEY *Hyperion* xxi. 258 Four or five brace of tall *brush-tailed greyhounds. 1866 *Illustr. Lond. News* 11 Apr. There is no obtrusively pretentious *brushwork nor garish colouring.

12. Special combs.: brush-burn, an inflammation or sore caused by violent friction; brush-gold (*Painting*), gold pigment for applying with a brush; brush-grass, *Andropogon Gryllus*; brush-iron-ore, brush-ore, an iron ore found in the Forest of Dean (see quot.); brush-pencil, an artist's colour brush; brush-tea (see quot.); brush-tongued a., having a tongue tipped with a brush-like cluster of filaments; brush-wheel, (a) a kind of friction-wheel which turns another similar wheel by means of bristles, cloth, leather, etc., fixed on their circumferences; (b) a circular revolving brush used for polishing, etc.

1861 READE *Cloutier & H. L.* 13 Margaret Van Eyck gave him a little *brush-gold, and some vermilion. 1623 GERRARD *Herbal* v. xxii, *Brushgrasse. 1605 WOODWARD *Nat. Hist. Earth* iv. (1793) 109 *Minera ferri Stalactica*, called *Brush-Iron-Ore, (1793) *Phil. Trans.* XII. 932 The Iron-Ore... is found in great abundance... The best, which they call their Brush-Ore, is of a Blewish colour. 1824 J. HOLLAND *Manuf. Metals* I. 33 A curious stalactite, rich in iron, and termed brush ore, from its being found hanging from the tops of caverns in strise resembling a brush. 1703 *Art's Improv.* I. 41 With a *Brush-Pencil, Marble the thing you would Varnish. 1823 MILBURN *Oriental Comm.* II. 525 *Brush Tea—so called from the leaves being twisted into small cords like pack-thread, about 1½ to 2 inches long. 1880 *St. James's Budget* 17 Sept. 12/2 Regions where humming-birds and *brush-tongued lorries abound. 1875 *Univ. Dict. Arts* I. 548 Wheels... made to turn each other by means of bristles fixed in their circumference; these are called *brush wheels.

Brush (brʊʃ), sb. In 5 brusche, 5 brusche, 6 brous, 5-6 brusche. [f. BRUSH v.1]

1. A forcible rush, a hostile collision or encounter; in later use, chiefly a short but smart encounter.

a 1400 *Alexander* 783 With slik a broust & a brusche (Dubl. MS. broush) be bataill a-sembild. 1425 WYNTOUN *Cron.* vii. xvi. 120 Than thai layid on dwyhs for dwyhs (= dush), Mony a rap and mony a brwsh. 1535 STEWART *Cron. Scot.* II. 51 The lansis and grit speiris with [their] force, Maid sic ane brusche vpon the bardit hors. *Ibid.* III. 186 The feildis baith togidder thair did june, With sic ane brous quhill mony speris brak. a 1600 *Rob. Hood* (Ritson) II. xx. 31 His courage was flush, he'd venture a brush. 1606 SHAKS. *Tr. & Cr.* v. iii. 34 Tempt not yet the brushes of the warre. 1719 DE FOE *Crusoe* (1869) 312 Let us go and have t' other Brush with them. 1809 MARRYAT *F. Mildmay* iv, I became a scientific pugilist, and now and then took a brush with an oldster. 1860 KINGSLEY *Misc.* I. 18 A smart brush with the Spaniards.

b. Hence *At a brush*, *at the first brush*, † to stand brush.

a 1400 *Alexander* 2133 (Dubl. MS.) Pe folke of be cite... barred bremely at a brush be foure brod gates. 1756 R. SYMMER in *Ellis Orig. Lett.* II. 460 IV. 378 The French will not carry the place at a brush. 1795 WOLCOTT (P. Pindar) *Pindariana Wks.* 1812 IV. 73 Love will stand brush against all wind and weather.

2. fig. Cf. 'rub'.

1503 SHAKS. 2 *Hen. VI.* v. iii. 3 Salisbury... who in rage forgets Aged contusions, and all brush of Time. 1676 HALE *Contempl.* I. (1689) 161 Though an humble man may upon the very score of his humility and meekness, receive a brush in the world. 1800 WELLINGTON *Let. in Gurw. Disp.* I. 121, I have given them a brush through Colonel Pater, and have informed him that the system has not been hitherto approved.

3. ? A slight attack of illness. (Cf. BRASH.)

1733 *Swift's Corr.* II. 717, I [Dr. Sheridan] hope nothing ails her but a brush.

† **Brush**, sb.4, Obs., a variant of BRUCHUS, BRUKK. 1382 WYCLIF *Isa.* xxxiii. 4 Gederede togidere shul be 3oure spoiles, as is gedered brush [1388 bruke].

Brush (brʊʃ), v.1 Also 4-5 brusche(n, 5 brusche. [Perh. identical with F. *brosser* intr. 'to dash through dense underwood', said of a stag or a hunter, which Littre separates from *brosser* trans. 'to brush', and refers immediately to *brosse* 'brushwood'. But it is possible that the Eng. word is onomatopoeic, or that onomatopoeia has affected its use: cf. *rush* and *br-* words like *brast* (burst), *break*, *bruise*. In modern use, also affected by BRUSH v.2, esp. in sense 4.]

† 1. intr. To rush with force or speed, usually into collision. Obs. exc. as influenced by BRUSH v.2: see quot. 1863 in 4.

a 1400 *Alexander* 963 And hehalis furth on hede... Brusches doune by be berne & bitterly wepis. ? a 1400 *Morte Arth.* 3681 Than brothely they bekyre with boustouse tacle, Bruschesed bolye one burde. c 1400 *Destr. Troy* 1192 Bothe batels on bent bruschet to-gedur. *Ibid.* 10960 Pantasilie... bruschet into batell. 1513 DOUGLAS *Eneis* x. xiv. 192 Furth bruschet the sawle with gret strenyng of blude. 1647 W. BROWNE *Poet.* I. 78 For feare to brush at the iniquity of men, betray ye the cause of the gods? a 1650 in *Furniv. Percy Folio* I. 388 His eares brushed out of blood.

† 2. trans. To force, or drive with a rush. Obs. c 1425 *WYNTOUN Cron.* viii. xiii. 93 (JAM.) Wpe he stwry brusched the dure, And laid it flatlyngis in the flure. a 1460 *Play Sacrament* 649 Brusche them hens bothe & that anon. c 1470 *HENRY WALLACE* x. 28 Blud fra byrneis was bruschynt on the greyn.

3. intr. To burst away with a rush, move off abruptly, be gone, decamp, make off.

1600 B. E. *Dict. Cant. Crew*, Brush, to Fly or Run away. 1718 *PAOR Poems* 63 Off they brush'd, both Foot and Horse. 1798 VANBRUGH & CIB. *Prov. Hush* II. i. 48, I believe I had as good brush off. 1730 *Fielding Author's Farce* I. vii. Come, Sir, will you please to brush? 1820 *BYRON Morg. Mag.* lvi, He brush'd apace On to the abbey. 1823 *Hr. MARTINEAU Berkeley* the B. i. viii. 154 Enoch brushed out of the door. 1842 *BARNHAM Inqul. Leg.* (1877) 204 And one Sergeant Matcham had brush'd with the dubs.

4. intr. To move briskly by, through, or against anything, grazing it or sweeping it aside in passing.

1674 N. FAIRFAX *Bulk & Selo* 143 To brush through many atoms of room. 1712 *ANDERSON Spect.* No. 530 P. A pretty young thing... brushing by me. 1773 *Guardian* No. 163 (1756) II. 216 The servants... begin to brush very familiarly by me. 1802 *CLARE Vill. Minstr.* I. 13 Often brushing through the dripping grass. a 1845 *Hood & Peacock's Belf.* II. They brush through the Churchyard's humble walls. 1863 *Geo. ELIOT Romola* III. xxv, He had brushed against a man whose face he had not stayed to recognise. 1865 *BROWNING Ferishah* 9 Where dogs brush by thee and express contempt.

Brush (brʊʃ), v.2 Also 5 brusche, 5-6 brusche, brushe, 7 brish. [f. BRUSH sb.2; or ad. F. *brosser*, similarly formed from *brosse*.]

1. trans. To pass a brush briskly across (a surface), so as to sweep off dirt, dust, or light particles, or to smooth the surface; as to brush a coat, a hat, one's hair, a person (i. e. his clothes or hair).

c 1460 J. RUSSELL *Bk. Nurture in Babes Bk.* (1868) 180 To brusche þem [robes] clenly. 1577 *HELLOWES Guevara's Ep.* 162 To brushe, and lay vp their apparel. 1599 *SHAKS. Much Ado* III. ii. 41 A brushes his hat a mornings. 1664 *EVELYN Kal. Hort.* (1793) 204 Brush and cleanse them from the Dust. 1807 *CRABBE Par. Reg.* II. 160 He served the Squire, and brushed the coat he made. 1812 J. & H. SMITH *Ref. Addr.* II. (1873) 12 Molly... brushed it with a broom. 1837 *MARRYAT Olla Podr.* xxxii, The children could not be brushed, for the brushes were in the... bag. *Mod.* The nurse brushes the children's hair. 'They were washing and brushing themselves in the inn.'

† b. fig. To thrash: esp. in *To brush one's coat for him*. Obs. (Cf. *to dust one's jacket*.)

1665 *Surv. Aff. Netherl.* 61 Colonel Balfour, and his English, having brushed the Spaniards, the States capitulated. 1678 *BUNYAN Pilgr.* I. 209 They had their Coats soundly brushed by them. 1783 *AINSWORTH Lat. Dict.* (Morell) II, *Converro*, to beat one, to brush his coat for him.

c. with compl., as to brush (a thing) clean, etc., to brush down, etc.

1839 *DICKENS Nick. Nick.* iv, His hair... was brushed stiffly up from a low, protruding forehead. 1828 *GLENNY Gard. Everyday Bk.* 279 Sweeping away all dead leaves, and frequently brushing down the shelves. 1879 *BROWNING Ivan Iv.* 70 His broad hands smoothed her head, as fain to brush it free from fancies.

d. absol. Also to brush away: see AWAY 7.

1824 *Mrs. GASKELL North & S.* iv, She showed it by brushing away viciously at Margaret's hair. *Mod.* You brush too hard!

2. To brush up: to brighten up by brushing, to free from dust or cobwebs, to furbish up, rub up, renovate; also fig. to revive or refresh one's acquaintance with anything. (Pope associates this with using a brush in painting, but perhaps only by a word-play.)

a 1600 A. SCOTT *Eagle & Robin in Ever Green* (1761) I. 233 Proud Peacocks... Bruscht up thair Pens that solemn Day. 1605 CHAPMAN, etc. in *Shaks. C. Praise* 69 You should brushe vp my old Mistresse. a 1744 *POPE* (J.) You have commissioned me to paint your shop, and I have done my best to brush you up like your neighbours. 1768 *LD. SHERR*

FIELD in Ld. Auckland's Corr. (1861) II. 220 Nickolls... was happy in brushing up his acquaintance with you. 1823 *Hr. MARTINEAU Each & All* i. 5 She must brush up her French. 1828 C. BRONTË *J. Eyre* x, I brushed up my recollections of the map of England.

3. To brush (a thing) over: to paint or wet its surface with a brush; to paint lightly; also fig.

1608 *EARLE Microcosm.* xxxiii. 72 Practise him a little in men, and brush him over with good company. 1677 *Moxon Mech. Exerc.* (1703) 249 They finish the Plastering... by... brushing it over with fair Water. 1768-71 H. WALPOLE *Vertue's Anecd. Paint.* (1786) III. 9 It is just brushed over for the lights and shades. 1799 G. SMITH *Laboratory* I. 39 Brush them over with brandy.

4. To rub softly as with a brush in passing; to graze lightly or quickly, as in passing.

1647 H. MORE *Cupid's Conf.* xxiii. 171 My mightie wings high stretch'd... I brush the starrs. 1668 *DRYDEN Æneid* IV. 839 And brush the liquid Seas with lab'ring Oars. 1725 *POPE Odys.* IX. 569 It almost brush'd the helm. 1790 A. WILSON *Morning*, To spurn dull sleep and brush the flowery dale. 1820 *BLACKIE Æschylus* I. 31 Light with swift foot she brushed the doordsteed. 1821 R. ELLIS *Catullus* lxiv. 270 Light Zephyrus even-breathing Brushes a sleeping sea. fig. 1807-8 W. IRVING *Salmag.* (1824) 94 [They] have been brushed rather rudely by the hand of time.

b. intr. To come lightly against with the impact of a brush.

1649 *SELDEN Laws Eng.* I. lix. (1739) 111 He became so great, that his Feathers brushed against the Kings Crown.

† c. trans. To draw or pass (anything) lightly like a brush over (something). Obs. rare.

a 1700 *DRYDEN* (J.) A thousand nights have brush'd their balmy wings Over these eyes.

5. To remove (dust, etc.) with a brush, to sweep (away). Also trans. and fig. To sweep away as with a brush, to carry off lightly in passing. (Usually with advb. or prep. adjunct.)

c 1631 *MILTON Arcades* xv. 48 From the boughs brush off the evil dew. 1697 *DRYDEN Virg. Georg.* IV. 15 The Cows and Goats... That brush the Dew. 1813 *BYRON Giaour* (Orig. Draft) II. If... the transient breeze... brush one blossom from the trees. 1814 *SOUTHEY Roderick* xvi, She brush'd away the dews. 1835 *MARRYAT Jacob Faithful* xxxix, Tom passed the back of his hand across his eyes to brush away a tear. 1860 *HOLLAND Miss Gilbert* II. 41 Brushing tears from his eyes. 1884 *Manch. Exam.* 26 Nov. 5/1 It is surely high time to brush this nonsense away. 1886 *Manch. Exam.* 8 Jan. 6/1 Brushing the snow and slush into little mounds.

6. To injure or hurt by grazing; said esp. of a horse grazing his flock with the shoe or hoof of the fellow foot. Also absol.

1691 *London Gaz.* No. 2661/4 A grey Gelding about 15 hands... his Knees brush'd. 1868 *FRASER in Life* (1887) 158, I hope he [a horse] does not 'cut' or 'brush' in his action. 1886 *Sat. Rev.* 6 Mar. 327/2 Such severe and unnecessary pain, as the horse [inflicts] by hitting or brushing himself behind.

Brushable, a. rare. [f. prec. + -ABLE.] Capable of being brushed.

Mod. Everything to be readily washable and brushable.

† **Brushal**, Obs. In 5 bruschalle, brusshayle, brushaly. [a. F. *broussaille*, f. *brosse* brushwood: see -AL 5.] Brushwood, underwood. 1430 *LVDG. Chron. Troy* v. xxxvii, He kepeth him close lo in yonder caue Amonge brusshayle. c 1440 *Prompt. Parv.* 54 Bruschalle [K. brushaly], *sarmentum*, *ramentum*, *in rado*, *ramalia*, *arbutum*.

Brushed (brʊʃt), ppl. a. Also brosshen, brusht. [f. BRUSH v.2 or sb.2 + -ED.] Swept or smoothed with a brush; grazed; furnished with a 'brush'.

c 1460 J. RUSSELL *Bk. Nurture in Babes Bk.* (1868) 180 Lett neuer wollyn cloth... passe a seuenyght to be vnbrosshen and shakyn. 1580 *BARETT Ato.* B. 1415 Brushed: swept... *versus*. 1649 G. DANIEL *Trinarch.*, *Hen. V.* st. 264 Brusht Gallants now they went. 1691 *London Gaz.* No. 2627/4 A Black Roan Horse... the near Knee brush'd. 1711 J. DISTAFF *Char. Dom. Sackverellio* 11 Brush'd Beavers, and Formal Cravats. 1831 *CARLYLE Sart. Res.* I. iii, Furse-mouthed, crane-necked, clean-brushed, pacific individuals.

Brusher (brʊʃə), [f. BRUSH v.2 + -ER.] One who brushes, or uses a brush.

1598 *FLORIO, Scapatore*, a sweeper, a brusher. 1599 *BRETON Praise Vert.* *Ladies* (1876) 59 If he bee a good brusher, shee is a good laundress. 1651 G. HERRERT *Jacula Prudentum* (ed. 2), Critics are like brushers of noblemen's clothes.

b. techn. in various trades.

1835 *Univ. Philos. Manuf.* 204 Operatives engaged in our woollen manufacture:—Wool-sorters... pressers, brushers, and steamers. 1868 *Derby Mercury* 18 Feb., He was engaged as a 'brusher' to some men who were blasting.

† c. slang. Obs.

1690 B. E. *Dict. Cant. Crew*, Brusher, an exceeding full Glass.

† **Brushet**, Obs. In 4 bruschet, 5 bruschet. [a. OF. *brousette*, **broussette*, dim. of *brosse* brushwood.] Underwood; a small thicket or covert.

c 1380 *Sir Ferumb.* 800 In þat ilke bruschet by! v. poussant of oper and mo. c 1500 *Parthenay* 229 Thys bruschet made put in-to on hepe. 1645 W. HOOKE *New-Eng. Science*, Bands of Souldiers lying in ambush here under the fern and bruschet of the Wildernes.

† **Brushiness**, Obs. [f. BRUSHY + -NESS.] Brushy quality, shaggy roughness.

1659 H. MORE *Immort. Soul* III. xxxi. (1662) 148 Considering the brushiness and angulosity of the parts of the Air, a more than ordinary Motion... may very well prove painful to the Soul.

Brushing (brʊʃɪŋ), vbl. sb. Also 6 broshyng. [f. BRUSH v.1 or v.2 + -ING.]

†1. Cutting of brushwood, twigs, etc. *Obs.*
 1513 *MS. Acc. St. John's Hosp. Canterb.*, For topping of xij treys & brushyng.
 2. Sweeping or smoothing (as) with a brush.
 c. 1460 *J. Russell Bk. Nurture* (1868) 180 Over moche bruschyng werethe cloth lightly. 1851 *H. Mayo Pop. Superst.* (ed. 2) 151 Transverse brushings with the hand.
 1848 *Gleny Gard. Everyday Bk.* 95/1 The Lawn now requires frequent brushing, rolling, and mowing.
 3. *attrib.*, as in *brushing-table*; also *brushing-machine*, a name applied to various contrivances acting as brushes for smoothing, dressing flax, etc.
 1575 *Richmond. Wills* (1853) 246 Brushshinge stoules, one chyste, and one chare. 1620 *Althorp MS.* in *Simpkinson Washingtons* Introd. 3 A lowe bedsted . . a brushing table.
 1644 *Ibid.* 54 The nursery and brushing chamber.
Brushing, *ppl. a.* [*f.* BRUSH *v.* 1, 2 + -ING 2.]
 1. That brushes (in various senses of the verb).
 1513 *DOUGLAS Aeneis* II. ix. (viii.) 103 The fomy rivair or flude . . with his bruscheand faird of watter broun. 1597 *DRAYTON Mortimer*. 43 The brushing murmure stills her [Hero] like a song. 1644 *H. MORE Song of Soul* I. II. xci, Blown away with strongly brushing winds. 1854 *GILFILLAN Wks.* 126 The swift brushing wing of a bird.
 2. Having a brushing tail.
 1773 *FIELDING Quix. in Eng.* II. v. A brushing fox in yonder Wood, Secure to find we seek.
 3. Rushing, brisk.
 1795 *OSBALDISTONE Brit. Sportsm.* 79/2 A horse should have his brushing gallop in a morning before watering. 1824 *SCOTT Redgauntlet* let. vii. I . . assured him a brushing gallop would do his favourite no harm.
Brushite (*brv'sait*). *Min.* [Named after Prof. Brush of Yale College, U.S.: see -ITE.] A hydrous phosphate of lime occurring in small crystals in the rock guano of Aves Island and Sombbrero in the Caribbean Sea.
 1880 *DANA Min.* § 492 D. Guano is bone-phosphate of lime . . mixed with the hydrous phosphate, brushite.
Brushless (*brv'sles*), *a.* [*f.* BRUSH *sb.* 2 + -LESS.] Without a brush; having no brush. Hence *Brushlessness*.
 1838 *Fraser's Mag.* XVIII. 484 The brilliant finish of the brushless fox. 1880 *MISS BROUGHTON Sec. Th.* I. vi. 81 A dressing and undressing without any toilet apparatus, an absolute brushlessness, comeliness.
Brushman (*brv'mæn*). [*f.* BRUSH *sb.* 2 + MAN.] One who uses a brush; a painter.
 a. 1819 *WOLCOTT (P. Pindar) Wks.* (1830) 138 (D.) How difficult in artists to allow To brother brushmen even a grain of merit!
 † **Brushment**. *Obs. rare.* [*f.* BRUSH *sb.* 1 + -MENT, with collective sense.] Prunings or loppings of trees; cut brushwood.
 1591 *RASTALL Statutes, Chart. Forestes* § 14 Those which beare vpon their backes brushment, barke, or coale to sell [*Latin* *buscam, corticem, vel carbonem*].
Brushwood (*brv'fwud*). [*f.* BRUSH *sb.* 1]
 1. Cut or broken twigs or branches; small wood.
 1637 *Bury Wills* (1850) 169, I owe Danyell Whitacre . . for three loades of brushe wood. 1783 *COWPER Task* iv. 381 Her scanty stock of brushwood, blazing clear. 1818 *HAWTHORNE Amer. Note-bks.* (1879) II. 44 A load of dry brushwood.
 fig. a. 1613 *OVERBURY News Chimney Corn.* Wks. (1856) 199 Wit is brushwood, judgement timber: the one gives the greatest flame, the other yields the durablest heat. 1649 *G. DANIEL Trinarch.* Hen. V. ccxx, Loth Royaltie, is ever to the Bold Attemptor, worth his pains; the Brush-wood's gold. 1688 *DRYDEN Relig. Laici* 265 Vain traditions stopped the gaping fence . . What safety from such brushwood helps as these?
 2. Small growing trees and shrubs; thicket, underwood.
 1738 *BERKELEY Alciph.* I. § 2 Land that is suffered to lie waste . . will be overspread with brush-wood, brambles, thorns. 1814 *SCOTT Wav.* xxxvi, Little dingles of stunted brushwood. 1835 *W. IRVING Tour Prateries* 235 They all three made off . . through thickets and brushwood.
attrib. 1855 *RUSSELL The War* xxviii. 250 Brushwood glades and remote dells.
Brushy (*brv'si*), *a.* 1 [*f.* BRUSH *sb.* 1 + -Y 1.] Clothed or covered with 'brush' or brushwood.
 1719 *LONDON & WISE Compl. Gard.* xxix, The Elms . . must be good Brushy Trees from Top to Bottom. 1874 *COUES Birds N.W.* 145 It frequents brushy hilltops. 1882 *Century Mag.* June 211 The wren Comes . . from its brushy den.
Brushy, *a.* 2 [*f.* BRUSH *sb.* 2 + -Y 1.] Brush-like; bushy, shaggy.
 1673 *GREW Anat. Roots* I. i. § 7 Roots . . neither Ramif'd, nor yet Brushy, or divided at the Top into severall small Strings. 1687 *Lond. Gas.* No. 2273/4 Lost . . Setting Dog . . a black Ear, and a long brushy Tail. 1835 *Fraser's Mag.* XI. 141 His hair was . . thick and brushy.
 b. *Comb.*, as *brushy-looking*.
 1882 *Garden* 29 Apr. 286/2 Brushy-looking white blooms.
 † **Brusait**, *ppl. a.* *Sc. Obs.* Also 6 *brysait*. [In form this agrees with the *pa. ppl.* of BRUISE *v.*, but the connexion of sense is not manifest. The sense recalls med.L. *brustus*, *brusdus*, *brusdus* = *brodatus*, *brudatus*, Fr. *brod.*, embroidered; cf. BRUSEBY.] Embroidered.
 a. 1490 *HOLLAND Howlate* xxxi, The said perseverantis gyde was grahit I ges Brusit with ane grene tre, gudly and gay. 1513 *DOUGLAS Aeneis* I. ix. 123 Ane riche garment brysit with stif gold wire. *Ibid.* III. vii. 25 Brusit clathis, and riche wedis. *Ibid.* XI. xv. 22 Of nedill wark all brusyt was his cote.
 † **Brusk**, *a. Obs. Her.* An obsolete name for the colour *tawny* or *orange*.

1486 *Bk. St. Albans, Her. Aij*, An Ametist a dusketti ston, brusk hit is called in armya. 1568 *LEIGH Armoury* 200 The Colour, Bruske, which is betwene Geules and tawny. 1586 *FERNE Blas. Gentry* 146 Tawney was named Bruske. 1688 *R. HOLME Armoury* I. 12/1 Tawny or Orange colour . . in Blazon . . is termed by some old Heraulds, Bruske.
Brusk(e), *obs. form of BRUSQUE.*
Brusket, *obs. form of BRISKET.*
 † **Brusle**, *v. Obs. rare* -1. [Origin uncertain: cf. BRUSTLE.] *trans.* † To crack; to bruise a little.
 1644 *FLETCHER Wife for Month* II. vi. Two broken citizens. Break 'em more; they are but brusled yet!
Brusle, *obs. and north. f. BIRSLIE, BRISTLE.*
 † **Bruslery**. *Obs.* [Cf. BROILERY; also BRUSTLE.] Disturbance.
 1546 *St. Papers Hen. VIII.* I. 886 This pryvate cace of Reneger hath made all this bruslery.
 † **Brusole**. *Obs.* [*a. f.* *brussoles* 'perh. a form of *rissole* with an epenthetic *b*' (Littre).] A ragout of braised veal.
 1706 *PHILLIPS, Brusoles or Brusoles* (Fr. in Cookery), Stakes of Veal or other Meat well season'd, in order to be laid in a Stew-pan between thin slices of Bacon, and baked between two Fires. 1794 *RAMSAY Health* 69 The collar'd veal . . *Pigs à la braise*, the tansy and *brusole*.
Brusor, -our, -ure, var. of BRUSURE, *Obs.*, wound, fracture.
Brusque (*brvsk, brv'sk*), *a.* Also 7 *brusk(e)*, 9 *brusk*. [*a. f.* *brusque*, according to Littre, etc., adapted in 16th c. from Italian *brusco* 'sour, tart, eagle, briske, vnipte; also soure- or grim-looking' (Florio); cf. Sp. and Pg. *brusco* 'rude, peevish, ill-tempered, roughly hasty'. The ulterior history is uncertain: one conjecture refers it to the Celtic words mentioned under BRISK, which is hardly likely, if the Romanic word appeared first in Italian. See Diez and Littre. Commonly spelt *brusk* in the 17th c., but now usually spelt and often pronounced as French. (Cf. also BRUSLY.)]
 † 1. Tart. (= It. *brusco*.) *Obs.*
 1601 *HOLLAND Pliny* II. 152 The thin and bruske harsh wine nourisheth the body lesse. 1752 *LADY M. W. MONTAGUE Lett.* lxxvi. IV. 23 A sort of wine they call brusco.
 2. Somewhat rough or rude in manner; blunt, 'offhand'.
 1651 *Reliq. Wotton* (1685) 582 The Scottish Gentlemen . . lately sent to that King, found . . but a bruske welcome. 1757 *H. WALPOLE Corr.* (1837) I. 370 This sounds brusque, but I will explain it. 1826 *DISRAELI Viv. Grey* II. xv. 80 Yes, lively enough, but I wish her manner was less brusque. 1870 - *Lolhair* xlv. 243 He was brusque, ungracious, scowling, and silent. 1879 *McCARHY Own Times* II. xxii. 123 His blunt, brusque ways of speaking and writing.
Brusque (see prec.), *v.* [*f.* prec. adj.]
 1. with imperis. obj. To brusque it: to assume a brusque manner, to 'do it' brusquely.
 1826 *SCOTT Widd.* (1832) I. 150 I'll e'en brusque it a little . . and try if I can bring it to a more intelligible mode of speaking.
 2. *trans.* To treat brusquely or with scant courtesy, to treat in an off-handed way.
 1836 *Fraser's Mag.* XIII. 530 Even in this first dialogue he brusques Tasso. 1839 *Ibid.* XX. 427 From the outset Blackwood domineered over and brusqued him. 1862 *M. NAPIER Life Vis.* Dundee II. 292 No disposition to slur over, or brusque the question.
Brusquely, *adv.* [*f.* as prec. + -LY 2; see also BRUSLY.] In a brusque manner; off-handedly.
 1671 *True Non-Conf.* 85 Our Lord . . doth brusquely decline, to be so much as an amicable trister. 1842 *Mrs. BROWNING Grk. Chr. Poets* 15 She . . rather brusquely proposes their mutual marriage. 1882 *B. RAMSAY Recoll. Mil. Serv.* II. xx. 232 The man refused most brusquely.
Brusqueness. [*f.* as prec. + -NESS.] The quality of being brusque or off-handed; bluntness.
 1859 *HELPS Friends in C. Ser.* II. II. vii. 137 Their sensitiveness is shocked by his brusqueness. 1884 *ROE in Harper's Mag.* June 92/1 Kindness, and . . girlish brusqueness were . . equally blended.
 † **Brusquerie** (*brv'skeri*). [*Fr.* *f.* *brusque*.] Bluntness, abruptness of manner, brusqueness.
 1752 *CHESTERF. Lett.* 275 (1792) III. 258 This most mistaken opinion gives an indelicacy, a brusquerie, and a roughness to the manners. 1817 *MAR. EDGEWORTH Ormond* IV. (1832) 172 You will lose this little brusquerie of manner . . when you have mixed a little more with mankind. 1853 *RUSKIN Stones Ven.* II. vi. § 74. 204 Always quickset; erring, if at all, ever on the side of brusquerie.
Bruschet, var. of BRUSHER, *Obs.*, a thicket.
Brussed, *obs. pa. t.* and *pa. ppl.* of BURST *v.*
Brussels (*brv'sels*). [Name of the capital of Belgium, used *attrib.* to designate things connected, in their origin or manufacture, with that city.]
 1. Short for 'Brussels carpet'.
 a. 1845 *HOOB Domestic Asides* iii, What boots for my new Brussels!
 2. *Attrib.* or *Comb.*, as *Brussels carpet*, a kind of carpet having a back of stout linen thread and an upper surface of wool (see quot. 1875); *Brussels lace*, a costly kind of pillow-lace made in Brussels and its neighbourhood, noted for the thickness and evenness of its texture, and the delicate accuracy of its forms; *Brussels sprout* (almost always *pl.*), the bud-bearing Cabbage (*Brassica oleracea*

gemmifera), a variety producing buds like small cabbages in the axils of its leaves.
 1831 *CARLYLE Sart. Res.* I. iv, A whole immensity of 'Brussels carpet, and pier-glasses. 1875 *URR Dict. Arts* I. 732 In the Brussels carpets the worsted yarn raised to form the pile . . is not cut. In the imperial Brussels the figure is raised above the ground, and its pile is cut, but the ground is uncut. 1748 *RICHARDSON Clarissa* III. 111. 28 Her head dress was a 'Brussels lace mob. 1803 *Brown Juan* xiv. xlvii, Sympathy . . robes sweet friendship in a Brussels lace. 1796 *C. MARSHALL Garden* xv. (1813) 224 'Brussels sprouts are winter greens growing much like broccole. 1861 *DELAWARE Kitch. Gard.* 57 And from the bud at the root of the foot-stalk of each, will appear a miniature cabbage, which is the Brussels sprout.
Brussh-: see BRUSH.
 † **Brusally**, *adv. Obs. rare* -1. [This looks like a phonetic corruption of *bruskiy*, BRUSQUELY: but the date presents difficulties, and further complicates the question of relation between BRISK and BRUSQUE.] ? Brusquely, roughly, harshly.
 1481 *CAXTON Tulle on Friendsh.* A. iv, He is well deled with all, and I more brusally deled with all than right wolde.
 † **Brust**. *Obs.* [OE. *byrst*: see BIRSE, BRISTLE.] A bristle.
 a. 1000 *Ag. Gloss.* in *Wr.* -Wilcker 46 *Seta*, byrst. c. 1000 *Sax. Leechd.* I. 156 Hyre twigu beoð swylce swinen byrst. c. 1330 *Rouland & Ver.* 861 No Jubiter, no apolin, No is worp be Brust of a swin, In hert no in bougt. 1570 *LEVINUS Manih.* 194 A Bruste, seta.
 † **Brust**, *a. Obs.* Also 3 *burst*. [app. *pa. ppl.* of a vb. **byrsten*, *bursten*, a. ON. *byrsta* to bristle, *f.* *burst* bristle. (Mätzner cites an ON. adj. *byrstr* bristly, maned.)] Bristled, with bristles erect, bristling; also *fig.*
 a. 1225 *Juliana* 68 Set þat balefule beast as an burst bar [*Bodl. MS.* iburst bar] þat grunde his tuskes. c. 1235 *Pol. Songs* 151 Cometh the maister budel burst ase a bore.
Brust, *obs. form of BREAST sb.*
Brust(e), -en, -ing, etc.: see BURST.
Brustel, -il, -yl(e), *obs. forms of BRISTLE.*
 † **Brustle**, *v.* 1 *Obs.* Also 7 *brusell*. [Early ME. *brustlien*, parallel to *brastlien*: see BRASTLE. Probably onomatopoeic: expressing a duller or more muffled sound than *bristle*. Cf. *rustle*, *bustle*.]
 1. *intr.* To make a crackling or rustling noise.
 c. 1205 *LAY. 20143* Breken braden speren, Brustleden scealdes. *Ibid.* 20080 Brustlede sceafes. 1335 *GOWER Conf.* II. 93 He . . brustleth as a monkes froise, When it is throwe into the panne. 1755 *JOHNSON, Brustle*, to crackle, to make a small noise. (*Shinner*.)
 b. Of the noise of waves.
 1622 *FLETCHER Sp. Curate* IV. vii, See where the sea comes, how it foams and brusles.
 2. To go hastily with a rustling noise. Cf. *bustle*.
 1638 *H. RIDER Horace's Odes* I. (1644) 21 The . . green-skink adder brustled through a bush.
 † **Brustle**, *v.* 2 *Obs.* Also 7 *brusle*, 8 *burstle*. [app. a variant of BRISTLE *v.*, perh. influenced in sense 3 by the prec., or by *rustle*.]
 1. *intr.* To bristle as hair. See BRISTLE.
 2. To bristle up as an excited beast, raise the mane.
 1656 *Cowley David* I. (1669) 17 A Lyon . . brustles up preparing for his feast.
 3. *esp.* Of birds: To raise the feathers; hence *fig.* with reference to the turkeycock or peacock: To show off, vapour, bluster.
 1648 *HERRICK Hesper.* (1859) 122 Can Yee see it brusle like a swan? 1655-60 *STANLEY Hist. Philos.* (1701) 99/2 Shewing him the Cocks of Midas brustling against those of Callias. 1657 *G. STARKEY Helmont's Vind.* 64 He vapours and brustles like Dametas in his military accoutrements. 1659 *GAUDEN Tears Ch.* 370 Like the Birds called Ruffs, ever brustling and pecking against each other. 1720 *Ston's Surv.* (ed. Strype 1754) II. v. xxviii. 486/1 A mercer in Cheapside; who had been often brustling . . about this ceremony. 1721-1800 *BAILEY, Brustle* . . to vapour.
 † **Brustling**, *vbl. sb.* 1 *Obs.* [*f.* BRUSTLE *v.* 1 + -ING 1.] Rustling noise or movement.
 1600 *HAKLUYT Voyages* (1810) III. 133 We fell into a great whirling and brustling of a tyde.
 † **Brustling**, *vbl. sb.* 2 *Obs.* [*f.* BRUSTLE *v.* 2] Raising of the feathers; vapouring, blustering.
 1622 *T. STOUGHTON Chr. Sacr.* vii. 91 The Turkie cocke . . maketh a great brustling and strouting with his wings.
 † **Brusure**. *Obs.* Forms: 4 *brusur*, 4-5 *bru-*, *brosure*, -our, 5 *brissoure*, *brys(s)ure*, *broser*, 6 *brusor*. [*a.* OF. *brisure*, *bruseure*, mod.F. *brisure*, *f.* *briser* to break.]
 1. Bruising or crushing; a bruise, contusion.
 c. 1350 *Will. Palerne* 2461 Non schold in þat barnes bodi o brusure finde. 1382 *WYCLIF Lev.* xxiv. 20 Brusur for brusur [Vulg. *fracturam pro fractura*], eye for eye. c. 1400 *Three Kings Cologne* 95 This bawne is good for all brusours [v. r. *brosours*, -ures] and woundes. c. 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 52 Brisyng or brissoure [K. *bryssynge* or *brysoure*] *quassatio*, *contusio*, *collisio*. 1494 *FABIAN* VI. cxxx. 165 With broser or hurte ensuyng of the wounde before taken.
 2. Breaking, breach, fracture; ruin.
 1382 *WYCLIF Nek.* vi. 1, I hadde bild the wal, and ther was not in it laft brosure [1388 *brekyng*]. 1496 *Dives & P.* (W. de W.) VI. x. 247 Byfore brekyng & brysoure gooth pryde. 1506 *GUYLFORDE Pilgr.* 36 None hole nor brusor apperyd.
Brusury, var. BRUSEBY *Obs.*, embroidery.
 † **Brut** (*brv't*), *sb.* Also 5 *broust*. [= M. Welsh *brut*, mod.W. *brud*, in the names of the Welsh

chronicles of British history, as in the *Brut Gruffudd ab Arthur* of Geoffrey of Monmouth, *Brut Tysilio*, *Brut y Tywysogion*, etc. *Salesbury Dict. Eng. & Welsh* (1547) has 'Brut, Walshe prophesies'; Davies 1632 'Brud, brut, historia, chronica; sumitur et pro vaticinio.' The Welsh Bible has (Dan. ii. 27) *brudwyr* 'brut-men' = soothsayers. *Brut* 'chronicle' was a transferred use of *Brut* = *Brutus*, as in *Le Roman de Brut* of Wace, and the *Brut* of Layamon, a chronicle or genealogy of the legendary Brutus and his descendants in Britain. Whether the transferred sense arose in Welsh, or was taken from a French title, as the *Brut* of Wace, or the later *Petit Brut* of Raoul de Bohon (c. 1350), is doubtful; but the latter is more likely. For the Brutus legend, see BRUTE².

A chronicle of British history from the mythical Brutus downward. (The ME. instance may refer to Wace, Layamon, or some Welsh *Brut*.)

c. 1450 *Arth. & Merl.* (Mätz.) 2740 So ich in the brout ynde. 1845 *Athenaeum* 4 Jan. 9 A Greek version of our brute-epos. 1847 *YEWELL Anc. Brit. Church Pref.* 7 The only other remains still extant of Ancient Welsh literature consist of Bruts, or Chronicles. 1883 H. KENNEDY *Ten Brink's E. E. Lit.* 188 A history of those who first had possession of England 'after the flood' or as a Norman would, perhaps, even then have called it, a *Brut*.

† *Brut*, v. *Obs.* Also 7 *brutte*. [perh. a. F. *brouter* 'to browse': but cf. *BRUT*, *BRIT* v.]

1. *intr.* To browse. Hence BRUTTING *vbl. sb.*

1577 [see BRUTTING *vbl. sb.*] 1674 *RAY S. & E. C. Wds.* 60 To brutte, to browse. *Suss. Dial.* 1699 *EVELYN Acetaria* (1729) 145 Marking what the goats so greedily brutted upon.

2. *trans. dial.* To break off (young shoots). *Mod. Kent. Dial.*, Your potatoes don't come up because the young shoots were brutted off.

Brut, *obs. form* of *BRUT*, a kind of fish.

Brutage, *obs. form* of *BRATTICE*.

Brutal (*brütäl*), a. and sb. Also 6 -all, -ell. [f. L. *brüt-us* (see BRUTE) + -AL. Cf. F. *brutal*, 16th c. in Littré.] A. *adj.*

1. Of or belonging to the brutes, as opposed to man; of the nature of a brute; animal. *Obs.* or *arch.*

c. 1450 *HENRYSON Mor. Fab. Prol.* xii, Under the figur of sum brutal beist. 1535 *STEWART Cron. Scot.* II. 228 Lyke brutell beist takand thair desyre. 1652 *HOBBS Govt. & Soc. v. § 5. 78* The consent of those brutall creatures is natural, that of men by compact only. 1704 J. TRAFF *Abraham's Muld* iv. i. 1499 Hid their dazling Forms in Brutal Shapes. 1796 *GAY Fables* (1755) II. 142 On man we brutal slaves depend. 1836 G. S. FABER *Inquiry* 95 The angel... daily infuses them into human and brutall bodies.

2. Resembling, pertaining to, or characteristic of the brutes: a. in want of intelligence or reasoning power.

c. 1510 *BARCLAY Mirr. Good Mann.* (1570) Av. It is a brutall fury in battayle for to fight. 1541 *BECOM News of Heav. Wks.* (1843) 52 He is truly too much brutal, that rejoiceth not at the hearing of them [the news]. a 1718 *FENN Maxims Wks.* 1736 I. 828 Inquiry is Human; Blind Obedience Brutal. 1738 *DR Foe Plague* (1884) 120 A sort of brutal Courage... founded neither on Religion or Prudence. 1806 *DISRAELI Viv. Gray* v. iv. 182 The students affected a sort of brutal surprise.

b. in their animal or sensual nature.

1534 *LD. BERNERS Gold. Bk. M. Aurel.* xxiii. (R.) These lawes of y^e Lacedemonians... doth mocke thy brutall vices. c. 1550 *Scot. Poems 16th C.* II. 193 The parish priest, that brutall beist, He politt them wantonly. a 1725 *Pope Odys.* i. 175 The suitor-train, a brutal crowd, With insolence and wine, elate and loud. 1749 *SMOLLETT Regicide* v. viii. The slaves of brutal appetite. 1876 *MORLEY Diderot* II. 13 Some of it is revolting in its brutal indecency.

3. As rude or ill-mannered as a brute beast; coarse, unrefined.

1709 *SHAFTESB. Charac.* (1711) I. 129 A Man of thorow Good-Breeding... is incapable of doing a rude or brutal Action. 1742 *CHESTERF. Lett.* I. xcv. 269 There is hardly any body brutal enough... not to say, Sir, My Lord, or Madam. 1848 *MACAULAY Hist. Eng.* II. 196 His [Tyrconnel's] brutal manners made him unfit to represent the majesty of the crown.

4. Inhuman; coarsely cruel, savage, fierce.

1641 J. JACKSON *True Evang. T.* i. 5 It purporteth... the turning of fierce and brutall men... unto... calme and sociable manners. 1735-6 *THOMSON Liberty* III. 430 Brutal Marius and keen Sylla. 1836 *THIRLWALL Greece* II. xi. 53 The cruelty of a brutal master. 1840 W. HOWITT *Visits Remark. Pl.* Ser. i. 237 The brutal amusements of the bull-baiting or the cock-pit. 1876 *MORLEY Crit. Misc.* Ser. I. 268 The cruel and brutal abominations of slavery.

† *B. sb.* [ellipt. use of *adj.*] A brutal person. *Obs.*

1655 *JENNINGS Elise* 104 Should you have tormented me so much, to make me hearken to this Brutal? 1663 *COWLEY Cutler Colman St. Pref.* 10 The Honour of their Judgments (as some Bruts imagine of their Courage) consists in Quarrelling with every thing. 1676 *WYCHERLEY Pl. Dealer* i. i. The world thinks you a Mad-man, a Brutal.

Brutalism (*brütäliz'm*). [f. *BRUTAL* a. + -ISM.] Brutal state, brutality.

1803 *BRISTED Pedest. Tour* I. Intro. 9 The Norman soldiery... in the systematic uniformity of their brutalism. 1831 *SOUTHEY in Q. Rev.* XLV. 439 Brought in from the lowest brutality to the present degree of civilization. 1876 *Gentl. Mag.* 714 The fight with the brutality of unbelief.

Brutality (*brütäliti*). Also 7 *brutality*. [f. as prec. + -ITY. Cf. F. *brutalité*.]

1. The state or condition of the brutes; the condition of living like a brute.

1711 *ADDISON Spect.* No. 166 ¶ 6 To deprave human Nature, and sink it into the Condition of Brutality. 1737 L. CLARKE *Hist. Bible* vii. (1740) 416 note, Nebuchadnezzar's state of brutality. 1863 J. MURPHY *Com. Gen.* iii. 1-7 The marvellous elevation from brutality to reason and speech.

2. The quality of resembling the brutes: † a. in want of intelligence (*obs.*); b. in sensuality.

1549 *LATIMER Serm. bef. Edu.* VI. Wks. I. 252 If ye will not maintain schools and universities, ye shall have a brutality. 1603 *FLORIO Montaigne* III. xii. (1632) 593 If it be so, (that the vulgar are less sensitive to pain) let us henceforth keepe a schoole of brutality. 1755 *YOUNG Centaur* vi. Wks. 1757 IV. 278 Of all brutes the most brutal is the volunteer in brutality; the brute self-made. 1836 H. COLERIDGE *North. Worthies* I. 58 The brutality of even the highest orders.

3. Coarse incivility; violent roughness of manners; sensuality.

1709 *STERLE Patter* No. 149 ¶ 5 A natural Ruggedness and Brutality of Temper. 1848 *MACAULAY Hist. Eng.* II. 145 His brutality was such that many thought him mad. 1871 *MORLEY Voltaire* (1886) 46 The heavy brutality and things obscene of the court of Lewis XV.

4. Inhumanity, savage cruelty; an inhuman action.

1633 H. COGAN *Pinto's Trav.* viii. (1663) 23 They began to talk... of the Kings Brutality and Parricide. 1693 *Memo. Cl. Tockely* iv. 67 The Brutality of the Turkish Troops. 1719 *DE FOE Crusoe* (1840) I. xii. 196 Hellish brutality. 1860 *FROUDE Hist. Eng.* VI. 390 His [Bonner's] brutality was notorious and unquestionable. 1876 *MORLEY Diderot* II. 228 The brutalities that were every day enacted.

Brutalization (*brütäliziz'jən*). [f. next + -ATION.] a. The action or process of rendering or becoming brutal, or of lowering to the level of the brutes. b. A brutalized condition.

1797 *Monthly Rev.* XXIII. 572 It were desirable to know whether a nation which has the virtues of ignorance and poverty can preserve them without brutalization. 1863 *HUXLEY Man's Place Nat.* 110 We are told... that... the unity of origin of man and brutes involves the brutalization... of the former. 1870 *Pall Mall G.* 19 Aug. 1 A change which might be not improperly described as brutalization. 1874 H. SPENCER *Stud. Sociol.* viii. 190 A certain brutalization has to be maintained during our passing phase of civilization.

Brutalize (*brütäliz*), v. [f. *BRUTAL* a. + -IZE.] 1. *intr.* To live or become like a brute.

1716 *ADDISON Freeholder* No. 5 He mixed... with his countrymen, brutalized with them in their habit and manners. 1749 *WALPOLE Lett. H. Mann* (1834) II. ccviii. 303 If possible we brutalize more and more. 1810 *COLERIDGE Friend* (1865) 152 To discuss on how much a person may vegetate or brutalize in the back settlements of the republic. a 1859 *DE QUINCY Ceylon Wks.* XII. 26 Man does not brutalize, by possibility, in pure insulation.

2. *trans.* To render brutal or inhuman; to imbue with a brutal nature.

a 1704 T. BROWN *To Lumenissa* 113 Which... Were but at once to Brutalize Mankind. 1833 H. MARTINEAU *Pr. Wines & Pok.* iv. 54 The efforts that were made to infatuate and brutalize the people. 1885 A. C. HARR *Russia* I. 23 That which does most to brutalize the lower orders in Russia is their constant habit of intemperance.

3. To treat as a brute, or brutally.

1879 *STEVENSON Trav. Cevennes* 15 God forbid... that I should brutalise this innocent creature. 1885 *MRS. LINTON Chr. Kirkland* I. 274 He would have died outright had he been brutalized in any way.

Hence **Brutalized**, **Brutalizing** *ppl. adjs.*

1800 *SOUTHEY Lett.* (1856) I. 106 The bloody and brutalising spirit of Popery. 1803 *BRISTED Pedest. Tour* I. 455 The coarse and brutalised indulgence of mere unalloyed sensuality. 1844 Sir S. Sr. JOHN *Hayti* v. 183 The masses [in Hayti] are given up to this brutalising [Vaudoux] worship.

Brutally (*brütälí*), *adv.* [f. *BRUTAL* a. + -LY.] In a brutal manner.

1749 *CHESTERF. Lett.* II. ccviii. 288 The animal and constitutional courage of a foot-soldier... is oftener improperly exerted, but always brutally. 1844 W. IRVING *T. Trav.* I. 283, I have always despised the brutally vulgar. 1847 *GROTE Greece* II. xxxiv. 433 He now acted still more brutally towards the Argæan priest. 1871 *MORLEY Voltaire* (1878) 123 Swift is often truculent and brutally gross.

Brutaske, *obs. form* of *BRATTICE*.

Brutch, *obs. form* of *BROOCH*, *BROACH* sb.

Brute (*brüt*), a. and sb.¹ Also 7 *bruit* (e). [a. F. *brüt*, fem. *brute* = L. *brütus* heavy, dull, irrational (Sp. *bruto*, It. *bruto* sb.). Some of the senses are probably directly from, or at least influenced by, the Latin.]

A. *adj.* (Now often an *attrib.* use of the *sb.*)

1. Of animals: Wanting in reason or understanding; chiefly in phrases *brute beasts*, *the brute creation*, = the 'lower animals'.

c. 1450-70 *Bk. Quintessence* 11 Fro fleisch of alle brute beestis. 1494 *FABYAN* vii. ccxii. 246 Great moreyne fell vpon brute bestes. 1580 *LUTTON Signala* 55 More senselesse, than the senselest or brutest beast in the world. 1611 *Bible Pref.* 1 Brut-beasts led with sensuality. 1613 *WITHERS Answer Stript* l. v. in *Juvenilia* (1633) 42 Viler than the brutest creature. 1667 *MILTON P. L.* x. 495 The brute Serpent in whose shape Man I deceav'd. 1703 *ROWE Fair Penit.* III. i. Whose bounteous Hand feeds the whole Brute Creation. 1732 *BERKLEY Alciphron* I. § 13 To degrade human-kind to a level with brute beasts. 1834 *DOWNS Lett. Jr. Comt. Countries* I. 46 Not a being, human or brute, appeared. 1849 W. IRVING *Mahomed* x. (1853) 59 The very brute animals were charmed to silence.

2. Of human beings, their actions, and attributes:

Brute-like, brutish; dull, senseless, stupid; unintelligent, unreasoning, uneducated; sensual.

1535 T. BEDVL in *Strype Eccl. Mem.* I. ii. App. iv, I suppose many of the curates to be so brute, that they would read or speake every word, as it was written. a 1628 *SVL-VESTER Mem. Mortalitie* II. xxix, Man (alas!) is bruter than a Brute. 1641 *MILTON Ch. Govt.* I. (1851) 200 Which should preserve it in love and reason, and difference it from a brute conjugality. 1645 — *Tetrack* (1851) 159 Which should preserve it in love and reason, and difference it from a brute conjugality. 1812 *SOUTHEY in Q. Rev.* VIII. 321 The deplorable doctrines of brute materialism. 1870 *BOWEN Logic* viii. 238 A black skin is not an invariable sign of a brute intellect.

b. Rough, rude, wanting in sensibility.

1555 *Fardle Facions* II. x. 210 Their behaviour was in the beginning very brute. 1645 *MILTON Colast.* Wks. (1851) 373 As to this brute Libel. a 1744 *POPE (J.)* The brute philosopher, who ne'er has proved The joy of loving or of being loved.

3. Of things: Not possessing or connected with reason, intelligence, or sensation; irrational, unconscious, senseless; merely material; esp. in *brute matter*, *brute force*.

1540 *MORVINE tr. Vives' Intro. Wids.* B. v. Nature, reason, and comlynes commaunde the sayde body to be subjecte as a thyng brute, to that that dyeth never. 1611 *GUILLIM Heraldry* III. v. 97 By brute natures I understand all essences... that are merely void of life. 1646 *EVANCE Noble Ord.* 37 Jehu, and Nebucadnezar were but brute instruments to worke Gods purposes. 1692 *BENTLEY Boyle Lect.* viii. 259 Brute inanimate Matter. 1712 *BLACKMORE Creation* I. (1736) 6 Who... believe That the brute earth unguided should embrace The only... proper place. 1736 *BUTLER Anal.* I. iii. 82 A tendency to prevail over brute force. 1836-7 *SIR W. HAMILTON Metaph.* (1877) I. ii. 36 The necessary results of a brute mechanism. 1860 *ADLER Fairchild's Prov. Poetry* xx. 455 Our Sanctuaries are nothing but brute stone, and still they weep. 1866 *KINGSLEY Herew.* viii. 141 The land has been changed by the brute forces of nature.

† b. Of inarticulate sound. c. Of thunder: = *BRUTISH* 4. *Obs.*

1648 *ROGERS Naaman* 62 The workes alone are a brute sound, and have no tongue in them. 1666 *COWLEY Davideis* IV. (1669) 144 They [the curses] with brute sound, dissolv'd into the air. — 154 note, *Brute*, That signified nothing. So Thunders from whence the Ancients could collect no Prognostications, were called *Brute Thunders*.

4. Of surfaces: Rugged; unpolished. *rare.*

1657 *DRAYTON Agincourt* (1748) 7 The shire whose surface seems most brute, Darby. 1804 *SOUTHEY in Ann. Rev.* II. 527 The value of the brute diamond.

B. *sb.*

1. One of the lower animals as distinguished from man: a brute creature.

1611 *HEYWOOD Gold. Age* I. i. Wks. 1874 III. 15 Worse then a brut, for bruits preserve their own. 1667 *MILTON P. L.* viii. 441 My Image not imparted to the Brute. 1712 *POPE Spect.* No. 408 ¶ 4 Man seems to be placed as the middle Link between Angels and Brutes. 1724 *WATTS Logic* (1736) 91 Life... attributed to Plants, to Brutes, and to Men. a 1876 J. H. NEWMAN *Hist. Sk.* I. l. iv. 164 Brutes... cannot invent, cannot progress.

b. The animal nature in man. (Cf. *BEAST* i. c.) 1764 *BURNS Stanzas in Prose. Death* 15 Again exalt the brute and sink the man.

2. A man resembling a brute in want of intelligence, cruelty, coarseness, sensuality, etc. Now (*colloq.*) often merely a strong term of reprobation or aversion, and sometimes extended to things.

1670 *COTTON Espermen* III. xi. 538 These Bruits incapable of Reason, were exasperated at the very name of Punishment. 1719 *DE FOE Crusoe* (1840) II. xiii. 278 The great fat brute thought it below him. 1722 — *Relig. Courtsh.* I. iii. (1840) 117, I was a brute for living in that horrid manner. 1752 *CHESTERF. Lett.* III. ccxcix. 340 That northern Brute, the King of Sweden! 1766 *ANSTEE New Bath Guide* viii. 49 Their Husbands, those Brutes... swear they will never set Foot here again. 1876 *Geo. Eliot Dan. Der.* I. xii. 224 The brute of a cigar required relighting. 1876 *MISS BROUGHTON Cometh up as Fl.* viii. 80 He would be a pretty brute. 1885 *MRS. OLIPHANT Madam I.* v. 67 Women can't try their husbands for being brutes.

C. *attrib.* and *comb.* as *brute-man*, *-minded*, *-mindedness*, *-shadow*, *-worship*; † *brute-beastish*, *-like* *adj.* and *adv.*; *brute-bastille* (*nonce-wd.*), a menagerie; *brute-buried* a., buried like a brute.

1845 *HOOD Monkey Mart.* v. To look around upon this *brute-bastille. 1530 *PALMER 307/1* *Brute beestyshe... *brute*. 1822 *HOOD Lycus the Cent.* 247 Let me utterly be *Brute-buried. 1813 *BYRON Giaour* 52 Man... should... trample, *brute-like, o'er each flower. 1862 *LYTTON Str. Story* II. 47 His brute-like want of sympathy with his kind. 1822 *TUPPER Proverb. Philos.* 296 Hath... the *brute-man more than instinct? 1843 *CARLYLE Past & Pr.* 271 Thou findest Ignorance, Stupidity, *Brute-mindedness, etc. 1822 *HOOD Lycus the Cent.* 123 Lest a *brute shadow should grow at my feet. 1738 *WARBURTON Div. Legat.* I. 284 The Original of *Brute-worship.

† *Brute*, *sb.*² *Obs.* Also 6 *bruit*. [In sense 1, a variant of *Brett* or *Britt*, influenced by the *Brutus* myth; in 2, app. = *Brut*, *Brutus*, itself.]

From the Old Celtic (and Latin) *Britto*, *Britton*, there was subsequently formed the proper name of an eponymous hero, the reputed first king and founder of Britain. His name appears in Nennius also as *Bruto*, in the Irish version as *Britus* and *Brutus*. In the latter form he was linked with classical antiquity and the tale of Troy, being made a great-grandson of Æneas. *Brutus* accordingly became the prevailing form in Latin writers; and was adapted in Welsh and OF. as *Brut*. Of this the sense was transferred through that of 'chronicle or history of Brut' to that of 'chronicle of Britain' or 'Welsh chronicle' generally;

see BRUT. But its use as a proper name was not forgotten, and in the 16th c. it appears to have given rise to sense 2.]

1. A Briton, a Welshman.
1523 BRADSHAW *St. Werburgh* (1848) 152 Whyche kynge expelled... All brutes and walshemen clere out of his lande.
1566 WARNER *Alb. Eng.* III. xvi. 73 Pledges... that Denmark it should pay Continual Tribute to the Brutes.

2. a. The legendary Trojan Brutus, first king of Britain, and founder of 'Troynovant' or London.
b. A 'Brutus', a hero of British, Welsh, or Arthurian story. c. Hence, generally, a hero, 'brave', 'gallant', 'worthy' (by some writers used quite vaguely, and apparently without any notion of the original sense).

a. 1553 UDALL *Roist. D.* (Arb.) 17 Who is this? greate Goliath, Sampson, or Colbrande? No (say I) but it is a brute of the Alie lande. 1577 NORTHBROOKE *Dicing* (1843) 12 Consider... what jolly yonkers & lusty brutes these will be when they come to be citizens. 1579 LYL *Euphuus* (Arb.) 36 A great blotte to the lynage of so noble a brute. c. 1590 GREENE *Fr. Bacon* xiii. 78 These brave lusty Brutes, These friendly youths, did perish by thine art. 1593 PERLE *Edw. I.* Wks. 1839 I. 103 *Llewellyn*. But if kind Cambria deign me good aspect, To make me chiefest Brute of western Wales. 1597 — *Sir Clyomon* Wks. III. 83, I have given my faith and troth to such a brute of fame As is the Knight of the Golden Shield. [1606 DEKKER *Deadly Sinnes* (Arb.) 46 London this fairest-fac'd daughter of Brute. *Margin*. 2700 and odde yeeres since London was first builded by Brute.]

Brute, obs. form of BRUIT sb. and v.
Brutehood (brū't-hud). [f. BRUTE sb. + -HOOD.] The condition or rank of brutes.

1852 FRASER'S *Mag.* XLVI. 238 All the difference that exists... between manhood and brutehood. 1872 H. COWLES in Spurgeon *Treas. Dav.* Ps. xcii. 6 One... who has debased himself to brutehood.

Brute-kind. The nature or race of brutes.
1880 VERNON LEE *Belcaro* ix. 267, I believe that mankind... has been... evolved out of a very inferior sort of mankind or brutekind.

Brutel, -il(e, -yll, var. of BROTEL a. Obs. brittle.
Brutely (brū'tli), adv. [f. BRUTE a. + -LY.] a. Roughly, rudely; coarsely. b. Irrationally; mechanically.

1598 SYLVESTER *Du Bartas* II. ii. 1. (1621) 249 And brutally so To all that com with his naked shame doth shewe. 1645 MILTON *Tetrach.* (1851) 229 The vulgar expositor... rushes brutally and impetuously against all the principles... of nature. 1857 EMERSON *Poems* 109 Property will brutally draw still to the proprietor.

Bruteness (brū'tnēs). [f. BRUTE a. + -NESS.] 1. Rudeness, roughness, savageness, brutality.
1538 COL. POLE in Strype *Ecc. Mem.* I. i. xxxviii. 457 The bruteness and danger of the thing. 1577 *tr. Bullinger's Decades* (1592) 208 Crueltie in reuenging... brutenesse in rebell... are the things that in warre are worthe to be blamed. 1883 G. MACDONALD *D. Grant* III. xxix. 282 The bruteness of the life he had hitherto led.

2. Unintelligence, stupidity, dullness. Obs.
1590 SPENSER *F. Q.* II. viii. 12 Thou dotard wife, That with thy bruteness shendest thy comely age. 1594 SYLVESTER *Paradox agst. Lib.* 591 'Tis in truth your brutenesse in misdeeming Things evil, that are good.

3. Want of consciousness, materiality. rare.
1836 EMERSON *Nature* 93 The immobility or bruteness of nature, is the absence of spirit.

4. Bruterer. Obs. rare-1. [variant of BRUITER; cf. *broderer, fruiterer, upholsterer*. Cf. also BRUT, in its Welsh sense of 'prophecy'.] 'A prophesier, a soothsayer' (Tindale *Table of words*).

1530 TINDALE *Deut.* xviii. 10 To a bruterer or a maker of distemle dayes.

5. Bruthen (ū), brethen. Obs. [OE. *brythen* a brewing.] Brewing. Bruthen-lead = BREW-ING-LEAD, vessel for brewing in.

a. 1000 *Guthlac* 953 Bryden... ðætte Adame Eue gebyrmedæt fruman worlde. — *Wulfstan's Will* (Bosw.) An bryden meitalen. c. 1000 Sax. *Leechd.* II. 142 Ungehwæde mylcen 086 fild 086 brypen. c. 1275 *Death* 242 in O. E. *Misc.* 182 Al so beoð his ege puttes ase a bruthen led. c. 1475 *Found. St. Barthol.* Ch. l. xxiii. (1881) 61 She myghte nat then, parforme the brethen [f. brethen], that she hadde begunne.

Brutification (brū'tifikaʃən). [f. BRUTIFY; see -IFICATION (cf. *personification*).] The action or process of rendering or becoming brutish or brute-like; the result of the action.

1687 A. LOVELL *tr. Bergerac's Com. Hist.* II. 55 A Mate to converse with during the solitude of my Brutification. 1799 LAMB *Lett.* v. 41 One of them which had more beast than the rest... faintly resembled one of your brutifications. 1880 SWINBURNE *Stud. Shaks.* iii. (ed. 2) 194 This ultra-Circcean... brutification of spirit.

Brutified (brū'tifaid), ppl. a. [f. BRUTIFY v. + -ED.] Made brute-like or brutish.

1594 PARSONS *Confer. Succes.* I. ii. 22 A Prince ruling by affections, is lesse then a man, or a man brutified. 1683 TRYON *Way to Health* 619 Brutified things, whom they are obliged to call Husbands and Fathers. 1863 B. JERROLD *Sign. Distress* 290 He has festered... into that blurred and brutified semblance of the erect man.

Brutify (brū'tifai), v. [f. L. *bruti-* (comb. form) BRUTE + -FY.] 1. trans. To render brute-like; to brutalize.

1668 HOWE *Bless. Righteous* Wks. (1834) 256/2 Religion doth not brutify men. 1848 MILL *Pol. Econ.* II. v. 2 Hopeless slavery effectually brutifies the intellect. b. absol.

1829 *Scotsman* 9 Jan. 14/3 Their tendency... is to debase Vol. I.

and brutify. 1848 MRS. JAMESON *Sacr. & Leg. Art* (1850) 61 Sin... degrades and brutifies.

2. intr. To become brute-like.

1794 MRS. PIOZZI *Synonymy* II. 19 Man unwatched by man brutified for very want of observance.

Hence Brutifying vbl. sb. and ppl. a.

1817 J. SCOTT *Paris Revisit.* (ed. 4) 56 Measures that were both savage and brutifying. 1831 E. CROWE *Hist. France* III. ix. 275 A course of brutifying study.

Brutigenist. Obs. rare. [f. L. *brūti-*, *brūtus* + -gen-us born + -IST.] One born among the brutes.

1631 R. H. ARRAIGNON *Whole Creature* xiv. § 2. 248 The men of this world, those Brutigenists, or Terrigenists... Earth-bred wormes. *Ibid.* 286 A dust Worme, a Brutigenist, a Terrigenist.

Brutining (ū), vbl. sb. Obs. rare-1. [= *brytning* or *brytning*, vbl. sb. f. OE. *bryttian*, *bryttian*: see BRIT, BRITTEN v.] Cutting in pieces; destruction. 1393 LANGL. *P. Pl.* C. xvi. 156 Ich wil hadde wynnen al France With-oute brutining of burnes.

Brutish (brū'tiʃ), a. Also 5-6 brutishe, -yshe, 7-8 brutish. [f. BRUTE + -ISH.] 1. Of or pertaining to the brutes, or lower animals, as opposed to man.

1534 MORE *Wks.* 402 (R.) A beaste, out of whose brutishe beastyly mouthe, cometh such a fylthie forme of blasphemys. 1566 SPENSER *Astroph.* 98 There his welwoven toyles... He laid the brutish nation to enwrap. 1614 T. ADAMS in Spurgeon *Treas. Dav.* lxvi. 13 The Lord takes not delight in the blood of brutish creatures. 1667 MILTON *P. L.* I. 481 Wandering Gods disguis'd in brutish forms Rather then human. 1876 BROWNING *La Saisias* 35 Without the want, Life, now human, would be brutish.

2. Pertaining to, resembling, or characteristic of the brutes:

a. in want of intelligence or in failure to use reason: dull, irrational, uncultured, stupid.

1555 EDEN *Decades W. Ind.* (Arb.) 50 Slowe and brutyshe wyties. 1672 MARVELL *Rel. Transp.* I. 114 As the Opinion is brutish, so the Consequences are devilish. 1728 MORGAN *Algiers* I. i. 8 No People in the Universe, how savage and brutish soever they be, want a sufficient share of Reason. 1866 ROGERS *Agric. & Prices* I. xxix. 693 He is... dull and brutish, reckless and supine.

b. in want of control over the appetites and passions: passionate, sensual, furious.

1567 TRIALL *Treas.* (1850) 27 You bridled that brutishe beaste Inclination. 1615 R. C. *Times' Whit.* v. 1651, I now am come to brutish gluttonie. 1663 COWLEY *Verses & Ess.* (1666) 70 It is only a Demonstration of Brutish Madness or Diabolical Possession. 1709 STEELE *Tatler* No. 45 ¶ 3 The Servant of his brutish Lusts and Appetites. 1731 SWIFT *Strephon & Ch.* *Misc.* v. 36 How could a Nymph so chaste as Chloe... Permit a brutish Man to touch her? 1865 J. MARTINEAU *Ess.* II. 213 He scolds at [it] as a propensity absolutely brutish.

3. Rough, rude; savage, brutal. ? Obs.

1494 FABIAN v. cxl. 127 To oppresse in partye theyr brutishe blastis, I will bryng in here y^e sayinge of Guydo. 1590 GREENE *Alphons.* III. Therefore, fair maid, bridle these brutish thoughts. 1645 *King's Cabinet opened in Select. Harl. Misc.* (1793) 343 The rebels new brutish general hath refused to meddle with foreign passes. 1776 CAVALIER *Mem.* I. 42 The Count Brulio is... fierce, haughty, cruel and brutish; having no Manner of Politeness. 1773 BURKE *Lett. Wks.* IX. 135 We shall sink into surly, brutish Johns.

4. = BRUTE a. 3. Of thunder: striking blindly, random. [after L. *brutum fulmen*.] Obs.

1586 C. FETHERSTONE (title) *The British Thunderbolt*: or rather Feeble Fier-Flash of Pope Sixtus the fifth, against Henric king of Navarre. 1640 G. SANDYS *Christ's Pass.* 29 (L.) Vainly we thy brutish thunder fear. — *Notes* 100 The philosophers will have two sorts of lightning... the other brutish, that is accidental and flying at random. 1871 R. ELLIS *Catulus* lxiv. 164 Yet to the brutish winds why moan I longer unheeded?

5. quasi-adv.

1647 W. BROWNE *Poems* 1. 202 Brutish bred men.

Brutish, obs. form of BRITISH.

Brutishly (brū'tishi), adv. [f. prec. + -LY.]

1. In a brutish manner; irrationally, sensually.
1579 FULKE *Refut. Rastel* 749 He reasoneth brutishly with putting such cases. 1674 J. B[RIAN] *Harvest Home* III. 11 Brutishly sottish, and stupidly irrational. 1790 DE FOE *Capt. Singleton* I. (1840) 8 They were so brutishly wicked. 1868 BROWNING *Ring & Bk.* x. 1701 Why not live brutishly, obey my law?

2. With brutish indifference to the feelings; coarsely, boorishly, savagely, brutally.

1580 HOLLYBAND *Treas. Fr. Tong. Mastiner*... to reuile one and vse him mastife like, brutishly, foulye. 1688 SIR J. KNATCHBULL *Diary in N. & Q.* III. VI. 3 They brutishly answered, Damn you... how will you endure hell-fire? a. 1734 NORTH *Lives* (1826) II. 129 Sitting there to hear his decrees most brutishly and affrontously arraigned, &c. 1807 G. CHALMERS *Caledonia* I. II. vi. 310 Even Iona had orchards... till the Vikingr brutishly ruined all. 1825 LD. COCKBURN *Mem.* III. 174 A very curious edifice... was brutishly obliterated without one public murmur.

Brutishness (brū'tiʃnēs). [f. as prec. + -NESS.] Brutish quality or condition.

1547-64 BAULDWIN *Mor. Philos.* (Palfr.) II. 3 The further off we shall be from the brutishness of beasts. 1683 CAVE *Ecclesiastici* 470 The fierceness and brutishness of the man's temper. 1850 BLACKIE *Æschylus* I. Pref. 38 What a fearful mire of brutishness.

Brutism (brū'tiz'm). [see -ISM.] The characteristic behaviour or condition of a brute.

1687 *Addr. Thanks* 7 Ingratitude that's worse than Brutism. 1691 E. TAYLOR *Behmen's Life* 429 Foolish Infatu-

ations, Madness, and stupid Brutisms. 1845 *Blackw. Mag.* LVII. 51 He... relapses... from civism to brutism.

Brutist. Obs. [see -IST.] One who regards or treats men as brutes.

1637 HERWOOD *Royal King* III. iii. Wks. 1874 VI. 49 To hire one of those brutists that make no difference between a gentleman and a beggar. 1680 BAXTER *Cath. Comm.* Pref. A i j b, The Brutists, who prefer the Brutes, yea, the wildest before Men. 1685 BAXTER *Paraph. Acts* iv. 1 Such Brutists as the Sadducees.

Brutize, v. Obs. rare. [f. BRUTE sb. + -IZE.] a. intr. To become or act like a brute. b. trans.

To render brutish. Hence Brutized ppl. a.
1607 TOPSELL *Four-f. Beasts* 17 Brutizing in their whole life, till they taste the Roses of true science and grace. a. 1711 KEN *Hymnoth.* Poet. Wks. 1721 III. 361 From Lands brutis'd Salvation is conceal'd.

Bruto'logist. Obs. rare-1. [f. BRUTE or L. *brut-* (after Gr. forms in -o) + Gr. *lōg-os* + -IST.] One who studies the brutes.

1674 N. COX *Gentl. Recreat.*, *Fishing* (1706) 44 If we may credit... Gesser that famous Brutologist.

Brutting, vbl. sb. Obs. rare-1. [f. BRUT v. + -ING.] Browsing; clippings of trees.

1577 B. GOODE *Heresbach's Husb.* (1586) 131 b, You may give them the toppes of olive trees, lentils, or any tender brutings, or branches of vines. 1666 EVELYN *Sylva* (1670) 22 To protect them [trees]... from the... brutting of Cattle and Sheep. 1699 — *Aclaria* I. vi. § 2 (R.) This preserves itself best from the bruttings of the deer.

Bruttsche, obs. form of BRITISH.

Brutus (brū'tūs). More fully *Brutus wig*: a kind of wig. 'The rough-cropped head then fashionable was called a *Brutus* by the French, after the great hero of antiquity whom they specially revered'. Fairholt (ed. Dillon) I. 408. 1851 MAYHEW *Land. Labour* III. 5 (Hoppe) He wore his hair with the curls arranged in a *Brutus à la George* the Fourth. 1859 GEO. ELIOT *Sc. Cler. Life, Jane's Rep.* II. 180 Old Mr. Crewe the curate in a brown *Brutus wig*.

Bruwyn, obs. form of BREW v.

Bruzie, var. of BRIZLE v. Obs. to reprove.

Bruyd, obs. form of BRIDE.

Bruyk, variant of BRUKE, Obs., a locust.

Bruyllie. Obs. rare-1. ? = BRULIE, or ? mistake for *cruyllie*.

1533 T. CROMWELL in Strype *Ecc. Mem.* I. App. lxviii, The French King... confessed the extreme executions, and great bruyllie of late done in his realm.

Bruyse, obs. form of BREWIS.

Brusse, v. Obs. Only in vbl. sb. *brussing*.

[Imitative.] intr. To growl as a bear.

1693 URQUHART *Rabelais* III. xiii, The barking of Curra, bawling of Mastiffs... bruzzing of Bears.

Brwe, obs. form of BROW sb. 1

Brwyn, obs. form of BREW v.

Bry- in obs. words: see BRI-.

Bryad, bryead, obs. forms of BREAD.

Bryanite (broi'ānit). [see -ITE.] One of the sect founded by William O. Bryan in 1815: see BIBLE CHRISTIAN.

1883-3 SCHAFF *Encycl. Rel. Knowl.* I. 257 Bible Christians, or Bryanites, a sect closely resembling the Methodists.

Bruch, Obs. rare-1. ? (Dr. Morris suggests 'Filth, uncleanness'; cf. Ger. *sich (er-) brechen* to vomit; perhaps the word = BREACH, or BRUCHE, transgression.)

c. 1325 E. E. *Allit. P.* B. 848 þe wynd, & þe weder, & þe worlde stynkes Of þe brych þat vþbraydez þose broþelych wordes.

Brych(e), obs. form of BREECH.

Bruche, a. Obs. [OE. *bryce*: -OTeut type *bruki-z, f. *brek-an* to break.] Breakable, fragile; broken down.

c. 1000 *Ag. Psalter* cxix. 5 Min bigengea gewat bryce on feor-wez. 1303 R. BRUNNE *Handl. Synne* 5821 Now ys Pers bycome bryche þat er was boþe stoute and ryche.

Bryd-: see BRI-.

Bryd(de), obs. form of BIRD sb.

Brýdthing. Obs. Also 3 brudþing(ū). [OE. *brydþing*, f. *bryd*, BRIDE + THING.] Wed-

ding, marriage, nuptials.
975 *Blickl. Hom.* 3 Gabriel was þissa brydþinga ærend-wrec. c. 1275 *Lure Ron* in O. E. *Misc.* 99 Cumen to his brudþinge heye in heouene.

Brye, obs. by-form of BREEZE sb. 1, gadfly.

Bryest, obs. form of BREASt.

Bryeless, var. of BRIGUELESS a. Obs.

Brýgge-a-bragge, adv. phr. Obs.

1509 HAWES *Past. Pleas.* 134 In a pyed cote he rode brygge a bragge.

Brygges, var. of BRUGES. Obs.

Brygittane, var. form of BRIDGETTIN, Obs.

Brygurdell, -gyrdyll, var. of BRIDGEGIRDLE.

Bryk(e), obs. form of BRICK, BRIGUE.

Brýke, v. Obs. rare-1. ? To taste, or ? to rise in the stomach.

c. 1315 SHOREHAM 102 Senne yn swete and lyketh, Wanne a man hi deth, And al so soure by bryketh, Wane he ven-jaunce y-seth.

Brýn¹. Obs. Also brene. [A parallel form to *brynie*, BRINIE, perh. transp. from *bryn*: -OE. *byrne* corslet, coat of mail; cf. BURNIE.] = BRINIE.

1330 R. BRUNNE 189 James of Avenue, he was verray pilgrim. He gan first remue be croice mad on his bryn. 1a 1400 *Morte Arth.* 1413 Thugre brene and bryghte scheldes brestes they thyrie. c 1400 *Anturs of Arth.* xli. His brene and his basnet was busket ful bene.

Bryn, **bryne**. Obs. [ME. *bryn*, a. ON. *brjnn*, old pl. of *brin* eye-brow.] Eyebrows, eye-brow.

1330 R. BRUNNE *Chron.* 237 Maugre bope his bryn was fayn to com to grith. c 1400 *Octovian* 931 A great fot was betwex hys bryn. c 1400 *Avow. Arth.* xv. Alle wrothe wex that sqwyne, Blu, and brayd vppe his bryne. c 1400 *Prompt. Parv.* 51 Bryne or brow of be eye, *supercilium*.

Bryn, -ne, obs. ff. BRAN, BRINE, BURN.

Brynston, **bryntstane**, obs. ff. BRIMSTONE.

Brynt, obs. pa. t. and pple. of BURN v.

Brynye, var. of BRINE, Obs., cuirass.

Bryologist (brɔi'ɒlədʒɪst). [f. as next: see -IST.] One learned in bryology.

1830 LINDLEY *Nat. Syst. Bot.* 322 The Latin words employed by Bryologists. 1863 *BERKELEY Brit. Mosses* vii. 34 The labours of British Bryologists.

Bryology (brɔi'ɒlədʒi). [f. Gr. *βρύον* 'a kind of mossy sea-weed', taken in modern science as = 'moss' + *-λογία* discourse: see -LOGY.] That branch of botany which treats of mosses. Also used for the species of mosses (collectively) of any country or place. Hence *Bryological a.*, -ally adv.

1863 *BERKELEY Brit. Mosses* vii. 34 Comparing the Bryology of the British Isles with that of Europe. 1881 *Nature* No. 616. 376 On the bryology of the valleys of the rivers Secchio and Magra.

† **Bryon**. Obs. [a. F. *bryon*, a. Gr. *βρύον*, L. *bryum*.] A kind of moss.

1579 LAMHAM *Gard. Health* (1633) 95 Bryan, stampe it and apply it three dayes to the knees that are swolne. 1601 HOLLAND *Pliny* l. 381 Ointments... made... of the odoriferous mosse Bryon.

|| **Bryonia**. Latin form of BRYONY; familiarly used in Homœopathic pharmacy.

Bryonin (brɔi'ɒni). Chem. [f. BRYONY: see -IN.] 'The bitter principle of the root of the red-berried bryony (*Bryonia dioica*).' Watts.

1836 *Penny Cycl.* v. 502/2 The Wild Bryony... Its properties are apparently owing to the presence of a principle called bryonin, analogous to cathartine. 1863 *WATTS Dict. Chem.* I. 685 Bryonin acts as a drastic purgative. 1880 *Syd. Soc. Lex.*, *Bryonin*, a glucoside obtained from *Bryonia*... It is a white or slightly coloured granular substance, bitter, soluble in water and alcohol, insoluble in ether.

Bryony (brɔi'ɒni). Also 6 briony, briony, (brione), 6-7 brionie, 7-9 briony. [ad. L. *bryonia* (Pliny), a. Gr. *βρύωνία* (Diosc.). Cf. also Fr. *bryone*, whence Eng. *brione* in 16th c.]

1. *prop.* The English name of the plant-genus *Bryonia* (N.O. *Cucurbitaceæ*); and *spec.* the common wild species (*B. dioica*), sometimes called (in distinction from sense 2) Red, or White Bryony.

c 1000 *Saxon Leechd.* l. 172 Genim has wyrt 8e man bryonia. n. membe. 1552 *HULST.* Bryonye or wyld vine. 1598 *Yong Diana* 302 Bryony, or the white vine, which runs winding about the bodies of trees like a snake. 1616 *SURF.* & *MARKH. Country Farm* 45 Against Deafnesse... drop into your eares the juice of... Brionie, mixed with Honey or Oyle. 1855 *SHELLEY Rev. Islam* iii. 7 Drooping briony, pearly With dew... Hung, where we sat. 1858 *Lytton Eugene A.* vi. 10 The white briony overrunning the thicket. 1863 *Longf. Wayside Inn, Sicilian's T.* 26 One... mended the rope with braids of briony.

2. **Black Bryony**: a name given, from similarity of habit to the prec., to an endogenous climbing plant, Lady's Seal, *Tamus communis* (N.O. *Dioscoreaceæ*), wild in the south of England. 1606 *BACON Sylva* § 492 The Shrub called Our Ladies Seal, (which is a kind of Briony). 1805 *Med. & Phys. Jرنل.* XIV. 68 *T. communis*, Bryony Lady-seal. Black briony. 1872 *OLIVER Elem. Bot.* ii. 271 This species... although commonly called Black Bryony, has nothing to do with the genus *Bryonia*. 1883 *Gd. Words Nov.* 710/2 The... red-berried briony, and the so-called black-bryony.

3. **Bastard Bryony**: *Cissus sicyoides*.

4. **Attrib. and Comb.** Bryony-vine = sense 1. 1664 *BOYLE Porousm. Anim. Bod.* iii. 18 Helmont talks much of the great vertue of white Briony root. 1842 *TENNISON Amphion* 29 Briony-vine and ivy-wreath Ran forward to his rhyming. 1875 *FORTNUM Maiolica* ix. 84 Small vine or briony leaves and interlaced tendrils.

|| **Bryozoa** (brɔi'ɒzə), sh. pl. Zool. Sing. bryozoon (-zō'pn). [f. Gr. *βρύον* moss + (*ζῷον*, pl. of *ζῷον* animal; from the appearance of some species.)] The lowest class of molluscs, consisting of compound or 'colonial' animals formed by gemmation, each individual having a distinct alimentary canal. Also called *Polyzoa*. In the sing. an individual animal of this class.

1847-9 *TODD Cycl. Anat. & Phys.* IV. 50/1 The differences between a Bryozoon and an ordinary polype. 1856 *GOSSE Marine Zool.* ii. 1 It has been usual (hitherto) to include the Polyzoa (or Bryozoa, as they are sometimes termed) in the class Zoophyta. 1876 *BENEDEN Anim. Parasites* 61 Many bryozoa spread themselves over marine animals. 1883 *Harper's Mag.* Dec. 107/1 The rick bryozoon... incrusts the various parts with its silvery growth.

Hence **Bryozoan a.**, belonging to the *Bryozoa*; also as sh., one of the *Bryozoa*.

1872 *DANA Corals* i. 19 The lowest tribe of Mollusks, called Bryozoa, which produce delicate corals, sometimes branching and moss-like. 1878 *BELL Gegenbauer's Comp. Anat.*

132 All the persons of a Bryozoa colony are not equally well developed.

Brya, **Bryt**, in obs. forms: see BRI-.

Brysewort, -wyr, var. ff. BRUISEWORT.

Brysil, **bryal**, var. of BRISIL a. frail.

Brys(8)ure, var. of BRUSURE, Obs., a wound.

Brytasque, obs. form of BRATTICE.

Bryth, obs. form of BIRTH.

Bryther, -ir, obs. pl. of BROTHER.

Brython (brɪ'θɒn). [a. Welsh *Brython*, Briton, Britons:—Oceltic *Britton*, BRITON. *Brython* and *Brythion* have been introduced by Prof. Rhys, to avoid the misleading associations which attach to the use of 'Briton', 'British', and 'Cymric'. They are the natural correlatives of *Goidel* and *Goidelic*, applied to the Scots-Irish or Gaelic division of the Celtic stock.] A member of that great division of the Celts of the British isles, which mainly occupied South Britain; a Briton of Wales, Cornwall, or ancient Cumbria.

Hence **Brythonic a.** Of or pertaining to the Brythons, or Britons of Wales, Cornwall, and Cumbria, and their kin.

1884 *RHYS Celtic Britain* 3 The other group is represented by the people of Wales and the Bretons... the national name of those speaking these dialects was that of Briton... we take the Welsh form of it, which is *Brython*, and call this group *Brythons* and *Brythonic*. — 4 Every Celt of the United Kingdom is, so far as language is concerned, either a Goidel or a Brython. — 208 Both the Brythonic and the Goidelic forms prove beyond doubt, etc.

Brytte, variant of BRET, BRIT, a fish.

Bryve, variant of BREVE v. Obs. to write.

Brywer, obs. form of BREWER.

Bryze, obs. form of BREEZE sh. gadfly.

† **Bu**, sh. Obs. rare-1. [perh. ad. ON. *bili* dweller, **hel-bili* hell-dweller: but cf. the interj. BOO; also *bogle-do* under BOGLE.]

c 1300 *K. Alis.* 5956 He... spak als an helle bu. Bu, obs. or dial. f. Bow sh. 4, BE v., BUY.

Bu, Sc. form of BOO, v. and int.

Buat, var. of BOWER, Sc., a lantern.

† **Bub**, sh. Sc. Obs. [Prob. imitating the sound of a dull blow as in *thud*: cf. BOB sh. 3, a firm blow.] A storm, a blast.

a 1500 *Q. SHAW Adv. to Courtier*, Thair may cum bubbis ye not suspek. 1513 *DOUGLAS Æneis* i. iii. 15 Ane bluster and bub out fra the north braying. 1535 *STEWART Cron. Scot.* l. 124 Sum with ane bub had blawin down hir blind.

Bub (bʊb), sh. 2 Also 7 bubb. [Imitation of the sound of drinking; cf. BIB v.]

1. A slang word for drink, esp. strong beer.

1671-2 *Westm. Drollery in Roxb. Ballads* (1883) IV. 440 They... took away... their Wallets... Which brought their good Bubb. 1718 *Prior Poems* 193 He loves cheap Port, and double Bub. 1812 *J. H. VAUX Plask Dict.*, *Bub*, a low expression signifying drink. c 1840 *MARRYAT R. Reefer* lxx, Our bub and our grub. 1841 *ANDERSON Crool* iii. 28 The gentlemen enjoyed their bub and roasted corn.

2. A mixture of meal and yeast with warm wort and water, used to promote fermentation.

1880 *Act* 43 & 44 *Vic. xxiv.* § 33 Bub or any other composition for promoting the fermentation of wort.

† **Bub**, sh. 3 Obs. rare-1. [perh. a. F. *bube*; or suggested by BUBBLE.] A pustule.

1597 *Lowk Chirurg.* (1634) 82 Papulas... are little bubs or pustules, that break out by themselves through the skinne.

† **Bub**, sh. 4 Obs. slang. [app. short for BUBBLE sh. (sense 5): cf. BUB v. 2.]

1690 *B. E. Dict. Cant. Crew*, *Bub*, or *Bubble*, one that is Cheated.

Bub, sh. 5 A contr. of BUBBY, in both senses.

† **Bub**, v. 1 Obs. rare-1. [cf. BUB sh. 1, and BUBBLE.]

trans. To throw up in bubbles. In quot. with *up*.

1563 *SACKVILLE Mirr. Mag. Induct.* lxxix, Acheron... bubs up swelh as black as hell.

† **Bub**, v. 2 Obs. rare-1. [? short for BUBBLE v.]

? To bribe, or to cheat. 1719 *D'URFV Pills* II. 54 Another makes Racing a Trade

And many a Crimp Match has made, By bubbing another Man's Groom.

Bubal, -ale (bi'ʊbəl). [ad. L. *bubalus* (ad. Gr. *βούβαλος*) an ox-like antelope; also misapplied to a kind of wild ox; cf. BUFFALO.] Used to render L. *bubalus*: a. (in early examples) with uncertain meaning (antelope or buffalo). b. (mod. Zool.) A species of antelope (*Antilope bubalus*) found in N. Africa.

1461-83 *Liber Niger Edw. IV.* in *Ord. R. Househ.* 17 Many fatte buballes, al manner pultry. 1483 *CAXTON Gold. Leg.* 72/2 Salomon had dayly... veneson that was taken as hertes, gholes, bubals. 1873 *TRISTRAM Moab* ix. 168 Antelopes... the oryx antelope and the bubale.

† **Bubbat**ion. [ad. L. *bubbatiō-em*, occurring only in this passage: the readings *bullatio*, *bubbatio* have been suggested.] (See quot.)

1601 *HOLLAND Pliny* II. (1634) 515 This stone is to be found... scattered here and there in smal pieces by way of bubbat (for that is the term they vse).

† **Bubber**. Obs. slang. [f. BUB sh. 2 + -ER.] (See quot.)

1873 *R. HEAD Canting Acad.* 191 A Bubber... goes to the

Alehouse, and steals there the Plate. 1690 *B. E. Dict. Cant. Crew*, *Bubber*, a drinking Bowl; also a great Drinker, and he that used to steal Plate from Publick-houses. 1795 *New Cant. Dict.*

† **Bubbing**, vbl. sh. Obs. slang. [f. as prec. + -ING.] Drinking; also in comb.

1878 *Poor Robin's Char. of Scold* 6 She clamours at him so long... which makes him seek blinde Bubbing-schools to hide himself in from her fury.

Bubble (bʊb'l), sh. Also 5 bobble, bobel, 6 bubbul, 7 bubble. [orig. f. the verb: see also the earlier BUBBLE sh. found c 1350. Parallel sbs. in other Teutonic langs. are Sw. *bubbla*, Da. *boble*, Du. *bobbel*, Ger. dial. *bobbel*, *bubbel*. In their development the vb. and sh. appear to have influenced each other: see sense 5.]

1. A thin globular (or hemispherical) vesicle of water or other liquid, filled with air or gas; applied alike to those produced by the agitation of a quantity of the liquid, or the uprising of gas to the surface, and to those artificially made by blowing through a tube; often = soap-bubble. Also a quantity of air or gas occluded within a liquid; *spec.*, the portion of air left in the spirit-level. Sometimes applied to cavities produced by occluded air in solid substances that have cooled from fusion. To blow bubbles: to produce bubbles by blowing through a tube; often *fig.* to devise baseless theories, or to amuse oneself in a childish manner.

1481 *CAXTON Myrr.* II. xli. 113 The water of those wellis sprynge vp with grette bobles. 1528 *PAYNELL Salerne Regim.* H.b. Hit [wyne] hath great bubblis and spume. 1605 *SHAKS. Macb.* I. iii. 722 The Earth hath bubbles, as the Water ha's. 1606 *BACON Sylva* § 24 Bubbles, are in the form of an Hemisphere; Air within, and a little Skin of Water without. a 1677 *HALE True Relig.* II. (1684) 32 Boys... blow Bubbles out of a Wall-nut-shell. 1728 *YOUNG Love Fame* II. (1757) 99 What are men... But bubbles on the rapid stream of time? 1783 *COWPER Lett.* 29 Sept., One generation blows bubbles, and the next breaks them. 1831 *LARDNER Hydrostatics* IV. 75 If the bubble stand still in the middle, it proves the instrument [spirit level] to be correct. 1879 *G. PRESCOTT Sp. Telephone* Introd. 1 A bubble of hydrogen rose to the surface, as the bubble from champagne does in the wine cup.

† 2. *transf.* a. A hollow globe of thin glass, produced by blowing; *spec.* one of the hollow beads of glass formerly used for testing the strength of spirits (see BEAD 7). b. *Hist.* Used to translate L. *bullæ* a round ornament of gold or leather worn by the children of Roman freemen. Obs.

1647 *STARVILTON Juvenal* v. 194 What poore man... had Heturrian bubbles when he was a lad. *Ibid.* Comm. 154 *Æmilius Lepidus*... had a statue in his pretexted purple and golden bullæ (or bubbles) set up in the capitol. 1660 *BOYLE New Exp. Phys. Mech.* II. 40 Glass bubbles, such as are wont to be blown at the flame of a lamp. *Ibid.* xx. (1682) 71 Then was taken a great Glass bubble, with a long neck. 1667 *PARRY Diary* (1877) V. 419 He... did give me a glass bubble, to try the strength of liquors with.

3. *fig.* Anything fragile, unsubstantial, empty, or worthless; a deceptive show. From 17th c. onwards often applied to delusive commercial or financial schemes, as the *Mississippi Bubble*, the *South Sea Bubble*.

1599 *MARSTON Sco. Villanie* II. vi. 198 To see this butterfly, This windy bubble taske my balladry. 1600 *SHAKS. A. Y. L.* II. vii. 152 Seeking the bubble Reputation Even in the Canons mouth. a 1606 *BACON Ps.* in *Farr's S. P.* (1848) 301 Mortality: This bubble light, this vapour of our breath. c 1665 in *Roxb. Ballads* (1886) VI. 254 Why should a Woman dote on such a Bubble? 1721 *SWIFT S. Sea Proj.* Wks. 1755 III. II. 128 The nation... will find... South-sea at best a mighty bubble. 1745 *DE FOE Eng. Tradem.* (1841) II. xlv. 157 In the good old days of trade, there were no bubbles, no stock-jobbing. 1793 *COWPER Task* III. 175 Eternity for bubbles proves at last a senseless bargain. 1808 *Sat. Rev.* 27 Nov. 524/1 We are asked... to back the luck of that gigantic bubble, the French Empire.

b. *attrib. or adj.*: Unsubstantial, fragile, delusive; often with reference to fraudulent commercial undertakings, as in *bubble company*, *scheme*.

1635 *QUARLES Embl.* I. iv. (1718) 19 What's lighter than the mind? A thought. Than thought? This bubble world. 1726 *AMHERST Terra Fil.* xii. 59 Several bubble-schools and academies sprung up. 1768-71 *H. WALPOLE Vertue's Anecd. Paint.* (1786) III. 119 He... was concerned in a bubble Lottery. 1798 *EDGEWORTH Pract. Educ.* (1801) II. 373 This wager would have been a bubble bet if it had been brought before the Jockey-club. a 1845 *HOOD Black Job* xvii, No... Bubble Company could hope to thrive.

4. The process of bubbling; the sound made by bubbling; a state of agitation. *Naut. phrase*: A bubble of a sea: cf. BOBBLE.

1839 *BEALE in Sat. Mag.* 18 May 192/1 An awkward 'bubble' of a sea... began to make. 1840 *MARRYAT Poor Jack* xxiv, There was a bubble of a sea. 1874 *Mrs. WHITNEY We Girls* xix. 187 There was nothing but a low, comfortable bubble in the chimney-corner to tell of... dinner.

† 5. One who may be or is 'bubbled' (sense 5 of the verb); a dupe, a gull. Obs.

1668 *SEDLEY Mub. Gard.* IV. Wks. 1722 II. 56 Are any of these Gentlemen good Bubbles, Mr. Wildish? 1708 *DE FOE Reform. Manners* I. 315 The wondrous Bubbles stand amaz'd to see Their Money Mountebank'd to Mercury. 1735-8 *BOLINGBR. On Parties* 144 They were not such Bubbles as to alter, without mending, the Govern-

ment. a 1774 GOLDSM. tr. *Scarron's Comic Rom.* (1775) I. 21 He generally dined and supped in taverns at the expense of every fool and bubble he met with. 1827 CRABBE *Par. Reg.* I. Wks. 1834 II. 151 A board, beneath a tiled retreat Allures the bubble, and maintains the cheat.

6. *Comb.* (see also 3 b), as *bubble-blower*, *-blowing* ppl. adj. and vbl. sb., *-filled* adj.; † *bubble-glass*, glass as thin as a bubble (see also 2); *bubble-man* (see quot.): *bubble-shell*, a sort of mollusc. 1882 *Macm. Mag.* XLVI. 122 The iron-impregnated, "bubble-filled" fountains of Schwalbach. 1901 SPENSER *Ruins of Time* 50 Why then doth flesh, a "bubble-glass of breath, Hunt after honour? 1866 MAYHEW *Crim. Prisons* 46 Cheats, subdivisible into... "bubble-men, who institute annuity offices and assurance companies. 1854 WOODWARD *Mollusca* (1856) 14 The "bubble-shell (*Phylina*), itself precarious, is eaten both by star-fish and sea-anemone.

Bubble (bʊˈbəl), *v.* Also 5-8 bubble, 6 bobyll. [Found (in the vbl. sb. BUBBLING) a 1400. Parallel words are Sw. *bubla*, Da. *boble*, mod. Du. and LG. *bobbelen*, mod. G. dial. *bobbelen*, *bubbelen*; all of these are modern, and it is doubtful how far they are related to each other, or are merely parallel imitative words, suggested either by the sound of bubbles forming and bursting, or by the action of the lips in making a bubble. The Eng. *bubble* can hardly be separated from the earlier BUBBLE, common in the same sense from 1300; cf. *gurgle* and *guggle*. In *bubble* the verb is the source of the sb. as a whole, but sense 5 of the vb. appears to be derived from sense 3 of the sb., and in turn to have given rise to sense 5 of the latter.]

1. *intr.* To form bubbles (as boiling water, a running stream, etc.); to rise in bubbles (as gas through liquid, water from a spring, etc.; often with *out* or *up*); to emit the sounds due to the formation and bursting of bubbles.

1398 [see BUBBLING vbl. sb.]. 1477 NORTON *Ord. Alch.* in Ashm. iv. (1652) 47 Remember that Water will bubble and boyle. 1530 PALSGR. 459/1 The potage begynneth to bobyll. 1580 H. GIFFORD *Gilgoflowers* (1875) 10, I... feele certayne waters of wayne appetites to bubble vp w^t me. 1609 BIBLE (Douay) Ex. viii. 3 The river shal bubble with frogges. 1633 P. FLETCHER *Purple Isl.* III. xx, Water, bubbling from this fountain. 1703 MAUNDRELL *Journ. Ferns* (1732) 63 Then bubbles up with abundance of Water. 1750 SHENSTONE *Elegy* i. 4 Now hear the fountain bubbling round my cell. 1799 G. SMITH *Laboratory* I. 329 Take good acid of nitre, and fling... chalk into it, till it... ceases to bubble. 1844-49 LANDOR *Imag. Conv.* (1846) I. 3 Many bright specks bubble up along the blue Egean. 1850 TENNYSON *In Mem. xcix*, Yon swoll'n brook that bubbles fast. 1860 GEN. P. THOMPSON *Audi Alt.* III. ci. 1 The frozen notes came bubbling out together. 1871 TYNDALL *Fragm. Sc.* I. iv. 97.

2. *fig.* a. Of things: To arise or issue like bubbles.

1652 GAULE *Magistrom.* 228 Whence then bubble out so many and so great errors in their prognostications? 1713 BEVERIDGE *Priv. Th.* I. (1730) 94 So soon as any new Thought begins to bubble in my Soul. 1822 KINGSLEY *Androm.* 114 Feebly at last she began, while wild thoughts bubbled within her. a 1859 L. HUNT *To Y. H. ii*, It bubbles into laughter. 1879 McCARNEY *Omn Times* II. 16 Chartism bubbled and spluttered a little yet.

b. Of persons: To bubble over, up (with merriment, anger, etc.): *fig.* from the bubbling of a pot on the fire.

1828 HAWTHORNE *Fr. & It. Jynls.* (1872) II. 173 He bubbled and brimmed over with fun. 1860 TYNDALL *Glac.* I. § 19. 133 One clergyman... appeared to bubble over with enjoyment. 1881 M. LEWIS *Two Pretty G.* III. 97 He had his views... but he never bubbled up to discuss and defend them.

c. *trans.* To send forth like bubbles. (A Hebraism.)

1611 BIBLE *Prov.* xv. 2 The mouth of the fool poureth [margin: bubbleth] out foolishness. — Ps. xlv. 1 My heart is inditing [margin: boyleth or bubbleth vp] a good matter.

3. *intr.* To make a sound resembling that made by bubbles in boiling or running water. Also *trans.* (with object denoting sound). *rare.*

1662 *Metamorph. of Tobacco* (Collier) 19 Prettie waues... Bubbled sweete Musick with a daintie Sound. 1842 STERLING *Est. & Tales* (1848) I. 459 Love, the name bubbled by every wave of Hippocrene. 1847 TENNYSON *Princ.* iv. 247 At mine ears Bubbled the nightingale.

4. *trans.* To cover or spread with bubbles.

1598 MARSTON *Pigmal.* iv. 151 The haile-shot drops... onely bubble quiet Thetis face.

5. *trans.* To delude with 'bubbles' (see BUBBLE sb. 3); to befool, cheat, humbug. Also to bubble (any one) of, out of, or into a thing. Very common in 18th c.; now rarely used.

1675 WYCHERLEY *Countr. Wife* III. ii, He is to be bubbled of his mistress as of his money. 1708 *The Eng. Theophrast.* 37 Men are commonly bubbled when they first enter upon play. 1761 MURPHY *Citizen* II. i, And so here I am bubbled and choused out of my money. 1792 MARY WOLLSTONECR. *Rights Wom.* Introd. 2 The understanding of the sex has been so bubbled by this specious homage. 1841 HOR. SMITH *Moneyed Man* I. xi. 312 You have been preciously bubbled; ludicrously windmilled and outwitted. 1880 McCARNEY *Omn Times* III. xli. 235 Some critics declared... that the French Emperor had 'bubbled' him [Mr. Cobden].

6. *Sc. and north. dial.* To blubber.

1727 WALKER *Remark. Pass.* 60 (JAM.) John Knox... left her [Q. Mary] bubbling and greeting. Mod. Sc. What is he bubbling about now?

† **Bubbleable**, *a.* Obs. *rare* -1. [f. BUBBLE v. (sense 5) + -ABLE.] Capable of being duped.

1669 NICKER *Nicker* (3rd ed.) in *Harl. Misc.* II. 109 If the winner be bubbleable, they will insinuate themselves into his acquaintance.

Bubble-and-squeak. [f. BUBBLE v. + SQUEAK v., referring to the sounds made in cooking this dish.] A dish of meat and cabbage fried up together, 'cold meat fried in butter with vegetables'.

1705 GROSS *Dict. Vulgar Tongue, Bubble and Squeak*, beef and cabbage fried together. 1795 WOLCOTT (P. Pindar) Wks. 1812 I. 192 What mortals Bubble call and Squeak When midst the Frying-pan in accents savage, The Beef so surly quarrels with the Cabbage. 1824 BYRON *Juan* xv. lxxi, 'Bubble and squeak' would spoil my liquid lay. 1825 BROWNING *Holy-Cr. Day*, Bubble and squeak! Blessed Thursday's the fat of the week. 1881 LEICESTER *Gloss.* (E. D. S.) *Bubble-and-squeak*, slices of underdone beef fried and seasoned, laid on cabbage, boiled, strained, chopped, and fried in dripping.

† **Bubble-bow, -boy**. Obs. [app. f. BUBBLE v. 5 + BEAU as if 'beau-befooler': cf. quot. 1712.] A lady's tweezer-case.

(So explained in Pope's foot-note to quot. 1727; he remarks that the word is 'in use in this present year'. Warburton says the passage is quoted from one of Pope's own juvenile poems, in which case its date would be c. 1704.)

[1712 ARBUTHNOT *John Bull* (1755) 3 Charles Mather could not bubble a young beau better with a toy.]

1727 POPE, etc., *Art Sinking* 94 Lac'd in her Cosins new appear'd the Bride, A Bubble-bow and Tompion at her side. 1807 *Month. Mag.* XXIV. 550 Why was it called a bubble-boy? Probably the word is a misspelling for bauble-boy, a support for baubles.

Bubbled (bʊˈbld), *ppl. a.* [f. BUBBLE sb. and v. + -ED.]

1. Sent forth like bubbles; full of bubbles; covered with bubbles.

1822 BEDDOES *Bride's Trag.* v. iii, What sound is that... Harmonious as a bubbled tear? 1865 SWINBURNE *Poems & Ball.*, At *Eleusis* 11 Smooth pitchers of pure brass Under the bubbled wells. 1871 TYNDALL *Fragm. Sc.* (ed. 6) I. vi. 224 The internal scattering common in bubbled ice.

† 2. Befooled, cheated, deceived. Obs.

a 1683 OLDHAM *Wks. & Rem.* (1686) 66 Bubbled Monarchs are at first beguill'd... at last depos'd, and kill'd. 1719 D'URFEY *Pills* (1872) I. 348 A bubbled coxcomb.

Bubblor (bʊˈblɔː). [f. BUBBLE v. + -ER.]

† 1. One who gets up bubble-companies; a swindler, cheat. Obs.

1720 POPE *Let. to Dryden* 20 July, All the Jews, jobbers, bubblers, subscribers, etc. 1778 CONQUERORS 9 Bubblers and bubbled meanly Take their stand.

2. 'A fish found in the Ohio river. Its name is derived from the singular grunting noise which it makes.' Bartlett *Dict. Amer.*

† **Bubble-the-justice**. Obs. [f. BUBBLE v. + JUSTICE; = 'cheat the magistrate', the game being regarded as an evasion of the laws prohibiting ninepins, etc.] A game (see quot.).

1801 STRUTT *Sports & Past.* Introd. 44 The game of nine holes was revived... with the new name of Bubble the Justice.

Bubbling (bʊˈblɪŋ), *vbl. sb.* [f. BUBBLE v.]

1. The action of the verb BUBBLE; the process of forming bubbles, rising in bubbles, etc.

1398 TREVISA *Barth. De P. R.* xl. xiv, And when þat fyre is queynte in watry cloudes, þe bobelynge... and crackes of þat quencheyng is clepid bonder. 1548 THOMAS *It. Dict.* (1567) *Tocco*, the boblyng of a rennyng water, when it retourneth from the fall out of a deepe hole. a 1656 BP. HALL *Occas. Medit.* (1851) 54 After some short noise, and smoke, and bubbling, the metal is quiet. 1825 MAURY *Phys. Geog. Sea* xviii. § 755 (1860) 414 The bubbling made a loud noise... heard for a long time after.

fig. 1665 GURNALL *Chr. in Arm.* xiii. (1669) 355/3 Arm us against... bubblings of our own vain hearts. 1720 PALMER *Proverbs* 237 Correct... the bubblings of our native pride.

† 2. Deluding, cheating (see BUBBLE v. 5). Obs. 1725 BAILEY *Enam. Collog.* 468 Understand the Art of Borrowing and Bubbling.

Bubbling, *ppl. a.* [f. BUBBLE v. + -ING.]

1. That bubbles, rises in bubbles, sends up bubbles, or makes a bubble-like movement.

1523 STANVHURST *Æneis* I. (Arb.) 23 Freshe bubbling fountains. 1639 HORN & ROBERTSON *Gale Lang. Uni.* vii. (1643) § 65 Out of hidden springs gush forth bubbling... fountains. 1723 COWPER *Task* iv. 38 The bubbling... urn Throws up a steamy column. 1829 MARRYAT *F. Midway* xi, The tide and the wind formed a bubbling short sea.

2. *transf.* a. That comes forth like bubbles; gasping, gurgling. b. That utters bubbling or gurgling sounds.

1819 BYRON *Juan* II. liii, At intervals there gush'd... the bubbling cry of some strong swimmer in his agony. 1871 BREANT & RICE *Monks of Th.* xxxi. 259 We'll make him go round like a bubbling turkey-cock. 1885 STEVENSON *Dynamiter* v. 67 There broke forth... the bubbling... sound of laughter.

3. That has bubbles or drops forming on it. 1821 QUARLES *Ezher* (1638) 91 The Harvester with bubbling brow.

† 4. Deluding, cheating. Obs.

1675 WYCHERLEY *Countr. Wife* III. ii, Come you bubbling rogues you.

Hence *Bubblingly adv.*, in a bubbling manner.

1611 COTGR. *Empoultment*, swellingly, bubblingly.

Bubblish (bʊˈblɪʃ), *a.* *rare* -1. [f. BUBBLE sb. 3 + -ISH.] Somewhat of the nature of a bubble.

1830 FRASER'S *Mag.* II. 499 This new scheme was bubblish, and quickly blew up.

Bubbly (bʊˈbli), *a.* [f. BUBBLE sb. + -Y.] Full of bubbles. (In Sc. = blubbery.)

1599 NASHE *Lent. Stuffe* (1871) 12 They would no more... haue their heads washed with his bubbly spume. 1611 COTGR., *Empoult.*... bubbly; or... rising in bubbles. 1642 W. PRICE *Serm.* 13 Upon what slight motives from bubbly honour, fleeting riches, shadowy pleasures. 1861 C. KING *Ant. Gems* (1866) 80 The greatest part exhibited that... bubbly texture so generally found in antique pastes.

Bubbly-jock (bʊˈbliˌdʒɒk). *Sc.* [f. prec. + Jock = JACK. *Perh.* suggested in part by the sound made by the bird; cf. the English *gobbler*.] A colloquial name for the turkey-cock; also *fig.*

1814 SCOTT *Let. in Lockhart* (1839) V. 12, I am sair halded down by the Bubbly jock. 1865 CARLYLE *Fredk. Gt.* VI. xvi. ii. 143 Oh my winged Voltaire, to what dunghill Bubbly-Jocks you do stoop with homage.

† **Bubby**, *Obs.* or *dial.* [cf. Ger. *bübbi* teat (Grimm). Connexion with F. *poupe* teat of an animal (formerly also of a woman), Pr. *popa*, It. *poppa* teat, is very doubtful.] A woman's breast.

1686 D'URFEY *New Poems* (1690) 206 The Ladies here may without Scandal shew Face or white Bubbies, to each ogling Beau. 1712 ARBUTHNOT *John Bull* in Arb. *Garner* (1883) VI. 601 Why don't you go and suck the bubbly? 1725 BRADLEY *Fam. Dict.* II. Oiv b/i If on the contrary a Woman has no occasion for Milk... Let her put Chervil upon her Bubbies.

Bubby. [Bartlett and Webster say a corruption of *brother*: but the word looks more like Ger. *bube*, *boy*, boy.] In U.S. a familiar name for a little boy. Also shortened to *bub*.

1848-60 in BARTLETT. 1864 in WEBSTER.

Bubo (biˈʊbo). Pl. *buboes*. [a. late L. *bubo*, ad. Gr. *βουβών* the groin, a swelling in the groin.]

An inflamed swelling or abscess in glandular parts of the body, esp. the groin or arm-pits. (An ordinary symptom of the plague in the 17th c.) Also *attrib.*, as in *bubo plague*.

1398 TREVISA *Barth. De P. R.* vii. lix. (1495) 273 Somtyme a posture comyth of ventosite and of wynde and hight Bubo. 1597 GERARD *Herbal* III. cxxxiii. (1633) 1511 Which imposthume is called Bubo by reason of his lurking in such secret places. 1658 ROWLAND *Monfist's Theat.* Int. 1092 A Bubo riseth on a man that he [the scorpion] stings. 1782 W. HEBERDEN *Comment.* vii. (1806) 23 These sores therefore, like pestilential buboes, point out the nature of the disorder. 1839-47 TODD *Cycl. Anat. & Phys.* III. 233/2 A bubo will originate from... inflamed inguinal or axillary glands.

Hence *Buboe* *ppl. a.*, affected with buboes.

1844-49 LANDOR *Imag. Conv.* (1846) II. 126 They are not blotched and buboed with its pestilence.

Bubonic (biˈʊbɒnɪk), *a.* [f. late L. *bubōn-em* (see prec.) BUBO + -IC.]

That is attended with the appearance of buboes.

1871 *Echo* 15 Aug., The bubonic disease in Khorassan. 1886 *Athenaeum* 25 Sept. 405/2 A list of the dates of the appearance of the famous bubonic plague from A.D. 252 down to... 1837.

Bubonic, *a.* *nonce-wd.* [f. L. *bubōn-em* owl + -IC.] Owl-like.

1795 WOLCOTT (P. Pindar) *Lonsiad* I. Wks. 1812 I. 191 With arms akimbo, and bubonic look.

Bubonocoele (biˈʊbɒnɒˈsiːl). [a. Gr. *βουβονοκήλη*, f. *βουβών* the groin + *κήλη* a rupture; cf. F. *bubonocèle*.] Inguinal rupture or hernia.

1615 CROOKE *Body of Man* 97 Whence it cometh to passe, that woemen are often troubled with the Bubonocoele. 1736 *Phil. Trans.* XXXIX. 329 The Cure of the Hernia could be obtained by no other Operation than that for the Bubonocoele. 1876 GROSS *Dis. Bladder* 343 A hernia of this description is sometimes complicated with a bubonocoele, or hernia of the groin.

† **Bubukle**. Obs. A confusion of BUBO and CABBUNGLE (put into the mouth of Fluelen).

1599 SHAKS. *Hen. V.* III. vi. 108 His face is all bubukles and whelkes.

† **Bubulcitate**, *v.* Obs. -o [f. L. *bubulcītāre*, -āri, f. *bubulcus* cowherd.] (See quots.)

1663 COCKERAM I, *Bubulcitate*, to cry like a cow boy. 1678 PHILLIPS *App. affected Wds.*, *Bubulcitate*, to do the office of a *Bubulcus* or Cowherd.

Buco (c), *obs.* form of BUOK.

† **Bucca**. *dial.* [Corn. *bucca* 'hobgoblin, bugbear, scarecrow', app. cogn. with mod. Welsh *bruggan* spectre.] a. A bogle; applied *inter alia* to the subterranean spirits supposed to frequent tin-mines (see *Philos. Trans.* vol. I.). b. A stupid person. The compounds *bucca-doo* (bugaboo), *bucca-gwid-den*, are also in dial. use (see quots.).

1865 R. HUNT *Poet. Romances W. Eng.* Ser. 1. 67 The Buccas or knockers—These are the sprites of the mines, and correspond to the Kobals of the German mines. 1880 *West Cornw. Gloss.* 7 Newlyn buccas, strong as oak, Knocking 'em down at every poke. *Bucca-doo*, a ghost; a bugbear; a black bucca. *Bucca-gwid-den*, a precocious child; a simple innocent; an insane person.

Buccal (bʊˈkəl), *sb.* and *a.* [f. L. *bucca* cheek, mouth + -AL: as if ad. L. **buccālis*. With sense 1, cf. Sp. *bocal* mouthpiece of a trumpet.]

† *a. sb.* A mouthpiece. Obs.

1605 CHAPMAN & MARSTON *Eastward Hoe* A ij b, You all know the deuse of the Horne, where the young fellow slippes in at the Butte end, and comes squeed out at the Buckall.

B. *adj.* Of or pertaining to the cheek.
 1831 R. KNOX *Cloquet's Anat.* 403 The buccal membrane.
 1854 WOODWARD *Mollusca* (1856) 189 The buccal ganglia.
 || **Buccan, bucan, boucan, sb.** Also **bocan**. [*Boucan* is the French spelling (= *bukan*) of a Tupi or allied Brazilian word, conveyed by Europeans in the 16th c. to Guiana and the West Indies, and hence often set down as Carib, Haitian, etc. The modern Tupi form is *mocaén* (Pg. *mocum* = *mukén*): the Carib names were *ioualla* (*youlla*), *anake*, the Haitian *barbaca*. (E. B. Tylor.)]
 1. A native South American name for a wooden framework or hurdle on which meat was roasted or smoked over a fire.
 1611 E. ASTON tr. *De Lery Hist. Amer.* [The wooden grating set up on four forked posts] which in their language they call a boucan. 1751 CHAMBERS *Cycl.*, *Buccaneers*, or *Bucaniers*, a term properly used for a kind of savages, who prepare their meat on a grate, or hurdle made of Brazil-wood, placed in the smoke, at a good height from the fire, and called buccan. 1854 E. WARBURTON *Darien* II. 34 The buccaneers proceeded to prepare their dinner. The flesh was separated from the bones, cut into long strips, and laid upon the boucan. 1864 WEBSTER, *Buccan*, a grating or hurdle made of sticks. 1873 J. H. TRUMBULL *Proc. Amer. Philol. Assoc.* 13 The Virginia *barbacue* and the French *boucan* (dried meat) were all derived from names of the high wooden gridiron or scaffolding on which Indians dried, smoked, or broiled their meats. This grill was called *boucan* by the Brazilians.
 2. (in form *bocan*) = **BARBECUE** *sb.* 5.
 1857 *Illustr. Lond. News* 28 Mar., The Bocan or building used [in West Indies] for drying and preparing coffee.
 3. **Boucaned** meat. [*prop. Fr.*]
 1860-63 CARLYLE *Fredk. Ct.* xii. xii, Bucaniers, desperate naval gentlemen living on boucan or hung beef.
 || **Buccan, v.** Also **boucane, bucan.** [*a. F. boucaner*, *v.* *boucan*: see *prec.*] *trans.* To expose (meat) to the action of fire and smoke upon a *boucan* or barbecue; to barbecue. Hence **Buccaned** *ppl. a.*, **Buccaning** *vbl. sb.* (More usually spelt like the French.)
 1600 tr. *Laudonnière's Hist. de la Floride* (1586) in Hakluyt III. 307 They ate all their meats broyled on the coales and dressed in the smoke, which in their language they call Boucaned. 1761 *Ann. Reg. Charac.* III. 1/2 These new settlers obtained the name of buccaneers from their custom of boucaning their beef. 1867 *Edin. Rev.* XLV. 407 Instead of always boucaning their meats, they now often used salt. 1865 Tylor *Early Hist. Man* 261 The art of boucaning or barbecuing practised by the Americans. 1865 *Morning Star* 14 Feb., The very name buccaneer is derived from the 'jerked' beef, which was also called 'boucaned' meat.
Buccaneer, -ier (*bəkānī-er*), *sb.* Also 7 **buck**, 8 **bac**, **buc**, **buchaneer**, 8-9 **bucanier**. [*a. F. bucanier* orig. 'one who hunts wild oxen' (Littre), *f. boucan* a barbecue, *boucaner* to dry (meat) on a barbecue, to 'jerk': see *prec.* (Not in Cotgr.)]
 † 1. *orig.* One who dries and smokes flesh on a *boucan* after the manner of the Indians. The name was first 'given to the French hunters of St. Domingo, who prepared the flesh of the wild oxen and boars in this way' (E. B. Tylor *Early Hist. Man* 261). *Obs.*
 1661 HICKERINGILL *Jamaica* 43 Not able to root out a few Buccaneers or Hunting French-men. 1710 J. TAYLOR *Jrnl.* 11 There were a great many French Buccaneers there. 1753 CHAMBERS *Cycl. Supp.* s. v., The antient inhabitants of Hispaniola, and the other Caribb islands, consisted of four ranks or orders, viz. buccaneers, or bull hunters, who scoured the woods. 1761 *Ann. Reg. Charac.* III. 2/2 The Buccaneers lived on some spots of cleared ground just large enough to contain their buccaning houses.
 2. (From the habits which these subsequently assumed:) 'A name given to piratical rovers who formerly infested the Spanish coasts in America' (Falconer *Dict. Marine* 1789).
 1690 B. E. *Dict. Cant. Crew, Buccaneers*, West-Indian Pirates, also the Rude Rabble in Jamaica. 1693 LUTTRELL *Brief Rel.* (1857) III. 96 To pardon all the buccaneers that will assist in taking Martineco. 1719 DE FOE *Crusoe* (1869) 414 Having been an old Planter at Maryland, and a Buccaneer into the Bargain. 1748 ANSON *Voy.* II. I (ed. 4) 169 The usual haunt of the buccaneers and privateers. 1767 T. HUTCHINSON *Hist. Prov. Mass.* i. 86 Bucaniers or pirates were very numerous. 1813 SCOTT *Rokeby* i. note. 1864 BURTON *Scot. Abr.* II. 279 A buccaneer or pirate in the Spanish Main.
attrib. 1790 DE FOE *Capt. Singleton* xiii. (1840) 228 The captain gave me some buccaneer words upon it.
 3. By extension: A sea-rover who makes hostile incursions upon the coast, a 'filibuster'.
 1846 ARNOLD *Hist. Rome* II. xl. 564 To protect the Mamertine buccaneers. 1877 GLADSTONE *Glean.* IV. xxiii. 355 Some of the less temperate of our adventurers (I must not call them buccaneers). 1883 LORD R. GOWAN *Remin. in Glasgow Weekly Her.* 15 June 1/4 The poetic vein was strong in that glorious old buccaneer [Garibaldi].
Buccaneer (*bəkānī-er*), *v.* [*f. prec. sb.*]
 a. = **TO BUCCAN**. b. To act as a buccaneer: cf. **BUCCANEERING** *vbl. sb.*
 1795 WOLCOTT (P. Pindar) *Louisa* II. Wks. 1812 I. 237 'Twould be a serious matter, we can tell ye, Were we to buccaneer it on your belly. 1808 SOUTHEY in *Q. Rev.* XXXVIII. 233 Warner would certainly have been roasted, buccaneered, and eaten, if he had not escaped on board an English vessel. 1853 *Blackw. Mag.* LXXIII. 493 The Indians took the snake-flesh to dry (buccaneer) it.

Buccaneering (*bəkānī-er-ing*), *vbl. sb.* [*f. prec. + -ING*]. The occupation of a buccaneer; piracy. *Buccaneering piece* (*F. fusil boucanier*): a long musket used in hunting wild oxen (Littre).
 1758 H. WALPOLE *Corr.* (1837) I. 383 Lord George Sackville refused to go a-buccaneering. 1761 *Brit. Mag.* II. 612 The said Looney took up a buccaneering piece, and shot the said Captain. 1804 W. IRVING *T. Trav.* (1849) 380 Wealth, which it was whispered he had acquired by buccaneering. 1876 GREEN *Short Hist.* vii. § 8 (1882) 430 A new buccaneering expedition under Drake.
Buccaneering, *ppl. a.* [*f. as prec. + -ING*]. That follows the occupation of a buccaneer.
 1703 DE FOE *True-born Eng.* i. 186 Norwegian Pirates, Buccaneering Danes, with Norman-French compound the Breed. 1800 WIGGINS *Washington* i. (1877) 8 With their buccaneering legions. 1854 H. MILLER *Sch. & Schm.* i. 12. 1868 GLADSTONE *Juv. Mundi* viii. (1870) 251 The rough manners of a sea-faring and buccaneering people.
Buccaneerish, *a.* [*f. as prec. + -ISH*]. Be-fitting or characteristic of a buccaneer.
 1812 SOUTHEY *Omniana* II. 216 From his black beard and buccaneerish sort of look, a sailor would suppose it to be Davy Jones. c. 1850 LOWELL *Poet. Wks.* (1879) 80/2 There is a buccaneerish air about that garb outlandish.
 † **Buccellation**, *Obs. rare*—*v.* [*f. late L. buccella* morsel, irreg. dim. of *bucca* cheek; cf. *bucca* mouthful, morsel. See *-ATION*].
 1659 *Phys. Dict.*, *Buccellation* is dividing into gobbets, or by piece-meals. 1676 PHILLIPS, *Buccellation* (Lat.), a Chymical term, a dividing into Gobbets. Hence in BAILEY and mod. Dicts.
Buccinal (*bəkānī-āl*), *a.* [*f. L. buccina* a crooked trumpet + *-AL*]. Trumpet-shaped; sounding like a trumpet. Hence **Buccinality**.
 1846 in WORCESTER.
 † **Buccinate**, *v.* *Obs. rare*—*v.* [*f. as prec. + -ATE*]. 'To blow a trumpet' (Cockeram 1623).
 In BLOUNT, PHILLIPS, BAILEY, etc.
Buccinator (*bəkānī-tor*), *Anat.* [*a. L. buccinātor*, agent-noun *f. buccināre* to blow the crooked trumpet. So called because it is the chief muscle employed in the act of blowing.]
 Name for a flat thin muscle which forms the wall of the cheek. Also *attrib.*
 1671 tr. *Riolanus' Sure Guide Physick* 220 Vulgarly termed *Buccinator*, or the Trumpeter, it were more rightly called *Bucco* the Cheek driver. 1746 R. JAMES *Introduct. Monstet's Health's Improv.* 2 The Food is then applied to the double Teeth, by the various actions of the Buccinators. 1831 R. KNOX *Cloquet's Anat.* 269 The Buccinator is much larger in glass-blowers and persons who play on wind instruments than in other individuals. 1842 *Blackw. Mag.* LI. 46 Two or three [frogs] are blowing out their buccinators.
Buccinatory, *a.* [*f. as if ad. L. *buccinā-torius*]. Pertaining to a trumpeter or trumpeting.
 1760 STERNE *Tr. Shandy* (1802) III. vi. 268 Directing the buccinatory muscles along his cheeks, to do their duty, he whistled Lillabullero. 1833 *Blackw. Mag.* XXXIII. 589 As if the buccinatory muscles of the cheek had not been in working condition.
Buccinite (*bəkānī-īt*), *Palaeont.* [*f. BUCCIN-UM + -ITE*]. A fossil shell allied to the buccinum.
 1854 TH. ROSS *Humboldt's Trav.* I. ii. 108 Volcanic breccia, said to contain . . . buccinites.
Buccinoid (*bəkānī-ōid*), *a. Zool.* [*f. BUCCIN-UM + -OID*]. Resembling the buccinum.
 1854 WOODWARD *Mollusca* (1856) 127, *Macrocheilus*, shell thick, ventricose, buccinoid. 1875 BLAKE *Zool.* 253 The genus forms part of the buccinoid family of the pectini-branchiate order of Gasteropoda.
 || **Buccinum** (*bəkānī-ŭm*), *Zool.* [*L.*: from a supposed resemblance to a trumpet.] The genus of gasteropod Molluscs represented by the Whelk.
 1601 HOLLAND *Pliny* I. 258 The lesse shell called Buccinum, fashioned like unto that horn or cornet, hath a round back. 1854 GOSSE *Nat. Hist. Mollusca* 182 The buccinum was observed to perforate a small hole in the shell.
Buccoon, var. of **BUCKONE**, *Obs.*
Buccora, var. of **BUCKRA**.
 † **Bucculent**, *a. Obs. rare*—*v.* [*a. L. bucculent-us*, *f. bucca* cheek.] 'Blub-cheeked, wide-mouth' (Blount *Glossogr.* 1656).
Buce, *obs. form of BUSS*.
 || **Bucellas** (*biuse-lās*). [The name of a village near Lisbon.] A sort of Portuguese white wine.
 1836 DICKENS *Sk. Bos* (C. D. ed.) 165 A bottle of sauterne, bucellas, and sherry. 1845 HOOD *Public Dinner* ii, Bucellas made handy, With Cape and bad Brandy.
Bucentaur (*biuse-ntōr*, *biuse-ntōr*), [*ad. It. bucentoro*, of uncertain origin; it is commonly supposed that the name was taken from the figure-head of the vessel, representing a creature half man, half ox, which may have been designated by the Gr. name **Boukētravpos*, *f. Gr. Bōis* ox + *travpos* centaur (cf. *δουκētravpos* ONOCENTAUR); the word is unknown to ancient mythology. The Ital. word was sometimes used unchanged.]
 1. *Hist.* The state barge in which on Ascension Day the Doge of Venice went to wed the Adriatic by dropping a ring into it.
 1612 W. SHUTE *Fougasse's Ven.* II. 479 The Bucentaure was gently towed to Venice. 1758 NUGENT *Gr. Tour Italy* III. 61 The Bucentaure is a particular kind of vast gallese, very much adorned with sculptures and gilding.

1818 BYRON *Ch. Har.* iv. xi, The Bucentaur lies rotting un-restored. 1866 *Punch* 27 Oct. LI. 172 She that was plight of old with Doge and Bucentaur and ring.
 † 2. *transf.* A large ship; a gaily decorated barge resembling the Bucentaur of Venice. *Obs.*
 1653 COCKERAM i, *Bucentaure*, a carricke or great ship. [1658 *Hist. Christina Q. Swedland* 83 Her Majesty continu'd her journey towards Bruxells in a Bucentoro most richly adorn'd, and guided within and without.]
Bucephalus (*biuse-fāldz*). [*ad. Gr. Boukēphalos* ox-headed, *f. Bōis* ox + *κεφαλή* head.] The name of Alexander the Great's celebrated charger; applied humorously as a name for any riding-horse.
 [1601 HOLLAND *Pliny* I. 220 Men called [him] Bucephalus . . . of the marke or brand of a bulls head, which was imprinted upon his shoulder.] 1799 SHERIDAN *Pisarro* Prolog., The hack Bucephalus of Rotten Row. 1814 SCOTT *Wav.* vi, The Bucephalus which he bestrode. 1818 BYRON *Ma-seppa* iv, As thy Bucephalus and thou.
Buch, *obs. form of BUDGE and BUSH*.
Buchoh, ? *obs. var. of BUNCH*.
Bucher, Buchery, *obs. ff. BUTCHER, BUTCHERY*.
 † **Buchette**, *Obs. rare*—*v.* [*a. F. bûchette*, dim. of *bûche* billet.] A piece of firewood.
 1507 Bk. *Gd. Mann.* Lij, [The] Fenix . . . assemblen all his buchettes and styckes in the hys mountayne, and synably the fyre enflameth them, and the Fenix is brente.
Bucht, *Sc. form of BOUGHT*, fold.
 || **Buchu** (*bəku*, *būku*). Also 9 **bouchue**, **bucku**. The name given by the natives at the Cape of Good Hope to the plant formerly termed *Diosma crenata*; now assigned in Pharmacopœias to various species of *Barosma*.
 1731 MEDLEY *Kolben's Cape G. Hope* I. 150 Men and women powder themselves all over with Buchu. 1866 *Trans. Bot.* 125 Bucku leaves are much used in medicine as a stimulant and tonic. 1875 H. WOOD *Therap.* (1879) 497 Owing to its bitter principle, buchus is perhaps slightly tonic. 1880 P. GILLMORE *On Duty* 300 He . . . gave me a draught of Bouchue and quinine.
Buchyment, var. of **BUSHMENT**.
Buck (*bək*), *sb.* Forms: (sense 'he-goat') 1 *bucca*, 2-3 *buc*, 3-4 *bucke*, 4-6 *bukke*; (senses 'male deer', etc.) 1, 5 *buc*, 3-5 *bok*, 4-7 *bukke*, *bucke*, 5 *buk*, 4- *buck*. [Orig. two words, OE. *buc* and *bucca*, which became indistinguishable in form after 11th c. So far as the evidence goes, OE. *buc* was used for the male deer, and *bucca* for the he-goat, but the instances are so few that it is far from certain that the words were thus distinguished in meaning. OE. *buc* = MDu. *boc*, Du. *bok*, OHG. *bocch* (MHG. *boc*, mod. G. *bock*), ON. *bukkr* (Sw. *bock*, Da. *buk*), all meaning primarily 'he-goat', though in each of the mod. langs. applied to male animals of the deer kind (in Da. also to the ram):—OTent. **bukko-s*. This was adopted (only in the sense 'he-goat') in *F. bouc*, Pr., Cat. *boc*, OSP. *buco* (Diez); also, in same sense, as Welsh *buch*, Ir., Gael. *boc*. The extended form represented by OE. *bucca* (:-OTent. **bukkon-*) appears to exist in ON. *bokki* 'my good fellow, old buck' (Vigf.), but is otherwise peculiar to English. (With OTent. **bukko-* Fick compares Zend *bāsa* he-goat, also Skr. *bukka* he-goat; but the Teutonic does not phonetically correspond to these. Franck thinks it doubtful whether the word is native Teutonic, or rather an early adoption from some other language.)
 1. The male of several animals.
 † a. The he-goat. *Obs.* Phrase, *To blow the buck's horn*: to have his labour for his pains.
 a 1000 ÆLFRIC *Lev.* v. 23 Gif se ealdor synþap, bringaþ anne buccan to bote. c 1000 Sax. *Leechd.* I. 348 Firgin buccan þæt ys wudu bucca oððe ge. a 1131 O. E. *Chron.* an. 1127 Ða huntas . . . ridone on swarte hors and on swarte bucces. c 1200 *Trin. Coll. Hom.* 37 Sume men leden here lif also get oþer bucces. c 1386 CHAUCER *Milleres T.* 201 Absolon may blowe the bucces horn. 1387 TREVISA *Higden* (1865) I. 265 A peple þat . . . beþ i-cloþed in goot bucces skynnes. 1551 TURNER *Herbal* i. (1568) 59 What hath a whyte fruite . . . to do with the lykenes of a bucces bearde?
 b. The male of the fallow-deer. (In early use perh. the male of any kind of deer.) *Buck of the first head, great buck* (see quot. 1774).
 a 1000 ÆLFRIC *Gloss.* in Wr. Wülcker 119 *Cervus* uel *cripes*, heortbuc. a 1240 *Cuchoo Song* 10 Bulluc stertep, bucke uertep. 1393 GOWER *Conf.* I. 45 She sigh. The buck, the doo, the hert. c 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 55 Buk, best, dama. 1588 SHAKS. *L. L. L.* iv. ii. 10 The Deare . . . was a Bucke of the first head. 1604 CAPT. SMITH *Virginia* i. 3 He sent vs commonly euery day a brace of Bucks. 1774 GOLDSMITH *Nat. Hist.* ii. v. (1862) I. 329 The buck is called . . . the fifth year, a buck of the first head; and the sixth, a great buck.
 c. The male of certain other animals resembling deer or goats, as the reindeer, chamois; in S. Africa (after Du. *bok*) any animal of the antelope kind. Also the male of the hare and the rabbit, (the female being called the *doe*, after analogy of b.).
 a 1674 MILTON *Hist. Mos.* ii. (1851) 484 Being drawn on Sleds with Bucks. 1745 *Compl. Rem. Piece* II. 300 They (rabbits) are distinguished by the Names of Bucks and Does; and the Males are usually call'd Jack Hares. 1879 ATCHERLEY *Botriand* 147 We . . . came repeatedly across large numbers of buck.

2. *transf.* Applied to a man (in various associations).

1303 R. BRUNNE *Handl. Synne* 321a Dese berdede buckys also . . . leue crystyn mennys acyse.

b. A gay, dashing fellow; a dandy, fop, 'fast' man. Used also as a form of familiar address.

In the 18th c. the word indicated rather the assumption of 'spirit' or gaiety of conduct than elegance of dress; the latter notion comes forward early in the present century, and still remains, though the word is now somewhat arch.

1725 *New Cant. Dict.*, Buck, as, A bold Buck, is sometimes used to signify a forward daring Person of either Sex. 1747 GRAY in *Gosse Gray* (Eng. Men Lett.) 90 The fellow-companions—the bucks—are run mad. 1751 FIELDING *Amelia* x. ii. A large assembly of young fellows whom they call bucks. 1763 *Brit. Mag.* IV. 261 The libertine supposes it [wisdom] consists in debauchery . . . the buck and blood, in breaking windows. 1804 W. IRVING *T. Trav.* I. 341 The dashing young buck, driving his own equipage. 1854 THACKERAY *Newcomers* I. 82, I remember you a buck of bucks when that coat first came out to Calcutta. 1880 L. STEPHEN *Pope* i. 12 Proud . . . at being taken by the hand by this elderly buck.

c. *slang.* (see quot.)

1851 MAYHEW *Lab. Labour* 362 (Hoppe) The bucks are unlicensed cabdrivers who are employed by those who have a license to take charge of the cab while the regular drivers are at their meals. 1865 *Morning Star* 14 Sept. What is the prisoner? Constable: He is a 'buck', who hangs about an omnibus stand.

d. A man: applied to native Indians of S. America. *Buck nigger*, 'often vulgarly applied to a negro man. *Western*' (Bartlett *Dict. Amer.*)

1899 BODDAM-WHEATH *Roraima* 123 Stepping timidly along may also be seen two or three 'bucks', as the natives of the interior are called. 1884 *Leisure H.* Jan. 63/2 'Buck' here [British Guiana] is the name for the South American Indian.

1 See BUCK sb.7

3. *Comb.* a. appositive, indicating sex, as *buck-fawn*, *goat*, *-rabbit*, *-rat*; b. objective with vbl. sb., as *buck-hunting*; c. parasynthetic, as *buck-hafted* (for *buck-horn-hafted*); also *+* *buck-hide*, *-hid*, *-hood*, the game of 'hide and seek'. Also BUCK-EYE, *-HORN*, *-HOUND*, *-JUMP*, *-SHOT*, *-SKIN*, *-TOOTH*, etc.

1859 TODD *Cycl. Anat. & Phys.* V. 517/2 At the second year the "buck-fawn" or "pricket" puts forth a simple 'dag'. c. 1615 CHAPMAN *Odyss.* ix. 340 Rams, and 'buck-goats'. 1815 KIRBY & SP. *Entomol.* (1843) I. 333 [Resembling]. . . even to the very handles 'Buck-hafted' carving knives. c. 1450 HENRYSON *Mor. Fab.* 13 Whiles would he wink, and play with her 'buck-hide'. a. 1568 in Sibbald's *Chron. Sc. Poetry* III. 237 (JAM.) Scho plaid with me bukhd. 1664 KILLIGREW *Parson's Wed.* II. ii. A 'buck-hunting-nag'. 1741 *Compl. Fam. Piece* II. i. 293 The same Dogs are used in Buck-hunting. 1877 *Gd. Words* 11/2 Fierce as a 'buck-rat'. + *Buck*, sb.2 *Obs.* [Abbreviated from the full names BUCK-WHEAT, BUCK-MAST.]

1. = BUCK-WHEAT.

1577 B. GOGGE *Heresbach's Husb.* (1586) 40 b, As soone as your rape seede is of (=off). . . you may sowe Bucke. 1670 MARKHAM *Masterly* I. li. 107 Giving them a certaine graine which we call bucke. 1807 VANCOUVER *Agric. Devon* (Catalog. Seeds) Buck, or French wheat.

b. *Running buck*: corn bindweed.

1580 BARET *Alv.* B. 1424 Renning Bucke or binde corne, a weede so called like unto withinde.

2. = BUCK-MAST; beech-mast.

1664 EVELYN *Sylva* (1812) I. 138 In some parts of France they now grind the buck in mills. 1797 BRADLEY *Fam. Dict.* I. s.v. *Beech-tree*.

Buck, sb.3 *arch.* and *dial.* Also 6 *bucke*, *bouke*, *bouck*, 9 *dial.* *book*, *book*. [In the sense of 'lye, washing', evidently belonging to BUCK v.1, of which it is perh. a direct derivative. Whether sense 1 'washing-tub' (?) has the same origin, or whether the word in this sense is distinct, and to be referred to OE. *buc*, *?* *buc*, 'lagena' (see BOWK) is not evident.]

+ 1. ? A washing tub, a vat in which to steep clothes in lye.

1530 PALSGR. 201/2 Bucke to wasshe clothes in, *cuvier*.

2. Lye in which linen, yarn, or cloth, is steeped or boiled as a first step in the process of buck-washing or bleaching.

[1530 PALSGR. 200/1 Bouke of clothes, *bute*.] 1560 WHITEHORNE *Ord. Souldiours* (1588) 45 b, Take of . . . ashes that haue serued in a buck . . . halfe a part. 1615 MARKHAM *Eng. Housw.* II. v. (1668) 139 Give it . . . a couple of cleane Bucks, the next fortnight following. 1721 BAILEY, *Buck*, a Lye made of Ashes. 1808-25 JAMIESON *Dict.*, *Bouk*, a lye made of cow's dung and stale urine or soapy water, in which fowl linen is steeped in order to its being cleansed or whitened.

3. A quantity of clothes, cloth, or yarn, put through the process of bucking, in buckwashing or bleaching; the quantity of clothes washed at once, a 'wash'. To lay the buck: to lay to steep in lye. To drive the buck: to carry through the process of bucking.

1524 MORE *Confut. Tindale* Wks. (1557) 428/2 A womanne washeth a bucke of clothes. 1573 TUSSEY *Husb.* (1878) 166 Maides, three a clock, knede, lay your bucks, or go brew. 1603 HARNET *Pop. Impost.* 26 Being one day in the kitchen wringing out a Bucke of Cloathes. 1648 HERRICK *Cheap Laundry*, The laundresses, they envie her good-luck, Who can with so small charges drive the buck. 1719 D'URFEE *Pills* (1872) V. 58 A jolly brown Wench, a-washing of her Buck. 1753 CHAMBERS *Cycl. Supp.* s.v. *Bucking*, To drive a buck of yarn, they first cover the bottom of the bucking tub with

fine ashes of the ash-tree, etc. 1862 BARNES *Rhymes Dorset Dial.* I. 159 She can iron up an' v'vold A book o' clothes wi' young or wold. 1869 BLACKMORE *Lorna D.* xxxii. (ed. 12) 198 She . . . pointed to the great book of wash.

+ 4. See quot.: but cf. BUCK v.5, BUCKING 4. *Obs.* 1683 PETTUS *Fleta Min.* I. (1686) 109 It is better . . . that the Oars . . . were brought under the Buck or washing place.

5. *Comb.*, as *buck-basket*, *-clothes*, *-sheet*, *-vat*; *buck-ashes*, ashes which have served for making lye, formerly used as manure; + *buck-house*, a house for 'bucking' in; *buck-lye* (see quot.) Also BUCK-WASHING.

1563 HYLL *Art Garden.* (1593) xlix, Sage is . . . to bee covered about with 'Bucke ashes. 1598 SHAKS. *Merry W.* III. v. 86 In her invention . . . they convey'd me into a 'bucke-basket. 1882 GRANT WHITE *Eng. without & w.* 186 To sprinkle clothes that lay in a large buck-basket. 1663 MARBE *Aleman's Guzman d'Alf.* II. 54, I did not goe dropping through the streets like a basket of 'Buck-clothes. 1860 *Union Inventories* (1841) 28 In the Wash house and Well house one 'Buckfatt. 1778 *Belfast News*, in *Antrim & Down Gloss.* (E. D. S.) 14 A good 'buck-house, about 80 feet long, with a well-watered bleaching green. 1632 SHERWOOD, 'Bucke-lye, *buc*. 1879 MISS JACKSON *Shropsh. Wd.-bk.*, *Buck-lye*, a lye of wood-ashes obtained from burning green 'brash' or fern, the latter being esteemed the best.

Buck (bøk), sb.4 A large basket used to catch eels. Also *eel-bucks*, and *attrib.*, as in *buck-stage*.

1851 KINGSLEY *Yeast* iii. 43 The river fell over a high weir, with all its appendages of bucks and hatchways, and eel-baskets. *Ibid.* 53 Help me out along the buck-stage, said Lancelot. 1857-8 *Act 29 & 30 Vict.* lxxxix. Preamble, Certain persons . . . claim a Right . . . to fish with Nets or Bucks in Parts of the Thames. 1867 F. FRANCIS *Angling* iii. (1880) 90 Large baskets called 'bucks'. 1885 *Sat. Rev.* 21 Nov. 673/1 Snigs are only taken in the eel-bucks if they are set with the stream.

Buck, sb.5 *Obs. exc. dial.* [perh. a form of BUCK, OE. *buc* belly, body, trunk, etc.; cf. senses 1, 2 (if these are genuine, and rightly placed here). But the phonetic history is not clear, though the shortening of long *u* is found in *suck*:-*suckan*.]

+ 1. ? The body of an animal, a carcass. *Obs.*

1592 *Acts James VI* (1814) 577 (JAM.) Sic derth is rasit in the cuntry that ane mutton buck is deirar and far surmountis the price of ane boll of quehit.

+ 2. ? Belly. *Obs.*

1607 TORSELL *Four-f. Beasts* 515 The ventricle [in swine] is large to receive much meat, and to concoct it perfectly, we call it vulgarly the Buck. 1621 [see sense 3].

3. The body of a cart or wagon. Used *dial.*, and in U. S. in *comb.*, as *buck-board*, *-cart*, *-wagon*, species of vehicles.

1621 RAY *S. & E. Country Wds.*, *Buck* the breast. *Suss.* It is used for the body, or the trunk of the body. 'The buck of a cart', i.e. the body of a cart. 1767 A. YOUNG *Farmer's Lett.* People 273 These wagons . . . should . . . have very stout hanging-boards . . . projecting, about fourteen or sixteen inches from the buck, over the wheels. 1882 EVANS *Leicestersh. Wds.* (E. D. S.) *Buck*, the front part of the body of a cart or wagon, generally constructed with a ledge at the top called the 'fore-buck'. 1883 *Harper's Mag.* Aug. 390/2 The common road cart . . . costs \$15; the fashionable buckboard, \$40. 1884 *Chr. World* 7 Aug. 598/3, I have just had a ride in a buckcart. 1885 *Sat. Rev.* 21 Feb. 240/1 A buckboard is a plank of well-seasoned wood . . . slung upon four wheels placed within two feet of either end. Across the middle of the board is a light seat holding two persons.

4. 'A T-shaped end to the plough-beam, having notches in it for the purpose of regulating the draught of the plough. The "shackle" goes into it to which the horses are yoked.' Miss Jackson *Shropsh. Word-bk.*

1562 *Wills & Inv.* N. C. (1835) 207 J wayne heade shakle, j waynehead yoke . . . j bucschackill. 1688 HOLME *Armoury* III. viii. 332 The Buck [of a plow] is the iron which the Horses are tyed unto.

+ *Buck*, sb.6 *Obs. rare.* The action of BUCK v.2 1610 GUILLIM *Heraldry* III. xiv. (1660) 166 You shall say Hart or Conie goeth to his Buck.

Buck, sb.7 U. S. [a. Du. *zaag-boc*, G. *sägebock*, or shortly *bock*; the same word as *bock* goat; so F. *chevre*.] A frame or stand of two crotches connected by bars, serving as a rest for pieces of wood while being cross-cut; a saw-buck.

1860 in BARTLETT *Dict. Amer.*

In *Comb.* *buck-saw*, a heavy kind of frame-saw used with a buck.

Buck, a. [The stem of BUCK v.1 used *attrib.* = bucking.] Of rain: Soaking, heavy.

1799 ELLIS *Pract. Farmer* 19 in *Britten Old Country Wds.* (E. D. S.) Lest the buck rains (as the farmers call them) fall fast and harden the ground.

+ *Buck*, v.1 *Obs. exc. dial.* Also 4 *bouken*, 5 *bowke*, 5-6 *bucke*, *bouck*, 9 *Sc. bouk*. [ME. *bouken*, *bowken*, answering to an OE. type **būcian* not found. Cognate words appear both in Teut. and Romanic; cf. OHG. *būhhen*, MHG. *būchen*, Ger. *büchen*, *beuchen*, LG. *būken*, Sw. *byka*, to steep in lye; Ger. *beuche*, Sw. *byk* lye, a wash of clothes. Also F. *buer*:-L. type **būcare* to steep in lye, wash clothes, It. *bucata*, Sp. *bugada*, F. *bude* lye, a wash of clothes. The relation of the Teutonic and Romanic words is not settled: Kluge thinks the Teutonic may be original: see also Dier, and cf. BUCK sb.3]

1. *trans.* To steep or boil in an alkaline lye as a first process in buck-washing, or bleaching.

1377 LANGLAND *P. Plowman* B. xiv. 19 Dowel [shal] wasshen it . . . Dobet shal beten it and bouken it. 1413 LYDG. *Pylgr. Soule* I. xxv. (1850) 30 She hadde bathyd, bowkid hym, and strongly wesshen hym. 1530 PALSGR. 472/1 Bucke these shyrtys, for they be to foule to be wasshed by hande. 1562 BULLEVYN *Bk. Simples*, &c. 33 a, This venemous herbe . . . women use to bucke their clothes with. 1615 MARKHAM *Eng. Housw.* II. v. (1668) 139 Buck it with Lie and green Hemlocks. 1720 *Stow's Surv.* (ed. Strype 1754) I. i. xxvi. 207/2 Juniper ashes to buck their clothes. 1820 *Glenfergus* III. 84 (JAM.) [They] had them [their necks and arms] boukit an' graithed.

2. *transf.* To drench, soak.

1494 FABYAN *Chron.* VII. cxliiii. 284 Fell such plente of water, y^e the grounde was therewith . . . bucked and drowned. 1619 R. HARRIS *Drunkard's Cup* 21 Our brethren . . . whilst they bee buckt with drinke, and then laid out to be sunn'd and scorned.

Buck (bøk), v.2 [f. BUCK sb.1] To copulate with; said of male rabbits and some other animals.

1530 PALSGR. 472/1 Konyes buck every moneth. 1575 TURNERV. *Bk. Venerie* lxiii. 178 The Conie . . . must be bucked againe, for els she will cate vp hir Rabets. 1616 SURFL. & MARKH. *Countr. Farm* 315. 1741 *Compl. Fam. Piece* II. i. 303.

Buck (bøk), v.3 [f. BUCK sb.1] *intr.* Of a horse: To leap vertically from the ground, drawing the feet together like a deer, and arching the back. Also *trans.* To buck off. Cf. BUCKJUMP.

1859 [see BUCKING vbl. sb.3]. 1880 *Blackw. Mag.* Feb. 164 When a horse bucks heavily. 1881 *Chq. Career* 38 He bucked me off more times than I can remember.

Buck (bøk), v.4 U. S. [perh. from BUCK sb.7] *trans.* To lay across a log.

1865 *Morning Star* Oct., He also saw men bucked by order of Wirtz for attempting to escape. 1879 *Tourgees Foot's Err.* 73 Dragging the ministers from the pulpit, bucking them across a log, and beating them.

Buck (bøk), v.5 *Mining.* Also to buck-work.

[Cf. Du. *boken*, *boocken* 'to beat or to strike', Hexham.] *trans.* To break over every small with a bucker. Cf. BUCKING vbl. sb.4

1683 PETTUS *Fleta Min.* I. (1686) 243 The flinty copper Oars . . . may very easily . . . be buck'd through. 1769 *Nat. Hist. in Ann. Reg.* 102 note, To buck or buckwork the ore is a technical term among miners for beating or reducing the ore to a small sand. 1846 *Specimens Cornish Dial.* 22 [He] Trudg'd hum fram Bal fram bucking copper ore.

Buck (bøk), v.6 *dial.* & U. S. [? corruption of *bull*, associated with BUCK sb.1] *trans.* To butt.

1750 ELLIS *Country Housw.* 174 in *Britten Old Country Wds.* (E. D. S.) Many of these kickers are very apt and prone to buck other cows . . . for which reasons, all cows should have wooden tips fastened to the end of their horns. 1834 M. SCOTT *Cruise Midge* (1863) 170 The pet lamb . . . was making believe to buck him with its head. 1848-60 in BARTLETT.

Buck, v.7 *dial.* or *collog.* [f. BUCK sb.1 2.] In *buck up* (*trans.*, and *intr.* for *refl.*): To dress up.

1854 DE BONELLI *Travels in Bolivia* I. 28 The young gentlemen of our party began to buck up and tried to outvie each other in doing the amiable. 1875 in *Lanc. Gloss.* (E. D. S.) 60 'Hello, Jim, what art' bucked-up for?

+ *Buckasie*, *Obs. Sc.* Also *buckasy*, *buk-kesy*. The same as BOCASIN.

1474 *Acc. Y. Bp. Glasgow* in *Borthwick's Rem. Brit. Antig.* 131 (JAM.), 5 quarters of buckasy, for a doublet to littill Bell, 10s. 1478 *Act. Audit.* 83 (JAM.) A doublet of bukkesy. 1485 [see BOCASIN] Bokesy. 1611 *Rater* (JAM.) Buckasie, the hail pecee containing two half peeces, xl.

Buck-bean (bøkbin). *Herb.* Also 6 *buckes* beanes. [App. a transl. by Lyte of the Flemish *bucks boonen* 'goat's beans'; cf. mod. Du. *bucksboom*, Ger. *bucksbohne* (1586 in Grimm). (Another name of the plant, of later appearance, is BOG-BEAN, which may be a rationalizing alteration of *buck-bean*, unless, like *bog nut*, *bog trefoil*, it is quite independent in origin.)]

A water plant (*Menyanthes trifoliata*) common in bogs in Britain, and widely diffused over the northern hemisphere; it bears racemes of pinkish white flowers.

1578 LYTE *Dodoens* IV. lxxviii. 542 Of Buckes Beanes—Marrishe Trefoyl. This herbe is called . . . in Brabant, *Bocx-boonen* that is to say Bockes Beanes, bycause it is like the leanes of the common Beane. 1676 *Phil. Trans.* XI. 743 Several men cured of the Gout by a decoction of *Trifolium palustre* (Marsh-trefoil or Buck-beans). 1755 *Gentl. Mag.* 431 Two or three dishes of chocolate, or two dishes of buck-bean tea. 1794 MARTYN *Roussau's Bot.* xvi. 176 Marsh Trefoil, Buck-bean, or Bog-bean. 1863 BARING *Gould Island* 191 The broad leaves of the buckbean float on the red water. 1866 *Treas. Bot.* 736 The beautiful Buckbean or Marsh Trefoil . . . a most desirable acquisition to ornamental ponds.

+ *Bucked*, *ppl. a.* *Obs. exc. dial.* [f. BUCK v.1 + -ED.] That has been buck-washed.

1654 URQUHART *Fewel Wks.* (1834) 230 He came out with a long gray beard and a bucked ruff.

Buckeen (bøkēn). *Anglo-Irish.* [f. BUCK sb.1 2 + -EEN, dim. suffix; cf. *squireen*.] A young man belonging to the 'second-rate gentry' of Ireland, or a younger son of the poorer aristocracy, having no profession, and aping the habits of the wealthier classes.

1793 S. CRUMME *Essay, Empl. People* 18: Those nuisances . . . to every rank of society . . . bucks and buckeens. 1812 MAR. EDGEWORTH *Absentee* vii, Squireens . . . a race of men who have succeeded to the Buckeens. 1851 THACKERAY *Eng.*

Hum. vi. (1858) 320 After College, he...lived for some years the life of a bucket.

Bucket¹ (*bʊkət*). [*f.* BUCK *v.* 3 + *-ER* 1.] A horse given to bucking.

1884 *Harper's Mag.* July 301/1 If we should...select 'a bucket', the probabilities are that we will come to grief.

Bucket², *Mining*. [*f.* BUCK *v.* 5] A hammer used in bucking ore (see quot.).

1633 *MANLOVE Rhymed Chron.* 261 Break-offs, and Buckers, Randum of the Rake. 1747 *HOOSON Miner's Dict.* H i j b, A mixture of Stone...with the Ore...goes under the Buckers, and then it yields good Smitham. 1851 *TAPPING Gloss. Derbysh. Min. T.* (E. D. S.) *Bucket*...consists of a flat piece of iron about the size of a man's open hand; at the back of it is a broad ring, through which is thrust a piece of wood for a handle.

Buckram (*ə*, *-ərom*, obs. *f.* BUCKRAM).

† **Buckerels**, *Obs.* (See quot.)

1649 *LD. HERBERT Hen. VIII.* 68 Two Apprentices playing only at Buckerels in the street late on May-eve. 1681 *BLOUNT Glossogr.*, *Buckerels*, a kind of play used by Boys in London Streets, in H. 8 time; now disused, and forgot.

Buckery, *nonce-wd.* [*f.* BUCK *sb.* 1 + *-ERY*.] Bucks or swells, collectively or as a class.

1804 *SOUTHEY in C. Southey Life II.* 284 The whole mob of Park Loungers and Kensington Garden buckery.

Buckesome, obs. form of BUXOM.

Bucket (*bʊkət*), *sb.* 1. Forms: 3-4 bucket (*t*), 4 bucket, 4-6 boket (*t*), 5 bucket (*t*), 5-6 buckette, 3- bucket. [Etymology uncertain: app. a. OF. *buket* washing tub, milk-pail (Godef. s.v. *buquet*); cf. OE. *buc* 'lagena', *Bowk.*]

1. a. 'The vessel in which water is drawn out of a well.' b. 'The vessels in which water is carried, particularly to quench a fire.' (*J.*)

Buckets are usually of leather or wood; now chiefly the latter. The local application of the word varies greatly: in the south-east of England and in U. S. a bucket is a round wooden pail with arched handle; in south of Scotland it is a 4-sided wooden vessel for carrying salt, coal, ashes, etc.

1300 *Cursor M.* 3306 Wantes vs here. Ne mele, ne bucket, ne funell. 1388 *Wyclif Isa. xl.* 15 As a drope of a boket. 1423 *JAS. I King's Q.* 70 As Tantalus...Water to draw w^r bucket botemles. 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 42 Bokett, *silula, mergus*. 1558-3 *Inv. Ch. Goods Staffs.* 12 A pix of masten, a bokett of brasse, vj alter cloths. 1593 *SHAKS. Rich. II.* iv. 1. 185 Like a deepe Well, That owes two Buckets, filling one another, The emptier euer dancing in the ayre, The other downe, vnseene, and full of Water. 1611 *BIBLE Pref.* 4 Like children at Jacobs well...without a bucket. 1790 *GAY Poems* (1745) I. 225 Fetch the leathern bucket that hangs in the belfry. 1838 *SCOTT Nigel xlii.* There are fagots and a bucket of sea-coal in the stone-chest. 1852 *Leisure Hour* 632 The blocks of stone which contain the ore are brought up in buckets.

b. Phrase, *To give the bucket to*: to dismiss; cf. *give the bag, the sack*. *To kick the bucket*: see BUCKET².

1863 *MRS. GASKELL Sylvia's L.* II. 122 He were sore put about because Hester had g'en him the bucket.

2. The piston of an ordinary lift-pump.

1634 *BATE Myst. Nat. & Art* 9 If you lift the sweepe, it will thrust down the bucket upon the water. 1650 *LEAK Water-wks.* 17 The Sucker...sustains the Water when the Buckets or Suckers of the Pumps are not lifted up. 1838 *IMISON Sc. & Art I.* 183 This piston is then called the bucket.

3. One of the compartments on the circumference of a water-wheel, which retain the water while they descend; one of the scoops of a dredging machine; one of the series of metal cups on the endless band of a grain-elevator.

1799 *SMEATON in Phil. Trans.* LI. 133 If a stream of water falls into the bucket of an overshot wheel, it is there retained till the wheel by moving round discharges it. 1812 *PLAYFAIR Nat. Phil.* (1819) I. 217 The momentum of the water in the buckets is equal to the momentum of the resistance. 1831 *LARDNER Hydrostatics* x. 198 On the rim of the wheel...a number of cavities, called buckets, are constructed.

4. *transf.* † a. A cooler over an alembic. b. A leathern socket or rest for the whip in driving, or for the carbine or lance as part of cavalry equipment. c. The socket for the stump in an artificial leg or arm. d. A canvas-covered frame used as a signal for boats. e. Applied to the 'pitcher' in certain orchids.

1594 *PLAT Yewell-ko.* II. 3 The bucket, or cooler in the head (of the Limbeck). 1833 *Regul. Instr. Cavalry* I. 103 Draw the carbine from the bucket. *Ibid.* 161 The lance is to rest with the butt-end in the bucket on the right stirrup. 1863 *WHYTE MELVILLE Ins. Bar* (ed. 12) 250, I put the whip in the bucket, and drove steadily on. 1871 *TYNDALL Fragn. Sc.* (ed. 6) II. ix. 178 A bucket, with an aperture like a spout, is formed in an orchid.

5. *Comb.*, as bucket-engine, a machine having buckets attached to an endless chain running over sprocket-wheels, so as to utilize the power of a small stream of water with a good fall; † bucket-fountain, a means of raising water with buckets; bucket-hook (U. S.), a contrivance for attaching a bucket to the sugar-maple tree, for the purpose of catching the sap; bucket-lift, a set of iron pipes attached to a lift-pump; bucket-pump, a lift-pump; bucket-rod, a rod carrying the piston of a lift-pump; bucket-rope (see quot.); bucket-valve, a round valve employed in the air-pump of a steam-engine; bucket-well, a well from which

the water is drawn by a bucket; bucket-wheel, an ancient contrivance for raising water, consisting of buckets fixed round a wheel, or attached to a rope passing round a wheel, which fill at the bottom and empty themselves into a trough at the top.

1655 *MRS. WORCESTER Cent. Inv. Index* 3 A Bucket-fountain (How to raise water constantly with two Buckets only—art. 21). 1607 *CAPT. SMITH Seaman's Gram.* vi. 27 The Bucket rope that is tied to the Bucket by which you hale and draw water vp by the ships side. 1630 *J. TAYLOR (Water P.) Navy of Landships Wks.* I. 81/1 The Guestroppe, Bucketrope, and Porterope...were all of rare stuffes of great price. 1813 *Examiner*, 11 Jan. 22/1 The female was found in a bucket well.

Bucket, *sb.* 2. [Perhaps a. OF. *buquet*, 'tré-buquet, balance' Godef. It is uncertain whether quot. 1597, and the proverbial phrase, relate to this word or the prec.] A beam or yoke on which anything may be hung or carried.

1570 *LEVINUS Manib.* 86 A Bucket, beame, *tolla*. 1597 *SHAKS. 2 Hen. IV.* III. ii. 283 Swifter then hee that gibbets on the Brewers Bucket. *Mod. Newspaper.* The beam on which a pig is suspended after he has been slaughtered is called in Norfolk, even in the present day, a 'bucket'. Since he is suspended by his heels, the phrase to 'kick the bucket' came to signify to die.

Hence (perhaps) *To kick the bucket*; (*slang*) to die. 1705 *GROSE Dict. Vulgar Tongue*, *To kick the bucket*, to die. 1806 *WOLCOTT (P. Pindar) Tristia Wks.* 1812 V. 242 Pitt has kicked the bucket. 1830 *TANNHILL Poems* (1846) 57 Till time himself turn auld and kick the bucket. 1840 *MARRIAT Poor Jack xxx.* He drained it dry...and 'kicked the bucket'. 1850 *KINGSLEY Alt. Locke* II.

Bucket (*bʊkət*), *v.* [*f.* BUCKET *sb.* 1.]

1. *trans.* To lift (water) in buckets; also with *out*, *up*. Also *fig.*

1649 *Wandering Jew, Alderman's F.* (1857) 21 Deepe wells by continuall bucketting the water out, are in the end drawne dry. 1872 *A. J. ELLIS in Philol. Soc. Trans.* (1873) 31 The Greek, that great well whence we bucket up our abstract terms.

2. To pour buckets of water over; to drench.

1661 *BURTON Anat. Mel.* II. ii. (1651) 239 He would have his patient...to be bucketted, or have the water poured on his head. 1870 *HACKETT Alp. Williams* II. 194 Wo be to him whose head is bucketted with waters of a scalding bath.

3. *slang*. To cheat, swindle.

1822 *J. H. VAUX Flash Dict. s.v.* To bucket a person is synonymous with putting him in the well. 1838 *SCOTT Diary in Lockhart* (1839) IX. 253 Thurtell...must in slang phrase have bucketted his palls.

4. To ride (a horse) hard, reckless of his fatigue; to 'pump' (take it out of him by bucketfuls).

1836 [see BUCKETING *vbl. sb.* 2]. 1868 *TOTTENHAM C. Villars I.* 243 Bucketting his wretched horse home to Cambridge.

5. *Rowing. intr.* To hurry the forward swing of the body preparatory to taking the stroke; also *trans.*, as *to bucket the recovery*; and *causally*, *to bucket an oarsman or crew*.

1869 [see BUCKETING *phl. a.*] 1876 *BESANT & RICE Gold. Butterfly* xv. 130 He was not so straight in the back as an Oxford stroke; and he bucketted about a good deal, but he got along. 1882 *St. James's Gas.* 15 Mar. 6/2 Smith shows a considerable tendency to bucket the recovery. 1884 *Ibid.* 25 Jan. 6/2 Style and form are best taught to men if they are not bucketted. *Mod. (Oxford Coach)*—'Don't bucket your bodies!' They bucketted over the course; they rowed a bucketting stroke.

Bucketful (*bʊkətful*). [*f.* BUCKET *sb.* 1 + *-FUL*.] As much as a bucket will hold.

1563 *Bacon New Catech.* (1844) 39 All people are in comparison of him as a drop to a bucket-full. 1656 *TRAPP Comm. Matt.* vii. 11 He will pour out...as it were by pails or buckets full. 1856 *KANE Arch. Expl.* I. xv. 165 A stove, glowing with at least a bucketful of anthracite.

Bucketting (*bʊkətiŋ*), *vbl. sb.*

1. The using of a bucket; the pouring of bucketfuls of water over a person.

1598 *SILVESTER Du Bartas* (1608) 10 Danaides sivelike Tub...never full for all their bucketting. 1648 *HERRICK Hesper.* I. 28 Water, Water...come all to buckettings. 1799 *B. MARTIN Nat. Hist. Eng.* I. 85 Bucketting...taking up the Water in Buckets, and pouring it leisuely on the Parts affected. 1863 *KINGSLEY Water-bab.* iv. 175 They...had recourse to...Buckettings with cold water.

2. a. Heavy, exhausting riding. b. = PUMPING; breathless exhaustion by violent exercise. c. Hurried and jerky rowing.

1856 *WHYTE MELVILLE Kate Coventry* xi. I had rather give Brilliant a good 'bucketting'...over an even heath or a line of grass. 1876 *BESANT & RICE Gold. Butterfly* xv. 133 Jack's bucketting up the river. 1883 *MISS BRADDON Gold. Cal.* xxi. 238 The laming of a fine horse by injudicious bucketting up hill and down hill. 1883 *Standard* 22 Feb. 3/7 Dry Remark...had a fearful bucketting before the spin ended.

Bucketting, *phl. a.* [*f.* BUCKET *v.* + *-ING*.] That buckets; cf. BUCKET *v.* 5.

1869 *Echo* 26 Aug. Their recovery forward is flurried and 'bucketting'. 1882 *St. James's Gas.* 7 Mar. Smith has a hanging, bucketting recovery.

Bucket-shop, *U. S.* [*f.* BUCKET *sb.* 1 + *SHOP*.]

(The *Leeds Mercury* of Dec. '86 says—'The market authority in Chicago, called the Board of Trade, would not allow a deal in 'options' of less than 5,000 bushels of grain. In order to catch men of small means, what was called the 'Open Board of Trade'...commenced business in an alley under the regular Board of Trade Rooms. There was an elevator to carry the members of the board to their rooms, and occasionally a member, if trade was slack, would call out, 'I'll send down and get a bucketful pretty soon,' referring to the speculators in the 'Open Board of Trade'

below. Hence the term 'bucket shop' came to be applied to all grain gambling institutions.)

An unauthorized office used originally for smaller gambling transactions in grain, and subsequently extended to offices for other descriptions of gambling and betting on the markets, the stocks, etc.

1882 *Standard* 28 Dec. 6/5 A system of speculation carried on in grain in what are termed bucket-shops. 1886 *Statist* 28 Aug. 234 The 'bucket shop' is an American institution...and it was first used for retail gambling in grain. *Ibid.* 235 Men opened offices...and started a business in Stocks which was simply betting...The 'bucket shop' keeper...offered to deal at close prices and without commission...There are 'bucket shops' and 'bucket shops'. The worst class of them are thimble and pea sharpers under a more polite name. 1886 *Boston (Mass.) Jnl.* 11 Nov. 2/2 A new plan to suppress bucket-shops and restore speculative trading to former channels.

Buckety, *Sc.* ['A corruption of *buckwheat*' (Jamieson).] Paste used by weavers in dressing their webs.

Buckety (*bʊkəti*), *a.* [*f.* BUCKET *sb.* 1 + *-Y*.] Bucket-like, clumsy.

1883 *Harper's Mag.* Jan. 177/2 Great buckety boots of Cordovan leather.

Buck-eye, *Bot.* [said to be *f.* BUCK *sb.* 1 + *EYE*; see quot. 1841.]

1. The American Horse-chestnut (*Aesculus glabra*).

1789-96 *MORSE Amer. Geog.* I. 636 The buckeye...is the horse chestnut of Europe. 1841 *MRS. LONDON 1st Bk. Bot.* (1845) 25 Called buck-eye...from the hilum of the fruit having the appearance of a stag's eye.

2. *U. S. colloq.* A native of Ohio, the 'Buckeye State', in which the *Aesculus glabra* abounds.

Buck-eyed, *a. Farriery*. Having bad or speckled eyes; said of horses.

1847 in *CRAIG*.

Buck-horn (*bʊk'hɔrn*). Also *Buck's horn*. [*f.* BUCK *sb.* 1 + *HORN*.]

† 1. a. The horn of a buck. b. The horn of a goat used for blowing a blast. *Obs.*

1447-8 *SHILLINGFORD Lett.* (1871) 36 Welche bukhorn was presented to my lord on Candelemasse day. 1548 *Compt. Scot.* (1801) 65 Hudit hirdis blauuand ther buhornis.

2. The material of a buck's horn; also attrib. made of, or hard as buck's horn, horny.

1613 *W. BROWNE Brit. Past.* I. 85 The swarty Smith spits in his buckhorne fist. 1800 *SCOTT Monast.* xix. A large knife hilted with buck-horn. 1881 *Macm. Mag.* XLIV. 473/1 Jacket with a...green collar, and buckshorn buttons. 8. From its hardness: Dried whitening or other fish. (Cf. early mod. Du. *bokshoren*.)

1622 *CAREW Cornwall* 35 a, Dried, as Buckhorne made of whittings. 1611 *COTGR. s.v. Merlan*, A dried Whiting; the fish which we call Buckhorne. 1655 *MOUFFAT & BENNET Health's Improv.* (1746) 262 Stock-fish, whilst it is unbeaten, is called Buckhorn. 1827 *VANCOUVER Agric. Devon* (1813) 398 Thus prepared, they...are called buckhorn.

Buck-hound (*bʊk'hauŋd*). [*f.* BUCK *sb.* 1 + *HOUND*.] A smaller variety of stag-hound used for hunting bucks. *Master of the Buckhounds*, an officer of the Royal Household.

1530 *PALSGR.* 201/2 Bucke hound, *limonier*. 1542 *UDALL Erasme. Apoph.* 127 b, There bee harryers, or buckhounds. 1679-88 *Secr. Serv. M. Chas. & Jas.* (1851) 103 To John Branch, serj^t of the buckhounds to King Charles 2d. 1753 *HANWAY Trav.* II. Gloss. Mir-chekarbachi...answers to our master of the buckhounds. 1875 'STONEHENGE' *Brit. Sports* I. II. ii. § 1. 153 Formerly, hounds were kept to hunt the fallow deer, called buckhounds.

Buckie (*bʊki*). *Sc.* Also 6 *bukie*. [Derivation unknown; cf. *L. buccinum* whelk. Perhaps sense 2 is a distinct word: ? *f.* BUCK *sb.* 1.]

1. The whorled shell of any mollusc; e.g. whelk. [1502 *W. DUNBAR Two Mar. Wom. & Wido* 276 And with a bukky in my cheik bo on him behind.]

1596 *DALRYMPLE tr. Leslie's Hist. Scot.* 57 In the space of xii. hours they grow in fair cockils or bukies. 1638 *H. ADAMSON Mus. & Theriaca* 2 (JAM.) Triton, his trumpet of a Buckie Propin'd to him, was large and bukcie. 1814 *SCOTT Diary in Lockhart* (1839) IV. 260 They gather shells on the shore, called Johnnie Groat's bukies. 1845 *PETRAE Eccl. Archil. Irel.* 94 Oyster shells, bukies or sea-shells.

2. A perverse or refractory person.

1719 *RAMSAY Ep. Lt. Hamilton* iii, Gin ony sourmoo'd ginning bucky Ca' me conceity keckling chucky. 1791 *BURNS Ep. to J. Maxwell* iii, If envious bukies view wi' sorrow Thy lengthen'd days. 1814 *SCOTT Wav. III.* 133 (JAM.) 'It was that deevil's bukcie, Callum Beg'.

Bucking (*bʊkiŋ*), *vbl. sb.* 1 [*f.* BUCK *v.* 1 + *-ING*.] The operation of steeping or boiling

yarn, cloth, or clothes in a lye of wood-ashes, etc., in the old process of bleaching, or in buck-washing; the quantity of clothes, etc. so treated; app. also the lye used in the process. (Cf. *blackening*.)

1483 *Cath. Angl.* 38 A Bowkyng for to putte in and bowke and wasche alle fylthes. 1598 *SHAKS. Merry W.* III. iii. 140 Throw fowle linnen vpon him, as if it were going to bucking. 1753 *CHAMBERS Cycl. Suppl.* s. v., Bucking of cloth is the first step or degree of whitening it. 1818 *HOGG Brownie of Bodys.* II. 161 (JAM.) Help me to the water wi' a bucking o' claes? 1822 *IMISON Sc. & Art* II. 163 This alternate bucking and exposing on the grass is the old manner of bleaching. 1875 *URE Dict. Arts* I. 364 Boiling in an alkaline lye, or, in other words, bucking or bowking.

2. *Comb.*, as bucking-basket, -cloth, -house, -stoke,

-stool, -tub, -vat. Also bucking-ashes = *buck-ashes* (BUCK sb. 3 s); bucking-keir, -washing, see *quots.*

1577 B. GOODE *Heresbach's Husb.* (1586) 65 b. The Gardners use to lay *bucking ashes about it. 1832 SCOTT *Nigel* ii. Off with Janet in her own *bucking-basket. 1551-60 *Inv.* in H. Hall Soc. in *Elisab. Age* (1886) 152 A Bucking Tubb. A *Bucking clothe and a pail. 1615 MARKHAM *Eng. Housew.* ii. v. (1668) 138 Cover the uppermost Yarn with a bucking-cloth. 1597 *Manchester Crt. Leet Records* (1885) II. 124 From the north to the *bowking howse eight and fortie yards. 1820 HENRY *Elem. Chem.* (1826) II. 274 The goods... are laid in a large wooden vat or *bowking keir. 1483 *Cath. Angl.* 38 A *Bowkynstoke, *linoxatorium*. 1664 GAYTON *Fest. Notes* iii. iii. (L.) No bigger than a toad upon a *bucking-stool. 1615 MARKHAM *Eng. Housew.* ii. v. (1668) 138 You shall pull out the spigget of the *bucking-tub. a 1668 BROME *Queen's Exch.* ii. ii. Their Buckets shall they bring. Their Bucking tubs, Baskets and Battledores. 1822 IMISON *Sc. & Art* II. 163 It is then returned again into the *bucking vat. 1818 SCOTT *Hrt. Midl.* xvii. 'I'll cry up Ailie Muschat, and she and I will have a grand *bucking-washing'. 1808-25 JAMIESON *Dict., Boukin-washing, Boukit-washin*, the great annual purification of the family linen, by means of bouk.

Bucking, *vbl. sb.* 2 [f. BUCK v. 2 + -ING 1.] The copulation of certain animals. Also attrib.

1535 COVERDALE *Gen.* xxx. 47 In the first buckynge tyme of the flockes. 1697 COLVIL *Whig's Supplic.* (1751) 122 Finmaoul... in a bucking time of year Did rout and chase a herd of deer.

Bucking (*bŭ'kin*), *vbl. sb.* 3 [f. BUCK v. 3 + -ING 1.] = Buck-jumping.

1821 H. KINGSLEY *G. Hamlyn* II. 212 That same bucking is just what puzzles me utterly. 1882 *Detroit Free Press* 2 Dec. 1/6 What he has just done is called bucking.

Bucking (*bŭ'kin*), *vbl. sb.* 4 Mining. [f. BUCK v. 5 + -ING 1.] A peculiar manner of bruising ore practised in mines in Cornwall and Derbyshire; see *quot.* Attrib. in *bucking hammer, iron, plate.*

1875 *USE Dict. Arts* II. 85 In small mines Bucking is resorted to... This operation consists of pounding pieces of mixed ore on a slab of iron by means of a hammer or bucker. *Ibid.* I. 548 A bucking iron is a flat iron fixed on a handle, with which the ore is crushed; and a bucking plate is an iron plate on which the ore is placed to be crushed.

Bucking (*bŭ'kin*), *ppl. a.* [f. BUCK v. 3] Of a horse: That bucks or buck-jumps.

1829 H. KINGSLEY *G. Hamlyn* II. 212 [He] can sit some bucking horses which very few men will attempt to mount.

Buckish (*bŭ'kif*), *a.* [f. BUCK sb. 1 + -ISH 1.]

1. Resembling or characteristic of a he-goat; lascivious; ill-smelling.

1515 BARCLAY *Eglowys* iv. (1570) Cvj/s Buckishe Joly well stuffed as a ton. 1565 TURNER *Herbal* ii. 62 b. Sampharitik... hath a ramnishe or buckishe styngkyng smell.

2. Of or resembling a 'buck' or dandy, foppish. 1806-7 J. BERRISFORD *Miseries Hum. Life* (1826) v. Drunken hermits, Buckish magicians. 1870 *Daily News* 19 Apr. The fashionable old gentlemen who appear to flourish and look buckish to a far greater age.

Hence **Buckishly** *adv.*, **Buckishness**.

a 1822 SHELLEY *Swellfoot* ii. ii. She has been putting on boots and spurs, and a hunting-cap, buckishly cocked on one side. 1803 *Pic Nic* No. 11 (1806) II. 140 Activity is fashion, honest emulation buckishness.

† **Buckism**, *Obs.* [f. BUCK sb. 1 + -ISM.] The practice of a 'buck' or dandy.

1773 *Scotts Mag.* May 241/2 Two gentlemen of great quality, professors of Buckism. 1798 MORTON *Secrets Worth Knowing* iii. ii. (L.) I was once a delightful auctioneer—my present trade is buckism. 1804 *Miniature* (1806) II. 11 To grant licences to all professors of buckism.

Buck-jump, [*f. BUCK sb. 1 + JUMP.*] A leap like that of a buck. *esp.* A jump from the ground made by an untamed or vicious horse, with the feet drawn together and the back arched, to unseat the rider. (Of American or Australian origin.) Hence **Buck-jump** *v.* = BUCK v. 3; also **Buck-jumper**, **Buck-jumping** *vbl. sb.*

1876 H. SMART *Play or Pay* i. (ed. 3) 18 Harlequin [a horse]... indulged in a couple of buck jumps. 1882 *Detroit Free Press* 2 Dec. 1/6 That pony is a mustang and buck-jumper. 1825 *Forman (Dakota)* Item 26 May 6/3 The majority of the horses there [in Australia] are vicious and given to the trick of buck-jumping.

Buckle (*bŭ'kl*), *sb.* Forms: 4-5 *boole, -kle, bukyll* (e, 4-6 *bokel*), 5 *booul* (e, -oull), 6 *boole, -kull, -kyll* (e, *bukkel*), 6 *boole, -kull, -kyll* (e, *bukkel*), 6 *boole, -kull, -kyll* (e, *bukkel*). [a. *F. boucle* = *L. buccula* (dim. of *bucca* cheek), the recorded senses of which are 1. cheek-strap of a helmet, 2. boss of a shield. The precise relation of the *Fr.* senses (adopted in *Eng.*) to those of the *L.* word is obscure. Sense 1 is the only one found in *ME.*; the remaining senses appear to have been introduced from *Fr.* at much later periods.]

1. A rim of metal, with a hinged tongue carrying one or more spikes, for securing a belt, strap, or ribbon, which passes through the rim and is pierced by the spike or spikes. Often with defining word prefixed, as *knee-, shoe-buckle.*

1340 *Aynb.* 236 Pet is þe boole of þe gerdle. 1391 *Test. Ebor.* I. 145 Un sayntour, le bukyll et le pendant de argent. c 1450 *Gloss.* in Wright's *Voc.* 122 *Ad plusculas*, *bogyllis*. c 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 41 Boole or boculle (bocul *K. H.*, *bokyll* or *bocle* 1499), *pluscula*. 1483 in ARNOLD *Chron.* (1811) 116 A purple corse. enameled in the bukkel with ij. ymagis. 1530 PALSGR. 200/1 Boole that beareth the byt, *portemors*. 1606 SHAKS. *Tr. & Cr.* iii. i. 163 His stubborne Buckles... Shall more obey then to the edge of Steele. 1772 ADDISON

Spect. No. 317 ¶ 22 Tongue of my Shoe-Buckle broke. 1777 SHERIDAN *Trip Scarb.* Prolog. (1833) 281 The buckle then its modest limits knew. 1855 J. W. CROKER in *Papers* (1884) III. xxix. 329 He expected to hear next that... knee-buckles had been issued to the Highland Brigade.

b. Phrases. † *To come to buckle and bare thong:* to be stripped of everything. † *To turn the buckle of the girdle* (see *quots.*). † *To cover the buckle:* to dance (a particular step).

1564 J. HEYWOOD *Prov. & Epigr.* (1867) 73 He at length came to buckle and bare thong. 1603 BRETTON *Post w. Packet* (1637) (N.) If you be angry, turn the buckle of your girdle behind you. 1696 CROMWELL *Sp.* 17 Sept., If any man be angry at it, I am plain, and shall use an homely expression: Let him turn the buckle of his girdle behind him! If this were to be done again, I would do it. 1825 READE *Peg Woff.* viii. 131 Woffington covered the buckle in gallant style; she danced, the children danced.

† c. *French buckle:* a ring attached to a mare, to prevent her being covered. *Obs.*

1691 *Lond. Gas.* No. 2707/4 A Chesnut Mare... buckled up with a French Buckle.

† 2. The drop of an ear-ring. (*Fr. boucle d'oreille.*) *Obs.*

1674 *Lond. Gas.* No. 878/4 Lost a pair of Diamond Buckles, set Transparent in Silver, without any Gold Earrings to them.

† 3. 'The state of the hair crisped and curled by being kept long in the same state' (J.). *Obs.*

1711 ADDISON *Spect.* No. 129 ¶ 7 The Wearer... lets his Wig lie in Buckle for a whole half Year. 1730 FIELDING *Tom Thumb* Wks. 1775 II. 107 What's a woman when her virtue's gone! A coat without its lace; wig out of buckle. 1732 *Port. Mer. Ess.* iii. 296 That live-long wig... External buckle takes in Parian stone. 1733 CHEYNE *Eng. Malady* i. xi. § 2 (1734) 100 Hair, which, with great Difficulty, receives or retains a Buckle. 1763 CHURCHILL *Ghost* III. (R.) His features too in buckle see. 1769 BURNS *Laddie's dear sel.*, 'An' his hair has a natural buckle an' a.

4. In Architecture (see *quot.*).

1648 RICKMAN *Archit.* xxx. A good bold corbel-table... it has been sometimes called a buckle, because some specimens resemble the tongue of a buckle. 1861 PARKER *Goth. Archit.* 131 The corbels have the ornament called a buckle or mask.

5. Comb., as *buckle-maker, -manufacturer, -ring, -shoe, -smith, -tongue*; also † *buckle-chape*, the back of a buckle, over which the ribbon or strap passes; † *buckle-covering*, a certain step or movement in dancing; † *buckle-garter*, a garter fastened by a buckle; † *buckle-hammed*, having crooked legs (see BUCKLE v. III.); † *buckle-pit*, a child's game; † *buckle-plates*; see BUCKLED 2; † *buckle-ring*, the frame of a buckle; † *buckle-wig*; see BUCKLED 3.

1761 *Lond. Mag.* XXX. 233 Foreigners... can afford to give a much higher price for our *buckle-chapes than our buckle-makers can afford to do. 1829 DICKENS *Haunted H.* viii. 48 There ensued such... *buckle-covering, and double-shuffling. 1829 GAULF *Holy Madn.* 324 *Buckle-hamm'd, Stump-legg'd, Splay-footed. c 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 42 *Bokulle makere, *pluscularius*. 1722 *Lond. Gas.* No. 6088/3 A Brass Buckle-maker by Trade. 1791 *Chron.* in *Ann. Reg.* 54/1 Several respectable *buckle-manufacturers from Birmingham... waited upon H.R.H. the Prince of Wales. 1532 MORE *Confut. Tindale* Wks. (1557) 574/2 Some suche pretty playes of likelyhod as chyldren be wont to playe, as cheristone, mary bone, *bokle pit, spurne poynte. 1866 *Law Reports*, *Com. Pleas* 163 The plaintiff is... the patentee of certain *buckle plates used for bridge flooring. 1761 *Lond. Mag.* XXX. 233 The dispute between *buckle-ring-makers and buckle-chape-makers. 1868 HOLME *LKE B. Godfrey* liv. 309 Trim *buckle-shoes. c 1500 *Coke* *Lorell's B.* (1843) 9 *Bokell smythes, horse leches, and gold beters. 1878 *Fraser's Mag.* XVIII. 579 Men and women in... powder and buckle wigs.

Buckle (*bŭ'kl*), *v.* [f. prec. sb.; but cf. *F. boucler*; branch III. may be from the *F.* word, which has the sense 'to bulge' (as a wall).]

I. With reference to BUCKLE sb. 1.

1. *trans.* To fasten with a buckle. Often with prep. *on, to*, or adv. *on, up, together.*

c 1386 CHAUCER *Knts. T.* 1645 Nailynge the speres, and helmes bokelynge. c 1400 Roland 694 Herd bukilis his helme, and gothe to sone. 1523 DOUGLAS *Eneis* viii. v. 17 Wyth pople tre hattis bukilt on thair heid. 1597 SHAKS. 2 *Hem. IV.* i. ii. 158, *Inst.* You lue in great infamy. *Fal.* He that buckles him in my belt, cannot lue in lesse. 1705 *Lond. Gas.* No. 4156/4 Stolen... a Mare... buckled up with a French Buckle. 1797 SWIFT *Gulliver* ii. iv. 131 A servant on horseback would buckle on my box. 1805 SOUTHEY *Madoc* in *Asi.* xvi. Buckle this harness on. 1870 BRYANT *Iliad* I. vii. 221 About his limbs The mail was buckled.

† b. To fasten (*up*) in any way; also fig. *To buckle in:* to limit, enclose. *Obs.*

1460 *Quia Amore Languet* 51 in *Pol. Rel. & L. Poems* (1866) 152 Boded my feet, as was her will, with scharpe naile. 1600 SHAKS. *A. P. L.* iii. ii. 140 The stretching of a span buckles in his summe of age. 1792 A. WILSON *Watty & Meg*, Up my claes and cash I buckled.

2. *trans.* With allusion to the fastening on of armour: To equip, prepare (for battle, an expedition, etc.). Chiefly *refl.*, and now only fig.: To gird oneself, apply oneself resolutely to (a task).

1570 LEVINS *Manip.* 185 To Buckle him, *parare se.* 1574 *tr. Marlow's Apocalips* 31 Everie man... must bckle himsele to a painfull kind of life. 1566 SPENSER *F. Q.* vi. viii. 12 Buckling soone himsele, gan fiercely fly Upon that carle. 1621 W. SCLATER *Key* (1629) 326 No maruaille if Angels so desirously buckle themselves to prie hereinto. 1655 FULLER

Ch. Hist. ix. vi. § 16 Cartwright buckled himself to the employment [refuting the Rhemish Transl. of the N. Test.]. 1730 T. BOSTON *Mem.* ix. 270 Where I thought I was best buckled. 1804 DIDDIN *Libr. Comp.* 368 Now buckles himsele to the uninterrupted perusal of the instructive text.

b. *intr.* (for *refl.*) in same sense.

1563 Br. SANDYS in *Strype Ann. Ref.* I. xxv. 398 Whereat one of Sir Johns men buckled to fight with him. 1603 SANDERSON 12 *Serm.* (1637) 132 Before wee either eate or drinke, or buckle about any worldly busines. 1605 BACON *Delays, Ess.* (Arb.) 525 To teach dangers to come on, by ouer early Buckling towards them, is another Extreme. 1690 LOCKE *Hum. Und.* ii. xxi. § 43 The Epicure bucklesto Study, when Shame... shall make him uneasy. 1757 CHESTERF. *Lett.* cccxx. IV. 90 Those who have a great deal of business must... buckle to it. 1877 LYTTEL *Landmarks* iv. x. 248 Their husbands and brothers must buckle to the fight.

c. *To buckle to:* to set to work, apply oneself vigorously.

1722 ARBUTHNOT *John Bull* (1727) 107 'Squire South buckled too, to assist his friend Nic. 1746 BURKE *Corr.* (1844) I. 21. I have shook off idleness, and begun to buckle to. 1822 W. TAYLOR in *Robberds Mem.* II. 375. I cannot buckle to, until this business of the insurance is determined. 1864 *Pres. Addr. Philol. Soc.* 4 He buckled to at once, learned in a month or so enough lingo for present needs.

6. a. *trans.* To join closely. b. *intr.* (for *refl.*) To close, come to close quarters; to grapple, engage. Const. *with* (an adversary); also with advbs. *together, in*, rarely *to*. *Obs.* or *dial.*

1535 COVERDALE 1 *Macc.* iv. 14 They buckled together, and the Heithen were discomfited. 1543 GRAFTON *Contn. Harding* 455 The erle... followed his enemies... that... he myght fight and buckel with them before they came to London. 1576 FLEMING *tr. Cains' Dogs* in *Arb. Garner* III. 255 Unable to buckle with the dog that would fain haue a snatch at his skin. 1760 *Don Bellianis* 198 A man that had been going to buckle with death. 1752 HUME *Pol. Disc.* x. 189 The whole armies were thus engag'd, and each man closely buckl'd to his antagonist.

† c. To adhere resolutely to. *Obs. rare.*

1793 ROBERTS *Looker-on* (1794) II. 338, I resolved to buckle to my tenets to the last extremity.

† d. *trans.* (*ellipt.*) To grapple with, engage, 'tackle'. *Obs.*

a 1605 MONTGOMERIE *Flying* 154 Pedler, I pittie thee as pinde To buckle him that beares the bell.

4. *trans.* To unite in marriage. *humorous or dial.* Cf. *splice.*

1724 RAMSAY *Tea-T. Misc.* (1733) I. 28 An ye wad gi's a bit land Wee'd buckle us e'en the gither. 1755 SMOLLETT *Quix.* (1803) II. 50 Our friend the licentiate, who will buckle you handsomely. 1796 MACNEILL *Will & Jean* i. Soon they loed, and soon were buckled. 1822 SCOTT *Nigel* xxvii. Dr. R. who buckles beggars for a tester and a dram of Geneva.

b. *intr.* To unite oneself in wedlock.

1693 DRYDEN *Juvenal's Sat.* vi. 37 Is this an age to buckle with a bride? 1806 TRAIN *Poet. Rev.* 64 (JAM.) Ask'd her... Gin she wadna buckle too. 1853 LOCKHART *Reg. Dailon* III. 163 (JAM.) May... is the only month that nobody in the north country ever thinks of buckling in.

II. With reference to BUCKLE sb. 3.

† 5. To fasten or retain in curl. *Obs.*

1721 BAILLY *Buckle.*... to put into buckles as hair. 1729-36 MORSE *Amer. Geog.* II. 561 Their hair... they buckle up in a very agreeable manner.

III. To bend, warp.

6. *trans.* To warp, crumple, bend out of its plane. Now chiefly techn.: To bend a bar or surface (under longitudinal pressure) into a double curve; as 'to buckle a saw, or the wheel of a bicycle or tricycle'. Formerly also fig.

c 1525 in Thoms' *Anecdotes* (1839) 54 Ninepences are a little buckled to distinguish in their currance. 1605 BACON *Adv. Learn.* ii. 18 Reason doth buckle and bowe the mind unto the nature of things. 1658 FORD *Witch of Edm.* ii. i. I am... like a bow—buckled and bent together. 1844 N. & Q. i. IX. 576/1 An awkward person, working incautiously with a saw, will probably... buckle it. 1868 *Daily Tel.* 3 July. It... struck the 15-inch portion... buckling, bending, and breaking the inner bars. 1882 *Nares Seaman'ship* (ed. 6) 58 It would buckle the mast.

b. *intr.* To bend under stress or pressure. † Of persons: To bend, stoop, double up (*obs.*).

1597 SHAKS. 2 *Hem. IV.* i. i. 141 Whose Feauer-weakened ioynts, Like strengthlesse Hindges, buckle vnder life. 1637 POCKINGTON *Allary Chr.* 154 His knees may not buckle to Baal. 1677 MOXON *Mech. Exerc.* (1703) 214 Where ever they find the Work buckle. 1700 I. BROME *Trav.* i. (1707) 38 We were enforced... to stoop, and buckle almost double. 1851 H. MELVILLE *White* xiii. 66 The two tall masts buckling like Indian canes in land tornadoes. *Mod.* The wheel of his tricycle has buckled.

† 7. fig. To give way, submit; to cringe, truckle. *Obs. exc. dial.*

1648 ROGERS *Naaman* 260 Outwardly they... seeme to crouch and buckle. 1664 PERRY *Diary* 17 Dec. The Dutch, as high as they seem, do begin to buckle. 1703 SAVAGE *Lett. Antients* lxxii. 212 Consider, how many great Nations... they have... forc'd to Buckle. 1864 E. CAPERN *Devon Province.* 'To make him buckle' is To make him yield.

IV. Comb., as † *buckle-beggar* (*Sc.*), a clergyman who performs irregular marriages, a hedge-priest; † *buckle-bosom*, a catchpoll, constable.

c 1700 Ld. FOUNTAINHILL *Diary* in *Larwood Bk. Cleric. Anecd.* 294 He after turn'd a buckle-beggar, i.e. one who married without licence. 1822 SCOTT *Nigel* xvii. A hedge-priest, or buckle-beggar... sate on the Duke's left. 1623 MABBE *Aleman's Gussman & Alf.* i. 63 Buckle-bosoms, Collar-catchers: in a word, they are Sergeants and Catch-poles.

Buckled (bʊk'ld), *ppl. a.* [f. *prec.* + -ED.]

1. *a.* Fastened with a buckle. *b.* Provided with buckles. *c.* Joined closely, united.

1394 *P. Pl. Crede* 299 Nou han bei buckled schon. c1400 *Anturs of Arth.* xxix. 4 Her belte was... Beten with beandus, and bocult ful bene. c1460 *J. Russell Bk. Nurtur* 896 in Babes Bk. (1868) 178 His schon laced or boke-lid, draw them on sure. 1876 *Miss Braddon J. Haggard's Dau.* I. 5 He wore... stout buckled shoes.

2. Doubled or bent up, wrinkled, crumpled, knitted; bent in a double curve. *Buckled plates* (*Mech.*), see *quot.* 1852.

1864 *Baldwin Mor. Philos.* (Palfr.) iii. 2 The buckled browes of majestie shall be bent against them. 1866 *Perry's Diary* (1879) IV. 77 And took up a piece of glasse melted and buckled like parchment. 1852 *Specif. R. Mallet's Patent* No. 557 Plates of iron... bent into a peculiar convex and concave form, which I denominate 'buckled plates'.

†3. Crisped and curled. See *BUCKLE sb.* 3. *Obs.* 1753 *Richardson Grandison* (ed. 7) I. 98 Sir Rowland... in his full buckled wig. 1771 *Smollett Humph. Cl.* (1815) 130, I have had my hair... singed, and bolstered, and buckled, in the newest fashion. 1861 *Wynter Soc. Bess* 524 This buckled hair is... the same as that denounced by the early churchmen.

Buckler (bʊk'lɪ), *sb.* 1 [f. *BUCKLE v.* + -ER 1.] One who or that which buckles; in *quot.* the strap of a helmet (*obs.*).

1650 *Don Bellianis* 184 The Emperor had the Buckler of his Helm cut.

Buckler (bʊk'lɪ), *sb.* 2 *Forms:* 3-4 boceler, 4 bookeler, 4-5 booler, book-, bokeler(e, bok-ler, buolere, bukler, -are, 6 boue-, buolier, 7 bucklar, 6- buckler. [*a.* OF. *boucler, bucler* (mod. F. *bouclier*), repr. a Lat. type **bucculārius* adj., 'having a boss', f. *buccula* see *BUCKLE sb.*]

1. A small round shield; in England the buckler was usually carried by a handle at the back, and 'used not so much for a shield as for a warder to catch the blow of an adversary' (Fairholt, s. v. *Buckler*), but sometimes it was larger, and fastened by straps to the arm. Sometimes wrongly applied to any kind of shield. Also *attrib.*

a 1300 *K. Alis.* 1190 Laddes, That sword and boceleris hadde. c1386 *Chaucer Prol.* 558 A sword and a boeler baar he by his side. c1440 *Promp. Parv.* 42 Bokelere, pella, ancile, parma. 1570 *Florio 1st Frutes* 17 b, What weapon is that buckler? A clownish dastardly weapon. 1611 *Bible* 1 *Chron.* v. 18 Men able to beare buckler and sword. 1659 *Pearson Creed* (1839) 280 He brought the bucklers stamped with the pictures of Caesar into Jerusalem. 1760 *Gray Corr.* (1843) 207 A pave... is a very large buckler... big enough to cover the tallest man. 1776 *Gibbon Decl. & Fall* I. 12 The buckler was of an oblong and concave figure, four feet in length. 1813 *Scott Trium.* II. xvi, Each knight... Take buckler, spear, and brand. 1870 *Bryant Iliad* I. vii. 222 Ajax... upheld A buckler like a rampart.

2. *fig.* A means of defence; protection, protector. c1380 *Wyclif Sel. Wks.* III. 265 He bookeler of his goostly fyt is a man to holde his pees in tyme. c1449 *Pecock Repr.* I. xiii. 71 Sufficient bokeler ayens this assailing. 1535 *Coverdale Ps. xviii* (i). 1 My buckler, y^e home of my health, and my protection. 1725 *Pope Odys.* IV. 961 His country's buckler, and the Grecian boast. 1857 *C. Brontë Professor* I. iii. 37 On a buckler of impenetrable indifference.

3. *Anat.* (see *quots.*) 1611 *Cotgr., Bouclier de l'estomac*, The triangular gristle that grows to the bottome of the breast-bone, and from the middle thereof hangs over the stomacke. 1541 *R. Copland Guydon's Quest. Chirurg.*, Commynng from the boucler of the stomacke vnto the shere bone. a 1648 *Digby Closet Open.* (1677) 126 Bones of roasted or boiled Beef... the Ribs, the Chine-bones, the buckler Plate-bone. 1706 *Phillips, Buckler of beef*, a Piece cut off from the Surloin.

4. In various technical senses: *a.* (see *quots.*) 1674 *Petty Disc. R. Soc.* 115 Let the same [Cylinder]... be covered with a moveable Head (such as in pressing of Pilchards they call a Buckler). 1753 *Chambers Cycl. Supp.*, *Buckler of a cast* denotes a moveable head, whereby to compress the contents of it. In this sense we say, a buckler of pilchards. 1877 *Fraser's Mag.* XV. 221 Afterwards the fish are... packed in wooden hogshedd casks and pressed... as closely as possible together by pressing stones and bucklers.

b. Naut. (see *quots.*) 1832 *Marryat N. Forster* xxxi, The cables were not yet untent or bucklers shipped. c1840 *Rudin. Navig.* (Weale) 101 *Bucklers*, pieces of elm plank barred close against the inside of the hawse-holes to prevent the water from coming in. Those used at sea, denominated Blind Bucklers, have no aperture; but those used... at anchor, and called Riding Bucklers, are made in two pieces... having a hole in the middle, large enough to admit the cable.

c. Anat., Zool., etc. Various applied to the hard protective covering of parts of the body of different animals, as of the armadillo, the ganoid fishes, and some crustacea; *spec.* the anterior segment of the shell of the trilobites.

1808 *Stark Elem. Nat. Hist.* II. 171 *Alima*, Leach. The body and tail extremely elongated, as well as the shell or buckler. 1843 *Penny Cycl.* XXV. 232/1 This buckler (of the trilobites) has much analogy with the carapace of Apus. 1845 *Dr. Baird in Proc. Berw. Nat. Club* II. xiii. 153 Cope-poda... envelope consisting of a buckler, enclosing head and thorax. 1854 *H. Miller Footpr. Creat.* IV. (1874) 43 All the ganoids of the period... have dermal bucklers placed right over their true skulls. 1855 *Owen Skel. & Teeth* 5 In the armadillo... the trunk is protected by a large buckler of this bony armour.

†5. *Phrases* (sense 1): *To play at bucklers*, at sword and buckler: to fence; see also *SWORD*.

To take up the bucklers: to enter the lists, present oneself as a champion. *To deserve to carry the buckler*: (with negative expressed or implied) to be worthy to be remotely compared with, = mod. 'to be fit to hold a candle to'. *To carry away the bucklers*: to come off winner. *To give, lay down, yield the bucklers*: to own oneself beaten. *Obs.*

a 1500 *Rel. Ant.* I. 83, iiii and xxiv, oxon playing at the sword and bokeler. 1592 *Greene Disput. Wks.* 1881-3 X. 222 Giving you the bucklers at this weapon, let me have a blow with you at another. 1593 *Tell-trothe's N. Y. Gift* 30 That could play at bucklers so soone as she was past her cradell. 1607 *Topsell Serpents* 644 Severus side carried away the bucklers. 1640 *Br. Hall. Episc.* I. § 11. 48 When he can... prove it not Apostolike... weshall give him the Bucklers. 1649 *Selden Laws Eng.* I. lix. (1739) 109 The Clergy took up the Bucklers, and beat both King and Commons to a Retreat. 1642 *Sir T. Browne Relig. Med.* 47 One that deserves to carry the Buckler unto Sampson. 1654 *Gataker Disc. Apol.* 3, I shal herein willingly yeeld him the bucklers;... I confess, he hath the better of me. 1679 *France Addit. Narr. Pop. Plot* 45 After much bandying on every side, the Jesuite was fain to lay down the Bucklers. 1691 *Wood Ath. Oxon.* II. 61 John dying before he could make a reply... Dr. Franc. White took up the bucklers. 1709 *Steele Tattler* No. 31. P. 3 They fought at Sword and Buckler.

6. *Comb.*, as *buckler-maker*; also *buckler-beak*, a fossil ganoid with a beak-shaped upper jaw; *buckler-fern*, the genus *Aspidium*; †*buckler-hand*, the left hand; *buckler-head*, the fossil fish *Cephalaspis*; *buckler-headed*, having a head like a buckler; *buckler-mustard*, *Biscutella auriculata*; *buckler-play*, -playing, -player, fencing, a fencer; *buckler-thorn*, *Rhamnus Paliurus aculeatus*.

1882 *Proc. Berw. Nat. Club* IX. iii. 441 The 'buckler ferns' (*Lastrea dilatata*) of themselves forming a splendid shade. 1877 *Hobbes Homer* 238 Weari'd was thereby his 'buckler-hand'. 1847 *Carpenter Zool.* § 587 In the *Cephalaspis* (or 'buckler-head'). 1415 in *York Myst.* Intro. 23 'Bukler-makers. 1483 *Cath. Angl.* 36 A Bock(e)ler maker, *Pellarius*. c 1500 *Coch. Lorell's B.* (1843) 9 Bokeler makers, dyers, and leather sellers. a 1560 *Rolland Cri. Venus* IV. 598 Bot 'bucklar play was their sport most frequent. 1722 *De Foe Hist. Plague* (1840) 47 Singing of Ballads, Buckler play, or such like causes of Assemblies of People, be utterly prohibited. 1448 *Shillingford Lett.* (1871) 68 Ever stonde yn defence as a 'bokeler player. 1468 *Medulla Gram.*, *Gladi-atra*, a 'bokeler pleyng. 1550 *Turner Herbal* II. 115, I knowe no Englishe name for it (Rhamnus). But it maye be called either Christes thorne or 'buklars thorne. 1706 in *Phillips*; hence in *Bailey*, *Johnson*, etc.

Buckler (bʊk'lɪ), *v.* [f. *prec.*] 1. *trans.* To act as a buckler to; to shield, defend, protect.

1590 *Marlowe Edw. II.* I. v. 579 'Tis not the king can buckler Gaveston. 1593 *Shaks. Hen. VI.* III. iii. 99 Can Oxford... Now buckler Falsehood with a Pedigree? 1861 *J. Sheppard Fall Rome* IV. 227 These new nationalities... bucklered the Empire against their [the Avars'] blows.

†2. *trans.* To ward or catch (blows).

1593 *Shaks. 3 Hen. VI.* I. iv. 50, I will... buckler with thee blows twice two for one.

Bucklered (bʊk'lɪd), *ppl. a.* [f. *BUCKLE sb.* + -ED.] Armed or furnished with bucklers.

1832 *Thorpe Cudmon* 185 The bucklered warriors. 1870 *Bryant Iliad* I. iv. 108 Bucklered warriors ranged around.

†**Buckling**, *sb.* *nonce-wd.* [f. *BUCK sb.* 1 + -ING.] A young buck; a little fop.

1778 *Garrick Epil. to Fathers*, Ye bucks & bucklings of the age.

Buckling (bʊk'liŋ), *vbl. sb.* [f. *BUCKLE v.*] 1. The action of fastening with a buckle; also *fig.* 1665 *Laud Sermon* (1837) 69 A double buckling and knitting of the Stat. together. 1808 *Scott Marm.* VI. xii, At buckling of the falchion belt.

b. concr. A brace, a fastening; that which is buckled on.

1861 *Smiles Engineers* II. 449 The main chains were to be... secured by bucklings. 1875 *Browning Aristoph. Apol.* 281 Thereupon lays body bare Of bucklings.

†2. The action of closing with an enemy; engagement, onset. *Obs.*

1563 *Foxe A. & M.* 1041/2 His valiaunt buckling with two enemies. 1604 *Edmonds Observ. Caesar's Comm.* 98 In the buckling he might have received a small losse.

3. A bending, giving way; also, *techn.* the curving or crumpling of a plain surface under longitudinal pressure.

1651 *tr. Bacon's Life & Death* 56 For the buckling of their knees. 1850 *E. Clark Britannia & C. Bridges* I. 104 No one knew, a priori, the resistance of plates to buckling. 1877 *Lumberman's Gas.* 8 Dec. 362 The old 'sash-saw' was... kept strained within a frame or 'sash' to prevent its buckling or bending. 1882 *Nature* XXVI. 599 The curvature technically called buckling.

†4. The crisping and curling, or retaining in curl (of hair). Also *attrib. Obs.*

1713 *Steele Guardian* No. 38 § 2 It is the last time my black coat will bear scouring, or my long wig buckling. 1740 *Cheyne Regimen* Intro. 9 The buckling upon Pipes and boiling soft broken Hair. 1846 *J. Train Buchanan* in *Fairholt s. v. Buckling*, Their looks... restrained from falling... over the back and bosom by small buckling-combs.

Buckling (bʊk'liŋ), *ppl. a.* [f. *BUCKLE v.* + -ING 2.] Crisply curling, waving.

18... *Crawford Classif. Races* (L.) With the European races, the hair of the head is usually, soft, silky, or buckling.

†**Buck-mast**, *Obs.* [-OE. **bdc-mæst* mast

of the beech. The name must go back to the time when the beech was still called *bōc*, *bok*, of which the latest known instance is in the 12th c. The vowel of *buck* shows the shortening of orig. *ō* before two consonants; cf. *Buckland*:-OE. *bōcland*.] Beech-mast.

a 1425 *Master of Game* (Halli.) The bores fedyng is properliche ycleped akryr of ookys berynge and buk-mast. 1607 *Topsell Four-f. Beasts* 110 They will not eat Buck-mast wherewith Hogs grow fat. 1863 *Prior Plant-m.* 31. †**Buckone**, *Obs.* Also *buccoon*. [*ad. It. boccone*, f. *bocca* mouth.] A mouthful, morsel.

1605 *Purchas Pilgrim* II. 1340 The Diet of the Turkes is sometimes roasted Buckones (that is, small bits or morsels of flesh). 1609 *Carr. Smith Trav. & Adv.* xiii. 24 The Tymor... fed upon Pillaw... with little bits of mutton or Buckones. 1659 *Gauden Tears of Ch.* 673 Having purchased a good buccoon, and craving for more.

Buckorome, *obs. form of BUCKRAM.*

†**Buckra** (bʊk'rä), *sb.* Also *bucora*, *buckara*, *buccara*, *buckree*, -ro. [In negro patois of Surinam, *bakra*, master. According to J. L. Wilson, quoted in *Mahn's Webster*, in lang. of Calabar coast, 'demon, powerful and superior being'. H. Goldie *Dict. of Efik Lang.* (of Old Calabar) has *mbakara*, *mākara*, white man, European, f. *kara* to encompass, get round, master (a subject).] A white man (in negro talk).

1794 *European Mag.* XXVI. 144 De noder day When Buckro no be beating. 1833 *Marryat P. Simple* II. 2, Ah, piccanniny buckra! how you do! 1863 20 *Yrs. in W. Ind.* 4c. in *Reader* 21 Feb. 189 'Buckra die hard this time' said the negroes; 'Since Gospel come buckra die hard.'

Buckram (bʊk'rām), *sb.* *Forms:* 3, 5 buk-

eram, (4 *bougeren*), 4, 6 bukram, 5 bokram, 5-6 bokeram, -ham, 6 bocram(e, -keram, buoram, -um, bukeram(e, -mme, 6-7 buckrom, -erom, -orome, 8 buchram, 6- buckram. [Found in most of the European langs. between 12th and 15th c.; cf. OF. *bougerant* (12th c.), *bouqueran*, *bouquerrant*, *bouquerant*, mod. F. *bougron*, Pr. *bocaran*, Cat. *bocaram* (Diez), Sp. *bucaran*, It. *bucherame* (in Boccaccio 14th c.), med.L. (in France) *boquerannus*, *bucaramus*, (in Italy) *buch-ranus*; also MHG. *buggeram*, *buggeran*, *buck-eram*, MDu. *bocraen*, *bocrael*, *bollecræen*, *boucræen*.

In early continental and apparently in early Eng. use it denoted a costly and delicate fabric, sometimes of cotton and sometimes of linen; but it afterwards acquired the sense of coarse gummed linen used for linings, thus becoming synonymous with Sp. *bocaci*, F. *boucassin*, *Boc-CASIN*; and this meaning it retains in modern Eng., Fr., and It. (The MHG. lexicographers state that in that lang. the word meant 'a fabric of goat's hair', but this explanation may perhaps be a conjecture founded on a supposed derivation from Ger. *buck* *BUCK sb.* 1) As the Eng. forms generally have *m*, while all the Fr. forms have *n*, it is possible that the word may have been adopted into Eng. not from Fr. but from Italian. For the history of the word in Europe, and its probable changes of meaning, see Col. Yule's *Marco Polo* I. 46-48 and 59.

Of the ultimate etymology nothing is really known. Some refer to It. *bucheran* 'to pierce full of holes', supposing that the name was first given to a kind of muslin or net (cf. *quot.* 1548 in 1). Reiske (in *Constantin. Porphyrog.* ed. Niebuhr II. 530) proposes Arab *أبو قرام* *abu qirām* pannus cum intextis figuris, but he does not say where he found this compound; the simple *qirām* is of doubtful meaning, the native lexicographers quoted in the *Qāmās* giving the various renderings 'red veil', 'striped and figured woollen cloth', 'thin veil' (Freitag, s. v.). Others suggest derivation from *Bokhara*, or from *Bulgaria*, but this does not agree with the early Fr. forms.]

†1. A kind of fine linen or cotton fabric. *Obs.*

1222 *Ornamenta Eccl. Sarum* in *Register S. Osmund* (1884) II. 132 Alba una de bukeram, cum parura, brodada. 1340 *Ayeb.* 258 Pe queade riche pet zuo ofte ham sredeþ ase of to zofte bougeren and of to moche of pris pourpre. 1411 *Licence to Bp. Waterford* 26 Apr. in *Close Roll*, [To export from England to Ireland, duty free], 18 pec. de Bokerham. 1463 *Marg. Paston* in *Lett.* 472 II. 132, I kan gettyn non gode bokram in this town. 1475 *Hist. MSS. Commis.*, *Inv. Goods* 1.555 A crosse of blue bokeram for the roode. 1548 *Thomas Rules Italian Grammar* in *Prompt. Parv.* 42 *Bucherame*, buckeramme, & some there is white, made of bombase, so thinne that a man mai see through it. 1552-3 *Inv. Ch. Goods Stafford.*, iij olde veste-ments, one of grene satten, the other of blew buckeram. [1849-53 *Rock Ch. of Fathers* II. v. 104 The mitre was made of... plain, fine linen... which, during the Middle Ages, was known here in England under the name of 'buckram'.]

2. A kind of coarse linen or cloth stiffened with gum or paste. *Men in buckram*: sometimes proverbially for non-existent persons, in allusion to Falstaff's 'four rogues in buckram' (*quot.* 1596).

1436 *Pol. Poems* (1859) II. 171 Fustiane, and canvase, Carde, bokeram, of olde tyme thus it wase. 1549 *Cheke* in *Ellis Orig. Lett. Lit. Men* (1843) 8, I lack painted bucrum to lai betwene bokes and bordes in mi studi. 1596 *Shaks. 1 Hen. IV.* II. iv. 217 Foure Rogues in Buckrom let

drive at me. 1665 Boyle *Occas. Refl.* (1675) Pref. 21 The fashion, that now-a-days allows our Gallants to wear fine Laces upon Canvass and Buckram. 1732 Berkeley *Alciph.* III. § 9 One of our ladies... stiffened... with hoops and whalebone and buckram. 1800 Scott *Abbot* xv. My stomach... is... too well bumbled out with straw and buckram.

† **B. a lawyer's bag**; = *buckram-bag*. Obs.

1608 Tournour *Rev. Trag.* iv. ii. 107 Yes, to looke long upon inck & black buckrom [in allusion to Attorneys' bags]. 1622 Fletcher *Sp. Curate* iv. vii. To be... A Lawyer's Asse, to carry Bookes, and Buckrams.

3. *fig.* Stiffness; a stiff and starched manner; that which gives a man a stiff exterior.

1682 H. MORE *Annot. Glanvil's Lux O.* 55 His Style, the texture whereof is not onely Fustian, but over-often hard and stiff Buckram. 1785 Cornwallis *Let.* 24 May in *Corr.* (1859) I. vii. 191 A fine, good-humoured, unaffected lad, no pride or buckram. 1793 Roberts *Looker-on* (1794) II. 181 To endure the confinement and buckram of any formal course of habit. 1822 Hazlitt *Men & Mann.* Ser. II. x. (1869) 196 Laying aside the buckram of pedantry and pretence.

4. *attrib.* or *quasi-adj.* a. Of buckram, like buckram.

1537 *Bury Wills* (1850) 129, I beqweeth to Robart Payne a bocram shert, and to yonge Mr. Robt a bocram shert. 1563-87 Foxe *A. & M.* III. 623 She... took with her a Buckram Apron. 1571 Ascham *Scholem.* (Arb.) 100 To clothe him self with nothing els, but a demie buckram cassock. 1645 Milton *Colast. Wks.* (1851) 365 A meer petti-fogger... so hardy, as to lay aside his buckram wallet, and make himself a fool in Print. 1800 Byron *Let. to Murray* 12 Nov., Pointing to his buckram shirt collar and inflexible cravat. 1837 Carlyle *Fr. Rev.* I. vi. i. 263 Well may the buckram masks start together, terror-struck.

b. *fig.* Stiff, 'starched', 'stuck up'; that has a false appearance of strength.

a 1598 Fulke *Agst. Allen* 301 (L.) A few buckram bishops of Italy. 1603 H. Crosse *Virtues Commu.* (1878) 122 Prostitute their ingenious labours to enrich such buckram gentlemen. 1635 Pagitt *Christianogr.* II. vi. 60, 300 Buckram Bishops of the selfe same making. 1840 Carlyle *Heroes v.* 287 A wondrous buckram style,—the best he [Johnson] could get. 1856 Miss Bird *Englishwoman in America* 374 In America no play was ever more successful than the 'Buckram Englishman'.

5. *Comb.*, as *buckram-maker*; also, *buckram-bag*, a lawyer's bag (sometimes = the lawyer himself); *buckram-men*, men in buckram (cf. 2).

1611 Barrey *Ram Alley* i. in *Dodsley* (1780) V. 424 The buckram-bag must trudge all weathers. a 1680 Butler *Rem.* (1750) II. 313 His Face is like a Lawyer's Buckram Bag, that has always Business in it. c 1644 Cleveland *Rupertism* (1687) 53 The terror of whose Name can out of seven Like Falstaff's Buckram-men, make fly eleven.

Buckram (bŭ'krām), *v.* [f. prec.] *trans.* To pad or stiffen with buckram; to give to anything a starched pomposity or a false appearance of strength. Also with *out*, *up*. Chiefly *fig.*

1783 Cowper *Task* vi. 652 His most holy book... was never used before To buckram out the memory of a man. 1784 Warton in Boswell *Johnson* (1831) V. 211 It may have been written by Walpole, and buckram'd by Mason. 1792 Roberts *Looker-on* (1794) I. 53 You pinched, buckramed, and pomatumed me up to such a degree. 1856 De Quincey in H. Page *Life & Writ.* II. xviii. 111 But afterwards—he buckramed or crinolined his graceful sketch with an elaborate machinery of gnomes and sylphs.

Buckramed (bŭ'krāmd), *pp. a.* [f. prec. sb. or vb. + ED.] Stiffened with buckram; clad in buckram. Also *fig.*

1793 Roberts *Looker-on* (1794) II. 77 Two antiquated beaux, with long buckramed accoutrements and flowing perukes. 1813 Examiner 8 Feb. 88/2 It is so stiff, so buckramed, so spiritless in manners. 1850 Hawthorne *Scarlet L.* xx. (1879) 250 His buckramed habit of clerical decorum. 1861 Sala *Tu. round Clock* 184 The starched, buckramed... skirts of my female relatives. 1880 J. C. Watts *Gl. Novelists* 89 Steeled and buckramed knights.

Buckramize, *v. nonce-wd.* To buckram. *fig.*

1812 G. Colman *Br. Grins*, a *Parsons* xl (1872) 201 Frigs—whose heaven Consists in buckramizing souls for heaven.

† **Buckrams**. Obs. [perh. f. BUCK sb.1 + i (referring to its offensive smell) + *rams*, var. RAMSON.] Another name for Ramsons or Wild Garlic.

1598 Lyte *Dodoens* v. lxxi. 638 The third kinde is called... in English, Ramsons, Buckrammes, & Beares Garlike. 1611 Cotgr., *Ail dours*, Ramsons, Ramsies, Bucke rammes, Beares garlick. 1783 in AINSWORTH *Lat. Dict.* (Morell) i.

Bucksaree, variant of BUXERRY, Obs.

† **Buck's-beard**. Obs. [A transl. of Gr. *τραγοπάρων*.] A plant: Goats-beard; Salsify.

1551 Turner *Herbal* i. (1568) 59 Dioscorides writeth no more of bukkes beard but that it is good to eat. 1576 Lyte *Dodoens* II. xvii. 167 The Spaniards Scuzronera seemeth also to be a kinde of Tragopogon or Buckesbearde.

Buck's-eye. U. S. (See quot.)

1883 *Leisure Hour* 476/1 Buckseye, the sweet-smelling Californian lilac (*Ceanothus*), forming a dense undergrowth.

Bucksee, Buckshish, see BUKSHI, BAKSHEESH.

Buck's-horn. An old name for various plants, from the shape of their leaves, or appearance of their branches. a. *Senecioia Coronopus*, Swine's Cress. b. The Virginia Sumach (*Rhus typhina*). Also Buck's horn Plantain, Buck's horn Weld: species of PLANTAIN, WELD.

a 1450 MS. Bodl. 536 (Cockayne *Leechd.* III. 316), Bukes hornes or els swynes grese (grass) and has leues slaterde as an hertys horn. 1597 Gerard *Herbal* xcvi. § 1. 346 Byckes horn... hath long narrowe hoarie leaves. 1718 Petiver *Rare Plants* § 6 in *Phil. Trans.* XXVII. 424 Virginia Sumach... the first Branches are very soft and velvety, like

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the Horns of a young Deer, for which reason its call'd Buckshorn by the Country People. 1719 LONDON & WISE *Compl. Gard.* 199 Bucks-horn Salad is multipli'd only by Seed... Vide Harts-Horn Salad.

Buck's-horn, var. of BUCKHORN.

Buck-shot (bŭ'k,ʃɒt). [f. BUCK sb.1 + SHOT.]

† 1. The distance at which a buck may be shot. Obs. rare.

1447-8 SHILLINGFORD *Let.* (1871) 87 The said Cathedral Church stant a buc shote fro and more.

2. A coarse kind of shot, larger than *swan-shot*, used in shooting deer or other large game. Also *attrib.*, as in *buckshot-cartridge*; *buckshot-cinder* (see quot.); *buckshot-rule*, a political nickname for government (of Ireland) upheld by a constabulary with loaded rifles, which arose during the Chief-Secretaryship of Mr. W. E. Forster, and was especially associated with his name, though the order that the constabulary should load with buck-shot, instead of ball as formerly, was made under his predecessor Mr. J. Lowther.

1776 O. SCHUYLER in Sparks *Corr. Amer. Rev.* (1853) I. 252 Should the enemy advance... we shall be at a loss for ball and buckshot. 1871 NAPIER *Prev. & Cure Dis.* III. iv. 740 A piece about the size of a buckshot is the ordinary dose. 1881 PARNELL in *Daily News* 3 Oct. 6/3 Enemies to buckshot rule. 1881 RAYMOND *Mining Gloss.* *Buckshot-cinder*, cinder from the iron blast-furnace, containing grains of iron. 1885 *Snakim* iv. 88 To be used at night pending the arrival of buckshot cartridges from England.

Buckskin (bŭ'kskɪn). [f. BUCK sb.1 + SKIN.]

1. The skin of a buck.

1433 Test. Ebor. (1855) II. 31 Unum dublett coopertum cum bukskynnes. 1465 in *Ripon Ch. Acts* 159 Unam longam tunicam de bukskynnes. 1686 Lond. *Gaz.* No. 2124/4, 15 Buck-skins dry'd, not pared. 1707 *Ibid.* No. 4344/4 For Sale by the Candle... 9000 Carolina Buck-Skins. 1809 R. LANGFORD *Introd. Trade* 82 Buck Skins at 11s. 6d. each.

2. Leather made from the skin of a buck; also from sheepskin prepared in a particular way.

1804 HUDDSPORD *Wiccam. Chaplet* 140 Bold blades in buck-skin breeched. 1808 SCOTT *Parr. M. Perth* I. 34 Willing to see you two as closely united together, as ever needle stitched buckskin. 1846-83 R. EG. WARBURTON *Hunt. Songs* (1883) xlvii. 134 Buckskins the only wear fit for the saddle. 1878 BLACK *Green Past.* xiii. 100 The suit of grey buckskin which he wore.

b. *attrib.* and *comb.*

1564 GOLDING *Ovid's Met.* IV. (1593) 79 In buck-skin cotes. 1660 PEPYS *Diary* 1 June. The fine pair of buckskin gloves. 1710 TALLER No. 241 P 9 A Pair of Buck-Skin Breeches. 1753 H. WALPOLE *Corr.* I. 198 A young squire booted and spurred and buckskin-breeched. 1844 COBBETT *Weekly Register* 12 June 674 Priests... who never wear buckskin breeches, and go a fox-hunting. 1877 J. ALLEN *Amer. Bison* 581 The buckskin suit of the Rocky Mountain hunter.

3. Breeches made of buckskin. (In first quot. possibly gloves or boots of that material.)

1481-90 HOWARD *Househ. Bks.* 315 My Lord paid to his cordwainer... for a payr bukskyns... xviii. d. a 1658 CLEVELAND *News fr. Newcastle* 120 [He]... in embroidered Buckskins blows his Nails. 1774 *Westm. Mag.* II. 657 The honest buckskin... Our modern Nimrod turns to sattin breeches. 1851 KINGSLEY *Yeast* II. 34 A red coat and white buckskins.

† 4. A nickname of the American troops during the Revolutionary war; hence, a native American.

1787 BURNS *Amer. War*, Cornwallis fought as long's he dought, An' did the buckskins claw, man. 1800 WEEMS *Washington* II. (1877) 8 George Washington a buck skin!... impossible! he was certainly an European. 1883 THACHER *Mil. Trml.* 72 The burlesque epithet of Yankee from one party, and that of Buckskin from the other.

Hence **Buckskinned** a.

1809 A. FOMBLANQUE *Eng. under Admin.* (1837) I. 240 Yorkshire buckskinned 'Squires. 1884 JOAQUIN MILLER *Mem. & Rime* 107 A savage buckskinned delegate to Congress... from... Oregon.

Bucksome, obs. form of BUXOM.

† **Buck-stall**. Obs. exc. Hist. [f. BUCK sb.1 + STALL.] A large net for catching deer.

1503 Act 19 Hen. VII. xi. The greatest Destruction of Red Deer... is with Nets called Deer-hays and Buck-stalls. 1613 W. BROWNE *Brit. Past.* II. iii. (1772) II. 131 Knit thy torne Buck-stals with well-twisted threads. 1655 FULLER *Ch. Hist.* VI. 317 Sir Henry pitcht a Buckstall (wherewith he used to take Deer in the Forest) in the narrowest place of the Marsh. 1870 EDGAR *Runnymede* 156 We may be dealt with as deer in a buckstall.

† **Buck's tongue**. Obs. Some rough leaved herb; perhaps Bugloss, or Prickly Ox-tongue.

c 1450 *Alphita* (Anecd. Oxon.) 20 *Barba yssina*, assimilatur lingue bouis, asperiora tamen habet folia; anglice *buckstonge*.

Buckthorn (bŭ'kθɔrn). [f. BUCK sb.1 + THORN.]

App. Lyte's translation of the It. and mod. L. names.] The shrub *Rhamnus catharticus*; the berries of which yield sap-green and other pigments, and were formerly used as a powerful cathartic.

1576 Lyte *Dodoens* VI. xxx. 850 The Italians do call it *Spiuo Merlo*, so does all *Spiuo ceruino*... and of Valerius Cordus, *Cerni spina*: we may well call it in English, Bucke Thorne. 1599 LAMHAM *Gard. Health* (1633) 99 Buckthorne, the berries do purge downwards mightily flegme and choller. 1753 CHAMBERS *Cycl. Supp.* s.v. Of buckthorn berries are made three several sorts of colours. 1899 W. COLEMAN *Woodlands* (1862) 122 On chalky or loamy soils, we may occasionally find the Buckthorn growing in considerable plenty.

Buck-tooth. [f. BUCK sb.1 + TOOTH.] A large projecting tooth. Also *attrib.*

[a 1550 *Addicoun of Scottis Cornuklis*, &c. (Th. Thomson) 3 (JAM.) Schir Thomas Boyde was slane be Alexander Stewart bukthuth and his sonnes.] 1753 HANWAY *Trav.* (1762) II. xvi. 1. 440 He ordered a man's teeth to be pulled out, for no other reason than their being buck-teeth. 1866 CARLYLE *Remin.*, E. Irving 99 An older... bigger boy, with red hair, wild buck teeth, and scorched complexion. Hence *Bu'ok-toothed* *pp. a.*

1863 Sir B. BURKE *Viciss. Fam.* III. 274 One shall be buck-toothed, another hair-lipped and the fourth a stammerer.

Bucku: see BUCHU.

† **Buck-washing**. Obs. [f. BUCK sb.3 + WASH v.] The process of washing coarse and very dirty linen, by boiling it in an alkaline lye (BUCK sb.3), and afterwards beating and rinsing it in clear water; see *bucking-washing* in BUCKING *vbl. sb.1* So *Buck-washer*; also dial. *buck-wash*.

1598 SHAKS. *Merry W.* III. iii. 164 You were best meddle with buck-washing. 1611 Cotgr. *Buandierre*, a laundresse, or buck-washer. 1809 CARLYLE *Misc.* (1857) II. 26 His office of buckwasher, that is of verse corrector to his Majesty. 1845 — *Cromwell's Lett. & Sp.* (1873) I. ii. 11 Such a job of buckwashing. 1879 Miss JACKSON *Skrophsk. Wd.-bk.* (E. D. S.) *Buck-wash* or *weshin*, a large wash of heavy, coarse linen... In the buck-wash no soap was used, but the linen was boiled in the buck-lee. It was then carried to a neighbouring stream or spring, and laid upon a smooth stone or a block... there the linen was beaten with a 'bat-staff', after which it was well 'swilled' in the pure water.

Buckwheat (bŭ'khwīt). Also 6 buk-, book-wheate. [perh. immediately ad. Du. *boekweit* (*boekweydt* in Lyte) or Ger. *buchweize* 'beech-wheat' from the shape of the triquetrous seeds, whence also the botanical name *Fagopyrum*; but it was referred to as a familiar name by Turner, 30 years before Lyte professed to take it from Dutch, so that the name may have been of Eng. origin, after BUCK-MAST or BUCK sb.2 Barnaby Gooze app. independently called it *beech-wheat*.]

1. A species of *Polygonum* (*P. Fagopyrum*), a native of Central Asia, whence it was introduced into Europe by the Turks about the 13th c. The seed is in Europe used as food for horses, cattle, and poultry; in N. America its meal is made into 'buckwheat cakes', regarded as a dainty for the breakfast-table. Formerly also called BRANK.

1548 TURNER *Names of Herbs* (1881) 35 Elatine is lyke wythwynde, but it hath seedes and flouris lyke Buckwheate; it may be named in englishe running Buckwheate or bynde come. 1554 [see 2]. 1577 B. Gooze *Herberback's Hush.* (1586) 31, I had rather call it Beechwheate, because the graine thereof is threecornd, not unlike the beechmast both in color and forme. 1578 LYTE *Dodoens* IV. xiv. 468 In base Almaigne Buckweydt, after whiche name it may be englisched Bock-wheat. 1597 GERARD *Herbal* i. xlvii. 89 Buckwheat nourisheth less than wheat. 1776 ADAM SMITH *W. N. I.* I. xi. 236 Indian Corn and buckwheat are used for feeding poultry. 1798 A. YOUNG *Trav. France* 456 In part of Normandy and Bretagne, they live very much... upon buck-wheat. 1899 JEPSON *Brittany* II. 20 Buckwheat is used almost exclusively for feeding pheasants.

b. *attrib.*

1865 BARING-GOULD *Werewolves* 3 He was down by the hedge of his buckwheat field, and the sun had set. 1873 Atlas of Michigan Pref. 20 Upon a somewhat similar soil is found the 'Buckwheat'... pine. 1881 RAYMOND *Mining Gloss.* s.v. *Buckwheat-coal*, is the smallest size, and usually included in the dirt or culm. 1882 Garden 25 Mar. 191/3 To go to America for a good... Buckwheat cake.

2. Applied to other species of *Polygonum*, esp. to Black Bindweed (*P. Convolvulus*) or 'Running Buckwheat', and to *P. tartaricum* 'Tartarean Buckwheat'.

1548 [see 1]. 1551 TURNER *Herbal* 165, I call it runnyng bukweate, because in thre thynges it resembleth buk-wheate. 1601 HOLLAND *Pliny* II. 281 Running Buckwheat or Bindweed... putteth forth small leaues, round and hairy. 1824 Miss MITFORD *Village Ser.* I. (1863) 101 The beautiful buck-wheat, whose transparent leaves and stalks are so brightly tinged with vermillion.

Bucky, variant form of BUCKLE.

Buckere, obs. form of BUCKLER.

Bucolic (biŭ'kɒlik), *a.* and *sb.* Also 6 bucolique, bucolik, 7 -ike, -ioke, 8 -iook. [ad. L. *būcolicus*, a. Gr. *βουκολικος*, f. *βουκόλος* herdsman.]

A. *adj.* 1. Of or pertaining to herdsmen or shepherds; pastoral.

1613 R. C. *Table Alph.* (ed. 3) *Bucolike*, pertaining to beasts or herdsmen. 1750 JOHNSON *Rambl.* No. 37 P 10 The Pollio of Virgil... is a composition truly bucolic. 1803 SVD. SMITH *Wks.* (1867) I. 50 He goes on, mingling bucolic details and sentimental effusions. 1863 MARY HOWITT tr. *F. Bremer's Greece* II. xvii. 167 The shepherds and shepherdesses... milk the cattle, and compose bucolic poems. 1873 SYMONDS *Grk. Poets* x. 308 Bucolic poetry.

2. Pertaining to country life; rural, rustic, country-fied. (Somewhat humorous.)

1846 LYTTON *Lucretia* (1853) 247 The second [partner] had a bucolic turn. 1859 GEO. ELIOT *A. Bede* 67 The keenest of bucolic minds felt a whispering awe at the sight of the gentry. 1875 A. R. HOPE *Schoolboy Fr.* 308 A sturdy-looking bucolic individual. 1878 LADY HERBERT *Hübner's Ramble* II. xii. 212 In its happy, bucolic isolation.

B. *sb.* [cf. L. *Bucolica*, Gr. *βουκολικά* in same use.]

1. *pl.* Pastoral poems: rarely *sing.* a single poem. 1531 ELYOT *Gov.* I. x. (1883) I. 62 What thinge can be more familiar than his [Virgil's] bucolikes. a 1560 ROLLAND *Cr.*

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Venus III. 103 His Georgiks and Bucoliks. 1656 BLOUNT *Glossary*. Bucolicks, pastoral songs, or songs of Heardsmen. 1870 *Daily News* 16 Apr. The manufacture of maple sugar, of which I may sing you a bucolic when the season arrives.

2. = Bucolic poet.

1774 T. WARTON *Hist. Eng. Poetry* xxxix. III. 50 Spenser, who is erroneously ranked as our earliest English bucolic.

3. A rustic, peasant. (*humorous*.)

1868 *Sat. Rev.* No. 351. 73/1 It is a satisfaction to make the personal acquaintance of so worthy a bucolic.

4. pl. Agricultural pursuits. *rare*.

1865 *Times* 15 Apr. A fancy farm steading... for any special branch of bucolics that may most delight the proprietor.

Bucolical, a. [f. as prec. + -AL.] = BUCOLIO a. 1533 SKELTON *Garl. Lawrell* 327 Theocritus with his bucolical racyons. 1830 T. HAMILTON C. Thornton 103 His favourite bucolical pursuits. 1881 BENHAM *Church Com. in Macm. Mag.* XLV. 119/1 The outcry against scientific investigations has probably almost exhausted itself, except among very bucolical persons indeed.

Hence **Bucolically** adv.

1881 *Spectator* 22 Jan. 120 Mr. Bence Jones... will have done good work... of which he may be bucolically proud.

Bucolican, nonce-*wd.* A rustic, a countryman. 1866 J. BANKS in *Argosy* I. 171 The one characteristic of the British bucolican is his stillness and reticence.

† **Bucolicon**, *Obs. rare*. [a. Gr. *Βουκολικόν*, sing. of *Βουκολικά* 'pastoral poems'.] A bucolic poem.

1640 W. HODGSON *Div. Cosmog.* 79 His three and twentieth (Psalm)... we may call his Bucolicon.

Bucolism, nonce-*wd.* [f. BUCOLIO + -ISM.] A rustic phrase or characteristic.

1830 H. N. COLERIDGE *Grk. Poets* 7 The lowest 'bucolisms' of Theocritus.

Bucram, -um, obs. forms of BUCKRAM.

Bucrane, *Arch.* Also **bucranium**. [F. *bucrane*, and L. *bucranium*, ad. Gr. *Βουκράνιον*, f. *βοῦς* ox + *κράνιον* skull.] A sculptured ornament representing an ox-skull.

1854 FAIRHOLT *Dict. Terms in Art*, *Bucrania*. 1876 R. J. PLAYFAIR *Algeria* (ed. 2) 232 Over the columns and pilasters [of the Temple] are panels ornamented by bucranes.

Bud (*bud*), *sb.* Forms: 4-5 *bodde*, 5-7 *budde*, (6 *bood*, *botthe*), 7 *budd*, 6- *bud*. [Late ME. *budde*, *botthe*; of uncertain etymology. In ME. identical in form with **BUDDE**.]

Prof. Skeat suggests a connexion of some kind with *ODu. botte*, mod. Du. *bot* a bud, or with OF. *boter*, mod. F. *bouter* to push, put forth, whence F. *bouton* (see *BUTTON sb.*) 'bud'. (Franck refers the *ODu.* word to a Romanic source akin to or identical with OF. *boter*.) But such a change from *t* to *d* is anomalous.]

1. *Bot.* A little projection found at the axil of a leaf, composed of scales, which are small leaves, and forming the rudiment of a branch, cluster of leaves, or blossom. Hence, applied to a flower (or leaf) at any stage of growth until fully opened.

1398 TRAVISA *Barth. De P. R.* xvii. lxxv. Sumtyme burgyne of boddes beþ gnawe and frete with flyes. c. 1400 *Purif. Marie in Tundale's Vis.* (Turnb. 1843) 135 The coming Of greene veer with fresh buddes new. 1536 *Pilgr. Perf.* (W. de W. 1531) 234 So longe it is called the budde of a rose, as it is not a perfyte rose. 1597 ANDREW BRUNSWYKE'S *Distyll. Waters* O ij. The best flowres ben of the rede apples... when the botthes begynne the blossom and to go open. 1603 SHAKS. *Twel. N.* ii. iv. 114 A worme i'th budde. a 1688 SIR T. BROWNE *Tracts* 64 To pluck away the bearing buds, before they proceed unto flowers or fruit. 1753 JOHNSON *Rambl.* No. 207 P 8 The swelling bud and opening blossom. 1832 TENNYSON *Lotos-Eat.* 71 The folded leaf is wood' from out the bud. 1848 GRAY *Struct. Bot.* I. (1880) 7 An incipient stem or branch, with its rudimentary leaves, is a Bud.

2. *Zool.* A similar growth in animals of low organization, which develops into a new individual. 1836-9 TODD *Cycl. Anat. & Phys.* II. 433/1 The new individual grows upon the parent as a bud or sprout. 1861 HULME *tr. Moquin-Tandon* ii. i. 46 The creature gives off from certain parts of its body buds or gemmæ, which at a fixed period become detached, and give rise to new animals.

3. *transf.* Used of things resembling buds: as the rudiment of a horn when it begins to sprout; a nipple; a pimple in farcy, a disease of horses.

1592 NASHE *Christ's T.* (1613) 145 Their breasts they embuske vp on hie, and their round Roseate buds immodestly lay forth. 1639 T. DE GREY *Compl. Horsew.* 304 This powder healeth the buds or knots of the farcin. 1641 FRENCH *Distill.* iv. (1651) 103 The young buds of Harts-horne. 1708 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 3814/4 A. Grey Gelding... scar'd with the Farcy Buds.

3. *fig.* Anything in an immature or undeveloped state.

1579 TOMSON *Calvin's Serm. Tim.* 238/2 Such a desire is a budde of ambition. 1592 WARNER *Alb. Eng.* viii. xxxix. 193 Our decent Church-Rites... Did then put forth her Branches, and weare fruitfull in the bood. 1632 G. HERBERT *Temple, Sunday* i. The fruit of this, the next worlds bud. 1727 THOMSON *Summer* 582 The win'try blast of death Kills not the buds of virtue.

b. Said of children or young persons, or as a term of endearment.

1595 SHAKS. *John* iii. iv. 82 Now will Canker-sorrow eat my bud [Arthur]. And chase the native beauty from his cheekie. 1675 WYCHERLEY *Country Wife* ii. i. You are my own dear bud. *Ibid.* iii. ii. 'Tis no matter, no matter, bud. 1847 TENNYSON *Princ.* vi. 176 Her eye... dwelt Full on the child; she took it: 'Pretty bud!... half open'd bell of the woods!' 1881 *Confessions of a Girl* 39 This is your first party... Yes, I am what is called a bud.

4. 'A weaned calf of the first year' (Ray S. and E. C. Words (1674) 60). Still in *dial.* use.

1662 *Collect. Campsey Ash* 30 in Nichols *Bibl. Top. Brit.* (1790) lii. For every gast beast and heifer, gast ware and bud [calf], three half-pence apiece. 1875 PARISH *Sussex Dial.*, Bud, a calf of the first year, so called because the horns then begin to appear or bud. *Mod. dial. Kent*, There are three halfers [heifers] and two nice young buds in the yard.

4. *Phr.* In bud (said of plants; cf. in leaf, in flower): budding. In the bud: not yet developed; often *fig.* = young, immature, 'in the germ'. To nip or crush in the bud: *fig.* to repress or destroy (a project, etc.) in its first beginnings.

1677 HORNECK *Law of Consideration* (1704) 89 If a tree does not thrive, if flowers do wither in the bud. 1746 *Rep. Cond. Sir J. Cope* 12 The crushing in the bud an Insurrection. 1844 *Mem. Babylonian Pcess.* II. 168 The plot was apparently nipped in the bud. 1847 TENNYSON *Princ.* i. 31 While life was yet in bud and blade. 1867 FREEMAN *Norm. Cong.* i. iv. 258 Promising germs of freedom were... crushed in the bud. 1871 EARLE *Philol. Eng. Tong.* (1880) § 445 A flectional word is a phrase in the bud.

5. *Comb.*, as bud-blighted, -crowned, -like adjs., bud-coal, -generation, -scale, -time, -variation. Also bud-bird (*dial.*), the Bullfinch; † bud-utter, obs. name of an insect (transl. F. *lisette* 'coupe-bourgeon', Boiste); bud-germ (*Zool.*) = i b; bud-glue (see *quot.*); bud-rudiment, the cell in the embryo, from which the bud is developed.

1865 *Cornh. Mag.* 35 The provincial 'bud-bird' of Herefordshire, the bullfinch. 1880 SHELLEY *Prometh. Unb.* iv. i. 122 The 'bud-blighted flowers of happiness. 1866 CHR. ROSSETTI *Prince's Progr.* 4c. 3 Poppies... Wrapped in 'bud-coats hairy and neat. 1867 EMERSON *Poems* 50 The 'bud-crowned Spring. 1693 EVELYN *De la Quint. Compl. Gard.* II. 100 To have the end of their new Shoots... cut off by a little black round insect, call'd 'Bud-Cutter. 1880 C. & F. DARWIN *Movem. Pl.* 190 A bud may revert to the character of a former state many 'bud-generations ago. 1884 BOWER & SCOTT *De Bary's Phaner. & Ferns* 99 Hanstein has termed these organs which cover the buds with a sticky secretion 'Beleimer', or Colletters, and their sticky product 'bud-glue, or Blasto-colla. 1839 BAILEY *Festus* (1854) 42 To watch young beauty's 'budlike feelings burst And load the soul with love. 1847-9 TODD *Cycl. Anat. & Phys.* IV. 427/1 A simple canal with bud-like processes. 1880 VINES *Sachs' Bot.* 207 A cell, which Pringsheim calls the 'bud-rudiment'. 1880 GRAY *Bot. Text-bk.* 400 'Bud-scales. The dry teguments which serve to protect the... growing point within during the season of rest.

† **Bud**, *sb.* 2. *Obs.* [prob. var. of *bod*, BODE an offering, f. ppl. stem of OE. *bléodan* (see *BID v.*) to offer.] A bribe. Also in *comb.* bud-taker.

1436 *Acts Jas.* i. clv. (JAM.) All jugsis sall gar the assyours swer... that thay nouthir haue tane, nor sall tak meid na buddis of ony partie. 1535 LYNDESA *Satyr* 1616. I am ane ludge... Na bud nor fauour may my sight oversyle. 1579 *Act Jas.* VI (1597) § 93 The saidis Bud-takers, to be displaced and deprived simpliciter of their offices. a 1651 CALDERWOOD *Hist. Kirk* (Woodrow) III. 394 They acquired wealth by taking buds from such as had sutes to him.

Bud (*bud*), *v.* 1 [f. *BUD sb.* 1]

1. *intr.* a. To put forth buds, to sprout. b. with *out*: To come or push out, as a bud.

1398 [see *Budding vbl. sb.* 1] c. 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 54 Buddun as trees, *gemmo*. 1535 COVERDALE *Job* xiv. 8 The stocke... will budde. 1626 BACON *Sylva* (1677) § 417 The removing of the Tree some Moneth before it Buddeth. 1684 tr. *Bonai's Merc. Compt.* vi. 206 If... A Carbuncle bud out in the Arms or Legs. 1813 SCOTT *Rokeby* iii. xxviii. The rose is budding fain. 1864 H. SPENCER *First Princ.* ii. xv. § 119 (1875) 336 The wings and legs of a bird... when they bud-out from the sides of the embryo.

2. *fig.* To spring forth, as a bud; to begin to grow; to develop; also with *out*, *up*.

1566 KNOX *Hist. Ref. Wks.* 1846 I. 184 Thairby Goddis word should somewhat bud. a 1593 H. SMITH *Serm.* (1866) II. 254 Many vices bud out of this one. 1608 GOLDING *Epit. Froissard's Chron.* ii. 68 There was trouble and insurrection budding vp. 1613 SHAKS. *Hen. VIII.* i. i. 94 The sodaine breach... is budded out, For France hath flaw'd the League. 1713 YOUNG *Last Day* iii. 317 There, buds the promise of celestial worth. 1859 MERRIVALE *Rom. Emp.* (1865) VIII. lxxvi. 210 The camps which Agricola had planted... budded, in the course of ages, into little towns.

3. *trans.* To put forth as buds; to produce by gemmation; also with *forth* and *out*. Also *fig.*

1591 SPENCER *Vis. Bellay* 138 This Hydra... With seven heads, budding monstrous crimes. 1665 GONSAUVIO'S *Sp. Inquis.* It buddeth forth such pestilent blossomes. 1854 WOODWARD *Mollusca* (1856) 49 The power they [zoophytes] possess of budding out new individuals. 1865 NICHOLSON *Zool.* lviii. (1880) 520 Within the branchial chamber [of the tadpole]... the fore-limbs are budded forth.

4. To bring into bud, cause to bud; also *fig.*

1604 DRAYTON *Owle* 3 The strength and fervour of whose pregnant ray, Buds every branch, and blossomes every spray. † a 1700 *Hawthorn Tree* in Child *Ballads* I. 313 Next ye againe I will be sene To budge my branches. 1852 TUPPER *Proverb. Philos.* 403 When did the body elevate, expand, and bud the mind?

5. *Gardening.* To ingraft by inserting a bud of a shrub or tree under the bark of another 'stock', for the purpose of raising flowers or fruit different from those of the stock. Also *absol.*

1663 COWLEY *Verses & Ess.* (1669) 119 We no where Art do so triumphant see, As when it Grafts or Buds the Tree. 1664 EVELYN *Kal. Hort.* (1729) 198 You may... bud at the end of this month. *Ibid.* Stocks to bud Oranges and Lemons on. 1725 BRADLEY *Fam. Dict.* II. a. v. Laurel, Grafted or budded upon black Cherry Stalks. 1853 Blackw. *Mag.*

LXXXIII. 131 He grafted, and budded, and hybridised. 1861 DELAMER *Fl. Gard.* 156 To be budded on the Musk Rose.

† **Bud**, *v.* 2. *Sc.* [f. *BUD sb.* 2.] *trans.* To bribe.

c 1565 LINDSAY (Piscottie) *Cron. Scotl.* (1728) 148 They budded the king to bide at home. 1582-8 *Hist. Jas. VI.* (1804) 198 Moirtoun... buddit Tullybardin with the office of the Comptroller. 1636 RUTHERFORD *Leit.* lxiii. (1862) I. 169 To bud and bribe the Cross. 1657 [see *Budding vbl. sb.* 1].

Bud, *v.* *Sc.* = must: see *BUS v.*

† **Budde**, *Obs.* Forms: 1 *budda*, 5 *budde* (1 *bude*, *bowde*): see also *BOUD*. [Of unknown etymology: the relation of the earlier *budda*, *budde*, with short *u*, to the later *bowde*, *boud*, with long vowel or diphthong, is also uncertain.] An insect; † a beetle of some kind: cf. *BOUD*, weevil.

a 1200 *Semi-Saxon Vocab.* in Wr. Wülcker 543 *Scarabeus*, *scarnbudoa uel budda*. c. 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 54 *Budde* of a tree, *gemma*. *Budde* Flye. [cf. *ibid.* 46 *Bowde*, *malte-worme* [1499 *boude* of *malte*]. c. 1475 *Pict. Voc.* in Wr. Wülcker 767 *Nomina Muscarum*, *Hec polumita* a *bude*, *Hic stabo* a *scarbudo*. See *BOUD*.]

Budded (*bud-ded*), *ppl. a.* [f. *BUD v.* 1 or *sb.* 1 + -ED.] a. In bud, budding; furnished with buds. b. Subjected to the operation of budding (*BUD v.* 1 5). c. That has sprouted or put forth buds.

1552 HULOT, *Budded*, *gemmatas*. 1579 SPENCER *Sheph. Cal.* Feb. 36 The budded broomes. *Ibid.* May 214 His newe budded beard. 1664 EVELYN *Kal. Hort.* (1729) 195 Cut off the Heads of your budded Stocks. 1817 WORDSW. *Poems of Imag.* xvi. With songs the budded groves resounding. 1881 *Gard. Chron.* XVI. 851 The budded rose.

Budder, *rare*. [f. *BUD v.* 1 + -ER.] That which buds, or is in bud.

1818 KEATS *Endym.* l. 41 Now while the early budders are just new.

Buddha (*bu'dā*, *bu'd'ha*). Also 7-8 *Buddou*, 9 *Booddha*, *Bhoddha*, *Boudhou*, *Budh*, *Buddh*, *Buddho*. [a. Skr. *buddha* enlightened, awakened, pa. pple. of *budh* to awake, know, perceive.] The title given by the adherents of one of the great Asiatic religions, thence called **BUDDHISM**, to the founder of their faith, Śākyamuni, Gautama, or Siddārtha, who flourished in Northern India in the 5th century B.C. Śākyamuni is regarded as only the latest of a series of Buddhas or infallible religious teachers, which is hereafter to be continued indefinitely.

When applied to Śākyamuni, *Buddha* is in English use treated as a proper name, and even when used in a general sense, it is always written with a capital B.

1681 R. KNOX *Hist. Ceylon* 18 The Buddou, a great god among them. 1764 SIR W. CHAMBERS in *Asiat. Res.* (1799) I. 163 The Siamese have two orders of priests, and so have the worshippers of Buddou. 1803 MAHONY in *Asiat. Res.* VII. 32 This last Bhoddha will be born of a Braminee woman. 1844 H. H. WILSON *Brit. India* II. 87 With the acquiescence of... the priests of Buddha. *Ibid.* III. 50 Relics of the four last Buddhas. 1853 WAYLAND *Mem. Judson* App. II. 410 A Buddha is a being who by virtue of... certain austerities becomes the object of supreme adoration. 1858 MAX MÜLLER *Chips* (1880) I. ii. 51 The first subjective system of faith in India, the religion of Buddha.

attrib. 1764 SIR W. CHAMBERS in *Asiat. Res.* (1799) I. 163 Knox says of the Buddou Priests, etc. 1801 JOINVILLE in *Asiat. Res.* VII. 421 Some prince on the continent, professing the Boudhou religion.

Hence **Buddhahood**, the condition of a Buddha; **Buddhaship**, the office of a Buddha.

1837 G. TURNOUR *Mahdwanio* I. xxviii. Prince Siddhattho attained Buddhahood, in the character of Gotamo Buddho. 1876 DODS *Moham. Buddha & C.* iii. 147 Such then was the process by which Siddhartha painfully won his way to Buddhahood. 1882 SCHAFF *Encycl. Rel. Knowl.* I. 333 Gautama's Buddhahood was for five thousand years.

Buddhic (*bu'dik*), a. [see -IC.] = **BUDDHIST** a.

1826 G. S. FABER *Orig. Pagan Idol.* I. 54 Such impieties peculiarly marked the Hermetic or Buddhic theology. 1877 — *Eight Dissert.* (1845) I. 62 The doctrine of Buddhic Incarnation.

Buddhism (*bu'diz'm*). Also **Boudhism**, **Budhism**, **Boodhism**. [f. *BUDDHA* + -ISM.] The religious system founded by Buddha.

1801 JOINVILLE in *Asiat. Res.* VII. 400 If Boudhism could not have established itself among the Brahmins, etc. 1816 *Asiatic Jrnal.* I. 19 The name and peculiarities of Boudhism have a good deal fixed my attention. 1870 F. HALL in Wilson *Vishnu Purāṇa* V. 376 The Hindus, with their hatred of Boudhism and everything therewith cognate.

Buddhist (*bu'dist*), *sb.* and a. Also **Booddhist**, **h**, and (wrongly) **Bhudist**, **Bhudhist**, **Bhoddhist**, **Boudhist**, **Baudhist**. [f. as prec. + -IST. The Sanskrit *Baudha* 'follower of Buddha' was previously used: hence the form *Baudhist*.]

A. *sb.* A follower of Buddha.

1801 JOINVILLE in *Asiat. Res.* VII. 398 In the opinion of the Boudhists, there has been no creation. 1803 MAHONY in *Asiat. Res.* VII. 33 The Bhoddhists speak of 26 heavens, which they divide in the following manner. 1807 WILFORD in *Asiat. Res.* IX. 88 According to the Baudhists, the ancient Buddha... began to reign 1567 years B.C. 1810 M. GRAHAM 89 (Y.) Among the Bhuddists there are no distinct castes. 1841 H. H. WILSON *Asiat. Jrnal.* New Ser. XXXV. 44 A different class of sectarians from Boudhists or Baudhas. 1871 ALABASTER *Wheel of the Law* 265 Boudhists are forbidden to kill animals.

B. *adj.* Relating to or connected with Buddhism.

1816 *Asiatic Jrnal.* I. 21 The harmless sacrifices of the Chinese... are obviously Boudhist. 1835 MARRYAT *Olla Podr.* xxiv. I also found... Boudhist figures. 1871 ALABASTER

Wheel of the Law 168 My ideas on Buddhist prayer are stated in the Preface.

Buddhistic (budi'stik), *a.* = **BUDDHIST** *a.*
1841 ANTHON *Class. Dict.* 87/1 A remnant .. of an early Buddhist system. 1860 J. MUIR *Orig. Sanskrit Texts* II. 69 In Ceylon there exists .. an extensive Buddhist literature. 1884 DR. ARGYLL *Unity of Nat.* xiii. 508 The real meaning of the Buddhistic Atheism in the mind of its original teachers.

Buddhistical (budi'stikāl), *a.* [f. **prec.** + **-AL**.]
= **prec.**

1837 G. TURNOUR *Mahāwanso* I. xxviii. The mystification of the Buddhistical data. 1860 J. MUIR *Orig. Sanskrit Texts* II. 68 The three pitakas, which now form the Buddhistical Scriptures.

Buddhite (budi'tit), *sb.* and *a.* Also **Bud-dite**. [see **-ITE**.] An early synonym of **BUDDHIST**.
1803 R. PERCIVAL *Ceylon* 200 The Brahmins prevailed, and the Buddhites were compelled to take refuge in Ceylon. 1816 *Asiat. Jnl.* I. 114 The ancient religious edifices of Java are exclusively Buddhist, and not Braminical.

Budding (bū'din), *vbl. sb.* [f. **BUD** *v.* 1 + **-ING** 1.]
1. The action of putting forth buds, sprouting;
concr. buds collectively.

1398 TREVISIA *Barth. De P. R.* ix. vii. (1495) 352 Harueste .. wythdrawyth the vertue of buddynge and of spryngynge. 1580 HOLLYBAND *Treas. Fr. Tong. Germenit*, a budding, a sprouting. 1711 ADDISON *Spect.* No. 121 ¶ 3 Before the first budding of a Horn appears. 1784 RAMSAY *Tea-T. Misc.* (1733) I. 100 Plantings. Where buddings and blossoms appear. 1878 HUXLEY *Physiogr.* xv. 252 By .. budding and splitting, the corals may form masses of great size.

2. *fig.* Springing forth, beginning, 'germ'.
1601 WEEVER *Mirr. Mari.* A.V. Her forward budding in the prime I blasted with wind of pride. 1677 GILPIN *Damozel* (1867) 461 We must .. nip it in the earliest buddings of it. 1741 WATTS *Improv. Mind* ix. (1801) 68 The young buddings of infant reason. 1828 B. CORNWALL *Let. Boccaccio* ii. 44 In budding, happiness is likest woe.

3. *Gardening.* The process of inserting a bud from one shrub or tree under the bark of another, so that adhesion takes place; inoculation.

1719 LONDON & WISS *Compl. Gard.* vii. 184 The proper time for inoculating or Budding, is .. according as the Season happens. 1861 DELAMER *Fl. Gard.* 156 Budding may be performed from June to September.

4. *attrib.* as in *budding-knife*, *-time*.
1805 WORDSW. *Prel.* III. (1850) 64 A congregation in its budding time Of health. 1831-60 LONDON *Encycl. Gard.* 656 (L.) With the budding-knife make a horizontal cut across the rind. 1839 CARLYLE *Chartism* viii. 165 There are spiritual budding-times.

Budding, *vbl. sb.* 2. *Sc. Obs.* [f. **BUD** *v.* 2 + **-ING** 1.] Bribery.

1640 PASQUIL in *Bk. of Scotch Pasquils* 144 Ther was houper for brybes and budding. 1857 COLVIL *Whigs' Suppl.* (1751) 92 It's very like, at others budding, He turn'd his coat for cake and pudding.

Budding, *ppl. a.* [f. **BUD** *v.* 1 + **-ING** 2.]

1. That buds; in bud, sprouting.
1561 T. NORTON *Calvin's Inst.* I. xvi. (1634) 82 A budding greenness. 1579 SPENSER *Sheph. Cal.* Feb. 58 My budding braunch. 1697 DRYDEN *Virg. Georg.* II. 765 Wanton Kids, with budding horns. 1814 SOUTHEY *Roderick* xv. Lovely as a budding rose.

2. *fig.*
1581 SIDNEY *Apol.* (Arb.) 67 We might well want words, but never matter, of which .. we should euer haue new budding occasions. 1648 HERRICK *Corinna's a Maying*, There's not a budding boy, or girl. .. But is .. gone to bring in May. 1664 DRYDEN *Rival Ladies* I. i. 186, I will not .. crush a budding Virtue. 1753 SMOLLETT *Cl. Fathom* (1784) 137/2 One unlucky .. circumstance blasted .. the budding hopes of Melville. 1866 G. MACDONALD *Ann. Q. Neighb.* iii. (1878) 33 This gave a great help to his budding confidence.

Hence **Buddingness**, budding quality or condition. In mod. Dicts.

Buddle, *buddle* (bū'd'l, bū'd'l), *sb.* 1 Forms: 4 budel, 5 bopul, 6 bothil, 6 bodle, boddle. 8- buddle, 9 boodle. [Etymology unknown: the conjecture that it is a Du. *buidel* purse, on account of its bearing *golds* (yellow flowers) is untenable.] A rural name for the Corn-marigold.

a 1400 *Names of Herbs* in MS. Sloane 5 f. 6 *Monica*, budel. c 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 46 Bopul (printed Boyul) or bothule, herbe, or cow-slope [v. r. bothil, boyil]. 1580 TUSSEY *Husb.* II. 11 Like unto buddle no weede there is such. 1767 MARSHALL *E. Norfolk Gloss.* (E. D. S.) *Buddle*, corn-marigold. 1830 FORBY *Voc. E. Anglia* I. 42 *Buddle*, a noxious weed among corn, *Chrysanthemum segetum*.

Buddle (bū'd'l), *sb.* 2 *Mining.* Also 6 buddel, 7 budle. [Etymology unknown: some have compared Ger. *butteln* to shake, agitate. The word occurs in Manlove 1653 as a term used by Derbyshire lead-miners; it is still current there and in Cornwall, and also in the U. S. silver mines.]

A shallow inclined vat in which ore is washed.
1531-2 *Act 23 Hen. VIII.* viii. § 1 The saide digger, owner, or wassher, shall make .. sufficient hatches and ties in the ende of their buddeles and cordes. 1653 MANLOVE *Rhymed Chron.* 260 Main Rakes, Cross Rakes, Brown-henns, Budles and Soughs. 1674 RAY *Smell. Silver* 116 The Buddle which is a vessel made like to a shallow tumbrel, standing a little shelving. 1869 CHURCH in *Student II.* 402 The buddeles where the ground ore is washed. 1881 RAYMOND *Mining Gloss.*, *Buddle* (Cornwall), an inclined vat or stationary or revolving platform upon which ore is concentrated by means of running water. Strictly the budle is a shallow vat .. But general usage, particularly on the Pacific slope, makes no distinction.

Comb., as *buddle-boy*, *-head*, *-tub*.

1860 SMILES *Self-help* iii. 62 Earning three-halfpence a day as a buddleboy at a tin mine. 1871 *Phil. Trans.* VI. 2109 A Trambling shovel .. to cast up the Ore .. on a long square board .. which is termed the Buddle-head. 1811 *Chron.* in *Ann. Reg.* 54/1 Miner's buddle-tubs .. and other materials.

Buddle, *v.* 1 *Obs. rare.* [f. **BUD** *v.* 1 + **-LE** frequentative suffix; but perh. rather onomatopoeic.] *intr.* ? To bud, to sprout.

1581 J. BELL Haddon's *Answ. Osor.* 268 b, More wickednes hath bene sene to buddle upp afresh [Lat. *pullulare*]. *Ibid.* 430 b, Sinnes do dayly boyle upp and buddle from without us.

Buddle (bū'd'l), *v.* 2 *Mining.* [f. **BUDDLE** *sb.* 2] *trans.* To wash (ore) by means of a buddle. Hence **Buddled** *ppl. a.*; **Buddler**; **Buddling** *vbl. sb.*
1693 G. POOLEY in *Phil. Trans.* XVII. 675 The places where they wash, clean or buddle it, as their Term is. 1747 HOOSON *Miner's Dict.* s. v., In some places, they Buddle all their Boose. *Ibid.* 1 j b, The Rudlers, Scrapers, and Washers. *Ibid.* X iv, Waste [is] that which is separated by the Water from the Buddled Ore, by Buddling the Boose. 1869 CHURCH in *Student II.* 402 It [ore] is separated from the accompanying rock and minerals by the process locally [Cornwall] termed buddling.

Buddle, *obs. f.* **BOODLE** 1.

Buddy (bū'di), *a. rare.* [f. **BUD** *sb.* 1 + **-Y** 1.]

1. Full of buds. b. Like a bud.
1598 FLORIO, *Fransuto*, stalkie, buddie, spriggie. 1611 COTGR., *Fillole*, a buddie knob in a vine, like a wart. 1862 THACKERAY *Roundab. Papers* (1879) 115 Here are the scourges! choose me a nice, long, swishing, buddy one. 1871 G. MACDONALD *Roadside P.* 209 Buddy dots of light.

Bude (biūd), [Attrib. use of the name of a place in Cornwall.] **Bude-burner**, a gas-burner invented by Sir Goldsworthy Gurney (who resided at Bude), consisting of several concentric argand rings. **Bude-light**, see *quot.* **Bude sand**, sand from Bude, used as a dressing for soil.

1807 VANCOUVER *Agric. Devon* (1813) 157 Old spaded and burnt moors, dressed with 100 seams of bude sand. 1835 *Meek. Mag.* XXIII. 80 The Bude Light is a name given by Mr. Gurney .. to a new light .. obtained by directing a stream of oxy-hydrogen gas on a quantity of pounded egg shells. 1875 *Unk. Dict. Arts II.* 559 The Bude burner consists of 2 or 3 concentric argand rings perforated.

Bude, *obs. var.* of **BID**, to announce, deliver.

c 1380 *Sir Ferumb.* 1793 Pey of frunce affore þe Amerel 3ude And Ro[land] wip sterne continance ys message þus gan bude.

Bude, *var.* of **BOUD**.

Bude = *behooved*: see **BUS** *v.*

Budel, *obs. form* of **BEADLE** and **BUDDLE** *sb.* 1

Budge (būdz), *sb.* 1 Forms: 4 bugee, -eye, 5 boge, bogey, 6 boggy, bug(g)e, buggye, *Sc.* buge, 7 budge, 9 boodge, 6- budge. [Etymology obscure; usually identified with **BUDDGE** *sb.* 3, **BOUGE** *sb.* 1, a leather bag; but the connexion of sense is not clear, and most of the early forms seem to indicate a dissyllabic etymon. If the original sense were 'kid-skin with the hair' (see *quot.* 1616), the OF. *bouchet*, *bochet* a kid, might be thought of; cf. 'budge of court' from F. *bouche* under **BOUGE** *sb.* 2.]

1. A kind of fur, consisting of lamb's skin with the wool dressed outwards.

1382 *Pol. Poems* (1859) I. 265 Somme frers beren peluse aboute. Al. after that thai ere .. For somme bugee, and for somme byse. 1395 *Determin. Feast* in Rogers *Agric. & Prices* II. 647 De xxxix furruris pro capucis de Bugeye. 1465 *Paston Lett.* xcix. I. 134, Ij. gounes, one furred with bogey. 1513 DOUGLAS *Æneis* viii. Prol. 58 Byand byssely, and bane, buge, beuir and bice. 1532-3 *Act 24 Hen. VIII.* xiii, No man, vnder the saide estates .. shall weare any furre .. except foynes, genets .. and Boggy. c 1570 THYNNE *Pride & Loul.* (1841) 32 A gowne Of fine blacke cloth, and faced faire with budge. 1611 COTGR. s. v. *Agneau*, *Blanche d'agneau*, the furre called, white Lambe, or, white Budge. 1636 BULLOKAR, *Budge*, a furre of a kinde of kid in other countries. c 1640 J. SWYTH *Lives Berkeleys* (1883) I. 305 Furred with Coney, lambskinne, and budge. 1721 C. KING *Brit. Merch.* I. 288 Budge and Goat Skins. a 1859 DE QUINCEY *Whiggism* Wks. VI. 115 note, Budge is a species of fur.

2. *attrib.* and *Comb.*, as in *budge-face*, *-fur*, *-gown*, *-skin*; *budge-bachelor*, one of a company dressed in gowns trimmed with budge, who took part in the procession on Lord Mayor's Day (see **BACHELOR** 2). (For *budge-doctor*, etc., see **BUDGE** *a.*)

1466 *Mann. & Househ. Exp.* 371 My mastyr bout of hym vj. boge scynnes prise iiij. s. 1506 SKELTON *Magnyf.* 1070 In the stede of a budge furre. 1599 MARSTON *Scot. Villanie* III. x. 222 Poore budge face, bowcase sleuee, but let him passe, Once furre and beard shall priuiledge an Asse. 1649 MILTON *Observ. Art. Peace* Wks. 1738 I. 355 To part freely with their own Budge-gowns. 1680 T. JORDAN *London's Glory* 13 In the Rear of them .. hastens the Foins and Budge-Bachelors together with the Gentlemen-Ushers to Guild-Hall. 1706 PHILLIPS, *Budge-Bachelors*, a Company of poor old Men Cloath'd in long Gowns, lin'd with Lambs-furr, who attend upon the Lord Mayor of the City of London, during the Solemnity of the Publick Shew.

Budge, *sb.* 2 *Obs. rare* -1. Also 6 buge. [a. OF. *bouge* 'espèce de hache d'armes, on plutôt une grande serpe' Godef. See **VOULGE**.] 'A kind of bill; a warlike instrument' (Jamieson).

1513 DOUGLAS *Æneis* xi. Prol. 16 Nane vther strokis nor wapynnis had thai thar, Nother speyr, buge, pol-ax, swerd, knyfe, nor mace [ed. 1553 has *budgeis*].

Budge, *sb.* 3 *Obs.* [Later spelling of **BOUGE** *sb.* 1, in sense 1. Cf. **BUDGET**.] A leather bag.

1606 HOLLAND *Sutton* 204 To the necke of another, there was tyed a lether-bagge .. with this title .. But thou hast deserved a verie lether budge [*culcum*] indeed.

Budge, *sb.* 4 *Obs.* [f. **BUDGE** *v.* 1] A shove, a push.

1714 ELLWOOD *Autobiog.* (1765) 60 As for the Budge I had had it given me often in the Street but understood not the meaning of it till now; and now I found it was a Jostle, enough to throw one almost upon his Nose.

Budge, *sb.* 5 *Obs. slang.* See *quots.* Also *attrib.*

1673 R. HEAD *Canting Acad.* 95 The Budge .. his employment is in the dark of the Evening, to go into any door that he seeth open, and .. take whatever next cometh to hand. 1696 *Warning for Householders*, (title), Budge and Snudge, File-lifter, Tongue-padder, The Private Thief. 1706 PHILLIPS, *Budge*, one that slips into a House, or Shop, to steal Cloaks, etc. 1751 FIELDING *Amelia* I. iii, You are some sneaking budge rascal.

Budge, *sb.* 6, var. of **BOUGE** *sb.* 2, court rations.

Budge, *a. Obs.* Also 7 bodge, budge. [Etymology unknown: we may perhaps compare **BUG** *a.*, also **Bog** *a.* **BOGGISH**.]

There appears to be a reference to the attrib. use of **BUDGE** *sb.* 1, as in the first *quot.* Possibly *budge doctor* may have originally meant one who wore budge fur.]

1. Solemn in demeanour, important-looking, pompous, stiff, formal.

1634 MILTON *Comus* 707 Those budge doctors of the Stoic fur. 1640 BROME *Sparagus Gard.* iv. v, I ha no more to say t'ye, since you be so budge. 1676 MARVELL *Gen. Councils* Wks. 1875 IV. 119 And how budge must they look when they returned back to their diocesses. 1686 OLDHAM *Art Poetry* 66 No tutor, but the Budge Philosophers he knew. 1714 ELLWOOD *Autobiog.* (1765) 60 The Warden was a budge old man; and I looked somewhat big too; having a good gelding under me, and a good riding coat on my back. 1755 JOHNSON, *Budge*, surly, stiff, formal. 1765 COWPER *Convers.* 299 The solemn fop, significant and budge.

2. *dialect.* Brisk, lively.

1691 RAY S. & E. C. Wds. 90 *Budge*, brisk, jocund. You are very Budge. — N. C. Wds. (E. D. S.) *Crowne*, brisk, budge, lively, jolly. 1721-2800 in BAILEY.

Budge (būdz), *v.* 1 Also 6-7 bouge, (7) budg.

[a. F. *bouge-r* to stir; according to Diez, prob. = Pr. *bolegar* to disturb oneself, It. *bulicare* to bubble up; — late L. **bullicare* to bubble, frequentative of *bullire* to boil. Cf., for the sense, Pg. *bulire* to move, stir.]

1. *intr.* To stir, to move from one's place. (Almost always with negative expressed or implied, and said of that which stands firmly or stubbornly.) To budge against, to move against, act in hostility to, is now *obs.*

1590 GREENE *Orl. Furr.* (1590) 31 Bouge not a foot to ayd Prince Rodamant. 1603 FLORIO *Montaigne* (1634) 148 He could not be induced to bouge from his place. 1637 EARL MONM. tr. *Malvessi's Rom. & Tarquin* 154 [He] doth not budge against his Prince. 1663 BUTLER *Hud.* I. III. 201, I thought th' hadst scorn'd to budge a step, For fear. 1768 GOLDSM. *Good-n. Man* Epil., Not a soul will budge to give him place. 1837 W. IRVING *Capt. Bonneville* (1849) 207 The trapper .. refused to budge an inch. 1877 MRS. OLIPHANT *Makers Flor.* x. 252 Showing no inclination to budge.

Budge, *v.* 2 *Obs.* [? var. of **BOUGE** *v.*] To put together clumsily.

1601 SHAKS. *Jul. C.* iv. iii. 44 Must I bouge? Must I observe you? 1607 — *Cor.* I. vi. 44 The Mouse ne're shunn'd the Cat, as they did budge From rascals worse then they. 1630 WADSWORTH *Sp. Pilgr.* iii. 15 All are bound to bee there without budging at seuen. 1651 BAXTER *Inf. Bapt.* Apol. 10 He told them in the Pulpit, that let them budge at it how they would, it was their Hypocrisie that hindered them from receiving the truth.

2. *trans.* To stir or move (a heavy inert thing).
1598 SYLVESTER *Du Bartas* II. i. iv. (1641) 106/1 A stone so huge, That in our Age three men could hardly bouge. 1633 KANE *Grinnell Exp.* xxiv. (1856) 218 Although the starboard floe .. parted a six-inch hawser, it failed to budge us one inch from the icy cradle. 1883 *Harper's Mag.* Nov. 903/2 Three men were trying .. and could not budge it.

Budge, *v.* 2 *Obs.* [? var. of **BOUGE** *v.*] To put together clumsily.

1608 EARLE *Microcosm.* xlv. All the actions of his life are like so many things budg'd in without any natural cadence or connection at all.

Budge, *var.* of **BOUGE** *v.* *Obs.* to bilge.

1622 FLETCHER *Span. Curate* iv. v, Preach not abstinence .. 'Twill budge the bottoms of their consciences.

Budge-barrel. [f. **BUDGE** *sb.* 3 = **BOUGE** *sb.* 1, a leather bag + **BARREL** *sb.*] (See *quot.*)

1607 CAPT. SMITH *Seaman's Gram.* xiv. 66 A Budgbarrell is a little Barrell made of Latten, filled with powder to carry from place to place for feare of fire; in the couer it hath a long necke to fill the Ladies withall without opening. 1696 PHILLIPS, *Budge-barrel*, a little Tin-barrel to carry Powder in for feare of fire. 1828 J. SPEARMAN *Brit. Gunner* s. v. *Barrel*, Budge-barrels. These barrels are employed in the service of batteries, and have leather chaps drawing together like the mouth of a bag. 1866 F. GRIFFITHS *Artif. Man.* (ed. 9) 93 Budge Barrels. Weight of barrel, copper-hooped, 10 lb.

Budgelling. *Obs. rare* -1. (Dyce suggests = 'boggling', or a misprint for *budgetting*.)

a 1626 MIDDLETON *No wit, no H.* I. iii. Here is strange budgelling: I tell you, sir, Those that I put in trust were near me too.

Budgely, *adv. Obs. rare*. [f. **BUDGE** *a.* + **-LY** 2.] Solemnly, stiffly, with assumed dignity.

1599 NASH *Lent. Stuffs in Harl. Misc.* (1810) VI. 166 King Dionisius... saw him sit under his canopy so budgely.

Budger. [f. BUDGE v.1 + -ER.1.] One who budges or stirs.

1607 SHAKS. *Cor.* I. viii. 5 Let the first Budger dye the others Slaue.

Budgerow (bʊdʒəroʊ). *Anglo-Indian.* Also 8-9 budgero. [a. Hindi or Bengali *bajrā*.] 'A lumbering keelless barge, formerly much used by Europeans travelling on the Ganges' (Col. Yule).

[c. 1570 tr. *Cesare Federici in Harl. II.* 358 (V.) Their barks be light and armed with oars... and they call these barks Bazaras and Patuas [in Bengali].] 1797 A. HAMILTON *New Acc. E. Ind.* II. xxxiii. 12 In their Budgeroes, which is a convenient Boat, that goes swiftly with the Force of Oars. 1781 HODGES 39 (V.) The budgerows, which both sail and row. 1834 H. CAUNTER *Scenes in Ind.* 249 Our papers... we happened luckily to have on board the budgerow.

Budget (bʊdʒɪt). Forms: 5 bowzette, -gett, 6 bo-, booget, bow-, bou-, boud-, budgette, (bowdashett), 6-7 bou-, bow-, boudget, 7 bugget, bu(d)git, 6- budget. [ad. F. *bougette*, dim. of *bouge* leather bag; see BOUGE sb.1, BUDGE sb.3 Cf. BOUGET.]

†1. A pouch, bag, wallet, usually of leather. *Obs.* exc. *dial.*

1432-50 tr. *Higden Rolls Ser. VII.* 385 His bowzettes (man-tics) and caskettes. c. 1530 LD. BERNERS *Arth. Lyt. Bryt.* (1814) 62 A boget wyth leeters hangyng at his sadel bow. 1548 UDALL *Erasm. Apoph.* 110 b, For a pourse or a bougette. 1611 CORVAT *Crudities* 66 A certaine Pedler, hauing a budget of small wares. 1638 HEYWOOD *Wise Wom.* iv. 1, You whose wealth lyes in your braines; not in your budgets. 1677 MOXON *Mech. Exerc.* (1703) 250 A Budget or Pocket to hang by their sides, to put their Nails in. 1783 JOHNSON in *Boswell* (1831) V. 116 When I landed at Billingsgate I carried my budget myself to Cornhill. 1808 SCOTT *Marm.* I. xxvii. Staff, budget, bottle, scrip, he wore. 1879 MISS JACKSON *Shropsh. Wd.-bk.*, Budget, a satchel of bass-matting in which workmen carry their tools.

†b. *fig.* Phrase, *To open one's budget*: to speak one's mind. *Obs.* (Cf. 3.)

1548 HALL *Chron.* (1809) 100 Put it in your boget among lyes and fayned fables. 1642 ROGERS *Naaman* 139 Infinite are the subtilties which are in the bugit of this traitor. 1681 NEVILLE *Plato Rediv.* 261 Most of the Wise... Men... are very silent, and will not open their Budget.

†c. *The hangman's budget.* *Obs.*

1589 PAPPE *W. Hatchet* (1844) 37 With an Habeas Corpus to remouee them from the Shepherds tarre-boxe to the hangmans budget. 1607 DEKKER *Wh. Babylon* Wks. 1873 II. 270 A Broker and his wife that dropt out of the Hangmans budget but last day, are now eating into the Camp.

2. In various *spec.* uses:

†a. A leather or skin bottle. *Obs.*
1580 NORTH *Plutarch* (1696) 574 Great Leather budgets filled full of fresh Water. 1653 JAQUHART *Rabelais* II. viii. The measure of twelve oyle budgets or butts of olives. 1786 tr. *Beckford's Vathek* 12 A water budget.

b. A kind of boot in a carriage, adapted for carrying luggage. *Obs.* Cf. BASKET 5.

1794 W. FELTON *Carriages* (1801) I. 115 Boots and budgets are mostly understood as one article... that wherein the principal difference lies, is made with a loose cover, and is properly the budget, being made convenient for trunks.

c. A leathern socket for retaining the butt of a cavalry carbine on a journey. Cf. BUCKET sb.1 4 b.
1816 SCOTT *Old Mort.* ix. The two dragoons... have their carabines out of their budgets.

3. *transf.* The contents of a bag or wallet; a bundle, a collection or stock. Chiefly *fig.*

1597 T. MORLEY *Introd. Musicae* 157 You shall haue the hardest in all my budget. 1698 R. L'ESTRANGE *Fables* (J.) It was nature, in fine, that brought off the cat, when the fox's whole budget of inventions failed him. 1799 SWIFT *Wks.* 1841 II. 110, I read... the whole budget of papers you sent. 1784 COWPER *Tusk* iv. 23 But O th' important budget!... who can say what are its tidings? 1828 HAZLITT *Men & Manners* Ser. II. iii. (1809) 54 His budget of general knowledge. 1854 THOREAU *Walden* iv. Bed and bedstead making one budget. 1867 DE MORGAN (title) A Budget of Paradoxes.

b. A frequent title for a journal (i.e. a budget of news, etc.): e.g. *Pall Mall Budget*, *Young Folks's Weekly Budget*.

4. A statement of the probable revenue and expenditure for the ensuing year, with financial proposals founded thereon, annually submitted by the Chancellor of the Exchequer, on behalf of the Ministry, for the approval of the House of Commons. Sometimes put for the condition of the national finances as disclosed in the ministerial statement; also for the financial measures proposed. Hence applied to an analogous statement made by the finance minister of any foreign country; also to a prospective estimate of receipts and expenditure, or a financial scheme, of a public body, or (humorously) of an individual.

[The Chancellor of the Exchequer, in presenting his annual statement, was formerly said to *open the budget*. In a pamphlet entitled *The Budget Opened*, Sir R. Walpole was compared, apropos of his forthcoming Excise Bill, to a mountebank opening his wallet of quack medicines and conjuring tricks.]

1733 *Budget Opened* 8 And how is this to be done? Why by an Alteration only of the present Method of collecting the publick Revenues... So then, out it comes at last. The Budget is opened; and our State Emperick hath dispensed his packets by his Zany Couriers through all

Parts of the Kingdom... I do not pretend to understand this Art of political Legerdemain. 1764 *Gent. Mag.* XXXIV. 207 The administration has condescended... to explain the Budget to the meanest capacity. 1771-97 H. WALPOLE *Memo. Geo. III.* I. xvii. 250 The time was now come for opening the budget, when it was incumbent on him to state the finances, debts, and calls of Government. 1785 *Hist. Europe in Ann. Reg.* 168/2 On the 30th of June Mr. Pitt opened the national accounts for the present year, or what is generally termed the Budget. 1800 PITT in G. ROSE *Diaries* (1860) I. 278 Our first business... must be to prepare our budget. 1814 WELLINGTON *Lett.* in *Gurw. Disp.* XII. 98 The budget has... passed the Chamber of Deputies of the departments with trifling amendments. c. 1850 WRAXALL tr. *R. Houdin* xi. 143, I resolved to effect an utter reform in my budget. 1870 ROGERS Pref. to *Adam Smith W. Nat.* 20 England was crippled by foolish budgets.

Hence **Budgetism**.
1839 *Blackw. Mag.* XLVI. 105 The journalism, the budgetism, the parliamentarism, of the 19th century.

†5. *Her.* = BOUGET: cf. 2 a. *Obs.*

1766 PONY *Heraldry Gloss.*, Budget, v. Water-Budget.

6. (See MUM-BUDGET, a phrase enjoining silence.)

1598 SHAKS. *Merry W.* v. ii. 7, I come to her in white, and cry Mum; she cries Budget, and by that we know one another.

7. *Comb. and Attrib.*, as *budget-bearer*, *-full*, *-maker*, *-man*. Also *budget-bar* (see quot.); *budget-gut*, the cræcum.

1704 W. FELTON *Carriages* (1801) I. 48 The 'budget Bar'... is a straight timber, on which rests the boot or budget. 1684 tr. *Agrippa's Van. Arts* lxiii. 184 Barefooted 'Budget-Bearers'. 1614 *Engl. Voy. to Wealth in Harl. Misc.* (Malh.) III. 238 Heaps and 'budget-falls' in the counting-house. 1594 T. B. *La Primaud. Fr. Acad.* II. 350 The blinde gut... is commonly called by some the sacke or 'budget gut'. 1553 *Act. 1 Mary* 3rd Sess. viii. § 2 The Currier... 'Budget-maker', and all other Artificers occupying the Craft or Mystery of Leather-buying. 1647 HAWARD *Crown Rev.* 26 Budget-maker: Fee, -bl. 12. 8d. c. 1550 *Wyll of Dewyll* (Collier) 6 To eury of these pety 'Bouget men of laws... a Bouget to put inne their sub penas.

Budget, v. [f. prec. sb.]

trans. †a. To put in a 'budget' or wallet; to store up (*obs.*). b. To budget for: to provide for in the budget (*rare*).

1618 J. TAYLOR (Water P.) *Pennilesse Pilgr.* Wks. 1630 I. 125/2 We eate a substantial dinner, & like miserable Guests we did budget vp the reuerions. 1884 *Daily News* 9 Oct. 4/6 An army of 6,000 men and a force of 7,757 police were budgeted for in 1883.

Budgetary (bʊdʒɪtəri), a. [f. BUDGET sb. + -ARY 1 A: cf. mod. F. *budgetaire*.] Pertaining to a budget.

1879 R. H. LANG in *Macm. Mag.* Sept. 446/2 No accounts whatever, not even budgetary estimates... have been given. 1881 *Daily News* 25 Mar. 5/4 M. Constans said such budgetary derangement was impracticable.

Budgeteer (bʊdʒɪtəri), [f. as prec. + -EE-1.]

One who makes up a budget (in sense 3 or 4).

a. 1845 T. MOORE *Memor. last Week* II. Such smooth Budgeteers have genteelly undone us. 1867 DE MORGAN *Budget of Paradoxes in Athenæum* 30 July 71/1 Prof. Smyth is a paradoxer; but he is one of those whom the budgeteer would place in his first class. 1880 *World* 21 Apr. 7 He has shown himself the prince of budgeteers.

Budgeter (bʊdʒɪtəri), [f. as prec. + -ER.]

One who carries a wallet; †a mountebank, charlatan (*obs.*); a strolling player.

1603 HARNET *Pop. Impost.* 52 Our holy Budgetters having to deal with Devils... doe... provide so many to be packed up in One Patient, as except hell be drawn dry, they can never want work. 1815 C. MATTHEWS *Nem.* II. 345 Never was such a thing known to a budgeter.

Budgetless, a. [f. as prec. + -LESS.] Without a budget; presenting no financial statement.

1865 *Morning Star* 7 Apr. Many... Liberals suffer the present budgetless Government with the greatest patience. 1884 *Harper's Mag.* 857/1 The justification for a budgetless regime.

†**Budgy**, a. *Obs. rare* -1. [f. BUDGE sb.1 + -Y 1.] Of or like budgie or lamb's fur.

1598 F. R. *Thule, or Virtue's Historie* Rijb, On whose furr'd chin did hang a budgie fleece.

†**Budkin**, *Obs.* [app. a variant of *hodkin*, *BODIKIN*.] In *God's budkin* = by the body of God: an obsolete oath.

1600 HEYWOOD 1 *Edu. IV.* III. i. Wks. 1874 I. 43 Gods blue budkin! has the knave serued me so?

Budless, a. [see -LESS.] Without buds.
1837 *New Monthly Mag.* LI. 115 Flowerless, bowerless, budless, and blossomless! 1849 C. BRONTË *Shirley* v. 49 Stalks budless and flowerless.

Budlet, [f. BUD sb.1 + -LET.] A little bud; a secondary bud springing from another bud.

a. 1864 DARWIN (in Webster) To distinguish... the parent bud from the numerous budlets which are its offspring.

†**Budling**, *Obs. rare* -1. [f. BUD sb.1 + -LING.] A little bud; *fig.* a young child.

1577 HOLINSHED *Chron.* III. 213 Part of these young ones to be taught the grammar in a faire schoole... out of which these budlings at need from time to time to be dulle derived and drawn.

Budmash, var. of *BADMASH*, 'bad character'.

Bue, *obs.* form of *BE v.*, *BOW v.*

Buel, *obs.* form of *BOWEL*.

Buen, *obs.* form of *been*: see *BE v.*

Buerne, *obs.* form of *BERNE*, *BURN*.

Buetts, *obs.* form of *BEWETS*,

1688 R. HOLME *Armoury* II. 241/1 *Bewetts*, *Bewitts*, or *Buetts*, Boots... to which the Bells are fastned, and are buttoned about the Hawks Legs.

Bufall, var. of *BUFFLE*, *Obs.*, buffalo.

†**Bufe**, *Obs. Cant.* [f. the sound of his bark.] A dog.

1567 HARMAN *Caveat* 84 Bufo, a dogge. 1609 DEKKER *Lanik. & Candle-L.* Wks. 1884-5 III. 199. 1688 R. HOLME *Armoury* III. iii. § 68. 1795 *New Cant. Dict.*

Bufet, *obs.* f. *BUFFET*.

†**Buff**, sb.1 *Obs.* exc. in *BLIND MAN'S BUFF*.

Forms: 5-8 buffe, 6 buf, 6- buff. [perh. a. OF. *bufe*, *bufte*, a blow; cf. *BUFFET sb.1*.] A blow, stroke, buffet. *Buff* and *COUNTERBUFF* seem to have been technical terms in fencing or pugilism.

c. 1480 *Avow. Arth.* iv. Quo durst abide him a buffe. 1483 CAXTON *Gold. Leg.* 291/4 He gaf to her in Japynge a buffe. 1506 SPENSER *F. Q.* I. ii. 17 The Sarazin, sore daunted with the buffe. 1641 MILTON *Prot. Episc.* Wks. 1738 I. 38 Where they give the Romanists one buff, they receive two counterbuffs.

2. To this perhaps belongs the phrase *To stand buff*: to stand firm, not to flinch; to endure.

a. 1680 BUTLER *Hudibras's Epitaph* (R.) For the good old cause stood buff 'Gainst many a bitter kick and cuff. 1698 VANBRUGH *Prov. Wife* v. v. The marriage-knot... may stand buff a long, long time. 1701 COLLIER *M. Anton.* (1726) 219 To stand buff against danger and death. 1732 FIELDING *Miser* II. i. I must even stand buff, and outface him. 1827 SCOTT *Diary in Lockhart* (1839) 1X. 146 If he does [turn on me]... it is best to stand buff to him.

Buff (bʊf), sb.2 Also 6-7 buffe. [app. ad. F. *buffe* buffalo; cf. *BUFFLE*.]

1. The animal.

†1. A buffalo, or other large species of wild ox.

1558 HULOET, *Buffe*, bugle, or wyld ox, *butalus*. 1577 B. GOOGE *Heresbach's Husb.* (1586) 137 Bubale, called of the common people Buffes, of Plinie Bisonte. 1582 D. INGRAM *Narrat.* in *Arb. Eng. Garner* V. 256 Buffes, which are beasts as big as two oxen. 1621 AINSWORTH *Annot. Pentat.* Deut. xiv. 5 The Buffe, Buffel, or Wilde-oxe. a. 1674 MILTON *Moscowia* i. Wks. (1847) 569/1 Huge and desert Woods of Fir, abounding with black Wolves, Bears, Buffs. 1706 PHILLIPS, *Buff*, Buffe or Buffalo, a wild Beast.

†b. Used to render Pliny's *tarandus*, now usually identified with the reindeer. *Obs.*

1607 TOPSELL *Four-f. Beasts* (1658) A Buffe is called in Greek *Tarandus*... When he is hunted or feared, he changeth his hew into whatsoever thing he seeth. 1617 MINSHEU *Ductor in Ling.* 56 A Buffe, so called because it has some likeness with the Buffe... L. *Tarandus*.

II. Buff-skin, leather, and its uses.

†2. (More fully *buff-leather*): properly, Leather made of buffalo-hide; but usually applied to a very stout kind of leather made of ox-hide, dressed with oil, and having a characteristic fuzzy surface, and a dull whitish-yellow colour.

1580 BARET *Atv.* B. 1447 Coverings of saddles made of buffe leather. 1581 *Jynls. Ho. Commons* 130 The Bill touching the Making of Spanish Leather and Buff within this Realm. 1613 *Voy. Guiana in Harl. Misc.* (Malh.) III. 190 The hide [of the Sea-cow]... will make good buff. 1711 STEELE *Spect.* No. 43 ¶ 10 To have Flead the Pict, and made Buff of his Skin. 1796 *Gentl. Mag.* XXVI. 61 Losh, or buff-leather, drest in oil, fit for the use of the army.

b. Military attire (for which buff was formerly much used); a military coat made of buff; = *BUFF-COAT*. Also the dress of sergeants and catch-poles. Hence, to *wear buff*, to be in buff.

1590 SHAKS. *Com. Err.* IV. ii. 45 But is in a suite of buffe which rested him. 1599 Bp. HALL *Sat.* IV. iv. 42 If Martius in boystrous buffes be drest. 1635 SHIRLEY *Coronat.* III. 306 To sell your glorious buffes to buy fine pumps. 1647 R. STAPYLTON *Juvenal* vi. 419 With men of Buffe and Feather (*cumque paludatis Ducibus*). 1701 COLLIER *M. Anton.* (1726) Life 116 Never suffer'd to wear Buff in Italy. 1823 SCOTT *Peveril* (1865) 9 Churchmen, Presbyterians, and all, are in buff and bandoleer for King Charles. 1826 Woodst. (1832) 177 Strangled on the pulpit stairs by this man of buff and Belial.

3. *collog.* (somewhat *arch.*) The bare skin. *In buff*: naked.

[1602 DEKKER *Satirom.* (D.) I go in stag, in buff.] 1654 CHAPMAN *Rev. for Hon.* I. i. For accoutrements you wear the buff. 1749 H. FITZCOTTON *Hom.* I. 38 If you perplex me with your stuff—all that are here shan't save your buff. 1803 BRISTED *Pedest. Tour* II. 606 He had no change [of linen], consequently he slept in buff. 1872 C. KING *Sierra Nev.* viii. 176 Stripping ourselves to the buff, we hung up our steaming clothes.

4. = *buff-stick* or *buff-wheel*: see 9.

1831 J. HOLLAND *Manuf. Metals* I. 292 A wheel similar to the glazer... covered with... buff leather, whence its name. These buffis and glazers, etc. 1884 F. BRITTEN *Watch & Clockm.* 37 Soldier's old belts make very good buffis... Sticks coated with emery paper are also called buffis.

III. The colour, and things so coloured. [*BUFF* a., used as sb.]

5. Buff colour; a dull light yellow. *Blue* and *buff* were formerly the colours of the Whig party. 1788 DIBDIN *Musical Tour* xcvi. 394 The administration is a colour in grain, and will stand when buff and blue shall have entirely flown off. 1794 STEEDMAN *Surinam* (1813) II. xxiv. 220 [The water melon's] color is... partly a very pale buff. 1818 BYRON *Yuan Ded.* xvii. I still retain my 'buff and blue'. 1884 *Harper's Mag.* Feb. 349/2 A gradation of buffis and reds. *Mod. The Edinburgh Review*—the venerable blue-and-buff.

6. *The Buffs*: a popular name given, from the former colour of their facings (see *BUFF* a.), to the

old 3rd regiment of the line in the British army (now the East Kent Regiment). Similarly the old 78th regiment (now 2nd Battalion of Seaforth Highlanders) are called the *Rossshire Buffs*.

1806 *Times* to Jan. The band of the Old Buffs playing Rule Britannia, drums muffled. 1838 *Hist. Record 3rd Regim. Foot* 157 The Men's Coats were lined and faced with buff, they also wore buff waistcoats, buff breeches and buff stockings, and were emphatically styled the Buffs. 1848 *MACAULAY Hist. Eng. I.* 295. 1883 *Harper's Mag.* Jan. 319/1 He entered the Buffs in 1817.

7. Pathol. = BUFF COAT.

1739 *HUXHAM Fevers* (1750) 36 Blood... drawn off in high inflammatory Fevers... appears covered... with a thick glutinous coat, or buff. 1768 *DANIEL in Med. Comm. I.* 22 note. The blood was covered with a buff. 1835-6 *Todd Cycl. Anat. & Phys. I.* 420/2 Louis found the blood covered by a firm thick buff at each bleeding in... cases of fatal peripneumony. 1880 *Syd. Soc. Lex. s.v., Inflammatory Buff*, the buffy coat of coagulated blood.

IV. attrib. and comb.

8. Obvious: as buff accoutrements, belt; buff-hide, -skin; + buff-hard adj.

1599 *HAKLUYT Voy. II.* 177 Good store of Buffe Hides. 1607 *Topsell Four-f. Beasts* 157 His (the Rhinoceros) more then buffe-hard skin. 1622 *MALYNES Anc. Law-Merch.* 81 The Commodities of East-land, and thereabouts... Cables, Canuass, Buffe-hides. 1740 *SOMERVILLE Hobbinol II.* 306 His Buff Doublet, larded o'er with Fat Of slaughter'd Brutes. 1797-38 *CHAMBERS Cycl. s.v. Buff*, The skin of the buffalo being dressed in oil... makes... buff-skin. 1794 *G. ADAMS Nat. & Exp. Philos. I.* v. 181 A cup, furnished at bottom with a piece of buff-skin. 1813 *WELLINGTON Let. in Gurw. Disp. XI.* 334 Sets of buff accoutrements for the soldiers. 1831 *CARLYLE Sart. Res. I.* vii. 53 The military classes in those old times, whose buff-belts [and] complicated chains... have been repainted in modern Romance.

9. Special comb.: buff-jerkin, a military jerkin of buff-leather; also attrib.; buff-stick, buff-wheel, a stick or wheel, covered with buff-leather or other soft material, used in polishing metal; + buff-stop, a stop on a harpsichord or spinet which produces a muffled tone by applying pieces of leather to the strings. See also BUFF-COAT.

1659 *CLEVELAND May Day* xiv. The 'buff-fac'd Sons of War. 1596 *SHAKS. I Hen. IV.* i. ii. 49 Is not a 'Buffe Jerkin a most sweet robe of durance? 1625 *FLETCHER Elder Bro. v.* i. Among provant swords, and buff-jerkin men. 1707 *SWIFT Gulliver I.* i. 24, I had on me a buff jerkin, which they could not pierce. 1881 *GREENER GUN* 250 The... gun is then buffed over with a leather 'buff stick. 1819 *WOLCOTT (P. Pindar) Wks.* (1830) 122 (D.) Like the 'buff-stop on harpsichords or spinetts—Buffing their pretty little tuneful throats. 1880 *A. J. HIKKINS in Grove Dict. Mus. I.* 691 A 'buff-stop of small pieces of leather, brought into contact with the strings, damping the tone.

+ **Buff**, sb. 3 *Obs.* Also 6 buffie. [ad. it. *buffa* the breathing hole of a helmet.] (See quot.)

1598 *FLORIO, Buffa*, the buffie or breathing holes of a headpiece or helmet. 1600 *HOLLAND Livy XLIV.* xxxiv. 1192 Others furnished their headpieces, buffes [*buffas*], and beavers.

+ **Buff**, sb. 4 *Obs. colloq.* [Origin uncertain: see quot. 1725, and cf. *BUFFER* 4.] Fellow, 'buffer'.

1708-15 *KERSEY, Buff*, a dull sot, or dronish fellow. 1709 *Brit. Apollo II.* No. 8 3/2 Tell me Grave Buffs, Partly Gods, partly Men. 1725 *New Cant. Dict. s.v., Buff*, a Newgate Cant Word used in familiar Salutation: as, How dost do, my Buff? 1748 *SMOLLETT Rod. Rand.* (1812) I. iv. 15 Mayhap old buff has left my kinsman here his heir. 1764 *BAYDOGS Homer Travest.* (1797) II. 420 You seem afraid these buffis will flinch.

Buff (bʊf), sb. 5 and int. [Onomatopœic. Cf. *BUFE*. Partly perhaps imitating a dog's bark (cf. *BOUGH v.*, *BAFF*); partly an instinctive exclamation of contempt.]

A. as int. In phrases a. + To say neither buff nor buff, not to say buff to a wolf's shadow (obs.). b. To say (or know) neither buff nor stye (Sc.): i. e. neither one thing nor another, nothing at all.

1481 *CAXTON Reynard Kijb.* He wyste not what to saye buff ne baff. 1542 *UDALL Erasmus. Apoph.* 11 b, A certain persone, beeyng of him bidden good speede, saied to hym againe neither buff ne baff. 1581 *N. BURNE Disput.* 128 b (JAM.) Johann Kmnos anserit maist resolutlie, buff, baff, man. 1589 *R. HARVEY Pl. Pers.* (1860) 25 These toong-tide Curs that cannot barke, nor say buffe to a woulfes shadow. 1710 *Jacobite Relics I.* 80 (JAM.) Who knew not what was right or wrong, And neither buff nor sty, sir. 1824 *SCOTT Redg. ch. xii.* 'What say you to that?' 'I say neither buff nor sty to it'.

B. sb. Sc. (Perh. not connected with the prec.) 'Nonsense, foolish talk' (Jamieson).

1721 *RAMSAY Addr. Town Council Edinb.* 23 It blather'd buff before them a', And aftentimes turn'd doited. 1739 *A. NICOL Poems* 84 (JAM.) Nae great ferly tho' it be Plain buff. I'm no book-learn'd. 1790 *SHIRREF Poems* 338 (JAM.) It only gies him pain To read sic buff. 1813 *W. BEATTIE Poems* (1871) *Yule Feast I.* Read: but should you think it buff, Throw't out o' sight.

Buff (bʊf), sb. 6 A name given to the blindfold player in the game of BLIND-MAN'S BUFF. *Shadow buff*: a modern game in which one player has to guess the identity of the other players from seeing only their shadows.

1647 *FANSHAWE Pastor Fido* (1696) 78 Behold the Buff [orig. *ecco la cieca*]. 1879 *HOFFMANN Drawing-r. Amusem.* 9 *Shadow Buff* is a game of greater originality. The company now pass in succession before the light but behind Buff.

Buff (bʊf), a. [f. *BUFF* sb. 2.]

1. Of the nature or appearance of buff leather.

a 1605 *MRO. HALIFAX On Cress Dowager of* — (R.) This goodly goose... did overload Her bald buff forehead with a high comode.

b. *fig.* (from *BUFF* sb. 2 3). Naked, unrefined.

1792 *W. ROBERTS Looker-on No. 29* (1794) I. 420 On that plain buff principle of old English hospitality.

2. Of the colour of buff leather; a light brownish yellow.

(Early quots. are doubtful, and may mean the material.)

1762-71 *H. WALPOLE Vertue's Anecd. Paint.* (1786) III. 69 note. The dress is that of a Cavalier about the time of the civil war, buff with blue ribbands. 1792 *J. WOLCOTT (P. Pindar) Ode to Asa Wks.* 1812 II. 462 Buff breeches too have crown'd a proud proud day. 1804 *Med. & Phys. Jnrl.* XII. 512 Pileus brown buff, darker in the centre. 1835-6 *Todd Cycl. Anat. & Phys. I.* 419/2 The buffed coat... is generally... of a light yellow or buff colour. 1876 *MISS BRADDON 7. Haggard's Dan.* I. 108 The... old-fashioned Staffordshire tea service... blue flowers on a buff ground.

3. Comb., as buff-backed, -colour, -coloured, -orange, -washed, -yellow; buff-tip, a species of moth (see quot.).

1884 *J. COLBORNE Hicks Pasha* 264 The pretty little 'buff-backed heron. 1794 *STEDMAN Surinam* (1813) II. xxiv. 220 The musk [melon]... is ribbed, 'buff colour, orange and green. 1686 *Land. Gaz. No. 2106/4 A.* Red Coat... with a 'Buff-colour'd lining. 1822 *VINES Sack's Bot.* 282 From dead plants [Fucaceae] cold fresh-water extracts a buff-coloured substance. 1822 *Garden 2 Sept.* 202/1 A charming hardy Orchid... It is a 'buff-orange colour. 1836 *DUNCAN Brit. Moths* 187 *Pygma Bucephala*... named the 'Buff-tip Moth, on account of a large patch of that colour on the apex of the anterior wings. 1883 *MISS BRADDON Gold. Calf. xii.* 150 The walls plastered, and white-washed, or 'buff-washed. 1882 *Garden 5 Aug.* 110/1 Seedling 'buff-yellow Carnation.

4. Substantial uses of this adj. are for convenience treated under *BUFF* sb. 2 III.

+ **Buff**, v. 1 *Obs. exc. dial.* [prob. onomatopœic: cf. *PUFF* v., and *BUFF* sb. 1, also *F. boucher* in its various senses, and *OF. buser* 'souffleter' (Godef.). Sense 1 has app. no connexion with 3, exc. as both may arise in different ways from some of the characteristics of a broad puff of wind, and its associated sound.] Hence *Buffing vbl. sb.* and *ppl. a.*

1. *intr. a.* To speak with obstructed and explosive utterance, to stutter. b. To explode or burst into a laugh, or the like.

1897 *R. GLOUC.* 414 Of speche hastyf, Boffyng, & mest wanne he were in wrappe. 1308 *TRIVISA Barth. De P. R.* II. viii. (1495) 55 As I maye, though it be stamerynge and buffyng. 1612 *COTGR., Esclaffer*, to buff, or burst, out into a laughter. *Mod. Sc.* He bufft out into a laugh.

2. *trans.* To cause to burst out by sudden force. 1637 *B. JONSON Loves Welc. at Welbeck* (R.) A shock To have buff'd out the blood From ought but a block.

3. *intr.* To act and sound as a soft inflated substance does when struck, or as the body does which strikes it.

a 1550 *CHRISTIE Kirke Gr. xi.* He hit him on the wame a wap. It buff lyk ony bladder. 1881 *LEICESTERSH. Words* (E. D. S.) s.v. When an axe or hatchet strikes without cutting, which is sometimes the case... with unsound wood, it is said to 'buff'.

4. *intr. and trans.* To strike a soft inflated body (with the characteristic effect and sound).

1600 *F. WALKER Sp. Mandeville* 64 b, The furious buffing together of winds, when they meete. 1705 *BURNS Two Herds* xiii. A chiel wha'll soundly buff our beef.

+ **Buff**, v. 2 *Sc. Obs.* [cf. *F. boucher*.]

trans. + To puff out. Hence *Buff ppl. a.* 1579 *Lament. Lady Scott. in Scot. Poems* 16th C. II. 252 Buff brawlit hois, coit, dowblet, sark and scho. 1573 *Sege Edinb. Castel* ibid. II. 294 That socht na tailzeours for to bufe their breiks.

Buff, v. 3 [f. *BUFF* sb. 2]

trans. a. To polish with a buff (frequent colloq. in the metal trades). b. To impart the velvety surface usual in buff leather for belts, etc.

1885 *HARPER'S Mag.* Jan. 284/2 Sand-paper... 'buffs' the grain of the leather, leaving it white and velvety.

Buff (bʊf), v. 4 *slang.* [cf. *BUFFER* sb. 6] To swear to.

1822 *J. H. VAUX Flash Dict. s.v. Buff*, To buff to a person or thing, is to swear to the identity of them. 1865 *Daily Tel.* 27 Feb. 6/1 What robberies are you going to 'buff' to me... meaning 'to charge me with, or accuse me of'. 1869 *Morning Star*, 3 June, They are going to send some one to 'buff' (own) it.

Buff, v. 5 *nonce-ud.* [Two formations: a. f. *buff* in *BLINDMAN'S BUFF*; b. suggested by phrase to stand buff (see *BUFF* sb. 1).] In phrase To buff it: a. to play blindman's buff (also *fig.*); b. to stand firm, resist.

1608 *DAY Hum. out of Br. iv.* iii. (1881) 67 Blindmans buffe? I have bufft it fairly, and mine owne gullery grieues me not half so much as the Dukes displeasure. 1822 *T. MITCHELL Aristoph.* II. 84 Tuck yourself up, and buff it like a man.

Buffal (l, var. of *BUFFLE*, *Obs.*, buffalo.

Buffalo (bʊ-fə-lo). Forms: 6 buffalo, (7 buffalo, boufaleau, -alo, 7-8 buffalo, 8 buffalo), 7-buffalo. Pl. buffaloes. [a. It. *buffalo* (Florio), *buffalo*, *bufolo* (Baretti), or Pg. *bufalo*:-vulgar L. **būfalus*, a Gr. *βούφαλος* (whence in literary L. *būfalus*), properly denoting a kind of antelope, but applied to a wild ox. Cf. *BUFFLE*, *BUFF* sb. 4 The

early quotations suggest that the word originally came into English from Portuguese.]

1. The name of several species of Oxen; esp. a. *Bos bubalus*, originally a native of India, inhabiting most of Asia, southern Europe, and northern Africa. It is tamed in India, Italy, and elsewhere. b. *B. caffer*, the Cape Buffalo of S. Africa. c. Applied in popular unscientific use to the American Bison.

a. 1588 *PARKE tr. Mendoza's China* 181 They doo plough and till their ground with kine, Bufalos, and bulles. 1665 *Voy. E. India* 359 They have a Beast very large, having a smooth thick skin without hair, called a Buffelo, which gives good milk; the flesh of them is like Beef. 1682 *WHEELER Journ. Greece I.* 74 Drawn... instead of Flanders Mares by a pair of Boufaleaus. 1796 *NUCENT Gr. Tour Italy* III. 214 They... make use of buffalo's in ploughing the land. 1843 *MACAULAY Lays Anc. Rome, Lake Regillus* x, The... banks of Ufens, Where... buffaloes lie wallowing Through the hot summer's day. 1890 *LAYARD Nineveh* x. 259 The cattle were... the buffalo and common ox.

b. 1699 *CAPT. ROGERS Descr. Natal in Dampier's Voy.* (1705) II. iii. 109 Buffaloes and Bullocks only are kept tame. 1731 *MEDLEY Kolben's Cape G. Hope I.* 79 They could discover in them (the woods) neither Elephant nor Buffalo. 1834 *PRINGLE Afr. Sk. viii.* 269 The buffalo is a very... powerful animal... larger than the domestic ox. 1837 *LIVINGSTONE Trav.* iii. 56 The presence of the buffalo... is a certain indication of water... within... seven or eight miles.

c. 1799-96 *MORSE Amer. Geog. I.* 195 This animal [bison] has generally been called the Buffalo, but very improperly. 1836 *W. IRVING Astoria* (1849) 195 Boundless wastes... animated by herds of buffalo. 1877 *J. ALLEN Amer. Bison* 456 Probably among the people generally the name buffalo will never be supplanted.

2. 'A sort of fresh-water fish resembling the Sucker' (Bartlett).

1789-96 *MORSE Amer. Geog. I.* 636 In the rivers are plenty of buffaloe, pike and catfish. 1884 *HARPER'S Mag.* Mar. 516/2 The 'buffalo' and cat-fish... are not unfrequently as large as a man.

3. = *buffalo-robe*; see 4. *colloq. U. S. & Canada.*

1896 *KANE Arct. Expl. I.* xv. 181 Leaving all hands under their buffaloes. 1884 *Boston (Mass.) Jnrl.* 3 Sept., Asked by the groom if he would like a couple of buffaloes (robes)... 'No', replied the scientist, 'we would much prefer horses'.

4. Short for *buffalo-horn*: used by cutlers for making handles of pocket-knives; the varieties are *Black Buffalo* and *Grey or coloured Buffalo*.

5. Comb., as buffalo-hide, -hunt, -hunter, -hunting, -range, -skin; buffalo-bag (cf. *buffalo-robe*); buffalo-berry, the edible scarlet fruit of a shrub (*Shepherdia argentea*) found on the Upper Missouri; also the shrub itself; buffalo-bird, an insessorial bird (*Textor erythrorhynchus*) which accompanies herds of buffaloes in S. Africa; buffalo-chips pl., the dried dung of the American bison, used as fuel; buffalo-clover, a species of clover (*Trifolium pennsylvanicum*) found in the prairies of N. America; buffalo-fish = sense 2; buffalo-grass, a kind of grass (*Sceleria dactyloides*) found in the prairies; buffalo-nut, the fruit of a N. American shrub (*Pyrrularia olifera*), also called Oil-nut; also the shrub itself; buffalo-robe, a cloak or rug made of the skin of the American bison dressed with the hair on.

1896 *KANE Arct. Expl. I.* xvi. 192 Two large 'buffalo-bags, each made of fourskins. 1865 *Gard. Chron.* 174 The felicity of tasting real 'Buffalo-berries. 1857 *LIVINGSTONE Trav.* xxvii. 545 'Buffalo-birds act the part of guardian spirits to the animals. *Ibid.* (1861) 357 The leader of the herd was an old cow, carrying on her withers about twenty buffalo-birds. 1859 *MARCY Prairie Trav.* 268 'Buffalo-chips for fuel. 1861 *RUSSELL in Times* 10 July, These... rivers are very fine for... 'buffalo fish to live in. 1883 *HARPER'S Mag.* Nov. 943/2 The tall jointed grasses replace the short crisp 'buffalo-grass. 1703 *Land. Gaz.* No. 3019/4 A parcel of... 'Buffalo-Hides, &c. 1896 *KANE Arct. Expl. I.* xvi. 193 The sick... were placed upon the bed of 'buffalo-robes. 1825 *W. IRVING Tour Prairies* 145 We passed... a 'buffalo track, not above three days old.

+ **Buffard**. *Obs. rare*—1. [?a. *F. bouffard* 'often puffing, much blowing, swelling vp, strouting out; also, swelling with anger' (Cotgr.).] !A foolish fellow. Cf. *BUFFER* 4.

c 1430 *LYDG. Min. Forms* 32 Thouhe she be yong, yet wol she wele abide, Uncoupled to a fresshe man of innesse [i. iunesse], And take a buffard riche of gret vilesse.

Buffat, -ed, obs. f. *BUFFER* sb. 2, footstool.

Buff coat, buff-coat. [See *BUFF* sb. 2]

1. A stout coat of buff leather, esp. worn by soldiers. Also *fig.*

1633 *T. STAFFORD Pac. Hib. xi.* (1821) 134 Captaine Harvey receivid... a blow with a pike... but escaped danger by the goodnesse of his Buffe Coat. 1685 *W. ADAMS Dedham Pulpit* 104 The form of religion... is a buff coat to their sins, to turn the sharpest reproofs. 1801 *GROSE Mil. Antiq.* II. 323 The buff-coat, or jerkin... originally worn under the cuirass... became frequently a substitute for it, it having been found that a good buff leather would of itself resist the stroke of a sword... Buff-coats continued to be worn by the city trained-bands till within the memory of persons now living. 1816 *SCOTT Old Mort.* ii, The jack-boots, buff coat, and other accoutrements.

2. One who wears a buff coat; a soldier.

a 1670 *HACKETT Abp. Williams* i. (1692) 170 Some profane buff-coats will authorize such incendiaries. 1721 *N. AMHERST Terr. Fil.* 219 The city buff-coats, who took Liste in Bunhill-fields.

†3. See quot. *Obs.*

1888 R. HOLME *Armoury* III. 293/2 Buff-Coat (is) a soft Broad eaten hot with Butter. (PHILLIPS, KERSY, & BAILEY print *bust-coat*.)

4. = BUFFY COAT.

Hence Buff-coated a.

1856 J. GRANT *Black Drag*. xlvii, The rear-guard of buff-coated and steel-capped cavalry.

Buffed (bufft), a. [f. BUFF sb.² + -ED.] a. Clad in buff. b. Coated or covered with buff, having a 'buffy coat'. *Buffed coat* = BUFFY COAT.

1640 in Chambers. *Bk. of Days* I. 767 This you do To a buffed captain, or perhaps unto His surly corporal. 1835-6 Todd *Cycl. Anat. & Phys.* I. 419/2 The buffed coat is generally of a light yellow or buff colour. *Ibid.* The specific gravity of buffed blood.

Buffel (l. var. of BUFFLE, *Obs.*, buffalo.

† **Buffen**, a. [f. BUFF sb.² + -EN.] † Made of buff leather; or var. of BUFFIN, coarse cloth.

1681 QUARLES *Argalus & P.* (1678) 101 Beneath his arm, a Buffen-Knapsack hung.

Buffen, var. of BUFFIN, *Obs.*, a coarse cloth.

† **Buffer** l. *Obs.* [f. BUFF v.1.] A stammerer. 1382 Wyclif *Isa.* xxxii. 4 The tunge of bufferes [1388 stuttyngne men; 1611 stammerers] swiffl shal speke.

Buffer (bʊfər), *Mech.* [app. f. BUFF v.1 + -ER (cf. BUFFING vbl. sb.¹)]

1. A mechanical apparatus for deadening the force of a concussion; as a round plate or cushion (usually supported by a strong spring) fixed in pairs at the front and back of railway carriages or engines, or on the face of a terminal wall of a line of railway. Extended also to the solid projecting beam-ends of railway trucks, etc., and strong bars across sidings, which sustain without deadening the concussion. (Formerly called also *buffing apparatus*; see BUFFING vbl. sb.¹)

1835 *Specif. Church's Patent* No. 6791. 12 The buffers supported by metal springs x and air cylinder. 1841 *Penny Cycl.* XIX. 258/2 Buffers or discs of wood or metal, sometimes covered with cushions. 1860 TYNDALL *Glac.* I. § 2.9 The shock is harmless when distributed over the interval necessary for the pushing in of the buffer. 1867 *Pall Mall G.* 27 July 9 He jumped on to a buffer of a carriage.

2. *fig.* Also attrib.

1856 GEN. P. THOMPSON *Audi Alt.* I. xlv. 170 With no excuse offered as a buffer against the manifest absurdity. 1870 LOWELL *Among my Bks.* Ser. II. (1873) 313 A sense of humor may have served as a buffer against the shock of disappointment. 1883 *Daily News* 27 July 5/1 The 'buffer' State—to borrow a simile from Indo-African politics—which lies between Natal and the late King's dominion.

3. attrib. and comb., as *buffer-frame*, -*head*, -*plate*, -*rod*, -*spring*; *buffer-bar*, cross-piece (on an engine, etc.) carrying the buffers; -*beam*.

1883 N. E. *Railw. Specifications*, 40 Also, the fixing of 6 Buffers, and Buffer-frames, at ends of Sidings. 1835 *Specif. Bergin's Patent* No. 6781 Within each 'buffer head' is a bar of iron. 1863 *Morning Star* 13 Aug. The 'buffer rod, which was solid iron, was broken away. 1868 *Smiles Engineers* III. 282 The necessity for preventing hard bumping of the carriage-ends... hence the contrivance of 'buffer-springs'.

Buffer (bʊfər), [f. BUFF v.3 to polish with a buff.]

a. A workman or workwoman who buffs knives, plate, etc. b. = BUFF sb.² 4. c. In *Photography*, A machine used for polishing daguerreotype plates.

1854 SCOFFER in *Orr's Circ. Sc. Chem.* 90 Exposing them [Daguerreotype plates] to the friction of rubbers or buffers of cotton velvet or doeskin. 1875 *Use Dict. Arts* II. 3 The application of the highest polish by the use of a buffer. 1888 *Times* 27 June, Robert Taylor, comb. buffer.

Buffer (bʊfər), *slang.* [Origin obscure; with sense 1 cf. BUFF, BUGGER; with 2 and 3 cf. BUFFER¹ and BUFFARD; (but also the use of *dog* in sense 3).]

1. A dog. b. *transf.* A pistol; = BARKER 4.

[1888 R. HOLME *Armoury* III. iii. § 68 *Cant. Voc.*, *Buffer*, Dog-like.] 1812 J. H. VAUX *Flash Dict.*, *Buffer*, a dog. 1824 SCOTT *Redgauntlet* ch. iii, Here be a pair of buffers will bite as well as bark.

2. *Sc. & dial.* 'A foolish fellow' Jamieson 1808.

3. A fellow: usually expressing a slight degree of contempt.

1749 H. FITZCOTTON *Homer* I. (1748) 23 You're a buffer always rear'd in The brutal pleasures of Bear-garden.] 1835 MARRYAT *Jacob Faithf.* xxx, As the old buffer, her father, says. 1863 MISS BRADDON *Lady Audley* iv. 30, I always said the old buffer would. 1876 M. HAY *Norah's Love T.*, Unless some old buffer is struck by... my sermons.

† **Buffer** (bʊfər), *Obs. slang.* [f. BUFF sb.² + -ER.] (See quot.)

1690 B. E. *Dict. Cant. Crew*, *Buffer*, a Rogue that kills good sound horses, only for their skins. 1874 J. C. HOTTEN *Slang Dict.* [cites *Bacchus & Venus*].

Buffer (bʊfər), *slang.* [f. BUFF v.4 + -ER.] (See quot.) 1874 J. C. HOTTEN *Slang Dict.*, *Buffer*, the term was once applied to those who took false oaths for a consideration.

Buffet (bʊfət), sb.¹ Forms: 3-5 buffett(e), 3-5 boffet(e), 4 bofet(t), -at, 5 bofette, bufet, 7 buffit, 3- buffet. [app. a. OF. *buffet*, *bouffet*, a blow, dim. of *buffe* BUFF sb.¹]

A blow, stroke; now usually one given with the hand. † *Pl.* Fisticuffs (*rare*). *Blindman's* buffet (also *blind and buffet*) = BLINDMAN'S BUFF.

a 1225 *Ancre R.* 182 Nolde me tellen him alre monne dusigest, þet forsoke enne buffet, uor one speres wunde.

a 1340 HAMPOLE *Psalter* lxviii. 23, I suffire vnrightwisly shame in bofetis & spittingyngis. c 1382 WYCLIF *Mark* xiv. 65 And summe bigunnen for to bispitte him, and to hide his ysen, and smyte him with bofetis. c 1450 *Merlin* xxviii. 571 Galashin... yaf hym... a buffet with his swerde. 1605 VERSTEGAN *Dec. Intell.* ii. (1628) 32 A Hollander and a Frenchman... falling out, went to buffets. 1675 HOBBS *Odyssey* (1677) 86 How much we do all other men excel At wrestling, buffets, leaping. 1708 POPE *Wife Bath* 416, I... with one buffet fell'd him on the floor. 1763 AINSWORTH *Lat. Dict.* (Morell) i. s. v. *Blind*, To play a blind and buffet, *andabatarum more pugnae*. 1805 SCOTT *Last Minstr.* III. x, On his cheek a buffet fell, So fierce, it stretched him on the plain. 1840 DICKENS *Old C. Shop* xii, A shower of buffets rained down upon his person. 1879 O. W. HOLMES *Motley* xviii. 132 The letter was like a buffet on the cheek.

b. *transf. and fig.* (Cf. BLOW, STROKE.)

c 1225 E. E. *Allit.* P. B. 885 þay blwe a buffet in blande þat banned peple. 1605 SHAKS. *Macb.* III. I. 109 One... Whom the vile Blows and Buffets of the World Hath so incens'd, that, etc. 1790 S. ROGERS *Pleas. Mem.* I. 326 The traveller whose altered form Has borne the buffet of the mountain storm. 1875 HAMERTON *Intell. Life* v. II. 178 The buffets of unkindly fortune.

Buffet (bʊfət), sb.² Forms: 5 bofet, Sc. buffate, 5-7 buffitt, 5-8 buffett, 6 boffet, buff-fat, buffote, buffed, 8- buffet. [Of unknown origin. Usually assumed to be the same word as the next, and therefore to be a F. *buffet*; but the F. word has not this meaning, nor is there any known connexion of sense in Eng.]

1. A low stool; a footstool. Now only Sc. and north. dial. In the 15th c. described as a three-legged stool, but now denoting in north of England a low stool of any kind, and in Sc. a four-footed stool 'with sides, in form of a square table with leaves, when these are folded down' (Jamieson). The fuller buffet-stool occurs in the same sense from the 15th c. Also buffet-form.

1432 E. E. *Wills* (1882) 91, I bequethe... Idary a bofet. 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 41 Bofet, thre foyd stole [1499 bofet stole], *tripes*. *Ibid.* 55 Buffet stole, *scabellum, tripos*. 1478 *Act. Audit.* 67 (JAM.), II buffet stulis. 1568 *Wills & Inv.* (1860) I. 282 in *Promp. Parv.* 42, 3 Buffett formes 3s., one litle buffet stole, 6d. 1596 *Lanc. Wills* (1861) III. 2 Ij buffet-stooles covered for women. 1611 COTGR., *Scabeau*, a Buffet, or ioyned, stooles to sit on. a 1806 A. DOUGLAS *Poems* (JAM.) Jean brought the buffet-stool in bye. *Nursery Rime*, Little Miss Muffet sat on a buffet, Eating her curds and whey.

2. A hassock. Chiefly dial.

1877 E. PEACOCK *N. W. Lincolnsh. Gloss.* (E. D. S.) *Buffet*, a hassock. The difference between a Bass and a Buffet seems to consist in the former being covered with rush matting, and the latter with carpet. 1886 *Demos* II. 267 A couple of buffets, to supplement the number in the pew.

Buffet (bʊfət), sb.³ Also 8-9 beaufet; 8 beaufette, -fait, buffette, 9 beaufett. [a. mod. F. *buffet*, of unknown origin: in English, commonly spelt *beau-* in the 18th c., the cause of which is not apparent. Sense 3 is of recent introduction from France, and still pronounced as French (*büffe*).]

1. A sideboard or side-table, often ornamental, for the disposition of china, plate, etc.

1718 HICKES & NELSON *J. Kettellwell* II. § 32. 135 The Plate... was placed upon a Table or Buffet. 1755 *Phil. Trans.* XLIX. 66 The electrical expositor stood upon a low beaufet. 1756 COLMAN & THORNTON *Connoisseur* 15 Jan. The beaufet... embellished with a variety of China. 1814 SCOTT *Wav. x*, An old-fashioned beaufet. 1852 THACKERAY *Esmond* I. v. (1876) 34 And with this, the intrepid father mounted the buffet with great agility. 1863 *Conf. Ticket Leave Man* 132 A magnificent beaufet in the second corridor.

2. A cupboard in a recess for china and glasses.

a 1700 *Humourist* 116 The Cat had got into the Beaufette among the Glasses. a 1745 SWIFT *Wks.* (1841) II. 78 The beaufet letting in so much wind that it almost blows out the candles. 1751 CHAMBERS *Cycl.*, *Beaufet*, *Buffet*, or *Buffet*, was antiently a little apartment separated from the rest of a room by slender wooden columns, for the disposing china and glass ware, etc., called also a cabinet. 1753 *Phil. Trans.* XLVIII. 92 The lightning... forced the door of a beaufet at the end of the hall. 1766 COWPER *Gratitude* 33 This china that decks the alcove Which here people call a buffet [*rime yet*]. 1876 GWILT *Archit. Gloss.*, *Buffet*, a cabinet or cupboard for plate, glass or china. Some years back it was the practice to make these small recesses very ornamental, in the form of niches, and left open in the front to display the contents.

3. A refreshment bar.

1865 *Daily News* 16 Dec., In the buffet of the Marseilles station.

Buffet (bʊfət), v. Pa. t. and pp. -eted. [f. BUFFET sb.¹; but cf. OF. *buffeter* in same sense.]

1. *trans.* To beat, strike, esp. with the hand; to thump, cuff, knock about.

a 1225 *Ancre R.* 106 Te Giws... buffeteden him [Christ]. 1393 LANGL. P. Pl. C. xxiii. 101 He boffatede me a-boute þe mouthe. 1566 *Pilgr. Perf.* (W. de W. 1531) 259 When he was buffeted & beten for vs. 1602 BENTLEY *Boyle Lect.* II. 63 They must be bang'd and buffeted into Reason. 1748 ANSON *Voy.* I. iii. (ed. 4) 30 What we... experienced... when buffeted by the same storms. 1826 SCOTT *Woodst.* iv, Cut a crow's wing, or break its leg, the others will buffet it to death. 1853 KANE *Grinnell Exp.* xxxvii. (1856) 337.

b. To beat back, contend with (waves, etc.).

1601 SHAKS. *Ful. C.* I. ii. 107 The Torrent roar'd, and we did buffet it With lusty Sinewes. 1791 COWPER *Odys.* viii. 224 Buffeting the boisterous waves. 1853 KANE *Grinnell Exp.* (1856) xxxviii. 348, I had buffeted the elements quite long enough.

c. *fig.*

a 1593 H. SMITH *Wks.* (1867) II. 212 Our sins buffet God on every side. 1678 R. BARCLAY *Apol. Quakers* II. § 13. 57 [They] are continually buffeting one another with the Scripture. a 1884 M. PATTISON *Mem.* 49, I felt humiliated and buffeted.

2. *intr.* To deal blows, fight, contend, struggle.

1599 SHAKS. *Hen. V.* v. II. 146 If I might buffet for my Loue. 1839 MARRYAT *Phant. Ship* ix, She was... buffeting in a violent gale. 1847 TENNYSON *Princ.* iv. 167 Strove to buffet to land in vain. 1865 DICKENS *Mut. Fr.* xi, They buffet with opposing waves.

d. *fig.*

1824 W. IRVING *T. Trav.* I. 33 To see so delicate... a being buffet so resolutely with hardships. 1842 TENNYSON *Gold. Year* 76, I heard them blast The steep slate-quarry, and the great echo flap And buffet round the hills.

3. *trans.* To drive, force, or produce, by buffeting.

1734 WATTS *Relig. Jew.* (1789) 118 The soul of a man... is not to be buffeted into softness. 1865 PARKMAN *Huguenots* vi. (1875) 80 He buffeted his way to riches and fame. 1872 B. HARTE *Right Eye of Commander*, He felt the salt breath of the sea buffet a color into his smoke-dried cheeks.

4. *trans.* To muffle (bells). [Perhaps a distinct word; cf. *buff-stop* in BUFF sb.² 9, also BUFFER².] 1753 *Art Ringing* 200 (L.) Buffeting the bells, that is, by tying pieces of leather, old hat, or any other thing that is pretty thick, round the ball of the clapper of each bell.

Buffeter, *rare* -1, [f. prec. + -ER.] 'A boxer; one that buffets.' J.

1483 *Cath. Angl.* 46 A Buffeter, *alapsus*. 1755 in JOHNSON; and in mod. Dicts.

Buffeting, vbl. sb. [f. as prec. + -ING.] The action of the verb BUFFET.

c 1240 *Lofsong in Cott. Hom.* 207 Ich bide þe... bi his spotlunge, and bufetunge. a 1340 HAMPOLE *Psalter* xxi. 5 In spittingye, bufetunge & pungyngye with þe thornes. 1563-87 FOXE *A. & M.* in Spurgeon *Treas. Dav. Ps.* lxxxviii. 3 Sharp temptations and strong buffetinges of Satan. 1788 BURNS *Let. R. Ainslie* 3 Mar., I have been... under much buffeting of the wicked one. 1826 SCOTT *Woodst.* viii. 1873 BLACK *Pr. Thule* v. 74 The buffetinges of wind and rain.

† **Buffian**, *Obs.* [variant of BUFFOON, suggested by *ruffian*.] = BUFFOON. Hence *Buffianism*, buffoonery.

1655 *Comic. Hist. Francion* x. 13 It cometh not a man of my Learning to be so great a Buffian. 1596 NASH *Have with you, &c.* M. iv b, No buffianisme throughout his whole bookes, but they bolstered out his part with.

† **Buffin**, *Obs.* Also 6 buffen, buffine. 'A coarse cloth in use for the gowns of the middle classes in the time of Elizabeth' (Fairholt); a garment made of that material. Also attrib.

1574 *Wills & Inv. N. C.* (1860) 373 To my sonne Antonie... a pair of Buffins with the slyuers to the same. 1590 *Lanc. Wills* (1860) II. 23 Unto Ellen Perpoynthe a gowne of buffen. 1597 *Wills & Inv. N. C.* (1860) II. 281, Vj yds. of grene buffine g/. 1598 FLORIO, *Glossoloto*, a kinde of cotton... or buffin sarge. 1617 F. MORVSON *Itin.* I. 4 Myself beholding the Virgins statua... did think it had been covered with a gowne of white buffin. 1632 MASSINGER *City Mad.* iv. iv, My young ladies In buffin gowns and green aprons!

Buffing, vbl. sb.¹ [f. BUFF v.1; cf. BUFFER² I.] Only in comb., as *buffing-apparatus*, -*block*, -*spring*.

1835 *Specif. Bergin's Patent* No. 6781 In order to explain the meaning of the words 'buffing apparatus.'

Buffing, vbl. sb.² [f. BUFF sb.² & v.3 + -ING.]

a. The formation of a BUFFY COAT. b. The process of polishing with a buff (BUFF sb.² 4), or with a buffer (BUFFER³); also that of imparting a velvety surface to leather by the use of sand-paper. *Buffing-block*, in silver manufacture, a wooden block covered with leather, on which an article is rubbed to polish it.

1856 TOWN & BOWMAN *Phys. Anat.* II. 295 Buffing and cupping of the blood has long attracted notice. c 1865 J. WYLD *in Circ. Sc. I.* 156/4 Buffing, or rubbing the plate on some velvet fixed tightly over a piece of wood. 1885 *Harper's Mag.* Jan. 286/1 Buffing or sand-papering machine [for leather].

Buffit, *Obs.* form of BUFFET.

† **Buffle**, sb. *Obs.* Also 6 bulfeld?, 6-7 buf-fell, Sc. buffil, buffle, 7 buffall, buffel, -al(l), -ol. [a. F. *buffle*, a common Romanic word: -vulgar L. **būfalus* (= L. *būbalus*): see BUFFALO. Cf. also BUFF sb.² Some of the Eng. spellings in 17th c. show influence of the It. or Sp. forms.]

1. A buffalo; = BUFFALO I a, b.

c 1511 1st *Eng. Bk. Amer.* (Arb.) *Introd.* 29/1 There [in India] be buffeldes [?buffelles] & coyoes [?cowses] but the coyoes slepe [?sleye] they not. 1532 *Victory agst. Turkes* in Dibdin's *Typog. Antig.* (1816) III. 117 In euery place abode... buffelles. 1623 FAVINE *Theat. Hon.* II. xiii. 223 A mouing Chariot, drawne by Oxen or Buffelles. 1731 MEDLEY *Kolben's Cape G. Hope* II. 109 Buffles or Buffaloes are numerous in the Cape countries. 1738 G. SMITH *Curious Relations* II. 384 After these came a buffle and a fine horse.

b. attrib. (cf. BUFF sb.²)

1577 HARRISON *England* II. xvii. (1877) 292 Ships made of wicker and covered with buffle hides. 1611 *Bk. Rates* (JAM.) Belts called buffil belts, the dozen liir. 1693 UNQUHART *Rabelais* III. xxxvi, The death of a Buffle-ox. 1808 J. BARLOW *Columb.* v. 169 Lured o'er his lawns the buffle herds.

2. A fool; = BUFFLEHEAD. [After F. *buffle*.]

1655 *Comic. Hist. Francion* iv. 22 He said to the three buffles who stood with their hats in their hands, Tell me, you Waggs, etc. 1710 *Pol. Ballads* (1860) II. 90 To see the chief attorney such a buffle.

Buffle, *v.* [Onomatopoeic; connected with some sense of **BUFF**; or misprint for **bustle**. 'Buffle to puzzle, be at a loss' in Johnson (and all subsequent Dictionaries) is a bogus word, founded on the misprint of **buffing** for **bustling**.]

1610 HEALEY *St. Aug. Cite of God* 118 The next age Silver, under Jove, then warre began to buffle. [1730 SWIFT *Vindict. Ld. Carteret* Wks. 1778 IV. 141 That poor, angry, bustling [i.e. prints buffing] well-meaning mortal.]

Buffhead (*bʊfˈhɛd*). [f. **BUFFLE** + **HEAD**.] A fool, blockhead, stupid fellow.

1650 *Lady Alimony* i. ii. in Hazl. *Dodsley* XIV. 278 What a drolling buffhead is this! 1694 ECHARD *Plautus* 48 What makes ye stare so, Buffhead? 1718 J. FOX *Wanderer* xiv. 90 Tho' my Forehead is broad, you Buffhead, it is not brazen. 1803 J. HERRING III. lvi. 225, I don't want the buff-head to be coming here.

Buffe-headed (*bʊfˈhɛdɪd*), *a.* [f. *prec.* (or its elements) + **-ED**.]

† 1. Having a head like a buffalo's. *Obs.*

1697 EVELYN *Naturalist* ix. 293 There are remarked the Goat and Buffe-headed. 1713 CRESS *Winchelsea Misc. Poems* 117 None but buffe-headed Trees.

2. *transf.* and *fig.* a. Large-headed. b. Foolish, stupid.

1654 GAYTON *Fest. Notes* iii. iv. 90 So fell this buffe-headed gyant by the hand of Don Quixot. 1675 WYCHERLEY *Pl. Dealer* II. i, You know nothing, you buffe-headed stupid creature, you. a 1736 YALDEN *Owl & Sun*, A saucy buffe-headed owl. 1871 DIXON *Tower* IV. iv. 34 A drinking, buffe-headed fellow.

|| **Buffo** (*bʊfˈo*), *sb.* and *a.* [a. It. *buffo* adj., comical, burlesque: see **BUFFON**.]

A. *sb.* A comic actor, a singer in a comic opera. B. *as adj.* Belonging to or characteristic of a buffo; comic, burlesque.

1764 FOOTE *Patron* I. i, A rank impostor, the buffo of an illiberal mercenary tribe. 1789 MRS. PLOZZI *Journal* France I. 177 They sung a thousand buffo songs. 1821 BYRON *Juan* iv. lxxxi, The buffo of the party. 1850 L. HUNT *Autobiog.* ii. (1860) 42 Every burlesque or buffo song, of any pretension, was pretty sure to be Italian. 1851 KINGSLEY *Yeast* xiii. 237 Genial earnest buffo humour here and there.

Buffolo, *var.* of **BUFFLE**, **BUFFALO**.

† **Buffon**, *ont.* *Obs.* Also *-oon*. [a. F. *bouffante* 'espèce de guimpe gaufrée que portaient autrefois les femmes' (Littre). See **BOUFFANT** (a. a.) 'A projecting covering of gauze or linen for a lady's breast... much worn about 1750' (Fairholt). 1774 *Westm. Mag.* II. 259 Ladies in full dress still wear... buffons for the neck. *Ibid.* 288 Plaited tuckers and buffons for the neck. 1783 *European Mag.* III. 15 Buffons, trimmed and plain, are in universal use still.

Buffoon (*bʊˈfʊn*), *sb.* Forms: 6-7 buffon(e), -onne, -oun, oone, bouffon, boufoon, 7- buffoon. [a. F. *buffon*, *bouffon*, a. It. *buffone* buffoon, f. *buffa* a jest, connected with *buffare* to puff; Tommaseo and Bellini consider the sense of 'jest' to be developed from that of 'puff of wind'; applied *fig.* to anything light and frivolous; others, e.g. Littre, refer it to the notion of puffing out the cheeks as a comic gesture. (In 17th c. accented on first syllable.)]

† 1. A pantomime dancer. *Sc. Obs. rare-1*. [F. *danser les buffons* to dance a morris] Cotgr. 1549 *Compl. Scot.* vi. (1872) 66 Brailis and branglis, buffons, vith mony vthir lycht dancis.

2. 'A man whose profession is to make sport by low jests and antic postures' (J.); a comic actor, clown; a jester, fool. *arch.*

1585 JAMES I. *Ess. Poetrie* (Arb.) 31 We remaine With Iuglers, buffons, and that foolish seames. 1590 PUTTENHAM *Eng. Poetrie* (1869) 76 Buffons, altogether applying their wits to Scurrilities and other ridiculous matters. 1657 COLVIL *Whigs' Supplic.* (1681) 68 But how the Buffons all be outted. 1683 tr. *Erasmus' Moriae Enc.* 2 Mountebanks, Buffoons, and Merry-Andrews. a 1734 NORTH *Lives* (1826) I. 411 The bey... like other voluptuous Turks, had his buffoons to divert him. 1835 LYTTON *Rienzi* i. l. 3 The stale jests of a hired buffoon. 1875 FARRAR *Seekers* I. iii. 12.

† Used for 'buffoonery'.

1760 COWPER *Progr. Err.* 153 Thy sabbaths will be soon Our sabbaths, closed with mummery and buffoon.

3. *transf.* A low jester; 'a man that practises indecent raillery' (J.); a wag, a joker (implying contempt or disapprobation).

1598 B. JONSON *Ev. Man. in Hum.* II. v. 8 Age was authoritie Against a buffon, and a man had, then... reverence payd unto his yeares. 1636 HEALEY *Epictetus' Man.* 73 Avoid the playing of the Buffone, and procuring of others laughter. 1680 H. MORE *Apocal. Apoc.* Pref. 14 Buffones rather, and abusers of the Apocalypse, than serious Interpreters of it. 1750 JOHNSON *Ramb.* No. 72 8 Falstaff the cheerful companion, the loud buffoon. 1840 MACAULAY *Ess.*, *Ranke's Hist.* (1851) II. 147 Buffoons, dressed in copes and surplices.

4. *attrib.* and *adj.* Belonging to or characteristic of a buffoon; vulgarly jocular. (Somewhat *arch.*)

1653 B. JONSON *Staple News* v. vi, With buffon licence, ieast At whatso'er is serious. 1687 DRYDEN *Hind & P.* I. 39 The buffoon Ape, as atheists use, Mimicked all sects. 1734 tr. *Rollin's Anc. Hist.* (1827) I. 102 A jumble of buffoon tales. 1768-71 H. WALPOLE *Vertue's Anecd. Paint.* (1786) III. 234 Egbert Hemskirk of Harlem, a buffoon painter. 1855 MACAULAY *Hist. Eng.* III. 469 No mean images, buffoon stories, scurrilous invectives.

5. *Comb.*, as *buffoon-like* adj.; *buffoon-bird*.

1611 Cotgr., *Bouffonnesque*, buffone-like. 1774 GOLDSM. *Nat. Hist.* (1862) II. vi. iv. 180 The Numidian Crane... vulgarly called by our sailors the buffoon bird.

Hence **Buffonnesque**, **Buffoonical** *a.*; = **BUFFONISH**; **Buffoonism** = **BUFFONERY**.

1756 *Gentl. Mag.* XXVI. 254 That they should commit intellectual mendacity in buffoonish terms. 1834 BECKFORD *Italy*, &c. II. 39 The strangest, most buffoonical grimaces. *Ibid.* 160 A lay-brother, fat, round, buffoonical. 1611 Cotgr., *Bouffonnerie*, buffoonisme, iesting. 1617 MIN-SHEU *Ductor in Ling.* 56 Buffoonisme... vi: jesting.

Buffoon, corrupted form of **BUFFON**, *Obs.*

Buffoon (*bʊˈfʊn*), *v. arch.* [f. *prec. sb.*]

1. *trans.* To turn into ridicule, to ridicule; to burlesque.

1628 FORD *Fancies* III. i. (R.) Who, in the great dukes court, buffoons his compliment. a 1678 EVELYN *Memo.* (1857) II. 73 The Duke of Buckingham's... farce... buffooning all plays. 1751 J. BROWN *Shafesb. Charac.* 371 Buffooning and disgracing Christianity, from a false representation of its material part. 1836 *Fraser's Mag.* XIV. 16 Having Polonius buffooned for him, and, to no small extent, Hamlet himself.

2. *intr.* To play the buffoon, to indulge in low jesting. Also *to buffoon it*.

1678 [see **BUFFONING** *vbl. sb.*] 1820 BYRON in Moore *Life* (1860) 434 Banks and I... buffooned together very merrily. 1830 *Fraser's Mag.* II. 180 He... buffooned it up to the bent. 1832 L. HUNT *Sir R. Esler* (1850) 94 All dressed and talked and laughed and buffooned alike.

Buffoonery (*bʊˈfʊnəri*). Also 7 **buffonnerie**, 7-8 **buffon**, **buffoonry**. [f. **BUFFON** *sb.* + **-ERY**.] The practice of a buffoon; low jesting or ridicule, farce.

1621 BR. MOUNTAGU *Diatribe* 450 Flatterie and Buffonnerie swayed all in the Romane Senate. 1631 WEEVER *Anc. Fun. Mon.* 685 Janglery, buffonnerie, and such other vices. 1670 G. H. *Hist. Cardinals* I. iii. 81 They are the first that laugh and applaud any Buffoonery. 1745 FIELDING *True Pair* Wks. 1775 IX. 296 Power and government... have been set up as the butts of ridicule and buffoonery. 1751 JOHNSON *Ramb.* No. 125 7 6 This conversation... degenerates too much into buffoonery and farce. 1875 JOWETT *Plato* (ed. 2) III. 132 You may often laugh at buffoonery which you would be ashamed to utter.

Buffooning, *vbl. sb.* [f. **BUFFON** *v.* + **-ING** 1.] The action of playing the buffoon; low jesting, buffoonery. Also *attrib.*

a 1678 Wood *Life* (1848) 43 Mirth... buffooning and bantering. 1821 BYRON *Let. to Mr. Dallas* 21 Aug., The two stanzas of a buffooning cast... are as well left out.

Buffooning, *ppl. a.* [f. *as prec.* + **-ING** 2.] That plays the buffoon; coarsely jesting, mocking. 1728 MOTTEUX *Quix.* (1733) III. 101 That buffooning Devil shall never scape unpunished. 1763 J. BROWN *Poetry & Mus.* vii. 153 It was... as illiberal and buffooning in its Beginnings as the old Comedy had been. 1879 G. MACDONALD *Sir Gibbie* I. xix. 256 The buffooning authors of the mischief.

Buffoonish (*bʊˈfʊnɪʃ*), *a.* [f. **BUFFON** *sb.* + **-ISH**.] Like or characteristic of a buffoon.

1678 MARVELL *Reh. Transp.* I. 312 As improper and buffoonish, as to have seen the Porter lately in the good Doctors Cassock and Girdle. 1708 *Burlesque of R. Lestranger's Quevedo* 168 This foolish, base Buffoonish throng. 1818 *Blackw. Mag.* III. 533 In one of his productions lacrymose, and in another merry, buffoonish, ludicrous.

† **Buffoonize**, **buffoonise**, *v. Obs.* [f. *as prec.* + **-IZE**.] To act the buffoon.

Hence **Buffoonizing** *vbl. sb.* and *ppl. a.*

1611 Cotgr., *Goguenarder*, to buffoonize it; breake iests, telle merrie tales. *Ibid.*, *Patelinage*, a buffoonizing, or acting the vice in a play. 1635 J. HAYWARD *Banish'd Virg.* 40 A buffoonizing and jearing humour. 1657 COLVIL *Whigs' Supplic.* (1751) 98 He can buffoonize, and jest.

† **Buffoonly**, *a. Obs.* Also **buffonly**. [f. *as prec.* + **-LY** 1.] = **BUFFONISH**.

1607 CHAPMAN *Bussy D'Ambo.* I. Your Buffonly laughers will cost yee the best blood in your bodies. 1650 R. STAPLTON *Strada's Low-C. Warres* ix. 41 A buffonly Calvinist, who thought himself a Wit. 1834 GOODMAN *Winter Ev. Confer.* I. (R.) Apish tricks and buffonly discourse.

Buffote, *obs. form* of **BUFFET** *sb.*, footstool.

Buffy (*bʊfi*). [f. **BUFF** *sb.* and *a.* + **-Y** 1.]

1. Of a colour approaching to buff.

1842 *Blackw. Mag.* LI. 678 A buffy line across the horizon. 1850 *Fraser's Mag.* XLII. 188 Tail feathers with buffy white terminations.

2. *Physiol.* Applied to blood having a 'buff' or **BUFFY** COAT.

1782 S. F. SIMMONS in *Med. Commun.* I. 122 A coagulum... of a firm buffy texture. 1827 ABERNETHY *Surg. Wks.* II. 11 The blood, on standing, appeared very buffy. 1835-6 TODD *Cycl. Anat. & Phys.* I. 424/2 A buffy crust is... formed on the surface of the clot.

Buffy coat, *Physiol.* A layer of a light buff colour forming the upper part of the clot of coagulated blood under certain conditions.

1800 *Med. & Phys. Jnrl.* III. 454 There being on the blood a slight buffy coat. 1845 TODD & BOWMAN *Phys. Anat.* 37 A yellowish white layer... called the buffy coat or inflammatory crust. 1874 JONES & SIEV. *Pathol. Anat.* 22 This layer is fibrine separated from the red corpuscles, and is commonly termed the 'buffy coat'.

† **Buffyle**, *Obs. rare-0*. A leather bottle.

c 1425 *Voc.* in Wr. Wulcker 658 *Hic* uter, buffyle.

Bufle, *var.* of **BUFFLE**, *Obs.*, buffalo.

† **Bufo**, *Obs.* [a. L. *bufo*, lit. a toad.] 'The black tincture of the alchemists' (Gifford).

1610 B. JONSON *Alch.* II. v. (1616) 633 Both Sericon, and Bufo, shall be lost.

Bufolo, *obs. form* of **BUFFALO**.

Bufonite (*bjuˈfɒnait*). [f. L. *bufo*, -*ōnem* toad + **-ITE**. Cf. Fr. *bufonite*.] = **TOADSTONE**, *q. v.*

1766 PENNANT *Zool.* III. 164 (Jod.) These and the other grinding teeth are often found fossil, and in that state called bufonites, or toadstones. 1865 PAGE *Handbk. Geol. Terms*, *Bufonite* (Literally Toadstone) a name given to the fossil teeth and palatal bones of fishes belonging to the family of the Pycnodonts... in the Oolite and Chalk formations.

Bug (*bʊg*), *sb.* 1. *Obs. or dial.* Forms: 4-7 bugge, 6-8 bugge, 6- bug. [ME. *bugge*, possibly from Welsh *bug* (= *bug*) 'a ghost', quoted in Lhwyd's *Archaeologia Brit.* (1707) 214, from the MS. Welsh Vocabulary of Henry Salesbury (born 1561). Owen Pugh has *bug* 'hobgoblin, scarecrow'; but the word is apparently now known chiefly in its derivatives. When *bug* became current as the name of an insect (see **BUG** *sb.* 2), this sense fell into disuse, and now survives only in the compound **BUGBEAR**. Cf. **BOGY**, **BUGABOO**.

Although Salesbury's evidence takes the Welsh word back only to the latter half of the 16th c., before which there was plenty of time for its adoption from the Eng. *bugge*, *bug*, its Welsh nativity is strongly supported by a numerous family of derivatives, e.g. *bugan* (= *buˈgan*) bugbear, scarer, *bugwth* to terrify, threaten, *bugwl* (= *buˈgwɪl*) terror, terrifying, threatening, whence *bugylu* (= *buˈgwɪlu*) to terrify, threaten, *bugydd* (= *buˈgwɪd*) hobgoblin, phantom. The S. Wales *buci* (*buˈki*) can however scarcely be a derivative, but looks like an adoption of ME. *bugge*, or modern *bogy*. With these Welsh words cf. Manx *boag*, *boagane* 'bugbear, bogle, sprite' (whence *boaganach* frightful, *boagando* scarecrow), the Irish *bocán* hobgoblin, Gael. *bocdan* (for *bocan*) hobgoblin (though these cannot be actually cognate with Welsh *bugan*). Owen Pugh has also *bygel nos* 'phantom', which seems however to be an error for *bugail nos*, in Breton *buguel-nos* 'shepherd or lad of the night'.]

1. An object of terror, usually an imaginary one; a bugbear, hobgoblin, bogy; a scarecrow. *To swear by no bugs*: to take a genuine oath, not a mere pretence of one.

1388 WYCLIF *Baruch* vi. 69 As a bugge, either a man of raggis (1611 scarecrow) in a place where gourdys wexen. c 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 55 Bugge, or buglarde, *maurris, ducius*. 1520 MORRIS *Comfort agst. Trib.* I. Wks. (1557) 1161/2 Lest there happe to be such black bugges in dede as folke call deuilles. 1535 COVERDALE *Ps.* xc(i). 5 Thou shalt not nede to be afraied for eny bugges by night. 1625 JEWEL *Def. Apol.* (1611) 285 A bug meet only to fray Children. 1579 GOSSON *Sch. Abuse* 23 Caligula... bid his horse to supper... and swore by no bugs that hee would make him a Consul. 1593 SHAKS. 3 *Hen. VI.* v. ii. 2 Warwick was a Bugge that fear'd vs all. 1611 SPEED *Hist. Gl. Brit.* vii. xlii. 3 349 Champions against the married Clergy (for women in those dayes were great bugs in their eyes). 1681 GLANVILLE *Sadducismus* II. (1726) 453 Timorous Fools that are afraid of Buggs. 1719 D'URFEE *Pills* (1872) II. 306 Let the bug Predestation Fright the Fools no better know.

b. ? A person of assumed importance. Possibly this may survive in the U. S. slang 'a big bug' for an aristocrat, 'swell', though the latter is regarded by those who use it as referring to **BUG** *sb.* 2

1771 SMOLLETT *Humph. Cl.* (1815) 255 That I'm nine times as good a man as he, or e'er a bug of his country. 1843 HALIBURTON *Sam Slick Eng.* xxiv. (Bartlett), We'll go to the Lord's house... pick out the big bugs.

2. *Comb.*, as *bug-boy* (corruption of **BUGABOO**); *bug-law*, a law intended to inspire terror. Also **BUGBEAR**, **BUG-WORD**.

1601 DEACON & WALKER *Spirits & Devils* 354 The countrey hath been free from such dangerous bug-boyes. 1601 — *Ans. to Darel* 222 Hobgoblins, Bugboies, Night-sprites, or Fairies. 1694 R. L'ESTRANGE *Fables* lxxi. (1714) 87 'Tis much the same Case betwixt the People and Bugge-Laws... that it is here betwixt the Fox and the Lyon.

Bug (*bʊg*), *sb.* 2 [Etymology unknown. Usually supposed to be a transferred sense of *prec.*; but this is merely a conjecture, without actual evidence, and it has not been shown how a word meaning 'object of terror, bogle', became a generic name for beetles, grubs, etc. Sense 1 shows either connexion or confusion with the earlier *budde*; in quot. 1783 *shorn bug* appears for ME. *searn-budde* (-*bude*):—OE. *searn-budda* dung-beetle, and in Kent the 'stag-beetle' is still called *shawn-bug*. Cf. Cheshire 'buggin, a louse' (Holland).]

1. A name given vaguely to various insects, esp. of the beetle kind, also to grubs, larvae of insects, etc. Now chiefly *dial.* and in U. S.; esp. with defining words, as *field bug*, *harvest bug*, *May bug*, *June bug*, *potato bug*; also *fire-bug*, in U. S. applied *collog.* to an incendiary.

1642 ROGERS *Naaman* 74 Gods rare workmanship in the Ant, the poorest bugge that creeps. 1691 RAY *S. & E. C. Wds.*, *Bugge*: Any insect of the Scarabaei kind. It is, I suppose, a word of general use. 1710 SHAFESB. *Charac.* II. 5 4 (1737) II. 314 The Bug which breeds the Butterfly. 1783 AINSWORTH *Lat. Dict.* (Morell) n. *Blatta*... a shorn bug, the chafer, or beetle. 1856 *Sat. Rev.* II. 258/1 In the field bug we have an instance, etc. 1861 EMERSON *Cond. Life* ii. 38 A good tree... will grow in spite of blight or bug. c 1880 WHITTIER in *Harper's Mag.* Feb. (1883) 358/1 A big black bug came flying in.

2. *spec.* The *Cimex lectularius*, more fully *bed-bug* or *house-bug*, a blood-sucking hemipterous insect found in bedsteads and other furniture, of a flattened form, and emitting an offensive smell

when touched. **b.** Applied to insects of the order *Hemiptera* or *Heteroptera*, to which the bed-bug belongs.

1622 MASSINGER & DEKKER *Virgin Mart.* iii. iii. *Harpar.* Come, let my bosom touch you. *Spongius.* We have bugs, Sir. 1623 TRYON *Way to Health* 388 The Original of these Creatures called Bugs, is from Putrifaction. 1730 SOUTHALL *Bugs* 1 Bugs have been known to be in England above sixty Years, and every Season increasing upon us. 1798 W. HUTTON *Autobiog.* 40 The doctor visited me . . . and . . . said, 'You are as safe as a bug in a rug'. 1845 DARWIN *Voy. Nat.* xv. (1852) 330 An attack (for it deserves no other name) of the Benchuca, the great black bug of the Pampas. 1847 CARPENTER *Zool.* § 721 The Geocorisæ or Land-Bugs, and the Hydrocorisæ or Water-Bugs. 1861 HULME tr. *Moguin-Tandon* ii. iv. i. 219 The Cimicidæ, or Bugs, belong to the order Hemiptera. *Ibid.* ii. vi. v. 304.

3. *Comb.*, as *bug-bite*, *-destroyer*, *-fly*, *-killer*; *bug-agaric*, *Agaricus muscarius*, 'a mushroom that used to be smeared over bedsteads to destroy bugs' (Prior *Plant-n.*); *bug-bane*, *Cimicifuga fatida* and other allied plants, used to drive away bugs; *bug-wort* = *bug-bane*.

1804 BEWICK *Brit. Birds* (1847) II. 165 It is made of . . . the roots of *bugbane, stalks of water lily, pond weed, and water violet. 1880 *Libr. Univ. Knowl.* III. 862 *Cimicifuga*, or bugbane, an herb of the order ranunculaceæ. 1760 GOLDSM. *Cit. W.* lxviii. One doctor who is modestly content with securing them from *bugbites. 1831 CARLYLE *Sart. Res.* i. xi. 88 Poisoned by bad cookery, blistered with bugbites. 1809 SYD. SMITH *Wks.* (1859) I. 135/1 The *bug-destroyer seizes on his bug with delight. 1711 *Phil. Trans.* XXVII. 352, 10 and 11 are *Bug-flies observed in the Woods about Hampstead Heath. 1791 HUDDSFORD *Salmag.* 111 Shrimp-scalders and *bug-killers.

† **Bug**, *a.* *Obs. exc. dial.* Also 6 *bugge*, *byg*. [Etymology unknown: cf. BIG, BOG *a.* and BUDGE *a.*] Pompous; big; proud, conceited, fine. (Still widely prevalent *dial.*)

1567 DRANT *Horace's De Arte P.* A.viii. Bugge verses which cum to the stage With waight of wordes alone. 1642 H. MORE *Song of Soul* ii. iii. lxiii. Then 'gins she [the moon] swell, and waxen bug with horn. 1682 — *Annot. Glanvill's Lux O.* 55 A Bug and sturdy Mendicant, that pretends to be some person of Quality. 1881 *Leicestersh. Gloss.* (E. D. S.) s.v. How bug y' are o' yer new clo'es!

Bugaboo (*bv'gābū*). Also 8 *buggybow*, 8-*bugabo*. [f. Bug + Boo int.: cf. Cornw. *bucca-bo* under BUCCA, also BOGLE-BO, and *bug-boy* in Bug sb.¹ (Possibly a Celtic compound, in which case cf. OF. *Beugibus*, *Bugibus*, name of a demon.)] A fancied object of terror; a bogey; a bugbear.

[c. 1200 *Alicans* 1141 (*Anciens Poëtes de la France* (1870) X. 35) Et puis d' infer iras o Bugibu, Aueuc ton Dieu Mahomet et Cahu.]

1740 *Knox's Entertainment* ii. Of Hobgoblins, Rawheads, and Bloody-bones, Buggybows. 1843 POE *Premat. Burial Wks.* 1867 I. 338 No fustian about church-yards, no bugaboo tales. 1890 LOWELL *Among my Bks.* Ser. II. (1873) 128 If the sins themselves were such wretched bugaboos as he has painted.

b. cant. 'A sheriff's officer' (*Grose's Dict. Vulg. Tong.* 1823); 'a tally-man', a weekly creditor (*ibid.*); and similar senses.

1827 LYRTON *Pelham* lxxix. Many a mad prank . . . which I should not like the bugaboos and bulkies to know.

Bugasine, *obs.* form of BOCASIN, BUCKASIE. 1660 *Act 12 Chas. II.* iv. Sched. Bugasines or Calico Buckrams the half piece v.s. 1670 *Bk. Rates* (JAM.) Bugasines or calico 15 ells the piece—4s.

Bugbear (*bv'gbeər*). Forms: 6-7 *bugge-beare*, 7-*bugbear*. [App. f. Bug sb.¹ + BEAR sb.¹] 1. A sort of hobgoblin (presumably in the shape of a bear) supposed to devour naughty children; hence, generally, any imaginary being invoked by nurses to frighten children. *Obs.*

1581 J. BRILL *Haddon's Ansv. Oror.* 10b, Hobgoblins and Buggebeares, with whom we were never acquainted. 1592 NASH *P. Penitence* (1842) 74 Meare bugge-beares to scare boyes. 1607 TOPSELL *Four-f. Beasts* 353 Certain Lamie . . . which like Bug-beares would eat up crying boys. 1651 HOBBS *Leviath.* i. xii. 55. 1798 JOHNSON *Idler* No. 11 p. 9 To tell children of bugbeares and goblins. 1842 BARHAM *Inglol. Leg.* (1877) 10 The bugbear behind him is after him still.

2. *transf.* An object of dread, esp. of needless dread; an imaginary terror.

1580 SIDNEY *Arcadia* iii. 317 At the worst it is but a bug-beare. 1643 ROGERS *Naaman* To Rdr. § 2 All that thinke originall sinne a bugbeare. 1717 KENNETT in *Ellis Orig. Lett.* ii. 430 IV. 306 The king of Sweden is every day a less bugbear to us. 1840 DICKENS *Old C. Shop* iii. 14 What have I done to be made a bugbear of? 1871 FREEMAN *Norm. Cong.* (1876) IV. xvii. 51 Confiscation, a word which is so frightful a bugbear to most modern ears.

b. attrib. or as *adj.* c. 1600 *Timon* i. ii. (1842) 6 Thou shalt not fright me with thye bugbeare wordes. a 1734 NORTH *Exam.* iii. viii. p. 25. 601 The most horrible & bug-beare Denunciations.

Hence **Bugbeardom**, bugbeares collectively, needless fears; **Bugbearish** *a.*

1800 SOUTHEY in *Robbers Mem. W. Taylor* I. 35/2 Bonaparte . . . a name now growing more bugbearish than ever. 1862 MSS. *Speld Last Years Ind.* 150 The assaults and tyrannies of bugbeardom.

† **Bugbear**, *v.* *Obs.* [f. *prec. sb.*] *trans.* To frighten with imaginary or needless fears.

1650 R. STAPYLTON *Strada's Low-C. Warres* 1 They carryed the Warre up and downe, only to bug-beare Townes and Villages. 1667 *Hist. Sir J. Hawkwood* ix. 17. 1705

S. WHATELY in W. Perry *Hist. Coll. Amer. Col. Ch. I.* 167 To be bugbear'd out of our senses by big words.

Bugelet, **Bugelle**, *obs.* ff. BUGLET, BUGLE sb.¹ Bugen, *obs.* form of Bow v.¹

† **Buggalow**, *Anglo-Ind.* Also *buggala*, *buglah*. [a. Mahratti *baglā*, *bagalā*, regarded by Col. Yule as a corruption of Pg. *baixel*, VESSEL.] 'A name commonly given on the W. coast of India to Arab vessels of the old native form' (Yule).

1842 SIR G. ARTHUR in *Ind. Admin. of Ld. Ellenb.* 222 (Y.) Native Buggalas, by which so much of the trade of this coast with Scinde, Cutch . . . is carried on. 1869 *Latest News* 17 Oct. There were . . . four vessels: two were large buglahs, each mounting about eight guns. 1884 *Times* 30 May 8 At Mocha they took passage on board an Arab buggalow.

† **Buggard**, **buggart**. *Obs.* or *dial.* [a variant of BOGGARD, the form of which suggests formation from *bugge*, Bug sb.¹ (Still used in Cheshire.)] A boggard, a bogey.

1575 *Hist. Troubles Frankfurt* (1642) 136 They two . . . may not be . . . such buggards to the poore if they may not beare the bagge alone. 1865 MISS LAHER *Betty o' Yeps* 6 Rail-way stymers scrookin away through th' country, enew to flay a buggart cawt o' th' greawnd.

Bugge, *r.* obs. f. BUDGE, BUG, BUY, -ER.

Bugger (*bv'gər*). Also 6 *bowgard*, *bouguer*. [a. F. *bougier* = L. *Bulgarus* Bulgarian, a name given to a sect of heretics who came from Bulgaria in the 11th c., afterwards to other 'heretics' (to whom abominable practices were ascribed), also to usurers. See BOUGRE.]

1. A heretic: the name was particularly applied to the Albigenes. *Obs. exc. Hist.*

1340 [see BOUGRE]. 1753 CHAMBERS *Cycl. Supp.* s.v., The Buggers are mentioned by Matthew Paris . . . under the name of Bugares. They were strenuously refuted by Fr. Robert, a dominican, surnamed the Bugger, as having formerly made profession of this heresy.

2. One who commits buggery; a sodomite. In decent use only as a legal term.

1565 *Farde Facions* ii. x. 224 As rancke bouguers with mankinde, and with beastes, as the Saracenes are. 1827 TURBERV. *Epitaphs & Sonnet Wks.* (1837) 372 To serve his beastly lust . . . he will leade a bowgards life.

b. In low language a coarse term of abuse or insult; often, however, in Eng. dial. and in U.S., simply = 'chap', 'customer', 'fellow'. Cf. BAGGAGE 7.

So in Fr.: 'Bougrie . . . terme de mépris et d'injure, usité dans le langage populaire le plus trivial et le plus grossier'. (LITTRE.)

1719 D'URFEE *Pills* I. 59 From every trench the boughers fly. 1854 M. HOLMES *Tempest & Sun* 203 'If I'd known all you city buggers was comin' I'd a kivered my bar feet'. 1881 EVANS *Leicest. Gloss.* s.v., 'Mister, can ye fit this canny little bugger wi' a cap?' said a mother to a shop-keeper of her little boy.

Bugger, *v.* Also 7 *buggar*. [f. *prec. sb.*] *trans.* To commit buggery with. Also *absol.*

1611 COTGR. s.v. *Levette*. 1624 CAPT. SMITH *Virginia* v. 108. 1673 COTTON *Poet. Wks.* (1765) 279. 1681 *Trial S. Colledge* 42. a 1701 SEDLEY *Wks.* (1766) 126.

† **Buggerage**, *Obs.* rare = 1. Heresy; buggery. 1538 BALE *Three Lawes* 671 Stodye the popes Decretals, and mixt them with buggerage.

Buggerer, [f. BUGGER v. + -ER.] = BUGGER 2. 1552 HUOET *Buggerer, Pederastes*. a 1571 JEWEL *On 1 Thess.* (1611) 77 Neither fornicators, nor adulterers, nor wantons, nor buggerers shall inherit the Kingdome of Heauen. 1651 BAXTER *Inf. Bapt.* 158 He might have found these godly Reformers . . . to be Ribalds, Buggerers, Sorcerers. 1704 *Faction Disph.* xi. 14 Beaus, Biters, Pathicks, B-ers and Cits.

† **Buggeress**, *Obs.* A female bugger.

c 1450 *Voc.* in W. Wülcker 569 *Bulgara*, buggers.

Buggerly, *adj.* and *adv.* [f. BUGGER sb. + -LY.] Like or pertaining to a bugger.

1545 JOYE *Exp. Dan.* vii. N vj b. Poore buggerly, beggerly fryers. 1552 HUOET, *Louer* of chyliden buggerly or dissolutely, *Pederastes*. 1653 URQUHART *Rabelais* ii. xxx, His great buggerly Beard.

Buggery (*bag'gəri*). Forms: 4 *bugerie*, 6 *buggerie*, *-arie*, *-orie*, *boggery*, *bowgery*, *bookery*, *Sc. bewgrye*, 6-7 *buggerie*, 6-*buggery*, 8-*ary*. [f. as *prec.*: see -ERY.] † *a.* Abominable heresy. *Obs.* *b.* Unnatural intercourse of a human being with a beast, or of men with one another, sodomy. Now only as a technical term in criminal law.

1330 R. BRUNNE *Chron.* 320 Þe Kyng said & did crie, þe pape was heretike . . . and lyued in bugerie. 1514 FITZHERB. *Just. Peas* (1538) 125 b, It is enacted that the vice of buggerie committed with man kynd or beast be adjudged felonie. 1552 LYNDSEY *Monarchie* 3473 That self Syn of Sodomye, and most abhominabyll bewgrye (v. r. bowgrye).

1667 CHAMBERLAYNE *St. Gl. Brit.* i. (1684) 41 The sin of Buggery brought into England by the Lombards. 1754 EDWARDS *Freed. Will* iii. vii. 187 The most horrid crimes, Adultery, Murder, Buggery, Blasphemy, &c. 1861 *Act* 24 & 25 *Vic. c.* § 61 The abominable crime of buggery, committed either with mankind or with any animal.

B. *attrib.* or as *adj.* 1643 R. O. *Man's Mort.* vi. 49 Christ dyed not for the rational part separated from the material, nor the material from the rational, if there should be such Buggery births.

1851 MAYHEW *Lowd. Labour* I. 23 A buggery fool.

† **Buggess**, *Obs.* [a. *Bugis*, 'name given by

the Malays to the dominant race of the Island of Célèbes' (Col. Yule).] A name formerly used in the Indian Archipelago for a native soldier in European service.

1699 DAMPIER *Voy.* II. l. 108 These Buggasses are a sort of warlike trading Malaysians and mercenary soldiers of India. 1779 FORREST *Voy. N. Guinea* 213, I apprehended he was a Captain of Buggesses, in the English Company's service. 1792 — *Voy. Mergui* 78 (Y.) The word Buggess has become amongst Europeans consonant to soldier, in the east of India, as Sepoy is in the West. 1811 *Ld. Minto in India* 279 (Y.) We had fallen in with a fleet of nine Buggess prowes. 1878 MCNAIR *Perak* 130 (Y.) The Bugis are evidently a distinct race from the Malays.]

Bugget, *obs.* form of BUDGET.

Bugginess, [f. BUGGY *a.* + -NESS.] The state of being buggy.

1730-6 in BAILEY; thence in JOHNSON and mod. Dicts. † **Buggish**, *a.* *Obs.* rare = 1. [f. Bug sb.¹ + -ISH.] Like a goblin; terrifying, frightful.

1583 STANYHURST *Æneid* iv. (Arb.) 107 Mee . . . with visadge buggish be [Anchises' ghost] feareth [turrida terret imago].

† **Buggishank**, *Obs.* rare = 1. [= *budgishank*, f. BUDGE sb.¹ + SHANK.] ? A kind of budge fur.

1463 *Test. Ebor.* (1855) II. 260, i. togam nigram penultima cum buggishanke. [Cf. 1530 PALSGR. 266 Schanke of bouge, *fourrure de cuissettes*. 1730 BAILEY *Shanks*, the skin of the leg of a kind of kid, that bears the furr called Budge.]

† **Buggle-boo**, *Obs.* = BOGLE-BO.

1625 LISLE *Du Bartas* 128 Another hath his moods And like a Buggle boo strales ever through the woods.

Buggy (*bv'gi*), *sb.* [Etymology unknown: the word has been conjecturally connected with BOGIE; also with BUG (see esp. quot. 1773). There is no ground for supposing it to be of Anglo-Indian origin.]

1. A light one-horse (sometimes two-horse) vehicle, for one or two persons. Those in use in America have four wheels; those in England and India, two; in India there is a hood. (In recent use, esp. in U.S., India, and the colonies.)

1773 *Gentl. Mag.* XLIII. 297 Driving a post coach and four against a single horse chaise, throwing out the driver of it, and breaking the chaise to pieces . . . ludicrously denominating mischief of this kind, 'Running down the Buggies'. 1776 *Ann. Reg.* 197 *The Suicide Prol.*, Buggies, tim-whiskies or squeezed vis-a-vis. 1782 *India Gaz.* 14 Sept. (Y.) An excellent Buggy Horse about 15 Hands high. 1794 W. FELTON *Carriages* (1801) II. 183 The Buggy is a small chaise, made to carry one person only. 1825 *Annals Sport-ing* vii. 59 The speed and pluck of their buggy horses. 1844 DISRAELI *Coningsby* xiv. (L.) Villebecque prevailed upon Flora to drive with him to the race in a buggy he borrowed of the steward. 1859 LANG *Wand. India* 287 We drove as far as Deobund in the buggy. 1862 B. TAYLOR *Home & Abr.* Ser. II. ii. 4. 93, I asked for a two-horse buggy and driver. 1866 GEO. ELLIOT *Felix Holt* III. 166 See that somebody takes her back . . . in the buggy.

2. In technical uses: see quot. (Cf. BOGIE.)

1861 RAYMOND *Mining Gloss.*, Buggy, a small mine-wagon holding 4 ton to 1 ton of coal. 1883 *Harper's Mag.* 939/2 The men . . . go out . . . on the strand in a 'buggy', which is a board seat slung by ropes from the axis of a grooved wheel fitting and travelling on the strand.

3. *Comb.*, as *buggy-boat*, a boat made so that wheels can be fastened to it, so as to make it into a land-vehicle; *buggy-cultivator*, *buggy-plough*, a plough having a seat for the ploughman to ride on.

Buggy, *a.* [f. Bug sb.² + -Y.] Infested with bugs.

1714 *Phil. Trans.* XXIX. 65 With a black Speck, as buggy Peas had. 1730 SOUTHALL *Bugs* 35 When they have taken it [old Furniture] down, because it was buggy. 1854 BADHAM *Halient.* 207 One of those provisionless Sicilian *lucande*, boasting . . . a thunny supper and a buggy bed.

Bug, *bugen*, *obs.* inf. and pa. t. of Bow v.¹; *obs.* form of BOUGH.

Bugher, [cf. BUFFER 4: the vb. is still *bough*, *bugh* (*bv'w*) in Sc.] A barker, a barking dog.

1673 R. HEAD *Canting Acad.* 34 Bugher, a Dog. 1688 R. HOLME *Armoury* iii. iii. § 68 Bugher, a Cur Dog. 1725 *New Cant. Dict.*

Bughsom, *obs.* form of BUXOM.

Bught, variant of BOUGHT sb. and v.

1844 W. H. MAXWELL *Sports & Adv. Scott.* i. xv. 262 Forty-five or fifty fathoms of *tous* constitute a bught.

† **Bugiard**, *Obs.* [ad. It. *bugiardo*.] A liar.

a 1670 HACKET *Abp. Williams* i. (1692) 71 Like an egregious bugiard here he is quite out of the truth.

Bugit, *obs.* form of BUDGET.

Buglah, variant of BUGGALLOW.

Buglard = BUGGARD.

c 1440 *Prompt. Parv.* 55 Bugge, or buglarde, *Maurus, Ducius*.

Bugle (*biū'g'l*), *sb.* Forms: 3- *bugle*, 4 *bewgalle*, *-gulle*, 5 *bugelle*, 4-6 *bugull* (e), 4-7 *bugil*, 5-6 *Sc. bowgile*, 6 *Sc. bougill*, *bewgill*, 7 *bugill*, (8 ? *beugle*). [a. OF. *bugle* = L. *būculus*, dim. of *bo-s* *bovis* is an ox.]

1. † *a.* The buffalo (= BUFFALO 1 *a*) and other kinds of wild oxen. *Obs.* *b.* A young bull. *dial.*

c 1300 K. *Alis.* 5112 A thousand bugles of Ynde. 1398 TREVISA *Barth. De P.R.* xviii. xv. (1495) 774 The Bugle . . . is lyke to an oxe and is a fyers beest. c 1400 MAUNDEV. xxvi.

269 Hornes of grete Oxen or of Bugles. 1536 BELLENDEN *Cron. Scot.* (1821) I. 47 Hornis. thikkar than any home of ane bewgill. 1615 E. GRIMSTONE *Hist. World* 636 Cups made of bugles hornes. 1677 W. CHARLTON *Exerc. de Diff. et Nom. Animal.* (ed. 2) 8 Bonasus, the Bugle. 1881 *Isle of Wight Gloss.* (E. D. S.), Bugle, a young bull; the Bugle Inn at Newport.

2. *Music.* Short for BUGLE-HORN. a. A hunting-horn, originally made of the horn of a 'bugle' or wild ox. b. A military instrument of brass or copper, resembling the trumpet, but smaller; used as the signal-horn for the infantry.

c 1340 *Gaw. & Gr. Knt.* 1136 With bugle to bent felde he buskez. c 1435 *Torr. Portugal* 142 Terrant blew hys bugelle bold. 1599 SHAKS. *Much Ado* I. i. 243 Hang my bugle in an inuisible baldricke. a 1600 A. SCOTT *Adamson & Sym* xx. in *The Ever-Green* (1761) II. 185 Be than the Bougil gan to blow. 1623 COCKERAM, *Bugle*, a little blacke borne. a 1777 F. FAWKES *Virg. Aeneid* VII. (R.) Stoutly Boreas his loud bugle blew. 1832 MACAULAY *Armada* 49 Bugle's note and cannon's roar The deathlike silence broke. 1877 *Field Exercise Infantry* 403 One G sounded on the Bugle will denote the right of the line.

† 3. A tube. *Obs.* 1615 CROOK *Body of Man* 180 Put your Bugle into the bladder and blow it.

4. *Comb.*, as bugle-blast, -clang; † bugle-browed a., having horns like a wild ox; 'horned' (*fig.*); bugle-major, the chief bugler in a regiment; bugle-boy, -man = BUGLER.

a 1677 MIDDLETON *Anyth. for Q. Life* (N.) *Wife*. 'Tis for mine own credit if I forbear, not thine, thou bugle-brow'd beast thou. 1815 SCOTT *Ld. of Isles* II. xxi, A bugle-clang From the dark ocean upward rang. 1844 *Regul. & Ord. Army* 396 The Drum or Bugle-Major. 1848 J. GRANT *Advent. of Aide* lix, 'Sound!' said I to the bugle-boy. 1899 SMILES *Self-Help* 21 From the general down through all grades to the private and bugleman. 1864 BRYANT *Return of Birds* vi, There is heard the bugle-blast.

Bugle (biū'g'l), sb.² *Bot.* Also 5 bugyl, -ille. [a. F. *bugle* = It. *bugola*, Sp. *bugula*:—late L. *bugula*. The L. *bugillo*, used by Marcellus Empiricus c 400, seems to denote the same plant.]

1. The English name of the plants belonging to the genus *Ajuga*, esp. the common species *A. reptans*. (The names *Buglossa* and *Bugle* were occasionally confounded by early writers.)

c 1265 *Voc.* in Wr. Wulker 554 *Buglossa*, bugle. a 1397 *Sinon. Barthol.* (Anecd. Oxon.) 43 *Wodebrom*, bugle. c 1420 *LYDC. Min. Poems* (1840) 195 As bright as bugyl or ellye bolace. 1483 *Cath. Angl.* 46 Bugille, *buglossa*, *lingua bovis*, herba est. 1548 *Turner Names of Herbs* 83 *Consolida media* is called in English Bugle. 1576 *LYTC Dodones* I. xc. 132 Bugle spreadeth and creepeth along the ground. 1616 SURL & MARKS *Country Farm* 262 He that hath bugle and sanicle, will scarce vouchsafe the surgeon a bugle. 1794 MARTYN *Rousseau's Bot.* iv. 45 Plants having little or no smell, as bugle. 1865 GOSSE *Land & Sea* 115 The...coppes...is blue with the thick spikes of bugle.

2. *Comb.*, as bugle-bloom.

1818 KEATS *Endym.* II. 314 Velvet leaves and bugle-blooms.

Bugle (biū'g'l), sb.³ Also 6 bugle, 6-7 beau-, 7 beau-, bewgle. [Etymology unknown. Of the med. L. *bugulus*, sometimes quoted as the etymon, a single instance, as the name of a 'pad', or framework for the hair, used by Italian ladies, occurs in a chapter *De moribus civium Placentium* 1388, in Muratori *Script. Ital.* XVI. 580; no similar word is known in Ital. or Fr. *Bugle* has a certain resemblance in form to Du. *beugel* a ring (—MDu. *bōghil*, *bōghel*, Franck); but no connexion of meaning appears.]

1. A tube-shaped glass bead, usually black, used to ornament wearing apparel. (Formerly also collective, or as the name of a material.)

1579 SPENSER *Sheph. Cal.* Feb. 66 A gyrdle. Embost with bugle. 1623 STUBBS *Anat. Abus.* (1877) 61 note, The vse to garde their clothes rounde about the skirtes with... Bugles. 1698 FLOIBO, *Margaritinus*, bugles or seede pearles. 1640 *Jrnl. Ho. Commons* II. 33 The sole Making and Venting of Beads and Beagles. 1667 R. LIGON *Barbadoes* (1673) 16 Some small beads, of white Amber, or blew bugle. 1753 RICHARDSON *Grandison* (1781) I. xxii. 139 Set off with bugles and spangles. c 1813 MRS. SHERWOOD *Stories Ch. Catech.* xiv. 116 She would load them with presents... gloves, habit-shirts, silver spoons, bugles, brooches. 1884 'WANDERER' *Fair Diana* xxiii. 265 The black grapes and bugles which...decorated her bonnet.

2. *attrib.* Made of, adorned with, or resembling, bugles.

1598 SYLVESTER *Dn Barias* I. iv. (1641) 371 With his bristled, hoary, beagle-beard, Comming to kisse her. 1600 SHAKS. *A. Y. L.* III. v. 47 Your inkie browes, your blacke silke haire, Your bugle eye-balls, nor your cheek of creame. 1611 — *Wint. T.* IV. iv. 224 Bugle-bracelet, Necke-lace Amber. 1611 BARREY *Ram Alley* IV. i, Her bugle-gown, and best-wrought smock. 1710 STEELE *Tatler* No. 245 P 2 Adam and Eve in Bugle-Work...upon Canvas, curiously wrought. 1767 ELLIS in *Phil. Trans.* LVII. 408 The *Colularia Salicornia*, or Bugle Coralline.

Bugle, obs. form of BOGLE, hobgoblin, and BEAGLE, hound.

1555 EDEN *Decades W. Ind.* (Arb.) 206 He goeth...with a lyltle hounde or bewgle. 1696 AUBREY *Misc.* 192 (D.) They assignt it [second sight] to Bugles or Ghosts.

Bugle, v. [f. BUGLE sb.¹ 2.] a. *intr.* To sound a bugle. b. *trans.* To give forth (a sound), as a bugle; also (*nonce-use*) to summon by bugle.

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186a THACKERAY *Roundab. Papers* (1879) 89 The wind-instruments bugling the most horrible wails. 1879 DIXON *Switters* xxxv. 362 The rank and file...who are bugled from their beds. 1884 COLBORN *Hicks Pasha* 118 My friends...who trumpet, bugle, and 'tam-tam' all day long.

Bugled (biū'g'ld), a. Trimmed with bugles.

1881 *Daily News* 22 Aug. 3/6 Bugled...silk laces.

Bugle-horn. [f. BUGLE sb.¹ + HORN sb.]

The horn of a bugle or wild ox, used

† a. as a drinking vessel. *Obs.* c 1385 CHAUCER *Frankl. T.* 525 Ianus...drynketh of his bugle horn the uyn. 1397 TREvisa *Higden* Rolls Ser. I. 293 Jif þe water of þat welle is i-take in bugle horn [in cornu bubali]. 1519 *Horman Vulg.* 166 b, Precious cuppis be made of bugull hornys.

b. as a musical instrument, whence = BUGLE sb.¹ 2. c 1300 K. *Alis.* 5282 Tweye bugle hornes, and a bowe also. 1480 CAXTON *Chron. Eng.* ccix. 192 Two squyers blew...with ij grete bugles hornes. c 1630 RISSDON *Surv. Devon* § 222 (1810) 231 His family bare in a field Gules, a bugle horn or. 1808 SCOTT *Marm.* I. iii, His bugle-horn he blew. 1842 TENNYSON *Locksley H.* 2 Sound upon the bugle horn.

Bugler (biū'glɔɪ). [f. as prec. + -ER¹.] One who plays on a bugle; *spec.* a soldier who conveys orders by signals sounded on a bugle.

1840 H. SMITH *O. Cromwell* II. 19 The Bugler...was already handling his instrument. 1863 KINGLAKE *Crimea* II. 366 A mounted officer rode up to a bugler of the 19th Regiment, and ordered him to sound the 'retire'.

Buglet (biū'glɛt). [f. as prec. + -ET.] A small bugle; e.g. one carried by bicyclists.

a 1803 *Douglas Trag.* iii. in *Child Ballads* I. 100/2 With a buglet horn hung down by his side. 1838 D. MOIR *Casa's Dirge*. The wild-bee with its buglet fine. 1885 *Price-List*. A bugle having two turns will sound short calls; those with three turns will sound military calls; but the easiest to sound of all is the above Buglet, which has four turns.

Bugle-weed. *Bot.* An American plant, *Lycopus Virginicus*, sometimes used as a remedy for hemoptysis, or spitting of blood.

1860 BARTLETT *Dict. Amer.*, *Bugle-weed*...is also known as the Virginian Water-hound.

Bugling (biū'glin), ppl. a. [f. BUGLE v. + -ING².] That sounds a bugle.

1884 tr. K. BAKER'S *Mem.* II. 50 A bugling postillion.

Bugloss (biū'glɔs). *Bot.* Forms: 6-7 buglosse, (6 buglosse, 8-9 buglosse), 7- bugloss. [a. F. *buglosse*:—L. *būglissa*, ad. Gr. *βουγλωσσω*, f. *βού* ox + *γλωσσω* tongue, from the shape and roughness of the leaves.] A name applied to several boraginaceous plants, particularly the *Small, Corn, or Field B.* (*Lycopsis* or *Anchusa arvensis*); *Viper's B.* (*Echium vulgare*), and other species of *Echium*; also by some old herbalists to *Helminthia echinoides*, Prickly Ox-tongue.

1533 ELVOT *Cast. Health* (1541) 11 Cynamome: Saffron... Buglosse: Borage. 1548 BOORDE *Dyetary* xix, The rootes of Borage and Buglosse soden tender...doth ingender good blode. 1605 B. JONSON *Volpone* III. iv. 61 A little muske, drid mints, Buglosse, and barley-meale. 1699 EVELYN *Acetaria* 14 What we now call Bugloss, was not that of the Ancients. 1793 CRABBE *Village* I. Wks. 1834 II. 77 There the blue bugloss paints the sterile soil. 1837 CAMPBELL *Dead Eagle*, Fields...blue with bugloss.

b. *Comb.* Bugloss Cowslip. 1879 PRIOR *Brit. Plant-n.*, *Bugloss-Cowslip*, the lungwort, from its having the leaves of a bugloss and the flowers of a primula. *Pulmonaria officinalis* L.

† **Buglossate**. *Obs. rare*—1. [f. prec. (or its source) + -ATE.] Some kind of medicine.

1797 BRADLEY *Fam. Dict.* I. s.v. *Honey*, Antidotaries...as the Buglossate made of Bugloss.

Bugulle, obs. form of BUGLE sb.¹

† **Bug-word, bug's-word**. *Obs.* [f. Bug sb.¹ + WORD. Cf. *bugbear word*.] A word meant to frighten or terrify; a word that causes dread.

Usually in pl. Swaggering or threatening language. 1566 J. HENWOOD *Prov. & Epigr.* (1867) 59 All be bugs words, that I speake to spare. a 1600 HOOKER *Wks.* (1845) I. 277 Certaine wordes, as Nature, Reason, Will and such like which wheresoever you find named you suspect...as bugs wordes. 1632 SANDERSON *Serm.* 165 Outdared with the bigge-lookes and bug-words of those that could doe him no harme. 1668 DRYDEN *Sir M. Mar-All* I. i. 1...have nothing to hope for...but death. Death is a bug-word. a 1734 NORTH *Exam.* I. II. P 105 (1740) 87 A Rebellion; O no, that's a bug Word.

Bugyl, obs. f. BUGLE sb.³, a plant.

Buhl, obs. form of BOUGH, Bow v.¹

Buhl (būl). Also Boule, q.v. [f. *Boule* name of a wood-carver in France in the reign of Louis XIV. (*Buhl* appears to be a modern Germanized spelling.)] Brass, tortoise-shell, or other material, worked into ornamental patterns for inlaying; work inlaid with buhl. Also *attrib.*

1803 RUTTER *Fonthill* 14 A pier table, richly ornamented with buhl. 1831 CARLYLE *Sart. Res.* III. x. 336 A wardrobe of Buhl is on the left. 1842 BARNAM *Ingl. Leg.* (1877) 185 A splendid buhl stand. 1870 *Daily News* 7 Feb., Scenes with real hangings, real buhl clocks, and other articles.

b. *Comb.*, as buhl-saw, a saw used in cutting out buhl-work; buhl-work (see quot.).

1832 BABBAGE *Econ. Manuf.* xi. (ed. 3) 96 Inlaid plates of brass and rosewood, called buhlwork. 1875 *URE Dict. Arts* s.v., Buhl-work consists of inlaid veneers; and differs from marquetry in being confined to decorative scroll-work.

Buhrstone, variant of BURE-STONE.

Buhsum, obs. f. BUXOM a.

Buick, Buik(e, obs. ff. BOOK, BOUK.

Buif, obs. form of BEEF.

Build (bild), v. Pa. t. and ppl. built, *poet.* and *arch.* builded. Forms: *Inf.* 3-4 bulde(n, 4 bylden, bidden, (bield, byle), (4-5 belde(n, beelde), 4-6 byld(e, bild(e, 5 buylden, 5-6 buyld(e, 6 bulde, (byeld, beald, Sc. beild), 6-bulld. Pa. t. 4 bildide, (bult), 4-5 bild(e, 5 buylde, byld, bylled, 5-6 bylled, -yd, buylled, (6 Sc. belt), 6- built, builded. Pa. ppl., 2 3ebyld, 4 i-, y-buld, y-beld, bilde, bulde, bilt, (bilid), 5 bild, bylte, beldid, bildid, 6 bylled, bylt, (bylled, -yd), buylled, -yt, buylt, (i-bylt), (8 build), 6- built, builded. [ME. *bulden* (u), *bylden*, *bilden*:—OE. **byldan* to build (recorded only in pa. ppl. *gebyld*), f. *bald* a dwelling. Hence the two fundamental senses are 'to construct a dwelling' and 'to take up one's abode, dwell'. The normal modern spelling of the word would be *bild* (as it is actually pronounced); the origin of the spelling *bui-* (*buy-* in Caxton), and its retention to modern times, are difficult of explanation.

The OE. ppl. *gebyld* might be from a compound *ge-byldan*: but cf. the southern *byltan* (Gregory's *Past. Care* 153, l. 9-10), later *byltian* (see Bosw.-Toller), f. *būlpio* (whence *bold*, *bald*), which points to the antiquity of the vb. (Not to be confounded with OE. *byldan*, *gebyldan*, for *bieldan* to make bold: see BIELD.)

I. To erect a building.

1. *trans. Orig.* To construct for a dwelling; to erect (a house), make (a nest). Hence, To erect, construct (any work of masonry), and by extension, To construct by fitting together of separate parts; chiefly with reference to structures of considerable size, as a ship or boat, a carriage, an organ, a steam-engine (not, e.g. a watch or a piano). Const. of, more rarely from, out of, with (the material), on (the foundation). In early mod. Eng. used with up without change of meaning; but to build up (in literal sense) now implies a contrast with pulling down, or with a previous state of decay, as 'to build up again'. To build a fire: to arrange or pile the fuel. To build a railroad, said in U.S., is unknown in England.

[c 1150 *The Grave* in Thorpe *Analecta* 142 De was bold gebyld er þu iboren were.] c 1205 *LAV.* 2656 He wolde bulden twa burh. 1297 R. GLOUC. 439 At Wyndelsore...bat noble stede ys, þat he let bulde hym self. c 1400 MAUNDREY. 98 [He] destroyed it [Jerico] and cursed it, and alle hem that bylled it agen. 1430 *LYDC. Story of Thebes* dj in *Dom. Archit.* III. 47 A porche bylte of square stons. 1480 CAXTON *Descr. Brit.* 13 He bylde Canterbury. 1506 *Pilgr. Perf.* (W. de W. 1531) 138 b, Jerico, Hay, and Gaboon, whiche y^e pagans buylde. 1541 in *Turner Sel. Rec. Oxford* 164 Standynge now made and buyldyd or hereafter to be made and buyld for the said fayre. 1568 J. HEYWOOD *Prov. & Epigr.* (1867) 168 Roome was not byk on one day. 1601 CHESTER *Love's Mart.* cx. (1878) 27 At Mount Paladour he built his Tent. 1644 EVELYN *Mem.* (1857) I. 75 A castle builded on a very steep cliff. 1718 LADY M. W. MONTAGUE *Lett.* II. liii. 78 The houses are tolerably well built. 1794 S. WILLIAMS *Vermont* 138 When the Indian builded his house. 1861 FLORE. NIGHTINGALE *Nursing* 18 Your house must be so built as that the outer air shall find its way...to every corner of it.

b. *build up*.

c 1400 *Destr. Troy* 1535 Priam...byld vp a bygge towne of þe bare vrthe. 1490 CAXTON *Eneydos* lxx. 166 Af thys cyte ben many in doubt who buylde it vppe. 1611 BIBLE 2 *Chron.* xxxii. 5 Hezekiah built up the wall that was broken. *Mod.* It is far easier to pull down than to build up.

c. *build a fire, gun, nest, organ, railroad, ship.* 1567 *Triall Treat.* (1850) 9 Synce Noe's ship Was made, and builded. 1606 SHAKS. *Ant. & Cl.* iv. xii. 4 Swallowes haue built in Cleopatra's Sailles their nests. 1632 *Proc. Parliament* No. 122 1030 A Vessell...built at Swansey. 1709 G. WHITE *Selborne* xliii. (1853) 151 A pair of honey buzzards built them a nest. 1805 SOUTHEY *Madow in Ant.* iv. Fires are built before the tents. 1825 SHELLEY *Organ* 21 In 1576, an organ with...a back-choir was built at Bernan. a 1896 *Lower Building Ship* 94 Thus, said he, we will build this ship! 1866 *All Y. Round* No. 73. 545 The taste of the day is for guns that are built, not cast. 1893 *Harper's Mag.* Nov. 939/1, 550 miles of railroad had been built. 1894 *Ibid.* June 127/2 He often built his own fire.

2. *absol.* To erect a building or buildings; 'to play the architect' (J.). Of birds or other animals: To construct nests, etc. (Possibly the earliest instances may belong rather to sense 8.)

c 1205 *LAV.* 2671 Al...bigunnen...to bulden bi þan watere. c 1340 *Gaw. & Gr. Knt.* 509 Bryddes busken to bylde. 1386 WYCLIF *Esdra* iv. 3 Bilde wee vp with you. 1413 *LYDC. Pilgr. Soule* v. xiv. (1483) 108 Yf thou...arte a maister werker, coutheest thou bilde withouten mater. 1594 SHAKS. *Rich. III.* I. iii. 264 Our ayeerie buildeth in the Cedars top. 1664 GERBIER *Counsel* 104 All Owners...whether they build or not. 1722 DE FOE *Plague* (1884) 294 The Ground was let out to build on. 1848 L. HUNT *Jar Honey* iii. 33 Building as if they were to live for ever. 1890 TENNYSON *In Mem.* cxv, The happy birds, that change their sky To build and brood.

b. With certain advbs., build forms virtual compounds founded on this sense, but used trans. with the notion 'to affect in such or such ways by building'. To build up: to obstruct (a doorway,

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window, etc.) by building. *To build in*: to im-mure, enclose by building. *To build round*: to surround with buildings.

The advb. may either follow or precede the object.

1878 BROWNING *La Saisiaz* 6 Now built round by rock and boulder. *Mod.* When we first came here, the situation was very open, but we are now completely built in.

3. *transf.* To construct by a process or with a result analogous to that of the builder. Said, e. g., of the Creator, or of natural forces, as when a crystal, an organic body, or the world, is compared to an edifice. Often said in passive of the human body, as 'His frame was strongly built' (cf. BUILD sb.). *Const.* as in 1.

1898 SYLVESTER *Du Bartas* i. vi. (1641) 49/2 Beasts which thou This-Day didst build. 1899 BENTLEY *Phal* 54 Built as it were to make a good Boxer. 1843 J. A. SMITH *Pro-duct. Farming* 137 Hence the reason why fibres can be nourished and built up upon food comparatively poor in nitrogen. 1860 TYNDALL *Glac.* i. § 1. 2 An amethyst is a crystal built up from particles of silica. 1883 E. A. PARKYN *Syllabus Lect. Anim. & Pl. Life* 4 This power of building-up living from non-living matter is called Assimilation.

4. *fig.* With reference to immaterial objects: To construct, frame, raise, by gradual means (anything that is compared to an edifice, as a philosophical system, a literary work, a reputation, an empire). Often with *up*. In religious use, after N. T., *To build up* (the Church, an individual) = TO EDIFY (also *absol.*). *To build up* (any one's health, strength, etc.): to establish it by gradual means.

1840 Gesta Rom. (1879) 86 All þat is ayens conscience, beldith toward helle. 1866 TINDALE *Acts* xx. 32, I com-mende you to God and to the worde of his grace which is able to bylde further (1861 to build you vp). 1866 *Pilgr. Perf.* (W. de W. 1531) 36 That... they may meryte and byulde to theyr crowne in heuen. 1869 PUTTENHAM *Eng. Poets* ii. xiii. (1811) 109 Meesters... builded with polysyllables. 1893 MARLOWE *Mass. at Paris* iii. ii. Who will help to build re-ligion? 1837 MILTON *Lycidas* 11 He knew Himself to sing, and build the lofty rhyme. 1846 SIR T. BROWNE *Pseud. Ep.* i. v. 18 Build our selves Men againe. 1766 WODROW *Corr.* (1843) III. 269, I rejoice that the Lord is building up your family. 1814 WORDSW. *Excurs.* iv. 1254 So build we up the Being that we are. 1848 TENNYSON *Godiva* 79 She... built herself an everlasting name. 1860 FARRAR *Orig. Lang.* i. 7 Building systems before they had collected facts. 1866 STANLEY *Jew. Ch.* (1877) i. iii. 52 His fortunes were built up. 1881 N. T. (Rev.) 2 Cor. x. 8.

5. *lit. and fig.* To work up (material) into (a building); to join together so as to form a struc-ture. Also with *up*.

1388 WYCLIF *Gen.* ii. 22 The Lord God bildide the rib... in to a woman. 1884 *Manchester Exam.* 18 Sept. 4/6 He collects the spoils of many sessions... like a skilful archi-tect, builds them into a fair and seemly edifice.

6. *fig. a. trans.* To found (a statement, argu-ment, hope, or confidence, etc.) on a basis.

1568 MORE *Dial. Heresies* iv. Wks. 249/2 He taketh the same... for a ground therupon to byeld the distruction of that holy sacrament of penance. 1658 *Whole Duty Man* Sund. x. § 1. 79, I shall... build all the particular duties... on those two general ones. 1689 LOCKE *Govt.* i. ix. 87 Sovereignty built on 'property' comes to nothing. 1721 ADDISON *Spect.* No. 253 § 4 The Fame that is built on Candour and Ingenuity. 1761 J. MOORE *View Soc. A.* (1790) i. vii. 70 The independence of Venice was not built on usurpation. 1837 J. H. NEWMAN *Par. Sermon* (ed. 3) i. vi. 90 A Christian's faith and obedience is built on all this.

b. *absol.* To found one's confidence, establish an argument, etc. on; to rely confidently on a person or thing (*obs. or arch.*).

1573 G. HARVEY *Letter-bk.* (1884) 27, I... tould him I wuld bilde upon him. 1644 MASSINGER *Renegado* iv. iii. Heaven... will not suffer you to want a man To do that sacred office, build upon it. 1638 SWAN *Spec. M.* ii. § 3 (1643) 33, I find... little in Iosephus concerning this to build upon. 1674 *Tr. Machiavel's Prince* ix. (1883) 66 He that builds upon the people builds upon the sand. 1699 BENTLEY *Phal.* 238 One may build upon this piece of History, as a thing undeniable. 1741 RICHARDSON *Pamela* i. 144, I am deny'd... to go to Church, as I had built upon I might. 1799 *Med. & Phys. Jnrl.* II. 222 Whether or not that evidence is admissible to build upon. 1847 TENNYSON *Princ.* vii. 60 Not tho' he built upon the babe restored. 1876 E. MELLOR *Priesth.* vii. 323 The next passage upon which the Romanists and Ritualists build.

7. *quasi-passive* use of the pr. pple., as in the house is building, orig. the house is a building, where building was the vbl. sb., and a = on. See A *prep.* 12, and BUILDING.

1535 COVERDALE *Esra* v. 16 Sence that tyme hath it bene in buyldinge. *Ibid.* *John* ii. 20 Sixe and fourtye yeare was this temple abyldinge. 1665 J. GOODWIN *Filled w. the Spirit* (1867) 390 The wall that is a-building. 1841 CATLIN *N. Amer. Ind.* (1844) II. xvi. 95 A pretty little town, build-ing up. 1860 *Merc. Mar. Mag.* VII. 300 The... lighthouse is stated to be building. 1866 THORNBURY *Turner* i. 199 Five drawings of the abbey, then building.

II. [See the etymology.]

† 8. *intr.* To take up one's abode, to dwell. Also, To arise, form. *Obs.*

1340 *Gen. & Gr. Knt.* 25 Of alle that here bult of Bretaygne kynges Ay watz Arthur þe hendest. 1400 *Epiph.* (Turnb. 1843) 142 The holy goste will in the byldon. 1470 HARDING *Chron.* lxi. ii. Galerius had the este there into bylde [v. r. theryn hym to bylde]. 1599 GREENE *Alphons.* (1861) 241 A blister build upon that traitors tongue!

Build (bild), sb. Also 4 bylde, bulde, 5 bild. [f. BUILD v.; cf. BUILT sb.]

† 1. A building. *Obs.*

1325 E. E. Allit. P. A 796 On þe bylde. *Ibid.* 96a Bryng me to þat bygly bylde. 1387 TREVISIA *Hidden Rolls Ser.* II. 71 Buides... in þe manere of Rome [edificia Romano more]. 1394 P. Pl. *Crede* 157 Swich a bild bold, y-build opon erþe heiste Say I nougt in certeine sippe a longe tyme.

2. Building; style of construction, make: a. *lit.* of a ship, a carriage, etc. (rarely, if ever, of a house or other work of masonry).

1667 *Parrs Diary* (1879) IV. 253 The difference in the build of ships now and heretofore. 1668 *Ibid.* 30 Oct., He finds most infinite fault with it [my coach]. and so I do re-solve to have one of his build. 1848 DE QUINCY *Philos. Herodotus* Wks. IX. 207 The awkwardness of their build for fast sailing.

b. *transf. and fig.*

1833-48 H. COLERIDGE *North. Worthies* (1854) I. 1 Andrew Marvell a patriot of the old Roman build. 1839-47 TODD *Cycl. Anat. & Phys.* III. 523/5 The build of the fibres is... of no importance. 1853 KANE *Grinnell Exp.* xxii. (1856) 175 In build he [a bear] was very solid. 1876 GREEN *Short Hist.* ii. § 3 (1882) 67 The peasant... recalls the build and features of the small English farmer.

Builted, ppl. a. [f. BUILD v. + -ED¹] = BUILT ppl. a. Now *poet. or arch.*

1863 *Hyll Art Garden* (1593) 6 A builded inclosure. 1601 CHESTER *Love's Mart.* civ. (1878) 26 This famous builded Monument. 1807 HOOD *Hero & L.* iii. A builded gloom shot up into the grey.

Builder (bildər), [f. as prec. + -ER¹] One who builds; the erector of a building. Also *fig.*; see senses of BUILD v.

As the name of a trade, *builder* now denotes the master artisan, who receives his instructions from the architect, and employs the masons, carpenters, etc., by whom the manual work is performed.

1380 WYCLIF *Serm.* clviii. Sel. Wks. II. 66 þe stoon þat bileris reproveden. 1388 WYCLIF *Isa.* xlii. 17 Thi bilerdes camen. 1400 *Pallad. on Husb.* i. 351 The bylder eke to knowe is necessarie What gravel and what lyme is profit-able. 1571 ASCHAM *Scholem.* Pref. (Arb.) 21 As it chanceth to busie builders... the worke rose dailie higher and wider. 1596 SPENSER *F. Q.* i. 1. 8 The builder oake, sole king of forrests all. 1667 MILTON *P. L.* iii. 466 The builders... of Babel on the Plain of Sennar. 1805 HONE *Every-day Bk.* i. 274 He was the... builder-up of his own greatness. 1807 CARLYLE *in Rev. & Cont. Misc.* II. 121 Not a de-stroyer, but a builder up. 1821 LONGF. *Gold. Leg.* 162 The builders of Cathedrals.

Building (bild-ing), vbl. sb. Forms, see BUILD v. [f. as prec. + -ING¹]

1. The action of the verb BUILD, *lit. and fig.*

† b. Style of construction, build (e. g. of a ship). 1394 P. Pl. *Crede* 501 In beldinge of tombes þei trauaileþ. 1480 *Bury Wills* (1850) 65 To be... applied... to the build-ing, sustentation, and reparacion of the seid collage. 1590 WEBBE *Trav.* (Arb.) 33 The houses are of a very olde build-ing. 1604 HIERON *Wks.* I. 515 For the building vp of their soules in Christ Iesus. 1737 L. CLARKE *Hist. Bible* viii. (1740) 551 In a Castle of his own Building. 1805 HONE *Every-day Book* I. 1527 This carriage... had been three years in building. 1824 TUPPER *Proverb. Philos.* 37 Trifles... are levers in the building up of character.

2. That which is built; a structure, edifice: now a structure of the nature of a house built where it is to stand.

1507 R. GLOUCE. 271 And þer nas of olde house in þe lond non, þat he ne amendeþ mid som lond, oþer mid byldynge. 1340 *Cursor M.* 1774 þe byldynge fel boþe hege & lawe. 1430 *Syr Gomer.* 244 This belding we made here is for you. 1553 EDEN *Treat. New Ind.* (Arb.) 14 It... hath in it very fayre byldinges. 1611 BIBLE *Eccles.* x. 8 By much sloothfulness the building decayeth. 1794 WATTS *Logic* 110 A ship may be defined a large hollow building made to pass over the sea with sails. 1795 SOUTHEY *Joan of Arc.* vii. Your holy buildings and your houses. 1854 RUSKIN *Lect. Archit.* Add. 121 The essential thing in a building... is that it be strongly built, and fit for its uses.

† 3. A company (of rooks), a rookery. *Obs.* 1470 *Hors Shepe & G.* (1822) 30 A byldyn of rooks A clattering of chowhis. 1481 *Bk. St. Albans* fvi. b. A beldyn of Rookes. 1801 STRUTT *Sports & Past.* i. ii. 33. 1883 *Standard* 26 Sept. 5/1 Every one with any pretence to be gentle-folk spoke of... a building of rooks.]

4. *Attrib. and Comb.*, as building-estate, -ground, -place, -trade, -tree; also building-lease, a lease of land on which the lessee may build; building-rent (see quot.); building-society, a society in which the members periodically contribute to a fund out of which money may be lent to any of their number for the purpose of building (or purchasing) a house; building-term, the duration of a build-ing-lease.

1884 SIR J. C. MATHEW *Law Reports* 14 *Queen's B. Div.* 758 The land is part of a *building estate. 1858 LD. ST. LEONARDS *Handy Bk. Prop. Law* vii. 48 Abutting upon *building-ground belonging to the seller. *Ibid.* xvii. 114 Powers... to grant *building-leases. 1845 DARWIN *Voy. Nat.* vii. (1870) 138 To prefer the tall trees... for its *building-place. 1776 A. SMITH *W. N.* (1869) II. v. ii. 432 The *build-ing rent is the interest or profit of the capital expended in building the house. 1848 MILL *Pol. Econ.* v. iii. § 6 (1876) 501. 1866 LD. ST. LEONARDS *Vendors & Purch.* 377 The members of a *building society, whose land was vested in trustees for them. 1795 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 4158/4 They intend to Let to Farm a *Building Term in several Houses. 1607 NORDEN *Surv. Dial.* 210 The Oke, Elme and Ash... indeed are *building trees.

Building, ppl. a. [f. as prec. + -ING²] That builds. Also in *comb.* as Babel-building.

1797 DE FOE *Syst. Magic* i. i. (1840) 12 That foolish Babel-

building age. 1832 TENNYSON *May Queen* 61 The build-ing rook. 1843 CARLYLE *Past & Pr.* (1858) 184 Building beavers.

† **Buidress**. *Obs.* (or *nonce-wd.*) [f. BUILDER + -ESS.] A female builder.

1566 J. SANFORD *tr. Agrippa's Van. Artes* 12 b, Dido, the first buidresse of Carthage. 1650 FULLER *Pisgah* II. ix. § 8 Sherah... the greatest Buidress in the whole Bible. 1822 *Blackw. Mag.* XII. 657 Tragedianesses, sonnetteers, or other 'buidresses of the lofty rhyme'.

Bulle, *obs.* form of BOLL sb.¹

† **Built**, sb. *Obs.* [f. BUILD v.; mode of forma-tion uncertain; cf. *gilt*, f. *gild*; also BUILD sb. and BUILTH.]

1. Style of construction (of a ship, etc.), build. 1615 CHAPMAN *Odys.* xl. 146 A sail Of foreign built. 1658 *in Hist. Glasgow* (1881) 243 Excelling the model and usual build of townhalls. 1666 DRYDEN *Ann. Mirab.* ix. And as the built, so different is the fight. 1764 REID *Inquiry* vi. § 20 The sailor sees the burthen, the built, and the distance of a ship at sea. 1794 W. ROBERTS *Looker-on* III. 408 Friendship and love require... a peculiar build of mind.

2. Action of building.

1654 G. GODDARD in Burton *Diary* (1828) I. 88 note, A constant and continual build of ships.

Built (bilt), ppl. a. [f. BUILD v. q. v.]

1. Constructed, erected, etc.: see BUILD v. Also with advbs., as built-in, built-up.

1570 LEVINS *Manip.* 130 Bilt, adificatus. 1666 GERBIER *Princ.* 40 His built Banqueting House. 1809 *Nat. Philos.* I. *Optics* iii. 12 (Usef. Knowl. Ser.) Dr. Brewster has contrived a built-up lens. 1821 RUSKIN *Stones Ven.* I. viii. § 11 The built and tower-like shaft. 1860 *All Y. Round* No. 73-549 The Armstrong gun... is a built gun.

2. In *comb.*, as well-built, strongly built, said of a house, body, etc.; often of a ship, denoting the style, material, or place of construction, as frigate-built, wooden-built, Clyde-built.

1583 STANVHURST *Æneis* i. (Arb.) 17 A long buylt city theare stood, Carthago so named. 1621 FLETCHER *Wild-goose Ch.* They are ill-built... And weak i' the pasterns. 1663 *Act 15 Chas. II.* vii. § 6 English built shipping. 1706 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 4209/4 A well-built bay Stallion. *Ibid.* No. 4691/4 A high built Gold Watch and Case. 1769 FALCONER *Dict. Marine* (1789) H 4 A ship is said to be frigate-built, galley-built. 1860 *Merc. Mar. Mag.* VII. 245 She is wooden built. 1871 M. COLLINS *Mry. & Merch.* I. iv. 139 Several well-built girls aspired to fill the situation.

† **Builth**. *Obs. rare.* [f. BUILD v. after *tillth*, *spilth*.] The act of building, or its cost.

1805 W. TAYLOR in *Ann. Rev.* III. 263 The builth, wear, and tear of all this needless shipping.

Buine, var. of BUNE. *Obs.*

Buir, **Buird**, **Sc.** f. *boire* (BEAR v.) and BOARD.

Buirdly (būrdli), a. *Sc.* Also prob. bierdly, bierly, beerly, boordly. [prob. a modern perva-sion of the earlier Sc. *buirly*, goodly, stout, BURLY. Less prob. repr. OE. *gebyredlic* suitable, seemly, meet, f. *gebyrtian*, ONorthumb. *byra* to be per-tinent, become, be becoming, with sense 'comely'.

In the latter case, the mod. Sc. *buirdly* would have to be ex-plaind as altered from earlier *i. ie*, which is perhaps un-paralleled. (Mod. Sc. *buird*, (d, t) normally represents OE. *ð*, ME. *ð*, or Fr. *u*.) If = *buirly*, BURLY, we may suppose *buirdly* to be due to the ordinary popular association of the word with *buird*, BOARD, which is further seen in the anglicized form BOARDLY used by modern Scottish writers. *Buirdly*, *bierdly* are then regular *ne.* dial. forms of *buirly*, *buirdly*. 'Large and well-made' (Jam.); stately; stalwart; sturdy, stout, burly.

1300-1600 See *borli*, *burely*, *buirly*, *buirlie*, under BURLY. 1783 *Lady Jane* xix. in Child *Ballads* III. No. 62 (1885) 75/2 Rise up, rise up, my bierly bride. 1786 BURNS *Two Dogs* 85 Buirdly chiefs, an' clever hizzies. 1800 in R. JAMIESON *Pop. Ballads* (1806) II. 133 (JAM.) Out and spake the bierdly bride. 1807 R. TAMMAMILL *Poems* (1846) 60 Full-grown boordly chiefs like you. 1825 SCOTT *Guy M.* liii. Twelve buirdly sons and daughters.

Buirlie, *obs.* f. BURLY.

Buirn (e, variant of BERNE, *Obs.*, a warrior.

Buist, sb.¹ *Obs.* exc. *Sc.* Also 4 buiste, 5 buyste. [a variant of BUST², BOIST, box, etc.; the phonetic history is obscure.] A box, a casket = BOIST¹; a chest.

1393 GOWER *Conf.* II. 247 To open a buist she him badde. *Ibid.* III. 292 A strong poison... Within a buist. 1451 *Act Jas. II* (1597) § 33 Quhill the Wardane haue... put it [the money] in his buist. 1483 *Cath. Angl.* 49 Buyste [v. r. Bust], alabastrum. 1801 R. GILL *Tint Quey* in Chambers *Hum. Sc. Poems* 173 And frae the willow buist did scatter A tate o' meal upo' the water [note, Willow buist, a rustic basket, in which meal is usually held].

Buist (büst), sb.² *Sc.* Also bust, boost. [perhaps from BUIST sb.¹: Jamieson has 'tar-buist', the box in which the tar is kept with which sheep are marked.] A mark of ownership made with tar or paint upon sheep or cattle; also *fig.*

1808 SIBBALD *Scott. Poetry Gloss.* *Bust, Boost*, tar mark upon sheep, commonly the initials of the proprietor's name. 1807 RUCKELIE *Way-side Cott.* 112 (JAM.) I'll... catch them in a net or girm Till I find out the boost or birm. 1800 SCOTT *Monast.* xxiv. He is not of the brotherhood of Saint Mary's—at least he has not the buist of these black cattle.

† **Buist**, v. 1 *Sc.* *Obs.* [f. BUIST sb.¹] To put in a box, or as in a box; to box, shut up.

1600 MONTGOMERIE *Sonnet R. Hudson*, This barme and blaidry buists up all my bees.

Buist, *v.* *Sc. dial.* [f. *BUIST sb.*].
trans. 'To mark cattle or sheep with the proprietor's distinctive mark' (Jam.). Hence *buist-ing-iron*, -mark.

1809 HOGG *Sheph. Cal.* I. 39 Adamson... with the buisting-iron which he held in his hand struck a dog. 1833 JOHNSTON *Nat. Hist. E. Bord.* I. 94 The sheep around recall it by their 'beesting' mark. 1864 JEFFREY *Hist. Roxburghsh.* IV. viii. 261 Tar for buisting sheep.

Buisy, obs. form of *BUST*.

Buit, *buith*, obs. *Sc.* forms of *BOOTH*, *BOOT*.

Buiting, *Sc.* variant of *BOOTING vbl. sb.*, plunder. 1592 *Act. Jac. VI* (1597) § 50 Taking and detaining of prisoners, ransomes, buitings, rayings of taxes.

Buk(e), obs. *f.* *BOOK*, *BOUK*, *BUCK*.

†**Bukenade**. *Obs.* 'A dish in ancient cookery, receipts for which are given in MS. Sloane 1201 f. 22; *Form of Cury*, 17, 107, 109' (Halliwell). a 1425 *Anc. Cookery in Househ. Ord.* (1790) 429 *Bukenade* to Potage.

Bukeram, **Buket**(*t*), obs. *f.* *BUCKRAM*, *BUCKET*.
†**Bukkam**. *Obs. rare*—[*Cf.* *Du. bokking* red herring.] See *quat*.

1800 A. CARLYLE *Autobiog.* iv. (1860) 167 [We] supped on bukkam (Dutch red-herrings) and eggs.

Bukk, see *BUCK*.

Bukler, **Bukram**, obs. *f.* *BUCKLER*, *BUCKRAM*.

Buksheesh, -*shish*, variants of *BAKSHESH*.

†**Bukshi**, **bukshée** (*bv*kʃi). Also 7-8 *buxy*, 8 *buxie*, *buxey*, (*bakshi*, *baakshée*), 9 *buoktshy*, *buckshée*. [*a. Pers. (& Urdu)* *bakshī*,

giver, paymaster, *f.* *بخشیدن* *bakshīdān* to give: cf. *BAKSHESH*. (But see *Col. Yule's Hobson-Jobson*.) A high official in native Indian states, properly the Paymaster-General of the army, who often acted also as Commander-in-chief; in intercourse with the natives 'the word is still in the Anglo-Indian Army the recognised designation of a Paymaster' (Yule).

1615 SIR T. ROK in *Purchas* I. 541 (Y.) Hee... gave present order to the Buxy, to draw a Firma. 1753 HANWAY *Trav.* (1762) II. xiv. 350 *note*. The paymaster general of the empire, whom they call bukshee. 1756 *Lett. to Court Directors* 3 (Y.) Strictly adhering to his duty during the Buxy-ship of Messrs. Bellamy and Kempe... The abuses of the post of buxy. 1763 *Orme Hist. Indostan* I. 26 (Y.) The buxy or general of the army, at the head of a select body, closed the procession. 1769 BURKE *Sp. W. Hastings* Wks. XIV. 252 A present... had been offered to him by Cheyt Sing's buxy. 1804 WELLINGTON *Lett.* in *Gurw. Disp.* III. 133 The importance of his situation of bukshee of the Rajahs troops. 1828 BEVERIDGE *Hist. India* I. iii. x. 572 In his capacity of bukshee or paymaster-general. 1861 McMULLEN *Mem. on Dhar.* (Y.) Several of the witnesses... amongst these the Bukshi.

†**Bul**. *Obs.* Also *bulle*, *bull*. [*app. a. OF. boul, boule, bole* 'fraude, tromperie, astuce' (Godef.): cf. *BULL v.3*] †*Falsehood*.

a 1300 *Cursor M.* 21270, I sal you tel, wit-vten bul [*v. r. bule*]. *Ibid.* 26371 Sais crist to yppocrites... yee ar... al ful wit wickednes, tresun, and bull.

Bulam. *Pathol.* 'Name given by the natives on the African coast to yellow fever' (Mayne); *attrib.*, as *Bulam fever*. Hence *Bulamise* (*biu-lāmisē*), *v.* (*nonce-wd.*), to affect with yellow fever. 1832 *Blackw. Mag.* XXXI. 790 [The traveller] gets a *comp. de soleil*: finds his liver *Bulamised*.

Bulas, **Bulaster**, obs. *f.* *BULLACE*, *BULLESTER*.

Bulb (*bv*lb), *sb.* Also 7 *bulbe*. [*ad. Lat. bulb-us* a. *Gr.* *βῦλος* onion, bulbous root.]

†1. An onion. *Obs.*

1568 TURNER *Herbal* II. 62 The roote wⁱⁿ is whyte rounde and knoppy after the lyknes of a bulb. 1578 LYTE *Dodoens* v. lxxvii. 644 Lyke an Onyon or Bulbe. 1601 HOLLAND *Pliny* II. 329 Asses milke warme, or sodden together with bulbe roots. a 1712 King *Orpheus & E.* (Misc.) 394 Iesuit Bulbs ty'd up with Ropes.

2. *Bot.* The underground spheroidal portion of the stem of an onion, lily, or other plant of analogous mode of growth; formerly, and still in popular language, regarded as a kind of 'root', but by modern botanists defined either as 'a subterranean bud... sending off roots from below and a stem above', or as 'a very short stem, producing roots below, and leaves in the form of scales above'. Sometimes popularly applied to a solid tuber of similar external shape.

1664 EVELYN *Sylva* (1679) Advt., Bulbs, round or onion-shap'd roots. 1712 tr. *Pomet's Hist. Drugs* I. 100 Chuse such Roots or Bulbs, as are sound. 1794 MARTYN *Rous-seau's Bot.* i. 24 The roots are bulbs of some sort or other. 1828 CARPENTER *Veg. Phys.* § 119 Bulbs... are in reality underground stems in the state of buds. 1884 BOWER & SCOTT *De Bary's Phaner. & Ferns* 142 There lies... on the outer side of the... scales of the bulb, one prismatic crystal.

b. An axillary leaf-bud of bulbous form which detaches itself from the stem, becoming an independent plant, a bulbil.

1845 LINDLEY *Sch. Bot.* x. (1858) 162 When they [leaf-buds] disarticulate from the stem... they are called bulbs. 1864 HUXLEY *Lect. Wrkg. Men* 84 A little bulb or portion of the plant drops off, detaches itself and becomes capable of growing as a separate thing.

3. *transf. Anat.* A roundish dilatation of any cylindrical organ or structure in an animal body, e.g. *central bulb*, 'the bulbous extremity of a nerve-fibril in a corpuscle of Krause'; *olfactory bulb*, the anterior oval termination of the olfactory tract; *auditory bulb*, the membranous labyrinth and the cochlea together; *bulb of the hair*, the soft enlargement of the root end of the hair; *bulb of spinal marrow*, the medulla oblongata.

1715 *Phil. Trans.* XXIX. 327 The Bulb of the Pulmonary Vein... was extraordinarily dilated. 1758 J. S. Le Dran's *Obs. Surg.* (1771) 261 The End of the Bulb of the Urethra. 1823 J. THOMSON *Lect. Inflam.* 614 The small bulbs which surround the roots of the hair. 1870 ROLLESTON *Anim. Life* Introd. 46 The olfactory bulbs are absent.

4. A bulb-like dilatation of a glass tube. Also (rarely) a lump of metal of bulbous shape.

1800 VINCE *Hydrostat.* x. (1806) 95 A glass tube with a bulb at the bottom. 1831 BREWSTER *Optics* x. 89 The bulb of the thermometer. 1833 J. HOLLAND *Manuf. Metals* II. 302 The metal bulb, which is moved along the graduated line of the lever, to ascertain the weight. 1856 *Enquire within on Ev.* (1862) 278 Glass water bulbs... are sold by men in the London streets at one penny each. 1884 *Daily News* 3 Sept. 3/1 The tower is illuminated by two Edison incandescent electric light bulbs.

5. *Comb.*, as *bulb-like* adj.; also *bulb-iron*, *angle-iron* (*Mech.*), a bulbed iron or angle-iron used to strengthen joints or angles in the framework of ships; *bulb-scales* (see *quot.*); *bulb-tube*, a tube terminating in a bulb.

1809 SIR E. REED *Ship Build.* i. 10 To introduce separate straps for the 'bulb-irons. *Ibid.* viii. 138 A bulb angle-iron has been used for the deck beam. 1836-9 *Todd Cycl. Anat. & Phys.* II. 961/1 A soft 'bulb-like extremity. 1883 VINES *Sacks* Bot. 714 The 'bulb-scales of the Tulip. 1839-47 *Todd Cycl. Anat. & Phys.* III. 818/2 The contents of the bulb-tube are emptied into a small evaporating dish.

Bulb (*bv*lb), *v.* [*f. prec.*] *intr.* a. To swell into a bulb-like or rounded form. b. To form a bulb-shaped root.

1683 COTTON *Wood. Peak* (ed. 4) 11 Bulbing out in figure of a sphere. 1846 HANNAH in *Tral. R. Agric. Soc.* VII. 11. 589 The turnips did not bulb well. 1886 *Dagonet the Yester* ii. 73 How sweetly bulbeth out the figure of Psyche as she looks into the lamp.

Bulba'ceous, *a.* [*f. L. bulbaceus*, *f. bulbus*: see -*ACEOUS*.] = *BULBOUS*; producing bulbs.

1731 BAILEY II. *Bulbaceous*, full of little round heads in the root.

Bulbar (*bv*lbā), *a.* [*f. BULB sb. + -AR*]. Of or pertaining to a bulb; *esp.* to the bulb of the spinal cord.

1856 A. HAMILTON *Nerv. Dis.* 339 Bulbar Paralysis is one of middle age, and attacks men more often than women.

Bulbed (*bv*lbd), *pp. a.* [*f. BULB sb. or v. + -ED*]. a. Bulb-shaped. b. Having a bulb or bulbs.

1597 *Gerard Herbal* i. lxxiii. 102 These bulbed Flur de lues. 1611 COTGR., *Bulbe*, a bulbed, or onion, root... the bulbed roots of all Daffodils. 1836-9 *Todd Cycl. Anat. & Phys.* II. 961/2 They exhibit no bulbed extremity. 1854 J. SCOFFER in *Orre's Circ. Sc. Chem.* 111 The aperture... is fitted up with a bulbed glass and stem. 1856 W. ELLIS *Visits Madagasc.* xvi. 436 A large bulbed plant.

Bulbel, var. of *BULBIL*.

†**Bulberie**. *Obs. rare.* (See *quot.*)

a 1450 *Alphita* (Anecd. Oxon.) 22 Berberies sunt fructus cuiusdam arboris, angl. bulberies uel berberies.

Bulbiferous (*bv*lbifēros), *a.* [*ad. mod. L. bulbifer*, *f. bulb-us* *BULB sb. + -fer*, see -*FEROUS*.] Bulb-bearing; producing bulbs.

1807 G. GREGORY *Dict. Arts* I. 251/3 Cauline [bulbs]... in some species of onion... called bulbiferous... produced at the origin of the umbel of flowers. 1816 KIRBY & Sp. *Entomol.* (1843) I. 227 The bulbiferous egg that produced it. 1861 MISS PRATT *Flower. Pl.* V. 268 Bulbiferous Great Round-Garlic. 1870 HOOKER *Stud. Flora* 382 Head globose usually bulbiferous.

Bulbiform (*bv*lbifōrm), *a.* [*ad. mod. L. bulbiform-is*, see *BULB sb.* and -*FORM*.] Bulb-shaped. 1847-9 *Todd Cycl. Anat. & Phys.* IV. 449/1 The blood-vessels... form a rete around the bulbiform caeca. 1884 *Athenaeum* 20 Sept. 376/2 The comet, losing the bulbiform figure, assumed the appearance usual with these bodies.

Bulbil (*bv*lbil), *Also bulbel*. [*ad. mod. L. bulbillus* dim. of *bulb-us*.] a. A small bulb formed at the side of an old one. b. A small solid or scaly bud, which detaches itself from the stem, becoming an independent plant.

1831 MACGILLIVRAY tr. *Richard's Bot.* 110. 1848 FORBES *Brit. Medusae* 86 The buds... are thrown off like the bulbs of certain plants. 1863 OLIVER *Less. Bot.* (1873) 138 The axillary bulbils of *Bulbiferous Toothgrass*. 1884 J. E. TAYLOR *Sagacity & Mor. Plants* 190 Whenever excess of food-materials have been elaborated we get bulbils (or buds from the bulbs).

†**Bulbine**. *Obs.* Also 6 *bulbyne*. [*L. bulbine*, *Gr.* *βῦλινη*.] A bulbous plant mentioned by Pliny; applied by Turner to *Gagea lutea*.

1548 TURNER *Names of Herbes* (1881) 21 Bulbine called in Dutch hundes villich may be called in english dogges Leike. 1568 — *Herbal* i. Gva. Of bulbine or wyldie leeke. 1601 HOLLAND *Pliny* II. 32 An herb which the Greeks call bulbine, with a red bulbous root. 1611 COTGR., *Oignon sauneger*, Bulbine, wild Bulbus, Come Lecke.

†**Bulbitate**. *Obs. rare*—[*ad. L. bulbitare* (Festus), *f. Gr.* *βῦλβιτον* cow-dung.] 'To befith one's breech.' 1623 in COCKERAM.

Bulbless (*bv*lbless), *a.* [*f. BULB sb. + -LESS*.] Without a bulb or bulbous root.

1883 G. ALLEN *Col. Clont's Gard.* vii. 43 It is a bulbless annual.

Bulblet (*bv*lblet), [*f. BULB sb. + -LET*] = *BULBIL b.*

1848 GRAY *Struct. Bot.* iii. § 3 (1880) 63 Bulblets are small aerial buds... which arise in the axils of the leaves of several plants. 1870 BENTLEY *Bot.* 111 Called Aerial bulbs... or from their small size, bulbils or bulblets.

Bulbo, *comb. form* (used also in *mod. L.*) of *L. bulbos*, *BULB*, forming principally adjs. used in physiology; sometimes *spec.* of the bulb of the urethra, as in *bulbo-cavernous*, *membranous*, *rectal*, pertaining to the bulb of the urethra and to the 'cavernous bodies', the membrane, the rectum; sometimes as in *bulbo-medullary*, *urethral*, etc., pertaining to the bulb of the spinal marrow, of the urethra, etc.; also *bulbo-tuber* = *CORM*.

1836-9 *Todd Cycl. Anat. & Phys.* II. 836/1 The perineal artery... gives... a branch to the 'bulbo-cavernous. 1881 *Nature* XXV. 72 The grey substance of the 'bulbo-medullary nerve-centres. 1836 *Todd Cycl. Anat. & Phys.* I. 179/2 The 'bulbo-rectal hollow, will now become distinct. 1836 *Penny Cycl.* V. 252/1 *Bulbotuber*, a short, roundish, underground stem resembling a bulb. 1880 GRAY *Bot. Text-bk.* 400 'Bulbo-tuber: Synonym of *Corm*. 1839-48 *Todd Cycl. Anat. & Phys.* III. 928/2 This nerve (the 'bulbo-urethral of Cruveilhier).

Bulbonach, var. of *BOLBANAC*. *Obs.*

Bulbose (*bv*lbōs), *a.* [*ad. L. bulbos-us*, *f. bulbos*.] = *BULBOUS*. Also *comb. bulbose-rooted*.

1747 CATESBY in *Phil. Trans.* XLIV. 602 *Bulbose Roots*. — *Ibid.* This bulbous-rooted Plant.

Bulbous (*bv*lbōs), *a.* Also 6-7 *bulbus*. [*f. L. bulb-us* *BULB sb. + -OUS*, cf. *F. bulbeux*.]

1. Of, pertaining to, or of the nature of, a bulb.

1576 LYTE *Dodoens* liv. 215 The roote is white and bulbus. — 216 White bulbus violet. 1616 SURFL. & MARKL. *Country Farm* 210 A bulbous and whitish root, of a sharpe tast. 1719 LONDON & WISE *Compl. Gard.* ix. 298 The Bulbous Roots of Flowers must now be put into the Earth again. 1807 J. E. SMITH *Phys. Bot.* 113 Flethy roots, whether of a tuberous or bulbous nature, must... powerfully resist drought.

2. Having bulbous or bulb-like roots.

1576 LYTE *Dodoens* ii. xl. 128 *Bulbosus Iris*. We may call it Bulbus Ireos in English. 1610 FOLKINGHAM *Art of Survey* i. viii. 18 The little white bulbous Crow-toes. 1861 MISS PRATT *Flower. Pl.* III. 91 It has several rustic names as Glory-less, Bulbous Fumitory. 1879 WALLACE *Australas.* iii. 43 Lovely bulbous plants.

3. Bulb-shaped; swollen.

1763 T. HUTCHINS in *Phil. Trans.* LXXIII. 320 As much quicksilver... as... just filled the bulbous part of the cylinder. 1807 SOUTHEY *Esperilla's Lett.* (1814) II. 203 A... fellow, with a bottle belly and a bulbous nose. 1809 W. IRVING *Knickerb.* (1861) 50 The worthy in question was a burly, bulbous man. 1836 *Todd Cycl. Anat. & Phys.* I. 635/1 The cilia were bulbous at the root. 1866 CORNH. *Mag.* Dec. 760 The bulbous minarets of Garben's new Kursaal.

†4. In concentric layers, like coats of an onion.

1677 *Plot Oxfordsh.* 55 The Earth is here... I think I may say of a bulbous nature, several folds of divers colours.

5. *Comb.*, as *bulbous-rooted*; also *bulbous-headed*; *bulbous-shoed* (*humorous*).

1860 HAWTHORNE *Marb. Fawn* (1878) II. xxiv. 269 He looked at each... 'bulbous-headed monster. 1611 COTGR., *Satyrion*... 'Bulbus-rooted... hearbs. 1807 J. E. SMITH *Phys. Bot.* 41 Bulbous-rooted grasses. 1852 DICKENS *Black Ha.* I. i. 16 Blue-nosed... 'bulbous-shoed old benchers.

Bulbul (*bv*lbul), [*a. (through Pers.) Arab. بلبل* *bulbul*].

1. A bird: a species of the genus *Pycnonotus*, belonging to the Thrush family, much admired in the East for its song; hence sometimes called the 'nightingale' of the East.

1764 SIR W. JONES in *Memoirs* II. 37 (Y.) We... cease to wonder that the Bulbul, with a thousand tales, makes such a figure in Persian poetry. 1797 *Gentl. Mag.* LXVII. 11. 947 The fighting Bulbul, a kind of nightingale, said to be enamoured of the rose. 1830 TENNYSON *Recall. Arab. Nis.* 70 The living airs of middle night Died round the bulbul as he sung. 1871 DARWIN *Desc. Man* I. ii. xiii. The Bulbuls (*Pycnonotus hamorrhous*) which fight with great spirit. 1896 C. R. CONDER *Tent Wk. Pal.* II. 136 Among these thickets... the bulbuls, and hopping thrushes, were the only living things visible.

2. *transf.* A sweet singer; also *attrib.*

1848 THACKERAY *Van. Fair* lxii, You must belong to the Bulbul faction. 1865 *Land. Rev.* 30 Dec. 685/2 The Irish bulbul [T. Moore] records... how his oriental songs opened the west-end drawing-rooms.

Bulbule (*bv*lbūl), [*ad. L. bulbulus*, dim. of *bulbus* *BULB*.] A little bulb.

1836-61 HENSLOW in WEBSTER.

Bulbus, obs. *f.* of *BULBOUS*.

Bulby (*bv*lbi), *a.* [*f. BULB sb. + -Y*]. Characterised by bulbs.

1880 *Scribner's Mag.* Feb. 507 Bulby stalks of golden-rod.

†**Bulcard**. *dial.* A local name (Cornwall, etc.) of the smooth Blenny (*Pholis levis*).

1874 RAY *Fishes* 101 The Bulcard. 1753 CHAMBERS *Cycl. Suppl.*, *Bulcard*... a small sea-fish caught among the rocks on the Cornish and other shores.

†**Bulch**, *sb.* 1. *Obs.* [prob. a variant of *BULCH*: perh. influenced by *BUNCH*, *BOUCH*.] A hump or swelling. Cf. *BULGE sb.* 2

c 1300 *Body & Soul* in *Map's Poems* (Wright) 34 They 146-2

were ragged, roue, and tayled, with brode bulches [c. 1325 bunches] on here bak. 1600 DARRELL *True Narr.* 11 A foul ugly man with a white beard and a great Bulch on his brest. 1634 BRERETON *Trav.* (1844) I, Dromedaries are ugly creatures, bulches behind and before. 1747 HOOSON *Miner's Dict.* M ij, Ore, growing out on Knobs and Bulches.

† **Bulch**, sb. 2. *Obs. rare* -1. = BULCHIN. A term of endearment.

c. 1625 FORD *Witch Edm.* v. i, So that my bulch Shew but his swarth cheek to me, let earth cleave. I care not.

† **Bulch**, v. *Obs.* [prob. a variant of BULGE v. See BULCH sb. 1, also BOUGE v., BILGE v.]

1. *trans.* To stave in (a ship); = BULGE v. 1.

1583 STANVHURST *Æneis* l. (Arb.) 21 Where Ilionus was shipt. And what vessel Abas possesst. Were bulcht by bil-lows. 1586 J. HOOKER *Girald. Inst. in Holinshed* II. 94/2 He might. Bulch the ships if they durst anerre the coast.

2. *intr.* To swell out; = BULGE v. 3.

1611 COTGR., *Piece poictrouse*, a peece of coyne that rises, bulches, or beares out in the middle.

† **Bulchin**. *Obs. or dial.* Also 4 bulchyn, 6-8 bulching. [Variant of BULKIN; cf. BULCH sb. 2.]

1. A bull-calf.

1330 R. BRUNNE *Chron.* 174 For ten mark men sold a litille bulchyn. 1573 TUSSEY *Husb.* xxiii. 74 Lamb, bulchin, and pig, geld vnder the big. 1637 HEYWOOD *Yap. & 10 Wks.* 1874 VI. 272 Wouldst thou not haue some Bulchin from the herd? 1797 BRADLEY *Fam. Dict.* I, *Bulching*, a word used in some Counties for a Calf.

2. Used as a term of contempt or reproach.

1617 MIDDLETON & ROWLEY *Fair Quarr.* iv. iv, The bulchins will use the Irish captain with respect. 1638 FORD *Fancies* III. iii, Roguery, brokage and roguery, or call me bulchin.

3. Used as a term of endearment.

1633 SHIRLEY *Gamester* iv. i, How is't, Bulchins? Would you had been with us. 1690 E. E. *Dict. Cant. Crew, Bulchins*, a Chubbingly Boy or Lad. 1795 *New Cant. Dict.*

Bulck (e, *Bulcking*, *obs.* f. BULK, BULKIN.

Bulck (e, *obs.* f. BUILD v. and sb.

Bulderston (e, *obs.* form of BOULDER-STONE.

Bule, *obs.* form of BOIL sb., tumour, swelling;

Bul, *obs.*, falsehood; **BULL** sb. 1

Bule, *dial.* var. of BULLE, BOUL.

Bulge (bɔldʒ), sb. Also 7 bouldge, buldge.

[ME. *bulge*, a. OF. *boulge* (also *bouge*), or ad. L. *bulga* leathern knapsack, bag, of Gaulish origin.

Sense 2, in which there is a variant BULOH, may have been influenced by BOTCH sb. 1, BOUCH sb.; sense 3 seems to be a recent formation from the verb. Sense 4 = BILGE, still belongs to the Fr. *bouge*, but the history of its introduction into English is not known.]

† 1. A wallet or bag, *esp.* one made of hide; a skin-bottle, a pouch, a purse; = BOUGE sb. 1. *Obs.*

c. 1230 *Hali Meid.* 35 Pe bitte þat beored forð as a water bulge. 1623 FAVINE *Theat. Hon.* III. xiii. 523 The Crownes Reuenues. . . wherewith she would fill her owne Bouldges.

† 2. A hump. Cf. BULCH, BOTCH, BOUCH. *Obs.*

c. 1400 *Yvain & Gaw.* 260 A ful grete bulge opon his bak.

3. A bulging, an irregularly rounded protuberance.

1741 MONRO *Anatomy* 131 A large Tuberosity, or Bulge of the Bone appears. 1856 KANE *Arct. Exp.* xxix. 306 They have the characteristic bulge of the carbonate-of-lime stalactite. 1861 WRIGHT *Ess. Archæol.* I. iv. 50 A bulge in the wall. 1879 LE CONTE *Elem. Geol.* 240 A mountain-chain consists of a great plateau or bulge of the earth's surface.

4. The bottom of a ship's hull. (Now generally superseded by BILGE.)

1625 R. HAWKINS *Voy. S. Sea* (1847) 135 Shippes have bene put in danger. . . by a hole made in the bulge. 1669 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 2168/4 The Turkey Merchant was. . . driven ashore, where she stav'd in her Buldge. c. 1850 *Rudim. Navig.* (Weale) 101 *Bulge* or *Bilge*, that part of the ship which she bears on most when not afloat.

5. **Bulge-water**, -ways = BILGE-WATER, -WAYS.

1735 DESAGULIERS in *Phil. Trans.* XXXIX. 48 The Stench and foul Air from the Surface of the Bulge-Water. 1777 W. WRIGHT *ibid.* LXVII. 508 By some called the bulge-water tree. c. 1850 *Rudim. Navig.* (Weale) 116 The heel. . . is cleated on the bulgeways.

Bulge (bɔldʒ), v. Also 6 bouldge. [f. BULGE sb.; see the variants BILGE, BOUGE, BULCH vbs.]

† 1. *trans.* To stave in the bottom of a ship, cause her to spring a leak; = BILGE v. 1. *Obs.*

1563-7 FOXE *A. & M.* 281/1 In which fight. . . were three of the Genowais ships both bouldged and soonke. 1606 W. DE BRITAIN *Hum. Prud.* § 9. 46 Labouring to buoy up a sunk Ship of anothers, [he] bulged his own Vessel. 1782 in Nicolas *Disp. Nelson* (1846) VII. Add. iv, Fearing, from the great swell. . . it [the wreck] might bulge the ship. 1821 BYRON *To Murray* 7 Feb., Falconer's ship was bulged upon them.

b. *transf.*

1827 HONE *Every-day bk.* II. 1341 It was not a fair fall, as only one shoulder had bulged the ground.

† 2. *refl.* and *intr.* Of a ship: To suffer fracture in the bilge; to strike (on or against) so as to damage the bilge. *Obs.*

1581 J. BELL *Haddon's Answ. Osor.* 452 b, So doe they also in the same shyppe bulge themselves most of all. 1593 SIR A. PAKSTON in *Hakluyt's Voy.* III. 579 The rest bulged themselves. 1611 BEAUM. & FL. *Scornful Lady* III. i, Forc'd by a tyrant storm, our beaten bark Bulg'd under us. 1695 LUTTRELL *Brief Rel.* (1857) III. 508 The Henry. . . bulg'd

upon a rock, and lost all her cargo. 1774 GOLDSM. *Hist. Greece* I. 275 Their vessels. . . bulged furiously one against the other. 1796-7 COLERIDGE *Poems* (1862) 13 It bulged on a rock, and the waves rushed in fast. 1807 ROBINSON *Archæol. Græca* IV. xviii. 403 The ship received no damage by bulging against rocks.

b. *transf.*

1677 HALE *Prim. Orig. Man.* 348 If. . . Planetary Bodies should bulge and fall foul one upon the other.

II. Connected with BULGE sb. 2, 3, protuberance.

3. *intr.* To form a protuberance, to swell out; *esp.* in an irregular, clumsy, or faulty manner; e. g. as a wall of which the surface projects beyond the top and bottom.

1677 MOXON *Mech. Exerc.* (L.), The side of a wall. . . that bulges from its bottom or foundation, is said to batter. 1703 MAUNDRELL *Journ. Jerus.* (1721) Add. 10 The thin crust of Salt upon the surface bulged up. 1787 G. WHITE *Selborne* II. 6 An oak. . . bulged out into a large excrescence about the middle of the stem. 1833 I. TAYLOR *Fanat.* VI. 165 If the dyke of despotism had not bulged and gaped. 1868 LOCKYER *Heavens* (ed. 3) 211 The globe of Mars. . . bulges, like our Earth, at the equator.

4. *trans.* To make protuberant.

1855 SIR J. HERSCHEL in *Intell. Observ.* No. 46. 248 By bulging them upwards. 1856 *Morning Star* 22 July A purse bulged with Austrian florin notes.

Bulged (bɔldʒd), *pp.* a. Also 5 bolgit. [f. BULGE v. + -ED.]

1. Forced into a protuberance; swollen.

1436 *Pol. Poems* (1850) II. 155 They com. . . With bolgit schipis ful craftly. 1821 CLARE *Vill. Ministr.* I. 213 The crack'd wall, bulg'd and bow'd. 1872 RUSKIN *Engle's N.* § 86 The wood-carvers. . . adopted this bulged form.

† 2. Of a ship: With the bottom or sides stove in.

1628 BOLTON *Florus* (1630) 315 The huge Armada, bulged, and split in the fight. 1730-6 BAILEY, *Bulged* [spoken of a ship] when she has struck off some of her Timber upon a Rock. 1790 BEATSON *Nav. & Mil. Mem.* I. 276 As she was bulged he could not bring her off.

† **Bulget**. *Sc. Obs.* [a. OF. *boulgette*. Cf. BUDGET.] A pouch.

c. 1550 BALFOUR *Practicks* (1754) 235 (JAM.) Ane pair of bulgetis, ane barrow. 1556 in Keith *Hist.* 217 (JAM.) Cof-fenis, bulzettis, fardellis.

Bulginess (bɔldʒɪnɪs). [f. BULGY + -NESS.]

The quality of being bulgy.

1883 *Sat. Rev.* LV. 497 [Umbrellas] rolled up tight and not brought into use and bulginess.

Bulging (bɔldʒɪŋ), *vbl.* sb. [f. BULGE v.]

† 1. The staving in of the bottom or sides of a ship. *Obs.*

1611 COTGR., *Enfoncement*, a sinking, a bulging. 1648 HERRICK *Hesper.* I. 31 Nor wrack or bulging thou hast cause to feare. 1735 MAGENS *Insurances* II. 17 When a Ship. . . is in danger of bulging.

2. A becoming protuberant, swelling out.

1733 HOGARTH *Anal. Beauty* ix. 49 By their bulging too much in their curvature. 1847-9 TODD *Cycl. Anat. & Phys.* IV. 246/1 The appearance of bulging presented by the distended capsule. 1882 VINES *Sacks' Bot.* 393 Ramification takes place by the bulging out of lateral cells.

3. *concr.* A protuberance; a swelling.

1821 R. KNOX *Cloquet's Anat.* 425 This bulging is named the Additamentum pedum Hippocampi. 1854 WOODWARD *Mollusca* (1856) 152 Animal with. . . eyes on bulgings at the outer bases of the tentacles.

Bulging, *pp.* a. [f. BULGE v. + -ING.] That bulges or swells out; bending outward, projecting, protuberant, swelling; baggy.

1822 WOODHOUSE *Astron.* x. 80 The bulging equatorial parts of the terrestrial spheroid. 1851 KINGSLEY *Yeast* III. 45 He was dressed in a. . . fustian jacket. . . with bulging, greasy pockets. 1859 R. BURTON *Centr. Afr. in J. R. L. G. S.* XXXIX. 101 Irregular bulging lines of rolling hill.

Bulgy (bɔldʒi), a. [f. BULGE sb. + -Y.] Swollen, clumsily or unduly protuberant.

1848 DICKENS *Dombey* 290 A man with bulgy legs. 1859 SALA *Two round Clock* (1861) 61 Third-class umbrellas are dubious in colour. . . bulgy in the body. 1879 BROWNING *Martin Relf* 74 The bulgy nose and the blood-shot eyes.

|| **Bulim'ia**, mod.L. form of BULIMY, q.v.

Bulimic (biɒlɪmɪk), a. [f. prec. + -IC.] Symptomatic of bulimy; voracious.

So **Bulimious** (biɒlɪmiəs), a. [see -OUS], having a voracious appetite.

1854 BADHAM *Halient.* 130 The bulimic propensities of the callionymus. 1885 F. HALL in *N. Y. Nation* 4 June 466 The bulimious Doctor [Johnson] would not have transacted his feeding so porcinely and perspiringly.

Bulimong, variant of BULLIMONG.

|| **Bulimus** (biɒlɪmɪs). Pl. **bulimi**. [mod.

Lat., a. Gr. *Βουλίμιος*, occurring only as a sb. (see BULIMY), but perh. regarded as an adj. with sense 'having a voracious appetite'.] The scientific name of a genus of terrestrial gasteropods. Hence **Bulimiform** (biɒlɪmɪfɔrm), a.

1830 LYELL *Princ. Geol.* I. 384 Terrestrial shells, chiefly helices and spiral bulimi. 1854 WOODWARD *Mollusca* II. 105 *Achatina variegata*. . . shell imperforate, bulimiform. 1866 TATE *Brit. Mollusks* IV. 164 The animal is bulimic-like.

Bulimy (biɒlɪmi). Forms: 7 **boulimie**, 7-8 **boulimy**, (8) **boulomee**, 9 **bulimiy**, 7- **bulimy**.

See also etymology. [ad. Gr. *Βουλίμια*, f. *Βου-* intensive prefix (properly combining form of *Βούω* ox) + *λίμω* hunger; sometimes adopted as **boulimia**. The synonymous Gr. *Βουλίμιος* was adopted

in med.L. in the incorrect form *bolismus*, whence OF. *bolisme*, both used by Trevisa; and in 17th c. appears as *boulime* and as *boulimos*. The mod.Lat. form *bulimia* is now generally used in medical works, though *bulimus* also occurs.]

1. *Med.* 'A morbid hunger, chiefly occurring in idiots and maniacs. . . the so-called canine hunger' (*Syd. Soc. Lex.*).

1398 TREVISA *Barth. de P. R.* VII. xlv. (1495) 258 Bolismus is immoderate and vmesurable as it were an houndes appetyte. *Ibid.* xviii. xxvii. 786 Houndes haue contynual Bolisme, that is immoderat appetyte. 1598 SYLVESTER *Du Bartas* (1608) 210 One while the boulime, then the anorexia. . . rage with monstrous ryot. 1651 FULLER *Abel Rediv.* (1867) I. 222 He fell into a most devouring and unsatiable bulimy. 1662 LOVELL *Hist. Anim. & Min.* 365 The boulimos and dog like appetite. 1679 FLOR *Staffordsh.* (1686) 301 A strange Boulimy. . . seized one Brian Careaswell. . . who would know and eat both Linnen and Woollen. 1790 W. GIBSON *Dispens.* VI. III. (1734) 155 Continuing too long in them. . . may cause a Bulimy or Dog-appetite. 1795 R. BROOKS *Gen. Practice Physic* (ed. 3) II. 193 A Bulimus is a Disease wherein the Patient is affected with an insatiable and perpetual Desire of Eating. 1798 BECKFORD *Biog. Mem. Painters* 19 Hemmeline, who had long been troubled with a boulimos, or voracious appetite. 1880 BEALE *Slight Ailm.* 74 Boulimia. . . may be due to a very irritable state of the nerves of the stomach.

2. *fig.*

1654 FULLER *Comm. Ruth* (1868) 135 The boulimie of all-consuming Time. 1696 *Monthly Mercury* VII. 83 The French King has had. . . such a Bulimy after Money. 1705 HICKERINGILL *Priest-Cr.* II. iv. 44 There is enough left to glut. . . any that has not. . . an Ecclesiastick Boulimy. 1833 HOOD *Wks.* (1862) II. 440 Novel reading is to some constitutions a sort of literary bulimy, or unnatural appetite. 1834 SOUTHEY *Doctor* xvii, First cousins of the moth who labour under a bulimy for black-letter. 1853 H. ROGERS *Ecl. Faith* 144 One incessant bulimia for idolatry.

Bulis, *Sc. pl.* form of BOUL sb. *Obs.*

Bulk (bɔlk), sb. 1. Forms: 5 **bolck** (e, 5-7 **bulke**, 6 **buloke**, **boulke**, **bowlke**, (5-6, 9 **Sc. bowk**, see BOUK), 7 **bulck**, (boak), 6- **bulk**. [Of complicated etymology. The coincidence in meaning with ON. **bulki*, Icel. *bulki* 'heap, cargo of a ship' (Vigf.), Da. *bulk* lump, clod (cf. mod.Icel. *bulka-st* to be bulky), suggests that the word, though not recorded before 15th c., may (in the senses 'heap', 'cargo') be of Scandinavian origin. Within a few years of its first appearance, *bulk* occurs in the senses 'belly, trunk of the body', due app. to confusion with BOUK, which word it has entirely superseded in literary English. (Cf. however, the Flemish *bulck* 'thorax' in Kilian.) The sense of 'size' (branch III) seems to have been evolved chiefly from the notion of 'body', though it may be partly due to that of 'heap' or 'cargo'. The form *boak*, used by N. Fairfax 1674 indiscriminately with *bulk* in the sense of 'magnitude', is apparently:—ME. *bolck*.]

I. Heap, cargo.

† 1. A heap; *spec.* the pile in which fish are laid for salting. *Obs. exc.* in phrase *in bulk* (see c).

c. 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 43 Bolke, or hepe, *cumulus*. 1602 CAREW *Cornwall* 33 a, Pilchards are first salted & piled vp. . . until the superfluous moisture of the blood & salt be soaked from them: which accomplished, they rip the bulk & saue the residue of the salt. 1795 DE FOE *Voy. round World* (1840) 297 All the gold they found. . . should be put together in a bulk every night.

b. The cargo of a ship; a cargo as a whole; the whole lot (of a commodity). Phrase, *To break bulk* (see BREAK v. 43).

1755 in *Hist. Glasgow* (1881) 117 Breking bowk [of a cargo]. 1866 SIR R. BOYLE in *Lismore Papers* (1886) II. 190 To keep them from breaking Bulk, and from selling their goods at an undervalue. 1796 T. PAINE *Com. Sense* (1791) 58 The premiums to be in proportion to the loss of bulk to the merchants. 1884 *Harper's Mag.* June 51/4 Until this is done the bulk of his cargo can not be broken. *Mod.* The bulk is not equal to sample.

c. *In bulk* (of fish, etc.): lying loose in heaps, without package. *To load* (a ship) *in bulk*: to put the cargo in loose, when it consists of wheat, salt, or the like. *To sell in bulk*: to sell the cargo as it is in the hold; to sell in large quantities.

1797 DE FOE *Eng. Tradem.* xx. (1841) I. 195 There was an old office erected in the city of London for searching & viewing all the goods which were sold in bulk. 1760 FALCONER *Dict. Marine* (1780) 3, She is to be laden in bulk; as with corn, salt, etc. 1848 C. JOHNS *Wk. at Lisard* 53 This process is continued until the pile is several feet high. The fish are now said to be 'in bulk'. 1866 ROGERS *Agric. & Prices* I. xxiv. 619 Wine. . . sold either in bulk or by retail.

II. Senses belonging to BOUK.

† 2. = BOUK 1, 2. The belly; also the trunk, the body generally. *Obs.*

c. 1460 J. RUSSELL *Bk. Nurture in Babes Bk.* (1868) 145 Pen ley bulke, chyne, & sides, to gedire. 1533 ELVOT *Cast. Helth* (1541) 89 The boulike, called in latyn thorax, which conteyneth the brest, the sides, the stomake, and entrayles. 1570 LEVINS *Manip.* 187 *Y^e Bulke, thorax*. 1575 TURBERV. *Bk. Venerie* 215 They kill and smother them, or breake their bulkes with the force. 1594 SHAKS. *Lucr.* 467 His hand. . . May feele her heart. . . Beating her bulke. 1632 HEYWOOD *Iron Age* II. III. I. Wks. 1874 III. 392 My sword through Priams bulke shall flie. 1697 DRYDEN *Virg. Georg.*

m. 78a His Bulk too weighty for his Thighs is grown. 1718 PORE *Ulad* xi. 458 His arm and knee his sinking bulk sustain.

† b. A dead body, carcase. Obs.

1575 TURBURY *Bk. Veneris* 175 Lette the huntman take out of his wallet . . . small morsels, and put them into the Bulk of the hare. 1612 HEYWOOD *Apol. Actors* (1841) 20 See a Hector . . . trampling upon the bulks of Kings. 1637 RUTHERFORD *Let.* No. 141 (1862) I. 336 Christ shall . . . mow down His enemies & lay bulks . . . on the green.

c. With some notion of 4: A body of great proportions, a huge frame (chiefly with adj. implying large size); also fig.

1587 GREENE *Poems* (1861) 285 Trees Whose stately bulks do fame th' Arabian groves. 1606 SHAKS. *Tr. & Cr.* iv. iv. 130 Though the great bulke Achilles be thy guard. 1604 HEYWOOD *Captives* ii. ii. in *Bullen O. Pl. IV*, That grand master Of meachall lusts, that bulke of brothelree. 1718 PORE *Ulad* xvii. 837 Behold the bulk of Ajax stands, And breaks the torrent of the rushing bands. 1821 SHELLEY *Adonais* i. He had adorned and hid the coming bulk of death. 1890 TENNYSON *In Mem.* lxx. 11 Dark bulks that tumble half alive.

† 3. *transf.* a. The hull or hold of a ship; cf. Ger. *bauch*. b. = BULK 2 b; † the main body or nave of a church; cf. BODY 8 a. (Possibly the sense may be 'crypt', cf. It. *buca*, Tommaso's Dict.). c. The part of a vehicle fitted to receive the load; cf. BODY 8 b, BUCK sb. 3.

c. 1490 LONELICH *Grail* xxviii. 189 Thanne to be bowk of pe schippe gan he gon. 1528 *Will of Selwode* (Somerset Ho.), Bowke of the same church. 1546 STRYKE *Eccle. Mem.* II. App. A. 9 And so was it [the corpse] reverently settled in the bulk of the chariot. 1611 COCHR. *Vaisseau d'un navire*, the bulke, belle, or bodie of a ship. 1652 NEEDHAM *tr. Selden's Mare Cl.* 101 The rest of the bulk of their Vessels . . . was cover'd with Hides. 1678 *Lond. Gas.* No. 1269/3 Her Bulke is still kept entire.

III. Size: cf. 1 and 2 c.

4. Magnitude in three dimensions; volume.

c. 1449 PROCKE *Repr.* v. xv. 565 To make this book . . . any ouer greet bulk. 1674 N. FAIRFAX *Bulk & Setv.* To Rdr., To another thing that was earlier and Bulkier, and to somewhat still that was more betimes and more of Bulk. 1776 BUTLER *Anal.* i. i. 27 What is the certain bulk of the living being each man calls himself. 1792 SOUTHEY *Vit. Maid Orleans* 291 Below, the vault dilates its ample bulk. 1846 SCOTT *Antiq.* xxv. 'I hope it's bowk enough to haud a' gear'. 1865 McCULLOCH *Pol. Econ.* ii. ii. 147 They [gold and silver] possess great value in small bulk. 1878 HUXLEY *Physiogr.* 57 Sea water is denser or heavier, bulk for bulk, than fresh water.

b. *esp.* Great or considerable volume. Also fig. 1606 BACON *Sylva* § 771 Rather thin and small than of Bulk. 1669 PENN *No Cross* xi. § 3 Wks. 1726 I. 332 'Tis Vanity . . . for a man of Bulk and Character, to despise another of Less Size in the World. 1798 FERRIER *Illustr. Sterne* iii. 58 The bulk of his materials generally overwhelms him. 1855 MACAULAY *Hist. Eng.* III. 457 The facility and assiduity with which he wrote are proved by the bulk . . . of his works.

5. A mass; the collective mass of any object. Often *esp.* a large mass.

1641 J. JACKSON *True Evang.* T. iii. 203 The last Use of redargution did not lie . . . against the whole bulk of Popery. 1698-9 COL. BRISCOE in *Burton's Diary* (1828) IV. 204, I was as much against confirming the laws in a bulk as any man. 1668 USSHER *Ann.* vi. 153 Locking their ships close together, and making one bulke of them. a. 1718 PENN *Tracts in Wks.* (1726) I. 815 Those who distinguish the Tree in the Bulk, cannot with the like Ease discern every Branch. 1842 TENNYSON *Edw. Morris* 11 A Tudor-chimney bulk Of mellow brickwork. 1853 KANE *Grinnell Exp.* xxx. (1856) 260 A similar bulk of lamp oil, denuded of the staves, stood [frozen] like a yellow sandstone roller.

6. Greater part, or, in relation to number, the majority; the main body. (Sc. *bouk*; cf. BODY 9.)

1668 GERBIER *Princ.* 37 As for the main bulk of Palaces, its true sense have a greatness in plainness. 1721 ADDISON *Spect.* No. 124 P. 3 Prints . . . calculated to diffuse good sense through the Bulk of a People. 1792 HUME *Pol. Disc.* i. 4 The bulk of every state may be divided into husbandmen and manufacturers. 1837 HT. MARTINEAU *Soc. Amer.* III. 179 The bulk of the Presbyterian clergy are as fierce as the slave-holders against the abolitionists. 1866 BRIGHT *Sp. Incl.* 30 Oct. (1876) 188 The bulk of his land has only been about half cultivated.

Bulk (bolk), sb. 2 [Not recorded before late 16th c. Etymology doubtful: Prof. Skeat suggests ON. *balk-r*, *bplk-r* beam (= BALK), which might perhaps give ME. **bolk*, and mod. Eng. *bulk*; there is also an OE. *bolca* 'gangway of a ship', supposed to be a parallel form to *bealca*, BALK, Cf. 'Bulkar' . . . a Beam or Rafter, Lincolnsh. (Bailey.)]

A framework projecting from the front of a shop; a stall.

1586 *Praise of Musike* 44 The tailor on his bulk, the shomaker at his last. 1607 SHAKS. *Cor.* ii. i. 226 Stalls, Bulkes, Windows, Are smother'd vp. 1680 *Vind. Conform. Clergy* (ed. 2) 50 Leave him under a Bulk whetting his crooked Knife. 1771 SMOLLETT *Humph. Cl.* (1815) 156 During the heats of summer, he commonly took his repose upon a bulk. 1875 HAMERTON *Intell.* Life xi. ii. 406 A cobbler in his bulk was out-and-out his master.

† **Bulk**, sb. 3 Obs. *slang.* [cf. BULKER.] (See quotes.)

1673 R. HEAD *Canting Acad.* 35 *Bulk and File*. The one jostles you whilst the other picks your pocket. 1721 BAILEY. 1725 *New Cant. Dict.*, *Bulk*, an Assistant to a File or Pickpocket, who jostles a Person up against the Wall, while the other picks his Pocket.

Bulk (bolk), v. 1 [f. BULK sb. 1, giving a number of unconnected or loosely connected senses.]

1. *intr.* To be of bulk; to present an appearance of size; to be of weight or importance. *lit.* and *fig.*

1672 W. CARSTARES in *Story Life* 27 Other things would be so far from bulking in our eyes that they would vanish and disappear. 1725 WODROW *Corr.* (1843) III. 211 Your loss . . . bulks not with me in comparison of that of the public. 1822 CARLYLE in *Fraser's Mag.* V. 384 Any one of whom bulked much larger in the world's eye than Johnson ever did. 1859 G. WILSON *E. Forbes* iv. 91 For us . . . of this generation, the years between 1831 and 1855 must bulk large.

2. To bulk (up): to swell up, rise in bulk or mass.

1551 RECORDE *Pathw. Knowl.* i. Def., The middle partes nother bulke vp, nother shrink down more then the bothe endes. 1601 BP. BARLOW *Defence* 116 That come hath bulkt into a stemme, and branched out into armes. I neuer heard or read. 1893 J. PARKER in *Homel. Month.* Oct. 18 A few coins . . . shall bulk up into quite a surprising offering.

† 3. *trans.* To bulk out: to swell out, stuff out.

(In quot. 1553 the word may be = BULK, belch.)

1540 HYRDE *Vives Instr. Chr. Wom.* (1592) F vi, One of Sathans officers, that usest . . . so many chosen meats at the ful, bulking out Capons. 1553 BRENDE *Q. Curtius* R. iij, Which violence of toung and rashenes of wordes, bulked out . . . was nothing elles but a declaration and token of his trayterous haste. a. 1641 BP. MOUNTAGU *Acts & Mon.* (1642) 457 The most ancient Churches . . . were . . . like some kinde of ships . . . bulked out upon both sides in the midst.

4. To pile in heaps, as fish for salting. Cf. BULK sb. 1.

1822 G. WOODLEY *Scilly Isl.* i. vi. 154 Pilchards are said to be bulked, when they are piled up in layers, on the pavement of the cellars. 1881 *Scotsman* 12 Apr. 3/1 Sometimes when seals are found in great abundance, they are 'bulk'd'.

5. *Comm.* To ascertain the bulk of.

1883 *Times* 24 Mar. 6 Indian teas are 'bulk'd' by Her Majesty's Customs—that is to say, each chest is opened and emptied, in order to ascertain the exact weight of the tea and of the package. *Ibid.* The Customs are not to blame for the bulkling of Indian tea.

† **Bulk**, v. 2 Obs. Also 4 bulk. [Origin unknown.] *intr.* † To beat.

a. 1300 CURSOR *M.* 1851 A-pon þair breistes can þai bulk [Fairf. gon they bulk].

Bulk (e, var. of BULK Obs., to belch.

Bulked (bolk), ppl. a. Also 5 (y)bulk'd. [f. BULK sb. 1 + -ED.] Having bulk, bulky; esp. in comb. *big-bulked*.

c. 1420 *Pallad.* on *Hus.* iv. 891 A stalon asse ybulk'd, brawny. 1583 STANHYURST *Deccr. Liparen.* *Ensis* (Arb.) 137 In this cause the rakehels yrne bars, bigge bulk'd, ar hamring. 1623 LITTLE *Elfric on O. & N. T.* Ded. xviii, How this bulk'd word unto thee bowes. a. 1843 SOUTHEY *Comm.-pl. Bk.* Ser. II. 325 Big bulk'd volumes of physic.

† **Bulker** 1. Obs. *slang.* [Perh. f. BULK sb. 2 + -ER, with the meaning 'one who sleeps on a bulk', 'one who steals from a bulk'; cf. JOHNSON *Savage Wks.* (1787) III. 325 'On a bulk, in a cellar, or in a glass-house, among thieves and beggars, was to be found the Author of *The Wanderer*']. A low-lived person; a petty thief; a street-walker, prostitute. Also = BULK sb. 3.

1673 R. HEAD *Canting Acad.* 99 The Bulker jostles them up, and the File doth the work. 1678 *Four for Penny* in *Harl. Misc.* IV. 147 (D.) He is . . . the common sinder of all bulkers and shop lifts in the town. 1690 B. E. *Dict. Cant. Crew.* *Bulker*, one that lodges all Night on Shop-windows and Bulkheads. 1690 SHADWELL *Am. Bigot* iii. 265 Her mother sells fish, and she is little better than a bulker. a. 1705 T. BROWN in J. ASHTON *Soc. Life in Q. Anne's Reign* 83 In comparison of whom the common Bulkers, and Pickpockets, are a very honest Society. 1790 BAILEY, *Bulker*, one that would lie down on a Bulk to any one; a common Jilt; a whore.

Bulker 2 (bolkar). [f. BULK v. (sense 6) + -ER.] (See quot.)

1867 SMYTH *Sailor's Word-bk.*, *Bulker*, a person employed to measure goods, and ascertain the amount of freight with which they are chargeable.

Bulkhead (bolkhed). Also 7 bulkehead. [App. f. BULK sb. 2 (or its etymon) + HEAD; 1 and 2 may however be f. BULK sb. 1 in some sense.]

1. One of the upright partitions serving to form the cabins in a ship or to divide the hold into distinct water-tight compartments, for safety in case of collision or other damage. *Collision bulkhead*: the foremost bulkhead in a vessel.

1626 CAPT. SMITH *Acid. Yng. Seamen* 11 A quarter decke, the bulke, the bulkehead. 1691 T. HALE *Acc. New Invent.* 120 The Hull . . . shall be subdivided by other Decks and Bulk-heads. 1803 NELSON in *Nicolas Disp.* VI. 354 Ever since we have been prepared for Battle: not a Bulk-head up in the Fleet. 1884 *Pall Mall G.* 25 Aug. 8/2 She had a collision bulkhead and a bulkhead fore and aft.

b. *transf.*

1880 HUXLEY *Cray-Fish* iv. 157 The curious pillars and bulkheads which enter into the composition of the Endophragmal system.

2. *Mining.* (See quot.)

1881 RAYMOND *Mining Gloss.*, *Bulkhead*, 1. A tight partition or stopping in a mine for protection against water, fire, gas. 2. The end of a flume, whence water is carried in iron pipes to hydraulic workings.

3. The roof of a bulk or projecting stall; also the stall itself. Cf. BULK sb. 2.

1722 DE FOX *Col. Jack* (1840) 59 Resting his hand . . . upon the bulkhead of a ship. 1893 SCOTT *Peveril* III. xii. 213 Suddenly placing him on the bulk-head, that is to say, the

flat wooden roof of the cutler's projecting booth. 1837 DICKENS *Pickw.* xx, A small bulk-head beneath the taproom window, in size and shape not unlike a sedan-chair, being underlet to a mender of shoes. 1865 THOREAU *Cape Cod* v. 73 An old woman came out and fastened the door of her bulkhead.

Hence **Bulkhead** ppl. a., furnished with bulkheads; partitioned off by bulkheads.

1814 *Ann. Reg.* 79/2 The vessel was bulk-headed up fore and aft. 1826 KANE *Arct. Expl.* II. 311 A single apartment was bulkheaded off amidships as a dormitory. 1884 *Pall Mall G.* 29 Oct. 2/1 The armed and bulkheaded merchant steamer giving a good account of the French man-of-war . . . is an enticing picture, and has been much petted and cackled about in some quarters.

Bulkily (bolkili), adv. [f. BULKY a. + -LY 2.] In a bulky manner.

1886 STEVENSON *Pr. Otto* II. xiv, He grovelled bulkily upon the floor.

† **Bulkin**. Obs. [app. f. BULL sb. 1 + -KIN; perh. after Du. or LG. Sense b. (= BULCH 2, BULCHIN 2) may be a distinct word, cf. MDu. *boelchijn*, darling (Verwijs and Verdam); also BULLY sb. The form of the variants *Bulch*, *Bulchin* may possibly be due to the pronunciation of the Du. suffix indicated by its later spelling -tje/n. No other instance is known in Eng. of -chin as a variant of -KIN.] a. A bull calf; a young bull. b. Used as a term of endearment.

1583 STANHYURST *Ensis* I. (Arb.) 39 My sweete choise bulking, my force and my power only. 1601 HOLLAND *Pliny* xxviii. xii, A young white bulkin or steere. 1616 SURFL. & MARKH. *Country Farm* 31 Bore-Pigs, Rammes, Bull-Calves, or Bulkins.

Bulkiness (bolkiness). [f. BULKY + -NESS.] The quality of being bulky; largeness of volume. Used by Fairfax for 'extension'.

1674 N. FAIRFAX *Bulk & Setv.* 29 A thing being cleave some, not from its bulkiness, but inward emptiness mingled. 1691 LOCKE *Money Wks.* 1727 II. 24 Wheat . . . cannot serve instead of money; because of its Bulkiness. 1740 GRAY *Let. in Poems* (1775) 100 The Gothic character and bulkiness of those volumes. 1848 MILL *Pol. Econ.* III. xix. § 2 (1876) 368 The expense of transport . . . is much affected by the bulkiness of the goods.

Bulking (bolkij), vbl. sb. [f. BULK v. 1 + -ING 1.]

1. The action or process of laying in heaps, or piling without package: also *attrib.* Cf. BULK v. 1 5. 1602 CAREW *Cornwall* 33 a, Pilchards . . . are first salted & piled vp . . . in square heapes . . . which they terme Bulking. 1881 *Scotsman* 12 Apr. 3/1 Complaints . . . made by those interested in the seal fishery against the bulking system.

† 2. = BULGING, swelling out. Cf. BULK v. 1 3.

1599 MINSHEU *Sp. Dict.* (1623), *Turma de tierra*. [The root] is found out by the bulking out of the earth.

† **Bulking**, ppl. a. Obs. *rare* 1. [cf. BULKER 1.] Sleeping out on bulks; street-walking.

1676 D'URFEY *Mad. Fiddle* v. i, Now will this damm'd bulking Quean be too witty for me.

† **Bulky**, a. Obs. *rare* 1. [f. BULK sb. 1 + -ISH 1.] Of considerable bulk, big.

c. 1660 *Hist. Europe* 434 in *Burton's Diary* (1828) III. 547 He was a knight of the new order already, & grown very bulky & considerable.

† **Bulksome**, a. Obs. *rare*. [f. BULK sb. 1 + -SOME; cf. BOURSOME.] Occupying space, bulky. Hence † **Bulksomeness**, magnitude, extension; BULKINESS b.

1674 N. FAIRFAX *Bulk & Setv.* 56 An Immensity, or a being boundless in its bulksomeness. 1708 M. BRUCE *Lect. & Serms.* 33 (JAM.) Where Christ grows ay bulksomer in the bosom.

Bulky (bolkli), sb. *slang.* A policeman.

1827 LYTTON *Pelham* lxxix, The bugaboos and bulkies.

1841 — *Nt. & Morn.* v. ii, Inquiries about your respectability would soon bring the bulkies about me.

Bulky (bolkli), a. Also 7 boaky, bulkey, -le. [f. BULK sb. 1 + -Y 1.]

1. Of large bulk, voluminous; occupying much space (*esp.* with a notion of excess).

1687 T. BROWN *Saints in Upr.* Wks. 1730 I. 73 Will bang half a dozen such bulky fellows. 1774 JOHNSON in *Boswell* (1831) III. 115 If anything is too bulky for the post, let me have it by the carrier. 1879 GLADSTONE *Glean.* II. v. 213 This is a large but not a bulky biography. For the word *bulky* insinuates the idea of size in excess of pith and meaning.

† 2. Having extension, occupying space. Obs.

1674 N. FAIRFAX *Bulk & Setv.* 84 Suppose a being that is bulkie, and nothing about it that is so, or two beings that are bulky and nothing between them that is so. *Ibid.* 138 Body being a . . . boaky unthoroughfaresom thing.

† 3. † Pompous, 'big', self-important. Obs.

1672 MARVELL *Rel. Transp.* i. 7 A bulky Dutchman diverted it quite from its first Institution. 1673 *Ibid.* II. (1674) 245 One of your bulkie Princes, who had the Trumpet ready to sound whensoever he hit the Ball at Tennis.

Bull (bul), sb. 1 Forms: 3-4 bule, (3-4 pl. bulles, 4-5 -is), 5 bulle, 6-7 bul, 6- bull; also 3-5 bole, 4 bol, 4-5 boole, (5 bolle), (8 Sc. dial. bill). [ME. *bole* (*boole*), app. a. ON. *bole*, *boli*; cf. MLG. *bulle* (whence mod.G.). MDu. *bulle* (*bolle*), Du. *bul*, *bol*. There may have been an OE. **bullā*, whence the deriv. *bulluc* 'bullock', as the source of the ME. *bulle*, *bulle*, and the modern *bull*, which do not fit phonetically the *bole* forms. Outside Teutonic, cf. Lithuanian *bullus*.

Prob. from a verb-stem found in some German dialects, as *bullen*, *bullen* to roar, perh. related by ablaut to *bellen*: see *BELL* v. 4.]

I. Of animals.

1. The male of any bovine animal; most commonly applied to the male of the domestic species (*Bos Taurus*); also of the buffalo, etc.

c 1200 *ORMIN* 990 *Pejre lac* was *bule*, & *lamb*, & *buckess* *twa togedre*. c 1300 *Cursor M.* 10395 *Pe bulles* [v. r. *bolys*] *tuehe he offrid sua*. c 1345 *E. E. Allit.* P. B. 1682 *A best* *bat he be*, a *bol* *ofer an oxe*. c 1380 *Wyclif Serm.* II. *Sel.* *Wks.* I. 150 *A bole* *bat shal be kild goip in corn at his wille*. 1413 *Lydg. Pilgr. Soule* v. xi. (1483) 102 *The cruell horned boole*. 1474 *Caxton Chesse* 112 *A grete bole* *is suffisid with right a litil pasture*. c 1500 *SKELTON Image Hypocr.* IV. 114 *As gredy as a gull and ranke as any bull*. 1587 *Censure Ioyall Subj.* (Collier) 54 *When the Captain could no longer withstand the Kings importunities, he drank bulls blood, and died*. c 1649 *DRUMM. OF HAWTH. Hist. Scot.* (1655) 42 *The head of a Bull (a sign of present Death in these times) is set down before him*. 1733 *POPE Hor. Sat.* I. 1. 86 *Bulls aim their horns, and Asses lift their heels*. 1786 *BURNS Addr. Deil* x. An' dawit, twal-pint Hawkie's gaen As yell's the Bull. 1818 in *KNIGHT Once upon a Time* II. 249 *A bull is to be baited on Monday next*.

b. *Bulls of brass, brazen bulls*, as those that guarded the golden fleece, and Phalaris' bull (proverbial as an engine of torture).

c 1385 *CHAUCER L. G. W.* 1428 *Two bolys makid all of bras*. 1611 *BEAUM. & FL. Philaster* III. 1. *The points of swords, tortures, nor bulls of brass, Should draw it from me*. 1621 *BURTON Anat. Mel.* I. i. 1. 1. *All manner of tortures, brazen bulls, racks, wheels*. 1724 *SWIFT Wks.* (1841) II. 4 *To torment people, by putting them into a bull of brass with fire under it*.

c. in phrases (mostly proverbial): † *He may bear a bull that hath borne a calf*, in allusion to the story of Milo of Crotona (see quot.). *A bull in a china shop*: the symbol of one who produces reckless destruction. *To take the bull by the horns*: to meet a difficulty with courage. *To show the bull-horn*: to make a show of resistance.

1539 *TAVERNER Eras. Prov.* (1552) 10 *He that hath borne a calf, shall also beare a bull*, *He that accustometh hym selfe to lytle thynges, by lytle and lytle shal be able to go a waye with greater thynges*. 1833 *GALT in Fraser's Mag.* VIII. 655 *He shewed, when he durst, the bull-horn*. 1841 *MARRVAT Jac. Faithf.* xv. *I'm like a bull in a china-shop*. 1873 *TRISTRAM Moab* vi. 107 *Determined to take the bull by the horns*... I stepped forward.

† d. *Hill bull*. Applied to Belial. *Obs.*

a 1225 *Juliana* 54 *He be kingene king helle bule haueð ouercumen te dei belial baldest of helle*.

† e. *Bull's head* (Sc.): a signal of condemnation, and prelude of immediate execution, said to have been anciently used in Scotland' (Jam.).

1565 *LINDSAY (Piscottie) Chron. Scotl.* (1728) 17 (JAM.) *The chancellor presentit the bullis head befor the earle of Douglas*. 1649 [see 1.]. c 1800 in *Scott Minstr. Scot. Bord.* (1803) II. 399 (JAM.) *If the bull's ill-omen'd head appear to grace the feast, Your whingers... Plunge in each neighbour's breast*.

2. The male of certain other large animals, as the elephant, alligator, whale, etc. † *Bull of the river*: see quot. (*obs.*).

1615 *G. SANDYS Trav.* 99 [The Nilus produceth] *Buls of the Ruer* (so they write) *not much vnlike to those of the land, but no bigger than a calfe of halfe a yeare old*. 1725 *DUDLEY in Phil. Trans.* XXXIII. 260 *They [whales] generate much like to our neat Cattle, and therefore they are termed Bull, Cow, and Calf*. 1837 *CHAMBERS Inform. People* I. 716 *Fights usually take place when male whales or bulls meet with rivals*. 1866 *GUILLERMARD Cruise Marchesa* I. 198 *The attitude of the bulls [seals] towards each other becomes more peaceable*.

3. *Astron.* The constellation and sign Taurus.

1509 *HAWES Past. Pleas.* xv. ii. *The golden rayes... Of radiant Phebus... Right in the Bull*. 1607 *TOPSELL Serpents* 755 *Diana... translated him into heaven, close by the constellation of the Bull*. 1728 *THOMSON Spring* 27 *From Aries rolls the bounteous Sun, And the bright Bull receives him*. 1868 *LOCKYER Heavens* (ed. 3) 323 *Aldebaran, the most beautiful star in the constellation of the Bull*.

II. Transf. senses of diverse origin.

† 4. = *BULL-HEAD, BULL-TOUR. Obs. slang.*

1690 *B. E. Dict. Cant. Crew, Bull*... false Hair worn (formerly much) by Women.

5. *Mining.* An iron rod used in the process of blasting. b. = *Clay-iron*. *Raymond Mining Gloss.* 1851 *Coal-tr. Terms, Northumbld. & Durk.* 12 *Filling a drill hole in wet stone with strong clay, and then driving a round iron rod (called a bull), nearly the size of the hole, to its far end*.

6. † *dial.* See quot.

1884 *Leisure Hour* Sept. 530/1 *A huge whistle... attached by pipes to a steam boiler... is familiarly styled the 'bull'*.

7. *slang.* A crown piece. (cf. *BULL'S-EYE* II.)

1812 *J. H. VAUX Flash Dict.*, *Bull*, a crown or five shillings. 1852 *DICKENS Bleak Ho.* xlviii, 'Four halfbulls, wot you may call halfcrows'.

III. 8. *Stock-Exchange* [see *BEAR* sb. 1 8].

One who endeavours by speculative purchases, or otherwise, to raise the price of stocks. *Bulls and Bears*, the two different classes of speculators. *Bull* was originally a speculative purchase for a rise.

1714 *C. JOHNSON Country Lasses* I. i. *You deal in Bears and Bulls*. 1721 *CIBBER Refusal* I. And all this out of *Change-Alley*! Every Shilling, Sir; all out of Stocks, Tuts, Bulls, Rams, Bears, and Bubbles. 1761 *Brit. Mag.* II. 278

The cow turned into 'Change-alley, which frightened not a little not only all the bulls, but the bears too. 1818 *SCOTT Rob Roy* iv. *The hum and bustle which his approach was wont to produce among the bulls, bears, and brokers of Stock-alley*. 1880 *F. HALL in 19th Cent.* Sept. 437 *note*, *Can Mr. Bryant really have supposed financial bulls and bears to be peculiar to Wall-street, New York?*

b. *attrib.*

1851 *Illustr. Lond. News* 14 *The bull party will not be able to carry on much longer*. 1881 *Chicago Times* 1 June, *The surrounding influences were... favorable to the 'bull' movement*. 1881 *Mark Lane Express* 8 Aug. 1085 *The speculative movement which has... exerted a 'bull' influence on the maize market*.

IV. *Attrib. and Comb.*

9. *attrib.* a. In sense of 'male'. (Sometimes hyphenated.)

a 1300 *Cursor M.* 10386 (Gött.), *To godd he gaue þe lambis to lottis, And to þe pore men þe bole stottis* [*printed stottis*]. 1466 *Test. Ebor.* (1855) II. 254 *Et xxx bull-stirkus*. 1596 *SHAKS. 1 Hen. IV.* II. iv. 287 *Falstaffe, you... roared for mercy... as euer I heard Bull-Calf*. 1825 *ADAMS Compl. Serv.* 77 *The meat of the bull-calf is generally firmest*. 1861 *Du CHAILLY Equat. Afr.* xii. 170 *We saw... a bull-elephant*. 1863 *Spring in Lapland* 185 *Certainly a bull elk is an awkward customer when brought to bay*. 1880 *Daily News* 8 Dec. 6/7 *One bull whale... measured 48 ft.*

b. Of or pertaining to a bull, bull-like.

1814 *SIR R. WILSON Diary* II. 336 *Butting his head with bull rage and closed eyes*. 1830 *MARRVAT King's Own xxvi*, *You've such a bull neck*. 1837 *CARLYLE Fr. Rev.* II. iv. xi. 190 *A doom proclaimed, audible in bull voice, towards the four winds*.

10. Simple combinations: a. attributive, belonging to (or resembling what belongs to) a bull, as *bull-hide*, *-house*, *-skin*; b. similitive and parasyntetic, as *bull-bragging*, *-browed*, *face(d)*, *fronted*, *-like*, *-necked*, *-voiced*, *ads.*; c. objective with *vbl.* sb. or ppl. adj., as *bull-bearing*.

1606 *SHAKS. Tr. & Cr.* II. iii. 258 *'Bull-bearing* *Milo*. 1563-87 *FOXE A. & M.* (1596) 1170/a *The dolish braines of this Bull bragging bedlems*. 1631 *R. BYFIELD Doctr. Sabb.* 174 *His bull-browd-forlorn-downe-cast haire covering all his forehead*. 1795 *WOLCOTT (P. Pindar) Hair Powder Wks.* 1812 III. 298 *Let... bull-face Brudenell roar*. 1775 *Phil. Trans.* LXVI. 102 *The sea-lyon and lyoness are bull-faced, with long shaggy hair*. 1837 *CARLYLE Fr. Rev.* II. ii. v. 106 *He is of indomitable bull-heart; and also, unfortunately, of thick bull-head*. c 1205 *LAY.* 14187 *Swa muchel lond, swa wule anes 'bule hude, selches weies ouer-spræden*. 1297 *R. GLOUC.* 116 *þo carf he a bole hyde small al to a pong*. c 1300 *St. Brandan* 93 *With hole hunden stronge y-nou y-nailed therto faste*. 1718 *Pope Mlad* vii. 268 *With seven thick folds o'er-cast, Of tough bull-hides*. 1878 *H. STANLEY Dark Cont.* I. xvi. 439 *Well wrapped in bull-hides*. 1807 *VANCOUVER Agric. Devon* 473 *'Bull-house, with two pens in it for bull calves*. 1829 *R. BURTON Centr. Afr. in J. R. G. S. XXXIX* 321 *The neck is bull-like, short, heavy, and broad*. 1673 *DYVEN Love in Nunnery* I. ii. i. *When the Place falls, you shall be Bull-master-General at Court*. 1200 *Morte Arth.* 1094 *'Bullenekkyde was þat birne*. 1849 *CLEVELAND Char. Lond. Diurn. Maker* (1677) 107 *A Bull-neck'd Presbyter*. 1818 *SCOTT Rob Roy* vi. *Rashleigh, though strong in person, was bull-necked and cross-mad*. c 1400 *Ywaine & Gaw.* 2440 *Al the armure he was yn W was noght bot of a bull-skyrn*. 1837 *CARLYLE Fr. Rev.* I. vii. vii. 325 *The 'bull-voiced Marquis Saint-Huruge*.

11. Special comb.: bulls and oows (see quot.);

† *bull-back* = *pick-a-back*; *bull-bat*, the American Goatsucker (*Caprimulgus Americanus*); *bull-beef*, the flesh of bulls, also † a term of abuse; esp. in *to bluster like bull-beef*, as *big as bull-beef*, etc.; *bull-bird* = *BULLFINCH*; *bull-boat*, a boat made of hides stretched on a wooden frame; *bull-comber*, a dung-beetle (*Typhaeus vulgaris*); *bull-dance* (see quot.); *bull-feast*, a bull-baiting (Eng.); a bull-fight (Sp.); *bull-flesh*, *fig. brag*, *swagger*; † *bull-fly*, a stag-beetle; *bull-foot* (*Bot.*) *Colt's-foot* (*Tussilago*); *bull-god*, a god worshipped under the form of a bull; *bull-hoof*, *Bot.* (see quot.); *bull-man*, a monster half bull half man; *bullmanship* (*nonce-wd.*), the art of fighting with bulls; *bull-of-the-bog*, the bittorn, from its booming cry; *bull-poll*, the Turfy Hair-grass (*Aira cæspitosa*); *bull-pout* (American), a fish, † = *BIB* sb. 2; *bull-pump* (see quot.); *bull-pup*, a young bull-dog; *bull-ring*, the arena for a bull-fight (Sp.); the place where bulls were baited (Eng.); the ring to which a bull was fastened; *bull-roarer*, *bull-rope* (see quot.); *bull-run*, *bull-running*, a race after a bull or bull-baiting (e.g. the famous one at Stamford); † *bull-seg* (*dial.*), *bull-stag*, a bull gelded when past his prime; *bull-toad*, † = *BULL-FROG*; *bull-ward*, the keeper of a bull; *bull-week* (see quot.); *bull-whacker* (American), a bullock-driver in the Western states; *bull-wheel* (see quot.). Also *BULL-BAIT*, *-BAITING*, etc.

1863 *PAIOR Pop. Names Brit. Plants* 34 *'Bulls and Cows, more commonly called Lords and Ladies, the purple and the pale spadices, respectively, of Arum maculatum*. c 1600 *Rob. Hood* (Ritson) II. i. 183 *Some were on 'bull-back, some dancing a morris*. 1883 *Macm. Mag.* 'Old Virg. Gentl'. The 'bull-bats' or night-hawks, in the air above us. 1572 *GAUCOIGNE Voy. Holland* in *Southey Comm.* pl. Bk. Ser. II. (1849) 311 *Methinks they be a race of 'bull-beef born*. c 1218 *FLETCHER Doubl. Marr.* III. i. *Down with the bul-*

beefes. 1690 *W. WALKER Idiomat. Anglo-Lat.* 57 *He looks as big as bull-beef*. 1784 *WOLCOTT (P. Pindar) Ode III to R. A. Wks.* 1812 I. 83 *Thou may'st bluster like Bull-beef so big*. 1837 *W. IRVING Capt. Bonneville* III. 109 *We have the crew of the little 'bull boat complete*. 1841 *CATLIN V. Amer. Ind.* (1844) I. xxiv. 195 *A skin-canoe—more familiarly called in this country a bull-boat*. 1808 *BINGLEY Anim. Biog.* III. 111 *The 'bull-comber, clock beetle, and spring beetle*. 1855 *Whitby Gloss.*, *'Bull-Dance*, rustic merriment connected with cattle-show feasts. 1867 *SMYTH Sailor's Word-bk.*, *Bull-dance*, at sea it is performed by men only, when without women. It is sometimes called a stag-dance. 1888 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 2364/a *Bilboa, July 12*... *To-morrow there will be a 'Bull Feast*. 1768 *EARL MALMESBURY Diaries & Corr.* (1844) I. 42 *The amusements of this town... are, the bull-feast, two play-houses, and, during the carnival, masquerades*. 1824 *J. M'CULLOCH Highlands Scotl.* I. 367 *Some squire is born, and there is a bull-feast at Grantham or Chirk*. 1883 *Sunday Mag.* Sept. 574/a *The bull-ring, or, as it is called, the bull-feast*. 1880 *T. MITCHELL Aristoph.* I. 220 *What! shall a little 'bull-flesh gain the day?* 1883 *J. HIGINS Junius Nomenclator* (N.) *Cerf volant*, a 'bullfinch, or hornet'. 1611 *COTGR.*, *Cerf volant*, the great horned beetle, or bullfinch. 1706 *PHILLIPS, Bull-fly or Bull-bee*, an insect. 1862 *TURNER Herbal* II. 158 *Tussilago* is named... in *Englishe Horse house* or 'Bullfoote'. 1816 *G. S. FABER Orig. Pag. Idol.* I. 433 *The 'bull-god of Phenicia*. 1871 *ROSSETTI Burden Nineveh* xviii, *That Bull-god once did stand And watched the burial-clouds of sand*. 1756 *P. BROWNE Jamaica* 328 *The 'Bull-hoof or Dutchman's Laudanum... a climber, whose fruit is... about the size of a large olive*. 1866 *TRAS. Bot.*, *Bull-hoof, Murucuja ocellata*. 1816 *G. S. FABER Orig. Pag. Idol.* I. 232 *That being was succeeded by a second 'bull-man*. 1821 *New Monthly Mag.* II. 340 *To her [Seville's] school of 'bullmanship that art owes all its refinements*. 1815 *SCOTT Guy R. M.* i. *The deep cry of the bog-blitter, or 'bull-of-the-bog*. 1880 *JEFFERIES Gl. Estate* 36 *Some bulrushes and great bunches of 'bullpolls... The bullpoll sends up tall slender stalks with graceful feathery heads*. 1823 *F. COOPER Pioneer* xxiii. (1869) 101/1 *'Away with you, you varmint!* said Billy Kirby, plucking a 'bull-pout from the meshes. 1881 *RAYMOND Gloss.*, *'Bull-pump* (Cornwall), a direct single-acting pump... The steam lifts piston and pump-rods, and the weight of these makes the down-stroke. 1883 *Congregationalist* July 585 *Toying with a tiny, toddling 'bull-pup*. 1609 *D. ROGERS in Digby Myst.* (1882) *Introd.* 26 *He caused... The 'bull ring... to be taken up*. 1808 *SOUTHEY King Ramiro* viii. *Let me be led to your bull-ring... And let me be set upon a stone*. 1828 *SCOTT F. M. Perth* *Introd.*, *A poor mastiff that had misbehaved in the bull-ring*. 1881 *Academy* 9 Apr. 263/3 *A flat slip of wood a few inches long, narrowing to one or both ends, and fastened by one end to a thong for whirling it round, when it gives an intermittent whirling or roaring noise, heard a long way off. It is known as a country boy's plaything in Europe, called in England a 'whizzer' or 'bull-roarer'*. 1883 *NARES Seaman's Ship* (ed. 6) 173 *A 'bull-rope... is a hawser let through a block on the bow-sprit end to the buoy, to keep the buoy clear of the stem*. 1864 *CHAMBERS Bk. of Days* 13 Nov. II. 575/a *As... there could be no 'bull-run without a bull*. 1696 *J. HARRINGTON Oceana* 196 *There is a solemnity of the Pipers, and Fiddlers of this Nation... call'd the 'Bull-running, and he that catcheth and holdeth the Bull, is the annual and Supreme Magistrate of that Comitia, or Congregation, called King-Piper*. 1861 *SMILES Engineers* I. v. i. 310 *If there was a bull-running within twenty miles, he was sure to be there*. 1641 *BEST Farm. Bks.* (1856) 141 *Making a 'bullsegge of a bull that is two or three yeares olde*. 1820 *SCOTT Monastery* iv. *'Roaring like bulleseggs, to frighten the ledly*. 1880 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 1482/4 *Oned red 'Bull Stag with the same Mark*. 1776 *Chron. in Ann. Reg.* 149/1 *Good ox beef, instead of which he had substituted bull beef and bull stag beef*. 1864 *MOORE Poems* 166 *Let the 'bull-toad stain him over*. 1816 *HORNBY Sco. Drunk.* (1859) 19 *It is a cage of all base villany... 'Bul-wards and beare-wards with like company*. 1878 *HALLIWELL, 'Bull-week*, the week before Christmas, in which the work-people at Sheffield push their strength to the utmost. 1878 *BLACK Green Past.* xiii. 106 *Not even the stoutest 'bull-whacker who ever crossed the plains*. 1883 *Century Mag.* July 329/2 *Attached to the derrick is also a big windlass, called the 'bull-wheel', which hoists the drilling apparatus out of the [oil] well*.

b. Comb. with *gen. bull's*: † *bull's feather*, a horn, the mark of cuckoldry; *bull's-noon*, mid-night (*dial.*); *bull's-nose* (see quot.); *bull's-pizzle*, the penis of the bull, formerly a much-used instrument of flagellation.

a 1700 *Bull's Feather* (N.) *There's many an honest man hath worn the 'bull's feather*. 1748 *RICHARDSON Clarissa* V. 295 (D.) *They may very probably adorn, as well as bestow the bull's feather*. 18... *Northampton dial.* *If I go on at this rate I shan't be done at 'bull's-noon*. 1839 *C. CLARK John Noakes*, 4c. 17 *No bull's noon hours I'll ha' ya keep*. 1842 *GWILT Archit.* (1875) *Gloss.*, *'Bull's Nose*, the external or other angle of a polygon, or of any two lines meeting at an obtuse angle. 1599 *HAKLUYT Voy.* II. 187 *The Boteswaine... walked abait the Maste, and his Mate afore the Maste... eche of them a 'bulls pissell dried in their handes*. 1664 *BUTLER Hud.* II. i. 879 *Th' illustrious Bassa... with Bull's pizzle... Was taw'd as gentle as a Glove*. 1737 *tr.* (anon.) *Gil Blas* vi. 1771 *I. 26 I felt on my shoulders half a dozen lusty bangs of a bull's pizzle*.

Bull (bul), sb. 2. Also 3-6 bulle, 6 bul. [ad. L. *bulia*, denoting various globular objects.]

1. A seal attached to an official document; esp. the leaden seal attached to the Pope's edicts.

1340 *Ayenb.* 62 *Me nalseþ þe kinges sel oþer þe popes bulle*. 1480 *CAXTON Chron. Eng.* cxi. 167 *The pope sente a general sentence under his bulles of lede vnto the arche-bisshop*. 1555 *EDEN Decades W. Ind.* I. iii. (Arb.) 74 *The byshop of Rome... graunted to the Kyng of Spayne by thaurtorie of his leaden bulles*. 1643 *PEYNE Open. Gt. Seal* 4 *Now the French Kings long before his dayes, used to seale their charters with golden Bulles*. 1796 *AVILIER Parerg.* 123 *These Letters are not said to be expedited till that Bull is annex'd to them*. 1797-51 *CHAMBERS Cycl.* s.v.

2. A papal or episcopal edict or mandate.
 1597 R. Glouc. 494 The king vorbed ek in this lond al the popes playdinge Of bullen. 1366 LANGL. P. P. A. ProL 66 And brougt vp a Bulle with bishopes seles. c. 1382 Wyclif Grete Sentence xvi. Sel. Wks. III. 308 Pei magnyfiem be popis bulle more pan be gospel. 1483 Caxton Gold. Leg. 108/1 And after . . . toke away hys bullis and wrytynges. 1561 Daus tr. *Bullinger on Apoc.* (1579) 209 The Popes Bulles . . . may well be called Bulls, since they be more wayne then bubbles or bladders in the water. 1583 Strusses *Anat. Abus.* II. 5 How often hath he sent forth his roring bulls against his Maieestic. 1667 MILTON P. L. III. 492 Then might ye see . . . Indulgences, Dispenses, Pardons, Bulls, The sport of Winds. 1807 HALLAM *Const. Hist.* (1806) I. iii. 134 Pius V. . . now (1570) published his celebrated bull, excommunicating and deposing Elizabeth. 1873 MORLEY *Rousseau* II. 63 The bull Unigenitus, which had been . . . an infraction of French liberties.

3. Applied to a non-ecclesiastical edict. *The Golden Bull* (Lat. *Aurea Bulla*), a decree issued by the emperor Charles IV in 1356 to regulate the election and coronation of an emperor.

1696 PHILLIPS. 1751 CHAMBERS *Cycl.*, s.v. *Bull*. The Golden Bull . . . on the backside of it there are several knots of black and yellow silk; to which hangs a bull, or seal of gold. 1769-96 MORSE *Amer. Geog.* II. 222.

4. Comb. † bull-driver (see quot.); † bull-founder, one that issues bulls or edicts (perhaps with reference to founding or casting the leaden seals); † bullman, issuer of bulls, said of the Pope; † bull-office, the office for issuing Papal bulls.

1649 SELDEN *Laus Eng.* II. vi. (1739) 33 These *Bull-drivers or Summoners to the Romish Court were no late upstarts. 1653-87 FOXE A. & M. (1596) 1173/2 If these *Bull founders doe charge me with any other thing besides in this article. 1688 *Holy Bull & Crusade Rome* 29 All the holines of this Romish *Bulman consisteth onely in externall ceremonies. 1776 J. SERGES *Pope's Enemy to Script.* 112 Before Henry VIII, England paid more into the *Bull-office than all the Roman Catholic Countries put together.

† Bull, sb. 3. Obs. rare. [a. F. *bulle* :—L. *bulla*.] A bubble.

1561 [see BULL sb. 2]. 1563 NOWELL *Homily in Liturg. Serv. O. Elix.* (1847) 501 This life is . . . a vapour . . . as a bull rising on the water.

Bull (bul), sb. 4. [Of unknown origin; cf. OF. *boul*, *boule*, *bole* fraud, deceit, trickery; mod. Icel. *bull* 'nonsense'; also ME. *bull* BUL 'falsehood', and BULL v. 3, to befool, mock, cheat.

(No foundation appears for the guess that the word originated in 'a contemptuous allusion to papal edicts', nor for the assertion of the 'British Apollo' (No. 22. 1708) that 'it became a Proverb from the repeated Blunders of one Obadiah Bull, a Lawyer of London, who liv'd in the Reign of K. Henry the Seventh'.)

† 1. A ludicrous jest (cf. BULL v. 3). Obs.
 1630 J. TAYLOR (Water P.) *J. Garret's Ghost* Ded., Wit and Mirth. Made vp, and fashioned into Clinches, Bulls, Quirkes, Yerkes, Quips, and Ierkes. 1652 URQUHART *Jewel Wks.* (1834) 229 He had all the jeers, squibs, flouts, bulls, quips, taunts, etc. a 1665 A. Wood in *Oxoniana* II. 23 Every one in order was to . . . make a jest or bull, or speake some eloquent nonsense, to make the company laugh.

2. A self-contradictory proposition; in mod. use, an expression containing a manifest contradiction in terms or involving a ludicrous inconsistency unperceived by the speaker. Now often with epithet *Irish*; but the word had been long in use before it came to be associated with Irishmen.

1640 BROME *Antiip.* v. iv. 323 Dumbes Speaker! that's a Bull. Thou wert the Bull Then, in the Play. Would I had seen thee rere. *Bla.* That's a Bull too, as wise as you are, Bab. 1649 SELDEN *Laus Eng.* II. xi. (1739) 63 It is no Bull, to speak of a common Peace, in the place of War. 1673 MILTON *True Relig.* 5 Whereas the Papist boasts himself to be a Roman Catholic, it is a meer contradiction, one of the Popes Bulls. 1708 *Let. Jr. Soldier to Ho. Commons* 17 These Gentlemen seem to me to have copied the Bull of their Countryman, who said his Mother was barren. 1721 POPE *Let. to J. C. Wks.* 1736 V. 174, I confess it what the English call a Bull, in the expression, tho' the sense be manifest enough. 1808 EDGEWORTH (*title*) Essay on Irish Bulls. 1803 SYD. SMITH *Wks.* (1867) I. 60 A bull is an apparent congruity, and real incongruity of ideas, suddenly discovered.

Bull (bul), sb. 5. [Etymology unknown.] One of the main bars of a harrow. Also attrib.

1503 FITZHERB. *Husb.* § 15 The horse-harrowe is made of fyve bulles, and passe not an elne of lengthe. 1649 BLITHE *Eng. Impr. Improv.* (1652) 220 As little & light a harrow, which may contain three little buls & about five Tines in a Bull. 1677 PLOT *Oxfordsh.* 247 The great square Bull harrow, drawn by the second bull on the near side of the harrow. 1799 J. ROBERTSON *Agric. Perth* 97 General Robertson of Lawers uses fyve bulles, having fyve teeth in each bull. 1843 B. ALMACK in *Jrnl. Agric. Soc.* IV. i. 61 The bulle or parts to contain the teeth, were made of dry foreign pine.

Bull (bul), sb. 6. Drink made by putting water into an empty spirit cask, or over a sugar-mat, to catch some of the flavour.

1830 MARRYAT *King's Own* xx, I'll pass the bottle, and you may make a bull of it. 1835 — *Jac. Faithf.* xx, A bull means putting a quart or two of water into a cask which has had spirits in it. 1859 *All Y. Round* No. 4. 78 He would . . . have abdicated his sovereignty for an old sugar mat, wherewith to make 'bull'.

Bull. Short for JOHN BULL. Hence Bullism = JOHN BULLISM.

1825 CARLYLE *Early Lett.* (Norton) II. 295 Bull himself, again, though a frank, beef-loving, joyous kind of person, is excessively stupid. 1843 SYD. SMITH *Wks.* (1867) II. 331

Bull is naturally disposed to love you, but he loves nobody who does not pay him. 1821 *Blackw. Mag.* X. 82 English jurors have been lately so bepreached out of bullism by him.

Bull-. [prob. in most cases = BULL sb. 1; but bull-weed has the alternative form boll-weed, see BOLL sb. 1, which may be the etymon in some of the words. (The suggestion that bull- in some plant names may be a corruption of pool, is quite baseless.)]

A prefix occurring in certain names of plants, as bull-brier (*American*), see quot.; bull-oak (see quot.); bull-plum, a sloe (*Prunus spinosa*), cf. however BULLACE; bull-sedge (see quot.); bull-weed, *Centaurea nigra*, = *Boll-weed*; bull-wort, *Anem. majus*, also called Bishop-weed.

1860 BARTLETT *Dict. Amer.*, *Bull Briar, a large briar . . . the root of which contains a farinaceous substance from which the Indians make bread. 1830 J. G. STRUTT *Sylvia Brit.* 22 *Bull-Oaks . . . are thus denominated from the . . . circumstance of bulls taking shelter within them; which they effect . . . by retreating backwards into the cavity. 1770 FOOTE *Lame Lover* III. (D.) A plum-tree indeed, but not . . . a damascen plum; our proofs say loudly a *bull plum. 1879 PRIOR *Plant-names*, *Bull-sedge or sedge, the reed-mace. a 1450 *Alphita*. (Anecd. Oxon.) 83 *Iacea nigra* . . . Bulwed uel hardaw. 1597 GERARD *Herbal* ccxcix. § 1. 703 Harts ease is named . . . in English, Knapweede, *Bull weede. 1598 FLORIO, *Ammi*, the . . . herbe William, bulwoort or bishops weede.

Bull (bul), v. 1. [f. BULL sb. 1]

† 1. a. trans. Said of a bull: To gender with (the cow). b. intr. Of the cow: To take the bull, to desire the bull. Also To go a bulling. Obs.

1598 TREVISA *Barth. De P. R.* XVIII. cix. (1495) 850 Kene lowe when they be a bullunge. 1523 FITZHERB. *Husb.* § 66 The damme of the calfe shall bull agayne. 1601 HOLLAND *Pliny* I. 224 Kine commonly . . . seeke the fellow, and goe a bulling agayne. 1659 HOWELL *Lex. Tetraglotton*, He that bulls the Cow must keep the Calfe. 1675 COTTON *Poet. Wks.* (1765) 182 Unless I had a Spell, To bull my Cow invisible. 1776 in BAILEY.

2. Stock-Exchange. To try to raise the price of (stocks, etc.); to speculate for the rise.

a 1842 [see BEAR v. 1]. c. 1880 BRESANT & RICE *Harb. & Cr.* xix. 196 Men who bull and bear the stock market. 1881 *Chicago Times* 4 June, If we succeed in bulling silver we shall also succeed in bearing gold to the same extent.

† Bull, v. 2. Obs. [f. BULL sb. 2] trans. To insert or publish (a matter, or a name) in a Papal bull; to affix the Papal seal to (a document).

1593-87 FOXE A. & M. (1684) I. 325/2 Shortly after the Pope sent M. Martin with blanks, being bulled for contribution of 10000 Marks. a 1670 HACKET *Abb. Williams* i. (1692) 130 As soon as the Dispensation was Bulled.

† Bull, v. 3. Obs. [cf. ME. BUL falsehood, OF. *bolier*, *boulier* to deceive.] To make a fool of, to mock; to cheat (out of).

1532 [see BULLING vbl. sb. 3]. 1609 *Man in Moone* (1849) 38 Never laugh in your sleeve how you have gulled, or bulled, your husband. 1645 *Sacred Decretal* in Prynn *Discov. New-Blasing-Stars* 12 Wherefore being thus jeerd and bul'd, we Decree and Ordaine, etc. 1674 R. GOUFREY *Inf.* & *Ab. Physic* 207 'Tis admirable the World is so stupid to be thus bull'd out of their Moneys.

Bull (bul), v. 4. [f. BULL sb. 6] See quot.

1824 J. D. COCHRANE *Journ. Russia & Tartary* 225, I could do nothing but bull the barrel, that is, put a little water into it, and so preserve at least the appearance of vodka.

|| Bulla (bu'lä, bu'lä). Pl. bullae. [L. = bubble.]

1. Pathol. A vesicle containing watery humour and causing an elevation of the skin.

1876 DURING *Dis. Skin* 44 Bullae are irregularly-shaped elevations of the epidermis, varying in size from a split pea to a goose-egg, containing a clear or opaque fluid.

b. Physiol. 'The tympanic element of the temporal bone, when, as in the dog, it forms a large bubble-like appearance.' *Syd. Soc. Lex.*

1872 MIVART *Elem. Anat.* 106 In many Mammals . . . it forms a large inflated structure termed a bulla. 1881 — *Cat* 62 The posterior surface of the auditory bulla.

2. Zool. A genus of molluscs, with thin and fragile shells, inhabiting deep water.

1847 CARPENTER *Zool.* § 917 The Bulla and Bullaea . . . have a small calcareous shell in which the spiral form begins to manifest itself. 1821 MARY ROBERTS *Mollusca* 201 The fragile shell of the solitary bulla is utterly inadequate to contend with either winds or waves.

Bullace (bu'läs). Forms: 4-5 bulace, 5 bolys, -yase, 5-6 bolas, bulas, 6 bulles, -asse, -asse, 7 bullas, 6-7 bulloes, bullies, -eis, 9 (dial. bulloe, -y), 6- bulloes. Pl. 4 bolaces, bolas, 6 bullies, bulleys, -ase, boollasse, 6-7 bullies, bullase, 7 bullis, -eis, -aise, -ioe, -ioes, -ises, -asis, 7- bulloes, -aces, (Sc. bulloes, *Devon.* bullens.) [app. connected with OF. *beloce* of same meaning (13th c., Littré); but its precise relation to the OF. word, and the etymology of the latter, are not ascertained.

The Ir. *bullastair*, Ga. *bulastair*, sometimes accepted as the etymon, appear to be adopted from ME. *bolaster*=*bul-lace-tree*. Legonidec gives a Breton *polas*, *bolos* 'prune savage'; and Florio 1611 has an It. *bullo* 'bulloes, slowne, or skegs', which may possibly be ultimately connected.]

1. A wild plum (*Prunus insititia*) larger than the sloe; there are two varieties, the black (or dark-

blue) and the white; also well-known as a semi-cultivated fruit.

c 1330 *Will. Palerme* (1809) 66 Gete vs . . . bolaces & blake-beries pat on breres growen. c 1400 *Rom. Rose* 1377 Notes, aleys, and bolas. c 1430 *LYDG. Min. Poems* (1840) 109 As bryght as bugyl or ellys bolace. 1483 *Cath. Angl.* 47 A Bulas, *populum*. 1523 FITZHERB. *Husb.* § 140 Bulleys plummes and suche other, may be sette of stones. 1573 TUSSEER *Husb.* (1878) 76 Boollasse, black and white. 1599 A. M. tr. *Gabelhouer's Bh. Physick* 183/2 Take whyt bul-lises pounded to pappe. 1609 PARKINSON *Orchard* xiii. 578 The black Bulles also are those . . . that they call French Prunes. 1655 MOUFFET & BENNET *Health's Improv.* (1746) 293 Bullices likewise, both white, speckled and black, are of the like Nature. 1664 COTTON *Scarron* IV. (1741) 137 So have I seen in Forest tall . . . Bullace tumble from the Tree. 1741 *Compl. Fam.-Piece* II. iii. 394 Damasines, and Bullace. 1768 SMOLLETT *Sir L. Greaves* III. (D.) Dick and I be come hither to pick haws and bullies. 1769 MRS. RAFFALD *Eng. Househpr.* (1778) 236 To make Bullace Cheese. Take your bullace when they are full ripe, etc. 1830 SCOTT *Demonol.* viii. 248 While gathering bullees . . . he saw two greyhounds. 1837 HOOD *Mem. T. H.* (1860) I. 263 Our landlady . . . comforted her inside with a mess of dried bullices in sour wine! 1875 *Lanc. Gloss.* (E. D. S.) 61 *Bulloe*, the sloe or wild plum.

b. Applied fancifully to a black eye.

a 1659 CLEVELAND *Wks.* (1687) 256 The sparkling Bullies of her Eyes Like two eclipsed Suns did rise.

2. The tree bearing the plum.

1616 SURFL. & MARKH. *Countr. Farm* 670 You shall also by no means amongst your pale walke plant fruit trees, blacke-thorne, or bullies. 1688 R. HOLME *Armoury* II. 119/3 Spinous or thorny Shrubs whose Fruit may be eaten, as . . . Bullas. 1859 W. COLEMAN *Woodlands* (1862) 119 The Bullace Plum . . . a variety of the common Sloe, from which it chiefly differs in the superior size of all its parts, especially the fruit.

3. Attrib. and Comb., as bullace-fruit, -plum;

† bullace-bay a., of a particular dark-bay colour (said of a horse); bullace-tree (see also BUL-LESTER).

c 1440 *Prompt. Parv.* 42 Bolas tre, *populus*. 1530 PALSGR. 109/2 Bolas frute, *prunelle*. 1608 TOPSELL *Serpents* 768 Their egges . . . are round . . . in quantity as big as bullies plums. 1684 *Bucaniers Amer.* (1699) 19 Yaco . . . bears a fruit like our Bullace or Damson plums. 1690 *Long. Gas.* No. 2576/4 The other [Gelding] a dark Bullace-Bay. 1848 W. GARDINER *Flora of Forfar*. 54 P. *insititia*, Wild Bullace-tree.

Bullantic, a. rare-1. [ad. F. *bullantique*, used by Fournier in the original passage of which the quot. from Fry is a translation. The Fr. dictionaries have *bullantique* (f. *bulle* Papal bull) in this sense; *bullantique* is perh. due to association with *antique*.] (See quot.)

1799 E. FAY *Pantogr.* 23 *Bullantic*, capital ornamented letters in use for the dispatch of the Apostolic Bulls.

† Bullard. Obs. [Contracted form of *bull-ward*, or perhaps rather of *bull-herd*; cf. *cow-herd*, *neat-herd*, and *beard* for *BEARHERD*.] One who keeps a bull, or who takes part in bull-running. Cf. *Bull-run* s.v. BULL sb. 1 11.

1825 LOWE in *Hone Every-day Bk.* I. 1484 Every bull-lard [at Stamford] . . . ought to drink on that day. 1830 *Champion of East* 12 Jan. 14 The bullrads of Stamford intended yesterday . . . to have had another day's sport. 1864 CHAMBERS *Bk. of Days* 13 Nov. II. 574/2 *The bullrads*, a name given to the admirers and supporters of bull-running [at Stamford].

Bullary (bu'läri). Also 7-ery. [ad. med. L. *bullarium* f. *bulle* papal bull; see -ARY, -ARIUM. Cf. F. *bullaire*. Also used in L. form *Bullarium*.] A collection of papal bulls.

a 1674 CLARENDON *Surv. Leviath.* 153 Their whole Bullarium . . . abounds in Canonizations. 1679 T. BARLOW *Pope's* 78 Many more such impious Bulls there are in that Roman Bullary. c 1690 SOUTH *Serm.* V. v. (R.) The whole bull is extant in the bullery of Laertius Cherubinus. 1756 AVLEFFE *Parerg.* xxvi, Out of these Registers there were afterwards compiled these several Bullariums. 1745-1836 A. BUTLER *Lives of Saints* II. 936 note, Parts of the latest bullaries of Clement XII. and Benedict XIV. 1881 *Philadelphia Press* XXXV. 12 Aug. 4 Which in itself was compiled from the Bullarium and decretals of the Popes.

Bullary, var. of BULLERY. Obs.

Bullase, -asse, obs. ff. BULLACE.

† Bu'llate, sb. Obs. rare-1. A kind of metal; † = bullet-iron (see BULLET sb. 1 8).

1591 G. FLETCHER *Russe Commur.* (1856) 93 They [the Tartars] . . . preferre brasse and Steele before other mettals, specially bullete, which they use for swords, knives, and other necessities.

Bullate (bu'lätt, bu'lätt), a. [ad. Lat. *bullät-us*, having bubbles.]

1. Bot. Having blisters; inflated: said of leaves, in which the surface rises in a convexity between the veins.

1819 *Pantologia*, s.v. *Bullate leaf*, in botany, when the substance rises high above the veins, so as to appear like blisters. 1870 HOOKER *Stud. Flora* 465 Clothed with large bullate acuminate pale scales.

2. Phys. Having bullae or puffy excrescences on the surface.

1872 MIVART *Elem. Anat.* III The pterygoid may be swollen and bullate, as in the Mole. 1877 HUXLEY *Anat. Inv. An.* vi. 293 This is principally composed of a large bullate labium.

Bullated, ppl. a. [f. as prec. + -ED.]

† 1. Rom. Ant. Furnished with a bulla, or gold ornament worn round the neck. Obs.

1698 W. KING *Journ. Lond.* 222, I could never meet with

a statue in London but what was clothed with a Toga pura and no representation of a Bullated one.

2. = BULLATE.

1707 SLOANE *Jamaica* I. 261 The stalks... had leaves set on them... rough and bullated, or like the leaves of wild sage. 1838 BURROWS *Cycl.* s.v. *Rana*, The toes are bullated at the ends.

Bullation. Bot. [as if ad. L. *bullatio*; cf. BULLATE and -ATION.] A bullate formation.

1888 *Gard. Chron.* XVIII. 71 The bullations depressed around the insertion of the petiole.

Bull-bait (bu'l,bē't). Obs. or arch. [f. BULL sb.1 + BAIT sb.1 III.] = BULL-BAITING.

1696 W. WEBB in *Digby Myst.* (1882) Intro. 28 This Major... would not suffer any... Bull-bait. 1818 in *Knight Once upon Time* (1859) 48 Whenever a bull-bait has taken place here. 1896 BANCROFT *Hist. U. S.* II. xxiv. 124 Bull-baits and cock-fights were prohibited.

fig. 17. *Douglas Trag.* iv. in *Child Ballads* I. 103/2 'O hold your hand, sweet William,' she said, 'Your bull baits are wondrous sair'.

Bull-baiter (bu'l,bē'tar). [f. BULL sb.1 + BAITER.] One who baits bulls.

1808 *Hist. Europe in Ann. Reg.* 160/1 He doubted whether a bull-baiter... had ever distinguished himself in disaffection.

Bull-baiting (bu'l,bē'ting), *vbl. sb.* [f. BULL sb.1 + BAITING.] The action of baiting a bull with dogs. (Cf. BULL-DOG.)

1880 BARET *Abv.* B 1478 Bullbaiting. 1893 BABINGTON *Commandm.* iv. (1637) 36 Gadding to this Ale or that, to this Bearbaiting and that bullbaiting. 1898 *Let. fr. Madrid in Proc. Parl.* No. 170 The next day there was Bull-baiting. 1711 ADDISON *Spect.* No. 31 P 2 The bull-baiting... cannot possibly be exhibited in the theatre, by reason of the lowness of the roof. 1808 *Hist. Europe in Ann. Reg.* 168/2 The practise of bull-baiting was dying away of itself.

† **Bull-bear.** Obs. [App. f. BULL sb.1 + BEAR sb.1; but, to account for the sense, it has been conjectured that the first element may be BOLL sb.3, or BOGLE. Cf. BUGBEAR (of which also it is not impossible that this is a corruption); also Du. *bulle-man* 'larva, spectrum', *bulle-back* 'lemures' (Kilian 1642). See next.] A spectre, bogey; a scare-crow; a bugbear, or object of groundless terror.

1861 T. NORTON *Calvin's Inst.* III. v. (1634) 319 They saw themselves to be openly and uncolourably scorned of the Pope and his Bullbearers. 1881 J. BELL *Haddon's Annu. Osor.* 423/2 Such as be alyve now should dreadd any Bullbearers of Purgatory. 1898 G. HARVEY *Four Lett.* (1815) 21 That Fleeting (imprisonment in the Fleet) also proved like the other a silly bullbear.

† **Bull-beggar.** Obs. [See prec. As the obvious combination *bull* + *beggar* does not appear to yield a suitable sense, it is generally assumed that there must have been some alteration under the influence of 'popular etymology', e.g. that it is a (further) alteration of *bull-bear*; or that the second element has been altered from *boggard*, *buggart* 'bogle'. But evidence is entirely wanting. The word was sometimes (see b.) used with a punning allusion to the Papal BULL, and to BEOGAB.] = prec. Hence **Bull-begging** *ppl. a.* (nonce-wd.), that operates as a terror.

1894 R. SCOT *Discon. Witcher.* VII. xv. 122 They have so fraied us with bull beggars, spirits, witches... that we are afraid of our own Shadows. 1898 J. HARVEY *Disc. Probl.* 73 And beggars will need be someaies bullbeggars. 1898 G. HARVEY *Four Lett.*, Herredoutable Bull-begging Knight. 1801 DENT *Path-w. Heaven* 109 A mother, when her child is wayward... scareth it with some pocar, or bull-beggar. 1834 J. TAYLOR (Water P.) *Gl. Enter Kent Wks.* I. 147/2 The name of Good-friday affrights him like a Bullbeggar. 1873 MARVELL *Rel. transp.* II. 250 Private Conscience is... a Bull-beggar to fright children. 1813 HOSHOUSE *Journ.* 32 Looking altogether, as to his garments, like what we call a bull-beggar. 1821 S. JUDG *Margaret v.* (1871) 20 The haunt of bullbeggars, witches, spirits.

b. a 1835 *Boys Wks.* (1830) 550 The Popes Bullbegger Cardinal Bellarmeni. 1796 AYLIFFE *Parrerg.* 132 These Fulminations from the Vatican... were called Bull-Beggars.

Bull-bitch. The female of the bull-dog. 1681 *Lond. Gas.* No. 1632/4 The most part of her Head Black, shaped like a Bull-Bitch. 1805 *Bazaar* 30 Mar. 1258/2 Nell, bull bitch... game to death at anything breathing.

Bull-dog. (Also 6 bold-dogge.) Often without hyphen (as one word) *esp. in transf.* uses. [f. BULL sb.1 + DOG; because used in bull-baiting, or f from the shape of the head.

With the oldest spelling *bolddogge*, compare 'Hic molossus, a *bolddogge*', a 1500 in *Wr. Wulcker* 758.]

1. A dog of a bold and fierce breed, with large bull-head, short muzzle, strong muscular body of medium height, and short smooth hair, formerly much used for bull-baiting.

c 1500 *Cocks Lorettes B.* 2 Than came one w^t two bold-dogges at his taylor. 1795 HUME *Ess. & Treat.* (1777) I. 216 The courage of bull-dogs and game-cocks seems peculiar to England. 1838 SCOTT *F. M. Perth* II. 279 What are the useful properties of this fellow Bonthron? Those of a bull-dog... he worries without barking. 1863 KINGSLEY *Water-bab.* i. 5 He would be... a master sweep... and keep a white bull-dog with one grey ear.

b. *attrib.* and *quasi-adj.*

1855 MACAULAY *Hist. Eng.* IV. 588 That bulldog courage which flinches from no danger. 1871 *Standard* 18 Jan., Can Paris wait even until the bull-dog spirit of this hard-dying chief is able once more to show itself?

c. *transf.* Applied to persons: One that possesses the obstinate courage of the bulldog. Hence **Bulldoggy a.** and **Bulldogism** (nonce-wds.).

1863 KINGSLEY *Water-bab.* iv. 138 Tom was always a brave, determined little English bull-dog, who never knew when he was beaten. 1898 *Chamb. Jnl.* X. 20 Tom... was an English youth of about my own age, but a great deal more bulldoggy. 1898 SAVAGE *R. Medicott* II. vi. (D.) He possessed the element of bulldogism also.

2. † A sheriff's officer (*obs.*); one of the Proctors' attendants at the Universities of Oxford and Cambridge. *collog.*

1698 FARQUHAR *Love & Bottle* iii. 2 He would have put me off, so I sent for a couple of bull-dogs, and arrested him. 1823 LOCKHART *Reg. Dalton* I. x. (1842) 59 Long forgotten stories about proctors bit, and bull-dogs baffled. 1884 G. ALLEN *Str. Stories* 289 It was quite a fortnight before I (senior proctor) could face my own bulldogs unabashed.

3. *transf.* Applied humorously to a cannon or other firearm; in mod. use, a particular kind of revolver. Cf. BARKEE. Also *attrib.*

1700 FARQUHAR *Const. Couple* III. i. He whips out his Stiletto and I whips out my bull-dog. 1800 SCOTT *Abbot xvi.* A plague... on cannon and demi-cannon, and all the barking bulldogs whom they halloo against stone and lime in these our days! 1824 — *St. Roman's W.* II. 191 (D.), 'I have always a brace of bull-dogs about me'... so saying he exhibited a very handsome, highly finished... pair of pistols. 1867 SMYTH *Sailor's Wd.-bk.*, *Bulldog* or *Muzzled Bull-dog*, the great gun which stands 'housed' in the officer's ward-room cabin. General term for main-deck guns. 1881 *Daily News* 27 Oct. 6/4 Revolver cartridges of the ordinary 'bulldog' pattern.

4. An insect: a. A kind of gad-fly (American).

b. A kind of ant; also *bulldog ant* (Australian). 1865 VIS. MILTON & W. CHADLER *Northw. Passage* 219 The 'bull-dog' or tabanus, is a large fly... with a long body, banded with yellow... and its mouth is armed with a formidable cutting apparatus of four lancets. 1881 *Cheq. Career* 324 The 'bull-dog' ant and the 'soldier' are about on a par as regards venom. 1883 *St. James's Gas.* 19 Apr., 'Bulldogs' (a large horse-fly) render existence almost unendurable.

5. In *Iron-works.* See quot.; also in comb.

Bulldog-burner. 1881 RAYMOND *Mining Gloss.*, *Bulldog*, a refractory material used as furnace-lining, got by calcining mill-cinder, and containing silica and ferric oxide. 1884 *Times* 8 Jan., The 'bulldog burner'... is one of the hands in ironworks whose duty it is to roast the refuse cinder (called 'bulldog') which is necessary for the setting of the puddling furnace.

6. *pl.* An old name of the Snap-dragon (*Antirrhinum*).

1861 MISS PRATT *Flower. Pl.* IV. 124 Great Snapdragon... Bull-dogs, Lion's-snap... are also old names of the plant.

7. *Bulldog forceps.* 'Forceps with a spring catch... the extremity of one blade pointed, of the other notched, for the reception of the point'. *Syd. Soc. Lex.*

1880 MACCORMAC *Antisept. Surg.* 166 He was led from the use of the old 'bull-dogs' to the convenient and powerful clamp forceps he has now employed.

8. *slang.* A sugar-loaf.

1811 J. H. VAUX *Flash Dict.*, *Bull-dog*, a sugar-loaf.

Bull-dose, -doze (bu'l,dō'z), *sb.* and *v.* U. S. *collog.* [According to U. S. newspapers, f. BULL sb.1 + DOSE.]

A. *sb.* † A severe dose (of flogging).

B. *vb.* a. † To flog severely. b. To coerce by violence, intimidate. Hence **Bull-dosers**, a. one who 'bull-doses'; b. a large pistol. Also **Bull-dosing** *vbl. sb.*, bullying, intimidation.

1876 *American Newsm.*, If a negro is invited to join it [a society called 'The Stop'], and refuses, he is taken to the woods and whipped. This whipping is called a 'bull-dose', or doze fit for a bull. The application of the bull-dose was for the purpose of making Tilden voters; hence we hear of the 'bull-dosed' parishes. 1878 *N. Amer. Rev.* CXVII. 426 The great 'Bulldozer' of Europe. 1880 C. B. BERRY *Other Side* 155 They... pull him out of bed with a revolver to his head. That's called 'bull-dosing' a man. 1881 *Sat. Rev.* 9 July 40/2 A 'bull-dose' means a large efficient dose of any sort of medicine or punishment. *Ibid.* To 'bull-dose' a negro in the Southern States means to flog him to death, or nearly to death. *Ibid.* A Californian bull-doser is a pistol which carries a bullet heavy enough to destroy human life with certainty. 1888 *New York Tribune* 3 May, The hotel where he was staying was visited... by a mob of bull-dozers. 1884 H. GEORGE *Social Prob.* 26 Large Employers regularly 'bulldoze' their hands into voting as they wish.

† **Bulle, bule.** Obs. exc. *dial.* [A variant spelling of BOUL, q. v.] A semicircular or bowed handle, as of a pail, a door, etc.

1483 *Cath. Angl.* 47 A Bulle (Bwyll) of a dore, *grapa*. 1747 HOOSON *Miner's Dict.* F. 1 b, In the Bottom [of the Corfe] near the ends of it are two Holes bored, in which the bended Bule is put. 1790 W. MARSHALL *Midl. Counties* (E. D. S.) *Bule*, the bow-handle of a pail. 1875 *Lanc. Gloss.* (E. D. S.) *Bule*, the handle of a pot, pan, or other utensil. 1881 *Leicestersh. Words* (E. D. S.) *Bule*, semicircular handle of a bucket, pot-lid, etc.

Bulle, obs. form of BULL.

† **Bulled**, *ppl. a.*1 Obs. [f. BULL sb.2 or v.2 + -ED.] Having a bull or seal attached.

1330 R. BRUNNE *Chron.* 265 *pe pape Celestyn*. With letter bulled fyn assoyled to Scotland sent. 1610 Bp. CARLETON *Jurisd.* 268 He threw away the Popes bulled Letters.

† **Bulled**, *ppl. a.*2 rare-1. † = BOLLED *ppl. a.*1 1. 1637 B. JONSON *Sad Sheph.* I. iii, Hang the bulled Nose-gaies 'bove their heads.

Bulle, -eis, obs. and Sc. forms of BULLACE.

† **Bullen.** Obs. or *dial.* 'Hemp-stalks peeled'. 1674 in RAY. 1681 in WORLIDGE. 1706 in PHILLIPS; in BAILEY, HALLIWELL, etc. 1876 KNIGHT *Pract. Dict. Mech.*, *Bullen*, the awn or chaff from flax or hemp.

Bullen, obs. form of BULLION.

[**Bullenger**, erroneous form of BALINGER. (In the AF. passage (*Rot. Parl.* 2 Hen. IV, 22) referred to by Blount the printed ed. reads *balyngers*.) 1670 in BLOUNT *Law Dict.* 1678 in PHILLIPS, etc.]

Bullen-nail. [? corruption of *bullion-nail*; see quot. 1707 in BULLION¹ 1.]

1842-76 GWILT *Archit. Gloss.*, *Bullen nails*, such as have round heads with short shanks turned and lacquered. They are principally used in the hangings of rooms. 1847 in CRAIG; and in mod. Dicts.

† **Buller**, *sb.*1 Obs. [f. BULL sb.2 + -ER¹.] a. One who issues or publishes a bull. b. A deceiver, cheat. [perh. a distinct word, cf. BULL v.3, OF. *bouleuer* 'trompeur' Godef.]

a 1300 *Cursor M.* 20306 Fals bulleres þat þam makes and þam furth beres, or els þat falses þe papes seile. c 1460 *Towneley Myst.* 242 (Mätz) Thise dysars and thise bullars, Thise cokkers and thise bollars.

Buller (bu'lar), *sb.*2 Sc. Also 6 bullyer. [cf. Sw. *buller* noise, roar, Da. *bulder* tumbling noise. But influence of *boil* is manifest.]

1. A roaring noise (of waves or flood); the boiling of an eddy or torrent.

1813 DOUGLAS *Ensis* x. vi. 13 Calmyt all is But stowr or bullyer, murmur or moving.

b. *The Buller(s) of Buchan*, a rocky recess on the Aberdeenshire coast, near Peterhead, open at the top; the sea, constantly raging in it, gives it the appearance of a boiling pot or caldron.

1769 PENNANT *Tour Scotl.* 145 (JAM.) The famous Bullers of Buchan lying about a mile North of Bowness. 1774 JOHNSON *West. Isl. Wks.* 1787 X. 334 We... turned our eyes to the Buller... of Buchan. 1836 *Penny Cycl.* V. 508/1 The Bullers of Buchan, a nearly round basin about 30 yards wide.

2. *fig.* 1851 WILSON *Tales of Borders* XX. 23 This new cause of sorrow increased my paroxysm to a perfect buller.

Buller (bu'lar), *v.*1 Sc. Also 6 bullir. [f. prec.; cf. Sw. *bullra-a*, Da. *buldre* to roar, make a noise.] To make a noise, to roar, to bellow.

1830 LYNDSEAY *Test. Papyro* 95 Blait lyke ane hog, and buller lyke ane bull. 1849 *Compl. Scot.* (1872) 39 The bullis began to bullir, quhen the scheip began to blait. 1863 SPALDING *Tronb. Chas.* I (1829) 33 It... would duck under water, snorting and bullering. 1818 SCOTT *Hrt. Midl.* xv, Screeching and bullering like a Bull of Bashan.

† **Buller**, *v.*2 Obs. Sc. Also buler. [Perh. the same word as prec., but influenced in sense by OF. *bullir* to BOIL.]

1. a. *intr.* To boil, to foam; to rush foaming.

b. *trans.* To wash up in foaming waves. 1813 DOUGLAS *Ensis* i. iii. 26 The stowr w^m bullerit sand as it war wind. *Ibid.* i. iii. 50 Salt watter strems Fast bulerand in at every rift. *Ibid.* xi. xi. 34 Amasenus, that river... Abuf the brais bulryst as it war wod.

2. *intr.* To make bubbles or foam.

1835 STEWART *Crom. Scot.* II. 259 Full mony berne lay bulrand in his blude. 1856 BELLENDEN *Crom. Scot.* (1821) I. 231 The king was liand bulrand in his blude. a 1555 LYNDSEAY *Trag.* 338 Quhow I laye bulrand, baithit in my blude.

Hence **Bullering** *ppl. a.*

1833 BELLENDEN *Livy* v. (1822) 457 Thay sank down and perist in the depe bullerand strems. 1837 LYNDSEAY *Deplor. Q. Magd.* 45 So did this prince [swim] throw bulyrng strems wode. 1854 — *Monarchie* 1553 The gret Ociane. did nocht spred sic bulyrng strands As it dois now.

† **Bullery.** Obs. Also 6 bullary. = BOILERY.

1848 HEN. VIII in *Rymer Fadera* (1710) XIV. 748 Foure Bullaries of Salte Water. 1704 *Lond. Gas.* No. 4071/4 The Salt-Works or Bullery of Salt... are to be Sold.

Bullery: see BULLARY.

Bullescence (bule'sens). Bot. [as if ad. Lat. **bullescentia* f. pres. pple. of *bullescere* to bubble.]

A term applied to the condition occurring in leaves when the inter-venous structure rises above the veins, as in the Savoy cabbage. Cf. BULLATE.

1880 in *Syd. Soc. Lex.*

Bullesse, obs. form of BULLACE.

† **Bullester.** Obs. Also 6 bolaster, 7 bulaster. App. a phonetically reduced form of *bullestre*, *bulace-tree* (see BULLACE). Also *bullester-tree*.

1500 *Ort. Voc.* in *Prompt. Parv.* 42 *Peplulus*, a bolaster. 1864 TURNER *Herbal* II. 103 b, The one [kind of plum] is called the bulles tre or the bullesterre. a 1700 D. CAMPBELL *Let.* in C. Innes *Sh. Early Sc. Hist.* 432 note, I send you the wrack of all my plumes damsones and bulasters.

Bullet (bu'let), *sb.*1 Also 6 bollet (te), boolet, boulette, bullet, Sc. bullet. [a. F. *boulette* (in 16th c. *boullette*) dim. of *boule* ball; cf. F. *boulet* = 2.]

1. A small round ball. (In mod. use this sense is *transf.* from 3.)

1576 LYTE *Dodoens* I. viii. 15 Upon the branches [of the burdock] there groweth small bullets or rounde balles. *Ibid.* IV. iv. 515 It [the Reed Grass] bringeth forth his boulettes, or prickley knoppes in August. 1664 H. MORE *Myst. Iniq.* 241 If a Beast were made of little wax bullets sticking together. 1851 D. WILSON *Preh. Ann.* (1863) II. iv. 261 Small gold bullets... seem to have been the current coin.

†2. A cannon-ball (of metal or stone); sometimes cannon-bullet. *Obs. exc. Hist.*

1557 *RECORDE Whetst.* Pivb, A Gonne. doeth shotte a bollet of twentypound weighte. 1560 *WHITEHORNE Certaine Wayes* (1573) 33a. If the boole of a peece of ordinaunce waighe xxi. pounde. 1561 *Stow Chron. an.* 1557 (R.) A ship before Greenwich. shot off her ordnance, one peece being charged with a bullet of stone. 1605 *1st Pt. Jeronimo in Dodsley* (1780) III. 98 Raise spleens big as a cannon-bullet Within your bosoms. 1703 *Lond. Gas. No.* 3014/5 Their Forces. fired several Red-hot Bullets into the Town. 188a *SHORTHOUSE J. Inglesant* II. 378 More than once a cannon bullet burst into the Minister.

3. A ball of lead or other metal, used in firearms of small calibre; now often conical. Formerly also collective (cf. *BALL sb. 1* b).

1579 *Gosson Sch. Abuse* (Arb.) 38 The souldier is sooner killed with a little Bullet than a large Swoorde. 1652 *Proc. Parliament* No. 134 Ammunition. found in the Castle of Bradock. 700 weight of Musket Bullet. 1758 *JOHNSON Idler* No. 10 ¶4 The man was not hurt by the bullet. 1839 *tr. Lamartine's Trav. East* 481 Beschir. precipitated himself from the top of it under a shower of bullets.

fig. 1599 *SHAKS. Much Ado* II. iii. 249 Shall quips and sentences, and these paper bullets of the braine awe a man from the careere of his humour?

4. a. Formerly, The missile from a sling; also attrib. b. The angler's plumb or sinker.

1587 *TURBURY Trag. T.* (1837) 175 The arrowes flew from side to side. The bullet stones did walke. 1633 *T. STAFFORD Pac. Hb.* viii. (1821) 574 Captain Roger Harvie, received several bruises with stones and iron bullets, flung upon them. 1807 *ROBINSON Archael. Græca* IV. iii. 349 In slinging, they whirled it twice or thrice about the head, and then cast the bullet. 1847 *GROTE Græce* (1862) VI. ii. lxx. 262 The Greeks. obtained. lead for bullets to be used by the slingers. 1867 *F. FRANCIS Angling* I. (1880) 47 It is not desirable to plunge. the bullet into the water.

5. pl. *Sc.* The game of bowls. [Cf. *OF. boulette* in same sense.]

1843 *Proc. Berw. Nat. Club* II. No. 11. 58 In the eastern district of Berwickshire the game was called bowls or bullets.

6. A term in card-playing.

1807 *W. IRVING Salmag.* (1824) 354 One of them. exclaimed triumphantly, 'Two bullets and a bragger!' and swept all the money into his pocket.

7. Phrases. † Every bullet has its lighting place.

Every bullet has its billet (see *BILLET sb. 1* 4).

† Full bullet: of full size. † Bullet in mouth: ready for action (cf. *BOUCHE sb. 1* 2).

c 1575 *GASCOIGNE Fruites Warre* lxvii. Every bullet hath a lighting place. 1649 *G. DANIEL Trinarch.* Hen. IV. cxv. Some Minds are cast Full Bullet to the widest mouth of Sin. 1690 *Siege Lymrick* 31 The said Garrison to march out. with Arms. Bullet in Mouth, Colours flying. 1837 *DICKENS Pickw.* xix. It is an established axiom that 'every bullet has its billet'.

8. Comb. and Attrib., as bullet-bag, -boy, -buttons, -gun, -hole, -maker, -mould; and bullet-less, -like, -proof adjs.; also † bullet-bore, a tool for finishing the interior of a bullet-mould; bullet-bush (see quot.); bullet-drawer, an instrument for extracting bullets from wounds; † bullet-iron (see quot.); bullet-money (see quot.); bullet-shell, a shell used with small arms. Also BULLET-HEAD.

1598 *BARRET Theor. Warres* III. i. 34 On his right side a Bullet bagge or purse of canvas. for bullets. 1652 *Proc. Parliament* No. 170 Behind the hangings were found 66 Muskets. and the bullet bagges filled with new cast bullets. 1677 *MOXON Mech. Exerc.* (1703) 55 The *Bullet-bore, is a Shank of Steel, having a Steel Globe or Bullet at one end, just of your intended Bullet size. 1876 *Daily News* 18 Oct. 3/6 A bullet boy in the Royal Arsenal, was brought up from Maidstone gaol. 1731 *MORTIMER in Phil. Trans.* XXXVII. 177 *Prunus Buxi folio cordato, fructu nigro rotundo.* The *Bullet-Bush. 1823 *F. COOPER Pioneer* v. 24/1 A flock of bottle-green with bullet buttons. 1749 in *Phil. Trans.* XLVI. 85 The Extraction of it. by the *Bullet-drawers. 1703 *MAUNDRELL Journ. Jerus.* (1721) Add. 3 A long *bullet-gun could not shoot a ball over it. 1679 *Plot Staffordsh.* (1686) 374 Spanish or Swedish barrs, here called *bullet-iron. 1876 *E. CLARK Life Japan* 185 Throwing volley after volley of *bulletless smoke into the stubborn ranks of the enemy. 1874 *LUBBOCK Orig. & Met. Ins.* i. 10 The species making the *bullet-like galls. 1644 *PRYNNE & WALKER Fiennes's Trial* 17 The said Governour. had. A Match-maker, a *Bullet-maker. 1879 *H. PHILLIPS Notes Coins* 13 The *bullet-money of Siam is formed by bringing together the ends of oval pieces of silver. 1677 *MOXON Mech. Exerc.* (1703) 52 The making of *Bullet molds. 1896 *J. GRANT Black Drag.* xxxvi. Others. believed in *bullet-proof men, and put in a silver coin with their bullets.

† Bullet, sb. 2 *Obs. rare.* [Ultimately identical with *BILLET sb. 1*; in sense 1 perh. a mere corruption of that word; in sense 2 ad. It. *bulletta*.]

1. = *BILLET sb. 1* 4.

1612 *Passenger of Benvenuto* (N.) There is a bullet for the warrant of your lodging.

2. A slip of paper on which the voter wrote the name of the candidate he supported. Cf. *BULLETTIN*.

1615 *G. SANDYS Travels* 230 Elected by the Great Master and his Knights, who give their voices by bullets, as do the Venetians.

Bullet, v. nonce-*wd.* [f. *BULLET sb. 1*] *trans.* To shoot with a bullet.

1884 *GILBERT-SMITH Log of the 'Norseman'* 135 A veritable stuffed pig, born, bred, and bulletted in Albania.

Bulletted (bu'letéd), *ppl. a.* [f. *BULLET sb. 1* + -ED.] a. Bullet-shaped. b. Furnished with bullets.

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α 1583 *STANYHURST Conceites* (Arb.) 143 A leshe of bulletted hard stoans. 1828 in *Greener Gunmery Advt.* 12 Manufacturer of Powder. Saloon Pistols, Bulletted Caps, etc.

Bullet-head. [f. *BULLET sb. 1* + *HEAD*.] a. A head round like a bullet. b. A person with such a head; in U. S., fig. a 'pig-headed', obstinate person. Hence *Bullet-headed, head-dedness.*

1690 *B. E. Dict. Cant. Crew, Bullet-headed*, a dull silly Fellow. 1722 *De Fox Col. Jack* (1840) 142 He would have whipped poor bullet-head, so they called the negro. 1793 *HOLCROFT Lavater's Physiog.* xx. 102 Savages, by being distorted, acquired the appellation of bowl- or bullet-head. 1846 *LOWELL Biglow P.* ix. He aint No more 'n a tough old bullet-head. a 1849 *For Marginalia* lxxiv. The disgusting sternness, capiousness, and bullet-headedness of her husband. 1872 *F. W. ROBINSON Tito's Troub.* in *Wrayford's Ward*, I was a thin, gawky, bullet-headed youth. 1875 *BUCKLAND Log-Bk.* 25 Popped his bullet head. round from the Curtain.

Bulletin (bu'letin). Also 7 *bolletine, -ettine.* [In 17th c. ad. It. *bulletino, bollettino* dim. of *bulletta* = *BULLET sb. 1*; but the mod. word (senses 2, 3), first recorded in latter half of 18th c., appears to be a. Fr. *bulletin*.]

† 1. a. A short note or memorandum. b. An official certificate; a warrant of appointment to an office. *Obs.*

1645 *EVELYN Mem.* (1819) I. 181 We went now towards Ferrara, carrying with us a Bulletin or bill of health. 1652 *tr. Life Father Sarpi* (1676) 46 He. kept under Key. even to the least bolletines and short notes that he made. 1673 *RAY Journ. Low C.* Venice 178 The sealing of bolletines for them that are to undertake any new office, etc.

2. A short account or report of public news or events, issued by authority; applied esp., c 1800, to a report sent from the seat of war by a commander for publication at home.

1791 *BURKE Appeal Whigs* (R.) The pithy and sententious brevity of these bulletins of ancient rebellion. 1792 *LD. SPENCER in Ld. Auckland's Corr.* (1861) II. 474 They brought me. a bulletin, for which I am much obliged to you. 1813 *WELLINGTON Let. in Gurw. Disp.* X. 410 There is at Lisbon a newspaper of the 13th containing the French bulletin of their action. 1840 *CARLYLE Heroes* vi. 374 'False as a bulletin' became a proverb in Napoleon's time. 1880 *Daily News* 29 Oct. Daily bulletins of the weather are despatched to subscribers.

3. An official statement as to the health of an invalid.

1765 *H. WALPOLE Corr.* (1817) II. 312 The dauphin is at the point of death. Every morning the physicians frame an account of him, and happy is he or she who can produce a copy of this lie, called a bulletin. 1836 *DICKENS Sk. Bos* 5 Verbal bulletins of the state of his health were circulated throughout the parish half-a-dozen times a day. 1870 *DISRAELI Lothair* lix. Lothair, after having held the first. bulletin of the surgeon, had been obliged to leave the convent.

Hence *Bulletin v. trans.* To make known by bulletin.

1838 *JERROLD Men of Char.* J. Pippins vii. Job again and again bulletined his convalescence. 1884 *Reading (Pa.) Herald* 3 Apr. Mr. L. has made arrangements to have all. championship games bulletined.

† **Bulleting**, *vbl. sb. Obs. rare* -1. [f. *BULLET sb. 1* + *ING*.] The firing of bullets. Also attrib.

1635 *SWAN Spec. M. v.* § 2 (1643) 167 In a bloudie bulleting fight, the aire is forced and stirred.

Bullet Tree, var. of *BULLY TREE*: see *BULLY sb. 4*

Buletty (bu'letti), a. [f. *BULLET sb. 1* + *-Y*.] Shaped like a bullet.

1846 *Poe Wks.* (1864) III. 111 His forehead is. what is termed buletty. 1857 *Tait's Mag.* XXIV. 174 It covered a round, buletty head.

† **Bulleyn**, var. of *BOLLEN sb. Obs.*, seed-pod.

1576 *LYVE Dodons* i. lxxiii. 123 Ye shall find in the huskes wherein they stood littell long bulleyns wherein the seede is containyd.

Bulleys, obs. form of *BULLACE*.

Bull-fight. [Of recent introduction, having superseded bull-feast (see *BULL sb. 1* 10), which is found in Ash and Bailey, while neither they nor Johnson give bull-fight.] A sport practised in Spain, in which a bull is first attacked by horsemen called *torreadores*, and footmen called *pica-dores*, and finally slain by a swordsmen called *matador*. Hence *Bull-fighter, -ing vbl. sb.*

1753 *CHAMBERS Cycl. Suppl.* s.v. Bull, Bull-fighting, a sport or exercise much in vogue among the Spaniards and Portuguese. 1768 *LD. AUCKLAND Diary in Corr.* II. 63 All the gentlemen. went for the first time to the bull-fight. 1846 *Byron's Wks.* 13/1 note. The professional bull-fighter gave. lessons. 1862 *Sat. Rev.* XIV. 219/2 If we go on in this way, we shall be ready for bull-fights and gladiators. 1883 *Sunday Mag.* 575/1 Ferdinand VII founded at Seville a university for. education. in the art of bull-fighting.

b. † = *BULL-BAITING*.

1824 *J. McCulloch Highlands Scotl.* I. 367 If there is not a bull-fight at Wrexham or Stamford, some squire is born, and there is a bull-feast at Grantham or Chirk.

Bullfinch (bu'linf). Also *bulfinch*. [f. *BULL sb. 1* + *FINCH*.] The reason for the name is uncertain: some have suggested that it was given on account of the thickness of the bird's neck.]

One of a genus of birds (*Pyrhula*), allied to the Grosbeaks, having handsome plumage and a short, hard, rounded beak; well known for its aptness to be trained as a singing bird.

1570 *LEVINS Manip.* 134/4 A Bulfinche, bird, ribicilla. 1609 *N. F. Fruiterers Secrets* 2 A Bulfinch will eate [cherries] stones and all. 1645 *MOUFFET & BENNET Health's Improv.* (1746) 188 Bulfinches feed. upon Hemp-seed, and the Blossoms of Pear, plum, and Apple-trees. 1769 *G. WHITE Selborne* xxxix. (1853) 134 Bulfinches when fed on hempseed often become wholly black. 1835 *MARRVAT Olla Podr.* xiv. The piping bullfinch. must have a good memory. 1847 *Gard. Chron.* 118 The bill of the bulfinch is a most suspicious-looking instrument.

b. Comb., as *bulfinch plover, bulfinch-trainer*.

1864 *ATKINSON Provinc. names Birds, Bulfinch Plover*, Prov. name for Turnstone, *Streptilas interpres*. 1857 *MAYHEW Lond. Labour* II. 59 This tuition among professional bulfinch-trainers, is systematic.

Bullfinch (bu'linf). [Evans *Leicestersh. Gloss.* (1881) suggests a corruption of *bull-fence*. If it was so, the origin must have been forgotten before *bull-finch fence* was said.] A kind of hedge (see quot.).

1822 *Quart. Rev.* Mar. 226 The bull-finch fence. is a quickset hedge of perhaps fifty years' growth with a ditch on one side or the other, and so high and strong that [one] cannot clear it. 1837 *KINGSLEY in Life* xvi. (1879) II. 56 Race at the brook, Then smash at the bullfinch. 1880 *Times* 2 Nov. 4/5 Double-stitched shooting coats, that will stand the ordeal of 'bull-finches' and brambles.

Hence *Bullfinch v. intr.*, to leap a horse through such a hedge.

1837 *Gambler's Dream* III. 208 A fox hunter who must bullfinch out [of] a field in Northamptonshire, looks out for a little daylight between the twigs.

Bullfincher. = *prec.*

1862 *Sat. Rev.* XIV. 219/2 A man exhibits his skill over a bullfincher for his own amusement.

† **Bullfist**. *Obs. exc. dial.* [f. *BULL sb. 1* + *FIST sb.* 'flatus ventris'.] The fungus called puff-ball (*Lycoperdon bovista*). 'Still in use in Suffolk' Britten and Holland.

1611 *CORRA, Pisanolict*, a fuss-ball. puffiste, or bullfiste.

1755 *Gentl. Mag.* XXV. 124 The remarkable quality of the Lycoperdon, Puff-ball, or Bull-fist for stopping hæmorrhages.

Bullfrog. [f. *BULL sb. 1* + *FROG*.] The name given to certain large American frogs, esp. *Rana pipiens*, a species 6 or 8 inches long, which has a voice not unlike that of a bull.

1738 *MORTIMER Nat. Hist. Carolina in Phil. Trans.* XL. 348 The Bull-Frog. This hath its English Name from its Noise, which seems not unlike the Bellowing of a Bull at a Distance. 1795 *WOLCOTT* (P. Pindar) *Louiad* III. Wks. 1812 I. 248 The Bull-frog's snore. 1844 *W. IRVING T. Trav.* (1849) 384 The bull-frog croaked dolefully from a neighboring pool. 1855 *LONGR. Hiaw.* ix. 118 And the bull-frog, the Dahinda, Thrust his head into the moonlight.

Bullhead. Also 6 *bullyhead*.

1. A small freshwater fish with a large head (*Aspidophorus cataphractes*); the *Miller's Thumb*. c 1450 *Voc. in Wr.* Wülcker 704 *Hic capito*, a bulhede. 1558 *Act* i. Elia. xvii. Places where Smelts, Loches, Minnies, Bulheads, etc. have been used to be taken. 1653 *WALTON Angler* 232 The Miller's thumb or Bull-head is a fish of no pleasing shape. 1841 *H. MILLER O. R. Sandst.* iii. 77 The river bull-head, when attacked by an enemy, or immediately as it feels the hook in its jaws, erects its two spines at nearly right angles with the plates of the head.

2. A tadpole. Now only *dial.*

1611 *COTGR., Carenot*, a Pole-head, or Bull-head; the little black vermine whereof toads and frogs do come. 1883 *Lanc. Gloss.* (E. D. S.) *Bull-heads, Bull-Jones*, tadpoles.

† 3. A mass of curled or frizzled hair worn over the forehead; called also *BULL-TOUR*. *Obs.*

1672 *MARVELL Reh. Transp.* i. 3 To trick up the good old Bishop in a yellow Coif and a Bulls-head, that he may appear in Fashion. 1673 *R. LEIGH Transp. Rehers'd* 140 The Glories of her Yellow Hood and Bull-head. 1688 *R. HOLME Armoury* II. xvii. § 119 Some term this curled forehead from the French word *Taure*, a Bull-head. This was the fashion of Women to wear Bull-heads, or Bull-like foreheads, anno 1674.

4. 'A stupid fellow; a blockhead.' J. Also attrib. 1624 *Essex's Ghost* in *Harl. Misc.* III. 514 Why should this bull-head bishop. against me roar with brazen bull?

Bullheaded (bu'headed), a. Having a massive head, broadheaded; fig. blindly impetuous, blockheaded. Hence *Bullhead-dedness*.

1818 *SCOTT Hrt. Midl.* xviii. They. flourish with their bull-headed obstinacy. 1846 *Comic Jack Giant Kill* (ed. 3) 7 This beef-eating, bull-headed, 'son-of-a-gun'. 1884 *F. BRITTON Watch & Clockm.* 153 See that the pivots are. neither bull headed nor taper. 1895 *CARLYLE Frithk. Gr.* I. iv. viii. 465 Rough and stiff as natural bull-headedness helped by Prussian pipeclay can make it.

Bullied (bu'lied), *ppl. a.* [f. *BULLY v.* + *-ED*.] Roughly treated; cowed by a bully.

1851 *SIR F. PALGRAVE Norm. & Eng.* (1864) IV. 67 The story of Flambard's mother enlivened the chansons of some bullied minstrel. a 1863 *THACKERAY Song of Cane* viii. That cringing, bullied lout Had once a generous soul.

† **Bullient**, a. *Obs. rare.* [a. L. *bullient-em*, pr. pple. of *bullire* to BOIL.] Boiling, bubbling.

1669 *BOYLE Contin. New Exp.* II. (1682) 141 Bullient Spirit of Wine. The murmur of the bullient water was heard.

Bullies, obs. form of *BULLACE*.

† **Bullifant**. *Obs. rare* -1.

a 1598 *SKELTON Elynour Rumymyng* 520 Necked lyke an olyfant, It was a bullifant, A greedy cormorant.

Bullimong (bu'limɔŋ). Forms: 4, 9 *buli*, 5-7, 9 *boly*, 6 *bul*, 7 *bally*, 8 *bullimong*, (6 *bullimoong*, 7 -mung, 8 -mond), 6- *bulli*.

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mong. (7-8 Dicts. have bulli-, bolli-, bullmony.) [Of obscure composition: the second element is app. IMONG:—OE. *gemang*, -*mpng*, mixture.]

1. A mixture of various kinds of grain sown together (as oats, pease, and vetches) for feeding cattle. Cf. DREDGE, MESLIN, and *L. farrago*.

1313 etc. in Rogers *Agric. & Prices* II. 174/4 etc. 1494 *Will of Fyche, Essex* (Somerset Ho.), Frumenti et duo quarteria de Bolymong. 1558 HULOET, Bolymonge whyche is a kynd of myxture of corne and grayne, *farrago*. 1577 HARRISON *Descr. Brit.* i. xviii. Of mixed corne, as . . . tares and otes (which they call bulmong). . . here is no place to speake. 1601 HOLLAND *Pliny* I. 557 Grain which . . . is sown for beasts . . . which they call dredge or ballimong. 1639 HORN & ROBERTHAM *Gale Lang. Unt.* xii. § 130 Bullimong [mixt provender] is sowne for cattell. 1706 in PHILLIPS [see 2]. 1753 CHAMBERS *Cycl. Suppl.*, Bullimong, bullimong, bollimong, etc. 1844 BAKER in *Frml. R. A. S. V.* L. 4 Peas. . . are frequently sown with oats. . . This crop is denominated bullimong.

b. attrib. 1615 T. ADAMS *Sacrifice of Thanks*, Wks. 1861 I. 127 They are full of farraginous and bullimong mixtures. 1647 WARD *Simp. Cobler* 24. If any man mislikes a bully mong drassock more then I, let him take her for all mee.

† 2. = BUCKWHEAT. Obs. 1578 LYTE *Dodoens* iii. liii. 393 The seede is blacke and triangled . . . like to the seede of Bockweyde or Bolymong. 1598 GERARD *Herbal* i. ix. ¶ 4. 83 Buckwheat is called . . . in English . . . Bullimong. 1706 PHILLIPS, *Bollimong* or *Boll-mong*, Buck-wheat, a kind of Grain: Also a Medley of several sorts of Grain together, otherwise call'd Mastin, or Mong-corn.

Bulling, *vbl. sb.* 1. See BULL *v. 1* 1398 [see BULL *v. 1*]. 1607 TOPSELL *Four-f. Beasts* 57 The signes of their Bulling (as it is termed) are their cries, and disorderly forsaking their fellows. 1624 FLETCHER *Rule a Wife*, etc. v. 1725 BRADLEY *Fam. Dict.* i. s. v. *Cow*, The Advantages of their bulling at that Time is, that they will calve in ten Months.

Bulling, *vbl. sb.* 2. [f. BULL *v. 1*, or nonce-vb. f. BULL *sb.*, + -ING *1*.] (nonce-use) = BULL-BAITING. c. 1645 HOWELL *Let.* (1713) 124 The Pope hath sent divers Bulls against this Sport of bullings.

† **Bulling**, *vbl. sb.* 3. Obs. [f. BULL *v. 3* to deceive; cf. BULLER *sb.* 1 b.] † Fraudulent scheming. 1532 MORE *Confut. Barnes* viii. Wks. (1557) 736/1 Hys asshed exclamations, and all hys busy bulling.

† **Bulling**, *vbl. sb.* 4. Obs.—o. [Cf. F. *bouillir* and L. *bullire* to BOIL.] The action of water issuing from a spring; bubbling.

1558 HULOET, Bulling, bollynge, or bubbling of water out of a spryng.

† **Bulling**, *ppl. a. Obs. rare*—1. [f. BULL *v. 2*] That issues (papal) bulls.

1624 *Essex's Ghost in Harl. Misc.* (Malh.) III. 515 This bulling Pius.

† **Bullion**, *f. sb.* 1. Obs. Also 5 bolyon. [a. F. *bouillon*, f. *bouillir* to BOIL.] a. A boiling, a quantity (of salt, etc.) boiled at one time (OF. *bouillon* de sel, med. L. *bullio* 'mensura salinaria' Du Cange); cf. mod. 'a boil of soap'. b. A certain quantity of quicksilver; cf. 'un bouillon de vif argent xxv livres pesant' (Carpentier a. v. *Bullionum*).

1453 *Weighing Charges* in Heath *Grocers' Comp.* (1869) 422 Argent Vyff, ye bolyon. . . 1610 HOLLAND *Camden's Brit.* 575 (D.) In Wich the King and Earle have eight salt pits, which . . . yielded on the Friday sixteen Bullions.

Bullion (bu'li-on). Forms: 5 bullioun (e, Sc. buljeon), 6 bollon, -lyon, bullayn, 6-7 bullyon, 7 bulloin, -oigne, (bullen, bulline), 5-bullion. [Of obscure etymology. First recorded as AF. *bullion* (see quot. 1336 in 1); the form appears to point to identity with F. *bouillon*, med. L. *bullio* 'boiling' (cf. prec.), but it does not appear that the word ever had, except in England, any of the senses defined below. If this etymology be correct, the sense of 'boiling' must have undergone a purely English development into those of 'melting', 'melted mass of metal'; the applications quoted under the preceding sb. (which are common to OF. and Eng.) probably furnished the suggestion for this extension of meaning. In MDu. *boelien* seems to have had the sense of alloyed gold or silver (cf. 3, 4); see Verwijs & Verdam, who however identify the word with *bullion*, a. Fr. *billon*. The conjecture that *bullion* is in some way derived from L. *bullia* in the sense of seal or stamp appears to fail both with regard to form and meaning. The Fr. *billon* base metal (see BILLON) is unconnected in origin, but it seems to have influenced sense 4 of the present word; on the other hand, some obs. senses of Fr. *billon* seem to have been imitated from those of Eng. *bullion*.] I. 1. † Melting-house or mint; but the 16th c. legal antiquaries understood it as 'place of exchange'. (App. only in the Anglo-French Statutes, or the translations of them.)

1336 *Act 9 Edw. III.* ii. § 2 Puisseut sauvement porter a les eschanges ou bullion . . . argent en plate, vessel d'argent, etc. 1354 *Act 27 Edw. III.* ii. § 14 Puisseut sauvement porter . . . plate d'argent, billetes d'or et tut autre maner d'or et toutz moneyes d'or et d'argent a nostre bullione ou a nos eschanges. 1672 *transl.* That all Merchants . . . may safely carie and bring

. . . all money of gold and siluer to our bullion or to our exchanges which we shall cause to be ordeyned at our said Staples. 1641 *Termes de la Ley* 43 Bullion . . . is the place where gold is tryed. 1670 BLOUNT *Law Dict.*, Bullion . . . signifies . . . sometimes the Kings Exchange, or place, whither such Gold in the lump is brought to be tryed or exchanged. 1725 SWIFT *Drapier's Lett.* Wks. 1755 V. ii. 21 The third part of all the money of silver plate, which shall be brought to the bullion, shall be made into half-pence and farthings.

II. Precious metal in the mass.

2. Gold or silver in the lump, as distinguished from coin or manufactured articles; also applied to coined or manufactured gold or silver when considered simply with reference to its value as raw material.

1451 *Sc. Acts* Jas. II (1507) § 34 Na man haue out of the Realme, gold, siluer, nor Buljeon. c. 1460 FORTESCUE *Abt. & Lim. Mon.* (1714) 115 How Bullion may be brought into this Land. 1477 *Act 17 Edw. IV.* i. Touts gentz en queleconq^e Roiaume puissent porter a leschanges come bullion tout maner de bon monie d'argent, de queleconq^e value q^e fuisse. 1488 *Invent.* in Tytler *Hist. Scot.* (1864) II. 393 Item twa braid pecis of brynt silver bullioun. 1580 NORTH *Plutarch* 865 Bringing with him all his plate, both Gold and Silver, unto the Mint-master, he gave it him to put into bullion, and so to be converted into currant coin. 1633 T. STAFFORD *Pac. Hib.* iv. (1821) 267 All such Moneyes be esteemed for Bullion onely. 1645 HOWELL *Venice* 17 Their charge is to look to all sorts of bullions and coines, that they be not embased and adulterated. c. 1674 CLARENDON *Hist. Reb.* i. 1. 59 The Bullion of neighbour Kingdoms brought to receive a Stamp from the Mint of England. 1688 R. HOLME *Armoury* ii. 39/1 Metal, which is unwrought is called of some a Wedge or Bulline. 1725 SWIFT *Drapier's Lett.* Wks. 1755 V. ii. 22 All silver money should be taken only as bullion. 1863 FAWCETT *Pol. Econ.* iii. v. (1876) 361 It is unprofitable to melt down our silver coinage, and sell it as bullion. 1868 ROGERS *Pol. Econ.* iv. (1876) 6 The sum . . . retained by the Bank of England as bullion.

b. fig. 1635 QUARES *Embl.* ii. xiii. (1718) 114, I cannot serve my God and bullion too. 1832 DOWNES *Let. Cont. Countries* I. 91 It was tough work for foreign lips to coin the Swiss-German bullion into a circulating medium of communication.

c. Solid gold or silver (as opposed to mere showy imitations). Often fig. Also attrib.

1596 SPENSER *P. Q.* iii. i. 32 All of purest bullion framed were. 1779 JOHNSON *L. P. Wks.* 1816 X. 160 The spangles of wit which he could afford he knew how to polish; but he wanted the bullion of his master. 1828 SCOTT *Nigel* xiv. Brodery and bullion buttons make bare pouches. 1834 COLERIDGE *Lit. Rem.* (1836) II. 361 There is . . . weighty bullion Sense in this book. 1850 THACKERAY *Pendennis* xlvii. A red neckcloth . . . with a large pin of bullion or other metal.

† 3. Impure gold or silver; also fig. and attrib.

1616 BULLOCKAR, *Bullion*, silver unrefined, not yet made into money. 1641 MILTON *Ch. Discip.* ii. (1851) 50 To extract heaps of gold and silver out of the drossie Bullion of the Peoples sinnes. 1667 — *P. L.* i. 704 A second multitude . . . scum'd the Bullion dross. 1820 HAZLITT *Lect. Dram. Lit.* 264 The coarse, heavy, dirty, unwieldy bullion of books, is driven out of the market of learning.

III. Applied to other metals.

4. † a. Any metal in the lump (obs.). † b. Base metal; = BILLON (obs.). c. Base bullion: formerly = b; mod. in *Mining* (see quot. 1881).

c. 1590 MARLOWE *Hero & L.* i. Base bullion for the stamps sake we allow. 1598 SYLVESTER *De Barts* ii. ii. ii. (1621) 261 And those [words], which Elids strict doom did disallow, And damn for bullion, go for current now. 1601 HOLLAND *Pliny* II. 462 (Eris grauis) that is to say . . . brasse Bullion, or in Masse. 1632 SHERWOOD *Dict.*, Bullion, *Billon*. 1881 RAYMOND *Mining Gloss.*, Base bullion (Pacific), is pig lead containing silver and some gold, which are separated by refining.

IV. 5. Comb. (sense 2), as *bullion-dealer*; also *bullion-coal*, local name of a particular seam; † *bullion-heretic* (nonce-*wd.*, see quot.).

1881 E. HULL *Coal-fields Gt. Brit.* (ed. 4) 204 Amongst the strata overlying the 'Upper-foot', or 'Bullion-coal', marine fossils occur. 1861 N. *Brit. Rev.* Nov. 358 Will 'bullion-dealers refuse to buy gold for us abroad? 1869 ROGERS in *Adam Smith's W. N.* I. Pref. 40 The military chests of Napoleon were supplied by . . . British bullion dealers. 1666 THORNDIKE *Just Weights* vii. § 2 They are 'bullion-heretics' . . . though not stamped by conviction, and contumacy succeeding, and the declaration of the church upon that.

† **Bullion** 3. Obs. Also 5 bolyon, -en, 6 bulion, bullyon. [app. a. F. *boulon* (spelt *bouillon* in Cotgr.), f. *boule* ball; assimilated in form to prec.]

1. A knob or boss of metal; a convex ornament on a book, girdle, harness, or ring. Also attrib.

1463 in *Bury Wills* (1850) 36, I beqweeth to Anne Smyth a ryng of gold with bolyons. 1464 *Mann. & Househ. Exp.* 254 My mastyr payd to Martyn Goldsmythe, for bolyons gyldynge, ij. s. 1577 in *Glasscock Rec. St. Michaels, Bp. Stortford* (1882) 35 Item pd for x bolyons and clasps, viij. d. 1523 SKELTON *Garl. Laurel* 1165 The clasps and bulyons were worth a thousande pounce. 1598-98 ELYOT *Dict.*, Bulla, a bullion sette on the cover of a booke, or other thyng. 1598 PHAËR *Æneid* ix. B b ij b, Bulyons broad of gold, and girdling girthes miraclose fyne. 1611 Cotgr., Bossette . . . a bosse or bullion set on a booke. 1706 PHILLIPS, Bullion of Copper is Copper-plates set on the Breast-leathers, or Bridles of Horses for ornament. 1707 EARL BINDON in *Land. Gaz.* No. 4339/3 To Prohibit . . . all Coachmakers . . . that they do not use Varnish'd Bullion-Nails. 2. ? = Bull's eye in glass.

1834 *Specif. Hartley's Patent* No. 6702. 2 When the table of glass is complete there are . . . more or less waved lines for some inches round the 'bullion' or the centre of the table of glass, which lessens the value.

3. = *bolien*, BOLLEN *sb.*, BULLEYN.

1589 FLEMING *Virg. Georg.* i. 9 She [the pine] beareth balls or bullions of chesnut colour.

Bullion (bu'li-on). [Prob. a. F. *bouillon* (see BULLION 1) in senses derived from that of 'bubble': '1 Plis bouffants qu'on fait à certains vêtements; 2. Fil d'or ou d'argent tourné en rond' (Littré).]

† 1. More fully *bullion-hose*: Trunk-hose, puffed out at the upper part, in several folds. Obs. Cf. BOUILLON 4.

1594 Gesta Gray. in Nichols *Progr. Q. Elis.* III. 341 A bullion-hose is best to goe a woering in; for 'tis full of promising promontories. 1616 B. JONSON *Devil an Ass* iii. iii. Not, While you doe eate, and lie, about the towne, here; And coozen i' your bullions. 1622 FLETCHER *Beggar's Bush* iv. iv. His baster'd bullions in a long stock ty'd up. 1632 MASSINGER & FIELD *Fatal Dow.* II. ii. You shall see him . . . at noon in the bullion, in the evening in Quirpo.

2. a. An ornamental fringe made of twists of gold or silver thread. b. A single twist of such fringe. Also attrib. [Prob. now often associated with BULLION 2 precious metal.]

1662 FULLER *Worthies* i. 247 Bullion, like other Lace, costing nothing safe a little thread. 1708 J. CHAMBERLAYNE *St. Gt. Brit.* II. iii. vi. (1743) 416 None might wear silk or costly furring . . . without license from the king, nor no other persons wear broidery, pearls, or bullion. 1854 THACKERAY *Newcomes* I. 277 All in a blaze of scarlet and bullion and steel. 1879 *Uniform Reg.* in *Navy List* July (1882) 488/2 Epaulettes.—Bullions to be two and three-quarter inches in length and one and one-eighth inch in circumference. 1832 *Athenæum* No. 221. 42 Richly trimmed with embroidery and bullion fringes.

† **Bullioner**. Obs. [f. BULLION 2 + -ER *1*.] A dealer in bullion.

1662 PETTY *Taxes* 77 To save it [money] from being melted down by goldsmiths and bullioners. 1675 R. VAUGHAN *Coinage* 30 (L.) Base money . . . melted down by the bullioners.

Bullionist (bu'li-on-ist). [f. as prec. + -IST.]

One who advocates a metallic currency.

1821 SOUTHEY *Ess.* (1832) I. 58 The vaunted discoveries of the bullionists and of the new political economists. 1828 TAYLOR *Money Syst. Eng.* 110 The bullionists were opposed by Mr. Vansittart, on the part of the ministry. c. 1852 WEBSTER *Wks.* (1877) I. 374, I profess to be a bullionist in the usual and acceptable sense of the word. I am for a solid specie basis for our circulation. 1876 N. *Amer. Rev.* CXXVII. 106 Ricardo, the high-priest of the bullionists.

Bullionless (bu'li-on-less), a. nonce-*wd.* [f. as prec. + -LESS.] Without bullion.

1854 *Fraser's Mag.* L. 351 From the bullionless bank.

Bullir, **Bullis**, obs. ff. BULLER, BULLACE.

Bullish (bu'lish), a. 1. [f. BULL *sb.* 1 + -ISH *1*.]

1. Of or pertaining to a bull; resembling or having the nature of a bull.

1566 NUCE *Seneca's Octavia* (1581) 166 b, Cuckoldes bullysh badge. a 1728 LISLE *Husb.* (1752) 314 His bullish nature will be ploughed out in three years. 1830 *Fraser's Mag.* II. 610 They are bullish, they are unmanageable, vindictive and irreconcilable.

2. *Stock-Exchange*, etc. Tending to or aiming at a rise in the price of stocks or of merchandise.

1822 *Pall Mall G.* 5 July 5/2 We want to . . . make prices higher than Paris may see how 'bullish' we are. 1824 *Manch. Exam.* 11 June 1/4 In this market . . . a great majority are 'bullish' about cotton.

† **Bullish**, a. 2. nonce-*wd.* [f. BULL *sb.* 2 + -ISH *1*.] Of or pertaining to papal bulls.

1546 BALE *Eng. Volaries* ii. 36 Thys baudi bulle maker and hys other bullish begles.

† **Bullish**, a. 3. Obs. rare. [f. BULL *sb.* 4 + -ISH *1*.] Having the nature of a 'bull' or grotesque blunder; laughably erroneous.

1641 MILTON *Animadv.* (1851) 191 A toothlesse Satyr is as improper as a toothed sleekstone, and as bullish. 1660 S. FISHER *Rusticks Alarm* Wks. (1679) 149 That Bullish Title of works but imperfectly good.

Bullishly (bu'lish-ly), *adv.* [f. BULLISH a. 1 + -LY *2*.] After the manner of a bull.

c. 1827 LAMB in *Sel. Bernard Barton* (1849) 131 Making me, ever and anon, roar bullishly.

Bullism (bu'liz-m). [f. BULL *sb.* 4 + -ISM.] The making of 'bulls' or absurd blunders.

1835 MARRVAT *Jac. Faithf.* i. This lighter was manned (an expression amounting to bullism) by my father, my mother, and your humble servant.

† **Bullist**. [f. BULL *sb.* 2 + -IST.] A drawer up of papal bulls.

1587 HARMAR tr. *Beza's Serm.* 134 (L.) Proctors in the court ecclesiastical, dataries, bullists, copyists. 1653 URQUHART *Rabelais* II. vii. 213.

† **Bullition**. Obs. [as if ad. L. **bullitiō-em*, n. of action f. *bullire* to BOIL.] The action of bubbling or boiling; ebullition.

c. 1600 BACON *Physiol. Rem.* Wks. 1857 III. 809 The effects are . . . the bullition . . . the precipitation to the bottom. 1651 BIGGS *New Disp.* ¶ 206. 219 Many things by their first bullition depone their pristine virtues. 1792 E. DARWIN *Bot. Gard.* i. 206 With sudden flash the fierce bullitions rise.

Bullmony, obs. form of BULLIMONG.

Bullock (bu'lok), *sb.* Forms: 1-3 bulloo, 5 bullok, 6 bolok, 6-7 bullooke, 6- bullock. [OE. *bulluc*; see BULL *sb.* 1, and cf. *bullock*, *has-sack*. (The alleged form *bulluca* is spurious.)]

1. Orig. a young bull, or bull calf; but afterwards, and in later times always, a castrated bull, an ox. a 2000 *Interlinear Gloss. on the Liber Scintillarum* liv.

(MS. Reg. 7. C. iv.) To bullocke [Lat. *ad vitulum*]. a 1840 *Cuckoo Song* in Ritson *Anc. Songs* 3 Bulluc sterrep. bucke uertep. c 1440 *Prompt. Parv.* 55 Bullok, boculus, vitulus. 1521 *Bury Wills* (1850) 122 Item, delyuerid the boloks, vj, acording after y^e will. a 1553 *Udall Royster D.* i. iv. I know that, but my mind was on bullockes and steeres. 1599 *SHAKS. Much Ado* ii. 1. 302 Why that's spoken like an honest Drouier, so they sel Bullockes. 1611 *BIBLE Ps. li.* 19 Then shall they offer bullockes vpon thine altar. 1720 *GAY Poems* (1745) i. 178 Here lowing bullocks raise their horned head. 1815 *ELPHINSTONE Acc. Caubul* (1842) II. 135 Bullocks are... more used to plough than camels.

† 2. Applied loosely to a bull, or bovine beast generally. *Obs. exc. dial.*

1535 *COVERDALE Job* xli. 10 Their bullock gendreth, and that not out of tyme. 1707 *MARSHALL Norfolk Gloss.* (E. D. S.) *Bullocks*, a general term, in Norfolk, for all kinds of cattle at turneps, etc.; whether they be oxen, steers, heifers, or cows. 1875 *PARISH Sussex Dial.*, *Bullock*, a fat beast of either sex... 'Yes, she's a purty cow... one of these days she'll make a nice bullock.'

† 3. Jestingly used for: A papal bull. *Obs.*

1537 *LATIMER Serm. & Rem.* (1845) 378, I send you here a bullock which I did find amongst my bulls. 1589 *WARNER Alb. Eng. v. xxiv.* 121 Some egge vs sla the Prince and shewe a Bullocke fra the Pope.

4. A slang term applied in Australian cities to a countryman or bushman.

5. In the names of various plants, as *Bullock's Eye*, the common Houseleek, *Sempervivum tectorum*; *Bullock's Heart*, the fruit of *Anona reticulata*; *Bullock's Lungwort*, the Great Mullein, *Verbascum Thapsus* L.

1597 *GERARD Herbal* cclvi. 630 The country people... in Kent, doe giue their cattell the leaues to drinke against the cough of the lungs... whereupon they do call it Bullocks Longwort. 1861 *MISS PRATT Flower. Pl.* IV. 135 Great Mullein... was... Bullock's Lungwort. 1861 *MRS. LANKESTER Wild Flowers* 57 House-leek... is frequently called Jupiter's Eye, Bullock's Eye, or Jupiter's Beard. 1866 *Treas. Bot.*, *Bullock's Heart*, a name given to the fruit of *Anona reticulata*, a kind of custard apple.

6. *Comb. and Attrib.* a. simple attrib., as *bullock-cart*, *-chariot*, *-dray*, *-hump*, *-land*, *-load*, *-pasture*, *-shed*, *-ship*, *-train*, *-turnip*, *-vessel*, *-wagon*, *-wainster*; b. objective genitive, as *bullock-driver*, *-teasing*; also *bullock-leech*, a cattle-doctor; *bullock-punisher* (*Australian*) = *bullock-driver*; *bullock's-eye* (see quot.; cf. *BULL'S-EYE*); also see 5; *bullock-trunk*, a trunk suited for carriage in a bullock-cart, or on bullock-back.

1828 *Merc. Mar. Mag. v.* 47 The difference... is 48 hours by 'bullock-carts'. 1837 *CARLYLE Fr. Rev.* II. v. xii. 316 *Bullock-chariots, and goadsman in Roman Costume. 1857 *WESTGARTH Victoria, &c.* xi. 251 Carriage by 'bullock-drays from Melbourne. 1793 *Gentl. Mag.* LXII. i. 175 We lost... about 600 private, besides pack-horse and *bullock-drivers. 1866 *LLOYD Tasmania* xix. 480 Shepherds, Bullock drivers, and other servants were seized with the desire to turn diggers of gold. 1849-50 *Todd Cycl. Anat. & Phys.* IV. 1355 The 'bullock-hump'... is not by any means so characteristic of this race. 1881 *Daily News* 31 Aug. 2/2 The excellent 'bullock land'... would meet ready purchasers. 1774 *LAMBERT in Phil. Trans.* LXVI. 498 A farmer and 'bullock-leach. 1803 *WELLINGTON Let. in Gurw. Disp.* II. 567 We have not lost a 'bullock-load of any thing during the war. 1751 *CHAMBERS Cycl. s. v. Eye*, *Bullock's Eye, *Oeil de bœuf*, denotes a little sky-light in the covering, or roof, intended to illumine a granary, or the like. 1865 *Cornh. Mag.* XI. 105 The filthy quarters allotted me in an old 'bullock-shed'... exhausted all endurance. 1858 *W. ELLIS Vis. Madagascar* ii. 21 Mr. Jeffreys... died during a voyage from Madagascar to Mauritius in the miserable hold of a 'bullock ship. 1879 *DOWDEN Southey* iii. 47 The sorry spectacle of 'bullock-teasing made a slighter impression on him. 1899 *LANG Wand. India* 182 The Government has a 'bullock-train for the conveyance of stores. 1845 *STOCKQUILLER Handbk. Brit. India* (1854) 78 'Bullock-trunks... are preferable, as they are permanently useful. 1884 *Whitby Gas.* 9 Aug. 2/5 The crop of... 'bullock turnips must now be sown. 1863 *KINGLAKE Crimea* II. 179 There were some Tartar peasants passing... with small 'bullock-waggons. 1883 *Gd. Words* July 4/20/1 The 'bullock-wainster who dared to hinder his progress.

† *Bullock, v. Obs. exc. dial.* [f. prec.] *trans.* and *intr.* = *BULLY v.* Hence *Bullocking vbl. sb.* and *ppl. a.*

1726 *M. DAVIES Ath. Brit.* i. 272 Upon the Evidence of that bullocking Fryar Campanella. 1749 *FIELDING Tom Jones* ii. vi. You have changed me with bullocking you into owning the truth. 1764 *FOOTE Mayor of G. ii.* 1. She shan't think to bullock and domineer over me. 1875 *Lanc. Gloss.* (E. D. S.) 61 Fair play! yo munnot bullock him.

Bullocky, a. nonce-wd. [f. *BULLOCK sb.* + -y.] Of the nature of or relating to bullocks. 1881 *GRANT Bush Life Queensl.* i. iii. 29 As a rule the conversation was very horsey or bullocky.

Bulloe(s), obs. and dial. form of *BULLACE*.

Bulloigne, -oin, -oyn, obs. ff. *BULLION* 2.

Bull's-eye. The eye of a bull (cf. *F. œil de bœuf*); hence I. Of glass.

1. A boss of glass, or the central protuberance formed in making a sheet of blown glass. Hence *Bull's-eyed ppl. a.*, containing a bull's-eye.

1832 *BABBAGE Econ. Manuf.* iv. (ed. 2) 36 The centre (of a sheet of glass) presents the appearance of a thick boss or prominence, called the 'Bull's-eye'. 1863 *Reader* 28 Nov. 624 A window of small panes with the bull's-eyes in them. 1869 *SALA Ship-Chand.* (L.) Dinky bull's-eyed panes. 1876 *BESANT & RICE Chaplain of Fl.* iv. 34 Every other pane being those bull's-eye panes.

2. *Naut.* A hemispherical piece or thick disc of glass inserted in the side or deck of a ship, or elsewhere, to light the interior.

1825 *H. GASCOIGNE Nav. Fame* 64 Here a Bulls-eye gives a feeble light. 1843 *Commissioner* 342 A 'bull's-eye'... that is a thick, green, half sphere of ground glass. 1888 *NARES Seaman's* (ed. 6) 96 A light room outside, with a bull's-eye between it and the magazine.

3. A lens, hemispherical or plano-convex.

1839-47 *Todd Cycl. Anat. & Phys.* III. 354/1 The condenser... should be a bull's-eye or hemispherical lens. 1879 *Cassell's Techn. Educ.* IV. 258/1 The condensers in ordinary use are, The common 'bull's-eye' or plano-convex.

4. A glass of similar shape inserted in the side of a lantern; the lantern itself; also *attrib.*

1851 *MAYHEW Lond. Labour* I. 25, 2 or 3 Policemen, with their Bull's-eyes and... truncheons speedily restored order. 1853 *HERSCHEL Pop. Lect. Sc.* vi. VI. (1873) 224 In a thick fog the bull's-eye of a lantern seems to throw out a broad diverging luminous cone. 1861 *ANDERSSON Okabango Riv.* xxv. 264 We then tried, bull's-eye lantern in hand, to obtain a glimpse of his retreating spoor. 1883 *Harper's Mag.* July 204/1 One... was dazzled... with opening bull's-eyes, and captured.

II. A circular hole, or an object containing one.

5. *Naut.* Also *Bull's-eye cringle* (see quot.).

1769 *FALCONER Dict. Marine* (1789) *Bull's-eye*, a small pulley in the form of a ring, having a rope round the outer edge, and a... hole in the middle for another rope to slide in. 1833 *MARRYAT P. Simple vi.* Pass that brace through the bull's-eye. 1860 *Merc. Mar. Mag.* VII. 113 A leach-line is... carried, through a bull's-eye. 1867 *SMYTH Sailor's Word-bk.*, *Bull's-eye cringle*, a piece of wood in the form of a ring, which answers the purpose of an iron thimble; it is seldom used by English seamen, and then only for the fore and main bowline-bridles.

6. *Arch.* A small circular opening or window.

1865 *Athenæum* No. 1978, 412/3 The plate-tracery, or bull's-eyes, of the transept ends. 1875 *GWILT Archit. Gloss.*, *Bull's-eye*, any small circular aperture for the admission of light or air.

III. Other uses.

7. The centre of a target.

1823 *Regul. Instr. Cavalry* I. 32 A bull's-eye of eight inches diameter. 1840 *DICKENS Old C. Shop* 256 This is wide of the bull's-eye. 1860 *G. H. K. Vacation Tour* 121 The house... stands clear and white on the brown moor, like a target, with a black window for a bull's-eye.

8. A circular ornament of gold lace.

1879 *Uniform Reg. in Navy List* July (1882) 497/1 Gold lace, to form bull's eyes at the bottom of each back seam.

9. A sweetmeat so called from its globular shape.

1825 *HONE Every-day Bk.* I. 51 Hard-bake, brandy-balls, and bulls'-eyes. 1857 *HUGHES Tom Brown* i. iii. Where huge bull's-eyes, and unctuous toffy might be procured.

10. *Naut.* 'A little dark cloud, reddish in the middle, chiefly appearing about the Cape of Good Hope' (*Chambers Cycl. Supp.* 1753), supposed to portend a storm; hence the storm itself.

1849 *D. P. THOMSON Meteorol.* 406 (L.) The ox-eye or bull's-eye is a wind similar to the tornado.

11. *slang.* A crown-piece. (cf. *BULL sb.* 1.)

1860 *B. E. Dict. Cant. Crew.* 174 in *Mem. J. Hall* 11 Bull's-eye, a Crown. 1725 *New Cant. Dict.*

12. A hole in cheese, the result of imperfect manufacture. *dial.*

1879 *MISS JACKSON Shropsh. Word-bk.* s. v., I dunna like this cheese, it's got too many bulls' eyes in for me.

Bull-terrier. A dog of a cross breed between a bull-dog and a terrier.

1848 *THACKERAY Fan. Fair* xxiv. Come down with me to Tom Corduray's... I'll show you such a bull-terrier. 1857 *HUGHES Tom Brown* iv. As dogged as a bull-terrier. 1871 *M. COLLINS Mrg. & Merch.* II. x. 289 A... bull-terrier... snarled.

† *Bull-tour.* *Obs.* [App. f. *BULL sb.* 1 + *TOUR*. R. Holme (cf. *BULL-HEAD* 3, quot. 1688) referred it to 'F. *taure*, a bull', but see *Littre s. v. tour*.]

A mass of frizzled hair worn (by a woman) on the forehead; a frowze, or 'frizz'.

1724 *LITTLETON Lat. Dict.* s. v. *Anthia*, Bull-tour, a woman's forehead, frouze.

Bull-trout. [f. *BULL sb.* 1 + *TROUT*; the name probably refers to the large size of this species.] A fish of the Salmon tribe (*Salmo triax*) of considerable size, found in some British rivers.

1653 *WALTON Angler* 88 There is also in Northumberland, a Trout, called a Bull Trout, of a much greater length and bigness than any in these Southern parts. 1769 *PEN-NANT Zool.* III. 249 This species is in some places called the bull trout from the thickness and shortness of its head. 1799 *J. ROBERTSON Agric. Perth* 461 Loch-Rannoch... has bull-trouts of 24 lb. weight. 1842 *Proc. Berw. Nat. Club* II. 4 Specimens of the fry of both Bull-trout.

Bullule (bū'li). *Med.* [ad. L. *bullula* dim. of *bulla*.] A watery vesicle; a small bubble.

1707 *FLOYER Pulse-Watch* 429 The Motion or Rafarication of the red Bullule in the Blood. 1880 *Syd. Soc. Lex.*, Bullule, a small bleb or blister.

Bully (bū'li), *sb.* Also 6 *bullye*. [Etymology obscure: possibly ad. Du. *boel* 'lover (of either sex)', also 'brother' (Verwijs & Verdam); cf. MHG. *buole*, mod. Ger. *buhle* 'lover', earlier also 'friend, kinsman'. Bailey 1721 has *boolie* 'beloved' as an 'old word'. *Bully* can hardly be identical with Sc. *BILLIE*, brother, but the dial. sense 2 seems to have been influenced by that word. There does not appear to be sufficient

reason for supposing that the senses under branch II. are of distinct etymology: the sense of 'hired ruffian' may be a development of that of 'fine fellow, gallant' (cf. *bravo*); or the notion of 'lover' may have given rise to that of 'protector of a prostitute', and this to the more general sense. In the popular etymological consciousness the word is perhaps now associated with *BULL sb.*; cf. *BULLOCK v.*]

I. † 1. A term of endearment and familiarity, orig. applied to either sex: sweetheart, darling. Later applied to men only, implying friendly admiration: good friend, fine fellow, 'gallant'. Often prefixed as a sort of title to the name or designation of the person addressed, as in *Shaks.*, 'bully Bottom', 'bully doctor'. *Obs. exc. arch.*

1538 *BALE Thre Lawes* 475 Though she be somewhat olde It is myne owne swete bullye My muskyne and my bullye. 1590 *SHAKS. Midw. N. iii.* 1. 8 What saist thou, bully Bottom? 1598 — *Merry W.* ii. iii. 18 'Blesse thee, bully-Doctor. 1599 — *Hen. V.* iv. i. 48 From heartstring I loue the louely Bully. 1610 — *Temp.* v. i. 258 Coragio Bully-Monster Corasio. 1688 A. PULTON *Ref. Missioner's Arts* 8 A Band of Bully Scholars, marching under ground with their Black-Bills. 1754 *RICHARDSON Grandison* IV. xv. 115. I have promised to be with the sweet Bully early in the morning of her important day.

b. *attrib.*, as in *bully-boy*.

1609 T. RAVENSCROFT *Deuterom.*, He that is a bully boy, Come pledge me on the ground. a 1687 *COTTON Æn. Burlesqued* (1692) 53 From each part runs yon bully rustick, To take advantage of the first kick. 1809 W. IRVING *Knickerb.* (1861) 143 The bully-boys of the Helderberg. 1818 *SCOTT Rob Roy* viii. You are not the first bully-boy that has said stand to a true man. 1880 *WESS Goethe's Faust* i. ii. 53 My over jolly bully-boy, let be.

2. *dial.* Brother, companion, 'mate'.

1825 *BROCKETT North Country Gloss.* 32 Now generally used among keelmen and pitmen to designate their brothers, as bully Jack, bully Bob, etc. Probably derived from the obsolete word *bulle*, beloved. 1860 *FORDYCE Hist. Coal.* 42 60 They (the keelmen) are remarkably friendly to each other, being all 'keel bullies', or keel brothers. 1862 *SMILES Engineers* III. 12 'Bully', an appellation still in familiar use amongst brother workers in the coal districts. 1863 *Tyneside Songs* 61 Marrows, cries a bully, aw've an idea... We'll find Sir John Franklin.

II. 3. A blustering 'gallant'; a bravo, hector, or 'swash-buckler'; now, esp. a tyrannical coward who makes himself a terror to the weak.

1688 *SHADWELL Bury F.* iv. Wks. (1720) 103 A lady is no more to be accounted a Beauty, till she has killed her man, than the bullies think one a fine gentleman, till he has kill'd his. 1692 *WASHINGTON tr. Milton's Def. Pop. Pref.* (1815) 10 Those furious Hectors we value not of a rush. We have been accustomed to rout such Bullies (L. *istos minaces*) in the Field. 1732 *PORR Ep. Bathurst* 240 Where London's column, pointing at the skies Like a tall bully, lifts the head, and lies. 1760 *DUNCAN Mariner's Chron.* (1804) II. 296 The most swaggering, swearing bullies in fine weather, were the most pitiful wretches on earth, when death appeared before them. 1863 *DICKEY Federal St.* II. 245 A low-minded, unscrupulous bully, notorious for his pro-slavery sympathies.

b. A ruffian hired for purposes of violence or intimidation. *arch.*

1730 *FIELDING Tom Thumb* ii. i. Were he... a bully, a highway-man, or prize-fighter, I'd nab him. 1813 *SHELLEY Q. Mab* ix. 179 These are the hired bravos who defend the tyrant's throne—the bullies of his fear. 1848 *MACAULAY Hist. Eng.* I. 204 A gang of bullies was secretly sent to slit the nose of the offender.

4. *spec. a.* The 'gallant' or protector of a prostitute; one who lives by protecting prostitutes.

1706 *De Fox Jure Div.* i. 8 Mars the Celestial Bully they adore, And Venus for an Everlasting Whore. 1707 *FARQUHAR Beaux' Strat.* iii. iii. 37, Shall What! Murder your Husband to defend your Bully. *Mrs. Swill*, Bully! for shame... Bullies wear long Swords. 1711 *SWIFT Lett.* (1767) III. 249 A bully that will fight for a whore, and run away in an army. 1749 *CHESTERF. Lett.* (1792) II. ccxiii. 312 Shew yourself... the advocate, the friend, but not the bully of Virtue. 1750 *JOHNSON Rambl.* No. 107 P 12 The bully and the bawd, who fatten on their misery. 1817 *M. BENNET in Parl. Deb.* 861 Would he be less the bully of a brothel?

5. *attrib. and comb.*, as *bully-critic*, *-fop*, *-killer*, *-rake*, *-royster*, *-ruffian*, *-swordsman*; also † *bully-back*, a bully who supports another person; hence † *bully-back v.*; † *bully-cock sb.*, † *bully-cooked a.*, (a hat) worn as a bully wears it (cf. *BILLY-COCK*): † *bully-huff*, a boaster who is also a bully; † *bully-scribbler*, a writer who bullies.

1796 *AMHERST Terra Fil.* xxxiii. 179 They have spiritual bravoes on their side, and old lecherous 'bully-backs to revenge their cause. 1799 *DILWORTH Pope* 43 Supported and 'bully-backed by that blind hector impudence. 1796 *AMHERST Terra Fil.* xlv. 255 A broad 'bully-cock'd hat, or a square cap of above twice the usual size. 1880 *Daily News* (Leader) 3 Feb., In a 'bowler' hat, or in the form which our ancestors called a 'bully-cock'. 1890 B. E. *Dict. Cant. Crew.*, *Bully-fop, a Maggot-pated, huffing, silly rattling Fellow. 1880 *COTTEW in Singer Hist. Cards* 334 They will rarely adventure on the attempt, unless they are backed with some 'bully-huffs. 1890 B. E. *Dict. Cant. Crew.*, *Bully-huff*, a poor sorry Rogue that haunts Bawdy-houses, and pretends to get Money out of Gentlemen. 1813 *SCOTT Guy R.* xxviii, 'Here mother... never mind that bully-huff'. 1837 *CARLYLE Fr. Rev.* II. iii. 245 M. Boyer... is at the head of Fifty Spadassinicides, or 'Bully-killers. 1721 E. WARD *Quix.* i. 33 He combats like that 'Bully-Rake That only fights for Fighting's sake. 1807 T. BROWN *Saints in Uppr.* Wks. 1730 I.

74 Why, how now, *bully Royster! what's the meaning of this outrage in the face of Justice? 1653 URQUHART *Rabelais* i. xi. Pick-lock, Pioneer, *Bully-ruffin, Smell-smock. 1671 DRYDEN *Mock Astrol.* iii. i. Snatch the Money like a Bully-Ruffin. 1809 W. IRVING *Knickerbocker* (1861) 233 Peter... strode up to the brawling bully-ruffian. a 1795 WYCHERLEY *Posth. Wks.* 5 (Job.) The *bully scribbler... is beat out of his bravadoes only for assuming them. 1837 CARLYLE *Fr. Rev.* II. iii. iii. 142 *Bully-swordsmen, 'Spadassins' of that party, go swaggering.

Bully (bu'li), *sb.* ² *Eton foot-ball.* A mêlée, a scrimmage.

1865 W. L. C. *Etoniana* xv. 213 Knees put out in the fierce football bully. 1873 M. COLLINS *Sgr. Silchester* II. xvii. 213 A youngster who has held his own in a football bully.

† **Bully**, *sb.* ³ *Obs.* Also *bullie*. [Cf. *Booly*.] A cottage, hut.

1598 FLORIO, *Tugurio*, a shepherds cottage, bully or shed. 1611 COTGR., *Tugure*, a shepherds shed, or bullie.

Bully, *sb.* ⁴ Also 8 bullet. [Etymology uncertain: variously referred to Eng. *bully*, dial. form of *BULLAUGH* (cf. the 2nd quot.), and to F. *boulet de canon* (lit. cannon-ball) 'fruit d'un arbre de la Guiane' (Boiste). The form *bullet* occurs only late, and the F. name may be due to popular etymology.] attrib. in *Bully Bay*, *Bully-berry Tree*, *Bully Tree*, names for certain genera of the order *Sapotaceæ*, also for a species of *Mimusops* (all natives of the W. Indies and of Guiana).

1657 R. LIGON *Barbadoes* (1673) 14 Lofty trees, as the Palmeto, Royal... Bully, Redwood. *Ibid.* 73 The Bully tree... bears a fruit like a Bullis in England. 1693 *Phil. Trans.* XVII. 621 The Sope-Berry... Indian Damozen, and the Bully Bay. 1795 SLOANE *Jamaica* II. 124 When old it had a great many sulci not unlike the Bully tree. 1750 G. HUGHES *Barbadoes* 177 The Bully-Berry tree... a very durable timber tree. 1796 STEDMAN *Surinam* II. xxviii. 335 The bullet-tree... the bark is grey and smooth, the timber brown, variegated or powdered with white specks. 1866 *Treas. Bot.* *Bully* or *Bullet Tree*... a species of *Mimusops*.

Bully (bu'li), *sb.* ⁵ [f. *BULL*, or corruption of F. *bouilli* boiled meat.] Pickled or tinned beef. Also as *bully beef*.

1883 CLARK RUSSELL in *Longm. Mag.* III. 2, I have been shipmates with a man who grew white-haired at thirty on soup and bully. 1884 J. MACDONALD in *19th Cent.* June 1902 The colonel... was... quietly consuming... his luncheon of 'bully beef' and whiskey.

Bully, *sb.* ⁶ A pattern of miner's hammer, varying from 'broad bully' to 'narrow bully'. Raymond *Mining Gloss.*

Bully, *sb.* ⁷ dial. name for some kind of fish; cf. *BULL-HEAD*. (Also short for *BULLFINCH*.)

1857 KINGSLEY *Two Y. Ago* ii. (D.) Turning the stones for 'shannies' and 'bullies' and other... fish left by the tide.

Bully (bu'li), *a.* ¹ [f. *BULLY sb.* ¹]

I. [Orig. *BULLY sb.* ¹ I., used attrib.; cf. *brother*.]

1. Of persons: Worthy, 'jolly', admirable.

1681 CHETHAM *Angler's Vade-m.* (1689) Pref., From such Bully fishers, this Book expects no other reception. 1852 Hood *Lamia* v. 231 Here, bully mates, These, lady, are my friends.

2. U. S. and Colonies. Capital, first-rate, 'crack'. 1855 WM. CARLETON *Willy Reilly* v. The cook will give you a Bully dinner. a 1850 *Cairo City Times* (Bartlett) The Bully 'Crystal Palace' passed up to St. Louis on Monday. 1863 *Daily Tel.* 20 July. The citizens of New York, who were aware that the celebration would be more 'bully' than usual. 1870 MEADE *New Zeal.* 331. The roof fell in, there was a 'bully' blaze. 1875 *N. Amer. Rev.* CXX. 128 'That's Bully!' exclaimed Tweed.

b. as an exclamation, esp. in phrase 'Bully for you!' = bravo! well done!

1864 *Sanatory Commiss. U. S. Army* 133 note, Others would say 'good', and others would use the very expressive phrase 'bully!' 1864 *Daily Tel.* 18 Nov., The freckles have vanished, and bully for you. 1883 *Punch* 28 July, Lady Dufferin—bully for her, mate!

II. 3. Resembling a bully or ruffian; characteristic of a bully.

1797 SWIFT *City Shower* Wks. 1755 III. ii. 40 Those bully Greeks, who, as the moderns do, Instead of paying chairmen, run them through. 1749 (*title*) Considerations on the Establishment of the French Strollers; the Behaviour of their Bully Champions. 1885 G. MEREDITH *Diana Crossin* I. iv. 94 A bully imposition of sheer physical ascendancy.

Bully (bu'li), *a.* ² [f. *BULL sb.* ¹ + -Y¹.] Resembling a bull-dog.

1884 MISS BRADDOCK *Phant. Fort.* vii. 47 Angelina is bully about the muzzle.

Bully (bu'li), *v.* [f. *BULLY sb.* ¹]

1. *trans.* To act the bully towards; to treat in an overbearing manner; to intimidate, overawe.

1710 PALMER *Proverbs* 69 His poor neighbour is bully'd by his big appearance. 1747 *Cent. Mag.*, The French observing that we were not to be bullied by their 17 sail, etc. 1804 MAR. EDGEWORTH *Moral T.* (1816) I. xii. 96 He saw, that he had no chance of bullying the servant. 1874 GREVILLE *Mem. Geo. IV.* (1875) III. xxi. 8 For the purpose of bullying the House of Lords, who would not be bullied.

b. To overweigh, overbalance.

1883 *Harper's Mag.* Aug. 449/1 A light displacement being bullied by large sails.

2. To drive or force by bullying; to frighten into a certain course; with *away*, *into*, *out of*, *to*.

1793 DE FOX *Col. Jack* (1840) 27 What ails you, to bully away our customers so? 1748 RICHARDSON *Clarissa* II. xxxviii. 258 They are in the right not to be bullied out of their child. 1817 JAS. MILL *Brit. India* II. v. iv. 444 They are

bullied by the Plenipotentiaries to support him. 1854 BRIGHT *Sp., Russia* 31 Mar. (1876) 227, I have no belief that Russia... would have been bullied into any change of policy.

3. *intr.* and *absol.* To bluster, use violent threats; to swagger.

a 1744 BRAMSTON (L.), So Britain's monarch once uncover'd sat, While Bradshaw bullied in a broad-brim'd hat. 1703 JOHNSON *Lett.* II. ccc. 272, I bullied and bounced... and compelled the apothecary to make his salve according to the Edinburgh Dispensatory. 1833 MARRYAT *P. Simple* (1863) 143 The officer... mounted a small horse, galloping up and down... bullying, swearing.

Bullyable, bulliable (bu'li-äb'l), *a.* *rare.*

[f. *BULLY v.* + -ABLE.] Capable of being bullied.

1868 H. KINGSLEY *Silcote of Sil.* II. xii. 148 Silcote was in a bullyable mood.

Bullydom (bu'lidəm), *nonce-wd.* [f. *BULLY sb.* ¹ or *v.* + -DOM.] The state dominated by bullies.

1856 LEVER *Martins of Cro' M.* 599 The fellow... has been through all the phases of 'bullydom'.

Bullyer, *obs.* form of *BULLER sb.*

Bully-head, variant of *BULL-HEAD*.

Bullying (bu'li-ig), *vbl. sb.* [f. *BULLY v.* + -ING¹.] The action of the verb to BULLY: overbearing insolence; personal intimidation; petty tyranny. Often used with reference to schoolboy life. Also attrib.

1802 G. ROSE *Diaries* (1860) I. 484 It is ridiculous to suppose she will mind our bullying when we cannot strike. 1809 *Censor* 131 The bullying system... a system tending to brutalize the kindest natures. 1838 DICKENS *O. Twist* (1850) 187/2 Mr. Bumble... had a decided propensity for bullying... and, consequently, was (it is needless to say) a coward.

Bullying (bu'li-ig), *ppl. a.* [f. *BULLY v.* + -ING².] That bullies or acts like a bully; domineering, menacing.

1746 W. HORSLEY *Fool No.* 22 (1748) I. 153 A Rock which... bids the bullying Sea-God Defiance. 1812 *Examiner* 24 Aug. 541/1 The bullying intolerance of William Cobbett. 1831 SCOTT *Diary* in Lockhart (1839) X. 50 No bullying Mirabeau to assail, no eloquent Maury to defend.

Bullyingism (bu'li-iz'm), [f. *BULLY sb.* + -ISM.] The conduct or practice of a bully.

a 1849 FOR LONGF. &c. Wks. 1864 III. 320 The Outisies who practice this species of bullyingism are as a matter of course anonymous. 1886 *All Y. Round* 27 Feb. 35 The spirit of 'bullyingism'... peculiarly prevalent in the Northern States.

Bullyingmong, Bullyingon, *obs.* forms of *BULLY-MONG, BULLION*.

Bullyrag (bu'li-ræg), *v.* *dial.* or *colloq.* Also *balrag, balla-, balli-, ballyrag* (bæ'li-ræg). [Etymology unknown: connexion with *BULLY sb.* or *v.* is unlikely, as forms with *bal-, bally-* are widely diffused in the dialects.]

† a. To overawe, intimidate (*obs.*). * b. To assail with abusive language.

1807 WATSON *Misc.* 128 You vainly thought to ballrag us with your fine squadron off Cape Lagos. 1803 CARLYLE in *Froude Life* I. 203, I bullyrag the slutish harlots of the place. 1864 ATKINSON *Whitby Gloss.*, To *balrag* or *Bullyrag*, to abuse ferociously with a foul tongue, to bully. 1869 H. KINGSLEY *Stretton* II. 3 He asked... whether a fellow was to be bullyragged out of his very bed. 1879 *Spectator* 14 June 757 Irish tenantry engaged in what may be called bullyragging their Member.

Hence **Bullyragging** *vbl. sb.*

1863 H. KINGSLEY *A. Elliot* I. 225 The pair on 'em should have the bullying and bullyragging of nine thousand a year. 1880 MRS. FARR *Adam & E.* xxi. 292 There'll be more set to the score o' my coaxin' than ever 'all be to Adam's bullyraggin'.

† **Bully-rock, bully-rook.** *Obs.* [Of uncertain origin; if not f. *BULLY sb.* ¹ + *ROOK*, the form and some of the senses must be due to popular etymology. Cf. *bully-rake* in *BULLY sb.* ¹ 5.]

1. = *BULLY sb.* ¹ i; jolly comrade, boon companion.

1598 SHAKS. *Merry W.* I. iii. 2 What saies my Bully Rooke? 1697 *Praise of Yorksh. Ale*, My Bully Rocks, I've been experienced long In most of Liquors.

2. = *BULLY sb.* ¹ 3; a bravo, hired ruffian. (In quot. 1673 app. a bully who is also a rook or sharper.)

1653 URQUHART *Rabelais* i. lii. Ye Bully-rocks, And rogues. 1673 *Char. Coffee House* in *Harl. Misc.* (1810) I. 469 The bully-rock makes it his bubbling pond, where he angles for fops. 1685 COTTON tr. *Montaigne* III. 7 It properly belongs to Kings only to... laugh at those bully-rocks. 1807 CARLYLE *Germ. Romance* III. 44 A stout swordsman and hector as spiritual relative and bully-rock so to speak.

Bulmong, *obs.* form of *BULLMONG*.

Bulrush (bu'lrʃ). Also 5 *bolroysoche*, 5-6 *bul(1)-rysoche*, -*rysshe*, -*rysshe*, 6-8 *bulrush*.

[f. *bull* of uncertain origin (identified by some with *BOLE*), cf. *bulaxe*, *BOLE-AX*; by others supposed to be an attrib. use of *BULL sb.* ¹ + *RUSH*. (The suggestion 'pool-rush' is baseless.)] A name applied in books to *Scirpus lacustris*, a tall rush growing in or near water; but in modern popular use, more usually, to *Typha latifolia*, the 'Cat's Tail' or 'Reed-mace'. In the Bible applied to the Papyrus of Egypt.

c 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 244 Holrysoche or bulrysoche, *papyrus*. c 1475 *Voc.* in W. Wülcker 785 *Hec papyrus*, *bolroysoche*. 1483 *Act 1 Rich.* III. viii. Preamb., Dyers... upon the Lists of the same Clothes festen and some great Rishses, called Bulrissches. 1611 *Bible Ex.* ii. 3 She tooke for him an

* The word *Bulragging* in the sense of *hugging* occurs in the diary of Nathaniel Ames when Freshman at Harvard College in 1758. See *The Nation*, Feb. 27, 1890, 179a.

arke of bul-rushes. 1652 CULPEPPER *Eng. Physic*. 191 The Bul-rushes and others of the soft and smooth kinds. 1794 MARTYN *Rousseau's Bot.* xiii. 153 There are many plants nearly allied to the grasses; as... Club-rush or Bulrush. 1821 CLARE *Vill. Ministr.* I. 46 Nodding bulrush down its drowk head hings. 1867 PARKMAN *Jesuits N. Amer.* xvi. (1875) 215 A dense growth of tall bulrushes.

2. *fig.* In allusion to the fragility of the bulrush, or its delusive appearance of strength.

1646 J. HALL *Horae Vac.* 37 We leane on the bulrush of our oune merits. 1672 BRAMHALL *Vind. Grotius* i, Compare those... Fellows, and Scholars, who were turned out of our Universities, with those bulrushes in comparison, whom for the most part they introduced. 1861 MOTLEY *Dutch Rep.* II. 250 To wield so slight a bulrush against a man who had just been girded with the consecrated sword of the Pope.

3. Phrases. To bow the head like a bulrush, in allusion to Isaiah lviii. 8. † To seek (find) a knot in a bulrush, Lat. *nodum in scirpo querere*, to find difficulties where there are none. So sarcastically, † To take away every knot in the bulrush.

1581 J. BELL *Haddon's Answ. Osor.* 436 Myne opposed adversary will seek after a knot in a Bulrush as the Proverb is. 1621 *Bible Isa.* lviii. 8 Is it to bow down his head as a bulrush? 1662 CHANDLER *Van Helmont's Oriat.* 199 The Schools did presume to have taken away every knot in the Bulrush. 1767 FORDYCE *Serm. Yng. Wom.* II. xi. 162 Do we wish you... to hang your heads like a bulrush?

4. *Comb.* and *attrib.*, as *bulrush-bed*, -*bridge*, -*cradle*, -*fetter*, -*hurdle*; also *bulrush-like* adj.

1675 HOBBS *Odys.* (1677) 66 Then on a 'bulrush-bed' himself he laid. 1842 TENNYSON *Morte D'Arth.* 135 Sir Bedivere... plunged Among the bulrush-beds, and clutch'd the word. 1700 PHILLIPS, *Bulrush Bridge* (in the Art of War) A Bridge made of many bundles of Bulrushes bound together and cover'd with Planks. 1697 N. CARPENTER *Achitophel* (1699) 27 Whence could Moses have better derided his greatness... than from the 'bulrush cradle'? 1655 H. VAUGHAN *Silex Scint.* (1858) 108 Shall straw and 'bul-rush-fetters' temper his short hour? 1652 ROWLAND *Monflet's Theat. Ins.* 916 They then dry it [the wax] on a 'bul-rush hurdle by day and by night in the open air. 1628 WITHER *Brit. Rememb.* i. 1250 To shake the head, or hang it 'Bul-rush-like.

Bulrushy (bu'lrʃi), *a.* [f. *prec.* + -Y¹.] 'Made of bulrushes', also 'full of bulrushes' (Huloet, ed. 1672). In Todd 1827 and some mod. Dicts.

Bulse (bʊls), *arch.* [ad. Pg. *bolsa* = Sp. *bolsa*, It. *borsa*; = med.L. *bursa* a purse. Cf. *BURSE*.] A package of diamonds or gold-dust.

1708 *Land. Gas.* No. 4499/4 There was brought from India, in the Ship Albemarle... Three Bulses of Diamonds. 1779 FORREST *Voy. N. Guinea* 283 Amongst other things, was a bulse of gold dust. 1767 WOLCOTT (P. Pindar) *Ode upon Ode* Wks. 1812 I. 409 And tweak'd a Bulse of Jewels from the nose Of Dames in India. 1813 MILBURN *Orient. Commerce* II. 79 These gems [diamonds] are generally imported... in small parcels called bulses, neatly secured in muslin and sealed by the merchant. 1855 MACAULAY *Hist. Eng.* III. xviii.

† **Bulstare**, *Obs.* [for *bultare*.] = *BOLTER sb.* ¹ 2. c 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 55 Bulte pooke, or bulstare, *tartanetare*.

† **Bult**, variant of *BOLT sb.* ³, *Obs.*, a flour-sieve.

Hence (or from stem of *bult*, *BOLT v.* ¹), † *bult-pele*, † a shovel for putting meal into the bolter.

c 1475 *Voc.* in W. Wülcker 808 *Hoc polletridum*, a bultpele. *Polendware*, a bult.

Bult, -*e*, *Bulter*, *obs.* ff. of *BOLT v.* and *BOLTER* ¹.

Bult, -*e*, *obs.* pa. t. of *BUILD v.*

Bultell (e, var. of *BOULTEL*, *Obs.*, a sieve, sieve-cloth.

(Owing to a misunderstanding of the passage in *Act 51 Hen. III.* (quoted s. v. *BOULTEL*) the word *bultell* was explained in *Blount Law Dict.* 1670 as 'the refuse of the Meal after it is dressed by the Baker'. This erroneous definition was repeated with some differences of expression by Phillips and Bailey, and appears in many recent Dicts.)

Bulter, bultey (bʊl'teɪ, bʊl'ti). [A word belonging to the Cornish fisheries, also called *bolter*, *BOUTLER*; of unknown derivation.] See *quots.*

1769 PENNANT *Zool.* III. 117 Bulters... are strong lines five hundred feet long, with sixty hooks, each eight feet asunder baited with pilchards or mackerel. 1865 COUCH *Brit. Fishes* III. 89 Another and more successful method (sc. of fishing for ling) is with the long line or bulter.

Bultow (bu'ltəw). [Mahn says 'f. *BULL* large, and *Tow*'; but the word looks like an alteration of the *prec.*, under the influence of 'popular etymology'. (Du. *bulletouw*, 'a name applied to several ropes about a ship', has also been suggested.)] (See *quots.*)

1858 P. L. SIMMONDS *Comm. Dict.*, *Bultow*, a mode of fishing practised in the (Newfoundland) Bank fisheries by stringing a number of hooks on one line. 1883 *Standard* 13 Sept. 5/4 The 'bultow' is... a set line, called in some places a 'trawl line'.

Bulwark (bu'lwɔrk), *sb.* Forms: 5 *bulwerke*, 5-6 *bul-*, *bullwork* (e, 6 *bolwark*, (*bulwarge*), 6-7 *bulwarke*, (7 *burwarks*), 9 *bullwark*, 6-*bulwark*. [Cf. Du., MHG. *bolwerk*, mod.G. *bollwerk*, Da. *bulværk*, Sw. *bolverk*; the word is not recorded in ON., and the Da. and Sw. forms may be of German origin. Prof. Skeat, regarding the word as ultimately Scandinavian, derives it from the words represented in Eng. by *BOLE* and *WORK*, in which case the primitive sense would be 'a work constructed of tree-trunks'. Others

would connect the first element with the MHG. verb *boln* to throw, on the ground that the MHG. word seems in some cases to have meant a machine for throwing large stones. Both etymologies are found in early mod. German authors. The Teut. word was borrowed in French as *boullewerre*, *bollewerre*, whence *boulewer*, mod. *BOULEVARD*.]

1. A substantial defensive work of earth, or other material; a rampart, a fortification. Now only *arch.* or *poet.*

c 1418 *Gesta Hen. V* (1850) 17 Unum forte fortalitium quod nos 'barbican' sui communis 'bulwerke' appellamus. 1430 *Lydg. Chron. Troy* ii. xi. Barbicans and also bulworkes huge afore the towne made for hygher refuge. 1494 *FABIAN* vii. 517 Syr John de Pyguygnny... within the bulwerkys of the same [Amyas]. 1535 *COVERDALE Habak.* ii. 1 Set me upon my bulwerke, to lōke & se what he wolde saye. 1611 *Bible Deut.* xx. 20 Thou shalt build bulwarkes against the city that maketh warre with thee. 1692 *BENTLEY Boyle Lect.* viii. 294 They have not the Form of a regular Bulwark. 1791 *COWPER Odys.* vi. 11 With bulwarks strong their city he enclosed. 1813 *SCOTT Tivern.* iii. iii. Bulwarks and battlement and spire In the red gulf we spy.

b. A breakwater, mole, sea-wall; an embankment confining the bed of a river. Also *fig.*

1555 *EDM. Decades W. Ind.* ii. vii. (Arb.) 133 The famous ryuer of Padus... hath the grete mountaynes cauled Alpes... lyinge at the backe therof as it were bulwarkes full of moisture. 1586 *T. B. La Primaud. Fr. Acad.* (1589) 320 Men provide bulwarks and banks against a river that useth to overflow. 1677 *Plot Oxford.* 11 At Magdalen College, in the water-walks, near the Bull-work called Dover Peer. 1861 *MOTLEY Dutch Rep.* II. 271 The Hand-bos, a bulwark formed of oaken piles, was snapped like pack thread. 1865 *GEIKIE Scen. & Geol. Scot.* iii. 57 To check the further ravages of the waves a stone bulwark was erected.

2. *transf.* and *fig.* A powerful defence or safeguard. Sometimes applied to persons.

1577 *HOLINSHED Chron.* III. 900/2 The citie and Ile of Rhodes, one of the principall bulwarks of christendome. 1614 *RALEIGH Hist. World* ii. 247 Fortescue, that notable bulwark of our Lawes, a 1674 *CLARENDON Hist. Reb.* III. xiii. 357 To destroy their Fleete: which... are their Walls and Bulwarks. 1718 *POPE Iliad* vii. 258 He stood, the bulwark of the Grecian band. 1789 *BEISHAM Ess.* I. xvi. 297 England... appeared... the great bulwark of the common liberties of Europe. 1837-39 *HALLAM Hist. Lit.* i. v. 1. 342 Melancthon... perceived the necessity of preserving human learning as a bulwark to theology.

3. The raised woodwork running along the sides of a vessel above the level of the deck. (Not in Bailey, Ash, or Johnson.) Usually *pl.*

1804 *DUNCAN Mariner's Chron.* II. 274 The guns on the quarter-deck tearing away the bulwark. 1848 *H. GASCOIGNE Nav. Fame* 60 Along the side a yellow streak extends Between his Bullwark and the varnish'd Bends. 1840 *R. DANA Bef. Mast* xxxi. 112 Our ship had uncommonly high bulwarks and rail. 1866 *NEALE Seq. & Hymns* 36 Dashed upon our labouring bulwarks that fierce wind Euroclydon.

Bulwark (bu'lwɜrk), *v.* [*f. prec.*]

1. *a. trans.* To furnish with bulwarks. *b. intr.* To throw up bulwarks. [*lit.* and *fig.*]

1450 *Charter Jas. II in Hist. Edin.* II. (1753) 137 Licence to fosse, bulwark, wall, toure and toure the said Burgh. c 1530 *L.D. BERNERS Arth. Lyt. Bryt.* (1814) 187 They espyed... a hous... wel bulwarked and fousbrayed. 1545 *JOVE Exp. Dan.* iv. 7 The walke of the Lord bulwarked round about the godly. 1598 *SYLVESTER Du Bartas* i. vi. 557 The Lord hath bulwarked them about. 1657 *MAY Satir. Puffe* 33 Commits the protection of his whole Body to his Eie-lids, and bulwarks it with closing them.

2. *trans.* To serve as a bulwark to; to defend, protect, shelter.

1610 *Chester's Tri.*, *Rumor's Sp.* 14 A hideous Dragon—whose thick scales, like shields... Did bulwarke him. 1630 *J. TAYLOR (Water P.) Penn. Pilgr.* Wks. i. 123/2 Well bulwarked by a hedge from raine and winde. 1746 *W. HORSLEY Fool No.* 21 (1748) I. 146 A General... who... bulwarks Europe against the common Enemy. 1873 *BROWNING Red Cott. Night-C.* 170 Friends bulwarked him about From infancy to boyhood.

Bulwarked (bu'lwɜrkt), *pp. a.* [*f. prec.* + *-ED*]. Furnished with, protected by, bulwarks.

c 1530 [see *BULWARK* *v.* 1]. 1612 *DRAYTON Poly-ob.* xviii. 289 Before her bulwark gates the Burgesses hee tooke. 1791 *COWPER Iliad* ii. 398 Wide-bulwarked Troy. 1884 *Pall Mall G.* 2 Aug. 4/1 To wander along the dear old granite bulwarked cliffs.

† **Bulyement**, *Sc.* variant of *BILIMENT*.

1768 *ROSS Helenore* 121 (JAM.) Gird on their bulyement and come along.

Bum (bʊm), *sb.* 1 Not in polite use. Forms:

4 bom, 6 bumbe, 6-7 bumme, bomm(e), 7-8 bumb, 6- bum. [Origin uncertain.]

Probably onomatopoeic, to be compared with other words of similar sound and with the general sense of 'protuberance, swelling', e.g. *BUMP* *sb.*, *BUMB* a pimple, mod. *icel.* *bumba* belly of a cask or other vessel, *Fr.* *bombe* *BOMB*. Cf. also *BUM* *v.* 4 (The guess that *bum* is 'a mere contraction of bottom', besides its phonetic difficulties, is at variance with the historical fact that 'bottom' in this sense is found only from the 18th c.)

1. 'The buttocks, the part on which we sit' (J.); the posteriors.

1387 *TREvisa Higden Rolls Ser.* VI. 357 It semþ þat his bom is oute þat hæp þat euel [sic, i. e. piles]. c 1530 *REDFORDE Play Wit & Sc.* (1848) 20, I wold thy mother had kyth thy bum! 1550 *CROWLEY Epigr.* 1317 A bumbe lyke a barrell wyth whoopes at the skyrte. 1590 *SHAKS. Mids.* N. II. i. 53. 1638 *A. READ Treat. Chirurg.* xii. 97 To pull the feathers from the bummes of hens or cocks. 1708 *Lond.*

Gas. No. 4447/4 A Sorrel Gelding, with... some white Hairs on his Bum. 1708 *BURNS Jolly Beggars* 42 Many a tatter'd rag hanging over my bum. 1816 *KIRBY & Sp. Entomol.* (1828) II. xxiii. 329 Heating their bums or tails against them as they creep along.

2. Applied opprobriously to a person. Cf. *BATIE-BUM* and *BUMBLE* *sb.* 2

1540 *LINDSAY Satyre* 2772 Quhair Devil gat we this ill-fairde blaitie bum? 1572 [see *BATIE-BUM*]. 1805 *JAMIESON.* *Bum*, a lazy, dirty, tawdry, careless woman.

3. *colloq.* Short for *BUM-BAILIFF*; (like the *F. cul* for *pousse-cul*.)

[1663 *BUTLER Hud.* i. 1. 372 It had appeared with Courage bolder Then Sergeant Bum, invading shoulder.] 1691 *Long Vacation* 1 The Bums press hard on Poor Debtor. 1790 *COWPER Wks.* (1836) VI. 315 Threatened with attorneys and bums. a 1845 *BARHAM Ingol. Leg.* (1877) 307 Serjeant Barham with his bums and tip staves.

4. *Comb.* (mostly obs. or nonce-words), as *bum-delighting*, *-grown*, *-proof*, *† -thin*; also *† bum-barrel* (i = *bum-roll*), some protuberant part of a woman's dress; *† bum-beating* *vbl. sb.* (used in quot. for jostling, pushing others off the pavement); *† bum-blade*, a large sword; *† bum-brusher*, humorous for a flogging schoolmaster; *† bum-creeper*, one who walks bent almost double; *† bum-dagger*, cf. *bum-blade*; *† bum-fodder*, *L. antilegium*, hence, worthless literature; *† bum-rolls*, 'stuffed cushions worn by women about the hips' (Halliwell); *† bum-trap* (*slang*), a bailiff, a sheriff's officer (cf. *BUMBAILIFF*).

1609 *Ev. Wom. in Hum.* i. 1. in *Bullen O. Pl.* IV, Ile have no sopng, no puffs, nor no Cobwebs, no busks nor *bumbarrels. 1616 *BEAUM. & FL. Wit without M.* III. i. Can there be aught in this but pride of show, lady, And pride of *bum-beating? 1623 *MASSINGER City Madam* i. ii. Draw! my little rapier against your *bum blades! a 1704 *T. BROWN Wks.* (1760) II. 86 (D.) I (Dionysius) was forced to turn *bum-brusher. 1832 *Blackw. Mag.* Oct. 426 To protract existence... in the shape of bumbrushers, and so forth, after the fashion of the exalted emigrés of 1792? a 1652 *BROME Eng. Moor* III. iii. (1873) II. 48 All alike to me... from the huckle back'd *Bum-creeper. To the straight spiny Shop-maid of St. Martins. 1600 *ROWLANDS Lett. Humours Blood* iii. 57 The huge *bum Dagger at his backe. 1782 *WOLCOTT (P. Pindar) Ode 1 to R.A.'s Wks.* 1812 I. 17 That easy *bum-delighting thing Rid by the Chancellor, cyclop'd a Sack. 1653 *URQUHART Rabelais* i. xiii. Torcheuls, arsewispes *bumfodders. 1753 *Scots Mag.* Apr. 208/1 (*title*) Bum fodder for the ladies. 1611 *COTGR. Hancher*, Big haunched, well *bumme-growne. 1780-6 *WOLCOTT (P. Pindar) Ode R.A.'s Wks.* 1790 I. 58 *Bum-proof to all the flogging of the schools. 1663 *KILLIGREW Parson's Wed.* III. v. Those virtues raised her from the flat petticoat and kercher, to the gorget and *bumroll. 1604 *WARNER Alb. Eng. ix.* xlvii, 220 Supporters, Pooters, Fardingales above the Loynes to waire, That be she near so *bombe-thin, yet she crosse-like seems foure-square. 1749 *FIELDING Tom Jones* (1775) 300 The noble *bumtrap... into the hands of the jailer resolves to deliver his miserable prey.

Bum, *sb.* 2 and *int.* [Imitative. Cf. *BUMBO*.]

† a. A child's word for drink (cf. *BUM* *v.* 1). *Obs.*
b. *Sc.* To say neither *ba* nor *bum*: not to say a word (cf. *BAFF*).

1524 *HULOET, Bua*, the terme or voyce of infantes, askyng drynke, englyshed yf ye wyll, Bume. 1570 *LEVINS Manip.* 187 Bum, drinke, *potus*. 1598 *Tom Tylter & W.* (1601) 4 Tipple (arriving with liquor)... here is good bum, I dare boldly say. 1861 *RAMSAY Remin.* iv. (ed. 18) 75 They neither said *ba* nor *bum*.

† **Bum**, *sb.* 3 *Obs. rare*—o.

1570 *LEVINS Manip.* 188 Bum of a pipe, *oblonga fistula*.

† **Bum**, *v.* 1 *Obs.* Also *bom*. [Onomatopoeic, imitating the motion of the lips in drinking; cf. *BUM* *sb.* 2.] *intr.* To taste (drink); to drink.

1364 *LANGL. P. Pl.* A. vii. 139 He abydeþ wel þe bet þat Bommeþ not to ofte. 1393 *Ibid.* C. vii. 220 Who so bommede [A. v. 137 bummede] þer-of 'he bouht yf [ale] þer-after.

† **Bum**, *v.* 2 *Obs. exc. dial.* Also *bumb*. [Var. of *BOOM* *v.* 1; of echoic origin.]
1. *intr.* To hum loudly; to boom.

c 1450 *CHAUCER Wyf Bathes T.* 116 (Camb. MS.) As a bitore bumbith [v. r. bombleth] in þe myre. 1499 *Prompt. Parv.* 55 Bummyn or bumbyn [v. r. bombon], *bombizo*. 1688 *R. HOLME Armoury* II. ix. 191 The Waspe and Hornet Bumbeth. 1722 *HAMILTON Wallace* x. 253 (JAM.) English men bum there [Stirling] as thick as bees. 1785 *BURNS To W. Simpson.* Let the busy, grumbling hive Bum owre their treasure. 1821 *SCOTT Kenilwa.* You shall hear the bitter bum. 1864 *TENNISON North. Farmer* 18, I... eerd un a bummin' awaý loike a buzzard-clock. *Mod. Sc.* The stones came bumbing past my head.

2. *trans.* *Sc.* a. To throw or hurl a missile with vibrating or booming effect, as 'to bum stones at anything'. b. To pelt with missiles, as 'to bum one with stones'. Cf. also 'bumb sb.', the game of bandy' (Halliwell).

† **Bum**, *v.* 3 *Obs.* [perh. *f.* *BUM* *sb.* 1 (cf. *BUM-BASTE*), though the sense 'flog on the breech' is not distinctly evidenced. Or it may belong to *prec. word*, cf. *sense* 2 b.]

trans. (or *absol.*) To strike, beat, thump.

1599 *STUDLEY Seneca's Hippolytus* (1581) 64 b. To scratch and cuffe, to boxe and bum. 1598 *GREENE Jas. IV* (1861) 203 Sirrah, hold your hand, lest I bum you. 1608 *MIDDLETON Fam. Love* iv. iii. Sirrah, you would be bumed for your roguery. 1622 *DEKKER & MASS. Virg. Mart.* iv. ii.

† **Bum**, *v.* 4 *nonce-wd.* [*f.* *BUM* *sb.* 1]

1. *trans.* To pad or make a projection about the posteriors.

1605 *CAMDEN Rem.* (1637) 197 Women bummed themselves with foxe tiales under their garments.

2. *intr.* To project, form a protuberance.

1633 *ROWLEY Match at Midn.* i. f. in *Hazl. Dodsley XIII.* 8 What have you bumming out there, Goodman File?

Bum, *v.* 6 To act as a bum-boat woman.

1833 *MARRVAT P. Simple* lxi, He's dead and I'm bumming.

Ibid. lvii, To see his wife go a bumming.

† **Bum**, *Obs.* Colloq. contraction for *by my*.

1571 *R. EDWARDS Damon & Pith.* in *Hazl. Dodsley IV.*

73 Bum troth, but few such roisters come to my years.

1576 *WHETSTONE Promos & Cass.* in *Reed Dodsley IV.* 7

(N.) Nay, bum-ladie, I will not.

Bum—: see *BOM*.

Bumaloe, *Bumaree*: see *BUMM*.

† **Bumb**, *Obs.* [Cf. *BUB* *sb.* 3, *BUMP* *sb.* 1] A pimple.

1598 *FLORIO, Quasi*, red pimples, bums or pearles in ones face.

Bumb, var. of *BUM* *v.* 2, *Obs.*, to hum.

† **Bumbail**, Apparently shortened *f.* next.

1696 *Growth of Deism* 22 Where [at the altar, under the Test Acts] Men were capacitated to be Bumbails, keep Gaming-houses and sell Ale.

Bumbailiff (bʊmbeɪlɪf). Forms: 7 bum-baylie, 7, 9 *dial.* -bailly, 7 -bayliff(e), 7- -bailiff. [app. *f.* *BUM* *sb.* 1 + *BAILIFF*: i. e. the bailiff that is close at the debtor's back, or that catches him in the rear. Cf. the *F.* equivalent *pousse-cul*, colloquially shortened to *cul*, precisely like the *Eng.* *Bum*.] A contemptuous synonym of *BAILIFF* 2: 'A bailiff of the meanest kind; one that is employed in arrests' (J.).

1601 *SHAKS. Twel. N.* iii. iv. 194 Scout mee for him at the corner of the Orchard like a bum-Baylie. 1638 *G. M. Ess. & Char. Prison & Pr.* 30 The very offscum of the rascall multitude, as... Decoyes, Bum-bayliffes, disgraced Purse-vants... and a rabble of such stinkardly companions. 1690 *J. JONES Judges Indg.* 34 [Debtors] taken... from their Ploughs, which are their livelihood... by vagrant Bum-bayliffes, and imprisoned. 1768-78 *TUCKER Lt. Nat.* II. 528 The two necessary ministers of justice, a bum-bailiff and a Jack Ketch. 1609 *W. IRVING Knickerb.* iii. ii. (1849) 148, I have a mortal antipathy to catchpols, bumbailiffs and little great men. 1859 *THACKERAY Virgin.* i. A confounded pettifogging bum-bailiff.

Bumbalo, variant of *BUMMALO*.

† **Bumbard**, -art, *sb.* and *a.* *Obs.* Also 6 bombard. [*f.* *BUM* *bumb*, *v.* 2 + *-ARD*. Cf. also *BOWBERT* in a similar sense.]

a. sb. A bumble-bee, a drone; also *fig.* a droning person, a driveller. Cf. *BUMBLE* *sb.* 1 2.

c 1505 *DUNBAR Twa Mariit Wem. & Wedo* 91 Ane bumbart, ane dron bee, ane bag full of flewme. *Ibid. Quhome to tall I compleis* 24 Cairlis of nobillis hes the cure, And bumbardis bruikis the benifyiss. a 1614 *J. MELVILLE Mem.* MS. 129 (JAM.) Like adrecope webs, that takes the silly flies, but the bombards breaks through them. 1614 *J. COOKE* in *Dodsley* i. 93 Your Spaniard is a mere Bumbard to him.

b. a. Lazy, indolent, drivelling.

c 1505 *DUNBAR Dance Ser. Deidly Synnis* 70 Mony sweir bumbard [v. r. lumbard] belly huddroun.

Bumbard, *obs.* form of *BOMBARD*.

Bumbaree, variant of *BUMMAREE*.

Bumbarge (bʊmˈbɑːdʒ). [*f.* Perversion of *BUMBOAT*, after *BARGE*.]

1839 *CARLYLE Chartism* viii. 163 What ship Argo... was other than a foolish bumbarge in comparison? 1885 *Pall Mall G.* 20 June 3 A torpedo boat is not as tough as a bumbarge.

† **Bumbass**, *Obs. rare*—1. [*f.* *bomb*—in *BOMBARD*.] A large projectile to be thrown from a bombard.

1655 *MRO. WORCESTER Cent. Inv.* No. 24 A Spring... to shoot Bumbasses and Bullets of an hundred pound weight a Steeple height.

Bumbast, -er, -lo, *etc.*, var. of *BOMBAST*, *etc.*

† **Bumbaste**, *v.* *Obs. exc. dial.* Also 6-7 bumbast, bombast(e) [app. *f.* *BUM* *sb.* 1 + *BASTE* *v.* 3; but *bum* might be a meaningless intensive or reduplicative prefix; cf. next.] *trans.* To beat on the posteriors; hence, to flog, beat soundly, thrash.

1571 *R. EDWARDS Damon & P.* in *Dodsley* IV. 60, I shall bombast you, you mocking knave. 1616 *SURFL. & MARKH. Countr. Farm* l. xxviii. 146 You must bumbast his buttocks with a good long stick. 1657 *TOMLINSON Renos's Disp.* 50 We use... to smite and bombaste them (vipers) with rods. 1682 *New News fr. Bedlam* 56, I am resolved to bumbast him as soon as you are gone. 1731 *BAILEY II, To bumbaste* [of bum and baste, i. e. to beat] to beat or bang. 1847-78 *HALLIWELL, Bumbaste*. To beat, or flog. *East.*

b. † To finish off, 'dispose of' (a can of liquor).

1640 *GLAPTHORNE Wit in Constab.* v. ii, Here let's canvass This quart and then we'll bumbaste off another.

Hence *Bumbasting* *pp. a.*, 'thumping', violent.

1598 *FLORIO, Regione*, a good drie bumbasting blow.

Bumbaze (bʊmˈbæz), *v.* Chiefly *Sc.* Also 8 bombaze, -base, 9 bumbaise. [app. a kind of intensive form of *BAZE* *v.*; but cf. also *BAMBOOZLE*.] To confound, perplex, bamboozle.

1725 *RAMSAY Gentle Sheph.* i. i, She... gars me look bombaz'd and unco blate. *Ibid.* iv. ii, Then oft by night, bombaze hare-hearted fools. 1804 *SCOTT Redgaunt.* II. iv, How the scoundrel redcoats must have been bumbazed. 1840 *BARHAM Ingol. Leg.* 117 Clear bumbazed, and amazed, and

fixed all the room stick. 188a *Gd. Words* 100 The mother poor body, looked a good deal bumbled.

Bum-bee. *Sc.* [f. BUM *v.* 2 hum + BEE *sb.* 1]

= BUMBLE-BEE. With quot. 1653 cf. BUM-BAILIFF.

1653 URQUHART *Rabelais* II. xi. The Swissers, who had assembled themselves to the full number of the Bum-bees, and Myrmidons. 1718 RAMSAY *Contin. Christ's Kirk* III. xix. Spaw'd out. 'Wi' mony an unco skirl and shout, Like bumbees frae their bykes. 1789 DAVIDSON *Seasons* 5 (JAM.) Auld farny year stories come athwart their minds, Of bumbees bykes. 1826 J. WILSON *Noct. Ambr. Wks.* 1855 I. 153 Caterpillars and bumbees and a' the rest o' the insect world. 1862 D. CAMPBELL *Language, &c. Highl. Clans*, The inexpressive notes... made by three unfortunate bumbees.

Bumbelo, bumbolo. [a. It. *bombola* 'sort of glass vessel for holding wine', etc. (Tommaso and Bellini).] A glass flask for subliming camphor. 1854 TOMLINSON *Cycl. Usef. Arts* (1866) I. 286 Spheroidal vessels called bumbolos. They are made of thin flint glass and measure about 12 inches across.

Bumbelee, variant of BUMMALO.

† **Bumbis.** ? Meaningless. See quot.

1622 FLETCHER *Beggars' Bush* III. i. Sa, sa, flim, flam, tara-dumbis! East, West, North, South, now fly like Jack with a bumbis!

† **Bumble, sb.** 1. *Obs. exc. dial.* Also 6 *Sc.* bombill, 8 *Sc.* bummil, bummle. [f. BUMBLE *v.* 1]

1. ? A humming noise; bluster. *Sc.*

1597 MONTGOMERIE *Flying* 105 For all your bombill.

2. a. A bumble-bee. b. 'A provincial name for the Common Bittern' (Atkinson *Prov. Names of Birds* 1864).

1638 WHITING *Albino & Bell* (N.) Von tender webs... Through which with ease the lusty bumbles break. 1789 DAVIDSON *Seasons* 63 (JAM.) Up the howes the bumbles fly in troops.

† **Bumble, sb.** 2. *Obs. exc. dial.* [onomatopoeic, cf. BUNGLE, JUMBLE, FUMBLE.]

1. A confusion, jumble.

1648 JENKYN *Blind Guide* i. 15 A bumble of musty reasons. 1660 S. FISHER *Rusticks Alarm* Wks. (1679) 427 With many more Bumbles of their Senses, Meanings, Opinions. 1690 B. E. *Dict. Cant. Crew, Bumble*, Cloths setting in a heap, or ruck. 1847-78 HALLIWELL, *Bumble*, a confused heap. *North.*

2. A bumbler or blunderer; an idler. (Cf. *batie-bummil*, *BATIE-BUM*; also BUMBLE *sb.* 2 a.)

1786 BURNS *Sc. Bard gone W. Ind.* iv. Some drowsy bummle, Wha can do nought but fyke an' fumble. 1789 DAVIDSON *Seasons* 181 (JAM.) The Muse... ca'd me bumble.

¶ 3. Associated with this is the name of the beadle in Dickens's *Oliver Twist* (see BUMBLEDOM): sometimes used attrib.

1856 *Sat. Rev.* II. 416/2 It will... be useless to impress upon the great Bumble mind, etc.

4. attrib. and comb., as *bumble-bath*, *bumble-broth*, 'a mess, 'pickle, soapsuds'; also with sense of 'clumsy, unwieldy': *bumble-foot*, a club foot; *bumble-footed*, club-footed.

1661 K. W. *Conf. Charac.* (1860) 56 A hog in armour, just such another bumble-arst furfact piece of mortality. 1595 MARCOUS *Ext.* (1843) 17 Such carrion as lies there in their bumble baths. 1608 DEKKER *Satirom.* Wks. 1873 I. 218 If I might ha my wil, thou shouldst not put thy spoon into that bumble-broth. 1630 J. TAYLOR (Water P.) *Praise Clean Linn.* Wks. II. 169/1 Laundresses are testy. When they are lathering in their bumble broth. 1861 H. KINGSLEY *Ravenshoe* xli. (D.) She died mostly along of Mr. Malone's bumble foot... he being drunk and bumble-footed too.

Bumble, sb. 3. *dial.* See quot.

1694 WESTMACOTT *Script. Herb.* 32 Bull-Rushes... in some Countries... are called Bumbles. 1877 PEACOCK *N. W. Lincoln. Gloss.* (E. D. S.) *Bumbles*, such as are used for chair-bottoms.

Bumble (bʊmbl̩), *sb.* 4. *dial.* 'A small round stone. *West.*' (Halliwell.)

1839 MURCHISON *Silur. System* I. xxxi. 413 Small concretions, which... alternate with beds of solid limestone. The former... are here known under the name of bumbles.

† **Bumble, sb.** 5. *Obs. rare* -1. A bandage for blindfolding. 'A kind of blinkers. *North.*' (Halliwell.)

1663 LISLE *Elfric on O. & N. T.* Pref. 14 Hood-winked with his implicit faith, as with a bumble on his head. 1863 *Gloss.* in Morton *Cycl. Agric.*, *Bumbles*, covers for horses' eyes.

† **Bumble, v.** 1. *Obs.* Also 4-6 *bomble*. [f. BOOM *v.* 1, BUM *v.* 2 + frequentative suffix -LE.]

1. *intr.* To boom, as a bittern; to buzz, as a fly. c 1386 CHAUCER *Wife's T.* 116 As a Bitore bombleth in the Myre [v. r. bumbith, bumbil]. 1556-1693 [see BUMBLING *vbl. sb.*]. 1868 ATKINSON *Cleveland Gloss.* 78 *Bumble*, to hum or buzz.

2. *trans.* To grumble at, blame, take to task.

1675 DUFFETT *Mock Temp.* III. i. Be bumbled, and jumb'l'd, and grumb'l'd at. 1781 COWPER *Corr.* (1824) I. 201, I shall not bumble Johnson for finding fault with Friendship.

† **Bumble, v.** 2. *Obs. exc. Sc.* Also 6 *bomble*, 8-9 *Sc.* bummil, -el. [See BUMBLE *sb.* 2]

a. *intr.* To blunder, flounder. See BUMBLING *vbl. sb.* b. *trans.* To bungle over; to do in a bungling manner.

1532 MORE *Confut. Tindale* Wks. (1557) 693/1 The thinge wher about he hath bombed all thys while. *Ibid.* 734/2 Which argument Tindall hath all thys while bombed aboute to soyle. 1719 RAMSAY *Epist. Hamilton* II. 'Tis ne'er be me Shall... say ye bummil Ye'r poeticke. 1807 STAGG *Poems* 145 As for a bang he bummel'd... An' down the warrior tumel'd.

Bumble-bee (bʊmbl̩bi). [f. stem of BUMBLE

v. 1 + BEE 1; cf. BUMBLE *sb.* 1] A large bee of the genus *Bombus*; a humble-bee.

1530 PALSGR. 460/1. I bomme, as a bombyll bee dothe. 1678 H. MORE *Lett.* 25 May in Glanvil *Sadduc.* (1681) Hunting of Butter-flies and Bumble-bees. 1704 S. WILLIAMS *Ver-mont* 129 There is a species called with us the bumble bee. 1881 *Proc. Bern. Nat. Club* IX. No. 3. 571 A most unusual number of wasps and bumble bees.

Bumbledom (bʊmbl̩dɒm). [f. *Bumble*, name of the beadle in Dickens's *Oliver Twist* + -DOM.] Fussy official pomposity and stupidity, especially as displayed by the officers of petty corporations, vestries, etc.; beadledom in its glory.

1856 *Sat. Rev.* II. 12/1 The collective Bumbledom of Westminster. 1865 *Spectator* 22 Apr. 427 There spoke the true spirit of parish Bumbledom. 1880 *Daily Tel.* 8 Oct., The uncomplimentary epithet applied to municipal bureaucracy, 'Bumbledom'.

Bumblekite, dial. Also bummel-kite. A blackberry.

1691 RAY *N. C. Wds.*, *Bumblekites*: Bramble-Berries. *Yorkshire.* 1709-56 MORSE *Amer. Geog.* I. 188 Sowteat blackberry or Bumblekites. 1804 *Craven Dial.* 15 To pike... some shoups, bumblekites, an hindberries. 1883 *Hamphsh. Gloss.*, *Bummell* or *Bumble-kite*, a bramble or blackberry.

Bumble-puppy (bʊmbl̩pʊpi). [Derivation unknown. Cf. BUMBLE *v.* 2]

a. An old game resembling bagatelle, but played out of doors with marbles or 'dumps' of lead; nine-holes. b. Applied humorously to whist played unscientifically.

1801 STRUTT *Sports & Past.* III. vii. 242 note. 1884 *Sat. Rev.* 25 Oct. 520 'Bumble puppy' or domestic whist at shilling points. 1885 *Longm. Mag.* VI. 597 A common form of home whist—called by Pembroke, Bumblepuppy.

Bumbler, dial. [f. BUMBLE *v.* 1 and *v.* 2 + -ER 1.]

a. A bumble-bee. (Applied to the Tyneside artilleryman.) b. A blunderer.

1847-78 HALLIWELL, *Bumbler*. A humble bee. *North.* 1863 ROSSON *Bards of Tyne* 108 You'll fight your battles o'er your pipe... You blue tail bumbler. 1881 Mrs. L. LINTON *My Love* III. 244 He is a bit of a bumbler when all is said and done.

† **Bumbling, vbl. sb.** *Obs.* [f. BUMBLE *v.* 1 and *v.* 2 + -ING 1]

a. Blundering. b. Buzzing, humming.

1533 MORE *Annu. Poyson. Bk.* Wks. (1557) 1088/2 Tyndall dydde... make some bumbling aboute a colour for the matter. 1556 J. HEYWOOD *Spider & Fl.* lxiv. 71 Much bumbling among them all (flies): there was. 1693 URQUHART *Rabelais* III. xiii, Bumbling of Bees.

Bumbo. Also bumboo, bombo. [Cf. It. *bombo* a child's word for drink (Tommaso and Bellini).] 'A liquor composed of rum, sugar, water, and nutmeg' (Note to *Rod. Random*); also other alcoholic mixtures.

1748 SMOLLETT *Rod. Rand.* xxiv, A table well stored with bumbo and wine. 1756 T. TURNER *Diary* 28 Apr. in Parish *Sweet's Gloss.* s. v., One bowl of punch and two mugs of bumbo. 1867 SMYTH *Sailor's Word-bk.*, *Bombo*, weak cold punch. a 1868 *Northumb. Song in N. & Q.* 6 Mar. 195 The pitmen and the keelman... drink bumbo made of gin.

Bumboat (bʊmbɔt). Also 8 *bomb-boat*. [app. f. BUM *sb.* 1 + BOAT. (Cf. *bumbay* 'a quagmire from stagnating water, dung, etc., such as is often seen in farm-yards' *Suffolk Words* from Cullum *Hist. Hawsted* 1815; also Ray S. & E. C. *Words*.)]

† 1. A scavenger's boat, employed to remove 'filth' from ships lying in the Thames, as prescribed by the Trinity House Bye Laws of 1685. (These 'dirt-boats' used also to bring vegetables etc. for sale on board the ships, whence sense 2.) 1671 *Proclam. Chas. II.* 6 Apr., Whereas several Dirt-Boats, and Bum-Boats... under pretence of Fetching Dirt, and Furnishing necessary Provisions on Board such Ships as are in the River, do commit divers Thefts and Robberies. 1685 *By-Laws Trinity House* No. 6 Dirtboats, otherwise called Bumboats.

2. 'A boat employed to carry provisions, vegetables, and small merchandise for sale to ships, either in port or lying at a distance from the shore.' Smyth *Sailor's Word-bk.*

1765 FALCONER *Dict. Marine* (1789) *Bumboat*, a small boat used to sell vegetables, etc. to ships lying at a distance from the shore. 1833 MARRVAT *P. Simple* (1863) 407 All the bumboats were very anxious to supply the ship. 1863 *Life Man-of-War in Cornh. Mag.* Feb., The bumboat has come along-side... with oranges and grapes, loaf-bread... herrings, and similar dainties.

3. attrib., as *bumboat act*, *man*, *people*, *woman*.

1714 *Lond. Gas.* No. 5245/3 John Daniel, an Alehouse-keeper and Bomb-boat Man at Woolwich. 1800 BRODERIP & BINGHAM *Ref.* I. 433 The vessel... was seized... under the Bum-boat act (2 Geo. III. c. 28). 1835 MARRVAT *Jac. Faithf.* xxxvii, We purchased some sheets of paper from the bumboat people. 1884 *Littell's Living Age* 700 Fruits from... the bumboat-woman at a seaport.

Hence *Bumboating vbl. sb.*

1841 MARRVAT *Poacher* xxxvii, It was only bumboating on a large scale.

† **Bum-card.** *Obs.* Also *bun-*, *bumbe-*, *bumme-card*. [Of uncertain origin.] A raised or otherwise marked card used for cheating at play; also *fig.*

1577 NORTHBROOKE *Dicing* (1843) 142 A bumbe-card finely

vnder, ouer, or in the middes, &c. and what not to deceyne? 1589 *Pappe w. Hatchet* Cij, Hee'le cog the die of deceit, and cutte at the bumme-card of his conscience. 1611 FLORIO, *Rinfersata carta*, a bun-card. 1631 BRATHWAIT *Whimsies Gamster* 42 The more generous professors have by this discarded him for a bum-card.

Bum-clock. *Sc. and north. dial.* [f. BUM *v.* 2 to hum + CLOCK beetle.] A drone-beetle.

1706 BURNS *Two Dogs* 23 The bum-clock humm'd wi' lary drone. 1875 ROBINSON *Whitby Gloss.*, *Bumclock*, the humming beetle.

† **Bum-court.** *Obs.* [Etymol. uncertain: app. f. BUM *sb.* 1 (cf. the first quot.).] Apparently, a vulgar nick-name for the Ecclesiastical Court.

1544 *Suppl. to Hen. VIII.* 28 The hearing of testamentary causes... of scandaures, of leachery, adultery, and punyishment of bawdrye; and suche other bumme court matters. 1580 FULKE *Staple & Mart. Confuted* 128 These quarrels sir Bachiler, are more meet for the bumme-courts, in which perhaps you are a prating proctor, than for the schools of divinity. 1583 — *Brief Confut.* 33 In this saying, if the term of bumcourts seem too light, I yield unto the censure of grave and godly men.

† **Bumdockdousse.** *Obs.* [f. BUM *sb.* 1 + DOCK rump + DOUSE *v.* beat, thump.] Urquhart's word for *pimpompel*, 'a kinde of game wherein three hit each other on the bumme with one of their feet' (Cotgrave).

1653 URQUHART *Rabelais* I. xxii, At the leek, at Bumdockdousse.

† **Bumfeage, bumfeagle, bumfeg, vbs.** *Obs.* [cf. BUM *v.* 3] Humorous synonyms for to flog, thrash. (Nashe apparently regarded the word as a coinage of 'Martin Marprelate'.)

1589 *Hay any Work* 6 Ise so bumfeg the Cooper. 1589 NASHE *Almond for Parrot* 7 b, You... never knewe what his Bumfeging ment. 1589 — *Martin's Mouth's M.* F 1 b, I wil so bumfeage him. 1598 FLORIO, *Scardassare*... to beate, bumbaste, or bumfeage.

† **Bumfiddle, sb.** = BUM *sb.* 1

1675 COTTON *Burlesque in Poet. Wks.* (1765) 231 So her Bumfiddle I had clapp'd.

Bumfiddle v., see quot.; also *Bumfiddler*.

c 1560 *Trag. Rich. II.* (1870) 42 To say I will tear this paper... or fowler words than that, as to say I will bumfiddle your paper. 1611 DAVIES *Scourge Folly* in Wright *Dict. Obs. & Prov. Eng.*, A busie-body hardly she abides; Yet she's well-pleased with all bumfiddlers. 1618 FLETCHER *Chances* I. vi, And am I now bumfidd'd with a Bastard? 1815 SOUTHEY *Lett.* (1856) II. 399 [An ode] too good to be fiddled; so I sent them a second, which was fit to be bumfiddled.

Bumkin, bumkin (bʊmkɪn). *Naut.* Also 8-9 *boomkin*. [f. BOOM *sb.* 2 + -KIN; possibly the Du. *boomken* may formerly have been used in this special sense. The spelling *bumpkin* is now more usual.] 'A short boom projecting from each bow of a ship, to extend the lower edge of the foresail to windward.' Falconer *Dict. Marine*, 1769. Also applied to similar booms for extending the mainsail and the mizen.

1632 SHERWOOD, *Bumkin* (in a ship), *chicambault*. 1769 FALCONER *Dict. Marine* (1789) *Bumkin*, or *Boomkin*, a short boom. 1799 *Naval Chron.* I. 258 Carrying away her bumkin. 1825 H. GASCOIGNE *Nav. Fame* 75 Dragg'd to the Bumpkin the Foretack is found. 1840 R. DANA *Bef. Mast* xv. 41 Breaking off her larboard bumkin.

attrib. 1794 *Rigging & Seamanship* I. 231 *Boomkin-Shrouds*, to support the boomkins, have their after ends hooked to eye-bolts.

† **Bumkin** 2. *Obs. rare.* See quot.

1677 DANPIER *Voy.* (1729) I. 2 Another Canoa which had been sawn asunder in the middle, in order to have made Bumkins, or Vessels for carrying water.

† **Bumkin** 3. [f. BUM *sb.* 1 + -KIN.] 'A burlesque term for the posteriors'. Nares, q. v.

Bumkin(g), *obs. form* of BUMKIN.

† **Bumleaf, Obs. rare.** [Cf. BUM-CARD.] A leaf of paper with a slip projecting from the edge (in a book used for a conjuring trick); it served a similar purpose to that of the 'bum-card', being intended to enable the conjuror to open the book, as if by accident, at the right places.

1524 R. SCOT *Discov. Witchcr.* xiii. xxxiii. 283 Each Bumleaf or high inch of paper... rest your thombe upon anie of those Bumleaves, or high inches.

|| **Bummalo.** Also bumbeloe, bumbalo, bumaloe. [Yule quotes *bombil* or *bombila* from Molesworth's *Mahratti Dict.*] A small fish (*Harpodon nehereus*) found off the coasts of Southern Asia, used, when dried, as a relish.

1673 FRYER *E. India* & P. 67 (Y.) Massigoung... notable for a fish called Bumbelow, the Sustenance of the Poorer sort. 1787 *Archaeologia* VIII. 262 (D.) Dried fish, which in this country [India] are called bumbeloes. 1813 J. FORBES *Oriental Mem.* I. 53 The Bumbalo, a small fish extremely nutritive. 1845 STODOLER *Handbk. Brit. India* (1854) 283 Skate, sword-fish, bumbaloe, cockup, crabs, lobsters. 1885 BALFOUR *Cycl. India* (ed. 3) 512 *Bummalo*, a small fish, salted and dried; also called Bombay Duck.

Bummaree (bʊmɑːrɪ). Also 8-9 *bomaree*, 9 *bumbaree*, *bommerree*. [Origin unknown. Cf. BUMMERY.] A middleman in the fish trade at Billingsgate.

1707 *Lond. Gas.* No. 4330/7 Run away... a Negro Boy... called Hermitage or Bummaree. 1766 *Rep. Committee of City of Lond. on Price Provisions* 31 The Bomarees will buy up half the fish the Salesmen have, and sell to the Fish-

mongers. 1851 MAYHEW *Lab. Labour* I. 67 In Billingsgate the 'forestallers' or middlemen are known as 'bummarees'. The bummaree is the jobber or speculator on the fish-exchange. 1859 SALA *Tu. round Clock* (1861) 17 Stands are erected at different parts of the market for 'bummarees'.

Hence **Bummareeing** *vbl. sb.* The acting as a Bummaree.

1859 SALA *Tu. round Clock* 21 The process of bummareeing is very simple.

Bumme, obs. f. **BUM** *sb.*

† **Bummock, Bummock**. *Sc.* [Etymology unknown: presumably ON.]

1. A large brewing of ale for a merry meeting; the ale itself. (In Caithness.) (Jam.)

1693 WALLACE *Orkney* 30 The Tennant will not fail to have a strong Ale (which they call Bummocks) in readiness. 1822 SCOTT *Pirate* III. 200 (Jam.) The mickle bicker of Scapa... was always offered to the Bishop of Orkney brimful of the best bummock.

2. A Christmas entertainment in Orkney given by tenants to their landlords.

1795 *Statist. Acc. Orkney* XV. 393 note (Jam.) These entertainments, called Bummocks, strengthened... the bonds of mutual confidence... The Christmas Bummocks are almost universally discontinued.

† **Bummed**, *a. Obs.* Also 6 *bumbd.* [f. **BUM** *sb.* and *v* + -ED.] *a.* Of garments: Padded out, made to project. *b.* Having a bum (only in *comb.*).

1588 W. AVERELL *Comb. Contrivances* Bij, This yeere bumbd like a Barrell, the next shottend like a Herring. 1611 COTGR., *Fessé*. Fat-bum.

Bummel, -il, *Sc. fl.* of **BUMBLE** *v.*

† **Bummer** *1. Obs.* = **BUMBAILIFF**.

1675 CROWNE *Country Wit* III. 40 I'll go get the writ and bailiffs... my Bummer shall have her in bed.

Bummer *2. Sc.* [f. **BUM** *v.* + -ER *1.*] That which hums or buzzes; *spec.* a toy (see quot. 1821).

1821 *Blackw. Mag.* Aug. 35 (Jam.) Bummer—a thin piece of wood swung round by a cord. 1862 *Hilior Prov. Scot.* 15 The loudest bummer's no the best bee.

Bummer *3 (būmər)*. *U. S. slang.* [cf. Ger. *bummeler* in same sense.] An idler, lounge, loafer. See also quot. Hence **Bummerish** *a.*

1865 MAJ. NICHOLLS *Gr. March in Pall Mall* G. 23 Sept. 11/2 If it be asked what a 'bummer' is, the reply is easy. He is a raider on his own account—a man who temporarily deserts his place in the ranks... and starts out upon an independent foraging expedition. 1865 *Atlantic Monthly* Mar. 286 The brain... a lazy bummer, that lived at the stomach's expense. 1872 C. KING *Sierra Nev.* ii. 36 Indians... lying off with that peculiar bummerish ease. 1878 *Black Green Past.* (ed. 2) III. 83 A system of local government controlled by 30,000 bummer, loafers, and dead-beats.

† **Bummery**. *Obs.* [a. Du. *bommerye* (Hexham), *bodmerij*; see **BOTTOMRY** *sb.*] = **BOTTOMRY**. 1653 *Perry's Diary* 25 Nov. He advised me in things I desired, about bummery, and other ways of putting out money as in parts of ships. 1668 *CHILD Disc. Trade* (1668) 144 Bills of Bottomry or Bummery. a 1734 *NORTH LIVES* II. 33 A bummery bond. 1836 *Penny Cycl.* V. 263/1 Bottomry, Bottomree, or Bummaree.

Bumming, *ppl. a.* [f. **BUM** *v.* + -ING *2.*] *a.* Buzzing, humming. *b.* † **Bumming sound** (obs.): Something of note, or worth listening to.

1599 MARSTON *Sec. Villanie* i. iv. 188 Hath rak't together some four thousand pound, To make his smug gurle bear a bummung sound In a young merchants ear. 1616 *Pasquil & Kath.* iii. 182 A thousand pound a yeere! Bar Ladie, that's a bummung sound. 1821 CLARE *Vill. Minstr.* I. 131 Bummung gad-fies ceased to tease.

Bump (*būmp*), *sb.* [Belongs to **BUMP** *v.* 1 Onomatopoeic: the *vb.* and *sb.* of action being probably coeval. App. the order was *bump v.* to knock, and *bump sb.* a knock; hence as *sb.* a swelling protuberance caused by a blow, and as *vb.* to swell or rise in a protuberance; but the historical record is not very complete. Cf. **BOUNCE**, **THUMP**, etc. Also as a parallel instance of an onomatopoeia combining the two senses 'sudden blow' and 'swelling' cf. **BUNCH.]**

1. A blow somewhat heavy, but rather dull in sound; a sudden collision, more or less violent. 1611 COTGR., *Adot*, a blow, bumpe, or thumpe. 1768-78 TUCKER *Lt. Nat.* II. 149 An unlucky bump upon the head (might have) rendered him stupid. 1862 *SMILES Engineers* III. 10 When the pump descends, there is heard a plunge, a heavy sigh, and a loud bump. 1882 *Lett. in Royal Acad. Catal.* (1882) 95 It went into the ditch with a bump.

2. **Boating**. The impact of the stem of a boat against the stern or side of another boat in front of it: in boat-racing at the English Universities, the making of a 'bump' is the technical proof of one boat's overtaking and beating another.

1861 HUGHES *Tom Brown Oxf.* I. xiv. 282 A bump now and no mistake; the bow of the St. Ambrose boat jams the oar of the Oriel stroke. 1884 *Sat. Rev.*, *College Life* 12 July 47/1 An unexpected bump in May.

II. Swelling.

3. A protuberance such as is caused by a blow or collision; a swelling, an irregular prominence.

1592 SHAKS. *Rom. & Jul.* L. iii. 53 It had upon it brow, a bump as big as a young Cockrel's stone; a perilous knock. 1611 COTGR., *Angonailles*, botches, (pockie) bumps or sores. *Ibid.* *Bigne*, a bumpe, knob, rising, or swelling after a knocke. a 1700 DRYDEN (J.) Not though... in bumps his

forehead rise. 1825-7 HONE *Every-day Bk.* II. 1016, I sat upon a small knoll, surrounded by curves and bumps.

4. *transf.* One of the prominences on the cranium associated by phrenologists with special mental faculties and propensities; sometimes used for the faculties, etc., themselves. (*collog.*)

1815 *Edin. Rev.* XXV. 251 The aforesaid bumps on the head are... signs of peculiar energy, in some of the special faculties. 1863 KINGSLEY *Water-bab.* iv. 165 She felt his bumps, and cast his nativity. *Mod.* I never knew anyone so deficient in the bump of locality.

III. *Comb.*, as **bump-stick**, a tool used by shoemakers for smoothing soles (= *Sleek-stick*); **bump-supper**, a supper given to celebrate the making of a 'bump' by a college boat (see 2).

1725 BRADLEY *Fam. Dict.* s. v. *Box*, It [Boxwood] makes also... Bump-Sticks and Dressers for Shoemakers.

Bump, *sb.* 2 [f. **BUMP** *v.* 2] The cry of the bitter. a 1528 SKELTON *Poems* 227 (L.) The bitter with his bump, The crane with his trump.

Bump (*būmp*), *sb.* 3 [Origin unknown.] *a.* A kind of matting used for covering floors. *b.* A material composed of cotton threads loosely twisted together (formerly also refuse flax) used for candle-wicks, also woven for making coarse sheets; *attrib.* in *bump-sheet*, also *bump-mill*, a factory where this fabric is manufactured.

Bump, *v.* 1 [see **BUMP** *sb.* 1]

I. To strike heavily or firmly.

1. *trans.* † *a. generally*. To strike heavily, knock, thump. *Obs.* *b.* To impinge heavily upon; of persons, to push (a heavy body) violently against, or on any object; to hurt (one's head, one's knee, etc.) by knocking against a hard object (sometimes const. *against, on*); to strike or knock with anything heavy and bulky; to seize (a person) by the arms and legs, and strike his posteriors against a wall, tree, etc.

1611 COTGR., *Baculer*, to bumpe on the Posteriors with a Bat. 1768 TUCKER *Lt. Nat.* I. 471 That antagonist, whom he bumps and pummels so furiously. 1815 SCOTT *Guy R.* iv. We bumped ashore a hundred kegs. 1842 TENNYSON *Epic* 12, I bump'd the ice into three several stars. *Mod.* I bumped my head on the low ceiling. Several boys were 'bumped' against this wall at the beating of the bounds.

2. *intr.* To strike solidly, to come with a bump or violent jolt against; to move with a bump or a succession of bumps. *Naut.* see quot. 1844.

a 1843 SOUTHEY *Lodore* 94 Thumping and bumping and bumping and jumping. 1844 MRS. HOUSTON *Yacht Voy. Texas* II. 150 The extremely heavy swell on the bar, which... materially increases the chance of a vessel's 'bumping'; a term the Americans use for touching on the sand banks. 1857 HOLLAND *Bay Path* xxv. 301 His heart bumped so heavily against the walls of his chest. 1860 *Merc. Mar. Mag.* VII. 305 She bumped several times, losing her false keel. 1885 M. D. CHALMERS *Lav Times* LXXX. 191/1 Due to the cask bumping against the cellar wall.

3. *trans.* **Boat-racing**. To overtake and impinge on (the boat in front). Also *absol.* = 'make a bump': see **BUMP** *sb.* 1 2. (In the boat-races at the English Universities, a boat which bumps another changes place with it in the order of boats on the river.)

1866 *Lit. Lounger* 222 in *Oxf. Mag.* (Extra No.) 18 May 1887, 2/2 Christ Church bumps her. *Ibid.* 3/1, I never thought of her bumping the Exeter. 1890 KINGSLEY *Alt. Locke* xiii. 105 Having, as he informed me, 'bumped the first Trinity'. 1891 HUGHES *Tom Brown Oxf.* I. xiv. 276 Colleges, whose boats have no chance of bumping or being bumped.

II. To bulge out.

† 4. *intr.* To rise in protuberances, to bulge out, to be convex. *Obs.*

1566 (see **BUMPING** *ppl. a.*) 1579 STUDLEY *Seneca's Hip-polytus* (1581) 71 His... necke With... knobby curles hie out bumping big do swell. 1597 GERARD *Herbal* (1633) 1299 (L.) Long fruit... with kernels bumping out. 1603 HOLLAND *Plutarch's Mor.* 1021 Of the round line that part which is... without doth bumpe and bunch.

† 5. *trans.* To make protuberant, cause to swell up. 1664 J. BARGRAVE *Pope Alex. VII.* (1867) 120 Another triangular, unequalateral, bumped-up, large loadstone. 1719 D'URFEY *Pills* I. 187 He bump't up our Bellies.

6. *trans.* **Printing**. To bump out: To spread out the matter of a book, article, or the like (by wide spacing, arrangement of page, etc.), so as to make it fill the desired number of pages.

1885 *Bookseller* 6 July 49/1 The text had been so ingeniously bumped out by the publishers that it filled twice the number of pages it should have done.

III. 7. **Watchmaking**: see quot.

1824 F. BRITTEN *Watch & Clockm.* 246 'Bumping' wheels, i.e. altering the plane of the teeth with relation to the hole.

IV. 8. The verb-stem used adverbially = With a bump, with sudden collision; *bump, bump*, with repeated shocks of contact on the part of a heavy moving body.

1806 BLOOMFIELD *Wild Flowers* Poems (1845) 217 Bump in his hat the shillings tumbled. 1863 KINGSLEY *Water-bab.* i. 47 As he came bump, stump, jump, down the steep. *Mod.* The carriage went bump, bump, over the sleepers.

Bump, *v.* 2 [Of echoic origin: cf. **BOOM** *v.*] A word used to express the cry of the bitter.

1646 SIR T. BROWNE *Pseud. Ep.* 173 A Bittor maketh that mugient noyse, or as we terme it Bumping. a 1700 DRYDEN *Wife of Bath* 194 As a bittour bumps within a reed.

† **Bumped**, *ppl. a. Obs.* [f. **BUMP** *sb.* 1 and *v.* 1 + -ED.] Covered with bumps; swelled out in bumps. 1611 COTGR., *Bossé*, knobbie, bulked, or bumped out. 1666 (see **BUMP** *v.* 1 5) Bumped up. 1776 tr. *Da Costa's Conchol.* 177 (Jod.) The two ends or extremes, on the upper part are very bumped and prominent.

Bumper (*būmpər*), *sb.* 1 [perh. from **BUMP** *sb.* 1 or *v.* 1: with notion of a 'bumping', i.e. large, 'thumping' glass.]

1. A cup or glass of wine, etc., filled to the brim, esp. when drunk as a toast.

1676 D'URFEY *Mad. Fiddle* v. i. (1677) 52 Full Bumpers crown our Blisses. 1774 GOLDSM. *Retal.* 127 He cherish'd his friend, and he relish'd a bumper. 1856 KANE *Arct. Exp.* I. xiii. 151 A dinner of marled beef... and a bumper of champagne all round.

b. *Comb.*, as **bumper-dram**, -toast.

1818 SCOTT *Hrt. Mill.* iv. Drinking their meridian (a bumper-dram of brandy). 1839 LOCKHART *Ballantyne-Humbly* Few will doubt that he did... pledge, with hearty zeal, many a bumper-toast.

2. *slang.* Anything unusually large or abundant. (Cf. *whopper*, *whacker*, *thumper*, etc.) Also *attrib.* 1859 LANG *Wand. India* 9 Tellwell and Long... have just lost a bumper—twenty-seven gold mohurs. 1864 G. BERNLEY *My Life & Recoll.* I. 182 The country was immensely deep and the brook a bumper. 1885 *Times* (Weekly ed.) 2 Oct. 5/3 The floods will have the effect of giving a 'bumper' rubbee crop.

3. *Theatr. slang.* A crowded 'house' at a theatre.

1839 DICKENS *Nick. Nick.* xxiv. This charming actress will be greeted with a bumper. 1886 *Pall Mall G.* 2 Aug. 3/2, I have heard a crowded house on a benefit night called a 'bumper'.

4. In *Whist* and other games: see quot.

1876 A. CAMPBELL-WALKER *Correct Card* (1880) Gloss. 11 *Bumper*. Winning two games—i.e. eight points—before your adversaries have scored. 1880 BESANT & RICE *Seamy Side* xxxii. 282 After seeing a double bumper fooled away, his partner rose in silent dignity, and left the house.

5. [f. sense 1 of the verb.] The buffer of a railway carriage (*U. S.*).

1839 *Jrnl. Franklin Institute* XXIV. 156 The bumpers or elastic cushions are to be attached... to the front and rear draw-bar. 1864 *Sanatory Commission U. S. Army* 110 note, The Bumper is surrounded by a stiff spring, which prevents the communication of the jar.

Bumper, *sb.* 2 [f. **BUMP** *v.* 2 and *sb.* 2] In *comb.* *bog-bumper* = **BITTERN**.

1866 *Inverness Cour.* 4 Jan., The bog-bumper. 1887 *Jessoff Arcady* 56 'Were there any bitterns here?' 'Why, you must mean Bog Bumpers.'

Bumper, *v.* 1 [f. **BUMPER** *sb.* 1] *a. trans.* To fill (a drinking-vessel) to the brim. *b. trans.* To toast in a bumper. *c. intr.* (and with object *it*) to drink bumpers or toasts.

Hence **Bumpering** *vbl. sb.* (*attrib.* in quot.).

1656 W. MOUNTAGUE *Delights Holland* 40 They [the Dutch] Bumper it but seldom. 1789 BURNS *Whistle* viii. 1, I... bumper his horn with him twenty times o'er. 1795 WOLCOTT (P. Pindar) *Hair Powd.* Wks. 1812 III. 301 Ye bumper it in England's cause. 1808 *Cumbrian Ballads* No. 75, 175 Come, bumper the Cumberlan lasses. 1859 M. SCOTT *Tom Cringle* xviii. 510 We all sang and bumpered away.

Bumper, *v.* 2 [connected with **BUMP** *v.* 1 or *sb.* 1] *intr.* Frequentative and dim. of **Bump**: to make or receive slight bumps; to cause jolts.

1822 *Blackw. Mag.* XI. 159 A hand-gallop, in which I trust you will think that Peggy [i.e. Pegasus] has bumpered very seldom.

† **Bumperize**, *v. nonce-wd.* [f. **BUMPER** *sb.* 1 + -IZE.] To drink bumpers.

a 1794 GIBSON *Mem. in Misc. Wks.* (1814) I. 141 We kept bumperizing till after roll-calling.

Bumpiness. **BUMPY** state or condition.

1817 *Blackw. Mag.* I. 38 A modification in the shape or bumpiness of its [the heart's] apex. 1886 *Bicycling News* 17 Sept. 748/2 Its bumpiness excelled any other wood-pavement bumpiness in London.

Bumping, *vbl. sb.* [f. **BUMP** *v.* 1 + -ING *1.*]

1. The action of the verb to **BUMP**. *a. intr.* Sudden (usually repeated) collision or knocking. *b. trans.* Striking heavily, thrashing. *c.* Banging the posteriors of a person against a post or wall.

1842 *Fraser's Mag.* Dec., A very tedious passage... Four days of... bumping about. a 1848 MARRIAT *R. Reifer* ix, The bumping of obnoxious ushers, and the 'barring out' of tyrannical masters. 1866 WHYTE MELVILLE *Ins. Bar* vi. (ed. 12) 298 Sundry bumpings and thumpings on the stairs.

2. (See quot.)

1883 W. M. WILLIAMS in *Knowledge* 18 Aug. 99/1 What the practical chemist calls 'bumping', or the sudden formation of a big bubble of steam.

3. *Comb.*, as **bumping-race** (see **BUMP** *v.* 1 3).

1871 PROCTOR *Light Science* 298 A closely contested bumping-race.

Bumping, *ppl. a.* [f. **BUMP** *v.* 1 + -ING *2.*] Huge, great; 'thumping'.

1566 NUX *Seneca's Octavia* (1581) 172 b, All the bumping bignes it doth beare. 1712 ARBUTHNOT *John Bull* iv. vi, Thou shalt have a bumping pennyworth.

Bumpingly, *adv.* [f. **Bumping** *pr. pple.* of **BUMP** *v.* 1 + -LY.] In a bumping or jolting manner. 1854 *Chamb. Jrnl.* I. 242 The carriage goes bumpingly.

Bumpkin (*būmpkɪn*). *Forms:* 6 *bunkin*, 7-8 *bumpkin*, (7) *bumping*, 7- *bumpkin*. [The curious gloss in the first quot. suggests that *bunkin* (presumably the same word) was a humorous

appellation for a Dutchman, and meant a man with short stumpy figure. The word may be a. Du. *boomken* 'little tree' (Hexham); cf. BUMPKIN *sb.*¹ It may however be ad. MDu. *bommekeijn* 'little barrel', or f. BUM *sb.*¹ + -KIN.]

1. An awkward country fellow, a clown.

1570 LEVINS *Manip.* 133 A Bunkin, fellow, *Batarus, strigo.* 1598 LD. WINDSOR in *Halton Corresp.* (1878) 15 That I may not look more lyke a bumpkin than the rest. 1773 STEELE in *Englishman* No. 40. 258 A Northamptonshire Bumpkin would disdain to gather in such a Crop. 1774 CHESTERF. *Lett.* I. No. 44. 141 A country bumpkin is ashamed when he comes into good company. 1800 IRVING *Sketch Bk.* II. 357 The more bashful country bumpkins hung sheepishly back. 1866 *Comm. Pl. Philosopher* 369.

2. Some kind of dance.

1803 LOCKHART *Reg. Dalton* L. xii. (1842) 74, I danced a bumpkin with the boy.

Hence **Bumpkinet**, a little bumpkin. **Bumpkinish**, **Bumpkinly** *adjs.*, like a bumpkin, clownish, rustic. **Bumpkinship** (*humorous*), the personality of a bumpkin.

1774 J. LANGHORNE *Country Just.* 122 Shall Bumpkin come, and bumpkinets be born! 1881 *Times* 12 Jan. 41 Peggy .. was a little, vulgar, country bumpkinet. 1778 MISS BURNAY *Evelina* (1794) l. 73, I had been brought up in the country, which .. had given me a very bumpkinish air. 1861 *Court Life Naples* 140 Our heroine .. had the bumpkinish taste to love every person and thing connected with her home. 1697 VANBRUGH *Relapse* IV. v. A pax of these bumpkinly people! 1853 SCOTT *Pepperil* (1831) II. 265 A bumpkinly, clod-compelling sort of look. 1878 MISS BRADDON *R. Ainsleigh* I. xiii. 223 A man of the world .. to be ousted and cheated by your bumpkinship.

Bumpkin, another form of BUMPKIN¹ (in a ship).

Bumpology. *Humorous*. [*f.* BUMP *sb.*¹ 4, after words in -ology.] The (alleged) science of bumps; 'phrenology'. So **Bumposopher** [after *philosopher*], one who is learned in bumps.

1834 GEN. P. THOMPSON *Exerc.* (1842) III. 414 The argument is a specimen of the same defective bumpology. 1841 *Englishman's Mag.* 1 Feb. 20 The general principles of bumpology. 1866 *Pall Mall G.* 23 Aug. 4/2 Phrenology, viewed as bumpology, has ceased to occupy the minds of the scientific. 1896 *Blackw. Mag.* XL. 33 The most redoubtable bumposopher that ever discoursed.

† **Bumpsy**, *a. Obs. exc. dial.* Also **bumsie**. [*f.* BUMP *sb.*¹ or *vb.*¹] Tipsy, intoxicated.

1611 TARTLETON *Fests* (1844) 8, I being a carousing, drunk so long to the watermen that one of them was bumpsie. 1630 J. TAYLOR (Water P.) *Epigr. Wks.* II. 264/2 Strait staggerers by a Porter or a Carman, As bumsie as a fox'd fladdragon German.

Bumptious (*bʊmptʃəs*), *a.* [A humorous formation, suggested perh. by BUMP *sb.*¹ or *v.*¹, and words in -ious, like *fractious*. (Not in Craig 1847, nor in any earlier Dict.)] Offensively self-conceited; self-assertive. (*colloq.* and *undignified*.) 1803 MAD. D'ARBLAY *Diary & Lett.* VI. 324 No my dearest Padre, bumptious! no I deny the charge in toto. 1811 CLARE *Vill. Minstr.* I. 36 The bumptious serjeant struts before his men .. And look as big as if King George himsen. 1847-78 HALLIWELL, *Bumptious*, proud, arrogant. *Var. dial.* 1857 C. MAXWELL *Lett. in Life* x. (1882) 295 Buckle's History of Civilisation—a bumptious book, strong positivism, emancipation from exploded notions, and that style of thing.

Hence **Bumptiously** *adv.*, **Bumptiousness**.

1871 M. COLLINS *Mrg. & Merch.* I. l. 17 That long-legged isosceles triangle that bumptiously bestrides the asses' bridge. 1897 HUGHES *Tom Brown* I. v. Tom, notwithstanding his bumptiousness, felt friends with him at once. 1881 *Macm. Mag.* XLV. 169 The bumptiousness of minor British officialism.

Bumpy (*bʊmpti*), *a.* [*f.* BUMP *sb.*¹ or *vb.*¹ + -y.] Full of bumps or protuberances; of a road, etc., jolty, uneven; causing bumps or jolts.

1865 E. BURRITT *Walk Land's E.* 239 A wall of brown, brambly, bumpy, bumpy heatherland. 1884 C. GURDON in *Lillywhite Crick.* 49 On a bumpy wicket a dangerous bowler.

Bumsie, var. of BUMPSY, *Obs.*, tipsy.

† **Bun** (*bʊn*), *sb.*¹ *Obs. exc. dial.* Forms: 1 bune, 4 bon(e), 5-6 bunne, 6- bun; see also BOON *sb.*² [OE. *bune*, origin unknown.]

1. A hollow stem, esp. of an umbelliferous plant; a kex.

a 1000 *Gloss.* in Wr.-Wülcker 198 *Canna, harundo, calamus*, bune. c 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 277 Kyx or bunne or dry weed. 1527 FITZGER. *Husd.* § 70 The .. lowe places, and all the holowe bunnes and pypes that grow therein. 1875 *Whitty Gloss.*, *Buna*, or *Bunnons*, the hollow stems of the hog-weed or cow-parsnep.

2. The stalk or stalky part of flax or hemp.

1398 [see BOON *sb.*]. c 1400 ARDERNE *Chirurgica* in *MS. Sloane* 56 f. 3 a, *Chanyuot*, bunnes. 1601 HOLLAND *Pliny* XIX. i. The spinning of this fine Flax .. what shall be done with all the hard refuse, the long buns? 1704 WORLIDGE *Dict. Rust. et Urb.* s. v. *Drying*, The dry Bun or kex of the Hempe or Flax. 1877 PEACOCK *N. W. Lincoln. Gloss.* (E. D. S.) *Bun* .. The stalk of flax or hemp.

3. *Comb.*, as † **bun-wand**. *Obs. Sc.* = 1.

1808 A. HUME *Trium. of the Lord*, Their speirs lyk bun-wands brak. a 1605 MONTGOMERIE *Flying* 176 Some buckled on a bunwand, and some on a bein.

Bun (*bʊn*), *sb.*² Forms: 4-7 bunne, 5 bonn(e), 8-9 bunny, 5- bunny. [Etymology doubtful. The mod. provincial Fr. *bugne* is said by Burguy and by Boiste (1840), to be used at Lyons for a sort of

fritter; the word is not recorded in OF. with this sense, but *bugne*, *beugne* (= mod. *bigne*) occurs with the sense of 'swelling produced by a blow'; the dim. *bugnete* is found in OF. with the sense of 'fritter', and *bugnets* is given by Cotgr. (1611) as a synonym of *bignets* (now *beignets*), explained by him as 'little round loaves, or lumpes made of fine meale, oyle or butter, and reasons; bunnes, Lenten loaves'. (Cf. Sp. *buñuelo* bun, fritter.) It is conjectured that OF. *bugne*, originally 'swelling' may have had the unrecorded sense of 'puffed loaf' (= *bugnet*), and may have been adopted into English as *bun*. But the existence of this sense in OF. is at present hypothetical, and it is questionable whether such a derivation would account for the form of the Eng. word.]

1. A sort of cake: the use differs greatly in different localities, but the word generally denotes in England a sweet cake (usually round) not too large to be held in the hand while being eaten. In Scotland it usually means a very rich description of cake, the substance of which is almost entirely composed of fruit and spice; the richest kind of currant bread. In some places, as in the north of Ireland, it means a round loaf of ordinary bread. In the earliest examples the meaning is doubtful, the context merely indicating some kind of loaf or cake. (See CROSS-BUN.)

1371 *Assisa Panis* in Riley *Munim. Gildhall* III. 423 Cum uno pane albo, vocato 'bunne', de obolo. c 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 55 Bunne, brede, *placenta*. c 1460 J. RUSSELL *Bk. Nurture* in *Babes Bk.* (1868) 133, viij loves or bonnes. 1506 *Churchw. Acc. St. Mary hill, Lond.* (1797) 104 Two dozen de white Bunns for pore pepyll. 1579 J. JONES *Bathes Buckstone* 9 b, Simnels, Cracknels, and Bunns. 1630 J. TAYLOR (Water P.) *Jacke-a-L.* Wks. I. 118/1 The light puffed vp four-corner'd Bun. a 1640 J. DAY *Perigr. Schol.* (1881) 44 Give em such a buttered bun to breakfast. 1724 GRAY *Sheph. Week* v. 96 Sweeter .. Than .. Bunns and Sugar to the Damsels Tooth. 1783 AINSWORTH *Lat. Dict.* (Morell) 11, *Collyra*, a little loaf of bread, a bun, a cracknell. 1805 HONE *Every-day Bk.* I. 403 One-a-penny, two-a-penny, hot-cross-buns! *Ibid.* 405 Hot-cross-buns are .. consecrated loaves, bestowed in the church as alms, and to those who .. could not receive the host .. made from the dough from whence the host itself is taken. 1845 HOOD *Numb. One* viii. As brown as any bun. 1867 JEAN INGELOW *Gladys* 135 The round plump buns they gave me.

2. *Comb.*, as † **bun-bread**, **house**, **pan**, **seller**; **bun-loaf** (Lanc. and Yorks.), rich currant-bread.

1494 *Will of Hagus* (Somerset Ho.) In pane vocato Bun-brede. 1643 URQUHART *Rabelais* I. xxv, The Bun-sellers or Cake-bakers were in nothing inclinable to their request. a 1645 Syd. SMITH *Wks.* (1850) I. 320/1 Let us seize a little grammar boy .. throw over him a delicate puff-paste, and bake him in a bun-pan.

Bun, *sb.*³ *Sc. and north. dial.* Also 6 (*Sc. bun*), **bunn**. [Derivation unknown: the Gael. *bun*, 'stump, root', has been compared.] The tail of a hare; in Sc. also *transf.* of human beings. (Cf. *tail*.) See also BUNT *sb.*⁴

c 1538 LYNDSEY *Supplic. anent Tailles* 56, I lauch best to se ane Nwn, Gar beir hir tail abone hir bwn. a 1578 *Gude & Godly Ballates 'Hay trix'* (1868) 179 The seilly Nunnis Keist up their bunnis. 1789 DAVIDSON *Seasons* 27 (JAM.) Poor maukin .. scudding cocks Her bun. 1805 A. SCOTT *Poems* 50 (JAM.) We British frogs .. bathe our buns among the stanks. 1847-78 HALLIW. *Bun*, the tail of a hare. *North.*

Bun (*bʊn*), *sb.*⁴ [Etymology unknown: connexion with the prec. is not very likely. Cf. BUNNY.] A name given sportively a. to the squirrel, b. to the rabbit (*dial.*). c. Also used as a term of endearment.

1599 CHURCHYARD *Worth. Wales* (1876) 57 Her Squirrelre leapt away .. she sought to stay The little pretie Bun. c 1614 DRAYTON *Moon Calf* Wks. (1748) 178 She was wont to call him .. her pretty bun. 1847-78 HALLIW. *Bun*, a rabbit. *Var. dial.* 1857 EMERSON *Poems* 155 The mountain and the squirrel Had a quarrel; And the former called the latter 'Little Prig'; Bun replied, 'You are doubtless very big'.

Bun, *obs. dial. f. bucn, ben*, pl. pres. ind., and inf. of BE *v.*

1415 E. E. *Wills* (1882) 20 Halfe to the pores nedy folk that bun yn Marcle paryssah. *Ibid.* 24 The londe rentes that 3e bun feoffed in.

Bun, *obs. f. BOON* *sb.*¹; *obs. f. BOUND* *ppl. a.* 1, 2.

Bunce (*bʊns*), *slang.* [Of unknown origin: it has been plausibly conjectured to be a corruption of *bonus*. On the other hand, the modern variant *bunts* is treated as a plural of BUNT (*q. v.*), but the latter may be an erroneous form.] Money; gains; extra profit or gain, bonus; something to the good.

1719 D'URFAY *Pills* 278 If Cards came no better .. Oh I oh I shall lose all my Buns. 1812 J. H. VAUX *Flash Dict.*, *Bunce*, money. 1851 [see BUNT *sb.*¹]. 1865 *Morning Star* 27 Jan. (Witness said) That there were 100 bags of rice .. removed after the fire .. and that they were 'bunce'. [Explained as 'overs for the firm'.] 1879 JAMIESON, *Bunce*. An exclamation used by boys at the High School of Edinburgh. When one finds anything, he who cries *Bunce!* has a claim to the half of it. *Stick up for your bunce*, 'stand to it, claim your dividend'. 1880 *Antrim & Down Gloss.* (E. D. S.) *Bunce*, a consideration in the way of commission given to persons who bring together buyer and seller at a flax market. Perhaps a corruption of *bonus*.

Bunch (*bʊnʃ*), *sb.*¹ Forms: 5 *bonche*, 5-6 *bunche*, *bounche*, 6-7 *bounch*, (7 *bunsh*), 6- *bunch*. [Of uncertain origin; prob. onomatopoeic; cf. the synonymous BULCH, also *hunch*, *lunch* (*dial.*).

As to the relation between BUNCH *sb.*¹, *v.*², and BUNCH *sb.*², *v.*¹, cf. BUMP. See also BOUCHE *sb.*²; possibly the *bouche* of the *Cursor M.* should be read *bonche*, and identified with the present word.]

† 1. A protuberance, esp. on the body of an animal; a hump on the back (of a human being, a camel, etc.); a goitre; a swelling, tumour. *Obs.* c 1305 *Body & Soul in Map's Poems* (1841) 344 Summe were ragged and tayed. Mid brode bunches on heore bak. 1398 TREvisa *Barth. De P. R.* xviii. xix. (1495) 778 A camell of Arabia hathe two bunches in the backe. 1543 TRAHERON *Vigo's Chirurg.* I. x. 9 The gibbosity or bunch of the liver. 1598 GERARD *Herbal* I. xl. 66 The leauen made of Wheate .. openeth all swellings, bunches, tumors and felons. 1688 R. HOLME *Armoury* II. 86/1 Bunch, or bunched eminences. are knots in sprouts or shoots above others in the .. Lance. 1708 MORGAN *Algiers* I. iv. 100 The rider sits behind the Bunch or Hump. 1816 KEITH *Phys. Bot.* II. 378 Bunches .. on the branches of the Birch-tree. .. known .. by the name of witches' knots. 1866 F. COOPER *Mohicans* (1849) I. l. 18.

† b. In *plur.* A disease of horses. ? *Obs.* 1706 PHILLIPS, *Bunches*, Knobs, Warts and Wens, are Diseases in Horses. 1715 in KERSEY. 1721-30 in BAILEY. 1753 CHAMBERS *Cycl. Suppl.*, *Bunches*, in horses, called also knobs, warts, and wens, are diseases arising from foul meat, bruises, hard labour, or the like; whereby the blood becoming putrefied and foul, occasions such excrescences. 1775 in ASH.

† c. 'The horn of a young stag.' *Obs.* 1710 BLOME *Gentl. Recreat.* 79 [referred to by Halliwell]. d. See *quot.*

1884 *Pall Mall G.* 17 May 4 A cigar consists of three parts, the wrapper, the bunch, and the filler.

† 2. A bundle (of straw). *Obs.* Also a bundle of reeds, or teasels, containing a definite quantity. *dial.* c 1450 HENRYSON *Test. Cris.*, For thy bed tak now a bunche of stro. 1663 MORTON *Cycl. Agric.* (E. D. S.), *Bunch* (*Camb.*), of ozers, a bundle 45 inches round at the band; of reeds, a bundle 28 inches round, formerly an ell. (*Ess.*) of teasels, 25 heads, otherwise a glean. (*Gloc.*) of teasels, 20; a glen; of king's teasels, 10. (*Yks. N. R.*) of teasels, 10.

3. A collection or cluster of things of the same kind, either growing together (as a bunch of grapes), or fastened closely together in any way (as a bunch of flowers, a bunch of keys); also a portion of a dress gathered together in irregular folds.

1570 LEVINS *Manip.* 188 A bunche of flowers, *foretum*. 1590 SPENSER *F. Q.* I. ii. xi. On his craven crest A bounch of heares discoloured diversly. 1597 SHAKS. 2 *Hen. IV.* I. ii. 41 Bunches of Keyes at their girdles. 1610 — *Temp.* iv. 112 Vines, with clustering bunches growing. 1719 Dr. Foe *Cruise* (1840) I. xiv. 244 I gave him .. a bunch of raisins. 1811 BYRON in Moore *Life* (1838) 490 The old woman .. brought me two bunches of violets. 1848 TENNYSON *Day-Dr.* 64 Grapes with bunches red as blood. 1873 Sir J. HERSCHEL *Pop. Lect. Sc.* III. § 32. 119 That comet .. was a mere bunch of vapours.

4. *fig.* A collection, 'lot'.

1622 JACKSON *Judah* 76 See what persons God hath picked out of all the bunch of the Patriarchs, Prophets, Judges, and Kings. 1633 SANDERSON *Serm.* II. 39 Though .. he do but only name it [charity] in the bunch among other duties. 1667 W. SHERWIN in *Hist. Magd. Coll.* (Oxf. Hist. Soc.) 79 As very a rascal as any in the Bunch. a 1764 JOHNSON in *Boswell* (1816) IV. 151, I am glad the Ministry is removed. Such a bunch of imbecility never disgraced a country. 1832 *Athenaeum* No. 243. 355 Two friars are bargaining for a bunch of cherubs. *Mod. She's* the best of the bunch.

5. *spec.* † a. A pack of cards (*obs.*). b. A flock of waterfowl. c. (*U. S.*) A herd of cattle.

1563 FOXE in *Lattimer's Serm. & Rem.* (1845) Introd. 12 The best coat card .. in the bunch. 1608 MIDDLETON *Trick to Catch*, *q. v.* i. The best card in all the bunch. 1612 DRAYTON *Poly-olb.* xxv. (1748) 366 The lesser dabbling teal In bunches. 1835 E. JESSE *Glean. Nat. Hist.* Ser. III. 146 They [ducks] come in what are called bunches .. sometimes .. 150 ducks in a bunch. 1884 *Harper's Mag.* July 294/2 The expence of herding a 'bunch' of cattle.

6. *Mining.* A small isolated body of ore, etc.

1815 W. PHILLIPS *Outl. Min. & Geol.* (1818) 160 The ores both of copper and tin principally occur in quantities which .. occupy .. but a small comparative portion of the vein, and are .. termed bunches. 1865 I. T. F. TURNER *Slate Quarries* 20 It took seven years to reach a good bunch of slate.

7. *Comb.*, as † **bunch-back**, a back with a 'bunch' or hump; † **bunch-backed** *a.*, hump-backed; **bunch-grass**, *Festuca scabrella*, of N. America; **bunch-word** (*rare*), a word formed by agglutination.

1618 HOLYDAY *Juvenal* 191 Virginia would exchange her grace Of shape for Rutilla's 'bunch-back. 1677 W. CHARLTON *Exercit. de diff. et nom. Animal.* (ed. 2) 8 The little Scythian Ox with a bunch-back. 1519 HORMAN *Vulg.* 31 No man shude rebuke and scorne a bleriedy man or goglyed .. or blabberlypped, or *bunch-backed. 1650 FULLER *Pisgah* iv. vi. 115 Who .. affirms all Jews to be crooked, or bunch-backed. 1866 *Intell. Observ.* No. 53. 324 Thickly clothed with *bunch-grass. 1795 DUDLEY in *Phil. Trans.* XXXIII. 258 The *Bunch or humpback Whale. 1862 D. WILSON *Pre-hist. Man* II. xix. 136 Like the *bunch-words, as they have been called, of the American languages, compounded of a number of parts.

† **Bunch**, *sb.*² *Obs.* [*f.* BUNCH *v.*¹] A punch, a thump.

1642 Rogers *Naaman* 193 The Angell gave him [Peter] a bunch on the to-side.

† **Bunch** (bʊnʃ), *v.1* *Obs. exc. dial.* Forms: 4-5 *bunch*, 5 *bunches*, 5-6 *bunch*(e), 5- *bunch*. [Etymology obscure: perh. onomatopoeic; cf. *BOUNC* *v.* and *PUNCH* *v.*, both which are closely parallel in sense to this word. The Du. *bonken* to beat, thrash, has been compared, but relationship between it and the Eng. word is very doubtful.]

a. trans. To strike, thump; to bruise flax, etc., by beating it.

1362 *LANGL. P. Pl. A. Prol.* 71 He bonchede [v. *r.* bunched] hem with his Breuet. c. 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 55 Bunchon, tundo. 1406 *Dives & Paup.* (W. de W.) l. iii. 34/2 Men .. bounche or knocke theyr breastis. 1577 *HARRISON England* l. ii. vi. (1577) 147 A fall .. might peradventure bunch or batter it. 1601 *CORNWALLYSE Seneca* (1631) 74, I will reele, and bunch hempe. 1671 *CHARENTE Let. Customs Mauritania* 49 These golden Apples, especially the biggest, bunched in several places with the blows of Musket bullets. 1840 *SPURDENS Suppl. Voc. E. Anglia* (E. D. S.) *Bunch*, to beat hempe. 1877 *PEACOCK N. W. Lincoln. Gloss.* (E. D. S.) *Cauves* bunch their mother's bags as soon as they can stan'.

b. To kick. (Yorksh., Lincolnsh., etc.)

1647 *Depos. York Cast.* 10 in Peacock N. W. Lincoln. Gloss. (E. D. S.) He actually saw him bunching an old man. 1665 *R. SELLAR in Abstr. Quakers' Sufferings* iii. (1738) 176 They bunched me with their Feet that I fell backwards into a Tub. 1803 *Gentl. Mag.* XCL 1. 397. 1864 *ATKINSON Whistly Gloss.*, He bunch'd me.

Hence **Buncholot**, a farmer; a clodhopper.

1877 *Holderness Gloss.* (E. D. S.)

Bunch (bʊnʃ), *v.2* [*f. BUNCH sb.1*]

† *1. intr.* *a.* To bulge (out), protrude, stick out.

b. To form bunches or clusters. Obs.

1398 *TREVISIA Barth. De P. R.* xviii. xxi. (1495) 780 Camelion .. his rydegebons bunchyth wpward as it were a fyssh. 1572 *BOSSWELL Armorie* ii. 52 b, Hys [the Camelion's] .. ridge bones bounche upward. 1601 *HOLLAND Pliny* xvi. xxvii, Big berries growing thick together, and bunching round in manner of grapes. 1603 — *Plutarch's Mor.* 1021 Of the round line that part which is .. without doth bume and bunch. 1622 *MASSE tr. Aleman's Gusan d'Alf.* ii. 342 Which made the wheales to bunch out vpon their backs. 1638 *A. READ Treat. Chirurg.* xxiii. 167 If the eyes of the patient .. bunch out. 1728 *WOODWARD Fossils* (R.) Bunching out into a large round knob. 1806-7 *J. BRERFORD Miserias Hum. Life* (1826) iii. No. 10 Winding up a top badly grooved, so that the string bunches down over the peg.

2. trans. To make into a bunch; to gather (a dress) into folds; to group (animals) (*U. S.*).

1821 *Chicago Times* 16 Apr., When trees are bunched together .. they are scrubs. 1883 *Chamb. Jnrl.* 690 Her hair rudely bunched into an uncouth heap. 1883 *Cassell's Family Mag.* Aug. 561 Gathering and 'bunching' flowers. 1884 *Bazaar* 22 Dec. 664/4 An over-dress of chintz, much bunched up on hips and at back. 1885 *Milnor (Dak.) Free Press* 18 Aug. 3/5 They [hogs] stand bunched around at the foot of the tree.

Bunched (bʊnʃt), *pp. a.* [*f. BUNCH sb.1* and *v.2* + *-ED*]. † *a.* Having or forming a protuberance; covered with swellings; humped; bulging; protuberant. *Bunched line*, used by Guillim for: A waved line. *Obs.* *b. Bunched up, out:* (of a dress) gathered into a bunch. † *c. Buncht-back* *adj.* = *bunch-backed. Obs.*

1519 *HORMAN Vulg.* 31 His nose was bounchyd aboue, and flat downward. 1576 *BANISTER Hist. Man* i. 20 The vse of the swelled or bounched parte of the first Vertebre. 1603 *HOLLAND Plutarch's Mor.* 34 Those disciples who counterfeited to be .. buncht backe like their master Plato. 1610 *GUILLIM Heraldry* ii. iii. (1660) 54 A Bunched Line is that which is carried with round reflections or bowings up and down. 1791 *COWPER Odyssey* xix. 307 His back was bunch'd. 1883 *Harper's Mag.* Mar. 534/1 Children with bunched-out gowns.

† **Bunchiness**, *Obs.* [*f. BUNCHY a. + -NESS*].

Quality of being bunchy, protuberance. 1594 *CAREW Huart's Exam. Wits* iii. (1596) 25 There will remaine .. the forehead and the nape with a little bunchiness. 1611 *CORCRA, Gibbosité, bunchiness.*

Bunching, *vbl. sb.* [*f. BUNCH v.1* and *2* + *-ING*]. The action of the verbs to BUNCH: † *a.* Thumping, beating (*obs.*). † *b.* Bulging, protuberance (*obs.*). *c.* Making into bunches.

1398 *TREVISIA Barth. De P. R.* xii. xi. [The swan] hap a byl with a maner bonching [1535 bounchyng; 1538a bounching] bat distingueþ þe sytze fro smel and taste. c. 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 55 Bunchyng, tuncio. 1668 *CULPEPPER & COLE Barthol. Anat.* i. ix. 20 [The stomach] hath two bunchings. c. 1730 *W. GIBSON Farrier's Guide* i. vi. (1738) 81 The Protuberances or Bunchings of the Cerebellum. 1883 *Cassell's Family Mag.* Aug. 561 Flower-picking, bunching, and selling.

† **Bunching**, *pp. a. Obs.* [*f. BUNCH v.2* + *-ING*]. Protuberant, bulging.

1398 *TREVISIA Barth. De P. R.* v. xxvi. (1495) 135 The bones of þe sholdres that ben holowe wythin and bounchyng without. 1677 *MOXON Mech. Exerc.* (1703) 11 Your Punch will print a bunching mark. 1668 *CULPEPPER & COLE Barthol. Anat.* i. viii. 17 The bunching part of the Spleen. 1813 *W. BRATTE Yule Feast* i. Two bunching megis.

Bunchy (bʊnʃi), *a.* [*f. BUNCH sb.1* + *-Y*].

1. Bulging, protuberant; full of protuberances or swellings; humped.

1398 *TREVISIA Barth. De P. R.* vii. lxiv. (1495) 280 The nayles ben boystouse and bounche [1538a bounchyne] as they were scabbid. 1543 *TRAHERON Vigos Chirurg.* l. x. 9 The lyver is hollowe in the inward parte .. and bounchyne wythout. 1568 *PHABER Æneid* ix. Cciv. An vnshaped bunchy speare [rudem nodis hastam]. 1607 *TORSSELL Four-f. Beasts*

76 The fat in their [camels] bunchy back. 1873 *BESANT & RICE Little Girl* ii. xx. 185 Augustine, the fat, the bunchy, the smiling. *Mod.* Who is that with the bunchy skirts?

2. Like a bunch; having bunches or clusters.

1804 *MISS MITTFORD Village Ser.* i. (1863) 213 So as to hang in a sort of bunchy festoon. 1833 *TENNYSON Poems* 72 Bowers Trellised with bunchy vine. 1854 *ROCK Ch. Fathers* III. i. 111 Those leaf-like bunchy finials .. seem all too soft and light to be of stone.

Buncombe, **bunkum** (bʊŋkəm). [*f. Buncombe*, name of a county in N. Carolina, U. S. The use of the word originated near the close of the debate on the 'Missouri Question' in the 16th congress, when the member from this district rose to speak, while the house was impatiently calling for the 'Question'. Several members gathered round him, begging him to desist; he persevered, however, for a while, declaring that the people of his district expected it, and that he was bound to make a speech for Buncombe. (See *Bartlett, Amer. Dict.*)]

1. in U. S. use (see above):

a. In phrases, such as, to talk or speak for or to Buncombe, to pass a measure for buncombe (*i. e.* to please or gull a constituency), a bid for buncombe (*i. e.* for the favourable notice of the electors), and the like. *b.* Political speaking or action not from conviction, but in order to gain the favour of electors, or make a show of patriotism, or zeal; political clap-trap.

a. 1857 *S. G. GOODRICH Remin.* i. 101 (Bartlett), Congresses of crows, clamorous as if talking to buncombe. 1857 *N. York Tribune* 2 Mar. (Bartlett) The House of Representatives broke down upon the corruption committee's bill, having first passed it for buncombe. 1859 *N. York Her.* 12 Mar., The bill was another bid for buncombe. 1863 *W. PHILLIPS Speeches* ix. 234 They sometimes talked for Buncombe.

b. 1850 *Times* 24 Jan. 4/3 Conventions, rights of independence, caucuses, agitation, and whatever else may be implied by the American expression 'bunkum'. 1856 *Sat. Rev.* II. 379/1 Rather meant as a piece of bunkum for his countrymen, than as a serious exposition of policy. 1857 *KINGSLEY Two Y. Ago* xxv, Talk plain truth, and leave bunkum for right honourables who keep their places thereby. 1880 *JOHNSON W. Lloyd Garrison & Times* 245 To take some sort of action that would seem to be anti-slavery .. [but] amount to little or nothing—in short, mere buncombe.

2. Empty clap-trap oratory; 'tall talk'; humbug. 1856 *Sat. Rev.* 15 Mar. 290 Did it [the Volunteer movement] signify business or 'bunkum'? 1865 *Pall Mall G.* 8 Sept. 11/2 The philosopher is tempted to talk a good deal of what we may call scientific 'buncombe'. 1884 *Congregationalist* Jan. 456 This appeal to the 'splendid history and the roll of saints' is bunkum, or something worse.

3. attrib.

1863 *DICKY Federal St.* II. 317 General Butler's 'bunkum' proclamation. 1864 *SALA in Daily Tel.* 9 Aug. A most amusing deduction of bunkum logic. 1868 *Temple Bar* Dec. 42 A buncombe story relating to his ring.

Hence **Buncomise** *v.*, to talk 'bunkum'; **Bunkumite**, one who talks 'bunkum'.

1864 *Morning Star* 13 Sept., Dispel the mist raised by the petty breath of journalistic bunkumites. 1871 *Daily News* 15 Mar., He either gammons you [an 'interviewer'] intentionally, buncomises, or is reticent.

† **Band** (bʌnd). *Anglo-Indian.* [Hindustani *band*; of Persian origin.] In India: 'Any artificial embankment, a dam, dyke, or causeway.' In the Anglo-Chinese ports, 'applied specially to the embanked quay along the shore'. (Col. Yule.)

1813 *WILLIAMSON East-Indian Vade Mec.* II. 279 (Y.) The great bund or dyke. 1834 *MEDWIN Angler in Wales* II. xx. 72 The 'bund' is a colossal piece of masonry, consisting of massy walls, the interspace filled up by earth. 1839 *THIRLWALL Greece* VII. 83 To remove the dykes, or bunds, by which the ancient kings of Persia or Assyria had obstructed the navigation. 1865 *RAWLINSON Anc. Mon.* III. i. 267 A bund or dam thrown across it.

Bund, **bunden**, **-in**, *obs. forms of BOUND* *pp. a.2*, and *pa. pple. of BIND*.

† **Bunder** (bʊndə). *Anglo-Indian.* [Hindustani *bandar*; a Pers. word.]

1. 'A landing-place or quay; a seaport; a harbour; (sometimes a custom-house)' (Col. Yule).

1673 *FRYER Acc. E. India & P.* (1698) 115 (Y.) We .. have Bunders or Docks for our Vessels. 1797 *A. HAMILTON New Acc. E. Ind.* i. xviii. 209 The King granted us a Piece of Ground for a Bunder to repair our Ships and Vessels. 1809 *MAR. GRAHAM Jnrl. Resid. India* 11 (Y.) The new bunder, or pier.

2. *Comb.* **Bunder-boat**, 'a boat in use on the Bombay coast for communicating with ships at anchor, and also .. employed .. in going up and down the coast' (Col. Yule).

1825 *Br. HEBER Journ. Upper Prov. India* (1828) II. 172 We crossed over .. in a stout boat called here a bunder boat, I suppose from 'bunder' a harbour. 1845 *STOCKELEYER Handbk. Brit. India* (1854) 112 Bunder-boats are obtainable at the piers.

Bunding (bʊndɪŋ), *sb.* Mining. Also 7-8 **bunning**.

'A staging of boards on stulls or stemples, to carry deads'. Raymond Mining Gloss.

Hence **Bunding** *v.*, to furnish with a bunding.

1653 *MANLOVE Lead-Mines* (E. D. S.) 257 Bunnings, Polings, Stemples. 1747 *HOOSON Miner's Dict.* D ivb, Shafts

are likewise Bunding'd over when the Miner has done with

them. *Ibid.* Tiv, The use of these are to Climb by, or for making Bundings. 1795 *MILNES in Phil. Trans.* LXXXVI. 350 Expecting that the whole mass of bunnings above them, which contains many hundred tons weight of rubbish, had given way.

Bundle (bʊndl), *sb.* Forms: 4-7 *bundel*, 5 *bondel*(l), 5-6 *bundelle*, *bundell*, (6 *byndle*), 6-7 *bundell*, 7- *bundle*. [Proximate derivation obscure; ultimately *f. *bund-* *pa. pple.* stem of OTeut. **bind-an* to BIND; the precise form of the suffix is uncertain. Cf. MDu. *bondel* (mod. *bundel*), mod.G. *bündel*; also OHG. *gibuntill*, *-lin* neut., MHG. *gebündel*, and OE. *byndele* *wk. fem.* 'act of binding' (only in *Laws of Ælfred* xxxv.); but these forms are not exactly parallel. The OE. *byndele*, or the OE. equivalent of any of the continental words quoted, would have yielded mod.Eng. **bindle*, so that the form of the existing word seems to point to adoption from Du. or LG., or else to analogy with the *pple. bund*, 'bound'.]

† *1.* That which binds; a bandage. *Obs. rare.*

1382 *WYCLIF Jer.* ii. 32 Whether forgete shal .. the woman spouse of hir brest bundel [1388 best girdil, COVERD. stomacher; Vulg. *fasciae pectoralis*].

2. A collection of things bound or otherwise fastened together; a bunch; a package, parcel.

In some spec. uses now superseded by *bunch*; e.g. we no longer speak of 'a bundle of keys, of flowers'; but we still say 'a bundle of sticks', etc., not 'a bunch'. The most frequent application of the word, when not followed by *of*, is to denote a parcel tied up in a handkerchief.

1388 *WYCLIF Song of Sol.* i. 12 My derlyng is a bundel of myrre to me. 1398 *TREVISIA Barth. De P. R.* xvii. xcvi, [Flax] bunde in praty nythes & boundel. c. 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 55 *Bundelle, fasciculus*. 1474 *CAXTON Chesse* 110 On his gurdal a bondel of keyes. 1534 *MORE On Passion Wks.* (1557) 1297/1 A boundell of the lowe growing herbe of Ysop. 1577 *DEE Relat. Spir.* i. (1659) 133 He appeareth now all in violet Silk like a Cloke, and on his head a bundel wreathed of the same. 1636 *HEALEY Theophrast.* 26 In his hand a bundle of papers. 1716-18 *LADY M. W. MONTAGUE Lett.* i. xxiii. 71 How may I send a large bundle to you? 1796 *MRS. GLASSE Cookery* v. 81 Put in some good broth or gravy, and a bundle of sweet herbs. 1808 *MAR. EDGEMORTH Moral T.* (1816) i. viii. 63 Tied up a .. bundle of linen. 1831 *BREWSTER Optics* xx. 181 A bundle of glass plates.

b. Animal Phys. A set of muscular or nervous fibres bound closely together. *c. Fibro-vascular* (or *vascular*) *bundle* (*Veg. Phys.*): one of the collections of fibres, vessels, and cells, which constitute the fibro-vascular tissue.

1732 *ARBUOTHNOT Rules of Diet* 283 The bundle of Fibres which constitute the Muscle may be small. 1808 *Med. & Phys. Jnrl.* VIII. 368 The Mollusca .. have all the remainder of the common bundle of nerves .. contained in the same cavity with the other viscera. 1866 *HUXLEY Phys.* xi. (1869) 4 Delicate bundles of nervous filaments, the roots of the spinal nerves. 1884 *BOWEN & SCOTT De Bary's Phaner. & Ferns* 232.

c. Law, in pl. (see *quots.*).

1678 *PHILLIPS, Bundles*, a sort of Records of Chancery, lying in the office of the Rolls; as, the Files of Bills, and Answers in Chancery, the Files of *Corpus cum Causa*, all writs of *Certiorari*, with their Certificates, and divers others. 1715 in *KERSEY*. 1721-30 in *BAILEY*.

d. Twenty hanks, or 60,000 yards, of linen yarn. 1875 *URR Dict. Arts* II. 450 These packages .. consist of from quarter of a bundle to five or six bundles.

e. Iron work. A 'fagot' of iron or steel rods for welding together and working into a mass of greater toughness.

1831 *J. HOLLAND Manuf. Metals* I. 98 The whole mass was bound together by collars driven on tight, or by strips of iron wrapped firmly about the bundle. Several of these faggots being thus prepared, were placed in a furnace and brought to a welding heat.

3. fig. A collection, 'lot' (of things material or immaterial); usually either with contemptuous implication, or with allusion to a figurative 'tying together'. † *To be bound in the bundle of life* (a Hebraism derived from the Bible): to be fore-ordained to continued life.

1535 *COVERDALE 1 Sam.* xxv. 29 Then shal the soule of my lorde be bounde in the bundell of y^e lyuyng [1611 bound in the bundle of life] even with the Lorde thy God. 1564 *GRINDAL Rem.* (1843) 11 A bundle of the principal nobility of the christian world. 1606 *SIR T. BROWNE Pseud. Ep.* l. ii. (1686) 5 A bundle of calumnies. 1668-78 *TUCKER Lt. Nat.* II. 336 A bundle of superstitions and gross absurdities. 1795 *READ Int. Powers* 186 A bundle of sensations. 1863 *E. NEALE Anal. Th. & Nat.* 40 The thought of any object is not that of a mere bundle of qualities. 1864 *BURTON Scot. Abr.* i. l. 25 The King and Queen of France, the King of Navarre, and the royal dukes in a bundle.

4. Attrib. and Comb., as bundle handkerchief: bundle pillar (see *quot.*); *bundle-ring*, ring of fibro-vascular bundles; *so bundle-system*, -tube; *bundle-sheath*, the sheath investing each fibro-vascular bundle, the endodermis; *bundle-yarn*, yarn made up in bundles (see *sense* 2 d).

1804 *Pall Mall G.* 11 Sept. 4/2 Crowds .. with huge carpet bags, tin boxes, and 'bundle handkerchiefs'. 1876 *GWIL Archil. Gloss.*, 'Bundle Pillar', is Gothic architecture, a column consisting of a number of small pillars around its circumference. 1884 *BOWEN & SCOTT De Bary's Phaner. & Ferns* 258 In the internode of Nephentes there is found an inner typical 'bundle-ring'. 1886 *VINES Sachs' Bot.* 123 Masses of tissue accompany the separate fibro-vascular

bundles as envelopes or sheaths; these I term generally
 *Bundle-sheaths. 1884 BOWER & SCOTT *De Bary's Phaner.*
 & Ferns 248 A. number of Dicotyledons... differ in their
 *bundle-system from that which characterises their allies.
 1883 *Daily News* 3 Oct. 2/6 The market for 'bundle yarns.'

Bundle, *v.* [f. prec. sb.]

1. *trans.* To tie in, or make up into, a bundle.

1869 *Apparitions at Woodstock*, in *Hone Every-day Bk.*
 II. 584 The... oak... they had... bundled up into faggots. 1756
 LADY M. W. MONTAGUE *Lett.* xcvi. IV. 76, I bundle up all
 your letters. 1783 *Cowper Task* iv. 668 Flow'rs... bundled
 close to fill some crowded vase. 1828 STEUART *Planter's*
 C. 249 Care must be taken to bundle up all the flexible parts
 of the roots. 1859 M. SCOTT *Tom Cringle* x. 204 The cape...
 was bundled... into a round heap. 1868 Miss YONGE *Cress*
Kate vi. 63 She... bundled up her hair as best she might.

b. To 'fagot' bar iron for the purpose of
 welding it together.

1831 J. HOLLAND *Manuf. Metals* I. 98 To cause bar iron
 ...to be closely fagotted or bundled together.

† 2. *fig.* To collect, to gather into a mass. (Usual-
 ly with *up* or *together*.) *Obs.*

a. 1668 F. GREVILLE *Sidney* (1652) 235 The former recited
 particulars, howsoever improperly... bundled up together.
 1833 Br. HALL *Hard Texts* 541, I have bundled up all his
 sins together... for a meet day of punishment. 1860 LOCKE
Hum. Und. iii. v. (1695) 243 Under one Term, bundle to-
 gether a great variety of... ideas.

3. *intr.* To pack up one's effects in preparation
 for a journey; hence, to go with all one's luggage
 or incumbrances. Also, of a number of persons:
 To go precipitately and in disorder, 'all in a
 bundle' (cf. 4): chiefly with *in*, *off*, *out*.

1789 BURNS *Prose Wks.* 25 The devil's bagpiper will touch
 him off 'Bundle and go!' 1808 G. COLMAN *Poor Gentl.* v.
 iii. (L.) Is your ladyship's honour bundling off then? 1845
 KINGLAKE *Eothen* xviii. 282 He made both his wives bundle
 out. a. 1865 WHATELY in *Miss Whately's Life & Corr.* (1866)
 II. 428 'Curates, rectors, archdeacons, deans, bundle in,
 bundle in!' 1879 BROWNING *Ivan Iv.* 109 So in we bundled
 —I and those God gave me once.

4. *trans.* To put or send (persons or things)
away, *in*, *off*, *out*, etc., hurriedly and unceremoni-
 ously. Cf. 'pack off', 'send packing'.

1823 SCOTT *Peveril* (1825) 63, I will bundle away her rags
 to the Hall. 1830 Dr. QUINCEY *Bentley Wks.* VII. 39
 When he and his are all bundled off to Hades. 1857
 LIVINGSTONE *Trav.* xvi. 300 She... bundled him into the hut.
 1876 E. JENKINS *Blot on Queen's H.* 5 They were bundled
 out pretty quick. 1878 C. BETHELL in *Law Rep.* (1887)
 181/1, I have been bundled off to the Cape for a year.

5. *intr.* To sleep in one's clothes on the same bed
 or couch *with* (as was formerly customary with per-
 sons of opposite sexes, in Wales and New England).

1761 S. PETERS *Gen. Hist. Connecticut* (Bartlett) It is
 thought but a piece of civility to ask [a lady] to bundle.
 1809 W. IRVING *Knickerbocker* (Bartlett) Van Corlear stopped
 occasionally in the villages to... dance at country frolics, and
 bundle with the Yankee lasses. 1842-78 [see BUNDLING
vbl. sb.]

Bundled (bʊndld), *pp. a.* [f. prec. + -ED.]
 Made into bundles, collected in bundles; wrought
 (as iron) by welding bundles of rods or bars.

1796 WITHERING *Brit. Plants* III. 316 Root small, fibrous,
 bundled, a little woolly. 1831 J. HOLLAND *Manuf. Metals*
 I. 98 Those [anchors] which are forged from bundled or
 scrap iron. 1854 S. THOMSON *Wild Fl.* i. (ed. 4) 29 The
 fasciculated or bundled [root] we see in the bird's-nest orchid.
 1868 BROWNING *Ring & Bk.* ix. 1052 Beds of bundled straw.

Bundler (bʊndlɪ), [f. BUNDLE *v.* + -ER.]

1. One who makes up (goods) in bundles. In
comb., as *wood-bundler*.

1869 *Daily News* 21 May, Bootblacks, wood-bundlers.

2. One who bundles; see BUNDLE *v.* 5.

† **Bundlet**, *Obs. rare*. [f. BUNDLE *sb.* + dim.
 suffix -ET.] A small bundle, a fascicle.

1382 WYCLIF *Song of Sol.* i. 12 A bundelet of myrrer my
 lemman is to me. 1774 T. WEST *Antiq. Furness* App. xiii.
 Two Shields... suspended by Bundlets of Nightshade.

Bundling (bʊndlɪŋ), *vbl. sb.* [f. BUNDLE *v.*
 + -ING.] The action of the verb to BUNDLE, in
 various senses.

1650 FULLER *Pisgah* ii. v. 129 Haran... and Eden and Sheba
 ...all near one another (as appears by their bundling up
 together). 1705 HICKERINGILL *Priest-cr.* iv. (1721) 242 That
 know no other Test of Holy Writ, but the Book-binders
 bundling them into one Volume. 1809 *Edin. Rev.* X. 109
 An amusement in New England... called bundling. 1842
 C. MASSON *Jrnl. Balochistan*, &c. III. 287 Many of the
 Afghan tribes have a custom in wooing, similar to what
 in Wales is known as bundling-up. 1851 H. MELVILLE
White J. 58 A speechlessly quick... bundling of a man into
 Eternity. 1878 C. WAKE *Evol. Moral* I. 401 The custom
 of bundling... among Celtic peoples.

attrib. 1831 J. HOLLAND *Manuf. Metals* I. 145 These are
 at the forge made up into faggots on the bundling bench.
 1875 *Ure Dict. Arts* II. 450 It is... better to employ a
 bundling press than an ordinary table, as the yarn can then
 be made up more solidly. 1889 *Scotsman* 19 Mar. *Advt.*,
 Bundling and packing machinery.

† **Bundwork**, *Obs. rare*—1. [? *ad. Du. bont-
 werk* fur, peltry; cf. Ger. *buntwerk* (written *bund-
 werk* by Luther) 'pelzwerk', Grimm.]

1663 *Inv. Ld. J. Gordon's Furniture*, A chapell bed all of
 bundwork with two peice of hingsings and pan.

† **Bundy**, *Obs. ? north. dial.* A kind of horse.

1591 *Will & Inv. N. C.* II. (1860) 193 Baie Williamson
 and soard bundy, coltes, 3l. 6/8d... An old gray bundy and
 j crooked mare &c.

† **Bune**, *Obs.* Also 3 *buine*. [perh. worn

down f. OE. *bycen* sb. 'buying', f. *bycan* to
 buy; cf. ME. *būō* for *buggē* (3rd pers. sing. pres.
 of the verb).] Buying, purchase. (In the last
 quot. a pa. pple. seems required.)

c. 1175 *Lamb. Hom.* 18 Min ihesu... pu beadest us bin el-
 ming [read elung] al wip uten bune. a. 1225 *Ancre R.* 362
 (MSS. C. & T.) Me ne mei nout... two pongede schone habben
 widuten bune [MS. N. buggunge]. *Ibid.* 368 (MS. N.) Pauh
 clennessne ne beo nout buine [MS. C. bune] ed God.

Buneward, var. of BUNWARD; see BUN *sb.* 1

Bunfyte, obs. form of BENEFIT.

Bung (bʊŋ), *sb.* 1 Also 5 *bunge*, 6 *boung* (e).

[Cf. MDu. *bonghe* in same sense, said by Franck
 to be a regular dial. form for **bonde*, whence the
 recorded MDu. *bonne*, mod. Du. *bon*.]

The Du. word corresponds to MHG. *punt*, *punte*; the
 synonymous F. *bonde* is supposed to be adopted from some
 Teut. lang. It has been conjectured that the source of all
 these words is the L. *puncta* in the sense of 'hole', and that
 the synonymous OHG., MHG. *punt*, mod. G. *pund*, Du.
pon are originally the same word.]

1. A stopper; spec. a large cork stopper for the
 'mouth' of a cask, i. e. the hole in the bulge
 by which it is filled.

c. 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 55 Bunge of a wesselle, as a tonne,
 barrele, botelle, or other lyke. 1530 PALSGR. 202/1 Bung of
 a tonne or pype. 1669 WORLIDGE *Syst. Agric.* iv. § 7 (1681)
 54 Put into a vessel, and stoppt with a Bung and Rag. 1769
 Mrs. RAYFOLD *Eug. Househpr.* (1778) 329 Take out the
 bung. 1830 M. DONOVAN *Dom. Econ.* I. 279. c. 1860 H.
 STUART *Seaman's Catech.* 64 They are stowed bung up.

2. *transf.* The 'mouth' of a cask; the bung-hole.

(Still dial.)

1571 DIGGES *Pantom.* iii. xiii. S i b, Take youre rodde...
 and let it descende perpendicularly downe thorough the
 bung. 1684 tr. *Bout's Merc. Compt.* viii. 274 Stopping the
 bung of the Vessel. 1775 *Phil. Trans.* LXV. 103 A small
 cask of rum, with a large bung.

3. *Naut.* A nickname for the master's assistant
 who superintends the serving of the grog. [Cf.
bung-starter.]

1863 *Man-of-War in Cornh. Mag.* Feb. To... see the grog
 served out... the discharge of which [duty] has invested them
 ...with the title of Bungs. 1865 *Pall Mall G.* 19 May 1
 The second master and master's assistant... are, or used to
 be... known as 'bungs' in the service.

4. [Perh. not the same word.] a. A bundle of
 hemp-stalks. b. *Pottery*: A pile of 'seggars' or
 clay cases in which fine stoneware is baked.

1704 WORLIDGE *Dict. Rust. et Urb. s. v. Watering*, To lay
 the Bungs (which are bundles of Stalks) in Water. 1832 G.
 PORTER *Porcelain* 57 Each of these piles [of seggars] as it
 stands, is called a bung. 1875 *Ure Dict. Arts* III. 614 The
 'setters' for china plates... are 'reared' in the oven in 'bungs'.
 † 5. = BUM *sb.* 1 *Obs. rare*.

1691 *New Disc. Old Intrigue* xxviii. 6.

6. *Comb.*, as *bung-cloth*; bung-hole, the hole in
 a cask, which is closed with the bung; † *transf.*
 the anus (*obs.*); bung-knife, † a knife for cutting
 bungs; bung-starter, † a stave shaped like a bat,
 which, applied to either side of the bung, causes
 it to start out; also a soubriquet for the captain
 of the hold; also a name given to the master's
 assistant serving his apprenticeship for hold duties'
 (Smyth *Sailor's Word-bk.*); bung-stave, that
 stave of a cask in which is the bung-hole.

1822 NARES *Seamansh.* (ed. 6) 146 Bungs and 'bung cloths.
 1571 DIGGES *Pantom.* iii. xii. S b, The diagonall... lynes
 from the 'bung holes' to the... lowest parte of either base.
 1611 CORGER, *Cut de cheval*, a small and ouglie fish, or
 excrescence of the Sea, resembling a mans bung-hole, and
 called the red Nettle [= Sea Anemone]. 1871 TYNDALL
Fragm. Sc. (ed. 6) II. xli. 255 A cask with a very large
 bung-hole. 1899 GREENE *Upst. Courtier* (1871) 40 By his
 side a skein like a brewers' 'bung-knife'. 1860 H. STUART
Seaman's Catech. 64 The 'bung stave' is known by the
 rivets of the hoops being on that stave. 1867 SMYTH
Sailor's Word-bk. 144 Its bung-stave is uppermost.

† **Bung**, *sb.* 2 *Thieves Cant.* *Obs.* Also 6
bong, *boong*, 6-7 *boung*. [Origin unknown:
 the resemblance to OE. *pung* purse (also Fris.
pung 'purse' in Koolman), is worthy of notice.

Cf. quot. 1592 in BUNG *v.* 3.]

a. A purse. b. A pick-pocket. Also in *comb.*,
 as *bung-nipper*, a pick-pocket.

1567 HARMAN *Caveat* 83/1 Bunge, a pursse. 1598 *Def.*
Coneycatching (1859) 4 Some... would venture all the byte
 in their boung at dice. 1597 SHAKS. 2 *Hen. IV.* ii. iv. 138 You
 Cut-purse Rascall, you filthy Bung. 1611 DEKKER *Roar.*
Girl Wks. 1873 III. 217 Shal you and I nip a bung? shal
 you and I cut a purse? a. 1628 CLEVELAND *Cl. Vind.* (1677) 96
 An Authentick Gypsie, that nips your Bung with a Canting
 Ordinance. 1659 *Caterpillers of Nat. Anat.*, *Bung-Nipper*,
 or Cut-purse = a pick-pocket. 1785 *New Cant. Dict.*, *Bung*,
 a Purse, Pocket, or Fob... Bung-nippers, Cut-purses.

Bung, a. Sc. 'Tipsy, fuddled; a low word'
 (Jam.).

1721 RAMSAY *Epistle to R. H. B. Wks.* 1848 III. 62 When
 with wine he's bung, a 1758 — *Poems* (1844) 84 She...
 chang'd her mind, when bung.

Bung (bʊŋ), *v.* [f. BUNG *sb.* 1] *trans.*

1. To stop with a bung; also with *down*, *up*.

1626 SURF. & MARKH. *Countr. Farm* 431 You must bung
 it up very close. 1741 HANBURY in *Phil. Trans.* XLI. 674
 Unctuous Clay, such as Brewers use to bung their Vessels.
 1835 MARRYAT *Pacha* ii, I had bunged up the cask. 1836
Penny Cycl. V. 405/1 The beer [should be] well flattened
 before bunging down in the casks.

2. *transf.* and *fig.* To stop, close; to shut up.

Now chiefly in pugilistic slang, to *bung up* the eyes.
 1589 *Pappe w. Hatchet* A iiii, These mutiners... must have
 their mouthes bunged with tests. 1622 MASSE tr. *Aleman's*
Guzman d'Alf. II. 294 My mouth was bung'd vp, I durst
 not speake. 1654 GURNALL *Chr. in Arm.* xii. § 3 (1669)
 356/2 Resolve to bung up thine ear from all by-discourse.
 1755 *Connoisseur* No. 53 (1774) II. 139 In the vulgar idiom
 Bunging your eye. 1829 MARRYAT *F. Mildmay* v, With
 his eyes bunged up and his face... swollen.

3. To shut up, enclose, as in a bunged cask.

1598 NASH P. *Penitence* (ed. 2) 23 a, Bung vp all the welth
 of the Land in their snap-haunce bags. 1775 GARRICK in
 Colman *Posth. Lett.* (1820) 308 Henderson play'd Regulus;
 & you would have wish'd him bung'd up with his nails,
 before y^e End of y^e 3^d act. 1794 J. WOLCOTT (P. Pindar)
Celebration Wks. III. 419 Chain'd be the tempests, and
 well bung'd the rain.

Bungalow (bʊŋgə'ləʊ), *Anglo-Indian*. Also 7
bungale, 8 *bungala*, *bungelow*, *bungilo*, 8-9
bungallo (pl. -oes), 9 *bungallow*. [a. Hindustani
banglā, understood to be identical with the adj. of
 same form, meaning 'belonging to Bengal'.]

A one-storied house (or temporary building, e.g.
 a summer-house), lightly built, usually with a
 thatched roof. *Dawk bungalow*: see DAWK.

1676 STREYNSHAM MASTER *MS. Diary* (India Office) 25
 Nov., It was thought fit... to sett up Bungaloes or Hovells
 ...for all such English in the Company's Service as belong
 to their Sloops & Vessells. 1711 (J. THORNTON) *Engl. Pilot*
 III. 54 All along the Haghley Shore... almost as far as the
 Dutch Bungalow. 1754 E. THOMPSON *Sailor's Lett.* (1766)
 I. xii. go In an evening... we swing to the Bread and cheese
 Bungalua in our palanquins. 1809 MAR. GRAHAM *Journ.*
Resid. India 10 (V.) We came to a small bungalow or
 garden-house. a. 1847 Mrs. SHERWOOD *Lady of Manor* III.
 xxi. 239 The bungalows in India... are, for the most part
 ...built of unbacked bricks and covered with thatch, having
 in the centre a hall... the whole being encompassed by an
 open verandah. 1875 F. HALL in *Lippincott's Mag.* XV.
 338/1 Every day I stopped once or twice at a travellers'
 bungalow, or rest-house.

Bungee. † Some kind of fabric.

1760 GOLDSMITH *Cit. W.* lxxvii, I know these [silks]... to
 be no better than your mere flimsy bungees.

Bungell, obs. form of BUNGLE.

† **Bungerly**, a. and adv. *Obs.* Also 7 *bun-
 garly*. [f. **bunger* (for BUNGLER) + -LY.]

A. *adj.* Unworkmanlike, bungling, slovenly.

B. *adv.* Clumsily. Hence *Bungerliness*.

1580 BARRET *Atv.* B 1498 Bungere done, *infabre*. 1584
 STANYHURST *Deacr. Irel.* in *Holinshead* VI. Ep. Ded., Bun-
 gerlie to botch up a rich garment, by clouting it with
 patches of sundrie colours. 1566 NASH *Have with you*,
 &c. 91 The bungerliest veases... that euer were scande. 1598
 FLORIO, *Grossolameria*, clownishness... grotnes, bunglerines.
 1615 T. ADAMS *Black Dev.* 18 The more shallow in Know-
 ledge, the more bungerly in wickednesse. 1618 BOLTON
Florus iii. x. 199 The Enemies Shippes... were bungerly made.

† **Bungie-bird**, *Obs. rare*—1. [app. related to
 the name 'Friar Bungay' or 'Bungy'. See Ward's
Friar Bacon and Friar Bungay: Notes 195.]
 Contemptuous designation for a († Franciscan) friar.
 1591 *Troub. Raigne K. John* (1611) 50 Bald and barefoot
 Bungie birds.

Bungle (bʊŋgəl), *v.* Also 6 *bongyl*, *boungle*,
 7 *bungell*. [App. onomatopœic; cf. BUMBLE,
 BRANGLE, BOGGLE *v.*]

(Prof. Skeat compares Sw. dial. *bangla* to work ineffectu-
 ally (Rietz), and OSw. *bunga* to strike (Ihre).]

1. *trans.* To do or make in a clumsy or unskilful
 manner; formerly often with *up*, *out*. Now, usually,
 To spoil by unskilful workmanship. Cf. BOTCH *v.* 1

1530 PALSGR. 627/2 A man may bongyll it up in a senyght
 1570 LEVINGS *Manip.* 189 To Bungle, *infabre facere*.
 1579 G. HARVEY *Letter-bk.* (1884) 59 They were huddid and
 ... bunglid upp in more haste then good speede. 1649 BURTHE
Eng. Improv. Impr. (1653) 52 He either wholly spoils it, or
 at least bungles out a half work. 1791 SCOTT *Lett. in Lock-
 hart* (1839) I. 247 Never was an affair more completely
 bungled. 1845 E. HOLMES *Mozart* 260 The oratorio... some
 may expect to be patched or bungled.

2. *intr.* To work or act unskilfully or clumsily;
 to blunder.

1549 OLDE *Erasm. Par. Ephes.* Prol., Bunglyng at the
 thyng that is ferre above my capacite. 1647 H. MORE *Song*
of Soul Notes 139/2 Physis or Nature is sometimes puzzeld
 and bungells in ill disposed matter. 1791-1824 D'ISRAELI
Cur. Lit. (1850) II. 498 Shenstone... found that his engraver
 ... had sadly bungled with the poet's ideal. 1862 MAURICK
Mor. & Met. Philos. IV. iv. § 29. 118 Very likely Luther
 bungled in his arguments.

Bungle, *sb.* [f. prec. vb.] A clumsy or un-
 skilful piece of work; a botch, blunder, muddle.
 Hence *bungle-headed* a.

1656 H. MORE *Antid. Atheism* (1662) 84 The most enor-
 mous slip or bungle she could commit. 1678 CUWORTH
Intell. Syst. 150 Those *ἀναριθμητα* (as Aristotle calls them)
 those Errors and Bungles. 1833 MARRYAT *P. Simple* (1865)
 231 The second figure commenced, and I made a sad bungle
 ... for I had never dangled a cotillon. 1865 *Leeds Mercury*
 15 Apr., This dear old bungle-headed commercial man.

Bungled (bʊŋgld), *pp. a.* [f. as prec. + -ED.]
 Done or made clumsily or unskilfully.

1618 BOLTON *Florus* iii. viii. 194 They ventured forth to
 Sea in bungled Boats. 1787 T. JEFFERSON *Writ.* (1859) II.
 310 Spoiling all his plans by a bungled execution. 1825
 WATERTON *Wand. S. Amer.* III. ii. (1879) 316 On the ground
 he [the sloth] appeared... a bungled composition.

Bungler (bɒŋglər). Also 6 bongler, 7 bunglar. [f. as prec. + -ER.] One who bungles; a clumsy unskilful worker.

1533 MORE *Asnu. Poyson. Bk. Wks.* (1557) 1089/1 He is euen but a very bungler. 1642 MILTON *Apol. Smect. Wks.* 1738 l. 127 If any Carpenter, Smith, or Weaver, were such a bungler in his Trade. 1800 IRVING *Sketch Bk. II.* 326 A bungler at all sports that required patience or adroitness. 1858 HAWTHORNE *Fr. & It. Truls.* l. 292 The greatest bungler that ever botched a block of marble.

Hence Bungler-like *a.* and *adv.*

1603 FLORIO *Montaigne* (1634) 491 That Painter . . . having bungler-like drawn . . . some Cockes. 1613 CORGZ., *Rudement* . . . ruggedly, harshly, bunglerlike.

Bunglery, rare-1. [f. prec. + -Y 3.] = next. 1837 *Fraser's Mag.* XVI. 656 The deficit of Rice; the bunglery Of protocolling Cupid.

Bungling (bɒŋɡlɪŋ), *obl. sb.* [f. BUNGLER *v.*] 1. The action of the verb to BUNGLER; unskilful or clumsy working or action.

1603 BUTLER *Hud.* l. 11. 330 To prophane a thing So Sacred, with vile Bungling. 1692 BENTLEY *Boyle Lect.* 24 To believe that . . . the whole universe is meer bungling & blundering. 1845 L.D. CAMPBELL *Chancellors* (1857) v. cxvi. 290 Losing all patience at his bungling.

† 2. Used (for the sake of rime) for *bundling*. 1593 BARNES *Elegies in Arb. Garner* v. 412 The viper's youngling . . . can[n]ot endure the bungling Within the viper's belly.

Bunglingly, *adv.* [f. as prec. + -ING 2.]

1. That bungles; unskilful and clumsy in working. 1580 NASHE in Greene *Menaph. Ded.* (Arb.) 12 Such bungling practitioners in principles. 1699 BENTLEY *Phal. Pref.* 75 A Bungling Tinker, that makes two Holes, while he mends one. 1747 COSTARD in *Phil. Trans.* XLIV. 483 Such Notions . . . demonstrate them to be very bungling Astronomers. 1875 T. HILL *True Ord. Studies* 66 Danger of a bungling teacher's extinguishing the child's thirst for knowledge.

2. Of actions: Showing unskilfulness, clumsiness.

1598 FLORIO, *Abbozzamento*, a . . . bungling peece of worke. 1634 T. JOHNSON *Perey's Chirurge.* xl. xviii. (1678) 291 It is a shameful and bungling part to do more harm with your hand than the Iron [of an Arrow] hath done. 1773 BURKE *Corr.* (1844) l. 439 Done in an awkward bungling manner. 1807 FREEMAN *Norm. Cong.* (1876) l. App. 644 The bungling attempt of a compiler.

Bunglingly (bɒŋɡlɪŋli), *adv.* [f. prec. + -LY 2.]

In a bungling manner; unskilfully, clumsily.

1611 FLORIO, *Acciarpa*, botchinglie, bunglinglie. 1655 FULLER *Ch. Hist.* vi. 330 When done so bunglingly, that it is detected. 1790 DE FOE *Capt. Singleton* iii. (1840) 47 They did it but bunglingly. 1864 MRS. WOOD *Tree. Hold.* l. iii. 37 So bunglingly did she execute her commission.

|| **Bungo** (bʊŋɡo). A kind of boat used in the Southern States and in Central America.

1854 J. STEPHENS *Centr. Amer.* 2 Sundry schooners, bungeos, canoes, and a steamboat, were riding at anchor. *Ibid.* 246 The bungo was about forty feet long, dug out of the trunk of a Guanacaste tree.

† **Bungy**, *a. Obs. rare.* [Cf. BULGY, BUNCHY.]

! Puffed out, protuberant.

1634 SIR T. HERBERT *Trav.* 146 Great routes of Calico . . . somewhat higher and not so bungy as the Turkish Tulipants. 1638 *Ibid.* 170 His shash or turban was white and bungie. *Ibid.* 246 The tree is not high nor bungie.

Bunion (bʊniən). Also 8 bunian, 9 bunnon, bunyan, bunyon. [Of obscure etymology; prob. connected with BUNNY 1. Prof. Skeat regards it as a. It. *bugnone* 'a push, a bile, a blane, a botch' (Florio 1598), f. *bugno* = OF. *bugne* (? whence *bunny*); this suits the form, but the word was until recently so rare in literary use that derivation from Italian seems very unlikely.] An inflamed swelling on the foot, esp. of the bursa mucosa at the inside of the ball of the great toe; see quot. 1878. a 1728 ROWE *Tamson & Conger*, Warm my bunnions [foot-note, Jacob's name for his corns] at your fire. 1821 GALT *Ayrsh. Legat.* 198 (JAM.) Miss Mally had an orthodox corn, or bunyan. 1863 C. M. SMITH *Deadlock* 248 His bunions never mar his quiet pilgrimage. 1878 T. BRYANT *Pract. Surg.* l. 176 When from excessive pressure a bursa forms over one of the tarsal or metatarsal articulations, a bunion is said to be present.

Bunjara, -jarrah, -jarree, var. of BRINJARRY.

Bunk (bʊŋk), *sb.* 1 [Of unknown etymology; possibly related to BANK: cf. BUNKER. Skeat compares OSw. *bunke* boarding to protect the cargo of a ship from the weather (Ihre). Cf. also BULK sb. 2.]

1. A box or recess in a ship's cabin, railway-carriage, lodging-house, etc., serving for a bed; a sleeping-berth.

1815 *Chron.* in *Ann. Reg.* 58/2 He suddenly fell back upon his bunk. 1859 R. BURTON *Centr. Afr.* in *Jrnl. Geog. Soc.* XXIX. 47 Some houses have a second story like a ship's bunk. 1862 B. TAYLOR *Home & Abr.* Ser. II. IV. 363 The Summit House . . . where travellers can pass the night in comfortable bunks. 1866 *Harvard Mem. Biog.*, Peabody l. 165 At the end of the train, a blue car . . . one end of which is decorated with bunks and shelves, which serve as sleeping apartments. 1879 DIXON *Brit. Cyprus* ix. 79, I am lying in a bunk, on board the flag-ship.

2. 'A piece of wood placed on a lumberman's sled to enable it to sustain the end of heavy pieces of timber. *Maine (U.S.)* Bartlett.

† **Bunk**, *sb.* 2 *Obs.* Also bunken, bunkins. [Cf. بونك *bunk* 'nascapthia, an odoriferous root',

given as Arabic in Johnson's Pers.-Ar.-Eng. Dict., 1852; not in Freytag or Lane.]

A plant (or root) yielding a drug. 1660 *Act 12 Chas. II.* iv. Sched., Bunkins, Holliwortles, or pistolachia. 1753 CHAMBERS *Cycl. Suppl.*, Bunk, or Bunken, a word frequently occurring in the writings of the Arabian physicians . . . it was an aromatic root used in cardiac, stomachic, and carminative compositions. 1775 ASH *Bunk, Bunken* (in medicine), the leucacantha.

Bunk, *v.* 1 [f. BUNK sb. 1] *intr.* To sleep in a bunk; hence, to occupy rough sleeping quarters, camp out. Also, *To bunk it*. (*collog.*, chiefly U.S.)

1861 C. ANDERSON *Okavango Riv.* xxvii. 317 They would not let us . . . sleep in their huts; we had to bunk it out on the sand. 1884 J. G. BOURKE *Snake Dance* v. 53 My comrade and myself bunked together in the double bed. 1885 *Pall Mall G.* 29 Aug. 61 The Orientals are a 'bunking' people.

Bunk (bʊŋk), *v.* 2 *collog.* and *slang.* To be off. 1877 E. PRACOCK *N. W. Lincoln. Gloss.* (E. D. S.), Bunk, to run away, to make off. 1880 BESANT & RICE *Seamy Side* ix. 67 Mark my words, Bunk it is. 1881 *Leicestersh. Gloss.* (E. D. S.), Bunk . . . budge! be off! *apage!*

Bunker (bʊŋkər), Also 9 bunkart. [Etymology uncertain; cf. BUNK and BANKER 4.]

1. A seat or bench ('serving also for a chest' Jamieson). *Sc.*

a 1758 RAMSAY *Poems* (1844) 91 Ithers frae aff the bunkers sank. 1790 BURNS *Tam o' Shanter* 119 At winnock-bunker . . . sat auld Nick. 1818 SCOTT *Hrt. Midl.* ix, No seat accommodated him so well as the 'bunker' at Woodend. *attrib.* 1831 *Horn's Year-book* 1127 Upon the bunker seat of the window they found three bottles.

2. An earthen seat or bank in the fields. *dial.*

1805 *Leslie of Powis, &c.* (JAM.) The fishers . . . built an open bunker or seat. 1880 *Antirrh. & Down. Gloss.* (E. D. S.), Bunker, a low bank at a road side, a road side channel.

3. A receptacle for coal on board ship; sometimes also (*Sc.*) on land.

1839 *Parl. Report Steam Vessel Accid.* 74 Neither the bunkers nor the coal-hold were cleared out so often as they should be. 1851 *Illustr. Lond. News* 24 Bunkers to hold 800 tons of coal. 1864 *Times* 10 Dec. The Cadmus has . . . her bunkers filled with upwards of 200 tons of coal. 1876 DAVIS *Polaris Exp.* xviii. 450 The bunkers and bulkheads below deck were torn down.

attrib. 1882 *Harper's Mag.* 594 The trail of smoke from that bunker steamer. 1885 *Pall Mall G.* 19 Dec. 9/1 Calling . . . to embark bunker coals for use on the voyage.

4. *Golf*: 'A sandy hollow formed by the wearing away of the turf on the "links"'. *Sc.*

1824 SCOTT *Redgauntlet* Let. x, They sat cosily niched into what you might call a bunker, a little sand-pit. 1857 CHAMBERS *Inform. People* II. 693/2 This club is useful too for elevating a ball . . . over . . . bunkers, whins, etc. 1867 *Cornh. Mag.* Apr. 496 A fellow who puts you into a whin or a bunker every other stroke.

Bunkin, *obs. variant of BUNKIN.*

Bunkin, *var. of, or misreading for, BUNTING 1.*

1570 LEVINS *Manip.* 133 A Bunkin, bird, *terraneola*. **Bunko** (bʊŋko), *U.S. slang.* A swindling game († at cards). Hence *attrib.* and *comb.*, as *bunko-man*, -steerer, and *Bunko v.*

1883 *Philada. Times* No. 2892. 2 Tom's method of bunko was the well-known lottery game. *Ibid.* There is not a smoother-tongued fellow in the great army of bunko-steerers. 1883 *Standard* 1 Dec. 2/4 'Bunko men', and swindlers . . . pick up a very good living. 1883 *Philada. Times* No. 2892. 2 A Reading banker bunkoed.

Bunkum, etc.: see BUNCOMBE, etc.

Bunn (ə, obs. f. BOUND sb. 1 limit, and BUN.

† **Bunnell**, *Obs. exc. dial.* A beverage made from the crushed apples or pears, after nearly all the juice has been expressed for the cider or perry. 1594 BARNFIELD *Affect. Sheph.* II. xii, Bunnell and Perry I haue for thee. 1693 W. ROBERTSON *Phrasol. Gen.* 1327 A drink much like our Bunnell, in the Perry-countrey.

Bunnet, *obs. variant of BONNET.*

† **Bunnikin**, *Obs. rare-1.* Some early flower. 1697 PURCHAS *Pol. Flying Ins.* I. xv. 94 Bees gather these flowers following . . . In March . . . Bunnikin.

Bunning, *obs. variant of BUNDING.*

† **Bunny** 1, *Obs.* Forms: 5 bony, 6 bounny, 7 bonny, 6-7 bunnye, 6 bunny. [perh. a. OF. *bugne*, *beugne*, var. forms of *bigne*, a swelling caused by a blow; cf. *boine* (dial.) under BOIN v.; also BUNION.] A lump, hump, or swelling; spec. a soft watery swelling on the joints of animals.

c 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 43/2 Bony, or hurtyng Fleumon. *Ibid.* 44/1 Bony, or grete knobbe . . . gibbus. 1552 HULOET *Bownche* or bunnye, gibba. 1597 GERARD *Herbal* II. cclxxix. (1633) 793 Continual bunnies and looseness of certain joints. 1610 MARKHAM *Masterp.* II. lxxvi. 347 The Hough bonny is a round swelling like a Paris ball. 1667 N. FAIRFAX in *Phil. Trans.* II. 482 In some places his head bled; in others Bunnyes arose. 1784 SIR J. CULLUM *Hist. Hawsted* 170 A Bunny, a swelling from a blow.

Bunny 2 (bʊni). [f. BUN sb. 4 + -Y.]

1. a. A pet name for a rabbit. † b. A term of endearment applied to women and children (*obs.*). 1690 B. E. *Dict. Cant. Crew*, Bunny, a Rabbit. 1719 D'URFREV *Pills* IV. 74 Downy as any Bunny. 1863 FR. KEMBLE *Resid. Georg.* 258 Rabbits . . . slightly different from our English bunnies. 1873 G. DAVIES *Mount. & Mere* vi. 46 Bunny gave a flick of his white tail.

1606 *Wily Beguile* in Hazl. *Dodley IX.* 252 Sweet Peg . . . my honey, my bunny, my duck, my dear. 1691 RAY S. & E. *Country Wds.*, Bunny is also used as a flattering word to children.

2. **Bunny Mouth**: the Common Snapdragon. *Antirrhinum majus*. Also called Rabbit's Mouth, 1846 SOWERBY *Brit. Bot.* 1847-78 in HALLIWELL.

Bunny 3, 'In Mining. A pipe of ore or a mass—not a vein or lode.' *Ure Dict. Arts.*

Bunny 4 (bʊni), *dial.* 'A small ravine opening through the cliff line to the sea; as in Chewton Bunny, Beckton Bunny. Also any small drain, culvert, etc. Cope *Hampsh. Gloss.* (E. D. S.) 1883.

1873 BLACKMORE *Cradock N.* xxxi. (1883) 180 The little village of Rushford was happy enough in its bunny. *Ibid.* 181 A boat house at the bottom of the bunny.

Bunsen (bʊnsən, bʊnsən). Attributive use of the name of Professor R. W. E. Bunsen of Heidelberg, denoting appliances invented by him: **Bunsen** (s) burner, lamp, a kind of gas-burner used for heating and for blowpipe work, in which air is burnt along with gas. **Bunsen** (s) battery, a voltaic battery in which the elements are carbon and zinc, and in which nitric and sulphuric acids, or solution of bichromate of potash and sulphuric acid, are employed. **Bunsen** cell, one of the cells of which a Bunsen battery is composed.

1879 NOAD *Electricity* (ed. Preece) 179 Bunsen's battery has the cylindrical form of Daniell's. 1870 TYNDALL *Heat* II. § 54 As in the case of Bunsen's burner. 1870 *Eng. Mech.* 11 Feb. 525/1 (He) describes . . . a Bunsen cell modified by him.

Bunsenite (bʊnsənɪt). *Min.* [f. BUNSEN, the name of the discoverer, + -ITE.] A native protoxide of nickel. 1868 DANA *Min.* 134.

Bunt (bʊnt), *sb.* 1 Chiefly *Naut.* [Etymology unknown. Some have compared Da. *bundt*, Sw. *bunt* a bundle (which seem to be merely a Ger. *bund*).] *gen.* A swelling, a pouch- or bag-shaped part of a net, sail, etc.

1. The cavity or bagging part of a fishing-net; also of a napkin or the like when folded or tied so as to form a bag; the funnel or bottom of an eel-trap.

1608 CAREW *Cornwall* 302, The Weare is a frith . . . having in it a bunt or cod. a 1648 DIGBY *Closest Open*, (1677) 216 That the whey may run . . . through the bunt of the napkin. 1861 COUCH *Brit. Fishes* II. 73 The sean for Mackarel is . . . nine fathoms in depth at the middle or bunt. 1880 *Harper's Mag.* LX. 852 As the bunt of the seine nears the shore, silence prevails. 1883 *Fisheries Exhib. Catal.* 367 Apparatus . . . to be fixed at the end of the bunt of an Eel Trap.

2. 'The middle part of a sail, formed designedly into a bag or cavity, that the sail may gather more wind. In "handed" or "furlled" sails, the bunt is the middle gathering which is tossed up on the centre of the yard' (Smyth *Sailor's Word-bk.*).

b. The middle part of a yard: the *Slings*.

c 1582 *Cotton MS. App.* xlvii. (Halliiv.) Flying fshyes to break ther noses agaynst the bunt of the sayle. 1611 CORGZ., *Bourser*, . . . to bunt, or leane a bunt in a sayle. 1697 [see BUNTLING]. 1678-96 PHILLIPS, *Bunt*, the hollowness which is allowed in making of Sails. 1706 — *Bunt*, (Sea-term) the Bag, Pouch, or middle Part of a Sail, which serves to catch and keep the wind; as The Bunt holds much Leeward Wind, i. e. the Bunt hangs too much to the Leeward. 1794 *Rigging & Seamanship* I. 86 *Bunt*, the middle-part of the foot of square sails, and the foremost leech of staysails cut with a nock. 1881 CLARK RUSSELL *Ocean Fr.-Lance* II. 31 The bunt of the top-gallant sail. 1882 NARES *Seamanship* (ed. 6) 10 *Slings* or *Bunt*, the middle of a yard where the rigging is placed.

3. *Comb.*, as *bunt-gasket*, -*whip*; *bunt-jigger*, 'a small gun-tackle purchase . . . used in large vessels for bowing up the bunt of a sail when furling' (Smyth *Sailor's Word-bk.*). Also BUNTLING. 1860 H. STUART *Seaman's Catech.* 18 Bunt lines, bow-lines, and bunt jiggers. *Ibid.* 46 The sail loosers . . . overhaul the buntlines and bunt whip.

b. *Bunt fair*, *adv. phr.*: 'Before the wind' (Smyth *Sailor's Word-bk.*).

1653 URQUHART *Kabelais* II. i, Spooming with a full Sail, bunt fair before the Wind.

Bunt (bʊnt), *sb.* 2 *Bot.* [Origin unknown.]

† 1. The Puff ball (*Lycoperdon bovista*). Now *dial.* 1601 HOLLAND *Pliny* xvi. xl. 1. 490 Tinder, made . . . of bunts and withered leaues. 1609 C. BUTLER *Fern. Mon.* vii. (1623) Q ij, Smother them with Brimstone or Bunt, as you kill Bees. 1878 BRITTON & HOLLAND *Plant-m.*, Bunt, *Lycoperdon Bovista*, Nhamph.

2. A parasitic fungoid, *Tilletia caries*, which attacks wheat, filling the grain with black fetid powder; also the disease caused by it. 1797 *Ann. Reg.* 409/2 Wheat . . . very much injured by smut-balls or bunts. 1847 BERKELEY *Jrnl. Horticult. Soc. London* II. 108 The principal diseases of plants, such as rust, bunt, mildew, etc., are of vegetable origin. 1865 CARTER's *Gard. & Farmer's Vade-M.* II. 124 Bunt . . . results in a swollen discoloured seed . . . On the kernel being broken, it is found to be full of a black stinking powder. 1882 A. CAREY *Princ. Agricult.* xix. 164 Bunt, or Smut-ball, the most formidable disease, perhaps, to which wheat is subject.

Bunt, *sb.* 3 *rare-1.* [perh. related to BUN sb. 1] 1. A portion of the stem or rachis of corn.

1775 *Specif. Rawlinsons Patent* No. 1099 A coarse try [sieve] to convey the bunts from the chaff and corn.

Bunt, *sb.* 4 1 *Obs.* [f. BUNT v. 3] a. An instrument for sifting meal. b. in *comb.* bunt-mill, a machine for cleaning corn.

1794 STEDMAN *Surinam* (1813) II. xxvi. 298 Their dancing music... is not unlike that of a baker's bunt, when he separates the flour from the bran. *Ibid.* xxix. 369 Separated from the chaff through a bunt-mill.

Bunt (bunt), *sb.* ⁶ *Sc.* and *dial.* [Var. and perh. more original form of BUN *sb.* 3] The tail of a hare or rabbit.

1805 A. SCOTT *Hard's Compl. in Poems* 79 (JAM.) A strolling hound Had near hand caught me by the bunt. 1877 E. PEARCOCK *N. W. Lincoln Gloss.* Bunt, the tail of a rabbit.

Bunt, *sb.* ⁶ *local.* A medium quality of fagot.

'There are three classes of fagots for household use in Sussex, 1. brish fagots or kiln fagots, 2. seconds, spray fagots, lordings, or bunts, 3. house-fagots (the best quality).' — Rev. W. D. Parish.

1884 *West Sussex G. 25 Sept. Adv.*, Clearance Stock of Agricultural Drain Tiles, Pipes, Bricks, etc., and a quantity of Bunts, Fagots, Mare, Pony, and other stock.

Bunt, *sb.* ⁷ *cant.* [Of unknown origin: cf. BUNCE.] An extra profit or gain; something to the good. (See quot.)

1851 MAYHEW *London Labour* I, 33 'Boys' deputed to sell a man's goods for a certain sum, all over that amount being the boy's profit or bunts (on p. 470 spelt *bunse*). 1887 *Cheq. Career* 270 In the stable... in livery-stables, there is a box into which all tips are placed. This is called 'Bunt'.

Bunt, *sb.* ⁸ *dial.* The action of BUNT *v.* 2

1875 PARISH *Sussex Dial.* s.v., A bunt is described to me as a push with a knock in it, or a knock with a push in it.

Bunt, *v.* ¹ *Naut.* [f. BUNT *sb.* 1]

1. *trans.* 'To haul up the middle part of (a sail) in furling' (Smyth *Sailor's Word-bk.*).

1611 COTGR., *Bourner*, to bunt, or leaue a bunt in a sayle. 1756 *Gentl. Mag.* XXVI. 449 Haul'd up my courses, bunted my main sail.

2. *intr.* Of a sail: To swell, to belly.

1681 [see BUNTING *vbl.* *sb.* 1]. 1755 in JOHNSON, and in MOD. DICTS. (Not in SMYTH *Sailor's Word-bk.*)

Bunt, *v.* ² Chiefly *dial.* [cf. BUTT *v.*; also BUNCH, BOUNCE; Breton has *bounta* in same sense, but connexion is scarcely possible.] *trans.* and *intr.* To strike, knock, push, butt.

1825 *Willsh. Gloss.*, Bunt, to strike with the head, as a young animal pushes the udder of its dam. 1867 BUSHNELL *Mor. Uses Dark Th.* 203 When the gusty shocks of broad-side pressure bunt upon the house. 1875 PARISH *Sussex Dial.*, Bunt, to rock a cradle with the foot; to push or butt.

Bunt, *v.* ³ *dial.* [Etymology unknown: goes with BUNT *sb.* 4 (In the 13th c. quot. we might read *boutepe*, as a possible variant of *bullep*, from BOLT *v.* 1; but the spelling with *ou* does not otherwise occur until 15th c., and is peculiarly northern.)] *trans.* To sift (meal).

1340 *Ayeb.* 93 Ase þe ilke þet bonteþ þet mele, þet to-delp þet flour uram þe bren. 1880 MISS COURTNEY *W. Cornw. Gloss.*, Bunting, sifting flour. 1883 *Hampsh. Gloss.* (E. D. S.) Bunt, to sift meal.

Bunted (buntəd), *ppl. a.* [f. BUNT *sb.* 2 + -ED.] Of wheat: Infected with bunt.

1857 BERKELEY *Cryptog. Bot.* 318 Bunted wheat often forms a large proportion in flour, and is used more particularly for the manufacture of gingerbread.

† **Bunter** ¹ (buntər). *Obs. exc. dial.* [Etymology unknown.] 'A cant word for a woman who picks up rags about the street; and used, by way of contempt, for any low vulgar woman.' J. Also *attrib.*

1707 E. WARD *Hudibras Rediv.* II. ii. 11. (1715) 25 Punks, Strollers, Market Dames, and Bunters. 1721 BAILEY, *Bunter*, a gatherer of Rags in the Streets for the making of Paper. 1758 *Monthly Rev.* 184 A nasty bunter or stinking dirty fish drab. 1759 H. WALPOLE *Par. Register* in A. Dobson *Fielding* v. 118 There Fielding met his bunter muse. 1763 *Brit. Mag.* IV. 542, I heard a bunter at the Horse-guards last Friday evening swear she would not venture into the Park. 1839 *Abeillard & Hel.* 344 Complete fox-hunters and much addicted to the bunters.

|| **Bunter** ² (buntər). *Geol.* Short for *bunter Sandstein*, i.e. 'mottled sandstone', German name for the New Red Sandstone.

[1830 LYELL *Princ. Geol.* xiii. (1850) 187 The Muschelkalk, Keuper, and Bunter Sandstein.] 1874 — *Elem. Geol.* xxii. (1885) 331 The basement beds of the Keuper rest with a slight unconformability, upon an eroded surface of the Bunter. 1881 J. E. LEE *Note-bk. Anat. Geol.* 72 The bone-bed has evidently filled cracks or hollows in the 'bunter'.

Bunter ³, *dial.* [f. BUNT *v.* 3] 'An old-fashioned machine for cleaning corn.' Parish *Sussex Dial.* 1875.

Bunting (bʌntɪŋ), *sb.* ¹ Also 4 *bountynge*, 5 *buntynge*; cf. the variants BUNKIN, BUNTLE, BUNTILIN. [Origin unknown: Skeat suggests comparison with BUNT *v.* 2, *Sc.* *buntin* short and thick, plump (see 3), BUNT *sb.* 5, Welsh *bontin* the rump, *bontinog* large-buttocked.]

1. The English name of a group of insectorial birds, the *Emberizinae*, a sub-family of *Fringillidae* allied to the larks. The chief species are the Common B. (*E. miliaris*), also called Oorn B.; Yellow B. (*E. citrinella*) = YELLOW-HAMMER; Black-headed B.; Reed B. (*E. schanichus*); Snow B. (*Plectrophanes nivalis*), a bird inhabiting the arctic regions, and visiting Britain in the winter; Rice B. (*Dolichonyx oryzivorus*) = BOBOLINK.

1300 in Wright *Lyric P.* xi. ix. 40 Ich wold ich were a

threstelcock, A bountynge other a lavercock. c. 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 56 Buntynge, byrde, *pratellus*. 1601 SHAKS. *All's Well* II. v. 7, I took this Larke for a bunting. 1655 MOUFFET & BENN. *Health's Improv.* (1746) 188 Buntynge feed chiefly upon little Worms. 1789 G. WHITE *Selborne* xiii. (1853) 57 The bunting does not leave this country in the winter. 1876 MARKHAM *Gl. Frozen Sea* xxiv. Great excitement was caused by the appearance of a snow bunting.

2. The grey shrimp (*Crangon vulgaris*). 1836 *Scenes Comm. by Land & S.* 92 Red shrimps, white shrimps, and buntynge, or grey shrimps, of which the last are most esteemed for their flavour.

3. A term of endearment: in 'baby bunting', the meaning (if there be any at all) may possibly be as in Jamieson's 'buntin', short and thick, as a buntin brat, a plump child.

1665 DAVENANT *Wits* III. 1, Bunting [to the speaker's wife] in very deed, You are to blame. *Nursery Rhyme*. Bye, baby bunting, Father's gone a hunting.

Bunting, *sb.* ² Also 8-9 *buntine*. [Origin uncertain: it has been conjecturally derived from BUNT *v.* 3 to sift, bolt. The analogy of the Fr. *blamine*, which means both bolting-cloth and bunting, supports this derivation, although there is no evidence that *bunting* was ever actually used for 'bolting-cloth'. The fact mentioned in quot. 1836 would suggest connexion with Ger. *bunt*, Du. *bont* parti-coloured. (The word is not in Beawes *Lex Mercatoria Rediviva* 1752, which has always *estamina*, -as.)] 'An open-made worsted stuff, used for making flags' (Ure *Dict. Arts*); also in general, a flag, or flags collectively.

1742 *Navy Board Letter to L. C. A.* 24 Sept. (MS. in Pub. Rec. O.) The French and Spanish colours allowed his Majesty's Ships are of bunting, whereas those used by the French and Spanish are of linen. 1755 JOHNSON, *Bunting*, the stuff of which a ship's colours are made. 1769 FALCONER *Dict. Marine* (1789) *Buntine*, a thin woollen stuff, of which the colours and signals of a ship are usually formed. 1832 MARRYAT *N. Forster xxxvi*, Up goes her bunting. 1836 *Scenes Comm. by Land & S.* 235 Buntine is a thin open sort of woollen stuff... it is woven in stripes, blue, white, red. 1845 DARWIN *Voy. Nat.* viii. (1879) 161 A net made of bunting. 1871 PITMAN *Phonogr.* 7 Bunting, streaming from the masthead.

Bunting, *vbl. sb.* [f. BUNT *v.* 1 + -ING.] The belling, bulging, or swelling of a sail, a net, etc. 1681 *Phil. Collect.* XII. No. 3, 62 Without any belling, bunting, or curvity in the superficies thereof.

Bunting (bʌntɪŋ), *ppl. a.* [Of various origin: senses 1, 2, f. BUNT *v.* 1 + -ING.]

1. Of a sail: Belling, swelling.

1702 R. HOOKE in *Phil. Trans.* LXXIII. 141 To prefer belling or bunting sails to such as were hauled taught.

2. Swelling, plump; filled out, rounded, short and thick. (But *bunting lamb* may be from BUNT *v.* 2)

1584 PEELE *Arraignm.* Paris i. i, I have brought a twagger for the nones, A bunting lamb. 1613 MARKHAM *Eng. Husbandman* I. xvii. (1635) 108 Barley for your seede... elect that which is whitest, fullest, and roundest, being as the Ploughman calls it, a full bunting Corne. 1808-25 JAMIESON *Dict.*, *Buntin*, short and thick; as a buntin brat, a plump child, Roxb.

3. Resembling a rabbit's bunt: short and cocked. 1688 R. HOLME *Armoury* II. 259/2 The stork... hath but a short bunting Tail.

4. Untidy, tawdry.

1759 *Compl. Lett.-Writer* (ed. 6) 224 A large Pattern embroidered Gown... which... was unfashionable and bunting. 1839 C. CLARK *J. Noakes* 13 When yow saa Mary drest, Nought she had on look'd bunting.

Bunting crow (bʌntɪŋ krow). [Du. *bonte-kraai*, f. *bont* parti-coloured + *kraai* crow; infl. by BUNTING *sb.* 1] The Hooded Crow (*Corvus cornix*).

[1658 HEXHAM *Dutch Dict.*, *Bonte-kraaye*, a Pide Crowe, or a Roiston crowe.] 1808 G. MONTAGU *Ornith. Dict.* (1833) 62 Bunting crow—a name for the Crow.

Buntlin. *Sc.* a. = BUNTING *sb.* 1.

17... *Hynde Etin* in Child's *Ballads* I. 296 We'll shoot the lavercock in the lift, The buntlin on the tree.

Buntline (bʌntlɪn). *Naut.* [f. BUNT *sb.* 1 + LINE.]

1. A rope fastened to the foot-rope of a sail and passing in front of the canvas, so as to prevent it from 'belling' when being furled.

1627 CAPT. SMITH *Seaman's Gram.* v. 22 Bunt lines is... a small rope... to trice or draw vp the Bunt of the saile, when you farthell or make it vp. 1748 ANSON *Voy.* I. x. (ed. 4) 139 Endeavouring to hand the top-sails, the clew-lines and bunt-lines broke. 1840 R. DANA *Bef. Mast* xxiii. 70 The jigger was bent on to the slack of the buntlines.

2. Comb., as *buntline-crinkle*; *buntline-cloth*, *buntline-span* (see quots.).

1794 *Rigging & Seamanship* I. 86 Buntline Cloth, the lining sewed up the sail, in the direction of the buntline, to prevent the sail being chafed. 1882 NARES *Seamanship* (ed. 6) 80 A buntline span is a short piece of rope, with a thimble spliced into one end, through which the buntline is rove; they are used to keep the sail, when hauled up by the buntlines, from being blown away from the yard.

† **Buntyle**, *obs. var.* of BUNTING *sb.* 1

c. 1450 *Gloss.* in Wr. Wülcker 702 *Hic pratellus*, a buntyle. **Bunwand**: see BUN *sb.* 1

Bunweed (bʌnwɪd). *Herb.* [Another form of BENWEED, occurring also as *binweed*, *bindweed*: etymological form and derivation uncertain.] A Scotch name of the Ragweed (*Senecio Jacobaea*).

a. 1455 HOLLAND *Houlate* xxvii. 12 Bot a blak bunwede. 1812 J. WILSON *Renfrewsh.* 136 (JAM.) Prevailing weeds in meadows and grass lands are rag-wort or bindweed, *Senecio jacobaea*. 1820 *Blackw. Mag.* June 266 The Scottish witches always went by air on broomsticks and bunweeds. 1847 J. WILSON *Chr. North* (1857) II. 22 Sitting among the binweeds and thistles.

Buoy (boi, bwoi), *sb.* Forms: 5-7 *boye*, 6 *bwoy*, (buie, buy), 6-8 *boy*, (7 *bouye*, *buye*, *boigh*, *bowie*, *boa*, *pl. boes*), 7- *buoy*. [15th c. *boye* corresponds to OF. *boye* (Dietz), *boyee* (Falsgr.), modF. *boule*, Norm. *boie* (Littré), Sp. *boya*, Pg. *boia* 'buoy'; Du. *boet*, MDu. *boeie* 'buoy', and 'fetter'; the same word as OF. *boie*, *buie*, *boe*, *bue*, *beue*, Pr. *boia*, OSP. *boya* fetter, chain:—L. *boia* halter, fetter (cf. BOY *sb.* 2); applied to a buoy because of its being fettered to a spot. It is not clear whether the Eng. was originally from OF., or MDu. The pronunciation (bwoi), indicated already in Hakluyt, is recognized by all orthoepists British and American; but (boi) is universal among sailors, and now prevalent in England: Annandale's *Imperial Dictionary*, 1885, has (boi or bwoi), Cassell's *Encyclopædic Dict.*, 1879, says 'u silent'. Some orthoepists give *bui*.]

1. A floating object fastened in a particular place to point out the position of things under the water (as anchors, shoals, rocks), or the course which ships have to take; or to float a cable in a rocky anchorage to prevent its chafing against the rocks (= *cable-buoy*, *mooring-buoy*). *Bell-buoy*, a buoy fitted with a bell, to ring with the agitation of the water, and so give warning of danger. See also CAN-BUOY, NUN-BUOY. b. Something adapted to buoy up or keep afloat a person in the water (= *life-buoy*).

1466 *Mann. & Househ. Exp.* 325 Kabeles, and an hawser, and ij. boyes. 1530 PALSGR. 199/1 Boy of an ancre, *boyee*. 1584 R. NORMAN *Safeguard of Sailors* 6 The markes of the southern Buie. 16. 10 The Buoy upon the Nes. 1600 HAKLUYT *Voy.* (1810) III. 490 Marking... how ur bwoy floated vpon the water. 1634 BREERTON *Trav.* (1844) 4 The Flats... where buoys are placed, 'twixt which all ships are to sail. 1677 YARRANTON *Engl. Improv.* 41 An Harbour... where a Boy and a Cord two Inches Diameter will be sufficient to a hold a Ship. 1802 SOUTHEY *Inchcape Rock*, That bell on the Inchcape Rock; On a buoy in the storm it floated and swung, And over the waves its warning rung. 1840 HOOD *Up Rhine* 25 The Buoys which mark the entrance into the Maas. 1884 G. C. DAVIES *Norfolk Broad* xl. 315 The melancholy cadence of the bell-buoy.

2. *fig.* Something which marks out a course, indicates danger, or keeps one afloat.

a. 1603 T. CARTWRIGHT *Comfut. Rhen.* N. T. (1618) Pref. 10 Which haue waded so farre... as the Bowies and markes of holy Scriptures doe teach them. 1660 Z. CROFTON *Fausten. St. Peter's Fett*, To Rdr. 7 Reformed Churches [are made] our lanchd boighs to detect our dangers. a. 1770 G. WHITEFIELD *Serm.* xxxii. Wks. (1772) VI. 16 Love... is a... buoy against the tempests of this boisterous world. 1803 BRISTED *Pedest. Tour* I. 149 Having no intellectual buoy by which to steer his course.

3. *attrib.* (See also BUOY-ROPE.)

1668 WILKINS *Real Char.* II. vii. § 6. 186 Cone with Cone: having Base to Base... Buoy figure. 1872 BAKER *Nile Tribut.* xiii. 225 The buoy end is carried in the left hand. 1846 McCulloch *Acc. Brit. Empire* (1854) II. 167 Masters in the buoy or light service.

Buoy (boi, bwoi), *v.* Also 7 *boy*, *bouy*. [In senses 1-3 app. adapted from some foreign source: cf. Sp. *boyar* to float (f. *boya* BUOY *sb.*), and see BUOYANT; in sense 4 from the *sb.*]

† 1. *intr.* To rise to, or float on, the surface of a liquid; to rise, swell (as the sea). *Obs.*

1605 SHAKS. *Lea* III. vii. 60 The Sea, with such a storme... would haue buoy'd vp And quenched the Stelled fires. 1605 PURCHAS *Pilgrimages* II. 1617 Our Wine wee saued which boyed to the shoare. 1674 N. FAIRFAX *Bulk & Selv.* 73 Which will not allow an heavy body left to itself within a flowson one that is lighter, to buoy up.

† b. *fig. Obs.*

1709 POPE *Ess. Crit.* 463 Rising merit will buoy up at last. 1716-8 — in *Lady M. W. Montague's Lett.* I. viii. 24 Folly... will buoy up... in spite of all our art to keep it down. 1742 YOUNG *Nt. Th.* vi. 251 When the great Soul buoys up to this high Point.

2. *trans.* To keep from sinking (in a fluid), to keep afloat; *transf.* to keep up, support, sustain. (Usually with *up*.)

1651 T. BARKER *Art Angling* (1653) 8 The menow may swim... being boyed up with a Cork or Quill. 1774 BURKE *Corr.* (1844) I. 490 It is as hard to sink a cork, as to buoy up a lump of lead. 1782 A. MONRO *Compar. Anat.* (ed. 3) 3 The bat and flying squirrel... have wings to buoy themselves up in the air. 1809 W. IRVING *Knickerb.* II. v. (1849) 113 Thus buoyed up, he floated on the waves.

b. To raise to the surface of a liquid; to bring afloat (e.g. a sunken ship).

1626 BEAUM. & FL. *Cust. Country* I. i, I will descend to thee, And buoy thee up. 1667 *London Gas.* No. 196/3 She sunk, with a Lighter... Great care is taking to Buoy them up with all the speed that may be. 1756 C. LUCAS *Ess. Waters* III. 297 They... buoy up some particles of the iron & carry it to the surface.

3. *fig.* To keep up, keep from sinking, support, sustain, (persons, courage, hope, heart, spirits, etc.). (Usually with *up*.)

1645 in Rushw. *Hist. Coll.* IV. i. 136 Lord Byron buoy'd up with continual hopes. 1681 DRYDEN *Ab. & Achil.* 821 Brave to buoy the State. A 1707 H. WALPOLE *Mem. Geo. III.* (1845) I. ix. 135 France had been buoyed up by the ambition .. of Spain. 1836 MARRYAT *Japhet* xliii. The hopes which had been .. buoying me up.

b. To raise, lift, cause to rise (the heart, spirits, etc.). (Usually with *up*.)

1654 J. WADSWORTH tr. *Sandoval's Civ. Wars Spain* 181 They ought to .. botly them up out of that gulf of miserie whereinto they were plunged. 1664 FULLER *Worthies* i. 262 Hearts sunk down are not to be boyed up. A 1796 BURKE *Regic. Peace* i. Wks. VIII. 86 Buoyed up to the highest point of practical vigour. A 1850 ROSSETTI *Dante & Circ.* i. (1874) 185 The spirits of thy life depart Daily to heaven with her—they so are buoy'd by their desire.

4. To furnish or mark with a buoy or buoys; to mark as with a buoy (rarely with *out*).

1596 RALEIGH *Discov. Guiana* 36 Which shoal [= shoal] John Douglas boyed and beconned for them before. 1707 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 4350/3 They have .. lately buoy'd a new Channel .. with 3 Black Buoys. 1720 in *Picton L. pool Munic. Rec.* (1886) II. 49 The buoying out of Fomby Channel. 1779-84 COOK *Voy.* (1790) I. 215 The captain sounded and buoyed the bar. 1883 Dk. ARGVLL *Sp. Ho. Lords* 19 July, Rocks on the [Scottish] west coast are not sufficiently buoyed and beconned.

Buoyage (boi'edz, bwoi-). [f. BUOY v. and *sb.* + -AGE.] The providing of (or with) buoys.

1828 *Merc. Mar. Mag.* V. 29 Buoyage of the River Tees. 1863 *Standard* 5 Sept. 3/1 Charged equally by law with the buoyage, beaconage, and lights of the river. 1883 *Chamb. Jnrl.* 8 Dec. 769/1 Proposal for a uniform system of buoyage.

Buoyance (boi'ans, bwoi-). [f. BUOYANT: see -ANCE.]

1. = BUOYANTY. (*poet.* or *rhetorical*.)

1821 LOCKHART *Valerino* III. iii. 86 The words .. produced I know not what of buoyance and of emotion. 1833 H. COLERIDGE *To Nautilus* in *Q. Rev.* XLIX. 520 Leap along with gladsome buoyance.

2. A contrivance for imparting buoyancy to boats. 1883 *Fisheries Exhib. Catal.* 37 The side buoyance can be taken out and repaired .. Punt, fitted with buoyance, if swamped not to sink.

Buoyancy (boi'ansi, bwoi-). Also 8 *boy-anoy*. [f. BUOYANT: see -ANOY.] The quality of being buoyant.

1. Power of floating (on liquid or fluid); tendency to float. b. As an attribute of the liquid: Power of supporting a floating body (*rare*). c. *Hydrostatics*: Loss of weight due to immersion in a liquid; the vertical upward pressure of a liquid on an immersed or floating body, which is equal to the weight of displaced liquid; also of the lower layers of a liquid on those above.

1713 DERHAM *Phys. Theol.* 9 All the winged Tribes owe their Flight and Boyancy hereunto. 1765 WILKINSON in *Phil. Trans.* LV. 97 The cork had not .. lost any force of buoyancy. 1793 SMEATON *Edystone L.* 248 When the stone was got up to the surface of the water .. becoming heavier by losing its buoyancy. 1831 LARDNER *Hydrostat.* v. 97 The support, whether partial or total, which a solid receives from a liquid .. is expressed by the term buoyancy. 1868 WRIGHT *Ocean World* i. 19 The saltness of sea water increases its density, and at the same time its buoyancy.

2. *fig.* Elasticity of spirit, lightheartedness; capacity for recovering after depression.

1819 *Blackw. Mag.* Aug. The reckless buoyancy of young blood. 1824 DIBDIN *Libr. Comp.* 516 There is neither fancy, nor brilliancy, nor buoyancy, about him. 1866 DICKENS *Lett.* (1880) II. 249, I have noticed .. a decided change in my buoyancy and hopefulness. 1886 MORLEY *Crit. Misc.* III. 102 To the last he retained his extraordinary buoyancy.

3. Tendency to rise (in the price of stocks and shares), in the national revenue, etc.

1883 *Manch. Exam.* 14 Dec. 4/1 Considerable buoyancy was developed owing to a smart recovery on the Paris Bourse.

Buoyant (boi'ant, bwoi-), *a.* Also 6 *boyent*, 7 *boyant*. [perhaps ad. Sp. *boyante* in same sense, or OF. *boyant* (app. also synonymous, though explained differently in Godef.); in Eng. it is app. older than BUOY v. See -ANT¹.]

1. Having the power of floating, tending to float; floating.

1576 W. BOURNE *Treas. for Trav.* iv. x. The syde [of a ship] being rounde and full, it is the more boyenter a great deale. 1713 DERHAM *Phys. Theol.* 42 note, The Air-Bladder [of a fish] makes the Body more or less buoyant. 1765 WILKINSON in *Phil. Trans.* LV. 98 The buoyant power of cork in fresh water. 1792 *Genl. Mag.* Mar. 210 Produced from seed buoyant in the atmosphere. 1835-6 TODD *Cycl. Anat. & Phys.* I. 402 Filled with air, which renders the whole animal so buoyant that it floats on the surface.

b. Lightly elastic.

1835-6 TODD *Cycl. Anat. & Phys.* I. 70/1 The quick and buoyant motions of the lively child.

c. *fig.* Tending to rise or keep up.

c 1661 *Mrg. Argyle's Will*, &c. in *Harl. Misc.* (1746) VIII. 302 His Vices were most notorious and boyant. 1808 SYN. SMITH *Wks.* (1869) 112 Religion is so noble and powerful a consideration—it is so buoyant and so unsubmergible. 1868 ROGERS *Pol. Econ.* xxi. (ed. 3) 282 That part of the public revenue is most buoyant.

2. Of liquid: Having the power of keeping bodies afloat on its surface.

1692 DRYDEN *Eleonora* Ded. (Globe), The water under me was buoyant. 1813 BYRON *Br. Abdyos* II. iii, These limbs that buoyant wave hath borne. 1873 MORLEY *Rousseau* I. 324 The buoyant waters of emotion and sentiment.

3. *fig.* Of the spirits: Easily recovering from depression, elastic, light. Of persons: Lighthearted, cheerful, hopeful.

a 1748 THOMSON *Wks.* (1766) I. 130 Nerves .. full of buoyant spirit. 1770 LANGHORNE *Plutarch* (1879) I. 211/1 A man of buoyant and animated valour. 1824 W. IRVING *T. Trav.* I. 338 My spirits were most buoyant after a temporary prostration. 1843 PRESCOTT *Mexico* (1850) I. 108 His buoyant spirits were continually breaking out in troublesome frolics. 1845 S. AUSTIN *Rank's Hist. Ref.* I. i. 105 The buoyant confidence of youth.

4. *Comb.*, as *buoyant-minded* adj.

1833 Hr. MARTINEAU *Charm. Sea* iii. 27 One or two of the .. more buoyant-minded of the party.

Buoyantly, *adv.* In a buoyant manner.

1854 BADHAM *Halitru* 24 We might fail to carry him buoyantly over. 1873 HOLLAND *A. Bonnic.* xiv. 225, I could not have been more buoyantly expectant. 1883 *Knowledge* 22 June 370/2 Shares went up buoyantly.

† **Buoyantness**. *Obs. rare.* = BUOYANCY.

1668 *Proc. Royal Soc.* III. 395 (L.). The lightness and buoyantness of the rope. 1716 J. PERRY *State of Russ.* 121 The Air being .. without that Strength of Elasticity or Buoyantness that is occasioned by the Heat of the Sun.

Buoyed (boid, bwoid), *ppl. a.* [f. BUOY v.]

1. Kept afloat, supported, etc.: see BUOY v.

2. Furnished with a buoy or buoys.

1881 *Philada. Record*. No. 3438. 2 The best lighted and buoyed river in the world. 1881 *Echo* 28 June 3/1 The buoyed end of the new American cable.

Buoy-rope (b(w)oi'rōp). [f. BUOY *sb.* + ROPE.] The rope by which the buoy is fastened to the anchor. † Also *transf.* (quot. 1562 used for a woman's pig-tail).

1562 J. HEYWOOD *Prov. & Epigr.* (1867) 64 Except hir maide shewe a fayre paire of heeles, She haleth her by the boy rope, tyll her braines ake. 1690 J. TAYLOR (Water P.) *Wks.* III. 65 a/2 Cleere, cleere the boighrope, steddly, well steered. 1793 *Ibid.* No. 6129/3 Twelve Fathom of a Buoy Rope of six Inches and a half. 1860 H. STUART *Seaman's Catech.* 56 If the cable should be slipped or parted, the buoy-rope is used for weighing.

Buplever (buplev'vā). *Bot.* [a. F. *bupleure*: — L. *bupleurum*, a. Gr. *βούπλευρον*, f. *βου-* ox + *πλευρόν* rib.] The plant Hare's-ear or Thorough-wax. 'An English name adapted from the French, proposed by Bentham' (*Treas. Bot.*).

1881 G. ALLEN in *Cornh. Mag.* June 706 The narrow buplever flowers only at Torquay and in Jersey and Guernsey. *Ibid.* 716 Torquay .. shares a southern buplever with the Channel Islands.

|| **Buprestis** (b'uprestis). [L. *buprestis*, a. Gr. *βούπρηστις*, lit. 'ox-burner'.]

1. An unidentified insect of the ancients, very harmful to cattle; 'perhaps of the genus *Mylabris*' (Kirby and Spence).

1398 TREvisa *Barth. De P. R.* xviii. xiii. (1495) 773 This Burestes lyeth amonge herbes and grasse: and the oxe swalloweth this beste, and when this Burestes is swallowed he chaufeth sodenly the lyounour of the oxe and maketh hym breke with grete payne and sorowe. 1601 HOLLAND *Pliny* II. 377 There is a kind of insect or file called Buprestis .. kine and oxen catch much harme by this file. [1668 ROWLAND Moullet's *Theat. Ins.* 1001, I have seen about Heidelberg two Buprestes like Scarabees.]

2. A genus of beetles, natives of the tropics, remarkable for brilliant colouring. Hence the family *Buprestidae*, rarely anglicized as *Buprestidians*.

1835 KIRBY *Hab. & Inst. Anim.* II. xx. 364 The most splendid and brilliant of the whole Order, the Buprestidians.

Bur, burr (būr), *sb.* Forms: 4 *borre*, 4-7 *burre*, 6- bur, 7- burr. [app. identical or cogn. with Da. *borre* bur, burdock, Sw. *borre* sea-urchin, and in comb. *kard-borre* burdock, though the word is not found in ON., nor in Eng. before the 14th c. A derivation from F. *bourre* 'rough hair, flock of wool', labours under the difficulty that the F. word is not found ever to have had the sense which Eng. *bur* shares with Da. and Sw. *borre*; nor does the Eng. word show the wider sense of F. *bourre*.]

The spelling of this and various other words or senses of words, phonetically and perhaps even etymologically identical with it, is very unsettled: in nearly all *bur* is an earlier spelling, but in the present word *bur* is now usual. See further under BURK.

1. Any rough or prickly seed-vessel or flower-head of a plant: esp. the flower-head of the Burdock (*Arctium lappa*); also, the small seed-vessel of the Goose-grass (*Galium aparine*) and other plants; the husk of the chestnut.

c 1330 *Arth. & Merl.* 8290 Togider that cleued .. So with other doth the burre. c 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 56 Burre, *lappa*, *glia*. a 1547 J. HEYWOOD *Four Ps.* in Dodsley (1780) I. 87 Hys eares as rugged as burres. 1600 SHAKS. *A. Y. L.* i. iii. 13 They are but burres, Cosen, throwne upon thee in holiday foolerie .. our very petty-coates will catch them. 1664 R. WALLER *Nat. Exper.* 87 Like the Burre or Husk of a Chestnut. 1779 Mrs. DELANY *Lett.* Ser. II. II. 425 Goose grass or cleavers .. does not bear burrs (which are the seed vessels) till after the time of its flowering. c 1817 HOGG *Tales & Sk.* III. 316 The bur of a Scots thistle. 1861 Miss FRATT *Flower. Pl.* III. 87 Fruits, beset with prickles, are truly burrs, clinging very readily to any object. 1874 ROE *Open. Chestnut Burr* xiii, She took the burr from his hand and plucking out the chestnut tossed the burr away.

b. *Phr.* To stick (cleave, cling, etc.) like a bur.

c 1330 [see above]. 1514 BARCLAY *Cyt. & Uplondysk.*

(1847) 43 Together they cleve more fast then do burres. 1603 SHAKS. *Meas. for M.* i. iii. 189, I am a kind of Burre, I shal sticke. 1718 ARBUTHNOT *John Bull* (1727) 59 When a fellow stuck like a bur, that there was no shaking him off. 1810 CRABBE *Borough v.*, Friends who will hang like burrs upon his coat. 1865 MERVILLE *Rom. Emp.* VIII. lxxv. 81 It fastens itself like a burr on the memory.

c. The female catkin or 'cone' of the hop before fertilization. [Possibly a different word: in Fr. the vine when coming into bud is said to be *en bourre*; cf. 5.]

1846 J. BAXTER *Libr. Pract. Agric.* I. 396 The male hop has its .. pollen previously perfected, so as to impregnate the stigma or bur of the female. *Ibid.* 403 About the middle of this month [July] the hop .. begins to put forth bloom, which is called 'coming out into bur'. 1881 WHITEHEAD *Hops* 51 It is worse than useless to wash the plants after they are in burr, or blossom.

2. Any plant which produces burrs, esp. *Arctium lappa* (the Burdock), and the genus *Xanthium*.

1480 *Cath. Angl.* 48 A Burre .. *palinurus*. 1562 BULLEYN *Bk. Simples* 38 a, The great Burre, which is more commonly known then commended. 1583 LLOYD *Treas. Health* F viij, The rote of a little burre sodden in Vinegar. 1634 MILTON *Comus* 350 Where may she wander now .. amongst rude burrs and thistles? 1825 ELPHINSTONE *Acc. Caubul* (1845) I. 33 We found ourselves .. among sand-hills, stunted bushes, burrs, and phoke. 1842 TENNYSON *Day-Dr.* 66 Bur and brake and briar.

3. *fig.* That which clings like a bur; a thing or person difficult to get rid of or 'shake off'.

1590 SHAKS. *Mids. N.* III. ii. 260 Hang off thou cat, thou bur. 1633 HEYWOOD *Eng. Trav.* III. Wks. 1874 IV. 51 This burr will still cleave to me; what, no means To shake him off? 1690 B. E. *Dict. Cant. Crew*, Burre, a Hanger on, or Dependant. 1806 J. WILSON *Noct. Ambr.* Wks. 1855 I. 119 The burr has a pawky expression that's no canny.

4. *fig.* 'Bur in the throat': anything that appears to stick in the throat or that produces a choking sensation, accumulation of phlegm, huskiness; 'a lump in the throat'.

1393 LANGE. *P. Pl.* C. xx. 306 Smoke and smorpre .. Til he be bler-eyed oper blynde 'and be borre [v.r. burr] in hus prote. 1609 *Ev. Wom. in Hum.* II. ii. in Bullen O. P. IV, Theres hemming indeede, like a Cat .. with a burr in her throate. 1641 MILTON *Ch. Govt.* Wks. 1738 I. 74 Their honest .. natures coming to the Universities .. were sent home again with .. a scholastical Bur in their throats. 1749 CHESTERF. *Lett.* II. ccxlii. 319, I hemm'd once or twice (for it gave me a bur in my throat).

5. A knob or knot in a tree; also, one of the 'buds' or pimples characteristic of the farcy. [Perhaps a distinct word: cf. F. *bourre* vine-bud (see 1 c) *bourrelet* 'round swelling on a tree'.]

1725 BRADLEY *Fam. Dict.* II. s.v. *Maple*, That which is fullest of Knots and Burrs is of greatest Value. 1725 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 6991/2 Several Burrs, Remains of the Farcy. 1869 MASTERS *Veg. Terat.* 347 The large 'gnawrs' or 'burrs', met with in lms, etc., also in certain varieties of apples.

6. The rounded knob forming the base of a deer's horn. [Cf. BURL, bud of a deer's horn.]

1575 TURBERV. *Bk. Venerie* 236 The round roll of pyrrled home that is next to the head of an harte is called the Burre. 1677 N. COX *Genl. Recreat.* (1706) 65 The Bur is next the Head; and that which is about the Bur, is called Pearles. 1736 DALE in *Phil. Trans.* XXXIX. 386 The Moose hath a branched Brow-Antler between the Burr and the Palm. 1808 STARK *Elem. Nat. Hist.* I. 128 Horns .. with a branch above the burr pointing forward.

b. (See quot.)

1753 CHAMBERS *Cycl. Supp.* s.v., Burrs denote bits of flesh adjoining to the horns of a beef's hide, cut off by poor women after it is brought to market.

7. *dist.* See QUOTE. [1 from sense 1.]

1863 ATKINSON *Danby Provinc.*, N. Riding Yorksh., Bur, the stone or other obstacle placed behind the wheel. 1875 WHITBY *Gloss.* (E. D. S.), Bur, (1) an impediment; an annoyance; (2) the drag-chain and shoe for fastening up a carriage wheel when going down a hill.

8. *Comb.*, as *bur-breeding*, -head, -leaf, -root; *bur-bark*, the fibrous bark of *Triumfetta semitriloba*, a tropical shrub bearing prickly fruits or burrs; *bur-flag* = *bur-reed*; *bur-grass*, Sc. ? a species of *Carex*; *bur-knot* = BUR 6; *bur-marigold*, popular name of the genus *Bidens*; † *bur-nettle*, perhaps *Urtica pilulifera*; *bur-oak*, *Quercus macrocarpa* of N. America; *bur-paraleys*, the genus *Caulalis*, esp. *C. daucoideus*, an umbelliferous weed with prickly fruit; *bur-reed*, common name of the genus *Sparganium*; *bur-thistle*, *Carduus lanceolatus*, also called Spear-thistle; *bur-weed*, *Xanthium strumarium*; also other plants producing burrs, as *Galium aparine* (Goose-grass), *Caulalis nodosa*, and the genus *Triumfetta*. See also BURDOCK.

1756 P. BROWNE *Jamaica* 233 The 'Bur-Bark. The plant is common in Jamaica. 1830 DRAYTON *Muses Elysium* III. (R.) By the rough 'bur breeding docks Ranker than the oldest fox. 1834 *Brit. Husb.* i. xxix. 463 A coarse kind of grass called 'bur-grass'. 1840 BROWNING *Sordello* v. 412 'Spear-heads for battle, 'burr-heads for the joust'. 1883 *Cath. Angl.* 48 A 'Burre hylle, *lappetum*, est locus ubi crescut *lappa*. 1815 LAWSON *Orch. & Gard.* III. vii. (1668) 15 A 'bur-knot, taken from an Apple-tree. 1634 Bp. HALL *Ocas. Med.* cxlii. Wks. (1808) 204 On a 'bur-leaf. 1833 in *Proc. Berw. Nat. Club* I. No. 1. 29. 1879 PRIOR *Plant-n.*, *Bur Marigold, a composite flower allied to the marigold, with seeds that adhere to the clothes like burrs. 1773 PETIVER in *Phil. Trans.* XXVIII. 36 Common 'Bur-Nettle. 1865 C. A. JOHNS in *Treas. Bot.* I. 241 The 'Bur

Parsley... is a British plant, growing in corn-fields in a chalky soil. 1597 GERARD *Herbal* i. xxx. § 2. 41 These plants of some are called Sparganium... I rather call them Burre Reede. 1769 Sir J. Hill *Fam. Herbal* (1789) 98 *Bur-Reed*, a common water-plant, with rough heads of seeds. 1803 G. C. DAVIES in *Pall Mall G.* 26 Oct. 4/2 The eye to see beauty in bur-reeds and sweet-sedges. 1650 tr. Bacon's *Life & Death* 43 Asparagus, pith of Artichokes and 'Bur-reeds' boiled. 1767 BURNS *Ed. Miss Scott* ii, The rough 'bur-thistle, spreading wide. 1783 AINSWORTH *Lat. Dict.* (Morell) i. s. v. Burr, 'Burrweed, *Sparganium ramosum*. 1808 G. ALLEN *Colours of Fl.* iv. 84 Unless... like... *Xanthium strumarium*, burweed, they have declined as far as colourless or green forelets.

¶ See also BURB sb. in all senses.

Bur, v. 1 [f. prec.: cf. also BURB sb. 6] *trans.* To remove burs from (wool): see BUBBING.

Bur, v. 2 *trans.* [f. BURB sb. 5.] *trans.* (See quots.). 1863 ATKINSON *Danby Provenc.*, N. Riding Yorksh., *Bur*, to block or stop the wheel of a waggon or cart... by... a stone. 1876 *Mid-Yorksh. Gloss.* (E. D. S.) *Bur*, to maintain an object in position by blockage or leverage, as... a partially raised weight is buried up from the ground with a crowbar.

Bur, obs. f. BIRE, BOWER sb. 1

† **Burail**, *Obs.* [Fr. = 'Silke rash' Cotgr.] A stuff half silk and half worsted.

1714 *Fr. Bk. Rates* 36 Burail-Stuff per 100 Weight, 07 oo. || **Burāt**, *burāt*, *Obs.* [OF. *burat*, Sp. *burato*.] The same as BORATO, q. v.

1586 R. PARKE tr. *Mendoza's Hist. China* 350 Shippes laden with... calles of networke, Buratos, Espumillas. c 1601 J. KEYMER *Dutch Fishing in Phenix* i. 226 Velvets, Buratos, Rash, Fustians. 1750 BEAWEES *Lex Mercat.* (1754) 816. Camblets... Burats (a coarse woollen stuff).

Buratite (biū-rā-tīt). *Min.* [f. the mineral-ogist Burat + -ITE.] A variety of aurichalcite.

1863-79 WATTS *Dict. Chem.* i. 686 Buratite... is very variable in composition, and is probably a mixture of several minerals. 1868 DANA *Min.* 712 Buratite or the so-called lime aurichalcite.

Burbet, obs. form of BURBOT.

† **Burble**, sb. 1 *Obs.* Forms: 4 burbel, 5 burbulle, -byrl(e), 6 burbul, 5-7 burble. [f. BURBLE v.: cf. BUBBLE sb. With sense 2 cf. the use of OF. *bubette* in the two senses of pimple, swelling, and 'bulle d'air dans l'eau' (Godef.).]

1. A bubble, bubbling.

c 1350 *Legenda Catholicae, Marie Maud.* 239 A litel child... The se it was comen tille Therwith it made michel gale With gret stones and with smale And playd with burbles of the water. 1483 *Cath. Angl.* 47 A Burbylle in y^e water. *bulle*. 1530 PALSGR. 202/1 Burble in the water, *bubette*, 1547 BOORDE *Brev. Healt* lxiii. 21 b, A wyndy spume the which is full of burbles.

b. quasi-adj. Bubbling.

c 1430 *Lydg. Chortle & Birde* (1818) 3 The burbill [v. r. burbyll] waves in their up boylling.

2. A pimple; a boil.

1555 EDEN *Decades W. Ind.* (Arb.) 266 Certaine pimples or burbuls. 1610 BARROUGH *Meth. Physick* vii. iv. (1639) 387 As often as burbles are broken in the bowels. 1628 MALYNES *Anc. Law-Merch.* 77 lacinths... have commonly pimples or burbles in them.

Burble, sb. 2 *Sc. dial.* [see BURBLE v. 2] 'Trouble, perplexity, disorder' (Jam.).

1828 *Case, Moffat* 45 (JAM.) He always made burbles, by which the deponent understood trouble. 1836 CARLYLE in *Froude's Life* (1885) i. 78 Much that was a burble will begin to unravel itself.

† **Burbill**, v. 1 *Obs.* Also 4 burbull, (5 bro-bill), 6 burbyll, -bul. [Found c 1300. There are several similar forms in Romanic: It. *borbogliare* to make a rumbling or grumbling noise, Pg. *borbulhar*, Sp. *borbollar* to bubble forth, also mod. Picard *borbouiller* to murmur (Diez); all apparently imitative words, though Diez thinks the Sp. and Pg. possibly formed on L. *bulle* bubble. The Eng. word can hardly have any actual connexion with these, exc. as a parallel onomatopoeia, expressing the sound made by the agitation, issuing forth, or flowing of a liquid mixed with vesicles of air or gas. Of this the later BUBBLE appears to have been either a simple variant or a conscious modification. In the later use of *burble* there is more of the notion of flowing than in *bubble*, as though *burble* combined the notions of *bubble* and *purle*; but the sb. *burble* was in 14-16th c. exactly = L. *bulle* 'bubble'.]

1. *intr.* To form vesicles or bubbles like boiling water; to rise in bubbles; to flow in or with bubbles, or with bubbling sound.

1303 R. BRUNNE *Handl. Synne* 10207 As þo3 here ȝ3en shulde burble out. c 1440 *Prompt. Parv.* 56 Burblon [1499 bur-belyn], as ale or oþer lykore, *bullo*. 1470-85 MALORY *Arthur* x. ii, A fayre welles, with clere water burbelinge. 1530 PALSGR. 459/2 To boyle up or burbyll up as a water dothe in a spring, *bowillomer*. 1577 W. VALLANS *Two Swannes in Leland's Itin.* (1759) v. 10 To Whitwell short, whereof doth burbling rise The spring, that makes this little river runne.

b. To form bubbles in water, etc., to gurgle; cf. BURL v. 2

c 1400 *Destr. Troy* 5760 Hom was leuer... be britnet in batell, þen burbull in the flod. c 1440 *M.S. Lincoln A. i.* 17 f. 115 (Halliwell) Many a balde manne laye there swykede, Brobillande in his blode.

Hence Burbling *vbl. sb.* and *ppl. a.*

a 1508 SKELTON *Replaye*, These... friscarily yonkerkyns... basked and bathed in their... burbyling and boylng blode. 1555 EDEN *Decades W. Ind.* ii. 11. (Arb.) 113 The burbulinge of the sande declared the sea to bee... shalowe. 1609 *Ev. Wom. in Hum.* ii. i. in Bullen O. Pl. IV, The Meridian Sol Discern'd a dauncing in the burbling brook. 1658 J. HAGTHORPE in Farr's S. P. (1848) 346 Burbling streames.

Burble, v. 2 *Sc. dial.* [Cf. F. *barbouiller* 'to jumble, confound, huddle, or mingle ill-favourably' (Cotgr.), and its cognates: cf. esp. Catalan *borbollar* to perplex, bewilder. But actual connexion between these and the Sc. word is not evidenced. Cf. BARBULYE.]

trans. To perplex, confuse, muddle.

1843 Mrs. CARLYLE *Lett.* (1883) i. 244 His external life fallen into a horribly burbled state.

† **Burbly**, a. *Obs.* [f. BURBLE sb. 1 + -Y 1.] Full of bubbles, bubbling.

c 1430 *Lydg. Min. Poems* 181 The burbyll [v. r. burbill] waves in [their] up boylling.

Burbolt, -boulte, obs. forms of BIRD-BOLT.

1575 G. HARVEY *Letter-bk.* (1884) 90 Owte of the quiver of good likinge, On burboulte of truste, worthe the shootinge.

Burbot (bū-rōt). Forms: 5 borbot, (6 borbotha), 7 burbott, -bate, -bout, 8-9 burbolt, (7-8 bird-bolt), 7- burbot, (9 burbet, barbot). [a. F. *bourbette* (Littre), *bourbete* (Godef.), *bourbette* (Cotgr.); the usual mod. F. form is *barbote*, *barbotte*; cf. *bourboter*, *barbotter*, to dabble or wallow in mud. (The variant bird-bolt appears to be due merely to popular etymology.)]

A fresh-water fish (*Lota vulgaris*) of the family Gadidae, somewhat like an eel, but with a flat head, having two small 'beards' on the nose and one on the chin. Also called *Eel-pout* or *Coney-fish*.

a 1475 in *Rel. Ant.* i. 85 The borbotus and the stykylbakys. c 1500 ANDREW Noble *Life in Babes Bk.* (1868) 231 Borbotha be fishes very slepery, somewhat lyke an ele haunge wyde mouthes & great hedes, it is a swete mete. 1605 in *Archæologia* (1800) XIII. 348 These Fishe bee nowe in seaseone... Burbott. 1679 *Plot Staffordsh.* (1686) 241 In Staffordshire... it is call'd a Burbot or bird-bolt, perhaps from that sort of Arrow rounded at head, somewhat like this fishes. 1769 PENNANT *Zool.* iii. 163 Burbot or Bird-bolt. 1772 FORSTER in *Phil. Trans.* LXIII. 150 The four kinds of Hudson's Bay fish are the Sturgeon, the Burbot, the Gwyniad... The Sucker. 1865 KINGSLEY *Herew. xxix*, The knights think scorn of any thing worse than smelts and burbot. 1883 *Fisheries Exhib. Catal.* (ed. 4) 106 Barbott (or Eelpout).

Burbreach, obs. form of borough-breach: see BOROUGH 7.

Burcer, obs. form of BURSAR.

Buroh, obs. form of BOROUGH, BURG.

Burchin, obs. form of BIRCHEN.

† **Burd**, *Obs.* (exc. in ballad poetry). Forms: 3-4 burde, bird, 4-5 berde, birde, buyrde, buirde, byrd(e), (5 byurde), 5 beerde, 8, 9 bird, 5-burd. [A word of obscure origin, found in the earliest ME. in form *burde*, frequent in Layamon, but afterwards chiefly in northern, or north midl. writers, and in alliterative verse.

Burd has been variously identified with BIRD, and with BIRDE. Although its later spelling is identical with the mod. Sc. form of *bird*, and it has been sometimes treated as merely a fig. use of this word, the earlier forms of both show them to be quite distinct. The identification with *bird* has somewhat more plausibility; but even if we take as the basis the Da. *brud* instead of the OE. *brfd*, the phonetic difficulties are many and serious. The various ME. spellings seem to indicate that the vowel was *æ* = OE. *y*; some of them also favour a dissyllabic form. The OE. adj. *byrde* 'wealthy', or perhaps 'well-born, noble' answers phonetically, and the sense 'well-born' or 'wealthy lady', would apparently make it a suitable companion-word to *beorn*. But the rarity of the OE. adj. (found once, *Oros* i. i. 15, and there masc., *se byrdesta* 'the wealthiest man') presents obvious difficulties.]

A poetic word for 'woman, lady', corresponding to the masculine *BERNE*; in later use chiefly = 'young lady, maiden'. (See BIRD sb. i. d.)

c 1205 LAY. 19271 Ester Arður was iboren þeo ædie burde (c 1275 maide) Æne. a 1225 *St. Marher.* 21 Cum nu forð burde to þi brudgume... alre burde brihtest. c 1295 E. E. *Allit. P.* B. 80 Boþe burnez & burdez. c 1340 *Cursor M.* 12305 (Trin.) Ioseph went also soone Wiþ him marie þat burde [v. r. bird] bolde. 1377 *LANGL. P. Pl.* B. xix. 131 The berdes þo songe *Saut interfecit mille, et dauid decem milia*. 1393 *Ibid.* C. xxii. 135 The buyrdes [þo] songen. c 1400 *Destr. Troy* 12037 Fro bale deth þe burd [Helen] for to saue. c 1430 *Hymns Virg.* (1867) 13 Heil þou bleissid beerde in whom [cris] was pi3t. c 1440 *York Myst.* xli. 209 But Mary byrde, thowe neyd not so. a 1560 *ROLLAND Crt. Venus* iv. 418 The wald Venus make content Be sum new burd. 1a 1600 *Ballad* in D. Wilson *Mem. Edinb.* 33 My birde ladie in Halyroode. 17... *Fair Helen* ii. in Scott *Minstr. Sc. B.* 103 When in my arms burd Helen dropt. 1858 *MORRIS Welland Riv.* 229 'It is some burd', the fair dame said... 'Has come to see your bonny face'.

Burd, obs. and Sc. form of BIRD, BOARD.

1596 SPENSER *F. Q.* iv. ii. 35 Tunes of beasts and burds.

Burd Alisander, var. of BORD ALEXANDER, *Obs.*, a kind of striped silk.

† **Burd-alone**, a. *Obs. Sc.* (a rare archaism in mod. poet.) Also burd-alone, bird-. [Origin of *Burd* obscure; perh. = BIRD, 'like a sparrow alone upon the house tops', *Pr. cii.* 7. Jamieson says the word 'is used to denote one who is the only

child left in a family', but the examples show a much more general sense.] As a solitary person or being; entirely alone, 'all alone'.

1579 *Lament. Lady Scott* in *Scot. Poems* 16th C. II. 251 Tak 3e ane, We must not leif the vther bird alane. a 1600 *Auld Maitland* *Introd.* in *Scott Minstr. Sc. B.*, Burdallane, his only son and air. 17... *Gallant Grahams, ibid.* And Newton Gordon, burd-alone, And Dalgatlie both stout and keen. 1717 RAMSAY *Lucky Wood* in *Poems* (1800) i. 228 She's dead and gane, Left us and Willie burd alane, To bleer and greet. a 1800 *Sir Roland* x. in Chambers *Sc. Ballads* (1829) 259 He was riding burd-alone. a 1800 *King Henrie* in *Scott Minstr. Sc. B.* And this was seen o' King Henrie For he lay burd alane. 1870 MORRIS *Earthly Par.* III. iv. 32 When thou a maiden burd-alone, Hadst eighteen summers!

† **Burda-sh**, *Obs.* Also burdash. [Derivation uncertain. Possibly the same as BARDASH (as sometimes also spelt), on the ground that the article of apparel was considered to be of effeminate character, and a foppery for men to be ashamed of. Connexion with HABERDASH is also suggested, though at present unsupported by any evidence.]

An article of personal adornment worn in the time of Queen Anne and George I; 'the fringed sash worn round the waist by gentlemen' (Fairholt); 'it would seem a kind of cravat' (Hare *Fragm.* 1873).

1713 *STEERLE Guardian* No. 10 p. 5, I have prepared a treatise against the Cravat and Burdash [other edd. burdash]. 1791 Mrs. CENTILIVRE *Plat. Lady* Epil. 190 Yet tell me, Sir, don't you as nice appear [as the woman] With your false Calves, Burdash, and Favrites [i.e. curls on the temples. *Stage direction* 'Pointing to her head']. 1730 *Female Parson* (in Fairholt *s.v.*) A modern beau... Cane, ruffles, sword-knot, burdash, hat, and feather.

Burde, obs. f. BEARD, BOARD; var. of BIRDE (birth), BOURD (jest).

Burde, pa. t. of BIR, BUR v. *Obs.* to behave.

c 1400 *Rowland & Ot.* 1253 A nobill suerde the burde not wolde.

Burdeaux, obs. f. BORDEAUX.

Burdell, var. BORDEL, BORDELLO, *Obs.* brothel.

Burden, burthen (bū-rd'n, bū-rd'n). Forms: a. 1 berþen, 2 byrþen, -þan, 3-4 byr-, birþin(e), -then(e), -thun, (borþon), 5 burþen, -on, 4-5 berþen, 5 birþan, byrþyn, borþtyn, 5- burþen. ß. 2 byrden, 3 birde, -in, 4 byrdoun, 5 byrdune, -dyn(g), bir-, burdyne, 6 bordone, bir-, burding, burdayne, -eyne, -un, bourdon, S. buirdin, 2- burden. [OE. *byrþen* str. fem. = OS. *burthinna*; = WGer. type **burþinnja*, an extension (with suffix -*innja* as in OE. *ræden*) of **burpi* (see BIRTH), f. stem *bur-* of **ber-an* to BEAR. The synonymous OHG. *burdin*, Goth. *burþei*, differ only in the suffix. The Eng. forms with *d*, which began to appear early in 12th c., may be compared with *murder* for *murþer*, and dial. *farden*, *furder*, for *farþing*, *further*. The prevalent form is now *burden*, but *burthen* is still often retained for 'capacity of a ship', and also as a poet. or rhetorical archaism in other senses. Of the senses in Branch IV, some are derived from the Romanic BOURDON², influenced by the Eng. *burden*; others belong to the native word with more or less influence from *bourdon*. The fusion of the two words is so complete that it is not possible to treat Branch IV as an independent sb.]

1. That which is borne.

1. A load.

a. a 1000 *ÆLFRIC Gloss.* in Wr. Wülcker 106 *Sarcina*, *seam uel berþen*. 1124 O. E. *Chron.* (Laud MS.) an. 1135 Wua sua bare his byrþen gold & syluer. c 1205 LAY. 25970 He bar uppen his rugge burdene [1295 borþone] grette. a 1200 *Havelok* 807 Gladlike I wile the paniers bere. They ther be inne a birþene gret. 1288 Wyclif *Numb.* iv. 47 Berþens to be bore [1288 To bere chargis]. 1398 *TREVISIA Barth. De P. R.* viii. xxv, Bereris of heuy burþones. 1566 T. STAPLETON *Ret. Untr. Jewell* i. 4, I trust the burthen will some be disburdened. 1703 MAUNDRELL *Journ. Jerus.* (1732) 45 All Ships, that take in their Burthen here. 1807 *KEBLE Chr. Y.* 4 Oh! by Thine own sad burthen, borne So meekly.

ß. c 1160 *Hatto Goss.* Matt. xxiii. 4 Hyo bindes hefige byrdene þe man abere ne mæx. c 1175 *Lamb. Hom.* 5 Ne ber hit nes nefre nane burdene. a 1300 *Cursor M.* 6830 If þu find of þin ill-willand vnder birdin his best ligand. c 1440 *York Myst.* xxxii. 114 Bring on his bak a burdeyne of golde. c 1470 *HENRY Wallace* xi. 29 A Churll yai had, yat felloune byrdyngs bar. 1505 SHAKS. *John* ii. 1. 92 With burden of our armor heere we sweat. 1733 *Pope Ess. Man* iii. 203 Did here the trees with ruddier burdens bend. 1890 *PRESCOTT Peru* II. 98 A light burden... was laid on his back.

2. *fig.* A load of labour, duty, responsibility, blame, sin, sorrow, etc.

a. c 971 *Blickl. Hom.* 75 Swa sæt þonne seo unarnæfðlice byrþen synna on callum þysum menniscan cyne. c 1000 *Ag. Goss.* Matt. xi. 30 Soðlice min geoc is wynsum, and min byrþyn [v. r. byrden, *Hatto* berþene] is lecht. a 1300 *Cursor M.* 17338 Late us and us be birþen ber. 1594 SHAKS. *Rich. III.* iv. iv. 167 A greuous burthen was thy Birth to me. 1744 *BERKELEY Siris* § 119 Wks. 1871 II. 408 A nervous colic, which rendered my life a burthen. 1748 *SMOLLETT Rod. Rand.* (1812) i. 34 The folly of laying the burthen at my door. 1812 J. WILSON *Isle of Palms* iv. 221 Hath she no friend whose heart may share With her the burthen of despair?

ß. 1303 R. BRUNNE *Handl. Synne* 11959 For heuy byrdoun þat y of hem [sins] bere Y am confounded. c 1374

CHAUCER *Boeth.* 101 The burden of my sorwe. 1661 *Sir H. Vane's Politicks* 13 The burden of an injury. 1885 GLADSTONE (in *Christian World* 15 Jan. 37/2) Sovereignty has been relieved by our modern institutions of some of its burdens.

b. *Burden of proof*, etc.: (*onus probandi* in Roman Law) the obligation to prove a controversial assertion, falling upon the person who makes it.

1593 HOOKER *Eccles. Pol.* iv. iv. § 2 Wks. 1841 I. 360 The burden of proving doth rest on them. 1780 BURKE *Sp. Econ. Ref. Wks.* III. 313 The burden of proof rests upon me, that so many pensions... are necessary for the public service. 1848 MACAULAY *Hist. Eng.* II. 152 The Roman Catholic divines took on themselves the burden of the proof.

c. An obligatory expense, whether due on private account or as a contribution to national funds; often with the additional notion of pressing heavily upon industry and restraining freedom of action.

1661 MARVELL *Corr.* xxi. Wks. 1875-5 II. 55 In the matter of your two companies, if they be of any charge or burthen to you, he is willing to indulge you. 1741 MIDDLETON *Cicero* i. ii. 62 Without any burthen on the Province. 1769 ROBERTSON *Chas. V.* v. iv. 392 The addition of such a load to their former burdens, drove them to despair. 1813 WELLINGTON *Let.* in *Gurw. Disp.* X. 110 The burdens imposed shall be imposed with equality. 1863 FAWCETT *Pol. Econ.* III. vi. 369 The burden of any fixed money payment. 1876 FREEMAN *Norm. Cong.* V. xxiv. 373 The King lays certain feudal burthens on his tenants in chief.

3. A 'load' (whether of man, animal, vehicle, etc.) considered as a measure of quantity. Now only applied to the carrying capacity of a ship, stated as a certain number of tons. Cf. 7.

a. 1388 WYCLIF *2 Kings* v. 17 Graunte thou to me... that y take of the lond the birthun of twei burdones. 1449 PECKOCK *Repr.* II. iv. 155 A man which stale sumtyme a birthun of thornis was sett in to the moone. 1560 in *Etoniana* II. 32 Fyve burthens of rushes to straw Mr. Durstons chamber. 1601 SHAKS. *All's Well* II. iii. 215 A vessell of too great a burthen. 1813 WELLINGTON *Let.* in *Gurw. Disp.* XI. 505 Vessels of from fifteen to thirty tons burthen.

b. 1515 *M.S. Acc. St. John's Hosp., Canturb.*, Payd for ij bordones off thornis for a hows. 1555 EDEN *Decades W. Ind.* (Arb.) 379 A shypp of the burden of seven score tonne. 1630 WADSWORTH *Sp. Pilgr.* iv. 33 This ship was of an 100 Tunne burden. 1871 J. Q. ADAMS in C. DAVIES *Met. Syst.* III. 168 The burden of a ship, as a weight, is ascertained by the depth of the water she draws.

4. That which is borne in the womb; a child. 1489 CAXTON *Sonnes of Aymon* (1885) 131, I see my ryche burden go to exyle. 1594 T. B. LA PRIMAUD *Fr. Acad.* II. 397 The veins whereby the burthen is nourished, may well be likened to small rootes, whereby plants are cherished. 1595 SHAKS. *John* III. i. 90 Let wiues with childe pray that their burthens may not fall this day. 1668 GAULLE *Pract. The.* (1669) 112 Mary's burden and vndeineesse, might well haue excused her absence. 1667 MILTON *P. L.* II. 767 That my womb conceiv'd A growing burden.

† b. *At one burden*: at one birth. *Obs.*

c. 1250 *Gen. & Ex.* 1467 At on burdene 3he under-stod two de weren hire sibbe blod. 1387 TREVISIA *Higden* (Rolls Ser.) III. 43 Sche bare tweie children at oon burpen. 1548 UDALL, etc. *Erasm. Par. Matt.* I. 3 Further Judas had two children at a burden. 1574 BOSSEWELL *Armorie* II. 83 b, Where many children are borne at one burdeyne. 1639 W. WHATELEY *Prototypes* I. iv. (1640) 17 Some are of opinion that Evah at every burden bare twinnies.

† 5. This is borne by the soil; produce, crop. 1523 FITZHERB. *Husb.* § 12 Good groundes wyll haue the burthen of come or of wede. 1669 WORLIDGE *Syst. Agric.* (1681) 11 It furnisheth the Owners thereof with a greater burthen of Corn, Pulse, or whatever is sown thereon.

6. In *Mining* and *Metallurgy*. (See quot.)

1881 RAYMOND *Mining Gloss.*, *Burden* (Cornw.) 1. The tops or heads of stream-work, which lie over the stream of tin. a. The proportion of ore and flux to fuel in the charge of a blast-furnace.

II. 7. The bearing of loads, as in *beast of burden*, *ship of burden* (= merchant-ship).

a. 1300 *Cursor M.* 5520 Halds þam. In birthin, bath to bere and drau. 1697 DRYDEN *Virg. Georg.* III. 557 Which before Tall Ships of Burthen on its Bosom bore. 1740 JOHNSON *Sir F. Drake Wks.* IV. 440 Peruvian sheep, which are the beasts of burthen in that country. 1803 WELLINGTON in *Gurw. Disp.* II. 199 Every animal... of the description of a beast of burthen.

b. 1653 URQUHART *Rabelais* I. l. With nine thousand and thirty eight great ships of burden. 1789 MRS. PROZET *Journ. France* II. 385 Dogs drawing in carts as beasts of burden. 1863 GEO. ELIOT *Romola* II. xxx. (1880) I. 370 To do the work that was most like that of a beast of burden.

III. 8. Used in the Eng. Bible (like *onus* in the Vulgate) to render Heb. *ḥṣṣ* *massā*, which Gesenius would translate 'lifting up (of the voice), utterance, oracle'; the Septuagint has *ῥήμα*, *ἄγγελμα*. But it is generally taken in English to mean a 'burdensome or heavy lot or fate'.

a. 1388 WYCLIF *Zech.* xii. 1 The birthun [i.e. charge] of the word of the Lord on Israel. 1535 COVERDALE *Zech.* xii. The heuy burthen which the Lorde hath deuysed for Israel. b. 1611 BIBLE *Isa.* xiii. 1 The burden of Babylon, which Isaiah the sonne of Amoz did see. 1865 SWINBURNE *Ballad of Burd.* 1 The burden of fair women.

IV. Senses showing confusion with *BOURDON* 2. [The earliest quotation for *BOURDON* 2 shows that word already confused with this. Apparently the notion was that the bass or undersong was 'heavier' than the air. The *bourdon* usually continued when the singer of the air paused at the end of a stanza, and (when vocal) was usually sung to words forming a refrain, being often taken up in chorus; hence sense 10. As the refrain often expresses the pervading sentiment or thought of a poem, this use became coloured by the notion of 'that which is carried' by the poem: its 'gist' or essential contents.]

† 9. The bass, 'undersong', or accompaniment: = *BOURDON* 2. *Obs.*

a. 1593 SHAKS. *Lucr.* 1133 Burthen-wise I'll hum on Tarquin still, While thou on Tereus descendant'st. 1600 — *A. P. L.* III. ii. 261, I would sing my song without a burthen, thou bring'st me out of tune. 1833 I. TAYLOR *Fanat.* II. 46 The burthen of the dull echoes that shake the damps from the roof of his cavern.

b. 1591 SHAKS. *Two Gent.* I. ii. 85 Heany? belike it hath some burden then? *Lw.* I: and melodious were it, would you sing it. c. 1840 LONGF. *Paradise vi.*, Foliage that made monotonous burden to their [birds'] rhymes.

10. The refrain or chorus of a song; a set of words recurring at the end of each verse.

a. 1598 BACON *Sacred Medit.* x. 123 As it were a burthen or verse of returne to all his other discourses. 1610 SHAKS. *Temp.* I. ii. 380 Foote it featly heere and there, and sweete Sprights beare the burthen. *Burthen disperdly*, Harke, harke, bowgh wagh. 1659 HAMMOND *On Ps. cvii. heading* 543 Having a double burthen, or intercalary verse oft recurring. 1774 T. WARTON *Eng. Poetry* I. 26 It has a burthen or chorus. 1838 E. GUEST *Eng. Rhythms* II. 290 Burthen... the return of the same words at the close of each stave.

b. 1777 SIR W. JONES *Poems Pref.* 13 A lively burden at the end of each stanza. 1801 STRUTT *Sports & Past.* IV. iii. 304 At intervals, in place of a burden, they imitated the braying of an ass. 1868 HELPS *Realmah* vii. (1876) 167 Realmah had joined in the burden of the Aina's song.

11. *fig.* The chief theme; leading idea; prevailing sentiment.

1649 BLITHE *Eng. Improv. Impr.* (1653) 121 What is the Burden of my Song, and is the onely sure Cure. 1793 BURKE *Observ. Cond. Minority Wks.* VII. 247 This was the burthen of all his song—'Every thing which we could reasonably hope from war, would be obtained from treaty.' 1847 L. HUNT *Men, Wom. & Bks.* I. xi. 190 The burden or leading idea of every couplet was the same. 1862 STANLEY *Yew. Ch.* (1877) I. xx. 386 Mercy and justice... is the burden of the whole Prophetic Teaching. 1879 FROUDE *Cesar* xi. 126 The burden of what he said was to defend enthusiastically the conservative aristocracy.

V. 12. *attrib. and Comb.*, as in *burden-band*, *-bearer*, *-bearing*, *-board*, *-carrying*, *-ship*.

1855 WHITBY *Gloss.*, **Burdenband*, a hempen hayband. 1880 HOLLYBAND *Treas. Fr. Tong.*, *Crocheleur*... a *burthen bearer. 1833 HT. MARTINEAU *Charm. Sea* iv. 45 The burden-bearers must find their account in... a medium of exchange. 1793 HOLCROFT *Tr. Lavater's Physiol.* xl. 209 Nothing but *burden-bearing patience in the eyes [of the camel and dromedary]. 1768 TUCKER *Lt. Nat.* I. 475 Ale-drinking, *burthen-carrying, fish-selling rhetoricians. 1658 USSHER *Ann.* vi. 424, 50 *burden-ships of their friends shut in by the beaked ships of Eumenes.

Burden, burthen (bɜːɪd'n, -ɪ'n), *v.* Forms: a. 6- burthen. b. 6 burdon, bourdain, 6-burden. [*f. prec. sb.*]

1. *trans.* To lay a (material) burden on; to load.

1570 LEVINS *Manif.* 61 To burden, *onerare*. 1598 SHAKS. *Ver. & Ad.* 419 The colt that's backed and burthened being young. 1681 BARGRAVE *Serm. Selfe-Policy* (1684) a Coffers burthened with the abundance of silver and gold. 1830 LYELL *Geol.* I. 299 Glaciers... burdened with alluvial debris.

b. *fig.* To load, encumber, oppress, lay a burden on, tax (memory, conscience, resources, etc.).

1541 ELYOT *Image Gov.* 153 b, Bourdainyng them with continual labours. 1610 SHAKS. *Temp.* v. i. 199 Let vs not burthen our remembrances, with A heauineesse that's gon. 1637 Sc. *Prayer Bk.*, *Ceremonies*, Which... did burden mens consciences without any cause. 1797 SWIFT *Gulliver* IV. ix. 316 Without burthening their memories. 1832 HT. MARTINEAU *Homes Abr.* II. 34 Without burthening the parish. 1868 E. EDWARDS *Raleigh* I. xxi. 459 Burdened with variety of pursuits and duties.

† 2. To charge (a person) *with* (an accusation); to lay as a charge *upon* (a person). *Obs.* or *arch.*

1559 *Declar. of Doctrine* in *Strype Ann. Ref.* I. i. viii. 114 Elias the prophet was burthened with false doctrine, and to be a disturber of the commonwealth. 1577 HOLINSHED *Chron.* II. 14 Manie writers burthen King William for the procuring of Stigand his deprivation. 1580 NORTH *Plutarch* 721 One of the Tribunes... burthened him [Clodius] that he had prophaned the holy Ceremonies. 1581 J. BELL *Haddon's Answ. Osor.* 276 b, You must... convince all these patcheries to be falsly burthened upon your Church. 1590 SHAKS. *Com. Err.* v. i. 209 This is false he burthens me withall. [1779] JOHNSON *L. P. Wks.* 1816 X. 21 Too studious of truth to have them burthened with a false charge.]

† 3. To burden out: to outweigh. *Obs.* *rare.*

1668 CULPEPPER & COLE *Barthol. Anat.* 375 Whether... they have in them any weight, wherewith to burthen out Opinion.

Hence *Burdening vbl. sb.* and *ppl. a.*

1591 SHAKS. *1 Hen. VI.* II. v. 10 Weake Shoulders, overborne with burthening Griefe. 1641 R. BROOKE *Eng. Epic.* II. v. 82 A Synod hath a commanding and burdening Power.

† **Burdenable**, *a.* *Obs.* [*f. BURDEN sb.* + *-ABLE*]. a. Capable of bearing a burden; b. burdensome, chargeable, causing expense.

1632 W. LITHGOW *Total Disc.* 362 Without Ordinance, munition, and a burdenable ship. 1663 SPALDING *Troub. Chas.* I (1799) I. 291 (JAN.) They were but silly poor naked bodies, burdenable to the country and not fit for soldiers.

Burdened, burthened (bɜːɪd'nd, bɜːɪ'n'd), *ppl. a.* [*f. BURDEN sb.* and *v.* + *-ED*]. † a. Imposed as a burden (*obs.*). b. Heavily loaded, encumbered, oppressed.

1594 SHAKS. *Rich. III.* IV. iv. 111 Thy proud Necke, beares halfe my burthen'd yoke. 1697 DRYDEN *Virg. Past.* IX. 41 May thy Cows their burden'd Bays distend. 1795 POPE *Odyss.* XVII. 413 Constrained to wield... the scythe along the burthened field. 1818 PARL. *Deb.* 1409 The present burdened state of the country.

Burdener (bɜːɪd'nɛɪ). One who burdens.

1552 HULOET, *Burdener, onerator*. 1604 HIERON *Wks.* I. 488 An vnnecessary burdener of mankind.

Burdenless, *a.* [*f. BURDEN sb.* + *-LESS*]. Without a burden.

1858 J. THOMSON *Vand's Story*, &c. (1881) 177 Now thine heart is burdenless.

† **Burdenous, burthenous**, *a.* *Obs.*

Forms: a. 6 burthyn-, burthenouse, 7 bourthenous, 6-7 burthenous. b. 6 bourdenous, -dynous, -daynouse, burdeinous, -deynous(e), 6-7 burdnous, 6- burdenous. [*f. BURDEN sb.* + *-OUS*, after words from Latin; cf. *onerous*.]

1. Constituting a burden, burdensome. a. *lit.* Heavy, ponderous.

1599 MORE *Dial. Heresyes* II. Wks. (1557) 188/2 Aungels... vncharged of all bourdynous fleshe and bones. 1576 FLEMING *tr. Caius' Dogs* in *Arb. Garner* III. 256 A wheel which they [dogs] turn... by the moving of their burthenous bodies. 1616 SURFL. & MARKH. *Countr. Farm* 9 Anie burthenous weight. 1632 BROME *North. Lass* I. vii, When you groan beneath your burdenous charge.

b. *fig.* Onerous, cumbersome; oppressive.

1534 MORE *Comf. agst. Trib.* I. Wks. 1150/2 Job... in... his dispicions with his burdenous comforters. 1597 DRANT *Horace's Epist.* I. xiii, If that my booke be burthenous. 1593 SHAKS. *Rich. II.* II. i. 260 His burthenous taxation. 1657 COKAINE *Obstin. Lady Poems* (1669) 341 The burthenous draught Of misery. 1671 MILTON *Samson* 567 To sit idle on the household hearth, A burdenous drone.

† 2. Burdened, oppressed. *rare.*

1614 R. TAYLOR *Hog hath lost Pearl* IV. in *Dodsley* (1780) VI. 421 My burthenous conscience was so fraught with Sin. 1812 W. TENNANT *Anster F.* VI. xiii, The burdenous and bustling multitude.

Hence **Burdenously** *adv.*

1556 J. HAYWOOD *Spider & Fle* xci. 25 Ye finalli, burdensli, Burden the fle.

Burdensak, variant of *BYRTHYNSAK*.

Burdensome, burthensome (bɜːɪd'n'sʊm, bɜːɪ'n's-), *a.* [*f. BURDEN sb.* + *-SOME*]. Of the nature of a burden; onerous, cumbersome, oppressive, troublesome, wearisome.

1578 Chr. *Prayers in Priv. Prayers* (1851) 459 Considering how burthensome crowns and sceptres are. 1612 BIBLE *Zech.* xii. 3 In that day will I make Ierusalem a burdensome stone. 1715 F. H. T. *Shorthand* p. iv, Not at all burdensome to the memory. 1838 SIR W. HAMILTON *Logic* xxiv. (1866) II. 20 A long definition is... burthensome to the memory. 1863 FAWCETT *Pol. Econ.* I. iv. (1876) 39 The tax becomes burdensome.

b. as quasi-*sb.* Burdensomeness.

1645 MILTON *Tetrach.* (1851) 204 If our Saviour tooke away ought of law, it was the burdensome of it.

Burdensomely, burthen-adv. [*f. prec.* + *-LY* 2]. In a burdensome manner.

1611 COTGR., *Poisamment*, heauily, weightily, burthensomely. a 1873 J. S. MILL (O.) That as few employments as possible may be burthensomely and vexatiously interfered with.

Burdensomeness, burthen- [*f. as prec.* + *-NESS*]. The quality of being burdensome.

1574 WHITGIFT *Def. Answ.* II. Wks. 1851 I. 242 Defending the multitude or burdensomeness of ceremonies. 1607 *Schol. Disc. agst. Antichr.* I. ii. 86. 1665 *Spectator* 14 Jan. 34 The... burdensomeness of the legislation of last year.

† **Burdet, burdit**. *Obs.* [Cf. *F. bordat*, 'petite étoffe d'Egypte'; also *burat* in *Godef.*] Some kind of cotton fabric.

1710 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 4787/4 A blue Burdit Mantua and Petticoat. 1720 *Proclam.*, *ibid.* No. 5880/1 Camblets, Burdets, or other Manufactures of Silk and Cotton. 1783 W. F. MARTYN *Geog. Mag.* I. 43 Carpets, dimities, burdets.

Burdeux, *obs. f. BORDEAUX*.

Burdician, ? for *BAUDEKIN*; cf. also *BURRACAN*.

1498 *Will of Muschampe* (Somerset Ho.) A testoe of Bur-dycan.

† **Burdie**. *Sc.* = *BIRDIE*, little bird.

1790 BURNS *Tam O'Shanter*, The bonie burdies.

Burding, *obs. f. BURDEN*.

Burding, var. of *BOURDING vbl. sb.* *Obs.*

Burdie, var. of *BOURDIS sb.* *Obs.* tilting; *BOURDIS* *v.* to joust.

Burdly, var. of *BURDLY a. Sc.*

Burdnous, var. of *BURDENOUS*.

Burdock (bɜːɪdɒk). *Bot.* [*f. BUR sb.* 1 + *DOCK sb.*]

1. A coarse weedy plant (*Arctium Lappa*, and kindred species) common on waste ground, bearing prickly flower-heads called burs, and large leaves like those of the dock.

1597 GERARD *Herbal* cclxxvi. § 1. 664 The great Burre is called... Great Burre, Burre Docke, or Clot Burre. 1603 TIMME *Quersit.* III. 181 Take... of the seedes... of the burdock. 1794 MARTYN *Rousseau's Bot.* xxvi. 383 The Burdock, whose heads sometimes fasten themselves to your clothes as you pass. 1859 TENNYSON *Holy Grail* 570 A bed-mate of the snail and eel and snake, In grass and burdock. 1860 *All Y. Round* No. 48. 510 The hooks of the burdock cling to the passing animal, and are carried... miles away.

b. Rarely applied to *Xanthium strumarium* (Small Burdock or BURWEED). c. *Prairie Burdock*, of N. America (*Silphium laciniatum*), having leaves like those of the burdock.

2. *attrib.*, as in *burdock-leaf*, *-root*.

1607 TOPSELL *Four-f. Beasts* 281 Take a handful of Sorrel, and lay it in a Bur-dock leaf. 1764 GALE in *Phil. Trans.* LV. 245 note, A pulice of burdock-root pounded.

1875 *BLACK Adv. Phastom* xix. 268 The mighty burdock-leaves... beloved of painters.

† **Burdon**. *Obs.* Also 4 burdown. [a. L. *burdon-em.*] A mule between a horse and she-ass; a hinny. Also *attrib.*

138a *Wyclif 2 Kings* v. 17 Graunte to me... that I take two burdowns [1388 burdonnes] charge fro the lond. 1607 *Torbell Four-f. Beasts* 433 The Burdon is begotten betwixt a Horse, and a shee-ass.

† **Burdoun**. *Obs.* Common early spelling of **BURDON** sb.¹ and 2.

† **Burdoun**. *Obs.* [Cf. OF. *bourdon* 'clou à grosse tête' (Godef.)] A stud on the boards of a book.

c 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 56 Burdon of a boke, *burdo*. 1483 *Cath. Angl.* 48 A Burdon of a buke; *clavillius*.

Burdour (e, var. of **BOURDER**, *Obs.*, jester.

Burdyn, var. of **BOARDEN** a. *Obs.* made of boards.

Burdyn (e, -dyng, *Obs.* forms of **BURDEN**.

† **Bure**. *Obs.* [Fr.: see **BUREL**.] A coarse woollen stuff.

1714 *Fr. Bk. of Rates* 64 Bures Stuff white per Piece.

Bure, *Obs.* Sc. f. bore, pa. t. of **BEAR** v.¹; *Obs.* f. **BIRB**, **BOWER** sb.¹

Bureall, *Obs.* f. **BERYL**.

Bureau (biu'rō, biu'rō; pl. -s, -s (-ōz)). [a. F. *bureau* writing-desk, office, from *bureau* coarse woollen stuff, baize (for covering writing-desks); see **BUREL**. (In sense 2 often treated as Fr. and pronounced biu'rō.) In Great Britain the stress is usually on the final syllable, but Webster gives it only on the first.]

1. 'A chest of drawers with a writing-board' (J.): a writing-desk with drawers for papers, etc. **Bureau-bed** = **BOX-BED**.

1714 *RICHARDSON Pamela* IV. 79 My Diamond Buckle... Miss Nancy will find in the inner Till of my Bureau. 1764 *FOOTE Patron* II. i. 1 I suppose... my memory or mind to be a chest of drawers, a kind of bureau. 1818 *CRUISE Digest* vi. 66 After the testator's death both sheets of paper were found in his bureau. 1875 *MISS BRADDOCK Str. World* II. i. 3 A heavy old bureau, brass handled and brass clamped.

2. An office, esp. for the transaction of public business; a department of public administration.

In this sense the word is chiefly employed when foreign countries are referred to. In the U. S. it occurs in the official titles of certain government offices, whence also in very recent official use in England, as in 'Emigration Bureau', 'Labour Bureau'.

1790 *Lond. Gaz.* 5835/3 The Bank having opened a Bureau for buying and selling Actions. 1799-96 *MORSE Amer. Geog.* II. 463 The department of the treasury... is divided into twelve bureaux. 1813 *SIR R. WILSON Priv. Diary* II. 433 The counsels which have emanated from the Austrian bureaux. 1866 *EMERSON Eng. Traits* Wks. 1874 II. 41 They have made London a shop, a law-court, a record office, and scientific bureau. 1880 *E. KIRKE Garfield* 43 What can a bureau do, with the whole weight of congressional influence pressing for the appointment of men because they are our friends.

Hence **Bureauism**, officialism, 'red-tape-ism'. 1871 *Daily News* 9 Feb., The Ministry... with all its routine of tape, wax, seals, and bureauism.

Bureaucracy (biu'rō'krāsi, -p'krāsi). [a. F. *bureaucratie*, f. *bureau* (see prec.) + Gr. *-κρατία* rule (cf. *aristocracy*).] Government by bureaux; usually officialism. b. Government officials collectively.

1848 *MILL Pol. Econ.* II. 529 The... inexpediency of concentrating in a dominant bureaucracy... all the power of organized action... in the community. 1850 *CARLYLE Latter-d. Pamph.* iv. (1872) 121 The Continental nuisance called 'Bureaucracy'. 1858 *MERC. Mar. Mag.* V. 43 The brigand bureaucracy of China. 1860 *MILL Repr. Govt.* 40/1 The work of government has been in the hands of governors by profession; which is the essence and meaning of bureaucracy.

Bureaucrat (biu'rō'krāt). [a. F. *bureaucrate*, f. as prec.: cf. *aristocrat*.] An official who endeavours to concentrate administrative power in his bureau; a member of a bureaucracy; sometimes = *bureaucratist*.

1850 *KINGSLEY Alt. Locke* xx. (D.) He had... done dirty work for Dublin Castle bureaucrats. *Ibid.* xli. (D.) The tyrants of the earth... the plutocrats and bureaucrats. 1870 *Daily News* 3 Nov., That bureaucrat love of classification which is the curse of France. 1883 *Harper's Mag.* June 107/1 A great centralizer and bureaucrat.

Bureaucratic (biu'rō'krā'tik), a. [Cf. F. *bureaucratique*, and prec.] Of or pertaining to bureaucracy.

So **Bureaucratically** adv., in a bureaucratic manner; **Bureaucratism**, a bureaucratic system; **Bureaucratist**, a supporter or advocate of bureaucrats and bureaucracy.

1836 *Blackw. Mag.* XL. 587 They are given usually through a bureaucratic influence. 1877 *A. B. EDWARDS Up Nile* xv. 401 We find an elaborate bureaucratic system in full operation. 1863 *Sat. Rev.* XV. 265/1 A people... bureaucratically governed, yet jealous of office. 1880 *Athenaeum* 21 Sept. 336/2 Thanks to Russian bureaucratism. 1883 *19th Cent.* Dec. 740 The intelligent but stern central bureaucratism of Germany. 1886 *Foreign Q. Rev.* XVII. 255 As a 'bureaucratist' at home, or as a diplomatist abroad. 1884 *Blackw. Mag.* LXXVI. 134 German bureaucratists... and Muscovite diplomatists.

† **Buredely**, *burethely*, adv. *Obs.* rare. [Of

doubtful etymology and meaning: the form suggests OE. *gebyrdlice* 'as it behoves, duly, conveniently', but it is not easy to connect this sense with first quot.] † At random, heedlessly.

1397 *TREvisa Higden* Rolls Ser. VII. 427 In the whiche cytees Robert wente burethely up and down [*passim vagabatur*]. c 1440 *Gaw. & Goloran* II. 21 (JAM.) Als wounded as he was, Sone buredely he ras.

Buregh, *bureh*, *Obs.* ff. **BOROUGH**.

Burejen, var. of **BERGH** v. *Obs.* to protect.

Bureit, *Obs.* pa. t. and pple. of **BURY** v.

† **Burel**¹. *Obs.* exc. *Hist.* Forms: ? 3, 4-5 borel, 4-7 burel, 5 borella, burell, 6-7 burrell, 8 burail. [a. OF. *burel* (now *bureau*), a kind of cloth, dim. of *bure*, fem. 'coarse (? brown) woollen cloth, bay, baize', of uncertain origin, referred by Diez, Littré, and others to an adj. which appears in OF. as *buire* 'dark brown': late L. **burreus*, **burrius*, f. L. *burrus* red, commonly taken as ad. Gr. *ruppōs* red. Cognate words to F. *bure*, *buire*, are Lomb. *bur*, It. *bujo* dark; to *burel*, Sp. *burriel*, Pr. *burel*, red-brown; also Sp. *burriel*, Pg. Pr. *burel*, coarse woollen cloth. See **BUREAU**.]

A coarse woollen cloth (prob. originally of brown colour: cf. **BAIZE**); frieze; a garment of this fabric; (plain) clothing. c 1300 *K. Alis.* 5475 The kyng... dooth on a borel of a squyer. c 1300 *Pol. Songs* 221 In a curtel of burel. c 1386 *CHAUCER Wife's Procl.* 356 If I be gay sire shrew, I wol renne out, my borel [in 6 MSS., *Peto*, burel] for to shewe. 1483 *CANTON G. de la Tour* E ij. Of the valewe of one of her gawnes... poure people had had... ellys of burel or fryse. 1600 *Queen's Wardr.* in *Nichols Progr. Q. Eliz.* III. 511 Item, towne remnants of blacke burrell, conteyninge both together 12 yardec. 1790 *Stow's Surv.* (ed. Strype 1754) I. iii. v. 579/1 Burels, or Cloth-listed, according to the Constitution made for Breadth of cloth. *Ibid.* II. v. x. 286/2 Cloth ought to have been two Ells wide from List to List which was called Burrells. [1876 *Rock Text. Fabr.* vi. 65.]

b. *attrib.* a 1400 *Eng. Gilds* 351 Non ne shal make burelle werk, but jif he be of þe fraunchyse of the town.

† **Burel**². *Obs.* rare⁻¹. A spoke of a wheel.

c 1345 *Gloss W. de Biblies* in *Wright Voc.* 167 Mes les rays (bureles) de la charette En les moyaus [in the nawes] untreceyte.

Burel (l, var. of **BORREL** a. *Obs.* lay, rude.

Burely, *Obs.* f. **BURLY**.

† **Buret**. *Obs.* [Cf. F. *burat* 'stuff that's halfe silke, and halfe worsted' (Cotgr.); but this may be a dim. of *bure*.] (See quot.)

1714 *Fr. Bk. of Rates* 36 Bures and Burets Stuff, per 100 Weight.

Burette (biure't). Also in 5 buret, buyret. [a. F. *burette* small vase, dim. of *buire* vase for liquors. (In sense 2 of recent adoption.)]

† 1. 'A little cruet, violl, or bottle for oyle, or vinegar' (Cotgr.).

1483 *CANTON Gold. Leg.* 198/1 Beryng a buyret of oyle.

2. A graduated glass tube for measuring small quantities of liquid.

1836 *Penny Cycl.* VI. 25 Burette, an instrument in chemistry, invented by M. Gay-Lussac. *Ibid.* The burette... is a very useful instrument... where the value... of acids, alkalies... etc. has to be quickly and correctly ascertained. 1882 *VINES Sachs' Bot.* 686 A glass tube bent downwards, which... terminates in a burette.

† **Burg** (burg, bū'ig, also bū'ig). [WGer. *burg* (whence late L. *burgus*), an earlier form of the word which has become *borough* in English.]

Occasionally applied by historians to a fortress (BOROUGH 1) or a walled town (BOROUGH 2) of early and mediæval times, so as to exclude the later notions connected with *burgh*, *borough*. See **BOROUGH** 3. Also *comb.* *burg-ward* (see quot.)

1753 *CHAMBERS Cycl. Supp.*, *Burgward*... in middle age writers, the same with bulwark. The name is also extended to the town, and even the country about such a fortress. 1859 *MÉRIVALE Rom. Emp.* (1865) VII. lvi. 104 The fierce warriors of the north, Romans only in name... now fell without remorse on the burgs and colonies. 1864 *KINGSLEY Rom. & Tent.* 219 The monk who guarded the relics of the saint within the walled burg. 1876 *MORRIS Sigurd* III. 172 And there is the burg of Brynhild, the white-walled house and long.

Burg, *Obs.* f. **BOROUGH**; var. of **BROCH**.

Burgade, *Obs.* form of **BOURGADE**.

Burgage (bū'igdz). *Law.* Also 4 *borgage*. [ad. med. L. *burgagium* (OF. *bourgage*), f. *burg-us* (see prec. and **BOROUGH**) + *-agium*.]

1. A tenure whereby lands or tenements in cities and towns were held of the king or other lord, for a certain yearly rent.

In Scotland, that tenure by which the property in royal burghs is held under the crown, proprietors being liable to the (nominal) service of watching and warding; or, as it is commonly termed, 'service of burgh, used and wont'.

1502 *Gr. Charter in Arnold's Chron.* (1811) 210 Yf ani holde of vs bi feefme or bi socage or burgage. 1602 *FULBECK 1st Pt. Parallel* 21 Burgage, is where the tenants of an ancient burrough, do hold lands within the Borough of the King or some other person. 1676 *B. WILLIS Man. Goldsm.* 71 The said Tenements and Rents be held of Us in Free Burgage. 1768 *BLACKSTONE Comm.* II. 82 Tenure in burgage is... where the king or other person is lord of an antient

borough, in which the tenements are held by a rent certain. 1863 *H. Cox Instit.* i. viii. 94 The more ancient (boroughs) hold their lands in burgage.

b. *ellipt.* = in burgage.

1868 *Act* 31 & 32 *Vict.* ci. § 102 (Referring to Scotland) Seised in any lands held burgage.

† 2. A freehold property in a borough; also, a house or other property held by burgage tenure.

[1292 *BRITTON* III. ii. § 10 Bourgage est tenement de cité ou de bourg, ou de autre lu privilege par nous.] 1362 *LANGL. P. Pl.* A. III. 77 Pei timbrede not so hye, Ne bouyste none Borgages. 1538 *LELAND Itin.* IV. 117 A. B. of Lichfield gave... certain Free Burgages in the Towne for to sett this House on. 1609 *SKENE Reg. Maj.* 121 Gif ane bond man of ane Earle... comes to ane burgh, and buyes to himselfe, ane burgage, and dwelles in that burgage ane zeare. 1827 *HALLAM Const. Hist.* (1876) III. xiii. 40 The right [to the elective franchise] sprang from the tenure of certain freehold lands or burgages within the borough.

3. *Attrib.* and *Comb.*, as *burgage-holder*, *-holding*, *-house*, *-land*, *-tenant*, *-tenement*, *-tenure*.

1834 *Blackw. Mag.* XXXV. 975 A check to the abuses of the 'burgage aristocracy. 1795 *Lond. Mag.* 32 The two Representatives [of Aldborough, Suffolk] are chosen by the Majority of the 'Burgage-holders. 1794 *ESKINE Princ. Sc. Law* (1809) 151 'Burgage-holding is that by which boroughs-royal hold of the sovereign. 1710 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 4700/4 Two 'Burgage Houses or Tenements. 1586 *FERNÉ Blas. Gentrie* 107 If he were possessed... of 'burgage lands. 1819 *MACKINTOSH Parl. Suffrage* Wks. 1846 III. 213 In the reign of Edward the First... the members... for cities and towns [were chosen] by freemen, 'burgage tenants, householders or freeholders. 1876 *DIGBY Real Prop.* i. ii. § 3. 48 An important class of socage tenants... who held lands of lords by this tenure in towns... had obtained the distinctive name of burgage tenants. 1886 *SCOTT F. M. Perth* III. 321, I will change... thy 'burgage tenement for an hundred-pound-land to maintain thy rank withal. 1523 *FITZHERB. Surv.* 12 Dyuers tenures... as... escuage, socage... 'burgage tenures. 1810 in *Ridson's Surv. Devon* 402 The borough... is held... in burgage tenure.

† **Burgaine**. *Obs.* rare⁻¹ = **BARGAIN** sb.²

1608 *NORDEN Surv. Dial.* 208 The fruit... haue made in some little Farmes (or as they call them in those parts [S. & W.] Burgaines, a tunne, two, three, foure, of Syder.

Burgal, *Obs.* f. **BURGHAL**.

Burgall (bū'igz). [Cf. **BERGLE**.] (See quot.) 1860 *BARTLETT Dict. Amer.*, *Burgall* (*Clenolabrus ceruleus*), a small fish very common in New York... The usual length is about six inches... Other names... are Nibbler, from its nibbling off the bait when thrown for other fishes, Blue Perch and Conner.

Burgamot, *Obs.* form of **BERGAMOT**.

Burganet, var. of **BURGOINET**.

Burgar, **Burgas**, *Obs.* ff. **BURGER**, **BURGESS**.

Burgard, *Obs.* form of **BOURGADE**.

|| **Burgau** (bū'igz). [Fr.] 'The name of several univalve nautilus shells' (Littré).

1753 *CHAMBERS Cycl. Supp.*, *Burgau* in natural history, the name of a large species of sea snail, of the lunar or round-mouthed kind; it is very beautifully lined with a coat, of the nature of the mother of pearl, and the artificers take this out, to use under the name of mother of pearl, though some call it after the name of the shell they take it from, burgaudine. 1865 *Morning Star* May 20, Cormorants, with wings of mother of pearl and burgau.

|| **Burgaudine**. [Fr.; 'the Academy has burgaudine'; the other Dicts. *burgaudine*'] (Littré.) Mother-of-pearl made from the burgau shell.

1753 (see **BURGAU**).

† **Burge**, v. *Obs.* Shortened form of **BURGEON** v. Hence *Burging* vbl. sb. and ppl. a.

1397 *TREvisa Higden* Rolls Ser. V. 263 Germania cometh of Germanie, bat is for to burge and bringe forp. 1398 — *Barth. De P. R.* xvii. lxxv, Burgynge bat erste brekeþ oute of be rote of an herbe... is calde 'Germen'. 1483 *CANTON Gold. Leg.* 40/1 A braunche of an olyue tree burgynge. 1523 *FITZHERB. Husb.* § 135 It burgys out of many braunches.

Burgeon (t, -gen, -gyon, *Obs.* ff. **BURGEON** sb.

Burgee (bū'dʒi). Also *burgis*. [Etymology unknown: senses 1 and 2 may be unconnected.]

1. A small tapered flag or pennant, three-cornered (or swallow-tailed), used by cutters, yachts, etc., generally as a distinguishing flag.

1848 *Blackw. Mag.* LXIII. 87 She allowed her burgee to droop listlessly, flapping it against her mast. 1862 *Lond. Rev.* 16 Aug. 139 The Commodore 'makes' eight o'clock, and up go all the ensigns and burgees. 1884 *G. C. DAVIES Norfolk Broads* xxxix. 294 A pretty burgee was selected as a distinguishing flag.

2. A kind of small coal suitable for burning in the furnaces of engines.

1867 *SIMMONDS Commercial Dict.*, *Burgie* [also in sense 1].

Burgeis, -emott, *Obs.* ff. **BURGESS**, **BERGAMOT**.

Burgenet, *Obs.* form of **BURGOINET**.

Burgeois, -se, -sie, *Obs.* forms of **BOURGOIS**, **BURGESS**, and **BURGESSY**.

Burgeon (bū'dʒɔn), sb. Forms: 3 burjon, 4 bor-, burion, -ion, -ioyn, -gean, borgun, 4-7 burgen, 5 bergyn, burgyon, 6 burgeant, -gine, burryon, 7-9 burgeoun, 4- burgeon. [ME. *borioun*, *burion*, -jon, a. OFr. *bor-*, *burjon*, mod. Fr. *bourgeois*, of uncertain etymology. (Diez suggests its derivation from OHG. *burjan* to raise, to hold up.) The sb. and its derived vb. seem to have died out in ordinary and even in poetic use before the 18th c., but to have survived as technical terms in gardening. In the 19th c. they

have been revived in poetry; the use of the sb. in *Zool.* corresponds to that of mod. *F. bourgeon*.]

1. A swelling bud, a young shoot of a plant. Now only *poet.* b. *Zool.* A 'bud' or reproductive germ of a zoophyte.

a 1300 *Cursor M.* 10735 Quilk o þaim þat bar burjon [Gott. burion] Suld þus þat mai. 1375 BARBOUR Bruce v. 10 The treis begouth to ma Burgeonya. c 1430 *LYDG. Min. Poems* (1840) 56 To se burgyons on a dede drye stok. 1577 B. GOOGE *Hereshack's Husb.* (1586) 81 The sette must be. full of knottes and jointes, and many little burgeons. 1601 *HOLLAND Pliny I.* 476 The Vine in her eies and burgeons. 1753 *CHAMBERS Cycl. Suppl.* *Burgeon*, in gardening, a knot or button put forth by the branch of a tree in the spring. 1836 *TODD Cycl. Anat. & Phys. I.* 129/2 The parent. . . throws out burgeons or buds from its surface. 1876 *SWINBURNE Erechth.* 1170 Bounteous with. . . burgeon of birth.

2. *fig.*
a 1340 *HAMPOLE Psalter* 513 My lare. . . make to be grene in þou the burioyns of vertus. 1577 *HARRISON England* iii. xiv. (1878) ii. 91 Nascad original burgeant of the kings of Essex. 1655-60 *STANLEY Hist. Chaldaick Philos.* (1701) 11/2 The burgeons even of ill matter are beneficial and good.

† 3. *transf.* A slight swelling or pimple. *Obs.*
1597 *LOWE Chirurg.* (1634) 83 Furuncle is a tumor procreant of the like humor, as the burgeons of the face.

Burgeon (būrdʒən), *v.* Forms: 4 *borgoune*, *burionne*, *-wne*, 4-5 *burryon*; 4-6 *burgone*, *-own*, *-oyne*, *-yn* (e, 5 *burryn*, 6 *borneon*, 4-7 *burgen* (e, 5-7 *burgein* (e also *poet.* in 9), *-in* (e, *-inne*, *-ion* (e, *borneon* (e, 7-9 *bourgeon*, 4-*burgeon*. [*f. prec. sb.* Cf. *F. bourgeonner*.]

1. *intr.* To bud or sprout; to begin to grow.
c 1325 *E. E. Allit. P. B.* 1042 Þay borgounez & beres blomex ful fayre. 1380 *WYCLIF Numb.* xvii. 8 The 3erde of Aaron. . . hadde burionwed. 1483 *CAXTON Gold. Leg.* 391/3 To burgeine and brynge forth fruyte more plenteously. 1584 *PEELE Arraignment. Paris* i. iii. (1829) 10 The watery flowers burgen all in ranks. 1650 *Br. Hall Balm Gil.* 79 When the Sun returns. . . it burgeons out afresh. 1721 *BAILEY, Burgeon*, to grow big about or gross, to bud forth. 1775 *ASH, Burgein*, *Burgeon* (*v. intr.* obsolete). 1810 *SCOTT Lady of L.* ii. xix. Earth lend it sap anew, Gaily to bourgeon, and broadly to grow. 1814 *CARY Dante* (Chandos) 209 Our plants then burgein. 1850 *TENNYSON In Mem.* cxv. 2.

b. *transf.* Of the limbs or appendages of animals. Formerly also of animals and diseases.

1380 *WYCLIF Lev.* xiii. 29 Man or womman, in whos heed or beerde borionuneth a lepre. 1536 *BELLENDEN Cron. Scot.* (1821) ii. 326 Thir eddaris. . . burgeon with mair plenteous nower than evir was sene. 1565 *ADLINGTON Apuleius* 31, I perceived a plume feathers did burgeon out. 1774 *GOLD-SMITH Nat. Hist.* (1862) ii. l. ii. 380 Two small feet are seen beginning to bourgeon near the tail. 1807 *SCOTT Napoleon* (1835) ii. 390 A hydra whose heads bourgeoned. . . as fast as they were cut off.

c. *fig.* To bud, burst forth; to grow, flourish.
1380 *WYCLIF Prov.* xiv. 11 The tabernacles of ristwis men shal burionne. 1531 *ELVOR Gov.* l. xiii. (1883) i. 132 Learning. . . sown in a childe. . . springeth and burgeoneth. 1641 *MILTON Animado.* (1851) 195 The Prelatism of Episcopacy. . . began then to burgeon. 1848 *KINGSLEY Saint's Trac.* iii. l. 33 Beneath whose fragrant dews all tender thoughts Might bud and burgeon.

2. *trans.* To shoot out, put forth as buds. Also with *out, forth*. Also *transf.* and *fig.*

1380 *WYCLIF Gen.* iii. 18 It shal burion to thee thornes and bremles. c 1400 *Beryn* 692 The busshis buryn out blossomis, & flouris. 1596 *LODGE Marg. Amer.* 22 Love. . . had newe burgend his wings. c 1800 *SURTEES in Taylor Life* (1854) 288 This goodly graft. . . bourgeon'd forth its flowers and leaf.

Burgeoned (būrdʒənd), *pp. a.* [*f. BURGEON sb. + -ED*.] Furnished or covered with buds.

Burgeoning (būrdʒəniŋ), *vbl. sb.* [*f. BURGEON v. + -ING*.]

1. The action of budding or sprouting; also *fig.*
c 1400 *Primer* in Maskell *Mon. Rit.* ii. 24 Thou zeldist with hooly burionnyng. 1616 *MARKHAM Countr. Farm* iii. xlv. 401 It keepeth the tree from growing and rising, which is the same that we call bourgeoning. 1878 *B. TAYLOR Deukalion* ii. v. 91 April bourgeoning of sunny locks.

† 2. *concr.* A bud, a growing shoot, a branch; also *transf.* offspring. *Obs.*

a 1340 *HAMPOLE Psalter* 513 As rayne on herbe, and as droppis on burionnyngis. 1380 *WYCLIF Matt.* xxiii. 33 3ee. . . fruytis, or burionnyngus, of eddris. 1618 *Sheph. Kal.* (1656) xlvii. Thou ugly beast, Which of the Wines the burgenings doth eat.

Burgeoning, *pp. a.* [*f. BURGEON v. + -ING*.] That buds or sprouts.

1380 *WYCLIF Wisd.* xix. 7 A burionnende feeld. 1625 *Haywood Hierarch.* iii. 150 It is still greene and burgeoning. 1886 *Standard* 17 May, Sitting on bench and chair under the burgeoning trees.

Burgermeister, *-meister* = **BURGOMASTER**.

Burger, *-ship*: see **BURGER**, *-SHIP*.

† **Burgery**, *Obs. rare.* = **BURGAGE** or **BURGHAL**.

1820 *T. ALLEN Hist. Yorksh.* iii. 8 The sum fixed. . . continued to be paid. . . under the designation of burgery rents.

Burges, **Burgesship**: see **BURGES**, **BURGESS-SHIP**.

Burgessie, *-eosis*, *obs. ff. BURGESSY*.

Burgess (būrdʒəs), *sb.* Forms: 3-5 *burgeis*, *-eys*, *borgeis*, *-eys*, *-es*, 3-7 *burgies*, (4 *burgas* (e, *buries*, *-eys*, *! boryels*), 4-5 *bourgeis*, *-eys*, (*burias*, *-jase*, *-lays*, 5 *burgens*, *bergeys*), 5-6 *burgois* (e, 5- *burgess*. In *ME.* the pl.

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was generally the same as the sing., as still in *F. bourgeois*. [*ME. burgeis*, a. *OF. burgeis*: -late *L. burgensis*: see **BOURGEOIS.]**

1. An inhabitant of a borough; strictly, one possessing full municipal rights; a citizen, free-man of a borough.

a 1225 *Ancr. R.* 168 Hit is beggares rihte uorte beren bagge on bac: & burgeises for to beren purses. 1297 *R. Glouc.* 540 The burgeis anon The gates made agen him. c 1340 *Ayend.* 162 Ane yongne boryeis and ane newene knist. . . Þe burgeys wyneþ to chapfari. c 1380 *Sir Ferumb.* 444 At Perigot ich was y-bore: a burgeys dude me gete. c 1400 *Sir Amadace* xxv. Mony a riche burias. c 1532 *Ld. BERNERS Huon* 560 He logyd in a notable burgeisse howse. 1571 *Jrnl. Ho. Commons* i. 84 The Bill for the Validity of Burgessess non resiant. 1651 *BAXTER Inf. Bapt.* 243 Every Burgess at age. . . hath power to trade, and bear office, in the City. 1797 *SWIFT Poison. E. Curll Wks.* 1755 III. i. 150 All persons of honour, lords spiritual and temporal, gentry, burgesses and commonalty. 1862 *Municip. Corp. Act* 45-6 *Pict. l.* § 7 In this Act Burgess includes Citizen. 1876 *GRANT Burgh Sch. Scot.* ii. ix. 288 In every burgh of Scotland, schools have been founded for instructing the children of Burgessess.

b. *spec.* One elected to represent his fellow-citizens in parliament; the member of parliament for a borough, corporate town, or university. Now only technical and *Hist.* The same term was used in some of the American colonies (as Virginia) to denote the representatives sent by the towns to the legislative body, which was called the 'House of Burgessess'.

1472 *J. PASTON in Lett.* 701 III. 55 There be a doseyn townys in Ingland that chesse no bergeys, whyche ought to do. 1554 *Jrnl. Ho. Commons* i. 29 Examine the case of Mr. Foster, Burgess elect. 1648 *Art. Peace* xvii. in *Milton's Wks.* (1851) II. The said Citizens. . . shall be enabled. . . to choose and return Burgessess into the same Parliament. 1697 *BLAIR in Perry Hist. Coll. Amer. Col. Ch.* i. 18 In Elections of Burgessess for the General Assembly, or in the choosing a speaker for the House of Burgessess. 1702 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 3840/1 One of the Burgessess for the University. 1863 *H. Cox Instit.* i. iii. 13 Writs addressed. . . to cities and boroughs for sending burgesses.

† 2. *spec.* A magistrate or member of the governing body of a town. Used as an official title (with varying signification) in certain English boroughs before the Municipal Reform Act of 1835.

a 1300 *Cursor M.* 16060 Pilat satt, and him a-butte þe burges [v. r. burgeises] o þe tun. 1423 *CAXTON Gold. Leg.* 113/1 The burgesses that were in their gownes and mantel. . . called their seruantes. 1591 *LAMBARDE Arch.* (1635) 38 Sheriffs, Coroners, Hundreders, Burgessess, Serjeants, and Beadles, have their Courts within every their particular limits. 1613 *R. C. Table Alph.* (ed. 3) *Burgesse*, a head man of a towne. 1766 *ENTICK London* IV. 401 There are also 16 burgesses and their assistants, whose office. . . resembles that of an alderman's deputy in London. 1796 *MORSE Amer. Geog.* II. 205 Belfast. . . is governed by a Sovereign and 12 Burgessess. 1855 *MACAULAY Hist. Eng.* xvi. III. 616 He was welcomed at the North Gate [of Belfast, in 1690] by the magistrates and burgesses in their robes of office.

† 3. *transf.* and *fig.* Said of a man or animal: Freeman, free denizen (*of*). *Obs.*

1580 *SIDNEY Arcadia* (1622) 368 No other companions then the wild burgesses of the Forrest. 1616 *BEAUM. & FL. Cust. Country* (L.) Twenty years have I lived A Burgess of the sea. c 1630 in *Risdon Surv. Devon* § 308 (1810) 315 The deer securely stood, And walk'd a Burgess of the wood.

4. *a. attrib.*

1836 *Penny Cycl.* V. 207/2 An alphabetical list, to be called 'The Burgess List'. *Ibid.* 197/2 The watchword of the burgess population. 1881 *MACGREGOR Hist. Glasgow* xi. 97 The burgess class was subdivided into merchants and craftsmen.

b. *Comb.*, as † *burgess-man*, *-wife*; also *burgess-roll*, the register or official list of burgesses in a borough; † *burgess-ticket*, a certificate of burgess-ship; † *burgess-town* (see *quot.*).

1540 *SIR W. EURE in Hone Every-day Bk.* II. 15 A king, a bushop, a *burgess man, armed in harness. 1836 *Penny Cycl.* V. 208/1 To cause the *burgess-roll to be made out in alphabetical lists of the burgesses. 1857 *COLVIL Whig's Supplic.* (1751) 56 Beside her loss of *burgess ticket. 1682 *WHEELER Journ. Greece* vi. 448 [It] was reckoned one of the. . . Burgess-Towns of the Athenians. 1483 *CAXTON Cato Bvij.* A good *bourgeys wyf and wel beloved of her husband. c 1550 *Scot. Poems* 16th C. II. 192 With burgess wives they led their lives.

Burgess, *v. Sc.* [*f. prec.*] To make a burgess, to admit to the freedom of a borough or burgh. Also ludicrously applied to rough practices symbolizing this. (See *Jamieson*.)

Burgessdom (būrdʒəsdom), [*f. BURGESS sb. + -DOM*.] The body of burgesses; burgess-ship.

1668 in *Smyth Rom. Family Coins* (1856) 288 Robert Paulin having come to be sworn off the burgessdom. 1885 *J. BROWN Bunyan* 329 Fifty-three persons were at one stroke admitted to the burgessdom of the town.

† **Burgessing**, *pp. a. Obs. rare.* [*f. as prec. + -ING*.] That lives as a burgess; indwelling.

1663 *SIR G. MACKENZIE Reliq. Stoic* xiv. (1685) 133 [Influence] no more sure than the Case hath upon the Watch, or the Heavens upon its burgessing Angels.

Burgess-ship (būrdʒəsʃip), [*see -SHIP*.]

1. The status and privileges of a burgess; the 'freedom' of a borough, citizenship.

1467 *Eng. Gilds* 390 That no prentice have his freedom of Burgessshippe. 1880 *NORTH Plutarch* 971 To some [of the

Towns] he gave the right of Burgessship of Rome. 1662 *PEPYS Diary* 30 Apr., The Mayor and burgesses did desire my acceptance of a burgess-ship. 1752 *CART Hist. Eng.* III. 333 A right of burgessship in that place. 1873 *MORLEY Rousseau* I. 9 The position of burgess-ship.

b. *fig.* a rendering of *πολιτευμα* in *Phil.* iii. 20.

1622 *R. CARPENTER Soules Sent.* 91 Your Burgesship is in heaven. 1656 *TRAPP Comm. Phil.* iii. 20 Our civil conversation, or our burgess-ship, while we live by heaven's laws.

† 2. ? The position of 'burgess' or member of parliament for a borough. *Obs.*

1673 *VILLIERS* (Dk. Buckhm.) *Wks.* (1705) II. 71 In the Election of his Lordship to the same Burgessship before. 1695 in *Sir J. PICTON L'pool Munic. Rec.* (1883) I. 261 A vacancy was then here in the said Burgessship.

† **Burgessy**, *Obs.* Forms: 4 *borgesaye*, 6-7 *burgessie*, *-eosis*, *-eosis*, *-eosis*, 7 *burgessy*, 8 *burgessie*. [*a. OF. burgeis* (mod. *F. bourgeois*), *f. burgeis* *BOURGEOIS*, *BURGESS*] = *prec.* 1340 *Ayend.* 161 Mannes lyf ine þe erpe is ase borgesaye. 1566 *T. B. La Primaud. Fr. Acad.* (1589) 544 Police. . . sometime signifeth a Burgessie. . . the participation and enjoying of the rights and privileges of a towne. 1596 *E. DACKES tr. Machiavel's Disc. Lroy* II. xliii. 381 They. . . honour them [the Privernates] with all the privileges of their Burgessie. 1700 *SOUTHERNE Fate Capua* i. 1, The citizens of Rome and Capua Enjoying common rights of burgessie.

Burgeys, *obs. form of BURGESS*.

† **Burgeyse**, *Obs.* Also 5 *burias*, *burioyse*, *burgoyse*, *-oisse*. [*a. OF. burgeis*, fem. of *burgeis*: see **BURGESS**.] The wife of a burgess; a female citizen.

c 1450 *Knt. de la Tour* (1868) 12 A worthi burgoyze, a good woman. *Ibid.* 138 A burioyse, a riche woman. 1483 *CAXTON Cato Civ.* The husband of the sayd burgyse.

Burgh (būrg), *Sc.* Forms: 4 *buruh*, 5 *bwroh*, 6 *bruch*, *brughe*, *brought*, *buoht*, 7 *bourgh*, *burrow*, *brought*, 8-9 *brugh*, 6- *burgh*. [*Var. of BOROUGH*; *obs.* in ordinary Eng. use since 17th c., but continued in Scotland, and now always used instead of *borough* when a Scotch town is referred to. The form *brugh* is found in Burns and other writers of rustic dialect.]

1. Originally = **BOROUGH**; now restricted to denote a town in Scotland possessing a charter. (The earlier English instances will be found under **BOROUGH**; the examples given here are all Scottish.)

There are three classes of burghs, viz. *Royal burghs*, the charter of which is derived from the king, *Burgh of regality* and *Burgh of barony*, having their charters respectively from a lord of regality and from a baron. Originally only the royal burghs sent representatives to Parliament.

1375 *BARBOUR Bruce* iv. 213 In burch I wist weil I suld de. c 1425 *WYNTOUN Cron.* vi. xl. 31 Þe Burgh of Jerusalem. c 1505 *DUNBAR Flying* 201 Thow held the burcht lang with ane borrowit gown. 1566 *KNOX Hist. Ref. Wks.* 1846 I. 99 The Commissionaris of browghtis. 1597 *Acts James VI* (1814) 148 (JAM.) To erect ane vniuersitie within the said brughe. 1609 *SKENE Reg. Maj.* 119 The Lawes and Constitutions of Bvrghs. a 1670 *SPALDING Troub. Chas. I* (1829) 74 The body of puritan ministers of the burrows of Scotland. 1732-69 *De Fox, etc. Tour Gt. Brit.* IV. 45 There are three Sorts of Burghs; viz. Burghs Royal, Burghs of Regality, and Burghs of Barony. 1785 *BURNS Author's Earnest Cry and Pr.* i. Ye Knights an' Squires, Wha represent our burghs an' shires. 1808 *SCOTT F. M. Perth* I. 60 The right of hunting and sporting over the lands of the burgh. 1846 *McCULLOCH Acc. Brit. Empire* (1854) II. 371 In burghs, there is often a separate school for classics.

b. *Burgh and land*: town and country. *Sc.*

1513-75 *Diurnal of Occurr.* (1833) 81 Charging all our souteranes liegis alsweill to burgh as to land, regalitie as to royalitie, to address thame to come to Edinburgh. 1540 *LYNDESAV Satyre* 1795 Baith in bruch and land. 1634-46 *Row Hist. Kirk* (1842) 74 [The] whole body of this Realme both in brught and land. 1818 *SCOTT Hrt. Midl.* xxix. I glance like the wildfire through brugh and through land. 1827 *-Surg. Dax.* i. Within burgh, and not landward.

2. Used for *borough*: a. by Scotch writers in speaking of foreign towns; b. as an archaism, either *poet.* or *Hist.* (see **BOROUGH** 6 a, **BURGO**).

1798 *CANNING New Moral.* 434 in *Anti-Jacobin* 9 July (1852) 219 Till each fair burgh, numerically free Shall choose its members by the *Rule of Three*. 1816 *J. Scott Vis. Paris* (ed. 5) 274 The wars of the Normans. . . made the inhabitants [of Paris] feel the necessity of an enclosure to preserve their burghs from the invasion. 1828 *CARLYLE For. Rev. & Cont. Misc.* II. 118 The mere earthly burgh of Stratford-on-Avon.

3. *attrib.* and *comb.*, as *burgh-moor*, *-school*; † *burgh-lands*, † *burgh-roods*, lands in a burgh or held by burgage tenure.

c 1505 *DUNBAR Tua Mariit Wem.* 338 And gottin his biggingis to my bame, & hie *burrow lands. 1513-75 *Diurnal of Occurr.* (1833) 296 Mr. Archibald Grahmes hous. in the *burrowmure. c 1570 *Leg. Bp. St. Andrews* in *Scot. Poems* 16th C. II. 317 Save tua pure aikers of *borrow ruddis. 1864 *A. McKAY Hist. Kilmarnock* 137 Such was the origin of the *burgh-school. 1876 *GRANT (title)* History of the Burgh Schools in Scotland.

Burgh, *obs. form of BARROW sb.*, **BOROUGH**, **BURB sb.**; var. of **BROCH**.

Burghal (būrgāl), *a.* Also *burgal*. [*f. BURGH + -AL*.] Of or pertaining to a burgh, borough, or municipal corporation; † *burghal division*, a portion (of land) of size suitable for a burgage tenement; cf. **BOROUGH** 4.

1591 *Charter of Jas. VI.* in *A. McKAY Hist. Kilmarnock* (1864) 300 To assign his lands. . . in whole or in part, into burghal divisions, for buildings or houses to be erected on

the same. 1839 W. CHAMBERS *Tour Holland* 331 These times of Amsterdam's burgal glory. 1847 *National Cycl.* 691 The burgal warrant is a burgal or civic proceeding directed against foreign debtors. 1864 BURTON *Scot. Abr.* II. 282 That old burgal community... the Hanse Towns.

† **Burghal-penny.** Obs. *English Law.* Forms: 2 boreghal-, borghalpani, 4 burghal-penni, 5 borthalpeni. (Spurious forms only *Hist.* and in Dicts.: 7 brodehalpeny, -halfpeny, broodhalpeny, -halfpeny, broadhalfpeny, -halfpeny, 8-9 bordhalfpeny.) [Of uncertain form and meaning; perh. f. *burghal*, or some other deriv. of BOROUGH, + PENNY.]

A municipal tax of some kind; in ancient charters certain monasteries are exempted from paying it.

Cowell's guess (quot. 1607) adopted by later writers, appears to be founded on an erroneous derivation. Apparently the word became obs. early in 15th c.; perhaps even long before that time, as the examples in the later charters may be merely repetitions of a conventional formula.

c. 1177 *Charter Hen. II* (Waltham Abbey) in Dugdale *Monasticon* II. 14 Warda & Wardpani & Boreghalpani. c. 1190 *Charter Rich. I* (Waltham Abbey) *ibid.* II. 16 Wardpani & borghalpani. 1355 *Charter Edw. III* (Pulton Priory) *ibid.* II. 827 Wardepenny & Burghalpeny. 1424 *Charter Hen. V* (Shene Priory) *ibid.* I. 976 Averpeny, Hundredpeny, & Borthalpeny [error for Borghalpeny].

[1607] COWELL *Interpret.* Brodehalpeny commeth of the three Saxon words (*broet* a board) and (*halve*) that is, for this or that cause... and (*penning*) it signifieth a tolle or custom for setting up of tables or boards in a Faire or Market. 1642 *Termes de la Ley* 42 Broodhalpeny, in some Copies Broodhalpeny, that is, to be quit of a certain custome, exacted for setting up of Tables or Boards in Faires... At this day the freedome it self... is called by the name of Broadhalfpeny. 1656 BLOUNT *Glossogr.* Brodehalpeny. 1664 SPELMAN *Gloss.* Bordhalpeny. 1690 BLOUNT *Law Dict.* Bord-halfpeny. 1706 PHILLIPS, *Bord-halfpeny*: so in BAILEY, and mod. Dicts.]

† **Burghen**, -zen, -hen, v. Obs. [app. in form a var. of BERGH v. (cf. *burgien* there quoted), but perhaps influenced in sense by BORROW v.] *trans.* To protect, save.

c. 1205 LAY. 8713 Cassibellaune wurhte ful swiðe to burzen his liue. a. 1225 *Juliana* 26 3et tu mahit 3ef þu wult burhen þe seoluen.

Burgh-english, obs. f. BOROUGH-ENGLISH.

Burgher (būrgʰər), sb. Also 6-7 burger, -ar, -or. [In 16th c. *burger*, a. early mod.G. or Du. *burger* citizen of a *burg* or fortified town; afterwards assimilated to Eng. *burgh*, BOROUGH.]

1. An inhabitant of a burgh, borough, or corporate town; a citizen. Chiefly used of continental towns, but also of English boroughs, in a sense less technical than *burgess*. Now somewhat archaic.

1568 [see BURGHESHIP]. 1590 MARLOWE *2nd Pt. Tamburl.* v. i. 160 Go now, and bind the burghers, hand and foot. 1600 SHAKS. *Merch. V.* l. i. to Your Argosies... Like Signiors and rich Burgers on the flood. 1660 R. COKE *Power & Subj.* 186 A Burger who hath... half a mark, let him pay a Peter-peny. 1668 in R. HOLMES *Bk. of Entries of Pontefract Corp.* 233 The most able and sufficient Burgesse or Burger inhabiting and residing in the said town. 1727 DŔ FŔ *Eng. Tradem.* xxvi. (1841) I. 265 The burgher's wives of Horsham, go as fine as they do in other places. 1824 W. IRVING *T. Trav.* I. 56 A rich burgher of Antwerp... in a broad Flemish hat. a. 1842 MACAULAY *Armada* 74 And the red glare on Skiddaw roused the burghers of Carlisle. 1867 FREEMAN *Norm. Cong.* (1876) I. v. 288 The valiant burghers had already learned to grapple with the Dane.

fig. 1619 DRAYTON *Man Moon* (R.) As those great burghers of the forest wild, The hart, the goat.

b. attrib. and comb. 1818 SCOTT *Hrt. Midl.* xviii. 'I do not understand,' answered the burgher-magistrate, 'that the young man Butler's zeal is of so inflammable a character.' 1837 CARLYLE *Fr. Rev.* II. i. viii. 56 Mark that queenlike burgher-woman. 1841 SPALDING *Italy & It. Isl.* II. 170 Contests, in which one club of burgher-oligarchs successively displaced another. 1845 MORLEY *Dutch Rep.* (1861) I. 38 The burgher class controlled the government. 1873 DIXON *Two Queens* III. xiii. iv. 20 Springing from a burgher stock. 1878 SIMPSON *Sch. Shaks.* I. 154 To show the inferiority of a burgher militia to professional soldiers in war.

2. A member of that section of the Scottish Secession Church, which upheld the lawfulness of the burgess oath: also attrib. See ANTI-BURGHES.

1766 J. BROWN *Hist. Seceders* 67 The Anti-burghers... persecuted their Burgher brethren with deposition and excommunication. 1773 J. SMITH *Hist. Sh. Relief* Ch. 41 The Burgher clergy maintained that it [the Synod] remained in their society, while the Anti-burghers endeavoured to prove that they carried it away with them to Mr. Gibb's manse. 1861 RAMSAY *Remin.* (ed. 18) 18 John Brown, Burgher minister at Whitburn. 1881 MASSON *Carlyle in Macm.* Mag. XLV. 74 That Nonconforming communion, called the Burgher Seceders.

3. In Ceylon; see quot.

1807 CORDNER *Ceylon* (Y.) Admitted by the Dutch to all the privileges of citizens under the denomination of Burgers. 1836 PENNY *Cycl.* VI. 457/1 The descendants of Europeans of unmixed blood, and that race which has sprung from the intercourse of Europeans with the natives, are called Burgers.

Hence **Burgherage**, **Burgherdom**, **Burgherhood**, the body of burghers or citizens collectively.

1836 CARLYLE *Fredk. Gl.* I. iii. 210 Baronage, Burgherage, they were German mostly by blood, and by culture were wholly German. 1884 *19th Cent.* July 121 Voss the poet of burgherdom. 1885 *Harper's Mag.* Feb. 413/2 As

the burgherhood enlarged, the assembly became a huge mob.

Burgher, v. Sc. [f. the sb.] = BURGESS v. 1825 LD. COCKBURN *Mem.* i. 70 Being 'Burghered' or made to 'ride the Stang'.

[**Burgheristh**. An incorrect spelling of *burgh-right* 'borough-right,' in Domesday (Taunton).

In Domesday there are several instances of *st* for OE. *st*, as in *radchenistres* for *radchnistas*. Spelman conjectured that it might be = *burgh-breche* burglary, and the word appears with erroneous explanation in many Law Dicts.]

Burghermeister (būrgʰərməstər), rare. [Cf. Ger. *bürgermeister*.] = BURGOMASTER.

1676 *Lond. Gas.* No. 1089/3 The Burghermasters have empowered several Burghers and Merchants to raise a Sum of Money among themselves. 1738 G. SMITH *Curious Relat.* II. 445 All the Birds that are found here [in Greenland] can swim except one sort... called Burgher masters. 1845 S. AUSTIN *Ranke's Hist. Ref.* II. 523 A post we sometimes find occupied by a burgher-master.

Burghership (būrgʰəʃɪp). [f. BURGHES + -SHIP.] The rights and privileges of a burgher.

1725 tr. Dupin's *Eccle. Hist.* 16th C. l. v. 188 Who had lost their Burghership for some great Crimes. 1871 FREEMAN *Norm. Cong.* IV. xviii. 209 The rights both of burghership and clanship were strictly enforced.

b. fig. (cf. BURGESS-SHIP 1 b).

1568 COVERDALE *Bk. Death* ('transl. out of High Dutch') xvi. (1579) 69 Our conversation and burghership is in heaven.

Burghesey, variant of BURGESSY, Obs.

Burghmaster, obs. form of BOROUGHMASTER.

Burghmaster, incorrect spelling for *bergh-master*, BARMASTER. In mod. Dicts.

Burgine, -gione, obs. forms of BURGEON.

Burglar (būrgʰlār), Also 6 burglour, burglar, burgleyer, 7 burglare, -layer. [Found

in AFR. in 16th c.: ad. Anglo-Lat. *burglator*

(13th c.), *burgulator* (16th c.), altered form of

burglar (13th c.), perhaps f. the first element of

burgh-brache, the native Eng. term for burglary.

The Anglo-Lat. verb *burgulare* (quasi 'to burgle')

is recorded in 1354 (*Assis.* 27 Edw. III, quoted

in Reeves *Hist. Eng. Law* ed. Finlason II. 419).

The 13th c. AF. word for 'burglar', *burgessor*,

burgessour, is of obscure formation, but of the

same ultimate origin. The related BURLARY is

in legal AF. *burglarie*, in Anglo-Lat. *burgaria*,

burgaria (early 13th c.), for which *burglaria* is

found in 16th c. The origin of the intrusive *l*,

in *burglator*, *burglaria*, and the corresponding

Eng. forms, is not clear; but the notion of Lam-

barde (1581) and later writers that the ending -lar

represents AF. *ler-s*, *laroun* (:-L. *latro*, *latrōnem*)

thief, is contrary to the evidence. A 'burglator'

or 'burgessour' was not necessarily a 'latro'; his

object might be something else than plunder.

No corresponding words are known in continental OF. or

med.L.; the rare OF. *burger* 'saccager, piller' (Godef.),

occurring in Garnier's *Vie de Saint Thomas*, is unconnected,

unless perhaps this sense of the word may be due to AF.

influence.]

1. One who is guilty of burglary.

[a. 1268 BRAXTON *De Legibus* (Rolls ed.) II. 234 fo. 115 b,

Murdrifores & robbatores & burglatores. c. 1267 *Fleta* I.

xvi. (ed. 1685 p. 15) Tempus autem discernit prædonem a

fure & a Burgatore. 1296 BRITTON I. xi. De Burgessours.

... Tenoms a burgessours trestours ceuz, qī felonousement en

tens de pes bruseit eglises, ou autri mesouns, ou murs ou

portes de nos citez ou de nos burgs. 1516 in Fitzherbert

Grande Abridgement 268 b, Burglours sont ceuz que en-

trent mesons ou eglises al entent de inbloier beins. 1541

tr. *Fitzherbert's New Bk. Justices* 125 b, Burglours are pro-

perly such as felonously in y^e tyme of peace breke any

house, church, etc. 1581 LAMBARDE *Eiren.* I. xxi. 221 A

Burglour whom Britton calleth a Burgessor... that by night

breaketh into a house, wyth intent to Robbe, Kill or doe

other Felonie [ed. 1581 has *burglour*, *burglar*; 1588 *burgh-*

lar passim]. 1599 Broughton's *Lett.* v. 15 In Moses law he

that had slaine a Burgleyer by night had been guiltles.

1603 FLORIO *Montaigne* II. xv. 358 A common burglayer will

passee by quietly things that lie open. 1688 *Lond. Gas.* No.

1768/4 This day were apprehended... two persons suspected

to be notorious Burglars and Robbers. 1769 BLACKSTONE

Comm. IV. 224 The definition of a burglar, as given us by

sir Edward Coke, is, 'he that by night breaketh and

enteth into a mansion-house, with intent to commit a

felony'. 1860 G. K. VACAT. *Tour* 140 Still the thing looks

well, and might... prevent a particularly conscientious

burglar from breaking in.

2. Comb., as *burglar-alarm*, -season; also *burg-*

glar-proof adj.

1884 *Health Exhib. Catal.* 93/2 Bells, *Burglar Alarms,

Lightning Conductors. 1885 *Daily News* 24 May 7/6 Stock

of second-hand Fire-and-*Burglar-proof Safes. 1886 *Pall*

Mag. G. 4 Sept. 3/2 The 'burglar season' has set in.

† **Burglarer**, Obs. Also 7 burglerer. [f.

BURLAR-Y + -ER 1.] = prec.

1508 KITCHIN *Courts Lett* (1675) 17 Burglarers are those,

which in time of Peace break Houses, etc. 1606 EARL

NORTHAMPTON in *True and Perf. Relat.* Gg ij, Certaine

Burglerers that robbed his owne house. 1664 BUTLER *Hud.*

II. i. 417 Love is a Burglarer, a Felon. 1704 LUTTRELL *Brief*

Rel. (1857) V. 499 A reward for apprehending burglarers.

† **Burglarly**, adv. Obs. [f. BURLARY + -LY 2.]

After the manner of burglary; burglariously.

1533 Act 24 Hen. VIII, v. Euill disposed person or per-

sons, attempting to murder, rob, or burglarly to breake

mansion houses.

Burglariouſ (būrgʰlār-i-ſ), a. [f. BURLARY + -OUS. Cf. *felonious*.]

1. Of or pertaining to burglary; addicted to burglary; involving the guilt of burglary.

1769 BLACKSTONE *Comm.* IV. 226 All these entries have been adjudged burglariouſ, though there was no actual breaking. 1807 SYD. SMITH *Plymley's Lett.* iv, The larcenous and burglariouſ world. 1822 BYRON *Werner* II. i. 26 This burglariouſ, larcenous felony.

2. Burglar-like.

1859 THACKERAY *Virgin.* lxxxix, The daring and burglariouſ capture of two forts of which he forced the doors. 1865 DICKENS *Mut. Fr.* I A burglariouſ stream of fog creeping in... through the key-hole.

Hence **Burglariouſly** adv.

1807 OME *Lect. Art* III. (1848) 311 Burglariouſly entered the Temple of Fame by the window. 1883 *Law Rep.* XI. Queen's B. 588 The plaintiff's dwelling-house... was burglariouſly entered.

Burglarise (būrgʰlār-iz), v. U.S. [f. BURLAR + -IZE.] *trans.* To rob burglariouſly; to break into by violence for the purpose of theft.

1883 TALMAGE in *Chr. Globe* 13 Sept. 829/2 The man who had a contempt for a petty theft will burglarise the wheat-bin of a nation. 1884 Boston (Mass.) *Jrnl.* 7 Feb. 1 The house of John Fuller was burglarized on Wednesday night.

† **Burglarly**, adv. Obs. In 5-6 *burglarlie*, 6 *burghlarlie*. [f. BURLAR + -LY 2.] After the manner of a burglar.

[1495 Act 11 Hen. VII, lix. Pream., Intending burglarie [-lie] and feloniously to have broken the hous of your seid Subget. 1532-3 Act 24 Hen. VIII, v. Their dwellynge house, whiche the same euyl doers shuld attempt burglarlie to break by night. 1581 LAMBARDE *Eiren.* II. vii. (1588) 291 He robbeth him Burghlarie in the night season.

Burglary (būrgʰlār-i), Also 6 burglary, 6-7 *burglarie*, *burghlarie*. [see BURLAR.]

The crime of breaking by night into a house with intent to commit felony. Also attrib.

[1199-1216 *Assise K. Joh.* in *Placit. Abbrev.* 68 De burgaria & aliis latrociniiis... De Burgaria & de ligatura & aliis latrociniiis. 1516 in Fitzherbert *Grande Abridgement* 268 b, Que il vient a son meson de faire burglarie.] 1532-3 Act 24 Hen. VIII, v. Any such person, so attempting to committe suche murder or burglary. 1581 LAMBARDE *Eiren.* II. vii. (1588) 262 Burghlarie is the theft done by entrie into a dwelling house. a. 1603 T. CARTWRIGHT *Confut. Rhem. N. T.* (1618) 558 How like burglary theues they break open all dores. 1649 SELDEN *Latw. Eng.* I. xl. (1739) 63 Burning of woods was finable... but Burglary was Felony.

1679 *Jesuites Ghostly Ways* 3 Wounded his creditor, Hugh

Hare, a Gentleman of the Temple, by committing burglary.

1768 BLACKSTONE *Comm.* IV. xvi. 226 Neither can burglary

be committed in a tent or booth erected in a market or fair.

a. 1843 SOUTHEY *Nordseer.* vi. There is a maggot there... it

is his house, His castle... oh commit not burglary! 1855

WHARTON *Crim. Law* U. S. 598 Burglary is the breaking

and entering the dwelling-house of another in the night.

Ibid. 611 The breaking and entering must be in the night.

b. As an act: A felonious breaking into a house.

1609 W. BARLOW *Answ. Nameless Cath.* 308 The second

comming of Christ is resembled to a theues burglarie.

1712 in Maidment's *Sc. Paquills* 438 Like fearful women

in burglaries they generally add bloodshed to theft. Mod.

The season for burglaries has commenced.

c. fig.

1636 FITZ-GEFFREY *Blessed Birthday* (1881) 155 To breake

into Gods sealed secrecie, This is... bold burglary. a. 1677

BARROW *Serm.* I. xxi. (R.) To break open the closet of a

man's breast... may well be deemed a worse sort of burglary

... than to break open doors.

† **Burglary** 2, Obs. [As if ad. L. *burglarius*,

ad. AF. *burgler*.] = BURLAR.

1533-4 Act 24 Hen. VIII, iii, Diuers and many great

arrant robbers, murderers, burglaries [sic] and felons. 1624

T. TAYLOR *Two Serm.* II. 9 With what severity are the lawes

executed upon Burglaries, that breake into mens houses, to

rob and spoile? 1651 W. G. tr. *Cowley's Inst.* 88 Murderers,

Robbers, or Burglaries.

Hence † **Burglary** v. Obs.

1598 FLORIO, *Robbachiare*, to fish, to pilfer... to burglarie.

Burglayer, obs. form of BURLAR.

|| **Burgle**, sb. [Pers. *برغل* *burghul* 'blé mondé, gruan'. Zenker.] (See quot.)

1764 HARMER *Obser.* VII. iv. 147 Burgle is wheat boiled, then bruised by a mill, so as to take the husk off, then dried and kept for use.

Burgle (būrgʰl), v. colloq. or humorous. [A back-formation from BURLAR, of very recent appearance, though English law-Latin (1354) had a verb *burgulare* of same meaning.]

a. intr. To follow the occupation of a burglar.

b. trans. To break feloniously into the house of; to steal or rob burglariously.

1872 M. COLLINS *Pr. Clarice* I. iv. 63 The burglar who attempted to enter that room would never burgle again. 1874 *Standard* 14 Nov. 3 New words with which the American vocabulary has lately been enriched: 'to burgle', meaning to

injure a person by breaking into his or her house. 1884

Blackw. Mag. 513/2, I burgled myself again in the night.

Hence **Burgled**

Burgomaster (būrgōmāstər). Also 6-7 **bourgmaster**. [ad. Du. *burgemeester*, after Eng. *MASTER*; see also *BURGER*, *BOROUGHMASTER*.]

1. The chief magistrate of a Dutch or Flemish town, nearly corresponding to the *mayor* in England. Often used loosely for any member of the governing body of a foreign municipality. Also for *BOROUGH-MASTER*, as an official title in certain English boroughs.

1598 NASH P. *Penitence* (1842) 69 The beare being chiefe burgomaster of all the beastes vnder the lyon. 1598 SHAKS. 1 *Hen. IV.* II. i. 84, I am ioynd with... Burgomasters, and great Oneyers, such as can holde in. 1598 HAKLUYT *Voy.* I. 157 Euery of the foresayd cities sent one of their burgomasters vnto the towne of Hage in Holland. 1707 *Land. Gaz.* No. 4350/1 The... Freeholders, Burgomasters, and other Inhabitants, of the ancient Borough of Cricklade. c. 1710 ADDISON (J.) They chuse their councils and burgomasters out of the bourgeois, as in the other governments of Switzerland. 1779 JOHNSON *Boerhaave* Wks. IV. 356 The only daughter of a burgo-master of Leyden. 1864 KIRK *Chas. Bold* II. iv. l. 220 The Burgomasters were... employed in strengthening the defences.

2. A species of gull (*Larus glaucus*). 1876 RAY *Willoughby's Ornith.* 349 The Great grey Gull... called at Amsterdam the Burgomaster of Greenland. 1753 CHAMBERS *Cycl. Supp.* *Burgomaster* of Greenland... a whimsical name given by the Dutch sailors to a species of... sea gull. 1853 KANE *Grinnell Exp.* xvi. (1856) 124 The birds, too, were back with us... the Ivory gull, the Burgomaster, and the tern. 1883 tr. *Nordenskiöld's Voy. Vega* 43.

Burgone, obs. form of *BURGEON*.

† **Burgeton** (būrgəton). Obs. exc. *Hist.* Also 6 **burgonet**, (*burgant*), 6-7 **burgenet**, 6-9 **burgenet**, 9 **bourginot**, -*goinette*. [ad. OF. *bourguignotte*, app. f. *Bourgogne* *Burgundy*.]

a. A very light casque, or steel cap, for the use of the infantry, especially pikemen. b. A helmet with a visor, so fitted to the gorget or neck-piece, that the head could be turned without exposing the neck.

1598 BARRET *Theor. Warres* Gloss. 249 *Burgeton*, a French word, is a certaine kind of head-peece, either for foote or horsemen, couering the head, and part of the face and cheeke.

1563-87 FOXE *A. & M.* (1596) 1083/1, I was page to a footman, carrying after him his pike and burgenet. 1570-87 HOLINSHED *Scot. Chron.* (1806) II. 255 His burgenet beaten into his head. 1598 GREENE *Uplst. Court.* Wks. (Grosart) XI. 235 With Burgunets to resist the stroke of a Battleaxe. 1611 SPEED *Hist. Gt. Brit.* viii. v. (1632) 407 On their heads they all wore guilt Burgenets. 1796 SOUTHEY *Joan* vii. 296 A massy burgenet... helming his head. 1805 WIFFEN *Tasso* vii. xc. The glistening burgenet that veils his brows. 1834 PLANCHÉ *Brit. Costume* 280 A morion and bourginot of the same period. 1852 D. MOIR *Tomb de Bruce* v. In the hall hung the target and burgenet rusting.

fig. 1606 SHAKS. *Ant. & Cl.* I. v. 24 [Antony] The demy Atlas of this Earth, the Arme And Burgenet of men.

Burgoo (būrgū). [Derivation unknown. Connexion with dial. *burgot* (Marshall, *Norfolk*), *burgood* (Hall), yeast, has been conjectured. The spelling *burgout* (Craig 1847) appears to be due to his notion that the word was Fr.]

A thick oatmeal gruel or porridge used chiefly by seamen; loblolly.

1750 ELLIS *Country Housew.* 206 (E. D. S.) Whole greets (grits) boiled in water till they burst, and then mixt with butter, and so eaten with spoons, which [was] formerly called loblolly, now burgoo. 1753 CHAMBERS *Cycl. Supp.* *Burgoo*, a sea-faring dish. 1805 KNAPP & BALDWIN *Newgate Cal.* III. 489/1 Burgoo of as good a quality as the barley. 1863 SALA *Capt. Dang.* II. i. 15 [He] had the best Beef and Burgoo at the Skipper's table.

comb. 1833 MARRYAT *P. Simple* xxxiii, Mark my words, you burgoo-eating... trowers-scrubbing son of a bitch!

Burgor, var. of *BURGER*.

Burgown, *burgown*, obs. ff. of *BURGEON*.

Burgoyse, var. form of *BURGEYSE*, Obs.

Burgrave, *burggrave* (būrggrāv). Also 6 **burgrove**. [ad. Ger. *burggraf*, f. *burg* town, castle + *graf* count.] The governor of a town or castle; later, a noble ruling by hereditary right a town or castle, with the adjacent domain.

1550 BALE *Eng. Volaries* II. 13 Foure dukes, four marquesses, four landgraues, four burgraves... were appointed. 1576 LAMBARDE *Peramb. Kent* (1826) 435 They of the lowe and high Germanie... cal one ruler, Burgrave, another Margreve. 1684 *Scanderbeg Rediv.* II. 23 The Burgraves of each City. 1818 HALLAM *Mid. Ages* (1841) IV. v. 459 The burgraves of Nuremberg. 1879 BARING-GOULD *Germany* II. 247 The majority of gentry did not occupy their own castles, but lived in those of the princes, as burgraves or stewards.

Hence *Burggrave*, the rank or office of burgrave.

1768 tr. *Busching's Syst. Geogr.* IV. 50 The imperial land-judiciary of the burgraviat of Nuremberg.

Burgularie, -*arie*, obs. ff. *BURGULARY*, -*LARY*.

† **Burgullian**, *nonce-wd.* [According to Nares 'Conjectured to be a term of contempt, invented upon the overthrow of the Bastard of Burgundy in a contest with Anthony Woodville, in Smithfield 1467'; but this, in absence of evidence, is very improbable.] A braggadocio, bully.

1598 B. JOHNSON *Ev. Man in Hum.* iv. iv, Bobadill... that rogue, that foist, that fencing Burgullian?

Burgundian (būrgundian), *a.* and *s.* Also

6-7 **burgonian**. [f. the territorial name *Burgundy* (L. *Burgundia*, F. *Bourgogne*) + -AN.]

A. adj. Belonging to Burgundy (in any of the senses of the name). † *Burgonian cross* = *St. Andrew's cross* (see *ANDREW*). *Burgundian hay* = *Burgundy Hay*, see *BURGUNDY* 4. *Burgundian pear*: an old variety of pear of globular shape and delicate flavour.

1578 LYTTE *Dodoens* III. xiii. 334 The leaves are set together, standing lyke to a Burgonian Crosse. 1607 TORSELL *Serpents* 666 As it were in form of a Burgonian crosse, or of the letter X. 1664 EVELYN *Kal. Hort.* (1727) 234 Burgundian Grape. 1671 GREW *Anat. Plants* vi. § 10 Amongst Pears, the Burgundian. 1712 tr. *Pomet's Hist. Drugs* I. 12 Burgundian Hay... is a Species of Trefoil, or Saintfoin. 1832 DOWNES *Lett. fr. Cont. Count.* I. 527 Some traces of Burgundian times, still extant here.

B. s. 1. An inhabitant of Burgundy; also used for one of the Teutonic nation of the Burgundians, from whom Burgundy received its name.

† 2. (In form *Burgonian*) A kind of ship; perhaps a ship built in the Burgundian dominions, which in the 15th c. included the Netherlands.

1601 HOLLAND *Pliny* I. 86 The Vindili, part of whom be the Burgundians. 1618 PERKIN *Warb. in Select. Harl. Misc.* (1793) 60 A conference he had once with a Burgonian. 1627 DRAYTON *Agincourt* 110 Foure Burgonians excellently man'd.

Burgundy (būrgūndi). [ad. med. L. *Burgundia*, F. *Bourgogne*. (Swift rimed it with Sunday.)]

1. The name of a kingdom, and afterwards a duchy of the Western Empire, subsequently giving its name to a province of France. Used attrib., as in *Burgundy Wine*.

1697 W. POPE *Old Man's Wish*, With Monte Fiascone or Burgundy wine.

2. Hence ellipt. Wine made in Burgundy. Generally understood to apply to the red wines of that province, unless otherwise stated.

1672 WYCHERLEY *Love in Wood* I. ii, I hate his impertinent Chat more than he does the honest Burgundy. 1728 SWIFT *Ladies at Sol's H.* Wks. 1755 IV. 1. 92 At the Rose on Sunday, I'll treat you with burgundy. 1797 HOLCROFT *Stolberg's Trav.* (ed. 2) III. lxxxiv. 351 That kind of red burgundy which the French call *petit Bourgogne*. 1848 THACKERAY *Van. Fair* ix, The cellars were filled with burgundy then.

b. attrib. 1672 WYCHERLEY *Love in Wood* v. ii, No Burgundy man or drunken scourer will reel my way.

† 3. A sort of head-dress for women; = *BOURGOINE*. Obs. (See *Bourgogne* in *Littre Supp.*)

1700 FARQUHAR *Const. Couple* II. l. i, Running to... the French milliner, for a new Burgundy for my Lady's head.

4. *Burgundy Hay*, *B. Trefoil* [F. *burgogne*, join de *bourgogne*]: applied by English writers to the plant *Lucerne*, *Medicago sativa*; but in French originally to *Sainfoin*, *Onobrychis sativa*. (The two were formerly confused: see *SAINFOIN*).

1616 SURFEL & MARKH. *Countr. Farm* 608 in Britten and Holl. s.v., *Burgundy Hay*. Because the Burgundians have been always very careful for the sowing and tilling of this herbe. 1834 BAXTER *Phænog. Bot.*, Burgundy Trefoil.

5. *Burgundy Pitch*. [The substance is still chiefly obtained from the neighbourhood of Neufchâtel, which was once Burgundian territory. So F. *poix de Bourgogne*.] The resinous juice of the Spruce-fir (*Abies elceusa*); sometimes called *white pitch*, though its colour is reddish brown or whitish yellow. See also quot. 1875. Also attrib.

1678 SALMON *Pharmacop. Londin.* I. viii. 170 Burgundy Pitch... is the Rosin of the Pitch-Tree. *Ibid.* 225, Burgundy pitch plaster applied between the shoulders. 1769 W. BUCHAN *Dom. Med.* xxix. (1845) 227 Burgundy pitch may be spread thin upon a piece of soft leather. 1875 URZ *Dict. Arts* I. 550 Burgundy pitch, when genuine, is made by melting frankincense... in water and straining it through a coarse cloth. The substance usually sold as Burgundy pitch is, however, common resin incorporated with water and coloured with palm-oil.

Burgyn(e), *burgyn*, obs. ff. *BURGEON*.

Burh, OE. form of *BOROUGH*, *BURGH*, *q. v.*

Buriable (berī'ābl'), *a.* [f. *BURY* v. + -ABLE.] Capable of being buried. *lit.* and *fig.*

1598 FLORIO, *Sepellibile*, buriable, that may be buried. 1841 GEN. P. THOMPSON *Exerc.* (1842) VI. 296 A buriable corpse. 1858-65 CARLYLE *Fredk. Gt.* XII. i. IV. 120, I notice, as not yet entirely buriable, Three Epochs.

Burial (berī'al). Forms: 3 *biriel*, 4-6 *bery-*, *beri-*, *buryel*, -*ell*, -*elle*, -*all*, -*alle*, 5-6 *byrrall*, -*ele*, -*elle*, 6 *bereall*, 6-7 *buriall*, 6- *burial*. [ME. *buryel*, *biriel*, incorrectly formed as a sing. of *byriels*, *BURIELS*, *q. v.*; in later times associated with *sbs.* in -*al* from Fr., such as *espousal-s.*]

† 1. A burying-place, grave, or tomb. Obs.

c. 1250 *Gen. & Ex.* 2488 Dor is 3at liche in biriele don. 1308 WYCLIF 2 *Kings* xxiii. 17 And the kyng seide, What is this biriel, which Y se? 1398 TREVISA *Barth. de P. R.* XII. xxviii. (1495) 430 The nyghte owle hauntyth and dwellyth in buryels. c. 1450 tr. *Higden* (1865) I. 415 There is a marvellous berielle... in Weste Wales. 1535 COVERDALE *Neh.* II. 5, I beseke the sende me... vnto y^e cite of my fathers buryall [1611 sepulchres]. 1612 *Acts* Jas. VI. (1814) 499 (JAM.) And thairfore the said Revestrie was dispoit to Schir James Dundas of Arnestoun knyght to be ane buriall for him and his posteritie.

fig. 1596 SHAKS. *Merch. V.* I. i. 29 Vailing her high top lower then her ribs To kisse her buriall.

2. The act of burying; interment; funeral.

1453 *Test. Ebor.* (1855) II. 171 To the kyrk-wark for my beriall, xxx. 1467 *Ibid.* II. 278 The day of my beriall. 1549 *Bk. Com. Prayer*, The Order for the Burial of the Dead. 1608 SHAKS. *Ham.* v. i. 2 Is she to bee buried in Christian buriall, that wilfully seeks her owne saluation. 1611 BIBLE *Yer.* xxii. 19 He shall be buried with the buriall of an asse. 1649 F. BLAND *Souldiers March* *Salv.* 35 To commend his body to due burials. 1753 CHAMBERS *Cycl. Supp.* s.v., *Christian Burial*, that performed in holy ground, and with the usual service or ceremonies of the church. *Burial of an ass*, *Asini sepultura*, an ignominious kind of burial, out of holy ground, under the gallowes, or in a high way, where several roads meet, and performed by public hangmen. Such is that of suicides, excommunicated persons, etc., sometimes denoted *canine burial*, or *burial of a dog*. 1867 FREEMAN *Norm. Cong.* I. vi. 513 The body received a second burial.

b. transf. and fig.

1603 DRAYTON *Bar. Warres* VI. xcvi, Which in this Bosom shall their Buriall have. 1878 MORLEY *Diderot* II. 50 The burial of men and women alive in the cloister.

3. *pl.* Formerly in computations, etc. of mortality, which were based on the entries of burials: = *Deaths*.

a. 1687 PETTY *Pol. Arith.* 1 The Medium of the Burials at London in the three last years... was 22337. 1753 CHAMBERS *Cycl. Supp.* s.v., Burials, in computations of mortality, denote deaths, and stand opposed to births. 1762 BURKE *Sk. Negro Code* Wks. IX. 305 Every Minister shall keep a register of births, burials and marriages. 1803 *Med. Trnl.* X. 408 During the same months of the year 1803, the burials amounted to 238.

3. The depositing of anything under earth or water, or enclosing it in some other substance.

a. 1606 BACON *New Atlantis* (1635) 33 We have great lakes, both salt and fresh; we use them for burials of some natural bodies. 1753 CHAMBERS *Cycl. Supp.* s.v., Some commend burials in the earth, others in wheat, to season timber when first felled, and make it of more durable use.

4. *Comb.* and *Attrib.*, as *burial-cake*, -*chamber*, -*cloth*, -*clothes*, -*feast*, -*field*, -*law*, -*office*, -*procession*, -*torch*, -*truce*, -*urn*, -*vault*.

1864 A. McKAY *Hist. Kilmarnoch* 194 He ordered twelve dozen of *burial-cakes. 1871 ALGER *Future Life* 94 Along the sides of the *burial-chamber were ranged massive stone shelves. 1570-1 *Old City Acc. Bk.* (Archaeol. Jnl. XLIII.) Rd. for the *buriall cloth of mr. peke, xvjd. 1876 GEO. ELIOT *Dan. Der.* II. xxii. 75, I had better put my *burial-clothes in my portmanteau and set off at once. 1579 FULKE *Refut. Rastel* 798 They called together the people... to their *buriall feastes. 1598 SHAKS. *Rom. & Jul.* IV. v. 87 Our wedding cheare, to a sad buriall Feast. 1748 R. BLAIR *Grave* 484 What is this world? What but a spacious *burial-field unwall'd! 1880 *Burial Law Amendment Act. 1872 ALGER *Future Life* 93 Perceiving their [Etruscans'] *burial-processions and funeral festivals. 1799 STEELE *Tatler* No. 109 P. 1 Three Men with *Burial Torches. 1868 GROTE *Greece* V. II. lvi. 76 Granting the customary *burial-truce to the defeated enemy. 1766 ENTRICK *London* IV. 76 A *burial-vault the whole length of the church.

5. *Special Comb.*: *burial-aisle*, an aisle in a religious building used for interments, also *fig.*; *burial-board*, a body of persons appointed by public authority to regulate burials; *burial-case*, a shaped coffin, made to close air-tight, for the preservation of a corpse; *burial-hill*, -*mound*, a mound erected over a grave, a tumulus, barrow; *burial-service*, a religious service accompanying a burial; a form of words prescribed by ecclesiastical authority to be used at funerals; *esp.* that used in the Church of England; *burial-society*, an insurance society for providing money for the expenses of burial; *burial-stone*, a stone on a grave, a tomb-stone; *burial-yard*, burial-ground, grave-yard. Also *BURIAL-GROUND*, -*PLACE*.

1800 SCOTT *Abbot* xxxviii, To send his body and his heart to be buried in Avenel *burial-aisle. 1831 CARLYLE *Sart. Res.* I. xi. 88 Looks he also wistfully into the long burial-aisle of the Past. c. 1600 NORDEN *Spec. Brit. Cornw.* (1728) 70 He was a digging a borowe or *buriall hill. 1854 H. MILLER *Sch. & Schm.* 210 Stumbling among *burial-mounds and tombstones, he had toppled into an open grave. 1865 LUBBOCK *Preh. Times* 63 The tumuli or ancient burial-mounds. 1796 AYLIFFE *Parerg.* 132 If it be not... prohibited... by a Rubrick of the *Burial-Service. 1838 DICKENS *O. Twist* v, The reverend gentleman... read as much of the burial-service as could be compressed into four minutes. 1857 GEO. ELIOT *Cleric* *Life* xxxvii. 329 The faces were not hard at this funeral; the burial-service was not a hollow form. c. 1475 *Pict. Voc.* in Wr. Wülcker 756 *Hoc polidandrum*, a *byrrylston. 1864 SKEAT *Uhland's Poems* 117 Engraven on this burial-stone Two hands together clasped you view. 1848 MIALl in *Nonconf.* II. 33 The same authority demands a *burial-yard rate.

Hence *Burialer*, one who assists at a burial.

1832 HOGG in *Fraser's Mag.* VI. 166 The burialers... were lying powerless... beside the corpse of their dead relative.

Buriall, obs. form of *BERYL*.

1552 LYNDSEY *Momarche* 6203 The Heuinis, brycht lyke buriall.

Burial-ground. A piece of ground set apart as devoted to the regular interment of the dead; a burying-ground, cemetery.

1803 *Ann. Rev.* I. 98 The account of the burial-grounds furnishes the most interesting description in this work. 1842 LONGF. *God's Acre* i, I like that ancient Saxon phrase, which calls The burial ground God's acre! 1845 DARWIN *Voy. Nat.* viii, It was the burial-ground of all the goats in the island. 1850 LVELL and VISIT *U. S.* II. 325 That burial-ground commands a beautiful view.

Burial-place. A place of burial; a place, as a vault, church, piece of ground, etc., set apart for the interment of the dead; a burying-place.

1633 *Br. Hall Hard Texts* 482 The graves of his Companies and Complices are set in the sides of the Buriall place. 1715 *London Gaz.* No. 5375/2 They broke into the Burial-Place of the Family of Rothes. 1733 *CHAMBERS Cycl. Suppl.* s.v. *Burial*, Westminster Abbey is the burial-place of most of our English kings. 1867 *FREEMAN Norm. Cong.* I. vi. 513 The population... had a burial place of their own. 1873 *HIGGINSON Hist. U. S.* vi. 42 Cabot gave England a continent—and no one knows his burial-place.

† **Burian.** Obs. exc. Sc. Forms in sense 1: 1 byrgen, 2 berien, burien. [OE. *byrgen* str. fem. has no parallel forms in the other Teut. langs., but represents a WGer. **burginnja*, f. ablaut-stem *burg-* (*borg-*) of **berg-an* BERGH to protect + *innja* (cf. BURDEN). But evidence is wanting as to the identity of this with the local Sc. *burian*, which is not associated with it in sense.]

† 1. A tomb, sepulchre. Obs.

a 1000 *Elene* (Gr.) 186 by briddan dæge of byrgenne beorna wuldor of deaðe aras. c 1000 *Ag. Gosp.* Matt. xxiii. 20 Wa cow... forðam ze synt helice hwitum byrgenum. c 1160 *Halt-ton G. ibid.*, Jelic hwite beriene. c 1175 *Lamb. Hom.* xii. [He forðfarene] mon fered to buriene.

2. Sc. 'A mound, a tumulus; or, a kind of fortification' (Jamieson). 'Usually applied in south of Scotland to a prehistoric 'camp' or hill-fort.

1792 *Stat. Acc. Scotl.* IV. 522 (Kirkpatrick-Juxta) There are a great number of Cairns or burians. 1794 *Ibid.* XI. 528 (Westerkirk) There is a great number of burians in this parish. These are all of a circular form, and are from 36 to 50 yards diameter. They are supposed by some to be remains of Pictish encampments. 1794 *Ibid.* XIII. 599 Burians are to be seen in different places, whether British towns or asylums for cattle. 1803 *R. Forsyth Beaut. Scotl.* II. 285.

Burias, -ayse, -es, -eys, -oyse, obs. forms of **BURGESS, BURGEYSE.**

Burie, obs. form of **BERRY, BOROUGH, BURY.**

Buried (be-rid), ppl a. [f. *BURY* v.]

1. a. Laid in a grave, interred. b. Laid, sunk, or concealed under ground.

c 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 37 Byrryde [1499 buried], *sepultus*. 1579 *SPENSER Sheph. Cal. Nov.* 159 That did her buried body hold. 1715 *POPE Ep. Addison* 16 Some bury'd marble half preserves a Name. 1801 *SOUTHEY Thalaba* iii. i. Some open rocks and mountains, and lay bare Their buried treasures. 1844 *TUPPER Proverb. Philos.* 388 In company of buried kindred. 1853 *LYELL Antiq. Man* 9 A flint instrument from below a buried trunk of one of these pines.

2. *transf.* and *fig.*

1812 *BYRON To Thyrsæ, 'And thou art dead'* 71 More thy buried love endears Than aught, except its living years. 1844 *LINGARD Anglo-Sax. Ch.* (1858) I. i. 48 How they, buried in an obscure corner of the earth, dared to oppose. 1850 *TENNYSON In Mem. cxx.* Sad Hesper [watches] o'er the buried sun.

Buried, obs. form of **BERRIED, threshed.**

† **Buriels.** Obs. Forms: 1 byrziels, byriels, birziels, 2, 5 berieles, 3-4 birzielos, -ieles, -iles, 3-5 byrziels, -iels, -ieles, -ielles, 5 beryels. [OE. *byrziels* str. masc., cogn. w. OSax. *burgisli* neut., f. *burg-* ablaut-stem of *bergan* BERGH to protect + suffix *-isli-*; cf. OE. *græfels* quarry, *fætels* purse, etc. See also *BURY* v. and *BURIAL*.]

1. A burying-place; a sepulchre, tomb.

824 *Chart. Æthelwulf of Wessex in Cod. Dipl.* V. 107 Of ðære holan pannan up on Icenhilde weg on ðære hæðenan byriels. c 1000 *ÆLFRED Gen.* xxiii. 9 Dæt he him sealde... þæt twyfelde scraf. to birzielse. c 1175 *Cott. Hom.* 229 Deaðe men he ærde of hare berieles to life. 1297 *R. GLOUC.* 204 Po vond he... An byrziels al nywe ymad. 1393 *LANGL. P. Pl. C.* xxii. 146 Prophetes hem tolde That þat blessed body of buriels sholde arise. a 1450 *Knt. de la Tour* 12 In alle mennis sight her berieles began to smoke. 1483 *CAXTON Gold. Leg.* 151/2 Upon the buryels grewe a right fayr flour-dels.

2. An interment, funeral.

c 1250 *Gen. & Ex.* 2474 So woren forð .x. wukes gon, 3et adde Iacob birzielses non.

Burier (be-ri-er). Also 1 byrzere, 4 by-, birier, 6 buriar, 6-9 buryer. [OE. *byrzere*, f. *byriz-an* to *BURY* + *-ere*, *-ER*.] a. One who buries; † b. a grave-digger; also *dead-burier*.

c 1050 *Voc. in Wr. Wülcker* 468 *Per nispellones* burh byrgers. 1382 *WYCLIF Ezech.* xxxix. 15 Thei shuln sette a title... bisidis it [a boon of man] til that byriers byrye it. 1335 *COVERDALE Amos* vi. 10 The deed buriers shall take them, and carry away their bones. 1598 *FLORIO, Scapellato*, a burier, a digger of graues to burie the dead. 1642 *ROGERS Naaman* 32 The buriers and mourners gape for him. 1722 *DE FOX Plague* (1884) 51 The... buryers of the Dead... were... terrified. 1798 *Monthly Rev.* XXVII. 406 Amid the carcasses wander slowly the buriers. 1876 *BLACKMORE Cripps* I. ii. 27 Secret buriers.

† **Buriller, burriller.** Obs. Of doubtful sense: see quotes. App. identical with **BURLER**; but possibly a maker of **BUREL**.

[c 1266 in *Herbert Livery Comp.* (1837) I. 25 [quoting Strype] Non vexantur propter Burillos, vel pannos Burillatos.] 1837 *HERBERT Livery Comp.* I. 26 The matter was referred to the arbitration of three of the burillers' gild. 1873 *STRANGE Const. Hist.* III. xxi. 573 They persecuted the guild of burillers, a sort of clothworkers.

Burin (biu-rin). Also 7, 9 burine. [a. Fr. *burin*, cogn. w. It. *bolino*, *borino*, Sp. and Pg.

buril, OSp. *boril*, perh. f. OHG. *bora* boring-tool. The It. form *bolino* was occas. used in 17thc.]

1. A graver; the tool used by an engraver on copper; also *attrib.*

1662 *EVELYN Chalcogr.* (1769) 57 [The utmost efforts and excellency of the bolino]. *Ibid.* xi. (1805) 262 Whither wrought with the burin... or with aqua fortis. 1674 *Gout. Tongue* vii. § 2. 140 Like the gravers burine upon copper. 1762-71 *H. WALPOLE Vertue's Anecd. Paint.* (1786) III. 227 Several of his designs... were afterwards retouched with the burin by his disciple. 1865 *CARLYLE Fredk. Gt.* III. x. vi. 266 The Text itself engraved; all by the exquisite burin of Pine. 1880 *HAMERTON in Daily News* 13 Apr. 3/6 Painters of the present day consider etchings at least equal to burin engravings... a burin engraver can only plod patiently to a foreseen result.

b. The style or manner of using the graver.

1824 *DIBDIN Libr. Comp.* 507 'Tis a fine specimen of Loggan's bold burin.

2. A triangular tool used by marble-workers.

Hence **Burinist**, an engraver.

[1796 *PEGGE Anonym.* (1809) 187 We... might not improperly, as we use a tool called a burin, be called Burinators, and the Art, Burining.] a 1864 *For. Q. Rev.* No. 1 (L.) Many expert burinists. 1882 *American V.* 124 All the great original burinists did not invent, but reproduced with the burin.

† **Buriness.** Obs. Forms: 1 byrignes, 2 buri-, burinesses, 3 burinesses, -isse, 4-5 berenes, berynes(s). [OE. *byrignes*, f. stem of OE. *byrgan* to *BURY* + *-ness*.] a. A burying, burial, sepulture. b. A burial-place; a grave, tomb.

c 890 *K. ÆLFRED Bæda* iv. xi. Ða wæs mycel unepelices geworden be his byrignes [Lat. *facta difficultate tumulandi*]. 1175 *Lamb. Hom.* 35 Ga to pine feder burinesses oþer eni of pine cunne lið in. c 1205 *LAY.* 2585a Sæt and bihold æuere: ænne burinesses [1250 burinisse]. 1375 *BARBOUR Bruce* iv. 334 He deit... And syne wæs brocht to berynes. c 1400 *Desir. Troy* 12160 The grekes... brought hir to berenes, as hom best boght. c 1470 *HENRY Wallace* iv. 498 Fyfe oþt hys awne to berynes he gart leid.

Burings, obs. form of **BURYING.**

Burion, -ioun, -iown, -jon, obs. ff. **BURGEON.**

Burke (bûrk), v. [f. *Burke*, the name of a notorious criminal executed at Edinburgh in 1829, for smothering many persons in order to sell their bodies for dissection.]

1. *trans.* To murder, in the same manner or for the same purpose as Burke did; to kill secretly by suffocation or strangulation, or for the purpose of selling the victim's body for dissection.

1829 *Times* 2 Feb. 3/5 As soon as the executioner proceeded to his duty, the cries of 'Burke him, Burke him—give him no rope'... were vociferated. 'Burke Hare too!' 1830 *LAMB Last Ess.* (Chandos) 489 Positively burying you under pretence of cleansing. 1833 *T. Hook Parson's Dau.* II. i. 172 Perhaps he is Burked, and his body sold for nine pounds. a 1845 *BARHAM Ingol. Leg.* The Tragedy ad fin., The rest of the rascals jump'd on him and Burk'd him.

2. *fig.* To smother, 'hush up', suppress quietly. 1840 *Hood Up Rhine* introd. iv, The Age of Chivalry is Burked by Time. 1848 *LD. G. BENTINCK in Croker Papers* (1884) III. xxv. 165 [Disraeli's] last speech, altogether burked in the Times, but pretty well given in the 'Post'. 1860 *GEN. P. THOMPSON Audi Alt.* III. cxxxviii. 111 Permitting a minister to burke the parliamentary conscience. 1880 *Oracle & Corr.* No. 55 A book suppressed before issue is popularly said to have been burked.

Hence **Burker, Burkism.**

1831 *SOUTHEY in Q. Rev.* XLIV. 314 We can tell them that there are travelling Burkers in the land. 1859 *Worcester, s.v. Burkism* cites *Westm. Rev.*

Burking (bûr-kin), vbl. sb. [f. *BURKE* v. + *-ING*.] a. The action of murdering in Burke's fashion. b. *fig.* The action of stifling or quietly but effectively suppressing.

1831 *SOUTHEY Lett.* (1856) IV. 252 The burking must make every one see the necessity of this. 1831 *SIR J. SCARLETT in Trial of T. B. Hodgson* 373 As bad as those who have been lately convicted of burking. 1880 *A. FORBES in 19th Cent.* 195 The despotism of burking is not to be tholed.

Burkite (bûr-keit). [f. the proper name *Burke* + *-ITE*.] a. A political follower of Edmund Burke.

b. An imitator of Burke the murderer. 1807 *Ann. Rev.* V. 164 To reverse the policy of the Burkites or Antijacobins. 1830 *Fraser's Mag.* I. 289 Save as a thief, a murderer, or a Burkite.

† **Burkundas, -auze** (bûr-kûndôz). Also **burkendoss.** [Arabo-Pers. *بارقنداز* *barq-andâz*

lightning-darter.] 'A matchlock man, but commonly applied to a native of Hindustan, armed with a sword and shield, who acts as doorkeeper, watchman, guard, or escort' (H. H. Wilson *Gloss. Judicial Terms*).

1761 *Ann. Reg.* 14/1 He... prepared 500 cavalry and 500 burkendosses... for this purpose. 1845 *STOCQUELER Handbk. Brit. India* (1854) 68 The force is sufficiently large, consisting... of thousands of thannadars, choikedars, burkundauzes, pykes, etc. 1848 *G. WYATT Revel. of Orderly* (1849) 20 A poor devil of a burkundaz.

Burl (bûrl), sb. [a. OF. *bourle* tuft of wool; cf. Sp. *borla* tuft, tassel, and *BURR*.]

1. A small knot or lump in wool or cloth.

c 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 56 Burl of clothe, *tumentum*. 1870 *SLATER Colours* 39 These spots or 'burls' arise from portions of cotton intermixed with the wool. 1879 in *Cassell's Techn. Educ.* IV. 342/1 The burler... carefully removes any knots or burls.

† 2. *transf.* A small lump or rising in the skin; a pimple or pustule. Obs. (Cf. *BUR* sb. 5.)

1607 *TORSELL Four-f. Beasts* (1658) 220 The powder of the Hedge-hogs skin, being mingled with oil by anointment, taketh away the burlies in the face. 1651 *CULPEPPER Astrol. Judgem. Dis.* (1658) 82 The Sun causeth Pimples and Buries in the Face.

† 3. The rudiment or bud of a red deer's horn; see quot. Obs. (Cf. *BUR* sb. 6.)

1611 *COTGR. s.v. Basse*, Our wood-men call [the bump], if it bee a red deer's, the burlie or scale, and, if a fallow deer's, the button.

4. A knot in wood (U.S.).

1886 *E. S. MORSE Japan. Homes* iii. 133 If it is gnarled or tortuous in grain, or if it presents knots or burls, it is all the more desirable. 1887 *Advance* (Chicago) 10 Mar. 145/1 From each ragged wound grew a burl.

Burl (bûrl), v. 1 [f. the sb. There was a med.

L. burillare: see **BURILLER**.]

1. *trans.* To dress (cloth), esp. by removing knots and lumps; 'to dress cloth as fullers do' (J.).

1483 *Cath. Angl.* 48 To Burlie clothe, *extuberare*. 1552 *Act 5 & 6 Edu. VI.* vi. § 27 If... Cloth... happen to be evil buried or wasted in the Mill. 1611 *MARKHAM Countr. Content.* II. v. (1668) 128 That the Cloth-worker or Sheer-man burle and dress it sufficiently. 1706 *PHILLIPS, Burl*, to dress Cloth as Fullers do. 1730-6 *BAILEY, Burl*, to pick out the Straws or Threads of Cloth which have not taken the Dye, as Cloth-drawers do. 1822 *BECK Draper's Dict.*, *Burl*, to pick the burls from the surface of woollen cloths.

2. To pick out, remove (a lock or flock of wool).

1650 *CHARLETON Paradoxes* 26 The... Priest burlies a small lock of wool, from the... upper garment of the Saint. 1803 *MORTON Cycl. Agric. Gloss.* (E. D. S.), *Burl*, to cut away the dirty wool from the hind parts of a sheep.

† 3. To remove 'burls' from the face. *nonce-use* (see *BURL* sb. 2). Obs.

1648 *HERRICK Hesper.* (1869) 226 Of pushes Spalt has such a knottie race, He needs a tucker for to burle his face.

† **Burl**, v. 2 Obs. [Stratmann and Mätzner compare LG. *burreln* 'sprudeln'; cf. also *BURBLE*, *PURL*.] *intr.* To bubble, as a spring or fountain out of which water flows gently.

c 1440 *Bone Flor.* 1639 Betres lay buryling in hur blode. c 1450 *Erle of Tolous* 99 Many a bolde baron... Lay burland yn hys own blode.

Burl, Burler, dial. forms of **BIRL, BIRLER**.

† **Burlace, burlake, burlet**, corruptions of *Bourdelaïs*, name of a variety of grape, cultivated in the 17th c., which long ago dropped out of cultivation, and its name along with it.

1609 *PARKINSON Orchard* vi. 663 The Burlet is a very great white Grape. 1664 *EVELYN Kal. Hort.* (1729) 234 A Catalogue of... excellent Fruit Trees; Vines, Raisin, Bursarobe, Burlet. 1688 *RAY Hist. Plant.* II. 1615 The Burlet Grape. 1737 *MILLER Gard. Dict.* (ed. 3) s.v. *Vitis*, The Bourdelaïs, vulgarly called Burlake. 1799 *Ibid.* The Claret Grape, Bourdelaïs or Verjuice Grape. 1755 *JOHNSON, Burlace*; (whence in all subseq. Dicts.).

Burlady: see *BYRLADY*: By our Lady!

Burlap (bûr-læp). Also 7-8 borelape, -lapps. [Etymology uncertain. (Cf. Du. *boenlap* 'rubbing-clout, linen' Calisch; the du. component may have been confused with *boer* peasant.)]

Originally perhaps a sort of holland; now a coarse canvas made of jute or hemp, used for bagging; also, a finer material used for curtains.

1695-6 *Act 7 & 8 Will. III.* x. § 16 Course Linnens commonly called Borelapps. 1696 *J. F. Merchants Wareho.* 2, I shall begin with Bore-laps; because that for Shifts or Shirts is counted and known to be a very strong Cloth. 1871 *NAPHEYS Prev. & Cure Dis.* III. iv. 725 Pack them in large burlaps. 1880 *N. H. BISHOP 4 Months in Sneak-Box* 15 Captain George Bogart... affectionately sewed her [the duck boat] up in a covering of burlap.

Burlaw, obs. variant of *BYRLAW*.

† **Burle**, Obs. [Cf. *BURLY* sb., *BUR* sb. 5.] Disturbance, confused noise.

1563 *Mirr. Mag.*, *Somerset* xxxvii, After this burle the kyng was fayne to flee. a 1684 *LEIGHTON Rem.* (1875) VI. 102 The noise of gain makes such a burle in their ears, that there is no remedy.

† **Burled**, ppl. a. 1 Obs. [Cf. *F. burelé* bearing fesses of different tinctures (*Heraldry*).] Striped. c 1500 *Partenay* 2809 With silver and assure the tail burled was.

† **Burled**, ppl. a. 2 Obs. rare-1. [Cf. *BIRL* v. 1.] 1451 *Acts Jas. II* (1597) xxxiii, Na man sall take the said money, fra it be buried and clypped, bot at his awin lyking.

† **Burled**, ppl. a. 3 Obs. rare-0. Armed. (A dictionary word of very questionable authenticity.) 1616-76 in *BULLOKAR*. 1678 in *PHILLIPS*. 1721 in *BAILEY*.

Burler (bûr-lər). Also 6 borler, 7 burlier. [f. *BURL* v. 1 + *-ER*.] The form *borler* doubtfully belongs here: see also *BURILLER*.] One who dresses cloth by removing knots and extraneous particles.

1483 *Cath. Angl.* 48 A burler, *extuberarius*. c 1500 *Cocke Lovell's B.* (1843) 9 Borlers, tapstry workmakers and dyers. 1565 *J. HALL Hist. Expost.* 8 One Thomas Lufkyn... a fuller, and burler of clothe. 1720 *Stow's Surv.* (ed. Strype 1754) II. v. x. 286/2 The... sheriffs caused to appear before them the Dyers, Taylors, Burliers... and fullers. 1757 *DYER Fleece* (1807) 96 The clothier's shears And burler's thistle skim the surface sheen. 1873 *URE Dict. Arts* I. 550 *Burliers*, women are so called who are engaged in removing from woollen cloths, with tweezers, all irregular threads or hair.

Burler, variant of *BIRLER*.

Burlesque (bɔɪl'sk), *a.* and *sb.* [*a.* F. *burlesque*, ad. It. *burlesco* f. *burla* ridicule, mockery.] *A. adj.*

† 1. Droll in look, manner or speech; jocular; odd, grotesque. *Obs.*

1696 BLOUNT *Glossogr.*, *Burlesque* (Ital.) drolish, merry, pleasant. 1684 *Bucaniers Amer.* i. (ed. 2) 2 On his head he put a sutable cap which was made very burlesque. 1768-71 H. WALPOLE *Verde's Anecd. Paint.* (1786) III. 8 Graham speaks of Fuller as extravagant and burlesque in his manners. 1848 W. K. KELLY tr. *L. Blanc's Hist. Ten Y. II.* 299 Such was the burlesque origin of the ministry of three days.

2. Of the nature of derisive imitation; ironically bombastic, mock-heroic or mock-pathetic; now chiefly said of literary or oratorical compositions and dramatic representations; formerly (quot. 1712) also of pictorial caricatures. In *burlesque* author, poet, actor = a writer of burlesque literature, an actor of burlesque parts, there is a mixture of the attrib. use of the *sb.* in B.

a 1700 *Sc. Pasquils* (1868) 285, I shall not here, with burlesque pennen, Carp at her beauty. 1712 HUGHES in *Spect.* No. 537 P 2 Those burlesque Pictures, which the Italians call Caracatura's. 1714 *Ibid.* No. 616 P 2 Our little burlesque authors, who are the delight of ordinary readers. 1756 J. WATSON *Ess. Pope* (1782) I. iv. 255 Our nation can boast .. poems of the burlesque kind. 1814 SCOTT *Wav.* xxiii, Cathleen sang .. a little Gaelic song, the burlesque elegy of a countryman on the loss of his cow. 1840 MACAULAY *Ranke's Hist.*, *Ess.* (1854) II. 552 Burlesque romances in the sweetest Tuscan.

b. quasi-*sb.*
1748 FIELDING *J. Andrews Pref.*, No two species of writing can differ more widely than the comic and the burlesque. 1779 JOHNSON *L. P.*, *Convey* 43 A .. pleasing specimen of the familiar descending to the burlesque. 1821 CRAIG *Lect. Drawing* I. 52 This .. borders .. on the burlesque in representation.

c. *B. sb.*
1. That species of literary composition, or of dramatic representation, which aims at exciting laughter by caricature of the manner or spirit of serious works, or by ludicrous treatment of their subjects; a literary or dramatic work of this kind. Also attrib.

1667 SIR W. TEMPLE in *Four C. Eng. Lett.* 123, I hear Mr. Waller is turned to burlesque among them, while he is alive. 1709 TATLER No. 63 P 2 The Burlesque of Virgil himself has passed, among Men of little Taste, for Wit. 1768 TUCKER *L. Nat.* II. 130 Witty burlesques of the noblest performances. 1867 MISS BRADDOCK *Rupert Godw.* ii. 24 1/2 The .. night .. on which the new burlesque was to be performed. 1869 *Daily News* 7 Jan., For the last fifteen years, burlesque has been driving pantomime off the stage.

2. Grotesque imitation of what is, or is intended to be, dignified or pathetic, in action, speech, or manner; *concr.* an action or performance which casts ridicule on that which it imitates, or is itself ridiculous as an unsuccessful attempt at serious impressiveness; a mockery.

1753 HOGARTH *Anal. Beauty* vi. 31 Were it [the wig] to be worn as large again, it would become a burlesque. 1772 WESLEY *Jrnl.* 3 May, Why is such a burlesque upon public worship suffered? 1846 McCulloch *Acc. Brit. Empire* (1854) II. 213 The representative system .. established in Scotland previously to the Reform Act, was .. a burlesque of all principle.

Burlesque (bɔɪl'sk), *v.* [*f.* prec.] *trans.*
To turn into ridicule by grotesque parody or imitation; to caricature, travesty.

1676 A. RIVETUS JUN. *Mr. Smirke* i, It seem'd a piece of Wit .. to Burlesque them in earnest. a 1764 LLOYD *Ep. Mr. Colman* Poet. Wks. 1774 I. 167 Ere I burlesqu'd the rural cit. 1804-6 SYD. SMITH *St. Moral Philos.* xi. 136 Cervantes has burlesqued the old romances. 1855 MACAULAY *Hist. Eng.* IV. 600 Prior burlesqued .. the bombastic verses in which Boileau had celebrated the first taking of Namur.

b. *intr.*
1680 Du Moulin's *Adv. Ch. Eng. towards Rome* 31 (L.) Dr. Patrick joins hands with him in burlesquing upon the doctrine. 1683 tr. *Erasmus's Moria Enc.* 27 The Poet shall be burlesqu'd upon with his own doggerel rhythms.

Burlesqued (bɔɪl'skt), *ppl. a.* [*f.* as prec. + -ED.] Caricatured; made ridiculous; travestied. 1766 GOLDSM. *Vic. W.* (1857) xxvi, Groans of contrition burlesqued. 1784 *New Spectator* xix. 4/1 A .. burlesqued procession of the disappointed constituents.

Burlesquely (bɔɪl'skli), *adv.* [*f.* BURLESQUE, *a.* + -LY.] In a burlesque manner.

1817 COLERIDGE *Biog. Lit.* 221 We seem to sink most abruptly, not to say burlesquely. 1833 *Q. Rev.* XLIX. 41 [He] had ventured to assume the title, burlesquely ferocious, of Attorney-General to the Lantern.

Burlesquer (bɔɪl'skɔɪ), [*f.* BURLESQUE *v.* and *sb.* + -ER.] *a.* One who burlesques. *b.* An actor in burlesque dramas.

1659 COLVIL *Wigs Supplic.* (1751) 95 Fifteen poetasters, Half fools, half beggars, half burlesquers. 1751 SHENSTONE *Wks. & Lett.* III. 187, I wish the burlesquers of such ingenious profusions could be punished. 1869 *Daily News* 26 Nov., It was at this theatre that Mr. Henderson's troupe of English burlesquers appeared.

Burlesquing (bɔɪl'skɪŋ), *vbl. sb.* [*f.* as prec. + -ING.] Ridiculing by grotesque imitation or travesty. (Chiefly gerundial.)

1677 W. SHERLOCK *Answ. Pamph.* by T. Danson 70. 1699 FARQUHAR *Love & Bottle* I. i, His imitation was downright

burlesquing it. 1873 SYMONDS *Gk. Poets* viii. 247 Burlesquing the gods was always a capital resource of the comic poets.

Burlesquing (bɔɪl'skɪŋ), *ppl. a.* [*f.* as prec. + -ING.] That burlesques.

1688 W. DARRELL *St. Ignatius no Phanatick* 19 Vent your Burlesquing Vein till Dooms-Day. 1804 *Pall Mall G.* 31 Mar. 5/1 In sarcastic and yet burlesquing mood.

† **Burlet**, *Obs.* Also 6 *byrlet*, 7 *bourlet*, 7-8 *birlet*. [*a.* Fr. *bourlet* or *bourrelet*.] A padded roll of cloth for a woman's head; a coif or hood; also, a similar roll serving as a support for a ruff.

1490 *Coventry Acc.* in T. Sharp *Dissert. Pageants* (1825) 17 note, Item twoo Burlettis. 1552 HULOT, *Byrlet* or *tyrynge* for women, *calantica callotte en champagne*. 1576 in *Collect. Inventories* (1815) 219 A lang taillit gowne of layn .. with burlettis. 1611 COTGR., *Le grand papillon*, a high Bourlet, or Hood. 1676 PHILLIPS, *Birlet*, (old word) a Coife, or Hood. [Whence in BAILEY.]

Burlet: see BURLETTE.
† **Burletta**, *Obs.* [*a.* It. *burletta*, dim. f. *burla* fun.] A comic opera; a musical farce.

1728 H. WALPOLE *Corr.* (ed. 5) II. cxv. 243 The Burlettas are begun; I think not decisively liked or condemned yet. 1813 *Examiner* 15 Feb. 106/2 A revived Olio, calling itself the burletta of Poor Vulcan. 1879 PLANCHÉ *Extravag.* I. 13 A more appropriate name than 'Burletta', which disappeared from the play-bills on the emancipation of the minor theatres from their legal fetters in 1844.

b. *attrib.*
1762 *London Mag.* XXXI. 674 She then sings a very pretty song of Arne's in the Burletta taste. 1831 *Lincoln Herald* 6 May, The best buffo and burletta singer.

† **Burley**, *Obs. rare* -1. [*cf.* F. *bourrelet*, and BURBS. 1. 2.] 'The butt end of a lance' (Halliwell). 1548 *HALL Chron.* 12 One company had the placard, the rest the port, the burley, the tassels .. all gylte.

Burley, -lie, -ly. *Sc.* and *north. Eng.* A corrupted form of BYRLAW, *q. v.*, used in comb. **Burleyman**, also **Burleybailie**, an officer of a *byrlaw-court*; see quot. 1879.

1599 SKENE *Verb. Signif.* (JAM.) Laws of Byrlaw are maid & determined be consent of neighbors .. quhilk .. ar commonly called Byrlaw-man. 1750 C. CAMPBELL in *Stewart's Trial App.* 146, I .. think it quite right to have burliemen .. You will therefore appoint two discreet honest men for that purpose of the tenants; and .. be sure you swear them to fidelity in their office. a 1778 RAMSAY *Forms* (1800) II. 536 Jude took him for a burlie-bailie. 1864 A. McKAY *Hist. Kilmarnock* 108 Twelve young men, with such a number of the burliemen in town. 1875 *Lanc. Gloss.* (E. D. S.) 6a *Burly-man*. 1879 *Athenaeum* 26 July 115 Burliemen are still appointed at the Courts Leet and Courts Baron. Men of agricultural experience are always chosen, and their duty is to value damages, e. g. to crops, from cattle straying.

Burly (bɜːrli), *adv.* [*f.* BURLY *a.* + -LY.] In a pompous or swaggering manner.

1863 LYTTON *Caxtoniana* I. 70 Polysperchon called in person, and said, burlyly, 'Why do you refuse my invitation?'

Burliness (bɜːrliːnəs), [*f.* BURLY + -NESS.] Burly state; fullness of figure; stoutness, bigness.

1612 DRAYTON *Poly-olb.* viii. 119 Into a lesser roomth thy burlinesse to bring. 1832 L. HUNT *Sir R. Esler* (1850) 128 In the rest of his face .. a kind of bloated prominence, or rather burliness. 1899 SALA *Tr. round Clock* (1861) 143 Who shall tell .. the pichy burliness of their bulging sides.

Burling, *Obs. exc. dial.* A yearling heifer.

1503 *Will of Etton, Lincoln* (Somerset Ho.) A kowe & a burling. 1863 MORTON *Cycl. Agric.* (E. D. S.) *Burling* (Linc.), a yearling heifer.

Burling (bɜːrliŋ), *vbl. sb.* 1 Also 6 *byrling*. [*f.* BURLY *v.* + -ING.]

1. The dressing of cloth, esp. by removing knots. 1530 PALSGR. 198/2 Byrling of clothe, *pinure*. 1550 *Act* 5 & 6 Edw. VI. xxii, Mills called Gig-Mills, for the perching and burling of Cloth. 1601 HOLLAND *Pliny* II. 560 They fall anone to burling of it with Cimolia. 1836 *Use Philos. Mannf.* 187 Burling is .. a process, in which the dried cloth is examined minutely in every part, freed from knots or uneven threads, and repaired by sewing any little rents.

† b. (contemptuously.)

1548 HOOPER *Commandm.* x. Wks. (1843-52) 377 Other sort .. are a-dilling and burling of their hair.

2. *attrib.*, as in *burling-comb*, -*machine*; also *burling-iron*, a pair of tweezers or small pincers for extracting the knots from wool.

1530 PALSGR. 198/2 Byrling yron, *unes espines*. 1603 HOLLAND *Plutarch's Mor.* 1231 He .. all to beclawed and mangled him with tuckers cards, and burling combs. 1648 HERRICK *Hesp.*, *To Painter*, Then for an easie fansie, place A burling iron for his face. 1730-6 BAILEY, *Burling-iron*, a Sort of Pincers or Nippers for that Use.

3. *concr.* See quot., and cf. BURLY *v.* 1. 2.

1847-78 HALLIWELL, *Burlings*, pieces of dirty wool.

† **Burling**, *vbl. sb.* *Obs.* Cf. BURLY *sb.*, BURLE.

c 1530 BERNERS *Arth. Lyt. Bryt.* (1814) 240 There began much hurlyng and burlunge in the court.

Burlew-beanie. See quot. 1884.

Ballad, 'K. Arth. & K. Cornwall' in *Child Ballads* II. 287/1 Forth is gone Burlew-beanie, As fast as he cold hie. *Ibid.* lxx, I conure thee, thou Burlew-beanie, The powder-box thou feitch me.

1884 *Child Ballads* II. 30. 279/2 A Burlew-beanie, or Billy-Blin, a seven-headed, fire-breathing fiend whom he has in his service.

Burly, *sb.*, and **Burly-hurly**, early var. of HURLY-BURLY.

1825 *Blackw. Mag.* XXXVIII. 310 Let him fancy the burly—the contention—the claims and counterclaims. 1563 GOLDING *Cæsar* (1565) 31 Againe of late in Italy at the burlyhurly of the bondmen.

Burly (bɜːrli), *a.* and *adv.* Forms: 3 *borli*,

4-5 *borelich*, *burlich*, -*lych* (e, (north.) *burely*, 6 *boorelie*, -*lye*, *bourlie*, -*ly*, *Sc.* 5 *buyrlie*, 6 *buirlie*, 7 *borely*, 4- *burly*. (See also BOWERLY, BUIRDLY.) [ME. *borlich*, northern *burli*. Usually identified with OHG. *burlich*, MHG. *burlich* exalted, lofty, stately, f. **bur-* cogn. w. OHG. *burjan* to lift up + -*lich* = -*ly*. If this be so, the word must have existed in OE. or ON.; but it is unrecorded, and no plausible etymon for the first element has yet been found in either of those langs. The phonology is also difficult, for the ME. *borli*, *borelych*, 16th c. *borely*, *boorelye*, northern 15th c. *burely*, *Sc.* *buyrlie*, *buirlie*, require a ME. **bōrli*, OE. type **bōrlic*, whence the later (*burli*, *bōrli*) comes by shortening the vowel before two consonants as in *turn*, *month*. The spelling *burly* was originally only northern. The dial. BOWERLY would seem from the sense to be a variant, but it is difficult to reconcile phonologically with the ME. forms.]

A. adj.
† 1. Stately, dignified, of noble or imposing presence or appearance. *Obs.*

a 1300 *Cursor M.* 854t Salamon Was king sittand in his fader tron, He was a borli [v. r. burli] bachelere. c 1375 BARBOUR *Troy-bk.* l. 295 [pe] commowns hade gret ferly Of sa buyrly a compayne. 1 a 1400 *Morte Arth.* 219t Grete wele my ladye [pe] qwenc. And alle [pe] burliche birdes pat to hir boure lenger. 1664 *Flodden F.* i. 8 A Talbot brave, a borely tike. *Ibid.* iii. 25 A burly band Of warlike wights. *absol.* c 1400 *Anturs of Arth.* I. He .. bede the burlyche his brand, that burneschit was brist.

† b. *poet.* Of things: Goodly, excellent, noble. *Obs.* (As an epithet of *spear*, *brand*, the meaning may have been 'stout': cf. BOISTEROUS.)

c 1325 E. E. Allit. P. B. 1488 With mony a borlych best al of brende golde. c 1340 *Gaw. & Gr. Knt.* 2224 A denex ax nwe dynt, [pe] dynt with [t]o zelde With a borelych bytte. c 1400 *Anturs of Arth.* xliii, Greselle .. wos the burlokke[st] blonke, ther euyr bote brede. c 1450 *Rauf Cothear* 190 Within that burelie bygging. *Ibid.* 266 Ane burely bed was wrocht in that wane, Closit with Courtings, and cumlie cled. 1535 STEWART *Crom. Scot.* (1858) I. 7 He semit weill to weir ane burlie brand. 1873 SYMONDS *Gk. Poets* v. 124 My wealth's a burly spear and brand.

2. Stout, sturdy, massively built, corpulent; of large body or trunk.

c 1340 *Gaw. & Gr. Knt.* 766 A won in a mote .. loken vnder boze, Of mony borelych bole. c 1400 *Destr. Troy* 3769 Tanelus .. was a tulke hoge, Borly of brede. 1513 MORE *Hist. Rich.* III. Wks. 36/2 Somewhat corpulent and boorelye, and nathelesse not vncomelye. 1566 SPENSER *As-trophel Elegy* 7 There might you see the burly Beare. 1709 ADDISON *Tatler* No. 116 P 1 She had a Mind to look as big and burly as other Persons of her Quality. 1856 Mrs. BROWNING *Aur. Leigh* i. 596 Burly oaks projecting from the line. 1866 KINGSLEY *Herev.* vii. 133 He singled out the burliest knight he saw.

† b. Of a garment, or wool: Thick, heavy. *Obs.* (Cf. BURLY *sb.*)

1651 *Mercurius Politicus* 1153 Casting his Eye upon the Executioner, he [Earl of Derby] said, Thy Coat is so burly, thou wilt never hit right. 1805 LUCOCK *Nat. Wool* 88 The sheep of England, when transported to Jamaica, yield the same kind of 'burly fleece'.

3. 'Big'; domineering, bluff. *arch.*

1592 SYLVESTER *Triumph Faith* II. 25 The Circumsised Crew Of Cabalists and burly Talmudists. 1645 MILTON *Tetrach.* (1851) 180 Erasmus .. was wrote against by som burly standard Divine. 1648 Jos. BEAUMONT *Psyche* 224 (L.) When a burly tempest rolls his pride about the world. 1864 J. H. NEWMAN *Apol.* (1885) Pref. 16 They [Englishmen] are as generous as they are hasty and burly.

4. *Comb.*, as *burly-boned*, -*headed*, *adjs.*

1590 *Almond for Parat* (1845) 12 These are nothing in comparison of his ancient burli-bond aduictees. 1592 NASHES *P. Penitense* 25 Unweildie burli-bond soldiery. 1593 SHAKS. 2 *Hen. VI.* iv. x. 60 Cut .. out the burly bond Clowne in chins of Beefe. 1837 CARLYLE *Fr. Rev.* I. i. iv. 108 Destiny has work for that swart burly-headed Mirabeau.

B. adv. Sturdily, stoutly.

c 1400 *Destr. Troy* 11059 So burly [pe] big brusshit to gedur.

† **Burly**, *v.* *Obs. rare* -1. [*f.* the *adj.*] *trans.* with *out*: To make burly; to puff out.

1635 QUARLES *Embl.* i. xii. (1718) 49 Think'st thou that paunch that burles out thy coat Is thriving fat.

Burm, var. form of BORM or BARM.

Burmaiden, *obs. f.* of BOWERMAIDEN.

Burn (bɜːm), *sb.* 1 Forms: 1 *burna*, *burne*, *burn*, 2-6 *burne*, (4 *bourne*, *buerne*), 4-5 *bryrne*, 3- *burn*. See also BOURNE *sb.* 1 [Common Teut.: the OE. *burna* wk. masc., *burne* wk. fem., *burn* str. fem. (apparently not distinguished in sense) correspond to OFris. *burna* masc., MDu. *borne* masc., Du. *born*, MLG. *borne*, *born* masc., mod.G. (*poet.*) *born* masc., which are metathetic forms of the words appearing as OHG. *brunna*, Goth. *brunna* wk. masc., Du. *bron* masc., ON. *brunn-r* str. masc., repr. OTeut. types **brunnon-*, **brunno-s*. The primitive and prevailing sense of the Teut. word is 'spring, fountain', of which there are some traces in OE., the word being used to render Lat. *fons* of the Vulgate.

A connexion is often assumed with *brunn-* ablaut-stem of OTeut. **brin-n-an* BURN *v.* 1, on the supposition that that

In the reconciliation developed by Prof. Skene Academy, 1874, Dec. 250.

root had originally the wider sense 'well up, be in commotion', applicable to water as well as to fire; but of this there is no actual evidence. Curtius and others have regarded the sb. as cogn. w. Gr. *φύω* a well, supposing the root to be the same with that of *L. fervere* to boil up; but the form of the Teut. word does not permit this explanation.]

1. In OE.: A spring, fountain; a stream or river. In later use: A small stream or brook. Now (exc. in the form *BOURNE sb.*) chiefly north.

c. 1000 *Ag. Gosp.* John xviii. 1 Pa eode he ofer ða burnan Cedron. a 1250 *Moral Ode in Lamb. Hom.* 175 Weter. of þe burne. a 1250 *Owl & Night* 916 An ydel wel, That springeth bi burne thar is suel. 1375 *Barbour Bruce* vii. 78 At thar burn eschapiþ the king. a 1400 *Cov. Myst.* (1841) 162 By bankys and brynnyngs browne. 1335 *Stewart Cron.* Scot. II. 611 Thair blude like burnis rynnand on the grene. 1641 *Nth. Riding Records* iv. 206 Presentment for nonpayment of assessment. for Whitby-burne [previously always beek]. 1753 *Stewart's Trial* 191 Allan Breck. was fishing in a burn near the deponent's house. 1839 *Stonhouse Axholme* 311 Well watered by a beek or burn. 1855 *Brownrigg Last Ride together* viii. Yonder girl that fords the burn. 1876 *Black Macleod of D. I.* 176 Munching the young grass, and drinking out of the burn.

2. a. Water from a fountain or well. b. 'Warm water used in brewing or washing' (Jamieson).

a 800 *Corpus Gloss.* (O. E. Texts) 1185 *Latex*, burne. c. 1000 *Ælfric Voc. Suppl.* in Wr. Wulcker 177 *Latex*, burna. c. 1250 *Lyndesay Satyre* 4140 To mak thin aill they think na falt Of mekill burne and lytill malt. a 1806 *Allan o' Maut* in Jamieson *Pop. Ballads* II. 239 (Jam.) They..put the burn untill the gleed.

b. Said poet. like flood, of the sea. Cf. *BROOK*. c. 1400 *Destr. Troy* 12523 Thretty and two [ships] There were bren on the burne with the breme low.

† c. To make one's burn: to 'make water'. Obs. 1768 *Picken Poems* 118 (Jam.) Or stap the very haly sang To mak his burn.

3. attrib. and in comb., as burn-brae, -fishing, -foot, -head, -mouth, -trout; also burn-gate, a small water-course; burn-side, the side of a brook, the strip of ground alongside of it.

1754 *Ramsay Tea-T. Misc.* (1733) I. 57 They bigg'd a bower on yon 'burn-brae. 1873 G. C. DAVIES *Mount. & Mere* xiii. 104 Good sport for 'burn fishing. 1838 *Carlyle Remin.* 1. 361 Every dell and 'burngate. he had traversed. 1875 J. VEITCH *Tweed* 30 The depths of glen that fold The 'Burn-heads. c. 1400 *Destr. Troy* 3768 All burne were þai backe to þe 'burne syde. 1789 *Burns A wauchrife Minnie* ii. By yon burnside. 'wi' my minnie. 1849 W. IRVING *Crayon Misc.* 255 The green shaws and burnside of Scotland. 1805 R. FORSYTH *Beauties Scotl.* II. 360 Pike are... caught with... lines baited with 'burn-trouts or frogs.

† *Burn*, sb. 2. Obs. exc. dial. Also 4 byrne, 5-7 burne, 8 Sc. birn. Contracted form of *BURDEN*.

c. 1375 *Barbour St. Thadde* 231 Al my synnis ful & sere I band as it a byrne hade bene. a 1400 *Chester Pl.* i. (1843) 65 Isaake. taketh a burne of stickes and beareth after his father. 1595 B. CHAPPELL in Farr's *S. P.* (1845) II. 465 The earth of late hath shakt herself, As wearie of her sinfull burne. 1614 *Scourge of Venus* (1876) 40 Weeping much her burne to beare. a 1774 *Fergusson Farmer's Ingle in Poems* (1845) 38 How big a birn maun lie on Bessie's back. 1855 E. WAUGH in *Lanc. S.* 50 Gathering. 'a burn o' nettles' to put in their broth. 1880 *West. Cornw. Gloss.* (E. D. S.) *Burn*, twenty-one hakes (probably a burden).

Hence burn-rope, a rope for carrying a burden. *Burn* (būm), sb. 3. Forms: 4-6 brenne, 6-7 burne, 7- burn, Sc. 6- birn (in sense 2). [f. *BURN v.* 1. The earlier *brenne* derives from the ME. form *brennen* of the vb.: it took the place of the orig. sb. *bryne*, *brene*, *BRUNE*, q. v.]

1. The act or effect of burning; esp. an injury to the body caused by burning, a burnt place.

[a 1300 *Havelok* 1239 Hwan he... the fir brouth on brenne.] 1594 *Plat Chem. Concl.* 30 It is commended especiallie in a burne. 1601 *Holland Pliny* xx. viii. (R.) [It] healeth any burne or scalding. a 1691 *Boyle (J.)* A very effectual remedy against burns. 1813 J. THOMSON *Inflamm.* 137 An external injury, as a blow, a wound, or a burn.

2. A mark made by burning, a brand.

[1543 *Fitzherb. Surv.* 28 b, If any of these sayde officers fynde any manner of cattell hauynge no suche brenne.] 1563 *Sc. Acts Mary* (1597) § 85 That all bestiall, slane to landward and Burgh... bring with them in all times cumming their hide, skin, and birne, vnder the paine of confiscation. 1661 *Sc. Acts Chas. II.* xxxiii. (Jam.) That no barrel be sooner made and blown, but the coupers birn be set thereon. 1703 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 3947/4 A Burn on the near Shoulder with the Letters R. C. 1800 *Scott Monast.* ix. A fat bullock... somewhat kenspeckle, and marked both with cut and birn.

b. 'Skin and birn', a common phrase, denoting the whole of anything, or of any number of persons and things. Jamieson, s.v. *Birn*. (Cf. quot. 1563 above.)

1718 *Ramsay Christ's Kirk* III. xv. The smith's wife... fand him skin and birn. 1806 A. DOUGLAS *Poems* 143 (Jam.) Now a' thegither, skin an' birn, They're round the...table.

c. A branding iron, brand.

1641 *Best Farm. Bks.* (1856) 71 When yow marke... dippe in the very bottoome of the burne and botte, and then it maketh a cleaner and better impression.

d. attrib.

1703 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 4179/4 An X burn mark on the near Buttock. 1879 *Shropshire Word-bk.* *Burn-mark*, (1) the mark on an animal's hide made by the brand-iron, obs.; (2) the stamp of the brand-iron on tools and implements.

3. Heat, 'hot haste', velocity. *rare*.

1825 L. HUNT *Capt. Sword* vi. 75 Lo! the earth went round To the burn of their speed with a golden sound.

Burn (būm), v. 1. Pa. t. and pple. burned (būnd), burnt (būnt). Forms: a. Inf. 1 beornan, (bearnan, bernan), 2-3 beornen, birnen, 2-4 berne(n), 4-6 birne, byrne, 5-7 burne, (6 bourne), 6- burn. Pa. t., str. 1 bearn, (barn), pl. burnon, 3 born, pl. burnen; weak 3-4 bernde, 5 byrnyd, 6 byrned, 7- burnt, 9 burned. Pa. pple. 1 bornen; weak 6- burnt, burned. B. Inf. 1 brinnan, 2-3 brinnen, 3-4 brinne, brin, 4-6 brynne, bryn. Pa. t. (1 bran), 3-5 brint, (3 brind), 4 brinde, 4-5 brynt, 5 brynnede, 5- Sc. brunt, (6 brint). Pa. pple. 3-6 brint, 3-4 brind, 5-6 brynt, 6- Sc. brunt, (6 brout). 7. Inf. 1 bærnann, 2-3 bærnenn, bærnenn, 3 bærnenn, 4-6 bærnenn. Pa. t. 1 bærne, 2 bærne, 3 bærne, 4 bærne, 5 bærne, 6 bærne, 7 bærne, 8 bærne, 9 bærne, 10 bærne, 11 bærne, 12 bærne, 13 bærne, 14 bærne, 15 bærne, 16 bærne, 17 bærne, 18 bærne, 19 bærne, 20 bærne, 21 bærne, 22 bærne, 23 bærne, 24 bærne, 25 bærne, 26 bærne, 27 bærne, 28 bærne, 29 bærne, 30 bærne, 31 bærne, 32 bærne, 33 bærne, 34 bærne, 35 bærne, 36 bærne, 37 bærne, 38 bærne, 39 bærne, 40 bærne, 41 bærne, 42 bærne, 43 bærne, 44 bærne, 45 bærne, 46 bærne, 47 bærne, 48 bærne, 49 bærne, 50 bærne, 51 bærne, 52 bærne, 53 bærne, 54 bærne, 55 bærne, 56 bærne, 57 bærne, 58 bærne, 59 bærne, 60 bærne, 61 bærne, 62 bærne, 63 bærne, 64 bærne, 65 bærne, 66 bærne, 67 bærne, 68 bærne, 69 bærne, 70 bærne, 71 bærne, 72 bærne, 73 bærne, 74 bærne, 75 bærne, 76 bærne, 77 bærne, 78 bærne, 79 bærne, 80 bærne, 81 bærne, 82 bærne, 83 bærne, 84 bærne, 85 bærne, 86 bærne, 87 bærne, 88 bærne, 89 bærne, 90 bærne, 91 bærne, 92 bærne, 93 bærne, 94 bærne, 95 bærne, 96 bærne, 97 bærne, 98 bærne, 99 bærne, 100 bærne, 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d. In certain games: of a person approaching so near to a concealed object sought, that he would feel it very warm or hot, if it were fire. (Cf. WARM.) Hence *fig.* To approach near to the truth. [Cf. Fr. 'nous brûlons, comme on dit au jeu de pincette'.]

1801 *Blackw. Mag.* Jan. 355 (JAM.) As children say at hide-and-seek... I do flatter myself that I burn in the conclusion of this paper. 1871 F. HALL *Mod. English* (1873) 339 As children say at play, Mr. White burns here.

e. Said *poet.* or rhetorically of water: To be in violent agitation. *rare.*

1698 RAY *Disc.* iii. (1732) 18 The whole Sea boiled and burned. 1798 POPE *Dunc.* ii. 184 His [Eridanus] rapid waters in their passage burn.

4. Of candles, lamps, etc.: To be in process of combustion so as to give light; hence, to flame, give light, shine. Also *transf.* of the sun, stars, or any other luminary.

a. a 1000 *Cadmon's Ex.* (Gr.) 115 Heofon candel burn. c 1000 *Ag. Gosh.* Luke xii. 35 Sin cower lendenn begyrde & leofhafu byrned [1850 *Lindisf.* bernendo; 973 *Rushw.* berende; 1160 *Hallam* bearnende]. c 1000 *Trin. Coll. Hom.* 47 We ojen... on ure honde beren cande bernende. c 1300 *St. Bradan* 337 Hou this tapres berneth thus. 1368 J. Heywood *Prov. & Epigr.* (1867) 104 This candell burnth dim. 1601 SHAKS. *Jnl. C.* iv. iii. 275 How ill this taper burns. 1717 POPE *Eloisa* 258 The torch of Venus burns not for the dead. 1871 MORLEY *Voltaire* (1886) 24 So clearly does that light burn for many even now.

b. c 1200 *Chron. Vilod.* 318 Pe cerge þe stode bryngnyng þe auter by.

d. c 1300 *St. Bradan* 335 This tapres brende longe y-nout. c 1400 *Sir Amadace* (1842) 29 Candils ther were brennyng toe. 1506 *Pilgr. Perf.* (W. de W. 1531) 40 A lampe that brenned continually.

b. Of other objects: To appear as if on fire, glow with light or colour.

1493 JAS. I. *King's Q.* xlviii. A ruby. Smyt birnyng vpon hir quhyte throte. c 1435 *Torr. Portugal* 555 On the taylor an hed ther wasse, That byrnyd bryght as anny glase. 1530 PALSGR. 460/2 His eyes burned in his head, as lyght as a candell. 1666 SHAKS. *Ant. & Cl.* ii. ii. 197 The barge she sat in, like a burnisht Throne, Burnt on the water. 1667 MILTON *P. L.* ii. 538 With feats of Arms From either end of Heaven the welkin burns. a 1728 ROWE (J.) Oh! prince, oh! wherefore burn your eyes? 1825 TENNYSON *Pal. Art.* 48 The light aerial gallery, golden-rail'd, Burnt like a fringe of fire. 1872 BLACK *Adv. Phaeton* xix. 265 The earth-banks of the railway-line burned crimson under the darkening sky.

† c. Of the sea: To be phosphorescent. Cf. BURNING *vbl.* sb. 3.

1667 in *Phil. Trans.* II. 497 At East and South winds it [the sea] burned most.

5. To suffer destruction, injury, change of structure or properties from contact with fire; to be reduced to ashes, a cinder, etc., by fire; to be scorched, charred, etc. Often said of food spoiled by too great or prolonged exposure to heat in roasting or baking. To burn to (the inside of a vessel): to adhere to by burning; also with *to* (absol. as adv.). To burn away: to be gradually dissipated or consumed by burning (also quasi-*refl.* to burn itself away). Sometimes with *adjs.* denoting the result, as *to burn black, brown, hard*, etc.

a. a 1225 *Anec. R.* 242 Hwo ber euer for wiðinnen hire þot þe hernde? 1390 SHAKS. *Com. Err.* i. ii. 44 The Capon burnes, the Pig fals from the spit. 1677 MOXON *Mech. Exerc.* (1703) 10 You must take special Care that your Iron burn not in the Fire. 1709 *Brit. Apollo* II. No. 69. 3/2 The Pudding burnt unto the Pot. 1725 BRADLEY *Fam. Dict.* II. s.v. *Syrup*, Boil it [sugar] to a Caramel, and take great care it does not burn to. 1830 M. DONOVAN *Dom. Econ.* II. 267 The meat would inevitably burn, and become hard and tasteless.

b. a 1300 *Cursor M.* 22704 þis midl erth... Al to noght sal brin awal. c 1440 *Anc. Cookery in Househ. Ord.* (1790) 439 Boyle hom toguder with eys fire, that hit brenne not. a 1500 *Myrr. Our Ladye* 296 A busshe al on fyre. & yet it brente not.

† b. *transf.* Of crops, etc.: To be withered by the sun's heat; to suffer decay in such a manner as to present the appearance of being scorched.

1523 FITZGER. *Husb.* § 23 If drye wether come, it [the grass] wyll drye and burne vpon the grounde, and waste away. 1750 ELLIS *Mod. Husbandm.* II. ii. v. 42 The Crop [of turnips] would set, or what we call *burn* or *spoil*, if it was not houghed in due time.

6. To suffer death by fire. Now somewhat *arch.*, the usual modern expression being *to be burnt*.

1600 FAIRFAX *Tasso* ii. liii. 30 With him content Was she to lye, that would with her haue brent. c 1604 J. C. in *Shaks. C. Praise* 63 They should all burne for their vilde heresie. 1779 FORREST *Voy. N. Guinea* 170 Here... women often kill themselves, or burn their deceased husbands; but men also burn in honour of their deceased masters. 1878 TENNYSON *Q. Mary* i. i. 7, I can't argue upon it; but I and my old woman 'ud burn upon it.

7. To burn into (of fire, a caustic, etc.): to eat its way into (a thing or substance). Usually *fig.* of an event, a conviction, etc.; to make an indelible impression upon (a person's mind).

1803 LAMB *Elia* Ser. ii. Pref. (1865) 238 The impressions of infancy had burnt into him. 1801 HUGHES *Tom Brown Oxf.* I. xvi. 318 The scenes of the last few hours... burnt into his soul. 1878 MORLEY *Crit. Misc.* Ser. i. 213 Deeply and bitterly the spectacle of this injustice burnt into his soul.

II. Transitive senses.

* To consume by fire.

8. Of fire: To destroy, consume (any com-

bustible object). Of persons: To cause to be destroyed or consumed by fire; to set on fire, commit to the flames. Also *absol.*

a. c 1200 *Trin. Coll. Hom.* 61 He wile smite... mid orde... and piltten and berned. c 1205 LAY. 1400 Purh þi lond heo ærneð & hærieð & berneð. 1375 BARBOUR *Bruce* xv. 438 Of his menzhe sum send he For till burne townys twa or thre. c 1511 1st *Eng. Bk. Amer.* (Arb.) Intro. 28/2 The towne Bombassa, that they also byrned and robbed. 1535 COVERDALE *Rev.* viii. 7 The thyrd parte of trees was burnt, and all grene grasse was brent. 1668 STILLINGFL. *Orig. Sac.* i. iii. § 4 Nabonasser did burn and destroy all the antient records of the Chaldeans. 1717 LADY M. W. MONTAGUE *Lett.* II. xvi. 38 This letter... you may burn it when you have read enough. a 1843 SOUTHEY *Reproach* iii, They were for burning the body outright.

b. a 1300 *Cursor M.* 12219 Fur i wat him mai noght brin. 1375 BARBOUR *Bruce* xiii. 737 [He] brynt hous and tuk the pray. c 1400 *Melayne* 27 [He] Brynnede tham in a fire. 1558 LYNDSEY *Monarchie* 3476 Quhen all wes brynt,— flesche, blud and bonis. 1609 SKENE *Reg. Maj.* 94 Gif ane alledges that ane other hes brunt his house.

γ. a 1000 *Sal. & Sat.* (Gr.) 412 Briceð & bærneð bold ætimbriu. c 1200 ORMIN 1530 Patt illeke chaff patt helle fir shall bærnenn. 1297 R. GLOUC. 511 Hii barnde hous & other god, & defoulede louerd & hine.

δ. 1254 O. E. *Chron.* (Laud MS.) an. 1137. § 3 Pa ræueden hi & brendon alle þe tunes. c 1325 E. E. *Allit. P.* B. 916 Þe brath of his breth þat brennez alle þinkes. c 1400 *Destr. Troy* 11931 The knyghtes... brenryn and betyn down all the big houses. 1507 *Bk. Gd. Mann.* (W. de W.) L. ij, The Fenix is brente in the myddes of theym. 1528 MORSE *Heresyes* ii. Wks. 179/5 The bookes also bee gone and loste, whan there was no law made yet to brenne them. 1667 HOWELL *Londinop.* 120 Beat them to their houses, and brent them therein. 1796 F. LEIGHTON *MS. Let. to Y. Roucher* Feb., I heard yesterday from a Shropshire Farmer the old verb *bren* and its participle *brent* for *burn* burnt.]

b. With *advbs.* or complementary phrases. To burn up: to consume entirely by burning. To burn away: to consume or dissipate gradually by burning. To burn out: to consume the contents and interior of (a building). So also To burn to, into (formerly also in) *ashes, powder*, etc.; and To burn (a building) down, to the ground.

a. c 1300 in E. E. P. (1864) 4 Þe fire sal berne vp sinful man þat hab misdo. c 1511 1st *Eng. Bk. Amer.* (Arb.) Intro. 33/4 Thonder & lytenynge shall... bourne theym all in po[w]der. 1611 BIBLE *Job* i. 16 The fire of God... hath burnt vp the sheepe. 1858 LN. ST. LEONARDS *Handy Bk. Prop.* Law xv. 101 Although the house should be burned down, yet the tenant must continue to pay the rent. *Mod. News-paper.* The first and second floors of the front building were burned out, roofs off.

b. a 1300 *Cursor M.* 13237 And al to powder þai it brint. 1548 *Compl. Scot.* 21 Vas it [Carthage] noch brynt in puldir ande asse.

γ. c 1200 ORMIN 1468, & brenn itt all till asskes þær. 1388 WYCLIF *Lev.* vi. 10 The asken, the which the fier vovrynge brent out. — *Eccles.* xlix. 8 Thei brenden vp the chosen cite of hoelynesse. 1549 LATIMER *Serm. bef. Edw. VI.* iii. (Arb.) 98 God... brente theym all vp wyth brymstone. 1596 SPENSER *F. Q.* i. ix. 10 The fire which them to ashes brent. 1863 MRS. GASKELL *Sylvia's L.* II. 176 It were a good job it were brenned down.

c. Used in the imperative as an imprecation. 1711 SWIFT *Lett.* (1767) III. 287 The box at Chester; oh, burn that box, and hang that Sterne. 1838 DICKENS *O. Twist* xxxix, 'Why, burn my body!' said the man.

9. Specific uses of sense 8.

a. To make a burnt-offering of (incense, a victim) to a deity. Also *absol.* (with incense as implied object).

1535 COVERDALE *Exek.* xliii. 21 Thou shalt take the bullock & burne him in a seuerall place. 1667 MILTON *P. L.* i. 474 One [altar] of Syrian mode, whereon to burn His odious offerings. 1718 POPE *Iliad* i. 607 The priest... burns the offering with his holy hands. 1839 THIRLWALL *Greece* II. 232 He burnt a great pile of precious incense on the altar. 1883 *Harper's Mag.* Nov. 877/2 These altruistic servants of 'society'... burn the lamp of sacrifice before this modern shrine.

b. a 1300 *Cursor M.* 1008 He to brin his tend bigan.

γ. c 1200 ORMIN 1745 Patt recless... te biscoopp þær Beforenn alltett brendde. 1388 WYCLIF *Lev.* vi. 12 He shal brenne the talwz of the pesible thingis. 1556 TINDALE *Luke* i. 9 His lott was to be en odours. a 1556 CRANMER *Wks.* (Parker Soc.) I. 85 He... made him carry the same wood wherewith he should be brent.

† b. With metonymy of the object; To burn a country: i. e. to set fire to all objects on the surface of the ground. *Obs.*

c 1205 LAY. 6130 Mine kene men... al þis lond bearned. c 1350 *Will. Palerne* 2646 Þei hadde luperli here lond brend and destrued. 1470 HARDING *Chron.* (1543) 165 Into Fiftes he went, and brent it clene. 1470-83 MALORY *Arthur* i. xiii, They lete brenne and destroye alle the contrey afore them. 1571 CAMPION *Hist. Ire.* xi. vii. (1633) 94 He spoyled Arthur Mac Murrough, brent his country.

c. *fig.* To burn one's boats: to cut oneself off from all chance of retreat. To burn the Thames: to perform some startling prodigy, 'set the Thames on fire'. To burn the mill (in allusion to letting the millstones become red-hot by friction from want of grist).

1719 D'URFEE *Pills* (1719) II. 24 His Measure too so scanty, she fear'd 't would burn her Mill. 1797 WOLCOTT (P. Pindar) *Sir F. Banks & Emp. of Mor.* 6 Whose modest wisdom... never aims To find the longitude, or burn the Thames. 1886 *Manch. Guard.* 23 Feb. 5 The sooner Mr. Goschen burns the boats in which he quitted the shores of Opposition, etc.

10. To put to death by fire, *esp.* as a judicial punishment. Now often *to burn alive*, to death.

a 1300 *Cursor M.* 21235 Barhabas... bath for draun and brint [v. r. brend] wit feir. 1547 *Homilies* i. Faith ii. (1859) 41 Some have been... beheaded, some brent without mercy. 1558 LYNDSEY *Monarchie* 5103 Sum hangit... Sum brynt; sum soddin in to leiddis. 1591 SHAKS. 1 *Hen. VI.* v. iv. 33 O burne her, burne her, hanging is too good. 1625 PAGITT *Christianogr.* iii. (1636) 112 He was brent for an hereticke. 1682 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 2080/4 Elizabeth Gaunt likewise Convicted of High Treason was burnt at Tyburn. 1753 *Scotts Mag.* Apr. 200/2 Anne Williams was burnt at a stake at Gloucester, Apr. 23, for poisoning her husband. 1855 BROWN-ING *Heretic's Trag.*, *Men & Wom.* ii. 199 They bring him now to be burned alive.

11. To consume for artificial warming or lighting; to keep (a candle, a lamp) alight.

1712 ADDISON *Spect.* No. 488 ¶ 3 Let a family burn but a candle a-night less. 1866 WILSON *Chem.* 128 Fuel of any kind should never be burned in rooms, unless in fireplaces provided with chimneys. *Mod.* I do not burn gas in my bedroom.

¶ *Phys.* Sometimes used for: To consume by oxidation with evolution of heat (cf. 2 ¶).

Mod. A large portion of our food does not go to form tissue, but is simply burnt as fuel for the production of heat.

b. In *fig. phrases*: To burn daylight: to burn candles in the daytime, also to waste or consume the daylight. So † To burn seasonable weather: to fail to turn it to advantage, consume, waste (*obs.*). To burn the (or one's) candle at both ends; see CANDLE.

1598 SHAKS. *Rom. & Jul.* i. iv. 43 (Q. 1) *Merc.* We burne daylight here. *Rom.* Nay thats not so. *Merc.* I mean sir in delay, We burne our lights by night, like Lampes by day. 1628 RALEIGH *Son to Father* in *Rem.* (1667) 120 It is a strange piece of Art... to lie idly at the road, burning so seasonable weather. c 1600 Z. BOYD *Zion's Flowers* (1855) 92 Why burne wee day light? wee have time and place. a 1643 W. CARTWRIGHT *Ordinary* i. ii. (D.) Her nose the candle... Put out your nose, good lady, you burn daylight. 1682 N. O. BOILEAU *Lutrin* iii. 100 They burn the day in game, and sport the faster. 1738 SWIFT *Polite Conv.* iii. (D) No candles yet... don't let us burn daylight. 1800 SCOTT *Ivanhoe* xliii, Burn not daylight about it; we have short time to spare.

† c. *fig.* To burn it blue: † to act outrageously.

Obs. slang. (See BLUE.)

1731 SWIFT *Strophon & Ch. Wks.* 1755 IV. L. 153 Miss Moll the jade will burn it blue.

12. *fig.* To inflame with desire, love, passion, etc.

a 1300 *Cursor M.* 4315 First to brin [v. r. brin] þin hert wit-in. 1513 DOUGLAS *Æneis* i. x. 11 Of creull Juno the dreid brynt hir inwart. a 1508 SKELTON *Bk. Fools* i. 202 Thou brennest the desyres. 1697 DRYDEN *Virg. Georg.* iii. 333 With two fair Eyes his Mistress burns his Breast.

* * to affect by burning.

13. Of fire, or any heating agency: To produce the characteristic effects of combustion upon; to calcine, char, scorch, discolour, or mark by burning; to spoil food in cooking from such a cause; to alter in chemical composition (by oxidation, volatilization of a constituent, etc.), or in appearance, physical structure or properties, by intense heat. (Not used when the effect is merely that of melting or softening.) Of persons: To expose (something) to the action of fire so as to produce these results; *esp.* to treat with fire for a specific purpose, e.g. To burn wood (for charcoal), clay (for bricks or pottery), the soil (as an agricultural process). Also with *adjs.* denoting the result, as *To burn hard, red, black, clean*.

1519 *Interl. Elem.* in *Hazl. Doddsley* I. 31 Great riches might come thereby, Both pitch and tar, and soap ashes... By brenning thereof only. 1669 WORLIDGE *Syst. Agric.* viii. § 1 (1681) 146 If your land be cold... the best way is... to burn it. 1719 D'URFEE *Pills* V. 142 'Till Pudding and Dumpling are burnt to Pot. 1796 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 6438/2 Supposed to be employed in burning Ground in Nottinghamshire. 1846 J. BAXTER *Libr. Pract. Agric.* II. 25 When bones are burned in the open fire, the animal matter... disappears. *Ibid.* 186 It is difficult to burn the earth.

b. Hence, To produce (charcoal, bricks, lime, etc.) by burning.

1205 LAY. 15466 Lim heo gunnen bæren. 1635 J. BABINGTON *Pyrotechn.* 7 Take good dry coale, well burnt, and beat it to dust. 1663 GERBIER *Counsel* D ij a, To burn more Lime in twenty four hours time. 1776 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 5416/9 All [bricks?] that are samel, or under burnt, to be excluded. 1799 DE FOE *Crasoe* (1840) i. ix. 146 These [earthen vessels] I burnt in the fire. 1797 — *Eng. Tradem.* iii. (1841) i. 30 The bricks would not be so good... when they were burnt.

c. To burn (metals) together: to join them by melting their adjacent edges, or heating the adjacent edges and running some molten metal of the same kind into the intermediate space.

d. *transf.* To produce on (anything) an effect resembling that of burning; e.g. (of the sun) to wither, dry up (vegetation), to parch, dry up (the ground); to freckle, embrown, or discolour (the skin), cf. SUNBURNT. Sometimes said of cold, and of certain manures and crops, to express their effect on vegetation or on the soil. † *poet.* Of cattle: To burn (the ground) bare: to crop it close.

a 1300 *Cursor M.* 6025 Haile and fir was menged samen þe gresse it brint. c 1374 CHAUCER *Compl. Mars* 88 Phebus cam to bren [v. r. brin] hem with his hete. c 1425

Three Kings Cologne 44 Hit wexepliche eerys of corn bat were brent with be wedir. c 1511 *1st Eng. Bk. Amer.* (Arb.) Introd. 29/a Lest that the soon shuld burne hym. 1591 SPENSER *Belley's Ruines of R.* xvii. Scorching sunne had brent His wings. 1607 Torsell *Four-f. Beasts* 527 Vines also are burned therewithal [swine's dung]. 1697 DRYDEN *Virg. Georg.* II. 271 Goats .. graze the Field, and burn it bare.

b. fig. *To burn the planks:* to remain long sitting. 1843 CARLYLE *Past & Pr.* (1858) 208 Sit obstinately burning the planks.

14. To wound or to cause pain to (a person, animal, or part of the body) by the contact of fire or of something intensely heated: said both of the fire or heated body itself, and of the person who applies it. Often *refl.* (of persons, with approach to the passive sense); also in expressions such as *To burn one's fingers, one's foot* = to suffer injury in those members by burning. Also *absol.*

a 1300 *Cursor M.* 7224 Man aght to dred be brand bat brint [v. r. brendel] him forwit in his hand. 1388 WYCLIF *Isa. xliii.* 2 What thou shalt go in fyr, thou shalt not be brent. a 1400 *Occleve De Reg. Princ.* 238a He that is brent, men seithe, dredethe the fire. a 1500 *Myrr. Our Lady* 43 Vt breyneth hym, and woundeth hym so sore. 1566 DRAYTON *Leg.* II. 280 Warm'd with the Fire, that un-awares might burne mee. 1713 BERKELEY *Hylas & P.* I. Wks. 1871 I. 270 When a coal burns your finger. 1875 JOWETT *Plato* (ed. 2) I. 128 The power of heat to burn.

b. In fig. phrase, *To burn one's (own) fingers:* to sustain damage through meddling with something; rarely *To burn (another's) fingers.*

1710 PALMER *Proverbs* 356 The busiebody burns his own fingers. 1713 *Guardian* No. 108, I do not care for burning my fingers in a quarrel. 1865 HOLLAND *Plain T.* IV. 126 Strove to overreach each other, and burn the fingers of unsuspecting outsiders. 1877 *Punch* 26 May 130 Without burning its fingers with Clerical Fellowships, etc.

c. To cauterize, as a surgical operation; to brand with the mark of a criminal. *To burn out:* to destroy (the eyes, etc.) by burning.

1483 *Cath. Angl.* 32 To Birne with yrne; *cauteriare, in-cauteriare.* 1486 *Bk. St. Albans C.* vj b, Brynne the narrellis [of a hawk] thorough owte. 1570-87 *HOLINSHED Scot. Chron.* (1806) II. 203 Him that is brunt in the hand. 1595 SHAKS. *John* IV. i. 59 These eyes .. with hot Irons must I burne them out. 1655 BAXTER *Quaker's Catech.* 3, I dare no more accuse them .. for persecution who shall burn a Thief in the hand. 1715 *London Gas.* No. 5329/4 He .. was burnt in the Hand last Assizes at Worcester. 1722 *De Foe Col. Jack* (1840) 128 Transported felons .. burnt in the hand.

d. trans. Said of a caustic, acrid, or irritating substance (as vitriol, a blister, etc.); sometimes of intense cold, the effect produced by which resembles that caused by burning: To wound or cause local pain to, in a manner resembling the effect of contact with fire. Also *absol.*

1509 FISHER *Wks.* I. (E. E. T.) 31 Teres .. shall scalde and brenne our bodies. 1562 TURNER *Baths* 6b, If any entering into the bath .. thynke .. that he is burned. 1607 Torsell *Four-f. Beasts* 212 The snow burneth the Dogs nose. 1667 MILTON *P. L.* II. 595 The parching air Burns frere, and cold performs th' effect of Fire. 1696 *London Gas.* No. 3240/4 His face burnt or scalded by some Humor. 1865 J. H. NEWMAN *Gerontius* Ice which blisters may be said to burn.

e. To infect with sores; *esp.* with venereal disease. Cf. 3 b. *Obs.*

1520 S. Fish *Supplic. Begg.* (Arb.) 7 These be they .. that be brent wyth one woman, and bere it to another. c 1556 BALE in Chambers *Cycl.* s.v. *Burning.* He [lecherous Weston] not long ago brent a beggar of St. Botolphs parish. 1590 SHAKS. *Com. Err.* IV. iii. 58 Light wenches will burne, come not neere her.

15. To drive (a person or animal) out of a place by heat, or by the burning of his dwelling. Phrase, *To burn out of house and home.*

1710 *London Gas.* No. 4702/3 [He] was formerly burnt out of the Fountain Tavern in the Strand. 1780 PITT in Earl Stanhope's *Life* (1861) I. 43 Thanks to the sun .. I was burnt out of my bed this morning before seven o'clock.

16. To make (a mark) on or in, (a hole) in or through, anything, by burning. Also *fig.* to make (a recollection, a conviction) indelible in a person's mind. *To burn in:* to render indelible (the painting upon pottery, etc.) by exposure to fire.

a 1840 MOORE in *Sheridaniana* 61 They [some verses] bear, burnt into every line, the marks of personal feeling. 1860 GOSSE *Rom. Nat. Hist.* 172 A power which .. burnt in the image of each in his remembrance. 1863 GEO. ELIOT *Romola* I. xvii. (1880) I. 244 Her brother's words .. had burnt themselves into her memory. c 1865 J. WYLD in *Circ. Sc. I.* 389/1 They are 'burnt in' on the surface of the ware. 1883 *Harper's Mag.* Mar. 538/1 Cash burning holes in our pockets.

17. To burn the water: to spear salmon by torchlight. Also, *To burn a bowl, a curling stone,* etc.: to displace it accidentally.

1805 SKENE in Lockhart *Scott* (1839) II. 265 This amusement of burning the water .. was not without some hazard. 1884 *Pall Mall G.* 19 Aug. 5/1 Water-bailiffs are sent up the rivers at certain times to prevent 'burning the water'.

Phrase-key: *To burn alive,* 10; *away,* 5; *8 b;* *black,* 5; *13;* *blue,* 2 c; *boats,* 9 c; *a bowl,* 17; *b the breast,* 12; *b bricks,* 13 b; *b brown,* 9; *a candle,* 13; *b a candle at both ends,* 11 b; *b charcoal,* 13 b; *b clay,* 13; *b a country,* 9 b; *b a curling-stone,* 17; *b daylight,* 11 b; *b down,* 2 c; *8 b;* *ears,* 3; *b one's fingers,* 14; *14 b;* *b forth,* 2 c; *b ground,* 13; *b hard,* 5; *13;* *horse,* 3 b; *b in,* 16; *b incense,* 9; *b into,* 7; *16;* *b into ashes,* 8 b; *b it blue,* 11 c; *b lamp,* 4; *11;* *b lime,* 13 b; *b low,* 2 c; *b the mill,* 9 c; *b*

offering, 9; *b out,* 2 c, 8 b, 14 c, 15; *b the planks,* 13 e; *b one's pocket,* 3 c; *b red,* 2 c, 13; *sea,* 6, 4 c; *b seasonable weather,* 11 b; *b soil,* 13; *b the Thames,* 9 c; *b to,* 5; *b to ashes,* 8 b; *b to death,* 10; *b to the ground,* 8 b; *b together,* 13 c; *b up,* 2 c, 8 b; *b the water,* 17; *b wood,* 13.

Burn- The verb or verb-stem in composition forming sbs. or adjs.

1. With verb + object, as *burn-grain* adj.; *† burn-cow*, transl. Gr. *Βούρρη* (an insect, also a herb, injurious to cattle, cf. *burst-cow*, BUPRESTIS; *burn-grange* (Sc.), one who sets fire to barns; *burn-the-wind*, burnewin, a Sc. designation for a blacksmith.

1658 ROWLAND *Mouffet's Theat. Ins.* 1000 The Latines retain the Greek name of Buprestis .. But I .. do adventure to call it by a new name in English, *Burncow, or Burstcow. 1703 AINSWORTH *Lat. Dict.* (Morell) II. Also a sort of herb which kills cattle; the burncow. 1598 SYLVESTER *Du Bartas* II. i. *Furies* 165 (D.) Turning our seed-wheat-kernel To *burn-grain thistle. a 1500 *Colkelbie Sow* I. v. 92 (JAM.) Ane ypocret in haly kirk, a *burn-grengie in the dirk. 1705 BURNS *Scotch Drink* x, Then *Burnewin comes on like death. 1808 SCOTT *F. M. Perth* I. ii. 57 Thou hast had a quarrel with some Edinburgh Burn-the-wind.

2. With the verb used attrib. = *burning*; as *† burn-coal*, *† -wood*; also *burn-fire* (dial.), perversion of BONFIRE; *burn-iron*, Sc. *burn-airn*, a branding-iron; *burn-stok* (see quot.); *burn-weed* = THORN-APPLE, *Datura stramonium*.

1708 W. KING *Cookery* 37 Not to make his *burnfire at the upper end of Ludgate street. c 1750 J. NELSON *Yrnl.* (1836) 96 Monday being a rejoicing day, they had burn-fires in the market place. 1797 *Sc. Acts, Yas.* VI. § 253 (title) Great *burne Coale, suld not be transported furth of this realm. 1609 SKENE *Reg. Maj.* 152 Burne coals. 1845 *Inv. in Ripon Ch. Acts* 373 Ij *burne iron et j markyng iron ad. 1675 COTTON *Polit. Wks.* (1765) 202 I'll make a *Burn-mark with a T. 1847-76 HALLIWELL *Dict.* *Burn-stick, a crooked stick, on which a large piece of coal is daily carried from the pit by each working collier over his shoulder for his own private use. 1796 P. BROWNE *Jamaica.* The Thorn-apple or *Burn-weed. All the parts of this plant are remarkably narcotic. 1701 BRAND *Zeland* 92 (JAM.) The inhabitants make use of the wrack [of ships] for *burn-wood.

† Burn, v. 2. *Obs.* 5 boorn-, born-, bourn-en. Chiefly in pa. pple. burnied: see BURNED ppl. a. 2 [a. OF. *burnir*, var. of *brunir* to BURNISH, originally to brown, f. *brun* BROWN.] = BURNISH v. 1 c 1374 CHAUCER *Troilus* I. 327 (*Harl. MS.* 1230) Al feynith he in lust that he sojournith, And al his spech and chere he bournith (*Harl. MS.* 3943 vnuorth). 1393 GOWER *Conf.* II. 231 An harnes .. which burned was as silver bright. c 1430 *Lydg. Bochas* IV. ii. (1554) 112 a, A chaire .. of gold boorned bryght. c 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 44 Bormyu or pulchyn [v. r. bornyn, boornyn], *polio*.

Burn (e, variant of BERNÉ, *Obs.*, a man.

Burnable (bū-māb'l), a. [f. BURN v. 1 + -ABLE.] Capable of being burnt or consumed by fire.

1611 COTGR., *Adustible*, burnable. 1678 R. RUSSELL *Geber* III. II. 2. ii. 174 Ignible (or burnable by fire). 1721-30 BAILEY, *Adustible*, burnable. 1861 *All Y. Round* 23 Feb. 465 Not to rear houses of frail burnable plank.

b. quasi-sb.: A combustible. (*rare.*)

1845 HOME *Every-day Bk.* I. 1430 Burnables are deemed lawful prize.

Burn-bake, -beak, obs. var. of next. Hence *Burn-baking vbl. sb.*, *Burn-beaked ppl. a.*

1803 A. HUNTER *Geographical Ess.* I. 35 What happens after the operation of Burn-baking. a 1722 LISLE *Husb.* (1752) 163 He is very much against feeding burn-beaked wheat.

Burn-beat, v. Also *-bait, -bate*. [f. BURN v. + BEAT sb. 3 or v. 2: the latter part is inflected; pr. pple. *burnbeating*, pa. pple. *burnbeat*.] *trans.* To pare off and burn the rough turf or sod of moorland or fallow ground in order to improve it. Hence *Burn-baited ppl. a.*; *Burnbeating vbl. sb.*

1669 WORLIDGE *Syst. Agric.* (1681) 37 The best way .. to improve and reduce these Lands into Tillage, is to Burn-beat, or Denshire them. 1676 — *Cider* (1691) 74 The ground being turfe .. may be burn-beat in June or July. 1681 — *Kal. Rust.* Nov., Wheat may yet be sown .. especially on burn-baited Land. 1727 ASP. BOULTER *Lett.* I. 221 The tenant shall not be able to burnbeat any ground in virtue of this act. 1808 J. WALKER *Hist. Hebrides & Highl. Scott.* I. 176 The practice of .. Burnbaiting, or sod burning.

Burnderthe, var. BRANDRETH, Obs., gridiron.

c 1425 *Voc.* in Wr.-Wülcker 660 *Hec tripes*, burnderthe.

† Burne, Obs. [Early ME. *burne* (ii): — OE. *byrne* 'cuirass, corslet': the later form of this would have been **byrn*, **birn*, whence the metathetized forms BRYN, *brene*, q.v. Cf. the parallel dissyllabic *brynne*, *brunie*, *BRINIE*, from ON., and its metathetized form BYRNIE.] = BRINIE.

c 1050 *Gloss.* in Wr.-Wülcker 434 *Loric anata*, hringedu byrne. c 1175 *Lamb. Hom.* 155 Nimeð gode ileue to burne. c 1205 *LAV.* 2:123 Cnithes mid burnen (c 1275 *brunie*) wel idihten. *Ibid.* 2:129 þa duede he on his burne (c 1275 *brunie*).

Burned (būmd), ppl. a. 1 See BURNED.

† Burned, ppl. a. 2. *Obs.* Forms: 4-6 *borned*, *burned*, 5 *bourneed*, *boorned*. [f. BURN v. 2 + -ED.] Burnished; brilliant; often said of gold or silver. (In later instances perh. confused with *prec.*)

c 1384 CHAUCER *H. Fame* 1387 As burned gold hyt shoon to see. c 1386 — *Doctor's T.* 38 Phebus deyed hadde hire tresses .. I-lyk to be stremes of his borned hete. c 1430 *LYDG. Min. Poems* (1840) 65 They have espyed .. i-graven, in lettris of boorned gold, Maria. c 1530 L.D. BERNERS *Arth. Lyt. Brit.* (1814) 156 And in the toppe therof stode an eagle of

borned golde. 1577-87 *HOLINSHED Chron.* III. 801/1 Their horses trapped in burned silver.

Burner (bū-nēr), Also 4-6 *brenner*, -ar, 6 *borner*. [f. BURN v. 1 + -ER 1.]

1. One who burns, or consumes with fire.

c 1380 WYCLIF *Sel. Wks.* III. 329 Alle brenneris of houses and cornes ben cursed opynly in parische chirches. 1508 ARNOLDE *Chron.* 176 Brenners of houses & churches. 1563 *Homilies* II. *Willful Rebelle* I. (1859) 558 The burners of their villages. 1700 C. MATHER *Magn. Chr.* VII. vi. (1852) 569 Weymouth also suffered from these burners no little damage. 1871 MORLEY *Voltaire* (1886) 14 The burner of books and the tormentor of those who wrote them.

b. fig.

1872 SPURGEON *Treas. Dav.* Ps. lix. 12 Persecutors in talk, burners and stabbers with the tongue.

2. One who prepares or produces by burning. Chiefly in comb., as *brick-, charcoal-, lime-burner*.

1463 *Mann. & Househ. Exp.* (1790) 154 To pay to a lyme brenner flor lyme vis. viiij. c 1500 *Coke Lottell's B.* (1843) 10 Parys plasterers, daubers, and lyme burners. 1568 *Act* 5 *Elis.* iv. § 30 The Art or Occupation of a .. Lime burner, Brickmaker .. Burner of Oare and Wood-Ashes. 1703 *Art's Improv.* p. xiv, The Trades of Brick-burners, etc. 1825 *Bro. Jonathan* II. 71, I mistook them at first for charcoal-burners. 1874 *Linc. Chron.* 4 Dec. in Peacock *N. W. Linc. Gloss.* (E. D. S.) To brickyard hands: wanted two steady men as burners.

3. A vessel to hold something that is burning.

1856 T. HOOK *G. Gurney* I. vi. (L) To put three or four of the pastilles into a burner on the chimney-piece.

4. That part of an illuminating apparatus from which the flame comes; in a lamp the wick-holder; in a gas-light the part containing the hole or holes through which the gas passes before combustion. Often with defining words, as *Argand, batwing, Bunsen, cockspur, fish-tail burner*.

1790 ROY in *Phil. Trans.* LXXX. 162 A simple Argand's burner. 1808 MURDOCH in *Phil. Trans.* XCVIII. 125 The burners .. are connected with the mains, by short tubes. 1828 MISS MITFORD *Village* (1863) 113 The luminary .. had four burners, which never .. were all in action together. 1886 *Harper's Mag.* LXXII. 463/2 From the centre of the dome a large chandelier was suspended, furnished with four electric burners.

† Burnet, a. and sb. 1. *Obs.* [a. OFr. *burnette*, *brunette* in same sense, dim. of *brun*, BROWN.]

A. adj. a. Of a dark brown colour.

c 1300 *Trin. Coll. Hom.* 163 Hire mentel grene oðer burnet. c 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 56 Burnet colowre, *burnetum*. a 1500 *Voc.* in Wr.-Wülcker 560 *Burnetna*, burnet, color quidam est. 1513 DOUGLAS *Eneis* XII. Prol. 106 Sa myn diuers hew, Sum pers, sum pall, sum burnet, and sum blew.

b. absol.

a 1450 *Syr Peny* v. in *Rel. Ant.* II. 108 He may gar them trayle syde In burnet and in grene. 1605 CAMDEN *Rem.* (1637) 194 The robes .. of Greene or Burnet.

B. sb. A wool-dyed cloth of superior quality, orig. of dark brown colour.

1824 in Rogers *Agric. & Prices* II. 536/3. c 1325 *Love song in Rel. Ant.* II. 19 Of a blak burnet al wos hir wede. c 1400 *Rom. Rose* 1759 As well be amourettes In mourning blak, as bright burnettes. 1753 CHAMBERS *Cycl. Suppl.*, *Burnet*, in middle age writers, denotes brown cloth made of dyed wool. attrib. c 1400 *Rom. Rose* 226 A burnet cote henge therwithalle.

¶ See quot.

1616 BULLOKAR, *Burnet*, a hood, or attire for the head. 1637 in COCKERAM. 1678 in PHILLIPS.

Burnet (bū-nēt), sb. 2 [f. prec. from the dark brown colour of its flowers.]

1. The popular name of plants belonging to the genera *Sanguisorba* and *Poterium* (N.O. *Rosaceae*), of which the Great or Common Burnet (*Sanguisorba officinalis*) is common in meadows, and the Lesser or Salad Burnet (*Poterium Sanguisorba*) on the Chalk. The old herbalists confounded with these the Burnet Saxifrage *Pimpinella Saxifraga*, an umbelliferous plant resembling the Burnets in foliage.

[c 1265 *Anglo-Norm. Voc.* in Wr.-Wülcker 557 *Burneta*, sprungwurt.] c 1400 *MS. Sloane* 2457, f. 6 (Halliwell) Pym. purnolle .. Englysch y-called is burnet. c 1450 *Alphita* (Anecd. Oxon.) 25 Burnete [uel burnette]. 1597 ANDREW BRUNSWYKE's *Distyll. Waters* C. j, The other is named the greete Pypminella or burnet. 1579 LANGHAM *Gard. Health* (1623) 109 Byrnet openeth the stoppings of the liuer .. and helpeth the Jaundies. 1599 SHAKS. *Hen. V.* II. 49 The euen Meade, that erst brought sweetly forth The freckled Cowslip, Burnet, and greene Clouer. 1693 EVELYN *De la Quint. Compl. Gard.* II. 188 Burnet, called in French *Pim-prenelle* or *Pimpernelle*, is a very common and ordinary Sallet furniture. 1757 DYER *Fleece* I. 605 Mix'd with the greens of burnet, mint & thyme. 1796 C. MARSHALL *Garden.* XII. (1813) 264 Burnet is a warm perennial sallad herb, used also in cool tankards. 1822 *Proc. Berw. Nat. Club* IX. No. 3. 461 By the waysides .. the common burnet was growing.

2. Comb. as burnet blood-wort, *Sanguisorba officinalis*; burnet-buttons, the flower-heads of Burnet; burnet-fly, moth (*Anthrocera* or *Zygæna filipendule*), a greenish black moth, with crimson spots on its wings; burnet-rose, the Scotch Rose (*Rosa spinosissima*); burnet saxifrage, *Pimpinella Saxifraga* (cf. 1); burnet-sphinx = burnet-moth.

1776 WITHERING *Bot. Arrangement*, (1801) II. 197 *Burnet Blood-wort, a hard woody plant with winged leaves and a 4-cleft blossom. 1821 CLARE *Vill. Minstr.* I. 124 On the pismire's castle hill While the *burnet-buttons quak'd. 1885 *Pall*

Mall G. 1 June 5/1 A good 'burnett fly, and some harelips hovering overhead. 1842 *Penny Cycl.* XXII. 345/1 The six-spotted 'Burnet moth (*Anthracera Filipendula*)... has six red spots on the superior wings. 1884 WORSLEY-BENSON in *Evang. Mag.* June 251 The little 'Burnet-Rose of our chalk-hills and sandy shores... has white flowers. 1668 WILKINS *Real Char.* II. iv. § 4 'Burnet saxifrage. 1794 MARTYN *Rousseau's Bot.* v. 57 Most of them have their little flowers white as... burnet-saxifrage. 1870 J. CLIFFORD in *Eng. Mech.* 21 Jan. 449/3 In February... the caterpillars of the Six Spotted 'Burnet Sphinx (*Zygaena Filipendula*).

Burnettize (bŭ'nɛtɪz), *v.* [fr. the name of Sir William Burnett, who in 1837 patented the process.] (See quot.) Hence **Burnettizing** *vbl. sb.* 1867 SMYTH *Sailor's Word-bk.* 147 **Burnettize**, to impregnate canvas, timber, or cordage, with Sir William Burnett's fluid, a solution of chloride of zinc. 1885 CULLEY *Handbk. Pract. Telegraphy* (ed. 8) 112 Burnettizing or steeping in a solution of Chloride of Zinc.

† **Burneux**: *Obs.* A sauce made of butter, pepper, salt, etc. (Halliwell).

1430-40 GREGORY *Chron.* (1876) 141 Braune with mustarde, elys in burneus. 1494 FABYAN *vii.* 586 For the firste course — Braune and mustarde. Ded ellys in burneus.

† **Burn-grace**. Corruption of BONGRACE.

1654 GAYTON *Fest. Notes* III. xi. 148 Burn-graces in Summer to save childrens Faces.

Burnie (bŭ'ni). *Sc.* [dim. of BURN *sb.* 1 See -Y 4.] A small burn; a brooklet.

1724 RAMSAY *Tea-T. Misc.* (1733) I. 100 By burnies sae clear We wander for pleasure. a 1854 J. WILSON *Trees*, The little waterfall of the wimpling burnie.

† **Burnikat**, *a. Obs.* [ad. OF. *bruniquet* in 'safren bruniquet' (see Godef.); prob. some sort of dim. of brun BROWN.] A kind of saffron.

1504 ARNOLDE *Chron.* (1811) 234 (*List of Spicery*), Burnikat saffraen.

Burning (bŭ'mɪŋ), *vbl. sb.* Forms: see BURN *v.* 1 [fr. BURN *v.* 1 + -ING 1.] The action of the verb BURN in its various senses.

I. Connected with the *intr.* senses of the verb. 1. The condition of being on fire; the action of sending up flames; hence *concr.* flame. Cf. 5 b.

a 1300 *Cursor M.* 2875 Pe fire it haldes þat steadfast, thoru brennyng of þe brinstane. 1449 PECOCK *Repr.* 358 Brennyng of Laupmis. 1506 *Pilgr. Perf.* (W. de W. 1531) 39 Flamynge in fyre as though all the kechyn had ben in brennyng. 1598 SHAKS. *Rom. & Jul.* I. ii. 45 Tut, man! one fire burnes out anothers burning. 1695 BLACKMORE *Pr. Arthur* III. 711 The troubled whirlpool belches Burnings out. 1805 WORDSW. *Waggoner* I. 109 A burning of portentous red.

b. *fig.* The intensity of passion; the state of being inflamed with grief, rage, desire, etc. Also in *comb.*, as *heart-burning*.

1398 TREVISIA *Barth. De P. R.* II. vii. (1495) 33 Seraphin passyth other angels in brennyngye of loue. a 1400 *Relig. Picces fr. Thornton MS.* (1867) 22 All þat kyndills þi lykyngye in brennyngye of charite. 1633 P. FLETCHER *Poet. Misc.* 80 All his verses turning Onely fann'd his poore hearts burning. 1643 MILTON *Divorce* I. iv, That burning mentioned by St. Paul, wherof Marriage ought to be the remedy. 1828 SCOTT *Nigel* I, While these heart-burnings were at their highest.

2. Heat, glowing warmth.

1513 DOUGLAS *Æneis* XIII. ProL. 23 The recent dew begynnys doun to scaill To meys the byrnyng quhar the son had schine. 1598 SHAKS. *Ven. & Ad.* 50 She with her teares Doth quench the maiden burning of his cheekes.

3. Phosphorescence of the sea; = BRIMING. Cf. also BRINY *a.* 2

1667 H. STUBBS in *Phil. Trans.* II. 497 As to the Burning of the Sea, I could never observe so great a Light, as to perceive Fishes in the Sea. 1753 CHAMBERS *Cycl. Supp.* s.v., The burning of sea water... its yielding a brisk light.

† 4. Heat attendant upon disease or a serpent's bite; the disease itself; esp. erysipelas or St. Anthony's fire, and venereal disease. *Obs.*

1384 WYCLIF *Levit.* xiii. 28 And therfor it shal be clensid, for a fel wode of brennyng it is. c 1390 *MS.* quoted in *Phil. Trans.* XXX. 845 A Receipt for Brenning of the Pyntyl, yat men clepe ye Apegalle. 1398 TREVISIA *Barth. De P. R.* XVIII. ix. (1495) 759 The serpent Ophites hath as many manere of brennynges and greynynges as he hath speckles and colours. c 1430 *MS.* quoted in *Phil. Trans.* XXX. 842 That no Stew-holder keep noo Woman wythin his Hous that hath any Sycknesse of Brenning. 1547 BOORDE *Brennyng*, The 19th Chapter doth shew of Burning of an Harlotte. 1554 HULOET, Burning or ythe in the skyenne, *vredo*. a 1571 JEWEL *On Thess.* II. (1583) 346 Ech Saint was assigned... to his sundry charge... Antonie, for the burning

1751 CHAMBERS *Cycl.* s.v. 1753 — *Cycl. Supp.*, **Burning** is more particularly used for... erysipelas. 1860 MAYNE *Exp. Lex.*, **Burning**, an old English name for Gonorrhœa.

II. Connected with the *trans.* senses of the verb.

5. The action of consuming or injuring by fire.

c 1250 *Gen. & Ex.* 363 Brenninghe hi [Moyses] calde þat stede. c 1386 CHAUCER *Knts. T.* 138 At the brennyngye [v. r. berneynge] Of the bodies. 1594 WEST *Symbol.* II. § 201 Burning of a barne adoyning to a dwelling house by night. 1648 ART. *Peace* xxii. in *Milton's Wks.* 1851 II, The other [Act] prohibiting the Burning of Oats in the Straw. 1865 *Reader* 25 Feb. 221/4 Whether Omar really ordered the burning of the Alexandrian library or not.

b. *concr.* A conflagration, a fire.

c 1425 WYNTOUN *Cron.* VII. ix. 509 Of þat brynnyn Schyre Willame De Besat bare þan girt defame. 1543-4 *Act* 35 *Hen. VIII.* xii, The same Scottes... make... spoyleys burnyngs, murders, and depopulations in this his realme. 1611 BIBLE *Amos* iv. 11 And yete were as a firebrand plucked out of the burning. 1700 TYRRELL *Hist. Eng.* II. 792 There were cruel Plunderings and Burnings committed in that

Province. 1758 HAYWARD *Serm.* xvi. 485 Sentenced to everlasting burnings.

6. The infliction of capital punishment by burning. c 1375 WYCLIF *Antecrist* 119 Martyres han suffrid many dyvers kyndis of peynes as... drenchyng, brennyng & many oper. c 1450 *Merlin* I. 21 He hadde deluyered his moder fro brennyngye be gode reson. 1506 *Pilgr. Perf.* (1531) 205 b, All maner of outwarde paynes, as burnyngye, downyngye, or suche other. 1812 L. HUNT in *Examiner* 28 Dec. 819/2 The burnings of Queen Mary might have been excused because there was a burning under Edward the Sixth.

† 7. A sore caused by fire or heat; a burn. *Obs.* 1549-3 *Act* 34 & 35 *Hen. VIII.* viii. § 1 Scaldingye, burnynges, sore mouthes... & such other like diseases. 1616 SURFL. & MARKH. *Constr. Farm* 75 A Cataplasme made of the yolke and white of an egge... applied vnto burnyngs, doth quench... them.

8. The treatment of any substance with fire for a specific purpose. a. = BURNBEATING.

1669 WORLIDGE *Syst. Agric.* v. § 1. 62 This Art of Burning of Land... is not applicable or necessary to all sorts of Land. 1751 CHAMBERS *Cycl.*, **Burning** of land, called also burn beating. 1814 SIR H. DAVY *Agric. Chem.* 344 The improvement of sterile lands by burning was known to the Romans. 1848 LANCE *Cott. Farm.* 7.

b. The preparation of lime, bricks, pottery, etc. by the use of fire; also the burning on or fixing of colours by the application of fire.

1559 MORWYNG *Evonym.* 214 Men thinke them to be... les smelling of any fyrynes and brenning. 1663 GERBIER *Counsel* 57 The burning of lime in China... being as followeth. 1719 DE FOE *Crusoe* (1840) I. ix. 146 Tiles of my own making and burning. 1784 WEDGWOOD in *Phil. Trans.* LXXIV. 366 The burning-on of enamel colours upon earthen ware. 1881 RAYMOND *Mining Gloss.*, **Burning**, see Calcining.

c. *Surg.* Cautey.

1636 HEALEY *Epistelus* *Man.* 163 To live, of itselfe, is neither good nor evil, no man then cutting or burning. a 1677 BARROW *Serm.* II. iv. (R.), To endure cuttings and burnings.

d. See BURN *v.* 13 c.

1688 R. HOLME *Armoury* III. vii. § 144 Yet there is another way of joining the two edges together in one, and yet not sodder them; but melt the edges by running hot Lead along it; which is termed the Burning of a joint.

† 9. Lighting up; illumination. *Obs.*

1466 in *Past. Lett.* 549 II. 267 For brinyngye of the Abbes [Abbey] with the torches xxxd.

b. The illumination of a river by torches for the gaffing of salmon.

1844 W. H. MAXWELL *Sports & Adv. Scotl.* xxix. (1855) 235, I look upon sunning and burning as the acts of privileged poachers.

10. *Comb.*, as (sense 5) **burning-lens**, **-mirror**, **-speculum**; + **burning-point**, the focus of a lens (*obs.*); **burning-fluid**, **-oil**, **-wood**; (sense 8) **burning-house**, **-iron**. Also BURNING-GLASS.

1840 WEALE *Dict. Terms.*, **Burning-house**, the furnace in which tin ores are calcined. 1865 *Morning Star* 3 May, There was a large burning-house, that evolved arsenical vapour. 1883 *Cath. Angl.* 32 A 'Birnyngye yrne... cauterium. 1903 *Mem. Ripon* (Surtees) III. 167 De proficuo ferri Sancti Wilfridi vocati Seintwilfride burningeyron. 1903 FITZGER. *Surv.* 286 Euery townshyppe... ought to haue a dyuers brennyng yron. 1651 C. CARTWRIGHT *Cert. Relig.* I. 96 For which last he was... branded on the shoulder with a hot burning iron. 1831 BREWSTER *Optics* xxxviii. § 164 By means of this powerful 'burning lens platina... quartz, garnet... were melted in a few seconds. 1751 CHAMBERS *Cycl.* s.v. **Burning-glass**, Every concave mirror... is... a 'burning mirror. 1668 A. VAN LEEUWENHOEK in *Phil. Trans.* XX. 171 The 'burning Point of the Magnifying Glass. 1807 HUTTON *Constr. Math.* II. 120 All rays parallel to the axis, are reflected to the focus, or burning point. 1837 WHEWELL *Hist. Induct. Sc.* (1857) I. 367 Remarkable inventions—as... 'burning specula. 1642 *MS. Acc. St. John's Hosp. Canturb.*, For felling... ashes and other 'burning wood vjs.

Burning (bŭ'mɪŋ), *ppl. a.* For forms see the verb. [fr. BURN *v.* 1 + -ING 2.] That burns (in the various senses of the verb).

I. Connected with the *intr.* senses of the verb.

1. In a state of active heat, glowing, flaming.

c 1000 ÆLFRIC *on O. T.* in *Sweet's Ag. Reader* (1870) 68 Ðas þri cnihtas het se cyning awurpan into byrnendum ofne. c 1175 *Lamb. Hom.* 41 On berninde fure. c 1270 *Saints' Lives* (Laud MS. 1887) 234 For in þe brennynde hulle... Mi rihte is to brennen Inne. c 1430 *Life St. Katharine* (1884) 41 Among þe flumes of þat brennyng fyre. 1517 TORKINGTON *Pilgr.* (1884) 37 In the likenesse of brennyng tongis. 1713 *Young Last Day* III. 209 Bound to the bottom of the burning pool.

b. *transf.* Of fever, thirst, etc.: Characterized by great heat, raging, violent.

1593 LANGE *P. Pl. C.* xx. 83 Byles and bocches and brennyng agues. 1661 LOVELL *Hist. Anim. & Min.* 518 A fever, burning, tertian, and exquisite, requirith a liquid consistence. 1753 CHAMBERS *Cycl. Supp.* s.v., On account of a sensation of heat... we say a burning fever. 1857 LIVINGSTONE *Trav.* II. 52 In a state of burning thirst.

c. *fig.* Of the passions: Ardent, glowing; vehement, excited.

a 1300 *Cursor M.*, *Resurrection* 264, p. 988 With brennand luf scho dwelled. a 1450 *Knt. de la Tour* (1868) 164 So brennyng pleasure that they wol neuer eschew thaire synne. 1558 LYNDSEAY *Monarchie* 2570 Thare byrmand yre. 1709 STEELE *Tatler* No. 81 P. 3 A burning Desire to join that glorious Company. 1814 SOUTHEY *Roderick* xxiv, With copious tears of burning anger. 1866 STANLEY *Jew. Ch.* (1877) I. xiii. 260 A burning enthusiasm. 1871 R. ELLIS *Calullus* lxiv. 226 This burning sorrow within me.

d. *fig.* In **burning shame**, **disgrace**, etc., the prevailing idea is now perhaps 'flagrant, flaming,

conspicuous'; but there is often a mixture of notions derived from other senses, such as those of branding, stigmatizing; torturing as an inward fire; causing the cheeks to glow, etc.

1605 SHAKS. *Leare* IV. iii. 48 Burning shame Detains him from Cordelia. 1709 STEELE *Tatler* No. 44 P. 5 It is really a burning shame this Man should be tolerated. 1817 CHALMERS *Astron. Disc.* VI. 202 [To] sit down in patient endurance under the burning disgrace of such a violation.

2. On fire, as a combustible; in process of being destroyed by fire; enveloped in flames.

c 1000 ÆLFRIC *Dent.* ix. 15 þa ic nybereode of þam byrnendan munte. c 1175 *Lamb. Hom.* 27 He mahte iseon ane berninde glede. c 1280 *Sir Ferumþ.* 2236 Lucafer þanne tok op an-haste þe brennyngest bronde a coupe. a 1500 ARNOLDE *Chron.* (1811) p. xx, Bering burning coles. 1598 BARRET *Theor. Warres* IV. ii. 107 The Sentinell... ought to cock his burning match. 1667 MILTON *P. L.* I. 69 A fiery deluge, fed With ever-burning Sulphur unconsum'd. 1712 ADDISON *Spect.* No. 281 P. 13 A Pan of burning Coals. 1867 FREEMAN *Norm. Cong.* (ed. 3) I. v. 324 They were hardly clear of the burning town.

b. *fig.* **Burning matter**, **burning question** (cf. *F. question brûlante*, Ger. *brennende Frage*): one that is under hot discussion, or about which the public are excited.

1865 M. ARNOLD *Ess. Crit.* I. (1875) 42 Where these burning matters (politics and religion) are in question, it [criticism] is most likely to go astray. 1873 DISRAELI in *St. James's Gaz.* (Feb. 1882), Those institutions... in due time will become great and burning questions. a 1883 MAX MÜLLER *India, What Can It Teach Us?* I. (1883) 32 Take any of the burning questions of the day.

c. *fig.* That is on fire with feeling and passion, or that glows with vehemence; ardent, fiery.

a 1340 HAMPOLE *Psalter* xxiii. 6 þa ere þai þat ere brennandere in luf. 1508 FISHER *Wks.* I. (E. E. T.) 182 Shynnyng in fayth... brennyngye in charyte. a 1568 ROLLAND *Cri. Venus* ProL. 68 Bauld and birmand in rancour and malice. 1819 BYRON *Yuan* III. lxxxvi, The isles of Greece! Where burning Sappho lov'd and sung. 1873 G. C. DAVIES *Mount. & Mere* xiv. 117, I had prepared a most burning and eloquent address.

3. In a highly heated state; exceedingly hot.

† **Burning line**: the equator (*obs.*). **Burning zone**: the torrid zone (*poet.*).

1483 CAXTON *G. de la Tour Cuij b.*, The devil... dyde put brennyng needles through her browes. 1553 EDEN *Treat. New Ind.* (Arb.) 10 Vnder the Equinoctial or burninge lyne. 1661 LOVELL *Hist. Anim. & Min.*, Engendering choleric humours, and burning blood. 1697 DRYDEN *Virg. Georg.* III. 390 In the Desert Land Of Libya travels, o'er the burning Sand. 1713 ADDISON *Cato* I. iii. 31 Lord of half the burning Zone. 1807 CRABBE *Library* 318 We trace in dens and burning plains, her savage race.

b. **Burning scent**: strong, very 'warm' scent; **burning chase**: hot, uninterrupted, pursued without a check.

a 1700 DRYDEN (J.), He shot by me Like a young hound upon a burning scent. 1755 *Young Centaur* Wks. 1762 IV. 182 Ye staunch pursuers of Pleasure Opening full cry on its burning Scent. 1854 R. MASSIE in *B. Praisiv.* No. 358 (1862) 384 The hart... Heated in the burning chase. 1859 *Art Taming Horses* xii. 200 **Burning scent**, when hounds go so fast, from the goodness of the scent, they have no breath to spare, and run almost mute.

4. That burns luminously; giving light, shining; **transf.** glowing as if incandescent.

c 1000 *Ag. Gosp.* John v. 35 He was byrnende leocht-fat and lyhtende. 1297 R. GLOUC. 534 The bisshops amansede alle... Mid berninde taperes. 1398 TREVISIA *Barth. De P. R.* XVIII. ix. (1495) 759 The serpent Ophites is paynted wyth brennyng speckles. c 1430 LYDC. *Bochas* VI. I. (1554) 143 Brennyng eyen sparkling of their light. 1564 BECON *Grn. Pref.* in *Wks.* (1843) 18 They are... like unto a brenning candle. 1596 SPENSER *F. Q.* I. v. 6 Burning blades about their heads [they] doe blesse. 1821 SHELLEY *Prometh. Unb.* II. I. 22 The burning threads of wovon cloud unravel.

II. Connected with the *trans.* senses of the verb.

5. Affecting with heat; scorching, withering.

1384 WYCLIF *Gen.* xli. 23 Other seuen [eris], thinne and smytun with a brennyngye blaste. c 1600 Z. BOYD *Zion's Flowers* (1855) 38 The burning ray, That from the sun comes. 1718 POPE *Iliad* I. 90 Phoebus [shall] dart his burning shafts no more. 1805 WORDSW. *Waggoner* I. I 'Tis spent—this burning day of June!

b. Causing a sensation like that of contact with fire. † **Burning water** = ardent spirit (*obs.*).

1460-70 *Bk. Quintessence* 2 Oure quinta essencia... hath iij. names... brennyngye watir, þe soule in þe spirit of wyn, and watir of lijf. 1558 PAYNELL *Salerno Regim.* F. iv b, Wyne citrine is not so burnyngye as redde claret. 1599 MORWYNG *Evonym.* 8 Brennyng water... doth... make hoat and dry mens bodies. 1598 LYVE *Dodons* I. lxxxvii. 129 The small burning Nettell. 1878 BRITTON & HOLLAND *Plant-n.*, **Burning Nettle**, *Urtica urens*, L.

c. That resembles heat in its effects.

1697 DRYDEN *Virg. Georg.* III. 675 Burning Isicles are lodg'd within. 1821 SHELLEY *Prometh. Unb.* I. 33 The bright chains Eat with their burning cold into my bones.

6. quasi-*adv.*, as in **burning hot**.

1475 *Bk. Noblesse* (1860) 6 Now at erst the irnesse be brennyng hote in the fire. 1599 *Compl. Scot.* vi. 52 Ther tua symynys at vondir birmand heyt. *Mod.* It was a burning hot day in July.

7. In parasynthetic combinations.

1597 DRAVTON *Mortimer*. 145 His Cradell Phalaris burning-bellied Bull.

Burning Bush. a. 'The bush that burned and was not consumed' mentioned in Exod. iii., and assumed as an ensign by the Presbyterian

churches of Scotland, in memory of the persecution of the 17th c. b. A name applied to various shrubs or plants, as the Artillery plant, *Pilea Serpylliflora*, the *Dictamnus Fraxinella*, and (U.S.) the *Euonymus atropurpureus* and *E. Americanus*.

1866 *Treas. Bot.*, *Burning Bush*, sometimes applied in gardens to the Artillery plant. 1878 BRITTEN & HOLL. *Plant-n.*, *Burning Bush*, *Dictamnus Fraxinella*, L. (in gardens). It is said that the plant gives off so large a quantity of essential oil that the air around it becomes inflammable, and will ignite if a light be brought near. 1883 *Harper's Mag.* Apr. 726/1 The euonymus, or burning-bush, clothed in the autumn with its brilliant scarlet berries.

Burning-glass (bū'mīn-glas). A lens, by which the rays of the sun may be concentrated on an object, so as to burn it if combustible.

1570 *Dee Math. Pref.* 35 Archimedes... with his Burning Glasses... fired their other Shippes a far off. 1598 SHAKS. *Merry W.* i. iii. 74 The appetite of her eye did seeme to scorch me vp like a burning-glasse. 1643 CARVL *Sacr. Court.* 33 The fiery beames of Gods wrath are contracted into this burning-Glasse. 1787 SWIFT *Gulliver* iii. i. 180, I had about me my flint, steel, match, and burning-glass. 1768 TUCKER *Lt. Nat.* ii. 426 Not unlike the virtuoso's scheme, who would needs try to make one a burning-glass of ice. 1878 *Masque Poets* 213 Beauty is a burning-glass that brings The soft, diffusive sunshine to a focus.

b. A concave mirror, by the use of which the same effect may be produced.

1675 BAXTER *Cath. Theol.* i. iii. 11 The Spirits effect on the soul to come by reflection... as Light and Heat from the Sun by a Speculum or Burning-Glass. 1751 CHAMBERS *Cycl. s.v.*, The second... are concave; very improperly called burning-glasses, being usually made of metal. 1760 *tr. Keyser's Travels* i. 428 A concave burning-glass reflects... the solar rays into one focus.

Burningly (bū'mīn-ly), *adv.* [f. *prec.* + *LY-2*.]

1. In a burning manner, with burning effect. 1598 CHAUCER *Knts.* T. 707 Loue hath his fyrdart so brennyngly ystiked thurgh my... herte. 1633 F. W. NEWMAN *Odes of Horace* 76 Nor clung more burningly the fatal boon on huge Alcides' shoulders. 1855 BROWNING *Ch. Roland*, Burningly it came on me all at once. 1876 G. MEREDITH *Beauch. Career* ii. xv. 276 She sat over the portrait blushing burningly.

2. *fig.* With ardour; hotly; ardently; eagerly. 1340 *Ayemb.* 31 Oure Lhord... he ssolde lovyne berrindeliche. 1382 WYCLIF *1 Kings* xi. 1 Kyng Salomon to brennyngly lovede many hethen wyemen. 1506 *Orl. Crysten Men* (W. de W.) ii. xi. 116 In getyng to moche brennyngely, in retaynyng to straytely. 1866 ALGER *Solit. Nat. & Man* iii. 134 Hopelessly separated from the world by their vows... yet burningly attached to it by the passions.

Burnish (bū'mīsh), *sb.* rare. [f. BURNISH v.1] Burnishing; a burnishing; *spec.* anything laid over a surface to give a bright and glossy look.

1567 CRASHAW *Poems* 135 Blushes, that bin The burnish of do sin. 1788 RAMSAY *Ep. Friends Ireland*, Giving ilka verse a burnish. 1781 SNEATHMAN in *Phil. Trans.* LXXI. 179 The lacquer or burnish with which the brasswork was covered was totally spoiled. 1871 *Daily News* 6 Sept., The burnish... was... no subtraction from efficiency.

Burnish (bū'mīsh), *v.* 1. Forms: 4-5 burnish, -essh, -yssah, burnysah, 4-6 burnysah, -issh, burnysoh, 5 burnysah, burnesh, -esch, -eyash, 5-6 burnyah, 6 burnech, bournysah, -yash, byrnysh, 6- burnish. *Pa. ppl.*: also 4 bur-, burnyat(e), 5 burnysyd, byrnyat, 6 bur-, birneiat. [f. OF. *burniss-* stem of *burnir*, var. of *brunir*; cf. Pr. *bornir*; see BURN v.2]

1. *trans.* To make (metal) shining by friction; to furbish; to polish (a surface) by rubbing with a hard and smooth tool.

1325 E. E. *Allit. P.* 554 þe beryl bornyst byhouez be clene. 1375 BARBOUR *Brue* viii. 225 Thair basnetis burnyst var all brycht. 1460 *Pol. Rel. & L. Poems* (1866) 102 Off clothes of gold burnysshed bright. 1556 *Chron. Gr. Friars* (1859) 36 The standert new payntyd... the crosse new burnechyd. 1652 NERDHAM *tr. Selden's Mare Cl.* 192 They... burnish the hilts of their swords with the teeth of such great Animals as swim in the Sea. 1837 THIRLWALL *Greece* iv. xxxiii. 291 Their shields were burnished for the occasion. 1875 *Ure Dict. Arts* i. 424 Gold-leaf is laid upon the edges, and is then burnished with a polishing tool, tipped with agate.

b. *fig.* (Of things non-material.) 1526 *Pilgr. Perf.* (1531) 61 b, Hye walles & noble, all bournysshed and pollyshed with charite. 1589 PUTTENHAM *Eng. Poetie* (Arb.) 155 Figurative speeches [are] the instrument wherewith we burnish our language. 1606 DEKKER *Sev. Sins* ii. (Arb.) 21 If a Lye... be not smooth enough, there is no instrument to burnish it, but an oath. 1728 *Young Love Fame* vii. (1757) 166 Pursuit of fame... into coxcombs burnishes our fools.

† c. *in extended nonce-use.* 1596 SPENSER *F. Q. v.* viii. 29 So forth he came all in a cote of plate Burnisht with bloudie rust.

2. *transf.* To make bright and glossy; to over-spread with lustre.

1325 E. E. *Allit. P.* B. 1085 Penne watz her blybe barne burnyst so clene. 1658 T. MAVERNE *Archimag. Anglo-Gall.* xix. 17 You may burnish your pye or pasty and... put it to the Oven. 1667 MILTON *P. L.* iv. 249 Fruit burnish with Golden Rind, Hung amiable. 1753 HOGARTH *Anal. Beauty* xii. 94 As he proceeds in burnishing the lights. 1833 Ht. MARTINEAU *Cinn. & Pearls* iv. 74 A mild sunshine burnished the scene.

b. *absol.* *for refl.* To make oneself shine. 1701 D'URVEY *Pills* ii. (1719) 104 A... flashy Pop... Who if he is not burnishing thinks he all's Time does lose.

3. Of a stag: To rub the dead 'velvet' or skin

from his horns [cf. Fr. *brunir* in same sense]; applied loosely to the annual renewal of the horns, perhaps by confusion with BURNISH v.2

1616 BULLOKAR, *Burnish*, is also a terme among hunters when Harts spread their horns after they be fraied. 1677 N. Cox *Genil. Recreat.* (1706) 64 All Stags as they are burnish'd, beat their Heads dry against some Tree or other. 1693 W. ROBERTSON *Phrascol. Gen.* 289 The Deer burnisheth his head. 1751 CHAMBERS *Cycl. s.v.* *Burnishing*, Deer are said to burnish their heads, when rubbing off a white downy skin from their horns against a tree, they thrust them... into a reddish earth, to give them a new colour and lustre. 1798 OSBALDISTONE *Brit. Sportsman* 83/1.

4. *intr.* To become bright or glossy; to shine, gleam. Also *fig.*

1624 FLETCHER *Rule a Wife* i, How you itch, Michael! how you burnish! 1713 SWIFT *Salamander Wks.* 1755 III. ii. 77 I've seen a snake... Burnish, and make a gaudy show. 1793 C. SMART *Song David* 61 The crocus burnishes alive Upon the snow-clad earth. a 1834 LAMB *Wks.* 491 With Churchill's compliment still burnishing upon her... lips.

5. *trans.* To fix into (a setting) by pressing down the metal rim with a burnisher.

1793 SIR G. SHUCKBURGH in *Phil. Trans.* LXXXIII. 109 Upon the cell, into which the glass is burnished, and also upon the tube of the telescope, into which the cell is screwed.

† **Burnish**, v.2 *Obs.* except *dial.* Also 4 and 9 *dial.* *burnish*. [Etymology unknown; connexion with senses 3 or 4 of *prec.* seems hardly possible, and is also opposed by the early s.w. and still *dial.* form *burnish*. East Anglian *dial.* uses *burnish* in same sense.]

1. *intr.* Of the human frame: To grow plump, or stout, to spread out; to increase in breadth.

1398 TREVISA *Barth De P. R.* vi. i, This age is calde adolescence, for it is full age to gete children, and able to barnish [1535 burnyshe]. c 1430 *Syr Generides* 780 The child... began to burnish and sprede. 1601 HOLLAND *Pliny* i. 345 A man Groweth in height... until hee be one and twentie yeares of age: then begins he to spread and burnish in squarenesse. 1640 FULLER *Joseph's Coat* (1867) 101 We must not all run up in height, like a hop-pole, but also burnish and spread in breadth. 1684 DRYDEN *Davenant's Circe* Prol. 398 A slender Poet must have time to grow, And spread and burnish as his Brothers do. 1847-76 HALLOWELL, *Burnish*, to increase in strength or vigour; to fatten; look ruddy and sleek. 1875 PARISH *Sussex Dial. s.v.*, 'You burnish nicely', meaning, 'You look well'.

b. *transf.* 1624 WOTTON *Archit.* in *Reliq. Wotton*. (1685) 68 Whether the Fabric be of a beautiful Stature; whether for the breadth it appear well burnished. 1668 FULLER *Worthies* ii. 190 (London) will be found to Burnish round about, to every point of the compass.

Burnishable, *a.* rare-0. [f. BURNISH v.1 + *-ABLE*.] Capable of being burnished.

1611 COTGR., *Polissable*, polissable, burnishable.

Burnished (bū'mīsh), *ppl. a.* [f. BURNISH v.1]

1. Made bright and shining as by friction, polished. 1325 E. E. *Allit. P.* A. 77 As bornyst syluer þe lef onslidedez. 1413 *LYDG. Pilgr. Soule* v. v, Bryght bornysshed gold. 1470 HENRY WALLACE ii. 130 Hys byrnyst brand he byrystyt at ye last. 1606 SHAKS. *Ant. & Cl.* ii. ii. 196 The Barge... like a burnisht Throne Burnt on the water. a 1775 POPE *Odys.* iv. 66. 1789 WORDSW. *Even. Walk*, The whole wide lake... like a burnished mirror glows.

b. *fig.* 1853 (3 June) BRIGHT *Sp. India* (1876) 11 The glossed and burnished statement.

2. *transf.* Having the appearance of polished metal; bright, shining, glossy.

1325 E. E. *Allit. P.* A. 220 Bornyste quyte watz hyr uesture. 1596 SHAKS. *Merch. V.* ii. i. 2 The shadowed luerie of the burnisht sunne. 1667 MILTON *P. L.* ix. 501 Serpent... With burnisht Neck of verdant Gold. 1827 KEBLE *Chr. Y. Burial of Dead* iii, Let some graceful arch be there... With burnish'd ivy for its screen.

b. Of deer: (see the vb.) 1649 G. DANIEL *Trinarch.*, *Hen. V.* 232 Chase Whole Burnish't Herds. 1697 DRYDEN *Virg. Georg.* iv. 422 A Steer... whose Head... with burnish'd Horns begins to spread.

Burnisher (bū'mīsh-er), [f. BURNISH v.1 + *-ER* 1.]

1. One who burnishes.

c 1450 *Voc.* in *W.-Wulker* 604 *Pollicitor*, a bornysheour. 1520 HOLLYBAND *Treas. Fr. Tong.* *Entumeur de livres*, a burnisher of books. 1664 PERVY *Diary* (1879) III. 65 By and by the flaggon finished at the burnisher's. 1708 *Brit. Apollo* 13 Feb. 8 Mrs. Wills Burnisher of Plate, at the Iron Anchor. 1824 *Birmingham Daily Post* 23 Feb. 3/4 Chandler Trade.—Wanted, Burnisher used to best work.

2. A tool for smoothing surfaces or for burnishing or polishing articles. It differs in material and shape according to the purpose and trade.

1598 FLORIO *Frugatore*... a burnisher [1611 a rubbing cloth, a rubber, a burnishing toole, a burnisher]. 1668 EVELYN *Chalcogr.* (1769) 21 Burnisher, (another tool used by Chalcographers). 1751 CHAMBERS *Cycl.*, *Burnishers* for gold or silver are commonly made of a dog's or wolf's tooth, set in the end of an iron or wooden handle. Of late, agates and pebbles have been introduced. 1837 WHITTOCK *Bk. Trades, Engraver* (1842) 214 The burnisher is... formed of hard steel, rounded and polished.

Burnishing (bū'mīsh-ing), *vb.* sb. [BURNISH v.1]

1. The action of brightening or polishing (chiefly metallic surfaces); also *attrib.*

1528 HULOET, *Bournysing* or poolyshing. 1598 FLORIO, *Frugatio*, a burnishing toole. 1644 MILTON *Educ. Wks.* (1847) 98/2 As it were the burnishing of many studios & contemplative years. 1764 HARMER *Observ.* iv. vii. 320 The

burnishing of gold. 1879 in *Cassell's Techn. Educ.* IV. 299/2 The next process is burnishing—Steel tools are used.

b. *fig.* c. *concr.* Metallic polish, lustre.

1780 BURKE *Election Sp. Bristol Wks.* III. 372 That our disgrace might want no sort of brightening and burnishing. 1851 RUSKIN *Stones Venice* I. App. xvii. 393 You cannot perfectly see the form of a humming-bird, on account of its burnishing.

2. *transf.* Of deer. Cf. BURNISH v.1 3.

1611 COTGR., *Frayoutr*, a Deeres burnishing of his head. 1859 TODD *Cycl. Anat. & Phys.* V. 518/2 The animals... rubbing them [i.e. the horns] against any hard substances... this action is termed 'burnishing'.

Burnishment (bū'mīsh-mēt), *rare.* [f. BURNISH v.1] Metallic polish, lustrous adornment.

1868 CHRISTINA ROSSETTI *My Dream* in *Goblin Market*, etc. 63 But special burnishment adorned his mail.

|| **Burnous, burnouse** (bū'mī's, -nū'z). Also 7 *bernou*, -noo, -nooe, 9 *ber*-, *bornous*(e), *boor-noos*, *bourous*, *burnoos*(e). [a. F. *burnous*, a.

Arab. *برنس burnus*. On account of the final -s, the word has often been treated in Eng. as a plural.]

1. A mantle or cloak with a hood, an upper garment extensively worn by Arabs and Moors.

1695 MOTTEUX *St. Olon's Morocco* 81 The black Caps and Bernous they are oblig'd to wear. *Ibid.* 91 A Bernous, or kind of Stuff or Cloath Cloak, edg'd with a Fringe, whence there hangs a kind of a Cowle behind with a Tuft at the end on't. *Ibid.* 92 The Alcaides... have a Bernous of Scarlet, or black Cloth, without a Cowle. *Ibid.* 93 The King's Blacks are seldom seen to wear Bernous. 1811 *Ann. Reg.* 568/1 A cloak, or Bernous as it is called. 1838 LANDER *Exped. Niger* II. xiv. 277 Dressed in a full burnouse, or Arab cloak. 1841 MARRYAT *Poacher* (Rildg.) 279 Their white burnous... waving in the wind. 1863 KINGLAKE *Crimea* i. 289 The burnous... is his [the Arab's] garment by day and by night. 1875 J. BENNET *Winter Medit.* i. ix. 263 The inhabitants of Algiers... wear... thick woollen burnous with hoods.

2. A kind of cloak or mantle worn by women, resembling the Arabian garment.

1859 SALA *Tw. round Clock* 111 The Burnouse cloaks, and the Llama shawls. 1863 — *Capt. Dang.* III. viii. 254 The folds of her White Burnouse. 1876 GEO. ELIOT *Dan. Der.* i. xi. 219, I want to put on my burnous.

Burnoused, *ppl. a.* [f. *prec.* + *-ED* 2.] Wearing a burnous.

1846 *Blackw. Mag.* LX. 337 Burnoused warriors. 1864 SALA in *Daily Tel.* 20 Apr., The burnoused Kabyle and the kilted Highlander. 1868 *Daily Tel.* 22 May, The lovely... ladies of Genoa... turned out... shawled and burnoused.

Burnt, burned (bū'nt, bū'nd), *ppl. a.* For forms see the vb. [f. BURN v.1]

1. Set on fire, consumed with fire.

1382 WYCLIF *Isa.* xiii. 9 Brent faces [Vulg. *facies combustae*]. 1535 COVERDALE *Jer.* li. 25 A brente hill. a 1547 SURREY *Eneid* ii. 1015 Rest from the brent Temples of Troy. 1591 SPENSER *Ruines of Time* 19 Th' ancient Genius of that Citie brent. 1611 BIBLE *Jer.* li. 25, I will... make thee a burnt mountaine. *Mod.* Many objects of value were discovered amid the ruins of the burnt houses.

b. *fig.* Fired with passion; inflamed, excited.

a 1564 BECON *Humble Supplic.* in *Prayers*, &c. (1844) 247 Brent with a fervent and unfeigned zeal. 1859 TENNYSON *Enid* 560 All his face Glow'd... So burnt he was with passion.

2. **Burnt out:** a. extinct after entire consumption of the fuel; sometimes *fig.*; b. driven out by a conflagration; cf. BURN v. 15.

1877 CARLYLE *Fr. Rev.* i. vii. ii. 302 Burnt-out Seigneurs, rally round your Queen! 1837 DE QUINCEY *Lake Poets* &c. Wks. II. 108 'It was a burnt-out volcano.

3. Affected or damaged by fire or excessive heat, scorched. † **Burnt line:** the equator. † **Burnt zone:** the torrid zone. In † **Burnt planet**, † **Burnt Way**, = COMBUST (*Astrol.*).

1393 GOWER *Conf.* II. 375 They destrued king and all And leften but the brente wall. 1558 HULOET, *Burned* roste-meate on the spyt. 1555 EDEY *Decades W. Ind.* (Arb.) 59 The marchant... passeth to Inde, By the burne line or Equinoctiall. 1614 RALEIGH *Hist. World* i. 122 Being under the burnt Zone, it was held uninhabitable. 1667 PERVY *Diary* (1879) IV. 442 The ground was everywhere so burned and dry. 1864 MARY E. ROGERS *Dom. Life Palestine* 17 Cattle were browsing on the scanty burnt-out pasture.

b. Of persons: That has suffered injury or pain from fire, or agencies resembling fire; *esp.* in proverb, *The burnt child dreads the fire.*

c 1400 *Rom. Rose* 1820 Brent child of fier hath mych drede. 1562 J. HEYWOOD *Prov. & Epigr.* (1867) 45 Burnt childe fyre dreth. 1674 DUKK of LAUDERD. in *Lauderd. Papers* (1885) III. xxxii. 53 A burn'd Child dreads the fire.

† c. *Med.* *Adust.* **Burnt cholera:** 'cholera adust'.

1578 LYTE *Dodoens* i. xv. 24 Hoate, cholericke, burnite, and pernicious humors. 1595 LLOYD *Treas. Health* Y iv, Against a quartaine of burnt coler in haruest, take y^e rote of fennel, parcely, of bochers brome, sperage, cinkfoyle.

4. That has been treated with fire for a specific purpose: a. Said of earth that has been burnt-beated; of clay, bricks, tiles, etc. Also *burnt-iron* (see quot. 1881).

1387 TREVISA *Higden* (1865) I. 97 Þe walles were i-made of brent tile and of glewe in stede of mortar. 1616 SURFL. & MARKH. *Countr. Farm* 687 Harts doe run ouerthwart the burned ground where the dogges can haue no sent. 1834 *Brit. Husb.* xvii. I. 367 Part of the field was dressed with burned clay. 1881 RAYMOND *Mining Gloss.*, *Burnt iron*, in the Bessemer and open-hearth processes, iron which has been exposed to oxidation until all its carbon is gone.

b. Of gold and silver: Molten, refined by fire.

c 1325 E. E. *Allit. P.* A. 988 Þe borȝ watz al of brende golde bryȝt. c 1386 CHAUCER *Knts.* T. 1304 His sadel was

of brend gold newe ybete. c1480 *Anturs of Arth.* xxx. A bordur a-boute alle of brent gold. 1488 *Inv. Jewels of Jas. III* in Tyler *Hist. Scot.* (1864) II. 393 Item twa braid peis of brynt silver bullionne.

c. Calced or treated by fire for use as a drug, pigment, etc., as *burnt alum*, *carmine*, *ochre*, *sienna*, *sponge*, *umber*, etc. (see *ALUM*, *CARMINE*, etc.); † *burnt-brass*, obs. name for copper sulphate; † *burnt copper*, copper oxide; † *burnt lead*, lead sulphide.

1661 *LOVELL Hist. Anim. & Min.* 459 *Cathereticks*, burnt pumice-stone, burnt alum, burnt vitriol, burnt antimony or crocus metallorum. *Causticks*, live lime, burnt-brasse, sublimat mercury. 1752 *CHAMBERS Cycl. s.v. Lead*, Burnt Lead, *Plumbum ustum*, is lead melted in a pot with sulphur, and reduced by fire into a brown powder. 1790 *RICHARDSON Chem. Princ. Metallic Arts* 124 When it [copper] is exposed to a red heat... it separates in scales, which are called burnt copper. 1800 *Med. Jmnl.* IV. 412 To medical practitioners in general, burnt sponge is known to be the basis of the Coventry remedy.

d. Impressed by burning or branding; branded. 1854 *Advt. in Proc. Parliament* No. 163 A Browne bay Mare... a burned O upon each hip.

e. *Burnt taste*, *flavour*, etc.: a taste, etc., resembling that of something that has been burnt.

5. Of wine, etc.: 'Made hot' (J.); see quot. 1876; the precise early sense is doubtful. (Now only *dial.*) *Burnt brandy*: that from which part of the spirit has been removed by burning.

1583 *STUBBS Anat. Abus.* 120 Commynng to... a tavern, called for burnt-wine, sacke, malmesie, hipocras and what not. 1598 *SHAKS. Merry W. II. i. 222* Ile giue you a pottle of burnt sacke. 1661 *PEPYS Diary* 15 Jan., A cupp of burnt wine at the tavern. 1709 *STEELE Tatler* No. 36 ¶ 5 I'll lay Ten to Three, I drink Three Pints of burnt Claret at your Funeral. 1876 *F. ROBINSON Whittby Gloss.* Pref. 9 'Burnt wine from a silver flagon' was handed... being a heated preparation of port wine with spices and sugar. 1880 *Barnard's Man.* 55 Burnt brandy... one glass of Cognac and half a table-spoonful of white sugar, burnt in a saucer.

6. Affected as with burning.

a. Of grain: Affected by smut, ergot, etc.; cf. 7. 1597 *GERARD Herbal* l. vii. 77 Burnt Rie hath no one good property. 1806 *R. ANDREWS in Young Agric. Essex* I. 295, Ears of smut, or what we call burnt wheat.

b. Affected by venereal disease.

1693 *W. ROBERTSON Phrascol. Gen.* 289 A burnt whore.

7. Comb., as † *burnt-cat* [*F. chat brûlé*], a sort of pear; *burnt-corked a.*, blackened with burnt cork; *burnt-ear*, a disease in corn, in which, owing to the growth of a minute fungus *Uredo segetum*, the ear appears covered with blackened powder; † *burnt-marked a.*, branded.

1690 *W. WALKER Idiomat. Anglo-Lat.* 80 The Pot calls the Pan 'burnt-arse'. 1676 *WORLDICE Cyder* (1691) 216 'Burnt-cat, Lady-pear, Ice-pear... are all very good winter-pears'. 1884 *Liverpool Daily Post* 2 Jan. 47 Their 'burnt-corked faces'. a 1728 *LISLE Husb.* 150 (E. D. S.) 'Burnt-ear, *Ustilago* in corn. 1825 *Penny Cycl.* III. 463/2 Diseases to which barley is subject... the smut, the burnt ear, blight. 1705 *in Lond. Gaz.* No. 4163/4 A... Mare... 'burnt-marked on the near Hip with H.

† *Burntish*, a. Obs. [*f. BURNT + -ISH*]. Having symptoms of burning, somewhat burnt.

1661 *J. CHANDLER Van Helmont's Oriat.* 227 Thirst ariseth in Fevers by reason of burntish putrefactions. 1674 *R. GODFREY Inf. & Ab. Physic* 70 Burntish and stinking belchings... plainly attest it.

† *Burntness*. Obs. rare -1. In 6 brentness. [*f. BURNT + -NESS*]. Burnt quality.

1559 *MORWYN Evonym.* 23 Destill it... with a soft fire; least the waters stink or savour of brentness.

Burnt offering, burnt-offering. A sacrifice offered to a deity by burning. (As the word is chiefly familiar in Scriptural use, it naturally suggests in the first place the animal sacrifices of the Jews.) So also *Burnt-sacrifice*.

1384 *WYCLIF Mark* xii. 33 More than alle brend offringis [*v. r. sacrifices*] and sacrificis. 1535 *COVERDALE Job* i. 5 Job... offered for every one a brentofferinge. 1751 *CHAMBERS Cycl. s.v. Sacrifice*, When the victim was slain, they flayed him, if it was not a burnt-offering (for then they burnt skin and all). 1824 *GROTE Greece* II. lxxi. IX. 236 Have you ever sacrificed to him with entire burnt-offerings as we used to do together at Athens?

1384 *WYCLIF Ex.* xx. 24 3e shulen offre vpon it 3oure brent sacrificis. 1588 *A. KING Canisius Catech.* 21, I offer my self to this mornyng in ane brounte sacrifice. 1611 *BIBLE 2 Kings* xvi. 15 Burne... the Kings burnt sacrifice.

Borough, -row, obs. ff. BOROUGH.

Burr, bur (bū), sb.¹ Also 7 burgh, 6-7 burre. [Derivation obscure: nor is it at all clear whether the senses under II and III ought not to be treated as separate words. But the co-existence of the form *BURROW sb.* (q. v.) with *BURR* sense 5, and its explanation as 'a circle about the moon', seem to identify this with the *burwe*, *burrowe* of the Promptorium, the phonetic variants being analogous to *fur*, *furrow*; while the form *burgh*, besides *burre*, as well as the sense of II, appears equally to point back to the same M.E. forms. For the source of the M.E. see *BROUGH*.]

I. 1. General sense: A circle. c1440 *Prompt. Parv.* 56 Burwe, sercle [1499 burrowe], orbiculus.

II. A (? protecting) ring, etc.

† 2. A broad iron ring on a tilting spear just behind the place for the hand. Obs.

c1530 *LD. BERNERS Arth. Lyt. Bryt.* (1814) 397 Squyers and variettes were... knockynge on hedes and burres on myghtye spere. 1603 *FLORIO Montaigne* II. xxxvii. (1630) 427 Burre, or yron of a lance, etc. 1611 *DEKKER & MIDDLETON Roar. Girl* II. i. I'll try one spear... though it prove too short by the burgh. 1610 *GUILLIM Heraldry* v. xiv. (1660) 338 The Burre... is a broad ring of Iron behind the... place made for the hand, which Burre is brought unto the Rest when the Tilter chargeth his Speare or Staffe.

3. A washer placed on the small end of a rivet before the end is swaged down; also (*Gunnery*) see quot. 1802.

1607 *FELTHAM Resolves* II. xxix. Wks. (1677) 218 A brawl... which with all the burrs of silence should have still stood firmly riveted. 1808 *C. JAMES Mil. Dict.*, *Bur* [*in Gunnery*], a round iron ring, which serves to rivet the end of the bolt, so as to form a round head. 1851 *Ord. & Regul. Roy. Engineers* § 11. 51 Leather Pipes, joined by Copper Rivets and Burs. 1860 *H. STUART Seaman's Catech.* 5 Bolt and burr.

4. (See *BURR-PUMP*.)

III. 5. A circle of light round the moon (or a star); a *BROUGH*. The original sense seems to have been merely 'circle, halo'; but in modern use there is usually the notion of a nebulous or nimbus disc of light enfolding the luminary; as if modified by association with *BUR sb.*

1631 *BATHWAT Whimsies, Xantipp.* 104 A burr about the moone is... a presage of a tempest. 1794 *G. ADAMS Nat. & Exp. Philos.* IV. iii. 463 The stars seem... surrounded with a sort of burr. 1808 *HERSCHEL in Phil. Trans.* XCII. 499 Of Stars with Burs, or Stellar Nebulae. 1851 *NICHOL Archil. Heav.* 128 The halo itself gradually sinking into a bur, or an atmosphere around a star.

Burr, bur (bū), sb.² [Origin unknown.] The sweet-bread of a calf, sheep, etc.

1573 *Art of Limning* 10 To take grease out of parchment or paper: Take shepes burres and burne them to powder, etc. 1730-6 *BAILEY s.v.* The Bur of a Beef, etc., the sweet bread. 1752 *Hist. Pompey the Litt.* 125 Sitting down to a breast of veal... raving at the landlord, because the bur was gone. 1834 *ESTHER Coiled Housekeeper's Guide* v. 107 A sweet-bread (or burr). Boiled.

† **Burr, bur**, sb.³ Obs. [Etymol. uncertain. Though the sense approaches that of *BORR sb.*, connexion with that appears to be phonetically impossible. Mr. E. B. Poulton suggests that the general notion is that of 'a roughness or scar, which looks artificial or as if resulting from accident—the look presented by an ear (beyond any other organ of special sense) in birds, and other animals which have not the external pinna possessed by mammals'. This would connect it with the following word, or even with *BUR sb.*]

The external meatus of the ear, the opening leading to the tympanum.

(This is clear in quot. 1688, since hawks have nothing but an opening; so practically the cropt-eared dog in quot. 1677; quot. 1573 refers to the secretion of wax in the meatus of the ear, and (as was formerly supposed) in the parotid glands or 'kernels of the ears' (though it might be read as identifying the 'burr' with the 'kernels'). Dr. Johnson's explanation 'the lobe or lap of the ear' was an unfortunate guess, servilely followed by later dictionaries.)

1573 *COOPER Thesaurus, Parotis*, an impostume behinde the eares coming of a matter distilling from the heade into the burres or kernels of the eares. 1677 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 1203/4 A Little White Shock Bitch... cropt ears... red above the burrs of her ears. 1688 *R. HOLME Armoury* II. 231/2 *Names of the parts of a Falcon—Of the Head.* The Burrs, or Ear burrs, are the Ears. 1730-6 *BAILEY, Burr*, the round Knob of Horn next a Deer's Head; also the Burr of the Ear. (Hence in JOHNSON.)

Burr, bur (bū), sb.⁴ [app. the same word as *BUR sb.*; at least having some notion of roughness derived from it: but usually spelt *burr*, and therefore here treated apart.]

1. A rough ridge or edge left on metal or other substance after cutting, punching, etc.; e.g. the roughness produced on a copper-plate by the graver; the rough neck left on a bullet in casting; the ridge produced on paper, etc., by puncture.

1611 *FLORIO, Bocchina*, that stalke or necke of a bullet which in the casting remains in the necke of the mould, called of our Gunners the bur of the bullet. 1784 *E. DARWIN in Phil. Trans.* LXXV. 5 A bur made by forcing a bodkin through several parallel sheets of paper. 1837 *WHITLOCK Bk. Trades* (1842) 214 The scraper... for rubbing off the burr or barb raised by the graver on the copper plate. 1846 *Print. Appar. Amateurs* 13 [In type-founding] when the waste piece of metal called the 'break' is broken off, the burr that is left is planed away. 1876 *Athenæum* 25 Nov. 693/3 Burr... is caused by the tearing up of the copper by the needle or burin. A ragged edge is left which holds the ink and gives a rich velvety effect. 1879 *Cassell's Techn. Educ.* IV. 117/2 A burr left at the hinder end of the thread [of a screw] which 'ragged' the wood.

2. Technical senses of obscure origin. [? With notion of 'something rough', or of 'tool for removing roughness'.] a. short for *burr-chisel*, *burr-drill*, *burr-saw*: see 3. b. (See quot.)

1794 *Rigging & Seamanship* I. 150 Burr, a triangular hollow chisel, used to clear the corners of mortises. 1833 *J. HOLLAND Manuf. Metals* II. 145 In the making of screws... workmen... use what they call a burr, or burring

tool... The burr is a square piece of steel... having in the centre a hole screwed as accurately as possible with a square thread or worm.

3. Comb. *burr-chisel*, a three-edged chisel used to clear the corners of mortises; *burr-cutter*, *burr-nipper*, nippers for cutting away the burr from a leaden bullet; *burr-drill*, a dentist's drill with a serrated or file-cut knob or head; *burr-gauge*, a plate perforated with holes of graduated sizes, for determining the sizes of burr-drills; *burr-saw*, a small circular saw used in turning.

Burr, bur (bū), sb.⁵ Also buhr. [Origin uncertain: possibly identical with *BUR sb.*, being so called from its roughness.]

1. a. Siliceous rock capable of being employed for millstones. b. A whetstone.

1721 *C. KING Brit. Merch.* I. 288 Burrs for Mill-Stones. 1816 *W. SMITH Strata Ident.* 12 Burrs, or scythe stones. 1834 *Amer. Trans. Sci.* XXV. 233 Millstones equal to the best French buhrs. 1879 *Shropsh. Word-bk.*, *Burr*, a whetstone for scythes. 1880 *JEFFERIES Gl. Estate* 168 The French burrs... come over in fragments.

2. A siliceous boss or rock occurring among calcareous, or other softer, formations; a harder part in any freestone.

1839 *MURCHISON Silur. Syst.* I. iv. 49 Upright bands of hard sandstone, termed 'Burrs', which cut through the strata. 1865 *I. TURNER Slate Quarries* 16 Circular saws... are... unable to cut through 'burrs'... and other hard places.

3. *spec.* A term applied by quarrymen in Dorsetshire to a soft sandy limestone, with hard siliceous bosses, above the 'Dirt bed' in the Lower Purbeck series. Also to a harder sandy limestone chiefly made up of comminuted shells, in the Upper Purbeck beds.

1829 *T. WEBSTER Observ. Purb. & Portland Bds.* *Trans. Geol. Soc.* Ser. II. II. Below this is another mass of calcareous stone, considerably softer... it is divided into two by a slaty bed, the upper being called aish, and the lower the soft burr. 1882 *Cornh. Mag.* 728 Above this we get the soft burr, a lake sediment. 1883 *T. BOND Corfe Castle* 51 The stone... locally known by the name of Bur, is perhaps the most durable building stone in England.

4. A partly fused mass of brick; a clinker.

1823 *P. NICHOLSON Pract. Build.* 344 Burrs or Clinkers are such as are so much over-burnt as to vitrify, and run two or three together. 1864 *Daily Tel.* 2 June, The advisability of sinking brick burrs in different parts of the river. 1876 *GWILT Encycl. Archit.* § 1824 Burrs and clinkers are such bricks as have been violently burnt, or masses of several bricks run together in the clamp or kiln.

5. *attrib.*: see *BURR-STONE*.

1883 *Specif. N. E. Railw.* (*Alnwick & Cornh. Branch*) 58 Price of Dry or Burr Walling.

Burr (bū), burr), sb.⁶ Also burrh. [app. imitative of the sound; though probably associated in idea with the roughness of a bur; cf. *BUR sb.*, esp. sense 4, *bur* in the throat.]

1. A rough sounding of the letter r; *spec.* the rough uvular trill (= French *r grasseyé*) characteristic of the county of Northumberland, and found elsewhere as an individual peculiarity. (Writers ignorant of phonology often confuse the Northumberland burr with the entirely different Scotch r, which is a lingual trill: see quot. 1835, 1873.)

1760 *FOOTE Minor* (1781) *Introd.* 9 An Aunt just come from the North, with the true Newcastle burr in her throat. 1805 *R. FORSYTH Beauties Scotl.* II. 57 From [the Tweed], southward as far as Yorkshire, universally all persons annex a guttural sound to the letter r; a practice which in some places receives the appellation of the burrwick burrh. 1835 *W. IRVING Crayon Misc.* (1849) 240 He spoke with a Scottish accent, and with somewhat of the Northumbrian 'burr'. 1873 *J. A. H. MURRAY Dial. S. Scotl.* 86 The northern limits of the burr are very sharply defined, there being no transitional sound between it and the Scotch r. Along the line of the Cheviots, the Scotch r has driven the burr a few miles back, perhaps because many of the farmers and shepherds are of Scotch origin. 1876 *GREEN Short Hist.* I. § 3 (1882) 25 The rough Northumbrian burr.

b. Hence, loosely, A rough or dialectal pronunciation, a peculiarity of utterance.

1849 *C. BRONTË Shirley* iv. 39 'A Yorkshire burr... was much better than a cockney's lisp'. *Ibid.* III. ii. 41 Your accent... has no rugged burr. 1867 *A. J. ELLIS E. E. Pronunc.* I. i. 19 Each district has its burr or brogue. 1874 *FARRAR Christ* II. lix. 348 Betrayed by his Galilean burr.

2. [= *BIRR* 3.] Whirr, vibratory or rushing noise.

1818 *KEATS Endym.* II. 138 Holding his forehead, to keep off the burr Of smothering fancies. 1825 *COLERIDGE Lett.* xl. in *Lett. Convers.*, &c. II. 177 Put the whole working life of my thoughts in a whirl and a burr. 1856 *MISS McLOCH J. Halifax* I. 2 The open house-doors... through which came the drowsy burr of many a stocking-loom. 1860 *All I. Round* No. 57. 159 The burr of working wheels and cranks.

Burr, bur (bū), sb.⁷ [*a. F. bourre* 'padding', also 'refuse of raw silk'. Cf. *BURL sb.*]

1. A sort of pad for a saddle.

1688 *R. HOLME Armoury* III. 345/1 The French Pad Saddle... the Burs of it come wholly round the seat. 1725 *BRADLEY Fam. Dict.* II. 6a/2 Pad Saddle, of which there are Two sorts, some being made with Burrs before the Seat, others with Bolsters under the Thighs.

2. The refuse of raw silk.

1798 *W. HUTTON Autobiog.* 117 To take out the burs and uneven parts [of a thread of silk]. 1812 *SMYTH Pract. Customs* 185 Waste silk is what surrounds the cocoon... This burr is proper to stuff quilts.

|| **Burr, bur**, *sb.*⁸ [Hind. *ṣ*; *bar*:-Skr. *vaḥa*.] The Banyan-tree (*Ficus indica*); also attrib.

1813 J. FORBES *Orient. Mem.* III. 14 A sacred Burr, or pipal tree. 1849 *SOUTHEY Comm.-Pl. Bk. Ser. II.* 407 A remarkable banian or burr tree. 1845 STOCQUELIER *Handbk. Brit. India* (1854) 141 The bur, the largest of trees.

† **Burr**, *v.*¹ *Obs. rare*-¹. [f. **BURR** *sb.*¹] *intr.* To spread out like a burr round the moon.

1660 H. MORE *Myst. Godl.* III. vi. 71 The Rayes of things, burring out from all Bodies that act at a distance.

Burr (*bū*), *v.*² [f. **BURR** *sb.*¹ 3.] *trans.* To fashion into a burr or rivet-head.

1880 *Times* 27 Dec. 9/4 A tool having a screw and triple clip, which grasps the gas check and burrs it over a projection at the base of the shell.

Burr, *v.*³ [f. **BURR** *sb.*⁶]

1. *intr.* To pronounce a strong uvular *r* (instead of a trilled *r*), as is done in Northumberland. Also, loosely, to speak with a rough articulation; to speak inarticulately or indistinctly, to utter the syllable *burr* or something like it.

1798 *Wordsw. Idiot Boy* xxii, Burr, burr—now Johnny's lips they burr, As loud as any mill, or near it. 1816 *Monthly Mag.* XLI. 527 There let them burr and oy. 1866 *CARLYLE Remin.* (1881) II. 126 He...burred with his *r*.

2. *trans.* To pronounce (*r*) with a 'burr' (or, loosely, with a trill).

1868 H. KINGSLEY *Mathilde* II. 268 There were plenty of *r*'s in it, and he burred them. *Mod.* You cannot speak French like a Parisian, until you have learnt to burr your *r*'s.

3. *intr.* To make a whirling noise.

See **BURRING** *pp.* *a*.

† **Buracan**, *Obs.* [a. F. *bouracan* 'gros camelot' (Littre).] A coarse kind of cloth.

1588 *Lanc. Wills* (1861) III. 135 The same hangings of red and yellow buracan.

Buracho, var. **BORACHIO**, *Obs.*, leather bottle.

Burage, *Obs.* form of **BORAGE**.

Burral, **burrel** (*bū*rel). *Sc.* See quot.

1795 *Statist. Acc. Scotl.* XVII. 404 That partial kind (of cultivation) called balk and burral. 1811 *Agr. Surv. Aberd.* 235 (JAM.) The inferior land, besides the outfields...was called...burrel ley, where there was only a narrow ridge ploughed, and a large stripe or balk of barren land between every ridge.

Burranet, *Obs. exc. dial.* [app. repr. an OE. **beorh-cend* (= Du. *berg-cend* BERGANDER), f. *beorh* BURROW *sb.*² + *cend* duck; cf. **BURROW**-DUCK.]

The Sheldrake.

1604 *CAREW Cornwall* 35 a, Widgeon, Burranets, Shags, Duck and Mallard. 1759 B. MARTIN *Nat. Hist. Eng. I.* Dorset 39 Geese, Gulls, Burranets, Woodcocks. 1882 *JACO Cornish Gloss.* 125 Burranet, the Shell-drake.

Burras, *Obs.* form of **BORAX**.

Burra-pipe, *v.* *Obs.* [f. *burras*, *Obs.* form of **BORAX** (see quot. 1688).] See quot.

1676 J. COOKE *Marrow of Surg.* (ed. 4) 2 Those [Instruments] needful to be carried about are...Incision-knife, Burra-pipe and Stitching-Quill both in one. 1678 *PHILLIPS, Burra-pipe*, a certain Instrument derived originally from the Goldsmiths, and now also used in Chyrurgery, to keep corroding Powders in, as Vitriol, burnt Allum, Precipitate, etc. [1688 R. HOLME *Armoury* III. 259/2 Terms of Art used by the Goldsmiths. *Charging*, is to lay on the place to be soldered both Soder and Burras. *Ibid.* III. 308/2 Founders Tools. The Borax Box; of some termed a Borage Box; but more vulgarly a Burras Box, is a Brass or Copper Box with a Pipe in the side, in which bruised Borax is put, to scratch it by little and little out of the Knobbed Pipe, on the place intended to be Sodered.]

1753 *CHAMBERS Cycl. Suppl.*, *Burras-pipe*, an instrument used by goldsmiths, consisting of a copper box, with a spout, having teeth like a saw; sometimes also used by surgeons for the application of certain solid medicines by inspersion. 1721-1800 in BAILEY as in PHILLIPS; hence in JOHNSON and mod. Dicts.

Burass, [a. F. *bourras* (same sense).] Coarse hempen cloth.

1807 *VANCOUVER Agric. Devon* (1813) 241 The dregs are...filtered through brown burass bags.

† **Burratine**, *Obs. rare*-¹. [ad. It. *burattino* 'quel fantoccio di cenci o di legno, con molti de' quali il burattinaio rappresenta commedie e farse' (Tommaso and Bellini).] A puppet; 'a sillie gull in a Comedie' (Florio).

1617 B. JOHNSON *Viz. of Delight* 19 A she monster delivered of sixe Burratines, that dance with sixe Pantalones.

Burreau, var. of **BURRIO**, *Sc. Obs.*, hangman.

|| **Burred**, another form of **BARRAD**.

1813 *New Monthly Mag.* VII. 232 His long hair was...surmounted by a burred or conical woollen cap.

† **Burree**, *Obs.* [a. F. *beurre* (lit. 'buttered') 'espèce de poire fondante' (Littre).] See quot.

1719 *LONDON & WISE Compl. Gard.* 52 (Page headed *La Burrée*) The Burrée...call'd the Butter Pear, because of its smooth, delicious, melting soft pulp.

|| **Burrel**, [ad. Hindi *bharal* (Col. Yule).] The blue wild sheep of the Himalaya.

1860 *GOSSE Rom. Nat. Hist.* 54 The burrel, or wild sheep, of the Himalaya Peaks...The burrel is considered as the first of Himalayan game animals.

Burrel, app. misprint for **BURREE**.

1706 in PHILLIPS (with explanation nearly as in **BURREE** above). 1721-1800 in BAILEY; hence in JOHNSON, etc.

Burrel-fly, *Obs.* [Derivation unknown: cf. F. *bourrel* to torment.] The gadfly.

1678 *PHILLIPS* (App.), *Burrel-fly*, the same as Gad-fly. 1713

DERHAM Phys.-Theol. (L.) The whame, or burrel-fly, is vexatious to horses in summer. 1721 BAILEY, *Burrel-fly*, an insect very troublesome to working Cattle. Hence in JOHNSON and mod. Dicts.

† **Burrell**, *Obs. rare*. (Cf. **BURR** *sb.*¹ sense 2.)

1548 W. PATTEN *Exped. Scotl.* in Arb. Garner III. 118 They brake and bare away the nether end of the staff [of a standard] to the burrell.

Burrell, var. of **BORREL**, **BUREL**. *Obs.*

Burrel-shot. See quot.

1706 *PHILLIPS, Burrel-shot* = Case-shot. 1730-6 BAILEY, *Burrel Shot* (with Gunners) small Bullets, Nails, Stones, Pieces of old Iron, etc. put into Cases, to be discharged out of the Ordnance or murdering Pieces; Case shot. Hence in JOHNSON and mod. Dicts.

† **Burret**, *Obs. rare*. [a. F. *bourret*, *burret*, used to render L. *murex*, also *conchylium*, in Du Pinet's transl. of Pliny 1566, whence Holland may have obtained the word.] Used to render L. *murex*, a kind of shell-fish yielding a dye.

1601 *HOLLAND Pliny* IX. xxxvi. 258 The Murex or Burret. 1745 *tr. Columella's Husb.* VIII. xvi. 373 Conchyliis, burretis, oysters, and others of the purple kind [Lat. *conchyliis, murex, et ostreis*]. *Ibid.* 374 footnote, The murex, which some call a burret.

Burth-stone, variant of **BURR-STONE**.

Burridge, **Burrie**, *Obs.* ff. **BORAGE**, **BURRY**.

Burring (*bū*ring), *vbl. sb.* [f. **BUR** *v.*¹ + *-ING* ¹.] The removing of burs and other foreign bodies from wool or cotton in the process of manufacture.

Hence *burring-machine*, *-saw*, *-wheel*.

1879 in *Cassell's Techn. Educ.* IV. 340/1 To clean the wool of these troublesome seeds, the burring machine was brought into requisition.

Burring (*bū*ring), *pp.* *a*. [f. **BURR** *v.*³ + *-ING* ².]

a. That burrs in speech; *b*. whirring.

1883 *Mag. Art* Sept. 470/2 What a funny burring patois. 1886 E. HODDER *Life Earl Shaftesbury* I. iii. 139 Amidst the burring din of machinery.

† **Burrio**, **burio**, *Sc. Obs.* Also 7 *burreo*; see also **BOURREAU**. [a. F. *bourreau*, earlier *boreau, borel*.] A hangman, an executioner.

1536 *BELLENDEN Cron. Scot.* (1821) I. 201 He was burio to himself mair shamefully than we might devise. 1567 *Declar. Lordis Quarr.* in *Dalyell Scot. Poems* 16th C. II. 274 Syne with his Burrio [she] band ane new marriage. 1634-46 *Row Hist. Kirk* (1842) 322 Should ye be burrios to your brethern? [1830 *SCOTT Demonol.* 324 The Devil...had made her associates...to be their own burrios.]

fig. a 1600 *MONTGOMERIE Sonn.* lix, Lovers...Thought they persaw that Burrio Death to best within [his] eyes.

† **Burriour**, **burior**, *Sc. Obs.* Also 7 *burrier*. [An adaptation of prec., after agent nouns in *-our*, *-or*.] = prec.

c 1550 *Claridus* (JAM.) Sum burriours ye sall gar come yow to. a 1600 *BURELL Pilgr.* in *Watson Coll. Poems* (1706) II. 40 (JAM.) Thir catiff miscreants I mene, As burriours has euer bene. 1676 W. ROW *Contm. Blair's Autobiog.* xii. (1848) 456 To be his executioners and burriers against ministers.

|| **Burro** (*bū*ro). [Sp.] A donkey.

1800 *SOUTHEY in Life* (1850) II. 119 The easy pace and sure step of the John burros. 1800 - *Lett.* (1856) I. 129 By the aid of a burro and the good baiting-places in the way. [Frequent in Southey.] 1884 *Harper's Mag.* Oct. 750/2 Even pottery and singing-birds, are...brought burro-back, packed in...crates.

Burrock (*bū*rk). [Apparently in its origin a mere dictionary word, though perh. it may have found its way into actual use; ad. mod. or med.L. *burrochium*, ad. OF. *bourroiche*, explained by Littre and Godef. as an apparatus made of wicker-work for catching fish.]

1701 *Cowell's Interpreter* (ed. Kennet), *Burrochium*, a Burrock or small Wear, where Wheels (i.e. weels) are lay'd in a River, for the taking of Fish. 1706 in PHILLIPS; hence in BAILEY, JOHNSON, and mod. Dicts.

Burrough, ordinary f. **BOROUGH** in 16-18th c.

† **Burrough-gate**, *Obs.* [ad. OE. *burh-gat* gate of a castle.]

a 1000 *Thorpe Laws* I. 190 Gif ceorl hæfde fif hida agenes landes, crican and cýcenan, bellhus, & burh-gat-setl & sunder note on cynges healle. 1680 *Jani Anglorum Fac. Nova* 32 What in Ancient time made a Churl...become a Theyn or Noble...was five hides of his own Land, a Church and a Kitchin, a Bell-house and a Burrough-gate.

Burrow (*bū*row), *sb.*¹ Forms: 4 *borw*, 4-6 *borow*, 6 *borouge*, 6-7 *borough*, *burrowe*, *bury*, 7 *burrough*(e), 7- *burrow*. (9 *dial.* *bury*, *burry*.) See also **BERRY** *sb.*³ [Of somewhat obscure origin. The forms are identical with those of **BOROUGH**, of which the word is commonly regarded as a variant; but the sense is not known to have belonged to OE. *burh*, ON. *borg*, or to the parallel form in any Teut. lang. Possibly it may be a special use of **BOROUGH** 1, stronghold; or else a derivative (unrecorded in OE. and ON.) of **burg*-ablaut-stem of OTeut. **bergan* to shelter, protect; cf. *BURY* *v.*, *BURIELS*. The forms *bury*, *BERRY* *sb.*³ may perhaps be connected with **BERGH** *sb.* protection, shelter.]

1. A hole or excavation made in the ground for a dwelling-place by rabbits, foxes and the like.

c 1360 *Will. Palerne* 9 By-side þe borw þere þe barn was inne. 1382 *Wyclif Matt.* viii. 20 Foxis han dichis, or borowis, and briddis of the air han nestis. 1538 *LELAND Itin.* V. 59 There is nothing now but a Fox borow. 1540

Act 32 Hen. VIII, xi, Rabettes, in or vpon any bury. 1618 *SURPL. & MARKH. Conner. Farm* 504 The wood Tortoise...maketh her borough in the woods. 1669 *WORLIDGE Syst. Agric.* (1681) 173 Leaving places on the sides for the Coneyes to draw and make their Stops or Buries. 1799 *JOHNSON Rasselas* 35 The conies which the rain had driven from their burrows. 1822 *Hr. MARTINEAU Ella of Gar.* iii. 37 To hunt the puffins out of their burrows in the rock. 1849 *MURCHISON Siluria* iii. 40 The burrows...made by Crustaceans. 1879 *JEFFERIES Wild Life in S. C.* 38 In heavy rain...they [rabbits] generally remain within their buries.

† *b*. A burrowing; any small tubular excavation, or underground passage. *Obs.*

1615 *CROOK Body of Man* 607 The burroughes [of the internal ear] in their inward superficies are inuested with a very soft and fine membrane. 1662 J. CHANDLER *Van Helmont's Oriat.* 82 Fiery Mines or Burroughs.

2. *transf.* and *fig.* A secluded or small hole-like dwelling-place, or place of retreat; a 'hole'.

1650 *WELDON Cr. Jas.* I (1651) 44 This fellow knew his Burrough well enough. 1790 *BOSWELL Johnson* (1816) III. 409 The chief advantage of London is, that a man is always so near his burrow. 1835 *Sir J. Ross N.-W. Pass.* xxix. 408 A fresh breeze made our burrow colder than was agreeable. 1848 *MACAULAY Hist. Eng.* II. 130 Within a few miles of Dublin, the traveller...saw...the miserable burrows out of which squalid...barbarians stared wildly.

3. *Comb.* as † *burrow-headed a.*, † given to searching things out, inquisitive, curious (*Obs.*).

1650 *B. Discolimnium* 17 Over-brain'd Burrow-headed Men, restless in studying new things.

Burrow, *sb.*² *dial.* or *techn.* Forms: 5 *boroughe*, *burgh*, 7 *borough*, 7- *burrow*. See also **BARROW** *sb.*¹ [The form taken in some parts of Engl., esp. Cornwall, by the OE. *beorg*, ME. *berȝ*, *berw*, *borȝ*, *borw*, *burgh* hill, of which the more general representative is **BARROW** *sb.*¹, and a by-form **BERRY** *sb.*², q. v.]

A heap or mound; in earlier use a hillock; now, esp. a heap of refuse made in mining or beat-burning. See *beat-borough* under **BEAT** *sb.*³

825-1393 [see **BARROW** *sb.*¹]. 1480 *Robt. Deyll* 20 Farre from boroughe or hyll. 1483 *CAXTON Gold. Leg.* 314/1 This holy man saw upon the burgh on the ground the deuylys making joye. 1602 *CAREW Cornwall* 19 b, Before ploughing time, they scatter abroad those Beat-boroughs...upon the ground. *Ibid.* (1723) 148 a, One Gidly...dugged down a little hillocke, or Borough. 1663 *CHARLETON Chor. Gigant.* 30 Those Tumuli, or (as we call them) Burrows. 1696 C. MERRET in *Phil. Trans.* XIX. 351 Hills...called Burrows...supposed to be Sepulchral Monuments. 1784 *TWAMLEY Dairying* 125 Prepare a burrow of soil...from old Turf. 1875 *URS Dict. Arts* I. 550 *Burrow*, a miner's term for a heap of rubbish. 1880 *East Cornw. Gloss.* (E.D.S.) *Burrow*, a mound or heap; a sepulchral tumulus. *Beat-burrow*, a heap of burnt turves.

Burrow, *sb.*³ *dial.* [:-OE. *beorg*, *beorh* fem. (only in compounds), *gebeorh* neut. ME. *bergh*, shelter, f. *beorgan* to shelter, **BERGH**.] Shelter.

1577 *HARRISON England* I. II. xxiv. 358 Enclosed burrowes where their legions accustomed...to winter. *Ibid.* 360 The boroughs or buries were certain plots of ground, whereon the Roman soldiers did use to lie, when they kept in the open field. 1609 *HOLLAND Anm. Marcell.* xviii. vi. 114 Flat levell and plaine fields not able to afford us...any borough to shelter us [*latibula præbens sufficiens*]. 1867 *Leisure Hour* 352 Where there has been convenient shelter or burrow, as it is called in Oxfordshire, from the wind.

† **Burrow**, *sb.*⁴ *Obs.* Another form of **BOROUGH**, **BURGH**. Used also in plural for the Burgesses, or representatives of the Burghs or 'Commonality' in the Scottish parliament. Cf. **BURGESS**.

1634-46 *Row Hist. Kirk* (1842) 135 Many commissioners being assembled, they were parted in three, barrons, burrows, ministers. 1642 *Declar. Lords & Comm. to Gen. Ass. Ch. Scot.*, Lond. 10 The Nobility, Gentry, Burrows, Ministers and Commons. 1690 *Row* (son) *Hist. Kirk* (1842) 486 The gentrie by themselves, the burrows by themselves.

† **Burrow**, *sb.*⁵ *Obs.* Another form of **BURR** *sb.*¹, **BROUGH; a circle of light about the moon.**

1499 *Prompt. Parv.*, *Burrowe* [1490 *Burweh*, *sercle*], *orbiculus*. 1656 *DUGARD Gate Lang. Unl.* vi. (1659) § 64 A circle (Burrow) about the moon foresheweth wet...weather.

Burrow (*bū*row), *v.*¹ [f. **BURROW** *sb.*¹]

1. *intr.* Of animals: To make a burrow or small excavation, esp. as a hiding- or dwelling-place.

1771 *BARRINGTON in Phil. Trans.* LXII. 20 They...burrow under ground. 1796 *MORSE Amer. Geog.* I. 218 Their dens which they [alligators] form by burrowing far under ground. 1828 *STARK Elem. Nat. Hist.* II. 307 The larvæ burrow in the wood. 1831 *SOUTHEY Lit. Bk. in Green & G. Wks.* X. 380 Worms...Burrowing safely in thy side.

b. fig. To lodge as in a burrow, hide oneself.

1614 T. ADAMS *Divell's Bang.* 47 These Monsters are in the Wilderness! No they borough in Sion. 1640 *BASTWICK Lord Bps.* vi. F ij, These Lordly Prelates...will not suffer any one...to burrow within their Diocese. a 1848 *MARVAT R. Refor.* vii, We were forced to burrow in mean lodgings. 1884 W. C. SMITH *Kildrostan* 95 Some dim cave where he [an anchorite] had burrowed With bats and owls.

c. fig. To bore, penetrate, or make one's way under the surface; also to burrow one's way.

1804 *ABERNETHY Surg. Observ.* 169, I have known many diseases which burrow. 1831 *BREWSTER Newton* (1855) II. xxiv. 340 To burrow for heresy among the obscurities of thought. 1836-9 *TODD Cycl. Anat. & Phys.* II. 637/1 The ulcer...as it burrows deeply...may perforate the muscular wall. 1851 *GLADSTONE Glean.* VI. xliii. 29 Each local body has to find, I should say rather, to burrow its own way. 1859 *HAWTHORNE Fr. & It. Jmils.* II. 260 We were burrowing through its bewildering passages.

2. *refl.* with *passive pple.*: To hide away in, or as in, a burrow.

1602 WARNER *Alb. Eng.* ix. li. 233 These lie burrowed, safe from skath. 1807 CRABBE *Par. Reg.* i. 221 An infant .. Left by neglect, and burrowed in that bed. 1837 CARLYLE *Fr. Rev.* II. v. 282 A blustering Effervescence, of brawlers and spouters, which, at the flash of chivalrous broadswords .. will burrow itself in dens.

3. *trans.* To construct by burrowing, to excavate. 1831 Q. *Rev.* XLIV. 357 Most of their habitations were wretched cabins .. burrowed in the sides of the mountains. † **Burrow**, *v.* 2. *Obs. rare*—1. [f. BURROW sb. 3, or var. of BERGH *v.*] *trans.* To protect, to shelter. 1659 AUSTEN *Fruit Trees* i. 116 Hills, houses or such like, to burrow or shelter it from the North .. winds.

Burrow-duck. [f. BURROW sb. 1 (or ? possibly sb. 2, in sense 'sand-hill'; cf. BURBANET) + DUCK. The bird makes its nest in rabbit-burrows or in sand-hills on the sea-shore.] The Sheldrake or Bergander, *Anas tadorna*.

1678 RAY *Willughby's Ornith.* 363 They are called by some, Burrow-Ducks, because they build in Coney-burrows. 1709 DERHAM in *Phil. Trans.* XXVI. 466 The Sheldrake, or Burrough-Duck. 1841 Penny *Cycl.* XXI. 371/1 Sheldrake .. called in different parts of Britain Bergander, St. George's Duck, Burrow Duck, and Burrough Duck, etc.

Burrower (bɜːrəʊə). [f. BURROW *v.* 1 + -ER 1.] An animal or person that burrows. (*lit.* and *fig.*)

1854 WOODWARD *Mollusca* (1856) 241 The boring shell-fish have been distinguished from the mere burrowers. 1862 *Lond. Rev.* 16 Aug. 142 The shrewdest burrower after facts. 1874 LUBBOCK *Orig. & Met. Ins.* ii. 29 The larvae of *Sirex* being wood-burrowers. 1893 G. ALLEN in *Knowledge* 22 June 367/2 (Shrews and moles) are .. most of them burrowers.

Burrowing (bɜːrəʊɪŋ), *vbl. sb.* [f. as prec. + -ING 1.] The action of BURROW *v.* 1 Also *attrib.*

1772 BARRINGTON in *Phil. Trans.* LXII. 4 Its property of burrowing. 1836-9 TODD *Cycl. Anat. & Phys.* II. 161/2 With reference to its burrowing habits.

Burrowing, *ppl. a.* [f. as prec. + -ING 2.] That burrows. Burrowing owl, an American species of owl (*Noctua cunicularia*) dwelling in burrows made by itself, or by other animals.

1757 DYER *Fleece* i. 36 Where the burrowing rabbit turns the dust. 1808 HOME in *Phil. Trans.* XCVIII. 307 The mole, or other burrowing animals. 1841 Penny *Cycl.* XXIII. 121/2 The well-known burrowing little owl. 1870 HOOKER *Stud. Flora 40 Crambe maritima* .. Rootstock .. burrowing.

† **Burrow-mail**. *Sc. Obs.* [f. BURROW 4 + MAIL tribute.] 'The annual duty payable to the sovereign by a burgh for the enjoyment of certain rights' (Jamieson).

1424 *Sc. Acts Jas. I.* (1507) § 8 All the greates and smal customes, and burrow-mailes of the Realme, abide and remaine with the King till his living. c. 1550 SIR J. BALFOUR *Practicks* (1754) 46 He sall faithfully pay to the King his burrow-maill. 1617 *Sc. Acts Jas. VI.* (1816) 579 (JAM.) His Majesties burgh off Abirdene .. doted with ampill priuiledges and immunities for the yerlie payment of the soume of tua hundredeth threttene pundis sex schillingis aucht pennies of borrow maill.

Burrows-town (bɜːrəʊstəʊn). Only *Sc. exc.* in Ormin. Forms: 3 (Ormin.) burryhess tun, 4 burwis town, 5-8 borrows-town, 6 burous-toun, bororus, borroustoun, burrowistown, 9 burrows-town (cf. proper name *Borroustoun-ness* or *Borress*). = BOROUGH-TOWN. Also *attrib.*

c. 1200 ORMIN 6538 Patt ilike burryhess tun patt Crist was borenn inne. c. 1325 *Met. Rom.* 107 Burwis townes war tharinne. c. 1450 HENRYSON *Twa Mice*. The elder dwelt in borrows town. 1548 *Compl. Scot.* 87 Jour feildis, villagis and buroustounis. a. 1649 *Sc. Acts Charles I.* (1814) VI. 142 (JAM.) Borrows-toun kirks being always excepted. 1724 RAMSAY *Tea-T. Misc.* (1733) I. 92 The bravest beau in borrows-town. 1816 SCOTT *Antiq.* xxvi. 'Ou ay, hinny—thae's your landward and burrows-town notions'.

Burr-pump, burr-pump. *Naut.* [f. BUR, or BURR sb. 1 + PUMP.] A form of bilge-pump with the piston so constructed as not to require a valve: see *quot.*

1607 CAPT. SMITH *Seaman's Gram.* ii. 8 A Bur Pump. The Dutch men vse a Burre pompe .. wherein is onely a long staffe with a Burre at the end, like a Gunners sponge, to pompe vp the Billage water that .. cannot come to the well. 1688 R. HOLME *Armanory* iii. 297/2 The Bur-Pump, or Bilge-Pump .. The manner of these are to have a staffe 6, 7 or 8 foot long with a Bur of wood, where unto the Leather is nailed, this serveth in stead of a Box. And so two men standing over the Pump do thrust down this staffe, to the middle whereof is fastned a rope 6, 8, or 10 to hale by, and so they pull it up and down. 1678-1706 in PHILLIPS.

1721-90 in BAILEY. 1755 JOHNSON, *Burr Pump*, a name for the bilge-pump. 1874 KNIGHT *Dict. Mech.* i. 412 Burr-pump, .. in which a cup-shaped cone of leather is nailed by a disk (burr) on the end of a pump-rod, the cone collapsing as it is depressed, and expanding by the weight of the column of water as it is raised.

Burr-stone (bɜːrˈstəʊn). Also buhr-, burrh-, bur-. [f. BURR sb. 5 + STONE.] A siliceous rock of coarse cellular texture, found chiefly in France and N. America, and used for millstones; a piece of this rock.

1690 *Lond. Gas.* No. 2538/4 Her Loading, consisting of about 750 Burr Stones. 1708 *Ibid.* 4501/4 A Pink .. with her Cargo, consisting in Burstone, Lime, and Glasses for Windows. 1821 *Edin. Philos. Jyul.* IV. 246 Particular account of the recently discovered Buhrstone. 1840 HUMBLE *Dict. Geol. & Min.* (1843) 35 The substance of burrh-stone,

or mill-stone, when unmixed is pure silex. 1850 LVELL and *Visit U. S. II.* 9 This burr-stone .. constitutes one of the members of the Eocene group.

Burry (bɜːri), *a.* 1 [f. BUR sb. + -Y 1.] 1. a. Full of burs (see BUR sb.). b. Of the nature of a bur; rough, prickly.

1468 *Medulla Gram.* in *Cath. Angl.* 48 *Lappetum*, a burry place. 1597 GERARD *Herbal* i. xxx. § 2. 41 They bring forth their burrie bullets. .. in August. 1676 T. GLOVER in *Phil. Trans.* II. 629 Another [nut] .. like a Chesnut, with a Burry husk. 1737 MILLER *Gard. Dict.* (1768) I. 4 Seeds armed with three burry prickles. 1865 *Times* 13 Feb., Wool .. gray, 2d. to sd., burry and refuse, 3d. to 6d.

† 2. Shaggy, rough. *Obs.*

c. 1450 HENRYSON in *Bannatyne Poems* 109 (JAM.) That he [the sheep] .. heir quhat burry Dog wald say him till.

Burry (bɜːri), *a.* 2 [f. BURR sb. 6 + -Y 1.] Characterized by a burr or uvular trill.

1866 *Chamb. Jyul.* 793 Their language was .. so extra burry as to be nearly unintelligible.

Burry, *dia.* form of BURROW sb. 1

Burryn, *yon*, *obs.* ff. of BURGEON.

|| **Bursa** (bɜːrsə). Pl. *bursae*. [med.L. *bursa* bag, purse, a. Gr. *Bûrsa* hide, wine-skin.]

1. *Phys.* (more fully *bursa mucosa*): 'A synovial sac of discoidal form interposed between muscles, tendons, or skin, and bony prominences, for the purpose of lessening friction'. *Syd. Soc. Lex.* 1880. Some of these are constant, some only occasional.

1803 *Med. Jyul.* X. 69 While engaged in dissecting the *bursa mucosa* of the human body, I discovered two new *bursae* on the knee. 1821 HOOPER *Med. Dict.* 131/2 A *bursa* of the superior oblique muscle of the eye. 1878 T. BRYANT *Pract. Surg.* i. 175 When a *bursa* has formed it may inflame or suppurate. 1880 *Syd. Soc. Lex.* s.v., The occasional *bursae* are generally developed as the result of unusual friction.

2. See *quot.* (Cf. BURSE 7.)

1850 SIR W. HAMILTON *Discuss.* 407 In Germany .. the name of Bursa was given to houses inhabited by students, under the superintendence of a Graduate in Arts.

Bursal (bɜːrsəl), *a.* [f. prec. + -AL.] 1. *Phys.* Pertaining to, or of the nature of, a bursa (see BURSA 1).

1751 *Phil. Trans.* XLVII. xxxvii. 261 The bursal and crucial ligaments .. were .. in their natural order. 1878 T. BRYANT *Pract. Surg.* i. 176 Bursal swellings.

2. (See BURSA 2.)

[1753 CHAMBERS *Cycl. Supp.* s.v., Bursa is more particularly used in middle age writers for a little college or hall in an university, for the residence of students, called bursales, or bursarii.] 1850 SIR W. HAMILTON *Discuss.* (1853) 24 note, Occupiers of the same bursal room.

3. Pertaining to the public revenue.

1837 CARLYLE *Fr. Rev.* I. i. iii. iv. 64 Quite another sort of Edicts, namely 'bursal' or fiscal ones.

Bursa-logy. More correctly *bursology*. [f. BURSA + Gr. *-λογία* (see -LOGY)] The doctrine or consideration of the *bursae mucosae*.

1821 HOOPER *Med. Dict.* 1860 MAYNE *Exp. Lex.*

Bursar (bɜːrsə). Forms: 6 boursor, 6-8 burser, 8 boursier, boursar, 7- bursar. [ad. med.L. *bursarius*, f. BURSA; cf. F. *boursier* used in senses 1 and 2.]

1. A treasurer, *esp.* of a college.

1297 HARRISON *England* ii. iii. 82 In each of these [colleges] .. they have one or moe thesauriers whom they call Bursarios or bursers. 1597 FLEMING *Contn. Holinshed* III. 1361/2 A bursor or pailemaster for those wars. 1695 KENNETT *Par. Antiq.* Gloss. s.v. *Bursaria*, The conventual bursar was to deliver up his accounts yearly on the day after Michaelmas. 1706 HEARNE *Collect.* (1885) I. 98 He .. continu'd Boursor of y^e College several years together. 1868 M. PATRISON *Academ. Org.* iv. 109 Each college has one or more bursars who administer the finances.

2. In Scotch universities and schools: A student or scholar who holds a bursary, an exhibitioner.

1567 *Sc. Acts Jas. VI.* (1597) § 12 Al Patronis hauand Provestries, or Prebendaries of Colleges, Alterages or Chaplaneries, at their gifts and dispositioun, may .. present the samyn to Bursaris, quhom they please to name, to studie vertue & letteris, within ane College of one of the Vniuersiteis of this Realme. 1634-46 Row *Hist. Kirk* (1842) Intro. 20 Quhairby a bursar might be intertended at the New College of Santandrous. 1787 BEATTIE *Scotticisms* 16. 1826 J. GRANT *Black Drag.* xxiii. A bursar fresh from Glasgow College. 1876 GRANT *Burgh Sch. Scott.* ii. 497 Three bursaries .. at the grammar School of Banff, each bursar receiving free education and £2 10 s yearly for maintenance.

3. A student in a 'bursa' (see BURSA 2).

1850 SIR W. HAMILTON *Discuss.* 408 The rector .. repeated with his bursars their public lessons.

Bursarial (bɜːrsəˈriəl), *a.* [f. med.L. *bursarius* + -AL.] Belonging to a bursar or a bursary.

1860 *Sat. Rev.* XIV. 255/2 Careful in all bursarial and presidential matters. 1880 *Oxford under Purit.* in Q. *Rev.* Oct. 492 The Fellow being engaged in tutorial or bursarial work. 1886 *Athenaeum* 17 July 80/1 A central bursarial power.

Bursarship (bɜːrsəˈʃɪp). [f. BURSAR + -SHIP.]

a. The office of a bursar. b. = BURSA 3.

a. 1666 HALES *Gold. Rem.* 276 (L.) Not the plotting of an headship .. but the contriving of a bursarship of twenty nobles a year. 1864 *Athenaeum* No. 1921. 244/3 A few bursarships.

1878 LECKY *England* in 18th Cent. II. v. 35 Burnet .. showed his gratitude by founding eight bursarships in his will.

Bursary (bɜːrsəri). [ad. med.L. *bursarius* treasurer, *bursaria* treasurer's room; see BURSAR.]

† 1. ? = BURSAR 1. *Obs.*

1538 LELAND *Itin.* III. 68 Certen Bursaries, Ministers and Choristes.

2. A treasury; the bursar's room in a college, etc. 1695 KENNETT *Par. Antiq.* Gloss. s.v. *Bursaria*, The bursary, or place of receiving and paying money and rents by the *bursarii*, bursars, or officers of account in religious houses. 1732 DE FOR TOUR *Gl. Brit.* (1769) II. 244 In the Bursary [of New College, Oxford] is shewn the Crosier of the Founder. 1736 NEAL *Hist. Purit.* III. 429 The Bursaries were emptied of the public money.

3. In Scotland: An endowment given to a student in a university or school, an exhibition.

1733 P. LINDSAY *Interest Scot.* 124 To procure a Bursary for this hopeful Boy. 1800 A. CARLYLE *Autobiog.* 62 The bursaries given .. to students in divinity to pass two winters in Glasgow College, and a third in some foreign university. 1850 DE QUINCEY in H. PAGE *De Quincey* (1877) II. xvii. 74 Such small 'bursaries' or 'exhibitions', as the Scottish college system offers.

|| **Bursch** (bɜːrsch). Pl. *burschen*. [Ger. *bursch*, *bursche*, fellow-student, young fellow:—MHG.

burse, a. L. *bursa* = BURSA 2, whence the sense passed in university slang to a student living in a bursa. See Grimm, Kluge.] A student in a German university. Hence *Burschenism*, *nonce-vod.*, the manner and customs of the burschen.

1830 CARLYLE *Richter, Misc.* (1857) II. 138 note, Burschenism is not without its meaning, more than Oxfordism or Cambridgeism. The Bursch strives to say in the strongest language he can: 'See! I am an unmoneyed scholar, and a free man'.

Burse (bɜːrs). Also 6 burs(e), (6-7 buss), 7 burs, burse, byrse. [a. F. *bourse* purse, wallet:—med.L. *bursa*, a. Gr. *Bûrsa* hide, wine-skin.

The history of sense 3, and its F. form *bourse*, is doubtful, but apparently it did not originate in any reference to the money business there transacted.]

I. 1. A purse: now the designation of one of the official insignia of the Lord High Chancellor of England.

1570 LEVINS *Manip.* 191 A Burse, *bursa*. 1863 BARING-GOULD *Iceland* 239 An ancient crimson velvet burse.

b. *Ecll.* A receptacle for the 'corporal' or linen cloth used to cover the elements in the Eucharist.

1844 LINGARD *Anglo-Saxon Ch.* (1858) II. ix. 70 A burse to hold the linen for the altar. 1866 *Direct. Angl.* (ed. 3) 352 Burse, the case for the corporal.

† 2. A purse-like sac or covering. *Obs.*

1601 HOLLAND *Pliny* I. 395 The burse or cod wherein this woollie substance lyes. *Ibid.* xxxii. ii. (R.) A twofold burse or skin, which no living creature hath besides.

II. In commerce.

† 3. A meeting-place of merchants for transaction of business; an Exchange. *Obs.* (See BOURSE.)

[According to Guicciardini and Catel (quoted in Chambers *Cycl. Supp.* 1753), the name arose at Bruges, from the sign of a purse, or three purses, on the front of the house which the merchants there bought to meet in: some say this was the arms of the former owners, the family *Bursa* or *de la Bourse*. Others assign the circumstance to Antwerp. See Chambers *Cycl. Supp.* 1753, Littré (*Supp.*), and *Additions*, *Notes & Queries* 1st Ser. I. 74, etc. All the accounts agree as to the sign of a purse or purses.]

1553 EDEN *Treat. New Ind.* 25 Whether the marchantes .. haue their continual recourse as to y^e burse or strete. 1580 LVLV *Euphues* 434 It [London] hath .. a glorious Burse which they call the Ryoll Exchange. 1598 BARCKLEY *Felic. Man* v. (1603) 540 Socrates walking in the Burse or Market place. 1638 L. ROBERTS *Merch. Map Commerce* clxxxi. This citie [Bruges] hath an eminent market place with a publicke house for the meeting of all Marchants .. called the Burse, of .. the extinct familie Bursa, bearing three purses for their armes, ingraven upon their houses, from whence these meeting places to this day are called Burses. 1721-33 STRYKE *Ecll. Mem.* II. i. 327 In the burse of Antwerp money was never so scanty. 1732 DE FOR TOUR *Gl. Brit.* (1769) II. 110 The Royal Exchange is the greatest Burse in the World.

† b. *The Burse*: (spec.) the Royal Exchange in London, built by Sir Thomas Gresham in 1566.

Britain's Burse: the New Exchange in the Strand, built by the Earl of Salisbury in 1609, afterwards known as Exeter 'Change, on the site of the present Exeter Hall. In both of these there were shops, allusions to which are frequent. *Obs.*

1570 *Churchw. Acc. St. Margarets, Westminster* (Nicholls 1797) 18 When the Queens Majesty went to the Burse.

1597 J. PAYNE *Royal Exch.* 12 Our souveraine Ladie in abolishing the fyrst title (Buss) .. had prudent consideration to tearme yt the exchange. 1621 DEKKER & MIDDLETON *Roar. Girl Wks.* 1873 III. 106 She says, she went to the burse for patterns. 1625 *Diff. East & West Churches*, Title-page, To be sold at the signe of the Windmill in Britain's Burse. 1632 MASSINGER *City Madam* iii. i. (Nares) A coach .. To hurty me to the Burse, or Old Exchange. 1640 GLAPTHORNE *Wit in Constab.* i. She has been at Britain's burse a buying pins and needles. 1653 A. WILSON *Jas. I.* 48 A goodly Fabrick, Rival to the Old Exchange which the King .. dignified with the name of Britain's Burse. 1720 *Stow's Surv.* (ed. Stryke 1754) II. vi. i. 577/2 It pleased his Majesty .. to intitle it Britain's Burse or Buss.

† c. *fig. Obs.*

1617 COLLINS *Def. Bp. Ely* ii. x. 441 The whores factors would faine drawe customers to her burse of bawdries.

1634 J. TAYLOR (Water-P.) *Gl. Eater Kent* 11 His guts are the rendezvous or meeting-place or burse for the beasts of the fields, the fowles of the ayre, and fishes of the sea.

1636 FITZGERFREY *Blessed Birthd.* (1881) 150 O royall

change for vs. o blessed Burse, Where man the blessing gets, God takes the curse!

† 4. ? A shop. *Obs.*

† 1661 HOLYDAY *Juvenal* 4. Five burses [*tabernae*] which I let, adde to my store Four hundred sesterces.

III. In French and Scotch universities.

† 5. A fund or foundation to provide bursaries. 1695 KENNETT *Par. Antig.* Gloss. s.v. *Bursaria*, Formerly all exhibitors . . . at Paris were called bursars, as they lived on the burs, or fund, or endowment of founders and benefactors . . . Which *bursarii* were most properly those novices or young scholars, who were sent to the university, and maintained by the religious out of their public burs, or stock. 1753 CHAMBERS *Cycl. Suppl.*, *Bursa*, *Burse*, or *Bourse*, in the French universities, still denotes a foundation for the maintenance of poor scholars in their studies.

6. = BURSARY 3.

1560 1st *Bk. Discipl.* v. (1836) 34 They must have the privileges in schooles, and bursis in colleges. 1579 *Sc. Acts Jas. VI* (1814) 179 (JAM.) Nane sall bruik ane burs in ony facultie bot for the space of foure yeiris. 1677 in *Spottiswood Hist. Ch. Scoll.* App. 26 Inviting young Scholars to come and dispute for a Burse, (which is their maintenance at the Colledge). 1779 in *Grant Burgh Sch. Scoll.* II. v. 210 In 1779 the council of Aberdeen enacted that no boy who has . . . competed for a 'burse', shall receive premium.

7. A college, or academic hall. See BURSA 2.

1577 tr. *Bullinger's Decades* (1592) 1114 Samuel . . . was gouernour and principal of Naioth, that is to say y^e Burse (as they terme it) or Colledge of Prophetes. c 1840 Sir W. HAMILTON *Log. App. II.* 374 note, The . . . Masters Regent in the Burse (or Colledge) of St. Lawrence, in Cologne.

Burser, -or, obs. forms of BURSAR.

† Burseu, bursew. *Obs.* A dish in cookery. c 1400 *Forme of Cury* 5 *Burseu* [Warner *Antiq. Culin. prints burseu*] . . . Take noubles of swyne, and parboyle hem in broth and wyne, etc. *Ibid.* 32 (Mätz.) *Burseus*, Take pork, seeth it, and grynde it smale, etc.

Bursiform (bū'sifōrm), a. [ad. mod.L. *bursiformis*, f. BURSA *purse*: see FORM.] Purse-shaped. 1836 Todd *Cycl. Anat. & Phys.* I. 518/1 note, The Cephalopods of the Foraminiferous Order have a bursiform body. 1872 NICHOLSON *Palaeont.* 119 Cup-shaped, pyriform, bursiform, or discoidal.

Burst (būst), v. Pa. t. and pple. burst.

Forms: a. (type *burst*, *burst*) 1 *berstan*, 3 *bersten*, (bursten), 4-5 *berst(e)*, 5-6 *barst*, 6-*burst*. B. (type *burst*, *burst*, *burst*) 3-5 *bresten*, 4-5 *breste*, 4-6 *brast*, *briste*, (4 *brusten*), 5 *bruste*, 5-6 *brust*, *bryste*, *brast*, 6 *braste*, 9 *dial.* and *arch.* *brast*. Pa. t. a. 1 *berst*, 3 *beorst*, 4 *berst*, 3 *barste*, 5-6 *barst*, 6-*burst*, (8-9 *incorrectly bursted*). B. 3-7 *brast*, 4-6 *braste*, *brust*, 5 *breste*, (6 *brust*, *brusted*), 9 *dial.* and *arch.* *brast*. Pl. a. 1 *burston*, 2-4 *burste(n)*, 4-5 *borsten*, 5-6 *barst*, 6-*burst*. Pa. pple. a. 1 *borsten*, 4-5 *borsten*, -un, 5 *burstyn*, (borsen, 6 *Sc.* *burstin*), 6-8 *bursten*, 6-*burst*, (8-9 *incorrectly bursted*, 9 *Sc.* *bursten*). B. 4-5 *brosten*, *brusten*, (4 *brost*, *brast*), 6 *brasten*, 6-7 *brast*, *brust*, 9 *arch.* *brast*, (9 *north.* *dial.* *brossen*, *brosen*). [(1) A Common Teut. strong vb.: OE. *berstan* (pa. t. *berst*, *burston*, pple. *borsten*) = OFris. *bersta*, OS. *brestan* (*brast*, *brustun*; *brostan*), (MDu., Du. *berstan*, *barsten*, LG. *barsten*, *basten*), OHG. *brestan* (MHG. *brestan*, Ger. *bersten* from LG.), ON. *bresta*, (*brast*, *brustum*; *brostinn*), (Sw. *brista*, Da. *briste*):—OTeut. **brestan*, possibly from **brek-st-an*, a derivative (intensive) of *brek-an* to BREAK 2.

(2) The earlier *brest-* of WGer. became by metathesis *berst-* in OE., Frisian, Du., and LG. (whence also it has passed into mod. Ger. in place of MHG. *brast-*). In Eng. this *berst-* mostly again became *brast-* in ME., partly perh. under Norse influence, whence the pa. pple. *brosten* still, in north. dial.; but this has since the 16th c. gone back to *burst*, changed by the disturbing influence of *r* to *burst*. So that we have the alternate series OTeut. and WGer. *brast-*, OE. *berst-*, ME. *brast*, mod. Eng. *burst*, *burst*. But the 15-16th c. had often *brust* and *brast*, *burst* in the present; and the north. dial. had *brist*, *bryst*, as in Danish.

(3) The original strong conjugation survived during the ME. period, with the typical forms, after metathesis, *bresten*, *brast*, *brosten*, but with much disturbance and mixture of forms in 14-15th c. In the 16th c. a very common form was *brast* for all the principal parts; but about the end of that century, *burst* (for all the parts) began to gain the ascendancy which it has since maintained, though the pa. t. was frequently *brast* in 17th and the pa. pple. *bursten* till 18th c. Various old forms survive dialectally, and in U.S. the pa. t. and pple. are frequently *burst*, vulgarly *busted*.]

I. intr. To break or be broken suddenly.

† 1. To break suddenly, snap, crack, under violent pressure, strain, or concussion. Chiefly said of things possessing considerable capacity for resistance and breaking with loud noise; often of

cords, etc., snapping under tension; also of spears, swords, etc., shattered in battle. *Obs.*

a. a 1000 *Beowulf* 818 *Burston* ban locan. a 1000 *Byrht-* 284 (Gr.) *Bæst* bordes lorig. 1207 R. GLOUC. 460 *Atte* laste þoru stronge dunties hys suerd berst atuo. 1413 *Lydg.* *Pylgr. Soule* v. xi. (1483) 102 Then enforchid hym soo sore to the weyght tyll the cordys borsten of the balace. a 1593 MARLOWE *Dido* iv. iv. Was it not you [the tacklings of a ship] that hoised up these sails? Why burst you not? 1718 *Pope Iliad* xv. 545 As the tough string he drew, Struck by an arm unseen, it burst in two.

b. 1340 HAMPOLE *Pr. Conc.* 7014 Als smythys strykes on þe yren fast, Swa þat it brekes and brestes at þe last. c 1430 *Syr Gengerides* 4458 The helm went of also, The laces brast even a twoo. 1556 ADLINGTON *Apuleius* 7 The rope being olde & rotten brast in the middle & I fell down. 1577 HOLINSHED *Chron.* III. 809/1 There was good running and manie a speare burst. 1803 W. ROSE *Amadis* 136 *Brast* each strong lance.

† b. Of ships: To go to pieces. *Obs.*

1513 BRADSHAW *St. Werburgh* (1848) 193 Incontinently the ship burst all in sonde. 1523 LD. BERNERS *Froiss.* I. ccclvi. 574 Thre of their shippes brast and went to wrake.

† c. Of persons, in fig. phrase 'it is better to bow than to burst'. Also: To perish (by hunger).

a 1440 *Ipomydon* 1722 Though he shulde for hungre brest. c 1450 in *Babes Bk.* (1868) 34 Often tyme it is betere to bow þan to burst. c 1450 HENRYSON *Mor. Fab.* 65 To bow at bidding, and bide not while thou brest.

† d. fig. To cease, come to an end. Also (in OE.) said of an oath: To be broken. *Obs.*

a 1100 *Lawes of K. Edw.* § 3 3if þæt geswutelod wære oþþe him aþ burste.

2. Now chiefly of a surface or thing with extended surface: To break suddenly when in a state of tension, to fly asunder or in pieces; to be broken by expansion of the contents. Of persons or animals: often as an imagined consequence of excess in eating or drinking, or of violent exertion. Also fig. (chiefly with allusion to the bursting of a bubble); now often colloq. with up.

a. 1335 COVERDALE *Bel.* i. 27 This he put in y^e Dragons mouth and so y^e dragon burst in sonde. 1562 J. HEYWOOD *Prov. & Epigr.* (1867) 90 Thus drinke we . . . tyll we burst. a 1600 HOOKER *Eccle. Pol.* vii. xx. § 5 Lest the very entrails of some . . . should thereat haply burst in sonde. 1709 STEELE *Tatler* No. 40 ¶ 10 By an Accident of Firing a Piece of Ordnance, it burst, and kill'd 15 or 16 Men. 1713 ADDISON *Guardian* No. 159 His breast heaved as if it would have burst. 1732 POPE *Ess. Man* i. 90 And now a bubble burst, and now a World! 1774 J. BRYANT *Mythol.* II. 406 If I burst I don't care. I drink with a good will and a safe conscience. 1881 *Daily News* 1 Sept. 3/5 The boilers had not burst.

b. a 1300 *Cursor M.* 16505 He brest in tua his buels all, vite at his wambe þai wrang. c 1340 *Gaw. & Gr. Knt.* 1166 With such a crackande kry, as klyffes haden brusten. a 1400 *Cov. Myst.* (1841) 232 Myn hed doth ake, as it xolde brest. 1430 *Lydg. Chron. Troy.* vi. This Bufo ryght anone Through myght ther of brusteth euen at wain. 1556 SKELTON *Magnyf.* 2186 For laughter I am lyke to burst. 1558 KNOX *First Blast* (Arb.) 40 Let them blowe til they burst. 1591 SPENSER *Belley's Vis.* vi. Poyson . . . Made him to swell, that nigh his bowells burst. 1865 B. BRIERLEY *Irkdale* i. 12 Bring me another pint afore I brast wi' thinking. 1865 SWINBURNE *Masque Q. Bersabe* 16 He [a bird] . . . suddenly woxe big and brast.

b. Said of boils, tumours, etc.: To break the outer covering and discharge the matter. Of a bud: To break the envelope, open out. Of a cloud: To disperse in heavy rain (often fig.).

c 1000 *Sax. Leechd.* i. 272 [Lege bysse wyrtle leaf] to ham sare hyt sceal brast and halian. 1547-64 BAULWIN *Mor. Philos.* (Palf.) x. 5 Stop the beginning, so shalt thou be sure All doubtfull diseases to swage and to cure: But if thou be careless and suffer them brast, Too late cometh plaister. 1776 WITHERING *Bot. Arrangement* (1796) i. 360 Two stamens of the *Bryum extensorium* . . . one ready to burst. 1807 *Med. Tral.* XVII. 9 The sac would go on increasing until it would burst. 1855 TENNYSON *Maud* ii. i. 42 The heavens . . . should burst and drown in deluging storms The feeble vassals of wine and anger and lust. 1885 *Daily News* 16 July 5/2 When the cloud bursts.

† c. To break up explosively. *Obs. rare.*

c 1432-50 tr. *Higden* (1865) I. 319 White salte, contrary to the nature of other salte, whiche, beenge soluble in the fyre, brestethe and brekethe in the water.

8. Said hyperbolically, as a strong expression for 'to be exuberantly full' (cf. 12). Also with out.

1563 *Homilies* II. *Serm. Rogation Wk.* (1859) 499 And thy presses shall burst with new wine. 1611 *Bible Prov.* iii. 10 Thy presses shall burst out with new wine.

b. Of persons: To be unable to contain oneself. Chiefly in fut., or in phrases to be ready to burst, to be bursting. Const. with (information, envy, delight, etc.); also with inf. as 'to be bursting to tell a secret', i.e. with desire to tell it. Cf. 3.

1633 *Ford Broken H.* iv. ii. (1811) 305 Ere I speak a word I will look on and burst. 1649 JER. TAYLOR *Gl. Exemp.* i. xii. 45 The Pharisees could hold no longer, being ready to burst with envy. 1712 STEELE *Spect.* No. 533 ¶ 2 Ready to burst with shame and indignation. 1732 BERKELEY *Alciph.* v. § 13 One of these tame bullies ready to burst with pride and ill-humour. 1789 WOLCOTT (P. Pindar) *Subj. for Paint.* 65 She bursted with th' important secret soon. 1867 FROUDE *Short Stud.* (1872) I. 2 Most of us when we have hit on something, originally, feel as if we should burst with it. 1884 *West. Morning News* 11 Sept. 4/4 Sir Richard . . . had been bursting . . . to let the news be known.

† 4. fig. Of the heart: To 'break' by the shock or pressure of grief, or by the swelling of emotion.

a. a 1225 *Ancre. R.* 80 Hu stout ham þæt beoð . . . wiðuten hope of vicome, and heorte ne mei bersten. 1393 GOWER *Conf.* III. 311 Ha, herte, why ne wolt thou burst. 1593 SHAKS. 3 *Hen. VI.* v. v. 59 No, no, my heart will burst, and if I speake.

b. a 1300 *Cursor M.* 15956 Quen he himself it vnderstod, Almast his hert can brest. c 1386 CHAUCER *Frankl. T.* 31 Have here my trouthe, til that myn herte bruste. 1535 FISHER *Wks.* i. 404 Hir harte . . . for very payne it myght haue brast. 1578 T. PROCTOR *Gorg. Gallery, Lover in Distress*, 4c., O heauy hart . . . If thou shouldest brast . . . Then should I dye without reward.

5. Said of a door. Now usually to burst open: to fly open suddenly.

1596 SPENSER *F. Q.* i. viii. 4 No gate so strong, no locke so firme and fast, But with that piercing noise flew open quite, or brast. *Mod.* The door burst open, and a man rushed into the room.

II. intrans. fig. (With adverbial extension expressing the nature of the action.)

6. To break forth into sudden activity, or manifestation of an inward force. Of persons: To break out into sudden action or forcible expression of feeling. Usually with out, forth.

a. Const. in, with (a speech, a cry, or other mode of expression); also simply.

a. 1682 DRYDEN *Mac Fl.* 138 Long he stood. At length burst out in this prophetic mood. 1711 ADDISON *Spect.* No. 164 ¶ 5 She burst out in Tears. 1842 TENNYSON *Dora* 155 And all at once the old man burst in soba. 1848 W. K. KELLY tr. L. Blan's *Hist. Ten Y.* i. 560 M. Henri Baud . . . burst out enthusiastically: 'My father was a common man'.

b. c 1450 LONELICH *Graill* lv. 317 Thanne with a swerd he owt braste, that in his hond he held wel faste. 1562 PILKINGTON *On Abdias* 284 They will brast out and declare their faith. 1596 SPENSER *F. Q.* iii. iii. 10 The wisard . . . brusting forth in laughter, to her sayd. 1869 WAUGH *Yeth-Bobs* ii. 33 He brast awt again, as if his heart wur breighkin.

b. Formerly with on. Often with vbl. sb., To burst (out, forth) on weeping. Afterwards replaced by a, as To burst out (on) a-laughing, a-crying (now dial. or arch.); the prep. is now omitted in general use: To burst out laughing, etc.

c 1370 *Robt. K. Cyrcle* 53 He smote hym . . . That mowthe and nose braste on blode. 1485 CAXTON *Chas. Gt.* 44 Hys nose breste a blood habundauntly. 1564 HAWARD *Eutropius* vi. 57 Cesar . . . braste forth on weeping to beholde the heade of so worthy a manne. 1711 ADDISON *Spect.* No. 90 ¶ 7 One of the Ladies burst out a laughing. 1825 BRO. JONATHAN III. 315 He burst out a-crying. 1836 MARRYAT *Japhet* xxxiii. The remembrance . . . made us both burst out a laughing. 1875 JOWETT *Plato* (ed. 2) I. 84 The crew of his own trreme also burst out laughing.

c. Const. into; also, formerly, with infinitive. Often with out, forth, e.g. † To burst (out, forth) to weep. In same sense, To burst into tears (influenced by some notion of 2). So to burst (out) into laughter, song, speech; to burst (out) into flame; of plants, to burst (out) into blossom, etc.

a. 1630 [see 16]. 1637 MILTON *Lycidas* 74 When . . . we . . . think to burst out into sudden blaze. 1709 STEELE *Tatler* No. 58 ¶ 1 The Father burst into the following Words. 1716-8 LADY M. W. MONTAGUE *Lett.* I. xxxi. 105 She could not forbear bursting into tears. 1797 SWIFT *Gulliver* ii. viii. 163 Bursting at the same time into a flood of tears. 1802 BLOOMFIELD *Soldier's Home* ii. I. rose at once, and bursted into tears. 1832 TENNYSON *Fatima* v. My heart . . . Bursts into blossom in his sight. 1853 ARAB. *Nts.* (Rtdg.) 661 The courtiers . . . could not avoid bursting into a violent fit of laughter. 1878 HUXLEY *Physiogr.* 78 The taper will burst again into full flame.

b. c 1385 CHAUCER *L. G. W.* 1031 With that word he brast out for to wepe. c 1400 *Destr. Troy* 9425 Defibus . . . For bale of his brother brast out to wepe. 1528 MORE *Herseyes* iv. Wks. (1557) 255/2 Thei brast out in vyrlent and venimouse wordes. 1578 TIMME *Calvine on Gen.* 132 They bruste forth into manifest rage. 1611 SPEED *Hist. Gt. Brit.* ix. viii. (1632) 555 Heart-burnings betwixt the King and his Clergy, which . . . brast forth into a more fearfull flame. 1637 *Valentine & O.* 13 He . . . brast out into these speeches.

III. Transitive (causative). Not in OE.

† 7. To break, snap, shatter suddenly. *Obs.* in general sense.

a. 1297 R. GLOUC. 437 Þe suerde hii nome . . . & barste mony a sselde. 1362 LANGL. *P. Pl.* A. vii. 165 He beot so þe Boyes he barst neih heore Ribbes. 1590 MARLOWE *and Pt. Tam.* burl. v. i. 71 Whose chariot-wheels have burst the Assyrians' bones. 1596 SHAKS. *Tam. Shr.* i. Induct. 8 You will not pay for the glasses you haue burst. 1715 in *Sc. Pasquils* (1868) 393 Dee'l knock, Dee'l sink, Dee'l ryve and burst him.

b. 1340 HAMPOLE *Pr. Conc.* 1787 Alle thyng it brestes in sonde. c 1385 CHAUCER *L. G. W.* 2413 And with a wawe brostyn was his sterc. 1802 *Robt. Deryll* 16 Tenne noble stedes backes he dyd burst. 1808 FISHER *Wks.* i. 60 Whan he is ones fallen to the grounde he is brasten all to pcces. 1509 BARCLAY *Ship of Fooles* (1570) 170 God . . . geueth thee not his beard to draw and brast. 1563-7 FOXE *A. & M.* (1684) II. 85 He . . . brast them [the images] all down in pieces. 1855 SINGLETON *Virgil* I. 192 *Dard* winter with its cold would brast the rocks. a 1881 ROSSETTI *Ballads & Sonns*. 130 All the locks Had the traitor riven and brast.

† b. To burst down: to break down violently.

c 1440 [see BURSTING vbl. sb.]

† c. fig. To break or violate (a law, a principle).

Obs. rare.

1600 FAIRFAX *Tasso* v. lv. 85 If Rinaldo . . . haue the sacred lore of war so burst.

d. poet. To interrupt, put a sudden end to.

1842 TENNYSON *St. Sim. Stylites* 175 With hogfish whine they burst my prayer. 1859 — *Enid* 1120 Many a . . . heel against the pavement echoing burst their drowse.

8. To disrupt, shatter, cause to fly to pieces (a surface, or thing having extended surface).

In mod. use the tendency is to restrict the word to cases in which a containing envelope is ruptured by the expansion (or the too great size) of the contents.

1382a WYCLIF *Dan.* xiv. 26 He made gobettis, and 3aue in to mouthe of the dragon, and the dragon is borstun.
1535 COVERDALE *Luke* v. 37 Y^e new wyne barsteth y^e vessels and runneth out. 1591 SHAKS. *1 Hen. VI.* i. l. 64 The losse of those great Townes Will make him burst his Lead, and rise from death. 1736 BUTLER *Anal.* i. l. Wks. 1874 l. 14 Birds and insects bursting the shell their habitation. 1791 SMEATON *Edystone* L. § 174 Nothing . . . but . . . gunpowder, could have burst and dispersed the materials of the spire in the manner it had done. 1775 HAFDEN in *Phil. Trans.* LXV. 340 The place where the leaden pipe is bursten. 1817-8 COBBETT *Resid. U. S.* (1822) 42 The buds of a Lilac . . . are almost bursted, which is a great deal better than to say, 'almost burst'.

b. To rupture (something) by internal force, or by pressure, a blow, etc., upon it when inflated or distended. To burst a blood-vessel: to cause its rupture by exertion, etc., or simply to suffer the rupture of a vessel. To burst one's sides: imagined as a result of excessive laughter. To burst one's buttons (through over-feeding or exertion).

1712 ARBUTHNOT *John Bull* (1755) 47 You would have burst your sides to hear him talk of politics. 1796 PEGGE *Anonymous* (1809) 354 We were ready to burst our sides. 1863 KINGSLEY *Water-bab.* v. 185 He . . . played leap-frog with the town-clerk till he burst his buttons. 1865 MISS LAHER *Billy o' Yeps* T. to Lads laughin' fit to brast their sides. *Mod.* Take care you do not burst your gun.

† c. fig. To burst up: to shatter, destroy. *Obs.* 1597 DANIEL *Civ. Wars* vii. ii, Who else had burst-up Right to come t' his right.

† d. To ruin financially = BREAK v. II. *Obs.* 1712 ARBUTHNOT *John Bull* ii. iv, I therefore hold it advisable that you continue the Lawsuit, and burst him at once.

9. To burst bonds, barriers, etc. Now said only of the person or thing confined within; formerly with wider meaning as in 7. Now chiefly fig.

a. c. 1325 *E. E. Allit. P.* B. 963 þe grete barrez of þe abyne he barst vp at once. 1535 COVERDALE *Jer.* v. 5 These . . . haue . . . bursten the bondes in sonder. 1844-9 LANDOR *Imag. Conv.* (1846) II. 3 My madness . . . would burst asunder the strong swathe. 18 . . . *Hymns Anc. & Mod.* 'Come see the place' ii, Who burst the bands of death and hell.

b. c. 1340 *Cursor M.* 7203 (Fairf.) His bandis al he brast in twa. c. 1440 *York Myst.* xxxvii. 106 And brosten are alle our bandis of bras. 1548 UDALL, etc. *Erasm. Par. Mark* v. 4 To braste all his chaynes and fetters in pieces. 1595 SPENSER *F. Q.* i. v. 3 Furies which their chaynes haue brast.

c. Of a river or water: To burst its banks. 1860 TYNDALL *Glac.* i. § 8. 58 A subglacial lake had burst its boundary.

† c. transf. To force one's way across (a frontier) *Obs.*; also, To burst (the enemy's) ranks. *poet. or rhetorical.*

1652 C. STAPYLTON *Herodian* viii. 67 The Frontiers they had brast. 1847 TENNYSON *Princ.* iv. 483 Clad in iron, burst the ranks of war.

† 10. To burst the heart: said of grief or violent emotions. Also of persons, To burst one's heart. So To burst one's brain: to take or occasion excessive thought. *Obs.*

c. 1385 CHAUCER *L. G. W.* 1208 Ffor which methynkyth brostyn is myn herte. 1555 Let. in *Strype Eccl. Mem.* III. App. l. 162 Though thou wouldest brast thine heart about it. 1587 GOLDING *De Mornay* xxiv. 373 Bookes which busteth not our braines about Mooneshine in the water. 1591 SPENSER *Ruines of T.* 518 Nigh with griefe . . . my heart was brast.

11. To cause (the body) to swell till it bursts. Chiefly as an imagined result of over-feeding or violent exertion; often *refl.*

1530 PALSER *757/1*, I thruste out ones guttes, or burste one. *76 accrete.* 1667 MILTON *P. L.* x. 635 Cramm'd and gorged, right burst With suck'd and glutted offal. 1719 DE FOE *Cruise* (1840) l. xiii. 227 Water, with which . . . he would have burst himself. 1839 CUMBERB. & Westmoreland *Dial.* 31 He had well broken his sel wie runnin.

b. causatively. a. 1802 'Broomfield Hill' xiv. in *Child Ballads* II. (1884) 394/2 Ye need na burst your gude white steed Wi racing oer the hown. a. 1822 'Fair Marjory' xvii. *ibid.* III. 121/2 It's first he burst the bonny black, An syne the bonny broun.

12. hyperbolically. To fill to overflowing. 1697 DRYDEN *Virg. Georg.* i. 74 That Crop . . . bursts the crowded Barns.

13. To burst a door, gate, etc.: to force it open by a violent thrust, so as to break the door or its fastenings. Also *burst open*.

1591 SHAKS. *1 Hen. VI.* i. l. iii. 28 Open the Gates. . . Or wee'le burst them open. a. 1700 DRYDEN *Desp. Lover* Misc. Wks. 1760 II. 118 The bounce burst open the door. 1721 DE FOE *Mem. Cavalier* (1840) 113 They burst open the gate. 1847 TENNYSON *Princ.* vi. 59 She spoke, and . . . Descending, burst the great bronze valves. 1864 — *Boadicea* 64 Burst the gates and burn the palaces.

† 14. To cause to burst out, abroad. *Obs.* c. 1400 *Destr. Troy* 865 Sho brast out bright water at hir brode een. a. 1593 MARLOWE *Mass. at Paris* i. ii, To burst abroad those never-dying flames.

IV. Intransitive senses implying movement accompanied by the bursting of barriers.

These uses mostly correspond with those of BREAK, branch VII, but express more strongly the notion of sudden violence.

15. To issue forth suddenly and copiously by

breaking an enclosure, or by overcoming resistance. Usually with *out, forth, or other adv.*

a. 1300 *Cursor M.* 11704 Vnder þe rote a well vte-brast. 1375 BARBOUR *Bruc* xv. 481 Blude brist out at voundis vyde. 1480 CAXTON *Chron. Eng.* ccxlii. 216 One of hem . . . smote the same hugh vpon the hede that the brayn brist out. 1563 FOXE *A. & M.* (1684) l. 250/1 The blood brast incontinent out of the Nose of the King. 1578 TIMMER *Calvine on Gen.* 199 The waters under the earth braste not up, nor the waters about the Heavens fall down upon us. 1847 TENNYSON *Princ.* iv. 453 A river level with the dam Ready to burst and fill the world with foam. 1852 — *Elaine* 516 Half his blood burst forth.

b. transf. and fig. Of tears, cries, etc.: To issue suddenly in spite of repressive effort. Of light, sounds, etc.: To issue suddenly from a source; to become visible or audible with startling suddenness and clearness; often const. *on* (the eye, ear, etc.). Of the sun: To burst from, through (the clouds); often with *out, forth*. Also of news, events, sights, truths, etc.: To burst upon (a person): to be revealed with overwhelming suddenness to.

c. 1250 *Gen. & Ex.* 1808 Get held he wið þis angel fast, Til ðe dauping ut his brast. a. 1300 *Cursor M.* 18916 Par come a sune vte o þe air al bristand dune. c. 1386 CHAUCER *Doctor's T.* 234 The teeres brast out of hir eyghen tuo. 1508 FISHER *Wks.* i. 165 The sounde of a grette trumpe braste out. 1591 SPENSER *Petrarch's Vis.* iii, Sudden flash of heavens fire out brast. 1678 BUNYAN *Pilgr.* i. 73 What sighs and groans brast from Christians heart. 1866 F. COOPER *Mohicans* xvii, Such a yell . . . as seldom bursted from human lips before. 1867 LADY HERBERT *Cradle* L. vii. 168 On turning a sharp corner, Hebron burst upon them.

† To burst upon a view. (rare.) c. 1854 STANLEY *Sinai & Pal.* i. 69 The Israelites, coming down through that very valley, burst upon that very view.

c. fig. Of thoughts, emotions, latent forces, etc.: To find utterance or manifestation suddenly, esp. after long repression or concealment. Usually with *out, forth*; const. *into* (the result).

1542 BECON *Christm. Bang.* Wks. (1843) 81 Charity . . . brasteth out into good works whensoever it seeth an occasion given. 1591 SHAKS. *1 Hen. VI.* iv. i. 183 Had the passions of thy heart burst out . . . we should haue seene decipher'd there . . . rancorous spite. a. 1603 in *Liturg. Services Q. Eliz.* (1847) 680 Defections in Ireland . . . in the end brast out into open rebellion. 1810 SCOTT *Lady of L.* ii. xxvii, Anguish of despair Burst, in fierce jealousy, to air.

† d. Of an eruptive disease. Also of the body affected by it: To break out into sores or pimples.

The latter sense appears to have existed in OE., where however it probably originated from 1 or 2. Cf. quot. a. 1000 under BURSTING *pl. a.*

1552 HULOET *Breaks out*, or braste oute, as a mannes face doth with heate. a. 1593 H. SMITH *Wks.* (1866) l. 301 The leprosy which brast out of the forehead.

e. To spring forth, as a plant, shoot, etc. (Usually implying the overcoming of restraint.)

a. 1300 *Cursor M.* 10723 Bath flour and fruit sud þar of brast (v. r. briste). 1578 BANISTER *Hist. Man* iv. 60 The fit (Muscle) likewise brusteth forth of Fibula. 1835-6 TODD *Cycl. Anat. & Phys.* l. 120/2 The radicle that bursts from the fecundated seed of a plant.

† f. To emanate, originate from. *Obs.* a. 1300 *Cursor M.* 10059 But o þe grace þat of hir brestes, Of al þis world bett er þe brestes. 1567 JEWEL *Def. Apol.* (1611) 409 All these mischiefs brast out first from the High Throne of the Pope of Rome.

16. Of a tempest, conflagration, disease, or the like. Chiefly with *out, forth*.

1542 HENRY VIII *Declar. Scots* 192 Things of suche enormitie do brast out and appere. 1546 LANGLEY *Pol. Verg. De Invent.* i. xvi. 29 a, Diseases, that brast furthe on euery vyde. 1579 TOLSON *Calvin Sermon* Tim. 250/2 We do but heape vp wood, and the wrath of God brasteth out at a blow. 1630 LORD *Banians* 87 The windes in the bowels of the earth . . . brast forth into eruptions. 1792 *Anecd. W. Pitt* l. x. 203 The flame of war . . . was preparing to burst out in Europe. 1808 R. PORTER *Trav. Sk. Russ. & Swed.* (1813) l. i. 11 War burst around him, and he fell in combat. 1848 MACAULAY *Hist. Eng.* I. 665 A tempest burst forth, such as had not been known since that great hurricane.

17. To make a sudden overwhelming assault on; to rush violently and suddenly over.

a. 1300 *Cursor M.* 21400 Brathli on his fas he brast. 1862 STANLEY *Jew. Ch.* (1877) l. ix. 180 Immense swarms of hornets burst upon the country with unusual force.

18. *poet.* To burst away: to rush away impetuously. Also (of a bird) To burst on the wing: to start off into flight.

1809 CAMPBELL *Gert. Wyom.* III. iii, Wild bird bursting on the wing. 1859 TENNYSON *Elaine* 1237 The wild Queen . . . burst away to weep. 1864 — *En. Ard.* 635 A crew that landing burst away in search of stream or fount.

19. To force a passage impetuously through (a barrier, physical or moral, the enemy's ranks, a crowd of people).

a. 1300 *Cursor M.* 12872 Opín he sau þe liftes seuen, þe fader steuen þar thoru it brast. 1837 NEWMAN *Par. Sermon*. (ed. 3) l. xx. 305 There are times when a thankful heart bursts through all forms of prayer. 1853 KINGSLEY *Hypatia* xxii. 288 Bursting desperately through the women who surrounded him, the monk vanished.

20. To break forcibly into, come suddenly and impetuously into (a room, a country, etc.); also with *adv. in*. Similarly to burst up (below).

1563 FOXE *A. & M.* (1684) l. 397/1 Thorow windows and doors . . . they brast in to the Pope. 1600 FAIRFAX *Tasso* II. xxvii. 25 He broke the throng, and into presence brast. 1742 RICHARDSON *Pamela* III. 128 In burst the pert Slut,

with an Air of Assurance. 1798 COLERIDGE *Anc. Mar.* II. v, We were the first that ever burst into that silent sea. 1813 MAR. EDGEWORTH *Patron* I. v. 98 The flames burst in from the burning trellis. 1835 MARRYAT *Jacob Faithful* i, My father burst up from the cabin.

Phrase-key:—To burst abroad, 14; 8 away, 18; 8 banks, 9; 8 a bloodvessel, 8 b; 8 bonds, 9; 8 one's brains, 10; bud 8, 2 b; 8 one's buttons, 8 b; cloud 8, 2 b; 8 a door, 13; 8 down, 7 b; 8 forth, 6 b, 6 c, 15, 15 b, 15 c, 16; 8 a frontier, 9 c; 8 from, 15 b, 15 f; 8 the heart, 10; 8 for hunger, 1 c; 8 into, 6 c, 15, 20; 8 on, 6 b, 15 b, 17; 8 on the wing, 18; 8 open, 5, 13; 8 out, 3, 6 b, 6 c, 14, 15, 15 b, 15 d, 16; 8 ranks, 9 c; 8 one's sides, 8 b; 8 through, 15 b, 19; 8 up, 2, 8 c, 20; 8 upon, 15 b; 8 with, 5 b, 6 a.

Burst (būst), *sb.* Forms: 1 byrst, 1-4 berst, birst, 5 byrast, 3- burst. [In sense 1 repr. OE. *byrst* (berst) = OHG. *brust* = OTeut. **brusti*-2, f. pa. pple. stem of *brestan* to BURST. This seems to have become obs. about the middle of 14th c.; the modern sb. was apparently f. the verb. in 16th c. Cf. the parallel BREST, BRIST.]

† 1. Damage, injury, harm; loss. *Obs.* c. 1000 *Ælfric Ex.* xxii. 6 Jilde þone byrst þe þæt fyr ontende. c. 1205 LAY. 1347 Brutus at bræc al buten burstan (c. 1275 harme). *Ibid.* 1610 þe king Goffar iseið his burst (c. 1275 lure). c. 1300 in Wright *Lyric P.* iv. 24 That burst shal bete for hem bo. c. 1320 *Syr Bevis* 1029 A dede hire etc al ther first That she ne dede him no berst. c. 1420 *Chron. Vilod.* 320 þen in all þe toper worldlyche burste. c. 1430 *How Gd. Wyf tauyte Dan.* in *Babes Bk.* (1868) 45 The more nede hyt make or the grettir byrst.

II. Senses formed anew from the verb.

2. An act of bursting; the result of this action. 1611 SHAKS. *Cymb.* iv. ii. 106 The snatches in his voice And bursts of speaking were as his. 1836 MACGILLIVRAY *Humboldt's Trav.* iii. 52 The Peak of Teneriffe exhibited a lateral burst, preceded by tremendous earthquakes. 1885 G. MEREDITH *Diana of Crossway* I. iv. 107 When beech-buds were near the burst.

b. fig. Burst-up: the failure, collapse, of an organization or scheme.

1879 *Daily News* 22 Sept. 2/1 A speedy burst-up of the whole agricultural system.

3. A sudden and violent issuing forth. Chiefly of light and sounds. So also a burst of flame, a burst of fish (in local use).

1610 SHAKS. *Temp.* II. i. 311 We heard a hollow burst of bellowing Like Bulls. 1671 MILTON *Samson* 1651 Down they came, and drew The whole roof after them, with burst of thunder, Upon the heads of all. 1866 SOUTHEY *Lay of Laune*, *Dream* vi, Burst after burst the innocuous thunders brake. 1854 BREWSTER *More Worlds* II. 17 The gloomy landscape whose varied beauties a burst of sun-light has revealed. 1857 *National Mag.* II. 197 Terminating in a glorious burst of acclamatory harmony.

b. A sudden opening on the view.

1798 COLERIDGE *Tears in Solit.* 215 This burst of prospect. 1814 JANE AUSTEN *Mansf. P.* viii. (D.) Here is a fine burst of country. 1875 BROWNING *Inn Album* 4 Not so the burst of landscape surging in.

4. An explosion, eruption, outbreak.

1649 MILTON *Eikon* Wks. 1738 l. 403 He . . . kept them up, the only Army in his three Kingdoms, till the very burst of that Rebellion. a. 1779 ADDISON (J.) *Imprison'd* fires, in the close dungeons pent, Roar to get loose, and struggle for a vent. . . Till with a mighty burst whole mountains fall. 1790 WEDGWOOD in *Phil. Trans.* LXXX. 309 As often as the heat was at or near the boiling point of the acid, frequent . . . bursts or explosions happened. 1870 *Pall Mall G.* 17 Nov. 12 Out of 8,245 shells and shrapnel fired with this fuzee . . . there were 128 premature bursts.

5. A vehement outbreak (of emotion or its expression).

1751 JOHNSON *Rambl.* No. 141 P 10 A mistake which had given rise to a burst of merriment. 1775 BURKE *Amer. Tax.* Wks. II. 408 From the whole of that grave multitude there arose an involuntary burst of gratitude and transport. 1838 THIRLWALL *Greece* V. xlv. 370 A burst of ill humour, which it would have been wiser to suppress. *Mod.* The statement was received with a burst of laughter.

6. A great and sudden exertion of activity, a vigorous display of energy; a 'spurt'. Phrase, At a (one) burst.

1862 ABP. TRENCH *Eng. Past & Pr.* III. 97 With Chaucer English literature had made a burst, which it was not able to maintain. 1865 M. ARNOLD *Ess. Crit.* I. (1875) 8 The burst of creative activity in our literature. 1876 GREEN *Short Hist.* vii. § 5 (1882) 393 The great poetic burst for which this intellectual advance was paving the way.

b. Horsemanship. A hard run, a gallop without a check.

1810 SCOTT *Lady of L.* i. iv, So shrewdly, on the mountain-side, Had the bold burst their metal tried. 1852 THACKERAY *Esmond* i. iv. (1876) 20 During a burst over the Downs after a hare. 1868 R. EG. WARBURTON *Hunt. Songs* lvi. (1883) 155 How keen their emulation in the bustle of the burst, When side by side the foremost ride.

7. *colloq.* A prolonged bout of drunkenness, a 'spree'. Also a big feed, a 'blow out'.

1881 Mrs. PRAED *Policy & Pass.* I. 288 When . . . his men goon the burst. 1881 Cheq. *Career* 356 A good week's burst.

Burst (būst), *pl. a.* Also arch. brast. [pa. pple. of BURST v.; see BURSTEN *pl. a.*]

1. See senses of BURST v. † a. Shattered, broken, *Obs.* b. Rent by force when in a state of tension; exploded, torn open.

1812 BYRON *Ch. Har.* l. lxxviii, Clinging darts, and lances brast. 1824 MISS MITFORD *Village Ser.* i. (1863) 138 Working over the weak irregular burst-out button-hole. 1885 STEVENSON *Dynamiter* 190 You behold me sitting here like a burst drum.

† 2. *spec.* Ruptured, suffering from hernia. Also as quasi-*sb.* *Obs.*

1580 BARET *Alv.* B 1569 He that is burst, or hath his bowels fallen down into his coddles. 1611 COTGR., s. v. *Bergamasque*, a trusse for a burst man. 1631 R. BYFIELD *Doctr. Sabb.* 14 [It] appears also by the example of the burst, and of the bastard.

Burstable (bɜːstəbəl), *a. rare.* [f. BURST *v.* + -ABLE.] Capable of being burst.

1611 COTGR., *Rompable*, burstable, breakable.

† **Burst-cow.** *Obs.* [f. BURST *v.* + COW.] = *burn-cow*, an old name for the BUPRESTIS, q. v.

1646 SIR T. BROWNE *Pseud. Ep.* 177 (Insects) pernicious unto cattell, as the Buprestis or burst-cow. 1658 ROWLAND MONTAGU *Theat. Ins.* 1000, I. adventure to call it by a new name in English, Burn-cow, or Burst-cow. 1706 PHILLIPS, s. v. *Buprestis*, the Burn-cow, Burst-cow, or Blain-worm.

Burst (bɜːst), *vbl. a.* Also 6 **breasted**, **brasted**, **brysted**. [Weak pa. pple. of BURST *v.* + -ED.] = BURST *vbl. a.* Now *dial.*

1527 ANDREW BRUNSWYKE'S *Distyll. Waters* Lib. Membres whiche be frozen, and breasted or wounded of the frost. 1561 *Newe Enterl. Q. Hester* (1573) 23, I wote not how they were brasted. a 1600 HOOKER *Serm.* iii. (1845) III. 760 It causeth their brasted hearts to rejoice. a 1649 DRUMM. OF HAWTH. *Poems* Wks. (1711) 25 The long-since dead from bursted graves arise. 1728 T. SHERIDAN *Persius* v. 83 The Dangers portended you from a bursted Egg.

Bursten (bɜːstɪn), *vbl. a.* [Obs. pa. pple. of BURST *v.*; like many other strong pples. in -en, it is still sometimes used attrib., esp. in poetical or rhetorical language.] = BURST *vbl. a.*

c 1440 *Anc. Cookery in Housh. Ord.* (1790) 462 Take qwetwe streyned, that is for to say brosten. c 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 53 Brostyn man, *hermiosis*. 1544 PHAER *Regim. Lyse* (1560) Uij b, A drynke for one that is bursten. c 1600 CHAPMAN *Batrachom.* Ep. Ded. (1858) 38 Even bursten profusion. 1638 MYNSHUT *Ess. Prison* 44 In prisons, Gentlemen, and bursten Citizens meet as upon the Exchange. 1728 STEELE *Spect.* No. 444 P 4 A Doctor for the Cure of bursten Children. 1762 tr. *Duhamel's Husb.* iii. xii. (ed. 2) 414 All rotten or bursten grapes. 1843 CARLYLE *Past & Pr.* (1858) 111 Now grown quite corpulent, bursten, superfluous. 1879 FARRAR *St. Paul* (1883) 544 The worn-out and bursten condition of the old bottles.

† b. *Comb.*, as *bursten-bellied*, *-guttled*, *Obs.*

1601 HOLLAND *Pliny* II. 263 To cure those that be bursten bellied. 1661 K. W. *Conf. Charact.* (1860) 47 A. clubfooted burstenguttled, longneck t. hircocerous. a 1728 LISLE *Husb.* 477 Whether it was usual for pigs to be bursten-bellied.

† **Burstened**, *vbl. a. Obs.* [incorrectly f. *prec.*] Filled to bursting.

1697 *Snake in Grass* (ed. 2) 37 A very Night-Bird, and Vagrant, Bursten'd with Folly and Revenge.

† **Burstenness.** *Obs.* Also 5 *brostynnes*, 6 *burstiness*, 7 *burstness*; see also BURSTNESS. [f. BURSTEN *vbl. a.* + -NESS.] Burst state or quality; *spec.* rupture, hernia.

1483 *Cath. Angl.* 45 A Brostynnes, *hernia*. 1528 PAYNELL *Salerno Regim.* Xij, Specially when the burstness comes by ventosite. 1615 MARKHAM *Eng. Housew.* ii. i. (1668) 29 For the rupture or burstness in men.

Burster (bɜːstɪ), [f. BURST *v.* + -ER.]

1. He who, or that which, bursts; *spec.* (Artill.) a charge of gunpowder for bursting a shell, or the bag containing it. Hence *burster-bag*.

1611 COTGR., *Rompour*, a burster, a breaker. 1862 F. GRIFFITHS *Artill. Man.* (ed. 9) 193 The segment shells are each charged with a burster, containing powder. 1876 *Daily News* 22 Sept. 3/5 The Falliser shells will have capacity for a 25 lbs. burster.

b. *fig.* An exhausting piece of exercise, something which 'takes the wind out' of one.

1851 *Illustr. Lond. News* 99 A pace that would have been a burster to many a fresh man.

c. *! Racing slang.* A heavy fall; a 'cropper'.

1863 *Even. Standard* 24 Apr., Benedict came down a burster, and was out of the race.

2. In *Australia*: see *quot.* (Usually BUSTER.)

1879 WALLACE *Australas.* ii. 31 The well-known southerly 'burst' are violent storms of wind occurring in summer.

Bursting (bɜːstɪŋ), *vbl. sb.* [f. BURST *v.*]

1. The process or action of breaking suddenly and violently, as under tension.

1375 BARBOUR *Bruce* xvi. 158 Thar wes of speris sic brist- ing. 1575 J. STILL *Gamin. Gurton* i. iii. We would not greatly care For bursting of her huckle-bone. c 1600 ROB. HOOD (Ritson) i. iv. 47 And it were not for bursting of my bowe, John, I thy head wold breake. 1611 BIBLE *Isa.* xxx. 14 There shall not be found in the bursting of it, a sheard.

b. *spec.* by internal force or pressure.

1526 *Pilgr. Perf.* (W. de W. 1531) 291 b, The body is not able to receyue it all, without feare of brastyng. 1600 SHAKS. *A. Y. L.* ii. i. 38 The wretched animal head forth such groanes That their discharge did stretch his leatherne coat Almost to bursting. 1885 *Manchester Exam.* 22 Sept. 5/2 The damage caused by the bursting of an embankment.

† 2. *spec.* Rupture; hernia. *Obs.*

1544 PHAER *Regim. Lyse* (1560) U vij b, To remove the swelling of the coddles proceeding of ventosities, or of anye other cause (except brastyng).

† 3. Explosion, explosive noise. *Obs.*

1771 SMOLLETT *Humph. Cl.* (1793) II. 34 The bursting, belching, and brattling of the French horns in the passage.

4. Rushing impetuously from restraint or rest.

1871 R. ELLIS *Catullus* lixii. 86 The lion. With a step, a roar, a bursting unarrested of any brake.

5. *comb.* with various advbs. (cf. the vb.)

c 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 50 Brestyng downe, *prostratio*.

1552 HULOET *Aposthume*, or brasting out. 1712 STEELE *Spect.* No. 474 P 2 The occasional burstings out into laughter.

6. *attrib.* bursting charge, the charge of powder required for bursting a shell or case-shot; a small charge of fine powder placed in contact with a charge of coarser powder to ensure the ignition of the latter.

1828 GREENER *Gunnery* 124 The bursting charge is very small, but it suffices to break the shell into about 30 pieces. 1862 F. GRIFFITHS *Artill. Man.* (ed. 9) 194 Loaded shells should never be fired with less than the authorized bursting charge.

Bursting (bɜːstɪŋ), *vbl. a.* [f. BURST *v.* + -ING.] That bursts (see senses of the verb).

a 1000 *Sax. Leechd.* I. 272 Untrummissa 8as lichoman 8æt is berstende lice. 1667 MILTON *P. L.* ix. 98 Bursting passion. 1714 *Young Force Relig.* II. 210 Afar his bursting groans were heard. 1777 SIR W. JONES *Palace of Fort.* 15 As distant thunder breaks the bursting cloud. 1847 LONGF. *Evans.* i. ii. 99 From our bursting barns they would feed. 1863 KINGLAKE *Crimea* V. i. (1877) 245 Fragments.. from a bursting shell.

Burstable, var. of BRISTLE *v.* 2, BRUSTLE *v.* 2

† **Burstning**, *vbl. sb. Obs.* Incorrect form = BURSTING; rupture, hernia.

1607 TOPSELL *Four-f. Beasts* 504 Arnoldus commendeth a plaister made of a Rams skin for burstning. 1635 SWAN *Spec. M.* (1670) 220 Sulphur-wort. is used with good success against the ruptures and burstnings of young children.

Burstness (bɜːstnɪs), *Also 6 burstness*; and see BURSTENNESS. [f. BURST *vbl. a.* + -NESS.] The state of being burst; rupture; hernia.

1552 HULOET, *Burtness*, or rupture of a man. 1607 TOPSELL *Four-f. Beasts* 504 The Ointment. health burstness. *Ibid.* (1658) 64 The skin of the feet and nose of an Ox.. helpeth.. burstness very much. 1725 BRADLEY *Fam. Dict.* II. *Rupture*. burstness; a distemper in a horse.

Burstone, variant of BURR-STONE.

† **Burst-wort.** *Obs.* [f. BURST *sb.* + WORT.]

An old name for *Herniaria glabra*, a herb formerly thought helpful for curing ruptures.

1597 GERARD *Herbal* clxiii. 455 [Herniaria] is called.. in English Rupture wort, and Burstwort. 1661 LOVELL *Hist. Agriq. & Min.* 448 Leaves, of burst-wort, marsh-mallows.

Burstyl, *obs. form* of BRISTLE.

† **Burt**, *v. Obs.* Also 5 *burt-on*, 6 *burte*.

Pa. t. and pa. pple. *Burt*. [Cf. BURR *v.*]

1. *trans.* and *absol.* To push or thrust, as with horns; to butt.

c 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 56 Burton, as hornyd bestys, *cornu- feto*. 1552 HULOET, *Burt* lyke a ramme, *arieto*. 1556 ABP. PARKER *Psalter* cxxviii. 44 Our hornes shall burte them downe.

2. To pierce, gore.

1597 MONTGOMERIE *Cherrie & Sl.* 165 Than furth I drew that deadlie dore. It hurt me, it burte me, The offer I it handill. a 1605 *In Prais of Maistres*, Quahs beutie has me bur? Quahs beutie heals my hurt?

3. To indent, dint (as a tin-kettle). *Somerset.*

Hence *Burter*, *Burting* *vbl. sb.*

c 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 56 Burtare, beste [1499 burter], *cornu- feto*. *Ibid.* Burtynge, *cornu- feto*.

Burte, *Burth-e*: see BIRT, BIRTH.

Burthen, etc.: see BURDEN.

Burton (bɜːtɪn). Also *barton*.

A small tackle consisting of two or three blocks or pulleys used to set up or tighten rigging, or to shift heavy bodies. There are several varieties, as *Spanish burton*, *top burton*.

1704 in HARRIS *Lex. Technicum*. 1769 FALCONER *Dict. Marine* (1789) *Burton*, a. small tackle, formed by two blocks or pulleys, generally employed to tighten the shrouds of the top-masts. 1794 *Rigging & Seamanship* I. 109 *Burton-Pendants* are.. placed over the topmast-head, that the thimbles may hang on each side, to hook the burton-tackles in. 1841 *Penny Cyc.* XIX. 118/1 The Spanish burton consists of two moveable wheels and one fixed wheel. 1860 H. STUART *Seaman's Catech.* 35 The top burtons are hooked to the burton pendants.

† **Burton-wood.** *Obs.* A shrub found in Campeachy and in the Galapagos islands.

1697 DAMPIER *Voy.* I. 101 Bushes of Burton-wood, which is very good firing. 1699 *Ibid.* II. ii. 57 We.. harden the Steels of our Fire-Arms.. in a Logwood-fire (or else).. with Burton wood or the Grape-tree.

Bur-tree, var. of BOUBTREE, elder; see also BURR *sb.* 8, banyan-tree.

Burwarke, *obs. form* of BULWARK.

Burwe, *burwgh*, *burwhe*, *obs. ff.* BOROUGH, BURROW.

† **Bury**, *sb. Obs.* Also 6 *bery*, 7 *berry*. [Originally dative of *burh*: see BOROUGH 1 b.] A manor-house, or large farm; a specialization of the OE. *burh*, *byrig* 'an enclosed or fortified place' which still survives in many local names.

1175-1576 [see BOROUGH 1 b]. 1598 STOW *Surv.* xxxiii. (1603) 294 The name of Aldermans burie (which is to say a Court) there kept in their Bery or Court-hall. 1654 GAYTON *Fest. Notes* iii. vi. 106 They went until they came to a Bury. 1656 BLOUNT *Glossogr.*, *Berry*. The chief house of a Manor, or the Lords seat is so called.. to this day; especially in Herefordshire, where there are the Berries of Luston, Stockton, etc.

Bury (ber-i), *v.* Forms: 1 *byrg(e)an*, *byrigan*, 2 *byrien*, 3 *byrjenn* (Orm.), 3-5 *burien*, *by- ry(en)*, *birien*, 4 *birin*, 5 *byrynn*, *byryn*, *berrynn*,

berry, 3-5 *biry*, *ber(i)e*, 4-6 *bery*, *byry*, (6) *byrry*, *byrrey*, *burrey*, *burry*, *burye*, *bewry*, 7 *buerie*, *bure*, 4 *burye*, 4-7 *burie*, 4- *bury*. Also Sc. 5 *berys*, 6 *berisch*. [OE. *byrgan* wk. v.: -WGER. **burgjan* (of which the only other trace is the OS. derivative *burgisli* sb. = BURIELS), app. f. *burg*-ablaut-stem of OTeut. **berg-an* str. v. to protect, cover: see BERGH *v.* The Scotch forms *berys*, *berisch*, appear to follow the analogy of words from French like *perys*, *perisch*.]

1. To deposit (a corpse) in the ground, in a tomb; to inter. Hence to commit (a corpse) to the sea, with appropriate funeral rites.

a 1000 *Hymns* (Gr.) x. 29 Done geomormod Josep byrygde. 1154 O. E. *Chron.* (Laud MS.) an. 1137. 8 7, & sythen byrieden him. c 1250 *Gen. & Ex.* 2520 Hise oðre breðere.. Woren ybried at ebron. 1375 BARBOUR *Bruce* x. 489 He deit soyn, and beryit was. c 1400 *Destr. Troy* 13674 Asca- tus.. Gert bryng hom to burgh, birit hom faire. c 1440 *York Myst.* xvii. 285 Sen thy body beryed shalbe. This mirre will I giffe to bi grauyng. 1552 ABP. HAMILTON *Catech.* 51 Thame that will nocht berisch or erde the bodis of thair freindis on the North part of the kirk yard. 1593 SHAKS. *Rich. II.* iii. iii. 155 He be buried in the Kings high-way. 1635 *Tom a Lincoln* II. in Thoms' E. E. *Prose Rom.* (1858) II. 344 Buring him inhumanly upon a dunghill. 1852 TEN- nyson *Ode on Wellington* 1 Let us bury the Great Duke.

b. Said of the surviving relatives: hence, *To have buried* (one's relatives) = to have lost them by death.

1710 STEELE *Tatler* No. 215 P 4 My elder Sister buried her Husband about Six months ago. 1723 S. MORLAND *Spec. Lat. Dict.* 11 To Bury, as one buries his Relations when he survives them, *Efferre*.

c. Said of the religious functionary who cele- brates the rites which accompany interment.

c 1400 *Apol. Loll.* 51 So no þing be askid.. for dead to be byried. 1401 *Pol. Poems & Songs* (1859) II. 87 Whi.. wil we not.. biren the pore as wel as the riche? *Mod.* 'I never object to bury a dissenter; indeed I should be most happy to bury them all.'

d. *absol.*

1552-3 *Inv. Ch. Goods Staffs.* in *Ann. Diocese Lichfield* IV. 46, Xls. payd to the bysshope for his lyaunce to byrrey. 1854 COL. WISEMAN *Fabiola* II. xi. 145 There is no evidence of the Christians having buried anywhere, anteriorly to the construction of catacombs.

e. *fig.*

c 1175 *Lamb. Hom.* 51 Hwenne þu scrift underuongest þenne burist þu þine sunnen. 1282 WYCLIF *Rom.* vi. 4 We ben to gidere bired with him bi cristendom in to deeth. a 1555 LYNDSEY *Trag.* 427 3e Prencis and Prelatis.. Sall burit be in hell. 1594 SHAKS. *Rich. III.* iv. iv. 423 Thou didst kil my Children. But in your daughters wombe I bury them. 1850 MERIVALE *Rom. Emp.* (1865) I. iii. 119 His first care must have been to bury the evidence in the graves of his associates. 1875 JOWETT *Plato, Gorgias* (ed. 2) II. 392 He would bury you under a mountain of words.

2. To put under ground for the same purposes as a corpse, e.g. *to bury a person alive*; to consign to the ground any carcase, decaying organized matter, rubbish, etc.; also, other things, in sign of their final abandonment or abrogation. *To bury the hatchet*: to put away strife, settle a quarrel, in allusion to the American-Indian ceremony of burying a tomahawk on the conclusion of a peace.

1535 COVERDALE *Jer.* xxii. 19 As an Asse shall he be buried. 1610 SHAKS. *Temp.* v. i. 55 I'll breake my staffe, Bury it cer- taine fadomes in the earth. 1884 *Harper's Mag.* Feb. 412/a She buried the hatchet.

b. *fig.* To consign to oblivion, put out of the way, abandon and forget.

1593 SHAKS. 3 *Hen. VI.* iv. i. 55 In your Bride you bury Brotherhood. 1601 *Jul. C.* iv. iii. 159 Giue me a bowl of wine, In this I bury all vnkindnesse Cassius. 1670 J. LAW *Let. in Lauderdale Papers* (1885) III. App. i. 234 To burie presbiterian government with their own consent. 1712 *Addr. Cambridge in Lond. Gas.* No. 5027/5 May Faction be buried. 1885 A. B. ELLIS *W. Afric.* Isl. xl. 263 The natives.. had buried their own differences and united to repel the invaders.

c. To consign to a position of obscurity, in- accessibility, or inaction; often *refl.* and *pass.*

1711 *Vind. Sachverell* 74 It would be a pity to bury so promising a young Gentleman in such a place. 1722 DE FOE *Col. Jack* (1840) 186, I looked upon myself as one buried alive in a remote part of the world. 1751 JOHNSON *Rambl.* No. 100 P 1 Many well disposed persons.. are so unfortunate as to be totally buried in the country. 1762 COWPER *Truth* 443 Sorrow might.. Bury herself in solitude profound. 1828 SCOTT *F. M. Perth* (1860) 5 To retire from the world and bury herself in the recesses of the cloister.

3. Without restriction of purpose: To deposit or hide under ground; to cover up with earth or other material.

c 1340 *Cursor M.* 16919 (Fairf.) Þe Iewis.. beried [tho crossis] fro Crysten men in a preuy stede. 1530 PALSGR. 451/1 It is the propertie of a dogge to burye his meate in the grounde. 1542 BOORDE *Dyetary* xviii. (1870) 277 Bake meate.. is buried in paast. 1626 BACON *Sylva* § 378 A Bottle of Beer, buried in like manner as before, became more lively. 1697 DRYDEN *Virg. Georg.* iii. 547 The frozen Earth lyes buried there, below A hilly Heap, seven Cubits deep in Snow. 1723 CHAMBERS *Cycl. Supp.* s. v. *Burial*, Chemists sometimes bury their cements. 1841 LANE *Arab. Nis.* 53 So I took the money.. and buried 3000 pieces of gold.

b. Of things: To cover over out of sight, to sub- merge.

1737 MILLER *Gard. Dict.* (1759) s. v. *Cedrus*. This wood... resisting gun shots, and burying the shot without splintering. 1791 SMEATON *Edystone L.* § 272 The seas that are said... in a manner to bury the house in time of storms. *Ibid.* § 273 The two stones together would completely... bury the cramps.

4. To plunge or sink deep in, so as to cover from view; to put out of sight; also in phrases, to bury one's face in one's hands, one's hands in one's pockets, etc.

1601 HOLLAND *Pliny I.* 45 The river that is buried vnder the earth, twentie miles off appeareth againe. 1710 ADDISON *Whig-Exam.* No. 4 ¶ 1 As well assault an army that is buried in intrenchments. 1815 BYRON *Heb. Melodies, Song of Saul* i. Bury your steel in the bosoms of Gath. 1850 MRS. STOWE *Uncle Tom's C.* xxxiii. 299 Taking a pin... he buried it to the head in her flesh. 1853 KINGSLEY *Hypatia* xxv. 312 Hypatia sat still in her chamber, her face buried in her hands.

b. *intr.* for *refl.* or *pass.* To burrow; also *Mech.* to lie embedded or enclosed.

1841 JOHNSTON in *Proc. Berw. Nat. Club I.* No. 9. 266 The animal buries in sand. c 1850 *Rudim. Navig.* (Weale) 124 Those ends of the planks which bury in the rabbits.

c. *fig.*
1449 PECOCK *Repr.* i. viii. 39 The inward book of lawe of kinde, buried in mannis soule and herte. 1712 BERKELEY *Pass. Obs.* § 9 Wks. 1871 III. 113 Every man's particular rule is buried in his own breast. 1855 H. REED *Lect. Eng. Hist.* ii. 61 The truth, that now is buried beneath the mass of the old British legends.

5. *pass.* To be profoundly absorbed or engrossed in a habit or practice.

1380 WYCLIF *Tracts* xviii. Wks. (1880) 271 Prelatis & peynted religious buried in here olde synne. 1603 KNOLLES *Hist. Turkes* (1621) 654 Charles the emperour resolved... to passe over into Affricke, whilst Solyman was yet buried in the Persian wars. 1868 TENNYSON *Lucretius* 9 His mind Half buried in some weightier argument.

Bury, obs. form of BURROW.

Buryer, obs. form of BURIER.

Burying (ber'ing), *vbl. sb.* (Forms: see the verb.) [*f.* BURY *v.* + -ING¹.]

1. The action of entombing a dead body or anything similarly treated; burial, interment.

1297 R. GLOUCE. 382 Henry, hys 3onge sone, was at hys buryng. c 1300 R. ALIS. 8013 Nuste man never hethen kyng Have so riche a buryng. 1380 WYCLIF *Jer.* xxii. 19 He schal be hiried with the buryng of an asse. c 1400 *Sir Amadace* xxvii. 1 schalle... Bring his bodi to Cristen berlinge. 1608 SHAKS. *Per.* iii. ii. 72 Who finds her, give her buryng. 1753 CHAMBERS *Cycl. Supp.* s. v., Burying alive, was the punishment of a Vestal who had violated her vow of virginity. 1772 JOHNSON in *Phil. Trans.* LXIII. 144 An axe... imports war; the taking it up, being a declaration of war; and the burying it, a token of peace. *Mod.* The day after the battle was devoted to the burying of the dead.

† b. *concr.* A funeral, a burial. *Obs.* or *dial.*

1681 E. MURPHY *State Ire.* § 31 He... tarried a while in the... place ere the Burying came. 1750 WESLEY *Wks.* (1872) II. 192 There being a great burying in the afternoon. 1787 WOLCOTT (P. Pindar) *Ode upon O.* Wks. 1812 I. 433 Palls that grace a buryng.

2. The action of depositing under ground, covering over with earth or other material; also *fig.*

1606 BACON *Sylva* § 315 The Burying of Bottles of Drink well stopped. *Mod.* The burying of his talent by the unprofitable servant.

3. *Comb.* and *Attrib.*, as *burying-bell*, -*day*, -*grave*; also † *burying-light*, † the tapers used at a funeral service; † *burying-ticket*, † a funeral card. 1525 in *Church Goods of Berks.* 8 A buryng bell, a sakeringe bell. 1604 *Returne fr. Parnass.* iii. v. (Arb.) 47 From our first birth, untill our 'burying day. 1790 SHAKS. *Rom.* & *Jud.* ii. iii. 10 What is her 'burying graue that is her wombe. 1807 H. R. HAGGARD *xxii. Tess in Cornhill Mag.* Mar. 321 You are likely to meet a 'burying party. 1925 *Bk. Founder's Comp.* in *N. & Q.* III. 62 Payd to the Wax Chaudler for the 'beryn lycht at Sen Markyts. 1712 STEELE *Spect.* No. 431. ¶ 3, I then nibbled all the red Wax of our last Ball-Tickets, and three Weeks after the black Wax from the 'Burying-Tickets of the old Gentleman.

Burying, *ppl. a.* [*f.* as *prec.* + -ING².] *Inter-*ring; enclosing, whelming.

1762-9 FALCONER *Shipw.* III. 500 The burying waters close around their head. 1855 TENNYSON *Maud* II. v. 12 Never an end to the stream of passing feet, Driving, hurrying, marrying, burying.

Hence **Burying beetle**, -*silph*, a clavicorn beetle, which excavates the ground beneath the dead bodies of mice, moles, and other small quadrupeds, so as to bury them as a nidus for its larvæ.

1802 BINGLEY *Anim. Biog.* (1813) III. 126 The burying silph... Synonyms. Silpha vespillio, Linn.—Scarabæus silphoides? 1883 WOOD in *Gd. Words Dec.* 762/1 Burying Beetles, with their orange and black-banded bodies.

Burying-ground. A place for burial; a churchyard, graveyard, cemetery.

1711 *Land. Gaz.* 4011/4 They intend to let by Lease the Burying-ground in Bunhill-field. 1814 *Q. Rev.* II. 83 A Moravian burying-ground. 1854 H. MILLER *Sch. & Schm.* 210 Getting out, just as a party of unscrupulous resurrectionists were in the act of entering the burying-ground. 1872 MARK TWAIN *Innoc. Abv.* xv. 99 Père la Chaise, the national burying-ground of France.

Burying-place. A place of burial, a tomb; now usually = *prec.*

1382 WYCLIF *Gen.* xxiii. 4 Gif 3e to me rygt of a berynyng place with 3ow. c 1450 MERLIN iii. 57 Uter... lete write vpon eche berynyng place his name that lay vnder. 1651 T. NORTON *Calvin's Inst.* III. 330 Burying places were called VOL. I.

Cemetery, Sleeping places. 1611 BIBLE *Gen.* xlix. 30 The caue... which Abraham bought... for a possession of a burying place. 1786 AYLIFFE *Parerg.* 132 Every Person may have a Burying-place in his own Estate. 1870 F. WILSON *Ch. Lindisf.* 65 The burying-place around it has been used within memory.

Buryt, obs. form of BORITH, soapwort.

† **Bus**, *sb.* 1. *Obs.* Also 6 bowse. [*a.* Du. *bus*, MDu. *buis* 'gun', a specialized sense of *bus*, *buis* box: cf. Ger. *büchse*, and see HARQUEBUS.] A harquebus.

1549 *Compt. Scot.* (1801) Mak redde your cannons bastards, falcons... busis, doggis, doubl busis, hagbuttis of croche, half haggis. 1556 *Chron. Gr. Friars* 42 [see Bowze].

Bus, *bus* (bʊs), *sb.* 2. *Occas. buss*. A familiar shortening of OMNIBUS. Hence *bus-driver*, -*man*, etc.

1832 H. MARTINEAU *Weal & Woe* i. 14 If the station offers me a place in a buss. 1837 *Fraser's Mag.* XVI. 680 Another Buss came up. a 1845 BARHAM *Ingol. Leg.* Ser. III. (1858) 445 There was no taking refuge too then, as with us, On a slip-sloppy day, in a cab or a 'bus. 1851 *Belgravia* 73 Whilst thundering down Hundreds of busses scour the trembling town. 1851 MAYHEW *London Labour* III. 348 As the busmen call them. 1887 *Punch* 12 Mar. 130/2 She is left without a penny to pay for tram or bus. 1887 *Pall Mall G.* 25 July 6/1 Tale of the 'bus men's woes... the private 'buses.

Hence **Bus v.** in colloq. phr. to *bus* it: to go by bus.

1838 *New Monthly Mag.* LIII. 93 A little too bad... that you and I... should be compelled to 'buss it. 1860 *Chambr. Jyrl.* XIV. 116 We may 'cab it... we may 'bus it; or we may go by boat.

Bus, *v.* (3rd sing.) *north. dial.* Also *buse*, *bos*, *bose*, *boos*, (boost). *Pa. t.* bud(e), *bute*, *bood*, *boot*, *boud*, *bode*. *Pres. Subj.* bove. [Contracted *f. behoves*, *behooved*, chiefly used impersonally. Transition forms in *pa. t.* were *byhod*, *behode*: see BEHOVE. The *pa. t.* *bud*, *bid*, is still used in Sc. of moral or logical necessity: it is no longer impersonal.]

† 1. *impersonally.* (It) behoves, is obligatory upon, is necessary for. *Obs.*

a 1300 *Cursor M.* 9870 Of a womman bos him be born. *Ibid.* 10639 Pan bus bis may be elene and bright. *Ibid.* *Resurrection* 68. p. 986 Pat day... bode man again be boght. 1352 MINOT *Poems* (1887) ix. 28 At the Nevil-cours, nedes bud thaim knele. c 1386 CHAUCER *Reeve's T.* 107 (Ellesm.) Him boes [*v. r.* bihoues, byhouep, falles, he muste] serue hym selne that has na swayn. c 1400 *Ywaine & Gaw.* 3022 With both at ones bihoues him fight, So bus the do. c 1400 *Dest.* *Troy* 5115, I bid perfore barly, þat he bove herchyn. c 1440 *York Myst.* VIII. 148 Nowe bus me wende. c 1500 *Poem on Death* in *Halliwel Nag* P. 40 To rekkenyng buse us ryse.

2. *mod. Sc. Pa. tense* also as *pres.*, with subject: Must, ought.

a 1774 FERGUSON *Election*, For tricks ye buit be tryin'. 1786 BURNS *Dream* vi, I fear, that wi' the geese, I shortly boost to pasture I't the craft some day. 1790 SHIRREF *Poems* 43 (JAM.) A' he said boot just be to the point. 1818 SUS. FERRIER *Marriage* II. 123 'An' ye bute to hae an English wife to'. 1866 *Cornh. Mag.* XII. 359 They bude to meet again. 1868 G. MACDONALD *R. Falconer* I. 67, 'I bude to speik when I was spoken till'.

Bus, *Sc. form* of BUSH.

Busard, obs. form of BUZZARD¹.

Busby (bʊzbi). [Derivation unknown.]

Busby is the name of an English village, and also a personal surname of some antiquity, well known as that of Dr. Richard Busby, Head Master of Westminster School 1640-1695.]

† 1. A kind of large bushy wig. *Obs.*

1764 T. BRYDGES *Homer Travest.* (1797) II. 144 But I'm afraid we cannot get him A 'busby large enough to fit him. 1882 *Globe* 24 July 2/1 This 'Busby', so often used colloquially when a large bushy wig is meant, most probably took its origin, not... from Dr. Busby, the famous head master of Westminster School, but from the wig denominated a 'Buzz', from being frizzled and bushy.

2. A tall fur cap, with or without a plume, having a bag (generally of cloth, and of the colour of the facings of the regiment) hanging out of the top, on the right side; worn by hussars, artillerymen, and engineers; hence, one who wears a busby. Also *busby-bag*.

1807 (25 Dec.) in *Malet Hist. Rec.* 18th Hussars (1869) 16 Permission received to be clothed as Hussars—jackets light blue, silver lace; busby-bags blue. 1853 in *Duncan Hist. Royal Regt. Artill.* (1873) II. 44 Sealskin busbies were substituted for bearskin. 1854 in *Kingleake Crimea* V. i. 271 The Busby-bags taking it coolly. 1870 *Daily News* 27 July 5 They wore the handsome and characteristic jacket which our Hussars have discarded for the tunic, and retained their busby. 1885 ANNANDALE *Impl. Dict.* s.v., The bag appears to be a relic of a Hungarian head-dress from which a long padded bag hung over, and was attached to the right shoulder as a defence against sword-cuts.

Buscage, obs. form of BOSPAGE = thicket.

Buscarl (bʊ'skāl). *Hist.* A modernized form of the 11th c. *butsecarl*, a. ON. *buzukarl*, meaning 'seaman, sailor, mariner' [cf. *Buss sb.*]. Found in the 17th c. legal antiquaries, and occasionally used by modern historical writers in this or the original form.

a 1212 *O. E. Chron.* an. 1066 (Laud MS.) Pa butsecarlas hine forsocean. [1664 SPELMAN cites the forms *buzecarl* (Domesday), *butsecarl*, *buthsecarl*, *busecarl*, *bucearl*. 1678 BLOUNT has *Buscarles*, *Buscarles*, *Mariners* or *Seamen*.

1730-6 BAILEY *Butsecarl*, *Butsecarl*, a Boatswain or Mariner. 1864 SIR F. PALGRAVE *Norm. & Eng.* III. 176 Sturdy knights, active squires, weather-beaten butsecarles... assembled at Fécamp. 1866 KINGSLEY *Herron* I. 53 Out and away aboard a ship among the buscarles. *Ibid.* vi. 118 The broad hats of peaceful buscarles.

Buscaylle, obs. form of BUSHALLE.

† **Busch**, *v. northern. Obs.* Also *boosh*. [app. onomatopœic: cf. *brush*, *rush*, *gush*; also BASH, etc.] *trans.* To flow with a rush, to gush; to rush with force.

c 1325 *E. E. Allit.* P. C. 143 Þe wawes & efte busched to þe ahyrne þat breed fyssches. c 1350 *Will. Palerne* 173 Til hit big was & bold to buschen on fælde. c 1400 *Dest.* *Troy* 11120 Myche blode of his body booshet out after. 1535 STEWART *Crom. Scot.* III. 368 And all the bowellis buschit out.

Busch, earlier spelling of BUSH.

Busch(e), *buschie*, obs. forms of BUSS.

Busch(en), var. of BUSH *v.* *Obs.*

† **Buschbome**. *Sc. Obs.* [*a.* Flem. *busboom*, i.e. *box-beam*, *box-tree*: see BOX *sb.*]. Boxwood, box.

1513 DOUGLAS *Æneis* IX. x. 67 Bos schawmys of turnyt buschboun [ed. 1553 buschbome] tre.

Buschie, early equivalent of BUSHMAN.

1731 MEDLEY *Kolben's Cape G. Hope* I. 89 A sort of Hottentot Banditti infests all the nations about the Cape. They are called Buschies or High-way men. *Ibid.* 269 The honest Hottentots abhor these Buschies as they do their devil.

Buschop(e), obs. form of BISHOP.

Buscom, obs. form of BUXOM.

Buscy, obs. form of BUSS *sb.* 1.

† **Buse**, *v. rare.* Aphetic form of ABUSE.

1529 WARNER *Alb. Eng.* VI. xxx. (1612) 351 My wife... Shall not ywis be bused by the squandering Pollo.

Buse, obs. = BOOSE, cattle-stall; *Bus v.* behaves.

Busemare, var. BISMAR, *Obs.*, shame, reproach.

Buserde, obs. form of BUZZARD¹.

Bush (bʊʃ), *sb.* 1. Forms: 3-7 *busk*, 4-7 *buske*; 4 *bos*(s)ch(e), *boosh*(e), *buss*(e), (also *bousch*(e), *boysch*, *buysch*(e)), 4-5 *busch*(e), *bussch*(e), 4-6 *bussh*(e), 5 *boshe*, 6 *bushe*, *buszhe*, 5- *bush*; *Sc.* 6- *buss*, *buss*. [*ME.* *busk*, a. ON. *busk-r* (Da. *busk*, Sw. *buske*), cogn. w. OHG. *bush* (MHG. *busch*, *bosch*, Ger. *busch*), MDu. *busc*, *bosc* (Du. *bosch*, *bos*), all ad. Rom. *bosco* or late L. *boscum*, *boscus* wood, of which the ulterior source is unknown. Cf. BOSPAGE, BOSK. The form *busk* is still found in northern dial., but in Sc. is reduced to *buss*, *buss*; the *buss* of the Ayrshire was only Dan Michel's way of spelling *bush* with *ss* for *sh*.]

1. A shrub, particularly one with close branches arising from or near the ground; a small clump of shrubs apparently forming one plant.

a. *Form busk. Obs. exc. dial.*

c 1250 *Gen. & Ex.* 2779 Vt of ðat busk... God sente an steuene. 1377 LANGL. *P. Pl.* B. xi. 136 Briddes... þat in buskes [1393 C. XIV. 156 bossches, busches, busches] nestes. c 1440 *Prompt. Parv.* 56 Buske or busche, *rubus*, *dunus*. 1549 *Compt. Scot.* 37 Birdis hoppand fra busk to tuist. 1601 YARINGTON *Two Lament. Tray.* III. ii. in *Bullen O. Pl.* IV, Thicketts full of buskes, 1670 RAY *Eng. Prov.* (1678) 54 Lads' love's a busk of broom. 1803 Ld. LYTTON *Ring Amasis* II. 211 The old straight carriage-drives... now wind in and out among the busks and thicketts. 1855 *Whitby Gloss.*, *Busks*, bushes.

b. *Form bush.*

c 1315 SHOREHAM 131 Thou art the bosche of Synay. 1340 *Ayeb.* 28 Ne in gerse, ne in busse, ne in trauwe. 1382 WYCLIF *Luke* vi. 44 A boysch [1388 busche] of breris. 1398 TREVISAR *Barth. De P. R.* xvii. cxl. (1495) 696 A busche hyghte Rubus. c 1420 *Fallad. on Husb.* i. 87 As plummes boshes are. 1543 *Act 35 Hen. VIII.* xvii. § 4 Over-grown with Buses or Under-wood. 1667 MILTON *P. L.* IV. 176 The undergrowth Of shrubs and tangling bushes. 1864 TENNYSON *Grandmother* 40 In the bush beside me chirrup the nightingale.

γ. *Form bus (Sc.).*

1528 LYNDSEY *Dreme* 62 And flemit Flora frome every bank and bus. 1768 ROSS *Helene* 26 (JAM.) Upon the busses birdies sweetly sung. 1813 PICKEN *Poems* 163 (JAM.) I like our hills an' heathery braes, ilk burdie, buss, an' burnie. *Sc. Proverbs*, Better a wee buss than nae beild. Ye maun bow to the buss ye get bield frae.

b. *Phr. To beat the bush: (lit.)* in bat-fowling, to rouse the birds that they may fly into the net held by some one else; (*fig.*) to expend labour of which the fruit is not gained by oneself. (Cf. BEAT *v.* 26.) *To beat* (formerly also *go, wend, seek*) *about the bush*: to go indirectly and tentatively towards an object, to avoid coming to the point. (Cf. BEAT *v.* 26 c.)

c 1440 *Generydes* 4524 Some bete the bush and some the byrdes take. 1520 WHITTINTON *Vulg.* (1527) 1 A longe betyng aboute the busshe and losse of tyme to a yonge begynner. 1553 T. WILSON *Rhet.* 1 b, If he utter his mind in plain wordes: and tell it orderly, without goyng about the bushe. 1561 T. NORTON *Calvin's Inst.* i. 12 That we shuld not seke about the bush for an vnertaine Goodhead. 1658-9 in *Burton Diary* (1828) III. 528 We have beaten the bush, and not come plainly to the point. 1705 VANBRUGH *Confeder.* III. ii, I went round the bush, and round the bush, before I came to the matter. 1819 *Blackw. Mag.* IV. 621 He never goes about the bush for a phrase. 1822 HAZLITT *Table-t.* II. ix. 212 He does not beat about the bush for difficulties or excuses. 1837 CARLYLE *Fr. Rev.* (1871) II. i. iii. 18 Benighted fowls, when you beat their bushes, rush towards any light.

c. *Proverbs.*

1599 SANDYS *Europa Spec.* (1632) 123 Thus hath every

gap his bush, each suspicion his prevention. 1600 HOLLAND *Livy* xliii. iii. 474 Therefore with one bush (as they say) ye are to stop two gaps, and to do both at once. 1638 SANDERSON *Serm.* II. 97 This common usage of the phrase, as it well preserveth the sense, so doth it also (that I may stop two gaps with one bush) justify the truth of this charge in my text. c. 1689 *Popish Pol. Unmaskt* 84 in 3rd Coll. *Poems* (1689) 23/2 With them one Bird in Hand's worth two i' th' Bush. 1875 JEVONS *Money* (1878) 247 The . . . chance of receiving gold which is still like the bird in the bush.

2. In northern dialects extended to sub-shrubs as *heather*, or herbaceous plants growing in a clump, as *nettles*, *ferns*, *rushes*.

1529 LYNDESAY *Complaynt* 408 Ihone Vpeland bene full blyth, I trow, Because the rysche bus kepis his kow. 1570 *Trag.* in *Scot. Poems* 16th C. II. 232 Than mycht the Rasche bus keep ky on the bordour. 1570-87 HOLINSHED *Scot. Chron.* (1806) II. 96 Caused the rash bush to keep the cow. 1818 SCOTT *Rob Roy* xxv, The oppressors that hae driven me to tak the heather-bush for a field.

†3. *collectively*. A clump of shrubs, a thicket; bushy ground. (Cf. BOSK 2.) *Obs.* exc. as re-introduced in sense 9.

1523 FITZHERB. *Surv.* 2 b, Highe grounde and drie is moost conuenient for shepe, wode grounde and busche for beestes. 1580 NORTH *Plutarch* (1676) 4 She had hidden herself in a grove. . . But Theseus finding her, called her . . . Upon which . . . she came out of the bush. a. 1639 SPOTTISWOOD *Hist. Ch. Scot.* v. (1677) 261 The rest betook them to a little bush of wood, where being environed on all sides, they yielded.

†4. A clump of shrubs used as a place of concealment; = AM-BUSH, q.v. So to take a bush, to thrust or run one's head in a bush. *Obs.*

c. 1330 *Arth. & Merl.* 8432 In on busse thou the hide. 1375 BARBOUR *Bruce* vii. 71 (He) stud in-till a busk lurkand. c. 1380 *Sir Ferumb.* 2887 Pan schullap our men of hem be-war: & breken out of be bossche. c. 1386 CHAUCER *Kn't's T.* 659 This Palamon Was in a bush that no man myghte hym se. a. 1553 UDALL *Royster D.* i. iv. (Arb.) 28 As the beast passed by, he start out of a buske. 1631 J. BURGESS *Ausw. Rejoined* 52 Hee againe takes a bush, and hides himself vnder the ambiguous terme of Religious Ceremonies. 1655 GURNALL *Chr. in Arm.* i. (1669) 21/1 Instead of confessing their sins, they run their head in a bush, and by their good will would not come where God is.

b. *Beggar's-bush*: see BEGGAR 8.

1600 SHAKS. *A. Y. L.* iii. iii. 85 And wil you (being a man of your breeding), be married vnder a bush like a beggar?

5. A branch or bunch of ivy (perhaps as the plant sacred to Bacchus) hung up as a vintner's sign; hence, the sign-board of a tavern.

1523 MORE *Confut. Tindale* Wks. (1557) 642/1 Set vp for a bare signe, as a tauerens bush or tapsters ale stake. 1591 FLORIO *and Frutes* 185 Womens beauty. . . is like unto an Iuy bush, that calls men to the taum, but hangs itselfe withoute to winde and wether. 1618 DEKKER *If not good Play* Wks. 1873 III. 280 As a drawer in a new Tavern, first day the bush is hung vp. c. 1613 ROWLANDS *More Knaues Yet* 36 At next bush and signe Calling for claret. 1644 EVELYN *Memo.* (1857) l. 97 Wicker bottles dangling over even the chief entrance . . . serving for a vintner's bush. 1698 in *Capt. Smith's Seaman's Gram.* ii. xxxi. 150 You may bind two of them across, like a Tavern-Bush. 1753 CHAMBERS *Cycl. Snpp.*, Bush, also denotes a coronated frame of wood hung out as a sign at taverns . . . antiently, signs where wine was sold were bushes. 1788 H. WALPOLE *Remin.* ix. 71 How should people know where wine is sold, unless a bush is hung out?

b. Hence, the tavern itself.

a. 1625 BEAUM. & FL. (O.) Twenty to one you find him at the bush. 1631 HEYWOOD *Maid of West* ii. v. Wks. 1874 II. 415 Then will I go home to the bush Where I drew wine.

c. Proverb. *Good wine needs no bush.*

1600 SHAKS. *A. Y. L.* Epil., If it be true that good wine needs no bush, 'tis true, that a good play needs no Epilogue. 1611 COTGR. s. v. *Bou*, Good wine draws customers without any help of an iuy-bush. 1674 R. GODFREY *Inj. & Ab. Physic* 168 As good Wine needs no Bush, no more do good Medicines a printed Bill. 1845 FORD *Handbk. Spain* i. 30 Good wine needs neither bush, herald, nor crier. 1861 W. THORNBURY in *Gd. Words* 432 Faded boughs—the bush that good wine does not need—rustle over the door.

d. *fig.* as *To hang out bushes*.

1616 BEAUM. & FL. *Cust. Countr.* iii. ii, Young women in the old world were not wont, Sir, To hang out gaudy bushes for their beauties. 1643 SIR T. BROWNE *Relig. Med.* ii. § 2 In every one of them, some outward figures, which hang as signes or bushes of their inward formes.

e. *fig.* Boasting, bluster, 'tall talk'. *U. S. dial.* 1837 HALIBURTON *Clockm.* (1862) 450 You Maine folks have been talkin' a leetle too fast lately, a leetle too much bush.

†6. *transf.* Anything resembling a bush; a bushy mass of foliage, feathers, etc.; a bunch. *Obs.* or *dial.*

1513 DOUGLAS *Ensis* vii. xii. 77 Amyd a bus of speris in rayd thai. 1530 PALSGR. 202/1 Busshe of oysterrishe fethers, plumart. 1548 UDALL *Erasm. Apophth.* 296 a, The cypres tree . . . growyng sharpe with a bushe greete beneth and smal aboute of a trymme facion. 1611 SPEED *Hist. Gl. Brit.* ix. iii. (1632) 464 In the ninth of his Raigne a blazing Starre appeared with two bushes. 1648 GAGE *West Ind.* xi. (1655) 40 They put on all their bravery . . . and bushes of feathers.

7. *esp.* A bushy head of hair. (Very common in 16th c.: of hair is now expressed.)

1509 BARCLAY *Ship of Fools* (1570) 232 To hyre the bush of one that late is dead, Therewith to disguise his foolies doting head. 1530 PALSGR. 762 Trymme my busshe, barber. 1609 BIBLE (Douay) 2 *Kings* xiv. 26 Once a yere he was powed, because his bush did burden him. 1640 SANDERSON *Serm.* 147 A bush of hair will do it, where it groweth. 1719 D'URFEY *Pills* l. 57 He who wears a long bush, All powder'd down from his Pericrane. a. 1845 BARNHAM *Ingold. Leg.* Ser. iii. (1858) 508 A continued tuft of coarse, wiry hair. . . swelled out

in a greyish-looking bush above the occiput. 1880 *Chamb. Jnrl.* 774 Their heads . . . covered with great bushes of wool.

b. occas. of a bushy beard, or eyebrows. [c. 1400] *J'uaime & Gaw.* 261 His browes war like litel buskes. 1647 S. SHEPPARD 2d pt. *Committee-Man, Curr.* i. ii. 2 His chin has no bush, save a little downe. 1859 TENNYSON *Vivien* 659 He dragg'd his eyebrow bushes down, and made A snowy penthouse for his hollow eyes.

†8. A bushy tail, *esp.* of a fox; = BRUSH sb. 2 3 b. 1575 TURBERV. *Bk. Venerie* 241 The tayle of a foxe is called his Bush. 1577 DEE *Relat. Spir.* i. (1659) 113 It seemeth to be a dead Lion; for it hath a long tail with a bush at the end. 1610 GUILLIM *Heraldry* iii. xiv. (1660) 166 Termes of the Tayle, That of a Fox is termed his Bush.

9. (Recent, and probably a direct adoption of the Dutch *bosch*, in colonies originally Dutch.) Woodland, country more or less covered with natural wood: applied to the uncleared or unutilized districts in the British Colonies which are still in a state of nature, or largely so, even though not wooded; and by extension to the country as opposed to the towns.

1780 [cf. *bush-cat* in 11]. 1808 SCOTT *Tapestr. Chamber*, When I was in the Bush, as the Virginians call it. 1837 J. LANG *N. S. Wales* i. 253 His house was well enough for the bush, as the country is generally termed in the colony. 1837 CARLYLE *Fr. Rev.* (1871) II. v. iv. 187 The Black man loves the Bush. 1873 TROLOPE *Australia* i. 299. Nearly every place beyond the influences of the big towns is called 'bush' even though there should be not a tree to be seen. 1874 GEIKIE *Life Woods* ii. 21 Every thing being much cheaper in Toronto than away in the bush. 1886 *New Zealand Herald* 1 June 2/4 There is a bush upon it of 63 acres.

b. To take to the bush.

1837 J. LANG. *N. S. Wales* II. 15 Four of them immediately take to the bush, i. e. become bush-rangers, or runaway convicts, subsisting on plunder.

10. *Attrib.* and general *Comb.*: a. in sense 1, as *bush-fagot*, *-fruit*, *-ground*, *-planting*, *-tuff*; *bush-grown*, *-like*, *-skirted* adjs.; b. in senses 7 and 8, as *bush-beard*, *-hair*, *-head*, *-tail*, *-twig*; so *bush-bearded*, *-haired*, *-headed*, *-tailed* adjs.; c. in sense 9 (= 'in the Bush'), as *bush-farm*, *-farming*, *-fire*, *-inn*, *-land*, *-life*, *-rider*, *-track*, *-work*, BUSH-RANGER.

1606 Sir R. Goswaghe i. i. in *O. P. L.* (1884) III. 11 He wears a 'bush beard'. 1662 GREENHALGH in *Ellis Orig. Lett.* ii. 309. IV. 8 A learned Jew with a mighty bush beard. 1615 A. STAFFORD *Heav. Doge* 59 An austere 'bushbearded Philosopher. 1876 G. MEREDITH *Beauch. Career* II. i. 13 He was a fair, huge, bush-bearded man. 1843 *Jnrl. R. Agric. Soc.* IV. 11. 292 Two rows of 'bush-fagots are laid for perhaps 50 yards in advance on the mud at low water. 1851 *Haush. Wds.* II. 490 He had been down to the port from his 'Bush-farm to sell his stuff. 1866 MARK LEMON *Wait for End.* x. 131 His log-house and his 'bush-farming. 1868 DILKE *Greater Brit.* II. iii. iii. 32 The smoke from these 'bush-fires sometimes extends for hundreds of miles to sea. 1884 *Pall Mall Budget* 22 Aug. 11/1 'Bush fruit, including gooseberries, raspberries, nuts, &c. 1523 FITZHERB. *Surv.* 24 b, Howe moche wode grounde or 'busshe grounde, heythe, lyng, or suche other. 1837 HAWTHORNE *Amer. Note-bks.* (1871) I. 51 A deep dell, wooded and 'bush grown. 1884 M. PATTON *Mem.* (1885) 32 The little bush-grown beck which bounded our parish. 1698 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 2809/4 Another . . . Man . . . with small grey Eyes, brown 'bush Hair. 1830 PALSGR. 307/1 'Busshe heered, *crespelleux*. a. 1603 T. CARTWRIGHT *Confut. Rhem. N. T.* (1618) 196 Your puppet being lifted above the Priests 'bush head. 1552 HULOET, 'Busshe hedded, or he that hath a good bush head. 1881 Mrs. PRAED *Policy & P. I.* 59 The driver paused before a 'bush inn. 1881 GRANT *Bush Life Queensl.* i. viii. 96 Holding the long sweeping tail, tangled in a huge 'bush-knot. 1886 LYTTON *St. Story* lxxvii, All the 'Bush-land . . . was on fire. 1868 DILKE *Greater Brit.* II. iii. 14 Tropical 'bush-lands in which greater-farming is impossible. 1849 LYTTON *Castles* ii. xvii. ci. The memory of that wild 'Bush-life. 1878 OGLE *Flowers & Unb. Guests* iv. 37 Great 'bush-like plants of Senecio. 1883 *Field* 10 Feb. 199 The tremendous stock whips of the Australian 'bush-riders. 1858 H. MILLER *Sci. & Schm.* 313 This woolly, 'bush-skirted walk. 1606 *Wily Beguiled* in Hazl. *Dodgley* IX. 290, I might have turned my fair 'bush-tail to you instead of your father. 1708 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 4453/3 A . . . Danish Bitch, with a Black Muzzle, and a long Bush Tail. 1872 W. F. BUTLER *Gl. Lond. Land* xxi. (1875) 339 The 'bush-tailed . . . clean-legged animals. 1866 WEBBE *Eng. Poetrie* (Arb.) 77 Fro the sun beames safe lie lyzardes vnder a 'bush-tuffe. 1805 *Miniature* (1806) No. 34 II. 175 Sober whist is by no means below the dignity of a 'bush-wig. 1830 GALT *Laurie T.* ii. xi. (1849) 78, I knew as little of 'bush-work as any other store-keeper or mechanic. 1852 *Fraser's Mag.* XLV. 240 The sort of service that fits . . . for the bush-work of the Cape.

11. *Spec. combs.*: † *bush adder* (see quot., and cf. *boske addre* s. v. BOSK); *bush antelope*, ? = BUSH-BUCK; *bush basil*, *Ocimum minimum*; *bush-bean*, the American name for the Kidney-bean (*Phaseolus vulgaris*); † *bush-bill*, ? a bill-hook; *bush-cat*, the Serval or Tiger-cat of South Africa; *bush-ohat*, a bird, one of the Chats or Saxicolæ; *bush-creepers*, a group of tropical birds belonging to the family of the Warblers; *bush-draining*, the draining of land by trenches filled with brushwood; *bush-faller*, ? one who cuts down timber in the Bush; *bush-goat* = BUSH-BUCK; *bush-grass*, *Calamagrostis epigejos*; *bush-hog*, a wild pig of South Africa, the *bosch-vaark* of the colonists; *bush-hook*, a bill-hook (*U. S.*); *bush-lawyer*, the New Zealand Bramble (*Rubus australis*); *bush-master*, a very venomous South

American snake; *bush-quail*, a name given to the 'Turnicidae, a family of gallinaceous birds; *bush-road*, a road through the Bush; *bush-scythe*, a bill-hook; *bush-shrike*, the English name of the *Thamnophilinae*, a sub-family of the Shrikes; *bush-sparrow*, an American name for a kind of sparrow (see quot.); *bush-spider*, a large spider of S. America; *bush-syrup* (see quot.); *bush-track* = *bush-road*; † *bush-tree*, the Box (*Buxus sempervirens*); *bush vetch*, *Vicia sepium*; *bush-wood*, underwood, brushwood; *bush-worm* (see quot.). See also BUSH-BUCK, -FIGHTER, etc.

1611 COTGR. *Anguille de bois*. the 'bush Adder, or wood snake. 1834 *Penny Cycl.* II. 81/1 The 'Bush Antelope (*A. silvicultrix*), called bush-goat by the English residents at Sierra Leone. 1897 GERARD *Herbal* ccxii. § 3. 547 'Bush Basil, or fine Basil, is a low and base plant. 1631 GOUGE *God's Arrows* v. § 11. 421 Such men are more fit . . . to carrie a 'bush-bill rather then a battell-axe. 1780 FORSTER in *Phil. Trans.* LXXI. 2 The common 'Bush-cat of the Cape. *Ibid.* 3 Kolbe . . . speaks of a Tiger Bush-cat, which he describes as the largest of all the Wild Cats of the Cape countries. 1732 De Foe *Tour Gl. Brit.* (1769) II. 179 These last cold and wet Lands have been . . . greatly improved, by draining off the Rain-water . . . an Invention, called 'Bush-draining. 1882 *Pall Mall G.* 29 June 2/1 A broken-down, deserted shanty, inhabited once, perhaps, by rail-splitters, or 'bush-fallers. 1865 *Athenæum* No. 1948. 279/1 A new species of 'Bush-goat. 1854 *Chamb. Jnrl.* i. 66 By good luck we came on a 'bush-hog. 1883 *Harper's Mag.* Dec. 44/1 Shrubs that . . . had run the gauntlet of the 'bush-hook. 1853 *Fraser's Mag.* XLVIII. 258 Half dead with their long struggle against the 'bush-lawyer', a tough and tangled bramble. 1866 *Edin. Rev.* XLIII. 300 The most venomous of reptiles, and known by the name of the 'bush-master. 1860 GOSSE *Rom. Nat. Hist.* 267 The couni-couchi, or bush-master, is the most dreaded of all the South American snakes. 1857 W. WESTGARTH *Victoria & Austr. Gold Mines* xi. 250 The gloomy antithesis of good bush-rangers and bad 'bush-roads. 1552 HULOET, Byl called a forest bil, or 'bush-sithe. 1869 J. BURROUGHS in *Galaxy Mag.* Aug. A favourite sparrow of my own. . . is the wood, or 'bush-sparrow, usually called *spizella pusilla*. 1796 STEDMAN *Surinam* II. xx. 93 A 'bush-spider of such magnitude, that putting him into a case-bottle above eight inches high, he . . . reached the surface with some of his hideous claws. 1866 *Treas. Bot. s.v.* 'Bush Syrup, a saccharine fluid obtained from the flowers of *Protea mellifera*, in the Cape Colony. 1864 *Reader* 2 Apr. 420/1 The roads from the nascent metropolis still partook mainly of the random character of 'bush tracks'. 1595 DUNCAN *Append. Etym.* (E. D. S.) *Buxus*, the 'bush-tree. 1599 HAKLUYT *Voy.* II. ii. 127 A little way off was a great high bush-tree as though it had no leaves. 1768 WALES in *Phil. Trans.* LX. 119 It is entirely covered with low 'bush-wood. 1852 LYTTON *My Novel in Blackw. Mag.* LXXI. 184. I perceived the form of a man seated amongst the bushwood. 1796 STEDMAN *Surinam* III. xxiii. 183, I had now extracted out of my right arm two dreadful insects. . . These are called in Surinam the 'bush-worms, and are the shape and size of the aurelia of the common butterfly, with a pointed tail and black head.

Bush (bush), sb. 2 [app. a. MDa. *busse*, (mod. Du. *bus*) Box, bush of a wheel; cf. G. *büchse*, *rad-büchse*, Sw. *hjul-bössa* 'wheel-bush'. Cf., for the form, early forms of BLUNDERBUSS, HARQUEBUS, in -bush. As to connexion with BOUCHE, see BUSH v. 3.]

1. The metal lining of the axle-hole of a wheel; hence, the metal (or wooden) case in which the journal of a shaft revolves. (Cf. BOX sb. 2 16.) b. A cylindrical metal lining of an orifice; a perforated plug, cylinder, or disk; *esp.* a drilled plug inserted in the touch-hole of a gun, or in a bearing of a watch when worn (cf. BOUCHE).

1566 in *Collect. Invent.* (1815) 169 Item, fyve buscheis of found for cannonis and battered queheilis. 1578 *Ibid.* 250 Garnist with yron werk and bousches of fonte. 1605 *Invent.* in *Shropshire Word-bk.* (E. D. S.) One paire of bushes. . . one paire of bushes soles. 1688 R. HOLME *Acad. Armoary* iii. viii. 332 The Busses are Irons within the hole of the Nave to keep it from wearing. 1770 J. FERGUSON *Lect.* (1805) I. 82 The upper part of the spindle turns in a wooden bush fit into the nether millstone. 1797 A. CUMMING *Commun. Board of Agric.* II. 365 The nave is commonly lined with metal, which lining is called the box or bush. 1865 LO. ELCHO in *Times* 9 Mar., What are ordinarily known as front aperture sights, i. e. solid discs or bushes pierced in the centre. 1884 F. BRITTON *Watch & Clockm.* 95 The hole is tapped at one end to receive a bush.

2. *Comb.* *bush-metal*, an alloy of copper and tin used for journals.

Bush (bush), v. 1 For forms see sb. [f. BUSH sb. 1] † 1. *trans.* To set in a bush or thicket as a place of concealment, to place in ambush; *intr.* (for *refl.*) to hide in a bush, lie in ambush. (Cf. BUSH sb. 1 4.) *Obs.*

1330 R. BRUNNE *Chron.* 187 Saladynd priuely was bussed beside þe flom. c. 1400 *Destr. Troy* 1168 Lurkyt vnder leffesals loget with vines, Busket vndur bankes on bouders with-out. c. 1440 *York Myst.* xiii. 8, I may nowder buske ne belde But owther in frith or felde. 1480 CAXTON *Chron.* Eng. ii. (1520) 11 Coryn sholde go out and busshe hym in a wode. 1535 SWEBT *Cron. Scot.* (1858) I. 263 The Pechtis than was buscht near hand by. 1623 DANIEL *Hy-men's Tri.* ii. i, Being closely bush'd a pretty Distance off.

2. To protect (trees, etc.) with bushes or cut brushwood set round about; to support with bushes. 1647 MS. Acc. St. John's Hosp. *Canterb.*, Paid for bushes to bush the ashes in the meadow vjd. 1676 WORLDING *Cider* (1691) 34 Care must be taken to bush them, so that

cattel may not rub against them. 1741 *Compl. Fam. Piece* III. 416 Let the Sets be bushed about for some time, to prevent their being injured. 1884 [see BUSHED 2 b].

3. To protect (land or game) from net-poachers by placing bushes or branches at intervals in the preserved ground, so as to interrupt the sweep of a net. Also *absol.*

1843 *CARLYLE Past & Pr.* 288 Assist us still better to bush the partridges. *Ibid.* IV. viii. (1872) 254 Game-preserving Aristocracies, let them 'bush' never so effectually, cannot escape the Subtle Fowler. 1860 *Chamb. Jnl.* XIV. 274 As for netting by night, bush your fields closely. 1883 J. PURVES in *Contemp. Rev.* Sept. 355 They know the fields to avoid for net-work, those that have been bushed—i. e. irregularly dotted with posts driven upright into the ground.

4. To bush-harrow (ground, etc.); to cover in (seed) with a bush-harrow.

1787 *WINTER Syst. Husb.* 313 Sow the clover seed, which bush in, by the horses walking in the furrows. 1848 *Jnl. R. Agric. Soc.* IX. 1. 10 By attention to the spreading and bushing the field the whole surface becomes . . . changed.

5. See *quot.*; cf. *bush-draining* in *BUSH* sb. 1 11.

1838 *New Monthly Mag.* LIII. 39 They might have thocht of bushing the tent-pegs . . . This is done, on the approach of heavy rain, by digging a hole near each tent-peg, and filling it with brushwood, to act as a sort of drain and prevent the water from saturating the ground, and making the pegs draw.

6. To tether a horse by burying the knotted end of the head-rope in the ground.

1871 *Daily News* 11 Sept., The system of 'bushing', by which the officers' horses of the 9th Lancers are now fastened.

7. *intr.* To be bushy, to grow thick like a bush.

1562 *TURNER Herbal* II. 133 a. It [wild Thyme] busheth largely, and groweth something asyde. 1667 *MILTON P. L.* IX. 426 So thick the Roses bushing round About her glowd. 1809 *PARKINS Culpepper's Eng. Physic. Enl.* 257 Greyish or whitish leaves . . . many bushing together at a joint.

b. *transf.* of hair. Also with *out*.

1509 *BARCLAY Ship of Fools* (1570) 159 Their heare out bushing as a foxes taylor. 1566 *SKELTON Magnyf.* 844 My heyr busheth So plesantlie. 1575 *TURBURY. Bk. Falconrie* 369 The dogge becommes more beautiful by cutting the toppe of his sterne : for then will it bushie out verie gallantly.

† c. of the 'tail' of a comet. *Obs.*

1587 *FLEMING Contin. Holinshed* III. 1314/5 There appeared a blasing star in the south, bushing toward the east.

† 8. To bush about or out : ? to beat or hunt about for (as for game). Cf. *BUSK* v. 2.

1686 (3 June) *MS. Let. from Job Charnock & Council of Hugli to Council at Balasore*, Wee take notice that you can procure us about 2000 [maunds] of Wax, pray bushe out for some more. a 1734 *NORTH Life Lad. Guilford* (1742) 201 They are forced to bush about for ways and means to pay their rent and charges.

† *Bush*, v. 2. *Obs. exc. dial.* Forms : 4 *busche*, 4-5 *busch(e)*, 5 *boyssh(e)*, 6 *bush*. [Deriv. uncertain : cf. OF. *bushier* 'frapper, heurter', MDu. *buisschen* (= MHG. *buischen*) to knock, beat; also *PUSH*.] *intr.* To butt with the head; to push.

1387 *TREvisa Higden Rolls Ser.* II. 191 He may busche agensnt men and horschedes and breke strong dorez wib his heed. 1398 — *Barth. De P. R.* XVIII. iii. (1495) 749 The ramme is excyted and busshyth full strongly. 1515 *Scot. Field* 439 Then full boddie on the brode hills, we bushed with our standarts. 1590 *GREENE Mourne. Garn.* 33 If he bush not at beantie. 1864 *E. CAPERN Devon Provinc.*, To *Bush*, to butt or strike with the head.

Hence *Bushing* *vbl. sb.*

1398 *TREvisa Barth. De P. R.* VII. lix. (1495) 273 A posture comyth . . . of brekyngne and brusynge and boysshynge and hurtelyngne. 1399 *LANGL. Rich. Redefles* 1. 99 Pey made 300 to leue pat regne 3e ne my3te, Withoute busshynge adoune of all 3oure best frendis.

Bush (buʃ), v. 3 [f. *BUSH* sb. 2; originally said of wheels; with the extension of the word to the vent of muskets, etc., it appears to have been erroneously associated with *F. bouche* mouth, *boucher* to stop up (see next), or *bouchon* cork, plug; whence the frequent later *BOUCHE* v.]

1. *trans.* To furnish with a bush; to line (an orifice) with metal.

1566 *Invent.* 168 (JAM.) Item, one pair of new cannone quheillis buschit with brass. 1673 *COTTON Burlesque upon B.* 233 (D.) (He) Bushes the Naves, clouts th' Axle-trees. 1781 *THOMPSON in Phil. Trans.* LXXI. 264 The vent of a musket is very soon enlarged by firing, and it is found necessary to stop it up with a solid screw, through the center of which a new vent is made of the proper dimensions. This operation is called bushing, or rather bouching the piece. 1882 *Field* 16 Sept. 410 A 12-gauge gun that I had bushed on my system.

2. *transf.*

1881 C. A. EDWARDS *Organs* 69 The front pin is bushed by two or three thicknesses of baize . . . to avoid rattling.

† *Bush*, v. 4. *Obs.* [f. *F. boucher* to shut an aperture; of doubtful derivation : see *Littre*.] To stop a hole, opening, or passage.

a 1659 *OSBORN Observ. Turke* (1673) 315 Eyeing Christians with a high disdain, for . . . bushing the way to Heaven with Purgatory and other Bugbears. a 1693 *URQUHART Rabelais* III. ix. II. 279 If . . . all the holes in the world be not shut up, stopped, closed, and bushed.

Bush(e), *obs. form of Buss*.

Busha (buʃä). The manager or overseer of an estate in Jamaica.

1832 M. SCOTT in *Blackw. Mag.* XXXI. 902 The Overseer, or Busha, to give him his Jamaica name, looked at me. 1834 — *Cruise Midg.* xii. Gangs of negroes . . . waiting to receive busha's orders for the morrow. 1866 *Morning Star* 17 Mar., The magistrates and bushas, or overseers.

† *Bushaille*. *Obs.* Also in 5 *bushaille*, *bushayl*(1)e, *-kayle*, *boschayle*. [a. OF. *boschaille* (Godef.) a wood = It. *boscaglia* :—low Lat. *boscalia* (Du Cange), pl. of *boscäle*, f. late L. *boscaum* a wood.] A copse or thicket; often as a place of concealment, an ambush.

1a 1400 *Morte Arthur* 895 On blonkez by 3one buscayle. *Ibid.* 1634 They buskede theme . . . In the buskayle of his waye. a 1400 *Ottavian* 1607 Besyde Acrys, yn a boschayle They token rest. c 1430 *Syr Gener.* 9189 Thei . . . come out of here busshaille Streight forto bede hem bataille.

b. *collect.* Brushwood, underwood.

c 1400 MAUNDEV. xxvii. 271 A gret yle fulle of Trees and Buscaylle. *Ibid.* Buscaylle & Thornes & Breres & grene Grasse.

Bush-buck (buʃbʊk). [ad. Du. *bosch-bok*; see *BOSCH* 1.] A small species of African antelope, also called the Bush-goat.

1852 *Blackw. Mag.* LXXI. 294 A shot at an ostrich or bushbuck. 1865 *LIVINGSTONE Zambesi* 343 In the mornings and evenings the pretty little bush-buck (*Tragelaphus sylvestica*) ventures . . . out of the mangroves, to feed.

Bushed (buʃt), *pp. a.* [f. *BUSH* sb. 1, v. 1 + -ED.]

† 1. Of plants or shrubs : Formed into a bush.

1573 *TUSSER Husb.* (1878) 95 Bassel, fine and bushit, sowe in May. 1597 *GERARD Herbal* xxiv. § 1. 239 Leaues . . . bushed or branched at the top.

2. Covered with bushes or 'bush'.

1668 *DILKE Greater Brit.* II. III. vi. 62 The coastlands . . . are exhausted, densely bushed, and uninhabited. 1883 *MISS BROUGHTON Belinda* III. III. vii. 22 The homely loveliness of bushed bank.

b. Protected with bushes. (Cf. *BUSH* v. 1. 2.)

1884 *Illustr. Lond. News* 20 Nov. 539 It matters but little what the fence may be—a bushed or unbushd one.

3. *transf.* Having a bushy head of hair.

1494 *FABYAN* VII. cccxv. 251 For that tyme clerkes vsed bushed and brayded hedys. 1552 *HULOET*, Boye with a bushed heade, *comatulus*. 1663 *FAYNE Theat. Hon.* xi. xiii. 235 A great head, thickly bushed and tufted with haire. 1849 *LYTTON K. Arthur* VI. cxxxi. Hideous visage bush'd with tawny haire.

b. Of the hair : Spreading like a bush, bushy; also *bushed out*, *up*.

1535 *COVERDALE Song of Sol.* v. 11 The lockes of his hayre are bushed, browne as the euenynge. 1779 *FORREST Voy. N. Guinea* 95 The hair of the women was bushed out also.

1842 *PUNCHARD Nat. Hist. Man* 24 Frizzling hair . . . bushed out round their heads.

4. *slang.* At 'Beggars' Bush'. ? *Obs.*

1822 J. H. VAUX *Flash Dict.*, *Bush'd*, poor; without money.

5. Lost in the bush (sb. 1 g.). Cf. *bogged*.

1856 *Tait's Mag.* XXXIII. 740, I narrowly escaped being 'bushed'. 1881 A. C. GRANT *Bush Life Queensl.* II. xxxi. 154 John feared that he might get bushed.

Bushel (buʃəl), *sb.* 1 Forms : 4 *bus(a)chel*, *buisschel*, *buyschel*, *boussel*, *boyschel*, 4-5 *buyschel*, 4-6 *bushel(le)*, 5 *bu-*, *bysschelle*, *buscel*, *bysschel*, 5-6 *bowsschel(e)*, 6 *buszachel*, *bushshell*, *bushylle*, *bousschel*, *beyschell*, 5-7 *bushell*, 4- *bushel*. [ME. *boyschel*, *buyschel*, a. OF. *boissiel*, -el, *buissiel* (mod.F. *boisseau*, dial. *boistean*), according to Diez dim. of *boiste* (Pr. *boitea* and *boissa*) box. This explanation is supported by the med.L. form *butellus*, beside *bussellus*, *bissellus*. Du Cange took the word as a dim. of OF. *boise* = med.L. *buza*, *buta* BUTT.]

1. A measure of capacity used for corn, fruit, etc., containing four pecks or eight gallons.

The imperial bushel, legally established in Great Britain in 1826, contains 2218.192 cubic inches, or 80 pounds of distilled water weighed in air at 62° Fah. The Winchester bushel, much used from the time of Henry VIII, was somewhat smaller, containing 2150.42 cubic inches or 77.627413 pounds of distilled water; it is still generally used in United States and Canada. The bushel had a great variety of other values, now abolished by law, though often, in local use, varying not only from place to place, but in the same place according to the kind or quality of the commodity in question. Frequently it was no longer a measure, but a weight of so many (30, 40, 45, 50, 56, 60, 70, 75, 80, 90, 93, 220) pounds of flour, wheat, oats, potatoes, etc. A full account of these local values is given in *Old Country & Farming Words* (Eng. Dial. Soc.) 169.

c 1300 *Battle Abb. Customals* (1887) 67 Habebit iijj bussellos de bericorn. c 1330 *Poem on Times Edw. II.* 393 in *Pol. Songs* (1839) 341 A bushell of whete was at foure shillings or more. 1382 *WYCLIF Gen.* xviii. 6 Myngre to gidre thre half buysschelis of clene flour. 1497 *Act 12 Hen. VII.* v. That the measure of a Bushell contayne viii. gallons of Wheat. 1523 *FITZHERB. Husb.* § 12 An acre of grounde . . . may be metelye well sown with two London busselles of pease. 1596 *SHAKS. Merch. V.* i. 116 His reasons are two graines of wheate hid in two bussels of chaffe. 1710 *SWIFT Lett.* (1767) III. 55, I have my coals by half a bushel at a time, I'll assure you. 1787 *WINTER Syst. Husb.* 146 This wheat weighed sixty-six pounds ten ounces per bushel, of nine gallons. 1872 E. ROBERTSON *Hist. Est.* i. 1. 1 An English Imperial bushel contains 60 lbs. of average wheat or 80 lbs. liquid measure.

† b. ? A liquid measure. *Obs.*

1883 *Cath. Angl.* 49 A Buschelle; *batulus liquidorum est, bacus*.

† c. Sometimes used without of. *Obs.*

c 1374 *CHAUCER Borth.* I. iv. 15 Who so bou3t(e) a bussel corn. c 1386 — *Reves T.* 392 Hir cake Of half a bussel flour.

d. *loosely.* A large quantity or number.

c 1374 *CHAUCER Troilus* III. 976 And would a bushel of

venim al excusen For that a grane of love is on it shoue. 1680 *Answ. Stillingfleet's Serm.* 33 Who have Benefices and Honours by Heape, and by the Bushel. 1683 *TRYON Way to Health* 579 He . . . has got a Bushel of Money by his Practice. 1718 *LADY M. W. MONTAGUE Lett.* liii. II. 78 An old beau . . . with a bushel of curled hair on his head. 1873 *MISS BROUGHTON Nancy* III. 187 Bushels of girls . . . there always are bushels of girls somehow; here they come.

2. A vessel used as a bushel measure.

1382 *WYCLIF Luke* xi. 33 No man listneth a lanterne, and puttith in hidlis, other vndir a boyschel (1388 *buyschel*), but on a candel stick. 1489 *CAXTON Faytes of A.* i. viii. 20 Thre mues or busschellis all full of rynges of gold. a 1565 *Heywood Four P's in Dadsley* (1780) L. 87 Rolynghe his eyes as rounde as two busschels. 1607 *TOPSELL Four-f. Beasts* 154 Their feet. are as broad as a bushel. 1677 *HALE Prim. Orig. Man.* i. i. 22 The Sense represents the Sun no bigger than a Bushel. 1724 *WATTS Logic* 152 The apples will fill a bushel.

b. *fig.* (with ref. to Matt. v. 15). 'To hide one's light under a bushel.'

1557 *Tottell's Misc.* (Arb.) 244 Trouth vnder bushell is faine to crepe. 1667 *SANDERSON Serm.* I. 267 The light of Gods word, hid from them under two busschels for surenes; under the bushel of a tyrannous clergy . . . and under the bushel of an unknown tongue. 1644 *Z. Boyd Gard. Zion in Zion's Flowers* (1855) App. 7/2 From under the Bushell of ignorance. 1868 *FREEMAN Norm. Conq.* (1876) II. App. 540 The light of those saintly ladies should in no case be hidden under a bushel.

c. *Phrase.* To measure other people's corn by one's own bushel : to apply one's own standard to others, to judge others by oneself.

1636 *HENSHAW Horae subc.* 279 Men usually measure others by their own busschels : they that are ill themselves, are commonly apt to think ill of others. 1801 *HUNTINGTON Bank of Faith* 35 We must not measure every body's corn by our own bushel.

3. *attrib.* and *comb.* : a. of a bushel, as *bushel-bag*, *-basket*, *-measure*, † *-poke*; b. resembling or as wide as a bushel-measure, as *oushell-breeches*, *-wig*; also *bushel-iron*, ? (old) iron sold by the bushel.

1529 in *Rogers Agric. & Prices* III. 567/3, 1 *bushel basket. 1890 *Jnl. R. Agric. Soc.* XI. 1. 202 The food . . . carried in bushel-baskets. 1831 *CARLYLE Sart. Res.* i. vii, Bell-girdles, 'bushel-breeches, cornuted shoes, or other the like phenomena. 1831 J. HOLLAND *Manuf. Metals* I. 144 *Bushel-iron, or the fragments of old hoops, and all pieces of similar size. 1851 *Ord. & Regul. Royal Engineers* xvi. 66 All Bushel or Scrap Iron, and Waste in conversion. 1530 *PALSGR.* 200/2 *Bousshell measure, *boisseau*. 1593 *FITZHERB. Husb.* § 141 Bagges, wallettes, or *bushell-pokes. 1794 *WOLCOTT (P. Pindar) Rowl.* for *Oliver* Wks. II. 344 What gives them consequence, I throw, Is nothing but a *bushel wig.

Bushel, sb. 2 [cf. *BUSH* sb. 2] The bush or box of a wheel. ? *Obs.*

1433 in *Rogers Agric. & Prices* III. 550/4 New bushel, /8 : Iron to do, 1/- 1730-36 *BAILEY, Bushels* [of a Cart wheel] certain Irons within the Hole of the Nave, to preserve it from Wearing. [So JOHNSON.] 1864 *WEBSTER, Bushel*, the circle of iron in the nave of a wheel.

Bushel (buʃəl), v. *rare*. [f. *BUSHEL* sb. 1] To hide under a bushel. *fig.* (see *BUSHEL* sb. 1 2 b.)

1650 T. VAUGHAN *Anima Mag. Abscond.* 56, I have not Busheld my Light, nor buried my Talent in the Ground. 1653 *JENKYN On Jude* (1845) 82 Not bushel the candle of Scripture discovery. 1882 H. MERIVALE *Faint of B.* II. i. xxiv. 105 The agricole . . . thinks that he is wasting his days and bushelling his light out of London.

Bushelage (buʃələdʒ). [f. as prec. + -AGE; prob. after OFr. *boisselage*, *boesselage* a species of 'droit'.] Duty payable by the bushel on measurable commodities.

1818 in *TODD*; and in mod. Dicts.

Busheler, busheller (buʃələ). *U. S. local*. [Cf. Ger. *bossler* (Sanders) f. *bosseln* to do odd jobs of repairing.] One who repairs garments for tailors : also called *bushelman*.

1847 in *WORCESTER*; and in later Dicts.

Bushelful. [see -FUL.] As much as fills a bushel; *fig.* a large quantity.

c 1440 *PECOCK Repr.* IV. ix. 474 Worth . . . a buysschel ful of gold. 1600-12 J. M. in *Shaks. C. Praise* 98 Lovers will tell a bushell-full of Lyes! 1818 *SCOTT Rob Roy* v. Nature has given him a mouthful of common sense, and the priest has added a bushelful of learning. 1861 *Temple-bar Mag.* I. 188 A bushelful of gold pieces would scarcely have sufficed.

† *Bushet*. *Obs.* [f. *BUSH* sb. 1 + -ET.] A small shrub or bush; a small thicket. Cf. *BUSKET*.

1573 *TUSSER Husb.* (1878) 90 So haue you good feeding, in bushets and lease. 1668 *RAY Three Itin.* II. 739 We rode through a bushet, or common called Rodwell Hake.

Bush-fighter (buʃfai-tɪ). An irregular combatant or skirmisher, accustomed to fight in the bush; one who fires from among the bushes.

1760 *WESLEY Jnl.* 22 Nov. (1827) III. 27 If it should happen, that any one of these silly bush-fighters steps out into the plain. 1825 *Blackw. Mag.* XVII. 343 Cornwallis and Burgoyne had been over-reached by the despicable bush-fighters opposed to them. 1857 *MAYNE REID in Chamb. Jnl.* VII. 363 Not so much with the eye of a soldier, as with that of a hunter and bush-fighter.

Bush-fighting (buʃfai-tɪŋ), *vbl. sb.* Guerilla-warfare in the bush. Also *fig.*

1760 in *Wesley Jnl.* 22 Nov. (1827) III. 26 You may keep up . . . a little bush-fighting in controversy; you may skirmish awhile. 1795 *BURKE Regic. Peace* IV, Pray let us leave this bush-fighting. 1830 *FRASER'S Mag.* I. 189 Accustomed to bush-fighting in his own country. 1837 W. IRVING *Capt.*

Bonneville (1849) 76 The very Indian allies, though accustomed to bush-fighting, regarded it as... full of frightful danger.

Bush-hammer. *U. S.* [prob. ad. Ger. *bosshammer*, in same sense, f. *boszen* to beat.] A mason's large breaking hammer, often having square ends cut into pyramidal points; also a hammer for dressing millstones, usually having detachable steel-bits in the dressing face.

1883 *Harper's Mag.* Mar. 558/1 They took the bush-hammer out... that the ladies might see the varieties with five, six, eight, and ten edges, which gave the granite the slightly lined or ridged appearance.

Hence **Bush-hammer, v.** To strike or dress with the bush-hammer.

1884 *Knight Dict. Mech. Supp.* s.v., Rough-pointing, tooth-axing, bush-hammering. *Ibid.* Sandstone is seldom bush-hammered, as the stunning makes it scale.

Bush-harrow (bu'sh-*harrow*), *sb.* An agricultural implement for harrowing grass land or 'bushing in' seed, consisting of a heavy frame with bars in which bushes are interwoven underneath.

1770-4 A. HUNTER *Georgical Ess.* (1803) I. 372 We constantly employ a heavy bush-harrow to spread the dung. 1877 *Blackmore Eremita* I. ix. 101 As a bush-harrow jumps on the clods of the field.

Bush-harrow, v. [from prec.] *trans.* To use the bush-harrow upon (ground). Also *absol.* 1834 *Brit. Husb.* I. 486 After the cattle are removed, the land is bush-harrowed and rolled. 1839 *Ht. Martineau Deerbrook* II. xi. 211 A man beside his horse, bush-harrowing in a distant green field. 1862 *H. Kingsley Ravenshoe* xxiii. 188 The meadows were all bush-harrowed, rolled, and laid up for hay.

Hence **Bush-harrowing** *vbl. sb.*

1834 *Brit. Husb.* I. 481 The subsequent operation of cross bush-harrowing. 1866 *Rogers Agric. & Prices* I. xxi. 540 The ordinary means by which our forefathers covered their seed was by bush-harrowing.

Bushily (bu'sh-*ily*), *adv.* In a bushy manner.

1857 *G. Lawrence Guy Liv.* x. She wore her hair bushily on each side of her small face.

Bushiness (bu'sh-*iness*), *sb.* Bushy state or quality. 1730-6 in *Bailey*; hence in *Johnson*. 1790 *Bewick Hist. Quadrupeds* (1807) 277 The bushiness of its hair. 1851 *Clewy Handbk. Fl. Gard.* 210 Bushiness and compactness of growth. 1875 *Masson Wordsw. &c.* 175 The bushiness of his [Scott's] eyebrows.

Bushing (bu'sh-*ing*), *vbl. sb.* [f. *BUSH* v.1]

1. Training on bushes (*obs.*), setting with bushes. 1400 *Pallad. on Husb.* xi. 33 Trailying, repairying, bosshyng vyne clene. 1843 *Carlyle Past & Pr.* ii. iii. (1872) 46 We hear not... by what methods he preserved his game, whether by 'bushing' or how. 1875 *Stonehenge Brit. Sports* I. i. 1. § 5.7 Bushing the stubbles interferes with the drag-net.

2. Growing bushy; forming a bush.

1597 *Gerard Herbal* 230 The goodly shadowe which they make with their thicke bushing and clyming. 1610 *Folkington Art of Survey* I. iii. 6 The branching and bearing of Plants, Bushing of Shrubs.

Bushing (bu'sh-*ing*), *vbl. sb.* [f. *BUSH* v.2 and v.3 + -ING¹]

1. The operation of fitting a hole with a bush. Also *concr.* = *BUSH* v.2 I.

1794 *Rigging & Seamanship* I. 154 Bushing is letting through the middle of a sheave a cylindrical piece of metal, with a hole through its centre, to admit the pin... on which the sheave turns. 1839 *R. S. Robinson Naut. Steam Eng.* 81 The brass bushing of the strap. 1864 *Webster, Bushing*, a thimble; sometimes called a bush.

2. Watchmaking. See *BOUCHON*.

Bushing (bu'sh-*ing*), *ppl. a.* [f. *BUSH* v.1 + -ING²] Growing or spreading like a bush.

1608 *Tourneur Rev. Traj.* v. iii. That bushing-staring star. 1688 *R. Holme Armoury* II. 89/2 Fine leaves, bushing and spreading over the ground. 1725 *Pope Odyss.* ix. 164 The bushing alders form'd a shady scene.

Bushless (bu'sh-*less*), *a.* Devoid of bushes.

1830 *Tennyson Ode to Mem.* 96 The high field on the bushless Pike. 1872 *W. F. Butler Gl. Lone Land* xvi. (1875) 247 A rough and bushless plateau.

Bushlet (bu'sh-*let*), *rare.* [f. *BUSH* v.1 + -LET.] A diminutive or tiny bush.

1822 *New Monthly Mag.* V. 4 Birds as they flutter from bushlet to tree.

Bushling, *rare.* [see -LING.] A little bush. 1562 *Turner Herbal* II. 64 a, *Nardus celtica*... is a little bushling. *Ibid.* 96 a, A bushling, a spanne long.

Bushman (bu'sh-*man*), [f. *BUSH* v.1 9 + MAN, app. orig. after Du. *boschjesman* applied by the Dutch colonists in S. Africa to the natives living in the 'bush'; and since extended in application.]

1. A tribe of aborigines near the Cape of Good Hope. The Du. forms *Bosjesman*, *Boschjesman*, also occur as ethnic names.

1795 *Sparrman Voy. Cape G. Hope* I. v. 197 There is another species of Hottentots, who have got the name of Bosches-men, from dwelling in woody or mountainous places. 1824 *Burchell Trav.* I. 64 For our mutual safety and defence... against the Bushmen. 1842 *Prichard Nat. Hist. Man* 513 Considering the Bushmen, or Bosjesmen, of South Africa as the most degraded and miserable of all nations. 1845 *Foreign Quart. Rev.* XXXIV. 421 Stunted representatives of humanity... under the name of Bushmen.

2. A dweller or traveller in the Australian 'bush'; a bush-farmer; a station-hand; a teamster who carries stores to the stations.

1830 *Blackw. Mag.* LXXII. 522 Where the wild bushman

eats his loathly fare. 1836 *Tail's Mag.* XXIII. 742 An experienced bushman and well mounted. 1880 *Chamb. Jnl.* 4 Dec. 774 Crowds of Bushmen, as those who live in the interior are called by their brethren of the coast.

Bushmanship, [f. prec., sense 2.] The practice of working, etc., in the bush; bush-farming. 1880 *Blackw. Mag.* Feb. 169 *Bush-Life. Queensl.* His intimate knowledge of bushmanship.

Bushment (bu'sh-*ment*), *Forms:* 4 *bussche*, *busse*, *buysche*, *buchoe*, *buchy*, 4-6 *busch(e)*, *busshe*, (5 *bussch*), 5-6 *bushe*, 6 *bus*, 5-*bushment*. [In senses 1-3, an aphetic form of *ABUSHMENT*, *AMBUSHMENT*, q. v. In some early quotations it is difficult to know whether *abushment* or a *bushment* was intended. In sense 4, cf. *BUSH* v.1 + -MENT.]

1. = *AMBUSHMENT* I. *arch.*

1375 *Barbour Bruce* viii. 442 A buschment slely maid he thair. 1393 *Gower Conf.* I. 349 And of his men a great partie He made in buschment abide. 1440 *Generydes* ii. 5977 In a buschment he layde his men eche on. 1485 *Caxton Chas. Gt.* 133 Your peple that shal be hydde in the buschment. 1553 *Brende Q. Curtius* iii. Dii, For feare the enemies should lye there in buschment. 1592 *Wyrley Armorie* 86 Two Gascoine Lords warie buschment make. 1870 *Morris Earthly Par.* I. i. 54 The barbarous folk Once and again from buschments on us broke.

2. = *AMBUSHMENT* 2. *Obs.*

1400 *Destr. Troy* 13014 A buschment of bold men breke hym vpon. 1465 *Eng. Chron.* (1856) 48 In the way as he sholde go, lay a greet buschment of Frenschmenne to take him. 1550 *Christie Kirke* Gr. xix, The buschment haill about him brak, An bickert him with bows.

3. A surprise party; = *AMBUSHMENT* 3. *Obs.*

1513 *More Rich. III.* (1557) 64/2 A buschment of the dukes seruantes... began sodainly at mannes backes to crye owte as lowde as their throtes would gyve: King Rycharde. 1536 *Bellenden Cron. Scot.* I. 144 Galdus assemblit ane army... and dividit the same in diuers buschmentis. 1549 *Latimer Serm. bef. Edu. VI.* (Arb.) 187 ludas also when he came with buschmentes to take his maister Christie.

4. 'A thicket, a cluster of bushes' (J.); a mass of bushes. ? *Obs.*

1586 *J. Hooker Girald. Irel.* II. 169/2 The sides are full of great and mightie trees vpon the sides of the hills, and full of bushments and vnderwoods. 1614 *Raleigh Hist. World* i. viii. § 2. 111 These our grounds would... be covered, either with Woods, or with other offensive Thickets and Bushments. 1619 *W. Sclater Expos.* i. *Thess.* (1630) 62 These thickets of bushment. 1762 *Dunn in Phil. Trans.* LII. 466 The most distant trees and bushments.

5. A bushy formation (of plumage). *Obs.*

1555 *Eden Decades W. Ind.* (Arb.) 224 These byrdes... haue a much greater bushment of feathers.

Bushop, *e.* -hopp(e), *obs.* f. *BISHOP*.

Bush-ranger (bu'sh-*ranger*), [f. *BUSH* v.1 9 + RANGER.] An escaped convict who took refuge in the Australian 'bush'; a criminal living in the bush, and subsisting by robbery with violence.

1817 *Sydney Gazette* 25 Jan., Robberies by the banditti of bush-rangers on Van Diemen's Land. 1826 *Gentl. Mag.* July XCVI. ii. 69/2 Van Diemen's Land papers and private letters are full of details of atrocities by the bush-rangers (escaped convicts). 1852 *West Tasmania* II. 130 The bushrangers at first were absentees [convicts] who were soon allured or driven to theft and violence; so early as 1808 by systematic robbery they had excited feelings of alarm. 1869 *Parkman Discov. Gt. West* xviii. (1875) 389 His little garrison of bush-rangers greeted them with a salute of musketry.

Bush-ranging (bu'sh-*ranging*), *vbl. sb.* Also -*rangering*. [see prec.] The practice of the bush-ranger; the attacking and robbing of travellers or settlers in the bush. Also *attrib.*

1832 *Ht. Martineau Homes Abr.* v. 72 As long as any convicts were disposed to bush-ranging... he could not for his part feel very secure. 1863 *Guardian* 23 Dec., Bush-ranging has obtained such a head in New South Wales, that the Government have offered a reward of £2500 for the capture of a gang of five. 1864 *Sala in Daily Tel.* 9 Aug., Bush-ranging broils between Federal dragoons and half-naked guerillas. 1853 *Fraser's Mag.* XLVIII. 662 What has bush-ranging and the police come to?

Bush-rope (bu'sh-*rope*), [f. *BUSH* v.1 9.] A name given to certain climbing shrubs in tropical forests, esp. to species of *Cissus* or Wild Vine.

1824 *Q. Rev.* XI. 70 They are in many places so closely interwoven with rattan and bush-rope that they seem to be spun together. 1825 *Waterton Wand. S. Amer.* i. l. 91 A vine called the Bush-rope by the wood cutters, on account of its use in hauling out the heaviest timber. 1826 *Syd. Smith Wks.* (1859) II. 74 The bush-rope joins tree and tree, so as to render the forest impervious.

Bushwhack, *v. U. S.* [f. *BUSH* + WHACK v. to beat; prob. after *BUSHWHACKER*.] To act as a bushwhacker; to beat the bush; to attack or kill in the manner of a bushwhacker (sense 2).

1837 *Fraser's Mag.* XVI. 613 The Colonel had begun to make a speech, or, as he phrases it, 'to bushwhack in the most approved style'. 1866 *J. E. Skinner After Storm* I. 234 While peaceable citizens were robbed with impunity and government officers were bushwhacked. 1877 *G. FLEMING Mirage* III. viii. 212 A good many men were missing, shot or bushwhacked, we did not know which.

Bushwhacker (bu'sh-*whacker*), *U. S.* [f. *BUSH* v.1 + WHACKER, one who 'whacks' or beats. (Cf. also Du. *bosch-wachter*, forest-keeper.)

lit. One who whacks or beats bushes; hence, 1. One accustomed to beat about or make his way

through bushes; a backwoodsman, a bush-ranger.

1809 *W. Irving Knickerb.* vi. v. (1849) 342 They were gallant bush-whackers and hunters of racoons by moon-light.

2. Applied in the American Civil War to irregular combatants who took to the woods, and were variously regarded as patriot guerillas, or as bush-rangers and banditti; a bush-fighter.

1862 *Macm. Mag.* June 141 Of banditti, or bush-whackers... we say nothing. 1866 *J. E. Skinner After Storm* I. 240 Neither bushwhackers or slaves were seen in the streets.

3. A scythe or other implement used to cut away brushwood.

1828 *J. Dow Serm.* I. (Bartlett) The victim soon destined to fall before the keen-edged bush-whacker of Time. 1870 *Emerson Soc. & Solit.* iv. 81 He is a graduate of the plough, and the stub-hoe, and the bushwhacker.

Hence **Bushwhackerism**.

1883 *American VI.* 356 The 'border ruffianism' and the 'bushwhackerism' which disgraced Missouri.

Bushwhacking (bu'sh-*whacking*), *vbl. sb. U. S.*

1. Making one's way through bushes; esp. the pulling of a boat by means of the bushes along the margin of a stream.

1826 *T. Flint Recoll. Miss. Valley* 86 A process, which, in the technics of the boatmen [of the Mississippi] is called bush-whacking. 1828 - *Hist. & Geog. Miss. Valley* (Bartlett) The propelling power of the keel-boat is by oars, sails, setting-poles, the cordelle, and... bush-whacking, or pulling up by the bushes.

2. The making of the woods a basis of operations for fighting or deeds of violence; bush-fighting.

1864 *Daily Tel.* 23 Aug. An unimportant bushwhacking foray. 1880 *Scribner's Monthly* XXI. Dec. 301 Forbes underwent four months of bushwhacking with the Carlists.

Bushwhacking, ppl. a. That bushwhacks. 1883 *American VI.* 92 The scouting, bushwhacking Unionist, Fortner.

Bushy (bu'sh-*y*), *a.* [f. *BUSH* v.1 + -Y.]

1. Abounding in bushes; overgrown with shrubs or underwood.

1382 *Wyclif Isa.* vii. 19 In alle busshy places. 1552 *Huloet*, Bushy places, *Vespices*. 1575 *Spenser Sheph. Cal.* Dec. 2 All in the shadowe of a bushy breere. 1667 *Milton P. L.* iv. 606 Each odoriferous bushie shrub. 1719 *De For Crusoe* (1840) I. iii. 54 A thick bushy tree like a fir. 1814 *Wordsw. White Doe of Ryl.* 96 The spread of the elder's bushy head. 1861 *Pratt Flower. Pl.* IV. 111.

2. Growing like a bush; shrub-like.

1569 *Maplet Gr. Forest* 44 Fumitorie... is a bushie or shrublike Herbe, like to Coreander. 1579 *Spenser Sheph. Cal.* Dec. 2 All in the shadowe of a bushy breere. 1667 *Milton P. L.* iv. 606 Each odoriferous bushie shrub. 1719 *De For Crusoe* (1840) I. iii. 54 A thick bushy tree like a fir. 1814 *Wordsw. White Doe of Ryl.* 96 The spread of the elder's bushy head. 1861 *Pratt Flower. Pl.* IV. 111.

3. Of hair: Growing thick like a bush.

1611 *Bible Song of Sol.* v. 11 His locks are bushy. a 1613 *J. Denys in Arb. Garner* I. 150 Some lusty horse... Whose bushy tail upon the ground doth track. 1652 *Gaule Magastrom*. 305 A bushy head of haire. 1843 *Carlyle Past & Pr.* ii. x. (1872) 78 A man with eminent nose, bushy brows and clear-flashing eyes. 1873 *Black Pr. Thule* I. 1 The gusts of wind that blew about his bushy grey beard.

4. Of persons: With long thick hair; also quasi-*sb.* *Obs.*

1615 *P. Small Man's May* in *Farr's S. P.* (1848) 321 Time still describ'd in poets thus we finde, Bushy before, but very bald behind. 1650 *Bulwer Anthropol.* ii. 56 He does that which is ridiculous... who is... a Bushie among those who are Poled.

5. Puffed out like a bush.

1756 *Nugent Gr. Tour, Germany* II. 298 They wear pointed hats, and monstrous bushy ruffs. 1832 *Fraser's Mag.* VI. 386 All... had taken more stuff than necessary for their clothes... It is as if the women could not be bushy enough, the men not puffy enough, to please themselves.

6. Dwelling among the bushes. *rare.*

1563 *T. Howell Arb. Amittie* (1879) 83 The Nightingale... gettes the peerlesse prayse, The bushie birds among.

7. Comb., as *bushy-whiskered*, -*wigged*, *adjs.*

1832 *Carlyle in Fraser's Mag.* V. 402 Old sedentary bushy-wigged Cave. 1837 - *Fr. Rev.* (1871) II. l. ix. 40 Impassioned bushy-whiskered youth threatening suicide. 1812 *J. H. Vaux Flash Dict.*, A man who is poor is said to be 'at Bushy park', or 'in the park'. [Cf. *BUSHED*.]

Bushyly, *obs.* form of *BUSHEL*.

Busied (bi'zid), *ppl. a.* For forms see *BUSY* v. [f. *BUSY* v. + -ED.] Attentively occupied, engaged, actively employed. (The attrib. use is rare; for the use as predicate see *BUSY* v. 1 c.)

1611 *Florio, Affacendato*, busied, full of affaires. 1639 *Land-Mark betwixt Prince & People* 2 Our... too much busied forefathers. 1669 *Woodhead St. Terra* II. vii. 55 That the busied Monk was tempted but with one Devil.

Busily (bi'zili), *adv.* *Forms:* 3 *busilioche*, (*sup. bisilukest*), 3-5 *bisiliche*, 4 *byssely*, *byssily*, *bisilli*, *bisily*, *besaly*, *besiliche*, (*comp. bisiloker*), 4-5 *byssily*, *bisally*, *besily*, 4-6 *besily*, 4-7 *besely*, 5 *besele*, *besselyche*, *bysiliche*, *bysilyche*, (*comp. besiller*), 6 *bisilye*, *bisilyly* (e), *busely* (e), *busilie*, 4, 6- *busily*, [f. *BUSY* a. + -LY²]

1. With fixed attention; carefully, heedfully; attentively, intently; with attention to details; particularly, minutely, 'curiously'. *Obs.*

c1205 LAY. 4473 His cnihtes . . laien bi þan brimme and bisilichen [*c1275* busiliche] hit wisten. *1a* *1300* Cato Major iv. 35 Let not o Bok bisiliche Beo lernynge euer more. *c1325* E. E. Allit. P. B. 1446 Wyth besten blod busily anyoynted. *1328a* Wyclif Matt. ii. 7, 8 Than Herode, bisily lernye of hem the tyme of the sterre. And he . . saide, Go 3ee, and axe 3ee bisily of the chyld. *c1386* CHAUCER *Man of Lawes* T. 997 He loked besily Upon the child. *1483* CAXTON *Gold. Leg.* Cij. 1/2 He demanded more besilier after hym. *a* *1500* Myrr. *Our Ladye* 225 How besily she was to kepe her tongue. *1577* tr. *Bullinger's Decades* (1594) 344 It is in the 3. of Kings, very busily set downe.

† b. Anxiously, solicitously. *Obs.*

c *1400* in *Pol. Rel. & L. Poems* (1866) 234 Here we liue bisiliche wit strong sorwe & care.

† 2. Earnestly, fervently, eagerly, importunately.

c1340 Cursor M. 17710 (Trin.) Bisili to god preyonde.

c1375 Lay-Folks Mass-Bk. B. 14 We besle be bisily.

c1460 Touneley Myst. 26 Pray for me besile. *1534* L.D. BERNERS *Gold. Bk. M. Aurel.* (1546) Bbij, My wife . . busily praised me to kepe it. *1621* BOLTON *Stat. Irel.* (11 Eliz.)

316 Dermot Mac Morche . . went . . to the said king Henry, and him besily besought of succour.

3. So as to be fully occupied; diligently, industriously, assiduously, energetically.

1340 HAMPOLE *Pr. Cons.* 1067 About worldishe thynges þat here trauaile Ful bisily.

1447-8 J. SHILLINGFORD *Lett.* (1871) 3 Have full bisily labored to make an answer to the articulus.

1508 FISHER *Wks.* I (E. E. T.) 58 He shoulde haue reysted . . more besily.

1596 SHAKS. *1 Hen. IV.* v. 38 Northumberland, and the Prelate Scroope . . are busily in Armes.

1736 BUTLER *Anal.* vii. 142 This little scene of human life, in which we are so busily engaged.

1798 SOUTHEY *To Spider*, Busily our needful food to win, We work. *1866* KINGSLEY *Herew.* x, The old Lapp nurse sat . . sewing busily.

b. Actively, briskly.

1513 BRADSHAW *St. Werburgh* (1848) i Byrdes besily syngynge. *1843* CARLYLE *Past & Pr.* ii. vii. (1872) 65 St. Edmundsbury . . is a busily fermenting place. *1866* TYNDALL *Glac.* i. § 11. 72 The stars . . twinkled busily.

Business (biz'nes). Forms: 1 *North. bisiz-*

nia, 3 *bisenes*, 3-4 *bisines*, 4 *bisy-*, *byai-*, *bis-*

synes, *bisynesse*, 4-5 *bisines*(se), *besenes*, *bis-*

byr, *bysynesse*, 4-6 *bisynes*(se), *bysy-*, *bysyn-*

nes, 4-7 *busynesse*, 5 *business*, *bessynnes*, *byse-*

business, 6 *bessynne*, *busenes*(s), *busyn-*

nes, 6-7 *busines*, *nesses*, (7 *buis'ness*, *busy-*

nesses), 7- *business*. [OE. (North.) *bisignis*, f.

BUSY a., or stem of *BUSY* v.; see -NESS. Shortened

to a dissyllable, since it ceased to be a noun of

state. The plural *businesses* (formerly also *busi-*

nesses) is used only in a few senses, chiefly 14, 15.]

I. State or quality of being busy. (Cf. the adj.)

(These senses are all obs., but some of them occur as

nonce-words with special spelling BUSINESS, and trisyllabic

pronunciation.)

† 1. a. The state of being busily engaged in any-

thing. b. Industry, diligence. *Obs.*

c1350 Cursor M. 28748 (Cott. Galba MS.) Fasting and

gude bisines Gers a man fle lustes of fless. *c1380* Wyclif

Wks. (1880) 60 Cristis bysynesse in prechyng. *c1440*

Promp. Parv. 37 Bysynesse, assiduitas, diligencia. *1549*

Compl. Scot. 2 Disitute of . . al vertues bysynes of body

ande saul. *1611* BIBLE *Rom.* xii. 11 Not slothfull in busi-

ness. *1881* Rev. Vers. in diligence not slothful. *1696* STIL-

LINGFL. 12 *Serm.* viii. 349 Apprehensive . . not so much from

the business of our enemies. *a* *1713* in *Guardian* No. 35

§ 12 Behold the raptures which a writer knows. Behold his

business while he works the mine.

† 2. Activity, briskness. *Obs.*

1423 Jas. I. *King's O. clv.* The lyttill squerell, full of bysne-

ness. *1616* SURFL. & MARKH. *Countr. Farm* 681 The

business of his [a dog's] taile. *1674* N. FAIRFAX *Bulk &*

Selv. 11 The bulkiness of the world, the business of motion.

† 3. Mischievous or impertinent activity, officious-

ness. *Obs.*

1466 Paston *Lett.* No. 543 II. 263 Al by her awne bessynes

of her tunge. *1528* MORE *Dial. Heresies* iii. Wks. 212/1

Faccious wayes full of bysynes. *1580* SIDNEY *Arcadia* 315

O noble sisters . . now you be gone what is left in that sex,

but babling and business?

† 4. Eagerness, earnestness, importunity. *Obs.*

1a *1300* Cato Major ii. xvii. Envy wip gret business Beo-

penk þe forte fleo. *1398* TREVISA *Barth. De P. R.* xii.

Introd., Males secheþ females with business. *c* *1400* Lay-

Folks Mass-Bk. App. iii. 122 Porou3 bysynesse of preyers.

1543 Prymer *ibid.* 86 Make me accordyng to my busynes

Partaker of thy . . glory endles.

† 5. Anxiety, solicitude, care; distress, uneasi-

ness. (The earliest cited sense.) *Obs.*

c *990* Lindisf. *Gosp. Matt.*, Table Contents xx, Ne bisiz-

nisse mettes & woedes hæbende [Lat. *nec sollicitudinem*

esse et vestis habendum]. *a* *1300* Cursor M. 14105 'Martha,

Martha' . . In mikel bisenes ert pou'. *1382a* Wyclif *Ezek.*

xii. 19 Thei shulen eete her breed in bisynes [solicitudine].

1475 Bk. *Noblesse* 3 Put away thoughte and gret pensifnes

. . and business. *1526* TINDALE *Gal. v.* 17 From hence

forth, let no man put me to busynes [so in COVERDALE,

c1374 CHAUCER *Auel. & Arc.* 102 Ful mychell besynesse

had he or þat he myght his lady wyne. *1387* TREVISA

Higden Rolls Ser. III. 449 [He] aleyde þis sorwe unneþe

wip grette besynesse. *1528* TINDALE *Obedience Chr. Man*

Wks. I. 310 What business had he to pacify his children.

a *1599* R. BODENHAM in Arb. Garner I. 34, I had no

small business to cause my mariners to venture. *1693* LOCKE

Educ. § 157 His learning to read should be made as little

Trouble or Business to him as might be.

† b. Ado, disturbance, commotion. *Obs.*

1494 FARYAN VII. 684 For whose goodnes was besynesse by-

tween the Kynges amner and the sheryffe. *1514* L.D. MOUNT-

joy in *Strype Eccl. Mem.* I. i. 9 He feared that if they had

not their pardons in likewise, they would either make busi-

ness or they would avoid. *1526* TINDALE *Matt.* xxvii. 24

When Pilate sawe . . that moare busenes [1612 a tumult]

was made. *1560* DAUS *Steidane's Comm.* 343 a, One of the

Sergeants . . made a business with him as though he would

haue caried him to prysoun. *1570-87* HOLINSHED *Sc. Chron.*

(1806) 110 Argadus sent forth . . with a power to appease

that business.

† 8. Diligent labour, exertion, pains. Phrases.

To do (one's) business, give business: to take pains,

do one's endeavour (L. *dare operam*).

1340 HAMPOLE *Pr. Cons.* 1068 Wald þai do half swilk

bysines About goddes of heven. *c* *1380* Wyclif *Wks.* (1880)

373 He wol þat þai 3eue bissyntes to be londe. *c* *1400*

MAUNDEV. xxiii. 251 Thei . . alle weys don here besynes,

to destroyen hire enemyes. *1422* E. E. *Wills* (1882) 51 They

will do her besynesse to fulfill goddes will. *1509* HAWES

Past. Pleas. xiv. xiv, In wayne they spende their besynes.

† II. 9. A company of flies, also of ferrets. *Obs.*

c *1470* Horn, *Shepe, & G.* (1822) 31 A besynes of flies. *1486*

Bk. St. Albans fvi a, A Besynes of ferretis.

III. That about which one is busy.

† 10. The object of anxiety or serious effort; a

serious purpose or aim. *Obs.*

c *1392* CHAUCER *Compl. Venus* 20 Me to serue is al his

besynesse. *1413* LYDC. *Pylgr. Soule* iii. iii. (1483) 51 Alle

youe study and besynesse hath ben to defame that were

better than ye. *1c* *1530* Prov. *Housholde-kepyng* in *Pol. Rel.*

& *L. Poems* (1866) 29 Peyse wisely the besynes & the pur-

pose of them wich amynyster thy goodes.

11. A task appointed or undertaken; a person's

official duty, part or province; function, occupation.

c *1385* CHAUCER *L. G. W.* 1719 Bad hire seruautis don

hire besynesse. *a* *1533* L.D. BERNERS *Huon* lviii. 199 It be-

houeth vs shortly to determyne oure besynes. I shall shew

you what is best for vs ii to do. *1611* BIBLE *Gen.* xxxix. 11

Joseph went in to the house, to doe his business. *1642*

FULLER *Holy & Prof. St.* i. x. 25 Though going abroad

sometimes about her business, She never makes it her

business to go abroad. *a* *1680* BUTLER *Rem.* (1759) I. 95

Love's Business is to love, and to enjoy. *1709* STEELE

Tatler No. 18 p. 1 Because a Thing is every Body's Business,

it is no Body's Business. *1802* MAR. EDGEWORTH *Mor. T.*

(1816) I. xvii. 141 It is our business to keep the room aired

and swept. *1876* HUXLEY *Physiogr.* 183 The great business

of the sea is . . eating away the margin of the coast.

b. That on which one is engaged, or with which

one is concerned, at the time; often *spec.* the

errand on which one comes.

1596 SHAKS. *Tam. Shr.* iii. ii. 193 If you knew my

business, you would intreat me rather go then stay. *1684*

BUNYAN *Pilgr.* ii. 72 What is your business here so late to

Night? *1697* DRYDEN *Virg. Georg.* iv. 644 What Business

brought thee to my dark abode? *1740* J. CLARKE *Educ.*

Youth (ed. 3) 15 His Business will have no Difficulty in it.

Mod. I asked him his business. What business brings you

here?

12. A person's official or professional duties as a

whole; stated occupation, profession, or trade.

1477 EARL RIVERS *Dietes* (Caxton) 106 He that wele &

dilygently vnderstondith to his bysynesse. *1549* LATIMER

Serm. on the Ploughers (Arb.) 29 Lette euerie man do his

owne business, and follow his calling. *1604* R. L'ESTRANGE

Fables cccxlv. (ed. 6) 385 They make Fooling their Business

matters to be attended to in his service or on his behalf. To do (a person's) business: to 'do for', ruin, or kill him.

1535 COVERDALE 2 *Macc.* xv. 5 To perfourme the kynges busynesse. *1611* BIBLE *Luke* ii. 49 Wist ye not that I must be about my Father's business? *1667* PEPYS *Diary* 16 Nov., Lord Vaughan, that is so great against the Chancellor . . was heard to swear he would do my Lord Clarendon's business. *1694* LUTTRELL *Brief Rel.* (1857) III. 349 They would now doe the queens busynesse, if she were not immortal.

14. (With plural.) A pursuit or occupation demanding time and attention; a serious employment as distinguished from a pastime.

c *1400* Apol. *Loll.* 77 Now al most is no worldly bysines

þat ministres of þe auter are not implied in. *1458* MS. of

Christ's Hosp. Abingdon in Dom. Archit. III. 41 Another

blissed besines is brigges to make. *1535* COVERDALE 2 *Tim.*

ii. 4 No man that warreth tangleth him selfe with worldly

bysynesses. *1707* DE FOE *Eng. Tradesm.* v. (1847) I. 33

Trade ought to be followed as one of the great businesses

of life. *1853* A. J. MORRIS *Relig. & Business*, Title-page,

Wherever religion is a business, there will business be a

religion. *1848* MACAULAY *Hist. Eng.* II. 54.

b. *spec.* A particular occupation; a trade or

profession.

1807 CARLYLE *Transl.* (1874) 217, I wished to be a fisher-

man, and tried that business for a time. *1852* McCULLOCH

Taxation I. ii. (ed. 2) 74 Taxes on the profits of particular

businesses. *1856* FROUDE *Hist. Eng.* (1858) I. i. 51 Not al-

lowing any man to work at a business for which he was unfit.

1876 JEVONS *Primer Pol. Econ.* 58 A good butcher makes

high wages, because his business is a greasy one, besides

being thought to be cruel. *Mod.* Which of these businesses

is to be preferred?

15. A particular matter demanding attention;

a piece of work, a job. (The plur. is now unusual.)

1557 NORTH *Gueuara's Diall Pr.* (1582) 424 b, The con-

tinuall bysynes they haue do vex them. *1590* SHAKS. *Mids.*

N. iii. i. 305 We may effect this business, yet ere day. *1595*

— *John* iv. iii. 158 A thousand businesses are briefe in

hand. *1611* BIBLE *Prov.* 11 In a business of moment a

man feareth not the blame of conuenient slacknesse. *1647*

W. BROWNE *Poet.* i. 66 During all these great businesses.

1718 POPE *Iliad* xix. 152 What I act, survey, And learn

the Epistle and Gospel treat about the same business, the birth of Christ. 1640-4 in Rushw. Hist. Coll. III. (1692) I. 42 When a Business was begun and in debate. 1652 Proc. Parliament No. 133. 2073 Resolved... That... the House doe only take into consideration publique businesses, and no private businesses. 1660 STANLEY Hist. Philos. (1701) 379/1 The Pythagoreans... were studiously addicted to the business of Numbers. 1699 BENTLEY Phil. 480 The very Matter and Business of the Letters sufficiently discovers them to be an Imposture.

18. *vaguely*, An affair, concern, matter. (Now usually indicating some degree of contempt or impatience, esp. when preceded by a sb. in attrib. relation.) Frequent in colloquial phrases like 'a bad business', 'a queer business'.

1605 SHAKS. Macb. II. i. 24 We would spend [an hour] in some words upon that Business. 1668-9 KNIGHTLEY in Burton Diary (1828) IV. 75 Their officer expostulated the business with me. 1675 TRAHERNE Chr. Ethics xxvii. 433 It is a poor business for a man to be secure that has nothing to lose. 1726 Lond. Gas. No. 4012/1 A Business has lately happened which may... engage us in new Disputes. 1805 Med. Trns. XIV. 354 The vaccinator should... see his patient at least four times during the progress of the business. 1813 SOUTHEY Nelson II. 177 This boat business... might be part of a great plan of invasion. 1863 GEO. ELIOT Romola I. iii. (1880) I. 40. 1868 H. KINGSLEY Silcock of S. III. v. 73. I am getting so sick of the whole business.

† b. Affectively used for an 'affair of honour', a duel. Obs.

1637 B. JONSON Masque of Merc. Wks. V. 431 (N.) For that's the word of tincture, the business. Let me alone with the business. I will carry the business. I do understand the business. I do find an affront in the business.

c. *colloq.* Used with intentional indefiniteness of material objects. (Cf. *affair*, *concern*.)

1654 EVELYN Diary (Chandos) 228 Sir Thos. Fowler's aviarie... is a poor business. 1697 tr. Cress D'Annoy's Trav. (1706) 231 Some Pastry business, which burns the Mouth, it is so excessively peppered. 1847 L. HUNT Men, Wom. & Bks. I. 1. 20 A business of screws and iron wheels.

19. Dealings, intercourse (*with*). *arch.*

1611 BIBLE Judges xviii. 7 They... had no business with any man. 1843 CARLYLE Past & Pr. IV. vi. (1872) 245 What a shallow delusion is this... That any man... can keep himself apart from men, have 'no business' with them, except a cash-account 'business'.

† b. Euphemism for 'sexual intercourse'. Obs. 1630 TAYLOR (N.) Lais of Corinth, ask'd Demosthenes One hundred crowns for one nights business. 1654 Wits Recreations (N.) He does no business of thy wives, not he, He does thy business (Coracine) for thee.

20. *Theat.* Action as distinguished from dialogue. (Formerly used more widely.)

1671 VILLIERS (Dk. Buckhm.) Rehearsal III. ii. (Arb.) 83, 'I see here is a great deal of Plot, Mr. Bayes.' Bayes. 'Yes, now it begins to break; but we shall have a world of more business anon.' 1779 SHERIDAN Critic II. ii. The carpenters say, that unless there is some business put in here... they shan't have time to clear away the fort. 1833 LAMB Elia (1860) 264 He carried the same rigid exclusiveness of attention to the stage business. 1860 CORNH. Mag. II. 749 They give the literary composition the almost contemptuous title of 'words', while they dignify the movements of the actors with the name of 'business'.

21. *spec.* (from 13 and 19): Trade, commercial transactions or engagements.

1727 DE FOE Eng. Tradesm. IV. (1841) I. 30 The merchants' exchange, where they manage, negotiate, and frequently indeed beget business with one another. *Ibid.* If they do not get money, they gain knowledge in business. 1843 LAMB Elia (1860) 3 To open a book of business, or bill of lading. 1862 BURTON Bk-hunter I. 84 [People] who wanted to do a stroke of business with some old volume. 1884 Times (weekly ed.) 12 Sept. 7/3 They are evidently doing a very brisk business.

† fig. 1847 DE QUINCEY Secret Soc. Wks. VI. 256 It has done business as a swindle through thirty generations. *Ibid.* 258 The goddess and her establishment of hoaxers at Eleusis did a vast 'stroke of business' for more than six centuries.

b. *Place of business*: usually in *spec.* sense, a shop, office, warehouse, commercial establishment; so also *House of business*. b. *Hours of business*, *business hours*: the hours in the day during which commercial or other business is transacted.

22. *Man of business*. † a. One engaged in public affairs (*obs.*). b. One engaged in mercantile transactions. c. A man of business-like habits, one skilled in business. d. The professional agent who transacts a person's legal business, an attorney.

1670 BURNET Let. to Brisbane, I am... resolved never to have anything to do more with men of business, particularly with any in opposition to the Court. 1712 STEEL Spect. No. 466, p. 3. I am a Man of Business, and obliged to be much abroad. 1727 DE FOE Eng. Tradesm. IV. (1841) I. 30 Men of business are companions for men of business. 1752 HUMPH. Ess. & Treat. (1777) I. 113 note, Pericles, a man of business, & a man of sense. 1787 GAMBADO (H. Bunbury) Acad. Horsem. (1809) 30 By a man of business is not meant a Lord of the Treasury, or a Commissioner of Accounts, but what is called on the road, a rider, a bag-man, or bagster. 1857 BUCKLE Civiliz. I. xi. 620 If we were all men of business our mental pleasures would be abridged. 1861 RAMSAY Remin. VI. (ed. 18) 232 In Scotland it is usual to term the law-agent or man of business of any party his 'doer'.

23. A commercial enterprise regarded as a 'going concern'; a commercial establishment with all its 'trade', liabilities, etc.

Mod. (Heading of Advt. column) Businesses, etc., to be disposed of.

24. *attrib.* and in *Comb.*, as *business habits*, *hours*, *house*, *letter*, *life*, *transaction*, etc.; also, *business-card*, a card of a tradesman, manufacturer, commercial traveller, etc., with his address and various particulars as to the nature of his business, used for advertising purposes; *business end* (used humorously, see *quot.*); *business-looking* a., having an appearance suggestive of business; *business man* = *man of business*; see 22 b, c.

1865 DICKENS Mt. Fr. I. 317 (Hoppe) Bland strangers with 'business-cards' meeting the servants in the streets. 1878 HOLBROOK Hyg. Brain 56 The 'business end' of a carpet-tack. 1881 Daily Tel. 31 Jan. What are they to do after 'business hours'? 1899 DICKENS Nich. Nick II. A business-looking table, and several 'business-looking' people. 1898 N. Amer. Rev. CXXVII. 100 The mass of 'business men'. 1840 CARLYLE Heroes I. 36 Snorro... almost in a brief 'business style', writes down, etc. 1871 MARKBY Elem. Law (1874) § 472 Nearly all 'business transactions' have reference... to the ownership of property. 1866 BURTON Bk-hunter I. 38 Persons who might take a purely 'business view' of such transactions. 1850 CLOUGH Dipsychus II. I. 49 Men's 'business-wits' the only sane things.

Businessless, a. *nonce-wd.* Without business.

1881 Argosy XXXI. 375 His 'Hegira' from the businessless chambers to which he objected.

Business-like, a. Of persons and things: Suitable for business, befitting business; apt for business, practical, methodical, systematic. Hence

Businesslike-ness.

1791 BURKE Corr. (1844) III. 349 They are steady, sensible, and have business-like heads. 1804 G. ROSE Diaries (1860) II. 157 His Lordship... had hardly ever anything businesslike to say. 1875 STUBBS Const. Hist. I. ii. 18 In-veterate and business-like gamblers. 1886 Pall Mall Budget 8 July 28/2 The essence of businesslikeness.

Busk (bɒsk), sb.¹ Also 6-7 *buske*. [a. F. *busc*, of uncertain origin. Scheler regards it as a doublet of F. *bois* wood:—late L. *boscum* (see BUSH sb.¹); cf. the related F. *blache*, OF. *busche* fem., splinter of wood. In Fr. as in Eng. the word was formerly sometimes used for the whole corset, and Littré considers it cognate with It. *busto* (see BUST); but this is unsatisfactory with regard to both sense and form.]

A strip of wood, whalebone, steel, or other rigid material passed down the front of a corset, and used to stiffen and support it. Formerly and still *dial.* applied also to the whole corset.

1590 WARNER Alb. Eng. VII. xxxv. 177 Her face was Maskt... her bodie pent with buske. 1612 Cotgr., *Busc*, a buske, plated bodie, or other quilted thing, worn to make, or keepe, the bodie straight. 1688 R. HOLME Armerie III. 94/2 A Busk... is a strong peece of Wood, or Whalebone thrust down the middle of the Stomacher. 1755 Mrs. C. CLARKE Autobiog. (1827) 64 The want of which latter instrument of death [a dagger] I once saw supplied with a lady's busk; who had just presence of mind sufficient to draw it from her stays. 1786 Misc. Ess. in Ann. Reg. 125/2 Whale bone and busks, which martyr European girls, they know not. 1844 Craven Dial. 15, I lost my hollin busk, finely flower'd. 1864 MAYHEW Crim. Prisons 40 Bundles of wooden busks, and little bits of whalebone.

Hence † *Busk-point*. 'The lace, with its tag, which secured the end of the busk' (Nares). Obs.

1590 MARSTON Sc. Villanie II. viii. 213, I saw him court his Mistress looking-glasse, Worship a busk-point. 1612 CHAPMAN Widowers Tr. Plays 1873 III. 43 Certaine morall disguises of coinesse... ye borrow of art to cover your buske points. a 1667 WITHER Passion of Love, He... doth crave her To grant him but a busk-point for a favour.

† *Busk*, sb.² Obs. Some kind of linen fabric.

1498 in ROGERS Agric. & Prices III. 478/2 Busk for table linen 24s ell @ 1/4. 1480 Acc. Edw. IV in Privy P. Exp. Eliz. of York 124 For washing of divers old peeces of busk and of a pallet vjd.

† *Busk*, sb.³ Obs. Sc. [f. BUSK v.¹; cf. BUSKRY.] Attire, dress, decoration.

1723 M'WARD Contendings 356 (JAM.) Cloathed and adorned with the busk and bravery of beautiful and big words.

Busk, v.¹ Obs. exc. Sc. and north. *dial.* Also 4-5 *bosk*, 4-7 *buske*, (4 *busky*). See also Buss v.² [Generally thought to be a. ON. *bila-sk*, refl. of *bila* to prepare (see BOUN ppl. a.), the refl. pron. having been agglutinated to the stem, as in *bask*.]

(The *trans.*, *intr.* and *refl.* constructions are all found in the earliest northern specimens of ME.; so that no evidence is available for their development: the order here followed is purely provisional. But for the presumed derivation, it would be more in accordance with the history of other verbs, to start with the *trans.*, including the *refl.*, and take the *intr.* as the usual elliptical construction of the latter.)

I. *intr.* 1. To prepare oneself, get ready.

a 1300 Cursor M. 11585 (Cott.) Rise vp, iosep, and busk [Gilt. busk be] and ga. c 1340 Gaw. & Gr. Knt. 509 Bryddez busken to bylde. 1375 BARBOUR Bruce VIII. 409 The king buskit and maid him zar. c 1400 Destr. Troy 2568, I bid þat ye buske, and no bode make. c 1440 York Myst. xxx. 87 Nowe wiffe, þan ye blythly be buskand.

b. *spec.* To attire or deck oneself; to dress.

1795 MACNEILL Will & Y. Poems (1844) 72 Jean... loo'd to busk aye In her name-spun thrifty work. 1875 in Lanc. Gloss. (E. D. S.) 62 Come busk up, an' let's be off.

c. *transf.* To essay, attempt.

c 1340 Alex. & Dind. 135 Whan þer buskede a burn a bow for to touche.

2. To set out, go (chiefly with notion of speed); to hie, hurry, haste.

a 1300 Cursor M. 4309 Quen þou seis him busk to þe, þou do þe stallworthli to flet. c 1330 Leg. Cathol., Pope Greg. 12 Thai bosked to the birthing. a 1375 Joseph Arim. 202 Þe kyng... to his bed buskes. 1375 BARBOUR Bruce x. 404 Ane of the vachis... buskit thidderward but brice. c 1440 Gaw. & Gr. I. 24 (JAM.) He maid his offering; Syne buskit hame the samyne way. 1523 STANHURST Aeneid IV. (Arb.) 102 Flee my sun, and busk on. 1676 ROBINSON Mid. Yorksh. Gloss. (E. D. S.) 'Now, come busk' be off!

3. To busk up: to get up, rise. c 1340 Gaw. & Gr. Knt. 1128 Þat busken vp bilyue, blonkez to sadel. c 1360 K'now Thyself in E. E. P. (1862) 133 Þe morwe he buskep vp to rise.

II. *trans.*

4. To prepare, make, or get ready; to set in order, fit out. Still in Sc. (Sometimes with *up*.)

a 1300 Cursor M. 11710 Apon þe morn þai ware busked to þair wai. c 1325 E. E. Allit. P. C. 437 Þer he busked hym a bour. c 1450 Erle of Tolous 232 [We] were buskyd yare, On owre journey for to fare. 1460 Lybeaus Disc. 822 Buske her and make her bou. 1663 SPALDING Troub. Chas. I (1792) I. 108 (JAM.) The covenanters... busked the yard dykes very commodiously. 1828 SCOTT F. M. Perth v. 1, It were hard to deny three time to busk thy body-clothes. 1839 Blackw. Mag. XLV. 179 Heaven help us... if the good lady's specs are not 'busked' and ready in the case!

5. To dress, attire, accoutre, adorn, dress up; = 'to dress' in its widest sense. Still in Sc.

c 1325 E. E. Allit. P. B. 142 Þou burne for no brydale art busked in wedez! a 1440 Sire Degrev. 1427 Hyt was buskyd above With besauntis ful bryght. 1535 STEWART Cron. Scot. II. 390 King Bredus buskit in armour brycht. 1663 SPALDING Troub. Chas. I (1829) 7 The lady Frendraught... busked in a white plaid... came weeping and mourning to the Bog. 1787 Burns Burlesq. Lament II, But now they'll busk her like a fright. 1800-24 CAMPBELL Cora Linn III, Hedges, busk'd in bravery, Look'd rich that sunny morn.

b. *spec.* To dress a fishing-hook.

1814 SCOTT Wav. I. ix. 123 He has done nothing... unless trimming the laird's fishing-wand or busking his flies. 1819 Blackw. Mag. V. 124 His daughter... we have sometimes seen 'busking hooks'. 1823 SCOTT Quentin D. xii. 1, use not to gulp the angler's hook because it is busked up with a feather called honour.

c. *fig.*

1656 TRAPP Comm. Rev. xvii. 3 His head only before was busked with the blasphemy... now his whole body. 1827 FOLLOK Course of Time VI, The frothy orator, who busked his tales in quackish pomp of noisy words.

6. To dispatch, hurry, hasten.

1413 LYDG. Pilgr. Soule i. xxii. (1859) 25 Deth spareth no persone... but buskyth you vnto pyttes brynke. 1877 PEACOCK N. W. Linc. Gloss. (E. D. S.) Busk, to hasten, to hurry forward. 'Noo busk thee sen off, an' doant stan gawmin' there for a week.' 'I liv'd sarvant wi' her for a bit, but she buskt me about while I couldn't bide it.'

III. *refl.*

7. To prepare or equip (oneself), get ready; now esp. Sc. to dress, clothe, or deck (oneself).

a 1300 Cursor M. 10556 Anna busked hir and yede. c 1325 Pol. Songs 239 Hue bosketh hum with botouns, Ase hit were a brude. c 1440 Bone Flor. 276 My lord will buske hym to ryde. 1515 Scott. Field 83 in Chelham Misc. (1856) II, He bid buske and bowne him, to go on his message. 1600 FAIRFAX Tasso VII. xxxvii. 124 The noble Baron... buskt him boldly to the dreadful fight. 1863 BARING-GOULD Iceland 125 Grettir busked himself for a cold ride.

8. To betake oneself; to hie one.

c 1350 Will. Palerne 2477 Þei busked hem homward. 1377 LANGL. P. Pl. B. ix. 133 Buske þow to þat bote and bideþ þe þer-inne. 1558 PHAER Aeneid IV. Kj marg. note, Mercury busketh him forward. 1571 CAMMION Hist. Irel. ix. (1633) 27 Gathelus and his wife... were faine to buske them, with all their traine into Europe. 1877 [see 6].

Busk, v.² Naut. [app. a. obs. F. *busquer* 'to shift, filch; prowl, catch by hook or crook; busquer fortune to go seek his fortune' (Cotgr.), ad. It. *buscare* 'to filch, to prowl, to shift for' (Florio), or Sp. *buscar*, OSP. *boscar* to seek; perh. orig. 'to hunt', or 'to beat a wood', f. *bosco* wood.]

1. *intr.* Of a ship: To beat or cruise about; to beat to windward, tack: with adv. *about*, *to and again*. Also to busk it out: to weather a storm by tacking about.

1665 Lond. Gas. No. 9/2 A Ship from Longsoud, who hath been busking too and again this Fortnight. 1678 WYCHERLEY Pl. Dealer III. L. 33 Go, busk about, and run thyself into the next great Man's Lobby. 1713 C. JOHNSON Successf. Pirate I. 1 (D.) The ship was found busking on the seas without a mast or rudder. a 1734 NORTH Lives II. 316 Sometimes a-try and sometimes a-hull we busked it out.

b. 'To cruise as a pirate'. [Perh. the original sense: cf. It. *buscare*, F. *busquer* (above).]

1867 SMYTH Sailor's Word-bk., *Busking*, piratical cruising.

G. *trans.* To busk the seas: ? = to scour the seas.

1747 J. LIND Lett. Navy i. (1757) 29 Three deck'd ships are too large and unwieldy to busk the seas, as they call it.

2. *fig.* To go about seeking for, to seek after.

a 1734 NORTH Exam. I. iii. p. 123. 203 The Parties would be less industrious to busk about for any other [defence]. — Lives II. 122 My Lord Rochester... was inclined... to busk for some other way to raise the supply. *Ibid.* III. 54 Running up and down and through the city... perpetually busking after one thing or other.

3. *slang.* See *quots.* (But perhaps this is a distinct word. Hence *Busking* vbl. sb. and ppl. a.)

1841 MAYHEW Lond. Labour I. 215 Obtain a livelihood by 'busking', as it is technically termed, or, in other words, by offering their goods for sale only at the bars and in the taprooms and parlours of taverns. *Ibid.* (ed. 2) III. 216 Busking is going into public houses and playing and singing and dancing. *Ibid.* 222 Busking, that is going into public

houses and cutting likenesses of the company. 1860 *Cornh. Mag.* II. 334 Thieves' words and phrases... selling obscene songs—busking. 1874 *Sunday Mag.* Xmas No. 1 Chair-cans, 'busking vocalists', musicians and acrobats.

Busk, *v.* 3 [Origin unknown; if not identical with *prec.*] *intr.* Of fowls: To move or shift about restlessly or uneasily.

1567 TURBERV. *Passions* in Chalmers *Epitaphs*, &c. Birds will always buske and bate and scape the fowlers trap. 1575 — *Bk. Falconrie* 4 This sorte of hawks do never use to plume or tyre upon the foul whom they have seized until such time as they perceive it to leave busking and bating. 1835 MARRIAT *Olla Podr.* v. A hole... as large as if a covey of partridges had been busking in it.

† **Busk**, *v.* 4 ? *Obs. rare*—1. [f. *busk*, var. of *busk*: cf. *BUSH v.1*. But possibly, an application of *BUSK v.2*] *intr.*

1653 W. LAUSON in Arb. *Eng. Garner* I. 104 This fly... among wood or close by a bush, moved in the crust of the water is deadly in an evening... This is called 'Busking for Trout'.

Busk(*o*, obs. form of *BUSH*.

Buskayle, var. of *BUSHAILE*, *Obs.*

† **Buskboard**. *Obs.* [f. *BUSK sb.1* (or ? *v.1*) + *BOARD*.] A part of the apparatus for hanging the clapper of a bell. See *BALDRIO* 4.

1857 W. C. LUKIS *Ch. Bells* 24 The great object in suspending a clapper. The ancient mode with bawdrick and buskboard, was clumsy and expensive.

Busked (*bʊskt*), *ppl. a.1* In mod.Sc. *buskit*. [f. *BUSK v.1* + *-ED*.] Dressed, attired; decked. 1787 BURNS *Burlesq. Lament* i, Nae joy her bonie buskit nest Can yield ava.

Busked, *ppl. a.2* [f. *BUSK sb.1* + *-ED.2*.] Provided with or wearing a busk.

1876 MISS BROUGHTON *Joan* iv, Mrs. Moberly's is not that tight, compact, well-busked fat.

Buskel(*l*), *Busken*, obs. ff. *BUSKLE*, *BUSKIN*.

Busker (*bʊskə*), [f. *BUSK v.1* + *-ER.1*.] One that prepares, attires, dresses, etc.

1568 SIR F. KNOLLYS in *Cornh. Mag.* (1867) 48 She praised Mystres Marye Ceaton for being the fynest busker, that is to say, the fynest dresser of a womans heade or heare, that is to be seen in any cuntrye. 1819 *Blackw. Mag.* V. 233 His enumeration of the famous fly-buskers of Auld Reekie!

† **Busket**. *Obs. rare*. [f. *busk*, var. of *BUSH sb.1* + *-ET*, or ad. Fr. *bosquet*: cf. also *BUSKET*, *BOSKET*.] 1. (See quot.)

1579 SPENSER *Sheph. Cal.* May 10 To gather May buskets [Gloss. *Buskets*, a diminutive, little bushes of hauthorne].

2. = *BOSKET*.

1803 W. ROSE *Amadis* 127 Wend thy way Thro' yonder buskets.

Buskey, -ie, obs. forms of *BUSHY*, *BUSKY a.*

Buskill, var. of *BUSKLE*, *v. Obs.*

Buskin (*bʊskɪn*). Also 6 *buskyn*(g), *busken*, 6-7 *buskine*, *busgin*. [A word existing in many European langs.: known in Eng. since 16th c. Cf. Fr. *brousequin* (16th c.), early mod.Du. *brōzekken* (now *broosken*), Sp. *borcegut*, formerly also *bossegut*, Pg. *borseguim* (Dozy cites as earlier forms *morsequill*, *mosequin*), It. *borsacchino*; the synonymous Fr. *brodequin*, *BRODEKIN*, q.v., is doubtless related, but the phonetic relations are obscure. The special source of the Eng. is uncertain: the early mention of 'Spanish buskin' might suggest that it was adopted from Spain, a view in some degree supported by the fact that OSP. *bossegut* (Minshew) is the only continental form without the *r*. (The Sp. word appears to have originally had a final *n*: cf. *borsceguinero* buskin maker.) But it is not impossible that the Eng. word was corrupted from Fr. or Du. The ultimate etymology is unknown. Diez regarded the Romanic words as a. Du. *brōzekken*, and this as a dim. of *brōze*, supposed by him to be ultimately ad. late L. *byrsa* leather. But the wide diffusion of the word in Romanic and its late appearance in Du. are inconsistent with this hypothesis, which Dutch etymologists decisively reject (see *BRODEKIN*); and the Romanic forms do not admit of derivation from *byrsa*. The appearance of the Sp. and Pg. words suggests an oriental origin, but the Arabic etymology proposed by Dozy is far-fetched and untenable. The OF. *broissequin*, *brusquin*, the name of a woollen fabric, is prob. unconnected; Godef. says that the material was so called from its colour: cf. *BRUSK*.]

1. A covering for the foot and leg reaching to the calf, or to the knee; a half-boot. 1503 *Privy P. Exp. Eliz. York* (1830) 86 Two payre of buskins for the Quenes grace at... iiij. the payre. 1530 PALSGR. 202/1 Buskyng, *brodequin*. *Ibid.* 907 The buskyns, *les brousequins*. c. 1550 *Wyll of Dewyll* (Collier) 9, I geue to euery Ruffian... a payre of chayned buskens. 1579 *Lanc. Wills* (1860) II. 178 My Spanish buskins furred. 1596 SPENSER *F. Q.* i. vi. 16 Sometimes Diana he her takes to be; But missest bow and shaftes, and buskins to her knee. 1671 F. PHILLIPS *Reg. Necess.* 28 They... put on Furre Buskins of white Leather. 1683 CHALKHILL *Theatima & Cl.* 51 White Buskins lac'd with ribbanding they wore. 1781 GIBSON *Decl. & F.* III. lxiii. 583 He assumed the royal privilege of red shoes or buskins. 1860 MISS YONGE *Stokesley Secr.* i. (1880) 186 A... shrewd-looking labourer in... high buskins and old wide-awake.

2. *spec.* The high thick-soled boot (*cothurnus*) worn by the actors in ancient Athenian tragedy; frequently contrasted with the 'sock' (*soccus*), or low shoe worn by comedians.

1570 LEVINS *Manip.* 133 A Buskin, *cothurnus*. 1597 BR. HALL *Sat.* i. i. 19 Trumpet, and reeds, and socks, and buskins fine. 1663 BR. PATRICK *Parab. Pilgr.* xxxiv. (1668) 262 The Play is ended, and the high-heeld Buskins are pull'd off. 1763 J. BROWN *Poetry & Mus.* vi. 119 The Buskin... heightened the Stature. 1871 MORLEY *Crit. Misc.* (1886) I. 127 Doff the buskin or the sock, wash away the paint from their cheeks, and gravely sit down to meat.

b. Hence *fig.* and *transf.* The style or spirit of this class of drama; the tragic vein; tragedy. To put on the buskins: to assume a tragic style; to write tragedy.

1579 SPENSER *Sheph. Cal.* Oct. 113 How I could reare the Muse on stately stage, And teach her tread aloft in bus-kin fine. [Gloss., the buskin in poeire is vsed for tragical matter.] 1679 DRYDEN *Tr. & Cr.* Pref. Bj, I doubt to smell a little too strongly of the Buskin. 1711 H. CROMWELL *Let. to Pope* 7 Dec. 1736 V. 114 Mr. Wilks... has express'd a furious ambition to swell in your buskins. 1817 BYRON *Beppo* xxxi, He was a critic upon operas, too, And knew all niceties of the sock and buskin. 1860 A. WINDSOR *Ethica* iii. 171 Our English dramatists combine the office of comedy and tragedy writers in one and the same person... Aristophanes, Plautus, and Terence never put on the buskin.

c. *attrib.* = *Tragic*.

1604 *Return fr. Parnass.* i. ii. (Arb.) 12 Marlowe was happy in his buskin muse. 1709 STEELE *Tatler* No. 47 P. 5 Gentlemen who write in the Buskin Style. 1747 W. HORSLEY *Fool* (1748) II. 187 The Stile... has something of the Buskin Vaunt.

3. *Attrib.* and *Comb.*, as *buskin-maker*; *buskin-wise adv.*, after the manner of a buskin.

1591 PERCIVALL *Sp. Dict.*, *Borzognineria*, a buskin makers shop, *Cothurnaria sutrina*. 1637 BRIAN *Pisse-Prop.* (1679) 47 This messenger... is a very plain fellow in his Holy-day Jacket, and his busking Hose. 1795 BRADLEY *Fam. Dict.* II. s.v. *Knee*, Wrap the Knees in Oil Cloth, Buskinwise.

Buskin, *v. nonce-wd.* [f. *prec. sb.*] *trans.* To cover as with a buskin.

1795 *Monthly Rev.* XVIII. 542 Her population... had zoned every hill with vines... and buskined its foot with the various species of corn.

† **Buskina-de**, *nonce-wd.* [f. *BUSKIN sb.* + *-ADE*, on analogy of *bastinado* (-ado), *blockade*, etc.] A blow with a buskin.

1653 URQUHART *Rabelais* II. xv, How wouldest thou defend thyself? With great buskinades or brodikin blows, answered he.

Buskined (*bʊskɪnd*), *ppl. a.* [f. *BUSKIN sb.* + *-ED.2*.]

1. Shod or covered with buskins.

1590 SHAKS. *Mids. N.* II. i. 71 The bouncing Amazon Your buskin'd Mistress. 1704 POPE *Windsor For.* 168 Her buskin'd Virgins. 1877 MRS. OLIPHANT *Makers Flor.* iv. 104 A brown peasant boy of ten, with buskined legs.

2. *spec.* Wearing the buskins of tragedy; *fig.* and *transf.*, concerned with or belonging to tragedy.

1606 MASSINGER *Rom. Actor* i. i, The Greeks, to whom we owe the first invention Both of the buskined scene & humble sock. 1742 YOUNG *Nt. Th.* vi. 349 See the buskin'd chief Unshod... Reduc'd to his own Stature. 1800 HAZLITT *Lect. Dram. Lit.* 135 They would be ranted on the stage by some buskined hero or tragedy queen.

b. *Tragic*; dignified, elevated, lofty.

1595 MARKHAM *Sir R. Grinville* lxxi, Rich buskin'd Seneca. 1624 BROME *Court Begs.* III. i. Wks. 1873 I. 220 Petrarck's buskin'd stile. a. 1771 GRAY *Poems* (1775) 35 In buskin'd measures move Pale Grief, and pleasing Pain. 1838-9 HALLAM *Hist. Lit.* III. iii. vi. § 98 The interest serious, but not always of buskined dignity. 1841 DE QUINCEY *Homer & H.* Wks. VI. 393 To speak in a sort of stilted, or at least buskined language.

† **Busking**, *vbl. sb.1* *Sc. Obs.* [f. *BUSK v.1* + *-ING.1*.]

1. Fitting out, attiring; *concr.* attire.

c. 1300 *Sir Tristr.* 92 Bliphe was his busking. 1619 Z. BOYD *Last Battell* 961 (Jam.) Too curious busking is the mother of lusting looks. 1628 RUTHERFORD *Let.* xxiii. (1862) I. 90 The wooer's busking and bravery... are in vain. 1638 *Relat. Accidents in Harl. Misc.* (Malh.) IV. 289 Some [had]... their outward buskings not one thread singed.

fig. 1637 RUTHERFORD *Letters* 70 Godliness is more than the outside and this world's passments and their buskings.

† b. *spec.* The dressing of the head; head-dress. 1571 ASCHAM *Scholem.* (Arb.) 54 Either a slouinglie busking, or an ouerstaring frowned hed. 1621 *Sc. Act. Jas. VI.* xxv. § 3 That none weare upon their Heads, or Buskings, any Feathers.

† 2. Setting out, departure. *Obs.*

a. 1300 *Cursor M.* 3245 Bun was he made til his buskyng, Wit tresur grette and riche ring.

Busking, *vbl. sb.2* [f. *BUSK v.2*.] 'Piratical cruising; also, used generally, for beating to windward along a coast, or cruising off and on' (Smyth *Sailor's Word-bk.*). Also *fig.* (see quot.). 1841 *Fraser's Mag.* XXIII. 310 This practice... for which they had a technical term of reproach, viz. 'going a-busking'. [The practice was to pawn property not his own, shift his quarters and disappear.]

Busking, *vbl. sb.* and *ppl. a.*: see *BUSK v.2* 3.

† **Buskle**, *v. Obs.* Also 6 *buskel*, *buskill*, 7 *buskell* [app. a frequentative of *BUSK v.1*; the senses correspond closely to senses of *busk*, and both verbs are in the early examples often accompanied by the *ppl. adj. houn*. See *BUSTLE v.*]

1. *trans.* To 'busk', prepare, equip, attire. (Chiefly *refl.*)

a. 1555 BRADFORD *Wks.* 445 Buskel thyself, and make thee bowne to turn to the Lord. 1585 PILKINGTON *Exp. Nehem.* Wks. (1848) 352 They buskle and bowne themselves to this

work. 1594 CAREW *Tasso* (1881) 117 Buskled in armes... them readie make The ten knights.

2. *intr.* To prepare oneself; hence, to set out, start on a journey, address oneself to a task; to set to work (*esp.* hastily or promptly).

a. 1535 MORE *Wks.* (1557) 81 In what place... ye stand whan ye buskle forward. 1583 STANYHURST *Acid* III. (Arb.) 81 King Helenus... From towne to us busking. 1594 CAREW *Tasso* (1881) 53 The Campe to armes which buskelled. 1602 WARNER *Alb. Eng.* XII. lxxvii. 313 Then busking to his Sword cride Theenes.

3. *intr.* To hurry about; to be in agitation or commotion, to bustle.

1545 JOYE *Exp. Dan.* II. (R.) Now began the bisshopes to buskle and bere rule. 1561 AWDELEY *Frat. Vacab.* 15 This slouthfull knave wyll buskill and scratch when he is called in the morning. 1586 W. WARNER *Alb. Eng.* I. vi. 22 In busking vp and downe In Plutoes Pallace, to her ioy, Prosperine he found. 1642 ROGERS *Naaman* 174 He buskells and takes on like a mad man.

4. *trans.* To agitate, shake, toss; *L. jactare*. (Cf. *BUSTLE v.2* 2, and *BUSTLE v.5*.)

1561 STUDLEY *Seneca's Hercules* Cct. 189 He busking vp his burning Mane, doth dry the dropping south.

† **Buskling**, *vbl. sb. Obs.* [f. *prec. vb.* + *-ING.1*.] Eager activity, bustling; scuffling, agitation.

1548 THOMAS *Ital. Gram.*, *Dimenamento*, busklyng or shakynge. 1563-87 FOXE *A. & M.* (1596) 309/1 The princes seruants... hearing the busking, came with great hast. 1571 GOLDING *Calvin on Ps.* IV. 2 A shuffling or busking suche as is wont to bee in a great preace of people. 1600 HOLLAND *Livy* II. xlix. 78 Suddenly, at the very first busking [*primam trepidationem*].

† **Buskry**. *Sc. Obs.* [f. *BUSK sb.3* + *-RY*.] Attire.

1723 M'WARD *Contendings* 324 (JAM.) We must not be pleased or put off with the buskry or bravery of words.

Busky (*bʊski*), *a.* [f. *busk*, var. of *BUSH sb.1* + *-Y*; cf. *BUSHY*, *BOSKY*.] Bosky, bushy.

1570 LEVINS *Manip.* 99 Buskye, *dumosus*. 1596 SHAKS. 1 *Hen. IV.* v. i. 2 The Sunne begins to peere Aboue yon busky hill. 1600 TOURNEUR *Transf. Met.* xlviii. Wks. II. 206 And sometimes nibble on the buskie root. 1606 J. RAYNOLDS *Dolarnys Prim.* (1820) 71 Huge Tmolus... with busky haire. c. 1800 K. WHITE *Clift Gr.* 272 Yon busky dingle.

Busle, *busling*, obs. ff. *BUSTLE*, *BUSTLING*.

Busmar, variant of *BISMER*, *Obs.*, shame.

Busment, obs. form of *BUSHMENT*.

Buss (*bʊs*), *sb.1* Forms: 4-7 *busse*, 5 *busch*, 6 *busche*, 7 *bucos*, *buscie*, (*brisse*, *burse*), *bushe*, 8 *buchse*, *bush*, 7-*buss*. [A word found in many European langs.: OF. *busse*, OSP. *buce*, *buso*, Pr. *buis*, med.L. (12th c.) *bucia*, *bussa*; also OHG. (rare) *buzo*, MHG. *buse*, ON. *buzza*, OE. *buse*-(*carlas*) in OE. Chron. A.D. 1066, Du. *buis*, whence app. mod.G. *büse*, F. *buse*, and sense 2 below. In sense 1 the word probably came into English from OF. The remoter etymology is unknown; the OF. *busse* cask, is usually assumed to be identical.]

† 1. A vessel of burden; perh. similar in build and rig to 2. *Obs. exc. Hist.*, or as in 2.

1330 R. BRUNNE *Chron.* 153 Busses *britti* Charged with vitaille, with gode men & dought. *Ibid.* 169 Pei sauh fer in pe se A grete busse & gay. 1538 *Aberd. Regist.* V. 16 (JAM.) Ane busche quihik was takin be the Franchemen. 1611 SPEED *Hist. Gr. Brit.* ix. vii. 25 Thirteen Bucos or Busses, which had each of them three course of Sailes. 1865 *Cornh. Mag.* XII. 375 Richard's fleet... with its heavy busses and dromons for carrying horses and provisions.

2. *spec.* A two- or three-masted vessel of various sizes, used esp. in the Dutch herring-fishery; in 1794 identified with a 'fly-boat'.

1471 *Sc. Acts Jas. III* (1597) § 48 That Lordes, Barronnes, and Burrowes gar make Schippes, Busches, and greate Pinck-boates with nettes. 1601 J. KEYMER *Dutch Fishing in Phenix* I. 223 The 2000 Busses... are employ'd only to take Herrings about Baughmanness in Scotland, etc. 1668 CHILDO *Disc. Trade* (1698) 56 A Dutchman will be content to employ a stock of 5 or 100000 in busses. 1706 DE FOE *Jure Div.* i. 10 Neptune... In Holland's Buss for Herrings Fish'd. 1749 *Wealth Gr. Brit.* 37 The vessels that go upon this fishery, are buches, or busses, of the burthen of 70 to 100 tons. 1776 FALCONER *Dict. Marine*, *Buss*, a ship of two masts, used by the English and Dutch in their herring fisheries. It is generally from 50 to 70 tons burthen. 1794 *Rigging & Seamanship* I. 239 *Buss*, a Dutch fishing-vessel with three short masts, each in one piece. On each is carried a square-sail, and sometimes a topsail above the mainsail. [A plate is given.] 1867 *Q. Rev.* Apr. 317 The... fishery has seen year by year the number of its busses decrease.

b. *attrib.* and in *comb.* See also *BUS-CARL*.

1580 in Wadley *Bristol Wills* (1886) 226 The busse chest in the Alarie. 1615 *Trades Incr.* in *Harl. Misc.* (Malh.) III. 308 Buss-fishing is more easy than any other kind of fishing. 1667 DENHAM *Direct. Paint.* IV. v. 12 Buss-Skipper... stamp to think Their Catching-craft is over. 1776 ADAM SMITH *W. N.* (1869) II. iv. v. 94 Two-thirds of the buss-caught herrings are exported. *Ibid.* 95 The great encouragement which a bounty... gives to the buss fishery. *Ibid.* The establishment of the buss bounty.

Buss (*bʊs*), *sb.2* Now *arch.* and *dial.* Also 6-7 *busse*. [app. an alteration of the earlier *BASS sb.3*; cf. also Sp. *buz*, Ger. dial. *buss*, which however may be only parallel onomatopœias.] A kiss, a smack.

1570 TURBERV. *Ladie Venus*, &c. He that brings him home againe, A busse? yet not a busse alone doubtlesse shall haue. 1596 SPENSER *F. Q.* III. x. 46 Every satyre first did give a busse To Hellenore. 1634 J. LEVETT *Order*

Bees Pref. Poems, The winged Citizens of mount Hymete .. harmless busses gave him [Plato]. 1706 FARQUHAR *Recruit. Offic.* v. ii, My dear Plume give me a buss. 1749 FIELDING *Tom Jones* vii. xiii. (1840) 100/1 He gave Jones a hearty buss. 1859 E. WAUGH *Lanc. Songs in Lanc. Gloss.* (E. D. S.) 63 Let mammy have a buss. 1863 *Sat. Rev.* 368 Giving him a hearty buss upon each cheek. 1882a TENNYSON *Prom. May II.* (1886) 117 Gie us a buss fust, lass.

b. Kissing.

1708 PRIOR *Mice*, After much buss and great grimace Much chat arose.

Buss (bus), *v.* 1 *arch.* and *dial.* Also 6-7 *busse*, 7 *boss* (*dial.*); *pa. t.* 6 *bust*. [Belongs to *Buss sb.* 2.]

1. *trans.* To kiss. (See quot. 1648.)

1571 R. EDWARDS *Damon & P.* in Hazl. *Dodsley* IV. 82 Your wife now will buss you. 1595 SHAKS. *John III.* iv. 35, I will thinke thou smil'st, And busse thee as thy wife. 1648 HERRICK *Hesper.* (1823) I. 266 Kissing and bussing differ both in this, We busse our wantons, but our wives we kisse. 1719 D'URFEY *Pills* (1872) V. 95 To every one that I did meet, I bravely bussed my Hand. 1847 TENNYSON *Princ.* v. 213 You .. Nor burnt the grange, nor bussed the milking-maid. 1866 G. MEREDITH *Vittoria* xxix. (1886) 300 Up with your red lips, and buss me a Napoleon salute.

b. fig.

1606 SHAKS. *Tr. & Cr.* iv. v. 220 Yond Towers, whose wanton tops do busse the clouds, Must kisse their owne feet. 1607 — *Cor.* iii. ii. 75 Thy knee bussing the stones.

2. *absol.*

1635 *Quarles Embl.* ii. viii. (1718) 93 Come buss and friends, my lamb. 1741 RICHARDSON *Pamela* (1824) I. 69, I now forgive you heartily; let's buss and be friends. 1879 BROWNING *Ned Bratts* 265 So blubbered we, and bussed, and went to bed.

Buss, *v.* 2, *Sc.* form of *Busk v.* 1 To attire, dress, dress up, deck, adorn; to dress (a fishing hook).

(In Hawick, before the annual Common-riding, the ancient 'colour' or town's standard is ceremoniously *bussed* for the occasion with ribbons, etc.)

c 1570 *Leg. Bp. St. Andrews in Scot. Poems* 16th C. II. 331 A cove (i.e. scarecrow) bust in a biscoops place. 1805 A. SCOTT *Poems* (1811) 18 (JAM.) Wt fly-buss'd hook, an' fishing rod. 1828 *Edin. Mag.* 327 (JAM.) I'll buss my hair w/ the golden brume. 1882a *Proc. Berw. Nat. Club* IX. No. 3. 562 Only the feathers to 'buss flies'.

Buss, variant of *Bus sb.* 2, omnibus.

Buss, obs. form of *Burse*, *Bush*.

Bussard, -erd, -ly, obs. forms of *Buzzard*, -ly.

Busschel, -chop(e), obs. ff. *Bushel*, *Bishop*.

Busse, obs. form of *Buss*, *Buzz*.

Bussel(l), obs. form of *Bustle*.

† **Bussell**, *bussshell*. *Obs.* Var. of *Bossell*, the 'print' of a mazer or drinking-bowl.

c 1530 in *Gutch Coll. Cur.* II. 314 The mending of a Bason .. and the makyng of thameill and the bussell withie my Lordis Armes. 1645 in *Rymer Fadera* XVIII. 236 The bason enamelled about the bussell and byrmme.

Bussh-, obs. spelling of *Bush*-.

† **Busshe**, *Obs.* [Cf. *Bush-tree* in *Bush sb.* 1 11.] Boxwood.

1430 *Test. Ebor.* II. 8 Pecten de busshe.

Bussing (bus'ing), *vbl. sb.* 1 Also *bussing* (*dial.*). [*f.* *Buss v.* 1 + -ING 1.] Kissing.

1577 NORTHBROOKE *Dicing* (1843) 166 A very kindling of lechery, whereto serveth all that bussing. 1656 DUGARD *Gate Lat. Unt.* § 626 All lechery, uncomly bussings .. are unchastitie and defile the mind. 1691 RAY *N. C. Wds.* s. v. *Osse*, Ossing comes to bussing. Prov. Chesh. 1882a TENNYSON *Prom. May II.* (1886) 117 Wasn't thou and me a-bussin' o' one another t'other side o' the haaycock?

† **Bussing**, *vbl. sb.* 2 *Sc. Obs.* [*f.* *Buss v.* 2] 1. = *BUSKING vbl. sb.* 1

† c 1600 *Reid Squair* xv. in *Evergreen* II. 230 To put the Bussing on thair Theis.

2. 'A linen cap or hood, worn by old women, much the same as Toy' (Jamieson).

1768 PICKEN *Poems* 59 (JAM.) Witches .. Wi long-tailed bussins, ty'd behin.

Bussle, obs. or *Sc.* form of *Bustle*.

† **Bussle-headed**, *a. dial.* ? *Obs.* See quot. a 1722 *Lisle Hush* (1757 4to.) 183 The ears [of wheat] being long and heavy were bussle-headed, that is, did hang their heads downward into the sheaf.

|| **Bussu**. A South American name for a species of palm (*Manicaria saccifera*), the spathe of which supply a kind of coarse strong cloth. Hence *bussu palm*, *bussu cloth*.

1828 HOGG *Veg. Kingd.* 754 *Manicaria saccifera* is a native of Brazil .. where it is called Bussu. 1858 *Ibid.* 755 Between layers of the smooth Bussu cloth. 1866 *Treas. Bot.* II. 717/a. 1885 LADY BRASSEY *In Trades* 166 The delicate brown net-work that covers the spathe of the Bussu palm.

Bussyn(n)e, var. of *BUSSINE*, *Obs.*, trumpet.

Bust (bust), *sb.* 1 [*a. f.* *buste* (of which *Littre* gives no examples earlier than 17th c.), *ad. It.* *busto* = Sp., Pg. *busto*, Pr. *busta* (rare). The primary sense in It., and the only sense in Pr., is 'trunk or upper portion of the body'. The origin of the Romanic word has not been satisfactorily ascertained; see *Diez*, *Scheler*, *Littre*.]

1. A piece of sculpture representing the head, shoulders, and breast of a person. Cf. *Busto*.

1691 WOOD *Ath. Oxon.* I. 264 Over his grave was .. the Statua or Bust .. to the middle part of his body. 1768 EARL CARLISLE in *G. Selwyn & Contemp.* II. 311, I have this morning been sitting for my bust, which is to be done in marble. 1826 BYRON *Ch. Har.* iii. lxxvi, Their tomb was

simple, and without a bust. 1821 — *Yvan* m. viii, Romances paint at full length people's wooings, But only give a bust of marriages. 1839 THIRLWALL *Greece* III. 3 The reward .. consisted in three stone busts of *Hermes*.

¶ ? Influenced by *L. bustum* sepulchral monument.

1735 POPE *Epist. Lady* 139 But die, and she'll adore you — then the bust And temple rise — then fall again to dust. a 1761 CAWTHORN *Elegy Capt. Hughes*, Nature! 'tis thine .. To teach .. The dirge to murmur, and the bust to rise. a 1771 GRAY (1775) *Poems*, Can storied urn or animated bust Back to its mansion call the fleeting breath?

2. The upper front part of the human body; the bosom (esp. of a woman).

1797-51 CHAMBERS *Cycl.* s.v., In speaking of an antique, we say the head is marble, and the bust porphyry, or bronze, that is, the stomach and shoulders. 1819 BYRON *Yvan* ii. cxix, There was an Irish lady, to whose bust I ne'er saw justice done. 1834 W. IRVING *Tour Prairies* 32 His naked bust would have furnished a model for a statuette. 1886 MISS CLEVELAND in *Pall Mall G.* 13 Mar. 13/2, I do not approve of any dress which shows the bust.

† 3. *transf.* A swelling or protuberance. *Obs.*

1653 URQUHART *Rabelais* i. viii, It (i.e. a necklace) reached down to the very bust of the rising of his belly [Fr. à la boutonnière du petit ventre.]

4. *attrib.* and *Comb.*, as *bust-maker*, *bust-like* *adj.*

1806 *Blackw. Mag.* XIX. 393 Her lips were not wont to be so cold and white .. not so moveless and bustlike her bosom. 1837 CARLYLE *Fr. Rev.* I. v. iv. 217 Will the Bust-Procession pass that way? 1860 HAWTHORNE *Marb. Faun* I. i. 5 You never chiselled .. a more vivid likeness than this, cunning bust-maker as you think yourself.

Bust, *sb.* 2 A box: see *BUSTE*.

† **Bust**, *v.* 1 *Obs.* exc. ? *dial.* [Origin unknown: cf. *BASTE v.* 3, also Sw. *dial. bysta* (Rietz), OF. *boster* (rare, ? var. of *bouter*) to knock at a door, MDu. *bust* cudgel, *f. buusschen* to beat.] *trans.* To beat, thrash.

a 1225 *Juliana* 24 Speche þu maht spillen ant ne spedan nawiht þa þu me buste and beate. c 1230 *Hali Meid.* 31 Beateþ þe & busteþ þe as his ihohte þrel. c 1400 *Alexius* (Laud MS. 463) 331 Ofte þei him bete and buste (*crime-wd.* niste). [1808-25 JAMIESON, To bust, to beat, Aberd.]

Bust (bust), *Dialectal* or vulgar pronunciation of *Burst sb.* and *v.*; often adopted with humorous intention, esp. in U. S. *spec.* 'a frolic; a spree' (Bartlett); cf. *BURST sb.* 7. Hence *Bust-head a.* a 1860 *California Song* (Bartlett), When we get our pockets full of this bright, shinnin' dust We'll .. spend it on a bust. a 1866 J. C. NEAL *Dolly Jones* (Bartlett), I was soon fotch'd up in the victualling line — and I busted, for the benefit of my creditors. 1885 *Advt. in Lishon* (Dakota) *Star* 3 Apr. 6/7 N. P. Express Monopoly Busted. 1884 SALA in *Daily Tel.* 19 Oct., Irresistible proclivities towards 'bust-head' whisky, 'red-eye' rum, and loafing generally.

† **Bustal**, *a. Obs.* — [*f.* *L. bust-um* a tomb + -AL.] Of or pertaining to burial or the grave.

1730-6 in BAILEY.

Bustamite, *Min.* [Named after the discoverer Bustamante.] A greyish-red calciferous variety of Rhodonite, a bisilicate of manganese and lime.

Bustange, obs. form of *BOSTANGE*.

1686 *Land. Gaz.* No. 2196/1 The Grand Signior .. doubled his Guard of Bustanges.

Bustard (bust'ard), *Forms*: 5-6 *bustarde*, 4- *bustard*; also, 6 *bistarda*, *bistarde*, *bystarde*, 7 *bistard*. [The form *bustard* in 15th c. appears to be exclusively English, and looks like a mixture of the two OF. forms *bistarde* and *oustarde*, both going back to *L. avis tarda*, the name given to the bird, according to Pliny, in Spain. This name, if purely Latin, would mean 'slow bird', but 'the application of the epithet is not understood' (Prof. Newton), as the bird is remarkably swift on foot, and, though averse to flight, capable of great speed when compelled to take wing. Prof. Newton suggests that *tarda* may have been a sb.; perh. *avis tarda* is a mere etymologizing alteration of a non-Latin name. Hence Pg. *abetarda*, *betarda*, Sp. *avutarda*, It. *ottarda*, Pr. *austarda*. The Eng. form *bistard* was of later appearance, taken directly from Fr.]

1. A genus of birds (*Otis*) presenting affinities both to the *Cursores* and the *Grallatores* or Waders; remarkable for their great size and running powers. The Great Bustard (*Otis tarda*) is the largest European bird, and was formerly common in England, though now extinct, or found only as a rare visitant.

[1391 *Test. Ebor.* (1836) I. 155 Lego Elisotze, uxori Ricardi Bustard.] c 1460 J. RUSSELL *Bk. Nurture in Babes Bk.* (1868) 144 Pecok, Stork, Bustarde, & Shovelweire. 1486 *Bk. St. Albans* D ii j b, The symplest of theis will see .. a Bustarde. 1514 FITZHERB. *Just. Peas* (1538) 126 b, To forfayt for every egge of crane, or bustarde so destroyed .. twenty pens. c 1520 L. ANDREW *Noble Lyfe* L i j b in *Babes Bk.* (1868) 218 The Bistarda is a birde as great as an eggle. 1597 Bp. HALL *Sat., Def. Envie* 20 Nor lowly bustard dreads the distant rayes. 1655 MOUFFET & BENNET *Health's Improv.* (1746) 174 Bistards or Bustards, so called for their slow Pace and heavy flying; or as the Scots term them, Gusestards; that is to say, Slow Geese. 1732 FIELDING *Miser* iii. iii, A bustard, which, I believe, may be bought for a guinea. 1794 WORDSW. *Guilt & Sorrow*, The bustard .. Forced hard against the wind a thick unwieldy flight. 1836 *Penny Cycl.* VI. 57/1 Bustards have been heard of within the last few years

in the neighbourhood of Bury St. Edmund's. 1864 *Times* 19 Nov., A specimen of the Great Bustard, long an extinct British bird, was picked up in the sea .. off Burlington Quay about a week ago.

fig. 1831 CARLYLE *Sart. Res.* i. vii. 56 By what strange chances do we live in History .. Milo by a bullock; Henry Damley, an unfledged booby and bustard, by his limbs.

2. Applied to other related birds: in America to the Canada Goose, *Bernicla Canadensis* (Prof. Newton in *Encycl. Brit.*). *Thick-kneed Bustard*: the Stone Curlew (*Edicnemus crepitans*).

3. Local var. *BUZZARD*, applied to large moths.

1886 M. G. WATKINS in *Academy* 14 Aug. 101/3 There are some capital chapters on 'bustard' fishing (that is, fishing during the night with a large artificial moth).

Bust-coat, mistake for *BUFF-COAT* 3.

1706 in PHILLIPS. 1721-1800 in BAILEY.

† **Buste**, *bust*, *Obs.* Also 4 *Sc.* *bousto*.

[var. of *BOIST sb.*] A box, esp. for containing ointments, drugs, confectionery, etc. Cf. *BOIST*, *BOOST*, *BUIST*.

a 1225 *Ancr. R.* 226 He haueð 80 monie bustes ful of his letuaries. c 1375 BARBOUR *St. Magdalena* 111 A boustie of precius vnguent. c 1450 HENRYSON *Mor. Fab.* 30 Out of his buste ane bill can hee braid. 1483 *Cath. Angl.* 49/1 A Buyste [v. r. Bust]. 1566 KNOX *Hist. Ref. Wks.* 1846 I. 264 The Lord James .. had (by all appearance) lyked of the same bust that dispatched the rest.

Busted (bust'ed), *a.* [*f.* *BUST sb.* 1 + -ED 2.] Having a bust, or breast; chiefly in *comb.*

1864 TENNYSON *En. Ard.* 539 Her full-busted figure-head Stared o'er the ripple feathering from her bows.

|| **Bustee** (bust'i). [Hindustani *बस्ती* *bastī* dwelling.] A village: 'applied in Calcutta to the separate groups of huts in the humbler native quarters' (Yule).

1885 *Daily Tel.* 25 Dec., No cases of cholera were found in the squalid bustees round several tanks.

Bustel, obs. form of *BUSTLE*.

Busteous, -ious, variants of *BOISTOUS a.* *Obs.*

Buster (bust'ar), *Vulgar* corruption of *BURSTER*.

1839 *New Monthly Mag.* LVI. 358 We can .. buy a two-penny buster at a baker's-shop.

Hence in various specific senses:

2. *slang* (chiefly U. S.). a. 'Something great' (W.); something that 'takes one's breath away'; something that provokes excessive admiration or amusement. b. A roistering blade, a dashing fellow. c. A frolic; a spree.

1850 MRS. STOWE *Uncle Tom's C.* iv. 23 Mas'r George .. declared decidedly that Mose was a buster. a 1860 THORPE *Big Bear Arkansas* (Bartlett), I went on, learning something every day, until I was reckoned a buster, and allowed to be the best bar-hunter in my district. 1867 F. LUDLOW *Fleeing to Tarshish* 176 The rector's growing reputation for preaching busters, which is the Missourian for pulpit eloquence.

3. In *Australia*. a. A violent southern gale prevalent at Sydney. b. To come a buster: to be thrown from a horse, 'to come a cropper'.

1863 F. FOWLER *Let. in Athenaeum* 21 Feb., The brick-fletcher is .. the cold wind or southerly buster, which .. carries a thick cloud of dust .. across the city. 1883 *Times* 27 Sept. 9 The port is exposed to sudden gales, known as 'southerly busters'. 1886 COWAN *Charcoal Sk.* The buster and brick-fletcher: Austral red-dust blizzard and red-hot simoom.

† **Bustian**, *Obs.* *Forms*: 5 *busteyn*, 6 *bustiane*, *bustion*, *bustyon*, -yan, *borstyan*, 7 *bustiam*, 8 *bustine*, 6-8 *bustian*. [Derivation uncertain; cf. OF. *bustanne*, -ane, *bultenne*, 'sorte d'étoffe fabriquée à Valenciennes' (Godef.); It. *bottana* 'specie di tela bambagina', mentioned along with *fustagno* *fustian* (Tommaso and Bellini); F. *boutanes* 'toile de coton de Chypre', *boutane* 'étoffe qui se fait à Montpellier' (Boiste).] A cotton fabric of foreign manufacture, used for waistcoats and for certain church vestments; sometimes described as a species of *fustian*, but sometimes mentioned as distinct from it.

1463 in *Bury Wills* (1850) 18, I welle haue anothir vestement made of white busteyn. 1566 *Eng. Ch. Furniture* (Peacock, 1866) 43 A cope and a vestment of Bustian defaced. 1571 *Wills & Inv. N. C.* (1835) 362 j yeard & 1/2 of whit borstyan xviiij. 1578 *Richmond Wills* (1853) 276, Viiij yeards and a quarter of bustion at xiiij. d. a yeard .. v yeards of whit holme fustion at xiiij. d. a yeard. 1598 FLORIO, *Restagno*, a kinde of stufte like bustian, such as they make waste-cotes of. 1611 COTGR., *Fustaine* a grain d'orge, bustian. 1612 *Rates* (JAM.), Bustians or woven twell stuf, the single peece not above fifteen elnes. 1622 MALVINES *Anc. Lavo-Merch.* 229 The commodities which are not made at all, or but in small quantitie in England, and may be practised, are manie, as Buckrams, Tapistrie, Bustians, Cambricks. 1720 *Stow Surv.* (ed. Strype, 1754) II. v. xviii. 382/1 All .. Fustians and Bustians made in England and Wales shall pay for each horse-pack, 8d. 1795 RAMSAY *Gentl. Sheph.* i. 1, Neat, neat she was, in bustine waistcoat clean.

Bustle (bust'l), *sb.* 1 Also 7-8 *bussale*. [*f.* *BUSTLE v.* 1.]

1. Activity with excitement, noise, and commotion; stir, tumult, disturbance, fuss, ado.

1634 MILTON *Comus* 379 Feathers .. That, in the various bustle of resort, Were all to-ruffled. 1692 LOCKE *Educ.* § 167 (1880) 143 All his Bustle and Pother will be to little or no purpose. 1733 FIELDING *Intr. Chamberm.* i. x, What was the occasion of this bustle? 1758 JOHNSON *Idler* No.

19 P. 3 Many... pass their lives... in bustle without business. 1822 BYRON *Juan* viii. xxxix. He... could be very busy without bustle. 1853 KANE *Grinnell Exp.* xxix. (1856) 249 In the bustle of preparation. 1875 JEVONS *Money* (1878) 266 The bustle and turmoil... grow to a climax at four o'clock.

b. *transf.* The agitation or 'working' in the process of fermentation.

1674 N. FAIRFAX *Bulk & Selv.* 128 Fermentation or bustle of the working or leavening particles. 1723 *Lond. & Countr. Brew.* iv. (1743) 331 Now the greater the Vessel is, the more Parts may arise and sink down; and... the more must be the Bustle.

2. The commotion of conflict; *concr.* a conflict, struggle, scuffle, fray. *arch.*

1622-66 HEYLIN *Cosmogr.* ii. (1682) 188 The Bustle betwixt Athens and Lacedaemon. 1676 BUTLER *Hud.* iii. iii. 363 Caligula... Engag'd his Legions in fierce Bustles, With Periwinkles, Prawns and Muscles. 1693 LUTTRELL *Brief Rel.* (1857) iii. 51 Divers were killed in the bustle. 1722 DE FOS *Mem. Cavalier* (1840) 286 We had a small bustle with some of the... troops of horse. 1769 JUNIUS *Lett.* xxx. 136 His escape he attempts... a bustle ensues. 1865 KINGSLEY *Herew.* xli. (1877) 503 There was a bustle, a heavy fall.

3. *Thieves' cant.* (See *quots.*)

1822 J. H. VAUX *Flash Dict.*, *Bustle*, a cant term for money. *Ibid.* s.v. *Bustle*, Any object effected very suddenly, or in a hurry, is said to be done upon the bustle. 1830 LYTTON *P. Clifford* 56 He who surreptitiously accumulates bustle, is, in fact, nothing better than a buzz gloak.

Bustle, sb.² [Perh. the same word as *prec.* : in the earlier examples it seems to denote rather the projecting portion of the dress itself than the means employed to produce the projection; cf. *quot.* 1826 in *BUSTLING* ppl. a.]

A stuffed pad or cushion, or small wire framework, worn beneath the skirt of a woman's dress, for the purpose of expanding and supporting it behind; a 'dress-improver'.

1768 T. MONRO in *Olla Podrida* No. 40 Such locks the nymphs now wear (in silks who rustle). In rich luxuriance reaching to the bustle. 1830 MISS MITFORD *Village Ser.* iv. (1863) 177 A waist like a wasp, a magnificent bustle, and petticoats... puffed out round the bottom. 1838 *New Month Mag.* LIV. 207 It caught the bustle—the projecting mass of muslin, silk, or cotton, as might be. 1865 *Daily Tel.* 12 Apr. 7 Originally the 'bustle' was merely a species of pillow, which was tied round the waist.

Bustle (bɒ'sl), v.¹ Forms: 4 *bustelen*, 6 *bustel*, *bussel*, 6-7 *bussle*, *bussell*, 7 *bustle*, 6-*bustle*. [ME. *bustelen*, used (once only) by Langland, is perh. onomatopoeic, suggested by *BLUSTER* and by the sound of the alliterative words in the line. The mod. verb differs in sense, and has not been found earlier than the middle of the 16th c.; possibly it may be a phonetic variant of *BUSKLE*, from which in early use it is scarcely distinguishable in sense; cf. also *hustle*, *rustle*, etc. The resemblance in sound to mod. *lcel. bustl* a splash, as of a fish in water, *ad bustla* to make a splash, to bustle, is noteworthy, but evidence of historical connexion is wanting.]

I. in ME. +1. *intr.* To wander blindly or stupidly; = *BLUSTER* v. i. *Obs. rare*—1.

1366 LANGL. *P. Pl.* A. vi. 4 There were few men so wys that couthe the boti weider, Boti bustelyng [1377 B. v. 521 blustredun; 1393 C. viii. 159 blustrede] forþ as bestes ouer vales and hilles.

II. The mod. word.

2. *intr.* To bestir oneself or display activity with a certain amount of noise or agitation, to be fussily active: usually implying excessive or obtrusive show of energy. Often with *advs.* *about*, *along*, *up and down*. (Cf. *BUSKLE* v. 2, 3.)

1590 NORTH *Plutarch* 123 Some... for fear to be taken tardy did bustle up at this noise. 1594 SHAKS. *Rich. III.* i. 1. 152 God... leaue the world for me to bustle in. 1621 BURTON *Anat. Med.* ii. iii. vi. (1651) 349, I was once... mad to bussell abroad. 1628 WITHER *Brit. Rememb.* ii. 1759 How they trudg'd, and bustled up and downe. 1633 SANDERSON *Serm.* I. 312 Many servants... will... bustle at it... so long as their masters eye is upon them. 1633 BR. HALL *Hard Texts* 315 All shall be glad to bustle into armes for their defence. 1672 VILLIERS (Dk. Buckhm.) *Rehearsal* v. i. 113 Busie, busie, busie, we bustle along. 1711 STEELE *Spect.* No. 6 P 6 The good Man bustled through the Crowd. 1768 COWPER *Convers.* 215 We bustle up with unsuccessful speed. 1818 BYRON *Juan* i. cliz, Antonia bustled round the ransack'd room. 1838 DICKENS *O. Twist* xxxix. Get up, and bustle about. 1844 KINGSLEY *Lett.* (1878) i. 122 We bustle and God works. 1857 EMERSON *Poems* 37 Let the great world bustle on.

b. as *imper.* = *Bestir* yourself! Make haste! 1594 SHAKS. *Rich. III.* v. iii. 289 Come, bustle, bustle. Caparison my horse. 1822 BYRON *Vernon* i. l. 258 What, ho, there! bustle! 1837 DICKENS *Pickw.* vi. 'Bustle,' said the old gentleman. 1865 L.D. LYTTON *Orval* 98 Run to the Apothecary! Bustle, wench!

+c. To come down with commotion. *Obs.* 1621 CHAPMAN *Iliad* xii. 369 Down he bustled like an oak... Hewn down for shipwood.

+3. *intr.* To struggle, scuffle, contend; to elbow one's way through a crowd. To bustle it out: = to fight it out. *Obs.* (Cf. *hustle*.)

c 1600 TIMON iii. l. (1842) 42 The four windes doe bustle in my heade. 1610 HOLLAND *Camden's Brit.* l. 201 Edward the Third... and Philip Valois bustled for the very kingdome of France. 1647 W. BAWNE *Polem.* ii. 321 'Tis in vaine...

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to bustle with my resolution. 1722 ARBUTHNOT *John Bull* (1755) 52 Peg's lads bustled pretty hard for that.

4. *trans.* and *refl.* To bestir, stir, rouse: also with *up*. Now *rare*.

1579 A. MUNDAY in Arb. *Garner* V. 209 Bustling themselves to dress up the galleys. 1584 LVLV *Campaspe* iv. i. My master bustles himself to flee. 1610 *Histrion.* vi. 251 Bustle up Your drouping spirits. 1880 *Daily Tel.* 12 Oct. We spend a couple of hours in bustling up the denizens of the big wood.

5. *trans.* (and *refl.*) To cause to move precipitately and in disorder; to hurry (a person or thing) in a fussy or over-energetic manner. *Const.* with *preps.* or *advs.* b. To make (hot, etc.) by bustling. 1593-97 FOXE *A. & M.* iii. 771 The Bishop... bustled himself with all speed possible to the Church. 1833 *Blackw. Mag.* XXIII. 281 A man who bustled himself into importance with the mob. 1849 *Ibid.* LXV. 695 Old Thomas had to bustle on his coat. 1855 KINGSLEY *Westw. Ho* ii. The churchwardens and sidesmen... have bustled themselves hot and red. *Ibid.* v. 92 The jolly old man bustled them out of the house. 1883 *Standard* 8 Sept. If a stroke oar spurred at every two hundred yards, and then eased when he was striking fast, he would 'bustle' his men into utter confusion.

Bustle, v.² *rare*. [f. *BUSTLE* sb.²] *intr.* To stick out, project, as if supported by a bustle.

1843 DICKENS *Lett.* (1881) iii. 157 A clinging flounced black silk dress, which wouldn't drape, or bustle, or fall.

Bustled (bɒ'sld), ppl. a. [f. *BUSTLE* sb.² + -ED.] Wearing a bustle.

1832 CARRICK in *Whistle-Binkie* (Sc. Songs) Ser. i. 38 The bustled beauty may engage, The dandy in his corset. 1837 *New Month Mag.* LI. 27 Furbelowed and bustled in the extravagance of the mode.

+ *Bustleplate*. *Obs. rare*—1. [f. *BUSTLE* v.¹ + *PATE*.] ? A bustling person.

a 1652 BROME *Queenes Exch.* v. Wks. 1873 III. 539 Did he so put thee to it, my little Bustleplate?

Bustler (bɒ'slɪ), [f. *BUSTLE* v.¹ + -ER.] One who bustles or displays fussy activity.

a 1680 BUTLER *Rem.* (1759) II. 393 An Hypocrite... is a great Bustler in Reformation. 1764 COWPER *Task* vi. 951 Thou bustler in concerns Of little worth. 1852 HAWTHORNE *Blithedale* Rom. I. v. 81 The little sphere... in which we were the prattlers and bustlers of a moment.

Bustless (bɒ'stləs), a. [f. *BUST* sb.¹ + -LESS.] Without a (developed) bust.

1870 MISS BROUGHTON *Red as Rose* I. 122 Their little, bustless, waistless, hipless figures.

Bustling (bɒ'slɪŋ), vbl. sb. [f. *BUSTLE* v.¹ + -ING.] The action of the verb *BUSTLE*.

1599 R. HARVEY *Pl. Perc.* 7 Let the youth... not continew such bustling, backbiting, with facing and defacing one another. 1625 K. LONG tr. *Barclay's Argenis* (1636) 681 The shore resounded at... the bustling of the Cables. 1628 EARLE *Microcosm.* (Arb.) 88 An eager bustling, that rather keeps adoe, than do's any thing. 1651 HOBBS *Leviath.* ii. xviii. Of the most sudden, and rough bustling in of a new Truth... does never breake the Peace. 1662 FULLER *Worthies* iii. 109 In his time was much bustling in the University, about an Apocrypha Book. 1674 BURNET *Royal Martyr* 49c (1710) 41 This doth... discharge all bustling and fighting on the pretence of Religion. 1843 CARLYLE *Past & Pr.* (1858) 167 His life is but a bustling and a justling. 1865 KINGSLEY *Herew.* xv. (1877) 186 There was bustling to and fro of her and her maids.

Bustling, ppl. a. [f. as *prec.* + -ING.] That bustles; full of bustle or agitation.

1597 DRAVTON *Mortimer*. 25 A bustling tempests rousing blasts. a 1611 CHAPMAN *Iliad* xiii. 312 From hollow bustling winds engendered storms arise. 1647 CLARENDON *Hist. Reb.* ii. (1843) 492 Sir Harry Vane was a busy and a bustling man. 1823 SVD. SMITH *Wks.* (1859) II. 142 A little merry bustling clergyman. 1846 MISS MITFORD *Village Ser.* ii. (1863) 357 note. The rustling bustling silk gown, redolent in every fold of clerical dignity. 1881 J. HAWTHORNE *Fort. Fool* i. xiv. The bustling period of the day.

Hence *Bustlingly* *adv.* 1822 SCOTT *Nigel* xvii, Reginald Lowestoffe was bustlingly officious and good-natured. 1885 D. C. MURRAY *Rainb. Gold* II. iii. 111. 78 He searched bustlingly for his hat.

+ *Busto*. *Obs.* Pl. -os, (-oes, -o's). [a. It. *busto*: see *BUST*.] = *BUST* sb.¹ I.

1662 J. BARGRAVE *Pope Alex. VII* (1867) 117 An handsome ancient busto (as called at Rome) of Augustus—that is, the head and shoulders—in brass. 1722 DE FOS *Tour Gt. Brit.* (1769) II. 143 A fine busto of Dr. Harvey. 1754 RICHARDSON *Grandison* VII. v. 20 It is ornamented with pictures... statues, bustoes, bronzes. c 1800 K. WHITE *My Study* 68 Nor think it aught of a misnomer To christen Chaucer's busto Homer. 1863 SALA *Capt. Dang.* i. iii. 64 Bustos, pictures, and prints cut in brass.

+ *Bustuary*, a. and sb. *Obs.* [ad. L. *bustuaris* pertaining to burning or the funeral-pyre.]

A. *adj.* Of or belonging to the funeral pile; funeral. *rare*.

1693 URQUHART *Rabelais* iii. lii, Ashes, into which the fuel of the funeral and bustuary fire hath been converted.

B. sb. An incendiary.

1609 J. KING *Serm.* (Nov.) 25 The disloial broode of Ignatius Loiola, the notorious Incendiaries, Bustuaries, of christian states. c 1633 T. ADAMS *Wks.* (1862) II. 32 (D.) They are the firebrands and bustuaries of kingdoms. *Ibid.* 157 (D.) Satan... is the great bustuary himself.

Bustuus, *bustwys*, var. *BOISTOUS* a. *Obs.*

Busty. Rare corruption of *BUST* sb.¹ or *BUSTO*.

1684 1st *Dk. Beaufort's Progr.* 113 A busty representing him down to the waste.

Bustyan, -yon, var. *BUSTIAN*, *Obs.*, a cloth.

Busum, *obs.* form of *BUXOM*.

+ *Busy*, sb. *Obs.* [OE. *bisgu*, *bysgu* str. fem.

abstr., f. *bisig* *BUSY* a.; also *bisig*, *bysig*, neut. of the *adj.* used as sb. (only in pl. *bisgu*).] Occupation, business; state of being actively employed.

a 1000 *From to Elfrid's Boeth.*, Da bisgu us sint swiþe earfoþme (and see *Busy* v.¹ 1). 1212 *Morte Arth.* 3631 The bolde kyng e in a barge and a-bowite rowes, Alle bare-hevede for besye. a 1400 *Octonion* 340 Nother of hem myght fram other ascape, For besy of lyght.

Busy (bi'zi), a. Compared *bustler*, -*iest*.

Forms: 1 *bysig*, 3 *bisej*, *bese*, *busi*, 3-4 *bisi*, *bise*, 3-6 *besy*, *bisie*, 4 *bisale*, *bysale*, *bisey*, 4-5 *bysy*, *bessy*, *bissy*, (bussy), 4-6 *bisy*, *bese*, 5 *besie*, 5-8 *bisie*, 6 *buseye*, *buisie*, 7-8 *buisy*, 8 *Sc. biszie*, -y, 5-*bussy*. [OE. *bisig*, later *bysig*, = ODu. *beziċh* (mod. Du. *bezig*), LG. *besig*; no cognate words are known in any other Teut. or Aryan lang. The ME. typical form was *bisi*, *bisy*, *bysy*: the form *busi* (with *u* = OE. *y*) occurs in the later text of Layamon, but otherwise the *u* form is not found before the 15th c.: its prevalence in modern spelling, while the pronunciation is with *i*, as in ME., is difficult to account for.]

1. Occupied with constant attention; actively engaged; doing something that engrosses the attention. Said of persons; also of the mind, the hands, a mental faculty, or the like. (Rare in attrib. use.)

In the earlier examples (esp. those under b and d) this sense is often not to be distinguished from that of 'careful, eager, anxious'. The latter notion has now disappeared, though a trace of it is found in Johnson's definition, 'employed with earnestness', which does not quite agree with the present usage.

a 1225 *Ancre R.* 182 So þe sinesse is more, se þe gold-smid is bisejre. c 1300 K. *All.* 3906 When he Alisaunder besy seoth. c 1400 *Deut. Troy* 6047 Bise was the burne all the bare night. 1570 LEVINS *Manu.* 108 Busie, *salagens*, *intentus*. 1596 SHAKS. *Tam. Shr.* v. ii. 81 She is busie, and she cannot come. 1611 BIBLE 1 *Kings* xx. 40 As thy seruant was busie here and there. 1690 W. WALKER *Idiomat. Anglo-Lat.* 74 You are as busie as a bee. 1752 JOHNSON *Ramb.* No. 201 P 12 Time slips away, while he is either idle or busy. 1804 SOUTHEY *Thalaba* iv. xiv. The youth, whose busy mind Dwelt on Loabab's words. 1843 CARLYLE *Past & Pr.* iii. xii. (1872) 178 A People energetically busy; heaving, struggling, all shoulders at the wheel. 1883 FROUDE *Short Stud.* IV. ii. 1. 170 His children knew him as a continually busy, useful man of the world. *Mod.* Don't interrupt me, I'm busy.

b. *Const. about*, + *after*, + *of*, *on*, *upon*, *over*, *with* (an object of attention).

a 1000 *Sal. & Sat.* (Gr.) 61 Bysig after becum. a 1225 *Ancre R.* 142 Bisi abuten gostliche biȝete. c 1340 *Cursor M.* 192 (App. iii. Laud MS.) Of martha also that busy [v. r. bysy, bisy, bessy] was aboute cryst bo. c 1380 WYCLIF *Rule St. Francis* ii. (1880) 40 Pat þei be not bisi of here temporal goodis. 1599 SHAKS. *Specie* No. 329 P 1 He had been very busy - upon Baker's Chronicle. 1719 DE FOS *Crusoe* (1840) I. xvi. 285 He was so busy about his father. 1823 LANB *Elia* ser. i. ii. (1865) 15 Busy as a moth over some rotten archive. 1876 GREEN *Short Hist.* v. § 3 (1882) 231 Busy with the cares of political office.

c. *Const. in* (an employment). Often with vbl. sb.; in which construction the prep. is now commonly omitted, so that the vbl. sb. becomes indistinguishable from the pr. pple.

a 1225 *Ancre R.* 84 Pus ha beoð bise i bise fule mester. a 1500 *Knt. & Wife* (Halliwell) Be bessy in Godis servys. 1663 SIR C. LYTTELTON in *Halton Corr.* (1878) 30, I am soe busy... in the dispatch of a fleet. c 1680 BEVERIDGE *Serm.* (1729) I. 430 Busie in providing a suitable entertainment. 1702 ROWE *Amb. Step-Moth.* i. l. 235 So busie were my faculties in thought. 1723 ADDISON *Guardian* No. 112 P 1 Busy in finding out the art of flying. *Mod.* I found him busy packing his trunk.

+ d. *Const. for*. Also with *inf.* *Obs.*

1340 HAMPOLE *Pr. Conc.* 5489 Pe deuels... pat to tempte men... ay er bysy. c 1380 WYCLIF *Serm.* xv. Sel. Wks. i. 36 Men... shulden be bise for blisse. c 1440 *Gesta Rom.* (1879) 245 Late vs be euer besye to plesse god. c 1533 MORE *Anst.* *Poyson*. Bk. Wks. (1557) 1036/1 The leche that... syteth by the sicke man busye aboute to cure hym. 1609 *Sherlock* *genbosh* 21 The English were busie to fill the ditch. 1726 *Life of Penn* in *Wks.* i. 138 Busie for Forms.

+ e. *euphemistic*. To be busy with: to have to do with (sexually). *Obs.*

1622 *Pasquil's Night-cap* (N.) Thou hast beene too busy with a man, And art with child. 1667 DRYDEN *Hind & P.* iii. xiii. 7 The Wolf has been too busie in your bed. 1798 VANBR. & CIB. *Prov. Husb.* ii. i, You would have the Impudence to Sup, and be busy with her.

2. Said of things; fig. of passions, etc.

a 1000 *Byrhtnoth* (Gr.) 110 Bozan wæron bysige. c 1750 SHENSTONE *Ruin'd Ab.* 15 Birds... With busy pinion skim the... wave. 1813 SCOTT *Rokeby* i. iii, Grief was busy in his breast. 1827 CARLYLE *Transl. Libanus* (1874) 63 The screeching of the busy saw. 1825 H. REED *Lect. Eng. Lit.* iv. (1878) 143 Time is busy in the work of change. 1863 KINGLAKE *Crimea* (1876) I. vii. 104 For many days rumour was busy. 1876 GREEN *Short Hist.* vi. § 3 (1882) 290 Busy as was Caxton's printing-press.

+ 3. Occupied to the full or to the limit of one's powers: in phrase *To be busy to do* (a thing): to be fully occupied with it alone, to have enough to do to... *Obs.* (Cf. *ALBYST*.)

c 1286 CHAUCER *Knts. T.* 1584 Swich strif... Bitwixe Venus And Mars... That Iuppiter was busy to stente. 1387 TREvisa *Hidden Rolls* Ser. IV. 453 Pe Est zate... was so bevy of sound bras þat twenty men were besy i-now for to

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tende it. *c1400 Destr. Troy* 10388 *Pe kyng . . harmyt hym sore, Pat bisi was be buerne to bide in his sadill.*

4. Constantly or habitually occupied; full of business, always employed. Also of things: Constantly in motion or activity.

c1200 LAY. 2837 He was a swide bisi [*c1275 busi*] mon. *c1300 CHAUCER Knts.* T. 633 (Harl. MS. 7334) The busy [*v. r. bisy, besye, besy, bysy, besil*] lark, messenger of daye. *1548 LATIMER Serm. Ploughers* (Arb.) 38 No Lordelle loyterer . . but a busie ploughe man. *1608 EARLE Microcosm.* (Arb.) 24 The busie mans recreation, the idle mans businesse. *1642 T. TAYLOR God's Judgem.* i. i. xv. 42 A busie-doer in setting up stakes for the burning of poore Martyrs. *1708 ROWE Amb. Step-Moth.* i. i. 220 The Etherial Energy That busie restless Principle. *1824 SCOTT Wav.* i. viii. 102 Curiosity, the busiest passion of the idle. *1831 CARLYLE Sart. Res.* i. iii. (1871) To a most busy brain. *Mod.* How can so busy a man find time for visiting?

†b. Devoted to business; diligent, active, industrious. *Obs.*

c1470 HENRY Wallace III. 390 He in wer was besy, wycht and wyss. *c1500 Lancelot* 2449 He was bissy and was diligent.

5. In bad sense: Active in what does not concern one; prying, inquisitive, meddlesome, officious; restless, fussy, importunate. Cf. **BUSYBODY**.

c1400 MAUNDVELL xxix. 205 Thei asked him [Alisandre], whi he was so proud and so fierce and so besy. *c1475 Lerne or be I.* 3 in *Babes Bk.* (1868) 10 To Bolde, ne to Besy, ne Bourde nat to large. *1530 PALSGR.* 306/1 Besy, malapert or meddlyng in matters. *entremetteus.* *1580 BARET Adv.* B. 185 A Busie man: a medler in all matters. *1679 Trials Green, etc. for Murder of Sir E. Godfrey* 14 He was a busie man, and . . would do a great deal of mischief. *1740-61 Mrs. DELANY Life & Corr.* (1862) III. 299 That little busy, mischievous fiend, jealousy. *1809-10 COLERIDGE Friend* (1865) 55 A busy and inquisitorial tyranny.

†6. Solicitous, anxious, uneasy; careful, attentive (see note under 1). Of desires, prayers, etc.: Earnest, eager, importunate. *Obs.*

c1380 WYCLIF Wks. (1880) 362 Bissy study and contemplacyon. *c1391 CHAUCER Astrol. Prol.* Thy bisi preyere . . to lerne the tretis of the astrelabe. *1406 OCCLEVK Mirr.* rule 25 My grief and bisy smert. *1413 LYDG. Pilgr. Sowle* iv. xxiv. 70 Besy entemendment to that she techeth. *1483 Cath. Angl.* 29/1 To make besy, solicitare.

†b. phr. To do one's busy pain (diligence, cure): to exert oneself diligently, to do what one can. *Obs.* Cf. **BUSINESS** 8.

c1387 CHAUCER Truth 108 Do your bysy payne To washe away our cloudeful offense. *c1460 J. RUSSELL Bk. Nurture in Babes Bk.* (1868) 100 My copy . . whiche to drawe out [I] haue do my besy diligence. *1508 ARNOLDE Chron.* (1811) 238 This lytl yle. . . For to repayre, do ay thy besy cure.

7. Of actions, employments, conditions, etc.: Energetically carried on; pursued with vigour; active; that keeps one constantly occupied.

1548 LATIMER Serm. Ploughers (Arb.) 24 Right prelatynge is busye labourynge. *1718 POPE Iliad* xvi. 778 On every side the busy combat grows. *1815 L. HUNT Notes on Feast of Poets* 33 Engaged in the busier pursuits. *1837 Hr. MARTINEAU Soc. in Amer.* II. 338 The busiest . . concerns of life. *a1875 KINGSLEY Lit. & Gen. Ess.* xii. (1880) 353 Here and there a stray gleam of sunlight . . awoke into busy life the denizens of the water. *1872 YEATS Growth Comm.* 143 A busy trade in timber.

†8. Of things: Involving much work or trouble; elaborate, intricate, 'curious.' *Obs.*

1441 Lett. Patent Hen. VI re Eton Coll. in *Liber Cantabrig.* (1855) 390 Curious works of entayle and busie mouldings. *1536 J. HUSCE in Lisle Papers* XII. 53 It [cushion to be worked] shall be very busy because of diversity of colours. *1541 UDALL Erasmus Apoph.* 230 b. Alexander perceiving the [Gordian] knotte to bee over busie to bee vndoon with his handes. *Ibid.* 51 b. Busie and sumptuous buildynges. *1577 tr. Bullinger's Decades* (1592) 332 The manner of consecrating them, is far more large and busie. *1615 CROOKER Body of Man* 925 The History of the Bones is a busie piece of Worke.

9. Of times and places: Full of business, stir, or activity.

1607 DRYDEN Virg. Georg. iv. 26 For thy Bees a quiet Station find. . . And plant . . Wild Olive Trees. . . before the busie Shop. *1814 BYRON Lara* i. i. Bright faces in the busy hall. *1832 MACAULAY Armada* 36 That time of slumber was as bright and busy as the day. *1871 MORLEY Crit. Misc.* Ser. i. (1878) 215 The busy world of men.

10. That indicates activity or business.

1632 MILTON Allegro 118 The busy hum of men. *1708 ROWE Amb. Step-Moth.* i. i. 299 Each busie face we meet. *1716 LADY M. W. MONTAGUE Lett.* i. i. 8 People, with . . busy faces. *Mod.* We were surprised at the busy aspect of the village.

11. Comb., as *busy-brained*, *-fingered*, *-headed*, *-tongued*, adjs. (often in unfavourable sense). Also †*busy-head* = **BUSYBODY**; *busy-idle* a., busily employed about trifles (so *busy idleness*); *busy-idler*, a person so employed.

1572 J. MAITLAND Agst. Sklanderous Townes, Gif 'bissie-branit bodeis yow bakbyte. *1570 TOMSON Calvin's Serm. Tim.* 658/2 If wee be more busie brained then we shoulde be. *a1577 SIR T. SMITH Commonw. Eng.* (1633) 217 For what will not 'busie-heads and lovers of trouble . . invent? *1603 DAVIES Microcosm.* 57 (D.) Many a busie-head . . Put in their heads how they may compasse crownes. *1583 STUBBES Anat. Abus.* ii. 60 These 'busie heded astronomers, and curious serching astrologers. *1633 Costlie Whore* iv. ii. In Bullen O. Plays IV. A plague upon this busie-headed rabble! *1823 LAMB Elia* Ser. i. xx. (1865) 159 These 'busy-idle diversions. *1880 BERTHA THOMAS Violin-Player* I. ii. 45 He amused himself in carving wooden

figures . . and other busy-idle ways. *1882 T. MITCHELL Aristoph.* II. 18 A sort of ennuyé, triste, pitiable 'busy-idler. *1878 Bosw. SMITH Carthage* 255 'Busy-tongued rumour passed from mouth to mouth.

Busy (bi'zi), *v.* Forms: 1 *byzgian*, *biezgian*, *bysizan*, 4 *besien*, *biaien*, *bisie*, *bysi*, *bisy*, 4-6 *besy*, 5 *besye*, 5-6 *busye*, 5-7 *busie*, 6 *bussy*, *bysye*, 5- *busy*. [OE. *bisgian*, *bysgian*, f. *bisig* **BURY** a.]

1. *trans.* To employ with constant attention; to engage or occupy assiduously; to keep busy (persons, employments, or objects of attention).

a1000 Proem to Ælfrad's Boeth. For þæm . . manigfealdum weoruldþisigum be hine . . bisigodan. *1330 PALSGR.* 451/2, I besy, I set aworke or I put in busynesse. *Ibid.* 455/2, I bysye my body. *1587 GOLDING De Mornay* i. 7 Thou . . busiest all thy wits about it. *a1608 TEMPLE Ess. Poetry* Wks. 1731 I. 241 Before the Discourses . . of Philosophers began to busy . . the Grecian Wits. *1724 SWIFT Drapier's Lett.* Wks. 1755 V. ii. 95 To busy my head and my hands to the loss of my time. *1871 R. ELLIS Catullus* xl. 5 Wouldst thou busy the breath of half the people?

b. *refl.* (The most usual construction.) *Const. inf. (obs.), with, in, about.*

c1000 O. E. Hom. (Thorpe) II. 406 (Bosw.) Se man biþ herigendlic, ðe mid godum weorcum hine sylfne byszap. *c1340 Cursor M.* 23048 (Trin.) Þei . . bisieden hem to pleisen hym. *c1400 Destr. Troy* 9306 Achilles . . to bryng hit aboute besit hym sore. *1530 PALSGR.* 895 My self . . whiche . . have besyed me . . to teche . . many . . princes and princesses. *1653 FULLER Ch. Hist.* II. ii. 97 He busied himself in Toys and Trifles. *1736 BUTLER Anal.* II. vii. 353 To how little purpose those persons busy themselves. *1853 HELPS Comp. Solist.* iii. (1874) 46 He busied himself about many worldly things. *1866 KANE Arct. Expl.* II. ii. 33 Petersen began . . to busy himself with his wardrobe. *1876 GREEN Short Hist.* ii. § 5 (1882) 79 The King . . busied himself in the erection of numerous castles. *1878 BROWNING La Saisiaz* 64 Busy thee for ill or good.

c. *in passive.* *Const. as in b.*

c1000 Collog. Monast. (Thorpe) 18 (Bosw.) Ic eom bysgod on sange. *1506 Pilgr. Perf.* (W. de W. 1531) 58 Be thou neuer more than nedeth . . busied or troubled in the defautes or offences of other. *1663 BINGHAM Xenophon* 85 That the enemy might be busied on all sides. *1758 JOHNSON Idler* No. 4 P. 7 Every tongue is busied in solicitation. *1868 E. EDWARDS Raleigh* i. xviii. 361 Raleigh was busied . . with his official duties.

d. *trans.* To occupy (time) fully. *rare.*

1659 FORD Lover's Mel. L. i. (1811) 125 Him . . whose study Had busied many hours. *1808 W. TAYLOR in Robberds Mem.* I. 431 Two elections . . which busied time and idea.

†2. To trouble the body (only in OE.) or mind; to afflict, worry, disturb, perplex. *Obs.*

a1000 Metr. Boeth. xxii. 30 (Gr.) Þæs lichoman leahtras and hefignes . . oft byszigen monna modsefan. *c1000 Wale* (Gr.) 51 Hine hunger byszap. *c1000 Sax. Leechd.* i. 82 Gif se lichoma hwær mid hefiglice hæto sy gebysgod. *c1325 E. E. Allit. P.* A. 268, & busyez þe aboute a raysoun bref. *c1380 WYCLIF Serm.* v. Sel. Wks. I. 13 It is no nede to bisie us what hitz Tobies hound. *1591 Troub. Raigne K. John* (1611) 61 That were to busie men with doubts.

†b. To disturb, agitate (a material object). *Obs.*

c1374 CHAUCER Boeth. (1868) 8 The causes whennes þe souynyn wyndes . . bisien þe smole water of the see.

3. *intr.* († for *refl.*). To be busy, occupy oneself, take trouble (now *rare*).

c1340 Gav. & Gr. Knt. 1066 Naf I now to busy, bot bare þre dayez. *1382 WYCLIF Luke* x. 40 Martha bisyede aboute moche seruyce. *c1450 Merlin* xiii. (1877) 201 Oon part bisied for the rescow. *1573 G. HARVEY Letter-bk.* (1884) 132 Chaos, whereon I bussid over longe. *1582 BATMAN Barik. De P. R.* 201 b/2 Euery part [of the earth] . . busieth with his owne weight to come to the middle of y^e earth. *1878 BESANT & RICE Celia's Arb.* III. xiv. 218 She . . fell to busying about ny pillows.

Busybody (bi'zibodi). [f. **BUSY** a. + **BODY**.] An officious or meddlesome person; one who is improperly busy in other people's affairs.

1506 TINDALE 1 Pet. iv. 15 Se that none of you suffre . . as a busybody in other mens matters. *1530 PALSGR.* 423/2 He his a busye body, il est entre-metteus. *1570 DER Math. Pref.* 46 Vaine prating busy bodies. *1679 FRANCE Addit. Narr. Pop. Plot* 40 The Jesuites, who are the great Polypragmons, or Busie-bodies. *1710 PALMER Proverbs* 356 A busiebody burns his own fingers. *1847 DISRAELI Taucrad* vi. xi. 480 The most energetic men in Europe are mere busybodies. *1875 JOWETT Plato* (ed. 2) III. 56 The habit of being a busybody and of doing another man's business.

Hence **Busybodied** a., of the nature of a busybody, meddlesome (*rare*); **Busybodying**, *vbl. sb.*, acting the busybody; *ppl. a.* acting as a busybody; **Busybodyish**; **Busybodyism**; **Busybodyness**.

1655 FULLER Ch. Hist. II. iv. § 23 It is not out of Curiosity, or Busybodyness, to be meddling in other mens Lines. *1812 G. COLMAN Br. Grins. Lady of Wr.* II. xvii. The busybodied, brainless knight. *1828 J. WILSON in Blackw. Mag.* XXIII. 123 Curiosity . . and a habit of busybodyism. *a1849 Pos Myst. Marie Roget* Wks. (1872) 226 Romantic busybodyism. *1857 Chambl. Jund.* XX. 427 The whole system of busybodying and scandal-mongering. *1863 Mrs. C. CLARKE Shaks. Char.* vi. 160 A fussy, busy-bodying old woman. *1865 CARLYLE Frask. Gt.* III. x. ii. 234 A rather impudent busybodyish fellow. *1882 Fraser's Mag.* XXVI. 53 Merely the result of . . a sort of intellectual busybodyism.

†**Busyful**, a. *Obs.* In 5 *bisi*. [? f. *bisi*, **BUSY** sb. + **FUL**.] Laborate, made with much work.

1340 Ayenb. 226 Loze clopinge nast proud ne bisiuol.

†**Busyhede**, *Obs.* In 4 *bisi*, *bisy*, *bysy*, *bysied*, *-hede*. [f. **BUSY** a. + **HEAD**.] a. State or quality of being busy; occupation, labour;

care, anxiety. b. Curiosity, inquisitiveness. c. Elaborateness, 'curiousness'.

(Frequent in Aenb.; scarcely found elsewhere.)

c1300 K. Alis. 3 Bisyhed, care, and sorowe, Is with mony uche a-morowe. *1340 Ayenb.* 55 Þe bysihede of glotuns þet ne zechep bote to þe delit of hare sueli. *Ibid.* 164 Alle þe bysihede and þe grete niedes of þe wordie. *Ibid.* 228 Non ne wolde . . zechen uairhede ne bisihede of robes . . bote yef he ne wende to by 230ze of þe uolke. *Ibid.* 231 Ydele bysihede of 23þe of hyerþe and of speche.

Busying (bi'ziŋ), *vbl. sb.* and *ppl. a.* [f. **BUSY** v. + **-ING**.] *A. vbl. sb.* The action of the verb **BUSY**. *B. ppl. a.* That makes busy.

1398 TREvisa Barth. De P. R. xiv. ii. (1495) 215 a/2 þe besyng and Inclynacon of parties. *1656 S. H. Gold. Law* 58 A world of other busying performances.

Busyish (bi'ziʃ), a. [f. **BUSY** a. + **-ISH** 1.] Somewhat busy.

1861 CLOUGH Poems & Prose Rem. (1869) I. 268 Caunterets . . is a busyish water-place.

[**Busiless**, a. (A conjectural reading of Theobald 1726 in Shaks. *Tempest* III. i. 15 where the folio of 1623 has 'busie lest'.)]

Busyn, var. of **BUSINE**, *Obs.*, trumpet.

Busyness (bi'ziness), *rare*. [f. **BUSY** a. + **-NESS**: a modern formation on *busy*, the already existing word *business* having acquired different meaning and pronunciation.] *Busy* state or quality; = **BUSINESS** I, and next.

1668 Mrs. WHITNEY P. Strong vii. The bright brisk busyness of the squirrel. *1868 G. MACDONALD Seaboard Par.* I. xi. 164 In the midst of the world of light and busyness. *1880 Macm. Mag.* May 53 An interesting example of the busyness of rumour.

†**Busyship**, *Obs.* In 3 *bisi*-, 4 *besi*-. [f. **BUSY** a. + **-SHIP**.] *Busy* state or quality; business, activity, exercise; = *prec.*

a1325 Ancr. R. 384 *Exercitatio corporis ad modicum ualet*. . . Licomliche bisschipe is to lutele wurd. *1303 Gower Conf.* II. 39 What hast thou done of besiship To love.

†**Busyty**, *Obs. rare* -1. In 6 *besyte*. [f. **BUSY** + **-TY**; after words from F. and L. like *veristy*, *jolli-ty*.] Officiousness, fussiness.

c1511 COLET Serm. Conf. & Ref. in Phenix (1708) II. 4 The Besyte and Wantonness of Officials.

But (bət), *prep., conj., adv.* Forms: 1 *be-utan* (only as *prep.* or *adv.*), *bütan*, *-on*, *-un*, *büta*, *büte*, 2-3 *buten*, 2-4 *bute*, (2-3 *boten*, 2-4 *bote*, 3-7 *Sc. bot*), 3- *but*. [The OE. *adv.* and *prep.* *be-utan*, *bütan*, *büta*, 'on the outside, without', of which the strong form regularly became in ME. *bouten*, *boute*, *BOUT*, as *adv.* and *prep.*, was phonetically weakened to *bütten*, *büte*, *but*, as a conjunction, with uses arising immediately out of the prepositional sense. In some of these uses, the conjunction is, even in modern English, not distinctly separated from the preposition: the want of inflexions in substantives, and the colloquial use of *me*, *us*, for *I*, *we*, etc., as complementary nominatives in the pronouns, making it uncertain whether *but* is to be taken as governing a case. In other words 'nobody else went but me (or I)' is variously analysed as = 'nobody else went except me' and 'nobody else went except (that) I (went)', and as these mean precisely the same thing, both are pronounced grammatically correct. (See *Latham, Eng. Lang.* ed. 1850, p. 483; also *F. Hall, Modern English* 104, 303, notes.) In colloquial use *me*, *us*, etc., are more common than *I*, *we*, etc.; in literary use, the point is usually avoided by substituting *except*, *save*, or otherwise altering the phraseology. In certain phrases the conjunctional *but* develops, by ellipsis of a preceding negative, the adverbial sense 'only': see C. 6 below. Otherwise the modern use of *but* as a preposition or adverb is only Scotch; the form *Bout* which was the regular ME. repr. of OE. *bütan* as *prep.* and *adv.* having become obsolete by 1500.]

A. prep. †1. Outside of, without.

Only in OE. (see *Bout*), exc. in mod.Sc. in such phrases as *but the house*; see *But* *adv.* 1 c.

2. Without, apart from, unprovided with, void of. (Used in Sc. since 14th c. but now obsolescent. The ME. was *boute*, *BOUT*, q. v.)

[894-1500 see *Bout*.] *1375 Barnour Bruce* v. 91 Till the toun soyn cumin ar thai Sa preuely, bot noys making. *1423 Jas. I King's Q.* viii. And down I lay bot ony taryng. *1497 Minule Town-Counc. Edinb.* in *Phil. Trans.* XLII. 421 Thai sall be banist bot favors. *1533 BELLENDEN Lirry* iv. (1822) 321 The samyn was done bot ony respect to juris or lawe. *a1644 LAUD Serm.* (1847) 127 They . . joy in their very tears to see they cannot call but crying. *1794 RAMSAY Teat. Misc.* (1733) II. 163 I'd tak my Katie but a gown Bare-footed in her little coatie. *1794 Burns Auld Man* ii. My trunk of eild, but buss or bield Sinks in time's wintry rage. *1810 TANNAHILL Poems* (1846) 21 Safe but skaith or scar.

3. Leaving out, barring, with the exception of, except, save. Distinctly a preposition in OE.

979-82 O. E. Chron. (MS. Cott. Tib. A. iii) Ða feng Eadmund to . . and heold seofode healf gear butan ii nihtum. *a1000 Menolog.* 87 (Gr.) Ymb first wucan butan anre niht.

In later times, the original prepositional and later conjunctive uses are so inseparable that the whole are treated under C.

B. *adv.* I. Without, outside.

† a. in general sense, with forms *butan*, *būta*, *bute*, *boute*: see BOUT.

b. spec. in Sc. with sense: Outside the house (of motion as well as rest); in *mod.Sc.* in or into the outer or more public apartment of the house, in the ante-room or kitchen: opposed to BEN, q.v. (Now less common than *ben*.)

c. 1490 HENRYSON *Mor. Fab.* 14 Her den . . Full beenlie stuffed both butte and ben, Of Beines and Nuttes, Pease, Rye and Wheat. 1513 DOUGLAS *Æneis* iv. xii. 53 Flambe . . Spreading fra thak to thak, baith but and ben. 1568 *Wife of Aucht*, iv. in *Bannatyne Poems* (1770) 216 Aye as ye gang but and ben. a 1646 A. HENDERSON *Let. Chas. I.* Wks. 160 It cannot be brought But, that is not the Ben. 1707 BURNS *Let. iii.* Wks. (Globe) 334, I can hardly stoiter but and ben. 1807 J. WILSON *Noct. Ambr.* Wks. 1855 I. 357 Bring but a bottle o' primrose wine. *Mod. Sc.* Gae but, and wait while I am ready.

d. as *adj.* Outside, outer, exterior: as in *but end*.

1619 SIR R. BOYLE in *Lismore Papers* (1886) I. 219 The but end of a great stone house that was never fynished.

1868 R. H. STORV in *Athenaeum* 30 Aug. 270 He conducted me to the but end of the mansion.

d. as *sb.* The outer room of a house, into which the outer door opens. A *but-and-ben*: a house having an outer and an inner apartment; a two-roomed house.

1724 RAMSAY *Tea-T. Misc.* (1733) I. 29 A house is butt and benn. 1786 BURNS *Calv.* Some kind, connubial dear, Your but-and-ben adorns. 1849 R. BURTON *Centr. Afr.* in *Jrnl.* R. G. S. XXIX. 134 Each house has two rooms, a 'but' and a 'ben' separated by a screen of corn-canes. . . The but, used as parlour, kitchen, and dormitory, opens upon the central square; the ben . . serves for sleeping and for a storeroom. 1861 RAMSAY *Remin.* iii. (ed. 18) 60 A cosy but, and a canty ben. c. 1870 R. BUCHANAN *Sutherland's Pansies* iii. I found him settled in this but and ben.

e. As *prep.*

1768 ROSS *Helenore* 74 (JAM.) Lindy . . looking butt the floor, Sees Bydyb standing just within the door. *Mod. Sc.* Gang but the house and see who is there, and come ben again and tell me. The mistress happened to be but the house [*i.e.* out in the kitchen] at the time.

2. In sense: Only. An elliptic development of the conjunction: see C. 6.

C. *conj.*

General Scheme. I. In a simple sentence. II. In a complex sentence. III. In a compound sentence, or introducing a consequent sentence. IV. In phrases.

I. In a simple sentence; introducing a word or phrase (rarely a clause) which is excepted from the general statement: Without, with the exception of, except, save.

1. After universal statements with *all*, *every*, *any*. † a. In OE. construed as a *prep.* with dative. (See A. 3.)

a 1000 *Beowulf* 705 (Z.) Ealle buton anum. c. 1000 ÆLFRIC *Job* (Etm.) iv. 15 Ealle þa þing. . . buton þam anum.

b. In ME. and modern use weakened to a conjunction, as in 3 and 4.

(a.) This is shown before a nominative pronoun. c. 1460 *Towneley Myst.* 23 Alle shalle be slayn but onely we. a 1835 MRS. HEMANS *Casabianca* 2 The boy stood on the burning deck, Whence all but he had fled. 1872 J. H. NEWMAN *Disc. & Arguments* 6, I am one among a thousand; all of them wrong but I. (*Colloq.* also, 'but me'.)

(b.) Otherwise, on account of the levelling of inflexions, the case is not shown, or may be independent of *but* (quot. a 1000), or *but* introduces a phrase.

a 1000 *Panther* 16 (Gr.) Se is æthwam freond butan dracan anum. a 1300 *Cursor M.* 763 Sua do we [etc.] Of al þe tres bot of an. 1423 JAS. I *King's Q.* 94 With wingis bright, all plumy, bot his face. 1596 *Edw. III.* ii. i. 13 Wisdom is foolishness, bot in her tongue. 1599 NASHE *Christ's T.* 57 b. If wee did imitate ought but the imperfections of Beastes. a 1618 RALEIGH *Verses* (Mildmay MS.) Love all eaten out but in outward showe. 1681 DRYDEN *Abt. & Achit.* 56 And thought that all but Savages were Slaves. 1808 MAR. EDGEWORTH *Moral T.* (1816) I. ix. 68, I can bear any thing but contempt. 1838 THIRLWALL *Greece* V. xxxix. 81 It [an oath] was taken . . by all but the Eleans. *Mod.* Any thing but that! Any one but a fool would understand. Anywhere but in England. At any time but the present. Everybody but you has signed.

c. *All but*: everything short of. Hence, *advb.* Almost, very nearly, well nigh: see ALL A. 8 b.

2. After *only*, or a superlative. Const. as in 1 b. 1580 NORTH *Plutarch* 672 The first time that ever the two Kings were of one House but then. *Mod.* The only person I have met but you. He is last but one in the class.

3. After interrogatives (*who*, *what*, etc.) *but* was already in OE. construed as a conjunction, not affecting the case of the following sb. or pronoun, which depends upon the expansion of its own clause. This appears to have been universal in ME., and is regular now. Only rarely in modern times is *but* treated as a preposition governing the word.

a. With pronouns showing the case.

a 1000 *Crist* 695 (Gr.) Hwæt sindon þa gimmas butan god

syffe. c. 1380 WYCLIF *Serm.* Sel. Wks. I. 279 Who shulde be dampned but þou? 1788 COWPER *Gilpin* 113 Away went Gilpin—who but he? 1777 SHERIDAN *Sch. Scand.* 231 Come—for, but thee, who seeks the Muse? *Mod.* Is there any one in the house but she? (or but her?) Who could have done it but he? (or but him?).

b. Otherwise the case is not shown, or is objective independently of *but*.

c. 1300 *Cato Major* iv. v. What prou may þi catel do But hele wol with þe dele? c. 1440 *Gesta Rom.* (1878) 123 What dude he but yede, and purveyde him of iij. cautils. 1576 GASCOIGNE *Steel Gl.* (Arb.) 60 What causeth this, but greedy golde to get? 1601 WEEVER in *Shaks. C. Praise* 42 Who but Brutus then was vicious? 1790 BURKE *Fr. Rev.* 339 Who but the most desperate adventurers . . could at all have thought of [it]. 1872 BLACK *Adv. Phaeton* xxiv. 336 What must she do but immediately turn to the Lieutenant? *Mod.* Whom could he mean but me? Why have they come but to annoy us?

4. So after a negative, expressed or implied. (Here but regularly translates L. *nisi*, and may be explained as 'unless, if not'. It has been treated as a conjunction from the earliest times.)

† a. With sb. or pron. as compl. to be: see 6 a.

c. 893 K. ÆLFRED *Oras.* i. i. Þær nœran butan twegen dælas. a 1225 *Leg. Kath.* 282 Per nis bot a Godd. c. 1240 *Ureism* in *Lamb. Hom.* 185 Azein hwam þe sunne nis boten a schadwe. 1340 *Ayeb.* 258 Þe sserdinge þet ne ssolde by bote a tokne. of þe ssame of his vader. 1393 LANGE *P. Pl.* C. i. 205 Ther þe cat nys bote a kyton. *Ibid.* xx. 149 Alle þre nys bote o god.

b. With a sb. or pronoun whose case depends on its own clause. (a.) The case is now shown only in a personal pronoun.

a 1000 *Phariz* (Gr.) 358 Ne wat ænig butan metod ana. a 1000 *Seafarer* (Gr.) 18 Ic ne gehyrde butan hlifman sæ. c. 1000 *Ag. Gosp.* Matt. xl. 27 Nan mann ne can þone sunu butun fædyr [*Lind.* buta ðe fæder; *Halt.* buto se fader; *Vulg.* nisi pater]. c. 1230 *Hali Meid.* 21 Ne moten nane bote heo hopen ne singen. 1230 R. BRUNNE *Chron.* 183 No body bot he alone vnto þe Cristen cam. ? c. 1370 *Robt. K. Cicle* 61 There was lefte noon but he alone. c. 1380 WYCLIF *Sel. Wks.* III. 45 Othir God is noon but I. c. 1430 *Syr. Tryam.* 1166 Ther schalle no man fyght but y. 1500 A. L. tr. *Calvin's Fourte Serm.* (1574) 48 There is none but he alone to save us. 1615 tr. *De Montfort's Surv. E. Indies* 26 None but he and his men can tell, what is become of them. a 1842 ARNOLD *Fragm. on Church* (1845) 223 None but they . . have a right to rule in the Church.

(b.) Otherwise, on account of the levelling of inflexions, the case is not shown, or would be objective independently of *but* (as in quot. 1300, 1599, 1808).

1254 O. E. *Chron.* (Laud MS.) an. 1135 Durste nan man sei to him naht bute god. c. 1200 *Moral Ode in Trin. Coll. Hom.* 223 Non ne cnowed hine also wel buten one drihte. a 1300 *Cursor M.* 961, I wat bot þe haf i na frend. c. 1380 WYCLIF *Sel. Wks.* I. 94 Love we God . . and drede we noo thing but hym. 1590 GREENE *George a Gr.* (1861) 256 He is the man and she will none but him. 1618 J. TAYLOR (Water P.) *Penniless Pilgr.* (1883) 23 Nothing, (but my weary self) was bad. 1667 PERKINS *Prof. Bk.* ii. § 158 (1642) 71 None speaks the same but their principall. a 1712 KEN *Hymn-othea* Poet. Wks. 1721 III. 7 For I Nothing but Ants about this Hill descry. 1808 MAR. EDGEWORTH *Moral T.* (1816) I. iii. 17 He wants nothing but a little common sense. 1808 J. BARLOW *Columb.* i. 30 Invoke no miracle, no Muse but thee. 1821 SHELLEY *Hellas*, Nought is but that which feels itself to be.

¶ (c.) The nominative occurs erroneously, where the construction requires the objective.

c. 1430 *Syr. Gener.* 902 This child hath no modre but I. 1607 TOPSELL *Four-f. Beasts* 111 They have no other King but he. a 1866 in *Engel Nat. Mus.* ix. 358 And I had nae mair bot hee, O.

c. With a prepositional, adverbial, infinitive, or other phrase (rarely expanded to a clause).

971 *Blickl. Hom.* 33 Nolde he him na anderswerian buton mid monþwærnesse. a 1300 *Cursor M.* 455 He þat noght hadd bot him. 1303 R. BRUNNE *Handl. Synne* 1939 Þey do nat wrong,—but al day. 1398 TREVISIA *Barth. De P. R.* iii. xxi. (1495) 69 He erryth not but by happe. c. 1400 *Rom. Rose* 292 She ne lokide but awrie, Or overthart, alle baggyngly. 1448 SHILLINGFORD *Let.* (1871) 66 We wolde noght aggre bot to have power to arreste chonons men servants. 1609 SKENE *Reg. Maj.* *Burrow Lawes* 129 No man sould presume to buy fish. . . in any other place, bot in the Kings market. 1701 WORTON *Hist. Rome* 401 He never us'd any Linnen or other Clothes but once. 1743 J. MORRIS *Serm.* ii. 49 Faith and hope have no aptitude to make us happy, but as they incline us to love. 1779 FORREST *Voy. N. Guinea* 246 In the streets, women seldom speak but to women. 1843 RUSKIN *Mod. Paint.* (1851) I. i. 1. 2 No man can be really appreciated but by his equal or superior. 1884 W. C. SMITH *Kildrostan* 77 You have no choice but marry Doris now.

† d. *But* was strengthened by *only*. Obs.

c. 1230 *Hali Meid.* 5 Ha nawiht ne þarf of oðer þing þenchen bute an of hire leofom. c. 1460 FORTESCUE *Abt. & Lim. Mon.* (1714) 42 It nedith not to . . purvey, but only for the Kyngs Hous. 1604 L. LLOYD *Confer. Lawes* 27 There was no God but only his maister. 1688 WHEELER *Journ. Greece* i. 2 No Appeal can be made, but only to the Senate. 1715 BURNET *Own Time* II. 242 They took little care of it, but only to find men who would bear the charge.

5. Negative and interrogative sentences containing a comparative (esp. *more*) were formerly followed by *but*; they now usually take *than*, or else the comparative is omitted and *but* retained; modern idiom preferring sometimes one, sometimes the other.

1440 J. SHIRLEY *Dethe K. James* (1818) 12 There be no mo kynges yn this reume bot ye and I. c. 1500 *Rob. Hood*

(Ritson) i. i. 155, I have no more but ten shillings. 1503 LD. BERNERS *Froiss.* I. cxi. 134 They . . toke their horses, wherof they had no mo but sixe. 1530 — *Gold. Bk. M. Aurel.* Nn iij b, What greater correction shuld I haue of thy wyckednes . . but to bee certain that all the lovely ladies of Rome ar sory of thy life. 1583 GOLDING *Calvin on Deut.* xlv. 266 To bestow it vpon men which are no better but dung. 1606 G. WOODCOCKE *Hist. Iustine* 97 a, They were no better but a ragged sort of shepheards. 1644 CHILLINGWORTH *Serm.* 32 Our whole lives (if sincerely examined) would appeare, I feare, little lesse but a perpetuall lye. 1686 *Papist not Misrepr.* 21 The difference . . is no more but this. 1713 STEELE *Guardian* No. 143 P 5 There needed no more but to advance one step. *Mod.* There remains no more but to thank you for your courteous attention.

b. So with similar sentences containing *other*, *otherwise*, *else*; in which *but* is still sometimes retained, esp. after *else*, as 'Who else but he?'

971 *Blickl. Hom.* 39 Hwylc beren mænde he þonne elles buton heofona rice? *Ibid.* Hwæt mænde he þonne elles, buton þæt we gefyllon þæs pearfan wambe mid urum godum? 1495 *Act 11 Hen. VII.* ii. § 1 Ther to have noon other sustenance but brede and water. 1589 PUTTENHAM *Eng. Poessie* iii. xix. (Arb.) 207 What els is man but his minde? 1611 BIBLE *Prof.* 1 For none other fault but for seeking to reduce their Countrey-men to good order. 1689 SELDEN *Table T.* (1847) 149 Pleasure is nothing else but the intermission of Pain. 1713 STEELE *Guardian* No. 143 P 5 Had no other fault, but that of being too short. *Mod.* It is nothing else but laziness!

† c. After *unlike*. Obs. rare.

1628 ASHMOLE *Theatr. Chem.* Prol. 7 Not unlike, but the Wall-nut-Tree which . . grew in Glastenbury-Church-yard.

6. By the omission of the negative accompanying the preceding verb (see 4 a), *but* passes into the adverbial sense of: Nought but, no more than, only, merely. (Thus the earlier 'he nis but a child' is now 'he is but a child'; here north. dialects use NOBBUT=nought but, not but, 'he is nobbut a child'.)

a 1300 *Cursor M.* 4322 Bettur. . . þan folu þi prai þat es bot tint. 1393 LANGE *P. Pl.* C. xvii. 359 He comþ but selde. c. 1400 MAUNDEV. 157 The folk . . han bot litille appetyt to mete. c. 1440 *Anc. Cookery in Househ. Ord.* (1790) 465 Take rys, and gif hom but a boyle. 1518 *Act 3 Hen. VIII.* vi. Preamb., The forsaid penaltie expressed in the said Statute is but xxx. 1617 S. COLLINS *Ephata to F. T.* (1628) 239 It was impious. . . but euen to touch the bodies of Saints dead. 1647 COWLEY *Mistr.*, *Spring* ii, Could they remember but last year. 1732 BERKELEY *Alciph.* i. § 3 Wks. 1871 II. 29 Do but consider this. 1766 GOLDSM. *Vic. W.* iii, Premature consolation is but the remembrancer of sorrow. 1794 BURNS (*title*) My love she's but a lassie yet. 1876 GREEN *Short Hist.* i. § 3 (1882) 30 In arms the kingdom had but a single rival.

† b. In obsolete or dialectal use in various connected senses: Neither more nor less than, absolutely, actually, just, even. (Sometimes *but* seems merely expletive.) *But now*=just now, only this moment.

c. 1430 *Syr. Tryam.* 596 For welle y wot that y am but dede. c. 1530 LD. BERNERS *Arth. Lgt. Bryt.* 79 Yf thei se him, they are but lost for ever. 1594 NASHE *Unfort. Trav.* 39 He tolde me but euerie thing that she and he agreed of. 1622 MABBE tr. *Aleman's Gusman d'Alf.* i. 248 He is heere (Sir) about the house, I saw him but now. 1665 BOYLER *Occas. Refl.* (1675) 37 A but plausible Argument, dress'd up in fine Similitudes. 1844 F. PAGET *Tales Village Childr.* Ser. ii. (1858) 16 My poor legs how they do but tremble. 1859 BARNES *Rhymes in Dorset Dial.* II. 7 Back here, but now, the jobber John Come by.

† c. Formerly strengthened with *only*, which now would be used alone.

1477 EARL RIVERS *Dictes* 9, Anqther litil flode whiche drowned but the contre of Egipte onely. c. 1532 LD. BERNERS *Huon lxxxviii.* 280, I had but alonely my swerde in my hande. 1598 BARNFIELD *Poems* (Arb.) 112 They are indeed but onely meere Illusions. 1605 SHAKS. *Mach.* v. viii. 40 He onely liu'd but till he was a man. 1644 MILTON *Areop.* (Arb.) 36, I find but only two sorts of writings.

7. Elliptically: Any but, aught but, anything else than, other than, otherwise than. (Often after *ever*, *never*.)

1503 LD. BERNERS *Froiss.* I. xviii. 20 Fewe had slepte but lytle, and yet they had sore trauailed the daye before. 1596 *Edw. III.* iv. i. 50 Never to be but Edwards faithful friend. 1610 SHAKS. *Temp.* i. ii. 118, I should sinne To thinke but Noblie of my Grand-mother. 1644 MILTON *Areop.* (Arb.) 56 It cannot be but a dishonour and derogation to the author. 1794 BURNS *How long & dreary is the night*, How can I be but eerie? 1832 BLACKW. *Mag.* XXXII. 166 He never took but one voyage. 1864 R. PAUL *Let. in Mem.* (1872) xviii. 273 You say you are tied hand and foot. You will never be but that in London.

b. After *cannot choose*. 'I cannot choose but speak'='I cannot help speaking'. So interrogative 'Who could choose but . . ?' (Here the infinitive phrase was sometimes expanded into a sub-ordinate clause (cf. 16); esp. after the passive *it cannot be chosen but*.)

1557 NORTH *Gueuara's Diall Pr.* (1582) 402 It cannot be chosen but wee must come before these judges, etc. *Ibid.* 412 He cannot choose but he must fall downe flat to the grounde. 1619 W. SCLATER *Exp. 1 Thess.* (1630) 295 Canst thou chuse now but say, God is in vs. of a truth? 1622 MABBE *Aleman's Gusman d'Alf.* ii. 296 We could not choose but be weary with our last night's ill rest. 1676 HOBBS *Liad* ii. 240 He could not chuse but laugh. 1742 RICHARDSON *Pamela* III. 70, I could not chuse but to forgive her! 1854 LADY LYTON *Behind Sc.* I. Pref. 12 They cannot choose but echo them.

c. After *cannot*, *could not*, *dare not*, etc., and

the interrogative *who could*, etc., with ellipsis of *do, be*, etc. (Lat. *non possum non*.)

1549 *Bk. Com. Prayer* Coll. 15th Sund. after Tr., The frailty of man without these cannot but fall. 1579 Gosson *Sch. Abuse* (Arb.) 19, I cannot but commend his wisdom. 1619 W. SCLATER *Expos. 1 Thess.* (1638) 166 What Atheist dares but yield attention? 1668 Bp. DAVENANT *Serm.* 35 If hee bid it stand still... it dares not but stand. 1644 MILTON *Areop.* (Arb.) 32 It could not but much redound to the lustre of your milde and equall Government. 1705 ADDISON *Italy* Ded., It can't but be obvious to them. 1777 WATSON *Philip II* (1793) I. ii. 26 Such power, and... resources could not but appear formidable. 1812 T. JEFFERSON *Writ.* (1830) IV. 180, I cannot but be gratified by the assurance. 1832 Ht. MARTINEAU *Each & All* ii. 23 He could not but try.

II. In a complex sentence; introducing the subordinate clause.

* With general sense 'except that'; the full expression being *but that*, often reduced to *but*.

† 8. *But that* = Except (that), save (that). *Obs.*

a 1000 *Cadmon's Gen.* 1403 (Gr.) Egorhere call acwealde buton þæt earce bord heofona frea. c 1000 *Ag. Gosp.* Matt. v. 13 Ne mæz (þæt seal) to nahte, buton þæt hit sy utaworpen. c 1205 LAV. 31186 He wolde al þis kinelond setten an heore hond, bute þæt he icleoped were king.

b. with omission of *that*.

1701 W. WOTTON *Hist. Rome* 316 Nothing would serve him, but he must imitate Alexander. 1713 STEELE *Guardian* No. 146 ¶ 4 Nothing would satisfy Sir George... but he must go into the den. 1800 H. MATTHEWS *Diary Invalid* 174 Nothing would please him but I must try on his mitres.

9. *But that*, introducing a consideration or reason to the contrary: Except for the fact that, were it not that. (Formerly *that* was occas. omitted.)

a 1400 *Cov. Myst.* 43 (Mätz.) Myn handwerk to sle sore grevyth me, but that here synne here deth doth brew. 1212 *Morte Arth.* 44 Nere for joye she swounyd swythe, But as that he her helde vp ryght. 1611 SHAKS. *Cymb.* v. v. 41 And but she spoke it dying, I would not beleue her lips. 1608 EARLE *Microcosm.* xlv. (Arb.) 66 Hee would be wholly a Christian, but that he is something of an Atheist. 1688 WHEELER *Journ. Greece* i. 78 We had not staid here long, but the Wind expected proved a brisque South-wind. 1706 AMHERST *Terra Fil.* xiv. 71, I need not have put the case so far, but that I was willing to shew, etc. 1705 SOUTHEY *Joan of Arc* i. 359, I too should be content to dwell in peace... But that my country calls. 1850 Sir H. TAYLOR *Sicilianum* ii. iii, Each by the other would have done the like But that they lack'd the courage.

** With general sense 'if not'.

10. Introducing a condition: If not, unless, except. *arch.*

c 888 K. ÆLFRED *Boeth.* xli. § 2 Ðu seaxt þæt Nan þing wylle, bute hit God wille. c 1000 *Ag. Ps.* vii. 12 Bute ge to him gecyren, se deofol cweð his sword to eow. c 1175 *Lamb. Hom.* 147 Ne mei na Mon me folgen, bute he forlete al. c 1250 *Gen. & Ex.* 3616 Ðat folc on him ne mizte sen But a veil wore hem bitwen. 1388 WYCLIF *Matt.* v. 20 That but (1388a but 31f) sour rihtfulnesse be more plenteouse than of scribis. 3e schulen not entre into the kyngdom of heuenes. 1461 *Paston Lett.* II. 79 But I maye have helpe of my mayster and of yow, I am but lost. 1534 LD. BERNERS *Gold Bk. M. Aurel.* Svij b, He is of an yll inclinacion, but he be forced. 1721 St. German's *Doctor & Stud.* 278 No man may take the man, but he have authority from the Sheriff.

† b. Expanded into *but if*. *Obs.* (Very common from 14th to 16th c.)

c 1200 *WRMIN* 1662 Patt nohtet ne mæz ben don... But iff itt bee wipn witt. c 1325 E. E. *Allit.* P. B. 1110 How schulde þou com to his kyth bot-if þou clene were? 1393 *LANGL. P. Pl.* C. ii. 184 Feith... ded as a dore-nayle... bote yf þe dede folwe. a 1450 *Knt. de la Tour* ix. 13 But yef thei amende hem, the citee and the peple shulde be perysshed. 1580 SIDNEY *Arcadia* (1613) 115 He did not like that maid should once stir out of their fathers houses, but if it were to milke a cow. 1596 SPENSER *F. Q.* iii. iii. 16 But if remedee Thou her afford, full shortly I her dead shall see.

11. Hence a. With 'It shall go hard' and phrases of the nature of a threat. 'I'd burn the house down but I'd find it', i.e. if I did not find it (without doing so) = even though I should have to burn the house down, I'd find it.

1530 LD. BERNERS *Arth. Lyt. Bryt.* 102, I wyl abyde here this seven yere but I will wyne it. 1608 EARLE *Microcosm.* xxxi. (Arb.) 53 It shall goe hard but he will wind in his opportunity. 1643 *Ansu. Observ. W. Bridges conc. War.* 21 Hee will worke wonders but he will doe it. 1725 Dr Foe *Voy. round World* (1840) 307 They would go quite up to the Andes but they would find them. 1777 — *Secrets Invis.* World (1840) 300 I'd burn the house down but I'd find it. 1793 BURNS *Scots, wha hae v.* We will drain our dearest veins, But they shall be free! 1839 *New Monthly Mag.* LVI. 513 It shall go hard but we shall damage the theory.

b. After *It is marvel* (obs.); *it is odds*; *it is ten to one*, and the like.

1583 FULKE *Defence* (1843) 124 It is marvel but you will say, a dead body is not altogether void of strength. 1607 H. BURTON *Bail. Pope's Bull* To Rdr. 3 A thousand to one, but he will breake loose. 1663 Bp. PATRICK *Parab. Pilgr.* viii. (1668) 35 It is a thousand to one but they will find the means. 1712 *Spectator* No. 457 ¶ 3 It is ten to one but my friend Peter is among them. 1713 STEELE *Guardian* No. 14 ¶ 1 It is odds but you lose. 1815 *Scribblemania* 261 It is odds but he miscarries in his suit. 1864 MISS YONGE *Trial* I. xii. 238 Ten to one but the police have got them.

c. With an asseveration after an imprecation: If... not. *arch.* 'Beshrew me, but I shall go' = if I shall not go.

1596 SHAKS. *Nerch.* V. ii. vi. 52 Beshrew me but I loue her heartily. 1691 J. WILSON *Belphegor* i. iii, Beshrew me, but I should have broken my heart. 1766 GOLDSMITH *Vic. W.* vii, May this glass suffocate me, but a fine girl is worth

all the priestcraft in the creation. 1775 BICKERSTAFF *Sullan* ii. i, Let me die but I believe it is their dinner.

** With general sense 'that not', L. *quin.* After negative and questioning constructions.

12. In a simple attributive clause belonging to a sb. or pronoun in the main sentence: That... not.

c 1500 *Coke Lovelles B.* (1843) 12 There was non that there was But he had an offyce more or lasse. 1535 COVERDALE 2 *Kings* xx. 15 There is nothyng in my treasures but I haue shewed it them. 1668 H. MORE *Immort. Soul* 66 We cannot conceive of any portion of matter but it is either hard or soft. c 1846 SPEDDING *Even. with Rev.* (1881) Hardly a man passes by but he must add a wreath to it. 1880 *Daily Tel.* 11 Dec., There never was a reform yet propounded... but some one pronounced it forthwith to be chimerical, extravagant, and Utopian.

b. With omission of the pronominal subject or object of the dependent sentence, so that *but* acts as a negative relative: That... not, who... not. (L. *quin.*)

1523 LD. BERNERS *Froiss.* I. cxli. 170 There departed none agayne, but that had great gyftes gyven them. 1556 J. HEYWOOD *Spider & F.* lii. 4 No kind of flie a lue, but was there that day. 1597 CHURCHYARD in *Mirr. Mag.* (1815) II. 490 Not one of these but gave his maister thanke. 1608 EARLE *Microcosm.* (Arb.) 71 There is no man of worth but has a piece of singularity. 1689 SELDEN *Table T.* (1847) 210 There is no Prince in Christendom but is directly a Tradesman. 1723 Dr Foe *Col. Jack* (1840) 290 There was scarce a plantation near me but had some of them. 1760 GOLDSM. *Cit. W.* i, There is no work whatsoever but he can criticize. 1800 KEATS *Lamia* 665 Not a man but felt the terror in his hair. 1866 KINGSLEY *Herew.* xli. (1877) 495 Hardly one of the Frenchmen round, but... looked on Hereward as a barbarian Englishman.

c. *But what* is sometimes erron. put for *but*: see 30.

13. Following an adjective qualified by *not so*. Cf. 'So brave that he ventured', and 'not so brave but (that) he hesitated'.

1534 LD. BERNERS *Gold. Bk. M. Aurel.* (1546) C vj b, There is nothyng that is so loste but that there is hope of recovering. 1579 Gosson *Sch. Abuse* (Arb.) 50 There was neuer fort so strong, but it might be battered. 1601 BURTON *Anat. Mel.* ii. 538 No garden so well tilled but some noxious weeds grow up in it. 1712 ADDISON *Spect.* No. 203 ¶ 6 It is impossible... to make them so fast, but a cat... will find a way through them. 1824 CARY *Dante* (Chandos ed.) 79 Yet 'scap'd they not so covertly, but well I mark'd Sciancato. 1883 E. GOSSE *17th Cent. Studies* 10 Lodge was not so vagrant a person but that he had married by this time.

14. Introducing an inevitable accompanying circumstance or result: So that... not. Now generally expressed by *without* and *gerund*: 'you cannot look but you will see it', i.e. without seeing it. Formerly sometimes *but that*.

a 1400 *Cursor M.* 9654 (Laud MS.) He may not scape where he go But him assaieþ eyur his fo. c 1400 MAUNDEV. 40 No Straunger cometh before him, but that he maketh him sum Promys. 1534 LD. BERNERS *Gold. Bk. M. Aurel.* (1546) M iv b, One unhappynes chaunceth not, but an other foloweth. 1644 HAYLYN *Stumbling-bl.* in *Hist. & Misc. Tracts* 653 The Magistrate cannot be resisted, but that God is resisted, also. 1686 GOAD *Celest. Bodies* ii. i. 123 You cannot dip into a Diary but you will find it. 1758 JOHNSON *Idler* No. 12 ¶ 4 Scarce any couple comes together, but the nuptials are declared in the newspapers with encomiums on each party. 1796 Mrs. INCHBALD *Nat. & Art* xxxiii, Nor did she ever weep, but he wept too. 1825 LYTTON *Rienzi* x. vi. 422 He had never confided but he had been betrayed. *Prov.* It never rains but it pours.

† 15. a. After *no sooner*, where modern use requires *than*. (Also *but that*). *Obs.*

1580 SIDNEY *Arcadia* (1613) 69 Philoclea no sooner espied the lyon but that... she leapt up, and ran to the lodge-ward. 1597 T. BEARD *Theat. God's Judgem.* (1612) 194 It was no sooner said but done. 1749 FIELDING *Tom Jones* vi. v. 124 1/2 No sooner acquainted my brother, but he immediately wanted to propose it. a 1774 GOLDSM. *Hist. Greece* (1774) I. 265 Which Nicias had no sooner notice of, but he embarked his troops.

† b. After *scarce*, *scarcely*; *not half*; *not long*, *not far*, and the like; where modern use requires *when* or *before*. *Obs.*

1523 LD. BERNERS *Froiss.* I. 230 They were scant entred, but that the frenchmen came thyder. 1563 SACKVILLE in *Mirr. Mag.* R iij b, We had not long furth past, but that we sawe Blacke Cerberus. 1597 TURBERV. *Trag. T.* (1837) 32 He scarcely spake the worde, but by and by... unto her flanks they flew. 1681 H. MORE *Exp. Dan.* ii. 35 He had scarce rub'd his eyes... but Darius fled. 1713 ADDISON *Cato* iv. iv, Scarce had I left my father, but I met him. 1725 Dr Foe *Voy. round World* (1840) 208 Nor had we received him on board half an hour, but... we put out to sea. 1777 — *Secrets Invis.* World (1840) 236 He had not gone many steps more, but he saw his brother. 1800 COLERIDGE *Piccol.* i. ix, Scarce have I arrived... But there is brought to me from your quarry A splendid richly plated hunting dress.

† c. After *it was not long after*, where modern use requires *that*.

1525 LD. BERNERS *Froiss.* II. 156 It was not long after but that the duke of Lancaster, etc. 1563-87 FOXE *A. & M.* (1596) 182/a It was not long after, but Eustace sonne to King Stephan... made war on duke Henrie.

16. After *it cannot be*, *it is impossible*, *it is not possible*, *is it possible?* More fully *but that*.

1539 CRANMER *Bible* Luke xvii. 1 It can not be but offences wyl come [WYCLIF]. It is impossible that sclaudris come not; 1546 TINDALE. It can not be avoyded but that offences will come; 1583 *Rhem.* It is impossible that scandale should not come; 1611 BIBLE. It is impossible but that offences will come. 1557 NORTH *Guenara's Diall Pr.* (1582) 185 It cannot be but that the writings of such a woman...

were very lively. 1601 BURTON *Anat. Mel.* (1806) I. 161 How is it possible but that we should be discontent? 1650 R. STAPYLTON *Strada's Lou-C. Warres* viii. 7 She said it was not possible but she must be in great anxiety. 1724 Dr Foe *Mem. Cavalier* (1840) 160 It was impossible but he should see it. 1790 MARY WOLLSTONECR. *Rights Wom.* Ded. 5, I think it scarcely possible but that some of the enlarged minds... will coincide with me. 1880 T. SPALDING *Eliz. Demonol.* 41 It can hardly be but that the 'thousand noses' are intended as a satirical hit.

† b. Erroneously for *that*, after *it is not impossible*, *not improbable*, *not unlikely*, etc. (Cf. 21.)

1665 J. WILSON *Projectors* iii, 'Tis not impossible but I may make my party good. 1680 *Vind. Conform. Clergy* (ed. 2) 38 It is not unlikely but somebody may know. 1684 N. S. Crit. *Eng. Edit. Bible* xviii. 184 It is not improbable but that Origen... marked the various reading. 1711 *Medley* No. 33 It is not impossible, but such a day as this may come, etc. 1780 MADAM *Thelyph.* I. 3 It is not impossible but that the light of that great reformer had remained hidden under the bushel of monkery.

17. After ('Tis) *pity*.

1573 *New Custom* ii. iii. in *Hazl. Doddsley* III. 34 It were pity but thou were hanged before. 1598 BARNFIELD *Poems* (Arb.) 121 Pity but hee were a King. 1667 H. MORE *Div. Dial.* i. 64 It's pity but what you say should be true. 1852 MISS YONGE *Caneos* II. xviii. 194 Pity but we knew more of the one loyal man of his time!

18. *Not but (that)*, elliptically = 'it is not but that'; or perh. sometimes 'not to say but that'; cf. next.

1648 R. BROOKE *Eng. Episc.* 67 Not but that they were most worthy men. 1704 POPE *Disc. Past. Poetry* § 10 Not but he [Spenser] may be thought imperfect on some few points. 1768 BICKERSTAFF *Limel & Cl.* i. 1, Not but your father had good qualities. *Mot.* Not but that I should have gone if I had had the chance.

*** After various verbs in negative or interrogative construction, with same general sense as in prec. series (12-18). In all cases *but that* is a possible variant.

19. After *not say*, *think*, *conceive*, *conclude*, *believe*, *know*, *see*, *be sure*, *persuade*, and the like.

a 1400 *Against Miracle Plays* in *Rel. Ant.* II. 56 Per-aventure ye seyen that no man schal make 300 to byleven but that is good. 1534 LD. BERNERS *Gold. Bk. M. Aurel.* (1546) E e v b, Thinke not but it dooth brenne my heart. 1581 STYWARD *Martial Discip.* i. 28 He maie not say but that hee was forewarned. 1656 S. H. Gold. *Law* 89, I see not but that... one or both are undone. 1686 GOAD *Celest. Bodies* i. ix. 33 Who knows but that Light and Cold may have kindness one for the other. 1760 GOLDSM. *Cit. W.* xxxii, Who knows but we may see a lord holding the bowl to a minister. 1847 BLACKW. *Mag.* LXI. 20 How could he tell but that Mildred might do the same? 1884 *Times* (weekly ed.) 5 Sept. 3/4, I am not sure but that there is a state of facts by which... the Constitution would be in some danger.

† b. So formerly after *deny*, where *that* is now used.

1547 *Homilies* i. *Fruitf. Exhort.* ii. (1859) 11 Yet no man can deny, but this is the chiefe. 1575 GASCOIGNE *Notes of Instr.* (Arb.) 32, I will not deny but this may seeme a preposterous ordre. 1663 Bp. PATRICK *Parab. Pilgr.* viii. (1668) 33, I will not deny but that it is a difficult thing. 1790 PALEY *Horn Paul.* i. 5, I cannot deny but that it would be easy.

20. After *fear* and equivalent verbs.

1596 J. HEYWOOD *Spider & F.* lxvii. 31 Feare not: but I, Wyl fauer and forder your sute. 1641 T. EDWARDS *Reasons agst. Indp.* 20, I doe not feare but that these few Souldiers will be able to returne againe. 1800 BLACKW. *Mag.* VI. 684, I do not feare but that my grandfather will recover. 1879 Mrs. OLIPHANT *Within Prec.* xvii. 15 Never feare but I'll go.

21. After *doubt*, *despair*, *make no question*, *scruple*, and the like. (Cf. L. *non dubito quin*.) Here *that* is now considered more logical.

c 1340 *Cursor M.* 12322 (Trin.) She... doubted nouȝt But goddes wille wolde be wrouȝt. a 1400 *Against Miracle Plays* in *Rel. Ant.* II. 51 No doute but that it is deadly synne. 1548 LATIMER *Serm. Ploughers* (Arb.) 37, I doubt not but there were many blanchers in the olde time. 1600 O. E. (FM. SUTCLIFFE) *Repl. Libel* i. i. 23, I make no question, but they do farre excell them. 1656 *Artif. Handsomeness* 73 Who... scruples, but that they may lawfully be plucked out? a 1661 FULLER *Triana* iii, Sabina's friends despair not but... to mould him. 1701 W. WOTTON *Hist. Rome* 482 They questioned not but to strike terror into the Romans. 1764 REID *Inquiry* iii. Wks. I. 116/2 Nor is it to be doubted, but smells... would appear to have as great variety. 1823 CARLYLE in *Fraser's Mag.* V. 399 Who doubted but the catastrophe was over? 1847 LIVINGSTONE *Trav.* i. 19 We... have no doubt but it will yet spring up. 1870 RUSKIN *Lect. on Art* (1875) 87, I do not doubt but that you are surprised.

† 22. After *prevent* (*let*), *hinder*, *restrain*, etc.; now expressed by *from* with the gerund, or the gerund alone. (Cf. L. *nihil impedit quin* or *quominus*.) Also after *fail*, *miss*, *hold*, *forbear*, and the like, where various constructions are now used, for which see those verbs.

An infinitive phrase often took the place of the clause. 1598 PERKINS *Prof. Bk.* ii. § 156 (1642) 69 These words... shall not bind him but that hee may enter. 1553 T. WILSON *Rhet.* 81 b, If you loke in the booke, you shal not faile but find them. 1588 R. PARKE *Hist. China* 23 He cannot let but haue in his shop men that must worke of his occupation. 1589 PUTTENHAM *Eng. Poetrie* iii. xiv. (Arb.) 308 Our maker may not be in all cases restrained, but that he may... manifest his arte. 1610 MARKHAM *Masterp.* ii. clxxii. 482 You shall not faile but... you shall spet in his mouth. 1606 G. HAKEWILL *Comparison* 29 He could not hold but let fall teares at the sight thereof. 1653 CLORIN & Nar-

1663 T. JAMES *Voyage* 81. Butterflies, "Butchers-flies, Horsflies. 1821 *New Monthly Mag.* I. 568 The butcher-fly fastens by instinct... upon those parts only that are defective and disgusting. 1867 F. FRANCIS *Angling* ix (1880):430 The Butcher Fly... is not the fly known elsewhere as 'The Butcher'. 1481-90 *Howard Househ. Bks.* 60 Item, to Watkyn. "bocherman iiii. 1881 SULLIVAN *July Annivers.* in

Macm. Mag. XLIV. 343 There may be politicians who would prefer the anniversaries kept in the good old style, however heavy the "butcher's bill". 1883 *Daily News* 17 May 6/1 Even Venus must have mislaid some of her charm if arrayed in "butcher's blue" or "rotten orange". 1876 *FLEMING tr. Caius' Dogs* iv. in Arb. *Garner* III. 255 In Latin, *Canis Laniarius*, in English, the "Butcher Dog." 1897 *Return Parnass.* Pt. 2. II. v. 871 All kinde of dogges.. Butchers dogs, Bloud-hounds, Dunghill dogges. 1755 *Phil. Trans.* XLIX. 260, I procured six puppies, of the butcher-dog-kind. 1882 *Standard* 26 Aug. 2/2 The men linking hands with the "butcher's grip."

Butcher (butʃə), *v.* [f. prec. sb.]

1. *trans.* To slaughter in the manner of a butcher, or in a brutal and indiscriminate manner.

1562 *Compl. of Church* (Collier) 8 You, as sheep, were butcherd down. 1594 *SHAKS. Rich. III.* I. ii. 67 Thou dost swallow vp this good Kings blood, Which his Hell-gouern'd arme hath butchered. 1681 *BURTON Anat. Mel. Democr.* 20 So many myriads.. were butchered up with sword, famine, war. 1680 *ORWAY Caius Marins* 57 Matrons with Infants in their Arms are butcher'd. 1716 *ADDISON Freeholder* No. 10 (1751) 60 A couple of Moors, whom he had been butchering with his own Imperial Hands. 1818 *BYRON Ch. Har.* iv. cxlii. He, their sire, Butcher'd to make a Roman holiday. 1850 *PRESCOTT Mexico* I. 138.

b. *fig.* To 'murder' a reputation, an author's language by blundering delivery, etc.

1647 *BIRKENHEAD Assembly-Man* (1662-3) 16 He Butcher's a Text. 1677 in *Maidment Sc. Pasquils* (1868) 244 For pelf Butcher'd thy fame estate, and last thyself. 1761 *CHURCHILL Rosciad Poems* (1763) I. 28 Could authors butcher'd give an actor grace. 1807 *CARLYLE Transl., Melechsala* (1874) 173 As a modern critic butchers the defenceless rabble.. who venture.. into the literary tilt-yard. 1850 *WHIPPLE Ess. & Rev.* (ed. 3) II. 60 The text is not butchered by misprinting.

2. To torment, inflict torture upon (cf. *sb.* 2).

1642 *T. TAYLOR God's Judgem.* i. l. lii. 410 Turmoyled and butchered with their owne guilty consciences.

3. Peculiarly used with *out*.

1611 *TOURNEUR Ath. Trag.* v. ii. 151 I'll butcher out the passage of his soule That dares attempt to interrupt the blow. 1848 *G. F. RUXTON in Blackw. Mag.* LXIII. 718.

Butcher-bird. [f. *BUTCHER sb.* + *BIRD* (see quot. 1802); Cf. *F. bouchari* 'un des noms vulgaires de la pie-grièche.' *Littre*.] A name given to several species of shrike (*Lanius*): *Lanius excubitor*, *L. tertius*, *L. cinereus*, etc.

1668 *WILKINS Real Char.* 146 Lanius or Butcher bird, is of three several kinds. 1674 *RAY Eng. Birds* Coll. 82 The great Butcher-bird called in the Peak of Derbyshire Wir-rangle, *Lanius cinereus major*. 1679 *PLOT Staffordsh.* (1686) 229 The Butcher-bird or Wierangel, here called the Shreek or French-Pye. 1802 *PALEY Nat. Theol.* xii. 109 The butcher-bird transfixes its prey upon the spike of a thorn, whilst it picks its bones. 1848 *Gard. Chron.* 517 The red-backed shrike or butcher-bird.

Butchered (butʃəd), *pp. a.* [f. *BUTCHER v.* + *-ED*.] Killed by a butcher; killed remorselessly, brutally, or in cold blood.

1594 *SHAKS. Rich. III.* v. iii. 123 The wronged Soules Of butcher'd Princes, fight in thy behalfe. 1827 *W. IRVING Capt. Bonneville* I. 191 The remains of their butchered leader. 1859 *LANG Wand. India* 70 Ellen.. buried her butchered husband.

Butcherer (butʃərə), [f. *BUTCHER v.* + *-ER*.] One who butchers.

1646 *EARL MONM. tr. Biondi's Civ. Warres Eng.* II. 66 'Twas thought he should be the Butcherer of Edwards sons. 1686 *Defence Liberty agst. Tyrants* 16 Nero, that inhuman Butcherer of Christians. 1757 *Herald* No. 14 (1758) I. 235 The paradoxical butcherer of the Roman constitution.

Butcheress (butʃərəs), [f. *BUTCHER sb.* + *-ESS*.] A female butcher; also (*humorously*) a butcher's wife or daughter.

1833 *FRASER'S Mag.* VII. 500 Why need these fair butcheresses (butcher's daughters) torment themselves. 1854 *Chambr. Jnrl.* I. 226 Almost every man.. has a wife who is groceress, linen-draperess, butcheress, or confectioner.

Butchering, *vbl. sb.* [f. *BUTCHER v.* + *-ING*.] 1. The trade or occupation of a butcher.

1860 *O. W. HOLMES Elsie Venner* (1887) 28 A great, hulking fellow, who had been bred to butchering.

2. The action of killing in the manner of a butcher.

lit. and fig. Also *attrib.* 1604 *J. WILLIAMS Ballads fr. MSS.* I. 53 Thexecutioners playde there butchering partes. 1613 *Br. Hall Holy Panegyrr.* 79 Here hath been.. no Bonner-ing or Butchering of Gods Saints. 1831 *CARLYLE Sart. Res.* II. iii. 125 The Soldier wears openly, and even parades, his butchering-tool. 1865 *BUSHNELL Vicar. Sacr.* IV. I. 395 Every woman, every child, looked on at the butchering.

Butchering, *pp. a.* [f. as prec. + *-ING*.] That butchers; that kills wantonly or in cold blood.

1775 *WARREN in Harper's Mag.* Oct. (1883) 736/1 The butchering hands of an inhuman soldiery. 1816 *SOUTHEY Poet's Pilgr.* iv. xliii. From butchering strife Deliver'd.

Butcherly, *a. and adv.* [f. *BUTCHER sb.* + *-LY*.]

A. as *adj.* Like or characteristic of a butcher. Said of persons or their actions. *lit. and fig.*

1513 *MORE Hist. Rich. III.* 37 He.. would have appointed that bocherly office to some other than his owne borne brother. 1728 *Rev. Sat.* (1845) To crouche Before this butcherly slouch. 1863 *EVELYN Mem.* (1857) III. 192 Lord Russell was beheaded.. the executioner giving him three butcherly strokes. 1790 *De Fox Capt. Singleton* viii. (1840) 145 The man.. came to be so butcherly and rude, as to shoot at our men. 1866 *SOUTHEY Lett.* (1856) III. 537 The.. consequence would be division, anarchy, and butcherly civil wars. ¶ Of or connected with physical torture.

1571 *ASCHAM Scholem.* I. (Arb.) 26 Take wholly away this

butcherlie feare in making of latines. *Ibid.* 101 That bocherlie feare.

† B. as *adv.* In the manner of a butcher; brutally, cruelly, grossly. *Obs.*

1563-87 *FOXES A. & M.* II. 363 They.. understood him butcherly—that he would cut out lumps.. out of his body. 1603 *T. CARTWRIGHT Confut. Rhem. N. T.* (1618) 421 Our brethren whose bloud you haue butcherly shed. 1678 *N. WANLEY Wonders* II. xx. § 5. 126/1 He found his Wife most butcherly mangled.

Hence **Butcherliness**.

1755 in *JOHNSON*; and in mod. Dicts.

† **Butcherous**, *a. Obs.* Also 6 bou(t)cherus. [f. *BUTCHER sb.* + *-OUS*.] Butcherly, murderous.

1583 *STANVHURST Aeneis* II. 51 Three missing boucherus hatchet. 1600 *SHELTON Don Quix.* IV. xxvii. 213 Ye murderous Polymeans, ye butcherous Lions.

† **Butcher-row**, *Obs.* Also 6 bucherow, 8 butcherow. [f. *BUTCHER sb.* + *ROW sb.*; cf. *Packers' Row, Saddlers' Row*, names of streets in midland towns.] A shambles, meat-market.

1581 *J. BELL Haddon's Answ.* 268 The Bucharow and shambles of Christian Bloud. 1658 *ROWLAND Moullet's Theat. Ins.* 934 At Toletum in the open Butcher-row. 1702 *W. J. BRUNN'S Voy. Levant* xxxviii. 152 In the City and Suburbs there are reckoned to be nine Publick Butcherows.

Butcher's broom. [See quot. 1847.] Common name of *Ruscus aculeatus* (N. O. *Liliaceae*, tribe *Asparagaceae*), also called Knee Holly, a curious low-growing shrubby evergreen, with rigid branched stems, and coriaceous spiny leaves, or more strictly phyllodes, bearing on their disk the flower and fruit. It is found in the south of England, and is the only native endogenous shrub.

1562 *TURNER Herbal* II. 60 The wild myrte tre.. is called in Englishe bochers broome. 1578 *LYTE Dodona* vi. xiii. 674 In Shoppes it is called Ruscus; in English Kneeholme, Kneehul, Butchers Broome and Pettigree. 1718 *QUINCY Compl. Disp.* 131 Butchers broom.. is of an austere and bitterish Taste. 1847 *Rural Cycl.* I. 550 The whole plant is gathered by butchers, and made into besoms for sweeping their blocks and shops; and hence it obtained the name of butcher's broom. 1859 *W. COLEMAN Woodlands* (1862) 133 Botanically speaking, the Butcher's Broom is only a half-shrubby plant.

Butcher's meat, butcher-meat.

Meat sold by butchers (beef, mutton, veal, or lamb) as distinguished from poultry, game, fish, etc.

1632 *MASSINGER City Madam* i. i. I fear it will be spent in poultry: Butcher's meat will not go down. 1769 *BURKE Pres. St. Nat. Wks.* II. 88 Corn, hay, meal, butchers-meat, fish, fowls, every thing [is excised]. 1799 *J. ROBERTSON Agric. Perth* 322 Butcher meat of all kinds has risen in the same proportion. 1846 *McCulloch Acc. Brit. Empire* (1854) II. 515 The consumption of butchers' meat in the metropolis. 1862 *R. PATTERSON Ess. Hist. & Art* 302 No people.. consume so little butcher-meat as the Chinese.

Butchery (butʃəri), *sb.* Forms: 4 bocherie, 5 bocheri, 5-6 bochory(e), buchery, 6 bocherie, bouchery(e), boochery, butcherie, 6- butchery. [a. *F. bocherie* (13th c. in *Littre*): see *BUTCHER sb.* and *-Y*.] 1. A slaughter-house, shambles; a butcher's shop or stall; also *attrib.* (Now chiefly applied to the slaughterhouses in public establishments, as barracks, etc., in a camp, or on shipboard).

1340 *Ayent.* 64 Jise him tobrekeþ smaller þanne me deb þet zuyn ine bocherie. 1322 *Wyclif 1 Cor.* x. 25 Al thing that cometh in the bocherie, etc. 3e. 1494 *FABYAN* vii. 495 He was.. hanged vpon a tree lyke as an oxe is hanged in the bochery. 1555 *EDEN Decades W. Ind.* (Arb.) 189 A streame of congeled blud as though it had runne from a bochery. 1792 *A. YOUNG Trav. France* 299 Five shepherds were conducting eight hundred sheep to the butcheries at Marseilles. 1870 *Daily News* 23 Sept. The bakery, the butchery, the magazines are all models of cleanliness. 1882 *Standard* 11 Sept. 2/1 Employed in connection with the bakery and butchery train.

b. *fig.*

1597 *GOLDING De Mornay* xxxi. 501 What shall all Hierusalem be but a verie Slaughterhouse and Butcherie? 1600 *SHAKS. A. Y.* II. iii. 27 This house is but a butcherie: Abhorre it, feare it, doe not enter it. 1646 *Sir J. TEMPLE Irish Rebell.* 94 The whole County, as it were, a common Butchery.

2. The trade or craft of a butcher. Now only *attrib.*, as in *butchery business*.

1449 *PECOCK Repr.* I. x. 40 Tailour craft.. sadeler craft.. bocheri.. masonrie. 1551 *ROBINSON tr. More's Utop.* 112 They counte huntynge.. the vyleste.. part of bocherie. 1725 *BRADLEY Fam. Dict.* II. s.v. *Sweetbread*, A Butchery and Culinary Term. 1886 *Auckland Even. Star* 25 June 3/4 Butchery Business for Sale.

† 3. Butchers collectively or as a community. *Obs.* 1475 *Bk. Found. St. Barthol. Ch.* (1886) Introd. 70 When this was dyvulgate, by all the bocherie, for a worthy myracle.. it was toke. 1525 *Lia. BERNERS Froiss.* II. xviii. 35 Jaques Dandenboure founde all tho of the bochery well enclyned.

† 4. Place of torture or torment: *L. carnificina*, *F. bocherie*, applied to a horrible prison. *Obs.*

1533 *BELENDEEN Lity* II. (1822) 140 He was nocht condampnit to service, bot erat to presoun and bochery.

5. Cruel and wanton slaughter, carnage. Also *fig.* 1561 *T. NORTON Calvin's Inst. Prel.* The doctrine.. is a deadly butcherie of soules. 1602 *WARNER Alb. Eng.* x. lii. (1612) 251 The ciuill Warres and Butcheries in France. 1866 *KINGSLEY Herero.* iii. 77 He began boasting of his fights, his cruelties and his butcheries.

† b. Torture, torment. *Obs.*

1592 *tr. Junius on Rev.* xvi. 2 That torture of butcherie of conscience.

† **Butchery**, *a. Obs.* = BUTCHERLY.

1626 *T. H. CAUSSIN'S Holy Cri.* 65 He would find out other wayes to dye.. then by this Butchery frenzy.

Butching (butʃɪŋ), *vbl. sb. dial.* [f. *BUTCH v.* + *-ING*.] = BUTCHERING *vbl. sb.*

1785 *BURNS Death & Dr. Hornb.* xiii. Sax thousand years are near hand fled, Sin' I was to the butching bred.

† **Bute**, *Sc. form of BOOT sb.* booty, and *v.* to make booty of, to share or divide as booty. Hence **Buteling** *vbl. sb.* (cf. *BOOTING, BUTIN*).

c 1550 *BALFOUR Practicks* (1754) 636 (JAM.) To bute and part the prizes takin. — 640 Gif it beis mair, it sall remane to bute and parting. — 640 Of all pillage, the Capitane.. gettis na part nor buteing.

Bute, var. of BUTTE, a hill; *obs. form of BOOT, BUTT*; *obs. pa. t. of BEAT v.*

Bute(n), early form of *BOUR adv.*, *BUT prep.*

Buteler(e), *obs. f. BUTLER.*

Butene (biū-tin). *Chem.* [f. *BUT-YL* + *-ENE*.] The olefine of the BUTYL series C₄H₈, also called BUTYLENE.

Buteonine (biūtʃənin), *a.* [f. *L. bŭtŏn-em* hawk or buzzard + *-INE*; cf. *L. leōninus* LEONINE.] Of, pertaining to, or resembling the Buzzard.

1865 *Athenæum* No. 1987. 733/3 Raptorial bird.. somewhat buteonine. 1874 *COUES Birds N.-W.* 356 The only buteonine species observed.

Butere, **Buterie**, *obs. ff. BUTTER, BUTTERY.*

Buthe, *obs. form of BOOTH.*

† **Butin**, *Obs.* Also 5-6 butyn, 6 butyne, -en, -ine, -iene, 7 bootyn, Sc. 6-7 butting, but(e)ing. [a. *F. butin* 'booty'; according to *Littre*, from *ON. býti* 'exchange, barter' (cf. *MG. bŭiten*, mod. *Ger. beute*), though the actual form in *Fr.* does not appear to be explained. Cf. *BOOTY*.] Spoil, prey, or plunder, taken in common; booty.

1474 *CAXTON Chesse* 39 He that abode behynde by maladye or sekeneis shold haue as moche part of the butyn. 1475 — *Jason* 31 b. When they had departed their gayn and butin. 1530 *PALSGR.* 653, I parte a butyne, or a pray taken in the warre. 1531 *ELYOT Gov.* II. I. (1557) 86 It is no buten or prairie. 1573 *Sege Edin. Cast. in Scot. Poems* 16th C. II. 294 Sum gat ane butiene for thair being thair. 1597 *MONTGOMERIE Cherrie & Slae* 208 Quha bringis hame the buting? 1633 *J. HAYWARD tr. Biondi's Banish'd Virgin* 196 Good store of bootyn. 1646 *H. LAWRENCE Comm. Angels* 169 Captaines, when they harrang their Souldiers, tell them of the butin, of the prey.

¶ **Butizia**, *Obs.* [The sense suits *Sp. botija*; cf. *BOTOZIO*.] Some kind of earthen jar.

a 1602 *R. HAWKINS Voy. S. Sea* (1847) 156 The butizias, in which the wine was, which wee found in Balparizo, had many sparkes of gold shining in them.

† **Butkin**, *Obs.* [dim. of *BUTT sb.*] A small fish.

1556 *Househ. Exp. Sir T. Le Strange, Addit.* MS. B. M. 27448. 31 b. In butkyns, sandlyngs and lityll playce, iiii*d.*

Butler (bʊtlə). Forms: 3 butuler, botyler, 3-4 buteler, 3-5 boteler, 4-5 -ere, 4 botoler, bottelar, 4-5 botelar, bottil(er)(e), botylier, botler(e), 5 buteler(e), bottiller, bottiller, -are, bouteler, 5-6 butteler, buttler, 6 botteler, buttalar, butlar, 5- butler. [a. *AF. butuiller* = *OF. bouteillier*; — med. *L. buticārius*, f. *buticula* BOTTLE sb. 1.] 1. A servant who has charge of the wine-cellar and dispenses the liquor. Formerly also, one who hands round wine, a cup-bearer. He is now usually the head-servant of a household, who keeps the plate, etc.

c 1250 *Gen. & Ex.* 2092 Dis buteler Ioseph sone for-gat [cf. *Gen.* xl.]. a 1300 *Cursor M.* 4497 De boteler was lesed j at ilk dai. c 1300 *K. Alis.* 834 Som to marchal, and to botileris, To knyght, to page, and to jogleris. 1387 *TREVISIA Hiden* (Rolls Ser.) V. 269 [Rowena] schulde serve hym instede of his boteler. c 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 45 Botlere [1499 boteler]. c 1460 *Bk. Curtysey* 423 in *Babees Bk.* 312 Botler shall sett for yche a messe, A pot, a lofe. 1589 *True Coppie of Disc.* (1881) 50 Though any man.. doo locke up their drinke and set butlers upon it. 1598 *Stow Surv.* xl. (1603) 96 These Citizens did minister wine, as Bottelers. 1616 *Pasquil & Kath.* v. 228 Bid the Butler broch fresh wine. 1727 *SWIFT Gulliver* I. ii. 33 He ordered his cooks and butlers.. to give me victuals and drink. 1862 *TENNISON Day-dr.* 45. 1859 *Geo. ELIOT A. Bede* 9 A man who had been butler 'to the family' for fifteen years.

b. *fig.*

1387 *TREVISIA Hiden* (Rolls Ser.) I. 273 Pere is the faire flour pe citee of Parys notice of bewes, bottiler of lettres [pincerna litterarum]. c 1480 *Pallad. on Ilus.* III. 696 And gladd be thai to stande aboute a welle That humour euer may thaire boteler be. 1594 *Mirr. Politie* (1599) 265 Saint Hierom calleth it [the S. wind] the butler or pourer forth of water, because it commonly bringeth raine.

† c. *phr.* *With butler's grace*: ? with a drink.

1609 *MELTON Sixefolde Polit.* 33 (N.) Fiddlers, who are regarded but for a bawdy song.. and when they haue done, are commonly sent away with Butlers grace.

2. An officer who originally had charge of the wine for the royal table; hence the title of an official of high rank nominally connected with the supply, importation, etc., of wine, but having different duties in different countries and at various times. (Cf. *marshall, lord chamberlain*, etc.)

1297 R. GLOUC. 438 Bohe Wyllam & Rychard hys sones adrentre were, And hys panyter & hys chamberleyn, & hys boteler also. c1330 *Amis & Amil.* 188 Sir Amis, as ye may here, He made his chef botelere, In his court for to be. 1405 *Act 11 Hen. VII.* lxii. § 1 Item of the Chief Buttlr of England Cti. 1587 J. HIGINS *Mirr. Mag.* (1610) 482 (title) How... Sir Nicholas Burdel, Chiefe Buttlr of Normandie, was slaine at Pontoise. 1621 Cotgr., *Grand bouteillier*, the great Buttlr of France; an honourable officer, but out of date euer since Charles the seuenths time. 1667 J. CHAMBERLAYNE *St. Gt. Brit.* i. iii. iii. (1743) 161 Edward Fitz-Theobald being long ago made Buttlr of Ireland, the Duke of Ormond... took the surname of Buttlr. 1887 *Burke's Peerage* 1068 James 7th Earl of Ormonde and 7th Buttlr had (1328) a renewed grant of the prisage of wines (which had been resumed by the crown).

3. *Comb.*, as *butler-like* adj.; † *butler's box*, † a box into which players put a portion of their winnings at Christmas-time as a 'Christmas-box' for the buttlr (cf. *Box sb.* 2 5); *butler's pantry*, a pantry where the plate, glass, etc., are kept.

1880 Mrs. EILGART *Dean's Wife* III. ii. 16 Then his eye met that of the respectable *butler-like man opposite. a 1593 H. SMITH *Serm.* (1866) II. 240 The law is like a *butlers-box, play still on till all come to the candlestick. 1597 *Returne Parnass.* Pt. 2 Prol. 44 The Pilgrimage to Parnassus, and the returne from Parnassus haue... hindred the buttlrs box, and emptied the Colledge barrels. 1601 *Tract agst. Usurie* (N.) The old comparison, which compares usury to the buttlr's boxe, deserves to be remembered. Whilst men are at play, they feele not what they give to the boxe, but at the end of Christmas it makes all or neere all gamsters losers. 1660 JER. TAYLOR *Duct. Dubit.* III. iii. vii. § 3 Whoever lost, signor *papa*, like the buttlr's-box, was sure to get. 1885 *Harper's Mag.* Mar. 544/1 A... cousin... was discovered... in the *buttlr's pantry.

Butler (bʊtlɜː), *v.* [f. *prec.* sb.] In various nonce-uses: a. *trans.* To take charge of and serve (liquor); also *absol.* to act as buttlr; b. *pass.* To be served by a buttlr. Hence *Butlering vbl. sb.* 1743 JARVIS *Quix.* II. iv. vii. (D.) The calling he is of allows of no catering nor butlering. 1866 *Blackw. Mag.* XIX. 587 We have consigned the flasks... to the safe custody of Ambrose, till they can be butlered by Hogg. 1855 DICKENS *Dorrit* (Househ. ed.) 317/1 As nations are made to be taxed, so families are made to be butlered.

Butlerage (bʊtlərədʒ). Forms: 5 *botelara-ge*, 6 *butlarage*, 7 *butlaridge*, *buttlraderage*, 8 *butleridge*. [f. *as prec.* + *-AGE*.]

† 1. A duty formerly payable to the king's buttlr on every cargo of wine imported (? by merchant-strangers); called also *prisage*. *Obs.* exc. *Hist.*

1491 in *Arnolde Chron.* (1811) 112 For all maner other duties, botelaraage, costis and chargis... concernyng the said wyne. 1509 *Act 1 Hen. VIII.* v. § 6 Any other being free of Prisage or Butlarage of Wines. 1654 in Sir J. PICTON *L'pool Munic. Rec.* (1883) I. 180, 22 tunnes of Wyne... to pay for y^e butlerage the somme of tenn pounds. 1768 BLACKSTONE *Comm.* I. 315 Prisage was a right of taking two tons of wine from every ship importing into England twenty tons or more; which by Edward I was exchanged into a duty of 2s. for every ton imported by merchant-strangers, and called butlerage, because paid to the king's buttlr.

† 2. The office or dignity of king's buttlr; the department over which he had charge. *Obs.*

1615 *MS. of Dk. Northumbd.* in 3rd *Rep. Commiss. Hist. MSS.* (1879) 62/1 Officers of the mint, of the works, of the great wardrobe, of the butlaridge. 1736 CARTE *Ormonde* II. 219 A perquisite or appendage of the butlerage of Ireland.

3. That part of the household management and expenses which pertains to the buttlr or the buttlery. 1815 *Misc. in Ann. Reg.* 554/1 For providing... things in the Butlerage department. 1853 *Fraser's Mag.* XLVII. 414 An exact account of the cost of washing, lighting, firing, of kitchen, of butlerage, of cellarage.

Butlerdom (bʊtlɜːdɒm), *nonce-wd.* [f. *as prec.* + *-DOM*.] The class or estate of buttlrs.

1861 *Sat. Rev.* 21 Dec. 633 Butlerdom is a serious obstacle to the felicity of a wealthy establishment.

Butleress. [see -ESS.] A female buttlr.

c 1615 CHAPMAN *Odys.* III. 530 His sweet-wine cup... Which now the butleresse had leaue t'employ. 1860 *Sat. Rev.* 7 Jan. 13 Is the porter to be a daughter of the plough? What of the committee, the stewardess, and the butleress?

Butlerian (bʊtlɜːriən), *a. nonce-wd.* [f. *as prec.* + *-IAN*.] Of or pertaining to a buttlr.

1882 E. C. CLAYTON (Mrs. Needham) *Girl's Destiny* I. iv. 61 Obtrusive, in his strict attention to his butlerian duties.

Butlership (bʊtlɜːʃɪp). [f. BUTLER + *-SHIP*.] The office of buttlr.

1535 COVERDALE *Gen.* xl. 21 And restored the chefe buttlr to his butlership agayne. 1587 J. HIGINS *Mirr. Mag.* (1610) 482 Chief butlership of Normandy unto me fell. 1621 *Cains Coll. MS.* in *Gentl. Mag.* (1883) Oct. 384 [Plate] spoiled and battered at the going out of Sir Utting out of his butlership. 1621 *Bolton Stat. Irel.* 399 (an. 28 Eliz.) Any Patentee or Patentees of any the office or offices of Collectorship... or of the Butlership, or price Wines. 1829 *Heath Crocer's Comp.* (1869) 182 The Mayor's claim to the chief butlership. 1840 Mrs. GORE in *New Monthly Mag.* LX. 54 The clodpole she has disciplined into butlership.

Butlery (bʊtlɜːri). In 3, 5 *botelerye*, 5 *botelary*. [ME. *botelerye*, a. F. *bouteillerie* (13th c. in Littré) 'lieu où l'on conserve le vin', f. *bouteille* BOTTLE; but in mod. use prob. directly f. BUTLER + *-RY* 3.] A buttlr's room or pantry; a buttlery.

1297 R. GLOUC. 191 Bedwer be botlyer, kyng of Normandye, Nom also in ys half a uayr companye... vorto seruy of be botelerye. c 1425 *Gloss.* in Wr. Wülcker 670 *Hec botelaria*, botelary. 1480 CANTON *Chron. Eng.* cxvii. 172 A knyght that the Erle hadd brought vp of nought and hadde norished

hym in his botelerye. 1822 J. PLATTS *Bk. Curios.* lxii. 628 He should go into the butlery of the king's palace there, and draw... as much wine as should be needful for making a pitcher of claret. 1868 MILMAN *St. Paul's* iii. 69 It is the full inventory of his plate... his kitchen, his butlery.

Butment (bʊtmənt). [f. BUTT v. 2 + *-MENT*; cf. ABUTMENT and Fr. *boutte* 'ouvrage qui soutient la poussee d'une voute'.]

1. *Arch.* The supporter of an arch; = ABUTMENT 3. 1624 WOTTON *Archit.* (1672) 31 The Supporters or Butments (as they are termed) of the said Arch. 1773 *Gentl. Mag.* XLIII. 164 One of the main pillars or arch butments seems to tremble at the sound of a certain bell. 1806 T. PAINE *Yellow Fever Misc. Wks.* II. 184 Arches joining each other lengthways, serve as butments to each other.

b. *Butment cheeks*: see quot. 1876 GWILT *Archit. Gloss.*, *Butment cheeks*, the two solid sides of a mortise. The thickness of each cheek is usually equal to the thickness of the mortise.

2. An out-standing mass (of rock or masonry). 1865 E. BURRITT *Walk Land's E.* 168 It stood on the southern battlement or butment of the bluff.

3. A piece of ground abutting on a larger piece. 1677 MOXON *Mech. Exerc.* (1703) 158 The piece of Ground in the Yard... is a Butment from the rest of the Ground-plot.

1751 CHAMBERS *Cycl. s.v.*, The name butment is also given to little places taken out of the yard, or the ground-plot of an house, for buttries, sculleries, etc.

Butning, *obs.* form of BUTTONING.

Butor, etc., *obs.* forms of BUTTER.

Butt (bʊt), *sb.* 1 Also 4-6 butte. [cogn. w. Sw. *butta* turbot, mod.G. *butte*, Du. *bot*, flounder; of obscure origin: perh. from the blunt shape of the head (cf. Da. *but* stumpy, and BUTT sb. 3). See HALIBUT.]

A name applied variously in different places to kinds of flat fish, as sole, fluke, plaice, turbot, etc.

Hence *Butt-woman*, who sells these, a fish-wife. a 1300 *Havelok* 759 He tok... Hering, and the makerel, The butte, the schulle, the thornebake. c 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 56 But, fische, *pecten*. 1530 *Palsgr.* 202/1 Butte fysche, *Aye*. 1599 *Nashe Lent. Stuffe* (1871) 79 The plaice and the butt, for their mocking have wry mouths ever since.

1665 *Moufret & Benner Health's Improv.* (1746) 266 Whilst they [Turbot] be young... they are called Butts. 1776 *Cowper's Corr.* (1824) I. 30 Whatever fish are likely... butts, plaice, flounder, or any other. 1886 R. C. LESLIE *Sea-painter's Log* x. 192 The butt or sole, the turbot, the halibut... all belong to that strange family of fish.

1600 *MELTON Astrolog.* 37 Sell their good Fortunes to Oyster-wives and Butte-women for greasie Two-pences.

Butt (bʊt), *sb.* 2 Also 5-6 butte, 5-6 but. [app. first adopted in 15th c. (the ME. *butte* (u) belongs to BT sb. 3 of the same ultimate origin); a common Romanic word, F. *botte*, *boute*, Sp., Pg. *bota*, It. *botte*, late L. *butta*, *buttis* cask, wine-skin, of unknown origin; not connected with BOOR sb. 3.

With 'butt of malmsey' cf. It. *botte di malvasia*.] 1. A cask for wine or ale, of capacity varying from 108 to 140 gallons. (Earlier the size was app. much smaller; see quot. 1443; cf. also 1462 in b.) Afterwards also as a measure of capacity = 2 hogsheds, i.e. usually in ale measure 108 gallons, in wine measure 126 gallons; but these standards were not always precisely adhered to.

1443 in *Rogers Agric. & Prices* III. 511/1 [Rhenish 1 butt = 30 gals.]. 1483 *Act 1 Rich. III.* xiii. [The preamble recites that the butt of malmsey formerly held sometimes seven score gallons, and never less than six score; but that through the dishonesty of the merchant strangers it has come to contain 'scantly five score eight gallons'.] 1500 in *Rogers Agric. & Prices* III. 514/2 [Malmsey 5 butts]. 1513 *More Hist. Rich. III.* Hastely drowned in a Butte of Malmseye. 1593 *Nashe Christ's T.* 32 a. Buts of Sack and Muscadine. 1610 *SHAKS. Temp.* II. ii. 106, I escap'd vpon a Butt of Sacke, which the Saylor heaued o'reboard. 1797 *BRADLEY Fam. Dict.* I, *Butt*, or Pipe, a Liquid Measure, whereof two Hogsheds make a Butt or Pipe, as two Pipes or Butts make one Tun. 1731 *BAILEY II. Butt*, a large Vessel for Liquids, 120 Gallons of Wine. 1836 H. COLERIDGE *North. Worthies* (1852) I. 22 Did not Joseph Hume graciously receive a butt of cyder?

† b. A cask for fish, fruit, etc., of a capacity varying according to the contents and locality. *Obs.* 1423 *Act 2 Hen. VI.* [xi.] xiv. Buttes de Samon... serroit de... iiiij galons pleinement pakkes (*transl.* Butts of Salmon... should be of... lxxxiv Gallons fully packed).

1466 in *Rogers Agric. & Prices* III. 315/4 [Salmon (Pershire) 2 pipes at 60/-, 2 butts at 30/-]. 1481-90 *Howard Househ. Bks.* 120, xv. Schrempe viij*d.* ijd. 1500 *Act 32 Hen. VIII.* xiv. For a butte of currantes, iiiij*d.* 1649 *THORPE Charge York Assis.* 28 In a Butt of Salmon four-score and four gallons. 1752 *CHAMBERS Cycl.* s.v. A butt of currans is from fifteen to twenty-two hundred weight.

1753 *Maitland Edinburgh v.* 327 For ilk Bale of Madder or Butt of Prunes, 1/-.

c. *fig.* 1831 *GALT in Fraser's Mag.* II. 708 This single fact speaks more than butts and tons of declamation.

2. In wider sense: A cask, barrel.

1626 T. HAWKINS *Cassius's Holy Cr.* 343 He liueth like a Butt, which doth nothing, but leake, and roule vp, and downe. 1823 J. BADCOCK *Dom. Museum.* 80 To the end which projected overboard, was suspended a water-butt.

a 1850 L. HUNT *Rob. Hood* II. xxviii. As in a leathern butt of wine Stuck that arrow with a dump.

3. *Comb.*, chiefly *attrib.*, as *butt-beer*, *-cooper*, *-sling*; *butt-keeping* a., suitable to be kept in butts.

1713 *Lond. & Countr. Brev.* 1. (1742) 13 Fine Ales and

Butt-beers. *Ibid.*, Many thousand Quarterns of this Malt have been... used... for brewing the Butt-keeping Beers. 1771 *SMOLLETT Humph. Cl.* II. 8 June, Whom he treats with... Calvert's entire butt beer. 1836 *Fraser's Mag.* XIV. 477 A pair of butt-slings, strong enough to have held up the cupola of St. Paul's. 1837 *WHITTOCK Bk. Trades* (1842) 161 The Butt-cooper is confined to working for brewers or distillers.

Butt (bʊt), *sb.* 3 Forms: 5 *bott*, *butte*, 5-8 *but*, 7- *butt*. [First appears in 15th c., but must be much older if BUTROCK (13th c.) be a dim. of it. Of obscure etymology: words apparently cognate are ON. *buttr* ('short' Vigf.; but occurring only as a nickname); Da., LG. *but*, Du. *bot*, blunt, short, thickset, stumpy; Sp., Pg. *boto* blunt, F. *bot* in *pied-bot* (club foot). Cf. further ON. *buttr* (*buttr*, Fritznr) log of wood, Sw. *but* clod, stump, MHG. *butze* clod, mod.G. *butze* 'log, piece cut from a tree-trunk' (Sanders)=sense 2 below, also 'core of apples, catkin or bud of shrubs and trees' (Grimm)=sense 4.

F. *bout* end (OF. also *bot*, *but*) is apparently not connected with these words. It has naturally been thought of as the source of the Eng. word, but it does not appear to be recorded in the specific sense of 'thick end'. But cf. BUTT sb. 7.]

1. The thicker end of anything, esp. of a tool or weapon, the part by which it is held or on which it rests; e.g. the lower end of a spear-shaft, whip-handle, fishing-rod, the broad end of the stock of a gun or pistol.

1470-85 *MALORY Arthur* x. ii, Sir Tristram awaked hym with the butt of his spere. 1548 *HALL Chron.*, 10 *Hen. V.*, 82 Round about the charet rode ccccc men of armes... with the butt of their speres vpward. 1814 *SCOTT Wav.* II. xiii. 205 The pedlar, snatching a musket... bestowed the butt of it... on the head of his late instructor. 1872 *BAKER Nile Tribut.* x. 158 My only way of working him [a fish] was to project the butt of the rod in the usual manner. 1873 *BENNETT & CAVENDISH Billiards* 25 The cues should taper gradually from a diameter of two and a half inches at the butt. 1871 *KINGSLEY At Last* II. xiii. 214 Three eyes in the monkey's face, as the children call it, at the butt of the nut.

b. *Angling*. To give (a fish when hooked) the butt: to turn the bottom of the rod towards him, so as to get a more rigid hold upon the line; also *fig.*

1808 J. WILSON in *Blackw. Mag.* XXIV. 275 Give her [a fish] the butt—or she is gone for ever. 1835 *Ibid.* XXXVIII. 121 He writes like a man who could give the butt. 1872 *BAKER Nile Tribut.* ix. 150 Giving him the butt, I held him by main force.

2. The trunk of a tree, esp. the thickest part just above the root.

1601 *HOLLAND Pliny* xxiv. i. (R.) Trees... prove harder to be hewed... if a man touch them with his hand before hee set the edge of the ax to their butt. 1735 *SOMERVILLE Chase* III. 234 Then in the midst a Column high is rear'd, The Butt of some fair Tree. 1707 *WINTER Syst. Hush.* 103 The tops and butts of ash and oak are more advantageous for burning into charcoal than if sold for firing. 1807 *VANCOUVER Agric. Devon* (1813) 52 An oak... which squared 15 inches at the butt. 1882 *JEFFERIES Wood Magic* I. l. 4 A round wooden box... hollowed out from the sawn butt of an elm.

3. A buttock. Chiefly *dial.* and *colloq.* in U. S. c 1450 *Nominals* in Wr. Wülcker 737 *Hic lumbus*, a bott. c 1450 *Bk. Cookery in Holkham Coll.* (1882) 58 Talk Buttes of pork and smyt them to peces. 1805 *Bk. St. Albans* A v, The marrow of hogges that is in the bone of the butte of porke. 1601 *HOLLAND Pliny* I. 344 A Lion likewise hath but very little [marrow], to wit, in some few bones of his thighs & butts behind. 1860 *BARTLETT Dict. Amer.* 62 *Butt*... the buttocks. The word is used in the West in such phrases as, 'I fell on my butt', 'He kick'd my butt'.

1884 *Harper's Mag.* July 299/1 Rump butts, strips, rounds, and canning beef.

4. The foot or base of a leaf-stalk; the end or tip of a branch; also *Sc.* a catkin. [cf. *botthe*, *BUD sb.* 1.]

1807-10 *TANNAHILL in Autobiog. Beggar-boy* (1859) 191 Siller saughs wi' downy butts. a 1835 *COBBETT Eng. Gard.* (1845) 127 Horse-Radish. The butts of the leaves will grow, if put into the ground. 1870 *KINGSLEY in Gd. Words* 390/1 It is all jagged with the brown butts of its old fallen leaves.

b. *transf.* (see quot.) 1860 *ANSTED Channel Isl.* II. ix. (ed. 2) 238 The creature when deprived of food, throwing off part after part, till nothing remains but a little spherical butt.

5. *Iron-work*. (see quot.)

1831 J. HOLLAND *Mannf. Metals* I. 89 The blocks out of which iron anvils are formed... consist of what are known to the trade by the appellation of butts.

6. *Comb.*, as *Butt-head* = BUTT-END q. v.; *butt-log* (cf. BUTTER 5); *butt-piece*; *butt-sheath*, a leather case for holding a mounted soldier's carbine.

c 1634 in *Harper's Mag.* (1883) Apr. 790/2 One might thrust a pike down to the *butt-head. 1879 *Lumberman's Gaz.* 15 Oct., If, in sawing a *butt log, one end of the stick is set out from the standard, our Dog will reach it and hold it firmly in its place. 1863 *National (U.S.) Bank Act* (1882) 21 The Comptroller of the Currency shall cause to be examined, each year, the plates, dies, *ten-pieces, etc. 1868 W. K. KELLY tr. L. *Blanc's Hist. Ten Years* II. 47 Their pistols were in their holsters, and their carbines in the *butt-sheaths. ¶ See also BUT sb. 7, BUT sb. 11.

Butt (bʊt), *sb.* 4 Also 5 *botte*, 5-7 *butte*, 5-9 *but*. [a. F. *but* goal, shooting-target (see DICZ s.v. *Bozza*, and Littré); the cognate *butte* in early instances is closely associated in meaning (see next). Cf. the senses of L. *meta*. Sense 1 may have been influenced by ABUT and BUTT v.]

† I. 1. A terminal point; a boundary-mark, *esp.* in phr. *butts and bounds*; a goal; often *fig.* *Obs.* From quot. 1592 in BUTT v. 3 it appears that a *butt* was understood to refer to the end of a piece of ground, and a *bound* to its side.

c 1475 *Bk. Found. St. Barthol. Ch.* ii. iii. (1886) 84 We be come for cure synyns to the butte & terme or marke of vniuersale kynde of man. 1557 *Order of Hospitallers* F viij, A Booke of all the Lands and Tenements . . . of their Butts and boundes. 1578 R. H. *Lavaterus' Ghosts* (1596) 91 The boundes of countries and butts of lands. 1604 SHAKS. *Oth.* v. ii. 267 Heere is my journeyes end, heere is my butt. 1726 *Dz. Foe Hist. Devil* i. v. (1840) 62 The butts and bounds of Parnassus are not yet ascertained.

II. A mark for shooting.

2. A mark for archery practice; properly a mound or other erection on which the target is set up. Hence in mod. use a mound or embankment in front of which the targets are placed for artillery, musketry, or rifle practice.

For the purposes of archery there were usually two butts, one at each extremity of the range; hence the frequent mention of a *pair of butts*, and the use of the *butts* for 'the archery-ground' (Jam.).

a 1400 *Octavian* 899 Ther na's nother . . . That myght the ston to hys butt bryng. c 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 56 But or bertel or bysselle, *meta.* 1477 EARL RIVERS (CAXTON) *Dictes* 89 An archer to faile of the butte is no wonder, but to hytte the pryke is a greet maistrice. 1556 SKELTON *Magnyf.* 297 Ye wande but a wyld flyeng boile to shote at the buttes. 1600 J. WILKINSON *Courts Last* 117 Thero ought to be butts made in every Tything, Village, and Hamlet. 1642 BR. REYNOLDS *Israel's Petit* 23 The arrow sticks in the Butt unto which the marke is fastned. 1678 A. LITTLETON *Lat. Dict.* A butt, or bank to shoot at, *aggr.* 1697 DRYDEN *Virg. Georg.* ii. 773 The Groom his Fellow-Groom at Butts defies. 1857 KINGSLEY *Cl. Cities in Misc.* (1859) II. 324 There were the butts . . . where lads ran and wrestled, and pitched the bar . . . and practised with the long-bow. 1867 *Leisure Hour* 477 We . . . see . . . solid mounds of earth. . . These are the butts for the rifleman's practice. 1873 *Act* 36 & 37 *Vict.* lxxvii. § 29 Any butt or target belonging to . . . any naval artillery volunteer corps.

D. *transf.* and *fig.* with conscious reference to prec. 1534 MORE *Conf. agst. Trib.* ii. Wks. (1557) 1199/2 Y^e proude man . . . hath no . . . butte, or pricke vpon erth, wherat he determineth to shote. 1593 SHAKS. 3 *Hen. VI.* i. iv. 29 Come bloody Clifford . . . I am your Butt, and I abide your Shot. 1608 EARLE *Microcosm.* iii. (Arb.) 24 Hee shoots all his meditations at one Butt. 1679 *Establ. Test.* 26 The Crown . . . and . . . the Church, the two butts against which he levels all the arrows of his poisoned quiver. 1870 SPURGEON *Treas. Dav. Ps.* xlv. 14 They were the common butts of every fool's arrow.

† 3. The distance between the two butts; the length of the shooting-range. Also as a measure of distance (cf. *bow-shot*); in same senses *A pair of butts*, a *butt's* length, *Sc.* a *butelang.* *Obs.*

1544 ASCHAM *Toxoph.* (Arb.) 129 At a short butt . . . y^e Pecock fether doth seldome kepe vp y^e shaft. 1562 J. HEYWOOD *Provr. & Epigr.* (1867) 144 Thy braine lacketh strength To beare a pinte of wine a payre of buttes length. 1600 *Sc. Acts Jas. VI* (1814) 203 Within tua pair of butelangis to the towne of Perth. 1611 RALEIGH in Arb. *Garner* I. 72 When two armies are within a distance of a butt's length. 1696 *Let.* in Aubrey *Misc.* (1721) 209 E're we were two pair of Butts past the House.

4. That towards which one's efforts are directed; an end, aim, object.

1594 R. PARSONS *Confer. Success.* i. iv. 66 For enioying of Iustice were Kings appointed . . . but if they be bound to no iustice at al . . . then is this end and butte of . . . al royal authority, utterly frustrat. 1599 SHAKS. *Hen. V.* i. ii. 187 To which is fixed as an ayme or butt, Obedience. 1604 *Brief Inform.* Aff. *Palatine* 29 His principall Butt and Marke was . . . to reuenge himselfe. 1710 NORRIS *Chr. Prud.* iii. 114 Which he makes the great scope and butt of his Life. 1869 GOUT. BURN *Purs. Holiness* vi. 46 Love is represented . . . as the mark or butt to which every precept is directed.

† b. A model, pattern. *Obs.*

1654 GAYTON *Fest. Notes* iii. vii. 115 A Fashion to be whistled into a Tailors head without Butts or Patternes.

5. An object at which ridicule, scorn, or abuse, is aimed; from 18th c. often *absol.*, a person who is habitually the object of derisive jokes. (Cf. 1 b.).

1616 BEAUM. & FL. *Cust. Contr.* v. i. Let me stand the butt of thy fell malice. 1628 WITHER *Brit. Rememb.* i. 1443 Oh; make them not the Butt of thy displeasure. 1711 ADDISON *Spect.* No. 47 ¶ 10 A Man is not qualified for a Butt who has not a good deal of Wit and Vivacity. A stupid Butt is only fit for the Conversation of ordinary People. 1833 COLERIDGE *Table-t.* 16 Aug. He could not make a fool of me, as he did of Godwin and some other of his butts. 1854 GLADSTONE *Glean.* IV. 128 He was the butt and byword of liberalism. 1880 L. STEPHEN *Popev.* 114 A taste for fossils . . . was at that time regarded as a fair butt for unsparing ridicule.

6. *Attrib.* and *Comb.*, as *butt-bow*, *-mark*, *-shaft*, *-shot*; † *butt-bolt*, 'the strong unbarbed arrow used by citizens in shooting at the butt' (Gifford); *butt-garden*, an archery ground.

1467 *Mann. & Househ. Exp.* 427 My mastyr paid to Fraykok for iij flytes ij^e bottebolts and ij byres, xvij. d. 1563 FORD, &c. *Witch of Edmonton* ii. i. I saw a little devil fly out of her eye like a butt-bolt [v. r. bur-bolt]. a 1693 URQUHART *Rabelais* iii. li. 415 The 'Butt and Rover-bows. 1855 KINGSLEY *Westw. Ho. x.* (1879) 184 What could he do but lounge down to the 'butt-garden to show off his fine black coat? 1853 URQUHART *Rabelais* i. xxiii. He . . . shot at 'butt-marks. 1888 SHAKS. *L. L. L.* i. ii. 181 Cupids 'Butt-shaft is too hard for Hercules Clubbe. 1884 *Longm. Mag.* Feb. 378 They were thought to be safe from the blind boy's butt-shaft. 1898 LELAND *Itin.* i. 96 Another feld a good 'Butt shot of. 1898 R. HAWKINS *Voy. S. Sea* (1847) 88 A standing water . . . neare a butt-shot from the sea shore.

Butt (bvt), *sb.* 5 *Obs. exc. dial.* [? a. F. *butte* mound, hillock: a parallel formation to *but*: see prec. Cf. also BUTTE.] A hillock, mound.

1693 EVELYN *De La Quint. Compl. Gard.* i. 7 It will not be improper to make a little But or Hillock over those Roots. 1862 BARNES *Rhymes Dorset Dial.* i. 166, I used to hop the emmet-butts, vrom top to top. *Ibid.* II. 197 (He) broke The nut of the wheel at a butt. [1877 PEACOCK *N. W. Linc. Gloss.* (E. D. S.) *Butt-hills.*]

Butt, *sb.* 6 [Of uncertain derivation. In med. Anglo-Lat. *butta*, *buttis*; Du Cange identifies *butta* *terræ* with F. *bout de terre*. If this be correct, the word is = F. *bout* 'end, terminal part, small remaining part' as in *bouts de chandelle* 'candle-ends'. This would make sense 2 the original, but the history is not clear, and it is not impossible that sense 1 should be referred to BUTT *sb.* 5.]

1. One of the parallel divisions of a ploughed field contained between two parallel furrows, called also a 'ridge', 'rig', 'land', or 'selion'.

c 1450 *Gloss.* in Wr. Wulcker 737 *Hic selio* . . . a butt. c 1475 *Ibid.* 796 *Hec amanges* [sic], a but of lond. 1599 *Wills & Inv.* N. C. (1860) 167, I give to . . . my servant, three buttes or rigges of land. 1688 *Sc. Acts Chas. II* (1814) VIII. 295 (Jam.) That other rigg or butt of the samen lyand in the field called the Gallowbank. 1885 A. N. PALMER *Anc. Ten. Marches N. Wales* 9 'Butts' are the parallel ridges of land in a ploughed field that lie between the 'gutters' or 'reens'.

† b. ? A measure of land; cf. *selion.* *Obs.*

1558 HULOT, *Butte* of a lande, *jugus.* 1570 LEVINS *Manip.* 195 A Butte of land, *ingerum.* 1688 R. HOLME *Armoury* ii. ii. § 32 Smaller parcellis according to that quantity of ground it containeth, both for length and breadth . . . 3 Ridges, Butts, Flats, Stitches or small Butts, Pikes.

2. Such a ridge when short of its full length owing to the irregular shape of the boundary of the field. (This may be the original and proper sense.) Jamieson says 'A piece of ground which in ploughing does not form a proper ridge [i.e. rig], but is excluded as an angle'.

1593 FITZHERB. *Surv.* 39 If it be lesse than a rodde than call it a butt. 1649 BLITHE *Eng. Improv. Impr.* (1653) 137, I had about fifteen or sixteen little short Lands, or Butts. 1707 WINTER *Syst. Husb.* 276 A few butts or short ridges, which were planted with a proportion of one bushel to an acre. 1803 REES *Cycl.*, *Butt*, a provincial term applied to such ridges or portions of arable land as run out short at the sides or other parts of the field. 1883 SEEBORN *Eng. Vill. Comm.* 6 Where the strips abruptly meet others, or abut upon a boundary at right angles, they are sometimes called butts.

3. *dial.* 'A small piece of ground disjoined in whatever manner from the adjacent lands. In this sense, a small parcel of land is often called "the butts"'. Jam.

1699 N. Riding *Records* iv. 171 Certain closes known as Long Coverdale Close and the Butts thereunto belonging. 1875 WHITBY *Gloss.* (E. D. S.) *Butts* . . . uneven shaped portions of waste sward. 1881 I. of Wight *Gloss.* (E. D. S.) *Butt*, a small enclosure of land, as the church butt at Shanklin. [*Ibid.* *Butts*, short ridges, odd corners of fields.]

Butt (bvt), *sb.* 7 Also 8 but. [perh. a. F. *bout* end, vbl. sb. from *bouter* to push out, project; but possibly a sense of BUTT *sb.* 3, or f. BUTT v. 2 II.]

1. *Naut.* More fully *butt-end*, *butt-head*: The end of a plank or plate in a vessel's side which joins or butts on to the end of the next; the plane of juncture of two such planks, etc.

A vessel is said to 'start' or 'spring' a butt when a plank is loosened at the end; so a butt is said to 'start'. 'Butt and butt', a term denoting that the butt ends of two planks come together, but do not overlay each other. *Hook and butt*, the scarphing or laying two ends of planks over each other'. Smyth *Sailor's Word-bk.*

1697 CAPT. SMITH *Seaman's Gram.* ii. 3 Now all those planks under water . . . the fore-end is called the Butt-end . . . If one of those ends should spring, or give way it would be a great troublesome danger to stop such a leak. a 1642 SIR W. MONSON *Naval Tracts* iii. (1704) 345/1 Buts-end. 1644 SIR H. MANWYRING *Sea-man's Dict.* s.v., A Butt is properly the end of a plancke, joyning to an other. To spring a Butt, that is, when a plancke is loose at one end, and therefore they bolt all the Butt-heads: by Butt-heads, is meant the end of the plancks. 1691 T. H[ALE] *Acc. New Invent.* 26 Starting of a Butt-head in a Ship's side. 1769 FALCONER *Dict. Marine* (1789) *Butt* [as in Manwyring]. 1783 J. NICOLAS *Disq. Nelson* (1846) VII. Add. 6 Found a butt at the starboard bow to have started, from which the Ship made much water. 1802 *Naval Chron.* VII. 177 A . . . hoy . . . sprung a butt end, and foundered. 1859 *Merc. Mar. Mag.* (1860) VII. 15 Some of the paint had cracked at the joining of the butts . . . amidsthips. 1860 H. STUART *Seaman's Catech.* 70 Any place where two outside planks come together are called butt ends. 1867 SMYTH *Sailor's Word-bk.*, Butt-heads are the same with butt-ends.

b. *Comb.* *butt-strap*, a strip of metal riveted over the joining of two plates in an iron ship, whence *butt-strapped* a.

1869 SIR E. REED *Ship-build.* ii. 35 The gutter-plate is also strapped by double butt-straps. *Ibid.* ii. 33 The keel angle-irons . . . are properly butt-strapped. 1883 NILES *Const. Ironclad* 3 A strip of iron called a *butt-strap* is laid over the two ends.

2. The sb. (or else the stem of BUTT v. 2) occurs in *comb.* implying the close contact of two plane ends or edges without overlapping, as in *butt-hinge*, a form of hinge, also in shortened form

butt; *butt-joint*, in *Ironwork*, a joint in which the pieces to be joined are placed end to end, the juncture forming a plane surface at right angles to the length; so in *Carpentry* (= *butting-joint*).

1823 P. NICHOLSON *Pract. Build.* 199 If each joint be in a plane perpendicular to one of the arrises, the joint is called a butt-joint. 1869 *Eng. Mech.* 19 Mar. 577/1 Mr. Bourne . . . recommends the butt-joint in boiler construction as opposed to the lap. 1881 *Mechanic* § 816 The window must then be attached to the frame by a pair of hinges, 2½ in. or 3 in. common iron butts being the most suitable.

3. *Coal-min.* 'A surface [of coal] exposed at right-angles to the face' (Raymond *Mining Gloss.*).

† **Butt**, *sb.* 8 *Obs. exc. in local names*, as *The Butt of Lewis*. [? f. BUTT v. 1 4, to jut out.] A headland, promontory.

1598 FLORIO, *Capo*. a cape or but of any lands end.

Butt (bvt), *sb.* 9 [f. BUTT v. 1; cf. F. *botte* a thrust in fencing.] A push or thrust with the head or with the horns of horned animals.

1647 H. MORE *Poems* 58 The fiercest but of Ram no'te make them [the walls] fall. 1824 MISS MITFORD *Village Ser.* i. (1863) 80 [One of the ewes] has selected her own [lamb] and given her a gentle butt. 1865 BLACKMORE *Lori a D.* xlii. (1879) 261 Then fighting Tom [a sheep] jumped up at once, and made a little butt at Watch.

b. A thrust or stroke in fencing. *rare.*

a 1721 *Prior Alma* i. 199 If disputes arise . . . To prove who gave the fairer butt, John shows the chalk on Robert's coat.

† **Butt**, *sb.* 10 *Obs.* [? a. F. *botte* bundle.]

1. ? A bundle, pack.

1598 W. PHILLIPS *Linschoten's Trav. Ind.* (1864) 224 Coming to the things which the elephants are to draw, they bind the But or Packe with a rope that he may feel the weight thereof. 1705 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 4109/4 A But, cont. 75 Pieces of English Dyed Linen, making 1500 Yards.

2. *dial.* 'A hassock. *Devon*' (Halliwell). Hence *butt-woman* (see quotes).

1862 MARG. GOODMAN *Exper. Eng. Sister of Mercy* 25 The pew-opener or 'butt-woman'. 1878 *Free & Open Ch. Advoc.* i. June (D.) A buttwoman is one who cleans the church, and . . . assists the verger or pew-opener in shewing persons into seats . . . In the west of England butt is an old word for hassock.

Butt (bvt), *sb.* 11 [Perh. a special use of BUTT *sb.* 3 in sense 1 (the notion of 'thick end' being extended into 'thickest part'), or in sense 3 'buttock'.]

The thicker or hinder part of a hide or skin, as *horse-butts*, *calf-butts*, *kip-butts*, *shoe-butts*; *esp.* the hide of the back and flanks of an ox or cow reduced to a rough rectangle by 'rounding' (see BEND *sb.* 2 4); the thick leather made from this part; sole-leather.

1661 *Act 14 Chas. II.* 141 Whereas divers Tanners do shave cut and rake . . . the necks of their backs, and butts, to the great impairing thereof. 1686 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 2124/4 Stolen . . . about 350 of the best Kids . . . writ in the Butt of the Skins. 1776 *Excise-book in Dorset County Chron.* (1881) 2 June [Kinds of hides] sheep and lamb, butts and backs, calves and kips. 1822 LAMSON *Sc. & Art II.* 202 Butts are generally made from the stoutest and heaviest ox hides. 1886 *Leeds Mercury* 4 Mar. English butts and bends have been quietly dealt in. 1887 *Daily News* 31 Aug. 6/7 (Leather) English butt of stout substance . . . and heavy English bellies.

† **Butt**, *sb.* 12 *Obs.* [Origin unknown: cf. BUCK *sb.* 4.] ? A kind of basket-net for catching fish.

1533-4 *Act 25 Hen. VIII.* vii. No . . . person . . . shal . . . take . . . in or by means of any wele, butte, net . . . the yonge frie . . . of any kinde of salmon. 1556 *Act 1 Eliz.* xvii. § 1 Any . . . Net, Weele, But, Taining, Kepper.

Butt (bvt), *sb.* 13 *dial.* (See quotes.)

1796 MARSHALL *W. England I. Gloss.* (E. D. S.) *Butt*, a close-bodied cart; as dung-butt, gurry-butt, ox-butt, etc. *Butt-load*, about six seams. 1807 VANCOUVER *Agric. Devon* (1813) 125 One-horse carts, or butts, are also generally made use of. 1875 BLACKMORE *C. Vaughan* xiii. (ed. 3) 44 A vehicle called a 'butt' . . . a short and rudely made cart. 1880 MISS COURTNEY *West Cornw. Gloss.* (E. D. S.) *Butt*, a heavy, two-wheeled cart, with timber and yoked oxen.

Butt (bvt), *v.* 1 [a. OF. *bote-r*, *buter* (mod. F. *bouter*) to strike, thrust, project. But senses 3 and 4 have been influenced by association with BUTT v. 2; and quotations occur of which it is difficult to say to which verb they mainly belong.]

1. *intr.* To strike, thrust, shove. Now almost always to strike or push with the head or horns, or with allusion to that sense. *Const. at, against.*

c 1200 ORMIN 2810 Min child tatt i min wambe lip . . . bigann forpriht anan To stirenn & to buttenn. c 1300 *Havelok* 2323 Buttinge with sharpe speres . . . Wrestling with laddes, putting of ston. 1579 SPENSER *Sheph. Cal.* Sept. 125 That with theyr hornes buttenn. 1748 RICHARDSON *Clarissa* (1811) II. xxiii. 150 Whenever he has the power, depend upon it, he will butt at one as valiantly as the other. 1853 KANE *Grinnell Exp.* xlv. (1856) 406 We have butted several times rudely against projecting fies. 1858 DORAN *Crt. Fools* 72 Amused by . . . a couple of rams butting at each other.

b. *fig.*

1832 *Blackw. Mag.* XXXI. 117 [Reform Bill] will butt forcefully against the ramparts of aristocracy. 1859 TENNYSON *Enid* 1525 Amazed am I, Beholding how you butt against my wish.

c. To pitch or dive head-foremost. *rare.*

c 1330 *Arth. & Merl.* 5175 The knight downward gan butten Amidward the hors gutter. 1884 J. COLBORNE *Hicks Pasha* 160 As they came within our zone of fire, they butted forward, hit to death.

2. *trans.* To strike, *esp.* with the head or horns;

to drive or push away, out, etc., by blows with the head or horns.

1590 GREENE *Neuer too late* (1600) 99 The eaw was coy and butted him. 1607 SHAKS. *Cor. iv. i. 2* The beast With many heads butted me away. 1630 DRAVTON *Muses Eliz. Nymphal* (R.), I have a lamb. Into laughter 'twill put you To see how prettily 'twill butt you. 1826 SCOTT *Woodst. iv. 191* The very deer there will butt a sick or wounded buck from the herd. 1848 KINGSLEY *Yeast in Fraser's Mag. XXXVIII.* 206 That horrid gazelle has butted him in, and he'll be drowned. 1853 KANE *Grinnell Exp. x.* (1856) 73.

3. To come or strike 'dead' against. Of the teeth of wheels: to come in contact at their crowns so as to stop each other.

1875 BEDFORD *Sailor's Pocket-bk. v.* (ed. 2) 190 In winding up chronometers, the turns of the key should... be counted, and the last turn made gently... until it is felt to butt. 1884 F. BRITTON *Watch & Clockm.* 37 The tendency of pinion leaves to butt the wheel teeth.

4. *intr.* To run out, project as an end, jut. Sometimes quasi-*refl.* with *out*, *into*.

1533 FITZHERB. *Surv.* 40b, The long doler y^t butte fro the said north felde to the said broke. 1535 COVERDALE *Jer. xlviii.* 32 The branches off lazer but vnto the see. 1611 CORVAT *Credulities* 184 A little square gallery butting out from the Tower. 1644 DIGBY *Nat. Bodies xx.* (1658) 228 The nose of a weathercock butteth it self into the wind. 1664 POWER *Exp. Philos. i.* 40 The Cone, or obtuse Tip of this Capsula butts or shoots itself into the basis of the Liver. 1715 DESAGULIERS *Fires Impr.* 118 Leave a small part butting forward into the opening.

† b. *To butt on, to over against*: to jut out towards, to be opposite to. *Obs.*

c. 1534 tr. *Pol. Verg. Eng. Hist.* (1846) I. 1, Britaine... beinge an Ilonde in the ocean sea buttinge over agaynste the Frenche shore. 1571 CAMPION *Hist. Irel. i.* 4 Leinster butteth upon England. 1644 HEYWOOD *Gunaik. ii.* 92 That part... which butteth upon the west. 1647 LILLY *Chr. Astral.* xxv. 154 A Ground... butting or lying to that quarter of Heaven, as is formerly directed.

¶ 5. With association of BUTT sb. 4 a. *trans.* To aim a missile. b. *intr.* To aim.

a. 1593 MARLOWE *Dido* iii. iv, Whenas he butts his beams on Flora's bed. 1628 UQUHART *Jewel Wks.* (1834) 271 The meer scope thereof, and end whereto it butts.

6. The verb stem (sense 1) is used adverbially with some verbs of motion (as *go, meet, run*), often with the intensifying adv. *full*, implying 'point-blank' meeting or violent collision. [Cf. OF. *de plain bout* (Godef. s. v. *Bol*).]

1a. 1400 *Morte Arth.* 1112 Ffille butt in be frunt the fromonde he hittez. c. 1430 *Syr Genger.* 1587 He... smote Darel In middes of the sheld full butt. 1600 HOLLAND *Livy ii.* xix. 56 Tarquinus Superbus... ran full butt against him. 1673 R. HEAD *Canting Acad.* 30, I... met full-but with my Comrade. 1752 FIELDING *Amelia* viii. i, Before he arrived at the shop, a gentleman stoppt him full butt. 1832 M. SCOTT in *Blackw. Mag.* XXXII. 474 They... ran butt at each other like ram-goats. 1837 MARRYAT *Dog-friend* vi, The corporal... ran full butt at the lieutenant.

Butt (büt), v. 2 [Partly f. BUTT sb. 4 i; partly aphetic f. ABUT.]

I. † 1. To fix or mark (out) the limits of (land, etc.) lengthwise, to bound or delimitate as to length; to terminate; to limit, bound. Chiefly in the *passive*, and *esp.* in the Conveyancing phrase 'to be butted and bounded'. *Obs.*

1523 FITZHERB. *Surv.* Prol., It is necessarye to be known howe all these maners... shulde be extended, surveyed, butted, bounded and valued. 1592 WEST *Symbol.* Cj b, Butting it at the ends and bounding it at the sides. a. 1642 SIR W. MONSON *Naval Tracts* iv. (1704) 393/1 By the Eastern Discovery the length of Africk is butted out... to the Southward. 1657 HOWELL *Londinop.* 342 A handsome new Street butted out, and fairly built by the Company of Goldsmiths. c. 1688 5th *Coll. Papers Pres. Juncture* 18 The Scripture supposes... Mens Lands to be already butted and bounded, when it forbids removing the Ancient Land-marks. 1797 DE FOE *Eng. Tradem.* i. xxv. 248 We have gained nothing by war and encroachment, we are butted and bounded just where we were in Queen Elizabeth's time.

† b. *fig. Obs.*

1659 C. NOBLE *Inexped. Expedient* 14 The Humble Petition... hath butted and bounded our Interests. 1680 C. NESS *Ch. Hist.* 447 Antichrist and his Auxiliaries... are so Butted and Bounded by the great God. 1694 S. JOHNSON *Notes on Past. Lett. Bp. Burnet* l. 22 They are butted and bounded by Law.

† 2. *absol.* To mark out limits (in surveying). *Obs.*

1523 FITZHERB. *Surv.* 38 b, And he must stande in the myddes of the flatte whan he shall butte truly.

II. † 3. *intr.* To abut on, upon, against; to touch with the end (cf. BOUND v. 1 3); to adjoin; = ABUT v. 2, 3. Also *fig. Obs.*

1523 FITZHERB. *Surv.* 38 b, The southe endes butteth vpon the hall orcharde... and the northe endes but vpon ryhyll. 1570 LEVINS *Manip.* 195 To Butte, *adiacere*. 1565 GOLDING *Ovid's Met.* xiii. (1593) 321 She gat her to a hill That butted on the sea. 1581 SAVILE *Agric.* (1622) 188 The nearest [Britons] to France likewise resemble the French... because... that in countries butting together the same aspects of the heavens doe yeild the same complexions of bodies. 1601 HOLLAND *Pliny* xviii. vi, Cn. Pompeius... never... would purchase any ground that butted or bordered upon his owne. 1680 BUNYAN *Holy War* (R. T. S.) 314 The remote parts of their country... do both butt and bound upon Hell-gate hill. 1685 H. MORE *Paraphr. Prophet.* 127 The expiration of the sixty-nine Weeks of Daniel which butt vpon the Manifestation of the Messias. 1790 STOUT *Surv.* (ed. Strype 1754) II. vi. iv. 650/1 Burleigh Street butteth against Exeter Street. 1798 W. HUTTON *Autobiog.* 25 The bedstead, whose head butted against their bedside.

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b. To border on, go along the margin of.

1594 CAREW *Tasso* (1881) 24 He euer butting on the salt-sea waue, By wayes directest doth conduct his hoast.

† 4. *To butt on, upon*: (of a line) to end in (a point); (of a road) to issue or lead into. (Cf. Fr. *aboutir à*, and ABUT 3). Also *fig. Obs.*

1634 CANNE *Necess. Separ.* (1849) 171 Their practice butteth full upon the others' unreasonable and unsound reasoning. 1656 TRAPP *Comm. Matt.* xxiii. 18 All the worldling's ploughing, sailing, building, buying, butts upon commodity, he knows no other duty. 1677 NEWTON in Rigaud *Corr. Sci. Men* (1841) II. 355 Draw AK and BK butting on the eyeglass at F. 1678 BUNYAN *Pilgr.* I. 37 There are many ways butt down upon this. 1790 [see in 3].

5. *intr.* chiefly *techn.* of beams, parts of machinery, etc.: To come with one end flat against, on; usually implying that the contiguous surfaces are planes at right angles to the length of beam, etc.

1670 COTTON *Espernon* i. iv. 182 A great Beam that butted upon the Chimney of the Chamber. 1769 FALCONER *Dict. Marine* (1789) s. v. *Scarf*, When the ends of the two pieces are cut square, and put together, they are said to butt to one another. 1791 SKEATON *Edystone L.* § 56 A lantern, that was raised upon eight fir Balks, which butted upon the solid. 1875 'STONEHENGE' *Brit. Sports* II. viii. ii. § 1. 640 From the handle to a little beyond the rowlock most sculls are square, with an oblong leather button... butting against the inside of the thowle.

6. *trans.* To place (timber, etc.) with its end resting against a plane surface at right angles to its length; to join (iron plates, beams, etc.) end to end, with a flat transverse juncture.

1784 ROY in *Phil. Trans.* LXXV. 460 What may have been lost by constantly butting one rod against the other. 1881 *Mechanic* § 123. 608 The back has not been let in under the brickwork at F, but is merely butted against it.

¶ See also *prec. vb.*, senses 3, 4.

Butt (büt), v. 3 [f. BUTT sb. 3]

1. *Angling. (trans.)* To give the butt to (see BUTT sb. 3 i b).

1867 F. FRANCIS *Angling* ix. (1880) 332 If it becomes necessary to butt a fish.

2. *U. S.* ? To cut off the rough ends of logs or boards.

1880 *Northw. Lumberman* Jan. 24 If we were buying the logs, we should try to get enough of the scale to pay for the butting, or rather for manufacturing the timber into logs.

† Buttal, sb. *Obs.* Forms: 6 buttel(l), but-telle, 6-7 buttal(l), 7 buttle, butel. [? f. BUTT v. 2 + -AL 2; cf. ABUTTAL.] A bound or boundary.

1558 HULOET, Buttel, or bound of land, *meta.* 1577 *Test. 12 Patriarchs* (1604) 85, I have not... removed the bounds and buttles of lands. 1598 YONG *Diana* 23 Busines about the buttals of certaine pastures. 1636 HEALEY *Theophrast.* x. 42 Every day he surveys his grounds and the buttals thereof, lest there be any incroaching.

b. *transf.* ? A measured piece (of land). Cf. BUTT sb. 6 i b.

1600 BRATHWAT *Five Senses*, To purchase a buttall of land from his neighbour.

† Buttal, buttel, v. *Obs.* [f. *prec. sb.*]

1. *trans.* To bound or limit, to set boundaries to; to mete out. Hence Butteling *vbl. sb.*

1571 GOLDING *Calvin on Ps.* lxxiv. 2 Inasmuch as they were wont to buttel out grounds with metepoles. *Ibid.* Y^e God (by y^e secret buttelling of his own good pleasure, as it were by a tenfold rod) bounded out Israel from the other nations. 1583 — *Calvin on Deut.* clxxxi. 1124 Some Geometrician that should have butteled and bounded the whole world.

2. To abut, be bounded. *Const. of.*

1642 in T. GARDNER *Hist. Dunwich* (1754) 166 A Porch-Houst that stound in the South Street, buteling of Robart Barfot on the North Syd, butel of South Fisher-Way on South; butel East latle Houses; butel on West upon latly caled Maynfeld.

Buttal, obs. dial. form of BITTERN.

1691 RAY S. & E. C. *Wds.* Coll. 91 A Buttal; a Bittern.

† Buttall.

1552 in Peacock *Eng. Ch. Furniture* (1866) 219 Item tooe blew Curtens for the alter end. Item iiij buttall Clothes.

Buttargo, obs. f. BOTARGO.

Butte (? büt, büt), U. S. Also bute. [a. F. *butte* a hillock or rising ground; cf. BUTT sb. 5]

In Western U. S.: An isolated hill or peak rising abruptly (see quot. 1845).

1838 PARKER *Rocky Mts.* 70 Red Butte, which is a high bluff. 1845 FRÉMONT *Rocky Mount.* 145 (Bartlett) It [the word *butte*] is applied to the detached hills and ridges which rise abruptly, and reach too high to be called hills or ridges, and not high enough to be called mountains. *Knob*, as applied in the Western States, is their most descriptive term in English. 1880 *Century Mag.* xxiv. 510 Everything in the way of hill, rock, mountain, or clay-heap is called a butte in Montana. 1881 GEIKIE in *Wyoming in Macm.* Mag. XLIV. 236 Here and there isolated flat-topped eminences or 'buttes', as they are styled... rise from the plain.

attrib. 1880 *Scribner's Mag.* July 454 Broken down among the rocks of a stony bit of butte-road.

Butted (bütet), ppl. a. [f. BUTT sb. 3 + -ED 2.]

Furnished with a butt; used chiefly in parasynthetic comb., as *brass-butted, stiff-butted*, etc.

1866 KINGSLEY *Herew.* i. (1877) 54 The handle was... butted with narwhal ivory. 1858 MAYNE REID in *Cham. Jnl.* IX. 266 From the huge brass-butted holsters. 1886 Q. REV. CLXIII. 345 The stiff-butted Kelso [fishing] rods.

Buttel(l), var. of BUTTAL.

Butteler, Butten, obs. ff. BUTLER, BUTTON.

Butt-end (büt end). [f. BUTT sb. 3 + END.]

1. = BUTT sb. 3 (and now more frequent).

1580 NORTH *Plutarch* (1676) 955 Leptines... took a Halbard... and with the butt end of it drew on the ground that which he would. 1611 CHAPMAN *May Day Wks.* 1873 II. 339 The butt end of a shoemakers horn. 1677 HOBBS *Homer* 141 The butt-ends of their spears fixt in the ground. 1792 MUNCHAUSEN'S *Trav.* ii. 8 The butt-end of my whip. 1833 *Regul. Instr. Cavalry* i. 34 The butt-end of the carbine. 1855 MACAULAY *Hist. Eng.* III. 244 His brains would have been knocked out with the butt end of a musket.

b. *fig.* The mere concluding part; the 'tag end'.

1594 SHAKS. *Rich. III.* II. ii. 110 The butt-end of a Mothers blessing. 1676 *Adv. Men of Shaftesbury* 36 The Dear Bag was gone, the Butt-end of all his hopes. 1800 *Edin. Rev.* XXXIII. 207 Added to a Deposition the butt-end of an Indictment. 1825 *Blackw. Mag.* XVIII. 162 Their rhapsodies only recall the butt-end of an ancient cavalier song.

† 2. The thickest part of the trunk of a tree, just above the root. *Obs.*

1677 HUBBARD *Narr.* 66 He nimbly got behind the butt-end of a tree newly turned up by the roots. 1760 WINTHROP in *Phil. Trans.* LII. 10 A great tree, 2½ feet in diameter at the butt-end.

3. *Naut.* See BUTT sb. 7

Butt-end, v. *nonce-wd.* [f. *prec.*] To use the butt-end (e.g. of a gun). So Butt-ending *vbl. sb.*

1859 M. THOMSON *Cawnpore* 48 (Hoppe) For destructive aggression, battering, and butt-ending, the palm must be awarded to the privates of — Regiment.

Butter (büt), sb. 1 Forms: 1-3 butere, 3 buttere, 4 boter(e, botter, butre, 4-5 buttur, 5 butture, buttir, buttyr, botyr, butore, bottre, 7 butyr, 4-butter. [OE. *butere* wk. fem. (in compounds *buttor*); ad. L. *butyrum*, ad. Gr. *βούτυρον*. So OFris. *butera*, *botera*, MDu. *böter(e, botre, Du. boter*, MLG. *botter*, late OHG. (10th or 11th c.) *butera*, MHG., mod. G. *butter*, all from Latin.

The Gr. is usually supposed to be f. *βοῦς* ox or cow + *τύπος* cheese, but is perhaps of Scythian or other barbarous origin.]

I. 1. The fatty substance obtained from cream by churning. It is chiefly used for spreading on bread (see BREAD and BUTTER), and in cookery.

c. 1000 *Sax. Leechd.* I. 194 Wið geswell, genim þas ylcæn myllefolium mid buteran gecencude. c. 1250 *Gen. & Ex.* 1014 Bred, kalues fleis, and flures bred, And buttere. a. 1300 *Havelok* 643 Bred an chese, butere and milk. 1377 LANGL. *P. Pl.* B. v. 444 Bothe bred and ale 'butter, melke, and chese. c. 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 56 Buttyr or botyr 'butter', *buturum*. 1562 J. HEYWOOD *Prov. & Epigr.* (1867) 71 Euery promise that thou therein dost viter, Is as sure as it were sealed with butter. 1596 SHAKS. *1 Hen. IV.* II. iv. 560 A grosse fat man.—As fat as Butter. 1621 HOLLAND *Pliny* II. 318 The fattest Butyr is made of Ewes milke. 1722 DE FOE *Plague* (1884) 105, I laid in... Salt-butter and Cheshire Cheese. a. 1867 *Buckle Misc. Wks.* (1872) I. 307 The Greeks were acquainted with butter, but never ate it.

b. To make butter and cheese of: ? to confound, bamboozle. (Cf. Gr. *τυπεύειν*.)

1642 *Tract conc. Schisme* 11 They made butter and cheese one of another.

c. (To look) as if butter would not melt in one's mouth: said contemptuously of persons of excessively demure appearance.

1530 PALSGR. 620, 1 He maketh as though he butter wolde nat melte in his mouthe. 1552 LATIMER *Serm. Lord's Prayer* v. II. 79 These fellows... can speak so finely, that a man would think butter should scant melt in their mouths. 1738 SWIFT *Pol. Conv.* i. (D.) She looks as if butter would not melt in her mouth, but I warrant cheese won't choke her. 1850 THACKERAY *Pendennis* ix. (1885) 595 She smiles and languishes, you'd think that butter would not melt in her mouth.

d. *Melled butter*: butter melted with water, flour, etc., used as a sauce. *Clarified or run butter*: butter melted and potted for culinary use.

1709 ADDISON *Tatler* No. 192 P 1 A Plate of Butter which had not been melted to his Mind. 1807 WINDHAM *Parl. Sp.* (1812) III. 46 It was the sort of poverty of conception, reproached by some foreigner to English cookery, that we had but one sauce, and that that sauce was melted butter. 1832 MARRYAT *P. Simple* i. 7 I've thickened the butter. 1879 M. C. TYLER *Housekeeping* *Virginia* 102 Dish, and serve with drawn butter and parsley.

e. formerly used as an unguent; *esp.* in the preparation called *May butter* (see quot.).

1643 J. STEER tr. *Exp. Chyrurg.* viii. 34 Let him apply the... Ointment of Sweet Butter thereto. 1718 QUINCY *Dispens.* III. xi. 476 *Butyrum Majale, May Butter*. This is made by melting fresh Butter that has been made up without any Salt, in the Sun; which is to be repeated until it grows of a whitish Colour. This is a very trifling Medicine, and of no use but as any simple Unguent, or plain Lard may be. 1753 CHAMBERS *Cycl. Supp.* s. v.

f. *fig.* Uncutuous flattery. (Cf. BUTTER v.) *collog.* 1823 *Blackw. Mag.* XIV. 309 You have been daubed over by the dirty butter of his applause. 1880 *World* 13 Oct., A lavish interchange of compliments, the butter being laid on pretty thick.

† 2. ? A dish or confection made with butter. *Obs.* c. 1600 *Day Begg. Bedall* Gr. v. (1881) 114 The old woman my Mother... could have taught thee how to a made butters and flap-jacks.

3. *transf.* As a name for various substances resembling butter in appearance or consistence, as *butter of almonds* = ALMOND-BUTTER; *butter of cacao*, a white unctuous substance obtained from the seeds of the cacao: so *butter of maoe*, *shea butter* (the substance which exudes from

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the African butter-tree, and similar products, called generically *vegetable butters*; butter of wax, a butyrous oil, obtained from wax by distillation, rook butter, a mineral composed of alum combined with iron, which exudes as a soft butter-like paste from certain aluminiferous rocks [see quot. 1811 and cf. Ger. *berg-butter*].

1240 *Anc. Cookery in Househ. Ord.* (1790) 447 Botyr of Almonds. Take almond mylke, and let hit boyle, and in the boylinge cast thereto a lytel wyn or vynegr. **1672** GREW *Phil. Hist. Plants* § 51 No Oyl which remained liquid; but instead of that a Butyr, almost of the Consistence and Colour of the Oyl of Mace. **1752** CHAMBERS *Cycl. s.v. Wax*. By chemistry, wax yields a white thick oil, resembling butter; whence the chemists call it butter of wax. **1812** PINKERTON *Petral. I.* 117 The *kamennoie maslo*, or rock butter, a fat yellowish substance of a penetrating smell, being a mixture of alum and fluid bitumen. **1836** PENNY *Cycl. VI.* 68½ The most important vegetable butters are produced by the *Bassia butyacea*, and certain palms, such as the *Cocos butyacea* and the *Elais Guineensis*. **1861** *Our English Home* 151 Almonds... were boiled until the liquor became a delicious cream, from which was made the famous butter of almonds. **1866** TREAS. *Bot. s.v. Myristica*. [The fixed oil of nutmegs] is extracted by pressure, and forms what is called butter of mace.

b. *esp.* in Chem., an old name of several anhydrous chlorides, as butter of antimony, arsenic, bismuth, tin, zinc.

1641 FRENCH *Distill. iii.* (1651) 71 Oil or Butter of Antimony. **1802** CHEVENIX in *Phil. Trans.* XCII. 164 The muriatic salts, formerly known by the strange name of butters of the metals. **1822** SIR H. DAVY *Chem. Philos.* 407 The only known compound, bismuth and chlorine... called butter of bismuth. *Ibid.* 377 Butter of zinc. **1876** HARLEY *Mat. Med.* 260 Butter of Antimony is an energetic caustic.

II. Comb. and Attrib.

4. General comb.: **a.** attributive, as *butter-cart*, *-cask*, *-churn*, *-crock*, *-dairy*, *-dealer*, *-dew*, *-dish*, *-firkin*, *-kit*, *-merchant*, *-monger*, *-pot*, *-shop* (also *fig.*), *-skop*, *-tub*; **b.** objective gen., as *butter-maker*, *-making*; **c.** similitive, as *butter-colour*, *-coloured*, *-like*.

1808 MISS MITFORD *Village* (1863) 129 [They] would run to meet the 'butter-cart' as if it were a carriage and four. **1796** LOND. GAS. No. 4383½ An Act... for Amending of the Law in relation to 'Butter-Casks. **1847** MOIR in *Rural Cycl. I.* 592 The lime is pre-eminently suited for the manufacture of butter-casks. **1859** in H. Hall *Soc. in Elizabethan Age* (1886) 201 A 'butter-churn, 35. **1865** TYLOR *Early Hist. Man.* ix. 240 In modern India, butter churns are worked with a cord. **1877** LITTLEDALE in *Academy* 24 Feb. 158 There are at least six shades of 'butter-colour. **1784** TWAMLEY *Dairying* 81 A near relation of mine, who kept a 'Butter Dairy. **1790** *British Topogr.* II. 777 Mr. Van's account of 'butter-dew that fell in the provinces of Munster and Leinster. **1772** WILLS & INV. N. C. (1835) 349, xxxix 'butter Dishes. **1861** MRS. BEETON *Househ. Management*. 814 An ornamental butter-dish. **1640** *Debate* in Rushw. *Hist. Coll. iii.* (1692) I. 151 The... marking of 'Butter-Firkins. **1867** RICHMOND *Hist.* (1853) 209, 17 'butterkitts. **1802** PALEY *Nat. Theol. xiii.* A small nipple, yielding upon pressure a 'butter-like substance. **1869** GEO. ELIOT A. BIDE 112 He actually dared not look at this little 'buttermaker for the first minute or two. **1751** LADY M. W. MONTAGU *Lett.* III. 102, I expect immortality from the science of 'butter-making. **1859** GEO. ELIOT A. BIDE 70 The linen butter-making apron, with its bib. **1813** VANCOUVER *Agric. Devon* 231 The 'butter-merchants in London. **1790** LOND. GAS. No. 5879¼ William Dixon... 'Buttermonger. **1693** URQUHART *Rabelais* iii. xvii. 139 A great 'Butter-pot full of fresh Cheese. **1865** E. METEYARD *J. Wedgwood* I. 125 The butter-pot was a coarse cylindrical vessel... formed of clay. **1773** *Gentl. Mag.* XLIII. 579 The poor man, who keeps a 'butter-shop in Newgate-market. **1831** BLACKW. *Mag.* 55 He has carefully collected, preserved, published, and transmitted to the butter-shops, all the hyperbolic bombast. **1572** WILLS & INV. N. C. (1835) 249 One 'butter-skepp. **1570** *Ibid.* 318 'Buttertubbes, scuttlies and other stuff. **1742** *Compt. Fam.-Piece* i. i. 95 Take a Butter-tub.

5. Special comb.: **†** *butter-ale* = *battered ale* (see ALE 4); **butter and eggs**, a popular name for several flowers which are of two shades of yellow, *esp.* Toadflax (*Linaria vulgaris*) and varieties of *Narcissus*; **butter and tallow tree** (see quot.); **butter-back**, a kind of wild duck (*U. S.*); **butter-badger** (*dial.*), an itinerant butter-factor; **†** *butter-bag*, a contemptuous epithet for a Dutchman (cf. BUTTER-BOX); **butter-bake**, *Sc.*, a butter biscuit; **butter-barrel** = *butter-cask* in 4; also *dial.* a barrel-churn; **butter-bird**, a name for the Bobolink (*U. S.*); **†** *butter-bitten*, *a.*, ? given to biting butter (cf. BITTEN *ppl. a.* 4); **butter-boat**, a vessel for serving melted butter in; used *fig.* of lavish adulation (*collog.*); **butter-cooler**, a vessel for keeping butter cool when brought on the table; **butter cross**, a market-cross near which butter is sold; **butter-cutter**, the name of an insect (? corruption of *bud-cutter*; see BUD *sb.* 1 5); **butter-dock** (see quot.); **butter-factor**, a tradesman who buys butter from the farmers to sell wholesale; **butter-fish**, the Spotted Gunnel, so called from its slimy skin; **butter-flip**, a local name of the Avocet; **butter-jags**, a *dial.* name for *Lotus corniculatus*, also for *Medicago falcata*; **butter-knife**, a blunt knife used for cutting butter at table; **butter-lamp**, a lamp fed with butter

instead of oil; **butter-leaves**, a name for *Atriplex hortensis* and *Rumex alpinus*; **butter-man**, a man who makes or sells butter; also *Naut.* a schooner rigged in a particular way; **†** *butter-mark* = BUTTER-PRINT 1; **butter-mould** (see quot.); **butter-mouth attrib.**, a contemptuous epithet for a Dutchman = *butter-bag*; **butter-pat**, a small piece of butter rolled or shaped into some ornamental form for the table; **butter-pear** = BEURRE; **butter-plate**, a plate for holding butter; also, a name for *Ranunculus flammula*; **†** *butter-quean* = *butter-whore*; **butter-rigged a.** *Naut.* (see quot. 1885, and cf. *butter-man*); **†** *butter-root* = BUTTERWORT; **butter-scootch** (also *dial.* *butterscot*), a kind of toffee, chiefly composed of sugar and butter; **butter-toast** (more commonly *battered toast*), toast spread with butter; **butter-tree**, name of *Bassia butyacea* and *Bassia Parkii*; **butter-weed**, a name for *Erigeron canadensis* and *Senecio lobatus*; **butter-weight**, formerly 18 or more ounces to the pound; hence, *fig.* for 'good measure' (*obs.*); **†** *butter-whore*, a scolding butter-woman; **†** *butter-wife*, *butter-woman*, a woman who makes or sells butter; **butter-worker**, a contrivance for pressing the butter-milk out of butter. See also BUTTER-BOX, -BUR, -CUP, -FLY, -WORT, etc.

1666 PERYS *Diary* 17 Mar., Home, having a great cold: so to bed, drinking 'butter-ale. **1776** WITHERING *Bot. Arrangement* (1796) III. 552 Toadflax, Snap dragon, 'Butter and Eggs. **1880** JEFFERIES *Gl. Estate* 83 In shady woodlands the toadflax or butter-and-eggs is often pale,—a sulphur colour. **1830** LINDLEY *Nat. Syst. Bot.* 46 The 'Butter and Tallow-tree of Sierra Leone, which owes its name (*Pentadesma butyacea*) to the yellow greasy juice its fruit yields when cut. **1796** MORSE *Amer. Geog.* I. 213 Little black and white duck, called 'Butter Back (*Anas minor picta*). **1857** FRASER'S *Mag.* LVI. 355 His father was... a 'butter-badger. **c. 1645** HOWELL *Lett.* II. xi, The 'butterbag Hollander. **1802** BLACKW. *Mag.* XXIV. 910 He... thumped 'butter-bakes with his elbows to some purpose. **1862** BARNES *Rhynchos Dorset Dial.* I. 6 The 'butter-barrel An' cheese wring. **1883** STANDARD 26 Dec., They [bobolinks]... grow so fat that they receive the name of 'butter birds'. **1877** GASCOIGNE *Voy. Hollande* (1831) 221 The Dutche with a 'butterbitten iawes. **1787** *Gentl. Mag.* Sept. 82½ His mustard-glass and 'butter-boat were overturned. **1807** BYRON *To Miss Pigot* 5 July, Upset a butter-boat in the lap of a lady. **1865** SAT. *Rev.* 7 Jan. 16½ That kind of praise which feels like the butter-boat down one's back. **1866** J. H. SKINNER *After Storm* I. 181 He praised some things and gave advice about others, using the butter-boat less freely than is customary at volunteer inspections. **1884** *Health Exhib. Catal.* 112½ Ice Jugs and 'Butter Coolers. **1883** FLOR. MARRIAT *Moment Madness* &c. III. 170 Their old-world institutions and buildings—their 'butter crosses and market steps. **1719** LONDON & WISE *Compl. Gard.* 178 The end of their new Shoots intirely cut off by a little black round insect, called Buttercutter. **1863** PRIOR *Plant-n.* 36 'Butter-dock, from its leaves being used for lapping butter, whence the Scotch name of it, Smair-dock, *Rumex obtusifolius*. **1813** VANCOUVER *Agric. Devon* 230 The 'butter-factors at Honiton. **1674** RAY (Sea) *Fishes*, Coll. 104, 56 'Butter-Fish. **1740** R. BROOKES *Art Angling* II. xviii. 123 The Butter-Fish or Gunnel... sometimes attains the length of six inches... is taken frequently on the Cornish Coast. **1883** *Fisheries Exhib. Catal.* (ed. 4) 179 The Butter-fish is an excellent and delicate morsel. **1802** G. MONTAGU *Ornith. Dict.* (1833) 66 'Butterflip, a name for the Avocet. **1691** RAY N. C. *Wds.* Coll. 12 'Butter-jags, the flowers of the *Trifolium siliqua cornuta*. **1776** WITHERING *Bot. Arrangement* (1796) VI. 659 Yellow Medick, Butterjags. **1884** GILMOUR *Mongols* 91 The altar on which a 'butter-lamp was then burning. **1769** MARSHALL *Glocester* (E. D. S.) 'Butter-leaves, the leaves of the *Atriplex hortensis*, or garden orach; which dairywomen in general sow in their gardens, annually, [for packing butter in]. **1802** *Edin. Rev.* I. 51 'Butter-men... are scarcely ever attacked by the plague. **1883** *Daily Tel.* 26 Nov. (on Rigs), He believed that this name [butter-man] was given in consequence of numbers of this kind of craft trading to Holland for butter. **1483** *Cath. Angl.* 50 'Buttir marke. **1861** MRS. BEETON *Househ. Management*. 814 'Butter-moulds, or wooden stamps for moulding fresh butter. **1547** BOORDE *Introd. Knowl.* 147, I am a Fleming, what for all that?... 'Buttermouth Fleming, men doth me call. **1616** SURFL. & MARKH. *Constr. Farm* 417 Garden tender or delicate pear such as 'Butter peare. **1719** LONDON & WISE *Compl. Gard.* 52 The Buttree... It's call'd the Butter Pear, because of its smooth, delicious, melting soft Pulp. **1753** H. WALPOLE *Corr.* (1837) I. 203 The 'butter-plate is not exactly what you ordered, but I flatter myself you will like it as well. **1853** G. JOHNSTON *Nat. Hist. E. Bord.* I. 26 *Ranunculus Flammula*, the Butter-Plate, a name expressive of the comparative flatness of the corolla. **1650** H. MORE in *Enthus. Tri.* (1656) 106 You... scold more bitterly than any 'Butter-quean. **1881** W. C. RUSSELL *Ocean Free L.* III. iv. 121 The little wooden cabin of a 'butter-rigged schooner. **1883** *Daily Tel.* 26 Nov. (on Rigs), A butter-rigged schooner's a vessel that sets her top-gallant sail flying. The yard comes down on the top-sail yard, and the sails is furled together. **1597** GERARD *Herbal* cclxiii. § 4. 645 In Yorkshire... it is called Butter-worts, 'Butter roote, and white roote. **1855** *Whitby Gloss.*, 'Butterscot, treacle ball, with an amalgamation of butter in it. **1865** MISS BRADDOCK *Sir Jasper* XXVI. 260 The vendors of toothsome 'butter-scotch were blithe and busy. **1866** POLWHELE *Trad. & Recoll.* II. 381, I found time to... treat him with 'butter-toast for his supper, and butter-toast for his breakfast. **1830** LINDLEY *Nat. Syst. Bot.* 181 The 'Butter Tree of Mungo Park was also a species of *Bassia*. **1866** TREAS. *Bot.*, *Bassia butyacea*, the Indian Butter tree. **1878** H. STANLEY *Dark Cont.* II. xiii. 365 The *Bassia Parkii*,

or Shea butter-tree... exudes a yellowish-white sticky matter. **1886** N. & Q. 30 Jan. 98 The Shea tree or butter tree of Africa. **1733** SWIFT *On Poetry* 540 Yet why should we be lac'd so strait? I'll give my monarch 'butter-weight. **1807** VANCOUVER *Agric. Devon* (1813) 231 This salting in some measure accounts for the enlarged customary butter-weight in this country. **1593** NASHE *Four Lett. Confut.* 49 Thou arrant 'butterwhore, thou cotqueane, & scrattope of scoldes. **1764** T. BRYDGES *Homer Travest.* (1797) I. 249 You... scolded like a butter-whore. **1548** BRINKLOW *Complaynt* vi. (1874) 19 Not so much as the poore 'butter-wife but she is spoyled. **1601** SHAKS. *All's Well* iv. i. 245, Tongue, I must put you into a 'Butter-womans mouth... if you prattle mee into these perilles. **1883** *Punch* 24 Feb. 87 The five Royal Commissioners in their butterwomans' cloaks.

† *Butter, sb.* 2 *Obs.* [a. F. *boutoir* 'a Farriers Buttesse' (Cotgr.)] = BUTTERBIS.

1483 *Cath. Angl.* 50 A Buttyr, *scalprum*. **1607** TORSSELL *Four-f. Beasts* (1673) 312 The humor lies in the foot, for the which you must search with your Buttyr, pairing all the soles of the fore-feet. *Ibid.* 323 Pull off the shooe, and then open the place grieved with a Buttyr or Drawer.

† *Butter, sb.* 3 *Obs.* (? *nonce-wd.*) [app. a. MDu. or Flem. *butter* 'aleator improbus et præuaricator' (Kilian).] One who cheats at play.

1474 CAXTON *Chess* 127 Players at dyse, ribauldes and butters.

Butter (*bv'tai*), *sb.* 4 [f. BUTT *v.* 1 + -ER.] An animal that butts.

1611 COTGR., *Conseur*, a butter or iutter. **1883** *Fifesh. Jnl.* 10 May 3/6 The goat is a hard butter.

Butter (*bv'tai*), *sb.* 5 [f. BUTT *sb.* 3 (or the derived *v.* 3) + -ER.] A machine for sawing off the ends of legs or boards, to render them square.

1874 KNIGHT *Dict. Mech.* s.v., In the large saw-mills of the lumber regions double butters are used.

Butter, *obs.* form of BUTTERN.

1600 *Sc. Acts* 16 *Yas. VI.* xxiii, Skaildrak, Herron, Butter, or any sic kynde of fowles. **1600** J. MASON *New-foundl.* 4 Butters, blacke Birds with red breastes.

Butter (*bv'tai*), *v.* [f. BUTTER *sb.* 1]

1. *trans.* To smear or spread with butter. Also, To cook or dish up with butter (see BUTTERED 2). **1496** [see BUTTERED *ppl. a.*]. **1528** TINDALE *Obed. Chr. Man in Doctr. Treatises* (1848) 277 They think that, if the bishop butter the child in the forehead, that it is safe. **1599** DARRELL'S *Accts.* in H. Hall *Soc. in Elizabethan Age* (1886) 213 For... buttering if cold chickens, *vd.* **1596** SHAKS. *Merry W.* III. v. 8 If I be seru'd such another tricke, He haue my braines tane out and butter'd. **1608** — *Lear* II. iv. 127 'Twas her Brother, that in pure kinnesne to his Horse buttered his Hay. **1796** MRS. GLASSE *Cookery* v. 53 Butter the paper and also the gridiron. **1883** JAGO in *Knowledge* 24 Aug. 120½ Ship-biscuits... soaked in hot coffee and then buttered.

b. To close up with butter.

1807 SYD. SMITH *Plymley's* *Lett.* Wks. 1859 II. 163½ An Irish peasant fills the barrel of his gun full of tow dipped in oil, butters up the lock, buries it in a bog.

c. in proverbial expressions, as *Fine words butter no parsnips*. To know on which side one's bread is buttered: see BREAD 2 f. To butter one's bread on both sides: to be wasteful or luxurious. To have one's bread buttered for life: to be well provided for. **†** To butter the cony: see quot. 1611.

1611 COTGR. s.v. *Ambezats*, *Avant fait Ambezats*, having buttered the conie; hauing had that chance that no wise man would nicke. **1645** *Sacred Decretal* 5 Fair words butter no fish. **1821** BYRON *Via. Judgm.* xcvi, His bread, Of which he buttered both sides. **1870** LOWELL *Among my Bks.* Ser. I. (1873) 358 Fine words, says our homely old proverb, butter no parsnips. **1865** D. C. MURRAY *First Pers. Sing.* xx. (1886) 152 He told himself that in any case his bread was buttered for life.

2. *fig. + a.* See quot. 1725. **b.** To flatter lavishly, to bedaub with fulsome praise or compliment.

1700 CONGREVE *Way World* Prol. (1866) 259 The squire that's butter'd still is sure to be undone. **1725** *New Cant. Dict.*, To butter, signifies also, to cheat or defraud in a smooth or plausible manner. **1816** SCOTT *Antig.* xxxvii. 257 Butter him with some warlike terms—praise his dress and address. **1845** Hood *Public Dinner* II, Long speeches are stutted'd, And toasts are well butter'd. **1884** SAT. *Rev.* 5 July 27½ The Lord Chief Justice of England made a tour through America and generously buttered the natives.

† 3. *slang.* 'To increase the stakes every throw or every game' J. *Obs.*

1690 B. E. *Dict. Cant. Crew*, *Butter*, to double or treble the Bet or Wager to recover all Losses. **1719** ADDISON *Freeholder* No. 40 Wks. (1821) 505 One of Mr. Congreve's prologues, which compares a writer to a buttering gamester, that stakes all his winning upon one cast; so that if he loses the last throw, he is sure to be undone.

Buttera'ceous, *a.* *nonce-wd.* = BUTYRACEOUS.

1837 LOCKHART *Scott vii.* (Chandos) 159 Our butteraceous friend at the Cross.

Butteras, *obs.* f. BUTTERBIS.

† *Butterbore*. *Obs.* [Possibly f. BUTTER *sb.* 1 (the implement being compared in form to a 'cheese-taster') + BORE *sb.* 1 5; but cf. Fr. *bouterol*, *bouterau*, *bouterolle*, denoting pointed instruments for punching or boring.] (See quot.)

1679 PLOT *Staffordsh.* (1686) 109 Who if he have ground to suspect any of the pots, tries them with an instrument of Iron made like a Cheese-Taster, only much larger and longer, called an Auger or Butterbore, with which he makes proof (thrusting it in obliquely) to the bottom of the pot.

† *Butter-bowzy*, *a.* *Obs.* [f. Du. *boterbus* butter-box.] Of the nature of a BUTTER-BOX 2.

1719 D'URFEE *Pills* I. 252 The Italian and the butterboxy Hogan Mogau.

Butter-box.

1. A box for holding butter.
1756 NUGENT *Gr. Tour* I. 44 The common people seldom go upon a journey without a butter-box in their pockets.
† 2. Contemptuous designation for a Dutchman.
Cf. also *butter bag*, *-mouth* (BUTTER sb.¹ 5).

1600 DEKKER *Genile Craft Wks.* 1873 I. 21 We have not men enow, but wee must entertaine every butterbox. 1624 MASSINGER *Renegado* II. v. Some low country butterbox. 1674 H. STUBBS *Justif. Dutch War* 79 The World is coming to a fine pass when these Butter-boxes presume to teach all Europe Civility. 1811 *Dict. Buckish Slang*, *Butter Box*, a Dutchman, from the great quantity of butter eaten by the people of that country.

Butter-bump, butter-bump. [f. *butter*, *bitter*, earlier forms of BITTERN + BUMP v.²] Local name of the Bittern; Phillips 1678 makes it a different bird, but prob. in error.

1671 in SKINNER. 1678 PHILLIPS (App.), *Butterbump*, a sort of Bird which some call Onocrotalus. Others think this bird rather than the Bittern (which they call *Ardea Stelaris*) to be that which is called in Latin *Buteo*. 1678 H. MORE *Glanvill's Sadducismus Postsc.* (1681) 30 And does she not... put her Neb also into it sometimes, as into a Reed... and cry like a Butterbump? 1864 TENNYSON *North Farmer (Old Style)* viii. Most loike a butter-bump, far I 'eerd 'um about an' about. 1871 E. PEACOCK *Ralf Shirl.* II. 111 We got ten couple... besides two butter-bumps and a heronew.

Butterbur (bʊtəbɜːr). Also 7-burn. [f. BUTTER sb.¹ + BUR sb. Conjectured to be so named because its leaves were used for wrapping butter in; cf. *butter-dock*, *butter-leaves* in BUTTER sb.¹ 5. See, however, quot. 1651, which suggests a different explanation.] A plant, *Petasites vulgaris*, with large soft leaves, growing in wet land; sometimes made the English name of the genus.

1548 TURNER *Namens Herbes* s.v. *Petasites* is called in the South partes of Englande a Butter bur. 1597 GERARD *Herbal* cclxxviii. § 1. 667 Bvttur Burre doth... bring fourth flowers before the leaves, as doth Coltesfoot. 1651 N. BIGGS *New Dispens.* 43 ¶ 79 From Butter-burthe floweth Gum, from Chameleon bird-line. 1673 RAY *Trav.* (1738) II. 192 The leaves thereof are rough and round, as big very near as those of *Petasites*, call'd Butterburn in our language. 1794 MARTYN *Roussseau's Bot.* xxvi. 389 Butter-bur has vast leaves shaped like those of the Colts-foot; many... flowers collected into an ovate thyrse. 1857 KINGSLEY *Two Y. Ago* II. 269 A long bar of gravel, covered with giant 'butterbur' leaves. 1880 *Encycl. Brit.* XI. 634/1 What... is sometimes called 'winter heliotrope', is the fragrant 'butterbur', or sweet-scented coltsfoot, *Petasites (Tussilago) fragrans*.

† Erroneously: the Burdock (*Arctium lappa*). 1861 S. THOMSON *Wild Flowers* III. (ed. 4) 306 The butterbur (*Arctium lappa*) has a reputation in malignant fevers.

Buttercup

† 1. A cup for holding butter. *Obs.*
1512 *Will E. Grantham* (Somerset Ho.) My buttercupps of silver.

2. A name popularly applied to species of Ranunculus bearing yellow cup-shaped flowers, esp. *R. bulbosus*, *R. acris*, and *R. repens*; and usually taken as the English name of the genus.

[The name, which seems to be first recorded in the course of 18th c., may be regarded as a mixture of the older names for these plants, viz. BUTTERFLOWER and gold-cups or king-cups. In the earlier instances it is always *buttercups*.]

1777 LIGHTFOOT *Fl. Scot.* (1789) I. 292 *Ranunculus bulbosus*, Bulbous Crowfoot, or Butter-cups, *Anglis*; *R. acris*, Upright Meadow Crowfoot. 1793 MARTYN *Flora Rust.* I. 30 These three Crowfoots are confounded by persons ignorant of Botany under the names of Butter-flowers, Butter-cups, King-Cups, Gold-cups and Gold-knops. 1797 MILLER *Gard. Dict.*, It. is confounded vulgarly with the *repens* and *bulbosus* under the name of Butterflower or Butter-cups; under the notion that the yellow colour of butter is owing to these plants. 1803 WORDSW. *Small Celandine* 51 Wks. (1869) 120 Buttercups, that will be seen, Whether we will see or no. 1817 REES *Cycl.* s.v., *Ranunculus bulbosus*, Bulbous Crow-foot, or Buttercups. 1821 CLARE *Vill. Minstr.* II. 173 Feather-headed grasses... And yellow buttercup. 1873 OLIVER *Elem. Bot.* II. § 2. 123 Thus, we refer all the species of Buttercup to the genus *Ranunculus*.

b. Applied (with distinctive epithets) to other plants bearing flowers of similar appearance, *Water Buttercup* (*Caltha palustris* and *Ranunculus aquatilis*), *White Buttercups* (*Parnassia palustris*). (Britten and Holland.)

3. *attrib.* (in late use, referring to the bright golden-yellow colour of the flower).

1875 MISS BRADDON *Str. World* i. 1 In buttercup-time, just when May... melts into tender June. 1883 *Truth* 31 May 760/2 Smarthy dressed in a short buttercup satin skirt.

...The boots were of the buttercup shade of the satin skirt.

Buttered

(bʊtəd), ppl. a. [f. BUTTER v.¹]

1. Smeared or spread with butter.

1406 *Bk. St. Alban.* *Fysshynge* 30 Browne breede tosyd wyth hony in lyknesse of a buttryd loof. a 1680 ROCHESTER in D'URFEE *Pills* (1719) 343 With greasy painted Faces drest, With butter'd Hair. 1769 MRS. RAFFALD *Eng. Housekpr.* (1778) 181 Tie it close up in a cloth well buttered. 1812 L. HUNT in *Examiner* 7 Dec. 769/1 The urn and the buttered toast. 1847 BARHAM *Ingl. Leg. Ser.* III. (1858) 474 A round and a half of some hot butter'd toast.

† 2. Cooked with butter; served up with melted butter. *Obs.*

1567 *Triall Treas.* (1850) 6, I would you had a dishe of buttered peason. 1596 NASH *Saffron Walden* O. v. Trotters, sheeps porknells, and buttered rootes. 1607 CAPT. SMITH *Seaman's Gram.* xv. 75 A dish of buttered Rice with a little Cynamon. 1678 B. R. *Lat. Pop. Friends* 4 Butter'd Codfish. 1785 BURNS *Halloween* xxviii, Butter'd sow'ns.

† b. *Buttered ale* (beer): see ALE 4.

1547 BOORDE *Brew. Health* (1552) 120, A remedy [for hoarseness], drynke buttered ale or buttered beere. 1764 T. BRIDGES *Homer Travest.* II. 213 Good old wives shall tell the tale O'er roasted eggs and butter'd ale. 1789 J. O'DONNELL in *Med. Commun.* II. 292 He desired to have some buttered ale for his supper.

3. *fig.*

1625 HART *Anat. Ur.* II. i. 56 If faire buttered speeches... could cure diseases. 1793 J. BRESFORD in *Looker-on* No. 80 (1794) III. 275 Well-buttered blasphemies, stolen, through the medium of the foot-boy, from his master's table. 1822 C. SWAN *Hair of Foix* 246 At this poetic shop they sell... Best buttered sentiments in rhyme.

† b. *Buttered bun(s)* (slang). A harlot, a mistress. (Cf. B. E. *Dict. Cant. Crew* 1690).

1679 CULLEN *W. Flock of Court Misses* in *Roxb. Ballads* (1884) V. 126 This is the day... that sets our Monarch free From butter'd Buns [i.e. Louise de Quérouaille] and Slavery.

Butteress (e, obs. f. BUTTRESS).

Butter-fingered, a. That takes hold of things with a loose slippery grasp, as if with fingers greased with butter; apt to let things fall or slip through one's fingers. Also *fig. (colloq.)*

The dial. sense is often 'unable to handle anything hot'. 1615 MARKHAM *Eng. Housew.* II. ii. (1668) 51 She must not be butter-fingered, sweet-toothed, nor faint-hearted; for the first will let everything fall, etc. 1841 *Fraser's Mag.* XXIII. 671 Butterfingered at a catch. 1884 *Chr. Commr.* 14 Feb. 428/3 A discreet Christian meets with few rebuffs; a blundering butter-fingered one with many.

Butter-fingers (bʊtəˈfɪŋɡəz). A butter-fingered person; esp. one who lets slip through his fingers a cricket-ball that he ought to catch or stop. (*colloq.*, chiefly in vocative.)

1837 DICKENS *Pickw.* vii. At every bad attempt to catch, and every failure to stop the ball, he launched his personal displeasure at the head of the devoted individual in such denunciations as... now, butter-fingers, muff, humbug, and so forth. 1840 THACKERAY *Misc.* (1857) II. 375 When the executioner had come to the last of the heads, he lifted it up, but, by some clumsiness, allowed it to drop; at this the crowd yelled out, 'Ah, Butter-fingers!' 1868 H. KINGSLEY *Sitole* of S. III. vii. 123, I never was a butter-fingers, though a bad butter.

So *butter-finger*, *attrib. (rare)*. 1851 *Fraser's Mag.* XLIV. 279 His 'butterfinger' fashion of taking hold of things.

† **Butter-flower**. *Obs.* [cf. Ger. *butterblume*: perh. from colour of the flower, but see quot. 1607 and 1762; the notion expressed in the latter is common both in England and Germany, but is unfounded, as cows do not eat the buttercup.]

1. An older name of the BUTTERCUP, q. v.

1578 LYTE *Dodoens* III. lxxiv. 422 Some do also name it... in Englishe Goldcuppes, Goldknoppes, and Butterflowers. 1607 TOPSELL *Four-f. Beasts* (1673) 56 There is an herb much like crow-foot, called of the Germans 'Butter-blumen', and in English 'butter-flower', which is used to colour butter. 1692 *Poems in Burlesque* 9 New Rigg'd and gay, As Beaux or Butter-flowers in May. 1748 RICHARDSON *Clarissa* (1811) VIII. 54 A verdant field overspread with butter-flowers, and daisies. 1762 B. STILLINGF. *Nat. Hist.* in *Misc. Tracts* 359 It is a notion that prevails commonly that cows eat the crow-foot... and that this occasions the butter to be yellow, from whence I suppose it is generally known by the name of the butter-flower. But this I believe is all a mistake. 1794 [see BUTTERCUP 2]. 1809 LONDON *Encycl.* IV. 724 Butter-flower or Butter-cup is a species of Crowfoot. 1839 HOOPER *Med. Dict.* 290.

2. *Blue butterflower*: a species unknown plant. 1599 A. M. GABELHOUSER'S *Bk. Physic* 201/1 Take blew butterflowers.

Butterfly (bʊtəˈflaɪ). Forms: 1 *butterfloeze*, 3 *butterflye*, 4 *boterfleeze*, -flye, *bottir*, *bottirflye*, (-flee), 4-6 *butterflye*, -flee, 5 *botur*, *botir*, *buttur*, *butterflye*, (-flee), *butter*, *butterflye*(e), *bottirflye*, 7 *butterflee*, 7- *butterfly*. [f. BUTTER sb.¹ + FLY sb.; with OE. *butterfloeze* cf. Du. *boterfliet*, earlier *boterfleghe*, mod. G. *butterflie*. The reason of the name is unknown: Wedgwood points out a Du. synonym *boterschijte* in Kilian, which suggests that the insect was so called from the appearance of its excrement.]

1. An insect belonging to any of those diurnal species of lepidoptera, or scaly-winged flies, which have knobbed antennæ, and carry their wings erect when at rest.

a 1000 ÆLFRIC *Voc.* in Wr. Wülcker 121 *Papilio*, *butterfloeze*. a 1300 *Floriz & Bl.* 473 Per fliste ut a butterflye are ihc wiste on min ije. c 1386 CHAUCER *Nonne Prestes* *Prol.* 24 Swich talkyng is nat worth a butterflye. c 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 46 *Buturflye*, *papilio*. c 1440 HYLTON *Scala Perfi.* (W. de W.) III. xxv, Lyke to children þat renneth after butter flyes. 1548 LATIMER *Serm. Ploughers* (Arb.) 22 The butterflye glorieth not in hyr owne dedes. 1606 SHAKS. *Tr. & Cr.* III. iii. 78 Men like butter-flies, Shew not their meale wings, but to the Summer. 1606 BACON *Sylva* § 696 As Butterflies quicken with heat, which were benumbed with cold. 1760 GAY *Fables* I. xxiv. 41 And what's a Butterfly? At best He's but a caterpillar, drest. 1845 DARWIN *Nat. Voy.* II. 33 This [*Papilio feronia*] is the only

butterfly which I have ever seen, that uses its legs for running. 1846 MRS. BROWNING *Aur. Leigh* 312 Butterflies, that bear Upon their blue wings such red embers round.

2. *fig.* A vain, gaudily attired person (e.g. a courtier who flutters about the court); a light-headed, inconstant person; a giddy trifler.

1605 SHAKS. *Leav. v. iii.* 13 Wee'll... tell old tales, and laugh At gilded Butterflies. 1649 DRUMM. OF HAWTH. *Fam. Ep.* Wks. (1711) 142 Long since I learned not to esteem of any golden butterflies there [at court], but as of counters. 1767 FORDYCE *Serm. Yng. Wom.* (ed. 4) I. ii. 76 Nor will you be in danger of appearing butterflies one day, and slatterns the next. 1841 *Blackw. Mag.* L. 63 Coroneted carriages abound: the butterflies of fashion are abroad. 1885 M. G. WATKINS in *Academy* 5 Dec. 379/1 Sufficiently interesting to captivate that butterfly, the 'general reader'.

b. Applied to something flimsy, like a butterfly's wings.

a 1603 T. CARTWRIGHT *Comfut. Rhem. N. T.* (1618) 407 Those Churches which used unleavened bread, used no such butterflies as you doe; but had a great Cake which was sufficient for the whole congregation to communicate in.

† 3. Humorous designation for: ? Some sort of legal summons or paper. *Obs.*

1583 STUBBS *Anat. Abus.* (1836) 140 If the poore manne haue not where with to pay... out goe butterflies and writtes as thick as haile.

4. The guide for the reins on the front of a hansom cab, named from a fancied resemblance to a butterfly with extended wings.

1883 *Standard* 6 Mar. 6/3 The box covered the whole roof of the cab, preventing him [the cabman] from seeing the 'butterfly'. 1885 *Specif. Rowley & Wheeler's Patent* No. 14308 The butterfly, or bracket, is screwed to the top of the hansom cab.

5. *Coal-mining*. ? A set of catches which open out so as to prevent the falling of the cage.

1881 in *West. Morn. News* 25 Nov. 5/6 The ascending cage was hurled into the headgear, smashing the butterflies and breaking the engine rope, and had it not been for the remaining butterflies the cage must have fallen to the bottom.

II. *attrib. and comb.*

6. *attrib.* Of, pertaining to, or resembling a butterfly; *fig.* vain, giddy, inconstant, frivolous.

1673 R. HEAD *Canting Acad.* 103 The Bawd furnishest them with Butterfly Garments. 1788 MRS. PENDARVES in *Mrs. Delany's Corr.* 165 All the butterfly men were at court last night. 1837 *Fraser's Mag.* XV. 239 Mr. Bailey was a dandy of the butterfly order. 1847-9 TOWN *Cycl. Anat. & Phys.* IV. 171/2 The butterfly movement of the wings being most commonly resorted to. 1855 C. BRONTE *Villette* i. 3 He is fond of science... a thing his butterfly wife could not endure.

7. Simple combinations, as *butterfly-like*, *-catching*, *-hunting*.

1878 BROWNING *Poets Croicic* 53 The bard born to bask Butterfly-like in shine which kings and queens And baby-dauphins shed. 1881 J. PAVN *Crape fr. Thorn* I. ii. 29 His only exercise (he was an entomologist) being butterfly-catching. 1881 GRANT ALLEN *Vignettes Nat.* IV. 31 The date when flower-hunting and butterfly-hunting both begin.

8. Special comb.: *butterfly-block*, *Naut.*, a small block consisting of two wings containing rollers for a chain to pass over; *butterfly clock*, -cock = *butterfly-valve*; *butterfly-fish*, the Ocellated Blenny (*Blennius ocellaris*); *butterfly-flower*, the genus *Schizanthus*; *butterfly nut* (*Mech.*), a nut provided with wings so as to be turned by the thumb and finger = *thumb-nut*; *butterfly orchis*, a book-name for *Habenaria chlorantha* and *H. bifolia*; *butterfly plant*, the name of two Orchids, *Oncidium papilio* and *Phalenopsis amabilis*; also (quot. 1882) = *butterfly flower*; *butterfly screw* (*Mech.*), a screw with a thumb-piece, a thumb-screw; *butterfly-shaped* a. *Bot.* = *PAPILIONACEOUS*; *butterfly-shell*, the popular name of the genus *Volva* of testaceous molluscs; *butterfly-valve*, a kind of double clack-valve, so called from its resemblance, when open, to a butterfly's wings; *butterfly-weed*, a name of various American plants, esp. *Asclepias tuberosa*.

1881 NARES *Seamanship* (ed. 6) 41 Rollers or 'butterfly blocks are fitted to bands round the yard. 1881 N. RANKINE *Steam Engine* 123 A pair of flap valves placed hinge to hinge (usually made of one piece of leather fastened down in the middle) constitutes a 'butterfly-clack'. 1740 R. BROOKES *Art Angling* II. vi. 187 The 'Butterfly-Fish' is often exposed to sale at Venice among other small Fish. 1762 B. STILLINGF. *Econ. Nat.* in *Misc. Tracts* 84 The butterfly fish... brings forth its focus alive. 1881 F. DARWIN in *Nature* XXIII. 334 It seems impossible to believe that a 'butterfly-flower' could be developed under such circumstances. 1869 SIR E. REED *Shipbuild.* xi. 233 When the door is closed, the clamp-screws or 'butterfly nuts' which are hinged to the frame, are turned back from the doorway. 1881 *Garden* 11 Feb. 91/2 'Butterfly plants' (*Schizanthus*) are a charming class of annuals. 1876 S. KENS. *Mus. Catal.* No. 1146 A milled headed screw works this lift, and an adjacent 'butterfly screw'. 1776 WITHERING *Bot. Arrangem.* 1796 I. 306 Blossoms 'butterfly-shaped, unequal. c 1865 LETHBRIDGE in *Circ. Sc.* I. 129/1 In this tube there is placed a 'butterfly-valve'. 1830 LINDLEY *Nat. Syst. Bot.* 213 'Butterfly weed' is a popular remedy in the United States for a variety of disorders.

Hence *Butterflydom*, -ism, *nonce-wds.*

1881 H. MERIVALE *Fausit* of B. II. II. vii. 240 The world in all its aspects bore the pleasant face of butterflydom.

1866 S. G. OSBORNE *Lett. Educ. Yng. Children* 25 That great amount of butterflyism of which we see so much in after-life.

Butterfly, *v.* [f. prec. sb.]

intr. To flutter or flit like a butterfly.

1875 HOWELLS *Foregone Concl.* viii, Gaining, sonneteer-ing, and butterflying about generally. 1880 *Time* II. 448 Who are those young gentlemen at that side seat, who butterfly round that smiling lady?

† **Butter-ham**, *Obs. rare*. [app. ad. Du. *boterham* 'slice of bread-and-butter', used in a slang or humorous sense.] ? A partial lining to a cloak. [1863 *Good Words* 868 [A Dutchman says] 'Give me a butterham with flesh and a half-bottle wine'.] 1716 Mrs. BERN *Dutch Lov.* iii. ii. 189 A Cloak... not through lin'd, but fac'd as far as 'twas turn'd back, with a pair of frugal Butter-hams.

Butteridge, *obs. form of BUTTRESS.*

Butterie, *obs. form of BUTTERY.*

Butterine (*bʊtəri:n*). [f. BUTTER *sb.* + *-INE*.]

An imitation butter manufactured from oleomargarine (one of the constituents of animal fat) churned up with milk. (By *Act* 50 & 51 *Vict.* xxix. 'all substances, whether compound or otherwise, prepared in imitation of butter' must after 1 Jan. 1888, be offered for sale under the name of *Margarine*.)

1874 [advertised in 'The Grocer' in March. 1876 PARKES *Man. Pract. Hygiene* (ed. De Chaumont) 270 note, A substance from New York has lately made its appearance in the market under the name of butterine. 1881 *Times* 5 Apr. 10/1 A substance which is called 'butterine' in commerce and oleo-margarine in laboratories. 1881 in *Nature* XXV. 270 Oleo-margarine... is made into butterine by adding 10 per cent. of milk to it, and churning the mixture. 1887 *News* 14 July, The dairy farmers scored heavily against the butterinists by securing the substitution of the word 'margarine' for 'butterine' in the bill for regulating the sale of imitation butter.

Butteriness (*bʊtəri:nəs*). [f. BUTTERY *a.* + *-NESS*.] Butter quality or state.

1528 PAYNELL *Salerno's Regim.* E. Mylke... washeth the entrayles with it wattrishenes, and hit mundifieth with hit buttrines. 1881 *Spectator* No. 2805 The unromantic butteriness of her little brother's kisses.

Buttering (*bʊtəri:n*), *vbl. sb.* and *ppl. a.* [f. BUTTER *v.* + *-ING*.] A *sb.* Flattery. *Sc.* Jamieson. B. a. That butters.

a 1719 [see BUTTER *v.* 3.]

Butteris (*bʊtəri:s*). Forms: 6 *buttris*, 6, 8 *buttrice*, 7 *buttrisse*, *buttrys* (se), 7-8 *buttriss*, 7- *buttriss*. [Cf. BUTTER *sb.* 2, *F. boutoir*; also *F. boutereau*, *bouterolle*, names of instruments used in various trades for punching or boring. The precise formation of the Eng. word is unknown.] A farrier's tool for paring a horse's hoofs.

1573 TUSSEY *Husb.* (1878) 36 A *buttriss* and pincers, a hammer and nail. 1591 PERCIVAL *Sp. Dict.*, *Pujavante*, a smith's *buttriss*, *scaber*. 1677 MARKHAM *Caval.* iv. 9 With a fine sharpe *Buttriss* or pairing knife, pare the hoofe of the Foale. 1611 COTGR., *Boutoir*, a Farriers *Buttriss*. 1781 P. BECKFORD *Hunting* (1802) 348 note, That destructive instrument called the *buttriss*... should be banished for ever. 1831 YOUTT *Horse* (1853) 120 The formidable *buttriss* is still often found in the smithy of the country farrier, although it is banished from the practice of every respectable operator.

† **Butteris** 2, *-esse*, *sb. Obs.* In 6 *butteris*, *-esse*. ? An obsolete measure used for coals.

1526 *Althorp MS.* in *Simpkinson Washingtons* Introd. 73, 28 *butteris* of pitt coales brought by the waynes at 6s. 4d. the *buttrisse*.

† **Butterish**, *a. Obs.* [f. BUTTER *sb.* 1 + *-ISH* 1.] Of the nature of butter, buttery.

1548 BOORDE *Dyetary* xlii. (1870) 265 Euery thyng that is vinctuous, that is to say, *butteryshe*. 1594 CAREW *Huarts Exan.* *Wits* (1616) 330 This [meat]... was the *butterish* part of the milke eaten with honnie. 1661 LOVELL *Hist. of Animals & Minerals*, If they [curds] be equally mixed with the *butterish* part, the cheese made thereof is whole-some.

Butterless (*bʊtərləs*), *a.* Without butter.

1859 Mrs. GASKELL *Round Sofa* 229 Sally had had her *butterless* tea. 1860 H. MARRVAT *Resid. Yutland* I. i. 13 The milk-woman is no more to be found, or you breakfast *butterless*. 1883 *Harper's Mag.* Feb. 442/1 She hated her breakfast of *butterless* rye bread.

Buttermilk (*bʊtərmilk*). [cf. Ger. *buttermilch*.] The acidulous milk which remains after the butter has been churned out.

1528 PAYNELL *Salerno's Regim.* G. b. *Butter mylke*... Nothyng nourisheth more than this mylke when hit is newe sopped vp with newe hotte breadde. 1586 COGAN *Haven Health* xcvi. (1636) 181 Of the making of *Butter* is left a kinde of whey, which they commonly call *Butter milke*, or soure milke. 1611 COTGR., *Laict esburrt*, *butter-milke*, churnd milke. a 1674 CLARENDON *Hist. Reb.* III. xiii. 322 The poor Man had nothing for him to eat, but promised him good *Butter-milk*. 1797 SWIFT *State Irel.* V. ii. 167 The families of farmers, who pay great rents, living in filth and nastiness upon *butter-milk* and potatoes. 1861 HULME tr. *Moquin-Tandon*, II. iii. 190 *Butter-milk*... contains all the elements of the milk, but only a very little caseum, and a large proportion of butyric acid.

b. *fig.* 1719 D'URFEE *Pills* III. 47 So many *Blades* now rant in Silk, At first did spring from *Butter-milk*, Their Ancestors worth nothing. 1794 J. WOLCOTT (P. Pindar) *Wks.* III. 188 Whose soul is *butter-milk*, and song is love.

c. *attrib.*

1616 *Wily Beguiled* in *Hazl. Dodsl.* IX. 285 But he has such a *butter-milk* face, that she'll never have him. 1633 MASSINGER *New Way*, 4c. II. iii, This most incredible lie would call up one [blush] On thy *butter-milk* cheeks.

Butter-nut (*bʊtənʌt*). [f. BUTTER *sb.* 1 + *NUT*.]

1. A large oily nut, the fruit of the *Juglans cinerea* or White Walnut-tree of N. America.

1753 CHAMBERS *Cycl. Suppl.* s.v., *Butter-nut*, a fruit in New England, whose kernel yields a great quantity of sweet oil. 1881 *Garden* 11 Nov. 433/3 The *Butter Nut*... strongly resembles the Walnut both in shape and flavour. 1883 AVER in *Harper's Mag.* Feb. 365/1 That is where the children used to crack the hickory and *butter nuts*.

b. The tree itself. (More fully *butter-nut-tree*.)

1783 Dr. RUSH *Lett. in Mem. J. C. Lettison* III. 188 The *Butter-nut* pill... is made by boiling the inner bark of a species of the Walnut in water. 1856 BRYANT *Fountain* vii, The dark fruit that falls from the gray *butter-nut's* long boughs. 1877 J. HAWTHORNE *Garth* III. x. lxxxiv. 270 *Butter-nut* trees flung their black shadows.

2. Name of the genus *Caryocarp* of S. America (esp. *C. nuciferum*) and its fruit.

1845 DON *Horius Cantabrigiensis* 373. 1866 *Treas. Bot.* s.v. *Caryocarp*, *C. nuciferum*, which produces the Souari or *Butter-nuts*, occasionally met with in English fruit-shops.

3. *Attrib.* and *quasi-adj.* Of the colour of the *butter-nut* (sense 1), i.e. of a brownish-grey. This was the colour of the Southern uniform in the American War of Secession.

1861 Mrs. STOWE *Pearl Orr's Isl.* 9 His coarse *butter-nut*-coloured coat-flaps fluttering... in the breeze. 1863 LUDLOW in *Daily News* 5 Oct. 15 The... atrocious murder of 20 fugitive negroes by guerrillas wearing the *butter-nut* uniform. 1864 SALA in *Daily Tel.* 7 Apr., The 'butter-nut' hue, I was informed, is a kind of warm grey. 1881 WOOLSON *For the Major* iii in *Harper's Mag.* Dec. 104/2 He was attired in a coat of... black, with *butter-nut* trousers.

b. Hence *absol.* (*sb.* omitted).

1863 *Cornh. Mag.* Jan. 102 The regiments in homespun grey and *butter-nut* that trail dustily through the high-streets [of Richmond]. 1863 *Times* 6 Mar., A 'Butternut' is one who sympathizes with the South—one, in fact, who wears the uniform or livery of the Southern army. 1864 *Nasby Papers* xi, The benevolent old *butter-nut*.

Butter-print (*bʊtəri:prɪnt*).

1. A stamp of carved wood for marking butter-pats; the impression of such a stamp.

1632 BROWNE *North. Lasse* II. i. 23 A thumb-Ring with his Grandirs Sheep-mark, or Grannams *butter-print* on't. a 1704 LOCKE *Posth. Wks.* (1706) 157 An infinite *Butter-print*, in which was engraven figures of all sorts and Sizes. 1822 BLACKW. *Mag.* XII. 659 Much pastoral poetry now wore the semblance of very tasteful *butter-prints*.

comb. 1829 SOUTHEY *Sir T. More* II. 67 The various trades of Taylor, Clogger, and *Butter-print* maker.

† 2. *fig.* A child. *Obs. slang.*

1616 BEAUM. & FL. *Wit without Money* v. iv, I hope she has brought me no *butter-print* along with her to lay to my charge. 1618 FLETCHER *Chances* I. v, You will be wiser one day, when you have purchased A bevy of these *butter-prints*. 1709 *Brit. Apollo* II. No. 46. 3/4 Her Girl and her Boy, For Patterns employ, To make little *Butter-Prints* by.

† **Butter-tooth**, *Obs.* [f. BUTTER *sb.* 1 + *TOOTH*; cf. Du. *boter-land* 'an incisor tooth, esp. when broad and large' (Bomhoff). The reason for the name is uncertain.] Originally perh. a front tooth; later app. = *BUCK-TOOTH*.

1571 R. EDWARDS *Damon & P.* in *Dodsl.* IV. 79 Father, you have good *butter-teeth* full seen. 1622 MASSINGER *Old Law* III. ii, I'd had... my two *butter-teeth* Thrust down my throat. 1736 BAILEY, *Butter-Teeth*, great, broad *Foreteeth*. 1781 A. MONRO *Anat.* 121 Whence come *butter* or *buck teeth*?

Hence *Butter-toothed ppl. a.*

1688 R. HOLME *Armoury* II. 427/1 *Butter Toothed* is to have broad and great teeth before.

Butterwort (*bʊtərwɔ:t*). In 6 also *-worts*. [f. BUTTER *sb.* 1 + *WORT*; cf. quot. 1597.] A plant with yellowish-green fleshy leaves (*Pinguicula vulgaris*) common on boggy ground; also the English name of the genus *Pinguicula*.

1597 GERARD *Herbal* cclxiii. § 4. 645 Called *Pinguicula*, of the fatnes or fulnes of the leafe, or of fatning; in Yorkshire... it is called *Butterworts*, *Butter roote*, and white roote. 1794 MARTYN *Rousseau's Bot.* xii. 124 *Pinguicula* or *Butter-wort* has a personate flower. 1848 C. A. JOHNS *Week Lizard* 289 *Pinguicula lusitanica*, Pale *Butterwort*. 1863 KINGSLEY *Water-bab.* v. 195 The little pink *butterwort* of Devon, and the great blue *butterwort* of Ireland.

Buttery (*bʊtəri*), *sb.* Forms: 4 *boteri*, 5 *boterie*, *boteris*, *botre*, *butry*, 5-6 *botry* (e), 5-7 *boteri*, 6 *bottre*, *buttrie*, *buttore*, *buttrye*, 6-7 *butterie*, 6-8 *buttry*, 7 *bottre*, *boutre*, *buttrye*, *but(t)ery* (e), *buterie*, *buttore*, 6- *buttery*. [app. a. OF. *boterie* = *bouteillerie* (Godef.).—late L. *botaria*, f. *bota*, var. of *butta* cask, bottle; see BUTT *sb.* 5]

The transition from the sense of 'store-room for liquor' to that of 'store-room for provisions generally' is in accordance with analogy, but may have been helped by association with BUTTER *sb.* 1] 1. A place for storing liquor; but the name was also, from an early period, extended to 'the room where provisions are laid up' (J.).

1389 in *Eng. Gilds* (1870) 98 Whoso entre into ye *boteri* yer ye ale lytz. 1411 E. E. Wills (1882) 18 *Botrie*. a 1440 *Iponydon* 316 And to the *boteri* he went anon... He took the cuppe of the *boterie*. c 1440 *Prompt. Parv.* 45 *Boterie*, *celarium*, *boteria*, *pincernaculum*. 1484 MARG. PASTON

in *Lett.* 881 III. 314 Some man... to kepe your botry, for the mane that ye lefte... seyth he hath not usyd to geve a rekenyng nothyr of bred nor alle tyll at the wekys end. 1530 PALSGR. 200/1 *Bottrye*, *despence*. 1570 LEVINS *Manip.* 103 A *Butterie*, *promptuarium*. 1586 J. HOOKER *Girald.* *Irel.* in *Holinshed* II. 138/1 His cellar doore was neuer shut, and his *butterie* alwaies open, to all commers of anie credit. 1596 SHAKS. *Tam. Shr.* I. i. 102 Take them to the *Butterie*, And giue them friendly welcome *cuerie* one. 1608 ARMIN *Nest Ninn.* 8 [He] giues them each one a hand, and so takes them into the *buttry* to drinke. 1665 PERYS *Diary* (1879) III. 212 Then down to the *buttery*, and eat a piece of cold venison pie. 1755 SMOLLETT tr. *Quix.* (1803) I. 158 For in their bags they had lost their whole *buttery* and provision. 1832 SCOTT *Woodstock* 180 When the pantry has no bread and the *buttery* no ale. 1875 STUBBS *Const. Hist.* III. xxi. 531 Regular officers of the *buttery*, the kitchen... and the like.

b. In the colleges at Oxford and Cambridge: The place where ale and bread, butter, etc., are kept. (The 'residence' of members of the college is recorded by the appearance of their names in the *buttery-books*.)

1684 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 1910. 4 Whoever gives notice of him either at the *Buttery* of Christchurch to the *Butler*, etc. 1688 SWIFT *Wks.* (1841) II. 56 But [the College Steward] always sworn brother in iniquity to the clerks of the *buttery*. 1710 PALMER *Proverbs* 210 To converse in the world requir'd somewhat more than to have heard a little talk about Aristotle and Cartes, or to have ones name in the *butteries*. 1850 KINGSLEY *Alt. Locke* xii. (1876) 141 I'll send you in a luncheon as I go through the *butteries*. 1866 ROGERS in *Adam Smith's W. N. I.* Pref. 7 During this time he drew his commons from the college *buttery*.

† c. *The spirit of the buttery*: a 16th c. phrase for 'the spirit of wine'.

1530 PALSGR. 591, I wene he be inspyred with the spyrites of the *buttery*. 1547 BOORDE *Breu. Health* clxxxiii. 64 b, I shulde haue sayde afayrd of the spirite of the *buttry*, whiche be peryulous beastes, for such spirites doth trouble a man so sore that he can not dyuers times stande vpon his legges. 1594 G. HARVEY *Pierces Super.* 15 His frisking pence began to play the sprite of the *buttry*.

2. *Comb.*, as *buttery-door*; *buttery-bar*, a board or ledge on the top of the *buttery-hatch*, on which to rest tankards, etc.; *buttery-book* (at the Universities), the book in which are entered the names of the members of a college, and the account of their commons; *buttery-hatch*, the half-door over which the *buttery* provisions are served; *buttery-worm* a. *nonce-wid.* (see quot.).

1577-87 HOLINSHED *Chron.* III. 932/2 The maior of Oxford kept the 'butterie bar'. 1601 SHAKS. *Twel. N.* I. iii. 74, I pray you bring your hand to th' *Buttry* barre, and let it drinke. 1820 SCOTT *Abbot* xviii, 'Mend your draught'... 'I know the way to the *buttery-bar*'. a 1672 *Wood Life* (1848) 24 Munday he was entred into the 'buttery-book'. by Mr. Edw. Copley, fellow of that house. 1709 STEELE *Tatler* No. 19 p. 2 There are of the Middle-Temple, including all in the *Buttery* Books, and in the Lists of the House, 5000. 1796 AMHERST *Terror* *Fil.* xxxix. 214 The Master of the college sent his servitor the *buttery-book* to scorne him five shillings. 1822 CARLYLE *Misc.* (1857) III. 73 Weekly accounts in the *buttery-books*. 1858 HEYWOOD *Prev. & Epigr.* (1867) 99 Thy 'buttery' doore I here not creake. 1859 HUGHES *Tom Brown* I. vi, Bill pounced on the big table, and began to rattle it away to its place outside the *buttery-door*. 1614 T. ADAMS *Dwells' Bang.* 207 Hee will turne out of his cast *Seruitours*... from the 'Buttry-hatch to the Pulpit. 1845 DISRAELI *Sybil* (1863) 37 A hall... with the dais, the screen, the gallery, and the *buttery-hatch* all perfect. 1885 *Macm. Mag.* Nov. 28/1 Old scouts... battered 'buttery-worm bodies.

Buttery (*bʊtəri*), *a.* [f. BUTTER *sb.* 1 + *-Y* 1.]

1. Of the nature of butter; containing butter.

1398 TREvisa *Barth. De P. R.* xix. lxxv. (1495) 433 Cowe mylke is... less sharpe, & more *buttery*. 1586 COGAN *Haven Health* xciv. (1636) 178 Because it is *buttery*, it... is good against pricking paynes of the Lungs. 1619 CROOKE *Body of Man* 418 His fatty and *buttery* part is hotter then the whole body of the milke. 1859 TODD *Cycl. Anat. & Phys.* V. 392/2 To increase the *buttery* constituent.

2. Resembling butter in consistence. 1719 LONDON & WISE *Compl. Gard.* 61 Its Pulp tender, but not *buttery*. 1808 FORSYTH *Fruit Trees* vii. (1824) 170 The flesh melting, delicate, and very *buttery*. 1847 CLARK in *Jrnl. Roy. Agric. Soc.* VIII. 1. 91 The same *buttery* clay may be found above a stratum of moor. c 1865 LETHBRIDGE in *Circ. Sc.* I. 95/1 The oil has a *buttery* consistence.

b. *fig.* Soft.

1868 F. PAGET *Lucretia* 281 His *buttery* heart.

3. Smeared with butter.

1796 Mrs. GLASSE *Cookery* iii. 19 Rub it over with a *buttery* cloth.

4. *fig.* Given to fulsome flattery (cf. the *sb.*).

1842 *Tail's Mag.* IX. 725 With the Germans and Italians she is charitable, liberal, indulgent, honeyed; nay, with very particular noble favourites, *buttery*.

5. *Comb.*, as *buttery-fingered* = BUTTER-FINGERED.

1821 READE *Peg Woff.* i. (1868) 23 All the ladies and gentlemen... whom the *buttery-fingered* author could not keep in hand until the fall of the curtain.

6. **Buttery Benjie**. In the Scottish Universities a humorous synonym for BEJAN.

1854 *Blackw. Mag.* LXXVI. 433.

Butterys, *Buttler*, *obs. fl.* BUTTRESS, BUTLER.

Butthead: see BUTT *sb.* 3, 7.

† **Butting**, *sb. Obs.* Apparently some term of endearment.

a 1528 SKELTON *Agst. Gernesche Wks.* 1843 I. 127 Ye haue

a fantasy to Fanchyrche strete, With Lumbardes lemmans for to mete, With, Bas me, buttyng, praty Cys!

Butting (bʊtɪŋ), *vbl. sb.*¹ [f. BUTT *v.*¹ + -ING¹.]
1. The action of thrusting or striking violently with the head or horns; also *attrib.*

1661 LOVELL *Hist. Anim. & Min.* 115 Rams... may be made to leave off their butting. 1828 GEO. ELIOT *Cleric. Life* 214 Mr. Dempster... poked his head forward with a butting motion by way of bow.

2. *dial.* (see quot.)
1604 CAREW *Cornwall* 73 b, Hee that is once possessed of the ball (in 'hurling'), hath his contrary male waiting... The other thrusteth him in the breast, with his closed fist to keep him off: which they call Butting.

† **Butting**, *vbl. sb.*² *Obs.* [f. BUTT *v.*² or *sb.*¹ + -ING¹.]
1. Bounding, boundary, limit, confine; also *fig.*

1554 HULOET, Bowndynge or buttyng of thre fieldes ioynyng together, *trifinium*. 1626 SURFL. & MARKH. *Constr. Farm* 522 Setting downe in writing the lying, buttings, and contents of the said peece of ground. 1706 DE FOE *Jure Div.* v. 23 Nature has its Buttings and Boundings. 1750 G. HUGHES *Barbados* 6 The buttings and boundings of several tenements.

2. The making of butt-joints.
1850 RUDIM. *Nav. (Weale)* 116 *Eking*, making good a deficiency in the length... by scarphing or butting.

3. 'Two wheels touching on the points of the teeth, when entering into action with each other.'

Britten (1884) 37.
1881 F. BRITTEN *Watch & Clockm.* 132 Butting is generally indicative of a pinion too large. *Ibid.* If [the engaging contact] is on the roundings of the teeth a butting action ensues.

† 4. A projection. *Obs.*
1677 MOXON *Mech. Exerc.* (1703) 94 The Stock of the Piercer by reason of... a Shoulder, or Butting out upon the work will not turn about.

Butting (bʊtɪŋ), *vbl. sb.*³ [f. BUT *v.* + -ING¹.]
The making use of 'buts', i.e. objections or qualifying statements.

1553 T. WILSON *Rhet.* 72 b, What is geven to one by commending, the same is streight taken away by buttyng.

Butting (bʊtɪŋ), *vbl. sb.*⁴ In the game of Curling: see quot.

1831 BLACKW. *Mag.* XXX. 971 Butting, or chap and guard, is to put up a stone, and lie guard upon it.

Butting (bʊtɪŋ), *ppl. a.* [f. BUTT *v.*¹ + -ING².]
† a. That projects or juts out. b. That pushes or strikes violently with the head or horns.

1447-8 SHILLINGFORD *Let.* (1871) 102 The which postren dore... oughte to stande... in the saide buttyng wall. 1607 DRYDEN *Virg. Past.* iii. 135 A Bull... With spurning Heels, and with a butting Head.

Butting, *obs. f. BUTIN*, booty.

Butting-joint, *Carp.* [see BUTT *v.*².] A joint 'formed by the surfaces of two pieces of wood whereof one is perpendicular to the fibres, and the other in their direction, or making an oblique angle with them, as for example the joints made by the struts and braces with the post' (Gwilt).

1837 WHITLOCK *Bk. Trades* (1842) 105 Butting-joints are fixed together with bolts. 1850 *Jrnl. Roy. Agric. Soc.* XI. 11. 569 Notching or cocking down, butting joints, scarfing [etc.], are the principal combinations of timbers in trusses.

Buttir, *obs. form of BITTERN*, BUTTER *sb.*¹

Buttle (bʊt'l), *v. dial.* [Back-formation from BUTLER.] To pour out (drink).

1867 B. BRIERLEY *Marlocks Merril* 5 in *Lanc. Gloss.* (E. D. S.) 60 The broad village green buttled round its cheap delights. 1875 E. WAUGH *Old Cronies* iii. 34 *ibid.*, 'Buttle out, free!' cried Giles to the servants.

Buttless (bʊt'lɪs), *a. nonce-ud.* [f. BUTT *sb.*³ + -LESS.] Without a butt.

1828 J. WILSON in *Blackw. Mag.* XXIV. 300 Buttless, lockless... though thou [a gun] be st.

Buttock (bʊtək), *sb.* Forms: 3, 6 buttoke, 4-5 buttock, 5-7 buttocke, 7 buttoo, 5- buttock. [app. f. BUTT *sb.*³ + -OCK.]

1. One of the two protuberances of the rump (of men and beasts). Usually in *pl.* the rump, posteriors.

a 1300 *Fragm. Pop. Sc.* (Wright) 320 The helesatte buttokes, the kneon in aither eye. c 1305 in *E. E. P.* (1862) 75 A strong rop... fram be schuldre ido To his buttock. c 1386 CHAUCER *Receves* T. 55 Buttockkes brode, and brestes round and hye. c 1489 CAXTON *Sonnes Aymon* x. 259 He righted hymself vpon his buttocke. 1523 FITZHERB. *Husb.* § 76 The .ix. properties of an hare... the .viii. to haue shorte buttockes. 1601 SHAKS. *All's Well* ii. 11. 17 A Barbers chaire that fits all buttockes. 1650 BULWER *Anthropomet.* xxii. 240 To whip their Buttocks and Loins with Rods. 1704 ADDISON *Italy* (1733) 54 Set... with his bare Buttocks on this Stone. 1846 D. JERROLD *Chron. Cloverbrook* Wks. 1864 IV. 393 Their tails have been bitten short to the buttock.

† b. *pl.* used as a *sing.*
c 1590 MARLOWE *Faustus* 850 My horse... has a buttocks as sick as an eel.

2. As a joint of meat.
1623 *Altkorp MS.* xlv. A buttocke, 2 necks, and a round of beef. 1791 BOSWELL *Johnson* (1831) I. 482 The outside cut of a salt buttock of beef. 1817 SCOTT *Rob Roy* iv. As prime a buttock of beef as e'er hungry mon stuck fork in.

† 3. *Buttocks of the brain*: transl. of Galen's γλοῦτια, 'certain medullary tubercles near the pineal gland' (Liddell and Scott). *Obs. rare.*

1615 CROOKE *Body of Man* 431 The fourth Ventricle where the Glandule or Kernell called κοράριον is seated, at each side of which do adioyne the Buttocks of the Braine.

4. *Naut.* 'The breadth of the ship astern from the tuck upwards.' 'That part abaft the after body, which is bounded by the fashion pieces, and by the wing transom, and the upper or second water-line' (Smyth *Sailor's Word-bk.*). (Cf. Fr. *les fesses d'un navire*.)

1627 CAPT. SMITH *Seaman's Gram.* ii. 4 According there to her breadth or narrowness, we say she hath a narrow or broad buttocke. 1769 FALCONER *Dict. Marine* (1789), *Buttock*, the convexity of a ship behind, under the stern. c 1850 RUDIM. *Nav.* (Weale) 102.

† 5. *slang.* A common strumpet. (Fielding's sense is obscure.) *Obs.*

1673 R. HEAD *Caning Acad.* 105 The Bawds and the Buttocks that lived there round. 1688 SHADWELL *Sgr. Alsatia* I. Wks. 1720 IV. 17 What ogling there will be between thee and the Blowings!... every Buttock shall fall down before thee. 1690 B. E. *Dict. Cant. Crew, Buttock and File*, both whore and pickpocket.

1743 FIELDING *J. Wild* I. v. (D.) The... capacity which qualifies a mill-ben, a bridle-call, or a buttock and file to arrive at any degree of eminence in his profession.

6. [f. BUTTOCK *v.*] A certain manoeuvre in wrestling (see the verb); varieties mentioned are the *cross-buttock*, *running-buttock*, etc.

1688 R. HOLME *Armoury* iii. v. § 64 Running Buttock, is when... he turns his Buttock on his adversary, and lifts him up on his side. 1714 SIR T. PARKYNS *Imm-Play* (ed. 2) 47 Then you are ready for the In-lock backwards or forwards, Buttock, or to return to the Trip with a draught. *Ibid.* 50 At the same time take the cross Buttock from the Under Hold. 1826 SCOTT *Woodstock* II. vii. 178 One of their... saints had given the devil... a cross-buttock. 1881 *Sportsm. Year Bk.* 314 Feears gaining two falls in succession, the first with a back heel and the second with a splendid buttock.

7. *Comb.* as *buttock-beef*, *-bone*, *-hump*; † *buttock-ball*, a ball attended by prostitutes; † *buttock-banqueting*, harlotry; † *buttock-lines*, 'in ship-building, the longitudinal curves at the rounding part of the after body in a vertical section' (Smyth *Sailor's Word-bk.*); † *buttock-mall* (Sc.), ludicrous term for a fine imposed for fornication.

1687 T. BROWN *Lib. Cons.* in *Dk. Buckingham's Wks.* (1705) II. 131 Why not into a Bibbing-House, as well as a Dancing School, a 'Buttoc Ball, or the like? 1555 *Fardle Facions* ii. viii. 167 Whiche [wives] maie neuertheless vse 'butocke banqueting abroad. a 1653 BROME *Queen's Exch.* i. iii. I would I had but this Fellows weight in 'butock Beef. 1594 T. B. *La Primand. Fr. Acad.* ii. 48 The 'butocke bones and the flesh wherewith they are covered... are unto him in stead of a stoole and a cushion. 1849-50 TODD *Cycl. Anat. & Phys.* IV. 1355/b The 'butock-hump... is not... so characteristic of this race as has been imagined. 1833 RICHARDSON *Merr. Mar. Arch.* 34 Perpendicular sections, called also 'butock lines. 1535 LYNDSEY *Sat.* 3353, I gat gude payment of my Temporall lands, My 'butock-mall, my coattis, & my offrandis. 1814 SCOTT *Wav.* II. vii. 122 'D'ye think the lads w' the kilts will care for yere synods and yere presbyteries, and yere buttock-mall, and yere stool o' repentance?

Buttock, *v. trans.* [f. prec. *sb.*]
† 1. In horse-racing: To overtake (a horse).

1617 MARKHAM *Caval.* vi. 43 Say you come in that twelue score [yards] to buttocke him, you shall then finde, etc.

2. In wrestling: To throw (an adversary) by a manoeuvre in which the buttock or the hip is used.

1883 *Standard* 24 Mar. 3/7 Simpson buttocked Carradyce.

Buttocked (bʊtəkɪd), *a.* [f. BUTTOCK *sb.* + -ED².] Having buttocks; always with defining words, as *broad*, *great*, † *pin-buttocked*.

1548 THOMAS *Ital. Gram.*, *Nalichuta*, well buttocked. 1850 BARET *Atv.* B 1606 Great buttocked, *lumbosus*. 1850 BLUNDELL *Horsemanship* I. (1609) 3 The horses of Greece... bee... not [well made] backward, because they are pin buttocked. 1634 HEYWOOD *Witches Lanc.* iv. Wks. IV. 223 Broad buttock'd and full flank'd. 1709 *Brit. Apollo* No. 29. 3/1 This is no Pin-buttock'd Wench.

Buttocker (bʊtəkə), *Wrestling.* [f. BUTTOCK + -ER.] a. A wrestler who 'buttocks'. b. = BUTTOCK *sb.* 6.

1823 *Blackw. Mag.* XIV. 709 The first of whom we have any authentic records of excellence as a buttocker. *Ibid.* 715 Thrown clean... by a vigorous and judicious buttocker.

Button (bʊtən), *sb.* Forms: 4 botoun, botone, (sense 2) bothum, -eum, -om, 5 botwn, -un, -onne, Sc. bwtowne, 6 boton, botton, button, -one, 7-8 button, 5- button. [a. OF. *boton* (mod. F. *bouton*) bud, knob, button; a common Romanic word = Pr., Sp. *boton*, Pg. *botão*, It. *bottone*; -late L. **butōn-ens*, app. connected with late L. **bottare*, *buttore*, to thrust, put forth (whence OF. *boter*, F. *bouter*, Sp. *botar*, It. *bottare*); the ultimate etymology is commonly supposed to be Teutonic; for conjectures see Diez, Scheler, Littré.

Sense 2 'bud' appears to be the original sense in Romanic, but we have no instance of it in Eng. before 16th c., exc. as used (with peculiar spelling) in the *Romanse of the Rose*.]

Generally. A small knob or stud attached to any object for use or ornament. *spec.*

1. A knob or stud of metal or other material sewn by a shank or neck to articles of dress, usually for the purpose of fastening one part of the dress to another by passing through a *button-hole*, but often merely for ornament: in process of use, the name has passed from the connotation of the shape to that of the purpose, and been extended to all

appliances of the kind, a common type being a disc, quite flat, or slightly convex or concave, of metal, bone, glass, mother of pearl, paste, etc., perforated or otherwise adapted to be sewn on by its central part. (This specific application is now regarded as the primary sense, all the other meanings, whatever their historical origin, being understood as merely *transf.*)

c 1340 *Gaw. & Gr. Knt.* 220 On botouns of þe bryzt grene brayden ful ryche. 1377 LANGE. *P. Pl.* B. xv. 121 A ballok-knyf 'with botones ouerygite. c 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 45/2 Botwn, bote, fibula, nodulus. 1483 *Cath. Angl.* 50/1 A Button, fibula, nodulus, bulla. 1525 L.D. BERNERS *Froiss.* II. cci. [cxviii.] 618 My booke... was... covered with crymson veluet, with ten botons of syluer and gylte. 1591 FLORIO *Sec. Fruits* 5 There Lacks I know not how many buttons. Set them on then. 1605 SHAKS. *Leav. v.* iii. 309 Pray you vndo this Button. 1647 *Husbandman's Plea* agst. *Tithes* 75 It hath no buttons, nor hooks upon it. 1695 BLACKMORE *Pr. Arth.* ix. 296 Fast with Golden Buttons held. 1726 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 5435/4 Suits of Cloaths with Cloth Buttons. 1728 *Ibid.* No. 6402/2 A Wastcoat, with Glass Buttons set in Brass. 1753 HANWAY *Trav.* (1762) I. v. lxix. 314 The new fashion of metal buttons. 1814 SCOTT *Wav.* xli. My short green coat, with silver lace and silver buttons. 1841 CATLIN *N. Amer. Ind.* (1844) II. iv. 198 A fine linen shirt with studs and sleeve buttons.

b. As a type of anything of very small value.

c 1320 *Sir Beues* 1004 Hauberk ne scheld ne acouten Ne valiede him nougt worp a botoun. 1340 *Aenb.* 86 Hi ne praysep þe wordle bote ane botoun. 1480 CAXTON *Chron.* Eng. clxxviii. 159 To haue of me as moche helpe as the value of a botonne. 1549 COVERDALE *Erasm. Par.* Gal. II. 21 A button therefore for all worldly differences. 1577 tr. *Bullinger's Decades* (1592) 146 They set not a button by his commandements. 1672 VILLIERS (Dk. Buckingham) *Rehearsal* III. ii. (Arb.) 79, I would not give a button for my Play. 1713 *Guardian* No. 84 (1756) II. 13 Not... a button the worse for it. 1861 GEO. ELIOT *Silas M.* 27 He did not care a button for cock-fighting.

c. Playfully used *transf.*
1855 *Househ. Words* XII. 258 Screwing up its red little button of a mouth.

d. *Boy in buttons*: a boy servant in livery, a 'page'. So *To put into buttons*: to make a page of. Cf. **BUTTONS**.

1848 THACKERAY *Bk. Snobs* xxxix, We don't put the latter into buttons. 1855 — *Newsome* xi, Boys in buttons (pages who minister to female grace).

e. Phrases. *To take by the button*, etc.: to detain in conversation, to BUTTERHOLE; also *fig.* † *It is in his buttons*: ? = he has fortune at his command, is sure to succeed. *Dash my buttons*: an exclamation indicating surprise and vexation (*collog.*). *To have a soul above buttons*: said of persons who consider their actual employment unworthy of their talents (see quot. 1795).

1598 SHAKS. *Merry W.* iii. ii. 71 'Tis in his buttons, he will carry't. 1726 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 5459/2 The King was talking with him, and had hold of one of his Coat-Buttons. 1768 GOLDSM. *Good-n. Man* ii. 1, I take my friend by the button. 1795 G. COLMAN *Sylv. Dagerrwood* I. (1808) 10 My father was an eminent Button-Maker... but I had a soul above buttons... I panted for a liberal profession. 1828 SCOTT *F. M. Perith* I. 48 His fingers upon every one's button, and his mouth in every man's ear. 1833 MARRYAT *P. Simple* i, My father... had... a 'soul above buttons'. 1833 Ht. MARTINEAU *Manch. Strike* i. 2 Caught him by the button and detained him in consultation. 1846 *Comic Jack Giant* K. iii. xiv. 18 'Dash my buttons', he cried, 'I have lost my way!' 1864 LOWELL *Biglow P.* Wks. (1879) 314 Fame... is... privileged to take the world by the button.

f. *Naut.* *Button and Loop*: see quot.

1794 *Rigging & Seamanship* I. 163 *Button and Loop*, a short piece of rope, having at one end a walnut knot, crowned, and at the other end an eye. It is used as a becket to confine ropes in.

g. *spec.* A knob on the top of a cap (in the case of a Chinese mandarin indicating by its material the degree of his rank).

1602 SHAKS. *Ham.* ii. ii. 233 On Fortunes Cap, we are not the very Button. 1834 *Fraser's Mag.* X. 225 A mandarin of any considerable button.

2. A bud; also used of various other parts of plants of a similar shape, as the protuberant receptacle of the rose; the small round flower-head of some *Compositæ*; a small sort of fig; a small round seed-vessel.

c 1400 *Rom. Rose* 1790 The roser, where that grewe The freyshe bothum so bright of hewe. 1513 DOUGLAS *Aeneis* xii. Prol. 101 The lowkyt buttonis on the gemmyt treis. 1578 LYVE *Dodoens* I. i. 4 Alongst the branches [of worm-wood] groweth little yellow buttons. 1665-76 RAY *Flora* 26 The button under the rose being bigger than that of any other. a 1688 SIR T. BROWNE *Misc. Tracts* (1684) 70 The Buttons, or small sort of Figs. 1688 WHEELER *Journ. Greece* iii. 219 A Yellow Flower... succeeded with a Button, full of downy Seeds. 1727 BRADLEY *Fam. Dict.* I. s.v. *Hop Gard.*, About August the Hop will begin to be in the bell or Button. 1852 AIRD in *Blackw. Mag.* LXXI. 237 The simple flowerets... open their infant buttons.

b. *spec.* The 'head' of a mushroom in its unexpanded state. Also applied *dial.* to a fossil.

1743 PICKERING in *Phil. Trans.* XLII. 598 The Head of the Mushroom... while it is, what is commonly called, a Button. 1839 ALFORD in *Life* (1873) 11 Bright bronzed ammonites... other sparkling nondescripts, known as mushrooms and buttons. 1866 JEFFERIES *Bevis* II. xviii. 280 'Buttons', full grown mushrooms, and overgrown ketchup ones.

† o. *transf.* The knob or 'bud' which forms the beginning of a stag's horn. *Obs.*

1575 TURBERV. *Venerie* 47 Hartes .. beginne in .. March and Aprill to thrust out their Buttones. 1623 COCKERAM S.V. Pollard, Button is the first part in putting vp a Stagges head.

3. Used (chiefly in *pl.* form) as the popular name of many different plants having button-like flowers or seed-vessels: see *bachelor's*, *beggar's buttons* under *BACHELOR*, *BEGGAR*. *Barbary buttons* (formerly also *Button*), *Medicago scutellata*. *Gentlemen's buttons*, *Scabiosa succisa* (Britten and Holland). *London buttons* (see *quots.*).

1598 FLORIO, *Baccara*, an hearbe, whose roote is very sweete .. called our ladies gloues, or London buttons. 1611 COCGR., *Gantelle*, the hearbe called Fox-gloues, our Ladies gloues .. and London buttons. 1665-76 RAY *Flora* 190 Snails or Button .. The vessels .. in some are like a Snail's house .. in some like small Buttons. 1711 PETIVER in *Phil. Trans.* XXVII. 386 Round Snails or Barbary Buttons.

4. *transf.* from 1. Applied to various productions of art resembling a button in shape or function; a knob, handle, catch; the knob or disc of an electric bell. *spec.* An oblong piece of wood or metal, turning on a screw fixed through its centre, used to fasten doors, etc.

1607 TOPSELL *Four-f. Beasts* 396 The button of the [mouse-] trap. 1787 WINTER *Syst. Husb.* 301 Covered with buttons or sliders to prevent dirt or dust falling into the holes. 1801 W. FELTON *Carriages Gloss.*, Buttons, nails or screws with large brass heads for the purpose of hitching on the straps. 1854 SEIDEL *Organ* 35 A number of handles or buttons .. called stops. 1864 *All Y. Round VII.* 381 There are buttons on window-sashes, and buttons on drawer handles. 1867 E. YATES *Fort. Hope* iii. 28 Untwist the button on the door. 1871 LE FANU *Checkm.* i. xiv. 197 Mr. Davies turned the button of his old-fashioned window. 1880 J. HAWTHORNE *Ellice Quent.* II. 261 By turning a button attached to the pipe that supplied the lights, they were at once extinguished. 1884 F. BRITTON *Watch & Clockm.* 134 By means of the winding button the contrate wheel is turned to the right.

5. Any small rounded body; a knob, globule, disc, etc. *Obs.* exc. as in *spec.* senses following. a 1603 T. CARTWRIGHT *Confut. Rhem. N. T.* (1618) 127 The clots or buttons of blood in the garden [of Gethsemane]. 1864 R. WALLER *Nat. Exper.* 54 An hollow Button of Glass.

b. *Chem.* A globule of metal remaining in the cupel or crucible after fusion. [So *Fr. bouton*.] 1801 CHENEVIX in *Phil. Trans.* XCf. 221 He .. obtained a metallic button, which was found to be Copper. 1872 SIR H. DAVY *Chem. Philos.* 379 A button of pure tin will be found at the bottom of the crucible. 1884 SCOFFERN in *Orr's Circ. Sc. Chem.* 509 The result .. is a button of gold mixed with silver.

c. *Anat. and Surg.* In various applications. 1748 HARTLEY *Observ. Man* i. ii. § 4. P. 55 The Button of the Optic Nerve. 1835-6 TODD *Cycl. Anat.* I. 321/1 At the parts of the gizzard opposite the *musculi laterales* two callous buttons are .. formed. 1885 *Harper's Mag.* Mar. 63/1 The removal of a button of bone from the skull.

d. *pl.* The testes of an animal.

e. A knob or disc fixed on the point of a fencing foil. [So in *Fr.*: *bouton d'un fleuret*.] 1615 (see *BUTTON* v. 1 b.). a 1649 DRUMM. OF HAWTH. *Challenge of Knts. Err.* Wks. (1711) 232 They would have most willingly taken the buttons off the foils. 1844 CARLYLE *W. Meister* (1874) I. ii. xiv. 121 We can rub the buttons of them with a piece of chalk. 1868 HELMS *Realmah* xv. (1876) 410 The buttons are on their foils.

f. *Naut.* (See *quot.*)

1794 *Rigging & Seamanship* I. 163 Buttons, small pieces of thick leather under the heads of nails that are driven through ropes.

6. An ornamental terminal knob, as on a handle, staff, or sceptre. *spec.* The knob of metal at the breech end of a piece of ordnance; also *attrib.* in *button astragal*, the raised moulding encircling the button. [*Fr. bouton*.]

1605 *London Gaz.* No. 2030/4 The Button of His Majesty's Scepter. 1769 FALCONER *Dict. Marine* (1789) I. iii. The breech .. and it's button, or cascabel. 1849 F. GRIFFITHS *Artif. Man. Plate* (1862) 50 S Button, *ab* Button Astragal.

7. A ring of leather through which the reins of the bridle pass, and which may be moved along so as to tighten up and restrain the horse's head (see *Littre*). Also *fig.* cf. *serrer le bouton d.* 'to restrain .. beare a hard hand ouer' (Cotgr.).

1586 T. B. LA PRIMAUD. *Fr. Acad.* (1594) 504 They must .. let downe the button, and holde them hard in with the bridle.

8. (See *quot.*)

1850 *Frml. R. Agric. Soc.* XI. i. 140 [The hay is] then made into button or small cock.

9. *slang.* A person who acts as a decoy; the accomplice of a thimble-rigger; a sham-buyer at an auction employed to bid and raise the price of articles.

1851 MAYHEW *London Labour* I. 328 To .. act as a button (a decoy), to purchase the first lot of goods put up. 1877 BESANT & RICE *Son of Vulc.* ix. The 'Button', that is, the confederate who egged on the flats.

10 *pl.* The dung of sheep, etc. Hence in *obs.* phrase meaning 'to be in great terror'.

1749 W. ELLIS *Shep. Guide* 143. 1778 *Exmoor Scolding Gloss.*, Buttons .. sometimes us'd to express Sheep's Dung, and other Buttons of that kind. 1847-78 in HALLIWELL.

1598 FLORIO 198 *Il culo gli fa tappo*, his taile makes buttons, his buttocks goes a twitter twatter. 1690 W. WALKER *Idiom. Anglo-Lat.* 78. 1700 *Mouse grown Rat* 23 My Breech began to make Buttons; I dream't of nothing but Impeachments, Attainders, Poll-Axes and Gibbets. 1808

AINSWORTH *Lat. Dict.* i. s. v. *Button*, His tail maketh buttons, *valde trepidat*.

† 11. A swelling, pimple [*Fr. bouton*]; cf. *button-farcy* (below). *Buttons of Naples*: 'syphilitic buboes' (Nares).

1a 1600 in Nares s.v., The Frenchmen at that siege got the buttons of Naples (as we terme them) which doth much annoy them at this day.

12. *attrib.* and *Comb.*, as *button-cap*, *-end*, *-farcy*, *-lac*, *-like* adj., *-maker*, *-making*, *-seller*, *-shank*, *-shaped* adj., *-stamper*, *-suit*, *-top*, *-tuft*, *-worker*; *button-ball*, *Platanus occidentalis* (= *button-wood*); *button-blank*, a disc of metal, bone, or other material, to be formed into a button; *button-board*, pasteboard used for making button-moulds; *button-boot*, a boot fastened with buttons; *button-boy*, a page (cf. 1 d); *button-brace*, a brace (see *BRACE* s. 2 b) used in the manufacture of buttons; *button-bur* (see *quot.*); *button-bush*, a North American shrub (*Cephalanthus occidentalis*), so called from its globular flower-heads; *button-flah*, the sea-urchin (*Echinus*); *button-flower*, the genus *Gomphia* of tropical trees or shrubs; *button-hanger* (see *quot.*); *button-hook*, a hook for pulling buttons (of boots and gloves) through the button-holes; † *button-iron*, an iron instrument with a knob at the end, used for cauterizing; *button-mould*, a disc of wood or other material to be covered with cloth to form a button; *button-mushroom*, a young mushroom (= *BUTTON* 2 b); *button-pointed a.*, having a button or knob at the point; *button-regal*, an obsolete reed stop on an organ; *button-tree*, the genus *Conocarpus*, 'consisting of trees and shrubs from tropical America and Western Africa' (*Treas. Bot.*); *button-turn* (see *quot.*); *button-weed*, the genera *Spermacoce* and *Didia* of tropical *Cinchonaceae*; also a local name for the Knapweed, *Centaurea nigra*; *button-wood*, an American name for the Occidental Plane-tree (*Platanus occidentalis*); also = *button-bush*; also = *button-tree*. See also *BUTTON-HOLD*, *-HOLDER*, *BUTTON-HOLE*, *-HOLER*.

1882 *Century Mag.* XXII. 760 Beneath the 'button-ball at the gate. 1851 *Illustr. Lond. News* 16 Paper of any description, or 'button board, millboard, etc. 1875 *Ure Dict. Arts* I. 556 A circular disc of button-board suitable for forming the core of a button. 1883 *Daily News* 14 Feb. 3/4 A long overcoat, 'button boots, and cloth cap. 1877 MISS BROUGHTON *Joan* xii. (1881) 120 The 'button-boy never would answer her bell. 1634 T. JOHNSON *Merc. Bot.*, 'Button Bur, Xanthium Strumarium. 1880 *Scribner's Mag.* Feb. 510 In thickets of 'button-bushes. 1606 T. WHITENHALL *Disc. Abuses Ch. of Christ* 162 Som [weare] round cappes, some hattes, som 'button cappes. 1607 TOPSELL *Four-f. Beasts* 279 A hole .. made with the 'button end of your drawing Iron. 1674 N. COX *Gentl. Recreat.* (1706) v. 97 Commonly divided into these kinds; the 'Button or Knotted Farcy, the Running Farcy, the Water Farcy, and the Pocky Farcy. 1740 HUMPHREYS *La Pluche's Nature Displ.* xxii. 148 Sea-Urchins or 'Button-Fishes. 1801 FELTON *Carriages Gloss.*, 'Button-hangers, small ornamental tassels, which are placed on the fringe. 1870 MISS BRIDGMAN *R. Lynne* II. v. 116 Tweezers, 'button-hooks, and corkscrews. 1607 TOPSELL *Four-f. Beasts* 285 With a 'button iron of an inch about, burn at each end a hole. 1883 *Castell's Fam. Mag.* cvii. 686/2 Lac is exported almost exclusively in the manufactured state as dye, shell-lac, and 'button-lac. 1874 WYVILLE THOMSON in *Id. Words* 747 'Button-like heads of yellow flowers. a 1613 OVERBURY *A Wife* (1638) 181 A 'Button-maker of Amsterdam. 1863 *Reader* 21 Feb. 188 The prodigal .. marries the daughter of a deceased buttonmaker. 1687 *Royal Proclam.* in *Lond. Gaz.* No. 2297/1 The Trade of 'Button-making.

1621 *Hist. T. Thumbs in Halliwell's Shaks.* (1850) VI. 192 The wheels [of Tom Thumb's coach] were made of four 'button-moulds. 1801 MAR. EDGEWORTH *Early Less.* II. *Harry & L.*, A large wafer .. and a wooden button mould of the same size. 1865 *Cornh. Mag.* XII. 627 Produced like 'button-mushrooms in a hot-bed. 1885 *Harper's Mag.* Jan. 280/1 The upper is found to consist .. in the case of a button boot, of a 'vamp' .. a large and small 'quarter' .. and a 'button piece to fasten the shoe around the foot. 1835-6 TODD *Cycl. Anat.* I. 183/1 A 'button-pointed bistoury. 1854 SEIDEL *Organ* 84 The obsolete registers; bear's pipe, and Apple, or 'button-regal, were stopped reed-registers. 1687 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 2220/4 Mr. Edward Miller, 'Button-seller. 1864 *All Y. Round VII.* 378 Down upon his knees grubbing for buttons and 'button-shanks. 1880 L. WINGFIELD *In her Maj. Keeping* II. i. xii. 51 It don't matter to me a buttonshank. 1849-52 TODD *Cycl. Anat.* IV. 1213/1 'Button-shaped, dilated ticklers. 1883 *Birmingham Daily Post* 11 Oct., 'Button-stamper, for Brace and Shell-work. 1848 THACKERAY *Bt. Snobs* xxxvii. Tummus's 'button-suit was worn. 1840 *Blackw. Mag.* XLVIII. 305 A result which .. nobody would think worth a decent-looking 'button-top. 1795 SLOANE *Jamaica* II. 18 'Button Tree. This tree .. grows near the sea-side .. among the mangroves. 1796 P. BROWNE *Jamaica* 159 Button-tree or Button-wood. These trees .. grow luxuriantly in all the low sandy bays and marshes. 1864 F. BRITTON *Watch & Clockm.* 37 [A] 'Button Turn [is] a brass block pivoted in the index arm and covering the curb-pin. 1876 BRITTON & HOLLAND *Plant-n.*, 'Button Weed, *Centaurea nigra* L. — Succ. 1698 PETIVER in *Phil. Trans.* XX. 401 Lignum Fibularium (i. e.) 'Button wood *nostratibus dicta*. 1837 *Fraser's Mag.* 686 The cool shade of some spreading buttonwood-tree. 1854 HAWTHORNE *Blithedale*. Rom. xvii. Besieging the button-wood tree. 1883 *Century Mag.* Aug. 547/2 The long lane, shaded by button-woods. 1856 KANE *Arct. Expl.* II. iv. 50 [I] should find a ready sale among the 'button-workers of England.

b. *attrib.* with qualifying numeral; having (so many) buttons, as in *ten-button gloves*.

1884 HOWELLS in *Harper's Mag.* Dec. 117/1 What if he should bring a ten-button instead of an eight!

Button (bʊt'n), *v.* Forms: 4-5 *boten*, 5 *bothon*, 6-7 *buten*, 5- *button*. [*f. BUTTON sb.*; cf. *F. boutonner*.]

1. *trans.* To furnish or adorn with buttons or knobs. (Usually in *pa. pple.*)

c 1380 *Sir Ferumb.* 166 Gloues .. bat with gold ibotened were. 1394 *P. Pl. Crede* 296 A cote .. queyntly y-botend. 1480 CAXTON *Chron. Eng.* ccxxvi. 233 Short clothes .. on every syde slatered and botened. 1658 *USSHER Ann.* 742 A purple robe buttoned with precious stones. 1831 *CARLYLE Sart. Res.* I. viii. Without vestments, till he buy or steal such, and .. sew and button them.

b. To fit (a fencing foil) with a button (see *BUTTON sb.* 5 c).

1615 G. SANDYS *Trav.* 168 A stick .. buttoned at the end with leather, in manner of a foile. 1664 *FULLER Worthies* (1840) III. 17 To have fenced with rebated rapiers and swords buttoned up.

† c. To raise knobs or pimples on. *Obs.*

1598 SYLVESTER *Du Bartas* II. i. iii. (1606) 345 Humour which .. within Their bodies boyling butt'neth all their Skin.

2. To fasten (a garment) with buttons; to secure or close by means of a button or buttons. Often with *up*.

c 1440 *Prompt. Parv.* 46 Bothon clothys, *botono*, *fibulo*. 1555 *EDEN Decades W. Ind.* (Arb.) 320 These the Christians vse to button on the right syde; and the Tartars button them on the left syde. 1665 *BLACKMORE Pr. Arth.* x. 484 Ella .. buttoned on his rich embroider'd Vest. 1701 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 3701/4 A Beaver Hat buttoned up. 1827 *CARLYLE Transl.* (1874) 41 He .. buttoned-up his scissor-pouch. 1828 SCOTT *J. M. Perth* xv. He buttoned his doublet anew. 1840 *CARLYLE Heroes* v. 274 Something he can button in his pocket. 1864 *Mag. for Young Sept.* 290 Jack had got Euclid buttoned up inside his jacket.

b. To fasten the clothes of (a person) with buttons. Usually *refl.*; also *absol.* (for *refl.*).

1664 R. MATHEW *Unl. Aich.* § 20 He could not button himself, nor put on his clothes. 1825 *Chamb. Jnrl.* IV. 187, I had to button up against a succession of short summer showers. 1864 H. KINGSLEY *Ravenshoe* xxxiv. 201 Old gentlemen buttoned up across the chest. 1879 *STEVENSON Trav. Cevennes* 66, I buttoned myself into my coat.

c. To fasten (a door) with a *BUTTON* (*sb.* 4).

1837 *New Monthly Mag.* L. 397 [She] .. buttoned the door. 1882 *BLACKMORE Christowell* I. xvi. 249 To keep one pew buttoned on a Sunday.

3. *fig.* To close tightly, fasten, confine, keep under restraint, etc. Often with *up*.

1590 *SHAKS. Com. Err.* iv. ii. 34 [One] whose hard heart is button'd vp with Steele. 1598 *GRENEWAY Tacitus Ann.* xi. ix. (1622) 151 The Princes eares would be buttend and deafe. 1823 *LAMB Elia* Ser. i. xi. Buttoned up in the straitest non-conformity. 1837 *CARLYLE Fr. Rev.* (1871) II. iv. 136 Thoughts—which he must button close up. 1840 W. IRVING *Wolfert's R.* (1855) 151 Shy and solitary, and, as it were, buttoned up, body and soul.

4. *intr.* (for *refl.*) Of garments: To be, or be capable of being, fastened (*up*) with buttons.

1777 *SHERIDAN Trip Scarb.* i. ii. If it had been tighter, 'twould neither have hooked nor buttoned. 1839 *New Monthly Mag.* LV. 483 A jacket that buttons up close to the neck. 1875 *BESANT & RICE Harp & Cr.* II. iii. 66 It [the coat] buttons across the chest.

† 5. *intr.* Of plants: To bud, put forth buds.

Of fruits: To assume the globular shape. 1669 *WOODHEAD St. Teresa* i. xiv. 88 These Trees begin to button, and bud out towards flowering. 1778-84 *Cook Voy.* (1790) III. 899 Some [fruit] just beginning to button.

b. Of broccoli and cauliflowers: To come to a head prematurely.

1852 (see *BUTTONING vbl. sb.*) 1882 *Garden* 18 Mar. 187/3 The crop .. showing no tendency either to button or run to seed. 1884 *Field* 12 July 67 Cauliflowers button at an early stage, and are useless.

6. *trans.* In fencing: To touch with the button of the foil.

1842 *Blackw. Mag.* LII. 566, I should have buttoned them ten times for every twice they touched me.

Buttoned (bʊt'nd), *ppl. a.* [*f. BUTTON sb.* and *v.* + *-ED*.]

1. Having buttons, adorned with buttons; usually with defining words, as *silver*, *eight-buttoned*.

1534 *MORE On the Passion* Wks. 1279/2 A beareward with his sylver buttend bawdrike. 1597 *SIR R. CECIL in Ellis Orig. Lett.* II. 234 III. 43 A longe robe of black velvett, well jeweld and buttend. 1713 *Guardian* No. 113 (1756) II. 121 My silver-button'd coat. 1864 *MAYHEW Crim. Prisons* 61 A custom-house officer in his brass-buttoned jacket. 1883 *Truth* 31 May 768/1 [Gloves] were all to be eight-buttoned.

b. Of persons: Wearing buttons.

1813 *MOORE Past Bag* vi. 64 This buttoned nation. 1882 *T. HARDY Two on Tower* I. xiv. 234 The buttoned boy.

c. Of a stick or a fencing-foil: Having a 'button' or knob at the end.

1648 *HERRICK Hesper.* I. 204 No black-bearded vigil from thy doore Beats with a button'd-staffe the poore. 1838 *Fraser's Mag.* XVII. 307 Safe and well-buttoned foils.

2. Fastened with buttons; with one's clothes fastened with buttons. Also with *up*.

1826 *MISS MITFORD Village Ser.* II. (1863) 298 The buttoned-up crosses. 1837 *CARLYLE Fr. Rev.* (1871) II. iv. vii. 153 National Guards rank themselves, half-buttoned. 1863 *THORNBURY True as Steel* III. 292 With a buttoned velvet cap drawn over his ears.

Buttoner (bʊt'nɔː). [f. as prec. -ER.]

1. One who or that which buttons (see **BUTTON** v. 2); a button-hook.

1611 Cotgr., *Boutonneur*, a Buttoner; or an instrument wherewith buttons are pulled through their outer-strait holes.

1881 *Confess. Frivolous Girl* 68 Silver glove-buttoners.

b. *fig.* That which fastens or knits tightly.

1885 WINGFIELD *Barb. Philpot* III. i. 17 Gratitude is a buttoner of hearts.

2. One who sews buttons on garments.

1886 *Pall Mall G.* 2 Aug. 6/2, 21. 6d. for the aforesaid dozen shirts, which sum has to be divided between machinist, finisher, buttonholder, buttoner, ironer and folder.

3. *Thieves' cant.* = **BUTTON** sb. 9.

1841 *Blackw. Mag.* L. 202 Buttoners are those accomplices of thimblebeggars... whose duty it is to act as flat-catchers or decoys, by personating flats.

1860 *Cornh. Mag.* II. 334 Enticer of another to play—buttoner.

Button-hole, v. [f. **BUTTON** sb. + **HOLD** v., or rather, deduced immediately from *button-hold-er*.]

trans. To take hold of (a person) by a button, and detain him in conversation against his will.

Hence *Button-holding* *vbl. sb.* and *ppl. a.*

1834 S. R. Maitland *Volunt. Syst.* (1837) 192 Forwardness, impudence, and button-holding perseverance.

1841 Hor. Smith *Moneyed Man* III. x. 278 Welford, button-held by Mr. Curling.

1853 GLADSTONE *Home* I. i. iii. 27 Patroclus... is (to use the modern phrase) button-held by Nestor.

1860 *Cornh. Mag.* II. 97 Battered your door... against the button-holding world.

1880 *Home* *Jrnl.* (N. Y.) 21 Jan., Charles Lamb, being button-held one day by Coleridge... cut off the button.

Button-holder. [f. **BUTTON** sb. + **HOLDER**.]

1. One who takes hold of a man by a button of his coat, so as to detain him in conversation.

1806-7 J. BERRISFORD *Miseries Hum. Life* (1826) i. i. While attending a button-holder to your gate.

1850 Rossetti *Dante & Circ.* i. (1874) 28 The buttonholders of learned Italy, who will not let one go on one's way.

2. A case for holding buttons.

1870 DICKENS *E. Dood* 12 My mother-of-pearl button-holder.

Button-hole (bʊt'nhəʊl), sb.

1. The hole or slit through which a button passes.

1561 Sir T. Hoby *tr. Castiglione's Courtier* (1577) M iij. a. Thou shalt one day be the button, and the hawker shall be the buttonhole.

1850 BAKER *Adv.* B 1608 A button hole, *ansula*.

1868 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 2054/4 One sad-coloured Cloth Sute with Gold Buttons and Button-holes.

1791 BOSWELL *Johnson* III. 339 With an ink-horn and pen in his button-hole.

1863 KINGSLEY *Water-bab.* 5 With a... flower in his button-hole.

b. *colloq. phrase.* To take one down a button-hole or a button-hole lower: to humiliate or take the conceit out of him. (Cf. *to take one down a peg*.)

1828 SHAKS. *L. L. v.* ii. 706 Master, let me take you a button-hole lower.

1893 PEELS *Edw.* i. On my word, I'll take you down a button-hole.

1855 Heywood *Fort. by Land*, *sc. ii.* Wks. 1874 vi. 387 You are taken a button-hole lower.

1850 Mrs. Stowe *Uncle Tom* iv. 21 Better mind yourselves, or I'll take ye down a button-hole lower.

2. *transf.* An opening like a button-hole.

1599 NASH *Lent. Stuffe* (1871) 74 The raveled button-holes of her beaver eyes.

1866 *Temple Bar Mag.* IV. 479 The little red button-hole of a mouth.

3. *colloq.* Short for *button-hole flower*, *bouquet*.

1879 E. H. MARSHALL *In My Sunday Friend* Mar. 19 The little girl who sold him a button-hole.

1881 M. C. HAY *Missing* III. 239 A dainty little buttonhole of tinted leaves.

1883 *Harper's Mag.* Nov. 840/2 A button-hole of hyacinths.

4. *attrib.*, as in *button-hole flower*, *scissors*, *stitch*.

1854 *Blackw. Mag.* LXXI. 241 Button-hole eyes and upright eyelids.

1875 *Chamb. Jrnl.* 6 Traffic in button-hole flowers.

1884 *Harper's Mag.* 286/1 A wine-glass containing a button-hole bouquet.

1887 *Mag. Art* Mar. 152 These threads were worked over with close button-hole stitch.

Button-hole, v. [f. prec. sb.: in sense 2 app. altered from **BUTTON-HOLD**, which it has almost superseded.]

1. a. *intr.* To sew button-holes. b. *trans.* To sew with button-hole stitch.

1808 [see **BUTTON-HOLDING** below]. 1868 HOLME *Lee B. Godfrey* xli. 224 Whether button-holing and embroidering or not.

1882 *Cassell's Fam. Mag.* xcvi. 44 Penwipers... button-holed round with silk.

2. *trans.* = **BUTTON-HOLD**.

1862 *All Y. Round* VII. 381 The man who is button-holed, or held... and must listen to half an hour's harangue about nothing interesting.

1868 H. KINGSLEY *Mathilde* II. 140 He went about button-holing and boring every one.

Hence *Button-holing* *vbl. sb.*

1808 Miss MITFORD *Village Ser.* III. (1863) 7. The... mysteries of stitching and button-holing.

1873 *Daily News* 7 Nov. 5/5 They were subjected to a good deal of button-holing.

1883 *Standard* 6 Nov. 2/2 After buttonholing, the uniform goes into the hands of the 'finishers'.

Button-holer. [f. **BUTTON-HOLE** + **-ER**.]

1. One who makes button-holes.

1883 *Standard* 6 Nov. 2/2 The garment next goes to the 'button-holer'.

1884 *Graphic* 16 Aug. 166 The skirt-hands get twelve shillings a week... the button-holer fifteen.

2. One who 'button-holes'; = **BUTTON-HOLDER** 1.

1874 E. Gosse *Academy* 447 The two great button-holers, John Gower and Thomas Heywood.

1883-1874 *Cent. Stud.* 286 Malagene, Otway's tiresome button-holer.

3. *colloq.* A button-hole flower.

1884 *Punch* 29 Nov. 257/1 Any young clerk who... contemplates buying a 'button-holer', or sending a Valentine.

Buttoning (bʊt'nɪŋ), *vbl. sb.* [f. **BUTTON** v.

+ -ING.] The action of the verb **BUTTON**, in different senses. † *concr.* A fastening, button (*obs.*).

1579 J. JONES *Preserv. Body & Soul* i. x. 21 The Persian, Spanish, or Italian working of silks, as spinning, twisting, purring, buttoning, etc.

1647 W. BROWNE *Poet.* II. 263 A long vestment... fastened with buttonings of diamonds.

1693 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 2832/4 A black Hat, the buttoning commonly behind.

1806 SCOTT *Woodstock* II. 233 Albert... undid the coarse buttonings of his leathern gamashes.

1852 J. H. KNIGHT *Midl. Florist* vi. 108 The prevention of premature heading, or buttoning (in broccoli).

1873 *Sunday Mag.* June 622 A funny little buttoning of her lips.

Buttonless (bʊt'nɪləs), a. [f. **BUTTON** sb. + **-LESS**.] Without buttons. Hence *Buttonless-ness*.

1655 *Francion* i. iii. 73 My Doublet was Buttonless.

1800 *Blackw. Mag.* VIII. 276 Ungartered stockings—buttonless array.

1846 D. JERROLD *Chron. Cloverhook* Wks. IV. 380 The buttonless man remonstrates with his laundress.

1881 WYNTON *Soc. Bees* 464 A man in a state of utter buttonlessness.

Buttons. [pl. of **BUTTON** sb. used as a sing.]

1. A boy in buttons, a page. *colloq.*

1848 THACKERAY *Dinner at Timmins's* i. ii. More than fourteen years older than little Buttons.

1855 *Fraser's Mag.* LI. 433 He was a tiger—'a buttons'.

1879 *Daily News* 6 Mar. 5/6 The variety of domestic known as a 'Buttons'.

2. A popular name for the tansy and other plants: see **BUTTON** sb. 3.

Buttoney (bʊt'nɪ), a. [f. **BUTTON** sb. + **-Y**.]

1. Resembling a button.

1597 GERARD *Herbal* i. x. § 2. 12 The buttonie flowers of Sea wormwood.

1862 *All Y. Round* VII. 381 Buttoney mushrooms.

2. Abounding in buttons.

1848 THACKERAY *Van. Fair* ix. The buttoney page.

1856 *Christm. Bks.* (1872) 57 The buttoneyest page in all the street.

1861 O. W. HOLMES *Elsie* v. vii. 65 The small youth... in a new jacket and trousers, buttoney in front.

† **Buttrelle**, *rare* -l. ? Mistake for **BUTTAL**.

1546 LANGLEY *Pol. Verg. De Invent.* i. xv. 28a, The meeres and buttrelles with which they desseuered theyr porcions of lande.

Buttress (bʊt'rɛs), sb.¹ Forms: 4 *butres*,

5 *boteraces*, *boteras*, *butras*, *botrases*, *boterasse*, (*bouttrase*), *botrase*, 6 *buttreis*, *butteras*, *botras*, *butrese*, *butteresse*, 6-7 *buttrasse*, 7 *buttrise*, *buttrice*, *bouttrise*, 8 *butteresse*, *butteridge*, 7- *buttrass*. [perh. a. OF. *bouteress* nom. sing. (or ? pl.) of *bouteret*, 'flying-buttress', 'arc-boutant' (Godef.); app. f. *bouter* to push, bear against.]

1. A structure of wood, stone, or brick built against a wall or building to strengthen or support it.

1388 WYCLIF *Ench.* xli. 15 He mat the boteraces on euer either side of an hundrid cubitis.

1393 *Test. Ebor.* (1836) I. 185 My body to be graven in the mynster-garth be-for the butres at the charnell.

c. 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 45 Boteras of a walle, machinis, muripula.

1487 *Churchw. Acc. Wig.* 107, *Lincolns.* (Nicholls 1797) 82 Lyme for mending and stoppyng of the Botrasses.

1501 DOUGLAS *Pal. Hon.* 1437 Subtile muldrie wrought mony day agone, On buttreis, jalme, pillaris.

1530 PALSGR. 432/2 This pyller within the churchre answereth to this buttress without forthe.

1570 LEVINS *Manip.* 84 A Buttresse, *fulcrimentum*.

1605 SHAKS. *Mach.* i. vi. 7 No buttresse, *Buttrice*, nor Coigne of Vantage.

1622 WHEELER *Journ. Greece* iv. 296 The Pilaster... is propped on both sides with Buttrices.

1789 SWYTH *tr. Aldrich's Archit.* (1818) 84 He proposes to erect brick buttresses at the angles.

1849 FREEMAN *Archit.* 157 A long dead wall, unbroken by porch or buttress.

b. *fig.*

1436 *Pol. Poems* (1859) II. 187 Wyth alle youre myghte take hede To kepe Yre lond... For it is a boterasse and a poste Undre England.

1550 BALE *Image both Ch. F. viij.* 1639 FULLER *Holy War* v. xxv. (1840) 287 Though his title was builded on a bad foundation, yet it had strong buttresses.

1700 *Eng. Theoph.* 300 To transform those into buttresses of reputation, who threaten'd to ruin the same.

2. *loosely*, A prop, support; a pier or abutment.

1609 HOLLAND *Amm. Marcell.* xxiii. iv. 222 Under which piece of wood there lyeth a huge great bouttrise or supporter (*fulcrimentum*), even hayre-cloth stuffed full of, etc.

1745 *tr. Columella's Husb.* i. v. The foundations... will... serve as a butttridge and underpropping.

1850 PRESCOTT *Mexico* I. 155 An aqueduct that was carried over hill and valley... on huge buttresses of masonry.

3. A projecting portion of a hill or mountain looking like the buttress of a building.

1682 WHEELER *Journ. Greece* vi. 453 It is... situated as it were between the two Buttrices of the Mountain.

1814 CARY *Dante* (1871) 145 We... stood Upon the second buttress of that mount.

1879 F. MALLESON *in Lett. to Clergy* 51 The mountain and its opposing buttress the Dow Crags.

4. *Phys. a.* Used as a translation of the F. *éperon*; b. a bony process or protuberance.

1836-9 TODD *Cycl. Anat.* II. 749/2 And between them [i.e. two portions of the bowel] is that double partition termed 'eperon' or buttress by Dupuytren.

1849-52 *Ibid.* IV. 894/2 Triangular plates of bone forming a zig-zag buttress.

1859 *Ibid.* V. 139/1 The pelvis presents two lateral curved thickened buttresses or columns.

5. *Fortification.* (See *quot.*)

1802 JAMES *Mil. Dict.*, *Fortification*, Counter-forts... are by some called buttresses; they are solids of masonry, built between walls, and joined to them at 18 feet distance from center to center, in order to strengthen them.

6. *Comb.*, as *buttress-less*, *-like* adjs. See also **FLYING-BUTTRESS**.

1880 *Athenaeum* 1 Apr. 408/2 The buttressless tower of St. Stephen's.

1853 KANE *Grinnell Exp.* xxxi. These escarped masses became more buttress-like and monumental.

Buttress, v. Also 5 *boterace*, *boterace*, 6 *butteras*, 7 *buttrasse*. [f. **BUTTRESS** sb.¹]

1. To furnish, sustain, or strengthen with a buttress or support.

1377 [cf. b.]. 1530 PALSGR. 473/1 This buylding is buttressed very wel.

1843 CARLYLE *Past & Pr.* II. iii. (1872) 49 Stately masonries... buttress it.

1886 *Athenaeum* 30 Oct. 574/1 The walls were buttressed with pillars.

b. *fig.* Also with *up*.

1377 LANGE. *P. Pl. B. v.* 508 Pe wallis ben... Boterased [A. vi. 79 brutaget] with bileue-so-or-pow-beest-nouste-ysaused.

1611 SPEED *Hist. Gl. Brit.* ix. xx. (1632) 560 Arguments concurring to buttresse this affirmation.

1769 BURKE *Corr.* (1844) I. 174 The plan of the court, would be... to buttress it [the ministry] up with the Grenvilles.

1882 CAR. FOX *Mem.* II. xv. 215 Some of the facts concerning America... buttressed their arguments.

2. To conceal by a buttress from. *rare.*

1850 KEATS *St. Agnes* ix. Beside the portal doors, Buttress'd from moonlight, stands he.

Hence *Buttressing* *vbl. sb.* and *ppl. a.*

1851 RUSKIN *Stones Ven.* I. xv. § 11 The tiny buttressings look as if they carried the superstructure on the points of their pinnacles.

1881 *Fifehire Jrnl.* 13 Jan. 4/3 Mr. Gladstone and... his buttressing factions.

Buttressed (bʊt'rɛst), *ppl. a.* [f. prec. + **-ED**.]

Furnished with a buttress or buttresses; strengthened, supported, or stayed by a buttress.

1813 SCOTT *Trierm.* m. iii. Fain would he hope the rocks 'gan change To buttress'd walls their shapeless range.

1853 RUSKIN *Stones Ven.* II. vi. § 77. 206 The... shadowed niche, and buttressed pier.

1860 RUSKIN *Mod. Paint.* V. ix. ix. 296 A religion towering over all the city—many buttressed.

1881 GEIKIE *in Macm. Mag.* XLIV. 238 The isolated peaks and ranges of buttressed cliffs.

1886 G. ALLEN *Life Darwin* x. 170 A... powerfully buttressed theory.

Buttrice, -ise, *obs.* ff. **BUTTERIS**, **BUTTERIS**.

Butt-woman: see **BUTT** sb.¹, 10.

Butty (bʊtɪ). *dial.* [In sense 1 perh. a corruption of **BOOTY** a. It is not clear whether sense 2 is the same word, but its identity seems not improbable; cf. similar use of *gaffer*.]

1. A confederate, companion, 'mate'.

1802 J. WILSON (Congleton) *MS. Let.* 17 Apr. to Y. Boucher, Butty, going Halves, *Chesh. Staff.*

1865 [see **BUTTY-LARK**]. 1875 *Lanc. Gloss.* 63 Butty, a confederate.

2. A middleman between proprietors of mines and workmen, who engages to work the mine and raise coal or ore at so much per ton.

1845 DISRAELI *Sybil* (1863) 116 A Butty in the mining districts is a middleman: a Doggy is his manager.

1873 *Echo* 22 Sept. 2/2 'Butties'... can make £3 a week without difficulty.

1886 *Law Times* LXXX. 166/2 The butties who had a contract with Earl Granville to raise and get the ironstone from the mine at 4s. 10d. per ton.

3. *Comb.* and *Attrib.*, as *butty-collier*, *-system*; also *butty-gang*, a gang of men to whom a portion of the work in some large engineering enterprise is allotted, and who divide the proceeds equally among themselves.

1845 *Penny Cycl.* 1st Supp. I. 380/2 The miners entertain a bitter dislike to the 'butty' system.

1848 *Fraser's Mag.* XXXVII. 383 A sort of middlemanship, somewhat of the nature of the 'butty' system carried on in Staffordshire.

1881 GOLDW. SMITH *Lett. & Ess.* 164 He [Mr. Brassey] favoured the butty-gang system, that of letting work to a gang of a dozen men, who divide the pay, allowing something extra to the head of the gang.

of which the second or *Isobutyl* is the butyl of Wurtz, 'a colourless oily liquid, having a faint but agreeable odour, and a slight taste with burning after-taste' (Watts).

1868-77 WATTS *Dict. Chem.* (1879) V. 731 Tetryl or butyl. *Ibid.* VI. 373 With sodium it gives off... but little butyl. 1870 TYNDALL *Heat* xv. § 750 It is called nitrite of butyl.

2. *attrib.* Of butyl, butylic, tetrylic: as in *butyl compounds, group, series*; also *butyl acetate, aldehyde, chloride, oxide, sulphide*, etc.; and esp. in *butyl alcohol*, $C_4H_{10}O$, of which there are four isomers, 1. *normal butyl alcohol* or *propyl carbinol* (which yields butyric acid), 2. *fermentation* or *isobutyl alcohol* or *isopropyl carbinol*, 3. *secondary butyl alcohol* or *methyl-ethyl carbinol*, 4. *tertiary butyl alcohol* or *trimethyl carbinol*; *butyl hydride* = *quartane*, a volatile hydro-carbon C_4H_{10} , the lightest of all known liquids; *butyl aldehyde*, the same as *butyric aldehyde*. So many other combinations as *butyl carbinol, butyl benzene*, etc.

1869 ROSCOE *Elem. Chem.* (1874) 330 Butyl hydride... is the lightest of all known liquids. *Ibid.* 331 This [normal butyl alcohol] is the primary alcohol, as it yields on oxidation butyl aldehyde and butyric acid. 1869-71 WATTS *Dict. Chem.* (1879) VI. 373 *Isopropyl-carbinol* or *isopropyl-alcohol* constitutes the butylic alcohol of Wurtz, which was extracted from fusel-oil. For a long time it was the only butyl alcohol known to chemists. 1873 FOWNES *Chem.* 599 Butyl-carbinol is prepared from normal propyl alcohol in the same manner as the latter from normal propyl alcohol. 1880 *Med. Temp.* *Jrnl.* July 167 He found that butyl and propyl alcohols were possessed of strong toxic properties.

3. Hence derivatives in *Butyl*: *Butylacetic*, in *Butylacetic acid*: the monobasic acid, $C_6H_{12}O_2$, derived from Butyl glycol; the tetracarbon or Butylene member of the Lactic series. *Butylamide*, a less correct name for BUTYRAMIDE. *Butylamine*, an AMINE, or compound ammonia of the butyl series. *Butylene*, the diatomic hydro-carbon or olefine of the butyl series, C_4H_8 , also called *Butene* and *Tetrene*, of which there are several isomeric modifications; in comb. as *butylene alcohol*, etc. *Butylene a.*, of or pertaining to Butylene. *Butylic* (biutir'ik) *a.*, of or pertaining to Butyl, as in *butylic alcohol, butylic ether*, etc.

1863-72 WATTS *Dict. Chem.* I. 688 Butylacetic acid bears to butyric acid the same relation that lactic acid bears to propionic acid. *Ibid.* (1877) V. 733 Tetrylic or butylic alcohol of fermentation is a primary alcohol. 1877 FOWNES *Chem.* II. 57 Butene or Butylene—of this hydro-carbon there are three modifications... *Normal butene, Pseudo-butene, Isobutene*.

Butyr. *Chem.* An adaptation of *L. butyrum* BUTTER, sometimes used in technical senses.

1840 H. CLEEVE in *Jrnl. Agric. Soc.* I. iii. 321 Butyr. (or, as it is commonly called, butter) of antimony. 1882 *Chemist & Drugg.* XXIV. 561 Butyr of antimony, oil of vitriol, etc.

Butyr-, a formative of the names of chemical compounds belonging to or derived from the butyric series, and of some minerals. (Cf. BUTYRO-.)

Butyric acid, an acid having the composition of a combination of butyric and acetic acid, $C_6H_{12}O_2$, $C_4H_8O_2$, also called *pseudo-acetic acid*; its salts are *Butyricates*. *Butyral*, *Butyraldehyde*, two isomeric compounds, C_4H_8O , aldehydes of the butyric series. *Butyramide*, the amide of the butyric series, $C_4H_9ONH_2$, crystallizing in snow-white nacreous tables. *Butyrate*, a salt of butyric acid. *Butyrellite*, *Min.*, Dana's name for the natural fatty substance, *bog-butter*. *Butyria*, an oily liquid analogous to the acetins, obtained by the direct action of butyric acid on glycerin. *Butyrite a. Chem.*, a compound formed from butyric acid and mannite (Watts); *b. Min.*, another name for *Butyrellite*. *Butyzone*, the ketone of the butyric series, also called dipropyl ketone $CO(C_3H_7)_2$. *Butyryl*, C_4H_7O , the radical of butyric acid.

1836 HENRY *Chem.* II. 446 This oil [butter], according to Chevreul, is resolvable into two; the one... he calls butyric, because it contains butyric acid or its elements. 1839-47 TODD *Cycl. Anat.* III. 359/1 Butter may be regarded as composed of... stearine, elain, and butyric. 1873 FOWNES *Chem.* 547 Several of the paraffins are produced by the dry... distillation of butyrates. 1853 *Pharmacut. Jrnl.* XIII. 72 The Chloride of Butyryle is... liquid. 1869-71 WATTS *Dict. Chem.* (1879) VI. 380 Butyryl... is an aromatic oil, slightly soluble or insoluble in water.

Butyraceous (biutir'ik's), *a.* [f. *L. butyrum* butter + -ACEOUS: cf. *F. butyrate*.]

1. Of the nature of butter; buttery. 1868 *Phil. Trans.* 111. 187 Milk... whence, and from the three parts whereof, viz. Butyraceous, Serous, and Caseous... he would deduce the different nature of the Humors and Spirits composing the blood. 1778 *Anat. Dialogues* 6 An oleaginous or butyraceous matter. 1844 T. GRAHAM *Dom. Med.* 174 Whey is the watery saccharine part of milk, freed in a great measure from the butyraceous and caseous matters. 1870 LOWELL *Study Wind.* 249 If repugnance for having fine phrases take the place of butyraceous principle.

2. Producing or containing butter. 1863 R. BURTON *Aboakuta* I. 324 The varieties of butyraceous nuts are almost wholly unknown. 1876 — *Gorilla* L. I. 220 The Nje or Njeve, a towering butyraceous tree.

Butyric (biutir'ik), *a. Chem.* [f. as prec. + -IO.] Of or pertaining to butter, *esp.* in reference to its chemical constitution and formation. Hence: 1. *Butyric acid*, the monatomic, monobasic, fatty acid of the BUTYL series, $C_4H_8O_2$, of which there are two modifications, *normal butyric* and *isobutyric* acid; the former occurring in butter, cod-liver oil, and other substances, is a colourless viscous liquid, with a smell suggestive of both vinegar and rancid butter. Its salts are *butyrates*.

1836 [see BUTYL]. 1839-47 TODD *Cycl. Anat.* III. 359/1 Chevreul... has named them the butyric, caproic, and capric acids. 1845 G. DAY *Simon's Anim. Chem.* I. 78 By... fermentation butyric acid may be obtained from sugar... the fermentation, at first viscous, subsequently lactic, gradually becomes butyric. 1871 TYNDALL *Fragm. Sc.* (ed. 6) II. xii. 275 Air... is according to Pasteur, absolutely deadly to the vibrios which provoke the butyric acid fermentation.

2. *Butyric series*: the series of compound bodies related to Butyric acid, or containing the radical BUTYRYL, C_4H_7O ; as *Butyric aldehyde*, C_4H_8O ; *Butyric ether* or *Ethyl butyrate*, $C_6H_{12}O_2$; $C_4H_7O_2$, a colourless oily liquid, having a pleasant fruity odour; *Butyric anhydride* or *oxide* ($C_4H_7O_2$), 1854 SCOFFERN in *Orr's Circ. Sc.* Chem. 109 Butyric ether and butyric methyl ether. 1863 WATTS *Dict. Chem.* (1879) I. 695 To the presence of small quantities of butyric ether, the peculiar flavour of pine-apples, melons, and some other fruits is due. *Ibid.* Butyric anhydride is a colourless, very mobile, and highly refracting liquid.

Hence *Butyrially* *adv.* 1876 tr. *Schutzenberger's Ferment.* 209 A great number of compounds are susceptible of fermenting butyrically.

Butyro- (biutir'o), comb. form of *L. butyrum*, used in technical, chiefly chemical words, as *butyro-acetic*, combining butyric and acetic. Cf. BUTYR-. 1865 *Circ. Sc.* I. 336/2 The chemist calls these butyric, butyro-acetic, and formic acids.

Butyrous (biutir'as), *a.* [f. *L. butyrum* + -OUS, corresp. to *F. butyreux*.] Of the quality or nature of butter; butyrateous, buttery.

1869 BOYLE *Contn. new Exp.* II. (1882) 117 To separate the Butyrous from the Caseous part. 1867 G. HARVEY *Curing Dis. by Expect.* vi. 39. 1774 A. HUNTER *Georgic. Ess.* (1803) III. 257 The cream was of a thick butyrous consistence.

Hence *Butyrousness*, butyry quality. 1864 H. STURGE *Ind. Nectar* iii. 42 You may easily perceive in a rich nut... an extraordinary butyrousness.

† *Buvable*, *a. Obs. rare*—[a. *F. buvable*, f. *buv-* stem of *boire* to drink.] Drinkable.

1840 CAXTON *Ovid's Met.* xv. iv, Hypanis, whyche somtyme was sweet & buvable, & now is salt and bitter.

Buve(n), var. of *BOVE prep.* *Obs.*

|| *Buvette*. [a. *F. buvette* tavern, road-side inn.] A tavern, small inn.

1753 in *Chambers Cycl. Supp.* 1866 *Cornh. Mag.* Oct. 505 They passed little roadside inns and buvettes.

Buwen, obs. form of *Bow v.*

Buxam, obs. form of *BUXOM*.

Buxes, obs. form of *BAKSHESH*.

1866 *MS. Let. Job Charnock to Council of Balasore* 3 June, If the peons come in five days give them 4 annas buxes.

Buxeous (bʊks'us), *a.* [f. *L. buxus*, f. *buxus* box-tree + -OUS.] Of or pertaining to box or the box-tree.

1731 in *BAILEY* vol. II. 1847 in *CRAIG*; and in mod. Dicts. † *Buxery*. *Obs. exc. Hist.* Also *buxsaree*, -ry, *buxarry*. [Of uncertain etymology: Col. Yule (Appendix) suggests that it may be Hind. *baksari* 'native of Buxar'.] A matchlock-man.

1757 CLIVE in *Grant Hist. India* I. ix. 52/2 Leaving only a few Europeans with 200 new-raised Buxsarees to guard our camp. 1778 E. LONG *Jamaica* I. (Y.) Having sent Ensign McKlon with... 150 buxerries. 1850 BROOME *Rise & Progr. Bengal Army* (Y.) Buxerries were nothing more than Burkundaz, armed and equipped in the usual native manner. c. 1880 *Grant Hist. India* I. viii. 45/1, 1,500 Buxsaries, or native matchlockmen.

Buxey, var. of *BUKSHI*.

Buxhome, -humnesse, obs. ff. *BUXOM*, -NESS.

Buxia, *Buxie*, var. ff. *BUXINE*, *BAKSHESH*.

Buxiferous, *a. rare*—[f. *L. buxifer* box-bearing + -OUS.] Bearing or producing box-trees.

1856 in *BLOUNT Glossogr.* 1721-1800 in *BAILEY*.

Buxine (bʊks'in). Also *buxin(a)*, *buxia*.

[mod. f. *L. buxus* box + -INE 4.] A vegetable alkaloid obtained from the box-tree, said to be identical with bebeerine (see BEBEERU).

1836 *Penny Cycl.* VI. 73/1 Buxina... has generally the appearance of a translucent deep brown-coloured mass. 1863 WATTS *Dict. Chem.* (1879) I. 699 Buxine has a bitter taste and excites sneezing. 1875 H. WOOD *Therap.* (1879) 56 Bebeerine, or... buxia, is whitish, amorphous, inodorous.

[*Buxion*, misreading of *burion*, BURGEON.

1400 *Test. Love* II. (1560) 290 b/1 A sere tree, without buxioning or fruite. *Ibid.* III. 290 b/1 Though... the branches [be] sere, and no buxions shew. *Ibid.* Thy branches must buxion. 1736 *BAILEY*, *Buxionem*, to Bud. *Chauc.*]

Buxom (bʊks'om), *a.* Forms: *ibuhsum*, *ibuosum*, 2-3 *buhsum*, 3 *bocsum*, -om, 3-8 *buxum*, 4 *boysam*, *boghsom*, *bousum*, -om, (?) *buxam*, *boxsom* (e, *bouxsome*, *bowxom*, *buxsom*, 4-5 *bowsom*, *boxsom*, *buxum*, 4-6 *bouxom* (e, *boxom* (e, -um, 4-7 *bughsom*, *bowsum*, *bux-*

ome, 5 *bouxum*, *buxhum*, 5-6 *buxume*, *buxsome*, -home, (?) *buseom*, 6 *bowsome*, *buxam*, *buckesom* (e, 6-8 *bucksome*, 7-8 *bucksom*, (9 *bucksome*), 4- *buxom*. [early ME. *buhsum*, *ibuhsum* (perh. :-OE. **buhsum*, **gebuhsum*); f. stem of *bilgan* (*gebilgan*) *Bow v.* 1 + -SOME; cf. MDu. *boochsaem*, Du. *buigzaam*, Ger. *biegsam* flexible, pliant. Branch II seems to have arisen from sense 1 c; the development of sense 3 being precisely the same as in *BLITHE*, that of 4 as in *Fr. joli* from 'blithe' to 'comely'.]

I. Easily bowed or bent. 1. Morally.

† *a.* Obedient; pliant; compliant, tractable (to). *Obs.* (exc. as a rare archaism.)

c. 1175 *Lamb. Hom.* 57 Beo buhsum toward gode. *Ibid.* 75 Beon him ibucsum ouer alle þing. c. 1200 *ORMIN* 6176 þin laferd birp þe buhsum beon. c. 1250 *Gen. & Ex.* 980 An angel... bad hire... to hire leudei buxum ben. 1340 *HAMPOLE Pr. Consc.* 8148 Alle men... Pat meke of hert er here, and bowsom. c. 1380 *WYCLIF Sel. Wks.* III. 49 Oure Ladi Marye... was... buxumer to his bidding pan our hond-mayde. c. 1440 *Generydes* 2505, Thanne came ther in... The buscom-mest folk. c. 1450 *LONELICH Grail* lii. 1006, I schal... maken hem buxom to 3owre hond. 1496 *Dives & Paup.* (W. de W.) iv. i. 160/1 We ben... to them buxom and meke. 1533 *FITZHERB. Surv.* (1539) 15, I shall be buxome and obedient to justices. 1581 J. BELL *Haddon's Answ. Osor.* 287 b, The Consuls should... swear faithfully to become bonnaire and buxome to the Pope. 1591 *SPENSER M. Hubberd* 626 So wilde a beast... buxome to his bands, is ioy to see. c. 1684 *MS. Let. Corporation of Kirkby to Judge Jeffreys*, Your Lordship was pleased to give us... your oath to become a buxome and beneficial member of this corporation. [1843 *Borrow Bible in Spain* xliii, To be buxom and obedient to the customs and laws of the republic. 1867 *THIRLWALL Lett. Friend* (1881) 88 In the hope that you will be buxom and good, I conclude now my New Year's Lecture.]

† *b.* Submissive, humble, meek. *Obs.*

a. 1300 *Cursor M.* 8356 Pat lauedi til hir lauerd lute Wit buxum reuerence and dute. *Ibid.* 29009 Oure prajer aw euer for to be bowsum. 1340 *Ayene*, 59 Hil... ziggep... þet hi byep zuo kuede and zuo zenful... vor þet me ham hereþ and hyealde uor wel bozsum. c. 1440 *Prompt. Parv.* 57 Buxum, or lowly or make, *humilis*, *pius*, *mansuetus*. c. 1440 *York Myst.* xxiv. 141 His sisters praye with bowsom beede. a. 1455 *HOLLAND Houlate* xxxiv. 12 Bowsom obeysance.

† *c.* Gracious, indulgent, favourable; obliging, amiable, courteous, affable, kindly. *Obs.*

1364 *LANGEL P. Pl.* A. vi. 56 Bouweþ forþ bi a brok beo-buxom-of-speche. 1393 *Ibid.* C. iv. 421 God hym-self hopeþ to be buxome at my bidding. c. 1460 *Towneley Myst. Annunc.* 79 (Angel to Joseph) Meek and buxom looke thou be, And with her dwell. 1536 *BELLENDEN Cron. Scot.* (1821) I. 18 To mak the reders more bowsom and attent. *Ibid.* 108 Ilk story be thi self is separat, To mak thaim bowsome to thine audience.

† *d.* with *inf.*: Easily moved, prone, ready. *Obs.*

a. 1300 *Cursor M.* 25208 Pan suld we be... bowsom his bid-inges to fulfill. 1340 *HAMPOLE Pr. Consc.* 50 The creatours þat er dom... er bughsom To lof hym. 1377 *LANGEL P. Pl.* B. vi. 127 Many a beggere for benes buxome was to swynke. c. 1440 *Gesta Rom.* (1879) 22 Pe flesh is euer lewid, and buxom to do Evil.

† 2. Physically: Flexible, pliant. Yielding to pressure, unresisting (*poet.*). *Obs.*

1596 *SPENSER F. Q.* I. xi. 37 Then gan he... scourge the buxome aire so sore That to his force to yelden it was faine. 1599 A. M. Gabelhous's *Bk. Physicke* 278/2 The Pockes... are verye buxume. 1613 *CROOKE Body of Man* 1111 Their substance is... flexible or buxome that they should not breake but giue way to violence. 1667 *MILTON P. L.* II. 842 Wing silently the buxom Air. a. 1700 *DRYDEN Palamon & Arc.* II. 519 Her turtles fann'd the buxom air above.

II. Blithe, jolly, well-favoured.

3. Blithe, gladsome, bright, lively, gay. *arch.* (The explanation in *Bailey* and *Johnson*, 'amorous, wanton', is apparently only contextual.)

1590 *GREENE Never too late* Aiv. Grey and buxome were his eyne. 1598 *FLORIO, Vago*, blithe. *bucksome*, full of glee. 1599 *SHAKS. Hen. V.* III. vi. 28 A Souldier firme and sound of heart, and of buxome valour. 1600 *SHELTON Quix.* IV. xxx. 229 He went on his Journey... most glad and bucksome. 1658 *LENNARD tr. Charron's Wisd. Pref.*, Philosophy, such as this Book teacheth, is altogether pleasant, free, buksome, and if I may so say, wanton too. 1675 *COTTON Poet. Wks.* (1765) 267 A fine Miss... as free, Buxom, and amorous as He. 1678 *MARVELL Def. J. Howe Wks.* 1875 IV. 196, I could not but remark here of the Discourse... how jovial it is and bucksom. 1867 *HEBER Europe* 312 Freedom's buxom blast. 1848 *LYTTON Harold* I. i, That buxom month.

4. Full of health, vigour, and good temper; well-favoured, plump and comely, 'jolly', comfortable-looking (in person). (Chiefly of women.)

1589 *GREENE Menaph.* (Arb.) 43 A bonny pretty one, As bright, buxome and as sheene As was shee. 1608 *MIDDLETON Fam. Love* III. vii, Those ribs shall not enfold thy buxom limbs. 1611 *COTGR. s.v. Matineux*, An earlie man is buxome. 1681 *HICKERINGILL Vind. Naked Truth* II. 22 Those lazy and bucksome Abby-Lubbers. 1683 *tr. Erasmus's Moria* Enc. 16 My followers are smooth, plump, and bucksom. 1748 *GRAY Ode Eton Coll.*, Theirs buxom health of rosy hue. 1779 *JOHNSON Gray Wks.* 1787 IV. 303 His epithet *buxom health* is not elegant; he seems not to understand the word. 1823 *SCOTT Peveril* xxi, She was a buxom dame about thirty. 1828 — *F. M. Perik* iii, A buxom priest. 1843 *CARLYLE Past & Pr.* III. viii. (1872) 153 Fresh buxom countenances. 1873 *S. Sea Bubbles* i. 4 A slight gathering in of her dress... to exhibit her buxom figure to full perfection.

5. Comb., as *buxom-looking*.

1840 *BARHAM Ingol. Leg.* (1858) 77 He... followed a buxom-looking handmaiden into the breakfast parlour.

† **Buxom**, *v. Obs. rare*—1. [f. prec. adj.] With to: To yield to, obey.

c 1305 *Edmund Conf.* 467 in *E. E. P.* (1862) 83 *Pe* bischop . . him bet atte laste *Pat* he scholde not bileue godes wille to do to *buxom* to holi church. [Query, read *To be buxom*.]

† **Buxomly** (*bvksʊmli*), *adv. Obs.* [f. prec. adj. (which see for Forms) + *-ly*.] Obediently, humbly, meekly; courteously, willingly.

a 1240 *Lofsong in Cott. Hom.* 215 *Ich* buhsomliche bi-seche *pe* louerd. . . *bet* *pu* beo mid red nu. a 1300 *Cursor M.* 21351 We agh to *buxumli* it ber. c 1300 *Seuyn Sages* 3459 He bowed him ful bowsomly. 1340 *Ayenb.* 70 He ssel herye god and him bohsamliche ponky, *bet* him bep yoked. 1393 *LANGL. P. Pl. C. xviii.* 283 *Eueriche* busshepe, *by* *pe* lawe sholde *buxumliche* wende . . *porgh* hus prouynce. c 1400 *MAUNDEV.* viii. 82 He commanded . . to all his subgettes . . *buxomly* to resceyve me. 1513 *DOUGLAS Eneis* viii. vi. 124 Among small geyr now entris bowsomly. 1540 *HYRDE Vives Instr. Chr. Wom.* (1592) X. iv. That they do their duty diligently, meekly, and *buxomly*. 1678 *A. LITTLETON Lat. Dict. s. v.* *Buxomly, clementer, obedienter.*

Buxomness (*bvksʊmnəs*). [f. *BUXOM* *a.* (which see for Forms); see *-ness*.]

† 1. Obedience, submissiveness; lowliness, humility. *Obs.*

c 1175 *Lamb. Hom.* 73 *Bi-spreng* me lauerd mid buhsomnesse. c 1230 *Hali Meid.* 41 *pu* schalt . . teamen. Simplete of semblaunt and buhsomnesse and stille. 1297 *R. GLOUC.* 318 He bygan ys herte in bocsumnesse amende. a 1300 *Cursor M.* 25135 We sall . . know with bowsomnes *pat* no gude dede of ousr self es. 1340 *HAMPOLE Pr. Cons.* 7848 *Pare* es lowtyng and reverence, And boghsomnes and obedience (in heaven). 1366 *LANGL. P. Pl. A. i.* 111 He brak *Boxumnes* porw bost of him-seluen. a 1400 *OCCLEVE De Reg. Princ.* 3575 God toke upone hym humble *buxomnesse*. 1613 *R. C. Table Alph. (ed. 3)* *Buxomnesse*, pleyableness, or humble stooping, in signe of obedience. 1678 *A. LITTLETON Lat. Dict. s. v.* *Buxomness* or meekness, obsequium. 1721 in *BAILEY*.

† 2. Graciousness, kindly disposition; courtesy, complaisance. *Obs.*

14. *Gold. Litany* in *Maskell Mon. Rit.* II. 245 *By* thy infinite *buxomnes*: haue mercy on vs. 1483 *Cath. Angl.* 50 *A Buxumnes, clemencia.* 1508 *ARNOLDE Chron.* 162 Moost blessed fader *Primate* . . whom Almighty God *by* hys ineffable *buxumnes* . . hath creat and erecte. 1577 *STANHYURST Descr. Irel. in Holinshed VI.* 22 You should never make him or his bedfellow (such was their *buxomnesse*) . . once make a sowe face at anie ghest.

3. Blitheness, gaiety. *arch.*
1598 *FLORIO, Gaizesa* . . blithnes, iolite, bukesomnes. 1600 *SHELTON Quix.* IV. xix. 159 The Beauty, Spirit and Buck-somness of the wench mislik'd him not. 1824 *CARY Dante* (1871) 317 In him are summed, Whate'er of *buxomness* and free delight May be in spirit.

4. *modern.* Comely plumpness.

1875 *BESANT & R. Harp & Cr.* II. viii. 196 She is fat, she is fair . . she has still many summers of *buxomness* before her.

Buy (*bai*), *v.* Forms: 1 *byozan*, -oan, (*biozan*), 2-5 *buggen, biggen, bugge, bigge, 4 byze, 4-5 bygge(n, begge(n), 5 byche.* Also 3 *bijen, 3-7 buye, 3-5 bien, 3-6 bie, 4-5 byen, 4-6 bye, by, (4 byi, biy, bli, bij, bi, byze, biye, byye, 4-5 be, 5 byin, -yn), 5 beye(n, bey, 6-7 buie, 7- buy; 3rd sing. 1 by3(e)p, 2 bih3, 3 bu(e)3, 4 (Ayenb.) bayp, buyep, 5 bieth.*

Imper. 1 *byze, 3 bu(e), 4 bye, by, pl. 1 byozab.*
Pa. t. 1-3 *bohte, (2-3 bouchte), 3-4 bouhte, 3-5 bojte, boujte, (3 bochte), 4 bojt, (bohut), 4-5 boujt, boght, boughte, (5 bout), 5- bought, Sc. bocht, (6 bowth).*

Pa. pple. 1 (*3e*)*boht, 2 iboht, 3 boht, 3-4 bohut, (i-, y-)boujt, 3-4, 7 boght, 3-5 bojt, 4 yboht, bowght, (bout), 4-5 boghte, bojte, (y-)boujte, (5 ybought), 5-6 boughte, (6 bouht, bowte, beyght), 5- bought, Sc. bocht.*

[OE. *bycg(e)an, bohte, geboht*, corresp. to OS. *buggan, *bohta, giboht*, Goth. *bugjan, bauhta, bauhts*; of unknown origin, not found outside Teut., and not to be connected, so far as can be seen, with the stem *bug-*. Bow. The inflexion was imper. *byge, bygað*; ind. pres. *byge, bygest, bygeþ, pl. bygað*; subj. pres. *byge, bygen*; whence ME. *s. w. buye, buggeþ; bugge, buyest, buyep, buggeþ; bugge, -en*; levelled before 1500 to *buy-* all through, whence the modern spelling. The forms in *begge, bey-* were Kentish; *bigge, bie, by*, midland and north; in the latter the levelling to *bie, by*, took place as early as 1300. Cf. the comp. *ABY, ABYE*. In the *pa. t.* of this vb., the terminations were added without connecting vowel: WGer. *bak-ta* has the regular OTeut. *o* for *w* before an *a*-vowel, as in *workta*, from *wurkjan*, OE. *wyrcan* to work.]

1. *trans.* To get possession of by giving an equivalent, usually in money; to obtain by paying a price; to purchase. (Correlative to *sell*.) Const. of, from, † at (the seller), for, with (the price).

c 1000 *Ag. Gosp. Matt.* xxvii. 7 *pa* gebohten hig ænne æcyr, mid pam feo. *Ibid.* John iv. 8 His leorning-cnihtas ferdon *pa* to þære ceastre woldon him mete bigzan. 1154 *O. E. Chron.* (Laud MS.) an. 1137 *Pe* Judeus of Noruic bohten an Christen cild. a 1240 *Ureisan in Cott. Hom.* 185 *Nis* he fol chapman *pe* bep deore a wac þing. 1297 *R. GLOUC.* 390 *Bu* a payre (those) of a marc. a 1300 *Cursor M.* 4764 *pai* moght noht find to bi pam bred. 1340 *Ayenb.* 36 *To*

begge . . corn . . lesse *be* *pe* haluedele, *banne* hit his worþ. c 1380 *Wyclif Serm.* lviii. Sel. Wks. I. 177 Men shulden not bie his office. 1393 *LANGL. P. Pl. C. ix.* 304 *Ich* haue no peny . . poletes for to bigge. c 1400 *MAUNDEV.* ii. 12 *A kyng* of France boughte these Relikes . . of the Jewes. c 1400 *Apok. Loll.* 9 *Wan* I by meit for money, I selle *pe* money *pat* *be* toker man bieth. c 1400 *Pallad.* i. 1065 *To* *be*thi been (*i. e.* bees) beholde hem riche and fulle. c 1430 *Freemasonry* 358 *Pay* wele every mon algate, That thou hast ybowjht any vtyayles ate. c 1440 *AGNES PASTON in Lett.* xxv. I. 39 *Gif* ye wolde byin her a goune. c 1449 *PECOCK Repr.* 493 It was not leful that men ete fleisch which was offrid to idols neither bigge thilk fleisch. 1476 *Plumpton Corr.* 37 Under a hundred shillings I can by non. 1502-3 in *Comm. Place Bk.* 15th Cent. (1886) 173 Item bowte of Roger Cawthaw . . v. cumbe berly. 1545 *BRINKLOW Lament.* (1874) 99 *No* man will bye their ware any more. 1580 *BARET Adv.* B. 1000 *Be* the price neuer so great it is well bought that a man must needs haue. 1597 *SHAKS. 2 Hen. IV.* i. ii. 56, I bought him in *Pauls*, and hee I buy mee a horse in *Smithfield*. 1714 *LADY M. W. MONTAGUE Lett.* xc. 146 *To* . . buy some little Cornish borough. 1790 *BURKE Fr. Rev.* Wks. V. 346 With you a man can neither earn nor buy his dinner, without a speculation. 1835 *TENNYSON Brook* 222 *We* bought the farm we tenanted before.

b. *absol.* (Often coupled with *sell*.)

c 1000 *Ag. Gosp. Matt.* xxv. 10 *pa* hig ferdun and woldon byczean, *pa* com se byrd-guma. c 1300 *Trin. Coll. Hom.* 213 *pat* is ure alre wune, *pe* biggeð and silleð. 1340 *HAMPOLE Pr. Cons.* 4399 *Nan* sal bye with pam ne selle. c 1386 *CHAUCER Schipm.* T. 304 This marchaund . . bieth, and creauceth. 1483 *Cath. Angl.* 301 *To* by and selle, *auctionari.* c 1538 *STARKE England* ii. i. 175 *He* that Byth dere, may sel dere. 1755 *SMOLLETT Quix.* (1803) I. 233 *He* that buys and denies, his own purse belies. 1863 *Mrs. C. CLARKE Shaks. Char.* xiv. 360 *Pestering* her swain to buy for her.

c. *intr.* To buy into (earlier also *in*, prep.): to buy a commission in (a regiment); to purchase stock in (the public funds), shares in (a trading company).

1681 *Treat. East-India Trade* 11, I. . . had rather buy in this Stock . . at 300 l. for 100 l. than come into any New Stock at even Money. 1849 *Blackw. Mag.* LXVI. 671 The man who buys into a public stock.

d. *trans.* Of things: To be an equivalent price for; to be the means of purchasing.

1599 *SHAKS. Much Ado* i. i. 183 Can the world buie such a jewel? 1622 *MALYNES Auc. Law-Merch.* 87 *A* London mingled colour cloth, would haue bought at *Lisborne* two chests of Sugar. 1691 *LOCKE Wks.* (1727) II. 67 *If* one Ounce of Silver will buy, *i. e.* is of equal value to one Bushel of Wheat. *Mod. Health* is a treasure that gold cannot buy. It was his wife's money that bought the farm.

2. *fig.* To obtain, gain, procure, in exchange for something else, or by making some sacrifice.

c 1175 *Lamb. Hom.* 137 *Denne* bið þes monnes wile iðeht mid þere emisse. a 1225 *Ankr. R.* 190 *Worldliche* men buggeð deorre helle, þen 3e doð heuene. c 1250 *Moral Ode* 65 in *Cott. Hom.* 163 *Ech* mon mid þæt he haueþ mei buggen houene riche. a 1307 *Prov. Hendyng* xxix, *Dere* is boþt *pe* hony þat is licket of *pe* þorne, quoth Hendyng. 1430 *LYDG. Chron. Troy* i. vi. *No* honor may be wonne, But that I muste with my deth it beye. 1513 *DOUGLAS Eneis* x. viii. 157 *Desyrand* he mycht by for mekill thing That he had neyrt tuchtit *Pallas* 3ing. 1571 *ASCHAM Scholem.* (Arb.) 155 *By*uyng witte at the dearest hand, that is, by long experience of the hurt and shame that cummeth of mischeif. 1667 *MILTON P. L.* iv. 102 Short intermission bought with double smart. 1813 *SCOTT Rokeby* i. x. Forced the embarrassed host to buy *By* query close, direct reply. 1866 *KINGSLEY Herem.* xviii. (1877) 222 *A* war which could buy them neither spoil nor land.

† 3. To pay the penalty of, suffer the consequences of, 'pay for'; to expiate, atone for; = *ABY* *v.* 2 (of which it was probably an aphetic form: cf. *BYE* *v.*). Often with *dear*; sometimes with *bitter, sore*; and in phrase, to buy the bargain.

c 1250 *Gen. & Ex.* 3683 *Dat* gruching haueu he derre bojt. a 1300 *Cursor M.* 1115 And [god] will *pat* he bil *pe* vitrage. 1330 *R. BRUNNE Chron.* 61 *Griffyn* . . was proued traitoure fals; & *pat* bought he fulle dere. 1393 *LANGL. P. Pl. C. xvi.* 304 *Now* he buyep hit ful bitere. 14240 *Morte Arth.* (Roxb.) 66 *His* dedis shall be bought full sore. c 1400 *MAUNDEV.* vii. 76 *In* tokene that the Synnes of *Adam* scholde ben boughte in that same place. 1530 *PALSGR.* 455/1, I bye the bargain, or I fele the hurte or displeasure of a thyng. a 1553 *UDALL Royster D.* (Arb.) 72 *Let* them the bargain bie. 1556 *J. HEYWOOD Spider & F.* lvii. 87 *Then* is that bitter beyght. 1597 *TURBERV. Trag. T.* (1837) 154 *Whether* they Did buie their marriage deare. 1599 *GREENE George a Gr.* (1861) 263, I will make thee by this treason dear. c 1615 *CHAPMAN Odys.* iv. 664 *Twill* not long be . . Before thou buy this curious skill with tears.

† b. *In pass.* Of an offence: To be expiated or 'visited' upon (the offender). *Obs. rare.*

a 1300 *Cursor M.* 13849 And qua þis couenand haldes noht *pat* it be dere apou him boght.

† 4. To set free by paying a price; to redeem, ransom; esp. *fig.* in *Theol.* to redeem (from sin, hell, etc.). *Obs. exc.* in theological use, and in that now rather a conscious metaphor from 1; *redeem* being the ordinary word for this sense.

c 1175 *Lamb. Hom.* 19 *Pet* *pet* ear us bohte deore. a 1300 *Hymn to God in Trin. Coll. Hom.* 258 *He* vs bouchte wið his blod of *pe* feondes wiche. a 1300 *E. Psalter* cxxix. (cxxx.) 8 And he sal bie (*v. r.* bien) *Israel* of alle his wicednesses. *Ibid.* xxv(i). 11 *Bye* me, and of me haue merci. a 1300 *Cursor M.* 152 *He* com his folk to bij. *Ibid.* 6173 *Mans* barn wit pris he bought. *Ibid.* 9598 *For* to bij his prisun vite. 1375 *BARBOUR Bruce* xvii. 336 *Phyl.* That bare the byrth that all can by. 1377 *LANGL. P. Pl. B.* xi. 202 *Redemptor* was his name, And we his bretheren, þourgh hym ybought.

c 1400 *MAUNDEV. Prol.* 2 *To* bye and to delyvere us from *Paynes* of Helle. 1413 *LYDG. Pylgr. Sowle* iv. xiii. (1483) 63 *He* that hath mysdone hath no thyng wherwith to byen hym seluen. 1534 *MORE On the Passion* Wks. 1325/1 *By* hys payne to . . bye our soules from payne. 1558 *ASR. HAMILTON Catech.* 95 *Quhilk* has bocht us with his precious blude. 1633 *F. FLETCHER Purple Isl.* i. xxxii, Who bought 'st man, whom man (though God) did sell. 1709 *WATTS Hymn.* 'I [We] give immortal praise, God the Son . . who bought us with his blood. 1836 *J. GILBERT Chr. Atonem.* vi. (1852) 172 *So* far from mercy having been properly purchased for us, mercy herself buys us.

b. To gain over, engage (a person) by money or otherwise (to or to do something); usually in bad sense, to hire. *arch.* (Cf. *buy off*, 7 a; *buy over*, 9.)

1654 *Free State comp. Monarchy* 1, (1) did . . lay out . . the poore Talent God intrusted me with, to buy them to the waies of Peace. 1655-60 *STANLEY Hist. Philos.* (1701) 88/1 One that for a Drachm might be bought into any. 1697 *DRYDEN Virg. Georg.* iv. 573 *Not* is [he] with *Prays*, or *Bribes*, or *Flattery* bought. 1713 *ADDISON Cato* ii. ii. 57 Millions of worlds Should never buy me to be like that *Cesar*. 1876 *MORLEY Diderot* II. 121 *She* did her best . . to buy the author.

II. Phrases and combinations.

* Combined with adverbs.

6. *Buy in.*

a. *trans.* To collect a stock of (commodities) by purchase; often in expressed or implied opposition to *sell out*. Often *absol.*

1622 *E. MISSELDEN Free Trade* 71 *Some* . . few . . doe ioine to engrosse and buy in a Commodity, and sell it out againe at their owne price. 1668 *SANDERSON Two Serm.* at *St. Paul's* i. 36 *To* buy in provision for his house. 1861 *Times* 16 Oct., Many farmers buy in ewes in autumn.

b. To buy back for the owner, esp. at an auction when no sufficient price has been offered.

1642 *SIR E. DERING Sp. on Relig.* 161 *Impropriations* may be bought in. 1770 *WILKES Corr.* (1805) IV. 31 *Mrs. Macaulay* bought-in herself the house in *Berners-street*. a 1845 *Hood Sniff. Birthday* xvi, *Let* *Robins* advertise . . My 'Man's Estate', I'm sure enough I shall not buy it in.

c. (*absol.* from 1 c.) To buy a commission in a regiment; to purchase stock or shares.

1806 *DISRAELI Viv. Grey* iii. viii. 124 *Young Premium*, the son of the celebrated loan-monger, has bought in. 1849 *Fraser's Mag.* XL. 606 *The* . . capitalist reappeared on the Bourse; buying in cautiously for the rise.

7. *Buy off.*

a. *trans.* To induce (a person) by payment, to relinquish a claim, a course of action, etc.; to get rid of (a claim, a person's opposition or interference) by paying money to the claimant or opponent. Often *fig.*

1609 *EARLE Microcosm.* lxvii. (Arb.) 91 *One* whom no rate can buy off from the least piece of his freedom. 1851 *Ht. MARTINEAU Hist. Eng.* i. iv. (1878) 89 *Buying* off the Prince's claim for the revenues of the Duchy of Cornwall. 1865 *TRENCH Gust. Adolphus* ii. 65 *To* buy off the presence of troops by enormous gifts to their captains. 1868 *FREEMAN Norm. Cong.* (1876) II. ix. 408 *Gruffydd* was perhaps bought off in this way.

b. To release from military service by payment.

Mod. He has enlisted, but his friends will buy him off.

8. *Buy out.*

† a. *trans.* To ransom, redeem. *Obs.*

1297 *R. GLOUC.* 496 *Hor* maistres hom out bouste. c 1440 *Gesta Rom.* (1879) 306 *This* yong man wrote to his fadir, praying him to bey him out (of prison). 1590 *SHAKS. Com. Err.* i. ii. 5 *Not* being able to buy out his life. 1633 *Br. Hall Hard Texts* 291 *By* whom wee are . . bought out from the bondage of sin.

b. To purchase a person's estate, or share in any concern, and so to turn (him) out of it.

1297 *R. GLOUC.* 379 *So* *pat* hii *pat* bode meste brost out monyon . . me bojte (*v. r.* broute) ys out wyþ wozl. 1644 *J. Goodwin Danger Fight. agst. God* 26 *By* buying out some Inhabitant, or by purchasing ground. 1840 *BARHAM Ingol. Leg. Ser. L.* (1858) 77 *A* Yeoman of Kent, With his yearly rent, Will buy them out all three! 1885 *Spectator* 25 July 967/1 *In* so far as the landlords are bought out.

c. To get rid of or remove (any kind of liability) by a money payment.

1595 *SHAKS. John* III. i. 164 *Dreading* the curse that money may buy out. 1596 *SHAKS. 1 Hen. IV.* iv. ii. 24 *They* haue bought out their seruices. 1808 *LD. GRENVILLE Sink. Fund* 42 *A* landed proprietor . . buys out . . a rent-charge with which it [his estate] is burthened. 1885 *Law Reports* 14 *Queen's B. Div.* 875 *Money* paid in order to buy out the execution.

9. *Buy over.*

trans. To gain over by a payment or bribe.

1848 *Blackw. Mag.* LXIV. 630 *Attempting* to buy over their chiefs? 1860 *FREER Henry IV.* I. i. l. 9 [He] had bought the soldiers over to a man. 1877 *MISS BRADDON Weavers & W.* 328 *He* . . bought over the lodging-house keeper to his interest.

10. *Buy up* [cf. *heap up, scrape up*].

To purchase with the aim of amassing in one's own hands or taking up out of the market (a stock, or the whole of any commodity).

1533-4 *Act* 25 *Hen. VIII.* iv, *They* bie vp all maner of fishe thither brought. 1548 *UDALL Erasmus. Apoph.* 250 b, *Augustus* . . meruaillyng at the same thyng in a pye, bought hir vp also. 1593 *NASHE Christ's T.* (1613) 107 *Them* . . that would buy them vp by the whole sale, and make them away againe by retails. 1622 *E. MISSELDEN Free Trade* 56 *Another* who bought vp all the Iron in *Sicilia*. 1624 *GEZ Foot out of Snare* 48 *The* most of these Books . . were bought-vp by *Papists*. 1667 *PERVS Diary* (1879) IV. 269 *Buying* up of goods in case there should be war. 1701 *W. WOTTON Hist. Rome* 214 *Cleander* had bought up all the

Corn. 1867 R. PATTERSON in *Fortn. Rev.* July 77 An. appeal to the State to buy up all the railways in the kingdom. 1874 STRASS *Const. Hist.* I. xiii. 630 John. was buying up help on every side.

* * Phrases.

11. **† a. To buy and sell:** to barter, traffic with (in bad sense). *Obs.* or *arch.*

1613 SHAKS. *Hen. VIII.* i. i. 192 The Cardinall Does buy and sell his Honour as he pleases.

b. **To be bought and sold:** often *fig.*, chiefly in sense To be betrayed for a bribe. *arch.*

a 1300 *Cursor M.* 142 How þat ioseph was boght and sold. 1426 AUDELEY *Poems* 4 Sche schal be boyt and sold. 1594 SHAKS. *Rich. III.* v. iii. 305 Dickon thy maister is bought and sold. 1791 BURNS *Such a Parcel of Rogues*, 4c. iii. We're bought and sold for English gold. 1864 TENNYSON *Ringlet* 33 She that gave you's bought and sold.

12. **To buy a pig (in Scotl. a cat) in a poke:** (Fr. *acheter chat en poche*) to purchase something which one has not examined; hence, to enter into an engagement in ignorance of the responsibilities incurred.

1564 J. HEYWOOD *Prov. & Epigr.* (1867) 80 Ye loue not to bye the pyg in the poke. 1573 TUSSEY *Husb.* (1878) 16. 1611 COTGR. s.v. *Sac*. To buy a Pig in a poake (say we); to bargain vnaudisedly or hand over head. 1821 SOUTHEY *Lett.* (1856) III. 252. 1882 *The Garden* 7 Oct. 313/2 Timidly buying... a pig-in-a-poke cheap collection.

13. **To buy over a person's head:** to buy for a higher price, to outbid.

1682 WHEELER *Journ. Greece* II. 195 The Bishops are always buying it over one another's heads.

14. **To buy a brush:** = BRUSH v. 1 3. (*slang*.)

1699 B. E. *Dict. Cant. Crew*, Let's buy a Brush, let us scour off. 1725 in *New Cant. Dict.*

Buy, buze, var. of BEY v. Obs., to bend.

Buyable (bɔi'əb'l), a. That can be bought.

1283 *Cath. Angl.* 31 Byabyll, empticus. 1837 CARLYLE *Fr. Rev.* II. i. ii. 11 The spiritual fire which is in that man... is not buyable or saleable. 1848 *Tail's Mag.* XV. 351 Flagrantly venal—buyable, saleable, for any purpose.

† **Buyal.** *Obs. rare*—1. [f. BUY v. + -AL 2; cf. *trial*, etc.] Act of buying, purchase.

1612 SHELTON *Quix.* III. xiii. Not the Buyal of the Horses, but that of his Delights. had moved Don Ferdinando.

Buyer (bɔi'ə). Forms: 3 *beger*, *beggere*, 3-5 *bier*, 3-6 *bier*, 4 *byzer*, -ar, *begger*, *byggere*, 4-5 *bigger*, *bugger* (e), *byar*, 5 *byare*, 5-7 *byer*, 6 *buier*, 6- *buyer*. [f. BUY v. + -ER 1.]

1. One who buys, a purchaser.

c 1200 *Trin. Coll. Hom.* 213 Þe sullere loueþ his þing dene. De beger bet litel þar fore. a 1300 *Cursor M.* 14730 Bath best and bier vte he best. a 1400 E. E. *Gilds* 359 To don treweleche þe assys to be sellere and to be byggere. 1480 CAXTON *Descr. Brit.* 13 The byars and sellars that ben at london. 1577 HOLINSHED *Chron.* II. 351/1 He came here as a bier, not as a beggar. 1855 MACAULAY *Hist. Eng.* (1876) III. ix. 223 A market place swarming with buyers and sellers. 1872 *Veats Growth Comm.* 99 The towns of Lombardy were active buyers of Eastern commodities.

b. *Spec.* One employed by a mercantile house to conduct the purchase of goods.

1884 *Manch. Exam.* 18 Sept. 5/3 He was a buyer under this firm. 1895 *Ibid.* 20 May 4/7 The prisoner represented himself as buyer to Messrs. Huntley and Palmer.

† 2. = *redeemer*. *Obs.*

a 1300 E. E. *Psalter* cxviii. [ix.] 15 Laverd... mi bier un-to blisse. c 1380 WYCLIF *Sel. Wks.* III. 12 Jesus Crist, bier of mankynde.

Buying (bɔi'ɪŋ), *vbl. sb.* [f. BUY v. + -ING 1.]

1. The action of the verb BUY; purchase.

a 1225 *Anscr. R.* 362 Me ne mei... nout two þongede sceon habben, wíðuten byggunge. c 1380 WYCLIF *Wks.* (1880) 25 Þei han desceyved hem in bynyng of here catel. 1509-10 *Act. Hen. VIII.* xx. § 1 That they coste at the firste bynyng or achate. 1558 in Turner *Sel. Rec. Oxford* 60 Buyings and sellings by retaile. 1713 *Guardian* No. 76 ¶ 12 We never have so good a revenue by buying as by lending. 1816 JANE AUSTEN *Emma* II. iii. 150 Going on with their buyings.

b. *Attrib.*

a 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 26 Bynyng place, or place of bynyng, emptiorum. 1797 DE FOE *Eng. Tradesm.* (1841) I. viii. 58 His buying-part requires... a good judgment. 1803 *Pall Mall G.* 30 Nov. 5/2 Buying orders were received.

† 2. *Theol.* Redemption. *Obs.*

a 1300 E. E. *Psalter* cxxix. [xxx.] 7 At Laverd it es merci, Fulli bynyng at him. c 1325 *Metr. Hom.* (1862) 22 Your bynyng... Ful ner cumen tilward you es. c 1380 WYCLIF *Serm.* xxvii. *Sel. Wks.* I. 69 Your bigginge is nyze. c 1420 N. LOVE *Bonaventur's Life Christ* lxii. (Gibbs MS. f. 119) He suffrede for our redempcioun and bynyng.

Buyl, *obs. form of BOIL sb.*

Buyld (e), *obs. form of BUILD.*

Buyrne, variant of *BERNE*, *Obs.*, hero, man.

Buyrsch, **Buyrschel**, *obs. ff. BUSH, BUSHEL.*

† **Buyrsine**, *Obs.* Also 4 *bosyne*, 5 *buys*-(s)yne, 5-6 *bussyne*, 6 *bussynne*, *bussyne*. [a. OF. *bosine*, *buisine* trumpet, clarion, ad. L. *buccina*.] A trumpet.

1340 *Ayrb.* 137 Þe ilke orible bosyne him went to þe yeare: 'com to þine dome'. 1475 CAXTON *Yason* 20 Jason did do sowne... cornes sarasins, buyrsines and other instruments. 1490 — *Eneydos* xlvi. 141 Thenne beganne the buyrsynes and the trompettes for to blowe. c 1530 LD. BERNERS *Artik. Lyr. Bryt.* (1814) 232 Than began hornes and buyrsynes to blowe. c 1532 — *Huon* 472 The noyse of hornes and buyrsynes.

Buyste, var. of *BUIST*, *Obs.*, a box.

Buyssy, *obs. form of BUSY.*

Buz, var. of *BUZZ* in various senses.

Buze (bi'uz). *rare*—0. [a. F. *buse* of same meaning.] A wooden or leaden pipe to convey air into mines.

1803 in *CRABB Techn. Dict.* 1881 in *WORCESTER.*

Buzz (bʊz), *sb.* 1. Also 7 *busse*, 8 *Sc. bizz*, 7-*buz*. [f. BUZZ v. 1.]

1. A sibilant hum, such as is made by bees, flies, and other winged insects.

1645 MILTON *Colast. Wks.* (1851) 348 A Reply to the buzze of such a Drones nest. 1707 WOLCOTT (P. Pindar) *Sir T. Banks & Emp. Morocco* 20 Prodigious was the buz about his ears. 1808 ALLEN & PERPINS in *Phil. Trans.* XCVIII. 262 That buzz in the ears which is noticed in breathing nitrous oxide. 1878 GILDER *Poet & Master* 17 The honey bees swarm by with buzz and boom.

2. *Transf.* The confused or mingled sound made by a number of people talking or busily occupied; busy talk, 'hum'; hence, a condition of busy activity, stir, ferment.

1627 FELTHAM *Resolves* I. xv. Wks. (1677) 23 The frothy buzze of the world. 1629 FORD *Lover's Mel.* IV. ii. (1839) 17 The buzz of drums, and minerals and simples. 1647 COWLEY *Mistr.* i. (1669) 22 The Crowd, and Buzz, and Murmurs Of this great Hive, the City. 1678 RYMER *Trag. Last Age* *Consid.* 13 All the buzz in Athens was now about virtue. 1712 ADDISON *Spect.* No. 403 ¶ 3, I found the whole... Room in a Buzz of Politics. 1760 MRS. DELANY *Autobiog.* (1861) III. 604 The buzz and bustle of unpacking. 1805 SOUTHEY *Madoc in W. viii.* The clamour and the buzz Ceased. 1824 CARLYLE *W. Meister* (1874) I. II. xi. 111 A buzz of joyful approbation. 1855 MACAULAY *Hist. Eng.* IV. 549 A buzz of conversation. 1875 BLACKMORE *Maid of Sk.* lviii. 388 My brain was in a buzz.

3. *fig.* a. A groundless fancy, whim, 'fad': (cf. BEER 5.) *Obs.* b. A busy rumour.

1605 SHAKS. *Learn* I. iv. 348 On euerie dreame, Each buz, each fancie. 1612 CHAPMAN *Widowes T.* Wks. 1873 III. 24 'Twas but a buzz devised by him. 1639 FULLER *Holy War* II. xli. (1840) 106 This suspicion... though at first but a buzz, soon got a sting in the king's head. 1646 BUCK *Rich. III.* III. 103 Buzes and quaint devises, to amaze the people. 1656 FINNETT *For. Ambass.* 13 Some new buz gotten into his Braine. 1825 COBBETT *Rur. Rides* 23 A sort of buz got about.

4. Short for *buzz-saw*; see 5.

1823 *Mechanic's Mag.* No. 7. 108 The Shakers sometimes made use of what he called a buzz to cut iron. He made a circular plate of soft sheet-iron, and put it in his lathe, which gave it a very rapid rotary motion.

5. *Comb.*, as *buzz-fly*, a fly that buzzes, ? a blue-bottle; *buzz-saw*, a circular saw.

1848 E. LEATHAM *Charmione* (1858) I. 250 A great greedy buzzfly. 1868 *Pall Mall G.* 1843/2 The only food for buzzflies. 1880 *Sat. Rev.* 31 July 142 The characteristic and picturesque Americanism for a circular saw—'a buzz saw'.

Buzz, *sb.* 2 [perh. onomatopoeic, with the general sense of 'loose down', 'flocky substance': cf. FUZZ, and BUZZY a 2. In sense 1 the dialectical buzz may really be for *burrs*: cf. the s.w. *vuzzes*, *vuzzen*, pl. of *vuzz* = *furze*, in OE. and ME. *fyrz*.]

1. The rough setose or pilose seed-vessel of a plant, a bur. 'In Suffolk the seeds of certain plants which are easily detached and stick to clothes are universally called *buzzes*; "bur" not being in popular use'. F. Hall. (So in the east and south of England generally.) In quot. 1612 it has been explained as the globular seeding head of the dandelion and similar plants.

1612 FIELD *Wom. is Weathercock* II. i. in Hazl. *Dodsley* II. 37 All your virtues are like the buzzes growing in the fields. 1877 *Holderness Gloss.* (E. D. S.) *Buzzes*, the burrs of the teal.

2. A downy land-beetle (*Rhizotrogus solstitialis* Latr.) used as bait; the artificial 'fly' made in imitation of it.

1760 *Complete Angler*, App. 121 Marlow Buzz. 1799 G. SMITH *Laborat.* II. 311 Buzz-brown. Dubbing, of the light-brown hair of a cur. 1851 H. NEWLAND *Erne* 205 Black and red buzzes. 1867 F. FRANCIS *Angling* (1876) 267 The best land-beetles are the... Marlow buzz, or fern-webb.

b. quasi-adv. With or like a 'buzz'.

1867 F. FRANCIS *Angling* vi. (1880) 207 All buzz dressed flies. *Ibid.* 216 To dress the fly hackle fashion, or buzz, as it is termed.

Buzz (bʊz), *sb.* 3 Only *attrib.* [? Short f. BUSBY; or related to prec.; cf. *bush*, *fuzz*, and 'Sergeant Buzfuz' in Pickwick.]

1. Epithet of a large bushy wig. Also in comb. *buzz-wig*, a person wearing such a wig; 'a bigwig'.

1798 [see 2]. 1816 SCOTT *Antiq.* xvii. The reverend gentleman was equipped in a buzz wig. 1826 MISS MITFORD *Village Ser.* II. (1863) 357 note. The full swelling burly buzz wig. 1854 DE QUINCEY *Sp. Mil. Nun Wks.* III. 69 Whom the old Spanish buzzwigs doated on. 1859 W. IRVING in *Life* IV. 283 Old Dr. Rodgers with his buzz wig.

2. *transf.* (See quot.)

1798 *Anti Jacobin* 22 Jan. (1852) 47 Parr's buzz prose. *Foot-note*. This is an elegant metonymy... Buzz is an epithet usually applied to a large wig. It is here used for swelling, burly, bombastic writing.

Buzz (bʊz), *v.* 1 Forms: 6-7 *busse*, *busse*, 6-*buz*, 7-*buzz*, *Sc. bizz*. [From the sound.]

1. *intr.* To make the humming sibilant sound characteristic of bees and other insects; to fly out, in, etc. with such a sound.

1398 [see BUZZING *vbl. sb.* 1]. 1530 PALSCR. 473/1 Harke how this fleshe flye busseth. 1556 J. HEYWOOD *Spider & F.* lviii. 241 As if ten millions of flies had been buzzing. 1604 T.

WRIGHT *Passions* vi. 334 Winds do buzze about it. 1613 SHAKS. *Hen. VIII.* III. ii. 55 Wasps that buz about his Nose. 1709 SWIFT *Triton's Ess.* Wks. 1755 II. i. 142 Flies... buz... about the candle, till they burn their wings. 1790 BURNS *Tam O'Shanter*, As bees buzz out wi' angry fyke. 1800 W. IRVING *Sketch Book* II. 280 A fly cannot buzz without startling his repose. 1833 M. SCOTT *Tom Cringle* xviii. The water was buzzing under our bows. 1879 JEFFERIES *Wild Life in S.C.* 202 If a humble-bee buzzes in at the window.

2. *fig.* To flutter or hover (*about, over*) like a buzzing insect; to move about busily.

1640 T. GOODWIN *Wks.* (1862) IV. 200 Terrors of conscience would buz about a man. 1666 *View Crt. St. Germain* in *Select. Jr. Harl. Misc.* (1793) 556 The priest was always buzzing about him. 1710-11 SWIFT *Lett.* (1767) III. 81 Boys and wenches buzzing about the take-shops like flies. 1712 ADDISON *Spect.* No. 439 ¶ 2 Those voluntary Informers that are buzzing about the Ears of a great Man. 1748 RICHARDSON *Clarissa* (1811) I. xvii. 122 While this man... buzzes about you.

3. To speak indistinctly, mutter, murmur busily. (Usually somewhat contemptuous.) *arch.*

1555 *Fardle Facions* I. vi. 93 They... sieme rather to busse or churre betwene the tiethen then to speake. 1586 FERNE *Blas. Gentry* 22 Bussing like a preacher. 1588 SHAKS. *Tit. A.* IV. iv. 7 How euer these disturbers of our peace Buz in the peoples eares. c 1645 HOWELL *Lett.* (1650) II. *The Vote*, My Muse... Did softly buz: 'Then let me somthing bring', etc. 1886 *Tinsley's Mag.* Sept. 227 [He] sat by my side and buzzed in my ear.

b. To make the indistinct murmuring sound or 'hum' produced by a large number of people talking; to talk busily. (Also said of the place in which such talking is going on.)

1822 L. HUNT *Sir R. Esher* (1850) 98 The court buzzed like gnats in the sunshine. 1855 BROWNING *Old Pict.* in *Flor.* vii. The Michaels and Rafaeis, you hum and buzz Round the works of. 1879 FARRAR *St. Paul* (1883) 385 The Agora buzzed with inquiring chatter.

c. Said of the sound or words so uttered.

1848 LYTTON *Harold* III. iii. A murmur buzzed through the hall. 1879 DIXON *Windsor* II. viii. 85 A whisper buzzed about the Castle that an ugly deed was likely to be done.

4. *trans.* To tell in a low murmur or whisper, to communicate privately and busily. (Occas. with noun-sentence as obj., introduced by *that*.) *arch.*

1583 STUBBS *Anat. Abus.* (1877) 36 Having buzzed his venomous suggestions into their eares. 1609 SIR G. PAULE *Abp. Whitgift* 9 Buzzing these conceits into the heads of diuers young preachers. 1625 FLETCHER *Noble Gent.* I. i. To undermine me And buz love into me. 1748 RICHARDSON *Clarissa* I. xxxvi. 242 My brother continually buzzing in my father's ears that my cousin would soon arrive. 1879 FARRAR *St. Paul* (1883) 278 Buzzing their venomous slanders into the ears of these country people.

5. To spread as a rumour, with whispering or busy talk.

1616 PURCHAS *Pilgr., Descr. India* (1864) 30 Buzzing the neerensse and Greatnesse of the Kings power. 1639 FULLER *Holy War* IV. xx. (1840) 216 A bruit constantly buzzed. 1723 STEELE *Cons. Lovers* I. i. I soon heard it buzz'd about, she was the daughter of a famous Sea-Officer. 1752 FIELDING *Amelia* II. iii. Our amour had already been buzzed all over the town. 1859 J. LANG *Wand. India* 403 It was very soon 'buzzed about' who was the artist. 1863 GEO. ELIOT *Romola* I. xvi. (1880) I. 234 Stories... beginning to be buzzed about.

6. To utter with buzzing; to express by buzzing.

1763 *Brit. Mag.* IV. 548 All... buz the same insipid strain. 1854 THACKERAY *Newcomers* I. 9 The professional gentlemen hummed and buzzed a sincere applause. 1855 LONGF. *Hiau.* xvii. 8 He buzzed and muttered words of anger. 1863 MRS. OLIPHANT *Salem Ch.* 107 The deacons buzzed approbation.

† 7. With person as obj.: To whisper to, suggest to, tell privately; to incite by suggestions. *Obs.* 1637 BASTWICK *Litany* II. 27 They all buzze Nobles and Princes in the eare, that, etc. 1665 *Surv. Aff. Netherl.* 162 The nicities of Priviledges and Liberty... shall buzze the people... to Mutinies. 1692 WAGSTAFFE *Vind. Carol.* III. 83 They... buzze the people, that it was done with the Kings Privity.

8. Other trans. uses. *rare.*

a. To assail, din, or molest by buzzing.

1679 DRYDEN *Tr. & Cr.* I. i. Having his Ears buzz'd with his noisy Fame. 1683 BARNARD *Heylin* 30 That swarm like Gnats and Flies to buzz the Head. 1884 A. A. PUTNAM 10 *Yrs. Police Judge* xiii. 155 He has... been badgered, buzzed, and besieged.

b. To move with buzzing; to cause to buzz.

1820 KEATS *Lamia* II. 13 Love... Hover'd and buzz'd his wings. 1865 G. MEREDITH *Farina* 74 The stranger buzzed his moustache in a pause of cool pity.

Buzz (bʊz), *v.* 2 Also *busza*, *buz*.

trans. To finish to the last drop in the bottle.

1705 GROSE *Dict. Vulgar Tong.* s.v. *Busza*, To Busza one, is to challenge him to pour out all the wine in the bottle into his glass, undertaking to drink it, should it prove more than the glass would hold. 1817 PRACOCK *Melincourt* II. 28 Buz the bottle. The Baronet has a most mathematical eye... buzzed to a drop. 1848 THACKERAY *Van. Fair* xxiv. Get some more port... whilst I buzz this bottle. 1848 *Blackw. Mag.* LXIII. 366 Busza that jug... and touch the bell for another.

Buzz, *v.* 3 *Thieves' cant.* Cf. BUZZER 2, BUZZING *vbl. sb.* 2.

1812 J. H. VAUX *Flash Dict.*, *Buz*, to buz a person is to pick his pocket.

† **Buzz**, *int.* *Obs.* Also *buz*, *buszo*.

a. Said in the Variorum Shakspeare (1803) to have been a common exclamation (of impatience or contempt) when any one was telling a well-known story; Schmidt and others say 'a sound to com-

mand silence'. b. Attributed to conjurers = 'hey, presto', etc.

1608 SHAKS. *Ham.* II. ii. 412 *Pol.* The Actors are come hither my Lord. *Ham.* Buzz, buzz. 1608 MIDDLETON *Mad World* v. i. 93 She was married yesterday. *Sir B. Buz!* 1610 B. JONSON *Alch.* I. ii. Cry hum, Thrise; and then buz, as often. 1654 SELDEN *Table-T.*, *Witches* (Arb.) 117 If one should profess that by turning his Hat thrice, and crying Buz; he could take away a man's life. 1830 SCOTT *Demonol.* 226 Wave his hat and cry Buzz!

Buzza, var. of **Buzz** v.2

Buzzar, obs. form of **Bazaab**.

Buzzard, sb.1 (bʊzəd). Forms: 3 buzzard, 4-6 bosarde, 5 bosard, buserde, (busherde), buserd, 5-7 bussard, 6 busarde, bussarde, (bousarde, basert), buzarde, bussarde, 6-7 buzzard, 7 buzzard, 7- buzzard, (Sc. 6 bissart, 8 biszard, 9 buzzart, dial. bussert). [a. OF. *buzart* = Pr. *buzart*; cf. the synonymous Pr. *buzac*, It. *bozzago*, *agro*, *abuzzago*, F. *buse* (16th c. in Littré). The mutual relation of these words is unknown; they are commonly assumed to be derived from L. *buteōn-em* of same meaning, but the process of formation is not evident.]

1. Name for the genus *Buteo* of birds of the falcon family, esp. *B. vulgaris*. Applied also, with defining words, to other birds belonging to the *Falconidae*: as *Bald Buzzard*, the Osprey, *Pandion haliaetus*; *Honey Buzzard*, *Pernis ptilorhynchus*; *Moor Buzzard*, *Circus aeruginosus*.

The buzzard was an inferior kind of hawk, useless for falconry; hence app. sense 2. Cf. Fr. *buse* buzzard, also 'sot, ignorant, stupid', Boiste; 'imbecille' Littré. (The chronology appears to make it impossible to connect this sense with the next word.)

c. 1300 *K. Alis.* 3049 Nultou never. No faucon mak of bussard, No hardy knyght mak of coward. c. 1400 *Rom.* Rose 4033 Man may for no daunting Make a sperhauke of a bosarde. 1486 *Bk. St. Albans* Bij, An hauke that is brought vp vnder a Bussard or a Puttock. 1533 *Act 25 Hen. VIII.* xi. § 6 Crowes, choughes, rauons, and bosardes. 1594 SHAKS. *Rich. III.* i. 133 That the Eagles should be mew'd, Whiles Kites and Buzzards play at liberty. 1616 SURFL. & MARKH. *Countr. Farm* 715 The short winged hawks are, etc., some intrude the Bald Buzzard. a. 1734 *NORTH EXAM.* III. viii. p. 70. 638 An Historian and a Libeller are as different as Hawk and Buzzard. 1789 G. WHITE *Selborne* II. xli. (1853) 267 Kites and buzzards sail round in circles. 1839 STONEHOUSE *Asholme* 66 The moor buzzard still frequents the waste which surrounds Lindholme.

† b. *Between hawk and buzzard*: (see quot.).

1636 ABP. WILLIAMS *Holy Table* (1637) 226 [To] awake him thus between Hawk and Buzzard. 1666 *Jannua Ling.* § 146 (N.). *Between hawk and buzzard*, means between a good thing and a bad of the same kind: the hawk being the true sporting bird, the buzzard a heavy lazy fowl of the same species.

† 2. *fig.* A worthless, stupid, or ignorant person. Often with the adj. *blind*. Obs. exc. dial.

1377 LANGL. *P. Pl.* B. x. 266, I rede ech a blynde bosarde do bote to hym-selue. 1401 *Pol. Poems* (1859) II. 98 Thou blundyrst As a blynde buserde. 1549 LATIMER *Serm. bef. Eduw. VI* (Arb.) 36 Wo worth such counsellors, bishops, nay rather bussardes. 1571 ASCHAM *Scholem.* (Arb.) 111 Those blind bussardes, who... would neyther learne themselves, nor could teach others. 1654 GATAKER *Antinom.* 31 A company of... blind blundering bussardes. a. 1774 GOLDSM. *Nat. Hist.* (1862) II. ii. v. 49 It is common to a proverb, to call one who cannot be taught, or continues obstinately ignorant, a buzzard. 1807 W. IRVING *Salmag.* (1824) 101 That unlucky passage of Shakspeare which... has... puzzled... many a somniferous buzzard. 1888 SCOTT *Nigel* i.

3. *attrib.* or as *adj.* a. Of a buzzard; resembling a buzzard's...

1878 TENNYSON *Q. Mary* i. iv. 29 His buzzard beak and deep-incavern'd eyes Half fright me.

b. Senseless, stupid, 'blind'.

1598 CONSTABLE *Poems* v. (1859) 34 Lowe on the ground with buzzard Cupids wings. 1649 MILTON *Eikon.* I. Wks. (1847) 286/1 A buzzard idol. 1844 CARLYLE *Misc.* (1857) IV. 314 Ignorance and buzzard stupidity.

4. *Comb.* as *buzzard-blind*, *-like*, *adjs.*

1581 J. BELL *Haddon's Answ.* Osor. 179 Compare with this blynd Philosophy of Cicero, the Divinitie of Osorius in all respects as bussardlike. 1590 C. S. *Right Relig.* 9 Is anie man so bussardlike, or so blockishly blind? 1619 FLETCHER *M. Thomas* III. i. Do not anger me, For by this hand I'll beat the buzzard blind then.

Buzzard, sb.2, dial. [f. **Buzz** v.1 + -ARD.]

1. A name applied to various insects that fly by night, e.g. large moths and cockchafers. (Undoubted instances of its use in earlier times are wanting. Cf. **BUZZER**1.)

[Cf. SHAKS. *Tam. Shr.* II. 209, where there is perh. a play on this sense. Also, the following among other passages: 1654 GAYTON *Fest. Notes* 188 (N.) O owle! hast thou only kept company with bats, buzzards, and beetles in this long retirement in the desert.) 1835 HOOD *Ode to Graham*, They are wise that choose the near, A few small buzzards in the ear, To organs ages hence. 1875 *Lanc. Gloss.* (E. D. S.) 64 He's olez after buzzerts and things.

2. = **BUZZER**1 3.

1878 GROSART in *H. More's Poems* Index 211/1 The steam-whistle for calling the mill-operatives to work is named 'buzzard' in Lancashire (Blackburn).

Comb. buzzard-clock, a cockchafer.

1864 TENNYSON *North. Farm.* 18 An' [I] 'ceerd un a bum-min' awaay loike a buzzard-clock ower my yeäd. 1877 E.

PEACOCK *N.-W. Lincoln. Gloss.* (E. D. S.) *Buzzard-clock*, a kind of beetle; a cockchafer.

† **Buzzard**, v. Obs. [cf. **BUZZARD** sb.1 2.] ? To make a 'buzzard' of, puzzle completely, nonplus.

1604 MOUNTAGU *Immed. Adresse* 185 Baronius is plainly buzzarded in the point, and wisely concealing that which hee could not reconcile, passeth it out as in a dreame.

Buzzardet. [f. **BUZZARD**1 + -ET.] A hawk, resembling the buzzard, but having rather longer legs.

1784 PENNANT *Arctic Zool.* II. No. 109.

Buzzardism, *nonce-word*. Conduct resembling that of the buzzard; cowardice.

1659 *Lady Alimony* v. ii. in *Hazl. Doddsley* XIV. 357 All that puiene pen-feathered aerie of buzzardism and stanielry.

† **Buzzardly**, a. and adv. Obs. Also 6 *buzzardly*, *buzzardly*, 7-lie. [f. **BUZZARD**1 + -LY.] Like a buzzard; stupid (ly), senseless (ly).

1661 DAVIS tr. *Bullinger on Apoc.* (1573) 132 b, Which thing... the bussardly Anabaptistes will not vnderstand. 1581 J. BELL *Haddon's Answ.* Osor. 24 b, So captious and bussardly a Sophister? *Ibid.* 405 b, So superstitious and bussardly blinde. 1654 GATAKER *Disc.* Apol. 96 My clumsie Annotation, and bussardlie Vindication.

Buzzart, Sc. and dial. form of **BUZZARD**1.

Buzzed (bʊzəd), ppl. a. [f. **Buzz** v.1 + -ED.] Uttered with a buzz; rumoured about.

1700 KEATS *St. Agnes* x, Let no buzz'd whisper tell. 1877 SWEET *Handbk. Phonetics* cix. 38 Buzzed (r) is... allied to the sibilants.

Buzzer1 (bʊzəz). [f. **Buzz** v.1 + -ER.]

1. An insect that buzzes. Also *fig.*

1606 SYLVESTER *Du Bartas* II. III. l. (1623) 311 Swarms of busie Buzzers. 1611 COTGR., *Boardnouneur*, a hummer, a buzzer. 1834 WILSON in *Blackw. Mag.* XXXV. 1006 To keep the buzzers from settling round his eyes. 1847 *Fraser's Mag.* XXXVI. 524 Greek and Latin literature have been blown upon by the buzzers of metre.

† 2. A private obtuder of tales. Obs.

1608 SHAKS. *Ham.* IV. v. 90 Her Brother... wants not Buzzers to infect his eare With pestilent Speeches of his Fathers death.

3. A steam apparatus for making a loud buzzing noise as a signal; cf. *hummer*, *hooter*.

1870 *Echo* 17 Jan. Two... steam alarm whistles or 'buzzers' were fixed on Saturday. 1874 JEANS *West. Worthies* 95 No sounds of the ponderous hammer or screeching 'buzzer' are to be heard. 1885 *Daily News* 2 Oct. 2/1.

Buzzer2, *Thieves' cant.* [f. **Buzz** v.3 + -ER.] A pickpocket. (See quot.)

1868 MAYHEW *Crim. Prisons* 46 'Buzzers' who pick gentlemen's pockets, and 'wires' who pick ladies' pockets.

Buzzert, var. of **BUZZARD**2.

Buzzgloak, *Thieves' cant.* Also *buzgloak*. [f. **Buzz** v.3] A pickpocket.

1812 J. H. VAUX *Flash Dict.*, *Buz-cove* or *Buz-gloak*, a pickpocket; a person who is clever at this practice, is said to be a *good buz*. 1830 LYTTON *P. Clifford* 56 He is nothing better than a buzz gloak. 1859 SALA *Two round Clock* 175 These copper captains and cozening buzzgloaks.

Buzzing (bʊzɪŋ), vbl. sb.1 [f. **Buzz** v.1 + -ING.] The action of the verb **Buzz**.

1. A sibilant humming.

1398 TREVISIA *Barth. De P. R.* XVIII. xii. (1495) 768 Tyll one bee wake them all with twyes bussyng or thryses. c. 1540 *Pilgrym's Tale* 66 in *Thynne's Animadv.* (1865) 79, I herde a bussyng... I thought yt had beyn the dran be. 1657 S. PURCHAS *Pol. Flying Ins.* I. v. 12 Two or three loud buzzings. 1865 BLACKMORE *Maid of Sc.* xxvi. 155 He had... a kind of a buzzing in one ear. 1869 RUSKIN *Q. of Air* § 35 The buzzing of the fly [is] produced... by a constant current of air through the trachea.

2. Confused or mingled utterance; busy murmuring, muttering; murmur, busy talk, rumour.

1538 MORE *Confut. Tindale* Wks. (1557) 408/2 The... observations of the church, which he calleth... howling, bussing, and crying oute. 1613 SHAKS. *Hen. VIII.* II. i. 148 A buzzing of a Separation Betweene the King and Katherine. 1807 CARLYLE *Libussa, Transl.* (1874) 94 The hum of the multitude, the whispering and buzzing. 1888 H. MERIVALE *Faunt of B. II.* II. l. 151 The buzzings of the Agnostics.

Buzzing, vbl. sb.2 *Thieves' cant.* [f. **Buzz** v.3 + -ING.] Pocket-picking.

1819 J. H. VAUX *Mem.* I. xii. 140, I had not been accustomed to buzzing. 1884 *Pall Mall G.* 29 Dec. 4/2 Descending somewhat in the scale of crime, we come to simple 'buzzing', or the picking of pockets.

Buzzing, ppl. a. [f. **Buzz** v.1 + -ING.]

1. Making, or characterized by, a sibilant humming.

1596 J. HEYWOOD *Spider & F.* II. 13 What is this buzzyng blumberinge trow we: thunder? 1600 *Maydes Metam.* I. in *O. Pl.* (1882) I. 113 Bees... Whose buzzyng musick... shall her senses greet. 1697 DRYDEN *Virg. Georg.* III. 239 A fierce loud buzzing Breez. 1797 THOMSON *Summer* 231 In a corner of the buzzing shade. 1807-8 LAMB in *Poems* (Chandos) 559. 1843 MACAULAY *Lays, Virginia* 25 Where'er ye shed the honey, the buzzing flies will crowd.

b. Said of sounds.

1635 SWAN *Spec. M.* v. § 2 (1643) 117 A kind of buzzing noise. 1844 DUTTON *Deafness* 85 Pains over the forehead... succeeded by a buzzing noise.

2. Whispering, muttering; busily talking, full of busy talk.

1577 HOLINSHED *Chron.* III. 840/1 A companie of bussing monks. 1618 *Barnevelt's Apol.* B iv, Buzzing whisperer, tell mee, etc. 1735 SOMERVILLE *Chase* II. 306 The buzzing Multitudes. 1818 BYRON *Ch. Har.* IV. cxlii, Where buzzing nations choked the ways.

Hence **Buzzingly** adv.

1861 DICKENS *Gl. Expect.* x, The pupils... buzzingly passed a ragged book from hand to hand.

† **Buzzle**, v. Obs. [? onomatopoeic; cf. *bustle*, *puzzle*.]

1. *trans.* ? To distend, fill out. [cf. **BUSTLE** sb.2] ? a 1600 *Masque Twelve Months* (N.) lle take my perche upon Some citty head-attire... (Buzzell'd with bone-lace).

2. *intr.* ? To contend; to be emulous, envious. Hence *Buzzling* ppl. a.

a 1639 W. WHATELEY *Prototypes* I. xix. (1640) 226 Have you not these kind of vying buzzing thoughts in you? 1638 N.W. [WITING] *Albino & Bell* 65 Distracted were her thoughts in silence tyde Till love and honour buzzed, then she cryde.

3. = **PUZZLE**. ? Hence *Buzzle-headed* (but cf. **RUSSEL-HEADED**).

1671 J. WEBSTER *Metallogr.* xxiii. 305 They may well buzzle the brains of a person reasonably well versed in their terms. a 1644 QUARLES *Virg. Widow* 32 Ye... addle-pated, buzzle-headed, splatter-footed Moon-calf.

Buzzman, *Thieves' cant.* [f. **Buzz** v.3 + MAN.] A pickpocket. 1832 *Fraser's Mag.* VI. 460.

Buzzmuck, dial. and ? nautical. ? = **BUSK** v.2

1864 ATKINSON *Whitby Gloss.* s. v., In and out, buzzmucking about. 1868 RUSSELL *Adv. Dr. Brady* I. 172 Some of our cruisers from Halifax might be knocking about... buzzmucking for something or other.

Bussy (bʊzi), a.1 [f. **Buzz** sb.1 + -Y.] Full of buzzing; buzzing.

1871 G. MACDONALD *Poems for Childr.* in *Wks. Fancy & Imag.* III. 227 The buzzy bees. 1877 BLACKIE *Wise Men* 101 A buzzy army of mosquitos.

Bussy (bʊzi), a.2 [cf. **Buzz** sb.2, 3.] ? Rough and hairy; fuzzy.

1836 *New Month Mag.* XLVI. 80 The long judicial cloak and buzzy wig. 1858 KINGSLEY *Chalk-Str.* *Stud.* Misc. (1859) I. 213 The 'buzzy' look of the fly.

Bwy, obs. Sc. form of **BOUGH**.

B'wy, *b'wy*: see **GOOD-BYE**.

† **By**, sb.1 Obs. Forms: 1- by, 4 bi, bli, bij, bie, 9 bye. [north. OE. *bý*, prob. a. ON. *bæ-r*, *bý-r* (Sw. and Da. *bý*) habitation, village, town, f. *bila* to dwell; cf. *Big v.* Retained in place-names, as *Whitby*, *Grimsby*, *Derby*.]

A place of habitation; a village or town.

c. 950 *Lindisf. Gosp.* Mark v. 3 Se ðe hus vel lytelo by hæde in byrgenum. a 1300 *Cursor M.* 19511 To preche he come intil a bi þat men cleped samari. c. 1314 *Guy Warw.* (1840) 267 Balder bern was non in bi. 1803 R. ANDERSON *Cumbrid. Ballads* xxxiii. 71 There's Oughterby and Souterby, And bys beath far and weyde.]

b. *Comb.*, as *by-mill* 'town-mill', *by-well*.

1456 in *Ripon Ch. Acts* Add. 383 Juxta Byemylne. Note. The village well at North Kelsey, in Lincolnshire, is still called the Bye well.

By, sb.2; see after **BY** *prep.* and *adv.*

By (bi), *prep.*, *adv.* (a., sb.) [OE. *bi* (big) accented; *bi*, *be* unaccented, = OFris. OS. MDu. *bi*, *be*, (Du. *bij*, *be*), OHG. *bi*, *bi*, *bi* (MHG. *bi*, *be*, Ger. *bei*, *be*), Goth. *bi*, *bi* 'about, by'; - OTeut. **bi*, prob. cognate with L. *am-bi*- prefix, Gr. *ἀμφι*, *prep.* and prefix 'about'. (For the disappearance of *am*- in Teut., cf. OTeut. *bæ*, with L. *am-bæ*, Gr. *ἀμ-φο* both.) Originally an adverbial particle of place; when prefixed to a verb it generally coalesced with the latter, and was treated as a prefix; when construed with substantives (in the dative or accusative, according as the relation was that of *being* near, or *moving* near to), it became, like other adverbs, a preposition. Cf. the series: 'þæt folc bi stód (bi-stód)', 'þæt folc him bi stód (him bi-stód)', 'þæt folc stód him bi', 'the folk stood by him', and the mod. Eng. 'to stand by, stand by him, be a bystander'.

The single form *bi* of OTeut. was subsequently, under the influence of the stress, differentiated into the strong or accented *bi*, *bi* (*by*, *bij*, *bei*), and the weak or stressless *bi*, later *bæ*. The strong form was used for the adverb, the accented prefix of nouns, and a stressed preposition; the weak form for the stressless prefix of verbs, and a stressless preposition. The influence of levelling, however, tended at length to make *bi* (*by*, etc.) the separate form in all cases, and to leave *bæ* as the weak prefix; thus, while in OE. the prep. was both *be* and *bi*, in ME. it was usually written *bi*, *by*, and modern Eng. makes the preposition, like the adverb, *by*, in all positions and senses, and has *bæ* only as a stressless prefix. The same is true of mod. Ger. *bei*, *bæ*, and Du. *bij*, *bæ*. But in pronunciation there was a weak and a strong form in ME. (cf. forms like *bæ-sides*, *bæ-times*, *bum troth*, *bum Lady*, *byrlady*), as is still usual in the dialects. In modern Sc. *bæ* is the ordinary form of the preposition unaccented, or in a weakened sense, as in 'sit be the fire', 'written be a clerk', 'ane be ane', *by* the form of the adverb and strong preposition, as in 'stand by', 'to pass by a place be the railway'. This use of *bæ* as preposition has been uniform in the northern dialect since the earliest preserved ME. specimens.]

A. prep. Forms: 1-2 *be*, 1-5 *bi*, 1 *bi* (*bi3*), 3- *by*, (4 *bie*, 5 *bye*, *north*. 3- *be*). (Formerly often placed after the governed word, which may still be done in verse).

General scheme of signification. I. Of position in space: (1) Position or action near, including notions of comparison by juxtaposition; (2) Direction and vague localization. II. Of motion in space: (1) Motion alongside, along, or over a course; (2) Motion up to; (3) Motion alongside and beyond, including notions of distance to reach, and of excess, short-coming, or inferiority. III. Of time. IV. Of mental or ideal proximity. V. Of medium, means, instrumentality, agency. VI. Of circumstance, condition, manner, cause. VII. In phrases.

I. Of position in space.

* *Of position or action near or adjacent to.*

1. At the side or edge of; in the vicinity of; near, close to, beside.

808 O. E. Chron. an. 894 § 2 On Defna scire be þære norþ sæc. 971 *Blickl. Hom.* 15 þa sæt þær sum blind þearfa be ðon wege. c1000 *Whale* (poem) 18 Ceolas stondað bi stæde fæste. 1260 *Hatton G. Matt.* xiii. 40 Hyo. sæten be þam strande. c1200 *Ormin* 3340 þat engel. . . stod hemm bi. c1330 *Assump. Virg.* 368 To kepe þee & by þee by (7 be thee by, or by thee be). 1375 *Barbour Bruce* vi. 667 The Kyng lukyt hym by. c1400 *Destr. Tray* 11569 To be. . . laid by hir legis, þat the lond aght. c1485 *Disby Myst.* (1882) iv. 658 Com sit me bye. 1513 *Douglas Æneis* ix. ix. 138 Hys scheild syne by hym lais. 1688 *Wheeler Journ. Greece* i. 4 Hard by this Island. . . is Ruigna. 1764 *Reid Inquiry* ii. § 10. 174 The clock may strike by us without being heard. 1832 *W. Irving Alhambra* II. 125 A sword by his side. 1860 *Dickens Uncomm. Trav.* xx. Down by the Docks they 'board seamen' at the eating houses. 1881 *Saintsbury Dryden* 179 In Poets' Corner, where he has been buried by Chaucer and Cowley.

b. In names of places, introducing the name of a place better known, or of a natural feature, which serves as a distinction, as in *Bromley-by-Bow*, *Stoke-by-Nayland*, *St. Stephen's-by-Saltash*, *Stanton-by-Bridge*, *St. Leonard's-by-Sea*. Also in postal addresses of subordinate offices, where *by* introduces the name of the chief office, as *Coniston by Ambleside*, and the like.

c. after such verbs as *abide*, *stick*, *stand*, q. v. 1508 *Fisher Wks.* i. 221 His commandment must nedes be. . . abyden by. 1736 *Cibber School-Boy* II. i. You'll stand by me upon Occasion. 1742 *H. Walpole Corr.* (1857) I. 193 They have given Mrs. Pulteney an admirable name and one that will stick by her. 1818 *Moore Fudge Fam. Paris* vi. 4 We Fudges stand by one another. 1865 *Carlyle Fredk. Gt.* (1873) V. 271 Let us stick by our excerpting. 1885 *Sir W. Brett in Law Rep.* 15 *Queen's B. Div.* 189 He was willing to abide by the event of such a trial.

† d. *By the sight of*, *by view of*: under the supervision of. *Obs.*

a 1500 tr. *Magna Charta* in *Arnolde Chron.* (1811) 217 Be the sight of holy church, his goodis shalbe distribute. 1601 *F. Tate Househ. Ord. Edw. II.* § 15. 13 Serve the household bi view of the same clerk.

2. In forms of swearing or adjuration.

Here *bi* is the original prep. in Teutonic (Goth., OHG., OS.), and must have had a local sense, 'in presence of', or perhaps 'in touch of' some sacred object: in ON, where *bi* was entirely lost, at appears, and must have been local. But in OE literature the prep. was ordinarily *purh*, perhaps after *L. per*; though *be* occurs in one place in the Rushw. Gloss. and may represent native usage. It is thus not certain how far the ME. use of *by* was native, or how far it was a translation of *F. par*, of instrumentality. To modern apprehension there is apparently no notion of place, but one approaching that of instrumentality or medium. See *SWEAR. Cf. BEFORE 6.*

c 975 *Rushw. Gl. Matt.* xxiii. 22 Seþe swerab be heofune swerat be seðle godes, and in ðam seþe siteþ on him. c1200 *Lay.* 3447 Heo swor. . . bi al heuenliche main. a 1300 *Cursor M.* 7934 Bi godd o-lue he suor his ath. c1435 *Torr. Portugal* 52 Tho he sware be hevyn kyng, Ther was told him a wondrous thyng. 1586 *Warner Alb. Eng.* i. ii. 5 Sworne-by Stix and wreackfull Mars at perjuries repine. 1611 *Bible Matt.* v. 36 Neither shalt thou swear by thy head. 1751 *Jortin Serm.* (1771) V. iii. 56 They took up a custom of swearing not by the Lord, but by other things. 1875 *Jowett Plato* (ed. 2) I. 354 And I swear to you Athenians, by the dog I swear! 1884 *St. James's Gaz.* 20 June 6/1 The farmers. . . swear 'by'r Leddie' and 'by Jings'.

b. So in ellipt. phrases, *By God*, *by our Lady*, *by my life*, etc., without mention of the verb *swear*. 1297 *R. Glouc.* 25 þou ne schalt (bi hym þat made me) of scapie so lyte. a 1300 *Cursor M.* 13593 'A prophet, said he, 'be mi lai.' a 1330 *Otuel* 476 Bisengeme [= By Saint James] (he) habbe i-fout Otuel. 1393 *Langl. P. Pl. C.* iv. 285 By Cryst, you eat nimbly. 1841-4 *Emerson Ess. Poet Wks.* (Bohn) I. 170 By God, it is in me, and must go forth of me. 1875 *Jowett Plato* (ed. 2) I. 33 By the dog of Egypt, I said, there I agree with you.

3. In the presence of (*obs.*); at the house of (*obs.*); beside, with, in possession of, about (a person).

a 1300 *Fragm. Pop. Sc.* (Wright) 134 When a man is an urthe ded, and his soule bi God. 1509 *Hawes Past. Pleas.* xii. ii. Accordyng as by hym is audyence. 1535 *Coverdale Acts* ix. 43 He taried. . . at Joppa by one Simon which was a tanner. 1541 *Barnes Wks.* (1573) 347/2 We haue an aduocate by the father, Christ Iesus. 1601 *Boyle Scap. Chem.* i. (1680) 73 What I have yet lying by me of that anomalous Salt. 1718 *Henley Spect.* No. 396 ¶ 1, I have kept it (a letter) by me some Months. 1800 *Coleridge Wallerst.* i. viii. 17 This plot he has long had in writing by him From the emperor.

† b. In the writings of, in (a specified passage). c1460 *Towneley Myst.* 145 (Mätz.) We rede thus by I say. 1579 *Tomson Calvin's Serm. Tim.* 15/2 S. Pauls mind is by this place, that no man take vpon him to teach otherwise then he taught.

† c. With, having about one. *Obs.*

a 1225 *Ancren R.* 420 3if 3e muwen beon wimpel-leas, beoð bi warme keppen.

4. *By oneself* (*himself*, *themselves*, etc.): in one's own company, to the exclusion of any one else; hence, apart from others, without companion; alone, singly, in isolation.

c 1200 *Ormin* 821 Some summ he cupe ben Himm ane bi himm selfenn. 1297 *R. Glouc.* 104 Po heo were al bi hem selue. He slow þe kyng. a 1300 *Cursor M.* 12834 He fand his cosin Ion, In wildernes bi him allan. c1440 *Promp. Parv.* 35 By thy selfe, *seorsum*. 1559 *Br. Cox in Strype Ann. Ref.* i. vi. 99 Weigh this matter by your self. 1611 *Shaks. Cymb.* iii. i. 13 Britaine's a world By it selfe. 1711 *Addison's Sermon* No. 26 ¶ 1, I very often walk by myself in Westminster Abbey. 1718 *Steele ibid.* No. 302 ¶ 11 My husband and I were sitting all alone by our selves. 1813 *Jane Austen Pride & Prej.* (1846) 301 We may as well leave them by themselves. 1884 *G. Denman Law Reports*, 29 *Chanc. Div.* 467 Look at each statement by itself without regard to the other statements.

b. This blends with other senses (esp. 33) in *By oneself*: by one's own power, without assistance, independently; of one's own motion or authority, spontaneously.

a 1000 *Ag. Gosp.* John vii. 17 Hwæðer þe ic be me sylfum spece. 1393 *Langl. P. Pl. C.* xx. 140 The paume. . . hap power by hym-self, Oþer-wise þan be wrythen fust. c1400 *Maundeve* 194 3if thei abyden to dyen be hem self, as nature wolde. c1450 *Melvin i.* 14 I'll she be stronge to goo by her-self. 1711 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 4794/2 The Battalions. . . charg'd by their own selves. 1744 *Berkeley Siris* § 233 Going like a clock or a machine by itself.

5. *By the side of*; hence, in addition to, beside. *By and beside*: over and above. *Sc.* or *north*. *Cf. FORBYE.*

1330 *R. Brunne Chron.* 149 We þre haf. . . þe schippes of Kyng Richard to keep & 3ow þam bie. c1425 *Wynnton Cron.* ix. xxvii. 331 By his awyn war Baneris five Dysplayt. 1535 *Stewart Chron. Scot.* III. 230 Nocht be the clothing on ourre bak. 1600 *J. Melvill Diary* (1842) 146 By and besyde the inward hand of my God, I haid twa utward speciall comforts. 1723 *De For. Col. Jack* (1840) 95 We will have a lift, if we don't get the horse by the bargain. 1816 *Scott Antiq.* xxi. 'Few folks ken o' this place. . . there's just twa living by myself.'

† 6. In comparison with, in proportion to (*i. e.* placed beside, for the sake of comparison or correlation); after verbs of *distinguishing*=from. *Obs.* exc. *Sc.*

1340 *Ayend.* 249 Among þe bestes man heþ þane leste moup be þe bodie. 1393 *Langl. P. Pl. C.* xviii. 104 Nober þei knoweþ ne connep o cours by a-nober. c1489 *Caxton Sonnes of Aymon* ix. 224 The four sonnes of Aymon were good to knowe by thother. c1515 *Elyce on Henry VIII's foot* in *Halliw. Nuge* P. 45 Many folys by the thynke themselves none. 1578 in *Scot. Poems* 16th C. II. 126, I gaif thee resoun, quherby thou might haue knawin the day by the dark night. 1799 *Let. in Wodrow Corr.* (1843) III. 448 Twenty-six years ago. . . we were in a pleasant station. . . by what we are at present. 1768 *Goldsm. Good-n. Man* i. Compare that part of life which is to come by that which we have passed. *Mod. Sc.* So dark that one could not tell a house by a hay-stack.

b. *To set or let* (*obs.*) *little*, *nought*, etc. *by*: to put little, nothing, etc. in comparison with; to value, esteem little, etc.; also absol. *To set by* (*obs.*): to esteem highly. See *SET* and *LET*.

1362 *Langl. P. Pl. A.* xi. 29 Luytel is he loued or leten bi. 1393 *Ibid.* C. vi. 3 Cloped as a lollere, And lytel y-lete by. c1388 *Wyclif Isa.* liii. 3 Wherefore ne wee setteden by hym. c1400 *Maundeve* xxvii. 272 Thei sette not. . . by Cawteles. 1407 *Songs Costume* (1849) 57 Ye be so lewyd your selfe there seteth no man you bye. c1430 *How Wise man tau3t Son* 126 in *Babes Bk.* (1868) 52 Bi oþir richesette sette no greet price. c1440 *York Myst.* xxxi. 105 Sette I nought be hym. 1549 *Psalm* xv. 4 (Prayer Bk.) He that setteth not by himself, but is lowly in his own eyes. 1637 *Bastwick Litany* iii. 13 That booke was highly set by and commended. 1799 *Butler Serm.* 540 In all lowliness of mind we set lightly by ourselves. 1839 *Keightley Hist. Eng.* I. 102 He also set by the hares, and they must go free.

7. More than, beyond, in preference to. † *By and beside*: outside of, without. *By common*, by ordinary (used adjectively): unusual, extraordinary. *All Sc.*

1567 *Test. H. Stewart in Scot. Poems* 16th C. II. 257 Lancit with luif, sho luid me by all wyclit. 1603 *Philotus* cx. Our Parents hes oppress, And by all dew their Dochters drest. a 1657 *Sir J. Balfour Ann. Scot.* (1824) II. 182 The motions. . . is made by and besyde the knowledge and conscience of the kirke of this land. 1822 *Galt Entail* II. ii. 13 He's mair than weel enough. He's by common 1844 *Scott Redgaunt* let. xi. There was something in it by

ordinar. 1832-33 *Whistle-Binkie* (Sc. Songs) Ser. n. 27 He courts a' the lasses. . . Yet for nane by anither cares bauld braxy Tam. 1851 *Mrs. Oliphant Marg. Maitland* i. My father was a man of bye-ordinary mildness.

† 8. Beyond (= *L. præter*); hence, contrary to, (a limiting decree or authority); in spite of, against. *Obs.* exc. *Sc.*

1460-70 *Compl. Abbot of Arbroath* in C. Innes *E. Scot. Hist. App.* (1861) 506 [He] has gart eyre and saw ovr said landis by all resoun or apperans of ony clame thartyll. 1513 *Douglas Æneis* vii. x. 109 The hevynnis hie To wytnes drew he, all was by his wyll. 1650 *Row Hist. Kirk* (1842) 366 By the expectation of many. . . the Parliament did ryde and end upon Fryday. 1668 *Perry's Diary* 24 Feb., I could not deny him, but was forced, by myself, to give. *Mod. Sc.* That's by belief.

† b. Apart from, away from. *By oneself*: beside oneself, out of one's wits. *Sc.*

1600 *Gowrie's Conspir.* in *Harl. Misc.* (Malh.) II. 339 The young gentleman. . . was become somewhat by himself, which his Maistie conjectured. . . by his. . . vncouth stairing. 1785 *Burns Halloween* xvi. He monie a day was by himsel. He was sae sairly frighted. 1832 *Blackw. Mag.* XXXII. 644 Surely we're by ourselves, to speak this open blasphemy.

* *Of direction or vague localization.*

9. In the region or general direction of, towards. *By the head* (*Naut.*): deeper in the water forward than abaft; the opposite of which is *by the stern*. *By the board*: see *BOARD sb.* 12. *By the wind*: (see quot. 1867).

(Hence in many adverbs and prepositions; as *be-east*, *be-fere*, *be-half*, *be-hind*, *be-low*, *be-north*, *be-side*, *be-south*, *be-west*; † *be-mong*, etc.)

c 893 *K. Ælfred Oros.* i. i. § 7 Caucasus se beorg is be norþan and Indus seo ea be westan, and seo Reade Sæ be supan. a 1225 *Leg. Kath.* 121 § 1 (Trin.) Who herde euer suche ferly Of any mon bi norþ or souþ. 1393 *Langl. P. Pl. C.* ii. 117 Hit is sykeryer by southe þer þe sonne regneth þan in be north. 1559 *J. Heywood Spider & F.* ix. 101 One sort by east, an other by west, did rise. 1697 *Capt. Smith Seaman's Gram.* ix. (1692) 43 Lay the Ship by the Lee to trie the Dep-sea Line. 1688 *Dugy Voy. Medit.* (1688) 46 In smooth water, and by a wind, was her best way. 1664 *Bushnell Shipwright* 7 The most Ships saile by the Sterne. 1849 *Blackw. Mag.* LXVI. 106 She's too much by the head. 1867 *Smith's Sailor's Word-bk.* By the wind is when a ship saile as nearly to the direction of the wind as possible.

b. *spec.* used in the names of the sixteen smallest points of the compass, viz. North by East, North-east by North, North-east by East, East by North, etc., indicating one point towards the east, west, north, or south of N., NE., E., SE., S. SW., W., NW. respectively.

The point midway between N. and E. is NE.; that midway between N. and NE. is NNE.; the intermediate point between N. and NNE. is N. by E.; that between NE. and NNE. is NE. by N.

1688 *Wheeler Journ. Greece* vi. 481, I observed Corinth to lie South-East by South off us. 1719 *De For. Cruise* (1840) I. ii. 26, I. steered directly south and by east. 1837 *Fraser's Mag.* XVI. 48 We steered S.E. by E. 1849 *Ibid.* XL. 666 Cape Trafalgar bore east by south.

† c. In compound preps. of direction, as, *by-hither* on this side of, *by-west* to the west of, etc.; which are also used substantively. *Obs.* More commonly *BE-EAST*, *BE-NORTH*, *BEHITHER*, etc., q. v.

c 893 *K. Ælfred Oros.* i. i. § 5 Be norþan þær port. c1420 *Avow. Arth.* xlvii. He. . . was comun þor bi-south. 1577 *Holinshed Chron.* III. 961/2 The whole armie was landed two miles by west the towne of Lith. 1612 *Davies Why Ireland, &c.* (1787) 177 They dwelt by the law, which dwelt beyond the river of the Barrow. 1614 *Raleigh Hist. World* v. ii. § 8. 354 Like as they called Cisalpine, or bi-hither the Alpes, those who dwelt between them and the Mountaines. 1716 *Let. in Wodrow Corr.* (1843) II. 119 The places in Fife, by-east Dunfermline.

† 10. On (vaguely and indefinitely), in the region or domain of. *Obs.* exc. in phr. *by land*, etc. *Cf.* 11 c.

c 1205 *Lay.* 10511 þa vt-lages beoð swa stronge bi watere & bi londe. c1314 *Guy Warw.* (A.) 830 Who so winneþ þe turnament al Bi alþer half, þe priis haue schal. c1325 *Coer de L.* 1849 By the water-half ye them assail, And we will by land saunsfayl. 1578 *Lyte Dodoens* iii. lxxv. 407 The whiche leaves are playne by one side. 1770 *Langhorne Plutarch* (1879) I. 241/2 They commonly commanded both by sea and land. 1866 *Kingsley Herrew.* i. I never saw one yet, by flood or field.

II. Of motion.

* *Of motion alongside, along, or over a course.*

11. Alongside of, along, down over, up over. (In *by a way*, *path*, *road*, this touches the sense of *means*.) c 888 *K. Ælfred Boeth.* xl. § 5 3if ic þe læde be þam wege. c1175 *Lamb. Hom.* 79 þer com a prost bi þe weie. a 1250 *Owl & Night.* 506 Þe heisugge þat flihþ bi grunde a mong þe stubbe. c1300 *K. Alis.* 1767 Hom heo wendith by doune and dale. a 1300 *Cursor M.* 14285 þe teres bi þair chekes þon ran. 1486 *Bk. St. Albans* I j b, And comyth low bi the grunde. 1534 *Ld. Berners Gold. Bk. M. Aurel.* (1546) C. iij. To goo by the stretes as vacabundes. 1688 *Wheeler Journ. Greece* i. 47 It fell to the Hollanders share to come by our Lee. 1718 *Parnell Spect.* No. 460 ¶ 6 The way by which we ascended. 1816 *J. Wilson City of Plague* i. i. 187 Moving by the river side, Came on a ghost. 1885 *Act* 48 & 49 *Vic.* liv. § 14 The churches. . . are within four miles of one another by the nearest road.

† b. *By* is sometimes elliptically omitted.

1768 *Wesley Yrnl.* 23 Sept., Nor could I get to my lodgings the foot way. *Mod.* We came back the same way. You went a roundabout way to get there.

d. blended with some sense of means of transit; cf. 30 b.

c. 1205 LAY. 31195 Comen. bi se & bi londe feole cunne leoden. 1288a WYCLIF *Acts* xx. 13 Makinge journey bi lond. c. 1450 *Merlin* iii. 41 The shippes comynge by the see. 1530 M. GODWYN *Bp. Hereford's Ann. Eng.* 82 Hee went by water to Greenwich. 1712a BUDGELL *Spect.* No. 425 ¶ 1 You descend at first by twelve Stone Steps. 1851 KINGSLEY *Yeast* 216 Why not send a parcel by rail?

12. In passing along: said of incidents happening on a journey, etc.; chiefly in phr. *by the way*.

c. 1000 ÆLFRIC *Gen.* xlv. 24 Ne forlæte ge nan þing be wege. c. 1340 *Cursor M.* 18378 (Trin.) Amen alleluia songen þei And honoured him euer bi þe wey. 1506 *Pilgr. Perf.* (W. de W. 1531) 5b. But the sayd rychesse holpe them well by the waye. 1530 TINDALE *Exp.* (1849) 330 If a woman should find a man-child by the streets. 1611 SHAKS. *Wint. T.* iv. iii. 253. I was cozen'd by the way, and lost all my money. 1760 GOLDSM. *Cit. World* xcix. They always grow young by the way. *Mod.* And by the way I dropped it.

b. Hence fig. *By the way*, by the by: (a.) in passing, incidentally, as a chance idea in speech or writing; (b.) *ellipt.*, omitting words like 'it may be remarked'. See *BY sb.*, WAY.

(a.) 1548 LATIMER *Serm. Ploughers* (Arb.) 21 Here haue I an occasion by the way somewhat to say vnto you. 1642 *Fuller Holy & Prof. St.* v. 377 They had something. in the favour of Friars, though brought in only by the by. 1677 *Moxon Mech. Exerc.* (1703) 202 And by the way you may take notice, that, etc. 1830 *Blackw. Mag.* XXVIII. 247 All this is by the way. 1832 J. C. HARR *Philol. Museum* I. 254 This question. merely came in by the by.

(b.) 1574 tr. *Marlorat's Apocalyp.* 41 By the waye, thys place teacheth vs, that, etc. 1631 GOUGE *God's Arrows* iv. xv. 396 Here by the way, the Providence of God. is remarkable. 1712 STEELE *Spect.* No. 32 ¶ 3 One of the Seniors (whom by the by Mr. President had taken all this Pains to bring over) sat still. 1818 BYRON *Yuan* i. lvi. Her blood was not all Spanish, by the by. 1888a *Knowledge* No. 39. 144 Artificial Irrigation, which, by-the-way, is now being extensively developed in Australia, etc.

13. Through the extent of, throughout. *Obs.*

a. 1255 *St. Marher.* 9 þe fubeles þe fleon bi ðe lufte. c. 1380 WYCLIF *Wks.* (1880) 41 Hou freris schullen go bi þe world. 1502 tr. *Magna Charta* in Arnolde *Chron.* (1811) 220 To dwell & goo bi England. 1647 W. BROWNE *Poet. Pija*, By the whole extent of her Territories.

14. Through, or so as to pass (in one's course); also expanded into *by way of*.

c. 1340 *Cursor M.* 11529 (Fairf.) An angill come & hem forbad To wend by hym (Herod) eny way. 1388a WYCLIF *John* x. 1 He that cometh not in by the dore. c. 1400 *Epiph.* (Turnb. 1843) 108 They returned by Jerusalem. c. 1485 *Digby Myst.* (1882) i. 37 The three kynges. . . promysed schyn herowde. . . To come a-geyn by him. 1553 EDEN *Treat. New Ind.* (Arb.) 8 The passage. . . by the straightes of Magellanus. 1645 K. LONG *Barclay's Argenis* iv. ix. 270 Faithful Sciamenes conveyed in by a backe chamber. 1633 FLETCHER in P. Fletcher *Purple Isl.* Introd. The Way to God is by ourselves. 1719 DE FOE *Crisoe* (1848) 357 The place was inaccessible, except by such windings, &c., as they themselves only who made them could find. 1805 SIR J. HANSEN in *Law Rep.* 15 *Queen's B. Div.* 140 Leaving the building by a side door. 1701 W. WOTTON *Hist. Rome* 481 He went by the way of Illyricum. 1865 *Coruh. Mag.* XI. 595 It invaded France by way of Avignon.

* *Of motion into a position beside, or within reach.*

15. Near to, close up, into the presence of; chiefly in *to come by*, for the phraseological and fig. uses of which see COME v.

c. 1175 *Lamb. Hom.* 83 He [Christ] com bi þis forwundede mon. 1230 R. BRUNNE *Chron.* 296 Alle þat he mot com bie, he robbed. c. 1350 *Will. Palerne* 220 By-þan he com by þat barn. 1535 COVERDALE *Tobit* iv. 20 Seke some meanes, how thou mayest come by him. 1607 SHAKS. *Cor.* ii. iii. 46 We are not to stay altogether, but to come by him where he stands. *Mod.* Come close by me, and tell me what is the matter.

*** *Of motion alongside and beyond.*

16. On alongside of, into the vicinity of and on beyond, past. Originally the *nearness in passing* was emphasized; in later use 'by' is more frequently distinguished from 'through' or other word, and expresses *passing without stopping or contact*, and thus *avoidance, aloofness*; but often the notion is merely that of getting beyond, or to the other side of, and *pass by*, *go by* merely = *pass*.

c. 1380 *Sir. Ferumb.* 1108 By hilles & roches swyþe horrible on hur cors þay wente. 1393 GOWER *Conf.* I. 227 To hem that passen all day by me. 1509 HAWES *Examp. Virtue* vi. 78 That came vs by and very nere, Ascendynge vp into her hyge sete. 1632 RUTHERFORD *Lett.* xxiii. (1862) I. 91 Your jealous Husband will not be content that ye look by Him to another. 1660 *Perrys Diary* 2 Nov. I. . . got as far as Ludgate by all the bonfires. 1722 BERKELEY *Alciph.* v. § 1 We saw a fox run by the foot of our mount. 1786 BURNS *Twa Dogs* 92 They gang as saucy by poor folk, As I wad by a stinking brock. 1800 KEATS *Lamia* 315 She saw him as once she pass'd him by.

b. The notion of avoidance, disregard, omission, neglect, is especially present in fig. uses of *Go BY*, *PASS BY* and the like: see the verbs. Cf. 8.

c. 1285 CHAUCER *Man of Law's T.* 1026 But I lete all his storie passen by. 1535 STEWART *Cron Scot.* II. 639 Foull appetyte. . . causis thame off till go by the rycht. 1552 ABP. HAMILTON *Catech.* (1884) 31 Cursit at thai quihill gangis by the commandis of God. 1667 *Perrys Diary* (1877) V. 470 The king hath. . . passed by the thing and pardoned it already. 1673 MARVELL *Rel. Transp.* II. 346, I am content to go by the loss. 1869 J. MARTINEAU *Ess.* II. 76 Instances may be accumulated. . . which legislation passes by in silence.

o. *Sb in To put or set* (anyone) *by* (an aim, purpose, duty, etc.): to cause him to miss or omit it; to deprive, disappoint, or cheat of, do out of. *arch.* and *dial.*

1580 NORTH *Plutarch* 798 The King. . . did put Tribarzus by his Wife. 1596 SPENSER *Astroph. Elegy* 174 Perhaps this may a suter be, To set Mars by his deitie. 1643 PAVNNE *Power Parl.* I. (ed. 2) 53 Maude the Emprise. . . was put by the Crowne by the Prelates and Barons. 1647 W. BROWNE *Poet. Pija* 11. 329 We met with a storme, which put us by our course. 1726 AMHERST *Terra Fil.* xliii. 236 He can put him by his degree for a whole year. 1768 JOHNSON *Lett.* I. xiv. 17, I have been oddly put by my purpose. *Mod. dial.* The child has been put by his sleep.

d. *dial.* transferred to the idea of time.

1863 ATKINSON *Danby Provinc.*, By the time, beyond or past the time. They're a lang way by their tahn.

17. Defining the space passed over, or to be passed over, in order to reach a point: At, to, or within the distance of.

c. 1320 *Hali Meid.* 23 Loke. . . bi hu moni degrez ha falleð duneward. 1393 LANGL. *P. Pl. C.* xx. 58 Wolde nat neyhe him by nyne londes lengthe. c. 1485 CAXTON *Sonnet of Aymon* 247 There is nother castell nor towne by xx myles nyghe aboute it. 1551 R. ROBINSON tr. *More's Utop.* (Arb.) 77 By all that space. . . the water ebbeh and floweth. 1682a *Wheeler Journ. Greece* iv. 291 No Ship. . . can come near them by four or five Miles. 1880 MCARTHY *Omn Times* III. xlv. 386 The Conservative miss by a foot was as good. . . as a miss by a mile.

18. Expressing, as the result of comparison, the amount of excess or increase, inferiority or diminution, in length, duration, weight, or quantity: a. definitely.

c. 1200 *Trin. Coll. Hom.* 169 Þe þridde biwist. . . was bi twi-fold more þane þe forme. 1375 BARBOUR *Brue* II. 230 Thar fayis war may then thar þe xv. c. 1556 J. HEYWOOD *Spider & F.* ix. 38, I thought him to young to haue winges, by a yeare. 1585 JAS. I. *Ess. Poetrie* (Arb.) 61 Gif ze place thame in the beginning of a lyne, they are shorter be a fute, nor they are, gif ze place thame hinnen in the lyne. 1614 B. JONSON *Barth. Fair* i. i, He is taller than either of you by the head. 1753 CHAMBERS *Cycl. Supp.* s. v. *Account*, Balance of an Account is the sum by which the debt exceeds the credit, or vice versa. 1777 SHERIDAN *Sch. Scand.* iv. iii. He is too moral by half. 1815 *Scribblemania* 261 Selwyn. . . missed it only by seven votes out of 7000. 1884 *Manch. Exam.* 21 May 47 The M. C. C. winning by an innings and four runs.

b. in phrases *by far*, *by much*, *by so much*, etc.

c. 1320 *Hali Meid.* 23 Bi hu muchel þe an passede þe oðre. c. 1375 WYCLIF *Anticrist* (Todd) 117 By hou myche þei shul be more merueilous to men, be so myche þe hooli men. . . shulen be dispised. 1393 LANGL. *P. Pl. C.* xxiii. 314 More of fisik by fer. 1423 JAS. I. *Kingsis Q.* cxxxii. The werk that first is foundit sure. . . langere sall endure þe monyfold. 1450 MYRC 1629 A-bregge hys penaunce þen by myche. 1595 BARNFIELD *Poems* (Arb.) 43 By how much the lesse I am able to expresse it, by so much the more it is infinite. 1677 MOXON *Mech. Exerc.* (1703) 35 By so much as Brass is a weaker Mettal than Iron. 1808 SCOTT *Marmion* v. xii. Twere better by far To haue matchd our fair cousin with young Lochinvar.

III. Of time.

19. In the course of, at, in, on (the time or date of an action or event). *Obs.* exc. as in b.

a. 1000 *Laws of Edgar* I. 4 (Mätz.) Sy zlc heorðpening azyfen be Petres mæssedæz. c. 1200 *Trin. Coll. Hom.* 47 Swich þeu wes bi þan dægen. c. 1300 *Beket* 249 This was bi a Tywesdæi. c. 1380 WYCLIF *De Eccles. Sel.* Wks. III. 350 Crist techiþ. . . þat men shulden anybbe her briþren bi þre tymes. 1393 LANGL. *P. Pl. C.* ii. 100 David by his daies dodebbe knyghtes. 1488 CAXTON *Chast. Godespyldr.* 40 Men haue dwelid stably in wyldernesse by hemselve by olde tyme. 1543 LD. BERNERS *Gold. Bl. M. Annot.* (1546) Fviiij. His sonnes in lawe, that he hadde chose by his lifetyme. c. 1607 H. MORE in R. Ward *Life* (1710) 352, I wish you would resolve to see Cambridge once by the year at least. 1797 *Philanthrop.* No. 23. 177 Where he used to wander many a morning by sun-rise, and many an evening by moonlight.

b. esp. *By day* (L. *interdiu*), *by night* (L. *noctu*). Here the statement of time approaches very nearly to the indication of the physical conditions, as in 'by day-light': see 34.

OE. used in this sense the adverbial genitive *dæges* and *nihtes*, or on with the dative *on dæge* and *on nihte*; the early ME. examples show a mixture of these and the modern form with *by*.

c. 1200 ORMIN 11332 Heold Crist hys faste. . . Bi dazhess & bi nahthess. a. 1250 *Owl & Night.* 241 Bi daie þu art stare-blind. c. 1380 *Sir Ferumb.* 4265 Þe Ameral be-segeþ hymen þer-yñ. . . Be nytes & be daye. c. 1440 *Partonope* 1632 He come to Pountyff by the day. 1607 DRYDEN *Virg. Georg.* III. 405 Alone, by Night, his watery way he took. 1855 MACAULAY *Hist. Eng.* III. 232 The breaches made by day were repaired by night with indefatigable activity.

20. During, for (a space of time). *Obs.* exc. in arch. *by the space of*. (Now expressed by *for*.)

c. 1460 *Towneley Myst.* 274 (Mätz.) He ded shuld be, And ly in erthe by dayes thre. 1503-4 *Act 19 Hen. VII.* xxxvi. Preamb. [He] lay both at Surgery and fesyk. . . by the space of ij yerres and more. 1509 HAWES *Past. Pleas.* i. viii. Thus stode I musynge myselfe all alone By right long tyme. 1612 BIBLE *Acts* xx. 31 By the space of three yerres, I ceased not to warne euery one. 1623-4 *Act 21 Jas. I.* xx. § 1 The Offender. . . shall. . . be set in the Stocks by three whole Hours. 1841 G. S. FABER *Provinc. Lett.* (1844) I. 221 Wholly given to. . . idolatry by the space of above eight hundred years.

21. Marking the completion of the time required or assigned for the performance of an action:

On or before, not later than; † within (a space of time). Cf. *BETIMES*.

c. 1350 *Will. Palerne* 2683 But hire fader com bi þe four-tenistes hende. c. 1380 WYCLIF *Sel. Wks.* III. 246 He bryngiþ in newe [servants] þat done werse bi litil tyme. c. 1500 *Lancelot* 30 Be the morow set I was a-lyte. 1616 W. FORDE *Serm.* 25 Learne by tyme how to die. 1682a *Wheeler Journ. Greece* i. 24 We parted and came by noon to Lesina. 1712a STEELE *Spect.* No. 503 ¶ 2 By this time the best of the Congregation was at the Church-door. 1768 *STERNE Sent. Journ.* (1778) II. 32 Ready at the door of the hotel by nine in the morning. 1867 *FREEMAN Norm. Cong.* (1876) I. v. 349 By midwinter they came back to their ships.

b. Hence, with omission of *sb.*: *By this*, *by that*; also *by now*, *by then*, etc.

a. 1300 *Cursor M.* 3007 Bi þis come sarra to þe tide O birth sco moght not ouerbide. *Ibid.* 2827 (Trin.) Bi þenne bigan þe list of day. 1400 *Morte Arth.* (1847) 19 By þat was Launcelot hole and fere. c. 1500 *Lancelot* 774 Be this the word wes to king arthur gone. c. 1565 R. LINDSAY (Pittscottie) *Chron. Scot.* (1728) 62 There are other ambassadours. . . directed by-now from the pope. 1671 MILTON *Samson* 262 Had Judah that day joined. . . They had by this possessed the towers of Gath. 1795 SOUTHEY *Joan of Arc* i. cxxxii. By this Dunois Had arm'd. 1864 ATKINSON *Whitby Gloss.* s. v., They must have sailed by now.

c. In the conjunctive phrase *By the time* (*that*); also formerly, *by then* (*that*), *by that*.

a. 1300 *Floris & Bl.* 151 Biþat hit was middei hi3 Floriz was þe brigge niz. a. 1300 *Cursor M.* 2839 Bi þe time þat þe sune ras, Strang cri in þa tounes was. 1400 *Morte Arth.* (1847) 99 By than that endyd was the fight, The fals were fold. c. 1435 *Torr. Portugal* 19 Be tyme he was xviij yer old, Of deddes of armys he was bold. 1470-85 MALORY *Arthur* i. x, By than they were redy on horsback there were vii C knyghtes. 1523 LD. BERNERS *Froiss.* I. xlv. 64 By y^e it was day in the mornynge, they were before Courtray. 1575-85 ABP. SANDYS *Serm.* (1841) 300 They cannot tell what is said: it is forgotten by that it is spoken. 1684 BUNYAN *Pilgr.* II. 82 By that these Pilgrims had been at this place a week, Mercy had a Visitor. 1701 W. WOTTON *Hist. Rome* 356 By that time he had overtaken the poor flying Emperor, he was almost equal to him. 1854 THOREAU *Walden* iv. (1886) 111 By the time the villagers had broken their fast. 1868 MORRIS *Jason* III. 503 Now was it eve by then that Orpheus came into the hall.

† d. whence *by* as quasi-*conj.* in same sense: *By the time* that, when, after. *Obs.* exc. *Sc.*

1297 R. GLOUC. 369 Be hii arysen. Wolues dede hii nymep vorp. a. 1440 *Sir Degre.* 961 That lady was glad by sche that chartur had rad. c. 1565 LINDSAY (Pittscottie) *Chron.* 31 (JAM.) By thir words were said, his men were so enraged. c. 1644 MS. *Hist. Somerville Family*, Be this execution was done, the prince returned from the pursuit. 1724 RAMSAY *Tea-T. Misc.* (1733) I. 103 By you've drunk a dozen bumpers, Bacchus will begin to prove. . . Drinking better is than love. *Mod. Sc.* It was done be (or by) we came home.

IV. Of mental or ideal proximity. (*fig.* from I. 1.)

* *Of accordance to a model, rule, or standard.*

22. In imitation of, after; with verbs of *calling* or *naming*. Cf. 29.

c. 893 K. ÆLFRED *Oros.* III. ix. § 14 Ober [byri3] was hatenu be his horse Bucefal, ober Nicea. a. 1593 MARLOWE *Dido* v. i. Let it be term'd Aenea, by your name. *Serg.* Rather Ascania, by your little son. 1682a *Wheeler Journ. Greece* i. 24 The Town is called by the name of the lake.

23. According to, in accordance with, in conformity or harmony with: a. a command, law, rule, will, or any standard of action. So in phrases *by book*, † *by course* (= in turn), *by heart*, *by rote*, † *by row* (= in order). (See the sbs.)

a. 1000 U. E. *Chron.* (Laud MS.) an. 634 Se Birinus com þider be Honorius wordum. c. 1000 ÆLFRIC *Gen.* xxiv. 10 Ferde to þam lande be his hlafordes hæze. c. 1175 *Lamb. Hom.* 97 Todelende uilichen bi þan þet him iwurð. a. 1300 *Cursor M.* 13052 Þi broþer wiþ þat þou agh not to haf be lau. *Ibid.* 9589 Mercy þou owest to haue be ri3t. 1463 *Bury Wills* (1850) 16, I will that they be reuayrd. . . by the discrecion of my executours. 1556 *Chron. Gr. Friars* (1852) 11 To be songe solemnly be note. 1663 BUTLER *Hud.* I. i. 86 And tell what Rules he did it by. 1712 ADDISON *Spect.* No. 409 ¶ 7 In examining Æneas his Voyage by the Map. 1848 MACAULAY *Hist. Eng.* II. 665 The right by which freeholders chose knights of the shire. 1859 F. GRIFFITHS *Artif. Man.* (1862) 14 By the left.—Quick march. By the right.—Quick march. 1866 KINGSLEY *Herem.* v. 109 They had timed their journey by the tides. 1884 W. C. SMITH *Kildrostan* 46 We judge a stranger by our home-bred ways.

1470-85 MALORY *Arthur* (1816) I. 52 The barons. . . assayed all by row, but none might speed. 1551-6 R. ROBINSON tr. *More's Utop.* (Arb.) 93 The women of euery family by course haue the office. . . of cookerie. 1552a HULOET *By herte, memoriter.* c. 1579 G. HARVEY in *Athenæum* 780/s His œconomicks. . . euery on hath by rote. 1709 ADD. & STEELE *Tatler* No. 93 ¶ 4, I am therefore obliged to learn by book. a. 1834 COLERIDGE *Table T.* (1874) 91 In Germany, the hymns are known by heart by euery peasant.

b. *ellipt.* with persons: According to the words or instructions of (*obs.*); *now only in take example*, *pattern*, or *warning by*, i. e. by the case of.

c. 1300 K. *Alis.* 3089 Nò doth nought by Dalmadas. c. 1550 *Scot. Poems* 16th C. II. 133 Euer liue in charity Be Christ Iesu. 1643 *Parables on Times* 12, I will take warning by the Eagle. 1866 KINGSLEY *Herem.* iv. (1877) 96 Take example by Alcinoüs. 1882a *Athenæum* 18 Mar. 339 He has taken pattern by Goethe.

c. in *By your leave*, *by consent*, etc. c. 1250 *Gen. & Ex.* 2865 God. . . of israel, ðe bode sente. . . þat bi ði leue, hisse folc vi-fare. c. 1380 CHAUCER *Reeve's Pro.* 62 By youre leue I shal him quite anon. 1470 HARDING *Chron.* xxvii. iii. His heire to been by their bothes

assent. 1568 Q. ELIZ. in *Strype Ann. Ref.* I. App. I, Elizabeth, by the grace of God, queen of England, France and Ireland. 1593 *Hooker Eccl. Pol.* Pref. vi. § 2 Given by authority. 1754 *Richardson Grandison* (1811) IV. iii. 22 By the doctor's allowance, I enclose it to you. 1848 *Macaulay Hist. Eng.* I. 153 The old civil polity was, therefore, by the general consent of both the great parties, re-established.

† d. *By so, by so that*: if only, provided that. 1393 *Langl. P. Pl. C. v.* 98 So alle myne claymes ben quyt by so þe kynges assente. *Ibid.* xvii. 209 By so þat no man were a-greued. *Ibid.* xxiii. 221 Ich counte conscience no more by so ich cacche seluer.

e. = 'Judging by or from', 'judged by'. 1597 *Shaks. 2 Hen. VI.* iv. i. 21 By the ground they hide, I judge their number. . . thirtie thousand. 1768 *Eliz. Carter Lett.* (1809) III. 164 By what I have heard of his character, I fear it affords no very comfortable prospects for our poor Princess. 1879 *L. Stephen Hours in Libr.* iii. vii. 294 He [Macaulay] ought, by all his intellectual sympathies, to be a utilitarian.

24. According to: a. estimation or measurement of any kind. Whence the phrases *by the great* (obs.) = *by wholesale*, *by piecemeal*, *by retail*, etc. c 1000 *Ælfric Lev.* xxvi. 26 And ge etah haf be gewithe. c 1205 *Lav. 17607* Fif hundred bi tale fussen to-somme. c 1400 *Dest. Troy* 1291 Seuyth thousand be sowme all of sure knyghtes. 1609 *Bible* (Douay) *Lament.* iii. 16 And he hath broken my teeth by number. 1611 *Bible Jerk.* iii. 4 A space . . about two thousand cubites by measure. 1688 *Wheeler Journ. Greece* II. 203 They sell it by weight. 1697 *Dryden Virg. Georg.* iv. 212 For ev'ry Bloom. . . An Autumn Apple was by tale restor'd. 1886 *Law Times* LXXX. 166/2 A miner . . paid by piecework.

1598 *W. Phillips Lincolnton's Trav. Ind.* (1864) 189 By means of their Brokers they buy by the great, and sell them againe by the piece. 1691 *Reply Wind. Disc. Unreasonable-ness of New Separ.* 14, I have Englished your Latin by Piecemeal. 1748 *Anson Voy.* iii. viii. (ed. 4) 485 The Carpenters went on board to agree for all the work by the great. 1848 *Blackw. Mag.* LII. 279 The . . people are 'perishing by wholesale'.

b. a definite standard or unit of measurement. 1494 *Act 1. 1 Hen. VII.* xxiii. No such Merchant . . should put any Herring to Sale by Barrel, Demy-Barrel, or Firkin. 1600 *O. E. Repl. Libel* I. viii. 210 The rest ate bread by the ounce, and drunke water by the quart. 1728 *Young Love Fame* II. 64 'Tis hard That Science should be purchased by the yard. 1885 *Manch. Exam.* 2 May 6/2 Roses. . . may be gathered by the basketful.

c. distributively, For each, for every, a; see *A adj.* 2 4. (Cf. *per cent.*, *per annum*, *per pound*; *F. par jour*, etc.)

a 1300 *Cursor M.* 8833 To wijt hu þat it [þe tre] gru be yere. 1495 *Hen. VII.* in *Ellis Orig. Lett.* I. 11 I. 21 For . . an archer or bilie on horsback vijfd. by the day. 1570 *Ascham Scholem.* (Arb.) 38 A stipend of 200 crounes by yere. 1647 *Husbandman's Plea agst. Tithe* 35 Arable land at 6s. 8d. by the Acre. 1781 *Phil. Trans.* LXXI. 305 The common price . . is just two shillings by the pound. 1797 *Philanthrope* No. 4. 22 He . . had now several thousands by year. 1815 *Scribblemania* 30 A public accustomed to quartas of original poetry by the month.

25. Succession of numerical groups or quantities, later of individuals, of the same class is indicated by *by*: a. followed by the sb. of quantity repeated with and between, as *by two and two*, *by little and little*. arch.

c 1205 *Lav.* 16128 Heo drogen ut of þan wuden bi sixti & bi sixti. c 1300 *K. Alis.* 548 By threo, by foure, with his taile, To the ground he smot. 1413 *Lydg. Pilgr. Soule* iii. viii. (1483) 55 They . . bounden them to geders by ten and by twelce. 1483 *Cath. Angl.* 31/2 By lytyle and lytyle, sensim, paulatim. 1556 *J. Heywood Spider & F.* lix. 2 Straight these twelce a rose By foure, four, and foure. 1593 *Shaks. Rich. II.* iii. ii. 198, I play the Torturer by small and small To lengthen out the worst. 1688 *Wheeler Journ. Greece* iv. 321 Which, by little and little, enlargeth it self. 1710 *Steele Tatler* No. 225 ¶ 2 A Set of Wags . . appear generally by Two and Two. 1880 *Keats St. Agnes* xli, By one and one the bolts full easy slide.

b. followed by the sb. of quantity in *pl.*, as *by hundreds*, *by inches*, *by files*, *by degrees*; also *by times*, *by turns* (obs.), = 'time after time, turn after turn'.

a 1300 *Cursor M.* 4710 Togider þei flocked in þat lond Bi hundrides & bi þousond. 1535 *Coverdale Dent.* ii. 8 Their horsmen come by grete heapes from farre. 1578 *Lyte Dodoens* iv. lviii. 519 The roote is . . full of joyntes by spaces. 1593 *Hooker Eccl. Pol.* I. vi. § 1 They grow by degrees. 1607 *Shaks. Cor.* II. iii. 47 We are . . to come . . by ones, by twos, & by threes. 1635 *Quarles Embl.* I. (1818) 42 One . . rends hair by handfults. 1645 *City Alarm* II We do worse then stand still, in doing things by halves. 1686 *Goad Celest. Bodies* II. iii. 191 To win our Ground by Inches. 1704 *Pope Spring* 41 Then sing by turns, by turns the Muses sing. 1728 — *Dunciad* III. 89 The North by myriads pours her mighty sons. 1817 *J. Gilchrist Intell. Patrimony* 71 Raving, perchance, by times, concerning religion and morality. 1843 *Barnham Ingol. Leg., Nurse's Story*, Hand in hand The murderers stand, By one, by two, by three. 1869 *Freeman Norm. Cong.* (1876) III. xii. 146 By twenties, by hundreds, by thousands, the force gathered.

c. preceded and followed by the sb. or word of quantity, as *man by man*, *little by little*.

c 1300 *Chaucer Compl. Venus* 81 To folowe word by word the Curioite of Graunson. 1393 *Langl. P. Pl. C.* xiii. 11 And praye for þe, pol by pol, yf þow be pecunious. c 1440 *Pecock Repr.* II. iii. 144 Ouer long to be rehercid word bi word here. c 1500 *Cocke Lorettes B.* (1843) 8, I wyll . . reken them one by one. 1630 *Wadsworth Sp. Pilgr.* iii. 15 They go downe two by two. 1709 *Tatler* No. 42 ¶ 14 Draw out Company by Company, and Troop by Troop. 1812 *Keats Lamia* 663 A deadly silence step by step increased. 1830

Tennyson Poems 66 The thick snow falls on her flake by flake.

d. To this may perhaps be referred the arithmetical phrases, *To multiply, divide by* (although by is now associated with the agent or factor); also the ellipt. *by* = 'multiplied by' in measurements of surface or content.

c 1301 *Chaucer Astrol.* II. § 41 a, Multiplie þat be 12. *Ibid.* § 42 b, 3if þow deuide 144 be 3. 1581 *Steward Mart. Discip.* I. 23 Then deuide the product by 1000. 1614 *T. Bredwell Nat. Geom. Numbers* iv. 65, I square the quotient a, that is, I multiply it by it selfe. 1753 *Chambers Cycl. Supp.* s. v. *Multiplication*, It is easy to conceive a quantity of any kind multiplied by a number. 1859 *Barn. Smith Arith. & Algebra* (ed. 6) 194 The former of these quantities is to be divided by the latter.

1731 *Swift Corr.* II. 690 Adjoining the kitchen may be made one room of 18 feet by 18. 1771 *Goldsch. Hunch of Ven.* 68 A chair-lumber'd closet, just twelve feet by nine. 1865 *Cornh. Mag.* XI. 60 An open water sixteen miles long by three broad.

* * *Of relation to an object about which physical or mental activity is engaged.*

26. About, concerning, with respect to, in regard to, as concerns: a. after verbs of action, as *do, act, deal*.

c 1175 *Lamb. Hom.* 51 Þenne do we bi ure sunne al swa me deað bi þe deade. a 1225 *Ansr. R.* 122 Þauh me dude so bi þe, me dude þe eorde riht. c 1380 *Sir Ferumb.* 5855 Dob now syre by thys man As it is by wille. 1579 *Spenser Sheph. Cal.* May 171 Such sailors. Will doe as did the Foxe by the Kidde. 1621 *Burton Anat. Mel.* II. i. 1, i, As the Spanish Marques is said to have done by one of his slaves. 1769 *Goldsch. Roman Hist.* (1786) I. 332 He murdered Hiempsal . . and attempted the same by Adherbal. 1812 *Jane Austen Mansf. Pk.* v. He will consider it a right thing by Mrs. Grant, as well as by Fanny. 1869 *Mrs. Norton Old Sir Douglas* xxx. 178 That Kenneth should do his duty by his mother. 1872 *Veats Growth Comm.* 32 Neither side acting unfairly by the other.

b. after neuter impersonal verbs, as *be, fall, fare*: With. *Obs.* or *dial.*

a 1250 *Owl & Night.* 1373 Al swa hit is bi mine songe. c 1280 *Commandm.* 31 in *E. E. P.* (1862) 16 Hit fallþ bi children þat beþ quede, as farþ bi been in hiue. 1393 *Langl. P. Pl. C.* xxi. 236 So shal hit fare by þis folke. 1523 *Ld. Berners Froiss.* I. cccxli. 717 Because they rode forth lyke foles, so it came by them.

† c. after verbs of thinking, saying, etc.: About, of. *Obs.*

a 1000 *Elene* 562 Witzan sungon . . be godes bearne. a 1221 *O. E. Chron.* (Laud MS.) an. 1036 Sume men sædon þe Harold þæt he were Cnute sunu cynges. c 1175 *Lamb. Hom.* 7 þis he witeged bi drihtene purh þene halie gast. a 1250 *Owl & Night.* 46 Hu thincþe nu bi mine songe? c 1320 *Cast. Loue* 495 Be vs foure þis I telle. c 1460 *Towneley Myst.* 188 How thynk the, sir Pilate, Bi this brodele. 1551 *J. Heywood Spider & F.* xlv. 9 What dishonestie know you by flies, sur? More then flies know by spiders. 1601 *Shaks. All's Well* v. iii. 237 By him and by this woman here, what know you? 1645 *T. Hill Olive Branch* (1648) 12 God knows more good and evil by us, then we know by our selves. 1752 *Fielding Amelia* VIII. ii, I always love to speak by people as I find.

† d. with pejorative force: Against. *Obs.* exc. *dial.*

c 1300 *Beket* 871 Bi the Bishop of Londone thulke word he sede. c 1530 *Ld. Berners Arth. Lyt. Bryt.* 23 Arthur wolde fayne fynde some cause by her. 1611 *Bible 1 Cor.* iv. 4, I know nothing by myself [Revised against]. 1678 *Yng. Man's Call.* 351 He never knew any thing by her to be worthy of the least suspicion. 1879 *Miss Jackson Stroph. Wd.-bk.* (E. D. S.), 'E's a tidy mon, leastways I know nuthin' by 'im.

* * * *Of relation to a circumstance.*

27. With respect to, in the matter of, as concerns (name, trade, age; also birth, blood, nature, etc., in which there is prob. some notion of instrumentality also).

c 1380 *Sir Ferumb.* 1131 A knyzt of fraunce, Be name ne know y nout wat he was. 1606 *G. W. (Oodcocke) Justine* 96 By age but a boy. 1622-62 *Heylyn Cosmog.* III. (1673) 58/1 The People . . were by composition of a middle stature. 1711 *Addison Spect.* No. 47 ¶ 7 A Neighbour of mine, who is a Haberdasher by Trade. 1712 *Ibid.* No. 69 ¶ 2 A Merchant . . who just knows me by sight. 1848 *Macaulay Hist. Eng.* I. 529 Allowed to associate . . with him as with a brother by blood. 1864 *Cornh. Mag.* X. 175 Frenchmen by blood as well as by birth and estate.

V. Of medium, means, instrumentality, agency. (*A fig.* development of the notion of *way* in II. 11.)

28. Indicating the part which serves as the medium of application or direct point and means whereby an action is applied to the whole.

a 1000 *Beowulf* 3298 þa wæs be seaxe on flet boren Grendles heafod. c 1000 *Ælfric Gen.* xxxix. 12 Heo tæh hine be his clabum. a 1154 *O. E. Chron.* an. 1137 Me hengeþ up bi the fet. 1393 *Langl. P. Pl. C.* iv. 20 Cortesliche be clerk þenne . . . toke mede by þe myddel. 1526 *Pilgr. Perf.* (W. de W.) 272 b, An hande sent downe toke me by the heer of my head. 1547 *Boorde Intrud. Knowl.* 131 Pediculus other whyde do byte me by the backe. 1667 *Pevys Diary* 13 July, I did give her a pull by the nose, and some ill words. 1711 *Addison Spect.* No. 12 ¶ 2 Her little boy offers to pull me by the coat. 1798 *Gouv. Morris in Sparks Life & Writ.* (1832) III. 109 The peace hangs by a very slender thread. 1830 *Tennyson Ode to Mem.* 30 Thou leddest by the hand thine infant Hope.

b. *By the roots*; *by the ground*: (? orig. = from the foundation), completely.

c 1290 *Pallad. on Husb.* I. 1132 Floure of lyme in oil, yf thou confounde And helde it in, upheleth it by grounde. 1713 *Berkeley Hylas & P.* II. ii, If I were to . . tear up a tree by the roots. 1833 *Hr. Martineau Briery Creek* II. 26 They could pull up a tall tree by the roots.

c. *To set by the ears*: to set quarrelling. *To be, fall, go by the ears* (Sc. lugs): to quarrel.

1595 *J. Heywood Spider & F.* lvi. 18, I thought they wold all haue gone by thears there. 1600 *O. E. Repl. Libel* I. i. 32 We must needes fall by the eares together. 1650 *A. B. Mutat. Polemo* 8 Set the Cavaleer and Presbyter together by the ears. 1702 *De Foe Ref. Manners* I. 306 To set the Town together by the Ears. 1822 *Scott Nigel* x. The King, and the Prince, and the Duke have been by the lugs about ye.

29. After verbs of *knowing, perceiving, calling*, etc.; introducing that which serves as a sign or means of identification.

c 1000 *Ag. Corp.* Matt. vii. 20 Be hyra wæstmenn ge hix oncnawad. c 1500 *Ormin* 479 Part 12 bi name nemnedd was Abyubb. 1393 *Langl. P. Pl. C.* xviii. 98 Shepherdes by the seven sterres Wisten . . whenne hit shoude reynen. a 1400 *Cov. Myst.* 297 (Mätz.) Be thi face wel we may the ken. 1562 *J. Heywood Prov. & Epigr.* (1867) 202, I here by the hounds, the hare is a foote. 1596 *Spenser F. Q.* vi. iii. 1 The gentle minde by gentle deedis is knowne. 1611 *Bible Luke* I. 61 There is none of thy kindred that is called by this name. 1688 *Wheeler Journ. Greece* v. 341 The Athenians . . would never have any Governour by the Name or Title of King. 1796 *Gouv. Morris in Sparks Life & Writ.* (1832) III. 98 That anarchy which goes by the name of the German Empire. 1867 *Freeman Norm. Cong.* (1876) I. App. 692 Cnut was baptized by the name of Lambert.

b. In *To understand by, mean by*: see these verbs.

1382 *Wyclif Prol. Bible* xiv. 54 Bi Salamon here is vnderstonden God himself. 1692 *Br. Elv. Answ. Touchstone* 49 He . . by the way understands that narrow way which he taught.

30. Introducing the means or instrumentality: = *by means of*. (OE. more usually employed *fram, thurh, of*). (The material instrument or tool is usually introduced by *with*: 'to cut with a knife'.)

a 1000 *Scopes Widsið* 100 Ic be songe scegcan sceolde. c 1205 *Lav.* 28337 Ich wuste bi mine sweuene what sorjen me weoren þeneðe. c 1300 *K. Alis.* 2941 That Y have by lettre yow saide. c 1340 *Cursor M.* 15986 (Trin.) He shal neuer rise aþeyn truly bi no myzt. c 1380 *Wyclif Sel. Wks.* III. 302 þes feyned religious . . amortisen many grete lordschippis bi fals tynle. c 1450 *Merlin* x. 156 Thei remounted Gifflet be fyn force a-monge his enmyes. 1548 *Latimer Serm. Ploughers* (Arb.) 34 Christe . . draweth soules unto hym by his bloody sacrifice. 1548 *Udall*, etc. *Erasm. Par.*, Mark I. 14 The firste teaching by mouthe of Christes religion. 1573 *G. Harvey Letter-bk.* (1884) 13 Neither to be allurid by prommissis nor persuaadid bi wurdz. 1608 *Earle Microcosm.* iii. (Arb.) 4 Hee instructs men to dye by his example. 1769 *Goldsch. Roman Hist.* (1786) II. 475 He . . at last died either by poison or madness. 1865 *Kingsley Glaucus* (1878) 167 The bird's foot star . . you may see crawling by its thousand sucking feet. 1866 — *Herew. Prel.* 6 Trying to expiate by justice and mercy the dark deeds of his bloodstained youth.

b. In *by coach, by ship, by rail*, the idea of motion blends with that of means; cf. II c.

c 1440 *Partonope* 383 Be shipp come merchandyse to the town. 1535 *Coverdale Dent.* II. 28 Only let me go thorow by foie. 1866 *Cornh. Mag.* XIII. 348 To go by coach in that direction is a sort of tempting of fortune.

c. *By no ways* (obs.), *by no means*: in no possible way, in no respect, in no degree. *By all means*: in every way possible. (These have gradually come to be used as strong expressions respectively of negation and affirmation.)

c 1340 *Cursor M.* 12908 (Fairf.) þat is na ferly be na wayes. c 1430 *Freemasonry* 626 þæt thou wolt not thyselfe pray, Latte non other mon by no way. c 1480 *Caxton Sonnes of Aymon* 235 By no wyse we maye not scape. 1593 *Hooker Eccl. Pol.* Pref. II. § 7 To argue and by all means to reason for it. 1713 *Guardian* No. 140 (1756) II. 224, I can by no means consent to spoil the skin of my pretty country-women. 1768 *Gray in Corr. w. Nicholls* (1843) 85, I would wish by all means to oblige and serve Temple. 1813 *Jane Austen Pride & Prej.* (1846) 29 Jane was by no means better.

d. in numerous phrases, see 38.

31. With *live*: introducing both the food and the means of obtaining it. Also *fig.*

971 *Büchl. Hom.* 57 þa gastlican lare . . þe ure saul big leofað. a 1000 *Guthlac* 244 Bi hwon scealt þu lifgan, þeah þu lond age? c 1205 *Lav.* 467 Leouere heom his to libben bi þan wode-roten. c 1300 *K. Alis.* 4971 Hy . . libben by the wyldde goot. 1393 *Langl. P. Pl. C.* vii. 292 3ut were me leuere . . lyue by well-carres. 1583 *Strusses Anat. Abus.* II. 89 The most of them . . attempt . . unlawfull meanes to lue by. 1600 *Shaks. A. Y. L.* II. vii. 14 As I do lue by foode, I met a foole. 1611 *Bible Matt.* iv. 4 Man shall not lue by bread alone. 1815 *Scribblemania* 217 Each pestle's displayer who living by drugs, proves humanity's slayer. 1880 *Church Spenser* iii. 52 No one in those days could live by poetry.

32. Introducing the intermediate or subordinate agent viewed as the medium or channel of action; = *L. per*, OE. *purh*.

c 1300 *K. Alis.* 4304 Darie hit wot by a spyre. c 1325 *Coer de L.* 1522 Sche greetes the wel by me. 1382 *Wyclif John* i. 3 Alle þingis ben maad bi [Gr. 624, L. 447] him. 1393 *Langl. P. Pl. C.* iv. 417 God sent to saul by samuel þe prophete. c 1450 *Merlin* i. 23 Thow hast herde by my moder the traunyle that they hadden. 1622 *T. Stoughton Chr. Sacrif.* xvii. 239 Hath he more benefit by his horse then by

his Minister? 1711 STEELE *Spect.* No. 118 ¶ 2 The Lady is addressed to, presented and flattered, only by Proxy, in her Woman. 1705 HENRY *Hist. Gl. Brit.* V. v. xxxviii. 382 The King could not . . . administer justice to his subjects in person, but only by his judges. 1833 *Fraser's Mag.* VIII. 312 Send check by bearer. 1866 ROGERS *Agric. & Prices* I. xxi. 527 The lord was present either in person or by a deputy.

b. in extended phrase by the hands of.

1411 E. E. *Wills* (1882) 17 Welche somme ys owynge to me, to be payd . . . by h^e handes of my lady lovell. a 1500 tr. *Magna Charta* in Arnold *Chron.* 217 By the handis of his kynnes folk . . . his goodis shalbe distribute. 1534 *Old City Acc. Bk.* in *Archaeol. Jnrl.* XLIII, Resuyd of m^r grayn by the hands of m^r hoxton v wrytyngs. 1866 *Cornh. Mag.* XLIII. 692 The Doctor will kill him, by my hands.

c. In phrases *To have children by, To be pregnant by*, and the like.

a 1000 *Cardmon's Gen.* 2326 (Gr.) Pus scealt sunu aȝan, bearn be byrde þinne. c 1000 ÆLFRIC *Gen.* xxxviii. 25 Be þam men ic eom mid childre. c 1205 LAY. 19249 Ygarne was mid childre bi thider. 1297 R. GLOUC. 23 Brut. . . sonnes hadde þre by hys wyf. 1393 LANGL. *P. Pl. C.* xl. 144 And haþ fyue faire sonnes by hus furste wyf. 1576 GASCOIGNE *Steel Gl.* (Arb.) 50 He begat me by Simplicite. 1631 GOUGE *God's Arrows* iii. ii. 183 Amalek was the sonne of Esau sonne by a concubine. 1750 JOHNSON *Ramb.* No. 22 ¶ 1 Wit and learning were the children of Apollo, by different mothers. 1788 J. POWELL *Devises* (1827) II. 351 The testator . . . had had several children by a native woman. 1805 EAST *Reports* V. 234 A bastard child . . . which a young woman had had by the defendant. c 1822 JANE AUSTEN *Sense & Sens.* (1846) I. By a former marriage, Dashwood had one son.

33. Introducing the principal agent.

This, which has now become a main use of *by*, is hardly found before 15th c.; OE. used of *fram*, ME. commonly of, which is still poetical, esp. with non-material verbs, as 'he was beloved of all'. Cf. Fr. use of *de* and *par*.

c 1200 MAUNDEV. iii. 15 That Cytee was destroyed by hem of Grece. 1461 J. PASTON *Let.* 38 II. 3 Assigned be the commissioners. 1570-71 HOLINSHED *Scot. Chron.* II. 52 Slayne miserabile in prison be . . . the duke Albanie. 1593 HOOKER *Ecl. Pol.* i. iii. § 2 A law natural to be observed by creatures. 1682 WHEELER *Journ. Grece* I. 26 The Walls of it were built by Diocletian. 1784 REID *Let. Wks.* I. 66/1 A malefactor is not hanged by the law, but according to the law, by the executioner. 1848 MACAULAY *Hist. Eng.* I. 31 It was among the articles which John was compelled by the Barons to sign. *Mod.* By whom was the book written?

b. So with personal qualities and attributes, natural agencies, etc., treated as principal agents.

For usage as to *by* after particular verbs, see these.

1549 *Bk. Com. Prayer* Pref., There was never anything by the wit of man so well devised . . . which hath not been corrupted. 1712 ADDISON *Spect.* No. 333 ¶ 5 This is followed by the tearing up of mountains and promontories. 1757 JOHNSON *Ramb.* No. 165 ¶ 1 Truth finds an easy entrance into the Mind when she is introduced by desire, and attended by pleasure. 1816 J. WILSON *City of Plague* I. i. 255 Swallow'd up in a moment by the heedless earth. 1844 PUNCH 13 Jan. 27 Pipes and alcoholic liquors are superseded by matrimony. 1848 MACAULAY *Hist. Eng.* II. 263 Such a demand . . . was not authorised by the existing treaties. 1875 BROWNING *Aristoph. Apol.* 99 Demonstrable By time, that tries things.

VI. Of circumstance, condition, manner, cause, reason. (Chiefly developments or weakenings of earlier senses.)

34. The physical circumstances of an action often become conditions more or less contributory or essential to its performance, and hence pass into the notion of aid or means, cf. 'to walk by moonlight', 'read by moonlight', 'read by candle-light'. (*By day light* closely approaches *by day*: see 19 b.)

a 1000 *Riddles* xxviii. 17 (Gr.) Ic . . . on eorðan swa esnas binde dole after dymtum be dages leothe. 1254 O. E. *Chron.* (Laud MS.) an. 1138 § 2 Me linte candles to æten bi. a 1300 *Cursor M.* 14195 God es to go bi light o dai. 1440 *Chester Pl.* (1843) I. 4 Those wise Kings three . . . by the starre that did shine, Sought the sighte of the Saviour. 1701 J. CUNNINGHAM in *Phil. Trans.* XXIII. 1207 The Weather so favouring us, that we were never but by our Topsails. 1712 ADDISON *Spect.* No. 409 ¶ 6 Seeing an Object by the Light of a Taper. 1872 MARK TWAIN *Innoc. Abr.* xii. 85 No gas to read by.

35. The sense of 'means' often passes into that of 'attendant circumstances', and so approaches or reaches that of *manner*.

c 1340 *Cursor M.* 18323 (Laud MS.) Alle that þou seidist by prophecy Thou hast fulle-filid. 1483 CAXTON *G. de la Tour* I. ij, Thenne wente shee and told it to hym by . . . fayre and ampterate language. 1489 — *Sonnes of Aymon* 32 Reynawde . . . thwerled his swerde by grete fyernes. 1509 HAWES *Examp. Virt.* ix. 161 Where byrds sange by grete melody. 1523 LD. BERNERS *Froiss.* I. clxxvi. 214 By this manere was the stronge castell of Eureux won agayne. 1589 PUTTENHAM *Eng. Poetrie* iii. xxii. (Arb.) 257 Wordes . . . written by wrong ortographie. 1677 MOXON *Mech. Exerc.* (1703) 241 A great part of its increase goes away by a kind of Glass. 1705 Act 5 *Geo. III.* xxvi. Preamb., To hold to the said John . . . by liege homage. 1840 DANA *Bef. Mast.* xi. 25 The halyards were at this moment let go by the run. 1875 JOWETT *Plato* (ed. 2) I. 350 The cause when heard went by default.

b. esp. in phrase *to begin by, end by*, etc., with gerund. (See further under these verbs.)

1684 *Scanderbeg Rediv.* vi. 150 The next Considerable Exploit of his Majesty . . . was, by taking of Zytchin. 1807 HALLAM *Const. Hist.* (1842) I. 151 Ministers who employ spies . . . are sure to . . . end by the most violent injustice and tyranny. 1830 THIRLWALL *Greece* II. 76 He began by banishing 700 families. 1887 GLADSTONE in *Ho. Comm.* 12 Sept., The right hon. gentleman the Secretary for Ireland sat down by saying that, etc. *Mod.* He finished by putting them all in the fire.

c. In *By way of*: as an instance of, as something tending or amounting to, somewhat under the form of. For full illustration see WAY.

c 1400 MAUNDEV. 199 The king zeveth leve to pore men . . . to gadre hem precyous stones and perles, be weye of almesse. 1766 HUME *Hist. Eng.* (1806) V. lxx. 235 By way of pleasantry he [Jefferies] used to call them [the soldiers] his lambs.

36. The sense of 'means' sometimes approaches or passes into that of 'cause' or 'reason': Because of, on account of, in consequence of, through; in virtue of, on the ground of. † *By so, by that*: therefore.

1398 TARRISA *Barth. De P. R.* iv. ix. (1495) 93 Though flewe of hymself be thicke and vsnauery by strengthe of heete. 1483 CAXTON *G. de la Tour* I. ij, Soone after by this synne he fylle. — *Cato* Giv. And by so thou oughtest to be contente. 1540 HYNDÉ *Vivet Instr. Chr. Wom.* (1592) Fv, He would haue women of his country to be regarded by their vertue. 1557 N. T. (Geneva) *Matth.* xxvi. 31 Al ye shalbe offended by me this nyght. 1593 SHAKS. 2 *Hen. VI.* iv. iv. 12 Warwickes Brother, and by that our foe. 1607 FELTHAM *Resolves* I. xxix. Wks. (1677) 49 A Hill almost unascendable by the roughness of a craggy way. 1667 PERSVS *Diary* 27 Aug., By the growth of his beard and gray hairs, I did not know him. 1771 GOLDSM. *Hist. Eng.* III. 240 The press . . . swarmed with productions, dangerous by their sedition and calumny, more than by their eloquence or style. 1839 THIRLWALL *Greece* IV. 263 In his house Protagoras was said to have read one of his works by which he incurred a charge of atheism.

b. in the conjunctive phrases *Be þam þe, by that, by reason that, by reason*: inasmuch as, because, since. Now only in full form *by reason that*.

c 1275 *Cott. Hom.* 235 Be þam þe he fader is and laford he him self cwed be þe witte, *Si ego*, etc. a 1536 TINDALE *Exp. Matt.* Wks. II. 128 By that they prophesied . . . and by that they cast out devils. . . it is plain that they be false prophets. 1558 KENNEDY *Compend. Tract.* in *Wodr. Soc. Misc.* (1844) 101 Be resoun the Kirk . . . can never be gatherit togidder. 1601 F. TATE *Househ. Ord. Edw. II.* § 10 He shal have no more, bi reason that he shal have cariage. 1606 EARL NORTHAMPTON in *True & Perf. Relation* (1606) Rr 4b, By that hee cals him virum mortis, I may lawfully conclude, etc. 1682 WHEELER *Journ. Grece* II. 203 Wine is scarce, by reason that it is prohibited. 1711 STEELE *Spect.* No. 2 ¶ 1 He keeps himself a Bachelor by reason he was crossed in Love.

37. In *Book-keeping*, placed before Credit entries; the person or account being made creditor by the amount entered.

1695 E. HATTON *Merch. Mag.* 140 By all the Cash you receive, and deliver nothing for the same; as By Money received with an Apprentice: By Rebate for paying a Summ before due. *Ibid.* 169 By stock, 150. 1751 CHAMBERS *Cycl. s.v. Book.* Ledger Book. By Cash for his remittance on James £1900. 1830 R. LANGFORD *Introd. Trade* 79, 1837 July 10 By remittance per W. Jackson £1000.

VII. In phrases.

38. *By* enters into a great number of phrases, which originated in one or other of the preceding uses, but are now used without analysis, and sometimes with such modification of meaning as to obliterate or obscure the force of the preposition. Such are a. *adverbial*, † *by cas*, *by chance*, *by force*, *by guess*, *by hook or by crook*, *by might*; and others for which an adverb might easily be substituted, as *by consequence*, † *by cover* (= covertly), † *by matter in deed* (= as an actual fact), *by metaphor*, † *by name* (= especially), † *by occasion*, † *by particular*, *by stealth*. [Here Fr. has usually *par*.] See the various substantives.

1297 R. GLOUC. 490 He vel of is palefrey, & brece is for bi cas. c 1340 *Cursor M.* 10700 (Laud MS.) Vow that is made by right, Ow no man to breke by might. 1475 *Bk. Noblesse* 31 Provided that . . . no man take vitaille before. 1544 PHAER *Regim. Lys* (1560) Rvii, Hitherto have I declined by occasion. 1565 in Sir J. PICTON *L'pool Munic. Rec.* (1883) I. 113 That no . . . person . . . succour by cover or operte, any apprentice. 1583 STUBBS *Anat. Abus.* II. 22 Either by hooke or crooke, by night or day. a 1586 *Anst. Cartwright* 17 He alleadgeth another prooffe by peradventure. a 1610 BABINGTON *Wks.* (1622) 257 This Manna followed the Israelites whatsoever the earth was: and by name in the wilderness. 1620 J. WILKINSON *Courts Let* 117 These persons by particular are said to be by the statute rogues. 1660 FULLER *Mixt Contemp.* (1841) 171 Ponderous, and by consequence probable to settle. . . on the earth. 1697 DRYDEN *Virg. Georg.* iv. 745 Some prying Churl had thence, By Stealth, convey'd th' unfeather'd Innocence. 1711 STEELE *Spect.* No. 145 ¶ 6 He snatches Kisses by Surprise. 1721 St. German's *Doctor & Stud.* 338 It is alledged in the indictment by matter in deed that he had such weapon. 1751 JORTIN *Serm.* (1771) V. v. 90 They might not imagine that the world was . . . made by chance. 1836 LANDOR *Pericles & Asp.* Wks. 1846 II. 394/1, I am not speaking by metaphor and Asiatically. 1848 MACAULAY *Hist. Eng.* II. 649 note, I have therefore been forced to arrange them [the events] by guess.

b. *prepositional*, † *by cause of*, *by chesun of*, *by colour of*, *by dint of*, *by the hands of*, *by means of*, *by reason of*, *by virtue of*, *by way of*, etc. See under the various substantives.

c 1380 WYCLIF *Last Age Ch.* (1840) 25 Bi reson of whiche þe briddre tribulacioun schal entre into Cristis Chirche. c 1400 *Avon. Arth.* xxxii, Ther to gedur faze we Be chesun of this lady fe. 1535 COVERDALE *Tobit* xi. 18 By reason of all the good that God had shewed vnto him. 1555 *Songs & Ball.*, Ph. & Mary (1860) 3 He hathe us up lyft by the means of hys sonne callyd Emanuel. 1593 SHAKS. *Rich. III.* I. iii. 78 Our Brother is imprison'd by your means. 1597 — 2 *Hen. IV.* iv. I. 128 All . . . That . . . by dint of Sword, Hauē

since miscarried vnder Bullingbrooke. 1601 ELSING *Debates Ho. Lords* (1870) 127 The Parlement is adjoined by virtue thereof [the Commission]. 1664 BUTLER *Hud.* II. ii. 736 Vict'ry gotten without Blows, By dint of sharp hard words. 1710 in *Select. fr. Harl. Misc.* (1793) 561 Edward Whitacre . . . hath, by colour of his employment received the sum of twenty-five thousand pounds. 1712 ADDISON *Spect.* No. 523 ¶ 6 By virtue of that spectacular authority with which I stand invested. 1728 MORGAN *Algiers* I. iii. 32 Jugurtha . . . by Dint of Money, corrupted many of the Senators. 1737 L. CLARKE *Hist. Bible* VIII. (1740) 496 By means thereof he took the City. 1864 BRYCE *Holy Rom. Emp.* 99 It was chiefly by means of the Papacy that this came to pass. 1876 BLACKMORE *Cripps* I. ii. 23 Quite out of sight . . . by reason of the bend of the hollow. 1881 R. BUCHANAN *God & Man* I. 111 The widow—by dint of strict parsimony, had saved a trifle.

39. Phrases occurring under preceding senses: *By and beside* 5, 7; *by common*, *by ordinar* 7; *by day*, etc. 19 b; *by no means*, *ways* 30 c; *by one's self* 4, 8 b; *by so, by that* 23 d, 36; *by that, by reason that* 36 b; *by the by*, *by the way* 12 b; *by wholesale*, *degrees*, etc. 24, 25.

B. adv.

Forms: [1 bi, bi3], 4 bi, (4-6 bie, 5-8, 9 (dial.) bye, 4- by. In OE. the instances of the adv. may all be treated (from the modern point of view) either as prefixes to a verb, or as prepositions following their object.

1. Of position: Near, close at hand, in another's presence or immediate neighbourhood; occas. after verbal sbs., as in *dweller by, stander by*, Naut. phr. *Stand by!* = be ready. See *By-* in *comb.* 2 a.

[c 993 *Battle of Maldon* 182 Bezen ða beornas þe him biȝ stodon.] c 1340 *Cursor M.* 14282 (Trin.) Men say hir þat bi stood Rennonde. c 1425 WYNTOUN *Cron.* viii. xl. 93 Opir Lordis, þat war by. 1463 *Bury Wills* (1850) 35 If any be drede man or woman ly by. 1526 TINDALE *Johm* xi. 42 Because of the people that stonde by I sayde it. 1602 *Return fr. Parnass.* III. iii. (Arb.) 43 He thinks hee hath gullid the standers by sufficiently. 1623 MASSINGER *Dk. of Milan* II. i, My brother being not by how to protect her. 1732 BERKELEY *Alciph.* I. § 15 Methinks you sit by very tamely. 1834 MARRIAT *P. Simple* III. 101 Stand by to haul over the boom-sheet when she pays off. 1861 FLOR. NIGHTINGALE *Nursing* 39 Patients are often accused of being able to 'do much more when nobody is by'. 1867 SMYTH *Sailor's Word-bk.*, *Stand by!* the order to be prepared.

b. preceded by *fast, hard, near*. Also transferred to the idea of time.

c 1400 MAUNDEV. viii. 93 Faste by, is 3it the Tree of Eldre, that Judas henge him self upon. 1580 BARET *Atv.* B 631 Here is a little towne or village harde bie to fite vnto. 1795 SOUTHEY *Johm of Arc.* I. cliv, Domremi's cottages Glean'd in the sun hard by. 1866 KINGSLEY *Hereto.* I. (1877) 20 He founded Boston near by.

c 1385 CHAUCER *L. G. W.* 2604 The aray is wrought, the tyme is faste by. 1535 COVERDALE *Isa.* II. 5 It is hard by, that my health and my righteousness shal go forth.

c. following a sb. in sense *lying, living, situate* close or hard by. Not now used alone. Also in fig. expressions.

c 1470 HENRY Wallace I. 50 Bruce [clamyt as] fyrst male of the second gre by. 1475 CAXTON *Jason* 412, Thau- nient knight that was loggid in that other bedde by might not slepe. *Ibid.* 42 Alle the nobles . . . of the countrees by and adjacent. 1588 SHAKS. *L. L. L.* v. ii. 94, I stole into a neighbour thicket by. 1607 J. CARTER *Expos.* 54 Dead in trespasses and sinnes, or next doore by.

d. Naut. *By and large*: to the wind (within six points; cf. A. 9) and off it. *Full and by*: sailing close-hauled to the wind. (Adm. Smyth.)

1607 CAPT. SMITH *Seaman's Gram.* ix. (1692) 42 Fill the Sails, keep full, full and by. 1608 DIGBY *Voy. Medit.* (1668) 83 Your chace goeth best before the wind, and . . . you can outbeare her, by. 1669 STURMY *Mariner's Mag.* 17 Thus you see the ship handled in fair weather and foul, by and learge. 1833 *Fraser's Mag.* VIII. 158 They soon find out one another's rate of sailing, by and large. 1881 W. C. RUSSELL *Ocean Free-L.* I. vi. 265 They held on after us nevertheless, sailing full and bye.

2. Aside, out of the way; out of use or consideration. *To put, set or lay by*: to put aside from use, set aside, discard; (*more recently*) to put aside from present use, so as to reserve for the future. *To put by*: also (*obs.*) to turn from one's purpose; cf. A. 16 c.

c 1425 WYNTOUN *Cron.* viii. iv. 253 For Custwme ap- prowyd oft by drawys Of Canon and Cyvyle bath the Lawys. 1535 STEWART *Cron. Scot.* II. 222 This young Arthure . . . Tha crownit king and put the richt air bye. *Ibid.* 339 All kynd of armour in that place cast by. a 1586 *Anst. Cartwright* 6 He must . . . laye by his prooffe as vn- true. 1595 SHAKS. *Johm* iv. iii. 95 Stand by, or I shall gaul you Faulconbridge. 1614 W. B. PHILOS. *Banquet* (ed. 2) 3 Age might be kept backe, and sicknesse kept bye. 1634 BAYNE *Om Coloss.* 344 What a Pride is it, for some ignorant Schollar to put by the direction of his Tutor. 1655 L'ESTRANGE *Chas. I.* 125 Some thing or other ever came trauers . . . and put him by. 1721 DE FOR *Mem. Cavalier* (1840) 311 They had set by the lords for not agreeing to it. 1731 SWIFT *Corr.* II. 701 These things can lie by till you come to carp at them. 1766 GOLDSM. *Vic. W.* xx, Vile things that nature designed should be thrown by into her lumber room. 1807 WINDHAM *Speeches Parl.* (1812) III. 19 Laying something by for a rainy day. 1867 FROUDE *Short Stud.* (ed. 2) 161 Neither party is entitled to say. . . Stand by, I am holier than thou.

b. Naut. *To lie (lay) by*: (a.) to come almost to a stand, either by backing sail or by leaving only enough sail to keep the vessel's head straight;

= modern phrase *lie to*; also *transf.*; (*b.*) to dodge under small sail under the land (Adm. Smyth).

1613 SHAKS. *Hen. VIII.* iii. i. 11 The Billows of the Sea, Hung their heads, and then lay by. 1674 PETTY *Disc. def. Royal Soc.* 102 To stop Leaks afore, the Ship must stop its motion, lye by, or bear up. 1704 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 4054/1 We lay by all day... repairing our Defects. 1753 HANWAY *Trav.* i. ii. vii. 72 We were obliged to lay-by in the night.

3. Of motion: Past a certain point, beyond. Also transferred to time; cf. *By* in *comb.* 2 b.

[1590 *Lindisf. Gosp.* Mark xv. 21 Geneddon bi geongende [*Rushw.* bigongende]. 15400 *Morte Arth.* (1847) 233 Floridas with a swerde, as he by glentys, Alle the flesche of the flanke he flappes in sondyre. c. 1425 WYNTOUN *Cron.* viii. xviii. 186 Thai persawyd by gangand A man. 1535 COVERDALE 2 *Sam.* xvi. 1 David was gone a lytle by from the toppe of the mount. 1606 B. JONSON *Barriers Wks.* 1870 III. 34 They marched by in pairs. 1766 *Goldsm. Vic. W.* xxi. A stage coach happening to pass by. 1844 *Disraeli Coningsby* i. iii. 14 The days are gone by for senates to have their beards plucked in the forum.

4. In addition, besides, also. *Obs.* (Cf. *Sc. for-by*) *By (and) attour*, see *ATOUR*.

1436 *Pol. Poems* (1859) II. 185 Thys colour... muste be seyde alofte, And by declared of the grete fulle ofte. a. 1440 *Sir Degrey*, 223 Tene score knythis... And iii honderd archers by. 1600 in *Farr's S. P.* (1845) II. 435 Onlesse my seruice be employed by. 1653 *Holcroft Procopius*, He might spend less wood, and wages upon bakers, and by gain the weight. 1763 C. JOHNSTON *Reverie* i. 143 For a guinea by. 1804 *Illustr. Lond. News* 21 Aug. (1886) 194 The Gallant and Spirited Race run... for 500 guineas, and 1000 guineas by, between Mrs. Thornton and Mr. Flint.

By, bye, a. Forms: 5-bye, 6-by; also 6 bi, 7 bie. [Attrib. use of prec. *by* in adv., as in *out patient*, etc. Not separated by any clear line from by combinations: see *By* III. (In modern use the spelling *bye* seems to be preferred when the word is treated as an adj.)]

Generally. The opposite of *main*.

1. Situated to one side, as a door, or out of the way, as a place; running in a side direction, or out of the way, as a path. Also *fig.* See *By* in *comb.* 3 a, b, and *By-PATH*, *By-WAY*, etc.

c. 1330 *Pol.* [see *By-WAY*, *By-DOOR*]. 1485 CAXTON *St. Wensfr.* 2 By a bye dore of the chamber she wente oute. 1584 BENTLEY *Mon. Matrones* 39 Seeking manie crooked and biwaies. 1583 STANYHURST *Æneis* iii. (Arb.) 73 Soom bye place of resting graunt vs. 1655 GOUGE *Comm. Heb.* x. 20 There are so many bie broad pathes. 1706 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 4259/4 The Man that is supposed to have robb'd... a bye Hackney Coach... upon the Forest of Sherwood. 1748 RICHARDSON *Clarissa* (1811) II. xli. 307 Nothing can be more bye and unfrequented. 1796 MORSE *Amer. Geog.* I. 335 Hospitals erected... in bye places. 1830 SOUTHEY in *For. Rev. & Cont. Misc.* V. 278 The mule preferred the high road to the bye one. 1880 *W. Cornw. Glass.* (E. D. S.) *Bye*, lonely. Our house is rather bye.

2. *fig. a.* Away from the main purpose, occurring 'by the way', incidental, casual; b. of secondary importance; c. privy, clandestine, secret, underhand; cf. *By* in *comb.* 3 c, d, 4, 5: often coupled with another epithet, as *by and sinister*, *familiar and by*, etc. See *By-MATTER*, *By-WORD*, etc.

c. 1050, etc. [see *By-WORD*, *By-MATTER*]. 1564 COOPER *Annu. Priv. Masse* (1850) 168 You have brought out of them all but a few bye sentences. 1590 B. JONSON *Ev. Man out of Hum.*, *The Stage*, Entertain this troop With some familiar and by-conference. 1623 D. LUTTON *London Carbon*. 105 He... hopes to haue... some by preferment. 1633 FOSBROOKE *Warre or Conf.* 9 Done either in hypocrisie or for some by and sinister respect. a. 1652 BROME *Crt. Beggar* ii. i. Have we spent all this while in by and idle talk? 1674 (Z. CADDREY) *Catholicon* 16 Those whom they have gained in their concealed and by-trade as Undertakers. 1808 PALEY *Nat. Theol.* xxvi. (1819) 455 The bye effect may be unfavourable. 1842 MIALL *Noncon.* II. 393 Some trivial bye consideration being unsound will vitiate our whole conclusion. 1849 RUSKIN *Ser. Lamps* iv. § 3. 96 Far too serious a work to be undertaken in a bye way. 1857 GEN. P. THOMPSON *Audi Alt.* I. ii. 5 A bye debate... arose on a motion by Lord Claud Hamilton.

By², bye, sb. Forms: (6 buy), 6-by, bye. [Ellipt. use of prec. adj. (or adv.), when *by* is contrasted with *main*, some such word as *object*, *road*, *course*, *part*, etc., or *stake*, *throw*, being understood; the earliest quotes suggest that the subst. use had its origin in dicing phraseology. Rarely used except with prep. preceding.] Often also written *BYE*, q. v.

† 1. A secondary or subsidiary object, course, or undertaking; a side issue; something of minor importance: chiefly contrasted with *main*; whence *phr.* *To bar by and main*: to prevent entirely, stop altogether. *Obs.*

1597 TURBERV. *Ovid's Epist.* 13 b. Refuseth me and all the wealth, and barres me by and maine. 1580 LYLIV *Euphuus* (Arb.) 430 Alwayes haue an eye to the mayne, what so ever thou art chaunced at the buy. 1598 BARKLEY *Felic. Man* (1631) Pref. Dice players, that gaine more by the bye than by the maine. 1603 *St. Trials* (R.) You are fools, you are on the bye, Rakeigh and I are on the main; we mean to take away the king and his cubs. 1670 FOLKINGHAM *Art of Survey* ii. v. 55 Extend from some few Maine Angles Base lines for Boundaries... and from convenient distances in the same, distantiante euery By. 1639 SIR R. BAKER in Spurgeon *Treas. Dav.* Ps. cxliii. 3 These are but the bye; the main of his aim is at the soul. a. 1734 NORTH *Lives* II. 188 Neither was the main let fall, nor time lost, upon the by. 1791-1824 D'ISRAELI *Curr. Lit.* (1866)

433/1 This critic was right in the main, but not by the by; in the general, not in the particular.

2. Phrases with a preposition: † a. *At the by* (see quot.). *Of the by*; of secondary or subsidiary importance. *Obs.*

1611 FLORIO, *Massare*, to play or cast at the by, at hazard or gresco. a. 1619 DANIEL *Coll. Hist. Eng.* (1626) Pref. 3 These things being but of the By. a. 1639 W. WHATELEY *Prototypes* ii. xxxiv. (1640) 159 Religion is made of the by, it serveth some other Mistresse.

b. *By the by* (earlier *by a by*, or *upon the by*): by a side way, on a side issue; as a matter of secondary or subsidiary importance, incidentally, casually, in passing. *Obs.* or *arch.* Also in predicative or complemental use (quasi-adj.): Off the main track, away from the point at issue, of secondary importance, incidental.

1615 W. HULL *Mirr. Maestie* 98 Not intentionally, but accidentally (as we say) vpon the bye. c. 1620 Z. BOYD *Zion's Flowers* (1855) 85 Who ever he be that in adultery, Begets a child, he stealeth by a by. 1627 HAKEWILL *Apol. Pref.* 10 It led them some other way, thwarting and upon the by, not directly. 1643 FULLER *Holy & Prof. St. v. v.* 377 They had something... in the favour of Friers, though brought in only by the by. a. 1661 HOLYDAY *Juvenal* (1673) 149 If he be ask'd, though but by chance, and on the by. 1678 BURLEIGH *Hnd.* iii. 1. 605 All he does upon the By, She is not bound to Justifie. 1740 J. CLARKE *Educ. Youth* (ed. 3) 66 Let it be done sparingly, and by the bye. 1794 G. ADAMS *Nat. & Exp. Philos.* IV. xlv. 259 [Chemist's] hunt, perhaps, after chimeras... and find something really valuable by the bye.

1621 BR. MOUNTAGU *Diatribe* 9 You are much upon the by, to bring in your Philological observations. 1640 CROMWELL *Lett.* 13 Aug. As for the pleasures of this life, and outward business, let that be upon the bye. 1661 J. STEPHENS *Procurations* 67 Little else than a *ro wappow* a work by the by. 1795 STANHOPE *Paraphr.* II. 222 They would not make Religion a thing by the by. 1831 SIR W. HAMILTON *Discuss.* (1853) 416 Tuition... lightly viewed and undertaken, as a matter of convenience, a business by the by. 1872 GEO. ELIOT *Middlem.* II. iv. 240 All these matters were by the by.

c. *By the by* is used parenthetically, with the omission of some phrase, such as 'it may be remarked'. So *by the way*: see *WAY*.

1708 SWIFT *Bickerstaff Detect.* Wks. 1755 II. i. 164 My wife's voice, (which by the by, is pretty distinguishable). 1762 T. JEFFERSON *Corr. Wks.* 1859 I. 183 As brother Job says, (who, by-the-bye... began to whine a little under his afflictions), 'Are not my days few?' 1847 BARHAM *Ingl. Leg.* (1877) 260 A line that's not mine but Tom Moore's, by-the-by. 1866 KINGSLEY *Hervey* i. By-the-by, Martin—any message from my lady mother?

3. ? A by-current, side current.

1877 BLACKMORE *Erema* III. liv. 229 By running the byes of the wind, and craftily hugging the corners.

See also *BYE*.

By in composition.

A. A ME. variant spelling of the prefix *Br*, *Br*, under which see most of the words, as, under *Br*, *bycause*, *bydene*, *bydryve*, *byfall*, *byfore*, *byget*, *bygynne*, *bygile*, etc.; under *Br*, *byreusy*, *byruve*, etc. Those words only are given under *By* for which no forms with *be*- or *bi*- have been met with.

B. *By* (sometimes *bye*): the preposition, adverb, or adjective *Br* in combination, either in words already formed in OE. with the accented form of the prefix, *br*, *big*, or in words of later formation, especially those in which *by* has an attributive sense, and cannot be separated by any clear line from *Br* adj., since the use of the hyphen is very uncertain. All the principal words so formed are treated as main words in their alphabetical places; the less important and more obvious combinations here follow, under the various uses and senses of the prefix.

I. 1. Compounds in which *by* is a prep., as *by-rote a*. See also *by-hither*, *by-south* (*By prep.* 9 c), *by-ordinary*, *by-common*, etc. (*By prep.* 7), and *BYHAND*.

1669 PENN *No Cross* xx. § 23 That a little By-rote Babbie shall serve your Turn at the Great Day?

II. Compounds in which *by* has an advb. force.

2. a. with nouns of agent or action, with senses 'beside, past'; as *by-inhabitant*, *-seer*, *-sitter*, *-stroller*; † *by-lier*, a neutral; † *by-coming*, passing; † *by-settel*, a lodger; so *BY-DWELLER*, *BY-STANDER*, etc.

1600 GAVRIE'S *Conspir.* in *Select. fr. Harl. Misc.* (1793) 195 Which [doore]... he had lokked in his *bycoming. 1658 W. BURTON *Itin. Anton.* 135 Ruins of Walls, which the *by-inhabitants call, The old Work of Wrockcester. a. 1572 KNOX *Hist. Ref.* 222 (JAM.) In case it beis inquired of all *By-lyars. 1642 T. HILL *Trade of Truth* 45 Many are *apocopi*, rather then *Episcopi*... *by-seers, rather then over-seers. 1612 N. RIDING *Record Soc.* I. 264 These persons following for retyning of inmates or *by-settells. 1837 HAWTHORNE *Amer. Note-bks.* (1871) I. 63 Others of the... *by-sitters put various questions. 1859 SALA *Tw. round Clock* 12 Yawing... on the *by-strollers.

b. with sense 'aside, side': as *by-glance*, *glancing*, *-leap*, *-start*, *-step*, etc.; also indicating movement astray, or in a wrong direction, as *by-fantasy*, *-lusting*, *-regard*, *-thought*, *-wishing*; also *BY-VIEW*, etc.

1609 R. BARNERD *Faithf. Shepherd* 14 Interrupted with

wauering thoughts and *by-fantasies. a. 1659 CLEVELAND *Committee* 2 No packing, I beseech you, no *by-glance. 1598 GRENEWAY *Tacitus*, *Ann.* xiv. iii. (1622) 203 By a *by-glancing at Claudius raigne. 1571 GOLDING *Calvin on Ps.* xi. 2 The fearfull bird, was fayne to make dyverse *byleapes. 1583 — *Calvin on Deut.* cxxxvi. 835 He forbiddeth vs also to haue any *by lusting. 1623 LISLE *Æfric on O. & N. T.* Pref. 11 They fordivers *by-regards, may hide... the truth. 1548 UDALL *Erasm. Apoph.* 280 b, His soudiours in gooyng forthward... made *by stertes out of their waye, and did muche oppression. 1567 DRANT *Horace's Epist.* To Rdr. 4 To speake according to the man, (which is a *bystep from the pathe of diuinitye). 1652 BENLOWES *Theoph.* xiii. cxvi. 251 Pardon the by-steps that my soul has trod. 1561 T. NORTON *Calvin's Inst.* iii. 279 No man can be so bente to praye, but that he shall fele many *bythoughts to crepe vpon him. 1601 DENT *Pathw. Heauen* 322, I demand of you, whether you neuer had any by-thoughts in your prayers. 1571 GOLDING *Calvin on Ps.* xxxv. 14 To some it seemeth a *by-wishing.

c. with a sense akin to that of *side-blow*, *side-stroke*; and often *fig.* of allusions in speech or writing; 'Indirect'; as *by-fing*, *-hint*, *-quip*, *-stroke*; *by-wipe* (= *side-stroke*).

1651 BAXTER *Inf. Bapt. Apol.* 8 Many told him of my *by-fings at him. 1833 KINGSLEY *Hypatia* II. vi. 163 *By-hints, and unexpected hits at one and the other. 1855 — *Westw. Ho* xiii, Some *bye-quip, perhaps, at the character of her most dainty captain. 1679 BEDLOE *Popish Plot* A b, I shall say nothing of their Politick *By-strooks. 1641 MILTON *Animadv.* (1851) 187 Wherefore that conceit of Legion with a *by-wipe?

d. with pples., as *by-flown*, *by-travelling*, *-wandering*; *by-advanced*, already past; † *by-come*, past; *by-peeping*, looking aside; *BYGONE*, *BY-PAST*, etc.

1827 CARLYLE *Richter, Misc.* (1869) 20 In thy steeples, behind the *by-advanced great midnight it struck half-past two. 1592 WARNER *Alb. Eng.* vii. xxxvi. (1612) 173 His happiest daies *by come or to be past. 1824 H. S. WILSON *Stud. Hist.* 171 Mere names, vaguely realised through the mists of a *by-flown time. 1612 SHAKS. *Cymb.* i. vi. 108 *By peeping in an eye Base and illustrious. 1610 GUILLIM *Heraldry* vi. vii, Lampen... took name from the *by-travelling River. 1571 *Pilgr. Parast.* i. 114 Keepe mee from devious and *by-wanderinge wayes.

III. Combinations in which *by* has an adjectival force.

(Here the senses so pass one into another, that it is not possible to classify them distinctly; different senses also often blend in the same combination. The following arrangement aims only at presenting the more obvious combinations under their predominating sense.)

3. With a notion of *local position* or *direction* and usually equivalent to *SIDE*.

a. in the sense 'Placed beside, at one side, aside, or off at the side', hence 'out-of-the-way'; generally with relation to a *main* or principal thing of the same kind, and thus often involving some notion of 'subsidiary' or 'subordinate' (see 5); as in † *by-board* (= *side-table*); *-chamber*, *-chapel*, *-cliff*, *-closet*, *-dish*, *-door*, *-gulf*, *-hole*, *-nook*, † *-note* (= *side* or *marginal note*), *-paper*, *-part*, *-settle* (= *side seat* or *bench*), *-slade*, † *-stall*, *-station*, *-tail*, *-town*, *-vale*, *-window*; also *BY-PLACE*, *BY-ROOM*, *BY-TABLE*, etc.

1637 RUTHERFORD *Lett.* lxxvii. (1862) I. 198 A sufferer for Christ... will be fain to eat with the bairns and to take the *by-board. 1853 KINGSLEY *Hypatia* II. xii. 312 Where was he now? In a little *by chamber. 1562 COOPER *Annu. Priv. Masse* (1850) 99 To creep in corners or *by-chapels as a sign of separation. 1566 FITZ-GEFFRAY *Sir F. Drake* (1881) 88 O now descend my ever mourning Muse Downe from the *by-cliffe of thy sisters mount. 1666 WHISTON *Th. Earth* Introd. 57 Will a wise Builder bestow twice as much time in decking... of one *Bycloset of inferior use? 1599 H. BUTTES *Diet's Dry Dinner* in *James I's Conterbl.* (Arb.) 192, I have put into a *by-dish (like Eg-shelles in a Sauce) what worthily may breed offence. 1545 BRINKLOW *Lament.* (1874) 94 They may also forsake their *bydiores, and clymyng in at the windowes. 1639 FULLER *Holy War* ii. xxxi. (1840) 90 He, like a *by-gulf, deuoured her affection, which should flow to her children. 1664 H. MORE *Myst. Iniq.* 565 They... seek for Inspirations and Revelations in *by-holes amongst the squallid Sepulchers of the dead. 1662 COUNTRY *Gentl.* II. 145 Odd corners, and little *by-nooks. 1579 G. HARVEY *Letter-bk.* (1884) 78, I have once in my life bestowed vpon the a *Byenote for thy lerninge, a. 1603 T. CARTWRIGHT *Confut. Rhem. N. T.* (1618) 581 This reliefe, whereof your by-note in the margin talith. 1659 INSTRUCT. *Oratory* 108 A memorandum being made of it in a *by-paper as you are writing. 1707 J. STEPHENS *Quevedo's Com. Wks.* (1709) 54 Apple-street... is a *by-part of the Town. 1602 ROWLANDS *Greene's Ghost* (1860) 26 A cloake vpon a *by-settle. 1635 J. HAYWARD *Banish'd Virg.* 126 They found, in an uncouth *by-slad, a slender Barge. 1682 MS. *Ord. Crt. of Sewers, Alford, Lincolnsh.* The breaches of the New Sea Banke & *Bystall lately broken. 1864 *Times* 24 Dec. A goods train is timed to be shunted at a *by-station. 1879 MISS JACKSON *Shropsh. Word-bk.*, *By-tail, the right handle of a plough; it is fastened to the 'shell-board'. 1683 *Royal Procl. in Lond. Gaz.* No. 1856/2 A Settled Post in or near particular *By-Towns, or Places lying on the Post Road. 1686 GOAD *Celest. Bodies* i. iv. 10 Days wherein Fog... chooses to nestle in a *by-Vale. 1611 BARREY *Ram Alley* iv, She is shewing... rare faces in a *by-window.

b. in the sense 'Running along-side and apart', whence 'devious, circuitous', and again 'little used, unfrequented'; as in *by-alley*, *-conduit*, *-course*, *-court*, *-cut*, *-ditch*, *-journey*, *-rill*, *-river*,

-route, -shoot, -stream, -track, -turning, -water; also bygang (dial.), a by-path; by-gate (dial.), a by-way; by-lead = by-wash; by-sprouting, a side-shoot; by-wash (see quot.); also BY-CHANNEL, BY-STREET, BY-WALK, etc.

1667 *Primit City & C. Build.* 148 The Statute .for By-Alleys, Lanes, By-Courts, and such places. 1631 *Celestina* iv. 50 Glory and quietness run from the rich by other by-conduits and gutters of subtlety and deceit. 1666 *Impeach. Dk. Buckhm.* in Rushw. *Hist. Coll.* (1659) I. 305 Irregular running into all by-courses of the Planets. 1753 *World* No. 52 Returning home through a by-court. 1883 *Pall Mall G.* 10 Nov. 8/2 Clearing the Regent's Canal and the by-cut at Haggerston. 1650 *FULLER Purgah* i. x. 32 The by-ditches of Dan and Bethel, did not so drain the peoples devotion. 1855 *Whitby Glass*, "By-gang, a by-path. c1330 R. BRUNNE *Chron.* (Rolls Ser.) 10145 "Bigate (see Byway). 1573 J. TYRRE *Refut. Knox's Answ.* Pref. 7 (JAM.) Euer seikand refugis and by-gets. 1596 DALRYMPLE tr. *Leslie's Hist. Scot.* 102 They take the pray, be bout-gates alanelle & bygates. 1808 MAYNE *Siller Gun* 31 (JAM.) By a' the by-gates .crowds were flocking down. 1873 *RAY Journ. Low C.* 38 Before we left Leyden we made a by-journey to Sevenbuys. 1711 *KEN Hymnotheo Poet. Wks.* 1721 III. 243 Sin with by-rills devaricates the Stream. 1577-87 HARRISON *Descr. Brit.* i. xvi. 107 A verie few by-rivers. 1855 *Chamb. Jrm.* IV. 37 We return to the city by a by-route little frequented. 1869 *WORLDWIDE Syst. Agric.* viii. § 3 (1681) 161 Take away about blossoming time, all the by-shots. 1561 TURNER *Herbal* ii. 84 a, Peony . . hath many bysproutynges. 1615 CROOKE *Body of Man* 550 Learned men . . may repaire to those fountains from whence we have drawne our by-streams. 1834 M. SCOTT *Cruise Midge* (1863) 39 We encountered in another small by-tracke . . three others. 1581 *SIDNEY Def. Poetrie* (Arb.) 39 The many by-turnings that may diuert you from your way. 1885 OGILVIE, "Bye-wash, by-lead, a channel cut to convey the surplus water from a reservoir or aqueduct, and prevent overflow. 1864 H. W. BATES *Nat. Amazon* vi. 150 An extensive lake . . which . . has therefore the appearance of a by-water or an old channel of the river.

C. transferred to matters, action, etc., collateral with the main matter or action: 'aside, side', as in by-battle, -concernment, -consideration, -dialogue, -discourse, -disputation, -history, -interest, -issue, -object, -point, -question, -touch; also BY-PLAY.

1844 DE QUINCEY *Cicero Wks.* VI. 207 The by-battle with the Cilician pirates is more obscure. 1667 *DYDEN Ess. Dram. Poetrie Wks.* 1725 I. 51 Our Plays, besides the main design, have Under Plots, or By-Concernments. 1691 *NORRIS Pract. Disc.* 60 We are not determined . . but by some other By-consideration. 1818 *SCOTT Rob Roy* xxx, This "by-dialogue prevented my hearing what passed between the prisoner and Captain Thornton. 1655-60 *STANLEY Hist. Philos.* (1701) 557/2 It is fit to premise, and put, as a By discourse, a Treatise concerning Divine Nature. 1800 G. HARVEY 3 *Wittie Lett.* 33 But to let this by-disputation passe. 1697 *Verdicts conc. Virg. & Homer* iii. 6 The marshalling . . of the Episodes or by-Histories. 1801 T. JEFFERSON *Writ.* (1830) III. 484 They have so many other by-interests of greater weight. 1768 LUCKER *Lt. Nat.* II. 503 A thousand by-objects soliciting on all sides. 1820 B. CARLETON *Jurisd.* 160 Not spending time in the examination of by-points. 1886 *Pall Mall G.* 14 Sept. 5/2 But this is a by-point; and in its main line . . Mr. Montague's jud. could hardly be improved upon. 1603 *SIR C. HEYDON Jud. Astrol.* xviii. 385 To digresse from the matter in hand to by-questions. 1831 J. C. HARE *Philol. Museum* I. 469 The value of the poems is independent of these by-touches.

D. The sense 'aside', develops that of 'private, privy, covert'; also connoting 'indirect, underhand, or sinister' dealing, as by-aim, -babbling, -conference, -contrivement, -design, -errand, -intent, -interest, -motive, -payment, -purpose, -trick, -warning, -wit.

1702 *Case of Schedule Stated* 7 [He] might have other by-aims, and Collateral Views, in what he did. 1614 J. ROBINSON *Relig. Commun.* 64 His by-babblings, and revyleings. 1625 K. LONG tr. *Barclay's Argenis* ii. xii. 103 Amongst other by-conference, hee learned much . . touching the Queenes affaires. 1657 *REEVE God's Plea* Ep. Ded. 12 All by-contrivements are but sinister drifts and bents. 1622-24 HEVLIN *Cosmogr.* (1674) To Rdr. Aij. Without any by-design to abuse the Reader. 1706 *Reflex. upon Ridi-cules* 116 With a by-design to be paid by them in the same coin. 1673 *CAVE Prim. Chr.* iii. i. 228 To go to Court upon by-errands and private designs of their own. 1659 LUSHINGTON *Repetit. Sermon* in *Phenix* (1708) II. 483 Had they any by-intent, they would have been very forward to report and spread the Fame. 1692 *LOCKE Toleration* iii. viii. A Pretence made use of to cover some other By-Interest. 1849 GROTE *Greece* (1854) I. 434 With the certainty of . . counterworking sinister by-motives. 1800 SHELLEY *Edipus Tyr.* ii. i. The patronage, and pensions, and by-payments. 1806 E. IRVING *Babylon* II. 444 If ye carry any by-purposes in your breast . . woe unto you! 1828 *HAZLITT Eng. Poets* iii. (1870) 85 To support his argument by the by-tricks of a hump and cloven foot. 1605 *BRETON Soul's Immort. Croune* i. (D.) She is of a more heavenly nature, Than with such by-wit to abuse a creature. 1542 *UDALL Erasme. Apoph.* ** vja, Aristotle . . gaue a bywaryning with this verse of the poete Homere.

E. Sometimes the sense appears to be 'wrested from the right, distorted, erroneous'.

1670 *BAXTER Cure Ch. dnt.* 174 He will make but an engine of his by-opinions, to destroy true Piety. 1708 J. TRUMBULL *M'Fingal* iii. (1795) 68 Liberty in your own by-sense is but for crimes a patent license. 1881 J. BELL *Haddon's Answ.* Ovor. A vii b, Sondry deformed byshapes of doctrine are fostered upp in the Church. 1651 *Mr. Love's Case* 33 Not wont to pervert or wrest words into by-significations.

¶ See also 2 b., c., for combinations which lie on the border between the adverbial and adjective uses of by.

VOL. I.

4. Occurring or done out of the ordinary course, or in the intervals between main occasions, or main engagements; apart from the main purpose; occurring by the way, incidental, casual, as by-accident, -bit, -business, -day, -drinking, -drop, -election, -employment, -goodness, -hour, -job, -letter, -match, -production (= Gr. *ἀπὸ πρὸς*), -service, -sess, -vote; † by-acquist, an incidental gain; by-obarge, a casual expense; † by-clap, † an interlude; also BY-TIME, BY-WORK, etc.

1648 *BP. HALL Select Th.* § 24 Whatever by-accidents I may meet withal besides. 1661 *BOYLE Style of H. Script.* 48 Our By-acquists do richly recompence our frustrated pains. 1818 *SCOTT Br. Lamm.* iv. A by-bit between meals. 1653 *HOLCROFT Procopius* ii. 49 Those Romans finding Petra in their way, attempted the Castle as a by-businesse. 1677 *BARROW Serm.* (1840) II. 403 A *ἀπὸ πρὸς*, a diversion or by-business of our lives. 1525 *LD. BERNERS Froiss.* II. ccxxiv. [ccxx.] 702 To paye the erles by charges. 1661 R. DAVENPORT *City Nt. Cap* iv. in *Doddley* (1780) XI. 332 No mask but a by-clap. 1637 *LAUD Sp. Star-Chamb.* 14 June 18 Upon those by-days (i.e. days when there is no sermon) to runne to other Churches. 1857 *Guy Livingstone* 32 (Hoppe) Being park-hack in the summer, and cover-hack in the winter, with a bye-day now and then when the country's light. 1596 *SHAKS. Hen. IV.* iii. iii. 84 You owe Monee . . for your Dyet, and by-Drinkings. 1804 *Blackw. Mag.* XVI. 66a The whole expense, by-drinkings included, might be defrayed for four pounds. 1647 *FULLER Good Th. in Worse* I. (1841) 95, I . . sprinkle some by-drops for the instruction of the people. 1880 *SIR W. HART Dyke in Standard* 29 Nov. As a rule we do not apply money to by-elections. 1617 *HIERON Wks.* II. 84 To deceive their inward anguish, by I know not what by-employments. 1679 T. GOODWIN *Wks.* (1861) I. 417 There is a proper goodness, and there is an accidental, a by-goodness. 1639 *SALTMARSH Policy* 278 The best opportunities are meale times, and some other by-hours of relaxation. 1867 *SMILES Huguenots Eng.* xiv. (1880) 247 His chief delight in his by-hours was to shut himself up with Le Gendre's arithmetic. 1773 *GRAVES Spir. Quix.* ii. ii. (D.) He could secrete a tester for some by-job. 1685 *Royal Procl. in Lond. Gaz.* No. 2068/2 The Post-Master General . . to take effectual Care for the Conveyance of all By-Letters. 1758 *JOHNSON Idler* No. 62 P to A Chesnut horse . . who won . . ten by-matches. 1870 *LOWELL Study Wind.* 110 The by-productions of a busy man. 1639 *FULLER Holy War* iii. xviii. (1840) 146 Employing the army of pilgrims in by-services. 1650 *Over-seers' Acc. Holy Cross, Canterb.* Sixe "By Sesses made within the year. 1880 H. E. MANNING in *19th Cent.* Aug. 181 But Parliament has not yet confirmed that by-vote. *Ibid.* A by-vote like that which shut the door of the House of Commons against Horne Tooke because he was a clergyman.

5. Of character, relative standing, or importance: Additional, extra, subsidiary, secondary, minor, or less importance. Contrasted with MAIN. As By-art, -assembly, -authority, -bill, -book, -cause, -ceremony, -character, -crop, -dependency, -feature, -form (of a word), -help, -ingredient, -knife, -meaning, -meter, -ornament, -part, -root, -rule, -saint's-day, -stamp, -taste, -tone, -world, -writer, etc., etc. Also by-bootings (? bollings), 'the finest kind of bran' (Halliwell); by-faith, a secondary article of belief; by-foundation, a second endowment or benefaction; by-founder, the bestower of such an endowment; † by-leman, a second lover or gallant (see quot.); by-member, an additional limb; by-taok (see quot.).

1643 W. CARTWRIGHT *On death of Mrs. Ashford* (R.) What others now count qualities and parts She thought but complements, and meer by-arts. 1673 *SIR L. JENKINS Let.* in W. Wynne *Life* i. 121 Encouraging a kind of by-assembly here of the best affected, princes of Germany. 1622 F. MARKHAM *Bk. War* ix. § 6. 156 Many other by-authorities are transferred upon these officers, as distribution of victuals. 1732 *Acc. Workhouses* 148 The weekly payments to the poor were 3*l.* 5*s.* or thereabouts, besides By-bills, as they are called. 1663-4 *FERRY Diary* 24 Jan. I . . fell on entering, out of a by-be-book, part of my second journal-book. 1593 *Monic. Acc. Newcastle* (1848) 29 Keepinge the by-booke of the rente of Gateshead. 1614 B. JONSON *Barth. Fair* iii. i, I, the said Adam, was one cause (a by-cause) why the purse was lost. 1633 *AMES Agst. Cerem.* ii. 122 He . . doeth now . . admit such by-Ceremonies. 1884 W. G. WILLS in *Pall Mall G.* 28 July 4/2 The by-characters . . support and feed the situations chiefly occupied by an impression full-length. 1880 *Academy* 24 July 6/1 Jute is only a by-crop, like turnips and beans in this country. 1621 *SHAKS. Cymb.* v. v. 390 All the other by-dependencies, From chance to chance. 1679 T. GOODWIN *Wks.* (1864) VIII. 487 The Jews sought it [i.e. righteousness] but as a by-faith. 1603 *DYDEN Wind. Dk. of Guise Wks.* 1725 V. 318 There is . . no Dash of a Pen to make any By-feature resemble him to any other Man. 1889 tr. *Hehn's Wanderings Pl. & Anim.* 461 Some Teutonic languages have a by-form in which the Latin *u* is retained. 1655 *FULLER Ch. Hist.* iii. 75 There is a By-Foundation of Postmasters in this House, (a kinde of Colledge in the Colledge). — *Hist. Camb.* (1840) 216 The bounty of sir Francis Clark, justly entitled him to be a by-founder. 1571 *GOLDING Calvin on Ps.* lxxiii. 25 They truste to their owne riches and other byhelpes. 1882 T. G. PINCHES in *Trans. Philol. Soc.* i. 99 We have, in these tongues, a valuable by-help in the Science of Semitic philology. 1645 J. GOONWIN *Innoc. & Truth Tri.* To Rdr. 2 Did not the God of Truth . . put many a by-ingredient into his providence. 1570 *Leg. Bp. St. Andrews in Scot. Poems* 16th C. II. 323 With y^e his by-knife forth he tane. c1650 in C. Innes *Sk. Scot. Hist.* (1861) 431 He had a dirk and a by-knife for Highland expeditions. c1400 *Lay le Freine* 103 Yifich sayich hadde a bi-leman. c1400 *Octavian* (W.) 119 Thy yonge wyff: Sche hathd a by-leman. 1836-7 *SIR W. HAMILTON Metaph.* iii. (1859) I. 54 Discharge from your minds the by-meaning accidentally associated with the

word *empiric*. 1509 *HAWES Past. Pleas.* xxiii. iii. A bye membre she [nature] wyll than more devyse. 1851 *MAYHEW Lond. Labour* III. 270 (Hoppe) There were formerly several bye-meters (for coal), chosen by the merchants from their own men, as they pleased. 1639 *MASSINGER Unnat. Comb.* Ded. When such by-ornaments were not advanced above the fabric of the whole work. 1612 *WOODALL Surg. Mate Wks.* (1653) 19 A by-part of Surgery not common. 1578 *Chr. Prayers in Priv. Prayers* (1851) 527 To weaken the principal root, that the by-roots . . may lose all their power. 1861 *POPE Dubois on People Ind.* iii. vi. (ed. 2) 336 note. The bye-rule that no one shall engage in the same employment as his neighbour. 1604 *GER Foot out of Snare* 79 When he preacheth vpon any By-Saints-day. 1884 *Law Times Rep.* LI. 221/2 They registered such name in Sweden as a bye-stamp in addition to such mark. 1836 J. DOWNES *Mount. Decameron* III. 74 Didn't my father put his father into a bye tack of our farm? 1847-78 *HALLIW., Bytack*, a farm taken in addition to another farm, and on which the tenant does not reside. *Hercfordsh.* 1879 *MISS JACKSON Shropsh. Word-bk.* s.v. One 'afe o' the farms bin let bytack. 1799 J. ROBERTSON *Agric. Perth* 183 Persons of a nice palate loathe the milk on account of a by-taste, which the turnips give it. 1852 *SEIDEL Organ* 87 The higher the fundamental tone is, the quicker the by-tones follow each other. 1711 *SHAFTESB. Charac.* (1737) II. 208 'Tis only a separate by-world, of which perhaps there are, in the wide waste, millions besides. 1872 *LITTON Parisians* vii. iii. She . . did enjoy that ideal by-world. 1577-87 HARRISON *Descr. Brit.* i. ix. 23 Let us see what Fortunatus hath written . . and afterward what is to be found of other by-writers.

6. in the sense of Counterfeit, mock, pseudo-, as † by-fruit, a gall or other excrescence simulating a fruit; † by-gold, imitation gold, tinsel; cf. Bi-GOLD; by-teacher.

1679 *Plot Staffordsh.* (1866) 224 That by-fruit that grows on the leaves of the Oak, which we call Galls. 1688 *LISTER in Phil. Coll.* XII. 166 By-fruits or Wens which Insects raise upon Vegetables. 1611 *COTGR., Orpel*, silver and by-gold; a kind of leaf-tinne. 1633 *AMES Agst. Cerem.* ii. 210 He maketh shew of a distinction, betwixt an authentic teacher, and another . . by-teacher.

By, obs. f. BE, BEE, BUT; also of *been* pa. pple. of BE v.

-by (bi) suffix, forming

1. names of places (in the north of England), from BY sb., as in *Grimby, Netherby, Kirkby, Ormesby, Rugby, Whitby*.

2. descriptive personal appellations, playful or derisive, as *idley, idlesby* (= idler, Mr. Idleness), *lewdsby, litherby, rudesby, sneaksby, sureby, suresby, wisby* (wearer of a wig), etc., especially frequent in 17th c. Perhaps formed in imitation of the place-names, or rather of personal surnames derived from these, such as *Crosby, Littleby, Slingsby, Spilsby, Thoresby*, some of which readily lent themselves to paronomasia. Cf. also such appellations as *Chatterbox, Butterfingers, Lazybones, Sly-boots*. Some have suggested identity with *-boy*.

Byabyll, obs. form of BUYABLE.

By-alde, obs. form of BEHOLD v.

Byally, variant of BIALY a. Obs. Her.

By-altar (bài-ôltar). [f. BY- 3 a + -ALTAR.] A side altar; a secondary, as distinguished from the high, altar.

1882 *SCHAFF Relig. Encycl.* I. 67 Wherever the Reformation became victorious, all the by-altars were generally broken down.

By and by (bài- and bòi, bòi- on bòi), *advb.* *phr.* (and sb.) [originating app. in the use of BY *prep.* to denote succession (see BY *prep.* 25).]

† 1. Of a succession of (persons or things): One by one, one after another, in order: a. in place.

1330 R. BRUNNE *Chron.* 267 He slouh tuenti, per hedes quyte & clene, he laid þam bi & bi. c1385 *CHAUCER L. G. W.* 304 Fyrrst sat the god of loue . . And sithyn al the remenant by and by As they were of degre. c1440 *Partonope* 1920 Wyth Rybyes and Saphires by and by. c1485 in *E. E. Misc.* (1855) 4 The towres shal be of every [= ivory] Clene corvene by and by.

† b. in order or succession. Obs.

c1330 *Assump. Virg.* (1866) 85 Vp ous oure swete ladi And kist þe apostles bi & bi. 1330 R. BRUNNE *Chron.* 73 Whan William . . had taken homage of barons bi & bi. c1400 *Rom. Rose* 4581 These were his wordis by and by [mot à mot]. c1485 *Digby Myst.* (1882) iii. 1911, I have gon þe stacyounes by and by.

† 2. On and on, continuously. Obs.

c1324 *Guy Warton* (A.) 4828 Gij . . soust þat maiden bi & bi: Op and doun he jede hir secheinde. c1340 *Cursor M.* 15194 (Fair.) Folowes forþ þat ilk man al-way bi & by. c1430 *Syr Gener.* 4836 The knyghtes . . So thei bare hem by and by That the host without began to fleeen. c1600 Z. BOVU *Zion's Flowers* (1855) 83 The Ivie bush the Oak claspes by and by.

3. Of sequence of events: † a. Straightway, immediately, directly, at once. Obs.

1407 *W. of Thorpe's Exam.* in *Arb. Garner* VI. 110 Some counseled the Archbishop to burn me by and by. 1506 *TINDALE Mark* i. 31 By and by [COVERDALE, immediately] the fever left her. 1586 *COGAN Haven Health* ccxv. (1636) 224 Ill seeds . . shew not themselves by and by, but yet in process of time they bud forth. 1611 *BIBLE Luke* xxi. 9 The end is not by and by. 1690 *W. WALKER Idiom. Anglo-Lat.* 390 They say he will be here by and by (even now).

4. [With the same development of sense as in *anon*, *presently*, and *F. bientôt*]: Before long, 155

presently, soon, shortly. (The usual current sense; in U. S. vulgarly *by'm-by*.)

1566 *Pilgr. Perf.* (W. de W. 1531) 164 Innocentius coun-
seleth us to say it by & by. 1549 *OLDE ERASM. Par.*
Thess. ii. 15 To haue slayne the Prophetes before, and byanby
Christ after the Prophetes. 1596 *SHAKS. 1 Hen. IV.* v. iv.
109 Imbowell'd will I see thee by and by, Till then, in blood,
by Noble Percie lye. 1607 *SANDERSON 12 Sermon.* (1637) 554
Restraining Grace may tie us now, and by and by unloose
us. 1711 *STEELE Spect.* No. 132 ¶ 4 Thee and I are to part
by and by. 1805 *Bro. Jonathan I.* 106 Bym by, naiteral
enough, there they go! 1868 *HUXLEY Lect. Wrkg. Men*
93 You may by-and-by convert single flowers into double
flowers. 1884 *Harper's Mag.* Feb. 410/2 By-me-by he... gave
up goin' to see the... girls.

† 5. Of logical sequence: For that reason, there-
fore, as a consequence; = *L. continuo*. Obs.

1565-73 *COOPER Thesaur. s.v. Continuo*, If he did speake
foolishly, will you by and by do more foolishly? 1581 *J.*
BELL Haddon's Answ. Oser. 263 b, As though y^e whatsoever
were unlike unto Ciceroes phrase, were by & by barbarous.
1621-31 *LAUD Ser. Sermon.* (1847) 96 All 'heats' are not by
and by a furnace.

B. used as *sb.*; whence a. Procrastination; b.
Time coming.

1591 *FLORIO Sec. Frutes* 95 Neuer giue credite... to the
by and by of England, nor to the warrant you of Scotland.
1719 *OZELL tr. Misson's Mem.* 120 Negligences (the French
call them by and by's). 1792 *ROBERTS Looker-on* No. 1
Husbanding up wise resolutions to be executed by and by.
This by-and-by is a sort of phantom which seduces us on till
we drop into old age. 1869 *Daily News* 4 Feb., By the
road of By-and-by one arrives at the town of Never. 18...
S. F. BENNETT, 'There's a land that is fairer than day', In
the sweet by-and-by We shall meet on that beautiful shore.

Byard, obs. form of BUYER, BYRE.

Byard (baird). Mining. A leather strap
crossing the breast, used by the men who drag
wagons in coal-mines.

1847 in *Craig*; and in mod. Dicts.

Byas(s), Byasnesse, obs. ff. BIAS, -NESS.

By-battle, etc.: see BY-3 c.

† Bybbey. Obs. Some kind of herb.

† 1 a 1400 *Chester Pl.* (Shaks. Soc.) 119 Bybbey [*Bodl. MS.*
tibble] raydishe and egremounde Which be my erbes.

Bybell-babble, obs. f. BIBBLE-BABBLE.

† By-bet. Obs. [The general sense is evident
from the context, but the analysis is doubtful.]
a 1607 *MIDDLETON & ROWLEY Changeling* iv. i, The gold
is but a by-bet to wedge in the honour.

By-bidder. [see BY-3 c.] 'A person at an
auction who bids with the object of raising the
prices' Mrs. Toogood *Yorksh. Dial.* 1863. So
By-bidding.

1880 *Libr. Univ. Knowl.* III. 238 By-bidding, at auctions
where the bidder may be employed by the owner, and really
bidding to enhance the price, not meaning to purchase.

Bybill, -ylle, etc., obs. ff. BIBLE.

Bybloemen (bairblōman). [? Du., f. *bij* BY +
bloem (pl. *bloemen*) BLOOM, flower.] One of the
main varieties of the Garden Tulip.

1843 *Penny Cycl.* XXV. 343/2 The varieties of the latter
tulip [*T. Gesneriana*]... are divided into... Bizarres, Bybloe-
mens, Roses, and Selfs. 1846 Mrs. LONDON *Ladies' Comp.*
Flower-Gard. 303 The Bybloemens... are white, shaded with
violet or dark purple.

By-blow (bairblōu). Also 8-9 bye-. [f. BY-
2 b, c, 4.]

1. A side-blow or side-stroke: *lit.* and *fig.*

1594 *BARNFIELD Helen's Rape* 67 In such a Ladie's lappe,
at such a slipperie by-blow [cf. sense 3]. 1611 *DEKKER*
Roar. Girl i. Wks. 1873 III. 145 How finely like a fencer
my father fetches his by-blows to hit me. 1645 *MILTON*
Colast. Wks. (1851) 343 Now and then a by-blow from the
Pulpit. 1808 *Edin. Rev.* XII. 52 Juvenal deals his by-blows
to less prominent... characters.

† 2. *fig.* A calamity or disaster not in the main
course. Obs.

1600 *HOLLAND Livy* xxv. xxii. 564 So long as the Consuls,
in whom rested the maine chance... sped well, they were
the lesse troubled at these by-blows. a 1677 *BARROW Sermon*
on Duty to Poor, Inequality and private interest in things...
were the by-blows of our fall.

3. One who comes into the world by a side
stroke; an illegitimate child, a bastard. Also *fig.*

1595 *Eng. Tripe-wife* (1881) 152 Not your wives daughter,
but a by-blow... of your predecessours. 1658 *USSHER*
Ann. 499 Ptolemei Apion, a By-blow by a Harlot. 1673
[R. LEIGH] *Transp. Reh.* 8 Had not his brain been de-
livered of this By-blow. 1708 *MOTTEUX Rabelais* iv. lxii,
Kind Venus cur'd her beloved By-blow Æneas. 1749
FIELDING Tom Jones viii. iv. (1840) 108/2, I thought he was
a gentleman's son, thof he was a by-blow. 1868 *BROWNING*
Ring & Bk. iv. 612 A drab's brat, A beggar's bye-blow.

† 4. A blow that goes by, or misses its aim. Obs.
1639 *J. CLARKE Paramitologia* s.v. *Crudelitas*, He would
have made a good butcher, but for the by-blow. 1684
BUNYAN Pilgr. II. 103 Now also with their by-blows, they
did split the very Stones in pieces.

Byblus, var. spelling of BIBLUS, papyrus.

By-board, etc.: see BY-3.

† **By-boat**. Obs. Also 8 bye-boat. [f. BY-
+ BOAT.] ? A supplementary or extra boat. Used
esp. of the Newfoundland fishery; also *attrib.* in
by-boat-keeper.

1698-9 *Stat. Admiralty, Shipping, &c.* (1810) Every Master
of a By-boat or By-boats shall carry with him at least Two
fresh Men in Six. *Ibid.* 26 Persons... that shall go over with
their Servants to Newfoundland, to keep Boats on a Fishing

Voyage, commonly called By-boat Keepers. 1708 *Royal*
Procl. in *Land. Gaz.* No. 4452/1 No By-Boat-Keepers should
meddle with any... Cook-Room, Train Fat, or other Con-
venience. 1796 *Campaigns* 1793-4 I. i. i. 2 Others were
obliged to follow the transports in packets and bye boats.

By-business, etc.: see BY-4.

Bycal, -calles, obs. forms of BECALL.

† **Bycapped**, pa. pple. Obs. rare-1. [f. by- = BE-
pref.: for the root cf. CAP v.; also *L. captus* and
bycagt, pa. pple. of BECATCH.] ? Taken, attracted,
captivated.

1387 *TREVISIA Higden Rolls Ser. VII.* 331 Lanfrank was
bycapped [v. r. cappel, ycapped; *L. captus*] by þe pouert
and religioun of þat place [Bec].

Bycaught, pa. pple. of BECATCH v. Obs.

Bycause, Byccer, obs. ff. BECAUSE, BICKER.

Byce, Bych(e), obs. ff. BICK, BITCH.

By-chamber, -chapel, etc.: see BY-3.

By-channel (bairtʃænəl). [f. BY- 3 b +
CHANNEL.] A side-stream apart from the main
channel; *fig.* a collateral branch (of a family).

1608 *EARLE Microcosm.* (Arb.) 71 Not a by-Channel or
bastard escapes him. 1864 *BATES Nat. Amazon Pref.* 6 The
network of by-channels and lakes which everywhere accom-
panies its [the Amazon's] course.

† **By-chop**. Obs. [see BY-, BY-SLIP.] A bas-
tard. Cf. BY-BLOW.

1632 *B. JONSON Magn. Lady* iv. ii, I have sent By-chop
away; the cause gone, the fame ceaseth.

Byclag, Byclappe, etc.: see BECLOG, BECLAF.

† **Bycocket**. Obs. Also 5-6 byekoket, by-
cockett, bicokett; also *erron.* 6 abococket, -ed,
abococke, 7 abacoc, 7-9 abacot. [a. OF. *bi-*

coquet, *bicoquet*, *biquoquet*, cap, casque, head-
dress, 'capuce, casaque à capuchon; habituelle-
ment, coiffure militaire; quelquefois parure de
femme, chaperon' (Godef.); dim. of *F. bicoque* =
It. bicocca little castle on a hill, Sp. *bicoca* a look-
out; probably the original meaning, as in the
diminutives and derivatives, was some kind of cap,
whence transf. to a structure, topping or 'crown-
ing' a height. App. f. *bi-* twice + *cocca* as in *cocca*
del capo 'crown of the head' (Florio). Cf. also
Sp. bicuquin a cap with two peaks, *bicoquete* a pean-
sant's cap, Piedm. *bicochin* a priest's cap (Diez).]
A kind of cap or head-dress (peaked before and
behind): a. as a military head-dress, a casque;
b. as an ornamental cap or head-dress, worn by
men and women.

1464 *Mann. & Househ. Exp.* 243 The man that browt the
bycocket [of Henry VI, taken at Hexham] firo Syre Robart
Chambreleyn. 1488 in *Leland Brit. Coll.* (1770) IV. 225
Having a mannes hede in a Bycocket of silver. 1494 *FABYAN*
vii. 654 The lorde John of Mountagu... chasyd Henry so
nere, that he wan from hym... his bycocket, garnysshed with
li. crownes of golde, and fret with perle and ryche stone.
1513 in *Archæol.* XXVI. 398 A nother paire of hostynge har-
ness... with a bycocket. 1819-49 *LINGARD Hist. Eng.* (1855)
IV. ii. 74 His bycocket or cap of state, embroidered with two
crowns of gold, and ornamented with pearls.

(The two crowns [of England and France] with which
the bycocket of Henry VI was 'garnished' or 'embroidered',
were, of course, no part of the ordinary bycocket.)
¶ Through a remarkable series of blunders and
ignorant reproductions of error, this word appears
in modern dictionaries as ABACOT. In Hall's
Chron. a *bicochet* appears to have been misprinted
abococket, which was copied by Grafton, altered by
Holinshed to *abococke*, and finally 'improved' by
Abraham Fleming to *abacot* (perhaps through an
intermediate *abacoc*); hence it was again copied
by Baker, inserted in his *Glossarium* by Spelman,
and thence copied by Phillips, and so handed down
through Bailey, Ash, Todd, etc., to 19th century
dictionaries (some of which provide a picture of the
'abacot'), and even inserted in dictionaries of
English and foreign languages.

1548 *HALL Chron. Edw. IV* an. 2 One of them had on
his hed the said Kyng Henrie's helmet (some say his high
cap of estate), called abococket [ed. 1550 abococket],
garnished with two riche Crownes. 1558 *GRAFTON Chron.*
II. 661 His high Cap of estate, called Abococket. 1577
HOLINSHED Chron. 1314 His highe cappe of estate, called
abococke. 1587 *Ibid.* (ed. Fleming) called Abacot. 1664
SPELMAN Gloss., Abacot: pileus augustalis Regum Anglo-
rum 2 coronis insignium *V. Chron.* An. 1463, Ed. 4, pag. 666,
col. 2, l. 27 [*i.e.* Holinshed], the Regal Cap of Maintenance of the Kings of
England adorn'd with two Crowns. 1721 *BAILEY, Abacot*,
a Cap of State, made like a double Crown, worn anciently
by the Kings of England. 1775 in *ASH*. 1810 *New Dict.*
Germ. Lang., Abacot, die Staatsmütze, der Hauptschmuck
der alten Eng. Könige. 1818 in *TODD*. 1882 *LASCARIDES*
Eng. Grk. Lex., αβωκότης, αβωκότης.

By-common, α. unusual: see BY prep. 7.

By-concernment, -consideration, etc.: see
BY-3 c.

† **Bycorne**. Obs.

1. An early spelling of BICORN (E).

2. Given by Lydgate as the proper name of a
fabulous beast represented in an old satire as
feeding on patient husbands, and being always
fat from the abundance of the diet, whilst his

spouse *chicheface* or CHICHEVACHE (q. v.) fed upon
patient wives and was always lean.

[The French form of the name (which does not appear be-
fore the 15th c.) was *Bigorne*, which does not appear to be
the same as *bicorne* 'two horned'; the oldest Fr. version of
the poem has a portrait of the creature, which has no horns.]
c 1430 *LYDG. Bycorne & Chichevache, Min. Poems* (1840)
130 Of Bycornoyes I am bycorne fful fatte and rounde
here as I stonde And in mariage bounde and sworne To
Chichevache as hir husbonde. *Ibid.* 131 For we, for oure
humylite Of Bycorne shal devoured be.

By-corner (bairkōr). [f. BY- 3 a + COR-
NER.] An odd or out-of-the-way corner.

1565 *GOLDING Ovid's Met.* v. (1593) 125 Sinking into blind
By-corners. 1655 *FULLER Ch. Hist.* I. i. 2 Britain being a
by-Corner, out of the Road of the World. 1792 *Anecd. W.*
Pitt I. v. 127 Ready money... locked up in iron chests or
hid in bye-corners. 1827 *Geo. ELIOT Sc. Cleric. Life* II. 198
No longer a nuisance existing merely in by-corners.

Byd(de, byde, obs. forms of BID, BIDE.

Bydene, bydene, var. BEDENE adv. Obs.

Bydel(le, obs. form of BEADLE.

Bydelve, -dolve, n, etc.; see BEDELVE v. Obs.

By-dependency: see BY-5.

By-design, -drinking: see BY-3 d, 4.

By-dish, -door, etc.: see BY-3.

By-doing (bairdōing). rare. [f. BY- 4 + DOING.]

† a. An additional or extra act. b. A casual
by-work, *parergon*.

1496 *Dives & Paup.* (W. de W.) iv. xx. 185/2, Yf he were
bounde to all suche bydoynge. 1842 *J. H. NEWMAN Ch.*
of Fathers 86 The by-doings of this man are more precious
... than what others do with labour.

Bydrive, var. of BEDRIVE v. Obs.

† **By-dweller**. Obs. [f. BY- 2 a + DWELLER.]

One who dwells close by or near; a neighbour.

1611 *SPEED Hist. Gt. Brit.* ix. xxii. 32 Artillery brought
them in abundance by the By-dwellers. 1658 *W. BURTON*
Itin. Anton. 144 Called Mading-bowler... by the By-dwellers.

Bye (bai). [Variant spelling of BY prep. in its
subst. use.]

1. A term used in various games and sports:

a. *Cricket*. A run scored for a ball which passes
the batsman, and which the wicket-keeper and
long-stop fail to stop. To steal a bye: to make a
run for a ball by starting the instant it passes the
wicket-keeper. Leg-bye: a run obtained for a
ball diverted by grazing the batsman's person.

1746 in 'Bat' *Cricket Manual* (1850) 80, Byes... 3. 1857
T. HUGHES *Tom Brown* ii. viii, He has stolen three byes
in the first ten minutes. *Ibid.* The ball... rises fast, catching
Jack on the outside of the thigh, and bounding away as if
from india-rubber, while they run two for a leg-bye amidst
great applause. 1880 *Times* 28 Sept. 11/5 When a bye was
obtained stumps were drawn.

b. in *Tennis, Boxing, Coursing, Cockfighting*,
etc.: The position of an individual, who, in con-
sequence of the numbers being odd, is left without
a competitor after the rest have been drawn in
pairs. Hence the phrases *To draw a bye*, *to run*
a bye, etc.

1883 *Field* 22 Dec. 863 To do away with byes in the pen-
ultimate and final rounds of [lawn-tennis] matches. 1887
Daily News 23 Feb. 3 7 The latter had had the benefit of
drawing the bye in the second round. 1848 *CRAIG s.v. Bye*,
In Coursing, a dog is said to 'run a bye' when it runs a
course against another not in the match—thus equalising its
runnings to the other dogs in the match. 1883 *Field*
22 Dec. 857 Sabrina then ran her bye, which she won.

c. in *Lacrosse*, etc.: A goal; a starting line.

1841 *CATLIN N. Amer. Ind.* (1844) II. xlix. 124 Erecting
the 'byes' or goals which were to guide the play. 1847-78
HALLIW., By, the point or mark from which boys emit the
marbles or taws. *Yorksh.*

d. A by-match or 'event'; one not in the pro-
gramme.

1884 *L'pool Daily Post* 30 June 6/5 [Cockfighting] Some
byes afterwards took place.

2. The name of a plot against the government of
James I. (So called in opposition to the *Main*
plot: the relation between the two is one of the
disputed points in English history. Cf. BY sb. 1.)

1603 *St. Trials*, You are fools, you are on the bye, Raleigh
and I are on the main; we mean to take away the king and
his cubs. [1885 *Low & PULLING Dict. Eng. Hist.* s.v. *Bye*
Plot. It is certain that the Bye Plot had no connection with
the Main or Raleigh's Plot.] 1886 C. E. DOBLE in *Hearne*
Collect. (1886) II. 435 Wm. Clarke was executed at Win-
chester, for his participation in 'the Bye', Nov. 29, 1603.

† **Bye, by, v.** Obs. [Aphetic f. ABY, ABYE v.,
but in sense 1 not separable from BUY v.]

1. *trans.* To pay for, atone for, make amends for;
= ABY v. 2, BUY v. 3.

c 1340 *Cursor M.* 1146 (Fairf.) þou sal bye [Cott. bi] hit
selcouþ dere. 1561 *NORTON & SACKV. Gorboduc* (R.) Thou,
Porrex, thou, shalt dearly bye the same. [See BUY v. 3, for
other examples.]

2. *absol.* To pay the penalty, suffer; = ABY v. 4.

c 1440 *Sir Degrev.* xlvii. 737 Sche said, Tratur, thou shalt
bye! Why were thou so hardye To do me this vylanye?

3. *intr.* To remain, stay, abide; = ABY v. 5 (con-
fused with ABIDE).

c 1425 *Seven Sag.* (P.) 1202 The fyve were out wente, And
the twa at home thay byeth, For to do that he thaym
bydeth. 1594 *True Trag. Rich. III.* 57 Captain Blunt,
Peter Landoyse and you Shall by in quarters.

Bye, var. of **By**.

Bye, obs. form of **BE**², ring; also of **BUY**.

Bye, obs. form of **BOY**.

c 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 35 Bye or boye, *bastio*.

Bye, var. of **BEY** *v.* **Obs.** to bend.

c 1304 *Edmund Conf.* 167 in *E. E. P.* (1862) 75 Vaeþe he mihte bye his rug: oþer lokie to be grounde.

Bye-bye¹ (bɪˈbaɪ). Also **by-by**, and simply **bye**. A sound used to lull a child to sleep; hence, a childish name for 'sleep' or 'bed'.

c 1636 N. WALLINGTON in *Ann. Dubrensis* (1877) 32 Pug sang By-babie, with delightful charmes. 1689 in *Gasophyl. Angl.* 1721-1800 BAILEY, *By by*, commonly Sung by Nurses to cause their Nurslings to fall asleep. 1867 MISS BROUGHTON *Cometh up as Fl.* xxii, Go to bye bye. 1884 BOUGHTON *Sk. Rambl. Holland* x. 144 Various strange 'by-by's' that he has gone to in his time. *Nursery Rhyme*. Bye, baby bunting.

Bye-bye² (bɪˈbaɪ). Also **by-by** (e, bye bye, 8 buy buy and simply **b'y**. A colloquial and nursery variant of **GOOD-BYE**.

1709 *Tatler* No. 2, For Hat and Sword He'd call, Then, after a faint Kiss,—cry, By, Dear Moll: Supper and Friends expect me. 1736 BAILEY, *By by*, us'd familiarly, and chiefly to Children, instead of *Good by* or *God be with you*. a 1745 SWIFT *Wks.* (1768) VI. 320 Buy, Buy, Nic, not one poor smile at parting. 1777 SHERIDAN *Sk. Scand.* iii. i, I shall... interrupt you—so bye! bye! 1872 LEVER *Ld. Kilgobbin* xiv. (1875) 95 'By-by!' said Alice, carelessly, and he strolled away.

Byefpe, var. **BIHOFTH**(e, **Obs.**, behoof.

Byekoket, obs. form of **BYOKET**.

Byeld, **Byelle**, obs. ff. **BUILD**, **BOIL** *sb.*

Byen, obs. form of **BE**, **BUY**.

By-end (baɪˈend). Also 7-8 **bye-end**. [*f.* **BY**-3 c, d + **END**.] An object lying aside from the main one; a subordinate end or aim; esp. a secret selfish purpose, a covert purpose of private advantage. Hence + **By-ended** *ppl. a.*, having by-ends.

c 1610 SIR J. MELVIL *Mem.* (1683) 104 He took better with these of my hands, who he knew had no by-end. 1733 SANDERSON *3 Serm. ad Aul.* (1681) II. 38 If we do...serviceable offices to our Brethren, out of any By-end or sinister respect. 1651 J. ROCKET *Chr. Subject* vii. (1658) 96 Tyranny...consists in the...arbitrarie...immoderate, and by-ended exercise of power. 1678 BUNYAN *Pilgr. Progr.* 140 marg., How By-ends got his name. 1760 LAW *Spirit of Prayer* II. 110 Love is quite pure; it hath no by-ends. 1869 GOULBURN *Purs. Holiness* xiii. 120 A man with a double aim or by-end.

+ **Byental**. *Obs.* (see quot.).

1708-11 KERSEY, *Byental*, the Yard of a Horse.

Byer, obs. form of **BIER**; also of **BUYER**, **BYRE**.

1387 TREVISA *Higden* (1527) v. xiii. A byer [L. *sertrum*] of a wonder werke is yet seen at Dorchester about the place of his fyrste graue.

Byern(e, variant form of **BAIRN**, **BERNE**.

Byeth, obs. f. 3rd sing. and pl. pres. t. of **BE**.

+ **Byfall**. *Obs.* [see **BY**-4.] An incidental accessory or accretion.

1571 GOLDING *Calvin on Ps.* xl. 9 The ceremonies are as it were an income or a byfall.

+ **By-fellow**. *Obs.* [see **BY**-5.] A fellow of a college (in the University of Cambridge) not on the foundation, and having inferior privileges to a foundation fellow. Hence **By-fellowship**.

1856-7 *Act 19 & 20 Vict.* lxxxviii. § 9 in *Oxf. & Camb. Enactm.* 239 All actual Bye-Fellows excepted. 1589 in R. Potts *Liber Cantabrig.* (1855) 209 [Andrew Perne D.D., formerly Master of the College, founded] two Bye-fellowships. 1846 McCulloch *Acc. Brit. Empire* (1854) II. 355 Queens' College has nineteen fellowships, one by-fellowship, and numerous scholarships. Its head is styled president.

Byffe, obs. form of **BEFF**.

+ **By-fle-ke**, obs. corrupt f. **BEFLEE** *v.*

c 1315 SHOREHAM 36 He that by-fleke wel lecherye Bi-vekth foule continaunce.

Byfore, **byforne**, obs. forms of **BEFORE**.

+ **Byfrap**, *v.* **Obs.** rare⁻¹. [*f.* **BY**-2 + **FRAP** *v.*, a. OF. *frapere* to strike.] *trans.* To beat about, thrash.

c 1380 *Sir Ferrumb.* 2987 Pat company was so by-fraped among þes frenschemen.

By-fruit, mock fruit: see **BY**-6.

Byg, **byge**, obs. forms of **BIG**.

Bygane, obs. form of **BYGONE**.

+ **Bygate**, var. form of **BEGET** *sb.* **Obs.** gain.

c 1300 *K. Alis.* 2136 Ve schul have, after bataille, Alle the bygates, saun faille; Y kepe nought, bote honour Al the bygate schal beo your.

Byger, obs. form of **BICKER** *v.*

Bygge(e, -en, -ere, obs. ff. **BIG**(g, **BUY**(ER).

Byje, **Byjer**, -ar, **Byjt**, obs. ff. **BE**², **BUYER**, **BIGHT**.

+ **By-girdle**. *Obs.* Forms: 1 **big**, **bigyrdel**, 2 **bygerdel**, 3-4 **bi**, **bygurdal**, **bygirdel**, 5 **bygirdylle**, 6 **bygyrdell**, -yll. [OE. *bigyrdel* (= OFris. *bigerdal*, OHG. *bigurtel*, MHG. *bigürtel*), f. same elements as *beygurdan* to **BEGIRD**, with accented form of the prefix: for the suffix, cf. *gyrdel* **GIRDLE**.]

That which begirds; a girdle or belt; also, from the use of this, a purse, money-bag.

c 1000 *Ag. Gosp. Matt.* x. 9 Næbbe 3c gold...on eowrum bygyrdum [1260 *Hattun G.* bygyrdlen]. *c* 1000 *ÆLFRIC Gloss.* in *Wt.* Wulcker 117 *Fiscus*, uel saccus publicus, bigyrdel. a 1225 *Ancr. R.* 124 Ane monne þet wurpe up on

him a bigurdal ful of ponewes. 1366 LANGL. *P. Pl.* A. ix. 79 þe Bagges and þe Bigurdeles [v. r. bygyrdics] he hæp broken hem alle. 1393 *Ibid.* C. xi. 85 þe bygyrdeles. 1483 *Calh. Angl.* 31 A Bygyrdylle, marsupium, renale. 1530 *Ort. Voc.*, Renale, a bygyrdylle, est zona circa renes.

Bygo, -gon, -gone, pa. pple. of **BEGO** *v.* **Obs.**

Bygoing (baɪˈɡoʊɪŋ), *vbl. sb.* Also 9 **Sc.** **by-ganging**, **by-gaun**. [*f.* **BY**-2 a.] The action of passing by; esp. in phr. *In the bygoing*: in passing, incidentally, by the way.

1637 RUTHERFORD *Lett.* cxvii. (1862) I. 303 A smell in the by-going is sufficient. 1818 SCOTT *Rob Roy* xxxv, Your beasts had been taking a rug of...moorland grass in the by-ganging. 1833 M. SCOTT *Tom Cringle* xv. (1859) 358 Timotheus I may state in the bygoing was not a Dutchman.

By-gold, mock gold, tinsel: see **BY**-6.

Bygone, **by-gone** (baɪˈɡɒn), *ppl. a.* and *sb.* Also **Sc.** 5-8 **bygan**(e, 6 **bygo**, -gonne; and 6 **begonne**, 7-9 **bygone**. [*f.* **BY**-2 d + **GONE**, pa. pple. of **Go**. Cf. above-named s.v. **ABOVE** D. 'A Scotch word' (J.); but used by Shakspeare in sense 1.]

A. *ppl. a.* (In earlier quots. following the sb.)

1. That has gone by, past, (of time) elapsed; that has happened or existed in past time; former.

1244 *Sc. Acts Jas.* I (1597) § 30 Gif onie [leagues] hes bene maid in time by-gane. 1453 EARL DOUGLAS in *Tyler Hist. Scot.* (1864) II. 387 Any actions, causes or querrels by-gane. 1552 ASP. HAMILTON *Catech.* 224 To thoil temporal payne for our synnis by-gane. 1611 SHAKS. *Wint. T.* i. ii. 32 This satisfaction, The by-gone-day proclaym'd, say this to him. 1788 J. POWELL *Devises* (1827) II. 315 A child subsequently born was entitled to a share in the by-gone income. 1864 CARLYLE *W. Meister* (1874) I. ii. i. 64 The scenes of his by-gone happiness. 1866 J. WILSON *Noct. Ambr. Wks.* 1855 I. 168, I have not smoked a cigar for some months by-gone.

+ b. = **AGO**.

a 1745 SWIFT *Wks.* (1841) II. 47 About five or six and forty years bygone there were certain brass tokens current.

2. Of human beings: Gone out of life, deceased, departed. Also *transf.* of plants.

1553 DOUGLAS *Æneis* x. v. 168 The worthy acts of your elders by-gane. 1553 STEWART *Cron. Scot.* II. 660 Herald The eldest sone of Godowyn bygo. 1822 DE LA BECHE *Geol. Man.* 195 The roots...of the by-gone annuals...are matted together. 1856 KANE *Art. Expl.* II. xv. 159 These evidences of a bygone generation of their fathers.

b. Belonging to past times.

1869 DICKENS *Lett.* (1880) II. 413, I hate the sight of the bygone assembly-rooms.

B. *sb.* [the *ppl. adj.* used ellipt.]

1. Pl. Things that are past; esp. past offences.

1568 Q. MARY in H. Campbell *Love-Lett. Mary Q. Scots* App. 29 For good amitie, as well for bygones as to come, betwixt them and all our obedient subjects. 1649 BR. GUTHRIE *Mem.* (1702) 75 That bygones on both sides should be passed by. 1790 MORRISON *Poems* 135 (JAM.) All bygones are forgot and gone, And Arthur views her as his own. [See also C.]

b. Payments overdue; arrears.

1663 SPALDING *Troub. Chas.* I (1829) 25 [They] compelled the tenants...to produce their last acquittances and pay them bygones. 1721 WODROW *Hist. Ch. Scot.* II. 256 (JAM.) He could have no warrant for bygones [of his stipend], unless he would...conform to the established church.

c. *esp.* in phr. *By-gones are bygones, let bygones be bygones*, etc. (Rarely in collect. sing.)

1636 RUTHERFORD *Lett.* lxii. (1862) I. 166 Pray...that bygones betwixt me and my Lord may be bygones. 1648 NETHERSOLE *Parables* 5 Let bygans be bygans. 1758 CHESTERE *Lett.* (1792) IV. 147 By-gones are bygones, as Chartres, when he was dying, said of his sins. 1837 CARLYLE *Fr. Rev.* (1871) II. v. i. 166 Bygone shall be bygone; the new Era shall begin! 1847 TENNYSON *Princ.* IV. 51 Nor is it wiser to weep a true occasion lost, But trim our sails, and let old bygones be. 1864 BURTON *Scot. Abr.* I. iii. 118 The truce...was cordially ratified; bygones were counted bygones.

2. Past time; the past: rare.

1872 W. F. BUTLER *Gt. Lone Land* iii. (1875) 24 Bunker has long passed into the bygone. 1887 SALA in *Illustr. Lond. News* 19 Mar. 306 Dealings with booksellers in the bygone.

+ **By-ground**. *Obs.* [*f.* **BY**-3 a, 5 + **GROUND**.]

a. A piece of ground lying out of the way. b. *fig.* A secondary ground or cause.

a 1603 T. CARTWRIGHT *Confut. Rhem. N. T.* (1618) 499 Augustine esteemed it but of custome, and other by-grounds, that in one Church there should be but one only Bishop. 1611 SPEED *Hist. Gt. Brit.* vi. xvi. 96 Many remnants [of causeways] remaine, especially in pastures, or by-grounds out of the rode way.

Bygyn(ne, obs. ff. **BEGIN**, **BEGUINE**.

By-hand (baɪˈhænd), *adv.* **Sc.** [*f.* **BY**-1 + **HAND**.] a. Out of hand, aside, out of the way.

b. Incidentally.

1636 RUTHERFORD *Lett.* lxxii. (1862) I. 187 Cast them by-hand as we do old clothes. 1834 GALT in *Fraser's Mag.* X. 160 She was far advanced when it was by-hand noticed.

+ **By-hanger**. *Obs.* [*f.* **BY**-2 a + **HANGER**.]

a. A hanger-on, a parasite. b. An appendage.

1581 J. BELL *Haddon's Answ. Osor.* 975 b, How many byhangers do you couple to this uniforme & common creed? 1591 HORSEY *Tran.* (1857) 216 Sir Jerom Bowes offers to prove it by one Finch, a by-hanger of his.

Byhede(n, -heede, obs. ff. **BEHEAD** *v.*

+ **Byhirne**, *v.* **Obs.** rare⁻¹. [*f.* **BY**-2 + **BE**-6 + *hirne*, *HERNE*, corner.] *trans.* To hide in a corner. 1394 *P. Pl. Crede* 642 Pat þei may henten, þey holden; by-hirneþ i sone.

Byhod, obs. f. *behoved*, pa. t. of **BEHOVE**.

Byhofpe, -ofthe, var. **BIHOFTH**(e, **Obs.**, behoof.

+ **Byhore**, *v.* **Obs.** [*f.* **BY**-2 + **BE**-pref. 6 + **WHORE** *v.*] To commit adultery against. See **BEWHORE**.

c 1440 (Erle Toulous) *Lincoln MS.* A. i. 17 f. 120 (Halliiv.) For thou haste byhorede my lorde.

Byhynde(n, obs. form of **BEHIND**.

Byhyng, **Byll**, obs. ff. **BUYING**, **BOIL** *sb.*

By-intent, -interest: see **BY**-3 d.

+ **Byke**, *v.* **Obs.** **Sc.** [*f.* **BIKE** *sb.*] *trans.* ? To crowd in (as with a swarm).

1666 *Birmm Kirk-Burial* (1833) 22 We may be laid, not in the Kirk, but in a competent Kirk-ile or yarde...not byked in with the belly-god beasts that blinds the world with burial in Kirk.

Byk(e, **byik**, variants of **BIKE** *dial.*, bees' nest.

Byker, obs. form of **BEAKER**, **BICKER**.

Bylad, -aft, -eft, pa. pples. of **BELEAD**, -LEAVE.

+ **Byland**. *Obs.* Also **biland**. [See quot. 1577: *by*- seems to have been taken by Harrison in the sense of 'off at the side'.] A peninsula.

1577-87 HARRISON *Descr. Brit.* x. 30 The How, which is not an Island...but almost an Island, which parcels the Latins call *Peninsulas*, and I do English a *Byland*. 1620 HOLLAND *Camden's Brit.* (1637) 22 The Biland Taurica Chersonesus. 1622-66 HEYLIN *Cosmogr.* III. (1673) 163/2 This Biland or Demy-Island. *c* 1630 RISSDON *Serv. Devon* (1714) II. 302 [The river] Tamer...leaveth Cornwall, as it were a Peninsula, or By-land.

Bylander, obs. form of **BILANDER**.

By-lane (baɪˈlæn). Also 6 **bie**, 9 **bye-lano**.

[*f.* **BY**-3 b + **LANE**.] A lane lying off from the main street or road; also, a side passage in a mine.

1587 FLEMING *Contn. Holinshed* III. 1350/4 The citizens...set upon them...by the bylanes. 1666 EVELYN *Diary* 7 Sept., The bie lanes...were...fill'd up with rubbish. 1699 E. LHWYD in *Phil. Trans.* XXVII. 467 They make their By-lanes (as in other Pits) as the Vein requires. 1766 HUME *Hist. Eng.* (1806) V. lxix. 189 Through by-lanes and cross the fields, to make their escape. 1848 BRIGHT *For. Policy*, 54 (1876) 468 Turning fertilizing rivulets into every bye-lane and alley.

Bylaute, pa. t. of **BILAUGH** *v.* **Obs.** to laugh at.

Bylaue, var. of **BELEAVE** *v.* **Obs.**

By-law, **bye-law** (baɪˈlɔː). Also 4 **bilage**,

4-6 **bilawe**, 6-7 **by-lawe**. [In sense 1 apparently

(from the identity of meaning, and the identification of *bylaw*-man (see below) with *hyrlaw*-man) a doublet of **BYRLAW**. The difference of form would be explained by the derivation of *bylaw* from the stem instead of the genitive case of **ON**.

by-r, Sw. and Da. *by*, 'dwelling-place, farm, village, township, town': cf. the Dan. *bylag*, Sw. *byalag*, *bylag*, mentioned below. It is less probable that *bylaw* might be formed in England itself from the same elements: cf. *By sb.*¹; but it might be a corruption of *byr-law* either phonetic, or due to confusion with the adverbial prefix **BY**.

The earliest examples of the word refer to Kent: the difficulty of assigning a Scandinavian etymology to the local name of a Kentish custom is obvious, but cf. quot. 1292 under **BYRLAW** from an assize held in Devonshire, and quot. 1370 for the general use of *bylaw* in sense 2. Sense 3 however shows that the word was in the 16th c. used as if f. **BY** *adv.* + **LAW**, analogous to *by-name*, *by-path*, *by-way*; and this is the way in which sense 2 is now understood and used. This may have been, in its origin, merely a mistaken interpretation, but it is also possible that a word may have been formed independently from these elements, without influence of the Scandinavian word, although naturally falling together with it in the general sense of subsidiary or side-law.

The compounds actually found in the Scandinavian langs. are Da. *bylag*, explained by Molbeck as 'Forening imellem alle eller endel Bønder i en Landsby, Byenighed', i.e. 'association between all or some of the farmers in a rural township, bymenighed', the latter being further said to be 'the community of citizens in a town, of farmers in a rural township, etc.'; also Sw. *byalag*, *bylag*, village community. In ON. *lag* had, among other senses, that of 'fellowship'; the pl. *lög* those of 'law', 'law-community or association', and 'law-district' (cf. the *Dona-lög* or *Dano-law*). The sing. has given Sw. and Dan. *lag*-et; the pl. Sw. *lag-en*, Da. *løg-en* 'law'. The word *belagines*, alleged by Jordanis to be Gothic for 'written law', has sometimes been referred to in this connexion; but it can have no relation to the Eng. word.]

+ 1. Apparently the same as **BYRLAW**: occurring in the 13th c. as the name of a custom (in Kent) according to which disputes concerning boundaries were settled outside the law courts, on the testimony of neighbours, by official or specially deputed arbitrators. *Obs.*

1283 in W. Thorn *Chronica* (Twysden p. 1936) [Abbas Nicholaus ordinavit] Item si contingat quæstionem moveri inter nos [monks of St. Augustine, Canterbury] & archiepiscopum vel ejus tenentes de subtractionibus, purpusturis, dampnis seu aliis injuriis hinc inde factis, quod consuetudo illa quæ dicitur *bilage* observetur. 1303 *Ibid.* Ad sextum articulum petitur, quid intelligitur per hanc dictionem *Bilage*. 'Dicunt quod quidam usus vel consuetudo, qui *Bilage*

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in partibus Kantiae vulgariter appellatur, sic se habere consuevit: quod cum contentio vel controversia aliqua suborta fuerit inter aliquos super finibus, seu limitibus, debent seneschalli seu ballivi partium, vel alie persone fide dignae, ad hoc per partes specialiter deputatae, in loco de quo est contentio convenire, remque oculis subicere, informationeque per viros vicinos fide dignos habita, absque strepitu judiciali, & figura iudicii, mox totam dirimere questionem.

b. Often specially applied to ordinances made by common assent in a Court-leet or Court-baron. Cf. BYLAW-MAN.

1607 COWELL *Interpr.*, *Bilawes* [ed. 16 adds 'or rather By-laws, that is Laws made *obiter* or by the By'] are orders made in court leets or court Barons by common assent, for the good of those that make them, farther then the public law doth binde. These in Scotland are called (burlawe) or (birlawe) Skene *de Verb. Sign.* verbo *Burlawe*. 1622 CALLIS *Stat. Sewers* (1647) 230 Also Ordinances may be made by the power of a Court, as in a Court Baron to make Orders, or by the Inhabitants of a Town by Custom. And these are more properly By-Laws then Laws. 1642 N. Riding Rec. IV. 225 A Barneby gent. presented for not paying the sum in which he was assessed according to an ancient custom of the inhabitants called a Bylaw. 1676 COLES, *Bylaw, Burlaw or Byrlaw*, laws determined by persons elected by common consent of neighbours. 1689 SELDEN *Table Talk, Convocation* § 2 A Court-Leet, where they have a power to make By-Laws, as they call them. 1875 STRUBS *Const. Hist.* I. v. 91 In the courts of the manor are transacted the other remaining portions of the old township jurisdiction; the enforcing of pains and penalties on the breakers of by-laws, etc.

c. In Old Danish, *bylag* had also the sense 'Payment or contribution in order to receive citizenship or the freedom of the by' (see Kalkar); the following quotation applies the name to a proportional charge or assessment made for a local purpose: cf. 1642 in b.

1691 BLOUNT *Law Dict.* s.v. *Bi-scot*, 9 Edw. 3, At a Session of Sewers held at Wigenhale in Norfolk, it was decreed, That if any one in those parts of Marchland, should not repair his proportion of the Banks, Ditches and Causeys, by a day assigned, xiid. for every Perch unrepaired (which is called a Bilaw) should be levied upon him.

2. A 'law' or ordinance dealing with matters of local or internal regulation, made by a local authority, or by the members of a corporation or association. More particularly: An ordinance made by the members of a corporation for the better government of their own body, or for the regulation of their dealings with the public; in modern times most commonly (as by railway companies) in the exercise of powers expressly conferred by the Legislature.

a. of a town or local authority.

1370 *Yearbook 44 Edw. III*, 19 Inhabitants dun ville, sauns ascun custome poient fayre ordinaunces ou Bilawes pur reparation del Eglise, ou dun haut voy, ou dascun tiel chose, que est pur le bien publique generalment, & in tiel case le greindrepart liera tous sauns ascun custome. 1622 Bacon *Hen. VII*, Wks. (Bohn) 459 There was likewise a law to restrain the by-laws, or ordinances of corporations. 1628 COKE *On Litt.* 110 b, An vpland Towne may alledge a Custome. . . to make By-laws for the reparations of the Church, the well ordering of the Commons, etc. 1732 (title) City Liberties. . . and Bye Laws, relating to Carts, Coaches, Fire-cocks, Fairs, etc. 1815 SCOTT *Guy M.* xxiii, A by-law of the corporation of Newcastle.

b. of a society or corporation.

1366-80 WYCLIF *Wks.* (1850) 276 Pat be ordre of presthod . . . be holden . . . sikerer þan ony newe secte wiþ bilawes, customes, observancis founden of synful men. 1543 in Turner *Sel. Records Oxford 40* By lawes weth the . . . Schollers. . . have made. 1681 *Trial's College* 98, I heard a man was in trouble. . . upon a By-Law in the Stationers Company. 1694 LUTTRELL *Brief Rec.* (1857) III. 355 The new bank. . . have appointed a committee of 15 to make by laws. 1876 BANCROFT *Hist. U. S.* III. xi. 450 The power of making by-laws, subject to parliamentary control. *Mod.* Prosecuted for a breach of the Company's By-Laws.

3. A secondary, subordinate, or accessory law.

1541 COVERDALE *Old Faith* vi. Wks. 1844 I. 41 As for all the laws and ordinances which afterward were added unto these two tables, they were not joined thereunto as principal laws, but as by-laws. a 1680 BUTLER *Rem.* (1759) I. 209 Great Philosophers. . . proudly think t' unriddle ev'ry Cause, That Nature uses, by their own By-laws. a 1719 ADDISON (J.) In the beginning. . . is inserted the law or institution; to which are added two by-laws, as a comment upon the general law. 1780 SIR J. REYNOLDS *Disc.* x. (1876) 13 In detail, or what may be called the by-laws of each art.

Hence Bylaw-man = BYRLAW-MAN.

1552-84 *Court-leet Rec. Manchester in Athenzium* 2 Aug. (1879) 146 Byrlamen; birlamen; 1590 bylawmen; 1593 berlawmen. 1591 *Acc. Feoffes of Comm. Lands Rotherham*, ibid. 9 Aug., To the byer law-men for casting open closes. 1620 — Byc-lawe men with the rest of the neabors. . . The multitude of pore people which follow the Bye-law men. 1622 — Ale and bread which was bestowed on the Bylawmen. a 1800 *Form of Bylawmen's Oath*, formerly used in the Chalmley Courts (MS. communicated by Rev. J. C. Atkinson) 'You shall well and truly execute the office of Bylawman for the year ensuing for the Township of —, and you shall take care that the commons and common fields be broken at the usual time, that the common gates, fences, and bridges be duly made and repaired, and the bylaws be duly kept and observed, etc.' 1875 STRUBS *Const. Hist.* I. v. 91 note, The officers elected [at Aldborough, Yorksh.] in the ninth of Charles I were four by-lawmen or *plebiscitarii*, two constables, etc.

Bylboes, bylbres, obs. pl. form of BILBO 2.

Byld(e), obs. f. BUILD v.; obs. pa. t. BUILD v.

Bylders, var. of BILDERS, narrow-leaved water-pansip; in Ireland water-cress. [It has been

shown by the Rev. A. L. Mayhew, in *N. & Q.* Ser. vii. III. 365, that the etymological form is (in the sing.) *biller*, adopted from the Irish *biolar*, a late variant of *biolar* water-cress:—Olr. *biwor* (corresp. to Welsh *berwr* water-cress), f. *biwr*, *bir* water, well, spring. The forms *biller* and *billers*, *bilders* are plural. The word appears in med. L. as *berula*, and is the F. *berle* = *Sium angustifolium* (Littre). It is also discussed by J. L. G. Mowat in *Alphita* (Anecd. Oxon.), 21, s. v. *Berula*.]

Byle, obs. form of BOIL sb. and v.

† Byles, sb. pl. Obs. Also 6 bilis, bylis. [Prob. (although the phonetic correspondence is not quite clear) a. F. *bille* 'ball', also 'a piece of wood'. In French *jeu de billes* has been the name of three distinct games: (1) a game with balls, identified by some with billiards, (2) a game like 'knur and spell' or 'tipcat', (3) skittles: see Littre s.v. *bille*, and Charpentier s.v. *billa*.] An obsolete game with bowls, mentioned chiefly as Scotch.

1530 PALSGR. 200/a Bowle to playe at the byles, *bille*. c 1505 in Chalmers *Life Mary* (1818) I. 133 (JAM.), I had the honour. . . to play a party at a game called the Bilis. 1565 Aberdeen Reg. V. 26 (JAM.) Cartis, dyis, tabillis, golf, kylis, bylis, & sic wther plays.

Bylet, byllet, obs. forms of BILLET 2.

Byleue, -love, -liue, obs. ff. BELIEF, -LIEVE, -LEAVE, -LIVE.

Bylike, -lyke, obs. ff. BELIKE.

† By-live, by-lif(e), Obs. Also 1 biz-, bio-, bileofa, bilifen, 1-3 billiue, 3 bileue, -leoue, -lif, 4 bylyt, -lyue. [OE. *bigleofa*, f. *big*, *bl*, *By* + *lif* life, -*leofa* living.] That which one lives by; living, sustenance.

c 1000 ÆLFRIC *Gen.* vi. 21 Of callum mettum. . . þæt hig beon ærþer ge ðe ge him to bigleofan. c 1000 O. E. Gloss. in Wr. Wülker 492 *Pulmentum*, bilifen. c 1200 Trin. Coll. Hom. 99 He let hem reine manne to bi-liue. a 1225 Ancr. R. 168 Kinges & kaiserres habbed hore bileoue of oure large relief. c 1275 *Prov. Alfred* 96 in O. E. Misc. 109 His medis to mowen, his plouis to drivin to ure alre bilif. 1377 LANGL. P. Pl. B. xix. 230 With selliing and buggynge her bylyft to wyne. 1393 *Ibid.* ii. 18 He het þe elementes. . . brynge forth 3oure bylyue.

Byllament, var. of BILIMENT. Obs.

Byllen, obs. form of BILL v.

Bylled, bylt(e), obs. pa. t. and pple. of BUILD v.

Byllerne, obs. form of BILDERS. (See BYLDERS.)

Bylly, obs. form of BELLY.

Byloke, var. BELOUKE v., to shut up, keep close.

c 1380 Sir Ferumb. 2127 Fyrum[bras] . . . bad me kepe þys & faste hit her by-loke.

Bylowz, pa. t. of BILAUH v. Obs. to laugh at.

Bylyne, -lyve, var. BLIN, BELIVE.

By-matter (bɔi'mætə). [f. BY- 3 c, 5 + MATTER.] Something beside the main business; a side incident; a trivial, unimportant matter.

1552 T. BARNABE in Ellis *Orig. Lett.* II. No. 145 II. 197 Few men. . . was sente soe manye tymes to the Counsell privylye, for bye matters as I was. 1580 NORTH *Plutarch* 286 His Accusers. . . running into other by-matters, left the chief matter. 1674 *Consid. Peace & Goodw.* Prot. 8 Dissenters and Scruplers in by-matters. 1685 MANTON *Christ's Tempt.* vi. Wks. 1870 I. 314 Christ answereth to the main point, not to by-matters. 1755 in JOHNSON. 1852 SMITH *Eng. & Fr. Dict.*, By-matter, incident.

Bymene, obs. form of BEMOAN.

† Bymodered, ppl. a. Obs. [f. BY- = BE- pref.; cf. Du. *modder*, Ger. *moder* mud.] Besmeared with mud, bemired.

a 1307 *Fol. Songs* 158 Ant heo cometh by-modered ase a morhen.

Bymolen: see BEMOLE in BE- pref. 6.

Bymoorne, -mowe, obs. ff. BEMOORN, BEMOW.

Byn, -ne, obs. ff. BIN, BEEN; = are (see BE v.).

Byname, by-name (bɔi'nɪm), sb. Also 9 bye-name. [f. BY- 5 + NAME.]

1. A name other than the principal or main one; a subsidiary name or appellation; esp. a cognomen or surname; a sobriquet.

c 1374 CHAUCER *Boeth.* III. ix. 84 Suffisaunce, power, noblesse, reuerence, and gladnesse ben only dyuerse bynames (of happiness), but hir substance haþ no diuersite. 1631 WEEVER *Anc. Fun. Mon.* 644 Lions-heart, is. . . the by-name of K. Richard. 1655 FULLER *Ch. Hist.* III. ii. § 52 Some of these by-names. . . remained many years after to them, and theirs; amongst which Plantagenist was entailed on the Royal blood of England. 1865 MERIVALE *Rom. Emp.* VIII. lviii. 16 Eutropius. . . gives him the additional name of Crinitus, perhaps a by-name of his family.

2. A nickname given in sport or ridicule.

1580 NORTH *Plutarch* 975 Pleasant by-Names against Augustus, Livia, and their familiars, wheræet every one of them laughed. 1589 PUTTENHAM *Eng. Poetie* (Arb.) 212 A by-name geuen in sport. . . As, Tiberius the Emperor, because he was a great drinker of wine, they called him. . . Caldius Biberius Mero, in steade of Claudius Tiberius Nero. 1601 HOLLAND *Pliny* II. 504 Callimachus is the workman of greatest note, in regard of a by-name giuen vnto him, and that was Caciotechnos. 1705 HICKERINGILL *Priest-Cr.* II. vii. 70 No By-names of Whig or Tory, Highflyers or Dissenters. 1864 EARL STANHOPE *Pitt* I. 67 Mr. Welbore Ellis. . . the butt of Junius, under the by-name of Gridrig.

Byname (bɔi'nɪm), v. ? Obs. [f. prec. sb.] *trans.* To surname, to nickname.

1570-7 HOLINSHED *Scot. Chron.* (1806) II. 442 The Scots in like manner bynamed a parliament. . . and called the same a running parliament. 1611 SPED *Hist. Gt. Brit.* ix. xii. 20 Edward, by-named (not of his colour, but of his dreaded acts in battle) the Black Prince. 1632 BROME *Novella Dram. Pers.*, Paulo, By-named Burgio. 1755 in JOHNSON; and in mod. Dicts.

Byname, -nemme, -nom, etc.: see BENIM.

Bynd, Bynte, obs. ff. BIND, BOUND.

Bynempt, pa. t. of BENAME v. Obs.

Bynethe(n, -neithe, etc., obs. ff. BENEATH.

Bynfet, Byngger: see BENEFIT, BENGHER(e).

Bynge, Bynk(e), obs. ff. BINGE, BINK.

† By-night. Obs. rare-1. [f. BY prep. + NIGHT.] ? A letter dispatched by the night post.

1766 ENTICK *London* IV. 295 There is. . . a clerk of the by-nights, and his assistant.

† Bynny-pepper. Obs. A kind of pepper.

1603-4 Act 1 Gas I, xix. § 1 All Spices. . . and other Merchandises garbleable. . . Long-pepper. . . Coliander seeds, Bynny-pepper.

Bynym, obs. f. BENIM v.

By-office. [f. BY- 4, 5 + OFFICE.] a. An office other than the main one. b. A form of religious service for by-occasions.

1577 VAUTROULLIER *Luther's Ep. Gal.* 185 It is not the proper office of Christ. . . to teach the law, but an accidental or a byoffice. 1680 BAXTER *Cath. Commun.* (1684) 12 Not meddling. . . with the Discipline, By-offices, etc. 1689 *Myst. Iniq.* 40 Exceptions some may have against some Things in the By-Offices, and Occasional Service.

Byofpe, var. BIHOFT(e), Obs., behoof.

By ordinar, extraordinary: see BY prep. 7.

By-passage. [f. BY- 3 b, c, 5 + PASSAGE.]

a. A side passage or alley. b. A casual and incidental passage in a book or document.

1674 HICKMAN *Hist. Quinwart.* (ed. 2) 232 What need I contend about by-passages relating to the Recantation? 1697 DRYDEN *Virg. Life* (1721) I. 61 When People crowded to see him, he [Virgil] would slip into the next Shop, or By-passage to avoid them. 1864 in WESTER.

By-passer (bɔi'pɑ:sə). [cf. BY- 2 a.] One who passes by, a passer by.

1566 GASCOIGNE *Supposes* Wks. (1587) 32 No blazer of her beauty. . . at the dore for the by-passers. 1807 SOUTHEY *Es-priella's Lett.* I. 156 Each window has blinds, to prevent the by-passers from looking in. 1866 *Times* 23 Dec., Appealing with mute looks to the sympathy of the by-passers.

† By-passing, vbl. sb. Obs. [f. BY- 2 a.]

The action of going past: said both of the movements of a person and of the lapse of time.

1526 *Pilgr. Perf.* (1531) 3 The great mystery of this by passynge of god. 1621 *Sc. Acts Gas. VI*, iii. ¶ 1 If they fayle therein at the by-passing of every one of the sayde Tearmes.

By-passing, pr. pple. rare. Passing, surpassing.

1839 BAILEY *Festus* x. (1848) 107 By-passing all night's constellated chart.

Bypast, by-past (bɔi'pɑ:st), ppl. a. Also 6 bi-, bepast, byepasted, 7 biepast (all Sc.); 9

bypassed. [f. BY- 2 d + PAST. In earlier use often following the sb.; cf. BYGONE 1.]

1. That has passed or gone by, (of time) elapsed; that has happened or existed in past time; former.

1452 EARL DOUGLAS in Tytler *Hist. Scot.* (1864) II. 387 Before the xxii day of the month of July last bypast. 1535 COVERDALE *Job* xxix. 2 O y' I were as I was in the monethes bypast. 1609 Act agst. *Libels*, 4c. in Maidment *Sc. Pasquils* 422 Ancient grudges borne in tyme of biepast troubles. 1705 SIR E. WALKER *Hist. Disc.* v. 364 They had promised. . . to clear His by-past Actions. 1804 KNOX & JESS *Corr.* I. 142 The ecclesiastical history of Britain, during the by-past century. 1852 D. MOIR *Angler* iii, The twilight labyrinth Of bypast things.

† b. That has passed out of life; deceased, departed. Obs.

1425 in Entick *London* (1766) IV. 354 Shal pray. . . for al the now being alive, and also for the by-past, to God. 1535 STEWART *Cron. Scot.* II. 74 To be revengit of the skaith is done to ws, and oure eldaris bi-past.

† c. Overdue, in arrear; cf. BYGONE sb. Obs.

1693 *Apol. Clergy Scot.* 21 Had not the Clergy as good right to their by-past Stipends?

Bypath, by-path (bɔi'pɑ:θ). Also 4-5 bi

path(e), 4-6 bypathe, 8 bye path. [f. BY- 3 b

+ PATH.] A side path, as opposed to the high-road; a private, retired, or unfrequented path.

c 1374 CHAUCER *Troilus* III. 1706 The swift stedis thre, Which that drawyn forth the Sunnis chare, Hath go some bi path in despite of me, That makith hit so sone day to be. 1481 CAXTON *Reynard* (Arb.) 12 Brune. . . cam in a derke wode. . . were as reynard had a bypath when he was hunted. a 1520 MYRR. *Our Ladye* 140 There ys a difference bytwyxe an hyghe waye and a bypathe. 1684 BUNYAN *Pilgr.* II. 70 The Travellers have been made. . . to walk thorough by-Paths. 1786 tr. *Beckford's Vathek* (1868) 70 Nouronihar. . . coming to the turn of a little bye path, stopped. 1814 SCOTT *Wav.* ix, By following by-paths, known to the young farmer, they hoped to escape.

b. fig. (Formerly often in a bad sense.)

c 1400 *Test. Love* I. (1560) 275/2 The bypaths to heaven. 1413 LYDG. *Pylgr. Soule* I. xiii. (1850) 10 Bypaths of synne and al vnthryftynes. 1528 MORE *Heresy* II. Wks. 202/a Such euil persons as. . . led his flocke out of the right way in a bypath to helward. 1597 SHAKS. *2 Hen. IV.* iv. v. 185 By what by-paths, and indirect crook'd-ways I met this

Crowne. 1779 JOHNSON *Butler Wks.* II. 188 The bye-paths of literature. 1828 FROUDE *Hist. Eng.* III. 142 Shining on the bypaths of history like a rare rich flower.

Hence † **By-pathed** ppl. a.

1641 J. JOHNSON *Acad. of Love* 3, I found a by-pathed gate, which led me into Loves pleasant garden.

By-place (bɔi'plʌs). [f. BY-3 a + PLACE.] A place situated aside, an out-of-the-way spot; an odd corner; also fig.

1580 HOLLYBAND *Treas. Fr. Tong, Lieux destournees*, by-places. 1603 DRAYTON *Bar. Wars* IV, Till in the castle, in an odd by-place, It casts the foul mask from its dusky face. 1685 BOYLE *Salubr. Air* Pref. 5, I found it laid in a by-place. 1714 ELLWOOD *Autobiog.* (1765) 256 She lived at a Farm called Whites, a By-place in the Parish of Beconsfield. 1835 HAWTHORNE *Tales & Sk.* O. Woman's T., Traditions lurking in the corners and by-places of my mind.

By-play (bɔi'plʌi). Also **bye-**. [f. BY-3 c + PLAY.]

1. Chiefly on the stage: Action carried on aside, and commonly in dumb-show, while the main action proceeds.

1811 L. HUNT in *Examiner* 21 Dec. 803/1 We need not point out these delicacies of bye-play. 1822 BLACKW. *Mag.* XI. 536 If Mr. Kean were to fill up the intervals of his bye-play in tragedy by leaping through the back-scene. 1844 H. ROGERS *Ess.* I. 11. 80 His opponent often has a byplay of malignity even when bestowing commendations. 1850 BLACKIE *Aschylus* I. Pref. 46 They probably neglected anything like by-play or making points, which are so effective on the English stage.

2. *transf.* Play or action apart from the main action in any acceptance.

1816 *Edin. Rev.* XXVI. 310 He is certainly most happy.. in the by-play of his fictions. 1871 EARLE *Philol. Eng. Tong.* (1880) § 629 The various kinds of by-play in poetry, such as alliteration, rhyme, and assonance. 1878 BOSW. *SMITH Carthage* 269 The tide of invasion.. is broken up into a number of smaller currents, which.. are often in the nature of by-play rather than have any direct bearing on the main issues of the war.

By-plot (bɔi'plɒt). Also **bye-**. [f. BY-3 a, c, d + PLOT.]

† 1. An outlying plot of ground. *Obs.*

1577-87 HARRISON *Descr. Brit.* xix. 114 Ech surveiour amendeth such by-plots and lanes as seeme best for his own commoditie.

2. A subordinate plot by the side of the main one; a plot within a plot.

1850 MERIVALE *Rom. Emp.* (1865) III. xxiv. 93 In an era of revolution there are always by-plots.. parallel.. with the main action of the drama. 1859 KINGSLEY *Misc.* II. 121 This bye-plot runs through the play.

† **By-post**. *Obs.* Also 8 **bye-**. [f. BY-3 a, 4, 5 + POST.]

1. In a building: A side post, a door post.

1535 COVERDALE *Esch.* xli. 21 The bypostes of the temple were foure squared.

2. Service of horses for travelling on cross-roads. Dispatch of letters by cross-roads, or by a post subsidiary to the regular mail.

1593 in *Municipal Acc. Newcastle* (1848) 29 Paide to John Carr, post, for keeping horses for by-poste, 2s. 8d. 1720 *Lond. Gas.* No. 5910/3 The Dispatch of the Bye-Post between Chester and York. 1766 WILKES *Corr.* (1805) III. 174, I have now, by the bye-post, an opportunity of just saying that I am well.

By-product (bɔi'prɒdʌkt). Also **bye-**. [f. BY-4, 5 + PRODUCT.] A secondary product; a substance of more or less value obtained in the course of a specific process, though not its primary object.

1857 ELIZA ACTON *Eng. Bread-bk.* II. 95 German yeast.. in many distilleries forms an important by-product. 1876 M. FOSTER *Physiol.* (1879) App. 663 When any proteid is digested with pepsin.. a bye-product makes its appearance.

1882 *Standard* 24 Aug., By-products of gas manufacture. **Byqu-**; see **BEQU-**.

Byr, etc.: see **BIR**.

† **Byr**, *v.* *Obs.* [The same as **BIR** *v.*, q. v. for etymology.]

1. *impers.* It belongs to, behoves; see **BIR** *v.*

2. With personal subject: To owe, ought. [Cf. **BEHOVE**.]

c 1200 ORMIN 4028 Pat alle þa.. Well 3eorne birrdenn clenn-senn hemm I bodi3 & i sawle. c 1325 E. E. *Allit. P. C.* 507 Þe sor of suche a swete place burde synk to my hert. c 1330 R. BRUNNE *Chron.* 76 Pat vengeance burd be don.

Byr(e, byrre), *obs.* ff. **BIR** *sb.*

Byrad, *pa. pple.* of **BEREDE** *v.* *Obs.*

Byraft, *obs.* f. **BEREFT**.

Byral(l), *obs.* f. **BERYL**.

Byram, *obs.* form of **BATRAM**.

1656 in *Blount Glossogr.* 1676 in *PHILLIPS*. 1708 in *KERSEY*. 1721-1790 in *BAILEY*.

Byrayn(e, -reyn), *var.* **BERAIN** *v.* *Obs.*

Byrch(e, Byrd), *obs.* ff. **BIRCH**, **BIRD**.

Byrden, *-oun, -yng*, *obs.* ff. **BURDEN**.

Byre¹ (bɔi'r). Forms: 1-byre; also 6 **bire**, 6-9 **byer**, 8 **byar**. [OE. *byre*, found only in vocabularies and hence of doubtful gender and declension; but perh. :-O.Tent. type **bārjo* (m, deriv. of **būro*, OE. *būr*, cottage, dwelling, 'bower', f. **bū*:-to dwell: see **BOWER**. Not the same word as ON. *bý-r*, *bæ-r*, Icel. *bær* str. masc. 'farm house, etc. (in which the final *r* is merely the nom.

ending: -**būi-s*, **būi-r*); although from the same root.]

1. A cow-house. Perh. in OE. times, more generally, 'a shed'. To muck the byre (Sc.): to take out the dung and cleanse the byre.

a 800 *Corpus Gl. Wr.* Wülcher 32 Magalia, byre. c 1050 *Suppl. Elfric's Gloss.* ibid. 185 Magalia, uel capanna, byre, uel sceapheorden. c 1440 *Gaw. & Gol.* i. 3 (JAM.) The king farith with his folk our firthis and fellis, Withouthin beilding of blis, of bern, or of byre. 1521 in *Archæol.* XVII. 203 Ther is a bire made for oxen. 1535 STEWART *Crom. Scot.* III. 420 Bayth hall and chalmere, bakhous, barne and byre. 1570 LEVINS *Manip.* 143 A Byre, cowhouse, bouile. 1724 RAMSAY *Tea-t. Misc.* (1733) I. 76, I ha' a good ha' house, a barn and a byer. a 1775 *Jacobite Song*, 'The mucking o' Geordie's byre'. 1805 WORDSW. *Prel.* VIII. (1851) 169 Long ere heat of noon, From byre or field the kine were brought. 1847 BARHAM *Inglol. Leg.* Ser. III. (1858) 440 He had beeves in the byre, he had flocks in the fold.

¶ Misused (from a mistaken notion as to the etymology) to English the Icelandic *bær* (ON. *bær*, *býr*): 'A farmyard and buildings, including the farm-house', called in Scotland a 'farm-toun'.

1863 BARING-GOULD *Iceland* 137 He set about erecting a byre with a great hall one hundred feet long.

2. *attrib.*, as in *byre-door*, *-dung*, *-loft*, *-man*, *-woman*; and in *comb.*, as *byre-muoker*, one who 'mucks' or cleanses a byre; *byrewards adv.*, towards the byre.

1883 *Gd. Words Aug.* 495/2 From the *byre door, he watched the birds. 1833 *Act 3 & 4 Will. IV.* xvi. § 3 Stable and *byre dung. 1822 *Bewick Mem.* 19, I always took up my abode for the night in the *byre-loft. 1814 *Edinb. Corresp.* 4 June (JAM.) Mr. Heriot's byreman.. was found.. dreadfully bruised. 1790 BURNS *Lett. to Dr. Moore* 14 July As ill-spelt as country John's billet-doux, or as unsightly a scrawl as Betty *Byremucker's answer to it. 1880 MRS. C. READE *Brown Hand & Wh.* I. Prolog. 30 The goat and kid now being driven *byrewards by a boy. 1880 SCOTT *Monast.* xxviii, 'There is naane fit to do a turn but the *byre-woman and myself'.

Byre²? *Obs.* form of **BIER**.

1467 *Mann. & Househ. Exp.* 427 For iij. flytes, ij. botte-bolts and ij. byres, xvij. d.

Byred, *pa. pple.* of **BEREDE** *v.* *Obs.* to advise.

1620 *Hist. Fryer Bacon* in *Thoms E. E. Prose Rom.* I. 223 You are byred reasonable well already.

Byrelaw(e, byrele, var. ff. BYRLAW, BIRLE.

† **By-respect**. *Obs.* Also 7 **bie-**. [f. BY-3 c, d + RESPECT *sb.*] Regard to something other than the ostensible main object; a side aim or motive; a by-consideration.

1585 ASP. SANDYS *Serm.* (1841) 341 Nor any other by-respect in the world was able to stay them. 1655 GOUGE *Comm. Heb.* iii. 12. 362 Many make profession on by-respects.. to serve their own turns. 1703 BURKITT *On N. T.* John vi. 27 How natural it is for men to seek Christ for sinister ends and by-respects. 1755 in *JOHNSON*; and in *mod. Dicts.*

Byriels, *var.* of **BURIELS**. *Obs.*

Byrk(e, Byrkyn), *obs.* ff. **BIRCH**, **BREAK**.

Byrlady, *int.*; still *dial.* Forms: 6 **byrladye**, **ber**, **burlady**, **byr lady**, 6-7 **bir lady**, **ber**, **birleady**, **barlady**, 7 **birleady**, **b'ar ladie**, 9 *dial.* **by'r leddie**, **by-leddy**, 6- **byrlady**, **by'r lady**. Contraction of *by our Lady*, used as an oath, form of adjuration, or expletive.

1570 *Play Wit & Sc.* (1848) 18 Byrladye, not thou wench, I judge you. 1590 CHETTEL *Kind-Harts Dr.* (1841) 35 Byr lady, this would be lookt into. 1590 SHAKS. *Rom. & Jul.* I. v. 35 Berlady thirtie yeares. 1616 *Pastoril & Kath.* III. 182 B'ar Ladie, that's a buming sound. 1632 BROME *North. Lasse* IV. iv, Birleady a competent modern portion. 1821 COLERIDGE *Lett. Convers.* &c. I. 221 Very late, or by'r lady, it might be early in the morning. 1884 *St. James's Gaz.* 20 June 6/1 The farmers (near Ludlow, Shropshire), although none of them are Roman Catholics, swear 'by'r Leddie'.

† **Byrlakin**. *Obs.* Also 6 **bylakyn**, **belakin**, **byrlakyn**, **berlaken**, 7 **birleakin**. A contraction of *By our Ladykin*; cf. *prec.*

a 1528 SKELTON *Magnyf.* 341 By lakyn, Sir, it hath cost. 1548 *Warrikin Fair* in *Genl. Mag.* (1740) Sept., 'Belakin' quo hee, 'but I conuau tel'. 1570 *Play Wit & Sc.* (1848) 52 Byrlakyn! Syr. 1590 SHAKS. *Mids. N.* III. I. 14 Berlaken, a parious feare. a 1625 FLETCHER *Nice Val.* III. I, Birleakin sir, the difference of long taggs Has cost many a man's life.

Byrlaw. *arch. or dial.* Forms: 3 **birelage**, **birlawe**, (**birelegia**), 5-7 **byrelaw(e)**, 6 **byerlaw**, 6-7 **berlaw**, **burlaw**, 7-8 **birlaw**, 9 **bourlaw**, *dial.* **byar law**, 6- **byrlaw**; also corrupted, esp. in *comb.*, into 6 **byerley**, **byrle**, **byrle**, 7 **birley**, **burlie**, 7-8 **birley**, 8-9 **birle**, 9 **burley**; see **BIRLEY**, **BOURLAW**, **BURLEY**, **BYLAW**. [app. a. ON. **byjar-lög*, f. *byjar* gen. case of *by-r* (= *BY* *sb.*), *dial.* variant of *bær* (*bær*) village, town, farm + *lög* (pl. of *lag*) law, 'law community, communion, also a law district' (Vigf.); cf. **BY-LAW**.]

(The existence of **byjar*, *byjar-lög* in ON. is scarcely proved by the occurrence of *byjar-lögnaðr* 'a town justice' in *Diplomat. Norvegicum* of 13-14th c. (Vigf.), as a 'by' might have its own *lögnaðr* 'lawman' without having its own special law.)

1. The local custom or 'law' of a township, manor, or rural district, whereby disputes as to boundaries, trespass of cattle, etc., were settled

without going into the law courts; a law or custom established in such a district by common consent of all who held land therein, and having binding force within its limits. Hence *byrlaw-court* and **BYRLAW-MAN**, **-GRAYVE**, q. v.

These laws regulated such matters as the dates of ploughing, the turning out of cattle, the number of cattle turned out by each tenant of common land, the fines for trespass and damage done to fences, etc., the keeping up of fences, sea banks, the pound, the 'balks' in fields, and the like.

1257 *Composition betw. Convent & W. de Furness*, in *Coucher Bk. of Furness Abbey* (1887) 458 Si contingat averia ipsius Abbatis vel succ. suorum dampnum facere in bladis vel pratis ipsius Willelmi, [for vice versa].. emendabitur ex utraque parte secundum Birelag' absque placito. 1212 *Tabula Sententialis*, ibid. 84 Ex utraque parte fient emendae secundum Birelegia absque placito. 1292 *Assize 20 Edw. I* (Devon) *Abbreviatio Plac.* 286 b, Quod quidem factum [destruction of the parson's crops] manifeste est injuriosum et non per aliquod Birlawe sustinendum, consideratum est quod, etc. a 1400 GLANVILLE *Reg. Maj.*, Exceptis burlawis [SKENE tr. Birlaw Courts] que per consensum vicinorum concurrunt. 1483 *Cath. Angl.* 32 A Byrelawe, *agraria, plebiscitum*. 1500 *Ortus Voc. in Cath. Angl.* 32 note, *Plebiscitum, statutum populi; anglice, a byrelawe*. 1597 SKENE *Verb. Sign.*, Laws of Birlaw ar maid & determined be consent of neighbors, elected and chosen be common consent, in the courts called the Birlaw courts. In the quihik cognition is taken of complaints, betuixt nightbour & nightbour. The quihik men sa chosen, as judges & arbitrators to the effect foresaid, ar commonly called Birlaw-men. 1609 HUME *Admon.* in *Wodrow Soc. Misc.* (1844) 587 Comparing them to Birlay Courts, where is much jangling. 1863 D. GRAHAM *Wks.* II. 102 note, This birlay-court consisted of certain parties in the barony who looked after the local affairs. 1881 W. DICKINSON *Cumbrid. Gloss.* and *Suppl.* (E. D. S.) *Byar law*, *Byr law*, a custom or law established in a township or village. 1876 *Mid-Yorksh. Gloss.* (E. D. S.) [The bellman at Tollerton used to say] 'Aweay to t' Bahlaw' [i. e. to a parish meeting].

2. *transf.* A district having its own byrlaw court, or local law.

1850 *N. & Q.* Ser. I. II. 92/2 The above are the four byer-laws or divisions of the parish, and the Churchwardens used separately to collect in their respective byerlaws.

In the form *Bierlow* this word is common as an appendage to place-names in Yorkshire: *Brampton Bierlow*, *Ecclesall Bierlow*, *Brightside Bierlow*. These are the names of somewhat extensive parishes; it is to be presumed that the various hamlets forming each were originally connected by their resort to a district court of justice.

Byrlawman. Also **byerlaw**, **birlaw**, **berlaw**, **byrelaw**, and **BURLEY**, q. v. [f. *prec.* + **MAN**: cf. the Norse form there cited.]

An officer appointed at a Court-leet for various local duties, as the framing and execution of byer-laws, looking after nuisances, administration of justice in minor matters, arbitration in agricultural disputes, etc. etc. Also occas. called *Bierlaw-grayves* (see **GREAVE**).

1432 *Ingleby Arncliffe Manor Court Rolls* (per Rev. J. C. Atkinson) Juratores elegerunt in officium de Birlawmen John North et Rob. Phelipson. 1477-8 *Ibid.* Elegerunt Joh. Hardywyke et Joh. Jackson Bierlaw-grayves (explan. in Latin *custodes plebisciti*) pro anno futuro, et jurati sunt. 1521 *Ibid.* That no bruester shall sell anie aile but according to the price of the cuntrie, and at the sight of the Bierlawmen. 1528 *Ibid.* That euerie one shall comme to the byerleys & other common workes after warning be gyven them eyther by constable or byerley men vpon payne of euerie defawte *ivd.* 1552-1584 *Manch. Court-leet Rec. in Athenæum* 2 Aug. (1879) 146 Byrlamen, birlamen. 1595 *Ibid.*, Berlawmen [fined for suffering swine to go up and down the street unyoked]. 1591 *Acc. Common Lands Rotherham* *ibid.* 9 Aug., To the byer law-men for casting open closes according to our custome, 2s. 1790 J. ROBERTSON *Agric. Perth* 40 Sworn appraisers or valuers (called Byrelawmen).. are called mutually by each party, to settle disputes between landlord and tenants, or between one tenant and another. 1875 *Lanc. Gloss.* (E. D. S.) 62 *Burly-man*, an officer appointed at a court-leet to examine and determine respecting disputed fences.

This still survives locally in Scotland and the north of England under various forms, e. g. **BOURLAWMAN**, **BURLEYMAN** (also *burle baillie*), **BIRLEYMAN**, q. v. for further examples.

Byrle(r, -let), *obs.* forms of **BIRLE**, **BURLET**.

Byrn(e, obs. f. BURN; var. **BERNE**, *Obs.*, warrior.

Byrnaele, -akille, *obs.* forms of **BARNACLE**.

† **Byrnie**. *Obs. exc. Hist.* Forms: 4 (9 *Hist.*)

byrny, 4-6 (9 *Hist.*) **byrnie**, 6 **birny(e)**. [Sc. variant of ME. *byrnie*, **BRINIE**, with metathesis of *r*. The word was thus brought nearer to OE. *byrre*, from which however it could not directly come, as this gave only the monosyllabic **byrn*, **BURNE**, **BRYN**.]

A cuirass, corslet, coat of mail; = **BRINIE**.

1375 *Barbour Bruce* II. 352 The blud ow't at thar byrnys brest. c 1470 *Henry Wallace* II. 106 Into y'r byrnyes [v. r. birny] y'r formost can he ber. 1513 DOUGLAS *Æneis* VII. xl 95 His breistplayt strang and his byrnie. 1535 STEWART *Crom. Scot.* I. 140 With breistplayt, birny, as the burial brycht. 1864 SIR G. DASENT *Fest & Earn*. (1873) II. 273 He had armed himself in two byrnies or shirts of mail. 1870 MAGNUSON & MORRIS *Volungus* xl 37 No shield or byrny might hold against him.

Byrnysh, byrnyst, *obs.* ff. **BURNISH**, **-ED**.

Byrnstone, *obs.* form of **BRIMSTONE**.

By-road (bɔi'rɒd). Also 8-9 **bye-**. [f. BY-3 b, + ROAD.] A road which is not a main road;

a side road which does not form the highway between towns or places of importance; an out-of-the-way, little-frequented road.

1873 R. HEAD *Canting Acad.* 91 Choose when you travel, the By-Roads. 1709 STEELE *Tatler* No. 45 P. 1 Strolling wherever Chance led me, I was insensibly carried into a By-Road. 1748 R. BLAIR *Grave* 691 There's no bye-road To bliss. 1848 MACAULAY *Hist. Eng.* I. 377 On byroads... goods were carried by long trains of pack-horses.

Byronic (boir'nik), *a.* [f. the name of the poet Lord Byron; see -IO, and cf. *Miltonic*.]

1. Characteristic of, or after the manner of Byron or his poetry. Also *absol.*

1853 *Blackw. Mag.* XIII. 511 His Byronic muse procured for him the hand of one of our fair countrywomen. 1830 *Diary of Nun* II. 35 A Byronic contempt for our fellow creatures. 1856 *Chamb. Jnl.* VI. 228 A Byronic youth in a turn-down collar. 1875 *Masson Wordsw.* 4c. 35 The Byronic in poetry is, in some respects, the contradictory of the Wordsworthian. 1879 *Froude Caesar* viii. 83 No sentimental passion... no Byronic mock heroics.

2. quasi-*sb. pl.* [after *philippics*.] Declamatory utterances or invectives in the style of Byron.

1890 *Whipple Ess. & Rev.* II. 394 Vociferating impotent Byronics against conventional morality.

Byronism (boir'oniz'm), [f. as prec. + -ISM.]

a. The characteristics of Byron or his poetry.

b. Imitation of Byron.

1817 W. S. WALKER *Poet. Rem.* (1852) *Introd.* 38 Lord Byron's drama of Manfred is... the perfection of Byronism. 1857 *Fraser's Mag.* LVI. 66 When Byronism was at its height, when... you could not be interesting unless you were miserable and vicious. 1870 *SWINBURNE Ess. & Stud.* (1875) 307 One of his (de Musset's) decoctions of watered Byronism.

So also **Byroniad** (-d'niad), [see -AD I c.], ? the epic of a Byronic hero. **Byronian** *a.*, of or pertaining to Byron, resembling Byron; also *sb.*, an admirer or imitator of Byron. **Byronic** *a.*, **Byronish** *a.*, = **BYRONIAN**; **Byronically** *adv.*;

Byronist, **Byronite** [see -IST, -ITE], a follower or imitator of Byron. **Byronise** *v.* [see -IZE],

a. trans. to invest with the characteristics of Byron; *b. intr.* to affect or play the Byron.

1819 *Literary Gas.* 546 The prose 'Byroniads' which infect the times. 1853 *Blackw. Mag.* XII. 753 Old-established fresholders on the 'Byronic Parnassus'. 1853 *Athenaeum* 17 Mar. 340/1 Alfred de Musset and the French 'Byronians'. 1871 *MORLEY Crit. Misc.* (1878) 225 Silly 'Byronical' votaries, who only half understood their idol. 1879 *Blackw. Mag.* XLV. 356 Wearing his shirt collar 'Byronically' tied in front with a slip of black ribbon. 1890 *WILSON ibid.* XXVII. 674 An exceedingly neat small 'Byronish' hand. 1890 *CAMPBELL in Fraser's Mag.* I. 485 If the 'Byronists' were to take the savage ordeal. 1884 *SWINBURNE in 19th Cent.* Apr. 587 The smallest perceptible 'Byronite' or Wordsworthian. 1885 *Blackw. Mag.* XIII. 267 'Byronized' Cockneys. 1886 *Edin. Rev.* LXII. 209 His gentleness and devoutness would have Byronized but ill. 1847 *Blackw. Mag.* LXI. 430 Let others... fling their curls back from their brows, unbutton their shirt-collars, and, thus Byronised, begin.

By-room. [f. *By* + *ROOM*.] A side or private room; a smaller room opening out of another.

1596 *SHAKS. 1 Hen. IV.* II. iv. 32 Doe thou stand in some by-room, while I question my puny Drawer. c. 1615 *CHARMAN Odys.* III. 545 Himself lay in a by-room, far above. 1797 *BRADLEY Fam. Dict.* I. s.v. *Cabbage*, Lay them in some Cellar or by-room. 1755 in *JOHNSON*; and in mod. Dicts.

Byrral (l, obs. form of **BEYRL**.

|| **Byrra** (bō'sā). *Med.* [L.; a. Gr. *Býrra* hide.]

1811 *HOOPER Med. Dict.*, *Byrra*, a leather skin, to spread plaisters upon. 1881 in *Syd. Soc. Lex.* (citing Quincy).

Byrse, obs. form of **BURSE**.

Byrselle, var. **BERCEL**, *Obs.*, archer's butt.

Byrsle, **Byrst**, obs. ff. **BIRSE**, **BURST**.

Byrt (e, **Byrth** (e, -yn, obs. ff. **BIRT**, **BIETH**, **BURDEN**.

|| **Byrthynsak**. *Sc. Law. Obs.* Forms: 2-3 **berthynsak**, 3 **byrthynsak**, **berthinsak**, (6-7 **byrthinsak**, **berthinsek**, **birdinsek**, **burding-seek**, **burdensack**). [Derived by Skene (1609) from **BURDEN** + **SACK**, and explained accordingly; but no reference to a 'sack' appears in the original passages in the *Assise* of William the Lion (and its vernacular version), or in the *Regiam Majestatem*. The early vernacular form **byrthynsak**, **berthinsak**, appears to be f. OE. *byrthen* burthen + *sacu* legal process, action at law, jurisdiction. But the latinized forms **iburpanansec**, **yburpanansec**, present features not easily explained.] (See *quots.*)

1127 *Assise Regis Wilhelmi* xiii (earliest MS. a. 1300), De *iburpanansec* seu *berthynsak* id est de furto vituli vel arietis vel quantum quis supra dorsum suum portare poterit. 15th c. *transl.* Of byrthynsak þat is to say of þe thift of a calf or of a ram or how mekil as a man may ber on his bak þar is na court to be haldyn. a. 1400 *Reg. Maj.* (1844) iv. 12 De *berthinsak* seu *yburpanansec*. 1609 *SKENE Reg. Maj.* [*Scotch transl.*] 68 Table, *Byrdingseck*, be the Law of burdingseck, na man could be hangd for sa meikill of stollen meat, as he may beare in ane seck vpon his back: as for ane scheepe or ane calfe. 1658 in *PHILLIPS*.

|| **By-run**, *sb.*, *pa. pple.*, *ppl. a.* *Obs.* [f. *By* + *run* *sb.* and *ppl.*]

a. sb. Running by, course, current.

1674 N. FAIRFAX *Bulk & Setv.* 143 Time all the while holding on its even by-run.

B. pa. pple. and *ppl. a.* Also 6 *Sc. byrunnyn*.

1. Past, elapsed; (of payments) in arrear, overdue. 1593 *DOUGLAS Æneis* v. xi. 54 Lo, sen the fall of Troy... Byrunnyn is the sevnt somer. 1536 *BELLENDEN Cron. Scot.* (1821) I. 241 The day byrune, all Scottis war exilit. a. 1639 *SPOTTISWOOD Hist. Ch. Scot.* vi. (1677) 325 The by-run profits intronnetted by the Thesaurer. 1653 in *Z. Boyd's Zion's Flowers* (1855) *Introd.* 41 Byrun stipends owing by the town.

2. As *sb. pl.* Arrears (of rent, etc.). Cf. **BY-GONE** B. I b.

1573 *Sc. Acts Jas VI* (1597) § 58 For the by-runes awand them. 1613 *SKENE Reg. Maj.* Index s.v. *Maister* (JAM.) The byrunis of his farms.

|| **By-running**, *pr. pple.* and *vbl. sb.* *Obs.* [f. *By* + *run* + *RUNNING*.]

A. pr. pple. Going by, passing, current. *B. vbl. sb.* The action of going by or passing.

1674 N. FAIRFAX *Bulk & Setv.* 18 The very existence of God, with an outward badge or denomination from time by-running. *Ibid.* 201 There were framed, the sundry ages or by-runnings and wheelings about of things in this world.

Byryall, -ele, -ell, obs. ff. **BURIAL**.

Byryne, **Byryde**, obs. ff. **BERAIN**, **BURIED**.

Byrnnyn, *pa. pple.* of **BEUN**, to encompass.

By's, **by't** = by his, by it; see **HZ**, **IT**.

Byse (e, obs. and var. ff. **BICE**, **BYSE**, **BYSS**.

Bysale, -ayeul, var. **BESALE**, great-grandfather.

Bysantin, obs. form of **BYZANTINE**.

|| **Bysawe**, *Obs.* Also 3 **bisawe**. [early ME. *bisawe*, f. *bi-*, *BY* + *sawe*, *Saw*, saying; cf. *BY-word*.] A current saying; a proverb.

a. 1225 *Anscr.* R. 88 Me seio ine bisawe... 'Vrom mulne & from cheping... me tidinge bringed'. 1387 *TREVISIA Higden* *Rolls* Ser. V. 461 Hit is a bisawe, 'God have mercy of soules, quoth Oswalde, and fil to be grounde'.

Bysb, var. of **BISP**, *Obs.*, bishop.

|| **By-scape**, *Obs. rare* -1. [f. *By* + *scape*, *aphet. f. ESCAPE*.] A bastard; cf. **BY-BLOW**, **SLIP**.

1646 *EARL MONM. Biondi's Hist.* VI. ix. 197 For his being God-son to her Brother, and... for that (being very fair) she thought him a by-scape of his.

Byschelle, -schop(e, obs. ff. **BUSHEL**, **BISHOP**.

|| **Byscorn**, *v. Obs.* [= **BESORN**; see **BE-pref.** 2.] *trans.* To cover with scorn.

a. 1300 *Cursor M.* 16611 þe riche men bi-scorned him. c. 1386 *CHAUCER Pers. T.* 7204 Thanne he be scorned (v. r. by-scorned, bi-scorned).

|| **Byscorn**, *sb. Obs. rare* -1. In 4 **byakorne**. [f. prec. vb.] Contempt, scorn.

1387 *TREVISIA Higden* (1865) I. 179 Ymages of false goddes... he broyte to byskorne and bysmere.

Bysoute, obs. form of **BISCUIT**.

|| **Byse**, *Obs.* Also 3 **bise**, 5 **bys**, **besshe**, 6 **bise**. [Origin unknown: possibly f. *bis* dark brown. The suggestion that it is the same as **BISSE**, OF *bisse*, *bisse*, *biche* 'female deer', hardly suits the sense, and the forms do not agree.]

Some kind of (?brown) fur, much used in the 15th c. for trimming gowns, etc.

c. 1280 *A Sarmun* 11 in *E. E. P.* (1862) 2 Silk no sendale nis þer none no bise no no menier. 1407 *Will of Escrik* (Somerset Ho.), Furrata cum *Bys*. 1422 *E. E. Wills* (1882) 50 A gown furred with *Besshe*. 1483 *CAXTON Gold. Leg.* 50/3 A double stole furred with *bysse*. 1513 *DOUGLAS Æneis* viii. Prol. 57 Byand byssely... beuir and bice.

Byse (e, **Bysege**, obs. ff. **BESSE**, **BESIEGE**.

|| **Bysen**, *sb. Obs. exc. Sc. and north. dial.* Forms: 1 **bysen**, **bisine**, 1-4 **bisen**, 2-3 **bisine**, 3 **bisin**, 4 **bysine**, -yne, 5 **bysyn** (**bysynt**), 6-7 **bysin**, 9 **bison**, **byson**, **byssen**. [partly OE. *bysen* example; but the later use is exclusively northern, and apparently from the cognate ON. *bysn* wonder, portentous thing. See also **BYSTM**.]

I. 1. An example, a pattern.

c. 950 *Lindisf. Gosp.* John xiii. 15 Bisen [*Ruskw. bisine*] forðon ic salde iuh. c. 1175 *Lamb. Hom.* 5 Godalmiht... sette us bisne. c. 1230 *Hali Meid.* 45 After þe bisne of þat eadi meiden. a. 1240 *Sawles Warde* in *Cott. Hom.* 245 Ure lauerd... teached us þurh a bisne. 1340 *HAMPOLDE Pr. Consc.* 1027 Þe bodys of þe world... Shewes us for bisens... How we suld serve God.

II. 2. Something monstrous or portentous; a shocking sight, sorry spectacle, disgraceful thing.

a. 1455 *HOLLAND Houlate* ix. I am nytherit an Owl... Bysyn of all birds that euer body bure. a. 1600 *MONTGOMERIE Sonns* xxxiv. Fy, lothsome lyfe! Fy, death, that dou not [serve me] Bot quik and dedd a bysyn thou must [preserve me]. 1803 R. ANDERSON *Cumberl. Ball.* 63 She's a shem and a byzen to aw the heale town. 1874 *WAUGH Jannock* ii. 13 in *Lanc. Gloss.* (E. D. S.), It'll be a sham an' a bizen, if we cannot find him a menseful of a dinner.

3. *attrib.* or as *adj.* Monstrous, shocking, conspicuously bad or disgraceful.

c. 1375 ? *BARBOUR St. Mathias* 29 He sal be a byssyne mane For his ill to al þat spek cane. — *St. Catherine* 945, & mak a byssyne wyf of þe. c. 1425 *WYNTOUN Cron.* vi. xiii. 59 (JAM.) Eftre that he was brought on bere Till a byssynt best all lyke. 1863 *ROBSON Bards of Tyne* 504 A bison sight... The warst that e'er you saw.

|| **Bysen**, *v. Obs.* [OE. *bysenian*, *bysnian*, f. *bysen*; see prec. Cf. also ON. *bysna* to portend, bode.] *trans.*

1. a. To set an example to; only in OE. b. To afford an example or type of, typify, betoken.

a. 1000 K. ÆLFRED *Boeth.* xxxiii. § 4 Ne bisnode þe nan man, forþam ðe nan ær þe næs. *Ibid.* xxxix. § 11 Ða bisnodon hiora aftergengum. c. 1325 *Metz. Hom.* 111 Þik that cleues quen it is tan, Bisens deling wit wik man, For his sin clefes on god men. *Ibid.* 124 Water bisenes sin and plith.

2. To liken, compare.

c. 1325 *Metz. Hom.* 37 Mani man mai bisend be Unto the rede.

Bysene, obs. form of **BESSE** *v.*

|| **Bysening**, *vbl. sb. Obs.* [f. prec. + -ING¹.] The action of setting an example; *concr.* a pattern, example, symbol, type.

c. 1175 *Lamb. Hom.* 93 Efter bisene bisnunge weren arerede munecene lif mid. a. 1300 *Cursor M.* 21718 Of croice in þe ald testament was mani bisning [v. r. bisening]. c. 1325 *Metz. Hom.* 138 Forthi wil I schaw other thinges, That er apert biseninges.

|| **Bysening**, **bysning**, *ppl. a. Obs.* [f. *BYSEN* *v.* (in sense of ON. *bysna* to portend) + -ING².] Ill-boding, portentous, monstrous, frightful; also quasi-*sb.* a monster.

c. 1375 ? *BARBOUR St. Pelagia* 268 To mak hethinge Of me as of a bysnunge thinge. — *St. Ninian* 645 Sa wes it borne a bysnunge... For a-gane kynd wes it sa þat bak-wart stud hele & ta. 1501 *DOUGLAS Pal. Hom.* 625 Ilk wicht hes sum weillair... Salf me bysnung. *Ibid.* 740 In till sum bysnung beist transfiguratur me.

Byset, obs. *pa. t.* of **BUSY** *v.*

Bysext, variant of **BISSEXT**, *Obs.*

Bysheopp (e, **byshop**, obs. forms of **BISHOP**.

Byside, obs. f. **BESIDE**; obs. *pa. t.* of **BUSY** *v.*

Bysi (e, **Bysly**, -nes, obs. ff. **BUSY**, -ILT, -INESS.

Bysket, obs. form of **BISCUIT**, **BISKEIT**.

|| **By-slip**, *Obs.* [f. *By* + *SLIP* *sb.*]

1. A casual or trivial fault.

1612 *CHAPMAN Widow's T. v.* Might it not concur with... your office... to wink a little at a by-slip or so?

2. *transf.* A bastard. Cf. **BY-SCAPE**.

a. 1670 *HACKETT Abp. Williams* II. (1692) 37 As Pope Paul the third carried himself to his ungracious by-slips (an Incubus could not have begot worse).

Byalober, obs. form of **BESLOBBER** *v.*

|| **Byam** (e, *aphetic* form of **BYSEM** (cf. **BISM**).

1483 *CAXTON Gold. Leg.* 94/3 He was a bysme or swolowe by cause he deserved to perse the depnes of dynnyte.

Bysm-, **Bysn**-, obs. forms of **BESM**-, **BESN**-. **Bysom** (e, **byson** (e, **bysount**; see **BESOM**, **BISON**, **BISSON**.

|| **Bysondre**, *adv. Obs. rare* -1. [f. *By*-, *Be-pref.* + *A-SUNDER*, after pairs like *ajore*, *before*, *alow*, *below*, etc.] Apart, asunder.

1496 *Dives & Paup.* (W. de W.) I. liv. 66/5 Men dwelle in many dyuerse londes man a thousande myles bysondre.

Bysouth: see *By prep.* 9, and **BE-SOUTH**.

|| **Bysparkit**, *ppl. a. Sc. Obs.* [f. *By* + *BE-pref.* + *SPARK*.] Bespattered, spotted.

1513 *DOUGLAS Æneis* vii. x. 74 Wyth blude bysparkit vysage heyd and hals.

|| **By-speech**, *Obs.* [see *By* + *c. 3 c.*] An incidental or casual speech; an indirect utterance or allusion; an *obiter dictum*; an 'aside'.

1594 *HOOKER Eccl. Pol.* III. (1632) 135 Their common practice is to quote by-speeches in some historical narration. 1625 K. LONG *Barclay's Argenis* II. vii. 83 His wife... would many times cast out by-speeches of Arisda.

|| **Byspel**, **bi'spel**, *Obs.* or ? *dial.* Also 9 *Sc.* and *north. byspale*. [ME. *bispell*, OE. *bi'spell*, *big-spell*, f. *bi*, *By* + *SPELL* tale, story, narration; cogn. w. MHG. *bispel*, *bispil* 'instance, example', MDu. *bispel*, *byspel* (Kilian). As in other nominal compounds, the prefix had the strong accented form, and appears to retain the sound of *by* (bōi) in the dialects in which the word lingers; but it was perhaps shortened to (bi'spel) in ME.]

1. A parable.

c. 950 *Lindisf. Gosp.* Matt. xxi. 33 Oðero bispell heres ge. c. 1000 *Age. Gosp.* *ibid.*, Gehyrd me oðer bigspel. c. 1160 *Hutton G. ibid.*, Geherað nu oðer byspel. c. 1175 *Cott. Hom.* 233 Gode menn, understaendeð þis bispel.

2. A proverb.

c. 1000 ÆLFRED *Deut.* xxviii. 37 And ge forwurðað þurh bigspell [Wyclif & 1612 proverb] and bigcwidas. a. 1250 *Owl & Night.* 127 Her-bi men segget a bi-spel. 1556 *BLOUNT Glossogr.* s.v. *Gospel*, *Bigspell* (*Deut.* 28. 37) signifies a by-word or Proverb; or (as it is used in the North) *By-spell*.

3. *dial.* One whose worthlessness is proverbial, who becomes a byword.

1691 *NICHOLSON* in *Ray N. C. Words* (E. D. S.), Bispel, nequam, q. d. Qui adeo insignis est Nebulo ut jam in proverbium abiit. 1709 T. HEARNE *Collect.* (1886) II. 281 *By-spel*, *homo nikili*: Ita Angli Boreales. 1808 *JAMIESON s.v.*, 'He's just a byspale'. 'He's nae byspel mair than me.' 1811 *WILLAN Gloss. West R. Yorksh.* (E. D. S.), *Byspell*.

4. An illegitimate child, a bastard. Cf. **BY-BLOW**.

1781 J. HUTTON *Tour Carves* *Gloss.* (E. D. S.), *Byspel*, a bastard, or an outcast in a family. 1808 *JAMIESON By-spel*, an illegitimate child.

|| **Byss**, *sb. 1 Obs.* Forms: 3-6 **bise**, 4 **bies**, **biis**, **bijs**, **biys**, **biioe**, 4-6 **bis**, **bys**, 4-7 **byse**, **biisse**, 5-7 **bysse**, 6 **biss**, 7 **byss**. [a. OF. *bysse*, ad. L. *byssus*: see **BYSSUS**.] = **BYSSUS** 1; Fine linen. The word was to English writers often a mere name to which they attached no certain meaning, except that of fineness and value; in the

versions of the Bible it is variously rendered; the version of 1611 has 'fine linen'.

c1324 *Guy Warw.* (A.) 2835 Gode clothes of . . purper and biis. 138a WYCLIF *Luke* xvi. 19 Clothid in purpur, and biys, ether whit silk [TINDALE fyne bysse; CRANMER fyne whyte; *Genev.* fyne linnen; *Rhem.* silke; 1611 fine linnen]. — *Rev.* xix. 8 With whijte biice shijnynge [1388 white byssyn schynynge; TINDALE, CRANMER pure and goodly raynes; *Genev.* pure fyne linnen cloth and shining; *Rhem.* silke glittering and vwhite; 1611 fine linnen, cleane and white]. 1460 *Lybeaus Disc.* 2071 A robe of purpure bys. 1593 *PEEL'S Ord. of Carter Wks.* II. 228 A canopy of crimson bysse Spangled with gold. 1635 HEYWOOD *Hierarch.* v. 286 Costly robes of sundry colour'd Bisse. 1648 *BP. HALL Sel. Thoughts* § 13 The rich glutton . . clothed in purple & byss.

† **Byss**, sb.² *Obs.* [formed by removing the privative & from *abyss*, Gr. & *Byssos*; cf. Gr. *Byssos* 'depth of the sea, bottom'.] In the philosophy of Boethius: The opposite of abyss or void; *plenium*, substance, ground of attributes.

1649 *tr. Behmen's Epist.* ii. (1886) 8, I saw . . the Being of all Beings, the Byss (the ground or original foundation), and Abyss. 1668 SPARROW *tr. Behmen's Rem. Wks.* *Apol. Perfection* 63 Here is . . neither place nor Limit, but the Manifestation of the Abyss in a Byss or Ground. 1691 E. TAYLOR *Behmen's Theos. Philos.* 42 A Byss or Ground, whence come Forms or Properties. *Ibid.* 346 It . . is the greatest substance in the Deity; drawing Abyss into Byss.

† **Byss**, v. *Obs.* Also *byssyn*, *bissyn*, 6 bis. [onomatopoeic.]

1. *trans.* To sing or hum (children) to sleep. Hence *Byssing* *vbl. sb.* and *ppl. a.*

1440 *Promp. Parv.* 371/1 Byssyn chylurd, sopio, nenior. Byssynge of chylidyrne, sopicio. Byssynge songys, fascina-nina.

2. *intr.* To hiss, fizz (as in the fire).

1513 DOUGLAS *Æneis* viii. vii. 119 The irne lumpis. . . Can byss and quhisyll. c1550 *Fyfe of Purgat.* iii. in *Gude & Godlie Ball.* 163 Thay . . lat the saulis burn and bis Of all their Foundatouris.

Byssaceous (bi'si'əs), *a. Bot.* [f. BYSS-US; see -ACEOUS.] 'Composed of fine entangled threads' (*Treas. Bot.* 1866).

1835 LINDLEY *Introd.* Bot. II. 362 *Byssaceous*, divided into very fine pieces, like wool, as the roots of some agarics.

Byssal (bi'säl), *a.* [f. BYSS-US + -AL¹.] Of or belonging to the byssus of molluscs.

1854 WOODWARD *Mollusca* (1856) 204 The posterior, byssal foramen of the bivalve. 1866 *Intell. Observ.* No. 49. 54 The byssal threads.

Bysse, *obs.* and *var. form* of **BICE**, **BYSS**.

Byssell, **Bysshope**, *obs. ff.* **BUSHEL**, **BISHOP**.

Byssiferous (bi'si'fərs), *a. Zool.* [f. BYSS-US + -(1)FEROUS.] Furnished (as a shell-fish) with a byssus (sense 3).

1835-6 TODD *Cycl. Anat.* I. 702/1 The group of byssiferous Dimyaria. 1875 BLAKE *Zool.* 269 The foot is cylindrical, grooved and byssiferous.

Byssine (bi'sin), *a.* In 4 *bissyn*, *bijoen*. [ad. L. *byssinus*, a. Gr. *byssinos* made of byssus.]

1. Made of byssus or fine linen.

1636 BLOUNT *Glossogr.* *Byssine*, silken, or which is made of fine flax or cloth. 1715 *tr. Pancirollus' Rerum Mem.* I. i. v. 14 That delicate Down . . which sticks to a certain kind of Shell-fish . . whence are made a sort of Garments called Byssine. 1849 KINGSLEY *Misc.* (1859) II. 173 The East sent to Rome 2000 years ago its 'byssine garments'. 1877 PLUMPTRE *Sophocles* 407 *Æneas* . . on his shoulders bears his sire, Who lets his byssine mantle fall in folds.

2. quasi-sb. [L. *byssinum*.] = **BYSS sb.**

138a WYCLIF *Rev.* xix. 8 And it is pouun to hir, that she couere hir with whijte biice [1388 byssyn] shijnynge; for-sothe biice [1388 byssyn, Vulg. *byssinum*] ben the iustifynges of syentis. 1881 LOCKHART *Valerius* II. iii. 106 Perhaps a yellow byssine would suit me better.

Byssio-ark. Anglicized form of *byssio-arka*, a sub-genus of molluscs, having a byssus.

1836 *Penny Cycl.* VI. 80/2 *Byssioarka*. 1854 WOODWARD *Mollusca* (1856) 267 The Byssio-arks secrete themselves under stones at low-water.

Byssoid (bi'soid), *a. Bot.* [f. BYSS-US + -OID.] Like a byssus; having a fringed structure with threads of unequal lengths.

1857 BERKELEY *Cryptog.* *Bot.* § 160. 185 Nucleus surrounded by a whorl of byssoid branchlets. 1861 H. MACMILLAN *Footnotes Page Nat.* 140 The yellow hyaline filaments found at the bottom of wine bottles . . their byssoid nature.

Byssolite (bi'ssōlīt). [f. Gr. *byssos* + -LITE.] An olive-green fibrous mineral, a variety of **AMPHIBOLE**; the same as **ASBESTOID**.

1847 in CRAIG. 1869 *Daily News* 8 Oct., Columns of Oriental byssolite. 1879 RUTLEY *Stud. Rocks* x. 131 Byssolite is more compact in aggregation.

Byssop, -ryche, *obs. ff.* **BISHOP**, -RIC.

Byssus (bi'ssūs). Also 5-7 *bissus*. [a. L. *byssus*, a. Gr. *byssos* 'a fine yellowish flax, and the linen made from it, but in later writers taken for cotton, also silk, which was supposed to be a kind of cotton' (Liddell & Scott), ad. Heb. *byts*, applied to 'the finest and most precious stuffs, as worn by kings, priests, and persons of high rank or honour' (Gesenius), transl. in Bible of 1611 'fine linen', f. root **byts*, Arab. *byts* to be

white, to surpass in whiteness. Originally therefore a fibre or fabric distinguished for its whiteness.]

1. An exceedingly fine and valuable textile fibre and fabric known to the ancients; apparently the word was used, or misused, of various substances, linen, cotton, and silk, but it denoted properly (as shown by recent microscopic examination of mummy-cloths, which according to Herodotus were made of *byssos*) a kind of flax, and hence is appropriately translated in the English Bible 'fine linen'.

1398 *TRIVISA Barth De P. R.* xvii. xcvi. (1495) 664 Therbe many manere flexe . . but the fayrest of al growyth in Egypte: for therof is Byssus made ryght fayre and whyte as snowe. 1605 CAMDEN *Rem.* (1637) 194 Bissus was a plante or kinde of silke grasse. 1715 *tr. Pancirollus' Rerum Mem.* I. i. v. 13 Byssus was a fine sort of Flax, which grew in Greece. 1828 DE QUINCEY *Toilette Hebr.* *Lady Wks.* XII. 117 For wool and flax was often substituted the finest byssus or other silky substance. 1866 FELTON *Anc. & Mod. Gr.* I. vi. 38 Hair-nets made of golden thread or silk or byssus.

† 2. A name formerly given to filamentous fungoid growths of different kinds, which are now more accurately classified. *Obs.*

1753 CHAMBERS *Cycl. Suppl.* *Byssus*. . . a genus of mosses the most imperfect of the whole class of vegetables. 1770 WITHERING *Brit. Plants* (1796) IV. 143 *Cryptogamia*. *Alge*. Byssus, substance like fine down or velvet, simple or feathered. 1838 *Econ. of Vegetation* 152 The mouse-skin byssus may be seen attached to the roof of the vault in wine cellars.

3. *Zool.* The tuft of fine silky filaments by which molluscs of the genus *Pinna* and various mussels attach themselves to the surface of rocks; it is secreted by the *byssus-gland* in the foot.

'These filaments have been spun, and made into small articles of apparel. Their colour is brilliant, and ranges from a beautiful golden yellow to a rich brown; they also are very durable. The fabric is so thin that a pair of stockings may be put in an ordinary-sized snuff-box' (Beck *Draper's Dict.* 39).

1836 TODD *Cycl. Anat.* I. 702 The byssus is a bundle of horny or silky filaments. 1838 *New Monthly Mag.* LIII. 546 They . . moor themselves to rocks and stones by the tiny cables of their byssus. 1879 *Cassell's Techn. Educ.* IV. 199 Mussels are used at Bideford to fix, by means of their byssus, the stones of a bridge, which is difficult to keep in repair, owing to the rapidity of the tide.

4. *Bot.* 'The thread-like stipe of some fungi'. *Syd. Soc. Lex.* 1881. 1866 *Treas. Bot.* s.v.

† 5. A name formerly given to **ASBESTOS**.

1864 WEBSTER cites NICHOLSON.

Byst, for *biddst* = *prayest*: see **BID v.** 7 b.

Bystade, *obs. form* of **BESTED**.

Bystander (bi'stændər). Also 8-9 *bye-stander*. [f. BY- 2 a + STANDER.] One who is standing by; one who is present without taking part in what is going on; a passive spectator.

1619 DONNE *Bithan.* (1644) 137 Such an act, either in Executioner or by-stander, is no way justifiable. 1665 MANLEY *tr. Grotius' Low-C. Wars* 439 The Gunpowder . . being by chance fired, destroyed many of the by-standers. 1713 SWIFT *Salamander*. *Wks.* 1755 III. ii. 77 Then I'll appeal to each by-stander, If this be not a Salamander! 1828 IMISON *Sc. & Art* I. 269 A bye-stander will see nothing of the image. 1848 MACAULAY *Hist. Eng.* I. 366 Bystanders whom His Majesty recognised. 1875 JOWETT *Plato* (ed. 2) V. 154 Let the bystander inform the rulers.

By-standing, *ppl. a.* [f. BY- 2 a + STAND-ING.] That stands by or near.

1622 SPARROW *Bk. Com. Prayer* (1661) 250 A by-standing Table called the Table of Proposition. 1884 A. A. PUTNAM 10 *Yrs. Judge* xii. 85 Money . . forthcoming from the pockets of by-standing friends.

Bystarde, *obs. form* of **BUSTARD**.

Bystole, **Bystorie**: see **BESTAL**, **BESTORY**.

† **Bystour**, *Sc. Obs.* Also 7 *boystour*, *boisture*. [The variant *boistour* suggests identity with **BOASTER**; and the earlier senses of **BOAST** (in *Sc. boist*) give a suitable meaning; but the form *by-stour* is not explained.]

A loud rude talker; a braggart, bully.

1535 LYNDSEY *Satyre* 2991 That bystour salbe brunt incontinent. 1600 MONTGOMERIE *Flying* 125 Bleird, babling, bystour-baird, obey. *Ibid.* 215 Ridand like boistures all beshitten. 655 Beshitten boystour [ed. 1688 by-stour].

By-street (bi'strīt). Also 8-9 *bye-street*. [f. BY- 3 b + STREET.] A street out of the main thoroughfare; a side street, lying out of the way, and hence less frequented.

1672 DRYDEN *Prod. Women* (Globe) 412 In sum by-street To take a lodging. 1704 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 4029/2 They were to watch him at the turning of a certain By-street. 1780 COXE *Russ. Discov.* 216 It has two principal streets . . with two by-streets running South. 1880 BROWNING *Dram. Idylls*, *Pietro* 38 Padua's blackest blindest bye-street.

By-stroke: see **BY- 2 c**.

Bystrow, **Bystryde**: see **BESTREW**, **BESTRIDE**.

† **Bysu'lp**, v. *Obs. rare*—1. [f. BY- = **BE-** pref. 2 + **SULP** v. to sully.] *trans.* To besully, befoul. c1325 E. E. *Allit. P.* B. 575 Pe vylanye . . pat by-sulpez mannez saule in vnsounde hert.

† **Byswelt**, v. *Obs. rare*—1. Pa. *ppl.* in 5 *by-swult*. [f. BY- = **BE-** pref. 2 + **SWELT**.] *trans.* To burn, scorch.

c1420 *Chron. Vilad.* 329 How hurre clothus lye . . Among þe gledys alle by swulte.

† **Byswenke**, v. *Obs. rare*—1. [properly *by-swinke*, f. BY- = **BE-** intensive + **SWINK** v. to labour, toil.] *intr.* To work hard, exert oneself, labour.

121400 *Morte Arth.* 1128 Fulle swythe he byswenkes, Swappes in with the swerde þat it þe swange brystedd.

Bysy, -nes(*ss*), *obs. forms* of **BUSY**, **BUSINESS**.

† **By-sybbe**, *Obs.* [f. BY- + *sybbe* **SIB**.] Related, a relative.

[c1325 SHOREHAM 70 And thet ine the selve degre That hy beth here by sybbe.] c1440 *Voc.* in *Wt.-Wülcker* 562 *Affinis*, by sybbe.

† **Bysym**, *Sc. Obs.* [Apparently a corrupt form of **BYSEN**, and prob. the same as **BESOM sb.** 2] = **BYSEN 2**.

c1445 HOLLAND *Houlate* lxxiv. (Bannatyne MS.) Allace, I am lost, latest of all, Byssyn [v. r. byssyn] in bale best. [Cf. i. 6 Quhame sall I bleme in this breth, a besum [v. r. byssyn] that I be!]

Bysyne, **Bysynt**: see **BISEN**, -ING.

Byssyn, *var. of* **BYSS v.** *Obs.*

Byt, etc.: see **BIT**.

Byt = *biddeth*: see **BID v.**

† **By-table**, *Obs.* [f. BY- 3 a + **TABLE**.] A side-table; one which is not the main table in a room.

1550 RIDLEY in STRYPE *Ecl. Mem.* II. i. xxx. 256 To take down and abolish all other by-tables and altars. 1625 K. LONG *tr. Barclay's Argentin* iii. xxiv. 229 He had seen a Box of most curious worke, upon a by-table. c1805 A. CARLYLE *Autobiog.* 488 His companions [sat] at a by-table.

Bytaken, *obs. form* of **BETOKEN v.**

† **By-tale**, *Obs.* Also 4 *bitale*, 6 *bytaile*.

[f. bi-, BY- + **TALE**.] a. A parable; cf. **BYAPEL** 1. b. An irrelevant tale, a tale by the way.

c1300 *Life of Jesus* (Horstmann) 242 (Mätz.) Ore louerd prechede þat folk . . And seide heom þar to aue bitale. 1553 T. WILSON *Rhet.* 48 Tel me no bytailes, such as are to no purpose.

By-talk (bi'tɔk). Also 9 *bye-*. [f. BY- 3 c + **TALK sb.**]

1. Talk aside; incidental talk away from the main business, or at by-times; irrelevant speech, small talk, tittle-tattle.

1563 FOXE *A. & M.* 820/1 The sayde bishops bytalke . . was not muche materiall. 1580 NORTH *Plutarch* 730 Demosthenes . . sought occasions in his by-talk to shew men that he was excellently well learned. 1623 *Lilburn Tried & Cast* 126 He knew, by such by-talk and impertinencies . . how to take away . . their reason. 1815 SCOTT *Guy Mannering* iii. c. 10, 'Loth, Laird,' continued they, during this by-talk, 'it's but,' etc.

† 2. The object or butt of such talk; a **BYWORD**.

1579 TOMSON *Calvin's Sermon*. *Tim.* 292/1 He shalbe made a mocking stock, & a bytalk in euery mans mouth.

Bytaught, etc.: see **BETAUGHT**.

Bytoch(e), **Byte**, *obs. forms* of **BITCH**, **BITE**.

Byteche, *var. of* **BETREACH v.** *Obs.*

Bytell, -ylle, *byttill*, *obs. forms* of **BEETLE**.

Byten, *bytone*, *obs. forms* of **BETONY**.

By-term (bi'tɜm). Also 6 *bye-tearma*. [f. BY- 4, 5 + **TERM**.]

† 1. A by-name, a nickname. *Obs.*

1579 TWYNE *Phisicks agst. Fort.* i. xlii. 60 b, Ofentymes great infamie groweth vponn small causes, and vile bye tearmes, vponn honourable names.

2. In University of Cambridge: A term which is not the main one for entering or for taking degrees.

(The degree of B.A. can be taken after residing for a certain number of terms; but to make this fit with the annual examination for honours, a student must enter at the beginning of the October term.)

1883 *Athenaeum* 15 Dec. 770 Bulwer took his degree at a by-term, and did not try for honours.

By the by: see **BY prep.** 12 b, **By sb.** 2 b, c.

Bythenche, -thenke, *obs. ff.* **BETHINK**.

By-thing (bi'pɪn). [f. BY- 4, 5 + **THING**.] That which is not the main thing; a matter by the way, or for by-times.

1721 STRYPE *Ecl. Mem.* I. i. xxiv. 174 Not [content to swear] to the whole act, some by-things in it not agreeing to their judgments. 1820 G. WILSON *E. Forbes* x. (1861) 318 Only . . as a kind of by-thing could he find time for zoological . . pursuits. 1884 TENNYSON *Becket* iii. iii. 132 These are by-things in the great cause.

† **Bythi'ne**, **bythout**. Also *bipinne*, *bipute*, *bythowte*, *bethout*. Altered forms [app. produced by the substitution of *by* for *ui*, in *with*] of **WITHIN**, **WITHOUT** (cf. **BEDENE**).

a1300 *Floris & Bl.* 218 Seue hundred tures and two Beop in þe burg bipute mo. *Ibid.* 244 Ef þer comþ eni man Bipinne þike barbecan. a1400 *Usages of Winchester in Eng. Gilds* 354 Euerych defawte by-pinne þe amountaunce of þre shylynges. *Ibid.* 363 Lese þe tenant by-powte rekenerynge. 1529 *Marpres Epit.* (1843) 15 Tell me then bethout dissimulation. 1879 JAMISON, *Bethout*, without. *Fife*.

Bythwind, *obs. f.* **WITHWIND**, a plant. (cf. *prec.*) 1647 LILLY *Chr. Astrol.* viii. 59 He [Saturn] governeth . . Nightshade, Bythwind, Angelica, Sage.

Bytide, **Bytimes**: see **BETIDE**, **BETIMES**.

By-time (bi'taim). Also 9 *bye-*. [f. BY- 4 + **TIME**.] Time not occupied by one's main work or pursuits; spare time, odd hours.

1609 C. BUTLER *Fem. Mon.* Pref. (1823) 3 To spend some by-time for my recreation in searching out their [bees']

nature. 1775 JOHNSON *Lett.* I. cxxiv. 267, I, therefore, step over at by-times, and of by-times I have enough. 1865 DICKENS *Mut. Fr.* II. v. In by-times, as on this holiday.

Bytoken (ə, Bytore, obs. ff. BETOKEN, BITTERN.

Bytownite (bəi'taunəit). *Min.* [f. *Bytown*, (now Ottawa) in Canada, where it occurs + -ITE.] A variety of ANORTHITE.

1868 DANA *Min.* 340.

Bytr-: see BETR-.

Byttel, -ell, -il, -ylle, obs. forms of BEETLE.

Byttour, -ur(e), -yr, obs. forms of BITTERN.

Bytumen, obs. form of BITUMEN.

By-turning, a turning, leading aside: see BY-3 b.

† **By-verse**. *Obs.* [f. BY a. + VERSE: cf. BY-WORD.] A verse that passes current, a rimed saw or maxim.

1645 MOUTET & BENN. *Health's Improv.* (1746) 218 The Dutchmen have a By-verse amongst them to this Effect.

By-view. ? *Obs.* Also 8 bye-. [f. BY-2 b, 3 c, d + VIEW sb.] a. A side glance, or glimpse; a look directed to an object not immediately before the eye. b. A private, unavowed, or self-interested aim; cf. BY-END.

a 1731 ATTERBURY (J.) No by views of his own shall mislead him. 1753 *Gray's Inn Frl.* No. 30 (1756) I. 193 Every Reader of Taste must have been greatly delighted with these By-views.

By-walk (bəi'wɔk). Also 6 biwalk. [f. BY-3 b + WALK sb.] A private or sequestered walk; a by-path. *lit.* and *fig.*

1549 LATIMER *Serm. bef. Edw. VI.* i. (Arb.) 36 Let vs not take any biwalkes, but let gods word directe vs. 1678 WYCHERLEY *Love in Wood* III. iii. Have I found you in your by-walks? 1725 POPE *Odys.* XIII. 510 note, There should be by-walks to retire into sometimes for our ease. 1852 SMITH *Eng. & Fr. Dict.*, By-walk, *promenade écartée*.

So **By-walker**, one who frequents by-paths, one who strays from the highway or right way; *lit.* and *fig.*; also **By-walking** *vbl. sb.*

1549 LATIMER *Serm. bef. Edw. VI.* III. (Arb.) 78 Excytinge my audience to beware of by-walkynges. *Ibid.* IV. 112 Absalon David's son was a bywalker. 1575-85 ABP. SANDYS *Serm.* (1841) 118 St. Paul noteth other by-walkers.

Byward (bəi'wɔd), sb. [f. BY-3, 5 + WARD.] A ward or guard which is not the main one; as in the **Byward Tower** in the Tower of London.

1840 AINSWORTH *Tower of Lond.* IV. A large drawbridge then led to another portal forming the principal entrance to the outer ward, and called the By-ward or Gate Tower.

† **Byward, Bywards**, *adv. Obs.* [f. BY *adv.* + -WARD(S).] Sideways.

(In first quot. *ward* perh. = 'confinement, custody') 1595 J. HERWOOD *Spider & Fl.* IV. 28 In eche weake place is wouen a weauing cast, By warde, in warde, to warde the flie more fast. 1674 N. FAIRFAX *Bulk & Selv.* 75 The spring... would only be pusht forwards or by-wards.

By-way (bəi'weɪ). Forms: 4 biwel, 5 bye-waye, 6 bie-, by-wale, 9 bye-way, 5- by-way. [f. BY-3 b + WAY.]

1. A way other than the highway; a side road; a secluded, private, obscure, or unfrequented way.

1330 R. BRUNNE *Chron.* 10145 (Rolls Ser.) By a bywey [v. r. bigate] to Totenes lay, Cador & hyse toke pat way. c 1425 WYNTOUN *Cron.* VIII. xxxii. 65 Dat kennyng þame a by way. 1596 SREWSBY *P. O.* I. i. 28 That path he kept, which beaten was most plaine, Ne ever would to any by-way bend. 1611 BIBLE *Judg.* v. 6 In the dayes of Iael, the traueilers walked thorow by-ways. 1708 MOTTEUX *Rabelais* v. xxvi. (1737) 114 Highways, Crossways, and Byways. 1860 ADLER *Fairiel's Prov. Poetry* xl. 239 Totally unacquainted with the by-ways of the forest.

2. *transf.* or *fig.*; often depreciatively. 1488 CAXTON *Chast. Goddess Chylde*. 23 Suche a man cometh lightly in to a byewaye and for many errors he slideth ful fololy. 1535 COVERDALE *Isa.* lvii. 17 He turneth him self, and foloweth y^e bywaye of his owne hert. 1697 DRYDEN *Virg., Ess. Georg.* (1721) I. 203 A Precept that enters it [the Understanding] as it were thro' a By-way. 1760-78 TUCKER *Lt. Nat.* II. 611 Children drawn into the world through this by-way are looked upon as a burden. 1846 D. JERROLD *Chron. Clovernook Wks.* IV. 439 The by-ways and short-cuts to wealth. 1848 MRS. JAMESON *Sacr. & Leg. Art.* (1850) 195 A friend, learned in all the byways... of Italian literature.

3. *attrib.*

1661 HICKERINGILL *Jamaica* 84 Undisputed Titles need not... by-way stratagems to ensure their Negotiations. 1720 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 5910/4 All Bye-Way and Cross-Road Letters are to be paid for.

4. *adv. genitive* (cf. *crossways*) or ? *plural cognate object*: with quot. 1725 cf. BY a. 1.

1549 LATIMER *Serm. bef. Edw. VI.* II. (Arb.) 56 The Iewes... take vpon them to breke lawes and to go by wayes. a 1674 CLARENDON *Hist. Reb.* (1703) II. viii. 410 Marching by-ways... they likewise passed over the Thames. 1725 DE FOE *Voy. round World* (1840) 311 Carrying them by-ways and unfrequented.

Bywilde, obs. f. BEWILD.

† **Bywent**, *pple. a. Sc. Obs.* [f. BY-2 d + went, pa. pple. of WEND.] Bygone, past.

1513 DOUGLAS *Eneis* VI. xii. 40 For thair inveterat vicis ald bywent, By pnycioun satisfioun to mak. 1533 BEL-LENDEN *Livy* (1822) I. 120. 6 Consider of Romanis, in all thare time bywent.

Bywepe, obs. form of BEWEEP v.

By-west: see BY *prep.* 9 c.

Bywouen, -ven, var. of BIWEVE v. 1 *Obs.*

† **Bywhopen**; also by-whopen, -wopen; ? irregular str. pa. pple. of BEWHAPE v. *Obs.* (It does not appear where Phillips found the word.)

1576 PHILLIPS (App.) *By-wouen* [1678 bywopen], (old word) made senseless. 1775 ASH, *By whopen* (obsolete), stupified, made senseless.

By-wipe, side-stroke: see BY-2 c.

Byword (bəi'wɔd). Forms: 1-2 biwyrd, -word, 4-6 by-woorde, 6 by-woorde, bie-word, 6-9 bye-word(e), 6- by-word. [f. BY a. 2 + WORD.]

1. A proverb, proverbial saying.

c 1050 *Gloss.* in Wt-Wülcker 470 *Proverbum*, biwyrd. a 1131 O. E. *Chron.* an. 1130 Oc man seið to biworde, hæge sitted þa aceres dealeth. c 1374 CHAUCER *Troilus* IV. 769 For which ful oft a by worde here I seye, That roteoles mot grene soone deye. c 1400 *Beryn* 2243 There is a comyn by word... Wele selith he his peny that the pound therby savith. 1579 LYLLY *Euphues* (Arb.) 48 Is it not a by word, like will to like. 1741 RICHARDSON *Pamela* (1824) I. 99 As honest as Goodman Andrews, was a bye-word. 1849 BLACKB. *Mag.* 686 An old byword, which says more people know Tom Fool than Tom Fool knows.

† b. A parable. *Obs.*

c 1550 CHEKE *Matt.* xiii. 3 He spak vnto yem much in biwordes and said.

2. A person or thing who becomes proverbial, as a type of specified characteristics; an object of scorn or contempt.

1535 COVERDALE *Deut.* xxviii. 37 Thou shalt go to waist, and become a byworde, and a laughing stocke amonge all nations. 1575-85 ABP. SANDYS *Serm.* (1841) 349 Marked like Cain... to be a bye-word, and an example of Gods justice to all the world. 1611 BIBLE 1 *Kings* ix. 7 Israel shall bee a prouerbe, and a by-word among all people. 1748 RICHARDSON *Clarissa* II. 277, I am the talk and the by-word of half the county. 1776 ADAM SMITH *W. Nat.* I. I. x. 116 Apothecaries' profit is become a bye-word. 1867 FROUDE *Short Stud.* (1883) IV. II. vi. 252 The Church courts were a byword for iniquity in every country in Europe.

b. A nickname, byname, epithet of scorn.

1598 DRAVTON *Heroic. Epit.* xiii. 104 Give a thousand by-words to my Name, And call me Beldam, Gib, Witch, Nightmare, Trot. 1674 MARVELL *Rel. Transp.* I. 70 These Doctrines which he traduces under that by-word [*i.e.* Calvinism]. 1818 BYRON *Ch. Har.* IV. xiv. Her [Venice's] very byword sprung from victory, The 'Planter of the Lion'.

† 3. A word or phrase of frequent occurrence in speech, esp. in the mouth of a particular individual; a trick of speech, pet phrase. *Obs.*

1563-67 FOXE *A. & M.* (1631) III. x. 106/1 [Bonner] saying, as his by word was, Before God thou art a knave. 1575 GASCOIGNE *Philomene* (Arb.) 1111 This byword *phy* betokeneth bad, And things to cast away. 1651 *Proc. Parliament* No. 104. 1612 Broke his brain with thinking there was something in it, some 'whatchecal', which is his by-word. 1710 STEELE *Tatler* No. 241 ¶ 8 His By-Words (as they call a Sentence a Man particularly affects).

† b. A watchword, signal. *Obs.*

1494 FABYAN v. lxxxix. 66 He gaue to theym this watche or by worde, 'Nemphynth your Sexis'.

† 4. (cf. BY-TALK and BY-III): A casual word, a hint; a word beside the matter in hand. *Obs.*

1545 UDALL *Erasm. Apoph.* 18 b, He saied among his frendes; I would haue bought a robe, if I had had money. He craued nothyng, but did onely after a maidenly sorte geue a bywoorde of his greute penurie. 1573 FORREST *Theophil.* 540 What though a bye worde, unware, doe owte starte. a 1654 BROME *City Wit* III. II. 322 There is no woman, though she use never so many bywords, but yet in the end she will come to the point. 1658 *Whole Duty Man* IV. § 13. 41 In idle by-words.

By-work (bəi'wɔk). Also 9 bye-. [f. BY-3 d, e, 4, 5 + WORK.]

1. Work done by the way, in intervals of leisure, as opposed to one's main business; = Gr. *πάρεργον*; also depreciatively, work done with ulterior or interested motives.

1587 GOLDING *De Mornay* xvi. (1617) 281 Which of vs doth it [good] not as a by-work for some other things sake. 1607 T. WALKINGTON *Optic Glass* 159 To make a by-work a worke, is to make our worke a by-work. 1647 H. MORE *Infinity of Worlds* lvi. The appearance of the nightly starres is but the by-work of each neighbour sun. 1710 NORRIS *Chr. Prud.* viii. 385 To make Religion the great business and concern of their Lives, and not as most do a By-work. 1873 H. ROGERS *Orig. Bible* II. 82 Which are but the bye-work of her beneficence. 1885 G. ALLEN *Darwin* 128 The by-work with which he filled up one of the intervals between his greater and more comprehensive treatises.

2. An accessory and subsidiary work. ? *Obs.*

1587 GOLDING *De Mornay* xi. 154 Nailles, pinnes, Riuetts, Buttons & such, I haue thought them to be but byworkes. 1601 HOLLAND *Pliny* II. 550 He deuised another by-work to expresse the same.

† 3. A work done awry or amiss. *Obs.*

1615 CROOKE *Body of Man* 271 Wherefore Aristotle thinketh... that the female is a bye worke or preuarication, yea the first monster in Nature.

Byyond(e, obs. form of BEYOND.

Byzant, var. spelling of BEZANT.

Byzantian (bizæ'nʃiən), a. and sb.; also 7 bis-. [f. L. *Byzantius* belonging to Byzantium: see -AN.] = next.

a 1619 FOTHERBY *Atheom.* I. vi. § 2 (1622) 44 Doest thou sweare, like a Bizantian, by their yron pence? 1661 LYTTON *Str. Story* xxxv. This casket... of ancient Byzantian workmanship. 1879 SIR G. SCOTT *Recollect.* v. 210 Byzantine in all forms but those used by the Byzantians.

Byzantine (bizæ'nʃiən, bizæntʃiən), a. and sb.; also 6 Byzantin, 6-7 Bi-, Bezantin(e), 7 By-santin. [ad. L. *Byzantinus*, f. *Byzantium*: see BEZANT and -INE; cf. F. *byzantin*. Byron has the first pronunciation, which the derivatives also follow; the second is frequent with classical scholars.]

A. *adj.* Belonging to Byzantium or Constantinople. *Byzantine historians*: those who lived in the Eastern Empire from the 6th to the 15th c.

1794 MARTYN *Rousseau's Bot.* xxviii. 442 The Byzantine or Spanish-nut. 1817 BYRON *Manfred* II. II. 183 From the Byzantine maid's unsleeping spirit. 1876 BANCROFT *Hist. U.S.* V. I. 95 The throne of the Byzantine Cæsars.

b. *spec.* Pertaining to the style of art, esp. of architecture, developed in the Eastern division of the Roman Empire. The Byzantine architecture is distinguished by its use of the round arch, cross, circle, dome, and rich mosaic ornamentation.

1848 MRS. JAMESON *Sacr. & Leg. Art.* (1850) 88 Those of the Greek or Byzantine school. 1879 SIR G. SCOTT *Lect. Archit.* I. 10 The earliest style that may fairly be called Christian is the Byzantine.

B. sb. 1. An inhabitant of Byzantium.

1836 PENNY *Cycl.* VI. 84/2 The Byzantines at one time had 500 ships. 1875 JEVONS *Money* xiv. 195 The iron money of the Byzantines... was token representative money.

2. = BEZANT 1.

1599 HAKLUYT *Voy.* II. 109 A Bizantin, which is... six pence sterling. 1610 HOLLAND *Camden's Brit.* I. 421 Bizantines of silver valued at two shillings anciently. 1695 KENNETT *Par. Antig.* ix. 97 Gave... one bezantine to his wife. 1862 H. MARRYAT *Year in Sweden* II. 248 note, Byzantines also, of gold and silver, are constantly disinterred.

† 3. = BEZANT 2.

1605 CAMDEN *Rem.* 236 The piece of gold valued at £15 which the king was antiently accustomed to offer on high festival days was called a Bizantine.

† 4. Old name of some herb. *Obs.*

1621 BURTON *Anat. Mel.* II. IV. I. v. Syrup of Borage... of Fumitory, Maiden-hair, Bizantine, etc. 1661 LOVELL *Hist. Anim. & Min.* 451 Syrups, of the conditure of citrou peel, and byzantine.

So also **Byzantine-sque** a. [see -ESQUE], in the Byzantine style of art; **Byzantinism**, the style and methods of art (esp. of architecture) developed in the Byzantine empire; **Byzantinize** v. *trans.*, to make Byzantine.

1879 SIR G. SCOTT *Recollect.* iv. 193 The Byzantinesque [design]. 1855 MILMAN *Lat. Chr.* (1864) IX. xiv. x. 331 Italian painting... threw off with Giotto the last trammels of Byzantinism. *Ibid.* 321 Either in Constantinople or in the Byzantinised parts of the west.

Byzan, -on: see BYSEN, etc.

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